

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: NOVEMBER 2008

HEARING

BEFORE THE

**JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES**

ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

DECEMBER 5, 2008

Printed for the use of the Joint Economic Committee



U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

48-280 PDF

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
Fax: (202) 512-2104 Mail: Stop IDCC, Washington, DC 20402-0001

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

[Created pursuant to Sec. 5(a) of Public Law 304, 79th Congress]

SENATE

CHARLES E. SCHUMER, New York, *Chairman*
EDWARD M. KENNEDY, Massachusetts
JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico
AMY KLOBUCHAR, Minnesota
ROBERT P. CASEY, JR., Pennsylvania
JIM WEBB, Virginia
SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas
JOHN E. SUNUNU, New Hampshire
JIM DEMINT, South Carolina
ROBERT F. BENNETT, Utah

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CAROLYN B. MALONEY, New York, *Vice Chair*
MAURICE D. HINCHEY, New York
BARON P. HILL, Indiana
LORETTA SANCHEZ, California
ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, Maryland
LLOYD DOGGETT, Texas
JIM SAXTON, New Jersey, *Ranking Republican*
KEVIN BRADY, Texas
PHIL ENGLISH, Pennsylvania
RON PAUL, Texas

MICHAEL LASKAWY, *Executive Director*
CHRISTOPHER J. FRENZE, *Republican Staff Director*

CONTENTS

OPENING STATEMENT OF MEMBERS

Hon. Carolyn B. Maloney, a U.S. Representative from New York	1
--	---

WITNESSES

Dr. Keith Hall, Commissioner, Bureau of Labor Statistics; Dr. Michael Horrigan, Associate Commissioner for Prices and Living Conditions, Bureau of Labor Statistics; and Mr. Philip Rones, Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor	6
---	---

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE RECORD

Prepared Statement of Hon. Charles E. Schumer, Chairman, a U.S. Senator from New York	24
Prepared Statement of Hon. Carolyn B. Maloney, Vice Chair, a U.S. Rep- resentative from New York	25
Prepared Statement of Keith Hall, Commissioner, Bureau of Labor Statistics, together with Press Release No. 08-1774	26

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: NOVEMBER 2008

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2008

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

The committee met at 9:30 a.m. in Room 106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, the Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney (Vice Chair), presiding.

Representatives present: Maloney, Cummings, and English.

Staff present: Gail Cohen, Nan Gibson, Colleen Healy, Justin Ungson, Chris Frenze, Bob Keleher, Tyler Kurtz, Jeff Schlagenhauf, and Colin Willis.

Vice Chair Maloney. The meeting will come to order.

Chairman is unable to attend today's hearing on the employment situation and has asked me to chair. His statement will be entered into the record.

[The prepared statement of Senator Schumer appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 24.]

Vice Chair Maloney. Commissioner Hall, we thank you for testifying today. We also thank Mr. Horrigan and Mr. Roncs for joining us today.

The Chair recognizes herself for an opening statement.

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

I sincerely want to thank Commissioner Hall and his staff for appearing before us today. This is an important time for Congress to be examining the employment situation of U.S. workers as we now have confirmation that the economy is in a recession.

Today's jobless numbers take your breath away. In November the economy lost an astonishing 533,000 jobs, the highest monthly loss in 34 years. And job losses in the previous two months were worse than originally reported.

The unemployment rate increased to 6.7 percent. The official arbiters of U.S. recessions, the National Bureau of Economic Research, announced on Monday that the economy entered this recession in December of 2007 when the private sector first began shedding jobs.

Since then, the economy has lost over 2 million private sector jobs, and 2.7 million more workers are unemployed, for a total of 10.3 million.

These stark numbers should make the decision to rescue the Detroit car makers much easier. The potential employment con-

sequences if one or more of the big three Detroit automakers fails could be devastating to an already weak economy.

Estimates show that millions of jobs, including vehicle assembly, parts manufacturing, suppliers, and neighborhood retailers, are potentially at risk. The Bureau of Economic Analysis has estimated that each job in the vehicle manufacturing industry supports from 2.5 to about 6 additional jobs in the wider economy. So the ripples of their collapse could be felt far and wide.

Last week, third-quarter economic growth was revised downward to .05 percent. The economy is being pulled down by falling consumer spending which makes up nearly three-quarters of the Gross Domestic Product.

Yesterday it was announced that retailers posted the worst November sales in more than 30 years. Families are conserving their dwindling resources and simply not buying much of anything, including durable goods such as cars.

As consumers cut back on their spending, this is dragging down economic growth, jobs, and wages. The current downturn has already lasted longer than the last two recessions, bringing hardship to millions of American families.

U.S. workers have lost all the ground that they gained over the 2000 recovery. The Census Bureau recently reported that by the end of last year inflation-adjusted household income had still not recovered from the last recession, and all indications are that household finances have only deteriorated since then.

The credit crisis is making the employment situation even worse. The lack of access to credit, combined with the sharp drop in home prices, declines in the stock market, and the lack of growth in real incomes are putting unbearable financial pressure on families.

Retirement savings and college savings accounts have been decimated by the sudden drop in value in the equities market. College-bound seniors will be facing tuition hikes and diminished financial aid, making college out of reach to many middle-class and poor families.

Congress has already taken numerous steps to help buffer families from the effects of the downturn, including extending Unemployment Benefits again last month. Some economists are already calling this the Great Recession because they fear it may be longer and deeper than any recession in recent history.

This recession requires solutions that address the magnitude of our economic woes. In January Congress will send our new President a substantial recovery package that makes investments in our families and puts Americans back to work as quickly as possible.

I want to thank Chairman Schumer and my colleagues, Mr. Cummings and Mr. English, for calling this hearing and being here today, and I look forward to the continued focus on labor market conditions by this Committee.

Thank you, and I yield as much time to my colleague on the other side of the aisle, Congressman English, and express the great gratitude I have of working together on our Nation's economy and financial institutions' safety and soundness, consumer credit, and many other areas. You have served with great distinction and it has been an honor to serve with you. We will miss you.

[The prepared statement of Representative Maloney appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 25.]

Representative English. The honor has been all mine, Madam Chair. I would like to join you in welcoming Commissioner Hall before the Committee this morning.

This is obviously grave news, and I think it is important for the Nation to meditate on the information that you are going to be bringing forward and interpreting for us today.

The figures released this morning show that the financial and economic downturn continues to be reflected in worsening labor market conditions. According to the Payroll Survey, employment declined by 533,000 during the month of November. Separately, the Household Survey registered an increase in the Unemployment Rate from 6.5 percent to 6.7 percent.

In reviewing the recent economic data it is useful to recall the central role played by the collapse of the housing market and the value of mortgage investments. While there is a great deal of blame to go around, and I am sure we are going to hear a lot of that not only now but in coming months, the fact remains that Federal policies promoting unsustainably low interest rates and excessive and risky mortgage borrowing have inflated the housing bubble, and that has now popped.

The result is a crippled financial sector and a credit crunch that is now a major drag on the economy. As we look forward, Federal policy needs to avoid certain pratfalls. We should reject policies such as tax increases that have the potential, based on past history, to aggravate a recession.

Instead, targeted tax reduction for families, for business investment, for savings would serve to cushion the impact of the downturn and build a foundation for a return to sustainable economic growth.

At a time when we are facing a looming budget deficit that is driven by a recessionary condition and the according loss of revenue, I think it is especially important that we focus on what it takes to get back to economic growth.

What your labor market figures, Commissioner, suggest is there is a lot of pain out there in places like northwestern Pennsylvania, which I represent. We will hopefully have a chance to explore not only the dimensions of this challenge, but for those who serve in the next Congress as well as perhaps some things that could be done next week if we are reconvened, perhaps help us lay out an agenda.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

Vice Chair Maloney. I recognize my very good friend and colleague, Congressman Cummings, for as much time as he may consume.

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much, Madam Chair, and I thank you for holding this critical hearing on the Department of Labor's Employment Report for November.

As our Nation continues to shed jobs at an alarming rate, and the threat of increased unemployment appears to be spreading with the big three automakers now asking the American people for \$35 billion, and \$9 billion more than they asked for two weeks ago, this hearing comes at a critical juncture in our Nation's history.

And let me make it clear—so that there is no doubt—that I do support the automakers. I think it is very important that they be held accountable, strict accountability, but as I have said many times with regard to the \$700 billion bailout we have placed very strict rules with regard to, and we have asked for a lot from them, but we have asked for very little from all the others—the banks. And it seems to be one standard for white-collar jobs, and another one for blue. And I want them all to be held to a very, very, very strict standard.

I think that the report that we see today indicates why it is so important that we lose not one more job in our Nation.

Madam Chair, in the wake of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, we passed a \$700 billion economic recovery package to infuse funds into Wall Street's institutions on October 4th, 2008. I, like many others, announced—I, like many others, cautiously put my faith in the recovery package hoping that by aiding those on Wall Street the pain would stop on Main Street.

Unfortunately, the plan has yet to live up to our expectations. Thus far it has been riddled with CEOs that continue to take advantage of Taxpayer dollars by having junkets, pricey senior-executive payouts, and a Secretary of the Treasury that simply refuses to help keep people in their homes by dragging his feet in fully implementing the Troubled Asset Relief Program.

And on top of those woes, more and more Americans continue to lose their jobs. And those who are desperately seeking new employment find their Unemployment Benefits washed up with no alternative left.

As we will see shortly, there are more and more people who are being forced into part-time jobs involuntarily because they are being laid off and cannot find other employment.

Meanwhile, the economic crisis continues to be felt across this great Nation. The very reports we are to receive today by Commissioner Hall of the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that the storm is far from over. Main Street continues to bleed with no end in sight, and none in the immediate future.

As detailed in the report, Unemployment for November was 6.7 percent, bringing the number of unemployed persons in 2008 to a shocking 10.3 million people. Those 10.3 million people represent families that are trying to take care of their children. They represent single mother head-of-households who got up early this morning, four o'clock or five o'clock, to take their kids to a babysitter, and to go to a work, to a job that is not paying them a whole lot, and in many instances they're not even getting health benefits.

Since the start of the recession in December of 2007, as recently announced by the National Bureau of Economic Research, the number of unemployed persons has increased by 2.7 million. Meanwhile, the number of marginalized workers has reached an astounding 1.9 million persons in November. And within those numbers, over 600,000 people have simply given up on finding a job altogether.

Madam Chairlady, those are the folks that we have left behind. Considering that the Bureau of Labor Statistics does not include in its calculation of the Unemployment Rate those unemployed greater than 27 weeks, also termed long-term unemployed, I shudder to

think what our Unemployment Rate would look like if these numbers were included.

However, what is clear is that, since more than 2.2 million persons remain unemployed in the long term, there are a large number of persons who have exhausted their Unemployment Benefits all together. And so they suffer, and they suffer, and they suffer, and the number goes up.

And even with the additional 13 to 20 weeks in Unemployment Insurance Benefits, it appears that the extension simply may be too late and may be too little.

Against this backdrop, just yesterday our labor market was dealt another blow when four major companies—AT&T, DuPont, Viacom, and the Credit Suisse Group—announced job cuts that total 20,650. And on Wednesday, another 3000 job losses were announced by State Street Corporation, Jeffreys Group, and the Kalar Group.

And let us not forget that just over—less than a month ago, Citigroup announced layoffs of over 52,000. And the list goes on, and on, and on, and on.

To make matters worse, while this was less than expected, the Beige Book, which was released on Wednesday by the Federal Reserve, shows that our economy has continued to deteriorate in recent months in nearly every Federal Reserve District, with companies reporting slumping sales, increasing layoffs, and uncertainty about the future.

The American people need real solutions for these very real problems, many of which would have been resolved in a second economic stimulus package that Congress failed to enact prior to adjournment.

Congress must unite in a bipartisan effort to help Main Street and reaffirm our dedication to the very foundation that makes our Nation great: The American People.

I have often said that our authority in this world does not necessarily come from our military might, but it comes from our moral authority, and that is defined by how we treat each other in this Nation. We must provide an effective and efficient second economic stimulus package that will help—and we must do this immediately—that will help small businesses that over the past 15 years have created more than 93 percent of our Nation's jobs.

Sadly, just as in my District, many of those small businesses, Madam Chairlady, cannot get the consumer loans. They are the ones who paid taxes when they could pay them, but now as we put money into these banks to bail them out they don't see the loans coming to them.

We must heighten job growth by rebuilding our transportation infrastructure systems and increase the dollar amount of Unemployment Benefits so that the check received in the mail pays for far more than simply the light bill, and more than just a few pennies toward a mortgage payment or rent.

Finally, Commissioner Hall, your report highlights this need and further demonstrates that it is critical that we provided an increased and steady safety net for American families.

I anxiously look forward to the testimony, and in the end, as I close, I want to remind us, we may be in a very difficult situation, and jobs have been lost, but a lot of this has been because of

greed—of greed—on the part of many people throughout the system.

I simply close by saying this, Madam Chairlady, and Tom Freeman put it best in his recent article. He says this, he says: So many people were in on it. People who had no business buying a home with nothing down and nothing to pay for two years. People who had no business pushing such mortgages, but made fortunes doing so. People who had no business bundling those loans into securities and selling them to third parties as if they were AAA bonds, but made fortunes doing so. People who had no business rating those loans as AAA but made fortunes doing so. And people who had no business buying those bonds and putting them on their balance sheets so they could earn a little better yield, but made fortunes doing so.

And because of all of that, the American people now suffer. Many Americans who are watching us right now are being left behind with no job, and certainly no bonus.

And with that, Madam Chairlady, I yield back.

Vice Chair Maloney. Thank you.

I would now like to introduce Commissioner Hall. Dr. Keith Hall is the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics at the U.S. Department of Labor. Before becoming BLS Commissioner, Dr. Hall served as Chief Economist for the White Council of Economic Advisors during the current Administration. Prior to that he was a Chief Economist for the U.S. Department of Commerce. Dr. Hall received his B.A. Degree from the University of Virginia, and his M.S. and PhD in Economics from Purdue University.

Thank you for being here today and for your service. You are recognized.

STATEMENT OF DR. KEITH HALL, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, WASHINGTON, DC; ACCOMPANIED BY: DR. MICHAEL HARRIGAN, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR PRICES AND LIVING CONDITIONS, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS; AND MR. PHILIP RONES, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Commissioner Hall. Madam Chairman and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to discuss the employment and unemployment data that we are releasing this morning.

Nonfarm payroll employment declined by 533,000 in November, with large and widespread losses occurring across major industry sectors. November's drop in payroll employment followed what were also large declines of 403,000 in September and 320,000 in October.

The unemployment rate at 6.7 percent continued to trend up in November and has risen by 1.7 percentage points since the recession started in December of 2007.

Over the past three months, job losses have averaged 419,000 per month, sharply higher than the average loss of 82,000 per month from January through August. About two-thirds of the recent job declines have occurred in the service-providing sector of the economy. In the first eight months of this year, job losses were largely limited to construction and manufacturing.

Manufacturing job losses continued in November. Factory job losses would have been larger were it not for the return to work of 27,000 aerospace workers who had been on strike. Over the month, employment declines occurred throughout the manufacturing sector.

Motor vehicle and parts manufacturers shed 13,000 jobs. Employment in this industry has fallen by 135,000 since December. Manufacturing hours and overtime have declined by two-tenths of an hour in November.

Construction employment was down by 82,000 over the month. Since a peak in September 2006, employment in this industry has fallen by 780,000, largely in the residential sector. Over the past three months, however, job losses have been evenly distributed between residential and nonresidential construction.

Employment also declined throughout the service-providing sector this month. The largest loss was in employment services, which includes temporary help agencies.

Retail trade employment also fell by 91,000 in November with the largest job losses among automobile dealers. Since December, automobile dealers have shed 115,000 jobs.

Employment also decreased in clothing stores, sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores, furniture and home furnishing stores. Wholesale trade employment also fell by 25,000 in November and has fallen by 123,000 so far in 2008.

Leisure and hospitality employment contracted also in November, along with financial activities, transportation and warehousing and information.

In contrast to most industries, health care added jobs in November. Employment in the industry rose by 34,000 over the month.

Average hourly earnings for production and nonsupervisory workers in the private sector rose by 7 cents in November, or 0.4 percent in November. Over the past 12 months, hourly earnings have increased by 3.7 percent. While the Consumer Price Index through October has risen by 3.8 percent.

Turning to the labor market measures from the Survey of Households, the unemployment rate continued to increase in November. At 6.7 percent, the rate was up by 0.2 percentage point over the month and by 1.7 percentage points since December.

In November, 10.3 million persons were unemployed, up by 2.7 million from December. About 2.2 million of the unemployed in November had been jobless for 27 weeks or more, an increase of 868,000 so far this year.

Both the labor force participation rate at 65.8 percent and the employment to population ratio at 61.4 percent decreased over the month. The employment-to-population ratio has declined by 1.3 percentage points since December.

The number of persons working part time who would have preferred full-time employment increased by 621,000 in November to 7.3 million. Thus far in 2008, the number of such workers has grown by nearly 2.7 million.

In summary, nonfarm payroll employment declined by 533,000 in November after having fallen by 723,000 over the prior two months combined. The unemployment rate rose to 6.7 percent in November, 1.7 percentage points above the December rate.

My colleagues and I would now be glad to answer your questions. [The prepared statement of Keith Hall appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 26.]

Vice Chair Maloney. Thank you. Thank you very much for your testimony.

Commissioner Hall, unemployment is usually a lagging indicator but in this recession it seems to be a leading indicator. Would you agree?

Commissioner Hall. Yes. In fact, I would say that almost all changes in the health of the economy are visible in labor market data.

For example, when the economy began to weaken in early 2007 our data show that the labor market was beginning to weaken. As you have pointed out in past hearings, employment in temporary help services seems to be a leading indicator, and probably signaled the deepening in the labor market weakness early in 2007.

Payroll employment I think is probably the most reliable indicator of a recession, more accurate and less subject to revision than almost any other economic data. Each of the past five recessions began either exactly when, or very close to when payroll employment began a long, significant decline.

I also think the labor market data has been and is likely to be a lagging indicator, but at the end of a recession not at the start of a recession. For example, in the 2001 recession, from start to end the unemployment rate rose by 1.2 percentage points, but after the end of the recession the unemployment rate continued to rise for another 19 months after that until it was about 2.0 percentage points above the start of the recession.

In the prior recession it was similar. After the end of the 1990 recession, the unemployment rate continued to rise for another 15 months after the end of that recession.

Vice Chair Maloney. Why do you think the economy has been shedding jobs over the past year even as the economy grew?

Commissioner Hall. Well I think, I think in general most economic data has sort of been consistent with this, that most of the data has been weak and has reflected insufficient growth to promote job growth—significant job growth.

I think—in fact, I think, like I said before, I think the payroll employment is very accurate in giving you something about the health of the economy. In fact, I don't think there's anything more accurate than that.

Vice Chair Maloney. Job losses are accelerating, as we saw today. At what point in a recession do job losses typically accelerate? In the beginning, the middle, or the end?

Commissioner Hall. Actually it's hard to say on that, because every recession seems to be different, and job losses continue for different amounts of time after the start of each.

Sometimes job losses end in just a few months, significant job losses. Sometimes, like in the 2001 recession, job losses will continue for well over a year.

Vice Chair Maloney. Commissioner, given what we know about the past recessions which you have talked about, in your best judgment how long do you think these job losses are likely to continue? Are we looking at months, or years?

Commissioner Hall. Again that's hard to say. After the last recession, job growth did not start until about a year and a half after the end of the recession. And in other recessions, it has just been a matter sometimes of just a few months afterwards. So it is hard to say.

Vice Chair Maloney. But the current downturn is already longer than the last two recessions. So based on historical data, how long is it likely to take for employment to recover to its pre-recession peak?

Commissioner Hall. The last two recessions, the recovery to a pre-recession peak took a long time. The last recession it took over three years. In the 1990 recession it took about two-and-a-half years.

Vice Chair Maloney. This recession may be different from previous recessions given the severe housing slump, the credit crunch, and global downturn. How do you expect these conditions to affect the labor market over the coming year?

Commissioner Hall. Again it is hard to say. I do think, though, that it will be hard for the labor market to begin to recover until there is some improvement in those three conditions.

Vice Chair Maloney. And as you look at the data, what are the main differences between the current recession and the two prior recessions?

For example, are there differences in the characteristics of workers who are losing jobs in this recession versus previous recessions? What accounts for the current trend in job losses that are so severe?

Commissioner Hall. I think two things jump out as being different about this recession than past, recent recessions. One is the depth of the downturn in the labor market. The last three months have been a very severe downturn in the labor market.

The second thing is how broad the job losses have been. For example, during the past two recessions less than a quarter of the job loss was in the service-providing industries. So far in this recession nearly half the job loss is in services.

Vice Chair Maloney. Thank you very much. I recognize my colleague and good friend, Congressman English, for five minutes.

Representative English. Thank you, Madam Chair.

I am going to focus my questions relative to manufacturing, which constitutes perhaps a disproportionate part of the economic base of northwestern Pennsylvania and the communities that I represent.

As you know, Commissioner, manufacturing is sometimes a little different. It goes into a recession a little later and tends to feel the recession a little longer than other parts of the economy.

I am wondering, looking at that and the fact that our last recession disproportionately hit our manufacturing base, could you interpret to us the manufacturing indexes that you have laid out here in your presentation? And can you give us some points of comparison how the manufacturing indexes look now as it applies to the labor market relative to the last recession and the national norm?

Commissioner Hall. I would say that the manufacturing job loss so far in this recession has been very widespread. Some of it

has been concentrated in things like automobiles, but virtually every subsector within manufacturing has had job loss.

One of the things that I—one of the points I want to make is that, although about half the job loss has been in services so far, we still have had significant job loss outside of services.

I think what was different about the last recession from say past recessions—and I do not know about this recession—is not quite been the depth of the job loss in manufacturing but the fact that there was no recovery in the job loss in manufacturing from the last recession.

Manufacturing I think peaked at a loss of something like 3 million jobs and never really recovered after the last recession.

Representative English. Can you give us an indication, I understand that in October the Federal Reserve's Industrial Production Index rebounded somewhat over September, but September's decline was huge. Could you interpret this for us and give us a sense of what you would project forward from that experience?

Commissioner Hall. Yes. It is a little hard for me to project, in part because we produce data and it is important for us not to—

Representative English. Of course.

Commissioner Hall [continuing]. Not to guess about what the data is going to look like. Industrial production, I think along with payroll jobs, is one of the most reliable indicators of the health of an economy concurrently.

I am not that familiar with the industrial production numbers, how it changed month to month. I think the manufacturing portion of that index is probably of more interest in part because some of that includes energy and utilities, which is something that cannot follow a cyclical pattern.

Representative English. I understand that the Manufacturing Survey's overall index—and I think this is based on the work of the Institute of Supply Management—has dropped to its lowest level since 1982. Can you give us a sense of how that interacts with the jobs data, and what we can interpret from that in terms of the share of the impact of this recession that is being borne by manufacturing?

Commissioner Hall. Sure. That particular index is a very simple survey but actually it is a remarkably good survey. I would say that once the industrial production numbers come out, you have now got better data but it does give you a good indication of how industrial production may look going forward.

That number is a very low number. That is not an encouraging number, and I would say the industrial production numbers do track the jobs numbers pretty carefully, especially the Manufacturing Index and the Industrial Production, the manufacturing portion of that.

Representative English. And finally, I notice that capacity utilization has also been trending downward. How would you interpret that in light of today's jobless numbers?

Commissioner Hall. I would say again that is also a pretty reliable number. It comes out of the Industrial Production, and that is a pretty reliable indicator of how much excess capacity there is in an economy and it does tend to track the jobs numbers. So it

is pretty much in sync and has been pretty much I think in sync I think with the payroll jobs.

Representative English. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Vice Chair Maloney. Thank you.

Congressman Cummings is recognized for five minutes.

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much.

Mr. Hall, let me ask you this. You said something that was very interesting—you said a lot that was very interesting, but tell me what is the significance. You said this jobless situation is a little different and the recession is a little different in that you see such a loss of jobs in the service area. Tell me what the significance of that is.

Commissioner Hall. At least in my mind it is pretty consistent with the real declining consumer spending. Consumer spending is an extremely important part of economic growth.

To give you an example of how this might be different than say the last recession, consumer spending never declined a great deal during the last recession. That was a recession that seemed to be centered somewhat more in equipment and software investment.

This recession we have got really quite a large drop in consumer spending. I think part of what that means is that that is probably why we have had such a broad job loss in the labor market.

Representative Cummings. And so that means that we have gotten way down, then. In other words, we are not just talking about manufacturing, we are talking about people when it comes to maybe going to the barbershop, instead of going once a week they go once every three weeks, and stuff like that; and I guess going to restaurants, and things of that nature. Is that what that is? Go ahead.

Commissioner Hall. Yes, absolutely. The job loss has been spread out through a lot of different industries. Now a lot of it has been in durable goods industries. It always is during recessions because certain nondurable goods people need to consume, but you are right that it has spread out to a lot of nondurables.

Representative Cummings. There are people sitting here watching you, and they do not have a job. They do not have a job. And you are the man. You keep all the statistics on jobs. You have been trained in this area. They are trying to figure out what does this man have to tell me to give me some hope that I am going to get a job in the next year? What can you honestly tell them?

In other words, let me give you an example. Somebody who has lost their job, say for example in the construction area. What would you tell them?

Commissioner Hall. Well first I have got to admit, if I were to characterize this jobs report I would say this is a dismal jobs report. There is very little in this report that is positive. This is—this is maybe one of the worst jobs reports that the Bureau of Labor Statistics has ever produced.

Representative Cummings. Ever?

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Representative Cummings. And how long has the Bureau been around?

Commissioner Hall. 124 years.

Representative Cummings. 124 years. So that means that we are sliding—we are sliding down a slippery slope fast. Is that right?

Commissioner Hall. Well, you know, I don't, I don't want to think about projecting the numbers—

Representative Cummings. I am not asking you to project. I am asking you to tell me what is happening now.

Commissioner Hall. But I will tell you—

Representative Cummings. You just told me—you just told me and a hundred—and I am not trying to mess with you; I am just trying to make sure that the people who are looking at you right, Americans who are out of a job, who can't figure out how they are going to provide for their kids for Christmas, buy clothes, do the things that they need to do, pay their house payments, they are running out of Unemployment Benefits, and they are looking at Commissioner Hall and trying to make sure. They do not want you to lie to them. They just want you to be honest about what you see so that they can figure out what they have to do.

And that is one of my problems. I think that we have to face up. This Congress has to face up to it, and we have to face the problems that we are dealing with, and they are urgent. And there is a lot of pain going around. And I just want to make sure that they at least know what they have to deal with so that they might prepare for the future.

They may have to go and live with Aunt Suzie. Or they may have to borrow some money from Uncle Ben. But they have got to figure out how they are going to live their lives. And since they are paying your salary, and since you are supposed to be the expert on this stuff, they are just asking for some answers and they asked me to ask you.

Commissioner Hall. Well I can tell you, that up to now, that this is a low point. I, I can't tell you what the data is going to look like going forward.

Representative Cummings. What do you see in State and Federal Unemployment? I understand that there is a lag there, but in State Unemployment our Governor in Maryland just sadly had to say, and it pained him tremendously, that we were going to have to probably put some folk on furlough. I mean, what do you see in regard to State and Federal Unemployment, and what does that tell you about where we are and what we have to do?

Commissioner Hall. There has still been modest growth in employment in state and local government—

Representative Cummings. Why is that?

Commissioner Hall. It actually seems to always happen. And I am not sure why, but even during recessions—it may well simply be that state and local governments go into deficit and continue to hold onto workers during recessions in the past.

We have not yet seen a significant drop in state and local employment. That is not to say that will not happen in the future, I just do not know.

Representative Cummings. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Vice Chair Maloney. Thank you. The Chair recognizes herself for five minutes.

Later today I will be at another hearing in the Financial Services Committee on the auto industry, so I would like to ask a few questions about auto-related employment and job losses.

Through October, almost 15 percent of all job losses in 2008 were directly associated with the auto industry. Have auto industry losses continued to be significant through November?

Commissioner Hall. The answer is, yes. Motor vehicle parts manufacturing lost about 13,000 jobs, and automobile dealers lost about 24,000 jobs.

Vice Chair Maloney. Some economists believe that the lost jobs and income in that sector may have tipped the U.S. economy into a recession. Do you share that view?

Commissioner Hall. I do not think I do. I think that the job loss has been very broad, and it has been pretty significant for a long time in construction and other housing related activities and manufacturing outside of autos, and in financial services. It does not mean it has helped. It does not mean it is not significant.

Vice Chair Maloney. Congress is considering aid to the big three Detroit auto makers, so I would like to ask you about the potential employment consequences of the failure of one or more of these huge companies.

Estimates are that several millions jobs—2.5 to more than 3 million jobs—are potentially at risk. I would like to go through the numbers and see if you agree:

First, these companies directly employ about 240,000 workers. Correct?

Commissioner Hall. On that one, to be honest with you, I am not sure because companies that report data to BLS are held in confidence. So I cannot speak on how many workers those particular companies employ, whether or not they are part of our survey.

I can tell you that direct employment in the domestic automobiles and light trucks plants industry is about 159,000 in September, but that is just located in the U.S. and that includes domestic and foreign. So I am not sure where the 240,000 comes from.

Vice Chair Maloney. It is data that we collected from them directly.

But they also support many more production workers whose firms supply the parts and raw materials to make the vehicles. As I understand it, BLS payroll data show that 840,000 workers are employed in assembly and parts manufacturing. Is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. That is approximately correct, yes.

Vice Chair Maloney. And over a million additional workers are employed by dealerships in sales and services, according to your surveys; is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, 1.1 million.

Vice Chair Maloney. 1.1. Do you know how many are linked to the three big car companies?

Commissioner Hall. I don't. Again, that is a detail that we do not separate out.

Vice Chair Maloney. In addition, local communities and retailers rely on spending by auto industry workers. The Bureau of Economic Analysis has estimated that each job in the manufacturing

car industry supports 2.5 to nearly 6 additional jobs in the wider economy. Do you concur with the BEA?

Commissioner Hall. That is a BEA calculation that we do not do, but BEA—I have no reason to doubt their calculation.

Vice Chair Maloney. And other economists estimate even higher multiplier effects for these job losses; would you agree? Or I guess you are not going to comment on that.

Adding all of this up, how many jobs would you estimate are potentially at risk if one or all of these companies go out of business?

Commissioner Hall. We have never made such a calculation, and that is one that we probably would not try to make.

Vice Chair Maloney. Have you seen estimates by others that you think are credible?

Commissioner Hall. Again, I guess because our focus is on producing the data, I have not actually read and evaluated some of those estimates.

Vice Chair Maloney. But these estimates that others are putting forward, would not job losses of this magnitude be a serious blow to an already weak labor market and economy?

Commissioner Hall. Oh, absolutely. 2.5 to 3 million jobs is quite significant.

Vice Chair Maloney. Do you have, or have you seen any estimates, of how much the unemployment rate would rise if these companies do not survive?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, I think I have the same answer there. That is not a calculation or something that I would make or comment on.

Vice Chair Maloney. Thank you. My time has expired. Congressman English is recognized for five minutes.

Representative English. Thank you, Madam Chair.

I am particularly interested to follow through on the situation relating to the housing market and construction. Can you tell me how does the change in construction employment in November compare to the average of previous months?

Commissioner Hall. In November construction lost about 82,000 jobs. Since September 2006 it has lost about 780,000 in total. I am not sure if I have the number about how the job loss looked up to November. I suspect it was pretty similar to the 82,000 in November.

Representative English. Are there any unusual weather-related factors that may have influenced the data here today?

Commissioner Hall. None that I know of.

Representative English. Okay. The housing and financial sectors have been especially weak in the last year. We have seen this certainly in northwestern Pennsylvania but even more dramatically in some other parts of the country. This has been reflected in their falling output and the value of related equities in the stock market.

Isn't this weakness also reflected in employment in these sectors?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, absolutely. For example, in November financial activities lost about 32,000 jobs, which is a very large number for that sector.

Representative English. My understanding is that virtually all measures of housing activity, permits, starts, sales, and housing prices, have been declining sharply. I understand, and I know you

have trouble looking forward from the perspective of the employment data, but these are expected to remain weak. Would it be reasonable to interpret at this stage in a recession that the housing sector would continue to deteriorate based on the numbers you have seen here?

Commissioner Hall. It is hard for me to guess as to when it is going to bottom out, and I would be hesitant to try to forecast that.

Representative English. I understand.

Madam Chair, I have no further questions.

Vice Chair Maloney. Thank you. The Chair recognizes Congressman Cummings for five minutes.

Representative Cummings. You said, Mr. Hall, that this is the worst report you have seen in a hundred and twenty—well, your agency has put out in 124 years. I am not saying that you were there back 124 years ago.

Commissioner Hall. I would say it was one of the worst.

Representative Cummings. One of the worst.

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Representative Cummings. One of the sad—you know, as I listen to you there is one thing that struck me. When I was preparing for this hearing I noticed the projection, and I know that you do not necessarily do the projections, was 325,000, you know, that we would have lost 325,000 jobs, and come to find out the actual number is 533,000.

We are approaching almost double what folks had projected. And I assume that the people who do these projections are people who look at all the stats, and they are well trained, and what have you, but that seems to be a pretty big leap, doesn't it?

Commissioner Hall. Yes. Absolutely. In fact, it may be a little bit worse than even you just characterized because we also lost another 199,000 jobs in September and October that we added to those numbers in revision.

Representative Cummings. So you are saying the actual figure may be over, over seven—well, wait a minute—almost 800,000 jobs?

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Representative Cummings. So even this 533,000 is, you think, you know is not accurate? Is that what you are trying to say?

Commissioner Hall. Oh, no—

Representative Cummings. And I see Mr. Rones is looking at you. He looks like he's wondering about what you're saying. I am just watching you, Mr. Rones. You know, I keep my eye on you.

Commissioner Hall. Yes. Apparently I am not being real clear. We discovered that we had about 200,000 fewer jobs created, or an additional 200,000 jobs lost in September and October than we had previously estimated. And then we have another 533,000 this month.

Representative Cummings. So based upon, based upon what you have seen over the last two or three months, you are saying that it would not shock you if the figure is much higher than what it is, that the 533,000? In other words, a month from now when you look back? Is that what you are saying?

Commissioner Hall. Oh, no, no, I still think that is our best estimate.

Representative Cummings. Okay.

Commissioner Hall. I would not anticipate that is going to change. It is just that we added some additional jobs lost in the prior two months. So the past three months has been worse than we would have expected.

Representative Cummings. I see. And so why are most people—what are the reasons they give for not having a job? Do you know? Or becoming unemployed? Do you get that information?

Commissioner Hall. Sure. Yes, we have reasons for unemployment. The number one reason is job loss.

Representative Cummings. Meaning that they were fired, or laid off?

Commissioner Hall. Correct.

Representative Cummings. Involuntarily? Is that right?

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Representative Cummings. And how high would the unemployment rate be if it included those who worked part-time for economic reasons as well as those who were marginally attached to the labor force?

Commissioner Hall. This month that number would be 12.5 percent, up from about 11.8 percent in October.

Representative Cummings. Which is how many? I mean, can you give me a figure?

Commissioner Hall. Um—

Representative Cummings. Do you have the stats, the percentages?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, I think we can come up with an exact number here quickly.

Representative Cummings. All right. So we are in a pretty bad situation. I know you do not like to talk policy, but we do pay you to tell us something. I mean, so can you tell me that? We are in a pretty bad situation employment-wise, unemployment-wise?

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Representative Cummings. Okay. You know, I was just thinking, you know I have such a tremendous respect for the President-Elect, and he talks about The Urgency of Now. It seems like, I would hope—and this is not for your comment, Mr. Hall, I am just telling you what I feel—I believe the President-Elect and the President, President Bush, they need to get together right now, because this is The Urgency of Now. Because we have got people who are unemployed, and we are, as you agree with me, we are going down a slippery slope, and we are speeding down that slope.

In some kind of way, we have got to get people back to work, and we have got to get them back to work soon, because based upon all the things that you have said to me, and as I listened to you and I have listened to you over the months now, it seems like when one thing goes, another thing goes, in other words one sector of unemployment has an effect a lot of times on another. Is that right? That's the way our economy works? Is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. Um—

Representative Cummings. In other words, if you do not have construction workers working, that means they are not going to the barber shop.

Commissioner Hall. Right. And I think the real key in this downturn has been the decline in consumer spending. Whether it is lack of confidence, or whatever the reason, consumer spending is creating a very broad impact.

Representative Cummings. Madam Chair, I am hoping we will have another round because I do have a burning question that I must ask.

Vice Chair Maloney. I would like to focus some of our attention on women's employment. How have women fared in this economy that has shed so many jobs this year? What industries have lost the most jobs? And overall how are they faring in this job loss situation?

Commissioner Hall. Just like the total job loss so far this year, job loss by women has been significant and widespread. Women workers have lost the most jobs in professional business services, about 176,000 so far this year. Manufacturing, 174,000. Retail trade, 139,000. Financial activities, about 90,000. Those are the most significant industries.

Vice Chair Maloney. Financial services and real estate are large employers in our country and in my District, and they appear to have been particularly hard hit. How many jobs have been lost in these industries in particular? Financial services, and I would say real estate?

Commissioner Hall. Well financial activities, which includes both, have lost about 142,000 jobs since December; 86,000 of that has been over the past 3 months.

Vice Chair Maloney. And have women especially been losing jobs in these two particular industries?

Commissioner Hall. We do not have data available for November, but through October women workers have accounted for about 80 percent of the job loss in those industries.

Vice Chair Maloney. Good Heavens.

Temporary help is often a leading indicator of an employer's willingness to hire, and you indicated earlier that it has risen to roughly 12 percent loss in temporary employment. When was the last time that the temporary help industry saw this high, high level of job losses?

Commissioner Hall. Temporary help has lost about 393,000 jobs so far this year. The last time we saw this level of losses was during the 2001 recession.

Vice Chair Maloney. 2001?

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Vice Chair Maloney. And what does this trend mean, especially since women are typically concentrated in this industry?

Commissioner Hall. Well first of all this does seem to be an industry that has led recessions, has been sort of a leading indicator, and this is an industry where about 44 percent of the jobs are held by women, and the job loss by women in that industry has been comparable to that.

Vice Chair Maloney. I am deeply concerned about deflation. Just a few months ago we were worried about rising prices and in-

flation, but last month the BLS announced the steepest single-month drop in the 61-year history of the Consumer Price Index, an indication that inflation was in retreat, which has fueled concerns about deflation.

What is the likely impact of deflation on the labor market?

Commissioner Hall. Let me first note that we are not currently in a period of deflation. Deflation typically is viewed as a widespread and sustained fall in prices across the economy.

Although the drop in the CPI, the Consumer Price Index, last month was the largest ever, it was entirely due to a record 8.6 percent drop in energy prices. So it therefore was not widespread. And despite this 1 percent drop in October, overall consumer prices are still up 3.7 percent over the past 12 months.

Vice Chair Maloney. And I would like to—I am concerned also about your budget. I just wanted to ask how you are coping with reduced funding levels under the current CR. Have any important programs or surveys been affected? Or can you tell us the ways in which the quality of our economic indicators might suffer if your budget request is not met in 2009?

Commissioner Hall. Sure. Well thank you for asking this question.

Vice Chair Maloney. We want to make sure we have accurate numbers.

Commissioner Hall. The current Continuing Resolution is holding our funding level at roughly \$50 million below what I believe is a permanently maintainable level for our current programs. That has affected us three ways.

First, for the third year in a row we have had to delay a crucial update to the Consumer Price Index. In particular, our measurement of housing costs, which make up about a third of America's expenditures, is based on a sample drawn from the 1990 Census. It is therefore terribly out of date. That is about 18 years old now. The sample suffers from steady attrition. So this needs to be updated. We have not been able to update that.

And this is just really important. The CPI, the Consumer Price Index, sets Social Security benefits, it indexes tax brackets in dozens of other programs. I don't want to go on too long, but there are lots of—

Vice Chair Maloney. Is it wise to allow our economic statistics to deteriorate in the midst of a downturn?

Commissioner Hall. First of all, I do not believe it is ever wise to allow our statistics to decline because I consider the economic statistic agencies to be an important infrastructure for the U.S. economy, and it contributes considerably to the efficient function of both the economy and government.

Under the current conditions, I cannot imagine asking households and firms to make sound judgments based on economic data that is deteriorating in both quality and quantity, let alone the fact that we could be risking the effectiveness of hundreds of billions of dollars already committed to fixing our economic problems. It is sort of a penny-wise and pound-foolish sort of situation.

Vice Chair Maloney. Thank you for your testimony. My time has expired.

Congressman English is recognized for five minutes.

Representative English. Madam Chair, as an outgoing Member I do not think it is necessarily my place to advocate for policy prescriptions, but based on the statistics we have seen today I am very strongly disposed to think that Congress should act quickly.

And as you and our colleague have previously suggested, I think it is very important that Republicans and Democrats come together now to move to give the new Administration the strongest possible hand by advancing what we can as soon as we can. I believe there is a great deal of common ground on policy that could move the economy forward and get it back on a growth path.

You may recall, Madam Chair, the middle of this year I had advocated for a new stimulus package beyond what had been proposed. I think it is very important that if we are going to deal with the damage that has been done to financial markets that we put in place the tax incentives to encourage the economy to grow and encourage the stock market to recover.

We need to send the right signals and we need to put in place the sorts of policies that give us the revenue we need to meet priorities, but at the same time allow us to get forward motion in the economy.

I am extremely alarmed, as someone who has served on this panel for a number of years, to see the dimensions of the bad news that we have seen today. I think this is a Sword of Damocles hanging over the economy of America.

The fact is, what we do now and whether we move promptly to do it is going to have a large impact on what the next President's options are for the next year, possibly for the next couple of years.

I wish you well, and all of my colleagues well, who will be making decisions on this after the first of the year. I would hope that today the current Administration and the President-Elect could come together and encourage Congress to move forward to act on what we can do now to address the problems in the auto industry and generally to send a message to world markets that the United States is determined to deal with its financial problems.

I believe that if we act promptly we are going to be able to create the kind of environment that will allow manufacturing in my part of the world and the financial services in your part of the world to recover. Without action, I am afraid that our prospects are going to be extremely bleak.

So as I contemplate leaving this Institution, I have to say that today's report makes a very compelling argument for immediate action—immediate action based not on ideological proclivities but on a commitment to come together to get the economy rolling again. There is a lot of common ground that I think would allow us to move.

Mr. Commissioner, it has been a privilege to hear your presentation. It is sobering. It has also been professional, and I am very, very grateful for the opportunity to, on one of my last official duties, to hear your presentation. I hope that its significance is absorbed by policymakers here and throughout the country.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

Vice Chair Maloney. Thank you, and the Chair recognizes Mr. Cummings for five minutes.

Representative Cummings. I want to thank Mr. English for his statement. I want to associate myself with every syllable that he just said because I think this is an urgent moment, and this is a very, very critical moment in our country's history. As a matter of fact not only in our country's history, but the world's history.

Commissioner Hall, as you were talking I could not help but think about the other day when I was at the Port of Baltimore. We are about to lose, if things continue to go at the rate they are going with regard to the automobile situation, probably somewhere between 200 and 500 jobs, well-paying jobs.

You know what a lot of these jobs are? Baltimore has the number one port for Chrysler exports. So we have got these men who have been working there many years who roll the cars and trucks up on the ship. And they are about to lose their jobs.

That is where I just want to take us for a moment. You talked about how dismal this report is, but let me tell you what makes it even more dismal.

Have we ever dealt with a global recession? I mean, you know, we have got a situation where people are not buying our products because consumers do not—we have got consumer problems all over the world. I mean, this is not just a United States problem.

And we have got a situation where the markets are down all over the world. It is just not something that we have to resolve. And that is why Mr. English's comments are so appropriate and so timely. So we need to do what we need to do, but I am asking you: When you assess all of this, and again you are the man, you are the one who looks at these statistics and tries to figure out, I guess, where we are going with them, where our country is going, do you figure in that that whole idea that we are in the midst of a global recession?

Commissioner Hall. Sure. Absolutely. And I think the interconnectedness of countries can often be something that is stabilizing, that is helpful. For example, when countries go into more severe economic downturns, sometimes exports help the country—

Representative Cummings. Well can I tell you something? Can I tell you a little secret? It is not helping us in Baltimore. It is not helping those men who are about to lose their jobs. So that is nice about what it can do.

I guess what I am trying to get to is that you look at the statistics, and I am trying to figure out—I mean, I think this recession is a lot different than others. I mean, Ms. Maloney and I sit on the committee that does the investigations, the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, and let me tell you something. I have looked at this thing, and there are a whole lot of people who did a lot of cheating along the way—in this country.

It has been like dominoes. It has been fall, fall, fall, dominoes are falling, and now they are falling all over the world. So my question is: When we see that, does that affect how you might project—and I know you do not like to project, but you have got to at least think about this stuff. I mean, this is what you do—what is happening in our country.

Remember I asked you a few minutes ago, I said there are people looking at you, and they are looking for some hope, but they want you to be honest, but they are looking for some hope, and you do

not seem to have much to give them. And that is fine. That is fine. But I am just trying to figure out how does that figure in? And have we had a similar situation in recent history where we had a global recession?

Commissioner Hall. You know, to be honest I have not looked at that very carefully.

Representative Cummings. Do you mean to tell me that when you look at these figures, and you are looking at unemployment in this country—now let me make sure I understand this—you do not think about the fact that folk may not be buying, they might not buy our products somewhere else?

Commissioner Hall. Oh, absolutely I think that is important. I am talking about looking at the global economic downturn compared to other time periods.

Representative Cummings. But isn't that related to this?

Commissioner Hall. Oh, absolutely.

Representative Cummings. I mean, I don't know. I mean, you're the expert.

Commissioner Hall. Sure. Sure. And the same thing, you asked—there was a global downturn during the last recession as well. Part of the difference perhaps in the last recession was that the downturn was probably less severe in the United States than with a lot of our trading partners. And in fact I think the U.S. was actually helpful to a number of other countries because the U.S. downturn was not so severe that imports stayed fairly high and we actually helped out a lot of countries from going into such a severe downturn.

This year so far that might be different.

Representative Cummings. I see my time is up.

Vice Chair Maloney. Well I want to thank the panelists today for your public service, for your testimony, and to thank my colleagues, and in particular Congressman English's strong statement of a bipartisan "future is now" response to the economic downturn in our great country.

I believe in and support his comments that we do need a stimulus package to kickstart our economy and to make sure that we move forward. We do, in my opinion, based on the numbers that you presented today of a possible 2.5 to 3 million job loss directly or indirectly related to the auto industry, it is important that we provide a loan that will help them to continue and move forward.

I cannot imagine an America in which we do not even build our own cars. I know that they have come forward with a plan to move towards energy independence, for greater mileage per gallon, towards electronic cars and other new innovations. So this is something we need to confront and work towards.

One economist told me that our economy is roughly 30 percent of the world economy. We are in a global economy, and we need to address these problems in a global way, and these challenges that are before us.

I thank you for being here. I thank my colleagues. The meeting is adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 10:42 a.m., Friday, December 5, 2008, the hearing was adjourned.)

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE RECORD



For Immediate Release
December 5, 2008

Contact: JEC Press Office
(202) 224-5171

SCHUMER STATEMENT ON STAGGERING JOBS REPORT

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer, Chairman of the **Joint Economic Committee**, released the following statement in reaction to the **November jobs report** released from Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) this morning:

“The news keeps getting worse and the demand for action from Washington keeps getting greater. This jobs picture painted today is staggering, and it should be all the evidence Washington needs to act swiftly and decisively to shore up this economy.”

Quick facts on the November jobs report:

- This is the 11th straight month of job losses and the largest monthly decline since 1974.
- The unemployment rate jumped from 6.5 percent in October to 6.7 percent, hitting every major employment sector.
- The number of jobs lost this year is 1,910,000.

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

#



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



PREPARED STATEMENT OF CAROLYN MALONEY

I want to thank Commissioner Hall and his staff for appearing before us today. This is an important time for Congress to be examining the employment situation of U.S. workers, as we now have confirmation that the economy is in a recession.

Today's jobless numbers take your breath away. In November, the economy lost an astonishing 533,000 jobs—the highest monthly loss in 34 years—and job losses in the previous two months were worse than originally reported. The unemployment rate increased to 6.7 percent.

The official arbiters of U.S. recessions—the National Bureau of Economic Research—announced on Monday that the economy entered this recession in December 2007, when the private sector first began shedding jobs. Since then, the economy has lost over 2 million private sector jobs and 2.7 million more workers are unemployed, for a total of 10.3 million.

These stark numbers should make the decision to rescue the Detroit carmakers much easier. The potential employment consequences if one or more of the Big Three Detroit automakers fails could be devastating to an already weak labor market. Estimates show that millions of jobs—including vehicle assembly, parts manufacturing, suppliers, and neighborhood retailers—are potentially at risk. The Bureau of Economic Analysis has estimated that each job in the vehicle manufacturing industry supports from two and a half to about 6 additional jobs in the wider economy, so the ripples of their collapse could be felt far and wide.

Last week, third quarter economic growth was revised downward to -0.5 percent. The economy is being pulled down by falling consumer spending, which makes up nearly three-quarters of our gross domestic product. Yesterday, it was announced that retailers posted the worst November sales in more than thirty years. Families are conserving their dwindling resources and simply not buying much of anything, including durable goods such as cars. As consumers cut back on their spending, this is dragging down economic growth, jobs and wages.

The current downturn has already lasted longer than the last two recessions, bringing hardship to millions of families. U.S. workers have lost all the ground that they gained over the 2000s recovery. The Census Bureau recently reported that by the end of last year, inflation-adjusted household income had still not recovered from the last recession and all indications are that household finances have only deteriorated since then.

The credit crisis is making the employment situation even worse. The lack of access to credit, combined with the sharp drop in home prices, declines in the stock market, and the lack of growth in real incomes are putting unbearable financial pressure on families. Retirement savings and college savings accounts have been decimated by the sudden drop in value in the equities market. College-bound seniors will be facing tuition hikes and diminished financial aid, making college out-of-reach to many middle-class and poor families.

Congress has already taken numerous steps to help buffer families from the effects of the downturn, including extended Unemployment Benefits again last month.

Some economists are already calling this “the Great Recession” because they fear it may be longer and deeper than any recession in recent history. This recession requires solutions that address the magnitude of our economic woes.

In January, Congress will send our new President a substantial recovery package that makes investments in our future and puts Americans back to work as quickly as possible.

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

STATEMENT OF KEITH HALL, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the employment and unemployment data we released this morning.

Nonfarm payroll employment declined by 533,000 in November, with large and widespread losses occurring across the major industry sectors. November's drop in payroll employment followed declines of 403,000 in September and 320,000 in October, as revised. The unemployment rate, at 6.7 percent, continued to trend up in November and has risen by 1.7 percentage points since the recession started in December 2007 (as designated by the National Bureau of Economic Research).

Over the past 3 months, job losses have averaged 419,000 per month, sharply higher than the average loss of 82,000 per month from January through August. About two-thirds of the recent job declines have occurred in the service-providing sector of the economy. In the first 8 months of this year, job losses were largely limited to construction and manufacturing.

Manufacturing job losses continued in November (-85,000). Factory job losses would have been larger were it not for the return to work of 27,000 aerospace workers who had been on strike. Over the month, employment declines occurred throughout the manufacturing sector. Motor vehicle and parts manufacturers shed 13,000 jobs over the month; employment in this industry has fallen by 135,000 since December. Manufacturing hours and overtime each declined by 0.2 hour in November.

Construction employment was down by 82,000 over the month. Since a peak in September 2006, employment in this industry has fallen by 780,000, largely in the residential sector. Over the past 3 months, job losses have been evenly distributed between residential and nonresidential construction.

Employment also declined throughout the service-providing sector. The largest loss (-101,000) was in employment services, which includes temporary help agencies. Employment services has lost 495,000 jobs so far in 2008.

Retail trade employment fell by 91,000 in November, with the largest job loss among automobile dealers (-24,000); since December, auto dealers have shed 115,000 jobs. Employment also decreased after seasonal adjustment in clothing stores; sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores; and furniture and home furnishings stores. Wholesale trade employment fell by 25,000 in November and by 123,000 so far in 2008.

Leisure and hospitality employment contracted by 76,000 in November; the accommodation and food services industry accounted for most of the decrease. Elsewhere in the service-providing sector, sizable employment declines also occurred in financial activities (-32,000), transportation and warehousing (-32,000), and information (-19,000).

In contrast to most industries, health care added jobs in November. Employment in the industry rose by 34,000 over the month and has increased by 341,000 so far this year. The November gain reflected jobs added in nursing and residential care facilities, hospitals, and offices of physicians.

Average hourly earnings for production and nonsupervisory workers in the private sector rose by 7 cents, or 0.4 percent, in November. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 3.7 percent. From October 2007 to October 2008, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose by 3.8 percent.

Turning to labor market measures from the survey of households, the unemployment rate continued to increase in November. At 6.7 percent, the rate was up by 0.2 percentage point over the month and by 1.7 percentage points since December.

In November, 10.3 million persons were unemployed, up by 2.7 million from December. About 2.2 million of the unemployed in November had been jobless for 27 weeks or more, an increase of 868,000 thus far in 2008.

Both the labor force participation rate, at 65.8 percent, and the employment-population ratio, at 61.4 percent, decreased over the month. The employment-population ratio has declined by 1.3 percentage points since December.

The number of persons working part time who would have preferred full-time employment increased by 621,000 in November to 7.3 million. Thus far in 2008, the number of such workers has grown by nearly 2.7 million.

In summary, nonfarm payroll employment declined by 533,000 in November after having fallen by 723,000 over the prior 2 months combined. The unemployment rate rose to 6.7 percent in November, 1.7 percentage points above the December rate.

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/>

USDL 08-1774

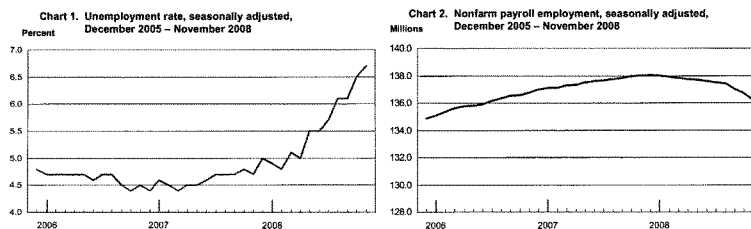
Establishment data: (202) 691-6555
<http://www.bls.gov/ces/>

Transmission of material in this release
is embargoed until 8:30 A.M. (EST),
Friday, December 5, 2008.

Media contact: (202) 691-5902

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: NOVEMBER 2008

Nonfarm payroll employment fell sharply (-533,000) in November, and the unemployment rate rose from 6.5 to 6.7 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. November's drop in payroll employment followed declines of 403,000 in September and 320,000 in October, as revised. Job losses were large and widespread across the major industry sectors in November.



Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

Both the number of unemployed persons (10.3 million) and the unemployment rate (6.7 percent) continued to increase in November. Since the start of the recession in December 2007, as recently announced by the National Bureau of Economic Research, the number of unemployed persons increased by 2.7 million, and the unemployment rate rose by 1.7 percentage points. (See table A-1.)

The unemployment rates for adult men (6.5 percent) and adult women (5.5 percent) continued to trend up in November. The unemployment rates for teenagers (20.4 percent), whites (6.1 percent), blacks (11.2 percent), and Hispanics (8.6 percent) showed little change over the month. The jobless rate for Asians was 4.8 percent in November, not seasonally adjusted. (See tables A-1, A-2, and A-3.)

Among the unemployed, the number of persons who lost their job and did not expect to be recalled to work increased by 298,000 to 4.7 million in November. Over the past 12 months, the size of this group has increased by 2.0 million. (See table A-8.)

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

Category	Quarterly averages		Monthly data			Oct.-Nov. change
	II 2008	III 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	
HOUSEHOLD DATA						
Labor force status						
Civilian labor force	154,294	154,730	154,732	155,038	154,616	-422
Employment	146,089	145,517	145,255	144,958	144,285	-673
Unemployment	8,204	9,213	9,477	10,080	10,331	251
Not in labor force	79,117	79,381	79,628	79,575	80,212	637
Unemployment rates						
All workers	5.3	6.0	6.1	6.5	6.7	0.2
Adult men	4.9	5.7	6.1	6.3	6.5	.2
Adult women	4.6	4.9	4.9	5.3	5.5	.2
Teenagers	17.4	19.5	19.1	20.6	20.4	-.2
White	4.7	5.3	5.4	5.9	6.1	.2
Black or African American	9.1	10.6	11.4	11.1	11.2	.1
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	7.2	7.7	7.8	8.8	8.6	-.2
ESTABLISHMENT DATA						
Employment						
Nonfarm employment	137,699	137,331	137,020	p 136,700	p 136,167	p -533
Goods-producing ¹	21,565	21,351	21,250	p 21,083	p 20,920	p -163
Construction	7,242	7,141	7,098	p 7,034	p 6,952	p -82
Manufacturing	13,563	13,423	13,357	p 13,253	p 13,168	p -85
Service-providing ¹	116,134	115,980	115,770	p 115,617	p 115,247	p -370
Retail trade ²	15,337	15,259	15,199	p 15,137	p 15,046	p -91
Professional and business service	17,980	17,849	17,789	p 17,726	p 17,590	p -136
Education and health services	18,823	18,975	18,993	p 19,021	p 19,073	p 52
Leisure and hospitality	13,683	13,627	13,587	p 13,562	p 13,486	p -76
Government	22,439	22,504	22,495	p 22,537	p 22,544	p 7
Hours of work ³						
Total private	33.7	33.7	33.6	p 33.6	p 33.5	p -0.1
Manufacturing	41.0	40.8	40.5	p 40.5	p 40.3	p -.2
Overtime	3.9	3.7	3.5	p 3.5	p 3.3	p -.2
Indexes of aggregate weekly hours (2002=100) ³						
Total private	107.2	106.6	106.1	p 105.7	p 104.7	p -1.0
Earnings ³						
Average hourly earnings, total private	\$17.95	\$18.12	\$18.17	p \$18.23	p \$18.30	p \$0.07
Average weekly earnings, total private	605.40	610.15	610.51	p 612.53	p 613.05	p .52

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.

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) was little changed at 2.2 million in November, but was up by 822,000 over the past 12 months. (See table A-9.)

Total Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

In November, the labor force participation rate declined by 0.3 percentage point to 65.8 percent. Total employment continued to decline, and the employment-population ratio fell to 61.4 percent. (See table A-1.)

Over the month, the number of persons who worked part time for economic reasons (sometimes referred to as involuntary part-time workers) continued to increase, reaching 7.3 million. The number of such workers rose by 2.8 million over the past 12 months. This category includes persons who would like to work full time but were working part time because their hours had been cut back or because they were unable to find full-time jobs. (See table A-5.)

Persons Not in the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

About 1.9 million persons (not seasonally adjusted) were marginally attached to the labor force in November, 584,000 more than 12 months earlier. 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 608,000 discouraged workers in November, up by 259,000 from a year earlier. Discouraged workers are persons not currently looking for work specifically because they believe no jobs are available for them. The other 1.3 million persons marginally attached to the labor force in November 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 fell by 533,000 in November, bringing losses to 1.9 million since the start of the recession in December 2007. Two-thirds of these losses occurred in the last 3 months. In November, employment declined in nearly all major industries, although health care continued to add jobs. (See table B-1.)

In November, employment continued to decline in manufacturing (-85,000), with widespread job losses occurring among the component industries. Manufacturing employment has declined by 604,000 since December. Within durable goods manufacturing, job losses occurred in November in fabricated metal products (-15,000), machinery (-11,000), wood products (-9,000), furniture and related products (-7,000), primary metals (-7,000), and computer and electronic products (-7,000). Employment in transportation equipment edged up, as a return of 27,000 aerospace workers from strike more than offset a job loss in motor vehicle and parts (-13,000). In the nondurable goods component, job losses occurred in plastics and rubber products (-12,000), printing and related support activities (-5,000), and textile mills (-5,000).

Employment in construction fell by 82,000 in November, with losses occurring throughout the industry. Since peaking in September 2006, construction employment has decreased by 780,000. Specialty trade contractors lost 50,000 jobs in November, with both residential and nonresidential components contributing to the decline.

Within professional and business services, the employment services industry lost 101,000 jobs over the month, bringing total job losses since December to 495,000. In November, employment fell by 10,000 in architectural and engineering services.

Employment in retail trade fell by 91,000 in November. Job losses continued in automobile dealerships (-24,000). Employment in the industry has fallen by 115,000 since December, with much of the decrease occurring over the last 2 months. In several other retail industries, seasonal hiring for the holidays fell short of normal in November. After seasonal adjustment, employment declined in clothing and accessories stores (-18,000); sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores (-11,000); and furniture and home furnishing stores (-10,000). Wholesale trade employment was down by 25,000 over the month, with most of the decrease among durable goods wholesalers.

Employment in leisure and hospitality declined by 76,000 in November, with most of the decline occurring in accommodation and food services (-54,000). Since peaking in April 2008, accommodation and food services has lost 150,000 jobs.

In November, employment in financial activities continued to decline (-32,000). Within the industry, job losses occurred in credit intermediation and related activities (-16,000) and in rental and leasing services (-9,000). Job losses in financial activities have accelerated over the last 3 months, bringing the total decline since December to 142,000.

Elsewhere in the service-providing sector, employment in transportation and warehousing declined by 32,000 in November, with most of the losses in truck transportation (-12,000) and couriers and messengers (-8,000). The information industry lost 19,000 jobs over the month.

Health care employment grew by 34,000 in November. Over the past 12 months, health care has added 369,000 jobs.

The change in total nonfarm employment for September was revised from -284,000 to -403,000, and the change for October was revised from -240,000 to -320,000. In both months, there were large revisions in most of the major industry sectors. These revisions resulted primarily because of the normal monthly recalculation of seasonal factors rather than the incorporation of additional sample reports.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

In November, the average workweek for production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls fell by 0.1 hour to 33.5 hours, seasonally adjusted—the lowest in the history of the series, which began in 1964. Both the manufacturing workweek and factory overtime fell by 0.2 hour over the month, to 40.3 and 3.3 hours, respectively. (See table B-2.)

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production and nonsupervisory workers on nonfarm payrolls fell by 0.9 percent in November. The manufacturing index declined by 1.4 percent. (See table B-5.)

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

In November, average hourly earnings of production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 7 cents, or 0.4 percent. This followed gains of 6 cents in October and 3 cents

in September. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings increased by 3.7 percent, and average weekly earnings rose by 2.8 percent. (See table B-3.)

The Employment Situation for December 2008 is scheduled to be released on Friday, January 9, 2009, at 8:30 A.M. (EST). Employment Situation release dates for the balance of 2009 can be found on the BLS Web site at http://www.bls.gov/schedule/news_release/empisit.htm.

Revision of Seasonally Adjusted Household Survey Data

In accordance with usual practice, the Employment Situation release for December 2008, scheduled for January 9, 2009, will incorporate annual revisions in seasonally adjusted unemployment and other labor force series from the household survey. Seasonally adjusted data for the most recent 5 years are subject to revision.

Planned Changes to Household Data Table A-13

With the release of data for December 2008, scheduled for January 9, 2009, there will be a wording change to one of the categories listed in table A-13. The current category, "Searched for work and available to work now," will be changed to "Marginally attached to the labor force." This is strictly a change in title, and not in definition; the data shown will not be affected. This change is being made to correspond with the text in the release.

Footnote 1 in table A-13 also will change slightly to include the word "sometime." Therefore, footnote 1 will read "Data refer to persons who have searched for work sometime during the prior 12 months and were available to take a job during the reference week."

Conversion of Household Data to Updated Census Industry Classification

With the release of January 2009 data on February 6, 2009, the Current Population Survey (household data) will change its industry classification from the 2002 Census Industry Classification to an updated version derived from the 2007 North American Industry Classification System.

Several industry titles will be updated. In addition, the new classification reflects minor definitional changes within the information sector. Historical data will not be revised.

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 15.7 percent of the labor force in 2007 and 47.7 percent of the net increase in the labor force from 2000 to 2007.

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/cesreinfo.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>.

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.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD DATA

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					
	Nov. 2007	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008
TOTAL									
Civilian noninstitutional population	232,939	234,612	234,828	232,939	233,864	234,107	234,360	234,612	234,828
Civilian labor force	154,035	155,012	154,624	153,828	154,603	154,853	154,732	155,038	154,616
Participation rate	66.1	66.1	65.8	66.0	66.1	66.1	66.0	66.1	65.8
Employed	147,118	145,543	144,609	146,647	145,819	145,477	145,255	144,958	144,285
Employment-population ratio	63.2	62.0	61.6	63.0	62.4	62.1	62.0	61.8	61.4
Unemployed	6,917	9,469	10,015	7,181	8,784	9,376	9,477	10,080	10,331
Unemployment rate	4.5	6.1	6.8	4.7	5.7	6.1	6.1	6.5	6.7
Not in labor force	78,904	79,601	80,204	79,111	79,261	79,253	79,628	79,575	80,212
Persons who currently want a job	4,337	4,800	5,077	4,655	4,997	4,796	5,067	4,966	5,364
Men, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	112,737	113,546	113,660	112,737	113,154	113,281	113,414	113,546	113,660
Civilian labor force	82,402	82,772	82,415	82,515	82,889	82,807	82,945	82,983	82,655
Participation rate	73.1	72.9	72.5	73.2	73.3	73.1	73.1	73.1	72.7
Employed	78,680	77,428	76,690	78,604	77,823	77,832	77,396	77,108	76,672
Employment-population ratio	69.8	68.2	67.5	69.7	68.8	68.5	68.2	67.9	67.5
Unemployed	3,722	5,344	5,725	3,910	5,066	5,176	5,549	5,875	5,983
Unemployment rate	4.5	6.5	6.9	4.7	6.1	6.3	6.7	7.1	7.2
Not in labor force	30,335	30,775	31,245	30,223	30,264	30,474	30,469	30,563	31,005
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	104,087	104,869	104,978	104,087	104,490	104,613	104,741	104,869	104,978
Civilian labor force	79,113	79,462	79,243	79,075	79,327	79,319	79,444	79,451	79,316
Participation rate	76.0	75.8	75.5	76.0	75.9	75.8	75.8	75.8	75.6
Employed	76,018	74,865	74,283	75,834	75,094	74,866	74,631	74,441	74,138
Employment-population ratio	73.0	71.4	70.8	72.9	71.9	71.6	71.3	71.0	70.6
Unemployed	3,095	4,598	4,960	3,240	4,234	4,452	4,813	5,010	5,178
Unemployment rate	3.9	5.8	6.3	4.1	5.3	5.6	6.1	6.3	6.5
Not in labor force	24,973	25,407	25,735	25,012	25,163	25,295	25,298	25,418	25,662
Women, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	120,202	121,066	121,168	120,202	120,710	120,825	120,946	121,066	121,168
Civilian labor force	71,633	72,240	72,209	71,313	71,714	72,046	71,787	72,055	71,961
Participation rate	59.6	59.7	59.6	59.3	59.4	59.0	59.4	59.5	59.4
Employed	68,438	68,115	67,919	68,043	67,996	67,845	67,860	67,850	67,613
Employment-population ratio	56.9	56.3	56.1	56.5	56.3	56.2	56.1	56.0	55.8
Unemployed	3,195	4,125	4,290	3,271	3,718	4,201	3,928	4,205	4,348
Unemployment rate	4.5	5.7	5.9	4.6	5.2	5.8	5.5	5.8	6.0
Not in labor force	48,569	48,826	48,959	48,889	48,996	48,779	49,159	49,011	49,207
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	111,805	112,633	112,731	111,805	112,290	112,401	112,518	112,633	112,731
Civilian labor force	68,188	69,059	69,108	67,776	68,303	68,672	68,423	68,757	68,749
Participation rate	61.0	61.3	61.3	60.6	60.8	61.1	60.8	61.0	61.0
Employed	65,449	65,439	65,317	64,980	65,167	65,047	65,072	65,090	64,935
Employment-population ratio	58.5	58.1	57.9	58.1	58.0	57.9	57.8	57.8	57.6
Unemployed	2,739	3,620	3,791	2,796	3,135	3,625	3,351	3,666	3,815
Unemployment rate	4.0	5.2	5.5	4.1	4.6	5.3	4.9	5.3	5.5
Not in labor force	43,617	43,575	43,623	44,029	43,988	43,729	44,094	43,877	43,982
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population	17,048	17,110	17,116	17,048	17,084	17,092	17,101	17,110	17,118
Civilian labor force	6,734	6,490	6,272	6,977	6,973	6,893	6,865	6,830	6,550
Participation rate	39.5	37.9	36.6	40.9	40.8	40.2	40.1	39.9	38.3
Employed	5,652	5,239	5,008	5,832	5,558	5,563	5,552	5,427	5,212
Employment-population ratio	33.2	30.6	29.3	34.2	32.5	32.6	32.5	31.7	30.4
Unemployed	1,082	1,251	1,264	1,145	1,415	1,299	1,313	1,404	1,338
Unemployment rate	16.1	19.3	20.2	16.4	20.3	18.9	19.1	20.6	20.4
Not in labor force	10,314	10,620	10,846	10,071	10,110	10,229	10,236	10,279	10,568

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.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD 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					
	Nov. 2007	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	188,956	190,085	190,221	188,956	189,587	189,747	189,916	190,085	190,221
Civilian labor force	125,615	126,311	126,057	125,430	125,971	125,981	125,955	126,388	126,029
Participation rate	66.5	66.4	66.3	66.4	66.4	66.4	66.3	66.5	66.3
Employed	120,665	119,389	118,721	120,194	119,542	119,222	119,180	118,893	116,338
Employment-population ratio	63.9	62.8	62.4	63.6	63.1	62.8	62.8	62.5	62.2
Unemployed	4,951	6,923	7,336	5,235	6,428	6,760	6,775	7,495	7,691
Unemployment rate	3.9	5.5	5.8	4.2	5.1	5.4	5.4	5.9	6.1
Not in labor force	63,341	63,774	64,165	63,526	63,616	63,765	63,961	63,697	64,193
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	65,552	65,785	65,681	65,521	65,789	65,690	65,747	65,844	65,755
Participation rate	76.4	76.2	76.0	76.4	76.4	76.2	76.2	76.3	76.1
Employed	63,307	62,411	61,995	63,111	62,695	62,448	62,239	62,081	61,824
Employment-population ratio	73.8	72.3	71.7	73.6	72.8	72.5	72.2	71.9	71.5
Unemployed	2,245	3,374	3,686	2,409	3,094	3,244	3,508	3,763	3,930
Unemployment rate	3.4	5.1	5.6	3.7	4.7	4.9	5.3	5.7	6.0
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	54,539	55,204	55,131	54,206	54,424	54,668	54,803	54,930	54,804
Participation rate	60.5	60.9	60.8	60.2	60.2	60.4	60.3	60.6	60.4
Employed	52,645	52,595	52,454	52,220	52,184	52,119	52,309	52,236	52,052
Employment-population ratio	58.4	58.0	57.8	58.0	57.7	57.6	57.8	57.6	57.4
Unemployed	1,893	2,610	2,677	1,986	2,240	2,551	2,294	2,694	2,752
Unemployment rate	3.5	4.7	4.9	3.7	4.1	4.7	4.2	4.9	5.0
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	5,525	5,321	5,245	5,703	5,758	5,823	5,606	5,615	5,470
Participation rate	42.2	40.6	40.0	43.6	44.0	43.0	42.8	42.9	41.7
Employed	4,712	4,383	4,272	4,863	4,664	4,658	4,632	4,577	4,461
Employment-population ratio	36.0	33.5	32.6	37.2	35.6	35.6	35.4	34.9	34.0
Unemployed	812	939	973	840	1,094	965	974	1,038	1,009
Unemployment rate	14.7	17.6	18.6	14.7	19.0	17.2	17.4	18.5	18.4
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	27,666	27,982	28,021	27,666	27,854	27,896	27,939	27,982	28,021
Civilian labor force	17,481	17,799	17,683	17,453	17,767	17,973	17,737	17,793	17,710
Participation rate	63.2	63.6	63.1	63.1	63.8	64.4	63.5	63.6	63.2
Employed	16,027	15,847	15,705	15,980	16,040	16,074	16,114	16,810	16,718
Employment-population ratio	57.9	56.6	56.0	57.8	57.6	57.6	56.2	56.5	56.1
Unemployed	1,454	1,952	1,979	1,473	1,726	1,899	2,023	1,983	1,992
Unemployment rate	8.3	11.0	11.2	8.4	9.7	10.6	11.4	11.1	11.2
Not in labor force	10,184	10,183	10,338	10,212	10,088	9,923	10,202	10,190	10,311
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	7,930	8,005	7,957	7,889	7,979	8,066	8,004	7,980	7,950
Participation rate	71.2	71.1	70.6	70.8	71.3	71.9	71.2	70.9	70.5
Employed	7,316	7,083	7,013	7,268	7,184	7,239	7,052	7,052	7,000
Employment-population ratio	65.7	62.9	62.2	65.3	64.2	64.5	62.8	62.6	62.1
Unemployed	613	923	944	621	795	827	951	928	950
Unemployment rate	7.7	11.5	11.9	7.9	10.0	10.3	11.9	11.6	11.9
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	8,789	9,021	9,069	8,777	8,985	9,052	8,921	9,004	9,070
Participation rate	63.4	64.3	64.5	63.3	64.3	64.7	63.6	64.1	64.5
Employed	8,161	8,231	8,234	8,159	8,311	8,225	8,069	8,211	8,250
Employment-population ratio	58.8	58.6	58.6	58.8	59.5	59.8	57.7	58.5	58.7
Unemployed	627	791	836	618	674	826	833	794	820
Unemployment rate	7.1	8.8	9.2	7.0	7.5	9.1	9.3	8.8	9.0
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	763	772	657	787	802	856	812	808	691
Participation rate	28.7	28.8	24.4	29.5	30.0	31.9	30.3	30.1	25.7
Employed	549	533	457	553	545	609	573	546	468
Employment-population ratio	20.7	19.9	17.0	20.8	20.4	22.7	21.4	20.4	17.4
Unemployed	214	239	199	234	257	246	239	262	223
Unemployment rate	28.0	30.9	30.4	29.7	32.0	28.8	29.4	32.4	32.3

See footnotes at end of table.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD DATA

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					
	Nov. 2007	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008
ASIAN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	10,731	10,791	10,811	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Civilian labor force	7,222	7,141	7,134	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Participation rate	67.3	66.2	66.0	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Employed	6,960	6,870	6,791	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Employment-population ratio	64.9	63.7	62.8	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Unemployed	262	271	343	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Unemployment rate	3.6	3.8	4.8	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Not in labor force	3,509	3,650	3,677	(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					
	Nov. 2007	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008
HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY									
Civilian noninstitutional population	31,809	32,465	32,558	31,809	32,179	32,273	32,369	32,465	32,558
Civilian labor force	21,937	22,190	22,137	21,872	22,071	22,226	22,258	22,236	22,078
Participation rate	69.0	68.4	68.0	68.8	68.6	68.9	68.8	68.5	67.8
Employed	20,701	20,327	20,263	20,623	20,435	20,452	20,531	20,268	20,187
Employment-population ratio	65.1	62.6	62.2	64.8	63.5	63.4	63.4	62.4	62.0
Unemployed	1,236	1,863	1,874	1,249	1,636	1,774	1,727	1,967	1,891
Unemployment rate	5.6	8.4	8.5	5.7	7.4	8.0	7.8	8.8	8.6
Not in labor force	9,872	10,275	10,421	9,938	10,108	10,049	10,111	10,229	10,480
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	12,592	12,787	12,760	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Participation rate	84.8	84.6	84.1	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Employed	12,023	11,838	11,777	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Employment-population ratio	81.0	78.3	77.7	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Unemployed	569	949	983	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Unemployment rate	4.5	7.4	7.7	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	8,246	8,332	8,362	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Participation rate	59.0	58.4	58.5	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Employed	7,760	7,721	7,745	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Employment-population ratio	55.6	54.1	54.2	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Unemployed	485	611	618	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Unemployment rate	5.9	7.3	7.4	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	1,100	1,071	1,015	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Participation rate	36.8	34.8	32.8	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Employed	918	768	741	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Employment-population ratio	30.7	24.9	24.0	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Unemployed	182	303	274	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Unemployment rate	16.5	28.3	27.0	(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.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD 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					
	Nov. 2007	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008
Less than a high school diploma									
Civilian labor force	12,181	12,137	12,137	12,228	12,168	12,197	12,161	12,391	12,206
Participation rate	46.6	47.4	47.0	46.8	47.8	47.5	47.0	48.3	47.3
Employed	11,264	11,007	10,865	11,296	11,135	11,022	10,992	11,118	10,924
Employment-population ratio	43.1	42.9	42.1	43.3	43.7	42.9	42.5	43.4	42.3
Unemployed	916	1,130	1,272	932	1,033	1,175	1,169	1,273	1,282
Unemployment rate	7.5	9.3	10.5	7.6	8.5	9.6	9.6	10.3	10.5
High school graduates, no college ¹									
Civilian labor force	39,017	38,571	38,586	38,710	38,872	38,373	38,313	38,467	38,271
Participation rate	63.1	62.8	62.8	62.6	63.5	62.9	62.5	62.6	62.3
Employed	37,327	36,314	36,009	36,980	36,854	36,191	35,908	36,028	35,679
Employment-population ratio	60.4	59.1	59.6	59.8	60.2	59.3	58.6	58.7	58.1
Unemployed	1,690	2,257	2,577	1,730	2,018	2,182	2,405	2,439	2,592
Unemployment rate	4.3	5.9	6.7	4.5	5.2	5.7	6.3	6.3	6.8
Some college or associate degree									
Civilian labor force	36,454	37,065	37,342	36,353	36,444	36,685	36,991	36,723	37,155
Participation rate	72.1	72.0	72.1	71.9	71.1	71.5	71.9	71.3	71.7
Employed	35,303	35,208	35,380	35,156	34,813	34,912	35,129	34,797	35,127
Employment-population ratio	69.9	68.4	68.3	69.6	67.9	68.0	68.3	67.6	67.8
Unemployed	1,151	1,857	1,961	1,197	1,631	1,774	1,862	1,926	2,029
Unemployment rate	3.2	5.0	5.3	3.3	4.5	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.5
Bachelor's degree and higher ²									
Civilian labor force	44,474	45,639	45,272	44,263	45,071	45,422	45,200	45,540	45,260
Participation rate	78.0	78.0	77.8	77.7	77.2	77.5	77.7	77.8	77.8
Employed	43,563	44,257	43,900	43,296	43,983	44,192	44,072	44,129	43,847
Employment-population ratio	76.4	75.6	75.4	76.0	75.3	75.4	75.7	75.4	75.4
Unemployed	910	1,382	1,372	968	1,078	1,240	1,128	1,411	1,413
Unemployment rate	2.0	3.0	3.0	2.2	2.4	2.7	2.5	3.1	3.1

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.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD DATA

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

(In thousands)

Category	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Nov. 2007	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008
CLASS OF WORKER									
Agriculture and related industries	2,082	2,203	2,141	2,148	2,123	2,142	2,189	2,167	2,203
Wage and salary workers	1,171	1,328	1,198	1,237	1,258	1,289	1,331	1,321	1,270
Self-employed workers	892	853	920	895	844	817	820	823	920
Unpaid family workers	19	23	23	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Nonagricultural industries	145,036	143,340	142,468	144,503	143,589	143,284	143,064	142,773	142,015
Wage and salary workers	135,705	134,388	133,697	135,109	133,951	133,822	133,725	133,808	133,163
Government	21,121	21,720	21,613	20,943	21,098	21,259	21,168	21,510	21,440
Private industries	114,583	112,668	112,084	114,179	112,956	112,607	112,588	112,301	111,710
Private households	759	940	936	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Other industries	113,824	111,828	111,247	113,377	112,157	111,851	111,778	111,431	110,826
Self-employed workers	9,234	8,882	8,706	9,276	9,518	9,381	9,228	8,844	8,829
Unpaid family workers	97	69	65	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
PERSONS AT WORK PART TIME ²									
All industries:									
Part time for economic reasons	4,374	6,267	7,135	4,513	5,724	5,718	6,055	6,700	7,321
Slack work or business conditions	2,959	4,548	5,354	3,008	4,194	4,112	4,232	4,733	5,426
Could only find part-time work	1,146	1,466	1,509	1,223	1,286	1,362	1,516	1,491	1,572
Part time for noneconomic reasons	20,661	19,541	19,892	19,539	19,406	19,712	19,371	19,147	18,880
Nonagricultural industries:									
Part time for economic reasons	4,301	6,157	7,001	4,453	5,599	5,641	5,841	6,485	7,200
Slack work or business conditions	2,926	4,460	5,251	2,981	4,156	4,032	4,121	4,690	5,313
Could only find part-time work	1,136	1,457	1,497	1,205	1,277	1,350	1,537	1,481	1,570
Part time for noneconomic reasons	20,349	19,197	19,592	19,224	19,051	19,281	19,033	18,889	18,598

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.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-6. Selected employment indicators

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Nov. 2007	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008
AGE AND SEX									
Total, 16 years and over	147,118	145,543	144,609	146,647	145,819	145,477	145,255	144,958	144,285
16 to 19 years	5,652	5,239	5,008	5,832	5,558	5,563	5,552	5,427	5,212
18 to 19 years	2,176	1,930	1,771	2,192	1,974	1,988	2,029	1,959	1,813
18 to 19 years	3,476	3,309	3,237	3,625	3,619	3,570	3,546	3,482	3,410
20 years and over	141,466	140,303	139,601	140,814	140,261	139,914	139,703	139,531	139,073
20 to 24 years	14,008	13,517	13,446	13,965	13,724	13,683	13,637	13,538	13,463
25 years and over	127,459	126,786	126,155	126,779	126,611	126,281	126,093	125,944	125,529
25 to 54 years	101,083	99,487	98,921	100,605	99,733	99,345	99,236	98,895	98,475
25 to 34 years	31,894	31,369	31,299	31,638	31,468	31,467	31,397	31,140	31,090
35 to 44 years	34,311	33,355	33,007	34,173	33,613	33,287	33,300	33,216	32,914
45 to 54 years	34,888	34,743	34,616	34,794	34,651	34,591	34,540	34,538	34,471
55 years and over	26,376	27,319	27,233	26,174	26,879	26,936	26,856	27,048	27,054
Men, 16 years and over	76,680	77,428	76,690	78,604	77,823	77,632	77,396	77,108	76,672
16 to 19 years	2,662	2,563	2,406	2,770	2,729	2,756	2,764	2,667	2,534
18 to 17 years	946	881	769	959	931	947	960	909	803
18 to 19 years	1,716	1,683	1,638	1,791	1,799	1,831	1,811	1,758	1,730
20 years and over	76,018	74,865	74,283	75,834	75,094	74,866	74,631	74,441	74,138
20 to 24 years	7,444	6,954	6,939	7,466	7,179	7,165	7,173	6,975	6,986
25 years and over	68,573	67,911	67,344	68,328	67,822	67,706	67,499	67,463	67,107
25 to 54 years	54,590	53,470	52,983	54,422	53,843	53,480	53,222	53,167	52,806
25 to 34 years	17,558	17,213	17,076	17,466	17,245	17,221	17,138	17,086	16,996
35 to 44 years	18,592	18,073	17,871	18,559	18,122	18,092	18,030	17,993	17,842
45 to 54 years	18,440	18,184	18,036	18,397	18,276	18,167	18,054	18,068	17,968
55 years and over	13,983	14,441	14,361	13,906	14,309	14,278	14,227	14,297	14,301
Women, 16 years and over	68,438	68,115	67,919	68,043	67,996	67,845	67,860	67,850	67,613
16 to 19 years	2,989	2,676	2,602	3,063	2,829	2,798	2,787	2,759	2,678
18 to 17 years	1,230	1,050	1,002	1,233	1,043	1,041	1,068	1,050	1,010
18 to 19 years	1,760	1,626	1,600	1,834	1,820	1,739	1,735	1,725	1,679
20 years and over	65,449	65,439	65,317	64,990	65,167	65,047	65,072	65,090	64,935
20 to 24 years	6,563	6,563	6,507	6,500	6,544	6,518	6,464	6,563	6,477
25 years and over	58,885	58,876	58,810	58,451	58,660	58,523	58,643	58,480	58,422
25 to 54 years	46,492	45,998	45,938	46,183	46,090	45,865	46,014	45,728	45,669
25 to 34 years	14,326	14,157	14,223	14,172	14,224	14,248	14,259	14,054	14,094
35 to 44 years	15,719	15,281	15,135	15,615	15,491	15,195	15,269	15,223	15,072
45 to 54 years	16,448	16,559	16,580	16,396	16,378	16,424	16,488	16,451	16,504
55 years and over	12,393	12,878	12,872	12,268	12,570	12,658	12,629	12,752	12,753
MARITAL STATUS									
Married men, spouse present	46,458	45,947	45,781	46,339	46,120	45,829	45,958	45,870	45,705
Married women, spouse present	36,073	35,831	35,937	35,669	36,185	36,055	35,913	35,633	35,657
Women who maintain families	9,176	9,431	9,314	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
FULL- OR PART-TIME STATUS									
Full-time workers ²	121,846	120,020	118,432	122,020	120,537	119,908	119,928	119,596	118,686
Part-time workers ³	25,272	25,523	26,176	24,631	25,431	25,649	25,366	25,355	25,519
MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS									
Total multiple jobholders	7,791	7,817	7,539	7,640	7,757	8,055	7,657	7,593	7,428
Percent of total employed	5.3	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.3	5.2	5.1

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.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-7. Selected unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted

Characteristic	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)			Unemployment rates ¹					
	Nov. 2007	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008
AGE AND SEX									
Total, 16 years and over	7,181	10,080	10,331	4.7	5.7	6.1	6.1	6.5	6.7
16 to 19 years	1,145	1,404	1,338	16.4	20.3	18.9	19.1	20.6	20.4
16 to 17 years	516	583	567	19.0	24.9	22.1	21.6	22.9	23.8
18 to 19 years	609	779	763	14.4	17.3	17.1	17.6	18.3	18.3
20 years and over	6,036	8,676	8,993	4.1	5.0	5.5	5.5	5.9	6.1
20 to 24 years	1,222	1,808	1,854	8.0	10.2	10.5	10.5	10.6	10.9
25 years and over	4,840	7,042	7,371	3.7	4.4	4.9	5.0	5.3	5.5
25 to 34 years	4,021	5,712	6,024	3.8	4.6	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.8
35 to 44 years	1,565	2,219	2,310	4.7	5.6	6.2	6.1	6.7	6.9
45 to 54 years	1,256	1,865	1,864	3.5	4.6	4.9	5.2	5.3	5.4
55 years and over	1,200	1,629	1,843	3.3	3.7	4.2	4.4	4.5	5.1
Men, 16 years and over	3,910	5,875	5,983	4.7	6.1	6.3	6.7	7.1	7.2
16 to 19 years	670	865	805	19.5	23.4	20.7	21.0	24.5	24.1
16 to 17 years	262	335	324	21.4	29.4	24.0	23.0	25.9	25.8
18 to 19 years	388	485	466	17.8	19.9	18.6	20.1	21.6	21.2
20 years and over	3,240	5,010	5,178	4.1	5.3	5.6	6.1	6.3	6.5
20 to 24 years	704	1,026	1,008	8.6	11.6	11.5	11.5	12.8	12.6
25 years and over	2,547	3,915	4,186	3.6	4.6	5.0	5.5	5.5	5.9
25 to 34 years	2,089	3,218	3,419	3.7	4.9	5.2	5.8	5.7	6.1
35 to 44 years	886	1,271	1,363	4.8	6.1	6.4	6.8	6.9	7.4
45 to 54 years	618	1,049	1,006	3.2	4.9	4.9	5.5	5.5	5.3
55 years and over	595	898	1,061	3.1	3.8	4.3	4.9	4.7	5.6
Women, 16 years and over	448	697	766	3.1	3.7	4.2	4.4	4.6	5.1
Women, 16 years and over	3,271	4,205	4,348	4.6	5.2	5.8	5.5	5.8	6.0
16 to 19 years	475	539	534	13.4	17.1	17.1	17.1	16.3	16.8
16 to 17 years	254	247	243	17.1	20.4	20.2	20.3	19.1	19.4
18 to 19 years	221	294	297	10.7	14.6	15.6	14.8	14.6	15.0
20 years and over	2,796	3,666	3,815	4.1	4.6	5.3	4.9	5.3	5.5
20 to 24 years	518	552	548	7.4	8.7	9.4	9.4	8.1	9.1
25 years and over	2,293	3,127	3,186	3.8	4.2	4.8	4.4	5.1	5.2
25 to 34 years	1,922	2,494	2,604	4.0	4.3	5.0	4.6	5.2	5.4
35 to 44 years	679	948	964	4.6	5.0	6.0	5.3	6.3	6.4
45 to 54 years	638	816	858	3.9	4.3	5.0	4.7	5.1	5.4
55 years and over	605	731	782	3.6	3.7	4.2	3.8	4.3	4.5
55 years and over ²	362	579	577	2.8	4.3	4.5	3.9	4.3	4.3
MARITAL STATUS									
Married men, spouse present	1,215	1,948	1,978	2.6	3.2	3.5	3.8	4.1	4.1
Married women, spouse present	1,109	1,550	1,575	3.0	3.3	3.7	3.5	4.2	4.2
Women who maintain families ²	648	906	953	6.6	8.5	9.6	8.2	8.8	9.3
FULL- OR PART-TIME STATUS									
Full-time workers ³	5,889	8,582	8,807	4.6	5.7	6.2	6.2	6.7	6.9
Part-time workers ⁴	1,306	1,525	1,560	5.0	5.5	5.7	5.9	5.7	5.8

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.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-8. Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Reason	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Nov. 2007	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	3,382	5,138	5,746	3,609	4,407	4,824	5,171	5,719	6,072
On temporary layoff	814	938	1,166	979	1,037	1,266	1,407	1,340	1,395
Not on temporary layoff	2,568	4,199	4,580	2,630	3,370	3,559	3,764	4,379	4,677
Permanent job losers	1,814	3,243	3,520	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Persons who completed temporary jobs	754	956	1,060	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Job leavers	763	965	916	783	861	999	974	940	935
Reentrants	2,150	2,582	2,659	2,160	2,705	2,652	2,555	2,623	2,636
New entrants	622	783	694	669	811	820	822	828	759
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	48.9	54.3	57.4	50.0	50.2	51.9	54.3	56.6	58.4
On temporary layoff	11.8	9.9	11.6	13.6	11.8	13.6	14.8	13.3	13.4
Not on temporary layoff	37.1	44.3	45.7	36.4	38.4	38.3	39.5	43.3	45.0
Job leavers	11.0	10.2	9.1	10.8	9.8	10.7	10.2	9.3	9.0
Reentrants	31.1	27.3	26.6	29.9	30.8	28.5	26.8	25.9	25.3
New entrants	9.0	8.3	6.9	9.3	9.2	8.8	8.6	8.2	7.3
UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	2.2	3.3	3.7	2.3	2.9	3.1	3.3	3.7	3.9
On temporary layoff	.5	.6	.6	.5	.6	.6	.6	.6	.6
Not on temporary layoff	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Job leavers	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Reentrants	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
New entrants	.4	.5	.4	.4	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5

¹ Data not available.

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

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-9. Unemployed persons by duration of unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Duration	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Nov. 2007	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Less than 5 weeks	2,450	2,924	3,079	2,833	2,835	3,235	2,853	3,065	3,251
5 to 14 weeks	2,176	2,708	3,130	2,157	2,823	2,821	3,051	3,003	3,091
15 weeks and over	2,291	3,857	3,806	2,398	3,118	3,402	3,807	4,062	3,963
15 to 26 weeks	933	1,608	1,614	1,014	1,440	1,561	1,598	1,805	1,757
27 weeks and over	1,358	2,250	2,192	1,384	1,678	1,841	2,008	2,257	2,206
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	17.6	20.4	19.2	17.2	17.1	17.4	18.4	19.7	18.8
Median duration, in weeks	6.6	10.6	9.9	6.7	9.7	9.2	10.2	10.6	10.0
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	35.4	30.8	30.7	36.6	32.3	34.2	30.0	30.3	31.5
5 to 14 weeks	31.5	28.6	31.3	30.0	32.2	29.8	32.1	29.6	30.0
15 weeks and over	33.1	40.5	38.0	33.4	35.5	36.0	37.9	40.1	38.5
15 to 26 weeks	13.5	17.0	16.1	14.1	16.4	16.5	18.8	17.8	17.1
27 weeks and over	19.6	23.6	21.9	19.3	19.1	19.5	21.1	22.3	21.4

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	
	Nov. 2007	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	Nov. 2008
Total, 16 years and over ¹	147,118	144,809	6,917	10,015	4.5	6.5
Management, professional, and related occupations	52,348	53,274	963	1,786	1.8	3.2
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	21,622	22,189	378	824	1.7	3.6
Professional and related occupations	30,726	31,085	585	962	1.9	3.0
Service occupations	23,763	24,595	1,651	1,898	6.5	7.2
Sales and office occupations	36,360	35,205	1,579	2,304	4.2	6.1
Sales and related occupations	16,582	16,330	757	1,142	4.4	6.5
Office and administrative support occupations	19,778	18,875	822	1,162	4.0	5.8
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	16,011	14,480	955	1,587	5.6	9.9
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	915	919	83	107	8.4	10.4
Construction and extraction occupations	9,666	8,376	719	1,158	6.9	12.1
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	5,430	5,184	153	322	2.7	5.9
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	18,636	17,055	1,117	1,726	5.7	9.2
Production occupations	9,535	8,662	571	895	5.6	9.4
Transportation and material moving occupations	9,101	8,393	546	831	5.7	9.0

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.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD 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	
	Nov. 2007	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	Nov. 2008
Total, 16 years and over ¹	6,917	10,015	4.5	6.5
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers	5,397	8,264	4.5	6.9
Mining	16	32	2.3	3.7
Construction	645	1,237	6.2	12.7
Manufacturing	762	1,144	4.5	7.0
Durable goods	440	729	4.1	6.8
Nondurable goods	322	415	5.3	7.4
Wholesale and retail trade	893	1,397	4.3	6.7
Transportation and utilities	242	331	3.9	5.8
Information	132	173	4.0	5.2
Financial activities	261	494	2.7	5.2
Professional and business services	679	992	4.8	7.0
Education and health services	526	748	2.7	3.6
Leisure and hospitality	986	1,283	8.1	9.9
Other services	255	434	4.1	7.0
Agriculture and related private wage and salary workers	80	119	6.6	9.5
Government workers	482	527	2.2	2.4
Self employed and unpaid family workers	336	411	3.2	4.1

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					
	Nov. 2007	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008
U-1 Persons unemployed 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force	1.5	2.5	2.5	1.6	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.6	2.6
U-2 Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force	2.2	3.3	3.7	2.3	2.9	3.1	3.3	3.7	3.9
U-3 Total unemployed, as a percent of the civilian labor force (official unemployment rate)	4.5	6.1	6.5	4.7	5.7	6.1	6.1	6.5	6.7
U-4 Total unemployed plus discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers	4.7	6.4	6.8	4.9	6.0	6.3	6.4	6.8	7.0
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	5.3	7.1	7.6	5.5	6.6	7.0	7.1	7.5	7.8
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	8.1	11.1	12.2	8.4	10.3	10.7	11.0	11.8	12.5

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.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD 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	
	Nov. 2007	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	Nov. 2008	Nov. 2007	Nov. 2008
NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE						
Total not in the labor force	78,904	80,204	30,335	31,245	48,569	48,959
Persons who currently want a job	4,337	5,077	1,859	2,299	2,478	2,778
Searched for work and available to work now ¹	1,363	1,947	631	961	732	967
Reason not currently looking:						
Discouragement over job prospects ²	349	608	193	315	156	293
Reasons other than discouragement ³	1,014	1,339	438	645	576	694
MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS						
Total multiple jobholders ⁴	7,791	7,539	3,839	3,723	3,952	3,816
Percent of total employed	5.3	5.2	4.9	4.9	5.8	5.6
Primary job full time, secondary job part time	4,356	4,009	2,309	2,147	1,957	1,862
Primary and secondary jobs both part time	1,731	1,861	498	635	1,233	1,225
Primary and secondary jobs both full time	245	279	157	184	88	95
Hours vary on primary or secondary job	1,415	1,360	764	744	650	616

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 those who think 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.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-2. Average weekly hours of production and nonsupervisory workers¹ on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						Change from: Oct. 2008P - Nov. 2008P
	Nov. 2007	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008P	Nov. 2008P	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008P	Nov. 2008P	
Total private	33.7	33.6	33.6	33.7	33.8	33.7	33.7	33.6	33.6	33.5	-0.1
Goods-producing	40.8	40.3	40.2	39.7	40.7	40.3	40.3	39.9	39.9	39.6	-3
Natural resources and mining	46.2	45.0	45.2	44.4	46.2	44.8	45.3	44.5	44.6	44.1	-5
Construction	39.0	38.9	38.8	37.8	39.1	38.7	38.7	38.4	38.2	37.8	-4
Manufacturing	41.5	40.9	40.7	40.5	41.3	41.0	40.9	40.5	40.5	40.3	-2
Overtime hours	4.3	3.8	3.6	3.4	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.3	-2
Durable goods	41.6	41.0	40.8	40.6	41.5	41.3	41.2	40.7	40.7	40.5	-2
Overtime hours	4.3	3.7	3.6	3.3	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.2	-3
Wood products	38.7	39.0	38.2	38.3	39.0	39.0	38.9	38.4	38.1	38.2	.1
Nonmetallic mineral products	42.9	42.8	42.6	41.5	42.9	42.5	42.3	42.0	42.0	41.6	-4
Primary metals	42.8	42.3	41.7	41.5	42.7	42.4	42.7	42.1	41.9	41.3	-6
Fabricated metal products	42.0	41.3	41.2	40.8	41.7	41.2	41.3	41.0	40.9	40.8	-3
Machinery	43.0	42.3	42.0	41.8	42.9	42.1	42.7	42.2	42.0	41.6	-4
Computers and electronic products	41.2	41.2	40.9	41.6	40.9	41.1	41.0	40.9	40.8	41.2	.4
Electrical equipment and appliances	41.6	41.2	40.8	40.6	41.2	40.9	41.0	41.0	40.5	40.2	-3
Transportation equipment	42.7	41.1	41.5	40.9	42.6	42.6	41.8	40.8	41.3	40.9	-4
Motor vehicles and parts ²	42.1	41.4	40.7	40.0	42.1	42.1	40.4	40.9	40.6	40.2	-4
Furniture and related products	39.0	37.9	37.3	37.3	38.9	38.3	38.1	37.5	37.5	37.3	-2
Miscellaneous manufacturing	38.8	38.9	38.6	38.8	38.8	39.1	39.5	38.8	38.8	38.8	.0
Nondurable goods	41.3	40.7	40.4	40.4	40.9	40.5	40.4	40.2	40.3	40.1	-2
Overtime hours	4.3	4.0	3.8	3.6	4.1	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.5	-1
Food manufacturing	41.3	41.1	40.8	40.9	40.8	40.5	40.5	40.4	40.5	40.4	-1
Beverages and tobacco products	40.3	38.0	37.3	37.5	40.5	38.9	38.2	38.2	37.8	37.5	-3
Textile mills	39.9	39.7	38.2	39.5	39.9	39.4	39.5	39.0	38.4	38.2	-2
Textile product mills	39.2	38.3	37.7	37.8	39.1	39.2	38.8	38.2	38.0	37.9	-1
Apparel	37.1	35.7	36.1	36.6	36.9	37.0	36.4	36.0	36.0	36.3	.3
Leather and allied products	38.3	37.5	36.9	36.0	38.1	38.4	37.6	37.5	36.9	36.2	-7
Paper and paper products	44.2	43.0	42.5	41.9	43.7	42.5	43.0	42.4	42.3	41.6	-7
Printing and related support activities	39.2	38.8	39.0	38.7	39.0	38.0	38.3	38.3	38.5	38.4	-.1
Petroleum and coal products	44.7	45.1	46.1	45.4	43.8	45.4	45.5	45.3	45.2	44.8	-4
Chemicals	42.2	41.5	41.5	41.5	42.1	41.9	41.5	41.3	41.5	41.3	-2
Plastics and rubber products	42.1	41.1	40.7	40.7	42.1	41.3	41.0	40.8	40.7	40.6	-1
Private service-providing	32.3	32.3	32.2	32.5	32.4	32.3	32.4	32.3	32.3	32.3	.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	33.2	33.4	33.0	33.1	33.3	33.2	33.2	33.2	33.1	32.9	-2
Wholesale trade	38.1	38.0	38.2	38.4	38.1	38.4	38.3	38.1	38.2	38.1	-.1
Retail trade	30.1	30.4	29.8	29.8	30.2	30.0	30.0	30.1	29.9	29.8	-.1
Transportation and warehousing	36.9	36.5	36.2	36.3	36.8	36.4	36.4	36.3	36.2	35.9	-3
Utilities	42.4	43.0	42.4	42.8	42.5	42.4	42.2	42.6	42.3	42.4	.1
Information	36.2	37.0	36.9	37.5	36.2	36.7	36.8	36.9	36.9	37.0	.1
Financial activities	35.6	35.7	35.8	36.6	35.8	35.7	36.1	36.0	36.0	36.0	.0
Professional and business services	34.7	34.7	35.0	35.3	34.7	34.8	34.9	34.8	35.0	35.0	.0
Education and health services	32.6	32.5	32.4	32.7	32.6	32.6	32.5	32.5	32.5	32.5	.0
Leisure and hospitality	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.3	25.2	25.2	25.2	25.1	25.1	.0
Other services	30.8	30.7	30.8	30.9	30.9	30.8	30.9	30.8	30.8	30.8	.0

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

² Includes motor vehicles, motor vehicle bodies and trailers, and 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.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of production and nonsupervisory workers¹ on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

Industry	Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	Nov. 2007	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008P	Nov. 2008P	Nov. 2007	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008P	Nov. 2008P
Total private	\$17.63	\$18.21	\$18.23	\$18.36	\$594.13	\$611.86	\$612.53	\$618.73
Seasonally adjusted	17.64	18.17	18.23	18.30	596.23	610.51	612.53	613.05
Goods-producing	18.88	19.61	19.58	19.59	770.30	790.28	787.12	777.72
Natural resources and mining	20.99	23.17	22.94	22.98	969.74	1,042.65	1,036.89	1,020.31
Construction	21.26	22.33	22.27	22.26	829.14	868.64	864.08	841.43
Manufacturing	17.42	17.83	17.83	17.91	722.93	729.25	725.68	725.36
Durable goods	18.36	18.77	18.77	18.89	763.78	769.57	765.82	766.93
Wood products	13.82	14.34	14.41	14.50	534.83	559.26	550.46	555.35
Nonmetallic mineral products	17.05	16.95	16.90	16.78	731.45	725.46	719.94	696.37
Primary metals	19.89	20.35	19.98	20.17	842.73	860.81	833.17	837.06
Fabricated metal products	16.70	17.14	17.18	17.21	701.40	707.88	707.82	702.17
Machinery	17.74	18.05	18.07	18.13	762.82	763.52	756.94	757.83
Computer and electronic products	20.22	21.27	21.48	21.42	833.06	876.32	878.53	891.07
Electrical equipment and appliances	15.68	16.01	15.85	15.86	652.29	659.61	646.68	643.92
Transportation equipment	23.41	23.98	24.03	24.30	999.61	985.58	997.25	993.87
Furniture and related products	14.35	14.54	14.53	14.58	559.65	551.07	541.97	543.83
Miscellaneous manufacturing	14.72	15.30	15.32	15.46	571.14	595.17	591.35	599.85
Nondurable goods	15.83	16.29	16.29	16.34	653.78	663.00	658.12	660.14
Food manufacturing	13.63	14.13	14.08	14.18	582.92	580.74	574.46	579.96
Beverages and tobacco products	19.54	18.81	19.11	19.56	787.46	714.78	712.80	733.50
Textile mills	13.06	13.72	13.73	13.84	521.09	544.68	524.49	532.84
Textile product mills	11.67	11.81	11.63	11.63	457.46	452.32	438.45	439.61
Apparel	11.20	11.48	11.39	11.41	415.52	409.84	411.18	417.81
Leather and allied products	12.50	12.98	13.14	13.38	478.75	486.75	484.87	481.68
Paper and paper products	18.47	18.89	18.06	18.87	816.37	816.57	810.05	790.65
Printing and related support activities	16.33	16.91	16.95	16.98	640.14	656.11	661.05	657.13
Petroleum and coal products	26.95	28.42	28.86	28.36	1,204.67	1,310.16	1,330.45	1,287.54
Chemicals	19.52	19.81	19.65	19.86	823.74	822.12	815.48	824.19
Plastics and rubber products	15.49	15.92	15.97	16.04	652.13	654.31	649.98	652.83
Private service-providing	17.31	17.85	17.90	18.07	559.11	576.88	576.38	587.28
Trade, transportation, and utilities	15.84	16.30	16.26	16.29	525.89	544.42	536.58	539.20
Wholesale trade	19.89	20.20	20.20	20.44	757.81	767.60	771.64	784.90
Retail trade	12.70	13.03	12.91	12.89	382.27	396.11	384.72	384.12
Transportation and warehousing	17.94	18.51	18.54	18.57	661.99	675.62	671.15	674.09
Utilities	28.17	28.94	28.89	29.08	1,194.41	1,244.42	1,224.94	1,244.62
Information	24.11	24.98	24.97	25.05	872.78	924.26	921.39	939.38
Financial activities	19.83	20.43	20.41	20.54	705.95	729.35	730.88	751.76
Professional and business services	20.33	21.25	21.41	22.02	705.45	737.38	749.35	777.31
Education and health services	18.42	18.96	18.93	18.95	600.49	616.20	613.33	619.67
Leisure and hospitality	10.67	10.88	10.92	10.92	266.75	272.00	273.00	273.00
Other services	15.61	15.95	15.90	15.97	480.79	489.67	489.72	493.47

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/csnaics07.htm> for more details.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-4. Average hourly earnings of production and nonsupervisory workers¹ on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail, seasonally adjusted

Industry	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008 ^P	Nov. 2008 ^P	Percent change from: Oct. 2008 - Nov. 2008 ^P
Total Private:							
Current dollars	\$17.64	\$18.06	\$18.14	\$18.17	\$18.23	\$18.30	0.4
Constant (1982) dollars ²	8.27	8.12	8.17	8.19	8.32	N.A.	(.3)
Goods-producing	18.84	19.33	19.41	19.47	19.51	19.57	.3
Natural resources and mining	21.02	22.54	23.02	23.17	23.10	23.14	.2
Construction	21.20	21.84	22.01	22.09	22.12	22.21	.4
Manufacturing	17.40	17.78	17.76	17.79	17.86	17.92	.3
Excluding overtime ⁴	16.58	16.99	16.99	17.05	17.12	17.22	.6
Durable goods	18.31	18.75	18.70	18.72	18.80	18.88	.4
Nondurable goods	15.85	16.14	16.18	16.27	16.33	16.35	.1
Private service-providing	17.33	17.74	17.82	17.85	17.92	17.99	.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	15.93	16.20	16.26	16.23	16.26	16.31	.3
Wholesale trade	19.86	20.16	20.29	20.23	20.24	20.30	.3
Retail trade	12.81	12.90	12.93	12.93	12.91	12.96	.4
Transportation and warehousing	17.93	18.41	18.47	18.45	18.56	18.57	.1
Utilities	28.18	28.65	28.88	28.84	28.83	28.93	.3
Information	24.11	24.82	24.91	24.86	24.93	25.02	.4
Financial activities	19.87	20.30	20.38	20.42	20.43	20.40	-.1
Professional and business services	20.42	21.12	21.30	21.40	21.57	21.83	1.2
Education and health services	18.43	18.81	18.85	18.91	18.94	18.97	.2
Leisure and hospitality	10.61	10.86	10.89	10.89	10.90	10.89	-.1
Other services	15.66	15.90	15.92	15.93	15.95	15.97	.1

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 1.6 percent from Sept. 2008 to Oct. 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.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-5. Indexes of aggregate weekly hours of production and nonsupervisory workers¹ on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

(2002=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						Percent change from: Oct. 2008 ^P -Nov. 2008 ^P
	Nov. 2007	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008 ^P	Nov. 2008 ^P	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008 ^P	Nov. 2008 ^P	
Total private	108.1	106.6	106.4	105.9	107.7	106.9	106.8	106.1	105.7	104.7	-0.9
Goods-producing	102.4	98.2	96.6	93.6	101.5	97.2	96.9	95.3	94.3	92.6	-1.8
Natural resources and mining	136.5	146.1	145.8	141.6	136.0	138.3	143.0	141.9	141.3	139.9	-1.0
Construction	115.4	110.9	109.2	102.6	113.9	106.7	106.8	104.9	103.3	100.7	-2.5
Manufacturing	94.8	90.5	88.8	87.4	94.3	91.2	90.5	89.0	88.0	86.8	-1.4
Durable goods	97.6	91.8	89.7	88.3	97.3	93.6	92.6	90.7	89.4	88.0	-1.6
Wood products	85.3	80.2	76.2	74.2	86.6	80.5	79.4	77.4	75.6	74.5	-1.5
Nonmetallic mineral products	99.0	96.3	95.6	90.2	98.4	94.2	94.3	92.4	92.8	89.9	-3.1
Primary metals	90.7	87.9	85.9	83.4	90.7	89.0	88.7	87.2	86.3	83.4	-3.4
Fabricated metal products	105.9	101.1	99.6	97.2	105.2	101.2	101.6	100.0	98.5	96.5	-2.0
Machinery	105.1	101.6	100.4	98.4	104.9	102.9	103.7	101.4	100.3	97.8	-2.5
Computer and electronic products	103.4	101.2	99.5	99.6	102.7	101.6	101.3	100.2	99.0	98.4	-0.6
Electrical equipment and appliances	89.6	88.0	87.2	85.8	89.1	88.3	88.0	87.5	86.4	85.1	-1.5
Transportation equipment	97.6	84.2	81.1	81.6	97.2	90.9	86.4	83.5	81.2	81.4	2
Motor vehicles and parts ²	84.0	70.0	66.5	65.0	83.8	75.9	69.2	68.8	67.0	65.2	-2.7
Furniture and related products	84.6	75.2	71.5	70.1	84.8	77.2	75.5	73.9	72.1	70.5	-2.2
Miscellaneous manufacturing	91.3	89.6	88.9	88.0	90.7	89.5	90.9	89.0	88.8	87.4	-1.6
Nondurable goods	90.4	88.4	86.8	85.9	89.2	87.3	87.0	86.3	86.0	85.1	-1.0
Food manufacturing	103.1	104.5	102.9	103.0	100.4	99.9	100.2	100.2	100.7	100.5	-0.2
Beverages and tobacco products	96.2	91.2	89.0	88.3	96.3	89.5	87.6	87.8	87.2	87.9	.8
Textile mills	54.0	48.4	45.9	44.0	53.8	48.8	48.9	47.3	45.8	43.8	-4.4
Textile product mills	75.2	70.6	69.1	67.7	75.3	72.6	70.9	70.2	69.3	68.1	-1.7
Apparel	59.3	55.3	54.0	54.1	59.2	56.9	56.3	54.7	53.7	53.7	0
Leather and allied products	71.6	74.9	71.5	68.3	70.5	72.6	74.3	73.4	70.7	68.1	-3.7
Paper and paper products	87.9	85.0	83.5	81.8	86.9	84.9	85.3	83.7	83.3	81.5	-2.2
Printing and related support activities	92.4	87.3	86.9	85.8	91.6	85.8	86.6	86.3	85.6	84.7	-1.1
Petroleum and coal products	98.4	107.1	103.2	98.7	96.4	101.5	102.4	102.0	99.7	98.0	-1.7
Chemicals	95.7	94.8	94.5	93.8	95.9	96.9	95.5	94.6	95.0	94.2	-0.8
Plastics and rubber products	91.2	87.1	84.8	82.6	91.2	88.3	87.1	85.7	84.2	82.5	-2.0
Private service-providing	109.9	109.2	108.9	109.3	109.5	109.3	109.6	108.9	108.6	108.1	-0.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	107.0	103.6	102.5	103.6	105.1	103.8	103.6	103.1	102.3	101.1	-1.2
Wholesale trade	110.7	108.9	109.3	109.3	110.4	110.5	110.0	109.1	109.0	108.2	-0.7
Retail trade	104.6	99.9	98.3	100.0	101.9	99.9	99.7	99.5	98.3	97.3	-1.0
Transportation and warehousing	111.1	108.3	107.4	106.6	109.4	108.2	107.7	106.7	106.0	104.3	-1.6
Utilities	96.3	99.6	98.6	99.6	96.7	97.9	97.4	98.8	98.5	98.7	.2
Information	99.6	100.0	99.8	101.5	99.4	100.0	100.2	100.3	100.5	100.2	-0.3
Financial activities	107.4	107.7	107.7	109.4	108.2	107.9	109.2	108.6	108.4	107.9	-0.5
Professional and business services	116.8	115.1	115.9	114.7	115.9	115.1	115.0	114.2	114.2	112.9	-1.1
Education and health services	115.1	116.1	117.5	119.1	113.8	116.5	116.9	116.6	116.7	117.0	.3
Leisure and hospitality	108.2	111.6	109.3	106.6	111.6	111.5	111.4	111.0	110.3	109.6	-0.6
Other services	98.7	99.2	99.7	99.3	99.5	99.6	100.0	99.8	99.9	99.6	-0.3

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.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-6. Indexes of aggregate weekly payrolls of production and nonsupervisory workers¹ on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

(2002=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted					Seasonally adjusted					Percent change from: Oct. 2008 ^P -Nov. 2008 ^P
	Nov. 2007	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008 ^P	Nov. 2008 ^P	Nov. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008 ^P	Nov. 2008 ^P	
Total private	127.3	129.8	129.6	130.0	127.0	129.0	129.4	128.8	128.7	128.1	-0.5
Goods-producing	118.4	117.9	115.9	112.2	117.1	115.0	113.6	112.6	111.0	111.0	-1.4
Natural resources and mining	166.6	196.9	194.5	189.2	166.3	181.3	191.4	191.2	189.8	188.3	-8
Construction	132.5	133.7	131.3	123.4	130.4	125.9	126.9	125.1	123.3	120.8	-2.0
Manufacturing	108.0	105.6	103.5	102.3	107.3	106.0	105.1	103.5	102.8	101.7	-1.1
Durable goods	111.8	107.5	105.2	104.1	111.2	109.6	108.1	106.0	104.9	103.7	-1.1
Nondurable goods	101.1	101.8	100.0	99.2	99.9	99.6	99.5	99.2	99.2	98.3	-9
Private service-providing	130.4	133.7	133.6	135.5	130.2	133.0	133.9	133.3	133.5	133.3	-.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	120.9	120.4	118.9	120.4	119.4	120.0	120.2	119.4	118.7	117.6	-9
Wholesale trade	129.7	129.6	130.0	131.6	129.2	131.2	131.5	130.0	129.9	129.4	-.4
Retail trade	113.9	111.5	108.8	110.5	111.9	110.4	110.5	110.3	108.8	108.1	-6
Transportation and warehousing	126.4	127.2	126.3	125.6	124.4	126.3	126.2	124.9	124.8	122.8	-1.6
Utilities	113.2	120.3	118.9	120.8	113.7	117.1	117.5	119.0	118.5	119.2	.6
Information	118.8	123.7	123.4	125.9	118.7	122.9	123.6	123.5	124.0	124.2	.2
Financial activities	131.7	136.1	135.9	138.9	133.0	135.5	137.6	137.1	136.9	136.1	-6
Professional and business services	141.2	145.5	147.7	150.3	140.9	144.7	145.7	145.5	146.6	146.7	.1
Education and health services	139.4	144.7	146.2	148.4	137.8	144.1	144.9	144.9	145.3	145.9	.4
Leisure and hospitality	131.1	137.9	135.5	132.2	134.4	137.5	137.8	137.3	136.5	135.5	-7
Other services	112.2	115.2	115.5	115.5	113.5	115.4	116.0	115.8	116.1	115.9	-2

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.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

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	65.8	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	49.2	48.5
2008	45.4	41.4	47.4	45.6	46.4	42.3	38.3	46.2	35.9	P 37.8	P 27.6	
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	60.6	58.9	61.9	60.4	63.9	61.1	54.4	54.9	61.3
2006	67.2	69.2	66.6	66.5	80.6	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	44.0	36.3	37.4	34.1	P 34.5	P 27.0	
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	39.1	37.6	39.1	33.6	P 32.5	P 29.6	
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	84.8	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	45.8	44.7	42.5	41.4	P 38.1	P 32.3	
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	30.4	26.9	37.5	25.0	P 26.8	P 21.4	
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	35.7	24.4	22.6	21.4	P 22.6	P 20.2	
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	28.8
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	28.8	20.8	19.6	24.4	17.3	P 17.9	P 17.9	
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	44.8	43.5	41.7	40.5	36.3	35.1	32.1	33.9	32.7	33.3	33.3	38.1
2006	44.8	40.5	40.5	39.3	38.3	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	24.4	23.8	21.4	22.6	P 20.2	P 17.9	

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.

