Current Employment Statistics Highlights

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Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 211,000 in November. Construction, professional and technical services, and health care added jobs, while mining and information lost jobs.

The employment change for September revised up from +137,000 to +145,000, and the change for October revised up from +271,000 to +298,000. Incorporating the revised estimates, employment has increased by an average 218,000 per month over the past 3 months.

Average hourly earnings of all private-sector employees rose by 4 cents in November, following a 9-cent gain in October. Hourly earnings are up 2.3 percent over the year. Average weekly hours edged down 0.1 hour to 34.5 hours.

**+46,000 Construction**

Construction employment rose by 46,000 in November. Residential specialty trades accounted for 26,000 jobs gained. Over the year, construction has added 259,000 jobs.

**+40,000 Education and Health Services**

Employment in health care rose by 24,000 in November. Within the industry, hospitals continued to add jobs (+13,000). Over the past 12 months, hospital employment has risen by 167,000. In November, employment changed little in ambulatory health care services (+4,000) following an increase of 34,000 in the prior month.

**+39,000 Leisure and Hospitality**

Employment continued to trend up in food services and drinking places in November (+32,000). Over the year, the industry has added 374,000 jobs.
**+31,000 Retail Trade**
In November, employment continued to trend up in general merchandise stores (+12,000) and in motor vehicle and parts dealers (+9,000). Over the past 12 months, these industries have added 85,000 and 71,000 jobs, respectively.

**+27,000 Professional and Business Services**
Professional and technical services added 28,000 jobs in November. Among the component industries, accounting and bookkeeping services added 11,000 jobs. Employment continued to trend up in computer systems design and related services (+5,000); this industry has added 98,000 jobs over the past 12 months.

**+14,000 Financial Activities**
Within financial activities, insurance carriers and related activities continued to add jobs in November (+7,000). Over the past 12 months, insurance employment has risen by 73,000.

**-11,000 Mining and Logging**
Since reaching a peak in December 2014, mining employment has declined by 123,000, including 11,000 jobs lost in November. Support activities for mining accounts for 92,000 of the jobs lost since December 2014, including a loss of 7,000 in November.

**-12,000 Information**
Within information, motion pictures and sound recording lost 13,000 jobs in November.
Mining and logging lost 11,000 jobs in November. Since reaching an employment peak in December 2014, the industry has lost 124,000 jobs.

Mining employment declined by 11,000 in November, in line with its prior 12-month average.

Over the month, support activities for mining and coal mining lost 7,000 and 1,000 jobs, respectively.
Construction experienced significant job growth in November (+46,000). Over the past 12 months, employment in the industry has increased by 259,000.

Specialty trade contractors added 35,000 jobs in November. Most of the growth occurred in the residential component of specialty trades.
Manufacturing employment was essentially unchanged in November (-1,000). Small employment changes in nondurable goods (+5,000) and durable goods (-6,000) were offsetting.

The 1-month diffusion index increased to 53.1 from 50.6 the previous month. The diffusion index measures the dispersion of employment change in manufacturing, with a value above 50 indicating that more manufacturing industries are adding jobs than losing.

Average weekly hours remained unchanged at 40.7 for all employees and at 41.8 hours for production employees. Over the past 12 months, average weekly hours have declined by 0.4 hour for both all employees and production employees.
Employment in wholesale trade changed little (+9,000) in November.

Employment in wholesale trade
January 2005–November 2015
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

November 2015 Level: 5,937
OTM Change: 9
Employment in retail trade continued to trend up (+31,000) in November. Over the past 12 months, the industry has added 284,000 jobs, in line with the jobs added during the previous 12 months (+281,000).

NAICS 4411 – Motor vehicle and parts dealers

Motor vehicle and parts dealers added 9,000 jobs in November, most of which was concentrated in automobile dealers (+5,000). November’s employment growth coincides with annualized auto sales above 18 million – the largest November sales level since 2000. (Source: Motor Intelligence).

NAICS 452 – General merchandise stores

General merchandise stores added 12,000 jobs in November, following an increase of 11,000 in October.
Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in November (+6,000). Over the year, the industry has added 88,000 jobs.

**NAICS 488 – Support activities for transportation**

Support activities for transportation added 6,000 jobs in November, largely offsetting a job loss in October (-8,000).
Utilities employment edged up by 2,000 in November, bringing its 12-month change to 12,000.
Employment in information declined by 12,000 in November. Virtually all of the employment decline was in motion picture and sound recording industries, which lost 13,000 jobs over the month. Over the past 12 months, motion pictures employment has shown little net change.
Employment in financial activities continued to trend up in November (+14,000), on pace with its prior 12-month average change (+13,000). Within the sector, insurance employment continued to trend up in November (+7,000).

Over the year, financial activities has added 141,000 jobs. Over the same period insurance carriers and related activities added 73,000.
Employment in professional and business services continued to trend up in November (+27,000). Essentially all of the increase was attributed to professional and technical services, while employment changed little in management of companies and enterprises (+5,000) and administrative and waste services (-6,000).

Most component industries within professional and technical services contributed to the November employment gain. Accounting and bookkeeping services contributed the largest share, by adding 11,000 jobs. Computer systems design and related services and management and technical consulting services continued their upward employment trends.

Within administrative and waste services, temporary help services employment changed little in November (-12,000).
Employment in education and health services grew by 40,000 in November, following a 71,000 gain in October. Within education and health care services, health care added 24,000 jobs in November, while employment in educational services (+8,000) and social assistance (+8,000) continued to trend up.

**NAICS 622—Hospitals**

Hospitals added 13,000 jobs in November. Employment in the industry has increased by 207,000 since February 2014.
Food services and drinking places employment continued to trend up in November (+32,000). Over the last 12 months, this industry has added 374,000 jobs, a change of 3.4 percent.
Employment in other services changed little (+6,000) in November.

Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
* denotes significance.
Government employment changed little in November (+14,000). Employment at the federal, state, and local levels remained essentially unchanged over the month. Government has added 174,000 jobs since reaching an employment trough in January 2014, with 45 percent of the job gain occurring in local government, excluding education.
Current Employment Statistics Highlights

Detailed Industry Employment Analysis

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