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## **BLS Data: Wisconsin Statewide Unemployment Rate Hits New Record Low of 2.4% in April, State Adds 3,800 Total Jobs Over Month**

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) preliminary employment estimates for the month of April 2023, which showed Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to a record low of 2.4%.

The total number of unemployed people dropped by 3,700 over the month of April and 13,300 over the year to a new record low of 72,900. In addition, total seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs increased 3,800 over the month of April and 51,500 year-over-year to hit a new record high of 3,003,600. The total jobs number puts the state 9,600 jobs above the pre-COVID-19 peak in January 2020.

Wisconsin's record low unemployment rate of 2.4% for April is down 0.1 percentage points from the March rate of 2.5%, which was the previous record low. The state's labor force participation rate increased by 0.2 percentage point over the month to 64.8%. Nationwide for the month of April, the U.S. unemployment rate was 3.4% with a labor force participation rate of 62.6%.

- **Place of Residence Data:** As Wisconsin's unemployment rate fell to 2.4% for April, the number of unemployed people declined by 3,700 over the month and 13,300 over the year to a new record low of 72,900. The labor force regained some 10,500 workers over the month for a total labor force of 3,085,100. The number of people employed grew by 14,200 over the month of April for a total of 3,012,200 people employed.
- **Place of Work Data:** Over the month, Wisconsin added 3,800 nonfarm jobs, with gains of 2,600 construction jobs. Total jobs increased by 3,800 over the month of April and are up 51,500 over the year to a record high of 3,003,600 total jobs. Private sector jobs increased by 3,700 over the month of April and are up 41,900 over the year to a record high of 2,600,700. Manufacturing jobs grew by 500 over the month and 5,700 over the year.

"Wisconsin's labor force participation rate grew over the month, and both the unemployment rate and number of unemployed individuals reached new record lows," DWD Secretary-designee Amy Pechacek said. "Talk about a Badger Bounce Back: We've added 51,500 jobs over the past year to reach a new record high in total jobs, once again surpassing the pre-COVID-19 peak of January 2020. Under Gov. Evers' leadership, DWD remains laser-focused on developing homegrown talent and on removing barriers so that employers can find the talent they need, and workers can connect with employment, career development services and family-sustaining jobs."

Today's full report can be viewed on DWD's premier source for labor market information, [WisConomy.com](http://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	
	Apr-23	Mar-23	Apr-22	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,085,100	3,074,600	3,094,500	10,500	-9,400
Employment	3,012,200	2,998,000	3,008,300	14,200	3,900
Unemployment	72,900	76,600	86,200	-3,700	-13,300
Unemployment Rate	2.4%	2.5%	2.8%	-0.1%	-0.4%
US Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.5%	3.6%	-0.1%	-0.2%
Labor Force Participation Rate	64.8%	64.6%	65.4%	0.2%	-0.6%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.6%	62.6%	62.2%	0.0%	0.4%

### PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>	3,003,600	2,999,800	2,952,100	3,800	51,500
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,600,700	2,597,000	2,558,800	3,700	41,900
GOODS PRODUCING	624,100	621,000	614,000	3,100	10,100
MINING & LOGGING	3,800	3,800	3,700	0	100
CONSTRUCTION	134,500	131,900	130,200	2,600	4,300
MANUFACTURING	485,800	485,300	480,100	500	5,700
Durable Goods	282,600	283,500	283,000	-900	-400
Nondurable Goods	203,200	201,800	197,100	1,400	6,100
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,379,500	2,378,800	2,338,100	700	41,400
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,976,600	1,976,000	1,944,800	600	31,800
TRADE	430,500	430,700	422,800	-200	7,700
Wholesale Trade	131,500	132,500	126,500	-1,000	5,000
Retail Trade	299,000	298,200	296,300	800	2,700
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	124,700	124,900	126,800	-200	-2,100
INFORMATION	45,300	45,400	45,900	-100	-600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	161,300	160,600	158,600	700	2,700
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	28,600	28,400	27,100	200	1,500
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	327,100	324,700	326,600	2,400	500
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	126,400	126,300	122,700	100	3,700
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	135,100	133,200	139,300	1,900	-4,200
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	465,200	467,200	455,000	-2,000	10,200
Private Educational Services	57,500	57,300	56,200	200	1,300
Health Care & Social Assistance	407,700	409,900	398,800	-2,200	8,900
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	272,300	272,700	264,100	-400	8,200
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	39,400	39,100	40,600	300	-1,200
Accommodation & Food Services	232,900	233,600	223,500	-700	9,400
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	150,200	149,800	145,000	400	5,200
GOVERNMENT	402,900	402,800	393,300	100	9,600
Federal Government	30,200	30,300	29,700	-100	500
State Government	94,700	94,700	92,100	0	2,600
Local Government	278,000	277,800	271,500	200	6,500

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	
	Apr-23	Mar-23	Apr-22	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,097,200	3,076,200	3,065,400	21,000	31,800
Employment	<b>3,027,000</b>	3,000,200	2,980,100	<b>26,800</b>	46,900
Unemployment	70,200	76,000	85,300	-5,800	-15,100
Unemployment Rate	2.3%	2.5%	2.8%	-0.2%	-0.5%
US Unemployment Rate	3.1%	3.6%	3.3%	-0.5%	-0.2%
Labor Force Participation Rate	65.1%	64.6%	64.8%	0.5%	0.3%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.4%	62.6%	62.0%	-0.2%	0.4%

### PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>	2,993,500	2,961,100	2,946,200	<b>32,400</b>	<b>47,300</b>
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,577,200	2,550,800	2,539,200	<b>26,400</b>	<b>38,000</b>
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	618,100	607,500	607,500	<b>10,600</b>	10,600
MINING & LOGGING	3,700	3,600	3,600	100	100
CONSTRUCTION	131,400	120,900	126,900	<b>10,500</b>	4,500
MANUFACTURING	483,000	483,000	477,000	0	6,000
Durable Goods	280,800	282,000	282,000	-1,200	-1,200
Nondurable Goods	202,200	201,000	195,000	1,200	7,200
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,375,400	2,353,600	2,338,700	21,800	36,700
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	1,959,100	1,943,300	1,931,700	<b>15,800</b>	27,400
TRADE	426,200	425,300	418,800	900	7,400
Wholesale Trade	131,100	131,700	126,000	-600	5,100
Retail Trade	295,100	293,600	292,800	1,500	2,300
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	122,100	121,800	125,400	300	-3,300
Utilities	8,100	8,100	8,200	0	-100
INFORMATION	44,700	44,900	45,400	-200	-700
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	161,000	159,800	157,900	1,200	3,100
Finance and Insurance	132,800	132,400	131,400	400	1,400
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	28,200	27,400	26,500	800	1,700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	326,100	318,900	326,600	<b>7,200</b>	-500
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	128,100	127,200	124,100	900	4,000
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	65,400	64,900	64,400	500	1,000
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	132,600	126,800	138,100	<b>5,800</b>	-5,500
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	466,600	466,800	455,700	-200	10,900
Private Educational Services	59,600	59,100	57,300	500	2,300
Health Care & Social Assistance	407,000	407,700	398,400	-700	8,600
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	262,900	256,100	257,700	<b>6,800</b>	5,200
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	36,600	33,800	37,900	2,800	-1,300
Accommodation & Food Services	226,300	222,300	219,800	4,000	6,500
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	149,500	149,700	144,200	-200	5,300
GOVERNMENT	416,300	410,300	407,000	6,000	9,300
Federal Government	30,200	30,100	29,700	100	500
State Government	101,300	99,600	97,600	1,700	3,700
Local Government	284,800	280,600	279,700	4,200	5,100

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.