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Wisconsin Monthly Employment & Unemployment Rates Released

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) revisions for July and preliminary estimates for August 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 19,000 total non-farm jobs and 20,100 private-sector jobs from August 2016 to August 2017, with a significant year-over-year gain of 10,200 manufacturing jobs. This accounts for a preliminary one-month decrease of 8,800 total non-farm and 5,200 private sector jobs from July to August 2017.
- Place of residence data: A preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.4 percent in August 2017, up slightly from 3.2 percent in July and a full percentage point below the national unemployment rate of 4.4 percent, which increased from 4.3 percent over the month. Wisconsin's labor force participation rate was unchanged in August at 68.8 percent and almost six percentage points above the U.S. rate of 62.9 percent.

DWD Secretary Ray Allen issued the following statement: "This year we've seen record-high employment, near-record low unemployment rates, unemployment insurance claims running at their lowest levels in a generation and the labor force participation rate holding steady and outpacing the national rate. Wisconsin is a top 10 state to do business, and we expect our state will continue to grow and attract new businesses well into the future."

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.
- Additionally, 2017 YTD totals for both initial and continuing claims through week 35 are both below 2016 YTD totals for the same time period.
- Moody's Investors Service has upgraded the states credit rating, noting that "(T)he stable outlook reflects the expectation that the state will experience moderate economic growth and will continue its prudent fiscal management practices."

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Wisconsin Employment and Unemployment Report
JULY – AUGUST 2017

1. REVISIONS TO ESTIMATES FROM JULY 2017

Place of Residence Data	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Prelim	Revised	Change	Prelim	Revised	Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,159,300	3,159,600	300	3,203,300	3,204,000	700
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.8%	68.8%	0.0%	69.8%	69.8%	0.0%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,059,200	3,059,200	0	3,096,300	3,096,500	200
UNEMPLOYMENT	100,100	100,400	300	107,000	107,500	500
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	3.2%	3.2%	0.0%	3.3%	3.4%	0.1%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.3%	4.3%	0.0%	4.6%	4.6%	0.0%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,954,700	2,956,900	2,200	2,976,900	2,979,300	2,400
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,540,400	2,539,800	-600	2,593,600	2,593,200	-400
GOODS PRODUCING	590,300	591,000	700	608,600	609,300	700
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	4,000	4,000	0	4,200	4,200	0
CONSTRUCTION	112,800	112,700	-100	124,000	123,900	-100
MANUFACTURING	473,500	474,300	800	480,400	481,200	800
Durable Goods	284,800	285,000	200	289,000	289,200	200
Nondurable Goods	188,700	189,300	600	191,400	192,000	600
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,364,400	2,365,900	1,500	2,368,300	2,370,000	1,700
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,950,100	1,948,800	-1,300	1,985,000	1,983,900	-1,100
TRADE	433,400	434,300	900	436,800	437,700	900
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	106,900	107,300	400	105,900	106,300	400
INFORMATION	46,400	46,400	0	47,000	47,000	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	151,600	151,700	100	153,700	153,800	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	325,400	324,800	-600	330,600	330,000	-600
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	450,900	449,800	-1,100	447,200	446,200	-1,000
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	283,100	282,300	-800	310,200	309,500	-700
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	152,400	152,200	-200	153,600	153,400	-200
GOVERNMENT	414,300	417,100	2,800	383,300	386,100	2,800
Federal Government	29,300	29,300	0	29,400	29,400	0
State Government	96,800	96,800	0	84,600	84,600	0
Local Government	288,200	291,000	2,800	269,300	272,100	2,800

2. MONTHLY ESTIMATES FOR AUGUST 2017

Place of Residence Data	Aug-17 (P)	Jul-17 (R)	Net Change	Aug-17 (P)	Jul-17 (R)	Net Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,157,900	3,159,600	-1,700	3,185,800	3,204,000	-18,200
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.8%	68.8%	0.0%	69.4%	69.8%	-0.4%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,051,900	3,059,200	-7,300	3,078,400	3,096,500	-18,100
UNEMPLOYMENT	106,100	100,400	5,700	107,300	107,500	-200
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	3.4%	3.2%	0.2%	3.4%	3.4%	0.0%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.3%	0.1%	4.5%	4.6%	-0.1%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,948,100	2,956,900	-8,800	2,975,600	2,979,300	-3,700
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,534,600	2,539,800	-5,200	2,594,700	2,593,200	1,500
GOODS PRODUCING	590,000	591,000	-1,000	608,600	609,300	-700
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	3,900	4,000	-100	4,200	4,200	0
CONSTRUCTION	112,300	112,700	-400	123,700	123,900	-200
MANUFACTURING	473,800	474,300	-500	480,700	481,200	-500
Durable Goods	285,300	285,000	300	288,300	289,200	-900
Nondurable Goods	188,500	189,300	-800	192,400	192,000	400
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,358,100	2,365,900	-7,800	2,367,000	2,370,000	-3,000
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,944,600	1,948,800	-4,200	1,986,100	1,983,900	2,200
TRADE	434,700	434,300	400	438,900	437,700	1,200
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	106,500	107,300	-800	107,000	106,300	700
INFORMATION	46,000	46,400	-400	46,700	47,000	-300
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	152,800	151,700	1,100	154,500	153,800	700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	321,300	324,800	-3,500	330,300	330,000	300
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	451,000	449,800	1,200	446,100	446,200	-100
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	279,700	282,300	-2,600	308,800	309,500	-700
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	152,600	152,200	400	153,800	153,400	400
GOVERNMENT	413,500	417,100	-3,600	380,900	386,100	-5,200
Federal Government	29,100	29,300	-200	29,100	29,400	-300
State Government	95,400	96,800	-1,400	83,900	84,600	-700
Local Government	289,000	291,000	-2,000	267,900	272,100	-4,200

*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	(1,300)	(5,400)	(4,100)	+3,600	+1,300	(2,300)
July 2017	+3,600	+5,800	+2,200	+100	(500)	(600)
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.

4. LATEST QUARTERLY DATA: CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

	2016 Employment			2017 Employment			Mar-Mar Change		Total Wages		Change	
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan	Feb	Mar	Number	Percent	Q1:2016	Q1:2017	Number	Percent
TOTAL	2,756,350	2,763,944	2,774,114	2,779,736	2,785,926	2,803,734	29,620	1.1%	\$31,421,140	\$33,831,895	\$2,410,755	7.7%
<i>Total Private</i>	2,377,533	2,378,240	2,389,313	2,401,146	2,400,757	2,416,910	27,597	1.2%	\$27,056,367	\$29,127,032	\$2,070,665	7.7%
Natural Resources & Mining	27,310	27,450	28,148	27,927	28,214	29,369	1,221	4.3%	\$239,389	\$262,332	\$22,943	9.6%
Construction	97,822	97,723	100,720	101,714	101,984	104,227	3,507	3.5%	\$1,362,551	\$1,474,642	\$112,091	8.2%
Manufacturing	460,853	458,943	459,904	459,712	458,661	460,737	833	0.2%	\$6,290,534	\$6,756,544	\$466,010	7.4%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities (Total)	526,627	523,153	524,973	533,560	528,379	529,651	4,678	0.9%	\$4,872,425	\$5,263,817	\$391,392	8.0%
Information	49,051	48,926	48,744	48,765	48,446	48,156	-588	-1.2%	\$845,402	\$897,403	\$52,001	6.2%
Financial Activities	145,742	145,500	145,708	147,321	147,278	147,852	2,144	1.5%	\$2,851,460	\$3,029,625	\$178,165	6.2%
Professional & Business Services	314,452	315,386	314,643	312,640	313,306	316,423	1,780	0.6%	\$4,487,517	\$4,757,647	\$270,130	6.0%
Education & Health Services	415,786	418,631	419,975	421,701	424,732	425,878	5,903	1.4%	\$4,521,278	\$4,888,622	\$367,344	8.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	253,795	255,937	258,633	259,144	260,403	264,250	5,617	2.2%	\$984,251	\$1,102,853	\$118,602	12.0%
Other Services	81,468	81,521	82,666	82,223	82,556	83,474	808	1.0%	\$542,052	\$586,981	\$44,929	8.3%
Unclassified	4,627	5,070	5,199	6,439	6,798	6,893	1,694	32.6%	\$59,507	\$106,567	\$47,060	79.1%
<i>Total Government</i>	378,817	385,704	384,801	378,590	385,169	386,824	2,023	0.5%	\$4,364,773	\$4,704,863	\$340,090	7.8%

Total wages are in thousands (Totals may not equal due to rounding)
 Data as published by U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
 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.