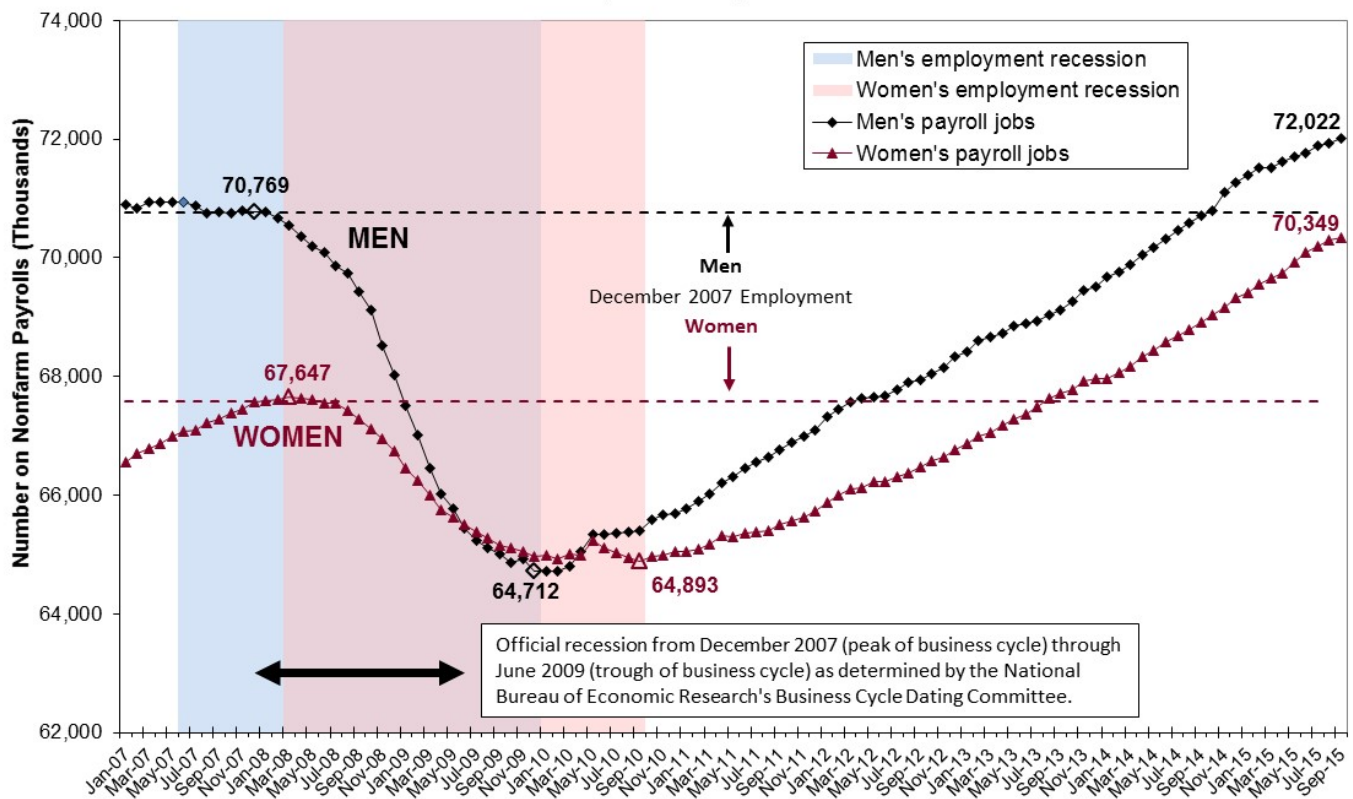


Amidst Disappointing Job Growth, Men Gain 3 of 5 Jobs Added in September

Monthly Number of Women and Men on Payrolls (In Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted), January 2007 – September 2015

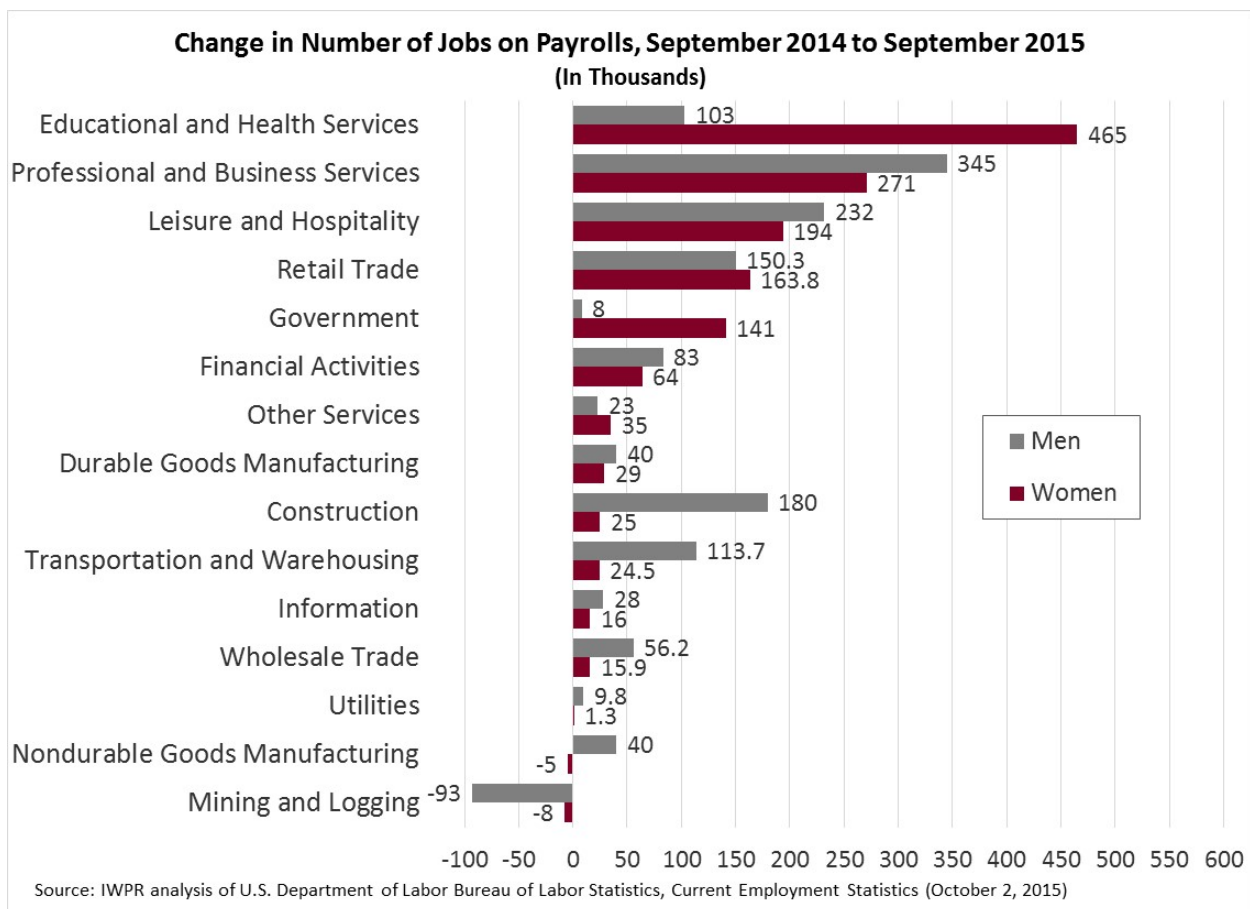


Source: IWPR analysis of U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics October 2, 2015)

According to an Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) analysis of the October employment report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), women gained 60,000 jobs and men gained 82,000 for a total of 142,000 jobs added in September. The overall unemployment rate remained steady at 5.1 percent in August and September.

In September, women’s employment growth was strong in Government (27,000 jobs gained by women), Professional and Business Services (18,000 jobs gained by women), Educational and Health Services (13,000 jobs gained by women), and Leisure and Hospitality (10,000 jobs gained by women). However women lost jobs in Transportation and Warehousing (6,800 jobs lost by women), Nondurable Manufacturing (4,000 jobs lost by women), Wholesale Trade (3,200 jobs lost by women), and Durable Goods Manufacturing (2,000 jobs lost by women). Men’s employment growth was strong in Leisure and Hospitality (25,000 jobs gained by men), Retail Trade (19,900 jobs gained by men), Educational and Health Services (16,000 jobs gained by men), Professional and Business Services (13,000 jobs gained by men), Information (11,000 jobs gained by men), and Transportation and Warehousing (10,300 jobs gained by men). However, men’s employment declined in Mining and Logging (12,000 jobs lost by men), Durable Goods Manufacturing (3,000 jobs lost by men, and Government (3,000 jobs lost by men).

In the last year, from September 2014 to September 2015, of the 2.8 million jobs added to payrolls, more than half were filled by women (52 percent or 1,433,00 jobs) and slightly less than half were filled by men (48 percent or 1,319,000 jobs). Between September 2014 and September 2015 women’s job gains were strongest in Education and Health Services (465,000 jobs added for women), Professional and Business Services (271,000 jobs added for women), Leisure and Hospitality (194,000 jobs added for women), and Retail Trade (163,800 jobs added for women). Men’s job gains were strongest in Professional and Business Services (345,000 jobs added for men), Leisure and Hospitality (232,000 jobs added for men), Construction (180,000 jobs added for men), and Retail Trade (150,300 jobs added for men). However, men lost 93,000 jobs in Mining and Logging during the past year.



According to the household survey data reported by the BLS, the unemployment rate for women aged 16 and older decreased to 5.0 percent in September from 5.1 percent in August. The unemployment rate for men aged 16 and older remained steady at 5.1 percent in August and September. Among workers aged 20 and older, unemployment is higher among black women and men (8.0 percent and 8.9 percent, respectively) and Hispanic women and men (6.3 percent and 5.5 percent, respectively) compared with white women and men (3.9 percent and 4.1 percent, respectively). Among single mothers (female heads of households), the unemployment rate decreased to 7.1 percent in September from 8.1 percent in August. Unemployment for single mothers is substantially lower than its peak five years ago, 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 decreased to 62.4 percent in September from 62.6 percent in August. Women's labor force participation rate decreased to 56.4 percent in September from 56.7 percent in August, and remains 3 percentage points lower than the 59.4 percent rate in December 2007, at the start of the Great Recession. Men's labor force participation rate decreased from 68.8 percent in August to 68.7 percent in September, and is now 4.4 percentage points lower than the 73.1 percent rate in December 2007.

As of September, 7.9 million workers remain unemployed and, of these, 2.1 million (26.6 percent) have been unemployed for 27 weeks or longer, usually referred to as the long-term unemployed. This share has declined by 5.3 percentage points in the past year, from 31.9 percent in September 2014. An additional 6.0 million workers are working part-time in September for reasons such as slack work or unfavorable business conditions, inability to find full-time work, or seasonal declines in demand. In the past year just over one million fewer workers report involuntary part-time work for these reasons, a substantial decline from 7.1 million in September 2014, but still a large number.

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