



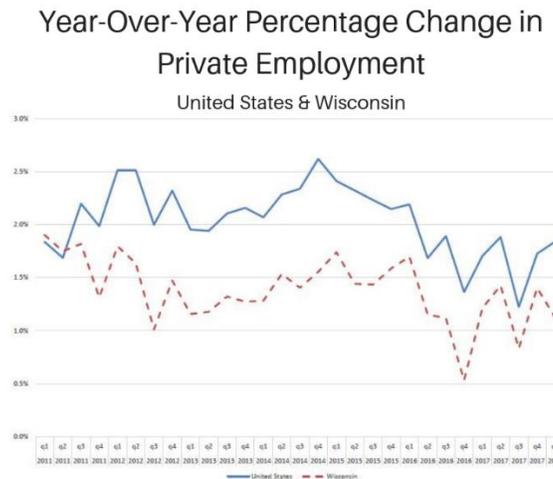
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GOVERNOR WALKER'S JOB CREATION FAILURE

DATA FROM 2011 – 2018 CONFIRMS THE GOVERNOR'S FAILED ECONOMIC AGENDA



Source: QCEW, U.S. Census Bureau



(CLICK TO ENLARGE GRAPH)

MADISON – Today, Assembly Democratic Leader Gordon Hintz (D-Oshkosh) released a memo from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau (LFB) with data reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW). The memo shows Wisconsin trailing the national average in the annual growth rate in private employment from the third quarter of 2011 through the first quarter of 2018.

“These jobs numbers once again confirm that Governor Walker has been a miserable failure when it comes to fulfilling his promises to create jobs,” said Rep. Hintz, ***“During the 2nd longest period of economic growth in our nation’s history, Wisconsin continues to lag behind. Not only is the state growing jobs at an anemic 1.4% rate, Wisconsin has trailed the national average every single quarter (27 straight) since the Governor’s first budget was signed into law.”***

“None of this is surprising considering the Governor’s primary economic strategy involves giving away billions of dollars in no-strings-attached cash payments to wealthy corporations at the expense of our public schools, tech schools, and UW System.

“If the Governor had simply kept pace with the national average, Wisconsin would have 114,952 additional jobs since he took office. Numbers don’t lie, Governor Walker’s policies have had a detrimental effect on our state’s economy.”



After more than seven years of Republican leadership, Wisconsin ranks 31st overall for private sector job creation. Wisconsin had been ahead of the national pace for five consecutive quarters before Governor Walker took office.

“State government and economic development work best when focusing on long-term investments. Unfortunately, every decision Governor Walker makes is based on short term, politically expedient outcomes,” stated Rep. Hintz. ***“The Governor can spin the numbers however he wants, but when you look at where we are in relation to the rest of the country, it’s clear the Governor’s priorities are misplaced. For those wondering about Governor Walker’s real priorities since taking office, look no further than the ‘Man & Ag’ Tax Credit, Foxconn, and the scandal-ridden Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.”***

Foxconn:

Foxconn represents the largest taxpayer subsidy by a state to a foreign corporation in our country’s history. With [\\$4.5 billion in public costs](#), Wisconsin taxpayers will not even break even until 2043 under the best case scenario. With recent changes to the project scope, the future job creation potential is unclear.

The Manufacturing and Agriculture Tax Credit:

This tax credit began in 2011 and gradually reduced the state tax on the production earnings of manufacturers and agricultural businesses to almost zero -- from 7.9 percent to 0.4 percent. The top 11 claimants of the credit all make \$30 million or more per year, and as a group were [projected to receive a whopping \\$22 million in 2017 alone](#). Because there is no job creation requirement, claimants can actually take money from the credit and outsource jobs, or invest in automation.

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC):

Since its creation 7 years ago, WEDC has been plagued by scandals. A [recent analysis](#) showed that out of 337 companies that had received tax credits from WEDC, only 40% had met their job creation goals. Audits have revealed that WEDC “did not report accurate information on the number of jobs created and retained as a result of its programs.” It also found that the potentially uncollectable balance of loans with repayments more than 90 days past due increased nearly tenfold between 2015 and 2017, from \$1.3 million to \$11 million. Democratic efforts to increase transparency, accountability and oversight of the troubled agency have been repeatedly blocked by Republican lawmakers.

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