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BLS Data: Wisconsin Adds 9,500 Private-Sector Jobs in October

Number of total nonfarm and private-sector jobs reach all-time high in October, as does total labor force

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, Wisconsin gained a significant 10,500 total non-farm, 9,500 private sector jobs and 3,400 manufacturing jobs from September to October 2017. The state also added a significant 42,400 total non-farm jobs and 39,400 private-sector jobs from October 2016 to October 2017, with a significant year-over-year gain of 13,000 manufacturing jobs. The number of total non-farm and private-sector jobs in Wisconsin reached all-time highs, according to the preliminary numbers.
- Place of residence data: A preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.4 percent in October 2017, down 0.1 percent from 3.5 percent in September and below the national unemployment rate of 4.1 percent. Wisconsin's 3.4 percent unemployment rate is the lowest since October rate since 1999. Wisconsin's labor force participation rate was unchanged in September at 68.8 percent and continues to be above the U.S. rate of 62.7 percent. Wisconsin's total labor force also reached an all-time high in October, based on preliminary estimates.

DWD Secretary Ray Allen issued the following statement: "With a 3.4 percent unemployment rate as well as significant over-the-month and over-the-year gains in both total non-farm and private sector jobs, Wisconsin is continuing along the path of economic growth under Governor Walker's leadership. The opportunities being created by Wisconsin businesses and by companies moving to our state demonstrate why Wisconsin has made workforce development a key priority. As we continue to prioritize investments that train workers to fill good-paying jobs, we also will collaborate with our partners to attract even more talent to the state."

New Quarterly Job & Wage Data – Second Quarter 2017

Today, DWD also released the latest available QCEW figures covering the second quarter of 2017. Key highlights of 12-month changes through June 2017 include:

- A gain of 32,037 private-sector jobs, including 5,590 in construction and 3,771 in manufacturing.
- An increase of 32,089 total jobs.
- A 3.9 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 2017. The BLS will incorporate the data in its next QCEW release scheduled for December 5. Information about the QCEW, including data through 2017 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 and WisConomy sites in the coming days.

(more)

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 44 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
SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2017

1. REVISIONS TO ESTIMATES FROM SEPTEMBER 2017

Place of Residence Data	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Prelim	Revised	Change	Prelim	Revised	Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,161,200	3,162,000	800	3,167,400	3,169,400	2,000
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.8%	68.8%	0.0%	68.9%	69.0%	0.1%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,051,900	3,052,600	700	3,072,300	3,074,000	1,700
UNEMPLOYMENT	109,300	109,400	100	95,100	95,400	300
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	3.5%	3.5%	0.0%	3.0%	3.0%	0.0%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.2%	4.2%	0.0%	4.1%	4.1%	0.0%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,958,400	2,962,000	3,600	2,975,500	2,979,000	3,500
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,543,200	2,544,400	1,200	2,564,700	2,565,800	1,100
GOODS PRODUCING	593,300	594,000	700	601,000	601,700	700
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	3,900	3,900	0	4,100	4,100	0
CONSTRUCTION	113,500	113,400	-100	120,900	120,800	-100
MANUFACTURING	475,900	476,700	800	476,000	476,800	800
Durable Goods	286,400	286,700	300	285,700	286,000	300
Nondurable Goods	189,500	190,000	500	190,300	190,800	500
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,365,100	2,368,000	2,900	2,374,500	2,377,300	2,800
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,949,900	1,950,400	500	1,963,700	1,964,100	400
TRADE	436,600	435,400	-1,200	435,600	434,400	-1,200
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	109,500	108,400	-1,100	111,000	109,900	-1,100
INFORMATION	46,100	46,500	400	46,300	46,700	400
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	153,300	153,100	-200	153,400	153,200	-200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	322,900	323,600	700	327,400	328,100	700
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	451,300	451,600	300	449,800	450,000	200
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	278,400	280,100	1,700	288,100	289,800	1,700
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	151,800	151,700	-100	152,100	152,000	-100
GOVERNMENT	415,200	417,600	2,400	410,800	413,200	2,400
Federal Government	29,200	29,200	0	29,200	29,200	0
State Government	97,000	97,000	0	100,800	100,800	0
Local Government	289,000	291,400	2,400	280,800	283,200	2,400

2. MONTHLY ESTIMATES FOR OCTOBER 2017

Place of Residence Data	Oct-17 (P)	Sep-17 (R)	Net Change	Oct-17 (P)	Sep-17 (R)	Net Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,162,100	3,162,000	100	3,165,300	3,169,400	-4,100
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.8%	68.8%	0.0%	68.9%	69.0%	-0.1%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,054,200	3,052,600	1,600	3,076,500	3,074,000	2,500
UNEMPLOYMENT	107,900	109,400	-1,500	88,800	95,400	-6,600
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	3.4%	3.5%	-0.1%	2.8%	3.0%	-0.2%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.1%	4.2%	-0.1%	3.9%	4.1%	-0.2%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,972,500	2,962,000	10,500	3,004,300	2,979,000	25,300
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,553,900	2,544,400	9,500	2,575,000	2,565,800	9,200
GOODS PRODUCING	596,600	594,000	2,600	603,100	601,700	1,400
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	4,000	3,900	100	4,200	4,100	100
CONSTRUCTION	112,500	113,400	-900	119,200	120,800	-1,600
MANUFACTURING	480,100	476,700	3,400	479,700	476,800	2,900
Durable Goods	288,700	286,700	2,000	287,700	286,000	1,700
Nondurable Goods	191,400	190,000	1,400	192,000	190,800	1,200
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,375,900	2,368,000	7,900	2,401,200	2,377,300	23,900
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,957,300	1,950,400	6,900	1,971,900	1,964,100	7,800
TRADE	433,700	435,400	-1,700	438,400	434,400	4,000
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	108,800	108,400	400	110,100	109,900	200
INFORMATION	46,700	46,500	200	46,900	46,700	200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	151,600	153,100	-1,500	151,500	153,200	-1,700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	327,900	323,600	4,300	333,300	328,100	5,200
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	452,700	451,600	1,100	456,000	450,000	6,000
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	281,700	280,100	1,600	282,000	289,800	-7,800
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	154,200	151,700	2,500	153,700	152,000	1,700
GOVERNMENT	418,600	417,600	1,000	429,300	413,200	16,100
Federal Government	29,100	29,200	-100	29,100	29,200	-100
State Government	99,300	97,000	2,300	105,200	100,800	4,400
Local Government	290,200	291,400	-1,200	295,000	283,200	11,800

*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	(8,800)	(7,100)	+1,700	(5,200)	(2,500)	+2,700
September 2017	+8,600	+12,200	+3,600	+5,900	+7,100	+1,200
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†			June-June Change		Total Wages		Change		
	April	May	June	April	May	June	Number	Percent	Q2:2016*	Q2:2017†	Number	Percent	
TOTAL	2,819,691	2,841,355	2,873,099	2,832,985	2,864,284	2,905,188	32,089	1.1%	\$31,651,982	\$32,643,660	\$991,678	3.1%	
<i>Total Private</i>	2,425,585	2,453,737	2,487,739	2,441,924	2,475,927	2,519,776	32,037	1.3%	\$26,959,706	\$28,000,655	\$1,040,949	3.9%	
Natural Resources & Mining	30,375	31,418	32,053	31,397	32,595	33,480	1,427	4.5%	\$277,720	\$298,421	\$20,701	7.5%	
Construction	109,198	114,489	119,397	112,721	119,572	124,987	5,590	4.7%	\$1,584,906	\$1,702,760	\$117,854	7.4%	
Manufacturing	459,943	460,938	468,486	461,696	462,784	472,257	3,771	0.8%	\$6,187,834	\$6,380,259	\$192,425	3.1%	
Trade, Transportation, Utilities (Total)	530,619	535,746	538,124	531,895	538,275	540,948	2,824	0.5%	\$5,061,095	\$5,195,068	\$133,973	2.6%	
Retail Trade (NAICS 44-45)	303,995	307,209	309,507	303,595	306,483	308,962	-545	-0.2%	\$1,974,032	\$2,017,444	\$43,412	2.2%	
Information	48,839	48,767	48,741	47,570	47,570	47,697	-1,044	-2.1%	\$804,788	\$804,628	-\$160	0.0%	
Financial Activities	146,218	146,802	148,584	147,876	148,388	150,250	1,666	1.1%	\$2,242,242	\$2,381,759	\$139,517	6.2%	
Professional & Business Services	320,391	320,101	323,150	320,877	322,851	326,494	3,344	1.0%	\$4,326,143	\$4,385,752	\$59,609	1.4%	
Education & Health Services	421,722	421,583	421,078	427,150	427,382	428,946	7,868	1.9%	\$4,707,322	\$4,976,168	\$268,846	5.7%	
Leisure & Hospitality	267,633	281,970	293,847	270,840	285,483	301,767	7,920	2.7%	\$1,102,859	\$1,166,459	\$63,600	5.8%	
Other Services	83,060	83,310	84,789	83,704	84,482	86,361	1,572	1.9%	\$574,306	\$609,842	\$35,536	6.2%	
Unclassified	7,587	8,613	9,490	6,198	6,545	6,589	-2,901	-30.6%	\$90,491	\$99,539	\$9,048	10.0%	
Total Government	394,106	387,618	385,360	391,061	388,357	385,412	52	0.0%	\$4,692,276	\$4,643,005	-\$49,271	-1.1%	

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

*Data as published by U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
†Data as signed off by BLS. Publication may vary slightly

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.