Current Employment Statistics Highlights

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June 2019

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Nonfarm employment increased by 224,000 in June, after edging up in May (+72,000). Professional and business services, health care, and transportation and warehousing added jobs over the month.

The employment change for May revised down slightly from +75,000 to +72,000, and the change for April also revised down from +224,000 to +216,000. On net, employment over April and May is 11,000 lower than previously reported.

Average hourly earnings of all private-sector employees increased by 6 cents in June. Over the year, hourly earnings have risen by 3.1 percent. Average weekly hours, at 34.4 hours, were unchanged in June.

+61,000 Education and Health Services

Health care added 35,000 jobs in June. Among health care providers, employment increased in ambulatory care services (+19,000) and hospitals (+11,000). Over the past 12 months, health care has added 403,000 jobs.

+51,000 Professional and Business Services

Employment in professional and business services rose by 51,000 in June, with professional and technical services accounting for 30,000 of the increase. Over the past 12 months, professional and business services has added 482,000 jobs.

+24,000 Transportation and warehousing

Transportation and warehousing added 24,000 in June. Within the industry, employment increased in couriers and messengers (+7,000) and in air transportation (+3,000). Over the past 12 months,
employment in transportation and warehousing has grown by 158,000.

+21,000 Construction
In June, employment continued to trend upward in construction (+21,000). So far in 2019, the industry has added an average 18,000 jobs per month, compared to 26,000 per month in 2018.

+17,000 Manufacturing
Manufacturing employment edged up in June (+17,000), following little change in recent months. So far this year, the average monthly employment change in the industry has slowed to +8,000 per month, compared to +22,000 per month in 2018.

+33,000 Government
Local government, excluding education, added 26,000 jobs over the month. Over the year, government employment has risen by 100,000, with 74,000 coming from local government, excluding education.
Employment in mining changed little in June, while the price of West Texas Intermediate fell 16.1 percent over the month.

Thus far in 2019, mining employment has shown little change, averaging +1,000 per month. The industry had added 5,000 jobs per month in 2018.
Construction employment edged up by 21,000 in June. In the first half of 2019, construction has added 108,000 jobs, with nonresidential specialty trade contractors accounting for 63 percent of the gain.

Employment in nonresidential specialty trade contractors ticked up by 12,000 in June.
Manufacturing employment edged up in June (+17,000), following little change in recent months. Manufacturing has added an average 8,000 jobs per month so far this year, after adding an average 22,000 per month in 2018.

The 1-month diffusion index increased by 7.9 points to 59.9, demonstrating that job growth in the industry was more widespread in June.

Average weekly hours of all employees in manufacturing ticked up by 0.1 hour to 40.7 hours. The average workweek of production employees also ticked up by 0.1 to 41.7 hours.

June marks 40 years since the all-time peak employment in manufacturing at 19.6 million in 1979. Employment in June 2019, at 12.9 million, was down 6.7 million or 24 percent from the all-time peak.

Durable goods drove the employment change in June, edging up by 12,000. Within durable goods, computer and electronic products added 7,000 jobs and has added 50,000 since reaching a trough in July 2017.

Within nondurable goods, plastics and rubber products added 4,000 jobs in July, and employment has trended up by 11,000 over the year.
Employment in wholesale trade was unchanged in June, though the industry has added 102,000 jobs over the last year, with durable goods accounting for 68 percent of those gains.
Retail trade employment continued on a downward trend in June (-6,000). Since reaching a peak in January 2017, industry employment has declined by 167,000 or 1.0 percent.

Recent retail-related economic indicators have been mixed. Personal Income grew by 0.5 percent in May. Retail Sales increased by 0.5 percent in May. E-Commerce Sales for the first quarter of 2019 rose by 3.6 percent from the fourth quarter of 2018. Conversely, the Consumer Confidence Index declined by 7.5 percentage points in June.
Transportation and warehousing added 24,000 jobs in June. So far this year, the industry has added an average 9,000 jobs per month, compared to 18,000 per month in 2018.

Among the component industries, air transportation (+3,000) and couriers and messengers (+7,000) added jobs in June.
Employment in utilities changed little from May to June (+1,000).
Information employment changed little in June (+2,000).

Over the year, information employment also was little changed (−23,000); however, telecommunications employment has decreased by 33,000, while other information services—such as news syndicates, libraries and archives, and web search portals—have added 17,000 jobs.
Employment in financial activities changed little in June (+2,000), although the industry has added 88,000 jobs over the year. Real estate and rental and leasing accounted for 71,000 of the job gains over this period.
Professional and business services added 51,000 jobs in June. During the first half of 2019, employment grew at a 2.0 percent annualized rate (or 208,000), compared to 2.7 percent in 2018. Among the major component industries, employment in professional and technical services continued to grow at 3.2 percent, while job growth in management of companies and enterprises and in administrative and waste services slowed from their 2018 rates.

In June, employment in professional and technical services increased by 30,000. Computer systems design and related services (+7,000) and management and technical consulting services (+7,000) led the job growth. So far in 2019, professional and technical services has added 149,000 jobs, and nearly half can be attributed to computer systems design and related services (+47,000) and management and technical consulting services (+25,000).

Employment changed little in management of companies and enterprises (+4,000) and administrative and waste services (+16,000) in June. Temporary help services employment was flat over the month (+4,000).
Health care added 35,000 jobs in June, in line with its prior 12-month average monthly change (+33,000). Employment increased in ambulatory health care services (+19,000) and in hospitals (+11,000). Over the past 12 months, health care has added 403,000 jobs.

Within ambulatory health care services, employment in offices of physicians continued to grow (+7,000). This industry has added 69,000 jobs over the last 12 months, second only to home health care services. Home health care services added 8,000 jobs in June, bringing its 12-month change to 71,000 jobs. Taken together, these 2 industries account for 54 percent of the 258,000 jobs added in ambulatory health care services over the last 12 months.

Hospital employment continued to grow in June (+11,000). Hospitals have added 106,000 jobs over the last 12 months.
Employment in leisure and hospitality changed little in June (+8,000). So far this year, the industry has added 159,000 jobs, compared to 211,000 jobs added in the last 6 months of 2018.
Employment in other services changed little in June (+10,000). Over the most recent 12 months, the industry has added 74,000 jobs. Over this time, the largest job gain came in repair and maintenance (+28,000).
Government employment changed little in June (+33,000). Local government, excluding education, added 26,000 jobs over the month. Federal government employment increased by 2,000 and state government employment was essentially unchanged (+2,000). Overall, government has added 100,000 jobs over the last 12 months, 74,000 of which have been in local government, excluding education.

Since its most recent trough in March 2013, local government, excluding education has added 336,000 jobs.

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**Employment in local government, excluding education**

*January 2009–June 2019*

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

June 2019 Level: 6,586

OTM Change: 26*

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*Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.*

*Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.*

* denotes significance

*January 2009 – June 2019*

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands