



THE CONFERENCE BOARD

News Release

Further information:

Gad Levanon (212) 339-0317

Gad.levanon@conference-board.org

Release #5364

For Immediate Release 10:00 AM ET, Tuesday, September 8, 2009

The Conference Board Employment Trends Index (ETI)TM

Falls Slightly In August

New York, September 8, 2009... The Conference Board Employment Trends Index (ETI)TM dropped 0.1 percent from the revised July number. The index now stands at 88.1 and is down 18.5 percent from a year ago.

“The flatness of the Employment Trends Index in recent months suggests that we won’t see job growth until the end of the year,” said Gad Levanon, Senior Economist at The Conference Board. “The fact that the index cannot get off the ground is another sign of a weak recovery, perhaps a jobless one.”

This month, the components of the Employment Trends IndexTM showed a mixed picture, resulting in the moderate decline. The improving indicators were Percentage of Respondents Who Say They Find “Jobs Hard to Get” from The Conference Board Consumer Confidence Survey, Percentage of Firms With Positions Not Able to Fill Right Now, Industrial Production and Real Manufacturing and Trade Sales.

The Employment Trends IndexTM aggregates eight labor-market indicators, each of which has proven accurate in its own area. Aggregating individual indicators into a composite index filters out so-called “noise” to show underlying trends more clearly.

The eight labor-market indicators aggregated into the Employment Trends IndexTM include:

- Percentage of Respondents Who Say They Find “Jobs Hard to Get” (The Conference Board Consumer Confidence Survey)
- Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance (U.S. Department of Labor)
- Percentage of Firms With Positions Not Able to Fill Right Now (© National Federation of Independent Business Research Foundation)

- Number of Employees Hired by the Temporary-Help Industry (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)
- Part-Time Workers for Economic Reasons (BLS)
- Job Openings (BLS)
- Industrial Production (Federal Reserve Board)
- Real Manufacturing and Trade Sales (U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis)

The Conference Board publishes the Employment Trends Index™ monthly, at 10 a.m. ET on the Monday that follows each Friday release of the Bureau of Labor Statistics employment situation report. The technical notes to this series are available on The Conference Board website: www.conference-board.org/economics/employment.cfm.

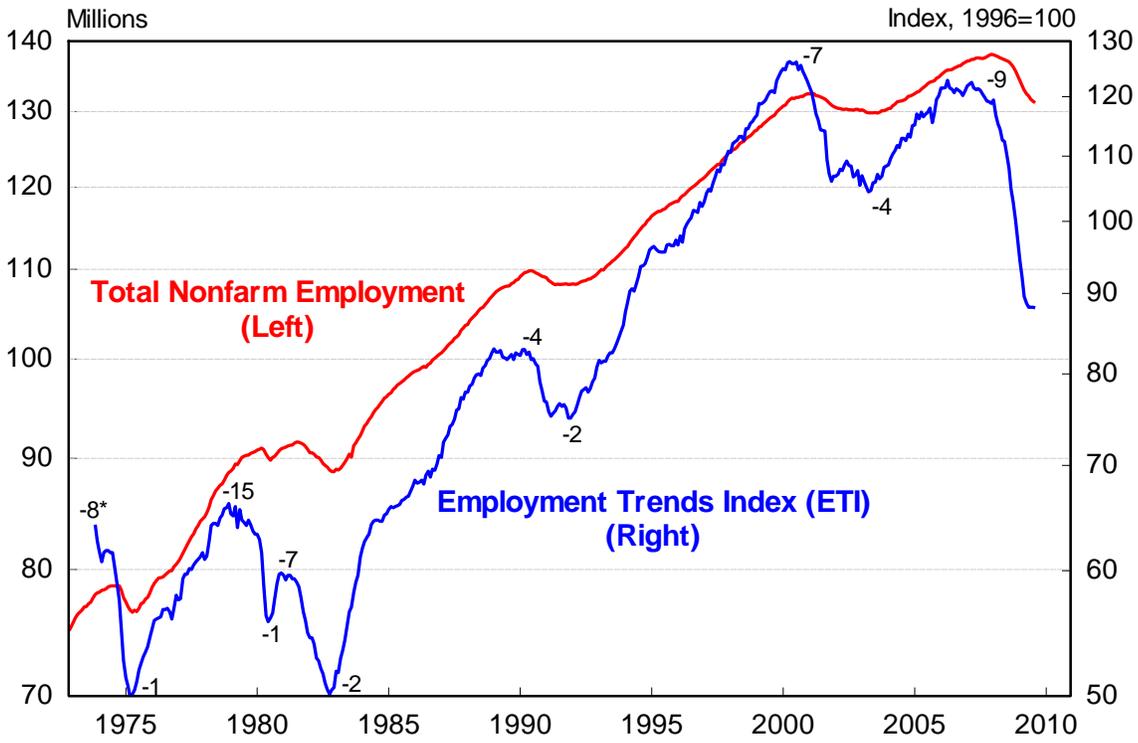
ABOUT THE CONFERENCE BOARD

The Conference Board is a global, independent business-membership and research association working in the public interest. Our mission is unique: To provide the world’s leading organizations with the practical knowledge they need to improve their performance AND better serve society. The Conference Board is a non-advocacy, not-for-profit entity holding 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt status in the United States.

Employment Trends Index (ETI)™ 2009 Publication Schedule

Data for the Month	Index Release Date (10 AM ET)
September	Monday, Oct. 5
October	Monday, Nov. 9
November	Monday, Dec. 7

Employment Trends Index (ETI)TM 1973-2009



* Leads are in relation to the turning points of Payroll Employment

Employment Trends Index (ETI)TM 1999-2009

