



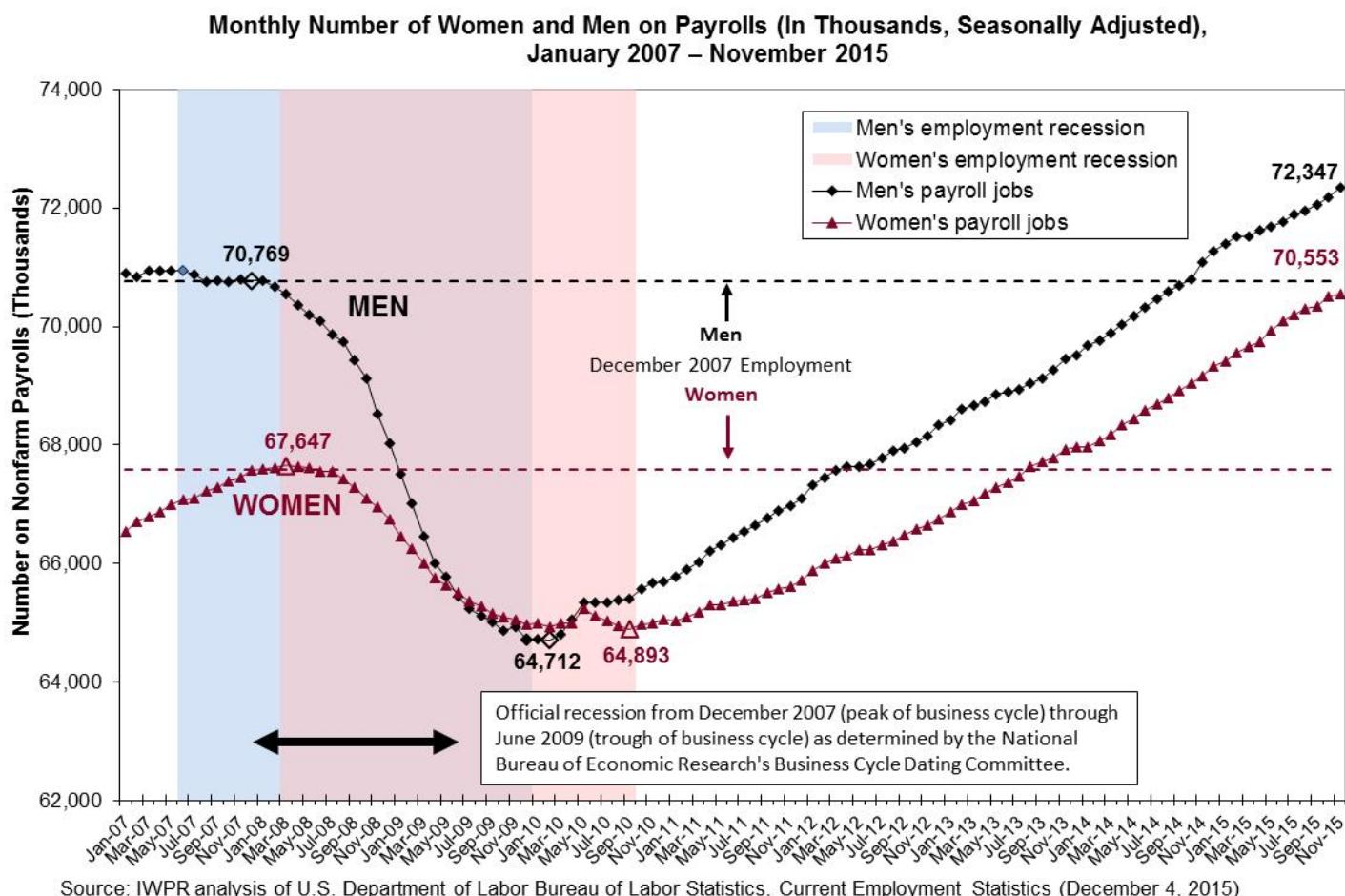
Quick Figures

WOMEN'S POLICY RESEARCH

IWPR # Q044

December 2015

Men Gain Three Out of Four New Jobs in November Overall Continued Strong Jobs Growth; Women Gained Majority of Jobs in Past Year

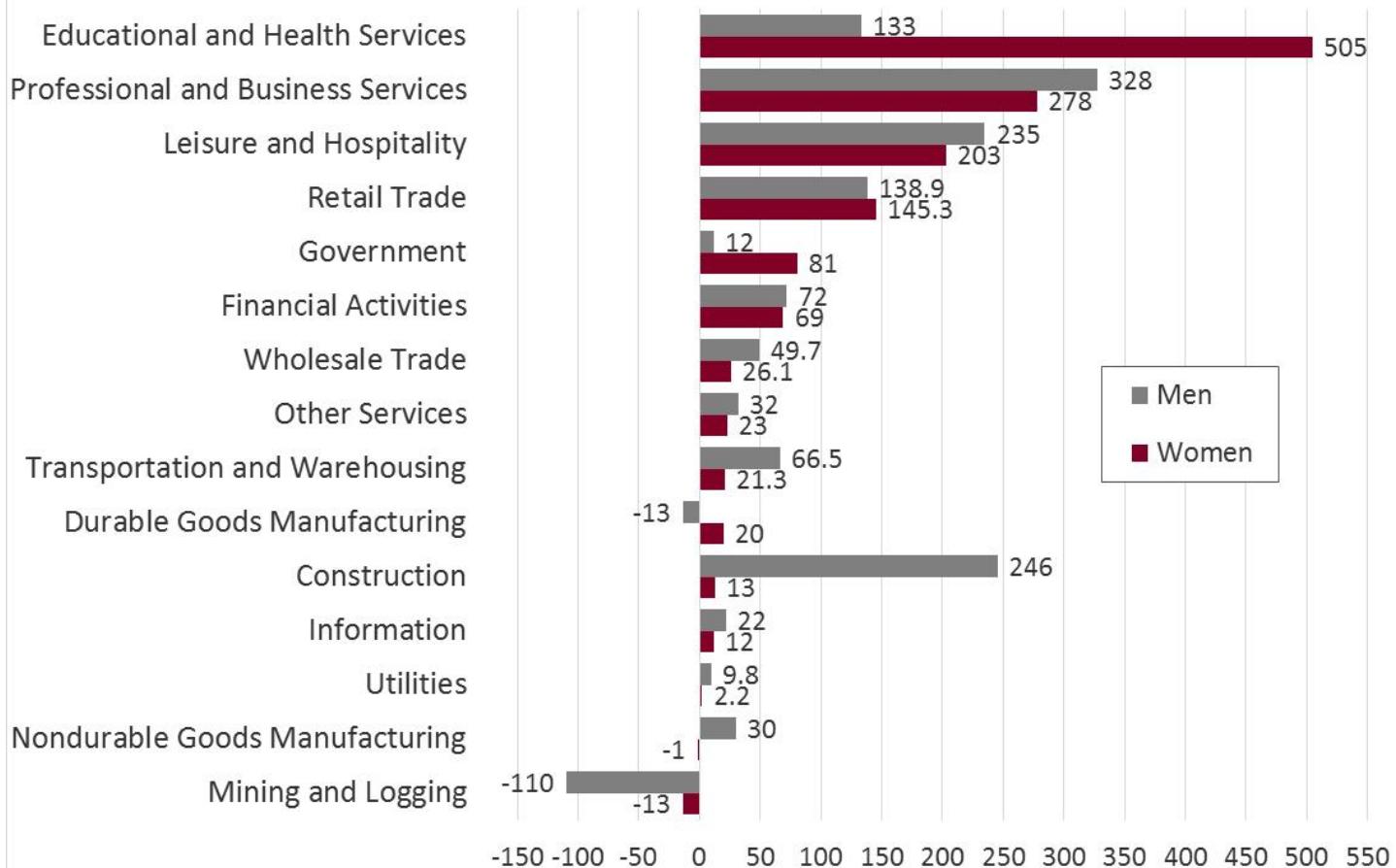


The Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) analysis of the December employment report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) finds that women gained 54,000 jobs and men gained 157,000 for a total of 211,000 jobs added in November. Revisions to preliminary estimates of nonfarm payroll employment for September and October improved the picture for men adding 52,000 jobs to previous releases. Those revisions reduced the number of jobs added for women by 17,000 in September and October. The overall unemployment rate remained steady at 5.0 percent in October and November.

In November, women's employment growth was strong in Leisure and Hospitality Services (22,000 jobs gained by women), Educational and Health Services (20,000 jobs gained by women), and Financial Activities (6,000 jobs gained by women). Men's employment growth was strong in Construction (46,000 jobs gained by men), Retail Trade (33,200 jobs gained by men), Professional and Business Services (26,000 jobs gained by men), Leisure and Hospitality Services (17,000 jobs gained by men), and Government (12,000 jobs gained by men). In contrast, men's employment declined in Information (11,000 jobs lost by men), Mining and Logging (10,000 jobs lost by men), and Durable Goods Manufacturing (5,000 jobs lost by men). Women lost 1,000 jobs in each of these three industries.

Change in Number of Jobs on Payrolls, November 2014 to November 2015

(In Thousands)



Source: IWPR analysis of U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics (December 4, 2015)

In the last year, from November 2014 to November 2015, of the 2.6 million jobs added to payrolls, more than half were filled by women (52.5 percent or 1,385,000 jobs) and slightly less than half were filled by men (47.5 percent or 1,252,000 jobs). Between November 2014 and November 2015 women's job gains were strongest in Education and Health Services (505,000 jobs added for women), Professional and Business Services (278,000 jobs added for women), Leisure and Hospitality (203,000 jobs added for women), and Retail Trade (145,300 jobs added for women). Men's job gains were strongest in Professional and Business Services (328,000 jobs added for men), Construction (246,000 jobs added for men), Leisure and Hospitality (235,000

jobs added for men), and Retail Trade (138,900 jobs added for men). In contrast, men lost 110,000 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 remained steady at 4.9 percent in October and November. The unemployment rate for men aged 16 and older increased to 5.2 percent in November from 5.1 percent in October. Among workers aged 20 and older, unemployment is substantially higher among black women and men (8.0 percent and 9.9 percent, respectively), at least double the rates for white women and men (at 4.0 percent for both white women and men). Compared with white women, Hispanic women's unemployment is substantially higher at 6.7 percent, and Hispanic men's unemployment is also higher than white men's at 5.4 percent. For single mothers (female heads of households), the unemployment rate decreased to 6.9 percent in November from 7.5 percent in October. 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 increased from 62.4 percent in October to 62.5 percent in November. Women's labor force participation rate increased to 56.8 percent in November from 56.5 percent in October, and remains 2.6 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 68.7 percent in October to 68.6 percent in November, 4.5 percentage points lower than the 73.1 percent rate in December 2007.

As of November, 7.9 million workers remained unemployed and, of these, 2.1 million (25.7 percent) had 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 31.0 percent in November 2014. Involuntary part-time workers numbered 6.1 million workers in November; 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, 765,000 fewer workers reported involuntary part-time work, a substantial decline from 6.9 million in November 2014.

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The Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) conducts rigorous research and disseminates its findings to address the needs of women, promote public dialogue, and strengthen families, communities, and societies. The Institute's research strives to give voice to the needs of women from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds across the income spectrum and to ensure that their perspectives enter the public debate on ending discrimination and inequality, improving opportunity, and increasing economic security for women and families. The Institute works with policymakers, scholars, and public interest groups to design, execute, and disseminate research and to build a diverse network of individuals and organizations that conduct and use women-oriented policy research. IWPR's work is supported by foundation grants, government grants and contracts, donations from individuals, and contributions from organizations and corporations. IWPR is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization that also works in affiliation with the women's studies and public policy and public administration programs at The George Washington University.