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Actual Jobs Data Show Wisconsin Ranks 25th in the Nation for Private Sector Jobs Created in Second Quarter of 2013

Upward revision to federal government data moves Wisconsin up 2 spots in growth rate during first quarter; Wisconsin also ranks third-highest in the country in average weekly wage growth during second quarter

MADISON – Actual jobs data released today by the federal government's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show Wisconsin created 23,963 private sector jobs from June 2012 to June 2013, ranking 25th in the nation for private sector job creation. The report also shows Wisconsin ranked third highest in the country for average weekly wage growth during the quarter.

"Today's report by the federal government not only shows Wisconsin's continued progress in creating new, good-paying jobs, but it also shows Wisconsin added more jobs through March 2013 than initially reported," Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson said. "It's important to look at all economic indicators in context, especially given the lag in these numbers. The latest numbers still don't include all of summer 2013, and Wisconsin had its best spring-summer in 16 years."

According to BLS monthly estimates, 42,000 private sector jobs were created between April 2013 and October 2013, the best total on record going back to 1997.

The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), released today by the federal BLS, shows many positive signs for Wisconsin's economy:

- Wisconsin ranked third highest in the country in average weekly wage growth for the second quarter of 2013 when compared to the second quarter of 2012.
- Wisconsin moved up two spots in the rate of private-sector job growth from March 2012 to March 2013, from 34th highest to 32nd highest.
- Wisconsin ranked 25th highest in number of private-sector job gains from June 2012 through June 2013.
- Wisconsin ranked 13th highest in number of construction jobs gained from June 2012 through June 2013, and 17th highest in percentage of construction job gains.

Secretary Newson cautioned that the published BLS jobs data will need to be monitored for possible future revisions, given the BLS' upward revisions to actual jobs data during the first quarter of 2013, along with the loss of over two weeks of work for states on their second-quarter jobs data during the October federal government shutdown.

"We won't know until the next round of analysis whether the federal government's shutdown of BLS data servers for over two weeks created accuracy problems for individual states," Secretary Newson said. "This is why we've said time and again that multiple indicators of Wisconsin's economy need to be taken into account. These indicators show Wisconsin is continuing to add jobs and grow its economy."

(more)

Other indicators that help illustrate the state of Wisconsin's economy include:

- [Department of Revenue](#) state general fund revenue collections through November: up by 8.4 percent in fiscal year 2014 over the prior year.
- [Department of Financial Institutions](#) new business formation: up 5 percent through November compared to the same period in 2012.
- A decline this calendar year in initial and weekly DWD [Unemployment Insurance claims](#) (year to date).
- Wisconsin's unemployment rate is 6.5 percent, below the national rate and the state's lowest since December 2008.
- Wisconsin's exports set a record in calendar year 2012.

Key highlights of QCEW data for **calendar years 2011-12** include:

- Wisconsin added 63,672 private sector jobs in 2011-12 following the loss of about 134,000 private sector jobs during the previous four years.
- The private sector job gains under Governor Walker are the best two-year gains in over a decade.
- Wisconsin created more manufacturing jobs in the last two years than in either of the last two Governor's terms.
- Wisconsin had the largest growth in construction jobs in 13 years during 2011-12.

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