
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OCTOBER UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED

Unadjusted Data

MADISON – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman announced today that Wisconsin's unemployment rate for October was 7.6 percent, down 0.1 percentage points from September and down 0.8 percentage points from 8.4 percent in August.

The October rate was 3.2 percentage points higher than the rate of 4.4 percent for Wisconsin in October of 2008. The national rate for October was 9.5 percent, unchanged from September and down 0.1 percentage points from 9.6 percent in August. The national rate for October is 3.4 percentage points higher than the 6.1 percent recorded in October 2008.

"Wisconsin's unemployment rate is at its lowest point of the year, continuing a decline that began in June and remaining below the national rate," Secretary Gassman said. "While this is good news, we know many remain unemployed, and we are doing all that we can to put them back to work and move the economy forward."

From September to October, total Wisconsin non-farm jobs increased by an estimated 7,200 to 2,762,500. Service Producers added 9,400 jobs over the month, while Goods Producers lost 2,200 jobs. Among Service Producers, Educational & Health Services added 3,600, while Leisure & Hospitality lost 12,000. Among Goods Producers, Manufacturing jobs were down 5,000 over the month, while Construction jobs were up 2,800.

Over the last 12 months, the data showed a decline of 129,600 Wisconsin non-farm jobs. Goods Producers were down 59,000, mostly in Manufacturing, which was down 48,700. Service sector jobs declined 70,600 over the year, led by Professional & Business Services, which lost 23,200 jobs.

The October survey of Wisconsin households showed 14,000 fewer employed than in September, and 134,000 fewer employed than one year ago. Wisconsin's civilian labor force was down 17,700 to 3,045,500 in October and 37,500 from October 2008.

Adjusted Data

The seasonally adjusted Wisconsin unemployment rate for October 2009 was 8.4 percent. This was unchanged from September and down 0.4 percentage points from 8.8 percent in August. The October 2008 rate was 4.9 percent. The national seasonally adjusted October 2009 rate was 10.2 percent. This compares to 9.8 percent in September and 9.7 percent in August 2009. The U.S. October 2008 rate was 6.6 percent.

Total state employment was down 18,300 over the month and down 139,900 over the year.

WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NET CHANGE FROM				
	PRELIM. OCT 09	FINAL SEPT 09	YEAR AGO OCT 08	MONTH AGO	YEAR AGO
PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA					
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,045,500	3,063,200	3,083,000	-17,700	-37,500
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2,813,200	2,827,200	2,947,200	-14,000	-134,000
UNEMPLOYMENT	232,300	236,000	135,800	-3,700	96,500
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	7.6%	7.7%	4.4%	-0.1	3.2
U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	9.5%	9.5%	6.1%	0.0	3.4
PLACE OF WORK DATA					
<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>					
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,762,500	2,755,300	2,892,100	7,200	-129,600
GOODS PRODUCING	2,330,400	2,340,300	2,459,600	-9,900	-129,200
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	557,300	559,500	616,300	-2,200	-59,000
CONSTRUCTION	3,300	3,300	3,600	0	-300
MANUFACTURING	113,700	110,900	123,700	2,800	-10,000
Durable Goods	440,300	445,300	489,000	-5,000	-48,700
Nondurable Goods	268,200	269,000	306,800	-800	-38,600
Nondurable Goods	172,100	176,300	182,200	-4,200	-10,100
SERVICE PRODUCING	2,205,200	2,195,800	2,275,800	9,400	-70,600
TRADE	416,500	412,100	431,200	4,400	-14,700
Wholesale Trade	115,600	114,500	122,500	1,100	-6,900
Retail Trade	300,900	297,600	308,700	3,300	-7,800
TRANS., WAREHOUSE, & UTILITIES	103,000	104,100	109,100	-1,100	-6,100
Utilities	10,300	10,500	10,800	-200	-500
INFORMATION	49,100	49,100	49,800	0	-700
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	158,000	158,700	161,900	-700	-3,900
Finance and Insurance	132,200	132,300	135,400	-100	-3,200
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	25,800	26,400	26,500	-600	-700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	257,400	259,900	280,600	-2,500	-23,200
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	98,100	99,600	101,000	-1,500	-2,900
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	40,400	41,500	44,400	-1,100	-4,000
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	118,900	118,800	135,200	100	-16,300
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	417,000	413,400	412,000	3,600	5,000
Educational Services	51,000	49,300	50,100	1,700	900
Health Care & Social Assistance	366,000	364,100	361,900	1,900	4,100
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	242,300	254,300	257,700	-12,000	-15,400
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	26,900	35,400	33,900	-8,500	-7,000
Accommodation & Food Services	215,400	218,900	223,800	-3,500	-8,400
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin	129,800	129,200	141,000	600	-11,200
GOVERNMENT	432,100	415,000	432,500	17,100	-400
Federal Government	30,200	29,800	30,000	400	200
State Government	106,400	104,400	107,100	2,000	-700
Local Government	295,500	280,800	295,400	14,700	100
PERSONS INVOLVED IN L-M DISPUTES	0	0	34	0	-34
(1) Includes L-M Disputes					
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,047,900	3,066,500	3,084,500	-18,600	-36,600
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2,792,100	2,810,400	2,932,000	-18,300	-139,900
UNEMPLOYMENT	255,800	256,100	152,500	-300	103,300
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	8.4%	8.4%	4.9%	0.0	3.5
U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	10.2%	9.8%	6.6%	0.4	3.6

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

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