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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 4.4 percent, unchanged from September. The rate was 0.2 percentage points up from the rate in October of 2007. The national rate for October was 6.1, up 0.1 percentage point from September, and up 1.7 percentage points from October 2007.

"Despite tough economic conditions worldwide, Wisconsin's unemployment rate held steady in October, well below the national rate," Secretary Gassman said. "As we move forward in these challenging times, we must continue to strengthen our workforce, assist job seekers, and meet the needs of employers, positioning Wisconsin at the forefront in the economic recovery to come."

From September to October, total Wisconsin non-farm jobs increased by an estimated 10,300 to 2,882,500. Private sector jobs shrank by 7,100, led by a decline of 12,400 in the Leisure & Hospitality sector. Trade increased by 6,000. Government added 17,400 jobs, mostly from local government, which added 14,500. Manufacturing was down 5,700 and Construction was down 1,500 in October.

Over the year, October 2008 showed a decline of 27,300 Wisconsin non-farm jobs. Goods producers were down 22,100, while service providers were down 5,200 over the year.

Adjusted Data

The seasonally adjusted Wisconsin unemployment rate for October 2008 was 5.1 percent, up 0.1 percentage point from September 2008 and up 0.3 percentage points from October 2007.

Total state employment was down 5,600 from last month, and down 9,400 compared to one year ago.

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WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY
In Thousands

NET CHANGE
FROM

ITEM	PRELIM. OCT 08	FINAL SEP 08	YEAR AGO OCT 07	MONTH AGO	YEAR AGO
PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA					
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3088.1	3086.4	3084.2	1.7	3.9
UNEMPLOYMENT	137.1	134.8	128.5	2.3	8.6
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.4	4.4	4.2	0.0	0.2
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2951.0	2951.6	2955.7	-0.6	-4.7
PLACE OF WORK DATA					
<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>					
TOTAL PRIVATE	2882.5	2872.2	2909.8	10.3	-27.3
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	2449	2456.1	2483	-7.1	-34.0
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	612	619.3	634.1	-7.3	-22.1
CONSTRUCTION	3.8	3.9	3.8	-0.1	0.0
MANUFACTURING	126.4	127.9	132	-1.5	-5.6
Durable Goods	481.8	487.5	498.3	-5.7	-16.5
Nondurable Goods	301.7	303.9	314.2	-2.2	-12.5
<i>SERVICE PRODUCING</i>	180.1	183.6	184.1	-3.5	-4.0
TRADE	2270.5	2252.9	2275.7	17.6	-5.2
Wholesale Trade	431.7	425.7	437.2	6.0	-5.5
Retail Trade	121.7	121.2	122.2	0.5	-0.5
TRANS., WAREHOUSE, & UTILITIES	310	304.5	315	5.5	-5.0
Utilities	112.8	112.2	113.5	0.6	-0.7
INFORMATION	10.8	10.8	11.1	0.0	-0.3
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	49.8	49.7	50.3	0.1	-0.5
Finance and Insurance	163	163.4	162.5	-0.4	0.5
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	136.3	136.4	135	-0.1	1.3
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	26.7	27	27.5	-0.3	-0.8
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	277.9	277.6	282	0.3	-4.1
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	98.6	98.1	97.7	0.5	0.9
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	43.8	43.7	42.8	0.1	1.0
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	135.5	135.8	141.5	-0.3	-6.0
Educational Services	409.7	405.6	403	4.1	6.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	52.4	50.5	51.1	1.9	1.3
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	357.3	355.1	351.9	2.2	5.4
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	255	267.4	262.4	-12.4	-7.4
Accommodation & Food Services	31.2	36.4	35.5	-5.2	-4.3
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin	223.8	231	226.9	-7.2	-3.1
GOVERNMENT	137.1	135.2	138	1.9	-0.9
Federal Government	433.5	416.1	426.8	17.4	6.7
State Government	29.1	28.8	29.1	0.3	0.0
Local Government	108.1	105.5	104.5	2.6	3.6
	296.3	281.8	293.2	14.5	3.1
PERSONS INVOLVED IN L-M DISPUTES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
(1) Includes L-M Disputes					
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3089.3	3089.4	3089.5	-0.1	-0.2
UNEMPLOYMENT	158.9	153.4	149.7	5.5	9.2
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	5.1	5.0	4.8	0.1	0.3
EMPLOYMENT	2930.4	2936.0	2939.8	-5.6	-9.4

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

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