
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 17, 2024

CONTACT: [DWD Communications](#)

CommunicationsOffice@dwd.wisconsin.gov

BLS Data: Wisconsin Employment Breaks Fifth Consecutive Monthly Record

MADISON – The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today announced new record-high employment during September 2024, according to preliminary estimates from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is the fifth consecutive monthly record for state employment, highlighting the unprecedented number of workers participating in Wisconsin's economy.

Preliminary employment estimates for September 2024 showed Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 2.9%, which is 1.2 percentage points below the national unemployment rate of 4.1%. The state's labor force participation rate increased to 65.6% in September while the national rate stayed at 62.7%.

- **Place of Residence Data:** Wisconsin's unemployment rate was 2.9% in September, 1.2 percentage points below the national rate of 4.1%. Wisconsin's labor force increased by 6,700 over the month and 1,300 over the year. The number of people employed increased 7,700 over the month to a record-high 3,059,700 employed.
- **Place of Work Data:** Total nonfarm jobs decreased 4,000 over the month and increased 30,800 over the year to 3,044,800 jobs.

Additional information about the data included in the release is available at [Wisconomy.com](https://www.wisconsin.gov/economy).

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 [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [YouTube](#).

WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Seasonally Adjusted

| PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA | PRELIM. | REVISED | YEAR AGO | NET CHANGE OVER | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|--------------|
| | Sep-24 | Aug-24 | Sep-23 | 1-Month | 1-Year |
| Labor Force | 3,149,800 | 3,143,100 | 3,148,500 | 6,700 | 1,300 |
| Employment | 3,059,700 | 3,052,000 | 3,042,900 | 7,700 | 16,800 |
| Unemployment | 90,100 | 91,100 | 105,600 | -1,000 | -15,500 |
| Unemployment Rate | 2.9% | 2.9% | 3.4% | 0.0% | -0.5% |
| US Unemployment Rate | 4.1% | 4.2% | 3.8% | -0.1% | 0.3% |
| Labor Force Participation Rate | 65.6% | 65.5% | 66.0% | 0.1% | -0.4% |
| US Labor Force Participation Rate | 62.7% | 62.7% | 62.8% | 0.0% | -0.1% |

PLACE OF WORK DATA

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------|
| <i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i> | 3,044,800 | 3,048,800 | 3,014,000 | -4,000 | 30,800 |
| TOTAL PRIVATE | 2,629,100 | 2,627,000 | 2,608,400 | 2,100 | 20,700 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 629,200 | 627,600 | 617,900 | 1,600 | 11,300 |
| MINING & LOGGING | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 0 | 0 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 141,800 | 142,000 | 136,900 | -200 | 4,900 |
| MANUFACTURING | 483,400 | 481,600 | 477,000 | 1,800 | 6,400 |
| Durable Goods | 280,800 | 279,900 | 280,500 | 900 | 300 |
| Nondurable Goods | 202,600 | 201,700 | 196,500 | 900 | 6,100 |
| SERVICE PROVIDING | 2,415,600 | 2,421,200 | 2,396,100 | -5,600 | 19,500 |
| PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING | 1,999,900 | 1,999,400 | 1,990,500 | 500 | 9,400 |
| TRADE | 433,400 | 432,000 | 431,000 | 1,400 | 2,400 |
| Wholesale Trade | 133,800 | 132,900 | 130,600 | 900 | 3,200 |
| Retail Trade | 299,600 | 299,100 | 300,400 | 500 | -800 |
| TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES | 121,500 | 121,600 | 124,000 | -100 | -2,500 |
| INFORMATION | 46,400 | 46,500 | 47,600 | -100 | -1,200 |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES | 159,800 | 160,900 | 159,300 | -1,100 | 500 |
| Real Estate, Rental, & Lease | 28,400 | 28,500 | 28,000 | -100 | 400 |
| PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES | 327,200 | 328,100 | 330,700 | -900 | -3,500 |
| Prof., Science., & Tech. Services | 123,200 | 123,700 | 126,700 | -500 | -3,500 |
| Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services | 139,100 | 139,600 | 139,000 | -500 | 100 |
| PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES | 480,200 | 479,000 | 471,600 | 1,200 | 8,600 |
| Private Educational Services | 57,700 | 58,400 | 59,500 | -700 | -1,800 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 422,500 | 420,600 | 412,100 | 1,900 | 10,400 |
| LEISURE & HOSPITALITY | 282,900 | 284,100 | 281,600 | -1,200 | 1,300 |
| Arts, Entertain., & Recreation | 48,900 | 49,100 | 44,400 | -200 | 4,500 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 234,000 | 235,000 | 237,200 | -1,000 | -3,200 |
| OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin. | 148,500 | 147,200 | 144,700 | 1,300 | 3,800 |
| GOVERNMENT | 415,700 | 421,800 | 405,600 | -6,100 | 10,100 |
| Federal Government | 31,400 | 31,300 | 30,700 | 100 | 700 |
| State Government | 99,000 | 106,300 | 97,900 | -7,300 | 1,100 |
| Local Government | 285,300 | 284,200 | 277,000 | 1,100 | 8,300 |

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. 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 | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------------|---------|
| | Sep-24 | Aug-24 | Sep-23 | 1-Month | 1-Year |
| Labor Force | 3,174,500 | 3,159,800 | 3,145,100 | 14,700 | 29,400 |
| Employment | 3,096,400 | 3,075,100 | 3,053,300 | 21,300 | 43,100 |
| Unemployment | 78,100 | 84,700 | 91,800 | -6,600 | -13,700 |
| Unemployment Rate | 2.5% | 2.7% | 2.9% | -0.2% | -0.4% |
| US Unemployment Rate | 3.9% | 4.4% | 3.6% | -0.5% | 0.3% |
| Labor Force Participation Rate | 66.1% | 65.8% | 66.0% | 0.3% | 0.1% |
| US Labor Force Participation Rate | 62.6% | 62.8% | 62.7% | -0.2% | -0.1% |

PLACE OF WORK DATA

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|--------|
| <i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i> | 3,056,900 | 3,068,700 | 3,024,700 | -11,800 | 32,200 |
| TOTAL PRIVATE | 2,638,500 | 2,673,300 | 2,617,800 | -34,800 | 20,700 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 632,400 | 640,200 | 623,500 | -7,800 | 8,900 |
| MINING & LOGGING | 4,100 | 4,100 | 4,100 | 0 | 0 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 147,500 | 150,800 | 142,500 | -3,300 | 5,000 |
| MANUFACTURING | 480,800 | 485,300 | 476,900 | -4,500 | 3,900 |
| Durable Goods | 279,300 | 282,300 | 279,200 | -3,000 | 100 |
| Nondurable Goods | 201,500 | 203,000 | 197,700 | -1,500 | 3,800 |
| SERVICE PROVIDING | 2,424,500 | 2,428,500 | 2,401,200 | -4,000 | 23,300 |
| PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING | 2,006,100 | 2,033,100 | 1,994,300 | -27,000 | 11,800 |
| TRADE | 429,300 | 434,000 | 426,400 | -4,700 | 2,900 |
| Wholesale Trade | 134,400 | 135,200 | 130,200 | -800 | 4,200 |
| Retail Trade | 294,900 | 298,800 | 296,200 | -3,900 | -1,300 |
| TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES | 123,300 | 121,400 | 124,100 | 1,900 | -800 |
| Utilities | 8,400 | 8,500 | 8,500 | -100 | -100 |
| INFORMATION | 46,300 | 46,700 | 47,800 | -400 | -1,500 |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES | 158,900 | 161,800 | 159,300 | -2,900 | -400 |
| Real Estate, Rental, & Lease | 130,200 | 132,400 | 130,900 | -2,200 | -700 |
| Finance and Insurance | 28,700 | 29,400 | 28,400 | -700 | 300 |
| PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES | 330,000 | 332,200 | 331,500 | -2,200 | -1,500 |
| Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services | 122,700 | 124,100 | 125,700 | -1,400 | -3,000 |
| Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services | 64,800 | 65,300 | 64,900 | -500 | -100 |
| Mgmt. of Companies and Enterprises | 142,500 | 142,800 | 140,900 | -300 | 1,600 |
| PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES | 479,700 | 477,900 | 471,800 | 1,800 | 7,900 |
| Private Educational Services | 58,000 | 54,500 | 60,200 | 3,500 | -2,200 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 421,700 | 423,400 | 411,600 | -1,700 | 10,100 |
| LEISURE & HOSPITALITY | 290,000 | 310,300 | 288,600 | -20,300 | 1,400 |
| Arts, Entertain., & Recreation | 53,100 | 59,500 | 47,400 | -6,400 | 5,700 |
| Accommodation & Food Services | 236,900 | 250,800 | 241,200 | -13,900 | -4,300 |
| OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin. | 148,600 | 148,800 | 144,800 | -200 | 3,800 |
| GOVERNMENT | 418,400 | 395,400 | 406,900 | 23,000 | 11,500 |
| Federal Government | 31,300 | 31,400 | 30,800 | -100 | 500 |
| State Government | 104,100 | 94,900 | 101,800 | 9,200 | 2,300 |
| Local Government | 283,000 | 269,100 | 274,300 | 13,900 | 8,700 |

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.