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BLS Data: Wisconsin Sets New Records in Total State Jobs, Employment

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) job totals for January 2024, which showed Wisconsin's total nonfarm jobs, private jobs, and employment all hit new all-time highs.

The state added 5,100 nonfarm jobs and 4,700 private jobs, bringing both totals to historic highs, 3,026,900 and 2,621,000 respectively. The state also made gains in employment, increasing by 2,900 over the month and 29,300 over the year to a record 3,047,500. Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.2% in January, while the state's total labor force participation rate remained at 65.9%.

Nationwide for the month of January, the U.S. unemployment rate remained at 3.7%, 0.5 percentage points above Wisconsin's rate. The national labor force participation rate of 62.5% was 3.4 percentage points below the state rate.

- **Place of Residence Data:** Wisconsin's unemployment rate was 3.2% in January. The number of unemployed people decreased 5,200 over the month and increased 18,200 over the year to 100,400. The labor force decreased by 2,300 workers over the month for a total labor force of 3,147,900. The number of people employed increased by 2,900 over the month for a total of 3,047,500 employed.
- **Place of Work Data:** Total jobs increased by 25,200 over the year and increased 5,100 over the month to 3,026,900 total jobs in January. Private sector jobs increased by 17,000 over the year and increased by 4,700 over the month to 2,621,000. Construction jobs grew by 1,900 over the month to a record high 140,000 jobs.

"Wisconsin's economy and workforce continues to break records as we enter 2024," said DWD Secretary Amy Pechacek. "In the Year of the Worker, DWD remains committed to advancing innovative workforce programs and initiatives to continue this momentous success."

Today's full report can be viewed on DWD's premier source for labor market information, WisConomy.com.

ABOUT DWD

Wisconsin's Department of Workforce Development efficiently delivers effective and inclusive services to meet Wisconsin's diverse workforce needs now and for the future. The department advocates for and invests in the protection and economic advancement of all Wisconsin workers, employers and job seekers through six divisions – Employment and Training, Vocational Rehabilitation, Unemployment Insurance, Equal Rights, Worker's Compensation and Administrative Services. To keep up with DWD announcements and

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WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Seasonally Adjusted

PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	PRELIM.	REVISED	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Jan-24	Dec-23	Jan-23	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,147,900	3,150,200	3,100,400	-2,300	47,500
Employment	3,047,500	3,044,600	3,018,200	2,900	29,300
Unemployment	100,400	105,600	82,200	-5,200	18,200
Unemployment Rate	3.2%	3.4%	2.7%	-0.2%	0.5%
US Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.7%	3.4%	0.0%	0.3%
Labor Force Participation Rate	65.9%	65.9%	65.4%	0.0%	0.5%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.5%	62.5%	62.4%	0.0%	0.1%

PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>	3,026,900	3,021,800	3,001,700	5,100	25,200
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,621,000	2,616,300	2,604,000	4,700	17,000
GOODS PRODUCING	623,400	621,500	621,700	1,900	1,700
MINING & LOGGING	4,100	4,100	3,800	0	300
CONSTRUCTION	140,000	138,100	135,800	1,900	4,200
MANUFACTURING	479,300	479,300	482,100	0	-2,800
Durable Goods	280,800	280,500	283,900	300	-3,100
Nondurable Goods	198,500	198,800	198,200	-300	300
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,403,500	2,400,300	2,380,000	3,200	23,500
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,997,600	1,994,800	1,982,300	2,800	15,300
TRADE	433,500	432,600	428,600	900	4,900
Wholesale Trade	130,200	130,400	129,600	-200	600
Retail Trade	303,300	302,200	299,000	1,100	4,300
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	119,600	120,300	125,000	-700	-5,400
INFORMATION	47,700	47,500	47,100	200	600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	160,100	160,300	159,500	-200	600
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	28,600	28,300	27,800	300	800
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	328,800	328,600	330,400	200	-1,600
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	125,000	126,300	126,900	-1,300	-1,900
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	138,600	137,800	139,200	800	-600
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	479,900	475,400	467,600	4,500	12,300
Private Educational Services	60,000	58,400	58,100	1,600	1,900
Health Care & Social Assistance	419,900	417,000	409,500	2,900	10,400
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	281,900	283,400	279,100	-1,500	2,800
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	41,900	42,800	43,700	-900	-1,800
Accommodation & Food Services	240,000	240,600	235,400	-600	4,600
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	146,100	146,700	145,000	-600	1,100
GOVERNMENT	405,900	405,500	397,700	400	8,200
Federal Government	31,400	31,000	29,600	400	1,800
State Government	95,800	96,800	92,700	-1,000	3,100
Local Government	278,700	277,700	275,400	1,000	3,300

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	
	Jan-24	Dec-23	Jan-23	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,103,400	3,127,700	3,073,400	-24,300	30,000
Employment	3,016,200	3,036,800	2,981,000	-20,600	35,200
Unemployment	87,200	91,000	92,400	-3,800	-5,200
Unemployment Rate	2.8%	2.9%	3.0%	-0.1%	-0.2%
US Unemployment Rate	4.1%	3.5%	3.9%	0.6%	0.2%
Labor Force Participation Rate	64.9%	65.5%	64.8%	-0.6%	0.1%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.2%	62.2%	62.1%	0.0%	0.1%

PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>	2,962,800	3,028,600	2,943,700	-65,800	19,100
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,564,400	2,614,100	2,554,300	-49,700	10,100
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	609,400	617,400	607,200	-8,000	2,200
MINING & LOGGING	3,900	4,000	3,600	-100	300
CONSTRUCTION	127,900	133,700	123,900	-5,800	4,000
MANUFACTURING	477,600	479,700	479,700	-2,100	-2,100
Durable Goods	279,500	280,100	283,400	-600	-3,900
Nondurable Goods	198,100	199,600	196,300	-1,500	1,800
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,353,400	2,411,200	2,336,500	-57,800	16,900
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	1,955,000	1,996,700	1,947,100	-41,700	7,900
TRADE	430,900	440,600	425,400	-9,700	5,500
Wholesale Trade	129,200	130,000	128,500	-800	700
Retail Trade	301,700	310,600	296,900	-8,900	4,800
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	117,600	123,800	125,200	-6,200	-7,600
Utilities	8,300	8,400	8,100	-100	200
INFORMATION	47,400	47,800	47,000	-400	400
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	159,900	161,100	158,100	-1,200	1,800
Finance and Insurance	131,700	132,500	131,400	-800	300
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	28,200	28,600	26,700	-400	1,500
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	319,500	327,600	323,400	-8,100	-3,900
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	123,800	125,700	126,200	-1,900	-2,400
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	64,700	64,600	64,200	100	500
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	131,000	137,300	133,000	-6,300	-2,000
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	476,400	476,900	465,500	-500	10,900
Private Educational Services	58,700	60,300	57,900	-1,600	800
Health Care & Social Assistance	417,700	416,600	407,600	1,100	10,100
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	259,200	272,400	259,600	-13,200	-400
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	33,900	38,200	36,900	-4,300	-3,000
Accommodation & Food Services	225,300	234,200	222,700	-8,900	2,600
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	144,100	146,500	142,900	-2,400	1,200
GOVERNMENT	398,400	414,500	389,400	-16,100	9,000
Federal Government	31,300	31,200	29,500	100	1,800
State Government	89,900	102,300	86,700	-12,400	3,200
Local Government	277,200	281,000	273,200	-3,800	4,000

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.