

Economic News Release

SHARE ON:      FONT SIZE:   PRINT: 

Employment Situation Summary

Transmission of material in this release is embargoed until 8:30 a.m. (EDT) Friday, June 7, 2013

USDL-13-1102

Technical information:

Household data: (202) 691-6378 * cpsinfo@bls.gov * www.bls.gov/cps
Establishment data: (202) 691-6555 * cesinfo@bls.gov * www.bls.gov/ces

Media contact: (202) 691-5902 * PressOffice@bls.gov

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION -- MAY 2013

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 175,000 in May, and the unemployment rate was essentially unchanged at 7.6 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Employment rose in professional and business services, food services and drinking places, and retail trade.

Household Survey Data

Both the number of unemployed persons, at 11.8 million, and the unemployment rate, at 7.6 percent, were essentially unchanged in May. (See table A-1.)

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates for adult men (7.2 percent), adult women (6.5 percent), teenagers (24.5 percent), whites (6.7 percent), blacks (13.5 percent), and Hispanics (9.1 percent) showed little or no change in May. The jobless rate for Asians was 4.3 percent (not seasonally adjusted), little changed from a year earlier. (See tables A-1, A-2, and A-3.)

In May, the number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) was unchanged at 4.4 million. These individuals accounted for 37.3 percent of the unemployed. Over the past 12 months, the number of long-term unemployed has declined by 1.0 million. (See table A-12.)

The civilian labor force rose by 420,000 to 155.7 million in May; however, the labor force participation rate was little changed at 63.4 percent. Over the year, the labor force participation rate has declined by 0.4 percentage point. The employment-population ratio was unchanged in May at 58.6 percent and has shown little movement, on net, over the past year. (See table A-1.)

In May, the number of persons employed part time for economic reasons (sometimes referred to as involuntary part-time workers) was unchanged at 7.9 million. These individuals were working part time because their hours had been cut back or because they were unable to find a full-time job. (See table A-8.)

In May, 2.2 million persons were marginally attached to the labor force, down from 2.4 million a year earlier. (These data are not seasonally adjusted.) These individuals were not in the labor force, wanted and were available for work, and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months. They were not counted as unemployed because they had not searched for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey. (See table A-16.)

Among the marginally attached, there were 780,000 discouraged workers in May, little

changed from a year earlier. (These data are not seasonally adjusted.) Discouraged workers are persons not currently looking for work because they believe no jobs are available for them. The remaining 1.4 million persons marginally attached to the labor force in May had not searched for work for reasons such as school attendance or family responsibilities. (See table A-16.)

Establishment Survey Data

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 175,000 in May, with gains in professional and business services, food services and drinking places, and retail trade. Over the prior 12 months, employment growth averaged 172,000 per month. (See table B-1.)

Professional and business services added 57,000 jobs in May. Within this industry, employment continued to trend up in temporary help services (+26,000), computer systems design and related services (+6,000), and architectural and engineering services (+5,000). Employment in professional and business services has grown by 589,000 over the past year.

Within leisure and hospitality, employment in food services and drinking places continued to expand, increasing by 38,000 in May and by 337,000 over the past year.

Retail trade employment increased by 28,000 in May. The industry added an average of 20,000 jobs per month over the prior 12 months. In May, general merchandise stores continued to add jobs (+10,000).

Health care employment continued to trend up in May (+11,000). Job gains in home health care services (+7,000) and outpatient care centers (+4,000) more than offset a loss in hospitals (-6,000). Over the prior 12 months, job growth in health care averaged 24,000 per month.

Within government, federal government employment declined by 14,000 in May. Over the past 3 months, federal government employment has decreased by 45,000.

Employment in other major industries, including mining and logging, construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, transportation and warehousing, and financial activities, showed little or no change over the month.

The average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged in May at 34.5 hours. In manufacturing, the workweek increased by 0.1 hour to 40.8 hours, and overtime was unchanged at 3.3 hours. The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 0.1 hour to 33.8 hours. (See tables B-2 and B-7.)

In May, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls, at \$23.89, changed little (+1 cent). Over the year, average hourly earnings have risen by 46 cents, or 2.0 percent. In May, average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees, at \$20.08, changed little (+1 cent). (See tables B-3 and B-8.)

The change in total nonfarm payroll employment for March was revised from +138,000 to +142,000, and the change for April was revised from +165,000 to +149,000. With these revisions, employment gains in March and April combined were 12,000 less than previously reported.

The Employment Situation for June is scheduled to be released on Friday, July 5, 2013, at 8:30 a.m. (EDT).

- [Employment Situation Summary Table A. Household data, seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Employment Situation Summary Table B. Establishment data, seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Employment Situation Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Employment Situation Technical Note](#)
- [Table A-1. Employment status of the civilian population by sex and age](#)
- [Table A-2. Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, and age](#)

- [Table A-3. Employment status of the Hispanic or Latino population by sex and age](#)
- [Table A-4. Employment status of the civilian population 25 years and over by educational attainment](#)
- [Table A-5. Employment status of the civilian population 18 years and over by veteran status, period of service, and sex, not seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Table A-6. Employment status of the civilian population by sex, age, and disability status, not seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Table A-7. Employment status of the civilian population by nativity and sex, not seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Table A-8. Employed persons by class of worker and part-time status](#)
- [Table A-9. Selected employment indicators](#)
- [Table A-10. Selected unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Table A-11. Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment](#)
- [Table A-12. Unemployed persons by duration of unemployment](#)
- [Table A-13. Employed and unemployed persons by occupation, not seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Table A-14. Unemployed persons by industry and class of worker, not seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Table A-15. Alternative measures of labor underutilization](#)
- [Table A-16. Persons not in the labor force and multiple jobholders by sex, not seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail](#)
- [Table B-2. Average weekly hours and overtime of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Table B-3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Table B-4. Indexes of aggregate weekly hours and payrolls for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Table B-5. Employment of women on nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted](#)
- [Table B-6. Employment of production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted\(1\)](#)
- [Table B-7. Average weekly hours and overtime of production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted\(1\)](#)
- [Table B-8. Average hourly and weekly earnings of production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted\(1\)](#)
- [Table B-9. Indexes of aggregate weekly hours and payrolls for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector, seasonally adjusted\(1\)](#)
- [Access to historical data for the "A" tables of the Employment Situation Release](#)
- [Access to historical data for the "B" tables of the Employment Situation Release](#)
- [HTML version of the entire news release](#)

The PDF version of the news release

Table of Contents

Last Modified Date: June 07, 2013

RECOMMEND THIS PAGE USING:  Facebook  Twitter  LinkedIn

TOOLS

Areas at a Glance
Industries at a Glance
Economic Releases
Databases & Tables
Maps

CALCULATORS

Inflation
Location Quotient
Injury And Illness

HELP

Help & Tutorials
FAQs
Glossary
About BLS
Contact Us

INFO

What's New
Careers @ BLS
Find It! DOL
Join our Mailing Lists
Linking & Copyright Info

RESOURCES

Inspector General (OIG)
Budget and Performance
No Fear Act
USA.gov
Benefits.gov

Disability.gov

[Freedom of Information Act](#) | [Privacy & Security Statement](#) | [Disclaimers](#) | [Customer Survey](#) | [Important Web Site Notices](#)

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics | Division of Labor Force Statistics, PSB Suite 4675, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20212-0001

www.bls.gov/CPS | Telephone: 1-202-691-6378 | [Contact CPS](#)

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics | Division of Current Employment Statistics, PSB Suite 4860, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20212-0001

www.bls.gov/CES | Telephone: 1-202-691-6555 | [Contact CES](#)