Nonfarm payroll employment continued to contract in June, declining by 467,000. Employment losses in the second quarter of 2009 averaged 436,000 per month, down from 670,000 per month in the prior 5 months. Since the start of the recession in December 2007, payroll employment has fallen by 6.5 million.
• Total nonfarm payroll employment was down 4.1 percent from June 2008, this is the largest 12-month percent decline since June 1958.
• In June, the average workweek for production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls dropped by 0.1 hour to 33.0 hours — the lowest level on record since the series began in 1964.

• In June, average hourly earnings of production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls were unchanged at $18.53. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 2.7 percent.
The index of aggregate weekly hours of production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls fell by 0.8 percent in June. Since peaking in December 2007, the index has decreased by 8.2 percent.

The index of aggregate weekly payrolls of production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls fell by 0.7 percent in June. This month marks the tenth consecutive month of decline – the longest continual decline in the series history back to 1964.
Job losses continued to be widespread across major industry sectors in June. There were significant declines in manufacturing, professional and business services, and construction. Together, these three sectors have accounted for nearly three-quarters of the jobs lost since the start of the recession.
• Mining employment decreased by 8,000 in June, about in line with the average monthly decline since peaking in October 2008.
• Construction employment fell by 79,000 in June. Employment losses were spread throughout the industry, as both residential and nonresidential components shed jobs. Employment in construction is now at its lowest level since September 1998.

• Since employment peaked in January 2007, the construction industry has lost nearly 1.5 million jobs. With the decline in June, this current downturn now stands as the largest employment decline in the history of the series back to 1939, surpassing the previous record set during the WWII-related employment declines from 1942 to 1944.
• Manufacturing employment declined by 136,000 in June. The industry has lost 1.9 million jobs since the start of the current recession, and employment now stands below 11.9 million — the lowest level since April 1941.
Employment in durable goods manufacturing was responsible for the majority of manufacturing losses with 112,000 jobs cut from payrolls in June. Within the durable goods industry, transportation equipment (-32,000), fabricated metal products (-18,000), computer and electronic products (-16,000), and machinery (-14,000) continued to lose jobs in June.

Nondurable goods employment fell by 24,000 in June. Within this sector, employment losses in plastic and rubber products (-4,000) softened relative to the prior 6-month average loss of 11,000.
In June, wholesale trade employment fell by 16,000; the employment loss occurred at a slower rate of decline than its prior 6-month average loss of 33,000. Since reaching an employment peak in November 2007, the industry has cut 371,000 jobs.
Retail trade employment edged down in June (-21,000); job losses in retail trade have moderated in the past 3 months. Over the month, job losses continued in automobile dealerships (-9,000).

Retail trade has shed 767,000 jobs since the start of the recession, bringing employment in the industry to its lowest level since January 1999.
Information employment fell by 21,000 in June; this is slightly more than its prior 6-month average decline of 18,000. Since the start of 2009, the industry has shed over 100,000 jobs.

Among information’s component industries, both publishing and telecommunications lost 7,000 jobs in June. During the first 6 months of 2009, publishing has cut about 9,000 jobs a month; compared to an average 3,000 jobs lost per month during 2008.
Employment in financial activities continued to fall in June, declining by 27,000. Over the first 6 months of 2009, the industry has shed 256,000 positions. Total industry employment currently stands at 7.8 million, the lowest level since December 2000.

During June, employment fell in credit intermediation and related activities (-10,000) and in securities, commodity contracts, and investments (-6,000).
• Professional and business services employment fell by 118,000 in June. Since reaching an employment peak in December 2007, the industry has shed 1.5 million jobs.

• Within professional and business services, temporary help services employment declined by 38,000 in June. This industry has lost 848,000 jobs, or nearly a third of its employment, since the start of the recession.
• Health care added 21,000 jobs in June. Employment growth in the industry has averaged 21,000 per month since the beginning of 2009, down from an average of 30,000 per month in 2008.

• Ambulatory health care services increased its payrolls by 12,000 positions in June. The industry has been relatively unaffected since the start of the current recession, adding 266,000 jobs.