

News Release

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The Conference Board Employment Trends Index™ (ETI) Edged Down in March

NEW YORK, April 6, 2015...*The Conference Board Employment Trends Index™* (ETI) declined slightly in March. The index now stands at 127.65, down from 127.77 in February. However, that still represents a 5.6 percent gain in the ETI compared to a year ago.

“The growth in the Employment Trends Index slowed down in the first quarter of 2015,” said Gad Levanon, Managing Director of Macroeconomic and Labor Market Research at The Conference Board. “The combination of the disappointing March employment report and the recent weakness in the ETI suggests that the likelihood of a slowdown in employment has increased. Even so, it is unlikely that job growth in the second quarter would fall much below the trend of 200,000 jobs per month.”

In March, the negative contributions from Percentage of Firms with Positions Not Able to Fill Right Now, Ratio of Involuntarily Part-time to All Part-time Workers and Percentage of Respondents Who Say They Find “Jobs Hard to Get” more than offset positive contributions from the remaining five components.

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

The eight labor-market indicators aggregated into the Employment Trends Index 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)
- Ratio of Involuntarily Part-time to All Part-time Workers (BLS)

- Job Openings (BLS)**
- Industrial Production (Federal Reserve Board)*
- Real Manufacturing and Trade Sales (U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis)**

*Statistical imputation for the recent month

**Statistical imputation for two most recent months

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: <http://www.conference-board.org/data/eti.cfm>.

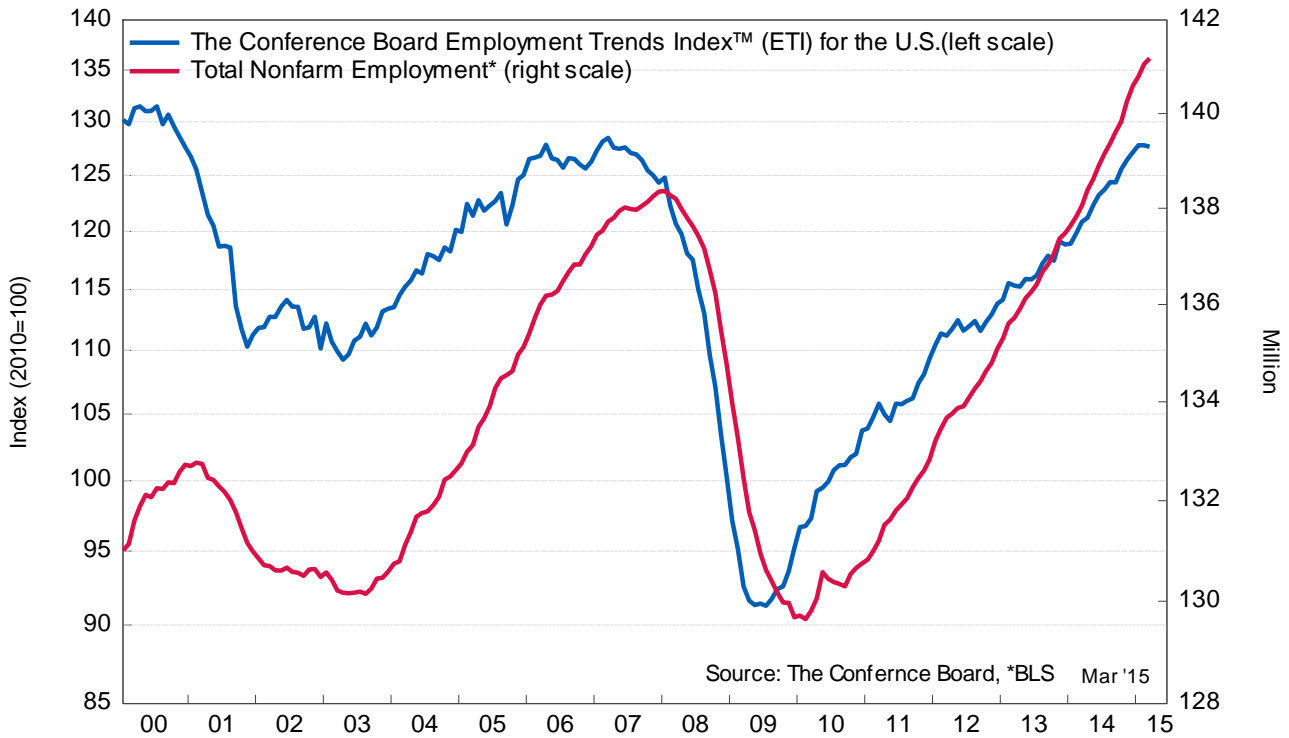
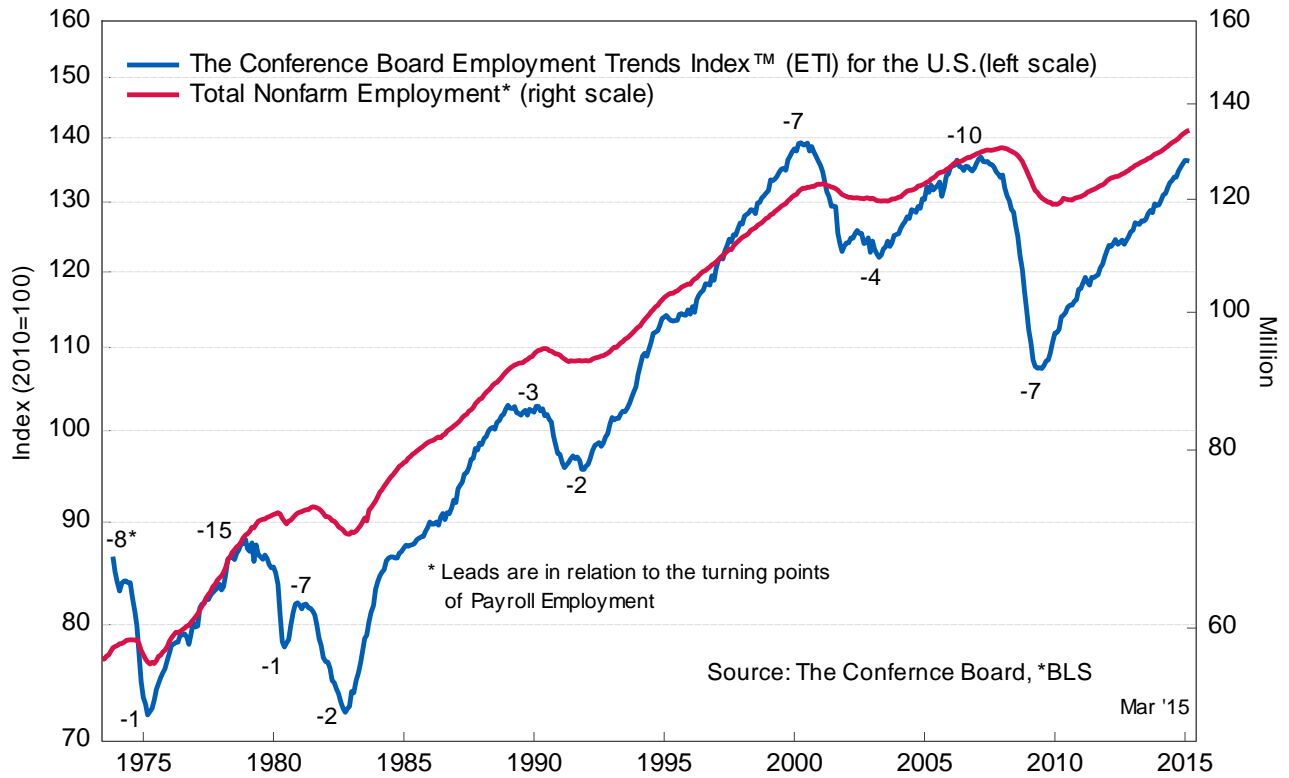
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Employment Trends Index (ETI)™ 2015 Publication Schedule

Index Release Date (10 AM ET)	Data for the Month
Monday, May 11	April
Monday, June 8	May
Monday, July 6	June
Monday, August 10	July
Tuesday, September 8	August
Monday, October 5	September
Monday, November 9	October
Monday, December 7	November



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