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THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: SEPTEMBER 2004

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BEFORE THE

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

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THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: SEPTEMBER 2004

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2004

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE,
Washington, DC

The Committee met at 9:30 a.m., in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, the Honorable Robert F. Bennett, chairman of the Joint Economic Committee, presiding.

Senators present: Senators Bennett and Sarbanes.

Representatives present: Saxton, Stark, and Maloney.

Staff Present: Reed Garfield, Ike Brannon, Mike Ashton, Colleen J. Healy, Chris Frenze, Robert Keleher, Brian Higginbotham, Wendell Primus, Chad Stone, and Matt Salomon.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR ROBERT F. BENNETT, CHAIRMAN, U.S. SENATOR FROM UTAH

Chairman Bennett. The hearing will come to order. Commissioner Utgoff, we welcome you again, and appreciate your persistence in coming back again and again to these hearings.

Today's unemployment situation report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics confirms the continued improvement of the country's job market. Today's announcement of 96,000 new jobs in September means 13 straight months of job growth.

Hurricanes during the month of September appeared, however, to have held that growth down below what some of us had hoped for.

Since last August, we've created nearly 1.8 million new jobs, and, according to the household survey, employment has increased by more than two million since last August.

The unemployment rate has remained steady at 5.4, which is well below its peak of 6.3 last year, and below the average unemployment rates of all the 1970's, the 1980's, and the 1990's.

I'm interested to notice that the BLS announced today that total payroll employment through March 2004, was underestimated by approximately 236,000 jobs, based on its estimate of the next benchmark revision to the payroll survey.

This means that the actual number of jobs created, when you add the underestimation in the period described, is 2 million and not 1.8.

In addition to its monthly revisions to payroll employment, BLS conducts a standard annual revision that brings its estimates of payroll employment in line with State unemployment insurance tax reports, and using these data, past estimates of payroll employ-

ment are revised by BLS to more accurately reflect the employment situation in the United States, and I'm sure we'll discuss those revisions during the hearing.

Aside from today's reports, other indicators also confirm continued economic expansion. Americans are going back to work, interest rates and inflation are low, business investment and consumer spending is strong, business activity is increasing, and the home ownership rate is at a record high.

Unemployment rates in the past year have fallen in 45 states. I know that's not consolation to those who live in the five where it has not, but overall, that indicates that the recovery is continuing to grow.

So, I look forward to discussing today's news with you, and we welcome you. Now we'll hear from the Vice Chairman, Mr. Saxton, and then the Ranking Member, Mr. Stark.

[The prepared statement of Senator Bennett appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 21.]

Vice Chairman Saxton. Mr. Chairman, thank you. Before I read my opening statement, let me just thank you for the great leadership you've shown here for the last couple of years. We know that the Chairmanship goes back and forth between the House and the Senate, so let me just thank you for the very professional job that you've done over the past couple of years.

This is likely the last employment hearing that we'll have in this session, and so I just wanted to take a minute to note the fine job that you and your staff have done in leading us here for the last couple of years. Thank you very much.

Chairman Bennett. Thank you for the kind words.

OPENING STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE JIM SAXTON, VICE CHAIRMAN, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM NEW JERSEY

Vice Chairman Saxton. Commission Utgoff, it's a pleasure to join in welcoming you before the Committee once again. The September employment data have been affected by four hurricanes that pounded the United States in August and September.

Even so, according to the payroll survey, employment increased by 96,000 jobs in September, continuing its upward trend. Over the past 13 months, payroll employment has increased by about 1.8 million jobs.

In addition, today the BLS announced that the benchmark revision will add about 236,000 jobs to payroll employment for March 2004. According to the household survey, the unemployment rate has been trending downward, and now stands at 5.4 percent, and, Mr. Chairman, I'm proud to say that the State of New Jersey has an unemployment rate of just 4.8 percent, and we're enjoying that back home.

Other economic data continue to show healthy economic growth over the last four quarters. GDP growth has been 4.8 percent, on average, and a key element in the acceleration of economic growth over the last year has been the rebound in investment.

Fixed business investment has risen at a rate of 11.6 percent over the last four quarters, and this has been broadened and accelerated the economic expansion.

The pivotal reason for this acceleration in investment and economic growth is the tax relief for investment enacted in 2003. Tax relief and the low interest rates resulting from Federal Reserve policy have made major contributions to the positive economic situation we see today.

Furthermore, both the Blue-Chip Consensus and the Federal Reserve forecast that healthy economic growth will continue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[The prepared statement of Representative Saxton appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 21.]

Chairman Bennett. Thank, you, sir. Again, I appreciate the kind words. I have enjoyed being the Chairman, and I look forward to your Chairmanship in the next Congress. I know Congressman Stark looks forward to his, but we will see what happens. One way or the other, I hope to be the Vice Chairman next year.

Congressman Stark.

OPENING STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE PETE STARK, RANKING MINORITY MEMBER, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM CALIFORNIA

Representative Stark. Mr. Chairman, let me join in, first, if I may, by thanking Commissioner Utgoff, who has to troop up here and bear with us frequently during her career. She does it with grace and charm, and she is able to keep her wits about her and be nonpartisan and very professional. We appreciate you and your staff and the good work you do for us.

And as a member of the Minority, my good friend, Jim Saxton, with whom I am going to battle fiercely for the next 4 weeks to see which one of us might chair this Committee next term, it's been a pleasure working with Jim, and, as always, when he chaired our Committee.

I guess I'd have to say for you and me, Senator, that I'd advise the audience that if we get much closer together, they ought to reserve one of the puppies.

[Laughter.]

Representative Stark. The similarities between me and the Senator are amazing. We both learned to steal money from the public, he, by taking old Playboy calendars, taking the pictures off, putting them under his bed and selling the remainder at an outrageous price; I did it by lending people back their own money at far more than I paid them to keep it in my institution. That's what we learned about economics.

But we have been blessed on both sides by staff. Your staff, Mr. Chairman, has been accommodating, patient, and most willing to work closely with us, and we appreciate it, and, needless to say, the staff on our side, both new to this session and some of the old pros that, as it were, I think has helped us. I know Congresswoman Maloney joins me in saying that we have enjoyed having the support from our staff.

Having said that, we have spent 2 years, either trying to make a silk purse out of sows' ears, or sows ears out of silk purses, depending on which way the political motives have driven us to take the very professional information that we receive from the Commissioner and spin it to our own ends.

I've often accused the Senator of basically solving the economic problems the same way that the President wants to solve the health problems, and that's just merely making normal 105 degrees, and then a whole lot more people would be well in this country, and so we can't change it.

But I think that we would all agree that we'd like to see more jobs. I'm disappointed that we haven't. There are some more, and a little bit of help is always appreciated, but we've had a long slump, and we're going to have a lot of disagreement, and you're going to hear a lot about it in the coming debates and coming conversations in the next 4 weeks as to how best to improve it.

I can only ask the Chair, as I'm sure he will, to join with me in hoping that we are witnesses to much better news in the next Congress. Thank you very much. I'd like, of course, to put this beautifully prepared statement that the staff has written for me, without objection, into the record.

Chairman Bennett. Without objection, it shall be put into the record.

[The prepared statement of Representative Stark appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 22.]

Representative Stark. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Bennett. You remind me of the first time Madeline Albright appeared before the Senate Appropriations Committee. She said, Mr. Chairman, I have a prepared statement and according to the people who wrote it, it's brilliant.

OPENING STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE CAROLYN B. MALONEY, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM NEW YORK

Representative Maloney. Mr. Chairman, I actually have my own statement, and I'd like to make it. I worked very hard on it.

But first I'd like to thank you very much for your leadership. I look forward to the Chairmanship of Mr. Stark next year, but it is always a pleasure to work with our colleagues, and I join you in congratulating members of the staff on both sides of the aisle. This is an important Committee. It's one that, really, there should be more focus on, because the strength of our country, part of it, is our economy.

I would just like to say that these numbers show that September job growth was considerably weaker than it was in August, and only about two-thirds of what Wall Street and other economists projected for this month.

And once again, I do believe that some in our Administration are not acknowledging the true picture of the economy. Please do not blame it on the weather. The Bureau of Labor Statistics said clearly that the hurricanes did not change the employment situation materially.

This is really the result of bad public policy. The record on jobs of this Administration remains the worst of any President since Hoover. Despite a year of job gains, there is still a substantial jobs deficit on President Bush's watch.

Through August, total non-farm payrolls were down almost a million jobs; private payrolls were down 1.7 million jobs, and manufacturing payrolls were down 2.7 million jobs. That's an astonishing loss.

Nothing we have learned in today's report changes this picture. In fact, it shows that job growth is considerably slower than what the Administration had led us to expect.

Job growth of less than two million in the past 13 months may seem like a lot compared with the earlier dismal record in the Bush Administration, but it is quite weak for an economic recovery and barely enough to keep up with growth in the working-age population.

The unemployment rate of 5.4 percent is unchanged from last month, and down from its peak level last summer, but it is still too high, and it is 1.2 percentage points higher than it was when President Bush took office.

Furthermore, other measures continue to show a weaker labor market than might be indicated by the unemployment rate. Through August, labor force participation was down 1.2 percentage points from what it was in January 2001.

If those people who have left the labor force were counted as looking for work, the unemployment rate would be substantially higher. When the number of people who want a job, but are not actively searching for work, and the number of people who are forced to work part-time because of the weak economy, are taken into account, the unemployment rate is really 9.5 percent.

I would say that most of these people are women who are juggling taking care of families and working part-time, needing that part-time work to help their families.

Wages have grown only about enough to keep up with inflation over the past year. Since August 2003, real, inflation-adjusted average hourly earnings are down .2 percentage points; real average weekly earnings are up .4 percent. I would say that these numbers show that America is moving in two directions—richer and poorer.

Since early 2001, corporate profits have increased 48 percent, while workers' wages have only increased 10 percent. The poverty figures are tremendously troubling to me and equally alarming, where 4.3 million more people are living in poverty today than were living in poverty when President Bush took office. This is as though an entire segment of our population has become a Third World country, and growing.

The average increase in the poverty rate during the George W. Bush Administration is second only to that during his father's Administration. It contrasts sharply to the declines in the poverty rate during the Clinton and Kennedy-Johnson Administrations when there was an active War on Poverty.

These figures are tremendously troubling. I would say they are a disgrace, and the Administration is struggling to paint a rosy picture, at any cost, but they are closing their eyes to the harsh reality of the unemployment, the job deficit, and the growing number of Americans living in poverty. Thank you.

Chairman Bennett. Thank you very much. Commissioner Utgoff, welcome to a rehearsal of tonight's debate.

[Laughter.]

Chairman Bennett. We'll be happy to hear from you now.

STATEMENT OF KATHLEEN P. UTGOFF, COMMISSIONER; ACCOMPANIED BY JACK GALVIN, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS, AND JOHN GREENLEES, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER, OFFICE OF PRICES AND LIVING CONDITIONS, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, WASHINGTON, DC

Commissioner Utgoff. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee.

First, I'd like to say I have with me, Jack Galvin, the Associate Commissioner for Employment and Unemployment Statistics and John Greenlees, the Associate Commissioner for Prices and Living Conditions, who will help me with the numbers that you need.

Turning to the employment situation, non-farm payroll employment continued to trend up in September, increasing by 96,000. The unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.4 percent.

Since August 2003, payroll employment has increased by 1.8 million. About 900,000, or half that gain, occurred in March, April, and May of this year. Employment gains in the last 4 months have totaled 405,000.

I know that many people have speculated about the effect of the recent hurricanes on the September payroll employment data. Four hurricanes struck the United States during August and September—Charlie, in mid-August; Frances, early in September; Ivan, in mid-September; and Jeanne, late in the month.

This month, BLS and our State partners made extra efforts to obtain data from our survey respondents in the hurricane-affected states. As a result, our total response rate, even in the affected states, was as good as or better than it normally is for first publication.

Still, our ability to gauge the impact on September's growth is limited, for reasons that I will discuss in a minute. First, let me note how our payroll survey treats employment and businesses that are affected by weather.

For weather conditions to reduce the estimate of payroll employment, employees have to be off work for an entire pay period and not paid for the time that was missed. BLS' review of the sample data for September in the hurricane affected areas, indicates that there was a negative impact on employment in those states. We will know more about the local effects when the official State estimates are available in 2 weeks.

There were negative employment effects on those firms that were unable to operate, or were operating at a reduced capacity during the survey period. However, other firms expanded their employment in response to the storms.

There were cleanup and rebuilding efforts following Hurricanes Charlie and Frances. In addition, some firms adjacent to the hard-hit areas, likely added workers to help accommodate evacuees from Hurricane Ivan.

Overall, we do not believe that the net result of these factors materially changes the national employment situation for September, but we cannot precisely quantify the weather effects.

In September, job gains occurred in a few service-providing industries. Employment in professional and technical services rose by 24,000.

Since August 2003, this industry has added 205,000 jobs. Temporary help employment was up by 33,000 in September. Employment in real estate and rental and leasing services grew by 15,000, following an increase of 11,000 in August.

Utilities added 2,000 jobs over the month. Within healthcare services, employment in doctors' offices rose by 8,000 in September. Other healthcare industries, however, showed little or no employment growth over the month.

Telecommunications employment fell by 9,000 in September. Since March 2001, the telecommunications industry has shed 302,000 jobs.

In the goods-producing sector, manufacturing employment edged down in September, reflecting small, but widespread declines among component industries. Employment was little changed over the month in both construction and mining.

Average hourly earnings rose by 3 cents over the month, and have increased by 2.4 percent over the year. Average hours for private production or non-supervisory workers, were unchanged in September.

Manufacturing hours declined by one-tenth of an hour. Factory overtime was unchanged.

Turning now to measures from our survey of households, the unemployment rate held at 5.4 percent in September. This is down from its most recent high of 6.3 percent in June 2003.

Most of this decline occurred in the second half of last year. The labor force participation rate was 65.9 percent in September. It has been at or near this level since late last year. Most other household survey measures showed little or no change over the month.

Before closing, I would like to mention the upcoming benchmark revision to the payroll survey. Each fall, we announce the preliminary estimate of the next benchmark revision to payroll employment.

The benchmark revision is a standard annual procedure that adjusts the payroll survey's sample-based employment estimates, to incorporate universe employment counts that are derived largely from unemployment insurance tax records.

Preliminary tabulations of the first quarter of 2004 employment from State unemployment insurance tax reports indicate that the estimate of total non-farm payroll employment will require an upward revision of approximately 236,000 or two-tenths of 1 percent for the March 2004 reference month.

This is slightly below the historical average for benchmark revisions over the past decade, which have been plus or minus three-tenths of 1 percent.

In summary, payroll employment continued a trend up in September, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.4 percent. My colleagues and I would be glad to answer any of your questions.

[The prepared statement of Commissioner Utgoff appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 23.]

Chairman Bennett. Thank you very much. My memory from the time I was in private business was fascinated by Congressman's Stark's description of what it was we did. I think we should try that. It sounded like a wonderful idea.

[Laughter.]

Chairman Bennett. The word, "material," as used by accountants, can mean different things to different people. I remember in a small firm that I ran, "material" would be something, anything over $10,000, and then when I was running a firm that ended up on the New York Stock Exchange, why, "material" would be anything over a million dollars.

You say that the hurricane had an effect; you can't quantify it exactly, but you have decided that it was not material. Would 20,000 jobs be considered immaterial in the overall scheme of things?

Commissioner Utgoff. In the overall scheme of things, that would not be considered a statistically different number.

Chairman Bennett. But that's my point. We're dealing with so many people here that 20,000, 30,000 and so on, would be appropriately immaterial in terms of the overall direction.

Commissioner Utgoff. Right, not material, not only in terms of total employment, but not material in terms of recent growth trends.

Chairman Bennett. Yes.

Commissioner Utgoff. Recent growth trends are roughly in line with this month's trend.

Chairman Bennett. Yes, and that's—what you have said is absolutely appropriate. Unfortunately, again, this is taking place in the context of a political election, and that number of jobs, politically, is hugely material, because we are under the 100,000 figure, and we're going to hear a lot about that in the debate tonight.

If only we had been over 100,000, or 120,000, which would have been what Wall Street was expecting, and so on, the debate would be very different tonight.

The point I want to make is that the hurricane had an effect; it had an effect that probably—that undoubtedly is not material in the overall direction of employment and the analysis you're doing, but in the political atmosphere, it can be talked about a great deal.

Now, the participation rate, you talk about the participation rate. Isn't this affected in September by 16- to 19-year olds who go back to school?

Commissioner Utgoff. The participation rate is seasonally adjusted, so the going back to school should not affect the participation rate that we report in our monthly estimates.

Chairman Bennett. And you say this participation rate is—I say that because the comment has been made, how much it is down. It is, this participation rate, is in line with previous Septembers?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Chairman Bennett. OK. Let's go back to previous Septembers, talking about that as our benchmark. If we go back to 1976, the highest level of job growth as 120,000 in 1999, Hurricane Floyd, and the September average is 41,000. Doesn't this suggest that hurricanes had a bigger effect than maybe you're talking about?

Commissioner Utgoff. I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, but I'm not familiar with the statistics that you are citing, so I cannot comment on them.

We have looked at the household survey, asked questions about whether you were out of work because of weather or your hours

were reduced because of weather. That did show an effect, but it does not account for the jobs that were created by the hurricane, also, so that when we talk about the number being not material, we take both of those into account.

Chairman Bennett. Right. Now, again, I understand that, but just for the record, my staff informs me that 205,000 people in the household survey reported they missed work in September because of bad weather. Does that number——

Commissioner Utgoff. That's correct, yes.

Chairman Bennett. So that is a correct number. So, to take numbers out of the air, but to illustrate the point, if 100,000 people found work because of the hurricanes, that gap would not be material, but, again, in the political atmosphere, that would be a very significant number. Is that within the realm of possibility? Do you have a number of how many you think found work?

If you have 205,000 that reported they missed work because of bad weather, do you have a number of those who——

Commissioner Utgoff. The difference would be 100,000.

Chairman Bennett. Oh, I understand that, but you don't have a number?

Commissioner Utgoff. No, we do not have a number.

Chairman Bennett. OK. Well, since we don't have numbers, that's a politician's paradise. We can now postulate any number we want, and not be able to be contradicted.

I hope I have made my point, which is that the hurricane information, while in the language that you have to use, was not material; in fact, in the political situation, the hurricane had an effect.

Commissioner Utgoff. I understand that.

Chairman Bennett. All right, thank you.

Mr. Saxton.

Vice Chairman Saxton. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Commissioner, you reported today that in addition to the jobs that were created this month, you announced that the benchmark revision will add about 236,000 jobs to payroll employment for the month of March 2004.

Would you explain how this benchmark revision will affect the measure of payroll employment through March 2004?

Commissioner Utgoff. When we report to you on a monthly basis, the employment estimates are based on a large sample of payroll records that are collected. Once a year, with a lag, we conduct a virtual census of all employment records from the unemployment insurance tax records and from other sources.

In January, with the February announcement of the January numbers, we will change the reported level of employment to reflect that benchmark level, if that's clear.

Vice Chairman Saxton. That means that the number of jobs created will reportedly be increased?

Commissioner Utgoff. That's right.

Vice Chairman Saxton. Will the benchmark revision be wedged back to the previous 12 months, adding to employment levels for those months, as well?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Vice Chairman Saxton. How does the upward benchmark revision compare in size to previous revisions over the last, let's say, decade or so?

Commissioner Utgoff. It's been a little smaller. The average revision is .3 percent and this is slightly smaller than that.

Vice Chairman Saxton. And how is the revision linked to unemployment insurance records?

Commissioner Utgoff. As I was saying earlier, we know what to benchmark the monthly sample to through records filed by employers with the unemployment insurance system, so that they can assess taxes and pay benefits to people.

So, there are ways this is used to get an estimate, a total estimate of payroll employment.

Vice Chairman Saxton. So, we have been using the number of jobs created since the job creation began to look positive, of about 1.8 million jobs.

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Vice Chairman Saxton. Including today's numbers. How does this revision affect that total job growth number?

Commissioner Utgoff. Well, the number will be wedged back over a year's period, and what you're talking about is a period from August until now. The number of jobs that was created over that period, will be increased, but not by the full 236,000, by a fairly high fraction of that.

Vice Chairman Saxton. Like what kind of a fraction? Is that a fair question?

Commissioner Utgoff. I would say by at least three-quarters.

Vice Chairman Saxton. So——

Mr. Galvin. Seven-twelfths.

Chairman Bennett. Seven-twelfths, I am told.

Vice Chairman Saxton. Seven-twelfths, OK, so a little bit better than half, so we can use the—of the 236,000 jobs, we can use 120 or 130?

Commissioner Utgoff. Right, yes.

Vice Chairman Saxton. So, we're getting close to 1.9 or 2 million jobs that have been created over the——

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes, that's fair to say.

Vice Chairman Saxton. OK, thank you. Let me follow up on the Chairman's question, if I may, on the storms. We don't need to concentrate on this too much, but there is one aspect of it that I would like to ask about.

We know that there were jobs lost because of the storms, and we know there were some jobs created. Presumably, now that the storms seem to be over the people who lost jobs will be regaining those jobs, for the most part, and that the cleanup will continue creating other jobs.

Do you expect that as the recovery efforts from the hurricanes continue, that there will continue to be jobs created, and what effect are they likely to have on employment data?

Commissioner Utgoff. The BLS reports current data. We do not make projections for the future.

Vice Chairman Saxton. You didn't bring your crystal ball?

Commissioner Utgoff. No, no. We don't even have one.

[Laughter.]

Vice Chairman Saxton. But wouldn't it be fair to assume that the cleanup effort will, in the months ahead, continue to cause people to be employed, and that that would add jobs to the payroll number?

Commissioner Utgoff. I expect that the cleanup efforts will continue.

[Laughter.]

Vice Chairman Saxton. Thank you very much.

[Laughter.]

Vice Chairman Saxton. Mr. Chairman, thank you.

Chairman Bennett. Thank you.

Mr. Stark.

Representative Stark. The sale of brooms will.

Commissioner, you say we've got about 1.8 million, and my good friend, Mr. Saxton, would like to say 1.9 million——

Vice Chairman Saxton. Maybe even two million.

Representative Stark. Maybe even two million, but that would run us about 135,000 to 140,000 jobs a month for the past 13 months. I've got my shoes and socks on, so I can't do that math, but I think I'm in the ball park there.

So if we have created 135,000 to 140,000 jobs, what do we need just to keep pace with the growth in the working-age population for that same 13-month period?

Commissioner Utgoff. Recently, people have quoted a number of 150,000, but there has been some recent comment that the growth in the labor force is expected to slow, so that the number to keep pace with the growth in the population will be less than the figure that's typically used.

Representative Stark. Less than the 135,000 or 140,000? I mean, what's the order of magnitude that that would change? What's meaningful?

Commissioner Utgoff. What's meaningful?

Representative Stark. And material.

Commissioner Utgoff. What's material? I cannot recall the exact number that's used in the study.

Representative Stark. The point I'm trying to make for the debate is that with this job growth we're in the neighborhood of basically just keeping pace with the growth of the working-age population, give or take a couple of thousand jobs a month.

Then we come to the question of we are still, I believe, about 900,000 jobs below the January 2001 level in non-farm employment, and private non-farm payroll, excluding government jobs, is still about 1.7 million jobs below the January 2001 level, and that is still the most persistent job slump since the 1930's.

Does that comport with your number?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes, the numbers you have cited are correct.

Representative Stark. The third item is that while we talk about 5.4 percent—which is high enough by itself—that if you include the jobless workers who currently want a job but have given up searching for work and if you include the part-time workers who would prefer full-time work but can't find it, that raises the underutilization rate by about 4 percent, so we're closer then to a 9.5

percent underutilization rate, unemployment and people not working up to their full desires or potential. Is that a fair statement?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes, we calculate and publish several different unemployment rates and the one that you talked about is called U–6.

Representative Stark. It's called what?

Commissioner Utgoff. It's called U–6.

Representative Stark. Oh boy, OK.

Commissioner Utgoff. That's the——

Representative Stark. I think I could——

Commissioner Utgoff. There's several ways, as you know, to measure unemployment and we publish them all each month. What you said was correct.

Senator Sarbanes. What rate do you show for U–6?

Commissioner Utgoff. It is currently 9.4 percent.

Senator Sarbanes. 9.4 percent.

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Representative Stark. Well, Mr. Chairman, I think you're right, I think the debate will center around whether we're doing well enough. We obviously will blame this all, all the bad news on the Bush Administration. They blamed the hurricane on us; I don't know why I can't. There will be a discussion which, I think, is more important is what we do in the future. That's not Mrs. Utgoff's or I suppose it's not the topic of this hearing, but I think that there will be some agreement that there aren't enough jobs currently. I think what we're going to hear is a question of for whom we cut taxes. If we cut taxes for the very rich, your side will say that will create jobs, and if we cut taxes for those companies, the incentives to take jobs overseas, my side will probably say that will help us. We'll both have to wait until Saturday morning to see what the public thinks is the correct answer.

Thank you very much.

Chairman Bennett. Thank you.

Ms. Maloney.

Representative Maloney. We have the great Senator from Maryland, and I would defer to him. Just very briefly, because I want to certainly hear what Senator Sarbanes has to say. But there is a chart that the staff prepared and it shows that the Bush economic record, that this is the only Administration in 70 years with a decline in private sector jobs. Everybody else is creating jobs, then you see Hoover and the Bush Administration below the line. Is this accurate?

[Chart entitled "Bush Economic Record: Only Administration in 70 Years with Decline in Private Sector Jobs" appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 49.]

Commissioner Utgoff. We do not have the data with us to check all of these numbers, but I believe they are roughly accurate.

Representative Maloney. They're roughly accurate. Well, how long, or how many jobs would we have to create to get the Bush Administration up to the line so that it is not a negative loss but that you're just holding, even with when we came into office, how many jobs would we have to create if it's a–0.4?

Commissioner Utgoff. 821,000.

Representative Maloney. So it would have to create 821,000 jobs between now and January just to get up there?

Commissioner Utgoff. That's correct.

Representative Maloney. Do you think we could do that, is that possible?

Commissioner Utgoff. We deny the crystal ball.

Representative Maloney. OK. But this chart is accurate, he and Hoover are competing.

I want to talk a little bit about women. We talked about the poverty numbers earlier that the gap between the rich and the poor is growing dramatically. That shows in your numbers; it shows in the poverty numbers. It is also shown in the poverty report that for the first time in many years women's wages have dropped and that the gap between men and women's wages is growing larger, as is the gap between the rich and the poor. Both these trends are not healthy, in my opinion, for the future of all the people in our country.

So I would like to ask about women who maintain families. I would say that in this economy, probably any economy, are especially vulnerable to jobs and that they sometimes slump during this time. So what was the unemployment rate for women who maintained families at the start of the recession of March 2001?

Commissioner Utgoff. 6.5 percent.

Representative Maloney. What was it when the recession formally ended in November 2001?

Commissioner Utgoff. 7.7 percent.

Representative Maloney. What is it now?

Commissioner Utgoff. 8.2 percent.

Representative Maloney. Well, that is very, very troubling. I thank you for your report.

Chairman Bennett. Senator Sarbanes.

Senator Sarbanes. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I'm reminded of a radio news announcer many years ago, Gabriel Heeter, and he used to start off his programs every evening, he'd say, "Oh, there's bad news tonight." and that's how I feel this morning. I think this is bad news.

Chairman Bennett. Not always. I remember Gabriel Heeter "There's good news today."

Senator Sarbanes. No, no, it was bad news, I remember it.

Chairman Bennett. He did it both ways.

Senator Sarbanes. Commissioner, we're pleased to welcome you and your colleagues. I want to say first that I understand and appreciate the professional job which you and your colleagues at the Bureau of Labor Statistics do and I respect your unwillingness to be drawn into registering political value judgments, which you do in a very gentle way. As they say "just the facts, Ma'am," and you've tried to do that in the very established tradition of the Commissioners of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. I think your legendary predecessor, Janet Norwood, was as good as they come at that, but you're obviously developing that talent very well. I like your "no crystal ball" response to one of the questions. So I'm going to try to ask you the facts. I may do some interpretation of the facts, but I won't ask you about, I hope, about the interpretation

and if you feel I'm doing so, you just put me off and I'll go back to trying to just get the figures out of you.

Now, as I understand it, the job growth for the past month was 96,000, is that correct?

Commissioner Utgoff. That's our estimate.

Senator Sarbanes. Now Mr. Chairman, I note that the market expectations for non-farm payroll growth had been at about 150,000; that was what the general expectation was. So the job growth that's being reported this morning is substantially less than that. Now I just want to review for a moment these various indices you keep of the unemployment rate. The unemployment rate is at 5.4 percent, is that correct?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Senator Sarbanes. Now that rate, as I understand it, does not include those who have dropped out of the workforce because they're discouraged about the prospects of finding a job. Of course, that figure fluctuates, but is that correct?

Commissioner Utgoff. If you haven't looked for work in the last 4 weeks, you're not counted as unemployed.

Senator Sarbanes. How many such people are there?

Commissioner Utgoff. Discouraged workers—and this is in September 2004—were 412,000.

Senator Sarbanes. Then you also have people who are working part-time but want to work full-time so in a sense they are partially unemployed. Is that correct?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Senator Sarbanes. Now if you factor both of those groups into the unemployment rate, in other words, you try to take a more comprehensive view of the extent of unemployment, what would the unemployment rate be?

Commissioner Utgoff. That would be 9.4 percent.

Senator Sarbanes. 9.4 percent.

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Senator Sarbanes. Is that the most comprehensive measure of unemployment of the various measures you do?

Commissioner Utgoff. Let me go back to another analogy that was used. There are different measures of unemployment. As we would measure something in Celsius or Fahrenheit, they would have different numbers attached to them but they would all move up and down when it got either colder or hotter. So that is why we produce the different measures. We don't say one is better than the other, but they do move together.

Senator Sarbanes. Yes. Now what I'm trying to determine is if there is another measure, a broader measure that includes some other group in calculating an unemployment rate figure beyond this measure—or is this the most comprehensive of all the measures?

Commissioner Utgoff. The measure that you talked about is the most—includes the——

Senator Sarbanes. Inclusive.

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes, it's the most inclusive that we publish.

Senator Sarbanes. OK. All right.

Now I want to ask about the long-term unemployed for just a minute. I've had a strong interest in this issue because I perceive it as being related to whether unemployment insurance benefits should be extended. We've had debates about that on the floor of the Senate; I think also they've had them over on the floor of the House, and regrettably unemployment insurance benefits have not been extended. I'm very much concerned about that because I think there are people who are no longer drawing unemployment insurance benefits but they're working in a labor market where there aren't jobs available and they can't go back to work. They can't find a job, and my question is how do they support their family.

How many people are there who have been unemployed for more than 26 weeks, which I think, is the length of the standard unemployment insurance benefits program? Although we extended it, that's expired and I'm using those who've been unemployed for more than 26 weeks and continue to look for work, as the measure for those who are long-term unemployed.

Commissioner Utgoff. 1.7 million.

Senator Sarbanes. 1.7 million. Was there an increase over the previous month? How much of an increase from the previous month?

Commissioner Utgoff. There was an increase over the previous month of 83,000.

Senator Sarbanes. 83,000 additional people fell into the category of long-term unemployed last month.

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes, that's right.

Senator Sarbanes. Now what percent of the total unemployed looking for work are long-term unemployed workers? I mean, this is often a relevant figure because you have all these unemployed people and then you look to see, well, how long have they been unemployed and how many of them are long-term unemployed; in other words, those who have really been looking for work for a very sustained period and haven't been able to find it. What percent of the total unemployed who are looking for work are long-term unemployed workers?

Commissioner Utgoff. In September, that percentage was 21.8 percent.

Senator Sarbanes. 21.8 percent.

Commissioner Utgoff. That's correct.

Senator Sarbanes. What was it the previous month?

Commissioner Utgoff. 20.7 percent.

Senator Sarbanes. So it went from 20.7 percent the previous month to 21.8 percent now?

Commissioner Utgoff. That's correct.

Senator Sarbanes. I have tended to use the 20 percent figure as sort of a benchmark figure on long-term unemployed. How long have the long-term unemployed been above 20 percent?

Commissioner Utgoff. Since October 2002.

Senator Sarbanes. For 24 months we've been above 20 percent?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Senator Sarbanes. Twenty-four months. Do we know when the BLS started tracking this information?

Mr. Galvin. I have data back to 1969.

Senator Sarbanes. 1969.

Mr. Galvin. We've got it back to 1948, but not with us here.

Senator Sarbanes. Let me ask you this question. Maybe you can answer it, even though you don't have the earlier data with you. It's my understanding that there has never heretofore been a stretch of 24 continuous months in which the long-term unemployed figure was above 20 percent. Is that correct?

Mr. Galvin. In the data I have here, since 1969, no, there's never been such a stretch.

Senator Sarbanes. Do you know of your own knowledge with respect to 1948 to 1969?

Mr. Galvin. No, but we could check that and get back with you.

Senator Sarbanes. Would you get that back to us? It's my understanding that even during that period there's never been such a stretch. So this measure has the long-term unemployed at really record levels.

I spent some time on this point, Mr. Chairman, just to underscore again the urgency in my view of the necessity to extend unemployment insurance benefits. I very much regret that that has been resisted and we've not been able to do it because you've got a very substantial number of people out there looking for work and they can't find work. In fact, how many jobs do you have to add each month just to stay abreast of population growth in the economy?

Commissioner Utgoff. We were talking about that earlier. It's on the order of 130,000 to 150,000.

Senator Sarbanes. 130,000 to 150,000.

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Senator Sarbanes. 130,000 to 150,000 new jobs we needed just to stay abreast of population growth, not to even crack into the existing on the unemployed. So you have this situation where the job growth last month fell short of staying abreast of population growth, let alone relieving the problems that the long-term unemployed—which are at record levels—are confronting.

Now I've gone on at some length. I presume we will have another round, if I——

Chairman Bennett. I was not planning another round. Mr. Stark left on the assumption we were not, but if you want to go on further, Mr. Saxton has no objection and neither do I. I will have a few comments when you're through.

Senator Sarbanes. Well then we will have a comment period at the end of all of this questioning as well. Well, if I could take just a couple more minutes.

We are down 821,000 jobs in this Administration from the number of jobs that there were in January 2001, is that correct?

Commissioner Utgoff. That's correct.

Senator Sarbanes. Now I won't ask you, but I'm fairly certain that the last Administration which was down jobs from when it came in at the end of its 4-year term was with President Hoover. Every President since Hoover has added jobs in the course of the Administration although at varying levels, some quite a number of jobs, some not quite so many.

Now I understand that we're now 42 months since the recession began in March 2001. From what you've just said, I gather the economy has fewer jobs today than it had 42 months ago.

Commissioner Utgoff. That's correct.

Senator Sarbanes. Now do you know whether, since World War II, the economy has ever failed to regain all of the jobs that it had before a recession within over a 42-month period since the beginning of a recession?

Commissioner Utgoff. I believe the answer to that is no.

Senator Sarbanes. Mr. Chairman, I have a chart here that I just want to spend a moment on.

[Chart entitled "Decline in Nonfarm Payrolls in the Current and Previous Cycles" appears in the Submissiom for the Record on page 50.]

Senator Sarbanes. What this chart shows is that the dark line is the average of post-war recoveries in terms of regaining jobs from the beginning of the recession and, as you can see, after around 20 months it has gone back up over the zero mark and then you have positive additions of jobs.

In this recession, which is contrary to all of the previous patterns, that hasn't happened. In this recession, we had the downswing in the jobs which sort of paralleled what had been done in previous recessions, but then the upswing didn't occur. And so this economy has trailed along in this sort of light-colored line over here and it is still below the zero mark—in other words, there's been no net gain in jobs over those 42 months—the gain in jobs has not been enough to get back across the zero mark so that you can say that you're now back up and above where we started. In fact, if we had paralleled previous recoveries, we'd be up about 6 million more jobs today, as I understand it, if we'd had the typical sort of recovery coming out of this situation. Of course, that hasn't occurred.

So I know, you know, there will be a lot of efforts to place a spin on these figures but I think it's very clear that the job growth this month is extremely disappointing. The revisions for the 1-year period are substantially below the report of the Council of Economic Advisers that estimated what the revisions would be. The Council of Economic Advisers doesn't have quite the same, I guess, scruples to be objective that the BLS has——

Chairman Bennett. Reluctance to project is, I think, a better term.

Senator Sarbanes. Yeah. So they're quite happy to sort of try to paint a rosy scenario. Of course, their rosy scenario was that the revisions would bring somewhere between 290,000 and 385,000 jobs, which, of course, hasn't happened.

Thank you very much.

Chairman Bennett. Thank you, Senator.

Let me just make a closing comment. Commissioner Utgoff you undoubtedly are not a party to this discussion, but let me make a closing comment about the information that Senator Sarbanes has put before us and that you have laid out before us.

I don't think there is any question but what this recession and this recovery are fundamentally different than any we have had, really, in our history. I won't say any since the end of the Second World War because I think it goes back even farther than that. There are all kinds of things that didn't happen in this recession that happened in previous ones, all kinds of surprises.

I won't take the time to list them all, but some of the most obvious ones that showed that this recession and recovery were fundamentally different than others was the fact that consumer spending never, ever went below the line in this recession. That is very unusual. Recessions almost always see consumer spending turn negative. In this recession, they never did.

The standard pattern of a recession is that housing goes deeply down and then you look to the housing sector to bring you out of the recession. In this recession, housing remained strong all the way through. When I had a conversation with Alan Greenspan and said, "Why is this recovery so sluggish in historic terms," he said, "It's because the recession was so shallow in historic terms and you didn't get the base for bouncing back that other recessions have had." Now that's good news in that you didn't want the recession to be so deep that you would get a strong bounce back, but it is fundamentally different.

My analysis has been that this recession is probably the first recession of the information age. Previous recessions have been driven primarily by inventory buildup that then has to be sold off until you get rid of your entire backlog in inventory and then you bring everybody back to work at the factory because all of the excess goods have been moved.

Now that we're in a world of just-in-time inventory control, we're probably never going to have what Senator Sarbanes and I learned about in school as a traditional inventory recession. We're not going to have that ever again, because inventory recessions were caused in large measure by lack of real-time data that caused businessmen and women to overbuild their inventories, not realizing that that's what they were doing, because no businessman would deliberately overbuild an inventory. And then, upon discovery of that fact, have to make adjustments, which means cut back purchasing, cut back production, and so on, until the inventory got sold off.

With the information age, that phenomenon doesn't occur any more. We live in a world of real-time inventory on many manufacturing lines; the storage bin in which spare parts are stored for manufacturing is the railroad car in which they arrive. The car shows up, they open the side of the car and take the parts off and put them directly onto the item that's being manufactured so that there is no inventory buildup. It makes manufacturing enormously more productive, requires fewer workers, but sees to it that we will not have an inventory recession.

I think when the economists get through studying this recession—and we're constantly getting revisions in it: the first time, we were told the recession began in the third quarter of 2000, then we had an up—in the fourth quarter of 2000, GDP went down again, first quarter of 2001, second quarter of 2001 and so on, now the revisions have come back and say we grew second quarter of 2001. So that by the technical definition of a recession, we didn't have one because we never had two successive quarters of negative GDP. We had three, but they were not successive, the first one occurring, as I say, third quarter of 2000, second one the first quarter of 2001, third one third quarter of 2001 when 9/11 hit us.

This is not a classic pattern of recession and, as the Senator's chart very clearly demonstrates, this is not a classic pattern of re-

covery. Now I think we're going to have to learn a lot more about this as more data gets brought in and revised and examined and realize that industrial age solutions probably aren't going to work very well in information age challenges.

We've been through this before as a Nation when we made the transition from the agricultural age to the industrial age. The difference between making the transition from the industrial age to the information age is that it's coming at us about 10 times as fast, and therefore we need to be a little humble regardless of how we're trying to spin the numbers politically in our ability to get a handle on what's really going on.

Senator Sarbanes. Well, Mr. Chairman, let me just make this observation. I mean all of that may be and, you know, it obviously calls for analysis, but none of that addresses the problem that someone working and supporting a family who lost his job through no fault of his own, became unemployed, then relied on our unemployment insurance system to help sustain him or her and their family through this trying time until there was an improvement in the job market. That improvement would enable them to find work and go back into the job market to confront and deal with the problems that they're facing. I find it absolutely unfathomable why this Administration has not supported an extension in the time period for receiving unemployment insurance benefits for those people that are long-term unemployed.

Now, you know, the reasons for it may be the changing nature of the economy and so forth, I mean, we can have long debates about that. But the reality, the human reality of the situation that we're dealing with in the meantime is about people who were working people as you can't draw unemployment insurance unless you buildup a work record, that's a prerequirement. So it's not welfare. It's designed to cushion families at times of an economic downturn.

You know, we have a limited period for unemployment insurance benefits that because we assume that the economy will pick back up and people will be able to get back into the job market. We have in the past extended that period when that wasn't happening as quickly as it ought to. We have extended it in this period but not to the extent we have done in previous recessions and the extension has now run out. As we learned this morning, the long-term unemployed as a percent of the total unemployed jumped 1.1 percent, jumping from 20.7 percent to 21.8 percent last month. That's a jump of better than 5 percent. We've tried repeatedly here in the Congress to try to extend unemployment insurance benefits to help these people through this difficult time and that effort has been beaten back. That's just the human reality that is not being dealt with in the current situation. We have a system in place which could alleviate that problem which has, in the past, been used to alleviate the problem, but it's not happening this time around.

Chairman Bennett. We will not resolve that in this Committee this morning. But thank you, Commissioner Utgoff, and thank the members of the Committee. The hearing is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 10:40 a.m., the Committee meeting was adjourned.]

Submissions for the Record

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR ROBERT F. BENNETT, CHAIRMAN, U.S. SENATOR FROM UTAH

Today's employment situation report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) confirms the continued improvement of the country's job market. Today's announcement of 96,000 new jobs in September means 13 straight months of job growth. Hurricanes during the month of September appear to have held down employment growth. Since last August, we've created nearly 1.8 million new jobs. According to the household survey, employment has increased by more than 2 million since last August.

The unemployment rate remained at 5.4 percent, well below its peak of 6.3 percent last year, and below the average unemployment rates of the 1970's, 1980's, and 1990's.

BLS also announced today that total payroll employment through March 2004 was underestimated by approximately 236,000 jobs, based on its estimate of the next "benchmark" revision to the payroll survey. In addition to its monthly revisions to payroll employment, BLS conducts a standard annual revision that brings its estimates of payroll employment in line with State unemployment insurance tax reports. Using these data, past estimates of payroll employment are revised by BLS to more accurately reflect the employment situation in the U.S. We'll discuss these revisions in more detail during today's hearing.

Aside from today's report, other indicators also confirm continued economic expansion. Americans are going back to work, interest rates and inflation are low, business investment and consumer spending are strong, business activity is increasing, and the homeownership rate in the U.S. is at a record high. Over the past year, unemployment rates have fallen in 45 states.

I look forward to discussing today's news with you, Commissioner Utgoff. Welcome.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE JIM SAXTON, VICE CHAIRMAN, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM NEW JERSEY

Commissioner Utgoff, it is a pleasure to join in welcoming you before the Committee once again.

The September employment data have been affected by the four hurricanes that pounded the U.S. in August and September. Even so, according to the payroll survey, employment increased by 96,000 jobs in September, continuing its upward trend.

Over the last 13 months, payroll employment has increased by about 1.8 million jobs. In addition, today the BLS announced that the benchmark revision will add about 236,000 jobs to payroll employment for March 2004. According to the household survey, the unemployment rate has been trending downward and now stands at 5.4 percent.

Other economic data continue to show healthy economic growth. Over the last four quarters, GDP growth has been 4.8 percent. A key element in the acceleration of economic growth over the last year has been the rebound in investment. Fixed business investment has risen at a rate of 11.6 percent over the last four quarters, and this has both broadened and accelerated the economic expansion.

The pivotal reason for this acceleration in investment and economic growth is the tax relief for investment enacted in 2003. Tax relief, and the low interest rates resulting from Federal Reserve policy, have made major contributions to the positive economic situation we have today. Furthermore, both the Blue Chip consensus and the Federal Reserve forecast that healthy economic growth will continue.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE PETE STARK, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM CALIFORNIA

Thank you Chairman Bennett, and I welcome Commissioner Utgoff to today's hearing.

There is a great deal of interest in today's employment report, since it's the last report on the President's jobs record before the election. The interpretation of today's numbers is somewhat complicated by the fact that the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has also provided a preliminary estimate of their annual "benchmark" revision of payroll jobs, which in January will probably add fewer than 240,000 jobs to the current total.

Although the recession officially ended nearly 3 years ago, we still have anemic job growth and a deficit of 821,000 jobs since President Bush took office. Even with the benchmark revisions taken into account, President Bush still has the worst jobs record of any President since Herbert Hoover in the Great Depression.

The BLS reports today that only 96,000 payrolls jobs were created in September, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.4 percent. But the strength of the job market is still very much in question, because job growth has been weak over the past year and labor force participation remains depressed. More than 8 million Americans remain unemployed and long-term unemployment remains near historically high levels.

Announced layoffs rose 45 percent last month and we're headed into the time of year when firms traditionally do their heaviest downsizing, according to the outplacement firm of Challenger, Gray, and' Christmas. This is not good news for workers wondering if theirs is the next job to be outsourced and sent overseas.

The prolonged labor market slump has also taken its toll on workers' earnings. Since last August when job losses bottomed out, average hourly earnings have *declined* by 0.2 percent. Corporate profits, by contrast, have grown by more than 50 percent under President Bush.

The largest tax cut in our nation's history hasn't prevented the longest jobs slump in history. We got little bang for the big bucks we spent on tax giveaways to the wealthy and now American families are saddled with a historically high Federal debt burden.

The economy is growing, but middle-class families still face an uncertain jobs picture, stagnant wages, higher gas prices, and rising consumer interest rates. I simply don't think American families can afford four more years of President Bush's economic policies.

Thank you Commissioner Utgoff for coming today and I look forward to your testimony.

WEAK PAYROLL GAINS IN SEPTEMBER; JOBS DEFICIT PERSISTS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The unemployment rate remained unchanged at 5.4 percent and only 96,000 total payroll jobs were created in September. Private nonfarm payrolls grew by 59,000 jobs. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) also provided a preliminary estimate of their annual "benchmark" revision of payroll jobs, which in January will probably add fewer than 240,000 jobs to the current total.

"Although the recession officially ended nearly 3 years ago, job growth remains anemic and we still have a jobs deficit," said Rep. Pete Stark (D-CA), Senior Democrat on the Joint Economic Committee (JEC). "Even taking into account the technical adjustments, President Bush still has the worst jobs record of any president since Herbert Hoover in the Great Depression. American families simply can't afford four more years of President Bush's economic policies."

Job growth has been weak over the last year, barely keeping pace with the growing labor force. Today's employment report shows that despite 13 months of job growth, there are still 821,000 fewer nonfarm payroll jobs than there were when President Bush took office. There are 1.6 million fewer private payroll jobs, including 2.7 million fewer manufacturing jobs.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics today announced preliminary estimates of their annual "rebenchmarking" of nonfarm payroll statistics. Data back to April 2003 will be affected by the upward revision of nonfarm employment by 236,000 jobs, but the actual revisions will not show up in the current total until January 2005.

Overall, there are still 8 million unemployed Americans, and about 4.9 million additional workers who want a job but are not counted among the unemployed. An additional 4.5 million people work part-time because of the weak economy. The unemployment rate would be 9.4 percent if the figure included those who want to work but are not counted among the unemployed and those who are forced to work part-time because of the weak economy. More than one in every five unemployed peo-

ple—1.7 million Americans—has been jobless for more than 26 weeks, the maximum number of weeks for receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits.

The prolonged labor market slump has also taken its toll on workers' earnings. Since last August when job losses bottomed out, average hourly earnings have declined by 0.2 percent, once inflation is taken into account. Corporate profits, by contrast have grown by more than 50 percent under President Bush.

The Joint Economic Committee, established under the Employment Act of 1946, was created by Congress to review economic conditions and to analyze the effectiveness of economic policy.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF KATHLEEN P. UTGOFF, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the September employment and unemployment statistics that we released this morning.

Nonfarm payroll employment continued to trend up in September, increasing by 96,000. The unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.4 percent. Since August 2003, payroll employment has increased by 1.8 million. About 900,000, or half of that gain, occurred in March, April, and May of this year. Employment gains in the last 4 months have totaled 405,000.

I know that many people have speculated about the effect of the recent hurricanes on the September payroll employment data. Four hurricanes struck the U.S. during August and September: Charley in mid-August, Frances early in September, Ivan in mid-September, and Jeanne late in the month. This month, BLS and our State partners made extra efforts to obtain data from our survey respondents in the hurricane-affected states. As a result, our total response rate, even in the affected states, was as good as or better than it normally is for first publication. Still, our ability to gauge the impact on September's job growth is limited for reasons that I will discuss in a moment.

First, let me note how our payroll survey treats employment in businesses that are affected by weather events. For weather conditions to reduce the estimate of payroll employment, employees have to be off work for an entire pay period and not be paid for the time missed.

BLS' review of the sample data for September in the hurricane-affected areas indicates that there was a negative impact on employment in those areas. We will know more about the local effects when the official State estimates are available in 2 weeks.

There were negative employment effects on those firms that were unable to operate or were operating at a reduced capacity during the survey period. However, other firms expanded their employment in response to the storms. There were clean-up and rebuilding efforts following Hurricanes Charley and Frances. In addition, some firms adjacent to the hard-hit areas likely added workers to help accommodate evacuees from Hurricane Ivan.

Overall, we do not believe that the net result of these factors materially changes the national employment situation for September, but we cannot precisely quantify the weather effects.

In September, job gains occurred in a few service-providing industries. Employment in professional and technical services rose by 24,000. Since August 2003, this industry has added 205,000 jobs. Temporary help employment was up by 33,000 in September. Employment in real estate and rental and leasing services grew by 15,000, following an increase of 11,000 in August. Utilities added 2,000 jobs over the month.

Within health care services, employment in doctors' offices rose by 8,000 in September. Other health care industries, however, showed little or no employment growth over the month.

Telecommunications employment fell by 9,000 in September. Since March 2001, the telecommunications industry has shed 302,000 jobs.

In the goods-producing sector, manufacturing employment edged down in September, reflecting small but widespread declines among component industries. Employment was little changed over the month in both construction and mining.

Average hourly earnings rose by 3 cents over the month and have increased by 2.4 percent over the year. Average hours for private production or nonsupervisory workers were unchanged in September. Manufacturing hours declined by one-tenth of an hour. Factory overtime was unchanged.

Turning now to measures from our survey of households, the unemployment rate held at 5.4 percent in September. This is down from its most recent high of 6.3 per-

cent in June 2003; most of this decline occurred in the second half of last year. The labor force participation rate was 65.9 percent in September; it has been at or near this level since late last year. Most other household survey measures showed little or no change over the month.

Before closing, I would like to mention the upcoming benchmark revision to the payroll survey. Each fall, we announce the preliminary estimate of the next benchmark revision to payroll employment. The benchmark revision is a standard annual procedure that adjusts the payroll survey's sample-based employment estimates to incorporate universe employment counts derived largely from unemployment insurance tax reports.

Preliminary tabulations of first quarter 2004 employment from State unemployment insurance tax reports indicate that the estimate of total nonfarm payroll employment will require an upward revision of approximately 236,000, or two-tenths of 1 percent, for the March 2004 reference month. This is slightly below the historical average for benchmark revisions over the past decade, which has been plus or minus three-tenths of 1 percent.

In summary, payroll employment continued to trend up in September, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.4 percent.

My colleagues and I now would be glad to address your questions.

Hon. PAUL SARBANES,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR SARBANES: At the October 8 hearing of the Joint Economic Committee, you asked questions regarding the proportion of unemployed persons who had been jobless for 27 weeks and over.

I stated at the hearing that long-term joblessness has exceeded 20 percent for 24 consecutive months. I did not have the entire time series at the hearing to confirm whether this was the longest such span on record. In reviewing the data, the recent period is the longest stretch during which the incidence of long-term unemployment has remained so high for so long. I have enclosed the entire historical series for your information.

During a conversation after the hearing, you also expressed interest in the data from our American Time Use Survey. I have included a copy of the recent press release which contains the first results from this survey.

I hope this information is helpful to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions. Also, Thomas Nardone, Assistant Commissioner for Current Employment Analysis, can be reached at 202-691-6379 and would be happy to answer any questions you or your staff may have.

Sincerely yours,

KATHLEEN P. UTGOFF,
Commissioner.

News United States Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington, D.C. 20212

Technical information:

Household data:	(202) 691-6378 http://www.bls.gov/cps/	USDL 04-2053
Establishment data:	691-6555 http://www.bls.gov/ces/	Transmission of material in this release is embargoed until 8:30 A.M. (EDT), Friday, October 8, 2004.
Media contact:	691-5902	

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: SEPTEMBER 2004

Nonfarm payroll employment continued to trend upward in September, increasing by 96,000, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.4 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Over the prior 3 months, payroll employment rose by 103,000 on average. In September, modest job gains occurred in a few service-providing industries.

Chart 1. Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, October 2001 – September 2004

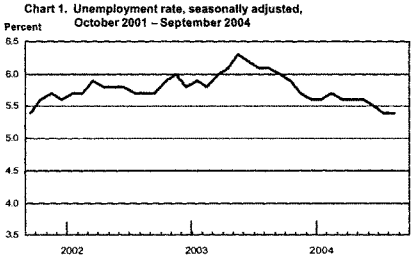
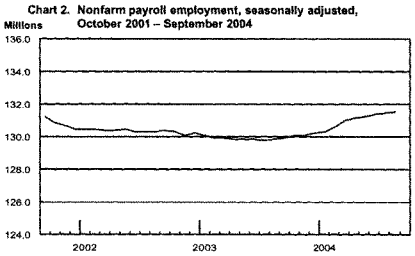


Chart 2. Nonfarm payroll employment, seasonally adjusted, October 2001 – September 2004



Hurricane Effects on Payroll Employment

Four hurricanes struck the U.S. during August and September: Charley in mid-August, Frances early in September, Ivan in mid-September, and Jeanne late in the month. BLS made additional data collection efforts for the hurricane-affected counties. Establishment survey response rates in September were within the normal range for these areas as well as for the U.S. as a whole.

For weather conditions to reduce the estimate of payroll employment, people have to be off work for an entire pay period and not be paid for the time missed. While some employed persons were off payrolls during the survey reference period because of the hurricane effects, some jobs were added as part of recovery efforts. It is not possible to quantify precisely the net impact of this unusual string of severe weather events on the payroll employment data for September. At the national level, the severe weather appears to have held down employment growth, but not enough to change materially the Bureau's assessment of the employment situation in September.

In the household survey, people who miss work for weather-related events are counted as employed whether or not they are paid for the time off.

Table A. Major indicators of labor market activity, seasonally adjusted
(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Quarterly averages 2004 II	Quarterly averages 2004 III	Monthly data 2004 July	Monthly data 2004 Aug.	Monthly data 2004 Sept.	Aug.-Sept. change
HOUSEHOLD DATA	Labor force status					
Civilian labor force	146,998	147,681	147,856	147,704	147,483	-221
Employment	138,793	139,607	139,660	139,681	139,480	-201
Unemployment	8,205	8,074	8,196	8,022	8,003	-19
Not in labor force	75,975	75,999	75,565	75,973	76,458	485
	Unemployment rates					
All workers	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.4	0.0
Adult men	5.1	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0	.0
Adult women	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.7	4.7	.0
Teenagers	17.0	17.1	17.6	17.0	16.6	-.4
White	5.0	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.7	.0
Black or African American	9.9	10.5	10.9	10.4	10.3	-.1
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.1	.2
ESTABLISHMENT DATA	Employment					
Nonfarm employment	131,125	p131,460	131,343	p131,471	p131,567	p96
Goods-producing [1]	21,869	p21,912	21,906	p21,921	p21,908	p-13
Construction	6,897	p6,925	6,916	p6,927	p6,931	p4
Manufacturing	14,385	p14,395	14,398	p14,402	p14,384	p-18
Service-providing [1]	109,256	p109,549	109,437	p109,550	p109,659	p109
Retail trade [2]	15,047	p15,032	15,038	p15,036	p15,021	p-15
Professional and business services	16,417	p16,511	16,490	p16,505	p16,539	p34
Education and health services	16,874	p16,931	16,901	p16,942	p16,950	p8
Leisure and hospitality	12,324	p12,354	12,344	p12,352	p12,365	p13
Government	21,548	p21,606	21,572	p21,604	p21,641	p37
	Hours of work [3]					
Total private	33.7	p33.8	33.8	p33.8	p33.8	p0.0
Manufacturing	40.9	p40.8	40.8	p40.9	p40.8	p-.1
Overtime	4.6	p4.6	4.6	p4.6	p4.6	p.0
	Indexes of aggregate weekly hours (2002=100) [3]					
Total private	99.8	p100.6	100.5	p100.6	p100.7	p0.1
	Earnings [3]					
Average hourly earnings, total private	$15.63	p$15.75	$15.71	p$15.75	p$15.78	p$0.03
Average weekly earnings, total private	526.62	p532.24	531.00	p532.35	p533.36	p1.01

[1] Includes other industries, not shown separately.

[2] Quarterly averages and the over-the-month change are calculated based on unrounded data.

[3] Data relate to private production or nonsupervisory workers.

p=preliminary.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons was unchanged at 8.0 million in September, and the unemployment rate held at 5.4 percent, seasonally adjusted. The jobless rate is down from its most recent high of 6.3 percent in June 2003; most of this decline occurred in the second half of last year.

The jobless rates for the major worker groups—adult men (5.0 percent), adult women (4.7 percent), teenagers (16.6 percent), whites (4.7 percent), blacks (10.3 percent), and Hispanics or Latinos (7.1 percent)—showed little or no change in September. The unemployment rate for Asians was 4.3 percent, not seasonally adjusted. (See tables A-1, A-2, and A-3.)

Total Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Total employment was about unchanged in September at 139.5 million, and the employment-population ratio—the proportion of the population age 16 and over with jobs—was little changed at 62.3 percent. Over the month, the civilian labor force was essentially unchanged at 147.5 million. The labor force participation rate was 65.9 percent in September and has been at or near that level since late last year. (See table A-1.)

About 7.7 million persons (not seasonally adjusted) held more than one job in September. These multiple jobholders represented 5.5 percent of total employment, compared with 5.2 percent a year earlier. (See table A-13.)

Persons Not in the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

The number of persons who were marginally attached to the labor force was 1.6 million in September, about the same as a year earlier. (Data are not seasonally adjusted.) These individuals wanted and were available to work and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months. They were not counted as unemployed, however, because they did not actively search for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey. There were 412,000 discouraged workers in September, little changed from a year earlier. Discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached, were not currently looking for work specifically because they believed no jobs were available for them. The other 1.1 million marginally attached had not searched for work for reasons such as school or family responsibilities. (See table A-13.)

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 96,000 in September to 131.6 million, seasonally adjusted. Payroll employment has risen by 1.8 million since reaching a trough in August 2003, with about half of the gain (885,000) occurring in March, April, and May. Since May, payroll job gains have totaled 405,000. Employment increases in September occurred in financial activities, professional and technical services, and temporary help services. (See table B-1.)

Within the service-providing sector, employment in financial activities increased by 26,000 over the month and by 108,000 since the beginning of the year. Rental and leasing added 7,000 jobs in September, following a similar-sized increase in August. Employment in finance and insurance edged up in September, and real estate continued to add jobs.

Employment in professional and technical services grew by 24,000 in September. Since August 2003, this industry has added 205,000 jobs. Temporary help services employment was up by 33,000 in September, following 2 months of smaller increases. Employment in management of companies and enterprises fell by 11,000 over the month, following a smaller decline in August.

Employment in health care and social assistance was little changed in September. Over the prior 12 months, job gains in this industry averaged 24,000 a month. Within the industry, child day care services lost 14,000 jobs in September. Employment in doctors' offices rose by 8,000.

The information industry continued to shed jobs in September (-12,000). Most of the over-the-month job loss occurred in telecommunications (-9,000); employment in this industry is down by 302,000 since its most recent peak in March 2001.

Within the goods-producing sector, manufacturing employment edged down in September (-18,000), with small job losses occurring throughout the durable and nondurable goods components of the industry. Manufacturing had added 88,000 jobs in the previous 7 months, with most of the gains registered from March through May. Construction employment was about unchanged in September and has shown little growth since May.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

The average workweek for production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged in September at 33.8 hours, seasonally adjusted. The manufacturing workweek fell by 0.1 hour to 40.8 hours, and factory overtime was unchanged at 4.6 hours. (See table B-2.)

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 0.1 percent in September to 100.7 (2002=100). The manufacturing index fell by 0.4 percent to 94.9. (See table B-5.)

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 3 cents in September to $15.78, seasonally adjusted. Average weekly earnings increased by 0.2 percent over the month to $533.36. Over the year, average hourly earnings increased by 2.4 percent, and average weekly earnings grew by 3.0 percent. (See table B-3.)

The Employment Situation for October 2004 is scheduled to be released on Friday, November 5, at 8:30 A.M. (EST).

Benchmark Revisions of the Payroll Survey

In accordance with annual practice, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has completed preliminary tabulations of the universe counts for the first quarter of this year. The tabulations indicate that the estimate of total nonfarm payroll employment will require an upward revision of approximately 236,000, or two-tenths of one percent, for the March 2004 reference month. The historical average for benchmark revisions over the last 10 years has been plus or minus three-tenths of one percent. BLS will publish data revised to the March 2004 benchmark on February 4, 2005, with the release of data for January 2005.

Explanatory Note

This news release presents statistics from two major surveys, the Current Population Survey (household survey) and the Current Employment Statistics survey (establishment survey). The household survey provides the information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment that appears in the A tables, marked HOUSEHOLD DATA. It is a sample survey of about 60,000 households conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The establishment survey provides the information on the employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls that appears in the B tables, marked ESTABLISHMENT DATA. This information is collected from payroll records by BLS in cooperation with state agencies. The sample includes about 160,000 businesses and government agencies covering approximately 400,000 individual worksites. The active sample includes about one-third of all nonfarm payroll workers. The sample is drawn from a sampling frame of unemployment insurance tax accounts.

For both surveys, the data for a given month relate to a particular week or pay period. In the household survey, the reference week is generally the calendar week that contains the 12th day of the month. In the establishment survey, the reference period is the pay period including the 12th, which may or may not correspond directly to the calendar week.

Coverage, definitions, and differences between surveys

Household survey. The sample is selected to reflect the entire civilian noninstitutional population. Based on responses to a series of questions on work and job search activities, each person 16 years and over in a sample household is classified as employed, unemployed, or not in the labor force.

People are classified as *employed* if they did any work at all as paid employees during the reference week; worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm; or worked without pay at least 15 hours in a family business or farm. People are also counted as employed if they were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

People are classified as *unemployed* if they meet all of the following criteria: They had no employment during the reference week; they were available for work at that time; and they made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Persons laid off from a job and expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The unemployment data derived from the household survey in no way depend upon the eligibility for or receipt of unemployment insurance benefits.

The *civilian labor force* is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. Those not classified as employed or unemployed are *not in the labor force*. The *unemployment rate* is the number unemployed as a percent of the labor force. The *labor force participation rate* is the labor force as a percent of the population, and the *employment-population ratio* is the employed as a percent of the population.

Establishment survey. The sample establishments are drawn from private nonfarm businesses such as factories, offices, and stores, as well as federal, state, and local government entities. *Employees on nonfarm payrolls* are those who received pay for any part of the reference pay period, including persons on paid leave. Persons are counted in each job they hold. *Hours and earnings* data are for private businesses and relate only to production workers in the goods-producing sector and nonsupervisory workers in the service-providing sector. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2002 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Differences in employment estimates. The numerous conceptual and methodological differences between the household and establishment surveys result in important distinctions in the employment estimates derived from the surveys. Among these are:

- The household survey includes agricultural workers, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers among the employed. These groups are excluded from the establishment survey.
- The household survey includes people on unpaid leave among the employed. The establishment survey does not.
- The household survey is limited to workers 16 years of age and older. The establishment survey is not limited by age.
- The household survey has no duplication of individuals, because individuals are counted only once, even if they hold more than one job. In the establishment survey, employees working at more than one job and thus appearing on more than one payroll would be counted separately for each appearance.

Seasonal adjustment

Over the course of a year, the size of the nation's labor force and the levels of employment and unemployment undergo sharp fluctuations due to such seasonal events as changes in weather, reduced or expanded production, harvests, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools. The effect of such seasonal variation can be very large; seasonal fluctuations may account for as much as 95 percent of the month-to-month changes in unemployment.

Because these seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on statistical trends can be eliminated by adjusting the statistics from month to month. These adjustments make nonseasonal developments, such as declines in economic activity or increases in the participation of women in the labor force, easier to spot. For example, the large number of youth entering the labor force each June is likely to obscure any other changes that have taken place relative to May, making it difficult to determine if the level of economic activity has risen or declined. However, because the effect of students finishing school in previous years is known, the statistics for the current year can be adjusted to allow for a comparable change. Insofar as the seasonal adjustment is made correctly, the adjusted figure provides a more useful tool with which to analyze changes in economic activity.

Most seasonally adjusted series are independently adjusted in both the household and establishment surveys. However, the ad-

justed series for many major estimates, such as total payroll employment, employment in most supersectors, total employment, and unemployment are computed by aggregating independently adjusted component series. For example, total unemployment is derived by summing the adjusted series for four major age-sex components; this differs from the unemployment estimate that would be obtained by directly adjusting the total or by combining the duration, reasons, or more detailed age categories.

For both the household and establishment surveys, a concurrent seasonal adjustment methodology is used in which new seasonal factors are calculated each month, using all relevant data, up to and including the data for the current month. In the household survey, new seasonal factors are used to adjust only the current month's data. In the establishment survey, however, new seasonal factors are used each month to adjust the three most recent monthly estimates. In both surveys, revisions to historical data are made once a year.

Reliability of the estimates

Statistics based on the household and establishment surveys are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the "true" population values they represent. The exact difference, or *sampling error*, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 90-percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.6 standard errors from the "true" population value because of sampling error. BLS analyses are generally conducted at the 90-percent level of confidence.

For example, the confidence interval for the monthly change in total employment from the household survey is on the order of plus or minus 350,000. Suppose the estimate of total employment increases by 100,000 from one month to the next. The 90-percent confidence interval on the monthly change would range from -250,000 to 450,000 (100,000 +/- 350,000). These figures do not mean that the sample results are off by these magnitudes, but rather that there is about a 90-percent chance that the "true" over-the-month change lies within this interval. Since this range includes values of less than zero, we could not say with confidence that employment had, in fact, increased. If, however, the reported employment rise was half a million, then all of the values within the 90-percent confidence interval would be greater than zero. In this case, it is likely (at least a 90-percent chance) that an employment rise had, in fact, occurred. At an unemployment rate of around 5.5 percent, the 90-percent confidence interval for the monthly change in unemployment is about +/- 320,000, and for the monthly change in the unemployment rate it is about +/- .22 percentage point.

In general, estimates involving many individuals or establishments have lower standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) than estimates which are based on a small number of observations. The precision of estimates is also improved when the data are cumulated over time such as for quarterly and annual averages. The seasonal adjustment process can also improve the stability of the monthly estimates.

The household and establishment surveys are also affected by *nonsampling error*. Nonsampling errors can occur for many reasons, including the failure to sample a segment of the population, inability to obtain information for all respondents in the sample, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information on a timely basis, mistakes made by respondents, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

For example, in the establishment survey, estimates for the most recent 2 months are based on incomplete returns; for this reason, these estimates are labeled preliminary in the tables. It is only after two successive revisions to a monthly estimate, when nearly all sample reports have been received, that the estimate is considered final.

Another major source of nonsampling error in the establishment survey is the inability to capture, on a timely basis, employment generated by new firms. To correct for this systematic underestimation of employment growth, an estimation procedure with two components is used to account for business births. The first component uses business deaths to impute employment for business births. This is incorporated into the sample-based link relative estimate procedure by simply not reflecting sample units going out of business, but imputing to them the same trend as the other firms in the sample. The second component is an ARIMA time series model designed to estimate the residual net birth/death employment not accounted for by the imputation. The historical time series used to create and test the ARIMA model was derived from the unemployment insurance universe micro-level database, and reflects the actual residual net of births and deaths over the past five years.

The sample-based estimates from the establishment survey are adjusted once a year (on a lagged basis) to universe counts of payroll employment obtained from administrative records of the unemployment insurance program. The difference between the March sample-based employment estimates and the March universe counts is known as a benchmark revision, and serves as a rough proxy for total survey error. The new benchmarks also incorporate changes in the classification of industries. Over the past decade, the benchmark revision for total nonfarm employment has averaged 0.3 percent, ranging from zero to 0.7 percent.

Additional statistics and other information

More comprehensive statistics are contained in *Employment and Earnings*, published each month by BLS. It is available for $27.00 per issue or $53.00 per year from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. All orders must be prepaid by sending a check or money order payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or by charging to Mastercard or Visa.

Employment and Earnings also provides measures of sampling error for the household and establishment survey data published in this release. For unemployment and other labor force categories, these measures appear in tables 1-B through 1-D of its "Explanatory Notes." For the establishment survey data, the sampling error measures and the actual size of revisions due to benchmark adjustments appear in tables 2-B through 2-F of *Employment and Earnings*.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone: 1-800-877-8339.

Table A-1. Employment status of the civilian population by sex and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted [1]					
	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004
TOTAL									
Civilian noninstitutional population	221,779	223,677	223,941	221,779	222,967	223,196	223,422	223,677	223,941
Civilian labor force	146,166	148,156	147,186	146,610	146,974	147,279	147,856	147,704	147,483
Participation rate	65.9	66.2	65.7	66.1	65.9	66.0	66.2	66.0	65.9
Employed	137,731	140,226	139,641	137,644	138,772	139,031	139,660	139,681	139,480
Employment-population ratio	62.1	62.7	62.4	62.1	62.2	62.3	62.5	62.4	62.3
Unemployed	8,436	7,940	7,545	8,966	8,203	8,248	8,196	8,022	8,003
Unemployment rate	5.8	5.4	5.1	6.1	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4
Not in labor force	75,612	75,511	76,755	75,168	75,993	75,916	75,565	75,973	76,458
Persons who currently want a job	4,637	5,145	4,720	4,816	4,656	4,635	4,630	4,844	4,850
Men, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	106,744	107,881	108,020	106,744	107,504	107,625	107,746	107,881	108,020
Civilian labor force	78,216	79,832	78,844	78,504	78,600	78,918	79,193	79,283	79,011
Participation rate	73.3	74.0	73.0	73.5	73.1	73.3	73.5	73.5	73.1
Employed	73,715	75,707	74,864	73,488	74,035	74,476	74,822	74,860	74,601
Employment-population ratio	69.1	70.2	69.3	68.8	68.9	69.2	69.4	69.4	69.1
Unemployed	4,501	4,125	3,980	5,016	4,566	4,442	4,371	4,423	4,410
Unemployment rate	5.8	5.2	5.0	6.4	5.8	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6
Not in labor force	28,528	28,048	29,176	28,240	28,904	28,707	28,552	28,598	29,010
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	98,568	99,642	99,776	98,568	99,279	99,396	99,512	99,642	99,776
Civilian labor force	74,773	75,798	75,426	74,905	75,048	75,372	75,577	75,639	75,443
Participation rate	75.9	76.1	75.6	76.0	75.6	75.8	75.9	75.9	75.6
Employed	70,923	72,328	72,044	70,596	71,162	71,570	71,847	71,870	71,677
Employment-population ratio	72.0	72.6	72.2	71.6	71.7	72.0	72.2	72.1	71.8
Unemployed	3,850	3,470	3,382	4,309	3,886	3,802	3,730	3,768	3,766
Unemployment rate	5.1	4.6	4.5	5.8	5.2	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0
Not in labor force	23,794	23,844	24,349	23,663	24,231	24,023	23,935	24,003	24,332
Women, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	115,035	115,796	115,921	115,035	115,463	115,570	115,676	115,796	115,921
Civilian labor force	67,951	68,333	68,342	68,106	68,374	68,361	68,663	68,421	68,472
Participation rate	59.1	59.0	59.0	59.2	59.2	59.2	59.4	59.1	59.1
Employed	64,016	64,519	64,777	64,155	64,737	64,555	64,838	64,822	64,879
Employment-population ratio	55.6	55.7	55.9	55.8	56.1	55.9	56.1	56.0	56.0
Unemployed	3,935	3,815	3,565	3,951	3,637	3,806	3,825	3,599	3,593
Unemployment rate	5.8	5.6	5.2	5.8	5.3	5.6	5.6	5.3	5.2
Not in labor force	47,084	47,463	47,579	46,929	47,089	47,209	47,013	47,375	47,449
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	107,080	107,801	107,920	107,080	107,483	107,586	107,687	107,801	107,920
Civilian labor force	64,627	64,535	65,032	64,608	64,813	64,893	65,122	64,903	64,989
Participation rate	60.4	59.9	60.3	60.3	60.3	60.3	60.5	60.2	60.2
Employed	61,193	61,277	61,952	61,191	61,721	61,629	61,918	61,870	61,925
Employment-population ratio	57.1	56.8	57.4	57.1	57.4	57.3	57.5	57.4	57.4
Unemployed	3,434	3,259	3,081	3,417	3,092	3,264	3,204	3,033	3,064
Unemployment rate	5.3	5.0	4.7	5.3	4.8	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.7
Not in labor force	42,453	43,266	42,887	42,472	42,670	42,693	42,565	42,898	42,931
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population	16,131	16,234	16,246	16,131	16,205	16,214	16,222	16,234	16,246
Civilian labor force	6,766	7,832	6,727	7,097	7,113	7,014	7,157	7,162	7,051
Participation rate	41.9	48.2	41.4	44.0	43.9	43.3	44.1	44.1	43.4
Employed	5,615	6,621	5,645	5,857	5,888	5,832	5,896	5,941	5,877
Employment-population ratio	34.8	40.8	34.7	36.3	36.3	36.0	36.3	36.6	36.2
Unemployed	1,151	1,211	1,082	1,240	1,225	1,181	1,262	1,220	1,173
Unemployment rate	17.0	15.5	16.1	17.5	17.2	16.8	17.6	17.0	16.6
Not in labor force	9,365	8,402	9,519	9,034	9,092	9,200	9,065	9,072	9,195

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.
NOTE: Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-2. Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, race, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted [1]					
	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	181,696	182,846	183,022	181,696	182,384	182,531	182,676	182,846	183,022
Civilian labor force	120,088	121,666	120,782	120,411	120,984	121,180	121,428	121,300	121,016
Participation rate	66.1	66.5	66.0	66.3	66.3	66.4	66.5	66.3	66.1
Employed	114,093	116,007	115,451	114,015	114,976	115,152	115,623	115,547	115,323
Employment-population ratio	62.8	63.4	63.1	62.8	63.0	63.1	63.3	63.2	63.0
Unemployed	5,994	5,659	5,331	6,397	6,008	6,028	5,805	5,753	5,693
Unemployment rate	5.0	4.7	4.4	5.3	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.7
Not in labor force	61,608	61,179	62,240	61,285	61,400	61,351	61,248	61,546	62,006
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	62,531	63,295	62,919	62,552	62,758	62,960	63,163	63,130	62,882
Participation rate	76.2	76.5	76.0	76.2	76.1	76.3	76.4	76.3	75.9
Employed	59,773	60,796	60,528	59,414	59,817	60,107	60,466	60,379	60,162
Employment-population ratio	72.8	73.5	73.1	72.4	72.5	72.8	73.2	73.0	72.6
Unemployed	2,759	2,499	2,390	3,139	2,941	2,853	2,697	2,750	2,720
Unemployment rate	4.4	3.9	3.8	5.0	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.3
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	51,921	51,866	52,246	51,942	52,245	52,369	52,302	52,224	52,241
Participation rate	59.6	59.3	59.6	59.6	59.8	59.9	59.8	59.7	59.6
Employed	49,533	49,586	50,114	49,580	50,116	50,061	50,085	50,132	50,133
Employment-population ratio	56.9	56.7	57.2	56.9	57.4	57.3	57.3	57.3	57.2
Unemployed	2,388	2,280	2,132	2,362	2,130	2,308	2,217	2,093	2,108
Unemployment rate	4.6	4.4	4.1	4.5	4.1	4.4	4.2	4.0	4.0
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	5,636	6,505	5,618	5,917	5,981	5,851	5,963	5,946	5,893
Participation rate	44.9	51.6	44.6	47.2	47.5	46.5	47.3	47.2	46.7
Employed	4,788	5,626	4,809	5,020	5,043	4,984	5,073	5,036	5,028
Employment-population ratio	38.2	44.6	38.1	40.0	40.0	39.6	40.3	40.0	39.9
Unemployed	848	880	809	896	938	867	891	909	865
Unemployment rate	15.0	13.5	14.4	15.1	15.7	14.8	14.9	15.3	14.7
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	25,784	26,120	26,163	25,784	26,002	26,040	26,078	26,120	26,163
Civilian labor force	16,616	16,789	16,705	16,677	16,442	16,506	16,755	16,724	16,703
Participation rate	64.4	64.3	63.9	64.7	63.2	63.4	64.3	64.0	63.8
Employed	14,855	15,023	15,057	14,826	14,818	14,833	14,926	14,983	14,981
Employment-population ratio	57.6	57.5	57.5	57.5	57.0	57.0	57.2	57.4	57.3
Unemployed	1,761	1,766	1,649	1,851	1,624	1,673	1,829	1,741	1,722
Unemployment rate	10.6	10.5	9.9	11.1	9.9	10.1	10.9	10.4	10.3
Not in labor force	9,168	9,331	9,457	9,107	9,560	9,534	9,323	9,396	9,460
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	7,399	7,422	7,466	7,433	7,356	7,394	7,384	7,432	7,466
Participation rate	71.7	70.8	71.1	72.0	70.5	70.8	70.5	70.9	71.1
Employed	6,648	6,685	6,756	6,619	6,674	6,709	6,624	6,660	6,709
Employment-population ratio	64.4	63.8	64.3	64.1	64.0	64.2	63.3	63.5	63.9
Unemployed	751	737	710	814	683	685	760	772	757
Unemployment rate	10.2	9.9	9.5	11.0	9.3	9.3	10.3	10.4	10.1
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	8,443	8,492	8,537	8,436	8,342	8,374	8,598	8,488	8,513
Participation rate	64.6	64.3	64.5	64.5	63.4	63.6	65.2	64.3	64.4
Employed	7,682	7,721	7,795	7,664	7,642	7,626	7,815	7,752	7,757
Employment-population ratio	58.8	58.5	58.9	58.6	58.1	57.9	59.3	58.7	58.7
Unemployed	761	771	742	772	700	748	783	737	756
Unemployment rate	9.0	9.1	8.7	9.2	8.4	8.9	9.1	8.7	8.9
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	774	875	702	808	744	738	773	804	723
Participation rate	32.4	36.0	28.9	33.8	30.8	30.5	31.9	33.1	29.7
Employed	526	617	505	543	502	497	487	572	514
Employment-population ratio	22.0	25.4	20.8	22.7	20.8	20.6	20.1	23.5	21.2
Unemployed	249	258	197	264	242	241	286	232	209
Unemployment rate	32.1	29.5	28.1	32.7	32.5	32.6	37.0	28.9	28.9
ASIAN									
Civilian noninstutional population	9,297	9,598	9,563	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Civilian labor force	6,125	6,245	6,276	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	65.9	65.1	65.6	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	5,747	6,018	6,006	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	61.8	62.7	62.8	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	378	226	270	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	6.2	3.6	4.3	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Not in labor force	3,172	3,353	3,287	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.
[2] Data not available.

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups will not sum to totals shown in table A-1 because data are not presented for all races. Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-3. Employment status of the Hispanic or Latino population by sex and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted [1]					
	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004
HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY									
Civilian noninstitutional population	27,808	28,243	28,338	27,808	27,968	28,059	28,150	28,243	28,338
Civilian labor force	18,831	19,500	19,420	18,877	19,313	19,304	19,450	19,482	19,446
Participation rate	67.7	69.0	68.5	67.9	69.1	68.8	69.1	69.0	68.6
Employed	17,513	18,185	18,143	17,456	17,958	18,019	18,118	18,144	18,073
Employment-population ratio	63.0	64.4	64.0	62.8	64.2	64.2	64.4	64.2	63.8
Unemployed	1,317	1,314	1,276	1,421	1,355	1,285	1,332	1,338	1,372
Unemployment rate	7.0	6.7	6.6	7.5	7.0	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.1
Not in labor force	8,977	8,743	8,918	8,931	8,654	8,755	8,700	8,761	8,892
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	10,853	11,107	11,091	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	84.0	84.5	84.0	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	10,262	10,501	10,550	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	79.4	79.9	79.9	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	591	605	541	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	5.4	5.5	4.9	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	7,108	7,343	7,343	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	57.7	58.9	58.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	6,520	6,834	6,787	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	52.9	54.8	54.2	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	588	509	556	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	8.3	6.9	7.6	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	870	1,050	986	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	34.0	40.1	37.6	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	732	850	806	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	28.6	32.5	30.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	138	200	179	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	15.9	19.1	18.2	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.
[2] Data not available.

NOTE: Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-4. Employment status of the civilian population 25 years and over by educational attainment

(Numbers in thousands)

Educational attainment	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004
Less than a high school diploma									
Civilian labor force	12,636	12,483	12,815	12,577	12,212	12,326	12,389	12,521	12,722
Participation rate	45.0	45.4	45.6	44.8	44.5	44.9	45.9	45.5	45.3
Employed	11,638	11,552	11,790	11,478	11,140	11,242	11,358	11,503	11,601
Employment-population ratio	41.4	42.0	42.0	40.9	40.6	40.9	42.1	41.8	41.3
Unemployed	998	931	1,025	1,099	1,072	1,083	1,031	1,018	1,122
Unemployment rate	7.9	7.5	8.0	8.7	8.8	8.8	8.3	8.1	8.8
High school graduates, no college [1]									
Civilian labor force	38,044	37,987	37,781	37,967	37,870	38,088	38,233	38,050	37,670
Participation rate	63.7	63.2	63.3	63.6	63.0	63.3	63.7	63.3	63.1
Employed	36,209	36,184	36,170	35,932	35,964	36,137	36,297	36,170	35,863
Employment-population ratio	60.6	60.2	60.6	60.2	59.9	60.1	60.5	60.2	60.1
Unemployed	1,835	1,803	1,611	2,036	1,906	1,951	1,936	1,880	1,807
Unemployment rate	4.8	4.7	4.3	5.4	5.0	5.1	5.1	4.9	4.8
Some college or associate degree									
Civilian labor force	34,023	34,547	34,453	33,983	34,575	34,516	34,629	34,499	34,398
Participation rate	72.9	72.2	72.2	72.8	73.1	72.6	71.6	72.1	72.1
Employed	32,423	33,141	33,099	32,357	33,183	33,083	33,176	33,105	33,018
Employment-population ratio	69.5	69.2	69.4	69.4	70.2	69.6	68.6	69.2	69.2
Unemployed	1,599	1,406	1,354	1,626	1,392	1,433	1,453	1,394	1,380
Unemployment rate	4.7	4.1	3.9	4.8	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.0	4.0
Bachelor's degree and higher [2]									
Civilian labor force	39,857	39,903	40,485	39,825	40,104	40,175	40,127	40,192	40,426
Participation rate	77.7	77.2	77.8	77.6	77.5	77.8	77.8	77.7	77.7
Employed	38,552	38,689	39,424	38,559	38,927	39,088	39,039	39,114	39,390
Employment-population ratio	75.1	74.8	75.8	75.1	75.2	75.7	75.7	75.6	75.7
Unemployed	1,305	1,214	1,061	1,265	1,177	1,086	1,087	1,078	1,036
Unemployment rate	3.3	3.0	2.6	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6

[1] Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.
[2] Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-5. Employed persons by class of worker and part-time status

(In thousands)

Category	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004
CLASS OF WORKER									
Agriculture and related industries	2,494	2,561	2,374	2,341	2,298	2,289	2,271	2,318	2,224
Wage and salary workers	1,576	1,462	1,373	1,437	1,277	1,242	1,200	1,274	1,216
Self-employed workers	900	1,056	966	886	976	1,018	1,016	1,020	971
Unpaid family workers	18	42	34	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Nonagricultural industries	135,237	137,665	137,267	135,401	136,488	136,675	137,274	137,307	137,411
Wage and salary workers	125,580	127,731	127,562	125,860	126,999	127,248	127,655	127,595	127,790
Government	19,722	19,638	20,211	19,725	19,759	19,984	19,816	20,089	20,134
Private industries	105,858	108,093	107,351	106,136	107,256	107,234	107,850	107,479	107,644
Private households	784	864	787	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Other industries	105,074	107,229	106,564	105,351	106,514	106,457	107,098	106,643	106,862
Self-employed workers	9,545	9,836	9,616	9,401	9,365	9,338	9,513	9,641	9,479
Unpaid family workers	111	98	90	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
PERSONS AT WORK PART TIME [2]									
All industries:									
Part time for economic reasons	4,455	4,395	4,073	4,896	4,655	4,513	4,490	4,504	4,452
Slack work or business conditions	2,878	2,638	2,552	3,185	2,853	2,803	2,660	2,812	2,808
Could only find part-time work	1,336	1,316	1,280	1,334	1,457	1,404	1,500	1,461	1,312
Part time for noneconomic reasons	19,296	17,451	19,624	19,021	19,621	19,531	19,741	19,680	19,386
Nonagricultural industries:									
Part time for economic reasons	4,368	4,256	4,024	4,794	4,605	4,442	4,400	4,391	4,379
Slack work or business conditions	2,828	2,523	2,511	3,127	2,812	2,762	2,605	2,714	2,753
Could only find part-time work	1,325	1,308	1,277	1,335	1,476	1,387	1,496	1,442	1,315
Part time for noneconomic reasons	18,924	17,079	19,245	18,633	19,220	19,072	19,290	19,213	19,025

[1] Data not available.

[2] Persons at work excludes employed persons who were absent from their jobs during the entire reference week for reasons such as vacation, illness, or industrial dispute. Part time for noneconomic reasons excludes persons who usually work full time but worked only 1 to 34 hours during the reference week for reasons such as holidays, illness, and bad weather.

NOTE: Detail for the seasonally adjusted data shown in this table will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series. Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-6. Selected employment indicators

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004
Total, 16 years and over	137,731	140,226	139,641	137,644	138,772	139,031	139,660	139,681	139,480
16 to 19 years	5,615	6,621	5,645	5,857	5,888	5,832	5,896	5,941	5,877
16 to 17 years	2,262	2,421	2,138	2,253	2,152	2,080	2,144	2,100	2,127
18 to 19 years	3,353	4,200	3,507	3,593	3,713	3,748	3,759	3,891	3,733
20 years and over	132,116	133,604	133,996	131,787	132,883	133,199	133,765	133,740	133,603
20 to 24 years	13,294	14,039	13,513	13,396	13,669	13,676	13,783	13,776	13,636
25 years and over	118,822	119,566	120,483	118,437	119,198	119,554	119,925	119,979	120,008
25 to 54 years	97,432	97,400	98,041	97,150	97,343	97,550	97,749	97,626	97,675
25 to 34 years	30,419	30,455	30,686	30,288	30,396	30,542	30,490	30,491	30,513
35 to 44 years	34,942	34,452	34,626	34,880	34,611	34,653	34,678	34,525	34,533
45 to 54 years	32,071	32,494	32,730	31,982	32,336	32,355	32,581	32,611	32,629
55 years and over	21,390	22,165	22,442	21,287	21,856	22,003	22,177	22,353	22,333
Men, 16 years and over	73,715	75,707	74,864	73,488	74,035	74,476	74,822	74,860	74,601
16 to 19 years	2,792	3,380	2,820	2,893	2,873	2,906	2,975	2,989	2,923
16 to 17 years	1,073	1,181	1,037	1,071	967	956	991	997	1,020
18 to 19 years	1,718	2,199	1,783	1,802	1,897	1,957	2,000	2,018	1,873
20 years and over	70,923	72,328	72,044	70,596	71,162	71,570	71,847	71,870	71,677
20 to 24 years	7,015	7,472	7,124	7,020	7,165	7,244	7,340	7,287	7,153
25 years and over	63,909	64,856	64,920	63,512	63,969	64,306	64,477	64,578	64,484
25 to 54 years	52,460	52,835	52,917	52,137	52,377	52,543	52,637	52,576	52,554
25 to 34 years	16,767	17,057	17,057	16,657	16,758	16,856	16,879	16,968	16,925
35 to 44 years	18,986	18,726	18,760	18,866	18,728	18,787	18,761	18,624	18,626
45 to 54 years	16,707	17,052	17,100	16,614	16,890	16,900	16,997	16,984	17,003
55 years and over	11,449	12,021	12,003	11,375	11,593	11,763	11,840	12,002	11,930
Women, 16 years and over	64,016	64,519	64,777	64,155	64,737	64,555	64,838	64,822	64,879
16 to 19 years	2,823	3,242	2,825	2,964	3,016	2,926	2,921	2,952	2,954
16 to 17 years	1,188	1,241	1,101	1,183	1,185	1,124	1,153	1,103	1,107
18 to 19 years	1,635	2,001	1,724	1,791	1,816	1,791	1,769	1,873	1,861
20 years and over	61,193	61,277	61,952	61,191	61,721	61,629	61,918	61,870	61,925
20 to 24 years	6,280	6,567	6,389	6,376	6,504	6,432	6,442	6,489	6,483
25 years and over	54,913	54,709	55,563	54,925	55,229	55,248	55,449	55,401	55,524
25 to 54 years	44,972	44,565	45,124	45,013	44,966	45,007	45,112	45,050	45,121
25 to 34 years	13,652	13,398	13,629	13,631	13,637	13,686	13,611	13,523	13,588
35 to 44 years	15,956	15,726	15,865	16,015	15,883	15,866	15,918	15,901	15,907
45 to 54 years	15,364	15,442	15,630	15,367	15,446	15,455	15,583	15,627	15,626
55 years and over	9,941	10,144	10,439	9,912	10,263	10,240	10,337	10,351	10,403
Married men, spouse present	44,809	45,206	45,269	44,566	44,723	44,938	44,935	45,106	45,034
Married women, spouse present	34,635	33,933	34,721	34,612	34,522	34,461	34,599	34,448	34,601
Women who maintain families	8,396	8,718	8,751	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Full-time workers [2]	113,568	116,656	115,245	113,321	113,894	114,269	114,297	114,737	114,835
Part-time workers [3]	24,163	23,570	24,396	24,446	24,820	24,878	25,455	25,110	24,721

[1] Data not available.
[2] Employed full-time workers are persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week.
[3] Employed part-time workers are persons who usually work less than 35 hours per week.

NOTE: Detail for the seasonally adjusted data shown in this table will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series. Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-7. Selected unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted

Characteristic	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)			Unemployment rates [1]					
	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004
Total, 16 years and over	8,966	8,022	8,003	6.1	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4
16 to 19 years	1,240	1,220	1,173	17.5	17.2	16.8	17.6	17.0	16.6
16 to 17 years	538	550	518	19.3	21.6	20.6	20.2	20.8	19.6
18 to 19 years	694	681	653	16.2	14.7	14.3	16.1	14.9	14.9
20 years and over	7,726	6,802	6,830	5.5	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.9
20 to 24 years	1,595	1,384	1,438	10.6	9.7	9.8	9.3	9.0	9.5
25 years and over	6,114	5,428	5,392	4.9	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.3
25 to 54 years	5,205	4,549	4,533	5.1	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.4
25 to 34 years	2,036	1,724	1,675	6.3	5.6	5.1	5.6	5.4	5.2
35 to 44 years	1,782	1,595	1,627	4.9	4.2	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.5
45 to 54 years	1,387	1,230	1,231	4.2	3.9	4.0	3.8	3.6	3.6
55 years and over	881	856	860	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.7
Men, 16 years and over	5,016	4,423	4,410	6.4	5.8	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6
16 to 19 years	707	655	644	19.6	19.1	18.1	17.7	18.0	18.1
16 to 17 years	304	280	265	22.1	23.3	22.8	21.2	21.9	20.6
18 to 19 years	400	385	377	18.2	16.6	15.8	15.7	16.0	16.8
20 years and over	4,309	3,768	3,766	5.8	5.2	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0
20 to 24 years	926	799	849	11.7	10.3	10.4	9.7	9.9	10.6
25 years and over	3,376	2,953	2,918	5.0	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3
25 to 54 years	2,877	2,456	2,437	5.2	4.7	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.4
25 to 34 years	1,161	933	922	6.5	6.0	4.8	5.4	5.2	5.2
35 to 44 years	972	843	854	4.9	4.1	4.5	4.2	4.3	4.4
45 to 54 years	745	680	661	4.3	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.7
55 years and over	499	497	481	4.2	4.1	4.3	3.8	4.0	3.9
Women, 16 years and over	3,951	3,599	3,593	5.8	5.3	5.6	5.6	5.3	5.2
16 to 19 years	533	566	529	15.2	15.3	15.6	17.5	16.1	15.2
16 to 17 years	234	270	253	16.5	20.1	18.7	19.4	19.7	18.5
18 to 19 years	294	295	276	14.1	12.7	12.6	16.5	13.6	12.9
20 years and over	3,417	3,033	3,064	5.3	4.8	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.7
20 to 24 years	669	565	589	9.5	9.0	9.0	8.8	8.0	8.3
25 years and over	2,737	2,476	2,474	4.7	4.2	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.3
25 to 54 years	2,328	2,093	2,096	4.9	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.4	4.4
25 to 34 years	875	791	753	6.0	5.1	5.5	6.0	5.5	5.3
35 to 44 years	810	753	773	4.8	4.3	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.6
45 to 54 years	642	549	570	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.6	3.4	3.5
55 years and over [2]	391	411	384	3.8	3.3	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.5
Married men, spouse present	1,747	1,420	1,370	3.8	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.0
Married women, spouse present	1,422	1,239	1,128	3.9	3.3	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.2
Women who maintain families [2]	775	792	780	8.5	7.4	8.2	9.0	8.3	8.2
Full-time workers [3]	7,485	6,646	6,749	6.2	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.6
Part-time workers [4]	1,478	1,378	1,292	5.7	5.2	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.0

[1] Unemployment as a percent of the civilian labor force.
[2] Not seasonally adjusted.
[3] Full-time workers are unemployed persons who have expressed a desire to work full time (35 hours or more per week) or are on layoff from full-time jobs.
[4] Part-time workers are unemployed persons who have expressed a desire to work part time (less than 35 hours per week) or are on layoff from part-time jobs.

NOTE: Detail shown in this table will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series. Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-8. Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Reason	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	4,500	3,809	3,644	4,947	4,211	4,099	4,181	3,936	3,984
On temporary layoff	763	914	615	1,110	926	1,011	1,065	982	917
Not on temporary layoff	3,737	2,895	3,029	3,837	3,286	3,088	3,116	2,955	3,068
Permanent job losers	2,956	2,009	2,157	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Persons who completed temporary jobs	781	886	872	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Job leavers	895	972	876	836	846	902	895	884	827
Reentrants	2,404	2,395	2,373	2,436	2,438	2,435	2,330	2,447	2,424
New entrants	637	764	652	684	713	636	680	694	692
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	53.3	46.0	48.3	55.6	51.3	50.8	51.7	49.4	50.3
On temporary layoff	9.0	11.5	8.2	12.5	11.3	12.5	13.2	12.3	11.6
Not on temporary layoff	44.3	36.5	40.1	43.1	40.0	38.3	38.5	37.1	38.7
Job leavers	10.6	12.2	11.6	9.4	10.3	11.2	11.1	11.1	10.4
Reentrants	28.5	30.2	31.4	27.4	29.7	30.2	28.8	30.7	30.6
New entrants	7.5	9.6	8.6	7.7	8.7	7.9	8.4	8.7	8.7
UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	3.1	2.6	2.5	3.4	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7
Job leavers	.6	.7	.6	.6	.6	.6	.6	.6	.6
Reentrants	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6
New entrants	.4	.5	.4	.5	.5	.4	.5	.5	.5

[1] Data not available.
NOTE: Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-9. Unemployed persons by duration of unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Duration	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Less than 5 weeks	2,682	2,571	2,757	2,749	2,707	2,688	2,805	2,604	2,790
5 to 14 weeks	2,514	2,694	2,056	2,736	2,376	2,405	2,476	2,521	2,255
15 weeks and over	3,240	2,675	2,732	3,511	3,077	3,065	2,878	2,903	2,954
15 to 26 weeks	1,268	1,032	1,063	1,438	1,288	1,306	1,211	1,239	1,207
27 weeks and over	1,973	1,643	1,669	2,073	1,789	1,759	1,667	1,664	1,747
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	19.5	18.7	19.5	19.6	20.0	19.9	18.6	19.0	19.6
Median duration, in weeks	10.2	9.2	9.5	10.1	10.0	10.8	8.9	9.4	9.5
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks	31.8	32.4	36.5	30.6	33.2	33.0	34.4	32.4	34.9
5 to 14 weeks	29.8	33.9	27.3	30.4	29.1	29.5	30.3	31.4	28.2
15 weeks and over	38.4	33.7	36.2	39.0	37.7	37.6	35.3	36.2	36.9
15 to 26 weeks	15.0	13.0	14.1	16.0	15.8	16.0	14.8	15.4	15.1
27 weeks and over	23.4	20.7	22.1	23.0	21.9	21.6	20.4	20.7	21.8

NOTE: Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-10. Employed and unemployed persons by occupation, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Occupation	Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment rates	
	Sept. 2003	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	Sept. 2004
Total, 16 years and over [1]	137,731	139,641	8,436	7,545	5.8	5.1
Management, professional, and related occupations	47,835	48,573	1,602	1,268	3.2	2.5
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	19,706	20,464	616	525	3.0	2.5
Professional and related occupations	28,129	28,109	986	742	3.4	2.6
Service occupations	21,667	22,829	1,567	1,547	6.7	6.3
Sales and office occupations	35,153	35,520	2,206	1,909	5.9	5.1
Sales and related occupations	15,825	15,912	1,079	863	6.4	5.1
Office and administrative support occupations	19,328	19,608	1,126	1,046	5.5	5.1
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	15,099	14,727	1,061	979	6.6	6.2
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1,286	1,098	103	93	7.4	7.8
Construction and extraction occupations	8,620	8,734	651	669	7.0	7.1
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	5,194	4,895	307	217	5.6	4.2
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	17,977	17,992	1,333	1,162	6.9	6.1
Production occupations	9,526	9,424	755	597	7.3	6.0
Transportation and material moving occupations	8,451	8,569	578	565	6.4	6.2

[1] Persons with no previous work experience and persons whose last job was in the Armed Forces are included in the unemployed total.
NOTE: Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-11. Unemployed persons by industry, not seasonally adjusted

Industry	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)		Unemployment rates	
	Sept. 2003	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	Sept. 2004
Total, 16 years and over [1]	8,436	7,545	5.8	5.1
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers	6,857	5,874	6.1	5.2
Mining	25	8	4.6	1.5
Construction	681	629	7.6	6.8
Manufacturing	1,175	852	6.8	5.0
Durable goods	788	512	7.3	4.8
Nondurable goods	386	339	5.9	5.4
Wholesale and retail trade	1,229	1,127	5.9	5.5
Transportation and utilities	255	208	4.7	3.9
Information	248	178	7.0	5.4
Financial activities	305	374	3.3	4.0
Professional and business services	975	750	8.0	5.9
Education and health services	649	593	3.7	3.3
Leisure and hospitality	978	854	8.8	7.5
Other services	338	301	5.5	4.9
Agriculture and related private wage and salary workers	98	88	6.2	6.4
Government workers	556	568	2.7	2.7
Self employed and unpaid family workers	287	362	2.6	3.3

[1] Persons with no previous work experience are included in the unemployed total.
NOTE: Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-12. Alternative measures of labor underutilization

(Percent)

Measure	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004
U-1 Persons unemployed 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force	2.2	1.8	1.9	2.4	2.1	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.0
U-2 Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force	3.1	2.6	2.5	3.4	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7
U-3 Total unemployed, as a percent of the civilian labor force (official unemployment rate)	5.8	5.4	5.1	6.1	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4
U-4 Total unemployed plus discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers	6.0	5.7	5.4	6.4	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.7
U-5 Total unemployed, plus discouraged workers, plus all other marginally attached workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers	6.8	6.4	6.1	7.1	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.4
U-6 Total unemployed, plus all marginally attached workers, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers	9.8	9.3	8.9	10.4	9.7	9.6	9.5	9.5	9.4

NOTE: Marginally attached workers are persons who currently are neither working nor looking for work but indicate that they want and are available for a job and have looked for work sometime in the recent past. Discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached, have given a job-market related reason for not currently looking for a job. Persons employed part time for economic reasons are those who want and are available for full-time work but have had to settle for a part-time schedule. For further information, see "BLS introduces new range of alternative unemployment measures," in the October 1995 issue of the *Monthly Labor Review*. Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-13. Persons not in the labor force and multiple jobholders by sex, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Total		Men		Women	
	Sept. 2003	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	Sept. 2004
NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE						
Total not in the labor force	75,612	76,755	28,528	29,176	47,084	47,579
Persons who currently want a job	4,637	4,720	2,019	2,062	2,619	2,658
Searched for work and available to work now [1]	1,544	1,561	738	848	805	713
Reason not currently looking:						
Discouragement over job prospects [2]	388	412	234	264	154	148
Reasons other than discouragement [3]	1,156	1,148	504	583	651	565
MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS						
Total multiple jobholders [4]	7,160	7,672	3,598	3,979	3,562	3,692
Percent of total employed	5.2	5.5	4.9	5.3	5.6	5.7
Primary job full time, secondary job part time	3,673	4,007	2,066	2,292	1,607	1,715
Primary and secondary jobs both part time	1,651	1,618	482	501	1,169	1,117
Primary and secondary jobs both full time	268	290	189	193	79	97
Hours vary on primary or secondary job	1,539	1,713	839	971	700	742

[1] Data refer to persons who have searched for work during the prior 12 months and were available to take a job during the reference week.

[2] Includes thinks no work available, could not find work, lacks schooling or training, employer thinks too young or old, and other types of discrimination.

[3] Includes those who did not actively look for work in the prior 4 weeks for such reasons as school or family responsibilities, ill health, and transportation problems, as well as a small number for which reason for nonparticipation was not determined.

[4] Includes persons who work part time on their primary job and full time on their secondary job(s), not shown separately.

NOTE: Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Sept. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004p	Sept. 2004p	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004p	Sept. 2004p	Change from: Aug. 2004-Sept. 2004p
Total nonfarm	130,135	131,173	131,212	131,916	129,856	131,162	131,258	131,343	131,471	131,567	96
Total private	108,820	110,769	110,803	110,463	108,317	109,618	109,730	109,771	109,867	109,926	59
Goods-producing	22,014	22,273	22,344	22,228	21,697	21,894	21,891	21,906	21,921	21,908	-13
Natural resources and mining	579	602	604	604	568	589	587	592	592	593	1
Logging	70.9	66.8	67.5	68.4	67.4	65.6	64.5	64.5	64.7	65.1	.4
Mining	507.6	535.1	536.6	536.0	500.8	523.2	522.7	527.5	527.3	528.3	1.0
Oil and gas extraction	123.9	134.1	134.1	133.8	123.6	132.3	132.0	132.2	133.0	133.7	.7
Mining, except oil and gas[1]	206.0	216.2	215.4	213.9	201.6	207.8	207.9	211.2	209.4	209.3	-.1
Coal mining	69.3	75.1	75.5	75.1	69.2	72.9	73.5	75.0	74.6	74.7	.1
Support activities for mining	177.7	184.8	187.1	188.3	175.6	183.1	182.8	184.1	184.9	185.3	.4
Construction	6,994	7,237	7,246	7,178	6,754	6,909	6,911	6,916	6,927	6,931	4
Construction of buildings	1,615.9	1,688.9	1,685.2	1,681.9	1,577.7	1,622.9	1,625.9	1,629.7	1,633.9	1,641.8	7.9
Heavy and civil engineering construction	985.8	987.0	995.2	986.3	915.2	924.3	920.9	920.2	920.6	918.1	-2.5
Specialty trade contractors	4,392.2	4,560.9	4,565.4	4,509.6	4,260.9	4,362.2	4,364.6	4,365.6	4,372.6	4,370.6	-2.0
Manufacturing	14,441	14,434	14,494	14,446	14,375	14,396	14,393	14,398	14,402	14,384	-18
Production workers	10,137	10,158	10,228	10,193	10,077	10,123	10,128	10,141	10,157	10,136	-21
Durable goods	8,886	8,957	9,013	8,982	8,867	8,946	8,955	8,955	8,982	8,972	-10
Production workers	6,094	6,157	6,213	6,189	6,077	6,152	6,164	6,167	6,191	6,174	-17
Wood products	538.2	552.8	554.8	548.9	531.8	543.0	543.8	544.1	544.6	543.6	-1.0
Nonmetallic mineral products	498.5	512.8	513.2	511.0	488.0	501.4	501.7	502.6	502.0	502.0	.0
Primary metals	468.6	465.6	465.6	464.9	466.3	464.0	465.4	467.0	465.1	463.9	-1.2
Fabricated metal products	1,462.5	1,502.9	1,507.0	1,506.7	1,461.1	1,494.5	1,497.6	1,501.3	1,505.1	1,507.3	2.2
Machinery	1,135.4	1,159.3	1,161.0	1,157.5	1,139.4	1,153.3	1,156.7	1,160.4	1,162.7	1,160.1	-2.6
Computer and electronic products[1]	1,335.8	1,356.3	1,355.0	1,349.0	1,339.2	1,345.8	1,346.2	1,351.9	1,352.8	1,351.1	-1.7
Computer and peripheral equipment	220.5	217.4	217.6	217.5	221.9	218.8	217.7	217.2	218.2	217.9	-.3
Communications equipment	153.0	158.8	159.3	157.9	154.1	155.9	157.1	158.2	158.6	157.9	-.7
Semiconductors and electronic components	452.2	462.4	461.2	458.7	453.3	455.8	458.0	460.7	460.2	460.0	-.2
Electronic instruments	424.9	434.6	433.8	432.0	425.2	430.1	429.8	432.4	432.5	432.5	.0
Electrical equipment and appliances	452.9	450.8	448.7	449.1	452.1	447.3	448.6	449.2	449.4	449.3	-.1
Transportation equipment	1,767.6	1,718.1	1,776.1	1,769.3	1,765.6	1,764.4	1,765.1	1,745.9	1,771.9	1,767.6	-4.3
Furniture and related products	569.1	580.8	578.2	572.1	568.0	577.6	575.0	576.7	574.2	572.8	-1.4
Miscellaneous manufacturing	656.9	657.6	653.7	653.8	655.9	654.4	654.6	655.5	654.0	654.4	.4
Nondurable goods	5,555	5,477	5,481	5,464	5,508	5,450	5,438	5,443	5,420	5,412	-8
Production workers	4,043	4,001	4,015	4,004	4,000	3,971	3,964	3,974	3,966	3,962	-4
Food manufacturing	1,560.4	1,528.0	1,533.5	1,526.4	1,526.0	1,507.0	1,502.8	1,508.0	1,491.6	1,487.0	-4.6
Beverages and tobacco products	204.5	203.4	202.6	205.2	200.2	197.5	197.6	198.4	197.7	200.6	2.9
Textile mills	251.8	235.0	235.6	234.7	250.2	236.1	235.0	235.6	234.8	234.1	-.7
Textile product mills	174.1	181.3	179.6	177.8	173.7	181.4	179.7	179.3	178.8	178.9	.1
Apparel	303.0	281.5	284.3	283.6	299.8	290.8	286.8	284.8	284.5	282.8	-1.7
Leather and allied products	44.2	45.4	44.5	45.1	44.2	45.1	44.7	45.3	44.6	45.0	.4
Paper and paper products	515.1	511.0	511.9	510.4	513.8	508.1	508.7	509.0	510.2	509.2	-1.0
Printing and related support activities	676.6	666.6	665.2	662.9	676.2	665.9	667.0	663.8	662.2	659.6	-2.6
Petroleum and coal products	114.7	116.8	117.1	116.3	112.9	113.1	113.8	113.6	114.2	114.3	.1
Chemicals	899.5	899.0	895.7	890.4	902.7	895.0	895.2	894.2	893.2	892.4	-.8
Plastics and rubber products	810.7	809.1	810.5	811.0	808.4	810.2	808.6	811.2	808.4	808.5	.1
Service-providing	108,121	108,900	108,868	109,688	108,159	109,268	109,367	109,437	109,550	109,659	109
Private service-providing	86,806	88,496	88,459	88,235	86,620	87,724	87,839	87,865	87,946	88,018	72
Trade, transportation, and utilities	25,219	25,497	25,490	25,479	25,252	25,477	25,497	25,499	25,503	25,505	2
Wholesale trade	5,591.7	5,678.9	5,678.5	5,671.2	5,585.1	5,636.7	5,639.5	5,649.6	5,655.4	5,665.0	9.6
Durable goods	2,931.0	3,000.5	3,002.6	2,990.7	2,932.1	2,969.7	2,975.6	2,986.0	2,990.4	2,993.5	3.1
Nondurable goods	2,004.2	2,005.0	2,003.1	2,004.9	1,995.9	1,997.2	1,994.3	1,992.1	1,993.4	1,996.2	2.8
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	656.5	673.4	672.8	675.6	657.1	669.8	669.6	671.5	671.6	675.3	3.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail—Continued

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Sept. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004p	Sept. 2004p	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004p	Sept. 2004p	Change from: Aug. 2004-Sept. 2004p
Retail trade	14,850.8	15,024.0	15,018.7	14,948.6	14,926.8	15,047.6	15,054.9	15,038.1	15,035.9	15,021.0	-14.9
Motor vehicle and parts dealers[1]	1,900.7	1,926.9	1,917.9	1,913.3	1,889.8	1,911.4	1,908.5	1,908.1	1,903.3	1,903.3	.0
Automobile dealers	1,264.8	1,266.6	1,261.6	1,256.5	1,259.7	1,263.6	1,262.3	1,259.2	1,255.5	1,251.6	-3.9
Furniture and home furnishings stores	535.1	539.8	544.7	540.8	539.7	545.7	546.3	546.4	548.0	547.0	-1.0
Electronics and appliance stores	500.4	502.4	500.3	502.6	506.7	512.6	511.5	510.7	509.3	509.5	.2
Building material and garden supply stores	1,202.9	1,281.4	1,269.0	1,249.2	1,203.4	1,248.7	1,245.8	1,246.9	1,249.7	1,252.2	2.5
Food and beverage stores	2,828.7	2,848.1	2,840.7	2,824.6	2,829.4	2,845.3	2,839.7	2,834.5	2,831.8	2,831.0	-.8
Health and personal care stores	940.6	955.5	954.9	952.7	943.1	957.1	957.2	956.7	956.9	957.3	.4
Gasoline stations	882.0	883.0	881.5	875.5	877.9	871.6	870.3	869.9	870.6	872.6	2.0
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	1,273.9	1,348.7	1,362.2	1,332.8	1,295.6	1,335.5	1,346.5	1,349.0	1,355.7	1,349.6	-6.1
Sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores	639.7	613.9	623.6	635.9	642.8	636.1	635.7	635.5	636.3	635.1	-1.2
General merchandise stores[1]	2,795.3	2,776.5	2,777.4	2,769.8	2,839.9	2,830.5	2,837.4	2,825.3	2,820.4	2,809.7	-10.7
Department stores	1,590.2	1,568.8	1,572.9	1,568.2	1,623.7	1,610.9	1,614.9	1,609.9	1,605.1	1,596.5	-8.6
Miscellaneous store retailers	928.1	930.1	927.0	923.1	931.7	925.7	928.4	926.2	925.3	923.2	-2.1
Nonstore retailers	423.4	417.7	419.5	428.3	426.8	427.4	427.6	428.9	428.6	430.5	1.9
Transportation and warehousing	4,198.1	4,206.5	4,208.9	4,275.6	4,160.8	4,209.9	4,220.9	4,228.3	4,229.7	4,234.8	5.1
Air transportation	516.8	516.5	515.2	511.8	511.8	514.7	513.8	512.4	510.6	508.7	-1.9
Rail transportation	216.0	219.1	217.6	219.0	215.6	216.4	217.3	217.8	217.4	217.8	.4
Water transportation	52.9	54.7	53.2	51.8	51.5	51.1	51.7	51.7	50.5	50.3	-.2
Truck transportation	1,347.2	1,381.2	1,386.4	1,386.1	1,328.7	1,353.9	1,359.5	1,361.9	1,363.0	1,366.7	3.7
Transit and ground passenger transportation	391.3	315.7	315.8	387.6	380.7	381.5	374.6	374.2	374.9	376.4	1.5
Pipeline transportation	39.1	39.2	38.9	38.4	39.3	38.3	38.4	38.5	38.5	38.5	.0
Scenic and sightseeing transportation	33.0	40.9	41.9	38.5	28.9	30.6	32.6	32.6	32.8	33.1	.3
Support activities for transportation	517.0	528.1	529.3	529.9	515.4	519.5	520.8	523.7	524.8	526.3	1.5
Couriers and messengers	561.5	576.8	573.7	574.8	566.5	572.8	578.2	579.2	580.2	580.6	.4
Warehousing and storage	523.3	534.3	536.9	537.7	522.4	531.1	534.0	536.3	537.0	536.4	-.6
Utilities	578.6	587.3	584.2	583.4	578.9	582.3	581.7	582.6	581.7	583.7	2.0
Information	3,164	3,202	3,178	3,138	3,175	3,177	3,182	3,173	3,162	3,150	-12
Publishing industries, except Internet	917.1	917.3	916.2	913.7	919.3	916.2	916.6	914.7	914.5	914.4	-.1
Motion picture and sound recording industries	369.6	411.1	394.8	369.0	375.4	390.8	394.9	391.0	385.0	380.4	-4.6
Broadcasting, except Internet	328.0	335.7	336.5	339.1	327.6	335.4	335.5	336.4	336.9	338.4	1.5
Internet publishing and broadcasting	30.3	34.2	34.4	34.5	30.1	32.9	33.6	33.6	34.0	34.3	.3
Telecommunications	1,068.5	1,045.8	1,041.3	1,030.0	1,069.4	1,047.3	1,044.8	1,042.3	1,037.9	1,028.7	-9.2
ISPs, search portals, and data processing	402.8	407.7	404.1	402.5	405.4	405.1	406.5	404.9	403.6	403.4	-.2
Other information services	47.6	49.7	50.5	49.6	48.0	49.6	50.0	49.8	50.2	50.0	-.2
Financial activities	7,996	8,111	8,124	8,096	8,004	8,029	8,049	8,044	8,063	8,089	26
Finance and insurance	5,927.8	5,983.0	5,982.5	5,965.6	5,945.6	5,946.0	5,960.4	5,951.9	5,960.0	5,971.1	11.1
Monetary authorities - central bank	22.5	21.9	21.9	21.9	22.6	21.8	21.9	21.8	21.9	21.9	.0
Credit intermediation and related activities[1]	2,796.8	2,822.0	2,820.2	2,807.3	2,808.1	2,800.8	2,809.9	2,804.1	2,805.0	2,810.9	5.9
Depository credit intermediation[1]	1,751.7	1,780.0	1,775.7	1,765.7	1,757.9	1,765.2	1,768.8	1,766.9	1,766.2	1,769.5	3.3
Commercial banking	1,278.6	1,293.8	1,289.8	1,282.8	1,283.6	1,284.2	1,285.9	1,284.0	1,282.0	1,285.0	3.0
Securities, commodity contracts, investments	762.2	795.4	795.5	793.6	761.7	782.8	787.2	787.8	790.6	792.7	2.1
Insurance carriers and related activities	2,265.2	2,265.0	2,266.7	2,265.2	2,271.9	2,262.7	2,263.8	2,260.2	2,264.6	2,267.9	3.3
Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles	81.1	78.7	78.2	77.6	81.3	77.9	77.6	78.0	77.9	77.7	-.2
Real estate and rental and leasing	2,068.0	2,127.6	2,141.0	2,130.1	2,057.9	2,083.1	2,088.1	2,092.0	2,103.3	2,118.3	15.0
Real estate	1,394.7	1,446.5	1,448.1	1,440.0	1,388.8	1,418.7	1,418.8	1,422.1	1,425.6	1,433.5	7.9
Rental and leasing services	643.9	652.3	663.9	661.8	639.8	635.4	640.5	641.4	649.2	656.6	7.4
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets	29.4	28.8	29.0	28.3	29.3	29.0	28.8	28.5	28.5	28.2	-.3
Professional and business services	16,210	16,643	16,710	16,691	16,051	16,432	16,457	16,490	16,505	16,539	34
Professional and technical services[1]	6,540.9	6,738.1	6,738.2	6,722.6	6,606.3	6,708.1	6,732.6	6,739.9	6,758.8	6,783.0	24.2
Legal services	1,129.5	1,163.8	1,150.8	1,145.6	1,136.6	1,143.3	1,146.3	1,148.2	1,147.3	1,150.1	2.8
Accounting and bookkeeping services	743.7	754.7	753.1	752.1	802.5	806.3	811.6	811.9	813.7	814.9	1.2
Architectural and engineering services	1,235.3	1,287.5	1,288.9	1,278.9	1,230.1	1,258.3	1,261.9	1,264.4	1,267.6	1,272.3	4.7
Computer systems design and related services	1,096.6	1,119.1	1,130.9	1,133.0	1,103.3	1,110.1	1,117.7	1,120.5	1,129.1	1,136.0	6.9
Management and technical consulting services	749.0	799.5	800.6	798.5	749.3	785.9	791.4	792.2	794.9	796.5	1.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail—Continued

(in thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Sept. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004p	Sept. 2004p	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004p	Sept. 2004p	Change from: Aug. 2004-Sept. 2004p
Professional and business services--Continued											
Management of companies and enterprises	1,678.5	1,701.5	1,691.5	1,676.1	1,671.7	1,683.3	1,684.5	1,685.9	1,679.3	1,668.8	-10.5
Administrative and waste services	7,990.4	8,203.6	8,280.3	8,292.7	7,773.1	8,040.1	8,040.0	8,084.3	8,067.3	8,086.9	19.6
Administrative and support services[1]	7,664.8	7,871.0	7,948.3	7,963.5	7,451.6	7,715.6	7,713.0	7,738.1	7,741.1	7,761.4	20.3
Employment services[1]	3,551.9	3,631.8	3,719.1	3,772.8	3,389.1	3,591.5	3,573.4	3,606.8	3,605.6	3,640.3	34.7
Temporary help services	2,413.5	2,481.4	2,563.3	2,610.5	2,287.2	2,451.7	2,449.4	2,460.2	2,472.8	2,505.8	33.0
Business support services	745.5	746.7	744.5	740.2	753.2	751.2	754.0	749.9	749.4	744.4	-5.0
Services to buildings and dwellings	1,700.8	1,794.3	1,781.9	1,754.1	1,645.2	1,686.0	1,694.1	1,691.5	1,692.3	1,690.0	-2.3
Waste management and remediation services	325.6	332.6	332.0	329.2	321.5	324.5	327.0	326.2	326.2	325.5	-.7
Education and health services	16,528	16,619	16,598	16,871	16,622	16,871	16,897	16,901	16,942	16,950	8
Educational services	2,631.3	2,431.9	2,400.7	2,673.1	2,689.1	2,731.1	2,727.4	2,731.2	2,732.7	2,737.0	4.3
Health care and social assistance	13,897.1	14,186.6	14,197.2	14,197.5	13,933.3	14,140.1	14,169.8	14,169.3	14,209.4	14,213.3	3.9
Ambulatory health care services[1]	4,787.6	4,931.9	4,940.1	4,927.7	4,792.8	4,896.8	4,909.6	4,920.8	4,930.9	4,935.3	4.4
Offices of physicians	2,006.7	2,060.4	2,064.6	2,066.1	2,008.2	2,049.6	2,053.9	2,057.5	2,060.0	2,068.4	8.4
Outpatient care centers	420.7	438.5	438.7	437.2	422.9	435.1	436.0	437.6	438.5	438.8	.3
Home health care services	733.3	758.2	760.2	757.7	732.8	751.7	754.2	756.8	758.7	757.8	-.9
Hospitals	4,261.6	4,336.9	4,338.3	4,327.6	4,264.4	4,315.4	4,318.3	4,322.0	4,330.4	4,330.4	.0
Nursing and residential care facilities[1]	2,783.4	2,818.3	2,819.8	2,814.7	2,789.3	2,806.3	2,809.0	2,812.0	2,815.0	2,818.8	3.8
Nursing care facilities	1,582.2	1,589.7	1,590.4	1,589.4	1,583.1	1,585.3	1,586.5	1,586.7	1,587.4	1,588.2	.8
Social assistance[1]	2,064.5	2,099.5	2,099.0	2,127.5	2,066.8	2,121.6	2,132.9	2,114.5	2,133.1	2,128.8	-4.3
Child day care services	760.6	741.4	750.7	779.2	765.8	777.1	786.0	762.1	787.3	773.1	-14.2
Leisure and hospitality	12,315	12,949	12,904	12,557	12,126	12,331	12,339	12,344	12,352	12,365	13
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	1,848.6	2,076.1	2,030.0	1,868.8	1,794.4	1,793.1	1,792.0	1,791.9	1,791.8	1,804.2	12.4
Performing arts and spectator sports	381.0	380.1	377.3	374.8	372.0	358.8	359.3	357.1	354.7	362.7	8.0
Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks	113.9	128.0	126.5	116.6	113.4	115.6	116.1	116.6	116.9	116.6	-.3
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	1,353.7	1,568.0	1,526.2	1,377.4	1,309.0	1,318.7	1,316.6	1,318.2	1,320.2	1,324.9	4.7
Accommodations and food services	10,466.8	10,873.0	10,874.1	10,687.8	10,331.7	10,537.9	10,546.7	10,551.7	10,559.9	10,560.7	.8
Accommodations	1,784.3	1,907.2	1,904.0	1,805.2	1,739.1	1,758.5	1,764.7	1,764.4	1,768.2	1,766.0	-2.2
Food services and drinking places	8,682.3	8,965.8	8,970.1	8,882.6	8,592.6	8,779.4	8,782.0	8,787.3	8,791.7	8,794.7	3.0
Other services	5,374	5,475	5,455	5,403	5,390	5,407	5,418	5,414	5,419	5,420	1
Repair and maintenance	1,241.1	1,244.2	1,237.9	1,235.5	1,240.4	1,237.7	1,235.1	1,236.3	1,234.3	1,235.2	.9
Personal and laundry services	1,254.9	1,270.1	1,268.7	1,256.6	1,252.7	1,265.5	1,268.4	1,262.1	1,262.1	1,257.0	-5.1
Membership associations and organizations	2,877.9	2,960.7	2,948.2	2,910.7	2,896.5	2,903.7	2,914.9	2,915.9	2,923.0	2,927.4	4.4
Government	21,315	20,404	20,409	21,453	21,539	21,544	21,528	21,572	21,604	21,641	37
Federal	2,747	2,731	2,726	2,718	2,747	2,712	2,716	2,710	2,713	2,713	0
Federal, except U.S. Postal Service	1,945.9	1,948.0	1,943.8	1,936.4	1,942.1	1,925.7	1,930.5	1,922.5	1,928.2	1,929.1	.9
U.S. Postal Service	801.4	783.2	782.0	782.0	804.8	786.5	785.4	787.2	784.9	783.5	-1.4
State government	4,986	4,750	4,754	5,023	5,019	5,004	5,004	5,019	5,027	5,040	13
State government education	2,245.3	1,971.4	1,979.6	2,262.8	2,278.8	2,261.4	2,257.8	2,271.1	2,274.1	2,284.0	9.9
State government, excluding education	2,740.2	2,778.9	2,774.5	2,760.0	2,740.4	2,742.8	2,746.1	2,747.8	2,752.9	2,756.3	3.4
Local government	13,582	12,923	12,929	13,712	13,773	13,828	13,808	13,843	13,864	13,888	24
Local government education	7,498.5	6,590.7	6,651.9	7,601.2	7,673.9	7,710.2	7,695.1	7,725.7	7,741.2	7,755.2	14.0
Local government, excluding education	6,083.8	6,332.7	6,276.8	6,110.4	6,099.3	6,117.9	6,113.3	6,116.8	6,122.8	6,133.1	10.3

[1] Includes other industries, not shown separately.

p= preliminary.

Table B-2. Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Sept. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004p	Sept. 2004p	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004p	Sept. 2004p	Change from: Aug. 2004-Sept. 2004p
Total private	33.7	33.9	34.2	33.6	33.6	33.8	33.6	33.8	33.8	33.8	0.0
Goods-producing	40.3	40.0	40.4	39.6	39.8	40.3	40.0	40.1	40.1	40.1	.0
Natural resources and mining	44.1	44.4	44.8	44.1	43.6	44.2	43.9	44.1	44.3	44.3	.0
Construction	39.2	39.2	39.1	37.5	38.4	38.3	38.1	38.4	38.1	38.3	.2
Manufacturing	40.8	40.3	40.8	40.5	40.4	41.1	40.8	40.8	40.9	40.8	-.1
Overtime hours	4.5	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.2	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	.0
Durable goods	41.2	40.6	41.3	40.9	40.8	41.6	41.2	41.3	41.3	41.2	-.1
Overtime hours	4.6	4.4	4.7	4.6	4.3	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	.0
Wood products	41.0	40.8	41.3	39.7	40.4	41.4	40.5	40.7	40.8	40.5	-.3
Nonmetallic mineral products	42.7	42.4	43.1	42.9	41.9	42.0	41.8	42.1	42.4	42.4	.0
Primary metals	42.5	42.4	43.0	42.8	42.2	43.4	43.5	43.3	43.3	43.2	-.1
Fabricated metal products	40.9	40.7	41.1	40.8	40.7	41.3	41.0	41.2	41.2	41.3	.1
Machinery	41.0	41.5	41.6	41.5	41.0	42.3	42.0	42.0	42.0	42.2	.2
Computer and electronic products	40.8	40.3	40.2	40.2	40.6	40.8	40.5	40.9	40.4	40.5	.1
Electrical equipment and appliances	40.6	40.3	40.8	40.0	40.6	41.6	40.8	40.8	40.9	40.5	-.4
Transportation equipment	42.6	40.5	42.3	42.1	42.0	42.8	42.3	42.4	42.5	42.3	-.2
Furniture and related products	39.6	39.3	39.8	38.6	39.1	40.0	39.7	39.4	39.5	39.3	-.2
Miscellaneous manufacturing	38.4	38.0	38.4	37.7	38.3	38.9	38.4	38.5	38.5	38.2	-.3
Nondurable goods	40.3	39.8	40.2	40.1	39.8	40.3	40.1	40.1	40.2	40.1	-.1
Overtime hours	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.8	4.1	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	.0
Food manufacturing	40.1	39.3	39.5	39.7	39.3	39.6	39.4	39.3	39.3	39.4	.1
Beverages and tobacco products	39.9	39.4	40.1	40.4	39.1	39.2	38.7	39.2	39.7	39.8	.1
Textile mills	39.4	39.9	40.5	39.7	39.0	40.3	40.3	40.5	40.5	40.2	-.3
Textile product mills	40.8	37.9	38.7	38.4	40.7	38.8	38.9	38.5	38.7	38.8	.1
Apparel	35.0	35.8	36.3	35.4	35.1	36.1	35.9	36.1	36.3	36.4	.1
Leather and allied products	38.3	36.2	37.8	37.0	38.4	38.4	38.0	37.3	37.8	37.7	-.1
Paper and paper products	41.7	41.9	42.3	42.2	41.2	42.6	42.0	42.4	42.6	42.2	-.4
Printing and related support activities	38.8	38.2	38.5	38.5	38.2	38.6	38.5	38.6	38.5	38.4	-.1
Petroleum and coal products	44.6	46.0	45.6	46.0	44.2	45.0	45.0	45.0	46.3	46.2	-.1
Chemicals	42.5	42.2	42.7	42.7	42.2	42.9	42.6	42.8	42.9	42.9	.0
Plastics and rubber products	40.8	39.7	40.2	40.0	40.5	40.9	40.8	40.5	40.5	40.2	-.3
Private service-providing	32.2	32.5	32.9	32.3	32.3	32.4	32.3	32.4	32.4	32.5	.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	33.7	33.8	34.0	33.6	33.5	33.5	33.3	33.4	33.5	33.6	.1
Wholesale trade	37.8	37.7	38.1	37.6	37.8	37.8	37.6	37.8	37.7	37.8	.1
Retail trade	31.0	31.2	31.3	30.9	30.9	30.7	30.5	30.6	30.7	30.9	.2
Transportation and warehousing	37.2	37.2	37.7	36.7	36.9	37.3	36.9	37.1	37.0	37.0	.0
Utilities	40.8	40.6	40.7	41.3	40.4	41.3	41.1	41.0	41.0	41.2	.2
Information	36.1	36.3	36.9	36.4	36.1	36.4	36.5	36.4	36.5	36.4	-.1
Financial activities	35.2	35.4	36.1	35.2	35.4	35.8	35.5	35.6	35.5	35.5	.0
Professional and business services	33.8	34.1	34.6	34.0	33.9	34.2	33.9	34.2	34.2	34.5	.3
Education and health services	32.2	32.6	32.8	32.5	32.3	32.5	32.5	32.6	32.6	32.6	.0
Leisure and hospitality	25.3	26.3	26.6	25.3	25.5	25.7	25.7	25.6	25.6	25.6	.0
Other services	31.2	31.2	31.4	30.9	31.2	31.2	31.0	31.1	31.1	31.1	.0

[1] Data relate to production workers in natural resources and mining and manufacturing, construction workers in construction, and nonsupervisory workers in the service-providing industries. These groups account for approximately four-fifths of the total employment on private nonfarm payrolls.

p = preliminary.

Table B-3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

Industry	Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	Sept. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004[p]	Sept. 2004[p]	Sept. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004[p]	Sept. 2004[p]
Total private	$15.44	$15.59	$15.67	$15.80	$520.33	$528.50	$535.91	$530.88
Seasonally adjusted	15.41	15.71	15.75	15.78	517.78	531.00	532.35	533.36
Goods-producing	17.01	17.18	17.29	17.41	685.50	687.20	698.52	689.44
Natural resources and mining	17.69	18.07	18.09	18.15	780.13	802.31	810.43	800.42
Construction	19.19	19.25	19.33	19.41	752.25	754.60	755.80	727.88
Manufacturing	15.87	16.04	16.18	16.37	647.50	646.41	660.14	662.99
Durable goods	16.62	16.61	16.85	17.06	684.74	674.37	695.91	697.75
Wood products	12.83	13.03	13.00	13.13	526.03	531.62	536.90	521.26
Nonmetallic mineral products	15.84	16.38	16.26	16.53	676.37	694.51	700.81	709.14
Primary metals	18.30	18.66	18.59	19.00	777.75	791.18	799.37	813.20
Fabricated metal products	15.09	15.26	15.26	15.46	617.18	621.08	627.19	630.77
Machinery	16.40	16.68	16.72	16.80	672.40	692.22	695.55	697.20
Computer and electronic products	16.77	17.29	17.37	17.38	684.22	696.79	698.27	698.68
Electrical equipment and appliances	14.49	14.88	14.97	15.06	588.29	599.66	610.78	602.40
Transportation equipment	21.56	20.77	21.56	21.89	918.46	841.19	911.99	921.57
Furniture and related products	13.10	13.11	13.27	13.41	518.76	515.22	528.15	517.63
Miscellaneous manufacturing	13.42	13.89	13.86	13.95	515.33	527.82	532.22	525.92
Nondurable goods	14.73	15.14	15.10	15.29	593.62	602.57	607.02	613.13
Food manufacturing	12.90	13.05	12.98	13.17	517.29	512.87	512.71	522.85
Beverages and tobacco products	17.73	19.29	19.12	19.03	707.43	760.03	766.71	768.81
Textile mills	12.07	12.07	12.09	12.20	475.56	481.59	489.65	484.34
Textile product mills	11.47	11.48	11.46	11.58	467.98	435.09	443.50	444.67
Apparel	9.77	9.74	9.72	9.83	341.95	348.69	352.84	347.98
Leather and allied products	11.63	11.68	11.67	11.61	445.43	422.82	441.13	429.57
Paper and paper products	17.41	17.91	17.84	18.19	726.00	750.43	754.63	767.62
Printing and related support activities	15.46	15.71	15.86	15.91	599.85	600.12	610.61	612.54
Petroleum and coal products	23.45	24.35	24.03	24.42	1,045.87	1,120.10	1,095.77	1,123.32
Chemicals	18.66	19.36	19.30	19.55	793.05	816.99	824.11	834.79
Plastics and rubber products	14.30	14.69	14.69	14.82	583.44	583.19	590.54	592.80
Private service-providing	15.00	15.17	15.24	15.36	483.00	493.03	501.40	496.13
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.42	14.62	14.66	14.77	485.95	494.16	498.44	496.27
Wholesale trade	17.41	17.66	17.68	17.66	658.10	665.78	673.61	664.02
Retail trade	11.99	12.07	12.08	12.20	371.69	376.58	378.10	376.98
Transportation and warehousing	16.31	16.86	16.97	17.06	606.73	627.19	639.77	626.10
Utilities	25.15	25.43	25.33	25.92	1,026.12	1,032.46	1,030.93	1,070.50
Information	21.35	21.30	21.46	21.78	770.74	773.19	791.87	792.79
Financial activities	17.27	17.44	17.58	17.62	607.90	617.38	634.64	620.22
Professional and business services	17.11	17.31	17.48	17.43	578.32	590.27	604.81	592.62
Education and health services	15.71	16.18	16.15	16.24	505.86	527.47	529.72	527.80
Leisure and hospitality	8.78	8.78	8.80	8.91	222.13	230.91	234.08	225.42
Other services	13.82	13.78	13.85	13.99	431.18	429.94	434.89	432.29

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.

[p] = preliminary.

Table B-4. Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail, seasonally adjusted

Industry	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004p	Sept. 2004p	Percent change from: Aug. 2004-Sept. 2004p
Total private:							
Current dollars	$15.41	$15.63	$15.66	$15.71	$15.75	$15.78	0.2
Constant (1982) dollars [2]	8.25	8.21	8.20	8.23	8.25	N.A.	([3])
Goods-producing	16.91	17.13	17.16	17.19	17.25	17.31	.3
Natural resources and mining	17.66	18.10	18.24	18.15	18.18	18.19	.1
Construction	19.05	19.20	19.19	19.22	19.24	19.26	.1
Manufacturing	15.84	16.08	16.13	16.16	16.25	16.31	.4
Excluding overtime [4]	15.06	15.23	15.27	15.30	15.38	15.44	.4
Durable goods	16.57	16.75	16.78	16.81	16.91	16.97	.4
Nondurable goods	14.70	15.02	15.08	15.12	15.18	15.25	.5
Private service-providing	15.01	15.23	15.26	15.31	15.35	15.37	.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.38	14.61	14.65	14.70	14.72	14.73	.1
Wholesale trade	17.44	17.63	17.67	17.71	17.68	17.69	.1
Retail trade	11.94	12.06	12.10	12.12	12.15	12.15	.0
Transportation and warehousing	16.31	16.75	16.82	16.89	16.98	17.03	.3
Utilities	24.96	25.46	25.44	25.57	25.54	25.74	.8
Information	21.21	21.42	21.30	21.45	21.57	21.68	.5
Financial activities	17.27	17.49	17.50	17.55	17.56	17.62	.3
Professional and business services	17.19	17.36	17.42	17.44	17.56	17.51	-.3
Education and health services	15.70	16.06	16.12	16.18	16.19	16.23	.2
Leisure and hospitality	8.78	8.86	8.85	8.87	8.89	8.91	.2
Other services	13.81	13.85	13.88	13.90	13.92	13.97	.4

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.
[2] The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) is used to deflate this series.
[3] Change was 0.2 percent from July 2004 to Aug. 2004, the latest month available.
[4] Derived by assuming that overtime hours are paid at the rate of time and one-half.
N.A. = not available.
p = preliminary.

Table B-5. Indexes of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

(2002=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Sept. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004[p]	Sept. 2004[p]	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004[p]	Sept. 2004[p]	Percent change from: Aug. 2004-Sept. 2004[p]
Total private	99.1	101.8	102.8	100.7	98.3	100.2	99.7	100.5	100.6	100.7	0.1
Goods-producing	98.1	98.8	100.4	97.8	95.0	97.4	96.7	97.1	97.3	97.2	-.1
Natural resources and mining	99.1	105.7	107.6	106.4	96.2	102.9	101.7	102.9	104.1	104.5	.4
Construction	105.3	109.2	109.2	103.5	98.6	100.6	100.2	101.2	100.7	101.3	.6
Manufacturing	94.9	94.0	95.8	94.7	93.4	95.5	94.8	95.0	95.3	94.9	-.4
Durable goods	94.3	93.9	96.4	95.1	93.2	96.2	95.4	95.7	96.1	95.6	-.5
Wood products	99.0	102.3	103.7	98.6	96.3	101.5	99.7	100.2	100.5	99.5	-1.0
Nonmetallic mineral products	96.7	100.2	102.0	101.2	92.3	96.5	96.1	97.1	97.7	97.8	.1
Primary metals	91.9	91.3	92.7	92.2	90.7	93.4	94.1	93.6	93.3	92.8	-.5
Fabricated metal products	94.7	97.2	98.3	97.6	94.1	98.3	97.5	98.3	98.5	98.9	.4
Machinery	92.8	96.6	96.9	96.3	93.2	97.9	97.5	98.3	98.3	98.1	-.2
Computer and electronic products	91.3	92.2	92.1	91.6	91.2	91.7	91.4	93.4	92.4	92.4	.0
Electrical equipment and appliances	90.3	89.0	89.7	88.1	90.0	90.7	89.4	90.0	90.0	88.9	-1.2
Transportation equipment	96.8	88.9	97.2	96.2	95.3	97.5	96.5	95.3	97.4	96.5	-.9
Furniture and related products	93.9	95.1	95.9	92.0	92.6	96.2	95.2	94.5	94.6	93.8	-.8
Miscellaneous manufacturing	92.2	91.0	91.2	89.5	91.7	92.6	91.4	91.9	91.6	90.9	-.8
Nondurable goods	96.0	93.8	95.1	94.6	93.8	94.2	93.6	93.9	93.9	93.6	-.3
Food manufacturing	103.5	99.6	101.1	101.2	98.8	98.7	98.1	98.2	97.8	97.9	.1
Beverages and tobacco products	92.7	94.9	96.2	99.9	87.1	89.3	89.4	91.5	92.2	94.2	2.2
Textile mills	83.5	77.7	79.2	77.0	81.9	79.2	78.9	79.4	79.0	77.9	-1.4
Textile product mills	93.5	91.3	92.3	90.3	93.2	94.3	92.9	91.9	91.9	92.2	.3
Apparel	77.7	73.3	75.8	73.7	76.7	76.5	74.9	75.0	75.7	75.5	-.3
Leather and allied products	88.7	85.5	86.3	85.4	88.9	90.2	87.8	87.6	86.3	86.3	.0
Paper and paper products	92.6	91.5	92.6	92.2	91.0	92.8	90.9	92.3	92.8	91.7	-1.2
Printing and related support activities	95.9	93.7	94.1	93.4	94.4	94.1	94.2	93.9	93.4	92.8	-.6
Petroleum and coal products	100.0	111.6	111.7	112.6	97.0	103.7	105.3	106.3	110.2	110.6	.4
Chemicals	98.4	98.8	99.9	99.3	98.3	99.6	99.0	99.8	100.3	100.4	.1
Plastics and rubber products	95.6	92.9	94.4	94.1	94.6	95.6	95.4	95.1	94.8	94.1	-.7
Private service-providing	99.2	102.5	103.7	101.5	99.4	101.0	100.9	101.3	101.5	101.9	.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	98.7	100.3	100.9	99.7	98.4	99.2	98.8	99.1	99.5	99.8	.3
Wholesale trade	97.6	99.1	100.3	98.8	97.5	98.3	97.9	98.7	98.7	99.2	.5
Retail trade	98.7	100.7	101.0	99.2	99.1	99.1	98.7	98.9	99.2	99.8	.6
Transportation and warehousing	100.2	100.6	102.0	101.3	98.7	101.1	100.4	101.1	101.0	101.4	.4
Utilities	97.3	97.5	97.0	98.1	96.5	98.5	97.7	97.5	97.2	97.9	.7
Information	96.1	101.3	102.8	100.1	96.8	99.9	100.6	100.6	101.0	100.8	-.2
Financial activities	100.6	102.7	104.9	101.7	101.5	102.3	101.9	102.1	102.2	102.5	.3
Professional and business services	99.2	103.4	105.6	103.6	98.5	102.1	101.4	102.7	102.9	104.2	1.3
Education and health services	100.4	102.1	102.5	103.1	101.4	103.2	103.3	103.8	104.0	103.8	-.2
Leisure and hospitality	100.2	110.0	110.8	102.3	99.4	101.8	101.9	101.6	101.6	101.7	.1
Other services	96.2	98.4	98.8	96.1	96.5	96.8	96.6	96.7	97.0	97.1	.1

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.
[p] = preliminary.
NOTE: The indexes of aggregate weekly hours are calculated by dividing the current month's estimates of aggregate hours by the corresponding 2002 annual average levels. Aggregate hours estimates are the product of estimates of average weekly hours and production or nonsupervisory worker employment.

Table B-6. Indexes of aggregate weekly payrolls of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

(2002=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Sept. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004P	Sept. 2004P	Sept. 2003	May 2004	June 2004	July 2004	Aug. 2004P	Sept. 2004P	Percent change from: Aug. 2004-Sept. 2004P
Total private	102.3	106.2	107.8	106.4	101.4	104.7	104.5	105.6	106.0	106.3	0.3
Goods-producing	102.1	104.0	106.3	104.2	98.4	102.1	101.6	102.2	102.8	103.0	.2
Natural resources and mining	102.0	111.1	113.2	112.3	98.8	108.3	107.9	108.6	110.0	110.6	.5
Construction	109.1	113.5	114.0	108.5	101.4	104.3	103.9	105.1	104.6	105.3	.7
Manufacturing	98.5	98.6	101.3	101.4	96.8	100.4	100.0	100.4	101.3	101.2	-.1
Durable goods	97.9	97.4	101.4	101.3	96.4	100.6	100.0	100.4	101.4	101.3	-.1
Nondurable goods	99.9	100.3	101.4	102.2	97.4	100.0	99.8	100.3	100.7	100.8	.1
Private service-providing	102.2	106.8	108.6	107.1	102.5	105.6	105.7	106.5	107.0	107.6	.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	101.5	104.6	105.5	105.0	100.9	103.4	103.2	103.9	104.5	104.9	.4
Wholesale trade	100.1	103.1	104.5	102.8	100.1	102.1	101.9	103.0	102.8	103.4	.6
Retail trade	101.5	104.2	104.6	103.8	101.4	102.5	102.3	102.7	103.3	103.9	.6
Transportation and warehousing	103.7	107.6	109.8	109.7	102.1	107.4	107.1	108.4	108.8	109.6	.7
Utilities	102.1	103.5	102.6	106.2	100.5	104.7	103.7	104.1	103.6	105.2	1.5
Information	101.6	106.8	109.2	107.9	101.6	105.9	106.1	106.8	107.9	108.2	.3
Financial activities	107.5	110.7	114.0	110.8	108.4	110.6	110.3	110.8	110.9	111.6	.6
Professional and business services	101.0	106.5	109.8	107.5	100.7	105.4	105.1	106.5	107.5	108.6	1.0
Education and health services	103.7	108.6	108.8	110.1	104.6	109.0	109.5	110.4	110.6	110.8	.2
Leisure and hospitality	102.5	112.6	113.7	106.3	101.7	105.1	105.1	105.0	105.3	105.7	.4
Other services	96.8	98.8	99.7	97.9	97.1	97.7	97.7	97.9	98.4	98.8	.4

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.
P = preliminary.
NOTE: The indexes of aggregate weekly payrolls are calculated by dividing the current month's estimates of aggregate payrolls by the corresponding 2002 annual average levels. Aggregate payroll estimates are the product of estimates of average hourly earnings, average weekly hours, and production or nonsupervisory worker employment.

Table B-7. Diffusion indexes of employment change, seasonally adjusted

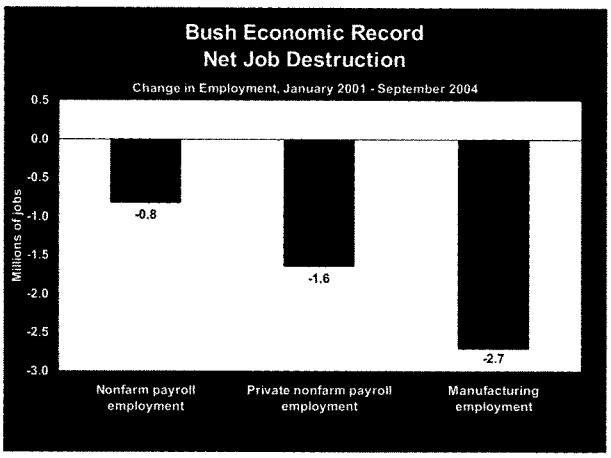
(Percent)

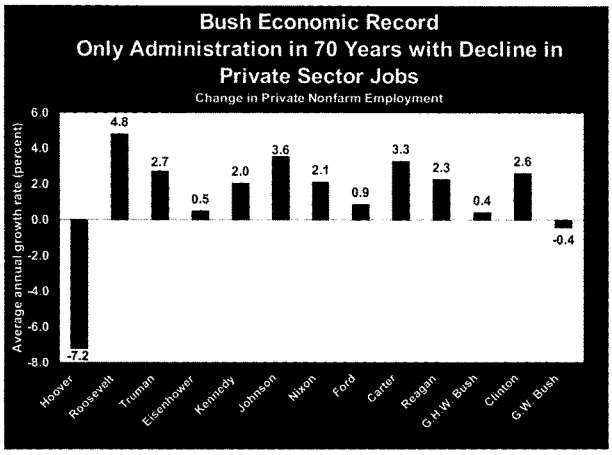
Time Span	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Private nonfarm payrolls, 278 industries [1]											
Over 1-month span:												
2000	61.9	62.9	63.3	59.5	46.9	61.7	63.1	52.5	51.1	53.4	56.8	53.8
2001	52.2	47.8	50.4	34.4	41.4	39.2	37.1	38.8	38.3	32.4	36.7	34.9
2002	40.1	35.1	41.0	41.5	41.7	47.8	44.1	44.1	42.8	39.0	38.7	34.5
2003	41.2	35.1	38.1	41.4	42.8	40.1	40.5	39.7	49.3	46.0	51.1	49.1
2004	52.3	56.1	68.7	67.6	63.8	60.6	55.2	P 56.8	P 56.1			
Over 3-month span:												
2000	69.2	66.2	67.8	68.3	60.1	58.1	56.3	61.5	56.5	53.2	52.9	56.8
2001	52.7	50.4	50.4	43.5	38.8	34.9	36.2	37.9	34.7	35.3	30.8	32.0
2002	34.0	37.4	35.1	36.2	36.7	39.4	39.9	40.8	38.7	37.1	34.4	34.7
2003	36.5	32.6	36.3	35.1	40.5	42.6	37.4	35.4	40.1	45.5	50.5	51.1
2004	54.0	55.2	62.8	70.0	74.5	68.7	64.6	P 57.2	P 61.3			
Over 6-month span:												
2000	67.3	69.1	72.5	72.5	67.4	67.8	66.7	60.8	59.0	55.0	59.7	54.0
2001	51.8	50.0	51.8	47.3	43.5	41.5	38.1	35.4	32.2	33.1	31.5	31.1
2002	29.5	30.0	31.1	31.1	31.7	37.1	37.2	39.0	34.7	36.5	35.3	33.3
2003	33.6	31.1	31.7	31.7	33.5	37.8	36.2	36.5	40.5	39.4	42.6	41.7
2004	48.9	54.1	59.5	64.7	67.8	71.2	68.3	P 70.7	P 65.8			
Over 12-month span:												
2000	70.9	69.2	73.2	71.0	69.8	71.0	70.0	70.3	70.3	65.6	63.8	62.1
2001	59.5	59.5	53.4	49.3	48.6	45.0	43.3	43.9	39.9	37.8	37.1	34.9
2002	33.6	31.7	30.2	30.4	30.2	29.1	32.0	31.3	30.0	29.5	32.9	34.7
2003	34.5	31.5	32.9	33.5	36.2	34.4	34.7	33.1	37.6	37.4	33.1	35.4
2004	37.8	43.2	47.3	50.7	54.9	60.3	64.0	P 63.5	P 65.6			
	Manufacturing payrolls, 84 industries [1]											
Over 1-month span:												
2000	48.2	58.3	50.0	50.0	41.1	57.1	60.7	28.6	25.0	35.1	39.9	41.1
2001	22.6	22.0	21.4	16.1	15.5	23.2	13.7	14.3	19.0	17.9	14.9	10.1
2002	21.4	18.5	23.8	35.1	29.8	32.7	40.5	28.0	31.0	11.9	15.5	17.9
2003	26.2	15.5	22.6	13.7	26.2	25.0	28.0	26.2	27.4	26.8	51.2	45.8
2004	42.9	55.4	60.1	66.1	64.9	52.4	57.1	P 50.6	P 39.9			
Over 3-month span:												
2000	53.6	53.6	56.0	54.8	44.0	44.0	51.2	47.6	32.7	25.0	23.2	38.7
2001	35.7	21.4	16.1	14.3	13.1	13.7	11.9	8.9	8.3	13.1	8.9	10.1
2002	9.5	10.1	11.3	17.9	17.3	19.0	28.0	22.0	23.8	15.5	6.5	4.8
2003	13.7	13.1	16.7	10.1	13.1	14.9	16.1	16.1	16.1	24.4	27.4	41.7
2004	48.8	51.8	59.5	66.1	71.4	65.5	65.5	P 48.8	P 52.4			
Over 6-month span:												
2000	44.0	52.4	55.4	57.7	47.6	51.8	56.0	45.2	39.3	34.5	32.1	27.4
2001	22.0	23.8	22.0	20.8	14.3	13.7	14.3	10.1	10.7	5.4	7.1	4.8
2002	6.5	8.9	7.7	8.3	7.7	14.3	14.9	10.7	12.5	10.1	8.9	8.9
2003	11.3	9.5	6.0	7.1	8.9	13.1	8.9	13.1	13.1	16.7	19.0	19.6
2004	28.6	36.9	46.4	56.5	61.3	54.9	66.7	P 62.5	P 60.1			
Over 12-month span:												
2000	41.7	39.3	47.0	50.0	46.4	52.4	51.8	49.4	46.4	40.5	35.1	33.3
2001	29.8	32.1	20.8	19.0	13.1	12.5	10.7	11.9	11.9	10.1	8.3	6.0
2002	7.1	6.0	6.0	6.5	7.1	3.6	4.8	6.0	4.8	7.1	4.8	8.3
2003	10.7	6.0	6.5	5.4	8.3	9.5	9.5	9.5	10.7	11.9	9.5	11.3
2004	9.5	19.0	16.7	26.2	29.8	40.5	50.0	P 51.2	P 54.2			

[1] Based on seasonally adjusted data for 1-, 3-, and 6-month spans and unadjusted data for the 12-month span.

P= preliminary.

NOTE: Figures are the percent of industries with employment increasing plus one-half of the industries with unchanged employment, where 50 percent indicates an equal balance between industries with increasing and decreasing employment.





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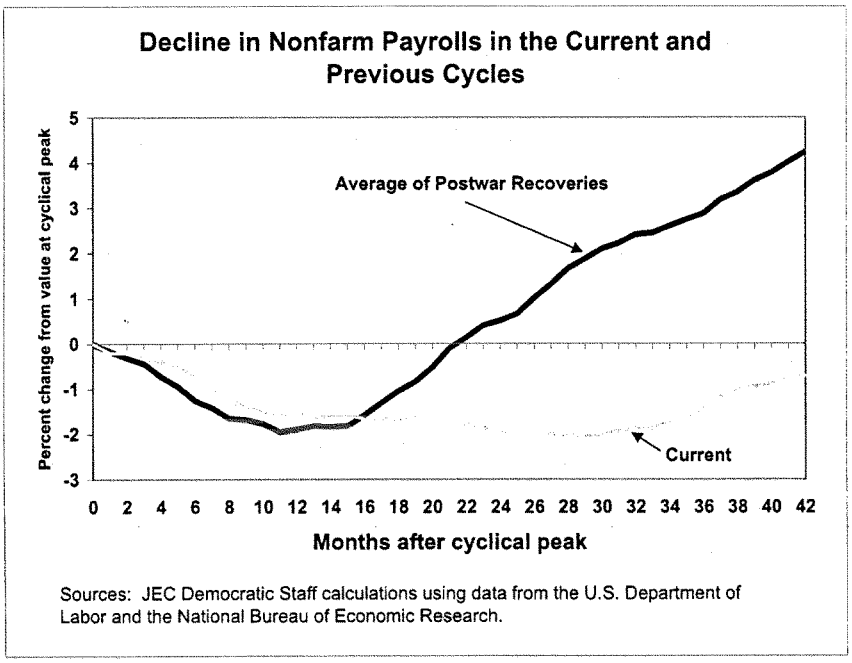

Sources: JEC Democratic Staff calculations using data from the U.S. Department of Labor and the National Bureau of Economic Research.

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