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WI Unemployment Rate Declines for 9th straight month, down to 5.8%

New actual job counts show state added 28,000 private-sector jobs during year ending in Dec. 2013; including 2014 estimates, state adds over 101,000 private-sector jobs since December 2010

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) unemployment and employment estimates showing Wisconsin's preliminary unemployment rate dropped to 5.8 percent in April 2014 from 5.9 percent in March (seasonally adjusted), and the state gained an estimated 7,600 private-sector jobs over the month.

Also today, DWD released the latest available Wisconsin actual job counts based on reports from nearly 160,000 Wisconsin employers. The data covering the fourth quarter of 2013 show Wisconsin added 28,006 private-sector jobs during the 12-month period ending in December 2013, and private-sector wages increased by 2.2% during the fourth quarter of 2013 compared to the same quarter in 2012.

Monthly Estimates: Lowest Unemployment Rate Since 2008; State adds 7,600 Private-Sector Jobs

The BLS publishes monthly estimates to measure employment and unemployment:

- **Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)**: compiled from a monthly survey of 1,450 households. Measures the labor force, employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate.

Wisconsin's preliminary April 2014 unemployment rate of 5.8 percent is the state's lowest monthly rate since October 2008, down from a high point of 9.2 percent in 2010, and below the national unemployment rate of 6.3 percent. Wisconsin's unemployment rate has dropped for nine consecutive months.

- **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 subject to substantial revision.

The preliminary April 2014 employment estimates show Wisconsin gained 7,600 private-sector jobs, including 3,100 retail jobs. The month over month increase in total nonfarm jobs was 8,000.

Quarterly Job Counts: State adds over 28,000 private-sector jobs in 2013

In addition to the monthly estimates, the **Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)** is compiled based on 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 but isn't published by BLS until several months after the quarter ends.

This week, Wisconsin submitted its data to BLS covering the fourth quarter of 2013. The BLS will incorporate the data in its next QCEW release scheduled for June 19. Information about the QCEW, including data for the first three quarters of 2013, can be accessed through the BLS website at <http://bls.gov/cew/>.

Highlights from the latest job counts, when compared to BLS published data for 2012, include:

- Wisconsin added 28,006 private-sector jobs from December 2012 to December 2013.
- Professional and business services saw a 3.8% increase jobs, or a gain of 11,215 jobs. This category includes temporary employment agencies, which other industries such as manufacturing and information use as a labor management resource to fill openings.
- Wages by covered private-sector employers grew by 2.2% year over year.

Highlights of actual jobs data for calendar years 2011, 2012 and 2013, when *combined* with monthly estimates through April 2014, include:

- Wisconsin added over 101,000 private sector jobs since December 2010, following the loss of about 133,000 private sector jobs during the previous four years.
- The private sector job gains under Governor Walker from December 2010 through December 2013 are the highest three-year gains under any Governor since 2000.
- Wisconsin posted a 2.2 percent gain in private sector wages in during the fourth quarter of 2013 when compared to the same quarter in 2012.

DWD Secretary Newson issued the following statement on the latest quarterly data: "After losing 133,000 private sector jobs during the four years before Governor Walker took office, the latest data shows Wisconsin gained over 101,000 private sector jobs under his leadership through April 2014," Secretary Newson said. "And while friends and neighbors throughout Wisconsin are going back to work thanks to our improving economy, there is much more work to be done to ensure everyone who wants a job can find a job."

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

- [Department of Financial Institutions](#) new business formation: up 6.8 percent through April compared to the same period in 2013.
- Initial weekly Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims for the first 18 weeks of 2014 dropped to the lowest point since 2000, and the annual average weekly UI claims are at a 13-year low.
- Personal income grew faster than the U.S. in 2013 and our per capita personal income growth was 7th in the nation, ahead of Minnesota, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio.

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Wisconsin Employment and Unemployment Report
MARCH – APRIL 2014

1. REVISIONS TO ESTIMATES FROM MARCH 2014

Seasonally Adjusted

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Place of Residence Data	Prelim	Revised	Change	Prelim	Revised	Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,082,900	3,082,900	0	3,060,500	3,060,400	-100
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.1%	68.1%	0.0%	67.6%	67.6%	0.0%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2,899,800	2,899,700	-100	2,854,100	2,854,000	-100
UNEMPLOYMENT	183,200	183,200	0	206,500	206,500	0
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	5.9%	5.9%	0.0%	6.7%	6.7%	0.0%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	6.7%	6.7%	0.0%	6.8%	6.8%	0.0%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,849,300	2,849,700	400	2,796,600	2,797,000	400
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,432,300	2,433,200	900	2,370,000	2,370,900	900
GOODS PRODUCING	570,500	570,700	200	549,000	549,200	200
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	4,000	4,000	0	3,400	3,400	0
CONSTRUCTION	100,700	100,600	-100	85,300	85,200	-100
MANUFACTURING	465,800	466,100	300	460,300	460,600	300
Durable Goods	281,900	282,200	300	279,500	279,800	300
Nondurable Goods	183,900	183,900	0	180,800	180,800	0
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,278,800	2,279,000	200	2,247,600	2,247,800	200
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,861,800	1,862,500	700	1,821,000	1,821,700	700
TRADE	421,000	421,900	900	409,400	410,300	900
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	98,900	98,800	-100	96,700	96,600	-100
INFORMATION	45,600	45,600	0	45,400	45,400	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	158,700	158,500	-200	157,400	157,200	-200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	304,300	304,400	100	295,500	295,600	100
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	431,100	430,800	-300	431,500	431,200	-300
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	262,800	263,300	500	247,200	247,700	500
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	139,400	139,200	-200	137,900	137,700	-200
GOVERNMENT	417,000	416,500	-500	426,600	426,100	-500
Federal Government	28,700	28,700	0	28,400	28,400	0
State Government	98,900	98,900	0	103,000	103,000	0
Local Government	289,400	288,900	-500	295,200	294,700	-500

2. MONTHLY ESTIMATES FOR APRIL 2014

Place of Residence Data	Apr-14 (P)	Mar-14 (R)	Net Change	Apr-14 (P)	Mar-14 (R)	Net Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,083,000	3,082,900	100	3,055,800	3,060,400	-4,600
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.0%	68.1%	-0.1%	67.4%	67.6%	-0.2%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2,904,300	2,899,700	4,600	2,876,500	2,854,000	22,500
UNEMPLOYMENT	178,700	183,200	-4,500	179,200	206,500	-27,300
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	5.8%	5.9%	-0.1%	5.9%	6.7%	-0.8%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	6.3%	6.7%	-0.4%	5.9%	6.8%	-0.9%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,857,700	2,849,700	8,000	2,835,800	2,797,000	38,800
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,440,800	2,433,200	7,600	2,406,100	2,370,900	35,200
GOODS PRODUCING	572,200	570,700	1,500	559,500	549,200	10,300
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	3,900	4,000	-100	3,700	3,400	300
CONSTRUCTION	100,600	100,600	0	93,300	85,200	8,100
MANUFACTURING	467,700	466,100	1,600	462,500	460,600	1,900
Durable Goods	283,400	282,200	1,200	281,300	279,800	1,500
Nondurable Goods	184,300	183,900	400	181,200	180,800	400
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,285,500	2,279,000	6,500	2,276,300	2,247,800	28,500
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,868,600	1,862,500	6,100	1,846,600	1,821,700	24,900
TRADE	425,600	421,900	3,700	417,400	410,300	7,100
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	99,200	98,800	400	97,600	96,600	1,000
INFORMATION	45,800	45,600	200	45,300	45,400	-100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	158,100	158,500	-400	158,100	157,200	900
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	300,300	304,400	-4,100	299,500	295,600	3,900
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	433,200	430,800	2,400	433,000	431,200	1,800
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	265,800	263,300	2,500	256,000	247,700	8,300
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	140,600	139,200	1,400	139,700	137,700	2,000
GOVERNMENT	416,900	416,500	400	429,700	426,100	3,600
Federal Government	28,500	28,700	-200	28,500	28,400	100
State Government	98,600	98,900	-300	104,400	103,000	1,400
Local Government	289,800	288,900	900	296,800	294,700	2,100

*Differences in total may occur as a result of rounding. (1) Includes Labor Market Disputes (P) = Prelim; (R) = Revised **Blue** changes are outside margin of error.
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Bureau of Workforce Information and Technical Support.

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 DWD.

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

	TNF			Private		
	Prelim	Revised	Change	Prelim	Revised	Change
January 2014	+6,200	+6,400	+200	+0	(200)	(200)
February 2014	(9,500)	(13,000)	(3,500)	(1,600)	(5,300)	(3,700)
March 2014	+6,900	+7,300	+400	+6,400	+7,300	+900
April 2014						
May 2014						
June 2014						
July 2014						
August 2014						
September 2014						
October 2014						
November 2014						
December 2014						

4. LATEST QUARTERLY DATA: CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

	2012 Employment*			2013 Employment†			Dec-Dec Change	
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec	Number	Percent
TOTAL	2,731,526	2,737,935	2,725,029	2,757,895	2,758,981	2,751,710	26,681	1.0%
<i>Total Private</i>	2,343,150	2,341,544	2,334,657	2,369,984	2,369,411	2,362,663	28,006	1.2%
Natural Resources & Mining	29,707	27,564	26,191	31,205	28,968	27,031	840	3.2%
Construction	100,691	97,732	92,521	106,433	103,481	95,242	2,721	2.9%
Manufacturing	455,204	453,949	454,145	455,113	455,487	455,857	1,712	0.4%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	512,954	524,516	526,074	517,771	528,081	532,019	5,945	1.1%
Retail Trade	296,941	308,259	309,018	300,112	309,999	313,097	4,079	1.3%
Information	46,473	46,972	46,786	47,129	47,466	47,548	762	1.6%
Financial Activities	148,881	148,587	149,090	147,796	147,427	147,884	-1,206	-0.8%
Professional & Business Services	294,713	295,536	291,395	302,842	303,981	302,610	11,215	3.8%
Education & Health Services	400,457	401,133	402,434	405,097	406,185	406,651	4,217	1.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	255,317	246,457	246,158	260,918	252,061	250,964	4,806	2.0%
Other Services	87,705	87,330	87,750	84,369	84,567	84,982	-2,768	-3.2%
Unclassified	11,048	11,768	12,113	11,311	11,707	11,875	-238	-2.0%
<i>Total Government</i>	388,376	396,391	390,372	387,911	389,570	389,047	-1,325	-0.3%

LATEST QUARTERLY WAGE DATA

	Total Wages	Total Wages	Change	
	Q4:2012*	Q4:2013†	Number	Percent
TOTAL	\$30,354,146	\$30,993,772	\$ 639,626	2.1%
<i>Total Private</i>	\$26,074,400	\$26,656,208	\$ 581,808	2.2%
<i>Total Government</i>	\$4,279,746	\$4,337,564	\$ 57,818	1.4%

Total wages are in thousands

Total wages are in thousands

*Data as published by U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

†Data as will be published at worknet.wisconsin.gov.

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.

Wisconsin Employment Data Y/Y Change
Private

	Dec-10	Mar-11	Jun-11	Sep-11	Dec-11	Mar-12	Jun-12	Sep-12	Dec-12	Mar-13	Jun-13	Sep-13	Dec-13
LAUS Employment (Household Survey)	22,922	24,392	2,704	9,557	23,453	10,150	22,353	14,542	5,475	8,696	19,075	20,834	28,908
CES (Private., Bus. Establishment Survey)	28,500	36,000	35,900	41,300	31,800	45,000	40,600	26,200	37,100	27,800	25,400	29,300	24,400
QCEW and UI Administrative data	33,658	41,350	39,909	41,461	29,800	39,756	37,959	23,479	33,872	26,072	27,936	28,351	28,006

