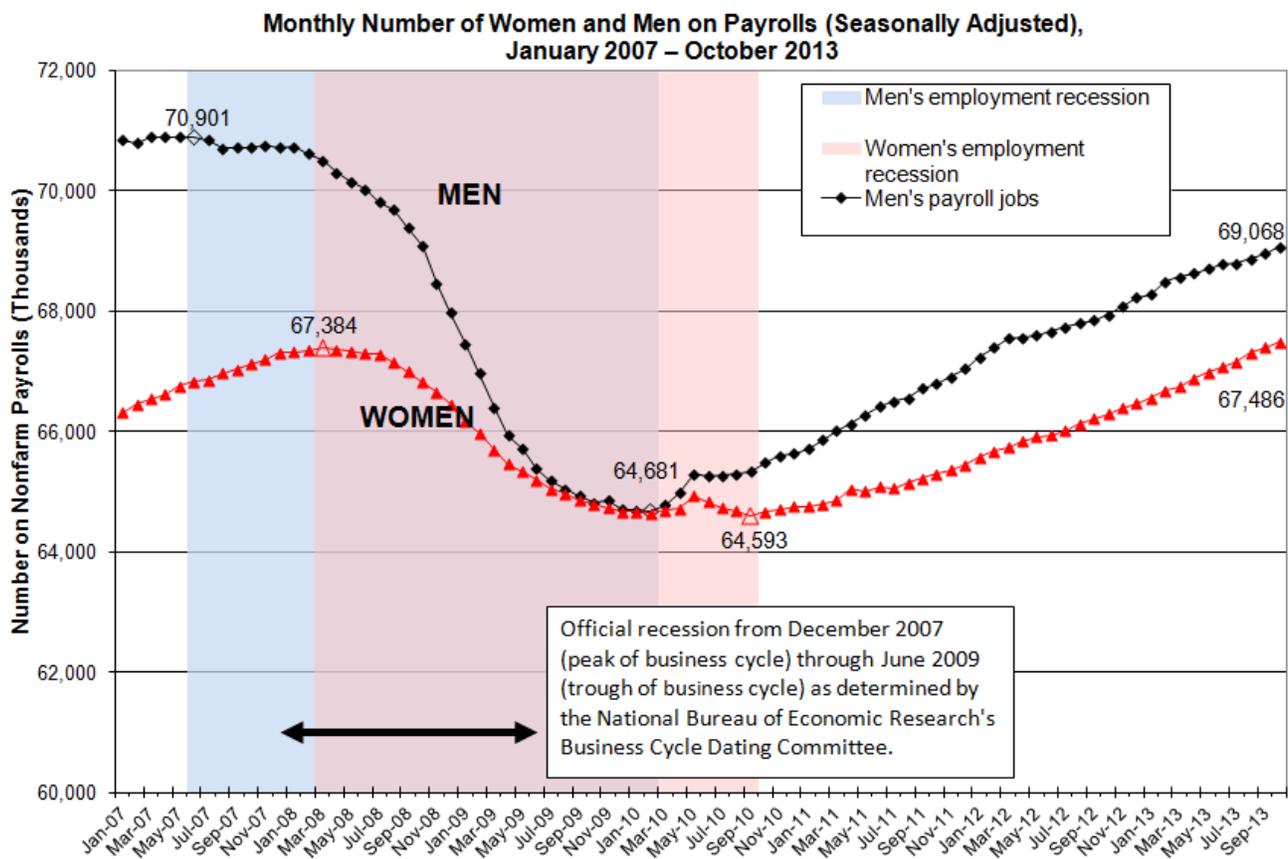


## Number of Women's Jobs on Payrolls Reaches Highest Level Ever More Than 200,000 New Jobs in October 2013 for Men and Women



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

According to an Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) analysis of the November employment report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), of the 204,000 total jobs added to nonfarm payrolls in October, women gained 90,000 of those jobs (44 percent) while men gained 114,000 jobs (56 percent).

In October, women's employment growth was strongest in Leisure and Hospitality (32,000 jobs gained by women), Retail Trade (27,600 jobs added for women), and Professional and Business Services (24,000 jobs added for women).

IWPR analysis of the BLS payroll data shows that as of October, women hold more jobs (67,486,000) than at their previous employment peak (67,384,000) reached in March 2008. Men have regained 73 percent (4.4 million) of the jobs they lost between December 2007 and the trough for men's employment in February 2010 (6 million). 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 October 2013 and men would hold an additional 5.5 million. In the last year, from October 2012 to October 2013, of the 2.3 million jobs added to payrolls, 52 percent were filled by women, and 48 percent were filled by men. The gap between women's and men's employment is 1.6 million jobs in October, 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 increased to 6.9 percent in October from 6.7 percent in September. The unemployment rate for men aged 16 and older decreased to 7.6 percent in October from 7.7 percent in September. In the October 2013 household survey, there was an increase in the number of federal workers who were classified as unemployed on temporary layoff as a result of the government shutdown. However, BLS also noted that there was an increase in the number of federal workers classified as employed, but absent from work, that should also have been classified as unemployed on temporary layoff. Women's labor force participation rate was 56.9 percent in October 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 October or 3.9 percentage points lower than the 73.1 percent rate in December 2007. Among single mothers (female heads of households), the unemployment rate rose from 8.8 percent in September to 9.5 percent in October. (This series is not seasonally adjusted and can fluctuate due to small sample sizes in the household survey.)

As of October, 11.3 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 October 2012, to 36.1 weeks in October 2013. (The median number of weeks declined from 19.6 weeks in October 2012 to 16.3 weeks in October 2013.)