

BLS Data: Wisconsin July Employment Numbers Released; Unemployment Holds Steady at 3.3%

MADISON – The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today announced the following information for Wisconsin's labor market, reflecting July 2026 preliminary estimates from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics:

- **Employment** – There were 3,036,800 people employed in Wisconsin, up 6,600 over the month and up 26,500 over the year.
- **Labor Force** – The state's labor force participation rate stayed at 64.5% which is 3.1 percentage points above the national rate of 61.4%.
- **Nonfarm Jobs** – The total nonfarm jobs in the state were 3,042,900, an increase of 1,200 over last month.
- **Unemployment** – The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 3.3%, which is 0.8 percentage points below the national unemployment rate of 4.1%

This Month's Labor Market in Brief:

	July Preliminary	June Revised	Net Change Over One Year
People employed	3,036,800 (+6,600)	3,030,200	+26,500
Labor force participation rate	64.5% (-)	64.5%	+0.4%
Nonfarm jobs	3,042,900 (+1,200)	3,041,700	+2,000
Unemployment rate	3.3% (-)	3.3%	+0.3%

One-Year Overview

Month	Total Employment	Unemployment rate
July 2026	3,036,800* (6,600)	3.3%*
June 2026	3,030,200 (+6,100)	3.3%
May 2026	3,024,100 (+4,000)	3.4%
April 2026	3,020,100 (+400)	3.5%
March 2026	3,019,700 (+400)	3.5%
February 2026	3,019,300 (+1,500)	3.4%
January 2026	3,017,800 (+1,200)	3.3%
December 2025	3,016,600 (+600)	3.2%
November 2025	3,016,000	3.2%
October 2025	NA	NA
September 2025	3,010,700 (+1,400)	3.1%
August 2025	3,009,300 (-1,000)	3.1%
July 2025	3,010,300 (-3,200)	3.0%

*Based on preliminary estimate from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

See following pages for informational tables.

WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Seasonally Adjusted

PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	PRELIM.	REVISED	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Jul-26	Jun-26	Jul-25	1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,139,500	3,134,900	3,104,700	4,600	34,800
Employment	3,036,800	3,030,200	3,010,300	6,600	26,500
Unemployment	102,700	104,700	94,500	-2,000	8,200
Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.3%	3.0%	0.0%	0.3%
US Unemployment Rate	4.1%	4.2%	4.3%	-0.1%	-0.2%
Labor Force Participation Rate	64.5%	64.5%	64.1%	0.0%	0.4%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	61.4%	61.5%	62.2%	-0.1%	-0.8%

PLACE OF WORK DATA

NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	3,042,900	3,041,700	3,040,900	1,200	2,000
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,630,700	2,632,600	2,624,700	-1,900	6,000
GOODS PRODUCING	616,000	614,100	608,900	1,900	7,100
MINING & LOGGING	4,100	4,100	4,000	0	100
CONSTRUCTION	153,500	152,600	146,400	900	7,100
MANUFACTURING	458,400	457,400	458,500	1,000	-100
Durable Goods	262,600	262,200	263,200	400	-600
Nondurable Goods	195,800	195,200	195,300	600	500
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,426,900	2,427,600	2,432,000	-700	-5,100
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	2,014,700	2,018,500	2,015,800	-3,800	-1,100
TRADE	414,200	415,900	424,300	-1,700	-10,100
Wholesale Trade	127,900	127,700	130,600	200	-2,700
Retail Trade	286,300	288,200	293,700	-1,900	-7,400
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	123,200	122,600	122,600	600	600
INFORMATION	46,000	46,200	46,500	-200	-500
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	156,200	156,500	159,200	-300	-3,000
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	28,300	28,700	29,400	-400	-1,100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	333,600	331,600	331,000	2,000	2,600
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	132,700	131,700	131,000	1,000	1,700
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	138,000	136,600	134,700	1,400	3,300
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	502,700	505,600	496,700	-2,900	6,000
Private Educational Services	62,200	62,800	62,200	-600	0
Health Care & Social Assistance	440,500	442,800	434,500	-2,300	6,000
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	292,700	294,800	290,200	-2,100	2,500
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	45,400	47,000	49,000	-1,600	-3,600
Accommodation & Food Services	247,300	247,800	241,200	-500	6,100
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	146,100	145,300	145,300	800	800
GOVERNMENT	412,200	409,100	416,200	3,100	-4,000
Federal Government	28,800	28,800	30,300	0	-1,500
State Government	99,600	99,100	99,000	500	600
Local Government	283,800	281,200	286,900	2,600	-3,100

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. Jul-26	REVISED Jun-26	YEAR AGO Jul-25	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year
Labor Force	3,191,900	3,188,700	3,146,300	3,200	45,600
Employment	3,083,600	3,080,200	3,043,900	3,400	39,700
Unemployment	108,300	108,600	102,300	-300	6,000
Unemployment Rate	3.4%	3.4%	3.3%	0.0%	0.1%
US Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.4%	4.6%	0.0%	-0.2%
Labor Force Participation Rate	65.6%	65.6%	65.0%	0.0%	0.6%
US Labor Force Participation Rate	61.8%	61.9%	62.7%	-0.1%	-0.9%

PLACE OF WORK DATA

<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>	3,077,100	3,083,900	3,064,600	-6,800	12,500
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,688,700	2,683,100	2,673,900	5,600	14,800
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	631,300	626,300	624,500	5,000	6,800
MINING & LOGGING	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	162,500	160,700	155,200	1,800	7,300
MANUFACTURING	464,600	461,400	465,100	3,200	-500
Durable Goods	267,100	265,900	266,500	1,200	600
Nondurable Goods	197,500	195,500	198,600	2,000	-1,100
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,445,800	2,457,600	2,440,100	-11,800	5,700
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,057,400	2,056,800	2,049,400	600	8,000
TRADE	417,400	419,300	427,800	-1,900	-10,400
Wholesale Trade	129,800	129,300	131,900	500	-2,100
Retail Trade	287,600	290,000	295,900	-2,400	-8,300
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	122,400	122,200	119,100	200	3,300
Utilities	8,800	8,700	8,600	100	200
INFORMATION	45,600	46,100	46,900	-500	-1,300
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	157,900	157,800	161,400	100	-3,500
Finance and Insurance	128,700	128,500	130,600	200	-1,900
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	29,200	29,300	30,800	-100	-1,600
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	339,300	335,900	335,800	3,400	3,500
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	133,600	131,800	132,200	1,800	1,400
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	63,600	63,700	66,000	-100	-2,400
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	142,100	140,400	137,600	1,700	4,500
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	504,100	507,500	494,400	-3,400	9,700
Private Educational Services	56,800	60,300	55,700	-3,500	1,100
Health Care & Social Assistance	447,300	447,200	438,700	100	8,600
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	323,000	321,200	316,500	1,800	6,500
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	58,600	59,300	60,900	-700	-2,300
Accommodation & Food Services	264,400	261,900	255,600	2,500	8,800
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	147,700	146,800	147,500	900	200
GOVERNMENT	388,400	400,800	390,700	-12,400	-2,300
Federal Government	28,900	28,800	30,400	100	-1,500
State Government	88,100	87,100	88,600	1,000	-500
Local Government	271,400	284,900	271,700	-13,500	-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.

Numbers in **blue** are statistically significant changes.