September 2016

Release Date: October 7, 2016

Prepared by Analysts of the National Estimates Branch
Current Employment Statistics Survey
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

202-691-6555
Email CES
Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 156,000 in September. Thus far in 2016, job gains have averaged 178,000 per month, compared to an average increase of 229,000 in 2015. Professional and business services and health care added jobs in September.

Average hourly earnings of all employees on private-sector payrolls rose by 6 cents or 0.2 percent over the month. Hourly earnings are up 2.6 percent over the year. Average weekly hours edged up 0.1 hour to 34.4 hours.

The employment change for August revised up from +151,000 to +167,000, and the change for July revised down from +275,000 to +252,000. Including revisions, job growth has averaged 192,000 over the past 3 months.

**67,000 Professional and Business Services**

In September, employment rose by 67,000 in professional and business services. Over the year, this industry sector has added 582,000 jobs, with the professional and technical components accounting for more than half of the increase (+312,000).

Over the month, professional and technical services added 30,000 jobs. Management and technical consulting (+16,000) accounted for more than half of this gain. Employment trended up in computer systems design and related services (+5,000).

In administrative and waste services, employment edged up over the month (+34,000).

**29,000 Education and Health Services**

Health care employment rose by 33,000 in September. Ambulatory care accounted for 24,000 of the increase, including 10,000 in
offices of physicians. Hospital employment continued to trend up (+7,000), but at half the rate observed over the preceding 12 months.

Child day care services lost 10,000 jobs in September; however, over the past 6 months, employment in the industry has shown little net change.

**+23,000 Construction**

Construction employment ticked up over the month, but it has shown essentially no net change over the past 6 months. In September, residential building added 8,000 jobs.

**+22,000 Retail Trade**

Employment in retail trade continued to trend up over the month. Clothing and clothing accessories stores (+14,000) and gasoline stations (+8,000) added jobs.

**+15,000 Leisure and Hospitality**

Food services employment continued to trend up in September (+30,000). Over the past 12 months, the industry has added 300,000 jobs. Performing arts and spectator sports lost 13,000 jobs over the month.

**+15,000 Other Services**

Employment continued to trend up in the other services sector. Employment has increased by 90,000 over the year, with personal and laundry services (+41,000) and membership organizations (+39,000) contributing the largest number of jobs.

**-9,000 Transportation and Warehousing**

In September, a 14,000-job loss in transit and ground passenger transportation more than offset job gains in warehousing and storage (+5,000) and in couriers and messengers (+3,000).
Employment in mining and logging did not change from August to September. The industry had lost 223,000 jobs since a peak in September 2014.
Construction employment edged up by 23,000 in September. Residential construction added 8,000 jobs. Employment in construction has shown little net change over the past 6 months (+4,000).

Employment in construction
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
Manufacturing employment changed little in September (-13,000). The 1-month diffusion index fell by 7.6 points to 39.2. A value below 50 indicates that more manufacturing industries are losing jobs than adding them.

Average weekly hours for all employees in manufacturing increased by 0.1 hour to 40.7 hours, but for production employees the workweek decreased by 0.1 hour to 41.7 hours.
Employment in wholesale trade changed little in September (+10,000). Over the most recent 12 months, the industry has added 60,000 jobs, with about half of those job gains occurring in nondurable goods (+32,000).
Employment in retail trade continued to trend up in September (+22,000), in line with the industry’s prior 12-month average gain of 25,000.

Within retail trade, employment in gasoline stations (+8,000) and clothing and clothing accessory stores (+14,000) edged up in September. Despite the jobs added in clothing and clothing accessory stores, employment in this industry has shown little net change over the past 6 months (+5,000).

Employment in motor vehicle and parts dealers continued to trend up in September (+5,000). So far in 2016, this industry has added an average of 3,000 jobs per month, below 2015’s average monthly gain of 7,000. During 5 out of the 9 months in 2016, motor vehicle sales (BEA) decreased over the year after posting over-the-year increases every month in 2015.
Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in September (-9,000).

Transit and ground passenger transportation lost 14,000 jobs in September. This loss was partly offset by job gains in warehousing and storage (+5,000) and in couriers and messengers (+3,000).
Employment in utilities was essentially unchanged in September.
Information employment was essentially unchanged in September (+1,000). Since its most recent trough in January 2013, the industry has regained 113,000 jobs, or 30 percent of jobs lost since its most recent peak.
Employment in financial activities continued to trend up in September (+6,000). So far this year, financial activities has added 129,000 jobs.
Professional and business services added 67,000 jobs in September.

Professional and technical services added 30,000 jobs over the month, and 233,000 year to date, accounting for 61 percent of the total job growth in professional and business services in 2016. Management and technical consulting services has been a strong contributor to this growth and added 16,000 jobs in September. Employment in accounting and bookkeeping services and in computer systems design and related services also continued to trend up over the month.

Employment in administrative and waste services continued to trend up in September (+34,000). Temporary help services accounted for the majority of the uptick (+23,000); but employment is essentially unchanged so far this year (+1,000).
Employment in health care grew by 33,000 in September. Within health care, employment changes in most industries were close to their prior 6-month averages. Ambulatory health care services added 24,000 jobs, led by offices of physicians. Hospital employment continued to trend up (+7,000), but at a slower rate than the prior 6-month average. This slower rate may be due, at least in part, to a strike in the industry.

Within social assistance, child day care services lost 10,000 jobs in September. Despite September’s loss, employment in child day care services has been relatively flat over the past 6 months (+2,000).
In September, leisure and hospitality employment changed little (+15,000). Employment in arts, entertainment, and recreation edged down (-19,000), with the majority of the job loss occurring in performing arts and spectator sports. Leisure and hospitality has added 232,000 jobs so far this year.

Employment in food services and drinking places continued to trend up in September (+30,000). So far in 2016, the industry has gained an average of 21,000 jobs per month, falling below the 2015 average of 30,000.
Employment in other services continued to trend up in September (+15,000). Since reaching a trough in June 2010, the industry has gained 401,000 jobs, which puts employment in the industry 176,000 above the most recent industry peak, reached in April 2008.
Employment in government changed little in September (-11,000). Over the past 12 months, however, government has added 145,000 jobs, 74 percent of which were in local government.

Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
* denotes significance