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Current Employment Statistics Highlights

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Prepared by Analysts of the National Estimates Branch
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Nonfarm employment increased by 213,000 in June. Professional and business services, manufacturing, and health care added jobs, while employment in retail trade declined.

The employment change for May revised up from +223,000 to +244,000, and the change for April revised up from +159,000 to +175,000. On net, employment over these months is 37,000 higher than previously reported.

Average hourly earnings of all private-sector employees increased by 5 cents in June and have risen by 2.7 percent over the year. Average weekly hours, at 34.5 hours, were unchanged in June.

**+50,000 Professional and Business Services**

Employment in professional and business services increased by 50,000 in June, with half of the growth occurring in professional and technical services. Over the year, professional and business services has added 521,000 jobs.

**+36,000 Manufacturing**

In June, employment in manufacturing rose by 36,000. Durable goods manufacturing accounted for most of the increase, including job gains in primary metals (+3,000), fabricated metal products (+7,000), and computer and electronic products (+5,000). Motor vehicles and parts employment increased by 12,000 in June, more than offsetting a decline of 8,000 in May. Over the year, manufacturing has added 285,000 jobs.
+54,000 Education and Health Services
Health care added 25,000 jobs in June. Within the industry, employment in ambulatory care services continued to trend up (+14,000), while hospitals added 10,000 jobs. Over the past 12 months, health care has added 309,000 jobs.

-22,000 Retail Trade
Employment in retail trade declined by 22,000, mostly offsetting a job gain in May. General merchandise stores, including warehouse clubs and supercenters, lost 18,000 jobs in June. Electronics and appliance stores also lost jobs over the month (-4,000). Retail trade employment has shown little net change since February of this year.

+4,000 Mining and Logging
Mining employment continued to trend up in June (+5,000), mostly in support activities for mining (+4,000). Since an employment trough in October 2016, mining has added 95,000 jobs, with support activities for mining responsible for 93,000 jobs gained.

+13,000 Construction
Employment in construction continued to trend up in June (+13,000). The industry has added 282,000 jobs over the past 12 months with specialty trade contractors accounting for about two-thirds of the growth.
Employment in mining continued its upward trend in June (+5,000). Support activities for mining contributed 4,000 jobs to the gain. So far in 2018, mining has added 40,000 jobs, with 76 percent (+31,000) coming from support activities for mining. The recent job gains are consistent with increasing numbers of domestic oil rigs, up 1.3 percent between May and June.
Construction employment continued an upward trend in June (+13,000), with modest changes among the component industries. Employment changes in June follow a 6.7-percent rise in new home sales in May.
Employment in manufacturing continued to grow in June (+36,000). Over the year, the industry has added 285,000 jobs, for a 2.3-percent increase. The last time this industry experienced this pace of growth occurred in February 1995 (+2.4 percent).

Once again, durable goods manufacturing added the lion’s share of job gains in June, constituting 32,000 or 89 percent of the over-the-month change in manufacturing. Amongst the components of durable goods, primary metals (+3,000), fabricated metal products (+7,000), computer and electronic products (+5,000), and transportation equipment (+13,000) all added jobs. The unusual strength shown by transportation equipment can be attributed to the return of workers who were off payrolls in May, after a fire at a parts plan disrupted the flow of parts for assembly (Source: Auto News).
Employment in wholesale trade was little changed in June (+3,000). Despite little net employment change over the last 6 months, wholesale trade has gained 63,000 jobs over the year. More than four-fifths of those jobs were added in durable goods industries, coinciding with gains in durable goods manufacturing employment over the same span.
Retail Trade

In June, employment in retail trade continued its fluctuating trend and declined by 22,000, offsetting a May increase of 25,000, and showing little net change since February.

In June, job losses occurred in general merchandise stores, food and beverage stores, and electronic and appliances stores. After rising by 10,000 in May, employment in general merchandise stores decreased by 22,000, led by a loss of 18,000 in general merchandise stores, including warehouse clubs supercenters.
Employment in transportation and warehousing edged up in June (+15,000). Couriers and messengers (+4,000) and rail transportation (-800) reported significant employment changes over the month.

Transportation and warehousing has shown some increased strength so far in 2018. The industry is adding an average of 15,000 jobs a month versus 11,000 per month in 2017.
Employment in utilities was essentially unchanged in June and has shown little change over the last 12 months (-1,000).

Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
* denotes significance.
Information employment remained unchanged in June. Within the industry, telecommunications lost 3,000 jobs, while small positive changes in publishing industries, except internet, and in data processing, hosting and related services offset the decline.

Information employment has trended down by 51,000 since its most recent peak in October 2016. Telecommunications has accounted for 85 percent of the jobs lost during this period.
Employment in financial activities changed little (+8,000) in June. Although monthly job changes have been small, over the most recent 12 months financial activities employment has grown by 127,000. These gains are about evenly split between finance and insurance industries and real estate and rental and leasing industries.
Employment in professional and business services increased by 50,000 jobs in June. So far in 2018, professional and business services has gained 292,000 jobs.

In June, professional and technical services employment increased by 25,000 jobs, led by architectural and engineering services (+7,000) and computer systems design and related services (+6,000). In 2018, professional and technical services has added an average 24,000 jobs a month, higher than the 2017 average monthly change of 15,000.

Employment continued to trend up in administrative and waste services in June (+19,000). Services to buildings and dwellings (+8,000) and employment services (+7,000) accounted for most of the change.
Employment in private education and health services increased by 54,000 in June after rising by 40,000 in May. Health care accounted for 25,000 of the June increase. During the first 6 months of 2018, private education and health services has gained 243,000 jobs. Health care accounted for about 64 percent of this gain, while private education accounted for over 13 percent and social assistance about 22 percent.

Employment in ambulatory health care services continued to trend up in June (+14,000) while hospitals gained 11,000 jobs. So far this year, health care has added 156,000 jobs. Ambulatory health care services accounted for two-thirds of the increase over this period, and hospitals accounted for one-third.
Within leisure and hospitality, employment in food services and drinking places continued to edge up (+16,000). Job growth in food services has decelerated to an average 15,000 per month year to date, compared to an average increase of 22,000 per month in 2017.
Employment in other services continued to trend up in June (+16,000). Over the most recent 12 months, the industry has added 99,000 jobs, representing a change of 1.7 percent. Personal and laundry services accounted for 51,000 of the gains during this period.
Government employment continued to exhibit a flattened trend in June (+11,000) and has remained little changed since July 2016. Federal employment decreased by 2,000 in June, while both state and local employment changed little over the month. Over the last 12 months, federal employment has decreased by 16,000 jobs; the U.S. Postal Service accounted for 10,000 of the loss.