

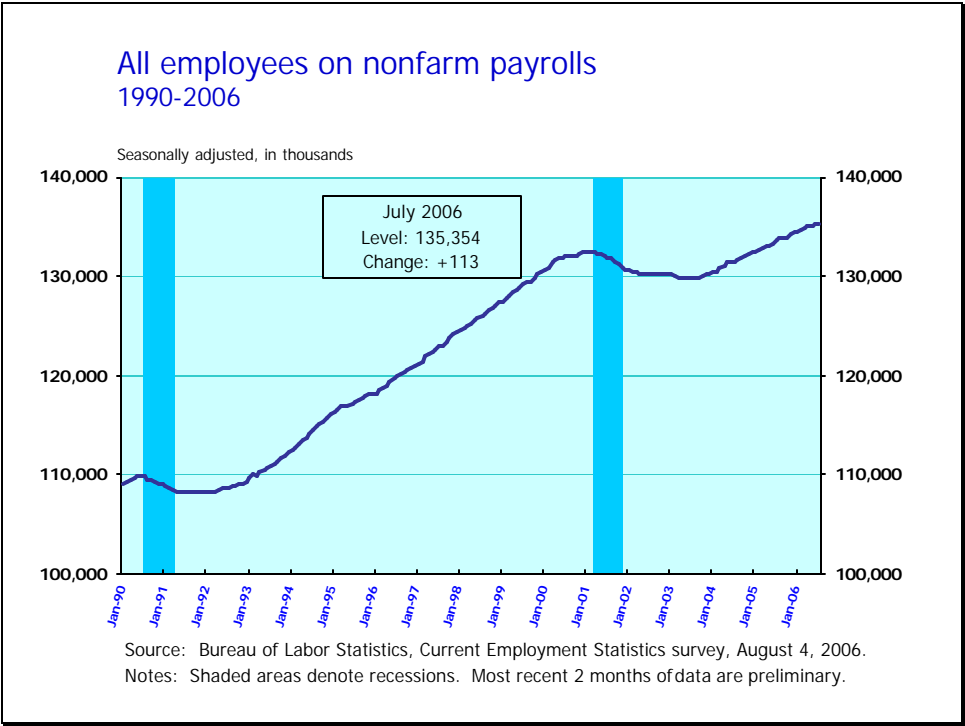


Current Employment Statistics

Highlights

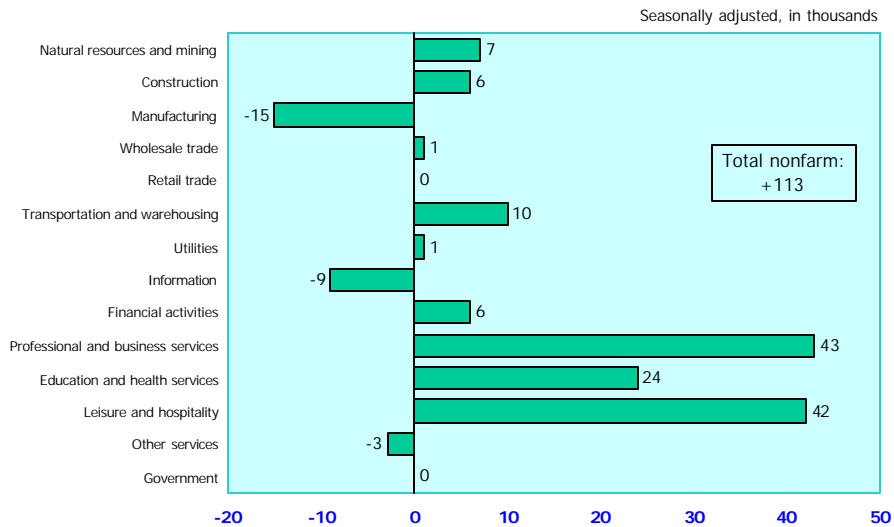
July 2006

Bureau of Labor Statistics
August 4, 2006



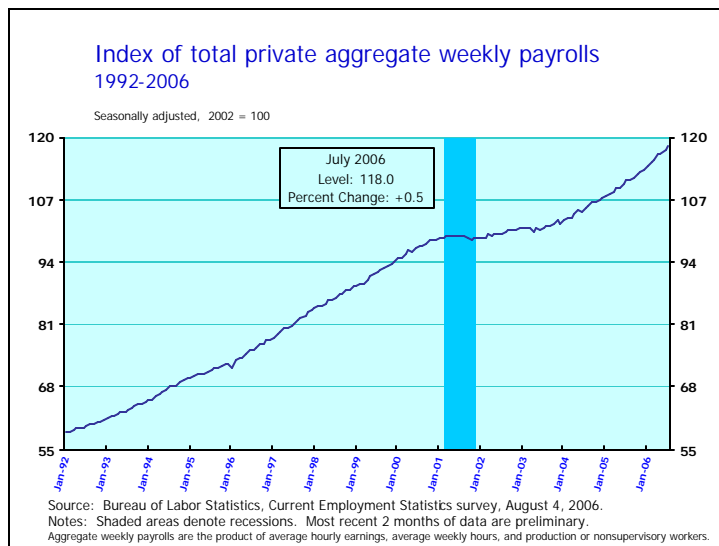
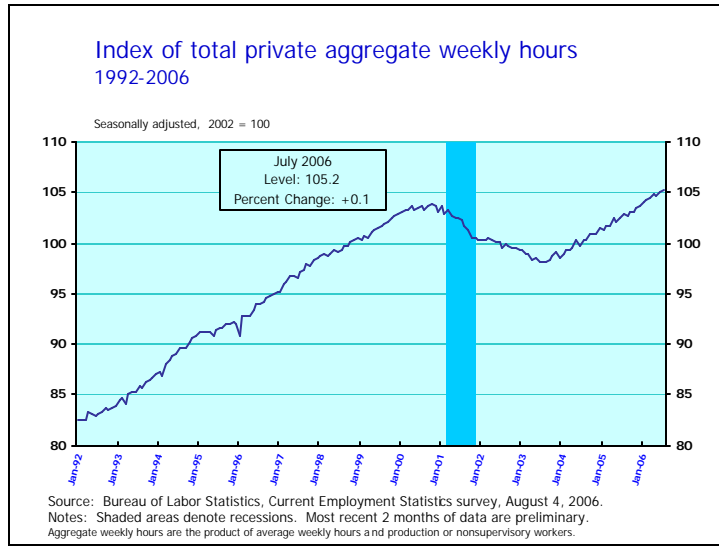
- The July gain of 113,000 payroll jobs was about equal to the average gain per month in the second quarter but below the average gain in the first quarter (176,000) and below the 2005 average (165,000).

Employment in total nonfarm and supersectors Over-the-month change, July 2006



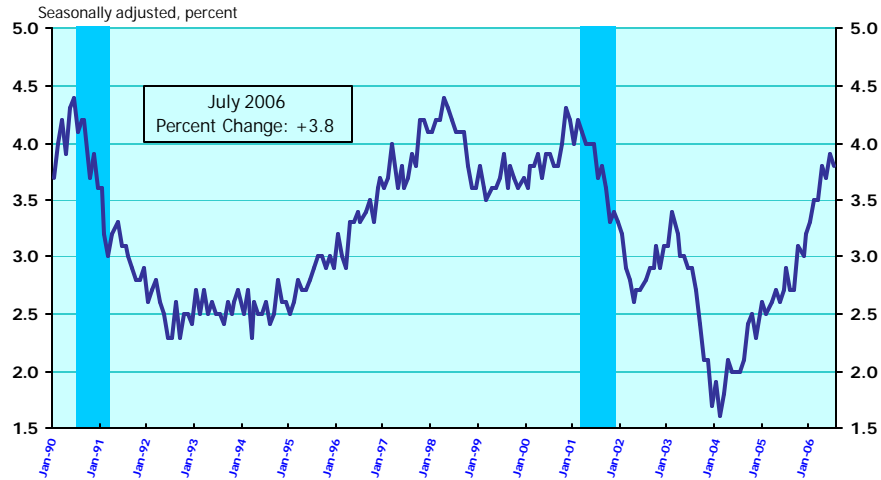
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 4, 2006.
Note: Data are preliminary.

- In the service-providing sector, employment rose by 115,000 over the month.
- In the goods-producing sector, employment was little changed.
- Most of the total gain can be attributed to three service-providing supersectors: professional and business services, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality.



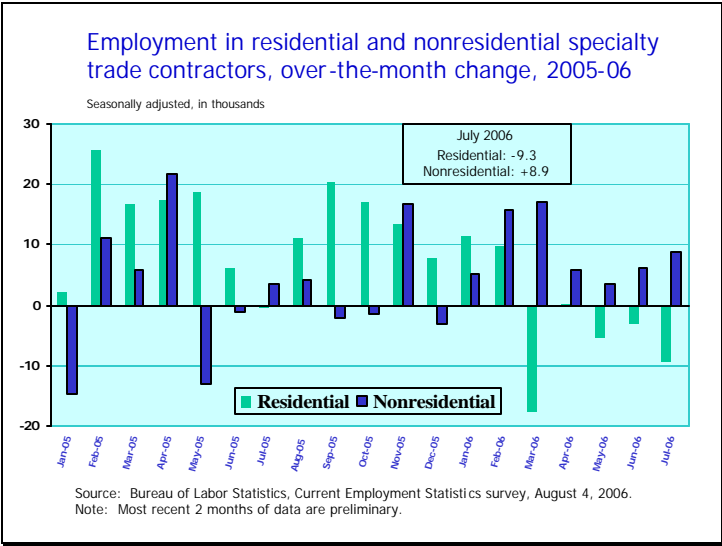
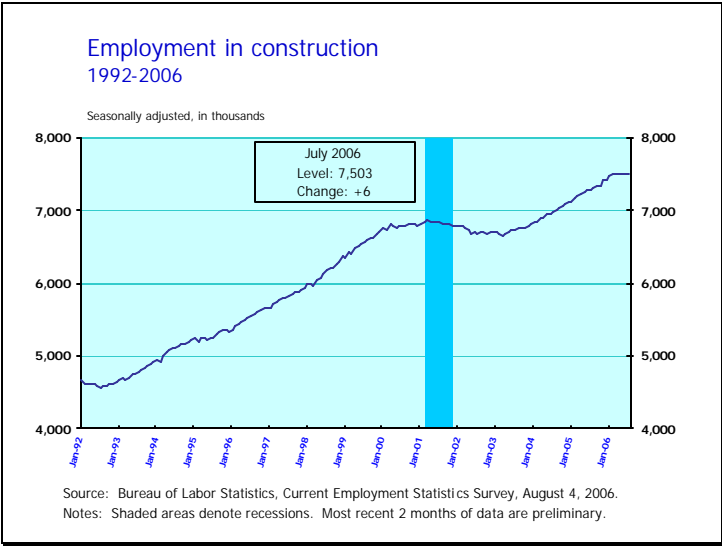
- The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls has increased by 7.1 percent since its most recent trough in August 2003. During the same time span, private payroll employment increased by 4.8 percent.
- The index of aggregate weekly payrolls increased by 6.2 percent over the most recent 12-month period while the hours index increased by 2.2 percent.

Over-the-year percent change in average hourly earnings, 1990-2006

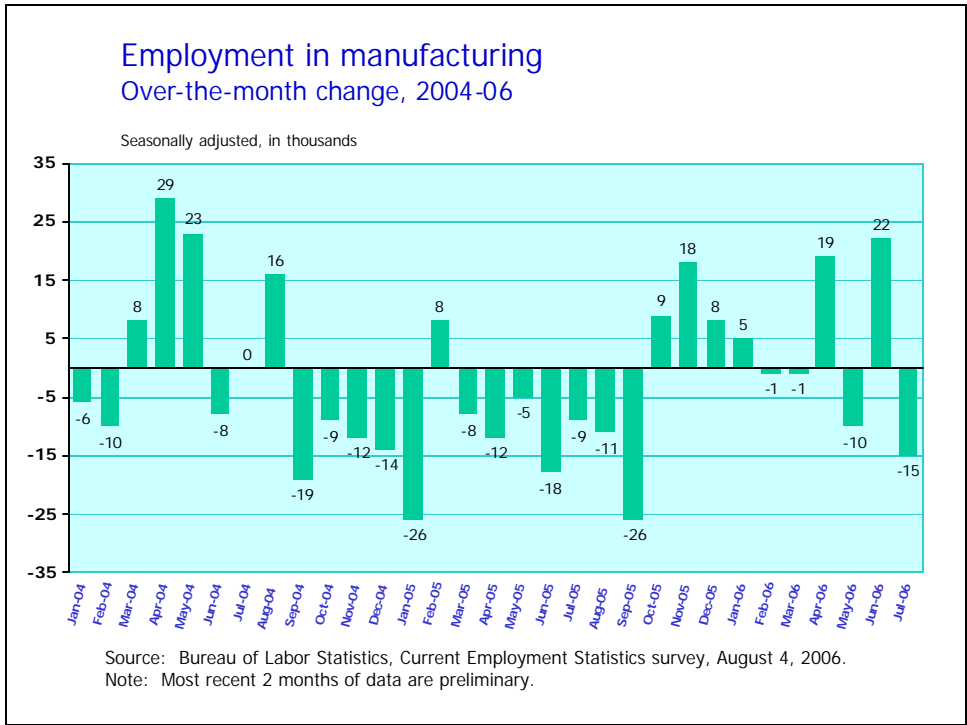


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics Survey, August 4, 2006
Note: Shaded areas denote recessions. Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

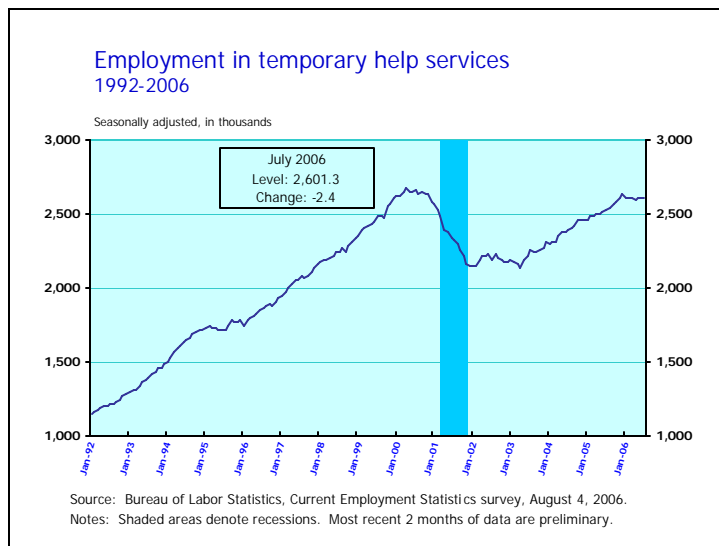
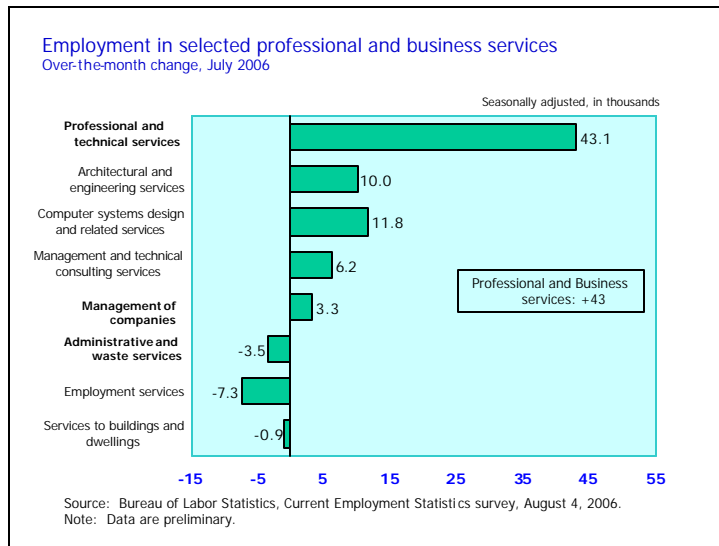
- Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 7 cents in July. The average increase during the most recent 12-month period was 5 cents.
- The over-the-year percent change of 3.8 percent exceeded the increase during the previous 12-month period. From July 2004 to July 2005, average hourly earnings grew by 2.9 percent.



- During the most recent 5 months, construction employment plateaued, gaining an average of only 2,000 jobs per month.
- Prior to the latest 5-month period, employment had grown by an average of 24,000 per month since March 2003 (its latest trough).
- Within specialty trade contractors, continued job growth in nonresidential has been offset by job losses in residential.

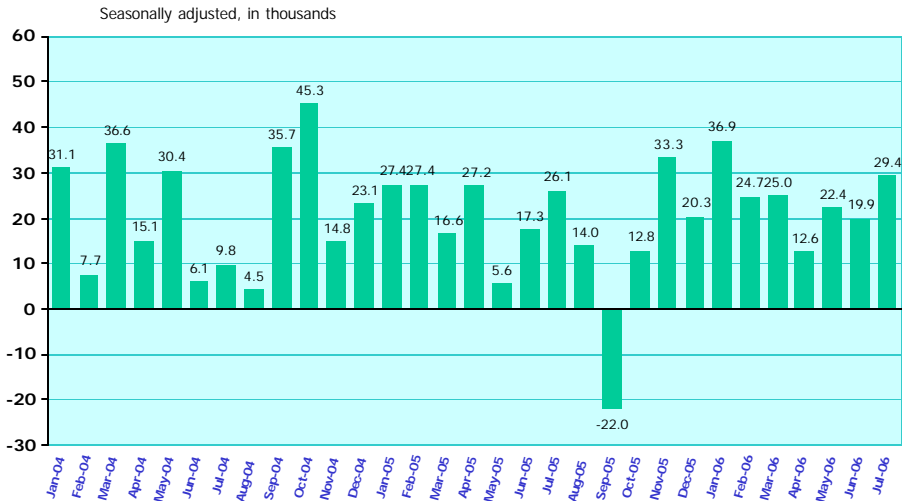


- Manufacturing employment edged down by 15,000 in July, largely offsetting an increase in June.
- During the latest 12-month period, manufacturing employment was little changed (+0.1 percent).
- The manufacturing workweek, however, has increased by 1.1 hours since its recent low in June 2005 and is now 0.4 hour above its recent peak level in May 2004. Over the latest 12-month period, the manufacturing index of aggregate weekly hours increased by 4.2 percent. (The manufacturing workweek is measured as average weekly hours for production workers, seasonally adjusted; the index of aggregate weekly hours is also for production workers and is seasonally adjusted.)



- The gain of 43,000 jobs in professional and business services was primarily in architectural and engineering services, computer systems design and related services, and management and technical consulting.
- The level of employment in temporary help services was about the same in July as in January.
- From the most recent trough, in April 2003, to January 2006, temporary help services gained 466,000 jobs.

Employment in food services and drinking places Over-the-month change, 2004-06



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 4, 2006.
Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

- In July, food services and drinking places added 29,000 jobs, which is similar to its average monthly gain so far this year. This industry has grown by 229,000 over the year.
- This industry has added jobs in the vast majority of months during the last 10 years, and has exhibited no major declines.