

## 2026 Workforce Data Revisions

*Nonfarm jobs were higher and unemployment was modestly lower in 2024 and 2025 than previously estimated*

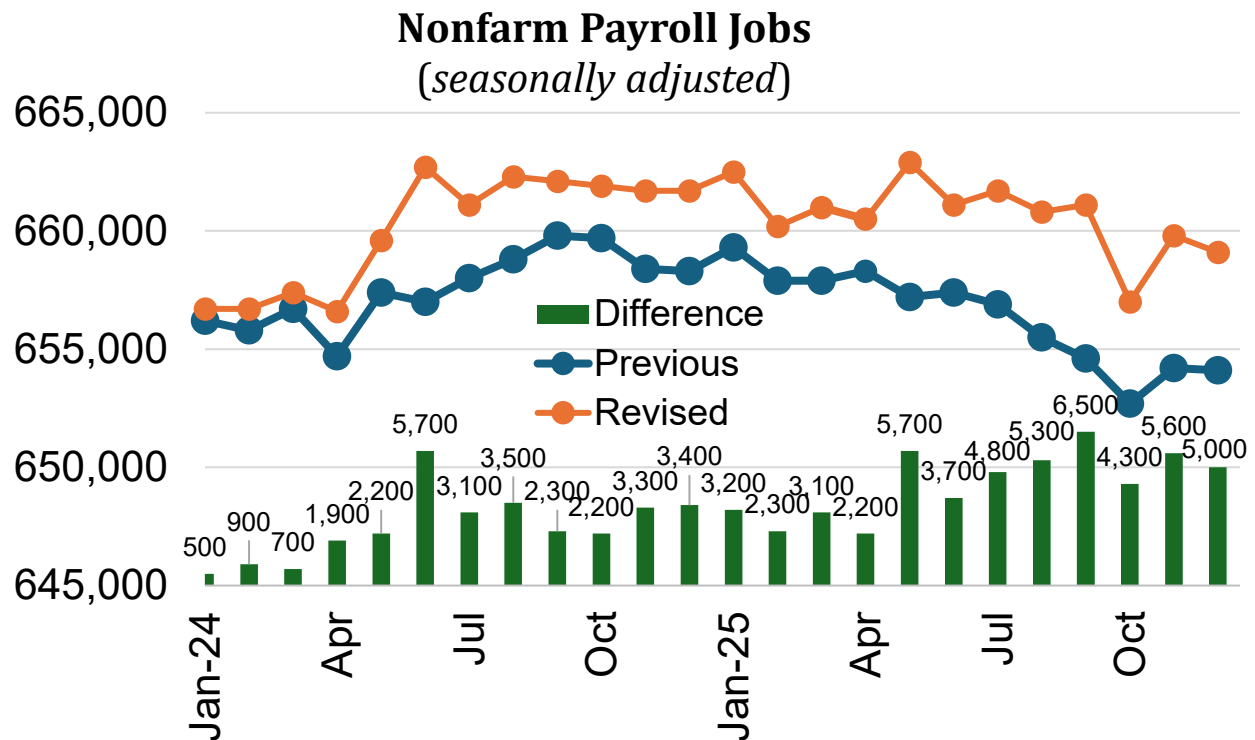
Each month estimates derived from two surveys provide the most current indications of workforce conditions. Nonfarm wage and salary jobs by sector are derived from the Current Employment Statistics survey of employers (payroll survey). Unemployment and labor force estimates are derived from the Current Population Survey of households (household survey).

In March of each year, estimates from those programs are revised for previous years based on more complete information. Revisions usually are largest for the most recent year and smaller for the year before that. Compared to previously published data, now official revised estimates indicate that:

- The number of nonfarm jobs was higher throughout the last two years with the largest upward revisions occurring in May through December 2025.
- Unemployment was lower through the second half of 2024 and early 2025; it was modestly higher thereafter.
- Household employment was revised higher for much of the last two years.

### Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Previously published estimates indicated nonfarm jobs changed little at the start of 2024, increased through the end of the year, and then decreased in for much of 2025. Revised data indicates there was an average of 2,100 more jobs in 2024, especially in the middle of the year, and 4,600 more in 2025, especially in the second half.



The most significant upward revisions occurred in:

- The health care and social assistance and the construction sectors, which averaged 2,600 and 900 more jobs respectively in 2025.
- The leisure and hospitality sector, in which jobs were revised up by about one percent in both 2024 and 2025.
- The professional and business services sector in which there were 900 more jobs in 2024 than previously estimated.

The most significant downward revisions occurred in:

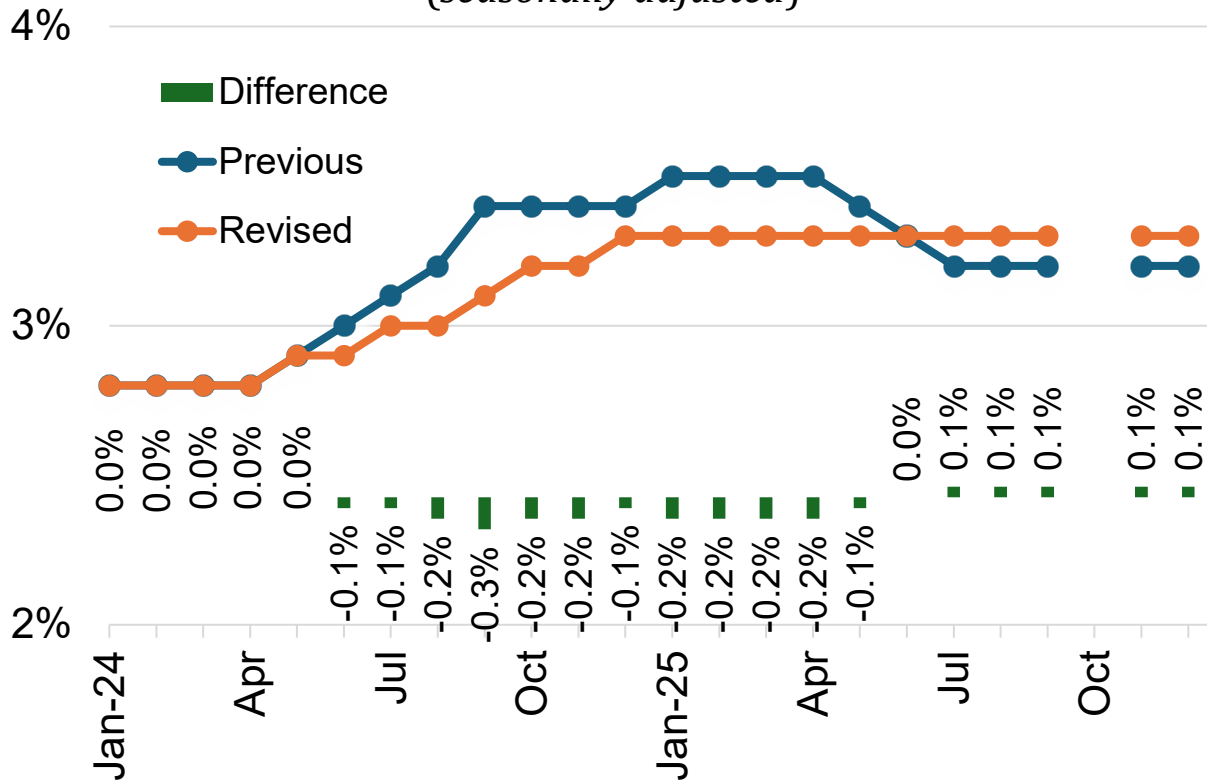
- The retail trade sector, which had 900 fewer jobs in 2025 than previously estimated.

Previously Published and Revised Average Nonfarm Wage & Salary Jobs by Sector <i>(in thousands)</i>								
Sector	2024		2025		Net Revised		Percent Revised	
	Previous	Revised	Previous	Revised	2024	2025	2024	2025
<b>Statewide</b>								
<b>Nonfarm Wage and Salary Jobs</b>	<b>657.9</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>656.1</b>	<b>660.7</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>556.0</b>	<b>557.8</b>	<b>554.2</b>	<b>557.9</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
Health Care & Social Assistance	110.9	111.2	111.6	114.2	0.3	2.6	0.3%	2.3%
Retail Trade	82.4	82.0	82.3	81.4	-0.4	-0.9	-0.5%	-1.1%
Professional & Business Services	78.6	79.5	78.1	78.0	0.9	-0.1	1.1%	-0.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	69.7	70.3	69.7	70.4	0.6	0.7	0.9%	1.0%
Manufacturing	52.1	52	51.6	51.3	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2%	-0.6%
Construction	35.1	35.4	34.8	35.7	0.3	0.9	0.9%	2.6%
Financial Activities	33.3	33.3	33.4	33.0	0.0	-0.4	0.0%	-1.2%
Other Services	22.7	22.7	22.3	22.8	0.0	0.5	0.0%	2.2%
Educational Services	23.3	23.2	23.3	23.4	-0.1	0.1	-0.4%	0.4%
Wholesale Trade	19.0	19.2	18.5	18.9	0.2	0.4	1.1%	2.2%
Transportation, Warehousing, Utilities	18.8	18.8	18.1	18.7	0.0	0.6	0.0%	3.3%
Information	8.2	8.5	8.3	8.2	0.3	-0.1	3.7%	-1.2%
Mining & Logging	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.9	0.0	-0.2	0.0%	-9.5%
<b>Government</b>	<b>101.9</b>	<b>102.2</b>	<b>101.9</b>	<b>102.8</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>
Local	61.2	61.5	61.4	62.2	0.3	0.8	0.5%	1.3%
State	23.4	23.4	23.7	23.4	0.0	-0.3	0.0%	-1.3%
Federal	17.3	17.3	16.7	17.2	0.0	0.5	0.0%	3.0%

## Unemployment

Previously published estimates indicated unemployment increased during Spring and Fall of 2024 and plateaued in early 2025. It then decreased in the Spring and was steady through the latter half of the year. The household survey was not conducted during the federal government shutdown that began in October 2025, no labor force estimates are available for that month.

## Unemployment Rate (seasonally adjusted)



Revised rates indicate unemployment changed little in early 2024 and increased at a slower rate in the summer. The 2024 average unemployment rate of 3.0 percent is the fourth lowest on record. The revised 3.3 percent unemployment rate then was unchanged from December 2024 through December 2025.

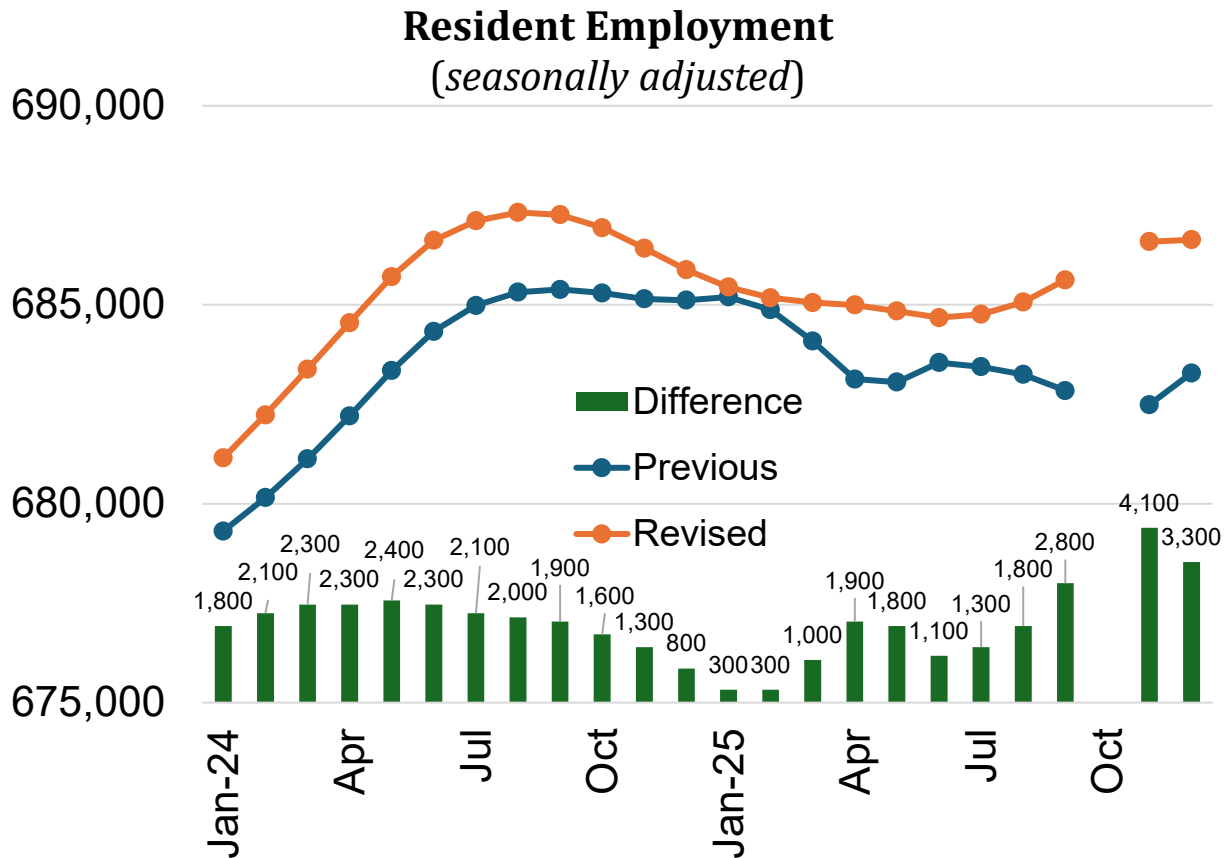
### Labor Force Participation

Labor force participation was generally flat from the start of 2024 to the end of 2025. Revised estimates were little changed from the preliminary estimates with no month being revised more than a tenth of a percent.

### Resident Employment

Employment data derived from the household survey provides an estimate of the number of employed people aged 16 and over in the civilian population, measured on a place-of-residence basis (resident employment). It includes individuals who did any work for pay or profit or were temporarily absent from a job during the survey reference week.

Revised resident employment levels are consistently higher than the previously published estimates over the previous two years. In 2024, the upward revision ranged from 800 to 2,400 employed people for an average monthly revision of 0.3 percent. In 2025 the gap narrows to start the year and then widens, reaching roughly 4,100 in employment at the end of the year with an average monthly revision of 0.3 percent.



## Summary

Annual revisions improve the quality of workforce data and provide a better indication of overall trends. Variability in preliminary estimates is expected to continue in 2026 and beyond. This is from gaps in the representativeness of survey respondents to the broader workforce. Often it is better to look at trends over many months than change from one month to another, and to look at multiple measures to draw conclusions about the direction and rate of change in the labor market. When preliminary estimates from the two surveys do diverge, estimates from the payroll survey are usually a more reliable indicator of workforce conditions than unemployment and labor force estimates from the household survey. This is because of the larger sample and better representativeness of the payroll survey.