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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, October 16, 2008
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SEPTEMBER UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED

Unadjusted Data

MADISON – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman announced today that Wisconsin's unemployment rate for September was 4.4 percent, down 0.3 percentage points from August. The rate was 0.1 percentage point up from the rate in September of 2007. The national rate for September was 6.0, down 0.1 percentage point from August, and up 1.5 percentage points from September 2007.

"Wisconsin's unemployment rate declined for the third consecutive month in September to 4.4 percent, following its usual season pattern," Secretary Gassman said. "The September rate is well below the national rate of 6.0 percent. We are holding our own in these very challenging economic times at the national level. Our focus remains one of strengthening our workforce, assisting job seekers and connecting them with employers."

From August to September, total Wisconsin non-farm jobs decreased by an estimated 8,900 to 2,878,400. Private sector jobs shrank by 32,300, led by a decline of 13,500 in the Leisure & Hospitality sector. Government added 23,400 jobs, mostly from local government (adding 18,600) with schools getting back underway. Manufacturing was down 7,200 and Construction was down 4,500 in September.

Over the year, September 2008 showed a decline of 24,300 Wisconsin non-farm jobs. Goods producers were down 18,000, while service providers were down 6,300 over the year.

Adjusted Data

The seasonally adjusted Wisconsin unemployment rate for September 2008 was 5.0 percent, down 0.1 percentage point from August 2008 and up 0.1 percentage point from September 2007.

Total state employment was up 17,600 from last month, and down 2,900 compared to one year ago.

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WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY
In Thousands

NET CHANGE
FROM

ITEM	PRELIM. SEP 08	FINAL AUG 08	YEAR AGO SEP 07	MONTH AGO	YEAR AGO
PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA					
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3086.9	3100.5	3088.1	-13.6	-1.2
UNEMPLOYMENT	134.9	146.8	134.2	-11.9	0.7
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.4	4.7	4.3	-0.3	0.1
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2952.1	2953.7	2953.9	-1.6	-1.8
PLACE OF WORK DATA					
<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>					
TOTAL PRIVATE	2878.4	2887.3	2902.7	-8.9	-24.3
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	2462.2	2494.5	2491.6	-32.3	-29.4
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	621.9	633.6	639.9	-11.7	-18.0
CONSTRUCTION	3.9	3.9	3.9	0.0	0.0
MANUFACTURING	128.2	132.7	133.6	-4.5	-5.4
Durable Goods	489.8	497	502.4	-7.2	-12.6
Nondurable Goods	306.6	310.3	315.3	-3.7	-8.7
<i>SERVICE PRODUCING</i>	183.2	186.7	187.1	-3.5	-3.9
TRADE	2256.5	2253.7	2262.8	2.8	-6.3
Wholesale Trade	427.0	431.9	434.3	-4.9	-7.3
Retail Trade	121.4	123.1	122.1	-1.7	-0.7
TRANS., WAREHOUSE, & UTILITIES	305.6	308.8	312.2	-3.2	-6.6
Utilities	111.2	108.3	112.8	2.9	-1.6
INFORMATION	10.8	11	11.1	-0.2	-0.3
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	49.7	50.1	50.3	-0.4	-0.6
Finance and Insurance	163.6	165.1	162.3	-1.5	1.3
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	135.9	136.4	134.3	-0.5	1.6
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	27.7	28.7	28	-1.0	-0.3
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	277.4	281.9	282.2	-4.5	-4.8
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	98.2	98.9	97.5	-0.7	0.7
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	43.8	44.2	43	-0.4	0.8
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	135.4	138.8	141.7	-3.4	-6.3
Educational Services	407.3	405	400.7	2.3	6.6
Health Care & Social Assistance	50.1	46.5	49.6	3.6	0.5
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	357.2	358.5	351.1	-1.3	6.1
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	268.4	281.9	271.3	-13.5	-2.9
Accommodation & Food Services	36.6	40.9	39.7	-4.3	-3.1
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin	231.8	241	231.6	-9.2	0.2
GOVERNMENT	135.7	136.7	137.8	-1.0	-2.1
Federal Government	416.2	392.8	411.1	23.4	5.1
State Government	28.7	28.9	29.3	-0.2	-0.6
Local Government	105.1	100.1	102.8	5.0	2.3
	282.4	263.8	279	18.6	3.4
PERSONS INVOLVED IN L-M DISPUTES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
(1) Includes L-M Disputes					
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3090.0	3075.3	3089.8	14.7	0.2
UNEMPLOYMENT	153.5	156.4	150.4	-2.9	3.1
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	5.0	5.1	4.9	-0.1	0.1
EMPLOYMENT	2936.5	2918.9	2939.4	17.6	-2.9

*Differences in totals may occur as a result of rounding.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Labor Market Information Section.