

## News Release

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**For Immediate Release 10:00 AM ET, Tuesday, September 5, 2017**

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

#### ***The ETI Continues to Show Rapid Improvement***

**NEW YORK, September 5, 2017**...The Conference Board Employment Trends Index™ (ETI) increased in August, after increasing in July. The index now stands at 134.62, up from 133.60 (a downward revision) in July. The change represents a 5.6 percent gain in the ETI compared to a year ago.

“The rapid growth in the Employment Trends Index continued in August, suggesting solid job growth in the months ahead,” said Gad Levanon, Chief Economist, North America, at The Conference Board. “While Friday’s job numbers were slightly disappointing, the ETI does not provide any indication of slowing employment growth.”

August’s increase in the ETI was fueled by positive contributions from six of the eight components. From the largest positive contributor to the smallest, these were: Percentage of Respondents Who Say They Find “Jobs Hard to Get,” Industrial Production, Real Manufacturing and Trade Sales, Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance, Ratio of Involuntarily Part-time to All Part-time Workers, and Number of Employees Hired by the Temporary-Help Industry.

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

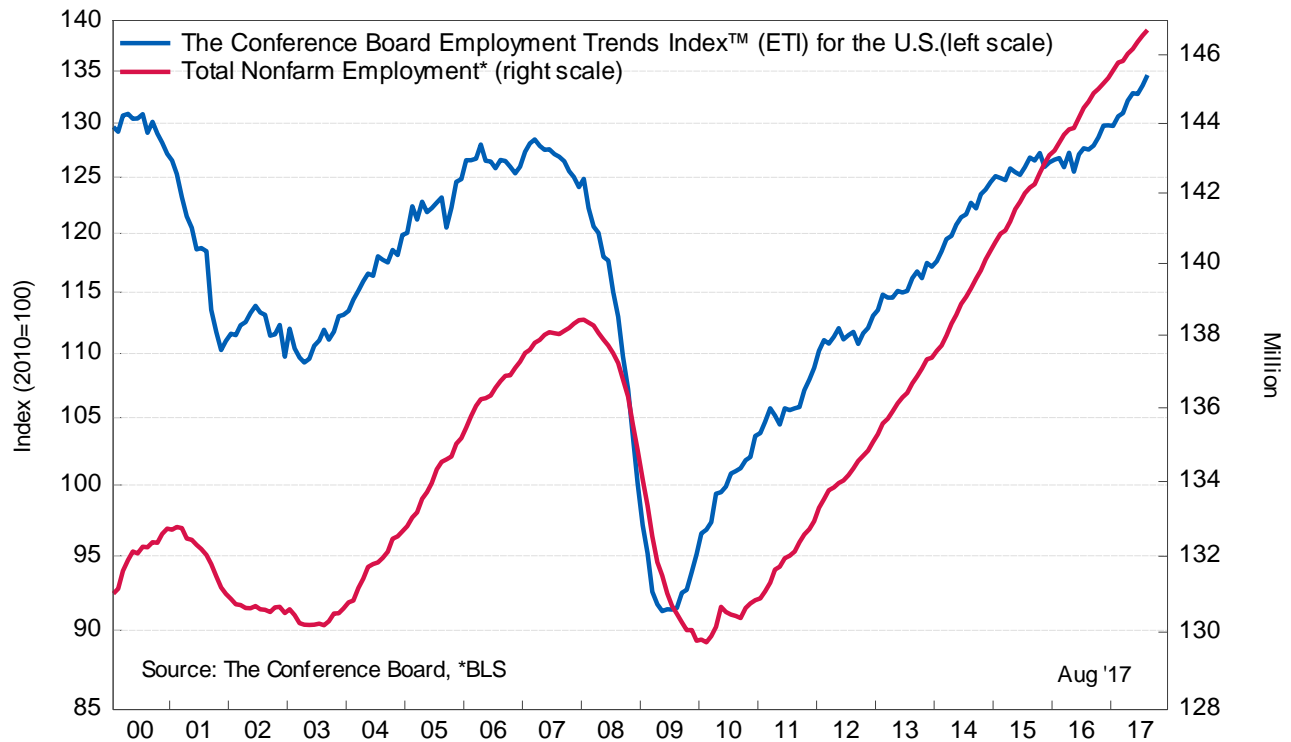
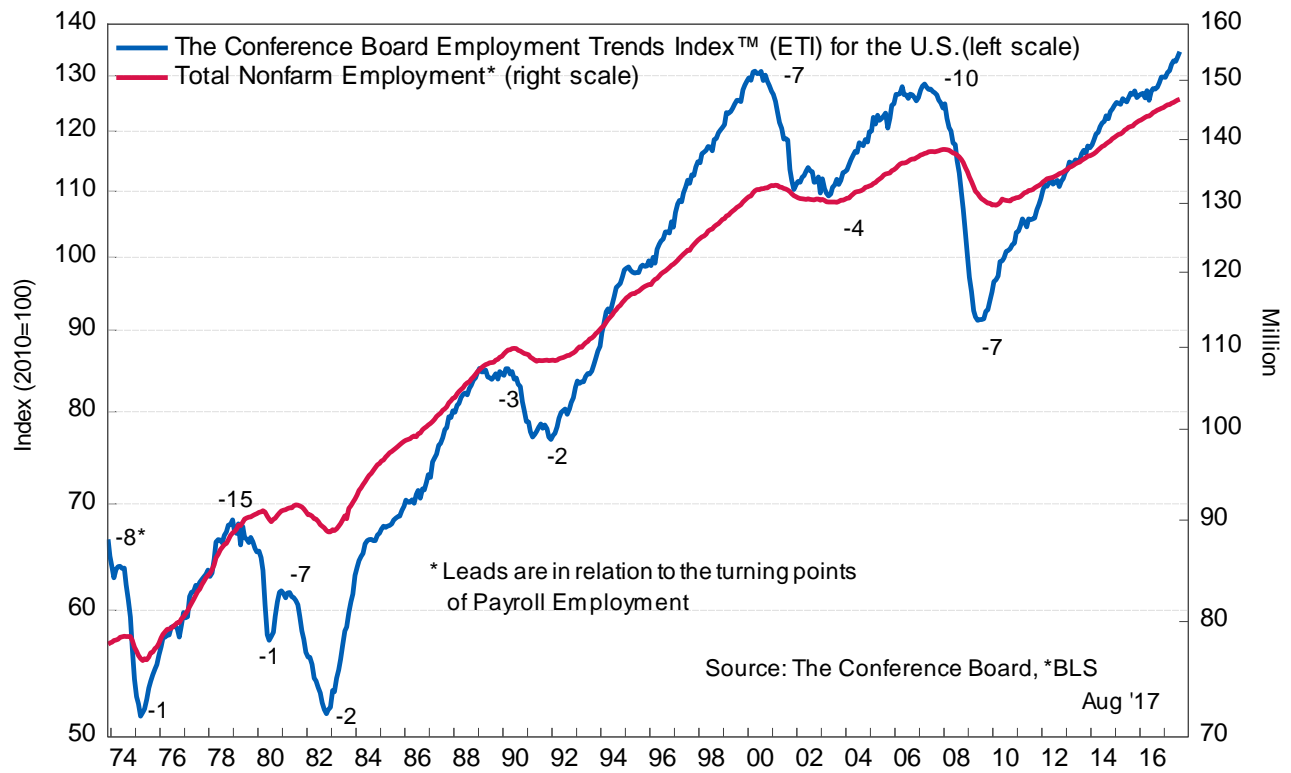
The Conference Board publishes the Employment Trends Index monthly, at 10 a.m. ET on the Monday that follows each Friday release of the Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment Situation report. The technical notes to this series are available on The Conference Board website: <http://www.conference-board.org/data/eti.cfm>.

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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>
Monday, October 9	September
Monday, November 6	October
Monday, December 11	November



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