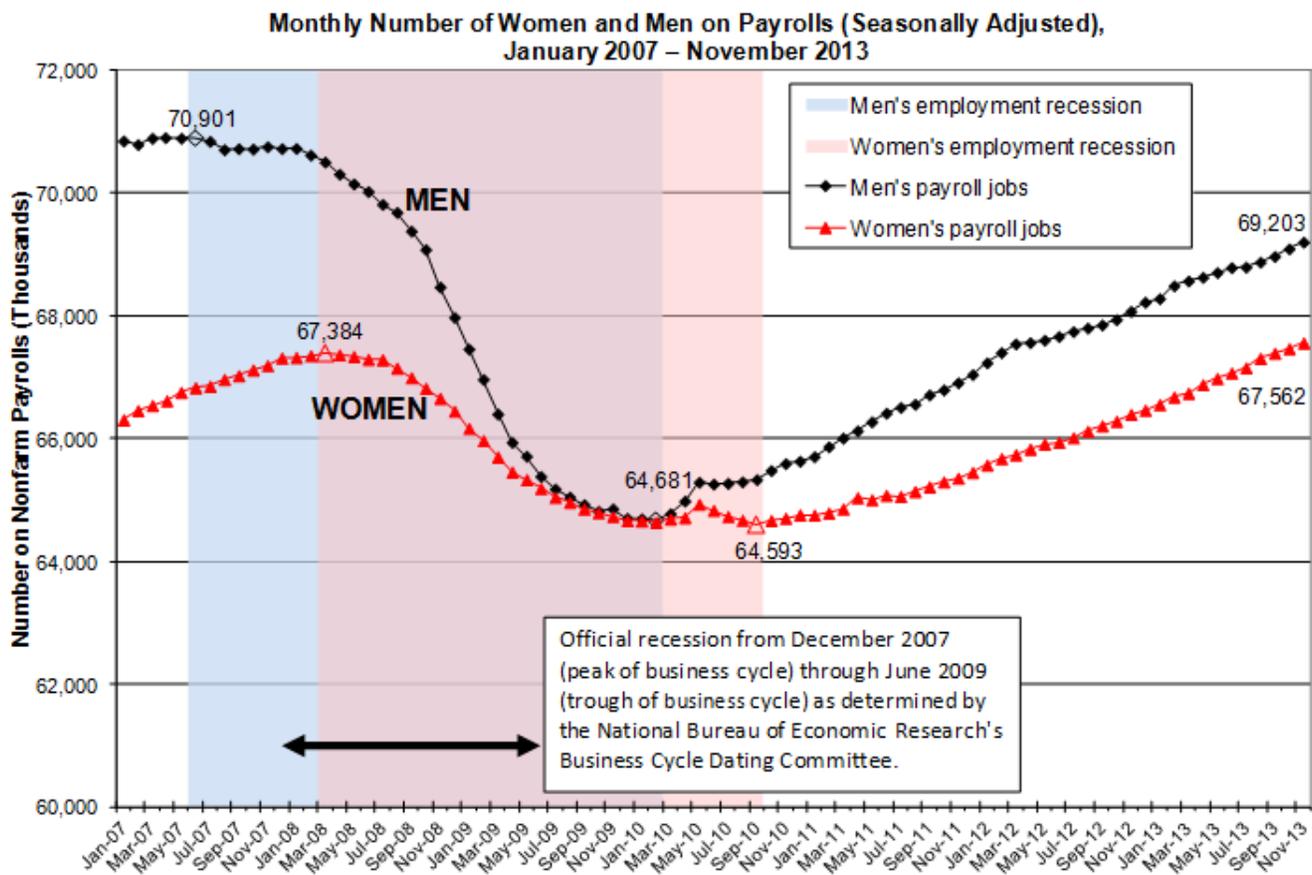


## Job Growth Continues for Women and Men, with 203,000 Jobs Added in November Unemployment Rates at Five-Year Lows



Source: IWPR analysis of U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics (December 6, 2013)

According to an Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) analysis of the December employment report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), of the 203,000 total jobs added to nonfarm payrolls in November, women gained 94,000 of those jobs (46 percent) while men gained 109,000 jobs (54 percent).

In November, women's employment growth was strongest in Education and Health Services (39,000 jobs gained by women), Professional and Business Services (17,000 jobs added for women), and Retail Trade (15,600 jobs added for women).

IWPR analysis of the BLS payroll data shows that women continued to add jobs so that as of November, women hold more jobs on payrolls than ever before, and more than their previous employment peak reached in March 2008. Men have regained 75 percent (4.5 million) of the jobs they lost between December 2007 and the trough for men's employment in February 2010 (6 million), but have not yet reached pre-recession job levels. If the number of jobs had grown as fast as the working age population since the start of the recession, women would hold 3.8 million more jobs in November 2013 and men would hold an additional 5.4 million. In the last year, from November 2012 to November 2013, of the 2.3 million jobs added to payrolls, 51 percent were filled by women, and 49 percent were filled by men. The gap between women's and men's employment is 1.6 million jobs in November, substantially less than at the start of the recession (3.4 million jobs in December 2007).

According to the household survey data reported by the BLS, the unemployment rate for women aged 16 and older decreased to 6.7 percent in November from 6.9 percent in October. The unemployment rate for men aged 16 and older decreased to 7.3 percent in November from 7.6 percent in October. These levels are comparable to those seen in Fall 2008. Women's labor force participation rate was 57.0 percent in November or 2.4 percentage points lower than the 59.4 percent rate in December 2007. Men's labor force participation rate was 69.4 percent in November or 3.7 percentage points lower than the 73.1 percent rate in December 2007. Among single mothers (female heads of households), the unemployment rate changed little from 9.5 percent in October to 9.7 percent in November. (This series is not seasonally adjusted and can fluctuate due to small sample sizes in the household survey.)

As of November, 10.9 million workers remain unemployed. There has been improvement over the past year in the average (mean) number of weeks spent unemployed and looking for work, from 39.7 weeks in November 2012, to 37.2 weeks in November 2013. (The median number of weeks declined from 18.9 weeks in November 2012 to 17.0 weeks in November 2013.)

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