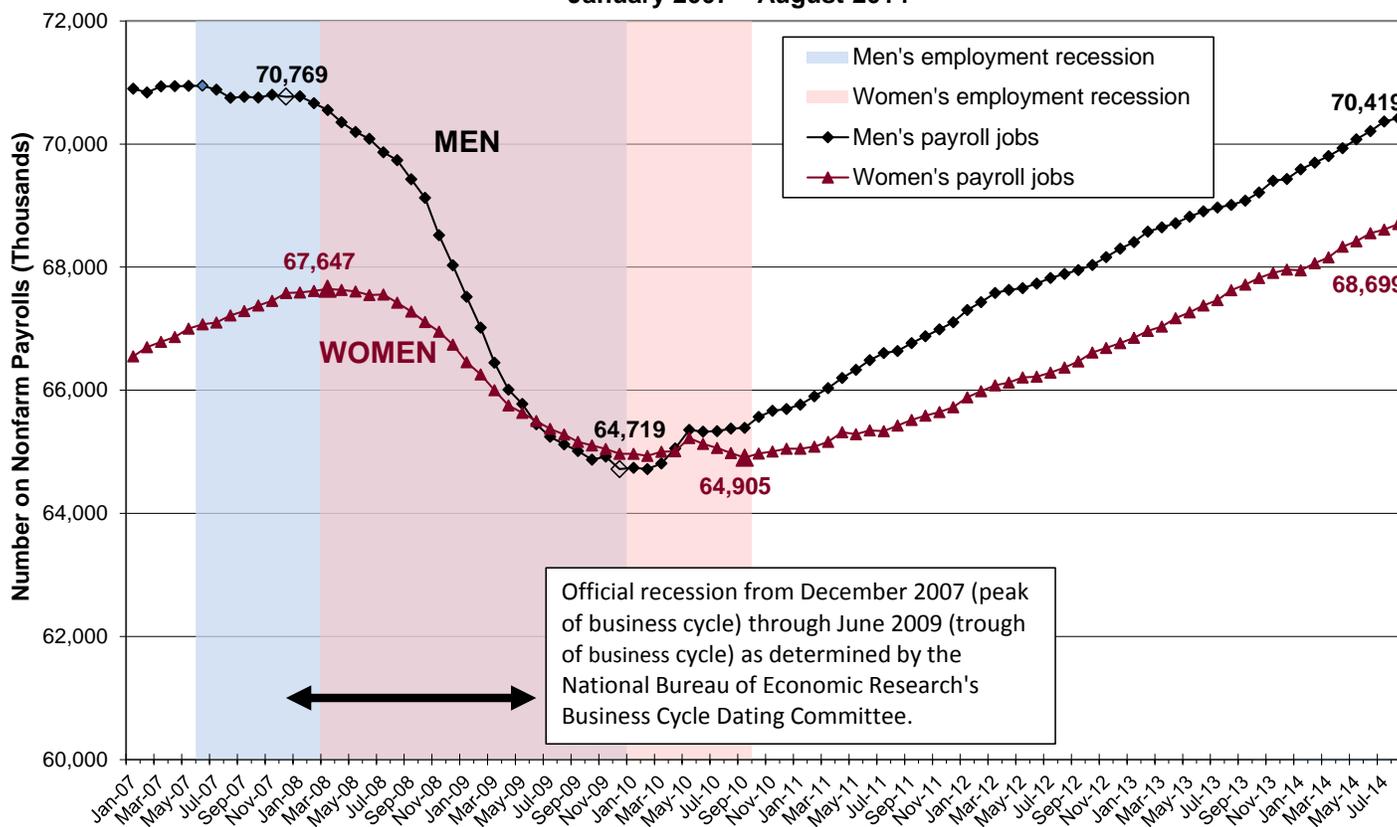


Women Gained 2 Out of Every 3 Jobs Added in August; Men Still Short 350,000 Jobs from Pre-Recession Employment Levels

Monthly Number of Women and Men on Payrolls (In Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted), January 2007 – August 2014



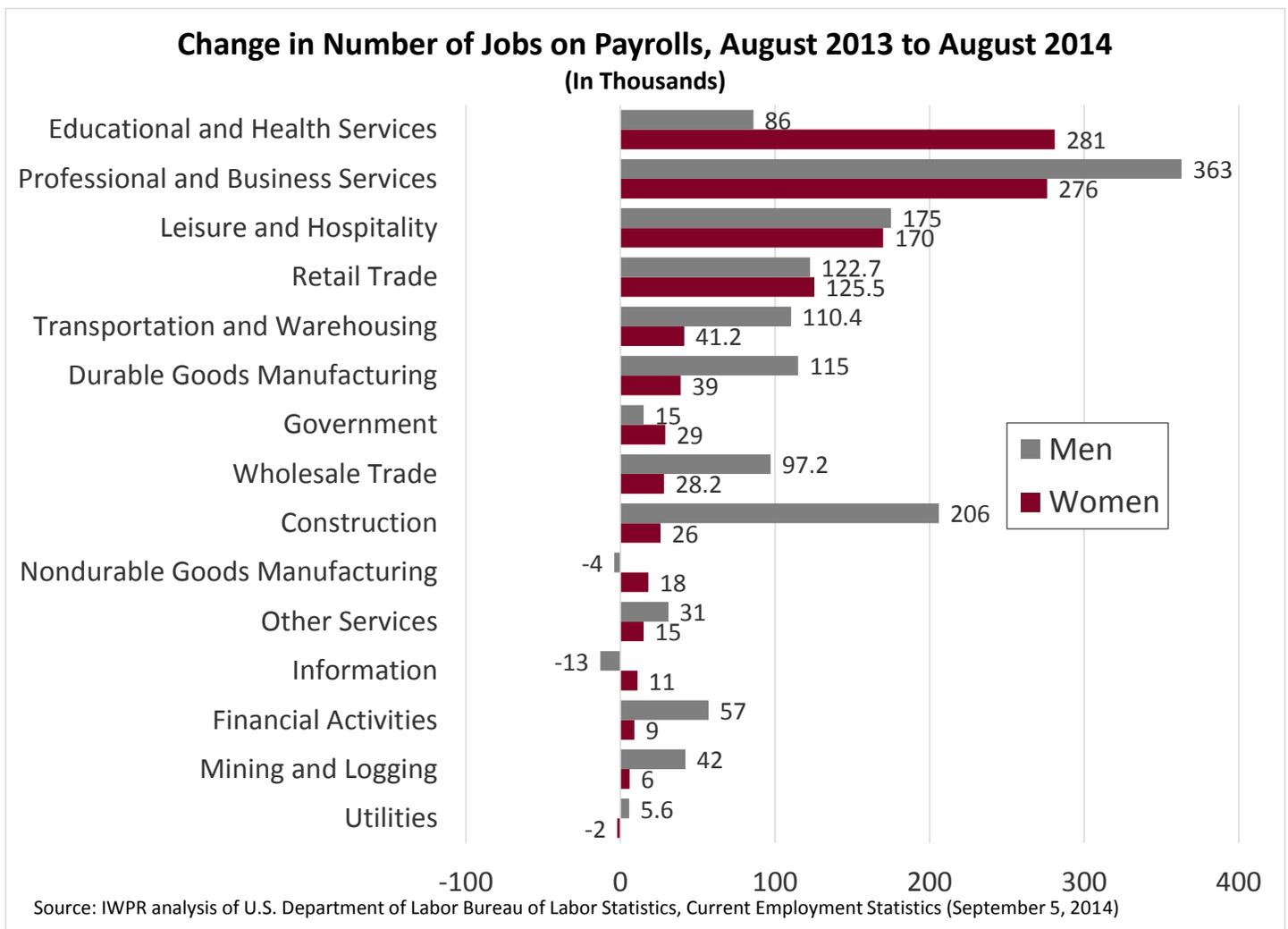
Source: IWPR analysis of U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics (September 5, 2014)

According to an Institute for Women’s Policy Research (IWPR) analysis of the September employment report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), although the total number of jobs lost in the recession has been recovered (139,118,000 jobs in August 2014 vs 138,350,000 jobs in December 2007 when the recession began), men are still short 350,000 from the start of the recession. In August, men gained 51,000 jobs on nonfarm payrolls, while women gained 91,000 for an increase of 142,000 total jobs

in August. The unemployment rate decreased to 6.1 percent in August from 6.2 percent in July, essentially the same.

In August, women’s employment growth was strongest in Professional and Business Services (28,000 jobs gained by women), Education and Health Services (23,000 jobs gained by women), Manufacturing (17,000 jobs gained by women), and Leisure and Hospitality (10,000 jobs gained by women).

In August, women hold 1.1 million more jobs on payrolls (68.7 million) than at their previous employment peak in March 2008 (67.6 million), indicating they have more than recovered all the jobs they lost in the downturn. Men have regained 94 percent (5.7 million) of the jobs they lost between December 2007 (70.8 million) and the trough for men’s employment (64.7 million) in December 2009 (6 million jobs lost).



In the last year, from August 2013 to August 2014, of the 2.5 million jobs added to payrolls, 43 percent were filled by women (1,073,000 jobs) and 57 percent were filled by men (1,409,000 jobs), an improvement in average job growth compared with the prior year. Women’s job gains were strongest in

Education and Health Services (281,000 jobs added for women), Professional and Business Services (276,000 jobs added for women), Leisure and Hospitality (170,000 jobs added for women), and Retail Trade (125,500 jobs added for women). In the same one year period, however, women lost 2,000 jobs in Utilities. Men's job gains were strongest in Professional and Business Services (363,000 jobs added for men), Construction (206,000 jobs added for men), and Leisure and Hospitality (175,000 jobs added for men). However, men lost 13,000 jobs in Information and 4,000 jobs in Nondurable Goods Manufacturing between August 2013 and August 2014.

According to the household survey data reported by the BLS, the unemployment rate for women aged 16 and older decreased to 6.1 percent in August from 6.2 percent in July. The unemployment rate for men aged 16 and older remained steady at 6.2 percent in July and August. Among workers aged 20 and older, unemployment is higher among black women and men (10.6 percent and 10.8 percent respectively) and Hispanic women and men (8.1 percent and 5.9 percent respectively) compared to white women and men (4.8 percent and 4.9 percent respectively). Among single mothers (female heads of households), the unemployment rate increased to 9.3 percent in August from 9.1 percent in July. This series is not seasonally adjusted and can fluctuate due to small sample sizes in the household survey. Unemployment for single mothers is substantially lower than its peak four years ago, 13.4 percent in July and August 2010.

The overall labor force participation rate decreased to 62.8 percent in August from 62.9 percent in July. Women's labor force participation rate remained steady at 56.9 percent in July and August, or 2.5 percentage points lower than the 59.4 percent rate in December 2007. Men's labor force participation rate was 69.2 percent in August, or 3.9 percentage points lower than the 73.1 percent rate in December 2007. In a report issued in February 2014, the Congressional Budget Office estimated that about half of the decline in total labor force participation is due to the aging of the U.S. population.

As of August, 9.6 million workers remain unemployed and, of these, 3.0 million (31.2 percent) have been unemployed for 27 weeks or longer, usually referred to as the long-term unemployed. This share has declined by 6.8 percentage points in the past year, from 38.0 percent in August 2013.

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