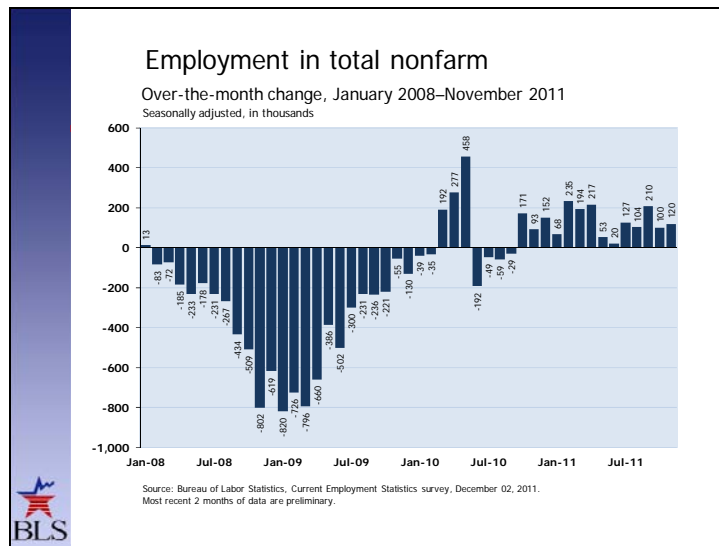
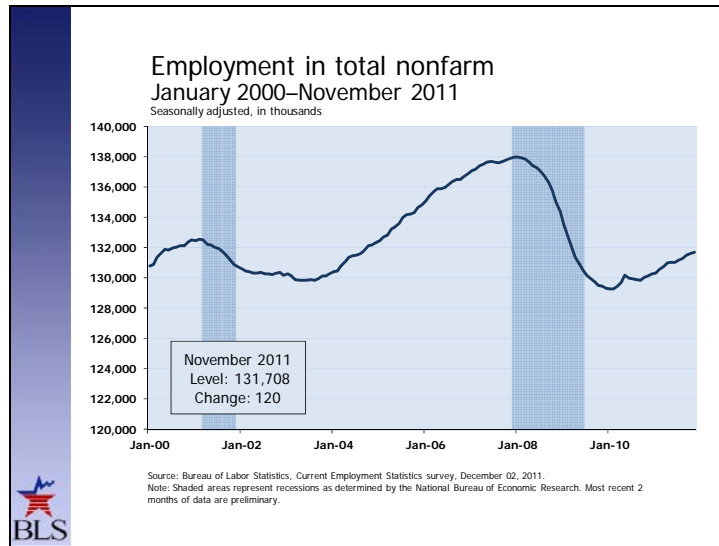


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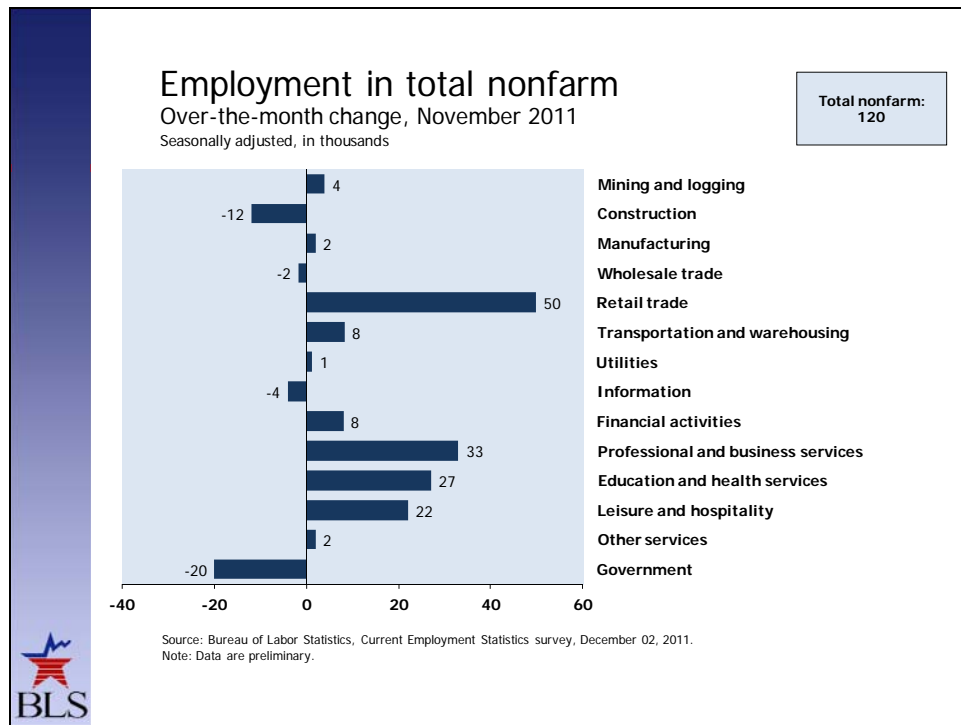


Current Employment Statistics Highlights November 2011

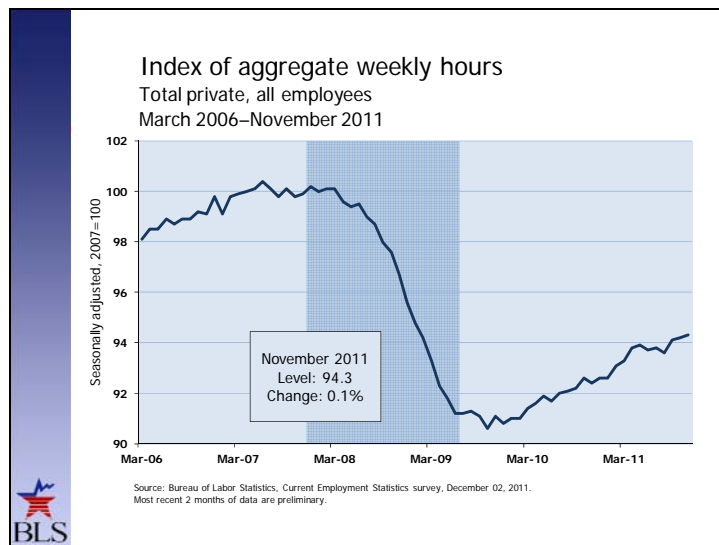
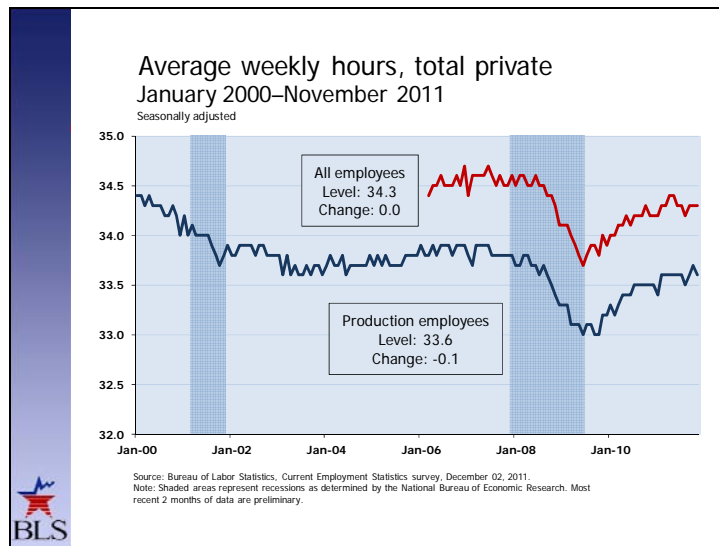
Bureau of Labor Statistics
December 2, 2011



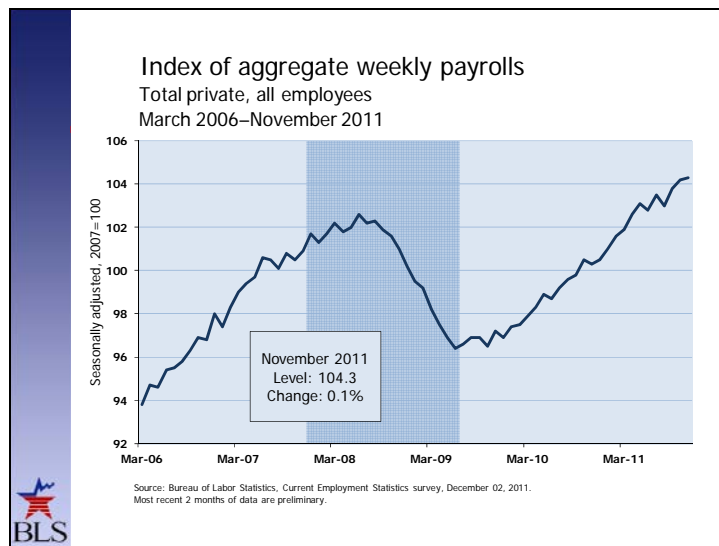
- Nonfarm payroll employment rose 120,000 in November.
- Over the prior 12 months, payroll employment had increased by an average of 131,000 per month.
- Since an employment trough in February 2010, nonfarm employment has expanded by 2.5 million, indicating moderate labor market improvement.



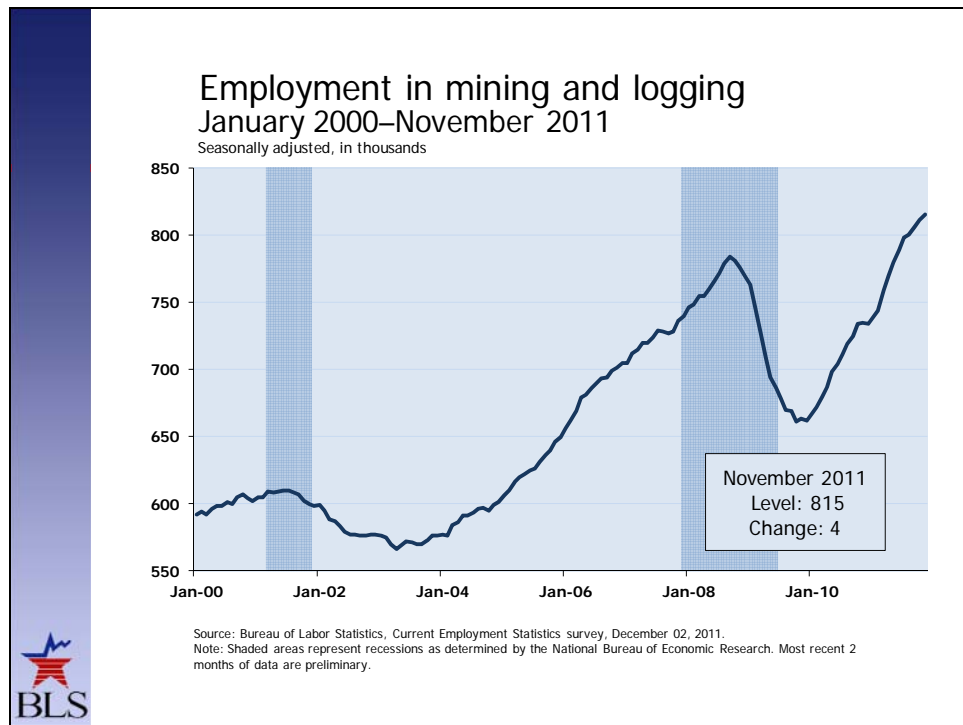
- In November, a job gain in private-sector employment (+140,000) was partially offset by a job loss in government (-20,000). Retail trade stood out with a significant job gain over the month. Employment growth continued in professional and business services, leisure and hospitality, and health care.
- Nonfarm employment reached a trough in February 2010 and has since grown by 2.5 million. During this period, the private sector added 2.9 million jobs, while government cut about one-half million jobs.
- The private sector has now recovered 33 percent of jobs lost in the peak-to-trough period of January 2008 to February 2010.



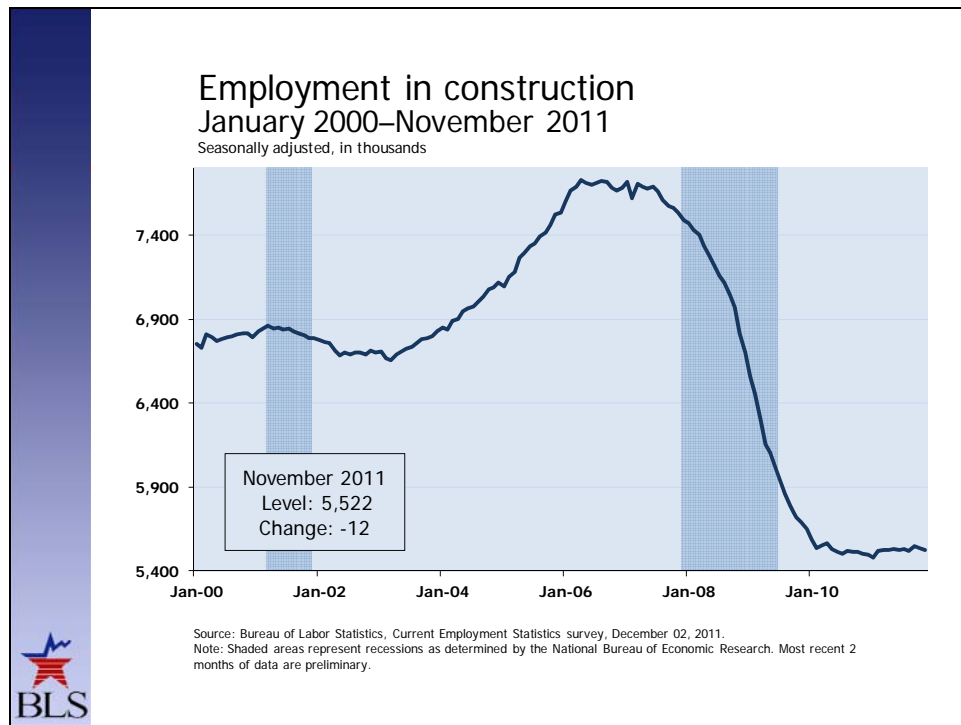
- In November, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 34.3 hours for the second consecutive month. The all-employee workweek is now 0.6 hour longer than when it reached a low in June 2009.
- The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls edged down 0.1 hour to 33.6 hours in November. The production and nonsupervisory employee workweek has grown 0.6 hour since reaching a trough in October 2009 but is still 0.3 hour below its June 2007 peak.
- The index of aggregate weekly hours for all employees in the private sector rose 0.1 percent in November. Since reaching a low point in October 2009, the index has increased by 4.1 percent.



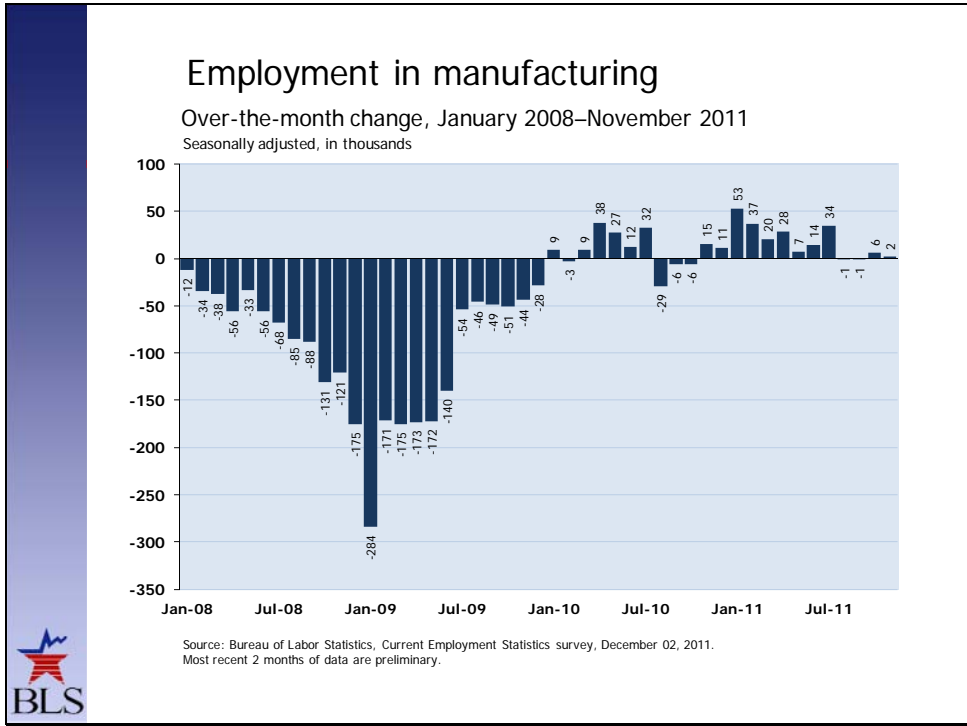
- Over the past year, average hourly earnings of all employees have increased by 1.8 percent. The consumer price index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) was up 3.6 percent from October 2010 to October 2011.
- Average hourly earnings for all employees in the private sector fell by 2 cents to \$23.18 in November after increasing 12 cents over the prior 2 months.
- The index of aggregate weekly payrolls of all private sector employees rose 0.1 percent over the month. Since reaching a low point in June 2009, the index has increased by 8.2 percent.



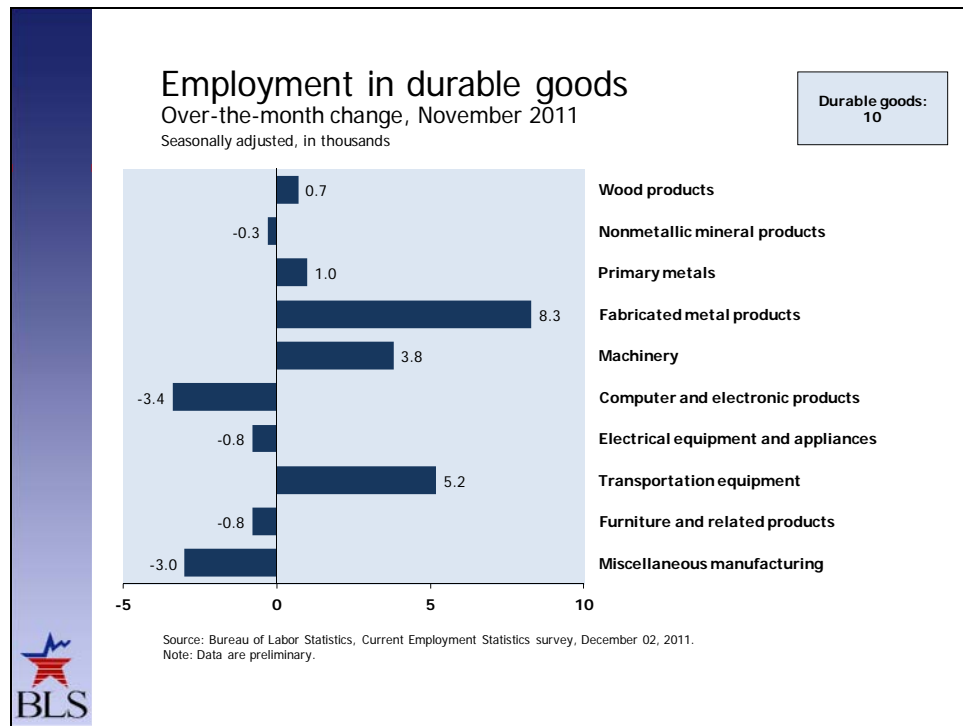
- Mining and logging employment edged up 4,000 in November. Over the past 4 months, the pace of job growth slowed somewhat.
- Since reaching a trough in October 2009, mining employment has risen by 156,000, with support activities for mining (+115,000) accounting for most of the gains.



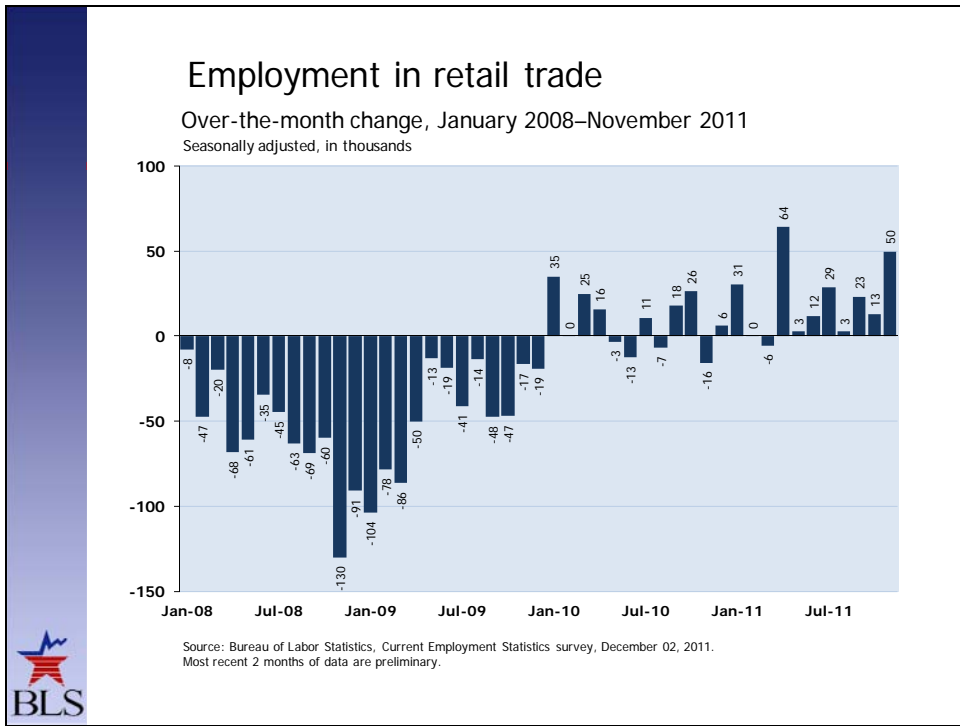
- In November, construction employment edged down (-12,000) for the second consecutive month.
- Losses continued to be concentrated in nonresidential construction. In November, nonresidential industry employment fell by 12,000, accounting for the entire decline in construction.
- Since reaching a trough in January 2011, employment in construction has remained essentially flat, although the production employee workweek has expanded by 2.4 hours since reaching a low in October 2009.



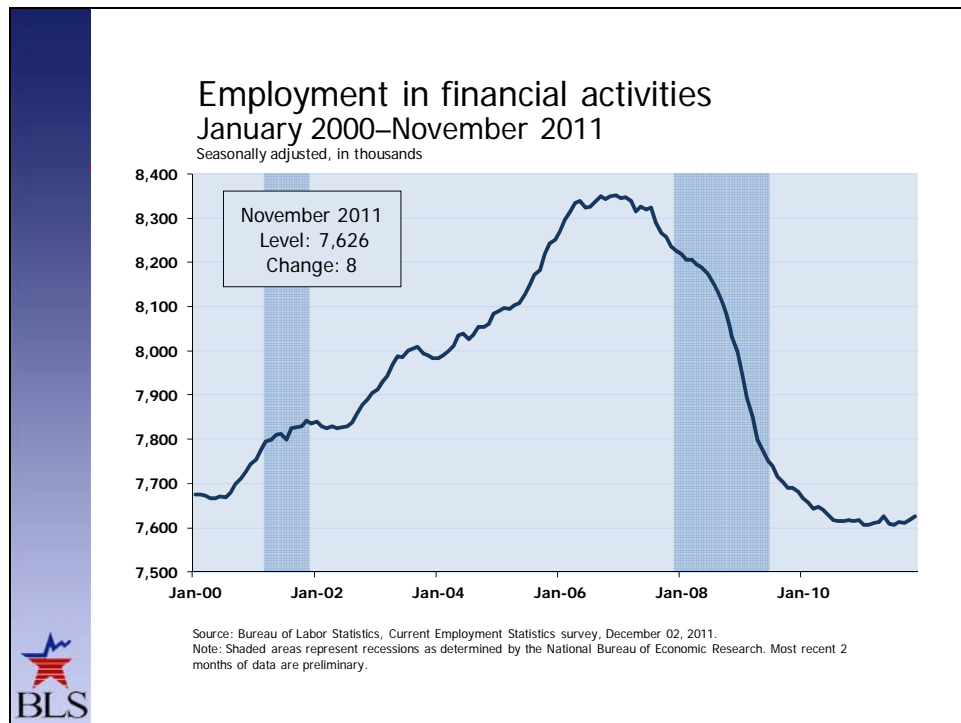
- Manufacturing employment remained essentially unchanged for a fourth consecutive month. This stall in hiring occurred even as economic activity in the manufacturing sector continued to grow.



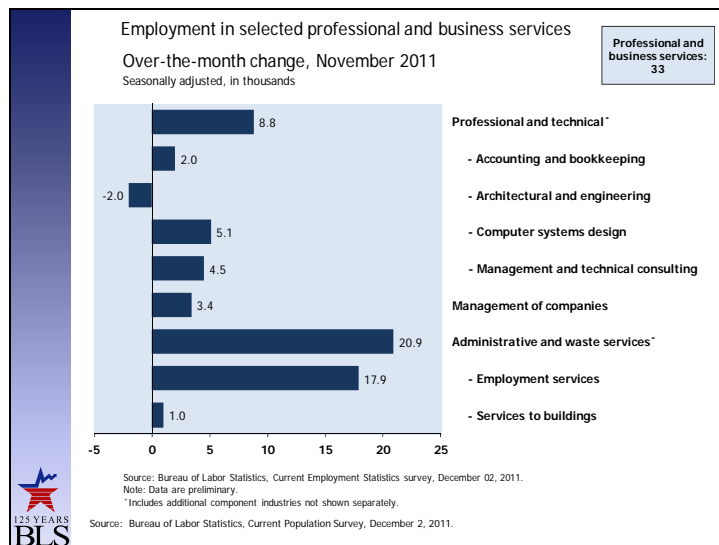
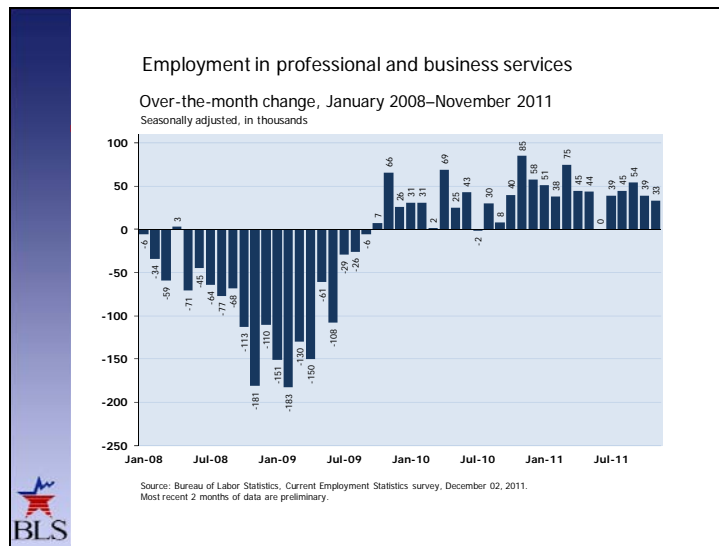
- In November, a job gain of 10,000 in durable goods was partially offset by a decrease of 8,000 in nondurable goods.
- In November, transportation equipment manufacturers added 5,000 jobs. Motor vehicles and parts accounted for 1,000 of this gain. This industry has added 90,000 jobs since reaching an employment trough in June 2009, although, employment remains 27 percent lower than at the start of the recent recession. Over the past year, the industry has slowly and consistently expanded its workforce despite the Japanese earthquake and tsunami, and Thailand floods, both of which disrupted the motor vehicles and parts supply chain and inventories.



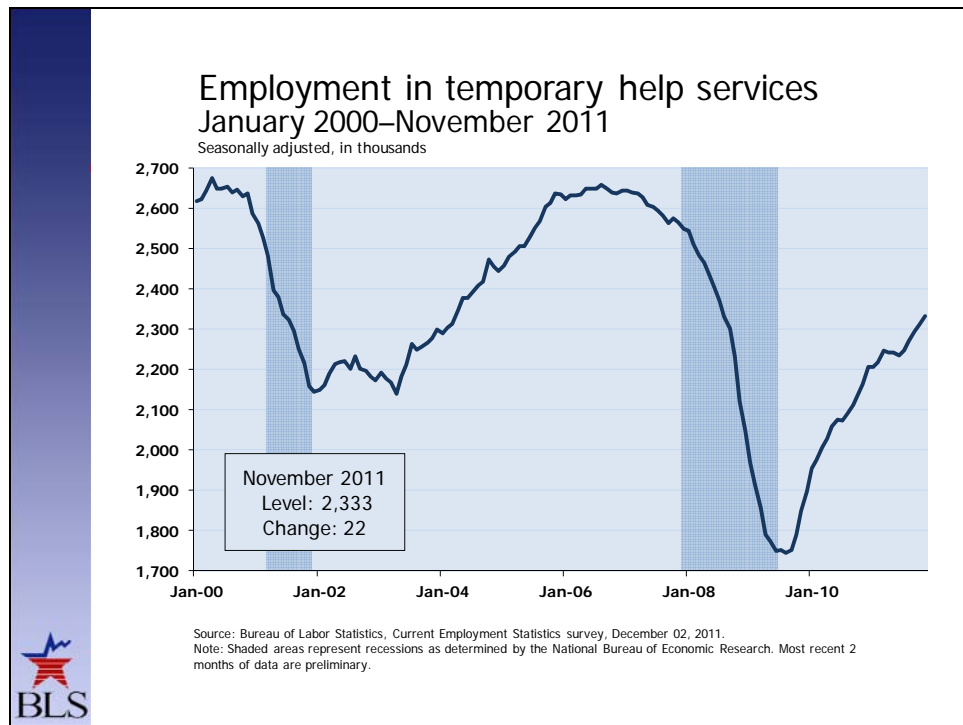
- Employment in retail trade added 50,000 jobs in November, a much stronger gain than the prior 12-month average (+13,000). Seasonal hiring was stronger than it had been during recent years and resulted in the large seasonally adjusted employment gain.
- November retail employment saw significant gains in electronics and appliance stores and clothing and clothing accessory stores.



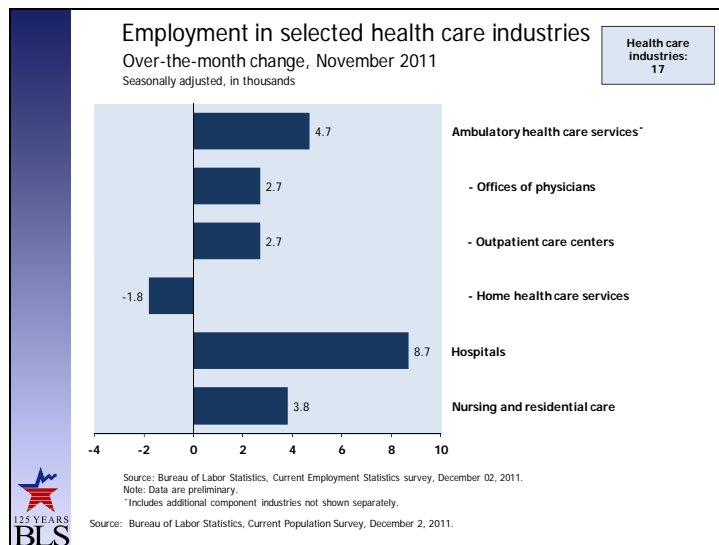
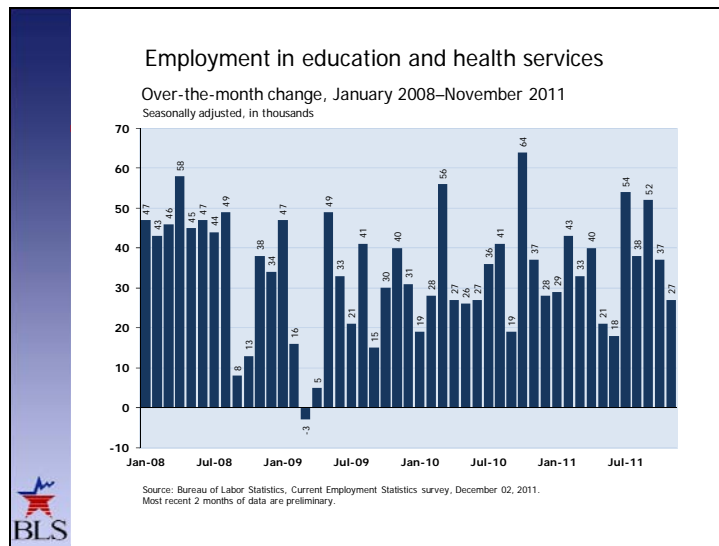
- Financial activities employment edged up in November (+8,000). Credit intermediation and related activities stood out as the main contributor to employment growth.
- The industry had lost more than 700,000 jobs since December 2006, but employment has leveled off since late 2010.



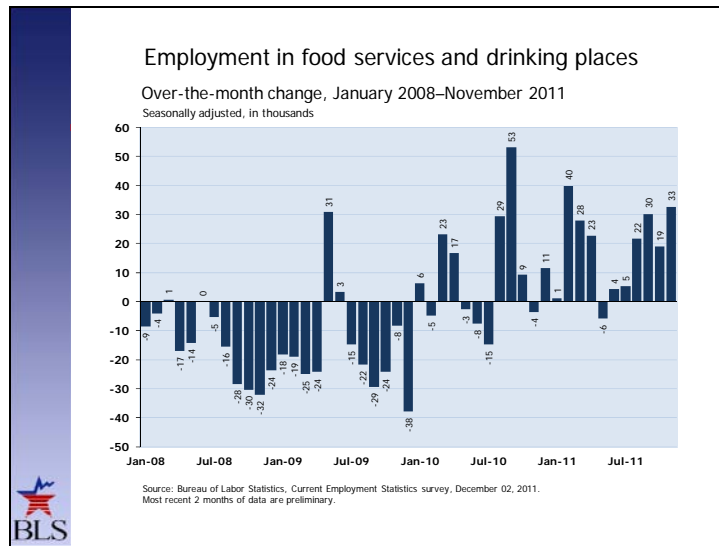
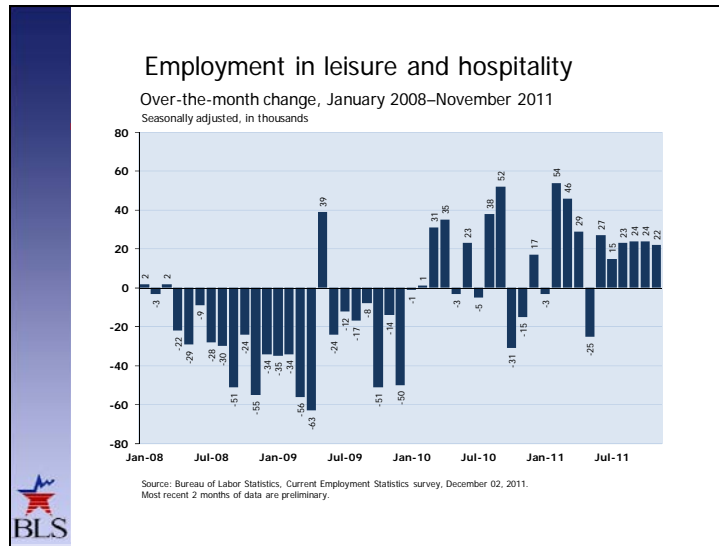
- Job growth continued in professional and business services. In November, industry employment increased by 33,000. Since the end of the most recent recession, the industry has recovered about 58 percent of the 1.6 million jobs lost during the downturn.
- Within administrative and waste services, employment growth in November (+21,000) continued at about the same pace as the prior 12 months. The employment increase in temporary help services accounted for most of this gain.
- In November, employment changed little in professional and technical services (+9,000), which had added an average 23,000 jobs per month during the prior 12 months.



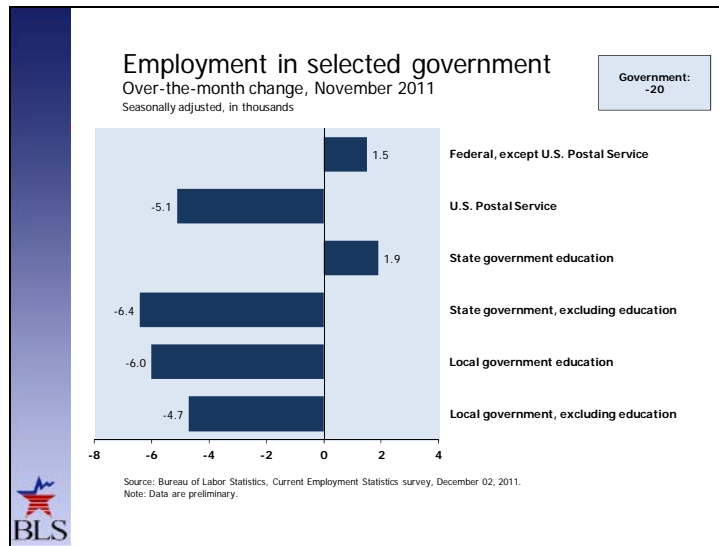
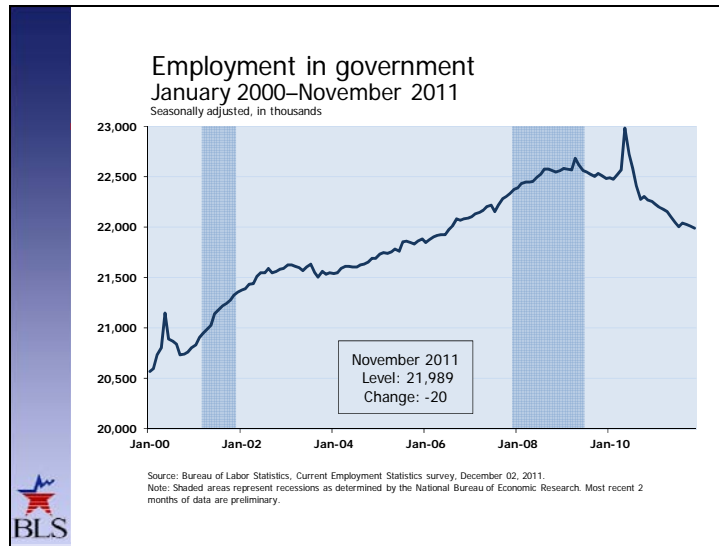
- Employment gains in temporary help services have picked up over the past 5 months, averaging 20,000 per month, an improvement over the average monthly gain of 5,000 jobs the industry experienced during the first half of 2011.



- Education and health services employment trended up in November (+27,000). This change is the smallest the industry has seen since June. In November, most of the job gains occurred in health care and social assistance (+19,000).
- While health care employment continued to trend up in November (+17,000), this gain fell below the industry's prior 12-month average job gain. November job growth was little changed in ambulatory health care services, a sector that has historically accounted for the majority of jobs added in the industry. Hospitals added 9,000 jobs in November, just above its average for the prior 12-month period.



- Leisure and hospitality employment continued to trend up in November (+22,000), in line with the prior 5-month average. The November employment change resulted from a gain in food services and drinking places (+33,000), which was partially offset by a loss in accommodations (-12,000).
- The employment increase in food services and drinking places was well above recent trend. This strong job growth coincides with a higher-than-expected increase in the Consumer Confidence Index.



- Government employment continued to trend down in November (-20,000). Government has lost 568,000 jobs since the end of the most recent recession in June 2009.
- In November, government jobs losses occurred at both the state and local levels. Job losses following the 2007 recession have coincided with government budget cuts.