

News Release

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Release #5829

For Immediate Release 10:00 AM ET, Tuesday, September 8, 2015

The Conference Board Employment Trends Index™ (ETI) Increased Again in August *Employment Trends Index Posts a Healthy Gain After Slowing in Recent Months*

NEW YORK, September 8, 2015...*The Conference Board Employment Trends Index™* (ETI) increased in August for a second consecutive month. The index now stands at 128.82, up from 127.64 in June (a downward revision). The change represents a 4.5 percent gain in the ETI compared to a year ago.

““The large increase in the Employment Trends Index in August suggests that a significant moderation in employment growth is unlikely to occur in the coming months,” said Gad Levanon, Managing Director of Macroeconomic and Labor Market Research at The Conference Board. “With solid job growth expected to continue, the unemployment rate is likely to go below 5 percent by year’s end.”

August’s increase in the ETI was driven by positive contributions from four of the eight components. In order from the largest positive contributor to the smallest, these were: Percentage of Respondents Who Say They Find “Jobs Hard to Get,” Percentage of Firms with Positions Not Able to Fill Right Now, Number of Temporary Employees, and Industrial Production.

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>.

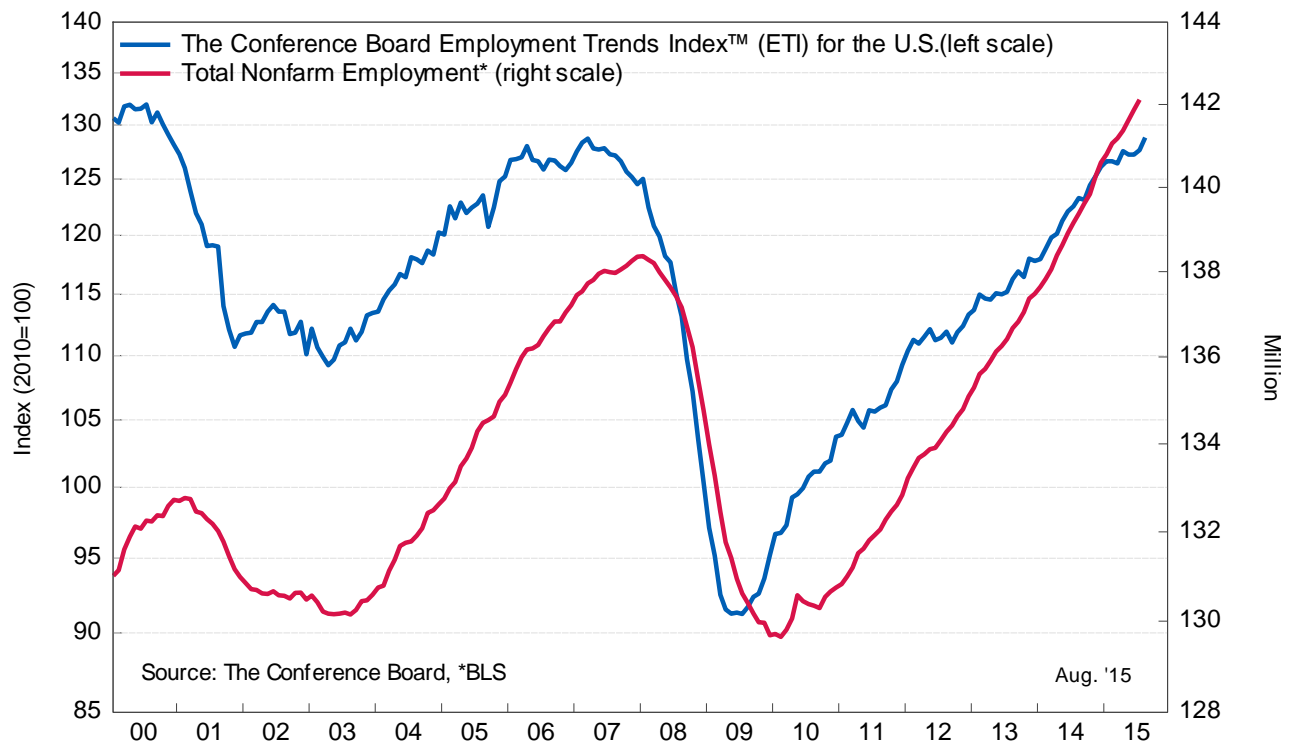
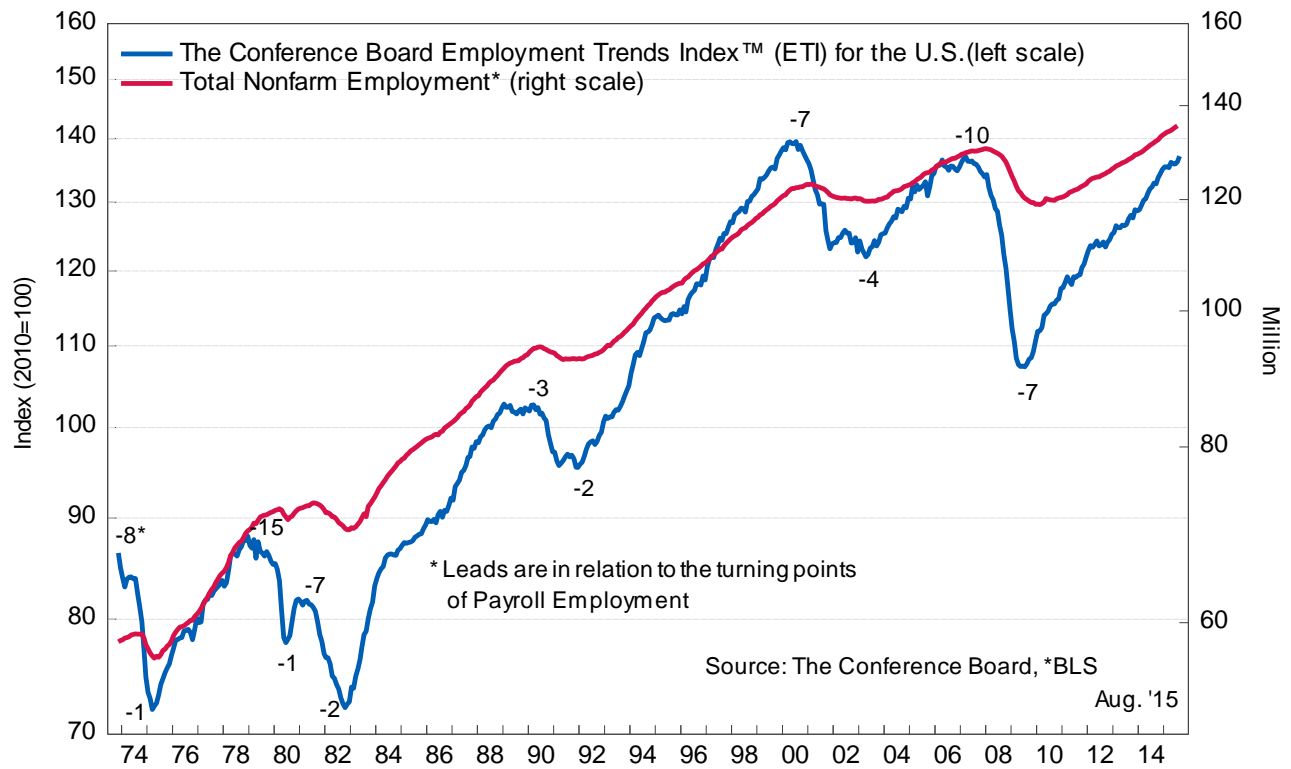
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Employment Trends Index (ETI)™ 2015 Publication Schedule

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



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