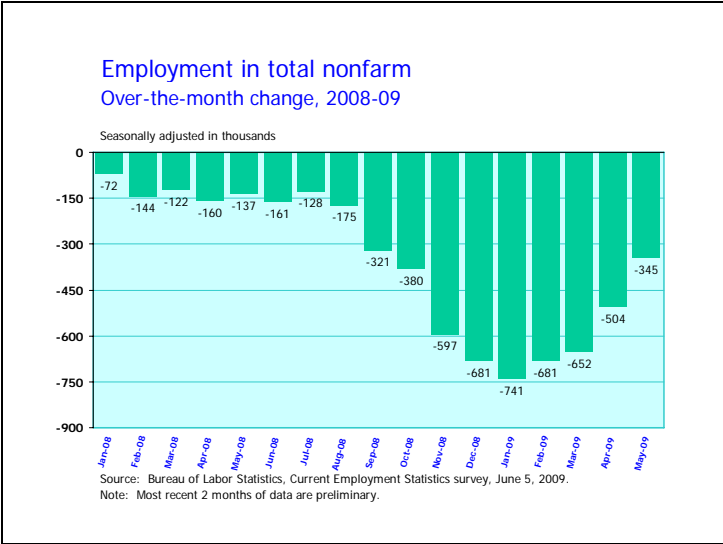
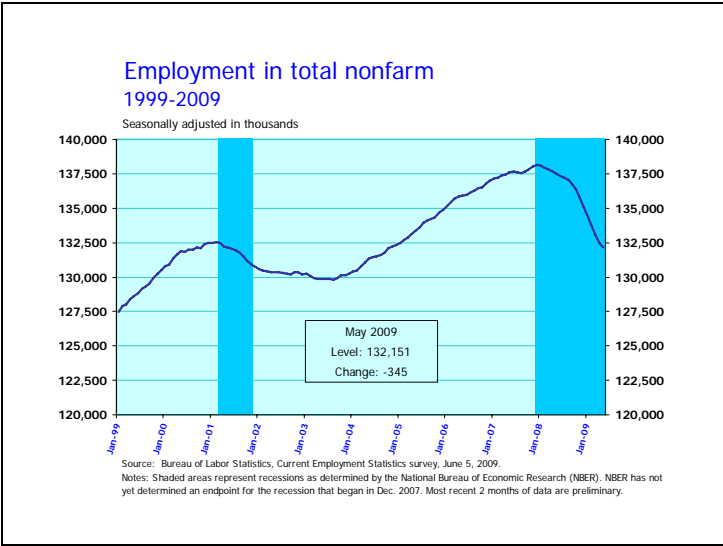


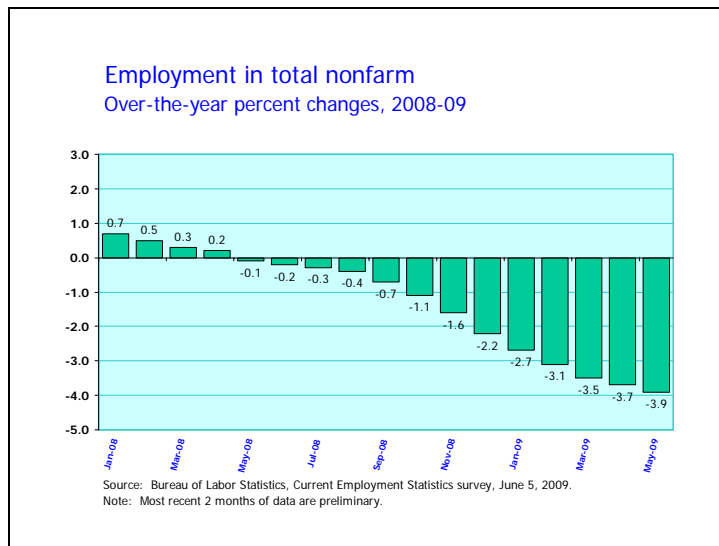
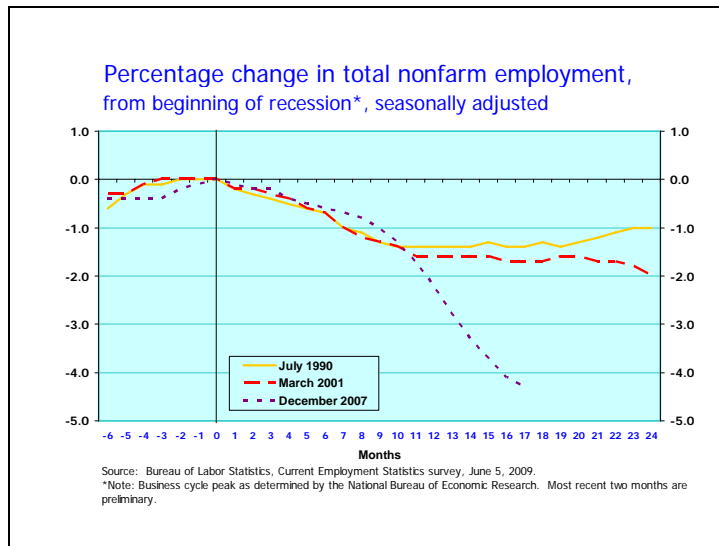


# **Current Employment Statistics Highlights May 2009**

Bureau of Labor Statistics  
June 5, 2009

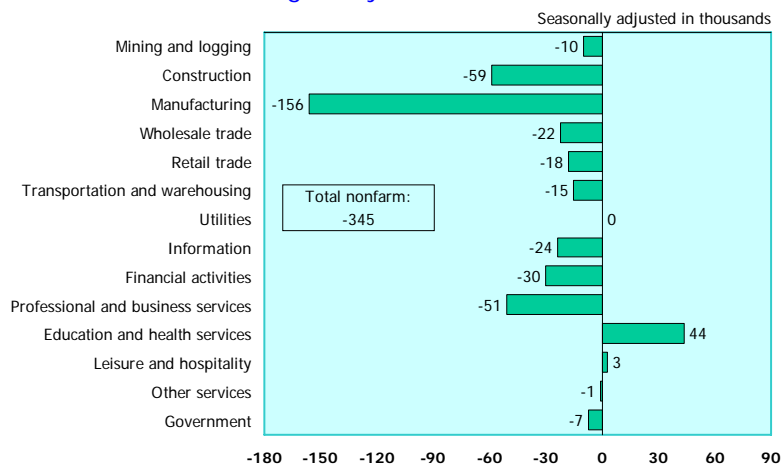


- Nonfarm payroll employment declined by 345,000 in May. This decline was about half of the average monthly job loss for the prior 6 months. Since the recession began in December 2007, payroll employment has fallen by 6 million.



- Total nonfarm employment peaked in December 2007, coinciding with the start of the recession as declared by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).
- In the 17 months since the start of the recession, employment has fallen by 4.3 percent. During the 2001 and 1990 recessions, employment levels fell by 1.7 percent and 1.4 percent, respectively, over the same length of time.
- Employment is down 3.9 percent from May 2008.

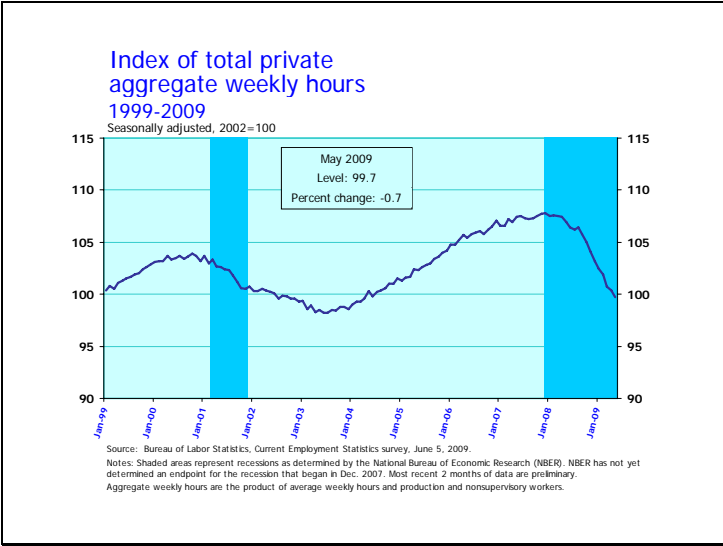
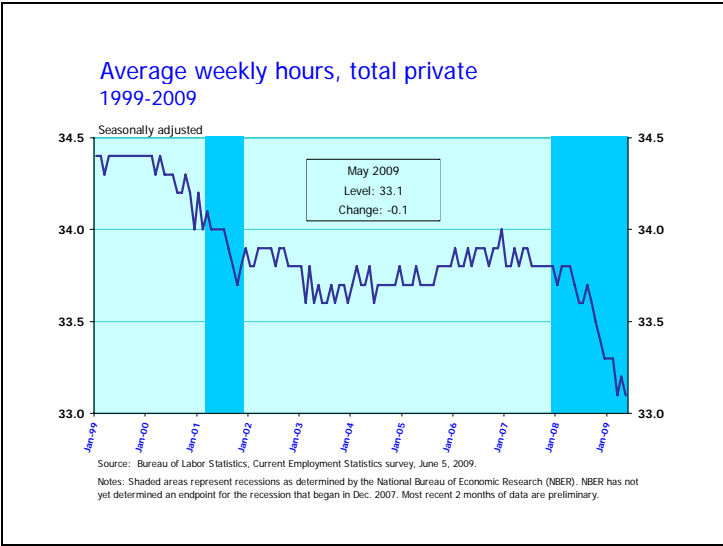
## Employment in total nonfarm Over-the-month change, May 2009



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 5, 2009.

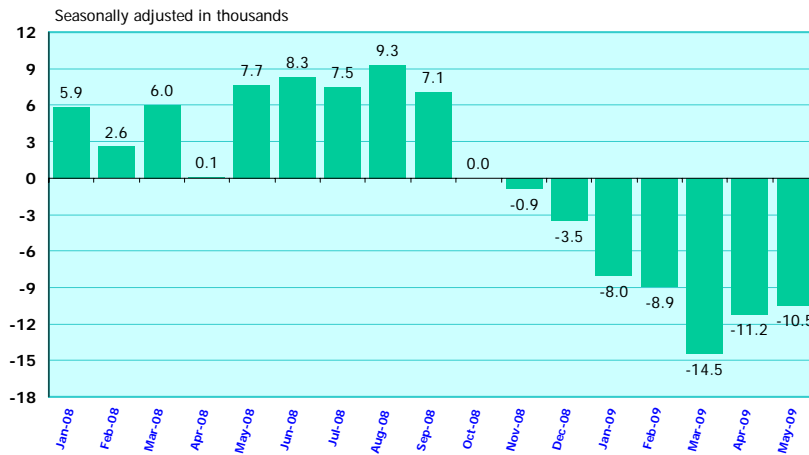
Note: Data are preliminary.

- In May, job losses occurred in most major industry sectors. Steep job losses continued in manufacturing, but the rate of decline moderated in many major industries, including construction, professional and business services, and retail trade.
- Goods-producing industries shed 225,000 jobs in May, while service-providing industries lost 120,000 jobs.
- The only industry with employment gains in May was education and health services, which added 44,000 jobs.



- In May, the average workweek for production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls was 33.1 hours, seasonally adjusted. With the exception of March, this is the lowest level on record for the series, which began in 1964.
- A 0.1-hour decrease offset a 0.1-hour increase in April.
- The index of aggregate weekly hours of production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls fell by 0.7 percent in May. Since peaking in December 2007, the index has decreased by 7.5 percent.

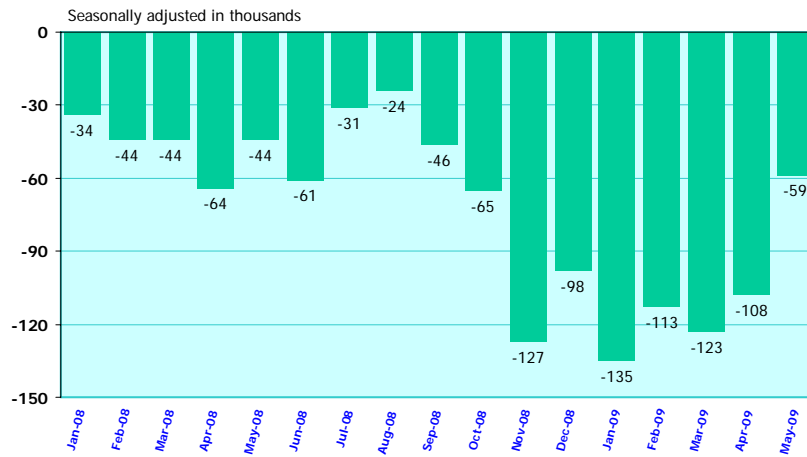
## Employment in mining Over-the-month change, 2008-09



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 5, 2009.  
Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

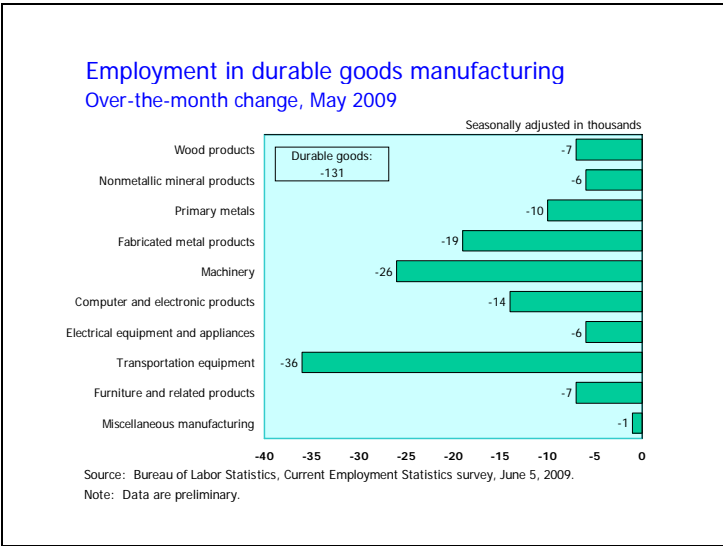
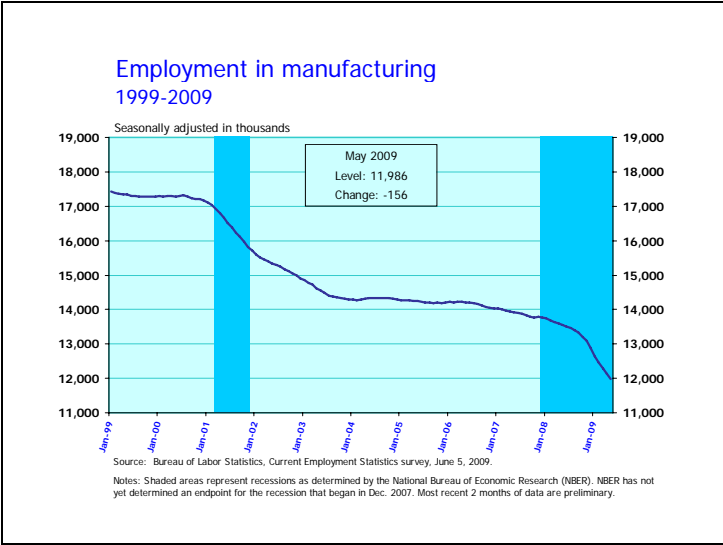
- Employment in mining realized a loss of 11,000 jobs in May. Since peaking in October 2008, the industry has shed 58,000 jobs, a sharp contrast to 2008 during which the industry added an average 4,000 jobs per month.

## Employment in construction Over-the-month change, 2008-09



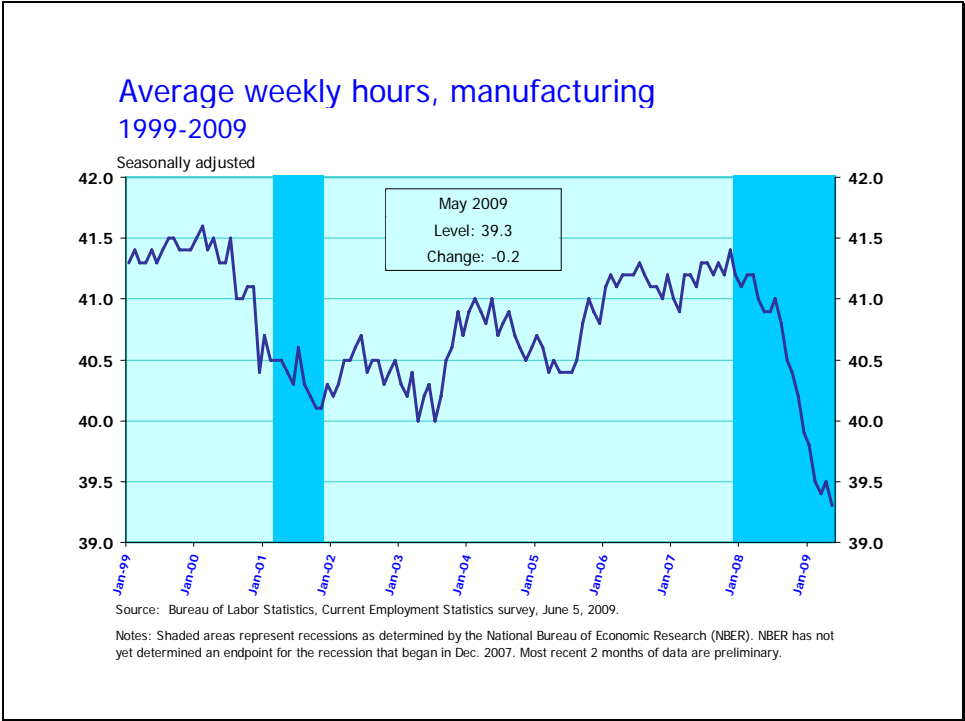
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 5, 2009.  
Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

- Construction employment declined by 59,000 in May, compared with an average monthly job loss of 117,000 in the industry for the previous 6 months.
- Since the beginning of the recession, construction employment has declined by about 1.2 million. Employment in construction currently stands at its lowest level since November 1998, having lost all the jobs gained in the housing-related expansion from March 2003 to January 2007.
- Employment losses in May were widespread throughout the industry, with the sharpest declines in nonresidential specialty trade contractors (-30,000) and residential construction of buildings (-11,000).



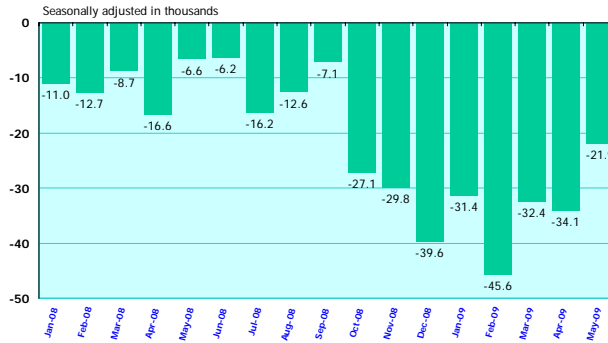
- Employment in manufacturing fell by 156,000 over the month, with job losses occurring in most component industries. Since the start of the recession, manufacturing employment has decreased by 1.8 million, representing 3 in 10 of the jobs lost during this downturn.
- Employment in durable goods manufacturing was responsible for the majority of these losses with 131,000 jobs cut from payrolls in May. Three durable goods industries, motor vehicles and parts (-30,000), machinery (-26,000), and fabricated metal products (-19,000) accounted for over half of the overall decline in factory employment.





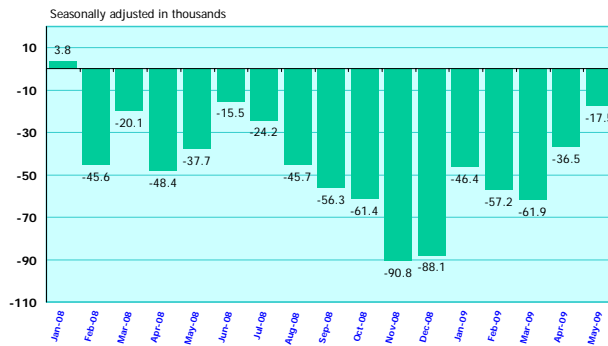
- The manufacturing workweek decreased by 0.2 hour to 39.3 hours, and factory overtime remained unchanged at 2.7 hours. The manufacturing workweek has remained below 40 hours for 6 consecutive months. A level of 39.3 hours was last recorded in February 1983.

### Employment in wholesale trade Over-the-month change, 2008-09



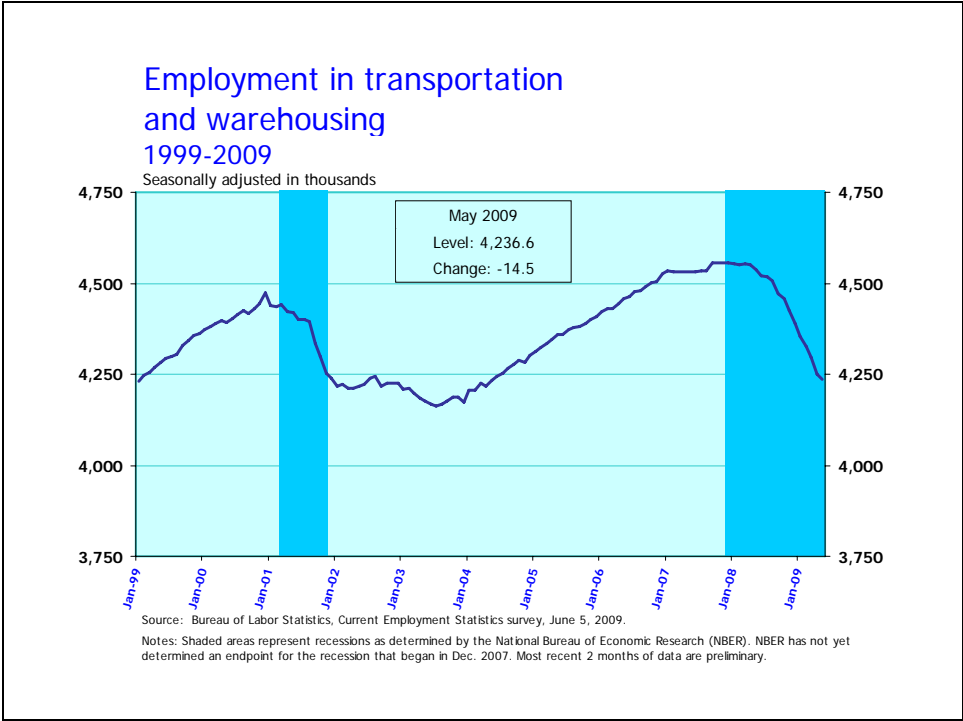
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 5, 2009.  
Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

### Employment in retail trade Over-the-month change, 2008-09



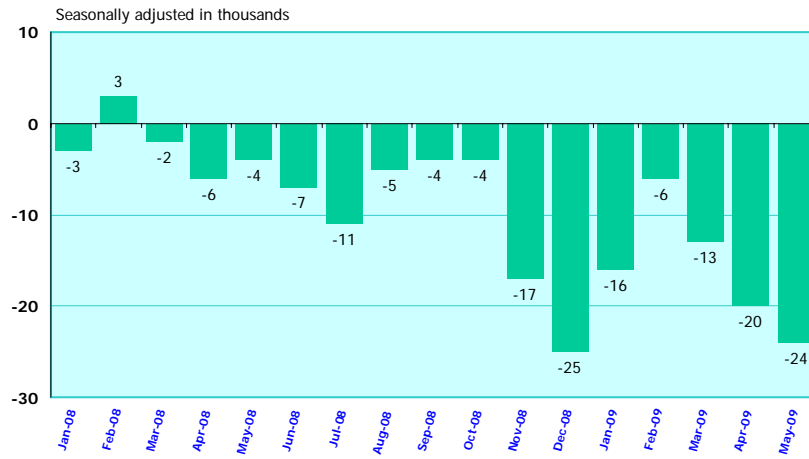
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 5, 2009.  
Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

- Wholesale trade employment was down 22,000 over the month, with durable goods wholesalers accounting for more than half of this loss. Wholesale trade has lost 363,000 jobs since employment peaked in November 2007.
- Employment in retail trade fell by 18,000 in May, compared with an average monthly job loss of 63,000 in the industry for the previous 6 months. Since peaking in November 2007, employment has declined by 772,000.



- Transportation and warehousing cut 15,000 jobs from payrolls in May. This loss was less than half the average monthly decline of 34,000 jobs the industry had experienced over the previous 6 months.
- Trucking shed 8,000 jobs this month, the smallest 1-month decline the industry has seen since October 2008. Truck transportation has cut 147,000 positions since the start of the current recession.

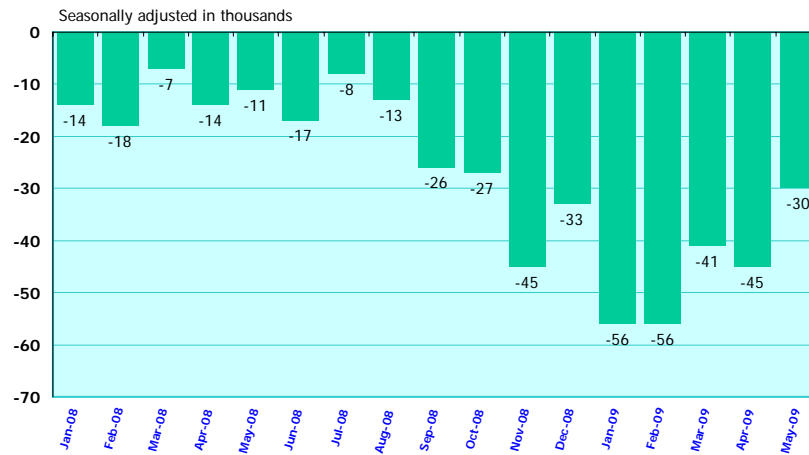
## Employment in information Over-the-month change, 2008-09



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 5, 2009.  
Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

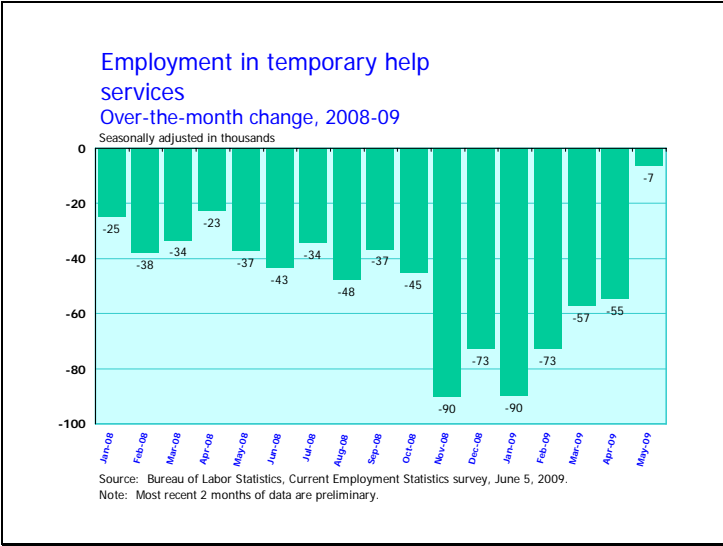
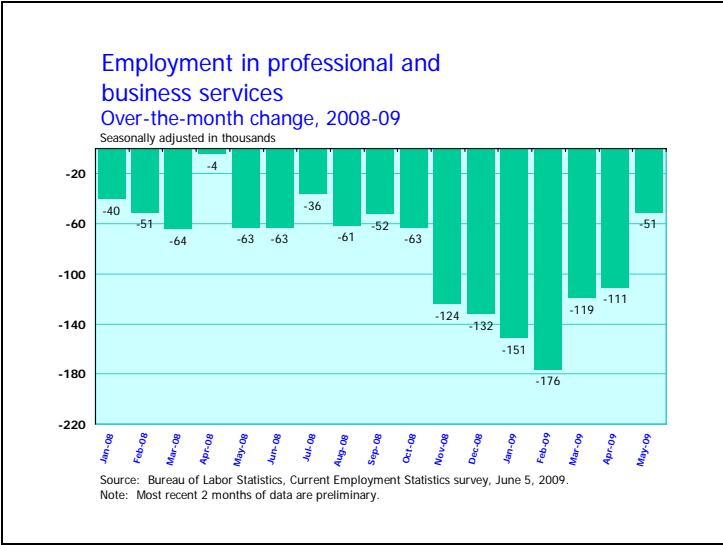
- Information employment fell by 24,000 in May. This was 8,000 lower than its prior 6-month average decline of 16,000.
- Information has now lost 164,000 jobs since the start of the recession, with 52 percent of those losses coming from publishing (except Internet) and 27 percent coming from telecommunications.

## Employment in financial activities Over-the-month change, 2008-09



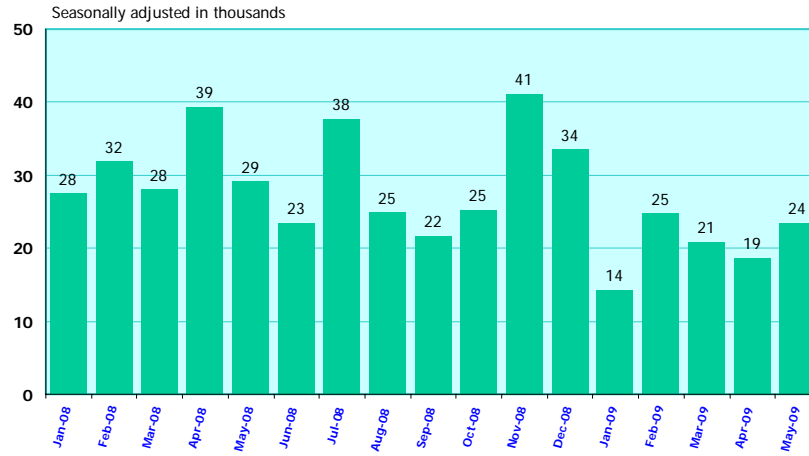
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 5, 2009.  
Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

- Employment in financial activities declined by 30,000 over the month. This is less than the prior 6-month average job loss of 46,000.
- Job losses occurred throughout the sector, including securities (-10,000) and real estate (-9,000).



- During May, professional and business services employment declined by 51,000; the loss was moderate relative to the 136,000 jobs lost on average over the previous 6 months.
- Temporary help employment changed little in May, following monthly losses that averaged 73,000 during the prior 6 months.

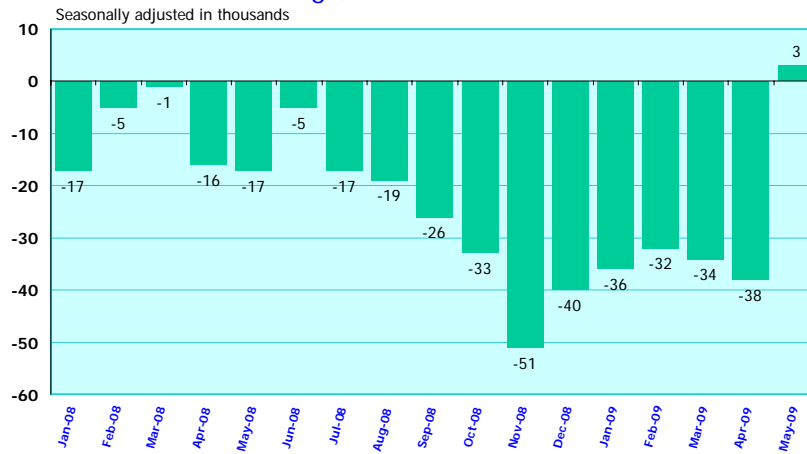
## Employment in health care Over-the-month change, 2008-09



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 5, 2009.  
Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

- Health care employment grew by 24,000 in May, about in line with its average monthly gain thus far in 2009.
- Average monthly growth in health care has slowed from 30,000 per month in 2008, largely due to little growth in hospital employment during 2009.

## Employment in leisure and hospitality Over-the-month change, 2008-09

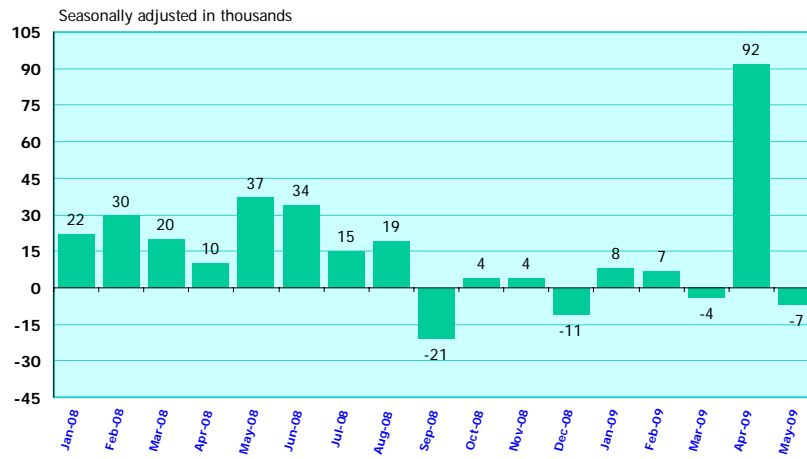


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 5, 2009.  
Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

- Employment in leisure and hospitality industry was essentially flat in May. This industry has shed 384,000 jobs since the recession began and has lost an average of 39,000 jobs over the last 6 months.
- Job losses in amusements, gambling, and recreation were offset by small employment gains in food services and drinking places and performing arts and spectator sports.



## Employment in government Over-the-month change, 2008-09



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 5, 2009.  
Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

- Government employment experienced a small decline in May (-7,000), resulting from the loss of Census intermittent workers and U.S. Postal service employees. State and local government employment was relatively unchanged.