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THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: JANUARY 2012

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BEFORE THE

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

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CONTENTS

Opening Statements of Members

Witnesses

Submissions for the Record

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: JANUARY 2012

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2012

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

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 9:30 a.m., in Room 210, Cannon House Office Building, Hon. Elijah E. Cummings presiding.

Representatives present: Cummings, Brady, Burgess, Campbell, Mulvaney, Maloney, and Sanchez.

Staff present: Gail Cohen, Cary Elliott, Will Hansen, Jesse Hervitz, Patrick Miller, Ted Boll, and Colleen Healy.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM MARYLAND

Representative Cummings. Good morning. Chairman Casey could not be here today and I am very pleased to stand in for him this morning.

I would like to welcome Acting Commissioner John Galvin this morning as well as Mr. Thomas Nardone, Acting Associate Commissioner for Employment and Unemployment Statistics, and Dr. Michael Horrigan, Associate Commissioner for Prices and Living Conditions.

I want to make a couple of overall comments about the economic recovery before diving into this month's employment numbers. In the second half of 2011, economic momentum picked up. The labor market continued to strengthen, adding 100,000 or more jobs for 4 straight months.

Additionally, we learned last week that the GDP grew at a 2.8 percent annual rate in the fourth quarter, an improvement over the previous three quarters of 2011, though inventory rebuilding accounted for much of that growth.

There are other encouraging signs. The manufacturing sector continues to show strength. The ISM Manufacturing Index, reading 54.1 percent in January, marked the thirtieth consecutive month of expansion in the manufacturing sector. And the unemployment rate has been moving in the right direction. During 2011 the national unemployment rate fell from 9.4 percent to 8.5 percent. However, workers who have been out of work for long periods continue to struggle to find new jobs.

More than 42 percent of the unemployed have been jobless for 6 months or more. We need to help workers regain their footing and bolster the recovery by extending the payroll tax cut for the remainder of the year and continuing unemployment insurance for workers who are counting on these benefits to make ends meet. Both of these policies put money in people's pockets, boosting demand, creating jobs, and strengthening our economy.

As the January jobs report shows, we are making progress. As Mark Zandi said just this morning, this report was unambiguously positive. But we must continue to invest in education, infrastructure and our workers. As I have said before, we must also take on the housing crisis. Without a smart sensible path forward in housing we simply cannot sustain this economic recovery.

Today's unemployment report from BLS shows jobs gains. The economy added private sector jobs for the twenty-third straight month. During January the economy gained 257,000 private sector jobs. Due to the loss of government jobs overall the economy added 243,000 jobs during the month. The manufacturing sector, which added 237,000 jobs in 2011, gained 50,000 jobs in January, and that is always good news. In addition, the professional and business services sector added 70,000 jobs and hasn't lost jobs since March 2010.

Employment in State and local government was basically unchanged in January. In 2011, State and local governments shed 235,000 jobs and continue to face budget challenges that present a head wind for the economy.

The overall unemployment rate was 8.3 percent, the lowest since February 2009. Even with this progress more than 12.7 million people are looking for work, simply can't find it. The unemployment rate in the African American community was 13.6 percent, among Hispanic workers the unemployment rate was 10.5 percent, while the overall unemployment rate for veterans was 7.5 percent. Gulf War-era II veterans faced an unemployment rate of 9.1 percent.

Today's employment report shows that the labor market continues to recover. The job gains in January continued the momentum from the fourth quarter of 2011. However, unemployment remains too high, unacceptably high, and we need to stay focused on creating jobs.

Acting Commissioner Galvin, I look forward to your testimony. Now it gives me pleasure to yield to Mr. Brady.

[The prepared statement of Representative Cummings appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 26.]

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. KEVIN BRADY, VICE CHAIRMAN, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM TEXAS

Vice Chairman Brady. Thank you, Chairman. Commissioner Galvin, we welcome you in your new capacity to the Joint Economic Committee on unemployment numbers. Of course we know you well from your experience in prior employment hearings and as a dedicated BLS employee for many years. We appreciate your service and look forward to your testimony. We also welcome the members of your staff.

Now these new jobs numbers are encouraging, are long overdue, but encouraging. The unemployment rate going down slightly is as well, but I have to caution you it masks an underlying weakness in our economy. Fewer Americans are actually participating in the workforce than in almost 28 years. The labor force participation rate at 63.7 percent hasn't been this low since March of 1983. The labor market simply isn't recovering fast enough, considering especially how depressed it has been.

By comparison, at this point 31 months into the Reagan recovery, we had already added 8.7 million new payroll jobs. Today, however, the U.S. economy at best is uncertain, stopping and starting. We are still 6 million jobs short of where we were before the recession began. Labor force participation, as I said, is the lowest in decades. Yet unemployed workers still account for more than 8 percent of this shrunken workforce. I think whatever claims the President has made about how much worse the recession has been, his policies have not stimulated the economy. We now have a huge Federal debt, continuing large deficits, and again, a stop and start uncertain job growth.

More than 2½ years have passed since the recession formally ended, yet real GDP growth is now expected to decline this year from a less-than-stellar 2.8 percent in the fourth quarter of last year. The contrast, we averaged over 6 percent economic growth during the first 10 quarters of the Reagan recovery. Business in America is still hoarding cash as it still holds investment below what it was before the recession began and is still not materially stepping up hiring despite what the new payroll job numbers say.

Well, consider the chart behind me. The top line, the green line, shows hires and the bottom line layoffs. The huge churn in this chart is striking, over 4 million hires and 1.7 million layoffs, an image quite different from that of simply just looking at net job changes. The key observations here is the hires still remain where they were during the middle of the recession. With all the money the White House and Members of Congress have spent to stimulate employment, hires are still down about 1½ million per month from before the recession. In that light the 243,000 payroll jobs gained today just aren't that impressive. The magnitude of annual benchmark revisions, the most recent of which BLS has introduced with today's report, only underscores this problem.

[Chart submitted by Vice Chairman Brady titled "Total Hires and Layoffs Since 2006" appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 28.]

The low hires help explain why labor force participation is down. If hiring has not risen in well over 3 years with the huge pool of unemployed competing for jobs, then why stay in the labor force? They are simply dropping out.

The unemployment rate and payroll job numbers are important statistics but they don't reveal the full extent of the problem that America faces. The President's current actions and proposals, in my view, are feeble attempts to lift a $15 trillion economy with the equivalent of matchsticks at the same time that it is tightening regulations, imposes an avalanche of new regulations, and thwarts the biggest shovel ready projects such as the Keystone Pipeline. They raise taxes all the while adding to our national debt with continued undisciplined deficit spending.

Strong private investment and job creation requires a balanced regulatory environment that actually encourages operation of the free market economy and a tax environment that engenders expansion, not retrenchment. The President is working against this free market economy with his policies, undermining it with subsidies and special favors in some areas and harshly constraining and punishing it in others. That will cause anemic growth, and this labor chart shows it.

According to the CBO, a slowing economic growth will cause the unemployment rate to rise this year and next. The Congressional Budget Office predicts the unemployment rate will hit 8.9 percent in the fourth quarter of this year and over 9 percent next. Americans are eager for work and willing to work hard. The economic policies of our President have failed. We need a change in course, hard working taxpayers deserve better, and the Federal Government needs to get out of the way so private job creation and hiring can accelerate.

Mr. Galvin, I look forward to hearing your testimony. I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Vice Chairman Brady appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 29.]

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much, and now I yield to Mrs. Maloney.

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

Representative Maloney. First of all, congratulations on your interim appointment, Mr. Galvin. And thank you for your many years of hard work for the Joint Economic Committee and testimony and also for the BLS, and also Dr. Horrigan and Mr. Nardone, we welcome you.

And finally we have continuing good news. For the fifth month there has been a drop in the unemployment rate to 8.3 percent and for the twenty-third month we have been gaining jobs to 243,000 jobs. So I fail to understand the doomsday testimony of my good friend Mr. Brady. With unemployment numbers falling and the number of jobs growth gaining, that shows that we are making steady progress in recovering from the Great Recession.

Still we have much more work to do, including extending the payroll tax cut through all of 2012, which is a priority of President Obama and Democrats. And I am hopeful the House will approve that before the current extension expires at the end of the month.

I look forward to your testimony and I hope it contains even more good news than these very encouraging numbers in unemployment and job growth. I yield back.

Representative Cummings. Yield to Mr. Burgess.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS, M.D., A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM TEXAS

Representative Burgess. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and, Mr. Galvin, welcome to our committee and to your staff. We welcome you here. It goes without saying we all miss Dr. Hall. He certainly had a great deal of candor. He was the epitome of impartiality and nonpartisanship in his office. I tried several times to bait him, but I was never successful, and certainly look forward for your service here.

The job numbers today, good news? I almost feel like I am in a Charles Dickens novel: It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. The American economy is just hard to keep down. No matter what the Congress does to it, no matter what an administration does to it, the American economy has a unique and remarkable ability to recover. I know this having seen what happened to the economy when I was in the private sector during the savings and loan crash in Texas in the late 1980s. Certainly no government action seemed to be responsible for the recovery that eventually occurred there, but it was a fairly strong recovery and lasted for the next 20, 25 years and a period of unparalleled prosperity in our State. Our State continues to enjoy significant prosperity. People move to Texas because of the lower regulation environment, the low litigation environment, the lack of State income tax, right-to-work State. And as a consequence Texas has added four new congressional districts, essentially a population the size of Arkansas which has moved to Texas in the last 10 years.

So it goes without saying that it is possible for the American public to do the right thing as far as job creation is concerned. It is not always possible that the government does the right thing.

In fact, I just think I would align myself obviously close with Mr. Brady's comments than Mrs. Maloney's comments. But it is the private sector, it is the real economy, it is the folks out there that create something of their own and make it their own. That is what drives our economy.

I really don't have a lot of faith in the administration's ability. I think the things that they have done and watching through this committee, the Joint Economic Committee in the last 3 years, hearing various people from the administration come in and testify, I cannot tell you the number of times that we were told by Christina Romer that the green shoots were sprouting and the economy was recovering only to find that those were weeds proliferating in the parking lot because no one was showing up for work because there were no jobs.

Now as far as the administration is concerned, we have examples of where they have had the ability to make decisions and made the wrong decisions. Vice Chairman Brady referenced the Keystone Pipeline. Thousands of new jobs, no government spending required at all, just an international boundary that was crossed and therefore the President's office was involved and he made the wrong decision.

The President is out even as we speak barnstorming around the country, talking about how he is creating jobs, and here was something at his fingertips that would have created thousands of jobs, no government spending involved, put people back to work, given them jobs where they could have restored some self-dignity and some self-worth, and he turned his back on it.

We have got other examples, the Maximum Achievable Control Technology that is now affecting the boiler MACT rules, the utility MACT rules, cross-state air pollution rules where Texas was included at the last minute with a group of northeastern states that there was no inclination prior to the issuance of the rule that the EPA was even considering Texas, and now we may be faced with having to close coal fired power plants and rolling brownouts or blackouts during our hot summer months. The war on natural gas which continues. Let's face it, domestic energy production is going to be part of this economic recovery, whether this administration likes it or not. It is high time that they stopped interfering with that.

The Affordable Care Act, I mean I could go on and on about just that, and the chilling effect. And I hear it every week when I go home. Employer after employer says I don't know what is ahead, I don't know what you are going to do to me next, what is the court going to do, what is the election going to do? People are so uncertain about what they are going to have to be providing in terms of employee benefits they are genuinely frightened to add that employee.

Now the President goes around the country talking about his job proposals but they all involve more government. Let's let the private sector do what it does best. We are America, we have a history of doing this over and over again. We need to decrease government regulations, taxes and let our economy grow. I have the utmost faith in the American people. I think when they are left to their own devices they can create jobs. I think whatever Congress does is an impediment, and I know whatever the administration does is certainly counterproductive. Let's have faith in the American people. Let them continue to grow.

I look forward to your testimony today, and I am certain we will learn a great deal. I yield back the balance of my time.

[Chart submitted by Representative Burgess titled "U.S. Unemployment Rate & Minimum Wage (2002–2011)" appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 31.]

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much. As I turn to Ms. Sanchez, I want to let Mr. Burgess know that just a half an hour ago on MSNBC Mark Zandi, one of Mr. McCain's main advisers, said that the business community is definitely starting to engage and again he said when he looked at this report it was unambiguously positive.

Ms. Sanchez.

Representative Burgess. Would the gentleman yield?

Vice Chairman Brady. Go ahead, Mr. Burgess. I was going to make the point that Mark Zandi was 3 million jobs off in the first year of the stimulus in estimations and has been consistently off.

Mr. Burgess.

Representative Burgess. Well, I would just point out that the President's own jobs and economic council has beseeched the President to remove some of these regulations and allow things. The cross-state air pollution law regulation was something they distinctly referenced in their reports that have come before this committee.

Representative Cummings. Thank you.

Representative Burgess. It is time for the administration to get out of the way.

Representative Cummings. The fact is we are going in the right direction. You would think this was some doomsday report. The fact is that we are going in the right direction, thank God.

Representative Maloney. Would the gentleman yield?

Representative Cummings. Very briefly.

Representative Maloney. My colleague, you have to remember that when President Obama took office this country was losing

700,000 jobs a month. The first 4 months before President Obama took office this country lost 4 million jobs. The President has put in a recovery package that is moving us in the right direction. Can't we at least agree that it is good news that for 5 months the unemployment has fallen and that for 23 months we have been gaining jobs in this country? We should be pleased with this news.

Vice Chairman Brady. Madam Chairman, if I may. My only point, I think ours, is we do think these numbers are encouraging. Our concern is the unemployment rate is going down because people are giving up, because they are not getting jobs and we think that is the wrong reason.

Representative Cummings. The unemployment rate is 8.3 percent, last month it was 8.5 percent.

Ms. Sanchez.

Representative Sanchez. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have a statement and I will not be putting one in for the record. But I came this morning to try to figure out where we really are and to get some ideas from people about how we continue the good trend that we have seen in these last 5 months with respect to unemployment going down. I really didn't come here to hear a lot of political posturing and babble and everything. I am really struck by the fact that this committee's job I think is really to contemplate and think about and suggest and move forward ideas for other legislative writing committees to implement. And, you know, this going back and forth and this really degrading, honestly, you guys of this committee it is really a frustrating thing for somebody who understands that we—that when we see good numbers and that when people say economists, all the economists this morning that I saw on television and in writing were saying, hey, this is good. Let's just stop it. This is good and what can we do to make it better?

Mr. Chairman, that is what this committee is charged with, and I am really looking forward to hearing from the three gentlemen before us to try to figure out where do we go from here. How do we go from here? How do we make this a positive thing for the American people? So I am open to hear the—you are my friends on the other side. So . . .

Vice Chairman Brady. If I may, I think you are right.

Representative Sanchez. I hope you will pull away from that.

Representative Cummings. The gentlelady has a good point.

Representative Sanchez. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Vice Chairman Brady. I do apologize.

Representative Sanchez. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let's work together on this, guys.

Representative Cummings. Mr. Campbell.

Representative Campbell. Oh, no.

Representative Cummings. Mr. Mulvaney.

Mr. Galvin, thank you very much for being here and we welcome you.

STATEMENT OF JOHN M. GALVIN, ACTING COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS; ACCOMPANIED BY MICHAEL HORRIGAN, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR PRICES AND LIVING CONDITIONS, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS AND THOMAS NARDONE, ACTING ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the warm welcome and for the opportunity to discuss the employment and unemployment data that we released this morning.

The unemployment rate decreased to 8.3 percent in January.

Representative Cummings. A little louder, please. The green light should come on.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. It is on, it is on.

Representative Cummings. There you go.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. The unemployment rate decreased to 8.3 percent in January, and nonfarm payroll employment rose by 243,000. In 2011, nonfarm employment increased by an average of 152,000 per month. Job growth was widespread in the private sector in January, with the largest gains occurring in professional and business services, leisure and hospitality, and manufacturing.

Professional and business services added 70,000 jobs over the month, compared with an average monthly gain of 48,000 in 2011. Nearly half of the January increase occurred in employment services as temporary help employment continued to trend up. Also within professional and business services, employment rose in accounting and bookkeeping and in architectural and engineering services.

Employment in leisure and hospitality increased by 44,000, mostly in food services. Health care employment rose by 31,000, with job gains in hospitals and ambulatory care services. Employment in both wholesale and retail trade continued to trend up over the month.

In the goods-producing sector, manufacturing employment increased by 50,000 in January, nearly all in durable goods manufacturing. Fabricated metal products, machinery, and motor vehicles each added jobs. Over the past 2 months, construction employment rose by 52,000, mainly among nonresidential specialty trade contractors. Mining employment continued to expand in January. Since a recent low point in October 2009, mining has added 172,000 jobs.

Government employment was little changed in January. Over the last 12 months employment in the sector has decreased by 276,000 with declines in local government, State government, excluding education, and the U.S. Postal Service.

Average hourly earnings of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by $0.04 in January. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have risen by 1.9 percent. From December 2010 to December 2011, the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers increased by 3.0 percent.

In accordance with annual practice, the establishment survey data released today reflect the incorporation of benchmark revisions. Each year, BLS reanchors the sample-based survey estimates to full universe accounts of employment, primarily derived from administrative records of the unemployment insurance tax system. The level of nonfarm payroll employment in March 2011 was revised up by 162,000, or 0.1 percent. This compares to an average benchmark revision over the past 10 years of plus or minus about 0.3 percent.

Before discussing the data from our survey of households, I would note that, as is our annual practice, we have incorporated new population controls into the January estimates. Data beginning in January 2012 reflect population controls based on Census 2010, as well as updated information on net international migration, and some methodological adjustments in the estimation process. Official estimates for December 2011 and earlier months will not be revised to incorporate the Census 2010-based controls. The impact of the new controls on the unemployment rate is negligible. However, two important Household Survey measures, the employment population ratio and the labor force participation rate, are lowered by the change in the composition of the population as seen in these new controls. The new controls raise the population of persons 55 years and older and, to a lesser extent, persons 16 to 24 years of age. Both of these groups are less likely to be in the labor force than the general population.

So now returning to the data for January, the unemployment rate continued to decline over the month. Since August 2011, the jobless rate has fallen from 9.1 to 8.3 percent, and the number of unemployed persons has declined by about 1.2 million. In January, the number of persons unemployed for 27 weeks or more was little changed at 5.5 million and made up 42.9 percent of the total. The employment population ratio increased over the months and the labor force participation rate was unchanged after accounting for the impact of the Census 2010-based population controls.

To summarize January's labor market developments, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 243,000 and the unemployment rate decreased by 8.3 percent.

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

[The statement of Acting Commissioner Galvin, together with Press Release No. USDL–12–0163, appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 32.]

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much. I want you to clarify, Mr. Galvin, one point. How much of the drop in the unemployment rate in January was due to people finding jobs and how much was due to people dropping out of the labor force?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, the level was down about 381,000 in January, and over these 5 months since August, while it has been declining, the unemployment rate has been declining, the level of unemployment is down about 1.2 million. Over that same period employment measured by the Household Survey is up about 1.7 million. So, you know, the numbers add up to a story of the unemployed finding jobs over this 5-month period. The labor force has risen a little bit.

Representative Cummings. The economic momentum that has occurred over the past few months seems to have carried into the labor market. In addition to the 100,000 plus jobs being created each month, weekly applications for initial unemployment benefits fell last week to 367,000 and have remained below 400,000 for 10 of the last 12 weeks. Furthermore, the unemployment rate last month fell to 8.3 percent, the lowest since February, 2009. However, some observers have raised concerns that the improved numbers are a blip, or a reflection of the increased hiring that always occurs during the winter holidays or in the case of the unemployment rate it is a reflection of reduced labor force participation.

Commissioner, what is your perspective regarding the accuracy of the positive job creation numbers and the extent to which they are attributable to the winter holiday shopping season or other factors?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, I am confident in the accuracy of the numbers this month and every month. We adjust the numbers to remove normal recurring seasonal variation from things like winter—Christmastime hiring.

Representative Cummings. Now, the overall unemployment rate has fallen. Are all demographic groups facing lower unemployment rates? In particular how are our African American teenagers doing, Hispanic teenagers and African American and Hispanic adults?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, I have easily accessible the overall African American unemployment rate. It dropped 2.2 points this month down to 13.6 percent.

Representative Cummings. Is that significant?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. That is significant.

Representative Cummings. And what do you attribute that to? Do you have any idea from what you can see?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, again the numbers add up to African Americans leaving unemployment and finding jobs.

Representative Cummings. Okay. And Hispanics?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Hispanic rate was 10.5 percent in January, down about half a point but not a significant difference.

Representative Cummings. Now one of the most persistent challenges since the 2007 economic collapse is the issue of long-term unemployment. As I mentioned in my opening remarks, more than 42 percent of the people who are unemployed have been jobless for 6 months or more, and 70 percent of the long-term unemployed have been out of work for a year longer. What long-term unemployment trends are you seeing? And then I will turn it over to Mr. Brady.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, the number of people looking for work for 27 weeks or more has fallen over the last year about 700,000 just as unemployment has fallen over the last year. But in percentage terms the long-term unemployed still represents a large share of the unemployed, well 42.9 percent this month, a little different from 43.9 percent a year earlier.

Representative Cummings. Mr. Brady.

Vice Chairman Brady. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Galvin, obviously we are always encouraged by new jobs numbers. We see the unemployment rate going down, but again we want it to go down because people are getting jobs and not just getting out of the workforce. When the recession began the labor participation rate, the people who were actively in this workforce, was 66 percent. Today it is now according to the latest report 63.7 percent. That is the lowest since 1983. Are fewer workers in the workforce indicative of a healthy economy?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well.

Vice Chairman Brady. I mean honestly, is that a sign of a healthy economy that fewer people are working in the workforce?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Some of the decline in the labor force since the recession is due to demographic reasons. Overall the productive capacity of the economy is higher. The more the work the more the participation of workers in the labor force.

Vice Chairman Brady. The CBO this week indicated that unemployment will rise this year and next and that at this pace of job growth that America won't get back to its level of unemployment before the recession until 2015. Do you have any reason to disagree with those projections?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, BLS avoids forecasting like that. It is sort of an exercise that requires a lot of assumptions and judgments. And we try to stick to the facts of describing the current labor market.

Vice Chairman Brady. In taking a look at the numbers this month, in the jobs report numbers you report each month, it is a net number, isn't it, that could go up if businesses lay off fewer workers than before even though they may not be hiring more new ones. I don't know if that fact is widely recognized. And could you comment on this point on the term "job creation" in this context? It doesn't necessarily mean that everyone keeps their jobs and more jobs are filled, does it?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct. There is lots of churning in the economy each month. This number we report from the payroll survey is a net number reflecting the difference between the additions to payrolls or hiring and the subtractions from payrolls or separations and quits.

Vice Chairman Brady. In the chart behind me we are still, again, looking at the bigger picture, what does it take to have a healthy recovery. Here we are years after the recession officially ended, we are still in the stop and start mode and fairly uncertain. Clearly the new hires continue to be about where they were in the middle of the recession.

Can you comment? We get these reports. I guess they are called the JOLTS report, not as frequently as we get your employment situation reports. How could we get more insight into critical numbers like this before the next JOLTS report comes out? How can we look more quickly at important indicators like this?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. You are right, the JOLTS numbers are lagged about a month and a half behind the payroll survey numbers. We don't have any data that is more timely than JOLTS to tell you about what is going on beneath this net change in payroll employment from the payroll survey.

Vice Chairman Brady. Let me finish with this, again going back. We are looking for indicators of a healthy economy. The new jobs numbers are good, the number of people working is a key indicator. My numbers show that if we actually had a count of those who have given up or not in the workforce today, that this month their unemployment rate actually would have gone up from 11.6 percent to 11.7 percent. Do you figure those numbers as you do your reports?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. No, we don't.

Vice Chairman Brady. Yield back, Mr. Chairman.

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much. Mrs. Maloney.

Representative Maloney. Well, thank you for this report. It is good news, especially in the number of unemployment rate dropping for 5 straight months. That is very good news and we are trending in the right direction with 23 months of job gains, 243,000 for this month alone. Could you point out other bright spots in this report, any other good news that you see that the country is trending in the right direction?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, the rise in payroll employment this month of 243,000 is a sizable one compared to the path of payroll employment last year, which averaged monthly gains of 152,000. Some of the gains this month in the private sector were widespread. Notably we saw large gains in professional and business services, and leisure and hospitality, and health care employment, in manufacturing which gained 50,000 jobs. And in construction which has been flat since early 2010, but has now recorded a couple of increases totaling 52,000, mostly in nonresidential specialty trade contractors.

Representative Maloney. Often January numbers don't show this kind of gains; is this unusual for January numbers?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. No, we adjust the numbers for normal recurring seasonal variation in January and any month. We try to take that normal variation out of there so what you are looking at is the underlying labor trend in the labor market.

Representative Maloney. And Mr. Galvin, I am interested in making sure that the economy improves for all sectors. Can you tell me whether the unemployment rate has been dropping for women or just men seeing this unemployment rate drop?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. I will get right with you on that.

Mr. Nardone. We have seen the unemployment rate for men has dropped a bit more than for women. It went up more during the recession than the rate for women did. Although both went up, they are both lower than they were; they are not as low as they were at the start of the recession obviously.

Representative Maloney. Well, we know that many State and local governments have been laying off workers and women predominantly work in State and local governments. Do you think that is part of the cause, the women's unemployment rate?

Mr. Nardone. I think the fact that the men's rate has come down more than the women's is that it is a reflection of the fact that men were more affected in industries that were very hard hit cyclically like manufacturing and construction.

Representative Maloney. Now, when you were talking about the long-term unemployed and you said earlier that the long-term unemployed was continuing, do you have a breakdown in age of the people that are saying they are—and the people who are giving up?

Is it predominantly 55 and older? Do you have a breakdown in age in the long-term unemployed? Is there a trend in that sector?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. One second, we do have that. Let's move on and Mr. Nardone will find that.

Representative Maloney. Okay. And also do you see any—do you break down regions? Are there certain regions that are booming or doing better with the employment and the dropping of the unemployed rate? Do you see the South, the East, the West or any areas that are urban areas, are they more hard hit than others? Do you have any trends in geography and how the workers of our country are faring?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. We will have to get back to you on the breakdown of the long-term unemployed. It is not something we brought today. As well we can get back to you on the geographic differentials and the dropping of the unemployment rate.

[Letter dated February 24, 2012, transmitting Acting Commissioner John M. Galvin's response to Representative Carolyn B. Maloney appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 76.]

Representative Maloney. Thank you for your hard work. My time has expired, thank you.

Representative Cummings. Mr. Campbell.

Representative Campbell. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You know, sometimes we get these statistics, it happens with CPI as well, and the feel on the ground is different than what the statistic is. And certainly recently where CPI was kind of low but the feel on the ground was that the things that people were buying were going up at a faster rate than CPI. Now I admittedly come from one of the states with the highest unemployment rates, California. But as much as these statistics are good—the feel on the ground isn't as good. One of the things I wanted to ask about, and correct me if I am wrong on this, but where is the employment in the percentage drop, from 8.5 to 8.3, since the widest measure of unemployment, which includes discouraged, marginally attached, and part-time people who would prefer to be full time, actually increased slightly to 23.8 percent if I have my numbers correct. So how—what does that mean or how does that happen? So this sort of headline number went down but the broader number went up?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, the widest measure that BLS produces we refer to as U–6, which does include all of the marginally attached and the part-time for economic reasons, and that is at 15.1 percent in January as compared to 8.3 percent for the base unemployment rate. That was unchanged over the month, the widest measure.

Representative Campbell. Okay. So that was unchanged but the other went down. So that means that maybe some of these people who became employed became employed as part-time; is that what that means? And by the way what does marginally attached mean?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. That means workers who want and are available for work, they have looked in the last year for jobs but they haven't looked in the last month.

Representative Campbell. They have looked in the last year but haven't looked in the last month.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. They need to have looked in the last month to be counted as unemployed.

Representative Campbell. I see. All right. So they aren't employed but you don't count them in the number that includes the 8.3.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct.

Representative Campbell. So on the broadest number, and I read the wrong number, but 15.1 percent of the population is the broad number that is unemployed or under employed with the part-time and that didn't change from last?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct. It has declined pretty much in step with the decline in the regular unemployment rate over the last 5 months.

Representative Campbell. All right, okay. And then the total workforce, civilian labor force was actually up, was it, so the total labor force was up as well; is that right? I am trying to understand.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Uh-huh.

Representative Campbell. Sometimes, as we know, the numerator and the denominator of unemployment drop when people drop out of the workforce and it makes it look like we are doing better but we are actually not employing more people.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, over these 5 months where the unemployment rate has come down eight-tenths of a percent the level of unemployed has declined by 1.2 million, but at the same time the level of employed from the Household Survey is up 1.7 million. So the sum of those is the labor force. So you have got the unemployed subtracted from the employed and you get a rise in the labor force of about a half million over this time period.

Representative Campbell. Thank you. I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much. Ms. Sanchez.

Representative Sanchez. Thank you very much and thank you, gentlemen, for being before us today. I want to go along some of the discussion points that my colleague from Orange County on the other side was talking about. I am interested in, first of all, because you mention population in your report or population groups, so I am trying to understand what does that mean. In particular, when you look at the overall numbers there is a thing called the baby boomers and a lot of them are getting to retirement age, and supposedly that was the largest group of people in a particular time frame that the United States had seen. So my question to you is are we seeing the baby boomers retire and therefore be out of the workforce? And is that having some impact to that? And are we graduating or are we seeing enough young people enter into the workforce that they are making up those numbers, or what is the relationship between those two ends of the employment line?

And then my next question is could you in some way characterize what is going on with the youth in particular, those without a college degree and maybe those with a college degree, because it does seem that on—that in the weeds where we are when we go home that kids aren't getting employment despite getting an education.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. I will have my colleague, Mr. Nardone, handle that.

Mr. Nardone. In terms of looking at—one thing that will be useful is to look at labor force participation rates and taking a somewhat longer view. One thing that is been happening is the labor force participation rates for people age 55 and over, which would include that baby boom group, has actually been going up a little bit over time. Labor force participation rates for younger people over a longer period have been trending down, partly—there has also been an increase in school enrollment of those young people, too. Young people who are in school can be in the labor force obviously, they are having a part-time job or they can be looking for work, but in general people who are in school are less likely to be in the labor force than those who aren't.

Representative Sanchez. So what you are basically telling me is—and do you think that would be attributed to the fact that maybe people who thought they had a retirement sort of lost their retirement or they don't feel as comfortable, maybe they are living longer, whether it is a McDonald's job or part-time consultant, or what have you, and they tend to take up those places that we might have seen young people before? Could that be what is going on?

Mr. Nardone. We don't really know the exact reasons. One thing we do know is that the increase in labor force participation rate for people 55 and over actually predated the recession. It had been going on since the 1990s really.

Representative Sanchez. Interesting, okay. I know that Mrs. Maloney I think asked about this, this is about geography. It seems to me, can we tell where these jobs are being created? Because it seems to me like a lot of these jobs that are being created may be moving south or southwest in the country. Do we have numbers on that or would you be able to get us numbers so that we could take a look at where jobs are really be creating and where we are really losing them.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. I do have some numbers on that with me today. Now our State numbers are lagged a month, so we reported the national number for January today but our State numbers are only available through December. But looking at the December numbers the States with the largest gain since the national employment trough in early 2010 job basis have been Texas, California, Florida, simply the largest States. On a percentage basis, percentage growth basis, the States with the largest change, North Dakota, Utah, Texas, Oklahoma, Wyoming.

Representative Sanchez. Thank you. And my last question, real fast, when we talk about going back to this whole maybe underemployed or still searching for the real job you want, do we have—I know you gave us a particular cost or average per wage of $23 or $24, but does that include benefits? And are we seeing any changes in the type of jobs we are getting and what type—is there a smaller benefit package going with those jobs? Are there any numbers available with that in the aggregate?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Yeah, those numbers I gave you are wages only. We issued an employment cost index report earlier this week, I believe it was, which showed the continuation of the trend of the cost of benefits to employers growing faster than the cost of wages. I don't have any information though about the nature of the benefit packages of jobs that are being created right now.

Representative Sanchez. So let me just rephrase that. So you are saying that if I am an average employer and I am getting an average person on the payroll for the first time, I am paying them about $24 but the benefit package to them is actually costing me more than it used to per employee?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct.

Representative Sanchez. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman I appreciate that. Mr. Mulvaney.

Representative Mulvaney. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Galvin, I am going to stay away from the policy issues and just make sure I can understand the data. So I am going to run down a list relatively quickly and make sure I am reading it correctly. The labor force participation rate dropped last month from 64 percent to 63.7 percent.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct.

Representative Mulvaney. The number of discouraged workers was up from roughly 945,000 to 1.05 million people; is that correct?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct.

Representative Mulvaney. That the number of other marginally attached workers grew from 1.595 million to 1.75 million last month, U5?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Yeah. The other—I have to do the math there. That looks right.

Representative Mulvaney. The number of folks who are employed part time for economic reasons grew from 8.098 million people to 8.23 million people last month?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct.

Representative Mulvaney. And that the unemployed by the widest measure grew then from 23.74 million to 23.8 million people last month; is that correct?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. I have to dig for that level. I have the rate.

Representative Mulvaney. The rate went from 15.2 to 15.1?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct.

Representative Mulvaney. That the percent of total long-term unemployed—excuse me, the long-term as a percentage of the total unemployed last month rose from 42.7 percent to 43.3 percent. That is defined by folks out of work more than 6 months, 27 weeks?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. It rose four-tenths of a percent to 42.9 percent.

Representative Mulvaney. Okay. And then the graph that Vice Chairman Brady offered, is up here behind us, shows that the number of total hires is roughly the same now on a monthly basis as it was in late 2008. Would you agree with that, sir?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. If those numbers are correct, yes, I would. I have some data from our JOLT survey which show that JOLT hires have increased some since the end of the recession. It doesn't appear that that line is going up.

Representative Mulvaney. I think that is correct, sir. That is the end of the recession. Those were the new hires last month. So I think your statement is probably correct but I think mine is as well. If you go back to late 2008, which is the blue dotted vertical line there.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Current hires are below that level.

Representative Mulvaney. Exactly. If we add this discouraged workers, other marginally attached workers and folks who are unemployed part time for economic reasons, then the unemployment rate in this country is 15.1 percent this month?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct.

Representative Mulvaney. Thank you, sir.

You mentioned earlier that the labor force has grown slightly and it looks like it has from 15.—excuse me 153.9 million people to 154.4. Given the population growth over the same period of time, is that the growth in the size of the labor force that you would expect to see?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. That depends on the degree to which the growth and the population participates in the labor force, but generally you would expect an increase of somewhere from 100 to 150,000 per month just to keep up with the population and their rate of participating.

Representative Mulvaney. I am sorry. Say that again. You would expect the job, the number of jobs to grow 150,000 jobs per month?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. You would expect the labor force—well, you need about 100 to 150,000 jobs per month to keep up with the growth in the labor force.

Representative Mulvaney. So if we had 150,000 jobs per month, all other things being equal, the unemployment rate will not come down?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct. All other things being equal, the participation rate will stay the same and the jobs being found will go to the new folks coming into the labor force.

Representative Mulvaney. So at the rate of job creation last month, all other things being equal, how long will it take for to us get employment down to say 6½ percent?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Yeah, that requires a lot of speculation I need to avoid because I really can't predict the rates at which people will enter the labor force. I can tell you that the job growth we have seen since employment turned around is measured by the Payroll Survey. It is still about 5.6 million below, there is still about a 5.6 million drop or loss from—there is still 5.6 million jobs to be gained in order for us to regain all of the jobs lost during this downturn.

Representative Mulvaney. Thank you, Mr. Galvin.

Lastly, on page 3 of your report you indicate that government jobs are down considerably since—over the course of the last 12 months, 276,000 jobs lost, with declines in local government, State government, excluding education and the U.S. Postal Service. If you add education back into those numbers, what does that job loss within the government sector look like?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. One second, I will get that for you. Well, that is the total over the year that you just gave me.

Representative Mulvaney. Yes, sir.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. 276,000 jobs were lost in government for January 2011 to January 2012, and that is the total of Federal, State, both the education and the non-education components, and local, both the education and non-education components.

Representative Mulvaney. I am sorry. I am looking at your notes on page 3, and it specifically says State government, excluding education. So I took that to mean that any gains in education were excluded from that number, is that not correct?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. No, that is just a way of breaking down the State government total, because some people are interested in that. The education sector and then the non-education sector of the State government.

Representative Mulvaney. I guess I apologize for going a little long, Mr. Chairman. I guess my question is where are the education jobs contained on the list on page 3? If we added one education job—it looks like we have added education jobs since the beginning of the recession, we added education jobs from November to December. So on the list on page 3 if we hire a teacher what category does it go into?

Mr. Nardone. I think just in terms of local government education, looking over the year, currently there are 7.8 million in local government education. That is down from 7.9 million a year ago. State government education, you had—it is essentially flat, about 2.4 million. Private education has gone up 80,000.

Representative Mulvaney. Okay. So education is roughly flat over the course of the last year?

Mr. Nardone. If you are looking at government education, State and local, it is down mainly in local areas. The State government education is flat over the year.

Representative Mulvaney. I gotcha. Gentlemen, thank you very much.

Representative Cummings. Mr. Burgess.

Representative Burgess. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Galvin, the current state of the economy when we look at this recession and compare it to the previous recessions and the recovery—and I apologize for not having the graphics here, but everyone understands that the recovery has been slower and much more prolonged than other recessions, certainly that have occurred during my lifetime and in years preceding that. Can you give us some reasons why the recovery has been so painfully slow in occurring?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, I don't know that I have the reasons, but I certainly can confirm that as compared, say, to the recessions in 1975 and 1982 job recovery in this recession is much slower as compared to the recessions of 1991 and 2003, or that ended in 1991 and 2003. Job recovery after this recession is somewhat slower.

Representative Burgess. Well, I did take the liberty of preparing some economic data, and I realize that is not my forte, and at the risk of relating two things that are not related I decided to plot the unemployment rate for the last 10 years and I put on the graph also, since it has been the subject of some national discussion, the minimum wage increases that have recently occurred, and you can see there that there does appear to be a parallel. Now, I realize there is a risk in relating two things that may not be related, but do you have a comment on the association of those two lines on the graph?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Yeah. We don't engage in that sort of policy analysis. We don't want to do anything to undermine your trust in our objectivity and fairness.

Representative Burgess. The reality is, though, that this changes the unemployment rate. You know, I referenced in my opening statement that there are some things the administration has done, but there are other things that the Congress has done. There are some things that the Congress did during the last administration when Speaker Pelosi took over as Speaker of the House, and this was one of those things.

Now, it is relevant because it also—people are discussing maybe we should just index the minimum wage to inflation, and what I see in looking at this is a period of relative stability while the minimum wage stayed at $5.15 an hour. Perhaps we are achieving a new equilibrium up at the other end of the graph. And if you index the minimum wage to inflation, would it likely have this disruptive effect that perhaps occurred during 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Again, I really can't comment on policy questions like that.

Representative Burgess. Let me ask you this: Did the size of the labor force change this past month?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. It did.

Representative Burgess. The civilian labor force.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Yes—well, after adjustment for the population controls it was up 250,000. That is a small change.

Representative Burgess. But another way of looking at it those not in the labor force increased from 86.7 million to 87.9 million; is that an accurate reflection?

Mr. Nardone. There is an issue with this month's numbers. As was mentioned in the testimony, we incorporated new population estimates that are based on the Census 2010, which makes the difference between December and January not strictly comparable. Essentially those new population controls show that there were more people who were over the age of 55 and more people who were between the ages of 16 to 24, groups that are less likely to be in the labor force than the general population. So you have what looks like a big bump-up in the number of people not in the labor force. If you adjust for that artificial—for population control it is actually down by 75,000, the size—the population that is not in the labor force.

Representative Burgess. This may fall into that broad category of lies, darn lies and statistics, but still 1.2 million people lost from the labor force. That is a big chunk of folks. Okay, we massage numbers and make it look not so bad, but, you know, you just have to worry if we are losing people from the labor force at that rate, yeah, you make your numbers look better as far as the unemployment rate if your goalpost is November 2012, but what people are feeling out in the country, what people are experiencing out in the country, and this is what I encounter when I go home, people say don't talk to me about the economic recovery because even in Texas we are not feeling it. And I rather suspect that if I was visiting California or Ohio or Michigan I would hear those same sentiments perhaps even a little more strongly.

Let me just ask you in the time I have remaining, the fact that there are fewer payroll jobs than there were pre-recession and this month you gain 200,000, so coming back at a rate of 200,000 a month, say this month is the new normal, this is the new benchmark, every month is going to be just like this month going forward. When do we get back to the pre-recession level?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. It would take 23 more months of growth at this month's pace, 243,000 per month, to regain all those jobs.

Representative Burgess. And if the number drifted down from that obviously, the length of time is going to extend. What do you look to—let me ask you this, you referenced in your figures the mining, is that the oil and gas development that occurs also?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Uh-huh.

Representative Burgess. We did some positive reflection there; is that correct?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct.

Representative Burgess. Even with the price of natural gas fairly low, the price of oil has maintained a high level, but the overall outlook for that sector is it something that is positive or negative?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, we avoid forecasting, but mining has been growing recently due to oil—support activities for oil and gas mining.

Representative Burgess. And again I would just reemphasize the administration could go a long way toward the economic recovery of this country, producing American jobs and American energy, and I think your data today supports that.

Mr. Chairman, I cannot see the clock so I have no earthly idea of whether I am yielding back time or whether I have run over.

Representative Cummings. About 2 minutes over.

Representative Burgess. I appreciate your indulgence and I yield back whatever time remains. We might in the future try to have the clock visible.

Representative Cummings. I agree.

Just one last question. Let me just pick up on something that Mr. Mulvaney was talking about, the public sector jobs. We have lost a lot of jobs in the public sector, have we not? What did you say, 276,000?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct, over the year. That was lost.

That is correct, 276,000 government jobs lost over the year.

Representative Cummings. And do you see a trend with regard to the loss of those jobs? In other words, is that a steady trend going down? We hear a lot of complaints about public service workers and making government smaller. I know we are talking about—I think you said State, local and Federal; is that right?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Correct. Government has been losing since—well, pretty steadily since near the end of 2010. State and local government had employment peaks in August 2008 and USPS has been losing jobs for far longer.

Representative Cummings. All right, the question that I always ask is if somebody were watching this today and they were trying to find employment based upon what you see there, what are the areas, fields that you would tell them are—not that you would be giving them advice, you would be telling them what seems to be growing, the fields that seem to be growing, and the geographic areas, somebody who is really desperate for a job and trying to get something out of this hearing as to where they might go to get a job?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, this week BLS just published our employment projections for the period ending 2020. So they provide sort of a job outlook for occupations. Just to summarize, these projections showed the largest number of jobs are in three sort of classes of occupations. One is called office and administrative support occupations; these are jobs like customer service representatives and bookkeeping clerks. Second big category of projected growth is in health care practitioners and technical occupations. Jobs like registered nurses, which we project to grow by 700,000 jobs by 2020. And physicians and surgeons are in that group, too. The group with the third largest rate of increase or projected growth is sales and related occupations, like sales representatives and cashiers.

Representative Cummings. And what about geographic areas? If somebody wants to move from a State that has a very high unemployment rate—I think you mentioned a little bit earlier a few States that were doing pretty good with regard to jobs, what States would you tell them that they might want to look at?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. We don't do——

Representative Cummings. I know Texas would be one.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Uh-huh. We don't do these projections by State but regarding unemployment rates, States with the lowest unemployment rates in our most recent release, December 2011, were North Dakota, Nebraska, South Dakota, New Hampshire, Vermont, Iowa, Minnesota.

Representative Cummings. Mr. Mulvaney, just 2 minutes, 3 minutes.

Representative Mulvaney. I won't need that much time, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Galvin, just to follow up on a question the chairman asked you a second ago, the 276,000 government jobs that were lost in 2011, approximately what percentage of the overall government workforce does that number represent?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. We will have to dig that up.

Representative Mulvaney. I thought I had seen a number of roughly 22 million government jobs as of last month.

Representative Cummings. Is that State, local and Federal?

Representative Mulvaney. Uh-huh. Yes, sir, I believe it to be.

Mr. Nardone. That would be a decline of 1.2 percent of the level in January 2011.

Representative Mulvaney. So for all of 2011 the size of the government workforce, Federal, State and local, shrank by 1.2 percent?

Mr. Nardone. I believe that is correct.

Representative Mulvaney. Mr. Galvin said earlier in his testimony that we are still 5.6 million jobs short in the overall economy from the beginning of the recession. What percentage does that represent of the overall workforce?

Mr. Nardone. That is about 4 percent of the current workforce. I don't really have what it was, the decline from the start.

Representative Mulvaney. It would be a little bit higher but about the same. Thank you, gentlemen. That is all I have.

Representative Burgess. Could I just?

Representative Cummings. Mr. Burgess for 2 minutes.

Representative Burgess. One last question. We are grappling with the unemployment insurance extension here on the floor this week, next week. Typically in your experience, just purely from a statistical perspective and not a policy perspective, I am not asking you to speculate, but when unemployment benefits run out, what typically happens to the unemployment rate?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. Well, that is a policy question.

Representative Burgess. No, I am asking you for statistical analysis. You have looked at it from previous years. Is there a trend or is this a non sequitur?

Acting Commissioner Galvin. We really haven't looked at the relationship between the rise in the unemployment rate and the rise in unemployment insurance.

Representative Burgess. Would you be good enough to look at that for me and respond to me between this month and next month? It is something I know that holds a lot of interest for a lot of us.

Acting Commissioner Galvin. It is not something BLS does, but we can certainly look around at what other studies are out there and bring it to your attention.

Representative Burgess. I would appreciate it.

[Letter dated dated February 12, 2012, transmitting Acting Commissioner John M. Galvin's response to Representative Michael C. Burgess appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 79.]

Representative Cummings. Mr. Mulvaney.

Representative Mulvaney. The Bureau clearly tracks the length of period of time that folks are on unemployment. Is there data available that would or could show us when folks on the average come off of employment and go back into the workforce, whether it would be in week 2 or 8 or 27?

Mr. Nardone. We don't actually track when people are on unemployment insurance. We do have some statistics for people who are unemployed, how long they are unemployed before they either find employment or go out. We developed that over the past year and we could provide an article that we wrote about that to you.

[Letter dated February 12, 2012, transmitting Acting Commissioner John M. Galvin's response to Representative Mick Mulvaney appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 84.]

Representative Mulvaney. Thank you, gentlemen. I appreciate that.

Representative Cummings. Gentlemen, I want to thank you very much. And Mr. Galvin, welcome again. It does appear that we are moving in the right direction, not moving as fast as all of us would like because there are so many people unemployed. I know particularly in my district I see it every day, I live I amongst it, high rate of unemployment, but the fact is we are moving in the right direction, and I want to thank you very much.

[Whereupon, at 10:43 a.m., the committee was adjourned.]

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE RECORD

PREPARED STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE ELIJAH CUMMINGS

Good morning. Chairman Casey couldn't be here today and I'm pleased to stand in for him this morning.

I'd like to welcome Acting Commissioner John Galvin this morning as well as Mr. Thomas Nardone, Acting Associate Commissioner for Employment and Unemployment Statistics, and Dr. Michael Horrigan, Associate Commissioner for Prices and Living Conditions.

I want to make a couple of overall comments about the economic recovery before diving into this month's employment numbers.

In the second half of 2011, economic momentum picked up.

The labor market continued to strengthen—adding 100,000 or more jobs for four straight months.

Additionally, we learned last week that GDP grew at a 2.8 percent annual rate in the fourth quarter, an improvement over the previous three quarters of 2011, though inventory rebuilding accounted for much of the growth.

There are other encouraging signs. The manufacturing sector continues to show strength.

- The ISM Manufacturing Index reading of 54.1 percent in January marked the 30th consecutive month of expansion in the manufacturing sector.

And the unemployment rate has been moving in the right direction. During 2011, the national unemployment rate fell from 9.4 percent to 8.5 percent.

However, workers who have been out of work for long periods continue to struggle to find new jobs. More than 42 percent of the unemployed have been jobless for six months or more.

We need to help workers regain their footing and bolster the recovery by extending the payroll tax cut for the remainder of the year and continuing unemployment insurance for workers who are counting on these benefits to make ends meet.

Both of these policies put money in people's pockets—boosting demand, creating jobs and strengthening our economy.

As the January Jobs report shows, we are making progress. But we must continue to invest in education, infrastructure and our workers.

As I have said before, we must also take on the housing crisis. Without a smart, sensible path forward in housing, we cannot sustain this economic recovery.

TODAY'S EMPLOYMENT REPORT FROM BLS

Job Gains

- The economy added private-sector jobs for the 23rd straight month.
- During January, the economy gained 257,000 private sector jobs. Due to the loss of government jobs, overall, the economy added 243,000 jobs during the month.
- The manufacturing sector, which added 237,000 jobs in 2011, gained 50,000 jobs in January.
- In addition, the professional and business services sector added 70,000 jobs, and hasn't lost jobs since March 2010.
- Employment in state and local government was basically unchanged in January. In 2011, state and local governments shed 235,000 jobs and continue to face budget challenges that present a headwind for the economy.

Unemployment

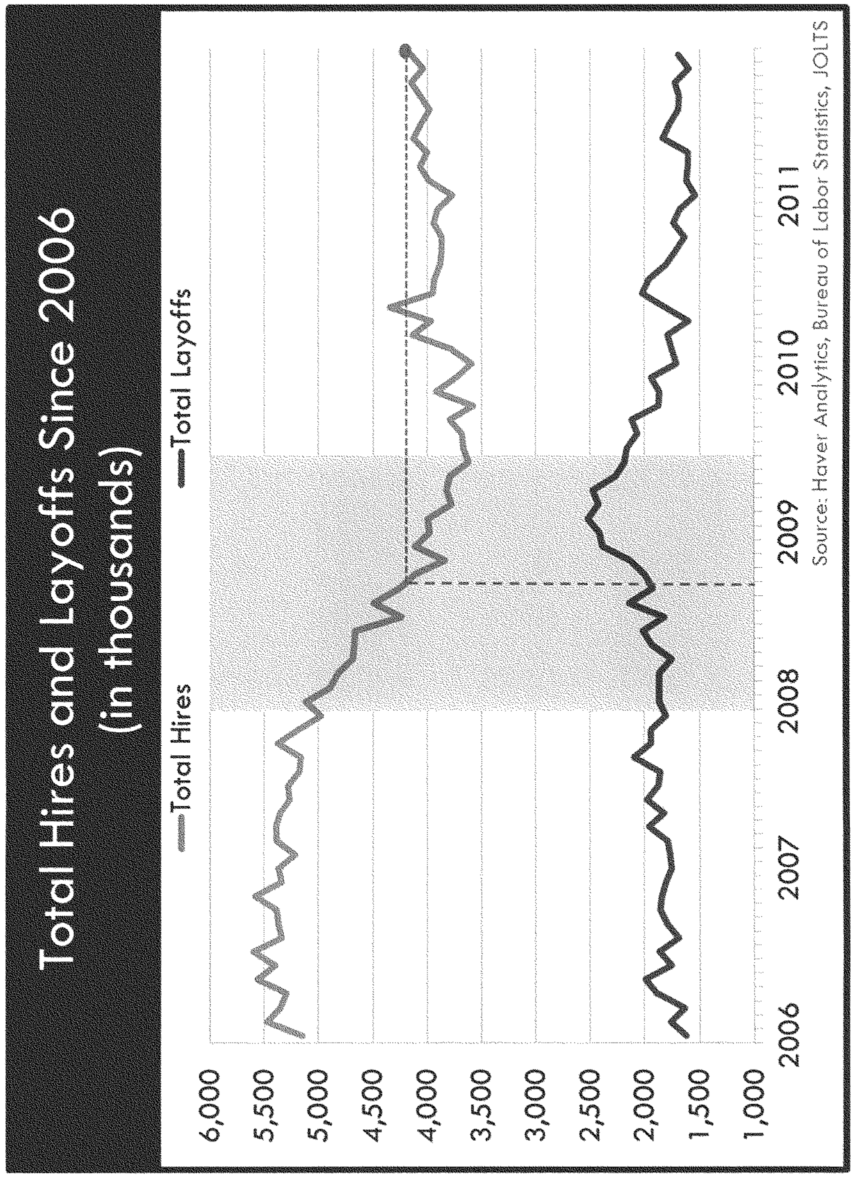
- The overall unemployment rate was 8.3 percent, the lowest since February, 2009.
- Even with this progress, more than 12.7 million people are looking for work, but can't find it.
- The unemployment rate in the African-American community was 13.6 percent.
- Among Hispanic workers, the unemployment rate was 10.5 percent.
- While the unemployment rate for Veterans was 7.5 percent, Gulf War-era II Veterans faced an unemployment rate of 9.1 percent.

Summary

- Today's employment report shows that the labor market continues to recover. The job gains in January continued the momentum from the fourth quarter of 2011.
- However, unemployment remains too high, unacceptably high, and we need to stay focused on creating jobs.

- Acting Commissioner Galvin, I look forward to your testimony.

I would like to introduce today's witness. Mr. John M. (Jack) Galvin serves as Acting Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. He has worked at the BLS since 1978 in various capacities including Deputy Commissioner, Associate Commissioner for Employment and Unemployment Statistics and Assistant Commissioner for Producer Price Indexes. Mr. Galvin holds a B.A. in Economics from the University of Illinois and an M.A. in Economics from George Washington University.


Total Hires and Layoffs Since 2006
(in thousands)
Total Hires
Total Layoffs
6,000
5,500
5,000
4,500
4,000
3,500
3,000
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
Source: Haver Analytics, Bureau of Labor Statistics, JOLTS

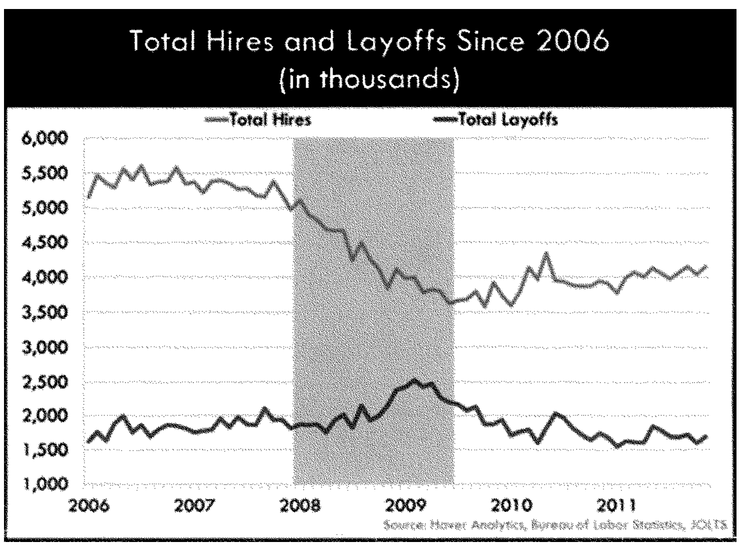
PREPARED STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE KEVIN BRADY, VICE CHAIRMAN, JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Commissioner Galvin, we welcome you in your new capacity to the Joint Economic Committee's hearing on the employment situation. Of course, we know you well from your appearances at prior employment hearings and as a dedicated BLS employee for many years. We appreciate your service and look forward to your testimony. We also welcome the members of your staff.

The labor market is not recovering fast enough considering how depressed it has been. Thirty-one months into the Reagan recovery, we had added 8.7 million new payroll jobs. Today, however, the economy, at best, is at a crawl. We still are 6 million jobs short of the prerecession employment level; labor force participation is the lowest in decades; and yet unemployed workers still account for more than 8% of the shrunken workforce. Whatever claims that President Obama makes about how much worse the recession could have been, his policies have not "stimulated" the economy. We now have a huge federal debt, continuing large deficits, and sluggish growth.

More than 2½ years have passed since the recession formally ended, yet real GDP growth is now expected to decline this year from a less-than-stellar 2.8% in the last quarter. In contrast, we averaged 6.1% real GDP growth during the first 10 quarters of the Reagan recovery. Business is hoarding cash as it still holds investments below pre-recession levels, and it still is not materially stepping up hiring, despite what the payroll job number says.

Consider the chart behind me. The top line shows hires and the bottom line layoffs. The huge churn is striking: over 4 million hires and 1.7 million layoffs, an image quite different from that of simply looking at net job changes.



But the key observation is that hires remain at the mid-recession level. With all the money the Administration has spent to stimulate employment, hires are still down about 1.4 million per month from before the recession. In that light, the 243,000 payroll jobs gained today are not that impressive. The magnitude of annual benchmark revisions, the most recent of which BLS is introducing with today's report on the employment situation, only underscores this point.

The low hires help to explain why labor force participation is down. If hiring has not risen in well over three years with a huge pool of unemployed competing for jobs, then why stay in the labor force?

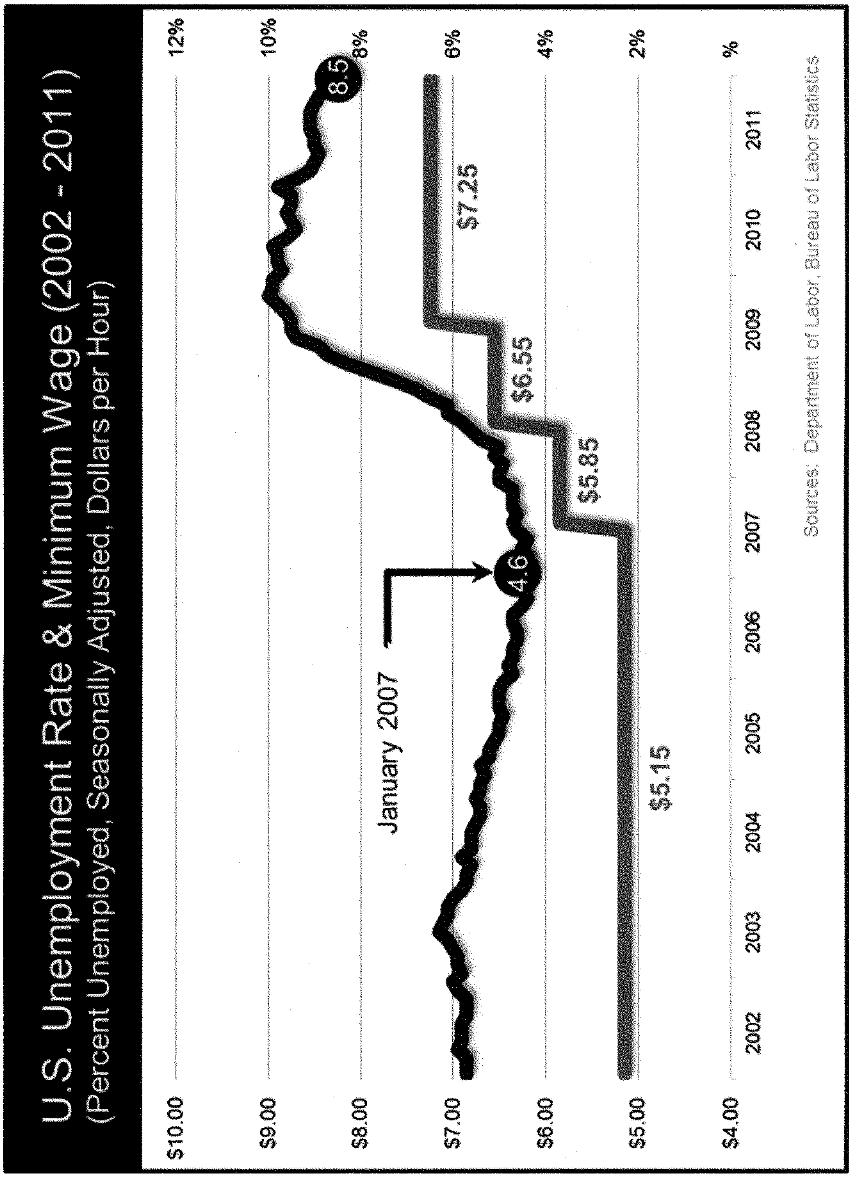
The unemployment rate and the payroll jobs number are important statistics, but they do not reveal the full extent of the problem we have.

The President's current actions and proposals are feeble attempts to lift a $15 trillion economy and with the equivalent of matchsticks at the same time that it is tightening regulations, imposes an avalanche of new regulations, and thwarts the biggest shovel ready project, the Keystone pipeline, in the country. It threatens to raise taxes all the while adding to our national debt with continued undisciplined deficit spending.

Strong private investment and job creation require a regulatory environment that facilitates operation of the free market economy and a tax environment that engenders expansion, not retrenchment. President Obama is working against the free market economy, undermining it with subsidies and special favors in some areas and harshly constraining and punishing it in others. That will cause anemic growth, and the labor market shows it.

According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) slowing economic growth will cause the unemployment rate to rise during this year and the next. The CBO projects that the unemployment rate will hit 8.9% in the fourth quarter and 9.2% in the last quarter of 2013. Americans are eager for work and willing to work hard. The economic policies of President Obama and congressional Democrats have failed. Hardworking taxpayers deserve better. The federal government needs to get out of the way so private job creation and hiring can accelerate.

Mr. Galvin, I look forward to hearing your testimony.


U.S. Unemployment Rate & Minimum Wage (2002 - 2011)
(Percent Unemployed, Seasonally Adjusted, Dollars per Hour)
$10.00
$9.00
$8.00
$7.00
$6.00
$5.00
$4.00
12%
10%
8%
6%
4%
2%
%
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
January 2007
4.6
8.5
$5.15
$5.85
$6.55
$7.25
Sources: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

PREPARED STATEMENT OF JOHN M. GALVIN, ACTING COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

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

The unemployment rate decreased to 8.3 percent in January, and nonfarm payroll employment rose by 243,000. In 2011, nonfarm employment increased by an average of 152,000 per month. Job growth was widespread in the private sector in January, with the largest gains occurring in professional and business services, leisure and hospitality, and manufacturing.

Professional and business services added 70,000 jobs over the month, compared with an average monthly gain of 48,000 in 2011. Nearly half of the January increase occurred in employment services (+33,000), as temporary help employment continued to trend up. Also within professional and business services, employment rose in accounting and bookkeeping (+13,000) and in architectural and engineering services (+7,000).

Employment in leisure and hospitality increased by 44,000, mostly in food services (+33,000). Health care employment rose by 31,000, with job gains in hospitals (+13,000) and ambulatory care services (+13,000). Employment in both wholesale and retail trade continued to trend up over the month.

In the goods-producing sector, manufacturing employment increased by 50,000 in January, nearly all in durable goods manufacturing. Fabricated metal products, machinery, and motor vehicles each added jobs. Over the past 2 months, construction employment rose by 52,000, mainly among nonresidential specialty trade contractors. Mining employment continued to expand in January (+10,000). Since a recent low point in October 2009, mining has added 172,000 jobs.

Government employment changed little in January. Over the last 12 months, employment in the sector has decreased by 276,000 with declines in local government; state government, excluding education; and the U.S. Postal Service.

Average hourly earnings of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 4 cents in January to $23.29. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have risen by 1.9 percent. From December 2010 to December 2011, the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased by 3.0 percent.

In accordance with annual practice, the establishment survey data released today reflect the incorporation of benchmark revisions. Each year, BLS re-anchors the sample-based survey estimates to full universe counts of employment, primarily derived from administrative records of the unemployment insurance tax system. The level of nonfarm payroll employment in March 2011 was revised up by 162,000 (not seasonally adjusted) or 0.1 percent. The average benchmark revision over the past 10 years was plus or minus 0.3 percent. (Further information about the impact of the benchmark revision is contained in our news release and on our Web site at http://www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cesbmart.htm.)

Before discussing the data from our survey of households, I would note that, as is our annual practice, we have incorporated new population controls into the January estimates. Data beginning in January 2012 reflect population controls based on Census 2010, updated information on net international migration, and some methodological adjustments in the estimation process. Official estimates for December 2011 and earlier months will not be revised to incorporate the Census 2010-based controls. The impact of the new controls on the unemployment rate is negligible. However, two important household survey measures, the employment-population ratio and the labor force participation rate, are lowered by a change in the composition of the population (based on comparisons of December 2011 estimates computed using the old and new controls). The new controls raise the population of persons 55 years and older and, to a lesser extent, persons 16-24 years of age. Both of these groups are less likely to be in the labor force than the general population. (Additional information about the Census 2010-based population controls and impact can be found in our news release and on our Web site at http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps12adj.pdf.)

Returning to the data for January, the unemployment rate continued to decline over the month. Since August 2011, the jobless rate has fallen from 9.1 to 8.3 percent, and the number of unemployed persons has declined by about 1.2 million. In January, the number of persons unemployed for 27 weeks or more was little changed at 5.5 million and made up 42.9 percent of the total. The employment-population ratio increased over the month, and the labor force participation rate was unchanged, after accounting for the impact of Census 2010-based population controls.

To summarize January's labor market developments, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 243,000, and the unemployment rate decreased to 8.3 percent.

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

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BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

NEWS RELEASE

Transmission of material in this release is embargoed until
8:30 a.m. (EST) Friday, February 3, 2012

USDL-12-0163

Technical information:
Household data: (202) 691-6378 • cpsinfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/cps
Establishment data: (202) 691-6555 • cesinfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/ces

Media contact: (202) 691-5902 • PressOffice@bls.gov

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION – JANUARY 2012

Total **nonfarm payroll employment** rose by 243,000 in January, and the **unemployment rate** decreased to 8.3 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Job growth was widespread in the private sector, with large employment gains in professional and business services, leisure and hospitality, and manufacturing. Government employment changed little over the month.

Chart 1. Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, January 2010 – January 2012

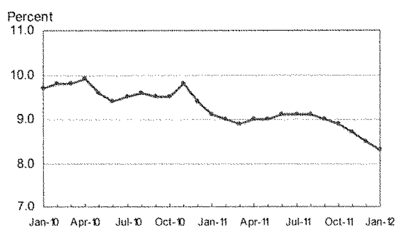
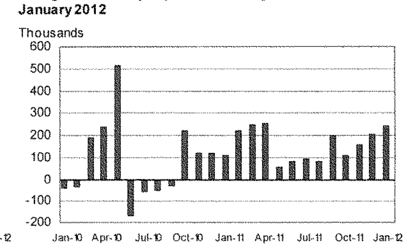


Chart 2. Nonfarm payroll employment over-the-month change, seasonally adjusted, January 2010 – January 2012



Changes to The Employment Situation Data

Establishment survey data have been revised as a result of the annual benchmarking process and the updating of seasonal adjustment factors. Also, household survey data for January 2012 reflect updated population estimates. See the notes beginning on page 4, for more information about these changes.

Household Survey Data

The **unemployment rate** declined by 0.2 percentage point in January to 8.3 percent; the rate has fallen by 0.8 point since August. (See table A-1.) The number of **unemployed persons** declined to 12.8 million in January. (See the note on page 6 and tables B and C for information about annual population adjustments to the household survey estimates.)

Among the **major worker groups**, the unemployment rates for adult men (7.7 percent) and blacks (13.6 percent) declined in January. The unemployment rates for adult women (7.7 percent), teenagers (23.2 percent), whites (7.4 percent), and Hispanics (10.5 percent) were little changed. The jobless rate for Asians was 6.7 percent, not seasonally adjusted. (See tables A-1, A-2, and A-3.)

In January, the number of **job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs** fell to 7.3 million. The number of **long-term unemployed** (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) was little changed at 5.5 million and accounted for 42.9 percent of the unemployed. (See tables A-11 and A-12.)

After accounting for the annual adjustments to the population controls, the **employment-population ratio** (58.5 percent) rose in January, while the **civilian labor force participation rate** held at 63.7 percent. (See table A-1. For additional information about the effects of the population adjustments, see table C.)

The number of persons employed **part time for economic reasons**, at 8.2 million, changed little in January. These individuals were working part time because their hours had been cut back or because they were unable to find a full-time job. (See table A-8.)

In January, 2.8 million persons were **marginally attached to the labor force**, essentially unchanged from a year earlier. (The data are not seasonally adjusted.) These individuals were not in the labor force, 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. (See table A-16.)

Among the marginally attached, there were 1.1 million **discouraged workers** in January, little different from a year earlier. (The data are not seasonally adjusted.) Discouraged workers are persons not currently looking for work because they believe no jobs are available for them. The remaining 1.7 million persons marginally attached to the labor force in January had not searched for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey for reasons such as school attendance or family responsibilities. (See table A-16.)

Establishment Survey Data

Total **nonfarm payroll employment** rose by 243,000 in January. Private-sector employment grew by 257,000, with the largest employment gains in professional and business services, leisure and hospitality, and manufacturing. Government employment was little changed over the month. (See table B-1.)

Professional and business services continued to add jobs in January (+70,000). About half of the increase occurred in employment services (+33,000). Job gains also occurred in accounting and bookkeeping (+13,000) and in architectural and engineering services (+7,000).

Over the month, employment in **leisure and hospitality** increased by 44,000, primarily in food services and drinking places (+33,000). Since a recent low in February 2010, food services has added 487,000 jobs.

In January, **health care** employment continued to grow (+31,000). Within the industry, hospitals and ambulatory care services each added 13,000 jobs.

Wholesale trade employment increased by 14,000 over the month. Since a recent employment low in May 2010, wholesale trade has added 144,000 jobs.

Employment in **retail trade** continued to trend up in January. Job gains in department stores (+19,000), health and personal care stores (+7,000), and automobile dealers (+7,000) were partially offset by losses in clothing and clothing accessory stores (-14,000). Since an employment trough in December 2009, retail trade has added 390,000 jobs.

In January, employment in **information** declined by 13,000, including a loss of 8,000 jobs in the motion picture and sound recording industry.

In the goods-producing sector, **manufacturing** added 50,000 jobs. Nearly all of the increase occurred in durable goods manufacturing, with job growth in fabricated metal products (+11,000), machinery (+11,000), and motor vehicles and parts (+8,000). Durable goods manufacturing has added 418,000 jobs over the past 2 years.

Employment in **construction** increased by 21,000 in January, following a gain of 31,000 in the previous month. Over the past 2 months, nonresidential specialty trade contractors added 30,000 jobs.

Mining added 10,000 jobs in January, with most of the gain in support activities for mining (+8,000). Since a recent low in October 2009, mining employment has expanded by 172,000.

Government employment changed little in January. Over the past 12 months, the sector has lost 276,000 jobs, with declines in local government; state government, excluding education; and the U.S. Postal Service.

The **average workweek for all employees** on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged in January. The manufacturing workweek increased by 0.3 hour to 40.9 hours, and factory overtime increased by 0.1 hour to 3.4 hours. The average workweek for **production and nonsupervisory employees** on private nonfarm payrolls edged up by 0.1 hour to 33.8 hours. (See tables B-2 and B-7.)

In January, **average hourly earnings for all employees** on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 4 cents, or 0.2 percent, to $23.29. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 1.9 percent. In January, average hourly earnings of private-sector **production and nonsupervisory employees** edged up by 2 cents, or 0.1 percent, to $19.62. (See tables B-3 and B-8.)

The change in total nonfarm payroll employment for November was revised from +100,000 to +157,000, and the change for December was revised from +200,000 to +203,000. Monthly revisions result from additional sample reports and the monthly recalculation of seasonal factors. The annual benchmark process also contributed to these revisions.

The Employment Situation for February is scheduled to be released on Friday, March 9, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. (EST).

Changes to the Household Survey

Effective with the collection of household survey data for January 2012, the questions on race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity were modified to incorporate minor wording changes.

In January 2012, the Census Bureau, which conducts the household survey, began a year-long process of reorganizing its regional office structure; for more information on these changes see www.census.gov/newsroom/pdf/General_QAs_FINAL2.pdf. Both the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics will monitor survey operations during the transition period. No impact on the employment and unemployment estimates from the survey is anticipated from this organizational change.

Revisions to Establishment Survey Data

In accordance with annual practice, the establishment survey data released today have been revised to reflect comprehensive counts of payroll jobs, or benchmarks. These counts are derived principally from unemployment insurance tax records for March 2011. In addition, the data were updated to the 2012 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) from the 2007 NAICS. This update resulted in minor changes to several detailed industries. The benchmark process resulted in revisions to not seasonally adjusted data from April 2010 forward and to seasonally adjusted data from January 2007 forward. Some historical data predating the normal benchmark revision period also were revised due to the implementation of NAICS 2012 and other minor changes related to rounding and the recalculation of aggregate series.

Table A presents revised total nonfarm employment data on a seasonally adjusted basis for January through December 2011. The revised data for April 2011 forward incorporate the effect of applying the rate of change measured by the sample to the new benchmark level, as well as updated net business birth/death model adjustments and new seasonal adjustment factors. The November and December 2011 data also reflect the routine incorporation of additional sample receipts into the November final and December second preliminary estimates. The total nonfarm employment level for March 2011 was revised upward by 165,000 (162,000 on a not seasonally adjusted basis). The previously published level for December 2011 was revised upward by 266,000 (231,000 on a not seasonally adjusted basis).

An article that discusses the benchmark and post-benchmark revisions, the change to NAICS 2012, and the other technical issues, as well as all revised historical Current Employment Statistics (CES) data, can be accessed through the CES homepage at www.bls.gov/ces/. Information on the revisions released today also may be obtained by calling (202) 691-6555.

Table A. Revisions in total nonfarm employment, January-December 2011, seasonally adjusted
(Numbers in thousands)

Year and month	Level			Over-the-month change		
	As previously published	As revised	Difference	As previously published	As revised	Difference
2011						
January	130,328	130,456	128	68	110	42
February	130,563	130,676	113	235	220	-15
March	130,757	130,922	165	194	246	52
April	130,974	131,173	199	217	251	34
May	131,027	131,227	200	53	54	1
June	131,047	131,311	264	20	84	64
July	131,174	131,407	233	127	96	-31
August	131,278	131,492	214	104	85	-19
September	131,488	131,694	206	210	202	-8
October	131,600	131,806	206	112	112	0
November	131,700	131,963	263	100	157	57
December (p)	131,900	132,166	266	200	203	3

p = preliminary.

Adjustments to Population Estimates for the Household Survey

Effective with data for January 2012, updated population estimates which reflect the results of Census 2010 have been used in the household survey. Population estimates for the household survey are developed by the U.S. Census Bureau. Each year, the Census Bureau updates the estimates to reflect new information and assumptions about the growth of the population during the decade. The change in population reflected in the new estimates results from the introduction of the Census 2010 count as the new population base, adjustments for net international migration, updated vital statistics and other information, and some methodological changes in the estimation process. The vast majority of the population change, however, is due to the change in base population from Census 2000 to Census 2010.

In accordance with usual practice, BLS will not revise the official household survey estimates for December 2011 and earlier months. To show the impact of the population adjustment, however, differences in selected December 2011 labor force series based on the old and new population estimates are shown in table B.

The adjustment increased the estimated size of the civilian noninstitutional population in December by 1,510,000, the civilian labor force by 258,000, employment by 216,000, unemployment by 42,000, and persons not in the labor force by 1,252,000. Although the total unemployment rate was unaffected, the labor force participation rate and the employment-population ratio were each reduced by 0.3 percentage point. This was because the population increase was primarily among persons 55 and older and, to a lesser degree, persons 16 to 24 years of age. Both these age groups have lower levels of labor force participation than the general population.

Data users are cautioned that these annual population adjustments affect the comparability of household data series over time. Table C shows the effect of the introduction of new population estimates on the comparison of selected labor force measures between December 2011 and January 2012. Additional information on the population adjustments and their effect on national labor force estimates is available at www.bls.gov/cps/cps12adj.pdf.

Table B. Effect of the updated population controls on December 2011 estimates by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Total	Men	Women	White	Black or African American	Asian	Hispanic or Latino ethnicity
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,510	-116	1,626	-1,181	407	1,161	1,330
Civilian labor force	258	-413	671	-1,385	166	731	781
Participation rate	-.3	-.3	-.2	-.3	-.3	-.2	-.3
Employed	216	-368	584	-1,266	165	676	675
Employment-population ratio	-.3	-.3	-.2	-.3	-.2	-.2	-.3
Unemployed	42	-45	87	-119	2	55	106
Unemployment rate	.0	.0	.0	.0	-.1	.1	.1
Not in labor force	1,252	297	955	205	240	430	550

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race.

Table C. December 2011-January 2012 changes in selected labor force measures, with adjustments for population control effects

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Dec.-Jan. change, as published	2012 population control effect	Dec.-Jan. change, after removing the population control effect [1]
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,685	1,510	175
Civilian labor force	508	258	250
Participation rate	-.3	-.3	.0
Employed	847	216	631
Employment-population ratio	.0	-.3	.3
Unemployed	-339	42	-381
Unemployment rate	-.2	.0	-.2
Not in labor force	1,177	1,252	-75

[1] This Dec.-Jan. change is calculated by subtracting the population control effect from the over-the-month change in the published seasonally adjusted estimates.

HOUSEHOLD DATA
Summary table A. Household data, seasonally adjusted
[Numbers in thousands]

Category	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Change from: Dec. 2011- Jan. 2012
Employment status					
Civilian noninstitutional population	238,704	240,441	240,584	242,269	–
Civilian labor force	153,250	153,937	153,887	154,395	–
Participation rate	64.2	64.0	64.0	63.7	–
Employed	139,330	140,614	140,790	141,637	–
Employment-population ratio	58.4	58.5	58.5	58.5	–
Unemployed	13,919	13,323	13,097	12,758	–
Unemployment rate	9.1	8.7	8.5	8.3	–
Not in labor force	85,454	86,503	86,697	87,874	–
Unemployment rates					
Total, 16 years and over	9.1	8.7	8.5	8.3	–
Adult men (20 years and over)	8.9	8.3	8.0	7.7	–
Adult women (20 years and over)	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.7	–
Teenagers (16 to 19 years)	25.4	23.7	23.1	23.2	–
White	8.1	7.6	7.5	7.4	–
Black or African American	15.7	15.5	15.8	13.6	–
Asian (not seasonally adjusted)	6.9	6.5	6.8	6.7	–
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	12.0	11.4	11.0	10.5	–
Total, 25 years and over	7.6	7.3	7.2	7.0	–
Less than a high school diploma	14.3	13.3	13.8	13.1	–
High school graduates, no college	9.4	8.8	8.7	8.4	–
Some college or associate degree	8.1	7.6	7.7	7.2	–
Bachelor's degree and higher	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.2	–
Reason for unemployment					
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	8,463	7,599	7,602	7,321	–
Job leavers	914	1,005	953	939	–
Reentrants	3,351	3,355	3,399	3,325	–
New entrants	1,337	1,276	1,280	1,253	–
Duration of unemployment					
Less than 5 weeks	2,659	2,510	2,669	2,486	–
5 to 14 weeks	3,012	2,896	2,858	2,884	–
15 to 26 weeks	2,253	2,087	2,039	1,980	–
27 weeks and over	6,205	5,680	5,588	5,518	–
Employed persons at work part time					
Part time for economic reasons	8,449	8,469	8,098	8,230	–
Slack work or business conditions	5,772	5,578	5,305	5,372	–
Could only find part-time work	2,472	2,496	2,419	2,551	–
Part time for noneconomic reasons	17,923	18,363	18,372	18,636	–
Persons not in the labor force (not seasonally adjusted)					
Marginally attached to the labor force	2,800	2,591	2,540	2,809	–
Discouraged workers	993	1,096	945	1,059	–

- December - January changes in household data are not shown due to the introduction of updated population controls.

NOTE: Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. 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.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA
Summary table B. Establishment data, seasonally adjusted

Category	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p
EMPLOYMENT BY SELECTED INDUSTRY (Over-the-month change, in thousands)				
Total nonfarm	110	157	203	243
Total private	119	178	220	257
Goods-producing	36	8	71	81
Mining and logging	5	4	8	10
Construction	-21	1	31	21
Manufacturing	52	3	32	50
Durable goods[1]	55	14	33	44
Motor vehicles and parts	16.0	1.4	8.2	7.9
Nondurable goods	-3	-11	-1	6
Private service-providing[1]	83	170	149	176
Wholesale trade	10.0	6.9	14.8	14.0
Retail trade	36.9	33.8	6.2	10.5
Transportation and warehousing	1.1	9.9	6.7	13.1
Information	-9	-2	1	-13
Financial activities	-3	11	4	-5
Professional and business services[1]	46	39	63	70
Temporary help services	16.1	19.7	8.3	20.1
Education and health services[1]	18	20	28	36
Health care and social assistance	4.6	6.2	22.0	29.7
Leisure and hospitality	-8	42	19	44
Other services	-7	8	5	7
Government	-9	-21	-17	-14
WOMEN AND PRODUCTION AND NONSUPERVISORY EMPLOYEES AS A PERCENT OF ALL EMPLOYEES[2]				
Total nonfarm women employees	49.6	49.4	49.3	49.3
Total private women employees	48.1	47.9	47.8	47.8
Total private production and nonsupervisory employees	82.4	82.5	82.5	82.6
HOURS AND EARNINGS ALL EMPLOYEES				
Total private				
Average weekly hours	34.3	34.4	34.5	34.5
Average hourly earnings	$ 22.86	$ 23.23	$ 23.25	$ 23.29
Average weekly earnings	$784.10	$799.11	$802.13	$803.51
Index of aggregate weekly hours (2007=100)[3]	93.0	94.8	95.3	95.5
Over-the-month percent change	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.2
Index of aggregate weekly payrolls (2007=100)[4]	101.4	105.0	105.6	106.0
Over-the-month percent change	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.4
HOURS AND EARNINGS PRODUCTION AND NONSUPERVISORY EMPLOYEES				
Total private				
Average weekly hours	33.4	33.7	33.7	33.8
Average hourly earnings	$ 19.33	$ 19.58	$ 19.60	$ 19.62
Average weekly earnings	$645.62	$659.85	$660.52	$663.16
Index of aggregate weekly hours (2002=100)[3]	99.5	102.2	102.4	103.0
Over-the-month percent change	-0.2	0.2	0.2	0.6
Index of aggregate weekly payrolls (2002=100)[4]	128.5	133.7	134.1	135.0
Over-the-month percent change	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.7
DIFFUSION INDEX (Over 1-month span)[5]				
Total private (266 industries)	61.8	55.6	62.4	64.1
Manufacturing (81 industries)	70.4	48.1	64.2	69.1

1 Includes other industries, not shown separately.

2 Data relate to production employees in mining and logging and manufacturing, construction employees in construction, and nonsupervisory employees in the service-providing industries.

3 The indexes of aggregate weekly hours are calculated by dividing the current month's estimates of aggregate hours by the corresponding annual average aggregate hours.

4 The indexes of aggregate weekly payrolls are calculated by dividing the current month's estimates of aggregate weekly payrolls by the corresponding annual average aggregate weekly payrolls.

5 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.

p Preliminary

NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2011 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

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 about 100,000 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?

It is likely that both surveys include at least some undocumented immigrants. However, neither the establishment nor the household survey is designed to identify the legal status of workers. Therefore, it is not possible to determine how many are counted in either survey. The establishment survey does not collect data on the legal status of workers. The household survey does include questions which identify the foreign and native born, but it does not include questions about the legal status of the foreign born.

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 and recalculated seasonal adjustment factors. For more information on the monthly revisions, please visit www.bls.gov/ces/cesrevinfo.htm.

On an annual basis, the establishment survey incorporates a benchmark revision that re-anchors estimates to nearly complete employment counts available from unemployment insurance tax records. The benchmark helps to control for sampling and modeling errors in the estimates. For more information on the annual benchmark revision, please visit 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 (some of which include discouraged workers and other groups not officially counted as unemployed) are published each month in The Employment Situation news release.

How can unusually severe weather affect employment and hours estimates?

In the establishment survey, the reference period is the pay period that includes the 12th of the month. Unusually severe weather is more likely to have an impact on average weekly hours than on employment. Average weekly hours are estimated for paid time during the pay period, including pay for holidays, sick leave, or other time off. The impact of severe weather on hours estimates typically, but not always, results in a reduction in average weekly hours. For example, some employees may be off work for part of the pay period and not receive pay for the time missed, while some workers, such as those dealing with cleanup or repair, may work extra hours.

In order for severe weather conditions to reduce the estimate of payroll employment, employees have to be off work without pay for the entire pay period. About half of all employees in the payroll survey have a 2-week, semi-monthly, or monthly pay period. Employees who receive pay for any part of the pay period, even 1 hour, are counted in the payroll employment figures. It is not possible to quantify the effect of extreme weather on estimates of employment from the establishment survey.

In the household survey, the reference period is generally the calendar week that includes the 12th of the month. Persons who miss the entire week's work for weather-related events are counted as employed whether or not they are paid for the time off. The household survey collects data on the number of persons who usually work full time but had reduced hours, or had a job but were not at work the entire week, due to bad weather. Current and historical data are available on the household survey's most requested statistics page at http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/surveymost?ln.

Technical Note

This news release presents statistics from two major surveys, the Current Population Survey (CPS; household survey) and the Current Employment Statistics survey (CES; establishment survey). The household survey provides 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 eligible households conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The establishment survey provides information on employment, hours, and earnings of employees on nonfarm payrolls; the data appear in the "B" tables, marked ESTABLISHMENT DATA. BLS collects these data each month from the payroll records of a sample of nonagricultural business establishments. Each month the CES program surveys about 141,000 businesses and government agencies, representing approximately 486,000 individual worksites, in order to provide detailed industry data on employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls. The active sample includes approximately one-third of all nonfarm payroll employees.

For both surveys, the data for a given month relate to a particular week or pay period. In the household survey, the reference period 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. Additional information about the household survey can be found at www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm.

Establishment survey. The sample establishments are drawn from private nonfarm businesses such as factories, offices, and stores, as well as from 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 produced for the private sector for all employees and for production and nonsupervisory employees. *Production and nonsupervisory employees* are defined as production and related employees in manufacturing and mining and logging, construction workers in construction, and nonsupervisory employees in private service-providing industries.

Industries are classified on the basis of an establishment's principal activity in accordance with the 2012 version of the North American Industry Classification System. Additional information about the establishment survey can be found at www.bls.gov/ces/#technical.

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 are 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 regularly occurring fluctuations. These events may result from seasonal changes in weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools. The effect of such seasonal variation can be very large.

Because these seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on the level of a series can be tempered by adjusting for regular seasonal variation. These adjustments make nonseasonal developments, such as declines in employment or increases in the participation of women in the labor force, easier to spot. For example, in the household survey, 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. Similarly, in the establishment survey, payroll employment in education declines by about 20 percent at the end of the spring term and later rises with the start of the fall term, obscuring the underlying employment trends in the industry. Because seasonal employment changes at the end and beginning of the school year can be estimated, the statistics can be adjusted to make underlying employment patterns more discernable. The seasonally adjusted figures provide a more useful tool with which to analyze changes in month-to-month economic activity.

Many seasonally adjusted series are independently adjusted in both the household and establishment surveys. However, the adjusted series for many major estimates, such as total payroll employment, employment in most major sectors, 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. The prior 2 months are routinely revised to incorporate additional sample reports and recalculated seasonal adjustment factors. In both surveys, 5-year 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 nonfarm employment from the establishment survey is on the order of plus or minus 100,000. Suppose the estimate of nonfarm employment increases by 50,000 from one month to the next. The 90-percent confidence interval on the monthly change would range from -50,000 to +150,000 (50,000 +/- 100,000). 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 nonfarm employment had, in fact, increased that month. If, however, the reported nonfarm employment rise was 250,000, 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 nonfarm employment had, in fact, risen that month. At an unemployment rate of around 5.5 percent, the 90-percent confidence interval for the monthly change in unemployment as measured by the household survey is about +/- 280,000, and for the monthly change in the unemployment rate it is about +/- 0.19 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 also is improved when the data are cumulated over time, such as for quarterly and annual averages.

The household and establishment surveys are also affected by *nonsampling error*, which 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 excludes employment losses from business deaths from sample-based estimation in order to offset the missing employment gains from business births. This is incorporated into the sample-based estimation procedure by simply not reflecting sample units going out of business, but imputing to them the same employment trend as the other firms in the sample. This procedure accounts for most of the net birth/death employment.

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 5 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, absolute benchmark revisions for total nonfarm employment have averaged 0.3 percent, with a range from -0.7 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; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

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]					
	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
TOTAL									
Civilian noninstitutional population	238,704	240,584	242,269	238,704	240,071	240,269	240,441	240,584	242,269
Civilian labor force	152,536	153,373	153,485	153,250	154,004	154,057	153,937	153,887	154,395
Participation rate	63.9	63.8	63.4	64.2	64.1	64.1	64.0	64.0	63.7
Employed	137,599	140,681	139,944	139,330	140,107	140,297	140,614	140,790	141,637
Employment-population ratio	57.6	58.5	57.8	58.4	58.4	58.4	58.5	58.5	58.5
Unemployed	14,937	12,692	13,541	13,919	13,897	13,759	13,323	13,097	12,758
Unemployment rate	9.8	8.3	8.8	9.1	9.0	8.9	8.7	8.5	8.3
Not in labor force	86,168	87,212	88,784	85,454	86,067	86,213	86,503	86,697	87,874
Persons who currently want a job	6,643	6,135	6,495	6,412	6,240	6,407	6,595	6,385	6,319
Men, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	115,828	116,832	116,808	115,828	116,559	116,664	116,755	116,832	116,808
Civilian labor force	81,103	82,019	81,298	81,604	82,142	82,199	82,341	82,373	82,070
Participation rate	70.0	70.2	69.6	70.5	70.5	70.5	70.5	70.5	70.3
Employed	72,307	74,837	73,772	73,785	74,435	74,492	74,975	75,235	75,288
Employment-population ratio	62.4	64.1	63.2	63.7	63.9	63.9	64.2	64.4	64.5
Unemployed	8,796	7,181	7,526	7,819	7,707	7,707	7,366	7,138	6,781
Unemployment rate	10.8	8.8	9.3	9.6	9.4	9.4	8.9	8.7	8.3
Not in labor force	34,725	34,813	35,510	34,224	34,417	34,465	34,414	34,459	34,739
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	107,203	108,290	108,087	107,203	107,994	108,104	108,203	108,290	108,087
Civilian labor force	78,346	79,288	78,710	78,594	79,241	79,291	79,440	79,436	79,234
Participation rate	73.1	73.2	72.8	73.3	73.4	73.3	73.4	73.4	73.3
Employed	70,360	72,812	71,892	71,593	72,340	72,379	72,846	73,080	73,170
Employment-population ratio	65.6	67.2	66.5	66.8	67.0	67.0	67.3	67.5	67.7
Unemployed	7,986	6,477	6,818	7,001	6,901	6,912	6,594	6,356	6,064
Unemployment rate	10.2	8.2	8.7	8.9	8.7	8.7	8.3	8.0	7.7
Not in labor force	28,857	29,001	29,377	28,609	28,753	28,813	28,763	28,854	28,853
Women, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	122,876	123,753	125,461	122,876	123,512	123,605	123,686	123,753	125,461
Civilian labor force	71,433	71,354	72,187	71,646	71,862	71,858	71,596	71,514	72,326
Participation rate	58.1	57.7	57.5	58.3	58.2	58.1	57.9	57.8	57.6
Employed	65,292	65,843	66,172	65,546	65,672	65,805	65,639	65,555	66,349
Employment-population ratio	53.1	53.2	52.7	53.3	53.2	53.2	53.1	53.0	52.9
Unemployed	6,141	5,511	6,015	6,100	6,190	6,052	5,957	5,959	5,977
Unemployment rate	8.6	7.7	8.3	8.5	8.6	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.3
Not in labor force	51,443	52,398	53,274	51,230	51,650	51,748	52,090	52,238	53,135
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	114,637	115,602	117,082	114,637	115,338	115,437	115,526	115,602	117,082
Civilian labor force	68,842	68,746	69,513	68,843	68,989	68,981	68,711	68,748	69,449
Participation rate	60.1	59.5	59.4	60.1	59.8	59.8	59.5	59.5	59.3
Employed	63,300	63,676	64,062	63,403	63,406	63,520	63,352	63,323	64,078
Employment-population ratio	55.2	55.1	54.7	55.3	55.0	55.0	54.8	54.8	54.7
Unemployed	5,542	5,070	5,451	5,440	5,584	5,461	5,359	5,425	5,370
Unemployment rate	8.1	7.4	7.8	7.9	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.7
Not in labor force	45,795	46,856	47,569	45,794	46,349	46,457	46,815	46,854	47,634
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population	16,863	16,693	17,100	16,863	16,739	16,728	16,711	16,693	17,100
Civilian labor force	5,348	5,339	5,262	5,813	5,774	5,785	5,786	5,704	5,713
Participation rate	31.7	32.0	30.8	34.5	34.5	34.6	34.6	34.2	33.4
Employed	3,939	4,193	3,990	4,334	4,362	4,398	4,416	4,387	4,389
Employment-population ratio	23.4	25.1	23.3	25.7	26.1	26.3	26.4	26.3	25.7
Unemployed	1,409	1,146	1,272	1,479	1,412	1,386	1,370	1,316	1,324
Unemployment rate	26.3	21.5	24.2	25.4	24.5	24.0	23.7	23.1	23.2
Not in labor force	11,516	11,354	11,837	11,050	10,965	10,943	10,925	10,989	11,387

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

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]					
	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	192,516	193,682	192,600	192,516	193,365	193,493	193,598	193,682	192,600
Civilian labor force	123,696	124,114	122,750	124,292	124,701	124,804	124,652	124,543	123,579
Participation rate	64.3	64.1	63.7	64.6	64.5	64.5	64.4	64.3	64.2
Employed	112,754	115,117	112,876	114,263	114,818	114,837	115,130	115,254	114,458
Employment-population ratio	58.6	59.4	58.6	59.4	59.4	59.3	59.5	59.5	59.4
Unemployed	10,942	8,998	9,874	10,029	9,883	9,967	9,522	9,288	9,121
Unemployment rate	8.8	7.2	8.0	8.1	7.9	8.0	7.6	7.5	7.4
Not in labor force	68,820	69,567	69,850	68,225	68,664	68,689	68,945	69,139	69,021
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	64,551	65,248	64,081	64,764	65,280	65,318	65,366	65,373	64,495
Participation rate	73.5	73.7	73.3	73.7	73.9	73.9	73.9	73.8	73.8
Employed	58,584	60,484	58,966	59,626	60,283	60,195	60,605	60,751	60,059
Employment-population ratio	66.7	68.3	67.5	67.9	68.2	68.1	68.5	68.6	68.7
Unemployed	5,968	4,764	5,115	5,138	4,998	5,123	4,761	4,623	4,436
Unemployment rate	9.2	7.3	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.3	7.1	6.9
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	54,728	54,516	54,422	54,713	54,691	54,685	54,520	54,481	54,434
Participation rate	59.6	59.0	58.9	59.6	59.3	59.3	59.1	59.0	58.9
Employed	50,791	51,080	50,602	50,909	50,807	50,880	50,774	50,768	50,729
Employment-population ratio	55.3	55.3	54.7	55.5	55.1	55.1	55.0	55.0	54.9
Unemployed	3,937	3,435	3,820	3,804	3,884	3,805	3,746	3,713	3,705
Unemployment rate	7.2	6.3	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.8
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	4,417	4,350	4,247	4,815	4,730	4,801	4,766	4,688	4,650
Participation rate	34.3	34.1	33.3	37.4	37.0	37.6	37.3	36.8	36.5
Employed	3,380	3,552	3,308	3,728	3,728	3,761	3,751	3,736	3,670
Employment-population ratio	26.2	27.8	26.0	28.9	29.1	29.4	29.4	29.3	28.8
Unemployed	1,037	798	938	1,087	1,002	1,040	1,015	952	980
Unemployment rate	23.5	18.3	22.1	22.6	21.2	21.7	21.3	20.3	21.1
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	28,947	29,286	29,727	28,947	29,193	29,228	29,259	29,286	29,727
Civilian labor force	17,757	18,024	18,074	17,830	18,096	18,067	17,934	18,110	18,206
Participation rate	61.3	61.5	60.8	61.6	62.0	61.8	61.3	61.8	61.2
Employed	14,819	15,285	15,512	15,025	15,224	15,351	15,151	15,248	15,725
Employment-population ratio	51.2	52.2	52.2	51.9	52.1	52.5	51.8	52.1	52.9
Unemployed	2,938	2,739	2,561	2,804	2,872	2,716	2,783	2,862	2,482
Unemployment rate	16.5	15.2	14.2	15.7	15.9	15.0	15.5	15.8	13.6
Not in labor force	11,190	11,262	11,653	11,117	11,097	11,161	11,325	11,176	11,521
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	8,070	8,264	8,238	8,045	8,151	8,180	8,195	8,272	8,256
Participation rate	68.5	69.0	68.2	68.3	68.3	68.5	68.5	69.0	68.4
Employed	6,589	7,006	7,083	6,706	6,796	6,867	6,851	6,969	7,205
Employment-population ratio	55.9	58.5	58.7	56.9	57.0	57.5	57.3	58.2	59.7
Unemployed	1,481	1,258	1,155	1,339	1,355	1,313	1,344	1,302	1,052
Unemployment rate	18.4	15.2	14.0	16.6	16.6	16.0	16.4	15.7	12.7
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	9,086	9,113	9,230	9,124	9,277	9,262	9,095	9,160	9,287
Participation rate	62.5	61.8	61.7	62.7	63.2	63.0	61.8	62.2	62.0
Employed	7,911	7,886	8,068	7,955	8,051	8,093	7,911	7,885	8,113
Employment-population ratio	54.4	53.5	53.9	54.7	54.8	55.0	53.7	53.5	54.2
Unemployed	1,175	1,227	1,162	1,169	1,226	1,169	1,184	1,275	1,174
Unemployment rate	12.9	13.5	12.6	12.8	13.2	12.6	13.0	13.9	12.6
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	601	647	605	661	667	625	643	679	663
Participation rate	22.9	25.3	22.5	25.2	25.8	24.3	25.0	26.5	24.7
Employed	319	394	361	365	377	390	388	393	407
Employment-population ratio	12.2	15.4	13.4	13.9	14.6	15.2	15.1	15.3	15.2
Unemployed	282	254	244	296	291	234	255	286	255
Unemployment rate	46.9	39.2	40.3	44.8	43.6	37.5	39.6	42.1	38.5
ASIAN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	11,351	11,580	12,735	–	–	–	–	–	–

See footnotes at end of table.

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]					
	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
Civilian labor force	7,354	7,505	8,158	–	–	–	–	–	–
Participation rate	64.8	64.8	64.1	–	–	–	–	–	–
Employed	6,846	6,991	7,608	–	–	–	–	–	–
Employment-population ratio	60.3	60.4	59.7	–	–	–	–	–	–
Unemployed	509	514	549	–	–	–	–	–	–
Unemployment rate	6.9	6.8	6.7	–	–	–	–	–	–
Not in labor force	3,997	4,075	4,577	–	–	–	–	–	–

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

- 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.

HOUSEHOLD 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]					
	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY									
Civilian noninstitutional population	34,001	34,885	36,301	34,001	34,640	34,724	34,808	34,885	36,301
Civilian labor force	22,714	23,309	23,949	22,787	23,014	23,253	23,222	23,270	24,045
Participation rate	66.8	66.8	66.0	67.0	66.4	67.0	66.7	66.7	66.2
Employed	19,711	20,731	21,187	20,058	20,411	20,601	20,574	20,699	21,513
Employment-population ratio	58.0	59.4	58.4	59.0	58.9	59.3	59.1	59.3	59.3
Unemployed	3,003	2,579	2,762	2,729	2,603	2,652	2,648	2,571	2,532
Unemployment rate	13.2	11.1	11.5	12.0	11.3	11.4	11.4	11.0	10.5
Not in labor force	11,287	11,575	12,352	11,213	11,626	11,471	11,586	11,615	12,256
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	12,865	13,256	13,252	–	–	–	–	–	–
Participation rate	81.8	82.0	81.2	–	–	–	–	–	–
Employed	11,196	11,868	11,832	–	–	–	–	–	–
Employment-population ratio	71.2	73.4	72.5	–	–	–	–	–	–
Unemployed	1,669	1,387	1,421	–	–	–	–	–	–
Unemployment rate	13.0	10.5	10.7	–	–	–	–	–	–
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	8,892	9,082	9,703	–	–	–	–	–	–
Participation rate	59.7	59.4	59.4	–	–	–	–	–	–
Employed	7,873	8,146	8,609	–	–	–	–	–	–
Employment-population ratio	52.9	53.3	52.7	–	–	–	–	–	–
Unemployed	1,019	936	1,094	–	–	–	–	–	–
Unemployment rate	11.5	10.3	11.3	–	–	–	–	–	–
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	957	972	994	–	–	–	–	–	–
Participation rate	28.3	28.3	27.2	–	–	–	–	–	–
Employed	642	716	746	–	–	–	–	–	–
Employment-population ratio	19.0	20.9	20.4	–	–	–	–	–	–
Unemployed	315	256	248	–	–	–	–	–	–
Unemployment rate	32.9	26.3	24.9	–	–	–	–	–	–

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

- 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

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					
	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
Less than a high school diploma									
Civilian labor force	11,437	11,723	11,374	11,392	11,746	11,760	11,713	11,688	11,469
Participation rate	45.3	46.8	45.3	45.1	46.5	47.4	47.0	46.7	45.6
Employed	9,545	10,043	9,669	9,761	10,108	10,141	10,161	10,080	9,968
Employment-population ratio	37.8	40.1	38.5	38.6	40.0	40.8	40.8	40.3	39.7
Unemployed	1,892	1,680	1,705	1,631	1,638	1,619	1,552	1,608	1,501
Unemployment rate	16.5	14.3	15.0	14.3	13.9	13.8	13.3	13.8	13.1
High school graduates, no college[1]									
Civilian labor force	37,747	37,114	37,002	37,495	37,290	37,368	37,089	36,902	36,850
Participation rate	60.7	60.1	59.8	60.2	60.5	60.5	60.3	59.8	59.6
Employed	33,724	33,876	33,494	33,958	33,711	33,828	33,807	33,684	33,737
Employment-population ratio	54.2	54.9	54.2	54.6	54.7	54.8	54.9	54.5	54.6
Unemployed	4,023	3,237	3,508	3,537	3,579	3,540	3,282	3,218	3,113
Unemployment rate	10.7	8.7	9.5	9.4	9.6	9.5	8.8	8.7	8.4
Some college or associate degree									
Civilian labor force	36,701	37,040	37,240	36,796	37,070	36,984	36,816	37,024	37,214
Participation rate	70.0	69.1	69.3	70.2	69.3	69.2	68.5	69.1	69.2
Employed	33,591	34,299	34,435	33,827	33,963	33,941	34,009	34,167	34,525
Employment-population ratio	64.0	64.0	64.0	64.5	63.5	63.5	63.3	63.7	64.2
Unemployed	3,109	2,740	2,804	2,969	3,106	3,043	2,807	2,857	2,689
Unemployment rate	8.5	7.4	7.5	8.1	8.4	8.2	7.6	7.7	7.2
Bachelor's degree and higher[2]									
Civilian labor force	46,288	47,102	47,510	46,296	46,923	47,006	47,117	47,131	47,481
Participation rate	76.4	76.0	75.7	76.4	76.3	75.8	75.9	76.0	75.6
Employed	44,226	45,228	45,402	44,344	44,936	44,960	45,058	45,201	45,492
Employment-population ratio	73.0	73.0	72.3	73.2	73.0	72.5	72.6	72.9	72.4
Unemployed	2,062	1,873	2,108	1,952	1,986	2,046	2,059	1,930	1,989
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.0	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.2

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

Table A-5. Employment status of the civilian population 18 years and over by veteran status, period of service, and sex, not seasonally adjusted

[Numbers in thousands]

Employment status, veteran status, and period of service	Total		Men		Women	
	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012
VETERANS, 18 years and over						
Civilian noninstitutional population	21,797	21,347	20,003	19,538	1,794	1,809
Civilian labor force	11,429	10,914	10,228	9,784	1,201	1,131
Participation rate	52.4	51.1	51.1	50.1	66.9	62.5
Employed	10,294	10,100	9,206	9,076	1,088	1,024
Employment-population ratio	47.2	47.3	46.0	46.5	60.7	56.6
Unemployed	1,135	815	1,022	708	112	107
Unemployment rate	9.9	7.5	10.0	7.2	9.4	9.4
Not in labor force	10,368	10,433	9,775	9,754	593	678
Gulf War-era II veterans						
Civilian noninstitutional population	2,285	2,436	1,896	2,033	389	403
Civilian labor force	1,835	1,955	1,550	1,665	286	290
Participation rate	80.3	80.2	81.7	81.9	73.4	72.0
Employed	1,557	1,777	1,310	1,537	247	240
Employment-population ratio	68.1	72.9	69.1	75.6	63.5	59.6
Unemployed	278	178	240	128	39	50
Unemployment rate	15.2	9.1	15.5	7.7	13.5	17.3
Not in labor force	450	481	346	369	103	113
Gulf War-era I veterans						
Civilian noninstitutional population	2,915	3,048	2,447	2,540	468	509
Civilian labor force	2,479	2,550	2,095	2,158	384	391
Participation rate	85.0	83.6	85.6	85.0	82.0	76.9
Employed	2,287	2,386	1,924	2,031	363	355
Employment-population ratio	78.4	78.3	78.6	80.0	77.6	69.8
Unemployed	192	164	171	128	21	36
Unemployment rate	7.7	6.4	8.2	5.9	5.4	9.2
Not in labor force	437	498	352	381	84	117
World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam-era veterans						
Civilian noninstitutional population	10,726	10,079	10,380	9,759	346	319
Civilian labor force	3,796	3,156	3,664	3,053	132	103
Participation rate	35.4	31.3	35.3	31.3	38.2	32.3
Employed	3,433	2,928	3,314	2,828	119	100
Employment-population ratio	32.0	29.0	31.9	29.0	34.4	31.2
Unemployed	364	229	351	225	13	4
Unemployment rate	9.6	7.2	9.6	7.4	9.8	3.4
Not in labor force	6,930	6,922	6,716	6,706	214	216
Veterans of other service periods						
Civilian noninstitutional population	5,870	5,784	5,280	5,206	590	578
Civilian labor force	3,318	3,253	2,919	2,907	399	346
Participation rate	56.5	56.2	55.3	55.9	67.6	59.8
Employed	3,017	3,009	2,658	2,680	359	329
Employment-population ratio	51.4	52.0	50.3	51.5	60.8	56.9
Unemployed	301	244	261	227	40	17
Unemployment rate	9.1	7.5	8.9	7.8	10.1	4.8
Not in labor force	2,552	2,531	2,361	2,298	191	233
NONVETERANS, 18 years and over						
Civilian noninstitutional population	207,979	212,092	91,225	92,726	116,755	119,365
Civilian labor force	139,440	140,958	70,029	70,742	69,411	70,217
Participation rate	67.0	66.5	76.8	76.3	59.5	58.8
Employed	126,079	128,685	62,493	64,173	63,586	64,512
Employment-population ratio	60.6	60.7	68.5	69.2	54.5	54.0
Unemployed	13,361	12,274	7,536	6,569	5,825	5,705
Unemployment rate	9.6	8.7	10.8	9.3	8.4	8.1
Not in labor force	68,539	71,133	21,196	21,985	47,344	49,149

NOTE: Veterans served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces and were not on active duty at the time of the survey. Nonveterans never served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces. Veterans could have served anywhere in the world during these periods of service: Gulf War era II (September 2001-present), Gulf War era I (August 1990-August 2001), Vietnam era (August 1964-April 1975), Korean War (July 1950-January 1955), World War II (December 1941-December 1946), and other service periods (all other time periods). Veterans who served in more than one wartime period are classified only in the most recent one. Veterans who served during one of the selected wartime periods and another period are classified only in the wartime period. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

HOUSEHOLD DATA
Table A-6. Employment status of the civilian population by sex, age, and disability status, not seasonally adjusted
[Numbers in thousands]

Employment status, sex, and age	Persons with a disability		Persons with no disability	
	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012
TOTAL, 16 years and over				
Civilian noninstitutional population	26,885	27,482	211,819	214,788
Civilian labor force	5,406	5,502	147,130	147,983
Participation rate	20.1	20.0	69.5	68.9
Employed	4,669	4,792	132,930	135,152
Employment-population ratio	17.4	17.4	62.8	62.9
Unemployed	737	710	14,201	12,831
Unemployment rate	13.6	12.9	9.7	8.7
Not in labor force	21,479	21,979	64,689	66,805
Men, 16 to 64 years				
Civilian labor force	2,457	2,479	74,840	74,694
Participation rate	33.8	33.7	82.0	81.7
Employed	2,106	2,103	66,669	67,803
Employment-population ratio	29.0	28.6	73.0	74.2
Unemployed	351	376	8,171	6,891
Unemployment rate	14.3	15.2	10.9	9.2
Not in labor force	4,805	4,875	16,448	16,729
Women, 16 to 64 years				
Civilian labor force	2,178	2,189	66,162	66,727
Participation rate	29.4	28.6	70.9	70.4
Employed	1,839	1,903	60,565	61,198
Employment-population ratio	24.8	24.9	64.9	64.6
Unemployed	339	285	5,597	5,529
Unemployment rate	15.6	13.0	8.5	8.3
Not in labor force	5,233	5,468	27,198	28,023
Both sexes, 65 years and over				
Civilian labor force	771	834	6,128	6,562
Participation rate	6.3	6.7	22.6	22.9
Employed	724	785	5,696	6,151
Employment-population ratio	5.9	6.3	21.0	21.5
Unemployed	47	49	432	411
Unemployment rate	6.1	5.8	7.1	6.3
Not in labor force	11,441	11,636	21,042	22,052

NOTE: A person with a disability has at least one of the following conditions: is deaf or has serious difficulty hearing; is blind or has serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses; has serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition; has serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs; has difficulty dressing or bathing; or has difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

HOUSEHOLD DATA
Table A-7. Employment status of the civilian population by nativity and sex, not seasonally adjusted
[Numbers in thousands]

Employment status and nativity	Total		Men		Women	
	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012
Foreign born, 16 years and over						
Civilian noninstitutional population	36,294	37,593	17,884	18,289	18,410	19,305
Civilian labor force	24,517	25,156	14,256	14,418	10,261	10,738
Participation rate	67.6	66.9	79.7	78.8	55.7	55.6
Employed	21,928	22,803	12,677	13,069	9,251	9,734
Employment-population ratio	60.4	60.7	70.9	71.5	50.3	50.4
Unemployed	2,589	2,353	1,579	1,350	1,010	1,003
Unemployment rate	10.6	9.4	11.1	9.4	9.8	9.3
Not in labor force	11,777	12,437	3,628	3,871	8,148	8,567
Native born, 16 years and over						
Civilian noninstitutional population	202,410	204,676	97,944	98,519	104,466	106,157
Civilian labor force	128,019	128,329	66,847	66,880	61,172	61,450
Participation rate	63.2	62.7	68.3	67.9	58.6	57.9
Employed	115,671	117,141	59,630	60,703	56,041	56,438
Employment-population ratio	57.1	57.2	60.9	61.6	53.6	53.2
Unemployed	12,348	11,188	7,217	6,176	5,131	5,012
Unemployment rate	9.6	8.7	10.8	9.2	8.4	8.2
Not in labor force	74,391	76,347	31,097	31,640	43,294	44,707

NOTE: The foreign born are those residing in the United States who were not U.S. citizens at birth. That is, they were born outside the United States or one of its outlying areas such as Puerto Rico or Guam, to parents neither of whom was a U.S. citizen. The native born are persons who were born in the United States or one of its outlying areas such as Puerto Rico or Guam or who were born abroad of at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-8. Employed persons by class of worker and part-time status

[In thousands]

Category	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
CLASS OF WORKER									
Agriculture and related industries	2,100	2,196	2,042	2,252	2,268	2,257	2,262	2,349	2,208
Wage and salary workers[1]	1,263	1,358	1,259	1,378	1,379	1,317	1,359	1,429	1,376
Self-employed workers, unincorporated	819	823	765	846	843	864	849	874	800
Unpaid family workers	18	15	18	–	–	–	–	–	–
Nonagricultural industries	135,499	138,485	137,902	137,156	137,932	138,167	138,304	138,411	139,491
Wage and salary workers[1]	126,882	129,966	129,299	128,197	129,595	129,531	129,604	129,662	130,569
Government	20,626	20,652	20,519	20,719	20,568	20,516	20,434	20,616	20,583
Private industries	106,255	109,314	108,780	107,485	108,774	108,977	109,159	109,064	109,966
Private households	610	640	569	–	–	–	–	–	–
Other industries	105,645	108,674	108,211	106,845	108,026	108,177	108,485	108,407	109,353
Self-employed workers, unincorporated	8,526	8,428	8,491	8,818	8,336	8,553	8,628	8,587	8,769
Unpaid family workers	91	91	112	–	–	–	–	–	–
PERSONS AT WORK PART TIME[2]									
All industries									
Part time for economic reasons[3]	9,187	8,428	8,918	8,449	9,270	8,790	8,469	8,098	8,230
Slack work or business conditions	6,513	5,650	6,025	5,772	5,900	5,839	5,578	5,305	5,372
Could only find part-time work	2,373	2,408	2,479	2,472	2,844	2,538	2,496	2,419	2,551
Part time for noneconomic reasons[4]	18,048	19,048	18,958	17,923	18,329	18,401	18,363	18,372	18,636
Nonagricultural industries									
Part time for economic reasons[3]	9,027	8,259	8,747	8,315	9,115	8,664	8,358	7,952	8,083
Slack work or business conditions	6,415	5,534	5,922	5,685	5,803	5,762	5,502	5,199	5,278
Could only find part-time work	2,358	2,381	2,464	2,488	2,869	2,566	2,518	2,423	2,563
Part time for noneconomic reasons[4]	17,675	18,641	18,596	17,588	17,915	18,003	17,941	17,969	18,298

1 Includes self-employed workers whose businesses are incorporated.

2 Refers to those who worked 1 to 34 hours during the survey reference week and excludes employed persons who were absent from their jobs for the entire week.

3 Refers to those who worked 1 to 34 hours during the reference week for an economic reason such as slack work or unfavorable business conditions, inability to find full-time work, or seasonal declines in demand.

4 Refers to persons who usually work part time for noneconomic reasons such as childcare problems, family or personal obligations, school or training, retirement or Social Security limits on earnings, and other reasons. This excludes persons who usually work full time but worked only 1 to 34 hours during the reference week for reasons such as vacations, holidays, illness, and bad weather.

- Data not available.

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

Table A-9. Selected employment indicators

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
AGE AND SEX									
Total, 16 years and over	137,599	140,681	139,944	139,330	140,107	140,297	140,614	140,790	141,637
16 to 19 years	3,939	4,193	3,990	4,334	4,362	4,398	4,416	4,387	4,389
16 to 17 years	1,225	1,247	1,160	1,400	1,417	1,436	1,413	1,304	1,333
18 to 19 years	2,713	2,946	2,830	2,946	2,952	2,970	2,995	3,060	3,064
20 years and over	133,660	136,488	135,954	134,996	135,745	135,899	136,198	136,403	137,248
20 to 24 years	12,573	13,041	12,953	12,977	13,090	13,346	13,200	13,195	13,335
25 years and over	121,087	123,447	123,000	122,067	122,659	122,521	122,973	123,234	123,901
25 to 54 years	92,980	94,069	93,271	93,761	93,506	93,356	93,708	93,882	93,991
25 to 34 years	30,065	30,800	29,995	30,443	30,607	30,562	30,743	30,771	30,367
35 to 44 years	30,107	30,350	30,394	30,375	30,092	30,094	30,222	30,271	30,614
45 to 54 years	32,807	32,919	32,883	32,942	32,807	32,700	32,743	32,841	33,009
55 years and over	28,106	29,378	29,729	28,307	29,152	29,165	29,264	29,352	29,910
Men, 16 years and over	72,307	74,837	73,772	73,785	74,435	74,492	74,975	75,235	75,288
16 to 19 years	1,947	2,026	1,880	2,192	2,095	2,113	2,129	2,155	2,118
16 to 17 years	608	576	524	709	672	662	654	635	620
18 to 19 years	1,339	1,450	1,357	1,470	1,425	1,449	1,465	1,501	1,487
20 years and over	70,360	72,812	71,892	71,593	72,340	72,379	72,846	73,080	73,170
20 to 24 years	6,484	6,836	6,685	6,791	6,875	7,081	6,980	6,998	7,003
25 years and over	63,876	65,976	65,207	64,835	65,489	65,331	65,853	66,084	66,169
25 to 54 years	49,251	50,461	49,592	50,022	50,080	49,901	50,368	50,528	50,358
25 to 34 years	16,254	16,877	16,120	16,562	16,712	16,668	16,895	16,885	16,440
35 to 44 years	16,148	16,432	16,357	16,382	16,298	16,240	16,370	16,422	16,573
45 to 54 years	16,849	17,152	17,116	17,078	17,069	16,992	17,102	17,221	17,346
55 years and over	14,625	15,515	15,615	14,813	15,409	15,430	15,485	15,556	15,811
Women, 16 years and over	65,292	65,843	66,172	65,546	65,672	65,805	65,639	65,555	66,349
16 to 19 years	1,992	2,167	2,110	2,142	2,266	2,286	2,287	2,232	2,270
16 to 17 years	617	672	636	691	745	773	759	669	713
18 to 19 years	1,374	1,495	1,474	1,476	1,527	1,521	1,530	1,559	1,577
20 years and over	63,300	63,676	64,062	63,403	63,406	63,520	63,352	63,323	64,078
20 to 24 years	6,090	6,205	6,268	6,186	6,215	6,265	6,220	6,198	6,332
25 years and over	57,210	57,471	57,794	57,233	57,170	57,190	57,119	57,150	57,732
25 to 54 years	43,729	43,608	43,679	43,739	43,427	43,455	43,340	43,354	43,633
25 to 34 years	13,811	13,923	13,875	13,881	13,895	13,894	13,848	13,886	13,928
35 to 44 years	13,959	13,918	14,037	13,993	13,794	13,854	13,852	13,849	14,041
45 to 54 years	15,959	15,767	15,767	15,865	15,737	15,708	15,641	15,620	15,664
55 years and over	13,481	13,863	14,115	13,494	13,743	13,735	13,779	13,796	14,099
MARITAL STATUS									
Married men, spouse present	42,492	43,786	43,191	42,931	43,640	43,661	43,933	43,709	43,658
Married women, spouse present	34,615	34,516	34,672	34,461	34,091	34,225	34,442	34,177	34,445
Women who maintain families	8,686	8,807	9,075	-	-	-	-	-	-
FULL- OR PART-TIME STATUS									
Full-time workers[1]	110,373	113,050	111,879	112,284	112,479	112,841	113,212	113,765	113,845
Part-time workers[2]	27,226	27,630	28,065	26,924	27,640	27,463	27,378	27,040	27,739
MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS									
Total multiple jobholders	6,621	7,030	6,830	6,835	6,970	6,903	7,004	7,013	7,038
Percent of total employed	4.8	5.0	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0
SELF-EMPLOYMENT									
Self-employed workers, incorporated	5,208	5,199	5,191	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self-employed workers, unincorporated	9,345	9,252	9,256	9,663	9,179	9,417	9,478	9,461	9,569

1 Employed full-time workers are persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week.

2 Employed part-time workers are persons who usually work less than 35 hours per week.

- Data not available.

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
Table A-10. Selected unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted

Characteristic	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)			Unemployment rates					
	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
AGE AND SEX									
Total, 16 years and over	13,919	13,097	12,758	9.1	9.0	8.9	8.7	8.5	8.3
16 to 19 years	1,479	1,316	1,324	25.4	24.5	24.0	23.7	23.1	23.2
16 to 17 years	538	501	539	27.8	26.3	25.2	23.3	27.8	28.8
18 to 19 years	937	826	788	24.1	23.2	23.2	23.4	21.3	20.5
20 years and over	12,441	11,781	11,434	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.1	8.0	7.7
20 to 24 years	2,305	2,221	2,050	15.1	14.6	13.9	14.2	14.4	13.3
25 years and over	10,094	9,593	9,353	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.3	7.2	7.0
25 to 54 years	8,070	7,681	7,492	7.9	8.1	8.0	7.6	7.6	7.4
25 to 34 years	3,110	3,191	3,001	9.3	9.7	9.7	9.2	9.4	9.0
35 to 44 years	2,422	2,220	2,250	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.8
45 to 54 years	2,538	2,271	2,241	7.2	7.2	7.1	6.7	6.5	6.4
55 years and over	2,020	1,929	1,867	6.7	6.7	7.0	6.4	6.2	5.9
Men, 16 years and over	7,819	7,138	6,781	9.6	9.4	9.4	8.9	8.7	8.3
16 to 19 years	818	782	717	27.2	27.8	27.3	26.6	26.6	25.3
16 to 17 years	288	278	291	28.9	27.6	27.4	26.7	30.5	32.0
18 to 19 years	529	504	427	26.4	27.1	27.4	26.7	25.1	22.3
20 years and over	7,001	6,356	6,064	8.9	8.7	8.7	8.3	8.0	7.7
20 to 24 years	1,277	1,262	1,159	15.8	15.7	14.6	15.6	15.3	14.2
25 years and over	5,695	5,112	4,886	8.1	8.0	8.1	7.4	7.2	6.9
25 to 54 years	4,552	4,099	3,887	8.3	8.3	8.4	7.7	7.5	7.2
25 to 34 years	1,792	1,764	1,617	9.8	9.8	10.1	9.2	9.5	9.0
35 to 44 years	1,350	1,179	1,129	7.6	7.6	7.4	7.0	6.7	6.4
45 to 54 years	1,410	1,155	1,141	7.6	7.5	7.5	6.8	6.3	6.2
55 years and over	1,142	1,013	999	7.2	6.9	7.2	6.7	6.1	5.9
Women, 16 years and over	6,100	5,959	5,977	8.5	8.6	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.3
16 to 19 years	661	535	607	23.6	21.1	20.6	20.7	19.3	21.1
16 to 17 years	251	223	249	26.6	25.1	23.2	20.0	25.0	25.8
18 to 19 years	408	322	361	21.7	19.0	18.6	20.1	17.1	18.6
20 years and over	5,440	5,425	5,370	7.9	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.7
20 to 24 years	1,028	959	891	14.2	13.4	13.1	12.6	13.4	12.3
25 years and over	4,400	4,481	4,467	7.1	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.2
25 to 54 years	3,518	3,583	3,604	7.4	7.8	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6
25 to 34 years	1,318	1,427	1,383	8.7	9.5	9.2	9.2	9.3	9.0
35 to 44 years	1,072	1,040	1,121	7.1	7.3	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.4
45 to 54 years	1,128	1,115	1,100	6.6	6.8	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.6
55 years and over[1]	906	832	890	6.3	6.6	6.5	5.8	5.7	5.9
MARITAL STATUS									
Married men, spouse present	2,699	2,328	2,347	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.3	5.1	5.1
Married women, spouse present	2,048	1,950	2,033	5.6	5.8	5.7	5.3	5.4	5.6
Women who maintain families[1]	1,268	1,308	1,236	12.7	12.4	12.3	12.4	12.9	12.0
FULL- OR PART-TIME STATUS									
Full-time workers[2]	12,123	11,286	10,982	9.7	9.8	9.5	9.2	9.0	8.8
Part-time workers[3]	1,794	1,825	1,746	6.2	6.0	6.4	6.0	6.3	5.9

1 Not seasonally adjusted.

2 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.

3 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

Table A-11. Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment

[Numbers in thousands]

Reason	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	9,520	7,691	8,234	8,463	8,028	7,924	7,599	7,602	7,321
On temporary layoff	1,825	1,385	1,892	1,241	1,195	1,226	1,181	1,216	1,284
Not on temporary layoff	7,695	6,306	6,342	7,222	6,833	6,699	6,418	6,386	6,037
Permanent job losers	6,097	5,000	4,948	5,840	5,416	5,308	5,033	5,089	4,807
Persons who completed temporary jobs	1,599	1,306	1,395	1,382	1,417	1,391	1,385	1,296	1,230
Job leavers	935	894	957	914	972	1,068	1,005	953	939
Reentrants	3,332	3,018	3,276	3,351	3,484	3,387	3,355	3,399	3,325
New entrants	1,150	1,090	1,074	1,337	1,323	1,291	1,276	1,280	1,253
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	63.7	60.6	60.8	60.2	58.1	58.0	57.4	57.4	57.0
On temporary layoff	12.2	10.9	14.0	8.8	8.7	9.0	8.9	9.2	10.0
Not on temporary layoff	51.5	49.7	46.8	51.3	49.5	49.0	48.5	48.3	47.0
Job leavers	6.3	7.0	7.1	6.5	7.0	7.8	7.6	7.2	7.3
Reentrants	22.3	23.8	24.2	23.8	25.2	24.8	25.3	25.7	25.9
New entrants	7.7	8.6	7.9	9.5	9.6	9.4	9.6	9.7	9.8
UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	6.2	5.0	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.9	4.7
Job leavers	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
Reentrants	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
New entrants	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8

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

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-12. Unemployed persons by duration of unemployment

[Numbers in thousands]

Duration	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Less than 5 weeks	3,181	2,640	2,923	2,659	2,743	2,676	2,510	2,669	2,486
5 to 14 weeks	3,267	2,735	3,106	3,012	2,902	3,285	2,896	2,858	2,884
15 weeks and over	8,489	7,317	7,512	8,458	8,227	7,869	7,766	7,628	7,498
15 to 26 weeks	2,182	1,906	1,915	2,253	2,029	2,029	2,087	2,039	1,980
27 weeks and over	6,307	5,411	5,597	6,205	6,197	5,839	5,680	5,588	5,518
Average (mean) duration, in weeks[1]	35.5	39.7	38.2	37.1	40.4	39.2	40.9	40.8	40.1
Median duration, in weeks	19.9	21.0	19.2	21.7	21.8	20.8	21.5	21.0	21.1
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Less than 5 weeks	21.3	20.8	21.6	18.8	19.8	19.4	19.1	20.3	19.3
5 to 14 weeks	21.9	21.5	22.9	21.3	20.9	23.8	22.0	21.7	22.4
15 weeks and over	56.8	57.7	55.5	59.9	59.3	56.9	59.0	58.0	58.3
15 to 26 weeks	14.6	15.0	14.1	15.9	14.6	14.7	15.8	15.5	15.4
27 weeks and over	42.2	42.6	41.3	43.9	44.7	42.2	43.1	42.5	42.9

1 Beginning in January 2011, this series reflects a change to the collection of data on unemployment duration. For more information, see www.bls.gov/cps/duration.htm.

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

HOUSEHOLD DATA
Table A-13. Employed and unemployed persons by occupation, not seasonally adjusted
[Numbers in thousands]

Occupation	Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment rates	
	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012
Total, 16 years and over[1]	137,599	139,944	14,937	13,541	9.8	8.8
Management, professional, and related occupations	51,866	53,152	2,557	2,410	4.7	4.3
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	21,139	22,255	1,177	1,044	5.3	4.5
Professional and related occupations	30,727	30,897	1,380	1,366	4.3	4.2
Service occupations	23,819	24,334	2,773	2,876	10.4	10.6
Sales and office occupations	33,497	33,305	3,364	2,972	9.1	8.2
Sales and related occupations	15,268	15,585	1,574	1,398	9.3	8.2
Office and administrative support occupations	18,229	17,721	1,790	1,574	8.9	8.2
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	12,205	12,561	2,623	2,152	17.7	14.6
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	893	845	233	243	20.7	22.3
Construction and extraction occupations	6,587	6,887	1,960	1,557	22.9	18.4
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	4,725	4,828	430	353	8.3	6.8
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	16,211	16,592	2,411	2,016	12.9	10.8
Production occupations	8,032	8,274	1,122	959	12.3	10.4
Transportation and material moving occupations	8,180	8,318	1,289	1,057	13.6	11.3

1 Persons with no previous work experience and persons whose last job was in the U.S. Armed Forces are included in the unemployed total.

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

HOUSEHOLD DATA
Table A-14. Unemployed persons by industry and class of worker, not seasonally adjusted

Industry and class of worker	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)		Unemployment rates	
	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012
Total, 16 years and over[1]	14,937	13,541	9.8	8.8
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers	11,778	10,736	10.0	9.0
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	66	78	8.5	9.4
Construction	1,879	1,479	22.5	17.7
Manufacturing	1,519	1,283	9.9	8.4
Durable goods	955	796	9.9	8.3
Nondurable goods	564	487	9.9	8.6
Wholesale and retail trade	1,866	1,906	9.1	9.3
Transportation and utilities	498	400	8.8	7.0
Information	228	227	7.3	7.9
Financial activities	647	462	7.2	4.9
Professional and business services	1,511	1,441	10.2	9.5
Education and health services	1,264	1,214	5.8	5.5
Leisure and hospitality	1,788	1,647	13.8	12.6
Other services	513	601	8.8	9.3
Agriculture and related private wage and salary workers	236	259	16.0	17.6
Government workers	1,088	890	5.0	4.2
Self-employed workers, unincorporated, and unpaid family workers	685	582	6.8	5.8

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

HOUSEHOLD DATA
Table A-15. Alternative measures of labor underutilization
[Percent]

Measure	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011	Jan. 2012
U-1 Persons unemployed 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force	5.6	4.8	4.9	5.5	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.9
U-2 Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force	6.2	5.0	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.9	4.7
U-3 Total unemployed, as a percent of the civilian labor force (official unemployment rate)	9.8	8.3	8.8	9.1	9.0	8.9	8.7	8.5	8.3
U-4 Total unemployed plus discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers	10.4	8.8	9.4	9.7	9.6	9.5	9.3	9.1	8.9
U-5 Total unemployed, plus discouraged workers, plus all other persons marginally attached to the labor force, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all persons marginally attached to the labor force	11.4	9.8	10.5	10.7	10.5	10.4	10.2	10.0	9.9
U-6 Total unemployed, plus all persons marginally attached to the labor force, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all persons marginally attached to the labor force	17.3	15.2	16.2	16.1	16.4	16.0	15.6	15.2	15.1

NOTE: Persons marginally attached to the labor force are those 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 past 12 months. Discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached, have given a job-market related reason for not currently looking for work. 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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-16. Persons not in the labor force and multiple jobholders by sex, not seasonally adjusted

[Numbers in thousands]

Category	Total		Men		Women	
	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012	Jan. 2011	Jan. 2012
NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE						
Total not in the labor force	86,168	88,784	34,725	35,510	51,443	53,274
Persons who currently want a job	6,643	6,495	3,237	3,073	3,406	3,422
Marginally attached to the labor force[1]	2,800	2,809	1,454	1,452	1,346	1,356
Discouraged workers[2]	993	1,059	588	638	406	421
Other persons marginally attached to the labor force[3]	1,807	1,749	866	814	941	936
MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS						
Total multiple jobholders[4]	6,621	6,830	3,178	3,372	3,443	3,459
Percent of total employed	4.8	4.9	4.4	4.6	5.3	5.2
Primary job full time, secondary job part time	3,510	3,441	1,869	1,985	1,641	1,456
Primary and secondary jobs both part time	1,728	1,878	603	603	1,125	1,275
Primary and secondary jobs both full time	182	259	107	124	76	135
Hours vary on primary or secondary job	1,167	1,216	585	650	581	566

1 Data refer to persons who want a job, have searched for work during the prior 12 months, and were available to take a job during the reference week, but had not looked for work in the past 4 weeks.

2 Includes those who did not actively look for work in the prior 4 weeks for reasons such as thinks no work available, could not find work, lacks schooling or training, employer thinks too young or old, and other types of discrimination.

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

4 Includes a small number of 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

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

[In thousands]

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted				
	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p	Change from: Dec.2011 - Jan.2012p
Total nonfarm	128,327	133,172	132,952	130,263	130,456	131,963	132,166	132,409	243
Total private	106,199	110,692	110,614	108,403	108,207	109,959	110,179	110,436	257
Goods-producing	17,291	18,271	18,075	17,726	17,821	18,114	18,185	18,266	81
Mining and logging	721	820	818	812	738	814	822	832	10
Logging	47.5	49.7	48.9	48.9	48.4	48.7	49.1	49.6	0.5
Mining	673.7	769.9	769.0	763.1	689.9	764.9	772.7	782.2	9.5
Oil and gas extraction	162.0	183.2	185.5	184.6	162.9	183.2	185.4	186.1	0.7
Mining, except oil and gas[1]	199.5	221.6	216.4	209.3	210.5	219.1	220.6	221.0	0.4
Coal mining	83.7	87.1	86.9	86.5	83.7	86.9	86.6	86.7	0.1
Support activities for mining	312.2	365.1	367.1	369.2	316.5	362.6	366.7	375.1	8.4
Construction	5,046	5,644	5,441	5,160	5,456	5,520	5,551	5,572	21
Construction of buildings	1,152.8	1,247.5	1,223.9	1,178.4	1,212.3	1,226.9	1,228.4	1,237.3	8.9
Residential building	528.9	577.6	571.2	543.1	561.8	568.5	572.8	575.3	2.5
Nonresidential building	623.9	669.9	652.7	635.3	650.5	658.4	655.6	662.0	6.4
Heavy and civil engineering construction	710.4	867.1	799.6	731.7	818.8	834.2	841.5	840.1	-1.4
Specialty trade contractors	3,183.2	3,529.8	3,417.0	3,250.3	3,424.7	3,458.5	3,480.6	3,494.6	14.0
Residential specialty trade contractors	1,327.8	1,479.2	1,424.7	1,353.4	1,431.8	1,453.4	1,455.1	1,459.4	4.3
Nonresidential specialty trade contractors	1,855.4	2,050.6	1,992.3	1,896.9	1,992.9	2,005.1	2,025.5	2,035.2	9.7
Manufacturing	11,524	11,807	11,816	11,754	11,627	11,780	11,812	11,862	50
Durable goods	7,124	7,344	7,365	7,355	7,174	7,331	7,364	7,408	44
Wood products	332.6	331.7	329.0	327.2	340.3	331.4	331.8	334.9	3.1
Nonmetallic mineral products	348.4	368.9	360.9	350.4	366.5	364.2	366.0	368.3	2.3
Primary metals	372.8	400.1	400.9	401.5	373.5	399.6	400.7	402.4	1.7
Fabricated metal products	1,310.2	1,361.0	1,366.6	1,370.2	1,316.8	1,359.4	1,367.9	1,378.8	10.9
Machinery	1,025.2	1,075.9	1,086.0	1,091.9	1,027.1	1,076.0	1,085.5	1,096.0	10.5
Computer and electronic products[1]	1,099.4	1,108.7	1,110.6	1,104.0	1,100.6	1,107.1	1,107.5	1,105.6	-1.9
Computer and peripheral equipment	156.7	161.8	162.7	162.4	156.8	161.1	162.2	162.4	0.2
Communications equipment	117.8	113.2	112.9	111.5	117.5	113.1	112.5	111.3	-1.2
Semiconductors and electronic components	376.5	387.4	387.0	385.6	376.6	387.0	386.3	386.4	0.1
Electronic instruments	406.1	401.3	402.6	399.4	406.8	401.1	401.5	400.2	-1.3
Electrical equipment and appliances	365.1	367.7	368.0	368.3	365.7	367.3	367.9	368.8	0.9
Transportation equipment[1]	1,352.1	1,408.3	1,421.4	1,423.3	1,355.6	1,405.1	1,415.0	1,425.3	10.3
Motor vehicles and parts[2]	698.7	732.8	743.5	744.9	702.4	730.2	738.4	746.3	7.9
Furniture and related products	348.4	347.9	346.1	344.1	353.8	349.8	348.2	349.7	1.5
Miscellaneous manufacturing	569.5	573.7	575.6	574.1	573.8	571.0	573.3	578.6	5.3
Nondurable goods	4,400	4,463	4,451	4,399	4,453	4,449	4,448	4,454	6
Food manufacturing	1,434.7	1,454.9	1,447.7	1,418.2	1,457.2	1,446.0	1,442.3	1,442.3	0.0
Beverages and tobacco products	175.5	192.4	189.6	187.2	181.4	191.7	192.0	193.3	1.3
Textile mills	118.1	119.1	118.9	119.0	119.4	119.2	119.6	120.3	0.7
Textile product mills	116.0	115.7	114.5	113.1	117.0	115.2	114.4	114.1	-0.3
Apparel	151.6	150.9	148.5	146.5	154.8	151.2	149.7	149.8	0.1
Leather and allied products	27.6	30.4	30.4	30.6	28.0	30.3	30.4	30.9	0.5
Paper and paper products	390.6	392.1	393.6	391.3	390.7	391.4	392.3	391.5	-0.8
Printing and related support activities	473.5	462.6	460.9	457.4	477.6	460.7	459.8	461.5	1.7
Petroleum and coal products	105.0	114.4	111.8	109.8	111.3	113.5	114.3	115.4	1.1
Chemicals	778.3	791.4	796.3	793.2	780.9	791.0	794.0	796.2	2.2
Plastics and rubber products	628.8	638.7	638.3	632.9	634.6	638.6	639.6	638.6	-1.0
Private service-providing	88,908	92,421	92,539	90,677	90,386	91,845	91,994	92,170	176
Trade, transportation, and utilities	24,619	25,591	25,804	25,016	24,821	25,154	25,183	25,220	37
Wholesale trade	5,430.0	5,573.9	5,580.7	5,528.8	5,483.4	5,554.1	5,568.9	5,582.9	14.0
Durable goods	2,709.6	2,767.2	2,774.8	2,757.9	2,729.3	2,761.9	2,771.3	2,778.3	7.0
Nondurable goods	1,902.9	1,960.3	1,957.9	1,929.5	1,930.7	1,948.9	1,952.7	1,957.0	4.3
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	817.5	846.4	848.0	841.4	823.4	843.3	844.9	847.6	2.7
Retail trade	14,443.1	15,083.5	15,225.8	14,633.7	14,550.1	14,724.7	14,730.9	14,741.4	10.5
Motor vehicle and parts dealers[1]	1,633.8	1,704.1	1,698.3	1,682.1	1,664.8	1,705.6	1,708.7	1,713.4	4.7
Automobile dealers	1,024.5	1,068.3	1,067.4	1,065.6	1,037.4	1,069.0	1,071.3	1,078.7	7.4
Furniture and home furnishings stores	444.1	463.1	467.0	452.2	439.5	446.8	446.2	447.7	1.5

See footnotes at end of table.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

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

[In thousands]

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted				
	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p	Change from: Dec.2011 - Jan.2012p
Retail trade - Continued									
Electronics and appliance stores	533.9	539.6	541.7	514.8	530.2	515.8	514.2	511.9	-2.3
Building material and garden supply stores	1,077.1	1,118.2	1,108.1	1,087.1	1,133.2	1,142.8	1,141.2	1,142.6	1.4
Food and beverage stores	2,794.8	2,861.6	2,873.2	2,821.2	2,811.1	2,839.1	2,844.2	2,838.9	-5.3
Health and personal care stores	976.7	996.7	999.9	991.9	976.8	987.0	983.9	991.3	7.4
Gasoline stations	811.2	832.6	827.3	818.3	822.2	833.3	830.9	829.6	-1.3
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	1,349.7	1,469.6	1,523.7	1,368.0	1,350.9	1,375.2	1,381.6	1,368.0	-13.6
Sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores	591.3	600.4	604.6	562.6	577.6	565.1	556.7	554.2	-2.5
General merchandise stores[1]	3,055.2	3,261.0	3,337.1	3,146.8	3,054.9	3,118.3	3,126.6	3,141.6	15.0
Department stores	1,551.3	1,671.1	1,734.6	1,618.9	1,534.0	1,570.1	1,575.7	1,595.1	19.4
Miscellaneous store retailers	746.5	774.7	778.1	748.7	760.8	760.6	761.2	763.7	2.5
Nonstore retailers	428.8	461.9	466.8	440.0	428.1	435.1	435.5	438.5	3.0
Transportation and warehousing	4,196.3	4,375.9	4,439.5	4,294.8	4,236.3	4,316.7	4,323.4	4,336.5	13.1
Air transportation	450.8	454.7	454.8	451.9	453.2	455.8	455.3	454.3	-1.0
Rail transportation	221.3	232.0	231.4	229.5	222.7	231.2	231.5	231.2	-0.3
Water transportation	61.6	62.2	63.0	64.4	63.3	63.1	63.3	66.0	2.7
Truck transportation	1,244.7	1,324.0	1,316.1	1,296.6	1,271.8	1,311.1	1,318.0	1,323.3	5.3
Transit and ground passenger transportation	446.6	449.0	449.7	447.8	436.4	431.4	434.1	437.4	3.3
Pipeline transportation	42.4	43.3	43.5	43.8	42.1	43.2	43.4	43.5	0.1
Scenic and sightseeing transportation	19.3	25.9	24.4	22.9	26.4	29.7	29.6	30.8	1.2
Support activities for transportation	547.7	576.8	575.8	572.9	552.4	574.5	574.6	577.5	2.9
Couriers and messengers	525.5	547.4	618.3	517.4	525.5	528.3	521.1	519.6	-1.5
Warehousing and storage	636.4	660.6	662.5	647.6	642.5	648.4	652.5	652.9	0.4
Utilities	549.5	557.4	558.0	558.2	551.2	558.2	559.5	559.6	0.1
Information	2,653	2,656	2,658	2,606	2,678	2,644	2,645	2,632	-13
Publishing industries, except Internet	748.4	748.7	749.4	741.4	751.1	745.8	746.0	744.2	-1.8
Motion picture and sound recording industries	347.2	364.0	365.3	335.5	365.4	359.5	362.3	354.4	-7.9
Broadcasting, except Internet	284.0	281.4	281.1	278.5	284.7	279.0	279.7	279.0	-0.7
Telecommunications	885.6	852.0	851.9	846.8	886.7	850.3	847.7	847.4	-0.3
Data processing, hosting and related services	240.5	244.6	243.7	238.8	242.7	244.1	242.4	241.1	-1.3
Other information services	147.1	165.1	166.5	165.1	147.8	165.1	166.8	166.2	-0.6
Financial activities	7,618	7,690	7,709	7,644	7,666	7,691	7,695	7,690	-5
Finance and insurance	5,737.7	5,757.4	5,772.3	5,739.4	5,750.5	5,750.7	5,756.4	5,748.9	-7.5
Monetary authorities - central bank	18.9	19.2	18.8	18.8	19.0	19.2	18.9	18.9	0.0
Credit intermediation and related activities[1]	2,556.5	2,566.5	2,577.9	2,563.1	2,559.5	2,563.4	2,568.8	2,563.6	-5.2
Depository credit intermediation[1]	1,731.6	1,741.6	1,748.0	1,741.7	1,733.3	1,742.0	1,744.8	1,742.1	-2.7
Commercial banking	1,309.7	1,316.0	1,321.0	1,316.5	1,310.2	1,316.9	1,318.7	1,316.7	-2.0
Securities, commodity contracts, investments	801.3	806.3	804.3	797.4	803.7	805.1	802.6	799.7	-2.9
Insurance carriers and related activities	2,274.5	2,281.4	2,286.7	2,276.2	2,281.7	2,278.9	2,281.6	2,282.7	1.1
Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles	86.5	84.0	84.6	83.9	86.6	84.1	84.5	84.0	-0.5
Real estate and rental and leasing	1,880.1	1,933.0	1,936.4	1,904.9	1,915.2	1,940.6	1,939.0	1,940.6	1.6
Real estate	1,369.1	1,405.2	1,410.3	1,390.4	1,391.6	1,408.9	1,409.6	1,413.1	3.5
Rental and leasing services	487.0	503.5	501.7	490.7	499.4	507.4	505.2	503.6	-1.6
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets	24.0	24.3	24.4	23.8	24.2	24.3	24.2	23.9	-0.3
Professional and business services	16,706	17,676	17,691	17,314	17,055	17,521	17,584	17,654	70
Professional and technical services[1]	7,559.4	7,777.6	7,859.3	7,879.1	7,534.6	7,787.1	7,816.2	7,846.5	30.3
Legal services	1,108.5	1,117.9	1,119.2	1,109.1	1,116.5	1,116.7	1,115.6	1,116.6	1.0
Accounting and bookkeeping services	972.7	890.0	966.3	1,077.5	877.7	943.6	960.9	973.4	12.5
Architectural and engineering services	1,258.9	1,307.3	1,302.7	1,289.4	1,277.8	1,301.9	1,302.4	1,309.3	6.9
Computer systems design and related services	1,487.2	1,563.4	1,564.6	1,553.5	1,493.0	1,553.1	1,557.6	1,559.3	1.7
Management and technical consulting services	1,021.3	1,105.3	1,113.5	1,088.3	1,033.9	1,092.7	1,098.6	1,101.6	3.0
Management of companies and enterprises	1,886.9	1,929.1	1,939.2	1,928.9	1,894.3	1,928.3	1,933.1	1,936.2	3.1
Administrative and waste services	7,259.8	7,969.5	7,892.3	7,505.8	7,625.8	7,806.0	7,835.0	7,871.7	36.7

See footnotes at end of table.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

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

[In thousands]

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted: Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p	Seasonally adjusted: Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p	Change from: Dec.2011 - Jan.2012p
Administrative and waste services - Continued									
Administrative and support services[1]	6,904.9	7,601.7	7,527.0	7,141.6	7,264.4	7,439.1	7,467.2	7,500.9	33.7
Employment services[1]	2,708.6	3,137.6	3,157.7	2,901.5	2,878.2	3,014.1	3,035.9	3,069.1	33.2
Temporary help services	2,105.5	2,491.2	2,505.3	2,268.9	2,245.5	2,377.6	2,385.9	2,406.0	20.1
Business support services	810.4	830.6	838.5	820.5	811.1	814.4	820.1	820.0	-0.1
Services to buildings and dwellings	1,612.0	1,798.5	1,702.5	1,619.5	1,777.3	1,784.1	1,781.5	1,785.5	4.0
Waste management and remediation services	354.9	367.8	365.3	364.2	361.4	366.9	367.8	370.8	3.0
Education and health services	19,580	20,290	20,233	19,986	19,696	20,046	20,074	20,110	36
Educational services	3,128.0	3,460.5	3,394.3	3,209.6	3,207.1	3,275.3	3,281.6	3,287.2	5.6
Health care and social assistance	16,451.5	16,829.1	16,838.3	16,776.8	16,488.9	16,770.8	16,792.8	16,822.5	29.7
Health care[3]	13,858.8	14,195.0	14,203.8	14,164.5	13,898.2	14,162.2	14,179.8	14,210.7	30.9
Ambulatory health care services[1]	6,028.0	6,243.7	6,245.5	6,214.7	6,051.5	6,222.8	6,230.3	6,243.2	12.9
Offices of physicians	2,320.5	2,395.5	2,400.2	2,384.1	2,324.7	2,386.6	2,386.9	2,389.6	2.7
Outpatient care centers	611.0	637.5	639.4	640.9	612.2	635.8	637.4	641.9	4.5
Home health care services	1,108.6	1,159.8	1,159.3	1,151.2	1,115.0	1,154.3	1,157.7	1,159.6	1.9
Hospitals	4,687.3	4,770.8	4,779.4	4,783.1	4,693.1	4,765.2	4,776.0	4,788.7	12.7
Nursing and residential care facilities[1]	3,143.5	3,180.5	3,178.9	3,166.7	3,153.6	3,174.2	3,173.5	3,178.8	5.3
Nursing care facilities	1,665.3	1,666.0	1,663.7	1,658.6	1,669.5	1,661.0	1,660.7	1,663.4	2.7
Social assistance[1]	2,592.7	2,634.1	2,634.5	2,612.3	2,590.7	2,608.6	2,613.0	2,611.8	-1.2
Child day care services	858.4	857.0	854.8	844.3	849.1	839.5	840.7	835.9	-4.8
Leisure and hospitality	12,477	13,179	13,110	12,821	13,138	13,436	13,455	13,499	44
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	1,665.2	1,761.6	1,745.8	1,696.9	1,891.3	1,910.7	1,908.9	1,923.8	14.9
Performing arts and spectator sports	349.9	382.7	372.4	356.4	394.2	397.9	391.6	399.6	8.0
Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks	116.5	129.0	128.0	122.9	128.9	134.3	135.4	135.6	0.2
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	1,198.8	1,249.9	1,245.4	1,217.6	1,368.2	1,378.5	1,381.9	1,388.6	6.7
Accommodation and food services	10,811.4	11,417.4	11,364.0	11,123.9	11,246.2	11,525.4	11,546.3	11,575.2	28.9
Accommodation	1,679.3	1,745.7	1,735.2	1,701.0	1,771.1	1,799.9	1,800.7	1,796.8	-3.9
Food services and drinking places	9,132.1	9,671.7	9,628.8	9,422.9	9,475.1	9,725.5	9,745.6	9,778.4	32.8
Other services	5,255	5,339	5,334	5,290	5,332	5,353	5,358	5,365	7
Repair and maintenance	1,135.3	1,162.0	1,156.3	1,148.4	1,153.9	1,166.0	1,165.8	1,167.1	1.3
Personal and laundry services	1,249.5	1,284.5	1,288.7	1,268.4	1,270.0	1,288.6	1,291.0	1,289.3	-1.7
Membership associations and organizations	2,870.0	2,892.9	2,889.0	2,872.8	2,907.9	2,898.7	2,901.4	2,908.2	6.8
Government	22,128	22,480	22,338	21,860	22,249	22,004	21,987	21,973	-14
Federal	2,851.0	2,830.0	2,834.0	2,809.0	2,873.0	2,839.0	2,835.0	2,829.0	-6.0
Federal, except U.S. Postal Service	2,206.1	2,211.0	2,211.7	2,190.6	2,227.5	2,218.3	2,216.6	2,210.4	-6.2
U.S. Postal Service	644.4	618.5	622.1	618.6	645.1	620.3	618.7	618.1	-0.6
State government	5,037.0	5,233.0	5,159.0	4,968.0	5,125.0	5,056.0	5,051.0	5,054.0	3.0
State government education	2,311.2	2,570.9	2,494.1	2,303.9	2,387.2	2,383.0	2,378.1	2,381.1	3.0
State government, excluding education	2,726.2	2,662.1	2,664.4	2,663.8	2,737.4	2,673.2	2,672.8	2,672.7	-0.1
Local government	14,240.0	14,417.0	14,345.0	14,083.0	14,251.0	14,109.0	14,101.0	14,090.0	-11.0
Local government education	8,055.3	8,210.7	8,176.0	7,953.5	7,948.8	7,858.1	7,853.0	7,843.4	-9.6
Local government, excluding education	6,184.4	6,206.0	6,169.2	6,129.3	6,302.5	6,251.2	6,247.6	6,246.1	-1.5

1 Includes other industries, not shown separately.

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

3 Includes ambulatory health care services, hospitals, and nursing and residential care facilities.

p Preliminary

NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2011 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-2. Average weekly hours and overtime of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted

Industry	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS				
Total private	34.3	34.4	34.5	34.5
Goods-producing	39.8	39.9	40.2	40.4
Mining and logging	44.9	44.3	45.2	45.7
Construction	37.7	38.1	38.4	38.5
Manufacturing	40.4	40.4	40.6	40.9
Durable goods	40.7	40.8	41.0	41.3
Nondurable goods	40.0	39.9	40.0	40.2
Private service-providing	33.2	33.3	33.4	33.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	34.6	34.6	34.7	34.7
Wholesale trade	38.5	38.8	38.8	38.8
Retail trade	31.6	31.7	31.9	31.8
Transportation and warehousing	38.8	38.4	38.4	38.6
Utilities	41.7	41.7	41.1	41.5
Information	36.6	36.8	36.7	36.7
Financial activities	37.1	37.4	37.4	37.5
Professional and business services	35.7	35.8	35.8	35.8
Education and health services	32.7	32.8	32.8	32.8
Leisure and hospitality	25.8	26.1	26.1	26.1
Other services	31.6	31.7	31.6	31.6
AVERAGE OVERTIME HOURS				
Manufacturing	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.4
Durable goods	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.4
Nondurable goods	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.3

p Preliminary

NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2011 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted

Industry	Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p
Total private	$22.86	$23.23	$23.25	$23.29	$ 784.10	$ 799.11	$ 802.13	$ 803.51
Goods-producing	24.34	24.48	24.57	24.56	968.73	976.75	987.71	992.22
Mining and logging	27.89	28.24	28.38	28.20	1,252.26	1,251.03	1,282.78	1,288.74
Construction	25.39	25.43	25.44	25.42	957.20	968.88	976.90	978.67
Manufacturing	23.63	23.78	23.89	23.90	954.65	960.71	969.93	977.51
Durable goods	25.19	25.26	25.30	25.30	1,025.23	1,030.61	1,037.30	1,044.89
Nondurable goods	21.08	21.28	21.49	21.50	843.20	849.07	859.60	864.30
Private service-providing	22.51	22.93	22.94	22.98	747.33	763.57	766.20	767.53
Trade, transportation, and utilities	19.82	20.21	20.22	20.23	685.77	699.27	701.63	701.98
Wholesale trade	26.24	26.53	26.50	26.47	1,010.24	1,029.36	1,028.20	1,027.04
Retail trade	15.71	16.02	16.03	16.06	496.44	507.83	511.36	510.71
Transportation and warehousing	21.22	21.89	22.03	21.96	823.34	840.58	845.95	847.66
Utilities	33.21	33.74	33.73	33.69	1,384.86	1,406.96	1,386.30	1,398.14
Information	31.34	31.53	31.64	31.55	1,147.04	1,160.30	1,161.19	1,157.89
Financial activities	27.56	28.27	28.30	28.46	1,022.48	1,057.30	1,058.42	1,067.25
Professional and business services	27.44	27.95	27.90	27.90	979.61	1,000.61	998.82	998.82
Education and health services	23.34	23.89	23.90	24.04	763.22	783.59	783.92	788.51
Leisure and hospitality	13.17	13.31	13.32	13.29	339.79	347.39	347.65	346.87
Other services	20.36	20.61	20.65	20.65	643.38	653.34	652.54	652.54

p Preliminary

NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2011 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-4. Indexes of aggregate weekly hours and payrolls for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted

[2007=100]

Industry	Index of aggregate weekly hours[1]					Index of aggregate weekly payrolls[2]				
	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011[p]	Jan. 2012[p]	Percent change from: Dec. 2011 - Jan. 2012[p]	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011[p]	Jan. 2012[p]	Percent change from: Dec. 2011 - Jan. 2012[p]
Total private	93.0	94.8	95.3	95.5	0.2	101.4	105.0	105.6	106.0	0.4
Goods-producing	80.8	82.3	83.3	84.1	1.0	88.9	91.1	92.5	93.3	0.9
Mining and logging	104.1	113.3	116.7	119.5	2.4	116.6	128.5	133.0	135.3	1.7
Construction	70.9	72.5	73.5	73.9	0.5	78.2	80.1	81.2	81.7	0.6
Manufacturing	84.5	85.6	86.3	87.3	1.2	92.9	94.7	95.9	97.0	1.1
Durable goods	82.2	84.2	85.0	86.1	1.3	92.0	94.5	95.5	96.8	1.4
Nondurable goods	88.9	88.6	88.8	89.4	0.7	95.1	95.7	96.8	97.5	0.7
Private service-providing	96.4	98.2	98.7	98.9	0.2	105.1	109.1	109.7	110.1	0.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	93.4	94.7	95.0	95.2	0.2	99.6	103.0	103.4	103.6	0.2
Wholesale trade	92.1	94.0	94.3	94.5	0.2	100.9	104.1	104.3	104.4	0.1
Retail trade	93.4	94.8	95.5	95.2	-0.3	97.0	100.4	101.2	101.1	-0.1
Transportation and warehousing	94.1	94.9	95.0	95.8	0.8	101.3	105.4	106.2	106.8	0.6
Utilities	99.4	100.7	99.5	100.5	1.0	109.1	112.3	110.9	111.8	0.8
Information	89.5	88.9	88.7	88.2	-0.6	99.9	99.8	99.9	99.1	-0.8
Financial activities	93.7	94.8	94.8	95.0	0.2	100.8	104.6	104.8	105.6	0.8
Professional and business services	95.8	98.7	99.0	99.4	0.4	106.5	111.7	111.9	112.4	0.4
Education and health services	104.9	107.0	107.2	107.4	0.2	114.6	119.8	120.0	120.9	0.8
Leisure and hospitality	96.7	100.1	100.2	100.5	0.3	102.8	107.4	107.7	107.8	0.1
Other services	93.4	94.0	93.8	93.9	0.1	107.9	110.0	109.9	110.1	0.2

1 The indexes of aggregate weekly hours are calculated by dividing the current month's estimates of aggregate hours by the corresponding 2007 annual average aggregate hours. Aggregate hours estimates are the product of estimates of average weekly hours and employment.

2 The indexes of aggregate weekly payrolls are calculated by dividing the current month's estimates of aggregate weekly payrolls by the corresponding 2007 annual average aggregate weekly payrolls. Aggregate payrolls estimates are the product of estimates of average hourly earnings, average weekly hours, and employment.

p Preliminary

NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2011 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-5. Employment of women on nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted

Industry	Women employees (in thousands)				Percent of all employees			
	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p
Total nonfarm	64,681	65,138	65,210	65,305	49.6	49.4	49.3	49.3
Total private	52,056	52,626	52,708	52,810	48.1	47.9	47.8	47.8
Goods-producing	4,065	4,045	4,048	4,065	22.8	22.3	22.3	22.3
Mining and logging	101	108	110	112	13.7	13.3	13.4	13.5
Construction	709	707	710	710	13.0	12.8	12.8	12.7
Manufacturing	3,255	3,230	3,228	3,243	28.0	27.4	27.3	27.3
Durable goods	1,720	1,709	1,715	1,722	24.0	23.3	23.3	23.2
Nondurable goods	1,535	1,521	1,513	1,521	34.5	34.2	34.0	34.1
Private service-providing	47,991	48,581	48,660	48,745	53.1	52.9	52.9	52.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	10,007	10,038	10,047	10,065	40.3	39.9	39.9	39.9
Wholesale trade	1,646.6	1,674.3	1,678.5	1,680.3	30.0	30.1	30.1	30.1
Retail trade	7,225.1	7,220.1	7,223.5	7,234.2	49.7	49.0	49.0	49.1
Transportation and warehousing	1,000.7	1,007.4	1,007.3	1,011.8	23.6	23.3	23.3	23.3
Utilities	134.9	136.0	137.4	138.3	24.5	24.4	24.6	24.7
Information	1,088	1,071	1,068	1,065	40.6	40.5	40.4	40.5
Financial activities	4,490	4,473	4,481	4,477	58.6	58.2	58.2	58.2
Professional and business services	7,565	7,784	7,814	7,840	44.4	44.4	44.4	44.4
Education and health services	15,164	15,383	15,402	15,420	77.0	76.7	76.7	76.7
Leisure and hospitality	6,861	7,013	7,024	7,052	52.2	52.2	52.2	52.2
Other services	2,816	2,819	2,824	2,826	52.8	52.7	52.7	52.7
Government	12,625	12,512	12,502	12,495	56.7	56.9	56.9	56.9

p Preliminary

NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2011 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-6. Employment of production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted[1]

[In thousands]

Industry	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011[p]	Jan. 2012[p]
Total private	89,179	90,742	90,929	91,174
Goods-producing	12,826	13,047	13,117	13,188
Mining and logging	553	614	621	630
Construction	4,134	4,165	4,198	4,224
Manufacturing	8,139	8,268	8,298	8,334
Durable goods	4,902	5,035	5,060	5,093
Nondurable goods	3,237	3,233	3,238	3,241
Private service-providing	76,353	77,695	77,812	77,986
Trade, transportation, and utilities	21,002	21,340	21,364	21,393
Wholesale trade	4,391.2	4,459.0	4,477.2	4,494.7
Retail trade	12,525.3	12,712.1	12,714.3	12,717.5
Transportation and warehousing	3,647.2	3,724.4	3,726.5	3,735.6
Utilities	438.6	444.7	445.5	445.3
Information	2,153	2,124	2,126	2,116
Financial activities	5,885	5,896	5,903	5,906
Professional and business services	14,003	14,421	14,470	14,533
Education and health services	17,262	17,569	17,594	17,629
Leisure and hospitality	11,578	11,857	11,864	11,912
Other services	4,470	4,488	4,491	4,497

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

p Preliminary

NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2011 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-7. Average weekly hours and overtime of production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted[1]

Industry	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011p	Jan. 2012p
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS				
Total private	33.4	33.7	33.7	33.8
Goods-producing	40.2	40.9	41.2	41.3
Mining and logging	46.1	47.0	48.1	48.3
Construction	37.7	38.9	39.2	39.1
Manufacturing	41.1	41.5	41.6	41.9
Durable goods	41.5	41.9	42.1	42.3
Nondurable goods	40.4	40.8	40.9	41.2
Private service-providing	32.3	32.5	32.5	32.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	33.5	33.8	33.8	33.9
Wholesale trade	38.3	38.6	38.7	38.6
Retail trade	30.4	30.7	30.7	30.8
Transportation and warehousing	37.5	37.8	37.7	37.8
Utilities	42.4	41.7	40.5	41.2
Information	36.4	36.2	36.0	36.1
Financial activities	36.4	36.5	36.6	36.7
Professional and business services	35.2	35.2	35.2	35.2
Education and health services	32.1	32.4	32.4	32.4
Leisure and hospitality	24.7	24.8	24.9	24.9
Other services	30.7	30.7	30.8	30.8
AVERAGE OVERTIME HOURS				
Manufacturing	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.3
Durable goods	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4
Nondurable goods	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.1

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

p Preliminary

NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2011 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-8. Average hourly and weekly earnings of production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted[1]

Industry	Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011[p]	Jan. 2012[p]	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011[p]	Jan. 2012[p]
Total private	$19.33	$19.58	$19.60	$19.62	$ 645.62	$ 659.85	$ 660.52	$ 663.16
Goods-producing	20.53	20.73	20.80	20.80	825.31	847.86	856.96	859.04
Mining and logging	24.09	24.87	24.82	24.82	1,110.55	1,168.89	1,193.84	1,198.81
Construction	23.49	23.68	23.73	23.69	885.57	921.15	930.22	926.28
Manufacturing	18.88	18.98	19.06	19.08	775.97	787.67	792.90	799.45
Durable goods	20.10	20.15	20.13	20.15	834.15	844.29	847.47	852.35
Nondurable goods	16.99	17.11	17.34	17.35	686.40	698.09	709.21	714.82
Private service-providing	19.07	19.34	19.34	19.37	615.96	628.55	628.55	629.53
Trade, transportation, and utilities	17.05	17.26	17.25	17.30	571.18	583.39	583.05	586.47
Wholesale trade	21.92	22.00	21.98	22.06	839.54	849.20	850.63	851.52
Retail trade	13.40	13.69	13.67	13.70	407.36	420.28	419.67	421.96
Transportation and warehousing	19.43	19.55	19.62	19.67	728.63	738.99	739.67	743.53
Utilities	30.25	31.15	31.02	31.07	1,282.60	1,298.96	1,256.31	1,280.08
Information	26.35	26.76	26.83	26.78	959.14	968.71	965.88	966.76
Financial activities	21.79	22.20	22.28	22.34	793.16	810.30	815.45	819.88
Professional and business services	23.03	23.21	23.14	23.18	810.66	816.99	814.53	815.94
Education and health services	20.50	20.98	20.99	21.03	658.05	679.75	680.08	681.37
Leisure and hospitality	11.33	11.48	11.49	11.47	279.85	284.70	286.10	285.60
Other services	17.23	17.39	17.42	17.43	528.96	533.87	536.54	536.84

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

p Preliminary

NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2011 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-9. Indexes of aggregate weekly hours and payrolls for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted[1]

[2002=100]

Industry	Index of aggregate weekly hours[2]					Index of aggregate weekly payrolls[3]				
	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011[p]	Jan. 2012[p]	Percent change from: Dec. 2011 - Jan. 2012[p]	Jan. 2011	Nov. 2011	Dec. 2011[p]	Jan. 2012[p]	Percent change from: Dec. 2011 - Jan. 2012[p]
Total private	99.5	102.2	102.4	103.0	0.6	128.5	133.7	134.1	135.0	0.7
Goods-producing	78.8	81.5	82.6	83.2	0.7	99.1	103.5	105.2	106.0	0.8
Mining and logging	135.5	153.4	158.7	161.7	1.9	189.8	221.8	229.1	233.4	1.9
Construction	78.0	81.1	82.4	82.7	0.4	99.0	103.7	105.6	105.8	0.2
Manufacturing	76.8	78.8	79.2	80.2	1.3	94.8	97.8	98.8	100.0	1.2
Durable goods	76.5	79.3	80.1	81.0	1.1	95.9	99.7	100.6	101.9	1.3
Nondurable goods	77.1	77.7	78.0	78.7	0.9	92.5	94.0	95.6	96.5	0.9
Private service-providing	105.5	108.0	108.1	108.4	0.3	137.9	143.2	143.4	143.9	0.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	98.1	100.6	100.7	101.1	0.4	119.3	123.8	123.9	124.8	0.7
Wholesale trade	99.0	101.4	102.0	102.2	0.2	127.9	131.4	132.1	132.8	0.5
Retail trade	96.4	98.8	98.8	99.1	0.3	110.7	115.9	115.8	116.4	0.5
Transportation and warehousing	103.0	106.0	105.8	106.3	0.5	126.9	131.4	131.6	132.6	0.8
Utilities	95.1	94.8	92.3	93.8	1.6	120.1	123.3	119.5	121.7	1.8
Information	89.4	87.8	87.4	87.2	-0.2	116.7	116.3	116.0	115.6	-0.3
Financial activities	102.5	103.0	103.4	103.7	0.3	138.1	141.4	142.4	143.3	0.6
Professional and business services	110.5	113.8	114.2	114.6	0.4	151.4	157.1	157.2	158.1	0.6
Education and health services	119.5	122.8	123.0	123.2	0.2	161.1	169.4	169.7	170.3	0.4
Leisure and hospitality	104.8	107.7	108.2	108.6	0.4	134.8	140.4	141.2	141.5	0.2
Other services	96.2	96.6	97.0	97.1	0.1	120.8	122.4	123.1	123.4	0.2

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

2 The indexes of aggregate weekly hours are calculated by dividing the current month's estimates of aggregate hours by the corresponding 2002 annual average aggregate hours. Aggregate hours estimates are the product of estimates of average weekly hours and employment.

3 The indexes of aggregate weekly payrolls are calculated by dividing the current month's estimates of aggregate weekly payrolls by the corresponding 2002 annual average aggregate weekly payrolls. Aggregate payrolls estimates are the product of estimates of average hourly earnings, average weekly hours, and employment.

p Preliminary

NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2011 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

FEB 24 2012

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Maloney:

I appreciated the opportunity to participate in the Joint Economic Committee's February 3, 2012, hearing on the Employment Situation news release. At that hearing, you asked whether the long-term unemployed and discouraged workers were predominantly age 55 and over and also about employment and unemployment trends by geographic region.

In January 2012, 5.6 million individuals had been unemployed for 27 weeks or longer, and 1.1 million, or 19 percent, were age 55 or over. Discouraged workers numbered 1.1 million in January, and 233,000, or 22 percent, were age 55 and over was percent. The share of the labor force made up of those age 55 and over was 21 percent. As you can see from Table A, the total number of long-term unemployed and the number of discouraged workers are essentially unchanged from a year ago. However, the proportions of the long-term unemployed and discouraged workers who were age 55 and over have edged up over that period.

With regard to the trends by geographic region, national nonfarm employment reached a peak in January 2008 and then fell through February 2010. During that time period, 48 states had decreases in employment, while 2 states and the District of Columbia had increases. (See Table B.) The largest percent declines in employment were in Nevada (-13.3 percent), Arizona (-10.9 percent), Florida (-9.7 percent), and Michigan (-9.5 percent). The employment increases were in North Dakota (+1.5 percent), the District of Columbia (+0.6 percent), and Alaska (+0.3 percent).

From February 2010 through December 2011 (the most recent month available), 48 states and the District of Columbia had increases in nonfarm payroll employment while 2 states

FEB 2 4 2012

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney--2

had decreases. The largest percent increases in employment were in North Dakota (+9.3 percent), Utah (+4.1 percent), and Texas (+4.0 percent). The employment decreases were in Missouri (-0.4 percent) and Nevada (-0.2 percent).

As seen in Table C, between January 2008 and February 2010, unemployment rates rose in all States and the District of Columbia, ranging from a 9.7 percentage point increase in Nevada to a 1.2 percentage point increase in North Dakota. States with rate increases over 6 percentage points included California and Florida (+6.5 points each), Michigan and North Carolina (+6.4 each), Alabama (+6.3), and South Carolina (+6.1). States with increases less than 3 percentage points were Vermont (+2.6), South Dakota (+2.5), Iowa (+2.2), Nebraska (+2.1), and Alaska (+2.0).

Between February 2010 and December 2011, unemployment rates fell in all States and edged up by 0.1 percentage point in the District of Columbia. Declines ranged from 4.2 percentage points in Michigan to 0.5 percentage point or less in Iowa (-0.5); Arkansas, Louisiana, and Montana (-0.3 each); and Hawaii (-0.2).

I hope you will find this information useful, and I look forward to continued discussions with you and the Committee about economic developments. Also, Thomas Nardone, Associate Commissioner for Employment and Unemployment Statistics, can be reached at 202-691-6379 and would be happy to answer any questions you or your staff may have.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN M. GALVIN
Acting Commissioner

Enclosures

USDOL/BLS/OEUS/OCEA/DLFS
ALLARD/btf X16378
cc: Comm. Ofc., Galvin, Nardone, Allard, D.F.

FEB 1 2 2012

The Honorable Michael C. Burgess
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Burgess:

I appreciated the opportunity to participate in the Joint Economic Committee's February 3, 2011, hearing on the Employment Situation news release. At that hearing, you asked me to provide you with some studies investigating the relationship between unemployment insurance extensions and the unemployment rate. I have enclosed two studies by the Federal Reserve Banks of Chicago and San Francisco. Please note that the views expressed in these studies are the authors' and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Federal Reserve Bank or of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. As I mentioned at the hearing, BLS does not conduct policy analysis.

I hope you will find this information useful, and I look forward to continued discussions with you and the Committee about economic developments.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN M. GALVIN
Acting Commissioner

Enclosures

USDOL/BLS/OEUS/OCEA/DLFS
Allard/btf X16378
cc. Comm.Off., Galvin, Nardone, Allard, DF.

Table A. Persons unemployed for 27 weeks or longer and discouraged workers by age, not seasonally adjusted, January 2010, January 2011, and January 2012

	Persons unemployed for 27 weeks or longer						Discouraged workers					
	Total (in thousands)			Percent distribution			Total (in thousands)			Percent distribution		
	January 2010	January 2011	January 2012	January 2010	January 2011	January 2012	January 2010	January 2011	January 2012	January 2010	January 2011	January 2012
Total, 16 years and over	6,423	6,307	5,597	100.0	100.0	100.0	1,065	993	1,059	100.0	100.0	100.0
16 to 19 years	361	353	339	5.6	5.6	6.1	105	64	104	9.9	6.4	9.8
20 to 24 years	786	855	719	12.2	13.6	12.8	141	147	140	13.2	14.8	13.2
25 to 34 years	1,448	1,328	1,248	22.5	21.1	22.3	249	186	242	23.4	18.7	22.9
35 to 44 years	1,216	1,234	1,102	18.9	19.6	19.7	151	192	124	14.2	19.3	11.7
45 to 54 years	1,486	1,419	1,099	23.1	22.5	19.6	183	205	217	17.2	20.6	20.5
55 years and over	1,126	1,119	1,088	17.5	17.7	19.4	236	200	233	22.2	20.1	22.0

NOTE: Discouraged workers are persons who want a job, have searched for work during the prior 12 months, and were available to take a job during the reference week, but had not looked for work in the past 4 weeks. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

Table B. Total Nonfarm Employment by State, January 2008, February 2010, and December 2011

(Seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

State	Jan 2008	Feb 2010	Dec 2011(p)	Percent Change Jan 2008 - Feb 2010	Percent Change Feb 2010 - Dec 2011
Alabama	2,009.4	1,860.0	1,873.2	-7.4	0.7
Alaska	320.5	321.5	326.4	0.3	1.5
Arizona	2,673.7	2,381.0	2,412.6	-10.9	1.3
Arkansas	1,207.7	1,148.3	1,175.6	-4.9	2.4
California	15,136.9	13,859.5	14,199.0	-8.4	2.4
Colorado	2,355.8	2,214.5	2,244.8	-6.0	1.4
Connecticut	1,710.4	1,594.3	1,627.8	-6.8	2.1
Delaware	441.7	407.4	410.9	-7.8	0.9
District of Columbia	698.7	703.1	721.2	0.6	2.6
Florida	7,916.6	7,151.5	7,291.5	-9.7	2.0
Georgia	4,155.5	3,809.3	3,809.8	-8.3	0.0
Hawaii	627.5	585.7	596.4	-6.7	1.8
Idaho	654.2	602.3	612.1	-7.9	1.6
Illinois	5,995.1	5,590.4	5,676.4	-6.8	1.5
Indiana	2,989.1	2,775.7	2,808.9	-7.1	1.2
Iowa	1,527.5	1,465.1	1,482.4	-4.1	1.2
Kansas	1,389.9	1,320.3	1,332.8	-5.0	0.9
Kentucky	1,872.0	1,751.2	1,808.7	-6.5	3.3
Louisiana	1,932.7	1,874.0	1,938.0	-3.0	3.4
Maine	620.1	592.4	593.7	-4.5	0.2
Maryland	2,617.6	2,473.0	2,538.6	-5.5	2.7
Massachusetts	3,297.4	3,177.3	3,234.5	-3.6	1.8
Michigan	4,243.1	3,839.8	3,934.6	-9.5	2.5
Minnesota	2,775.2	2,628.5	2,666.9	-5.3	1.5
Mississippi	1,159.5	1,083.4	1,099.9	-6.6	1.5
Missouri	2,803.1	2,646.6	2,636.4	-5.6	-0.4
Montana	448.2	427.1	432.3	-4.7	1.2
Nebraska	966.7	934.9	956.8	-3.3	2.3
Nevada	1,289.8	1,118.9	1,116.8	-13.3	-0.2
New Hampshire	651.2	620.9	634.4	-4.7	2.2
New Jersey	4,094.6	3,842.9	3,881.1	-6.1	1.0
New Mexico	846.6	802.2	804.0	-5.2	0.2
New York	8,805.3	8,511.1	8,644.4	-3.3	1.6
North Carolina	4,171.2	3,848.8	3,876.5	-7.7	0.7
North Dakota	364.2	369.8	404.3	1.5	9.3
Ohio	5,429.2	5,004.3	5,106.6	-7.8	2.0
Oklahoma	1,590.2	1,516.7	1,572.8	-4.6	3.7
Oregon	1,737.7	1,592.7	1,626.3	-8.3	2.1
Pennsylvania	5,820.8	5,567.3	5,699.1	-4.4	2.4
Rhode Island	488.4	457.2	458.7	-6.4	0.3
South Carolina	1,956.0	1,795.0	1,832.2	-8.2	2.1
South Dakota	411.2	399.4	411.5	-2.9	3.0
Tennessee	2,806.0	2,594.2	2,648.0	-7.5	2.1
Texas	10,561.5	10,239.5	10,649.2	-3.0	4.0
Utah	1,261.3	1,173.0	1,221.4	-7.0	4.1
Vermont	308.7	295.8	303.0	-4.2	2.4
Virginia	3,774.9	3,595.6	3,663.1	-4.7	1.9
Washington	2,970.2	2,766.8	2,822.0	-6.8	2.0
West Virginia	762.8	739.1	754.5	-3.1	2.1
Wisconsin	2,895.0	2,723.9	2,739.5	-5.9	0.6
Wyoming	294.9	280.2	290.7	-5.0	3.7

(p) Preliminary
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

Table C. Smoothed-Seasonally-Adjusted Unemployment Rates, January 2008, February 2010, and December 2011, States and the District of Columbia

State	Unemployment Rate			Change in Rate	
	Jan-08	Feb-10	Dec-11	Jan08-Feb10	Feb10-Dec11
Alabama	3.9	10.2	8.1	6.3	-2.1
Alaska	6.2	8.2	7.3	2.0	-0.9
Arizona	4.3	10.2	8.7	5.9	-1.5
Arkansas	5.0	8.0	7.7	3.0	-0.3
California	5.9	12.4	11.1	6.5	-1.3
Colorado	4.1	9.0	7.9	4.9	-1.1
Connecticut	4.9	9.2	8.2	4.3	-1.0
Delaware	3.9	8.7	7.4	4.8	-1.3
District of Columbia	5.6	10.3	10.4	4.7	0.1
Florida	4.8	11.3	9.9	6.5	-1.4
Georgia	5.2	10.3	9.7	5.1	-0.6
Hawaii	3.0	6.8	6.6	3.8	-0.2
Idaho	3.5	9.0	8.4	5.5	-0.6
Illinois	5.5	11.1	9.8	5.6	-1.3
Indiana	4.7	10.7	9.0	6.0	-1.7
Iowa	3.9	6.1	5.6	2.2	-0.5
Kansas	4.0	7.2	6.3	3.2	-0.9
Kentucky	5.6	10.9	9.1	5.3	-1.8
Louisiana	3.8	7.1	6.8	3.3	-0.3
Maine	4.7	8.4	7.0	3.7	-1.4
Maryland	3.6	7.6	6.7	4.0	-0.9
Massachusetts	4.4	8.8	6.8	4.4	-2.0
Michigan	7.1	13.5	9.3	6.4	-4.2
Minnesota	4.7	7.7	5.7	3.0	-2.0
Mississippi	6.0	11.0	10.4	5.0	-0.6
Missouri	5.3	9.6	8.0	4.3	-1.6
Montana	3.7	7.1	6.8	3.4	-0.3
Nebraska	2.8	4.9	4.1	2.1	-0.8
Nevada	5.0	14.7	12.6	9.7	-2.1
New Hampshire	3.5	6.6	5.1	3.1	-1.5
New Jersey	4.6	9.7	9.0	5.1	-0.7
New Mexico	3.5	8.2	6.6	4.7	-1.6
New York	4.7	8.8	8.0	4.1	-0.8
North Carolina	5.0	11.4	9.9	6.4	-1.5
North Dakota	2.9	4.1	3.3	1.2	-0.8
Ohio	5.6	10.6	8.1	5.0	-2.5
Oklahoma	3.4	7.3	6.1	3.9	-1.2
Oregon	5.2	11.1	8.9	5.9	-2.2

Continued on following page

Source: U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Local Area Unemployment Statistics
February 2012

Table C. Smoothed-Seasonally-Adjusted Unemployment Rates, January 2008, February 2010, and December 2011, States and the District of Columbia

State	Unemployment Rate			Change in Rate	
	Jan-08	Feb-10	Dec-11	Jan08-Feb10	Feb10-Dec11
Pennsylvania	4.6	8.8	7.6	4.2	-1.2
Rhode Island	6.2	11.8	10.8	5.6	-1.0
South Carolina	5.5	11.6	9.5	6.1	-2.1
South Dakota	2.7	5.2	4.2	2.5	-1.0
Tennessee	5.5	10.3	8.7	4.8	-1.6
Texas	4.4	8.2	7.8	3.8	-0.4
Utah	3.0	8.0	6.0	5.0	-2.0
Vermont	4.1	6.7	5.1	2.6	-1.6
Virginia	3.3	7.2	6.2	3.9	-1.0
Washington	4.7	10.0	8.5	5.3	-1.5
West Virginia	4.0	8.8	7.9	4.8	-0.9
Wisconsin	4.4	9.1	7.1	4.7	-2.0
Wyoming	2.6	7.5	5.8	4.9	-1.7

Source: U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Local Area Unemployment Statistics
February 2012

FEB 1 2 2012

The Honorable Mick Mulvaney
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Mulvaney:

At the February 3, 2012 hearing of the Joint Economic Committee, you asked questions regarding the length of time persons are unemployed before they find work or leave the labor force.

I have enclosed a copy of a recent report that addresses those issues. I also have enclosed a table and three charts that update the information in the report through the end of 2011.

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

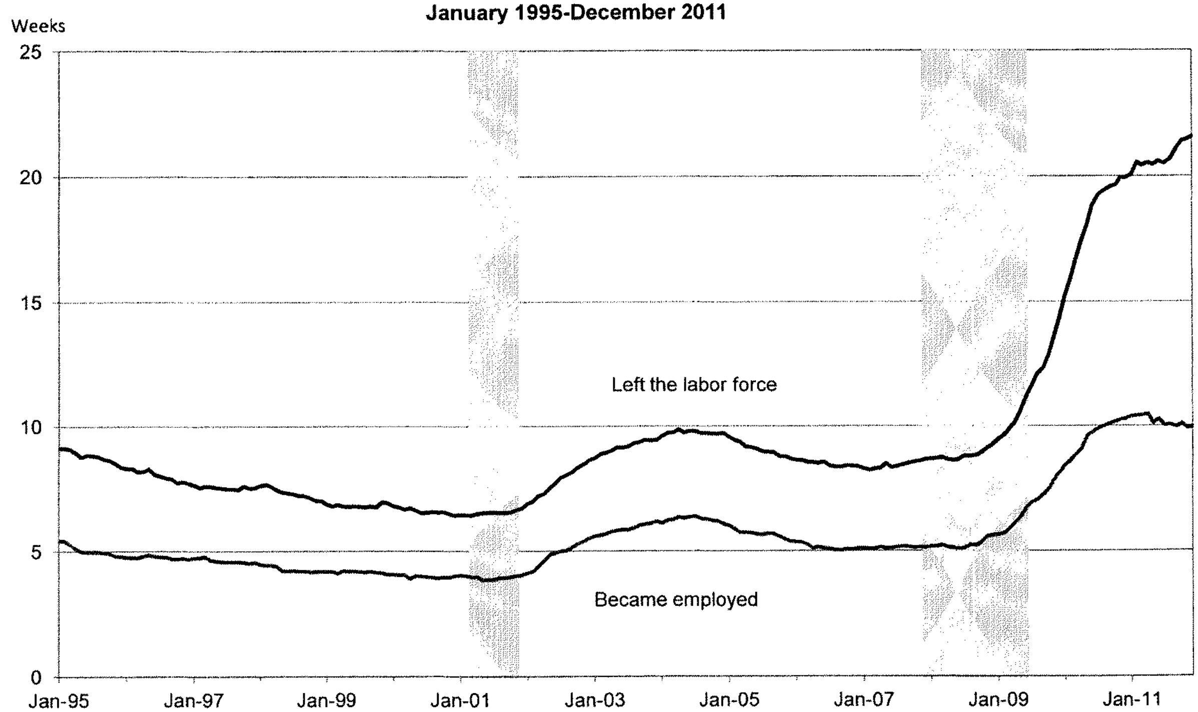
Sincerely yours,

JOHN M. GALVIN
Acting Commissioner

Enclosures

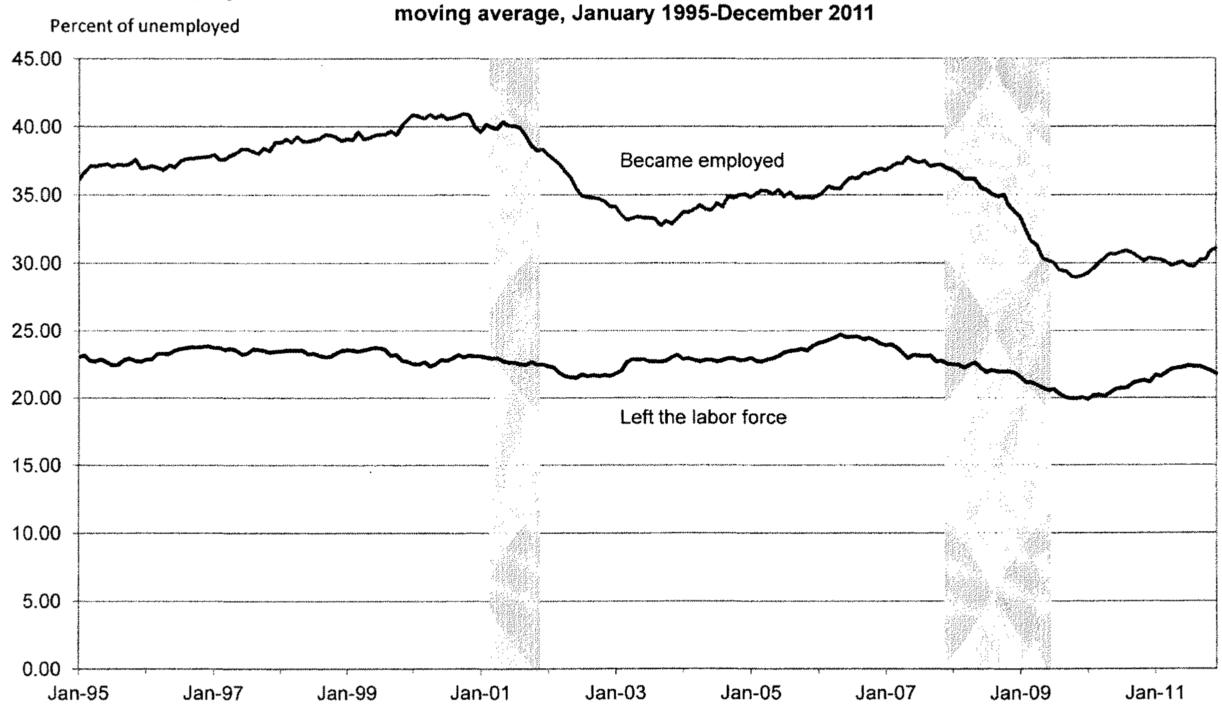
DOL/BLS/OEUS/DLFS
ALLARD/NMH X16378
cc: Comm. Ofc., Galvin, Nardone, Allard, R.F., D.F.

Chart 1. Median duration of unemployment for persons who became employed or left the labor force in the subsequent month, not seasonally adjusted 12-month moving average, January 1995-December 2011



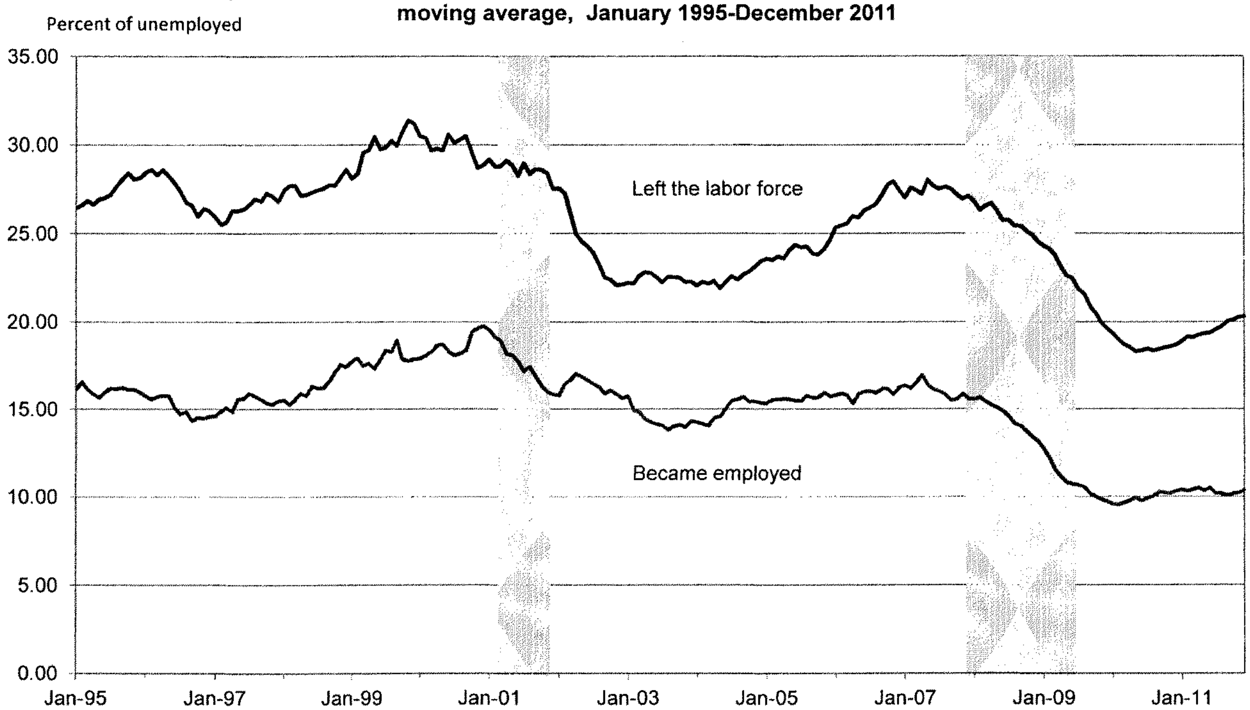
NOTE: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).
Duration is based on the number of weeks unemployed in the month before becoming employed or leaving the labor force and, therefore, is somewhat understated.

Chart 2. Share of the unemployed who were jobless for less than 5 weeks who became employed or left the labor force in the subsequent month, not seasonally adjusted 12-month moving average, January 1995-December 2011



NOTE: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).
Duration is based on the number of weeks unemployed in the month before becoming employed or leaving the labor force and, therefore, is somewhat understated.

Chart 3. Share of the unemployed who were jobless for 27 weeks and over who became employed or left the labor force in the subsequent month, not seasonally adjusted 12-month moving average, January 1995-December 2011



NOTE: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).
Duration is based on the number of weeks unemployed in the month before becoming employed or leaving the labor force and, therefore, is somewhat understated.

Table 1. Share of the unemployed who found jobs by weeks of duration of unemployment, annual averages
(Percent distribution)

Year	Transitions from unemployed to employed (In thousands)	Less than 5 weeks	5 to 14 weeks	15 to 26 weeks	27 to 52 weeks	53 weeks and over
1994	2,208	47.3	29.0	11.4	8.3	4.0
1995	2,072	50.5	28.6	10.7	6.6	3.5
1996	2,035	52.1	28.8	10.1	6.5	2.6
1997	2,003	52.3	28.9	10.3	6.0	2.5
1998	1,909	54.5	28.5	8.9	5.8	2.4
1999	1,874	55.6	28.3	9.2	5.0	2.0
2000	1,839	56.5	28.2	8.1	4.9	2.1
2001	1,952	55.7	29.0	9.2	4.6	1.6
2002	2,111	47.4	29.8	12.1	8.1	2.6
2003	2,085	44.7	29.1	12.8	9.3	4.1
2004	2,065	45.5	28.6	12.3	9.3	4.3
2005	1,985	47.3	28.7	12.0	8.0	3.9
2006	1,967	49.5	28.5	11.7	7.5	2.8
2007	1,930	49.0	29.7	11.4	7.1	2.8
2008	2,064	47.2	30.4	11.9	7.3	3.2
2009	2,402	38.9	29.1	14.9	12.1	5.1
2010	2,517	34.0	25.9	13.8	15.3	11.0
2011	2,372	35.3	24.9	13.1	13.8	12.9

NOTE: Duration is based on the number of weeks unemployed in the month before becoming employed and, therefore, is somewhat understated.
Source: Research series from the Current Population Survey.