- Total nonfarm employment rose by 243,000 in January 2012, compared to an average increase of 152,000 per month in 2011.

- The January employment gained in total nonfarm brings the number of net jobs recovered since a trough in February 2010 to 3.2 million jobs, or 36 percent of the 8.8 million jobs lost between January 2008 and February 2010.
• In January, job growth was widespread throughout most major industries.

• The goods-producing industries –mining and logging, construction, and manufacturing– saw employment increases.

• Among the service-providing industries, wholesale trade, professional and business services, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality, gained the most jobs.

• Private service-providing industries accounted for about 3.1 million of the 3.2 million net jobs recovered since February 2010.

• Goods producing industries have added 600,000 jobs during this period primarily from mining and manufacturing. Government subtracted nearly half a million jobs from the net change.
- Average weekly hours for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls remained unchanged in January, while production and nonsupervisory employees saw average weekly hours increase by 0.1 hours.

- The index of aggregate weekly hours for all employees continued to trend upwards in January, just as it had since October 2009.

- In January 2012 the index of aggregate weekly hours stood 4.8 percent below its peak in January 2008.
• Average hourly earnings for all employees in private industry rose 4 cents or 0.2 percent in January.

• Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings has increased by 1.9 percent; while in December, the CPI-U had a 12-month percent change of 3.0 percent.

• The CPI-U outpaced private earnings growth, in terms of their most recent over-the-year growth rates.
• Mining and logging added 10,000 jobs in January. The majority of job growth in mining during January was from support activities for mining.

• Since a low in October 2009, mining employment has expanded by 172,000, with 10,000 jobs being added in January.
• Construction has experienced two months of solid job growth with 21,000 jobs added in January, and 31,000 in December.

• The majority of gains in construction in January were split between nonresidential building construction and nonresidential specialty trade contractors.

• Since reaching a trough one year ago, construction employment has increased by 116,000.
• Manufacturing has experienced 2 months of solid job growth with 50,000 added in January and 32,000 in December. Furthermore, manufacturers have added 404,000 jobs since January 2010.

• The 1-month diffusion index of manufacturing employment rose from 64.2 in December to 69.1 in January, indicating a wider dispersion of the job growth across industries. A measure above 50 indicates that more industries are increasing employment than are reducing it.

• The factory workweek for all employees rose 0.3 hour; the employment gain combined with a longer workweek resulted in a 1.2-percent increase in the index of aggregate weekly hours for manufacturing.
• Durable goods employment growth contributed to the bulk of the jobs gained within manufacturing.

• Fabricated metal products, and machinery, and transportation equipment were the primary drivers of job growth within durable goods.
- Employment in transportation equipment continued trending upward in January.
- Since reaching a trough in December 2009, employment in the industry has expanded by 116,000.
• Wholesale trade employment increased by 14,000 in January.

• The employment level for wholesale trade remains 8 percent below November 2007 peak, after having added 144,000 jobs since its trough in May 2010.

• Employment in retail trade continued to trend upwards.

• Over the month, job gains in department stores, health and personal care stores, and auto dealers were partly offset by a loss of jobs in clothing stores.
- Transportation and warehousing employment continued to trend upward into January. The industry has added 193,000 jobs since a recent trough in February 2010.

- Financial activities employment changed little in January.

- Since reaching a trough in July 2010, employment in the industry has shown little net change.
• Professional and business services added 70,000 jobs in January, with nearly half from employment services.

• Accounting and bookkeeping, and architectural and engineering services also added jobs.
• Temporary help services, which added 20,000 jobs in January, accounted for 61 percent of the gain in employment services.

• Temporary help services has added 656,000 jobs since August 2009, but its employment level is 251,000 below its August 2006 peak.
• In January, health care employment continued to grow in line with its long term trend.

• Hospitals and ambulatory services each individually contributed 13,000 jobs over the month.
Over the month, employment in leisure and hospitality increased by 44,000.

Food services and drinking places netted an increase of 33,000 jobs in January.

Since February 2010, food services and drinking places has added 487,000 jobs.
- Government employment continued to trend lower in January.
- Since reaching employment peaks in August 2008, local government has lost 515,000 jobs, while state government has lost 153,000 jobs.
- The U.S. Postal Service has been cutting jobs since 1999.