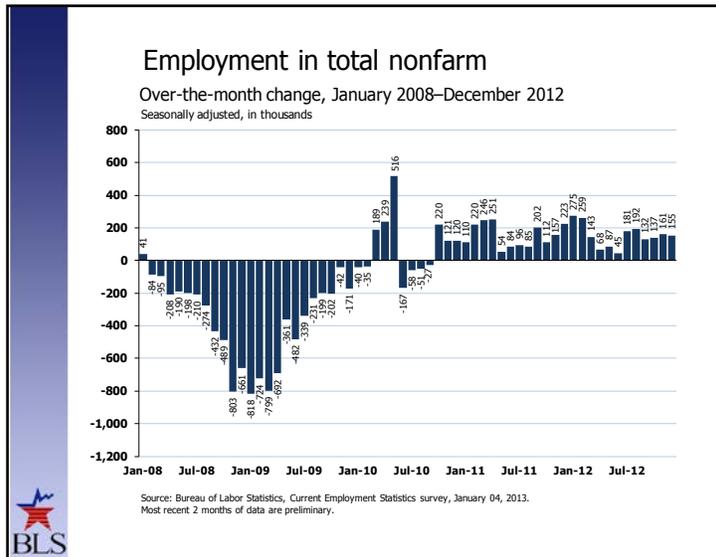
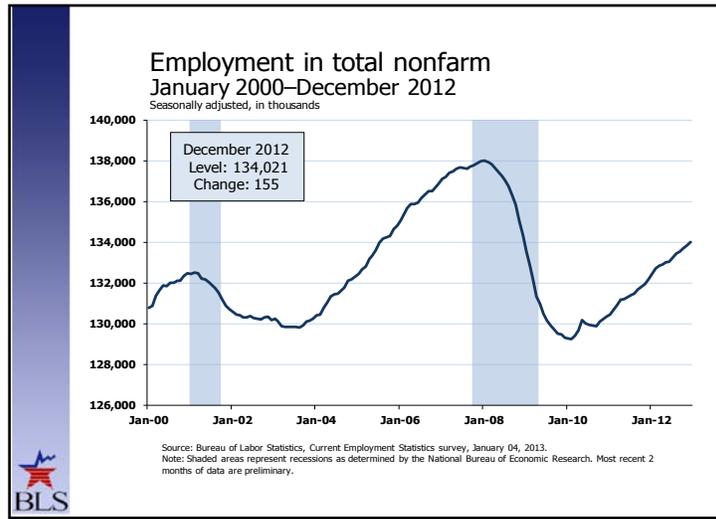


Bureau of Labor Statistics

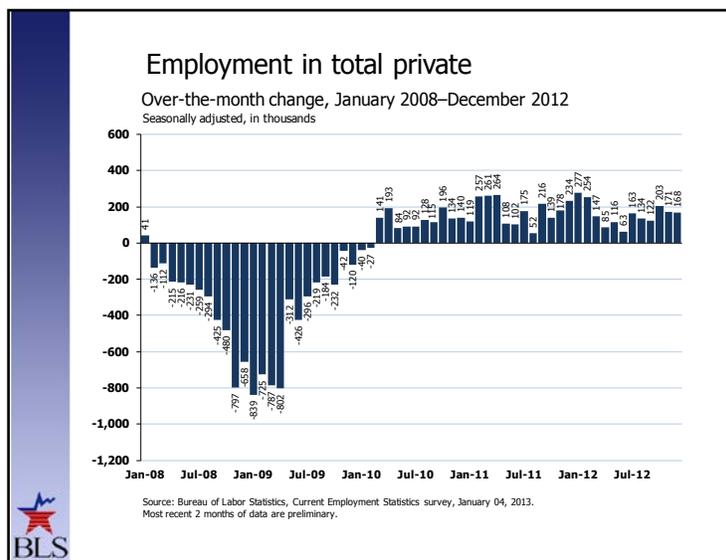
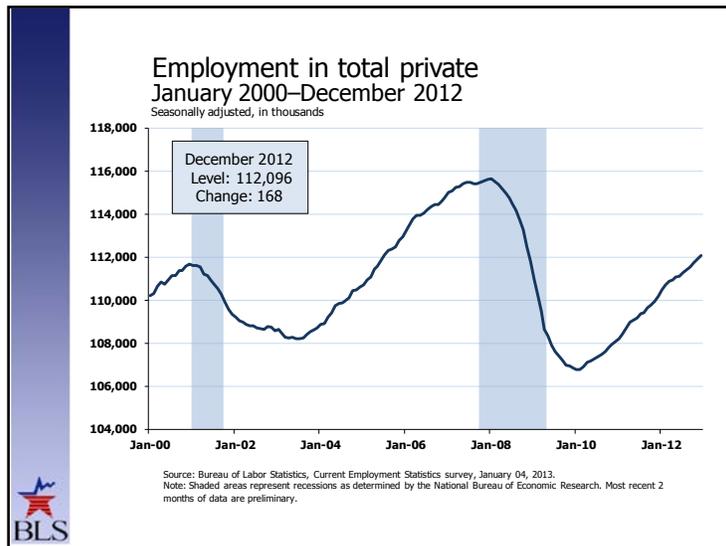


Current Employment Statistics Highlights December 2012

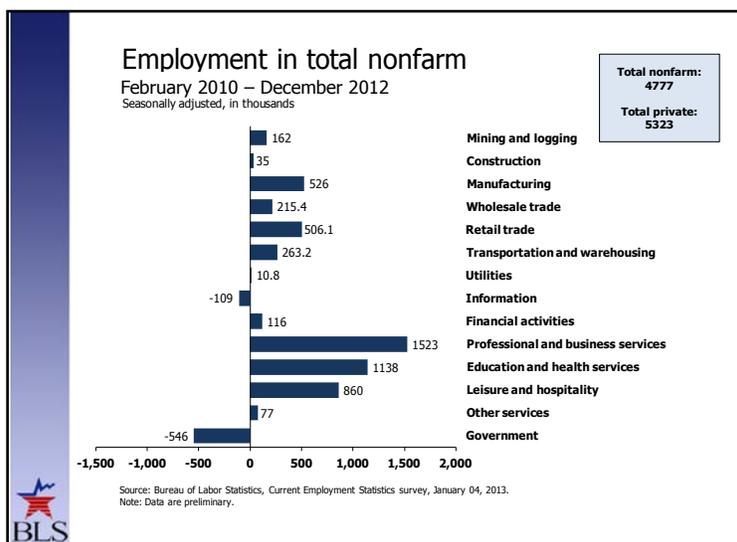
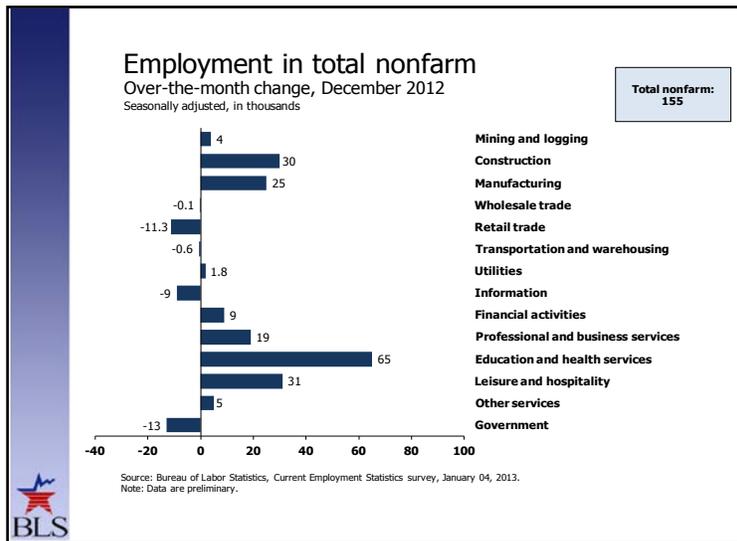
Bureau of Labor Statistics
January 4, 2013



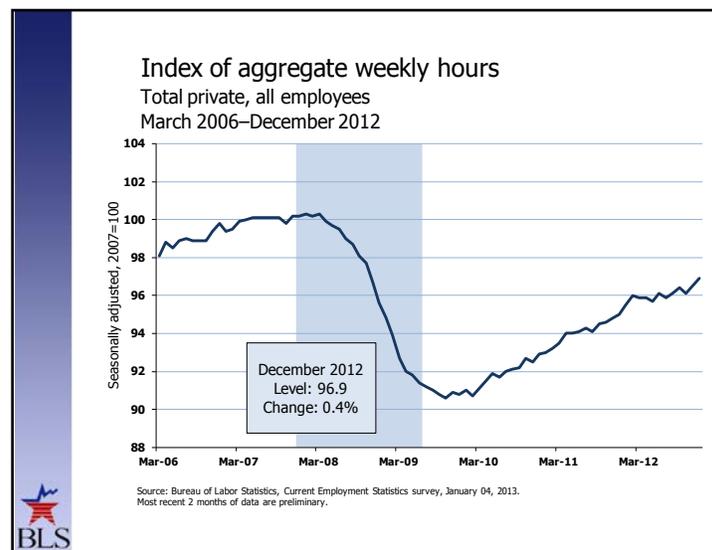
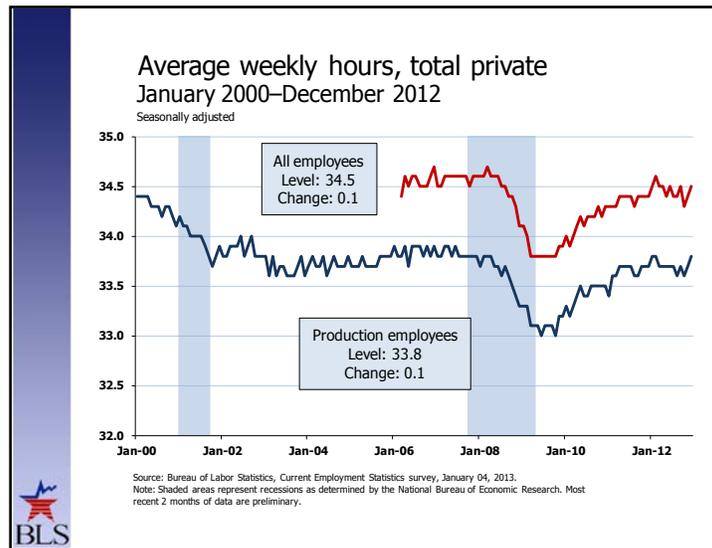
- Total nonfarm employment rose by 155,000 in December.
- In 2012, employment grew by an average of 153,000 per month, the same as the average monthly gain for 2011.



- In December, total private employment rose by 168,000. In 2012, job growth averaged 159,000 per month, compared to an average monthly gain of 175,000 in 2011.
- Since reaching an employment trough in February 2010, the private sector has added 5.3 million jobs, a gain of 5.0 percent.



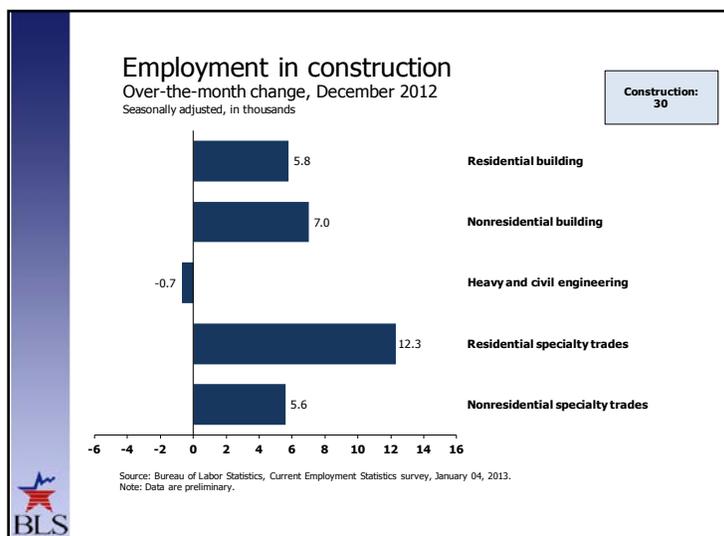
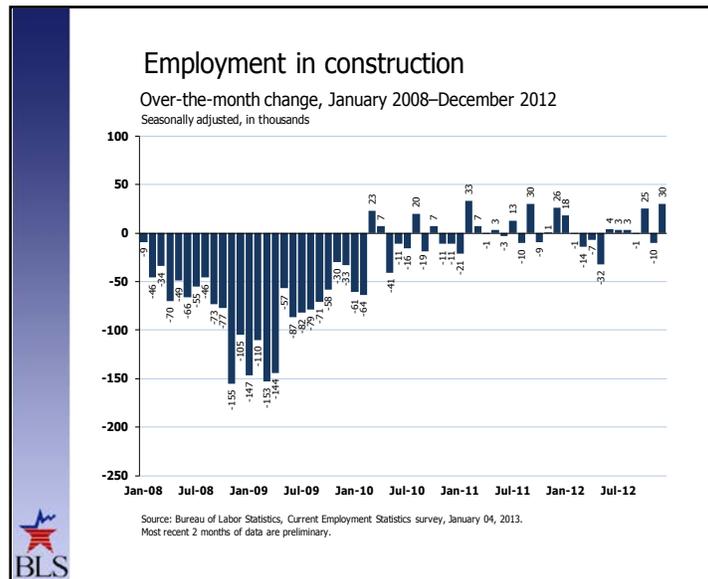
- In December, education and health services contributed more than 40 percent of the total nonfarm job gain. Employment also rose in construction and manufacturing, and employment in both leisure and hospitality and professional and business services continued upward trends.
- Since an employment trough in February 2010, nonfarm job gains have totaled 4.8 million. The largest increases have occurred in professional and business services, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality, which together contributed nearly three-fourths of all nonfarm job gains during this period. Government lost 546,000 jobs during this period.



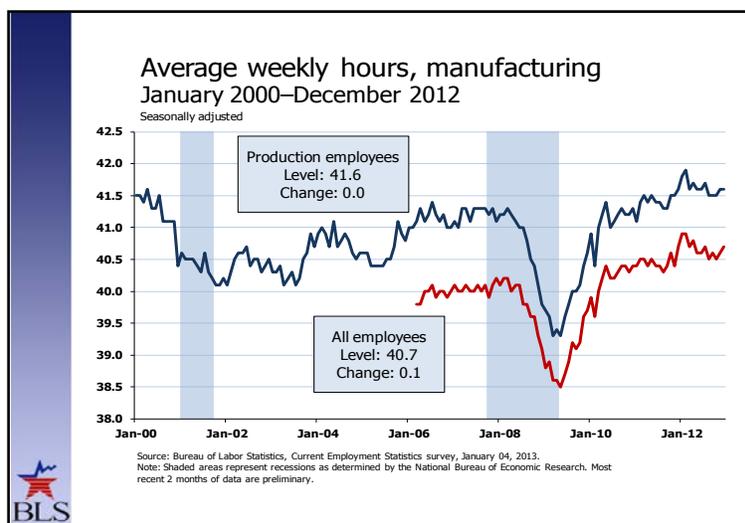
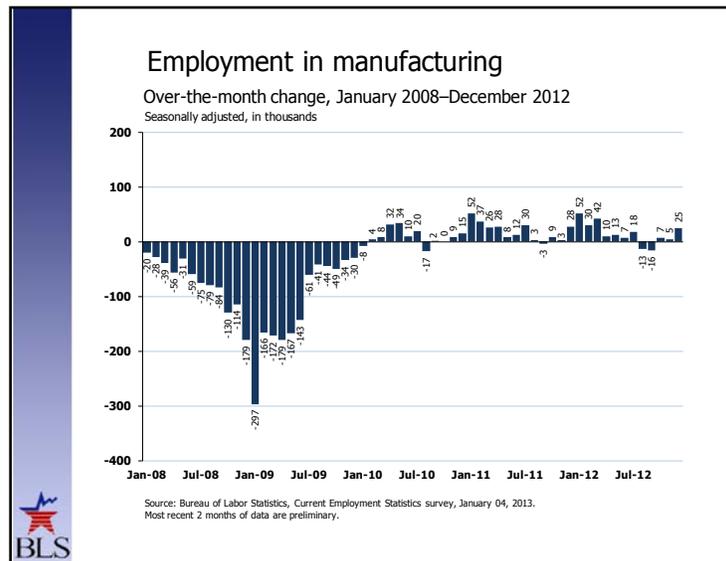
- Average weekly hours for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose 0.1 hour in December. Since reaching a trough in October 2009, the average workweek for all employees in the private sector has risen 0.7 hour.
- The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls edged up by 0.1 hour to 33.8 hours.
- In December, the employment gain for all private-sector employees combined with the gain in the workweek resulted in a 0.4-percent increase in the index of aggregate weekly hours. Since reaching a trough in October 2009, the index has risen 7.0 percent.



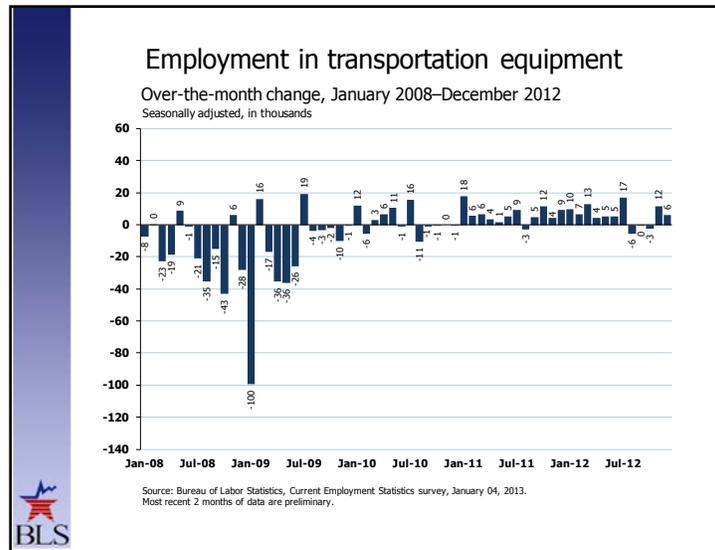
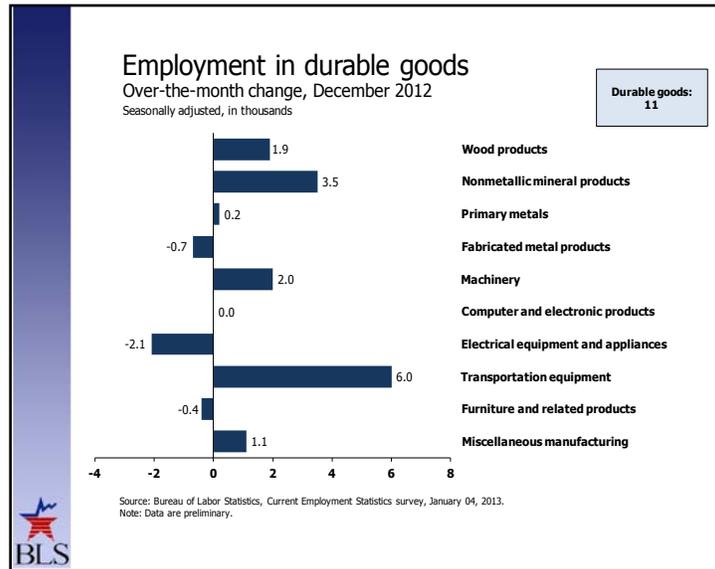
- Average hourly earnings of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 7 cents in December to \$23.73. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have risen by 2.1 percent.
- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased by 1.8 percent from November 2011 to November 2012.



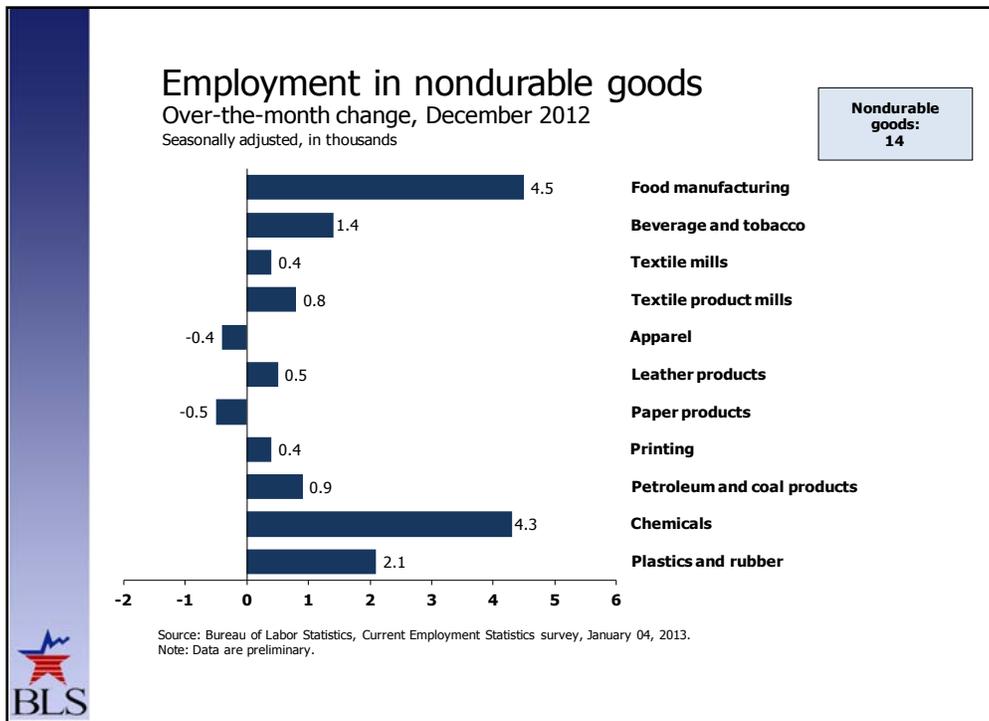
- Construction added 30,000 jobs in December, with gains in residential specialty trade contractors, in residential building, and in nonresidential building.
- Construction employment was up by 45,000 in the fourth quarter of 2012, after changing little in the third quarter.



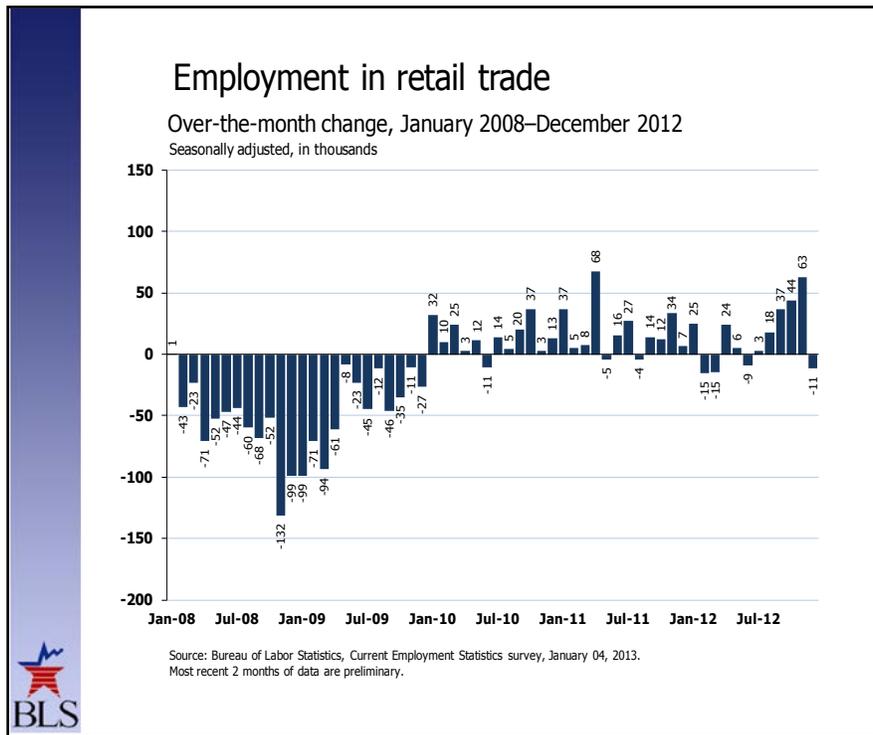
- In December, manufacturing employment grew by 25,000, with small gains in a number of component industries.
- Manufacturing added 180,000 jobs over the year.
- The workweek for all employees in manufacturing edged up by 0.1 hour in December to 40.7 hours. The increase in employment combined with the longer workweek resulted in a 0.5-percent increase in the index of aggregate weekly hours in manufacturing.



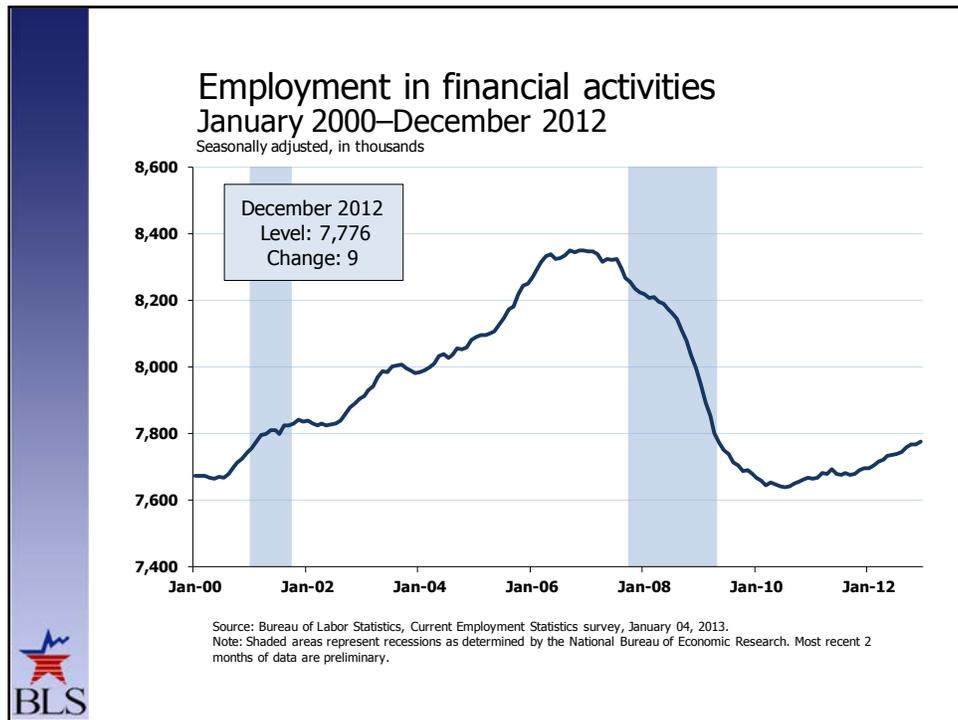
- Durable goods employment edged up in December, with gains spread across several component industries.
- Over the month, motor vehicles and parts contributed 5,000 to the uptick in employment in transportation equipment.



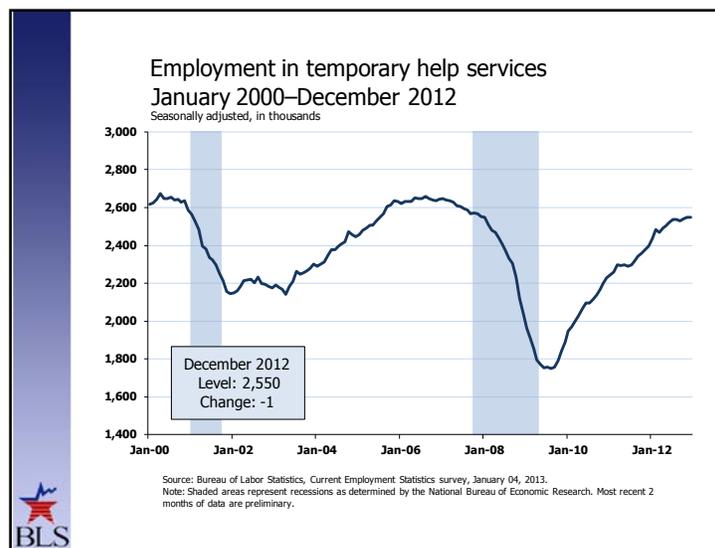
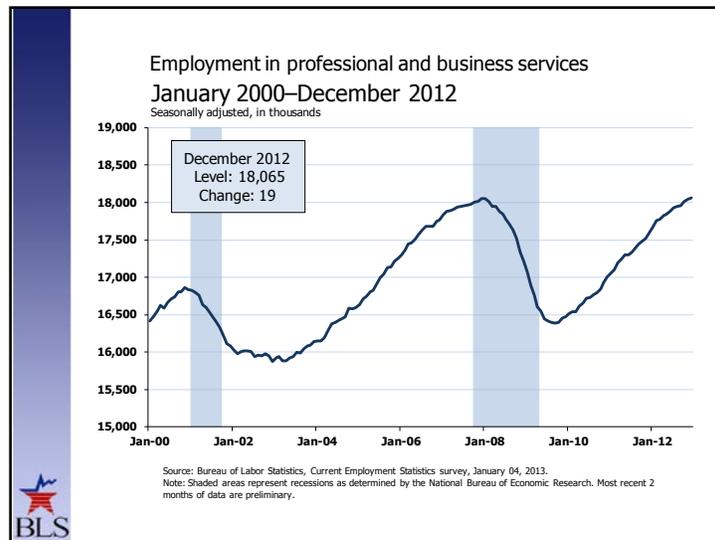
- Nondurable goods employment grew by 14,000 in December. Since reaching an employment trough in December 2011, the industry has added 38,000 jobs.
- Chemicals added 4,000 jobs over the month after a decline of 6,000 jobs in November.



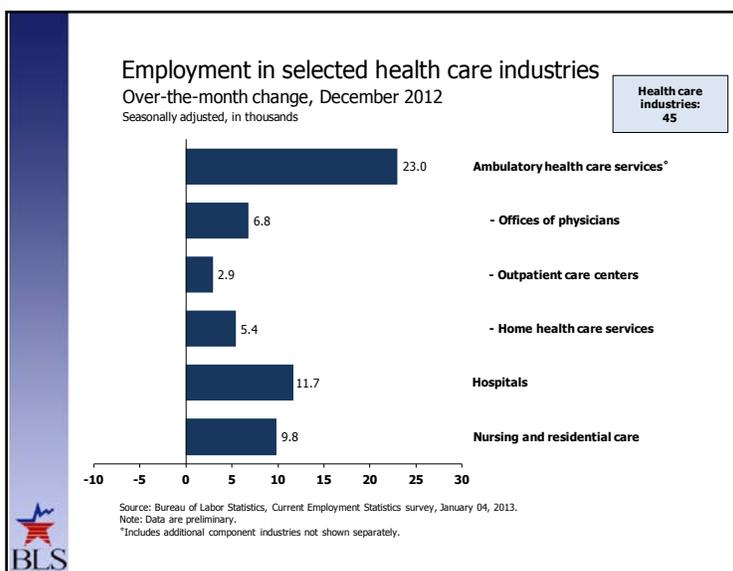
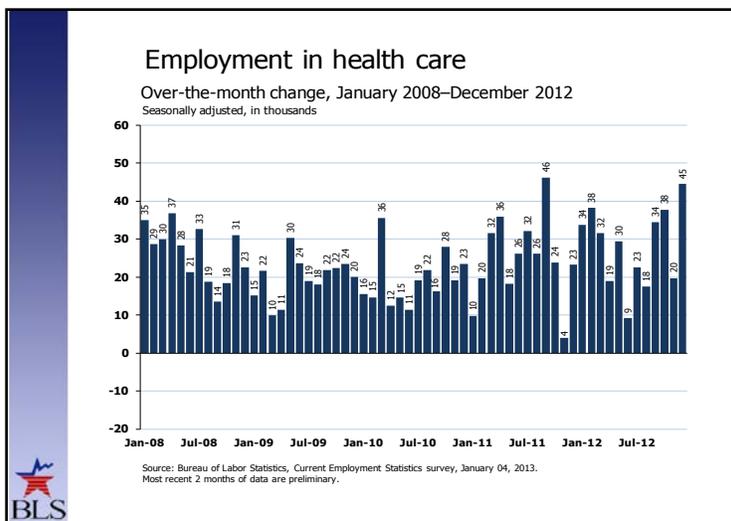
- Employment in retail trade changed little in December, after increasing by 143,000 over the prior 3 months.
- Clothing and accessory stores shed 19,000 jobs over the month, after adding 55,000 over the prior 3 months.
- In December, employment continued to trend up in automobile dealers and in food and beverage stores.



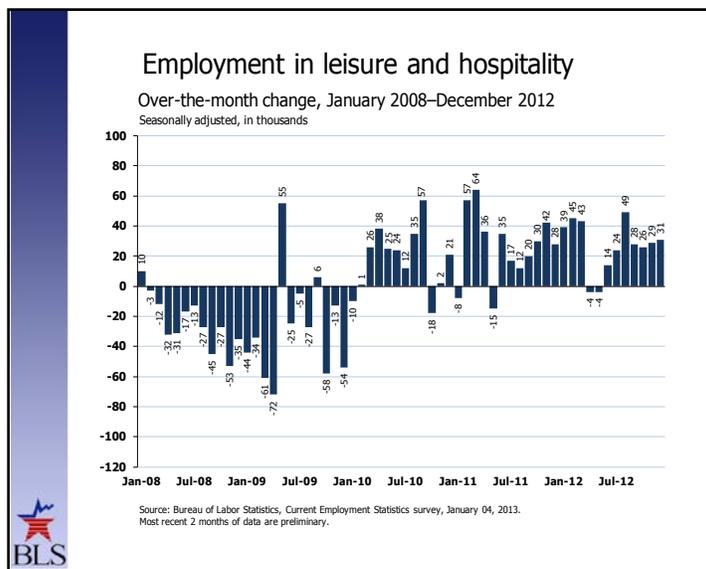
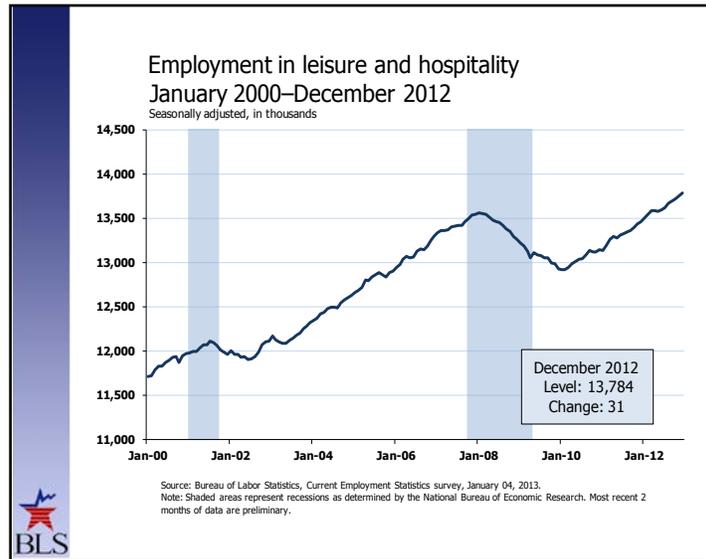
- Employment in financial activities continued to trend up in December.
- Over the year, financial activities added 80,000 jobs.



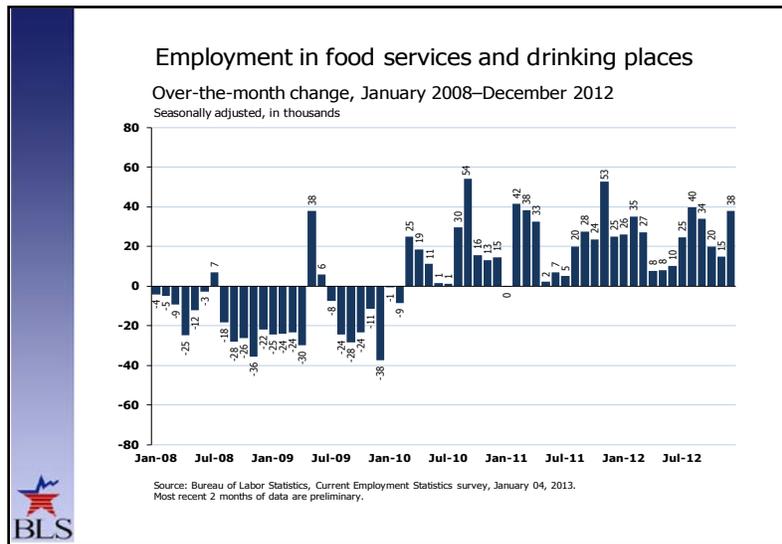
- In December, employment continued its upward trend in professional and business services, surpassing its January 2008 peak.
- Since reaching a trough in September 2009, employment in the sector has expanded by 1.7 million.
- Employment in temporary help services was essentially unchanged in December.



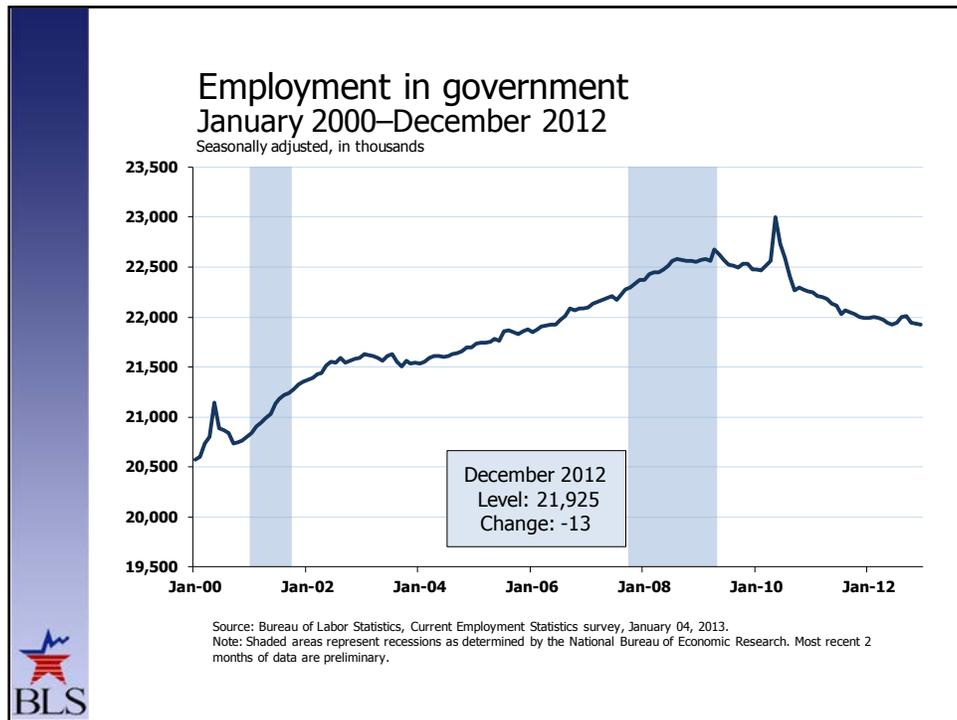
- Health care employment continued to expand in December, adding 45,000 jobs.
- Over the month, employment rose in ambulatory health care services (+23,000), hospitals (+12,000) and nursing and residential care facilities (+10,000).
- In 2012, health care employment rose by 338,000.



- Leisure and hospitality industries continued to add jobs to payrolls in December (+31,000).
- Since a trough in January 2010, employment in leisure and hospitality has expanded by 861,000, and the industry’s employment in December was 224,000 above its most recent employment peak, reached in January 2008.



- In December, employment in food services and drinking places rose by 38,000, surpassing 10 million for the first time.
- In 2012, the industry added an average of 24,000 jobs per month, essentially the same as in 2011.



- Government employment changed little in December.
- Government employment is 655,000 below its August 2008 level, when employment in both state and local governments reached peaks.
- Although government lost an average 6,000 jobs per month in 2012, the change reflects a deceleration over 2011, when the sector lost an average 22,000 jobs per month.