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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On the Web: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm>

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## **BLS Data: Wisconsin's April Unemployment Rate Falls to Record low 2.8 Percent**

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) preliminary employment estimates for the month of April. The data showed that Wisconsin's unemployment rate declined to a new record low of 2.8 percent. Wisconsin's labor force participation rate remained at 67.5 percent in April.

In brief:

- **Place of Residence Data:** Wisconsin's preliminary, seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in April was 2.8 percent. The national unemployment rate in April was 3.6 percent. The seasonally adjusted data also showed that the number of Wisconsinites were counted as unemployed in April stood at 88,100, a record low for the data series that dates to January 1976.
- **Place of Work Data:** Wisconsin added 17,000 private-sector jobs from April 2018 to April 2019, while adding 15,100 total non-farm jobs over the same time-period. Wisconsin private-sector employment and total non-farm employment decreased 3,900 and 3,100 from March 2019 to April 2019 respectively.

"We must remain committed to equipping all individuals with the skills they need to acquire family-sustaining employment regardless of age, race, gender and perceived barriers to employment," DWD Secretary Caleb Frostman said. "I am happy to see a record low level of unemployed individuals in Wisconsin, but we must remain steadfast. Those 88,100 individuals, and those who are not in the labor force but want to be, need our help. The skills employers seek are diverse – it is up to us to ensure that our workforce is comprised of individuals who carry in-demand skills which lead to a living wage."

Today's full report can be viewed on DWD's premier source for labor market information, [WisConomy.com](http://WisConomy.com)

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## WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Seasonally Adjusted

PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	PRELIM. Apr-19	REVISED Mar-19	YEAR AGO Apr-18	NET CHANGE OVER 1-Month	1-Year
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,127,200	3,128,200	3,141,800	-1,000	-14,600
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	67.5%	67.5%	68.2%	0.0%	-0.7%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,039,200	3,038,600	3,046,900	600	-7,700
UNEMPLOYMENT	88,100	89,600	94,900	-1,500	-6,800
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	2.8%	2.9%	3.0%	-0.1%	-0.2%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	3.6%	3.8%	3.9%	-0.2%	-0.3%

### PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>	2,977,700	2,980,800	2,962,600	-3,100	15,100
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,572,900	2,576,800	2,555,900	-3,900	17,000
GOODS PRODUCING	602,500	605,400	598,600	-2,900	3,900
MINING & LOGGING	4,800	4,800	4,700	0	100
CONSTRUCTION	122,100	124,500	120,400	-2,400	1,700
MANUFACTURING	475,600	476,100	473,500	-500	2,100
Durable Goods	285,600	286,100	285,100	-500	500
Nondurable Goods	190,000	190,000	188,400	0	1,600
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,375,200	2,375,400	2,364,000	-200	11,200
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,970,400	1,971,400	1,957,300	-1,000	13,100
TRADE	435,500	437,300	433,400	-1,800	2,100
Wholesale Trade	126,900	127,600	127,000	-700	-100
Retail Trade	308,600	309,700	306,400	-1,100	2,200
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	111,600	111,500	110,600	100	1,000
INFORMATION	47,900	47,600	47,200	300	700
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	153,900	153,800	152,500	100	1,400
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	26,900	27,000	26,600	-100	300
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	325,200	325,300	328,200	-100	-3,000
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	112,000	112,300	111,200	-300	800
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	147,000	146,600	148,300	400	-1,300
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	458,400	455,100	454,800	3,300	3,600
Educational Services	52,700	52,500	51,600	200	1,100
Health Care & Social Assistance	405,700	402,600	403,200	<b>3,100</b>	2,500
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	283,900	286,200	278,900	-2,300	5,000
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	45,200	45,800	39,800	-600	5,400
Accommodation & Food Services	238,700	240,400	239,100	-1,700	-400
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	154,000	154,600	151,700	-600	2,300
GOVERNMENT	404,800	404,000	406,700	800	-1,900
Federal Government	29,100	28,900	29,000	200	100
State Government	91,900	92,300	94,300	-400	-2,400
Local Government	283,800	282,800	283,400	1,000	400

Note: Differences in totals may occur as a result of rounding.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Bureau of Workforce Information and Technical Support.

Numbers in blue are statistically significant changes.

## WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Not Seasonally Adjusted

PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	PRELIM.	REVISED	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Apr-19	Mar-19	Apr-18	1-Month	1-Year
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,105,200	3,121,500	3,124,000	-16,300	-18,800
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	67.0%	67.4%	67.8%	-0.4%	-0.8%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,022,600	3,018,700	3,031,300	3,900	-8,700
UNEMPLOYMENT	<b>82,500</b>	102,800	92,700	<b>-20,300</b>	-10,200
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	<b>2.7%</b>	3.3%	3.0%	<b>-0.6%</b>	-0.3%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.9%	3.7%	-0.6%	-0.4%

### PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>	2,960,600	2,942,000	2,953,800	<b>18,600</b>	6,800
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,541,500	2,527,400	2,532,000	<b>14,100</b>	9,500
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	593,000	588,700	591,400	4,300	1,600
MINING & LOGGING	4,700	4,500	4,600	200	100
CONSTRUCTION	117,000	112,700	117,000	<b>4,300</b>	0
MANUFACTURING	471,300	471,500	469,800	-200	1,500
Durable Goods	283,800	284,000	283,800	-200	0
Nondurable Goods	187,500	187,500	186,000	0	1,500
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,367,600	2,353,300	2,362,400	14,300	5,200
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	1,948,500	1,938,700	1,940,600	<b>9,800</b>	7,900
TRADE	428,600	429,500	427,800	-900	800
Wholesale Trade	126,000	126,400	126,400	-400	-400
Retail Trade	302,600	303,100	301,400	-500	1,200
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	109,900	109,300	109,500	600	400
Utilities	8,900	8,900	9,200	0	-300
INFORMATION	47,600	47,300	46,700	300	900
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	153,500	152,700	151,500	800	2,000
Finance and Insurance	127,200	126,700	125,500	500	1,700
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	26,300	26,000	26,000	300	300
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	323,600	321,200	326,600	2,400	-3,000
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	113,800	113,900	113,000	-100	800
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	65,500	65,900	68,400	-400	<b>-2,900</b>
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	144,300	141,400	145,200	2,900	-900
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	459,900	456,700	456,800	3,200	3,100
Educational Services	55,400	55,700	54,700	-300	700
Health Care & Social Assistance	404,500	401,000	402,100	<b>3,500</b>	2,400
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	271,500	267,400	270,500	4,100	1,000
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	40,500	38,100	36,600	<b>2,400</b>	3,900
Accommodation & Food Services	231,000	229,300	233,900	1,700	-2,900
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	153,900	154,600	151,200	-700	2,700
GOVERNMENT	419,100	414,600	421,800	4,500	-2,700
Federal Government	29,100	28,700	28,900	400	200
State Government	98,400	98,500	100,700	-100	-2,300
Local Government	291,600	287,400	292,200	4,200	-600

Note: Differences in totals may occur as a result of rounding.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Bureau of Workforce Information and Technical Support.

Numbers in **blue** are statistically significant changes.