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BLS Data: Wisconsin Adds 15,100 Private Sector Jobs in October

Preliminary estimate reflects highest one-month jump since 1992; unemployment rate holds at 4.3%

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

- **Place of work data:** Wisconsin added a statistically significant 15,100 private-sector jobs and 16,100 total non-farm jobs from September 2015 to October 2015 (seasonally adjusted). The addition of 15,100 private-sector jobs over the month is the largest one-month gain since April 1992, based on publicly available data. The month of October also saw significant job gains of 2,500 in manufacturing, 1,400 in financial activities, 5,000 in professional and business services, and 3,900 in education and health services. Wisconsin's significant year-over-year gains include the addition 50,800 total non-farm jobs and 43,600 private-sector jobs, which also include 14,100 additional jobs in education and health services, 4,700 jobs in financial activities, and 2,500 jobs in information.
- **Place of residence data:** A preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 4.3 percent in October 2015, unchanged from September 2015. The 4.3 percent rate is below the national unemployment rate of 5.0 percent for the month and below the state's rate of 5.3 percent in October 2014. The state's October rate is still the lowest for the month since April 2001, when the rate was 4.3 percent. Additionally, the state's labor force participation rate of 67.6 percent in October continues to outpace the national rate of 62.4 percent.

"With the largest one-month gain in private-sector jobs since 1992, Wisconsin employers are creating more opportunities for thousands of current and new workers to support themselves and their families," Secretary Newson said. "With significant job gains across various industry sectors, an unemployment rate of 4.3 percent and a state labor force participation rate that is more than 5 points higher than the nation's, Wisconsin continues to be a land of opportunity for our world-class workforce."

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 percent 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 985 households and unemployment insurance claims. Measures the labor force, employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate.
- **Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW):** compiled quarterly 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.

(more)

New Quarterly Job & Wage Data

Today, DWD also released the latest available QCEW figures covering the second quarter of 2015. Key highlights include:

- A one-year gain of 30,735 private-sector jobs from June 2014 to June 2015, with 17,210 jobs added in the sectors of construction, manufacturing and professional services.
- A 5.6 percent gain in construction jobs (+6,167).
- A 1.1 percent gain in Financial Activities jobs (1,574) reflects the sector's best second-quarter over the year growth rate since 2007. Similarly, Total wages (6.8 percent increase) show best growth since 2003.
- Total private-sector wages increased by 4.2 percent in the second quarter of 2015 over the same quarter in 2014, including an 11.4 percent increase in Construction wages during this time.

Wisconsin has received the BLS' sign-off on the state quarterly data covering the second quarter of 2015. The BLS will incorporate the data in its next QCEW release scheduled for December 17, 2015. Information about the QCEW, including data through 2015 first quarter, can be accessed through the BLS website at <http://bls.gov/cew/>. DWD will post the second-quarter data on its WORKnet site in the coming days.

Other indicators of the state of Wisconsin's economy include:

- Average Initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims for the first 45 weeks of 2015 dropped to the lowest point since 1990, and the annual average weekly continued UI claims are at their lowest levels since 2000.
- [Department of Financial Institutions](#) new business formation: The number of new business entities formed in Wisconsin in the first 10 months of 2015 grew by 2.3% percent compared to same period in 2014. As of October 31, 2015, new business filings totaled 34,190, compared to 33,407 in the same period in 2014.
- [Chief Executive Magazine](#) ranked Wisconsin the "12th Best State for Business" in its annual survey of CEO's, an increase of 2 spots over the 2014 ranking, and a big increase over 2010, when the state ranked 41st.

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Wisconsin Employment and Unemployment Report
SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2015

1. REVISIONS TO ESTIMATES FROM SEPTEMBER 2015

Seasonally Adjusted

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Place of Residence Data	Prelim	Revised	Change	Prelim	Revised	Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,076,200	3,075,300	-900	3,079,500	3,077,200	-2,300
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	67.4%	67.4%	0.0%	67.5%	67.4%	-0.1%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2,942,800	2,941,800	-1,000	2,967,200	2,964,800	-2,400
UNEMPLOYMENT	133,400	133,500	100	112,300	112,400	100
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.3%	4.3%	0.0%	3.6%	3.7%	0.1%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	5.1%	5.1%	0.0%	4.9%	4.9%	0.0%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,900,200	2,892,800	-7,400	2,919,900	2,912,600	-7,300
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,480,600	2,474,900	-5,700	2,505,700	2,500,000	-5,700
GOODS PRODUCING	580,200	580,300	100	592,400	592,500	100
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	3,900	3,900	0	4,300	4,300	0
CONSTRUCTION	105,800	106,100	300	114,600	114,900	300
MANUFACTURING	470,500	470,300	-200	473,500	473,300	-200
Durable Goods	284,000	283,600	-400	284,300	283,900	-400
Nondurable Goods	186,500	186,700	200	189,200	189,400	200
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,320,000	2,312,500	-7,500	2,327,500	2,320,100	-7,400
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,900,400	1,894,600	-5,800	1,913,300	1,907,500	-5,800
TRADE	430,600	430,300	-300	428,500	428,200	-300
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	100,600	100,700	100	102,700	102,800	100
INFORMATION	50,500	49,900	-600	50,700	50,100	-600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	155,400	155,400	0	155,500	155,500	0
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	312,100	310,100	-2,000	317,200	315,200	-2,000
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	443,700	443,500	-200	442,000	441,800	-200
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	271,500	268,600	-2,900	280,700	277,800	-2,900
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	136,000	136,100	100	136,000	136,100	100
GOVERNMENT	419,600	417,900	-1,700	414,200	412,600	-1,600
Federal Government	28,600	28,600	0	28,700	28,700	0
State Government	101,300	101,300	0	103,900	103,900	0
Local Government	289,700	288,000	-1,700	281,600	280,000	-1,600

2. MONTHLY ESTIMATES FOR OCTOBER 2015

Place of Residence Data	Oct-15 (P)	Sep-15 (R)	Net Change	Oct-15 (P)	Sep-15 (R)	Net Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,086,700	3,075,300	11,400	3,100,500	3,077,200	23,300
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	67.6%	67.4%	0.2%	67.9%	67.4%	0.5%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2,955,300	2,941,800	13,500	2,988,000	2,964,800	23,200
UNEMPLOYMENT	131,400	133,500	-2,100	112,400	112,400	0
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.3%	4.3%	0.0%	3.6%	3.7%	-0.1%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	5.0%	5.1%	-0.1%	4.8%	4.9%	-0.1%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,908,900	2,892,800	16,100	2,939,400	2,912,600	26,800
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,490,000	2,474,900	15,100	2,510,500	2,500,000	10,500
GOODS PRODUCING	583,500	580,300	3,200	592,200	592,500	-300
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	4,000	3,900	100	4,300	4,300	0
CONSTRUCTION	106,700	106,100	600	115,000	114,900	100
MANUFACTURING	472,800	470,300	2,500	472,900	473,300	-400
Durable Goods	283,000	283,600	-600	282,400	283,900	-1,500
Nondurable Goods	189,800	186,700	3,100	190,500	189,400	1,100
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,325,400	2,312,500	12,900	2,347,200	2,320,100	27,100
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,906,500	1,894,600	11,900	1,918,300	1,907,500	10,800
TRADE	428,900	430,300	-1,400	433,800	428,200	5,600
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	101,900	100,700	1,200	104,100	102,800	1,300
INFORMATION	50,100	49,900	200	50,100	50,100	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	156,800	155,400	1,400	155,800	155,500	300
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	315,100	310,100	5,000	319,400	315,200	4,200
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	447,400	443,500	3,900	448,300	441,800	6,500
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	268,300	268,600	-300	268,700	277,800	-9,100
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	138,000	136,100	1,900	138,100	136,100	2,000
GOVERNMENT	418,900	417,900	1,000	428,900	412,600	16,300
Federal Government	28,700	28,600	100	28,800	28,700	100
State Government	101,900	101,300	600	107,200	103,900	3,300
Local Government	288,300	288,000	300	292,900	280,000	12,900

*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 2015	+600	+5,000	+4,400	+300	+4,500	+4,200
February 2015	+14,900	+13,000	(1,900)	+13,600	+11,800	(1,800)
March 2015	(4,300)	(4,200)	+100	(5,000)	(5,000)	+0
April 2015	+3,700	+100	(3,600)	+5,400	+2,000	(3,400)
May 2015	(8,600)	(5,800)	+2,800	(6,100)	(3,500)	+2,600
June 2015	+1,900	(2,900)	(4,800)	(300)	(4,600)	(4,300)
July 2015	+12,400	+14,300	+1,900	+8,200	+9,100	+900
August 2015	+7,100	+7,300	+200	+7,200	+7,900	+700
September 2015	+1,400	(6,000)	(7,400)	(1,300)	(7,000)	(5,700)
October 2015						
November 2015						
December 2015						

Note: Prelim = original month-over-month change. Revised = updated month-over-month change. The "Change" column represents the difference between the prelim month-over-month change and the revised month-over-month change.

4. LATEST QUARTERLY DATA: CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

	2014 Employment*			2015 Employment†			Jun-Jun Change	
	Apr	May	Jun	Apr	May	Jun	Number	Percent
TOTAL	2,731,187	2,774,157	2,810,767	2,771,987	2,806,783	2,839,759	28,992	1.0%
<i>Total Private</i>	2,340,719	2,383,996	2,424,438	2,379,143	2,417,346	2,455,173	30,735	1.3%
Natural Resources & Mining	27,615	29,349	30,071	29,689	30,750	31,399	1,328	4.4%
Construction	95,630	104,426	110,805	104,971	111,993	116,972	6,167	5.6%
Manufacturing	455,848	458,811	466,074	461,502	463,019	470,923	4,849	1.0%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities (Total)	511,156	517,822	522,338	515,949	524,097	529,477	7,139	1.4%
Information	46,837	47,195	47,309	47,759	48,052	48,174	865	1.8%
Financial Activities	143,897	144,641	146,479	145,305	146,400	148,053	1,574	1.1%
Professional & Business Services	300,171	303,797	307,095	308,102	310,217	313,289	6,194	2.0%
Education & Health Services	405,751	405,893	406,197	411,587	412,575	412,511	6,314	1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	253,992	269,743	282,095	261,409	276,398	289,070	6,975	2.5%
Other Services	83,321	83,896	85,720	83,008	83,799	85,314	-406	-0.5%
Unclassified	16,501	18,423	20,255	9,862	10,046	9,991	-10,264	-50.7%
<i>Total Government</i>	390,468	390,161	386,329	392,844	389,437	384,586	-1,743	-0.5%

*Data as published by the 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.

LATEST QUARTERLY WAGE DATA

	Total Wages		Change	
	Q2:2014*	Q2:2015†	Number	Percent
TOTAL	\$29,383,699	\$30,501,117	\$1,117,418	3.8%
<i>Total Private</i>	\$24,748,681	\$25,787,683	\$1,039,002	4.2%
<i>Total Government</i>	\$4,635,018	\$4,713,434	\$78,416	1.7%

Total wages are in thousands (Totals may not equal due to rounding)

*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.