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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **AUGUST UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED**

### **Unadjusted Data**

MADISON – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman announced today that Wisconsin's unemployment rate for August was 4.7 percent, down 0.1 percentage point from July. The rate was unchanged from the rate in August of 2007. The national rate for August was 6.1, up 0.1 percentage points from July, and up 1.5 percentage points from August 2007.

"Wisconsin's unemployment rate showed little change in August with a slight decrease from the previous month's rate and no change from monthly rate one year, despite unemployment increases at the national level in both monthly and annual comparisons," Secretary Gassman said. "The August drop in Wisconsin's unemployment rate follows a drop in July, which also showed a decrease of 0.1 percentage point in the state."

From July to August, total Wisconsin non-farm jobs decreased by an estimated 500 to 2,890,200. Private sector jobs grew by 900, led by the Professional and Business Services sector (600 more jobs). The largest drop in jobs was in the Government sector, a 1,400 decline. Most of those were from local government, which dropped 2,100.

Over the year, August 2008 showed a decline of 13,800 Wisconsin non-farm jobs. Goods producers were down 15,400, while service providers were up 1,600 over the year. Local government jobs increased 8,000 over the year.

### **Adjusted Data**

The seasonally adjusted Wisconsin unemployment rate for August 2008 was 5.1 percent, up 0.2 percentage points from both the previous month of July and August of 2007.

Total state employment was up 1,300 from last month, and down 19,400 compared to one year ago.

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**WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY**  
In Thousands

NET CHANGE  
FROM

ITEM	PRELIM. AUG 08	FINAL JUL 08	YEAR AGO AUG 07	MONTH AGO	YEAR AGO
<b>PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA</b>					
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3101.1	3116.6	3099.3	-15.5	1.8
UNEMPLOYMENT	146.8	148.3	144.2	-1.5	2.6
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.7	4.8	4.7	-0.1	0.0
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2954.3	2968.2	2955.0	-13.9	-0.7
<b>PLACE OF WORK DATA</b>					
<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>					
TOTAL PRIVATE	2890.2	2890.7	2904	-0.5	-13.8
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	2497.6	2496.7	2520.6	0.9	-23.0
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	633.8	635.2	649.2	-1.4	-15.4
CONSTRUCTION	3.9	3.9	4	0.0	-0.1
MANUFACTURING	132.3	132.8	136.7	-0.5	-4.4
Durable Goods	497.6	498.5	508.5	-0.9	-10.9
Nondurable Goods	311.1	311.6	318.5	-0.5	-7.4
<i>SERVICE PRODUCING</i>	186.5	186.9	190	-0.4	-3.5
TRADE	2256.4	2255.5	2254.8	0.9	1.6
Wholesale Trade	433.4	432.0	438.5	1.4	-5.1
Retail Trade	123.6	123.6	123.3	0.0	0.3
TRANS., WAREHOUSE, & UTILITIES	309.8	308.4	315.2	1.4	-5.4
Utilities	108.5	108	109.2	0.5	-0.7
INFORMATION	11	11	11.3	0.0	-0.3
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	50.1	50	50.8	0.1	-0.7
Finance and Insurance	165.1	165.6	164.2	-0.5	0.9
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	136.1	136.6	135.1	-0.5	1.0
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	29	29	29.1	0.0	-0.1
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	282.4	281.8	285.2	0.6	-2.8
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	99.3	99.2	98.7	0.1	0.6
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	44.3	44.3	43.4	0.0	0.9
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	138.8	138.3	143.1	0.5	-4.3
Educational Services	406	405.6	399.6	0.4	6.4
Health Care & Social Assistance	46.6	46.6	47.5	0.0	-0.9
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	359.4	359	352.1	0.4	7.3
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	281.4	281.2	285.7	0.2	-4.3
Accommodation & Food Services	40.5	40.6	44.9	-0.1	-4.4
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin	240.9	240.6	240.8	0.3	0.1
GOVERNMENT	136.9	137.3	138.2	-0.4	-1.3
Federal Government	392.6	394	383.4	-1.4	9.2
State Government	28.9	29.2	29.5	-0.3	-0.6
Local Government	98.9	97.9	97.1	1.0	1.8
PERSONS INVOLVED IN L-M DISPUTES	264.8	266.9	256.8	-2.1	8.0
(1) Includes L-M Disputes	0.0	0.3	0.0	-0.3	0.0
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
<b>CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE</b>	3075.9	3069.2	3090.1	6.7	-14.2
UNEMPLOYMENT	156.4	150.9	151.2	5.5	5.2
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	5.1	4.9	4.9	0.2	0.2
EMPLOYMENT	2919.6	2918.3	2939.0	1.3	-19.4

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

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