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Thursday, July 20, 2017

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BLS Data: Wisconsin's Unemployment Rate Unchanged at 3.1% in June, Maintains Lowest Level Since October 1999

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

Place of residence data: A preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.1 percent in June 2017, unchanged from May and maintaining its lowest rate since October 1999. The rate remains lower than the national unemployment rate, which increased to 4.4 percent in June 2017. Wisconsin's labor force participation rate increased 0.1 percentage points to 68.9 percent and continues to outpace the U.S. rate of 62.8 percent in June. Both total labor force and employment in Wisconsin remained at all-time highs in June. Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted employment change of 76,500 year-over-year is the largest increase since July 1995.

- Place of work data: Based on preliminary data, the state added a significant 38,400 total non-farm jobs and a significant 35,700 private-sector jobs from June 2016 to June 2017. Wisconsin also gained 3,600 private sector jobs over the month from May 2017 to June 2017. Other significant year-over-year changes include the addition of 6,800 jobs in Health Care and Social Assistance.

DWD Secretary Ray Allen issued the following statement: "Governor Walker's ongoing commitment to workforce development in Wisconsin continues to pay dividends. Today's numbers further show Wisconsin is moving along a path of economic growth, demonstrated by record levels of employment, an increasing labor force participation rate, the lowest unemployment rate in 17 years and significant year-over-year job gains."

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:

- Initial UI claims ended 2016 at their lowest level in their last 30 years. Year 2017 initial UI claims are running at the lowest in at least the past 30 years.
- Continuing unemployment claims ended 2016 at their lowest level since 1973. Continuing unemployment claims in Wisconsin are running at the lowest in at least the past 30 years.

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Wisconsin Employment and Unemployment Report
MAY – JUNE 2017

1. REVISIONS TO ESTIMATES FROM MAY 2017

Place of Residence Data	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Prelim	Revised	Change	Prelim	Revised	Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,155,300	3,155,200	-100	3,136,700	3,136,500	-200
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.8%	68.8%	0.0%	68.4%	68.4%	0.0%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,059,000	3,058,800	-200	3,049,000	3,048,400	-600
UNEMPLOYMENT	96,300	96,400	100	87,700	88,100	400
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	3.1%	3.1%	0.0%	2.8%	2.8%	0.0%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.3%	4.3%	0.0%	4.1%	4.1%	0.0%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,957,100	2,956,500	-600	2,969,500	2,968,800	-700
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,539,900	2,539,000	-900	2,543,800	2,542,800	-1,000
GOODS PRODUCING	589,800	590,700	900	590,700	591,600	900
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	4,000	4,000	0	4,100	4,100	0
CONSTRUCTION	114,000	114,600	600	116,500	117,100	600
MANUFACTURING	471,800	472,100	300	470,100	470,400	300
Durable Goods	283,200	283,100	-100	283,900	283,800	-100
Nondurable Goods	188,600	189,000	400	186,200	186,600	400
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,367,300	2,365,800	-1,500	2,378,800	2,377,200	-1,600
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,950,100	1,948,300	-1,800	1,953,100	1,951,200	-1,900
TRADE	437,800	437,200	-600	434,100	433,500	-600
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	107,000	106,700	-300	107,300	107,000	-300
INFORMATION	46,900	47,000	100	46,600	46,700	100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	152,700	152,800	100	152,500	152,600	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	328,300	327,000	-1,300	326,300	325,000	-1,300
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	447,900	448,400	500	448,700	449,200	500
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	279,300	278,800	-500	286,900	286,300	-600
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	150,200	150,400	200	150,700	150,900	200
GOVERNMENT	417,200	417,500	300	425,700	426,000	300
Federal Government	29,200	29,200	0	29,100	29,100	0
State Government	100,600	100,600	0	101,600	101,600	0
Local Government	287,400	287,700	300	295,000	295,300	300

2. MONTHLY ESTIMATES FOR JUNE 2017

Place of Residence Data	Jun-17 (P)	May-17 (R)	Net Change	Jun-17 (P)	May-17 (R)	Net Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,160,800	3,155,200	5,600	3,206,800	3,136,500	70,300
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.9%	68.8%	0.1%	69.9%	68.4%	1.5%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,064,000	3,058,800	5,200	3,096,200	3,048,400	47,800
UNEMPLOYMENT	96,800	96,400	400	110,600	88,100	22,500
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	3.1%	3.1%	0.0%	3.4%	2.8%	0.6%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.3%	0.1%	4.5%	4.1%	0.4%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,955,200	2,956,500	-1,300	2,996,000	2,968,800	27,200
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,542,600	2,539,000	3,600	2,590,000	2,542,800	47,200
GOODS PRODUCING	587,900	590,700	-2,800	603,700	591,600	12,100
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	4,000	4,000	0	4,200	4,100	100
CONSTRUCTION	111,900	114,600	-2,700	121,600	117,100	4,500
MANUFACTURING	472,000	472,100	-100	477,900	470,400	7,500
Durable Goods	283,900	283,100	800	289,000	283,800	5,200
Nondurable Goods	188,100	189,000	-900	188,900	186,600	2,300
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,367,300	2,365,800	1,500	2,392,300	2,377,200	15,100
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,954,700	1,948,300	6,400	1,986,300	1,951,200	35,100
TRADE	439,100	437,200	1,900	440,000	433,500	6,500
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	107,200	106,700	500	108,000	107,000	1,000
INFORMATION	46,800	47,000	-200	47,000	46,700	300
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	152,600	152,800	-200	154,000	152,600	1,400
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	323,700	327,000	-3,300	328,700	325,000	3,700
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	449,200	448,400	800	447,900	449,200	-1,300
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	283,700	278,800	4,900	306,900	286,300	20,600
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	152,400	150,400	2,000	153,800	150,900	2,900
GOVERNMENT	412,600	417,500	-4,900	406,000	426,000	-20,000
Federal Government	29,200	29,200	0	29,300	29,100	200
State Government	96,100	100,600	-4,500	82,800	101,600	-18,800
Local Government	287,300	287,700	-400	293,900	295,300	-1,400

*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 2017	+200	+5,400	+5,200	+5,800	+10,400	+4,600
February 2017	+11,100	+11,100	+0	+7,600	+8,300	+700
March 2017	(2,700)	(3,700)	(1,000)	+500	+800	+300
April 2017	+14,800	+13,100	(1,700)	+7,500	+6,000	(1,500)
May 2017	(3,100)	(3,700)	(600)	(1,700)	(2,600)	(900)
June 2017						
July 2017						
August 2017						
September 2017						
October 2017						
November 2017						
December 2017						

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.

Table 4

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4. LATEST QUARTERLY DATA: CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

	2014 Employment*			2015 Employment†			Dec-Dec Change		Total Wages		Change	
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec	Number	Percent	Q4:2014*	Q4:2015†	Number	Percent
TOTAL	2,797,592	2,803,958	2,791,001	2,829,352	2,825,090	2,824,416	33,415	1.2%	\$32,515,340	\$34,678,895	\$2,163,555	6.7%
Total Private	2,407,974	2,406,626	2,401,138	2,442,923	2,438,776	2,436,703	35,565	1.5%	\$28,023,925	\$30,020,605	\$1,996,680	7.1%
Natural Resources & Mining	32,101	29,979	28,187	33,269	31,098	29,386	1,199	4.3%	\$301,287	\$312,032	\$10,745	3.6%
Construction	111,325	108,171	101,908	116,262	113,303	108,264	6,356	6.2%	\$1,658,932	\$1,797,854	\$138,922	8.4%
Manufacturing	461,572	461,383	462,173	465,089	464,738	465,075	2,902	0.6%	\$6,676,812	\$7,006,055	\$329,243	4.9%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities (Total)	520,962	531,552	534,970	536,665	545,542	548,152	13,182	2.5%	\$5,133,191	\$5,593,978	\$460,787	9.0%
Retail Trade (NAICS 44-45)	301,170	310,693	312,481	308,097	316,384	317,197	4,716	1.5%	\$1,973,478	\$2,167,716	\$194,238	9.8%
Information	48,060	48,325	48,385	49,587	49,789	49,646	1,261	2.6%	\$832,324	\$951,153	\$118,829	14.3%
Financial Activities	144,868	144,902	145,868	146,964	146,784	147,413	1,545	1.1%	\$2,251,762	\$2,440,190	\$188,428	8.4%
Professional & Business Services	311,886	311,629	308,010	318,968	317,797	317,683	9,673	3.1%	\$4,525,908	\$4,907,571	\$381,663	8.4%
Education & Health Services	407,356	408,893	410,330	416,826	418,180	420,446	10,116	2.5%	\$4,754,724	\$5,178,002	\$423,278	8.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	261,626	253,599	252,314	271,819	264,282	262,292	9,978	4.0%	\$1,058,979	\$1,153,066	\$94,087	8.9%
Other Services	83,246	82,697	83,321	83,328	82,918	84,020	699	0.8%	\$568,178	\$614,344	\$46,166	8.1%
Unclassified	24,972	25,496	25,672	4,146	4,345	4,326	-21,346	-83.1%	\$261,829	\$66,361	-\$195,468	-74.7%
Total Government	389,618	397,332	389,863	386,429	386,314	387,713	-2,150	-0.6%	\$4,491,415	\$4,658,291	\$166,876	3.7%

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.