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Wisconsin Manufacturing Job Growth 6th Highest in the Nation in October

MADISON – The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) today released state-by-state employment estimates that show Wisconsin posted the nation's sixth-highest rate of manufacturing job growth from October 2012 to October 2013.

Wisconsin manufacturing jobs grew by 2.1 percent year over year, or 9,700, ranking it 6th highest in growth rate among states in the preliminary seasonally adjusted Current Employment Statistics (CES) data.

Other highlights of today's national CES rankings report of year-over-year changes include:

- Wisconsin's private nonfarm job totals grew by 1.8 percent year over year, ranking 20th highest in the nation.
- Wisconsin's total nonfarm job totals grew by 1.5 percent year over year, ranking 21st highest.
- Wisconsin's unemployment rate decline to 6.5 percent rates significantly below the US average and is Wisconsin's lowest rate since December 2008.

On a monthly basis, manufacturing gains accounted for nearly half of the 12,400 private-sector jobs that the state added from September to October, and the states' month-over-month gains in manufacturing, private-sector and total nonfarm jobs were all outside the CES margins of error.

"Under Governor Walker's leadership, we are working together to help the private sector create jobs and get our people back to work, and strong manufacturing gains helped Wisconsin create 34,400 jobs year-to-date in 2013, which is the best job growth since 2004," DWD Secretary Reggie Newson said. "Wisconsin's unemployment rate dropped to 6.5 percent in October, which is the lowest in this data series since December 2008. These and many other economic indicators show Wisconsin's economy is growing, creating jobs and heading in the right direction."

Other indicators of Wisconsin's growing economy include:

- The most recent submission to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics shows Wisconsin created 23,968 private-sector jobs from June 2012 to June 2013.
- Revenue collections are up 6.9 percent for fiscal year 2014, according to the Department of Revenue.
- New business formations are up 5.2 percent through October compared to the same period in 2012, according to the Department of Financial Institutions.
- Since Governor Walker took office, 11,785 businesses have been created.
- Initial weekly DWD Unemployment Insurance claims dropped during this calendar year.
- The annual average weekly UI claims are at their lowest levels since 2000.
- After losing over 133,000 jobs in four years prior to Governor Walker taking office, Wisconsin gained over 63,000 private sector jobs in the first two years of the Governor's term.
- The private sector job gains under Governor Walker are the best two-year gains in over a decade.