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What adds more new jobs in Wisconsin: Business startups, business expansions, or attracting new businesses from out of state?

Job growth occurs when businesses grow and add new employees, new businesses start and hire people, and established businesses move to Wisconsin and bring jobs to the state. Since 2000, what has added the most new jobs in Wisconsin?

a) Business startups creating new jobs
b) Existing businesses adding jobs
c) Attracting out-of-state businesses to Wisconsin

Answer: b) Existing business have added the most jobs to the State’s economy since 2000. According to Youreconomy.org, existing Wisconsin businesses added an average of 96,920 jobs annually between 2000 and 2012. Startups created an average of 82,849 new jobs each year. Businesses moving to Wisconsin provided an average of 4,515 new jobs during to period. However, company layoffs, businesses closings, and businesses moving out-of-state largely offset these gains.

Traditionally, most states’ job creation efforts have focused on encouraging existing businesses in other states or countries to relocate or expand in their state. Attracting businesses is certainly an important and visible event. However, given the significantly larger role business expansions and startups play in job creation, many states’ economic development efforts are refocusing on entrepreneurship and business retention and expansion.

Source: Youreconomy.org

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