

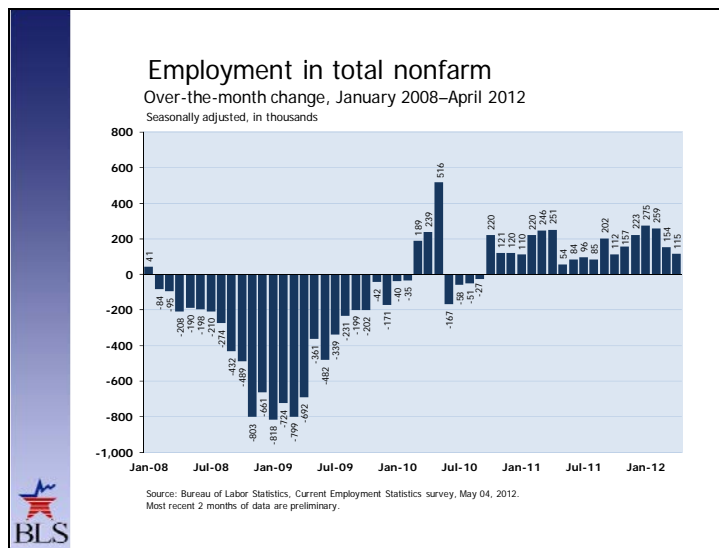
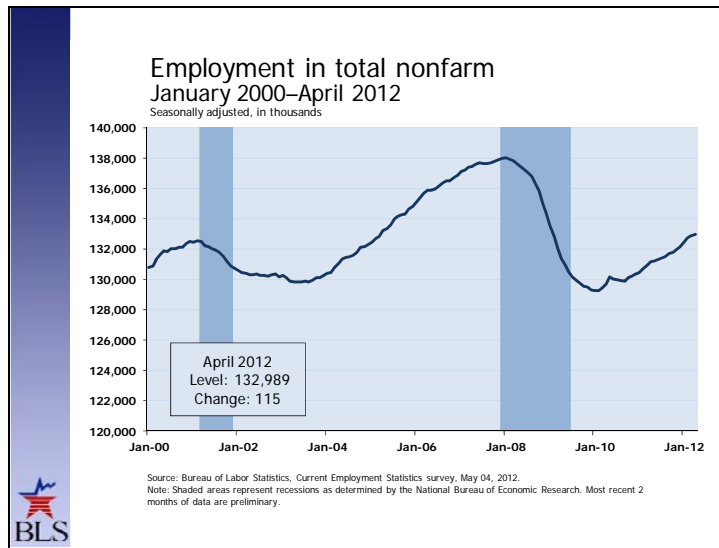


Current Employment Statistics

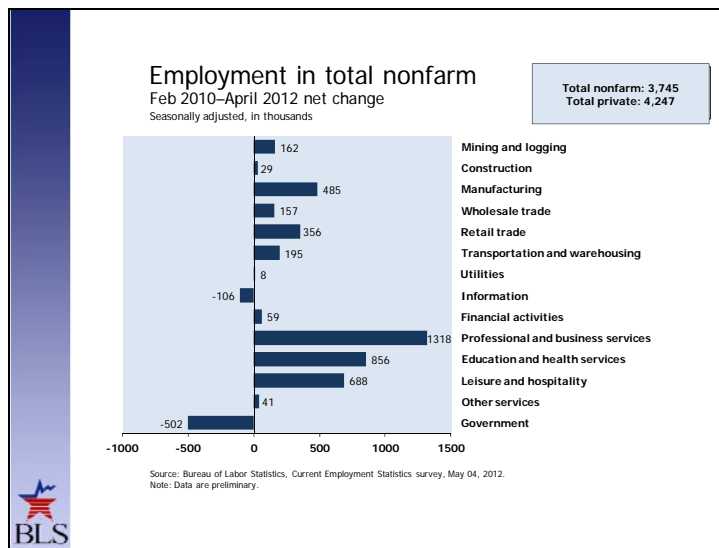
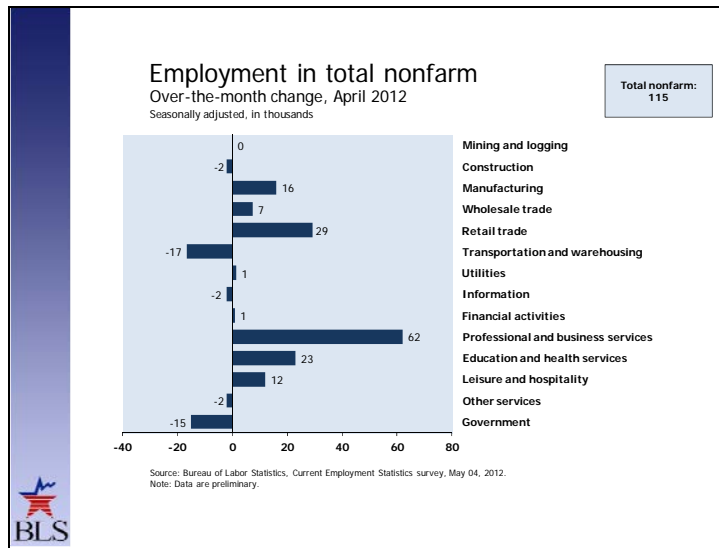
Highlights

April 2012

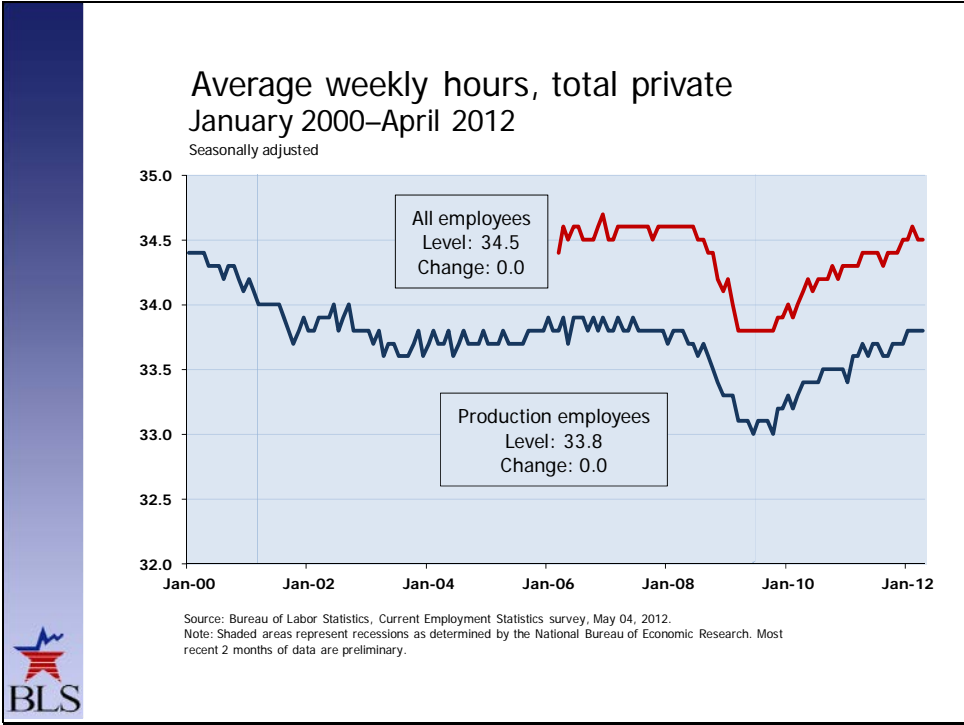
Bureau of Labor Statistics
May 4, 2012



- Total nonfarm employment rose by 115,000 in April, after a gain of 154,000 in March. Employment growth averaged 252,000 from December 2011 through February 2012.
- Since a recent employment low in February 2010, nonfarm payrolls have expanded by 3.7 million jobs, reflecting a 42-percent recovery of the 8.8 million net jobs lost between January 2008 and February 2010.



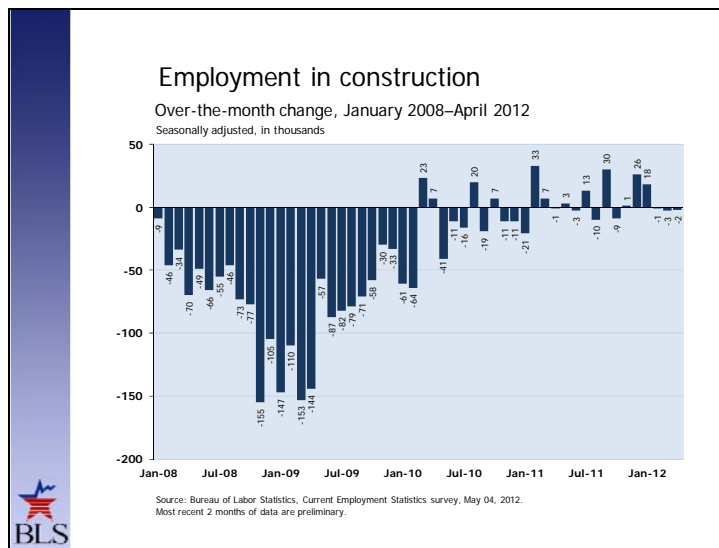
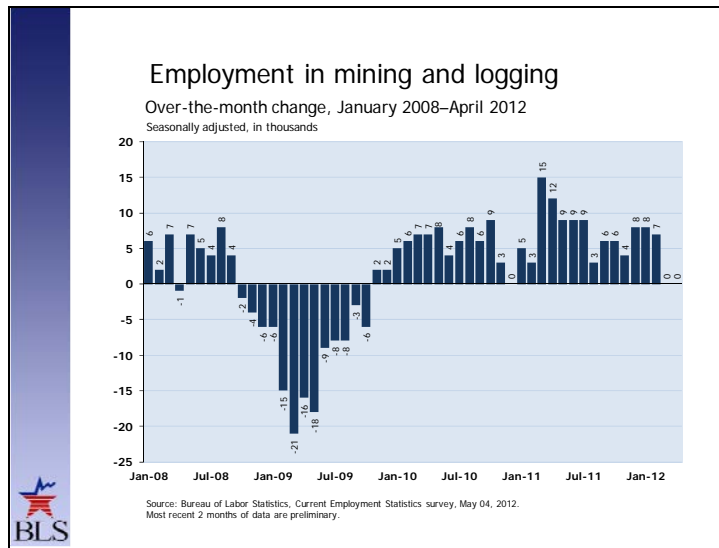
- In April, employment rose in retail trade, professional and business services, and health care. Transportation and warehousing employment declined in April.
- Since an employment trough in February 2010, all private-sector industries, except information, have added jobs.
- Service-providing industries have accounted for 84 percent of the 4.2 million jobs added to private payrolls since February 2010. Government employment has declined by one-half million jobs in that same timeframe.



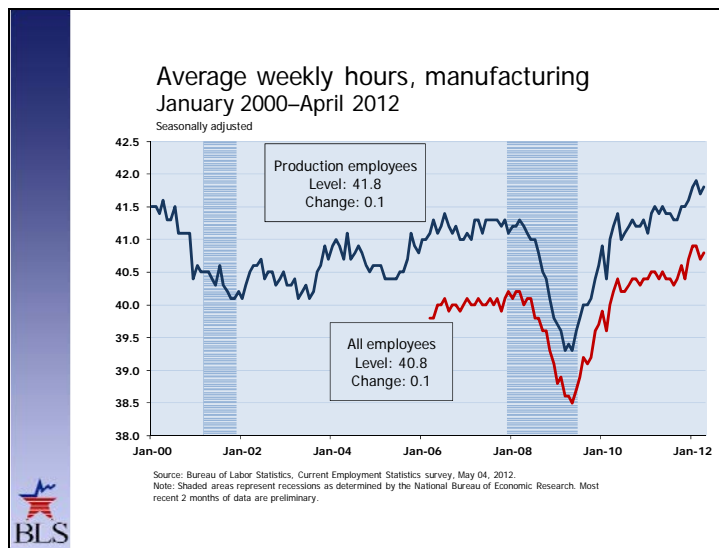
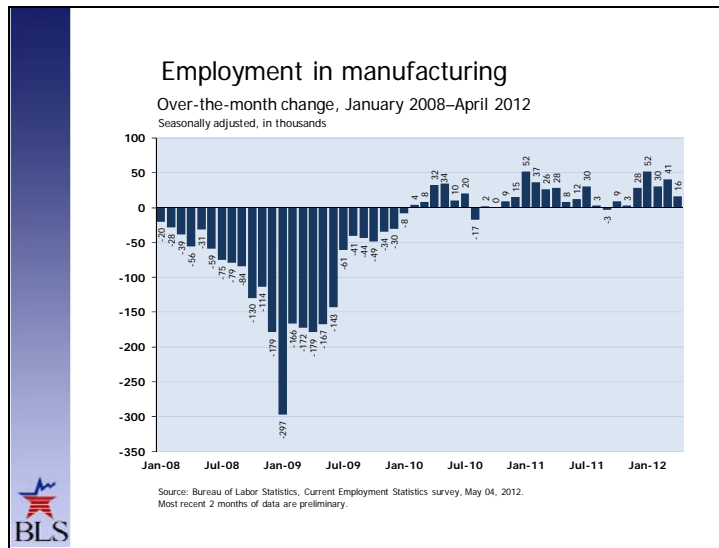
- Average weekly hours for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls were unchanged at 34.5 hours in April. Average weekly hours for production and nonsupervisory employees also remained unchanged at 33.8 hours.



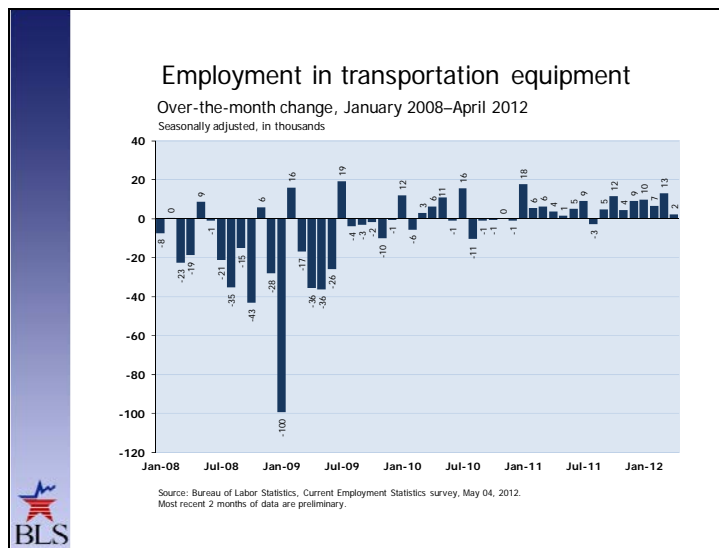
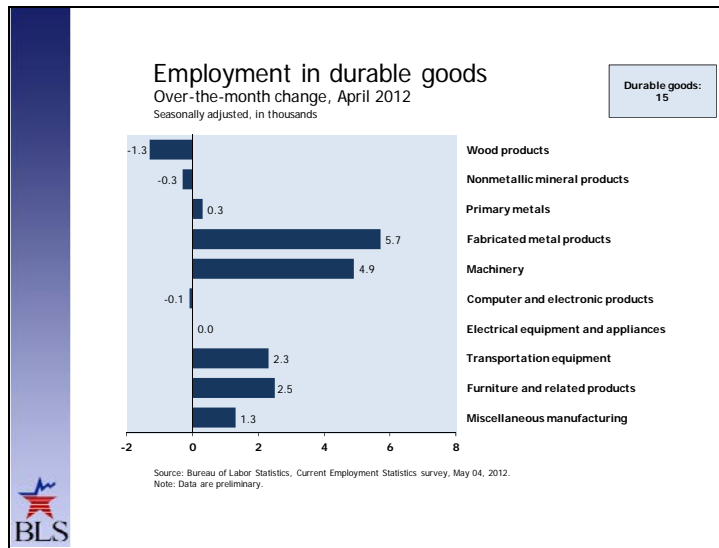
- Average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 1 cent to \$23.38 in April.
- Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased by 1.8 percent. In March, the CPI-U had an over-the-year increase of 2.6 percent; growth in prices has recently been outpacing growth in earnings.



- For the second consecutive month, mining and logging employment was flat.
- Employment in mining and logging has increased by 177,000 since a trough in October 2009, with all of that gain coming from mining.
- Construction employment was flat in April. Job losses in construction of buildings and specialty trade contractors were offset by modest gains in heavy and civil engineering construction.
- Although essentially unchanged over the last 3 months, employment in construction has increased by 102,000 since a trough in January 2011, with over half of the gain coming from specialty trade contractors.



- Manufacturing experienced moderate job growth (+16,000) in April, preceded by 41,000 and 30,000 jobs added in March and February, respectively.
- Since a trough in January 2010, employment in the industry has risen by 489,000, with durable goods accounting for most of the net gain.
- The 1-month diffusion index of manufacturing employment fell from 69.8 in March to 59.9 in April. This indicates a narrower dispersion of job growth across manufacturing industries from March to April.
- The manufacturing workweek for all employees edged up by 0.1 hour in April to 40.8 hours. Average weekly overtime for all employees rose by 0.1 hour to 3.4 hours.



- Durable goods manufacturing employment increased by 15,000 in April and has expanded by 481,000 since a recent low in January 2010.
- In April, several durable goods manufacturing industries experienced modest job growth. The majority of the gains, however, were split between fabricated metal products and machinery.
- Since an employment trough in December 2009, manufacturers of transportation equipment have added 137,000 jobs, representing a recovery of approximately 36 percent of jobs lost in the industry’s most recent downturn.

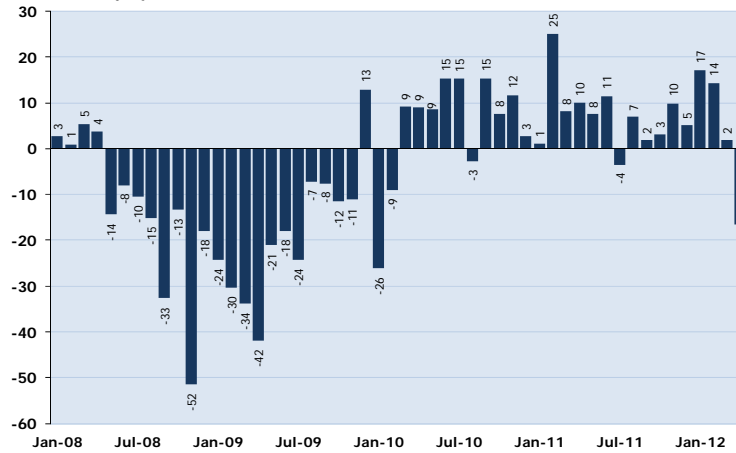


- Retail trade employment grew by 29,000 in April.
- The majority of the increase in April came from general merchandise stores (+21,000). In recent months this industry has shown little discernible trend.
- Building material and garden supply stores added 5,000 jobs in April.
- Since reaching an employment trough in December 2009, retail trade has added 398,000 jobs.

Employment in transportation

Over-the-month change, January 2008–April 2012

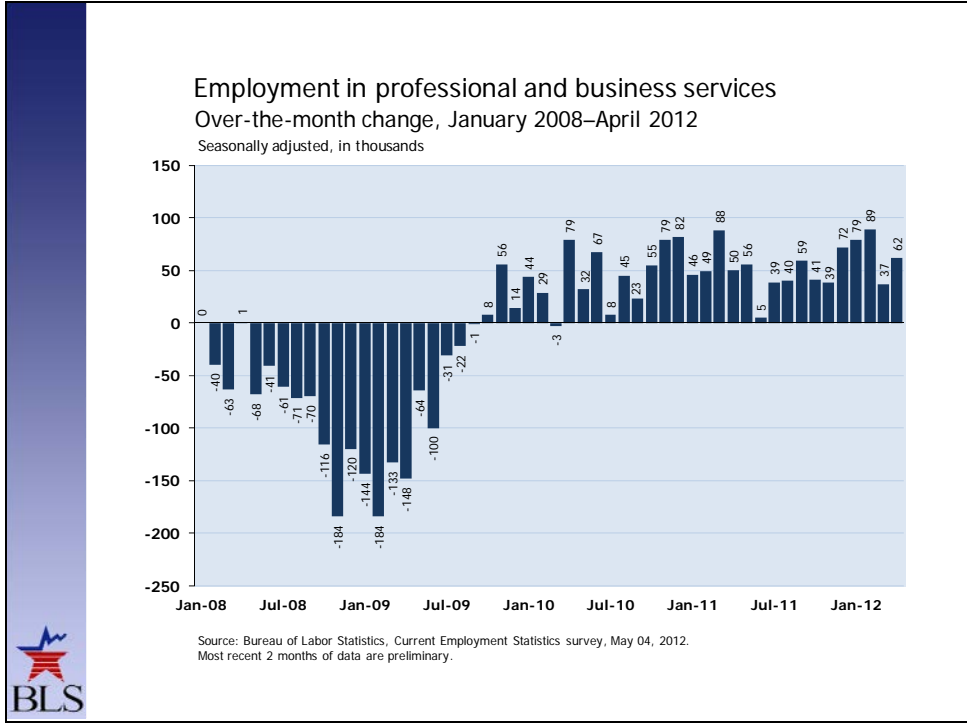
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



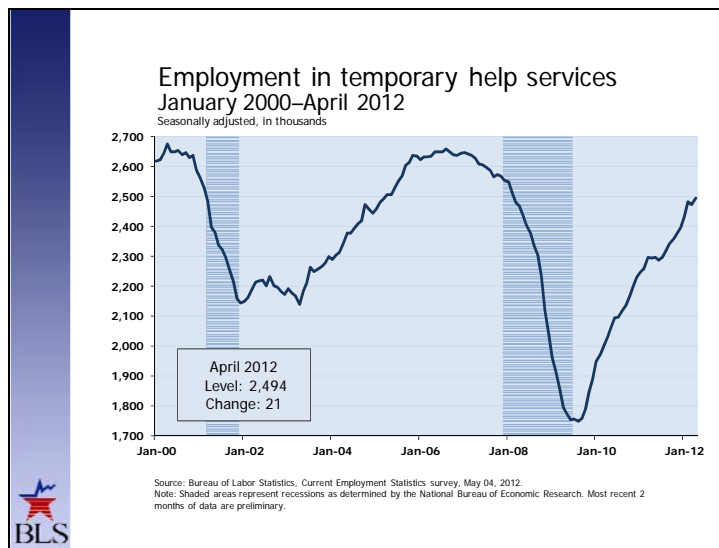
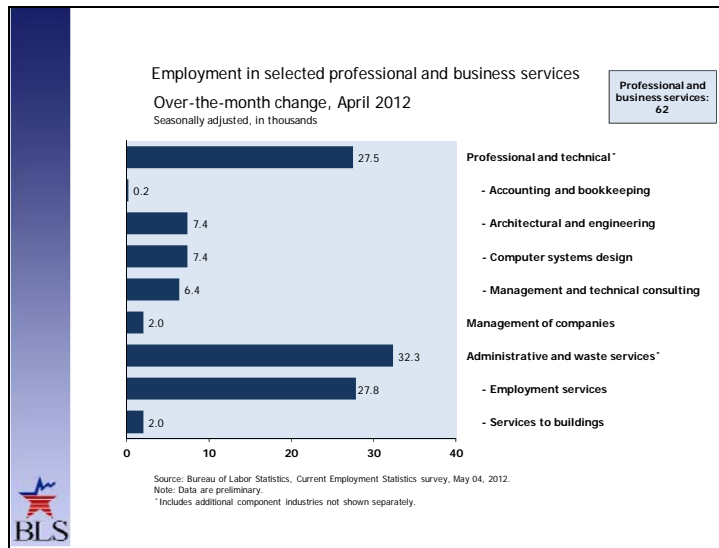
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 04, 2012.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.



- Transportation and warehousing employment fell by 17,000 in April.
- The majority of the decline in April came from transit and ground passenger transportation (-11,000) and couriers and messengers (-7,000).
- Since reaching an employment trough in February 2010, transportation and warehousing has added 195,000 jobs.



- Employment in professional and business services rose by 62,000 in April.
- Employment in professional and business services has grown by 1.5 million since a recent low in September 2009.

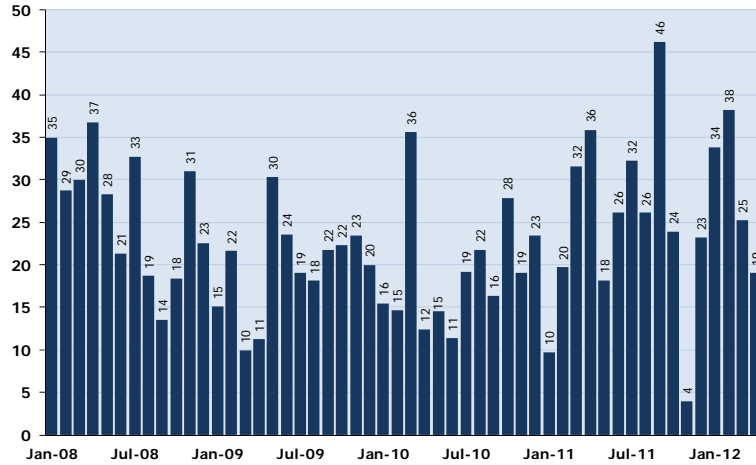


- Architectural and engineering services and computer systems design and related services both gained 7,000 in April.
- Employment in temporary help services, a component of employment services, edged up by 21,000 in April.
- Since the most recent low in August 2009, temporary help services has added 744,000 jobs, accounting for more than half of the employment gain within professional and business services.

Employment in health care

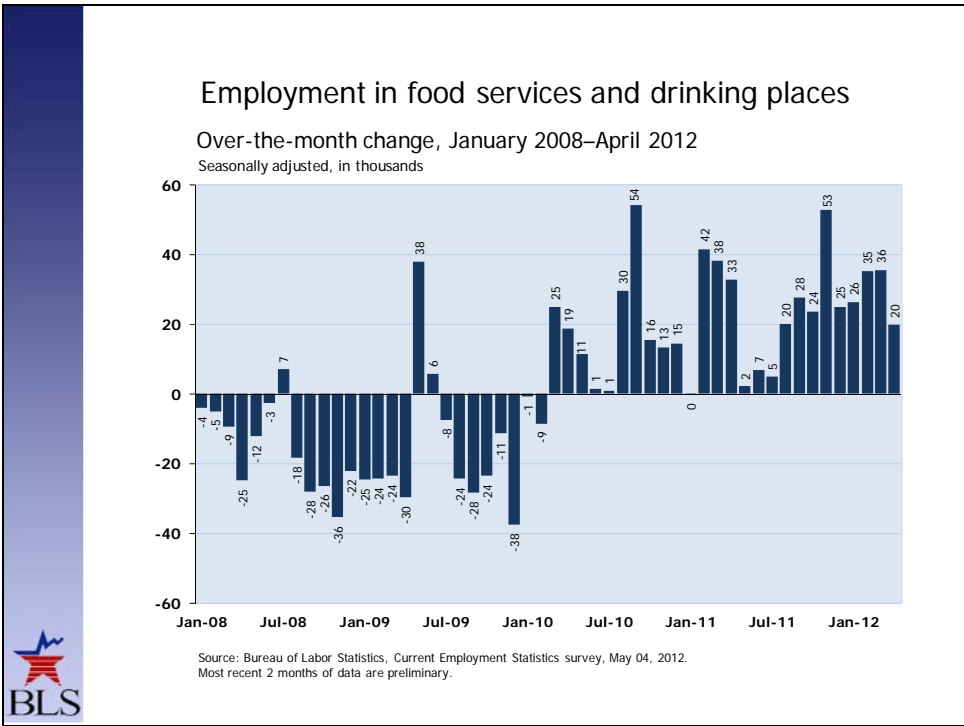
Over-the-month change, January 2008–April 2012

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

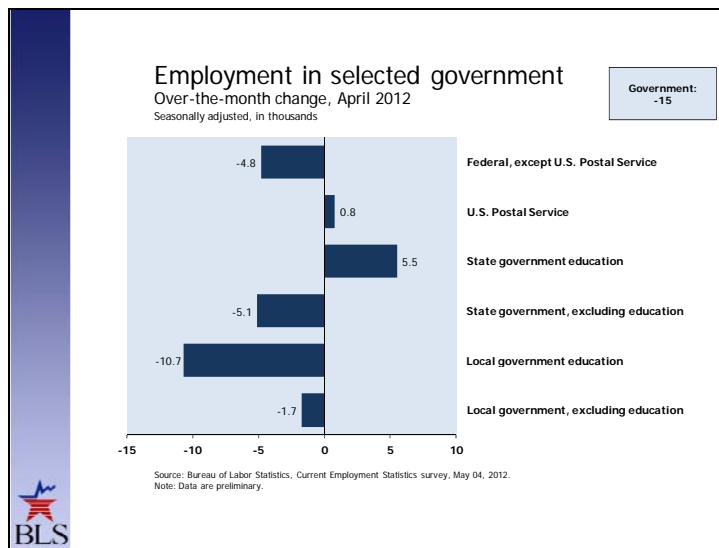
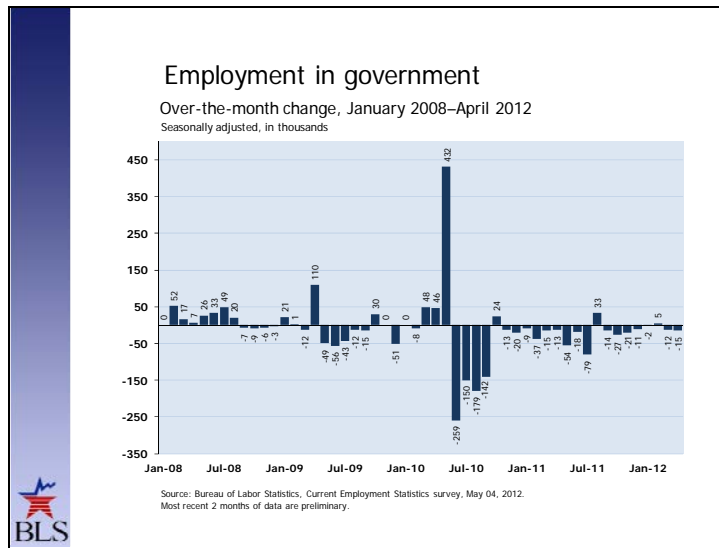


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 04, 2012.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

- Employment in health care continued to expand in April, rising by 19,000. The majority of the gain was in ambulatory health care services (+15,000), which includes home health care and offices of physicians.
- Health care has added an average of 28,000 jobs per month over the prior 12 months.



- Food services and drinking places employment rose by 20,000 in April.
- Since a recent low in February 2010, the food services industry has added 576,000 jobs, averaging 22,000 jobs added per month.



- Government employment has changed little in April and thus far in 2012. This represents a moderation of the job losses government experienced in 2011, when employment declined by an average of 22,000 per month.
- Both State and local government reached employment peaks in August 2008. Since that time, local government has lost 528,000 and State government has lost 136,000.