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## BLS Data: Wisconsin Achieves Year-over-Year Growth in Labor Force, Employment, Jobs

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) preliminary job totals for March 2024, which showed year-over-year growth in Wisconsin's labor force, employment, and jobs totals.

Over the year, Wisconsin's labor force increased 23,800 and the number of people employed grew by almost 13,000. Meanwhile, total nonfarm jobs remain near the record high set in February 2024, at 3,034,400.

Preliminary employment estimates for March 2024 also showed Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 3.0%, 0.8 percentage points below the national rate. Wisconsin's labor force participation rate for March 2024 was 65.6%, 2.9 percentage points higher than the national labor force participation rate of 62.7%.

- **Place of Residence Data:** Wisconsin's March 2024 unemployment rate held steady at 3.0%. The labor force decreased 3,500 over the month, to 3,140,000. The number of people employed decreased 800 over the month, to 3,047,100. The number of unemployed people decreased 2,600 over the month, to 93,000.
- **Place of Work Data:** Total nonfarm jobs decreased 1,700 over the month and increased 22,700 over the year, to 3,034,400 in March. Private sector jobs decreased 2,900 over the month and increased 14,300 over the year to 2,623,400. Construction jobs grew by 3,100 jobs over the month, to a record high 143,900 jobs.

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

## WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Seasonally Adjusted

PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	PRELIM.	REVISED	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Mar-24	Feb-24	Mar-23	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,140,000	3,143,500	3,116,200	-3,500	23,800
Employment	3,047,100	3,047,900	3,034,200	-800	12,900
Unemployment	93,000	<b>95,600</b>	82,000	-2,600	11,000
Unemployment Rate	3.0%	<b>3.0%</b>	2.6%	0.0%	<b>0.4%</b>
US Unemployment Rate	3.8%	3.9%	3.5%	-0.1%	0.3%
Labor Force Participation Rate	65.6%	65.7%	65.6%	-0.1%	0.0%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.7%	62.5%	62.6%	0.2%	0.1%

### PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>	3,034,400	3,036,100	3,011,700	-1,700	22,700
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,623,400	2,626,300	2,609,100	-2,900	14,300
GOODS PRODUCING	626,600	626,500	622,100	100	4,500
MINING & LOGGING	4,000	4,100	3,800	-100	200
CONSTRUCTION	143,900	140,800	136,600	<b>3,100</b>	7,300
MANUFACTURING	478,700	481,600	481,700	-2,900	-3,000
Durable Goods	280,700	282,700	284,000	-2,000	-3,300
Nondurable Goods	198,000	198,900	197,700	-900	300
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,407,800	2,409,600	2,389,600	-1,800	18,200
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,996,800	1,999,800	1,987,000	-3,000	9,800
TRADE	432,400	432,400	429,500	0	2,900
Wholesale Trade	131,000	130,600	130,000	400	1,000
Retail Trade	301,400	301,800	299,500	-400	1,900
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	121,000	122,800	124,900	-1,800	-3,900
INFORMATION	47,800	47,800	47,300	0	500
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	159,200	159,400	159,600	-200	-400
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	28,600	28,600	27,900	0	700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	325,500	326,300	331,300	-800	-5,800
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	123,500	123,700	127,200	-200	-3,700
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	137,200	137,500	139,900	-300	-2,700
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	477,900	479,100	468,800	-1,200	9,100
Private Educational Services	59,300	59,200	57,900	100	1,400
Health Care & Social Assistance	418,600	419,900	410,900	-1,300	7,700
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	286,200	286,500	280,800	-300	5,400
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	44,300	43,400	44,500	900	-200
Accommodation & Food Services	241,900	243,100	236,300	-1,200	5,600
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	146,800	145,500	144,800	1,300	2,000
GOVERNMENT	411,000	409,800	402,600	1,200	8,400
Federal Government	31,600	31,400	30,000	200	1,600
State Government	99,300	98,900	95,100	400	4,200
Local Government	280,100	279,500	277,500	600	2,600

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.

## WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Not Seasonally Adjusted

PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	PRELIM.	REVISED	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Mar-24	Feb-24	Mar-23	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,129,100	3,117,200	3,110,400	11,900	18,700
Employment	3,020,800	3,013,200	3,014,000	7,600	6,800
Unemployment	108,300	<b>104,000</b>	96,300	4,300	12,000
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	<b>3.3%</b>	3.1%	0.2%	0.4%
US Unemployment Rate	3.9%	4.2%	3.6%	-0.3%	0.3%
Labor Force Participation Rate	65.4%	65.2%	65.5%	0.2%	-0.1%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.7%	62.5%	62.6%	0.2%	0.1%

### PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>	2,997,800	2,992,800	2,977,100	5,000	20,700
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,578,300	2,575,000	2,567,600	3,300	10,700
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	614,500	612,400	609,000	2,100	5,500
MINING & LOGGING	3,900	3,900	3,600	0	300
CONSTRUCTION	133,600	127,600	126,200	<b>6,000</b>	7,400
MANUFACTURING	477,000	480,900	479,200	-3,900	-2,200
Durable Goods	279,200	281,400	283,300	-2,200	-4,100
Nondurable Goods	197,800	199,500	195,900	-1,700	1,900
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,383,300	2,380,400	2,368,100	2,900	15,200
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	1,963,800	1,962,600	1,958,600	1,200	5,200
TRADE	427,000	427,200	424,500	-200	2,500
Wholesale Trade	130,100	128,700	128,800	1,400	1,300
Retail Trade	296,900	298,500	295,700	-1,600	1,200
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	118,400	119,800	123,800	-1,400	-5,400
Utilities	8,300	8,400	8,200	-100	100
INFORMATION	47,400	47,500	46,900	-100	500
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	158,600	159,100	158,200	-500	400
Finance and Insurance	130,800	131,100	131,400	-300	-600
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	27,800	28,000	26,800	-200	1,000
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	319,200	319,200	327,700	0	-8,500
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	123,800	123,600	127,600	200	-3,800
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	64,300	64,700	63,900	-400	400
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	131,100	130,900	136,200	200	-5,100
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	477,600	478,400	468,700	-800	8,900
Private Educational Services	60,600	60,300	59,800	300	800
Health Care & Social Assistance	417,000	418,100	408,900	-1,100	8,100
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	268,600	267,300	265,100	1,300	3,500
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	37,600	35,500	37,900	2,100	-300
Accommodation & Food Services	231,000	231,800	227,200	-800	3,800
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	147,000	144,100	143,700	2,900	3,300
GOVERNMENT	419,500	417,800	409,500	1,700	10,000
Federal Government	31,500	31,300	29,900	200	1,600
State Government	104,400	104,200	99,700	200	4,700
Local Government	283,600	282,300	279,900	1,300	3,700

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.