
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 19, 2025

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BLS Data: Wisconsin Employment Numbers Released

MADISON – The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today announced 3,049,500 total nonfarm jobs in the state, according to May 2025 preliminary estimates from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Preliminary employment estimates for May 2025 showed Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained the same at 3.3% over last month, which is 0.9 percentage points below the national unemployment rate of 4.2%. The state's labor force participation rate ticked down to 65.3% in May while the national rate decreased slightly to 62.4%, marking Wisconsin's participation rate 2.9 percentage points above the rest of the nation.

- **Place of Residence Data:** Wisconsin's unemployment rate was 3.3% in May, 0.9 percentage points below the national rate of 4.2%. Wisconsin's labor force decreased by 7,700 over the month and 9,400 over the year. The number of people employed decreased 8,400 over the month to 3,058,300 employed, down 20,300 over the year.
- **Place of Work Data:** Total nonfarm jobs decreased 1,000 over the month and increased 14,600 over the year to 3,049,500 jobs.

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

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

	PRELIM. May-25	REVISED Apr-25	YEAR AGO May-24	NET CHANGE OVER	
PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA				1-Month	1-Year

Labor Force	3,162,300	3,170,000	3,171,700	-7,700	-9,400
Employment	3,058,300	3,066,700	3,078,600	-8,400	-20,300
Unemployment	104,000	103,400	93,000	600	11,000
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.3%	2.9%	0.0%	0.4%
US Unemployment Rate	4.2%	4.2%	4.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Labor Force Participation Rate	65.3%	65.5%	65.9%	-0.2%	-0.6%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.4%	62.6%	62.5%	-0.2%	-0.1%

PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>	3,049,500	3,050,500	3,034,900	-1,000	14,600
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,636,500	2,635,200	2,624,800	1,300	11,700
GOODS PRODUCING	612,500	610,700	612,700	1,800	-200
MINING & LOGGING	4,000	4,100	4,100	-100	-100
CONSTRUCTION	141,600	141,600	140,100	0	1,500
MANUFACTURING	466,900	465,000	468,500	1,900	-1,600
Durable Goods	269,400	268,200	273,500	1,200	-4,100
Nondurable Goods	197,500	196,800	195,000	700	2,500
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,437,000	2,439,800	2,422,200	-2,800	14,800
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	2,024,000	2,024,500	2,012,100	-500	11,900
TRADE	430,300	431,800	430,700	-1,500	-400
Wholesale Trade	134,700	134,900	132,100	-200	2,600
Retail Trade	295,600	296,900	298,600	-1,300	-3,000
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	123,400	123,900	123,700	-500	-300
INFORMATION	48,200	47,700	47,300	500	900
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	159,800	158,600	159,600	1,200	200
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	29,500	29,300	28,900	200	600
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	332,500	333,000	330,700	-500	1,800
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	132,100	130,300	129,800	1,800	2,300
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	135,600	138,100	135,900	-2,500	-300
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	493,300	492,700	484,300	600	9,000
Private Educational Services	61,700	61,700	61,500	0	200
Health Care & Social Assistance	431,600	431,000	422,800	600	8,800
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	287,300	287,400	289,300	-100	-2,000
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	41,900	41,000	47,400	900	-5,500
Accommodation & Food Services	245,400	246,400	241,900	-1,000	3,500
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	149,200	149,400	146,500	-200	2,700
GOVERNMENT	413,000	415,300	410,100	-2,300	2,900
Federal Government	30,400	30,900	31,400	-500	-1,000
State Government	96,300	98,300	92,400	-2,000	3,900
Local Government	286,300	286,100	286,300	200	0

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

	PRELIM. May-25	REVISED Apr-25	YEAR AGO May-24	NET CHANGE OVER	
PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA				1-Month	1-Year

Labor Force	3,123,500	3,146,000	3,153,300	-22,500	-29,800
Employment	3,021,000	3,043,800	3,065,100	-22,800	-44,100
Unemployment	102,500	102,200	88,200	300	14,300
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.2%	2.8%	0.1%	0.5%
US Unemployment Rate	4.0%	3.9%	3.7%	0.1%	0.3%
Labor Force Participation Rate	64.5%	65.0%	65.6%	-0.5%	-1.1%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.3%	62.5%	62.5%	-0.2%	-0.2%

PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>	3,062,500	3,040,400	3,047,800	22,100	14,700
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,642,800	2,611,100	2,631,500	31,700	11,300
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	612,900	603,700	612,600	9,200	300
MINING & LOGGING	4,000	4,000	4,200	0	-200
CONSTRUCTION	143,700	137,200	142,800	6,500	900
MANUFACTURING	465,200	462,500	465,600	2,700	-400
Durable Goods	269,200	267,000	272,400	2,200	-3,200
Nondurable Goods	196,000	195,500	193,200	500	2,800
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,449,600	2,436,700	2,435,200	12,900	14,400
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,029,900	2,007,400	2,018,900	22,500	11,000
TRADE	429,600	429,600	430,500	0	-900
Wholesale Trade	135,100	134,300	132,400	800	2,700
Retail Trade	294,500	295,300	298,100	-800	-3,600
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	121,600	121,700	123,000	-100	-1,400
Utilities	8,300	8,300	8,500	0	-200
INFORMATION	47,900	47,700	46,700	200	1,200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	159,500	158,500	159,300	1,000	200
Finance and Insurance	130,100	129,700	130,400	400	-300
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	29,400	28,800	28,900	600	500
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	332,500	331,100	331,600	1,400	900
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	130,900	131,100	128,700	-200	2,200
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	64,500	64,300	64,700	200	-200
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	137,100	135,700	138,200	1,400	-1,100
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	493,700	494,000	484,600	-300	9,100
Private Educational Services	62,600	63,500	62,800	-900	-200
Health Care & Social Assistance	431,100	430,500	421,800	600	9,300
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	294,800	275,900	296,800	18,900	-2,000
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	45,500	36,800	50,000	8,700	-4,500
Accommodation & Food Services	249,300	239,100	246,800	10,200	2,500
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	150,300	148,900	146,400	1,400	3,900
GOVERNMENT	419,700	429,300	416,300	-9,600	3,400
Federal Government	30,400	30,900	31,400	-500	-1,000
State Government	97,100	105,100	94,000	-8,000	3,100
Local Government	292,200	293,300	290,900	-1,100	1,300

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.

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