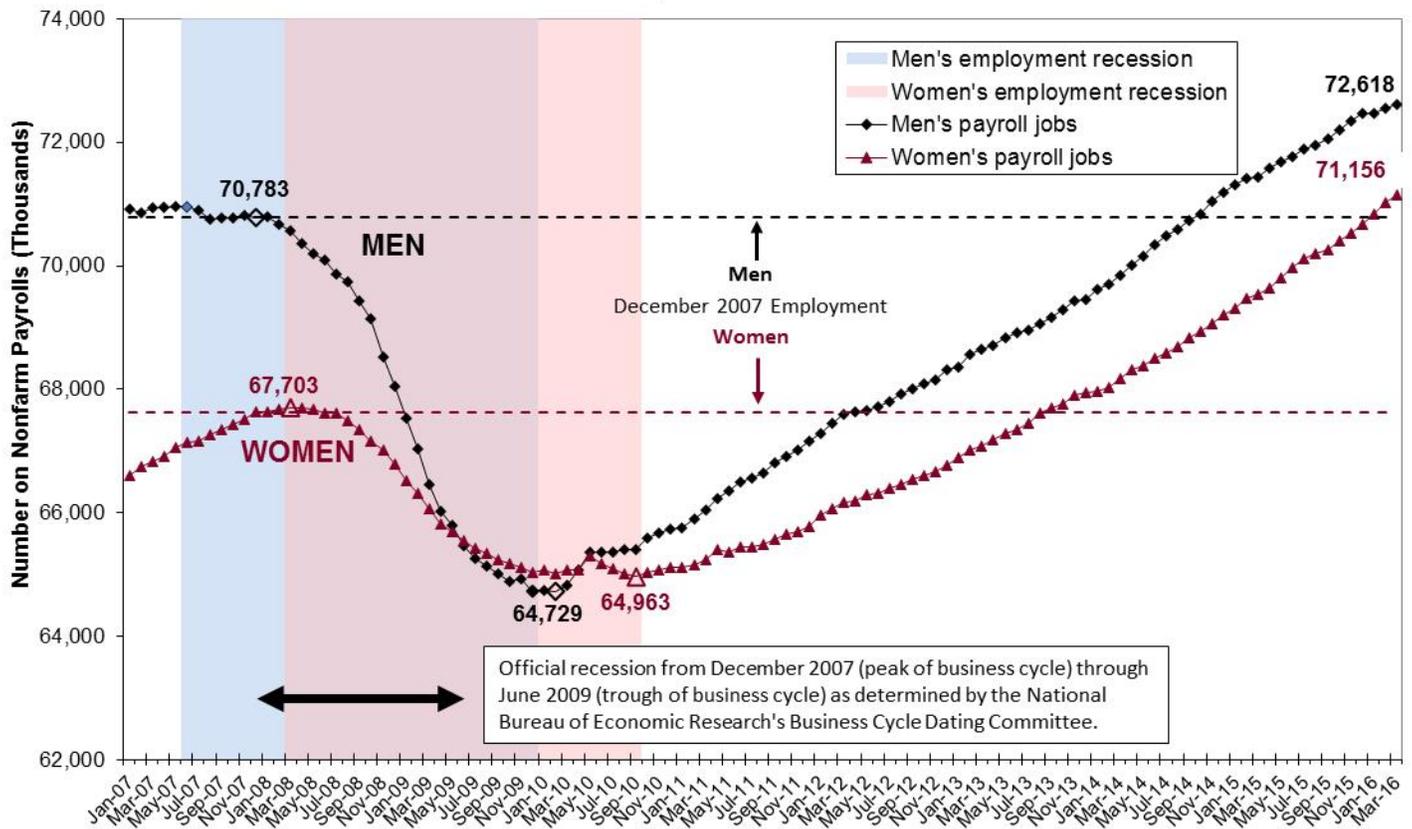


Women Gain 143,000 Jobs Out of 215,000 Jobs Added in March Unemployment for Single Mothers Reduced by Nearly Half Since Its Recession Peak

Monthly Number of Women and Men on Payrolls (In Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted),
January 2007 – March 2016



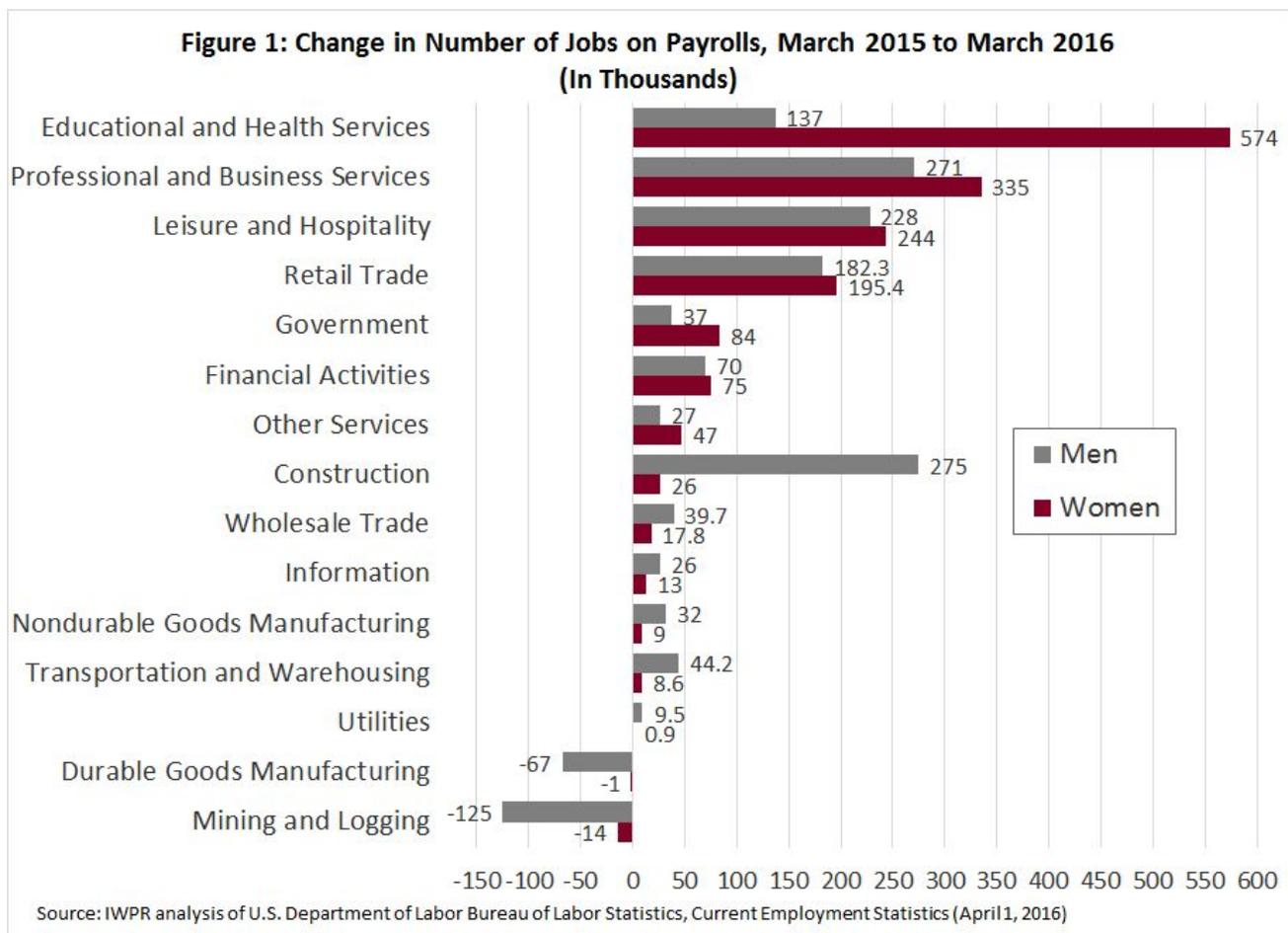
Source: IWPR analysis of U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics (April 1, 2016)

The Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) analysis of the April employment report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) finds that women gained 143,000 jobs and men gained 72,000 for a total of 215,000 jobs added in March, giving women two-thirds of job growth. March is the 73rd month of

This Quick Figures, which has been released monthly since March 2011, will be released quarterly starting today, and will appear next on July 8, 2016.

uninterrupted job growth in the private sector. The overall unemployment rate increased slightly to 5.0 percent between February and March.

In March, women’s employment growth was strong in Educational and Health Services (44,000 jobs gained by women), Retail Trade (25,300 jobs gained by women), Leisure and Hospitality Services (23,000 jobs gained by women), and Government (10,000 jobs gained by women). Men’s employment growth was strong in Construction (34,000 jobs gained by men), Retail Trade (22,400 jobs gained by men), Leisure and Hospitality Services (17,000 jobs gained by men), Professional and Business Services (11,000 jobs gained by men), and Government (10,000 jobs gained by men). In contrast, men’s employment declined in Durable Goods Manufacturing (24,000 jobs lost by men), Mining and Logging (11,000 jobs lost by men), and Nondurable Goods Manufacturing (4,000 jobs lost by men). Women also lost 1,000 jobs in Mining and Logging.



In the last year, from March 2015 to March 2016, of the 2.8 million jobs added to payrolls, more than half were filled by women (58 percent or 1,615,000 jobs) and slightly less than half were filled by men (42 percent or 1,187,000 jobs). Between March 2015 and March 2016 women’s job gains were strongest in Education and Health Services (574,000 jobs added for women), Professional and Business Services (335,000 jobs added for women), Leisure and Hospitality (244,000 jobs added for women), and Retail Trade (195,400 jobs added for women). Men’s job gains were strongest in Construction (275,000 jobs added for men), Professional and Business Services (271,000 jobs added for men), Leisure and Hospitality (228,000 jobs added for men) and Retail Trade (182,300 jobs added for men). In contrast, men lost 125,000 jobs in Mining and Logging and

67,000 jobs in Durable Goods Manufacturing during the past year. Women also lost 14,000 jobs in Mining and Logging.

According to the household survey data reported by the BLS, the unemployment rates for both women and men aged 16 and older increased to 5.0 percent in March from 4.9 percent in February. Among workers aged 20 and older, unemployment is substantially higher among black women and men (8.0 percent and 8.7 percent, respectively) compared with white women and men (at 3.9 percent for both). Compared with white women, Hispanic women's unemployment is substantially higher at 5.5 percent, and Hispanic men's unemployment is also higher than white men's at 4.8 percent. For single mothers (female heads of households), the unemployment rate decreased to 6.8 percent in March from 7.0 percent in February. Unemployment for single mothers has been reduced by nearly half from its recent peak, 13.4 percent in July and August 2010. The unemployment rate for single mothers is not seasonally adjusted and can fluctuate due to small sample sizes in the household survey.

The overall labor force participation rate increased from 62.9 percent in February to 63.0 percent in March. Women's labor force participation rate increased from 56.8 percent in February to 57.0 percent in March, but remains 2.5 percentage points lower than the 59.5 percent rate in December 2007, before the start of the Great Recession. Men's labor force participation rate remained steady from February to March at 69.4 percent, 4.4 percentage points lower than the 73.8 percent rate in December 2007.

As of March, 8 million workers remained unemployed and, of these, 2.2 million (27.6 percent) had been unemployed for 27 weeks or longer, usually referred to as the long-term unemployed. This share has declined by 1.9 percentage points in the past year, from 29.5 percent in March 2015. Involuntary part-time workers numbered 6.1 million workers in March; they reported working part-time for reasons such as slack work or unfavorable business conditions, inability to find full-time work, or seasonal declines in demand. Compared to the same time last year, 550,000 fewer workers reported involuntary part-time work, a substantial decline of 8 percent from 6.7 million.

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