Current Employment Statistics
Highlights
June 2012

Bureau of Labor Statistics
July 6, 2012
• Total nonfarm employment continued to edge up in June (+80,000).

• In the second quarter of 2012, employment was up by an average of 75,000 per month, compared with an average monthly gain of 226,000 for the first quarter of the year.

• In the first half of 2012, job gains averaged 150,000 per month, about the same as the average monthly increase in 2011.
Since the most recent trough in February 2010, total nonfarm employment has risen by 3.8 million, and total private employment has grown by 4.4 million.

Since an employment trough in February 2010, most nonfarm job gains have come in professional and business services, health care, and leisure and hospitality.

In June, employment rose in professional and business services and healthcare, but changed little in most other major industries over the month.
Average weekly hours for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased 0.1 hour to 34.5 hours in June.

Average weekly hours for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls also increased 0.1 hour, to 33.8 hours.

The index of aggregate weekly hours for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 0.4 percent in June and has shown little change thus far in 2012.
Average hourly earnings of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 6 cents in June to $23.50. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 2.0 percent.

In May, the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) had an over-the-year increase of 1.7 percent.

From the latter part of 2010 until the end of 2011, price increases outpaced increases in hourly earnings; however, since the third quarter of 2011 this divergence has diminished.
In June, employment in mining and logging was flat, continuing a recent trend of little change in the industry.

Construction employment changed little in June.

An employment gain in specialty trade contractors was offset by small declines in residential building construction and heavy and civil engineering construction.
• Manufacturing employment continued to trend up in June (+11,000).

• In the past 3 months, manufacturing employment gains have averaged 10,000, well below the average monthly gains seen in the first quarter of 2012 (+41,000).
In June, employment in transportation equipment increased by 7,000. This movement is in line with the industry’s recent trend. Job gains have averaged 7,000 per month since January 2011.

Within the transportation equipment industry, motor vehicle and parts has contributed most of the job growth during this period.
- The manufacturing workweek for all employees increased by 0.1 hour to 40.7 hours.

- Average weekly hours for production employees in manufacturing also increased by 0.1 hour to 41.7 hours.

- Overtime hours for all employees in manufacturing remained unchanged for June 2012, while overtime hours for production employees increased by 0.1 hour to 4.3 hours.
Retail trade employment was essentially flat in June (-5,000).

Modest employment increases in several component industries were offset by a decline in general merchandise stores employment (-12,000).
In June, employment in professional and business services grew by 47,000. Industry employment has grown by 1.5 million or 46,000 per month since the most recent low point in September 2009.

In the second quarter of 2012, employment increased by an average of 39,000 per month, compared with an average monthly gain of 62,000 during the first quarter of the year.
• In June, slightly more than half of the job gain in professional and business services came in administrative and waste services.

• Temporary help services accounted for a large portion of those employment gains (+25,000).

• Temporary help services has recovered 86 percent of the jobs lost during the most recent downturn.
Health care employment continued to trend up in June (+13,000).

Jobs gains were spread broadly through healthcare industries, although employment edged down in offices of physicians.
Leisure and hospitality employment changed little for a third consecutive month.

Employment in food services and drinking places continued to trend up in June (+15,000), while employment in arts, entertainment, and recreation and in accommodation both showed little change.
Government employment changed little in June.

An employment decline in local government education (-14,000) was offset by a job gain in local government, excluding education (+18,000).
- Employment in local government excluding educations has increased over the past 3 months.
- The recent employment gains follow roughly 2 years of steadily diminishing job losses.