

Jobs and Workforce

- **More people were employed in Wisconsin last year than at any point in the history of our great state.** The number of employed in Wisconsin (November 2016) was 3,009,600, the highest level ever. (WI Department of Workforce Development, "BLS Data: Wisconsin Employment Reaches All-Time High in November," [DWD News Releases](#), 12/15/16)
- **Unemployment levels are the lowest in more than 15 years.** The last time Wisconsin's Unemployment Rate was lower than 4.1 percent was February 2001. (Local Area Unemployment Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 12/16/2016)
- **And the percentage of people working in Wisconsin is one of the highest of any state in the country.** It is one of the highest, sixth to be exact. November 2016 Labor force participation rate (LFPR) for WI is 68.4. (Department of Workforce Development, "BLS Data: Wisconsin Employment Reaches All-Time High in November," [DWD News Releases](#), 12/15/16)
- **Colbert Packaging Announced In October it was relocating from Illinois to Kenosha and plans to hire 100 employees this year.** "Colbert Packaging Corp., a Lake Forest-based manufacturer of folding cartons and boxes, is expanding and moving part of its operation and about 100 jobs to Kenosha, Wisconsin. Colbert plans to move its flexographic packaging operations from Lake Forest to Kenosha and close a warehouse in Libertyville. Colbert is acquiring a new 173,000-square-foot building on 16 acres in the Business Park of Kenosha, which is located less than one mile from I-94." (Kim Mikus, "Lake Forest's Colbert Packaging To Move 100 Jobs To Kenosha," [Daily Herald](#), 10/18/16)
- **Over the past three years, 7,900 jobs have been created or announced in this county that borders Illinois, in addition to \$1 billion in capital investment and over 9.5 million square feet of development.** (Kenosha Area Business Alliance, 1/9/17)
- **"It may seem hard to believe now, but during the four years before we took office, Wisconsin had lost more than 133,000 jobs and the unemployment rate peaked at 9.2%."**
 - **From December 2006 to December 2010, Wisconsin lost 133,943 private sector jobs.** December 2006, 2,404,928 - December 2010, 2,270,985. (Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Bureau of Labor Statistics, December 2006 - December 2010)
 - **In January of 2010, the unemployment rate was 9.2%** (Seasonally Adjusted Local Area Unemployment Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics)
- **Today, we've more than recovered the jobs that departed during the recession.** Job gains from December 2010 to November 2016 is 197,100. (WI Department of Workforce Development, "BLS Data: Wisconsin Employment Reaches All-Time High in November," [DWD News Releases](#), 12/15/16)
- **Wages are up.** Wisconsin had the nation's 12th highest in average weekly private-sector wage growth from June 2015 to June 2016. Wisconsin saw a 4.4 percent increase in total quarterly private sector wages from June 2015 to June 2016. (Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), 12/7/2016; Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), 12/7/2016)
- **More than 50,000 new businesses have been created.** (Department of Financial Institutions, 12/31/16)
- **and our unemployment rate is down to 4.1%.** In November 2016 (the latest month for which data is available), Wisconsin's Unemployment Rate was 4.1%. (WI Department of Workforce Development, "BLS Data: Wisconsin Employment Reaches All-Time High in November," [DWD News Releases](#), 12/15/16)
- **During the past four years we have poured over \$200 million of state funding into workforce development.** The total investment is \$212,426,600 GPR and \$373,678,900 All Funds. (State of Wisconsin, 2013-15 Biennium - 2015-17 Biennium, State Budget Office)

- **Wisconsin Fast Forward -- Since the implementation of the program, the Department of Workforce Development has contracted over \$18 million to train over 17,000 individuals with customized skills. These grants were given to nearly 300 grant applicants.** (“Wisconsin 2016 Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature,” Department of Workforce Development, 12/29/2016)
- **The Youth Apprenticeship Program has more than doubled since we took office.** (Department of Workforce Development, 1/9/16)

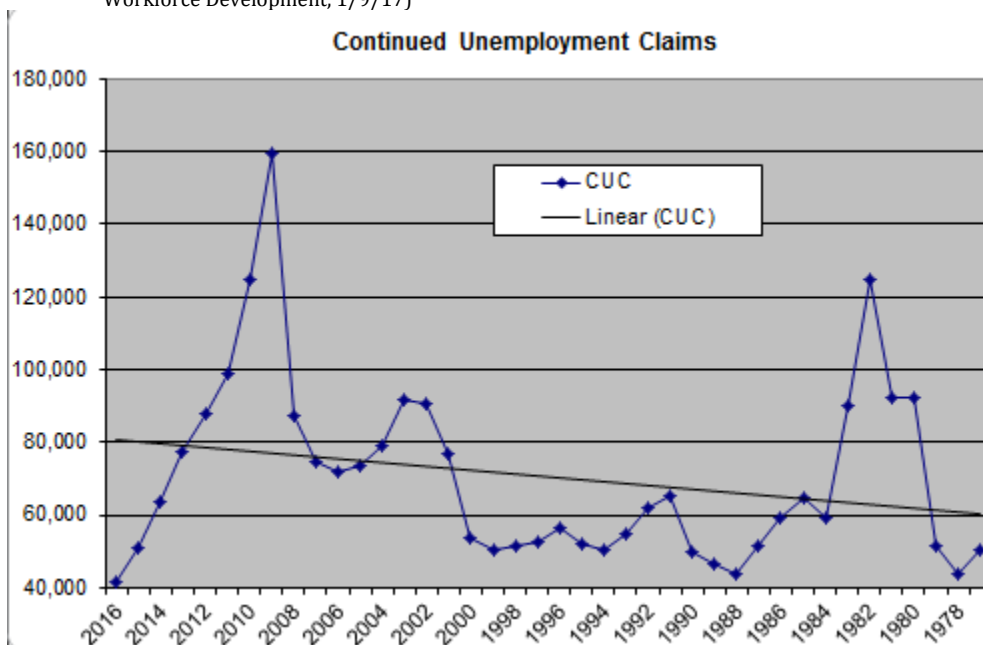
Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship Program			
Program Year	Number of Participants*	Number of Employers**	Grant Amount
2011-12	1,625	1,161	\$1,569,838
2012-13	1,824	1,299	\$1,666,070
2013-14	2,521	1,759	\$1,834,184
2014-15	2,552	1,834	\$2,216,941
2015-16	3,043	2,167	\$2,303,201
2016-17	3,600	2,046	\$3,209,120
	121.5%	76.2%	104.4%
* Contracted, Ongoing; ** To Date			

- **Project SEARCH is a program for people with disabilities to help them reach their employment goals.** It has a success rate of 88%. The program has had 457 graduates. (Department of Workforce Development, Accessed 1/9/16)
- **I am proud that the number of Project SEARCH sites has grown from two when I first took office to 18 today. By this next school year, will have 27 sites across the state.** (Department of Workforce Development, [Project SEARCH](#), Accessed 1/9/16)
 1. Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin, Wauwatosa
 2. Froedtert Hospital, Milwaukee
 3. Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells
 4. Milwaukee County Zoo, Milwaukee
 5. Ministry St. Joseph’s Hospital, Marshfield
 6. River Falls Area Hospital, River Falls
 7. Riverview Hospital, Wisconsin Rapids
 8. Sauk Prairie Hospital, Sauk City
 9. Sentry Insurance, Stevens Point
 10. St. Elizabeth Hospital, Appleton
 11. St. Vincent Hospital and Bellin Hospital, Green Bay
 12. Wal-Mart Distribution Center #6025, Menomonie
 13. Waukesha Memorial Hospital, Waukesha
 14. UW Hospital, Madison
 15. VA Hospital, Madison
 16. Mayo Clinic, Eau Claire
 17. Rice Lake Weighing Systems, Rice Lake
 18. Mercy Medical, Oshkosh
- **In the 2017-18 school year, Project SEARCH will expand to 9 more sites, for a total of 27.** (Department of Workforce Development, Accessed 1/9/16)
 1. Milwaukee - Employer Site To Be Announced

2. Racine/Kenosha - Andis Manufacturing
3. West Bend - West Bend Mutual Insurance Company
4. West Bend - St. Joseph Hospital - Adult Program
5. Janesville/Beloit - Employer Site To Be Announced
6. Watertown - Watertown Medical Center
7. Platteville - UW Platteville
8. La Crosse - Gunderson Lutheran Medical Center
9. Minocqua - Howard Young Medical Center

- **Therefore, I am proposing that the state invest \$35.5 million more to expand our broadband access grant program and for our efforts to help upgrade technology, and train teachers from small and rural school districts. That would bring our total investment to \$52 million.** ([Governor Walker Calls on State Legislature to Pass Rural Broadband Expansion Bill](#), 12/1/2016)

- **Continuing Unemployment insurance claims are at a 40 year low.** 2016 Average Weekly continued UI claims at 41,548 were the lowest since 1976, the oldest data available. (Department of Workforce Development, 1/9/17)



- **And our unemployment rate is the lowest it has been since February of 2001.** (Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 1/4/17)
- **This week alone there are nearly 80,000 job openings listed on [JobCenterOfWisconsin.com](#).** On January 9th, there were 78,705 jobs available on JCW. (Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, "JobCenterofWisconsin.com website," [JCW](#), 01/09/17)
- **A year ago, unemployment rates for vets were among the lowest - meaning the best - in the country.** Wisconsin's 2015 Annual Average Unemployment For Veterans Was 3.6%, Tied For 14th Lowest In The Country. ([Table 6A](#), "Employment Status Of Veterans 18 Years And Over By State, 2015 Annual Averages," Bureau of Labor Statistics, 3/22/16)
- **The Department of Workforce Development helped a record 9,507 individuals with disabilities reach their employment goals.** (Department of Workforce Development, "A Better Bottom Line: Number of Job Seekers with Disabilities Reaches Employment Goals Near 10,000 Since 2014." [DWD News](#), 10/27/16)
- **Chief Executive Magazine raised Wisconsin up again on the best places to do business - we're up 30 states from 2010.** CEOs rank Wisconsin 11th in Chief Executive magazine's 2016

“Best and Worst States for Business” survey; Wisconsin’s recent rankings are as follow: 2016 – 11th; 2015 – 12th; 2014 – 14th; 2013 – 17th; 2012 – 20th; 2011 –24th; 2010 – 41st. (Press Release, [Governor Walker Announces Wisconsin Makes List of 'Top 15' Best States for Business](#). 5/10/16)

- **And our farmers continue to grow and produce some of the best food on the planet - heck we just won the gold medal for the best cheese in the world.** (David Schuyler, “Wisconsin-Made Cheese Named The World’s Best,” [Milwaukee Business Journal](#), 3/10/16)