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BLS Data: Wisconsin's Unemployment Rate Unchanged at 3.1% in June, Maintains Lowest Level Since October 1999

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) revisions for May and preliminary estimates for June covering employment and job statistics for the state of Wisconsin. In brief, the seasonally adjusted estimates show:

Place of residence data: A preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.1 percent in June 2017, unchanged from May and maintaining its lowest rate since October 1999. The rate remains lower than the national unemployment rate, which increased to 4.4 percent in June 2017. Wisconsin's labor force participation rate increased 0.1 percentage points to 68.9 percent and continues to outpace the U.S. rate of 62.8 percent in June. Both total labor force and employment in Wisconsin remained at all-time highs in June. Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted employment change of 76,500 year-over-year is the largest increase since July 1995.

- Place of work data: Based on preliminary data, the state added a significant 38,400 total non-farm jobs and a significant 35,700 private-sector jobs from June 2016 to June 2017. Wisconsin also gained 3,600 private sector jobs over the month from May 2017 to June 2017. Other significant year-over-year changes include the addition of 6,800 jobs in Health Care and Social Assistance.

DWD Secretary Ray Allen issued the following statement: "Governor Walker's ongoing commitment to workforce development in Wisconsin continues to pay dividends. Today's numbers further show Wisconsin is moving along a path of economic growth, demonstrated by record levels of employment, an increasing labor force participation rate, the lowest unemployment rate in 17 years and significant year-over-year job gains."

The BLS uses three data sets to measure employment and unemployment:

- **Current Employment Statistics (CES):** compiled from a monthly survey sent to about 5,500 employers (3.5 percent of Wisconsin employers). CES data has been shown to be volatile and subject to revision.
- **Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS):** compiled from a monthly survey of 985 households and unemployment insurance claims. Measures the labor force, employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate.
- **Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW):** compiled quarterly based on Unemployment Insurance records from some 96% of Wisconsin business establishments. Considered by most economists to be the most accurate measure of jobs, the QCEW includes data from almost all employers in Wisconsin.

Other indicators of the state of Wisconsin's economy include:

- Initial UI claims ended 2016 at their lowest level in their last 30 years. Year 2017 initial UI claims are running at the lowest in at least the past 30 years.
- Continuing unemployment claims ended 2016 at their lowest level since 1973. Continuing unemployment claims in Wisconsin are running at the lowest in at least the past 30 years.

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Wisconsin Employment and Unemployment Report
MAY – JUNE 2017

1. REVISIONS TO ESTIMATES FROM MAY 2017

| Place of Residence Data | Seasonally Adjusted | | | Not Seasonally Adjusted | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--------|-------------------------|-----------|--------|
| | Prelim | Revised | Change | Prelim | Revised | Change |
| CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE | 3,155,300 | 3,155,200 | -100 | 3,136,700 | 3,136,500 | -200 |
| LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE | 68.8% | 68.8% | 0.0% | 68.4% | 68.4% | 0.0% |
| EMPLOYMENT (1) | 3,059,000 | 3,058,800 | -200 | 3,049,000 | 3,048,400 | -600 |
| UNEMPLOYMENT | 96,300 | 96,400 | 100 | 87,700 | 88,100 | 400 |
| UNEMPLOYMENT RATE | 3.1% | 3.1% | 0.0% | 2.8% | 2.8% | 0.0% |
| U.S. Unemployment Rate | 4.3% | 4.3% | 0.0% | 4.1% | 4.1% | 0.0% |
| Place of Work Data | | | | | | |
| NONFARM WAGE & SALARY | 2,957,100 | 2,956,500 | -600 | 2,969,500 | 2,968,800 | -700 |
| TOTAL PRIVATE | 2,539,900 | 2,539,000 | -900 | 2,543,800 | 2,542,800 | -1,000 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 589,800 | 590,700 | 900 | 590,700 | 591,600 | 900 |
| NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING | 4,000 | 4,000 | 0 | 4,100 | 4,100 | 0 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 114,000 | 114,600 | 600 | 116,500 | 117,100 | 600 |
| MANUFACTURING | 471,800 | 472,100 | 300 | 470,100 | 470,400 | 300 |
| Durable Goods | 283,200 | 283,100 | -100 | 283,900 | 283,800 | -100 |
| Nondurable Goods | 188,600 | 189,000 | 400 | 186,200 | 186,600 | 400 |
| SERVICE PROVIDING | 2,367,300 | 2,365,800 | -1,500 | 2,378,800 | 2,377,200 | -1,600 |
| PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING | 1,950,100 | 1,948,300 | -1,800 | 1,953,100 | 1,951,200 | -1,900 |
| TRADE | 437,800 | 437,200 | -600 | 434,100 | 433,500 | -600 |
| TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES | 107,000 | 106,700 | -300 | 107,300 | 107,000 | -300 |
| INFORMATION | 46,900 | 47,000 | 100 | 46,600 | 46,700 | 100 |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES | 152,700 | 152,800 | 100 | 152,500 | 152,600 | 100 |
| PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES | 328,300 | 327,000 | -1,300 | 326,300 | 325,000 | -1,300 |
| EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES | 447,900 | 448,400 | 500 | 448,700 | 449,200 | 500 |
| LEISURE & HOSPITALITY | 279,300 | 278,800 | -500 | 286,900 | 286,300 | -600 |
| OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin. | 150,200 | 150,400 | 200 | 150,700 | 150,900 | 200 |
| GOVERNMENT | 417,200 | 417,500 | 300 | 425,700 | 426,000 | 300 |
| Federal Government | 29,200 | 29,200 | 0 | 29,100 | 29,100 | 0 |
| State Government | 100,600 | 100,600 | 0 | 101,600 | 101,600 | 0 |
| Local Government | 287,400 | 287,700 | 300 | 295,000 | 295,300 | 300 |

2. MONTHLY ESTIMATES FOR JUNE 2017

| Place of Residence Data | Jun-17 (P) | May-17 (R) | Net Change | Jun-17 (P) | May-17 (R) | Net Change |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------|------------------|------------|---------------|
| CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE | 3,160,800 | 3,155,200 | 5,600 | 3,206,800 | 3,136,500 | 70,300 |
| LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE | 68.9% | 68.8% | 0.1% | 69.9% | 68.4% | 1.5% |
| EMPLOYMENT (1) | 3,064,000 | 3,058,800 | 5,200 | 3,096,200 | 3,048,400 | 47,800 |
| UNEMPLOYMENT | 96,800 | 96,400 | 400 | 110,600 | 88,100 | 22,500 |
| UNEMPLOYMENT RATE | 3.1% | 3.1% | 0.0% | 3.4% | 2.8% | 0.6% |
| U.S. Unemployment Rate | 4.4% | 4.3% | 0.1% | 4.5% | 4.1% | 0.4% |
| Place of Work Data | | | | | | |
| NONFARM WAGE & SALARY | 2,955,200 | 2,956,500 | -1,300 | 2,996,000 | 2,968,800 | 27,200 |
| TOTAL PRIVATE | 2,542,600 | 2,539,000 | 3,600 | 2,590,000 | 2,542,800 | 47,200 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 587,900 | 590,700 | -2,800 | 603,700 | 591,600 | 12,100 |
| NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING | 4,000 | 4,000 | 0 | 4,200 | 4,100 | 100 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 111,900 | 114,600 | -2,700 | 121,600 | 117,100 | 4,500 |
| MANUFACTURING | 472,000 | 472,100 | -100 | 477,900 | 470,400 | 7,500 |
| Durable Goods | 283,900 | 283,100 | 800 | 289,000 | 283,800 | 5,200 |
| Nondurable Goods | 188,100 | 189,000 | -900 | 188,900 | 186,600 | 2,300 |
| SERVICE PROVIDING | 2,367,300 | 2,365,800 | 1,500 | 2,392,300 | 2,377,200 | 15,100 |
| PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING | 1,954,700 | 1,948,300 | 6,400 | 1,986,300 | 1,951,200 | 35,100 |
| TRADE | 439,100 | 437,200 | 1,900 | 440,000 | 433,500 | 6,500 |
| TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES | 107,200 | 106,700 | 500 | 108,000 | 107,000 | 1,000 |
| INFORMATION | 46,800 | 47,000 | -200 | 47,000 | 46,700 | 300 |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES | 152,600 | 152,800 | -200 | 154,000 | 152,600 | 1,400 |
| PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES | 323,700 | 327,000 | -3,300 | 328,700 | 325,000 | 3,700 |
| EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES | 449,200 | 448,400 | 800 | 447,900 | 449,200 | -1,300 |
| LEISURE & HOSPITALITY | 283,700 | 278,800 | 4,900 | 306,900 | 286,300 | 20,600 |
| OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin. | 152,400 | 150,400 | 2,000 | 153,800 | 150,900 | 2,900 |
| GOVERNMENT | 412,600 | 417,500 | -4,900 | 406,000 | 426,000 | -20,000 |
| Federal Government | 29,200 | 29,200 | 0 | 29,300 | 29,100 | 200 |
| State Government | 96,100 | 100,600 | -4,500 | 82,800 | 101,600 | -18,800 |
| Local Government | 287,300 | 287,700 | -400 | 293,900 | 295,300 | -1,400 |

*Differences in total may occur as a result of rounding. (1) Includes Labor Market Disputes (P) = Prelim; (R) = Revised Blue changes are outside margin of error.
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Bureau of Workforce Information and Technical Support.

Cautionary note to users: Revised methodological procedures mandated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) force individual state estimates of employment into closer alignment with the national estimate. This change results in larger month-to-month employment change for the states and the information reported by DWD.

3. HISTORY OF REVISIONS OF ESTIMATES FROM PLACE OF WORK SURVEY

| Month-Over-Month Changes | TNF | | | Private | | |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Prelim | Revised | Change | Prelim | Revised | Change |
| January 2017 | +200 | +5,400 | +5,200 | +5,800 | +10,400 | +4,600 |
| February 2017 | +11,100 | +11,100 | +0 | +7,600 | +8,300 | +700 |
| March 2017 | (2,700) | (3,700) | (1,000) | +500 | +800 | +300 |
| April 2017 | +14,800 | +13,100 | (1,700) | +7,500 | +6,000 | (1,500) |
| May 2017 | (3,100) | (3,700) | (600) | (1,700) | (2,600) | (900) |
| June 2017 | | | | | | |
| July 2017 | | | | | | |
| August 2017 | | | | | | |
| September 2017 | | | | | | |
| October 2017 | | | | | | |
| November 2017 | | | | | | |
| December 2017 | | | | | | |

Note: Prelim = original month-over-month change. Revised = updated month-over-month change. The "Change" column represents the difference between the prelim month-over-month change and the revised month-over-month change.

Table 4

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4. LATEST QUARTERLY DATA: CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

| | 2014 Employment* | | | 2015 Employment† | | | Dec-Dec Change | | Total Wages | | Change | |
|--|------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------|
| | Oct | Nov | Dec | Oct | Nov | Dec | Number | Percent | Q4:2014* | Q4:2015† | Number | Percent |
| TOTAL | 2,797,592 | 2,803,958 | 2,791,001 | 2,829,352 | 2,825,090 | 2,824,416 | 33,415 | 1.2% | \$32,515,340 | \$34,678,895 | \$2,163,555 | 6.7% |
| <i>Total Private</i> | 2,407,974 | 2,406,626 | 2,401,138 | 2,442,923 | 2,438,776 | 2,436,703 | 35,565 | 1.5% | \$28,023,925 | \$30,020,605 | \$1,996,680 | 7.1% |
| Natural Resources & Mining | 32,101 | 29,979 | 28,187 | 33,269 | 31,098 | 29,386 | 1,199 | 4.3% | \$301,287 | \$312,032 | \$10,745 | 3.6% |
| Construction | 111,325 | 108,171 | 101,908 | 116,262 | 113,303 | 108,264 | 6,356 | 6.2% | \$1,658,932 | \$1,797,854 | \$138,922 | 8.4% |
| Manufacturing | 461,572 | 461,383 | 462,173 | 465,089 | 464,738 | 465,075 | 2,902 | 0.6% | \$6,676,812 | \$7,006,055 | \$329,243 | 4.9% |
| Trade, Transportation, Utilities (Total) | 520,962 | 531,552 | 534,970 | 536,665 | 545,542 | 548,152 | 13,182 | 2.5% | \$5,133,191 | \$5,593,978 | \$460,787 | 9.0% |
| Retail Trade (NAICS 44-45) | 301,170 | 310,693 | 312,481 | 308,097 | 316,384 | 317,197 | 4,716 | 1.5% | \$1,973,478 | \$2,167,716 | \$194,238 | 9.8% |
| Information | 48,060 | 48,325 | 48,385 | 49,587 | 49,789 | 49,646 | 1,261 | 2.6% | \$832,324 | \$951,153 | \$118,829 | 14.3% |
| Financial Activities | 144,868 | 144,902 | 145,868 | 146,964 | 146,784 | 147,413 | 1,545 | 1.1% | \$2,251,762 | \$2,440,190 | \$188,428 | 8.4% |
| Professional & Business Services | 311,886 | 311,629 | 308,010 | 318,968 | 317,797 | 317,683 | 9,673 | 3.1% | \$4,525,908 | \$4,907,571 | \$381,663 | 8.4% |
| Education & Health Services | 407,356 | 408,893 | 410,330 | 416,826 | 418,180 | 420,446 | 10,116 | 2.5% | \$4,754,724 | \$5,178,002 | \$423,278 | 8.9% |
| Leisure & Hospitality | 261,626 | 253,599 | 252,314 | 271,819 | 264,282 | 262,292 | 9,978 | 4.0% | \$1,058,979 | \$1,153,066 | \$94,087 | 8.9% |
| Other Services | 83,246 | 82,697 | 83,321 | 83,328 | 82,918 | 84,020 | 699 | 0.8% | \$568,178 | \$614,344 | \$46,166 | 8.1% |
| Unclassified | 24,972 | 25,496 | 25,672 | 4,146 | 4,345 | 4,326 | -21,346 | -83.1% | \$261,829 | \$66,361 | -\$195,468 | -74.7% |
| Total Government | 389,618 | 397,332 | 389,863 | 386,429 | 386,314 | 387,713 | -2,150 | -0.6% | \$4,491,415 | \$4,658,291 | \$166,876 | 3.7% |

Total wages are in thousands (Totals may not equal due to rounding)

*Data as published by U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

†Data as will be published at worknet.wisconsin.gov.

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages counts are published 6 months after the quarter they describe.

Data from the latest published quarter and a year prior are included here.