Current Employment Statistics Highlights

Contents

Summary
Mining & Logging
Construction
Manufacturing
Wholesale Trade
Retail Trade
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities
Information
Financial Activities
Professional & Business Services
Private Education & Health Services
Leisure & Hospitality
Other Services
Government

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Nonfarm payroll employment increased by 215,000 in July. Retail trade, health care, professional and technical services, and financial activities added jobs.

The employment change for June revised up from +223,000 to +231,000, and the change for May revised up from +254,000 to +260,000. Incorporating revisions, monthly job gains averaged 235,000 over the past 3 months.

Average hourly earnings of all private-sector employees increased by 5 cents (0.2 percent) over the month following little change in June (-1 cent). Over the year, hourly earnings are up 2.1 percent. In July, average weekly hours edged up 0.1 hour to 34.6 hours.

**+36,000 Retail Trade**
Retail trade added 36,000 jobs in July. Motor vehicle and parts dealers contributed 13,000 jobs to the overall gain. Over the year, employment in retail trade has risen by 322,000. Motor vehicle and parts dealers added 75,000 jobs over the same time span.

**+37,000 Education and Health Services**
Health care employment continued to rise in July with an increase of 28,000. Hospitals boosted employment by 16,000, accounting for more than half of the payroll gain. Over the past year, health care providers have added 436,000 jobs.

**+40,000 Professional and Business Services**
Employment in professional and technical services rose by 27,000 in July. Within this industry, computer systems design and related services added 9,000 jobs, while architectural and engineering services added 6,000 jobs over the month.

Management of companies and enterprises also added jobs over the month (+14,000), while employment in administrative and waste services was essentially unchanged.
+30,000 Leisure and Hospitality
Employment continued to trend up in food services and drinking places in July (+29,000). Over the year, this industry added 376,000 jobs.

+17,000 Financial Activities
Financial activities added 17,000 payroll jobs in July. Insurance carriers and related services accounted for 10,000 of the increase. Over the year, employment in financial activities increased by 156,000, compared to 79,000 jobs added in the prior 12 months.

+15,000 Manufacturing
In manufacturing, nondurable goods employment rose by 23,000 in July. Food manufacturing (+9,000), plastics and rubber products (+6,000), and paper and paper products (+3,000) contributed to job growth.

+14,000 Transportation and Warehousing
Employment continued to trend up in transportation and warehousing in July. Over the year, the industry added 146,000 jobs.

-4,000 Mining and Logging
Employment in mining continued to trend down in July (-5,000). Since December, the industry lost 78,000 jobs.
For the second consecutive month employment in mining and logging edged down by 4,000. Since December, the industry has lost 77,000 jobs.

Support activities for mining is responsible for most of the employment change in mining and logging, losing 5,000 jobs in July and 63,000 jobs year to date.
Employment in construction changed little (+6,000) in July and has shown little movement over the last 3 months.
Employment in manufacturing edged up in July (+15,000), due to a 23,000-job gain in nondurable goods.

The one-month diffusion index increased to 57.5 in July from 52.5 in June. 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 in manufacturing edged up by 0.1 hour for all employees, and was unchanged for production employees at 41.8 hours.

**Nondurable Goods Manufacturing**

Nondurable goods manufacturing employment increased 23,000 in July, the largest 1-month job gain since August 1991. Job gains were spread throughout the industry, led by food manufacturing.

Employment in food manufacturing rose by 9,000, following a 6,000 gain in June. The growth in July was concentrated in fruit and vegetable preserving and in seafood product preparation and packaging.

In July, employment in plastics and rubber products grew by 6,000 with nearly all the growth in plastics manufacturing. Paper products employment rose by 3,000, offsetting a decline in June. The return from a strike at several refineries brought employment up by about 1,000 in petroleum and coal products.
Employment in wholesale trade continued to trend up in July (+6,000). Employment in the industry increased by 31,000 over the past 6 months.
Employment in retail trade increased by 36,000 in July, following an increase of 37,000 in June. Over the past 3 months, the industry added 105,000 jobs, compared to only 66,000 jobs added in the previous 3-month period.

**NAICS 441 – Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers**

In July, employment in motor vehicle and parts dealers increased by 13,000. Most of this increase was concentrated in automobile dealers, which added 8,000 jobs in July. The employment increase in July coincides with continued strength in light vehicle sales, which have been above 17 million for the past 3 months (Source: Motor Intelligence).
Employment in transportation and warehousing continued its upward trend in July (+14,000). In the last 12 months, transportation and warehousing added 146,000 jobs, an increase of 3.1 percent.

NAICS 492 – Couriers and messengers

Couriers and messengers added 3,000 jobs in July, bringing the over-the-year gain to 30,000.
Utilities employment edged up (+3,000) in July.

Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands
Employment in information was essentially unchanged in July (+2,000). This industry has gained 123,000 jobs since its January 2012 trough. Of those jobs, 43 percent were added over the past 12 months.
Financial activities added 17,000 jobs in July. Over the past 12 months, financial activities added 156,000 jobs, compared to 79,000 jobs added in the previous 12-month period.

**NAICS 524 – Insurance carriers and related activities**

Insurance carriers and related activities added 10,000 jobs in July. Over the past 12 months, insurance carriers and related activities added 85,000 jobs.
Employment in professional and business services continued to trend up in July (+40,000). Professional and technical services and management of companies and enterprises accounted for all of the employment gain in July.

In July, professional and technical services added 27,000 jobs. Architectural and engineering services (+6,000) and computer systems design and related services (+9,000) accounted for 57 percent of the employment increase, while other component industries continued their upward trends.

Management of companies and enterprises added 14,000 jobs in July—the largest over-the-month change since January 2006.

In July, employment in administrative and waste services was unchanged over the month. Small, offsetting movements accounted for the flatness in July.
Employment in education and health services increased by 37,000 in July, following a gain of 58,000 in June. Over the past 12 months, the industry expanded by 572,000 jobs.

Within education and health services, health care added 28,000 jobs in July, while employment in educational services and social assistance changed little.

**NAICS 622—Hospitals**

Hospitals added 16,000 jobs in July. Over the past 12 months, employment in the industry increased by 123,000, accounting for 28 percent of the employment gain in health care over the same period.
Employment in leisure and hospitality edged up in July (+30,000). Over the last 12 months, this industry added 436,000 jobs, an increase of 3.0 percent. Food services and drinking places employment continued to trend up in July (+29,000). Food services accounted for 86 percent of the 12-month gain in leisure and hospitality.
Employment in other services continued to trend up (+7,000) in July. The industry added 80,000 jobs over the past 12 months.
Government employment remained flat in July. Employment at the federal, state, and local levels changed little over the month. Government added 62,000 jobs over the past 12 months, with the majority of the employment gain occurring in state government education and local government, excluding education.