

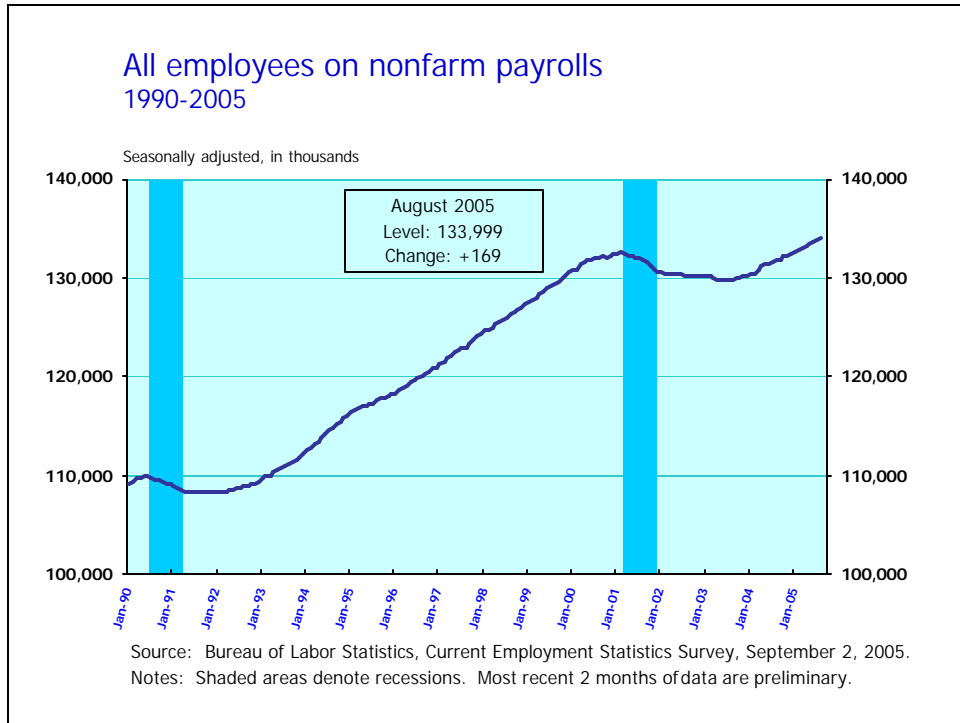


Current Employment Statistics

Highlights

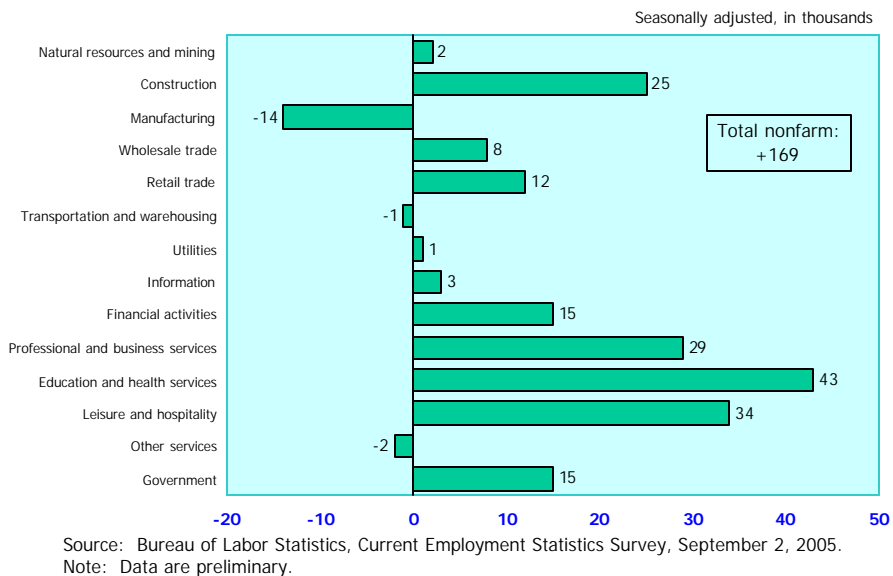
August 2005

Bureau of Labor Statistics
September 2, 2005

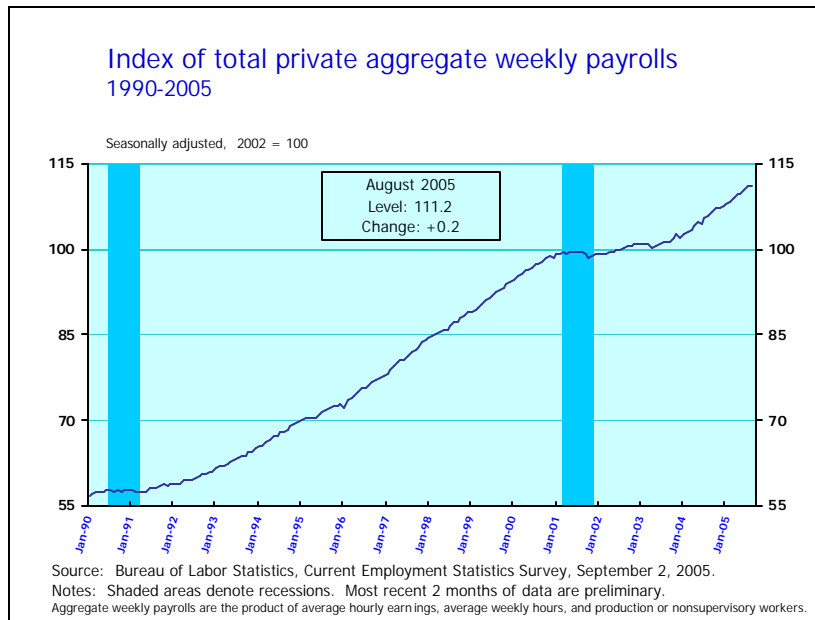
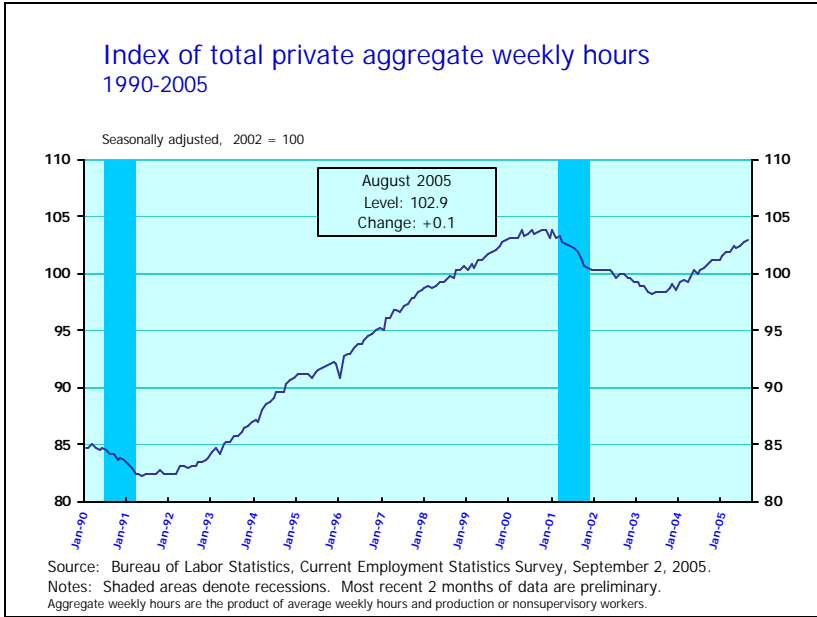


- Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 169,000 in August, following a gain of 242,000 in July. Employment rose over the month in several industries, including construction, health care, and accommodation and food services. Over the year, payroll employment has increased by 2.2 million.
- Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls were unchanged in August, and remain at 33.7 hours, seasonally adjusted. Since late 2002, the average workweek has been flat, fluctuating between 33.6 and 33.8 hours.
- Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 2 cents in August to \$16.16, seasonally adjusted. Average weekly earnings grew by 0.1 percent over the month to \$544.59. Over the year, both average hourly and weekly earnings grew by 2.7 percent.

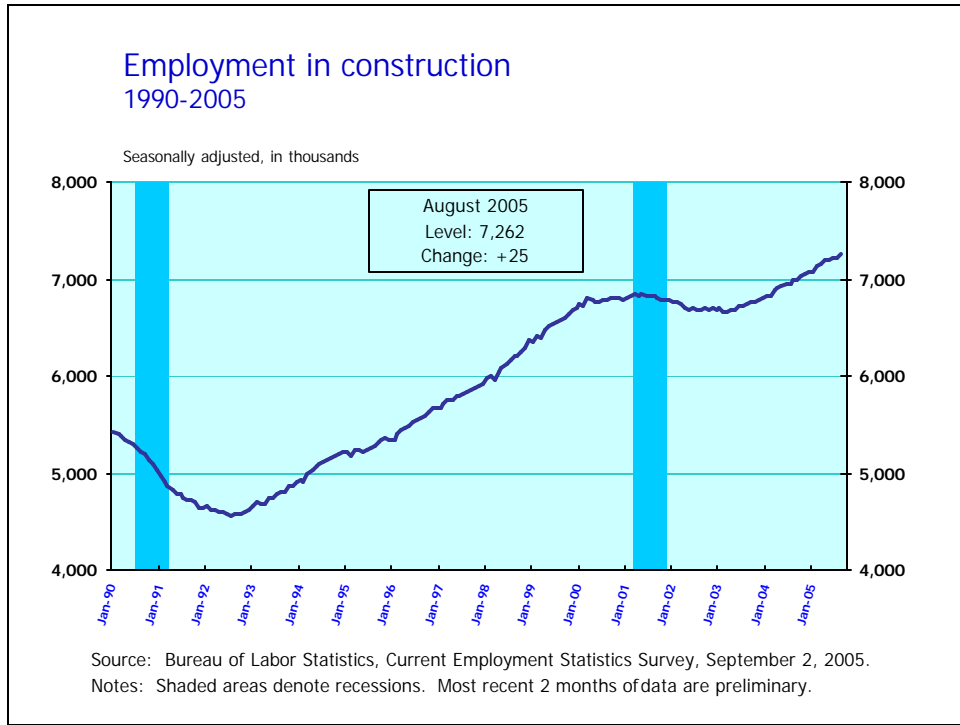
Employment in total nonfarm and supersectors Over-the-month change, August 2005



- In August, job growth was concentrated among service-providing industries, with notable gains occurring in education and health services, leisure and hospitality, and professional and business services.
- Construction experienced a gain in payroll employment, but August was a weak month for the goods-producing industries. Manufacturing employment edged down in August, and has declined by 110,000 over the year. Natural resources and mining employment continued to trend upward. Responding to rising fuel prices and increased demand for other natural resources, the industry added 64,000 jobs since its most recent low in April 2003. Support activities for oil and gas operations have accounted for much of this increase.

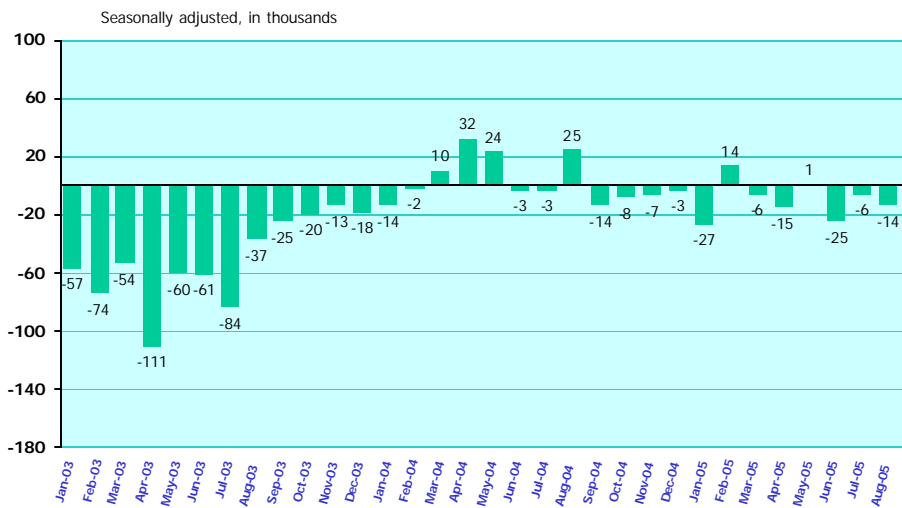


- The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 0.1 percent to 102.9 (2002=100) in August. Since its most recent trough in May 2003, the index has increased by 4.8 percent, although it still has not fully recovered to its prior peak level of 103.9 in October 2000.
- The index of aggregate weekly payrolls of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 0.2 percent to 111.2 (2002=100) in August.



- Employment in construction grew by 25,000 in August. Job growth was concentrated in specialty trade contractors.
- Construction employment has increased by 604,000 since its most recent low in March 2003. Job gains have occurred primarily in residential construction industries, which have been driven by sustained low mortgage rates and a consequent surge in home building.

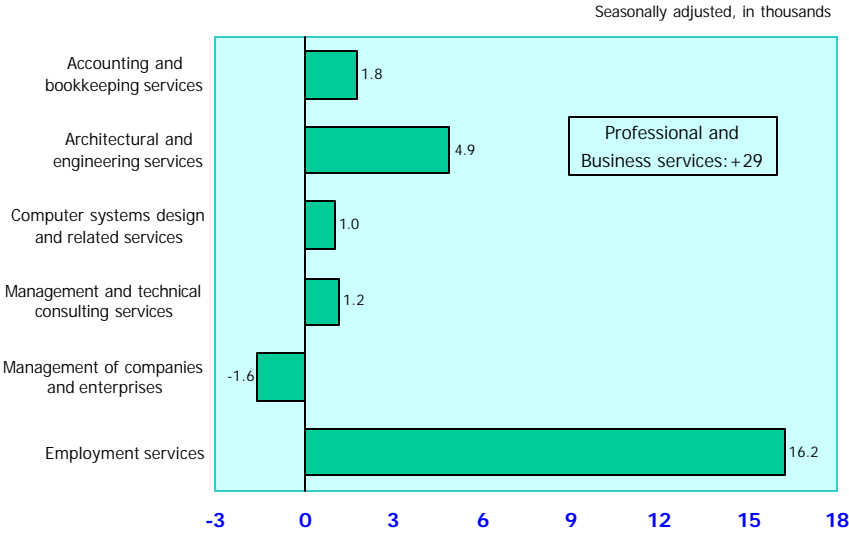
Employment in manufacturing Over-the-month change, 2003-05



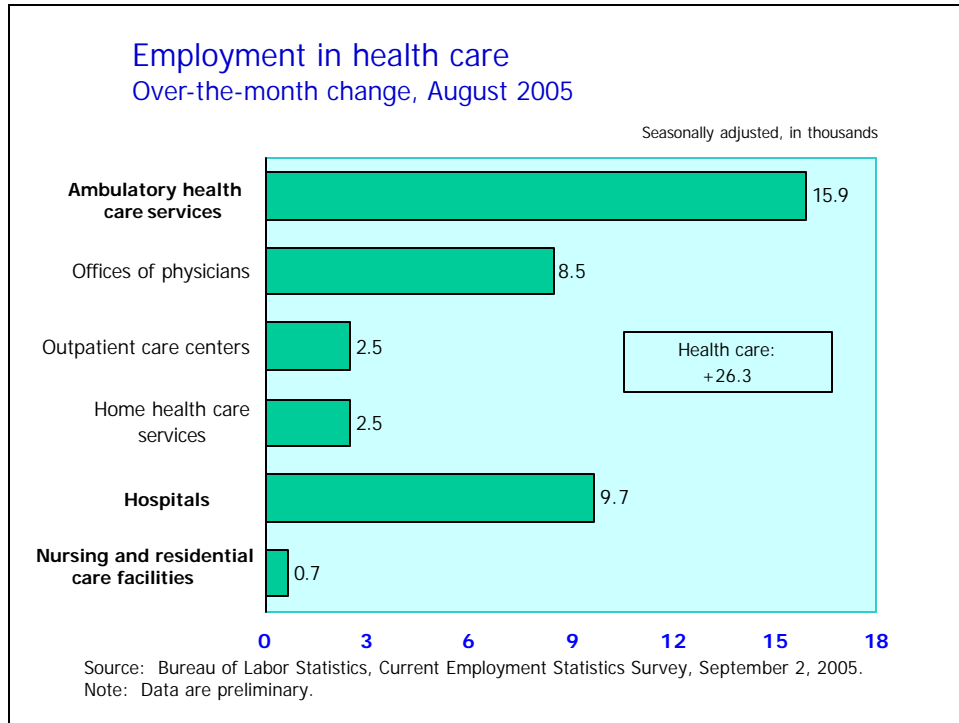
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics Survey, September 2, 2005.
Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

- Employment in manufacturing edged down in August and has declined by 110,000 over the year.
- Motor vehicle and parts manufacturers shed 8,000 jobs in August. Since May employment in this industry has declined by 37,000, reflecting production cutbacks among carmakers. This industry has accounted for nearly half of all manufacturing jobs lost over the year.
- Long-term employment declines continued in textile mills and apparel manufacturers. These industries have lost 46,000 jobs over the year.
- Both the factory workweek and manufacturing overtime were unchanged in August, at 40.5 and 4.5 hours, respectively.

Employment in selected professional and business services Over-the-month change, August 2005

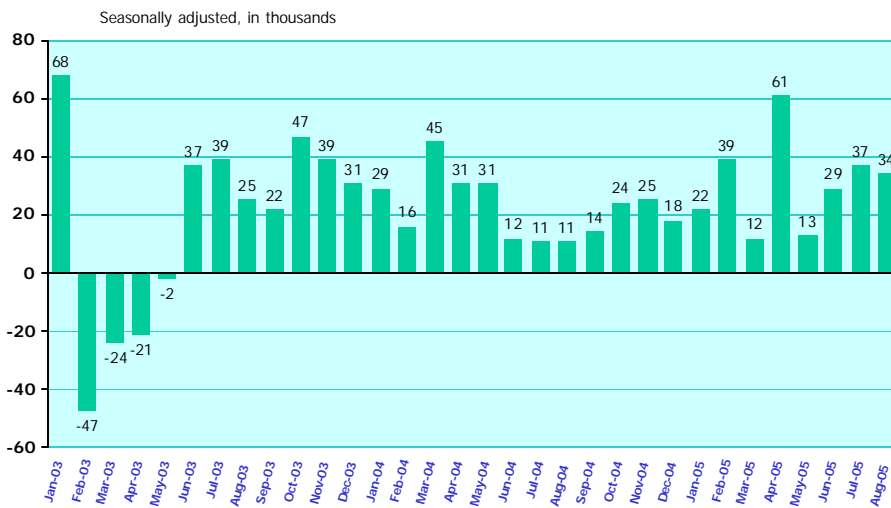


- Professional and business services gained 29,000 jobs in August, and has added 507,000 jobs over the year. Employment gains over the month were widespread, with only management of companies and enterprises suffering a job loss.
- Employment services, which accounts for about 22 percent of total employment in this sector, added 16,000 jobs in August.



- Health care employment continued to rise, expanding by 26,000 in August. This industry has experienced consistent growth over the years, with annual growth registering between 2 and 3.5 percent since 2000.
- Over the month, significant employment gains came in ambulatory health care and in hospitals.

Employment in leisure and hospitality Over-the-month change, 2003-05



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics Survey, September 2, 2005.
Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

- Leisure and hospitality employment rose by 34,000 in August and 328,000 over the year. Employment in this industry has grown consistently for over 2 years. Food services and drinking places accounted for most of the growth over the month, adding 18,000 jobs in August. Over the year, this industry has added 280,000 jobs.