

## News Release

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**For Immediate Release 10:00 AM ET, Monday, August 7, 2017**

### **The Conference Board Employment Trends Index™ (ETI) Increased in July**

#### ***More Strong Job Gains Expected***

**NEW YORK, August 7, 2017...**The Conference Board Employment Trends Index™ (ETI) increased in July, after decreasing slightly in June. The index now stands at 133.77, up from 132.42 (a downward revision) in June. The change represents a 4.8 percent gain in the ETI compared to a year ago.

“Those who have been following The Conference Board’s Employment Trends Index are not surprised by the strong employment growth in June and July,” said Gad Levanon, Chief Economist, North America, at The Conference Board. “In July, the rapid improvement in the index continued, suggesting solid hiring and further tightening of the labor market in the months ahead.”

July’s increase in the ETI was fueled by positive contributions from all eight components. From the largest positive contributor to the smallest, these were: Percentage of Firms with Positions Not Able to Fill Right Now, Ratio of Involuntarily Part-time to All Part-time Workers, Industrial Production, Number of Employees Hired by the Temporary-Help Industry, Consumer Confidence “Jobs Hard to Get” Percentage, Real Manufacturing and Trade Sales, Job Openings, and Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance.

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

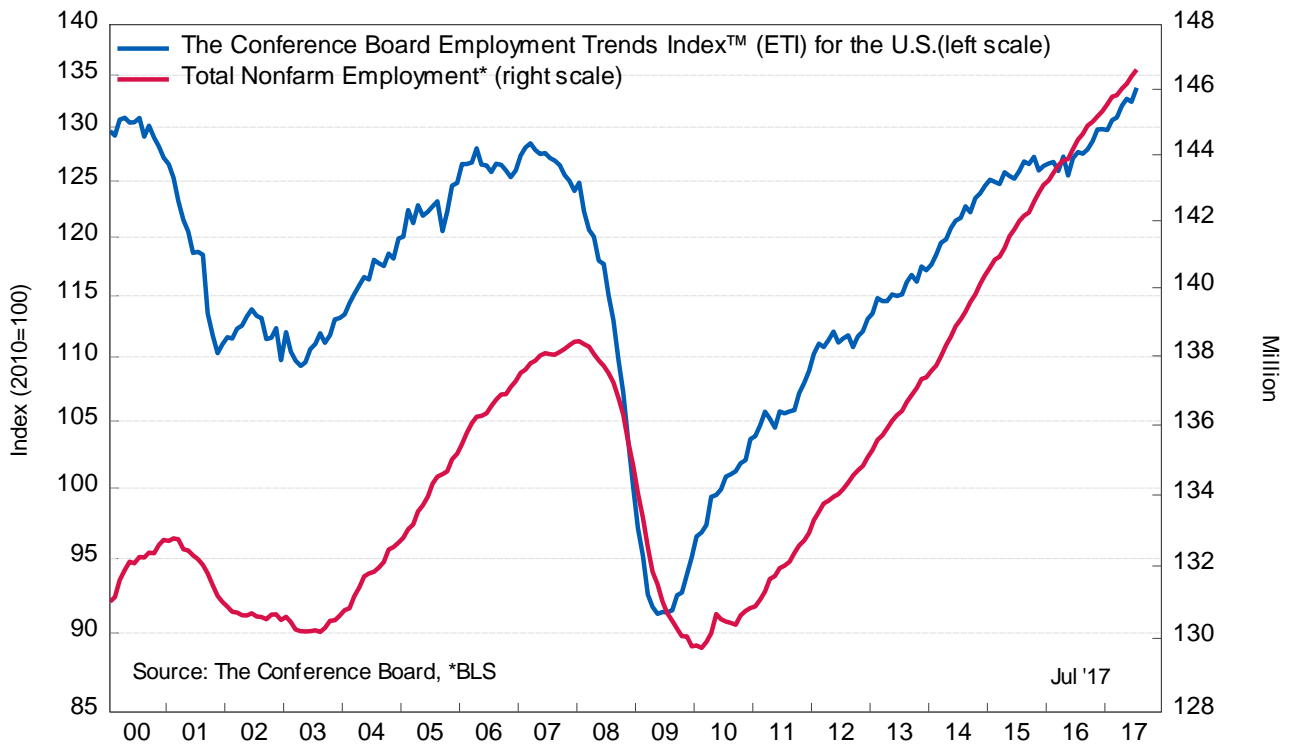
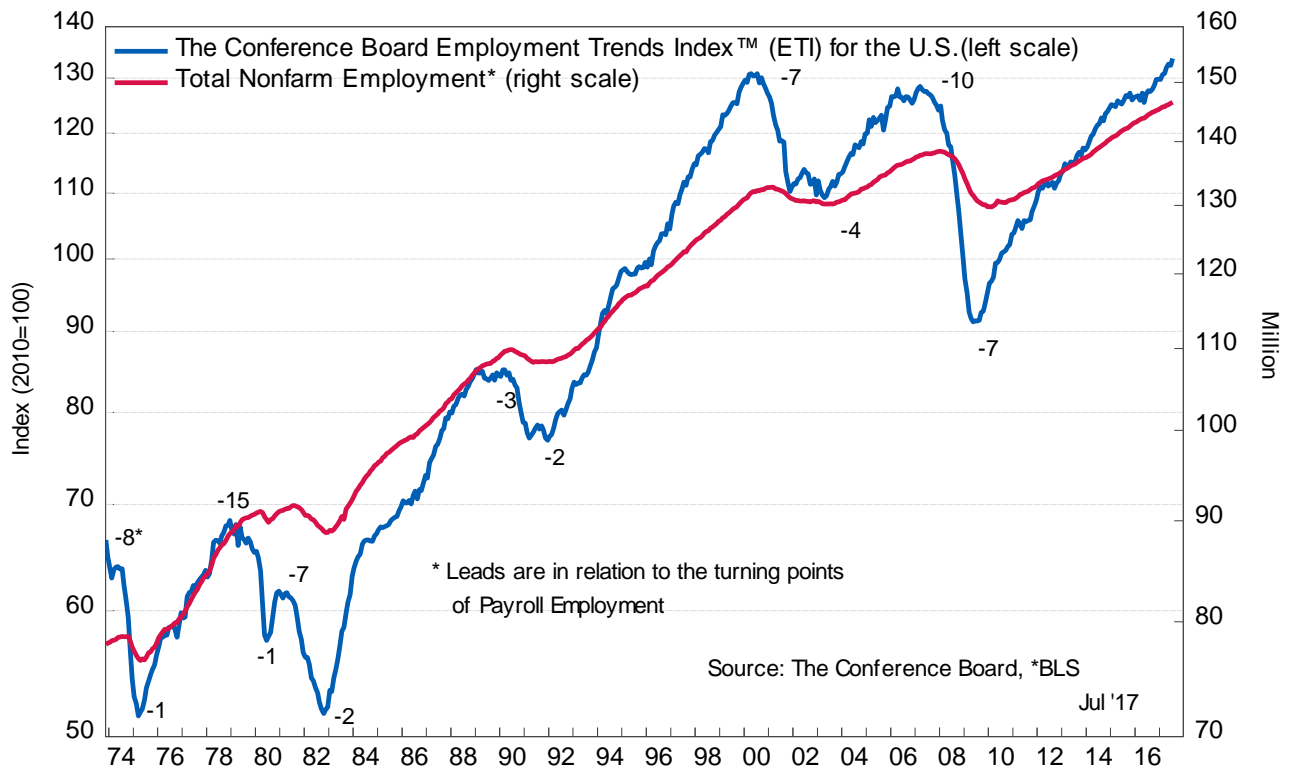
The Conference Board publishes the Employment Trends Index monthly, at 10 a.m. ET on the Monday that follows each Friday release of the Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment Situation report. The technical notes to this series are available on The Conference Board website: <http://www.conference-board.org/data/eti.cfm>.

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### **Employment Trends Index (ETI)<sup>TM</sup> 2017 Publication Schedule**

<b>Index Release Date (10 AM ET)</b>	<b>Data for the Month</b>
Tuesday, September 5	August
Monday, October 9	September
Monday, November 6	October
Monday, December 11	November



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