

# Current U.S. Employment Statistics: Job Growth and Loss



A healthy 214,000 jobs were added in October. Retailers added another 27,100 jobs as they geared up for Halloween and the Black Friday shopping season. Restaurants, bars and hotels added 52,000 jobs, while healthcare added 27,200 jobs. Only IT reduced the number of workers, losing 4,000 jobs.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics issues the "Employment Situation Summary" monthly. Also called the "Non-Farm Payroll Report", it tells you the number of jobs added, and what fields they were in. It reports on the gain or decline from the previous month. This does not take into account seasonal variations, such as teachers who go on unpaid leave in the summer. For this reason, a better way to look at employment statistics is year-over-year.

- Temporary Job Agency
- Economic Collapse
- Jobs Jobs
- Business Jobs
- Economics Growth

Pay close attention to how many manufacturing jobs were added, since this is a really good indicator of true economic health. That's because factories are less likely to add workers until they have the orders in hand. This provides a better leading indicator of future economic performance than does service

employment, which stays more consistent through thick and thin. For more specifics, see Jobs Report and How Is Employment Defined?

The Employment Report also provides the unemployment rate. That's not as useful for predicting future trends, since it is a lagging indicator. However, it's very good for confirming trends.

#### 2014 Employment Reports

- **January** - First estimate was 113,000 jobs, later revised to 144,000. The Dow rose 165 points.
- **February** - Winter storms limited job creation to 175,000, later revised to 222,000.
- **March** - A surprising 192,000 jobs were added, later revised to 203,000.
- **April** - The initial report said 288,000 jobs were created, later revised to 282,000, then 304,000.
- **May** - A solid 229,000 jobs were added, mostly in health care, hotels/restaurants and transportation. IT lost jobs. The initial report said 217,000 jobs were added.
- **June** - Another 267,000 jobs were added, revised down from the second estimate of 298,000 jobs, which was revised up from the initial 288,000 estimate. Gains were in retail, healthcare, and hotels/restaurants. Government and IT added jobs.
- **July** - Only 212,000 jobs were added, revised up from the initial estimate of 202,000. This was lower than expectations but still a solid gain. Increases were in healthcare, retail and hotels/restaurants..
- **August** - The original estimate of 142,000 jobs was revised up to 180,000 positions. Healthcare and construction added the most jobs, while retail, auto manufacturing and IT lost jobs. Retail cut jobs which was not a good sign heading into the fall shopping season.
- **September** - A healthy 256,000 jobs were added, revised up from the original forecast of 248,000 jobs. Retailers added 35,300 positions, gearing up for the back-to-school/Halloween/Black Friday shopping season. Hotels, restaurants and healthcare were also large job contributors.

## 2013 Report

| MONTH | JOB'S CREATED (Final) | JOB'S CREATED (Original) | COMMENTS  |
|-------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Jan   | 197,000               | 157,000                  |   |
| Feb   | 280,000               | 236,000                  | Growth due to construction and retail trade.                        |
| Mar   | 141,000               | 88,000                   | Disappointing jobs report blamed on weather and retail layoffs.     |
| Apr   | 203,000               | 165,000                  | The strong report sent the Dow above 15,000.                        |
| May   | 199,000               | 175,000                  | Dow rose 200 points. Housing added jobs.                            |
| Jun   | 201,000               | 195,000                  |   |
| Jul   | 149,000               | 162,000                  | Most growth in low-paying retail and restaurants.                   |
| Aug   | 202,000               | 169,000                  | Job gains were in low-paying retail and restaurant sectors.         |
| Sep   | 164,000               | 143,000                  | Investors cheered because the Fed would keep monetary policy loose. |
| Oct   | 237,000               | 204,000                  | The government shutdown delayed.                                    |
| Nov   | 274,000               | 203,000                  | Across-the-board job growth.  |
| Dec   | 84,000                | 71,000                   | Job losses were across the board, mainly from poor holiday sales.   |

## 2012 Report

| MONTH | JOB ADDED (Final) | JOB ADDED (Original) | COMMENTS   |
|-------|-------------------|----------------------|--|
| Jan   | 360,000           | 243,000              | Job growth was mainly in professional and business services          |
| Feb   | 226,000           | 227,000              | Business growth made everyone think the economy was finally healed.  |
| Mar   | 243,000           | 120,000              | Poor growth across the board, and retail shed jobs.                  |
| Apr   | 96,000            | 115,000              | Two sectors weren't doing well -- construction and government.       |
| May   | 110,000           | 65,000               | Seasonal weakness sent the Dow down 275 points.                      |
| Jun   | 88,000            | 80,000               | The Dow dropped 180 points on the poor jobs report.                  |
| Jul   | 160,000           | 163,000              | The Dow gained 217 points on the strong report.                      |
| Aug   | 150,000           | 96,000               |  |
| Sep   | 161,000           | 114,000              | Former GE CEO Jack Welch was suspicious that so many jobs were       |
| Oct   | 225,000           | 171,000              | The strong jobs report came out a week before the election. Data was |
| Nov   | 203,000           | 146,000              | The storm devastated New York, but didn't affect national jobs       |
| Dec   | 214,000           | 155,000              | Uncertainty over the fiscal cliff forced businesses hire less.       |

## 2011 Report

| MONTH | JOB ADDED (Revised) | JOB ADDED (Original) | COMMENTS  |
|-------|---------------------|----------------------|---|
| Jan   | 70,000              | 36,000               | The economy had 984,000 more jobs than the year before.                   |
| Feb   | 168,000             | 192,000              | Manufacturing jobs were up 189,000 year-over-year.                        |
| Mar   | 212,000             | 216,000              |   |
| Apr   | 322,000             | 244,000              |   |
| May   | 102,000             | 54,000               | The poor jobs report sent the Dow and dollar down, and gold up.           |
| Jun   | 217,000             | 18,000               | The dismal jobs report panicked investors.                                |
| Jul   | 106,000             | 117,000              | The Dow dropped 400 points despite job gains.                             |
| Aug   | 122,000             | 0                    | Astonishingly, absolutely no jobs were created, giving urgency to Obama's |
| Sep   | 221,000             | 103,000              | The economy added 2 million since the low point in February 2010,         |
| Oct   | 183,000             | 80,000               |   |
| Nov   | 164,000             | 120,000              | Strong retail sales boosted job growth.                                   |
| Dec   | 196,000             | 200,000              | The economy added 1.6 million jobs in 2011                                |

## 2010 Report

| MONTH | JOB ADDED (Revised) | JOB ADDED (Original) | COMMENTS  |
|-------|---------------------|----------------------|---|
| Jan   | 18,000              | N.A.                 | 52,000 temporary jobs were added, of which 9,000 were for the Census. There |
| Feb   | -50,000             | N.A.                 | The economy had 3.2 million fewer jobs than February 2009. The Census       |
| Mar   | 156,000             | N.A.                 | There were 2.3 million fewer jobs, and 633,000 fewer manufacturing jobs,    |
| Apr   | 251,000             | 290,000              | The Census added 63,000 temp jobs, and manufacturing added 44,000           |
| May   | 516,000             | 431,000              | The Census added 411,000 temp jobs.   |
| Jun   | -122,000            | -125,000             | The Census laid off 225,000 temp workers.                                   |
| Jul   | -61,000             | -121,000             | The Census laid off 143,000, but business hiring was up by 71,000 jobs.     |
| Aug   | -42,000             | -31,000              | There were 130.3 million jobs, a gain of 229,000 jobs in the past year      |
| Sep   | -57,000             | -91,000              | There were 130.2 million jobs, 344,000 more than the year earlier.          |
| Oct   | -57,000             | 150,000              | The economy had 829,000 more jobs than the year before.                     |
| Nov   | 137,000             | 39,000               | There were 842,000 more jobs than the year before.                          |
| Dec   | 71,000              | 103,000              | Businesses added 117,000 jobs, but government laid off 10,000.              |