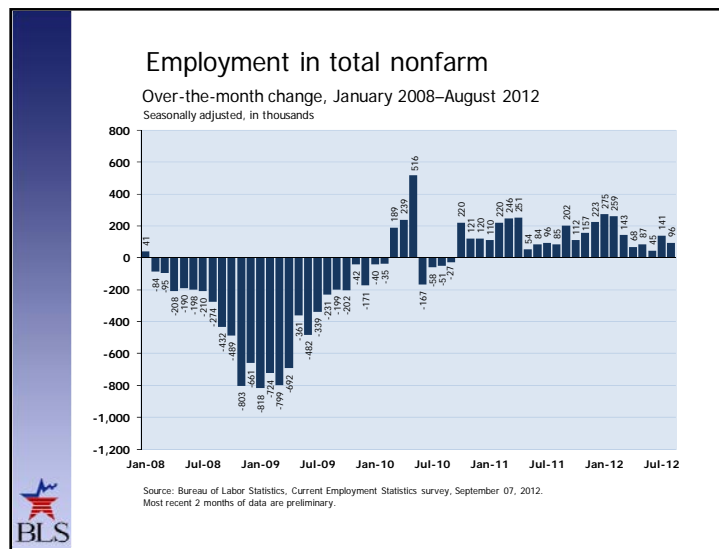
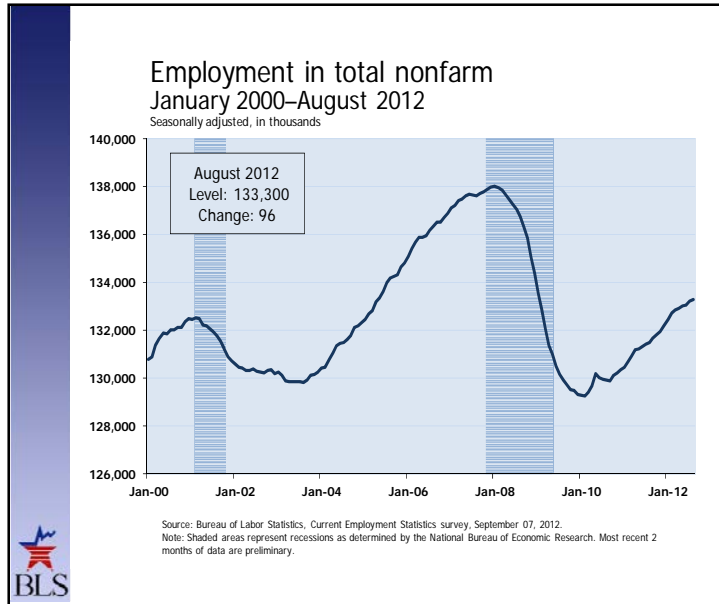


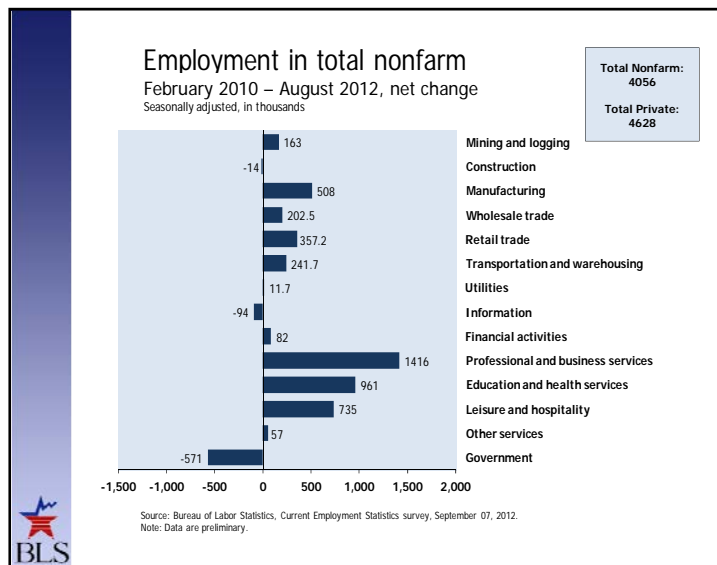
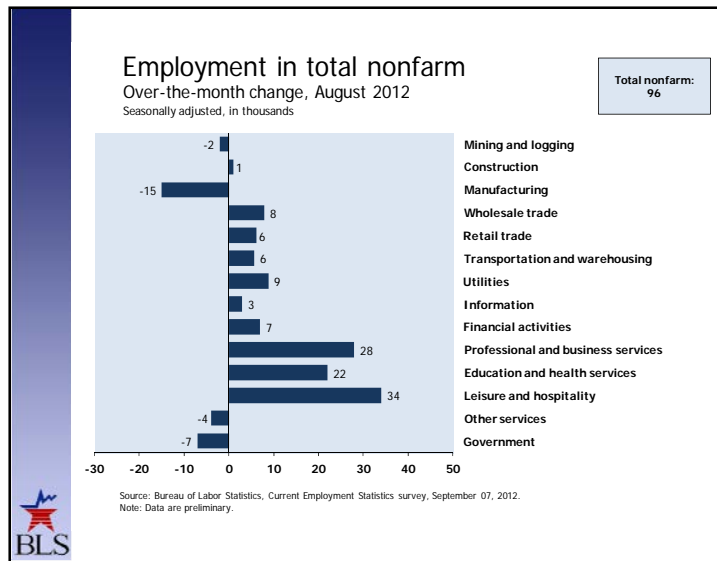


Current Employment Statistics Highlights August 2012

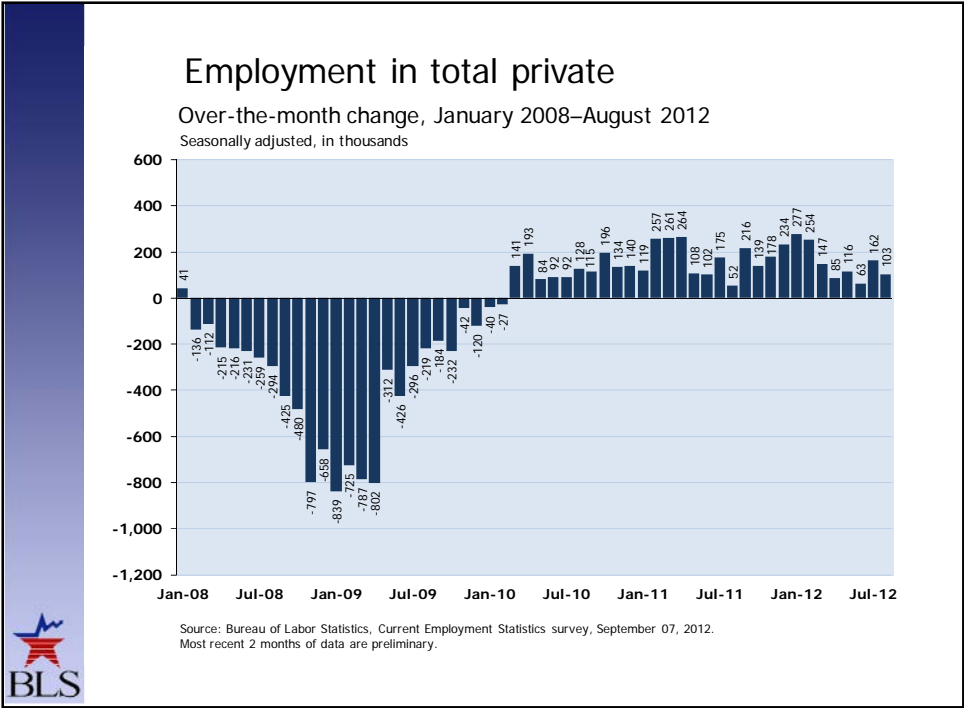
Bureau of Labor Statistics
September 7, 2012



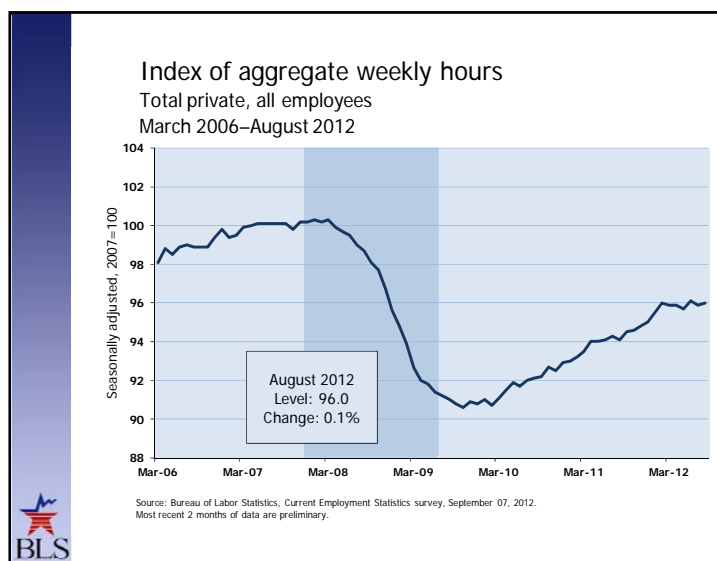
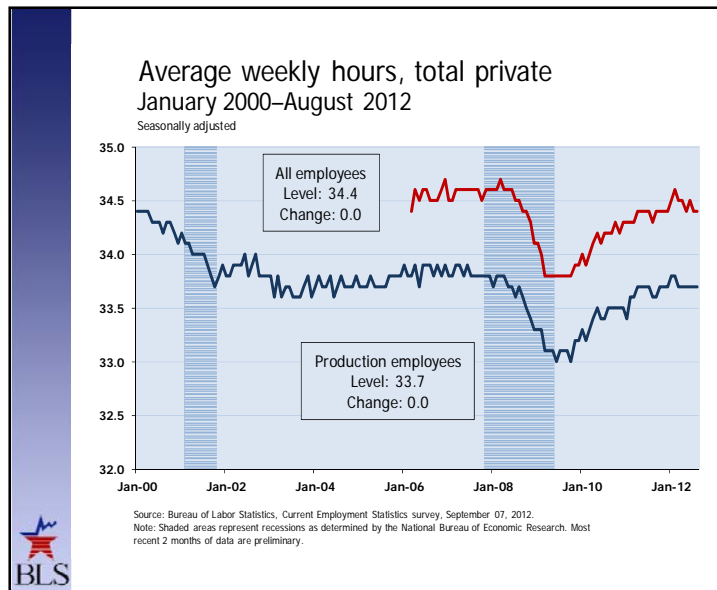
- Total nonfarm employment rose by 96,000 in August.
- Since the beginning of the year, job growth has averaged 139,000 per month, compared with an average monthly gain of 153,000 in 2011.



- In August, employment rose in food services and drinking places, in professional and business services, and in health care, but changed little in most other major industries over the month.
- Since an employment trough in February 2010, most nonfarm job gains have come in professional and business services, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality.



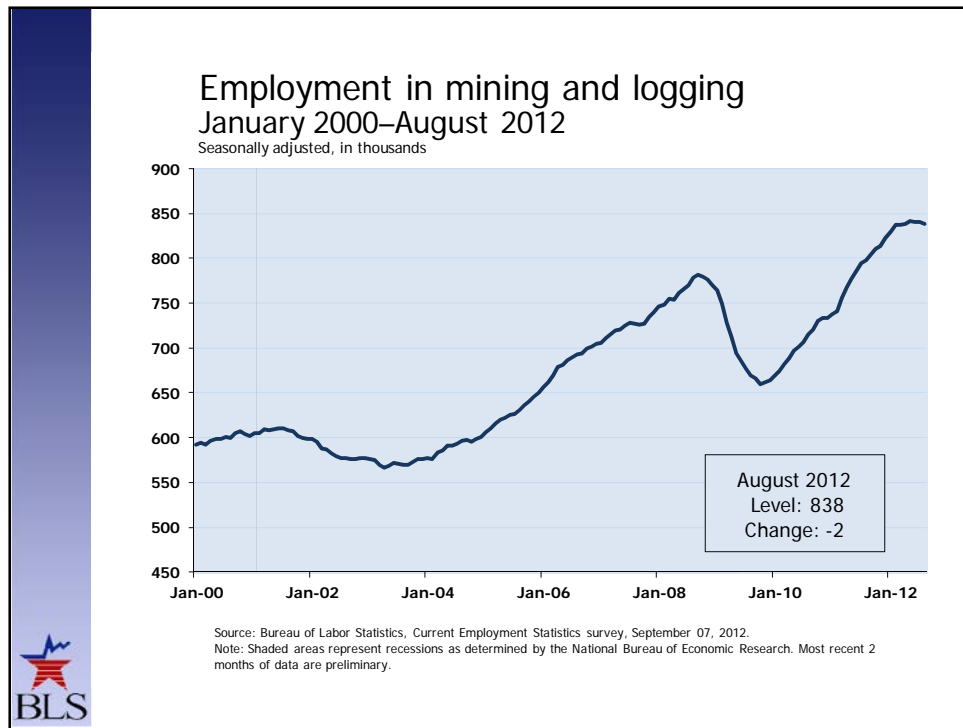
- Total private employment grew by 103,000 in August, bringing the year-to-date gain to 1.2 million.
- Since reaching an employment trough in February 2010, private industry has added 4.6 million jobs, for a gain of 4.3 percent.



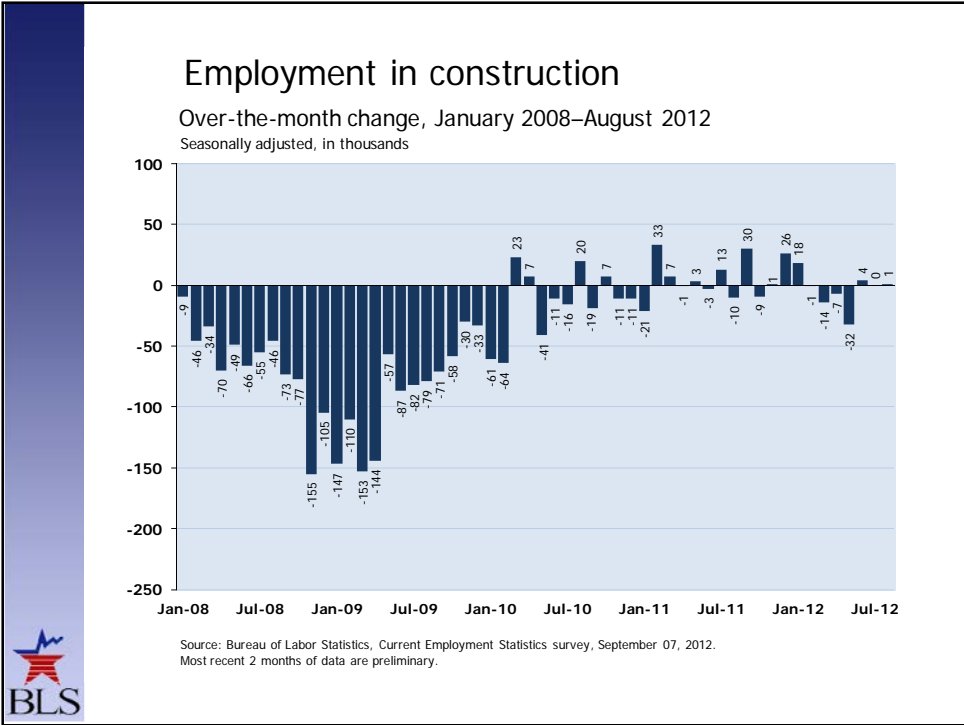
- Average weekly hours for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 34.4 hours in August. The August workweek was 0.6 hour above the October 2009 trough.
- At 33.7 hours, the average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls was also unchanged in August.
- The index of aggregate weekly hours for all employees rose 0.1 percent in August. Since reaching a trough in October 2009, the index has risen 6 percentage points.



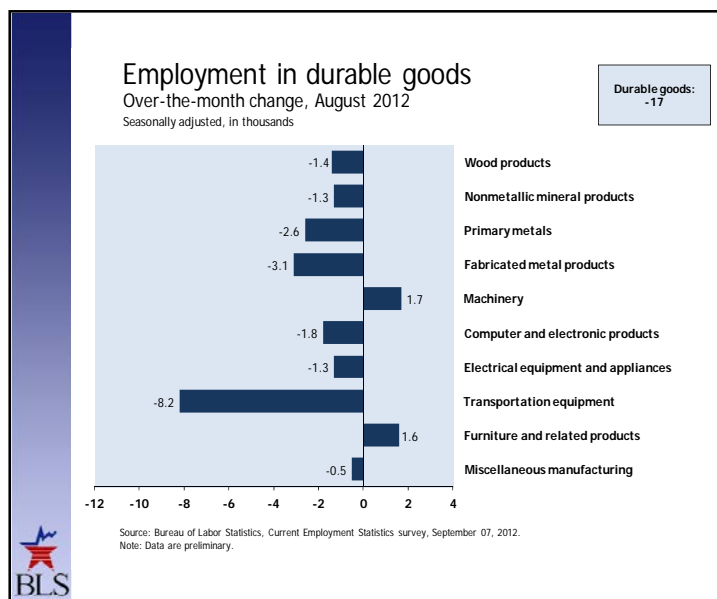
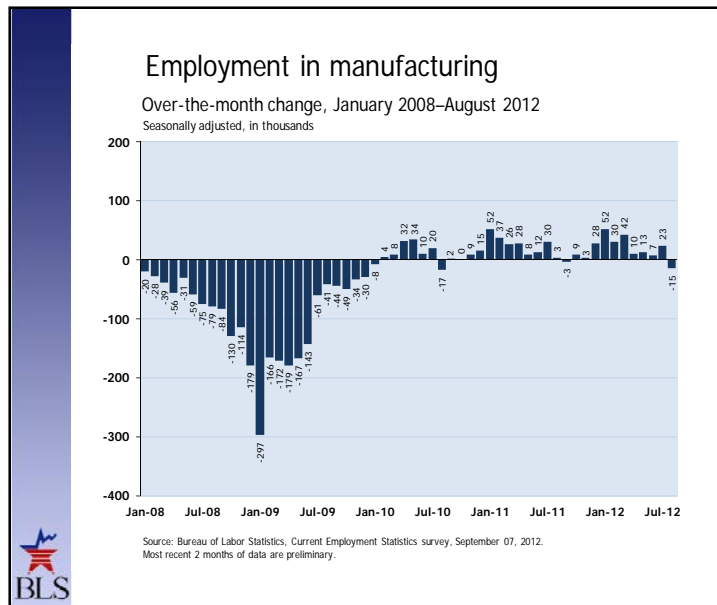
- Average hourly earnings of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls edged down by 1 cent in August to \$23.52.
- Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 1.7 percent. In July, the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) had increased by 1.4 percent over the year.



- Mining and logging employment edged down by 2,000 in August.
- Since February 2012, employment in the industry has shown little net change.



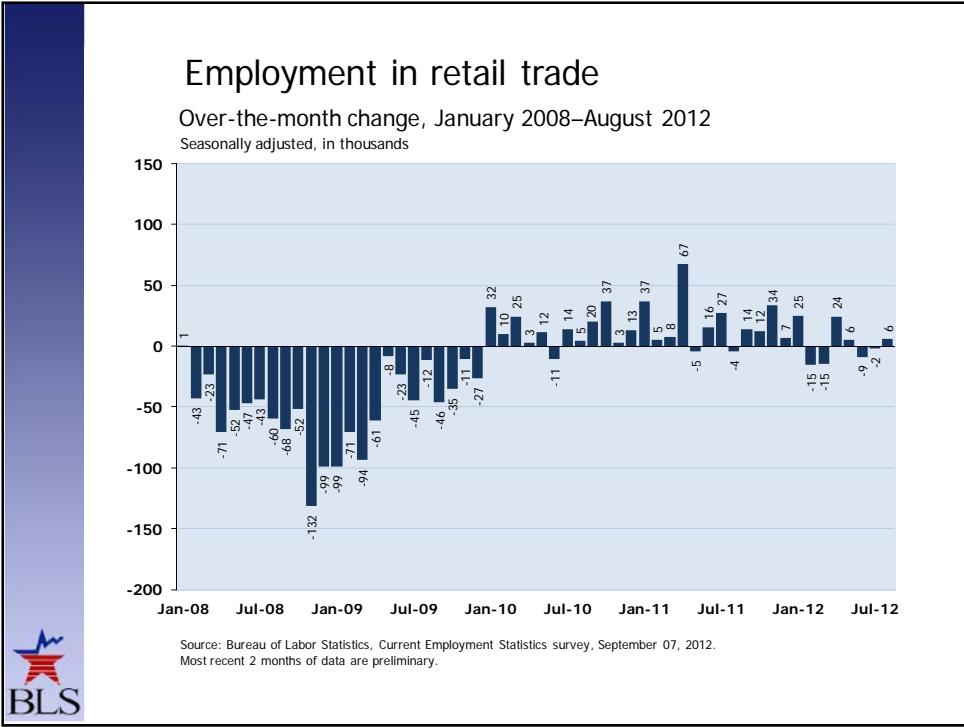
- Construction employment was essentially unchanged in August. Since reaching an employment trough in January 2011, the industry has added an average of 3,000 jobs per month.



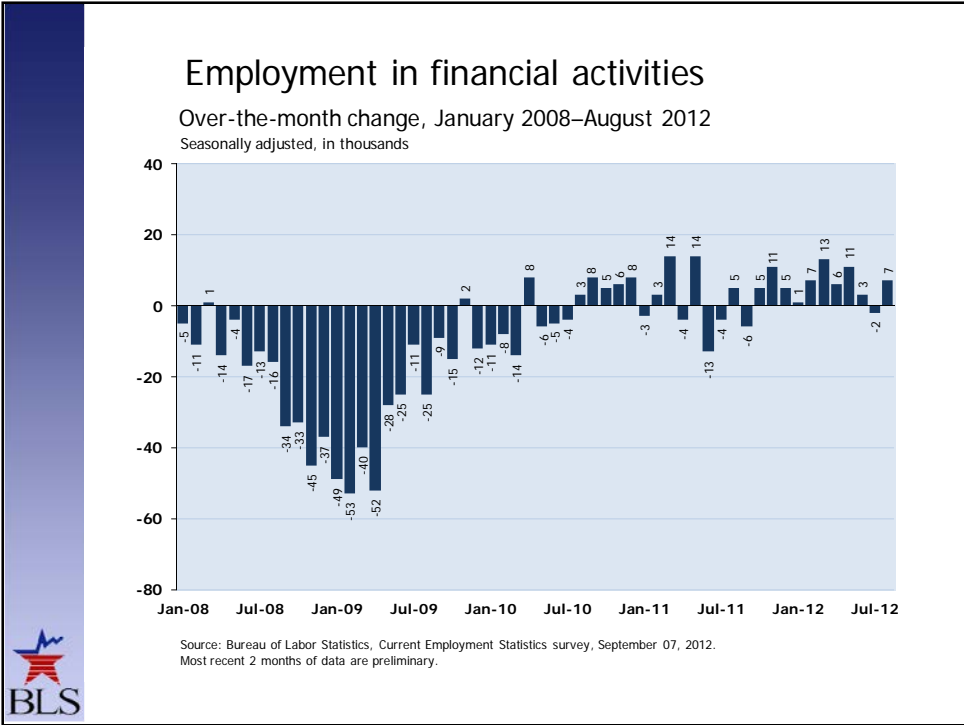
- Manufacturing employment edged down by 15,000 in August; however, since reaching an employment trough in January 2010, the industry has added 512,000 jobs.
- A decline in motor vehicles and parts (-8,000) partially offset a gain in July. Auto manufacturers laid off fewer workers for factory retooling than usual in July, and therefore fewer workers than usual were recalled in August. The average monthly employment change for July and August is in line with the recent trend.



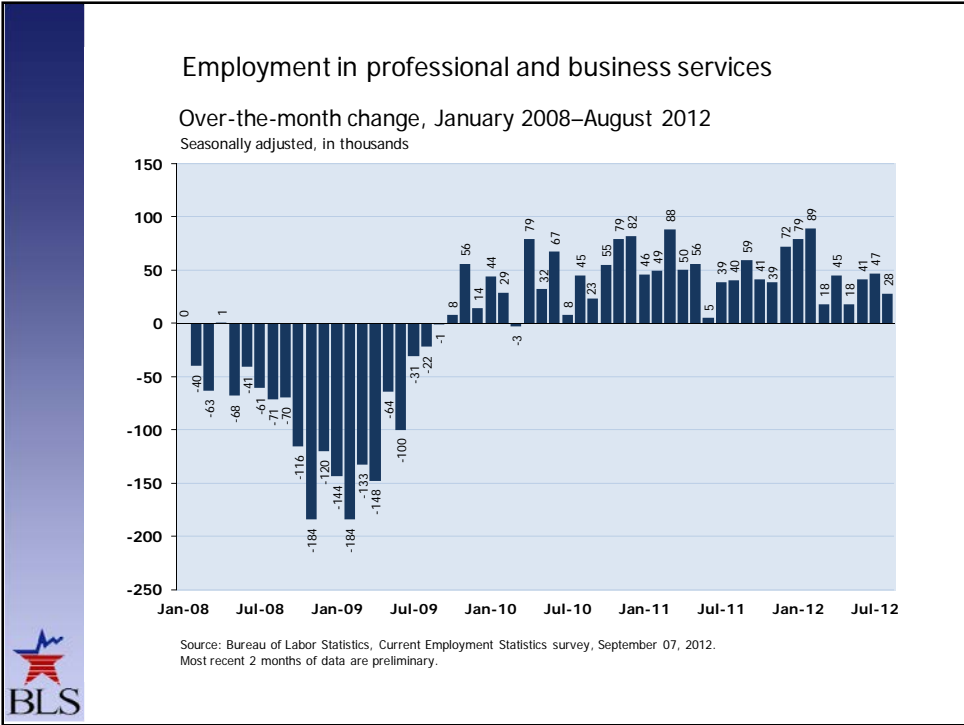
- The manufacturing workweek for all employees declined by 0.2 hour to 40.5 hours, and factory overtime was unchanged at 3.2 hours.
- The manufacturing workweek for production employees declined by 0.1 hour to 41.5 hours, and factory overtime for production employees also decline by 0.1 hour to 4.1 hours.



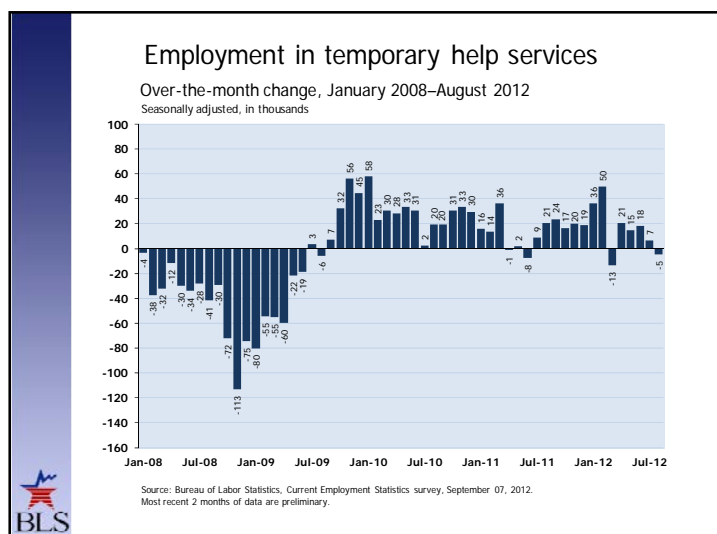
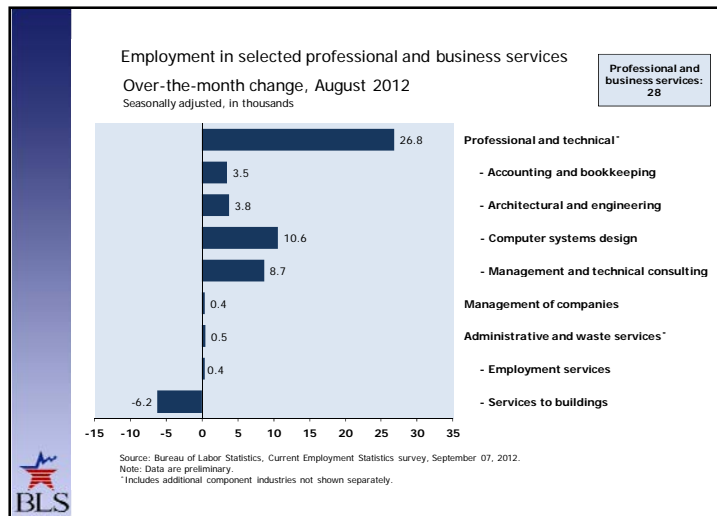
- Employment in retail trade edged up by 6,000 in August. Retail employment has changed little in 2012, compared to an average gain of 18,000 jobs per month in 2011.



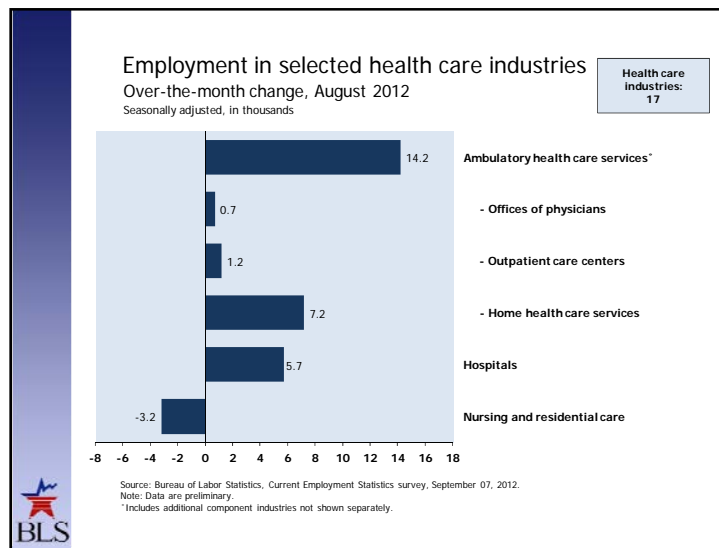
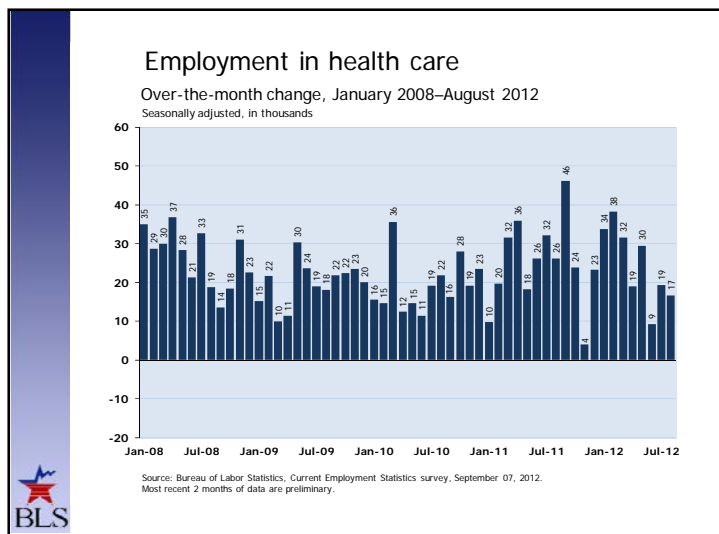
- Employment in financial activities changed little over the month.
- Within financial activities, finance and insurance added 11,000 jobs in August, marking that industry’s largest over-the-month change since September 2010.



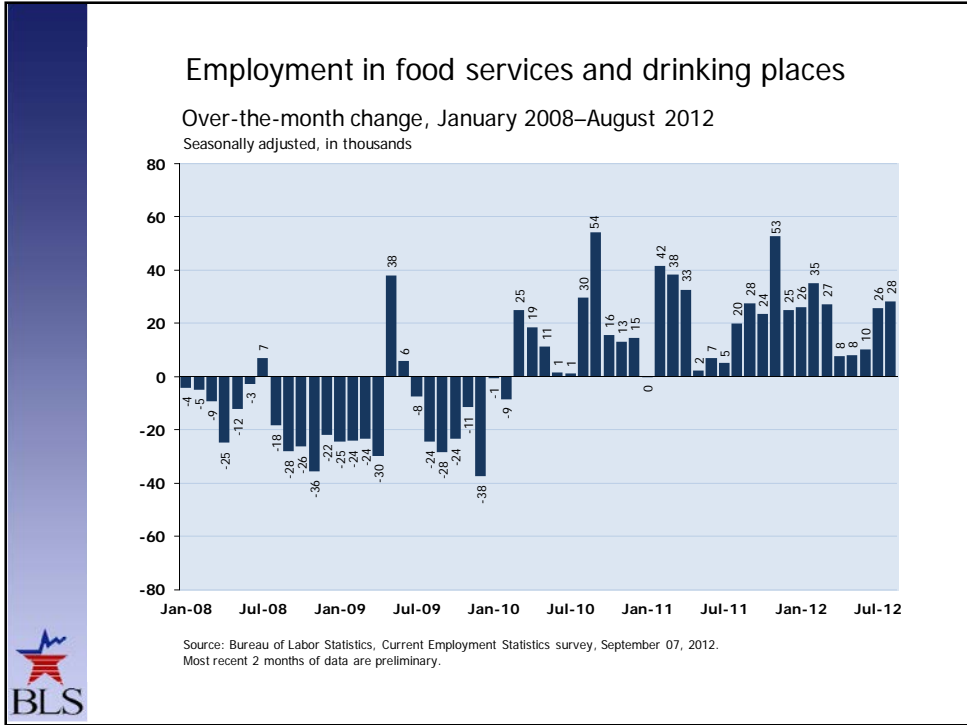
- Professional and business services added 28,000 jobs in August. Since February 2012, professional and business services has averaged 33,000 jobs added per month.



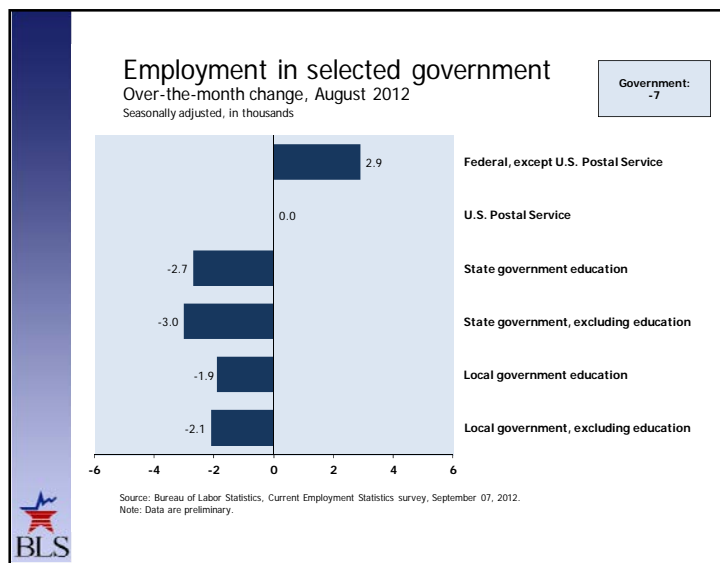
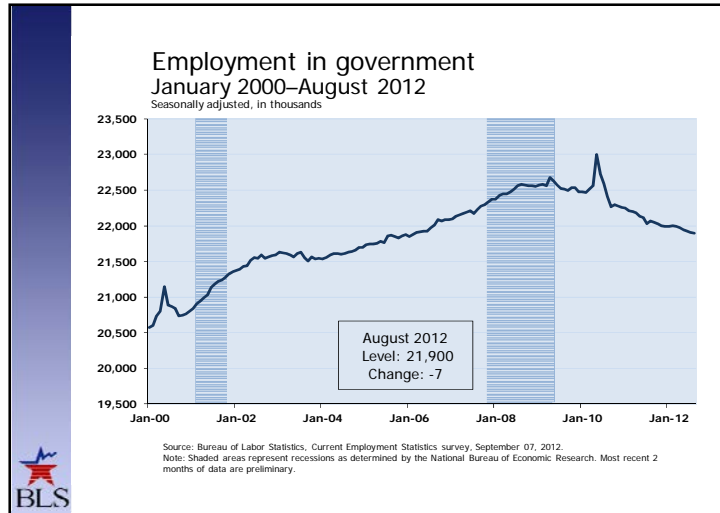
- Within professional and technical services, computer systems design and related services added 11,000 jobs, followed by management and technical consulting services with 9,000 jobs added. Employment in computer systems design and related services has maintained fairly consistent growth since its latest trough in August 2009, averaging a gain of 6,000 jobs per month. Likewise, job growth in management and technical consulting has averaged 6,000 per month since its trough in May 2010.
- Employment in temporary help services changed little over the month, and has shown little net change since February 2012.



- Health care employment rose by 17,000 in August. Ambulatory health care and hospitals accounted for most of the increase over the month.
- Since June 2012, average monthly job gains in health care have slowed to 15,000 from 28,000 in the preceding 12 months.



- Food services and drinking places accounted for 28,000 jobs gained over the month. Employment in the industry has grown by an average of 21,000 per month since a trough in February 2010, accounting for 85 percent of the employment gains in leisure and hospitality.



- Government employment continued to trend down in August (-7,000).
- Since the end of the most recent recession in June 2009, government employment has declined by 670,000, or 3.0 percent.