



Wisconsin Economic Update

November 18, 2016

Summary

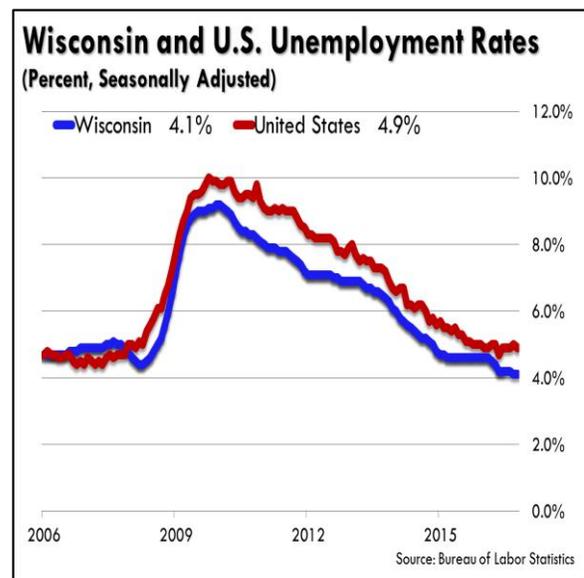
Nonfarm payroll employment in Wisconsin increased by 10,400 jobs, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.1 percent in October according to data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Wisconsin Unemployment Rate

During October, the unemployment rate in Wisconsin was unchanged at 4.1 percent. The number of people counted as unemployed fell by 656 in October to 129,299, while the labor force grew by 2,584 to 3,135,033. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 13 posted lower unemployment rates for the month than Wisconsin. A year earlier, the unemployment rate in Wisconsin stood at 4.6 percent.

The 10-year peak for the unemployment rate in Wisconsin was 9.2 percent in January 2010. The series high for the unemployment rate in Wisconsin occurred in January 1983 when the unemployment rate reached 11.9 percent. The 10-year low for the unemployment rate in Wisconsin was 4.1 percent in October 2016. The series low for the unemployment rate in Wisconsin occurred in July 1999 when the unemployment rate was 3.0 percent. BLS began publishing the state unemployment rate series in 1976.

The national unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 4.9 percent in October. October's unemployment rate was 0.1 percentage point lower than a year earlier. The 10-year high for the national unemployment rate was 10.0 percent in October 2009. The 10-year low was 4.4 percent in May 2007.



Wisconsin Payroll Employment

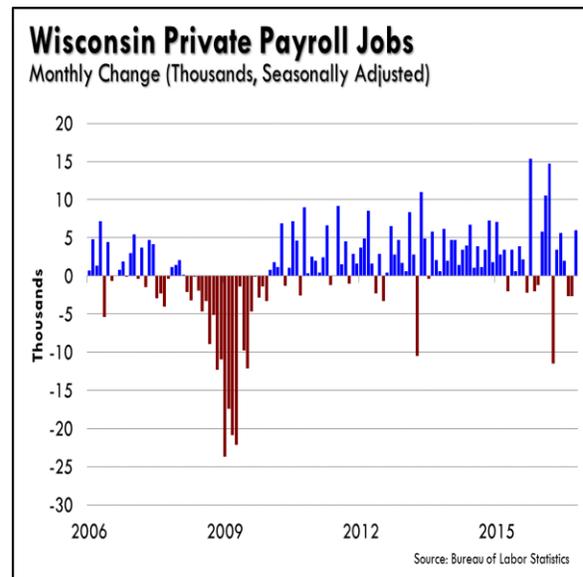
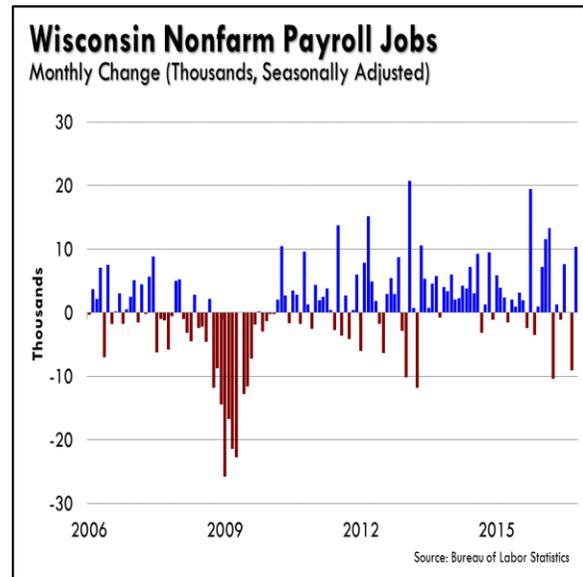
Wisconsin nonfarm payrolls increased by 10,400 jobs, or 0.36 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during October. In the prior month, nonfarm payrolls declined by 9,100. Over the past 12 months, nonfarm payrolls in Wisconsin increased by 28,400, or 0.98 percent. Wisconsin nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 161,000 jobs in October, or 0.11 percent. Over the 12-month period ending October 2016, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,357,000 jobs, or 1.65 percent. Wisconsin ranks 31st among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During October, Wisconsin private-sector payrolls increased by 6,000, or 0.24 percent. Private-sector payrolls declined by 2,700 jobs in the prior month. Over the past 12 months, private-sector payrolls in Wisconsin increased by 27,900, or 1.12 percent. Wisconsin private-sector payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 142,000 jobs in October, or 0.12 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,149,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.78 percent. Wisconsin ranks 32nd among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

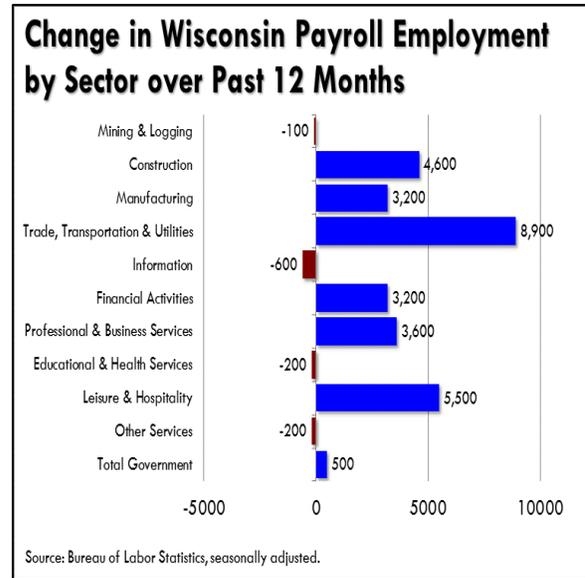
During October, total government payroll employment in Wisconsin increased by 4,400, or 1.08 percent. Federal government payroll employment was unchanged. State government payroll employment increased by 3,500, or 3.75 percent, while local government payroll employment increased by 900, or 0.31 percent.



Over the past year, total government payroll employment increased by 500, or 0.12 percent. State government payroll employment declined by 900, or 0.92 percent. Local government payroll employment increased by 900, or 0.31 percent.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during October were Total Government (+4,400) and Manufacturing (+2,400). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Construction (-1,100) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-800).

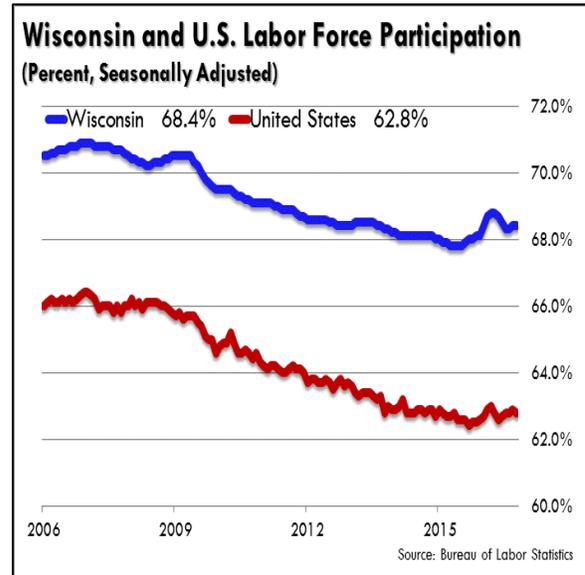
The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+8,900) and Leisure & Hospitality (+5,500). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Information (-600), Educational & Health Services (-200), and Other Services (-200).



Other Wisconsin Labor Force Statistics

The labor force participation rate in Wisconsin was unchanged at 68.4 percent in October. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 7 have a higher labor force participation rate than Wisconsin. The labor force participation rate in Wisconsin is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Wisconsin was 70.9 percent in February 2007. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Wisconsin occurred in October 1997 when the labor force participation rate hit 74.8 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 67.8 percent in July 2015. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in March 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 65.3 percent.



The national labor force participation rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 62.8 percent in October 2016, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Wisconsin civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, was unchanged at 65.6 percent in October. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 7 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Wisconsin. The employment-to-population ratio in Wisconsin is 0.7 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Wisconsin was 67.4 percent in February 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Wisconsin occurred in December 1997 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 72.2 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.1 percent in February 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in April 1983 when the employment-to-population ratio was 60.4 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio declined by 0.1 percentage point to 59.7 percent in October. That rate was 0.4 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

State employment and unemployment data for November is scheduled for release on December 16, 2016. The national employment situation report for November will be released on Friday, December 2, 2016.

