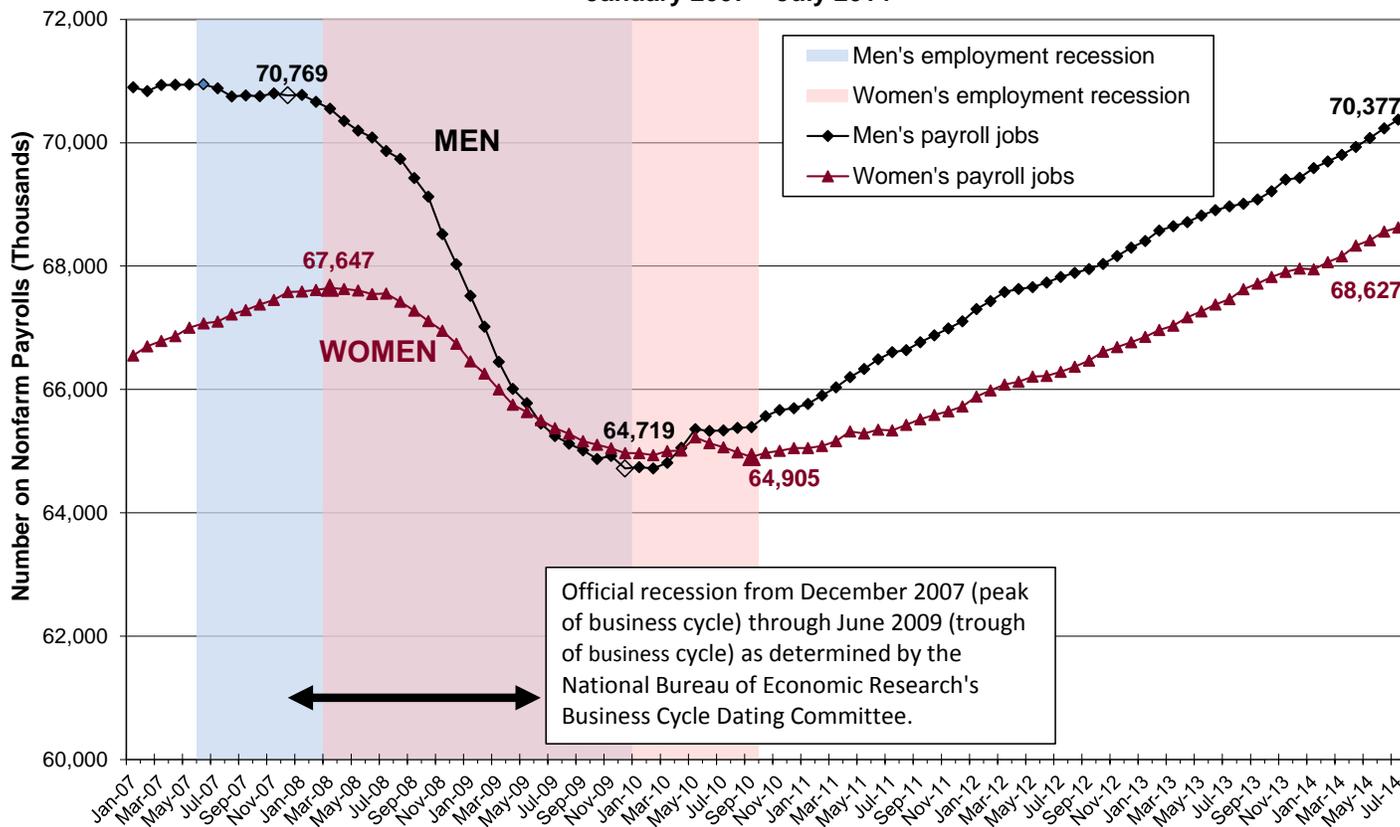


With Much-Needed Job Growth in July, Men Have Recovered 94% of Jobs They Lost in Recession

Monthly Number of Women and Men on Payrolls (In Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted), January 2007 – July 2014



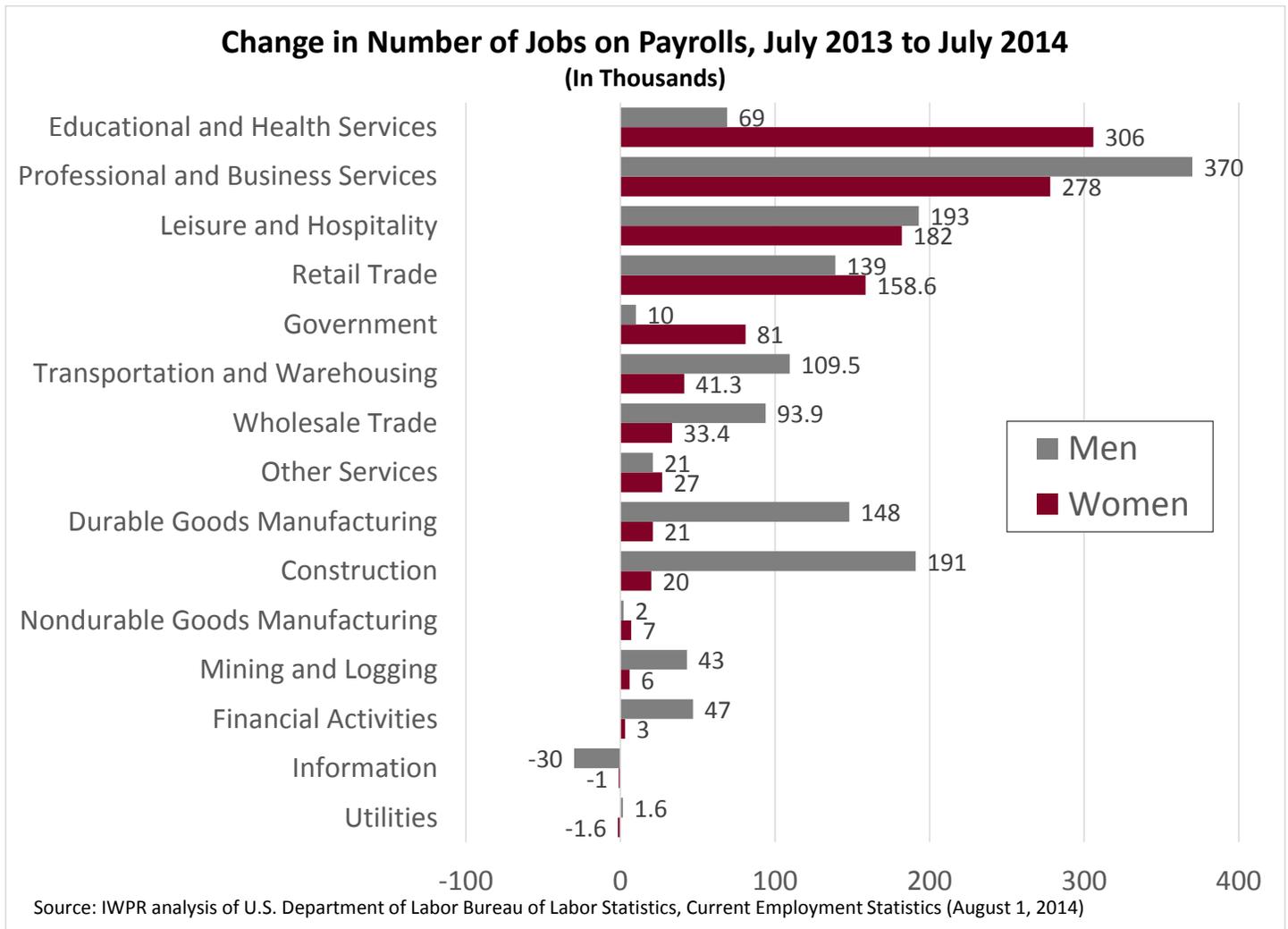
Source: IWPR analysis of U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics (August 1, 2014)

According to an Institute for Women’s Policy Research (IWPR) analysis of the August employment report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), although the total number of jobs lost in the recession has been recovered (139,004,000 jobs in July 2014 vs 138,350,000 jobs in December 2007 when the recession began), men are still short 392,000 from their prerecession peak. In July, men gained 141,000 jobs on nonfarm payrolls, while women gained 68,000 for an increase of 209,000 total jobs in

July. BLS revisions of prior payroll jobs data for two previous months increased the number of jobs gained by men in May and June by 70,000, but decreased the number of jobs gained for women by 50,000 during the same period. For May, June, and July, two of three new jobs went to men. The unemployment rate increased to 6.2 percent in July from 6.1 percent in June, essentially the same.

In July, women’s employment growth was strongest in Education and Health Services (24,000 jobs gained by women), Professional and Business Services (11,000 jobs gained by women), Retail Trade (11,400 jobs gained by women), and Government (10,000 jobs gained by women).

In July, women hold 1.0 million more jobs on payrolls (68.6 million) than at their previous employment peak in April 2008 (67.6 million), indicating they have more than recovered all the jobs they lost in the downturn. Men have regained 94 percent (5.7 million) of the jobs they lost between December 2007 (70.8 million) and the trough for men’s employment (64.7 million) in December 2009 (6 million jobs lost).



In the last year, from July 2013 to July 2014, of the 2.6 million jobs added to payrolls, 45 percent were filled by women (1,162,000 jobs) and 55 percent were filled by men (1,408,000 jobs), an improvement over the prior year. Women's job gains were strongest in Education and Health Services (306,000 jobs added for women), Professional and Business Services (278,000 jobs added for women), Leisure and Hospitality (182,000 jobs added for women), and Retail Trade (158,600 jobs added for women). In the same one year period, however, women lost 1,600 jobs in Utilities and 1,000 jobs in Information. Men's job gains were strongest in Professional and Business Services (370,000 jobs added for men), Leisure and Hospitality (193,000 jobs added for men), and Construction (191,000 jobs added for men). However, men lost 30,000 jobs in Information between July 2013 and July 2014.

According to the household survey data reported by the BLS, the unemployment rate for women aged 16 and older increased to 6.2 percent in July from 5.9 percent in June. The unemployment rate for men aged 16 and older decreased to 6.2 percent in July from 6.3 percent in June. Among workers aged 20 and older, unemployment is higher among black women and men (10.1 percent and 11.1 percent respectively) and Hispanic women and men (7.7 percent and 6.0 percent respectively) compared to white women and men (4.9 percent and 4.8 percent respectively). Among single mothers (female heads of households), the unemployment rate increased to 9.1 percent in July from 8.1 percent in June. This series is not seasonally adjusted and can fluctuate due to small sample sizes in the household survey. Unemployment for single mothers is substantially lower than its peak four years ago, 13.4 percent in July and August 2010.

The overall labor force participation rate increased to 62.9 percent in July from 62.8 percent in June. Women's labor force participation rate increased from 56.9 percent in July from 56.8 percent in June, or 2.5 percentage points lower than the 59.4 percent rate in December 2007. Men's labor force participation rate was 69.3 percent in July, or 3.8 percentage points lower than the 73.1 percent rate in December 2007. In a report issued in February 2014, the Congressional Budget Office estimated that about half of the decline in total labor force participation is due to the aging of the U.S. population.

As of July, 9.7 million workers remain unemployed and, of these, 3.2 million (32.9 percent) have been unemployed for 27 weeks or longer, usually referred to as the long-term unemployed. This share has declined by 4.3 percentage points in the past year, from 37.2 percent in July 2013.

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