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BLS Data: Wisconsin Unemployment Rate Remains at 2.9 Percent in March

Wisconsin adds 9,200 total non-farm, 12,400 private-sector jobs from March 2018 – March 2019

MADISON — The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) preliminary employment estimates for the month of March. The data show that Wisconsin added 9,200 total non-farm jobs and 12,400 private-sector jobs from March 2018 to March 2019. Wisconsin's unemployment rate remained at 2.9 percent in March and Wisconsin's labor force participation rate remained at 67.5 percent.

In brief:

- **Place of Residence Data:** Wisconsin's preliminary, seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in March was 2.9 percent. The national unemployment rate in March was 3.8 percent. Wisconsin's labor force participation rate for March was 67.5 percent.
- **Place of Work Data:** Wisconsin added 9,200 total non-farm jobs and 12,400 private-sector jobs from March 2018 to March 2019. Wisconsin private-sector employment decreased 4,500 from Feb. 2019 to March 2019. Total non-farm employment decreased by 1,800 over the same time period.

"The data released by BLS today underscores the importance that our programming and policies prioritize economic progress for all Wisconsin families and businesses," DWD Secretary-designee Caleb Frostman said. "With our state's low unemployment rate and growing workforce shortage, we must ensure all Wisconsinites can support themselves and their families from a fair wage under fair working conditions, while also attracting new workers to our state and back into the workforce. That's why I support Governor Evers' 2019-2021 Budget, which removes barriers to employment, provides targeted training, and makes Wisconsin a more attractive place to live and work."

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

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WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Seasonally Adjusted

PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	PRELIM.	REVISED	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Mar-19	Feb-19	Mar-18	1-Month	1-Year
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,128,000	3,127,000	3,142,300	1,000	-14,300
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	67.5%	67.5%	68.2%	0.0%	-0.7%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,038,500	3,036,000	3,048,700	2,500	-10,200
UNEMPLOYMENT	89,500	91,000	93,600	-1,500	-4,100
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	2.9%	2.9%	3.0%	0.0%	-0.1%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	3.8%	3.8%	4.0%	0.0%	-0.2%

PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>	2,983,100	2,984,900	2,973,900	-1,800	9,200
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,578,700	2,583,200	2,566,300	-4,500	12,400
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	607,000	606,800	600,400	200	6,600
MINING & LOGGING	4,800	4,800	4,800	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	125,600	125,800	122,400	-200	3,200
MANUFACTURING	476,600	476,200	473,200	400	3,400
Durable Goods	286,400	286,200	284,900	200	1,500
Nondurable Goods	190,200	190,000	188,300	200	1,900
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,376,100	2,378,100	2,373,500	-2,000	2,600
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	1,971,700	1,976,400	1,965,900	-4,700	5,800
TRADE	437,900	438,700	434,700	-800	3,200
Wholesale Trade	127,700	127,800	127,100	-100	600
Retail Trade	310,200	310,900	307,600	-700	2,600
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	111,600	110,600	110,600	1,000	1,000
INFORMATION	47,600	47,500	47,200	100	400
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	153,800	153,400	152,500	400	1,300
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	27,700	27,300	26,700	400	1,000
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	325,200	325,600	330,200	-400	-5,000
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	112,500	112,300	111,700	200	800
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	146,200	146,600	149,600	-400	-3,400
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	455,800	456,600	455,100	-800	700
Educational Services	52,300	52,500	51,600	-200	700
Health Care & Social Assistance	403,500	404,100	403,500	-600	0
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	285,200	290,000	283,600	-4,800	1,600
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	46,000	48,800	42,600	-2,800	3,400
Accommodation & Food Services	239,200	241,200	241,000	-2,000	-1,800
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	154,600	154,000	152,000	600	2,600
GOVERNMENT	404,400	401,700	407,600	2,700	-3,200
Federal Government	28,900	29,000	29,100	-100	-200
State Government	92,600	92,500	93,400	100	-800
Local Government	282,900	280,200	285,100	2,700	-2,200

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	
	Mar-19	Feb-19	Mar-18	1-Month	1-Year
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,120,700	3,118,600	3,135,200	2,100	-14,500
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	67.4%	67.3%	68.1%	0.1%	-0.7%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,018,100	3,014,600	3,023,300	3,500	-5,200
UNEMPLOYMENT	102,600	104,000	111,900	-1,400	-9,300
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	3.3%	3.3%	3.6%	0.0%	-0.3%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	3.9%	4.1%	4.1%	-0.2%	-0.2%

PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>	2,941,300	2,934,200	2,935,800	7,100	5,500
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,526,500	2,522,000	2,521,100	4,500	5,400
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	588,800	587,100	585,600	1,700	3,200
MINING & LOGGING	4,500	4,400	4,600	100	-100
CONSTRUCTION	112,700	111,700	111,500	1,000	1,200
MANUFACTURING	471,600	471,000	469,500	600	2,100
Durable Goods	284,100	283,300	283,500	800	600
Nondurable Goods	187,500	187,700	186,000	-200	1,500
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,352,500	2,347,100	2,350,200	5,400	2,300
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	1,937,700	1,934,900	1,935,500	2,800	2,200
TRADE	429,700	430,200	427,000	-500	2,700
Wholesale Trade	126,400	126,500	125,700	-100	700
Retail Trade	303,300	303,700	301,300	-400	2,000
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	109,400	108,500	109,300	900	100
Utilities	8,900	8,900	9,300	0	-400
INFORMATION	47,300	47,300	46,800	0	500
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	152,700	152,700	151,200	0	1,500
Finance and Insurance	125,900	126,500	125,500	-600	400
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	26,800	26,200	25,700	600	1,100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	320,900	318,600	324,100	2,300	-3,200
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	114,100	113,300	112,900	800	1,200
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	65,900	66,100	68,600	-200	-2,700
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	140,900	139,200	142,600	1,700	-1,700
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	457,400	457,300	457,400	100	0
Educational Services	55,600	55,100	55,200	500	400
Health Care & Social Assistance	401,800	402,200	402,200	-400	-400
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	265,800	266,500	268,600	-700	-2,800
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	38,100	39,400	35,700	-1,300	2,400
Accommodation & Food Services	227,700	227,100	232,900	600	-5,200
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	154,500	153,800	151,100	700	3,400
GOVERNMENT	414,800	412,200	414,700	2,600	100
Federal Government	28,700	28,900	28,900	-200	-200
State Government	98,500	98,000	97,200	500	1,300
Local Government	287,600	285,300	288,600	2,300	-1,000

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.

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