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On the Web: dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm

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BLS Data: Wisconsin Sets Record for Total Number of People Employed

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) preliminary employment estimates for the month of May 2022, which show the number of Wisconsinites employed at a historic high of 3,059,300. The data also show an increase in Wisconsin's total labor force for the sixth consecutive month.

- **Place of Residence Data:** Wisconsin's labor force participation rate was 66.5 percent in May, unchanged from April, and 4.2 percentage points higher than the national rate of 62.3 percent. Wisconsin's unemployment rate in May was 2.9 percent, up slightly from April's historic low due to an increase in active participants in the labor force.
- **Place of Work Data:** Wisconsin total nonfarm jobs increased from April 2022 to May 2022 by 2,200 while private-sector jobs increased by 1,800 over the same period.

"Wisconsin's unemployment and labor force participation rates continue to outpace the nation, and Wisconsin is experiencing a record number of people employed," DWD Secretary-designee Amy Pechacek said. "DWD is proud to support Wisconsin workers in finding a well-paying career in this competitive labor market, and stands ready to connect individuals and employers so that our economy can continue to thrive."

The strong economic recovery and robust job growth also has pushed weekly unemployment insurance claims to historic seasonal lows. For the week ending June 4, 2022, the number of weekly initial unemployment insurance claims totaled 3,288, down from 7,466 in the same week of 2021. Continued unemployment insurance claims for the same week set a new low of 15,224, versus 55,697 a year ago.

Today's full report can be viewed on DWD's premier source for labor market information, WisConomy.com.

ABOUT DWD

Wisconsin's Department of Workforce Development efficiently delivers effective and inclusive services to meet Wisconsin's diverse workforce needs now and for the future. The department advocates for and invests in the protection and economic advancement of all Wisconsin workers, employers and job seekers through six divisions – Employment and Training, Vocational Rehabilitation, Unemployment Insurance, Equal Rights, Worker's Compensation and Administrative Services. To keep up with DWD announcements and information, [sign up for news releases](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).

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WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Seasonally Adjusted

PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	PRELIM.	REVISED	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	May-22	Apr-22	May-21	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,149,200	3,147,300	3,139,500	1,900	9,700
Employment	3,059,300	3,058,000	3,009,900	1,300	49,400
Unemployment	89,900	89,300	129,600	600	-39,700
Unemployment Rate	2.9%	2.8%	4.1%	0.1%	-1.2%
US Unemployment Rate	3.6%	3.6%	5.8%	0.0%	-2.2%
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.5%	66.5%	66.7%	0.0%	-0.2%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.3%	62.2%	61.6%	0.1%	0.7%

PLACE OF WORK DATA

NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,933,400	2,931,200	2,878,900	2,200	54,500
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,541,800	2,540,000	2,488,800	1,800	53,000
GOODS PRODUCING	607,600	610,500	593,900	-2,900	13,700
MINING & LOGGING	3,700	3,700	3,400	0	300
CONSTRUCTION	128,600	130,300	126,700	-1,700	1,900
MANUFACTURING	475,300	476,500	463,800	-1,200	11,500
Durable Goods	277,500	279,000	272,200	-1,500	5,300
Nondurable Goods	197,800	197,500	191,600	300	6,200
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,325,800	2,320,700	2,285,000	5,100	40,800
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,934,200	1,929,500	1,894,900	4,700	39,300
TRADE	420,200	419,800	416,500	400	3,700
Wholesale Trade	123,200	123,200	120,900	0	2,300
Retail Trade	297,000	296,600	295,600	400	1,400
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	121,400	121,600	117,100	-200	4,300
INFORMATION	48,200	47,100	44,900	1,100	3,300
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	153,500	153,500	154,700	0	-1,200
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	25,000	25,500	26,300	-500	-1,300
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	324,500	322,100	318,200	2,400	6,300
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	121,500	119,700	119,500	1,800	2,000
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	138,200	137,300	134,800	900	3,400
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	446,600	447,300	456,000	-700	-9,400
Educational Services	54,700	54,600	54,300	100	400
Health Care & Social Assistance	391,900	392,700	401,700	-800	-9,800
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	275,700	275,500	245,400	200	30,300
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	44,300	45,000	36,700	-700	7,600
Accommodation & Food Services	231,400	230,500	208,700	900	22,700
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	144,100	142,600	142,100	1,500	2,000
GOVERNMENT	391,600	391,200	390,100	400	1,500
Federal Government	29,300	29,600	30,100	-300	-800
State Government	92,200	90,800	91,800	1,400	400
Local Government	270,100	270,800	268,200	-700	1,900

Note: Differences in totals may occur as a result of rounding.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Bureau of Workforce Information and Technical Support.
Numbers in **blue** are statistically significant changes.

WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Not Seasonally Adjusted

PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	PRELIM.	REVISED	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	May-22	Apr-22	May-21	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,115,900	3,117,100	3,119,500	-1,200	-3,600
Employment	3,026,000	3,022,000	2,992,600	4,000	33,400
Unemployment	89,900	95,100	126,900	-5,200	-37,000
Unemployment Rate	2.9%	3.1%	4.1%	-0.2%	-1.2%
US Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.3%	5.5%	0.1%	-2.1%
Labor Force Participation Rate	65.8%	65.9%	66.3%	-0.1%	-0.5%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.3%	62.0%	61.5%	0.3%	0.8%

PLACE OF WORK DATA

NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,942,000	2,916,900	2,889,900	25,100	52,100
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,544,400	2,512,300	2,494,400	32,100	50,000
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	609,000	603,500	594,700	5,500	14,300
MINING & LOGGING	3,800	3,600	3,500	200	300
CONSTRUCTION	132,100	127,200	130,200	4,900	1,900
MANUFACTURING	473,100	472,700	461,000	400	12,100
Durable Goods	277,200	277,500	271,600	-300	5,600
Nondurable Goods	195,900	195,200	189,400	700	6,500
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,333,000	2,313,400	2,295,200	19,600	37,800
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	1,935,400	1,908,800	1,899,700	26,600	35,700
TRADE	416,800	415,700	415,400	1,100	1,400
Wholesale Trade	122,500	122,600	121,200	-100	1,300
Retail Trade	294,300	293,100	294,200	1,200	100
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	121,300	119,400	116,100	1,900	5,200
Utilities	8,200	8,200	8,300	0	-100
INFORMATION	47,800	46,700	44,500	1,100	3,300
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	153,000	152,800	154,300	200	-1,300
Finance and Insurance	128,100	128,000	128,100	100	0
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	24,900	24,800	26,200	100	-1,300
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	324,700	320,600	317,900	4,100	6,800
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	121,100	121,700	118,200	-600	2,900
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	64,700	64,700	63,700	0	1,000
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	138,900	134,200	136,000	4,700	2,900
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	446,800	447,800	456,300	-1,000	-9,500
Educational Services	55,500	56,700	55,200	-1,200	300
Health Care & Social Assistance	391,300	391,100	401,100	200	-9,800
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	280,600	264,000	252,700	16,600	27,900
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	46,000	40,200	38,700	5,800	7,300
Accommodation & Food Services	234,600	223,800	214,000	10,800	20,600
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	144,400	141,800	142,500	2,600	1,900
GOVERNMENT	397,600	404,600	395,500	-7,000	2,100
Federal Government	29,200	29,600	30,000	-400	-800
State Government	93,400	96,600	91,800	-3,200	1,600
Local Government	275,000	278,400	273,700	-3,400	1,300

Note: Differences in totals may occur as a result of rounding.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Bureau of Workforce Information and Technical Support.

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