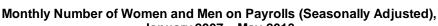
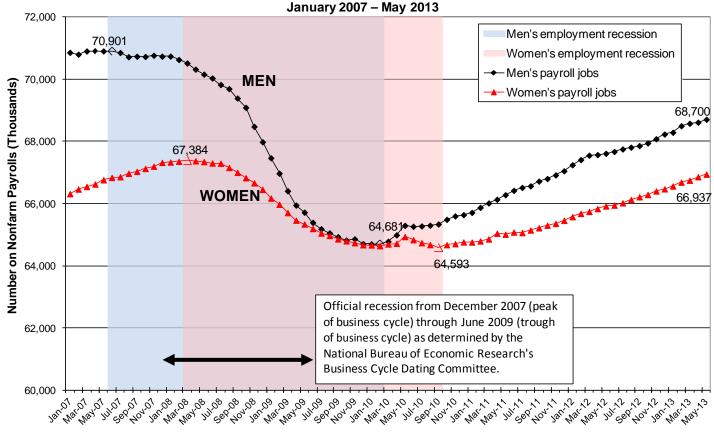


Quick Figures

IWPR # Q008 Updated June 2013

Moderate Job Growth for Both Women and Men: Unemployment Rate for Single Mothers Declines to 9.9 Percent





Source: IWPR analysis of U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics (June 7, 2013)

According to the IWPR analysis of the June employment report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), job growth for both women and men improved in May compared to the previous month. Of the 175,000 total jobs added to nonfarm payrolls, women gained 82,000 jobs (47 percent) while men gained 93,000 jobs (53 percent). For the first time since December 2008, the unemployment rate for women who head households without a spouse fell below ten percent.

Women's employment growth in May was aided by growth in Professional and business services (33,000 jobs added for women), Education and health services (15,000 jobs added for women), Leisure and hospitality (15,000 jobs added for women), and Retail trade (10,000 jobs added for women).

IWPR analysis of the BLS payroll data shows as of May, women have regained 86 percent (2.3 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 more than 66 percent (4 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 May 2012 to May 2013, of the 2.1 million jobs added to payrolls, 1 million or 48 percent were filled by women, and 1.1 million or 52 percent were filled by men. The gap between women's and men's employment is 1.8 million jobs in May, 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 7.1 percent in May from 7.3 percent in April. The unemployment rate for men aged 16 and older increased slightly from 7.7 percent in April to 7.9 percent in May. Among single mothers, the unemployment rate fell to 9.9 percent in May from 10.3 percent in April. This is the first time that the unemployment rate for single mothers has been less than 10.0 percent since December 2008.

As of May, 11.8 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 39.6 weeks in May 2012 to 36.9 weeks in May 2013. (The median number of weeks declined from 20.1 weeks in May 2012 to 17.3 weeks in May 2013.)



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 works with policymakers, scholars, and public interest groups to design, execute, and disseminate research that illuminates economic and social policy issues affecting women and their families, and to build a 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.