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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BLS Data: Wisconsin Gains 27,900 Private-Sector Jobs Year-Over-Year**

*State unemployment rate remains at 4.1%, lowest since February 2001*

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 employment and job statistics for the state of Wisconsin. In brief, the seasonally adjusted estimates show:

- **Place of work data:** Based on preliminary data, the state added a statistically significant 28,400 total non-farm jobs and 27,900 private-sector jobs from October 2015 to October 2016, with a significant one-month gain of 10,400 total nonfarm and 2,400 manufacturing jobs. The state's private sector added 6,000 jobs over the month.
- **Place of residence data:** A preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 4.1 percent in October 2016, unchanged from September and at its lowest rate since February 2001. The rate remains lower than the national unemployment rate of 4.9 percent in October 2016. Wisconsin's labor force participation rate also remained unchanged at 68.4 percent and continues to outpace the U.S. rate of 62.8 percent in October.

DWD Secretary Ray Allen issued the following statement: "Wisconsin saw a significant year-over-year gain in private-sector jobs with 27,900 added, along with a significant one-month increase in total manufacturing jobs. Meanwhile, the number of employed Wisconsinites grew by thousands over the month and tens of thousands since October 2015, and the state unemployment rate held at a 15-year low of 4.1 percent. These indicators provide positive signs for the state of Wisconsin's economy and, ultimately, for job creators and workers."

### **New Quarterly Job & Wage Data – Second Quarter 2016**

Today, DWD also released the latest available QCEW figures covering the second quarter of 2016. Key highlights of 12-month changes through June 2016 include:

- A gain of 25,656 private-sector jobs.
- An increase of 26,313 total jobs.
- A 4.4 percent increase in total quarterly private sector wages.

Wisconsin has received the BLS' sign-off on the state quarterly data covering the second quarter of 2016. The BLS will incorporate the data in its next QCEW release scheduled for December 7. Information about the QCEW, including data through 2016 first quarter, can be accessed through the BLS website at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/>. DWD will post the second-quarter data on its WORKnet site in the coming days.

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.

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

- Year 2016 initial UI claims are running at their lowest level since 1989.
- Continuing unemployment claims in Wisconsin are running the lowest in at least the past 30 years.
- Wisconsin's labor force participation rate outpaces the national rate by 5.6 percentage points.
- Wisconsin was one of only 10 states with an annual average unemployment rate in 2015 lower than 2007, the year that the Great Recession began.
- Wisconsin had the sixth-highest rate of growth in average weekly private sector wages from December 2014 to December 2015, according to Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages data.

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**Wisconsin Employment and Unemployment Report**  
**SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2016**

**1. REVISIONS TO ESTIMATES FROM SEPTEMBER 2016**

**Seasonally Adjusted**

**Not Seasonally Adjusted**

| Place of Residence Data              | Prelim    | Revised   | Change | Prelim    | Revised   | Change |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE                 | 3,132,300 | 3,132,400 | 100    | 3,135,900 | 3,136,200 | 300    |
| LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE       | 68.4%     | 68.4%     | 0.0%   | 68.5%     | 68.5%     | 0.0%   |
| EMPLOYMENT (1)                       | 3,002,400 | 3,002,500 | 100    | 3,026,600 | 3,026,900 | 300    |
| UNEMPLOYMENT                         | 129,900   | 130,000   | 100    | 109,300   | 109,300   | 0      |
| UNEMPLOYMENT RATE                    | 4.1%      | 4.1%      | 0.0%   | 3.5%      | 3.5%      | 0.0%   |
| U.S. Unemployment Rate               | 5.0%      | 5.0%      | 0.0%   | 4.8%      | 4.8%      | 0.0%   |
| <b>Place of Work Data</b>            |           |           |        |           |           |        |
| NONFARM WAGE & SALARY                | 2,923,200 | 2,924,600 | 1,400  | 2,947,700 | 2,949,300 | 1,600  |
| TOTAL PRIVATE                        | 2,510,500 | 2,516,300 | 5,800  | 2,536,300 | 2,542,200 | 5,900  |
| GOODS PRODUCING                      | 589,600   | 590,200   | 600    | 599,100   | 599,700   | 600    |
| NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING           | 3,800     | 3,800     | 0      | 4,000     | 4,000     | 0      |
| CONSTRUCTION                         | 115,000   | 115,000   | 0      | 123,400   | 123,400   | 0      |
| MANUFACTURING                        | 470,800   | 471,400   | 600    | 471,700   | 472,300   | 600    |
| Durable Goods                        | 280,700   | 280,800   | 100    | 281,100   | 281,200   | 100    |
| Nondurable Goods                     | 190,100   | 190,600   | 500    | 190,600   | 191,100   | 500    |
| SERVICE PROVIDING                    | 2,333,600 | 2,334,400 | 800    | 2,348,600 | 2,349,600 | 1,000  |
| PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING            | 1,920,900 | 1,926,100 | 5,200  | 1,937,200 | 1,942,500 | 5,300  |
| TRADE                                | 431,600   | 431,900   | 300    | 430,800   | 431,100   | 300    |
| TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES     | 112,800   | 113,600   | 800    | 114,300   | 115,100   | 800    |
| INFORMATION                          | 48,300    | 48,000    | -300   | 48,700    | 48,400    | -300   |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES                 | 154,100   | 154,400   | 300    | 154,200   | 154,500   | 300    |
| PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES     | 317,000   | 317,300   | 300    | 321,800   | 322,100   | 300    |
| EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES        | 439,500   | 438,400   | -1,100 | 439,400   | 438,300   | -1,100 |
| LEISURE & HOSPITALITY                | 268,200   | 273,100   | 4,900  | 278,100   | 283,100   | 5,000  |
| OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin. | 149,400   | 149,400   | 0      | 149,900   | 149,900   | 0      |
| GOVERNMENT                           | 412,700   | 408,300   | -4,400 | 411,400   | 407,100   | -4,300 |
| Federal Government                   | 29,200    | 29,200    | 0      | 29,100    | 29,100    | 0      |
| State Government                     | 93,300    | 93,300    | 0      | 99,400    | 99,400    | 0      |
| Local Government                     | 290,200   | 285,800   | -4,400 | 282,900   | 278,600   | -4,300 |

**2. MONTHLY ESTIMATES FOR OCTOBER 2016**

| Place of Residence Data              | Oct-16 (P) | Sep-16 (R) | Net Change    | Oct-16 (P) | Sep-16 (R)       | Net Change    |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------|------------|------------------|---------------|
| CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE                 | 3,135,000  | 3,132,400  | 2,600         | 3,134,500  | <b>3,136,200</b> | -1,700        |
| LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE       | 68.4%      | 68.4%      | 0.0%          | 68.4%      | <b>68.5%</b>     | -0.1%         |
| EMPLOYMENT (1)                       | 3,005,700  | 3,002,500  | 3,200         | 3,024,600  | 3,026,900        | -2,300        |
| UNEMPLOYMENT                         | 129,300    | 130,000    | -700          | 109,900    | <b>109,300</b>   | 600           |
| UNEMPLOYMENT RATE                    | 4.1%       | 4.1%       | 0.0%          | 3.5%       | <b>3.5%</b>      | 0.0%          |
| U.S. Unemployment Rate               | 4.9%       | 5.0%       | -0.1%         | 4.7%       | 4.8%             | -0.1%         |
| <b>Place of Work Data</b>            |            |            |               |            |                  |               |
| NONFARM WAGE & SALARY                | 2,935,000  | 2,924,600  | <b>10,400</b> | 2,968,300  | 2,949,300        | <b>19,000</b> |
| TOTAL PRIVATE                        | 2,522,300  | 2,516,300  | 6,000         | 2,543,300  | 2,542,200        | 1,100         |
| GOODS PRODUCING                      | 591,500    | 590,200    | 1,300         | 598,100    | 599,700          | -1,600        |
| NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING           | 3,800      | 3,800      | 0             | 4,000      | 4,000            | 0             |
| CONSTRUCTION                         | 113,900    | 115,000    | -1,100        | 121,900    | 123,400          | -1,500        |
| MANUFACTURING                        | 473,800    | 471,400    | <b>2,400</b>  | 472,200    | 472,300          | -100          |
| Durable Goods                        | 281,800    | 280,800    | 1,000         | 281,100    | 281,200          | -100          |
| Nondurable Goods                     | 192,000    | 190,600    | <b>1,400</b>  | 191,100    | 191,100          | 0             |
| SERVICE PROVIDING                    | 2,343,500  | 2,334,400  | 9,100         | 2,370,200  | 2,349,600        | 20,600        |
| PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING            | 1,930,800  | 1,926,100  | 4,700         | 1,945,200  | 1,942,500        | 2,700         |
| TRADE                                | 431,700    | 431,900    | -200          | 436,200    | 431,100          | 5,100         |
| TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES     | 113,000    | 113,600    | -600          | 114,700    | 115,100          | -400          |
| INFORMATION                          | 48,200     | 48,000     | 200           | 48,300     | 48,400           | -100          |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES                 | 154,400    | 154,400    | 0             | 154,200    | 154,500          | -300          |
| PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES     | 318,200    | 317,300    | 900           | 323,100    | 322,100          | 1,000         |
| EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES        | 440,500    | 438,400    | 2,100         | 443,500    | 438,300          | <b>5,200</b>  |
| LEISURE & HOSPITALITY                | 275,500    | 273,100    | 2,400         | 275,600    | 283,100          | <b>-7,500</b> |
| OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin. | 149,300    | 149,400    | -100          | 149,600    | 149,900          | -300          |
| GOVERNMENT                           | 412,700    | 408,300    | 4,400         | 425,000    | 407,100          | 17,900        |
| Federal Government                   | 29,200     | 29,200     | 0             | 29,100     | 29,100           | 0             |
| State Government                     | 96,800     | 93,300     | 3,500         | 104,200    | 99,400           | 4,800         |
| Local Government                     | 286,700    | 285,800    | 900           | 291,700    | 278,600          | 13,100        |

\*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

| Month-Over-Month Changes | TNF      |          |         | Private  |          |         |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|---------|
|                          | Prelim   | Revised  | Change  | Prelim   | Revised  | Change  |
| January 2016             | (200)    | +7,200   | +7,400  | (1,400)  | +5,800   | +7,200  |
| February 2016            | +7,200   | +11,600  | +4,400  | +8,000   | +10,500  | +2,500  |
| March 2016               | +11,500  | +13,300  | +1,800  | +13,100  | +14,700  | +1,600  |
| April 2016               | (12,600) | (10,400) | +2,200  | (11,500) | (11,500) | +0      |
| May 2016                 | +5,500   | +1,300   | (4,200) | +9,700   | +3,400   | (6,300) |
| June 2016                | +5,300   | (1,100)  | (6,400) | +10,900  | +5,600   | (5,300) |
| July 2016                | +9,100   | +7,600   | (1,500) | +5,000   | +2,000   | (3,000) |
| August 2016              | (2,900)  | +100     | +3,000  | (6,200)  | (2,700)  | +3,500  |
| September 2016           | (10,500) | (9,100)  | +1,400  | (8,500)  | (2,700)  | +5,800  |
| October 2016             |          |          |         |          |          |         |
| November 2016            |          |          |         |          |          |         |
| December 2016            |          |          |         |          |          |         |

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

|  | 2015 Employment* |           |           | 2016 Employment† |           |           | Jun-Jun Change |         |
|--|------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|---------|
|  | Apr              | May       | Jun       | Apr              | May       | Jun       | Number         | Percent |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                             | 2,774,695        | 2,810,091 | 2,843,981 | 2,817,823        | 2,839,214 | 2,870,294 | 26,313         | 0.9%    |
| <i>Total Private</i>                     | 2,381,832        | 2,420,653 | 2,459,397 | 2,423,823        | 2,451,682 | 2,485,053 | 25,656         | 1.0%    |
| Natural Resources & Mining               | 29,808           | 30,907    | 31,594    | 30,322           | 31,353    | 32,015    | 421            | 1.3%    |
| Construction                             | 105,244          | 112,313   | 117,311   | 109,040          | 114,330   | 119,150   | 1,839          | 1.6%    |
| Manufacturing                            | 461,535          | 463,184   | 471,111   | 459,796          | 460,922   | 468,521   | -2,590         | -0.5%   |
| Trade, Transportation, Utilities (Total) | 516,896          | 525,109   | 530,551   | 530,580          | 535,665   | 538,249   | 7,698          | 1.5%    |
| Retail Trade (NAICS 44-45)               | 296,673          | 301,813   | 305,277   | 303,959          | 307,136   | 309,564   | 4,287          | 1.4%    |
| Information                              | 47,813           | 48,097    | 48,217    | 48,840           | 48,767    | 48,739    | 522            | 1.1%    |
| Financial Activities                     | 145,465          | 146,565   | 148,299   | 146,224          | 146,820   | 148,359   | 60             | 0.0%    |
| Professional & Business Services         | 308,366          | 310,382   | 313,533   | 320,488          | 320,328   | 323,412   | 9,879          | 3.2%    |
| Education & Health Services              | 411,798          | 412,849   | 412,961   | 421,609          | 421,378   | 420,723   | 7,762          | 1.9%    |
| Leisure & Hospitality                    | 261,609          | 276,655   | 289,469   | 267,569          | 281,670   | 293,362   | 3,893          | 1.3%    |
| Other Services                           | 83,181           | 84,006    | 85,539    | 83,032           | 83,273    | 84,696    | -843           | -1.0%   |
| Unclassified                             | 10,117           | 10,586    | 10,812    | 6,323            | 7,176     | 7,827     | -2,985         | -27.6%  |
| <i>Total Government</i>                  | 392,863          | 389,438   | 384,584   | 394,000          | 387,532   | 385,241   | 657            | 0.2%    |

### QUARTERLY WAGES

|                         | Total Wages  |              | Change      |         |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------|
|                         | Q2:2015*     | Q2:2016†     | Number      | Percent |
| <b>TOTAL</b>            | \$30,530,151 | \$31,639,638 | \$1,109,487 | 3.6%    |
| <i>Total Private</i>    | \$25,806,986 | \$26,947,125 | \$1,140,139 | 4.4%    |
| <i>Total Government</i> | \$4,723,165  | \$4,692,513  | -\$30,652   | -0.6%   |

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.