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**Tony Evers, Governor  
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On the Web: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm>

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## **BLS Data: Wisconsin Unemployment Rate Remains at 2.8 Percent in May**

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

In brief:

- **Place of Residence Data:** Wisconsin's preliminary, seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in May remained at 2.8 percent, down from 3.1 percent in May 2018. Wisconsin's labor force participation rate was 67.3 percent in May 2019, down from 68.1 percent in May 2018. The national unemployment rate and labor force participation rate in May were 3.6 percent and 62.8 percent respectively.
- **Place of Work Data:** Wisconsin added 19,600 private-sector jobs from May 2018 to May 2019, and 15,000 total non-farm jobs over the same time period. From April 2019 to May 2019, Wisconsin added 1,800 private-sector jobs and 1,700 total non-farm jobs.

"May's labor numbers underscore the importance of being more creative and inclusive in our workforce recruitment, retention, and advocacy efforts," DWD Secretary Caleb Frostman said. "With national unemployment below 4 percent and Wisconsin's below 3 percent, it is incumbent upon the state to invest in areas of the highest return: Upskilling underemployed workers, advocating for those already in the workforce, and removing barriers for those on the employment sidelines, such as the cost of childcare and inadequate transportation options in both urban and rural areas of our state."

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. May-19	REVISED Apr-19	YEAR AGO May-18	NET CHANGE OVER 1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,122,000	3,127,500	3,139,400	-5,500	-17,400
Employment	3,033,400	3,039,400	3,043,500	-6,000	-10,100
Unemployment	88,600	88,100	95,900	500	-7,300
Unemployment Rate	2.8%	2.8%	3.1%	0.0%	-0.3%
US Unemployment Rate	3.6%	3.6%	3.8%	0.0%	-0.2%
Labor Force Participation Rate	67.3%	67.5%	68.1%	-0.2%	-0.8%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.8%	62.8%	62.8%	0.0%	0.0%

### PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>	2,982,000	2,980,300	2,967,000	1,700	15,000
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,578,300	2,576,500	2,558,700	1,800	19,600
GOODS PRODUCING	604,800	602,700	600,500	2,100	4,300
MINING & LOGGING	4,800	4,800	4,700	0	100
CONSTRUCTION	124,100	122,000	121,800	2,100	2,300
MANUFACTURING	475,900	475,900	474,000	0	1,900
Durable Goods	285,800	285,700	285,500	100	300
Nondurable Goods	190,100	190,200	188,500	-100	1,600
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,377,200	2,377,600	2,366,500	-400	10,700
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,973,500	1,973,800	1,958,200	-300	15,300
TRADE	434,800	434,800	433,600	0	1,200
Wholesale Trade	126,600	126,600	127,100	0	-500
Retail Trade	308,200	308,200	306,500	0	1,700
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	111,200	111,600	110,300	-400	900
INFORMATION	47,600	47,900	47,000	-300	600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	152,900	153,500	152,400	-600	500
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	26,600	26,800	26,500	-200	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	327,000	328,300	329,000	-1,300	-2,000
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	112,600	112,600	112,000	0	600
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	147,800	149,200	148,500	-1,400	-700
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	459,500	458,500	454,100	1,000	5,400
Educational Services	52,800	52,700	50,500	100	2,300
Health Care & Social Assistance	406,700	405,800	403,600	900	3,100
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	285,500	285,000	280,000	500	5,500
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	44,900	45,100	40,800	-200	4,100
Accommodation & Food Services	240,600	239,900	239,200	700	1,400
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	155,000	154,200	151,800	800	3,200
GOVERNMENT	403,700	403,800	408,300	-100	-4,600
Federal Government	29,000	29,000	29,000	0	0
State Government	91,100	91,300	94,500	-200	-3,400
Local Government	283,600	283,500	284,800	100	-1,200

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	
	May-19	Apr-19	May-18	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,086,600	3,106,500	3,129,500	-19,900	-42,900
Employment	3,002,700	3,023,700	3,044,500	-21,000	-41,800
Unemployment	84,000	<b>82,800</b>	85,100	1,200	-1,100
Unemployment Rate	2.7%	<b>2.7%</b>	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%
US Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.3%	3.6%	0.1%	-0.2%
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.6%	67.0%	67.9%	-0.4%	<b>-1.3%</b>
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.8%	62.7%	62.8%	0.1%	0.0%

### PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>	2,993,100	2,964,300	2,984,300	<b>28,800</b>	8,800
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,581,800	2,545,600	2,567,600	<b>36,200</b>	14,200
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	606,200	593,700	601,400	<b>12,500</b>	4,800
MINING & LOGGING	4,900	4,700	4,800	200	100
CONSTRUCTION	126,900	117,000	124,900	<b>9,900</b>	2,000
MANUFACTURING	474,400	472,000	471,700	2,400	2,700
Durable Goods	285,700	284,000	285,100	1,700	600
Nondurable Goods	188,700	188,000	186,600	700	2,100
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,386,900	2,370,600	2,382,900	16,300	4,000
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	1,975,600	1,951,900	1,966,200	<b>23,700</b>	9,400
TRADE	430,900	427,800	433,100	3,100	-2,200
Wholesale Trade	126,000	125,600	127,600	400	-1,600
Retail Trade	304,900	302,200	305,500	<b>2,700</b>	-600
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	111,800	110,000	110,700	1,800	1,100
Utilities	9,000	8,900	9,200	100	-200
INFORMATION	47,300	47,600	46,700	-300	600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	152,700	153,200	152,000	-500	700
Finance and Insurance	126,000	126,900	125,500	-900	500
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	26,700	26,300	26,500	400	200
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	327,900	327,100	328,700	800	-800
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	111,800	114,300	110,900	<b>-2,500</b>	900
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	66,200	65,800	68,200	400	-2,000
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	149,900	147,000	149,600	2,900	300
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	459,300	459,600	455,700	-300	3,600
Educational Services	53,500	55,300	52,500	-1,800	1,000
Health Care & Social Assistance	405,800	404,300	403,200	1,500	2,600
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	291,800	272,700	287,000	<b>19,100</b>	4,800
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	47,900	40,500	43,400	<b>7,400</b>	4,500
Accommodation & Food Services	243,900	232,200	243,600	<b>11,700</b>	300
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	153,900	153,900	152,300	0	1,600
GOVERNMENT	411,300	418,700	416,700	-7,400	-5,400
Federal Government	28,900	29,000	28,900	-100	0
State Government	92,300	98,400	97,000	-6,100	-4,700
Local Government	290,100	291,300	290,800	-1,200	-700

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.