
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 23, 2025

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BLS Data: Wisconsin Employment Breaks Eighth Consecutive Monthly Record

MADISON – The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today announced new record-high employment during December 2024, according to preliminary estimates from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This total, 3,076,500 employed, is the eighth consecutive monthly record for state employment.

Preliminary employment estimates for December 2024 showed Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ticked up to 3.0%, which is 1.1 percentage points below the national unemployment rate of 4.1%. The state's labor force participation rate increased to 65.9% in December while the national rate stayed at 62.5%.

- **Place of Residence Data:** Wisconsin's unemployment rate was 3.0% in December, 1.1 percentage points below the national rate of 4.1%. Wisconsin's labor force increased by 5,000 over the month and 20,100 over the year. The number of people employed increased 2,500 over the month to a record-high 3,076,500 employed.
- **Place of Work Data:** Total nonfarm jobs decreased 1,200 over the month and increased 20,300 over the year to 3,042,100 jobs.

Additional information about the data included in the release is available at [Wisconomy.com](https://www.wisconsin.gov/economy).

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 information, [sign up for news releases](#) and follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [YouTube](#).

WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Seasonally Adjusted

PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	PRELIM.	REVISED	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Dec-24	Nov-24	Dec-23	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,170,300	3,165,300	3,150,200	5,000	20,100
Employment	3,076,500	3,074,000	3,044,600	2,500	31,900
Unemployment	93,900	91,400	105,600	2,500	-11,700
Unemployment Rate	3.0%	2.9%	3.4%	0.1%	-0.4%
US Unemployment Rate	4.1%	4.2%	3.7%	-0.1%	0.4%
Labor Force Participation Rate	65.9%	65.8%	65.9%	0.1%	0.0%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.5%	62.5%	62.5%	0.0%	0.0%

PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>	3,042,100	3,043,300	3,021,800	-1,200	20,300
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,632,500	2,629,200	2,616,300	3,300	16,200
GOODS PRODUCING	627,300	626,300	621,500	1,000	5,800
MINING & LOGGING	4,100	4,100	4,100	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	142,000	142,000	138,100	0	3,900
MANUFACTURING	481,200	480,200	479,300	1,000	1,900
Durable Goods	280,200	280,800	280,500	-600	-300
Nondurable Goods	201,000	199,400	198,800	1,600	2,200
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,414,800	2,417,000	2,400,300	-2,200	14,500
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	2,005,200	2,002,900	1,994,800	2,300	10,400
TRADE	434,200	435,000	432,600	-800	1,600
Wholesale Trade	136,800	136,800	130,400	0	6,400
Retail Trade	297,400	298,200	302,200	-800	-4,800
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	123,400	123,300	120,300	100	3,100
INFORMATION	47,800	46,800	47,500	1,000	300
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	155,900	156,500	160,300	-600	-4,400
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	27,900	27,900	28,300	0	-400
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	329,000	327,900	328,600	1,100	400
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	123,800	123,300	126,300	500	-2,500
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	140,100	139,300	137,800	800	2,300
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	480,100	479,700	475,400	400	4,700
Private Educational Services	58,200	58,100	58,400	100	-200
Health Care & Social Assistance	421,900	421,600	417,000	300	4,900
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	285,200	284,200	283,400	1,000	1,800
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	44,100	45,400	42,800	-1,300	1,300
Accommodation & Food Services	241,100	238,800	240,600	2,300	500
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	149,600	149,500	146,700	100	2,900
GOVERNMENT	409,600	414,100	405,500	-4,500	4,100
Federal Government	31,300	31,300	31,000	0	300
State Government	98,800	98,300	96,800	500	2,000
Local Government	279,500	284,500	277,700	-5,000	1,800

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	
	Dec-24	Nov-24	Dec-23	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,151,900	3,172,800	3,127,700	-20,900	24,200
Employment	3,061,700	3,090,700	3,036,800	-29,000	24,900
Unemployment	90,200	82,100	91,000	8,100	-800
Unemployment Rate	2.9%	2.6%	2.9%	0.3%	0.0%
US Unemployment Rate	3.8%	4.0%	3.5%	-0.2%	0.3%
Labor Force Participation Rate	65.5%	66.0%	65.5%	-0.5%	0.0%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.2%	62.4%	62.2%	-0.2%	0.0%

PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>	3,044,700	3,060,400	3,028,600	-15,700	16,100
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,627,800	2,633,800	2,614,100	-6,000	13,700
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	622,100	627,900	617,400	-5,800	4,700
MINING & LOGGING	4,000	4,100	4,000	-100	0
CONSTRUCTION	137,400	144,000	133,700	-6,600	3,700
MANUFACTURING	480,700	479,800	479,700	900	1,000
Durable Goods	279,500	280,600	280,100	-1,100	-600
Nondurable Goods	201,200	199,200	199,600	2,000	1,600
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,422,600	2,432,500	2,411,200	-9,900	11,400
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,005,700	2,005,900	1,996,700	-200	9,000
TRADE	442,200	440,500	440,600	1,700	1,600
Wholesale Trade	136,400	136,500	130,000	-100	6,400
Retail Trade	305,800	304,000	310,600	1,800	-4,800
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	127,100	127,200	123,800	-100	3,300
Utilities	8,400	8,400	8,400	0	0
INFORMATION	48,300	47,000	47,800	1,300	500
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	156,300	156,500	161,100	-200	-4,800
Finance and Insurance	128,100	128,400	132,500	-300	-4,400
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	28,200	28,100	28,600	100	-400
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	328,300	330,300	327,600	-2,000	700
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	123,500	122,800	125,700	700	-2,200
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	65,200	65,300	64,600	-100	600
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	139,600	142,200	137,300	-2,600	2,300
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	482,100	481,200	476,900	900	5,200
Private Educational Services	60,400	60,800	60,300	-400	100
Health Care & Social Assistance	421,700	420,400	416,600	1,300	5,100
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	272,200	274,600	272,400	-2,400	-200
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	36,800	41,500	38,200	-4,700	-1,400
Accommodation & Food Services	235,400	233,100	234,200	2,300	1,200
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	149,200	148,600	146,500	600	2,700
GOVERNMENT	416,900	426,600	414,500	-9,700	2,400
Federal Government	31,400	31,300	31,200	100	200
State Government	103,600	105,000	102,300	-1,400	1,300
Local Government	281,900	290,300	281,000	-8,400	900

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.

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