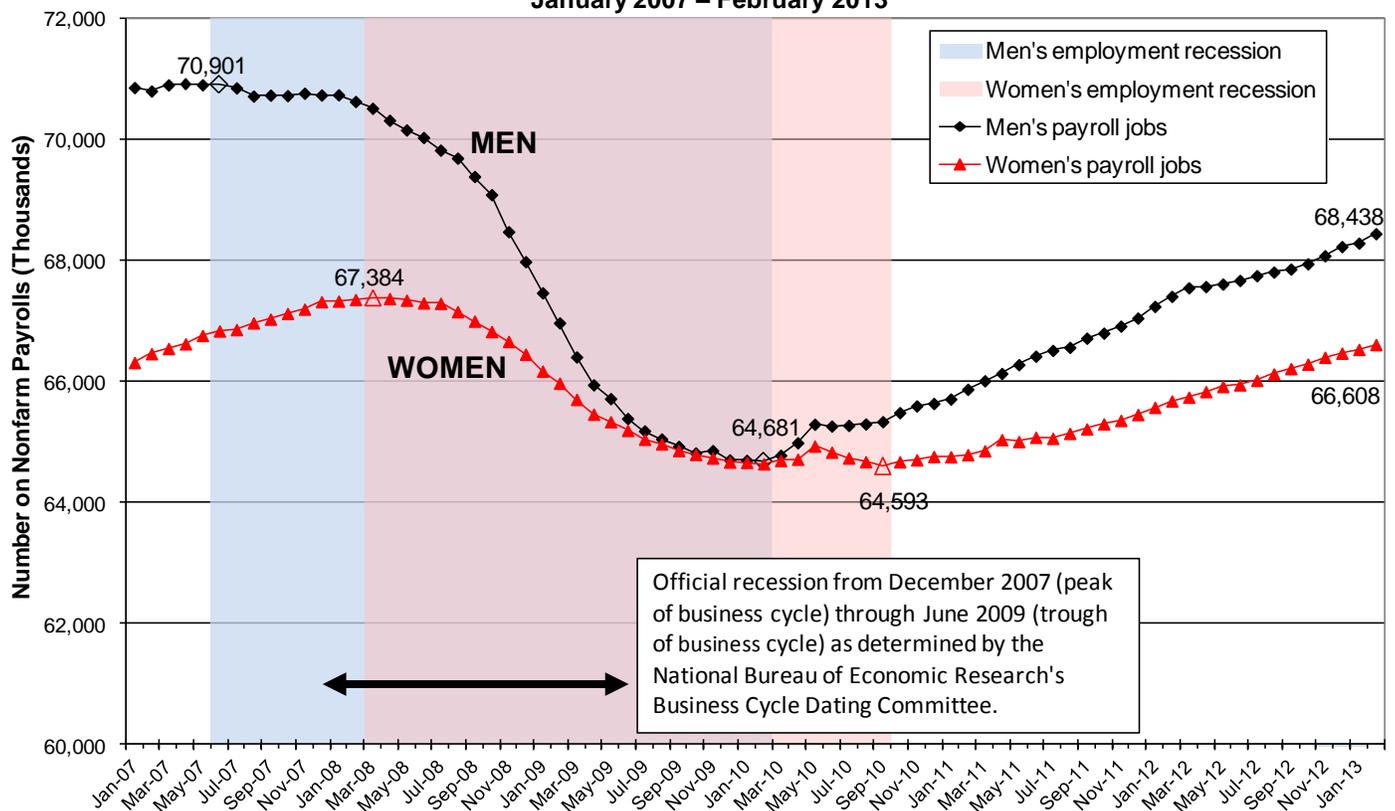


Job Growth Improves for Women and Men

Monthly Number of Women and Men on Payrolls (Seasonally Adjusted),
January 2007 – February 2013



Source: IWPR analysis of U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics (March 8, 2013)

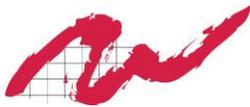
According to the March employment report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), job growth improved substantially in February compared to the previous month, with 236,000 jobs added to nonfarm payrolls. One-third (80,000) of the new jobs went to women while men gained 156,000.

Women's employment growth in February was aided by strong growth in Professional and business services (32,000 jobs added for women), Education and health services (24,000 jobs added for women), Retail trade (21,000 jobs added for women), and Leisure and hospitality (10,000 jobs added for women). However, women lost 4,000 jobs in government in February.

IWPR analysis of the BLS payroll data shows as of February, women have regained 74 percent (2 million) of the total jobs they lost in the recession from December 2007 to the trough for women's employment in September 2010 (2.7 million). Men have regained nearly 62 percent (3.8 million) of the jobs they lost between December 2007 and the trough for men's employment in February 2010 (6 million). In the last year, from February 2012 to February 2013, of the 2 million jobs added to payrolls, 931,000 or 47 percent were filled by women, and 1,035,000 or 53 percent were filled by men. The gap between women's and men's employment is 1.8 million jobs in February, 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 7.7 percent in February from 7.8 percent in January. The unemployment rate for men decreased from 8.0 percent in January to 7.8 percent in February. Among single mothers, the unemployment rate was 11.0 percent in February 2013 compared to 11.7 percent in February 2012. As of February, 12 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 39.9 weeks in February 2012 to 36.9 weeks in February 2013. (The median number of weeks has declined from 20.1 weeks in February 2012 to 17.8 weeks in February 2013.) However, the average duration of unemployment was longer in February than in January when the mean was 35.3 weeks and the median was 16.0 weeks.



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