



WEEKLY ECONOMIC DIGEST

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

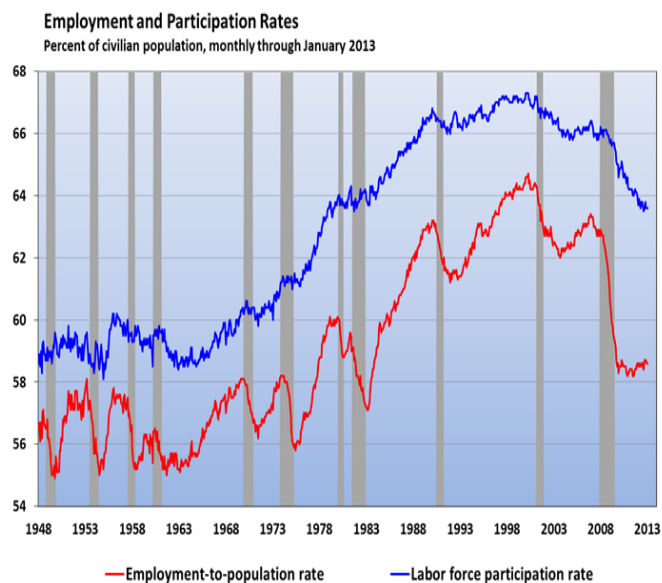
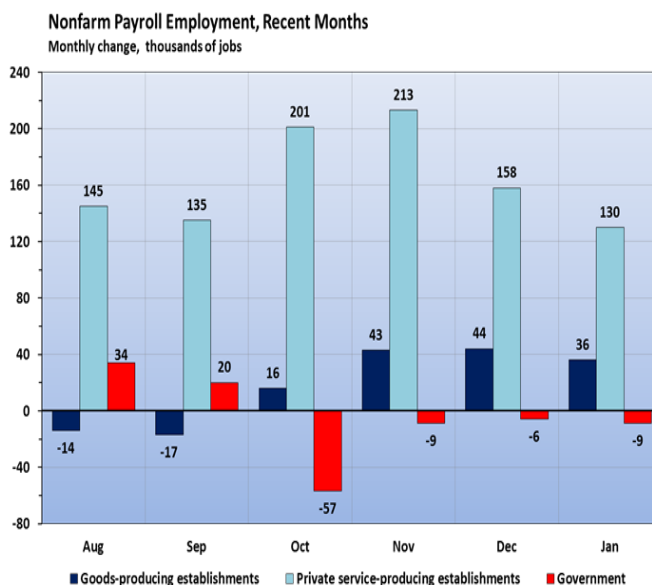
UNITED STATES CONGRESS

SENATOR ROBERT P. CASEY, JR., VICE CHAIRMAN DESIGNATE

February 5, 2013

Jobs Growth Continued in January

- Payroll employment grew in January. Total nonfarm employment rose by 157,000 jobs last month, according to the Labor Department's survey of establishment payrolls. The Department also revised up its estimates for payroll growth in December and November by 127,000 jobs. Private nonfarm payrolls increased by 166,000 jobs in January, following (revised) gains of 202,000 jobs in December and 256,000 jobs in November. The payrolls of private goods-producing establishments increased by 36,000 jobs in January (see top chart), paced mainly by an increase of 28,000 jobs in construction. Payrolls in private service-providing establishments decelerated in January, while public payrolls declined.
- Average weekly earnings decelerated slightly last month. The average workweek for private nonfarm workers rose was unchanged at 34.4 hours in January. The average hourly earnings of private nonfarm workers increased 0.2 percent to \$23.78 per hour. As a result, average weekly earnings rose 0.2 percent last month, following a rise of 0.3 percent in December. Over the past 12 months, average weekly earnings have risen by 1.9 percent.
- The unemployment rate was essentially unchanged in January. Unemployment averaged 7.9 percent of the civilian labor force last month, up by a magnitude that rounds up to 0.1 percentage point from December. The fraction of the population with a job was unchanged at 58.6 percent in January while the rate of labor force participation (i.e., the fraction of the population that is either working or actively seeking work) was unchanged at 63.6 percent (see bottom chart).



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THE WEEK AHEAD

DAY	SELECTED UPCOMING DATA RELEASES & EVENTS
Tuesday, Feb. 5	Institute for Supply Management, Report on Business: Non-Manufacturing (January)
Thursday, Feb. 7	Productivity and Costs (Q4) Consumer Credit (December)
Friday, Feb. 8	U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services (December) Monthly Wholesale Trade (December)

THE ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

KEY INDICATORS	MONTH			QUARTER			YEAR	
	Jan.	Dec.	Nov.	2012Q4	2012Q3	2012Q2	2012	2011
<u>Economic Activity</u>								
Real gross domestic product	—	—	—	-0.1	3.1	1.3	2.2	1.8
Manufacturing production	n.a.	0.8	1.3	0.2	-1.0	0.8	4.0	4.3
Factory utilization rate (percent of capacity)	n.a.	77.4	76.9	76.8	77.0	77.5	77.2	75.0
Civilian unemployment rate (percent of labor force)	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8	8.0	8.2	8.1	8.9
Housing starts (thousands of units, annual rates)	n.a.	954	851	898	774	736	781	612
Light vehicle sales, domestic (millions of units, annual rates)	n.a.	11.987	12.028	11.711	11.351	10.999	11.242	9.805
Retail & food service sales	n.a.	0.5	0.4	5.8	5.3	-1.0	5.0	8.0
Real disposable personal income	n.a.	2.8	1.3	6.8	0.5	2.2	1.5	1.3
Personal saving rate (percent of disposable income)	n.a.	6.5	4.1	4.7	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.2
<u>Inflation & Productivity</u>								
CPI-U inflation	n.a.	0	-0.3	2.1	2.3	0.8	2.1	3.1
Core CPI-U inflation	n.a.	0.1	0.1	1.6	1.5	2.6	2.1	1.7
Output per hour, nonfarm bus.	—	—	—	n.a.	2.9	1.9	n.a.	0.7
Unit labor costs, nonfarm bus.	—	—	—	n.a.	-1.9	-0.5	n.a.	2.0
Employment Cost Index	—	—	—	2.1	1.7	2.1	1.9	2.0

Sources: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce; Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce; and Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Notes: Except where otherwise noted, values in the table represent simple percent changes for monthly data and percent changes at annual rates for quarterly data. Core CPI-U inflation is the percentage change in the CPI-U excluding food and energy prices as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Employment Cost Index covers all civilian workers and the quarterly change is measured from the last month of the previous quarter to the last month of the indicated quarter. 'n.a.' denotes that data are not yet available. '—' denotes that data are not available monthly.