BLS Report: State Adds 7,600 Private-Sector Jobs in December

Revised November gain of 18,000 private sector jobs is highest 1-month gain since at least 1990

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) revisions for November and preliminary estimates for December, covering unemployment and employment statistics for the state of Wisconsin. In brief, the estimates show:

- **Place of residence data**: A preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 5.2 percent in December, unchanged from November. The 5.2 percent rate marks is the state's lowest rate since September 2008 and is lower than the national unemployment rate of 5.6 percent in December.

- **Place of work data**: A 12-month gain in private-sector jobs by a statistically significant 54,100 from December 2013 to December 2014 on a preliminary basis (seasonally adjusted), which is the highest December-to-December gain since 1999. The state added 7,600 private sector jobs from November to December. Other statistically significant changes include month-over-month job gains in construction; transportation, warehouse and utilities; and wholesale trade. The numbers also show an upward revision in November's month-over-month private-sector job gain to 18,000, the highest monthly gain since at least 1990. The December data also indicates Wisconsin's private sector job total has surpassed the highest point before the Great Recession by 16,700, making the current total the state's highest ever.

"With the latest addition of 7,600 private-sector jobs, along with the upward revision showing a gain 18,000 private sector jobs during November, we continue to see a trajectory of job growth in Wisconsin," DWD Secretary Reggie Newson said. "We will remain focused on workforce training programs that develop the skills needed to fill the jobs that are being created, so that Wisconsin has a robust talent pool in the years to come."

The BLS uses three data sets to measure employment and unemployment:

- **Current Employment Statistics (CES)**: compiled from a monthly survey sent to about 5,500 employers (3.5% of Wisconsin employers). CES data has been shown to be volatile and subject to revision.
• **Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS):** compiled from a monthly survey of 1,450 households. Measures the labor force, employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate.

• **Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW):** compiled on a quarterly basis from Unemployment Insurance records from some 96% of Wisconsin business establishments. Considered by most economists to be the most accurate measure of jobs, the QCEW includes data from almost all employers in Wisconsin.

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

• Average initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims for the 52 weeks of 2014 dropped to the lowest point since 1999.

• Department of Financial Institutions new business formation: up 18 percent year-over-year from December 2013 to December 2014. Total year-over-year is up 6.1 from 2013 to 2014.

• Wisconsin's agricultural exports for the first 9 months of the year show a 17% increase compared to last year, ranking 12th among U.S. states.
## Wisconsin Employment and Unemployment Report

### NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 2014

#### 1. REVISIONS TO ESTIMATES FROM NOVEMBER 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place of Residence Data</th>
<th>Prelim</th>
<th>Revised</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Seasonally Adjusted</th>
<th>Prelim</th>
<th>Revised</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Not Seasonally Adjusted</th>
<th>Prelim</th>
<th>Revised</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE</strong></td>
<td>3,112,300</td>
<td>3,112,400</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>3,117,000</td>
<td>3,117,400</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE</strong></td>
<td>68.4%</td>
<td>68.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>68.5%</td>
<td>68.5%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EMPLOYMENT (1)</strong></td>
<td>2,949,800</td>
<td>2,949,800</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,970,300</td>
<td>2,970,400</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UNEMPLOYMENT</strong></td>
<td>162,500</td>
<td>162,600</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>146,800</td>
<td>146,900</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UNEMPLOYMENT RATE</strong></td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>U.S. Unemployment Rate</strong></td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Place of Work Data

| NONFM WAGE & SALARY                         | 2,895,900 | 2,897,200 | 1.30% | 2,921,600           | 2,922,900 | 1.30% |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **TOTAL PRIVATE**                           | 2,476,400 | 2,477,900 | 0.64% | 2,487,900           | 2,489,400 | 1.50% |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **GOODS PRODUCING**                         | 584,900   | 585,800   | 900   | 588,300             | 589,200   | 900   |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **CONSTRUCTION**                            | 106,500   | 106,800   | 300   | 111,600             | 111,900   | 300   |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **MANUFACTURING**                           | 474,500   | 475,100   | 600   | 472,500             | 473,100   | 600   |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **Durable Goods**                           | 288,700   | 289,400   | 700   | 287,800             | 288,500   | 700   |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **Nonfarm Goods**                           | 185,800   | 185,700   | -100  | 184,700             | 184,600   | -100  |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **SERVICE PROVIDING**                       | 2,311,000 | 2,311,400 | 400   | 2,333,300           | 2,337,700 | 400   |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING**               | 1,891,500 | 1,892,100 | 600   | 1,899,600           | 1,900,200 | 600   |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **TRADE**                                   | 425,000   | 424,900   | -100  | 436,900             | 436,800   | -100  |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **INFORMATION**                             | 101,000   | 100,900   | -100  | 102,800             | 102,700   | -100  |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**                    | 161,500   | 161,400   | -100  | 160,900             | 160,800   | -100  |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES**        | 307,900   | 308,400   | 500   | 310,100             | 310,600   | 500   |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES**           | 433,800   | 433,400   | -400  | 436,900             | 436,500   | -400  |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **LEISURE & HOSPITALITY**                   | 273,200   | 273,400   | 200   | 283,700             | 283,900   | 200   |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.**     | 142,400   | 142,900   | 500   | 141,200             | 141,700   | 500   |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **GOVERNMENT**                              | 419,500   | 419,300   | -200  | 433,700             | 433,500   | -200  |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **Federal Government**                      | 28,900    | 28,900    | 0     | 28,800              | 28,800    | 0     |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **State Government**                        | 100,100   | 100,100   | 0     | 106,500             | 106,500   | 0     |        |                        |        |         |        |
| **Local Government**                        | 290,500   | 290,300   | -200  | 298,400             | 298,200   | -200  |        |                        |        |         |        |

**Cautionary note to users:** Revised methodological procedures mandated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) force individual state estimates of employment into closer alignment with the national estimate. This change results in larger month-to-month employment change for the states and the information reported by DO3.

### 2. MONTHLY ESTIMATES FOR DECEMBER 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place of Residence Data</th>
<th>Dec-14 (P)</th>
<th>Nov-14 (R)</th>
<th>Net Change</th>
<th>Net Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE</strong></td>
<td>3,120,000</td>
<td>3,112,400</td>
<td>7,600</td>
<td>-15,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE</strong></td>
<td>68.6%</td>
<td>68.4%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>-0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EMPLOYMENT (1)</strong></td>
<td>2,958,900</td>
<td>2,949,800</td>
<td>9,100</td>
<td>-21,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UNEMPLOYMENT</strong></td>
<td>162,000</td>
<td>162,600</td>
<td>-600</td>
<td>146,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>U.S. Unemployment Rate</strong></td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cautionary note to users:** Revised methodological procedures mandated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) force individual state estimates of employment into closer alignment with the national estimate. This change results in larger month-to-month employment change for the states and the information reported by DO3.

* Differences in total may occur as a result of rounding.  
  (1) Includes Labor Market Disputes  

### 3. HISTORY OF REVISIONS OF ESTIMATES FROM PLACE OF WORK SURVEY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Prelim</th>
<th>Revised</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Prelim</th>
<th>Revised</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2014</td>
<td>+6,200</td>
<td>+6,400</td>
<td>+200</td>
<td>+0</td>
<td>(200)</td>
<td>(200)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2014</td>
<td>(9,500)</td>
<td>(13,000)</td>
<td>(3,500)</td>
<td>(1,600)</td>
<td>(5,300)</td>
<td>(3,700)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2014</td>
<td>+6,900</td>
<td>+7,300</td>
<td>+400</td>
<td>+6,400</td>
<td>+7,300</td>
<td>+900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2014</td>
<td>+8,000</td>
<td>+8,900</td>
<td>+900</td>
<td>+7,600</td>
<td>+8,800</td>
<td>+1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2014</td>
<td>(1,000)</td>
<td>(1,400)</td>
<td>(400)</td>
<td>(400)</td>
<td>(900)</td>
<td>(500)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2014</td>
<td>+2,400</td>
<td>(200)</td>
<td>(2,600)</td>
<td>(1,200)</td>
<td>(1,900)</td>
<td>(700)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2014</td>
<td>+2,900</td>
<td>+6,000</td>
<td>+3,100</td>
<td>+3,200</td>
<td>+5,300</td>
<td>+2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2014</td>
<td>+3,400</td>
<td>+3,200</td>
<td>(200)</td>
<td>(4,300)</td>
<td>(3,600)</td>
<td>(700)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2014</td>
<td>+300</td>
<td>+1,700</td>
<td>+1,400</td>
<td>+8,400</td>
<td>+8,100</td>
<td>(300)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2014</td>
<td>+100</td>
<td>+7,100</td>
<td>+7,000</td>
<td>+4,000</td>
<td>+10,900</td>
<td>+6,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2014</td>
<td>+20,900</td>
<td>+22,200</td>
<td>+1,300</td>
<td>+16,500</td>
<td>+18,000</td>
<td>+1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The numbers above show month over month changes. Prelim: original gain/loss. Revised: updated monthly gain/loss.

### 4. LATEST QUARTERLY DATA: CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013 Employment*</th>
<th>2014 Employment*</th>
<th>Jun-Jun Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Jun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>2,687,591</td>
<td>2,739,592</td>
<td>2,772,856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Private</td>
<td>2,298,516</td>
<td>2,349,333</td>
<td>2,387,807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</td>
<td>25,907</td>
<td>28,289</td>
<td>28,939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>89,111</td>
<td>100,520</td>
<td>105,823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>450,818</td>
<td>452,741</td>
<td>460,726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade, Transportation, Utilities (Total)</td>
<td>504,166</td>
<td>512,533</td>
<td>517,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>46,513</td>
<td>46,920</td>
<td>46,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Activities</td>
<td>147,335</td>
<td>148,107</td>
<td>149,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional &amp; Business Services</td>
<td>291,051</td>
<td>295,810</td>
<td>300,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Health Services</td>
<td>400,807</td>
<td>401,520</td>
<td>401,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</td>
<td>249,523</td>
<td>267,560</td>
<td>278,609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>84,958</td>
<td>85,886</td>
<td>87,569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unclassified</td>
<td>8,327</td>
<td>9,446</td>
<td>10,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Government</td>
<td>389,075</td>
<td>390,259</td>
<td>385,049</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages counts are published 6 months after the quarter they describe. Data from the latest published quarter and a year prior are included here.