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**Tony Evers, Governor  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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On the Web: [dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm](http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm)

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## **BLS Data: Wisconsin Unemployment Rate at 3.4 in March, Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic Yet to Emerge in Wisconsin Jobs Data**

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) preliminary employment estimates for the month of March 2020. The data shows that Wisconsin's unemployment rate in March was 3.4 percent, down from 3.5 percent in February. The timing of the monthly survey pre-dated the impacts of COVID-19 on Wisconsin's economy, so the decrease in the unemployment rate and one-month delay in the data reporting provides a report that is not fully indicative of the current Wisconsin economy and labor market.

- **Place of Residence Data:** Wisconsin's labor force participation rate in March was 66.8, 4.1 percent higher than the national rate of 62.7 percent. Wisconsin's unemployment rate in March was 3.4 percent, 1.0 percent lower than the national rate of 4.4 percent.
- **Place of Work Data:** Wisconsin's total non-farm jobs decreased by 6,900 and private-sector jobs decreased by 6,300 jobs from February 2020 to March 2020. From March 2019 to March 2020, Wisconsin added 4,800 total non-farm jobs and 4,400 private-sector jobs.

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

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## WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Seasonally Adjusted

PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	PRELIM.	REVISED	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Mar-20	Feb-20	Mar-19	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,104,800	3,108,800	3,103,100	-4,000	1,700
Employment	2,999,100	2,999,900	3,003,400	-800	-4,300
Unemployment	<b>105,700</b>	108,900	99,600	<b>-3,200</b>	6,100
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.5%	3.2%	-0.1%	0.2%
US Unemployment Rate	4.4%	3.5%	3.8%	0.9%	0.6%
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.8%	66.9%	67.1%	-0.1%	-0.3%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.7%	63.4%	63.0%	-0.7%	-0.3%

### PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>	2,986,800	2,993,700	2,982,000	-6,900	4,800
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,580,700	2,587,000	2,576,300	-6,300	4,400
GOODS PRODUCING	614,500	614,200	612,900	300	1,600
MINING & LOGGING	4,100	4,100	4,300	0	-200
CONSTRUCTION	128,000	127,200	123,600	800	4,400
MANUFACTURING	482,400	482,900	485,000	-500	-2,600
Durable Goods	287,300	288,300	290,700	-1,000	-3,400
Nondurable Goods	195,100	194,600	194,300	500	800
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,372,300	2,379,500	2,369,100	-7,200	3,200
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,966,200	1,972,800	1,963,400	-6,600	2,800
TRADE	422,000	421,900	424,000	100	-2,000
Wholesale Trade	123,700	124,000	123,300	-300	400
Retail Trade	298,300	297,900	300,700	400	-2,400
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	110,500	110,800	112,100	-300	-1,600
INFORMATION	46,500	46,700	47,100	-200	-600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	155,400	155,700	154,200	-300	1,200
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	26,900	27,200	26,800	-300	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	325,400	329,400	327,400	<b>-4,000</b>	-2,000
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	116,400	116,500	114,500	-100	1,900
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	143,500	146,900	146,500	<b>-3,400</b>	-3,000
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	471,000	471,000	461,400	0	<b>9,600</b>
Educational Services	54,600	54,900	53,600	-300	1,000
Health Care & Social Assistance	416,400	416,100	407,800	300	<b>8,600</b>
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	283,500	286,000	284,600	-2,500	-1,100
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	45,600	45,700	43,700	-100	1,900
Accommodation & Food Services	237,900	240,300	240,900	-2,400	-3,000
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	151,900	151,300	152,600	600	-700
GOVERNMENT	406,100	406,700	405,700	-600	400
Federal Government	29,900	29,400	29,200	500	700
State Government	94,100	93,900	93,600	200	500
Local Government	282,100	283,400	282,900	-1,300	-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	
	Mar-20	Feb-20	Mar-19	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,078,300	3,095,500	3,096,700	-17,200	-18,400
Employment	2,971,600	2,971,100	2,979,100	500	-7,500
Unemployment	<b>106,700</b>	124,400	117,600	<b>-17,700</b>	-10,900
Unemployment Rate	<b>3.5%</b>	4.0%	3.8%	<b>-0.5%</b>	-0.3%
US Unemployment Rate	4.5%	3.8%	3.9%	0.7%	0.6%
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.2%	66.6%	66.9%	-0.4%	-0.7%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	62.6%	63.3%	63.0%	-0.7%	-0.4%

### PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>	2,947,800	2,949,700	2,944,100	-1,900	3,700
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,531,800	2,532,700	2,529,800	-900	2,000
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	598,500	596,200	597,600	2,300	900
MINING & LOGGING	3,900	3,800	4,100	100	-200
CONSTRUCTION	117,200	114,800	112,300	2,400	4,900
MANUFACTURING	477,400	477,600	481,200	-200	-3,800
Durable Goods	285,300	285,900	289,400	-600	-4,100
Nondurable Goods	192,100	191,700	191,800	400	300
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,349,300	2,353,500	2,346,500	-4,200	2,800
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	1,933,300	1,936,500	1,932,200	-3,200	1,100
TRADE	414,600	413,600	416,400	1,000	-1,800
Wholesale Trade	122,400	123,000	121,900	-600	500
Retail Trade	292,200	290,600	294,500	1,600	-2,300
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	107,800	108,000	110,600	-200	-2,800
Utilities	8,600	8,600	8,900	0	-300
INFORMATION	46,100	46,600	46,700	-500	-600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	154,300	155,000	153,000	-700	1,300
Finance and Insurance	128,400	128,600	127,200	-200	1,200
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	25,900	26,400	25,800	-500	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	320,900	323,400	321,700	-2,500	-800
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	118,000	117,800	115,600	200	2,400
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	65,000	65,600	66,200	-600	-1,200
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	137,900	140,000	139,900	-2,100	-2,000
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	472,400	471,700	462,200	700	<b>10,200</b>
Educational Services	57,500	57,500	55,700	0	1,800
Health Care & Social Assistance	414,900	414,200	406,500	700	<b>8,400</b>
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	265,100	267,300	270,000	-2,200	-4,900
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	38,800	39,000	37,500	-200	1,300
Accommodation & Food Services	226,300	228,300	232,500	-2,000	-6,200
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	152,100	150,900	151,600	1,200	500
GOVERNMENT	416,000	417,000	414,300	-1,000	1,700
Federal Government	29,700	29,200	29,000	500	700
State Government	99,800	100,000	99,000	-200	800
Local Government	286,500	287,800	286,300	-1,300	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.