Current Employment Statistics Highlights

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Nonfarm payroll employment increased by 255,000 in July. Year to date, employment has risen by an average 186,000 per month, compared to 229,000 per month in 2015. In July, professional and business services, health care, and financial activities added jobs.

Average hourly earnings of all employees on private-sector payrolls rose by 8 cents or 0.3 percent over the month. Hourly earnings are up 2.6 percent over the year. Average weekly hours edged up 0.1 hour to 34.5 hours.

The employment change for June was revised from +287,000 to +292,000, and the change for May was revised from +11,000 to +24,000. Over the past 3 months, employment has risen by an average of 190,000.

**+70,000 Professional and Business Services**

In July, professional and business services added 70,000 jobs. Among the professional and technical services industries, employment rose by 37,000. Computer systems design and related services continued to add jobs (+8,000); over the year, employment in this industry has risen by 78,000. Architectural and engineering services added 7,000 jobs over the month.

Employment changed little over the month among administrative and waste services industries (+32,000).

**+36,000 Education and Health Services**

Health care employment rose by 43,000 in July. Ambulatory health care services added 19,000 jobs, with about half the gain occurring in offices of physicians. Hospitals (+17,000)
and nursing and residential care facilities (+7,000) also added jobs over the month.

+45,000 Leisure and Hospitality
Employment continued to trend upward in leisure and hospitality in July. Over the past 12 months, the industry sector has added 421,000 jobs.

+38,000 Government
Government employment edged up in July.

+18,000 Financial Activities
Employment rose in financial activities in July, with small changes spread out among the component industries.

+9,000 Manufacturing
Within manufacturing, transportation equipment added 12,000 jobs in July; about half of this increase occurred in motor vehicles and parts. Both semiconductors and electronic components and apparel lost about 3,000 jobs each.

-7,000 Mining and Logging
Mining employment continued to trend down in July (-6,000). Since last reaching an employment peak in September 2014, mining has lost 220,000 jobs or 26 percent of its workforce.
Mining and logging employment edged down by 7,000 in July. Most of this loss was concentrated in mining (-6,000).

Job losses in mining have moderated over the past 2 months. The deceleration has occurred as related economic indicators show mixed results. From June to July, domestic oil rigs increased by roughly 5.4 percent (Baker Hughes) and the price of West Texas Intermediate oil decreased roughly 4.2 percent (U.S. Energy Information Administration).
Employment in construction did not change much in July (+14,000), nor over the past 4 months (-13,000). Job growth had averaged 25,000 per month over the 12 months ending in March 2016.
Manufacturing employment changed little in July (+9,000) and has shown little change over the last 6 months (-33,000). The 1-month diffusion index increased by 3.1 points to 54.4. The value above 50 indicates that more manufacturing industries are adding jobs than losing.

Average weekly hours in manufacturing were unchanged for all employees at 40.7 and were up 0.2 hour to 42.0 hours for production employees.

In July, transportation equipment employment rose by 12,000, driven largely by a gain in motor vehicles and parts (+7,000). July is the traditional month when many automotive manufacturers shut down to retool for the upcoming model year. However, in 2016 some automotive plants remained open to meet demand for vehicles, especially light trucks (Automotive News).
Employment in wholesale trade changed little in July (+2,000). The industry has shown essentially no change in employment over the last 6 months (+8,000).


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

Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

* denotes significance
Employment in retail trade changed little in July (+15,000). Over the prior 12 months, retail trade had added 26,000 jobs per month on average. Nearly all of the components experienced changes smaller than their prior 12-month averages.

Employment in motor vehicle and parts dealers was essentially unchanged in July (+1,000) and has shown little change over the past 6 months (+10,000). Over the preceding 6 months, this industry had added 44,000 jobs.
Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little over the month (+12,000) and over the year (+38,000).
Utilities employment experienced little change in July (+1,000).
Employment in information was unchanged in July. Employment gains in this industry have been modest in 2016, averaging 3,000 per month.
Financial activities added 18,000 jobs in July. So far this year, the monthly employment gain in financial activities has averaged 16,000, compared to an average monthly gain of 12,000 in 2015.

Employment in financial activities
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
Professional and business services employment rose by 70,000 in July. Year to date, the industry has added an average of 39,000 jobs per month, compared to gains averaging 52,000 per month in 2015.

Professional and technical services added 37,000 jobs in July, with nearly all the component industries showing positive employment movements. Computer systems design and related services led the gains, adding 8,000 jobs over the month. The industry has been a strong driver of employment within professional and technical services, adding 584,000 jobs since the trough in August of 2009. Employment in architectural and engineering services also expanded in July (+7,000). Architectural and engineering services has now recovered 96 percent of the 183,000 jobs lost between February 2008 and September 2010.

Employment changed little in administrative and waste services in July. Temporary help services employment also changed little in July (+17,000). Year to date, the average monthly employment change in temporary help remained flat (-2,000) compared to an average increase of 8,000 per month in 2015.
Education and health services employment continued to trend up in July (+36,000). Within education and health services, health care employment increased by 43,000. Educational services employment changed little over the month (-14,000).

Ambulatory health care services gained 19,000 jobs in July, as employment continued to trend up throughout its component industries. Ambulatory health care services has added 593,000 jobs since January 2014, accounting for 58 percent of the employment gain in health care over the same period.

Hospital employment increased by 17,000 over the month. Since its employment trough in January 2014, the industry has added 335,000 jobs; accounting for one-third of the employment gain in health care over the same period.
Leisure and hospitality employment continued to trend up in July (+45,000). This industry has averaged 29,000 jobs gained per month in 2016. Employment in performing arts and spectator sports continued to trend up in July (+10,000).

Employment in food services and drinking places was little changed in July (+21,000). So far this year, employment gains in this industry have averaged 18,000 per month, compared to an average monthly gain of 30,000 in 2015.
Employment in other services changed little in July (+3,000); however, the industry has added 60,000 jobs over the year. Personal and laundry services accounted for 50 percent of the gain in this 12-month period.
Government employment edged up in July (+38,000). Employment changed little over the month at the state and local levels.

Over the past 12 months, government has added 154,000 jobs, 86,000 of which were in local government, excluding education.