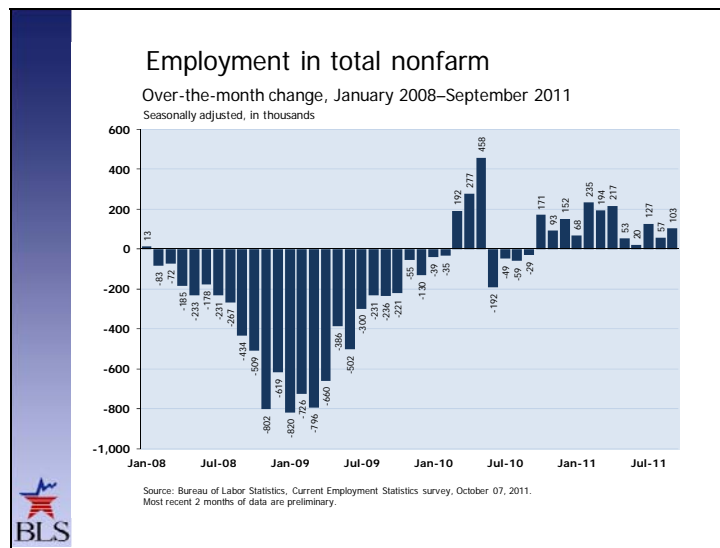
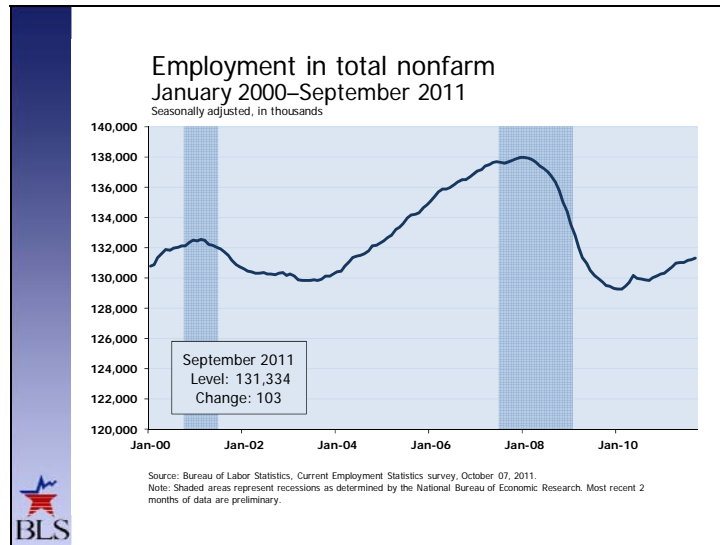


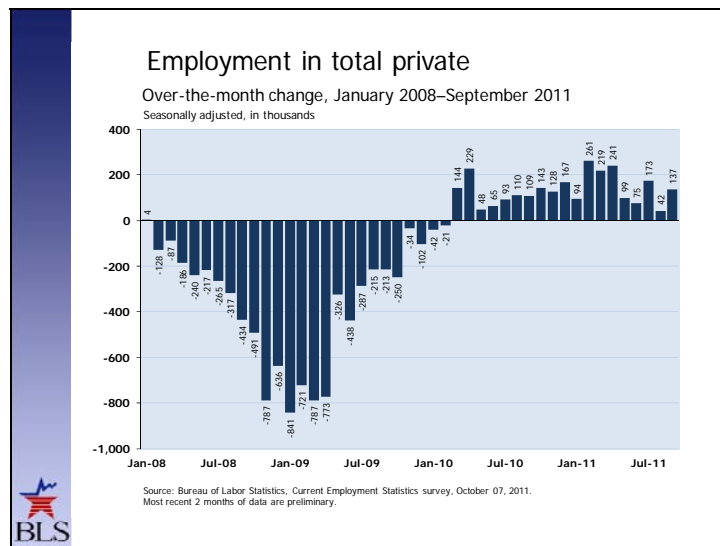
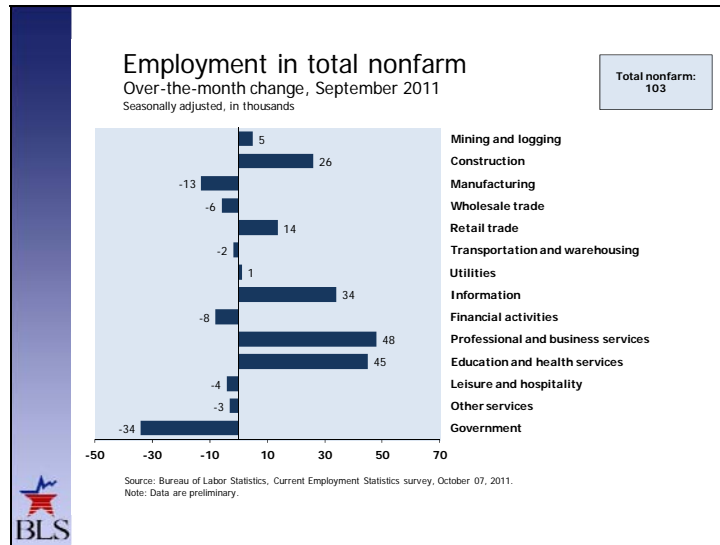


# **Current Employment Statistics Highlights September 2011**

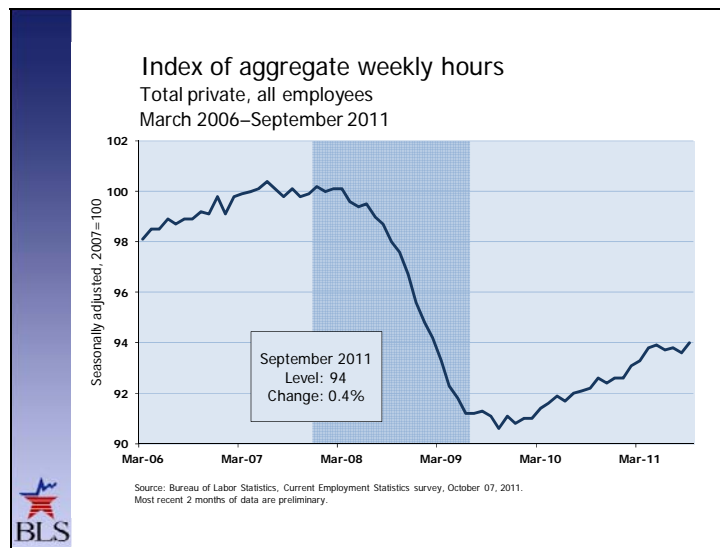
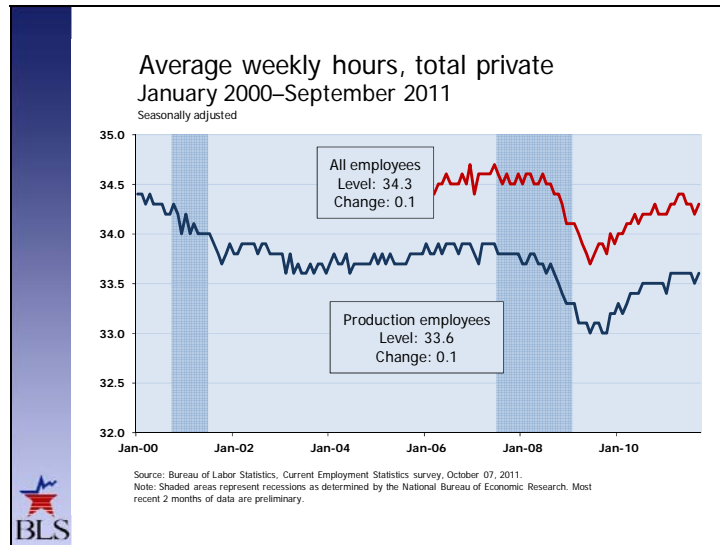
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
October 7, 2011



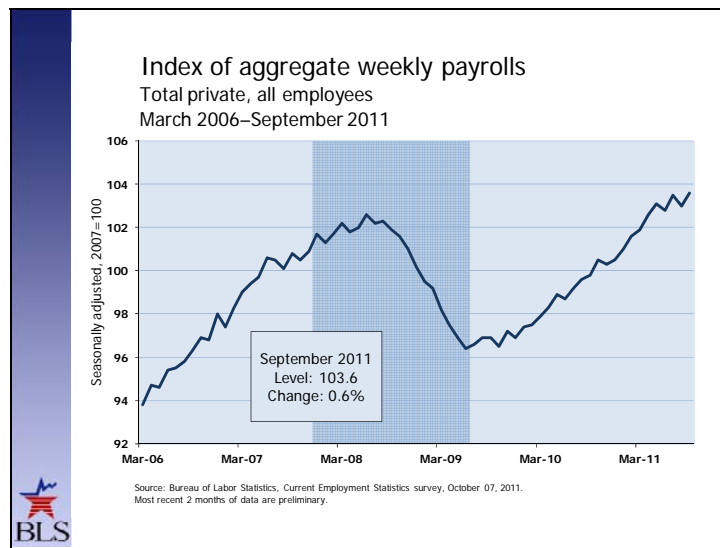
- Nonfarm payroll employment edged up by 103,000 jobs in September.
- This increase in employment partially reflected the return of about 45,000 telecommunication workers who had been on strike in August.
- Since April, payroll employment has increased by an average of 72,000 per month, compared with an average of 161,000 for the prior 7 months.



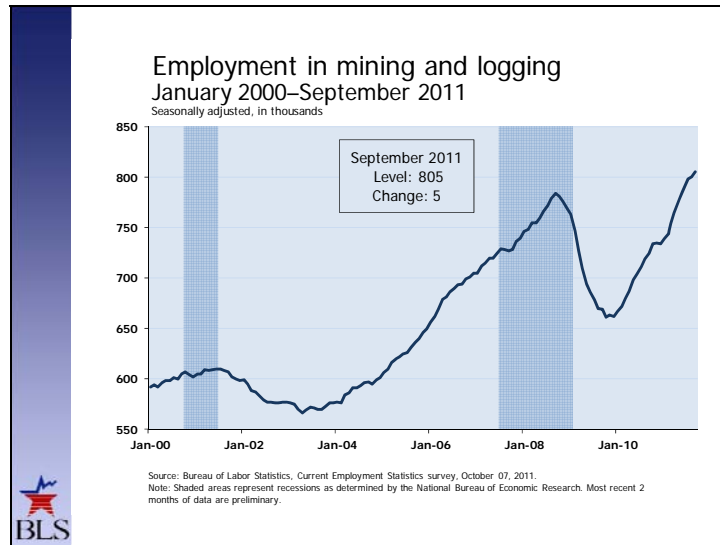
- In September, health care, professional and business services, construction, and information experienced job gains. Gains in information were due to the return of about 45,000 telecommunication workers from a strike. Government employment continued to trend down.
- Employment in the private sector grew by 137,000 over the month (including the return of workers from strike). Since reaching a recent employment low in February 2010, the private sector has added 2.6 million jobs—an average of 136,000 per month.



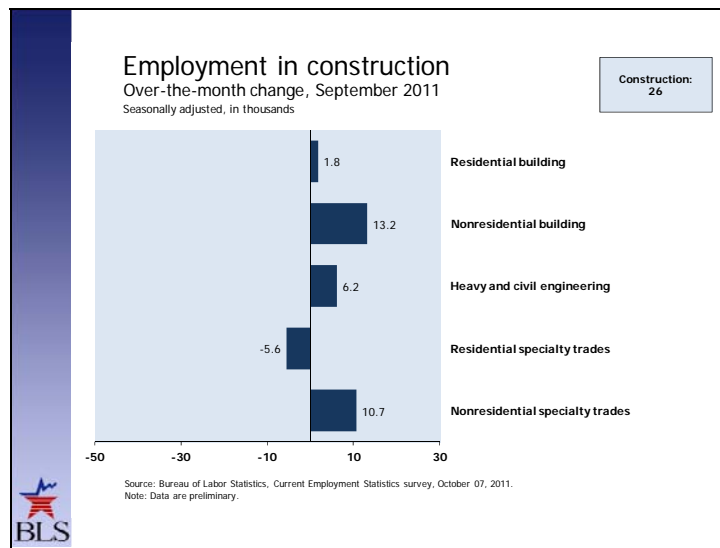
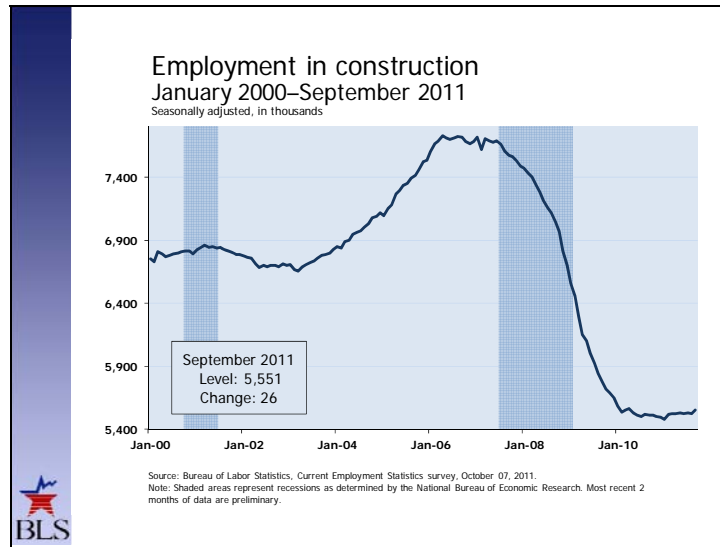
- The average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls edged up by 0.1 hour over the month to 34.3 hours, offsetting a 0.1-hour decrease in August. The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls also edged up to 33.6 hours in September.
- The index of aggregate weekly hours for all employees in the private sector increased 0.4 percent in September. Since reaching a low point in October 2009, the index has increased by 3.8 percent.



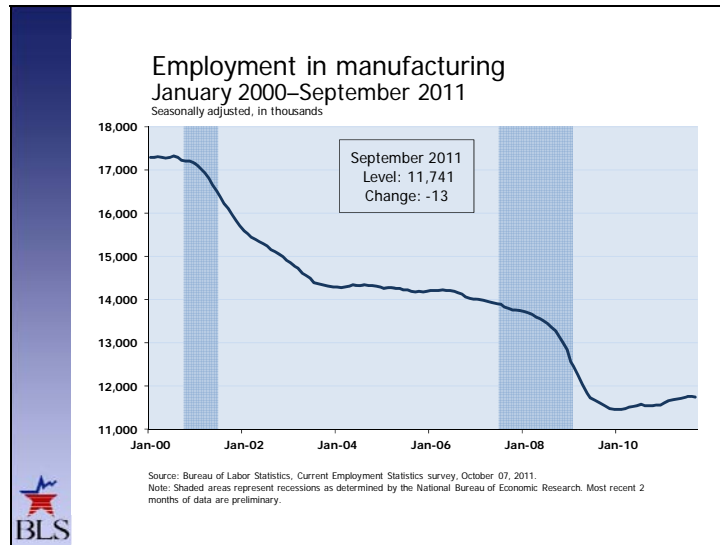
- Average hourly earnings for all employees in the private sector increased by 4 cents over the month, or 0.2 percent, in September, offsetting a 4-cent loss in August. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 1.9 percent. The consumer price index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) was up 3.8 percent over the year ending in August.
- The index of aggregate weekly payrolls of all private sector employees rose 0.6 percent over the month. Since reaching a low point in June 2009, the index has increased by 7.5 percent.



- Employment in mining and logging continued to trend up in September (+5,000). Since reaching a trough in October 2009, employment in the industry has risen by 144,000, with support activities for mining accounting for most of the gains.

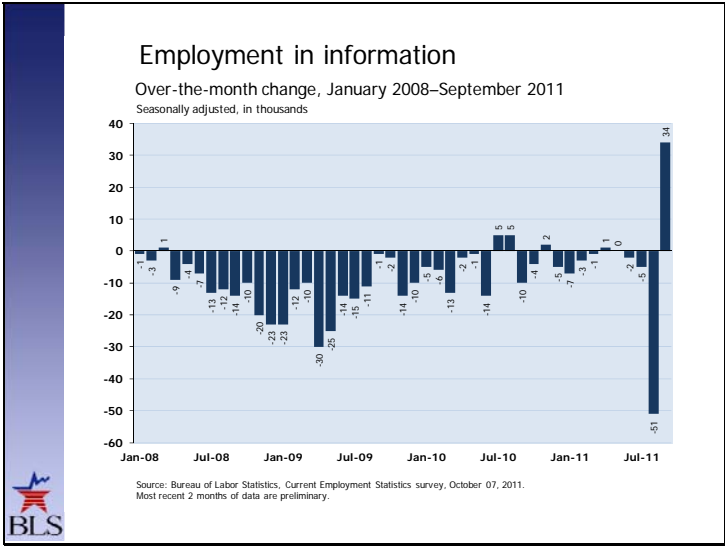
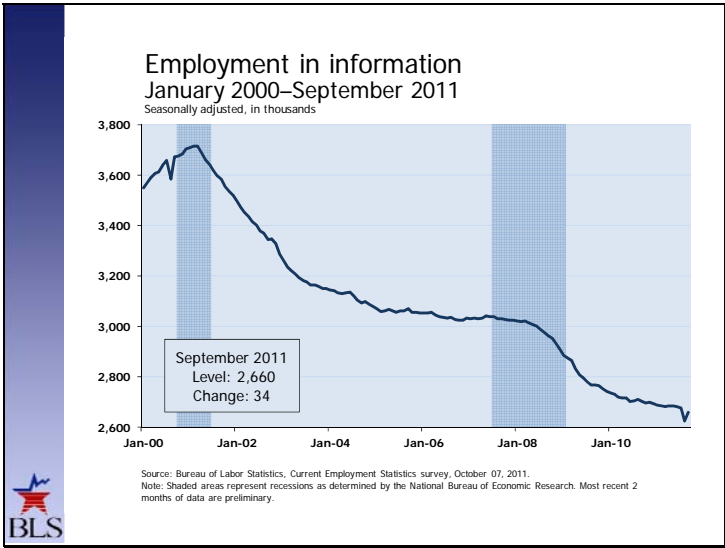


- Construction added 26,000 jobs in September. Job gains were concentrated in nonresidential construction industries, which includes heavy and civil engineering construction.
- Employment in construction remains 2.2 million below its April 2006 peak. However, the industry has been little changed since February.

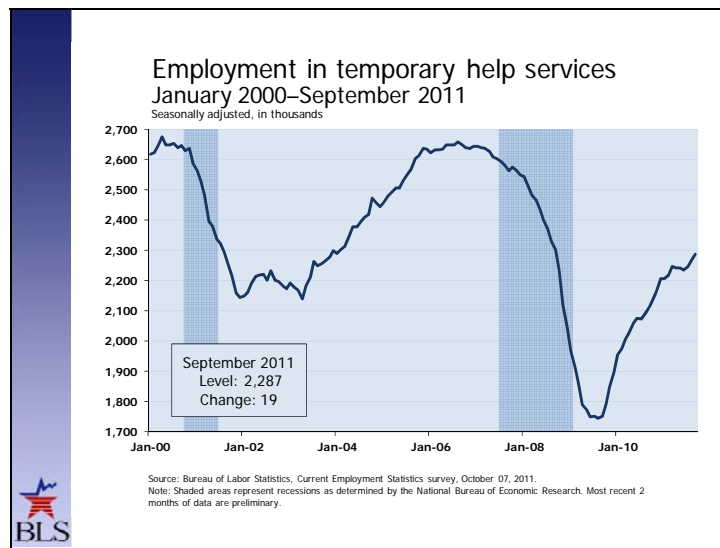
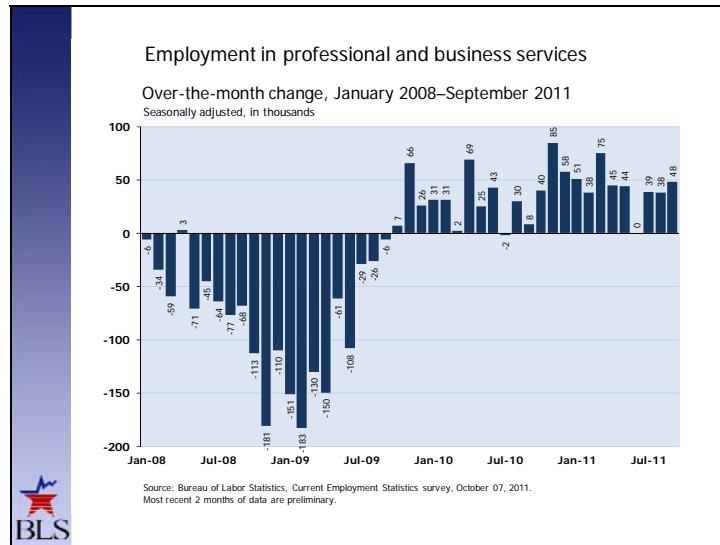


- Manufacturing employment edged down in September. Despite the loss, manufacturers have added 285,000 jobs or an average of 14,000 jobs per month, since an employment trough in December 2009.
- In September, the factory workweek remained unchanged at 41.3 for production and nonsupervisory employees, while average weekly hours for all employees in manufacturing fell by 0.1 hour to 40.2.

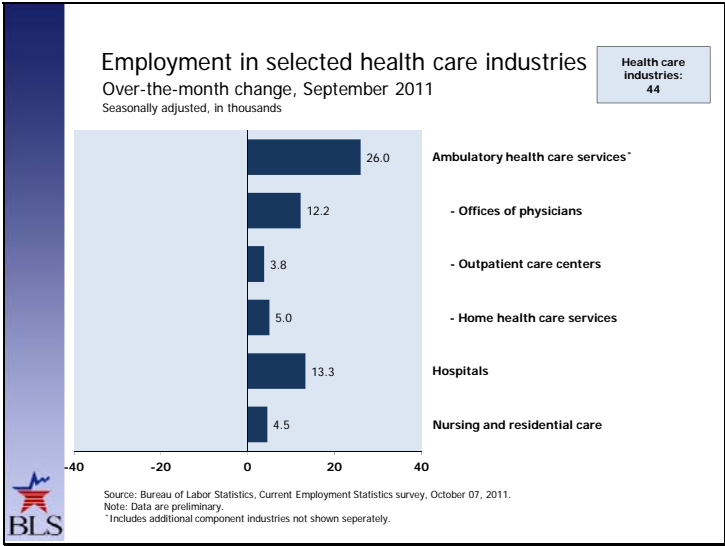
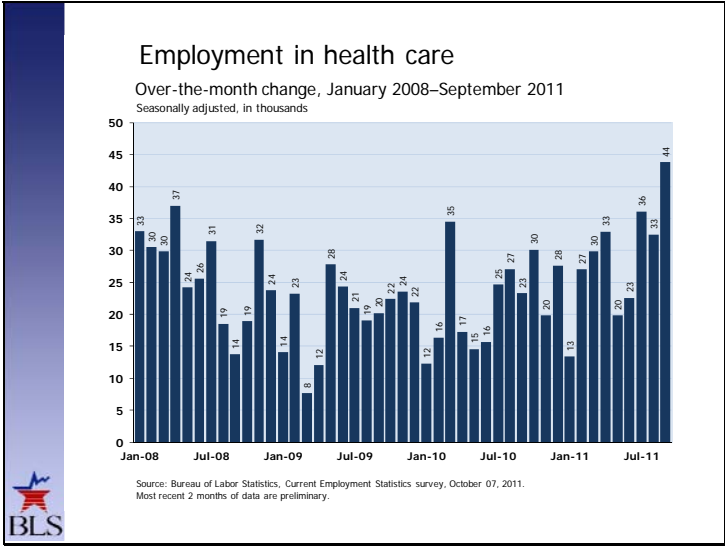




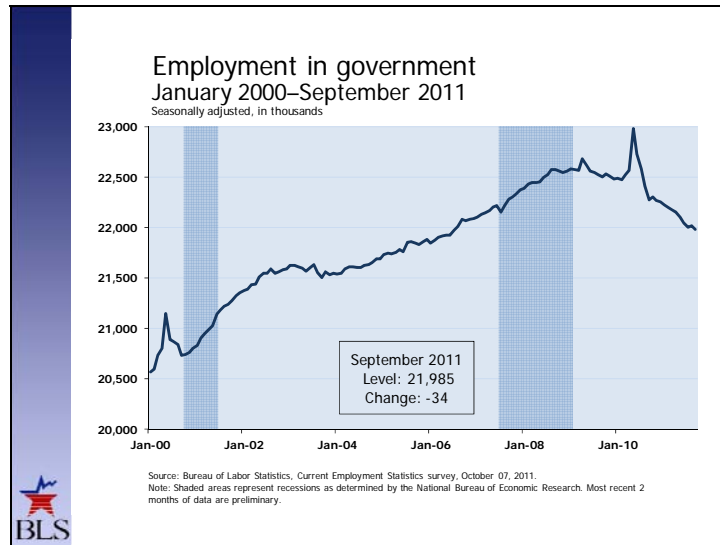
- Employment in information rose by 34,000 in September, after declining by 51,000 in August. Most of the August decline and September rebound was due to a strike and subsequent return of about 45,000 workers in telecommunications.



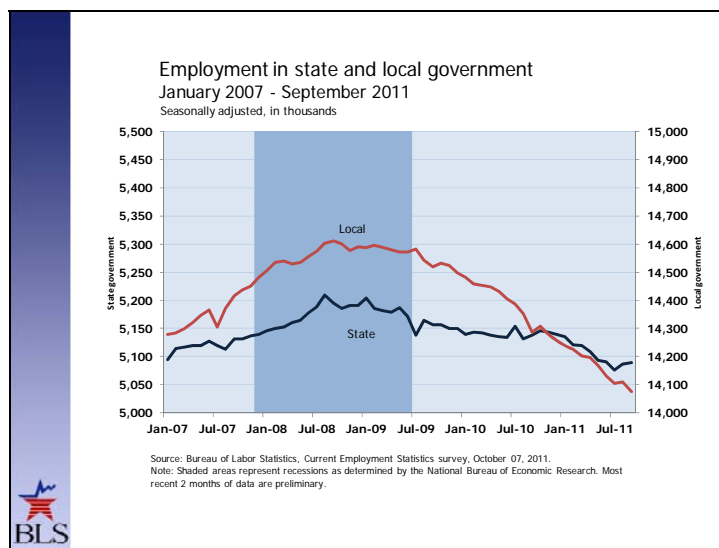
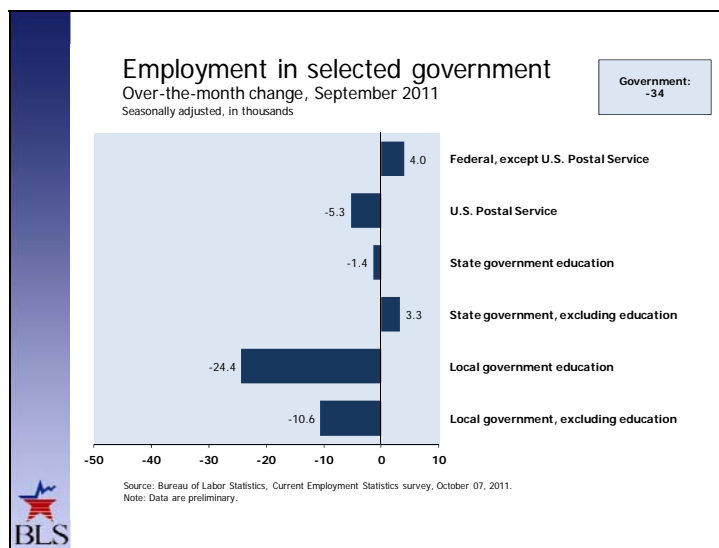
- In September, employment in professional and business services increased by 48,000. Small job gains occurred in a number of component industries, including temporary help services, computer systems design, and management and technical consulting.
- Temporary help services has been a primary driver of job growth in administrative and waste services after the 2007-09 recession. Temporary help has added 542,000 jobs since an employment low in August 2009.



- Health care employment rose by 44,000 in September, with jobs gains in both ambulatory health care services and hospitals. Over the past 12 months, health care employment has grown by 336,000.



- Government employment continued to trend down over the month (-34,000). Since the end of the most recent recession in June 2009, government employment has shed 572,000 jobs – equivalent to 3 percent of its workforce.



- Government job losses in September were concentrated in local government (-35,000). Both local government education and local government, excluding education shed jobs.
- Since employment peaked in September 2008, local government has lost 535,000 jobs.
- The U.S. Postal Service continued to lose jobs in September (-5,000).
- Employment in state government was little changed in September.