S. HRG. 110–663

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: JULY 2008

HEARING

BEFORE THE

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

AUGUST 1, 2008

Printed for the use of the Joint Economic Committee

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

44–817 WASHINGTON : 2008

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office
Internet: bookstore.gpo.gov Phone: toll free (866) 512–1800; DC area (202) 512–1800
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THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: JULY 2008

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2008

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

The committee met at 9:30 a.m. in Room 562 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, the Honorable Vice Chair Carolyn B. Maloney, presiding.

Senators present: Brownback and Saxton.

Representatives present: Maloney.

Staff present: Christina Baumgardner, Ted Boll, Heather Boushey, Tanya Doriss, Chris Frenze, Nan Gibson, Gretta Goodwin, Colleen Healy, Bob Keleher, Tyler Kurtz, Annabelle Tamerjan, and Jeff Wrase.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY, VICE CHAIR, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM NEW YORK

Vice Chair Maloney. I would like to call the meeting to order and welcome all of the gentlemen who will be testifying today. We will be having a vote, so I will have to adhere to a very tight schedule.

Good morning, and I would like to thank Commissioner Hall for testifying today on the July employment situation. In July the economy shed jobs for the seventh straight month for a total of 463,000 jobs lost so far in 2008, and there we see it.

The unemployment rate rose two-tenths of a percentage point in July to 5.7 percent, a full percentage point higher than a year ago. With these grim statistics, it would be hard not to conclude that the labor market is in a downturn.

Congress is already at work on a second stimulus package which Speaker Pelosi has announced we will take up next month.

We continue to see mounting evidence that a significant downturn in the economy may be underway. Yesterday we learned that the U.S. economy grew by a paltry 1.9 percent in the second quarter of 2008—well below expectations—and that the fourth quarter growth in 2007 was revised to show negative growth of 0.2 percent.

American families are paring back their spending because their real wages are as low now as they were in October 2001, which was when we were in a recession. The chart shows this.

[Chart entitled, "Monthly Change in Nonfarm Payrolls" appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 18.]

[Chart entitled, "Annual Change in Real Earnings" appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 19.]

Gasoline and food prices are skyrocketing. They have severely weakened the buying power of the American consumer. The weak recovery of 2000 has left families especially vulnerable to an economic downturn.

Real family income is about $1000 lower now than it was in 2000, and families have accumulated little in the way of savings. Declining home prices means that many families will be unable to access home equity lines of credit to make ends meet as they did in prior recessions.

For decades families could rely on women's earnings to boost household income during a recession, but wives and mothers may not be able to shelter their families from the economic storm that is hitting now.

Up until the 2000s, during recessions women typically lost very few jobs on net. However, all this changed with the recession of 2001 when women lost jobs on par with men in the industries that were hardest hit.

We for decades have worked for equal pay and equal wages and equal jobs, but where we have achieved equality is in job loss.

The 2000s recovery was also unique as it was the first recovery in the post-World War II period during which women's employment rates did not return to their pre-recession peak.

This is a trend to watch because the only families that are getting ahead are those with a working wife. Families without a working wife have real incomes today that are nearly identical to what they were over 35 years ago.

Congress has already taken numerous steps to help buffer families from the effects of this economic downturn. Most families have received their recovery rebates, and the President has just signed into law our Housing Package aimed at stemming the tide of foreclosures.

But there is more to do to get the economy back on track. Over half of the states are projecting budget shortfalls for fiscal year 2009, and this will lead not only to cutbacks in necessary services but likely higher unemployment for women who disproportionately work in social service agencies, in education, and in state government.

So far this year private employers have shed 651,000 jobs while government has added 188,000 jobs, but government will not likely be able to continue to act as an engine of job growth once budgets are cut.

We need a second stimulus package that includes fiscal aid to the states and funds for infrastructure investment to give our sagging economy a much-needed boost and to promote job creation.

I hope the President will work with us in Congress to get Americans back to work as quickly as possible. Chairman Schumer and I look forward to the continued focus on labor market conditions by this Committee, along with our Ranking Members.

[The prepared statement of Senator Charles E. Schumer appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 14.]

[The prepared statement of Representative Maloney appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 16.]

Vice Chair Maloney. I now will recognize Commissioner Hall.

STATEMENT OF DR. KEITH HALL, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, ACCOMPANIED BY: MR. PHIL RONES, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS; AND DR. JOHN GREENLEES, RESEARCH ECONOMIST, OFFICE OF PRICES AND LIVING CONDITIONS, BUREAU OF LABOR. STATISTICS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Commissioner Hall. Thank you, Madam Chair, Members of the Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the employment and unemployment data that we released this morning.

In July, non-farm payroll employment continued to trend down, dropping 51,000. The unemployment rate rose from 5.5 to 5.7 percent. Thus far in 2008, payroll employment has fallen by 463,000, or an average of 66,000 per month.

In July job losses continued in several industries, including construction, manufacturing, and employment services, particularly in temporary help. Health care and mining continued to add jobs.

Average hourly earnings for production and nonsupervisory workers in the private sector rose by 6 cents, or 0.3 percent, in July. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings rose by 3.4 percent. From June 2007 to June 2008, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers rose by 5.4 percent.

Turning now to some of our measures from the Household Survey, both the number of unemployed persons at 8.8 million and the unemployment rate at 5.7 percent, increased in July.

Over the past 3 months there has been a notable increase in unemployment of youth aged 16 to 24. Each summer, millions of young people move into the labor market. This year the summertime influx of youth into the labor market was about the same as last year. However, fewer young people were able to find jobs.

For the three-month period May through July, the unemployment rate for 16 to 19 year olds averaged 19 percent, compared with an average of 15.7 percent for those same three months last year.

Similarly, the May through July average jobless rate for 20 to 24 year olds was 10.2 percent this year compared with 8.0 percent over the same period last year.

Not all of the increase in unemployment in the last 3 months was among youth since joblessness also rose also among those 25 years and older.

The employment-to-population ratio for all persons 16 years and older was unchanged in July at 62.4 percent, but has declined from 63.0 percent a year earlier.

Among the employed, the number of part-time workers who would prefer to work full time continued to rise in July. The number of such workers has increased by 1.4 million over the past 12 months to 5.7 million.

To summarize July's labor market developments, payroll employment continued to trend down and the unemployment rate rose to 5.7 percent.

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

[The prepared statement of Commissioner Hall appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 20.]

Vice Chair Maloney. Thank you.

Well first of all I would like to get your comment on an article today in The New York Times. The headline says, "More Arrows Seen Pointing To A Recession."

Would you agree with this headline?

Commissioner Hall. I would say that it is generally accepted that a recession is a significant decline in economic activity spread across the economy that lasts for more than a few months.

There is no established rule with respect to say the number of jobs lost, or the number of months of job lost, but it is true that in the last two recessions the National Bureau of Economic Research waited for 8 months of job loss before they declared a recession.

I would like to add though that the severity of a labor market downturn is also an important determination in a recession, and in the last two recessions the job loss was around 1.5 million jobs; and over this last 7 months we have lost about a third of that. So it is not as severe.

Vice Chair Maloney. Yet we have shed jobs for the seventh straight month.

Commissioner Hall. That is correct.

Vice Chair Maloney. And if we continue to shed jobs into the next month, would you then claim it is a recession as this headline says we are pointed towards?

Commissioner Hall. You know, I don't know what—obviously I don't know what—the labor market is going to do in the future. It is important that we have had job loss for so many months in a row. It is important that it has not been as severe. It is still job loss, however.

There is a good reason for sort of labeling something a recession as opposed to a downturn. The last two recessions, for example, lasted only about 8 months. The last recession in particular lasted about 8 months, but it took the labor market 3.5 years to recover. It is a pretty significant thing when you have a recession because it takes so long for the labor market to recover.

Vice Chair Maloney. Can you tell us what the big picture is in employment this month? Did the economy create jobs? And how does this compare to trends in recent jobs?

We saw from today's report that since December 2007 private employers have shed 651,000 jobs, but government has added 188,000 jobs. How many jobs were lost in the private sector last month, and did the government do any hiring last month?

Commissioner Hall. Sure. The unemployment rate increased from 5.5 percent to 5.7 percent in July. To put that in a slightly broader perspective, over the last three months the unemployment rate has averaged 5.6 percent. In the prior three months it averaged 4.9 percent. So this is a significant trend.

The job loss at 51,000 jobs this month brings the total decline this year so far to 463,000 jobs, or 66,000 jobs per year.

The weakness remains in construction, manufacturing, and temporary help services. Wholesale and retail trades have posted steady losses. And after many months of declines, losses in financial activities have slowed a little bit.

But we have had gains in education, health services, government, and mining thus far in 2008.

Private payroll jobs this month declined by 76,000. That is compared to an average so far this year of a loss of 93,000.

Vice Chair Maloney. Okay, did the government do any hiring last month that you're aware of?

Commissioner Hall. Yes. The government added about 25,000 jobs, and that job gain was centered in local government and state government hiring.

Vice Chair Maloney. Okay, given the growing constraints on state and local governments where we are getting reports that they will be facing deficits, what do you think will happen to government employment in the months to come? And what will this mean for the overall labor market?

Commissioner Hall. Obviously if state governments continue to have financial troubles and they do start to shed jobs, this is going to add to the labor market difficulties.

Vice Chair Maloney. I would like to go back to the statement earlier that this is the seventh month of consecutive job loss and ask you specifically: Do consecutive months of job losses mean that the economy is in a recession?

Commissioner Hall. It certainly means that economic growth is not strong enough to support job growth. I hesitate to say just that alone means you are in a recession, because other things are important in that and I think it is sort of important—at least from my view—that sort of a declaration of a recession remains with the private sector at the National Bureau of Economic Research, since they are a private group.

Vice Chair Maloney. Well how many months of job losses do we need to see before we can say that we are in a recession?

Commissioner Hall. The best I can say is that the last two recessions we had eight months of job loss before the recession was declared.

Vice Chair Maloney. And what are some of the other indicators that are part of determining a recession on top of eight consecutive months of job loss?

Commissioner Hall. The NBER cites a number of things. I think the labor market performance is extremely important. It would be the job loss and the magnitude of job loss. They also cite things like industrial production as being important, real income growth as being important.

Vice Chair Maloney. How much of a factor do you think is the housing crisis playing into the economy that we are confronting with seven months of consecutive job loss, and the loss of values in homes so that resident constituents cannot refinance equity lines now because of the loss of value of their homes?

Commissioner Hall. Well it is true that a lot of the job loss is centered in construction and construction-related industries, but the weakness is fairly broad. So it may well be——

Vice Chair Maloney. So it is not particularly the housing market that is forcing this?

Commissioner Hall. No. No, it is not.

Vice Chair Maloney. So when we put all this together, it appears that the employment situation looks rather grim. Would you agree?

Commissioner Hall. I would certainly agree that this is not a strong job market report.

Vice Chair Maloney. And typically in an economic downturn or in a recession how long does it take for employment to recover to its pre-recession peak?

Commissioner Hall. Over the last I think couple of decades the average recovery has been about 20 months, and this last recession it was 39 months.

Vice Chair Maloney. And how long do wages and other compensation take to recover?

Commissioner Hall. Well in terms of the level, typically compensation does not go down much more than a quarter or so before it starts to grow again, but the growth in compensation has gone down all the last few recessions and has never recovered.

Vice Chair Maloney. So based on your analysis of today's report, does it appear that we may be in for a difficult period for the last market in the months to come?

Commissioner Hall. I do not want to speculate too much since we do have the data that's coming out.

Vice Chair Maloney. Well talking about data, one item that was very striking to me was the fact that American families are paring back their spending because their real wages are as low now as they were in October of 2001, which was our last recession correct. So that to me is shocking, that their wages are the same as 2001.

Could you elaborate, please?

Commissioner Hall. Sure. Although there has been some nominal wage growth, the wage growth clearly has not kept up with inflation. In particular, energy and food inflation.

Vice Chair Maloney. Okay.

Commissioner Hall. And to some degree it is the issue of how much is the problem in the labor market, how much of the problem is energy and food inflation, but in a sense it does not matter because wages have not kept up with inflation.

Vice Chair Maloney. I would like to ask some questions on women and the economy. I asked the Joint Economic Committee to do a report on the impact of the economic downturn on women. Women are usually the people who buffer families during a recession or an economic downturn.

They also, regrettably, are usually very poor in older age. One of the strongest indicators of poverty at an older age is being a mother, particularly a single mother.

So I would like to turn to asking you about women's employment trends. Is it true that women's employment rates are typically below men's?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, it is.

Vice Chair Maloney. Are there any age groups in which women's employment rates are above men's, or nearly equal to men's?

Commissioner Hall. Among teenagers, the employment to population ratios are sometimes higher for women to men, but that's it.

Vice Chair Maloney. Since it is too soon to tell how the current labor market downturn will turn out, or the impact it will eventually have on women's employment, I would like to turn to some question about women's experiences in the 2001 recession, which is the numbers that we looked at in our report.

The report—and actually I congratulate the Committee staff that are sitting right here for all of their hard work on this report—but the report showed that women lost more jobs in the 2001 recession than they had in prior recessions.

So my question is: Why do you think that the 2001 recession was so hard on women workers compared to prior recessions?

Commissioner Hall. Well during the labor market downturn during this last recession—which takes you from maybe March 2001 to August 2003—women did lose about 670,000 jobs on net. That is compared to a job loss with men of just over 2 million jobs.

The job loss for women had sort of a similar industry pattern as it did for men. Literally a million women lost jobs in manufacturing over that period. Six hundred thousand lost jobs in trade, transportation, utilities. And almost half a million lost jobs in professional and business services.

So I do think women's participation by industry had a big influence on the job loss.

Vice Chair Maloney. So that they are in more different industries is why the job loss was there. So what is so troubling to me is that we cannot achieve equality in wages, but we are achieving equality in job loss. Why do you think that is?

Why do you think women cannot achieve equality in wages? We have passed one bill after another in this area—equal pay for equal work. We just passed yesterday in the House of Representatives the Pay Fairness Protection Act to protect and encourage women to be able to find out what other employees are making, and compare their wages and seek fair treatment. Why do you think it has taken so long?

We did another report that looked at 20 years of income between men and women and found a consistent 40 percent gap. And after you factored in reasons why it might occur—because of having a child, or taking care of a sick parent, or family responsibilities—there still was a 20 percent unexplained wage gap. This was a General Accounting Office, a nonpartisan accounting office, test and report that they did.

I am wondering if you have any ideas of why this is so consistent? The report looked at 20 years of work life of men and women and found a persistent 40 percent gap after explaining reasons for it, an unexplained gap of 20 percent. Some would say that possibly that unexplained gap was discrimination. So can you comment on why is changing that wage gap so persistent, so strong, and does not seem to budge?

Commissioner Hall. That is getting a bit outside my expertise. I can say that the basic data you described, I think that is generally our data. That sounds correct, the 40 percent wage gap.

Vice Chair Maloney. Well let's get back to the numbers. The 2000s recovery was also different from prior recoveries as it was the first recovery in the post-World War II period during which

women's employment rates did not return to their pre-recession peak.

Can you tell me, during the 2000s' recovery did women's employment rates return to where they were at their peak in the strong recovery of the 1990s?

Commissioner Hall. No. The rate peaked at about 58 percent in April of 2000, and currently it is below that at the moment.

Vice Chair Maloney. And was the lack of recovery of employment rates a sharp departure from prior trends?

Commissioner Hall. Yes. The long-run trend for decades and up through the late 1990s was a steady growth in women's employment rates, with the exception of recessions. And since the 2001 recession, this long-run trend for whatever reason has not returned, or is showing no signs of returning, and instead the ratio for women has been relatively flat over the past two years.

Vice Chair Maloney. And how have women fared as the economy has shed this year in particular, and in what industries have they lost the most jobs?

Commissioner Hall. Overall, women have actually gained about 200,000 jobs so far this year, but that masks a significant loss in a number of industries. In manufacturing women lost about 97,000 jobs so far this year. Trade, transportation, utilities, there was a drop of about 70,000 jobs. Retail trade, a drop of about 50,000 jobs. And professional business services was a drop in 69,000 jobs.

The gains for women have been centered in the industries that have been doing well still: education and health services. They have still had some gains, as have men, and government as well.

Vice Chair Maloney. As a New Yorker, I would like you to get it back to me, if you could get me a picture, or a review of how jobs are faring in the Great State of New York City and New York State, which I have the honor of representing, but you can get that to me later, as this is a meeting for the entire country.

I feel that we need proper data in order to make good policy decisions, so I want to be as supportive as I can for you to continue your work, Commissioner, to give us the information that we need.

So I would like to ask you a few questions about your budget, if I could, please.

Commissioner Hall. Sure.

Vice Chair Maloney. Can you tell us what has been happening to your budget over the past two years?

Commissioner Hall. Sure. In 2007 the BLS Appropriation was about $15 million below the President's request. We took a number of temporary measures to deal with that, and we dealt with it well without cutting any programs.

This year we were funded at about $30 million below the President's request, and I think we have done a really good job of maintaining our programs up to now, but we have taken a number of temporary measures to get by.

Vice Chair Maloney. So what are some of those temporary measures that you have had to take?

Commissioner Hall. We have everything from a hiring freeze, to restrictions in travel and training. We've trimmed a number of programs. We have done some reduction in sample size. We've re-

duced some of the detail in some of our data. Unfortunately we had to trim some of the Metropolitan Area Employment Data, some things like that. And we have delayed some improvements to a couple of our core programs that are very important that are getting due.

Vice Chair Maloney. What would happen to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Programs and Surveys if you have to operate under a Continuing Resolution in Fiscal Year '09? And can you sustain another year of temporary reductions?

Commissioner Hall. First, I do not think we can continue with a third year of temporary reductions. We run the risk of reducing the quality of our data across the board if we do not go ahead and restore some of the funding for a number of our programs.

And we need to sort of protect two of our flagship programs. The Consumer Price Index in particular has an important part—the geographic and housing part of it is based right now on the 1990 Census. That has gotten quite old.

We really need to spend some money to update that. And the current Population Survey, which is a lot of what we have been talking about right now, we have had a big jump in the cost of that. So we are going to really have to increase our spending on that.

So as a result, if we take care of our major programs then it looks like we are going to have to trim as much as $50 million permanently from our programs, which means we are going to have to go and try to pick some of our lower priority programs and cut them out.

Vice Chair Maloney. Can you tell us the ways in which the quality of our economic indicators might suffer if your budget request is not met? And is it wise to allow our economic statistics to deteriorate in the midst of an economic downturn?

Commissioner Hall. Well of course if we don't look to sort of trimming, permanently trimming some programs, then we've got a real problem, at least in my view, of continuing to maintain the quality of all of our data.

Our data is extremely important not only for households and businesses making decisions, but government programs rely quite a bit on our data.

For example, I mentioned the Consumer Price Index. That is used not only to adjust Income Tax rates, but it helps guide half a trillion dollars of Social Security Benefits that are based on the Consumer Price Index.

So if we go ahead and take care of these programs, then we are going to have to look to some of these other smaller programs that have been around for years that are very valuable but we just—our priorities are just going to have to be to take care of the big things.

Vice Chair Maloney. And how much of real wages have fallen over the past year? And how do real wages compare to the past few years for our workers?

Commissioner Hall. Real wages have fallen. Over say the past 12 months, real wages have declined by about 1.8 percent.

Vice Chair Maloney. And how does that compare to the past few years?

Commissioner Hall. Real wages have been either flat or falling the last few years. This is a bigger decline in large part because of food and energy prices.

Vice Chair Maloney. I would like to look at the shift that we are seeing in many businesses as employers shift more of the burden of rising health care costs to their workers. Doesn't that reduce the purchasing power of the take-home pay even more when their pay has been so stagnant?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, it does. In fact, with rising health care costs two things can happen, and we have seen some trends to this.

First, as employers may push more of the rising health care insurance costs onto workers, and as you say reducing the purchasing power of take-home pay; and the second, the rising costs of employer-provided health insurance may crowd out wage increases. There has been maybe some evidence of that, as well.

Vice Chair Maloney. Let's talk about the effects of food and gas prices on wages. Last month this Committee held a hearing on the rising costs of food and the effects on the pocketbooks of American families.

Government forecasters predicted that for 2008 we will see a 5 to 6 percent increase to the CPI for food consumed at home. Additionally, consumers are expected to experience higher gasoline prices.

Given that wages are falling, prices for food and energy are rising, unemployment is high and lasting longer, and people are exhausting their unemployment benefits, it appears getting hard to make ends meet for a lot of Americans. Would you agree?

Commissioner Hall. Yes. As we just discussed, the average wage growth has not kept up with inflation. I think it is particularly concerning that a lot of the inflation comes from food and energy, which means it is particularly hard for modest income families.

Vice Chair Maloney. And what does this signal about the health of our economy?

Commissioner Hall. Well besides the obvious direct effects of lower wages, rising food, energy, and gasoline prices may well be creating a drag on economic growth. It may have contributed to the weakening of the U.S. labor market.

Vice Chair Maloney. We recently, as Congress, passed a housing bill to stabilize the housing markets. Federal Reserve Chairman Bernanke had testified that we needed to really solidify or bring stability to that market in order to move forward. But your testimony earlier indicated that the economic downturn was not just in housing, but around all of the different areas of our economy. Is that correct? Would you elaborate some more?

Commissioner Hall. Sure. Yes, the weakness in the labor market is broader than just housing-related things. Obviously that can be for a lot of reasons. The real—certainly a concern with the downturn in housing is not just the direct effect but the indirect effect it has on people's ability to spend, and their confidence in spending going forward. We have perhaps seen evidence of that because the labor market weakness is broad.

Vice Chair Maloney. Well I want to thank you for your testimony. I have been called for votes, so I will have to rush over and vote. But I want to assure you that I will work very hard to make sure that your budget requests are in place, and certainly will be a strong advocate that you have the necessary resources in order to get the proper information so that we in Congress on both sides of the aisle can make proper decisions in ways that we can respond to the important information that you are putting before us.

I just, before parting, would like to ask if you have any other items that you would like to share with us that you think are important. Many Members are on the Floor. This is closing days. It is a very difficult time. The Chairman is in another committee meeting voting, as are other Members on this Committee, but I will certainly get a transcript of your statements to them.

Again, I thank you for your testimony.

Commissioner Hall. Thank you.

Vice Chair Maloney. The meeting is adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 10 a.m., Friday, August 1, 2008, the hearing was adjourned.)

Submissions for the Record

U.S. CONGRESS
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Statement of Senator Charles E. Schumer
Chairman, Joint Economic Committee
Hearing: "*The Employment Situation: July 2008*"
August 1, 2008

The economy continues to slide downward and the need for a second stimulus package that helps to fix the underlying structural flaws in the economy is even more apparent. We hope the administration changes its position, as it has done on some previous occasions including the first stimulus, and joins us in creating a smart stimulus package to jumpstart the economy as soon as possible.

Today's jobs report is troubling for our economy and for all American families. In July, our economy lost 51,000 jobs, and since January it has lost over 460,000 jobs. The unemployment rate jumped from 5.5 to 5.7 percent – making one thing crystal clear – it is becoming increasingly hard for Americans to find work in this economy. As the construction, manufacturing, and now retail sectors are reeling from job losses, too many workers are being forced to reduce their hours and take part-time jobs just to make ends meet putting our underemployment rate at over 10 percent.

There is a silent cry going out as middle class families gather around their dinner tables Friday nights to talk about how to pay their ballooning bills. They're worried about gas prices, which have more than doubled since 2001. They're concerned about how much more their supermarket trip cost this week, and how they could be paying so much more for college tuition, child care, or health care. We hope that this evening after their dinners, they're not talking about their own job losses on top of all that.

Every day, including today's jobs report, we are getting worse and worse economic news.

In the housing market the hits just keep on coming:

- Sales of existing homes fell an additional 4.7 percent in May – down 14 percent from where they were a year ago.
- Foreclosures are up over 50 percent from last year.
- Home prices dropped a record 15.8 percent in May.

And while wages are stagnant and home prices decline, consumers are paying much more for everyday goods:

- Overall inflation jumped by a full percentage in May.
- Gasoline prices are over $4.00 a gallon for most Americans.
- Food prices for everything from bread to eggs have skyrocketed.

And while companies like ExxonMobil are doing quite well, the overall economy is in terrible shape – proving that what's good for corporate America or Big Oil is no longer what's good for Americans. The economy barely grew last quarter even with over $100 billion in economic stimulus and it actually contracted in the last quarter of 2007.

It isn't time for the White House and Congress to throw up our hands and say forget it. Hopefully Washington won't need any more wake up calls to shore up our battered housing and job markets and take some proactive steps to address our worsening economic fortunes quickly.

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
SENATOR CHARLES E. SCHUMER, CHAIRMAN
REPRESENTATIVE CAROLYN B. MALONEY, VICE CHAIR

Statement of Carolyn Maloney, Vice Chair
Joint Economic Committee Hearing
August 1, 2008

Good morning. I would like to thank Commissioner Hall for testifying today on the July employment situation.

In July, the economy shed jobs for the seventh straight month, for a total of 463,000 jobs lost so far in 2008. The unemployment rate rose two tenth of a percentage point in July to 5.7 percent, a full percentage point higher than a year ago. With these grim statistics, it would be hard not to conclude that the labor market is in a downturn. Congress is already at work on a second stimulus package, which Speaker Pelosi has announced we will take up next month.

We continue to seen mounting evidence that a significant downturn in the economy may be underway. Yesterday, we learned that the U.S. economy grew by a paltry 1.9 percent -- well below expectations – and that the fourth quarter growth was revised to show negative growth of 0.2 percent. American families are paring back their spending because their real wages are as low as they were in October 2001, when we were in the midst of recession. They are also feeling the pinch of rising gas and food prices.

The weak recovery of the 2000s has left families especially vulnerable to an economic downturn. Real family income is about $1,000 lower now than it was in 2000 and families have accumulated little in the way of savings. Declining home prices means that many families will be unable to access home equity lines of credit to make ends meet, as they did in prior recessions.

For decades families could rely on women's earnings to boost household income during a recession, but wives and mothers may not be able to shelter their families from the economic storm that's hitting now. Up until the 2000's, during recessions, women typically lost very few jobs—on net. However, this all changed with the recession of 2001, when women lost jobs on par with men in the industries that were hardest hit. The 2000s recovery was also unique as it was the first recovery in the post-World War II period during which women's employment rates did not return to their pre-recession peak.

This is a trend to watch, because the only families that are getting ahead are those with a working wife. Families without a working wife have real incomes today that are nearly identical to what they were over 35 years ago.

Congress has already taken numerous steps to help buffer families from the effects of the downturn. Most families have received their Recovery Rebates and the President has just signed in to law our housing package aimed at stemming the tide of foreclosures. But, there is more to do to get the economy back on track. Over half of the states are projecting budget shortfalls for

fiscal year 2009 and this will lead not only to cutbacks in necessary services, but likely higher unemployment for women who disproportionately work in social service agencies and education. So far this year, private employers have shed 651,000 jobs, while government has added 188,000 jobs, but government will not likely to be able to continue to boost employment once budgets are cut.

We need a second stimulus package that includes fiscal aid to the states and funds for infrastructure investment to give our sagging economy a much needed boost and to promote job creation. I hope the President will work with us to get Americans back to work as quickly as possible.

Chairman Schumer and I look forward to the continued focus on labor market conditions by this committee.

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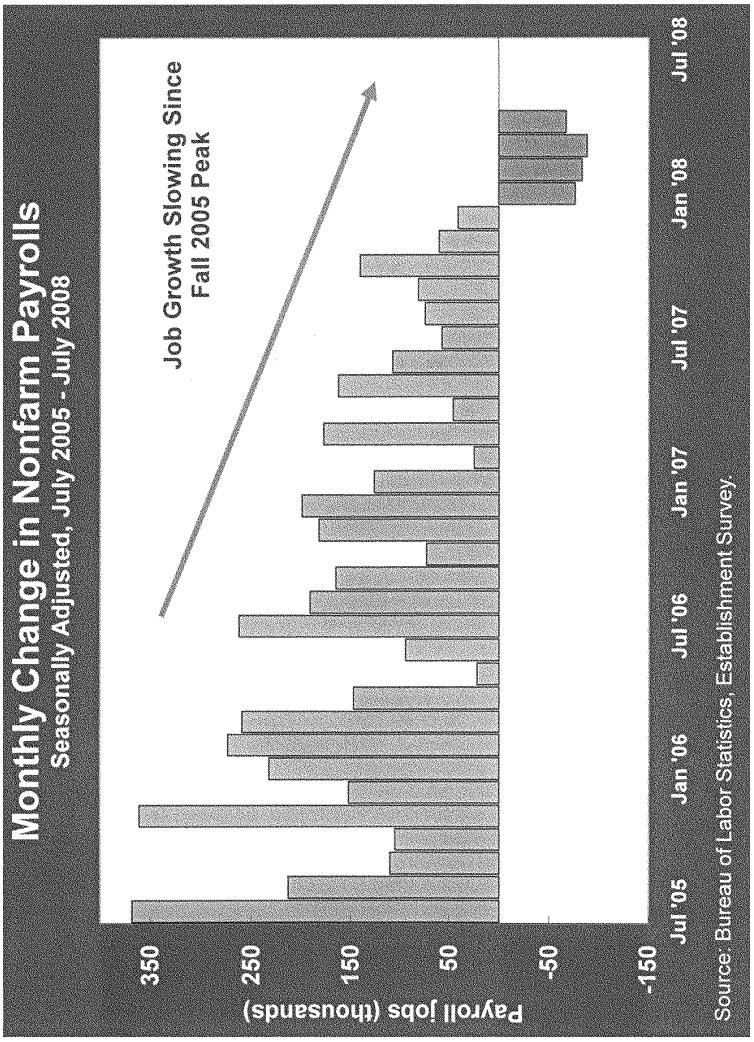
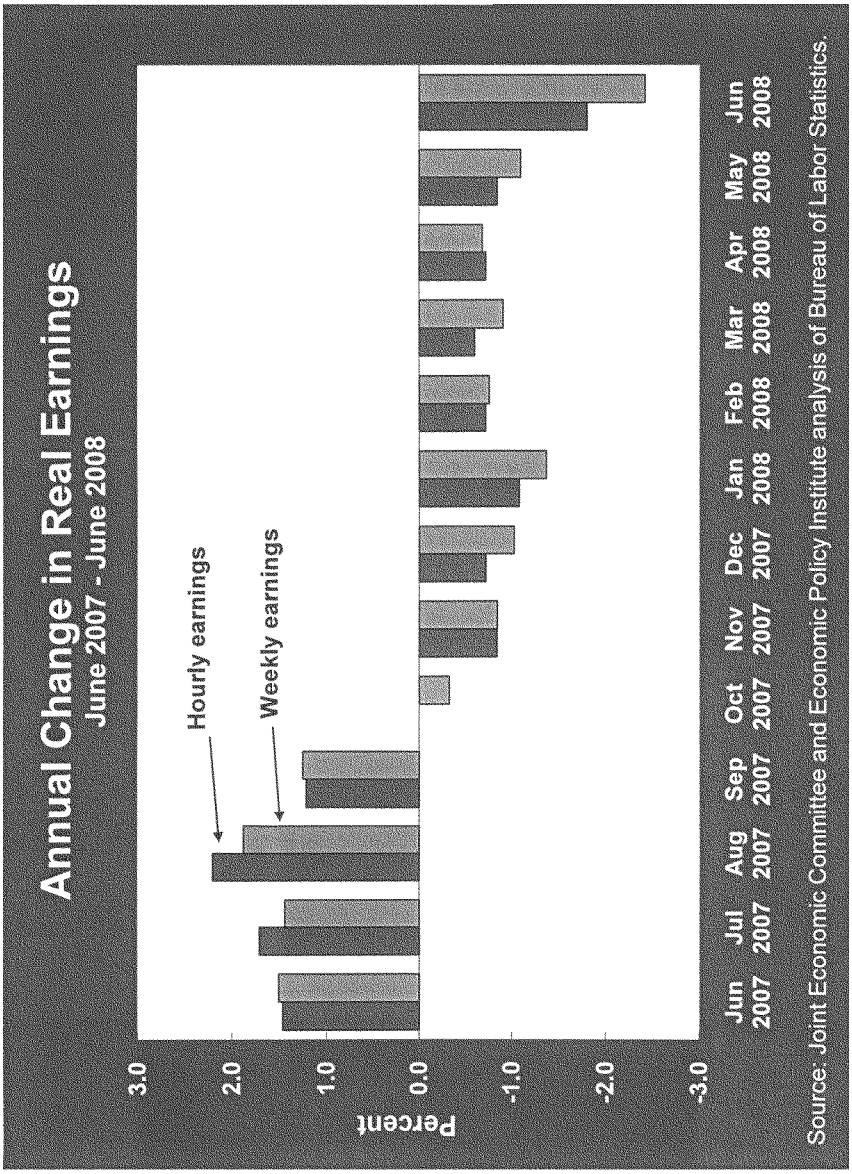

Monthly Change in Nonfarm Payrolls
Seasonally Adjusted, July 2005 - July 2008
Job Growth Slowing Since
Fall 2005 Peak
Payroll jobs (thousands)
350
250
150
50
-50
-150
Jul '05
Jan '06
Jul '06
Jan '07
Jul '07
Jan '08
Jul '08
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Establishment Survey.


Annual Change in Real Earnings
June 2007 - June 2008
Hourly earnings
Weekly earnings
Percent
3.0
2.0
1.0
0.0
-1.0
-2.0
-3.0
Jun 2007
Jul 2007
Aug 2007
Sep 2007
Oct 2007
Nov 2007
Dec 2007
Jan 2008
Feb 2008
Mar 2008
Apr 2008
May 2008
Jun 2008
Source: Joint Economic Committee and Economic Policy Institute analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics.

STATEMENT OF KEITH HALL, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

I appreciate this opportunity to comment on the employment and unemployment data that we released this morning.

Nonfarm payroll employment continued to trend down in July (−51,000), and the unemployment rate rose from 5.5 to 5.7 percent. Thus far in 2008, payroll employment has fallen by 463,000, or an average of 66,000 per month. In July, job losses continued in several industries, including construction, manufacturing, and employment services. Health care and mining continued to add jobs.

Employment in construction declined by 22,000 in July. Since its September 2006 peak, construction employment has decreased by 557,000. Nearly three-fourths of the decline (−402,000) has occurred since October 2007.

Manufacturing employment fell by 35,000 in July. Job losses have averaged 39,000 per month thus far in 2008 compared with an average loss of 22,000 per month during 2007.

Employment services lost 34,000 jobs over the month, with nearly all of the decline in temporary help. Temporary help employment has declined by 268,000 since a peak in December 2006, with more than two-thirds of the loss (−185,000) occurring since January.

In July, employment in health care rose by 33,000, in line with the prior 12-month average. Mining added 10,000 jobs in July, the third consecutive gain of this magnitude.

Average hourly earnings for production and nonsupervisory workers in the private sector rose by 6 cents, or 0.3 percent, in July. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings rose by 3.4 percent. From June 2007 to June 2008, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI–W) rose by 5.4 percent.

Turning now to some of our measures from the household survey, both the number of unemployed persons, at 8.8 million, and the unemployment rate, at 5.7 percent, increased in July.

Over the last 3 months, there has been a notable increase in unemployment of youth (16 to 24 years). Each summer, millions of young people move into the labor market. This year, the summertime influx of youth into the labor market was about the same as last year; however, fewer young people were able to find jobs. For the 3-month period, May through July, the unemployment rate for 16- to 19-year-olds averaged 19.0 percent, compared with an average of 15.7 percent for those same 3 months in 2007. Similarly, the May-through-July average jobless rate for 20- to 24-year-olds was 10.2 percent this year, compared with 8.0 percent over the same period last year. Not all of the increase in unemployment in the last 3 months was among youth; joblessness also rose among those 25 years and older.

The employment-population ratio for all persons 16 years and older was unchanged in July, at 62.4 percent, but has declined from 63.0 percent a year earlier. Among the employed, the number of part-time workers who would prefer to work full time continued to rise in July. The number of such workers has increased by 1.4 million over the past 12 months to 5.7 million.

To summarize July's labor market developments, payroll employment continued to trend down, and the unemployment rate rose to 5.7 percent.

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

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/

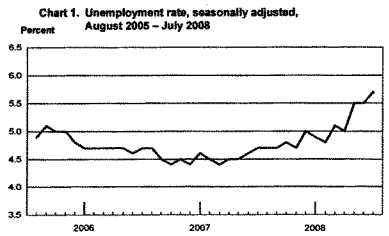
Establishment data: (202) 691-6555
http://www.bls.gov/ces/
Media contact: (202) 691-5902

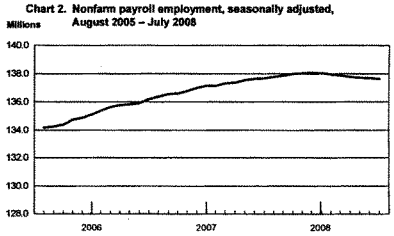
USDL 08-1049

Transmission of material in this release is embargoed until 8:30 A.M. (EDT), Friday, August 1, 2008.

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: JULY 2008

The unemployment rate rose to 5.7 percent, and nonfarm payroll employment continued to trend down in July (-51,000), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Employment continued to fall in construction, manufacturing, and several service-providing industries, while health care and mining continued to add jobs. Average hourly earnings rose by 6 cents, or 0.3 percent, over the month.





Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

Both the number of unemployed persons (8.8 million) and the unemployment rate (5.7 percent) rose in July. Over the past 12 months, the number of unemployed persons has increased by 1.6 million, and the unemployment rate has risen by 1.0 percentage point. (See table A-1.)

Over the month, the unemployment rates for adult men (5.3 percent) and whites (5.1 percent) edged up while the rates for adult women (4.6 percent), blacks (9.7 percent), and Hispanics (7.4 percent) were little changed. The jobless rate for teenagers increased to 20.3 percent in July. The unemployment rate for Asians was 4.0 percent in July, not seasonally adjusted. (See tables A-1, A-2, and A-3.)

Among the unemployed, the number of reentrants to the labor force in July rose by 207,000 to 2.7 million. The number has increased by 623,000 over the past 12 months. The number of unemployed persons

Equality in Job Loss:

Women Are Increasingly Vulnerable to Layoffs During Recessions

A Report by the Majority Staff of the
Joint Economic Committee
Senator Charles E. Schumer, Chairman
Representative Carolyn B. Maloney, Vice Chair

July 22, 2008

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.

www.jec.senate.gov

Executive Summary

If recent history is any guide, then the current downturn threatens women's employment more than ever before, making it increasingly difficult for families to make ends meet. In recessions prior to 2001, women could buffer family incomes against male unemployment because they did not experience sharp job losses. However, this changed in the 2001 recession as women lost jobs on par with men in the industries that lost the most jobs. That was the first recession in decades during which women not only lost jobs, but also did not see their employment rates recover to their pre-recession peak. It now appears that, unlike in decades past, families can no longer rely on women's employment to help boost family income during a downturn.

When women lose jobs, families lose a large share of their income and experience greater economic volatility. Wives typically bring home more than a third of their family's income and single mothers are sole breadwinners. Families are more economically vulnerable as wives are no longer insulating families from economic hardship in times of higher unemployment and falling or stagnant real wages. Single-mother families are now especially vulnerable.

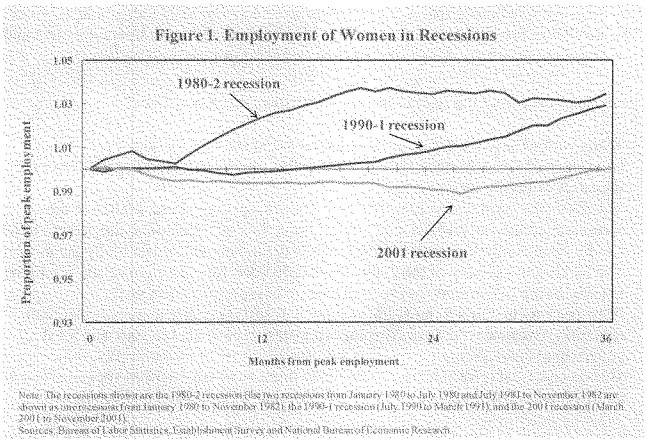
In an analysis of data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, this report finds:

- When women lose jobs, families lose a substantial share of income.
- Over the past three decades, only those families who have a working wife have seen real increases in family income.
- The 2001 recession hit the jobs that women held especially hard. Unlike in the recessions of the early 1980s and 1990s, during the 2001 recession, the percent of jobs lost by women often exceeded that of men in the industries hardest hit by the downturn.
- The lackluster recovery of the 2000s made it difficult for women to regain their jobs – women's employment rates never returned to their pre-recession peak.
- If the prior recession's trend holds, women will suffer equally to men in the 2008 recession. Because women are disproportionately represented in state and local government services, their job losses are likely to grow in the latter part of the recession as state and local governments are forced to implement cut-backs in spending in areas that women are disproportionately employed, such as education and health care.

Families can ill afford to lose a parent's earnings, especially as costs for basics, like food and gasoline continue to rise. Greater job losses for women not only mean that any downturn will be hard on families, but also that spurring consumer spending to boost economic growth and job creation may take far more government action, especially with respect to fiscal spending, than in previous recessions. Fiscal aid to the states is important to help states maintain programs—and keep workers—in the face of ensuing budget cuts. Ensuring that all workers—women and men—can access unemployment compensation when they lose their jobs is critical. Given the high costs of health care, Congress should also consider extending Medicaid to unemployed families. Further, challenges facing working families to balance work and family responsibilities are exacerbated in the current downturn, signaling a greater need for workplace flexibility.

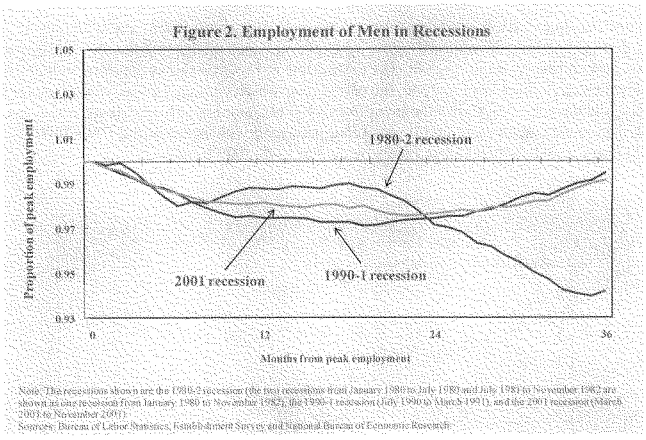
Women are Increasingly Vulnerable to Job Losses During Recessions

It is no longer the case that women's employment rises in recessions as men's falls. Women lost more jobs in the 2001 recession than they had in prior recessions, a striking departure from prior trends (Figure 1).[1] In the three years following the recession that began in 1980, women's employment grew for the first 18 months of the recession. In the first 18 months following the beginning of the 1990-1 recession, women's employment growth was negligible, but then rose sharply over the next 18 months. In contrast, during the 2001 recession, women's employment followed a pattern more similar to men's: in the first few months following the beginning of the 2001 recession, women's employment did not grow, but in the months after that, their employment fell. While women's employment did not fall as much as men's, the experience of aggregate job losses was unique for women and indicates that their employment patterns may be shifting to look more like men's, rising and falling with the business cycle.



Note: The recessions shown are the 1980-2 recession (the two recessions from January 1980 to July 1980 and July 1981 to November 1982 are shown as one recession from January 1980 to November 1982), the 1990-1 recession (July 1990 to March 1991), and the 2001 recession (March 2001 to November 2001).
Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Establishment Survey and National Bureau of Economic Research

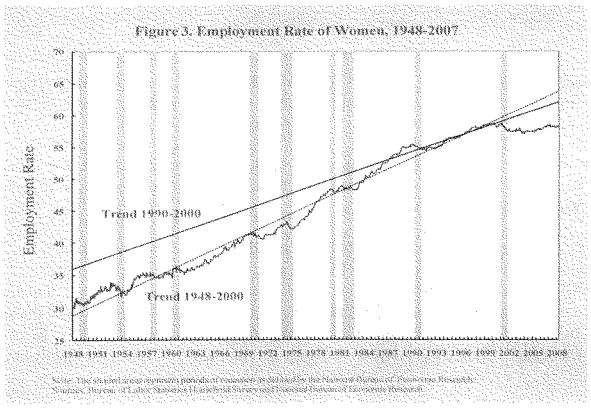
For men, however, employment trends have remained relatively stable over the past three recessions and the 2001 recession initially looked just like the prior two recessions (Figure 2). After the first nine months of the 2001 recession, men's employment followed a similar path to the early 1990s recession. The trend during the 1980-2 recession differs because it was a "double-dip" recession, where the economy started to improve in 1981, but then sank back into recession in 1982.



Note: The recessions shown are the 1980-2 recession (the two recessions from January 1980 to July 1980 and July 1981 to November 1982 are shown as one recession from January 1980 to November 1982), the 1990-1 recession (July 1990 to March 1991), and the 2001 recession (March 2001 to November 2001).
Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Establishment Survey, and National Bureau of Economic Research.

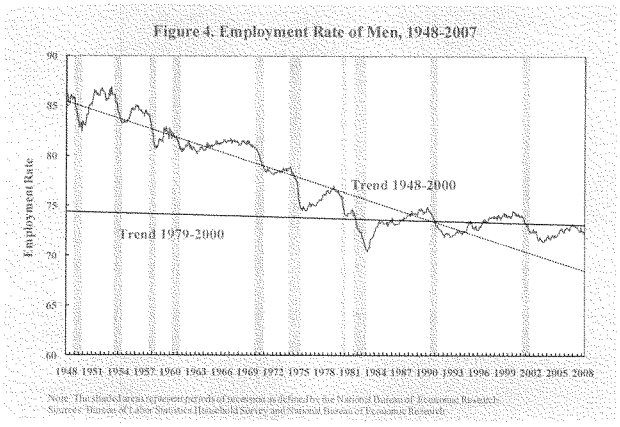
The 2001 Recession Signaled End of Long-term Rise in Women's Employment Rate

For women, the job losses of the 2001 recession were followed by no significant employment growth over the 2000s recovery, which, like losing jobs in a recession, is a sharp departure from women's prior employment trends. From the end of World War II through 2000, even when the



Note: The shaded areas represent periods of recession as defined by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics Household Survey and National Bureau of Economic Research.

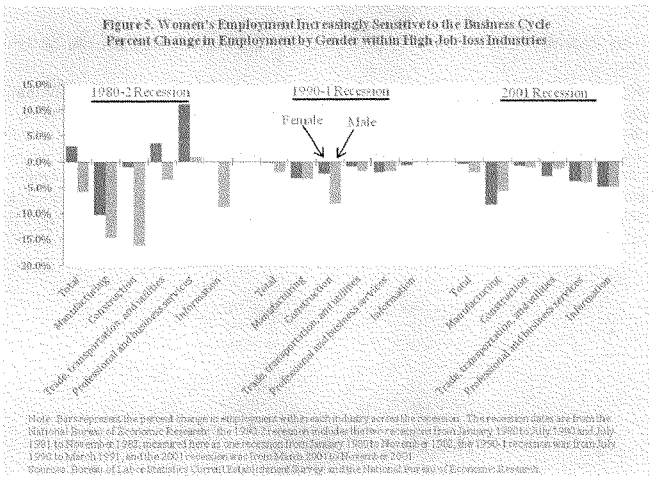
economy was in recession, women continued to see a rising employment rate with only slight stalls during economic downturns (Figure 3). However, since the late 1990s, the employment rate of women has shown no growth. The dashed line in Figure 3 shows the trend in women's employment rates from 1948 to 2000, the period over which women's employment rates rose rapidly, and the solid line shows the trend from 1990 to 2000. Especially striking is that as of 2008, the female employment rate is about four percentage points below the 1990-2000 trendline and about six percentage points below the 1948-2000 trendline.



Men's employment rates over the 2000s recovery are consistent with their flat employment rate trend from 1979 to 2000 (Figure 4). While the male employment rate fell for the first three decades after World War II, for the next three decades, changes in men's employment rate has remained essentially flat, moving along with the business cycle, but showing no particular long-term up or down trend. During the 2000s economic recovery, however, male employment rates did not recover to their pre-recession peak, which may indicate that men are again seeing a trend towards lower employment rates.

There is a growing body of research on what changed for women workers in the late 1990s that led to the end—at least for now—in the long-term rise in women's employment rates.[2] The reasons why women lost so many jobs in the 2001 recession are tied to the way that recession unfolded or are industry-specific.[3] The 2001 recession was caused by the burst of the stock bubble, but sharp job losses did not occur until after the events of September 11, when employers began shedding jobs in services, such as retail, which disproportionately employ women.

There is evidence that the recession of 2001 hit the jobs that women held especially hard and that the lackluster recovery of the 2000s made it difficult for women to regain their jobs back. Unlike in the recessions of the early 1980s and 1990s, during the 2001 recession, women lost a disproportionate share of jobs in the industries hardest hit by the downturn.



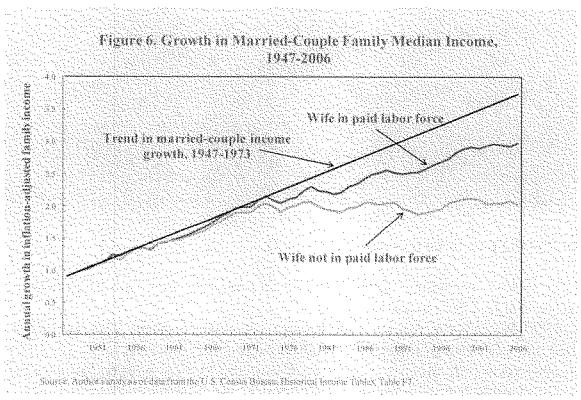
Comparing across the past three recessions (Figure 5):

- Over the 1980-2 recession, women lost a much smaller share of jobs than men in the industries that lost the most jobs.
- In the 1990-1 recession, women's job losses were closer to parity with men's but men still lost a larger share of jobs in most industries that lost the most jobs.
- In the 2001 recession, this pattern shifted. Compared to men, women lost a larger share of jobs in manufacturing and trade, transportation and utilities. In the other high-job-loss industries, women lost about the same share of jobs as men.

Women's larger job losses in the 2001 recession may also be due to women's progress in entering a wide array of industries and occupations. Because of this, women may be more susceptible to the impact of the business cycle than they were when they were more highly concentrated in a smaller number of non-cyclical occupations, like teaching and nursing. There is no evidence, however, that mothers are increasingly "opting out" of employment, in favor of full-time motherhood.[4] For this story to be true, the employment rate of non-mothers would have had to diverge sharply from that of mothers, which has not been the case.[5]

When Women Lose Jobs, Families Lose a Substantial Share of Income

Women's increased vulnerability to the business cycle has significant implications for family economic well-being. Decades ago, when most families with children had a stay-at-home mother, families relied on one income. When a father got laid off, the mother could try to make up the lost income by finding a job. There is evidence that this "added worker effect" helped to smooth out family income in hard times.[6] However, today most children grow up in family where their parents work, regardless of whether the child lives in a married-couple or single-parent family. Thus, there is no longer an additional worker to enter the labor force when times are tough.



Women's increased vulnerability to recession can wreck havoc on family economic well-being. The typical wife brings home over a third of her family's income and the one quarter of children being raised in single-mother families have only their mother's salary to rely upon.[7] The importance of women's income to family well-being over the past few decades is illustrated in Figure 6: the only families who have seen *any* increase in real income over the past three decades are those with a working wife.[8]

Weak Recovery Leaves Families Especially Vulnerable in a Downturn

Clearly, an economic downturn now will be harder on families than in earlier recessions. Both higher unemployment and declining real wages and incomes can hit families hard. Researchers estimate that if we have a mild-to-moderate recession, families will lose just over $2,000 per year by 2010. However, if we have a more severe recession, families will see income losses of $3,750 per year by 2011.[9] If trends since the late 1990s hold, families will not be able to rely on women's employment to moderate fluctuations in family income.

The current downturn may be worse for families because it follows the weakest recovery in the post-World War II period, both in terms of jobs and income gains. This, combined with the credit squeeze, means that many families facing unemployment have little to fall back on and will not be able to borrow to make ends meet. With lower real incomes, more debt and less savings and home equity, families are especially vulnerable as we enter this downturn. This points to a larger role for fiscal policy than in prior recessions. Unlike during the 2001 recession, families cannot "deficit spend," by borrowing extensively, to maintain consumption. It also points to continued concerns about how families can balance their work and family responsibilities, especially in the face of rapidly rising prices.

There are a number of ways Congress can help families cope with job losses and falling incomes during this economic downturn. For example:

Providing states with grants to cover lost revenue can help boost local economies, while ensuring that important services are maintained. This recession will likely lead to cutbacks in state and local government budgets, more so than in past recessions because of the collapse in home prices which has significantly reduced property tax revenue. Additionally, falling incomes will lead to declines in income tax revenue and lower consumption will reduce sales tax revenue, which will lead to cutbacks in spending. State and local government cutbacks disproportionately affect female-headed families since they rely more on government services, but these cutbacks also disproportionately affect women's employment because women are more likely than men to be employed in state and local government. Federal aid to the state boosts family incomes by keeping more women employed, as well as making sure that unemployed and low-income families are able to access the income supports and services that they need.

Extending Medicaid to the unemployed and their families would be a first step to ensuring that being without a job does not mean going without medical care. For most workers, a lost job also means the loss of health insurance. Unemployed workers can purchase health insurance from their former employer for up to 18 months after they lose their job through COBRA (the 1986 Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act), but purchasing these benefits is expensive. The average family purchasing COBRA benefits could spend 80 percent of one person's unemployed benefits just on health insurance coverage alone.[10] Helping families cope with the burden of health insurance coverage during a spell of unemployment will free up family's fund to cope with other rising expenses, such as food, gasoline, and housing.

Extending unemployment to the long-term unemployed helps, but policymakers should also temporarily increase benefits and loosen application standards, to help more of the unemployed access benefits. In the first quarter of 2008, only 41.6 percent of the unemployed received any unemployment compensation. Even for those who do receive benefits, the wage replacement level is quite low: the average worker's benefits are just half of their pre-unemployment earnings.[11] Since women workers are more likely to work part-time than men, and consequently, more likely to earn less, women are less likely to qualify for unemployment compensation and more likely to receive lower benefits, on average, than men.[12]

Family-friendly workplace policies are needed now more than ever. Families need the income of both parents now more than ever. For the majority who will keep their jobs during any recession, policymakers should look to extend benefits that allow them to be good employees and good caretakers. *This includes access to paid sick days and establishing a nationwide family leave insurance program, similar to what is now in effect in California and New Jersey.* Further, encouraging employers to adopt flexible workplaces can help both employers and employees in a recession because workers can downshift to reduced schedules or telecommute, saving the firm money, while helping employees balance work and family.

Because most mothers already work, families have little to fall back on to help smooth income during this economic downturn. Acting now will go a long way toward not only helping families in need, but also boosting consumption and fostering macroeconomic growth in the medium- to long-term.

End Notes

[1]It is important to note, however, that higher job losses among women have not led women to have higher unemployment rates relative to men. In the 2001 recession, unemployment among women hit a high of 5.3 percent, while men's unemployment rose all the way to 6.0 percent.

[2]For a review of this literature, see: Heather Boushey, "Opting Out? The Effect of Children on Women's Employment in the United States" *Feminist Economics*, Vol. 14, No. 1, 2008, pp. 1 -36.

[3]Recent research points to both cyclical and structural changes in the labor market to explain declining employment rates for U.S. women. See: Julie L. Hotchkiss, "Change in Behavioral and Characteristic Determination of Female Labor Force Participation," *Economic Review*, Vol. 2 , 2006, pp, 1-20 and Erica Groshen and Simon Potter, "Has Structural Change Contributed to a Jobless Recovery?", *Current Issues in Economics and Finance, Federal Reserve Bank of New York*, Vol. 9, No. 8, 2003, pp. 1-7.

[4]Heather Boushey, "Opting Out? The Effect of Children on Women's Employment in the United States" *Feminist Economics*, Vol. 14, No. 1, 2008, pp. 1 -36.

[5]Heather Boushey, Dean Baker and David Rosnick, "Gender Bias in the Current Economic Recovery? Declining Employment Rates for Women in the 21st Century," Washington, DC: Center for Economic and Policy Research, 2005. BLS, Household Survey.

[6]Chinhui Juhn and Simon Potter," Is There Still an Added Worker Effect?" *Federal Reserve Bank of New York Staff Reports*, No. 210, December 2007; Shelly Lundberg, "The Added Worker Effect," *Journal of Labor Economics*, Vol. 3, No. 1, pp. 11-37, 1985.

[7]Of course, many mothers get child support, but not close to all: according to the Census Bureau, two-thirds (64.7 percent) of custodial mothers actually receive their child support payments (U.S. Census Bureau, *Child Support: 2005*, Table 1. http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/childsupport/chldsu05.pdf).

[8]See also Elizabeth Warren and Amelia Warren Tyagi, *The Two-Income Trap*. New York, Basic Books, 2003.

[9]John Schmitt and Dean Baker, "What We're In For: Projected Economic Impact of the Next Recession", Center for Economic and Policy Research, January 2008, available at http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/JSDB_08recession.pdf.

[10]The average weekly unemployment benefit allowance in the first quarter of 2008 was $299.14, according to the Department of Labor. The average annual cost of a family health care plan is $12,106, according to the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation.
- U.S. Department of Labor, *Unemployment Insurance Data Summary, 2008*. http://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/content/data_stats/datasum08/DataSum_2008_1.pdf, *pg 67*
- Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation and Health Research and Educational Trust, *Survey of Employer Health Benefits, 2007*. September 11, 2007. http://www.kff.org/insurance/7672/upload/7693.pdf

[11]Department of Labor, *Unemployment Insurance Data Summary*, http://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/content/data_stats/datasum08/DataSum_2008_1.pdf. Accessed 28 May 2008.

[12]Andrew Stettner, Heather Boushey, and Jeffrey Wenger. *Clearing the Path to Unemployment Insurance for Low-Wage Workers: An Analysis of Alternative Base Period Implementation*. Washington, DC:, Center for Economic and Policy Research, 2005.

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August 1, 2008

More Arrows Seen Pointing to a Recession

By PETER S. GOODMAN

The American economy expanded more slowly than expected from April to June, the government reported Thursday, while numbers for the last three months of 2007 were revised downward to show a contraction — the first official slide backward since the last recession in 2001.

Economists construed the tepid growth in the second quarter, combined with a surge in claims for unemployment benefits, as a clear indication that the economy remains mired in the weeds of a downturn. Many said the data increased the likelihood that a recession began late last year.

The next major piece of data comes Friday, when the government is to release its monthly snapshot of the job market. Analysts expect the report to show a loss of 75,000 jobs, signifying the seventh straight month of declines.

"We already knew the economy was weak, and now you have both a negative growth number coupled with job losses," said Dean Baker, a director of the liberal Center for Economic and Policy Research. "There's a lot of real bad times to come."

President Bush zeroed in on the positive growth in the second quarter — a 1.9 percent annual rate of expansion, compared with an anticipated 2.3 percent rate. That follows growth of 0.9 percent in the first quarter. He claimed success for the $100 billion in tax rebates sent out by the government this year in a bid to spur spending, along with $52 billion in tax cuts for businesses.

"We got some positive news today," the president said in West Virginia, addressing a coal industry trade association. "It's not as good as we'd like it to be but I want to remind you a few months ago, there were predictions, and — that the economy would shrink this quarter, not grow."

But the snapshot of disappointing economic growth released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis on Thursday morning provided no comfort to Wall Street, where a broad sell-off commenced. By the end of business, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 206 points to close at 11,378, a drop of nearly 2 percent.

The rout may have been explained in part by significant changes the government made to historical data on the profitability of American businesses. According to the revised numbers, corporate profits earned in the United States by American companies rose much more swiftly than previously recorded from 2005 through 2007, making the recent decline appear much steeper.

That the economy grew at all this spring is a testament to two bright spots — increased consumer spending fueled by the tax rebates, and the continuing expansion of American exports.

Consumer spending, which amounts to 70 percent of the economy, grew at a 1.5 percent annual rate between April and June, after growing at a meager 0.9 percent clip in the previous quarter.

"Clearly the tax rebates did give some oomph to the economy," said Robert Barbera, chief economist at the research and trading firm ITG.

Exports expanded at a 9.2 percent annual pace in the second quarter, up from 5.1 percent in the first three months of the year. Foreign sales have been lubricated by the weak dollar, which makes American-made goods cheaper on world markets.

Adding to the improving trade picture, imports dropped by 6.6 percent, as Americans tightened their spending. Imports are subtracted from economic growth, so the effect was positive.

Over all, trade added 2.42 percentage points to the growth rate from April to June. Without that contribution, the economy would have contracted.

But many economists are dubious that consumer spending and exports can keep growing robustly in the face of substantial challenges that are now entrenched in the United States and are gathering force in many other major economies. Japan and much of Europe appear headed into downturns, damping demand for American-made products.

"The trade improvement doesn't look sustainable," said Jan Hatzius, an economist at Goldman Sachs in New York. "In an environment where the global economy is clearly slowing, you're not being able to get that export growth in future quarters."

Economists said the sharp drop in imports was largely a function of retailers delaying wholesale purchases in the midst of acute fears about declining American spending power — a dynamic that will eventually give way to new spending.

"This reflects sheer panic by retailers about what the next Christmas buying season is going to look like," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com.

The tax rebates have mostly been distributed. While the checks appear to have bolstered spending, they have failed to generate activity that is likely to carry on even after the cash has cycled through the economy, say economists.

"They slowed the downturn, but it's clear they didn't really provide any spark," Mr. Baker said.

Employers have not hired much, even as shopping has picked up, cognizant that the rebate checks are a one-time event. Businesses have not shelled out for new machinery. Indeed, investment for equipment fell 3.4 percent in the spring months, dropping for the second consecutive quarter.

Rather than stockpile more goods, businesses generally tried to sell what they already had on hand. Business inventories declined in the second quarter by $62 billion, a factor that shaved nearly 2 percent off the overall rate of economic growth.

As the impact of the rebate checks continues to wear off in the coming weeks, households will be left confronting the same set of troubles that have been dragging on the economy for many months: a deteriorating job market, rising prices for food and gas and plummeting housing values.

Tens of millions of Americans have in recent years borrowed aggressively against the value of their homes to finance trips to the mall, dinners out, vacations and new cars. As housing values continue to fall, that artery of finance is rapidly constricting.

Since last summer, when the mortgage crisis provoked panic on Wall Street and many Americans saw access to credit diminish, consumer spending on so-called durable goods like appliances, cars and furniture has been sliding. This spending barely grew in the last three months of 2007, fell at a 4.3 percent clip in the first three months of this year and dropped at a 3 percent pace in the second quarter.

Meanwhile, joblessness is growing, with new unemployment claims filed in the week that ended July 26 swelling to 448,000 — up 44,000 from the previous week. And the purchasing power of wages is being eroded by higher prices for food and energy. Prices paid for goods by Americans surged at a 4.2 percent annual rate in the second quarter, after climbing at a 3.5 percent annual clip over the first three months of the year, according to the report on Thursday.

Higher prices, fewer paychecks and less household wealth: It is not a recipe for free-spending abandon.

"Now, consumers have to sing for their supper," said Alan D. Levenson, chief economist at T. Rowe Price Associates in Baltimore. "Spending growth is slowing and income growth is slowing."

Democrats in Congress have begun devising a second package of measures to stimulate the economy, centered on aid to struggling states. But the Bush administration has resisted such proposals, and the political stakes of a presidential election year make compromise especially tricky.

The Federal Reserve has lowered interest rates in recent months to encourage businesses to invest and households to spend. But with concern growing about high prices — a trend fueled by lower interest rates — the Fed may not be able to deliver another round, even if growth slows further.

"Looking forward, I don't think there's anything to change the lousy trend for the domestic economy," said Joshua Shapiro, chief domestic economist at MFR, a research firm.

With the last three months of 2007 now officially revised down — from an initial 0.6 percent annual rate of growth to a 0.2 percent decline — many economists expect that these tough times will officially be declared a recession. That label is affixed by a panel of economists at a private research institution, the National Bureau of Economic Research, though typically well after the fact.

President Bush derided such characterizations, along with the academic discipline known as the dismal science.

"You can listen to these economists," Mr. Bush said in West Virginia. "On the one hand, they'll say, and then on the other hand. If they had three hands, it would be on the one hand, the second hand and the third

hand."

But for many, the old debate about whether this is a recession has become purely academic, and eclipsed by the troubles at hand.

"All my cousins already know it's a recession," said Mr. Barbera, the ITG economist. "They have the luxury of not having Ph.D.'s. The auto companies are in dire straits, the airlines have been shutting down flights and firing pilots. The truckers are in near hysteria because of the price of diesel. If you round up the usual suspects, this is a bad circumstance. And the word we usually use for a bad circumstance is a recession."

Michael M. Grynbaum and Floyd Norris contributed reporting.

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

Category	Quarterly averages		Monthly data			June-July change
	I 2008	II 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008	
HOUSEHOLD DATA	Labor force status					
Civilian labor force	153,661	154,294	154,534	154,390	154,603	213
Employment	146,070	146,089	146,046	145,891	145,819	-72
Unemployment	7,591	8,204	8,487	8,499	8,784	285
Not in labor force	79,146	79,117	78,871	79,237	79,261	24
	Unemployment rates					
All workers	4.9	5.3	5.5	5.5	5.7	0.2
Adult men	4.4	4.9	4.9	5.1	5.3	.2
Adult women	4.3	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.6	-.1
Teenagers	16.8	17.4	18.7	18.1	20.3	2.2
White	4.4	4.7	4.9	4.9	5.1	.2
Black or African American	8.8	9.1	9.7	9.2	9.7	.5
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	6.5	7.2	6.9	7.7	7.4	-.3
ESTABLISHMENT DATA	Employment					
Nonfarm employment	137,917	p 137,716	137,717	p 137,666	p 137,615	p -51
Goods-producing [1]	21,820	p 21,568	21,577	p 21,500	p 21,454	p -46
Construction	7,384	p 7,242	7,246	p 7,197	p 7,175	p -22
Manufacturing	13,690	p 13,566	13,571	p 13,536	p 13,501	p -35
Service-providing [1]	116,097	p 116,147	116,140	p 116,166	p 116,161	p -5
Retail trade [2]	15,434	p 15,338	15,332	p 15,326	p 15,309	p -17
Professional and business service	18,063	p 17,985	17,982	p 17,943	p 17,919	p -24
Education and health services	18,664	p 18,817	18,820	p 18,875	p 18,914	p 39
Leisure and hospitality	13,660	p 13,685	13,679	p 13,686	p 13,687	p 1
Government	22,358	p 22,450	22,453	p 22,496	p 22,521	p 25
	Hours of work [3]					
Total private	33.7	p 33.7	33.7	p 33.7	p 33.6	p -0.1
Manufacturing	41.1	p 41.0	41.0	p 41.0	p 41.0	p .0
Overtime	4.0	p 3.9	3.9	p 3.8	p 3.8	p .0
	Indexes of aggregate weekly hours (2002=100) [3]					
Total private	107.4	p 107.2	107.1	p 107.0	p 106.6	p -0.4
	Earnings [3]					
Average hourly earnings, total private	$17.81	p $17.95	$17.95	p $18.00	p $18.06	p $0.06
Average weekly earnings, total private	600.80	p 605.40	604.92	p 606.60	p 606.82	p .22

[1] Includes other industries, not shown separately.
[2] Quarterly averages and the over-the-month change are calculated using unrounded data.
[3] Data relate to private production and nonsupervisory workers.
p = preliminary.

who had lost their last job was about unchanged over the month at 4.4 million, but has risen by 778,000 over the year. (See table A-8.)

Total Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

The civilian labor force, at 154.6 million, was little changed in July, and the labor force participation rate remained at 66.1 percent. Total employment, at 145.8 million, was about the same as in June. The employment-population ratio, at 62.4 percent in July, was the same as in the prior month but was down from its most recent high of 63.4 percent in December 2006. (See table A-1.)

In July, the number of persons who worked part time for economic reasons rose by 308,000 to 5.7 million and has risen by 1.4 million over the past 12 months. This category includes persons who indicated that they would like to work full time but were working part time because their hours had been cut back or they were unable to find full-time jobs. (See table A-5.)

Persons Not in the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

About 1.6 million persons (not seasonally adjusted) were marginally attached to the labor force in July, an increase of 197,000 over the past 12 months. These individuals wanted and were available for work and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months. They were not counted as unemployed because they had not searched for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey. Among the marginally attached, there were 461,000 discouraged workers in July, 94,000 more than a year earlier. Discouraged workers were not currently looking for work specifically because they believed no jobs were available for them. The other 1.1 million persons marginally attached to the labor force in July had not searched for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey for reasons such as school attendance or family responsibilities. (See table A-13.)

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonfarm payroll employment continued to trend down (-51,000) in July. Thus far in 2008, payroll employment has fallen by 463,000. Over the month, employment continued to decline in manufacturing, construction, employment services, wholesale trade, and the information industry. Health care and mining continued to add jobs over the month. (See table B-1.)

Manufacturing employment fell by 35,000 in July, bringing losses over the past 12 months to 383,000. Over the month, job losses were widespread with notable declines in transportation equipment (-8,000), wood products (-4,000), and textile mills (-3,000). Machinery added 6,000 jobs over the month.

Employment in construction was down by 22,000 in July. Construction has shed 557,000 jobs since its September 2006 employment peak, with nearly three-quarters of the decline occurring since October 2007. Nearly all of the July employment decrease came among specialty trade contractors (-20,000), with both the residential and nonresidential components contributing to the decline.

Within professional and business services, employment services lost 34,000 jobs in July, with nearly all of the decline in temporary help services (-29,000). Since January 2008, employment in temporary help services has declined by 185,000. Computer systems design and related services added 7,000 jobs in July.

Wholesale trade employment decreased by 17,000 over the month, with declines in both the durable and nondurable components. Since its peak in November 2007, wholesale trade has lost 57,000 jobs.

Employment in the information industry declined by 13,000 in July and by 44,000 over the past 12 months. Telecommunications lost 5,000 jobs in July.

Over the month, employment in retail trade continued to trend down. Since its peak in March 2007, retail trade has lost 211,000 jobs. Employment in motor vehicle and parts dealers fell by 11,000 in July, bringing declines in that industry to 35,000 since January 2008.

Employment in health care continued to increase with a gain of 33,000 in July. This industry has added 368,000 jobs over the past 12 months. In July, there were job gains of 21,000 in ambulatory health care services and 10,000 in hospitals.

In July, employment continued to grow in mining (10,000). Mining employment has expanded by 222,000, or 45 percent, since reaching a low in April 2003. Most of this increase has occurred in oil and gas extraction and in support activities for this industry.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

In July, the average workweek for production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls fell by 0.1 hour to 33.6 hours, seasonally adjusted. Both the manufacturing workweek and factory overtime were unchanged over the month at 41.0 and 3.8 hours, respectively. (See table B-2.)

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production and nonsupervisory workers on nonfarm payrolls fell by 0.4 percent in July to 106.6 (2002=100). The manufacturing index decreased by 0.1 percent to 91.6. (See table B-5.)

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

In July, average hourly earnings of production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 6 cents, or 0.3 percent, to $18.06, seasonally adjusted. This followed gains of 6 cents in May and 5 cents in June. Average weekly earnings, at $606.82, were about unchanged in July. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings increased by 3.4 percent and average weekly earnings rose by 2.8 percent. (See tables B-3 and B-4.)

The Employment Situation for August 2008 is scheduled to be released on Friday, September 5, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

Frequently Asked Questions about Employment and Unemployment Estimates

Why are there two monthly measures of employment?

The household survey and establishment survey both produce sample-based estimates of employment and both have strengths and limitations. The establishment survey employment series has a smaller margin of error on the measurement of month-to-month change than the household survey because of its much larger sample size. An over-the-month employment change of 104,000 is statistically significant in the establishment survey, while the threshold for a statistically significant change in the household survey is about 400,000. However, the household survey has a more expansive scope than the establishment survey because it includes the self-employed, unpaid family workers, agricultural workers, and private household workers, who are excluded by the establishment survey. The household survey also provides estimates of employment for demographic groups.

Are undocumented immigrants counted in the surveys?

Neither the establishment nor household survey is designed to identify the legal status of workers. Thus, while it is likely that both surveys include at least some undocumented immigrants, it is not possible to determine how many are counted in either survey. The household survey does include questions about whether respondents were born outside the United States. Data from these questions show that foreign-born workers accounted for about 15 percent of the labor force in 2006 and about 47 percent of the net increase in the labor force from 2000 to 2006.

Why does the establishment survey have revisions?

The establishment survey revises published estimates to improve its data series by incorporating additional information that was not available at the time of the initial publication of the estimates. The establishment survey revises its initial monthly estimates twice, in the immediately succeeding 2 months, to incorporate additional sample receipts from respondents in the survey. For more information on the monthly revisions, please visit http://www.bls.gov/ces/cesrevinfo.htm.

On an annual basis, the establishment survey incorporates a benchmark revision that re-anchors estimates to nearly complete employment counts available from unemployment insurance tax records. The benchmark helps to control for sampling and modeling errors in the estimates. For more information on the annual benchmark revision, please visit http://www.bls.gov/web/cesbmart.htm.

Has the establishment survey understated employment growth because it excludes the self-employed?

While the establishment survey excludes the self-employed, the household survey provides monthly estimates of unincorporated self-employment. These estimates have shown no substantial growth in recent years.

Does the establishment survey sample include small firms?

Yes; about 40 percent of the establishment survey sample is comprised of business establishments with fewer than 20 employees. The establishment survey sample is designed to maximize the reliability of the total nonfarm employment estimate; firms from all size classes and industries are appropriately sampled to achieve that goal.

Does the establishment survey account for employment from new businesses?

Yes; monthly establishment survey estimates include an adjustment to account for the net employment change generated by business births and deaths. The adjustment comes from an econometric model that forecasts the monthly net jobs impact of business births and deaths based on the actual past values of the net impact that can be observed with a lag from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. The establishment survey uses modeling rather than sampling for this purpose because the survey is not immediately able to bring new businesses into the sample. There is an unavoidable lag between the birth of a new firm and its appearance on the sampling frame and availability for selection. BLS adds new businesses to the survey twice a year.

Is the count of unemployed persons limited to just those people receiving unemployment insurance benefits?

No; the estimate of unemployment is based on a monthly sample survey of households. All persons who are without jobs and are actively seeking and available to work are included among the unemployed. (People on temporary layoff are included even if they do not actively seek work.) There is no requirement or question relating to unemployment insurance benefits in the monthly survey.

Does the official unemployment rate exclude people who have stopped looking for work?

Yes; however, there are separate estimates of persons outside the labor force who want a job, including those who have stopped looking because they believe no jobs are available (discouraged workers). In addition, alternative measures of labor underutilization (discouraged workers and other groups not officially counted as unemployed) are published each month in the Employment Situation news release.

Technical 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 2007 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 430,000. 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 -330,000 to 530,000 (100,000 +/- 430,000). 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 +/- 280,000, and for the monthly change in the unemployment rate it is about +/- .19 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 0.2 percent, ranging from less than 0.1 percent to 0.6 percent.

Other information

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]					
	July 2007	June 2008	July 2008	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008
TOTAL									
Civilian noninstitutional population	231,958	233,627	233,864	231,958	232,995	233,198	233,405	233,627	233,864
Civilian labor force	154,871	155,582	156,300	153,182	153,784	153,957	154,534	154,390	154,603
Participation rate	66.8	66.6	66.8	66.0	66.0	66.0	66.2	66.1	66.1
Employed	147,315	146,649	146,867	146,045	145,969	146,331	146,046	145,891	145,819
Employment-population ratio	63.5	62.8	62.8	63.0	62.6	62.7	62.6	62.4	62.4
Unemployed	7,556	8,933	9,433	7,137	7,815	7,626	8,487	8,499	8,784
Unemployment rate	4.9	5.7	6.0	4.7	5.1	5.0	5.5	5.5	5.7
Not in labor force	77,087	78,045	77,564	78,776	79,211	79,241	78,871	79,237	79,261
Persons who currently want a job	4,900	5,374	5,213	4,773	4,730	4,755	4,766	4,888	4,997
Men, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	112,222	113,029	113,154	112,222	112,695	112,803	112,912	113,029	113,154
Civilian labor force	83,383	83,432	84,113	82,124	82,184	82,256	82,602	82,528	82,889
Participation rate	74.3	73.8	74.3	73.2	72.9	72.9	73.2	73.0	73.3
Employed	79,542	78,614	78,991	78,237	77,948	78,038	77,954	77,794	77,823
Employment-population ratio	70.9	69.6	69.8	69.7	69.2	69.2	69.0	68.8	68.8
Unemployed	3,841	4,818	5,122	3,887	4,236	4,218	4,648	4,734	5,066
Unemployment rate	4.6	5.8	6.1	4.7	5.2	5.1	5.6	5.7	6.1
Not in labor force	28,839	29,597	29,040	30,098	30,511	30,547	30,310	30,502	30,264
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	103,598	104,371	104,490	103,598	104,052	104,152	104,258	104,371	104,490
Civilian labor force	79,078	79,231	79,752	78,619	78,838	78,776	78,878	79,037	79,327
Participation rate	76.3	75.9	76.3	75.9	75.8	75.6	75.7	75.7	75.9
Employed	75,947	75,402	75,643	75,324	75,197	75,148	75,001	74,998	75,094
Employment-population ratio	73.3	72.2	72.4	72.7	72.3	72.2	71.9	71.9	71.9
Unemployed	3,131	3,829	4,110	3,295	3,641	3,628	3,877	4,038	4,234
Unemployment rate	4.0	4.8	5.2	4.2	4.6	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.3
Not in labor force	24,521	25,139	24,738	24,979	25,214	25,376	25,380	25,334	25,163
Women, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	119,736	120,598	120,710	119,736	120,300	120,396	120,493	120,598	120,710
Civilian labor force	71,488	72,150	72,187	71,058	71,600	71,701	71,931	71,862	71,714
Participation rate	59.7	59.8	59.8	59.3	59.5	59.6	59.7	59.6	59.4
Employed	67,773	68,035	67,876	67,808	68,021	68,293	68,092	68,097	67,996
Employment-population ratio	56.6	56.4	56.2	56.6	56.5	56.7	56.5	56.5	56.3
Unemployed	3,715	4,115	4,311	3,250	3,579	3,408	3,839	3,765	3,718
Unemployment rate	5.2	5.7	6.0	4.6	5.0	4.8	5.3	5.2	5.2
Not in labor force	48,248	48,448	48,523	48,679	48,700	48,694	48,562	48,735	48,996
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	111,367	112,183	112,290	111,367	111,902	111,990	112,083	112,183	112,290
Civilian labor force	67,293	68,227	68,072	67,566	68,159	68,176	68,390	68,446	68,303
Participation rate	60.4	60.8	60.6	60.7	60.9	60.9	61.0	61.0	60.8
Employed	64,184	64,904	64,526	64,792	65,055	65,260	65,138	65,238	65,167
Employment-population ratio	57.6	57.9	57.5	58.2	58.1	58.3	58.1	58.2	58.0
Unemployed	3,110	3,323	3,546	2,774	3,104	2,916	3,252	3,208	3,135
Unemployment rate	4.6	4.9	5.2	4.1	4.6	4.3	4.8	4.7	4.6
Not in labor force	44,073	43,956	44,218	43,801	43,743	43,814	43,693	43,737	43,988
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population	16,993	17,073	17,084	16,993	17,041	17,056	17,064	17,073	17,084
Civilian labor force	8,500	8,124	8,476	6,997	6,787	7,005	7,266	6,907	6,973
Participation rate	50.0	47.6	49.6	41.2	39.8	41.1	42.6	40.5	40.8
Employed	7,184	6,343	6,698	5,930	5,717	5,923	5,907	5,655	5,558
Employment-population ratio	42.3	37.1	39.2	34.9	33.5	34.7	34.6	33.1	32.5
Unemployed	1,316	1,781	1,777	1,067	1,070	1,082	1,358	1,253	1,415
Unemployment rate	15.5	21.9	21.0	15.3	15.8	15.4	18.7	18.1	20.3
Not in labor force	8,493	8,950	8,608	9,996	10,254	10,051	9,798	10,166	10,110

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.
NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

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]					
	July 2007	June 2008	July 2008	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	188,312	189,428	189,587	188,312	189,019	189,147	189,281	189,428	189,587
Civilian labor force	126,102	126,674	127,164	124,945	125,190	125,171	125,762	125,704	125,971
Participation rate	67.0	66.9	67.1	66.3	66.2	66.2	66.4	66.4	66.4
Employed	120,635	120,191	120,357	119,713	119,574	119,667	119,661	119,518	119,542
Employment-population ratio	64.1	63.4	63.5	63.6	63.3	63.3	63.2	63.1	63.1
Unemployed	5,468	6,483	6,807	5,232	5,616	5,504	6,101	6,186	6,428
Unemployment rate	4.3	5.1	5.4	4.2	4.5	4.4	4.9	4.9	5.1
Not in labor force	62,210	62,753	62,422	63,368	63,829	63,975	63,519	63,724	63,616
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	65,424	65,578	66,010	65,200	65,342	65,183	65,392	65,402	65,789
Participation rate	76.6	76.3	76.7	76.3	76.2	75.9	76.1	76.1	76.4
Employed	63,122	62,803	63,055	62,736	62,665	62,507	62,491	62,447	62,695
Employment-population ratio	73.9	73.0	73.3	73.4	73.1	72.8	72.7	72.6	72.8
Unemployed	2,302	2,775	2,956	2,464	2,677	2,676	2,901	2,955	3,094
Unemployment rate	3.5	4.2	4.5	3.8	4.1	4.1	4.4	4.5	4.7
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	53,638	54,346	54,186	53,935	54,264	54,211	54,400	54,562	54,424
Participation rate	59.7	60.2	59.9	60.1	60.2	60.1	60.3	60.4	60.2
Employed	51,415	51,969	51,637	51,968	52,061	52,182	52,177	52,282	52,184
Employment-population ratio	57.2	57.5	57.1	57.9	57.7	57.8	57.8	57.9	57.7
Unemployed	2,223	2,376	2,549	1,967	2,202	2,029	2,223	2,280	2,240
Unemployment rate	4.1	4.4	4.7	3.6	4.1	3.7	4.1	4.2	4.1
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	7,040	6,750	6,968	5,809	5,584	5,777	5,971	5,740	5,758
Participation rate	53.9	51.6	53.2	44.5	42.7	44.2	45.7	43.9	44.0
Employed	6,098	5,419	5,665	5,009	4,848	4,978	4,993	4,789	4,664
Employment-population ratio	46.7	41.4	43.3	38.4	37.1	38.1	38.2	36.6	35.6
Unemployed	942	1,332	1,303	800	736	799	978	951	1,094
Unemployment rate	13.4	19.7	18.7	13.8	13.2	13.8	16.4	16.6	19.0
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	27,498	27,816	27,854	27,498	27,709	27,746	27,780	27,816	27,854
Civilian labor force	17,895	17,926	18,097	17,593	17,702	17,753	17,742	17,716	17,767
Participation rate	65.1	64.4	65.0	64.0	63.9	64.0	63.9	63.7	63.8
Employed	16,307	16,165	16,132	16,172	16,116	16,234	16,029	16,085	16,040
Employment-population ratio	59.3	58.1	57.9	58.8	58.2	58.5	57.7	57.8	57.6
Unemployed	1,588	1,760	1,965	1,421	1,586	1,520	1,713	1,632	1,726
Unemployment rate	8.9	9.8	10.9	8.1	9.0	8.6	9.7	9.2	9.7
Not in labor force	9,603	9,891	9,757	9,905	10,007	9,992	10,038	10,100	10,088
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	8,039	8,051	8,067	7,960	7,922	7,945	7,909	7,997	7,979
Participation rate	72.7	72.0	72.0	72.0	71.2	71.3	70.8	71.5	71.3
Employed	7,423	7,292	7,223	7,359	7,255	7,278	7,202	7,254	7,184
Employment-population ratio	67.1	65.2	64.5	66.5	65.2	65.3	64.5	64.9	64.2
Unemployed	617	760	844	601	667	667	707	742	795
Unemployment rate	7.7	9.4	10.5	7.6	8.4	8.4	8.9	9.3	10.0
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	8,896	8,987	9,019	8,867	9,016	9,038	9,008	8,973	8,985
Participation rate	64.5	64.4	64.5	64.3	64.8	64.9	64.6	64.3	64.3
Employed	8,217	8,300	8,267	8,254	8,336	8,374	8,268	8,305	8,311
Employment-population ratio	59.6	59.5	59.1	59.8	59.9	60.1	59.3	59.5	59.5
Unemployed	679	687	752	613	680	664	740	668	674
Unemployment rate	7.6	7.6	8.3	6.9	7.5	7.4	8.2	7.4	7.5
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	960	887	1,011	765	764	771	825	747	802
Participation rate	36.3	33.1	37.7	28.9	28.7	28.9	30.9	27.9	30.0
Employed	667	573	642	558	525	582	558	525	545
Employment-population ratio	25.2	21.4	24.0	21.1	19.7	21.8	20.9	19.6	20.4
Unemployed	292	314	369	206	239	189	266	221	257
Unemployment rate	30.5	35.4	36.5	27.0	31.3	24.5	32.3	29.6	32.0

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, race, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted [1]					
	July 2007	June 2008	July 2008	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008
ASIAN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	10,640	10,728	10,802	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Civilian labor force	7,161	7,231	7,326	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	67.3	67.4	67.8	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	6,949	6,903	7,030	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	65.3	64.3	65.1	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	212	328	296	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	3.0	4.5	4.0	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Not in labor force	3,479	3,498	3,476	(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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

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]					
	July 2007	June 2008	July 2008	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008
HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY									
Civilian noninstitutional population	31,423	32,087	32,179	31,423	31,820	31,911	31,998	32,087	32,179
Civilian labor force	21,752	22,184	22,193	21,613	21,775	21,917	22,102	22,131	22,071
Participation rate	69.2	69.1	69.0	68.8	68.4	68.7	69.1	69.0	68.6
Employed	20,454	20,499	20,505	20,345	20,269	20,404	20,573	20,420	20,435
Employment-population ratio	65.1	63.9	63.7	64.7	63.7	63.9	64.3	63.6	63.5
Unemployed	1,298	1,684	1,688	1,269	1,507	1,512	1,529	1,711	1,636
Unemployment rate	6.0	7.6	7.6	5.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.7	7.4
Not in labor force	9,670	9,904	9,986	9,809	10,045	9,994	9,896	9,956	10,108
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	12,419	12,632	12,661	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	84.7	84.5	84.5	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	11,931	11,849	11,937	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	81.3	79.3	79.6	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	488	783	725	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	3.9	6.2	5.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	8,170	8,286	8,268	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	59.2	58.7	58.5	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	7,598	7,680	7,650	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	55.0	54.5	54.1	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	572	606	618	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	7.0	7.3	7.5	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	1,163	1,266	1,264	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	39.5	41.7	41.5	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	926	970	919	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	31.4	32.0	30.2	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	238	296	345	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	20.4	23.4	27.3	(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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

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					
	July 2007	June 2008	July 2008	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008
Less than a high school diploma									
Civilian labor force	11,865	12,422	11,877	12,154	12,058	12,095	12,119	12,178	12,168
Participation rate	46.7	46.8	46.6	47.8	46.0	45.5	45.4	45.9	47.8
Employed	11,045	11,424	10,897	11,281	11,071	11,157	11,118	11,117	11,135
Employment-population ratio	43.5	43.0	42.8	44.4	42.3	42.0	41.6	41.9	43.7
Unemployed	821	998	980	874	986	938	1,001	1,061	1,033
Unemployment rate	6.9	8.0	8.3	7.2	8.2	7.8	8.3	8.7	8.5
High school graduates, no college [1]									
Civilian labor force	37,798	37,875	38,248	38,473	37,952	37,926	38,323	38,170	38,872
Participation rate	62.2	62.3	62.5	63.3	62.3	62.6	62.8	62.8	63.5
Employed	36,093	36,031	36,211	36,758	36,016	36,032	36,349	36,233	36,854
Employment-population ratio	59.4	59.3	59.2	60.5	59.1	59.5	59.5	59.6	60.2
Unemployed	1,705	1,844	2,037	1,714	1,936	1,894	1,974	1,937	2,018
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.9	5.3	4.5	5.1	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.2
Some college or associate degree									
Civilian labor force	36,574	36,692	36,791	36,137	36,548	36,688	36,791	36,824	36,444
Participation rate	72.0	71.7	71.7	71.1	72.1	72.2	72.4	71.9	71.1
Employed	35,221	35,117	35,035	34,848	35,142	35,271	35,219	35,264	34,813
Employment-population ratio	69.3	68.6	68.3	68.6	69.3	69.4	69.3	68.9	67.9
Unemployed	1,353	1,575	1,756	1,288	1,405	1,417	1,572	1,559	1,631
Unemployment rate	3.7	4.3	4.8	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.3	4.2	4.5
Bachelor's degree and higher [2]									
Civilian labor force	44,295	44,677	44,955	44,452	45,459	45,309	44,566	44,993	45,071
Participation rate	77.0	77.5	77.0	77.3	78.6	78.4	77.7	78.1	77.2
Employed	43,239	43,611	43,703	43,512	44,501	44,376	43,588	43,964	43,993
Employment-population ratio	75.2	75.7	74.8	75.7	77.0	76.8	76.0	76.3	75.3
Unemployed	1,056	1,066	1,252	941	958	933	978	1,029	1,078
Unemployment rate	2.4	2.4	2.8	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4

[1] Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.
[2] Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.
NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

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

(In thousands)

Category	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	July 2007	June 2008	July 2008	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008
CLASS OF WORKER									
Agriculture and related industries	2,242	2,331	2,372	1,997	2,192	2,109	2,122	2,137	2,123
Wage and salary workers	1,328	1,401	1,444	1,145	1,331	1,244	1,241	1,244	1,258
Self-employed workers	872	876	894	825	849	839	849	840	844
Unpaid family workers	41	53	35	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Nonagricultural industries	145,073	144,319	144,495	144,096	143,796	144,258	143,898	143,650	143,589
Wage and salary workers	135,111	134,573	134,662	134,329	134,411	134,761	134,385	134,132	133,951
Government	20,468	20,955	20,509	21,023	21,262	21,333	21,263	21,186	21,098
Private industries	114,643	113,618	114,153	113,327	113,142	113,394	113,116	113,001	112,956
Private households	856	862	873	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Other industries	113,787	112,756	113,280	112,533	112,383	112,650	112,315	112,155	112,157
Self-employed workers	9,830	9,625	9,727	9,648	9,224	9,355	9,384	9,430	9,518
Unpaid family workers	132	120	106	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
PERSONS AT WORK PART TIME [2]									
All industries:									
Part time for economic reasons	4,516	5,697	6,054	4,332	4,914	5,220	5,233	5,416	5,724
Slack work or business conditions	2,693	3,806	4,174	2,751	3,323	3,558	3,595	3,816	4,194
Could only find part-time work	1,402	1,532	1,481	1,210	1,362	1,323	1,281	1,336	1,286
Part time for noneconomic reasons	17,955	18,424	17,442	19,957	19,409	19,809	19,428	19,496	19,406
Nonagricultural industries:									
Part time for economic reasons	4,456	5,608	5,947	4,259	4,797	5,125	5,164	5,308	5,599
Slack work or business conditions	2,653	3,749	4,111	2,711	3,238	3,513	3,531	3,744	4,156
Could only find part-time work	1,390	1,513	1,469	1,205	1,354	1,331	1,288	1,328	1,277
Part time for noneconomic reasons	17,559	18,038	17,080	19,569	19,072	19,456	19,047	19,106	19,051

[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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-6. Selected employment indicators

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	July 2007	June 2008	July 2008	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008
AGE AND SEX									
Total, 16 years and over	147,315	146,649	146,867	146,045	145,969	146,331	146,046	145,891	145,819
16 to 19 years	7,184	6,343	6,698	5,930	5,717	5,923	5,907	5,655	5,558
16 to 17 years	2,853	2,212	2,445	2,289	2,125	2,072	2,040	1,966	1,974
18 to 19 years	4,331	4,130	4,253	3,687	3,578	3,847	3,807	3,678	3,619
20 years and over	140,131	140,307	140,169	140,116	140,252	140,408	140,139	140,236	140,261
20 to 24 years	14,533	14,123	14,323	13,913	13,657	13,761	13,704	13,720	13,724
25 years and over	125,598	126,183	125,846	126,311	126,574	126,595	126,394	126,565	126,611
25 to 54 years	99,912	99,597	99,215	100,350	99,948	99,964	99,774	99,813	99,733
25 to 34 years	31,689	31,540	31,465	31,673	31,581	31,639	31,545	31,488	31,468
35 to 44 years	33,937	33,553	33,371	34,146	33,783	33,740	33,701	33,692	33,613
45 to 54 years	34,286	34,504	34,379	34,531	34,585	34,586	34,528	34,634	34,651
55 years and over	25,686	26,586	26,631	25,961	26,626	26,631	26,620	26,751	26,879
Men, 16 years and over	79,542	78,614	78,991	78,237	77,948	78,038	77,954	77,794	77,823
16 to 19 years	3,595	3,212	3,348	2,914	2,751	2,890	2,953	2,795	2,729
16 to 17 years	1,439	1,106	1,215	1,106	971	937	990	938	931
18 to 19 years	2,156	2,106	2,133	1,812	1,780	1,948	1,946	1,879	1,799
20 years and over	75,947	75,402	75,643	75,324	75,197	75,148	75,001	74,998	75,094
20 to 24 years	7,826	7,450	7,598	7,373	7,268	7,299	7,250	7,202	7,179
25 years and over	68,121	67,952	68,045	67,986	67,938	67,809	67,742	67,832	67,952
25 to 54 years	54,430	53,714	53,755	54,253	53,847	53,678	53,652	53,605	53,643
25 to 34 years	17,706	17,367	17,370	17,558	17,255	17,321	17,309	17,298	17,245
35 to 44 years	18,607	18,154	18,147	18,556	18,359	18,180	18,147	18,133	18,122
45 to 54 years	18,117	18,193	18,237	18,139	18,233	18,177	18,196	18,174	18,276
55 years and over	13,691	14,238	14,290	13,732	14,091	14,131	14,091	14,227	14,309
Women, 16 years and over	67,773	68,035	67,876	67,808	68,021	68,293	68,092	68,097	67,996
16 to 19 years	3,589	3,131	3,350	3,016	2,966	3,033	2,954	2,859	2,829
16 to 17 years	1,414	1,106	1,230	1,184	1,154	1,136	1,050	1,028	1,043
18 to 19 years	2,175	2,025	2,119	1,875	1,798	1,899	1,861	1,799	1,820
20 years and over	64,184	64,904	64,526	64,792	65,055	65,260	65,138	65,238	65,167
20 to 24 years	6,707	6,673	6,725	6,541	6,389	6,463	6,454	6,518	6,544
25 years and over	57,477	58,231	57,802	58,325	58,636	58,786	58,652	58,733	58,660
25 to 54 years	45,481	45,883	45,460	46,097	46,101	46,286	46,122	46,208	46,090
25 to 34 years	13,983	14,173	14,095	14,115	14,326	14,318	14,236	14,190	14,224
35 to 44 years	15,329	15,400	15,224	15,590	15,423	15,559	15,555	15,559	15,491
45 to 54 years	16,169	16,311	16,142	16,391	16,352	16,409	16,332	16,459	16,376
55 years and over	11,995	12,348	12,341	12,228	12,535	12,500	12,529	12,525	12,570
MARITAL STATUS									
Married men, spouse present	46,211	45,897	46,034	46,307	45,961	45,964	45,862	45,911	46,120
Married women, spouse present	35,286	35,940	35,571	35,938	35,749	36,177	36,171	36,270	36,185
Women who maintain families	9,431	9,007	8,877	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
FULL- OR PART-TIME STATUS									
Full-time workers [2]	123,219	121,845	122,378	121,161	121,231	120,856	120,989	120,542	120,537
Part-time workers [3]	24,096	24,804	24,489	25,026	24,691	25,245	24,970	25,419	25,431
MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS									
Total multiple jobholders	7,636	7,694	7,743	7,648	7,449	7,644	7,679	7,794	7,757
Percent of total employed	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.3

[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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-7. Selected unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted

Characteristic	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)			Unemployment rates [1]					
	July 2007	June 2008	July 2008	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008
AGE AND SEX									
Total, 16 years and over	7,137	8,499	8,784	4.7	5.1	5.0	5.5	5.5	5.7
16 to 19 years	1,067	1,253	1,415	15.3	15.8	15.4	18.7	18.1	20.3
16 to 17 years	469	596	654	17.0	18.6	19.7	21.2	23.3	24.9
18 to 19 years	600	678	759	14.0	14.0	13.2	17.5	15.6	17.3
20 years and over	6,069	7,247	7,369	4.2	4.6	4.5	4.8	4.9	5.0
20 to 24 years	1,291	1,535	1,567	8.5	9.3	8.9	10.4	10.1	10.2
25 years and over	4,841	5,639	5,848	3.7	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.4
25 to 54 years	3,972	4,704	4,826	3.8	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.6
25 to 34 years	1,527	1,798	1,862	4.6	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.6
35 to 44 years	1,327	1,545	1,614	3.7	3.8	3.8	4.2	4.4	4.6
45 to 54 years	1,117	1,361	1,349	3.1	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.7
55 years and over	857	919	1,014	3.2	3.4	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.6
Men, 16 years and over	3,887	4,734	5,066	4.7	5.2	5.1	5.6	5.7	6.1
16 to 19 years	592	695	833	16.9	17.8	16.9	20.7	19.9	23.4
16 to 17 years	264	333	387	19.3	22.0	22.2	23.3	26.2	29.4
18 to 19 years	330	387	447	15.4	15.2	14.5	19.6	17.1	19.9
20 years and over	3,295	4,038	4,234	4.2	4.6	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.3
20 to 24 years	749	904	940	9.2	10.3	9.9	11.0	11.2	11.6
25 years and over	2,568	3,072	3,308	3.6	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.6
25 to 54 years	2,086	2,574	2,759	3.7	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.9
25 to 34 years	801	986	1,114	4.4	5.4	5.0	5.4	5.4	6.1
35 to 44 years	689	863	925	3.6	3.6	4.0	4.1	4.5	4.9
45 to 54 years	596	725	720	3.2	3.5	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.8
55 years and over	482	497	549	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.7
Women, 16 years and over	3,250	3,765	3,718	4.6	5.0	4.8	5.3	5.2	5.2
16 to 19 years	476	557	583	13.6	13.8	14.0	16.6	16.3	17.1
16 to 17 years	205	262	267	14.8	15.5	17.5	19.0	20.3	20.4
18 to 19 years	270	292	312	12.6	12.8	11.8	15.2	13.9	14.6
20 years and over	2,774	3,208	3,135	4.1	4.6	4.3	4.8	4.7	4.6
20 to 24 years	542	631	627	7.7	8.1	7.7	9.6	8.8	8.7
25 years and over	2,273	2,567	2,540	3.8	4.1	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.2
25 to 54 years	1,885	2,130	2,067	3.9	4.2	4.0	4.4	4.4	4.3
25 to 34 years	726	812	749	4.9	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.4	5.0
35 to 44 years	638	682	689	3.9	3.9	3.7	4.4	4.2	4.3
45 to 54 years	521	636	629	3.1	3.5	3.4	3.8	3.7	3.7
55 years and over [2]	434	439	550	3.5	3.4	2.8	2.8	3.4	4.3
MARITAL STATUS									
Married men, spouse present	1,267	1,426	1,523	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.2
Married women, spouse present	1,061	1,256	1,240	2.9	3.3	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.3
Women who maintain families [2]	687	768	820	6.8	7.1	6.8	6.9	7.9	8.5
FULL- OR PART-TIME STATUS									
Full-time workers [3]	5,869	7,050	7,327	4.6	5.0	5.0	5.5	5.5	5.7
Part-time workers [4]	1,334	1,442	1,486	5.1	5.3	4.9	5.5	5.4	5.5

[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 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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-8. Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Reason	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	July 2007	June 2008	July 2008	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	3,730	4,201	4,562	3,629	4,154	4,014	4,282	4,370	4,407
On temporary layoff	1,090	949	1,134	983	1,056	1,099	1,113	1,077	1,037
Not on temporary layoff	2,640	3,252	3,428	2,646	3,098	2,915	3,169	3,292	3,370
Permanent job losers	1,861	2,341	2,512	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])
Persons who completed temporary jobs	779	912	916	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])
Job leavers	856	818	904	823	781	850	870	833	861
Reentrants	2,141	2,778	2,825	2,082	2,117	2,134	2,460	2,498	2,705
New entrants	829	1,136	1,142	602	681	624	828	748	811
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	49.4	47.0	48.4	50.8	53.7	52.7	50.7	51.7	50.2
On temporary layoff	14.4	10.6	12.0	13.8	13.7	14.4	13.2	12.7	11.8
Not on temporary layoff	34.9	36.4	36.3	37.1	40.1	38.2	37.5	39.0	38.4
Job leavers	11.3	9.2	9.6	11.5	10.1	11.2	10.3	9.9	9.8
Reentrants	28.3	31.1	29.9	29.2	27.4	28.0	29.1	29.6	30.8
New entrants	11.0	12.7	12.1	8.4	8.8	8.2	9.8	8.9	9.2
UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	2.4	2.7	2.9	2.4	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.9
Job leavers	.6	.5	.6	.5	.5	.6	.6	.5	.6
Reentrants	1.4	1.8	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.7
New entrants	.5	.7	.7	.4	.4	.4	.5	.5	.5

[1] Data not available.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-9. Unemployed persons by duration of unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Duration	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	July 2007	June 2008	July 2008	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Less than 5 weeks	2,731	3,425	3,121	2,496	2,767	2,484	3,244	2,712	2,835
5 to 14 weeks	2,557	2,719	3,291	2,220	2,525	2,495	2,469	2,999	2,823
15 weeks and over	2,269	2,790	3,021	2,402	2,400	2,626	2,773	2,916	3,118
15 to 26 weeks	988	1,261	1,360	1,091	1,118	1,272	1,223	1,328	1,440
27 weeks and over	1,281	1,529	1,661	1,311	1,282	1,353	1,550	1,587	1,678
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	16.3	15.9	16.3	17.3	16.2	16.9	16.6	17.5	17.1
Median duration, in weeks	8.0	7.5	8.9	8.9	8.1	9.3	8.3	10.0	9.7
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	36.1	38.3	33.1	35.1	36.0	32.7	38.2	31.4	32.3
5 to 14 weeks	33.8	30.4	34.9	31.2	32.8	32.8	29.1	34.8	32.2
15 weeks and over	30.0	31.2	32.0	33.7	31.2	34.5	32.7	33.8	35.5
15 to 26 weeks	13.1	14.1	14.4	15.3	14.5	16.7	14.4	15.4	16.4
27 weeks and over	17.0	17.1	17.6	18.4	16.7	17.8	18.3	18.4	19.1

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

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

(Numbers in thousands)

Occupation	Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment rates	
	July 2007	July 2008	July 2007	July 2008	July 2007	July 2008
Total, 16 years and over [1]	147,315	146,867	7,556	9,433	4.9	6.0
Management, professional, and related occupations	50,954	52,655	1,315	1,585	2.5	2.9
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	21,696	22,596	385	593	1.7	2.6
Professional and related occupations	29,259	30,059	930	992	3.1	3.2
Service occupations	25,406	25,613	1,537	1,880	5.7	6.8
Sales and office occupations	36,407	35,096	1,792	2,143	4.7	5.8
Sales and related occupations	16,804	15,995	918	1,055	5.2	6.2
Office and administrative support occupations	19,604	19,102	874	1,088	4.3	5.4
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	16,214	15,399	902	1,240	5.3	7.5
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1,081	1,085	57	93	5.0	7.9
Construction and extraction occupations	9,785	9,086	649	864	6.2	8.7
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	5,348	5,227	195	283	3.5	5.1
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	18,334	18,104	1,176	1,407	6.0	7.2
Production occupations	9,410	9,015	534	686	5.4	7.1
Transportation and material moving occupations	8,924	9,089	642	722	6.7	7.4

[1] Persons with no previous work experience and persons whose last job was in the Armed Forces are included in the unemployed total.
NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-11. Unemployed persons by industry and class of worker, not seasonally adjusted

Industry and class of worker	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)		Unemployment rates	
	July 2007	July 2008	July 2007	July 2008
Total, 16 years and over [1]	7,556	9,433	4.9	6.0
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers	5,659	7,050	4.7	5.8
Mining	33	13	4.3	1.5
Construction	617	783	5.9	8.0
Manufacturing	621	908	3.7	5.5
Durable goods	374	607	3.6	5.7
Nondurable goods	247	301	4.0	5.0
Wholesale and retail trade	1,089	1,329	5.2	6.5
Transportation and utilities	309	359	5.1	5.7
Information	112	141	3.4	4.1
Financial activities	307	350	3.1	3.6
Professional and business services	743	866	5.2	6.1
Education and health services	665	776	3.5	3.9
Leisure and hospitality	920	1,172	7.3	8.8
Other services	243	352	3.8	5.2
Agriculture and related private wage and salary workers	40	125	3.1	8.5
Government workers	704	770	3.3	3.6
Self employed and unpaid family workers	324	345	2.9	3.1

[1] Persons with no previous work experience are included in the unemployed total.
NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-12. Alternative measures of labor underutilization

(Percent)

Measure	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	July 2007	June 2008	July 2008	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008
U-1 Persons unemployed 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force	1.5	1.8	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0
U-2 Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force	2.4	2.7	2.9	2.4	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.9
U-3 Total unemployed, as a percent of the civilian labor force (official unemployment rate)	4.9	5.7	6.0	4.7	5.1	5.0	5.5	5.5	5.7
U-4 Total unemployed plus discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers	5.1	6.0	6.3	4.9	5.3	5.2	5.7	5.8	6.0
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	5.7	6.7	7.0	5.5	5.9	5.8	6.4	6.4	6.6
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	8.6	10.3	10.8	8.3	9.1	9.2	9.7	9.9	10.3

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 looking currently 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 more information, see "BLS introduces new range of alternative unemployment measures," in the October 1995 issue of the Monthly Labor Review. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

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

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Total		Men		Women	
	July 2007	July 2008	July 2007	July 2008	July 2007	July 2008
NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE						
Total not in the labor force	77,087	77,564	28,839	29,040	48,248	48,523
Persons who currently want a job	4,900	5,213	2,141	2,251	2,758	2,961
Searched for work and available to work now [1]	1,376	1,573	751	810	624	764
Reason not currently looking:						
Discouragement over job prospects [2]	367	461	231	301	135	160
Reasons other than discouragement [3]	1,009	1,112	520	508	489	604
MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS						
Total multiple jobholders [4]	7,636	7,743	3,837	3,981	3,799	3,762
Percent of total employed	5.2	5.3	4.8	5.0	5.6	5.5
Primary job full time, secondary job part time	3,996	4,149	2,167	2,267	1,829	1,882
Primary and secondary jobs both part time	1,732	1,783	551	622	1,181	1,161
Primary and secondary jobs both full time	367	335	234	209	133	126
Hours vary on primary or secondary job	1,486	1,426	850	859	636	567

[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: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

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

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	July 2007	May 2008	June 2008p	July 2008p	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008p	July 2008p	Change from: June 2008-July 2008p
Total nonfarm	137,410	138,405	138,694	137,236	137,682	137,831	137,764	137,717	137,666	137,615	-51
Total private	116,464	115,578	116,234	115,929	115,512	115,454	115,363	115,264	115,170	115,094	-76
Goods-producing	22,607	21,634	21,832	21,784	22,242	21,737	21,628	21,577	21,500	21,454	-46
Natural resources and mining	740	761	778	793	726	750	752	760	767	778	11
Logging	62.1	57.4	57.7	59.6	59.9	60.1	60.8	59.5	57.4	57.9	.5
Mining	677.8	703.7	719.8	733.5	666.3	689.7	690.9	700.6	709.6	719.9	10.3
Oil and gas extraction	148.4	158.1	162.8	165.7	146.3	155.2	154.2	158.3	160.5	162.8	2.3
Mining, except oil and gas[1]	233.0	234.0	238.0	239.8	225.4	226.2	225.8	229.6	230.4	231.7	1.3
Coal mining	78.2	80.3	81.4	81.5	77.4	79.2	79.3	80.5	80.8	80.7	-.1
Support activities for mining	296.4	311.6	319.0	328.0	294.6	308.3	310.9	312.7	318.7	325.4	6.7
Construction	7,941	7,306	7,425	7,459	7,632	7,343	7,284	7,246	7,197	7,175	-22
Construction of buildings	1,816.7	1,636.8	1,663.7	1,671.8	1,765.3	1,668.2	1,648.2	1,634.9	1,623.9	1,622.8	-1.1
Residential building	984.3	857.7	872.8	873.1	953.1	875.5	863.9	855.5	849.9	844.7	-5.2
Nonresidential building	832.4	779.1	790.9	798.7	812.2	792.7	784.3	779.4	774.0	778.1	4.1
Heavy and civil engineering construction	1,063.9	991.4	1,011.4	1,016.7	1,002.3	976.9	967.4	965.3	959.9	958.6	-1.3
Specialty trade contractors	5,060.3	4,677.9	4,749.6	4,770.6	4,863.9	4,697.5	4,668.0	4,645.6	4,613.3	4,593.6	-19.7
Residential specialty trade contractors	2,417.7	2,114.2	2,151.7	2,158.7	2,315.7	2,137.5	2,117.1	2,094.7	2,078.2	2,069.3	-8.9
Nonresidential specialty trade contractors	2,642.6	2,563.7	2,597.9	2,611.9	2,548.2	2,560.0	2,550.9	2,550.9	2,535.1	2,524.3	-10.8
Manufacturing	13,926	13,567	13,629	13,532	13,884	13,644	13,592	13,571	13,536	13,501	-35
Production workers	10,008	9,785	9,825	9,744	9,985	9,847	9,799	9,784	9,749	9,731	-18
Durable goods	8,816	8,602	8,635	8,550	8,817	8,652	8,607	8,594	8,575	8,558	-17
Production workers	6,246	6,111	6,127	6,052	6,258	6,152	6,112	6,100	6,078	6,070	-8
Wood products	533.0	483.1	484.7	482.8	523.4	492.9	490.9	482.4	477.6	473.7	-3.9
Nonmetallic mineral products	516.4	486.4	490.5	488.6	504.4	487.7	486.3	482.1	479.6	477.5	-2.1
Primary metals	455.4	449.9	450.2	445.8	456.4	451.3	450.1	448.7	448.1	447.4	-.7
Fabricated metal products	1,566.4	1,542.1	1,545.7	1,537.9	1,564.2	1,556.9	1,544.1	1,544.2	1,539.2	1,537.4	-1.8
Machinery	1,197.2	1,196.1	1,201.1	1,206.5	1,192.5	1,195.1	1,193.1	1,195.1	1,195.6	1,201.7	6.1
Computer and electronic products[1]	1,275.4	1,248.9	1,252.4	1,249.6	1,268.3	1,254.1	1,253.8	1,250.1	1,246.1	1,243.6	-2.5
Computer and peripheral equipment	187.1	186.0	185.9	186.7	186.2	186.0	186.7	186.2	184.3	185.6	1.3
Communications equipment	127.7	130.8	132.3	129.8	127.5	129.4	130.9	130.4	131.5	129.6	-1.9
Semiconductors and electronic components	447.5	424.5	424.4	424.6	443.7	428.7	426.7	424.2	422.1	421.9	-.2
Electronic instruments	445.4	444.8	446.4	445.5	443.1	446.2	445.7	445.6	444.6	443.4	-1.2
Electrical equipment and appliances	429.2	421.5	425.0	425.2	427.7	419.9	421.5	422.1	422.7	423.5	.8
Transportation equipment[1]	1,667.8	1,642.6	1,649.0	1,591.4	1,704.7	1,651.1	1,630.6	1,636.8	1,637.1	1,628.8	-8.3
Motor vehicles and parts[2]	952.9	914.4	916.5	864.4	991.7	927.3	908.6	908.4	908.3	905.3	-3.0
Furniture and related products	537.2	503.2	505.9	499.6	536.1	511.2	506.4	503.5	501.6	499.3	-2.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing	637.8	628.5	630.0	622.5	639.5	632.0	630.2	629.1	627.0	624.9	-2.1
Nondurable goods	5,110	4,965	4,994	4,982	5,067	4,992	4,985	4,977	4,961	4,943	-18
Production workers	3,762	3,674	3,698	3,692	3,727	3,695	3,687	3,684	3,671	3,661	-10
Food manufacturing	1,514.5	1,455.1	1,476.4	1,490.1	1,488.8	1,477.0	1,473.8	1,473.5	1,471.8	1,467.6	-4.2
Beverages and tobacco products	202.2	192.7	196.6	198.7	197.0	190.8	193.3	193.7	193.0	193.0	.0
Textile mills	167.5	156.1	153.7	148.5	168.1	158.7	156.4	155.1	152.0	149.4	-2.6
Textile product mills	157.5	152.5	150.0	147.9	157.1	153.3	152.2	151.0	149.2	148.0	-1.2
Apparel	212.9	197.7	199.1	194.8	212.8	198.1	198.0	196.6	195.5	194.4	-1.1
Leather and allied products	32.5	34.1	34.8	32.8	33.1	33.5	33.9	33.7	34.3	33.4	-.9
Paper and paper products	462.1	457.3	459.0	458.8	459.8	457.9	458.4	458.1	456.8	456.6	-.2
Printing and related support activities	624.1	608.2	604.7	598.7	623.3	614.2	611.7	607.3	601.7	598.5	-3.2
Petroleum and coal products	115.6	115.3	116.9	118.1	112.5	112.2	112.2	113.4	114.0	114.6	.6
Chemicals	868.3	861.5	867.3	865.0	862.5	860.5	861.3	861.6	861.3	859.2	-2.1
Plastics and rubber products	752.4	734.8	735.9	728.1	752.4	735.6	734.1	732.8	731.1	728.2	-2.9

See footnotes at the 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						
	July 2007	May 2008	June 2008[p]	July 2008[p]	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008[p]	July 2008[p]	Change from: June 2008-July 2008[p]
Service-providing	114,803	116,771	116,862	115,452	115,440	116,094	116,136	116,140	116,166	116,161	-5
Private service-providing	93,857	93,944	94,402	94,145	93,270	93,717	93,735	93,687	93,670	93,640	-30
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26,610	26,396	26,478	26,367	26,617	26,552	26,496	26,451	26,436	26,397	-39
Wholesale trade	6,076.6	6,050.2	6,073.4	6,052.0	6,040.7	6,054.3	6,043.9	6,038.4	6,035.3	6,018.4	-16.9
Durable goods	3,159.9	3,112.4	3,123.2	3,115.0	3,140.2	3,127.8	3,118.1	3,109.8	3,105.4	3,097.3	-8.1
Nondurable goods	2,082.7	2,096.8	2,103.5	2,092.0	2,069.2	2,087.5	2,086.9	2,089.3	2,088.0	2,078.7	-9.3
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	834.0	841.0	846.7	845.0	831.3	839.0	838.9	839.3	841.9	842.4	.5
Retail trade	15,478.0	15,244.0	15,303.4	15,279.8	15,489.1	15,401.4	15,355.7	15,331.8	15,325.5	15,309.0	-16.5
Motor vehicle and parts dealers[1]	1,929.2	1,906.1	1,903.6	1,890.1	1,911.9	1,901.5	1,897.6	1,892.9	1,885.6	1,875.0	-10.6
Automobile dealers	1,251.9	1,228.9	1,224.0	1,214.8	1,244.7	1,233.7	1,228.8	1,224.2	1,217.4	1,209.0	-8.4
Furniture and home furnishings stores	570.2	560.7	561.3	559.3	577.7	570.6	569.0	568.5	568.2	567.9	-.3
Electronics and appliance stores	536.3	529.2	527.6	527.2	545.0	535.0	534.7	539.3	535.8	536.9	1.1
Building material and garden supply stores	1,351.1	1,307.1	1,296.5	1,273.0	1,307.3	1,250.8	1,240.5	1,240.3	1,236.1	1,230.6	-5.5
Food and beverage stores	2,862.6	2,877.7	2,897.1	2,895.1	2,847.1	2,890.1	2,882.4	2,880.7	2,881.6	2,882.3	.7
Health and personal care stores	982.8	987.0	993.2	982.8	985.6	993.9	993.4	990.9	990.7	988.6	-2.1
Gasoline stations	873.2	839.4	854.2	855.8	861.5	852.6	847.4	841.2	844.9	844.2	-.7
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	1,499.4	1,446.4	1,463.1	1,495.1	1,496.7	1,498.9	1,495.4	1,494.5	1,496.2	1,496.9	.7
Sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores	639.4	636.7	632.7	624.7	660.5	658.6	651.5	653.2	651.1	648.2	-2.9
General merchandise stores[1]	2,939.4	2,866.1	2,894.7	2,898.3	2,987.0	2,943.9	2,939.0	2,928.5	2,939.3	2,943.2	3.9
Department stores	1,540.7	1,465.9	1,474.4	1,471.6	1,580.1	1,534.3	1,528.1	1,514.7	1,514.2	1,512.0	-2.2
Miscellaneous store retailers	872.7	859.9	860.2	860.6	871.3	862.8	863.3	860.8	858.6	859.2	.6
Nonstore retailers	421.7	427.7	419.2	417.8	437.5	442.7	441.5	441.0	437.4	436.0	-1.4
Transportation and warehousing	4,496.3	4,543.2	4,539.4	4,472.2	4,533.0	4,537.7	4,538.3	4,524.1	4,517.7	4,511.9	-5.8
Air transportation	496.0	502.1	502.6	500.3	493.4	507.5	504.5	501.3	499.4	498.5	-.9
Rail transportation	235.3	234.0	234.4	235.2	234.4	233.7	233.5	233.0	233.0	234.4	1.4
Water transportation	67.6	61.9	64.0	63.4	65.0	61.6	62.3	61.3	61.8	61.1	-.7
Truck transportation	1,454.0	1,413.0	1,418.7	1,409.4	1,437.4	1,420.4	1,415.2	1,409.8	1,399.2	1,394.1	-5.1
Transit and ground passenger transportation	349.3	432.2	414.3	354.3	411.0	412.9	418.3	412.9	416.8	415.6	-1.2
Pipeline transportation	40.3	42.1	43.0	43.6	40.0	41.2	41.3	42.2	42.7	43.2	.5
Scenic and sightseeing transportation	37.8	32.9	36.9	39.5	28.9	31.7	31.3	31.1	31.0	30.6	-.4
Support activities for transportation	584.0	589.2	589.3	587.1	583.7	586.3	588.2	587.1	586.6	586.9	.3
Couriers and messengers	575.7	581.4	583.3	583.2	580.1	585.3	585.0	587.2	588.1	588.8	.7
Warehousing and storage	656.3	654.4	652.9	656.2	659.1	657.1	658.7	658.2	659.1	658.7	-.4
Utilities	559.3	558.2	562.0	563.1	554.3	558.2	557.7	557.1	557.6	557.8	.2
Information	3,041	3,011	3,022	2,993	3,027	3,013	3,007	3,002	2,996	2,983	-13
Publishing industries, except Internet	902.0	876.7	878.5	876.5	898.7	882.9	882.8	879.7	877.0	873.6	-3.4
Motion picture and sound recording industries	386.3	388.2	396.8	381.8	377.9	383.0	382.5	380.9	380.2	375.5	-4.7
Broadcasting, except Internet	326.0	321.4	320.2	320.5	325.1	322.5	320.8	321.2	319.8	320.2	.4
Telecommunications	1,026.8	1,018.4	1,021.2	1,013.2	1,026.6	1,020.1	1,018.0	1,017.7	1,018.1	1,012.9	-5.2
Data processing, hosting and related services	273.1	275.8	273.5	269.9	272.8	272.3	272.2	272.1	271.3	270.5	-.8
Other information services	127.1	130.4	131.3	130.9	126.3	131.9	130.7	130.1	130.0	130.2	.2
Financial activities	8,401	8,227	8,273	8,285	8,331	8,231	8,229	8,226	8,213	8,213	0
Finance and insurance	6,189.6	6,096.7	6,106.5	6,108.5	6,165.8	6,103.4	6,103.8	6,098.8	6,086.7	6,084.6	-2.1
Monetary authorities - central bank	21.1	21.1	21.0	21.1	20.8	20.9	21.1	21.0	20.9	20.9	.0
Credit intermediation and related activities[1]	2,905.3	2,803.7	2,801.6	2,800.1	2,892.3	2,811.8	2,807.9	2,800.5	2,792.3	2,788.5	-3.8
Depository credit intermediation[1]	1,832.6	1,819.7	1,822.2	1,825.4	1,823.8	1,821.6	1,822.9	1,820.6	1,818.4	1,817.3	-1.1
Commercial banking	1,353.3	1,343.0	1,347.3	1,348.8	1,346.7	1,343.4	1,344.2	1,343.4	1,343.2	1,342.5	-.7
Securities, commodity contracts, investments	852.5	863.4	870.0	867.4	851.2	865.8	867.2	866.6	866.2	865.2	-1.0
Insurance carriers and related activities	2,323.1	2,321.5	2,326.1	2,331.8	2,314.2	2,318.4	2,319.7	2,323.2	2,319.5	2,322.3	2.8
Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles	87.6	87.0	87.8	88.1	87.3	86.5	87.9	87.5	87.8	87.7	-.1
Real estate and rental and leasing	2,211.0	2,130.3	2,166.4	2,176.1	2,165.4	2,127.8	2,124.9	2,127.3	2,126.2	2,128.5	2.3
Real estate	1,521.3	1,466.7	1,492.0	1,491.3	1,493.8	1,465.0	1,465.7	1,466.4	1,465.7	1,463.3	-2.4
Rental and leasing services	658.9	632.7	642.3	651.6	641.4	631.1	627.4	629.5	628.6	632.8	4.2
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets	30.8	30.9	32.1	33.2	30.2	31.7	31.8	31.4	31.9	32.4	.5

See footnotes at the 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						
	July 2007	May 2008	June 2008p	July 2008p	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008p	July 2008p	Change from: June 2008-July 2008p
Professional and business services	18,086	17,983	18,100	18,017	17,958	18,014	18,031	17,982	17,943	17,919	-24
Professional and technical services[1]	7,649.6	7,775.1	7,836.5	7,839.9	7,664.2	7,823.5	7,845.6	7,839.1	7,856.3	7,866.8	10.5
Legal services	1,188.1	1,169.1	1,189.1	1,188.0	1,173.7	1,172.6	1,172.5	1,172.2	1,172.7	1,173.3	.6
Accounting and bookkeeping services	872.7	919.7	909.6	893.8	947.8	983.3	986.1	973.8	977.5	977.8	.3
Architectural and engineering services	1,461.5	1,463.3	1,485.2	1,495.6	1,436.5	1,461.8	1,464.9	1,464.9	1,469.3	1,471.4	2.1
Computer systems design and related services	1,369.0	1,407.3	1,414.3	1,421.7	1,366.8	1,391.3	1,403.9	1,408.9	1,412.2	1,419.3	7.1
Management and technical consulting services	952.1	1,006.0	1,015.3	1,024.1	946.6	997.0	1,001.3	1,006.9	1,015.2	1,019.3	4.1
Management of companies and enterprises	1,859.9	1,832.6	1,848.2	1,843.1	1,845.0	1,839.7	1,841.0	1,836.4	1,836.8	1,832.8	-4.0
Administrative and waste services	8,576.2	8,375.1	8,415.1	8,334.2	8,448.6	8,351.2	8,344.4	8,306.0	8,250.0	8,219.6	-30.4
Administrative and support services[1]	8,211.3	8,008.1	8,042.8	7,960.1	8,092.2	7,987.3	7,978.9	7,939.8	7,883.9	7,853.4	-30.5
Employment services[1]	3,585.7	3,400.9	3,391.5	3,321.7	3,584.6	3,483.7	3,462.2	3,421.8	3,366.2	3,332.0	-34.2
Temporary help services	2,589.2	2,437.6	2,437.7	2,372.5	2,596.5	2,506.0	2,487.1	2,451.6	2,418.6	2,389.6	-29.0
Business support services	798.7	790.7	782.4	777.5	805.5	794.1	792.8	789.2	786.9	786.3	-.6
Services to buildings and dwellings	1,977.2	1,949.3	1,996.8	1,990.6	1,854.9	1,857.3	1,864.6	1,865.9	1,869.3	1,867.9	-1.4
Waste management and remediation services	364.9	367.0	372.3	374.1	356.4	363.9	365.5	366.2	366.1	366.2	.1
Education and health services	18,012	18,868	18,686	18,564	18,360	18,709	18,757	18,820	18,875	18,914	39
Educational services	2,627.4	3,076.2	2,858.2	2,747.3	2,962.7	3,018.6	3,030.5	3,047.3	3,080.8	3,086.1	5.3
Health care and social assistance	15,384.9	15,791.7	15,828.2	15,817.0	15,396.8	15,690.5	15,726.1	15,772.4	15,794.0	15,828.3	34.3
Health care[1]	12,992.6	13,261.0	13,331.4	13,366.2	12,963.8	13,202.3	13,236.3	13,274.7	13,299.0	13,331.9	32.9
Ambulatory health care services[1]	5,485.0	5,648.2	5,679.8	5,692.9	5,484.7	5,612.5	5,632.8	5,649.9	5,667.3	5,688.5	21.2
Offices of physicians	2,204.5	2,260.9	2,274.8	2,280.3	2,204.7	2,251.7	2,259.6	2,265.2	2,272.8	2,279.3	6.5
Outpatient care centers	504.4	516.8	516.8	520.7	505.0	511.9	514.9	516.6	516.8	520.6	3.8
Home health care services	917.6	949.7	957.2	960.6	917.7	943.3	946.1	951.0	954.6	959.6	5.0
Hospitals	4,544.4	4,625.8	4,650.7	4,672.9	4,524.2	4,606.4	4,616.2	4,635.0	4,640.2	4,650.6	10.4
Nursing and residential care facilities[1]	2,963.2	2,987.0	3,000.9	3,000.4	2,954.9	2,983.4	2,987.3	2,989.8	2,991.5	2,992.8	1.3
Nursing care facilities	1,604.2	1,610.4	1,615.1	1,613.3	1,602.2	1,609.6	1,610.7	1,612.1	1,611.7	1,611.8	.1
Social assistance[1]	2,392.3	2,530.7	2,496.8	2,450.8	2,433.0	2,488.2	2,489.8	2,497.7	2,495.0	2,496.4	1.4
Child day care services	802.7	884.5	843.1	795.6	847.7	861.8	858.1	860.2	850.5	845.5	-5.0
Leisure and hospitality	14,142	13,906	14,248	14,328	13,476	13,676	13,690	13,679	13,686	13,687	1
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	2,274.9	2,096.7	2,261.2	2,304.4	1,968.8	2,025.7	2,021.1	2,013.1	2,008.2	2,005.5	-2.7
Performing arts and spectator sports	432.9	457.4	466.3	460.3	405.8	433.9	436.4	434.7	436.8	434.9	-1.9
Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks	146.5	138.9	144.2	145.5	131.9	133.4	132.6	133.9	132.1	131.5	-.6
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	1,695.5	1,500.4	1,650.7	1,698.6	1,431.1	1,458.4	1,452.1	1,444.5	1,439.3	1,439.1	-.2
Accommodation and food services	11,867.3	11,808.8	11,986.7	12,023.4	11,507.0	11,650.7	11,668.7	11,665.8	11,677.4	11,681.1	3.7
Accommodation	1,995.7	1,851.3	1,928.4	1,990.9	1,853.6	1,849.4	1,853.0	1,849.0	1,849.2	1,849.7	.5
Food services and drinking places	9,871.6	9,957.5	10,058.3	10,032.5	9,653.4	9,801.3	9,815.7	9,816.8	9,828.2	9,831.4	3.2
Other services	5,565	5,553	5,595	5,591	5,501	5,522	5,525	5,527	5,521	5,527	6
Repair and maintenance	1,262.1	1,259.1	1,259.9	1,248.7	1,257.8	1,254.8	1,254.0	1,251.7	1,246.1	1,245.2	-.9
Personal and laundry services	1,316.5	1,327.9	1,330.0	1,322.2	1,307.9	1,308.5	1,309.9	1,310.6	1,312.2	1,313.3	1.1
Membership associations and organizations	2,986.6	2,966.2	3,005.1	3,019.6	2,935.4	2,959.0	2,961.4	2,964.3	2,963.1	2,968.1	5.0
Government	20,946	22,827	22,460	21,307	22,170	22,377	22,401	22,453	22,496	22,521	25
Federal	2,748	2,742	2,757	2,763	2,726	2,726	2,734	2,740	2,742	2,739	-3
Federal, except U.S. Postal Service	1,989.1	2,011.4	2,031.4	2,037.6	1,964.3	1,986.6	1,996.0	2,006.5	2,011.2	2,010.5	-.7
U.S. Postal Service	759.3	730.6	725.3	725.5	761.6	739.1	737.9	733.3	730.8	728.6	-2.2
State government	4,835	5,215	4,986	4,914	5,123	5,157	5,170	5,174	5,186	5,198	12
State government education	1,999.4	2,382.2	2,129.1	2,047.6	2,313.8	2,332.9	2,340.8	2,344.4	2,352.3	2,359.0	6.7
State government, excluding education	2,836.0	2,833.1	2,857.3	2,866.8	2,808.8	2,823.8	2,829.1	2,829.7	2,833.8	2,838.9	5.1
Local government	13,363	14,870	14,717	13,630	14,321	14,494	14,497	14,539	14,568	14,584	16
Local government education	6,761.4	8,399.1	8,061.6	6,901.6	7,938.2	8,035.7	8,032.1	8,060.0	8,075.0	8,077.2	2.2
Local government, excluding education	6,601.2	6,470.8	6,655.4	6,728.3	6,382.5	6,457.8	6,465.0	6,479.2	6,493.0	6,506.5	13.5

[1] Includes other industries, not shown separately.
[2] Includes motor vehicles, motor vehicle bodies and trailers, and motor vehicle parts.
[3] Includes ambulatory health care services, hospitals, and nursing and residential care facilities.
p = preliminary.
NOTE: Data reflect the conversion to the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as the basis for the assignment and tabulation of economic data by industry, replacing NAICS 2002. See http://www.bls.gov/ces/cesnaics07.htm for more details.

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

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	July 2007	May 2008	June 2008p	July 2008p	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008p	July 2008p	Change from: June 2008-July 2008p
Total private	34.2	33.6	34.1	33.7	33.8	33.8	33.8	33.7	33.7	33.6	-0.1
Goods-producing	40.5	40.2	40.7	40.3	40.6	40.5	40.4	40.2	40.3	40.4	.1
Natural resources and mining	45.9	44.2	45.3	45.2	45.9	46.2	44.9	44.6	45.0	45.2	.2
Construction	39.4	38.6	39.3	39.2	38.9	38.9	38.9	38.5	38.7	38.7	.0
Manufacturing	40.9	40.9	41.2	40.7	41.4	41.2	41.0	41.0	41.0	41.0	.0
Overtime hours	4.1	3.7	3.9	3.6	4.2	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.8	.0
Durable goods	41.1	41.2	41.5	40.8	41.6	41.5	41.3	41.2	41.3	41.3	.0
Overtime hours	4.0	3.8	3.9	3.6	4.2	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.8	.0
Wood products	40.1	39.3	39.9	39.2	39.9	38.7	38.8	39.1	39.2	39.0	-.2
Nonmetallic mineral products	42.8	42.5	42.8	42.9	42.6	43.1	42.2	42.3	42.2	42.6	.4
Primary metals	42.8	42.2	43.0	41.5	43.2	42.9	42.4	42.2	42.5	41.9	-.6
Fabricated metal products	41.3	41.4	41.3	40.8	41.7	41.7	41.6	41.4	41.2	41.2	.0
Machinery	42.3	42.1	42.1	41.6	42.5	42.7	42.5	42.1	42.0	41.9	-.1
Computer and electronic products	39.9	41.1	41.5	41.0	40.3	41.0	41.1	41.2	41.3	41.3	.0
Electrical equipment and appliances	41.0	40.8	41.2	40.6	41.4	41.3	41.1	41.1	41.0	41.0	.0
Transportation equipment	41.6	41.9	42.5	41.2	43.3	42.3	42.3	42.1	42.3	42.6	.3
Motor vehicles and parts[2]	40.4	41.4	42.2	40.1	42.5	41.8	41.9	41.6	41.9	42.1	.2
Furniture and related products	39.2	38.5	39.2	38.7	39.2	38.7	38.7	38.8	39.0	38.7	-.3
Miscellaneous manufacturing	38.7	39.0	39.3	38.9	39.2	39.3	39.3	39.2	39.1	39.3	.2
Nondurable goods	40.6	40.3	40.6	40.4	40.9	40.7	40.5	40.5	40.5	40.6	.1
Overtime hours	4.1	3.7	3.9	3.7	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.7	-.2
Food manufacturing	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.8	40.8	40.7	40.8	40.8	40.8	40.8	.0
Beverages and tobacco products	40.9	40.1	39.1	39.6	40.7	40.4	39.6	39.7	38.6	39.4	.8
Textile mills	39.6	38.8	39.2	38.6	40.2	38.8	38.4	39.0	39.0	39.1	.1
Textile product mills	40.2	38.3	39.7	38.4	40.8	39.3	38.3	38.7	39.0	38.7	-.3
Apparel	37.1	36.1	36.4	36.3	37.5	36.7	36.6	36.0	36.3	36.6	.3
Leather and allied products	37.0	39.0	38.6	37.8	37.5	38.7	38.6	38.7	38.4	38.5	.1
Paper and paper products	42.8	42.1	42.7	41.9	43.0	43.6	43.3	42.5	42.7	42.3	-.4
Printing and related support activities	38.4	38.3	37.8	37.5	38.8	38.6	38.5	38.5	38.1	38.0	-.1
Petroleum and coal products	44.5	44.0	45.2	45.8	44.0	43.5	43.2	44.2	44.5	45.0	.5
Chemicals	41.8	41.0	42.0	41.8	42.2	41.9	41.3	41.3	41.8	41.9	.1
Plastics and rubber products	40.8	41.0	41.5	40.8	41.5	41.1	41.0	41.0	41.1	41.4	.3
Private service-providing	32.8	32.2	32.8	32.3	32.4	32.4	32.4	32.4	32.3	32.3	.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	33.7	33.1	33.7	33.3	33.2	33.4	33.4	33.3	33.3	33.2	-.1
Wholesale trade	38.5	38.2	38.9	38.3	38.1	38.4	38.3	38.3	38.3	38.4	.1
Retail trade	30.6	30.0	30.5	30.3	30.1	30.2	30.2	30.1	30.1	30.0	-.1
Transportation and warehousing	37.1	36.3	36.8	36.5	36.8	36.7	36.7	36.5	36.4	36.4	.0
Utilities	42.6	42.3	43.0	42.1	42.6	43.3	42.6	42.4	42.8	42.1	-.7
Information	37.2	36.2	37.1	36.7	36.6	36.6	36.5	36.6	36.6	36.6	.0
Financial activities	36.5	35.7	36.5	35.5	35.9	35.8	35.9	36.0	35.8	35.6	-.2
Professional and business services	35.0	34.8	35.4	34.6	34.8	34.8	34.8	34.8	34.8	34.7	-.1
Education and health services	32.9	32.5	32.7	32.6	32.6	32.7	32.6	32.7	32.6	32.6	.0
Leisure and hospitality	26.3	25.3	26.0	25.7	25.3	25.3	25.4	25.3	25.3	25.1	-.2
Other services	31.2	30.7	31.1	31.0	30.9	30.9	30.8	30.8	30.7	30.8	.1

[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.

[2] Includes motor vehicles, motor vehicle bodies and trailers, motor vehicle parts.

p = preliminary.

NOTE: Data reflect the conversion to the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as the basis for the assignment and tabulation of economic data by industry, replacing NAICS 2002. See http://www.bls.gov/ces/cesnaics07.htm for more details.

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

Industry	Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	July 2007	May 2008	June 2008p	July 2008p	July 2007	May 2008	June 2008p	July 2008p
Total private	$17.44	$17.90	$17.96	$17.99	$596.45	$601.44	$612.44	$606.26
Seasonally adjusted	17.47	17.95	18.00	18.06	590.49	604.92	606.60	606.82
Goods-producing	18.72	19.13	19.23	19.37	758.16	769.03	782.66	780.61
Natural resources and mining	20.87	21.51	21.74	22.64	957.93	950.74	984.82	1,023.33
Construction	21.02	21.60	21.66	21.89	828.19	833.76	851.24	858.09
Manufacturing	17.22	17.63	17.70	17.71	704.30	721.07	729.24	720.80
Durable goods	18.10	18.57	18.67	18.65	743.91	765.08	774.81	760.92
Wood products	13.62	14.08	14.11	14.23	546.16	553.34	562.99	557.82
Nonmetallic mineral products	17.04	16.90	16.98	16.96	729.31	718.25	726.74	727.58
Primary metals	19.85	20.23	20.22	20.42	849.58	853.71	869.46	847.43
Fabricated metal products	16.52	16.84	16.92	16.91	682.28	697.18	698.80	689.93
Machinery	17.82	17.98	17.87	18.02	753.79	756.96	752.33	749.63
Computer and electronic products	20.08	20.99	21.08	21.26	801.19	862.69	874.82	871.66
Electrical equipment and appliances	16.09	15.69	15.74	15.73	659.69	640.15	648.49	638.64
Transportation equipment	22.67	23.53	23.81	23.65	943.07	985.91	1,011.93	974.38
Furniture and related products	14.36	14.48	14.59	14.53	562.91	557.48	571.93	562.31
Miscellaneous manufacturing	14.82	14.97	15.13	15.29	573.53	583.83	594.61	594.78
Nondurable goods	15.74	16.04	16.07	16.16	639.04	646.41	652.44	652.86
Food manufacturing	13.57	13.89	13.94	13.99	552.30	565.32	567.36	570.79
Beverages and tobacco products	18.61	19.05	18.56	19.27	761.15	763.91	725.70	763.09
Textile mills	13.13	13.50	13.59	13.84	519.95	523.80	532.73	534.22
Textile product mills	11.89	11.86	11.79	11.75	477.98	454.24	468.06	451.20
Apparel	11.15	11.43	11.28	11.26	413.67	412.62	410.59	408.74
Leather and allied products	12.18	12.88	12.70	12.01	450.66	502.32	490.22	453.98
Paper and paper products	18.68	18.74	18.76	18.97	799.50	788.95	801.05	794.84
Printing and related support activities	16.19	16.66	16.85	16.84	621.70	638.08	636.93	631.50
Petroleum and coal products	25.12	27.01	27.12	27.20	1,117.84	1,188.44	1,225.82	1,245.76
Chemicals	19.70	19.37	19.36	19.39	823.46	794.17	813.12	810.50
Plastics and rubber products	15.31	15.71	15.72	15.79	624.65	644.11	652.38	644.23
Private service-providing	17.10	17.59	17.64	17.64	560.88	566.40	578.59	569.77
Trade, transportation, and utilities	15.89	16.14	16.20	16.20	535.49	534.23	545.94	539.46
Wholesale trade	19.70	19.93	20.07	20.11	758.45	761.33	780.72	770.21
Retail trade	12.84	12.91	12.90	12.94	392.90	387.30	393.45	392.08
Transportation and warehousing	17.90	18.33	18.46	18.49	664.09	665.38	679.33	674.89
Utilities	27.70	28.83	28.98	28.45	1,180.02	1,219.51	1,246.14	1,197.75
Information	23.77	24.60	24.75	24.74	884.24	890.52	918.23	907.96
Financial activities	19.66	20.20	20.29	20.23	717.59	721.14	740.59	718.17
Professional and business services	20.26	20.81	21.05	21.05	709.10	724.19	745.17	728.33
Education and health services	18.18	18.64	18.66	18.85	598.12	605.80	610.18	614.51
Leisure and hospitality	10.33	10.82	10.76	10.71	271.68	273.75	279.76	275.25
Other services	15.39	15.84	15.84	15.75	480.17	486.29	492.62	488.25

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.
p = preliminary.
NOTE: Data reflect the conversion to the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as the basis for the assignment and tabulation of economic data by industry, replacing NAICS 2002. See http://www.bls.gov/ces/cesnaics07.htm for more details.

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

Industry	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008[p]	July 2008[p]	Percent change from: June 2008-July 2008 [p]
Total Private:							
Current dollars	$17.47	$17.87	$17.89	$17.95	$18.00	$18.06	0.3
Constant (1982) dollars [2]	8.33	8.28	8.27	8.24	8.17	N.A.	([3])
Goods-producing	18.69	19.12	19.12	19.17	19.23	19.32	.5
Natural resources and mining	20.95	22.01	21.61	21.71	22.00	22.66	3.0
Construction	20.94	21.56	21.60	21.70	21.73	21.81	.4
Manufacturing	17.30	17.61	17.62	17.65	17.72	17.78	.3
Excluding overtime [4]	16.46	16.79	16.80	16.85	16.94	16.99	.3
Durable goods	18.23	18.54	18.58	18.61	18.68	18.77	.5
Nondurable goods	15.70	16.03	15.99	16.04	16.09	16.11	.1
Private service-providing	17.15	17.55	17.58	17.64	17.69	17.75	.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	15.82	16.11	16.11	16.16	16.18	16.18	.0
Wholesale trade	19.58	20.03	20.05	20.06	20.11	20.15	.2
Retail trade	12.79	12.86	12.85	12.90	12.88	12.90	.2
Transportation and warehousing	17.78	18.25	18.33	18.38	18.41	18.39	-.1
Utilities	27.82	28.77	28.56	28.81	29.12	28.65	-1.6
Information	23.92	24.53	24.50	24.67	24.77	24.88	.4
Financial activities	19.67	20.11	20.16	20.23	20.28	20.33	.2
Professional and business services	20.19	20.74	20.84	20.90	21.02	21.14	.6
Education and health services	18.14	18.61	18.64	18.71	18.74	18.82	.4
Leisure and hospitality	10.46	10.74	10.79	10.81	10.84	10.86	.2
Other services	15.46	15.77	15.79	15.81	15.84	15.87	.2

[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 -0.8 percent from May 2008 to June 2008, 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.
NOTE: Data reflect the conversion to the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as the basis for the assignment and tabulation of economic data by industry, replacing NAICS 2002. See http://www.bls.gov/ces/cesnaics07.htm for more details.

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

(2002=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	July 2007	May 2008	June 2008p	July 2008p	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008p	July 2008p	Percent change from: June 2008-July 2008p
Total private	109.7	107.1	109.4	107.8	107.4	107.6	107.5	107.1	107.0	106.6	-0.4
Goods-producing	103.7	98.2	100.4	99.2	102.0	99.5	98.6	97.9	97.6	97.6	.0
Natural resources and mining	137.3	133.2	139.1	142.9	134.2	138.5	134.6	134.6	137.0	139.8	2.0
Construction	122.1	108.9	113.1	113.4	115.1	110.4	109.3	107.5	107.2	106.6	-.6
Manufacturing	93.9	91.9	92.9	91.0	94.9	93.1	92.2	92.1	91.7	91.6	-.1
Durable goods	96.4	94.6	95.5	92.8	97.8	95.9	94.8	94.4	94.3	94.2	-.1
Wood products	94.6	82.7	84.1	83.0	92.1	83.3	83.2	82.0	81.4	80.8	-.7
Nonmetallic mineral products	101.8	96.8	98.5	98.1	98.4	97.7	95.6	95.1	94.6	94.7	.1
Primary metals	90.6	89.4	91.2	86.8	92.0	91.3	90.3	89.2	89.7	88.1	-1.8
Fabricated metal products	103.9	102.9	102.7	100.5	104.8	104.5	103.3	103.0	101.9	101.5	-.4
Machinery	103.5	103.2	103.4	102.9	103.7	104.5	103.9	103.1	102.6	103.4	.8
Computer and electronic products	100.3	102.7	103.6	101.7	101.1	102.9	103.1	102.9	102.6	102.3	-.3
Electrical equipment and appliances	88.7	87.6	89.4	88.3	89.5	88.4	88.3	88.6	88.5	89.0	.6
Transportation equipment	92.0	91.5	92.9	86.7	98.5	93.2	91.5	91.5	91.8	92.3	.5
Motor vehicles and parts [2]	77.7	76.5	77.9	69.0	85.6	78.6	76.6	76.3	76.6	76.7	.1
Furniture and related products	87.5	79.3	80.9	78.8	87.0	81.1	80.3	79.8	79.7	78.6	-1.4
Miscellaneous manufacturing	89.6	89.5	90.5	88.0	91.3	90.8	90.3	89.9	89.4	89.6	.2
Nondurable goods	90.0	87.2	88.5	87.9	89.8	88.6	88.0	87.9	87.6	87.6	.0
Food manufacturing	103.5	99.3	100.8	102.3	101.8	101.3	101.2	101.1	100.9	100.6	-.3
Beverages and tobacco products	107.6	91.1	93.4	97.3	103.7	90.4	89.0	90.7	89.5	92.1	2.9
Textile mills	53.9	50.1	49.5	46.8	55.3	51.0	49.5	49.7	48.8	48.1	-1.4
Textile product mills	77.8	73.0	74.3	70.6	79.1	74.3	72.4	72.8	72.4	71.3	-1.5
Apparel	60.9	55.5	56.9	55.7	61.3	56.4	56.4	55.1	55.5	56.0	.9
Leather and allied products	64.5	74.0	75.0	68.9	66.9	70.5	71.9	72.1	73.6	71.7	-2.6
Paper and paper products	86.2	84.2	85.8	84.1	86.1	87.0	86.8	85.3	85.2	84.4	-.9
Printing and related support activities	90.0	88.3	86.3	84.9	90.8	90.1	89.2	88.6	86.6	86.0	-.7
Petroleum and coal products	98.2	98.9	101.6	104.6	93.9	96.6	95.7	97.8	97.5	99.3	1.8
Chemicals	95.0	95.9	99.0	98.0	95.0	97.1	95.9	96.3	97.4	97.5	.1
Plastics and rubber products	89.5	88.2	89.4	87.0	91.2	88.5	88.0	88.0	88.0	88.5	.6
Private service-providing	111.1	109.4	112.0	110.0	109.0	109.7	109.8	109.7	109.3	109.3	.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	105.9	103.5	105.7	104.0	104.3	105.0	104.8	104.4	104.3	103.7	-.6
Wholesale trade	111.4	110.6	113.0	110.9	109.4	111.3	110.7	110.6	110.5	110.4	-.1
Retail trade	102.9	99.4	101.5	100.6	101.3	101.1	100.8	100.4	100.3	99.8	-.5
Transportation and warehousing	108.6	108.6	110.0	107.3	108.8	109.5	109.5	108.8	108.2	108.1	-.1
Utilities	97.8	97.2	100.0	97.4	96.8	99.2	97.8	97.2	98.5	96.3	-2.2
Information	102.4	99.6	102.3	100.1	100.3	100.5	100.0	100.2	99.9	99.4	-.5
Financial activities	112.1	108.1	111.4	108.4	109.2	108.3	108.7	108.9	108.2	107.6	-.6
Professional and business services	117.0	115.7	118.5	115.3	115.5	115.7	116.1	115.6	115.4	114.9	-.4
Education and health services	111.8	115.8	115.4	114.3	112.9	115.4	115.4	116.1	116.1	116.5	.3
Leisure and hospitality	121.0	114.1	120.3	119.7	110.5	111.9	112.6	112.0	112.1	111.2	-.8
Other services	101.9	99.9	101.9	101.5	99.4	99.9	99.6	99.6	99.1	99.4	.3

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.
[2] Includes motor vehicles, motor vehicle bodies and trailers, and motor vehicle parts.
p = preliminary.
NOTE: The indexes of aggregate weekly hours are calculated by dividing the current months 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 and nonsupervisory worker employment.
Data reflect the conversion to the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as the basis for the assignment and tabulation of economic data by industry, replacing NAICS 2002. See http://www.bls.gov/ces/cesnaics07.htm for more details.

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

(2002=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	July 2007	May 2008	June 2008[p]	July 2008[p]	July 2007	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008[p]	July 2008[p]	Percent change from: June 2008-July 2008[p]
Total private	127.8	128.1	131.3	129.6	125.4	128.4	128.5	128.4	128.7	128.6	-0.1
Goods-producing	118.9	115.1	118.3	117.7	116.8	116.5	115.5	114.9	115.0	115.5	.4
Natural resources and mining	166.7	166.6	175.9	188.2	163.5	177.2	169.1	170.0	175.3	184.2	5.1
Construction	138.5	127.0	132.2	134.0	130.1	128.5	127.5	126.0	125.8	125.5	-.2
Manufacturing	105.8	105.9	107.5	105.4	107.3	107.2	106.3	106.3	106.3	106.5	.2
Durable goods	109.0	109.7	111.3	108.0	111.3	111.0	110.0	109.7	110.0	110.4	.4
Nondurable goods	100.1	98.9	100.5	100.4	99.6	100.4	99.4	99.6	99.6	99.7	.1
Private service-providing	130.3	131.9	135.5	133.1	128.1	132.0	132.3	132.7	132.6	133.0	.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	120.0	119.1	122.2	120.1	117.7	120.7	120.5	120.3	120.3	119.7	-.5
Wholesale trade	129.3	129.8	133.6	131.3	126.2	131.3	130.8	130.7	130.8	131.1	.2
Retail trade	113.3	110.0	112.2	111.6	111.1	111.4	111.1	111.0	110.7	110.3	-.4
Transportation and warehousing	123.4	126.3	128.8	125.9	122.7	126.8	127.4	126.8	126.3	126.1	-.2
Utilities	113.1	116.9	120.9	115.6	112.4	119.1	116.6	116.9	119.7	115.2	-3.8
Information	120.5	121.2	125.4	122.6	118.7	122.1	121.3	122.3	122.5	122.4	-.1
Financial activities	136.3	135.0	139.7	135.6	132.8	134.6	135.5	136.2	135.7	135.2	-.4
Professional and business services	141.1	143.2	148.4	144.4	138.7	142.8	143.9	143.8	144.4	144.5	.1
Education and health services	133.6	141.8	141.5	141.7	134.6	141.2	141.4	142.8	143.0	144.1	.8
Leisure and hospitality	141.9	140.2	147.1	145.6	131.2	136.5	138.0	137.5	138.0	137.2	-.6
Other services	114.2	115.3	117.6	116.4	112.0	114.8	114.6	114.8	114.3	115.0	.6

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.
[p] = preliminary.
NOTE: The indexes of aggregate weekly payrolls are calculated by dividing the current months 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 and nonsupervisory worker employment.

Data reflect the conversion to the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as the basis for the assignment and tabulation of economic data by industry, replacing NAICS 2002. See http://www.bls.gov/ces/cesnaics07.htm for more details.

Table B-7. Diffusion indexes of employment change

(Percent)

Time span	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Private nonfarm payrolls, 274 industries [1]											
Over 1-month span:												
2004	50.5	50.5	64.1	62.6	61.7	58.9	56.0	50.0	56.9	56.9	51.3	51.8
2005	52.2	60.6	54.2	58.2	55.8	58.2	58.0	61.3	54.7	53.6	62.4	54.7
2006	65.1	60.9	64.4	59.3	53.3	52.7	60.4	58.9	53.5	55.8	57.1	56.0
2007	51.6	51.8	52.7	51.1	56.6	50.4	52.2	51.6	56.4	54.6	48.2	48.5
2008	45.4	41.4	47.4	45.6	46.4	p 42.2	p 41.2					
Over 3-month span:												
2004	54.4	52.9	57.3	63.5	68.8	66.6	61.3	56.4	57.7	59.5	61.9	54.6
2005	52.2	55.5	57.5	60.8	58.9	61.9	60.4	63.9	61.1	54.4	54.9	61.3
2006	67.2	66.2	66.6	65.5	60.6	58.2	56.0	58.9	55.7	56.4	57.1	58.4
2007	58.4	54.7	55.3	54.7	56.2	53.3	53.1	54.7	58.4	56.8	54.7	52.4
2008	46.7	42.7	42.3	44.0	43.1	p 43.6	p 40.0					
Over 6-month span:												
2004	50.0	51.6	55.3	60.9	63.7	65.1	65.1	63.9	60.4	61.7	58.2	56.0
2005	54.6	57.3	56.8	57.5	57.5	58.2	64.4	62.8	62.0	59.3	61.5	62.0
2006	63.1	64.4	67.2	67.0	64.4	66.4	61.5	61.7	60.4	59.7	60.8	56.0
2007	59.1	56.4	57.5	56.8	58.8	58.2	56.2	58.0	58.2	57.1	54.6	53.8
2008	51.5	49.8	44.7	46.5	43.6	p 41.4	p 38.7					
Over 12-month span:												
2004	40.5	42.3	45.1	48.9	51.3	58.2	57.5	55.7	57.3	58.8	60.6	60.8
2005	60.6	60.8	59.7	58.9	58.0	60.0	60.9	63.3	60.4	58.9	59.5	61.7
2006	67.2	65.1	65.5	62.6	64.8	66.4	64.4	64.4	66.2	65.1	64.4	65.5
2007	62.6	59.1	60.4	58.9	59.5	58.4	57.5	58.8	61.7	60.4	59.9	57.7
2008	53.8	54.6	52.6	50.4	49.3	p 47.4	p 46.0					
	Manufacturing payrolls, 84 industries [1]											
Over 1-month span:												
2004	43.5	47.6	47.0	63.7	50.6	51.2	58.3	42.9	42.9	48.2	42.3	39.9
2005	36.3	48.8	42.9	44.6	42.3	35.1	38.1	47.0	45.8	46.4	47.0	47.0
2006	57.7	45.8	54.8	48.8	38.1	53.0	50.6	44.0	36.3	40.5	38.1	39.3
2007	47.6	35.7	30.4	29.8	37.5	39.3	41.7	33.3	40.5	45.2	44.6	36.3
2008	40.5	28.6	38.1	35.1	44.6	p 32.7	p 27.4					
Over 3-month span:												
2004	41.1	40.5	43.5	56.5	58.9	61.3	57.7	47.0	46.4	41.7	44.6	38.7
2005	38.1	39.3	42.3	44.6	36.3	37.5	33.3	39.9	45.8	41.7	38.7	49.4
2006	54.8	52.4	47.6	48.8	44.6	50.6	42.9	47.6	36.3	37.5	32.1	34.5
2007	33.9	28.6	32.1	27.4	29.8	32.7	31.0	34.5	32.1	39.3	44.0	41.7
2008	35.7	27.4	26.8	29.2	29.8	p 33.9	p 32.1					
Over 6-month span:												
2004	29.2	31.5	32.7	44.6	49.4	54.8	59.5	56.0	51.2	51.8	44.0	38.7
2005	33.9	38.1	35.1	36.9	32.1	32.1	41.7	35.7	36.3	36.9	37.5	42.3
2006	42.9	45.2	50.6	47.6	48.2	47.6	46.4	48.8	43.5	41.7	38.7	29.8
2007	34.5	27.4	23.8	27.4	31.5	34.5	33.3	31.0	29.2	35.1	34.5	32.7
2008	34.5	33.9	32.1	28.0	26.8	p 24.4	p 19.6					
Over 12-month span:												
2004	13.1	14.3	13.1	20.2	23.2	35.7	36.9	38.1	36.9	44.0	44.6	44.6
2005	44.6	43.5	41.7	40.5	36.3	35.1	32.1	33.9	32.7	33.3	33.3	38.1
2006	44.6	40.5	40.5	39.3	39.3	44.6	41.7	42.3	46.4	48.2	45.2	44.0
2007	39.3	36.3	36.9	28.6	29.8	26.2	26.8	29.2	30.4	29.8	33.3	33.9
2008	29.8	29.8	29.8	24.4	27.4	p 25.6	p 31.0					

[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.

Data reflect the conversion to the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as the basis for the assignment and tabulation of economic data by industry, replacing NAICS 2002. See http://www.bls.gov/ces/cesnaics07.htm for more details.

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