

U.S. Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics
2 Massachusetts Ave. N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20212



DEC 10 2018

Mr. David Yanofsky
Quartz Media, LLC
675 Avenue of the Americas
Suite 410
New York, NY 10010

Dear Mr. Yanofsky:

As Disclosure Officer for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), I am issuing a second response to your June 1, 2018, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (FOIA ID No. F859810). Your request, addressed to the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), was received in the BLS Disclosure Office by fax on June 1, 2018. An initial response to your request was issued on July 31, 2018.

Since our July 31 response, BLS has continued to search for and retrieve additional responsive records in accordance with your previously-requested search parameters. We have finalized our retrieval and identified 46 remaining records responsive to your request. Of these records, we are releasing 31 digitally by email as well as on the enclosed thumb drive.

Please note, certain correspondence has been redacted in two records under Exemption (b)(5), which protects, "records that are inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency."

Additionally, 15 of the 46 records are being withheld in their entirety under Exemption (b)(5) of the FOIA, as they constitute "records that are inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency." Two of the 15 records contain information that is also excluded under Exemption (b)(6) which protects, "records that are personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy."

I believe I have been responsive to your request. If you need further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, please do not hesitate to contact the BLS FOIA Disclosure Office on 202-691-7628 or by email at BLSFOIAServiceCenter@bls.gov. Alternatively, you may wish to contact the DOL FOIA Public Liaison, Thomas Hicks, on 202-693-5427 or by email at Hicks.Thomas@dol.gov.

You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), within the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), to inquire about the mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information

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Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001. You can also reach that office by email at ogis@nara.gov, by phone at 202-741-5770, by fax at 202-741-5769, or by calling toll-free at 1-877-684-6448.

If you are not satisfied with the response to this request, under the FOIA, you have the right to appeal this response to the Solicitor of Labor. Your appeal must be received by the Solicitor of Labor within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Address your appeal to the following office: Solicitor of Labor, Division of Management and Administrative Legal Services, Room N-2420, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210. Your appeal may also be sent by email to FOIAAppeal@dol.gov. Appeals submitted to any other address will not be accepted. Your appeal must state in writing the grounds for the appeal. It should also include a copy of the original request, the response to your request, and any supporting statement or arguments. The appeal letter, the envelope, and the email subject line, should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nancy Ruiz de Gamboa', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

NANCY RUIZ DE GAMBOA
Acting Associate Commissioner
for Administration

Enclosures



JUL 31 2018

Mr. David Yanofsky
Quartz Media, LLC
675 Avenue of the Americas
Suite 410
New York, NY 10010

Dear Mr. Yanofsky:

As Disclosure Officer for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), I am responding to your June 1, 2018, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (FOIA ID No. F859810). Your request, addressed to the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), was received in the BLS Disclosure Office by fax on June 1, 2018.

Specifically, you requested: "access to and copies of emails, instant messages, chat transcripts, memorandum and similar records sent or received by [all] agency personnel or systems after 7:20 am EDT on June 1, 2018 that contain any item of List A as well as any item on List B below:

List A

- POTUS
- President
- Trump
- White House
- realDonaldTrump
- executive office
- EOP
- Council of Economic Advisers
- CEA

List B

- Tweet
- twitter
- jobs
- CPS
- Employment Situation
- Household Survey
- Establishment Survey
- custom
- protocol"

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Also, you requested, "access to and copies of emails, instant messages, chat transcripts, memorandum and similar records sent or received by agency personnel or systems after 7:20 am EDT on June 1, 2018 that contain the text: twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1002510522032541701."

You requested to receive the information in an electronic format and that for the purposes of your search, BLS should consider words of differing capitalization to be the same. Additionally, you requested expedited processing pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(6)(E) and a fee waiver pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(4)(A)(iii).

Per email correspondence with the BLS FOIA Service Center on June 28, 2018, BLS determined that, as you are a member of the news media and therefore are "a person primarily engaged in disseminating information" and the request concerns "a matter of widespread and exceptional media interest in which there exists possible questions about the government's integrity which affect public confidence," you demonstrated a compelling need for expedited processing pursuant to the explanation and consequences of delaying a response stated in your request. As such, your requests for expedited processing and a fee waiver were approved. Secondly, you agreed to narrow the scope of your request to exclude both subscriptions and duplicates from the records responsive to your request. Subscriptions means an email that can be identified as received from outside BLS from a news list serve. A duplicate means an email that is an exact duplicate found in multiple inboxes (for example, if an email was received by multiple employees and would show as an exact copy of the same email file). The narrowed scope resulted in less time for BLS staff to retrieve and review the responsive records.

BLS has been diligently working to process and respond to your request since its receipt. We completed a search in accordance with the parameters outlined in your request. As requested, each individual search consisted of a combination of one item from List A with at least one item on List B and incorporated a search for the Twitter link referenced. Our search was designed to identify correspondence falling within these parameters from 7:20 a.m. on June 1 to the date and time the search began, at 10:00 a.m. on June 4.

In a phone conversation with the DOL FOIA Public Liaison, Thomas Hicks, on June 27, 2018, Mr. Hicks informed you that BLS expected the narrowed scope, excluding subscription and duplicate email records, to result in approximately 1,500 records (email threads). At the conclusion of the preliminary search, BLS IT staff have been able to identify and retrieve 81 records responsive to your request.

Of these 81 records, we are releasing 59, enclosed on a thumb drive. One of the 59 records contains information that has been redacted under Exemption (b)(6) of the FOIA, which excludes, "records that are personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." The remaining 22 records are being withheld in their entirety under Exemptions (b)(5) and/or (b)(6) of the FOIA. As two of the 22 records constitute, "records that are personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy," they are being withheld in their entirety under Exemption (b)(6) only. As 20 of the 22 records

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constitute, "records that are inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency," they are being withheld in their entirety under Exemption (b)(5). Three of the 20 records being withheld in their entirety under Exemption (b)(5) also contain information that is also excluded under Exemption (b)(6) of the FOIA.

Given the breadth of your request, BLS is continuing to search for and retrieve any additional responsive records. We are working diligently with our IT Staff towards this end. If more responsive records are found, we will provide them as they become available. If no additional responsive records are found, we will notify you of that as well.

If you need further assistance or would like to discuss any aspect of your request, please do not hesitate to contact the BLS FOIA Disclosure Office on 202-691-7628 or by email at BLSFOIAServiceCenter@bls.gov. Alternatively, you may wish to contact the DOL FOIA Public Liaison, Thomas Hicks, on 202-693-5427 or by email at Hicks.Thomas@dol.gov.

You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), within the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), to inquire about the mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001. You can also reach that office by email at ogis@nara.gov, by phone at 202-741-5770, by fax at 202-741-5769, or by calling toll-free at 1-877-684-6448.

If you are not satisfied with the response to this request, under the FOIA, you have the right to appeal this response to the Solicitor of Labor. Your appeal must be received by the Solicitor of Labor within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Address your appeal to the following office: Solicitor of Labor, Division of Management and Administrative Legal Services, Room N-2420, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210. Your appeal may also be sent by email to FOIAAppeal@dol.gov. Appeals submitted to any other address will not be accepted. Your appeal must state in writing the grounds for the appeal. It should also include a copy of the original request, the response to your request, and any supporting statement or arguments. The appeal letter, the envelope, and the email subject line, should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,

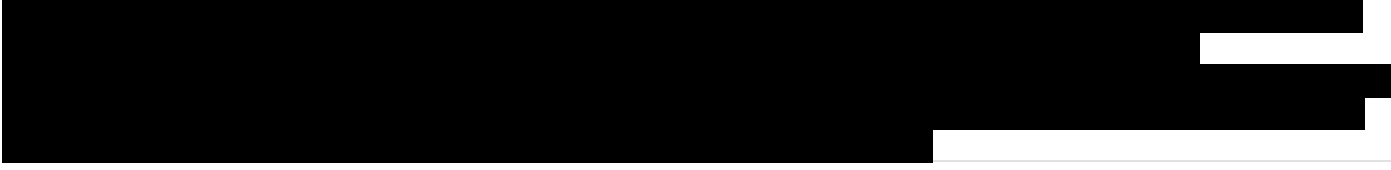


NANCY RUIZ DE GAMBOA
Associate Commissioner
for Administration

Enclosure

From: Steinberg, Gary E - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 08:52:26 AM
To: Liddel, Emily L - BLS; Levi, Michael - BLS
Subject: FW: Bloomberg News question - ON DEADLINE

Jeanna's request will be forwarded to OPA. (b) (5)



From: Jeanna Smialek (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:) [mailto:jsmialek1@bloomberg.net]

Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:15 AM

To: Steinberg, Gary E - BLS ; Jeannine.Aversa@bea.gov

Subject: Bloomberg News question - ON DEADLINE

Hey Jeanine and Gary,

This is Jeanna Smialek at Bloomberg. We're trying to figure out the pre-release rules for jobs data, and I had three questions.

1. When does the White House get the figures?
2. Does the Fed also get the figures? Who gets them, when, and is that every month?
3. Is this the most recent document describing the pre-release procedure?

<https://www.bea.gov/about/pdf/federalregister09251985.pdf>

Thank you for your help.

Jeanna

From: Lucero, Eric R - OPA <Lucero.Eric.R@DOL.gov>
Sent time: 06/04/2018 06:16:35 AM
To: zzDOL-REC-ATL
Subject: FW: DOL Daily Briefing (6-4-18)
Attachments: DOL Daily Briefing (6-4-18).pdf DOL Daily Briefing (6-4-18).mobi DOL Daily Briefing (6-4-18).docx

From: DOL Daily
Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 6:15:30 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: john.prall@techmis.com
Subject: DOL Daily Briefing (6-4-18)



DOL DAILY BRIEFING

U.S. Department of Labor
By TechMIS
www.techmis.com

[Mobile User Copy](#)

TO: U.S. Department of Labor & Staff
DATE: Monday, June 4, 2018 6:00 AM ET

DOL News and Opinion

[American Workers and Businesses Continue to See Gains Under the Trump Economy \(The White House\)](#)

[Unemployment Levels Lowest in 18 Years; President Overseeing a Renaissance in Manufacturing \(The White House\)](#)

DOL News Releases

[Statement by U.S. Secretary of Labor Acosta on the May Jobs Report \(Department of Labor\)](#)

[U.S. Department of Labor Investigation Results in Residential Home Care Company Paying \\$213,461 to 26 Employees \(Department of Labor\)](#)

[U.S. Department of Labor Investigation Results in Federal Judge Ordering Michigan Roofing Contractor to Pay \\$310,000 in Overtime Back Wages, Liquidated Damages to 74 Employees \(Department of Labor\)](#)

[U.S. Department of Labor Conducting Wage Survey of Heavy Construction Projects to Ensure Virginia Workers Receive Proper Wages \(Department of Labor\)](#)

[U.S. 1st Circuit Court of Appeals Orders Maine Roofer to Correct Violations, Implement Safety Measures, and Address \\$389,685 in Fines \(Department of Labor\)](#)

[U.S. Department of Labor Cites New Jersey Renewable Energy Company Following Fatality at New Hampshire Power Plant \(Department of Labor\)](#)

Employment

[We Ran Out of Words to Describe How Good the Jobs Numbers Are \(New York Times\)](#)

[The Jobs Recovery: A Longer View \(New York Times\)](#)

[Monthly U.S. Jobs Report \(Washington Post\)](#)

[U.S. economy continues its hiring spree and is projected to have added 200,000 jobs in May \(Washington Post\)](#)

[The May Jobs Report in 8 Charts \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

[Strong jobs report doesn't guarantee four Fed interest rate hikes this year \(MarketWatch\)](#)

[Solid jobs report shows an economy marching towards full employment \(Economic Policy Institute\)](#)

[The Labor Department reported 223,000 new jobs in May \(Politico\)](#)

[Big mystery of our economy is whether it can keep up on jobs \(The Hill\)](#)

[Breakneck Pace of U.S. Job Gains Will Get Tougher to Sustain \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[This chart shows the types of jobs that are thriving under Trump \(CNBC\)](#)

[Payroll surge: Employers added 223,000 jobs in May \(USA Today\)](#)

[5 Important Takeaways From The Latest Jobs Report \(Houston Public Media\)](#)

[Amid positive jobs numbers, Nancy Pelosi finds the dark lining in the silver cloud \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

[Pelosi Slams Trump on Slow Wage Growth \(Breitbart\)](#)

[Nancy Pelosi Doesn't Think Lower Unemployment, More Jobs Is A Good Thing \(Daily Caller\)](#)

[Pelosi trashes excellent jobs report, good economy \(Hot Air\)](#)

[Pelosi Slams Jobs Report: 'Strong Employment Numbers Mean Little' \(Washington Free Beacon\)](#)

[US unemployment rate ties lowest level in nearly 50 years \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

[Boom — jobs aplenty as economy steams ahead \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

[Blowout jobs report boosts odds of a June rate hike \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

[May jobs report: Job growth surges, bringing unemployment to an 18-year low \(American Enterprise Institute\)](#)

[Jobs are booming, and Democrats are puzzled \(American Enterprise Institute\)](#)

[May Jobs Report: Hiring Spree Continues, Wages Pick Up Steam Too \(Connect Media\)](#)

[Stellar Jobs Report Caps Month of Blockbuster Growth \(Epoch Times\)](#)

[Three Key Numbers From the May Jobs Report \(Pacific Standard\)](#)

[May shows solid growth, with 223,000 jobs created \(Palm Beach Post\)](#)

[U.S. Economy Adds 223,000 Jobs In May, Unemployment Rate Dips To 3.8 Percent \(WBOR-FM 90.9 Boston Public Radio\)](#)

[Trump Breaks Protocol With Jobs Report Tweet Before Data Is Released \(New York Times\)](#)

[Trump's jobs-report tweet broke a protocol designed to prevent giving early hints to investors \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)

[Trump signals jobs data before report's release, breaking with protocol \(The Hill\)](#)

[Big Job Gains Raise Questions About Trump's Pre-Release Tweet \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[What Wall Street Is Saying About Trump's Early Jobs Tweet \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[Economy added 223,000 jobs in May, but Trump's premarket tweet is the focus \(NBC News\)](#)

[Trump hints at strong jobs report ahead of its release \(CNN\)](#)

[Trump tweet on jobs report may have breached a 1985 federal directive \(USA Today\)](#)

[President Trump's early jobs tweet leads to criticism from Obama officials \(USA Today\)](#)

[Here's Why Trump's Tweet About the Jobs Report Was So Risky \(Time\)](#)

[Did Trump Jobs Report Tweet Break the Law? President Slammed for Tipping Off Positive Numbers \(Newsweek\)](#)

[The Outrage Behind Trump's Market-Shaking Tweet \(Atlantic Monthly\)](#)

[White House defends Trump's early hint about the jobs report \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

[Trump's tweet 'looking forward' to jobs report draws criticism from left, right \(Washington Times\)](#)

[Trump Hypes Jobs Report Hour Before It's Released \(New York Magazine\)](#)

[Trump steps on economic good news \(Salon\)](#)

[Trump's tweet teasing jobs report appears to have violated federal law \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

[Trump's wildly inappropriate \(and possibly corrupt\) jobs report tweet, explained \(Vox\)](#)

[Kudlow says Trump's jobs report tweet was totally legal. Other economists disagree. \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

[U.S. economy adds 223,000 jobs, after Trump tweets controversial preview \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

[How Trump's pre-jobs report tweet moved the market \(New York Post\)](#)

[Trump tweet hinting at positive jobs report broke protocol, critics say \(WMUR-TV 9 Manchester\)](#)

[Trump previewing jobs report appears to break protocol: Experts \(KFSN-TV ABC 30 Fresno\)](#)

[The 15 best states for finding a job in 2018 \(Business Insider\)](#)

[Trumpanomics: Good Job Numbers + Terrible Wage Numbers = The Depraved Exploitation Of Workers \(Daily Kos\)](#)

[Nonfarm payrolls increase by 223,000 in May, vs 188,000 estimate \(CNBC\)](#)

[Construction Adds 25,000 Jobs in May \(Metal Construction News\)](#)

[Flashback: Hillary Predicted Trump's Tax Plan Would Destroy Millions of Jobs. It's Doing Precisely the Opposite. \(Town Hall\)](#)

[How many people work for the federal government? 24,000 less now than in Dec. 2016 \(World Tribune\)](#)

[\[NY\] NYT Shell-Shocked By Historic Jobs Numbers: We Ran Out Of Words To Describe How Good It Is \(Town Hall\)](#)

[\[KY\] Truck maker says Washington's political swamp threatens plan to add 250 Kentucky jobs \(Lexington Herald-Leader\)](#)

[\[ND\] Statewide survey to focus on filling jobs \(Bismarck Tribune\)](#)

[\[CA\] How tight is the labor market? Employers flock to hire qualified homeless job applicants \(Sacramento Bee\)](#)

Unemployment

[U.S. gains 223K jobs as unemployment rate falls to 1969 levels \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)

[Unemployment Rate Falls to 18-Year Low; Solid Hiring in May \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

[Unemployment Rate Drops To 3.8 Percent, Lowest Since 2000 \(National Public Radio\)](#)

[U.S. Payrolls Rise 223,000; Jobless Rate Matches 48-Year Low \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[Jobs report beats expectations, unemployment rate falls to 18-year low \(MSN\)](#)

[May jobs report: Unemployment down to 3.8%, payrolls up by 223,000 \(CBS News\)](#)

[Black unemployment news is good but more has to be done for workers: National Urban League \(CNBC\)](#)

[Unemployment rate matches lowest point in half a century \(CNN\)](#)

[Economists React to Strong Jobs Report \(US News & World Report\)](#)

[U.S. job growth accelerates, unemployment rate drops to 3.8 percent \(Reuters\)](#)

[Unemployment Continues To Fall Below April's Record Rates \(Benzinga\)](#)

[US unemployment falls to 3.8% in May, lowest in 18 years \(Breitbart\)](#)

[U.S. adds 223,000 jobs in May; unemployment lowest since 1969 \(Breitbart\)](#)

[May Jobs Numbers: Black Unemployment Rate Hits Record Low \(Breitbart\)](#)

[Unemployment is about as low as it gets \(Crain's Chicago Business\)](#)

[223,000 Jobs Added In May, Unemployment Falls To 3.8 Percent \(Daily Caller\)](#)

[Black Unemployment Plunges To Record Low, Gap Between White, Black Unemployment Smallest In History \(Daily Caller\)](#)

[Record Wage Increases, Record-Low Unemployment \(The Patriot Post\)](#)

[U.S. unemployment rate lowest in 18 years \(Ponte al Dia\)](#)

[The gap between black unemployment and white unemployment is now the smallest in history \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

[Record-low jobless rates for black Americans and Asians \(Minneapolis/St.Paul Star-Tribune\)](#)

[\[VT\] Vermont coffee company lays off 35 mostly in manufacturing \(Belleville News-Democrat\)](#)

[\[RI\] Amazon's distributor leaving R.I. for Hartford; 149 layoffs \(WWLP-TV 22 Chicopee\)](#)

[\[WA\] After Georgia-Pacific cut up to 300 employees, workers trying to find footing \(Vancouver Columbian\)](#)

Apprenticeship

[\[RI\] Apprenticeship teaches the ins and outs of fishing \(Narragansett Times\)](#)

[\[NY\] NY to give \\$3M for state's workforce needs \(Long Island Business News\)](#)

[\[PA\] 57 craftsmen graduate from ABC Keystone Chapter's apprenticeship program \(Lancaster Online\)](#)

[\[TX\] Climbing the Ladder: Put in the time to make plumbing pay off \(San Angelo Standard-Times\)](#)

Labor

[US manufacturing picks up pace in May \(New York Times\)](#)

[Trump breaks protocol to tout jobs report \(The Hill\)](#)

[If Robots Steal Our Jobs, Maybe We Should Make Them Pay Tax \(Huffington Post\)](#)

[As the US population ages, the need for home health-care workers skyrockets \(CNBC\)](#)

[The US economy needs seniors to work longer. Here's how to make that happen \(CNN\)](#)

[The Death of a Gig Worker \(Atlantic Monthly\)](#)

[Let the Labor Market Continue to Tighten \(National Review\)](#)

[The US is having a hard time keeping teachers in their jobs \(Quartz\)](#)

[AI, automation, and the future of work: Ten things to solve for \(McKinsey & Company\)](#)

[In Market: Heigh-ho, heigh-ho, it's off to co-work we go \(Fort Worth Business Press\)](#)

[Fannie, Freddie want to make mortgages easier for gig-economy workers \(Worcester Telegram\)](#)

[Report: Americans are finding work, but the better paying jobs require a college degree \(Miami Herald\)](#)

[This jobs program just might get people back to work \(Seattle Times\)](#)

[\[PA\] Pa. can build on apprenticeships, skills training and STEM education progress \(PennLive\)](#)

[\[PA\] Ready? Set? Work \(TheNoteBook\)](#)

[\[PA\] The 'Help Wanted' sign is out for those needing jobs \(Johnstown Tribune-Democrat\)](#)

[\[NJ\] STEM program will boost NJ's economy \(Burlington County Times\)](#)

[\[MD\] Emergency call-takers, dispatchers overcome staffing challenges, stressful work \(Frederick News-Post\)](#)

[\[NC\] Goodwill Partners With Charlotte, N.C. Agencies to Open Construction Skills Training Center \(Builder\)](#)

[\[NC\] Skills gap creates opportunities in cyber security \(Spectrum News\)](#)

[\[OH\] Labor shortages, immigrant worker cap and weed are cutting into business, landscapers say \(Akron Beacon-Journal\)](#)

[\[OH\] Building skills for that first summer job \(Lima News\)](#)

[\[OH\] Bridging the gap between education and employment \(Coshocton Tribune\)](#)

[\[MI\] Employing Disadvantaged Groups Begins by Bringing Schools, Community Leaders and Businesses to the Table \(Detroit Regional Chamber\)](#)

[\[WI\] Wisconsin's tight workforce pushes more employers to prison labor \(WISN-TV ABC 12 Milwaukee\)](#)

[\[ND\] Trucker shortage has industry recruiters in overdrive \(Fargo Forum\)](#)

[\[SD\] Diversion program gives young adults a second chance \(KOTA-TV Rapid City\)](#)

[\[TX\] Hunt for summer jobs \(Brownsville Herald\)](#)

[\[TX\] Companies, needing Permian workers, find West Texas a hard sell \(Houston Chronicle\)](#)

[\[NV\] Las Vegas hotel workers vs. robots is a sign of looming labor challenges \(Miami Herald\)](#)

[\[CA\] Bernie Sanders: Disney needs 'moral defense' for having hungry workers while making billions \(The Hill\)](#)

[\[CA\] Bernie Sanders takes job-killing stands at Disney workers' rally, critics say \(Fox News\)](#)

[\[AK\] New DOL rules protect worker rights \(Cordova Times\)](#)

Child Labor

[What Employers Need to Know About Hiring Minors \(EHS Today\)](#)

[Who-When-What: State Law Basics On Summer Hiring \(Mondaq\)](#)

[Congressman Questions DOL Proposal to Loosen Restrictions on Teen Workers and Hazardous Jobs \(WorkersCompensation\)](#)

[\[NH\] Bill giving New Hampshire teens more work flexibility narrowly survives Democratic opposition \(KPVI-TV NBC 6 Pocatello\)](#)

[\[AL\] Labor department talks teenage employment \(Athens News-Courier\)](#)

Immigration

[U.S. Farms Can't Compete Without Foreign Workers \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[Employers Skate on Thin Ice With Immigration Compliance, Bias \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[U.S. may open door to more temporary immigrant workers, Trump aide says \(Reuters\)](#)

[How Trump's Visa Crackdown Worsens The Doctor Shortage \(Forbes\)](#)

[GOP Reps. Demand 100,000 More Work Permits for Foreign College Grads \(Breitbart\)](#)

[Steve Bannon: Visas that allow immigrants to take the jobs of Americans are not acceptable, 'and that's not racist' \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

[Agriculture Industry Faces Labor Shortage \(Food Logistics\)](#)

[Insufficient numbers of seasonal workers under H-2B visa program an issue for course operators \(GolfWeek\)](#)

[Illegal immigration damages economy \(Bloomington Pantagraph\)](#)

[\[OH\] Immigrant worker cap creates labor crisis for landscapers \(Columbus Dispatch\)](#)

[\[NE\] Labor shortage becoming crisis \(Thibodaux Daily Comet\)](#)

[\[TX\] Immigrant shortage? Wages surge 12% and D-FW builders still can't fill thousands of jobs \(Dallas Morning News\)](#)

[\[WA\] Immigration Opportunities: H-1B Alternatives for Employing Foreign Workers \(JD Supra\)](#)

Working Women

[The extraordinary courage of an ordinary woman: Lorena Weeks broke barriers for working women \(Timeline\)](#)

[Female Friendly: How to Attract, Hire and Retain Women as Employees \(National Oil & Lube News\)](#)

[\[PA\] Remembering the working 'Rosies' of World War II \(Philadelphia Inquirer\)](#)

[\[SC\] New law will help pregnant women on the job \(Charleston Post & Courier\)](#)

[\[WI\] Construction opens opportunities to women \(Youngstown Vindicator\)](#)

Wages & Compensation

[Fighting to make sure janitors get a fair wage \(Los Angeles Times\)](#)

[Retail Workers' Gains Drive Long-Awaited Pickup in U.S. Wages \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[We can't fix the pay gap without addressing the culture that punishes working mothers \(NBC News\)](#)

[Car payments, child care help? Dunkin' Donuts sweetens offers for workers to stay \(MSN\)](#)

[Who is getting paid more? 16 states where personal incomes are booming \(USA Today\)](#)

[A pay increase for entry-level jobs \(Marketplace\)](#)

[25% of employers hiring for summer plan to pay more than \\$15 an hour \(Recruiting Headlines\)](#)

[Walmart's too-good-to-be-true "\\$1 a day" college tuition plan, explained \(Vox\)](#)

[\[MA\] AG fines firms for ducking prevailing wage \(Bay State Banner\)](#)

[\[NY\] Restaurant owners and workers united amid Cuomo's tipping wage rule changes \(Crain's NY Business\)](#)

[\[MD\] Employers offering more paid internships \(Bend Bulletin\)](#)

[\[OH\] Large, small Ohio businesses give back to employees, charities after federal tax reform \(KPVI-TV NBC 6 Pocatello\)](#)

[\[MI\] Showdown looms for prevailing wage repeal plan \(Detroit News\)](#)

[\[MI\] Michigan certifies prevailing wage ballot petition \(Durham Herald-Sun\)](#)

[\[WI\] Dozens of Wisconsin companies give millions in raises, bonuses, because of federal tax reform \(KPVI-TV NBC 6 Pocatello\)](#)

[\[OR\] Portland Spurs Efforts to Rein In CEO-to-Worker Pay Gaps \(Bloomberg Law\)](#)

[\[CA\] Chick-fil-A Mocks The Lefty Myth About Wage Stagnation \(Town Hall\)](#)

[\[CA\] California prison guards get a huge pay hike \(Whittier Daily News\)](#)

Minimum Wage

[Costco to boost its minimum wage to \\$14 an hour \(MarketWatch\)](#)

[Costco raising minimum wage to \\$14 an hour \(The Hill\)](#)

[Costco ups wage to \\$14 amid growing global movements \(United Press International\)](#)

[\[NJ\] A dire warning about the \\$15 minimum wage in NJ \(New Jersey 101.5 Ewing\)](#)

[\[PA\] A boost in the minimum wage in this year's Pa. budget? \(Philadelphia Inquirer\)](#)

[\[NC\] Raising N.C. minimum wage likely limited to state government employees \(Winston-Salem Journal\)](#)

[\[NV\] Nevada justices define minimum health benefits for lower wage workers \(Nevada Appeal\)](#)

[\[CA\] Disney Proposes \\$15 Wage Hike by 2020 for Some Union Workers, But Not All \(Orange County Weekly\)](#)

[\[CA\] Disney embraces \\$15 minimum wage in negotiations with workers \(CNN\)](#)

Overtime

[DOL Announces Plans to Revisit Overtime Rule \(Durability & Design\)](#)

[\[MA\] Federal grand jury targets Massachusetts State Police alleged overtime abuse \(Boston Globe\)](#)

[\[MA\] Federal grand jury investigating Mass. State Police overtime abuse scandal \(MassLive\)](#)

[\[FL\] Miami Marlins Move Ex-Cheerleader's OT Suit To Fed. Court \(Law360\)](#)

Paid Leave

[Best baby shower gift: paid time off for new parents \(CNBC\)](#)

[Summer Hours to Family Leave, Work-Life Balance Gets Top-Down Approach at NJ Firms \(New Jersey Law Journal\)](#)

Worker's Compensation

[\[FL\] Florida Approves Second Workers' Comp Rate Decrease in Six Months \(South Florida Hospital News\)](#)

[\[CA\] Report: California Workers' Comp Direct Written Premiums Fell \(Insurance Journal\)](#)

Employee Misclassification

[\[MI\] Roofing and siding company to pay \\$310,000 in back overtime wages and damages \(Bay City Times\)](#)

Wage Violations

[\[TX\] Texans Cheerleaders Sue Over Unpaid Minimum Wages In 'Hostile' Work Setting \(Huffington Post\)](#)

[\[TX\] Former Cheerleaders Sue Houston Texans For Sex Discrimination \(Houston Public Media\)](#)

Worker Safety

[Century-old workplace safety organization changes name \(Business Insurance\)](#)

[\[NJ\] Man struck, killed by tractor at N.J. recycling plant \(Warren Reporter\)](#)

[\[KY\] Explosion at UPS freight center set off by propane torch, investigators report \(Princeton Times-Leader\)](#)

[\[FL\] OSHA investigating company where construction worker died on the job \(WZVN-TV ABC 7 Fort Myers\)](#)

[\[MI\] Students Complete OSHA Safety Course at "The Bridge" Alternative High School \(WHMI-FM 93.5 Howell\)](#)

[\[KS\] Workers injured with severe burns at Jeffrey Energy Center \(WIBW-TV 13 Topeka\)](#)

[\[MT\] OSHA fines Billings construction firm \\$8,000 for safety violations following fatal accident \(KTVQ-TV 2 Billings\)](#)

[\[WA\] State fines Camas \\$4,800 over firefighter safety violations \(Camas Post-Record\)](#)

Veteran

[More vets had jobs in May \(Military Times\)](#)

[Like a boss: Boots to Business helps transitioning veterans become entrepreneurs \(Peninsula Warrior\)](#)

[\[WI\] Program in Wisconsin raises vets' employment hopes \(Raleigh News & Observer\)](#)

[\[ID\] Organizations partner to connect veterans with jobs in south-central Idaho \(KPVI-TV NBC 6 Pocatello\)](#)

Union

[Unions Brace for Pivotal Court Decision Amid Politicking \(Roll Call\)](#)

[The Unions Strike Back: Janus, West Virginia, Oklahoma, and the Future of Organized Labor \(Brown Political Review\)](#)

[Nabisco Unilaterally Imposes Contract, Axing Pensions \(Labor Press\)](#)

[Striking AT&T workers vocal about alleged unfair labor practices by management \(WJRT-TV ABC 12 Flint\)](#)

[Why unions may be answer for fast-food workers \(Detroit Free Press\)](#)

[\[SC\] Labor Board Republicans May Decide Fate of Boeing Union \(Bloomberg BNA\)](#)

[\[SC\] Boeing Flight Line Workers In Charleston, S.C., Vote To Unionize \(WEKU-FM 88.9 Richmond Public Radio\)](#)

[\[SC\] Union breaches Boeing bastion in rare win \(Crain's Chicago Business\)](#)

[\[SC\] South Carolina Boeing workers vote to unionize in major win for labor rights \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

[\[SC\] Union presence could benefit all workers at Boeing's North Charleston campus, experts say \(Charleston Post & Courier\)](#)

[\[OH\] AT&T locals across five states walk out \(Zanesville Times Recorder\)](#)

[\[OH\] Local AT&T workers strike: What it means for customers \(Dayton Daily News\)](#)

[\[MI\] AT&T union workers on strike say company 'intimidated' them to approve contract \(Grand Valley Advance\)](#)

[\[MI\] Nurses at hospital in Michigan's Upper Peninsula OK contract \(Rock Hill Herald\)](#)

[\[MI\] Nurses at Marquette hospital OK new contract \(Crain's Detroit Business\)](#)

[\[MT\] Montana Unions Expecting Right-To-Work Blow From US Supreme Court \(Montana Public Radio\)](#)

[\[NV\] Las Vegas union: Tentative labor deal struck with Caesars \(Washington Post\)](#)

[\[NV\] Culinary Union says deal reached with Caesars, rest still in negotiations \(KSNV-TV NBC 3 Las Vegas\)](#)

[\[NV\] Union: tentative labor deal struck with Caesars \(Austin American-Statesman\)](#)

[\[NV\] Partial resolution reached in Vegas as strike talks continue \(CNBC\)](#)

[\[NV\] Las Vegas Culinary Union Settles with Caesars Entertainment, as MGM, Other Casinos Continue to Hammer Out Contract Terms \(Casino\)](#)

[\[NV\] Caesars reaches tentative agreement with Culinary Union \(Las Vegas Review Journal\)](#)

[\[NV\] Culinary Union, MGM Resorts reach tentative contract deal \(Las Vegas Review Journal\)](#)

[\[NV\] Culinary Union, MGM resume negotiations after nearly week's delay \(KSNV-TV NBC 3 Las Vegas\)](#)

[\[NV\] MGM Resorts reaches tentative deal with Las Vegas unions \(Las Vegas Review-Journal\)](#)

[\[NV\] Las Vegas casino workers reach tentative new deals with two largest casino chains amid strike threat \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

[\[NV\] Vegas MGM union workers reach deal with casino \(Houston Chronicle\)](#)

[\[NV\] Culinary: Tentative deal reached with MGM on 5-year contract \(Las Vegas Sun\)](#)

[\[NV\] Labor Unions and Robots: What Happens In Vegas Isn't Likely to Stay There \(Real Clear Markets\)](#)

[\[WA\] UW grad-student workers OK contract \(Seattle Times\)](#)

[\[CA\] California unions want to keep anti-labor activists from meeting new teachers and cops \(Sacramento Bee\)](#)

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[nTIDE May 2018 Jobs Report: Despite Fewer Looking for Work, Gains Continue for Americans with Disabilities \(Benzinga\)](#)

[Training students with disabilities to work at banks \(American Banker\)](#)

[Work Gains Continue For Americans With Disabilities \(Arizona Daily Independent\)](#)

[\[PA\] Helping young adults with disabilities take the next step \[editorial\] \(Lancaster Online\)](#)

[\[WA\] The road to helping people with disabilities \(Federal Way Mirror\)](#)

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[NLRB Rulemaking, OFCCP Jurisdiction Update, H-2B Cap Relief \(National Law Review\)](#)

[\[FL\] Labor board rules Disney didn't discriminate against Orlando union workers by withholding bonuses \(Orlando Weekly\)](#)

[\[CA\] 5 Workplace Compliance Issues for Northern California \(Society for Human Resource Management\)](#)

[\[CA\] Can an "Applicant" Be Discriminated Against When She Hasn't Applied for the Job? \(Vinson & Elkins\)](#)

[\[CA\] Lawsuit alleges UPS 'systematically' violates labor law \(Northern California Record\)](#)

[\[CA\] Editorial: California ruling challenges the new-economy definition of who 's an employee and who's a contractor \(St. Louis Post-Dispatch\)](#)

Family and Medical Leave

[Got FMLA Forms? Visit DOL.gov for Updated Expiration Date on Model Notices \(HR Daily Advisor\)](#)

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[SEC's regulation best interest falls short of making broker-dealers fiduciaries \(Employee Benefit News\)](#)

[5th Circuit mandate to vacate DOL fiduciary rule 'still pending' \(Investment News\)](#)

[Why Do Some People Choose to Work Past 70? \(Entrepreneur\)](#)

[Pension Reform That Public Workers Are Actually Happy About \(Governing\)](#)

[Why This Obama-Era Retirement Account Was Doomed From the Start \(Motley Fool\)](#)

[American Benefits Council offers help on DOL push to find missing participants \(Pensions & Investments\)](#)

[\[MA\] Public pension changes a giveaway to retirees \(Boston Herald\)](#)

[\[NJ\] They get \\$190,000 pensions! NJ retirement system costs hit \\$11B \(New Jersey 101.5 Ewing\)](#)

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[Trump Wanted a Trade War. Here's What One Looks Like \(Washington Post\)](#)

[Trump thinks he's saving trade. The rest of the world thinks he's blowing it up. \(Washington Post\)](#)

[Trump tariffs could throw NAFTA action into 2019 \(Politico\)](#)

[Other nations forced Trump's hand on steel tariffs \(The Hill\)](#)

[US steel and aluminum tariffs — the right move at the right time \(The Hill\)](#)

[Trump defiant on tariffs, touts job numbers \(The Hill\)](#)

[Trump applying 19th-century remedies to 21st-century problems \(The Hill\)](#)

[America's Allies Lose It Over Trump's Tariffs \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[White House points to booming economy to ease fears over trade dispute \(Washington Times\)](#)

[Trump's trade war is likely going to kill hundreds of thousands of jobs \(Business Insider\)](#)

[It's time for free-trading Republicans to stand up to Trump on tariffs — and for Democrats to stand with them \(Business Insider\)](#)

[Trump trade policies could lose 2.6 million U.S. jobs: Chamber of Commerce \(Metro\)](#)

[Investors discount tariff threats as U.S. economy surges under Trump \(Philadelphia Inquirer\)](#)

[Trump tell allies to fix trade after U.S. tariffs strike \(WTAQ-AM 1360 Green Bay\)](#)

[\[EU\] Moment of Truth Arrives for EU After U.S. Tariffs Strike \(New York Times\)](#)

[\[China\] US-China talk trade again as global tensions rise \(CNN\)](#)

[\[China\] Can US-China talks calm global trade war fears? \(CNN\)](#)

[\[China\] The U.S. Trade War with China Has Reached a Dangerous New Phase \(Time\)](#)

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[Nice recovery you've got there. It'd be a shame if something should happen to it. \(Washington Post\)](#)

[Countries investing more in social programs have less child poverty \(Economic Policy Institute\)](#)

['Experts' Told The American People President Trump Would Tank The Economy. That Didn't Happen \(Daily Caller\)](#)

[America Doesn't Measure the Difference Between Good Jobs and Bad Jobs \(Medium\)](#)

Editorial Note: This Brief represents summarized content - click on the hyperlink to access full-text articles for these news summaries.

DOL News and Opinion

[American Workers and Businesses Continue to See Gains Under the Trump Economy \(The White House\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:58 AM, The White House)

The United States economy added 223,000 jobs in May, one of many recent indicators showing that President Donald J. Trump's economic policies are paying dividends for American workers and businesses.

"U.S. hiring rose more than forecast in May, wages picked up and the unemployment rate matched the lowest in almost five decades, indicating the strong labor market will keep powering economic growth. Payrolls increased 223,000 following a revised 159,000 gain, Labor Department figures showed Friday. The median estimate of analysts surveyed by Bloomberg called for 190,000 jobs. Average hourly earnings increased 2.7 percent from a year earlier, more than projected, while the jobless rate fell to 3.8 percent from 3.9 percent to match April 2000 as the lowest since 1969."

[Unemployment Levels Lowest in 18 Years: President Overseeing a Renaissance in Manufacturing \(The White House\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:28 AM, Staff)

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) released its monthly Employment Situation Report showing that nonfarm payroll employment rose by 223,000 jobs in May, exceeding what forecasters expected. The U.S. economy continues its streak of consecutive positive monthly job numbers, with employment growth averaging 207,000 jobs per month in 2018—faster than the gains in both 2016 and 2017. The economy has added nearly 3 million jobs since President Donald J. Trump took office.

A separate Household Survey released by BLS offers more indications of a strong, growing U.S. economy. The unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage point (p.p.) over the month to 3.8 percent, a full 1.0 p.p. decrease since January 2017. This is the lowest unemployment rate in more than 18 years, and its benefits are being felt broadly across America. The unemployment rate for African Americans has reached another historic low, reaching 5.9 percent in May. The unemployment rate for Asians declined by 0.7 p.p. to 2.1 percent in May, the lowest rate since BLS began publishing this series in 2003.

DOL News Releases

[Statement by U.S. Secretary of Labor Acosta on the May Jobs Report \(Department of Labor\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, OSEC)

U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta issued the following statement regarding the May 2018 Employment Situation report:

"With the unemployment rate falling to 3.8% in May, the lowest in over 18 years, America's job market remains strong. The unemployment rates for African-Americans and Asian-Americans reached record lows. Adult women and adult men recorded the lowest unemployment rates since 2000, at 3.3% and 3.5% respectively. With 223,000 jobs created in May, America's job creators have now added over 3.4 million jobs since President Trump's election. That job increase includes more than a million jobs since the President signed his tax cuts package into law five months ago. Wages continue to rise, although we want to see even more growth. As the President works to ensure all Americans can access

good, family-sustaining jobs, we hope to see even more Americans join the labor force.”

[U.S. Department of Labor Investigation Results in Residential Home Care Company Paying \\$213,461 to 26 Employees \(Department of Labor\)](#)
(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, WHD)

Ecos Homecare Inc., owners of three Washington State residential home-care facilities, will pay \$213,461 to 26 employees after a U.S. Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division (WHD) investigation found overtime and recordkeeping violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).

WHD investigators found that Ecos Homecare Inc.'s facilities in Brier, Edmonds, and Shoreline failed to pay employees overtime when they worked more than 40 hours in a week. Instead, the employer paid workers flat rates per day, without regard to the number of hours they had actually worked. This practice also resulted in recordkeeping violations under the FLSA when the employer failed to record the actual number of hours employees worked. “We encourage all employers to review their pay practices and to contact the Wage and Hour Division for assistance. Doing so helps to ensure that all employees are paid the wages they have legally earned and that employers operate on a level playing field,” said Jeanette Aranda, Wage and Hour Division District Director in Seattle.

[U.S. Department of Labor Investigation Results in Federal Judge Ordering Michigan Roofing Contractor to Pay \\$310,000 in Overtime Back Wages, Liquidated Damages to 74 Employees \(Department of Labor\)](#)
(6/2/2018 12:00 PM, WHD)

Michigan roofing and siding contractor American Classic Construction Inc. will pay \$310,000 in back overtime wages and liquidated damages to 74 employees following an investigation by the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) in Grand Rapids that found the employer had violated overtime and recordkeeping requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). WHD investigators determined American Classic Construction Inc. and company owners – Nathan Thompson, Jacob Thompson and Leon Thompson – misclassified employees as independent contractors, and subsequently failed to pay them overtime at time-and-one-half their regular rates of pay when they worked beyond 40 hours in a workweek. The company also failed to maintain accurate records of the number of hours employees worked.

“Employers must understand their obligations under the law. Simply because a pay practice may appear to be common in a particular industry does not, in any way, mean that it complies with the law,” said Mary O'Rourke, Wage and Hour Division District Director in Grand Rapids. “We encourage employers to contact the Wage and Hour Division for assistance, and to make use of the many tools we provide to help them understand the law.” In addition to paying the back wages and damages due, under terms of the consent judgment entered in the U.S. District Court for Western District of Michigan, American Classic Construction Inc. and its owners agreed to an injunction against violating the FLSA's overtime and record-keeping provisions in the future.

[U.S. Department of Labor Conducting Wage Survey of Heavy Construction Projects to Ensure Virginia Workers Receive Proper Wages \(Department of Labor\)](#)
(6/2/2018 12:00 PM, WHD)

In an effort to help establish prevailing wage rates, the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) is conducting a survey of heavy construction projects in Virginia to collect data on wages paid to workers, as required under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts. The survey includes wages paid on all heavy construction projects that occurred in Virginia between March 1, 2017, and February 28, 2018. The survey is not limited to federally funded construction projects. “Davis-Bacon prevailing wage rates should reflect the actual wages and fringe benefits paid to construction workers where the work takes place,” said Mark Watson, Wage and Hour Division Regional Administrator. “The U.S. Department of Labor can only accomplish this with strong participation by employers in the Virginia construction industry.”

Without significant employer participation, wage rates may not reflect actual wages or create incomplete wage determinations, which lead to requests for further classifications. Wage data should be submitted for all projects meeting the criteria, regardless of funding sources. Notification letters and data collection forms, known as WD-10s, are being sent to interested parties and contractors known to WHD. Data must be postmarked by Nov. 30, 2018, to be included.

[U.S. 1st Circuit Court of Appeals Orders Maine Roofer to Correct Violations, Implement Safety Measures, and Address \\$389,685 in Fines \(Department of Labor\)](#)
(6/2/2018 12:00 PM, OSHA)

After multiple investigations by the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 1st Circuit ordered a Maine roofing contractor who has operated as Lessard Roofing & Siding Inc. and Lessard Brothers Construction Inc. to implement a comprehensive safety and training program after receiving repeated citations for exposing workers to falls. The owner, Stephen Lessard, was also ordered to produce substantial documentation that will demonstrate the extent to which he is able to pay \$389,685 in outstanding fines issued by OSHA.

OSHA cited Lessard Roofing & Siding Inc. and Lessard Brothers Construction Inc. for safety violations at 11 different work sites in Maine between

2000 and 2011. Stephen Lessard failed to correct the cited violations, implement appropriate safety measures, and pay accumulated fines and interest, despite being ordered to do so by the 1st Circuit in December 2011. The Court held the owner in civil contempt for defying the 2011 order. “The 1st Circuit’s order requires Lessard to ensure that all workers at his worksites, whether his employees, employees of his subcontractors, or actual or putative independent contractors, are operating safely, after a long history of his failing to provide adequate protective measures,” said Michael Felsen, Regional Solicitor of Labor in Boston. “When necessary, as in this case, the U.S. Department of Labor will pursue appropriate measures so that employers do not flout the law or gain an unfair advantage over law-abiding employers.”

“An employer that refuses to provide effective fall safety programs, training, and safety equipment needlessly exposes its employees to deadly or disabling injuries,” said Maryann Medeiros, OSHA’s Maine Area Director. The Court also ordered Lessard to ensure that employees and contractors use required safety equipment and fall protection; conduct worksite safety analyses and meetings; employ a “competent person” to ensure work is performed according to OSHA regulations; notify OSHA about each worksite, and allow inspectors to enter these sites; and provide financial documentation to enable the Department to determine the owner’s ability to pay the fines; submit certification of abatement of the previously cited hazards, and comply with OSHA standards.

In particular, the safety program must include recognition and acceptance of responsibility as an employer, general contractor or supervisory contractor to ensure that all their employees, independent contractors or subcontractors use all appropriate safety equipment and fall protection apparatus and follow appropriate procedures. If the owner fails to comply with the order, the court will consider additional sanctions up to and including incarceration. Senior Trial Attorney Maureen Canavan of the Department’s Regional Office of the Solicitor in Boston and Senior Attorney Lisa Wilson of the Department’s Occupational Safety and Health Division in Washington, D.C., litigated on behalf of OSHA.

[U.S. Department of Labor Cites New Jersey Renewable Energy Company Following Fatality at New Hampshire Power Plant \(Department of Labor\)](#)

(6/2/2018 12:00 PM, OSHA)

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) cited EWP Renewable Corp., doing business as Springfield Power LLC, for 25 safety violations after an employee suffered fatal injuries after he was pulled into a conveyor at the company’s Springfield plant in November 2017. The Mount Laurel, New Jersey, company faces \$125,460 in proposed penalties. OSHA inspectors found that the conveyor and other machinery lacked required safety guarding, and employees were not trained in lockout/tagout procedures to prevent equipment from unintentionally starting. OSHA also cited Springfield Power for fall hazards; electric shock and arc flash hazards; and lack of adequate emergency evacuation, fire prevention; and hazardous energy control programs.

“This employer’s failure to protect employees resulted in a tragedy that could have been prevented if training was provided and machinery was appropriately guarded,” said Rosemarie O. Cole, OSHA New Hampshire Area Director. The company has 15 business days from receipt of its citations and proposed penalties to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA’s area director, or contest the findings before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

Employment

[We Ran Out of Words to Describe How Good the Jobs Numbers Are \(New York Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:00 AM, Neil Irwin)

The real question in analyzing the May jobs numbers released Friday is whether there are enough synonyms for “good” in an online thesaurus to describe them adequately. So, for example, “splendid” and “excellent” fit the bill. Those are the kinds of terms that are appropriate when the United States economy adds 223,000 jobs in a month, despite being nine years into an expansion, and when the unemployment rate falls to 3.8 percent, a new 18-year low.

“Salubrious,” “salutary” and “healthy” work as words to describe the 0.3 percent rise in average hourly earnings, which are up 2.7 percent over the last year — a nice improvement but also not the kind of sharp increase that might lead the Federal Reserve to rethink its cautious path of interest rate increases. And a broader definition of unemployment, which includes people who have given up looking for a job out of frustration, fell to 7.6 percent. The jobless rate for African-Americans fell to 5.9 percent, the lowest on record, which we would count as “great.”

[The Jobs Recovery: A Longer View \(New York Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:48 PM, Ben Casselman)

Friday’s jobs report was a blockbuster: Job growth rebounded after a recent dip, and the unemployment rate fell to a nearly two-decade low. But it’s worth taking a step back and putting the latest numbers in some longer-run context. The United States lost nearly 8.7 million jobs in the Great Recession and its aftermath. It has gained 18.9 million since then — a powerful rebound that belied fears of another “jobless recovery.” (Net growth was needed just to keep pace with the working-age population, which has increased by about 10 million during the same period.)

Politicians, investors and, yes, journalists love to obsess over the month-to-month swings in the job numbers. But the true story of the recovery is one of remarkable consistency. American employers have added jobs for 92 straight months — far and away the longest streak on record — and apart from a few blips, the gains have been steady.

[Monthly U.S. Jobs Report \(Washington Post\)](#)

(6/2/2018 11:34 AM, Jeanna Smialek)

The first Friday of most months brings a new chapter in the U.S. government's running chronicle of economic health: The monthly jobs report. It's a list of numbers that calls forth so many widely varying responses that it can seem like a nerd's Rorschach test. Stock and bond markets gyrate in response to it. Central bankers parse it for policymaking guidance. In many months, different parts of the data seem to support contradictory points of view. President Donald Trump, who once questioned whether its numbers are accurate, has taken to tweeting positively about them. To understand the statistics it helps to know why and how each number is compiled. But even then it may be useful to keep more than a few grains of salt handy when you hear huge conclusions being drawn.

The number of people filing for unemployment benefits has declined to the lowest level in more than four decades. Private employers have added jobs for seven straight years. The share of people working part-time rather than full-time for economic reasons has fallen. Even the participation rate, the measure of those working or looking for jobs, has been stable after falling to lows not seen since the 1970s. Wages, long dormant, are finally heading up.

[U.S. economy continues its hiring spree and is projected to have added 200,000 jobs in May \(Washington Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:27 PM, Heather Long)

The United States has gained 95,000 manufacturing jobs and 110,000 construction jobs from the start of the year through May. Hiring in manufacturing is off to the best start this year since 2011. There was celebrating in Granite City, Ill., in May as about 500 jobs came back when the U.S. Steel plant there, known as Granite City Works, reopened. The company says it brought the workers back because Trump's steel tariffs helped bump up demand for domestic steel.

"We're finally seeing steady growth in blue collar work, but the problem is it's not accompanied by strong wage growth," said Heidi Shierholz, director of policy at the Economic Policy Institute and a former chief economist at the Labor Department. While some steel and aluminum jobs have returned after the tariffs went into effect, there are concerns that jobs may be lost in industries like autos that have to pay higher prices for the metals.

[The May Jobs Report in 8 Charts \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:44 AM, Josh Zumbrun)

The U.S. unemployment rate ticked down to 3.8%, the lowest reading since April 2000, and employers added 223,000 jobs in May.

Broader measures of unemployment and underemployment, including discouraged workers who have stopped job hunting, as well as part-time employees who would like full-time work, also moved down the past month. All four alternative measures of joblessness are at their lowest level since the recession. Wage growth picked up in May for both weekly and hourly wages. Both measures are near, but not quite at, their fastest pace in recent years. Over the past year, the number of jobs increased by 1.6%, a rising pace from a few months ago but slower than in 2015.

[Editorial note: See charts at source link]

[Strong jobs report doesn't guarantee four Fed interest rate hikes this year \(MarketWatch\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:43 PM, Greg Robb)

The May employment report was seen as strong across the board and certainly prompts the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates in 12 days, but it doesn't settle the larger debate over whether there will be three or four total moves this year. "It certainly gives them the green light to go in June," said Scott Anderson, chief economist at Bank of the West in San Francisco. "And it raises the odds they go four rather than three this year,"

Traders in the fed futures market raised the odds of four rate hikes to 38% after the jobs report. In the wake of the market turmoil over the political situation in Italy, those odds had fallen below 20%.

[Solid jobs report shows an economy marching towards full employment \(Economic Policy Institute\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:00 AM, Elise Gould)

This morning's employment situation report showed the economy added 223,000 jobs in May—above consensus predictions and enough to continue the economy's steady march towards full employment. The report also shows that the unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent. In April, the unemployment rate dropped below 4.0 percent for the first time since 2000, but for the "wrong" reasons—because people left the labor force, not because they found work. Meanwhile, in May, more people found jobs at the same time that the labor force participation rate ticked down slightly. About two-thirds of the drop in the unemployment rate in May was because workers found jobs, while about one-third of the drop was from people leaving the labor force.

Wages, meanwhile, grew 2.7 percent over the past year. Year-over-year nominal wage growth has been remarkably flat since the end of 2015—hovering around 2.6 percent and never getting above 2.8 percent. In a full employment economy, we would see wages rising much faster—closer to 3.5 percent and above—to claw back the losses to labor share in the aftermath of the Great Recession. While economists and commentators have myriad explanations for why wage growth is so sluggish, it seems obvious that, with many workers still unemployed or sitting on the sidelines, employers just don't have any incentive to raise wages.

[The Labor Department reported 223,000 new jobs in May \(Politico\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:07 AM, Andrew Hanna)

U.S. job growth surged in May, in a possible signal that last year's tax cuts are finally creating new jobs. The Labor Department reported 223,000 new jobs in May, and unemployment dropped to 3.8 percent, its lowest in 18 years. But wage growth remained a sluggish 2.7 percent over the previous year, up from 2.6 percent in April, indicating that the tight labor market remains insufficient to deliver a significant pay boost for most workers.

President Donald Trump appeared to preview the unexpectedly high job growth in a morning tweet posted an hour before the number was made public by the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," he tweeted at 7:21 a.m.

[Big mystery of our economy is whether it can keep up on jobs \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:00 PM, Joseph Minarik)

The simmering question is when the straight line of the unemployment rate will bend this time around. It didn't bend this month. The unemployment rate declined to 3.8 percent. It has been flat or declining in 84 of the 103 months since it topped out at 10 percent in October 2009. Defying history, it has shown no signs of flattening out even as it has plumbed historic lows, falling 1 percent since January 2017. When, and how, will this straight line recognize that it cannot continue downward forever? Two indicators tell the same story. The best outcome on several scores would be if the many adult Americans who became discouraged and idle in the financial crisis would jump up from the sidelines of the labor market and get back on the playing field, looking for jobs. The labor force participation rate dropped from about 66 percent at the start of the financial crisis to about 63 percent by 2013.

More Americans rejoining the job market could allow the economy to grow even if the unemployment rate remained constant. No such luck. The labor force participation rate remains stuck below 63 percent. Part of the story must be the aging of the U.S. population. The growing numbers of seniors are not likely to seek to go back to work.

[Breakneck Pace of U.S. Job Gains Will Get Tougher to Sustain \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:31 AM, Sho Chandra)

Employers added 223,000 jobs last month, more than forecast and bringing payroll gains for the year to 1.04 million, Labor Department figures showed Friday. The jobless rate fell to 3.8 percent to match April 2000 as the lowest since 1969, moving further below the 4.5 percent Federal Reserve officials see as sustainable in the long run. Average hourly earnings increased a larger-than-projected 2.7 percent from a year earlier.

The robust pace of hiring comes amid what employers frequently cite as a shortage of qualified, available workers to fill positions as demand accelerates, with a gauge of U.S. factory backlogs at a 14-year high. Some analysts said that while the report signals job growth may eventually ease, it also bodes well for worker pay -- the weak spot so far in an otherwise bright employment picture -- and poses a potential source of upward pressure on labor costs and inflation.

[This chart shows the types of jobs that are thriving under Trump \(CNBC\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:49 PM, Thomas Franck)

One of President Donald Trump's top priorities has been creating new jobs in the United States. CNBC analyzed the cumulative job growth in each industry since the president's November 2016 election to help gauge which industries are growing at the fastest pace. At the top of the list, jobs in the mining and logging industry are up 13.5 percent since the election, well above the gains in construction and transportation, which made second and third place, respectively. To be sure, job growth in oil and gas extraction — which are included in the category — typically provide a boost to the headline number.

In the No. 2 spot, the construction industry is one of the hottest in the American economy in terms of employment and has been explicitly cited by the Bureau of Labor Statistics as an area of better-than-average growth. While explanations for the growth range from increased capital investments from the private sector to a swell in oil rig building, the number of workers in the construction industry has grown nearly 6 percent since Trump's victory. Employment in construction and extraction occupations is expected to grow 11 percent from 2016 to 2026, according to the Labor Department.

[Payroll surge: Employers added 223,000 jobs in May \(USA Today\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:53 PM, Paul Davidson)

U.S. hiring rebounded in May after two months of lackluster gains as employers added 223,000 jobs and the labor market continued to defy widespread worker shortages and global economic troubles. The unemployment rate fell from 3.9% to 3.8%, an 18-year low, the Labor Department said Friday. Economists surveyed by Bloomberg expected 190,000 job gains.

President Trump suggested the report would be strong early Friday. At 7:21 a.m., he tweeted, "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning." Normally a president doesn't foreshadow the totals so as not to affect financial markets.

[5 Important Takeaways From The Latest Jobs Report \(Houston Public Media\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:55 PM, Staff)

The U.S. economy added more jobs than expected in May and the unemployment rate dropped slightly to 3.8 percent, remaining at its lowest level in decades. The economy added 223,000 new jobs, according to data released Friday by the Labor Department, a significantly higher number than the 190,000 new jobs analysts had predicted in a recent Bloomberg survey. Here are the top takeaways from the May jobs report:

1. Growth across sectors: Employers added jobs in multiple key sectors, including health care, construction, transportation and manufacturing.
2. Unemployment rate ticks down: The unemployment was 3.8 percent, down from 3.9 percent in May.
3. 'Mismatched on the ground' The unchanged labor participation rate is a reminder that many Americans who want work remain discouraged and are not searching for jobs, Cathy Barrera, the chief economist at the online job marketplace ZipRecruiter, wrote in an email.
4. Wage growth poised for takeoff? Average hourly earnings increased by 8 cents.
5. Interest rates hikes coming: The Federal Reserve will likely raise the benchmark interest rate at its meeting later this month, and is expected to raise rates at least once more later this year.

[Amid positive jobs numbers, Nancy Pelosi finds the dark lining in the silver cloud \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:20 PM, Becket Adams)

Americans woke up Friday to more good economic news. The U.S. economy added 223,000 jobs in May, pushing the unemployment rate to an 18-year low of just 3.8 percent. The number of businesses that reported gains surpassed initial estimates, and construction spending was up. Wages were up modestly (2.7 percent), and black employment was at its lowest level in history. In other words, pretty good. So good, in fact, that CNBC published an article Friday titled, "The US economy suddenly looks like it's unstoppable."

Enter House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., who tried her best Friday to find the downside to the Labor Department's figures. "May's jobs report shows that strong employment numbers mean little to the families hit with soaring new costs under the Republicans' watch," the California congresswoman said in a statement. "Republicans' cruel, cynical health care sabotage campaign is already spiking families' premiums by double digits and pushing millions off their coverage. Big Pharma continues to hoard the benefits of the GOP tax scam, using their handouts to further enrich executives and shareholders instead of lowering prescription drug costs for seniors and sick kids. At the same time, the President's reckless policies are exploding gas prices, wiping out the few meager gains that some families should have received from the GOP tax scam, as wages remain stagnant."

[Pelosi Slams Trump on Slow Wage Growth \(Breitbart\)](#)

(6/2/2018 2:58 PM, Neil Munro)

Democratic leader Rep. Nancy Pelosi is hitting President Donald Trump in a soft spot — the slow growth of Americans' wages in a go-go economy. "The President's reckless policies are ... wiping out the few meager gains that some families should have received from the GOP tax scam, as wages remain stagnant," Pelosi said in a statement after May's good-news jobs numbers were posted on Friday.

"Wall Street and wealthy corporations are refusing to raise workers' wages," even while they are "on track to spend \$1 trillion on dividends and stock buybacks while simultaneously announcing tens of thousands of layoffs and shipping jobs overseas," she said. Wages are rising, but at a remarkably slow rate given the low unemployment number. Normal unemployment fell to a record-breaking 3.8 percent in May, yet wages rose by a mere 0.3 percent. Trump has mentioned rising wages on a few occasions, but more often has showcased the rising number of jobs, regardless of wages. Many economists argue wages are rising slowly because millions of Americans are unemployed - yet are not recorded in the federal unemployment rolls.

[Nancy Pelosi Doesn't Think Lower Unemployment, More Jobs Is A Good Thing \(Daily Caller\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:48 PM, Robert Donachie)

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi doesn't think Friday's stellar jobs report is a good thing, because it happened under Republican control of the White House and Congress. "May's jobs report shows that strong employment numbers mean little to the families hit with soaring new costs under the Republicans' watch," Pelosi wrote in a statement to supporters Friday. Friday's jobs report showed the U.S. gained 223,000 new non-farm employment jobs in April and saw a drop in key unemployment figures.

Pelosi wants voters to focus on the Republicans' campaign to repeal Obamacare and tax cuts. She doesn't want voters to think the tax bill was a net-positive, which is in-line with her "crumbs" comment following the bill's passage. "Republicans' cruel, cynical health care sabotage campaign is already spiking families' premiums by double digits and pushing millions off their coverage, according to the nonpartisan CBO. Big Pharma continues to hoard the benefits of the GOP tax scam, using their handouts to further enrich executives and shareholders instead of lowering prescription drug costs for seniors and sick kids," Pelosi wrote.

[Pelosi trashes excellent jobs report, good economy \(Hot Air\)](#)

(6/3/2018 2:01 PM, Karen Townsend)

May's jobs report released Friday was really good, according to most people who keep track of the monthly reports. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, however, is not happy and she wants her supporters to know. Friday she wrote a statement to supporters and expects them to not believe their own eyes. "May's jobs report shows that strong employment numbers mean little to the families hit with soaring new costs under the Republicans' watch," Pelosi wrote in a statement to supporters Friday. Democrats know that the American people deserve A Better Deal, with Better Jobs, Better Wages and a Better Future. We are committed to creating millions of new good-paying jobs and raising wages, lowering the soaring cost of living for families and giving every American the tools to succeed in the 21st Century economy," Pelosi wrote. "Democrats will never stop fighting for the hard-working middle class families who are the backbone of our nation."

Her latest slogan sounds just like what is already being accomplished by the Trump administration. Thanks to the Republican tax cuts, major tax code reform, and regulations being brought in check, the economy is on fire. Almost immediately upon President Trump signing the tax code reform bill that cut the corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%, companies large and small began announcing employee bonuses, wage increases, and increased hiring, too.

[Pelosi Slams Jobs Report: 'Strong Employment Numbers Mean Little' \(Washington Free Beacon\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:40 AM, David Rutz)

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D., Calif.) came down hard on a positive U.S. jobs report on Friday, saying the good employment numbers didn't matter to "families hit with soaring new costs" under Republican leadership. The economy added 223,000 jobs in May, the unemployment rate dropped to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent, and average hourly earnings rose 0.3 percent. It was that last number, though, that drew Pelosi's ire. "May's jobs report shows that strong employment numbers mean little to the families hit with soaring new costs under the Republicans' watch," Pelosi said in a statement.

"Republicans' cruel, cynical health care sabotage campaign is already spiking families' premiums by double digits and pushing millions off their coverage, according to the nonpartisan CBO," she went on. "Big Pharma continues to hoard the benefits of the GOP tax scam, using their handouts to further enrich executives and shareholders instead of lowering prescription drug costs for seniors and sick kids. At the same time, the President's reckless policies are exploding gas prices, wiping out the few meager gains that some families should have received from the GOP tax scam, as wages remain stagnant."

[US unemployment rate ties lowest level in nearly 50 years \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:32 AM, Pete Kasperowicz)

The U.S. economy added 223,000 jobs in May, smashing expectations and driving down the unemployment rate to 3.8 percent — matching its lowest level in nearly 50 years. Going into the Friday report from the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics, economists had expected a 190,000 increase in jobs.

The 3.8 percent national unemployment rate, which fell from 3.9 percent, ties the rate in April 2000, at the peak of the tech boom. Before that, one has to go back to Dec. 1969 to find a month when the unemployment rate was lower.

[Boom — jobs aplenty as economy steams ahead \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:00 AM, Staff)

Even the New York Times, no fan of the president, decided that "splendid" and "excellent" were appropriate adjectives to describe Friday's jobs report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These showed the nationwide unemployment rate falling to 3.8 percent. The unemployment rate among black people fell to 5.9 percent, an all-time low, which makes one wonder how many African-American voters might think twice about voting against the incumbent Republicans in the midterm elections. The Hispanic or Latino unemployment rate ticked up a tenth of a point, but remains below 5 percent.

The good news is not confined to the fact that there is an abundance of jobs. For the first time since the National Federation of Independent Business began surveying about wages in 1986, 35 percent of small business owners increased compensation last month. While some Democrats still claim the growth is due to the economic genius of former President Barack Obama, much of the credit belongs to Trump and the Republican Congress.

[Blowout jobs report boosts odds of a June rate hike \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:02 PM, James Langford)

Employers added 223,000 jobs in May, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, faster growth than the previous month and higher than economists' average forecast of 190,000 jobs. The jobless rate, meanwhile, dipped to 3.8 percent, the lowest since the last year of Bill Clinton's presidency. The numbers are "consistent with the Fed's optimistic view on the U.S. economy" and support a 25 basis-point increase this month, said Michael Gapen, an economist with British lender Barclays. Members of the Fed's monetary policy committee, which sets rates, have signaled three to four increases this year – which would move interest as high as 2.25 to 2.5 percent.

"Borrowers and investors, among others, should prepare for the possibility of a total of at least three," said Mark Hamrick, senior economic analyst for Bankrate. "That means paying down debt and being aware that the stock market will likely remain volatile." Indeed, U.S. stocks reached record highs earlier this year before retreating amid concern about rising interest rates and trade conflicts ignited by President Trump's protectionist policies.

[May jobs report: Job growth surges, bringing unemployment to an 18-year low \(American Enterprise Institute\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:00 AM, Staff)

The US economy added 223,000 jobs in May, up from 159,000 in April. The unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent, and average private-sector hourly earnings increased 2.7 percent over the previous year. AEI experts are available to comment on the current state of the US labor market.

[Jobs are booming, and Democrats are puzzled \(American Enterprise Institute\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:39 PM, James Pethokoukis)

Is it overstating things to say the US economy is, well, booming? After all, the May jobs report was pretty impressive, including a) 223,000 new jobs, b) an uptick in average hourly earnings growth to 2.7% from a year ago, c) a downtick in the jobless rate to 3.8% — at 3.755% unrounded, the lowest since 1969 — and d) a two-tenths decline in the U6 underemployment to 7.6% — its lowest level since 2001.

JPMorgan economist Michael Feroli titled his Jobs Friday report this way (while alluding to President Trump's controversial pre-report tweet): "The secret's out: job growth is booming." And some economists think a jobless rate with a 2-handle is hardly out of the question. "... workers still are not seeing the broad-based gains we expect from an economy that has been growing the top line for such a long time. It's positive news that more Americans continue to find work; it's troubling that we're seeing fairly meager gains for those already employed. It's tempting to read this month as another data point in an economy that continues to work primarily for those at the top."

[May Jobs Report: Hiring Spree Continues, Wages Pick Up Steam Too \(Connect Media\)](#)

(6/4/2018 3:10 AM, Staff)

U.S. companies continued on a hiring spree that added 223,000 jobs to the U.S. economy in May, according to the Labor Department's monthly jobs report. Those strong numbers unexpectedly pushed the unemployment rate even lower, to 3.8%, the lowest level it has been since 2000. The low unemployment rate indicates there's a growing shortage of available labor, and employers are being forced to explore new groups of workers, such as those without high school diplomas. The drop also shows just how tough it has been to pull Americans back into the workforce and retain them, as reflected in a labor-force participation rate that slipped to 62.7% from 62.8% in April.

Employment continued to trend up in several industries, including retail trade, healthcare and construction. Wages are picking up steam too, though aren't growing by much. May's hourly earnings growth of 2.7% was better than economists forecasted.

[Stellar Jobs Report Caps Month of Blockbuster Growth \(Epoch Times\)](#)

(6/3/2018 8:00 PM, Ivan Pentchoukov)

The United States economy added 223,000 new jobs in May, according to a Bureau of Labor statistics report punctuated with several record-shattering statistics, the latest in a month filled with indicators of blockbuster economic growth. The number of job openings reached an all-time high, as did the number of small companies raising wages. Consumer confidence reached an 18-year high, while consumer spending grew to the best level in five months. Industrial production recorded its third straight month of gains, while more than three out of four manufacturers reported hiring more workers and investing more in plants and equipment. With these and a number of other indicators, it's no surprise that the Federal Reserve revised its GDP growth estimate to 4.8 percent, up from 3.9 percent at the beginning of the month. The growth rate over the past four quarters averaged 2.9 percent, better than any of the eight years of the previous administration. The United States is now the most competitive economy in the world, according to annual rankings by the World Competitiveness Center.

Unemployment figures for May again shattered multiple records as hundreds of thousands of Americans found jobs in the growing market. Unemployment dropped to 3.8 percent, the lowest level since 1969, while the economy added 223,000 jobs, beating expectations by more than 17 percent, according to Goldman Sachs. Black unemployment fell to 5.9 percent from an already record-low 6.6 percent in April. Female unemployment inched down to 3.6 percent, the lowest since 1953. Asian unemployment fell to 2.1 percent, also a record, though the Bureau of Labor Statistics has only been tracking these figures since 2003. Hispanic unemployment inched up to 4.9 percent, still hovering around historic lows.

[Three Key Numbers From the May Jobs Report \(Pacific Standard\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:01 PM, Dwyer Gunn)

On Friday, the United States Department of Labor released its May jobs report. The report was overwhelmingly positive—Neil Irwin of the New York Times' Upshot blog wrote that "[t]he real question in analyzing the May jobs numbers released Friday is whether there are enough synonyms for 'good' in an online thesaurus to describe them adequately." Here are the three key numbers from the report:

223,000: The number of jobs the U.S. economy added in the month of May. Most major industries added jobs, with retail, construction, and health care posting particularly strong gains.

3.8 percent: The U.S. unemployment rate in May, the lowest rate recorded since 2000. Notably, many of the groups that have been particularly slow to recover from the Great Recession also saw gains. Both African Americans and people with less than a high school diploma also saw notable improvements in unemployment rates. (The African-American unemployment rate is now at a historic low of 5.9 percent.)

2.7 percent: Between May of 2017 and May of 2018, average hourly wages increased by only 2.7 percent. This is one of the few disappointing numbers in the report, and echoes last month's report. The lack of meaningful wage growth displayed so far in this recovery continues to puzzle economists.

[May shows solid growth, with 223,000 jobs created \(Palm Beach Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:00 AM, Jamie Dupree)

The U.S. economy showed more signs of strength in May, with 223,000 jobs added to the nation's payrolls, as the unemployment rate dropped to its lowest point since April 2000, ticking down to 3.8 percent, the lowest point for the nation's jobless rate since April of 2000.

After revisions to the jobs numbers in March and April, monthly job gains are averaging just over 207,000 in 2018, up sharply from the 171,000 per month in President Donald Trump's first year in office. "The economic BOOM continues," tweeted House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, as Republicans argue their package of tax cuts, reduction in regulations, and other pro-business moves have set the stage for a more energetic economy.

[U.S. Economy Adds 223,000 Jobs In May, Unemployment Rate Dips To 3.8 Percent \(WBOR-FM 90.9 Boston Public Radio\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:23 PM, Staff)

The Labor Department has reported that the U.S. unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent in May, the lowest in 18 years. The economy also added 223,000 jobs, higher than economists expected.

[Editorial note: Listen to audio at source link]

[Trump Breaks Protocol With Jobs Report Tweet Before Data Is Released \(New York Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:00 PM, Jim Tankersley)

President Trump broke years of presidential protocol on Friday morning by posting a tweet that signaled a strong jobs report was on its way from the Labor Department an hour before the report was released. The Bureau of Labor Statistics routinely releases its monthly employment report on the first Friday of the month. The night before, under longstanding tradition, the president and several senior administration officials — including the Treasury secretary and the chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers — are briefed on the numbers, which they are not supposed to disclose until the report is made public at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time the next morning. But Mr. Trump, who was briefed on the numbers Thursday evening, appeared to foreshadow the strength of the latest report on Friday morning on Twitter:

Social media users saw the message as evidence that Mr. Trump had seen the numbers, and that they were good. Sure enough, the report showed that the economy added 223,000 jobs in May, above forecasters' expectations. The unemployment rate dipped to 3.8 percent — the lowest level in 18 years. Larry Kudlow, the chairman of the National Economic Council, said that he had shared the jobs report on Thursday evening with the president but expressed no concern with Mr. Trump's tweet on Friday morning.

[Trump's jobs-report tweet broke a protocol designed to prevent giving early hints to investors \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:47 AM, Jim Puzzanghera)

For decades, federal officials have taken great care to prevent providing any early indications to investors about monthly jobs report data that can move markets. On Friday, President Trump broke that longstanding protocol using his favorite communication tool — Twitter — triggering a jump in yields on the 10-year Treasury bond and an outcry from former White House officials.

Trump, who learned about the strong May jobs report Thursday night, tweeted Friday morning that he was “looking forward to seeing the employment numbers” due to be released by the Labor Department about an hour later. A top White House official emphasized that Trump didn’t reveal any of the numbers. But it gave investors who were paying attention to Twitter on Friday morning — or who got alerts about Trump’s tweet — a signal that the report was going to be good and a head start on making decisions about stocks and other investments that would be affected by strong numbers.

[Trump signals jobs data before report’s release, breaking with protocol \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:29 AM, Sylvan Lane)

President Trump on Friday touted the monthly federal jobs report roughly an hour before the data was released, a breach with decades of protocol that could lead to accusations he was sending a signal to traders. Trump in a 7:21 a.m. tweet wrote that he was “looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning.” The Bureau of Labor Statistics released the highly anticipated data on schedule at 8:30 a.m. It was a strong report, showing the economy added 223,000 jobs and that the unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent.

A federal rule states that federal workers should not comment on the jobs report until an hour after it has been released, though administration officials have in the past made comments before that hour was up. White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders told CNBC that Trump’s tweet was appropriate because he did not “put the numbers out,” but confirmed the president was briefed on the report Thursday night. Top economic adviser Larry Kudlow also defended the tweet, telling reporters that “no one revealed the numbers to the public” so it didn’t violate federal guidelines.

[Big Job Gains Raise Questions About Trump’s Pre-Release Tweet \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:42 AM, Christopher Condon & Shannon Pettypiece)

President Donald Trump was briefed Thursday night about the monthly employment report issued Friday morning in Washington and signaled in advance that the numbers were going to be favorable, breaking with past practice of presidents who avoided disclosure of market-sensitive information. “Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning,” the president tweeted at 7:21 a.m. in Washington.

The Department of Labor reported at 8:30 a.m. that unemployment in the U.S. had dropped to its lowest level since 1969 as the economy added a higher-than-expected 223,000 jobs in May. Larry Kudlow, director of Trump’s National Economic Council, said in a brief interview that Trump had the numbers last night and his tweet wasn’t meant to signal a positive report. “I don’t think he gave anything away” in the tweet, Kudlow said in a separate interview with CNBC

[What Wall Street Is Saying About Trump’s Early Jobs Tweet \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:52 PM, Felice Maranz, Jeanna Smialek & Sarah Ponczek)

Friday might have been all about the U.S. jobs report. Then Donald Trump tweeted. The president’s 7:21 a.m. tweet suggested the 8:30 a.m. employment data would bring good news, grabbing attention across Wall Street. While markets didn’t go nuts on Trump’s tip -- though banks and Treasury yields rose -- investors, traders and economists are still assessing the broader implications for future releases. The next one’s little more than a month away. Here’s what the Street’s saying about how the tweet upended the start of the day:

“My handy-dandy Trump tweet tracker popped up, and I thought, ‘Whoa.’” Next, Goldberg went to the traders on the floor, to “just kind of warn them about this.”

“We always watch Trump tweets, this just gives them a little more credence, a little more heft,” he said. Goldberg notes there’s always talk about whisper numbers, but “this is the only whisper that matters. Hopefully he doesn’t do this every month.”

“This president is using social media unlike any other and I think the marketplace is somewhat discriminating in terms of what it responds to and what it doesn’t.”

[Economy added 223,000 jobs in May, but Trump’s premarket tweet is the focus \(NBC News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:32 PM, Lucy Bayly)

The U.S. economy added a robust 223,000 jobs in the month of May, according to figures released Friday by the Department of Labor. The unemployment rate fell slightly to 3.8 percent. The numbers were eclipsed earlier Friday morning by a presidential tweet that breaks a federal rule.

Wage growth remained a sticking point in the mainly positive jobs report, with hourly pay up by only 2.7 percent year on year. But with inflation at just over 2 percent, workers are barely feeling any net increase. The current wage growth rate is almost half what would be expected with an

unemployment rate this low.

The Federal Reserve, which next meets on June 12-13, has been confounded by the lack of wage growth and will be closely watching the May number in order to weigh options for inflationary measures. The Fed noted this week that "wage increases remained modest in most Districts," but it still likely to approve an increase in its benchmark interest rate at the June meeting of its Federal Open Market Committee.

[Trump hints at strong jobs report ahead of its release \(CNN\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:18 AM, Chris Isiodore)

About an hour before the Labor Department released its closely watched jobs number Friday, President Donald Trump was already talking up the results. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," he tweeted at 7:21 a.m. ET. The May jobs report was in fact a good one for a president who likes to brag about the strong jobs market. Unemployment fell to 3.8%, which matched the lowest rate in nearly a half century. Employers added 223,000 jobs in the month, more than more economists were forecasting. But investors weren't waiting for the official report. Stock futures, bond yields and the value of the dollar all jumped higher immediately after his tweet.

The Labor Department works hard to keep the market-moving numbers a secret ahead of their 8:30 a.m. ET release. Reporters who get access to the data ahead of time are in a "lock-up," without the ability to communicate with the outside world. And there is a federal rule dictating that federal employees who know the jobs numbers ahead of time must keep them secret. "This certainly was a no-no," tweeted Ari Fleisher, who was press secretary for President George W. Bush. "The advance info is sacrosanct - not to be shared."

[Trump tweet on jobs report may have breached a 1985 federal directive \(USA Today\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:26 PM, Kevin McCoy & Adam Shell)

President Trump's enthusiastic tweet before the release of Friday's jobs report may have breached a rule designed to safeguard and depoliticize market-moving financial data issued by the federal government. At 7:21 a.m. EDT, Trump clearly seemed to signal the report's general tenor as he tweeted he was "looking forward to seeing" the report that was subsequently released at the normal 8:30 a.m. time. Trump had good reason to be happy.

However, under a longstanding Office of Management and Budget procedure, U.S. presidents are briefed about the report by the chairman of the White House Council of Economic Advisers before the official release time. Larry Kudlow, appointed in March as director of the National Economic Council, told CNBC he called Trump aboard Air Force One Thursday evening and relayed the job numbers. "I don't think he gave anything away, incidentally. And I think this is all according to routine, law and custom," Kudlow told CNBC.

[President Trump's early jobs tweet leads to criticism from Obama officials \(USA Today\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:59 PM, Jessica Estepa)

President Trump seemed excited about the release of Friday morning's job report. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," he tweeted. The problem: The president's tweet came before the release of the report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which breaks protocol about not commenting on the report before its public release. Trump's tweet hinted a positive report, providing a signal to markets. Friday morning's report was indeed positive: U.S. employers added 223,000 jobs in May, and the unemployment rate slipped to an 18-year-low of 3.8%.

Kudlow told reporters that the president did not reveal the details of the report and said it was no big deal that he tweeted a preview of its release. "Why not?" Kudlow said. "He didn't give any numbers." Still, Jason Furman, a Harvard Kennedy School professor who served on former president Barack Obama's Council of Economic Advisers as its chairman, called Trump out. "You should have gotten the employment numbers from the Council of Economic Advisers yesterday," Furman wrote. "And if this tweet is conveying inside information about a particularly good jobs number you should never get them in advance from the Council of Economic Advisers again."

[Here's Why Trump's Tweet About the Jobs Report Was So Risky \(Time\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:05 PM, Tessa Berenson)

President Donald Trump's Friday morning tweet may have seemed harmless: "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," he wrote just before 7:30. But that simple message upended a carefully calibrated system designed to insulate financial markets from politics. The President gets to see monthly jobs reports ahead of time, and White House officials confirmed that Trump saw the numbers last night. The report is strong: the U.S. economy added 223,000 jobs and lowered the unemployment rate to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent.

But a 1985 directive from the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs says that when monthly jobs reports are released, "employees of the Executive Branch shall not comment publicly on the data until at least one hour after the official release time." That's because it's critically important that these statistics, which comes from the nonpartisan federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, are apolitical. The embargo on Executive Branch employees talking about the numbers is "to create in the minds of the public the clearest possible separation between when the nerds speak and when the politicians spin," says Justin Wolfers, professor of economics and public policy at University of Michigan.

[Did Trump Jobs Report Tweet Break the Law? President Slammed for Tipping Off Positive Numbers \(Newsweek\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:22 AM, Greg Price)

President Donald Trump appeared to break a federal rule Friday morning when he tweeted about the latest jobs reported from the Bureau of Labor Statistics more than an hour before the report's release. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," Trump tweeted. The latest report showed the U.S. economy added 223,000 jobs in May and reflected a 0.1 percent decline in the unemployment rate to 3.8, an 18-year low, further bolstering Trump's argument that his administration's work has greatly helped the economy.

But even hinting or commenting on the report less than an hour after its official release violates the Office of Management and Budget's Statistical Policy Directive No. 3. The rule was put in place in 1985 and reads: "Except for members of the staff of the agency issuing the principal economic indicator who have been designated by the agency head to provide technical explanations of the data, employees of the Executive Branch shall not comment publicly on the data until at least one hour after the official release time." Trump's apparent indication that a strong jobs report was on the way could have had a profound effect on the domestic and global markets. Former Obama and Bush administration officials noted Trump had appeared to break the federal protocol.

[The Outrage Behind Trump's Market-Shaking Tweet \(Atlantic Monthly\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:28 AM, Russell Berman)

On its face, the tweet was one of the most innocuous President Trump has ever sent—a plain-vanilla reminder early Friday morning that the monthly federal jobs report was coming out in an hour's time. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," the president wrote at 7:21 a.m. ET.

At precisely 8:30 a.m. ET on the first Friday of every month, the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics releases a summary of employment in the United States. The data is culled from two separate reports that show, among other things, how many jobs the private and public sectors gained or lost in the previous month and whether wages went up or down. The headline figure is almost always the national unemployment rate, which in May fell to an 18-year-low of 3.8 percent.

[White House defends Trump's early hint about the jobs report \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:05 AM, Pete Kasperowicz)

White House officials said President Trump did nothing wrong Friday morning when he hinted that a jobs report coming out an hour later would be positive. Trump tweeted Friday that he was "looking forward" to seeing the May jobs report, about an hour before that report was released. That drew complaints from some who said Trump appeared to be signaling that the report would be strong, and possibly interfering with the markets that usually see the numbers at 8:30 a.m. sharp on the first Friday of each month.

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders told CNBC reporter Eamon Javers that there was no problem with the president tweeting ahead of time because he did not disclose the results. "She said it was appropriate because he didn't put the numbers out early, and she confirmed the fact the president was briefed on this through the normal routine by his economic team last night," Javers said.

[Trump's tweet 'looking forward' to jobs report draws criticism from left, right \(Washington Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:44 AM, Dave Boyer)

President Trump got a scolding on social media Friday for tweeting his excitement about the government's latest jobs report more than an hour before the good news was released to the public. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," Mr. Trump tweeted at 7:21 a.m. At 8:30 a.m., the Labor Department indeed reported that the unemployment rate dropped in May to 3.8 percent as employers added 223,000 jobs last month. The president is briefed the night before the numbers are released, and some observers accused Mr. Trump of breaking protocol by not keeping the positive news to himself.

"If this tweet is conveying inside information about a particularly good jobs number you should never get them in advance from the Council of Economic Advisers again," tweeted Jason Furman, a Harvard Kennedy School professor who served as an economic adviser to former President Barack Obama. Bill Kristol, editor-at-large of the conservative Weekly Standard, said on Twitter, "By the way, since Trump is tweeting ahead of time about the unemployment numbers, are we confident he isn't also privately telling family and friends about them ahead of time so they can front run the market?"

[Trump Hypes Jobs Report Hour Before It's Released \(New York Magazine\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:09 AM, Eric Levitz)

Few documents on planet Earth are as closely guarded as the Bureau of Labor Statistics monthly jobs report. In the days leading up to the release of the Employment Situation Summary — which occurs on the first Friday of each month — maintenance crews stop collecting trash from the office where it is compiled; the IT department is barred from entry.

The reason: If any word about the strength or weakness of the new report leaks out, those in the know could make fortunes off of insider trading.

Thus, only a small number of people are briefed on the report in advance — including the U.S. president, who usually learns of its contents Thursday afternoon. No president has ever given the public any indication of what that report might look like before its release. Until now.

[Trump steps on economic good news \(Salon\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:58 PM, Matthew Rozsa)

Donald Trump was once a jobs truther, casting doubt upon the Labor Department's credibility when it announced favorable job reports under Barack Obama. But now that the promising economic figures continue during his administration, Trump can barely contain his glee — tweeting a preview of Friday's job report that broke decades of protocol and manipulated the markets.

Under normal circumstances, a jobs report like the one released on Friday would be a political boon to a president. Because our president right now is Donald Trump, however, the situation is far from normal — and the president, who would otherwise have benefited from the good news, has instead stepped on his own headlines. Subsequent to that tweet, a glowing jobs report was released... a coincidence that did not go unnoticed.

All employees of the Executive Branch who receive prerelease distribution of information and data estimates as authorized above are responsible for assuring that there is no release prior to the official release time ... Except for members of the staff of the agency issuing the principal economic indicator who have been designated by the agency head to provide technical explanations of the data, employees of the Executive Branch shall not comment publicly on the data until at least one hour after the official release time.

[Trump's tweet teasing jobs report appears to have violated federal law \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:40 AM, Aaron Rupar)

At 7:21 a.m. Friday, President Trump posted an unusual tweet suggesting that the forthcoming May jobs report would be strong. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," Trump wrote.

Treasury yields shot up in the hour between Trump's tweet and the jobs report's release. Trump tweeted about jobs day at 7:21am EST, suggesting he knew the numbers would be surprisingly good.

[Trump's wildly inappropriate \(and possibly corrupt\) jobs report tweet, explained \(Vox\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:20 PM, Matthew Yglesias)

Friday morning, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced good news for the American economy — 223,000 new jobs and a further dip in the unemployment rate to 3.8 percent. The news represents a continuation of longstanding economic trends that far predate Trump's presence in office. But it's also the sort of news that any president would brag about.

What's unusual is that Trump bragged about the numbers before the data was released to the public — an unprecedented breach of protocol that poses some questions for the functioning of financial markets in the future. But, more fundamentally, it intersects with longstanding worries about corruption in the Trump administration.

[Kudlow says Trump's jobs report tweet was totally legal. Other economists disagree. \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:33 PM, Summer Meza)

President Trump's seemingly inconsequential tweet about the Labor Department's new jobs report broke with presidential protocol, and some experts say it may have actually violated insider trading laws. Trump foreshadowed a positive jobs report, tweeting that he was "looking forward" to seeing the numbers a full hour before they were made public. Officials are briefed on the Labor Department's reports before they are released, but they are not supposed to comment publicly on them ahead of time, The New York Times reports.

National Economic Council Director Larry Kudlow said that he told Trump about the report on Thursday night, but denied that Trump's tweet was problematic. "I don't think he gave anything away, incidentally. I think this is all according to routine, law and custom," Kudlow said on CNBC.

[U.S. economy adds 223,000 jobs, after Trump tweets controversial preview \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:49 AM, Harold Maass)

The Labor Department reported Friday that U.S. employers added 223,000 nonfarm jobs in May, more than expected. Economists polled by MarketWatch had predicted a gain of 200,000 jobs. The continued strong hiring helped bring down the unemployment rate from 3.9 percent to 3.8 percent, an 18-year low. The yearly rate of pay gains rose to 2.9 percent from 2.8 percent. Just over an hour before the numbers were released, President Trump tweeted: "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning."

Washington Post White House economic policy reporter Damian Paletta said Trump's teaser was "the first time a president had ever sent a signal to investors about what the jobs numbers might look like an hour before they came out." Former Obama White House economic adviser Austan Goolsbee tweeted that in doing so, Trump had released "classified information."

[How Trump's pre-jobs report tweet moved the market \(New York Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:09 PM, Carleton English)

Eagle-eye traders early on Friday sold their holdings of the US 10-year note after President Donald Trump hinted in a 7:21 a.m. tweet that the May jobs report would be better than expected. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," Trump tweeted — a full 69 minutes before the Labor Department released its jobs report. Moments later, the sell-off began, pushing the yield on the 10-year note from 2.8876 at the time of Trump's tweet to 2.8913 at 7:24 as traders left their safe haven play in favor of riskier assets such as stocks — which also moved upward. "That tweet suggested this was going to be a strong number and the [10-year] yield jumped," Quincy Krosby, chief market strategist at Prudential Financial, told The Post.

By 8:30 a.m., when Labor, indeed, revealed stronger than expected jobs growth in May — 233,000 jobs created compared to estimates of 190,000 — the yield on the 10-year had spiked to 2.9186. Many on Wall Street questioned the appropriateness of the president tweeting market-moving news.

[Trump tweet hinting at positive jobs report broke protocol, critics say \(WMUR-TV 9 Manchester\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:35 AM, Nathaniel Meyersohn)

About an hour before the Department of Labor released its closely watched jobs numbers Friday, President Donald Trump was already talking up its contents. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," he tweeted at 7:21 a.m. ET. The May jobs report was in fact a good one for a president who likes to brag about the strong jobs market. Unemployment fell to 3.8%, which matched the lowest rate in nearly a half-century. Employers added 223,000 jobs this month, more than economists were forecasting. But investors weren't waiting for the official report. Stock futures, bond yields and the value of the dollar all jumped higher immediately after Trump's tweet.

The Labor Department works hard to keep the market-moving numbers a secret ahead of their 8:30 a.m. ET release. Reporters who get access to the data ahead of time are in a "lock-up," without the ability to communicate with the outside world. There is also a federal rule dictating that federal employees who know the jobs numbers ahead of time must keep them secret. "All employees of the executive branch who receive prerelease distribution of information and data estimates...are responsible for assuring that there is no release prior to the official release time," says the rule, which has been in effect since at least 1985.

[Trump previewing jobs report appears to break protocol: Experts \(KFSN-TV ABC 30 Fresno\)](#)

(5/31/2018 9:41 AM, Alexander Mallin)

A Friday morning tweet from President Donald Trump previewing the May jobs report is raising alarm bells among some economists and former government employees as to whether he may have violated longstanding government protocol. The president's tweet at 7:21 a.m. read, "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," previewing what turned out to be a report that exceeded economists' expectations. The May jobs report showed the U.S. economy added 223,000 jobs compared with an average monthly gain of 191,000 over the prior 12 months, and that the unemployment rate edged down to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent.

According to a Labor Department rule issued by the Office of Management and Budget in 1985, executive branch employees are barred from publicly commenting on the jobs report until "at least one hour" after its official release. The rule looks to prevent government officials who may gain early access to the report from tipping off traders in advance of potential market shifts. Early on in the administration, former press secretary Sean Spicer drew criticism for tweeting immediate reaction to a positive jobs report, violating the standard one hour time span. But the president is typically briefed separately on the report prior before its release.

[The 15 best states for finding a job in 2018 \(Business Insider\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:51 PM, Áine Cain)

Finding a great job can be tough. But it's definitely easier in some parts of the United States. According to a recent report from personal finance site WalletHub, certain states provide a far better environment for job seekers. WalletHub assigned each US state a score based on numerous factors, including median annual income adjusted for the cost of living, share of employees living under the poverty line, and the unemployment and underemployment rates.

1. Washington: Median annual income (adjusted for the cost of living): \$58,682
2. Colorado: Median annual income (adjusted for the cost of living): \$61,114
3. Minnesota: Median annual income (adjusted for the cost of living): \$63,407
4. Utah: Median annual income (adjusted for the cost of living): \$65,327
5. New Hampshire: Median annual income (adjusted for the cost of living): \$59,552

[Editorial Note: Consult source link for full details.]

[Trumpanomics: Good Job Numbers + Terrible Wage Numbers = The Depraved Exploitation Of Workers \(Daily Kos\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:51 PM, Staff)

Today, the wealthy and their dupes are cheering the ongoing fall in the unemployment rate to 3.8%. Employers are finally spending the unprecedented savings they accumulated under Obama to in turn use more of us. And the stock market loves it. But what about wages? You know, the whole purpose of jobs for you know, actual people? It's dismal. Wage growth has actually gone down compared to what it was in January and it's down compared to what it was in 2009.

These numbers tell us one thing. America's wealthy are exploiting more of us. In fact, US inequality is reaching a new and historically "dangerous" level due to Trump's cruelty towards the poor and working class. As Republicans strip the poor, working, and middle class of services they pay for in taxes, 40% of us have less than \$400 in the bank to pay for an emergency. It's time to fight back. It's time to stop letting Republicans exploit us and use us like trash. Workers in America must stand up together and demand dignity and respect, or we're just going to keep losing more and more of our quality of life and more and more of our standing compared to other countries.

[Nonfarm payrolls increase by 223,000 in May, vs 188,000 estimate \(CNBC\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:56 AM, Jeff Cox)

The U.S. economy continued to add jobs at a solid clip in May, with nonfarm payrolls up 223,000 and the unemployment rate falling to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Friday. Economists had been expecting payroll growth of 188,000 and the jobless rate to hold steady at 3.9 percent. The unemployment rate was last this low in April 2000. A separate level of unemployment that adds in discouraged workers and those holding part-time positions for economic reasons fell to 7.6 percent, the lowest since May 2001. A 0.1-point decline in the labor force participation rate to 62.7 percent, tied for the lowest level in 2018, contributed to the headline unemployment rate decline.

"The employment this month really underscores, once again, the robust strength of the labor market," said Steve Rick, chief economist at CUNA Mutual Group. "May showed steady momentum in jobs and certainly hit back at any worries among economists who thought hiring was beginning to finally slow after seeing last month's report."

[Construction Adds 25,000 Jobs in May \(Metal Construction News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:01 PM, Staff)

The U.S. construction industry added 25,000 net new jobs in May, according to Associated Builders and Contractors' (ABC) analysis of data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This follows a 21,000 net job gain in April (revised upward from 17,000). The industry has gained 286,000 jobs on a year-over-year basis, the largest such increase since April 2016. Nonresidential construction employment increased by 15,400 net jobs for the month. Nearly all of that growth came from the nonresidential specialty trade contractor subsector, which added 14,800 net jobs in May. However, the nonresidential building subsector lost 4,400 net jobs in May.

The construction industry unemployment rate plummeted 2.1 percentage points in May and now stands at 4.4 percent, the lowest level since July 2000. The national unemployment rate inched down to 3.8 percent, its lowest level since April 2000. "Despite all the noise regarding tariffs, trade wars, Italy, Spain and a myriad of other issues, the U.S. economy continues to move forward with conviction," said ABC Chief Economist Anirban Basu. "Today's employment report is rendered all the more impressive given the difficulty so many firms, including construction firms, report filling available jobs. The ongoing addition of jobs in nonresidential construction is both an expression of confidence as well as evidence of an industry that continues to benefit from economic growth."

[Flashback: Hillary Predicted Trump's Tax Plan Would Destroy Millions of Jobs. It's Doing Precisely the Opposite. \(Town Hall\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:45 AM, Guy Benson)

Clinton said Trump's tax plan would shed as many as 3.5 million jobs. Now that tax reform has been implemented, CBO has boosted its US job creation estimates by 2.6 million. Hillary also warned of bloating the national debt, which is one of the few major concerns I have about the new tax law -- though her specific admonition was off by many trillions of dollars. (It's also difficult to swallow a lecture about fiscal discipline from anyone who is a denialist about entitlement spending and the coming debt crisis -- which both major 2016 nominees were, unfortunately).

Flash forward to June 1, 2018, roughly a year-and-a-half into Trump's presidency. The book is hardly closed on his policies' economic legacy, but the results we've seen to date don't remotely resemble Mrs. Clinton's dystopian warnings. The latest jobs report is outstanding, with US unemployment falling to a tie for the lowest level since Mrs. Clinton was graduating college, roughly half a century ago:

[How many people work for the federal government? 24,000 less now than in Dec. 2016 \(World Tribune\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:10 PM, World Tribune)

The federal government has 24,000 fewer employees since President Donald Trump took office, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The federal government cut 3,000 jobs in May, the bureau said in a June 1 report. A month before Trump took office there were 2,810,000 civilians employed in the federal government.

Total government employment in the U.S. increased by 5,000 in May, climbing to 22,326,000, the Bureau of Labor Statistics report said. State government employment rose by 2,000 in May to 5,112,000. Local government employment rose by 6,000 in May to 14,428,000.

[\[NY\] NYT Shell-Shocked By Historic Jobs Numbers: We Ran Out Of Words To Describe How Good It Is \(Town Hall\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:00 PM, Matt Vespa)

The jobs numbers are great. In fact, they're tremendous. They're the most luxurious May numbers God has ever created. Okay—not really, but they're solid; 223,000 jobs in May and black unemployment hit a record low. The overall unemployment rate is now at 3.8 percent, an 18-year low. In terms of white and black unemployment numbers, which are usually miles apart, they've never been closer. You can't polish a turd. You can't spin incontrovertibly good news. That's what The New York Times admitted in their headline about these job numbers. They ran out of words synonymous with good concerning this news:

[\[KY\] Truck maker says Washington's political swamp threatens plan to add 250 Kentucky jobs \(Lexington Herald-Leader\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:03 PM, Bill Estep)

The issue in the fight is a large truck called a glider, produced by combining a new cab and chassis with an older, rebuilt engine — as well as a transmission and usually a rear axle — from wrecked or worn-out trucks. Starting in a one-bay garage in Pall Mall, Tenn., nearly 30 years ago, Fitzgerald and partners built their glider-making business into a \$700 million enterprise, the largest in the nation. Fitzgerald Glider Kits says it has been assembling more than 3,000 vehicles annually in recent years, providing 700 jobs in northern Tennessee and Southern Kentucky and supporting thousands more at suppliers.

The company announced in March that it would make dump-truck beds at the former Belden Wire & Cable plant in Monticello, which closed because the company moved much of its production to Mexico. But now Fitzgerald, a 53-year-old Kentucky native, says those jobs and many others are in jeopardy because of a rule to reduce pollution from trucks. The problem for gliders is that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency defined them as new trucks, meaning a glider with a 2017 cab and a 2005 engine would be classified as a 2017 model. That makes the vehicle subject to pollution limits for new trucks, but with an engine lacking new emission controls.

[\[ND\] Statewide survey to focus on filling jobs \(Bismarck Tribune\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:30 PM, Jessica Holdman)

All of North Dakota's 31,000 registered businesses are being asked about their workforce needs as part of a statewide survey announced Friday by the governor and state Workforce Development Council. "Every community we've been in has needed workers," said Gov. Doug Burgum, adding this survey is an effort to develop state policy that could help companies in filling those needs. The survey is being distributed amid 2.6 percent unemployment statewide, a recorded 14,400 open jobs in the state and a tighter jobs market nationwide. "We estimate the actual number of job openings is significantly larger and the needs in our near future could be double that figure," Labor Commissioner Michelle Kommer said in a statement.

The 40-question survey, which cost \$4,000, is being distributed to the Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce's 1,000 members, as well as its partner organizations, including local chambers of commerce and industry groups. Participation will be analyzed daily in an effort to generate interest from all sectors in the state and reach as many employers as possible. Kommer said, to her knowledge, this is the first time a survey of this nature is being conducted on a statewide basis.

[\[CA\] How tight is the labor market? Employers flock to hire qualified homeless job applicants \(Sacramento Bee\)](#)

(6/2/2018 12:01 AM, Cynthia Hubert)

In a tight employment market, 24 companies sent representatives to Friday's "hiring event," which sought to connect homeless and formerly homeless men and women with work opportunities. The job fair, hosted by nonprofits that serve homeless people, took place at the Salvation Army's Ray Robinson Oak Park Community Center.

The state's unemployment rate dropped to a record low 4.2 percent in April - and an even lower 3.4 percent in the Sacramento region, according to the state Employment Development Department. Employers are competing hard for workers, including a Chick-fil-A fast food restaurant in Sacramento County offering \$17 to \$18 per hour. Many of the men and women looking for jobs have little work experience and some have backgrounds that include homelessness and addiction. All have completed recovery and job training programs that have put them on the path to success.

Unemployment

[U.S. gains 223K jobs as unemployment rate falls to 1969 levels \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:45 PM, Christopher Rugaber - Associated Press)

Another month of strong hiring drove the nation's unemployment rate down to 3.8 percent — tantalizingly close to the level last seen in 1969, when Detroit still dominated the auto industry and the Vietnam War was raging. Employers added 233,000 jobs in May, up from 159,000 in April,

the Labor Department reported Friday. And unemployment fell to an 18-year low.

The report shows that the nearly 9-year-old economic expansion — the second-longest on record — remains on track and may even be gaining steam. Employers appear to be shrugging off recent concerns about global trade disputes. "The May jobs report revealed impressive strength and breadth in U.S. job creation that blew away most economists' expectations," said Scott Anderson, chief economist at Bank of the West.

[Unemployment Rate Falls to 18-Year Low; Solid Hiring in May \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:56 AM, Eric Morath & Sarah Chaney)

The U.S. labor market was firing on all cylinders in May: the unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low, employers added jobs at a faster pace and wages modestly improved. The unemployment rate ticked down to a seasonally adjusted 3.8%, matching April 2000 as the lowest reading since 1969, the Labor Department said Friday. Nonfarm payrolls rose a seasonally adjusted 223,000 in May, a jump from gains from March and April. Average hourly earnings ticked up to a 2.7% from a year earlier-and raises were even stronger for non-managers.

The unemployment rate for women, 3.6% last month, was the lowest since 1953, when far smaller share of women sought jobs. The jobless rates for blacks, Latinos and those without high-school diplomas are trending near record lows. A tighter labor market should also produce better wage growth, but overall gains have remained modest. Average hourly earnings for all private-sector workers increased 8 cents last month to \$26.92. Wages for non-supervisor workers are rising at a faster rate than overall wage increases for the first time since 2014. The non-supervisor increase, 2.8% in May from a year earlier, was the best annual gain since mid-2009, when the recession just ended.

[Unemployment Rate Drops To 3.8 Percent, Lowest Since 2000 \(National Public Radio\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:40 AM, Chris Arnold & Avie Schneider)

As the country has clawed its way back from the worst recession in generations, companies have been creating plenty of jobs. Employers added another 223,000 positions last month alone, the Labor Department said Friday. And the unemployment rate ticked down to 3.8 percent, the lowest since 2000. The May increase in payrolls was stronger than economists had expected and topped April's revised 159,000 increase.

About an hour ahead of the release, President Trump hinted at a strong report: "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning." The unemployment rate is so low it's only hit this level a few times in modern history. The last time was in the heat of the dot-com bubble in 2000. But before that you have to go back to the late 1960s to find a time the unemployment rate was lower.

[U.S. Payrolls Rise 223,000; Jobless Rate Matches 48-Year Low \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:26 AM, Sho Chandra)

U.S. hiring rose more than forecast in May, wages picked up and the unemployment rate matched the lowest in almost five decades, indicating the strong labor market will keep powering economic growth. Payrolls increased 223,000 following a revised 159,000 gain, Labor Department figures showed Friday. The median estimate of analysts surveyed by Bloomberg called for 190,000 jobs. Average hourly earnings increased 2.7 percent from a year earlier, more than projected, while the jobless rate fell to 3.8 percent from 3.9 percent to match April 2000 as the lowest since 1969.

Stocks and Treasury yields rose. The report reinforced expectations for Federal Reserve policy makers to raise interest rates when they meet June 12-13, and spurred investors to increase bets on two more hikes this year after that, rather than one. Steady hiring and lower taxes will bolster consumer spending, helping to support the projected rebound in U.S. growth this quarter and continuing to trim the unemployment rate. Wage gains, while positive in the latest report, have yet to show a sustained acceleration.

[Jobs report beats expectations, unemployment rate falls to 18-year low \(MSN\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:57 AM, Akin Oyedele, Business Insider)

US employers added 223,000 nonfarm payrolls in May, more than expected, while the unemployment rate fell to a new 18-year low of 3.8%, according to the jobs report released on Friday. Economists had forecast that employers added 190,000 jobs on net while the unemployment rate remained at a 17-year low of 3.9%.

May is the 92nd straight month of job growth in the US — the longest streak ever. Job openings are at a two-decade high, according to the most recent BLS data — good news for the droves of young people who recently graduated. And anecdotally, companies continue to lament about how difficult it is to fill positions for highly skilled workers.

[May jobs report: Unemployment down to 3.8%, payrolls up by 223,000 \(CBS News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:31 PM, Irina Ivanova)

Businesses hired robustly in May, reversing the slowing trend of the preceding two months, the Labor Department reported Friday. Here's what you need to know. Some 223,000 jobs were added. This beats economists' expectations of about 190,000 jobs added, and reverses the somewhat disappointing growth over the previous two months (155,000 jobs added in March and 159,000 in April, after revisions.)

Unemployment dropped to 3.8 percent, its lowest figure in 18 years. The unemployment rate is now solidly below what most economists consider sustainable in the long term, and is likely to keep falling, some analysts say.

[Black unemployment news is good but more has to be done for workers: National Urban League \(CNBC\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:37 PM, Michelle Fox)

The unemployment rate for blacks fell to 5.9 percent in May, hitting the lowest level since the government started to record that data in 1972. Also of note is that the gap between the black unemployment rate and the white unemployment rate has narrowed, Morial said on "Power Lunch." However, instead of focusing on "being celebratory," he wants the government to focus making the paychecks of average Americans go further. Workers of all races "want paychecks to grow relative to the expenses that they have, and those are mortgages, those are rents, those are bread, milk, shoes for their children," he added.

The federal minimum wage is currently \$7.25 per hour. However, some states have instituted higher minimum wages like Washington, which pays \$11.50 an hour. Washington, D.C., comes in at the highest pay with \$12.50 an hour. Meanwhile, some corporations also have boosted worker pay. For example, retailer Walmart pays a minimum hourly wage of \$11 and on Thursday, Costco announced it was raising its minimum wage to \$14 a hour.

[Unemployment rate matches lowest point in half a century \(CNN\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:53 PM, Nathaniel Meyersohn)

How low can we go? The jobless rate ticked down to 3.8% in May, another sign of the strong economy and tight labor market.

That tied the lowest unemployment rate since 1969. Since then, the only other time unemployment was this low was in April 2000. "It fell for all the right reasons. We had more people coming into the labor market. We saw employers digging deeper into the pool of unemployed," said Josh Wright, chief economist at the software firm iCIMS.

[Economists React to Strong Jobs Report \(US News & World Report\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:06 AM, Andrew Soergel)

Domestic job growth rebounded last month after a lackluster April, as the unemployment rate ticked down to its lowest level in more than 18 years, according to a report published Friday by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. At 3.8 percent, the national unemployment rate is now as low as it's been since April 2000. The last time unemployment was lower than it is now was at the tail end of 1969, when the rate sat at 3.5 percent. Domestic employers, meanwhile, created 223,000 new positions – the strongest showing the labor market has seen since February. The number of health care and social assistance jobs in the U.S. climbed by nearly 32,000, while retail trade outfits added more than 31,000 new positions.

Revisions to prior months' tallies added 15,000 previously unreported jobs to the labor market, and Americans' average hourly earnings ended May up 2.7 percent over the year. Although the labor force participation rate – a metric that tracks the share of Americans employed or actively looking for a job as a share of the broader population – ticked down for the second consecutive month to 62.7 percent, the bulk of the report detailed a labor market standing on particularly solid ground.

[U.S. job growth accelerates, unemployment rate drops to 3.8 percent \(Reuters\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:33 AM, Lucia Mutikani)

U.S. job growth accelerated in May and the unemployment rate dropped to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent, pointing to rapidly tightening labor market conditions, which could stir concerns about inflation.

The closely watched employment report released by the Labor Department on Friday also showed wages rising solidly, cementing expectations that the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates this month and boosting the probability of two more hikes later in the year. "The strength of the labor market supports our forecast for the Fed to raise rates three more times this year," said Ryan Sweet, a senior economist at Moody's Analytics in West Chester, Pennsylvania. "The Fed is going to get antsy that the labor market will blow too far past full employment."

[Unemployment Continues To Fall Below April's Record Rates \(Benzinga\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:35 AM, Elizabeth Balboa)

After striking record lows in April, U.S. unemployment continued to drop in May.

The Labor Department recorded a rate of just 3.8 percent against a 3.9-percent estimate. Nonfarm payrolls expanded 223,000, far exceeding a 189,000 forecast as well as last month's addition of 164,000 jobs.

[US unemployment falls to 3.8% in May, lowest in 18 years \(Breitbart\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:38 AM, AFP)

The US unemployment rate fell to its lowest level in 18 years in May as hiring was far stronger than expected and the size of the workforce

continued to shrink, the government said Friday. With a shortage of workers reported throughout the country and across many industries and skill levels, the latest data confirmed wages are rising.

The jobless rate fell to 3.8 percent from 3.9 percent in April, the lowest level since April 2000, the Labor Department reported.

[U.S. adds 223,000 jobs in May: unemployment lowest since 1969 \(Breitbart\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:38 AM, UPI)

Last month, the United States added 223,000 jobs and the unemployment rate matched its lowest level in a half-century the Labor Department said Friday. The Bureau of Labor Statistics said in its report Friday employment edged up in the retail, healthcare and construction sectors.

Retail trade added 31,000 jobs while manufacturing added 18,000. The construction industry, often a key contributor to U.S. workforce growth, gained 25,000 jobs. Healthcare jobs increased by 29,000, in line with the average monthly gain over the past year.

[May Jobs Numbers: Black Unemployment Rate Hits Record Low \(Breitbart\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:05 PM, Joshua Caplan)

Labor Department figures published Friday show the U.S. economy expanded by 223,000 jobs in May, with the black unemployment rate — among the brightest spots in the strong jobs report — at 5.9 percent, down from 6.6 percent record low the previous month. “The black unemployment rate has never been closer to the white unemployment rate,” reports the Washington Post. “The improvement in unemployment that’s been seen since the end of the recession is one thing, but black unemployment has consistently been at least 66 percent higher than the white unemployment rate.”

When asked about black unemployment rate back in January after figures showed 6.8 percent in December, President Trump said during a cabinet meeting that he was “very proud” of the numbers. “African-American unemployment reached its lowest level in history. Think of that,” the president told reporters. “On the campaign trail, remember, I said, and would constantly say, ‘What do you have to lose?’ Meaning what do you have to lose if you vote for Trump.” In his inaugural State of the Union address, Democrats infamously remained seated as President Trump touting improving economic conditions for African-Americans.

[Unemployment is about as low as it gets \(Crain's Chicago Business\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, Mark Whitehouse)

If the demand for workers outstrips supply by too much, it can start an inflationary spiral in which wages and prices drive each other higher. Economists at the Federal Reserve think that in the longer run, the “Natural” unemployment rate should be somewhere between 4.2 percent and 4.8 percent. So how can a rate of 3.8 percent be OK? One reason is that it might not represent the whole pool of available workers. During and after the last recession, millions of people gave up seeking work, and hence weren’t officially counted as unemployed.

More recently, many of them have reentered the labor force, helping to meet demand and relieve upward pressure on wages. The prime-age labor-force participation rate, for example, went from a low point of 80.6 percent in September 2015 to 81.8 percent in May 2018, an added supply of 2.4 million workers. The big question is how many more people might come off the sidelines.

[223,000 Jobs Added In May. Unemployment Falls To 3.8 Percent \(Daily Caller\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:57 PM, Tim Pearce)

The Department of Labor reported Friday 223,000 jobs were added in the month of May, and unemployment dropped to 3.8 percent. Jobs growth outpaced economists’ predictions, who estimated the number would fall just short of 200,000. Experts were also expecting the unemployment rate to stay steady from month to month at 3.9 percent.

May’s unemployment rate matches the April 2000 rate as the lowest rate in the U.S. since 1969. The falls rate signals a tightening labor market as employers are forced to compete more for employees. The competition should translate to rising wages for workers, though that has not happened to the extent economists expect.

[Black Unemployment Plunges To Record Low, Gap Between White, Black Unemployment Smallest In History \(Daily Caller\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:58 PM, Benny Johnson)

Friday’s economic numbers were very good for America. The numbers reveal that the U.S. economy is booming and many key indicators of economic health are trending in the right direction. According to the Labor Department, the unemployment rate is 3.8 percent, the lowest in nearly two decades.

223,000 jobs were created and the May increase in payroll was bullish, surprising economists, according to NPR. However, the most historic data points seem to be centered around black unemployment.

[Record Wage Increases, Record-Low Unemployment \(The Patriot Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:10 AM, Nate Jackson)

As we noted last month, a good economy is bad for Democrats. And we got another load of good economic news this morning, regardless of Leftmedia spin. First up, The Wall Street Journal's James Freeman writes, "The number of small companies raising wages hit a record high in the U.S. this month. That's according to the latest National Federation of Independent Business employment survey. A full 35% of owners of small firms report increasing labor compensation, the highest percentage since NFIB started asking about it in 1986." That trend could get even better, as Freeman notes that "businesses are ramping up spending on the tools that make their workers more productive and therefore able to command higher wages."

Much of the wage increases are due to a tighter labor market. Employers added 223,000 jobs in May, which was higher than media expectations but not quite as surprising for those of us not blinded by Trump Derangement Syndrome. Headline unemployment dropped to 3.8%, the lowest since 2000. Black unemployment dropped to a new record low of 5.9%.

[U.S. unemployment rate lowest in 18 years \(Ponte al Dia\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:04 PM, Staff)

The United States' headline unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent in May, the lowest level since April 2000, the Labor Department said Friday. A total of 223,000 new nonfarm jobs were created last month, exceeding economists' expectations. U.S. employment has risen for 92 consecutive months, the longest jobs-expansion streak on record, while the current jobless rate in the U.S. indicates a market with virtually full employment. Average hourly wages for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by an average of \$0.08 last month to \$26.92; average hourly earnings have moved up 2.7 percent so far this year, and economists expect labor costs to keep rising. The labor force participation rate, defined as the share of the population 16 years and older either working or seeking work, dropped minimally from 62.8 percent to 62.7 percent.

"With the unemployment rate falling to 3.8 percent in May, the lowest in over 18 years, America's job market remains strong. The unemployment rates for African-Americans and Asian-Americans reached record lows. Adult women and adult men recorded the lowest unemployment rates since 2000, at 3.3 percent and 3.5 percent, respectively," Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta said in a statement.

[The gap between black unemployment and white unemployment is now the smallest in history \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:16 AM, Summer Meza)

The unemployment rate in the U.S. has fallen to its lowest point in 18 years, additionally shrinking the gap between black unemployment and white unemployment, the Labor Department reported Friday. Black unemployment is down to 5.9 percent, while white unemployment is at 3.5 percent — the smallest gap between the two rates ever recorded. The overall rate is at an 18-year low, at 3.8 percent. The economy added 223,000 jobs in May, even more than economists predicted. Unemployment has fallen steadily since the Great Recession, reports CNN Money, after peaking at 10 percent in 2009.

President Trump has often touted his administration's success in bringing down the unemployment rate for black Americans and other minorities, and he took to Twitter to preview today's good news. The black unemployment rate has fallen from 7.8 percent to 5.9 percent since Trump took office, the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis reports. Data shows that between 2010 and 2017, the rate fell from a peak of 16.8 percent to 7.8 percent.

[Record-low jobless rates for black Americans and Asians \(Minneapolis/St.Paul Star-Tribune\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:45 PM, Associated Press)

The unemployment rates for black Americans and Asian-Americans hit record lows in May, aided by solid hiring that is benefiting a wider range of demographic groups. The jobless rate for black Americans tumbled to 5.9 percent from 6.6 percent in April. May's figure marks the second straight month that the rate has hit a record low in government records dating to 1972. The unemployment rate for Asian Americans fell to 2.1 percent, the lowest level since record-keeping began in 2003. With the jobless rate so low, employers have complained for months about the difficulty of finding workers to fill jobs.

That's helping those with lower education levels. The jobless rate for those with only a high school diploma fell to 3.9 percent, a 17-year-low. All told, employers added 223,000 jobs in May. The unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent. The data for demographic groups came from a survey of households that is part of the Labor Department's monthly jobs report.

[\[VT\] Vermont coffee company lays off 35 mostly in manufacturing \(Belleville News-Democrat\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:12 AM, Associated Press)

The Vermont coffee company known for its K-cup machines is laying off 35 employees in the state, mostly in manufacturing. State Labor Commissioner Lindsay Kurrle says the layoffs by Keurig Green Mountain are spread across three company locations in Vermont: Essex, Williston and Waterbury.

In a statement, Keurig spokeswoman Katie Gilroy called the layoffs "a targeted headcount reduction." The company's website says it had 6,000

employees as of fiscal year 2015.

[\[RI\] Amazon's distributor leaving R.I. for Hartford; 149 layoffs \(WWLP-TV 22 Chicopee\)](#)

(6/2/2018 4:35 AM, Shiina Losciuto & Ted Nesi)

A company that helps Amazon.com handle distribution in Rhode Island abruptly informed employees Friday it will shut down next month, Eyewitness News has learned. The Texas-based company, Pinnacle Logistics, will lay off 149 workers, according to a letter sent to the R.I. Department of Labor and Training by Mark Elsea, the company's chief operating officer. Pinnacle has had a busy warehouse operation at the Quonset Business Park and T.F. Green Airport.

Amazon confirmed that Pinnacle's operation will be moving to Bradley International Airport in Hartford, and workers at the Rhode Island facility will be given preferential treatment in hiring. The termination letter, provided by an employee who asked to remain anonymous, said Amazon "has elected to terminate its PVD operations" due to "business reasons unrelated to PVD's performance." The employee said workers were stunned by the news in light of how busy and high-performing the facility appeared to them.

[\[WA\] After Georgia-Pacific cut up to 300 employees, workers trying to find footing \(Vancouver Columbian\)](#)

(6/3/2018 6:02 AM, Troy Brynson)

The cavernous Georgia-Pacific paper mill, which churned with thousands of papermakers a generation ago, is now a ghost town, said Felicia Tillery; and former workers like her are in limbo. "It is hard," she said, trying to describe this past month when up to 300 workers have been laid off. Tillery made her comments from a classroom at WorkSource Vancouver, where she recently joined a handful of ex-mill workers looking for help with life after layoffs. There, at 204 S.E. Stone Mill Drive, representatives from WorkSource try to help laid off former mill workers carve out some options, like applying for new jobs, filing for unemployment benefits or even enrolling in school.

The Atlanta, Ga.-based company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Koch Industries, said demand has dwindled for communications paper, used in office copiers, printers and the like. Large portions of the mill will be torn down starting next year and layoffs began this spring. The mill, which arrived in the late 19th century and peaked at 2,600 jobs in the 1970s, will be left with just over 100 workers to keep running a machine that makes tissue products such as paper towels. The U.S. Department of Labor is considering offering Trade Adjustment Assistance to former mill workers, which would help pay for college.

Apprenticeship

[\[RI\] Apprenticeship teaches the ins and outs of fishing \(Narragansett Times\)](#)

(6/2/2018 10:15 AM, Kendra Gravelle)

In an effort to attract more young people to the fishing profession, an apprenticeship program based out of Point Judith with courses in Kingston will show participants all it takes to be in the commercial fishing industry. Now in its second year, the four-week Commercial Fisherman Apprenticeship Program was created to prepare young people for careers in New England's demanding but rewarding fishing industry. A collaboration between Commercial Fisheries Center of Rhode Island and the University of Rhode Island, the program is funded fully through Real Jobs Rhode Island. "There's a desperate need for new crew members," explained Fred Mattera, executive director of CFCRI.

Workers in the fishing industry are aging, Mattera said, adding that the average age for Rhode Island's fishermen today is close to 50 years old. Mattera said an overall reluctance by young people to become fishermen has contributed to a decline in men and women choosing to enter into the commercial fishing industry. He said because pay depends on fishing conditions, that uncertainty tends to scare off some prospective fishermen. Through the apprenticeship program, Mattera said aspiring fishermen will receive proper training in things like safety before they're taken out to sea. This year, with more funding available, 16 individuals will be selected for participation in the program.

[\[NY\] NY to give \\$3M for state's workforce needs \(Long Island Business News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:00 PM, Adina Genn)

New York is investing \$3 million in the state's workforce needs, officials said. Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced that the funds are for the State University of New York and the state's Department of Labor as they partner with businesses to develop registered apprenticeship positions.

The programs aim to support as many as 2,000 new pre-apprenticeship and registered apprenticeship positions in advanced manufacturing and healthcare over the next four to six years. The registered apprenticeship program will provide further on-the-job training and related instruction for apprenticeships. These benefits include competency-based training as well as the opportunity to explore certificate and degree programs, along with implementing online modules and faculty experts to assist in updating curricula. Additionally, the program will look at new ideas for pre-apprenticeship training to include a path for underrepresented minority populations.

[\[PA\] 57 craftsmen graduate from ABC Keystone Chapter's apprenticeship program \(Lancaster Online\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:37 AM, Tim Mekeel)

Fifty-seven construction workers graduated last month from the Apprentice Craft Training Program of the Manheim-based Keystone Chapter, Associated Builders and Contractors. Lancaster County residents who won honors at the Keystone Center for Construction Careers' graduation ceremony included electrical instructor Terry Boyer of Lititz, Instructor of the Year, and Wohlsen Construction carpentry apprentice Phil Garrett of Elizabethtown, Craft Professional of the Year.

Recognized with High Achiever Awards were: Travis B. Duncker of Etters, York County, sheet metal, Frey Lutz; Jonathan E. Godinez of Lancaster, carpentry, Benchmark Construction; Travis A. Horton, of Todd, Huntingdon County, plumbing, The Farfield Co.; Nathan Mullin of Leola, HVAC, Ranck Plumbing Heating AC; and Brian M. Young of Annville, Lebanon County, electrical, Wilco Electric, Columbia.

[\[TX\] Climbing the Ladder: Put in the time to make plumbing pay off \(San Angelo Standard-Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:00 AM, Krista Johnson)

These days finding a prospective plumber to hire is a "dime a dozen" — it's hanging on to them that's the problem, said Slater Chapa, owner of Lone Star Contracting. A plumber for 22 years, Chapa started an apprenticeship program within his company about eight years ago to help retain workers, but he still struggles to keep people on the job, with the oil fields taking a big portion of the blame. "The younger guys that come through here, 60-70 percent don't stick it out because they're chasing the quick buck," he said, adding that they "don't want to put the time in."

Starting out as a helper, new hires are teamed up with a licensed plumber, working side-by-side while learning the trade for the first two years on the job. At the very least, helpers learn about service work, grab tools off the truck, learn the fittings and parts and get feedback from their mentor before taking the state's licensing exam to become a tradesman, Chapa said. While it takes 4,000 hours of on-the-job training, along with 40 classroom hours and passing the exam to get that license — and in return a significant raise — there are significant benefits to the journey, Chapa said.

Labor

[US manufacturing picks up pace in May \(New York Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:30 AM, Paul Wiseman – Associated Press)

U.S. manufacturers expanded at a faster pace last month, another sign of strength for American industry. The Institute for Supply Management, a trade group of purchasing managers, reports that its manufacturing index rose to 58.7 in May from 57.3 in April. Anything above 50 signals growth. American manufacturing is enjoying a 21-month winning streak. New orders, production and hiring all grew faster. Export orders grew more slowly than they did in April.

Sixteen of 18 manufacturing industries expanded, led by textile mills and producers nonmetallic minerals. Factories are benefiting from healthy economic growth in the United States and around the world. In another sign of strength, the Labor Department says that employers added 223,000 jobs in May and the unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent.

[Trump breaks protocol to tout jobs report \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:32 PM, Cate Martel)

The U.S. economy added a robust 223,000 jobs last month, the Labor Department announced this morning. The unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent, the lowest level since April 2000. What was expected for May: 200,000. Oh and: Job gains were 15,000 more than previously reported in March and April.

UHHHH, TRUMP WASN'T SUPPOSED TO TWEET THIS: Via The Washington Post's Damian Paletta, President Trump tweeted his excitement about the jobs numbers 69 minutes before the Labor Department released the numbers, breaking decades of protocol. What Trump tweeted at 7:21 a.m.: "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning." Reaction: "Treasury yields moved sharply higher within seconds."

Context: "The jobs data come out once a month and often can lead to massive buying or selling trends on Wall Street, depending on how the information is received. It is extremely closely held and kept under tight control until it is released at 8:30 a.m. on the first Friday of each month." The numbers are often privately shared with the president beforehand.

[If Robots Steal Our Jobs, Maybe We Should Make Them Pay Tax \(Huffington Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:46 AM, Laura Paddison)

Walk into this San Francisco restaurant and you are greeted with a wall of numbered cubbyholes with acrylic doors. Dotted around the room are tablet screens for placing orders. What you won't find are any people serving. There's no counter, no human to take your order or hand over the food. Instead, customers scroll through the menu of quinoa and rice bowls on the in-store screens or on a mobile app, tap in their order and wait for their name to flash on one of the cubbies, where their food will be waiting.

This is Eatsa, an automated restaurant. Well, sort of. There are still humans preparing food behind the scenes. But the company hopes to eventually automate this process too. The concept restaurant, while it has had recent setbacks, represents another step in the onward march of automation. To some, Eatsa is a sign of innovation, providing people with fast, smooth service without the need to speak to another person. But for others, like San Francisco Supervisor Jane Kim, who represents the district the restaurant is in, “there’s a big question mark about what this means for us as a society,” she says. Not only what it means to have less human interaction but also what it will do to jobs.

[As the US population ages, the need for home health-care workers skyrockets \(CNBC\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:39 AM, Kate Rogers)

Each day, some 10,000 seniors turn 65 in the United States, and the majority of them are hoping to age in their own homes. The staggering number of aging Americans has created demand for home health-care workers — from nurses to aides and caregivers.

Jobs in health care have already been growing at breakneck speed. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, from 2006 through 2016 2.8 million jobs were added in the health-care sector at a rate that was seven times faster than the rest of the economy. Through 2026, the projected growth of jobs in health-care settings is at 18 percent. But the demand for home health and personal care aides will far outpace the sector’s growth, with an increase of 41 percent to more than 4 million jobs.

“The demand for home care and hospice continues to grow as we see a graying of the U.S. population,” said Bill Dombi, president of the National Association for Home Care and Hospice, adding that both younger and older patients are pivoting ever more toward in-home care. “The shift has also been in financing from government sources — primarily through Medicare and Medicaid. In 2015, it was the first time nationally that more money was spent on home care than nursing home care. We’ve seen a culture and financing shift toward home and community-based care.”

[The US economy needs seniors to work longer. Here’s how to make that happen \(CNN\)](#)

(6/2/2018 9:50 AM, Lydia DePillis)

When she retired from her job as a legal secretary for the federal government at age 62, Linda Spencer thought retirement would be a blast. Then the Great Recession blew a hole in her savings, and free time wasn’t much fun without cash to travel and buy the nice clothes she’d gotten a taste for while working at Saks Fifth Avenue decades earlier. Jobs were scarce when she went out looking a couple of years ago, and so she found the federally-funded Senior Community Service Employment Program, which helps low-income seniors find employment in Northern Virginia. It pays minimum wage, or \$7.25 an hour, for her to do administrative work while she learns computer skills and looks for other jobs - which she now wants for more than just the financial reasons.

Getting more people to work later in life could help blunt the impact of the graying population on the nation’s finances, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Baby boomers are reaching retirement age rapidly, and the generations to follow are thinning as the American birth rate sinks ever lower. Luckily, workers are staying healthier and no longer feel that the traditional retirement age is an expiration date. Older workers are in particularly high demand for positions serving a fast-growing consumer category: People just a few years older than they are in need of health care services. Advocacy groups are working to convince employers that older workers are worth keeping around, countering perceptions that they can’t keep up with new technology or work with younger colleagues.

[The Death of a Gig Worker \(Atlantic Monthly\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:20 AM, Thomas Fox Parry)

An 8-year-old told me about Pablo Avendano’s death: “My dad’s friend was just killed riding his bike.” “He went out to work and he’s never coming back,” my son’s friend said, bobbing on his feet. “And he didn’t even like his job!” Avendano made deliveries through Caviar, the food-ordering app. “His boss is probably in trouble,” Dai said. Since his death, Avendano’s friends have organized themselves into a group called The Friends and Comrades of Pablo Avendano, and they have demands. They want a union for Caviar couriers, a wage starting at \$20 per hour, benefits including hazard pay, and for Caviar to reclassify couriers from independent contractors to W-2 employees. None of this appears likely to materialize—gig-economy companies have often brushed off similar demands in the past—but then, neither did the tomato workers’ demands back in Immokalee.

Caviar represents itself as a food-ordering platform, not a food-delivery service. Couriers are not employees. Along with the millions of workers who earn through Uber, UberEats, Lyft, DoorDash, Postmates, GrubHub, TaskRabbit, and more, Caviar couriers are considered independent contractors. In this gig economy, liability for work injuries, including death, falls on the worker and their family. “All of us at Caviar are deeply saddened by this news,” a Caviar spokesperson wrote to me in a statement. “This is a horrible tragedy and our thoughts are with Pablo’s family. We will work closely with authorities and assist in any way we can.”

[Editorial Note: Consult source link for full details.]

[Let the Labor Market Continue to Tighten \(National Review\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:22 PM, Mark Krikorian)

Today's jobs report showing the unemployment rate dropping yet again, to 3.8 percent, is great news for American workers. As I noted last week on the home page, a tight labor market, where employers have to hustle to recruit and retain workers, is the best social policy, raising the wages of our lowest-paid compatriots and drawing people back into the labor market (who aren't currently even counted in the unemployment statistics).

Unfortunately, today is also when the Federal Register published the formal rule, announced last week, that up to 15,000 extra H-2B visas would be issued to employers wanting to import seasonal, unskilled, non-agricultural workers, mostly in landscaping and hospitality (waiters, maids, etc.). This is the result of Congress chickening out of simply increasing the cap on H-2B visas (currently 66,000 a year) and instead passing the buck to the Department of Homeland Security in the recent omnibus funding measure.

This same dodge happened last year, when John Kelly was still DHS secretary. He came under extreme pressure (from Senator Thom Tillis and from the White House, whose occupant is an enthusiastic booster of guest worker visas) and agreed to a "one-time increase." Now that it's happened again, I guess "one-time" has a different meaning inside the Beltway.

[The US is having a hard time keeping teachers in their jobs \(Quartz\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:26 AM, Preeti Varathan)

One way to protest low wages is to go on strike. That's what teachers in the US have recently been doing in many states, like West Virginia, Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Arizona. Another option is to quit. A new analysis by the US Census Bureau suggests an increasing number of teachers are taking on new jobs.

Some turnover is normal, even healthy, as teachers leave to find schools or different professions that suit them better. In 2015, the latest data available, a bit more than 1 million teachers left for a different job, in education or another industry. Less encouragingly, that same year 1.8 million teachers became "persistently nonemployed"—Census lingo for teachers who didn't find a job elsewhere after leaving their position.

[AI, automation, and the future of work: Ten things to solve for \(McKinsey & Company\)](#)

(6/2/2018 8:36 AM, James Manyika & Kevin Sneider)

Automation and artificial intelligence (AI) are transforming businesses and will contribute to economic growth via contributions to productivity. At the same time, these technologies will transform the nature of work and the workplace itself. Machines will be able to carry out more of the tasks done by humans, complement the work that humans do, and even perform some tasks that go beyond what humans can do. While we believe there will be enough work to go around, society will need to grapple with significant workforce transitions and dislocation. Workers will need to acquire new skills and adapt to the increasingly capable machines alongside them in the workplace.

This executive briefing, which draws on the latest research from the McKinsey Global Institute, examines both the promise and the challenge of automation and AI in the workplace and outlines some of the critical issues that policy makers, companies, and individuals will need to solve for. Accelerating progress in AI and automation is creating opportunities for businesses, the economy, and society. Deployment of AI and automation technologies can do much to lift the global economy and increase global prosperity, at a time when aging and falling birth rates are acting as a drag on growth. We have found that around 15 percent of the global workforce, or about 400 million workers, could be displaced by automation in the period 2016-2030. Work will need to be redesigned to ensure that humans work alongside machines most effectively.

[In Market: Heigh-ho, heigh-ho, it's off to co-work we go \(Fort Worth Business Press\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:46 AM, Robert Francis)

Content in your little cubicle with photos of the spouse and kids and maybe a sports calendar on the wall? Millennials aren't. No, they have to have coffee and "be comfortable" while they work. You'd think it was written in the Bill of Rights. According to some new research from Thumbtack, a San Francisco-based online marketplace that connects local service providers, millennials are rejecting all sorts of workplace rules that we once thought were etched in stone like those 10 Commandments, though we seem to have broken a few of those as well. Here are some highlights from Thumbtack's research:

Millennials don't go around singing Dolly Parton's 9 to 5, choosing independent work and entrepreneurship over traditional employment hours bemoaned by the Backwoods Barbie. Forty percent of millennials plan on leaving their full-time employers to work as a freelancers within five years.

Facebook, Twitter, etc. Millennials use technology to help grow their business, utilizing social media for marketing (84 percent) and platforms like YouTube to answer customer questions.

Cash isn't king for millennials either. Three in five report starting a business to be more fulfilled, not to make more money.

Millennial entrepreneurs aren't tied to a traditional office setting. Only 11 percent of millennials report working from an office, while 27 percent work from home. Twenty-seven percent use public spaces like coffee shops or libraries and 11 percent use co-working

spaces.

[Fannie, Freddie want to make mortgages easier for gig-economy workers \(Worcester Telegram\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:02 PM, Kenneth R. Harney)

The two biggest sources of home-mortgage money in the country, investors Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, are quietly working on ways to make qualifying for a home purchase easier for participants in the booming “gig” economy.

The gig economy refers to hundreds of income-earning activities that allow workers to set their own hours, work for as long or as little as they choose, and function as independent contractors or freelancers as opposed to salaried employees. Prominent examples include people who work as drivers for Uber or Lyft, assemble IKEA furniture for TaskRabbit or offer rooms in their homes on Airbnb. Estimates vary, but anywhere from just under 20 percent to 30 percent or more of the U.S. workforce participates in some way in the gig economy. Last year, Intuit, which owns TurboTax, estimated that 34 percent of the workforce earned money in gig pursuits and projected that this could rise to 43 percent by 2020.

[Report: Americans are finding work, but the better paying jobs require a college degree \(Miami Herald\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:20 PM, Eduardo J. Padrón & Edward Alden)

The official unemployment rate has fallen below four percent for the first time since July of 2001. More companies are offering hiring bonuses to attract workers, and the retirement of baby boomers is opening more jobs for young adults. While jobs are plentiful, good jobs are increasingly hard to find, especially for those without access to higher education. As technology and global competition continue to reshape the work landscape, too many of the new jobs are low-wage with few benefits or possibilities for advancement, while the better jobs require education and skills that remain beyond the reach of way too many Americans.

In our new Council on Foreign Relations Task Force report, The Work Ahead, we offer recommendations regarding how business, educators, and governments can ensure that Americans are prepared for the better-paying jobs of the new global knowledge economy. In the report, we argue that rebuilding the pathway from education to opportunity in the face of accelerating technological change is the critical challenge of our time. Every young person should have the opportunity to do some sort of job-related training while in school, including a significant expansion of apprenticeships and internships.

[This jobs program just might get people back to work \(Seattle Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:37 PM, Sophie Quinton, Stateline.org)

When the man in the teal hoodie mentioned that he had trained as a pharmacy technician, Lachelle Hill's voice rose in excitement. “Why don't I see that on here?” the state job counselor asked, pointing at the paperwork on the table between them. Hill was counseling Corey, a 30-year-old job seeker who didn't share his last name, at a federally funded job center on the top floor of a Baltimore shopping mall, an escalator ride away from a Forever 21 and a Cinnabon.

Unemployment insurance beneficiaries are required to look for work, but Hill wasn't just checking Corey's paperwork for compliance. She was helping him focus his job search, and trying to steer him toward positions he was qualified for.

[\[PA\] Pa. can build on apprenticeships, skills training and STEM education progress \(PennLive\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:00 AM, Tom Wolf)

Pennsylvania's economy is growing and setting records, recently passing more than six million jobs for the first time in our history. All of us working together makes the commonwealth the 14th largest economy in the world. But the global marketplace is extremely competitive. To attract businesses to grow and expand here, we need more talented workers, and we must prepare now.

Recently, I brought together labor and business leaders, who along with educators, traveled the state, listening to employers, workers, and job trainers.

[\[PA\] Ready? Set? Work \(TheNoteBook\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:44 PM, Dale Mezzacappa & Jane M. Von Bergen)

Teachers in automotive, welding, plumbing, and solar energy shops in schools across the city say that every one of their seniors who wants a job – right out of high school – can have one in that field. Given what's happening the broader economy, that's not a surprise. “People are worried about the future of the workforce,” said H. Patrick Clancy, president and chief executive officer of Philadelphia Works, the quasi-public agency that distributes dollars from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

People are also worried about the future of today's youth. And increasingly, those worried about the workforce and those worried about the youth are talking to each other. The city's workforce development report released in January, “Fueling Philadelphia's Talent Engine,” promises more alignment of public and private investment – a tall order in a city not known for smooth relationships between the two sectors and historically fragmented within its government agencies. Philadelphia's overall high school graduation rate has been slowly rising, and it now stands at 67 percent. But concerns remain that many of the graduates are ill-prepared for college or work. The city has a huge contingent of so-called

"opportunity youth" between the ages of 16 and 24, disconnected from school, and unemployed.

[\[PA\] The 'Help Wanted' sign is out for those needing jobs \(Johnstown Tribune-Democrat\)](#)

(6/3/2018 7:00 AM, Editorial)

A scan of the "Help Wanted" section of The Tribune-Democrat's Classified section amplifies the notion that there are jobs available in a variety of fields in our region. Johnstown Area Regional Industries Workforce Development Director Deb Balog told reporter David Hurst that Cambria County has 1,000 or more positions open every month. That contradicts the assumption some might have that there are no jobs in the Johnstown market.

Like much of Pennsylvania and the nation, we're facing a dangerous shortage, especially in health care, the building trades and heavy industry. Across the region, the story is the same: Various factors - baby-boomer retirements, skill and education gaps, even opioid addiction and disinterest - are hindering companies at a time when those communities could use an economic shot in the arm. Companies are getting creative to attract and keep workers. Educational institutions are shifting the focus toward programs that will send graduates out into the job market with the necessary skills - which often doesn't mean a traditional four-year degree.

[\[NJ\] STEM program will boost NJ's economy \(Burlington County Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:00 AM, Editorial)

On Tuesday, Gov. Phil Murphy proposed a loan forgiveness program for college graduates who take jobs in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields in New Jersey and a program that would reimburse STEM employers for the cost of internships.

Under the forgiveness plan, the state's Higher Education Student Assistance Authority would offer graduates \$1,000 a year for four years to help defray the costs of outstanding loans. The internship program would reimburse employers in STEM fields up to a maximum of \$1,500 in wages for interns from New Jersey high schools, colleges or universities. The estimated cost to the state would be about \$12 million, beginning in 2022, when eligible students graduate.

[\[MD\] Emergency call-takers, dispatchers overcome staffing challenges, stressful work \(Frederick News-Post\)](#)

(6/2/2018 11:00 PM, Jeremy Arias)

It was just before 8 p.m. May 25, and Renae Coolidge was just hanging up her phone at the Frederick County Emergency Communications Center after helping a resident set up a burn permit. In the seat next to her, fellow 911 call-taker Kim Woolcock gave her a sympathetic smile, having just finished taking a similar call herself. "There's going to be a lot of those this week," Woolcock said, explaining that a countywide burn ban will go into effect June 1 and last until Aug. 31, meaning that any farmers who need to burn waste would likely call in. A truly quiet night is an anomaly at the ECC, where life-or-death emergencies are only a three-digit phone call away.

The ECC handles 1,200 calls on an average day, said Jen Stahley, an ECC manager. The center's minimum staffing level varies between eight and 12 employees depending on the time of day, but managers like Stahley and LeighAnn Tepper say they prefer 17 to be comfortable during the busier times of the day.

Some mistakes are already happening in the form of missed or dropped 911 calls, with ECC Director John Woelfel estimating in a recent budget hearing before the County Council that about 60 calls to 911 went unanswered over the course of six months. Jack Markey, director of the county's Emergency Management Division, emphasized in that same meeting that the rate was very low and that most missed calls result from a large number of people calling about the same incident. Call-takers always call the numbers back promptly just in case, Markey added.

[\[NC\] Goodwill Partners With Charlotte, N.C. Agencies to Open Construction Skills Training Center \(Builder\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:42 AM, Charlotte Business Journal)

Goodwill Industries of the Southern Piedmont has partnered with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Central Piedmont Community College and Rebuilding Opportunities in Construction (The ROC) to create the Goodwill Construction Skills Training Center in a former Goodwill warehouse on the west side of Charlotte, North Carolina.

The partnership will offer its first classes in August at CMS's Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology across the street, and the \$2.5 million center will open to its first students in January, once renovations are complete. The free program will start with construction training, then move into specialized study that may include cover construction, field supervision, concrete and masonry, apartment maintenance, advanced carpentry, computer aided drafting & design, HVAC or electrical training.

The partnership aims to graduate 520 students per year by 2020. Once students complete the free training and certification, they will be ready to apply for a job or apprenticeship, or transfer up to 53 credit hours toward an associate's degree at Central Piedmont Community College.

[\[NC\] Skills gap creates opportunities in cyber security \(Spectrum News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:42 PM, Staff)

Employers need talent to fill one of the country's largest skills gaps. Nearly 750,000 tech jobs are available in the U.S. with 20,000 tech jobs available in North Carolina. Median data-security analyst salary is about \$121,000.

Organizations set up at Pfeiffer University for the Come Tech Out Charlotte job fair. Over the past year, openings for information security analysts in the state have grown nearly 70 percent.

[\[OH\] Labor shortages, immigrant worker cap and weed are cutting into business, landscapers say \(Akron Beacon-Journal\)](#)

(6/2/2018 11:11 PM, Jim Mackinnon)

Many landscaping businesses in Northeast Ohio say they are short on workers this year. That reflects in part a national unemployment rate now at an 18-year low of 3.8 percent. But the businesses say they also are unable to bring in enough legal immigrants, predominantly from Mexico, using a long-established federal visa program designed to fill seasonal low-skill jobs. The government no longer is granting exemptions to the visa program that had made thousands more returning migrant workers available in previous seasons, the landscapers said. It's not just a local issue. There's a national shortage of immigrant seasonal workers affecting other industries besides landscaping.

In many cases U.S. citizens are not as reliable as the H-2B workers, some said. Jacob Grimm said his 25-person firm received 146 job applications last year. Of those, 120 people did not come in for an interview, he said. Twenty-four applicants were considered employable, but half of those declined to take a drug test, he said. Of four people who accepted job offers, one remains this year, Grimm said.

[\[OH\] Building skills for that first summer job \(Lima News\)](#)

(6/2/2018 7:49 PM, Sam Shriver)

With most schools already ending for the year, many young people are looking for summer jobs

Getting that summer job should be easier because teen unemployment is below 13 percent, something that hasn't happened for many years. On the other hand, due to factors like a rising minimum wage, inexperienced high schoolers could be priced out of the running for those jobs.

According to Michael Saltsman, managing director of the Employment Policies Institute, over the past five years, the summer teen labor force participation rate during the summer months has remained steady at around 35 percent. Older more experienced workers are also competing for those summer jobs. A Drexel University report tracked a 5 percentage point drop in the share of teens working restaurant jobs over the last two decades. Kylon Petty, 13, and his sister Jakyra, 15, hope their participation in Derry Glenn's Rent-A-Kid program will get them experience in the workforce, whether its mowing grass or doing other chores. Ohio Means Jobs means opportunities for young people. Lima City Schools are training kids to be employable.

[\[OH\] Bridging the gap between education and employment \(Coshocton Tribune\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:56 AM, Leonard Hayhurst)

A new program to do that starting at the end of June at the local campus is Advancing Coshocton through Technical Training, or ACtTT. It features 12 courses over four semesters focused on skills local employers have said they are looking for. While it's open to anyone, ACtTT is being specifically offered to students of the Coshocton County Career Center. COTC has branches in Newark, Coshocton, Mount Vernon and Pataskala. Across all campuses, 45 degree and certificate programs are offered.

The program is free to anyone willing to complete all classes and would not result in a degree, but could play into earning a degree if a student wishes to go in that direction. ACtTT is possible through a \$238,000 competitive grant from the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association to be used on job readiness programs. Coshocton County received one of only five such grants from OMEGA. "We cannot and are not looking at this as an enrollment driver. Instead, we're looking at it specifically as a job readiness program," Maple said. "What we really want to happen is for (students) to complete these classes and get hired along the way or at the end."

[\[MI\] Employing Disadvantaged Groups Begins by Bringing Schools, Community Leaders and Businesses to the Table \(Detroit Regional Chamber\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:34 AM, Detroit Regional Chamber)

There is a strong disconnect between workforce training systems, educational systems, and business. How can organizations collaborate to fill positions and give chronically underemployed groups employment opportunities? This was the topic during W.K. Kellogg Foundation's session, "The Future of Work in Michigan: Partnerships Pave the Way to Prosperity" at the Mackinac Policy Conference.

Panelists included Heidi Kaplan, senior community development analyst for the Federal Reserve Board of Governors; David Meador, vice chairman and chief administrative officer for DTE Energy; and Bill Pink, president of Grand Rapids Community College. La June Montgomery Tabron, president and CEO of W.K. Kellogg Foundation, moderated the panel.

[\[WI\] Wisconsin's tight workforce pushes more employers to prison labor \(WISN-TV ABC 12 Milwaukee\)](#)

(6/2/2018 4:47 PM, Nick Bohr)

More than 1,600 inmates around the state are currently involved in the Wisconsin Department of Corrections' work release program that lines up

willing workers with employers eager for employees, and it goes far beyond making license plates. The program offers a stepping stone from incarceration to freedom and opportunities to show responsibility, earn money and support a family. In order to be eligible, the inmates first have to work prison jobs as cooks and maintenance personnel and perform 16 hours of community service.

The inmates also have to pay the Department of Corrections \$740 per month from their wages to reimburse the state for their living expenses and transportation costs. Though the state transports the inmates, the employers are not subsidized by the state. They pay prevailing wages ranging from minimum wage up to more than \$15 per hour.

[\[ND\] Trucker shortage has industry recruiters in overdrive \(Fargo Forum\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:00 PM, Dave Olson)

A driver shortage has recruitment efforts in overdrive as area trucking companies seek to attract a younger generation to an industry that touches nearly every aspect of the American economy. Dixon said that whenever members of the association gather hiring is the most talked about item. She said the problem has long existed nationwide, but the Fargo-Moorhead region is now feeling the pinch as well.

When it comes to trucking companies that want to grow, or even maintain their current operations, the driver shortage is a huge challenge, according to Mark Wolter, director of safety and maintenance at Midnite Express Inc. in West Fargo. Wolter said the rigors of trucking can be a hindrance to some, as the job can take someone away from their family for seven to 10 days at a time. In the past, Midnite Express offered signing bonuses of \$1,000 in an effort to attract drivers, but that amount has been boosted to \$1,500 as drivers have become even more scarce.

[\[SD\] Diversion program gives young adults a second chance \(KOTA-TV Rapid City\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:02 AM, Meredith James)

The Young Adult Diversion program began in 2016 and is open to people 18 to 25 year old, who have a limited criminal history. This gives people with non-violent misdemeanors or low-level felonies a chance for the state to dismiss their criminal charge. "The purpose of the program is not to negate responsibility. What we've tried to do for those offenders is to make our programming more difficult than pleading guilty. So they have to put the effort in," says Carolyn Olson, the deputy state's attorney.

If accepted into the program, participants complete community service at places like the Department of Labor, B&T Manufacturing and elsewhere. As for Bob Ketchum at Youth & Family Services, he is happy to mentor young adults from the diversion program and see their personal growth. "They get more and more involved and come out of their shells and they realize there is, there are other adults out there that care about who they are and what they're doing in life and want them to succeed," says Ketchum.

[\[TX\] Hunt for summer jobs \(Brownsville Herald\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:04 AM, Staff)

School's almost out, and the only thing hotter than the weather is parents' desire to get their teens out of the house and into the summer work force. This summer that'll be easier than usual; the teen unemployment rate has dipped below 13 percent, a level not seen since the Clinton years. Despite the low youth unemployment rate, the number of teenagers who have exited the labor force is near an all-time high. One factor to blame: Aggressive increases in the minimum wage at the state and local level. For the past five years, the summer teen labor force participation rate has held steady around 35 percent; as recently as 2001, this figure was above 50 percent. A 2017 report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics identified some arguably beneficial reasons for this trend, such as teens opting to enroll in summer school over a summer job. There's another not-so-beneficial reason: A rising minimum wage. A recent Mercatus Center study, authored by economists David Neumark and Cortnie Shupe, identified higher minimum wages as the "predominant factor" in the decline in the teen labor force participation rate. The economists studied the sharp decline in teen employment since 2000, and cited that "a rising minimum wage could have priced some teenagers out of the labor market."

Minimum wage increases are also a leading factor in businesses being forced to provide the same service at a lower cost - either by automating or just eliminating certain positions. Other consequences of rising labor costs are business closures. The decline in teen employment should be worrisome for economists and parents alike.

[\[TX\] Companies, needing Permian workers, find West Texas a hard sell \(Houston Chronicle\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:00 AM, Jordan Blum)

Josh Garcia found himself in a position familiar to many energy workers when he was laid off from Houston's C&J Energy Services during the recent oil bust. The company, Centurion Technologies, offered a six-figure salary, free housing for a year, and a company car. But Garcia, 33, still hesitated, unsure about moving far from the state's population centers and the diversions they offer to young professionals. "I knew how remote it is out here," Garcia said. "There's not another industry out here if things go south. It's either sink or swim."

With the local supply of labor all but exhausted, energy companies are finding that recruiting workers like Garcia to West Texas is a tough sell — one made all the harder by strong national and state economies that provide skilled workers with plenty of options elsewhere.

[\[NV\] Las Vegas hotel workers vs. robots is a sign of looming labor challenges \(Miami Herald\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:45 PM, Andrés Oppenheimer)

The most important news story in recent days is one that has gone practically unnoticed in the media: the threat by 50,000 Las Vegas hotel and casino workers to go on strike. As kitchen workers, concierges and receptionists are increasingly replaced by robots - as will accountants, lawyers and journalists - you will see a growing wave of anti-tech, anti-automation protests around the world. The next wave of public discontent may be aimed at job-threatening robots.

A 2013 Oxford University study by Carl B. Frey and Michael A. Osborne - whom, for full disclosure, I have interviewed extensively for a book I wrote on this issue that's due to be released this year - predicted that up to 47 percent of U.S. jobs are at risk of being replaced by automation in the next 15 years. In a May 23 vote, 99 percent of the 25,000 Las Vegas Culinary Workers Union members who cast their ballots voted to go on strike when their contract expired June 1. In addition to higher pay and job security against robots, they demanded that casinos take stronger measures against sexual harassment and immigration-related abuses.

[\[CA\] Bernie Sanders: Disney needs 'moral defense' for having hungry workers while making billions \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/2/2018 10:12 PM, Luis Sanchez)

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) lambasted Walt Disney Co. on Saturday for making billions of dollars in profits while failing to pay workers "a living wage." At a rally in Anaheim, Calif., Sanders demanded a "moral defense" for Disney and other billion-dollar corporations that pay their executives high salaries but have made efforts to avoid raising other workers' salaries. "I want to hear the moral defense of a company that makes \$9 billion in profits, \$400 million for their CEOs and have a 30-year worker going hungry," Sanders told the crowd. "The struggle that you are waging here in Anaheim is not just for you," Sanders said. "It is a struggle for millions of workers all across this country who are sick and tired of working longer hours for lower wages."

Sanders was joined on stage by members of a coalition of unions that had gathered about 21,000 signatures to qualify for the November municipal ballot that seeks to require large employers who receive government subsidies to maintain a \$15 minimum wage. To qualify for the ballot only 10 percent, or 13,150, of Anaheim voters needed to provide their signatures.

[\[CA\] Bernie Sanders takes job-killing stands at Disney workers' rally, critics say \(Fox News\)](#)

(6/3/2018 6:00 AM, Stephen Sorce)

U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., rallied California's Disneyland Resort workers in Anaheim on Saturday in support of a state wage-increase measure that some say would cost the state "thousands" of jobs. In the same speech, Sanders also praised Disney CEO Bob Iger for canceling ABC's "Roseanne" after its star's recent Twitter meltdown -- even though the sitcom's shutdown reportedly threw hundreds of crew members out of work.

So it may be no surprise that some observers were left skeptical of Sanders' credentials as an advocate for working Americans. "While touting himself as a friend of the working man, Bernie has come all this way to support a measure that will result in thousands of lost jobs for the people of Anaheim," Todd Ament, CEO of the Anaheim Chamber of Commerce, said in a written statement.

[\[AK\] New DOL rules protect worker rights \(Cordova Times\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:10 PM, Staff)

New state labor regulations effective June 7 aim to ensure law abiding state contractors are not outbid by unscrupulous bidders who would deprive workers of basic employment rights. These include minimum wage, overtime, workers' compensation and a safe work environment. The regulations fulfill the intent of Administrative Order 286, issued by Gov. Bill Walker last year.

The new regulations will ensure the state plays a positive role in the marketplace by embedding support for labor rights in the procurement process. Incentivizing labor rights compliance has beneficial ripple effects, since most state government contractors also work in other areas of business, state labor officials said. Sustaining and strengthening labor rights enforcement also has positive economic impacts by ensuring wages stay in Alaska and recirculate in the state's economy.

Child Labor

[What Employers Need to Know About Hiring Minors \(EHS Today\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, David Sparkman)

In the summer when most teenagers are thinking of vacation and the beach, some choose to enter the workforce, even if they only do so temporarily. A number of federal laws and regulations on the books are aimed at protecting them from dangerous kinds of work—and sometimes from dangerous employers. The Department of Labor (DOL) has issued regulations for these younger workers in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Although there are a few exceptions, for the most part workers under the age of 18 are entitled to minimum wages

and overtime pay just like their adult co-workers.

The FLSA also includes other protections by setting out when and what a minor can do. Federal law strictly prohibits the employment of minors in non-agricultural work falling within any of the DOL's list of hazardous occupations. These include—but are not limited to—manufacturing or storing explosives, driving a motor vehicle, working as an outside helper on motor vehicles, coal mining, firefighting, power-driven tools, exposure to radioactive substances and many more. Many of them have to do with dangerous tools, equipment and processes that are commonly employed in manufacturing and agriculture.

[Who-When-What: State Law Basics On Summer Hiring \(Mondaq\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:00 AM, Sade Tidwell)

Here we are - the school year is coming to a close and you are eager to get your business staffed with forward-thinking, millennial summer hires. Don't move too fast though, because in addition to the federal Fair Labor Standards Act's restrictions we discussed earlier this month, there are numerous states that provide even more rigorous limitations on the employment of minors. Typically, state laws regulating child labor set the minimum age of employment for youth; the duties they can perform; and whether their employment requires a work permit, among other things. To give you a taste of how varied these requirements can be, here are some samples from the southeastern states (i.e., states that typically follow the FLSA otherwise).

Some states have both general minimum age requirements for employment, and higher thresholds for certain work. In Georgia, for instance, minors under 12 years of age generally are prohibited from working in any gainful occupation. All minors under 17, however, specifically are prohibited from working in mills, factories, laundry facilities, manufacturing establishments, workshops, or in any other occupation which has been designated as "hazardous" under Georgia law. In Florida, minors younger than 16 cannot conduct door-to-door sales. Tennessee law prohibits minors from working at heights greater than 10 feet off the ground. It is a good idea to get familiar with the various limitations in your state because, as you can see, a state might have its own specific areas of concern.

[Congressman Questions DOL Proposal to Loosen Restrictions on Teen Workers and Hazardous Jobs \(WorkersCompensation\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:05 AM, National Safety Council)

A leading Democratic congressman is questioning why the Department of Labor wants to expand the number of hazardous jobs available to 16- and 17-year-olds. Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN), deputy chair of the Democratic National Committee, wrote a letter to Secretary of Labor R. Alexander Acosta on May 23 inquiring about a proposed rule on the Spring 2018 regulatory agenda, Expanding Apprenticeship and Employment Opportunities to 16 and 17-Year Olds Under the FLSA (Fair Labor Standards Act).

FLSA prohibits 16- and 17-year-old workers from performing certain hazardous jobs outside of the agricultural industry, but provides limited exemptions for apprentices and student learners working "under certain conditions," the regulatory agenda entry states. In a notice of proposed rulemaking slated for publication in October, DOL is planning to consider whether Hazardous Occupations Orders "should be updated to reflect the current economic and work environments and to allow for safe and meaningful apprenticeship opportunities and student-learner programs."

According to Ellison's letter, 17 Hazardous Occupations Orders restrict younger workers in areas such as coal mining or fighting forest fires. He also states that because of those laws, work-related deaths among teens have dropped to 27 a year in 2015 and 2016 from 72.5 a year in 1999 and 2000. "Rolling back these regulations could jeopardize the safety of America's youth and lead to an increase in the rate of workplace injuries, or even death, for underage workers," Ellison wrote. Ellison concludes his letter with a series of questions for Acosta, requesting a response by June

[\[NH\] Bill giving New Hampshire teens more work flexibility narrowly survives Democratic opposition \(KPVI-TV NBC 6 Pocatello\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:03 AM, Dave Lemery)

Currently, if school is in session at all during the work week, a student can't work more than 30 hours in that week. Senate Bill 318 would let a student increase that to 40¼ hours if class was in session for four days and 48 hours if it's in session for three or fewer days. The bill had sailed through the House on its original consideration in April, but when it came time to vote on the committee of conference report, Rep. Douglas Ley, D-Jaffrey, argued that the teen work hour's proposal was one cherry-picked piece of policy from a raft of potential youth labor reforms that had otherwise been put off for more study.

"During the committee of conference, it was repeatedly stated by ... one of the House members that this really should have gone to interim study, that the goal of the Committee of Labor has always been to study the entire set of labor statutes and regulations regarding youth hours," Ley said. "And in fact, this house has already endorsed that on two bills for the Committee of Labor to do such a thing. And yet here we are changing labor statutes for youth ages 16 to 17. We are doing this in an ad hoc manner before we have even reviewed the entirety of the system."

[\[AL\] Labor department talks teenage employment \(Athens News-Courier\)](#)

(6/2/2018 7:30 AM, Jessica Barnett)

School's out for summer, and that means more teenagers are available for summer work. The hiring of teenagers can provide great opportunities for both employers and employees, but the Alabama Department of Labor and Alabama Career Center System wants businesses and workers alike to know the rules of seasonal teenage employment beforehand. In Alabama, teens as young as 14 can be employed, though employers must obtain a child labor certificate from ADOL.

One certificate allows a business to employ as many teens as they need for an entire year. The rules for teenagers vary based on their age, which is why many places start hiring at 16. Sixteen- and 17-year-olds have no hour restrictions when school is in session; Fourteen- and 15-year-olds may work between the hours of 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. during months school is not in session. They may work no more than eight hours per day, 40 hours per week or six days per week. A 30-minute break is required if the teen works more than five hours. To view an entire list of restrictions for teenage workers, please visit the link above.

Immigration

[U.S. Farms Can't Compete Without Foreign Workers \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:00 AM, Editorial)

American farmers have been complaining of labor shortages for several years now. Given a multi-year decline in illegal immigration, and a similarly sustained pickup in the U.S. job market, the complaints are unlikely to stop without an overhaul of immigration rules for farm workers. Efforts to create a more straightforward agricultural-workers visa that would enable foreign workers to stay longer in the U.S. and change jobs within the industry have so far failed in Congress. If this doesn't change, American businesses, communities and consumers will be the losers.

Perhaps half of U.S. farm laborers are undocumented immigrants. As fewer such workers enter the U.S., the characteristics of the agricultural workforce are changing. Today's farm laborers, while still predominantly born in Mexico, are more likely to be settled, rather than migrating, and more likely to be married than single. They are also aging. At the start of this century, about one-third of crop workers were over the age of 35. Now, more than half are. And crop picking is hard on older bodies. One oft-debated cure for this labor shortage remains as implausible as it has been all along: Native U.S. workers won't be returning to the farm.

[Employers Skate on Thin Ice With Immigration Compliance, Bias \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 AM, Laura D. Francis)

Employers have been subject to a whirlwind of new and evolving immigration policies over the last year and a half that have kept them on their toes. How they respond determines whether they also risk violating employment law and anti-discrimination measures in particular. Both Procter & Gamble and Bank of America found that out when they were sued recently over allegedly refusing to hire immigrants with work permits through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

The cases present the question of what employers should do if they're concerned about hiring someone whose immigration status and work authorization could end in the near future. The issue has taken on increased importance with the Trump administration's ending of DACA as well as temporary protected status for the nationals of several countries.

[U.S. may open door to more temporary immigrant workers, Trump aide says \(Reuters\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:04 AM, Susan Heavey)

The Trump administration is examining ways U.S. industries could hire more immigrant workers on a temporary basis, White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow said on Friday, as data showed the United States unemployment rate at an 18-year low. "We are looking at ways to bring temporary immigrants with temporary visas legally into the United States in a number of industries," Kudlow told CNBC in an interview, adding he did not want to say more that would "get ahead of the curve."

Kudlow, who also spoke on Fox Business Network, noted that while the White House was wrestling with Congress over legislation to address immigration long-term, "I think you're going to see some progress" on immigrant employment visas near-term. He gave no other details. Earlier on Friday, Labor Department data showed job growth accelerated in May and the unemployment rate dropped to 3.8 percent, pointing to rapidly tightening labor market conditions that also showed wages rising solidly. The strong employment report also hinted at a labor market squeeze that could leave employers struggling to find qualified workers, slowing job growth and lifting wages.

[How Trump's Visa Crackdown Worsens The Doctor Shortage \(Forbes\)](#)

(6/3/2018 9:15 AM, Bruce Japsen)

The Trump administration's scrutiny of international medical graduates who have already been accepted into U.S. residency programs has led to delays of visas for doctors-in-training, several national doctor groups say. Most residency programs begin in the next month so delaying medical resident visas has immediate repercussions.

Nearly 4,000 international medical graduates have already been accepted to U.S. residency programs, but the U.S. Department of Labor has

slowed processing of H-1B visas, citing the lack of wage data, the doctor groups say. The doctor groups question whether the data request is an excuse to merely deny visas, considering the labor department has long used "resident stipend data" from the Association of American Medical Colleges. If the visas aren't approved soon, patients will face treatment delays and gaps in care given a lack of medical care providers, particularly in rural and urban areas. It's not uncommon for one medical resident to see 3,000 or more patients, doctor groups say.

[GOP Reps. Demand 100,000 More Work Permits for Foreign College Grads \(Breitbart\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:33 AM, Neil Munro)

At least 10 Republican members of Congress are pushing a plan to grant 100,000 extra work-permits to foreign college grads, despite the reality of high debts and stalled salaries for American graduates. "We write to urge you to maintain the current regulation granting work authorization to certain H-4 dependent spouses of H-1B nonimmigrant workers," says the letter to the Department of Homeland Security which was signed by 110 Democrats and by 10 GOP legislators led by Utah. Rep. Mia Love.

The letter is intended to preserve the 100,000 work permits which were given to the spouses of foreign H-1B workers by officials working for former President Barack Obama. The 2015 policy provides the permits to the spouses of many H-1B workers who have been approved to get green cards, but who are waiting in a multi-decade backlog.

[Steve Bannon: Visas that allow immigrants to take the jobs of Americans are not acceptable, 'and that's not racist' \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:24 PM, Many Mayfield)

Former White House chief strategist Steve Bannon defended his views on immigration during an interview that aired Friday and said they exhibited "Economic nationalism," not racism. "The H-1B Visa where you come and take the jobs of American citizens is just not acceptable," Bannon said during an interview with CNN's Fareed Zakaria that aired Friday.

"The central beating heart of this is that Hispanics and blacks have to get into the high valley tech jobs, we're not doing that as long as they have unfair competition," he added. The remarks came in response to a question from Zakaria about whether some of Bannon's past rhetoric on the subject was racist.

[Agriculture Industry Faces Labor Shortage \(Food Logistics\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:05 PM, Staff)

According to Bakersfield.com, competition for farmworkers have tightened so much that Ibarra now earns \$12 per hour, plus a bonus for high productivity. However, as the money may get better, Ibarra is still thinking about leaving the field due to a lack of career development and promotions. The agriculture industry is starting to see a challenge in maintaining workers, causing companies to face steep labor costs. Bakersfield.com reports that competition from farmers to the north and overall improvement to the economy is threatening to cut profits of local growing operations.

Fortunately for some farms, the severity of the labor shortage depends on the crop and the time of the year. Weather conditions can also play a factor in harvests. Yet, farms like Sun Pacific Shippers have still had to increase wages to attract the skilled workers that is required in their fields. The company isn't optimistic about next year's growth labor either. President Al Bates tells Bakersfield.com that they are figuring out a way to continue to have enough people to harvest their crops. The agriculture industry isn't the only one that has faced labor shortages. The trucking industry is facing a shortage of drivers and is also attempting to lure workers by increasing pay and offering more perks and benefits.

[Insufficient numbers of seasonal workers under H-2B visa program an issue for course operators \(GolfWeek\)](#)

(6/3/2018 5:55 PM, Martin Kaufmann)

Few public-policy issues inspire as much heated conversations as immigration, and the golf industry perennially finds itself smack dab in the middle of the debate. Golf is a big employer of temporary immigrant laborers who arrive in the U.S. under the H-2B visa program for temporary nonagricultural jobs. Golf course operators typically hire these seasonal workers to staff their grounds crews, though some also are recruited to work in other areas, such as food and beverage.

The golf industry has experienced a slow, steady contraction over the past decade, with more courses closing than opening each year. But the demand for temporary workers is as strong as ever. The industry's lobbyists say the labor shortage is growing more acute as the U.S. labor market tightens. On June 1, the U.S. Department of Labor announced the unemployment rate had fallen to 3.8 percent, an 18-year low. The Labor Department also noted that wages for nonsupervisor employees rose 2.8 percent over the past year, the biggest gain since 2009.

[Illegal immigration damages economy \(Bloomington Pantagraph\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:00 AM, Letter to the Editor)

As Democrats seek to whitewash their history by tearing down Confederate statues, they employ the economic arguments of slavery to justify luring a foreign population into black market labor for slave wages. Democrats argue that without illegal immigrants to "do the work that no one else will do," industries will suffer, prices will skyrocket and our nation's economy will be jeopardized.

The ICE raid at Cloverhill Bakery in Chicago exposed the fallacious nature of this economic argument and the subversive nature of the economic model. According to the Chicago Sun Times, 800 illegal immigrants were taken into custody, creating opportunities for American workers to fill those jobs. Consequently, wages were increased from \$10 to over \$14 per hour, with African-Americans and Latino-Americans the main beneficiaries.

[\[OH\] Immigrant worker cap creates labor crisis for landscapers \(Columbus Dispatch\)](#)

(6/3/2018 9:47 AM, Jim Mackinnon)

Landscaping companies are feeling the heat. And it's not because of what recently has been a warmer-than-typical spring. Many landscaping businesses in Ohio say they are short on workers this year. That reflects in part a national unemployment rate now at an 18-year low of 3.8 percent. But the businesses say they also are unable to bring in enough legal immigrants, predominantly from Mexico, using a long-established federal visa program designed to fill seasonal low-skill jobs. The government no longer is granting exemptions to the visa program that had made thousands more returning migrant workers available in previous seasons, the landscapers said.

It's not just a local issue. There's a national shortage of immigrant seasonal workers affecting other industries besides landscaping. That's largely because the decades-old law caps the number of immigrant seasonal workers at 66,000 for the whole country – although the federal government has waived that limit to allow 15,000 more visas so far this year. Previously, the returning workers did not count against the 66,000 visa cap limit. But there's no exemption this year. Problems caused by the inability to bring in additional legal immigrant workers are exacerbated by American applicants who can't be hired because they fail drug tests, don't have driver's licenses, or stop showing up shortly after being hired, local landscapers say.

[\[NE\] Labor shortage becoming crisis \(Thibodaux Daily Comet\)](#)

(6/3/2018 2:01 AM, Alfredo Corchado)

Roberto Rodriguez works at a meat-packing company in Nebraska's capital. For years, most of his colleagues were fellow Mexicans and Central Americans. These days, the men standing by his side increasingly are Middle Easterners. In Lincoln, the face of immigrant labor is changing. Workers are harder to come by, and immigrant labor is no longer the exclusive domain of Mexicans and Central Americans. It's a dynamic playing out across the U.S. By 2020, the private sector will facing a shortage of 7.5 million workers, said Ali Noorani, of the National Immigration Forum, a Washington-based think tank, citing a study by the American Action Forum, a moderate policy institute that promotes rights for immigrants.

Some companies in the Midwest are literally rolling out the welcome mat for immigrants and refugees. Muslim prayer rooms, complete with rugs, have been installed for Middle Eastern workers. Some employers help workers enroll in English classes. Others push for a more robust guest worker program to fill jobs once filled by Mexican laborers. With Baby Boomers retiring and U.S. birth rates and migration from Mexico falling, the nation is relying on a mixture of immigrants and refugees to keep its labor force growing. Immigrants make up about 17 percent of the U.S. labor force, with about one-quarter of those undocumented.

[\[TX\] Immigrant shortage? Wages surge 12% and D-FW builders still can't fill thousands of jobs \(Dallas Morning News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:00 AM, Mitchell Schnurman)

In the last year, hourly wages for Texas construction workers rose almost 12 percent. That's huge — over seven times higher than the increase for all private employees in the state. Yet builders in the Dallas-Fort Worth area still can't hire enough people, not with immigrants accounting for almost half the workforce. They have nearly 38,000 construction jobs that remain unfilled, twice as many openings as two years ago, according to the Dallas Builders Association.

The worker shortage adds about two months, and \$5,000, to a typical home building project, the group said. It also means that builders can't produce enough houses to satisfy the current record demand. Higher pay, longer completion times and short supply help explain why it's hard to find a bargain these days. In D-FW, new construction fetches 36 percent more than an existing home, a premium that's more than doubled in a decade.

[\[WA\] Immigration Opportunities: H-1B Alternatives for Employing Foreign Workers \(JD Supra\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:17 AM, Christopher Motta-Wurst & Dustin O'Quinn)

Washington state has more than 90,000 jobs with the title of software developer. Yet, each year, Washington public colleges and universities produce only around 9,000 graduates who hold degrees in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM). U.S. employers across all industries are having a difficult time hiring and retaining the workforce they need to be competitive in the marketplace. Consequently, companies are looking to employment-based immigration options to staff their open positions with candidates from other countries. One of the most popular ways for U.S. companies to employ foreign workers is through the H-1B program.

Companies may submit an application to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for a candidate to assume a position that requires at least a bachelor's degree. Though many U.S. employers rely on the H-1B program, it has become notorious for its uncertainty. There

are only 85,000 new H-1B visas available each year, but that has proven to be insufficient. Since so many H-1B applications are not selected in the lottery, companies must assess other options to employ foreign workers such as: Optional Practical Training (OPT), Trade NAFTA status, E-3, H-1B1, O-1, and L1.

Working Women

[The extraordinary courage of an ordinary woman: Lorena Weeks broke barriers for working women \(Timeline\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:00 AM, Meagan Day)

Lorena Weeks worked nearly all her life. When she was a child in Georgia, her father was killed in a sawmill accident, and her mother—29 years old, with four children—struggled to make ends meet. She entered the workforce, and Lorena did, too. “I went to work at the five-and-ten-cent store when I was nine years old,” she later recalled. “I could barely see over the counter because I was small in stature. I worked for one dollar a day.” When Weeks was 18, her mother died, too, leaving her to raise her younger siblings alone. That was when she went to work for the Southern Bell telephone company in Wadley, Georgia in the late 1940s. Eventually she would sue the company for discriminating against her based on her gender—a landmark 1966 case that would open up economic opportunities for women all across the nation.

At first, it was just a job. She married Billy Weeks, a part-time electrician and rural mailman who just happened to have the same last name as her. Billy and Lorena weren’t rich, but they had ambitions—they scrimped and saved to buy a vacant plot of land and planned to build a house on it one day. They had three children in quick succession. Lorena dreamed of raising them in the countryside, but it didn’t happen quite like that. “When my little girl was old enough to call me on the telephone, I went back to work,” she recalled. “We needed the money.”

[Female Friendly: How to Attract, Hire and Retain Women as Employees \(National Oil & Lube News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:18 AM, Jody DeVere)

Only 26 percent of the workforce in the automotive industry, including manufacturing, are roles held by women. With this in mind, what is your strategy to attract, hire and retain women? Having more women on staff in all positions including leadership roles will result in higher profits overall, give your business a strategic market advantage and increase your overall employee retention. Working towards gender-parity will also result in attracting, selling and retaining more women customers.

Efforts to achieve equality benefit us all. Diversity leads to stronger business results, as numerous studies have shown. When the most talented people can rise to the top, regardless of what they look like and where they’re from, we all end up winning.

[\[PA\] Remembering the working ‘Rosies’ of World War II \(Philadelphia Inquirer\)](#)

(6/2/2018 11:07 PM, Jason Laughlin)

The drafting room at the Philadelphia Navy Yard was brutally hot in the summer of 1943 and ineffectively cooled by big fans, June Robbins remembers. The heating systems weren’t much better in the winter, she said. The work, redesigning cargo ships to serve as troop carriers, was high pressured and exhausting. But at 17 years old there was nowhere else Robbins, now a Media resident, wanted to be. Wanting to help the war effort, she cajoled a teacher into allowing her to take an usually all-male drafting class, and then lied about her age to get hired at the Navy Yard. “I knew I had to get out there and do something for my country,” she said. Robbins, 91, was among the generation of women who took jobs critical to the war effort during the absence of men who were fighting in World War II. That group of women has come to be represented by the iconic “Rosie the Riveter” character.

On Saturday, the Philadelphia Girls Choir performed a song written about the “Rosies” to Robbins and another former worker, Anna Hess, 89. Women in the American workforce increased from 25 to 36 percent, during the war years, and the number of working young women in particular surged. In 1940, 20 percent of women age 20 to 24 were working. Five years later, 40 percent of women in that age range had jobs, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

[\[SC\] New law will help pregnant women on the job \(Charleston Post & Courier\)](#)

(6/3/2018 11:45 PM, Natasha Jackson)

Gov. Henry McMaster recently signed the Pregnancy Accommodations Act into law. The law, which passed with unanimous support in the Legislature, will ensure that no pregnant woman in South Carolina has to choose between her job and a healthy pregnancy. The South Carolina Pregnancy Accommodations Act will ensure that South Carolina women cannot be forced to choose between their paychecks and a healthy pregnancy. The law provides a clear right to accommodation for pregnancy-related medical needs absent “undue hardship” to the employer - the same familiar standard in place for workers with disabilities.

South Carolina is now the 23rd state to grant explicit protections to pregnant workers, joining states including West Virginia, Louisiana, and North Dakota, where the laws also passed with virtually unanimous bipartisan support. Accommodating pregnant workers is not just good for women, it is also good for South Carolina’s economy. When South Carolina women are forced off the job due to pregnancy, they must often turn to public assistance to stay afloat, increasing taxpayer costs. At the same time, research shows that taking steps to reduce premature deliveries, and

associated maternal and infant health complications, could save the state of South Carolina millions of dollars annually in health care costs.

[\[WI\] Construction opens opportunities to women \(Youngstown Vindicator\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:00 AM, Abigail Becker)

Sandy Thistle never considered becoming a carpenter before two of her friends started pursuing careers in the skilled trades. Thistle pursued commercial construction, including a stint at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's carpenter shop, and got involved with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters Local 314 to forward her vision of recruiting more women and people of color into the skilled trades. She is now the co-program director for Madison College's construction and remodeling program.

Women make up just 4 percent of the national workforce in natural resources, construction and maintenance, according to 2010 Bureau of Labor statistics data. In Wisconsin, women make up 5 percent of the 10,251 active apprenticeships in the trades, according to Department of Workforce Development data as of April 4. Though local organizations such as Big Step are working to close the gender gap, barriers to entry and retention still exist. Women say lack of awareness, persistent gender stereotypes, responsibilities at home and few examples of women entering the trades can be deterrents. Long hours, the unpredictability of working at different job sites and discomfort that comes from working outside in the heat and cold dissuade both genders from pursuing construction careers.

Wages & Compensation

[Fighting to make sure janitors get a fair wage \(Los Angeles Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:00 AM, Andrew Khouri)

Lilia Garcia-Brower, 45, is executive director of the Maintenance Cooperation Trust Fund. The Los Angeles-based organization investigates wage theft and other abuses in the janitorial industry, which is notorious for paying workers below minimum wage. The organization, funded by unionized janitorial companies, partners with government enforcement agencies or organizes private lawsuits to bring cases. It has helped collect more than \$30 million in unpaid wages owed to thousands of janitors since its founding in 1999.

Cases often start with a tip from an employer that lost a cleaning contract and suspects it was because the winning bidder doesn't pay minimum wage or taxes or doesn't carry worker's compensation insurance. Cases also begin with Garcia-Brower's ground troops of 10 field investigators — all former janitors. They conduct weekly "blitzes," showing up unannounced to conduct interviews with workers. Garcia-Brower estimates they hit 100 buildings a week.

[Retail Workers' Gains Drive Long-Awaited Pickup in U.S. Wages \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:51 AM, Matthew Boesler)

Average hourly earnings for production and nonsupervisory employees -- a group which comprises 82 percent of the private-sector workforce -- rose 2.8 percent in the year through May, the biggest advance of the expansion that began in mid-2009, according to Labor Department data published Friday. The numbers look even stronger, and more like what you would expect based on employment trends, if you look past three sectors that have been gumming up the so-called Phillips curve relationship between unemployment and wage growth during this economic expansion.

Those three sectors -- financial activities, professional and business services, and education and health care services -- account for 43 percent of private production and nonsupervisory employees. The financial sector didn't really show a strong relationship with employment trends in the past, but the professional and business services and education and health care services sectors did. The biggest driver of the acceleration in wage growth in the rest of the labor market over the last few months has been a surge in worker earnings at retailers. Construction and manufacturing have also contributed to the pickup. Retail wage growth took a big hit in 2016 and 2017 due to fallout in that sector from the structural shift toward online shopping. If the strong gains hold, it will mark a return to levels of wage growth more consistent with the current levels of overall employment in the U.S. economy.

[We can't fix the pay gap without addressing the culture that punishes working mothers \(NBC News\)](#)

(6/2/2018 4:37 AM, Staff)

The much-vaunted "gender wage gap" - which has been key to countless feminist arguments about workplace inequity - is actually just a motherhood penalty. When women become mothers, their wages take a dive from which they may never fully recover: Where childless women earn an average of 80 cents to a white man's dollar, mothers on average earn only 71 cents. Those mothers earning 71 cents on a man's dollar are the women who are keeping their heads above water and their career intact. Given the skyrocketing cost of private child care, some mothers either can't afford to go back to work at all or else they work to keep their careers alive in the long-term, while spending much, if not all, of their earnings on child care.

A problem this big can't be solved by personal efforts or policies that address the symptoms of the deeper injustice. Working mothers aren't just experiencing unequal pay: They're facing unequal demands on their energy and time in a culture that is still not set up to reflect women's lived

realities. Fathers have been able to work in the endless, obsessive way demanded by American culture, because they usually have wives onto whom they offload their child- and home care. The people who are expected to adapt are mostly women. No matter how "understanding" a boss wants to be, and no matter how good those women are at advocating for themselves, unless the culture of work changes, they'll fall behind. The solution has to go further, down to the level of what we expect from each other and from work.

[Car payments, child care help? Dunkin' Donuts sweetens offers for workers to stay \(MSN\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:09 PM, Stephanie Ritenbaugh)

Heartland Restaurant Group, which operates 48 Dunkin' Donuts locations in southwestern Pennsylvania, is marking its 10th anniversary. The franchise group has more than 1,000 employees and serves about 11 million guests a year, the firm said. "We got here based on our employees' performance," said Anthony Braun, chief operating officer and chief financial officer of Heartland, which is based in the Strip District. It opens about four to six Dunkin' locations a year, Mr. Braun said.

Retailers have faced tough competition for workers over the past several years. For instance, convenience store chains Sheetz Inc. and Wawa Inc. have boosted their starting pay and have been touting their benefit packages. Retail giant Walmart said in 2016 it would invest \$2.7 billion over two years to give a pay bump to 1.2 million hourly workers, increasing wages to \$10 an hour. This week, America's largest private employer said it will offer workers affordable access to a college degree in hopes the new benefit will help it recruit and retain higher quality entry-level employees in a tight U.S. labor market.

[Who is getting paid more? 16 states where personal incomes are booming \(USA Today\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:51 AM, Michael B. Sauter & Grant Suneson)

During the Great Recession, U.S. gross domestic product declined 4.3%. Since then, the economy has rebounded and is now in one of the longest periods of expansion on record. As the economy recovered, the U.S. labor market also began to improve. The unemployment rate dropped from 8.1% in 2012 to 4.4% in 2017, and total employment increased by over five million people. Personal income also grew by 11.2% across the nation in that time frame, while per capita personal income increased by 7.2%.

The economic expansion has not benefited all states equally. In some states, personal incomes grew by less than 5%, and one, North Dakota, actually reported an income decline of 1.8% between 2012 and 2017. On the other hand, total personal income in some states has grown by more than 15% and even over 20% in one over the last five years

[A pay increase for entry-level jobs \(Marketplace\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:10 AM, Mitchell Hartman)

The job market is now being flooded by the class of 2018 — both college and high school graduates. Leticia Aguilar is among them. She's about to graduate from Franklin High School in Portland, Oregon. "I will be working in the summer and then I will be attending PCC [Portland Community College]," Aguilar said recently in the college and career counselor's office at her school. She's hoping to continue her education after community college and transfer to a four-year college to complete a degree in social work or teaching.

Aguilar is 17 and supports herself financially: "I've been working in retail 30-plus hours a week since I was 16," she said. Once she's in college, she hopes to find a better-paying job to make ends meet. And she might just be in luck.

[25% of employers hiring for summer plan to pay more than \\$15 an hour \(Recruiting Headlines\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:52 AM, Staff)

Employers are targeting various workforce segments to fill their summer jobs. Nearly 3 in 4 (73 percent) say they plan to recruit college students, 39 percent say high school students and 26 percent say retirees. Two in five employers hiring for the summer (41 percent) are looking to hire veterans for their summer positions. The national survey was conducted online by The Harris Poll on behalf of CareerBuilder between April 4 and May 1, 2018, and included representative samples of 1,012 hiring managers and human resource professionals in the private sector and 1,117 full-time workers across industries and company sizes.

"Employers are grappling with a tough hiring environment, and summer workers are reaping the benefits," said Irina Novoselsky, president and COO of CareerBuilder. "Employers are becoming more competitive with pay and offering more long-term employment opportunities to summer workers. It's a great way for workers to add new skills, build up their resumes and expand their professional networks."

[Walmart's too-good-to-be-true "\\$1 a day" college tuition plan, explained \(Vox\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:00 AM, Matthew Yglesias)

Walmart is the largest private employer in the United States, so its human resources policies are always big news with national implications. If headlines this week like "Walmart's perk for workers: Go to college for \$1 a day" (CNN) or "Walmart to offer employees a college education for \$1 a day" (Washington Post) sound too good to be true, that's because they largely are. The benefit is real, but it is much more restrictive than those headlines suggest. It's essentially a bulk purchasing discount for a narrow range of online college courses.

It's also a telling benefit on a number of levels. The labor market is getting stronger, and employers are needing to think harder about how to invest in recruiting and retaining employees. But the old-fashioned strategy of paying more continues to be something corporate America resists, in part out of habit and in part because offering higher wages is a little more complicated than it looks. Companies like Walmart are, in essence, trying to get creative with their compensation packages in hopes of narrowly targeting the money they expend on the core goal of recruiting and retaining desirable workers.

[\[MA\] AG fines firms for ducking prevailing wage \(Bay State Banner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:00 AM, Bay State Boston Banner)

Three Massachusetts construction companies have been cited more than \$155,000 in restitution and penalties for failing to pay the proper prevailing wage rate for work performed on public works projects and for other violations of state wage laws, Attorney General Maura Healey announced today.

"Employers working on public projects have a duty to treat workers fairly and pay them what they are due," said Healey. "My office works hard to uphold the prevailing wage laws because Massachusetts residents deserve to know their tax dollars are spent appropriately."

[\[NY\] Restaurant owners and workers united amid Cuomo's tipping wage rule changes \(Crain's NY Business\)](#)

(6/3/2018 10:13 PM, Cara Eisenpress)

Everyone who can accept tips under state law-the bartenders, sommeliers, servers, runners and hosts-gathers, and a designated captain divides the night's cash gratuities according to a previously agreed-upon ratio. Later in the week, managers add each employee's share of tips paid by credit card to their hourly wages, which start at \$8.65 per hour, and then divide that by the hours worked to figure out whether each tipped employee earned the city's minimum wage of \$13 and spent no more than 20% of their time doing non-tipped work. The tip-splitting ritual is one way that restaurants, salons and car washes, among other businesses, stick to the many rules around the "tip credit," the amount employers can subtract from the regular minimum wage to set a lower base wage for their tipped workers. Other practices at some tipped workplaces are illegal: Employees pocket their own cash tips tax-free; managers cut workers' base pay below what is legal, reasoning that tips brought their pay up to the regular minimum wage; and owners pocket some tips. Federal law requires owners to make up the difference if tips do not get a worker's pay up to the minimum wage, but some fail to do so.

This summer, following the recommendation of a wage board in 2015 and after seven hearings around the state, Gov. Andrew Cuomo and his labor commissioner, Roberta Reardon, will decide whether to eliminate the tip credit-and, by extension, the customs that surround it. Implementing a consistent minimum wage, supporters say, would reduce wage theft in industries with tipped workers, who are often women, minorities and immigrants who do not report violations. This time restaurateurs have a trump card: Many of their workers are siding with them and against the advocates championing tipped employees. Complicating the conversation around tips are the rules and regulations that govern the use of the tip credit. The industry's position is that the state should enforce the law, and the tip credit is no more subject to abuse than other wage rules, such as overtime pay or the standard minimum wage. Including the back of the house in tip pools, which laws have long forbidden, is another potential solution.

[\[MD\] Employers offering more paid internships \(Bend Bulletin\)](#)

(6/2/2018 5:01 PM, Lorraine Mirabella)

The nearly 100 interns arriving at Under Armour's Locust Point campus in Baltimore from colleges around the country this summer will meet top executives, help design and sell sports apparel and learn to solve business challenges, all while earning a paycheck. Summer interns at M&T Bank, Travelers Insurance and Johns Hopkins also are getting paid. New federal guidelines have made it easier than ever for employers to count interns as non-employees - and not pay them. Despite the changes, more employers are offering interns wages to go with the experience they gain. Bryan Kaminski, Under Armour's director of university programs and recruiting, says paying the equivalent of entry-level salaries to interns, whom the company views as an extension of full-time workers, helps make those positions accessible to more people.

The Fair Labor Standards Act requires employers to pay employees, but students and interns are not always considered employees. Before the U.S. Department of Labor updated its guidelines in January, employers were required to prove each of six factors before they could take on an unpaid intern as a non-employee.

[\[OH\] Large, small Ohio businesses give back to employees, charities after federal tax reform \(KPVI-TV NBC 6 Pocatello\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:31 AM, Bethany Blankley, Watchdog.org)

Dozens of employers in Ohio have given tens of thousands of employees raises and expanded employee benefits as a result of federal tax reform. "The Tax reform bill is helping Ohioans and Ohio businesses," Rea Hederman of the Buckeye Institute said. "Manufacturing remains a vital Ohio industry, and now Ohio businesses are more competitive in the world market with a lower corporate tax rate. This means more jobs and more money for hard working Ohioans."

Many local companies gave bonuses and increased wages because of the tax reform bill championed by President Donald Trump. Akron-

based First Communications, LLC gave its 83 Akron-based and 70 Chicago-based employees \$1,000 bonuses. It's also investing \$3 million in capital improvements to its data networking, cloud, voice and managed services throughout the Midwest.

[\[MI\] Showdown looms for prevailing wage repeal plan \(Detroit News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:15 PM, Beth LeBlanc & Jonathan Oosting)

A proposal to repeal Michigan's prevailing wage law could be taken up by lawmakers as early as next week, after a state board approved Friday the certification of signatures. The Board of State Canvassers unanimously approved a ballot measure that would repeal the 1965 law that requires contractors to pay union wages and benefits on state-funded projects.

Republican lawmakers have said they would approve the proposal themselves rather than allow voters to decide on the proposal in November. If it becomes law, the repeal measure would increase competition for public construction contracts, potentially lower building costs and possibly alter pay levels for construction workers. Pro-repeal groups have said current law inflates construction costs that are ultimately borne by taxpayers. Prevailing wage supporters have said a repeal would lower wages and limit training programs.

[\[MI\] Michigan certifies prevailing wage ballot petition \(Durham Herald-Sun\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:31 AM, Staff)

Michigan's Board of State Canvassers has cleared a ballot petition to repeal Michigan's prevailing wage law, setting the stage for lawmakers to vote on veto-proof legislation for it possibly next week. The board certified the petition Friday, two days after the state Supreme Court struck down a challenge to an appeals court decision ordering certification of the measure. The 1965 prevailing wage law requires paying the local wage and benefit rate — usually union scale — on state-financed projects. Republicans say the law inflates costs. Union contractors and Democrats say it prevents workers from being paid less.

The bipartisan board deadlocked in April. Democrats voted "no" after opposition raised objections about fraudulent addresses from circulators. The Republican-controlled Legislature has indicated support for repealing prevailing wage. It has 40 days to do so or it would proceed to the November ballot.

[\[WI\] Dozens of Wisconsin companies give millions in raises, bonuses, because of federal tax reform \(KPVI-TV NBC 6 Pocatello\)](#)

(6/2/2018 12:30 PM, Bethany Blankley)

More than 30 companies in Wisconsin have given raises and bonuses to their employees, donated to local charities, invested in new equipment, hired new employees, enhanced benefit packages, and reduced rates, all citing the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act that President Donald Trump signed into law last December. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce created an interactive tax map and Americans for Tax Reform compiled a comprehensive list of businesses giving raises, bonuses, and other savings to employees and customers in Wisconsin.

The U.S. Treasury Department projects that the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act will result in 90 percent of wage earners receiving higher take-home pay. Companies increased their wages, expanded their benefits plans, gave out bonuses or gave larger donations to charities. Utility companies in Wisconsin, like other states across the country, announced lower rates for their customers as a result of tax reform.

[\[OR\] Portland Spurs Efforts to Rein In CEO-to-Worker Pay Gaps \(Bloomberg Law\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:21 PM, Jacob Rund)

About 500 publicly traded companies doing business in Portland, Ore., are likely to face a tax for big pay gaps between their CEO and rank-and-file workers, representing the first tangible aftereffect of a federal rule that requires disclosure of those figures. Big corporations like Walmart Inc., Verizon Communications Inc. and Marriott International Inc. have a presence in the city and each disclosed "pay ratios" large enough to trigger a new local surtax. So did TJX Companies Inc., which owns TJ Maxx, Marshalls and other retail store chains, and restaurant operator Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc. The city's tax on certain ratios—expected to yield about \$3 million in its first year—has spawned similar proposals across the country.

Both supporters and opponents of Portland's surtax admit it's not likely to put a dent in the coffers of most companies, and whether it spurs changes in corporate compensation practices is likely to hinge on this strategy's widespread adoption. The surtax has rankled some members of the city's business community, including apparel brand Columbia Sportswear Co. The Portland-based company is subject to the tax, which it says is based on an inconsistent metric and is meant as a shame tactic.

[\[CA\] Chick-fil-A Mocks The Lefty Myth About Wage Stagnation \(Town Hall\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:08 AM, John Tamny)

"As the owner, I'm looking at it big picture and long term." Those are the words of Eric Mason, owner of a Chick-fil-A in Sacramento, CA. Mason was talking about his employees and sales. He believes successful restaurants are an effect of happy, well-paid workers. That's why he's offering his employees wage increases that would boost their pay from \$12-13/hr. to \$17-18/hr. That Mason is raising worker pay well beyond California's minimum wage is a reminder that pundits on the left are flying blind when they emote about stagnant wages. They could learn a lot

from Mason. Mason sees very clearly what they don't: low-wage workers are incredibly expensive.

They are because they're not very productive. As is frequently said, you get what you pay for. Low-wage workers don't need to perform very well simply because they're not being compensated for it. Mason wants his business to boom, which means he wants his employees to feel well rewarded. Quoted in the Washington Post about his decision to boost employee compensation, Mason said "[W]hat that [pay well above the minimum wage] does for the business is provide consistency, someone that has relationships with our guests, and it's going to be building a long-term culture."

[\[CA\] California prison guards get a huge pay hike \(Whittier Daily News\)](#)

(6/3/2018 6:56 PM, Susan Shelley)

Only Texas employs more prison guards than California, but in Texas, taxpayers get more for their money. The annual salary for a correctional officer or jailer in Texas, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, averaged out to \$41,420 as of May 2017. In California, it was \$71,630. About 27,000 of West Coast prison guards are represented by the California Correctional Peace Officers Association. For them, the average base wage in 2015 was \$76,000. No state pays its prison guards more than California. So taxpayers may wonder why Gov. Jerry Brown has just negotiated a new one-year contract with the CCPOA that provides an unusually generous 5 percent raise.

The nonpartisan state Legislative Analyst's Office has asked that very question. Brown has a "weak justification" for the 5 percent raise, the LAO concluded in a report to the Legislature, which will vote on whether to approve the contract. If the new contract is approved, wages for correctional officers will be 67 percent higher than they were in 2001. The Brown administration estimates that the contract will cost taxpayers about \$330 million over the next two years, but the Legislative Analyst's Office thinks it will cost a lot more. That's because higher wages translate into higher overtime costs and higher pension contributions. The total amount contributed by the CCPOA to political campaign committees since 2001 is over \$71.8 million.

Minimum Wage

[Costco to boost its minimum wage to \\$14 an hour \(MarketWatch\)](#)

(5/31/2018 7:33 PM, Sarah Nassauer)

Costco Wholesale Corp. said Thursday it would raise its minimum wage and boost pay for 130,000 U.S. store staff, intensifying the battle for unskilled workers in a tight U.S. job market. The retail chain, second only to Walmart Inc. in terms of U.S. sales, said it would increase its starting hourly wages by \$1 to \$14 or \$14.50 an hour. Other hourly workers will receive raises of between 25 cents and 50 cents. The new wages take effect on June 11.

Executives said the company was using some of its savings from last year's U.S. tax overhaul to invest in its workforce. The legislation lowered the corporate tax rate, a boon for companies like Costco with large U.S. operations. Richard Galanti, Costco's finance chief, estimated the annual cost of the wage increases will be between \$110 million and \$120 million pretax. However, he said the company expects an effective tax rate of 28% this fiscal year, compared with about 35% last year.

[Costco raising minimum wage to \\$14 an hour \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:12 AM, Avery Anapol)

Retail giant Costco said Thursday that it would raise its starting minimum wage to \$14 an hour, a \$1 increase for entry level positions. MarketWatch reported that the company will also raise wages for other hourly workers by up to 50 cents. The changes will take effect on June 11 and are expected to affect 130,000 employees.

Costco finance chief Richard Galanti said the change is expected to cost between \$110 million and \$120 million annually, but that due to the new GOP tax law, the company expects a 7 percent drop in its tax rate, according to MarketWatch. The wholesale chain announced its quarterly earnings on Thursday, reporting a \$750 million profit, a \$50 million increase from last year, and a total revenue of \$32.36 billion. The company also announced Thursday that it has had a strong showing in e-commerce, with a reported 36.8 percent increase in online sales, according to USA Today.

[Costco ups wage to \\$14 amid growing global movements \(United Press International\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:22 PM, Susan McFarland)

Hourly employees will soon earn more at Costco, the latest company to raise its minimum wage in an effort to hire and retain quality workers in a tight U.S. job market. Costco said Thursday 130,000 employees will get a boost in pay to \$14 or \$14.50 per hour. Others will see raises between 25 and 50 cents per hour when the new rates take effect June 11. Costco said the pay hike is owed to last year's federal tax overhaul, which lowered the corporate rate. Costco said it'll use the savings to invest in its workforce.

Data released Friday showed U.S. unemployment is at its lowest point in a half-century, something that forces large companies like Costco to

compete for talent in industries with high turnover. Costco's move is the latest in a years-long national campaign by workers and advocates to hike the minimum wage.

[\[NJ\] A dire warning about the \\$15 minimum wage in NJ \(New Jersey 101.5 Ewing\)](#)

(6/3/2018 10:15 PM, Joe Cutter)

A report from the nonprofit Employment Policies Institute suggests New Jersey could lose roughly 32,000 minimum wage jobs if the state raises the minimum to \$15 an hour. Two economists, David MacPherson, of Trinity University, and William Even, of Miami University, examined the effects should the Garden State hike the minimum to \$15. Institute Managing Director Michael Saltsman says early research from San Francisco and Seattle is not encouraging, and shows thousands of minimum wage job losses.

"The businesses that tend to be impacted by a higher minimum wage are low margin businesses," he said. "They are only keeping a few cents in profit on each sales dollar. And so when the minimum wage goes up, if they cannot pass that cost on to customers through higher prices, they have got to make one of a few difficult choices."

[\[PA\] A boost in the minimum wage in this year's Pa. budget? \(Philadelphia Inquirer\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:20 AM, Lasherica Thornton)

As Pennsylvania's legislature prepares to tackle the state budget in the coming weeks, lawmakers and advocates are pushing legislation to increase the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, a change that could lift the incomes of more than 250,000 residents in Philadelphia alone. The longstanding fight over whether to boost the minimum wage of \$7.25 - the same as the federal minimum - is bound to be front and center as legislators return to the Capitol on Monday to begin trying to wrap up the budget by the June 30 deadline.

Gov. Wolf, a Democrat, proposed an increase to \$12 as part of his budget proposal this year, and several Democratic lawmakers and at least one Republican senator also support a hike. Advocates say an increase would not only help low-income families live more comfortably, but help bolster the economy by giving more people more spending power. Critics counter that it would cost jobs as businesses hire fewer people. Pressure has been building to at least consider it: Pennsylvania's minimum wage has been stagnant for 11 years, even as bordering states have pegged theirs at \$8.25 to \$10.40.

[\[NC\] Raising N.C. minimum wage likely limited to state government employees \(Winston-Salem Journal\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:30 AM, Richard Craver)

The Republican-controlled General Assembly is set to approve a \$15 an hour minimum wage for all full-time state government employees, going into effect July 1 with the 2018-19 state budget. About 8,000 employees, or 12 percent of the state government workforce, will benefit from the increase, according to the office of Senate leader Phil Berger, R-Rockingham. Republican Sen. Harry Brown, co-chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said during last week's budget debate that "this will be a huge raise for them and put them at what we could say is a living wage." Key Republican legislative leaders say the free-market system should continue to dictate wages for private-sector employers. The bureau reported that as of Jan. 1, there were 38,000 federal minimum wage workers in North Carolina. Rep. Evelyn Terry, D-Forsyth, praised the legislature's decision to raise the minimum wage for state government employees. She argued that it should be done in tandem with raising the state minimum wage for private-sector workers by \$1.25 an hour each year until it reaches \$15 an hour in 2022.

The divisive House Bill 2, passed in March 2016 by the N.C. legislature and known primarily for its transgender restroom access language, also forbid local government from requiring contractors pay above the federal minimum wage for providing services to those governments.

[\[NV\] Nevada justices define minimum health benefits for lower wage workers \(Nevada Appeal\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:55 PM, Geoff Dornan)

The Nevada Supreme Court, in an opinion issued this week, has unanimously defined what health benefits an employer must provide to qualify for a lower minimum wage. Under the minimum wage amendment to the state constitution, businesses that provide workers health benefits can pay workers a dollar less than those who don't provide benefits. At present, that's \$7.25 instead of \$8.25.

The opinion grants a writ of mandamus directing the district court to vacate its decision granting partial summary judgment to the employees who sued MDC Restaurants and to hold hearings to determine whether the health plans offered workers meet the requirements of the amendment. The opinion rejects MDC's argument the decision should be up to the Nevada Labor commissioner whether different health plans qualify for the lower minimum wage.

[\[CA\] Disney Proposes \\$15 Wage Hike by 2020 for Some Union Workers, But Not All \(Orange County Weekly\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:58 AM, Gabriel San Roman)

On the eve of United States Senator Bernie Sanders coming to Anaheim for a Disney Resort workers rally on Saturday, the Mouse is suddenly feeling generous. The Disneyland Resort decided to bargain in public by announcing a proposal yesterday that seeks to boost the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2020 for 9,500 hourly "Master Services" workers represented by four unions. The corporation is also pledging to launch an education investment program for employees in the fall with an initial \$50 million investment in news first reported in the local media by

"Today's investment in our cast—along with world-class training and development opportunities for both full- and part-time cast members—confirms that working at the Disneyland Resort is not only a good opportunity today, but a pathway to growth opportunities and career advancement tomorrow," said Josh D'Amaro, Disneyland Resort president, in a press statement. "We look forward to productive negotiations with our unions as we set a foundation for our exciting future ahead."

[\[CA\] Disney embraces \\$15 minimum wage in negotiations with workers \(CNN\)](#)

(6/3/2018 2:26 PM, Jackie Wattles)

Disney is embracing the idea of a \$15 per hour minimum wage in its latest contract negotiations with unions — but workers aren't won over yet. Service Trades Council Union representatives in Florida head to the bargaining table this week to discuss the latest offer from Disney, which would include wage hikes for about 34,000 workers at Walt Disney World in Orlando. It would lift their minimum wage from \$10 per hour to \$15 per hour by fall of 2021.

Disney says that marks the largest increase to starting wages it's ever offered. But while workers in Orlando are anxious to nab the wage hikes, there's still some hesitation. "The devil is in the details," said Eric Clinton, president of Unite Here Local 362, an affiliate of the Service Trades Council Union.

Overtime

[DOL Announces Plans to Revisit Overtime Rule \(Durability & Design\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:00 AM, Staff Report)

The Department of Labor recently announced its latest regulatory agenda, in which it discussed plans to revisit the overtime eligibility threshold, as well as calculations for regular rate of pay. The DOL noted that it plans to "clarify, update and define regular rate requirements" under the Fair Labor Standards Act, which notes that employers must pay covered employees at least one-and-a-half times their regular rate of pay in hours that are in excess of 40 hours in a workweek.

Bloomberg spoke with several analysts who took a guess at what exactly the DOL might clarify, since this agenda item had not been discussed publicly prior to this announcement. "When do you have to pay overtime on prizes, awards, bonuses? That might be the number one question I get," said Tammy McCutchen, an attorney with management-side firm Littler Mendelson. "There's a lot of confusion." A DOL spokesperson added that regular rate regulations have not been updated "in decades," though compensation practices have evolved throughout the years. On way in which the DOL could clarify the FLSA is to add categories of compensation that are excluded from the regular rate, officials said.

[\[MA\] Federal grand jury targets Massachusetts State Police alleged overtime abuse \(Boston Globe\)](#)

(6/2/2018 8:35 PM, Andrea Estes and Shelley Murphy)

A federal grand jury is investigating the alleged theft of overtime pay and other misconduct involving members of the Massachusetts State Police, according to multiple people with knowledge of the criminal probe. Prosecutors are examining whether members of Troop E - the unit that until recently patrolled the Massachusetts Turnpike - committed fraud by collecting pay for overtime shifts they did not work, and whether supervisors were aware of or participated in the practice, the people said. Dozens of current and former Troop E members have been linked in recent months to the alleged pay scandal, resulting in a wide-scale audit, a series of internal State Police investigations, a separate probe by the attorney general's office, and the disbanding of the entire unit. Records show some troopers reported earning five- and six-figure overtime payouts.

Two Troop E members in Western Massachusetts - Sergeant Jason Sternfield and Sergeant Michael Lynch - received orders to appear June 7 before a federal grand jury in Worcester, according to a person familiar with the investigation. A state criminal investigation, led by Attorney General Maura Healey's office, is ongoing. The State Police Association of Massachusetts, the union that represents troopers, has opposed the measure. In early May the union filed a complaint with the Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations accusing the agency of acting in bad faith by not giving the union a chance to negotiate the decision to implement vehicle tracking.

[\[MA\] Federal grand jury investigating Mass. State Police overtime abuse scandal \(MassLive\)](#)

(6/2/2018 9:45 AM, Gintautas Dumcius)

A federal grand jury is looking into the overtime abuse scandal within the Massachusetts State Police. Citing multiple sources, the Boston Globe reports that federal prosecutors have issued subpoenas to current and retired members of the former Troop E, which was charged with patrolling the Massachusetts Turnpike. The federal grand jury is meeting in Worcester, the newspaper reported.

Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey's office is also investigating the alleged overtime abuse. Kerry Gilpin, the head of the State Police, announced as part of ongoing internal audit that five additional troopers are allegedly involved the scandal. The State Police did not

release their names in the announcement. There are now over 30 current and former members of Troop E linked to discrepancies between overtime pay they've received and the hours they actually worked. Gov. Charlie Baker said Friday that the scandal is a "terrible stain" on the State Police and an "alleged scam" that's been going on for years.

[\[FL\] Miami Marlins Move Ex-Cheerleader's OT Suit To Fed. Court \(Law360\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:24 PM, Nathan Hale)

The Miami Marlins face claims from a former cheerleader that they failed to pay him overtime in violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act, in a suit the team's current and former owners removed to federal court in Miami on Friday. Boris Garcia Menier claims that during his tenure working for the Major League Baseball team, from October 2016 through most of February 2018, he regularly worked more than 40 hours but was not paid proper amounts for overtime as required in Florida and federal law.

Paid Leave

[Best baby shower gift: paid time off for new parents \(CNBC\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, Jessica Dickler)

For many new parents, the experience of welcoming a child comes with only a brief break from the daily grind. In federal offices, one of the most popular baby shower gifts is personal days, according to a recent report in The Washington Post. Co-workers donate them so a new mom can extend her leave beyond six weeks after giving birth.

Currently, 15 percent of employers allow workers to donate their paid time off to other workers, according to the Society for Human Resource Management's upcoming employee benefits survey, which will be released on June 19. "The way we support or don't support new mothers and fathers makes it really hard," said Ellen Galinsky, president of the Families and Work Institute. "It's a house of cards that people patch together to build the arrangements for their child." The rising tide of generous policies in corporate America has helped, but still, the U.S. lags other countries when it comes to parental leave.

[Summer Hours to Family Leave, Work-Life Balance Gets Top-Down Approach at NJ Firms \(New Jersey Law Journal\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:31, David Gialanella)

Leisure time and flextime are obviously part of the equation, but so is extended time away, according to Michael Stein, whose firm last year instituted a paid family leave policy, whereby a new parent is provided up to 20 weeks of leave with full pay. The parent, if the child's primary caregiver, can get the full 20 weeks paid, and if the secondary caregiver, can get up to eight weeks paid, with the option of an additional four weeks unpaid. "Paid leave is expensive," said Stein, managing partner of Pashman Stein Walder Hayden in Hackensack, but "You make it a priority." The program, launched last September, allows the new parent to use leave gradually over a six-month period, according to Stein, who said at least two people have used the program since its inception.

Asked whether firm leaders budgeted for the possible lost revenue and productivity that might come with having several employees on fully paid leave simultaneously, Stein said, "Because of the unpredictable nature of it, we didn't do it with precision." "I was amazed at how little resistance there was, because everybody loved providing this kind of support and the kind of message it sends," he said, noting that the idea was borne of discussions firm leaders had about recruitment, and how female lawyers cited paid leave as a draw.

Worker's Compensation

[\[FL\] Florida Approves Second Workers' Comp Rate Decrease in Six Months \(South Florida Hospital News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:37 AM, Tom Murphy)

For the second time in six months, the Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR) has approved a rate decrease that will affect all Florida businesses. Insurance commissioner David Altmaier's statement attributes the 1.8% overall decrease to the recent federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. The new rates will take effect for all new and renewal workers' compensation policies as of June 1, 2018.

The first rate decrease of 9.8% went into effect on January 1, 2018 and was basically approved and based upon claims payments from years prior to 2017, when the Florida Supreme Court made two major rulings that in essence provided greater benefits for injured workers but also removed attorney fee caps that had been in place since 2004. It is widely anticipated that these rulings will have a detrimental effect on the Florida workers' compensation system in the coming years and that the courts and insurance carriers are already starting to see the results of having to pay more as a result of these changes.

[\[CA\] Report: California Workers' Comp Direct Written Premiums Fell \(Insurance Journal\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:00 PM, Staff Report)

California workers' compensation covered payroll rose last year, but the average premium rate charged to employers fell 10 percent, so total

direct written premium in the system declined by \$192 million to \$12.77 billion in 2017, 1.5 percent less than in 2016, according to the latest data from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

The NAIC data was released by the California Department of Insurance, and the California Workers' Compensation Institute called out noteworthy points in the data in a report it issued on Friday.

Employee Misclassification

[\[MI\] Roofing and siding company to pay \\$310,000 in back overtime wages and damages \(Bay City Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:00 PM, John Tunison)

A roofing and siding contractor has agreed to pay \$310,000 in back overtime wages and damages to 74 employees after a federal investigation. American Classic Construction Inc., based in the Grant area, recently entered into a consent agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division. Federal investigators alleged the company owners violated overtime and record-keeping requirements. Employees were misclassified as independent contractors and not paid at the required time-and-one-half rate for working beyond 40 hours, investigators said.

Company leaders also failed to maintain accurate records for the number of hours worked by employees, according to the allegations. The \$310,000 going to employees is split into two parts - \$155,000 for back overtime and \$155,000 for liquidated damages.

Wage Violations

[\[TX\] Texans Cheerleaders Sue Over Unpaid Minimum Wages In 'Hostile' Work Setting \(Huffington Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:05 PM, Sara Boboltz)

A group of former cheerleaders for the Houston Texans are suing the football team over unpaid wages and what they call a "hostile and unfair" work environment. Five former cheerleaders involved in the suit appeared at a Friday press conference in Houston alongside famed women's rights attorney Gloria Allred. Also present were two Houston attorneys who are representing the five women. The women say they made federal minimum wage, or \$7.25 per hour, working on the NFL team. For some of the work they did as cheerleaders, they allegedly weren't compensated at all — including for merchandise featuring their images.

The women also took issue with how they were treated. The suit alleges a threat of bodily injury made by Texans cheerleaders coach Alto Gary, according to Houston Public Media, a local outlet. Hannah Turnbow, one of the former cheerleaders, said at the press conference that a fan once physically assaulted her, leaving abrasions on her shoulders. When she went to management, she said, she was told to "get over it." "We were harassed, we were bullied and we were body shamed for \$7.25 an hour," Ainsley Parish, another former cheerleader, said at the presser.

[\[TX\] Former Cheerleaders Sue Houston Texans For Sex Discrimination \(Houston Public Media\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:50 PM, Florian Martin)

Five former Houston Texans cheerleaders are suing the team alleging sex discrimination and violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Attorney Gloria Allred filed the lawsuit in the Southern District Court of Texas in Houston on Friday morning. It claims the Texans failed to compensate the cheerleaders for all hours worked and failed to pay minimum wage. It also alleges assault by threat of bodily injury by the Texans cheerleaders coach Altovise Gary and not compensating the plaintiffs for using their images on calendars and other merchandise. The five former cheerleaders ask to receive payment for the additional hours they worked but were not paid for as well as damages.

Worker Safety

[Century-old workplace safety organization changes name \(Business Insurance\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:36 PM, Louise Esola)

American Society of Safety Engineers has changed its name to the American Society of Safety Professionals to attract and retain members who work in safety but are not necessarily engineers, the Park Ridge, Illinois-based group announced Friday. The 37,000-member American Society of Safety Professionals, which advocates for safe and healthy work environments by preventing injuries, illnesses and fatalities in a variety of industries, has also refreshed its logo, redesigned its website and rebranded its social media channels, according to a press release.

[\[NJ\] Man struck, killed by tractor at N.J. recycling plant \(Warren Reporter\)](#)

(6/3/2018 1:14 PM, Alexis Johnson)

Police are investigating an accident at a Hudson County recycling plant in which a construction loader struck and killed a man Saturday morning. Angelo Maietta, 31, of Bayonne, was hit by a payload at Lincoln Recycling in North Bergen just before 10:30 a.m. Saturday, according to Captain William Lyons of the North Bergen police department, who called it a "tragic death."

News 12 reported that Maietta was working with his brother, Rafel Maietta, for a junk removal company when the two men made a regular stop at Lincoln Recycling on Dell Avenue. Rafel told News 12 that Angelo was closing the doors on the back of their truck when a payloader came speeding in reverse and struck Angelo and his vehicle. Rafel said his truck was pushed a couple of feet forward and he knew instantly that his brother was hit. It's not clear whether any charges will be filed against the driver of the payloader. The North Bergen police department as well as the Hudson County Prosecutor's office are investigating the incident. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is conducting their own investigation as well, police said.

[\[KY\] Explosion at UPS freight center set off by propane torch, investigators report \(Princeton Times-Leader\)](#)

(6/2/2018 1:00 AM, Mike Stunson)

A propane torch set off an explosion that heavily damaged a UPS freight center, a Lexington fire investigator said Thursday. The torch likely ignited acetylene gas released from tanks of the gas carried by a truck inside the facility, said Maj. Robert King of the department's fire investigation unit. The tanks of gas did not explode inside the center as initially reported by a fire official Wednesday, said department spokeswoman Jessica Bowman. All the tanks were accounted for in the subsequent investigation.

UPS said Wednesday that "initial reports indicate the cause may have been a gas leak from materials contained in a trailer." In addition to Lexington fire investigators, the Department of Transportation, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and UPS Risk Management were examining the UPS freight services center off Blue Sky Parkway Thursday, Lt. Bowman said. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives also had investigators on scene. Eight people were sent to the hospital Wednesday following the explosion.

[\[FL\] OSHA investigating company where construction worker died on the job \(WZVN-TV ABC 7 Fort Myers\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:47 AM, Trent Kelly)

The name of the company involved in a deadly workplace accident that killed a Lee County father has been released. John Pullen, 47, died on Tuesday after a concrete wall collapsed inside a vacant storefront off Bonita Beach Road. Pullen, a father to two daughters, died after being rushed to the hospital. A representative for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, or OSHA, said Pullen was working for a company called Al Hauls It All, LLC.

According to online filings with the state of Florida, the company is based out of a Cape Coral home. OSHA said the company does not have any history of previous workplace violations. On Wednesday, one day after the accident, inspectors with the city of Bonita Springs posted a safety notice to the storefront's front doors to warn workers about unsafe conditions. In a Facebook post, one of Pullen's daughters is remembering her dad as, "an amazing father, protector, and best friend."

[\[MI\] Students Complete OSHA Safety Course at "The Bridge" Alternative High School \(WHMI-FM 93.5 Howell\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:06 AM, WHMI 93.5 FM)

A group of students at The Bridge Alternative High School in Brighton have completed a 10-hour course in workplace safety and safety-related employee rights. Some 16 Bridge Alternative High School students were presented with certificates for successfully completing a course in workplace safety and employee rights at ceremonies Wednesday evening. The certificates, given to the 16 students who took the course, are earned through the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration, known commonly as OSHA.

The ceremonies were held at the Brighton Education and Community Center, with about 50 students, parents and supporters in attendance. The Bridge Principal Colleen Deaven says that instructor Dan Bastien, who is certified by OSHA to teach courses in workplace safety and procedures, offered to teach the 10-hour course at no cost in memory of son Daniel, a former Bridge student who passed away.

Deaven says it is the first time the course has been offered in a high school setting in Michigan and the students were given one-half-hour class credit for passing the course. Next fall, a 30-hour OSHA course in workplace safety will be offered to the Bridge students, again at no cost. Deaven says The Bridge is the perfect place to present the course, since the majority of its students either directly enter the workforce, or enroll in a technical school, upon graduation from The Bridge.

[\[KS\] Workers injured with severe burns at Jeffrey Energy Center \(WIBW-TV 13 Topeka\)](#)

(6/3/2018 4:30 PM, Erika Hall)

There has been an incident at Jeffrey Energy Center resulting in injuries, according to spokeswoman Gina Penzig with Westar Energy. Penzig confirmed two workers were injured with severe burns before 12:30 p.m. on Sunday at the St. Marys facility located at 25905 Jeffrey Rd.

The workers were transported to the University of Kansas Medical Center by helicopter. Part of the facility has been shut down, but the plant is still operational. Jeffrey Energy Center is a 2,178 megawatt coal-fired power plant.

[\[MT\] OSHA fines Billings construction firm \\$8,000 for safety violations following fatal accident \(KTVQ-TV 2 Billings\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:30 PM, Staff Report)

Federal regulators have fined a Billings construction company \$8,000 for health and safety violations related to the January death of worker at the former Labor Temple on the South Side. Fisher Construction was initially fined \$11,445 for two citations for serious violations, but the penalties were reduced after the company held an informal conference with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, according to Jose Carnevali, a spokesman for the agency.

The citations do not specifically mention the death of 39-year-old David Shepard, a worker who died when a large piece of concrete fell at the site and struck him. Carnevali said that incident sparked the OSHA investigation and fines, which Fisher paid last month.

[\[WA\] State fines Camas \\$4,800 over firefighter safety violations \(Camas Post-Record\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:58 PM, Kelly Moyer)

The Washington Department of Labor and Industry has issued fines totalling \$4,800 against the city of Camas for violating safe workplace standards and endangering Camas-Washougal Fire Department firefighters. The fines and related safe-workplace violations are connected to a Feb. 14 house fire in Camas' Northwest Prune Hill neighborhood, in which two CWFD firefighters entered a burning, smoke-filled house to rescue a man and his two dogs. Adam Brice, president of East Clark Professional Fire Fighters, the local firefighters' union, filed a complaint against the city on behalf of the firefighters in late February, and said the city's policy of sending only two firefighters to a fire call violated the state's workplace safety laws.

The first violation addressed the number of firefighters responding to the Feb. 14 house fire. The second violation stemmed from the city's failure to "ensure that respirators were used by all personnel working in areas where the atmosphere is hazardous as required by the standard," according to the L&I findings. A third, general violation, which came with no financial penalty, said CWFD firefighters "only have one set of standard turnout gear assigned to them turnout gear needs to be washed and disinfected."

Veteran

[More vets had jobs in May \(Military Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:01 PM, Natalie Gross)

The percentage of veterans without jobs dipped once again in May as the national unemployment rate hit its lowest mark in 18 years. The unemployment rate for post-9/11 veterans hit 4.2 percent last month, down from 4.9 percent in April, according to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics figures released today. Overall veteran unemployment ticked down from 3.7 percent to 3.4 percent. Meanwhile, the comparable nonveteran employment rate saw a slight change from 3.5 percent to 3.4 percent. Experts warn against putting too much stock in the monthly veteran unemployment numbers, which can be volatile since the data is drawn from a smaller sample size than the overall population.

Nationally, the U.S. charted a 3.8 percent unemployment rate in May — the lowest since 2000. In April, the national unemployment rate hit 3.9 percent after six straight months at 4.1 percent. Overall, the U.S. added 223,000 jobs last month, primarily in the retail trade, health care and construction industries.

[Like a boss: Boots to Business helps transitioning veterans become entrepreneurs \(Peninsula Warrior\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:59 AM, Ms. Mary Ann Davis)

Thanks to the Boots to Business Program, sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration, transitioning veterans have the opportunity to follow their dreams of entrepreneurship as they transfer back to the civilian sector. "B2B is an entrepreneurial education and training program offered by the Small Business Administration as part of the Soldier for Life -- Transition Assistance Program," said Lew Lewis, U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz Transition Services manager. "The program provides transitioning service members and military spouses an overview of the business-ownership process, opportunities and challenges, what it means to be an entrepreneur and military skills and attributes that transfer over to entrepreneurship."

B2B began in 2012 through a joint initiative between the Department of Defense and SBA and later expanded through a contract with the Institute for Veterans and Military Families Program at Syracuse University, New York, in 2014. The university has offered the "Entrepreneurship Boot Camp for Veterans" since 2007, which took B2B to transitioning veterans worldwide through the work of IVMF Executive Director J. Michael Haynie, Professor of Entrepreneurship and Air Force veteran. "The principal reason why veterans make good entrepreneurs is the skills they learned in the military are transferrable to an entrepreneurship setting," said Todd Moss, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship and Emerging Enterprises at Syracuse University and B2B instructor.

[\[WI\] Program in Wisconsin raises vets' employment hopes \(Raleigh News & Observer\)](#)

(6/4/2018 1:01 AM, Katy Macek)

Two months ago, U.S. Army veteran Terry Treleven didn't have a home for over a year after going through a difficult divorce. He recently found himself doing mock interviews to prepare for getting back into the workforce at the Chippewa Falls Veterans Housing and Recovery Program, where he has been staying for a month. "I worked at other jobs, but I couldn't stick with it," Treleven said. "It's just so hard when you don't have a

place at night to lay your head. I no longer consider myself homeless because I'm here, and now it's time to work."

Thanks to U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson's The Joseph Project, Treleven and five other veterans at the Chippewa Falls facility are getting that chance. The project is a faith-based initiative to connect people with jobs throughout the state, said Scott Bolstad, Wisconsin outreach director for Johnson's office. It is a weeklong class that teaches time and financial management, goal setting, spiritual fitness, conflict resolution and other topics. The class always ends by taking the participants to interview for companies, in this case Sourcecut Industries in Osseo.

[\[ID\] Organizations partner to connect veterans with jobs in south-central Idaho \(KPVI-TV NBC 6 Pocatello\)](#)

(6/3/2018 4:00 AM, Heather Kennison)

As the state and region turn their attention to talent recruitment, Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization is exploring ways to attract veterans. The organization has received a \$5,000 grant from Idaho National Laboratory that will help it reach out to service members and employers to transition veterans into vacant positions across the region. SIEDO is partnering with INL, the Idaho Department of Labor, the Idaho Division of Veteran Services and regional employers. With the funds, these partners will attend job fairs and host trainings for veterans and businesses.

According to the Idaho Department of Labor, 10 percent of adults in Idaho are veterans of the armed forces. The American Community Survey from the U.S. Census estimates that on average, 5 percent of the veteran labor force in south-central Idaho was unemployed between 2012 and 2016. The veteran age group with the highest unemployment rate was those ages 18-34 - where 10.2 percent were unemployed. To attract veterans, SIEDO representatives have been doing presentations at the Mountain Home Air Force Base and Hill Air Force Base, Stopher said. The training includes tips for applications, resumes and job interviews - and raises awareness about employers and job openings in the Magic Valley.

Union

[Unions Brace for Pivotal Court Decision Amid Politicking \(Roll Call\)](#)

(6/4/2018 5:04 AM, Kate Ackley)

In preparation for a Supreme Court decision that may deal a significant setback to public-sector unions, organized labor groups are launching new recruiting efforts as they mobilize for the midterm elections. The case — brought by Illinois state worker Mark Janus against the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees — challenges existing law that allows government-employee unions to collect fees from nonmembers. The court could announce a decision as soon as Monday.

The AFL-CIO in recent days has started a nationwide advertising campaign, along with a companion website dubbed "Freedom to Join," making a sales pitch for the perks of union membership. The ads are running in newspapers in nine states, including Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania, as well as in USA Today and The Washington Post. "From the boardroom to the steps of the Supreme Court, a dark web of corporate interests is trying to stop us with everything it has," reads the text of the ad from AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka. "But no matter what any CEO or lobbyist does, we're standing up for the freedom to join together in a union."

[The Unions Strike Back: Janus, West Virginia, Oklahoma, and the Future of Organized Labor \(Brown Political Review\)](#)

(6/2/2018 12:00 PM, Nathaniel Pettit)

The echoes of the Battle of Blair Mountain, the nation's largest armed labor uprising, still reverberate throughout West Virginia's rolling hills—and its classrooms. Starting on February 25, all of the state's public schools closed for nearly two weeks, as teachers statewide joined picket lines. The protest was the culmination of years-long objections to low pay; the state's average teacher salary ranks 48th in the nation. Three days before the teachers began their strike, Governor Jim Justice had signed legislation that provided a gradual pay raise for teachers, but one so modest that it would not cover the increase in the cost of living over the next five years. With the legislation failing to address concerns relating to public employee insurance programs, health care costs, and payroll tax deduction options, the teachers decided that they had had enough. Joining together, the teachers and their unions demonstrated that the labor movement is alive and well in the Mountain State.

Ironically, four days into the strike, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in a case from Illinois that is expected to critically hobble, if not permanently cripple, American unions. In Janus v. American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 31 (AFSCME), the Court revisits its 1977 decision in Abood v. Detroit Board of Education. The Supreme Court is now being asked to hold that, because collective bargaining is a form of political speech, the First Amendment forbids requiring workers to subsidize it, even through agency fees, which the case's plaintiff claims is inseparable from the political activities of the union. If Janus is decided this way—an outcome nearly all legal commentators expect—public-sector unions such as AFSCME anticipate losing as much as 65 percent of their membership. Indeed, that's what happened in Wisconsin after Scott Walker and the Republican legislature enacted public-sector right-to-work through the infamous Act 10 in 2010.

[Nabisco Unilaterally Imposes Contract, Axing Pensions \(Labor Press\)](#)

(6/4/2018 12:0 AM, Steve Wishnia and Neal Tepel)

The Mondelez International corporation announced May 23 that it would end pensions for about 2,000 workers at Nabisco bakeries, unilaterally implementing parts of a contract offer their union had rejected. The company, which has not negotiated with the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco and Grain Millers union since their last contract expired two years ago, had told workers in April that it would give them raises and a \$15,000 bonus if they agreed by May 20 to take the health-benefit cuts and switch to a 401(k) retirement plan.

The BCTGM refused to hold a vote on that proposal; Local 364 Vice President Leo Lovato told NWLaborPress that he'd seen workers at the Portland bakery rip up the letters from the company and throw them in the garbage. The imposed contract will give workers raises of 2.25% a year retroactive to March 2016, but end the company's contributions to the union's pension plan. It does not include Mondelez's plan to charge health-care premiums of \$28 to \$68 a month and double deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums.

[Striking AT&T workers vocal about alleged unfair labor practices by management \(WJRT-TV ABC 12 Flint\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:54 PM, Terry Camp)

About 400 AT&T workers remained on strike Friday over what they consider to be unfair labor practices on the behalf of company management. Friday was day two of the strike by AT&T workers, which appears to be spreading around the Upper Midwest. Already, 300 workers in Flint, Saginaw and Bay City walked off the job. The strike may lead to longer waits for service calls and getting service questions answered for customers.

Workers from CWA Local 4108 have been working without a new contract since April. The strike centers around an email that AT&T management sent to the employees about a tentative agreement for a new contract that it said it was fair and final. The Communications Workers of America union said the company can't negotiate with the employees directly, that the negotiating has to stay with the union's bargaining team.

[Why unions may be answer for fast-food workers \(Detroit Free Press\)](#)

(6/3/2018 6:01 AM, Frank Witsil)

Jamika Ruffin is a part-time Burger King cashier trying to make ends meet on about \$9.25 an hour. On Monday, she and about 150 other lower-wage workers will have a chance to make their case for better wages to four key Democratic representatives to Congress - Sander Levin, Royal Oak; Dan Kildee, Flint; Debbie Dingell, Dearborn, and Brenda Lawrence, Southfield - at an open, town hall-style meeting at 11 a.m. at Wayne County Community College in Detroit. Monday's gathering - which organizers are calling Michigan Needs Unions - is part of a national effort to organize and to enlist public officials and candidates in supporting the workers' cause, especially as November elections near. Organizers said their concerns are resonating in metro Detroit - which has long been a bastion of organized labor - because the real median hourly wage is falling, union membership is declining and the percentage of workers in service jobs, like fast food cashiers, is on the rise. Organizers added, Michigan's governor and Republican lawmakers have gone after unions by prohibiting dues as a condition of employment and banning Michigan municipalities from setting minimum wages.

The effort to increase minimum wages has been gaining political traction. In 2015, then-U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez came to Detroit to hear dozens of fast food workers tell him and Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan their experiences working multiple jobs to make ends meet.

[\[SC\] Labor Board Republicans May Decide Fate of Boeing Union \(Bloomberg BNA\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, Chris Opfer)

Shortly before workers voted in favor of organizing at a Boeing plant in South Carolina, a National Labor Relations Board ethics official made a decision that could shape the company's legal fight to keep unions off the campus. Ethics official Lori Ketcham recently cleared Member William Emanuel (R) to participate in Boeing's case challenging the workers' vote for representation by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, an agency spokesperson told Bloomberg Law. Although Emanuel's former law firm has represented Boeing on other employment matters, the spokesperson said Ketcham determined Emanuel could rule on this case because the firm isn't involved.

Emanuel and two other members denied Boeing's request to pause the May 31 vote by a group of workers at the North Charleston plant. But his participation in the case means the board's Republican majority will likely eventually decide Boeing's claim that the group shouldn't have been allowed to vote in the first place. "Boeing continues to believe that this micro-unit is prohibited by federal law," the company said in a May 31 tweet. "We are deeply disappointed with the result and are appealing."

[\[SC\] Boeing Flight Line Workers In Charleston, S.C., Vote To Unionize \(WEKU-FM 88.9 Richmond Public Radio\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:26 PM, Bill Chappell)

It only covers about 178 workers, but it's still a union foothold: Flight-readiness technicians and inspectors at Boeing's factory in North Charleston, S.C., voted to unionize on Thursday, more than a year after a broader union vote failed at the plant that makes Boeing 787 airliners. The workers will be represented by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers union, despite intense resistance from Boeing.

The company accused the union of using gerrymandering to form a "micro-unit" at the facility it built in South Carolina — a "right to work state" — after running into difficulty dealing with the Machinists' union (including a strike) in Washington state 10 years ago.

[\[SC\] Union breaches Boeing bastion in rare win \(Crain's Chicago Business\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:30 AM, Staff)

Boeing Co. technicians voted to form the first collective bargaining unit at the plane maker's factory in South Carolina, scoring a rare victory for organized labor in a state traditionally hostile to unions. The "Micro-unit" will represent fewer than 180 flight-line workers, a small subset of the 7,000 or so workers who build Boeing 787 Dreamliners in North Charleston. The result gives the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers a foothold in a so-called right-to-work state.

The world's largest plane maker vowed to challenge the election by the small worker group, saying it violated U.S. labor law. "Boeing continues to believe that this type of micro-unit is prohibited by federal law," the company said in a statement Thursday. The union victory marked a turnabout in a long struggle between management and the Machinists, with the South Carolina plant the latest battleground. An attempt to organize the factory last year was rejected by 74 percent of workers, while a 2015 campaign fizzled amid an anti-union barrage led by then-Governor Nikki Haley.

[\[SC\] South Carolina Boeing workers vote to unionize in major win for labor rights \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:46 AM, Elham Khatami)

Flight-line workers at Boeing's South Carolina plant pushed back against the company's executive team in voting overwhelmingly in favor of unionization Thursday, marking a rare win for organized labor in the South. Employees at the aerospace giant's North Charleston plant voted 104-65 to have the International Association of Machinists (IAM) represent them in collective bargaining, according to The Post and Courier, despite Boeing's efforts to dissuade the workers from organizing. Prior to the vote, the company launched an anti-union social media campaign, arguing that such "micro-units" are prohibited by federal law, and tried to delay the election. Company spokesman Victor Scott said Boeing will appeal the decision.

Workers at Boeing's North Charleston plant reached out to IAM last year, citing "changes to work rules, threatened layoffs and mandatory overtime on weekends," as well as less-than-average hourly pay, The Post and Courier reported. In February 2017, about 2,800 North Charleston Boeing employees voted to reject unionization. Since then, company executives have cut employees' pay raises from twice a year to once a year.

[\[SC\] Union presence could benefit all workers at Boeing's North Charleston campus, experts say \(Charleston Post & Courier\)](#)

(6/2/2018 6:00 AM, David Wren)

South Carolina's right-to-work law guarantees employees don't have to join a union to keep their jobs, but Thursday's vote at Boeing Co.'s North Charleston campus will likely be felt throughout the workplace. Flight-line workers voted 104 to 65 in favor of having the International Association of Machinists represent them in collective bargaining. Employers typically raise wages and benefits for all workers - not just those covered by union contracts - whenever a labor union is successful in organizing part, but not all, of a business, a labor expert said.

When a union has a strong workplace presence, the average pay of non-union workers is 5 percent higher, according to a review of 35 years of data by the pro-union Economic Policy Institute. The road to a union contract for Boeing's flight line workers promises to be long. The IAM and Boeing have seven days to challenge Thursday's vote. If neither side raises any issues, the National Labor Relations Board will certify the election. Boeing has already said it will appeal the NLRB decision that allowed the vote to take place.

[\[OH\] AT&T locals across five states walk out \(Zanesville Times Recorder\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:00 PM, Shelly Schultz)

Local AT&T employees joined thousands across five states in a walk-out that began Thursday. "Yesterday at 11, along with five other states that are in the District 4 Local, we walked out against the unfair labor practices of AT&T," said Kyle Ogilbee, secretary and treasurer for Local 4324. "They have not been to the bargaining table for us for about two weeks and we've been working without a contract."

The workers are represented by the Communications Workers of America, which has been in talks since March on behalf of 14,000 workers in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. About 18 Zanesville employees took to the street to voice their opinion. AT&T employees are asking for more job security, health care and pensions.

[\[OH\] Local AT&T workers strike: What it means for customers \(Dayton Daily News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:19 AM, Kara Driscoll & Max Filby)

More than 300 Dayton area AT&T workers represented by the Communications Worker of America Local 4322 have gone on strike, according to an union representative.

The CWA has been in ongoing contract talks since March with AT&T on behalf of 14,000 workers in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and

Wisconsin, as well as its nationwide Legacy T contract. When asked how long the workers would be on strike, a union representative said "it could be indefinite."

[\[MI\] AT&T union workers on strike say company 'intimidated' them to approve contract \(Grand Valley Advance\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:01 AM, Isis Simpson-Mersha)

Union workers in Saginaw, Midland, and Bay City walked out of their jobs Thursday, arguing their employer, AT&T, is intimidating and attempting to influence them to accept a new labor contract. Over 400 members of the Communications Workers of America union participated in an unfair labor practice strike on Thursday, May 31, arguing AT&T tried to bargain with employees directly and not with the union's bargaining team. Similar strikes are planned Friday, June 1. "The company went behind the bargaining team's back and tried to influence us via company email to accept this offer," said Martin Szeliga, vice president of Local 4108.

Union workers were working under a three-year contract that expired on April 15. Weeks leading up to the expired contract, AT&T and the bargaining teams were in discussion to work up a new contract. As both parties negotiated, the union workers agreed to keep working without a contract. Szeliga said the email, which was sent out last week, boasted about wage increases and continued job security. He said the company shouldn't be reaching out to employees directly during negotiations. After the bargaining process, the bargaining team discusses details about the offer to employees and they are able to vote on whether or not they will accept the offer.

[\[MI\] Nurses at hospital in Michigan's Upper Peninsula OK contract \(Rock Hill Herald\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:05 AM, Associated Press)

Nurses at a hospital in Michigan's Upper Peninsula have voted to accept a new contract. WLUC-TV reports the agreement with Duke LifePoint for nurses at UP Health System Marquette was reached following negotiations with the Michigan Nurses Association.

The union says the contract contains many improvements for nurses and patients, including language to ensure that nurses have a stronger voice in staffing decisions. The union says it includes wage increases and robust health insurance to help retain nurses. Nurses had been working without a contract since last year. In October, they held a two-day strike.

[\[MI\] Nurses at Marquette hospital OK new contract \(Crain's Detroit Business\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:58 AM, Associated Press)

Nurses at a hospital in Marquette have voted to accept a new contract. The agreement with Duke LifePoint for nurses at UP Health System Marquette was reached following negotiations with the Michigan Nurses Association, WLUC-TV reported.

The union said the contract contains many improvements for nurses and patients, including language to ensure that nurses have a stronger voice in staffing decisions. It includes wage increases and robust health insurance to help retain nurses. Nurses had been working without a contract since last year. In October, they held a two-day strike.

[\[MT\] Montana Unions Expecting Right-To-Work Blow From US Supreme Court \(Montana Public Radio\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:16 AM, Corin Cates-Carney)

A U-S Supreme court decision expected in the coming weeks could deal a big blow to Montana's public sector unions. The decision could make Montana a so-called 'Right-to-Work' state in the public sector, costing the state's biggest union membership, revenue, and bargaining power.

"A union only works or only works well when the majority, if not a vast majority, of the members in a bargaining unit are members of that union," Montana Federation of Public Employees Eric Feaver says. "When some people decide for whatever reason they just don't want to participate in the work of the union and they don't even want to pay dues to the union, because what, it doesn't mean anything to them?" Feaver says public union membership here could fall by ten percent if labor groups are no longer allowed to mandate union fees.

[\[NV\] Las Vegas union: Tentative labor deal struck with Caesars \(Washington Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:35 AM, Regina Garcia Cano - Associated Press)

Negotiators have reached a tentative labor agreement that would cover about a quarter of the 50,000 hotel and casino workers who are threatening to strike in Las Vegas. The Culinary Workers Union Local 226 on Friday said the new five-year deal with Caesars Entertainment covers about 12,000 workers at nine casino resorts on the Las Vegas Strip. Tens of thousands of bartenders, housekeepers, bellmen and other unionized workers at 34 casino-hotels on the Strip and in downtown Las Vegas have sought new, five-year contracts for months. The current contracts expired at midnight.

Ninety-nine percent of about 25,000 workers voted last week to authorize a strike at any time starting Friday. No date has been set, but workers have started signing up for strike pay, financial assistance and picketing shifts.

[\[NV\] Culinary Union says deal reached with Caesars, rest still in negotiations \(KSNV-TV NBC 3 Las Vegas\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:03 AM, Matthew Seeman)

The Culinary Union says it reached a tentative agreement on a new contract with Caesars Entertainment, hours after the previous contract with Strip and downtown properties expired at midnight Friday.

The union's Twitter account posted just after 2:40 a.m. Friday that the five-year deal would cover 12,000 workers at nine Las Vegas Strip resorts: Bally's, Caesars Palace, Flamingo, Harrah's, Paris, Planet Hollywood, The Cromwell and The LINQ. The union said more details on the agreement would be released later Friday.

[\[NV\] Union: tentative labor deal struck with Caesars \(Austin American-Statesman\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:24 AM, Associated Press)

A union for casino workers and one of the largest resort operators in Las Vegas reached a tentative labor agreement Friday that would cover about a quarter of the 50,000 employees threatening the first citywide strike in more than 30 years.

The new five-year deal with Caesars Entertainment covers about 12,000 bartenders, housekeepers, kitchen workers and others at nine casino-resorts on the Las Vegas Strip, the Culinary Workers Union Local 226 said. It declined to provide details because workers have not approved the contract, but generally both sides agreed to wage increases and stronger language against sexual harassment. "We feel very good about the contract," said Geoconda Arguello-Kline, union secretary-treasurer. "We feel like the company got what they need for their business to continue, and we feel like we can still provide the American dream for the members."

[\[NV\] Partial resolution reached in Vegas as strike talks continue \(CNBC\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:49 AM, CNBC)

The union says the five-year deal covers approximately 12,000 workers at nine casino resorts on the Las Vegas Strip, reports CNBC's Jane Wells with the latest details.

[Editorial note: VIDEO at source].

[\[NV\] Las Vegas Culinary Union Settles with Caesars Entertainment, as MGM, Other Casinos Continue to Hammer Out Contract Terms \(Casino\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:21 AM, Devin O'Connor)

But MGM resorts — the largest casino owner in Las Vegas with 10 venues — is still hammering out their own deal, hoping to avert a strike which technically could still happen now that Culinary Union contracts have expired. SLS, Stratosphere, The Tropicana, The Westgate, and The D downtown also remain in jeopardy as talks continue. Nevada's largest union represents kitchen workers, cocktail and food servers, bartenders, guestroom attendants, and porters. Union officials are seeking increased wages and benefits, measures to combat sexual harassment, and guarantees from casino operators that workers will receive advanced skill training and not be replaced by digital technologies.

On May 22, 99 percent of voting union members supported authorizing a strike should new terms not be reached in their favor and in a timely manner. A walkout has always been considered a "last resort," according to union leaders, and negotiations are continuing past the contract expiration for the remaining casinos. Details of Caesars' new five-year agreement with the Culinary Union have not yet been released.

[\[NV\] Caesars reaches tentative agreement with Culinary Union \(Las Vegas Review Journal\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:06 AM, Richard N. Velotta)

The threat of a crippling strike in the city's resort corridor might be averted. With a tentative five-year labor agreement established by Culinary Local 226 and Bartenders Local 165 with Caesars Entertainment Corp., the focus of labor negotiations now shifts to the other big Strip player: MGM Resorts International. A union representative said negotiations with MGM would resume Saturday. Still, more than 100 union members, most of them clad in red T-shirts, rallied at their "Strike HQ" Friday to make hundreds of picket signs declaring a walkout of MGM properties.

[\[NV\] Culinary Union, MGM Resorts reach tentative contract deal \(Las Vegas Review Journal\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:32 AM, Todd Prince)

Las Vegas tourists can rest assured this weekend that service won't be disrupted. Union negotiators say they struck a tentative deal with MGM Resorts International, the state's largest hotel operator by employees, just a day after workers began preparing strike signs. The historic new 5-year contract covers approximately 24,00 workers at 10 casino resorts on the Las Vegas Strip. The deal comes a day after Caesars Entertainment Corp., Nevada's second-largest hotel operator, reached a similar tentative agreement with the union.

Culinary Local 226 and Bartenders Local 165, part of UNITE HERE, threatened to strike for the first time in more than three decades if they did not reach a new agreement by midnight on Thursday. Contracts for 50,000 Las Vegas hotel employees, including housekeeping staff, bell staff, bartenders and cocktail waitresses expired June 1. The workers were demanding an average annual increase in wages and benefits of 4 percent over the next five years. A union vote will be scheduled in the coming days for both the Caesars and MGM contracts.

[\[NV\] Culinary Union, MGM resume negotiations after nearly week's delay \(KSNV-TV NBC 3 Las Vegas\)](#)

(6/2/2018 4:27 PM, Marvin Clemons)

Officials on both sides confirmed that MGM Resorts and the Culinary Union resumed contract negotiations on Saturday. Union and MGM officials last talked on Monday. In the meantime, the union reached an agreement with Caesars Entertainment on Friday morning, the morning after the contract officially expired.

Union and MGM spokespeople confirmed the talks. Union workers have been preparing for actually going on strike after voting "99 to 1" to authorize union leaders to call a strike in a vote about a week ago. A total of 25 hotel/casinos have yet to reach a deal with the union after the 9 hotels/casinos owned by Caesars agreed to a contract.

[\[NV\] MGM Resorts reaches tentative deal with Las Vegas unions \(Las Vegas Review-Journal\)](#)

(6/3/2018 7:08 PM, Todd Prince and Richard N. Velotta)

With the two largest employer groups on the Strip reaching tentative labor agreements over the weekend, Las Vegas tourists can rest assured that service at resorts won't be disrupted. MGM Resorts International, the state's largest hotel operator by employees, late Saturday joined Caesars Entertainment Corp. in approving new five-year contracts with Culinary Local 226 and Bartenders Local 165.

The deal heads off a potential nightmare scenario for MGM Resorts, whose business could have been disrupted as the Stanley Cup Final returns to T-Mobile Arena for Game 5 on Thursday. Like the agreement reached Friday with Caesars Entertainment, details of the settlement weren't disclosed. Rank-and-file workers will consider the contracts in as-yet-unscheduled ratification votes. Culinary spokeswoman Bethany Khan and an MGM Resorts representative said a joint statement would be issued Sunday or Monday. The tentative deal was reached a day after more than 100 union workers made hundreds of picket signs in preparation for a strike against MGM Resorts.

[\[NV\] Las Vegas casino workers reach tentative new deals with two largest casino chains amid strike threat \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:43 PM, Luke Barnes)

Two major casino chains have reached deals with their workers in Las Vegas over new contracts, in the face of potential strike action which had the capacity of dealing a potentially crippling blow to the city's resorts and casinos. The Culinary and Bartender's Union, which represents casino staff like cocktail servers, maids, cooks, bartenders and others employed in the hospitality industry, have been locked in negotiations with Nevada's hospitality companies over a new five-year contract, which expired on Friday. Chief among concerns are wage increases and the looming danger of automation. Ninety-nine per cent of the 25,000 workers who participated in a May 22 vote supported going out on strike.

On Friday, workers reached a tentative agreement with one employer, Caesar's Entertainment, over a new contract, which would cover 12,000 workers at nine casinos. Just as workers began to make strike signs, the Union announced a last-minute, tentative deal with MGM resorts for a new five-year-contract covering 24,000 workers at 10 casinos. Negotiations continue with 15 other Las Vegas resorts where contracts have expired, but the fact that Caesar's and MGM, the two largest employers have reached deals makes it much more likely that the smaller ones will soon as well.

[\[NV\] Vegas MGM union workers reach deal with casino \(Houston Chronicle\)](#)

(6/3/2018 1:31 PM, Anita Snow – Associated Press)

A union for casino-hotel workers says it has reached a tentative agreement with MGM Resorts International, covering nearly half of the 50,000 employees threatening to strike in Las Vegas. The deal between MGM and the Culinary Workers Union Local 226 was announced by the union in a tweet late Saturday. A tentative accord between the labor union and the other big casino employer threatened by the job action, Caesars Entertainment, was reached Friday afternoon. Union spokeswoman Bethany Khan confirmed Sunday that the tentative deal had been reached.

MGM spokeswoman Mary Hynes deferred to the union for any further comment about the accord. Some smaller casino operators have yet to reach agreements with the union and could still face the first citywide strike in more than 30 years. The union says the main sticking points have been wages, workplace training and job security as casino-hotels turn to technology that can displace workers. Employees want contract language that would protect them if properties are sold and an independent workload study for housekeepers. Workers have voted to authorize a strike, but no date has been set.

[\[NV\] Culinary: Tentative deal reached with MGM on 5-year contract \(Las Vegas Sun\)](#)

(6/3/2018 7:53 AM, Ray Brower)

The Culinary Workers Union and MGM Resorts International reached a tentative agreement on a five-year deal late Saturday, the union announced on Twitter. The contract covers 24,000 employees at 10 Las Vegas Strip properties and would end the union's threats to strike if a deal wasn't reached this week. Specifics on the deal with MGM will be released later, according to the Culinary's tweet.

It comes one day after the union finalized details of a five-year contract with Caesars Entertainment for 12,000 employees. That deal includes "groundbreaking language on worker security regarding sexual harassment, workload, technology, and immigration," according to a union statement. In their threats prior to the agreements, union representatives estimated a strike of its 50,000 workers from 34 casinos on the Strip and in downtown could have cost those properties more than \$300 million in the first month.

[\[NV\] Labor Unions and Robots: What Happens In Vegas Isn't Likely to Stay There \(Real Clear Markets\)](#)

(6/4/2018 12:00 AM, Allan Golombek)

It was bound to happen. Attempts to slow down the pace of automation are making their way to the top of the union agenda. The first major battle is taking place in Las Vegas. But in this case, what happens in Vegas isn't likely to stay in Vegas. The city that never sleeps has been the site of a battle waged by the Culinary Workers and the Bartenders unions to prevent or slow the introduction of new technologies at Vegas hotels. The union threatened to strike largely based on these issues, before reaching settlements with Caesar's and MGM Resorts. (Details of the agreements have yet to be released.)

The city isn't the first place where the backlash against technological progress has reared its head. A growing realization that jobs aren't going to Mexico or China so much as to robots and other technologies has spawned a new ludditism, aimed at clinging to jobs by stopping or at least slowing the advance of technology. The same job-protection impulse that drives opposition to free trade is now being directed at new technologies. In New York, for example, cabbies are demanding a ban on self-driving cars. In most cities, the companies are trying to block ride-sharing services. But it isn't surprising that the first major union battle over the introduction of artificial intelligence is taking place in the gambling mecca. A majority of Nevada's workers are employed in legacy service sector jobs especially susceptible to automation. Redlands University economist Johannes Moenius calls Las Vegas "the epicenter of a potential wave of automation."

[\[WA\] UW grad-student workers OK contract \(Seattle Times\)](#)

(6/3/2018 9:12 PM, Lewis Kamb)

The union representing 4,500 teaching assistants, researchers and other graduate-student employees of the University of Washington voted overwhelmingly Sunday to accept a new contract with the university, avoiding a possible walkout during finals week. The new agreement includes 2 percent pay raises each year for the next three years and a new annual lump-sum payment of \$100 to each student employee to help defray student fees incurred during the academic year.

The contract also increases quarterly child-care subsidies for student employees from \$900 to \$1,250, and raises their overall child-care fund from \$45,000 to \$60,000. The academic student employees - most of them doctoral students - previously had threatened a 14-day strike, meaning some student papers and final exams wouldn't have been graded right away as the school year closes out.

[\[CA\] California unions want to keep anti-labor activists from meeting new teachers and cops \(Sacramento Bee\)](#)

(6/4/2018 12:01 AM, Adam Ashton)

California's public employee unions are backing a pack of bills that might help them hold on to members if the Supreme Court this summer issues a ruling that's expected to deliver a serious blow to the finances for labor organizations. Two of the bills lay out standard guidelines governing how public agencies collect dues from union members. Both give unions time to call workers and try to change the minds of those who want to stop paying dues.

One of the bills would require local governments to grant time off to union shop stewards. It requires the unions to reimburse government agencies, but local government lobbyists still have concerns about it. Another, Assembly Bill 2970, would prohibit government agencies from publicly disclosing information about new employee orientations.

Disability

[nTIDE May 2018 Jobs Report: Despite Fewer Looking for Work, Gains Continue for Americans with Disabilities \(Benzinga\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:31 AM, Staff)

Job gains continued for Americans with disabilities in May, although fewer were looking for work, according to today's National Trends in Disability Employment – Monthly Update (nTIDE), issued by Kessler Foundation and the University of New Hampshire's Institute on Disability (UNH-IOD). While greater numbers of people with disabilities have entered the workforce over the past two years, Americans with disabilities are still striving for jobs that support their independence. Employment First is a national initiative that has identified competitive, integrated employment as the cornerstone of full community participation by all people with disabilities. Employment First, which provides a framework for systems changes that prioritize employment, has been adopted in some form in 49 states and the District of Columbia.

In the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Jobs Report released Friday, June 1, the employment-to-population ratio for working-age people with disabilities increased from 29.2 percent in May 2017 to 29.7 percent in May 2018 (up 1.7 percent; 0.5 percentage points). For working-age people without disabilities, the employment-to-population ratio also increased from 73.6 percent in May 2017 to 74.2 percent in May 2018 (up 0.8 percent; 0.6 percentage points). The employment-to-population ratio, a key indicator, reflects the percentage of people who are working relative to the total population (the number of people working divided by the number of people in the total population multiplied by 100).

[Training students with disabilities to work at banks \(American Banker\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:41 PM, Laura Alix)

If there's one thing Fifth Third Bancorp's Mitch Morgan wants people to know about Project SEARCH, it's that this isn't a charity case. Project SEARCH is a high school transitional program aimed at preparing young adults with intellectual and cognitive disabilities for the workforce. First and foremost, the \$142 billion-asset Fifth Third joined the program because it was facing a shortage of talent, said Morgan, who is the bank's manager for diversity and inclusion. Simply put, the bank had jobs it desperately needed to fill, and this was one way to do that.

There is an increased awareness that financial institutions can do more to make financial services accessible to people with disabilities. Besides the legal and altruistic reasons, about one in every five Americans has a disability, and it simply makes good business sense to meet their needs. Accessibility in both branches and digital services is important, and specialized financial literacy efforts are another good step, but many disability advocates say that hiring people with disabilities is another crucial need. Today, the nonprofit has more than 500 program sites worldwide, with most them in the health care industry. Fifth Third was the first bank to launch Project SEARCH, 13 years ago, and last year TD Bank became the second.

[Work Gains Continue For Americans With Disabilities \(Arizona Daily Independent\)](#)

(6/3/2018 11:59 PM, Staff Report)

Job gains continued for Americans with disabilities in May, although fewer were looking for work, according to National Trends in Disability Employment. While greater numbers of people with disabilities have entered the workforce over the past two years, Americans with disabilities are still striving for jobs that support their independence.

In the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Jobs Report released Friday, June 1, the employment-to-population ratio for working-age people with disabilities increased from 29.2 percent in May 2017 to 29.7 percent in May 2018 (up 1.7 percent; 0.5 percentage points). For working-age people without disabilities, the employment-to-population ratio also increased from 73.6 percent in May 2017 to 74.2 percent in May 2018 (up 0.8 percent; 0.6 percentage points). The employment-to-population ratio, a key indicator, reflects the percentage of people who are working relative to the total population (the number of people working divided by the number of people in the total population multiplied by 100). "This is the 26th consecutive month that we are seeing improvement in the employment-to-population ratio," according to John O'Neill, PhD, director of employment and disability research at the Kessler Foundation. "It is indeed good news that we are seeing more people with disabilities finding jobs."

[\[PA\] Helping young adults with disabilities take the next step \[editorial\] \(Lancaster Online\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:00 AM, Editorial)

As part of Manheim Central School District's Next Step program, six students with intellectual disabilities graduated earlier this month. Next Step is designed to help these students gain critical skills and experience needed to obtain employment beyond graduation in fields such as manufacturing, hospitality and food service. Sometimes the best testimonial of a program's effectiveness doesn't come from gushing praise — although that's nice, too.

It comes from realizing what the absence of said program would mean for those it's intended to benefit. That's the case with 20-year-old Tyler Hornberger, a Next Step graduate who works three days a week cleaning at the Manheim Hampton Inn on Lebanon Road.

[\[WA\] The road to helping people with disabilities \(Federal Way Mirror\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:30 AM, Julie Pollard)

Over the loudspeaker the bulletin announcer read, "If you're interested in volunteering at Camp Easter Seal come to the counseling center and pick up an application." I was intrigued. It was 1985; I was 14 and ready for a little freedom. I picked up the application materials and learned the camp was for people with disabilities. I wasn't sure who that meant exactly, but I filled out the application anyway with visions of a week with no parents and the chance to meet boys — and got in.

I arrived to camp excited at my opportunity for freedom. The week began, and I fell in love. Not with a boy, but a mission. The campers I met over the week were smart, funny, kind and talented. Where were these cool people at school? Why didn't I have anyone with Down syndrome in any of my classes? Why did I never see anyone except elderly people who used wheelchairs?

Law & Compliance

[NLRB Rulemaking, OFCCP Jurisdiction Update, H-2B Cap Relief \(National Law Review\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:04 PM, James J. Plunkett)

Late last week, senators Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), and Bernie Sanders (I-VT) sent a letter to National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) Chairman John Ring asking him to put the brakes on the Board's recently announced decision to explore rulemaking as a means to address the joint-employer issue. The senators argue that rulemaking on this matter is an attempt "to evade the ethical restrictions that apply to adjudications." While the Buzz doesn't think that this letter will ultimately impact the Board's decision on whether to pursue rulemaking, it is

indicative of the scrutiny that the Board will continue to face from certain lawmakers who are intent on preserving as much of the previous Board's legacy as possible.

Moreover, if the House and/or Senate flips in November, these letters will turn into hearings, which could really slow things down at the Board. Finally, by arguing that the Board has already determined what a final joint-employer rule will look like, the letter appears to forecast a potential Administrative Procedure Act legal challenge that opponents of the traditional joint-employer standard might wield against any final rule.

[\[FL\] Labor board rules Disney didn't discriminate against Orlando union workers by withholding bonuses \(Orlando Weekly\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:13 PM, Monivette Cordeiro)

The National Labor Relations Board ruled Friday that Walt Disney World did not discriminate against Orlando union workers when the company chose to withhold \$1,000 bonuses from those employees. Back in January, Disney announced it would give \$1,000 one-time cash bonuses to 125,000 domestic workers - an initiative that the theme park company attributed to GOP corporate tax cuts.

The six Orlando unions that make up the Service Trades Council Union filed an unfair labor complaint against Disney, alleging the company was retaliating against unionized cast members by refusing to give them the \$1,000 bonus until they approved Disney's wage offer. NLRB Regional Director David Cohen dismissed the unions' complaint on Friday, arguing that there was "no evidence" to show Disney's decision to bargain with STCU over the bonuses was motivated by "anti-union animus." Eric Clinton, president of UNITE HERE Local 362, says the organization is disappointed and "strongly disagrees" with Cohen's decision. Clinton adds that the unions will begin bargaining talks again with Disney on June 8.

[\[CA\] 5 Workplace Compliance Issues for Northern California \(Society for Human Resource Management\)](#)

(6/4/2018 12:01 AM, Lisa Nagele-Piazza)

California is known for its abundance of workplace laws and regulations—and compliance gets particularly complicated for businesses in the northern part of the state that must follow more stringent local rules. "Employers in Northern California are still adapting to several new workplace laws unique to the area," said Elizabeth Stonhaus, an attorney with Dolowich & Voluck in San Francisco.

Employers have to be very conscious of all the laws that pertain to their jurisdictions, said Benjamin Ebbink, an attorney with Fisher Phillips in Sacramento. "Keeping up with the local ordinances can be quite a challenge, and I definitely recommend touching base with counsel." Here are some of the top Northern California-specific compliance issues that employers should note.

1. Minimum-Wage Hikes - Many Northern California cities have increased or plan to increase their minimum wages to rates that exceed the statewide minimum
2. Predictable Scheduling and Opportunity to Work - Predictable scheduling is the next big issue, according to Ebbink. During the last several years, San Francisco and Emeryville have rolled out predictive scheduling ordinances.
3. Paid Family Leave - San Francisco's Paid Parental Leave Ordinance took effect Jan. 1 and applies to employers with 20 or more workers. Covered businesses must provide up to six weeks of supplemental compensation to employees who receive state paid-family-leave benefits for baby bonding.
4. Paid Sick Leave - In addition to a statewide paid-sick-leave law, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland and San Francisco have their own ordinances that require employers to provide workers with paid time off to care for their own or a family member's illness or injury.
5. Lactation-Accommodation Requirements - Though there are federal and state lactation-accommodation rules, San Francisco has a more expansive ordinance, which took effect Jan. 1.

[\[CA\] Can an "Applicant" Be Discriminated Against When She Hasn't Applied for the Job? \(Vinson & Elkins\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:15 PM, Staff)

Under the California analogue to Title VII, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), it is unlawful for an employer to refuse to hire someone based on their "sex," which includes a woman's pregnancy status. Normally, to be eligible for protections under discrimination statutes like Title VII and FEHA in the hiring context, an individual needs to have at least applied for an open position. However, one California court of appeals indicated that, at least in some situations, FEHA sex discrimination may occur even when the plaintiff never applied for a position.

In *Abed v. Western Dental Services, Inc.*, the plaintiff worked as an extern for a dental practice and inquired about open dental assistant positions shortly after learning she was pregnant. She was informed there were no open positions. She later found out that the dental practice listed an opening on its website and hired a dental assistant shortly after her externship ended. The plaintiff sued, claiming the practice had falsely told her no position was open because she was pregnant. The employer argued that her claim must fail as a matter of law because she had not actually applied for any position. In denying the employer's motion for summary judgment on her discrimination claim, the court held that

submitting an application was not required to make out a prima facie showing of discrimination and that the employer's actions in falsely communicating that there were no openings interfered with her right to apply.

[\[CA\] Lawsuit alleges UPS 'systematically' violates labor law \(Northern California Record\)](#)

(6/2/2018 1:12 PM, Glenn Minnis)

A California woman has filed a class action lawsuit against former employer United Parcel Service, alleging the company systematically violated federal labor codes by not allowing certain employees rest or meal breaks and not properly compensating them for all hours worked. Emilia Santos was formerly employed by the company's San Ramon Customer Center as a non-exempt, hourly, part-time supervisor from July 2017 to February 2018, during which time she alleges she regularly worked shifts of more than six-hours without being afforded a 30-minute meal break or being paid for that time spent still working, in violation of state law.

Santos further maintained in her complaint -filed in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California - that in order to uphold the long held practice, the company had a system by which part-time employees would clock out for breaks, but be required to continue working as a means of keeping up production and controlling costs. In instances where workers failed to clock out, attorneys for Santos told the court UPS managers or supervisors would access the timecard system and edit the times as they saw fit.

[\[CA\] Editorial: California ruling challenges the new-economy definition of who 's an employee and who's a contractor \(St. Louis Post-Dispatch\)](#)

(6/3/2018 1:00 PM, Staff)

A recent decision by the California Supreme Court is causing consternation in the so-called "gig economy." The decision makes it harder for companies like Uber, Lyft and Amazon to classify workers as contractors rather than employees and may conflict with other court decisions saying just the opposite. The U.S. Supreme Court will almost certainly be asked to settle the question. The issue is of major consequence, because gig employees tend to cost employers up to 30 percent less than company employees and because non-traditional employees are the fastest growing segment of the U.S. workforce. Labor laws need to be updated to address the new reality. By one estimate, almost every net new job created in the United States between 2005 and 2015 was in what the Labor Department calls the "alternative work" or "contingent employee" category.

No one-size-fits-all definition applies, but the California Supreme Court suggested a test similar to laws in Massachusetts and New Jersey: To be classified as a contractor, the worker must first be free from the control and direction of the employer; his or her duties must be outside the usual course of the employer's business and such workers must regularly perform for others the same kind of jobs they do for the hiring entity.

Family and Medical Leave

[Got FMLA Forms? Visit DOL.gov for Updated Expiration Date on Model Notices \(HR Daily Advisor\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:06 PM, Holly Jones)

Those with eagle eyes and current FMLA administration needs may have noticed the May 31, 2018, expiration of several model DOL forms. Never fear, fresh forms—now sporting a June 30, 2018, expiration—are now available from the DOL. Aside from the one-month expiration extension, no other changes have been made to the forms. Every three years these forms expire, often with little fanfare and much confusion from employers. Thanks to Jeff Nowak's excellent investigative journalism over on the FMLA Insights blog, we can explain why: federal formality. That's right, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 requires the forms to be reviewed and reapproved every three years.

New forms, which have no changes other than the expiration date extension, have been submitted for approval and review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Once this review is complete, these new forms will be good for another three years. However, until that review is complete, the DOL will simply extend the deadline on the current forms each month.

Retirement

[SEC's regulation best interest falls short of making broker-dealers fiduciaries \(Employee Benefit News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:36 AM, Staff Report)

Ever since the Securities and Exchange Commission came out with its own proposed suitability standard for financial advice in April, the benefit industry has been trying to pick it apart and figure out what broker-dealers and registered investment advisers would have to do to comply with the proposal's regulation best interest concept. Regulation best interest requires anyone who advises retail investment accounts to follow a standard of care that falls short of the Department of Labor's fiduciary rule, which was recently vacated by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The big takeaway is that the proposed SEC rules probably don't apply to advice given to retirement plan sponsors but would apply to advice given to participants in a workplace plan, especially as it pertains to rolling over their retirement accounts into an individual retirement account. The SEC's work was mandated by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act in July 2010, which asked the SEC to conduct a study on the

regulatory standard of care for broker-dealers and investment advisers for providing personalized investment advice and recommendations about securities, says Sandy Grannum, a partner at Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP in New York City and chair of the law firm's broker-dealer and FINRA group.

[5th Circuit mandate to vacate DOL fiduciary rule 'still pending' \(Investment News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:39 PM, Mark Schoeff Jr.)

As death watches go, the vigil over the Labor Department's fiduciary rule has been a long one. Back on March 15, the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals struck down the regulation in a 2-1 decision. The Department of Justice, on behalf of the DOL, declined to appeal the decision by the April 30 deadline. Attempts by AARP and three states to intervene as the defendants were denied on two different occasions in May. The court was originally supposed to issue a mandate by May 7 making the March 15 decision effective, but has not yet done so.

The parts of the rule that were implemented almost a year ago — impartial conduct standards for brokers when working with clients in retirement accounts — are still operational until the 5th Circuit ruling becomes effective. In the meantime, the DOL has reiterated its temporary non-enforcement policy, allowing brokers to use exemptions in the regulation without a contract as long as they make a good-faith effort to comply with the impartial conduct standards, such as acting in a client's best interests, charging reasonable fees and not making any misleading statements.

[Why Do Some People Choose to Work Past 70? \(Entrepreneur\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, Joseph Chukwube)

Of course, "mature employee" could be anyone past, say, 55. But what would a worker gain by staying past 70? While Americans' life expectancy has dropped for the second year in a row, we're living longer than we did in the 1990s, for instance. Apart from older workers possibly enjoying the opportunity to share their skills and mentor young minds, there are several more reasons why some people find it beneficial to work past 70.

1. Health benefits: Did you know that working longer might actually prolong your life? A study conducted by Oregon State University showed that working past the age of 65 can help you live longer.
2. Social Security benefits: For every year you delay Social Security, Blackman says, you increase your benefits by 8 percent until you reach 70.
3. A bigger nest egg: As a general rule, most financial planners will recommend that you save enough to last 25 years after retirement. Meaning, if what you have left after spending your income

[Pension Reform That Public Workers Are Actually Happy About \(Governing\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:00 AM, Jessie Van Berkel)

Hundreds of thousands of public employees and retirees stand to benefit from a major pension reform package that Gov. Mark Dayton signed into law on Thursday. Schoolteachers, office workers, police officers and a retired parks maintenance worker were among the triumphant crowd that filled the Capitol rotunda in a ceremony for a bill signing that Dayton said would be the last piece of legislation he would sign as governor. "I can't tell you how many retirees and active employees have spoken with me in the last few days and told me how vitally important this is for their peace of mind, for their financial security, for their sense of being able to rely on pensions, on the promise that they've earned," Dayton said.

Pension reform efforts had been going on for years, as the state stared down a future debt of \$16.2 billion for pensions. Credit rating agencies warned state budget officials to get their unfunded liabilities in order, while retirees fretted about the prospect of larger cuts to their benefits. The pension changes that passed will immediately eliminate \$3.4 billion in unfunded liabilities and put Minnesota on a more stable path for the future, legislators said. The state will be contributing \$141 million to pension plans over the next few years, while retirees agreed to some benefit reductions and current workers must increase their contributions to the pension funds.

[Why This Obama-Era Retirement Account Was Doomed From the Start \(Motley Fool\)](#)

(6/2/2018 8:31 AM, Dan Caplinger)

Saving for retirement is important for everyone, but it's especially difficult for those who don't make much money in the first place. If you barely have enough to make ends meet right now, worrying about what'll happen to you years or even decades down the road isn't something you have the luxury to do. In order to try to solve some of the problems that low-income workers face in saving for retirement, the Obama administration in early 2014 created what became known as MyRA accounts. Despite the best intentions of those who created the program, the MyRA didn't live up to the hopes of those who had established it, and the Trump administration ended up starting to phase out the program last year. For some, the inevitability of that outcome was clear from the beginning.

The MyRA was initially intended as a first retirement savings option for those who hadn't yet had an opportunity to use other alternatives. It was designed to be easy to use for people who didn't have access to a 401(k) or other similar retirement plan at work, providing for workers to make

contributions through payroll deduction, contributions from a bank account, or deposit of a worker's tax refund. Low investment limits were available, including a \$25 initial contribution and \$5 additions. However, MyRAs didn't take off to the extent that their proponents had hoped. After three years, only 30,000 accounts had been opened, with just \$34 million contributed in total.

[American Benefits Council offers help on DOL push to find missing participants \(Pensions & Investments\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:4529 PM, Staff)

In a letter Thursday to Preston Rutledge, assistant secretary of labor for the Employee Benefits Security Administration, the trade association offered to work with the government agency to develop guidance so plan sponsors know what to expect moving forward from DOL audits. ABC said in a news release that DOL strategies to reach missing participants have become "a contentious matter during federal agency benefit plan audits. In the meantime, given the common objectives of the government and employers, the council believes that collaboration between the DOL and private-sector employers can improve the situation."

ABC's letter offered several ideas, including possible pilot projects and opportunities to share strategies that could take place outside the context of a federal agency audit. The DOL started a pilot program to address the missing participants issue in 2016 out of the EBSA's Philadelphia office and has since expanded it across the country. In fiscal year 2017, the Labor Department recovered \$326.7 million for plan participants, and as of early March, the tally was \$114.6 million in fiscal 2018, according to agency data.

[\[MA\] Public pension changes a giveaway to retirees \(Boston Herald\)](#)

(6/3/2018 3:00 AM, Editorial)

The state Legislature is cooking up another piece of warm "money" pie — complete with a cherry on top — for its friends. From the same group that voted themselves an 18-percent pay raise comes an end-of-the-budget-season "gift" to state and municipal retirees seeking to earn more taxpayer-funded income as "double-dippers." They want to cash their public pensions — plus be able to pad them with less restrictive rules on how many hours they can work in retirement doing their former jobs. You've read that right. Police officers, firefighters, teachers and others who chose to retire early from their jobs with public pensions want to work more and earn more on the public dole. It appears both the Democratic-controlled House and Senate are planning to oblige them.

Why are former state workers who chose to retire early now saying they can't make ends meet? Except for state judges, there's no mandatory retirement age in public service. No one kicked the former employees out of their public jobs, so why are they returning to public service seeking more part-time hours? At present, retirees — both state and local government — are limited to working 960 hours per year. A bill passed by the Senate would raise the cap to 1,200 hours; the House version would pack on a generous 56 percent increase to 1,500 hours. The bills were tucked into each chamber's proposed \$41.5 billion state budget, and need to be reconciled to become law.

[\[NJ\] They get \\$190,000 pensions! NJ retirement system costs hit \\$11B \(New Jersey 101.5 Ewing\)](#)

(6/3/2018 3:45 PM, Michael Symons & Sergio Bichao)

The former president of Essex County College may have retired in 2010, but he's still collecting \$195,000 courtesy of the state's public pension system. State Sen. Nicholas Sacco, a Democrat who also doubles as the mayor of North Bergen, has been collecting a pension of \$190,275 since his retirement as assistant superintendent of his township's school districts. They're among 50 retirees drawing annual pensions of more than \$150,000, a New Jersey 101.5 analysis of state records finds. Nearly 3,000 retirees or their beneficiaries are collecting six-figure pensions.

The average state pension is just \$31,600, but with 340,000 retirees, and growing by 10,000 a year, that comes to \$11 billion in benefits this year. It's not likely to happen this month, when the battle over the state budget shares center stage with major issues like school funding, sports betting and marijuana legalization. Gov. Phil Murphy said any discussion of changes should wait until full contributions are being made, which isn't for four years. The final increase in what workers must contribute to the two main pension funds - the Public Employees' Retirement System and Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund - under the 2011 reforms takes effect July 1.

Trade

[Trump Wanted a Trade War. Here's What One Looks Like \(Washington Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:30 PM, Andrew Mayeda & Bryce Baschuk)

Why did Trump invite this fight?: In a March 2 Twitter post, he declared trade wars "good, and easy to win," though later he denied the U.S. and China are in one. He repeatedly pledges to reduce the U.S. trade deficit, which shows the country imports hundreds of billions of dollars more than it exports. By the end of 2017, the U.S. trade deficit had risen to \$568 billion from \$505 billion in 2016. His administration has asked China specifically to reduce its trade surplus with the U.S. by \$200 billion, more than half the 2017 total, which was a record-high \$375 billion. Stepping back from trade deals like the North American Free Trade Agreement and the Trans-Pacific Partnership also appeals to Trump's base of voters in America's Rust Belt. But talk of a trade war is alarming to many U.S. business leaders, who largely support existing trade deals, and the securities markets, which fear lower profits and slower economic growth if the U.S. turns protectionist and other countries retaliate.

Who has retaliated?: China has imposed tariffs on about \$3 billion of American goods in retaliation for steel and aluminum duties that Trump enacted in March. Beijing has pledged to step up the fight if the White House makes good on plans to slap duties on another \$50 billion of the country's products in response to alleged violations of intellectual property. Meanwhile a handful of American allies have threatened to impose tariffs in retaliation against Trump's metal duties, including Canada, Mexico and the EU. The three are considering import barriers against iconic and politically sensitive American goods including motorcycles and bourbon. The duties could take effect in coming weeks.

[Trump thinks he's saving trade. The rest of the world thinks he's blowing it up. \(Washington Post\)](#)

(6/2/2018 6:48 PM, Heather Long and Steven Mufson)

President Trump appears prepared to unravel 70 years of painstaking effort that the United States has led to build an international system of trade based on mutually accepted rules and principles. With Trump's decision last week to enact aluminum and steel tariffs against U.S. allies in Europe and North America, he is subverting previously agreed-upon trade pacts. The result is a brewing trade war with Canada, Mexico and Europe, which are expressing shock and bitter frustration while enacting tariffs of their own on a bevy of American products.

Veterans of trade policy worry that tensions will further escalate, putting existing trade agreements in peril and the future of World Trade Organization, the group that the United States helped establish in 1995 to adjudicate the rules of global trade, in doubt. The bigger issue is a political one: the aggressive imposition of tariffs on an unprecedentedly wide variety of U.S. allies, and the use of national security as the justification for doing it. As a result, America's longtime partners are starting to view Trump's move as a sea change in U.S. policy.

[Trump tariffs could throw NAFTA action into 2019 \(Politico\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:00 AM, Doug Palmer)

NAFTA 1.0 just might hang on to see its 25th birthday before NAFTA 2.0 arrives onto the scene because of President Donald Trump's decision on Thursday to impose new tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico. Unless, of course, Trump pulls the plug on the pact before the silver anniversary of its enactment rolls around Jan. 1. Canada and Mexico had been temporarily exempted from the tariffs because of the ongoing NAFTA talks. But those negotiations have blown past one provisional deadline after another and "there is no longer a very precise date when they may be concluded," Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross told reporters.

Even by the most optimistic calculations, only a few weeks remain before a window closes for Congress to consider a NAFTA deal this year because of a complicated timeline of events that have to take place under the "fast track" authority. In addition, the Mexican presidential elections are about a month away, leaving the current administration there with little wiggle room to make big concessions. Trump's action "derails the spirit of the renegotiation of NAFTA," said Jorge Guajardo, a former Mexican ambassador who now works as a senior director at McLarty Associates in Washington. "We had been very specific, both Canada and Mexico, that we would not negotiate with a gun pointed to our heads. That's exactly what they are doing now."

[Other nations forced Trump's hand on steel tariffs \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/3/2018 11:30 AM, Dan Dimicco)

There's a lot of fuss right now about President Trump imposing tariffs on steel and aluminum imports. Realistically, the president had no choice but to stand up for America's steel and aluminum producers. It's simply a necessary step at a time when America's industrial base is in worrying decline. Steel production in the U.S. has fallen by 20 percent over the past decade alone. Steel employment has dropped by roughly 50,000 jobs since 2000.

Overall, the U.S. has lost almost 5 million manufacturing jobs over the past 20 years. More than 60,000 factories, which once employed skilled workers and provided good, middle-class wages, have disappeared. It's also inevitable, given the set of naive trade policies that invited predatory trade from other countries. The bottom line is that America is losing its steel industry. Where the United States once pioneered the world's steel industry, it now imports nearly four times as much as its exports. The president made the right decision, and the Section 232 tariffs he imposed are necessary to ensure the future viability of America's manufacturing base and military self-reliance.

[US steel and aluminum tariffs — the right move at the right time \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/2/2018 12:30 PM, Jeff Ferry)

The U.S. government's steel and aluminum tariffs went into effect — and they have already created an international furor. So mission number one is accomplished. The tariffs were intended to upset the applecart of an obsolete world trading system that is politically dangerous and economically disastrous. But there is more to do.

First of all, it must be understood that these tariffs are aimed at redressing U.S. national security and they are a response to a serious decline in U.S. production and capacity in these two industries. Worldwide overproduction and overcapacity in both metals have undermined the U.S. industries. There is an estimated 400 million tons of excess steel capacity in the world (about 25 of total capacity). That has hurt the U.S. industry badly in terms of price, profit, and employment. The situation in aluminum is even worse. In 1993, the U.S. had 23 operational aluminum smelters. Today it has five. Some 90 of primary aluminum consumed in the U.S. is imported.

[Trump defiant on tariffs, touts job numbers \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:51 PM, Max Greenwood)

President Trump on Friday struck a defiant tone as he waved off concerns of a mounting trade dispute with the European Union and other U.S. allies over steep tariffs on steel and aluminum imports. Speaking to reporters outside the White House, Trump cast his decision to impose tariffs on steel and aluminum exported to the U.S. from the E.U., Canada and Mexico as a way to level an uneven playing field.

Financial markets appeared to agree with the tariffs, Trump said, pointing to new employment numbers released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on Friday showing that the economy added 223,000 jobs and the unemployment rate dropping to 3.8 percent. He also said that leaders in Europe, Canada and Mexico had acknowledged to him in past discussions that their trade arrangements with the U.S. were one-sided.

[Trump applying 19th-century remedies to 21st-century problems \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:30 AM, Menzie Chinn)

Is it a trade dispute with China, or is it a trade war? If the latter, is it on hold, or not? The flip-flops in America's trade relationship with China are coming in ever more frequently, as President Trump issues and rescind threats. Only some anti-dumping measures nearly a year into the new administration signaled a possible new direction. That all changed in March, as Trump announced a series of radical measures, rationalized on grounds of national security and intellectual property rights violations.

It's tempting to argue that it's some kind of turf war between officials representing differing agencies, or personality conflicts bursting out into the open. The widely reported episode of Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin and White House National Trade Council Director Peter Navarro shouting at each other in front of the meeting venue in Beijing certainly lends credibility to those interpretations. The proposed remedy is tariffs of 25 percent on Chinese exports to the United States. Some of the items covered in the proposed target list bear little relationship to the sectors in which such intellectual property infringements take place.

[America's Allies Lose It Over Trump's Tariffs \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:03 AM, Anthony Halpin)

For U.S. allies frustrated with President Donald Trump's "America First" policy, his decision to slap tariffs on imported metals from Europe, Canada and Mexico on national security grounds may have been the final straw.

Canada's normally affable premier, Justin Trudeau, said the measures were "totally unacceptable" and retaliated with tariffs on \$12.8 billion of U.S. goods. "We have to believe that at some point their common sense will prevail," he lamented. Amid fears of a transatlantic trade war, the European Union also plans to strike back by imposing tariffs on U.S. imports including Harley-Davidson motorcycles and bourbon.

[White House points to booming economy to ease fears over trade dispute \(Washington Times\)](#)

(6/3/2018 10:30 AM, Valerie Richardson)

Those worried that tariffs could backfire by killing U.S. jobs need to remember that nobody has been more effective in building up the poor than President Trump, according to his senior trade adviser. Peter Navarro, White House director of trade policy, cited falling unemployment rates, including Friday's jobs report showing record-low black unemployment, as well as the expansion of manufacturing.

"No president has fought the war on poverty better than Donald J. Trump," Mr. Navarro said on Fox's "Sunday Morning Futures." His comments came after G7 nations released a statement Saturday conveying their "unanimous concern and disappointment" about recent steel and aluminum tariffs from finance leaders from Canada, the United Kingdom, Japan, France, Italy and Germany. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has called the tariffs "totally unacceptable," but Mr. Navarro said U.S. trade partners need to examine their own "unfair trade practices."

[Trump's trade war is likely going to kill hundreds of thousands of jobs \(Business Insider\)](#)

(6/3/2018 10:03 AM, Bob Bryan)

President Donald Trump's trade war is supposed to help boost America's job market, but new tariffs could actually make things ugly for US workers. On Thursday, Trump announced that the US would impose tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from three key US allies: Canada, Mexico, and the European Union. Peter Navarro, Trump's protectionist-leaning trade adviser, wrote in a USA Today op-ed that the metals tariffs will be a boon for American workers.

Economists and trade experts say the ultimate result will be a net loss in US jobs - perhaps in the hundreds of thousands. The tariffs will likely boost the price of steel and aluminum in the US, since metal imports will be subject to the additional tax. These higher prices are good news for steel and aluminum manufacturers, but they present a problem for companies that use those metals. Some of the necessary cost cutting is likely to come from the workforce, leading to layoffs. Other economists estimated that the net loss would be somewhat smaller, but almost no major study showed that the tariffs would result in a net boost to employment.

[It's time for free-trading Republicans to stand up to Trump on tariffs — and for Democrats to stand with them \(Business Insider\)](#)

(6/2/2018 10:03 AM, Josh Barro)

The reviews are in: Republicans in Congress hate President Donald Trump's new tariffs on steel and aluminum. Sen. Ben Sasse of Nebraska says they are "dumb." Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida says "instead of opening up another front in trade disputes, we should be teaming up with Europe to confront China." Sen. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee says "these tariffs will raise prices and destroy manufacturing jobs, especially auto jobs." Sen. Bob Corker, also of Tennessee, says they are the "wrong approach" and an "abuse of authority." House Speaker Paul Ryan says "there are better ways to help American workers and consumers." House Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady says administration officials "Will need to come to Capitol hill to provide answers about the indiscriminate harm these tariffs are causing our local businesses."

The Constitution vests the power to levy tariffs in Congress. Trump only has the power to impose tariffs Republican lawmakers hate because past congresses passed laws to give presidents those powers. If Congress thinks the president is using those delegated powers stupidly, they can take the powers back - or at least impose a rule that lets Congress override the president when he really screws up with a tariff policy. It would require them to engage in open conflict with a president who remains very popular within the party, depressing enthusiasm among Republican voters. Since Trump would be likely to veto any such proposal, it might not even work.

[Trump trade policies could lose 2.6 million U.S. jobs: Chamber of Commerce \(Metro\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:50 PM, Michael Martin)

President Trump's "America first" trade policy could actually lose 2.6 million American jobs, the Chamber of Commerce warned on Thursday. That's according to a confidential memo CEO Tom Donohue sent to the Chamber's board of directors, CNN Money reported. Citing outside studies, the memo totaled the effect of Trump's tariffs — both threatened and recently enacted — plus the withdrawal from NAFTA he has promised. Leaving NAFTA would lose 1.8 million American jobs in the first year, the memo said. Tariffs against China could lose 134,000 U.S. jobs, steel and aluminum tariffs could cut 70,000 jobs, and tariffs on cars and auto parts could cost 157,000 jobs.

Donohue sent the memo the same day that Trump announced he would slap steep tariffs on steel and aluminum imported from Canada, the European Union and Mexico — the country's three biggest trading partners. On Thursday, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced \$12.8 billion in retaliatory tariffs against American products, ranging from steel and sailboats to toilet paper. The EU have vowed to enact their own tariffs on U.S.-made goods, including motorcycles, whiskey, peanut butter and denim.

[Investors discount tariff threats as U.S. economy surges under Trump \(Philadelphia Inquirer\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:52 PM, Joseph N. DiStefano)

U.S. stock prices rebounded Friday, as another strong jobs report showed the economy under President Trump continues to create new positions at a rate of more than 200,000 a month. The employment news seemed to reassure traders who had been spooked by Thursday's promises by leaders in Europe, Canada and Mexico to retaliate against Trump's steel import tariffs with their own new fees on U.S. farm and factory products. The job report looked good all around: "Hiring [and] wages are up, unemployment is down," to a 27-year low of 3.8 percent, trumpeted chief economist John E. Silvia, told clients of Wells Fargo & Co.

Despite fears of a trade war that could jack up prices for many consumer and industrial goods in the months ahead, the U.S. economy — especially construction and manufacturing — has been so strong that the Federal Reserve will probably raise interest rates again this month, Silvia added. That would boost profits for banks. There are also signs the tariff fight isn't as much a long-term job strategy as a tactic to push Europeans, at least, to align more closely with Trump policies worldwide. The fact the U.S. is growing faster than its "so-called trading partners" ought to send the Europeans a message, Larry Kudlow, Trump's National Economic Council chairman, told CNBC Friday.

[Trump tell allies to fix trade after U.S. tariffs strike \(WTAQ-AM 1360 Green Bay\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:10 AM, Leika Kihara & Gernot Heller)

The United States' closest allies attacked the Trump administration on Friday for imposing tariffs on steel and aluminum imports and mounted challenges with the world's top trade body, fouling the mood at a G7 finance leaders meeting. U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin was the prime target of the criticism at the meeting of Group of Seven finance ministers and central bank governors in Canada, with the six other G7 member countries subject to the U.S. metals tariffs, which were imposed on national security grounds.

The tariffs also are complicating U.S. efforts to gain cooperation to challenge China's trade practices as U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross arrives in Beijing on Saturday for talks aimed at averting a U.S.-China trade war. Japanese Finance Minister Taro Aso, whose country's steel and aluminum producers have been paying the U.S. metals tariffs since March 23, called the U.S. action "deeply deplorable." "This doesn't happen that often at G7 meetings, but it was U.S. against everyone else," Aso told reporters.

[\[EU\] Moment of Truth Arrives for EU After U.S. Tariffs Strike \(New York Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:00 AM, Reuters)

After all the condemnation of U.S. tariffs on EU metal exports and calls for unity, the European Union still has two decisions to make - how hard to

hit back at the United States and whether to engage in trade talks with Washington. Neither is a given. The EU can act only by consensus, and its 28 members have different interests. Germany, by far the largest European exporter to the United States, is the most fearful of a trade war. Others, including France, are determined not to yield to what they see as U.S. bullying.

The European Commission is considering safeguards to prevent a surge of imports into the bloc and will launch a legal challenge at the World Trade Organization after the EU producers were hit by U.S. tariffs of 25 percent on steel and 10 percent on aluminum. EU countries have also given broad support to its plan to set its own duties of 25 percent on 2.8 billion euros (\$3.3 billion) of U.S. exports, including bourbon and motor-bikes to "rebalance" the U.S. tariffs on 6.4 billion euros of EU metals.

[\[China\] US-China talk trade again as global tensions rise \(CNN\)](#)

(6/2/2018 5:46 AM, Daniel Shane)

As fears of a global trade war escalate, all eyes will be on Beijing this weekend. US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross arrived in the Chinese capital on Saturday for talks with trade negotiators from the world's second-biggest economy.

Ross is due to hold meetings on Sunday, before departing Beijing on Monday, a US Commerce Department official told CNN. The official would not provide any more information about the meetings

[\[China\] Can US-China talks calm global trade war fears? \(CNN\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:46 AM, Daniel Shane)

As fears of a global trade war escalate, all eyes will be on Beijing this weekend. US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross arrived in the Chinese capital on Saturday for talks with trade negotiators from the world's second-biggest economy.

Ross is due to hold meetings on Sunday, before departing Beijing on Monday, a US Commerce Department official told CNN. The official would not provide any more information about the meetings. The negotiations come after a rocky week during which the United States tore up a tentative trade truce with China and hit Canada, Mexico and the European Union with big tariffs on metal imports. All three will retaliate.

[\[China\] The U.S. Trade War with China Has Reached a Dangerous New Phase \(Time\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:40 PM, Ian Bremmer)

On May 29, President Trump launched an offensive against that plan. To protect its national security, the White House said in a statement, the U.S. will restrict investment in and control exports of "industrially significant technology." The Trump Administration proposes to slap 25% tariffs on some \$50 billion of Chinese tech imports, including those related to the vaunted Made in China 2025 program. In essence, the battle for the future has been joined.

Trump has been trying to strike a delicate balance in U.S. relations with China, and until now has blown hot and cold on trade. He adopted the tough stance he promised voters while blaming the \$375 billion goods trade deficit on former U.S. Presidents rather than on Beijing. Trump would love to have warmer relations with China, just as he would with Russia. Trump has praised Xi just as he's repeatedly saluted Russia's Vladimir Putin.

National

[Nice recovery you've got there. It'd be a shame if something should happen to it. \(Washington Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:28 PM, Jared Bernstein)

The African American rate fell to 5.9 percent, by far the lowest on record. Typically, the black unemployment rate is twice the white rate. But persistently tight labor markets are especially helpful for minority workers, as they make it costlier for employers to discriminate. In May, the black/white ratio was 1.7, still too high, but lower than average, underscoring the relative gains from tight job markets for less-advantaged workers. Wage growth has been a soft spot in the recovery, especially given how low the jobless rate has been. This persisted to some degree in May, but there was a nice bump in the growth rate for middle-wage workers, which rose from 2.6 percent, year-over-year, to 2.8 percent.

Both that wage bump and the black jobless rate result underscore the punchline from the solid report: In an economy like ours, with little union power, tremendous finance power and, thereby, far too much inequality, the best friend for people who depend on their paychecks as opposed to their stock portfolios is a tight labor market.

[Countries investing more in social programs have less child poverty \(Economic Policy Institute\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, Valerie Wilson & Jessica Schieder)

Poverty is a universal problem that affects every nation on earth—both rich and poor. The world's wealthiest nations have the means to substantially reduce poverty rates in their countries by providing cash assistance and in-kind benefits to those in need. The generosity of a country's expenditures on public assistance is related to the child poverty rate after accounting for those expenditures. Specifically, we plot

social expenditures minus pensions as a share of gross domestic product (GDP) for the United States and select Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries against each country's post-tax, post-transfer child poverty rate in 2014. We subtract pensions from social expenditures because they are a relatively large social expenditure in some countries, but do not directly benefit most children. While social expenditures alone don't determine a country's poverty rate—unemployment, wages, inequality, and the overall strength and stability of the economy are the biggest determinants—there is a clear relationship.

The data show that on average, the relative child poverty rate tends to be lower in countries that choose to invest more of their national income in programs that alleviate poverty and material hardship. For example, Denmark and Finland are among the nations with the most generous social expenditures (each spending close to one-fifth of their GDP) and the lowest post-tax post-transfer, child poverty rates (both below 4 percent). The United States, in contrast, is much less likely than peer countries to step in where markets and labor policy fail in order to lift their most disadvantaged citizens out of poverty. In 2014, the United States had the second highest post-tax, post-transfer child poverty rate (20.2 percent) among the developed OECD countries included in the graph and spent the third lowest share of GDP on social programs (12.0 percent), after Slovenia (11.3 percent) and Slovakia (11.7 percent).

['Experts' Told The American People President Trump Would Tank The Economy. That Didn't Happen \(Daily Caller\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:12 PM, Joe Simonson)

With employment hitting new lows and wages continuing to finally rise, the American people have good reason to feel that the economy isn't going off the rails any time soon. One should always exercise discretion when giving credit to a president for the economy's health. While Trump has helped foment conditions conducive to growth through his tax reductions, regulation slashing, and most importantly, creating a climate where business owners don't share anxiety over future regulations or interference, no single individual can accept all the praise. Yet the American people were told something very different in November 2016 and in the months leading up to the election: A Trump victory could single-handedly, in the words of The Washington Post, "Destroy the world economy."

Despite these apocalyptic predictions by the nation's pundit class, there's been no evidence of any humility going forward. One would imagine that any person, let alone someone who fancies himself an "Expert," would take a long pause and reassess how they let themselves call it so poorly. Perhaps New York Times columnist Paul Krugman could go a step further rather than just a one-off tweet and offer a detailed explanation for why the post-Election Day "Global recession, with no end in sight" has not yet materialized. Such a prediction was shared by former Clinton and Obama chief economist Larry Summers and MSNBC economic analyst Steve Rattner.

[America Doesn't Measure the Difference Between Good Jobs and Bad Jobs \(Medium\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:15 PM, Paul Constant)

This morning on Twitter, Donald Trump hinted that the upcoming May jobs report was going to be very good. The tweet was a clever strategy for Trump, because it allowed him to frame the story for every news outlet in the world. Once the report actually came out, journalists were primed to label it as a success. On Twitter, our pal Invictus pointed out that the numbers under Trump that the press lost their minds over were the same numbers that under Obama supposedly indicated an economy in desperate need of repair. The fact is, some time in the 1970s America made the switch from high-quality, high-wage employment to low-quality, low-wage employment—and the shift is getting progressively worse. The report that Donald Trump touted today only counted the number of jobs created, not the quality of those jobs.

All the "good" employment news just so happened to bury a story by Ed Pilkington, a New York-based journalist for The Guardian. Pilkington was sharing the news of a new special report by United Nations poverty watchdog Philip Alston. Donald Trump is deliberately forcing millions of Americans into financial ruin, cruelly depriving them of food and other basic protections while lavishing vast riches on the super-wealthy. Alston's full report delves deep into our economic inequality problem and explains how America has failed its people. When we blare the news of a great new jobs report, no matter which party is in power, we are advancing the narrative that as long as we hit our marks, nothing else matters.

{End of Report}

From: Molina, Eric - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 04:41:17 PM
To: Chapman, Chris - BLS; Rowan, Carol - BLS
Subject: FW: OMB Statistical Policy Directive #3
Attachments: OMB Directive 3.pdf

[FYI](#)

From: Molina, Eric - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 4:41 PM
To: Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS
Cc: Berrington, Emily - BLS ; Bennett, Leslie - BLS
Subject: OMB Statistical Policy Directive #3

OMB Statistical Policy Directive (SPD) No. 3 (attached) is focused on the Compilation, Release, and Evaluation of Principal Federal Economic Indicators. Specifically, section 5 is focused on Release Procedures. As noted in OMB SPD No. 3, "All employees of the Executive Branch who receive prerelease distribution of information and data estimates as authorized above are responsible for assuring that there is no release prior to the official release time." This means that information regarding the PFEI release should not be disclosed prior to the official release. Furthermore, section 5 goes on to state, "Except for members of the staff of the agency issuing the principal economic indicator who have been designated by the agency head to provide technical explanations of the data, employees of the Executive Branch shall not comment publicly on the data until at least one hour after the official release time." Thus, if a member of the Executive Branch, no comments should be made on the Employment Situation (as it is a PFEI) until 9:30AM given the release is at 8:30AM.

From: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 10:26:10 AM
To: Levi, Michael - BLS
Subject: FW: POTUS tweet this morning

I think you told your staff to send any questions to OPA. Can you send same information to Horrigan and Hatch.

Thanks

From: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS Meisenheimer.Jay@bls.gov>
Date: Friday, Jun 01, 2018, 8:37 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>, Levi, Michael - BLS Levi.Michael@bls.gov>, Mele, Kathy - BLS Mele.Kathy@bls.gov>, Liddel, Emily L - BLS Liddel.Emily@bls.gov>, Standish, Stacey - BLS Standish.Stacey@bls.gov>, Steinberg, Gary E - BLS Steinberg.Gary@bls.gov>, Jack, Tracy - BLS Jack.Tracy@bls.gov>
Subject: POTUS tweet this morning

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<https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1002510522032541701>

Jay Meisenheimer, Chief

Division of New Media

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

(202) 691-7409

<https://www.bls.gov/>

https://twitter.com/BLS_gov

From: Haugen, Steven - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 09:03:56 AM
To: Hatch, Julie - BLS
Subject: fyi

<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/06/01/trump-calls-strong-jobs-numbers-saying-an-hour-before-he-was-looking-forward-to-the-report.html>

From: Haugen, Steven - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 10:43:25 AM
To: Horrigan, Michael - BLS; Hatch, Julie - BLS; Allard, Dorinda - BLS; Horvath, Fran - BLS
Subject: fyi

<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/06/01/trump-calls-strong-jobs-numbers-saying-an-hour-before-he-was-looking-forward-to-the-report.html>

From: Haugen, Steven - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 10:46:00 AM
To: Horrigan, Michael - BLS; Hatch, Julie - BLS; Allard, Dorinda - BLS; Horvath, Fran - BLS
Subject: fyi

<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/06/01/kudlow-on-trump-jobs-tweet-i-dont-think-he-gave-anything-away.html>

From: Horvath, Fran - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 01:09:45 PM
To: Horrigan, Michael - BLS
Cc: Haugen, Steven - BLS
Subject: Harold Goldstein, 1971 OEUS

Source:

<https://www.nytimes.com/1971/09/29/archives/chief-of-labor-statistics-says-his-bureau-is-being-reshaped.html>

ARCHIVES | 1971

Chief of Labor Statistics Says His Bureau Is Being Reshaped

SPECIAL TO THE NEW YORK TIMES SEPT. 29, 1971

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WASHINGTON, Sept. 28—A reorganization of the Bureau of Labor Statistics is now in process, it was confirmed to night by Geoffrey Moore, Com missioner of Labor Statistics.

The move stems partly from a dispute earlier this year over cancellation of press briefings on the politically sensitive statistics on unemployment and consumer prices.

Those involved are agreed on one major point that the change will not mean any poli tical juggling of the statistics.

Among those reportedly slated for new jobs or possible retirement are Peter Henle, chief economist in cahрге of analysis, and **Harold Goldstein, in charge of employment and unemployment statistics.** **Mr. Goldstein may retire.**

The dispute arose after Secretary of Labor James D. Hodg son decided to abolish the traditional press briefings. His decision came soon after Mr. Goldstein had told reporters that an improvement in the unemployment rate in one month was not proof of an im proved trend, while Mr. Hodg lson said that it was.

Mr. Moore said tonight that the organization had been ordered last July by the White House Office of Management and Budget and involved not only the bureau but also the statistical operations of three other government departments.

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He said that new personnel might be appointed. Asked if they would be political ap pointees, he replied, "No, they will be economists and will be worthy of the B.L.S. tradition of impartiality and objectivity."



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From: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 01:12:56 PM
To: Geale, Nicholas C. - OSEC; Conway, Molly E - OSEC; Pizzella, Patrick - OSEC <pizzella.patrick@dol.gov>
Cc: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Subject: Information from the Council of Economic Advisors

I know you are aware of the press surrounding the President's tweet this morning. I have been in touch with Stephen Barr of OPA about it. BLS followed all of our regular procedures.

I also wanted you to know the following --

Staff at the Council of Economic Advisors contacted me and were very apologetic. They said they are talking to White House counsel and OMB counsel and discussing ways to avoid in future. For example, reminder of rule with each briefing.

Separately I spoke with Nancy Potok, the Chief Economist of the US (part of OMB) and she is talking to her bosses and CEA to emphasize rules.

We have also gotten a request from the DOL Inspector General regarding our procedures and have received several FOIA requests. We are working with SOL on the FOIA requests.

If you need anything more from BLS, please let me know.

Bill

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent time: 06/04/2018 07:17:04 AM
To: PRESS_TEAM; Jack, Tracy - BLS; Levi, Michael - BLS; Liddel, Emily L - BLS; Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS; Mele, Kathy - BLS
Subject: Lockup calls to OPA

Hi Folks,

Yet another reminder that all inquiries about lockup should be passed on to OPA. The may be some more today (<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2018/06/01/trump-jobs-numbers-reporters-security-218585>)

Thanks,

-- Michael

Michael D. Levi
Associate Commissioner for Publications and Special Studies
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-5100



From: Hatch, Julie - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 09:04:39 AM
To: EU_STF
Cc: Barr, G. Stephen - OPA
Subject: OPA contact for June.

Megan Kindelan is out of the office on jury duty until June 22.

Steve Barr at main DOL can handle calls that she normally would take. His desk phone is 202-693-4678.

I know we may get calls this morning about the President's tweet. <https://www.cnn.com/2018/06/01/trump-calls-strong-jobs-numbers-saying-an-hour-before-he-was-looking-forward-to-the-report.html>

Julie

From: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS

Sent time: 06/01/2018 08:37:20 AM

To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS; Levi, Michael - BLS; Mele, Kathy - BLS; Liddel, Emily L - BLS; Standish, Stacey - BLS; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS; Jack, Tracy - BLS

Subject: POTUS tweet this morning

FYI because we will probably get calls about this. He tweeted this at 7:21 EDT, and now there is considerable Twitter chatter that it breaks the embargo by signaling a good report.

<https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1002510522032541701>

Jay Meisenheimer, Chief

Division of New Media

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

(202) 691-7409

<https://www.bls.gov/>

https://twitter.com/BLS_gov

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 09:03:14 AM
To: Steinberg, Gary E - BLS
Subject: RE: Bloomberg News question - ON DEADLINE

Thank you, Gary
-- Michael

Michael D. Levi
Associate Commissioner for Publications and Special Studies
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-5100



From: Steinberg, Gary E - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:52 AM
To: Liddel, Emily L - BLS ; Levi, Michael - BLS
Subject: FW: Bloomberg News question - ON DEADLINE
Jeanna's request will be forwarded to OPA. (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

From: Jeanna Smialek (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:) [mailto:jsmialek1@bloomberg.net]
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:15 AM
To: Steinberg, Gary E - BLS ; Jeannine.Aversa@bea.gov
Subject: Bloomberg News question - ON DEADLINE

Hey Jeanine and Gary,

This is Jeanna Smialek at Bloomberg. We're trying to figure out the pre-release rules for jobs data, and I had three questions.

1. When does the White House get the figures?
2. Does the Fed also get the figures? Who gets them, when, and is that every month?
3. Is this the most recent document describing the pre-release procedure?

<https://www.bea.gov/about/pdf/federalregister09251985.pdf>

Thank you for your help.

Jeanna

From: Horrigan, Michael - BLS
Sent time: 06/03/2018 03:21:58 PM
To: Haugen, Steven - BLS
Subject: RE: fyi

So we can talk about the report as long as we don't provide numbers...

From: Haugen, Steven - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:46 AM
To: Horrigan, Michael - BLS <Horrigan.Michael@bls.gov>; Hatch, Julie - BLS <Hatch.Julie@bls.gov>; Allard, Dorinda - BLS <Allard.Dorinda@bls.gov>; Horvath, Fran - BLS <Horvath.Fran@bls.gov>
Subject: fyi

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/06/01/kudlow-on-trump-jobs-tweet-i-dont-think-he-gave-anything-away.html>

From: Horrigan, Michael - BLS
Sent time: 06/03/2018 09:28:41 AM
To: Horvath, Fran - BLS
Cc: Haugen, Steven - BLS
Subject: RE: Harold Goldstein, 1971 OEUS

Wow. That would be me. I always (incorrectly) thought it was Julie's position. What is it they say about history repeating itself?

From: Horvath, Fran - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 1:10 PM
To: Horrigan, Michael - BLS <Horrigan.Michael@bls.gov>
Cc: Haugen, Steven - BLS <Haugen.Steven@bls.gov>
Subject: Harold Goldstein, 1971 OEUS

Source:

<https://www.nytimes.com/1971/09/29/archives/chief-of-labor-statistics-says-his-bureau-is-being-reshaped.html>

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Chief of Labor Statistics Says His Bureau Is Being Reshaped

SPECIAL TO THE NEW YORK TIMES SEPT. 29, 1971

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Mr. Moore said tonight that the organization had been ordered last July by the White House Office of Management and Budget and involved not only the bureau but also the statistical operations of three other government departments.

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He said that new personnel might be appointed. Asked if they would be political ap pointees, he replied, "No, they will be economists and will be worthy of the B.L.S. tradition of impartiality and objectivity."



September 29, 1971, Page 22The New York Times Archives

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*Does not include Crossword-only or Cooking-only subscribers.

From: Hatch, Julie - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 12:11:52 PM
To: Gallagher, Claire - BLS
Subject: RE: In case you didn't see this

Oh, we saw....kicking all questions over to OPA ;-)

From: Gallagher, Claire - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 12:04 PM
To: Hatch, Julie - BLS ; Allard, Dorinda - BLS ; Haugen, Steven - BLS ; Horvath, Fran - BLS ; DDDP-Sup
Subject: In case you didn't see this

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.acd45b4ac9a5

Claire

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 08:43:35 AM
To: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS; Wiatrowski, William - BLS; Mele, Kathy - BLS; Liddel, Emily L - BLS; Standish, Stacey - BLS; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS; Jack, Tracy - BLS
Cc: PRESS_TEAM
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning

Just talked with Steve Barr. Let's pass any and all inquiries on this topic to OPA.

Thanks,

-- Michael

Michael D. Levi
Associate Commissioner for Publications and Special Studies
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-5100



From: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:37 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS ; Levi, Michael - BLS ; Mele, Kathy - BLS ; Liddel, Emily L - BLS ; Standish, Stacey - BLS ; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS ; Jack, Tracy - BLS
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Jay Meisenheimer, Chief

Division of New Media

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

(202) 691-7409

<https://www.bls.gov/>

https://twitter.com/BLS_gov

From: Newton, Vanessa - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 10:36:50 AM
To: Levi, Michael - BLS
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning

Hello Michael,
I don't see an email for OPA just phone numbers.
Should email inquiries go directly to Steve Barr? Or to Megan?
Thanks,
Vanessa

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:44 AM
To: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS ; Wiatrowski, William - BLS ; Mele, Kathy - BLS ; Liddel, Emily L - BLS ; Standish, Stacey - BLS ; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS ; Jack, Tracy - BLS
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(202) 691-7409
<https://www.bls.gov/>
https://twitter.com/BLS_gov

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 10:49:00 AM
To: Newton, Vanessa - BLS
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning

Steve Barr. Megan has grand jury duty ☹
-- Michael

Michael D. Levi
Associate Commissioner for Publications and Special Studies
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-5100



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Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:37 AM
To: Levi, Michael - BLS
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning

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From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:44 AM
To: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS Meisenheimer.Jay@bls.gov>; Wiatrowski, William - BLS Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>; Mele, Kathy - BLS Mele.Kathy@bls.gov>; Liddel, Emily L - BLS Liddel.Emily@bls.gov>; Standish, Stacey - BLS Standish.Stacey@bls.gov>; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS Steinberg.Gary@bls.gov>; Jack, Tracy - BLS Jack.Tracy@bls.gov>
Cc: PRESS_TEAM press_team@BLS.GOV>
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To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>; Levi, Michael - BLS Levi.Michael@bls.gov>; Mele, Kathy - BLS Mele.Kathy@bls.gov>; Liddel, Emily L - BLS Liddel.Emily@bls.gov>; Standish, Stacey - BLS Standish.Stacey@bls.gov>; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS Steinberg.Gary@bls.gov>; Jack, Tracy - BLS Jack.Tracy@bls.gov>
Subject: POTUS tweet this morning
FYI because we will probably get calls about this. He tweeted this at 7:21 EDT, and now there is considerable Twitter chatter that it breaks the embargo by signaling a good report.
<https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1002510522032541701>
Jay Meisenheimer, Chief
Division of New Media
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-7409
<https://www.bls.gov/>
https://twitter.com/BLS_gov

From: Newton, Vanessa - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 10:50:37 AM
To: Levi, Michael - BLS
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning

Ok, thanks.

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:49 AM
To: Newton, Vanessa - BLS
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning

Steve Barr. Megan has grand jury duty ☺
-- Michael

Michael D. Levi
Associate Commissioner for Publications and Special Studies
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-5100

bls.gov | @BLS_gov



We have a stat for that!

From: Newton, Vanessa - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:37 AM
To: Levi, Michael - BLS Levi.Michael@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning
Hello Michael,
I don't see an email for OPA just phone numbers.
Should email inquiries go directly to Steve Barr? Or to Megan?
Thanks,
Vanessa

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:44 AM
To: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS Meisenheimer.Jay@bls.gov>; Wiatrowski, William - BLS Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>; Mele, Kathy - BLS Mele.Kathy@bls.gov>; Liddel, Emily L - BLS Liddel.Emily@bls.gov>; Standish, Stacey - BLS Standish.Stacey@bls.gov>; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS Steinberg.Gary@bls.gov>; Jack, Tracy - BLS Jack.Tracy@bls.gov>
Cc: PRESS_TEAM press_team@BLS.GOV>
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning
Just talked with Steve Barr. Let's pass any and all inquiries on this topic to OPA.
Thanks,
-- Michael

Michael D. Levi
Associate Commissioner for Publications and Special Studies
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
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bls.gov | @BLS_gov



We have a stat for that!

From: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:37 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>; Levi, Michael - BLS Levi.Michael@bls.gov>; Mele, Kathy - BLS Mele.Kathy@bls.gov>; Liddel, Emily L - BLS Liddel.Emily@bls.gov>; Standish, Stacey - BLS Standish.Stacey@bls.gov>; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS Steinberg.Gary@bls.gov>; Jack, Tracy - BLS Jack.Tracy@bls.gov>
Subject: POTUS tweet this morning
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<https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1002510522032541701>
Jay Meisenheimer, Chief

Division of New Media
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-7409
<https://www.bls.gov/>
https://twitter.com/BLS_gov

From: Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 10:08:39 AM
To: Molina, Eric - BLS; Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Cc: Bennett, Leslie - BLS; Berrington, Emily - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump's Tweet

It is all over the news.

From: Molina, Eric - BLS Molina.Eric@bls.gov>
Date: Friday, Jun 01, 2018, 10:07 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>, Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS RuizdeGamboa.Nancy@bls.gov>
Cc: Bennett, Leslie - BLS Bennett.Leslie@bls.gov>, Berrington, Emily - BLS Berrington.Emily@bls.gov>
Subject: Trump's Tweet

Bill and Nancy,

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Thanks,

Eric



The screenshot shows the Twitter profile of Donald J. Trump. The profile picture is a circular headshot of him. The header shows his name "Donald J. Trump" and his bio "President of the United States of America". Below the bio, it says "Joined March 2009". To the right of the profile picture, there are statistics: 37.7K Tweets, 46 Following, 52.4M Followers, 25 Likes, and 6 Moments. Below the statistics, there are three tabs: "Tweets", "Tweets & replies", and "Media". The "Tweets" tab is selected. The first tweet is from Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) posted 19m ago, with the text: "Canada has treated our Agricultural business and Farmers very poorly for a very long period of time. Highly restrictive on Trade! They must open their markets and take down their trade barriers! They report a really high surplus on trade with us. Do Timber & Lumber in U.S.?" It has 3.3K retweets, 2.7K replies, and 10K likes. The second tweet is also from Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) posted 2h ago, with the text: "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning." It has 7.6K retweets, 5.4K replies, and 30K likes.

From: Berrington, Emily - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 10:10:28 AM
To: Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS; Molina, Eric - BLS; Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Cc: Bennett, Leslie - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump's Tweet

Do we need to be in touch with OMB?

From: Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:09 AM
To: Molina, Eric - BLS ; Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Cc: Bennett, Leslie - BLS ; Berrington, Emily - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump's Tweet

It is all over the news.

From: Molina, Eric - BLS Molina.Eric@bls.gov>
Date: Friday, Jun 01, 2018, 10:07 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>, Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS RuizdeGamboa.Nancy@bls.gov>
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- Tweet 1:** Posted 19m ago. Text: "Canada has treated our Agricultural business and Farmers very poorly for a very long period of time. Highly restrictive on Trade! They must open their markets and take down their trade barriers! They report a really high surplus on trade with us. Do Timber & Lumber in U.S.?" Engagement: 3.3K Retweets, 2.7K Replies, 10K Likes.
- Tweet 2:** Posted 2h ago. Text: "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning." Engagement: 7.6K Retweets, 5.4K Replies, 30K Likes.

From: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 10:13:04 AM
To: Molina, Eric - BLS; Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS
Cc: Bennett, Leslie - BLS; Berrington, Emily - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump's Tweet

Know about it. Mentioned it to Potok.

Let it be.

From: Molina, Eric - BLS Molina.Eric@bls.gov>
Date: Friday, Jun 01, 2018, 10:07 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>, Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS RuizdeGamboa.Nancy@bls.gov>
Cc: Bennett, Leslie - BLS Bennett.Leslie@bls.gov>, Berrington, Emily - BLS Berrington.Emily@bls.gov>
Subject: Trump's Tweet

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Tweets	Following	Followers	Likes	Moments
37.7K	46	52.4M	25	6

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump · 19m
Canada has treated our Agricultural business and Farmers very poorly for a very long period of time. Highly restrictive on Trade! They must open their markets and take down their trade barriers! They report a really high surplus on trade with us. Do Timber & Lumber in U.S.?
3.3K 2.7K 10K

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump · 2h
Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning.
7.6K 5.4K 30K

From: Molina, Eric - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 10:14:56 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS; Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS
Cc: Bennett, Leslie - BLS; Berrington, Emily - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump's Tweet

Understood. Are you "whispering words of wisdom"?

From: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:13 AM
To: Molina, Eric - BLS ; Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS
Cc: Bennett, Leslie - BLS ; Berrington, Emily - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump's Tweet

Know about it. Mentioned it to Potok.
Let it be.

From: Molina, Eric - BLS Molina.Eric@bls.gov>
Date: Friday, Jun 01, 2018, 10:07 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>, Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS RuizdeGamboa.Nancy@bls.gov>
Cc: Bennett, Leslie - BLS Bennett.Leslie@bls.gov>, Berrington, Emily - BLS Berrington.Emily@bls.gov>
Subject: Trump's Tweet

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Thanks,
Eric



The screenshot shows the Twitter profile of Donald J. Trump. The profile picture is a circular headshot of him. The header shows his name "Donald J. Trump" and his handle "@realDonaldTrump". Below this, it says "President of the United States of America" with a small American flag icon, and "Washington, DC". There are links to his Instagram profile and a note that he joined in March 2009. A blue button says "Tweet to Donald J. Trump".

Below the profile information, there are statistics: 37.7K Tweets, 46 Following, 52.4M Followers, 25 Likes, and 6 Moments. There are three tabs: "Tweets", "Tweets & replies", and "Media".

Two tweets are visible:

- Donald J. Trump** @realDonaldTrump · 19m
Canada has treated our Agricultural business and Farmers very poorly for a very long period of time. Highly restrictive on Trade! They must open their markets and take down their trade barriers! They report a really high surplus on trade with us. Do Timber & Lumber in U.S.
3.3K 2.7K 10K
- Donald J. Trump** @realDonaldTrump · 2h
Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning.
7.6K 5.4K 30K

From: Jacobs, Jarrett - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 10:37:37 AM
To: Molina, Eric - BLS; McLean, Beth - BLS; Potter, Elaine - BLS; Bennett, Leslie - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump's Tweet

<https://www.marketwatch.com/amp/story/guid/DAB4682C-6596-11E8-BD17-498018EA4E9F>

From: Molina, Eric - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:08 AM
To: Jacobs, Jarrett - BLS ; McLean, Beth - BLS ; Potter, Elaine - BLS
Subject: FW: Trump's Tweet

FYI

From: Molina, Eric - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:08 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov; Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS RuizdeGamboa.Nancy@bls.gov
Cc: Bennett, Leslie - BLS Bennett.Leslie@bls.gov; Berrington, Emily - BLS Berrington.Emily@bls.gov
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Thanks,

Eric



The screenshot shows Donald Trump's Twitter profile. The header includes a circular profile picture of Trump and a banner image of him at a podium. Below the header, statistics are listed: 37.7K Tweets, 46 Following, 52.4M Followers, 25 Likes, and 6 Moments. The profile name is 'Donald J. Trump' with the handle '@realDonaldTrump'. The bio identifies him as the President of the United States of America, located in Washington, DC, with a link to his Instagram profile. A blue button says 'Tweet to Donald J. Trump'. The 'Tweets' tab is selected, showing two recent tweets. The first tweet, posted 19 minutes ago, discusses trade with Canada. The second tweet, posted 2 hours ago, mentions looking forward to seeing employment numbers at 8:30.

Category	Count
Tweets	37.7K
Following	46
Followers	52.4M
Likes	25
Moments	6

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump · 19m
Canada has treated our Agricultural business and Farmers very poorly for a very long period of time. Highly restrictive on Trade! They must open their markets and take down their trade barriers! They report a really high surplus on trade with us. Do Timber & Lumber in U.S.?
3.3K 2.7K 10K

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump · 2h
Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning.
7.6K 5.4K 30K

From: Rowan, Carol - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 11:06:38 AM
To: Molina, Eric - BLS; Jacobs, Jarrett - BLS; McLean, Beth - BLS; Potter, Elaine - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump's Tweet

Trump Roils Jobs Day With Thumbs-Up Tweet Before Data Released

<https://www.bloomberg.com/>

From: Molina, Eric - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:39 AM
To: Jacobs, Jarrett - BLS ; McLean, Beth - BLS ; Potter, Elaine - BLS ; Rowan, Carol - BLS
Subject: FW: Trump's Tweet

FYI

From: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:13 AM
To: Molina, Eric - BLS Molina.Eric@bls.gov; Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS RuizdeGamboa.Nancy@bls.gov
Cc: Bennett, Leslie - BLS Bennett.Leslie@bls.gov; Berrington, Emily - BLS Berrington.Emily@bls.gov
Subject: RE: Trump's Tweet
Know about it. Mentioned it to Potok.
Let it be.

From: Molina, Eric - BLS Molina.Eric@bls.gov
Date: Friday, Jun 01, 2018, 10:07 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov; Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS RuizdeGamboa.Nancy@bls.gov
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Thanks,

Eric



The screenshot shows the Twitter profile of Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump). The profile picture is a circular headshot of Trump. The header shows his name, handle, and bio: "President of the United States of America". Below this, it says "Washington, DC" and "Instagram.com/realDonaldTrump". The join date is "Joined March 2009". The stats bar shows: 37.7K Tweets, 46 Following, 52.4M Followers, 25 Likes, and 6 Moments. The tabs "Tweets", "Tweets & replies", and "Media" are visible. Two tweets are shown:

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- Tweet 2:** "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning." (Posted 2h ago, 7.6K Retweets, 5.4K Replies, 30K Likes)

From: Rowan, Carol - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 11:15:35 AM
To: Molina, Eric - BLS; Jacobs, Jarrett - BLS; McLean, Beth - BLS; Potter, Elaine - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump's Tweet

More fun for your Friday!

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/01/us/politics/trump-jobs-twitter.html>

<https://talkingpointsmemo.com/livewire/trump-hinted-positive-jobs-report>

<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/trumps-jobs-report-tweet-in-advance-of-release-appears-to-have-violated-federal-rules-2018-06-01?siteid=>

This is my favorite comment ... **White House press secretary Sarah Sanders told CNBC the comment was appropriate since “he didn’t put the numbers out.”**

From: Rowan, Carol - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:07 AM
To: Molina, Eric - BLS ; Jacobs, Jarrett - BLS ; McLean, Beth - BLS ; Potter, Elaine - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump's Tweet

Trump Roils Jobs Day With Thumbs-Up Tweet Before Data Released

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From: Molina, Eric - BLS
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To: Jacobs, Jarrett - BLS Jacobs.Jarrett@bls.gov>; McLean, Beth - BLS McLean.Beth@bls.gov>; Potter, Elaine - BLS Potter.Elaine@bls.gov>; Rowan, Carol - BLS Rowan.Carol@bls.gov>
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Thanks,
Eric



Tweets **37.7K** Following **46** Followers **52.4M** Likes **25** Moments **6**

Donald J. Trump

@realDonaldTrump

President of the United States of America 🇺🇸

Washington, DC

[instagram.com/realDonaldTrump](https://www.instagram.com/realDonaldTrump)

Joined March 2009

[Tweet to Donald J. Trump](#)

Tweets Tweets & replies Media



Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump · 19m

Canada has treated our Agricultural business and Farmers very poorly for a very long period of time. Highly restrictive on Trade! They must open their markets and take down their trade barriers! They report a really high surplus on trade with us. Do Timber & Lumber in U.S.?

3.3K 2.7K 10K



Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump · 2h

Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning.

7.6K 5.4K 30K

From: Rowan, Carol - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 09:39:07 AM
To: Molina, Eric - BLS
Subject: RE: Ugh!

Doh! I knew that but forgot when I saw the tweet. Yes, he clearly implied the numbers would be good – and they were. Second tweet from the top.

From: Molina, Eric - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 9:29 AM
To: Rowan, Carol - BLS
Subject: RE: Ugh!

Which clearly means they are going in a positive direction. This could effect the markets. Urg!

From: Rowan, Carol - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 9:28 AM
To: Molina, Eric - BLS Molina.Eric@bls.gov
Subject: RE: Ugh!
Oh. It wasn't that bad. Saw something on MSNBC. He tweeted something out at 7:30 or 8:00 but it wasn't so bad. Just said ...
Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning.

From: Molina, Eric - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 9:19 AM
To: Rowan, Carol - BLS Rowan.Carol@bls.gov
Subject: RE: Ugh!
I did not know this. Where did he make that statement? Do you know?

From: Rowan, Carol - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 9:17 AM
To: Molina, Eric - BLS Molina.Eric@bls.gov
Subject: Ugh!
Did you know Trump referred to the jobs report before it came out? Something like 'just wait for the jobs report.'

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 11:05:06 AM
To: Barr, G. Stephen - OPA <Barr.G.Stephen@dol.gov>
Subject: RE: FYI

Thanks
-- Michael

Michael D. Levi
Associate Commissioner for Publications and Special Studies
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-5100



From: Barr, G. Stephen - OPA [mailto:Barr.G.Stephen@dol.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:01 AM
To: Kindelan, Megan - BLS ; Levi, Michael - BLS
Subject: FYI

From: POLITICO Pro politicoemail@politicopro.com
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 10:55 AM
To: Barr, G. Stephen - OPA Barr.G.Stephen@dol.gov
Subject: Trump breaks protocol and jolts markets by teasing secret jobs numbers

Trump breaks protocol and jolts markets by teasing secret jobs numbers

By Ben White

06/01/2018 09:09 AM EDT
Updated 06/01/2018 10:52 AM EDT

President Donald Trump moved markets and busted norms on Friday morning with a tweet about the May employment report more than an hour before the numbers came out.

The post appeared to skirt strict rules on government employees not commenting on the highly sensitive economic data until an hour after its public release at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time.

Trump, who received the numbers Thursday night on Air Force One, did not include any of the jobs data in his tweet. But it appeared positive enough to suggest to Wall Street that a good number was coming Friday morning.

"Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," the president tweeted at 7:21 a.m.

And the numbers were in fact quite good, showing a better than expected gain of 223,000 jobs and a dip in unemployment to 3.8 percent, the lowest level since April of 2000, sending Dow futures higher.

But markets were already moving before the release and popped immediately after Trump's tweet, with the yield on the 10-year Treasury note moving higher along with stock market futures. The rise in the 10-year yield suggested traders assumed Trump's tweet meant the jobs number would be strong and push the Fed to raise interest rates more quickly.

Former Obama administration officials pounced on Trump's tweet even before the public got to see the numbers, saying it violated rules banning federal employees with access to the jobs data from saying anything at all about it until 9:30 a.m. Eastern time.

The one-hour lag is meant to allow the jobs data — compiled by nonpartisan career employees at the Bureau of Labor Statistics — to stand on its own without any immediate spin from elected officials.

"We took the one-hour delay 100 percent seriously," said Jason Furman, who served as chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under former President Barack Obama, in an interview. "There were times when there was a good number and they wanted to send the president out to talk about it, but Air Force One was scheduled to leave at 9:15 a.m. and we would tell them to delay the flight until after 9:30 a.m."

Furman suggested Trump should no longer get the numbers in advance.

"The jobs number is the biggest market-mover there is, and this certainly undermines trust in the numbers and raises the specter that there is something much more sinister going on," he said. "I'd suggest that CEA no longer give the president the number. And if they do give it to him and he says anything about it at all before release, they should share all the data with everyone immediately."

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders told CNBC that Trump was in fact briefed on the jobs report Thursday night and the tweet was appropriate because he did not put the numbers out early.

Larry Kudlow, chairman of the National Economic Council, told CNBC he got the numbers Thursday evening and called Trump on Air Force One to share them.

"He chose to tweet. His tweet basically said, like everybody else, we await the jobs number. You can read into that 10 different things if you want to read into it," he said. "I don't think he gave anything away incidentally. I think this is all according to routine."

But even short of offering the actual numbers, the mere fact that Trump would say he was "looking forward" to the release suggested to traders that the figures would be good. And if Trump doesn't tweet about the numbers next time, it could suggest to Wall Street that a bad report is coming.

"If the president just tipped that the numbers are good, he broke the law," former Obama CEA Chairman Austan Goolsbee tweeted on Friday morning.

The White House's CEA receives the jobs data from BLS around 1 p.m. on Thursday, before the official release. The CEA head then typically walks the number to the president in the Oval Office later in the afternoon or calls the president on the road. BLS also provides the data on Thursday to the chair of the Federal Reserve, the Treasury secretary and the director of the NEC — in this case Kudlow. All are under strict guidance to say nothing at all about the figures until one hour after their release.

A spokesperson for current CEA Chairman Kevin Hassett did not immediately respond to request for comment on Friday.

The jobs report data is governed by rules issued by OMB including the provision that officials wait an hour to say anything. A Labor Department economist on Friday described the delivery of the figures to the president as "a courtesy."

Prior presidents generally followed the protocol closely, though in the 1960s President Lyndon Johnson had a [habit of talking about the numbers](#) in advance.

Andrew Hanna contributed to this report.

To view online:

<https://subscriber.politicopro.com/employment-immigration/whiteboard/2018/06/obama-officials-slam-trump-after-he-breaks-protocol-with-jobs-numbers-tease-584732>

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POLITICOPRO

This email was sent to barr.g.stephen@dol.gov by: POLITICO, LLC 1000 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, VA, 22209, USA

From: Liddel, Emily L - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 09:28:07 AM
To: Hatch, Julie - BLS; Robertson, Ken - BLS; Allard, Dorinda - BLS; Haugen, Steven - BLS; Horvath, Fran - BLS; Manning, Chris - BLS; Clinton, Angie - BLS; Kelter, Laura - BLS
Subject: Trump tweet this morning

If you or your staff receive any inquiries regarding the President's tweet, please forward over to Steve Barr at OPA.

barr.g.stephen@dol.gov

202-693-4676

Thanks,

Emily

Emily Lloyd Liddel
Chief, Division of Publishing Services
Office of Publications
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
202.691.6468



From: Molina, Eric - BLS
Sent time: 06/01/2018 10:07:32 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS; Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS
Cc: Bennett, Leslie - BLS; Berrington, Emily - BLS
Subject: Trump's Tweet

Bill and Nancy,

I wanted to alert you to a tweet that the President sent prior to the Jobs Report being released. The tweet is vague, "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning." We read this tweet to mean that the Jobs Report was going in a positive direction. Obviously, we are concerned of any such statements because of the potential impact on markets before the actual numbers come out.

Thanks,

Eric



The screenshot shows the Twitter profile of Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump). The profile picture is a circular headshot of Trump. The header shows a banner image of him at a podium. Below the header, the statistics are: 37.7K Tweets, 46 Following, 52.4M Followers, 25 Likes, and 6 Moments. The tabs 'Tweets', 'Tweets & replies', and 'Media' are visible, with 'Tweets & replies' selected. Two tweets are shown:

- Tweet 1:** Posted 19m ago. Text: "Canada has treated our Agricultural business and Farmers very poorly for a very long period of time. Highly restrictive on Trade! They must open their markets and take down their trade barriers! They report a really high surplus on trade with us. Do Timber & Lumber in U.S.?" It has 3.3K retweets, 2.7K replies, and 10K likes.
- Tweet 2:** Posted 2h ago. Text: "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning." It has 7.6K retweets, 5.4K replies, and 30K likes.

The left sidebar of the profile shows the name 'Donald J. Trump', the handle '@realDonaldTrump', the bio 'President of the United States of America', the location 'Washington, DC', the website 'instagram.com/realDonaldTrump', and the join date 'Joined March 2009'. A blue button 'Tweet to Donald J. Trump' is at the bottom of the sidebar.

From: Wilson, Thomas - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 02:36:33 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: BLS in the news

From: Mrstik, Christopher - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:55 AM
To: Wilson, Thomas - BLS; Crosoli, Kathy - BLS
Subject: RE: BLS in the news

Among others 😊

From: Wilson, Thomas - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:54 AM
To: Mrstik, Christopher - BLS <Mrstik.Christopher@bls.gov>; Crosoli, Kathy - BLS <Crosoli.Kathy@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: BLS in the news

On the same subject?

From: Mrstik, Christopher - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:47 AM
To: Wilson, Thomas - BLS <Wilson.Thomas@bls.gov>; Crosoli, Kathy - BLS <Crosoli.Kathy@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: BLS in the news

It's been a great Twitter morning, as well.

From: Wilson, Thomas - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:46 AM
To: Mrstik, Christopher - BLS <Mrstik.Christopher@bls.gov>; Crosoli, Kathy - BLS <Crosoli.Kathy@bls.gov>
Subject: BLS in the news

After this morning's tweet and subsequent WAPO headline, I imagine we will see a number of articles on the coming/days weeks with BLS mentions. I'll keep any eye out for anything putting BLS under a magnifying glass and be sure to share.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.1dad32cf9edd

From: Talwar, Manoj - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 04:26:19 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Breach by POTUS

From: Skwiot, John - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:23 AM
To: DCPS_MGMT
Subject: Breach by POTUS

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released>



John Skwiot, Branch Chief, Post Collection Branch

[National Compensation Survey](#) | *Better Decisions Begin with Better Data*

| skwiot.john@bls.gov | 202-691-5877 | [Get the facts on the BLS](#)

From: Skwiot, John - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 05:07:35 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Breach by POTUS

From: Rosenlund, Chris - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 4:56 PM
To: Skwiot, John - BLS
Subject: RE: Breach by POTUS

Unreal.

From: Skwiot, John - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:14 AM
To: Rosenlund, Chris - BLS <Rosenlund.Chris@bls.gov>
Subject: Breach by POTUS

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.f4c738d8b55c



John Skwiot, Branch Chief, Post Collection Branch
[National Compensation Survey](#) | *Better Decisions Begin with Better Data*
| skwiot.john@bls.gov | 202-691-5877 | [Get the facts on the BLS](#)

From: Erhard, Laura - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 10:23:50 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Daily Report 2

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 12:17 PM
To: Safir, Adam - BLS; DCES_MGRS
Subject: RE: Daily Report 2

Janel just reminded me about the vacancy imputation method used by CPI Housing to factor in the big jumps in rent that can occur between tenants. The researchers also missed this detail completely. Here's the [CPI chapter](#) in the Handbook of Methods, page 22:

The imputation of vacant rents ensures that the unobserved rent change that occurs when a unit becomes vacant is reflected in the final rent index. The 6-month rent-change estimates capture these changes once the units become occupied.

From: Safir, Adam - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:58 AM
To: Henderson, Steve - BLS <Henderson.Steve@bls.gov>; DCES_MGRS <DCES_MGRS@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Daily Report

Frustrating. Thanks for catching this (and sharing), Steve.

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:46 AM
To: DCES_MGRS <DCES_MGRS@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: Daily Report

No, no, no, no! That's not how BLS collects the information. Here's how to misunderstand how the CPI collects housing data and then draw the totally wrong conclusion. (Hint: the CPI, just like the CE, collects information for the same address even when the occupants change.) From today's Daily Report, which is not to blame for the Penn State error:

We might not understand consumer prices as well as we thought we did (*Maria Lamagna, MarketWatch, "Researchers suggest one important change in how we evaluate consumer prices"*). Consumer prices may be more volatile than previously thought, based on current indexes, according to a new report from researchers at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. The researchers analyzed how housing rent is currently factored into official price indexes, including the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' consumer price index (CPI) and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis's index for personal consumption expenditure (PCE). Both of those indexes are designed to show price moves, based on the prices of a certain collection of consumer goods. But information about housing rent that both bureaus collect might lead to errors in the inflation rates, the Penn State researchers found. Those bureaus did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Here's why: Both indexes use results from questionnaires that are sent out to existing tenants. The Bureau of Labor Statistics sends out the questionnaires to the same people over time. As a result, they are usually collecting information from renters who are renewing their leases, and the price of renewing is usually less volatile than renting a new place. "Landlords tend to increase rents when tenants change," said Jiro Yoshida, an associate professor at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. "The official rent surveys, then, tend to miss that big change."

And from the linked article:

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“Landlords tend to increase rents when tenants change,” said Jiro Yoshida, an associate professor at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. “The official rent surveys, then, tend to miss that big change.”

From: Newton, Vanessa - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:37 AM
To: DailyReport <dailyreport2@BLS.GOV>
Subject: Daily Report

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DAILY REPORT, FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018:

RELEASED TODAY: Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 223,000 in May, and the unemployment rate edged down to 3.8 percent (*BLS News Release*, “[The Employment Situation – May 2018](#)”). Employment continued to trend up in several industries, including retail trade, health care, and construction.

The U.S. added a higher-than-expected number of jobs in May – with the Labor Department reporting that 223,000 jobs were added, more than the 188,000 jobs analysts polled by Thomson Reuters were expecting (*Leia Klingel, Fox Business*, “[May jobs report surprises to the upside](#)”). Job creation was also above the average 190,000 jobs created each month after the past year. The unemployment rate ticked down to 3.8% from April’s 3.9%. The unemployment rate is now at an 18-year low. Wage inflation came in above expectations, at 0.3%. Analysts polled by Thomson Reuters were anticipating wages would increase by 0.2%. “Payrolls came in ahead of expectations, but very much in line with recent averages. The unemployment and underemployment rates both ticked down, and reflect the continued tightening in the labor market,” Sameer Samana, global quantitative and technical strategist with Wells Fargo Investment Institute told FOX Business. “Wage growth ticked up and came in a bit ahead of expectations, but nothing that would worry us about runaway wage inflation,” he added. Noting that there was a touch of softness in the manufacturing payrolls and participation rate both of which bear watching, according to Samana. Samana said the jobs report reinforces Wells Fargo’s outlook for solid economic growth, driven by consumption. Investors should get fully invested in equities, and be a bit cautious in fixed income, as yields will continue to grind higher.

The numbers: The U.S. created a robust 223,000 new jobs in May to push unemployment down to an 18-year low of 3.8%, signaling that a nine-year-old economic expansion still has plenty of steam despite being one of the oldest ever (*Jeffrey Bartash, MarketWatch*, “[U.S. adds 223,000 new jobs as unemployment falls to 18-year low in May](#)”). The increase in hiring — the biggest in three months — exceeded the 200,000 forecast of economists polled by MarketWatch. In an unusual and controversial move, President Trump foreshadowed the strong employment report in an early-morning tweet in which he said he looked forward to the May jobs figures. Investors took that to mean they should expect a good report. By and large, the reported showed an economy with plenty of vigor. Most industries added jobs and worker pay increased at a somewhat faster pace. The unemployment rate fell again to the lowest level since April 2000 as more people found work. The last time the jobless rate was even lower was in 1969. What happened: Retailers led the way in hiring by adding 31,000 new jobs. Health-care companies boosted payrolls by 29,000, construction firms took on 25,000 workers and manufacturers increased employment by 18,000. Steady hiring by construction and manufacturing companies is particularly surprising. They are the among the industries that have complained the loudest about a shortage of skilled workers. Record job openings, an uber-tight labor market and growing complaints about a labor shortage still aren’t leading to big pay raises most employees, but wages are rising gradually. Hourly pay rose by 8 cents, or 0.3% to \$28.92 an hour in May. As a result, the 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7% after holding at 2.6% for three months in a row. Employment gains for April and March were revised up by a combined 15,000, the Labor Department said Friday.

The May employment report was seen as strong across the board and certainly prompts the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates in 12 days, but it doesn't settle the larger debate over whether there will be three or four total moves this year (*Greg Robb, MarketWatch, "Strong jobs report doesn't guarantee four Fed interest rate hikes this year"*). "It certainly gives them the green light to go in June," said Scott Anderson, chief economist at Bank of the West in San Francisco. "And it raises the odds they go four rather than three this year." Traders in the fed futures market raised the odds of four rate hikes to 38% after the jobs report. In the wake of the market turmoil over the political situation in Italy, those odds had fallen below 20%. Anderson said he thought the odds of a fourth hike this year were 50-50 but he was sticking with his baseline of three moves. The threat of a trade war was a gray cloud over the outlook, he said. The Labor Department reported the U.S. added 223,000 new jobs in May and the unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low of 3.8%. That level is well below the Fed's estimate of the nonaccelerating inflation rate of unemployment, or NAIRU, which is now 4.5%. In an appearance after the employment report was released, Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari said the report shows that "wage growth is slowly picking up." The 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7%, the government said. Michael Hanson, chief U.S. macro strategist at TD Securities, said the May employment report "does not give decisive input" on the debate over three or four hikes. "I don't think it forces the dot-plot higher," he said.

Certain college graduates from the Class of 2018 will start out their careers behind some of their friends, due to circumstances beyond their control (*Jillian Berman, MarketWatch, "Women and black college graduates are paid less right out of the gate"*). May's jobs report showed the country's nine-year economic expansion appears to still have plenty of steam. But not everyone will see the full benefits of that. On average, black college graduates between the ages of 21 and 24 earn \$3.34 less per hour than their white counterparts, a difference of about \$7,000 per year, according to an analysis published earlier this month by the Economic Policy Institute, a left-leaning think tank. And though not quite as steep, the gap between the wages of female and male young college graduates stands at a still large \$3.15 per hour, the EPI found. The data indicate that, despite the large pay gaps, these workers earned similar credentials and have had similar levels of experience. "To see such a large and economically meaningful gender and racial gap at the start of their careers is troubling to say the least," said Elise Gould, a senior economist at the EPI and one of the authors of the report. The research is the latest evidence that some groups reap a bigger benefit from college than others. Women hold two-thirds of outstanding student-loan debt in the U.S. in part because they struggle more to repay it. African-American students tend to borrow more to attend college and also struggle more to repay it than their white peers. For both women and African-American borrowers, the wage gap is part of what fuels these challenges paying back loans. It's hard to figure out exactly why these pay gulfs exist even at the beginning of college graduates' careers, particularly because it can't be explained by some of the more popular reasoning offered for the gender pay gap, like the so-called "mommy penalty" that typically occurs later in a workers' career.

We might not understand consumer prices as well as we thought we did (*Maria Lamagna, MarketWatch, "Researchers suggest one important change in how we evaluate consumer prices"*). Consumer prices may be more volatile than previously thought, based on current indexes, according to a new report from researchers at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. The researchers analyzed how housing rent is currently factored into official price indexes, including the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' consumer price index (CPI) and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis's index for personal consumption expenditure (PCE). Both of those indexes are designed to show price moves, based on the prices of a certain collection of consumer goods. But information about housing rent that both bureaus collect might lead to errors in the inflation rates, the Penn State researchers found. Those bureaus did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Here's why: Both indexes use results from questionnaires that are sent out to existing tenants. The Bureau of Labor Statistics sends out the questionnaires to the same people over time. As a result, they are usually collecting information from renters who are renewing their leases, and the price of renewing is usually less volatile than renting a new place. "Landlords tend to increase rents when tenants change," said Jiro Yoshida, an associate professor at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. "The official rent surveys, then, tend to miss that big change." That may seem like a small difference, but rent makes up a large part of inflation indexes, the researchers said. In 2016, housing made up one third of the CPI and 42% of the core CPI, which excludes food and energy. Rents account for 15.8% of the PCE and 17.7% of the core PCE. As a result of their observations, the researchers came up with a new method for estimating inflation in housing rent, by using data including the Moody's/RCA Commercial Property Price Index.

The gray-haired couple sipping champagne on a beach at sunset (*Dayana Yochim, NerdWallet.com on USA Today, "Let's get real about planning: What an average retirement costs"*). Grandpa teaching the grandkids how to fish at the family lake house. Are these scenes of carefree times in retirement based on financial reality? According to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics data, which is based on 2016 figures, "older households" — defined as those run by someone 65 and older — spend an average of \$45,756 per year, or roughly \$3,800 a month. That's about \$1,000 less than the monthly average spent by all U.S. households combined. Naturally, your spending in retirement will vary based on countless variables, including the price of your preferred champagne and the annual property taxes on that lake house (if those things happen to be on your retirement vision board). Read on to learn how retirees' spending habits tend to differ from the working population, and how you can plan for your personal post-work needs. With fewer mouths to feed and no work-related costs to worry about, you may have expected retirement expenses to be even lower than the BLS data indicates. In some categories, spending does indeed decrease, even in surprising ones like food. In others areas, like health care, life becomes more expensive as you age. Here's the data, shown as a monthly breakdown of how households headed by a retirement-age person spend money, on average, in seven major categories: Housing: \$1,322 - You may be close to paying off your mortgage, but housing is the biggest spending category for all age groups — retirees included. Some costs never go away, even when a home loan is fully paid. This monthly expenditure includes property taxes, insurance, utilities, repairs and maintenance and household supplies.

Since the economic recovery began in 2010, the private sector has added 16 million jobs (*Michael B. Sauter, 24/7 Wall Street on USA Today, "Public sector jobs: States where the most people work for the government"*). At the same time, however, the number of public sector jobs has remained static. As a result, government employment as a share of total employment has declined from 17.3% to 15.2%, according to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics figures. Government employment across the country is far from evenly distributed. In some states, federal workers, as well as state and local government employees, account for anywhere between 12% and 25% of total employment. While some might expect that high government spending would also entail substantial government employment, relative to the state's workforce, the opposite tends to be true. Based on 2017 employment figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 24/7 Wall St. ranked all 50 states based on federal, state, and local government employees as a share of total

employment. While states with government-friendly political environments, such as New York, Pennsylvania, and California, might spend more overall, they tend to have the fewest government jobs as a share of total state employment. Rather, sparsely-populated states, such as Wyoming, Alaska, and Montana, have relatively larger public sector workers. Martin Kohli, chief regional economist at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, explained that the primary reason for this is that government services, particularly local government jobs, exist even in small towns. Such government services provide jobs even if there are no major sources of private sector jobs. "Nationally, about one out of every 20 jobs in the country and about one out of every three government jobs is in local government education," said Kohli. "If a small town in Wyoming wants to have a school, that school is going to be a significant share of local employment," Kohli added.

The U.S. economy continued to add jobs at a solid clip in May, with nonfarm payrolls up 223,000 and the unemployment rate falling to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Friday (Jeff Cox, *CNBC*, "[Nonfarm payrolls increase by 223,000 in May, vs 188,000 estimate](#)"). Economists had been expecting payroll growth of 188,000 and the jobless rate to hold steady at 3.9 percent. The unemployment rate was last this low in April 2000. A separate level of unemployment that adds in discouraged workers and those holding part-time positions for economic reasons fell to 7.6 percent, the lowest since May 2001. A 0.1-point decline in the labor force participation rate to 62.7 percent, tied for the lowest level in 2018, contributed to the headline unemployment rate decline. The closely watched average hourly earnings metric rose 0.3 percent, as expected. That translates to an annualized rate of 2.7 percent, up 0.1 point from April. "The employment this month really underscores, once again, the robust strength of the labor market," said Steve Rick, chief economist at CUNA Mutual Group. "May showed steady momentum in jobs and certainly hit back at any worries among economists who thought hiring was beginning to finally slow after seeing last month's report." In addition to the better-than-expected payrolls for May, March's count was revised up from 135,000 to 155,000 while April ended lower from 164,000 to 159,000, for a net gain of 15,000. Job gains came from retail (31,000), health care (29,000), construction (25,000), professional and technical services (23,000) and transportation and warehousing, which added 19,000. Manufacturing also contributed 18,000 and mining grew by 6,000.

Each day, some 10,000 seniors turn 65 in the United States, and the majority of them are hoping to age in their own homes (Kate Rogers, *CNBC*, "[As the US population ages, the need for home health-care workers skyrockets](#)"). The staggering number of aging Americans has created demand for home health-care workers — from nurses to aides and caregivers. Jobs in health care have already been growing at breakneck speed. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, from 2006 through 2016 2.8 million jobs were added in the health-care sector at a rate that was seven times faster than the rest of the economy. Through 2026, the projected growth of jobs in health-care settings is at 18 percent. But the demand for home health and personal care aides will far outpace the sector's growth, with an increase of 41 percent to more than 4 million jobs. "The demand for home care and hospice continues to grow as we see a graying of the U.S. population," said Bill Dombi, president of the National Association for Home Care and Hospice, adding that both younger and older patients are pivoting ever more toward in-home care. "The shift has also been in financing from government sources — primarily through Medicare and Medicaid. In 2015, it was the first time nationally that more money was spent on home care than nursing home care. We've seen a culture and financing shift toward home and community-based care." Opportunities in the industry range from the highest level of skilled nurses and therapists through paraprofessionals, including home health and personal care aides, Dombi said. Lower-skilled positions may not require medical degrees, but they do often require training and a competency test.

The number of small companies raising wages hit a record high in the U.S. this month (James Freeman, *The Wall Street Journal*, "[A Record Month for Raises](#)"). That's according to the latest National Federation of Independent Business employment survey, due out later today. A full 35% of owners of small firms report increasing labor compensation, the highest percentage since NFIB started asking about it in 1986. Companies have been looking to increase hiring and are paying more to attract scarce workers. "Reports of employment gains remain strong among small businesses. Owners reported adding a net 0.20 workers per firm on average, slower than earlier in the year but strong. The availability of qualified workers is impeding the growth in employment. Job openings are at record high levels," adds NFIB Chief Economist William Dunkelberg. NFIB also finds that 23% of business owners now cite the difficulty of finding qualified workers as their "single most important business problem." This is just one percentage point below the record high set in 2000. The labor shortage is most acute in the construction industry, with 57% of such firms reporting current job openings. Other industries where wages are also rising to attract workers include transportation, travel, communication, utilities and manufacturing. "Labor markets are very tight, for both skilled and unskilled workers," adds Mr. Dunkelberg, who is expecting a further decline in the unemployment rate when the Labor Department on Friday issues its monthly report on the broader U.S. economy. The NFIB economist is expecting the government will report "job creation around 170,000, absent a surprise increase in the labor force participation rate." Such a surprise would be most welcome. It would likely signal that discouraged workers who left the job market during the recent era of sluggish economic growth are rejoining the workforce to seize new opportunities.

A thank you video from CNBC's Hampton Pearson thanking OPUBSS staff, Stacey Standish and Eleni Karageorge, for their help over the past decade in the Employment Situation lock-up room (*CNBC*, <https://www.cnbc.com/video/2018/06/01/hampton-pearson-retirement.html>).

Editor's Note: *The BLS Daily Report is a compendium of excerpts from media reports intended to provide BLS employees with a current look at how economic statistics are being covered by reporters. BLS does not verify the accuracy of the excerpted information. The Daily Report is intended for internal distribution only.*

From: Reed, Steve - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 08:41:41 AM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Daily Report and CPI Housing

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 1:44 PM
To: Ransom, Karen - BLS; Reed, Steve - BLS
Subject: Daily Report and CPI Housing

Hi Karen and Steve,
You've got Friends in the CE! Both Janel Brattland and I worked on CPI Housing collection if you want anyone to back you up.
Steve

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 12:18 PM
To: Safir, Adam - BLS <Safir.Adam@bls.gov>; DCES_MGRS <DCES_MGRS@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Daily Report 2

Janel just reminded me about the vacancy imputation method used by CPI Housing to factor in the big jumps in rent that can occur between tenants. The researchers also missed this detail completely. Here's the [CPI chapter](#) in the Handbook of Methods, page 22:

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Subject: FW: Daily Report

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And from the linked article:

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Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:37 AM
To: DailyReport <dailyreport2@BLS.GOV>
Subject: Daily Report

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DAILY REPORT, FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018:

RELEASED TODAY: Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 223,000 in May, and the unemployment rate edged down to 3.8 percent (*BLS News Release*, “[The Employment Situation – May 2018](#)”). Employment continued to trend up in several industries, including retail trade, health care, and construction.

The U.S. added a higher-than-expected number of jobs in May – with the Labor Department reporting that 223,000 jobs were added, more than the 188,000 jobs analysts polled by Thomson Reuters were expecting (*Leia Klingel, Fox Business*, “[May jobs report surprises to the upside](#)”). Job creation was also above the average 190,000 jobs created each month after the past year. The unemployment rate ticked down to 3.8% from April’s 3.9%. The unemployment rate is now at an 18-year low. Wage inflation came in above expectations, at 0.3%. Analysts polled by Thomson Reuters were anticipating wages would increase by 0.2%. “Payrolls came in ahead of expectations, but very much in line with recent averages. The unemployment and underemployment rates both ticked down, and reflect the continued tightening in the labor market,” Sameer Samana, global quantitative and technical strategist with Wells Fargo Investment Institute told FOX Business. “Wage growth ticked up and came in a bit ahead of expectations, but nothing that would worry us about runaway wage inflation,” he added. Noting that there was a touch of softness in the manufacturing payrolls and participation rate both of which bear watching, according to Samana. Samana said the jobs report reinforces Wells Fargo’s outlook for solid economic growth, driven by consumption. Investors should get fully invested in equities, and be a bit cautious in fixed income, as yields will continue to grind higher.

The numbers: The U.S. created a robust 223,000 new jobs in May to push unemployment down to an 18-year low of 3.8%, signaling that a nine-year-old economic expansion still has plenty of steam despite being one of the oldest ever (*Jeffrey Bartash, MarketWatch*, “[U.S. adds 223,000 new jobs as unemployment falls to 18-year low in May](#)”). The increase in hiring — the biggest in three months — exceeded the 200,000 forecast of economists polled by MarketWatch. In an unusual and controversial move, President Trump foreshadowed the strong employment report in an early-morning tweet in which he said he looked forward to the May jobs figures. Investors took that to mean they should expect a good report. By and large, the reported showed an economy with plenty of vigor. Most industries added jobs and worker pay increased at a somewhat faster pace. The unemployment rate fell again to the lowest level since April 2000 as more people found work. The last time the jobless rate was even lower was in 1969. What happened: Retailers led the way in hiring by adding 31,000 new jobs. Health-care companies boosted payrolls by 29,000, construction firms took on 25,000 workers and manufacturers increased employment by 18,000. Steady hiring by construction and manufacturing companies is particularly surprising. They are the among the industries that have complained the loudest about a shortage of skilled workers. Record job openings, an uber-tight labor market and growing complaints about a labor shortage still aren’t leading to big pay raises most employees, but wages are rising gradually. Hourly pay rose by 8 cents, or 0.3% to \$28.92 an hour in May. As a result, the 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7% after holding at 2.6% for three months in a row. Employment gains for April and March were revised up

by a combined 15,000, the Labor Department said Friday.

The May employment report was seen as strong across the board and certainly prompts the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates in 12 days, but it doesn't settle the larger debate over whether there will be three or four total moves this year (*Greg Robb, MarketWatch, "Strong jobs report doesn't guarantee four Fed interest rate hikes this year"*). "It certainly gives them the green light to go in June," said Scott Anderson, chief economist at Bank of the West in San Francisco. "And it raises the odds they go four rather than three this year." Traders in the fed futures market raised the odds of four rate hikes to 38% after the jobs report. In the wake of the market turmoil over the political situation in Italy, those odds had fallen below 20%. Anderson said he thought the odds of a fourth hike this year were 50-50 but he was sticking with his baseline of three moves. The threat of a trade war is a gray cloud over the outlook, he said. The Labor Department reported the U.S. added 223,000 new jobs in May and the unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low of 3.8%. That level is well below the Fed's estimate of the nonaccelerating inflation rate of unemployment, or NAIRU, which is now 4.5%. In an appearance after the employment report was released, Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari said the report shows that "wage growth is slowly picking up." The 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7%, the government said. Michael Hanson, chief U.S. macro strategist at TD Securities, said the May employment report "does not give decisive input" on the debate over three or four hikes. "I don't think it forces the dot-plot higher," he said.

Certain college graduates from the Class of 2018 will start out their careers behind some of their friends, due to circumstances beyond their control (*Jillian Berman, MarketWatch, "Women and black college graduates are paid less right out of the gate"*). May's jobs report showed the country's nine-year economic expansion appears to still have plenty of steam. But not everyone will see the full benefits of that. On average, black college graduates between the ages of 21 and 24 earn \$3.34 less per hour than their white counterparts, a difference of about \$7,000 per year, according to an analysis published earlier this month by the Economic Policy Institute, a left-leaning think tank. And though not quite as steep, the gulf between the wages of female and male young college graduates stands at a still large \$3.15 per hour, the EPI found. The data indicate that, despite the large pay gaps, these workers earned similar credentials and have had similar levels of experience. "To see such a large and economically meaningful gender and racial gap at the start of their careers is troubling to say the least," said Elise Gould, a senior economist at the EPI and one of the authors of the report. The research is the latest evidence that some groups reap a bigger benefit from college than others. Women hold two-thirds of outstanding student-loan debt in the U.S. in part because they struggle more to repay it. African-American students tend to borrow more to attend college and also struggle more to repay it than their white peers. For both women and African-American borrowers, the wage gap is part of what fuels these challenges paying back loans. It's hard to figure out exactly why these pay gulfs exist even at the beginning of college graduates' careers, particularly because it can't be explained by some of the more popular reasoning offered for the gender pay gap, like the so-called "mommy penalty" that typically occurs later in a workers' career.

We might not understand consumer prices as well as we thought we did (*Maria Lamagna, MarketWatch, "Researchers suggest one important change in how we evaluate consumer prices"*). Consumer prices may be more volatile than previously thought, based on current indexes, according to a new report from researchers at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. The researchers analyzed how housing rent is currently factored into official price indexes, including the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' consumer price index (CPI) and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis's index for personal consumption expenditure (PCE). Both of those indexes are designed to show price moves, based on the prices of a certain collection of consumer goods. But information about housing rent that both bureaus collect might lead to errors in the inflation rates, the Penn State researchers found. Those bureaus did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Here's why: Both indexes use results from questionnaires that are sent out to existing tenants. The Bureau of Labor Statistics sends out the questionnaires to the same people over time. As a result, they are usually collecting information from renters who are renewing their leases, and the price of renewing is usually less volatile than renting a new place. "Landlords tend to increase rents when tenants change," said Jiro Yoshida, an associate professor at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. "The official rent surveys, then, tend to miss that big change." That may seem like a small difference, but rent makes up a large part of inflation indexes, the researchers said. In 2016, housing made up one third of the CPI and 42% of the core CPI, which excludes food and energy. Rents account for 15.8% of the PCE and 17.7% of the core PCE. As a result of their observations, the researchers came up with a new method for estimating inflation in housing rent, by using data including the Moody's/RCA Commercial Property Price Index.

The gray-haired couple sipping champagne on a beach at sunset (*Dayana Yochim, NerdWallet.com on USA Today, "Let's get real about planning: What an average retirement costs"*). Grandpa teaching the grandkids how to fish at the family lake house. Are these scenes of carefree times in retirement based on financial reality? According to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics data, which is based on 2016 figures, "older households" — defined as those run by someone 65 and older — spend an average of \$45,756 per year, or roughly \$3,800 a month. That's about \$1,000 less than the monthly average spent by all U.S. households combined. Naturally, your spending in retirement will vary based on countless variables, including the price of your preferred champagne and the annual property taxes on that lake house (if those things happen to be on your retirement vision board). Read on to learn how retirees' spending habits tend to differ from the working population, and how you can plan for your personal post-work needs. With fewer mouths to feed and no work-related costs to worry about, you may have expected retirement expenses to be even lower than the BLS data indicates. In some categories, spending does indeed decrease, even in surprising ones like food. In others areas, like health care, life becomes more expensive as you age. Here's the data, shown as a monthly breakdown of how households headed by a retirement-age person spend money, on average, in seven major categories: Housing: \$1,322 - You may be close to paying off your mortgage, but housing is the biggest spending category for all age groups — retirees included. Some costs never go away, even when a home loan is fully paid. This monthly expenditure includes property taxes, insurance, utilities, repairs and maintenance and household supplies.

Since the economic recovery began in 2010, the private sector has added 16 million jobs (*Michael B. Sauter, 24/7 Wall Street on USA Today, "Public sector jobs: States where the most people work for the government"*). At the same time, however, the number of public sector jobs has remained static. As a result, government employment as a share of total employment has declined from 17.3% to 15.2%, according to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics figures. Government employment across the country is far from evenly distributed. In some states, federal workers, as well as state and local government employees, account for anywhere between 12% and 25% of total employment. While some might expect that high government spending would also entail substantial government

employment, relative to the state's workforce, the opposite tends to be true. Based on 2017 employment figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 24/7 Wall St. ranked all 50 states based on federal, state, and local government employees as a share of total employment. While states with government-friendly political environments, such as New York, Pennsylvania, and California, might spend more overall, they tend to have the fewest government jobs as a share of total state employment. Rather, sparsely-populated states, such as Wyoming, Alaska, and Montana, have relatively larger public sector workers. Martin Kohli, chief regional economist at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, explained that the primary reason for this is that government services, particularly local government jobs, exist even in small towns. Such government services provide jobs even if there are no major sources of private sector jobs. "Nationally, about one out of every 20 jobs in the country and about one out of every three government jobs is in local government education," said Kohli. "If a small town in Wyoming wants to have a school, that school is going to be a significant share of local employment," Kohli added.

The U.S. economy continued to add jobs at a solid clip in May, with nonfarm payrolls up 223,000 and the unemployment rate falling to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Friday (*Jeff Cox, CNBC, "[Nonfarm payrolls increase by 223,000 in May, vs 188,000 estimate](#)"*). Economists had been expecting payroll growth of 188,000 and the jobless rate to hold steady at 3.9 percent. The unemployment rate was last this low in April 2000. A separate level of unemployment that adds in discouraged workers and those holding part-time positions for economic reasons fell to 7.6 percent, the lowest since May 2001. A 0.1-point decline in the labor force participation rate to 62.7 percent, tied for the lowest level in 2018, contributed to the headline unemployment rate decline. The closely watched average hourly earnings metric rose 0.3 percent, as expected. That translates to an annualized rate of 2.7 percent, up 0.1 point from April. "The employment this month really underscores, once again, the robust strength of the labor market," said Steve Rick, chief economist at CUNA Mutual Group. "May showed steady momentum in jobs and certainly hit back at any worries among economists who thought hiring was beginning to finally slow after seeing last month's report." In addition to the better-than-expected payrolls for May, March's count was revised up from 135,000 to 155,000 while April ended lower from 164,000 to 159,000, for a net gain of 15,000. Job gains came from retail (31,000), health care (29,000), construction (25,000), professional and technical services (23,000) and transportation and warehousing, which added 19,000. Manufacturing also contributed 18,000 and mining grew by 6,000.

Each day, some 10,000 seniors turn 65 in the United States, and the majority of them are hoping to age in their own homes (*Kate Rogers, CNBC, "[As the US population ages, the need for home health-care workers skyrockets](#)"*). The staggering number of aging Americans has created demand for home health-care workers — from nurses to aides and caregivers. Jobs in health care have already been growing at breakneck speed. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, from 2006 through 2016 2.8 million jobs were added in the health-care sector at a rate that was seven times faster than the rest of the economy. Through 2026, the projected growth of jobs in health-care settings is at 18 percent. But the demand for home health and personal care aides will far outpace the sector's growth, with an increase of 41 percent to more than 4 million jobs. "The demand for home care and hospice continues to grow as we see a graying of the U.S. population," said Bill Dombi, president of the National Association for Home Care and Hospice, adding that both younger and older patients are pivoting ever more toward in-home care. "The shift has also been in financing from government sources — primarily through Medicare and Medicaid. In 2015, it was the first time nationally that more money was spent on home care than nursing home care. We've seen a culture and financing shift toward home and community-based care." Opportunities in the industry range from the highest level of skilled nurses and therapists through paraprofessionals, including home health and personal care aides, Dombi said. Lower-skilled positions may not require medical degrees, but they do often require training and a competency test.

The number of small companies raising wages hit a record high in the U.S. this month (*James Freeman, The Wall Street Journal, "[A Record Month for Raises](#)"*). That's according to the latest National Federation of Independent Business employment survey, due out later today. A full 35% of owners of small firms report increasing labor compensation, the highest percentage since NFIB started asking about it in 1986. Companies have been looking to increase hiring and are paying more to attract scarce workers. "Reports of employment gains remain strong among small businesses. Owners reported adding a net 0.20 workers per firm on average, slower than earlier in the year but strong. The availability of qualified workers is impeding the growth in employment. Job openings are at record high levels," adds NFIB Chief Economist William Dunkelberg. NFIB also finds that 23% of business owners now cite the difficulty of finding qualified workers as their "single most important business problem." This is just one percentage point below the record high set in 2000. The labor shortage is most acute in the construction industry, with 57% of such firms reporting current job openings. Other industries where wages are also rising to attract workers include transportation, travel, communication, utilities and manufacturing. "Labor markets are very tight, for both skilled and unskilled workers," adds Mr. Dunkelberg, who is expecting a further decline in the unemployment rate when the Labor Department on Friday issues its monthly report on the broader U.S. economy. The NFIB economist is expecting the government will report "job creation around 170,000, absent a surprise increase in the labor force participation rate." Such a surprise would be most welcome. It would likely signal that discouraged workers who left the job market during the recent era of sluggish economic growth are rejoining the workforce to seize new opportunities.

A thank you video from CNBC's Hampton Pearson thanking OPUBSS staff, Stacey Standish and Eleni Karageorge, for their help over the past decade in the Employment Situation lock-up room (*CNBC, <https://www.cnbc.com/video/2018/06/01/hampton-pearson-retirement.html>*).

Editor's Note: The BLS Daily Report is a compendium of excerpts from media reports intended to provide BLS employees with a current look at how economic statistics are being covered by reporters. BLS does not verify the accuracy of the excerpted information. The Daily Report is intended for internal distribution only.

From: Ransom, Karen - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 09:18:29 AM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Daily Report and CPI Housing

From: Ransom, Karen - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 1:55 PM
To: Henderson, Steve - BLS; Reed, Steve - BLS
Subject: RE: Daily Report and CPI Housing

Thanks! Just one of many misconceptions...

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 1:44 PM
To: Ransom, Karen - BLS <Ransom.Karen@bls.gov>; Reed, Steve - BLS <Reed.Steve@bls.gov>
Subject: Daily Report and CPI Housing

Hi Karen and Steve,
You've got Friends in the CE! Both Janel Brattland and I worked on CPI Housing collection if you want anyone to back you up.
Steve

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 12:18 PM
To: Safir, Adam - BLS <Safir.Adam@bls.gov>; DCES_MGRS <DCES_MGRS@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Daily Report 2

Janel just reminded me about the vacancy imputation method used by CPI Housing to factor in the big jumps in rent that can occur between tenants. The researchers also missed this detail completely. Here's the [CPI chapter](#) in the Handbook of Methods, page 22:

The imputation of vacant rents ensures that the unobserved rent change that occurs when a unit becomes vacant is reflected in the final rent index. The 6-month rent-change estimates capture these changes once the units become occupied.

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:46 AM
To: DCES_MGRS <DCES_MGRS@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: Daily Report

No, no, no, no! That's not how BLS collects the information. Here's how to misunderstand how the CPI collects housing data and then draw the totally wrong conclusion. (Hint: the CPI, just like the CE, collects information for the same address even when the occupants change.) From today's Daily Report, which is not to blame for the Penn State error:

We might not understand consumer prices as well as we thought we did (*Maria Lamagna, MarketWatch, "Researchers suggest one important change in how we evaluate consumer prices"*). Consumer prices may be more volatile than previously thought, based on current indexes, according to a new report from researchers at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. The researchers analyzed how housing rent is currently factored into official price indexes, including the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' consumer price index (CPI) and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis's index for personal consumption expenditure (PCE). Both of those indexes are designed to show price moves, based on the prices of a certain collection of consumer goods. But information about housing rent that both bureaus collect might lead to errors in the inflation rates, the Penn State researchers found. Those bureaus did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Here's why: Both indexes use results from questionnaires that are sent out to existing tenants. The Bureau of Labor Statistics sends out the questionnaires to the same people over time. As a result, they are usually collecting information from renters who are renewing their leases, and the price of renewing is usually less volatile than renting a new place. "Landlords tend to increase rents when tenants change," said Jiro Yoshida, an associate professor at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. "The official rent surveys, then, tend to miss that big change."

And from the linked article:

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From: Newton, Vanessa - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:37 AM
To: DailyReport <dailyreport2@BLS.GOV>
Subject: Daily Report

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Since the economic recovery began in 2010, the private sector has added 16 million jobs (*Michael B. Sauter, 24/7 Wall Street on USA Today, "Public sector jobs: States where the most people work for the government"*). At the same time, however, the number of public sector jobs has remained static. As a result, government employment as a share of total employment has declined from 17.3% to 15.2%, according to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics figures. Government employment across the country is far from evenly distributed. In some states, federal workers, as well as state and local government employees, account for anywhere between 12% and 25% of total employment. While some might expect that high government spending would also entail substantial government employment, relative to the state's workforce, the opposite tends to be true. Based on 2017 employment figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 24/7 Wall St. ranked all 50 states based on federal, state, and local government employees as a share of total employment. While states with government-friendly political environments, such as New York, Pennsylvania, and California, might spend more overall, they tend to have the fewest government jobs as a share of total state employment. Rather, sparsely-populated states, such as Wyoming, Alaska, and Montana, have relatively larger public sector workers. Martin Kohli, chief regional economist at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, explained that the primary reason for this is that government services, particularly local government jobs, exist even in small towns. Such government services provide jobs even if there are no major sources of private sector jobs. "Nationally, about one out of every 20 jobs in the country and about one out of every three government jobs is in local government education," said Kohli. "If a small town in Wyoming wants to have a school, that school is going to be a significant share of local employment," Kohli added.

The U.S. economy continued to add jobs at a solid clip in May, with nonfarm payrolls up 223,000 and the unemployment rate falling to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Friday (*Jeff Cox, CNBC, "Nonfarm payrolls increase by 223,000 in May, vs 188,000 estimate"*). Economists had been expecting payroll growth of 188,000 and the jobless rate to hold steady at 3.9 percent. The unemployment rate was last this low in April 2000. A separate level of unemployment that adds in discouraged workers and those holding part-time positions for economic reasons fell to 7.6 percent, the lowest since May 2001. A 0.1-point decline in the labor force participation rate to 62.7 percent, tied for the lowest level in 2018, contributed to the headline unemployment rate decline. The closely watched average hourly earnings metric rose 0.3 percent, as expected. That translates to an annualized rate of 2.7 percent, up 0.1 point from April. "The employment this month really underscores, once again, the robust strength of the labor market," said Steve Rick, chief economist at CUNA Mutual Group. "May showed steady momentum in jobs and certainly hit back at any worries among economists who thought hiring was beginning to finally slow after seeing last month's report." In addition to the better-than-expected payrolls for May, March's count was revised up from 135,000 to 155,000 while April ended lower from 164,000 to 159,000, for a net gain of 15,000. Job gains came from retail (31,000), health care (29,000), construction (25,000), professional and technical services (23,000) and transportation and warehousing, which added 19,000. Manufacturing also contributed 18,000 and mining grew by 6,000.

Each day, some 10,000 seniors turn 65 in the United States, and the majority of them are hoping to age in their own homes (*Kate Rogers, CNBC, "As the US population ages, the need for home health-care workers skyrockets"*). The staggering number of aging Americans has created demand for home health-care workers — from nurses to aides and caregivers. Jobs in health care have already been growing at breakneck speed. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, from 2006 through 2016 2.8 million jobs were added in the health-care sector at a rate that was seven times faster than the rest of the economy. Through 2026, the projected growth of jobs in health-care settings is at 18 percent. But the demand for home health and personal care aides will far outpace the sector's growth, with an increase of 41 percent to more than 4 million jobs. "The demand for home care and hospice continues to grow as we see a graying of the U.S. population," said Bill Dombi, president of the National Association for Home Care and Hospice, adding that both younger and older patients are pivoting ever more toward in-home care. "The shift has also been in financing from government sources — primarily through Medicare and Medicaid. In 2015, it was the first time nationally that more money was spent on home care than nursing home care. We've seen a culture and financing shift toward home and community-based care." Opportunities in the industry range from the highest level of skilled nurses and therapists through paraprofessionals, including home health and personal care aides, Dombi said. Lower-skilled positions may not require medical degrees, but they do often require training and a competency test.

The number of small companies raising wages hit a record high in the U.S. this month (*James Freeman, The Wall Street Journal, "A Record Month for Raises"*). That's according to the latest National Federation of Independent Business employment survey, due out later today. A full 35% of owners of small firms report increasing labor compensation, the highest percentage since NFIB started asking about it in 1986. Companies have been looking to increase hiring and are paying more to attract scarce workers. "Reports of employment gains remain strong among small businesses. Owners reported adding a net 0.20 workers per firm on average, slower than earlier in the year but strong. The availability of qualified workers is impeding the growth in employment. Job openings are at record high levels," adds NFIB Chief Economist William Dunkelberg. NFIB also finds that 23% of business owners now cite the difficulty of finding qualified workers as their "single most important business problem." This is just one percentage point below the record high set in 2000. The labor shortage is most acute in the construction industry, with 57% of such firms reporting current job openings. Other industries where wages are also rising to attract workers include transportation, travel, communication, utilities and manufacturing. "Labor markets are very tight, for both skilled and unskilled workers," adds Mr. Dunkelberg, who is expecting a further decline in the unemployment rate when the Labor Department on Friday issues its monthly report on the broader U.S. economy. The NFIB economist is expecting the government will report "job creation around 170,000, absent a surprise increase in the labor force participation rate." Such a surprise would be most welcome. It would likely signal that discouraged workers who left the job market during the recent era of sluggish economic growth are rejoining the workforce to seize new opportunities.

A thank you video from CNBC's Hampton Pearson thanking OPUBSS staff, Stacey Standish and Eleni Karageorge, for their help over the past decade in the Employment Situation lock-up room (CNBC, <https://www.cnbc.com/video/2018/06/01/hampton-pearson-retirement.html>).

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From: McAllister, Mindy - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 02:03:52 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Daily Report and CPI Housing

From: Ransom, Karen - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 1:55 PM
To: McAllister, Mindy - BLS
Subject: FW: Daily Report and CPI Housing

Just an FYI...

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 1:44 PM
To: Ransom, Karen - BLS <Ransom.Karen@bls.gov>; Reed, Steve - BLS <Reed.Steve@bls.gov>
Subject: Daily Report and CPI Housing

Hi Karen and Steve,
You've got Friends in the CE! Both Janel Brattland and I worked on CPI Housing collection if you want anyone to back you up.
Steve

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 12:18 PM
To: Safir, Adam - BLS <Safir.Adam@bls.gov>; DCES_MGRS <DCES_MGRS@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Daily Report 2

Janel just reminded me about the vacancy imputation method used by CPI Housing to factor in the big jumps in rent that can occur between tenants. The researchers also missed this detail completely. Here's the [CPI chapter](#) in the Handbook of Methods, page 22:

The imputation of vacant rents ensures that the unobserved rent change that occurs when a unit becomes vacant is reflected in the final rent index. The 6-month rent-change estimates capture these changes once the units become occupied.

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:46 AM
To: DCES_MGRS <DCES_MGRS@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: Daily Report

No, no, no, no! That's not how BLS collects the information. Here's how to misunderstand how the CPI collects housing data and then draw the totally wrong conclusion. (Hint: the CPI, just like the CE, collects information for the same address even when the occupants change.) From today's Daily Report, which is not to blame for the Penn State error:

We might not understand consumer prices as well as we thought we did (*Maria Lamagna, MarketWatch, "Researchers suggest one important change in how we evaluate consumer prices"*). Consumer prices may be more volatile than previously thought, based on current indexes, according to a new report from researchers at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. The researchers analyzed how housing rent is currently factored into official price indexes, including the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' consumer price index (CPI) and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis's index for personal consumption expenditure (PCE). Both of those indexes are designed to show price moves, based on the prices of a certain collection of consumer goods. But information about housing rent that both bureaus collect might lead to errors in the inflation rates, the Penn State researchers found. Those bureaus did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Here's why: Both indexes use results from questionnaires that are sent out to existing tenants. The Bureau of Labor Statistics sends out the questionnaires to the same people over time. As a result, they are usually collecting information from renters who are renewing their leases, and the price of renewing is usually less volatile than renting a new place. "Landlords tend to increase rents when tenants change," said Jiro Yoshida, an associate professor at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. "The official rent surveys, then, tend to miss that big change."

And from the linked article:

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From: Newton, Vanessa - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:37 AM
To: DailyReport <dailyreport2@BLS.GOV>
Subject: Daily Report

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The numbers: The U.S. created a robust 223,000 new jobs in May to push unemployment down to an 18-year low of 3.8%, signaling that a nine-year-old economic expansion still has plenty of steam despite being one of the oldest ever (Jeffrey Bartash, *MarketWatch*, “[U.S. adds 223,000 new jobs as unemployment falls to 18-year low in May](#)”). The increase in hiring — the biggest in three months — exceeded the 200,000 forecast of economists polled by MarketWatch. In an unusual and controversial move, President Trump foreshadowed the strong employment report in an early-morning tweet in which he said he looked forward to the May jobs figures. Investors took that to mean they should expect a good report. By and large, the reported showed an economy with plenty of vigor. Most

industries added jobs and worker pay increased at a somewhat faster pace. The unemployment rate fell again to the lowest level since April 2000 as more people found work. The last time the jobless rate was even lower was in 1969. What happened: Retailers led the way in hiring by adding 31,000 new jobs. Health-care companies boosted payrolls by 29,000, construction firms took on 25,000 workers and manufacturers increased employment by 18,000. Steady hiring by construction and manufacturing companies is particularly surprising. They are among the industries that have complained the loudest about a shortage of skilled workers. Record job openings, an uber-tight labor market and growing complaints about a labor shortage still aren't leading to big pay raises most employees, but wages are rising gradually. Hourly pay rose by 8 cents, or 0.3% to \$28.92 an hour in May. As a result, the 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7% after holding at 2.6% for three months in a row. Employment gains for April and March were revised up by a combined 15,000, the Labor Department said Friday.

The May employment report was seen as strong across the board and certainly prompts the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates in 12 days, but it doesn't settle the larger debate over whether there will be three or four total moves this year (*Greg Robb, MarketWatch, "Strong jobs report doesn't guarantee four Fed interest rate hikes this year"*). "It certainly gives them the green light to go in June," said Scott Anderson, chief economist at Bank of the West in San Francisco. "And it raises the odds they go four rather than three this year." Traders in the fed futures market raised the odds of four rate hikes to 38% after the jobs report. In the wake of the market turmoil over the political situation in Italy, those odds had fallen below 20%. Anderson said he thought the odds of a fourth hike this year were 50-50 but he was sticking with his baseline of three moves. The threat of a trade war was a gray cloud over the outlook, he said. The Labor Department reported the U.S. added 223,000 new jobs in May and the unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low of 3.8%. That level is well below the Fed's estimate of the nonaccelerating inflation rate of unemployment, or NAIRU, which is now 4.5%. In an appearance after the employment report was released, Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari said the report shows that "wage growth is slowly picking up." The 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7%, the government said. Michael Hanson, chief U.S. macro strategist at TD Securities, said the May employment report "does not give decisive input" on the debate over three or four hikes. "I don't think it forces the dot-plot higher," he said.

Certain college graduates from the Class of 2018 will start out their careers behind some of their friends, due to circumstances beyond their control (*Jillian Berman, MarketWatch, "Women and black college graduates are paid less right out of the gate"*). May's jobs report showed the country's nine-year economic expansion appears to still have plenty of steam. But not everyone will see the full benefits of that. On average, black college graduates between the ages of 21 and 24 earn \$3.34 less per hour than their white counterparts, a difference of about \$7,000 per year, according to an analysis published earlier this month by the Economic Policy Institute, a left-leaning think tank. And though not quite as steep, the gap between the wages of female and male young college graduates stands at a still large \$3.15 per hour, the EPI found. The data indicate that, despite the large pay gaps, these workers earned similar credentials and have had similar levels of experience. "To see such a large and economically meaningful gender and racial gap at the start of their careers is troubling to say the least," said Elise Gould, a senior economist at the EPI and one of the authors of the report. The research is the latest evidence that some groups reap a bigger benefit from college than others. Women hold two-thirds of outstanding student-loan debt in the U.S. in part because they struggle more to repay it. African-American students tend to borrow more to attend college and also struggle more to repay it than their white peers. For both women and African-American borrowers, the wage gap is part of what fuels these challenges paying back loans. It's hard to figure out exactly why these pay gulfs exist even at the beginning of college graduates' careers, particularly because it can't be explained by some of the more popular reasoning offered for the gender pay gap, like the so-called "mommy penalty" that typically occurs later in a workers' career.

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The gray-haired couple sipping champagne on a beach at sunset (*Dayana Yochim, NerdWallet.com on USA Today, "Let's get real about planning: What an average retirement costs"*). Grandpa teaching the grandkids how to fish at the family lake house. Are these scenes of carefree times in retirement based on financial reality? According to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics data, which is based on 2016 figures, "older households" — defined as those run by someone 65 and older — spend an average of \$45,756 per year, or roughly \$3,800 a month. That's about \$1,000 less than the monthly average spent by all U.S. households combined. Naturally, your spending in retirement will vary based on countless variables, including the price of your preferred champagne and the annual property taxes on that lake house (if those things happen to be on your retirement vision board). Read on to learn how retirees' spending habits tend to differ from the working population, and how you can plan for your personal post-work needs. With fewer mouths to feed and no work-related costs to worry about, you may have expected retirement expenses to be even lower than the BLS data indicates. In some categories, spending does indeed decrease, even in surprising ones like food. In others areas, like health care, life becomes more expensive as you age. Here's the data, shown as a monthly breakdown of how households headed by a retirement-age person spend money, on average, in seven major categories: Housing: \$1,322 - You may be close to paying off your mortgage, but housing is the biggest spending category for all age groups — retirees included. Some costs never go away, even when a home loan is fully paid. This monthly

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Sent time: 07/16/2018 02:43:30 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Daily Report

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The gray-haired couple sipping champagne on a beach at sunset (*Dayana Yochim, NerdWallet.com on USA Today, "Let's get real about planning: What an average retirement costs"*). Grandpa teaching the grandkids how to fish at the family lake house. Are these scenes of carefree times in retirement based on financial reality? According to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics data, which is based on 2016 figures, "older households" — defined as those run by someone 65 and older — spend an average of \$45,756 per year, or roughly \$3,800 a month. That's about \$1,000 less than the monthly average spent by all U.S. households combined. Naturally, your spending in retirement will vary based on countless variables, including the price of your preferred champagne and the annual property taxes on that lake house (if those things happen to be on your retirement vision board). Read on to learn how retirees' spending habits tend to differ from the working population, and how you can plan for your personal post-work needs. With fewer mouths to feed and no work-related costs to worry about, you may have expected retirement expenses to be even lower than the BLS data indicates. In some categories, spending does indeed decrease, even in surprising ones like food. In others areas, like health care, life becomes more expensive as you age. Here's the data, shown as a monthly breakdown of how households headed by a retirement-age person spend money, on average, in seven major categories: Housing: \$1,322 - You may be close to paying off your mortgage, but housing is the biggest spending category for all age groups — retirees included. Some costs never go away, even when a home loan is fully paid. This monthly expenditure includes property taxes, insurance, utilities, repairs and maintenance and household supplies.

Since the economic recovery began in 2010, the private sector has added 16 million jobs (*Michael B. Sauter, 24/7 Wall Street on USA Today, "Public sector jobs: States where the most people work for the government"*). At the same time, however, the number of public sector jobs has remained static. As a result, government employment as a share of total employment has declined from 17.3% to 15.2%, according to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics figures. Government employment across the country is far from evenly distributed. In some states, federal workers, as well as state and local government employees, account for anywhere between 12% and 25% of total employment. While some might expect that high government spending would also entail substantial government employment, relative to the state's workforce, the opposite tends to be true. Based on 2017 employment figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 24/7 Wall St. ranked all 50 states based on federal, state, and local government employees as a share of total employment. While states with government-friendly political environments, such as New York, Pennsylvania, and California, might spend more overall, they tend to have the fewest government jobs as a share of total state employment. Rather, sparsely-populated states, such as Wyoming, Alaska, and Montana, have relatively larger public sector workers. Martin Kohli, chief regional economist at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, explained that the primary reason for this is that government services, particularly local government jobs, exist even in small towns. Such government services provide jobs even if there are no major sources of private sector jobs. "Nationally, about one out of every 20 jobs in the country and about one out of every three government jobs is in local government education," said Kohli. "If a small town in Wyoming wants to have a school, that school is going to be a significant share of local employment," Kohli added.

The U.S. economy continued to add jobs at a solid clip in May, with nonfarm payrolls up 223,000 and the unemployment rate falling to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Friday (*Jeff Cox, CNBC, "Nonfarm payrolls increase by 223,000 in May, vs 188,000 estimate"*). Economists had been expecting payroll growth of 188,000 and the jobless rate to hold steady at 3.9 percent. The unemployment rate was last this low in April 2000. A separate level of unemployment that adds in discouraged workers and those holding part-time positions for economic reasons fell to 7.6 percent, the lowest since May 2001. A 0.1-point decline in the labor force participation rate to 62.7 percent, tied for the lowest level in 2018, contributed to the headline unemployment rate decline. The closely watched average hourly earnings metric rose 0.3 percent, as expected. That translates to an annualized rate of 2.7 percent, up 0.1 point from April. "The employment this month really underscores, once again, the robust strength of the labor market," said Steve Rick, chief economist at CUNA Mutual Group. "May showed steady momentum in jobs and certainly hit back at any worries among economists who thought hiring was beginning to finally slow after seeing last month's report." In addition to the better-than-expected payrolls for May, March's count was revised up from 135,000 to 155,000 while April ended lower from 164,000 to 159,000, for a net gain of 15,000. Job gains came from retail (31,000), health care (29,000), construction (25,000), professional and technical services (23,000) and transportation and warehousing, which added 19,000. Manufacturing also contributed 18,000 and mining grew by 6,000.

Each day, some 10,000 seniors turn 65 in the United States, and the majority of them are hoping to age in their own homes (*Kate Rogers, CNBC, "As the US population ages, the need for home health-care workers skyrockets"*). The staggering number of aging Americans has created demand for home health-care workers — from nurses to aides and caregivers. Jobs in health care have already been growing at breakneck speed. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, from 2006 through 2016 2.8 million jobs were added in the health-care sector at a rate that was seven times faster than the rest of the economy. Through 2026, the projected growth of jobs in health-care settings is at 18 percent. But the demand for home health and personal care aides will far outpace the sector's growth, with an increase of 41 percent to more than 4 million jobs. "The demand for home care and hospice continues to grow as we see a graying of the U.S. population," said Bill Dombi, president of the National Association for Home Care and Hospice, adding that both younger and older patients are pivoting ever more toward in-home care. "The shift has also been in financing from government sources — primarily through Medicare and Medicaid. In 2015, it was the first time nationally that more money was spent on home care than nursing home care. We've seen a culture and financing shift toward home and community-based care." Opportunities in the industry range from the highest level of skilled nurses and therapists through paraprofessionals, including home health and personal care aides, Dombi said. Lower-skilled positions may not require medical degrees, but they do often require training and a competency test.

The number of small companies raising wages hit a record high in the U.S. this month (*James Freeman, The Wall Street Journal, "A Record Month for Raises"*). That's according to the latest National Federation of Independent Business employment survey, due out later today. A full 35% of owners of small firms report increasing labor compensation, the highest percentage since NFIB started asking about it in 1986. Companies have been looking to increase hiring and are paying more to attract scarce workers. "Reports of employment gains remain strong among small businesses. Owners reported adding a net 0.20 workers per firm on average, slower than earlier in the year but strong. The availability of qualified workers is impeding the growth in employment. Job openings are at record high levels," adds NFIB Chief Economist William Dunkelberg. NFIB also finds that 23% of business owners now cite the difficulty of finding qualified workers as their "single most important business problem." This is just one percentage point below the record high set in 2000. The labor shortage is most acute in the construction industry, with 57% of such firms reporting current job openings. Other industries where wages are also rising to attract workers include transportation, travel, communication, utilities and manufacturing. "Labor markets are very tight, for both skilled and unskilled workers," adds Mr. Dunkelberg, who is expecting a further decline in the unemployment rate when the Labor Department on Friday issues its monthly report on the broader U.S. economy. The NFIB economist is expecting the government will report "job creation around 170,000, absent a surprise increase in the labor force participation rate." Such a surprise would be most welcome. It would likely signal that discouraged workers who left the job market during the recent era of sluggish economic growth are rejoining the workforce to seize new opportunities.

A thank you video from CNBC's Hampton Pearson thanking OPUBSS staff, Stacey Standish and Eleni Karageorge, for their help over the past decade in the Employment Situation lock-up room (CNBC, <https://www.cnbc.com/video/2018/06/01/hampton-pearson-retirement.html>).

Editor's Note: *The BLS Daily Report is a compendium of excerpts from media reports intended to provide BLS employees with a current look at how economic statistics are being covered by reporters. BLS does not verify the accuracy of the excerpted information. The Daily Report is intended for internal distribution only.*

From: Safir, Adam - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 05:21:21 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Daily Report

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 4:17 PM
To: Brattland, Janel - BLS; DCES_MGRS
Subject: RE: Daily Report

Thanks Janel,

If the CPI only collected rents from new tenants, then the CE would have to provide expenditures for only new tenants. (The same way new appliances are treated – we report dollars spent on new appliances, and use zeroes for all the people who didn't buy a new appliance.) Using the estimate that 15 percent of tenants are new, then the relative importance of Rent would fall from the current 7.823% to around 1.12% of the total CPI. Otherwise you'd have an index of inflation that assumes everyone gets a new lease every month. Critics of the CPI used to say that the old treatment of homeownership which used the change in mortgage rates assumed everyone bought a new house every month. They didn't understand how weights were used to adjust for purchasing behavior.

And I have no idea how to weight owners' equivalent rent, currently 23.747% in the U of Penn approach. I don't see how the inflation rate for new tenants would apply to the stock of owner-occupied housing.

Yes, the index for new leases would be more volatile. Even in certain housing markets where rents fell (Anchorage after the oil boom), tenants' legal leases would stay higher until the opportunity cost and trouble of moving into a cheaper apartment was a lot lower than staying put. Rent is sticky.

Steve

From: Brattland, Janel - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 3:13 PM
To: DCES_MGRS <DCES_MGRS@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Daily Report

Oops – clicked send too early. Paul also mentioned this Bloomberg article along the same lines:
<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-05-02/the-consumer-price-index-may-be-getting-inflation-wrong>

From: Brattland, Janel - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 3:12 PM
To: DCES_MGRS <DCES_MGRS@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: Daily Report

FYI – I forwarded this to Paul Liegey (CPI Housing Chief) and he is aware of the research paper discussed in the article below – he provided it (see attached). Apparently, their take is that they think only new rental leases (either for an existing tenant or a new tenant) should be measured as opposed to the current mix of rents for both existing and new leases. He said they've done some research in the Housing data, and only about 10-15% of the rents collected are for new tenants. They've started some new special relative calculations for new tenants and existing ones, and the index for new tenants is much more volatile.

From: Liegey, Paul - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 2:33 PM
To: Brattland, Janel - BLS <Brattland.Janel@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Daily Report

From: Brattland, Janel - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 12:36 PM
To: Liegey, Paul - BLS <Liegey.Paul@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: Daily Report

Oh, dear.... I assume you've seen this?

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:46 AM
To: DCES_MGRS <DCES_MGRS@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: Daily Report

No, no, no, no! That's not how BLS collects the information. Here's how to misunderstand how the CPI collects housing data and then draw the totally wrong conclusion. (Hint: the CPI, just like the CE, collects information for the same address even when the occupants change.) From today's Daily Report, which is not to blame for the Penn State error:

We might not understand consumer prices as well as we thought we did (*Maria Lamagna, MarketWatch, "[Researchers suggest one important change in how we evaluate consumer prices](#)"*). Consumer prices may be more volatile than previously thought, based on current indexes, according to a new report from researchers at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. The researchers analyzed how housing rent is currently factored into official price indexes, including the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' consumer price index (CPI) and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis's index for personal consumption expenditure (PCE). Both of those indexes are designed to show price moves, based on the prices of a certain collection of consumer goods. But information about housing rent that both bureaus collect might lead to errors in the inflation rates, the Penn State researchers found. Those bureaus did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Here's why: Both indexes use results from questionnaires that are sent out to existing tenants. The Bureau of Labor Statistics sends out the questionnaires to the same people over time. As a result, they are usually collecting information from renters who are renewing their leases, and the price of renewing is usually less volatile than renting a new place. "Landlords tend to increase rents when tenants change," said Jiro Yoshida, an associate professor at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. "The official rent surveys, then, tend to miss that big change."

And from the linked article:

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From: Newton, Vanessa - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:37 AM
To: DailyReport <dailyreport2@BLS.GOV>
Subject: Daily Report

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DAILY REPORT, FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018:

RELEASED TODAY: Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 223,000 in May, and the unemployment rate edged down to 3.8 percent (*BLS News Release*, "[The Employment Situation – May 2018](#)"). Employment continued to trend up in several industries, including retail trade, health care, and construction.

The U.S. added a higher-than-expected number of jobs in May – with the Labor Department reporting that 223,000 jobs were added, more than the 188,000 jobs analysts polled by Thomson Reuters were expecting (*Leia Klingel, Fox Business*, "[May jobs report surprises to the upside](#)"). Job creation was also above the average 190,000 jobs created each month after the past year. The unemployment rate ticked down to 3.8% from April's 3.9%. The unemployment rate is now at an 18-year low. Wage inflation came in above expectations, at 0.3%. Analysts polled by Thomson Reuters were anticipating wages would increase by 0.2%. "Payrolls came in ahead of expectations, but very much in line with recent averages. The unemployment and underemployment rates both ticked down, and reflect the continued tightening in the labor market," Sameer Samana, global quantitative and technical strategist with Wells Fargo Investment Institute told FOX Business. "Wage growth ticked up and came in a bit ahead of expectations, but nothing that would worry us about runaway wage inflation," he added. Noting that there was a touch of softness in the manufacturing payrolls and participation rate both of which bear watching, according to Samana. Samana said the jobs report reinforces Wells Fargo's outlook for solid economic growth, driven by consumption. Investors should get fully invested in equities, and be a bit cautious in fixed income, as yields will continue to grind higher.

The numbers: The U.S. created a robust 223,000 new jobs in May to push unemployment down to an 18-year low of 3.8%, signaling that a nine-year-old economic expansion still has plenty of steam despite being one of the oldest ever (*Jeffrey Bartash, MarketWatch*, "[U.S. adds 223,000 new jobs as unemployment falls to 18-year low in May](#)"). The increase in hiring — the biggest in three months — exceeded the 200,000 forecast of economists polled by MarketWatch. In an unusual and controversial move, President Trump foreshadowed the strong employment report in an early-morning tweet in which he said he looked forward to the May jobs figures. Investors took that to mean they should expect a good report. By and large, the report showed an economy with plenty of vigor. Most industries added jobs and worker pay increased at a somewhat faster pace. The unemployment rate fell again to the lowest level since April 2000 as more people found work. The last time the jobless rate was even lower was in 1969. What happened: Retailers led the way in hiring by adding 31,000 new jobs. Health-care companies boosted payrolls by 29,000, construction firms took on 25,000 workers and manufacturers increased employment by 18,000. Steady hiring by construction and manufacturing companies is particularly surprising. They are among the industries that have complained the loudest about a shortage of skilled workers. Record job openings, an uber-tight labor market and growing complaints about a labor shortage still aren't leading to big pay raises most employees, but wages are rising gradually. Hourly pay rose by 8 cents, or 0.3% to \$28.92 an hour in May. As a result, the 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7% after holding at 2.6% for three months in a row. Employment gains for April and March were revised up by a combined 15,000, the Labor Department said Friday.

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A thank you video from CNBC's Hampton Pearson thanking OPUBSS staff, Stacey Standish and Eleni Karageorge, for their help over the past decade in the Employment Situation lock-up room (CNBC, <https://www.cnbc.com/video/2018/06/01/hampton-pearson-retirement.html>).

Editor's Note: *The BLS Daily Report is a compendium of excerpts from media reports intended to provide BLS employees with a current look at how economic statistics are being covered by reporters. BLS does not verify the accuracy of the excerpted information. The Daily Report is intended for internal distribution only.*

From: Ramsey, Tamyra - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 09:27:46 AM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Daily Report

From: cynthia j ramsey <cynthiaramse2015@att.net>
Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 11:56 AM
To: Ramsey, Tamyra - BLS
Subject: Re: Daily Report

So did they say anything insightful?

On June 1, 2018, at 4:56 PM, "Ramsey, Tamyra - BLS" <Ramsey.Tamyra@bls.gov> wrote:

I set the recorder for Squawk Box this morning. Can't wait to watch it.

From: cynthia j ramsey [mailto:cynthiaramse2015@att.net]
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 4:52 PM
To: Ramsey, Tamyra - BLS <Ramsey.Tamyra@bls.gov>
Subject: Re: Daily Report

Think it's being excused as he didn't give out exact numbers but still seems improper. And he apparently has done it before. Haven't looked at it again today, busy in the garage.

On June 1, 2018, at 1:57 PM, "Ramsey, Tamyra - BLS" <Ramsey.Tamyra@bls.gov> wrote:

Our daily report makes no mention of the tweet, but I did look online and I see all the brouhaha. It's possible OIG will investigate. This will have ramifications in the markets, not just this morning, but now on every Jobs Friday.

From: Newton, Vanessa - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:37 AM
To: DailyReport <dailyreport2@BLS.GOV>
Subject: Daily Report

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DAILY REPORT, FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018:

RELEASED TODAY: Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 223,000 in May, and the unemployment rate edged down to 3.8 percent (*BLS News Release*, "[The Employment Situation – May 2018](#)"). Employment continued to trend up in several industries, including retail trade, health care, and construction.

The U.S. added a higher-than-expected number of jobs in May – with the Labor Department reporting that 223,000 jobs were added, more than the 188,000 jobs analysts polled by Thomson Reuters were expecting (*Leia Klingel, Fox Business*, "[May jobs report surprises to the upside](#)"). Job creation was also above the average 190,000 jobs created each month after the past year. The unemployment rate ticked down to 3.8% from April's 3.9%. The unemployment rate is now at an 18-year low. Wage inflation came in above expectations, at 0.3%. Analysts polled by Thomson Reuters were anticipating wages would increase by 0.2%. "Payrolls came in ahead of expectations, but very much in line with recent averages. The unemployment and underemployment rates both ticked down, and reflect the continued tightening in the labor market," Sameer Samana, global quantitative and technical strategist with Wells Fargo Investment Institute told FOX Business. "Wage growth ticked up and came in a bit ahead of expectations, but nothing that would worry us about runaway wage inflation," he added. Noting that there was a touch of softness in the manufacturing payrolls and participation rate both of which bear watching, according to Samana. Samana said the jobs report reinforces Wells Fargo's outlook for solid economic growth, driven by consumption. Investors should get fully invested in equities, and be a bit cautious in fixed income, as yields will continue to grind higher.

The numbers: The U.S. created a robust 223,000 new jobs in May to push unemployment down to an 18-year low of 3.8%, signaling that a nine-year-old economic expansion still has plenty of steam despite being one of the oldest ever (*Jeffrey Bartash, MarketWatch*, "[U.S. adds 223,000 new jobs as unemployment falls to 18-year low in May](#)"). The increase in hiring — the biggest in three months — exceeded the 200,000 forecast of economists polled by MarketWatch. In an unusual and controversial move, President Trump foreshadowed the strong employment report in an early-morning tweet in which he said he looked forward to the May jobs figures. Investors took that to mean they should expect a good report. By and large, the reported showed an economy with plenty of vigor. Most industries added jobs and worker pay increased at a somewhat faster pace. The unemployment rate fell again to the lowest level since

April 2000 as more people found work. The last time the jobless rate was even lower was in 1969. What happened: Retailers led the way in hiring by adding 31,000 new jobs. Health-care companies boosted payrolls by 29,000, construction firms took on 25,000 workers and manufacturers increased employment by 18,000. Steady hiring by construction and manufacturing companies is particularly surprising. They are among the industries that have complained the loudest about a shortage of skilled workers. Record job openings, an uber-tight labor market and growing complaints about a labor shortage still aren't leading to big pay raises most employees, but wages are rising gradually. Hourly pay rose by 8 cents, or 0.3% to \$28.92 an hour in May. As a result, the 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7% after holding at 2.6% for three months in a row. Employment gains for April and March were revised up by a combined 15,000, the Labor Department said Friday.

The May employment report was seen as strong across the board and certainly prompts the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates in 12 days, but it doesn't settle the larger debate over whether there will be three or four total moves this year (*Greg Robb, MarketWatch, "Strong jobs report doesn't guarantee four Fed interest rate hikes this year"*). "It certainly gives them the green light to go in June," said Scott Anderson, chief economist at Bank of the West in San Francisco. "And it raises the odds they go four rather than three this year." Traders in the fed futures market raised the odds of four rate hikes to 38% after the jobs report. In the wake of the market turmoil over the political situation in Italy, those odds had fallen below 20%. Anderson said he thought the odds of a fourth hike this year were 50-50 but he was sticking with his baseline of three moves. The threat of a trade war was a gray cloud over the outlook, he said. The Labor Department reported the U.S. added 223,000 new jobs in May and the unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low of 3.8%. That level is well below the Fed's estimate of the nonaccelerating inflation rate of unemployment, or NAIRU, which is now 4.5%. In an appearance after the employment report was released, Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari said the report shows that "wage growth is slowly picking up." The 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7%, the government said. Michael Hanson, chief U.S. macro strategist at TD Securities, said the May employment report "does not give decisive input" on the debate over three or four hikes. "I don't think it forces the dot-plot higher," he said.

Certain college graduates from the Class of 2018 will start out their careers behind some of their friends, due to circumstances beyond their control (*Jillian Berman, MarketWatch, "Women and black college graduates are paid less right out of the gate"*). May's jobs report showed the country's nine-year economic expansion appears to still have plenty of steam. But not everyone will see the full benefits of that. On average, black college graduates between the ages of 21 and 24 earn \$3.34 less per hour than their white counterparts, a difference of about \$7,000 per year, according to an analysis published earlier this month by the Economic Policy Institute, a left-leaning think tank. And though not quite as steep, the gap between the wages of female and male young college graduates stands at a still large \$3.15 per hour, the EPI found. The data indicate that, despite the large pay gaps, these workers earned similar credentials and have had similar levels of experience. "To see such a large and economically meaningful gender and racial gap at the start of their careers is troubling to say the least," said Elise Gould, a senior economist at the EPI and one of the authors of the report. The research is the latest evidence that some groups reap a bigger benefit from college than others. Women hold two-thirds of outstanding student-loan debt in the U.S. in part because they struggle more to repay it. African-American students tend to borrow more to attend college and also struggle more to repay it than their white peers. For both women and African-American borrowers, the wage gap is part of what fuels these challenges paying back loans. It's hard to figure out exactly why these pay gulfs exist even at the beginning of college graduates' careers, particularly because it can't be explained by some of the more popular reasoning offered for the gender pay gap, like the so-called "mommy penalty" that typically occurs later in a workers' career.

We might not understand consumer prices as well as we thought we did (*Maria Lamagna, MarketWatch, "Researchers suggest one important change in how we evaluate consumer prices"*). Consumer prices may be more volatile than previously thought, based on current indexes, according to a new report from researchers at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. The researchers analyzed how housing rent is currently factored into official price indexes, including the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' consumer price index (CPI) and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis's index for personal consumption expenditure (PCE). Both of those indexes are designed to show price moves, based on the prices of a certain collection of consumer goods. But information about housing rent that both bureaus collect might lead to errors in the inflation rates, the Penn State researchers found. Those bureaus did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Here's why: Both indexes use results from questionnaires that are sent out to existing tenants. The Bureau of Labor Statistics sends out the questionnaires to the same people over time. As a result, they are usually collecting information from renters who are renewing their leases, and the price of renewing is usually less volatile than renting a new place. "Landlords tend to increase rents when tenants change," said Jiro Yoshida, an associate professor at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. "The official rent surveys, then, tend to miss that big change." That may seem like a small difference, but rent makes up a large part of inflation indexes, the researchers said. In 2016, housing made up one third of the CPI and 42% of the core CPI, which excludes food and energy. Rents account for 15.8% of the PCE and 17.7% of the core PCE. As a result of their observations, the researchers came up with a new method for estimating inflation in housing rent, by using data including the Moody's/RCA Commercial Property Price Index.

The gray-haired couple sipping champagne on a beach at sunset (*Dayana Yochim, NerdWallet.com on USA Today, "Let's get real about planning: What an average retirement costs"*). Grandpa teaching the grandkids how to fish at the family lake house. Are these scenes of carefree times in retirement based on financial reality? According to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics data, which is based on 2016 figures, "older households" — defined as those run by someone 65 and older — spend an average of \$45,756 per year, or roughly \$3,800 a month. That's about \$1,000 less than the monthly average spent by all U.S. households combined. Naturally, your spending in retirement will vary based on countless variables, including the price of your preferred champagne and the annual property taxes on that lake house (if those things happen to be on your retirement vision board). Read on to learn how retirees' spending habits tend to differ from the working population, and how you can plan for your personal post-work needs. With fewer mouths to feed and no work-related costs to worry about, you may have expected retirement expenses to be even lower than the BLS data indicates. In some categories, spending does indeed decrease, even in surprising ones like food. In others areas, like health care, life becomes more expensive as you age. Here's the data, shown as a monthly breakdown of how households headed by a retirement-age person spend money, on average, in seven major categories: Housing: \$1,322 - You may be close to paying off your mortgage, but housing is the biggest spending category for all age groups — retirees included. Some costs never go away, even when a home loan is fully paid. This monthly expenditure includes property taxes, insurance, utilities, repairs and maintenance and household supplies.

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From: Liegey, Paul - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 02:35:19 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Daily Report
Attachments: Ambrose_Coulson_Yoshida_RRI_2018.pdf

From: Liegey, Paul - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 2:32 PM
To: Brattland, Janel - BLS
Subject: RE: Daily Report

From: Brattland, Janel - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 12:36 PM
To: Liegey, Paul - BLS <Liegey.Paul@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: Daily Report

Oh, dear.... I assume you've seen this?

From: Henderson, Steve - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:46 AM
To: DCES_MGRS <DCES_MGRS@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: Daily Report

No, no, no, no! That's not how BLS collects the information. Here's how to misunderstand how the CPI collects housing data and then draw the totally wrong conclusion. (Hint: the CPI, just like the CE, collects information for the same address even when the occupants change.) From today's Daily Report, which is not to blame for the Penn State error:

We might not understand consumer prices as well as we thought we did (*Maria Lamagna, MarketWatch, "[Researchers suggest one important change in how we evaluate consumer prices](#)"*). Consumer prices may be more volatile than previously thought, based on current indexes, according to a new report from researchers at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. The researchers analyzed how housing rent is currently factored into official price indexes, including the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' consumer price index (CPI) and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis's index for personal consumption expenditure (PCE). Both of those indexes are designed to show price moves, based on the prices of a certain collection of consumer goods. But information about housing rent that both bureaus collect might lead to errors in the inflation rates, the Penn State researchers found. Those bureaus did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Here's why: Both indexes use results from questionnaires that are sent out to existing tenants. The Bureau of Labor Statistics sends out the questionnaires to the same people over time. As a result, they are usually collecting information from renters who are renewing their leases, and the price of renewing is usually less volatile than renting a new place. "Landlords tend to increase rents when tenants change," said Jiro Yoshida, an associate professor at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. "The official rent surveys, then, tend to miss that big change."

And from the linked article:

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Subject: Daily Report

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The numbers: The U.S. created a robust 223,000 new jobs in May to push unemployment down to an 18-year low of 3.8%, signaling that a nine-year-old economic expansion still has plenty of steam despite being one of the oldest ever (*Jeffrey Bartash, MarketWatch*, “[U.S. adds 223,000 new jobs as unemployment falls to 18-year low in May](#)”). The increase in hiring — the biggest in three months — exceeded the 200,000 forecast of economists polled by MarketWatch. In an unusual and controversial move, President Trump foreshadowed the strong employment report in an early-morning tweet in which he said he looked forward to the May jobs figures. Investors took that to mean they should expect a good report. By and large, the reported showed an economy with plenty of vigor. Most industries added jobs and worker pay increased at a somewhat faster pace. The unemployment rate fell again to the lowest level since April 2000 as more people found work. The last time the jobless rate was even lower was in 1969. What happened: Retailers led the way in hiring by adding 31,000 new jobs. Health-care companies boosted payrolls by 29,000, construction firms took on 25,000 workers and manufacturers increased employment by 18,000. Steady hiring by construction and manufacturing companies is particularly surprising. They are the among the industries that have complained the loudest about a shortage of skilled workers. Record job openings, an uber-tight labor market and growing complaints about a labor shortage still aren’t leading to big pay raises most employees, but wages are rising gradually. Hourly pay rose by 8 cents, or 0.3% to \$28.92 an hour in May. As a result, the 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7% after holding at 2.6% for three months in a row. Employment gains for April and March were revised up by a combined 15,000, the Labor Department said Friday.

The May employment report was seen as strong across the board and certainly prompts the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates in 12 days, but it doesn't settle the larger debate over whether there will be three or four total moves this year (*Greg Robb, MarketWatch, "Strong jobs report doesn't guarantee four Fed interest rate hikes this year"*). "It certainly gives them the green light to go in June," said Scott Anderson, chief economist at Bank of the West in San Francisco. "And it raises the odds they go four rather than three this year." Traders in the fed futures market raised the odds of four rate hikes to 38% after the jobs report. In the wake of the market turmoil over the political situation in Italy, those odds had fallen below 20%. Anderson said he thought the odds of a fourth hike this year were 50-50 but he was sticking with his baseline of three moves. The threat of a trade war was a gray cloud over the outlook, he said. The Labor Department reported the U.S. added 223,000 new jobs in May and the unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low of 3.8%. That level is well below the Fed's estimate of the nonaccelerating inflation rate of unemployment, or NAIRU, which is now 4.5%. In an appearance after the employment report was released, Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari said the report shows that "wage growth is slowly picking up." The 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7%, the government said. Michael Hanson, chief U.S. macro strategist at TD Securities, said the May employment report "does not give decisive input" on the debate over three or four hikes. "I don't think it forces the dot-plot higher," he said.

Certain college graduates from the Class of 2018 will start out their careers behind some of their friends, due to circumstances beyond their control (*Jillian Berman, MarketWatch, "Women and black college graduates are paid less right out of the gate"*). May's jobs report showed the country's nine-year economic expansion appears to still have plenty of steam. But not everyone will see the full benefits of that. On average, black college graduates between the ages of 21 and 24 earn \$3.34 less per hour than their white counterparts, a difference of about \$7,000 per year, according to an analysis published earlier this month by the Economic Policy Institute, a left-leaning think tank. And though not quite as steep, the gap between the wages of female and male young college graduates stands at a still large \$3.15 per hour, the EPI found. The data indicate that, despite the large pay gaps, these workers earned similar credentials and have had similar levels of experience. "To see such a large and economically meaningful gender and racial gap at the start of their careers is troubling to say the least," said Elise Gould, a senior economist at the EPI and one of the authors of the report. The research is the latest evidence that some groups reap a bigger benefit from college than others. Women hold two-thirds of outstanding student-loan debt in the U.S. in part because they struggle more to repay it. African-American students tend to borrow more to attend college and also struggle more to repay it than their white peers. For both women and African-American borrowers, the wage gap is part of what fuels these challenges paying back loans. It's hard to figure out exactly why these pay gulfs exist even at the beginning of college graduates' careers, particularly because it can't be explained by some of the more popular reasoning offered for the gender pay gap, like the so-called "mommy penalty" that typically occurs later in a workers' career.

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The gray-haired couple sipping champagne on a beach at sunset (*Dayana Yochim, NerdWallet.com on USA Today, "Let's get real about planning: What an average retirement costs"*). Grandpa teaching the grandkids how to fish at the family lake house. Are these scenes of carefree times in retirement based on financial reality? According to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics data, which is based on 2016 figures, "older households" — defined as those run by someone 65 and older — spend an average of \$45,756 per year, or roughly \$3,800 a month. That's about \$1,000 less than the monthly average spent by all U.S. households combined. Naturally, your spending in retirement will vary based on countless variables, including the price of your preferred champagne and the annual property taxes on that lake house (if those things happen to be on your retirement vision board). Read on to learn how retirees' spending habits tend to differ from the working population, and how you can plan for your personal post-work needs. With fewer mouths to feed and no work-related costs to worry about, you may have expected retirement expenses to be even lower than the BLS data indicates. In some categories, spending does indeed decrease, even in surprising ones like food. In others areas, like health care, life becomes more expensive as you age. Here's the data, shown as a monthly breakdown of how households headed by a retirement-age person spend money, on average, in seven major categories: Housing: \$1,322 - You may be close to paying off your mortgage, but housing is the biggest spending category for all age groups — retirees included. Some costs never go away, even when a home loan is fully paid. This monthly expenditure includes property taxes, insurance, utilities, repairs and maintenance and household supplies.

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Each day, some 10,000 seniors turn 65 in the United States, and the majority of them are hoping to age in their own homes (Kate Rogers, *CNBC*, "[As the US population ages, the need for home health-care workers skyrockets](#)"). The staggering number of aging Americans has created demand for home health-care workers — from nurses to aides and caregivers. Jobs in health care have already been growing at breakneck speed. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, from 2006 through 2016 2.8 million jobs were added in the health-care sector at a rate that was seven times faster than the rest of the economy. Through 2026, the projected growth of jobs in health-care settings is at 18 percent. But the demand for home health and personal care aides will far outpace the sector's growth, with an increase of 41 percent to more than 4 million jobs. "The demand for home care and hospice continues to grow as we see a graying of the U.S. population," said Bill Dombi, president of the National Association for Home Care and Hospice, adding that both younger and older patients are pivoting ever more toward in-home care. "The shift has also been in financing from government sources — primarily through Medicare and Medicaid. In 2015, it was the first time nationally that more money was spent on home care than nursing home care. We've seen a culture and financing shift toward home and community-based care." Opportunities in the industry range from the highest level of skilled nurses and therapists through paraprofessionals, including home health and personal care aides, Dombi said. Lower-skilled positions may not require medical degrees, but they do often require training and a competency test.

The number of small companies raising wages hit a record high in the U.S. this month (James Freeman, *The Wall Street Journal*, "[A Record Month for Raises](#)"). That's according to the latest National Federation of Independent Business employment survey, due out later today. A full 35% of owners of small firms report increasing labor compensation, the highest percentage since NFIB started asking about it in 1986. Companies have been looking to increase hiring and are paying more to attract scarce workers. "Reports of employment gains remain strong among small businesses. Owners reported adding a net 0.20 workers per firm on average, slower than earlier in the year but strong. The availability of qualified workers is impeding the growth in employment. Job openings are at record high levels," adds NFIB Chief Economist William Dunkelberg. NFIB also finds that 23% of business owners now cite the difficulty of finding qualified workers as their "single most important business problem." This is just one percentage point below the record high set in 2000. The labor shortage is most acute in the construction industry, with 57% of such firms reporting current job openings. Other industries where wages are also rising to attract workers include transportation, travel, communication, utilities and manufacturing. "Labor markets are very tight, for both skilled and unskilled workers," adds Mr. Dunkelberg, who is expecting a further decline in the unemployment rate when the Labor Department on Friday issues its monthly report on the broader U.S. economy. The NFIB economist is expecting the government will report "job creation around 170,000, absent a surprise increase in the labor force participation rate." Such a surprise would be most welcome. It would likely signal that discouraged workers who left the job market during the recent era of sluggish economic growth are rejoining the workforce to seize new opportunities.

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Editor's Note: *The BLS Daily Report is a compendium of excerpts from media reports intended to provide BLS employees with a current look at how economic statistics are being covered by reporters. BLS does not verify the accuracy of the excerpted information. The Daily Report is intended for internal distribution only.*

From: Green, Kathleen - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 08:05:11 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Daily Report

From: Green, Kathleen - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:44 AM
To: Sours, Kathy
Subject: FW: Daily Report

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The number of small companies raising wages hit a record high in the U.S. this month (*James Freeman, The Wall Street Journal*, "[A Record Month for Raises](#)"). That's according to the latest National Federation of Independent Business employment survey, due out later today. A full 35% of owners of small firms report increasing labor compensation, the highest percentage since NFIB started asking about it in 1986. Companies have been looking to increase hiring and are paying more to attract scarce workers. "Reports of employment gains remain strong among small businesses. Owners reported adding a net 0.20 workers per firm on average, slower than earlier in the year but strong. The availability of qualified workers is impeding the growth in employment. Job openings are at record high levels," adds NFIB Chief Economist William Dunkelberg. NFIB also finds that 23% of business owners now cite the difficulty of finding qualified workers as their "single most important business problem." This is just one percentage point below the record high set in 2000. The labor shortage is most acute in the construction industry, with 57% of such firms reporting current job openings. Other industries where wages are also rising to attract workers include transportation, travel, communication, utilities and manufacturing. "Labor markets are very tight, for both skilled and unskilled workers," adds Mr. Dunkelberg, who is expecting a further decline in the unemployment rate when the Labor Department on Friday issues its monthly report on the broader U.S. economy. The NFIB economist is expecting the government will report "job creation around 170,000, absent a surprise increase in the labor force participation rate." Such a surprise would be most welcome. It would likely signal that discouraged workers who left the job market during the recent era of sluggish economic growth are rejoining the workforce to seize new opportunities.

A thank you video from CNBC's Hampton Pearson thanking OPUBSS staff, Stacey Standish and Eleni Karageorge, for their help over the past decade in the Employment Situation lock-up room (CNBC, <https://www.cnbc.com/video/2018/06/01/hampton-pearson-retirement.html>).

Editor's Note: *The BLS Daily Report is a compendium of excerpts from media reports intended to provide BLS employees with a current look at how economic statistics are being covered by reporters. BLS does not verify the accuracy of the excerpted information. The Daily Report is intended for internal distribution only.*

From: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 03:58:05 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: DOL Daily Briefing (6-1-18)
Attachments: DOL Daily Briefing (6-1-18).pdf DOL Daily Briefing (6-1-18).mobi DOL Daily Briefing (6-1-18).docx

From: Kindelan, Megan - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 6:18 AM
To: Robertson, Ken - BLS; Horrigan, Michael - BLS; Levi, Michael - BLS; Mousa, Jay - BLS; Mullins, Carol - BLS; Rust, Rebecca - BLS; Wiatrowski, William - BLS; Fieldhouse, Lisa - BLS; Cerritos, Guadalupe - BLS; Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS; Monaco, Kristen - BLS; Eldridge, Lucy - BLS; Hatch, Julie - BLS; Friedman, David - BLS; Edgar, Jennifer - BLS
Subject: FW: DOL Daily Briefing (6-1-18)

From: DOL Daily
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 6:16:56 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: john.prall@techmis.com
Subject: DOL Daily Briefing (6-1-18)



DOL DAILY BRIEFING

U.S. Department of Labor
By TechMIS
www.techmis.com

[Mobile User Copy](#)

TO: U.S. Department of Labor & Staff
DATE: Friday, June 1, 2018 6:00 AM ET

[DOL News and Opinion](#)

[Department of Labor recognizes Shoemakersville brick manufacturer for excellence in workplace safety \(Berks-Mont News\)](#)

[DOL News Releases](#)

[Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims \(Department of Labor\)](#)

[Employment](#)

[Jobs Report for May: Here's What to Watch For \(New York Times\)](#)

[U.S. job growth seen picking up, wage growth likely moderate \(New York Times\)](#)

[5 Things to Watch in the May Jobs Report \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

[Job growth seen robust in May, but workers still looking for pay raise \(CNBC\)](#)

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[These franchises are hiring hundreds of workers this summer \(Fox Business\)](#)

[As U.S. jobs go begging, forget those monthly gains of 200,000 \(MSN\)](#)

[Got Jobs? Dairy Does \(National Milk Producers Federation\)](#)

[Summer Hiring is Expected to be Hot for the Second Year in a Row, Finds CareerBuilder's Annual Survey \(Spoke\)](#)

[\[NY\] The industries projected to have the most job openings in WNY \(WKBW-TV ABC 7 Buffalo\)](#)

[\[GA\] Korean company to create 500 jobs in Whitfield County \(Penn Energy\)](#)

[\[KY\] New graduates are joining the job hunt. Avoid Kentucky, new ranking of states says \(Lexington Herald-Leader\)](#)

[\[MI\] Morley to hire 60 people for customer service jobs starting at \\$10 per hour \(Grand Valley Advance\)](#)

[\[WI\] Foxconn can keep workers in state \(La Crosse Tribune\)](#)

[\[CA\] New milestone on high-speed rail project: 2,000th construction job created \(Fresno Bee\)](#)

Unemployment

[US Jobless Claims Declined in Week Ended May 26 \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

[Jobless claims drop 13,000 to 221,000 in late May \(MarketWatch\)](#)

[Sears plans to close 72 more stores, closing sales to start in near future \(CNBC\)](#)

[\[VT\] Keurig Green Mountain Lays Off 35 Vermont Employees \(Seven Days Vermont\)](#)

[\[MD\] Ellicott City flood leaves many workers without jobs \(Carroll County Times\)](#)

[\[NC\] IBM confirms Watson Health layoffs, says cuts are 'small percentage' of workforce \(WRAL TechWire\)](#)

[\[GA\] Unemployment rate drops in Middle Georgia \(WMGT-TV NBC 41 Macon\)](#)

[\[FL\] Florida job cuts tick up in May, but down 15 percent year-to-date \(Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel\)](#)

[\[IN\] Unemployment plunges across Northwest Indiana \(Northwest Indiana Times\)](#)

Apprenticeship

[Rise of the apprentice: A European tradition comes to the US \(MSN\)](#)

[The rise of the apprentice: a European tradition comes to the U.S. \(Reuters\)](#)

[More U.S. Firms Follow Europeans in Valuing Apprenticeships to Attract Talent \(Insurance Journal\)](#)

[\[NY\] CNY Manufacturing Apprenticeship program enters next phase \(WSYR-TV 9 Syracuse\)](#)

[\[WI\] U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin Highlights Legislation to Boost Apprenticeships in Oak Creek \(Urban Milwaukee\)](#)

[\[WI\] Creating a Foundation to Build Careers: Our Youth Apprenticeships \(Findorff\)](#)

[\[WA\] Swiss apprenticeship program touted for Washington state \(KING-TV NBC 5 Seattle\)](#)

Labor

[American health-care workers are committing suicide in unprecedented numbers \(The Hill\)](#)

[The Heavy Toll of Opioids on America's Labor Force \(US News & World Report\)](#)

[Public sector jobs: States where the most people work for the government \(USA Today\)](#)

[Business Executives Take a More Tempered View of U.S. Economy, AICPA Survey Finds \(Business Wire\)](#)

[Opioid Crisis: Keeping the Workplace Drug-Free and ADA Compliant \(HR Daily Advisor\)](#)

[Hard At Work: Employee Engagement Strategies Help Retain Top Talent in Home-Based Care \(Bristol Herald Courier\)](#)

[Report: Online Lending Empowers U.S. Small Businesses to Generate 358K Jobs and \\$40 Billion for the Economy Over Three Years \(KOTV-TV 6 Tulsa\)](#)

[The Latino Coalition and Job Creators Network Join Forces for Small Business Rising Summit \(Benzinga\)](#)

[CareerCast's 2018 Jobs Rated Report Sees Major Changes Over Three Decades of Rating Jobs \(Benzinga\)](#)

[Poll: 73% of U.S. Workers Want DIY HR Tools, Many Small Employers Fall Short \(Benzinga\)](#)

[Employers' use of temporary, contract workers continues to increase \(HR Dive\)](#)

[\[NY\] Should employees have a right to disconnect? \(HR Dive\)](#)

[\[SC\] Myers Crossing Training Prepares Students For Life-changing Occupations \(Charleston Chronicle\)](#)

[\[GA\] Teach For America raising concerns in teaching profession \(Daily Illini\)](#)

[\[TN\] New Life Job Fair offers second chance to felons \(Chattanooga Times & Free Press\)](#)

[\[OH\] Officials unveil new Mine Safety Training Center \(WTRF-TV 7 Wheeling\)](#)
[\[OH\] A-Tech opens industrial maintenance training lab to public \(Ashtabula Star-Beacon\)](#)
[\[MI\] Why Michigan's workforce could be filled with outsiders \(Detroit Free Press\)](#)
[\[MI\] Now's no time to be humble in courting talent to Michigan \(Crain's Detroit Business\)](#)
[\[IL\] Why doesn't Chicago have worker-owned cooperatives? \(Chicago Reporter\)](#)
[\[LA\] STEM Fest aims to take learning to a higher level \(Baton Rouge Advocate\)](#)
[\[CO\] Job Corps Student Finds Success in the Denver Workforce \(Denver Post\)](#)
[\[CO\] When wildfires spark, these young dispatchers work behind the scenes \(The Coloradoan\)](#)
[\[WA\] Where are the workers? A farm crisis in Washington \(KCPQ-TV Fox 13 Seattle\)](#)
[\[CA\] Silicon Valley's company towns are doomed \(Co.Design\)](#)

Child Labor

[Congressman questions DOL proposal to loosen restrictions on teen workers and hazardous jobs \(Safety & Health\)](#)
[\[NY\] Investigation Finds Children Working in Factory Packaging Beauty Products Sold at Major Retailers \(Inside Edition\)](#)
[\[NY\] American children as young as NINE found working in 'cult-run' NEW YORK factory \(Daily Mail\)](#)
[\[NY\] Upstate religious cult allegedly beats kids, forces them into labor \(New York Post\)](#)

Immigration

[Report: More than 5K Cases of H-1B Visa Fraud, Abuse Reported Last Year \(Breitbart\)](#)
[AmericanHort welcomes H-2A improvement initiative \(Fresh Plaza\)](#)
[Ag leaders hope Trump can improve H-2A \(The Packer\)](#)
[More H-2B Visas for Seasonal Work Available This Summer \(Society for Human Resource Management\)](#)
[Medical groups warn Trump of 'imminent healthcare repercussions' due to visa crackdown \(Think Progress\)](#)

Working Women

[The child-free life: Why so many American women are deciding not to have kids \(Washington Post\)](#)
[Federally Employed Women: Paving the Way for Equal Opportunity \(GovLoop\)](#)
[Women Less Optimistic Than Men About the Future of Work \(Benzinga\)](#)
[\[IN\] Spots remain in girls STEM summer camp at Ivy Tech Kokomo \(Anderson Herald-Bulletin\)](#)

Wages & Compensation

[A Record Month for Raises \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)
[Should women feel ashamed for earning more than their male partners? \(MarketWatch\)](#)
[Jobs Are Booming. Are Wages Next? \(Bloomberg\)](#)
[Tackling the 'Motherhood Penalty'? Start With Benefits \(Bloomberg BNA\)](#)
[Report: Summer Hiring Raising Voters' Wages Before Midterms \(Breitbart\)](#)
[A Record Number Of Small Businesses Are Raising Wages Amid Tight Labor Market \(Daily Caller\)](#)
[Psychologists: Women are not to blame for the wage gap \(EurekAlert!\)](#)
[The right to raise a family without going broke \(The Week Magazine\)](#)
[\[VT\] Vermont will pay remote workers \\$10,000 to move here \(Burlington Free Press\)](#)
[\[DC\] Hey, D.C.: Reject the misleading signs and raise tipped workers' wages \(Washington Post\)](#)
[\[MO\] Construction Industry Awaits Passage of Prevailing Wage Compromise \(St. Louis CNR\)](#)
[\[OR\] In a Tight Labor Market, High School Grads Can Make Big Salaries \(Cascade Business News\)](#)
[\[CA\] Most Uber and Lyft drivers in LA work full time and still struggle to make ends meet, study says \(Los Angeles Times\)](#)

[\[CA\] Disneyland Rolls Out Wage Bump Proposal for Hourly Employees \(KNBC-TV NBC 4 Los Angeles\)](#)

[\[CA\] Disney Offers to Raise California Park Worker Pay to \\$15 an Hour \(Bloomberg\)](#)

Minimum Wage

[Seven facts about tipped workers and the tipped minimum wage \(Economic Policy Institute\)](#)

[\[PA\] Gov. Wolf calls for increase of state's minimum wage \(WJAC-TV NBC 6 Johnstown\)](#)

[\[PA\] Despite lack of progress, higher minimum wage advocates see some bright spots \(WHYY Public Broadcasting\)](#)

[\[NC\] Minimum wage hike would boost economy \(Wilson Daily Times\)](#)

Overtime

[\[LA\] Federal judge approves settlement in suit seeking unpaid overtime wages for Doris Metropolitan bartender \(Louisiana Record\)](#)

Paid Leave

[When high-profile women take short maternity leaves, it sends mixed message \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)

[\[MI\] Michigan manufacturers say paid sick leave mandate could hurt job growth \(Michigan Radio\)](#)

Worker's Compensation

[\[MA\] Mother and Daughter Indicted for Workers' Compensation Fraud \(WorkersCompensation\)](#)

[\[LA\] Louisiana Workers' Compensation Costs per Claim Higher Than Other States and Growing Faster Than Many, WCRI Study Finds \(Benzinga\)](#)

[\[CA\] Co-owner of multistate cleaning company charged with comp fraud \(Business Insurance\)](#)

Employee Misclassification

[\[FL\] S1 Security Group Hit with Worker Misclassification Lawsuit \(ClassAction\)](#)

[\[CA\] San Francisco tells Uber, Lyft to prove their drivers are 'independent contractors' \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

[\[CA\] Silicon Valley's "Flexibility" Fetish \(New Republic\)](#)

Wage Violations

[\[NY\] Vance Targets Wage Theft in Manhattan Construction \(Manhattan Express\)](#)

Worker Safety

[Fatigue, Sleepiness Major Safety Risks in Ridesharing Industry, Sleep Experts Say \(WorkersCompensation\)](#)

[\[SC\] 2 workers hurt in South Carolina construction collapse \(Durham Herald-Sun\)](#)

[\[GA\] OSHA Construction Training Prepares Residents for the Workforce \(Valdosta Today\)](#)

[\[FL\] Large crane collapses on home \(WFOR-TV CBS 4 Miami\)](#)

[\[WI\] Caterpillar Worker Dies in Wisconsin Plant \(Labor Press\)](#)

[\[MT\] OSHA fines Billings construction company after concrete beam fell on worker, killing him \(Billings Gazette\)](#)

[\[HI\] Hawaii reports surge in serious work-related accidents \(Business Insurance\)](#)

Veteran

[A Different Kind of Bootcamp: Founder of Code Platoon Shares How Coding Bootcamps Can Launch Veterans' Second Careers \(EdTech Times\)](#)

[Unique new hiring initiative focuses on student vets \(Military Times\)](#)

[\[WI\] The Joseph Project raises vets' employment hopes \(Stars & Stripes\)](#)

[\[TX\] USDA Partners with Texas A&M to Help Veterans Seeking Agriculture Loans and Careers \(Gilmer Mirror\)](#)

Union

[It's time to acknowledge that strikes work \(Washington Post\)](#)

[Largest federal employee union sues Trump over rollback of union protections \(Washington Post\)](#)

[Federal employees sue Trump over executive order restricting union activity \(The Hill\)](#)

[Trump administration sued after trying to gut federal workers' union rights \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

[Trump Moves to Curb Federal Employee Labor Protections \(American Prospect\)](#)

[Why the Teacher Strikes Matter So Much \(Daily Kos\)](#)

[\[PA\] As construction booms, merger grows carpenters union clout in Pittsburgh \(Pittsburgh Post-Gazette\)](#)

[\[PA\] Striking nurses picket Wilkes-Barre General \(Wilkes-Barre Citizens' Voice\)](#)

[\[PA\] Nurses strike for patients; WB Gen owner locks them out until Tuesday \(Wilkes-Barre Times Leader\)](#)

[\[VA\] Workers with Disabilities at Army National Guard Center Go On Strike, Demand Ability to Unionize \(ARL Now\)](#)

[\[SC\] Workers to Vote on 'Micro Union' at Boeing South Carolina Plant \(New York Times\)](#)

[\[SC\] Boeing South Carolina workers face union membership vote \(Fox Business\)](#)

[\[SC\] Boeing's flight line workers in North Charleston vote for union, giving organized labor a boost in South \(Charleston Post & Courier\)](#)

[\[SC\] Boeing S.C. flight line workers vote to unionize \(Charleston Business Journal\)](#)

[\[SC\] Boeing SC flight line workers vote to unionize, company says its 'disappointed' \(WCIV-TV ABC 4 Charleston\)](#)

[\[SC\] Boeing South Carolina Workers Vote to Unionize in Rare Labor Win \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[\[SC\] Flightline workers at North Charleston Boeing campus vote to unionize \(WCSC-TV CBS 5 Charleston\)](#)

[\[OH\] More than 300 AT&T workers in Dayton go on strike \(WDTN-TV 2 Dayton\)](#)

[\[MI\] Union, trade association say road work to continue in Michigan despite plans to sever ties \(Crain's Detroit Business\)](#)

[\[MI\] AT&T 'very prepared' to keep serving customers as union workers walk off job \(WEYI-TV NBC 25 Flint\)](#)

[\[WI\] AT&T workers to strike in Milwaukee \(WTMJ-AM 620 Milwaukee\)](#)

[\[IL\] WIU faculty and staff approve tentative employment agreement \(WGEM-TV NBC Quincy\)](#)

[\[MO\] 'Right to work' firestorm smolders in Missouri — Here's what you need to know \(WDAF-TV Fox 4 Kansas City\)](#)

[\[NM\] Fourth New Mexico county goes right-to-work \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

[\[NV\] 50,000 Las Vegas workers set to strike, demand protection from robots \(KPLC-TV NBC 7 Lake Charles\)](#)

[\[NV\] Possibility of Las Vegas casino workers' strike draws closer \(Central Utah Daily Herald\)](#)

[\[NV\] Unions, casinos continue negotiations hours before deadline \(Las Vegas Review-Journal\)](#)

[\[CA\] The Riverside Sheriffs' Association has given over \\$1 million this election cycle. But does the public know why? \(Palm Springs Desert Sun\)](#)

Disability

[How Can Business Leaders Support Disabled Workers? \(Talent Economy\)](#)

[\[IN\] St. Vincent settles disability-discrimination lawsuit from EEOC \(Indianapolis Business Journal\)](#)

Law & Compliance

[Sexual harassment lawsuit against long-haul trucking company in the age of #MeToo \(ABC News\)](#)

[The Supreme Court Tried to End #MeToo. Here's How We're Fighting Back. \(Fortune\)](#)

[These Senators Want The Government To Collect Data On Sexual Harassment In The Workforce \(BuzzFeed\)](#)

[U.S Department of Labor provides tools to ensure American workers are protected and employers are equipped to comply with wage laws \(HudsonValley360\)](#)

[Facebook, Amazon, and hundreds of companies post targeted job ads that screen out older workers \(Vox\)](#)

[New Federal Tip Pooling Law Changes Game for Restaurants, LeClairRyan Attorney Says \(WSEE-TV CBS 35 Erie\)](#)

[\[TX\] Department Of Labor Wage And Hour Inspects Gins Two Years In A Row \(Cotton Farming\)](#)

[\[WA\] New Laws Place Additional Restrictions on Washington Employers \(National Law Review\)](#)

[\[CA\] Gig Economy Jobs More Likely Seen as Employees After California Supreme Court Ruling \(Top Class Actions\)](#)

Family and Medical Leave

[\[TX\] Unpaid FMLA leave may be 'unemployment' in Texas, but eligibility for benefits is a different question \(EmploymentLawDaily\)](#)

Retirement

[DOL Continues Fiduciary Rule Enforcement Relief, But Confusion Remains \(HR Daily Advisor\)](#)

[Solving America's retirement security challenges \(CNBC\)](#)

[Why U.S. Retirees Are Waiting Longer to Claim Social Security \(US News & World Report\)](#)

[Let's get real about planning: What an average retirement costs \(USA Today\)](#)

[Want to join the 401\(k\) millionaires club? Here's how to do it \(USA Today\)](#)

[Gig Workers' Retirement Prospects Look Dim \(Forbes\)](#)

[Pension and a paycheck? State may loosen 'double dipping' rules \(Boston Globe\)](#)

[Side Hustles Are Changing How People Plan for Retirement \(Motley Fool\)](#)

[Retirement Could Be Tougher in the Future \(World at Work\)](#)

[Some Tops Employees Will Lose Portions of Their Pensions \(WBEN-AM 930 Buffalo\)](#)

[\[NY\] Tops Teamster workers fuming over loss of pensions \(WIVB-TV 4 Buffalo\)](#)

[\[MN\] Dayton signs pension bill aimed at long-term stability in state retirement system \(Minneapolis/St. Paul Star-Tribune\)](#)

[\[CA\] California created a savings program for workers without retirement benefits. A group is suing to kill it \(Los Angeles Times\)](#)

Trade

[The U.S. Moves Closer to a Trade War With Allies \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

[Trump moves on steel, aluminum tariffs despite lobbying efforts \(Politico\)](#)

[Trump's Steel Tariffs Could Hurt U.S. Coal Companies \(Bloomberg BNA\)](#)

[3 reasons why we should keep NAFTA — and 3 reasons why we should get rid of it \(Business Insider\)](#)

[TrumpTrade: How Trump's Trade Policies Divide CEOs \(Chief Executive\)](#)

[Trump's Trade War Would Be Very Bad for Many Americans \(Pacific Standard\)](#)

[\[MI\] Detroit Wins With NAFTA \(Heritage Foundation\)](#)

National

[U.S. consumer spending accelerates; weekly jobless claims fall \(New York Times\)](#)

[U.S. Consumer Spending Tops Estimates as Inflation Holds at 2% \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[U.S. Consumer-Spending Pickup Adds More Juice to Second Quarter \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[US consumer spending up 0.6 percent, best in 5 months \(ABC News\)](#)

[The next U.S. recession likely will be wok-shaped: shallower and longer \(MarketWatch\)](#)

Editorial Note: This Brief represents summarized content - click on the hyperlink to access full-text articles for these news summaries.

DOL News and Opinion

[Department of Labor recognizes Shoemakersville brick manufacturer for excellence in workplace safety \(Berks-Mont News\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:07 PM, Staff Report)

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has certified Glen-Gery Brick's Mid-Atlantic Plant as a "star" worksite in the Agency's Voluntary Protection Programs, the highest level of recognition for workplace safety and health excellence. Over the past three years, the Shoemakersville brick manufacturer recorded an injury and illness rate 21 percent below the industry's national average.

VPP recognizes employers who have implemented effective safety and health management systems, and that maintain injury and illness rates below national averages. VPP represents management, labor, and OSHA working together to prevent fatalities, injuries, and illnesses through hazard prevention and control, worksite analysis, training, management commitment, and worker involvement.

DOL News Releases

[Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims \(Department of Labor\)](#)

(5/31/2018 12:00 PM, ETA)

In the week ending May 26, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 221,000, a decrease of 13,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 234,000. The 4-week moving average was 222,250, an increase of 2,500 from the previous week's unrevised average of 219,750. Claims taking procedures in Puerto Rico and in the Virgin Islands have still not returned to normal.

The advance seasonally adjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.2 percent for the week ending May 19, unchanged from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted insured unemployment during the week ending May 19 was 1,726,000, a decrease of 16,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 1,000 from 1,741,000 to 1,742,000. The 4-week moving average was 1,743,500, a decrease of 8,500 from the previous week's revised average. This is the lowest level for this average since December 15, 1973 when it was 1,735,750. The previous week's average was revised up by 250 from 1,751,750 to 1,752,000.

[Editorial note: Read entire press release at source link]

Employment

[Jobs Report for May: Here's What to Watch For \(New York Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:00 AM, Nelson D. Schwartz)

The Labor Department will release its official hiring and unemployment figures for May at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, providing the latest snapshot of the American economy. Economists on Wall Street estimated that the economy added 190,000 jobs last month, up from 164,000 in April and 135,000 in March.

Bad weather has been blamed for the tepid gains in recent months, but a rebound may be in the offing. Not only did skies clear last month in many parts of the country, but a string of other data points, like personal income and spending, have shown signs of renewed strength. Wall Street will again be watching wages for any clues about inflation and the stand of the Federal Reserve. The consensus view calls for the 12-month pace of wage gains to be 2.6 percent.

[U.S. job growth seen picking up, wage growth likely moderate \(New York Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:33 AM, Lucia Mutikani - Reuters)

U.S. job growth likely accelerated in May as warmer weather boosted hiring at construction sites, but wage gains are expected to have remained marginal, pointing to moderate inflation pressures in the economy. Nonfarm payrolls probably increased by 188,000 jobs last month, according to a Reuters survey of economists. The economy added 135,000 and 164,000 jobs in March and April, respectively. Average hourly earnings are expected to have risen 0.2 percent last month after edging up 0.1 percent in April. That would lift the annual increase in average hourly earnings to 2.7 percent from 2.6 percent in April.

A string of strong economic data, including consumer spending and industrial production, had fanned fears of inflation against the backdrop of a \$1.5 trillion income tax cut package and increased government spending. Inflation is running just below the Federal Reserve's 2.0 percent target. The unemployment rate is forecast unchanged at a near 17-1/2-year low of 3.9 percent.

[5 Things to Watch in the May Jobs Report \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:35 AM, Eric Morath)

The Labor Department releases its latest view of the job market Friday. Economists surveyed by The Wall Street Journal expect it to show employers added 190,000 jobs in May and the unemployment rate held steady at 3.9%, the lowest level since December 2000. Here are five things to look for in the report.

1. Show of strength - Over the past 12 months, employers have added 190,000 jobs, on average, each month. Economists project that to continue—on the nose.
2. Attracting and retaining - One reason employers have been able to hire is the share of Americans working or looking for work has started to edge up after a long decline.
3. How low can the rate go? - The unemployment rate fell below 4% last month for the first time since 2000. Can it stay there? Can it fall even lower?

4. Wages creeping up for rank-and-file workers - Low unemployment and steady hiring should be a recipe for wage increases, but overall pay gains have decelerated in recent months, perplexing economists.
5. Great news for dropouts? - May kicked off graduation season, but the recent data suggest it's never been a better time to lack a diploma.

[Job growth seen robust in May, but workers still looking for pay raise \(CNBC\)](#)

(5/31/2018 4:54 PM, Patti Domm)

Companies hired at a robust pace in May, but workers are still not expected to have seen much change in their pay checks. Economists expect there were 188,000 jobs created and unemployment held steady at 3.9 percent in May, according to Thomson Reuters. But the pace of wage growth likely was at about 0.2 percent, or a year over year gain of 2.7 percent. That wage number is seen as the most important part of the monthly employment report, expected at 8:30 a.m. ET Friday. It is a number that has frustrated the Fed and is closely tied to expectations for interest rates, in the eyes of the markets. A jump in wages to a higher, say 3 percent level, would imply to the Fed that inflation will be edging higher, and more interest rate hikes could be justified.

The Fed has forecast three rate hikes this year, and the second is expected to come at its next meeting on June 13. The market had been leaning toward a fourth rate hike this year, but that changed when political turmoil in Italy raised concerns about euro zone growth, and global growth. Lewis Alexander, chief U.S. economist at Nomura, said wages have been rising, if only slowly. Alexander expects 205,000 jobs were added, up from 164,000 in April. J. P. Morgan economists forecast 250,000 jobs, and they see 35,000 coming directly from the improved weather in May.

[May jobs report, what will it take to roil the markets \(Fox Business\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:50 AM, Leia Klingel)

The economic highlight of the week will be the monthly jobs report due out on Friday. Economists polled by Thomson Reuters expect the U.S. economy will have added 188,000 jobs during the month – slightly below the 190,000, on average, jobs created each month over the past year. The other number that market watchers will pay close attention to is wage inflation.

Analysts polled by Thomson Reuters are anticipating wages increased by 0.2% in May. While the jobs market is extremely healthy, it isn't tight enough for employers to start hiking wages, and that isn't necessarily a bad thing. In fact, this could delay the recession that will eventually come.

[US job growth might have picked up in May despite trade rift \(ABC News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:05 AM, Christopher Rugaber – Associated Press)

U.S. employers are thought to have hired at a solid pace in May and helped extend the economy's nearly nine-year expansion - the second-longest on record - despite uncertainty caused by trade disputes. Economists have forecast that employers added 190,000 jobs last month and that the unemployment rate remained at a 17-year low of 3.9 percent, according to data provider FactSet. The Labor Department's May jobs report will be released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time.

Solid hiring data would coincide with other evidence that the economy is on firm footing after a brief slowdown in the first three months of the year. The economy grew at a modest 2.2 percent annual rate in the January-March quarter, after three quarters that had averaged roughly 3 percent annually. Some economists remain concerned that the Trump administration's aggressive actions on trade could hamper growth. Even with unemployment at a 17-year low, wage growth has been chronically sluggish in most industries, leaving many Americans still struggling to pay bills, particularly as inflation has ticked up.

[These franchises are hiring hundreds of workers this summer \(Fox Business\)](#)

(5/31/2018 1:52 PM, Julia Limitone)

Small business hiring is gaining momentum as the Labor Department recorded a record number of job openings. They added 38,000 jobs in May but low unemployment is making it tougher for smaller companies to compete with big businesses.

However, there are a number of franchises that are looking to fill hundreds of jobs this summer. From the restaurant industry to technology and pet retail, these five franchises are eager to hire more workers.

[Editorial note: See list at source link]

[As U.S. jobs go begging, forget those monthly gains of 200,000 \(MSN\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:55 AM, Shobhana Chandra)

Nonfarm payrolls projected to rise 190k after 164k gain, continuing run of solid growth. Unemployment rate probably held at 3.9%, lowest since 2000 and below the 4.5% rate Federal Reserve officials see as consistent with full employment Average hourly earnings seen rising 2.6% y/y for a fourth month, continuing trend of modest pay gains Carl Riccadonna of Bloomberg Economics: "If payroll gains continue to handily exceed the natural growth rate of the labor force, the unemployment rate will fall further over the next several months."

Some 22 percent of small businesses in April said finding qualified workers was their “single most important business problem,” ahead of taxes or regulations, according to the National Federation of Independent Business. Some 35 percent reported positions they weren’t able to fill, while a net 33 percent raised compensation, matching March for the highest share since November 2000.

[Got Jobs? Dairy Does \(National Milk Producers Federation\)](#)

(5/31/2018 9:41 AM, Staff)

The campaign’s slogan is straightforward: “Got Jobs? Dairy creates jobs, Exports create more.” The idea is to illustrate, with extensive data sources as well as human interest stories, how the process of bringing dairy foods to market creates jobs in every state – and a growing number of those are tied to marketing dairy products internationally, not just domestically.

The centerpiece of the “Got Jobs?” campaign is a website that features state-by-state fact sheets on the economic impact of exports, as well as the state-level impacts of the entire dairy products industry. The site contains detailed information from the Dairy DeliversSM economic impact tool created by IDFA, quantifying that the U.S. dairy sector supports nearly 3 million American workers, generates more than \$39 billion in direct wages and has an overall economic impact of more than \$628 billion.

[Summer Hiring is Expected to be Hot for the Second Year in a Row, Finds CareerBuilder’s Annual Survey \(Spoke\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:00 AM, PR Newswire)

Hiring is not taking a summer vacation, as 41 percent of employers plan to hire seasonal workers for the summer, on par with last year. Of these employers, 1 in 4 plan to pay summer hires \$15 per hour on average – double the federal minimum wage (\$7.25). The vast majority (88 percent) expect to transition some summer hires into permanent roles, up from 79 percent last year. Employers are targeting various workforce segments to fill their summer jobs. Nearly 3 in 4 (73 percent) say they plan to recruit college students, 39 percent say high school students and 26 percent say retirees. Two in five employers hiring for the summer (41 percent) are looking to hire veterans for their summer positions.

The national survey was conducted online by The Harris Poll on behalf of CareerBuilder between April 4 and May 1, 2018, and included representative samples of 1,012 hiring managers and human resource professionals in the private sector and 1,117 full-time workers across industries and company sizes. “Employers are grappling with a tough hiring environment, and summer workers are reaping the benefits,” said Irina Novoselsky, president and COO of CareerBuilder. “Employers are becoming more competitive with pay and offering more long-term employment opportunities to summer workers. It’s a great way for workers to add new skills, build up their resumes and expand their professional networks.”

[\[NY\] The industries projected to have the most job openings in WNY \(WKBW-TV ABC 7 Buffalo\)](#)

(5/31/2018 9:39 PM, Ashley Rowe)

Invest Buffalo Niagara has identified seven industries projected to have the largest number of job openings in the next few years. The industries are advanced business services, advanced manufacturing, agribusiness, cleantech, life sciences, logistics and tourism. The regional development and marketing agency teamed up with the University at Buffalo Regional Institute to compile data about Western New York’s workforce development.

[Editorial note: See list at source link]

[\[GA\] Korean company to create 500 jobs in Whitfield County \(Penn Energy\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:00 AM, Associated Press)

A South Korean conglomerate says it will create 500 jobs and invest \$150 million for solar cell manufacturing in Whitfield County in northwest Georgia. Gov. Nathan Deal announced Wednesday the investment by Hanwha Q CELLS Korea. Deal says it was a continuation of “strong partnerships” the state has had with Korean businesses.

The new manufacturing facility in Dalton will produce solar cells, a device that turns light energy into electricity. When several solar cells are connected, they become what is commonly referred to as a solar panel. Vice President of Hanwha Q CELLS Korea James Choi says he saw the facility as the beginning of a long-term relationship with Georgia. Georgia Department of Economic Development commissioner Pat Wilson says it will be Hanwha Q CELLS Korea’s first U.S.-based manufacturing facility.

[\[KY\] New graduates are joining the job hunt. Avoid Kentucky, new ranking of states says \(Lexington Herald-Leader\)](#)

(5/31/2018 12:51 PM, Mike Stunson)

As the national unemployment rate continues to decline, a newly released analysis shows Kentucky is one of the worst states to find jobs. Kentucky is the third-worst state for jobs, ahead of Mississippi and West Virginia, according to WalletHub.com’s latest study. For its analysis, the website compared the 50 states across 29 key indicators of a healthy economy, job-market strength and opportunity. The data used by the personal finance company and website was collected from organizations and government agencies, including the Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics and Pew Charitable Trust.

The 10 best states to find a job were Washington, Colorado, Utah, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Vermont, Massachusetts, Florida and Texas, according to WalletHub.

[\[MI\] Morley to hire 60 people for customer service jobs starting at \\$10 per hour \(Grand Valley Advance\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:33 AM, Isis Simpson-Mersha)

Morley is hosting a career fair to fill 60 openings for roadside, auto and insurance-related customer service jobs. The fair is from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 2, at Morley's offices, 4075 Bay Road in Saginaw Township. New hires start at \$10 per hour, but can work their way up to earning \$13. Last week, the company added a fifty cent premium for employees who work second or third shift, and an additional increase can be earned by becoming cross-skilled and for completing a successful first review. In addition to the company's new earning scale, it also relaxed its dress code to casual attire for all employees.

"Our associates are making our growth possible," said Paul Furlo, Morley president and CEO. "We want to make sure they understand how much we appreciate what they do every day, and how much we value the important work that they do." Forty of the new jobs are being filled due to project expansion. "We're filling most of the building," said Jill Gushow, director of human resources.

[\[WI\] Foxconn can keep workers in state \(La Crosse Tribune\)](#)

(5/30/2018 1:45 AM, Tom Still)

During a presentation comparing South Carolina's experience with BMW to what's about to happen in Racine County with Foxconn, I asked listeners if they knew anyone — family, friend or neighbor — who lived in southeast Wisconsin and trekked to northern Illinois daily for work. The reply underscored why educators and other experts believe it's possible to fill most of the projected 13,000 Foxconn jobs over time with people who already live in Wisconsin. For many who already call southeast Wisconsin home, commuting to northern Illinois for work is routine. So why not work closer to home if a comparable or better job is available?

That's just one of the workforce strategies discussed Thursday during a session at Gateway Technical College's Sturtevant campus, which has been a hub of activity related to the nearby Foxconn manufacturing site. If a theme for workforce development stood out, it was "Wisconsin First." "Let's take care of our own first," said UW-Milwaukee Chancellor Mark Mone, one of three panelists who spoke after a University of South Carolina economist charted the effect of BMW's move to that state in the mid-1990s. "We can really put a lot of people in Wisconsin to work... This is a long game."

[\[CA\] New milestone on high-speed rail project: 2,000th construction job created \(Fresno Bee\)](#)

(5/31/2018 2:25 PM, Chuck Riojas)

With the nation's first high-speed rail system being created in California, it's no surprise that milestones and history are made almost daily. Each column, concrete pour and steel rebar cage is a step forward. This week, the High-Speed-Rail Authority marks another significant milestone — announcing that since the start of building, 2,000 construction jobs have been created.

Our region has been hit time and again with economic challenges and instability in the job market. High-speed rail is changing that. How does this change happen? In one word: Construction. Since the initial groundbreaking at the Fresno River in 2015, construction workers have flocked to be a part of this industry-changing project. Talk to these men and women on the job and many will tell you that their lives have changed because of the opportunities created by this project. They are achieving milestones in their lives that would have otherwise not been possible. California's high-speed rail is providing viable career and apprenticeship opportunities by putting these local men and women back to work, allowing them to provide for themselves and their families. We are rebounding from last decade's recession.

Unemployment

[US Jobless Claims Declined in Week Ended May 26 \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:34 AM, Paul Kiernan & Harriet Torry)

The number of U.S. workers filing new applications for unemployment benefits fell more than economists expected last week after rising in the two prior weeks, remaining near historic lows. Initial jobless claims, an indication of layoffs across the U.S., fell by 13,000 to a seasonally adjusted 221,000 in the week ended May 26, the Labor Department said Thursday.

Economists surveyed by The Wall Street Journal had forecast 225,000 new applications for jobless benefits last week. Claims for the week ended May 19 were unrevised at 234,000, the Labor Department added. Jobless claims can be volatile from week to week, especially around holidays when seasonal adjustments are sometimes difficult; Monday was Memorial Day. The four-week moving average of claims, which smooths out weekly jitters, posted a slight increase of 2,500 to 222,250.

[Jobless claims drop 13,000 to 221,000 in late May \(MarketWatch\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:52 AM, Jeffry Bartash)

The numbers: U.S. jobless claims fell at the end of May, suggesting that a recent increase in the rate of layoffs stemmed mostly from seasonal quirks whose effects are already fading. Initial jobless claims declined by 13,000 to 221,000 in the week ended May 26. Economists polled by MarketWatch had forecast a 225,000 reading. The more stable monthly average of claims, meanwhile, rose by 2,500 to 222,250.

What happened: Part of the drop in claims last week could reflect people waiting until after the Memorial Day holiday to apply for jobless benefits. Even if that's the case, though, layoffs remain near a half-century low and there's no sign they are about to reverse course. Jobless claims are likely to remain around 220,000 or so for the foreseeable future.

[Sears plans to close 72 more stores, closing sales to start in near future \(CNBC\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:07 AM, Lauren Thomas & Christina Cheddar Berk)

Sears Holdings said Thursday it will be closing more than 70 additional stores in 2018 as its sales continue to erode, dropping more than 30 percent in the latest quarter from a year ago. The retailer has identified 100 unprofitable stores in total, and it will begin closing sales at 72 of these stores "in the near future." "We continue to evaluate our network of stores, which are a critical component in our transformation, and will make further adjustments as needed and as warranted," Sears said in a statement announcing its fiscal first-quarter results.

The department store chain has been caught in a vicious cycle — shuttering weak stores to reduce costs. But even as it closes more stores, sales fall further. In the latest period, Sears said roughly two-thirds of its sales decline was tied to store closures. Sears added it plans to provide a list later in the day of the locations set to close next.

[\[VT\] Keurig Green Mountain Lays Off 35 Vermont Employees \(Seven Days Vermont\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:37 PM, Katie Jickling)

Keurig Green Mountain is laying off 53 manufacturing employees, including 35 in Vermont, the company said Thursday. The coffee and beverage giant notified Vermont Labor Commissioner Lindsay Kurrle that the layoffs involve employees at its Essex, Williston and Waterbury locations, according to Kurrle. The layoffs are part of an effort to consolidate and restructure the company's manufacturing operations, spokesperson Katie Gilroy wrote in an email to Seven Days.

It's not the first effort to slim down the company. Keurig Green Mountain laid off 200 workers during cuts in 2015, and an additional 108 after it ended its cold-brewing line the following year. The company currently operates in five U.S. states and Canada.

[\[MD\] Ellicott City flood leaves many workers without jobs \(Carroll County Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:00 AM, Andrea K. McDaniels)

The flood waters that destroyed businesses in Old Ellicott City also left Danielle Walenga without a paycheck. The manager of novelty gift shop A Journey From Junk and home decor retailer Junk Girl has filed for unemployment. But she knows she must find another job soon to take care of her family.

Walenga is one of the many employees who kept the quaint shops and businesses of historic Main Street running but now find themselves out of work after severe storms Sunday sent a flash flood through the streets of the Howard County town. "I am a single mom with two small children and I have worked 60 hours to make ends meet now," she said. "I don't know what I am going to do."

[\[NC\] IBM confirms Watson Health layoffs, says cuts are 'small percentage' of workforce \(WRAL TechWire\)](#)

(5/31/2018 2:23 PM, Staff Report)

IBM on Thursday confirmed that the tech giant has cut jobs in its high-profile Watson Health business unit, including some at its operations in the Triangle. However, a spokesperson for Big Blue denied that the layoffs were massive as reported by some media outlets and noted that the company continues to hire.

"We're not discussing specific numbers," IBM's Doug Shelton told WRAL TechWire. "It's a small percentage of our global Watson Health workforce, as we move to more technology-intensive offerings, simplified processes and automation to drive speed."

[\[GA\] Unemployment rate drops in Middle Georgia \(WMGT-TV NBC 41 Macon\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:37 AM, Tanya Modersitzki)

The Georgia Department of Labor released a new study stating the unemployment rate fell significantly in April. At the same time, the labor force and number of employed residents dropped. Many of the indicators over the last year still remain positive. "Even though we did see some fluctuations in the employment and workforce numbers across the state, job growth continues to be very strong," Georgia Labor Commissioner Mark Butler said.

The study says in April, the number of employed residents in the Middle Georgia region fell to 213,393. Middle Georgia lost 427 employed

residents for the month, but remains up 4,398 over the last year. Only five of Georgia's 12 regional commissions saw an increase in employed residents.

[\[FL\] Florida job cuts tick up in May, but down 15 percent year-to-date \(Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel\)](#)

(5/31/2018 9:20 AM, Marcia Heroux Pounds)

Florida employers announced more job cuts in May than a year ago -- 846 compared with 1,511 -- but year-to-date layoffs have declined 15 percent, according to Chicago-based outsourcing company Challenger, Gray & Christmas' monthly report. Employers reported 6,915 jobs cuts January-May, 15 percent lower than the 8,126 job cuts in the same period in 2017. In South Florida, the largest layoffs announced during the month were at Sears, which is closing its store at the Westfield Broward Mall in Plantation, eliminating 81 jobs, according to Challenger. The store will close in mid-July, a Sears's spokesperson said. The Sears Auto Center closed on May 12.

The Plantation store is among 40 Sears and Kmart stores that will be shuttered by Sears Holdings Corp. in July and August, according to news reports. Miami-based Hospital Company Baptist Health South Florida told the state it would cut 588 jobs statewide scheduled July 14 to July 23.

[\[IN\] Unemployment plunges across Northwest Indiana \(Northwest Indiana Times\)](#)

(5/31/2018 7:00 AM, Joseph S. Pete)

Unemployment plummeted across Northwest Indiana in April, falling as much as 1.3 percentage points in East Chicago. Joblessness dropped last month to 4.1 percent across the Gary metropolitan area, which encompasses most of Northwest Indiana's population and territory, covering Lake, Porter, Newton and Jasper counties. The unemployment rate in the Gary metro is down from 4.7 percent in March and 5.3 percent in February.

In April, Lake County had the state's second-highest jobless rate of 4.4 percent, down from 5.1 percent the previous month but much higher than the rest of the state, neighboring Illinois, the rest of the Chicago area and the rest of the country. LaPorte County ranked fourth out of Indiana's 92 counties at 3.9 percent, which was down from 4.6 percent in March. Porter County's unemployment rate fell to 3.4 percent, 22nd highest in the state and down from 3.9 percent the month prior.

Apprenticeship

[Rise of the apprentice: A European tradition comes to the US \(MSN\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:18 AM, Chris Taylor)

The growing number of apprenticeships in the U.S. has more to do with European companies importing the practice into their American operations than with the long-running NBC television reality show and its former host who now lives in the White House. Traditional apprenticeships are more than summer internships familiar to Americans, and involve a significant service period of a year or two, plus training, often for a community college degree. Apprenticeships come with plenty of corporate support, including mentor partnerships and placement across multiple company divisions.

About 80 percent of registered American apprenticeships occur in skilled trades, such as plumbing, electrical work or metal work. Yet there are only about 500,000 of these apprenticeships, representing a tiny sliver of U.S. workers. But if the U.S. continues to follow the European model, there is plenty of room for growth. In Europe, the apprenticeship system has deep roots throughout the entire economy, in particular in Germany, where apprentices are almost 4.0 percent of the workforce.

[The rise of the apprentice: a European tradition comes to the U.S. \(Reuters\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:09 AM, Chris Taylor)

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While companies such as Zurich Insurance Group, Accenture and Walgreens are ramping up their programs, apprenticeships are not totally new to the U.S. About 80 percent of registered American apprenticeships occur in skilled trades, such as plumbing, electrical work or metal work. Yet there are only about 500,000 of these apprenticeships, representing a tiny sliver of U.S. workers.

[More U.S. Firms Follow Europeans in Valuing Apprenticeships to Attract Talent \(Insurance Journal\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:31 AM, Chris Taylor)

The growing number of apprenticeships in the U.S. has more to do with European companies importing the practice into their American operations than with the long-running NBC television reality show and its former host who now lives in the White House. Traditional

apprenticeships are more than summer internships familiar to Americans, and involve a significant service period of a year or two, plus training, often for a community college degree. Apprenticeships come with plenty of corporate support, including mentor partnerships and placement across multiple company divisions. And they always involve getting paid.

While companies such as Zurich Insurance Group, Accenture and Walgreens are ramping up their programs, apprenticeships are not totally new to the U.S. About 80 percent of registered American apprenticeships occur in skilled trades, such as plumbing, electrical work or metal work. Yet there are only about 500,000 of these apprenticeships, representing a tiny sliver of U.S. workers. But if the U.S. continues to follow the European model, there is plenty of room for growth. In Europe, the apprenticeship system has deep throughout the entire economy, in particular in Germany, where apprentices are almost 4.0 percent of the workforce.

[\[NY\] CNY Manufacturing Apprenticeship program enters next phase \(WSYR-TV 9 Syracuse\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:51 PM, Staff Report)

A paid apprenticeship program is teaming Onondaga Community College and 5 local manufacturers is entering a new phase. These 4-year apprenticeships include benefits and built-in pay increases. The five partner companies are Bartell Machinery Systems in Rome, Kilian Manufacturing and Self Lock Screw Products both in Syracuse, Precision Systems Manufacturing in Liverpool and Stickley in Manlius.

Nathan Curran is one of three apprentices accepted by Bartell Machinery Systems. "Once I did the orientation, I was like 'man, this is some really cool stuff' and I'd really love to get involved in this," Curran tells NewsChannel 9. Instructor Bill Cullen has been in manufacturing for about 4 decades and is sharing his expertise with this group of paid apprentices.

[Editorial note: View video at source link]

[\[WI\] U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin Highlights Legislation to Boost Apprenticeships in Oak Creek \(Urban Milwaukee\)](#)

(5/31/2018 4:44 AM, U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin)

Today, U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin hosted a roundtable discussion on apprenticeships with local businesses, workforce readiness leaders, labor and workers at PPG in Oak Creek to highlight her legislation that would invest in public-private partnerships, boost apprenticeship programs, and help close the skills gap. "In Wisconsin, I've seen how public-private partnerships can best address the workforce readiness challenges we face. Apprenticeships are a proven way to provide workers with the skills they need to succeed and our businesses with the skilled workforce they need to grow our economy," said Senator Baldwin. "This legislation will scale up our apprenticeship programs and help close the skills gap. When we bring businesses and technical colleges together we can train people for a career rather than just a job.

The Promoting Apprenticeships through Regional Training Networks for Employers' Required Skills (PARTNERS) Act would establish a grant program to support the creation and expansion of industry and sector partnerships to help small and medium sized businesses develop work-based learning programs and provide mentoring and support services for workers. A bipartisan House version of this legislation was introduced by Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) and Congressman Drew Ferguson (R-GA).

[\[WI\] Creating a Foundation to Build Careers: Our Youth Apprenticeships \(Findorff\)](#)

(5/30/2018 11:59 PM, Staff Report)

Findorff has a long history building educational facilities. We also have a genuine interest in creating a foundation to help build careers. As such, we have worked closely with several school districts and the Dane County School Consortium. Because of these relationships, opportunities are available through youth apprenticeships for local students to explore careers in construction.

Back in 2014, Findorff started working with the DeForest Area School District on its latest facilities referendum. This served as the catalyst to support our youth apprenticeships. In turn, students have been given first-hand experience on what the construction industry has to offer for jobs, ranging from virtual construction to project management. Most recently, Findorff worked with youth apprentices from the School District of Belleville and Sun Prairie Area School District.

[\[WA\] Swiss apprenticeship program touted for Washington state \(KING-TV NBC 5 Seattle\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:45 PM, Natalie Brand)

What does the future of work look like in Washington State? Governor Inslee's newly appointed Employment Security Department Director, Suzi LeVine, believes apprenticeships will need to play a significant role. LeVine, the former Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein, and her husband Eric LeVine, both formerly of Microsoft, gave a preview of their vision at a NewDEAL conference for rising Democratic leaders held this week in Seattle.

The LeVines hope to use the Swiss apprenticeship program as a model, in which businesses invest heavily in training and cultivating future talent. The job opportunities range from software developers and bankers to farmers and cheese makers, representing around 250 career paths, according to the LeVines. While it's too early to know how an expanded apprenticeship program will take form in Washington, Suzi LeVine

estimates Washington could save \$446 million annually if two-thirds of 11th and 12th graders did apprenticeship programs, according to the presentation she gave Wednesday.

[Editorial note: View video at source link]

Labor

[American health-care workers are committing suicide in unprecedented numbers \(The Hill\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:30 AM, Vinita Parkash)

As America focuses on one epidemic — the opioid crisis — another goes entirely ignored. American health-care workers are dying by suicide in unprecedented numbers. Earlier this month, a medical student and a resident at NYU medical school completed suicide less than a week apart. My junior colleague took her life just 11 days before her 35th birthday. I had supervised her as she transitioned into practice from fellowship. She said that the way I said her name foretold if the conversation pointed to a weakness or a strength in her patient assessment. My last sight of her was as she drove off to her new job. Less than six months later, she made a life-ending choice.

A scan of her suicide note, asking that I be notified, was emailed to me. I did not show it to anyone. The news of her suicide was announced by an email in the department. We all went about our business, as if suicide by a young colleague is usual. And perhaps, in a way it is. After all, physician suicide — and more broadly health-care worker suicide — is a huge issue in the U.S. In my own experience, I have lost six colleagues to suicide — five physicians and one physician assistant. That does not include the suicides that I have heard about through the whisper network at work.

[The Heavy Toll of Opioids on America's Labor Force \(US News & World Report\)](#)

(5/31/2018 7:00 AM, Christopher J. Swift)

The opioid crisis is real, growing and heartbreaking. A third of Americans have been prescribed opioid painkillers, and opioids are so addictive that research suggests 1 in 5 who start a 10-day supply become longer-term users. As a leading writer of workers' compensation and group disability insurance in America, we at The Hartford see the human impact of this tragedy — on victims, their families, colleagues and communities — all too often.

But the opioid crisis also has a telling impact in two areas the headlines seldom mention: the workplace and the workforce. Not only is it devastating American families and communities, it's degrading our workforce, with the labor force participation rate down 4 percentage points since 2000 despite an ever-rising population. Work published by the National Bureau of Economic Research confirms that a key reason for this decline in labor is due to opioids.

Beyond the horrific human toll, the opioid epidemic has created an enormous financial burden and competitive strain on employers of all sizes — in the form of a diminished labor force, compromised productivity and higher health care costs. Indeed, in 2015, more than \$1.5 billion in workers' compensation pharmacy costs were directly tied to opioids.

[Public sector jobs: States where the most people work for the government \(USA Today\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:02 AM, Michael B. Sauter)

Since the economic recovery began in 2010, the private sector has added 16 million jobs. At the same time the number of public sector jobs has remained static. As a result, government employment as a share of total employment has declined from 17.3% to 15.2%, according to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics figures. Government employment across the country is far from evenly distributed. In some states, federal workers, as well as state and local government employees, account for anywhere between 12% and 25% of total employment. While some might expect that high government spending would also entail substantial government employment, relative to the state's workforce, the opposite tends to be true.

Based on 2017 employment figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 24/7 Wall St. ranked all 50 states based on federal, state, and local government employees as a share of total employment. While states with government-friendly political environments, such as New York, Pennsylvania, and California, might spend more overall, they tend to have the fewest government jobs as a share of total state employment. Rather, sparsely-populated states, such as Wyoming, Alaska, and Montana, have relatively larger public sector workers. Martin Kohli, chief regional economist at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, explained that the primary reason for this is that government services, particularly local government jobs, exist even in small towns.

[Business Executives Take a More Tempered View of U.S. Economy, AICPA Survey Finds \(Business Wire\)](#)

(5/31/2018 7:00 AM, Staff)

Business executives are taking a more cautious view of the U.S. economy and their own company's growth prospects after two straight quarters of exuberant optimism, according to the second-quarter AICPA Economic Outlook Survey, which polls chief executive officers, chief financial officers, controllers and other certified public accountants in U.S. companies who hold executive and senior management accounting roles.

Seventy-four percent of business executives said they were optimistic about the economy over the next 12 months, down five percentage points from last quarter. Part of the drop-off was due to concerns about trade and political uncertainty, survey respondents said.

Survey respondents also trimmed their expectations for profit and revenue growth over the next 12 months. Profit growth estimates slipped from 4.4 percent last quarter to four percent, while revenue growth projections eased from five percent to 4.8 percent. The number of employers who said they planned to hire immediately rose three percentage points to 30 percent in the quarter. Another 13 percent said they had too few employees but were hesitant to hire, down a point from last quarter.

[Opioid Crisis: Keeping the Workplace Drug-Free and ADA Compliant \(HR Daily Advisor\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:00 AM, Angela N. Johnson)

The opioid epidemic is affecting workplaces across the country. Because opioids can be lawfully prescribed (but are increasingly abused), employers must tread carefully when taking adverse action against opioid users to avoid running afoul of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). "Recovery-friendly" workplaces may provide an alternative solution to help combat the crisis, but that approach should be considered with caution. The Trump administration has declared the nationwide opioid epidemic a "public health emergency." To combat the problem, the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions has proposed a bill that would provide the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) with grants to support state efforts to fight the crisis's effect on the workforce, such as providing training to identify prescription drug or opioid abuse and supporting addiction treatment services.

According to the Mayo Clinic, opioids are the third most commonly prescribed medications, which naturally mean employees are reporting to work under the influence. Opioids are found in commonly prescribed pain management drugs such as morphine and Vicodin. They can cause side effects such as impaired cognitive ability, dizziness, and drowsiness. Employers are understandably concerned about keeping their workplaces drug-free, maintaining a safe work environment, and preventing the impacts of opioid abuse—e.g., decreased productivity, increased absenteeism, and higher medical expenses.

[Hard At Work: Employee Engagement Strategies Help Retain Top Talent in Home-Based Care \(Bristol Herald Courier\)](#)

(5/31/2018 9:01 AM, Staff)

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, one of every four new jobs in the US will be in healthcare, and home-based care will be among the fastest growing segment in terms of employment growth through the year 2024. Without enough experienced professionals to go around, organizations must retain top talent to thrive with a stronger, competitive edge, according to Eric Scharber, Principal Simone Healthcare Consultants and Exact Recruiting, a Simone talent solution. With healthcare and specifically home-based care becoming such a hotbed of opportunity, Scharber contends that the demand for talented staff brings greater urgency for organizations to be strategic about employee engagement and satisfaction efforts. "Employee retention and satisfaction are more central to leadership agendas and a top priority at strategic planning sessions and industry conferences.

What was previously general 'water cooler' chat is now a huge issue that will remain a top priority for success in healthcare. The direct correlation between higher employee engagement and retaining staff is something that must be measured," Scharber says. "What gets measured gets managed" AseraCare Hospice, a national provider of hospice services, has a longstanding belief that employee engagement matters. With 1,400 employees in 53 locations and 19 states, AseraCare aspires to share its passion for improving quality of life through innovative healthcare - one person, one family and one community at a time.

[Report: Online Lending Empowers U.S. Small Businesses to Generate 358K Jobs and \\$40 Billion for the Economy Over Three Years \(KOTV-TV 6 Tulsa\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:38 AM, Staff)

A new report on small business lending in the United States reveals that some of the nation's largest "FinTech" small business lending platforms funded nearly \$10 billion in online loans from 2015 to 2017, generating \$37.7 billion in gross output, creating 358,911 jobs and \$12.6 billion in wages in U.S. communities. The upsurge in lending from online small business lenders is filling a critical financing gap for small businesses across industries, according to a new study from NDP Analytics, a Washington, D.C.-based economic research firm.

The NDP study, entitled: "The Economic Benefits of Online Lending to Small Businesses and the U.S. Economy," was sponsored by the Electronic Transactions Association (ETA), the Innovative Lending Platform Association (ILPA) and the Small Business Finance Association (SBFA) and provides an in-depth look at the economic impact of online small business lending in the United States. According to the study, the dollar amount of loans provided by just five leading online small business lenders increased by 50 percent in three years, from \$2.6 billion in 2015 to \$3.9 billion in 2017. The study also found that nearly one-third of online small business borrowers are located in lower-income communities.

[The Latino Coalition and Job Creators Network Join Forces for Small Business Rising Summit \(Benzinga\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:55 AM, PR Newswire)

Taking place at the Marriott Irvine Spectrum Hotel, the Small Business Rising Summit will be a one-day event dedicated to supporting entrepreneurs and strengthening the economy. The event will bring together hundreds of small-business owners from across the nation and abroad with influential leaders, chamber executives and government officials. The summit will serve as a platform to build professional and personal networks while also highlighting the public policy issues impacting business, including regulation, health care costs, and taxes.

"The Latino Coalition is very excited to be partnering with Job Creators Network for the Small Business Rising Summit in Irvine, CA," said Hector Barreto, TLC Chairman and former Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration. "JCN understands that the small-business sector is finally growing again, and this has terrific implications for the American economy – especially in communities that are in need of the unique economic opportunity offered by small-business ownership. Our strategic partnership will work to enhance the overall business, economic and social objectives of America's entrepreneurs and their employees."

"In March, we concluded a historic summit that featured President Trump, Labor Secretary Alex Acosta and Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao, as well as bipartisan congressional representatives. We look forward to keeping the momentum going with this conference, focused on the new era of entrepreneurship," Barreto added.

[CareerCast's 2018 Jobs Rated Report Sees Major Changes Over Three Decades of Rating Jobs \(Benzinga\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:38 AM, Staff)

In the 30th edition of the Jobs Rated report released today, CareerCast examines the up-and-coming professions that have been added to the Jobs Rated report in recent years, such as Genetic Counselor, which ranks as the best job of 2018, and jobs that have become outdated -- Bookbinder, Meter Reader, and Watch Repairer. Genetic Counselor at No. 1, owes its exponential growth to technology. The National Society of Genetic Counselors estimates that since 2006, the field has grown by 85 percent. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates growth by another 29 percent in the next eight years.

The best jobs of 2018 reflect this ongoing shift toward STEM professions, with careers in tech or directly tied to tech represented in the top 10, including Mathematician (#2), Data Scientist (#7), Information Security Analyst (#8), Operations Research Analyst (#9) and Actuary (#10). Low pay is another of the contributing factors for low ranking in the Jobs Rated report. Only two of the 10 worst jobs earn more than \$40,000 annually – and at that, those fields (Advertising Salesperson and Corrections Officer) both face declines in projected hiring outlook by 2026. Almost all the jobs in the bottom 10 face a negative hiring outlook, including these media jobs: Newspaper Reporter (-10%), Broadcaster (-9%) and Advertising Salesperson (-4%).

[Poll: 73% of U.S. Workers Want DIY HR Tools, Many Small Employers Fall Short \(Benzinga\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:02 AM, Staff)

"Today's society has moved from being tech-enabled to tech-dependent, and with that shift has come an expectation for self-sufficiency in the workplace," said Tom Hammond, Paychex vice president of corporate strategy and product management. "While at work, employees want to interact with tools – and one another – much like they do in their personal lives. That means being given the ability and permission to accomplish simple, common actions such as changing an address, checking a time-off balance, requesting time-off, viewing a paystub, or adjusting a 401(k) balance independently.

"This is good news for HR leaders," Hammond adds. "As employees become increasingly independent, HR will have more time to focus on strategic priorities like employee engagement, winning the war on talent, and ensuring the company is complying with employment laws and other regulatory-related requirements. Additionally, the more actions an employee takes using a cloud-based HR system, the more meaningful data and actionable insights the HR team will have at its fingertips."

The likelihood of an employer offering some level of employee self-service – generally defined as a portal through which workers can access various HR-related information about themselves and take the appropriate actions – strongly correlates with an organization's size, found the Paychex study. Of those business owners polled, more than 65% of those with 20-500 employees empower their employees to complete simple administrative HR tasks via self-service.

[Employers' use of temporary, contract workers continues to increase \(HR Dive\)](#)

(5/31/2018 3:00 PM, Riia O'Donnell)

Staffing levels for temporary and contract workers increased 2.2%, according to the American Staffing Association. The rise is the fastest increase in year-over-year growth in four years for the week of May 7 to 13. Although month-over-month the ASA Staffing Index declined slightly, by 0.1%, it stayed at a rounded reading of 97 for the week. Since the index began in 2006, the week's numbers represent the highest in its history. For the 9th consecutive period, the index's four-week moving average increased to a rounded 97, representing an historic high for the same period. Rising at its fastest pace since 2014, the four-week average increased 2.4%.

The use of contingent workers continues to increase at a rate some say is moving faster than employers can adjust. Freelancers are flooding

the market and, according to some data, could make up 50% of the talent market by 2020. As more individuals work independently, more may be open to it, with one study reporting that 94% of those surveyed were open to non-traditional work arrangements. That means that businesses soon may be competing for gig workers just as they do for traditional staff members, however. In fact, the pressure already may be on; some are offering contract workers full benefits, similar to those of regular staff members. Government action may be on the horizon, however, as Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta has voiced some interest in looking at regulations for gig workers.

[\[NY\] Should employees have a right to disconnect? \(HR Dive\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:00 AM, Kate Tomone)

There's a bill pending in New York City that would give workers the right to ignore certain after-hours contact from employers. It's a concept born out of our burned-out, overworked culture, and it's no surprise that New York City may be experiencing that phenomenon in a very acute way. There are some exemptions in the bill, like one for small employers and another for emergencies. But, generally, it forbids employers from taking adverse employment actions against workers who won't reply to work-related texts and emails outside of their normal workday. France adopted a similar law last year and, to be sure, the intent is admirable. I'm lucky enough to work for a company that not only doesn't generally expect after-hours replies, but also doesn't usually send late-night emails and texts in the first place. It's a benefit that I really value and certainly wish for everyone who wants it. But there are some problems with the New York City legislation as proposed.

First, the big question: should we have a right to disconnect? I'm not completely convinced we should. The ability to, on a regular basis? Yes. But a right? Well, creating a new workplace right is a big deal, for several reasons. For one, it's not clear whether this bill can play nice with existing federal employment law. The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) requires that employees be paid for all hours worked.

[\[SC\] Myers Crossing Training Prepares Students For Life-changing Occupations \(Charleston Chronicle\)](#)

(5/31/2018 12:05 PM, Barney Blakeney)

Debbie Myers believes if her students can take her beating four weeks, they'll leave her heavy equipment operation training class prepared for a lifestyle change. She is the only African American woman in the state and perhaps the country who owns and operates a heavy equipment operation training school, Myers Crossing, LLC. Myers is as tough and purposeful as the equipment she teaches her students to operate. She's intense.

In a recent publication S.C. Maritime Association President Heather Holmquest said advanced manufacturing, a term applied to the aerospace and automotive industries, is heavily dependent on the logistical and supply chain industry. Among other skilled workers, they need crane and heavy equipment operators, but there are critical shortages among those workers. The perception that every student should graduate from high school and go off to college is misleading. Many heavy equipment operators need only a high school education and earn a starting salary exceeding South Carolina's average annual income. That information isn't lost on Myers, and she extolls her students to consider it.

[\[GA\] Teach For America raising concerns in teaching profession \(Daily Illini\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:00 AM, Heather Schlitz)

Citing a declining student population, a low-income high school in Atlanta fired one of its four social studies teachers. The next day, the school announced Jameson Brewer, a newly minted Teach for America corps member at the time, would be brought on staff. Teach for America, a nonprofit organization that places college graduates in an intensive summer training program before sending "corps members" to teach in low-income communities across the country for a two-year time commitment, has come under increased scrutiny.

Often targeting recent college graduates, the organization has recruiters at universities across the country, one of which is the University. According to Amy Warner, former recruitment manager for Teach for America at the University, 29 Illinois alumni will join the Teach for America corps in 2018. Brewer is now a professor in the College of Education at the University of North Georgia, a University alumnus and co-editor of two books critiquing Teach for America. He said shunting aside veteran teachers — as he believes happened in Atlanta — is only one of the corrosive effects the organization has on schools and the teaching profession.

Unlike most new Teach for America corps members, Brewer had a degree in education and experience as a substitute teacher in Atlanta under his belt before joining the organization. Following a statewide hiring freeze for new teachers in Georgia and the 2008 recession, Brewer said two years of limited employment options for teachers in the state had motivated him to apply to Teach for America.

[\[TN\] New Life Job Fair offers second chance to felons \(Chattanooga Times & Free Press\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:40 AM, Emmett Gienapp)

Two dozen convicted felons and ex-offenders packed into a handful of meeting rooms at the American Job Center off Brainerd Road on Thursday morning for the first part of a two-day job fair tailor made for them. The New Life Job Fair, sponsored by the city of Chattanooga, the American Job Center and Father to the Fatherless, is held twice a year in the Eastgate Town Center for those looking for a way to re-enter society by putting in the work with a new career.

Career guidance professionals and instructors contribute time and expertise each time to teach participants how to prepare resumes, dress professionally and perform well in interviews. They say events like this are essential to ensure that community members with a record can actually build productive lives after serving their time.

[\[OH\] Officials unveil new Mine Safety Training Center \(WTRF-TV 7 Wheeling\)](#)

(5/31/2018 4:46 PM, Brooke Chaplain)

It was a packed house on Thursday, as the community, state, county, and village officials gathered for the unveiling of a new mine safety training center. Ohio Department of Natural Resources Director Jim Zehringer said this project started four years ago. Now, it's finally come to fruition. Officials expect the new training facility to bring more jobs and more people to the area, which Harrison County Commissioner Dale Norris said will be a huge help for local businesses.

The new facility features classrooms, storage and a simulation center. Officials confirm Harrison County typically trains anywhere from 6,000 to 8,000 miners each year. They're hoping that number increases with the new center. Officials told 7News that local firefighters, paramedics, police and others can use the building for their own drills and training scenarios.

[\[OH\] A-Tech opens industrial maintenance training lab to public \(Ashtabula Star-Beacon\)](#)

(5/31/2018 12:30 AM, Justin Dennis)

A-Tech's adult skill training offerings are expanding, as the campus' industrial maintenance lab opens to the public this year — at a time when local and regional employers struggle to fill even entry-level skilled positions from within the county. Ashtabula County Technical and Career Campus is now offering "intense" 300-hour, 36-week courses in its Industrial Maintenance Pathway Ashtabula County Lab — also referred to as the IMPAC lab — as part of its 2018-19 adult workforce development curriculum. The lab offers basic to high-level, hands-on training in electrical, fluid power and mechanical maintenance fields through specially designed troubleshooting and virtual computer devices.

"It is fast-paced. It's intense training. There is a lot to it," Ken Porter, the campus' workforce development coordinator said. "This one's unique in that it's all on the preventive side and troubleshooting side." Tuition is \$9,350 for the nine-month course, which would be set for 6-10:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays starting Sept. 5. Adult training orientation days are set for 5:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesdays from June 27 to Aug. 15 in A-Tech's A Complex, Room 104. To

[\[MI\] Why Michigan's workforce could be filled with outsiders \(Detroit Free Press\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:30 PM, John Gallagher)

When Rick Snyder became Michigan's governor nearly eight years ago, he made clear he put more faith in nurturing existing businesses in the state than chasing after out-of-state companies with tax breaks. He and his aides called it "Economic gardening." And as if to demonstrate he was serious, Snyder killed the state's lucrative movie incentives in a signature move to show he wasn't picking winners and losers.

As Snyder's second terms draws toward its close, the state has been sending mixed signals. It recently offered billions of dollars in tax breaks to both Amazon and Foxconn in a failed attempt to lure them to Michigan.

[\[MI\] Now's no time to be humble in courting talent to Michigan \(Crain's Detroit Business\)](#)

(5/31/2018 7:45 AM, Roger Curtis)

As the epicenter of mobility and innovation, Michigan is the vibrant, beautiful, affordable land of opportunity that can change your life and the world. People outside Michigan lack knowledge of our comeback and have misperceptions about our state, in almost equal measure. A state no stranger to the economic downturn in 2000s now has an unprecedented need for talent caused by a record comeback.

Not just any talent: STEAM talent, a small group of highly educated, highly sought-after individuals. All these jobs require some sort of post-secondary education, be it a four-year degree, specialized training or credential or apprenticeship program.

[\[IL\] Why doesn't Chicago have worker-owned cooperatives? \(Chicago Reporter\)](#)

(5/31/2018 2:58 PM, G. Sequane Lawrence)

Worker-owned cooperatives are companies owned and managed by their workers. Instead of a traditional vertical business hierarchy with a boss at the top and workers below, worker-owned co-ops are horizontally-organized, with workers sharing responsibility and profits with their peers.

While successful models like the Mondragon in Spain and Emilia Romagna in Italy are widely known, newer co-ops such as the Evergreen Cooperative in Cleveland are helping catalyze a new movement in the U.S. to democratize local and state economies. According to Democracy at Work Institute, there are currently about 325 worker cooperatives in the U.S. employing over 6,000 workers and generating nearly \$400 million in revenue annually in businesses ranging from manufacturing to food service, green energy and home health care.

[\[LA\] STEM Fest aims to take learning to a higher level \(Baton Rouge Advocate\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:00 AM, Tara McLellan)

On June 9 at William Pitcher Junior High School in Covington, and again June 23 at Slidell Junior High School, kids of all ages will be able to learn first-hand about those things and more at Northshore STEM Fest. Geared for students from kindergarten all the way to 12th grade, as well as their accompanying family or guardians, STEM Fest is a fun and family-friendly way to learn about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) with hands-on projects, information on alternative energy sources, food science, math games and more.

Organizers from the United Way of Southeast Louisiana want the dual events to bring together as many kids as possible in order to inspire a new generation of scientists, engineers, inventors and innovators. "Our goal is we want all kids to come, especially those kids that may not have regular access to STEM programs," said Sonja Newman, United Way SELA manager of resource development. "We want them to go and be inspired and think, 'Hey, maybe I can be a scientist.'"

[\[CO\] Job Corps Student Finds Success in the Denver Workforce \(Denver Post\)](#)

(5/30/2018 9:00 PM, Staff Report)

Amber Knight, a Job Corps graduate, is living, working and setting a great example here in Denver. She was born in a small town in Montana but spent most of her young life moving from place to place with her family. She was always playing catch up and found it hard to make or keep friends. Despite her situation, she graduated high school, but wasn't doing anything with her life afterward. Like many kids at that age she lacked direction. Her step dad, a security guard for the Wind River Job Corps center in Wyoming, suggested she attend the program. She was reluctant at first and stalled for three months before she made the commitment to join Job Corps, but now she is so thankful she did. Amber said, "It changed the direction of my life."

Job Corps is a government-funded program for students ages 16-24. It offers free vocational training, high school education (if needed), as well as free lodging, three meals a day, basic medical coverage and a year of career placement services for those who graduate. Job Corps expects a lot from its students in exchange for free education and lodging. There are rules, chores and high expectations, but also a lot of fun. While attending Job Corps, Amber studied heavy equipment operation. When asked why she chose that trade her voice filled with excitement.

[\[CO\] When wildfires spark, these young dispatchers work behind the scenes \(The Coloradoan\)](#)

(5/30/2018 2:39 PM, Noel Brennan)

A fly on the wall would have to learn a new language to follow everything that goes on inside the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center. "Right now, we're just PREPO-ing down in Durango because it's the driest in Colorado," said David Lopez, sitting at his computer. "Prepositioning. PREPO," he clarified, recognizing the confused look on this reporter's face. Lopez, 19, deals with a lot of acronyms and abbreviations. He's fluent in the language of fire dispatchers. Lopez is one of a handful of dispatcher trainees at the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center in Lakewood. The center helps organize and dispatch resources when big fires break out across the country. The center oversees 10, smaller dispatch centers across Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming.

The young dispatcher trainees are part of the USDA Forest Service Job Corps which trains and develops up to 4,000 students every year in a variety of industries. The dispatcher pilot program allows trainees to get a taste of working behind the scenes of real fires. "It's a humongous process," Lopez said. "We know where everybody is. We know what resources are available and are ready to go." Lopez and the other dispatcher trainees already spent a year in wildland fire training before arriving at the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center.

[\[WA\] Where are the workers? A farm crisis in Washington \(KCPQ-TV Fox 13 Seattle\)](#)

(5/31/2018 12:09 PM, Simone Del Rosario)

Washington's farmers are at risk of losing millions of dollars in crop this season because once the harvest is ready, there are not enough workers to pick it. It was a tough day for Auburn, Washington's Mosby Farms: The day they disced 20 acres of zucchini back into the ground.

"What could have been a stellar season I can say was probably not," Rosella Mosby said. She said her first-generation farm lost out on \$100,000 because they didn't have the workers to pick the zucchini in time. They were missing more than a fifth of their workforce last season.

[\[CA\] Silicon Valley's company towns are doomed \(Co.Design\)](#)

(5/31/2018 1:52 PM, Grant Bollmer)

Willow Village is a community planned for a 59-acre site in California's Silicon Valley, between Menlo Park and East Palo Alto. It will have housing, offices, a grocery store, a pharmacy, and its developers say, maybe even its own cultural center.

There's one notable thing about Willow Village that makes it different from other new communities in America: It is being developed by Facebook. Willow Village evokes "company towns" of the past, once built by corporations to both house and keep tabs on employees. And projects like Willow Village also follow the legacy of utopian communities in the United States.

Child Labor

[Congressman questions DOL proposal to loosen restrictions on teen workers and hazardous jobs \(Safety & Health\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:00 AM, Staff Report)

A leading Democratic congressman is questioning why the Department of Labor wants to expand the number of hazardous jobs available to 16- and 17-year-olds. Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN), deputy chair of the Democratic National Committee, wrote a letter to Secretary of Labor R. Alexander Acosta on May 23 inquiring about a proposed rule on the Spring 2018 regulatory agenda, Expanding Apprenticeship and Employment Opportunities to 16 and 17-Year Olds Under the FLSA (Fair Labor Standards Act).

FLSA prohibits 16- and 17-year-old workers from performing certain hazardous jobs outside of the agricultural industry, but provides limited exemptions for apprentices and student learners working “under certain conditions,” the regulatory agenda entry states. In a notice of proposed rulemaking slated for publication in October, DOL is planning to consider whether Hazardous Occupations Orders “should be updated to reflect the current economic and work environments and to allow for safe and meaningful apprenticeship opportunities and student-learner programs.”

[\[NY\] Investigation Finds Children Working in Factory Packaging Soaps and Beauty Products Sold at Major Retailers \(Inside Edition\)](#)

(5/31/2018 1:00 PM, Staff Report)

American children have been found working in a factory packaging soaps and beauty products sold by major retail chains, an Inside Edition investigation has found. In the investigation, which will air in full Friday, Inside Edition goes inside the Twelve Tribes community.

An Inside Edition producer went undercover at their commune in Cambridge, N.Y., and was allowed to access the property, where she found children working in the field. One 6-year-old boy was picking potatoes and trying his best to handle a wheelbarrow. Hidden cameras captured an 11-year-old girl working on a factory assembly line. We also found a 9-year-old boy and a 10-year-old girl who worked in the factory. The children package products for major brands like Acure and Savannah Bee, which are sold at well-known chain stores, including Amazon, Whole Foods, Target and Walmart.

[Editorial note: View video at source link]

[\[NY\] American children as young as NINE found working in 'cult-run' NEW YORK factory \(Daily Mail\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:01 PM, Hannah Parry)

Children as young as nine have been found working in a New York soap factory packing products sold at Whole Foods, Target and Wal-Mart. The factory is owned and operated by Twelve Tribes, a religious sect branded a ‘cult’ by many and whose alleged racist teachings and strict child-discipline policy has landed it in controversy in the past. Former ‘cult’ member Sarah Williams, 34, agreed to go undercover to expose the child labor exploitation at the Cambridge, New York, commune for Inside Edition.

Wearing a hidden camera, Williams - who was born at the commune - captured shocking footage of young children being forced to work in the soap packing factory. An 11-year-old girl was recorded working on the assembly line, while a nine-year-old boy and ten-year-old girl were seen working in other parts of the factory. Another video, filmed by an undercover Inside Edition producer, showed a six-year-old boy picking potatoes in a field at a farm run by Twelve Tribes.

[\[NY\] Upstate religious cult allegedly beats kids, forces them into labor \(New York Post\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:04 PM, Laura Italiano)

A religious cult is forcing children as young as 9 to work the assembly line in its upstate factory — packaging fancy soaps and other goods that are then sold by Amazon, Whole Foods, Target and Walmart, a new exposé claims. The factory, in rural Cambridge — a small town an hour northeast of Albany — is owned and run by a controversial international religious cult called Twelve Tribes.

The cult has been fined by New York authorities at least twice before, in 2001 and 2006, over child labor-law violations. Its charismatic octogenarian leader, Gene Spriggs, preaches a home-spun fundamentalism that promotes corporal punishment, racism, homophobia, and a return to 1st century Christian values. “They preach peace and love. But there’s another side of these people they don’t want you to see,” says a promo for the “Inside Edition” report, which airs 7 p.m. Friday on CBS.

Immigration

[Report: More than 5K Cases of H-1B Visa Fraud, Abuse Reported Last Year \(Breitbart\)](#)

(5/31/2018 7:38 PM, John Binder)

More than 5,000 cases of alleged abuse in the H-1B visa program have been reported in the first year since President Trump created the fraud hotline. Officials with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services told Newsweek that as of May 21, more than 5,000 cases of H-1B

visa abuse have been reported. Every year, more than 100,000 foreign workers are brought to the U.S. on the H-1B visa and are allowed to stay for up to six years. There are about 650,000 H-1B visa foreign workers in the U.S. at any given moment.

Americans are often laid off in the process and forced to train their foreign replacements, as highlighted by Breitbart News. More than 85,000 Americans annually potentially lose their jobs to foreign labor through the H-1B visa program. As Breitbart News reported, tech conglomerates like Amazon, Microsoft, and Apple hide their H-1B foreign worker hires through outsourcing firms like Cognizant, Tata, and Infosys. The practice allows the corporations to claim they are not undercutting or replacing American workers at extraordinary rates, as they simply contract the foreign workers through the outsourcing firms. The H-1B visa program and importation of foreign workers has crowded out American young people and STEM graduates from high-paying jobs in Silicon Valley, the tech hub of the world, Breitbart News reported.

[AmericanHort welcomes H-2A improvement initiative \(Fresh Plaza\)](#)

(5/31/2018 9:00 AM, Staff Report)

AmericanHort enthusiastically welcomed the announcement by four Cabinet secretaries – Perdue (Agriculture), Acosta (Labor), Nielsen (Homeland Security) and Pompeo (State) – of a new administrative initiative to streamline and improve the H-2A agricultural visa program. H-2A is the only labor safety net currently available to most agricultural employers. AmericanHort has been actively encouraging such an initiative since President Trump welcomed 15 farmers to the White House just over one year ago. "...Our Departments are working in coordination to propose streamlining, simplifying, and improving the H-2A temporary agricultural visa program – reducing cumbersome bureaucracy and ensuring adequate protections for U.S. workers," the Cabinet secretaries' statement said.

The announcement signals the initiation of a process that will take some time. AmericanHort is hopeful that program improvements will be in place by or before the 2020 growing season. "H-2A is fast growing in its importance to nursery and greenhouse growers as labor challenges are only getting worse," said Craig Regelbrugge, AmericanHort senior vice president for industry advocacy and research. "A reliable program is what Congress intended, so this is good news. If successful, the results of the initiative will help our members succeed and grow," he added.

[Ag leaders hope Trump can improve H-2A \(The Packer\)](#)

(5/31/2018 4:16 PM, Tom Karst)

With faint chances for passage but sure promise for passion, immigration and farm labor legislation will again be debated by Congress in June. House leadership has committed to bringing immigration legislation to the floor in mid- to late June, but fresh produce industry lobbyists said getting any immigration reform or enforcement legislation through Congress with President Trump's signature during an election year will be an uphill battle.

With at least one and possibly four immigration bills up for possible votes in June, Craig Regelbrugge, AmericanHort senior vice president of industry advocacy and research, said there is as much uncertainty as ever with the immigration debate on Capitol Hill.

[More H-2B Visas for Seasonal Work Available This Summer \(Society for Human Resource Management\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 AM, Roy Maurer)

Employers that can demonstrate that their business is at risk of failing without an infusion of foreign seasonal workers will have the chance to petition for help this summer. The Department of Homeland Security is authorizing 15,000 additional H-2B visas for use in fiscal year 2018, which runs through September 30. The extra numbers are on top of the 66,000 H-2B visas already issued this fiscal year.

The H-2B visa program allows U.S. employers to hire foreign nationals during peak seasons, primarily in landscaping, hospitality, seafood processing and recreation jobs. Congress has set the H-2B visa cap at 66,000 per fiscal year, with 33,000 visas granted for workers who begin jobs in the first half of the 12-month period and 33,000 visas for workers who begin jobs in the second half. Businesses and industry groups, citing labor workforce needs, have pressured the DHS for months to release additional H-2B visas. The decision to issue more visas will bring some relief to employers who say they cannot find sufficient workers, like the seafood processing plants along Maryland's Eastern Shore that are missing up to 40 percent of their usual workforce this crab season, according to The Baltimore Sun.

[Medical groups warn Trump of 'imminent healthcare repercussions' due to visa crackdown \(Think Progress\)](#)

(5/31/2018 2:21 PM, Rebekah Entralgo)

International medical graduates are having a difficult time moving to the United States for their residency programs due to a slowdown in the H-1B visa application process, affecting nearly 4,000 individuals, the American College of Physicians wrote in a letter to U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS) officials Wednesday.

The letter, written in conjunction with the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine, the American Psychiatric Association, the American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists, and the Council of Academic Family Medicine, pressed immigration officials to let doctors into the country. It cited "imminent healthcare repercussions of delays in H-1B visa processing" among the reasons to process the new doctors' applications more quickly. "When incoming medical residents are

delayed or visas are denied, it is not only disruptive to training programs, but it impacts patient care as teaching hospitals rely on these medical residents to provide care,” the organizations wrote. “...For at least one internal medicine training program, 60% of incoming medical residents are on H-1B visas so the impact of a delayed start and possible denials would be devastating to their physician workforce capacity.”

Working Women

[The child-free life: Why so many American women are deciding not to have kids \(Washington Post\)](#)

(5/31/2018 2:35 PM, Petula Dvorak)

Oh, come on, millennial women. Just look at us. Frantic and apologizing, overwhelmed between staff meetings and gymnastics, shamed for bottle-feeding, booted for breast-feeding, passed over for promotions, denied on the day-care list — isn't this what you've always dreamed of? No thanks, they're saying, to today's lovely vision of motherhood. And in huge numbers.

The American birthrate is sinking: 3.8 million babies were born last year — the lowest number in three decades and down 2 percent from 2016, according to a new report by the National Center for Health Statistics.

[Federally Employed Women: Paving the Way for Equal Opportunity \(GovLoop\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:44 AM, Danielle Poindexter)

Since the 1964 Civil Rights Act, government has continued to crack down on discrimination through laws and regulations such as the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which restricts compensation discrimination. Recently, however, more and more women are speaking out about issues of sexual harassment and other forms of discrimination across workplaces, including federal government. While there are protections in place, discrimination continues to be a major issue. How do government employees know that their agencies are complying with equal opportunity regulations? And who can government personnel turn to if their agency does not comply?

Thankfully, people like Connie Coleman-Lacadie work to prevent non-compliance and help women and minorities attain equal opportunities in the federal workforce. In an interview with GovLoop, Coleman-Lacadie discussed her work as Vice President of Compliance for Federally Employed Women (FEW).

[Women Less Optimistic Than Men About the Future of Work \(Benzinga\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:44 AM, Staff)

Women are less optimistic than men about the future of work, according to a new survey by Clutch, a leading B2B research, ratings, and reviews company. When asked how they view their future career prospects, more than a quarter (27%) of working women said they feel worried or neutral, compared to 20% of men. Workers overall have a positive outlook about their future careers, the survey finds. Over three-quarters (76%) are optimistic about their future careers, compared to 1 in 5 workers (20%) who say they are worried.

However, gender differences correlate with other factors that impact optimism, including decision-making authority at work, according to the survey's findings. The survey suggests that men are more optimistic about the future because they are more likely to have decision-making authority in their job. Higher levels of authority correlate with higher levels of optimism. For example, over 90% of business owners and 80% of business managers say they are optimistic about their future career prospects, compared to 70% of individual contributor employees who do not have decision-making authority.

[\[IN\] Spots remain in girls STEM summer camp at Ivy Tech Kokomo \(Anderson Herald-Bulletin\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:11 AM, Staff)

Spots are still available for “Gearing Up Girls for STEM,” a new summer camp being offered in June at Ivy Tech Community College Kokomo. The camp comes at a time when workforce development, including a local focus on women's involvement in manufacturing and skills trades, is at the forefront of economic development discussions in Indiana. Two sessions of the two-day camp will be aimed at middle school girls interested in broadening their knowledge about the expanding prospects for women in fields related to science, technology, engineering and math.

Presented by Ivy Tech, in partnership with the Fiat Chrysler Automobiles US Transmission & Casting Women's Group, the camp will introduce participants to a wide range of STEM opportunities through hands-on experiences in physics, biochemistry, engineering, and biology, aerodynamics, advanced manufacturing and virtual reality.

Wages & Compensation

[A Record Month for Raises \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

(5/31/2018 12:48 PM, James Freeman)

The number of small companies raising wages hit a record high in the U.S. this month. That's according to the latest National Federation of

Independent Business employment survey, due out later today. A full 35% of owners of small firms report increasing labor compensation, the highest percentage since NFIB started asking about it in 1986. Companies have been looking to increase hiring and are paying more to attract scarce workers. "Reports of employment gains remain strong among small businesses. Owners reported adding a net 0.20 workers per firm on average, slower than earlier in the year but strong. The availability of qualified workers is impeding the growth in employment. Job openings are at record high levels," adds NFIB Chief Economist William Dunkelberg.

NFIB also finds that 23% of business owners now cite the difficulty of finding qualified workers as their "single most important business problem." This is just one percentage point below the record high set in 2000. The labor shortage is most acute in the construction industry, with 57% of such firms reporting current job openings. Other industries where wages are also rising to attract workers include transportation, travel, communication, utilities and manufacturing. "Labor markets are very tight, for both skilled and unskilled workers," adds Mr. Dunkelberg, who is expecting a further decline in the unemployment rate when the Labor Department on Friday issues its monthly report on the broader U.S. economy. The NFIB economist is expecting the government will report "job creation around 170,000, absent a surprise increase in the labor force participation rate."

[Should women feel ashamed for earning more than their male partners? \(MarketWatch\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:59 AM, Alessandra Malito)

The gender wage gap can be detrimental to a woman's savings potential, and therefore how financially secure she is in retirement, and yet when some women earn more than their male counterparts, they still see it as a possible source of tension. A 2017 Refinery29 article about women feeling awkward when they're the breadwinners in a relationship resurfaced this week after CNBC wrote about the piece. Twitter users said the idea that women would feel that way is ridiculous, and many laughed it off. The author of the original piece, Ashley C. Ford, took to the social media platform and defended her findings: "I understand why their anxieties might seem silly or misplaced, but was I supposed to lie about the data?" she said. "They are ashamed. They are worried."

Ford spoke with women across a variety of locations, income and education levels, and said in her tweet that their boyfriends and husbands often weren't upset about them earning more. The CNBC (CMCSA) article also cited a study that suggested relationships where the wives are the breadwinners led to higher rates of dissatisfaction, and could lead to divorce. It cited a University of Chicago study that found there was a greater risk of divorce when women made even \$5,000 a year more than their husbands. The women in Ford's article said they felt uncomfortable for a few reasons: for one, there was an ingrained expectation it was a man's job to take care of his woman; for another, women didn't want to date men who were less ambitious than they were.

Some women also said that if they knew they would always be the breadwinner in their relationships, it would seem "exhausting" and cause resentment in their relationships because they'd be stuck at jobs where they weren't happy. Women earned about 80% of what men earned in 2016 in the U.S., except for New York and California, where it's closer to 90%, and Utah and Louisiana, where it's closer to 70% according to advocacy group American Association of University Women.

[Jobs Are Booming. Are Wages Next? \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(5/31/2018 2:00 AM, Mohamend A. El-Erian)

Will the jobs report for May, to be released Friday, show that the U.S. labor market is on a new, historically more consistent course? For some time, these data have shown an unusual combination of robust job creation and a low unemployment rate along with sluggish wage growth and a labor force participation rate stuck at low levels. This apparent disconnect has confounded economists and made the post-crisis recovery uneven and unsatisfactory for many.

The hope is that these factors will have started to realign in earnest in May in a way that supports higher and more inclusive growth. The likelihood is that this shift will continue to take time, will be sequential rather than simultaneous and won't fully meet the economy's considerable potential without greater efforts from both the public and private sectors.

Economic theory and historical experience suggest that companies have to compete a lot harder to attract and retain employees as the unemployment rate drops. This dynamic pushes wages higher and, more generally, improves working conditions. That, in turn, brings people back into the labor force.

[Tackling the 'Motherhood Penalty'? Start With Benefits \(Bloomberg BNA\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:57 AM, Genevieve Douglas)

Widely known as the "motherhood penalty," the wage gap among women with children and those without has remained virtually unchanged over almost 30 years, with mothers of three or more children making 18 percent less than childless women, mothers of two making 13 percent less, and women with one child making 14 percent less, according to research from the Washington Center for Equitable Growth.

Women in the workplace often suffer great consequences for taking large amounts of leave, as opposed to their male counterparts, Sarah

Fleisch Fink, general counsel and director of workplace policy for the National Partnership for Women & Families, told Bloomberg Law May 29. It's not just promotions and advancements that can be affected; project assignments, lucrative clients, and "good" shifts often are sacrificed by women who take long leaves of absence from work for the birth, adoption, or fostering of a child, she said.

[Editorial Note: Consult source link for full details.]

[Report: Summer Hiring Raising Voters' Wages Before Midterms \(Breitbart\)](#)

(5/30/2018 9:50 PM, Staff Report)

Almost half of hourly-wage employers will "offer the maximum hourly wage they feel their business can afford" this summer, up from just one-third of employers in 2017, says a survey of 1,000 employers by Snag, a job-advertising firm. The pressure is also pushing three out of four employers to offer wages of \$11 or more. The report also noted that more employers are using the federal E-Verify system to screen illegal immigrants from jobs. The survey said that "nearly 40 percent of employers plan to use E-Verify to evaluate summer applicants, up from 25 percent last year." "Given the current political environment and noise around immigration and non-citizenship status, employers are clearly being more cautious," said Snag CEO Peter Harrison.

The survey's data suggests that millions of American voters are going to get pay raises during the summer before the election because of President Donald Trump's lower-immigration/higher-wage policies. The rising wages help explain the escalating demands by CEOs and investors for a federal amnesty that would provide them with another influx of wage-cutting immigrant workers. These demands have turned into threats by donors and by GOP members who are elected in low-tech dairy districts. But many polls show the public overwhelmingly prefer immigration policies which bar companies from importing cheap foreign workers until Americans can get good jobs.

[A Record Number Of Small Businesses Are Raising Wages Amid Tight Labor Market \(Daily Caller\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:33 PM, Will Racke)

A greater share of small companies in the U.S. are raising wages than at any time in the past three decades, according to a survey released Thursday from the nation's biggest independent business association. A seasonally adjusted 35 percent of small business owners reported they have increased labor compensation in order to recruit new employees or retain the ones they already have, the National Federation of Independent Business found in its May jobs report. That was the highest share since the NFIB began asking about wage increases in 1986. NFIB attributed the record figure to business-friendly tax reform enacted at the beginning of 2018 and a tight labor market that has seen unemployment dip below four percent.

As a consequence of that tight labor market, 83 percent of responding businesses reported having difficulty finding qualified candidates for the positions they were trying to fill, the NFIB report also found. A lack of qualified workers was the single most pressing issue for 23 percent of business owners - the highest share since 2000 and one percentage point below the all-time survey high, according to NFIB. The federal government should intervene to expand the labor pool, especially by lifting the cap on H-2B visas for foreign guest workers, many business groups said.

[Psychologists: Women are not to blame for the wage gap \(EurekAlert!\)](#)

(5/31/2018 12:00 AM, Staff)

Women should not be blamed for the gender wage gap in the United States, according to psychologists at Rice University. To eliminate the gap, organizations must provide training, support and opportunities for growth, the researchers said. The authors of the review paper, "Victim Precipitation and the Wage Gap," draw upon existing psychological research to highlight myths regarding the gap between men and women and to offer possible explanations for why it exists.

The paper by Mikki Hebl, the Martha and Henry Malcolm Lovett Chair of Psychology in Rice's School of Social Sciences, Rice psychology graduate students Abby Corrington, Shannon Cheng and Linnea Ng, and Hebl lab manager Ivy Watson appeared in the March 2018 issue of the journal *Industrial and Organizational Psychology*.

[The right to raise a family without going broke \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:55 AM, Ryan Cooper)

Conservatives denounce both parts of this equation. Welfare (by which they mean government subsidies that don't go to rich people or corporations) is bad, and should be abolished. Abortion is also bad, and should be outlawed (or at least restricted as much as practicably possible). Laws that require health insurance to cover birth control are considered violations of religious freedom.

By contrast, there is wide agreement on the left that abortion should be legal and near-universal agreement that birth control should be covered as a basic medical necessity. There is also increasing but tentative agreement that the United States needs to seriously beef up its family benefits, with some limited proposals like Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand's FAMILY Act for 12 weeks of paid family and sick leave — pitiful by Nordic standards, but it's a start.

[Editorial Note: Consult source link for full details.]

[\[VT\] Vermont will pay remote workers \\$10,000 to move here \(Burlington Free Press\)](#)

(5/31/2018 4:22 PM, April McCullum)

If you and your laptop are considering moving to Vermont, the state wants to sweeten the deal. Under a bill that Gov. Phil Scott signed into law Wednesday, remote workers who put down roots in Vermont will be eligible for up to \$10,000 in moving expenses and other costs.

Current residents aren't eligible. State officials hope Vermont's high quality of life will entice out-of-state workers to swap their office for a Vermont co-working space or home office. "We think Vermont is well-positioned to capitalize on the increase in the availability of remote work," said Michael Schirling, secretary of the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development.

[\[DC\] Hey, D.C.: Reject the misleading signs and raise tipped workers' wages \(Washington Post\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:00 AM, Jared Bernstein & Ben Spielberg)

In 2016, D.C. lawmakers set in motion a gradual increase to the city's minimum wage to \$15 by 2020. Because of pressure from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and restaurant industry, however, the city's tipped workers — food-service workers, hairstylists, hotel workers, taxi drivers and other employees for whom tipping is customary — got a substantially smaller increase. Their minimum wage, which is \$3.33, will rise to only \$5 an hour by 2020. Initiative 77 would, over the next eight years, phase out this subminimum wage for tipped workers such that by 2026, the city's minimum wage for tipped workers would match the city's regular minimum wage.

Initiative 77 targets this problem, one which is extremely costly for many of these economically vulnerable workers. In the District, the poverty rate for tipped workers — who are disproportionately people of color — is twice the poverty rate for other workers. The initiative is particularly important for the two-thirds of all tipped workers who are women (among waiters and bartenders that share rises to 70 percent). When workers are forced to rely on tips for the bulk of their income — which the subminimum wage for tipped workers ensures — they are often put in the situation of deciding whether to tolerate inappropriate behavior from their customers or to risk losing tipped income by standing up to or reporting harassment.

[\[MO\] Construction Industry Awaits Passage of Prevailing Wage Compromise \(St. Louis CNR\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:33 PM, Kerry Smith)

The Missouri Senate and House have passed legislation to modify the state's prevailing wage law. Unless vetoed by a sitting Missouri governor, HB 1729 will become law and take effect in August, changing and simplifying the way wages are calculated for public works projects - and putting increased onus on contractors and subs to report their hours to the state. School districts, cities and other governmental entities currently pay more than the state's minimum wage for maintenance and construction work.

As it now stands, the specific amount is determined by the type of work being done as well as the geographical location of the construction project, and there is no minimum threshold for the amount/size of project to which prevailing wage applies. The bill also signifies a compromise in how prevailing wage will be calculated in rural areas of Missouri. HB 1729 also raises the construction cost threshold that construction projects must reach in order for contractors to be paid prevailing wage. A key provision of HB 1729 is that it establishes \$75,000 as the threshold or minimum project amount that is subject to prevailing wage rates.

[\[OR\] In a Tight Labor Market, High School Grads Can Make Big Salaries \(Cascade Business News\)](#)

(5/31/2018 2:14 PM, Cascade Business News)

Across the country, high school students are making their final decisions about which college to attend in the fall. And millions of college seniors wonder if they will be able to find a job after graduation. At the same time, Express Employment Professionals experts are reporting high demand for jobs that don't require a college degree—many of those jobs pay wages that rival or exceed those of four-year college graduates.

"One of the significant ways our town is preparing high school students for careers is through our intern program brought to us by the program Better Together. The program is specifically called Youth Connect. Also, we realize not everyone is meant or wants to have a college degree and we work diligently to place those folks in jobs where a degree is not necessary," said Connie Druliner, franchise owner of the Bend and Redmond Express offices.

[\[CA\] Most Uber and Lyft drivers in LA work full time and still struggle to make ends meet, study says \(Los Angeles Times\)](#)

(5/30/2018 3:40 PM, Tracey Lien)

When ride-hailing services Uber and Lyft arrived in Los Angeles six years ago, they sold Angelenos on the narrative that driving for their companies was little more than a side-hustle - a flexible way to make money while being your own boss. That narrative is no longer true in 2018, according to research released Wednesday from UCLA's Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, which found that more than half of Uber and Lyft drivers in Los Angeles drive full time.

Many also struggle to pay for expenses such as gas, insurance and vehicle maintenance costs, and around a third either purchased or leased their car specifically to drive for the companies and must now continue driving to pay off those loans. "We knew from seeing the news coverage that conditions for Uber and Lyft drivers were bad, but it was shocking to see how bad it was," said Lucero Herrera, a coauthor of the report. Around half of Uber and Lyft drivers surveyed said it's their only job, and roughly the same percentage said they work more than 35 hours a week and struggle to pay for gas, insurance and car maintenance costs. Many said they drive extra hours, borrow money, or use a credit card to pay those expenses.

[\[CA\] Disneyland Rolls Out Wage Bump Proposal for Hourly Employees \(KNBC-TV NBC 4 Los Angeles\)](#)

(5/31/2018 7:30 PM, Staff)

Disneyland Resort officials Thursday rolled out a proposed wage offer that they said would amount to a 36 percent increase over a three-year span for its hourly workers, two days before Sen. Bernie Sanders plans to meet with Disneyland unions and rally them during contract negotiations. The current minimum rate of \$11 would go up to \$13.25, and then \$14.25 in 2019 and \$15 in 2020. "The company has been engaging in successful negotiations since Disneyland Park first opened, and we are proud of our long-standing history with labor unions.

Negotiations are focused not only on wages, but also on working together to provide our cast members with a world-class experience," said Disneyland Resort President Josh D'Amaro. "We look forward to productive negotiations with our unions as we set a foundation for our exciting future ahead." Sanders, who unsuccessfully sought the Democratic nomination for president in 2016, sent a letter to his supporters Thursday that blasted Disney.

[\[CA\] Disney Offers to Raise California Park Worker Pay to \\$15 an Hour \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(5/31/2018 7:09 PM, Christopher Palmeri)

Walt Disney Co., in the midst of heated union negotiations on both coasts, has offered to raise the starting pay for its California theme-park workers to \$15 an hour over the next three years. Entry-level employees at Disneyland would see their pay rise to \$13.25 an hour immediately from \$11 currently and then to \$15 by 2020, two years ahead of a deadline set by California.

Disneyland and its sister park, California Adventure, employ about 30,000 people in Anaheim, California. The offer represents a 36 percent increase over three years, the company said Thursday in a statement.

Minimum Wage

[Seven facts about tipped workers and the tipped minimum wage \(Economic Policy Institute\)](#)

(5/31/2018 4:40 PM, Elise Gould and David Cooper)

As debate continues on a referendum to raise the tipped minimum wage in Washington, D.C., to the minimum wage for nearly all other workers, we wanted to take a few minutes to set the record straight on the facts about tipped worker wages and incomes. Currently, eight states do not have differential treatments of the tipped workforce in terms of the minimum wage. To be clear, tipped workers in these equal treatment states receive the full, regular state minimum wage plus tips.

Over the last several years, there has been a great deal of research about the minimum wage and tipped restaurant workers, in particular, and we are going to draw on some of that research to make several key points:

1. In the District of Columbia, women, African American, and Hispanic workers are disproportionately minimum wage workers, including tipped minimum wage workers;
2. Maintaining a separate, lower minimum wage for tipped workers perpetuates racial and gender inequities;
3. In states that have a lower tipped minimum wage, tipped workers have worse economic outcomes and higher poverty rates than their counterparts in equal treatment states;
4. Tipped work is overwhelmingly low-wage work, even in D.C.;
5. Wage theft is particularly acute in food and drink service, and restaurants across the country have been found to be in violation of wage and hour laws;
6. The data show that tipped workers' median hourly pay (counting both base wages and tips) is significantly higher in equal treatment states.
7. The restaurant industry thrives in equal treatment states. In one of the most comprehensive studies on the minimum wage, researchers aggregated the results of over four decades of studies on the employment effects of the minimum wage.

[\[PA\] Gov. Wolf calls for increase of state's minimum wage \(WJAC-TV NBC 6 Johnstown\)](#)

(5/31/2018 2:00 PM, Matthew Stevens)

Gov. Tom Wolf is joining workers who are calling for the state to raise its minimum wage. The current minimum wage in the state is \$7.25 an hour and Wolf is calling on lawmakers to make changes. "As corporations get massive tax breaks and executive pay continues to rise, workers at

all levels have been left behind and too many Pennsylvanians are working full-time, often in multiple jobs, while barely making ends meet," said Wolf.

The governor said the Commonwealth's minimum wage is falling behind that of neighboring states. The \$7.25 minimum wage is the same as the federal minimum. Ohio (\$8.15), West Virginia (\$8.75), New Jersey (\$8.65) and New York (\$12.00) all are higher than Pennsylvania's.

[\[PA\] Despite lack of progress, higher minimum wage advocates see some bright spots \(WHYY Public Broadcasting\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:00 AM, Katie Meyer)

Several groups intent on raising Pennsylvania's minimum wage are rallying in Harrisburg Thursday in an effort to nudge the General Assembly — once again — to consider raising pay for workers. Every year of his tenure as governor, Democratic Governor Tom Wolf has proposed a wage increase above the federal \$7.25 minimum. It never made much progress — thanks largely to conservative lawmakers who argue the hike would drive out businesses.

Rick Bloomingdale, president of the commonwealth's federation of labor unions, said despite being an advocate for higher wages he is "cynical" about a hike happening any time soon. "Until it becomes a big electoral issue and people could lose their seats over it ... we've just got to make it a political issue," he said.

[\[NC\] Minimum wage hike would boost economy \(Wilson Daily Times\)](#)

(5/31/2018 9:20 PM, Rob Schofield)

There are a lot of important statistics that confirm just how out of whack the U.S. economy has grown during this modern Gilded Age we currently inhabit, but two factoids from a recent CNN story say an awful lot about where things stand: 1. The U.S. unemployment rate just dipped to an 18-year low recently at 3.9 percent, and. 2. Nearly 51 million American households don't earn enough to afford a monthly budget that includes housing, food, child care, health care, transportation and a cellphone.

Not surprisingly, the economic picture here in North Carolina is similarly disturbing. The richest 5 percent of households in North Carolina have an average income that is 28 times greater than the poorest 20 percent; rent is unaffordable for 50.6 percent of North Carolina renters; and 7 percent of North Carolina children lived in poverty in 2016. In other words, North Carolina should raise its minimum wage. The minimum wage in North Carolina is \$7.25 an hour, the same as the federal minimum wage. An estimated 1.3 million people in North Carolina would benefit from a \$12 minimum wage as the ripple effect of raising the wage floor would give a boost to the many hundreds of thousands of working people making just above the minimum wage. Even if one sets aside the issues of fairness and morality, there's another reason for North Carolina leaders to move on raising the minimum wage that may surprise some at first blush: it's actually good for business and the economy. Raising the minimum wage creates more customers, more sales and bigger profits. Second, raising the minimum wage helps small businesses reduce payroll costs by reducing employee absenteeism and turnover while simultaneously boosting productivity.

Overtime

[\[LA\] Federal judge approves settlement in suit seeking unpaid overtime wages for Doris Metropolitan bartender \(Louisiana Record\)](#)

(5/30/2018 8:40 PM, Sandra Lane)

A judge in the U.S. District Court for Eastern District of Louisiana issued a ruling May 21 approving a settlement in a lawsuit seeking payment for unpaid overtime for a bartender at Doris Metropolitan. Plaintiff Shannon McSwain and 11 other plaintiffs filed the collective action, individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, on March 31, 2016. The suit alleged that defendants DMNO LLC, Doron Moshe Rebi-Chia, Itai Ben Eli and Itamar Levy violated the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 by failing to pay overtime wages for hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week. On April 2, 2018, the parties reached a settlement agreement with respect to McSwain's claims with the assigned magistrate judge.

On May 14, 2018, the parties jointly moved to approve the proposed settlement agreement and dismiss McSwain's claims with prejudice. Other plaintiffs were expected to join the class, but none filed a claim within the required deadline, according to court documents. The settlement paid to Ms. McSwain was to be based on a negotiated number of overtime hours that she allegedly worked, but for which she was not paid. A portion of the settlement was to be reimbursement for lost wages and also included damages. As a result of the settlement, McSwain's claims against the defendants were dismissed with prejudice, meaning that she cannot file suit concerning this issue again.

Paid Leave

[When high-profile women take short maternity leaves, it sends mixed message \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)

(5/31/2018 12:00 PM, Kate Thayer)

A week after announcing she'd adopted a baby, Washington, D.C., Mayor Muriel Bowser was back at work, addressing the media at a press conference Tuesday. She's not the first high-profile mother to make a swift return to work following the arrival of a baby. In 2012, Marissa Mayer,

then Yahoo's CEO, took just two weeks off following the birth of her twins. And in 2008, vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin worked the campaign trail in the months after her son was born. At a time when family-leave policies in the U.S. still lag behind those of other developed nations, experts say that when mothers return to work soon after having a baby, it sends a mixed message. While it may empower mothers trying to juggle work and family life, it also can be counterproductive for those fighting for adequate paid leave.

Barbara Risman, sociology professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago and senior scholar at the Council on Contemporary Families, said there are positive and negative takeaways from powerful women taking short maternity leaves. "One thing is ... the notion that jobs are so inflexible ... that we shouldn't, as a society, decide that reproduction of the species and attention to the next generation deserves three months, or even six months, of parental care," Risman said.

[\[MI\] Michigan manufacturers say paid sick leave mandate could hurt job growth \(Michigan Radio\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:00 AM, Rebecca Kruth)

The Michigan Manufacturers Association is warning that a proposal for mandatory paid sick leave could lead to stalled job growth in the state. On Tuesday, the group Michigan Time to Care turned in more than 380,000 signatures for a petition to create an "Earned Sick Time Act." Under the proposal, workers would be guaranteed one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked.

But MMA spokesperson Mike Johnston says the mandate would make the state less competitive for new jobs. He says it would be the "most restrictive, most expensive and most complicated" paid-leave requirement in the country. "If [the mandate] increases the cost of employing people and increases the cost of the administrative burdens, it makes it much more difficult and more expensive to operate a Michigan location compared to companies in other states and, frankly, other nations," Johnston said.

Worker's Compensation

[\[MA\] Mother and Daughter Indicted for Workers' Compensation Fraud \(WorkersCompensation\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:02 AM, Staff)

The owner of a Fall River-based temporary employment agency and her daughter have been indicted on charges of workers' compensation insurance fraud in connection with failing to disclose to the agency's insurance company the true size of its payroll, Attorney General Maura Healey announced today. Rossy Noriega, formerly known as Francisca Noriega, age 52, of Providence, was the president and sole owner of New Diamond Work, Inc. Her daughter, Sendy Noriega, age 30, also of Providence, worked for New Diamond.

The Noriegas were indicted by a Statewide Grand Jury last week. Rossy Noriega was indicted on two counts of Workers' Compensation Fraud and one count of Larceny over \$250. Sendy Noriega was indicted on four counts of Workers' Compensation Fraud and one count of Larceny over \$250. The Noriegas will be arraigned on the charges in Bristol Superior Court at a later date. This investigation was referred to the Attorney General's Office by the state's Insurance Fraud Bureau (IFB). Investigators allege that between 2009 and 2014, New Diamond underreported in insurance company audits the number of employees it had and how much those employees were paid in order to dramatically reduce the insurance premium it would be charged for workers' compensation insurance. As a result, New Diamond evaded over \$106,000 in insurance premiums. New Diamond Work, Inc. dissolved in 2017.

[\[LA\] Louisiana Workers' Compensation Costs per Claim Higher Than Other States and Growing Faster Than Many, WCRI Study Finds \(Benzinga\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:12 AM, Staff)

Workers' compensation total costs per claim in Louisiana were the highest in a recent study of 18 states conducted by the Workers Compensation Research Institute (WCRI). "Total costs per claim with more than seven days of lost time were higher in Louisiana than other study states and also growing faster than many states," said Ramona Tanabe, WCRI's executive vice president and counsel. The study, CompScope™ Benchmarks for Louisiana, 18th Edition, found the average total cost per workers' compensation claim in Louisiana rose 4–10 percent per year since 2012 at claim maturities from 12 to 48 months. Increases occurred in all three major cost components of a workers' compensation claim: medical payments, indemnity benefits, and benefit delivery expenses.

Growth in indemnity and medical costs both drove the increase in Louisiana's average total cost per workers' compensation claim from 2011 to 2014 for claims at 36 months of experience, accounting for fairly similar shares of the growth, at 40 percent and 37 percent, respectively. For the study, WCRI analyzed workers' compensation claims with experience through 2017 for injuries up to and including 2016, and, in some cases, a longer time frame was used to supply historical context.

[\[CA\] Co-owner of multistate cleaning company charged with comp fraud \(Business Insurance\)](#)

(5/31/2018 4:40 PM, Louise Esola)

The co-owner of a Riverside, California-based multistate janitorial company is facing charges of defrauding five insurers of \$2.7 million in a

premium fraud scam, the Riverside County District Attorney's Office said Wednesday. Patricia Morales, 46, of Riverside, is charged with seven counts of workers compensation premium fraud as well as an aggravated white collar crime enhancement. She co-owned Mac & Mor Cleaning Services, which had business contracts and employees in nine states, according to a statement from the district attorney's office.

Ms. Morales was responsible for handling the workers compensation insurance policies for the company's more than 100 employees. She is charged with defrauding the five insurers of \$2.7 million during 2012-2017 by falsely underreporting the company's payroll. She also is accused of forging state payroll records to match what she reported to insurers, according to the statement.

Employee Misclassification

[\[FL\] S1 Security Group Hit with Worker Misclassification Lawsuit \(ClassAction\)](#)

(5/30/2018 11:59 PM, Corrado Rizzi)

The plaintiff in a lawsuit filed against S1 Security Group Inc. and its owner claims the parties unlawfully misclassified employees as independent contractors and thus owe unpaid minimum and overtime wages. The lawsuit says the plaintiff worked for the defendants from August 2015 through May 2018, during which the man put in overtime hours in approximately 126 weeks. According to the complaint, the plaintiff should have been considered a Fair Labor Standards Act-protected employee in that he:

- Worked full time on a pre-set, regular schedule;
- Worked more than 56 hours per week for more than 132 weeks;
- Did not hold any other job during his time with S1 Security Group;
- Was under the defendants' absolute control during his work hours;
- Had no discretion to refuse work assignments;
- Was required to wear a uniform; and
- Performed his work entirely at the defendants' facilities.

Though the plaintiff worked as a security guard at different locations, he was required to report every day to the defendants' Miami offices, the lawsuit notes. The plaintiff reportedly worked a minimum of 56 hours per week without time-and-a-half overtime pay. The case rounds out by claiming the plaintiff complained about the supposed lack of overtime pay in late-March 2018 and was fired in early May for a "pretextual reason."

[\[CA\] San Francisco tells Uber, Lyft to prove their drivers are 'independent contractors' \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:14 AM, Luke Barnes)

The City Attorney of San Francisco, Dennis Herrera, issued a subpoena to Uber and Lyft on Tuesday to figure out whether or not they classify their drivers as employees or contractors. Ride-sharing companies like Uber have long argued that, because they function as an intermediary "technology company" connecting the passenger and the driver, they can classify their drivers as independent contractors — meaning they get to avoid giving them traditional employee benefits.

In April, the California Supreme Court unanimously ruled to limit businesses from classifying workers as "independent contractors," which limits their access to key worker protections like minimum wage, health care and rest breaks. "The risk that workers who should be treated as employees may be improperly classified as independent contractors is significant in light of the potentially substantial economic incentives that a business may have," the court ruled. "Such incentives include the unfair competitive advantage the business may obtain over competitors that properly classify similar workers as employees." Classifying drivers as contractors also means they are at the mercy of algorithms, which push fares (and drivers' earnings) down for passenger convenience.

[\[CA\] Silicon Valley's "Flexibility" Fetish \(New Republic\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:00 AM, Julianne Tveten)

Last month, the California Supreme Court issued a ruling that would hinder businesses' ability to designate workers as independent contractors rather than employees. Long overdue in an increasingly precarious labor landscape, the decision would theoretically challenge the business models of companies—Uber, Lyft, Amazon, Postmates, and GrubHub, among others—known for their reliance on contracted drivers and deliverers.

The ruling stipulates, among other things, that an independent contractor must be "free from the control and direction of the hirer." Uber, for one, contends that its drivers already enjoyed that perk, and that furthermore this was of paramount importance to them. When asked by The Verge last week about the changes, CEO Dara Khosrowshahi insisted, "When I asked drivers what they like about Uber, then every single time their top answer is 'I get to be my own boss. I get to use you when I want to. I can do whatever I want.'"

Wage Violations

[\[NY\] Vance Targets Wage Theft in Manhattan Construction \(Manhattan Express\)](#)

(5/31/2018 3:00 PM, Sydney Pereira)

Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance, Jr., has announced charges against a Queens-based construction company for stealing \$1.7 million in wages and defrauding the state's insurance fund by millions of dollars. More than 500 construction workers who helped build some of the best known new high-rises in Manhattan — including the Steinway Tower at 111 W. 57th St. and American Copper Buildings at 626 First Ave. at E. 36th St. — were scammed out of millions in wages, according to the charges. "Plain and simple — it's stealing," James Rogers, deputy commissioner of the New York State Department of Labor, said at a press conference on May 16. "It's stealing just like any other kind of stealing, and people that do it ought to face the consequences."

Parkside Construction worked with Michigan-based payroll processing company Affinity Human Resources to alter timesheets so drastically that one construction worker lost more than \$50,000 in three years, according to the DA's charges. The construction company used face-recognition technology to track workers' hours, but allegedly lied on timesheets later submitted to Affinity. Workers were paid under "expense reimbursement" in some cases — rather than a typical paycheck — in order to evade taxes and unemployment insurance contributions, according to the charges. "These timesheets weren't just a here and there kind of thing," Vance said at the press conference. "This was the business model for these defendants... These alterations were purposeful, calculated, and consistent. And by doctoring their employees' timesheets, the defendants were able to steal more than \$1.7 million from more than 500 workers — workers who are principally immigrants, often undocumented."

Worker Safety

[Fatigue, Sleepiness Major Safety Risks in Ridesharing Industry, Sleep Experts Say \(WorkersCompensation\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:02 AM, Staff)

Fatigue and sleepiness are inherent safety risks for ridesharing drivers and their passengers, the American Academy of Sleep Medicine declares in a position statement. Contributing factors include drivers' work schedules, which often take place in the evening or during off time from a primary job. Those nontraditional times are when sleepiness can peak, AASM states. "Such a schedule may lead to driving after extended periods of wakefulness or during nights, both of which are factors that increase the risk of drowsy driving accidents," the organization's board of directors wrote in the April 15 issue of the Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine.

Drivers are independent contractors, AASM points out, and are not subject to screening for obstructive sleep apnea or other contributing medical issues. An April 16 AASM press release cites a 2014 AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety study that estimates 328,000 crashes a year involve a drowsy driver. Of those, about 6,400 are fatal and approximately 109,000 result in injuries. Reduce fatigue-related accidents is on the National Transportation Safety Board's list of 10 "Most Wanted" safety improvements for 2017-2018. The ridesharing industry says it has taken steps to address those issues. Since February, Uber has required drivers to go offline for six consecutive hours after 12 hours of driving. Lyft mandates the same break for every 14 hours of driving.

[\[SC\] 2 workers hurt in South Carolina construction collapse \(Durham Herald-Sun\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:47 AM, Staff)

Two workers have been hurt in a store construction collapse in South Carolina. Mauldin Police Sgt. Benjamin Ford told news outlets that the collapse occurred around 4 p.m. Wednesday. Ford said the employees were taken to a hospital. Their names have not been released and there was no word on the extent of their injuries. Construction on the store had started April 23. Ford said it's unclear what caused the collapse. Deputy fire marshal Chris Camacho said officials are trying to determine the extent of the damage. It appears wooden beams fell to the ground and several interior walls buckled.

Trisect Construction President Bryan Clemmons said the company is gathering information to file a report to Occupational Safety and Health Administration officials.

[\[GA\] OSHA Construction Training Prepares Residents for the Workforce \(Valdosta Today\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:00 AM, Desiree Carver)

The Georgia Department of Corrections recently partnered with Wiregrass Georgia Technical College (WGTC) to provide an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Construction Training program for 24 residents of Valdosta Transitional Center (TC) in Valdosta, Ga. The voluntary program is taught by WGTC instructors, and provides residents with the opportunity to earn OSHA cards. "Completing programming while incarcerated helps offenders become more employable when released," said Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier. "Earning an OSHA card will, no doubt, give these residents a head start on becoming productive citizens once returning to their communities."

The OSHA program allows students to earn their OSHA 10 and/or OSHA 30 cards in General Industry as well as Construction Safety and Health. The 10-hour training program is intended for entry-level workers and is focused on general hazard awareness. The 30-hour training program is for management level employees with the direct responsibility for safety of a location or the safety of other employees. Students must be screened by GDC staff and must meet the following requirements: eligible for release, have no disciplinary reports, ability to read and write, English as primary language, and must attend 100 percent of the class to earn credit.

[\[FL\] Large crane collapses on home \(WFOR-TV CBS 4 Miami\)](#)

(5/30/2018 11:01 PM, CBS Miami)

A massive task was at hand Wednesday night as crews worked to dismantle a crane that somehow toppled over and fell on two homes in Lauderhill causing minor injuries to two people.

"The crane was in the area working in conjunction with Florida Power & Light from our understanding replacing power poles in the backyards of houses. Therefore, it required really large cranes to reach over houses and get into the backyards with this," said Lauderhill Fire Dept. Lauderhill Fire Rescue says the crane lost stability for unknown reasons and ended up on its side, while the boom, the extension part of it, fell on the roofs of the two homes causing significant damage.

[Editorial note: View video at source link]

[\[WI\] Caterpillar Worker Dies in Wisconsin Plant \(Labor Press\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:30 PM, Joe Levine)

A plant accident resulted in the death of a worker at Caterpillar's South Milwaukee plant. Sixty-year-old Steven Wade was hit in the head by a heavy metal plate resulting in his death. Mining machinery equipment is manufactured at this plant that has been reducing its workforce since 2010. With hundreds laid off, the facility only has about 100 employees.

There is general concern among workers that with staff reductions the plant has become a dangerous place. The company has consistently cut jobs which has put more pressure on employees affecting working conditions at the facility. Occupational Safety and Health Administration, has fined CAT for safety violations at this location.

[\[MT\] OSHA fines Billings construction company after concrete beam fell on worker, killing him \(Billings Gazette\)](#)

(5/31/2018 9:00 PM, Sam Wilson)

A Billings construction company has been fined \$8,000 after a worker was killed when he was struck by a concrete beam that broke loose at a South Side construction site in January. The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration issued two citations to Fisher Construction Inc. after investigating the fatal incident. The company was cited and fined \$8,148 for failing to conduct an adequate engineering survey prior to the start of demolition work on the former Labor Temple Hall at South 29th Street and First Avenue South. The fine was later reduced to \$5,700 after Fisher Construction corrected the problem, U.S. Department of Labor spokesman Jose Carnevali stated in an email.

The company also received a \$3,297 fine, later reduced to \$2,300, for not protecting employees from exposure to airborne silica dust while using drills and grinders. The report does not specifically refer to the death of David Shepard, a 39-year-old Fisher employee who died at the construction site Jan. 23 after he was injured by the concrete beam. OSHA's Billings Area Director, Art Hazen, said the citations arose from the agency's investigation of the fatality.

[\[HI\] Hawaii reports surge in serious work-related accidents \(Business Insurance\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:21 AM, Louise Esola)

With fatalities, amputations, burns and other serious injuries on the list, the Hawaii State Department of Labor & Industrial Relations on Tuesday announced an alarming surge in workplace incidents over a 20-day period in May. Between May 2 and May 21, the state saw four fatalities and seven serious injuries that the Hawaii Occupational Safety & Health Division is investigating to "Help ensure that employers are providing a safe work environment to their employees and are complying with safety and health laws," according to a press release.

"This surge in serious industrial accidents is a harsh reminder for employers and workers to think about safety when taking any work actions," DLIR Director Leonard Hoshijo said in the press statement. "While there's no apparent connection between the accidents, all employers should examine conditions at their workplaces, safety policies, training and monitoring. Workers need to think safety, and avoid taking unsafe shortcuts to get a job done."

Veteran

[A Different Kind of Bootcamp: Founder of Code Platoon Shares How Coding Bootcamps Can Launch Veterans' Second Careers \(EdTech Times\)](#)

(5/31/2018 4:02 PM, Mariel Cariker)

Over the past decade or so, coding bootcamps have risen in popularity, seen as the ideal route to gain new skills for an in-demand career. Rod Levy founded Code Platoon to bring those skills to one group in particular: Veterans. "They thrive in this environment. When you think about the characteristics that veterans bring to the table, you think about teamwork, you think about grit, you think about determination. And that's exactly what we screen for."

Rod says Code Platoon focuses on career services, to help place veterans in the workforce with skills they can use right away. "We spend a fair amount of time talking about how you prepare your LinkedIn profile, how do you prepare your resume preparation, Levy says. "We do technical interviewing, we do non-technical interviewing, and we do personality interviewing."

[Editorial note: consult source link for audio]

[Unique new hiring initiative focuses on student vets \(Military Times\)](#)

(5/31/2018 1:00 PM, Natalie Gross)

More veterans who go to college after the military could find themselves with jobs waiting for them after they get their diplomas, thanks to a new program. The national nonprofit Student Veterans of America announced today that it is launching the Business and Industry Roundtable, a coalition of 23 large companies that are committed to hiring student veterans. "What (companies) have told us broadly is, 'We want access to veteran talent. Student veterans are a relatively untapped pool. One hundred thousand a year are graduating, and up until now, we haven't been paying attention to them as part of our student undergraduate recruiting or our veteran recruiting,'" said James Schmeling, executive vice president of SVA.

While SVA isn't setting any specific vet hiring goals that companies must reach, each of the roundtable participants must commit to engage with SVA chapters, mentor student vets and hire them. "This is really about the how-to and how does this fit into your existing commitments," Schmeling said. "If somebody has said, 'We're going to hire 10,000 veterans' – great. Let's make sure student veterans are a part of that."

[\[WI\] The Joseph Project raises vets' employment hopes \(Stars & Stripes\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:25 PM, Katy Macek)

Two months ago, U.S. Army veteran Terry Treleven didn't have a home for about 1 1/2 years after going through a difficult divorce. On Thursday, he found himself doing mock interviews to prepare for getting back into the workforce at the Chippewa Falls Veterans Housing and Recovery Program, where he has been staying for a month.

Thanks to U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson's The Joseph Project, Treleven and five other veterans at the Chippewa Falls facility are getting that chance. The project is a faith-based initiative to connect people with jobs throughout the state, said Scott Bolstad, Wisconsin outreach director for Johnson's office. It is a weeklong class that teaches time and financial management, goal setting, spiritual fitness, conflict resolution and other topics. They aren't guaranteed a job, but whether or not they are hired, it could open future doors.

[\[TX\] USDA Partners with Texas A&M to Help Veterans Seeking Agriculture Loans and Careers \(Gilmer Mirror\)](#)

(5/31/2018 4:07 PM, Staff)

(Dallas, TX, May 31, 2018) – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today announced a partnership between the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Texas A&M's AgriLife Extension Service to help military veterans obtain loans and pursue careers as farmers and ranchers. Secretary Perdue joined local dignitaries, members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and community leaders at the Dallas Farmers Market to unveil the new pilot program.

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is collaborating with AgriLife Extension Service on the pilot, which is part of the Texas A&M Battleground to Breaking Ground project. The program makes it easier for veterans to meet federal requirements to get FSA direct farm ownership loans, which can help provide access to land and capital. "Veterans retiring from active duty face many challenges, and this effort provides them with hands-on training and financial planning to help them succeed as new farmers and ranchers," said Secretary Perdue, who is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. "Through this pilot, veterans will learn how to build an agricultural business and how USDA can help them at every step of the way. We are committed to supporting veterans, whether they are starting or growing their farming or ranching operations. This is an important step in our efforts to strengthen the American economy and support our American heroes."

Union

[It's time to acknowledge that strikes work \(Washington Post\)](#)

(5/31/2018 1:20 PM, Alex Press)

At last month's Labor Notes conference, a biannual meeting of labor activists held in Chicago, everyone wanted to hear from a particular group of workers: teachers. Educators from Arizona, Colorado, Kentucky, and West Virginia, Puerto Rico, Brazil, and the United Kingdom gathered to

share lessons they'd learned from this year's strikes. In doing so, they further kindled the spark lit during the West Virginia teachers' strike. If West Virginia teachers — some of the most poorly paid educators in one of the country's poorest states — could win a 5 percent raise for all public employees, maybe working people needed to rethink the realm of what's possible. With Arizona teachers winning a 20 percent raise in May (a significant, though partial victory — as The Washington Post reported, the strike ended before winning the increases to state funding for public education demanded by many teachers), it's time to reiterate what many in the labor movement have long argued: strikes work.

It's easy to forget that fact as you survey our present political landscape. Much has been written about the frustration with the Democratic and Republican parties in the wake of Donald Trump's election and the bitterly contested 2016 primary. Clearly, many feel they've been cast out of the political mainstream. In response, millions have turned to the politics of street protest, as was powerfully displayed during the past two years of women's marches. But those strategies may not be enough to force the change we so desperately need. However, if coupled with increased workplace action, they just might get us there.

[Largest federal employee union sues Trump over rollback of union protections \(Washington Post\)](#)

(5/31/2018 1:07 PM, Lisa Rein)

The largest union representing federal workers on Thursday took the Trump administration to court to block a new executive order that severely restricts the time employees may spend on union activity, claiming the president's action violates the First Amendment and oversteps the president's constitutional authority. "This president seems to think he is above the law, and we are not going to stand by while he tries to shred workers' rights," said the American Federation of Government Employees national president J. David Cox Sr., in a statement that announced the lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court for the District. "This is a democracy, not a dictatorship," Cox said. "No president should be able to undo a law he doesn't like through administrative fiat."

The restriction on what is known as "official time" — which will ultimately have to be bargained through collective bargaining contracts at federal agencies — was one of three orders the president signed late Friday before the Memorial Day weekend to roll back long-held civil service protections for federal employees. Under official time, federal employees who also are union officials can spend on-duty time representing employees who have filed grievances claiming unfair labor practices by management or who are appealing disciplinary action against them.

[Federal employees sue Trump over executive order restricting union activity \(The Hill\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:01 PM, Jacqueline Thomsen)

The largest federal employee union is suing President Trump over his new executive order restricting the amount of time federal employees on the job can spend on union activity. The American Federation of Government Employees alleges in the lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia on Wednesday, that Trump's order violates the First Amendment and is an overreach of Trump's authority laid out in the Constitution. The order was among three signed by Trump last week aimed at cutting down the time it takes to fire federal employees.

The AFGE is challenging one of the orders, which restricts so-called "Official time," or the time that federal staffers who are also union officials can spend at work representing employees who filed claims of unfair labor practices or appealing discipline taken against them. AFGE argues in the lawsuit that the order is retaliatory against union representatives. The group also claims that limiting employees' official time to 25 percent of their working hours is an illegal change to the Civil Service Report Act.

[Trump administration sued after trying to gut federal workers' union rights \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:56 PM, Danielle McLean)

The Trump administration is being sued by the largest union representing federal workers, which claims a new executive order that restricts union representation during work hours is unlawful and violates the First Amendment rights of its members. The executive order was among three that Trump issued last Friday that rolled back union protections and the latest anti-union measures imposed by the administration. The lawsuit was filed by the American Federation of Government Employees at U.S. District Court in Washington D.C. on Wednesday. Among a number of limitations, the "Official Time" executive order bars union representatives from spending more than 25 percent of their work hours providing representation for employees and, in the aggregate, no more than one hour per employee in their bargaining unit per year, Borer said.

In its lawsuit, the union argues the executive order violates the First Amendment because it does not provide valid justification for the regulations and singles out labor organizations and their representatives for "disparate, negative treatment as compared to individuals." Because of this, it "restrains and retaliates" against the union and its employee representatives for exercising their rights to expressive association. It also violates the Separation of Powers in the Constitution because it attempts to give agencies unilateral authority to determine whether a particular amount of official time is reasonable, necessary, and in the public interest, according to the suit.

[Trump Moves to Curb Federal Employee Labor Protections \(American Prospect\)](#)

(5/30/2018 4:00 PM, Kalena Thomhave)

If an administration wanted to destroy the power of labor unions, it might first attack unions that are subject to executive orders. President Trump headed in that direction late last Friday, when he signed three executive orders that place new restrictions on federal employee labor unions.

The orders, which affect more than two million federal employees, limit employees' use of "official time" (the amount of time a federal employee can use to work on union matters while on the clock) to 25 percent of the work day; revamp the collective bargaining process, and make it easier for managers to fire employees.

House Republicans want to cut back on "official time," which they describe as "union time on the people's dime" (and was actually the title Republicans used for last week's House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Operations' hearing on the topic). But federal union representatives use official time to address specific workplace problems, as decades-old legislation makes clear. Contrary to what Republicans contend, that time is not used to recruit new members, hold union meetings, or conduct political activities—it's used to resolve conflicts and grievances and improve the functioning and safety of the workplace, for union members and non-members alike.

[Why the Teacher Strikes Matter So Much \(Daily Kos\)](#)

(5/31/2018 2:23 PM, E. Clift)

Recently, in a piece about mentors, I wrote about a teacher I had in middle school who helped me through a rough time just by being present and listening. I visited her every day after classes because she made me feel noticed when my classmates didn't. Her calming presence helped me know that I mattered. That kind of validation can be deeply important when you are thirteen years old.

When I was in high school I had several teachers I will never forget. Miss Davenport was one of them. Every day she wrote a word on the blackboard, charging us with learning its definition and using it in a sentence. They were delicious words, like ubiquitous, serendipity, obsequious, superfluous, sartorial, inchoate. They sounded like music to me, and they were, I'm sure, the foundation for my love of language. Mr. Jones was a stickler for good writing and "Doc" Castle made Latin seem fun. Another teacher whose name I can't recall helped us grasp geometry and algebra such that we felt competent in math.

[\[PA\] As construction booms, merger grows carpenters union clout in Pittsburgh \(Pittsburgh Post-Gazette\)](#)

(5/30/2018 6:58 PM, Daniel Moore)

Over the years, the carpenters' union headquartered near Pittsburgh grew into a regional council whose name evokes the wide geography: the Keystone Mountain Lakes Regional Council of Carpenters. On Wednesday, the council got a lot bigger. National union leaders announced it will dissolve the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters and merge its 40,000 members into the Keystone Mountain Lakes council and the New England Council of Carpenters.

The merger comes as unions across the spectrum look to combine resources and keep pace with employers sitting across the negotiating table. More unusual, the carpenters' union merger was also driven by the need to keep up with the booming construction industry nationwide and to appease construction contractors who employ them on major projects. "It was a question of where the contractor associations were heading," said Tricia Mueller, a spokeswoman for the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, the Washington, D.C.-based union that oversees the regional councils and announced Wednesday's merger.

[\[PA\] Striking nurses picket Wilkes-Barre General \(Wilkes-Barre Citizens' Voice\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:44 AM, Denise Allabaugh)

Registered nurses at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital hit the picket line this morning, citing "chronic and severe understaffing" as the primary reason they are on strike. About 440 nurses at the hospital are represented by the Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals union. A hospital spokeswoman said "highly qualified, experienced" temporary replacement nurses are staffing the hospital during the strike. The striking nurses say they can't provide proper care as a result of the "unsafe" staffing levels. "We're walking today for our patients," said Ashley Weale, registered nurse and the local union vice president. "We believe that our patients deserve to have a nurse at their bedside when they're at their most vulnerable and need us most. It's unacceptable to us as nurses that our patients face delays in care because the hospital is understaffed. Staffing needs to focus on meeting the needs of patients, not simply increasing profits."

The union estimated that the hospital is short-staffed by about 107 full-time nurses. In the emergency room alone, PASNAP counted more than 900 unfilled shift vacancies during a six-week period this year. The Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry recently cited Community Health Systems, the for-profit Tennessee-based company that owns the hospital, for using illegal mandatory overtime to fill staffing holes and ensure coverage.

[\[PA\] Nurses strike for patients; WB Gen owner locks them out until Tuesday \(Wilkes-Barre Times Leader\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:38 PM, Bill O'Boyle)

Carrying signs and chanting words of support, Wilkes-Barre General Hospital nurses Thursday said they were holding their one-day strike for their patients. The union representing the nurses said later Thursday that hospital owner Community Health Systems will lock out the local nurses until Tuesday, June 5, and use temporary staffers instead. "We're walking today for our patients. We believe that our patients deserve to have a nurse at their bedside when they're at their most vulnerable and need us most," said Ashley Weale, RN, the local union vice president.

Some 440 nurses at Wilkes-Barre General began their strike at 7 a.m., saying they can't provide proper care due to chronic understaffing. They have been working under an expired contract since Jan. 31 while trying to resolve several issues. The union has estimated the hospital is short-staffed by approximately 107 full-time nurses. Although the one day strike was to end Thursday, the union announced to media that there would be a lockout.

[\[VA\] Workers with Disabilities at Army National Guard Center Go On Strike, Demand Ability to Unionize \(ARL Now\)](#)

(5/30/2018 3:45 PM, Alex Koma)

A group of workers with disabilities at the Army National Guard Readiness Center on S. George Mason Drive has gone on strike, pushing for the right to unionize and a reduction in healthcare costs. A dozen employees with Didlake, a Manassas nonprofit that contracts with the National Guard to provide maintenance and custodial services at the center, walked off the job on this past Friday. They've been hoping for more than a year now to organize with the help of the Laborers' International Union of North America, commonly known as LiUNA, but Didlake has repeatedly refused to recognize their efforts and negotiate with the workers.

The employees and union organizers claim that their Didlake supervisors have treated them poorly and done nothing to tamp down skyrocketing healthcare costs, a particularly troublesome development for workers who need to visit the doctor frequently to manage chronic health conditions. Didlake's attorneys argue that the nonprofit only employs these workers through a federal program designed to help disabled people find work and therefore they don't have the same ability to unionize as other employees. The dispute has found its way to the National Labor Relations Board, but Didlake employees at the site said they decided to go on strike to force more attention to the issue.

[\[SC\] Workers to Vote on 'Micro Union' at Boeing South Carolina Plant \(New York Times\)](#)

(5/31/2018 7:03 AM, Harriet McLeod – Reuters)

A small group of workers at Boeing Co's South Carolina jetliner factory is voting on Thursday on whether to form a "Micro union," despite efforts by Boeing to challenge the election. The National Labor Relations Board said last week that 178 Boeing flight-line readiness technicians and technician inspectors could lawfully take a vote on whether to join the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, and set the election for Thursday. In a motion filed last week to the labor regulators, Boeing called the proposed bargaining unit "An artificially gerrymandered sub-set of employees." Boeing asked them either to stay the election or impound the ballots pending a decision on whether the small bargaining unit is lawful.

On Wednesday, the NLRB denied Boeing's request, according to a copy of the board's order sent to union organizers. Boeing did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The go-ahead for the vote came five months after the labor board in another case made it easier for companies to challenge micro unions, reversing an Obama-era decision that had been sharply criticized by companies. Forming smaller bargaining units can be a key organizing strategy for unions, particularly when they lack support from a majority of an employer's workforce. Business groups say that smaller bargaining units fracture workplaces.

[\[SC\] Boeing South Carolina workers face union membership vote \(Fox Business\)](#)

(5/31/2018 12:19 PM, Brittany De Lea)

A small group of workers at Boeing's South Carolina plant will vote on whether to join the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) union on Thursday. The IAM is looking to unionize about 180 flight-line workers at the North Charleston campus into a "micro unit," potentially separating the group from the rest of the thousands of employees at the facility.

Boeing, worried that parsing out different rules for a subset of employees might hamper efficiency, failed last week when it asked labor regulators to delay the vote until it could appeal the decision that allowed it to go forward. Thursday's vote marks the third time the IAM has tried to organize Boeing workers in South Carolina. The group already represents more than 35,000 Boeing employees.

[\[SC\] Boeing's flight line workers in North Charleston vote for union, giving organized labor a boost in South \(Charleston Post & Courier\)](#)

(5/31/2018 4:30 PM, David Wren)

Anti-union ads, social media campaigns and a mea culpa from Boeing Co. executive Kevin McAllister weren't enough to sway flight line employees at the aerospace giant's North Charleston campus Thursday, as they voted for union representation in a big win for organized labor in the South. Of the 169 flight line workers who cast ballots, 104 - or 61.5 percent - voted in favor of having the International Association of Machinists union represent them in collective bargaining.

While the number is small compared to Boeing's workforce of 6,749 in the Charleston region, the vote is seen as a major victory for organized labor in South Carolina, which has the nation's smallest number - 2.6 percent - of workers who belong to a union.

[\[SC\] Boeing S.C. flight line workers vote to unionize \(Charleston Business Journal\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:54 PM, Liz Segrist)

The flight readiness technicians and inspectors at Boeing South Carolina voted in favor of unionization today. With a vote of 104 to 65 in favor, the

group of 176 flight line workers in North Charleston will be unionized, according to the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers. South Carolina is a right-to-work state, meaning employees in a unionized group are represented whether they choose to pay dues or not.

The rest of the roughly 7,000 Boeing S.C. workers will not be unionized. Boeing has said unionization is not in the best interest of its employees, while the union promises better benefits. The union filed for the election in March, hoping to unionize the flight line workers that prepare the 787 Dreamliners for customer delivery. The IAM said workers approached the union with serious concerns about management decisions regarding overtime, bonuses and work rules. The National Labor Relations Board approved the election earlier this month. Boeing fought to appeal the election and unionization. Boeing said it will now appeal the results of the election.

[\[SC\] Boeing SC flight line workers vote to unionize, company says its 'disappointed' \(WCIV-TV ABC 4 Charleston\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:34 PM, Jenny Peterson)

About 170 flight line technicians at Boeing's North Charleston, South Carolina plant voted Thursday to unionize and join the International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers, the labor union announced today. The vote was 104 in favor and 62 against, according to Delane Adams, spokesman for the IAM. The vote was open to flight readiness technicians and flight readiness technician inspectors.

The vote for labor union representation was a departure from the resounding opposition to unionizing among Boeing South Carolina employees in 2017-approximately 74 percent of the 2,828 employees who voted cast a "no" ballot in IAM's second bid to unionize. In March, the company called the petition "micro-unit organizing," and said it would file a legal challenge.

[\[SC\] Boeing South Carolina Workers Vote to Unionize in Rare Labor Win \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(5/31/2018 7:13 PM, Julie Johnsson & Jaclyn Diaz)

Boeing Co. technicians voted to form the first collective bargaining unit at the planemaker's factory in South Carolina, scoring a rare victory for organized labor in a state traditionally hostile to unions. The "micro-unit" will represent fewer than 180 flight-line workers, a small subset of the 7,000 or so workers who build Boeing 787 Dreamliners in North Charleston. The result gives the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers a foothold in a so-called right-to-work state. The world's largest planemaker vowed to challenge the election by the small worker group, saying it violated U.S. labor law.

The union victory marked a turnabout in a long struggle between management and the Machinists, with the South Carolina plant the latest battleground. An attempt to organize the factory last year was rejected by 74 percent of workers, while a 2015 campaign fizzled amid an anti-union barrage led by then-Governor Nikki Haley. In the Thursday vote, 104 employees voted in favor of the union while 65 voted against, according to an email from the National Labor Relations Board. Boeing has already asked the labor panel to review whether the group of workers, which the company has called "artificially gerrymandered," should have been expanded to include additional employees at the North Charleston campus.

[\[SC\] Flightline workers at North Charleston Boeing campus vote to unionize \(WCSC-TV CBS 5 Charleston\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:09 PM, Staff)

A team of Boeing flightline readiness technicians and inspectors have voted to unionize at Boeing's North Charleston campus. The vote was 104 to 65 to join the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace workers. The vote was well above the required 51% needed to pass. This only affects the 178 flightline workers at the North Charleston campus where there are a total of 7,000 workers. Boeing had launched a hardline public relations campaign against the vote via social media and advertisements.

The historic votes cast by the 176 Flight Readiness Technicians are not a collective vote against Boeing; it was a vote for the return of American prosperity. Unions are the best mechanism for protecting the interest of working men and women. I hope the company will accept the results and join us in a dialogue about the future of American industry and the American worker.

[Editorial note: View video at source link]

[\[OH\] More than 300 AT&T workers in Dayton go on strike \(WDTN-TV 2 Dayton\)](#)

(5/31/2018 3:35 PM, Jordan Bowen)

More than 300 AT&T workers in the Dayton area officially went on strike at around 10:30 a.m. Thursday following a vote by union members. The 330 workers on strike are part of the Communication Workers of America (CWA) Local 4322.

According to mobilization chair Jeff Mitchell, workers are on an 'unfair labor practice strike'. The workers on strike are made up of repair workers, construction workers, installers, engineers and call center employees.

[\[MI\] Union, trade association say road work to continue in Michigan despite plans to sever ties \(Crain's Detroit Business\)](#)

(5/31/2018 12:26 PM, Kurt Nagl)

Road work in Michigan will go on despite an imminent split between a 14,000-member union of road workers and the trade association with which it has contracted for more than 50 years. That's the message from Operating Engineers Local 324, which plans to cut ties with the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association when their contract expires Friday.

"We are not negotiating with," said Dan McKernan, communications director for the union. "At this point, we do not have any work stoppage planned." Okemos-based MITA represents 530 construction companies across the state, 128 of which have union representation for employees.

[\[MI\] AT&T 'very prepared' to keep serving customers as union workers walk off job \(WEYI-TV NBC 25 Flint\)](#)

(5/31/2018 3:17 PM, Madeline Ciak)

AT&T union members across the Midwest-and right here in mid-Michigan-walked off the job Thursday afternoon. This comes after members of the Communication Workers of America were not able to reach an agreement with AT&T. The union cites "Unfair labor practices" as their reason for the strike.

AT&T corporate spokesman Marty Richter released a statement about the strike. "A walkout is in nobody's best interest, and it's unfortunate that the union chose to do that. We're very prepared to continue serving customers. We're a customer service company and we plan for all contingencies, whether related to weather, natural disasters, or even work stoppages."

[\[WI\] AT&T workers to strike in Milwaukee \(WTMJ-AM 620 Milwaukee\)](#)

(5/31/2018 1:13 PM, WTMJ)

Some of AT&T's workers in Milwaukee are joining in a strike across five states of the Midwest, according to the president of a union of workers who do many different roles serving their customers across many platforms. "Enough is enough," George Walls, President of CWA Local 4603 in Milwaukee, tells WTMJ's Mike Spaulding Thursday about the strike which Walls says is about getting "the company back to the bargaining table to address the union's key issues." The strike was scheduled to start at noon Thursday.

Walls says his union, with 1,200 workers under labor agreement in Milwaukee, includes "outside technicians that do installation and repair work for telephone service, internet service, that install and repair Direct TV, that do the same thing for business repair in installation work, people who work in engineering and construction, people who work in the call center here in Milwaukee."

[\[IL\] WIU faculty and staff approve tentative employment agreement \(WGEM-TV NBC Quincy\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:05 AM, Jim Roberts)

Western Illinois University's faculty and staff have ratified a tentative employment agreement according to Jim La Prad of the University Professionals of Illinois (UPI) union. Prad stated the agreement was approved by UPI by a vote of 75% Yes to 25% No. WIU's Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet Friday to consider the contract. UPI is committed to working with the administration to ensure fair implementation of the new contract, Prad stated.

[\[MO\] 'Right to work' firestorm smolders in Missouri — Here's what you need to know \(WDAF-TV Fox 4 Kansas City\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:26 PM, Shannon O'Brien)

It's caused a firestorm in other states, and now Missouri is bracing for the impact of the "Right-to-work" debate. In the August primary election, voters will decide whether or not Missouri becomes the 28th right-to-work state, which would give employees the chance to decide whether or not they want to belong to a union.

Ryan Johnson who represents United For Missouri believes workers should be able to decide for themselves how to best spend their money. He said right to work was born to prevent people from being excluded from employment if they do not want to join a union. Right to work in Missouri only applies to private unions, not public ones such as teachers' unions and law enforcement unions. The right-to-work vote is expected to come down to a slim margin.

[\[NM\] Fourth New Mexico county goes right-to-work \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 AM, Olivia Grady)

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates a poverty rate of almost 20 percent for the state. New Mexico's unemployment rate is also high at 5.4 percent, compared to the national average of 3.9 percent. Further, the American Legislative Exchange Council's 2018 report, "Rich States Poor States," ranks New Mexico 35th in economic outlook and 45th in economic performance.

Some county commissioners have responded to this by focusing on economic development opportunities, such as right-to-work for the private sector. On May 21, 2018, Chaves County Commissioners in New Mexico voted 5-0 to pass a right-to-work ordinance, barring employers from making the payment of dues or fees to a labor union a condition of employment. Chaves County is actually the fourth New Mexico County to become right to work.

[\[NV\] 50,000 Las Vegas workers set to strike, demand protection from robots \(KPLC-TV NBC 7 Lake Charles\)](#)

(5/31/2018 2:37 PM, Dyllan Furness)

They say what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas, but a strike planned by hospitality workers across Sin City could plunge its bright lights and late nights into functional darkness, and inspire similar demonstrations across the nation. Among the demands of the 50,000 members of the Culinary Workers Union are higher wages, better job security, and protections against automation.

The workers, whose contracts are up on June 1, are employed by more than 30 of the city's renowned resorts. "We know that many hospitality jobs are slated to be automated in the next coming years, so we want to make sure that we're innovative and thinking about how we can protect workers and their jobs," Bethany Khan, director of communications at the Culinary Workers Union, told Digital Trends.

[\[NV\] Possibility of Las Vegas casino workers' strike draws closer \(Central Utah Daily Herald\)](#)

(5/31/2018 1:53 PM, Regina Garcia Cano - Associated Press)

The two largest resort operators in Las Vegas would lose more than \$10 million a day combined if housekeepers, cooks and others go on strike, a possibility starting Friday, the union representing thousands of casino workers said.

The Culinary Union detailed how it thinks a one-month strike would impact MGM Resorts International and Caesars Entertainment, which operate more than half the properties that would be affected if 50,000 workers walk off the job. Workers last week voted to authorize a strike as disputes over workplace training, wages and other issues have kept the union and casino operators from agreeing on new contracts.

The union conceded that it is difficult to estimate how the strike at more than 30 casino-hotels would affect Las Vegas overall because the last citywide strike took place in 1984, when the city had 90,000 fewer hotel rooms and only about 12.8 million annual visitors. Last year, more than 42.2 million people visited.

[\[NV\] Unions, casinos continue negotiations hours before deadline \(Las Vegas Review-Journal\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:53 PM, Todd Prince and Richard N. Velotta)

Negotiations between Las Vegas hospitality unions and casino operators continued into the night Thursday with little expectation that a deal would be reached by a midnight deadline, but also little chance of an imminent strike. The unions plan to open a strike headquarters Friday after contracts for 50,000 employees expire at midnight Thursday. It would be the latest move by the labor groups to ratchet up pressure on Strip and downtown casino operators amid months-long talks over a new five-year contract.

The unions earlier this month called the first citywide strike vote in 16 years. The headquarters does not imply the unions plan a strike. Union leaders continued their talks Thursday with Caesars Entertainment Corp., the second-largest Las Vegas casino operator by employment. The casino operators have repeatedly said over the past two weeks that they expect to reach an agreement with the unions and avoid a strike that could leave guests struggling to get clean sheets and order food. Culinary Local 226 and Bartenders Local 165 are seeking an average annual increase of 4 percent over the next five years in workers' wages and benefits.

[\[CA\] The Riverside Sheriffs' Association has given over \\$1 million this election cycle. But does the public know why? \(Palm Springs Desert Sun\)](#)

(5/31/2018 4:13 PM, Samuel Metz)

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association, the union representing the department's deputies, has contributed around \$1 million to statewide causes and local political candidates seeking office in this election cycle, solidifying the group's unparalleled clout on the local political scene. The largest chunk of their political contributions - a staggering \$610,000 - has gone to Chad Bianco, a Sheriff's Department Lieutenant challenging Stan Sniff, the reigning Sheriff who has held the position since 2007 and frequently crossed swords with RSA over budget issues and departmental policy. For those reasons, the union has taken an active interest in other county and statewide races.

Unlike most unions, which tend to lean Democratic, law enforcement associations - and, in turn, the candidates and causes they support each election - often champion conservative causes, putting them at odds with left-leaning organizations and social movements, like the ACLU and Black Lives Matter. Although campaign finance has become a heavily publicized concern in both state and national politics, the contributions given to politicians running in county races elude parallel scrutiny. Negotiations between Riverside County's Board of Supervisors and the labor unions representing the county's workers are consistently tense, particularly as the county's \$3 billion unfunded pension liability looms.

Disability

[How Can Business Leaders Support Disabled Workers? \(Talent Economy\)](#)

(5/30/2018 6:00 PM, Lauren Dixon)

"Tourette [syndrome] started to really impact my work about six years ago," said Patrick O'Leary, developer relations engineer with tech firm Havok, which is owned by Microsoft in Redmond, Washington. While Tourette syndrome tends to be diagnosed in children and go away by adulthood, O'Leary faced a different challenge. As an adolescent and teen, he could control or suppress his symptoms around people, but stress on the job at Microsoft exacerbated his motor and vocal tics. "I went from really being able to pass for relatively normal, to some days my

body is shaking back and forth severely, making it hard to walk,” O’Leary said. And although it only impacts about 10 percent of people with Tourette’s, he also developed the stereotypical tic of profanity. “That definitely in many ways has caused a lot of unfortunate misunderstandings in and out of work.”

During a crunch period of video game development that involved long hours and stress, O’Leary had a frustrating conversation with a colleague. “I felt a strong urge to tic come on, so I went into my office, I closed the door, and I just released a string of expletives because I couldn’t help it because I have Tourette syndrome,” he said. The next week, his manager wanted to talk about O’Leary’s unprofessional behavior. That was the first real negative incident he experienced, and it certainly was not the last, he said. However, O’Leary went to human resources and asked for accommodations. One major condition that tends to appear alongside Tourette’s is attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, known as ADHD, which made it difficult for him to keep on top of tasks in the fast-paced environment. This meant he needed a quieter workspace with fewer distractions. HR also provided him with a coach to help find strategies to help him focus at work. “[Microsoft has] been extremely supportive in ways that I feel many other employers wouldn’t,” he said.

[\[IN\] St. Vincent settles disability-discrimination lawsuit from EEOC \(Indianapolis Business Journal\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:00 AM, Staff Report)

St. Vincent Health has agreed to pay \$15,000 to a former employee and increase worker training to settle a lawsuit brought by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in September, the EEOC announced Wednesday. The EEOC’s suit accused St. Vincent of refusing to accommodate a worker who had lifting restrictions due to a disability, then firing her in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The federal agency filed the case in U.S. District Court in Indianapolis on behalf of employee Latoya Moore, who had worked as a patient care administrative technician at the Indianapolis hospital since 2008.

According to the EEOC, when St. Vincent learned of Moore’s lifting restrictions, the hospital required her to take leave at reduced pay instead of transferring her to a vacant position she was qualified for and could perform. The hospital later fired her. The EEOC filed suit under the ADA, which prohibits employers from discriminating against any individual because of disabilities.

Law & Compliance

[Sexual harassment lawsuit against long-haul trucking company in the age of #MeToo \(ABC News\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:09 PM, Halley Freger)

“Jane” thought driving a truck would be her ticket into the middle class. She decided she was ready for a change, so she took a job as a driver at CRST, Expedited Inc., one of the largest team trucking companies in the country with more than 3,500 drivers and average revenues of \$1.5 billion per year, where she would receive a bigger salary, full benefits and paid vacations.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, only 6 percent of the nation’s 3.5 million truck drivers are women, and CRST drivers work in teams, meaning there are two drivers in each cab with bunk beds to sleep in. Teams can cover more ground in a shorter period of time - 1,100 miles in 24 hours - because the drivers take turns driving the truck, reducing the number of stops and breaks. In June 2017, Jane said she had to fend off unwanted sexual advances from another driver who entered her truck while she was parked at the CRST terminal in Riverside, Calif. She filed a report with CRST human resources and received a follow-up letter from an employee relations representative. According to the letter, CRST “conducted an investigation” and took “appropriate action.” Jane said she does not know if the other driver was disciplined.

[The Supreme Court Tried to End #MeToo. Here’s How We’re Fighting Back. \(Fortune\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:06 AM, Gretchen Carlson)

Last week, the #MeToo movement got a wakeup call from the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling in Epic Systems Corp v. Lewis. The ruling allows companies to make forced arbitration a condition of employment, and prohibits workers from taking collective legal action against employers. It’s bad news for the 60 million Americans subject to forced arbitration, and even worse for the one in three women victimized by workplace sexual harassment. But let me be clear: This is not the end of #MeToo or the empowerment revolution kicked off by my 2016 settlement with Roger Ailes. As I’ve said for many months, the first step is telling the truth—the next step is changing the system. Now our movement must shift course and focus relentlessly on one thing: fixing the law.

Forced arbitration is a sexual harasser’s best friend: It keeps proceedings secret, findings sealed, and victims silent. But its impact goes much further. Of the thousands of women I spoke to while writing *Be Fierce*, the vast majority who complained about harassment never worked in their chosen careers again. Blacklisting is common post-arbitration, because the facts don’t come out in trial, victims are silenced, and predators often keep their jobs. Guess who controls the narrative in that scenario? With the offended party out of the picture, workplaces become—in actor Asia Argento’s haunting words—a “hunting ground.”

[These Senators Want The Government To Collect Data On Sexual Harassment In The Workforce \(BuzzFeed\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:27 AM, Lam Thuy Vo)

Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand, Patty Murray, Diane Feinstein, and Elizabeth Warren sent a letter on Tuesday to the Comptroller General of the US Government Accountability Office (GAO). In January, the same four senators alongside 18 others wrote a letter to Labor Department officials, demanding more and better data concerning sexual harassment after reading a BuzzFeed News article examining the prevalence of sexual misconduct in different industries. The article had featured previously unpublished data of sexual harassment charges filed with the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which is available for download.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics responded to the senators in April, saying it would be too hard to compile the data. The agencies wrote that "collecting this information would be complex and costly" and that employers may have "difficulty providing the data ... as such information may not always be reported by victims and the release of such information may be subject to privacy or other restrictions."

[U.S Department of Labor provides tools to ensure American workers are protected and employers are equipped to comply with wage laws \(HudsonValley360\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:33 AM, Staff Report)

The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division has developed a series of helpful instructional videos that provide valuable assistance to employers and further ensure compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) to the benefit of the American workforce. As part of the Wage and Hour Division's ongoing commitment to protect working Americans, the Division will help employers understand their legal obligations under the FLSA by launching a new series of brief, plain-language videos that explain employer responsibilities under the FLSA. The videos eliminate legalese and provide a valuable resource for employers who simply want to understand what the law requires.

The Division consulted with a variety of stakeholders during the production of the FLSA tutorials, and much of their feedback was incorporated to ensure the videos are user-friendly, straightforward, and in a language and format that is engaging and easy to understand. "To help employees receive their compensation and help employers comply with the law, we are modernizing the tools we offer to help them along the path," said Acting Wage and Hour Division Administrator Bryan Jarrett.

[Facebook, Amazon, and hundreds of companies post targeted job ads that screen out older workers \(Vox\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:50 AM, Alexia Fernández Campbell)

Older workers are accusing Facebook, Ikea, and hundreds of other companies for discriminating against job seekers in their 50s and 60s through targeted job ads posted on Facebook. The Communications Workers of America, a labor union representing 700,000 media workers across the country, added the companies to a class-action lawsuit on Tuesday, which was filed in California federal court in December. In its original complaint, the labor union accused Amazon, T-Mobile, and Cox Media Group of doing the same thing.

The case, Bradley v. T-Mobile, has major implications for US employers, who routinely buy job ads on Facebook to reach users. The plaintiffs argue that Amazon, T-Mobile, Ikea, Facebook, and hundreds of other companies target the ads so they are only seen by younger Facebook users. The lawsuit revolves around Facebook's unique business model, which lets advertiser's micro-target the network's users based on their interests, city, age, and other demographic information. In the past, equal rights advocates have sued Facebook for accepting ads that discriminate against consumers based on their religion, race, and gender.

[New Federal Tip Pooling Law Changes Game for Restaurants, LeClairRyan Attorney Says \(WSEE-TV CBS 35 Erie\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:37 AM, Staff)

"The recently enacted Tip Income Protection Act of 2018 may have been buried in the 2,323 pages of the federal omnibus spending bill, but restaurants across the country need to be aware of this new law and understand its implications," warns Setareh Ebrahimian, an associate in LeClairRyan's Alexandria, Va. office and member of the national law firm's Labor and Employment Team. If an employer pays a full minimum wage and does not take a "tip credit" - which allows them to take a credit toward their minimum wage obligation for tipped employees equal to the difference between the required cash wage (which must be at least \$2.13) and the federal minimum wage - "the Act allows for employees who do not customarily receive tips to participate in tip pools," she explains in a blog, The Tip Income Protection Act - Changes to Tip Pooling

Under a pooling arrangement, an employer requires tipped employees to combine their tips and develops a formula for redistributing them among the pooled employees. Previously, the Fair Labor Standards Act generally restricted tip pools to employees who "customarily and regularly" receive tips. Penalties for tip pool violations were increased to include the amount of tip credit taken, amount of wages withheld, and liquidated damages in the same amount, Ebrahimian notes. "Additionally, the Secretary of Labor may impose civil penalties of \$1,100 per violation."

[\[TX\] Department Of Labor Wage And Hour Inspects Gins Two Years In A Row \(Cotton Farming\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:00 AM, Staff Report)

Twelve West Texas gins were inspected by the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor during the 2016/2017 ginning season. The Wage and Hour folks came right back this year, inspecting eight more gins. I don't know whether we will see them again next year, but the Wage and Hour folks certainly know what a cotton gin is. The Texas Cotton Ginners' Association staff has spent a fair amount of time working with the

Wage and Hour administrator in Lubbock. We have learned some things that are probably important items to check at any gin across the Cotton Belt.

These inspections were conducted to check for compliance with the Migrant and Seasonal Worker Protection Act. In many cases, we have some workers who are migrant and seasonal, and some who are seasonal but not migrant. If all of your workers are from the local area, you may not have migrant workers, and the rules are a little different. For the majority of those who use migrant and seasonal workers, here are some helpful hints to keep you out of trouble with the Wage and Hour folks.

[\[WA\] New Laws Place Additional Restrictions on Washington Employers \(National Law Review\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:07 AM, Andrew M. McKinley)

Beginning on June 7, 2018, four new Washington laws will go into effect and place new restrictions on employers in the state. These laws, discussed in detail below, expand the rights and protections afforded to Washington employees, and may require employers to review and revise their employment advertisements and applications, pre-hiring materials, and arbitration agreements.

The Washington Fair Chance Act prohibits employers from posting advertisements for employment openings that exclude employees from applying. Employers also may not implement any policies or practices that automatically exclude individuals with a criminal record from consideration before determining whether the applicant is otherwise qualified. Additionally, employers may not ask about -- or obtain information about -- an applicant's criminal record until after the employer determines that the applicant is otherwise qualified for the position. Finally, employers may not reject applicants for failing to disclose a criminal record prior to the determination that the applicant is otherwise qualified.

[\[CA\] Gig Economy Jobs More Likely Seen as Employees After California Supreme Court Ruling \(Top Class Actions\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:00 AM, Kim Gale)

The California Supreme Court has addressed the classification of gig economy jobs, unanimously providing new direction to differentiate the classification choices of "independent contractors" or "employees." Gig economy jobs are positions for app-driven services including Uber, Lyft, Postmates, GrubHub and many others. The new interpretation of what defines an independent contractor could have even farther-reaching effects.

Previous definitions of employee versus independent contractor have focused on how much control the company exerts over the worker. The new California Supreme Court ruling indicates an independent contractor is someone whose work does not align with the hiring company's own business. For example, a window washer hired to wash the windows of a dry cleaning business would qualify as an independent contractor. The ruling goes on to say that an independent contractor works in "an independently established trade, occupation or business."

Family and Medical Leave

[\[TX\] Unpaid FMLA leave may be 'unemployment' in Texas, but eligibility for benefits is a different question \(EmploymentLawDaily\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:46 AM, Joy Waltemath)

Reversing the decision of an appeals court, the Texas Supreme Court interpreted the unambiguous language of the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act to find that an individual qualifies as "unemployed" while taking unpaid leave from her job under the Family Medical Leave Act. But because eligibility for unemployment benefits requires more than "unemployed" status, the court voiced no opinion on whether an individual on FMLA leave is ultimately entitled to such benefits. Here, the employee was unemployed because she was "not performing services for wages"—her eligibility was yet to be considered (Texas Workforce Commission v. Wichita County, Texas, May 25, 2018, Lehrmann, D.).

The court stressed that the Commission's decisions below had not determined the employee's eligibility, such as whether she was able to, available for, and actively seeking work during any particular benefit period, as required by the Act. The Commission concluded only that she was totally unemployed—she was not performing services for wages—and that the Commission could pay her benefits "if [she met] all other requirements." It was the county employer's view that the Act's definitions of "totally unemployed" and "partially unemployed" were relevant only as to eligibility, but not to the threshold issue of whether a claimant was "unemployed," and it asked the court to consider the ordinary meaning of unemployed—a formal severing of the employer-employee relationship.

Retirement

[DOL Continues Fiduciary Rule Enforcement Relief, But Confusion Remains \(HR Daily Advisor\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:00 AM, Jane Meacham)

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) confirmed that neither it nor the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) would punish prohibited transaction exemption (PTE) violations by investment advice professionals who are fiduciaries working in good faith to comply with impartial conduct standards. However, the non-enforcement guidance in DOL Field Assistance Bulletin (FAB) 2018-02 issued May 7 left many retirement plan

fiduciaries and practitioners more confused than ever as the agency's years-in-the-making fiduciary rule was officially vacated the same day by a federal appellate court.

The FAB said both DOL and the IRS will continue to rely on DOL's previously announced temporary enforcement policy, pending the issuance of additional guidance by the department. From June 9, 2017, until after regulations, PTEs, or other administrative guidance have been issued, neither agency governing retirement plan administration will seek to discipline fiduciaries working diligently within existing impartial conduct standards set for transactions that would have been exempted in the Best Interest Contract (BIC) Exemption and Principal Transactions Exemption. Further, neither the IRS nor DOL would treat an adviser's failure to rely on other available exemptions as resulting in a prohibited transaction violation if the adviser satisfied the terms of the temporary enforcement policy, DOL said in the FAB

[Solving America's retirement security challenges \(CNBC\)](#)

(5/31/2018 1:00 PM, Rep. Tim Wahlberg)

Americans dream of retiring with financial security, but for too many it's a struggle on how they will get there. According to a recent estimate, 1 out of 3 Americans have less than \$5,000 put aside for their retirement years. Meanwhile, baby boomers are exiting the workforce in droves, with 10,000 of them retiring each day. And the U.S. Census Bureau projects that more than 20 percent of U.S. residents will be age 65 or older by 2030.

With an entire generation on the cusp of retirement, the rules governing retirement plan administration need to be modernized to make it easier for employers to offer savings programs for the men and women they employ. In particular, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, also known as ERISA, should be updated to facilitate modern savings strategies.

[Why U.S. Retirees Are Waiting Longer to Claim Social Security \(US News & World Report\)](#)

(5/31/2018 7:28 AM, Mark Miller)

Fewer Americans are asking Social Security to "show me the money" as soon as possible. The share of workers claiming Social Security retirement benefits at the earliest possible date has plunged in recent years. That probably reflects growing public awareness of the higher annual benefits available through delayed claiming. But it may also be driven by the dramatic shift by employers away from traditional pension retirement coverage, and toward 401(k) savings plans. Retiring workers can claim Social Security anytime from age 62 to 70. The benefit formula is designed to be "actuarially fair," meaning all claimants should come out roughly equal no matter when they claim. But delayed filing often works out in favor of those who are patient - especially for better-educated, healthier people, who tend to live longer.

By waiting until after full retirement age (66), you would get the delayed retirement credit, which is 8 percent for each 12-month period that you delay. The credits are available until age 70. As recently as 2004, half of all men and 55 percent of women filed at age 62. But in 2016, just 32 percent of men and 37 percent of women were filing at 62. The share of men filing at their FRA jumped from 11.5 percent in 2004 to 17.9 percent in 2016. For women it rose from 7.5 percent to 12.6 percent. The number of claimants delaying beyond FRA also has risen, but remains a small portion of overall claims. Just 4.2 percent of men - and 3.6 percent of women - filed between age 67 and 69 in 2016.

[Let's get real about planning: What an average retirement costs \(USA Today\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:32 AM, Dayana Yochim)

According to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics data, which is based on 2016 figures, "older households" — defined as those run by someone 65 and older — spend an average of \$45,756 per year, or roughly \$3,800 a month. That's about \$1,000 less than the monthly average spent by all U.S. households combined. Naturally, your spending in retirement will vary based on countless variables, including the price of your preferred champagne and the annual property taxes on that lake house (if those things happen to be on your retirement vision board). Read on to learn how retirees' spending habits tend to differ from the working population, and how you can plan for your personal post-work needs.

Here's the data, shown as a monthly breakdown of how households headed by a retirement-age person spend money, on average, in seven major categories:

- Housing: \$1,322
- Transportation: \$567
- Health care: \$499
- Food: \$483
- Personal insurance/pensions: \$237
- Cash contributions: \$202
- Entertainment: \$197

[Want to join the 401\(k\) millionaires club? Here's how to do it \(USA Today\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:00 AM, Maurie Backman)

We hear a lot about how Americans, on the whole, aren't saving adequately for retirement, but clearly, there are plenty of outliers. In fact, the number of workers with \$1 million or more in their 401(k) plans jumped to 157,000 at the end of this year's first quarter, according to Fidelity. That's a 45% increase from one year prior. Of course, there are certain factors that fueled this accumulation of wealth. For one thing, the stock market had a killer 2017, which no doubt boosted balances hovering near the \$1 million mark. Furthermore, Fidelity reports that many of the aforementioned 401(k) millionaires have been saving for a solid 30 years. Still, it just goes to show that with a nice amount of effort, it's possible to amass \$1 million and retire comfortably as a result. If that's the sort of goal you have in mind, here's how to get there.

1. Start saving early in your career - Many younger workers think of retirement as a far-off milestone that doesn't demand their immediate attention. But the fact of the matter is that the longer you give yourself to save for the future, the greater your chances of accumulating \$1 million -- or whatever personal goal you have in mind.
2. Take full advantage of your employer match - If you're lucky enough to have a 401(k), you probably have a chance to get your hands on some free money for it. That's because an estimated 92% of companies that sponsor 401(k)s are willing to match employee contributions to some degree.
3. Invest your savings wisely - You may have noticed by now that we've applied an 8% average return on investment to our different calculations so far. The reason for that 8% is that it's just a bit below the stock market's average, which means it's a pretty fair benchmark for projecting returns.

[Gig Workers' Retirement Prospects Look Dim \(Forbes\)](#)

(5/31/2018 9:40 PM, Ashlea Ebeling)

What will retirement look like for gig workers? It isn't a pretty picture, according to preliminary research presented by Jack VanDerhei, research director of the Employee Benefit Research Institute, at a policy forum earlier this month. In the worst-case scenario, the potential impact on national retirement income adequacy is staggering: The nation's overall net retirement savings surplus at retirement age would decrease by \$2.2 trillion (in 2018 dollars). And the retirement savings shortfall for those who run out of money in retirement would increase by \$61 billion. "The potential dollar value is truly significant," VanDerhei says. Of course, with the gig economy evolving, there are lots of assumptions: For example, how the percentage of the workforce in the gig-only economy will change over time. "Do you stay in the gig economy or grow up and get a real job?" VanDerhei asks. "For a certain percentage of these people, once a gig worker, always a gig worker."

His worst-case assumptions: Gig-only workers have no access to workplace retirement plans like 401(k)s. And the probability of being a gig-only worker doubles immediately. The baseline for the percentage of people who identify as gig-only workers today comes from T. Rowe Price data: Millennials (9%), Gen X (19%), baby boomers (11%) and the silent generation (5%). "The number one disadvantage to working in a gig model is the lack of access to savings and benefits through an employer," says Jake Biscoglio, vice-president of strategic initiatives with Prudential Financial. "They have to figure it out and fund it on their own." Lower income than their W2 peers hurts too. The average annual income for gig-only workers is \$36,500, compared to \$62,700 for full-time workers, according to Prudential data.

[Pension and a paycheck? State may loosen 'double dipping' rules \(Boston Globe\)](#)

(5/31/2018 1:57 PM, Matt Stout)

Government retirees who are already collecting a public pension could be allowed to work up to 30 hours a week at another taxpayer-funded job, under a legislative proposal that would ease the limits designed to curb "double-dipping." The change, which has support in both the state House and Senate, would mark a dramatic jump for the 120,000 state and teacher retirees, and thousands of others who have left local government — hiking by as much as 50 percent the longtime limit on how many hours the former employees can still work in public jobs.

The Senate last week passed a measure that would increase the limit from 960 to 1,200 hours per year, pushing it to the equivalent of a 23-hour average workweek. The House went further, voting in April to hike the cap to 1,500 hours, which would allow retirees to work an average of 29 hours per week over a full year.

[Side Hustles Are Changing How People Plan for Retirement \(Motley Fool\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:26 AM, Daniel B. Kline)

If the words "side hustle" conjure for you an image of underpaid millennials using AirBnB or Etsy to supplement their incomes, you're only seeing half the story: A significant fraction of older workers are turning to side hustles to bolster their retirement savings, according to Betterment's Gig Economy and the Future of Retirement report. Of the 1,000 people surveyed for the report, 40% feel they aren't in a position to save enough to support their lifestyles once they retire. In addition, 16% said they plan to supplement their income once they retire by working a side gig.

For its survey, Betterment queried 500 people whose chief source of income derives from the "gig economy," and 500 who work full-time for an employer, but also have side gigs. Of those with traditional jobs, 67% said their chief reasons for tacking on a side hustle were financial: They

were saving for major purchases and paying off debts, among other things. But fully a third of those holding regular jobs cited insufficient retirement savings as their top reason for needing additional income -- and the percentages increase dramatically as workers get closer to retirement age. While 42% of workers with a traditional job will use some of their secondary income to add to their retirement savings, the percentage rose to 65% for those ages 35 to 44. Among those 55 and older, 76% of side hustlers are routing at least some of their extra earnings into their retirement accounts.

[Retirement Could Be Tougher in the Future \(World at Work\)](#)

(5/30/2018 8:00 PM, Staff Report)

Almost half of today's workers and retirees believe the outlook for future generations of retirees is bleak. This was a main finding in a new study called *The New Social Contract: A Blueprint for Retirement in the 21st Century*, which was conducted by Aegon Center for Longevity and Retirement (ACLR) and nonprofits Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies (TCRS) and Instituto de Longevidade Mongeral Aegon. The research of 16,000 workers and retirees in 15 countries, including the United States, found that 49% believe future generations of retirees will be worse off than those currently in retirement.

"Megatrends are disrupting long-standing societal constructs including how people live and work, plan for their future, and, ultimately, prepare for their retirement," said Catherine Collinson, CEO and president of Transamerica Institute and TCRS, and executive director of ACLR. The survey asked workers and retirees about global trends that are affecting their plans for retirement.

[Some Tops Employees Will Lose Portions of Their Pensions \(WBEN-AM 930 Buffalo\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:16 AM, Staff)

Yesterday, Some of Tops longest tenured workers, who are represented by Teamsters, learned that part of the pension benefits they've worked towards for years...are gone. Essentially, these employees are victims of Tops financial struggles and the subsequent attempt to restructure after filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. A dispute that began five years ago when Tops acquired the C&S warehouse will be resolved with Tops likely paying around \$15 million of the \$20 million it has been holding in workers' pension's funds. As part of the deal that was arranged in mid-May, workers will no longer be able to participate in the Teamsters Pension Fund in the future. Instead, they will be issued a one-time payment of nearly \$25,000 into a retirement account.

Channel 2 caught up with some angry workers. "I give you \$20 million; I expect \$20 million back. I don't care how it works out," said 27-year employee Tony Yamonaco. "That's just, that's not a standup guy, that's not a stand-up company to do that to their employees."

[\[NY\] Tops Teamster workers fuming over loss of pensions \(WIVB-TV 4 Buffalo\)](#)

(5/30/2018 8:17 PM, Al Vaughters)

Hundreds of Teamsters, who work for Tops Markets, demanded to know in meetings Wednesday, what happened to their hard earned pensions, after the Amherst-based grocery chain announced it has reached a settlement with the New York State Teamsters Pension Fund over a pension dispute. Teamsters Local Union 264, includes more than 600 workers and truck drivers at the Tops warehouse in Lancaster.

Tops Markets sold the warehouse to C&S Wholesale Grocers in 2002, then bought the Genesee Street facility back in 2014, but the Teamsters Pension Fund--which has a governing board separate from the Teamsters union--refused to allow Tops and its union workers back into the pension fund. Warehouse associate Daniel Sheehan could not believe the Teamsters Pension Fund would not allow teamsters back into the fund, "We got kicked out 4 years ago from our pension fund over a dispute between Tops and our pension fund." Over the next 4 years, the Teamsters at the warehouse set pay raises aside, opting instead to put the money into a retirement account, figuring eventually the pension fund would allow them and Tops back into the pension fund, but it never did.

[Editorial note: View video at source link]

[\[MN\] Dayton signs pension bill aimed at long-term stability in state retirement system \(Minneapolis/St. Paul Star-Tribune\)](#)

(5/31/2018 3:57 PM, Jessie Van Berkel)

Hundreds of thousands of public employees and retirees stand to benefit from a major pension reform package that Gov. Mark Dayton signed into law on Thursday.

Schoolteachers, office workers, police officers and a retired parks maintenance worker were among the triumphant crowd that filled the State Capitol rotunda, in a ceremony for a bill-signing that Dayton said would be the last piece of legislation he would sign as governor. "I can't tell you how many retirees and active employees have spoken with me in the last few days and told me how vitally important this is for their peace of mind, for their financial security, for their sense of being able to rely on pensions, on the promise that they've earned," Dayton said.

[\[CA\] California created a savings program for workers without retirement benefits. A group is suing to kill it \(Los Angeles Times\)](#)

(5/31/2018 4:00 PM, James Rufus Koren)

A California anti-tax group is suing California Treasurer John Chiang as it tries to put the kibosh on a program that would provide retirement savings accounts to millions of California workers whose employers don't offer a pension or 401(k). In a lawsuit filed Thursday in federal court in Sacramento, the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn. — which championed the landmark property tax law Proposition 13 and continues to fight tax measures — argues that the retirement savings program is illegal under federal law and should be stopped before workers start signing up for accounts next year.

Beyond that narrow argument, association President Jon Coupal said he believes the savings program — called CalSavers — is a “massive government boondoggle” waiting to happen. He also said workers who want retirement accounts are free to open them on their own without the state's help and suggested that workers not saving for retirement are acting irresponsibly.

Trade

[The U.S. Moves Closer to a Trade War With Allies \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

(5/31/2018 5:39 AM, Staff Report)

The Trump administration is planning to make good on its threat to impose tariffs on European steel and aluminum. An announcement is expected as early as Thursday after U.S. negotiators were unable to win concessions from European Union counterparts, William Mauldin, Bojan Pancevski and Vivian Salama report. The move is almost certain to draw a response from the EU, which has threatened to retaliate with its own tariffs on American products such as motorcycles, jeans and bourbon. The numbers: 25% tariffs on imported steel, and 10% on aluminum. Don't be surprised if Canada and Mexico follow, escalating trade tensions with U.S. allies.

So, how is the White House trade strategy working? “President Donald Trump routinely does protectionism badly, using the wrong tools on the wrong behavior and the wrong countries,” the WSJ's Greg Ip writes. Targeting China's intellectual property violations is a good step. But other actions are counterproductive: Quotas, threats of tariffs followed by negotiation and uncertainty, and picking fights with allies while going relatively easy on China—a serial violator of trade rules and the ultimate cause of global steel and aluminum overcapacity.

[Trump moves on steel, aluminum tariffs despite lobbying efforts \(Politico\)](#)

(5/31/2018 2:43 PM, Theodor Meyer & Marianne Levine)

President Donald Trump's move today to tax steel and aluminum imports from Canada, Mexico and the European Union — after granting them a temporary reprieve a month ago — is a setback for the lobbyists hired to stop the administration from doing so. As PI has previously reported, companies have rushed to hire lobbyists in recent months to advocate on the steel and aluminum tariffs.

Beck Aluminum International, for instance, an Ohio aluminum distributor, hired Squire Patton Boggs last month to lobby on the sanctions. Fujifilm Holdings hired David Wilkins, a former U.S. ambassador to Canada, and one of his colleagues at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough to lobby on the issue as well. But the administration has proved impervious so far to appeals not to tax imports from American allies.

[Trump's Steel Tariffs Could Hurt U.S. Coal Companies \(Bloomberg BNA\)](#)

(5/31/2018 12:00 AM, Stephen Lee)

The Trump administration's new tariffs on foreign steel could take a bite out of U.S. coal companies. The 25 percent tariff on steel from Canada, Mexico, and the European Union would hurt demand in the U.S., a major customer for the steel. Those countries also buy 40 percent of U.S. metallurgical or “met” coal, the high-grade substance used to make steel, according to the Energy Information Administration. So a dip in their steel production could go in tandem with a dip in their met coal demand.

The countries hit with tariffs also could strike back with tariffs of their own on U.S. coal. If that happens, big met coal producers such as Arch Coal, Alpha Natural Resources, and Ramaco Resources Inc., which have leaned heavily on foreign markets as one of the few bright spots in their industry, would have to cut their prices in order to stay competitive in the global market, according to Hector Forster, a steel analyst with S&P Global Platts. Otherwise, cheaper met coal from countries such as Australia, Canada, Colombia, Mozambique, and Russia could fill the void, Forster told Bloomberg Environment. Because the U.S. imports so little met coal, more domestic steelmaking might mean more domestic mining. Forster said that is unlikely, because two-thirds of U.S. steel is made using scrap metal, not met coal.

[3 reasons why we should keep NAFTA — and 3 reasons why we should get rid of it \(Business Insider\)](#)

(5/31/2018 3:15 PM, Staff Report)

Signed by President Clinton in 1993, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with Mexico and Canada opened up trade between the continent's three largest economies. From Ross Perot to Bernie Sanders, NAFTA has been a punching bag for political outsiders of all stripes. Meanwhile, its establishment support has cut across party lines. With a new NAFTA deal in the works, the question arises: Was the original free trade agreement a positive one for Americans?

Here are three arguments making the case that NAFTA hurt Americans, and three arguments stating that it had the opposite effect.

[Editorial note: See list at source link]

[TrumpTrade: How Trump's Trade Policies Divide CEOs \(Chief Executive\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:00 AM, William J. Holstein and Jennifer Pellet)

When it comes to President Donald J. Trump, no issue has divided American business like his recent moves on trade. CEOs across the nation may be near-uniformly thrilled with the GOP tax cuts and regulatory rollback promulgated by his administration, but his trade policies and America First take on global commerce? That's another story. "The whole idea of this tariff is just bad economic policy," says Paul Hylbert, chairman of Colorado-based Kodiak Building Partners, who reports that the construction industry has been in chaos since Trump announced steel tariffs in March. "It's like an additional tax on the American consumer. It will cause inflationary pressure and job losses—and it certainly could lead to a trade war. The only way it could be good is if it's vintage Trump, and he's just doing this to unsettle everyone so we can pick up the pieces somehow."

A Chief Executive poll of 212 U.S. CEOs taken in the immediate wake of the tariff announcement found 52 percent of respondents concerned the tariffs would damage the U.S. economy. But 38 percent said the tariffs would be beneficial in the long run, numbers the Trump administration finds reassuring.

[Trump's Trade War Would Be Very Bad for Many Americans \(Pacific Standard\)](#)

(5/31/2018 3:17 PM, Dwyer Gunn)

Earlier this week, President Donald Trump announced that the United States would move forward with a plan to impose 25 percent tariffs on certain high-tech Chinese imports. The tariffs are designed to punish Chinese manufacturers for allegedly unfair trade practices with respect to American technology and intellectual property.

The tariffs Trump mentioned this week follow broader tariffs announced in March on steel and aluminum imports. The administration initially granted the European Union, Canada, and Mexico a temporary exemption to those steel and aluminum tariffs, but news broke last night that they will allow the exemptions to expire; tariffs on steel and aluminum from those U.S. allies will go into effect at midnight tonight.

This week's escalation has already prompted retaliation. In response to Trump's announcement on Tuesday, the Chinese government released a statement expressing surprise at the president's reversal and promising that "China has the confidence, the capability, and the experience to defend the core interests of the people and the nation." The European Union quickly announced it would file a dispute against the U.S. at the World Trade Organization and implement retaliatory tariffs against American imports.

[\[MI\] Detroit Wins With NAFTA \(Heritage Foundation\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:51 PM, Tim Doescher)

As the U.S. continues to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement with our neighbors in Canada and Mexico, it is important to understand how much of a win NAFTA has been for Detroit, and the potential consequences of adding tariffs and other trade barriers. That's why it was troubling to read that Robert Lighthizer, the U.S. trade representative and chief U.S. negotiator in the NAFTA talks, aims to require Mexico to mandate a huge pay hike for automotive employees - from around \$3-\$6 per hour to \$16 per hour. His message to Mexico: push through higher wages or get slapped with tariffs.

While it is true that America could benefit from measures to modernize NAFTA, if tariffs and wage requirements are implemented the auto industry and Detroit will suffer as a result. NAFTA has been a very good deal for Michigan, and the state continues to reap benefits. For Detroit, foreign direct investment in 2016 reached its highest level in a decade - more than \$2 billion plowed into 76 projects in that year alone. Auto industry leaders have extolled the benefits of NAFTA at length, urging President Trump to not do anything that would impair their ability to grow. The administration continues to threaten to withdraw from the pact unless our trading partners implement these harmful measures.

National

[U.S. consumer spending accelerates; weekly jobless claims fall \(New York Times\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:33 AM, Lucia Mutikani - Reuters)

U.S. consumer spending posted its biggest gain in five months in April, a further sign that economic growth was regaining momentum early in the second quarter, while inflation continued to rise steadily. Other data on Thursday showed a bigger-than-expected drop in the number of Americans filing applications for unemployment benefits last week. Moderately rising inflation and a tightening labor market bolstered expectations that the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates next month.

Consumer spending, which accounts for more than two-thirds of U.S. economic activity, jumped 0.6 percent last month, the Commerce Department said. That was the largest rise since November and followed a 0.5 percent increase in March. Economists polled by Reuters had

forecast consumer spending advancing 0.4 percent. Spending was boosted by higher prices for gasoline and other energy products. Nondurable goods purchases surged 0.9 percent. There were also increases in purchases of long-lasting goods. Outlays on services rose 0.5 percent, lifted by demand for household utilities.

[U.S. Consumer Spending Tops Estimates as Inflation Holds at 2% \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:57 AM, Katia Dmitrieva)

U.S. consumer spending rose in April by the most in five months and inflation held at the Federal Reserve's target, adding to signs of solid economic growth that support the central bank's plan for gradual interest-rate hikes. Purchases, which account for about 70 percent of the economy, increased 0.6 percent from the prior month, topping forecasts, after a 0.5 percent advance that was more than previously estimated, Commerce Department figures showed Thursday. Incomes advanced 0.3 percent, matching projections.

The Fed's preferred price gauge rose 2 percent from a year earlier for a second month, though excluding food and energy; the so-called core index remained short of the goal, at 1.8 percent. The report reinforces projections for a rebound in economic growth this quarter amid a strong job market, the lowest unemployment rate in 17 years and tax cuts that have put more money in Americans' wallets. The inflation figures are also likely to keep the Fed on track to raise borrowing costs in June for the second time this year.

[U.S. Consumer-Spending Pickup Adds More Juice to Second Quarter \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(5/31/2018 11:08 AM, Katia Dmitrieva)

April's bigger-than-expected gain in U.S. consumer spending put the economy's projected second-quarter rebound on track to be even stronger. Purchases, which account for about 70 percent of the economy, increased 0.6 percent from the prior month, topping forecasts, after a 0.5 percent advance that was more than previously estimated, Commerce Department figures showed Thursday. Adjusted for inflation, consumption had the best two-month advance since 2014.

The report lifted economists' quarterly growth estimates for a second day, following favorable data Wednesday on trade and inventories. With inflation holding at the Federal Reserve's 2 percent target, the figures are also likely to keep the central bank on track to raise borrowing costs in June for the second time this year. At the same time, economists expect growth to cool later in 2018 amid the fading impact of tax cuts, while tariffs and trade tensions also pose risks. Gains in consumer spending were "fairly broad-based in April," said Sal Guatieri, a senior economist at BMO Capital Markets, who increased his projection for second-quarter growth to 3.2 percent from 2.8 percent after Thursday's data. "It's not like we'll see spending drop off a cliff in the second half, but we will see some slowing in consumer spending, largely among lower-income households."

[US consumer spending up 0.6 percent, best in 5 months \(ABC News\)](#)

(5/31/2018 1:35 PM, Martin Crutsinger – Associated Press)

Americans boosted their spending by 0.6 percent in April, the biggest increase in five months and a strong indication that the economy is reviving after a winter slowdown. The Commerce Department said Thursday that last month's increase in consumer spending was the largest increase since a 0.7 percent rise last November. The better-than-expected April gain, which followed a strong 0.5 percent March increase, caused some economists to boost expectations for economic growth, as measured by the gross domestic product, in the April-June quarter.

"The first two months of the year were downers on the consumer spending front, but spending came back to life in March and April despite rising gasoline pump prices," said Chris G. Christopher Jr., senior economist at IHS Market.

[The next U.S. recession likely will be wok-shaped: shallower and longer \(MarketWatch\)](#)

(5/31/2018 10:47 AM, Joachim Fels, Andrew Balls & Daniel J. Ivascyn)

Over the secular horizon, we expect a very different macro landscape to emerge, for better or worse. Already there are important shifts underway: The monetary-fiscal policy mix is changing with central banks retreating and fiscal policy becoming more expansionary, the regulatory discussion is moving from the financial to the tech sector and economic nationalism and protectionism is on the rise. One way the real economy could break out from the post-crisis lull on a sustainable basis is through a significant pickup in productivity growth as the diffusion of new technologies finally accelerates via stronger business investment.

However, stronger potential growth would likely also produce higher real interest rates. Another scenario that could come to pass in (or after) the next recession, which we expect to occur at some point over the next three to five years, is a more extreme populist backlash than seen thus far. This could come in different flavors: radical income and wealth redistribution, more aggressive protectionism, nationalization of key companies or even industries, or attacks on central bank independence.

{End of Report}

From: Rust, Rebecca - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 05:22:41 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: DOL Daily Briefing (6-4-18)
Attachments: DOL Daily Briefing (6-4-18).pdf DOL Daily Briefing (6-4-18).mobi DOL Daily Briefing (6-4-18).docx

From: Kindelan, Megan - BLS

Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 6:16 AM

To: Robertson, Ken - BLS; Horrigan, Michael - BLS; Levi, Michael - BLS; Mousa, Jay - BLS; Mullins, Carol - BLS; Rust, Rebecca - BLS; Wiatrowski, William - BLS; Fieldhouse, Lisa - BLS; Cerritos, Guadalupe - BLS; Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS; Monaco, Kristen - BLS; Eldridge, Lucy - BLS; Hatch, Julie - BLS; Friedman, David - BLS; Edgar, Jennifer - BLS

Subject: FW: DOL Daily Briefing (6-4-18)

From: DOL Daily

Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 6:15:30 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

To: john.prall@techmis.com

Subject: DOL Daily Briefing (6-4-18)



DOL DAILY BRIEFING

U.S. Department of Labor

By TechMIS

www.techmis.com

[Mobile User Copy](#)

TO: U.S. Department of Labor & Staff

DATE: Monday, June 4, 2018 6:00 AM ET

DOL News and Opinion

[American Workers and Businesses Continue to See Gains Under the Trump Economy \(The White House\)](#)

[Unemployment Levels Lowest in 18 Years; President Overseeing a Renaissance in Manufacturing \(The White House\)](#)

DOL News Releases

[Statement by U.S. Secretary of Labor Acosta on the May Jobs Report \(Department of Labor\)](#)

[U.S. Department of Labor Investigation Results in Residential Home Care Company Paying \\$213,461 to 26 Employees \(Department of Labor\)](#)

[U.S. Department of Labor Investigation Results in Federal Judge Ordering Michigan Roofing Contractor to Pay \\$310,000 in Overtime Back Wages, Liquidated Damages to 74 Employees \(Department of Labor\)](#)

[U.S. Department of Labor Conducting Wage Survey of Heavy Construction Projects to Ensure Virginia Workers Receive Proper Wages \(Department of Labor\)](#)

[U.S. 1st Circuit Court of Appeals Orders Maine Roofer to Correct Violations, Implement Safety Measures, and Address \\$389,685 in Fines \(Department of Labor\)](#)

[U.S. Department of Labor Cites New Jersey Renewable Energy Company Following Fatality at New Hampshire Power Plant \(Department of Labor\)](#)

Employment

[We Ran Out of Words to Describe How Good the Jobs Numbers Are \(New York Times\)](#)

[The Jobs Recovery: A Longer View \(New York Times\)](#)

[Monthly U.S. Jobs Report \(Washington Post\)](#)

[U.S. economy continues its hiring spree and is projected to have added 200,000 jobs in May \(Washington Post\)](#)

[The May Jobs Report in 8 Charts \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

[Strong jobs report doesn't guarantee four Fed interest rate hikes this year \(MarketWatch\)](#)

[Solid jobs report shows an economy marching towards full employment \(Economic Policy Institute\)](#)

[The Labor Department reported 223,000 new jobs in May \(Politico\)](#)

[Big mystery of our economy is whether it can keep up on jobs \(The Hill\)](#)

[Breakneck Pace of U.S. Job Gains Will Get Tougher to Sustain \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[This chart shows the types of jobs that are thriving under Trump \(CNBC\)](#)

[Payroll surge: Employers added 223,000 jobs in May \(USA Today\)](#)

[5 Important Takeaways From The Latest Jobs Report \(Houston Public Media\)](#)

[Amid positive jobs numbers, Nancy Pelosi finds the dark lining in the silver cloud \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

[Pelosi Slams Trump on Slow Wage Growth \(Breitbart\)](#)

[Nancy Pelosi Doesn't Think Lower Unemployment, More Jobs Is A Good Thing \(Daily Caller\)](#)

[Pelosi trashes excellent jobs report, good economy \(Hot Air\)](#)

[Pelosi Slams Jobs Report: 'Strong Employment Numbers Mean Little' \(Washington Free Beacon\)](#)

[US unemployment rate ties lowest level in nearly 50 years \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

[Boom — jobs aplenty as economy steams ahead \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

[Blowout jobs report boosts odds of a June rate hike \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

[May jobs report: Job growth surges, bringing unemployment to an 18-year low \(American Enterprise Institute\)](#)

[Jobs are booming, and Democrats are puzzled \(American Enterprise Institute\)](#)

[May Jobs Report: Hiring Spree Continues, Wages Pick Up Steam Too \(Connect Media\)](#)

[Stellar Jobs Report Caps Month of Blockbuster Growth \(Epoch Times\)](#)

[Three Key Numbers From the May Jobs Report \(Pacific Standard\)](#)

[May shows solid growth, with 223,000 jobs created \(Palm Beach Post\)](#)

[U.S. Economy Adds 223,000 Jobs In May, Unemployment Rate Dips To 3.8 Percent \(WBOR-FM 90.9 Boston Public Radio\)](#)

[Trump Breaks Protocol With Jobs Report Tweet Before Data Is Released \(New York Times\)](#)

[Trump's jobs-report tweet broke a protocol designed to prevent giving early hints to investors \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)

[Trump signals jobs data before report's release, breaking with protocol \(The Hill\)](#)

[Big Job Gains Raise Questions About Trump's Pre-Release Tweet \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[What Wall Street Is Saying About Trump's Early Jobs Tweet \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[Economy added 223,000 jobs in May, but Trump's premarket tweet is the focus \(NBC News\)](#)

[Trump hints at strong jobs report ahead of its release \(CNN\)](#)

[Trump tweet on jobs report may have breached a 1985 federal directive \(USA Today\)](#)

[President Trump's early jobs tweet leads to criticism from Obama officials \(USA Today\)](#)

[Here's Why Trump's Tweet About the Jobs Report Was So Risky \(Time\)](#)

[Did Trump Jobs Report Tweet Break the Law? President Slammed for Tipping Off Positive Numbers \(Newsweek\)](#)

[The Outrage Behind Trump's Market-Shaking Tweet \(Atlantic Monthly\)](#)

[White House defends Trump's early hint about the jobs report \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

[Trump's tweet 'looking forward' to jobs report draws criticism from left, right \(Washington Times\)](#)

[Trump Hypes Jobs Report Hour Before It's Released \(New York Magazine\)](#)

[Trump steps on economic good news \(Salon\)](#)

[Trump's tweet teasing jobs report appears to have violated federal law \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

[Trump's wildly inappropriate \(and possibly corrupt\) jobs report tweet, explained \(Vox\)](#)

[Kudlow says Trump's jobs report tweet was totally legal. Other economists disagree. \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

[U.S. economy adds 223,000 jobs, after Trump tweets controversial preview \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

[How Trump's pre-jobs report tweet moved the market \(New York Post\)](#)

[Trump tweet hinting at positive jobs report broke protocol, critics say \(WMUR-TV 9 Manchester\)](#)

[Trump previewing jobs report appears to break protocol: Experts \(KFSN-TV ABC 30 Fresno\)](#)

[The 15 best states for finding a job in 2018 \(Business Insider\)](#)

[Trumpanomics: Good Job Numbers + Terrible Wage Numbers = The Depraved Exploitation Of Workers \(Daily Kos\)](#)

[Nonfarm payrolls increase by 223,000 in May, vs 188,000 estimate \(CNBC\)](#)

[Construction Adds 25,000 Jobs in May \(Metal Construction News\)](#)

[Flashback: Hillary Predicted Trump's Tax Plan Would Destroy Millions of Jobs. It's Doing Precisely the Opposite. \(Town Hall\)](#)

[How many people work for the federal government? 24,000 less now than in Dec. 2016 \(World Tribune\)](#)

[\[NY\] NYT Shell-Shocked By Historic Jobs Numbers: We Ran Out Of Words To Describe How Good It Is \(Town Hall\)](#)

[\[KY\] Truck maker says Washington's political swamp threatens plan to add 250 Kentucky jobs \(Lexington Herald-Leader\)](#)

[\[ND\] Statewide survey to focus on filling jobs \(Bismarck Tribune\)](#)

[\[CA\] How tight is the labor market? Employers flock to hire qualified homeless job applicants \(Sacramento Bee\)](#)

Unemployment

[U.S. gains 223K jobs as unemployment rate falls to 1969 levels \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)

[Unemployment Rate Falls to 18-Year Low; Solid Hiring in May \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

[Unemployment Rate Drops To 3.8 Percent, Lowest Since 2000 \(National Public Radio\)](#)

[U.S. Payrolls Rise 223,000; Jobless Rate Matches 48-Year Low \(Bloomberg\)](#)

[Jobs report beats expectations, unemployment rate falls to 18-year low \(MSN\)](#)

[May jobs report: Unemployment down to 3.8%, payrolls up by 223,000 \(CBS News\)](#)

[Black unemployment news is good but more has to be done for workers: National Urban League \(CNBC\)](#)

[Unemployment rate matches lowest point in half a century \(CNN\)](#)

[Economists React to Strong Jobs Report \(US News & World Report\)](#)

[U.S. job growth accelerates, unemployment rate drops to 3.8 percent \(Reuters\)](#)

[Unemployment Continues To Fall Below April's Record Rates \(Benzinga\)](#)

[US unemployment falls to 3.8% in May, lowest in 18 years \(Breitbart\)](#)

[U.S. adds 223,000 jobs in May; unemployment lowest since 1969 \(Breitbart\)](#)

[May Jobs Numbers: Black Unemployment Rate Hits Record Low \(Breitbart\)](#)

[Unemployment is about as low as it gets \(Crain's Chicago Business\)](#)

[223,000 Jobs Added In May, Unemployment Falls To 3.8 Percent \(Daily Caller\)](#)

[Black Unemployment Plunges To Record Low, Gap Between White, Black Unemployment Smallest In History \(Daily Caller\)](#)

[Record Wage Increases, Record-Low Unemployment \(The Patriot Post\)](#)

[U.S. unemployment rate lowest in 18 years \(Ponte al Dia\)](#)

[The gap between black unemployment and white unemployment is now the smallest in history \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

[Record-low jobless rates for black Americans and Asians \(Minneapolis/St.Paul Star-Tribune\)](#)

[\[VT\] Vermont coffee company lays off 35 mostly in manufacturing \(Belleville News-Democrat\)](#)

[\[RI\] Amazon's distributor leaving R.I. for Hartford; 149 layoffs \(WWLP-TV 22 Chicopee\)](#)

[\[WA\] After Georgia-Pacific cut up to 300 employees, workers trying to find footing \(Vancouver Columbian\)](#)

Apprenticeship

[\[RI\] Apprenticeship teaches the ins and outs of fishing \(Narragansett Times\)](#)

[\[NY\] NY to give \\$3M for state's workforce needs \(Long Island Business News\)](#)

[\[PA\] 57 craftsmen graduate from ABC Keystone Chapter's apprenticeship program \(Lancaster Online\)](#)

[\[TX\] Climbing the Ladder: Put in the time to make plumbing pay off \(San Angelo Standard-Times\)](#)

Labor

[US manufacturing picks up pace in May \(New York Times\)](#)

[Trump breaks protocol to tout jobs report \(The Hill\)](#)

[If Robots Steal Our Jobs, Maybe We Should Make Them Pay Tax \(Huffington Post\)](#)

[As the US population ages, the need for home health-care workers skyrockets \(CNBC\)](#)

[The US economy needs seniors to work longer. Here's how to make that happen \(CNN\)](#)

[The Death of a Gig Worker \(Atlantic Monthly\)](#)

[Let the Labor Market Continue to Tighten \(National Review\)](#)

[The US is having a hard time keeping teachers in their jobs \(Quartz\)](#)

[AI, automation, and the future of work: Ten things to solve for \(McKinsey & Company\)](#)

[In Market: Heigh-ho, heigh-ho, it's off to co-work we go \(Fort Worth Business Press\)](#)

[Fannie, Freddie want to make mortgages easier for gig-economy workers \(Worcester Telegram\)](#)

[Report: Americans are finding work, but the better paying jobs require a college degree \(Miami Herald\)](#)

[This jobs program just might get people back to work \(Seattle Times\)](#)

[\[PA\] Pa. can build on apprenticeships, skills training and STEM education progress \(PennLive\)](#)

[\[PA\] Ready? Set? Work \(TheNoteBook\)](#)

[\[PA\] The 'Help Wanted' sign is out for those needing jobs \(Johnstown Tribune-Democrat\)](#)

[\[NJ\] STEM program will boost NJ's economy \(Burlington County Times\)](#)

[\[MD\] Emergency call-takers, dispatchers overcome staffing challenges, stressful work \(Frederick News-Post\)](#)

[\[NC\] Goodwill Partners With Charlotte, N.C. Agencies to Open Construction Skills Training Center \(Builder\)](#)

[\[NC\] Skills gap creates opportunities in cyber security \(Spectrum News\)](#)

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[\[FL\] Florida Approves Second Workers' Comp Rate Decrease in Six Months \(South Florida Hospital News\)](#)

[\[CA\] Report: California Workers' Comp Direct Written Premiums Fell \(Insurance Journal\)](#)

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[\[MI\] Roofing and siding company to pay \\$310,000 in back overtime wages and damages \(Bay City Times\)](#)

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[\[TX\] Texans Cheerleaders Sue Over Unpaid Minimum Wages In 'Hostile' Work Setting \(Huffington Post\)](#)

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[\[NV\] Partial resolution reached in Vegas as strike talks continue \(CNBC\)](#)

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[nTIDE May 2018 Jobs Report: Despite Fewer Looking for Work, Gains Continue for Americans with Disabilities \(Benzinga\)](#)

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[\[PA\] Helping young adults with disabilities take the next step \[editorial\] \(Lancaster Online\)](#)

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[Got FMLA Forms? Visit DOL.gov for Updated Expiration Date on Model Notices \(HR Daily Advisor\)](#)

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[Trump Wanted a Trade War. Here's What One Looks Like \(Washington Post\)](#)

[Trump thinks he's saving trade. The rest of the world thinks he's blowing it up. \(Washington Post\)](#)

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[It's time for free-trading Republicans to stand up to Trump on tariffs — and for Democrats to stand with them \(Business Insider\)](#)

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[Nice recovery you've got there. It'd be a shame if something should happen to it. \(Washington Post\)](#)

[Countries investing more in social programs have less child poverty \(Economic Policy Institute\)](#)

['Experts' Told The American People President Trump Would Tank The Economy. That Didn't Happen \(Daily Caller\)](#)

[America Doesn't Measure the Difference Between Good Jobs and Bad Jobs \(Medium\)](#)

Editorial Note: This Brief represents summarized content - click on the hyperlink to access full-text articles for these news summaries.

DOL News and Opinion

[American Workers and Businesses Continue to See Gains Under the Trump Economy \(The White House\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:58 AM, The White House)

The United States economy added 223,000 jobs in May, one of many recent indicators showing that President Donald J. Trump's economic policies are paying dividends for American workers and businesses.

"U.S. hiring rose more than forecast in May, wages picked up and the unemployment rate matched the lowest in almost five decades, indicating the strong labor market will keep powering economic growth. Payrolls increased 223,000 following a revised 159,000 gain, Labor Department figures showed Friday. The median estimate of analysts surveyed by Bloomberg called for 190,000 jobs. Average hourly earnings increased 2.7 percent from a year earlier, more than projected, while the jobless rate fell to 3.8 percent from 3.9 percent to match April 2000 as the lowest since 1969."

[Unemployment Levels Lowest in 18 Years; President Overseeing a Renaissance in Manufacturing \(The White House\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:28 AM, Staff)

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) released its monthly Employment Situation Report showing that nonfarm payroll employment rose by 223,000 jobs in May, exceeding what forecasters expected. The U.S. economy continues its streak of consecutive positive monthly job numbers, with employment growth averaging 207,000 jobs per month in 2018—faster than the gains in both 2016 and 2017. The economy has added nearly 3 million jobs since President Donald J. Trump took office.

A separate Household Survey released by BLS offers more indications of a strong, growing U.S. economy. The unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage point (p.p.) over the month to 3.8 percent, a full 1.0 p.p. decrease since January 2017. This is the lowest unemployment rate in more than 18 years, and its benefits are being felt broadly across America. The unemployment rate for African Americans has reached another historic low, reaching 5.9 percent in May. The unemployment rate for Asians declined by 0.7 p.p. to 2.1 percent in May, the lowest rate since BLS began publishing this series in 2003.

DOL News Releases

[Statement by U.S. Secretary of Labor Acosta on the May Jobs Report \(Department of Labor\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, OSEC)

U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta issued the following statement regarding the May 2018 Employment Situation report:

"With the unemployment rate falling to 3.8% in May, the lowest in over 18 years, America's job market remains strong. The unemployment rates for African-Americans and Asian-Americans reached record lows. Adult women and adult men recorded the lowest unemployment rates since 2000, at 3.3% and 3.5% respectively. With 223,000 jobs created in May, America's job creators have now added over 3.4 million jobs since President Trump's election. That job increase includes more than a million jobs since the President signed his tax cuts package into law five months ago. Wages continue to rise, although we want to see even more growth. As the President works to ensure all Americans can access good, family-sustaining jobs, we hope to see even more Americans join the labor force."

[U.S. Department of Labor Investigation Results in Residential Home Care Company Paying \\$213,461 to 26 Employees \(Department of Labor\)](#)
(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, WHD)

Ecos Homecare Inc., owners of three Washington State residential home-care facilities, will pay \$213,461 to 26 employees after a U.S. Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division (WHD) investigation found overtime and recordkeeping violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).

WHD investigators found that Ecos Homecare Inc.'s facilities in Brier, Edmonds, and Shoreline failed to pay employees overtime when they worked more than 40 hours in a week. Instead, the employer paid workers flat rates per day, without regard to the number of hours they had actually worked. This practice also resulted in recordkeeping violations under the FLSA when the employer failed to record the actual number of hours employees worked. "We encourage all employers to review their pay practices and to contact the Wage and Hour Division for assistance. Doing so helps to ensure that all employees are paid the wages they have legally earned and that employers operate on a level playing field," said Jeanette Aranda, Wage and Hour Division District Director in Seattle.

[U.S. Department of Labor Investigation Results in Federal Judge Ordering Michigan Roofing Contractor to Pay \\$310,000 in Overtime Back Wages, Liquidated Damages to 74 Employees \(Department of Labor\)](#)
(6/2/2018 12:00 PM, WHD)

Michigan roofing and siding contractor American Classic Construction Inc. will pay \$310,000 in back overtime wages and liquidated damages to 74 employees following an investigation by the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) in Grand Rapids that found the employer had violated overtime and recordkeeping requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). WHD investigators determined American Classic Construction Inc. and company owners – Nathan Thompson, Jacob Thompson and Leon Thompson – misclassified employees as independent contractors, and subsequently failed to pay them overtime at time-and-one-half their regular rates of pay when they worked beyond 40 hours in a workweek. The company also failed to maintain accurate records of the number of hours employees worked.

"Employers must understand their obligations under the law. Simply because a pay practice may appear to be common in a particular industry does not, in any way, mean that it complies with the law," said Mary O'Rourke, Wage and Hour Division District Director in Grand Rapids. "We encourage employers to contact the Wage and Hour Division for assistance, and to make use of the many tools we provide to help them understand the law." In addition to paying the back wages and damages due, under terms of the consent judgment entered in the U.S. District Court for Western District of Michigan, American Classic Construction Inc. and its owners agreed to an injunction against violating the FLSA's overtime and record-keeping provisions in the future.

[U.S. Department of Labor Conducting Wage Survey of Heavy Construction Projects to Ensure Virginia Workers Receive Proper Wages \(Department of Labor\)](#)
(6/2/2018 12:00 PM, WHD)

In an effort to help establish prevailing wage rates, the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) is conducting a survey of heavy construction projects in Virginia to collect data on wages paid to workers, as required under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts. The survey includes wages paid on all heavy construction projects that occurred in Virginia between March 1, 2017, and February 28, 2018. The survey is not limited to federally funded construction projects. "Davis-Bacon prevailing wage rates should reflect the actual wages and fringe benefits paid to construction workers where the work takes place," said Mark Watson, Wage and Hour Division Regional Administrator. "The U.S. Department of Labor can only accomplish this with strong participation by employers in the Virginia construction industry."

Without significant employer participation, wage rates may not reflect actual wages or create incomplete wage determinations, which lead to requests for further classifications. Wage data should be submitted for all projects meeting the criteria, regardless of funding sources. Notification letters and data collection forms, known as WD-10s, are being sent to interested parties and contractors known to WHD. Data must be postmarked by Nov. 30, 2018, to be included.

[U.S. 1st Circuit Court of Appeals Orders Maine Roofer to Correct Violations, Implement Safety Measures, and Address \\$389,685 in Fines \(Department of Labor\)](#)
(6/2/2018 12:00 PM, OSHA)

After multiple investigations by the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 1st Circuit ordered a Maine roofing contractor who has operated as Lessard Roofing & Siding Inc. and Lessard Brothers Construction Inc. to implement a comprehensive safety and training program after receiving repeated citations for exposing workers to falls. The owner, Stephen Lessard, was also ordered to produce substantial documentation that will demonstrate the extent to which he is able to pay \$389,685 in outstanding fines issued by OSHA.

OSHA cited Lessard Roofing & Siding Inc. and Lessard Brothers Construction Inc. for safety violations at 11 different work sites in Maine between 2000 and 2011. Stephen Lessard failed to correct the cited violations, implement appropriate safety measures, and pay accumulated fines and interest, despite being ordered to do so by the 1st Circuit in December 2011. The Court held the owner in civil contempt for defying the 2011

order. “The 1st Circuit’s order requires Lessard to ensure that all workers at his worksites, whether his employees, employees of his subcontractors, or actual or putative independent contractors, are operating safely, after a long history of his failing to provide adequate protective measures,” said Michael Felsen, Regional Solicitor of Labor in Boston. “When necessary, as in this case, the U.S. Department of Labor will pursue appropriate measures so that employers do not flout the law or gain an unfair advantage over law-abiding employers.”

“An employer that refuses to provide effective fall safety programs, training, and safety equipment needlessly exposes its employees to deadly or disabling injuries,” said Maryann Medeiros, OSHA’s Maine Area Director. The Court also ordered Lessard to ensure that employees and contractors use required safety equipment and fall protection; conduct worksite safety analyses and meetings; employ a “competent person” to ensure work is performed according to OSHA regulations; notify OSHA about each worksite, and allow inspectors to enter these sites; and provide financial documentation to enable the Department to determine the owner’s ability to pay the fines; submit certification of abatement of the previously cited hazards, and comply with OSHA standards.

In particular, the safety program must include recognition and acceptance of responsibility as an employer, general contractor or supervisory contractor to ensure that all their employees, independent contractors or subcontractors use all appropriate safety equipment and fall protection apparatus and follow appropriate procedures. If the owner fails to comply with the order, the court will consider additional sanctions up to and including incarceration. Senior Trial Attorney Maureen Canavan of the Department’s Regional Office of the Solicitor in Boston and Senior Attorney Lisa Wilson of the Department’s Occupational Safety and Health Division in Washington, D.C., litigated on behalf of OSHA.

[U.S. Department of Labor Cites New Jersey Renewable Energy Company Following Fatality at New Hampshire Power Plant \(Department of Labor\)](#)

(6/2/2018 12:00 PM, OSHA)

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) cited EWP Renewable Corp., doing business as Springfield Power LLC, for 25 safety violations after an employee suffered fatal injuries after he was pulled into a conveyor at the company’s Springfield plant in November 2017. The Mount Laurel, New Jersey, company faces \$125,460 in proposed penalties. OSHA inspectors found that the conveyor and other machinery lacked required safety guarding, and employees were not trained in lockout/tagout procedures to prevent equipment from unintentionally starting. OSHA also cited Springfield Power for fall hazards; electric shock and arc flash hazards; and lack of adequate emergency evacuation, fire prevention; and hazardous energy control programs.

“This employer’s failure to protect employees resulted in a tragedy that could have been prevented if training was provided and machinery was appropriately guarded,” said Rosemarie O. Cole, OSHA New Hampshire Area Director. The company has 15 business days from receipt of its citations and proposed penalties to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA’s area director, or contest the findings before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

Employment

[We Ran Out of Words to Describe How Good the Jobs Numbers Are \(New York Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:00 AM, Neil Irwin)

The real question in analyzing the May jobs numbers released Friday is whether there are enough synonyms for “good” in an online thesaurus to describe them adequately. So, for example, “splendid” and “excellent” fit the bill. Those are the kinds of terms that are appropriate when the United States economy adds 223,000 jobs in a month, despite being nine years into an expansion, and when the unemployment rate falls to 3.8 percent, a new 18-year low.

“Salubrious,” “salutary” and “healthy” work as words to describe the 0.3 percent rise in average hourly earnings, which are up 2.7 percent over the last year — a nice improvement but also not the kind of sharp increase that might lead the Federal Reserve to rethink its cautious path of interest rate increases. And a broader definition of unemployment, which includes people who have given up looking for a job out of frustration, fell to 7.6 percent. The jobless rate for African-Americans fell to 5.9 percent, the lowest on record, which we would count as “great.”

[The Jobs Recovery: A Longer View \(New York Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:48 PM, Ben Casselman)

Friday’s jobs report was a blockbuster: Job growth rebounded after a recent dip, and the unemployment rate fell to a nearly two-decade low. But it’s worth taking a step back and putting the latest numbers in some longer-run context. The United States lost nearly 8.7 million jobs in the Great Recession and its aftermath. It has gained 18.9 million since then — a powerful rebound that belied fears of another “jobless recovery.” (Net growth was needed just to keep pace with the working-age population, which has increased by about 10 million during the same period.)

Politicians, investors and, yes, journalists love to obsess over the month-to-month swings in the job numbers. But the true story of the recovery is one of remarkable consistency. American employers have added jobs for 92 straight months — far and away the longest streak on record — and

apart from a few blips, the gains have been steady.

[Monthly U.S. Jobs Report \(Washington Post\)](#)

(6/2/2018 11:34 AM, Jeanna Smialek)

The first Friday of most months brings a new chapter in the U.S. government's running chronicle of economic health: The monthly jobs report. It's a list of numbers that calls forth so many widely varying responses that it can seem like a nerd's Rorschach test. Stock and bond markets gyrate in response to it. Central bankers parse it for policymaking guidance. In many months, different parts of the data seem to support contradictory points of view. President Donald Trump, who once questioned whether its numbers are accurate, has taken to tweeting positively about them. To understand the statistics it helps to know why and how each number is compiled. But even then it may be useful to keep more than a few grains of salt handy when you hear huge conclusions being drawn.

The number of people filing for unemployment benefits has declined to the lowest level in more than four decades. Private employers have added jobs for seven straight years. The share of people working part-time rather than full-time for economic reasons has fallen. Even the participation rate, the measure of those working or looking for jobs, has been stable after falling to lows not seen since the 1970s. Wages, long dormant, are finally heading up.

[U.S. economy continues its hiring spree and is projected to have added 200,000 jobs in May \(Washington Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:27 PM, Heather Long)

The United States has gained 95,000 manufacturing jobs and 110,000 construction jobs from the start of the year through May. Hiring in manufacturing is off to the best start this year since 2011. There was celebrating in Granite City, Ill., in May as about 500 jobs came back when the U.S. Steel plant there, known as Granite City Works, reopened. The company says it brought the workers back because Trump's steel tariffs helped bump up demand for domestic steel.

"We're finally seeing steady growth in blue collar work, but the problem is it's not accompanied by strong wage growth," said Heidi Shierholz, director of policy at the Economic Policy Institute and a former chief economist at the Labor Department. While some steel and aluminum jobs have returned after the tariffs went into effect, there are concerns that jobs may be lost in industries like autos that have to pay higher prices for the metals.

[The May Jobs Report in 8 Charts \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:44 AM, Josh Zumbrun)

The U.S. unemployment rate ticked down to 3.8%, the lowest reading since April 2000, and employers added 223,000 jobs in May.

Broader measures of unemployment and underemployment, including discouraged workers who have stopped job hunting, as well as part-time employees who would like full-time work, also moved down the past month. All four alternative measures of joblessness are at their lowest level since the recession. Wage growth picked up in May for both weekly and hourly wages. Both measures are near, but not quite at, their fastest pace in recent years. Over the past year, the number of jobs increased by 1.6%, a rising pace from a few months ago but slower than in 2015.

[Editorial note: See charts at source link]

[Strong jobs report doesn't guarantee four Fed interest rate hikes this year \(MarketWatch\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:43 PM, Greg Robb)

The May employment report was seen as strong across the board and certainly prompts the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates in 12 days, but it doesn't settle the larger debate over whether there will be three or four total moves this year. "It certainly gives them the green light to go in June," said Scott Anderson, chief economist at Bank of the West in San Francisco. "And it raises the odds they go four rather than three this year,"

Traders in the fed futures market raised the odds of four rate hikes to 38% after the jobs report. In the wake of the market turmoil over the political situation in Italy, those odds had fallen below 20%.

[Solid jobs report shows an economy marching towards full employment \(Economic Policy Institute\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:00 AM, Elise Gould)

This morning's employment situation report showed the economy added 223,000 jobs in May—above consensus predictions and enough to continue the economy's steady march towards full employment. The report also shows that the unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent. In April, the unemployment rate dropped below 4.0 percent for the first time since 2000, but for the "wrong" reasons—because people left the labor force, not because they found work. Meanwhile, in May, more people found jobs at the same time that the labor force participation rate ticked down slightly. About two-thirds of the drop in the unemployment rate in May was because workers found jobs, while about one-third of the drop was from people leaving the labor force.

Wages, meanwhile, grew 2.7 percent over the past year. Year-over-year nominal wage growth has been remarkably flat since the end of 2015—

hovering around 2.6 percent and never getting above 2.8 percent. In a full employment economy, we would see wages rising much faster—closer to 3.5 percent and above—to claw back the losses to labor share in the aftermath of the Great Recession. While economists and commentators have myriad explanations for why wage growth is so sluggish, it seems obvious that, with many workers still unemployed or sitting on the sidelines, employers just don't have any incentive to raise wages.

[The Labor Department reported 223,000 new jobs in May \(Politico\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:07 AM, Andrew Hanna)

U.S. job growth surged in May, in a possible signal that last year's tax cuts are finally creating new jobs. The Labor Department reported 223,000 new jobs in May, and unemployment dropped to 3.8 percent, its lowest in 18 years. But wage growth remained a sluggish 2.7 percent over the previous year, up from 2.6 percent in April, indicating that the tight labor market remains insufficient to deliver a significant pay boost for most workers.

President Donald Trump appeared to preview the unexpectedly high job growth in a morning tweet posted an hour before the number was made public by the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," he tweeted at 7:21 a.m.

[Big mystery of our economy is whether it can keep up on jobs \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:00 PM, Joseph Minarik)

The simmering question is when the straight line of the unemployment rate will bend this time around. It didn't bend this month. The unemployment rate declined to 3.8 percent. It has been flat or declining in 84 of the 103 months since it topped out at 10 percent in October 2009. Defying history, it has shown no signs of flattening out even as it has plumbed historic lows, falling 1 percent since January 2017. When, and how, will this straight line recognize that it cannot continue downward forever? Two indicators tell the same story. The best outcome on several scores would be if the many adult Americans who became discouraged and idle in the financial crisis would jump up from the sidelines of the labor market and get back on the playing field, looking for jobs. The labor force participation rate dropped from about 66 percent at the start of the financial crisis to about 63 percent by 2013.

More Americans rejoining the job market could allow the economy to grow even if the unemployment rate remained constant. No such luck. The labor force participation rate remains stuck below 63 percent. Part of the story must be the aging of the U.S. population. The growing numbers of seniors are not likely to seek to go back to work.

[Breakneck Pace of U.S. Job Gains Will Get Tougher to Sustain \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:31 AM, Sho Chandra)

Employers added 223,000 jobs last month, more than forecast and bringing payroll gains for the year to 1.04 million, Labor Department figures showed Friday. The jobless rate fell to 3.8 percent to match April 2000 as the lowest since 1969, moving further below the 4.5 percent Federal Reserve officials see as sustainable in the long run. Average hourly earnings increased a larger-than-projected 2.7 percent from a year earlier.

The robust pace of hiring comes amid what employers frequently cite as a shortage of qualified, available workers to fill positions as demand accelerates, with a gauge of U.S. factory backlogs at a 14-year high. Some analysts said that while the report signals job growth may eventually ease, it also bodes well for worker pay -- the weak spot so far in an otherwise bright employment picture -- and poses a potential source of upward pressure on labor costs and inflation.

[This chart shows the types of jobs that are thriving under Trump \(CNBC\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:49 PM, Thomas Franck)

One of President Donald Trump's top priorities has been creating new jobs in the United States. CNBC analyzed the cumulative job growth in each industry since the president's November 2016 election to help gauge which industries are growing at the fastest pace. At the top of the list, jobs in the mining and logging industry are up 13.5 percent since the election, well above the gains in construction and transportation, which made second and third place, respectively. To be sure, job growth in oil and gas extraction — which are included in the category — typically provide a boost to the headline number.

In the No. 2 spot, the construction industry is one of the hottest in the American economy in terms of employment and has been explicitly cited by the Bureau of Labor Statistics as an area of better-than-average growth. While explanations for the growth range from increased capital investments from the private sector to a swell in oil rig building, the number of workers in the construction industry has grown nearly 6 percent since Trump's victory. Employment in construction and extraction occupations is expected to grow 11 percent from 2016 to 2026, according to the Labor Department.

[Payroll surge: Employers added 223,000 jobs in May \(USA Today\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:53 PM, Paul Davidson)

U.S. hiring rebounded in May after two months of lackluster gains as employers added 223,000 jobs and the labor market continued to defy widespread worker shortages and global economic troubles. The unemployment rate fell from 3.9% to 3.8%, an 18-year low, the Labor Department said Friday. Economists surveyed by Bloomberg expected 190,000 job gains.

President Trump suggested the report would be strong early Friday. At 7:21 a.m., he tweeted, "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning." Normally a president doesn't foreshadow the totals so as not to affect financial markets.

[5 Important Takeaways From The Latest Jobs Report \(Houston Public Media\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:55 PM, Staff)

The U.S. economy added more jobs than expected in May and the unemployment rate dropped slightly to 3.8 percent, remaining at its lowest level in decades. The economy added 223,000 new jobs, according to data released Friday by the Labor Department, a significantly higher number than the 190,000 new jobs analysts had predicted in a recent Bloomberg survey. Here are the top takeaways from the May jobs report:

1. Growth across sectors: Employers added jobs in multiple key sectors, including health care, construction, transportation and manufacturing.
2. Unemployment rate ticks down: The unemployment was 3.8 percent, down from 3.9 percent in May.
3. 'Mismatched on the ground' The unchanged labor participation rate is a reminder that many Americans who want work remain discouraged and are not searching for jobs, Cathy Barrera, the chief economist at the online job marketplace ZipRecruiter, wrote in an email.
4. Wage growth poised for takeoff? Average hourly earnings increased by 8 cents.
5. Interest rates hikes coming: The Federal Reserve will likely raise the benchmark interest rate at its meeting later this month, and is expected to raise rates at least once more later this year.

[Amid positive jobs numbers, Nancy Pelosi finds the dark lining in the silver cloud \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:20 PM, Becket Adams)

Americans woke up Friday to more good economic news. The U.S. economy added 223,000 jobs in May, pushing the unemployment rate to an 18-year low of just 3.8 percent. The number of businesses that reported gains surpassed initial estimates, and construction spending was up. Wages were up modestly (2.7 percent), and black employment was at its lowest level in history. In other words, pretty good. So good, in fact, that CNBC published an article Friday titled, "The US economy suddenly looks like it's unstoppable."

Enter House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., who tried her best Friday to find the downside to the Labor Department's figures. "May's jobs report shows that strong employment numbers mean little to the families hit with soaring new costs under the Republicans' watch," the California congresswoman said in a statement. "Republicans' cruel, cynical health care sabotage campaign is already spiking families' premiums by double digits and pushing millions off their coverage. Big Pharma continues to hoard the benefits of the GOP tax scam, using their handouts to further enrich executives and shareholders instead of lowering prescription drug costs for seniors and sick kids. At the same time, the President's reckless policies are exploding gas prices, wiping out the few meager gains that some families should have received from the GOP tax scam, as wages remain stagnant."

[Pelosi Slams Trump on Slow Wage Growth \(Breitbart\)](#)

(6/2/2018 2:58 PM, Neil Munro)

Democratic leader Rep. Nancy Pelosi is hitting President Donald Trump in a soft spot — the slow growth of Americans' wages in a go-go economy. "The President's reckless policies are ... wiping out the few meager gains that some families should have received from the GOP tax scam, as wages remain stagnant," Pelosi said in a statement after May's good-news jobs numbers were posted on Friday.

"Wall Street and wealthy corporations are refusing to raise workers' wages," even while they are "on track to spend \$1 trillion on dividends and stock buybacks while simultaneously announcing tens of thousands of layoffs and shipping jobs overseas," she said. Wages are rising, but at a remarkably slow rate given the low unemployment number. Normal unemployment fell to a record-breaking 3.8 percent in May, yet wages rose by a mere 0.3 percent. Trump has mentioned rising wages on a few occasions, but more often has showcased the rising number of jobs, regardless of wages. Many economists argue wages are rising slowly because millions of Americans are unemployed - yet are not recorded in the federal unemployment rolls.

[Nancy Pelosi Doesn't Think Lower Unemployment, More Jobs Is A Good Thing \(Daily Caller\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:48 PM, Robert Donachie)

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi doesn't think Friday's stellar jobs report is a good thing, because it happened under Republican control of

the White House and Congress. "May's jobs report shows that strong employment numbers mean little to the families hit with soaring new costs under the Republicans' watch," Pelosi wrote in a statement to supporters Friday. Friday's jobs report showed the U.S. gained 223,000 new non-farm employment jobs in April and saw a drop in key unemployment figures.

Pelosi wants voters to focus on the Republicans' campaign to repeal Obamacare and tax cuts. She doesn't want voters to think the tax bill was a net-positive, which is in-line with her "crumbs" comment following the bill's passage. "Republicans' cruel, cynical health care sabotage campaign is already spiking families' premiums by double digits and pushing millions off their coverage, according to the nonpartisan CBO. Big Pharma continues to hoard the benefits of the GOP tax scam, using their handouts to further enrich executives and shareholders instead of lowering prescription drug costs for seniors and sick kids," Pelosi wrote.

[Pelosi trashes excellent jobs report, good economy \(Hot Air\)](#)

(6/3/2018 2:01 PM, Karen Townsend)

May's jobs report released Friday was really good, according to most people who keep track of the monthly reports. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, however, is not happy and she wants her supporters to know. Friday she wrote a statement to supporters and expects them to not believe their own eyes. "May's jobs report shows that strong employment numbers mean little to the families hit with soaring new costs under the Republicans' watch," Pelosi wrote in a statement to supporters Friday. Democrats know that the American people deserve A Better Deal, with Better Jobs, Better Wages and a Better Future. We are committed to creating millions of new good-paying jobs and raising wages, lowering the soaring cost of living for families and giving every American the tools to succeed in the 21st Century economy," Pelosi wrote. "Democrats will never stop fighting for the hard-working middle class families who are the backbone of our nation."

Her latest slogan sounds just like what is already being accomplished by the Trump administration. Thanks to the Republican tax cuts, major tax code reform, and regulations being brought in check, the economy is on fire. Almost immediately upon President Trump signing the tax code reform bill that cut the corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%, companies large and small began announcing employee bonuses, wage increases, and increased hiring, too.

[Pelosi Slams Jobs Report: 'Strong Employment Numbers Mean Little' \(Washington Free Beacon\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:40 AM, David Rutz)

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D., Calif.) came down hard on a positive U.S. jobs report on Friday, saying the good employment numbers didn't matter to "families hit with soaring new costs" under Republican leadership. The economy added 223,000 jobs in May, the unemployment rate dropped to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent, and average hourly earnings rose 0.3 percent. It was that last number, though, that drew Pelosi's ire. "May's jobs report shows that strong employment numbers mean little to the families hit with soaring new costs under the Republicans' watch," Pelosi said in a statement.

"Republicans' cruel, cynical health care sabotage campaign is already spiking families' premiums by double digits and pushing millions off their coverage, according to the nonpartisan CBO," she went on. "Big Pharma continues to hoard the benefits of the GOP tax scam, using their handouts to further enrich executives and shareholders instead of lowering prescription drug costs for seniors and sick kids. At the same time, the President's reckless policies are exploding gas prices, wiping out the few meager gains that some families should have received from the GOP tax scam, as wages remain stagnant."

[US unemployment rate ties lowest level in nearly 50 years \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:32 AM, Pete Kasperowicz)

The U.S. economy added 223,000 jobs in May, smashing expectations and driving down the unemployment rate to 3.8 percent — matching its lowest level in nearly 50 years. Going into the Friday report from the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics, economists had expected a 190,000 increase in jobs.

The 3.8 percent national unemployment rate, which fell from 3.9 percent, ties the rate in April 2000, at the peak of the tech boom. Before that, one has to go back to Dec. 1969 to find a month when the unemployment rate was lower.

[Boom — jobs aplenty as economy steams ahead \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:00 AM, Staff)

Even the New York Times, no fan of the president, decided that "splendid" and "excellent" were appropriate adjectives to describe Friday's jobs report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These showed the nationwide unemployment rate falling to 3.8 percent. The unemployment rate among black people fell to 5.9 percent, an all-time low, which makes one wonder how many African-American voters might think twice about voting against the incumbent Republicans in the midterm elections. The Hispanic or Latino unemployment rate ticked up a tenth of a point, but remains below 5 percent.

The good news is not confined to the fact that there is an abundance of jobs. For the first time since the National Federation of Independent

Business began surveying about wages in 1986, 35 percent of small business owners increased compensation last month. While some Democrats still claim the growth is due to the economic genius of former President Barack Obama, much of the credit belongs to Trump and the Republican Congress.

[Blowout jobs report boosts odds of a June rate hike \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:02 PM, James Langford)

Employers added 223,000 jobs in May, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, faster growth than the previous month and higher than economists' average forecast of 190,000 jobs. The jobless rate, meanwhile, dipped to 3.8 percent, the lowest since the last year of Bill Clinton's presidency. The numbers are "consistent with the Fed's optimistic view on the U.S. economy" and support a 25 basis-point increase this month, said Michael Gapen, an economist with British lender Barclays. Members of the Fed's monetary policy committee, which sets rates, have signaled three to four increases this year – which would move interest as high as 2.25 to 2.5 percent.

"Borrowers and investors, among others, should prepare for the possibility of a total of at least three," said Mark Hamrick, senior economic analyst for Bankrate. "That means paying down debt and being aware that the stock market will likely remain volatile." Indeed, U.S. stocks reached record highs earlier this year before retreating amid concern about rising interest rates and trade conflicts ignited by President Trump's protectionist policies.

[May jobs report: Job growth surges, bringing unemployment to an 18-year low \(American Enterprise Institute\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:00 AM, Staff)

The US economy added 223,000 jobs in May, up from 159,000 in April. The unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent, and average private-sector hourly earnings increased 2.7 percent over the previous year. AEI experts are available to comment on the current state of the US labor market.

[Jobs are booming, and Democrats are puzzled \(American Enterprise Institute\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:39 PM, James Pethokoukis)

Is it overstating things to say the US economy is, well, booming? After all, the May jobs report was pretty impressive, including a) 223,000 new jobs, b) an uptick in average hourly earnings growth to 2.7% from a year ago, c) a downtick in the jobless rate to 3.8% — at 3.755% unrounded, the lowest since 1969 — and d) a two-tenths decline in the U6 underemployment to 7.6% — its lowest level since 2001.

JPMorgan economist Michael Feroli titled his Jobs Friday report this way (while alluding to President Trump's controversial pre-report tweet): "The secret's out: job growth is booming." And some economists think a jobless rate with a 2-handle is hardly out of the question. "... workers still are not seeing the broad-based gains we expect from an economy that has been growing the top line for such a long time. It's positive news that more Americans continue to find work; it's troubling that we're seeing fairly meager gains for those already employed. It's tempting to read this month as another data point in an economy that continues to work primarily for those at the top."

[May Jobs Report: Hiring Spree Continues. Wages Pick Up Steam Too \(Connect Media\)](#)

(6/4/2018 3:10 AM, Staff)

U.S. companies continued on a hiring spree that added 223,000 jobs to the U.S. economy in May, according to the Labor Department's monthly jobs report. Those strong numbers unexpectedly pushed the unemployment rate even lower, to 3.8%, the lowest level it has been since 2000. The low unemployment rate indicates there's a growing shortage of available labor, and employers are being forced to explore new groups of workers, such as those without high school diplomas. The drop also shows just how tough it has been to pull Americans back into the workforce and retain them, as reflected in a labor-force participation rate that slipped to 62.7% from 62.8% in April.

Employment continued to trend up in several industries, including retail trade, healthcare and construction. Wages are picking up steam too, though aren't growing by much. May's hourly earnings growth of 2.7% was better than economists forecasted.

[Stellar Jobs Report Caps Month of Blockbuster Growth \(Epoch Times\)](#)

(6/3/2018 8:00 PM, Ivan Pentchoukov)

The United States economy added 223,000 new jobs in May, according to a Bureau of Labor statistics report punctuated with several record-shattering statistics, the latest in a month filled with indicators of blockbuster economic growth. The number of job openings reached an all-time high, as did the number of small companies raising wages. Consumer confidence reached an 18-year high, while consumer spending grew to the best level in five months. Industrial production recorded its third straight month of gains, while more than three out of four manufacturers reported hiring more workers and investing more in plants and equipment. With these and a number of other indicators, it's no surprise that the Federal Reserve revised its GDP growth estimate to 4.8 percent, up from 3.9 percent at the beginning of the month. The growth rate over the past four quarters averaged 2.9 percent, better than any of the eight years of the previous administration. The United States is now the most competitive economy in the world, according to annual rankings by the World Competitiveness Center.

Unemployment figures for May again shattered multiple records as hundreds of thousands of Americans found jobs in the growing market. Unemployment dropped to 3.8 percent, the lowest level since 1969, while the economy added 223,000 jobs, beating expectations by more than

17 percent, according to Goldman Sachs. Black unemployment fell to 5.9 percent from an already record-low 6.6 percent in April. Female unemployment inched down to 3.6 percent, the lowest since 1953. Asian unemployment fell to 2.1 percent, also a record, though the Bureau of Labor Statistics has only been tracking these figures since 2003. Hispanic unemployment inched up to 4.9 percent, still hovering around historic lows.

[Three Key Numbers From the May Jobs Report \(Pacific Standard\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:01 PM, Dwyer Gunn)

On Friday, the United States Department of Labor released its May jobs report. The report was overwhelmingly positive—Neil Irwin of the New York Times' Upshot blog wrote that "[t]he real question in analyzing the May jobs numbers released Friday is whether there are enough synonyms for 'good' in an online thesaurus to describe them adequately." Here are the three key numbers from the report:

223,000: The number of jobs the U.S. economy added in the month of May. Most major industries added jobs, with retail, construction, and health care posting particularly strong gains.

3.8 percent: The U.S. unemployment rate in May, the lowest rate recorded since 2000. Notably, many of the groups that have been particularly slow to recover from the Great Recession also saw gains. Both African Americans and people with less than a high school diploma also saw notable improvements in unemployment rates. (The African-American unemployment rate is now at a historic low of 5.9 percent.)

2.7 percent: Between May of 2017 and May of 2018, average hourly wages increased by only 2.7 percent. This is one of the few disappointing numbers in the report, and echoes last month's report. The lack of meaningful wage growth displayed so far in this recovery continues to puzzle economists.

[May shows solid growth, with 223,000 jobs created \(Palm Beach Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:00 AM, Jamie Dupree)

The U.S. economy showed more signs of strength in May, with 223,000 jobs added to the nation's payrolls, as the unemployment rate dropped to its lowest point since April 2000, ticking down to 3.8 percent, the lowest point for the nation's jobless rate since April of 2000.

After revisions to the jobs numbers in March and April, monthly job gains are averaging just over 207,000 in 2018, up sharply from the 171,000 per month in President Donald Trump's first year in office. "The economic BOOM continues," tweeted House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, as Republicans argue their package of tax cuts, reduction in regulations, and other pro-business moves have set the stage for a more energetic economy.

[U.S. Economy Adds 223,000 Jobs In May. Unemployment Rate Dips To 3.8 Percent \(WBOR-FM 90.9 Boston Public Radio\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:23 PM, Staff)

The Labor Department has reported that the U.S. unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent in May, the lowest in 18 years. The economy also added 223,000 jobs, higher than economists expected.

[Editorial note: Listen to audio at source link]

[Trump Breaks Protocol With Jobs Report Tweet Before Data Is Released \(New York Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:00 PM, Jim Tankersley)

President Trump broke years of presidential protocol on Friday morning by posting a tweet that signaled a strong jobs report was on its way from the Labor Department an hour before the report was released. The Bureau of Labor Statistics routinely releases its monthly employment report on the first Friday of the month. The night before, under longstanding tradition, the president and several senior administration officials — including the Treasury secretary and the chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers — are briefed on the numbers, which they are not supposed to disclose until the report is made public at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time the next morning. But Mr. Trump, who was briefed on the numbers Thursday evening, appeared to foreshadow the strength of the latest report on Friday morning on Twitter:

Social media users saw the message as evidence that Mr. Trump had seen the numbers, and that they were good. Sure enough, the report showed that the economy added 223,000 jobs in May, above forecasters' expectations. The unemployment rate dipped to 3.8 percent — the lowest level in 18 years. Larry Kudlow, the chairman of the National Economic Council, said that he had shared the jobs report on Thursday evening with the president but expressed no concern with Mr. Trump's tweet on Friday morning.

[Trump's jobs-report tweet broke a protocol designed to prevent giving early hints to investors \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:47 AM, Jim Puzzanghera)

For decades, federal officials have taken great care to prevent providing any early indications to investors about monthly jobs report data that can move markets. On Friday, President Trump broke that longstanding protocol using his favorite communication tool — Twitter — triggering a

jump in yields on the 10-year Treasury bond and an outcry from former White House officials.

Trump, who learned about the strong May jobs report Thursday night, tweeted Friday morning that he was “looking forward to seeing the employment numbers” due to be released by the Labor Department about an hour later. A top White House official emphasized that Trump didn’t reveal any of the numbers. But it gave investors who were paying attention to Twitter on Friday morning — or who got alerts about Trump’s tweet — a signal that the report was going to be good and a head start on making decisions about stocks and other investments that would be affected by strong numbers.

[Trump signals jobs data before report’s release, breaking with protocol \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:29 AM, Sylvan Lane)

President Trump on Friday touted the monthly federal jobs report roughly an hour before the data was released, a breach with decades of protocol that could lead to accusations he was sending a signal to traders. Trump in a 7:21 a.m. tweet wrote that he was “looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning.” The Bureau of Labor Statistics released the highly anticipated data on schedule at 8:30 a.m. It was a strong report, showing the economy added 223,000 jobs and that the unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent.

A federal rule states that federal workers should not comment on the jobs report until an hour after it has been released, though administration officials have in the past made comments before that hour was up. White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders told CNBC that Trump’s tweet was appropriate because he did not “put the numbers out,” but confirmed the president was briefed on the report Thursday night. Top economic adviser Larry Kudlow also defended the tweet, telling reporters that “no one revealed the numbers to the public” so it didn’t violate federal guidelines.

[Big Job Gains Raise Questions About Trump’s Pre-Release Tweet \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:42 AM, Christopher Condon & Shannon Pettypiece)

President Donald Trump was briefed Thursday night about the monthly employment report issued Friday morning in Washington and signaled in advance that the numbers were going to be favorable, breaking with past practice of presidents who avoided disclosure of market-sensitive information. “Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning,” the president tweeted at 7:21 a.m. in Washington.

The Department of Labor reported at 8:30 a.m. that unemployment in the U.S. had dropped to its lowest level since 1969 as the economy added a higher-than-expected 223,000 jobs in May. Larry Kudlow, director of Trump’s National Economic Council, said in a brief interview that Trump had the numbers last night and his tweet wasn’t meant to signal a positive report. “I don’t think he gave anything away” in the tweet, Kudlow said in a separate interview with CNBC

[What Wall Street Is Saying About Trump’s Early Jobs Tweet \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:52 PM, Felice Maranz, Jeanna Smialek & Sarah Ponczek)

Friday might have been all about the U.S. jobs report. Then Donald Trump tweeted. The president’s 7:21 a.m. tweet suggested the 8:30 a.m. employment data would bring good news, grabbing attention across Wall Street. While markets didn’t go nuts on Trump’s tip -- though banks and Treasury yields rose -- investors, traders and economists are still assessing the broader implications for future releases. The next one’s little more than a month away. Here’s what the Street’s saying about how the tweet upended the start of the day:

“My handy-dandy Trump tweet tracker popped up, and I thought, ‘Whoa.’” Next, Goldberg went to the traders on the floor, to “just kind of warn them about this.”

“We always watch Trump tweets, this just gives them a little more credence, a little more heft,” he said. Goldberg notes there’s always talk about whisper numbers, but “this is the only whisper that matters. Hopefully he doesn’t do this every month.”

“This president is using social media unlike any other and I think the marketplace is somewhat discriminating in terms of what it responds to and what it doesn’t.”

[Economy added 223,000 jobs in May, but Trump’s premarket tweet is the focus \(NBC News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:32 PM, Lucy Bayly)

The U.S. economy added a robust 223,000 jobs in the month of May, according to figures released Friday by the Department of Labor. The unemployment rate fell slightly to 3.8 percent. The numbers were eclipsed earlier Friday morning by a presidential tweet that breaks a federal rule.

Wage growth remained a sticking point in the mainly positive jobs report, with hourly pay up by only 2.7 percent year on year. But with inflation at just over 2 percent, workers are barely feeling any net increase. The current wage growth rate is almost half what would be expected with an unemployment rate this low.

The Federal Reserve, which next meets on June 12-13, has been confounded by the lack of wage growth and will be closely watching the May number in order to weigh options for inflationary measures. The Fed noted this week that "wage increases remained modest in most Districts," but it still likely to approve an increase in its benchmark interest rate at the June meeting of its Federal Open Market Committee.

[Trump hints at strong jobs report ahead of its release \(CNN\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:18 AM, Chris Isiodore)

About an hour before the Labor Department released its closely watched jobs number Friday, President Donald Trump was already talking up the results. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," he tweeted at 7:21 a.m. ET. The May jobs report was in fact a good one for a president who likes to brag about the strong jobs market. Unemployment fell to 3.8%, which matched the lowest rate in nearly a half century. Employers added 223,000 jobs in the month, more than more economists were forecasting. But investors weren't waiting for the official report. Stock futures, bond yields and the value of the dollar all jumped higher immediately after his tweet.

The Labor Department works hard to keep the market-moving numbers a secret ahead of their 8:30 a.m. ET release. Reporters who get access to the data ahead of time are in a "lock-up," without the ability to communicate with the outside world. And there is a federal rule dictating that federal employees who know the jobs numbers ahead of time must keep them secret. "This certainly was a no-no," tweeted Ari Fleisher, who was press secretary for President George W. Bush. "The advance info is sacrosanct - not to be shared."

[Trump tweet on jobs report may have breached a 1985 federal directive \(USA Today\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:26 PM, Kevin McCoy & Adam Shell)

President Trump's enthusiastic tweet before the release of Friday's jobs report may have breached a rule designed to safeguard and depoliticize market-moving financial data issued by the federal government. At 7:21 a.m. EDT, Trump clearly seemed to signal the report's general tenor as he tweeted he was "looking forward to seeing" the report that was subsequently released at the normal 8:30 a.m. time. Trump had good reason to be happy.

However, under a longstanding Office of Management and Budget procedure, U.S. presidents are briefed about the report by the chairman of the White House Council of Economic Advisers before the official release time. Larry Kudlow, appointed in March as director of the National Economic Council, told CNBC he called Trump aboard Air Force One Thursday evening and relayed the job numbers. "I don't think he gave anything away, incidentally. And I think this is all according to routine, law and custom," Kudlow told CNBC.

[President Trump's early jobs tweet leads to criticism from Obama officials \(USA Today\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:59 PM, Jessica Estepa)

President Trump seemed excited about the release of Friday morning's job report. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," he tweeted. The problem: The president's tweet came before the release of the report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which breaks protocol about not commenting on the report before its public release. Trump's tweet hinted a positive report, providing a signal to markets. Friday morning's report was indeed positive: U.S. employers added 223,000 jobs in May, and the unemployment rate slipped to an 18-year-low of 3.8%.

Kudlow told reporters that the president did not reveal the details of the report and said it was no big deal that he tweeted a preview of its release. "Why not?" Kudlow said. "He didn't give any numbers." Still, Jason Furman, a Harvard Kennedy School professor who served on former president Barack Obama's Council of Economic Advisers as its chairman, called Trump out. "You should have gotten the employment numbers from the Council of Economic Advisers yesterday," Furman wrote. "And if this tweet is conveying inside information about a particularly good jobs number you should never get them in advance from the Council of Economic Advisers again."

[Here's Why Trump's Tweet About the Jobs Report Was So Risky \(Time\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:05 PM, Tessa Berenson)

President Donald Trump's Friday morning tweet may have seemed harmless: "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," he wrote just before 7:30. But that simple message upended a carefully calibrated system designed to insulate financial markets from politics. The President gets to see monthly jobs reports ahead of time, and White House officials confirmed that Trump saw the numbers last night. The report is strong: the U.S. economy added 223,000 jobs and lowered the unemployment rate to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent.

But a 1985 directive from the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs says that when monthly jobs reports are released, "employees of the Executive Branch shall not comment publicly on the data until at least one hour after the official release time." That's because it's critically important that these statistics, which comes from the nonpartisan federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, are apolitical. The embargo on Executive Branch employees talking about the numbers is "to create in the minds of the public the clearest possible separation between when the nerds speak and when the politicians spin," says Justin Wolfers, professor of economics and public policy at University of Michigan.

[Did Trump Jobs Report Tweet Break the Law? President Slammed for Tipping Off Positive Numbers \(Newsweek\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:22 AM, Greg Price)

President Donald Trump appeared to break a federal rule Friday morning when he tweeted about the latest jobs reported from the Bureau of Labor Statistics more than an hour before the report's release. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," Trump tweeted. The latest report showed the U.S. economy added 223,000 jobs in May and reflected a 0.1 percent decline in the unemployment rate to 3.8, an 18-year low, further bolstering Trump's argument that his administration's work has greatly helped the economy.

But even hinting or commenting on the report less than an hour after its official release violates the Office of Management and Budget's Statistical Policy Directive No. 3. The rule was put in place in 1985 and reads: "Except for members of the staff of the agency issuing the principal economic indicator who have been designated by the agency head to provide technical explanations of the data, employees of the Executive Branch shall not comment publicly on the data until at least one hour after the official release time." Trump's apparent indication that a strong jobs report was on the way could have had a profound effect on the domestic and global markets. Former Obama and Bush administration officials noted Trump had appeared to break the federal protocol.

[The Outrage Behind Trump's Market-Shaking Tweet \(Atlantic Monthly\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:28 AM, Russell Berman)

On its face, the tweet was one of the most innocuous President Trump has ever sent—a plain-vanilla reminder early Friday morning that the monthly federal jobs report was coming out in an hour's time. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," the president wrote at 7:21 a.m. ET.

At precisely 8:30 a.m. ET on the first Friday of every month, the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics releases a summary of employment in the United States. The data is culled from two separate reports that show, among other things, how many jobs the private and public sectors gained or lost in the previous month and whether wages went up or down. The headline figure is almost always the national unemployment rate, which in May fell to an 18-year-low of 3.8 percent.

[White House defends Trump's early hint about the jobs report \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:05 AM, Pete Kasperowicz)

White House officials said President Trump did nothing wrong Friday morning when he hinted that a jobs report coming out an hour later would be positive. Trump tweeted Friday that he was "looking forward" to seeing the May jobs report, about an hour before that report was released. That drew complaints from some who said Trump appeared to be signaling that the report would be strong, and possibly interfering with the markets that usually see the numbers at 8:30 a.m. sharp on the first Friday of each month.

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders told CNBC reporter Eamon Javers that there was no problem with the president tweeting ahead of time because he did not disclose the results. "She said it was appropriate because he didn't put the numbers out early, and she confirmed the fact the president was briefed on this through the normal routine by his economic team last night," Javers said.

[Trump's tweet 'looking forward' to jobs report draws criticism from left, right \(Washington Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:44 AM, Dave Boyer)

President Trump got a scolding on social media Friday for tweeting his excitement about the government's latest jobs report more than an hour before the good news was released to the public. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," Mr. Trump tweeted at 7:21 a.m. At 8:30 a.m., the Labor Department indeed reported that the unemployment rate dropped in May to 3.8 percent as employers added 223,000 jobs last month. The president is briefed the night before the numbers are released, and some observers accused Mr. Trump of breaking protocol by not keeping the positive news to himself.

"If this tweet is conveying inside information about a particularly good jobs number you should never get them in advance from the Council of Economic Advisers again," tweeted Jason Furman, a Harvard Kennedy School professor who served as an economic adviser to former President Barack Obama. Bill Kristol, editor-at-large of the conservative Weekly Standard, said on Twitter, "By the way, since Trump is tweeting ahead of time about the unemployment numbers, are we confident he isn't also privately telling family and friends about them ahead of time so they can front run the market?"

[Trump Hypes Jobs Report Hour Before It's Released \(New York Magazine\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:09 AM, Eric Levitz)

Few documents on planet Earth are as closely guarded as the Bureau of Labor Statistics monthly jobs report. In the days leading up to the release of the Employment Situation Summary — which occurs on the first Friday of each month — maintenance crews stop collecting trash from the office where it is compiled; the IT department is barred from entry.

The reason: If any word about the strength or weakness of the new report leaks out, those in the know could make fortunes off of insider trading. Thus, only a small number of people are briefed on the report in advance — including the U.S. president, who usually learns of its contents

Thursday afternoon. No president has ever given the public any indication of what that report might look like before its release. Until now.

[Trump steps on economic good news \(Salon\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:58 PM, Matthew Rozsa)

Donald Trump was once a jobs truther, casting doubt upon the Labor Department's credibility when it announced favorable job reports under Barack Obama. But now that the promising economic figures continue during his administration, Trump can barely contain his glee — tweeting a preview of Friday's job report that broke decades of protocol and manipulated the markets.

Under normal circumstances, a jobs report like the one released on Friday would be a political boon to a president. Because our president right now is Donald Trump, however, the situation is far from normal — and the president, who would otherwise have benefited from the good news, has instead stepped on his own headlines. Subsequent to that tweet, a glowing jobs report was released... a coincidence that did not go unnoticed.

All employees of the Executive Branch who receive prerelease distribution of information and data estimates as authorized above are responsible for assuring that there is no release prior to the official release time ... Except for members of the staff of the agency issuing the principal economic indicator who have been designated by the agency head to provide technical explanations of the data, employees of the Executive Branch shall not comment publicly on the data until at least one hour after the official release time.

[Trump's tweet teasing jobs report appears to have violated federal law \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:40 AM, Aaron Rupar)

At 7:21 a.m. Friday, President Trump posted an unusual tweet suggesting that the forthcoming May jobs report would be strong. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," Trump wrote.

Treasury yields shot up in the hour between Trump's tweet and the jobs report's release. Trump tweeted about jobs day at 7:21am EST, suggesting he knew the numbers would be surprisingly good.

[Trump's wildly inappropriate \(and possibly corrupt\) jobs report tweet, explained \(Vox\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:20 PM, Matthew Yglesias)

Friday morning, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced good news for the American economy — 223,000 new jobs and a further dip in the unemployment rate to 3.8 percent. The news represents a continuation of longstanding economic trends that far predate Trump's presence in office. But it's also the sort of news that any president would brag about.

What's unusual is that Trump bragged about the numbers before the data was released to the public — an unprecedented breach of protocol that poses some questions for the functioning of financial markets in the future. But, more fundamentally, it intersects with longstanding worries about corruption in the Trump administration.

[Kudlow says Trump's jobs report tweet was totally legal. Other economists disagree. \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:33 PM, Summer Meza)

President Trump's seemingly inconsequential tweet about the Labor Department's new jobs report broke with presidential protocol, and some experts say it may have actually violated insider trading laws. Trump foreshadowed a positive jobs report, tweeting that he was "looking forward" to seeing the numbers a full hour before they were made public. Officials are briefed on the Labor Department's reports before they are released, but they are not supposed to comment publicly on them ahead of time, The New York Times reports.

National Economic Council Director Larry Kudlow said that he told Trump about the report on Thursday night, but denied that Trump's tweet was problematic. "I don't think he gave anything away, incidentally. I think this is all according to routine, law and custom," Kudlow said on CNBC.

[U.S. economy adds 223,000 jobs, after Trump tweets controversial preview \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:49 AM, Harold Maass)

The Labor Department reported Friday that U.S. employers added 223,000 nonfarm jobs in May, more than expected. Economists polled by MarketWatch had predicted a gain of 200,000 jobs. The continued strong hiring helped bring down the unemployment rate from 3.9 percent to 3.8 percent, an 18-year low. The yearly rate of pay gains rose to 2.9 percent from 2.8 percent. Just over an hour before the numbers were released, President Trump tweeted: "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning."

Washington Post White House economic policy reporter Damian Paletta said Trump's teaser was "the first time a president had ever sent a signal to investors about what the jobs numbers might look like an hour before they came out." Former Obama White House economic adviser Austan Goolsbee tweeted that in doing so, Trump had released "classified information."

[How Trump's pre-jobs report tweet moved the market \(New York Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:09 PM, Carleton English)

Eagle-eye traders early on Friday sold their holdings of the US 10-year note after President Donald Trump hinted in a 7:21 a.m. tweet that the May jobs report would be better than expected. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," Trump tweeted — a full 69 minutes before the Labor Department released its jobs report. Moments later, the sell-off began, pushing the yield on the 10-year note from 2.8876 at the time of Trump's tweet to 2.8913 at 7:24 as traders left their safe haven play in favor of riskier assets such as stocks — which also moved upward. "That tweet suggested this was going to be a strong number and the [10-year] yield jumped," Quincy Krosby, chief market strategist at Prudential Financial, told The Post.

By 8:30 a.m., when Labor, indeed, revealed stronger than expected jobs growth in May — 233,000 jobs created compared to estimates of 190,000 — the yield on the 10-year had spiked to 2.9186. Many on Wall Street questioned the appropriateness of the president tweeting market-moving news.

[Trump tweet hinting at positive jobs report broke protocol, critics say \(WMUR-TV 9 Manchester\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:35 AM, Nathaniel Meyersohn)

About an hour before the Department of Labor released its closely watched jobs numbers Friday, President Donald Trump was already talking up its contents. "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," he tweeted at 7:21 a.m. ET. The May jobs report was in fact a good one for a president who likes to brag about the strong jobs market. Unemployment fell to 3.8%, which matched the lowest rate in nearly a half-century. Employers added 223,000 jobs this month, more than economists were forecasting. But investors weren't waiting for the official report. Stock futures, bond yields and the value of the dollar all jumped higher immediately after Trump's tweet.

The Labor Department works hard to keep the market-moving numbers a secret ahead of their 8:30 a.m. ET release. Reporters who get access to the data ahead of time are in a "lock-up," without the ability to communicate with the outside world. There is also a federal rule dictating that federal employees who know the jobs numbers ahead of time must keep them secret. "All employees of the executive branch who receive prerelease distribution of information and data estimates...are responsible for assuring that there is no release prior to the official release time," says the rule, which has been in effect since at least 1985.

[Trump previewing jobs report appears to break protocol: Experts \(KFSN-TV ABC 30 Fresno\)](#)

(5/31/2018 9:41 AM, Alexander Mallin)

A Friday morning tweet from President Donald Trump previewing the May jobs report is raising alarm bells among some economists and former government employees as to whether he may have violated longstanding government protocol. The president's tweet at 7:21 a.m. read, "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," previewing what turned out to be a report that exceeded economists' expectations. The May jobs report showed the U.S. economy added 223,000 jobs compared with an average monthly gain of 191,000 over the prior 12 months, and that the unemployment rate edged down to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent.

According to a Labor Department rule issued by the Office of Management and Budget in 1985, executive branch employees are barred from publicly commenting on the jobs report until "at least one hour" after its official release. The rule looks to prevent government officials who may gain early access to the report from tipping off traders in advance of potential market shifts. Early on in the administration, former press secretary Sean Spicer drew criticism for tweeting immediate reaction to a positive jobs report, violating the standard one hour time span. But the president is typically briefed separately on the report prior before its release.

[The 15 best states for finding a job in 2018 \(Business Insider\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:51 PM, Áine Cain)

Finding a great job can be tough. But it's definitely easier in some parts of the United States. According to a recent report from personal finance site WalletHub, certain states provide a far better environment for job seekers. WalletHub assigned each US state a score based on numerous factors, including median annual income adjusted for the cost of living, share of employees living under the poverty line, and the unemployment and underemployment rates.

1. Washington: Median annual income (adjusted for the cost of living): \$58,682
2. Colorado: Median annual income (adjusted for the cost of living): \$61,114
3. Minnesota: Median annual income (adjusted for the cost of living): \$63,407
4. Utah: Median annual income (adjusted for the cost of living): \$65,327
5. New Hampshire Median annual income (adjusted for the cost of living): \$59,552

[Editorial Note: Consult source link for full details.]

[Trumpanomics: Good Job Numbers + Terrible Wage Numbers = The Depraved Exploitation Of Workers \(Daily Kos\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:51 PM, Staff)

Today, the wealthy and their dupes are cheering the ongoing fall in the unemployment rate to 3.8%. Employers are finally spending the unprecedented savings they accumulated under Obama to in turn use more of us. And the stock market loves it. But what about wages? You know, the whole purpose of jobs for you know, actual people? It's dismal. Wage growth has actually gone down compared to what it was in January and it's down compared to what it was in 2009.

These numbers tell us one thing. America's wealthy are exploiting more of us. In fact, US inequality is reaching a new and historically "dangerous" level due to Trump's cruelty towards the poor and working class. As Republicans strip the poor, working, and middle class of services they pay for in taxes, 40% of us have less than \$400 in the bank to pay for an emergency. It's time to fight back. It's time to stop letting Republicans exploit us and use us like trash. Workers in America must stand up together and demand dignity and respect, or we're just going to keep losing more and more of our quality of life and more and more of our standing compared to other countries.

[Nonfarm payrolls increase by 223,000 in May, vs 188,000 estimate \(CNBC\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:56 AM, Jeff Cox)

The U.S. economy continued to add jobs at a solid clip in May, with nonfarm payrolls up 223,000 and the unemployment rate falling to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Friday. Economists had been expecting payroll growth of 188,000 and the jobless rate to hold steady at 3.9 percent. The unemployment rate was last this low in April 2000. A separate level of unemployment that adds in discouraged workers and those holding part-time positions for economic reasons fell to 7.6 percent, the lowest since May 2001. A 0.1-point decline in the labor force participation rate to 62.7 percent, tied for the lowest level in 2018, contributed to the headline unemployment rate decline.

"The employment this month really underscores, once again, the robust strength of the labor market," said Steve Rick, chief economist at CUNA Mutual Group. "May showed steady momentum in jobs and certainly hit back at any worries among economists who thought hiring was beginning to finally slow after seeing last month's report."

[Construction Adds 25,000 Jobs in May \(Metal Construction News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:01 PM, Staff)

The U.S. construction industry added 25,000 net new jobs in May, according to Associated Builders and Contractors' (ABC) analysis of data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This follows a 21,000 net job gain in April (revised upward from 17,000). The industry has gained 286,000 jobs on a year-over-year basis, the largest such increase since April 2016. Nonresidential construction employment increased by 15,400 net jobs for the month. Nearly all of that growth came from the nonresidential specialty trade contractor subsector, which added 14,800 net jobs in May. However, the nonresidential building subsector lost 4,400 net jobs in May.

The construction industry unemployment rate plummeted 2.1 percentage points in May and now stands at 4.4 percent, the lowest level since July 2000. The national unemployment rate inched down to 3.8 percent, its lowest level since April 2000. "Despite all the noise regarding tariffs, trade wars, Italy, Spain and a myriad of other issues, the U.S. economy continues to move forward with conviction," said ABC Chief Economist Anirban Basu. "Today's employment report is rendered all the more impressive given the difficulty so many firms, including construction firms, report filling available jobs. The ongoing addition of jobs in nonresidential construction is both an expression of confidence as well as evidence of an industry that continues to benefit from economic growth."

[Flashback: Hillary Predicted Trump's Tax Plan Would Destroy Millions of Jobs. It's Doing Precisely the Opposite. \(Town Hall\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:45 AM, Guy Benson)

Clinton said Trump's tax plan would shed as many as 3.5 million jobs. Now that tax reform has been implemented, CBO has boosted its US job creation estimates by 2.6 million. Hillary also warned of bloating the national debt, which is one of the few major concerns I have about the new tax law -- though her specific admonition was off by many trillions of dollars. (It's also difficult to swallow a lecture about fiscal discipline from anyone who is a denialist about entitlement spending and the coming debt crisis -- which both major 2016 nominees were, unfortunately).

Flash forward to June 1, 2018, roughly a year-and-a-half into Trump's presidency. The book is hardly closed on his policies' economic legacy, but the results we've seen to date don't remotely resemble Mrs. Clinton's dystopian warnings. The latest jobs report is outstanding, with US unemployment falling to a tie for the lowest level since Mrs. Clinton was graduating college, roughly half a century ago:

[How many people work for the federal government? 24,000 less now than in Dec. 2016 \(World Tribune\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:10 PM, World Tribune)

The federal government has 24,000 fewer employees since President Donald Trump took office, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The federal government cut 3,000 jobs in May, the bureau said in a June 1 report. A month before Trump took office there were 2,810,000 civilians employed in the federal government.

Total government employment in the U.S. increased by 5,000 in May, climbing to 22,326,000, the Bureau of Labor Statistics report said. State government employment rose by 2,000 in May to 5,112,000. Local government employment rose by 6,000 in May to 14,428,000.

[\[NY\] NYT Shell-Shocked By Historic Jobs Numbers: We Ran Out Of Words To Describe How Good It Is \(Town Hall\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:00 PM, Matt Vespa)

The jobs numbers are great. In fact, they're tremendous. They're the most luxurious May numbers God has ever created. Okay—not really, but they're solid; 223,000 jobs in May and black unemployment hit a record low. The overall unemployment rate is now at 3.8 percent, an 18-year low. In terms of white and black unemployment numbers, which are usually miles apart, they've never been closer. You can't polish a turd. You can't spin incontrovertibly good news. That's what The New York Times admitted in their headline about these job numbers. They ran out of words synonymous with good concerning this news:

[\[KY\] Truck maker says Washington's political swamp threatens plan to add 250 Kentucky jobs \(Lexington Herald-Leader\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:03 PM, Bill Estep)

The issue in the fight is a large truck called a glider, produced by combining a new cab and chassis with an older, rebuilt engine — as well as a transmission and usually a rear axle — from wrecked or worn-out trucks. Starting in a one-bay garage in Pall Mall, Tenn., nearly 30 years ago, Fitzgerald and partners built their glider-making business into a \$700 million enterprise, the largest in the nation. Fitzgerald Glider Kits says it has been assembling more than 3,000 vehicles annually in recent years, providing 700 jobs in northern Tennessee and Southern Kentucky and supporting thousands more at suppliers.

The company announced in March that it would make dump-truck beds at the former Belden Wire & Cable plant in Monticello, which closed because the company moved much of its production to Mexico. But now Fitzgerald, a 53-year-old Kentucky native, says those jobs and many others are in jeopardy because of a rule to reduce pollution from trucks. The problem for gliders is that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency defined them as new trucks, meaning a glider with a 2017 cab and a 2005 engine would be classified as a 2017 model. That makes the vehicle subject to pollution limits for new trucks, but with an engine lacking new emission controls.

[\[ND\] Statewide survey to focus on filling jobs \(Bismarck Tribune\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:30 PM, Jessica Holdman)

All of North Dakota's 31,000 registered businesses are being asked about their workforce needs as part of a statewide survey announced Friday by the governor and state Workforce Development Council. "Every community we've been in has needed workers," said Gov. Doug Burgum, adding this survey is an effort to develop state policy that could help companies in filling those needs. The survey is being distributed amid 2.6 percent unemployment statewide, a recorded 14,400 open jobs in the state and a tighter jobs market nationwide. "We estimate the actual number of job openings is significantly larger and the needs in our near future could be double that figure," Labor Commissioner Michelle Kommer said in a statement.

The 40-question survey, which cost \$4,000, is being distributed to the Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce's 1,000 members, as well as its partner organizations, including local chambers of commerce and industry groups. Participation will be analyzed daily in an effort to generate interest from all sectors in the state and reach as many employers as possible. Kommer said, to her knowledge, this is the first time a survey of this nature is being conducted on a statewide basis.

[\[CA\] How tight is the labor market? Employers flock to hire qualified homeless job applicants \(Sacramento Bee\)](#)

(6/2/2018 12:01 AM, Cynthia Hubert)

In a tight employment market, 24 companies sent representatives to Friday's "hiring event," which sought to connect homeless and formerly homeless men and women with work opportunities. The job fair, hosted by nonprofits that serve homeless people, took place at the Salvation Army's Ray Robinson Oak Park Community Center.

The state's unemployment rate dropped to a record low 4.2 percent in April - and an even lower 3.4 percent in the Sacramento region, according to the state Employment Development Department. Employers are competing hard for workers, including a Chick-fil-A fast food restaurant in Sacramento County offering \$17 to \$18 per hour. Many of the men and women looking for jobs have little work experience and some have backgrounds that include homelessness and addiction. All have completed recovery and job training programs that have put them on the path to success.

Unemployment

[U.S. gains 223K jobs as unemployment rate falls to 1969 levels \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:45 PM, Christopher Rugaber - Associated Press)

Another month of strong hiring drove the nation's unemployment rate down to 3.8 percent — tantalizingly close to the level last seen in 1969, when Detroit still dominated the auto industry and the Vietnam War was raging. Employers added 233,000 jobs in May, up from 159,000 in April,

the Labor Department reported Friday. And unemployment fell to an 18-year low.

The report shows that the nearly 9-year-old economic expansion — the second-longest on record — remains on track and may even be gaining steam. Employers appear to be shrugging off recent concerns about global trade disputes. "The May jobs report revealed impressive strength and breadth in U.S. job creation that blew away most economists' expectations," said Scott Anderson, chief economist at Bank of the West.

[Unemployment Rate Falls to 18-Year Low; Solid Hiring in May \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:56 AM, Eric Morath & Sarah Chaney)

The U.S. labor market was firing on all cylinders in May: the unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low, employers added jobs at a faster pace and wages modestly improved. The unemployment rate ticked down to a seasonally adjusted 3.8%, matching April 2000 as the lowest reading since 1969, the Labor Department said Friday. Nonfarm payrolls rose a seasonally adjusted 223,000 in May, a jump from gains from March and April. Average hourly earnings ticked up to a 2.7% from a year earlier-and raises were even stronger for non-managers.

The unemployment rate for women, 3.6% last month, was the lowest since 1953, when far smaller share of women sought jobs. The jobless rates for blacks, Latinos and those without high-school diplomas are trending near record lows. A tighter labor market should also produce better wage growth, but overall gains have remained modest. Average hourly earnings for all private-sector workers increased 8 cents last month to \$26.92. Wages for non-supervisor workers are rising at a faster rate than overall wage increases for the first time since 2014. The non-supervisor increase, 2.8% in May from a year earlier, was the best annual gain since mid-2009, when the recession just ended.

[Unemployment Rate Drops To 3.8 Percent, Lowest Since 2000 \(National Public Radio\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:40 AM, Chris Arnold & Avie Schneider)

As the country has clawed its way back from the worst recession in generations, companies have been creating plenty of jobs. Employers added another 223,000 positions last month alone, the Labor Department said Friday. And the unemployment rate ticked down to 3.8 percent, the lowest since 2000. The May increase in payrolls was stronger than economists had expected and topped April's revised 159,000 increase.

About an hour ahead of the release, President Trump hinted at a strong report: "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning." The unemployment rate is so low it's only hit this level a few times in modern history. The last time was in the heat of the dot-com bubble in 2000. But before that you have to go back to the late 1960s to find a time the unemployment rate was lower.

[U.S. Payrolls Rise 223,000; Jobless Rate Matches 48-Year Low \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:26 AM, Sho Chandra)

U.S. hiring rose more than forecast in May, wages picked up and the unemployment rate matched the lowest in almost five decades, indicating the strong labor market will keep powering economic growth. Payrolls increased 223,000 following a revised 159,000 gain, Labor Department figures showed Friday. The median estimate of analysts surveyed by Bloomberg called for 190,000 jobs. Average hourly earnings increased 2.7 percent from a year earlier, more than projected, while the jobless rate fell to 3.8 percent from 3.9 percent to match April 2000 as the lowest since 1969.

Stocks and Treasury yields rose. The report reinforced expectations for Federal Reserve policy makers to raise interest rates when they meet June 12-13, and spurred investors to increase bets on two more hikes this year after that, rather than one. Steady hiring and lower taxes will bolster consumer spending, helping to support the projected rebound in U.S. growth this quarter and continuing to trim the unemployment rate. Wage gains, while positive in the latest report, have yet to show a sustained acceleration.

[Jobs report beats expectations, unemployment rate falls to 18-year low \(MSN\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:57 AM, Akin Oyedele, Business Insider)

US employers added 223,000 nonfarm payrolls in May, more than expected, while the unemployment rate fell to a new 18-year low of 3.8%, according to the jobs report released on Friday. Economists had forecast that employers added 190,000 jobs on net while the unemployment rate remained at a 17-year low of 3.9%.

May is the 92nd straight month of job growth in the US — the longest streak ever. Job openings are at a two-decade high, according to the most recent BLS data — good news for the droves of young people who recently graduated. And anecdotally, companies continue to lament about how difficult it is to fill positions for highly skilled workers.

[May jobs report: Unemployment down to 3.8%, payrolls up by 223,000 \(CBS News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:31 PM, Irina Ivanova)

Businesses hired robustly in May, reversing the slowing trend of the preceding two months, the Labor Department reported Friday. Here's what you need to know. Some 223,000 jobs were added. This beats economists' expectations of about 190,000 jobs added, and reverses the somewhat disappointing growth over the previous two months (155,000 jobs added in March and 159,000 in April, after revisions.)

Unemployment dropped to 3.8 percent, its lowest figure in 18 years. The unemployment rate is now solidly below what most economists consider sustainable in the long term, and is likely to keep falling, some analysts say.

[Black unemployment news is good but more has to be done for workers: National Urban League \(CNBC\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:37 PM, Michelle Fox)

The unemployment rate for blacks fell to 5.9 percent in May, hitting the lowest level since the government started to record that data in 1972. Also of note is that the gap between the black unemployment rate and the white unemployment rate has narrowed, Morial said on "Power Lunch." However, instead of focusing on "being celebratory," he wants the government to focus making the paychecks of average Americans go further. Workers of all races "want paychecks to grow relative to the expenses that they have, and those are mortgages, those are rents, those are bread, milk, shoes for their children," he added.

The federal minimum wage is currently \$7.25 per hour. However, some states have instituted higher minimum wages like Washington, which pays \$11.50 an hour. Washington, D.C., comes in at the highest pay with \$12.50 an hour. Meanwhile, some corporations also have boosted worker pay. For example, retailer Walmart pays a minimum hourly wage of \$11 and on Thursday, Costco announced it was raising its minimum wage to \$14 a hour.

[Unemployment rate matches lowest point in half a century \(CNN\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:53 PM, Nathaniel Meyersohn)

How low can we go? The jobless rate ticked down to 3.8% in May, another sign of the strong economy and tight labor market.

That tied the lowest unemployment rate since 1969. Since then, the only other time unemployment was this low was in April 2000. "It fell for all the right reasons. We had more people coming into the labor market. We saw employers digging deeper into the pool of unemployed," said Josh Wright, chief economist at the software firm iCIMS.

[Economists React to Strong Jobs Report \(US News & World Report\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:06 AM, Andrew Soergel)

Domestic job growth rebounded last month after a lackluster April, as the unemployment rate ticked down to its lowest level in more than 18 years, according to a report published Friday by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. At 3.8 percent, the national unemployment rate is now as low as it's been since April 2000. The last time unemployment was lower than it is now was at the tail end of 1969, when the rate sat at 3.5 percent. Domestic employers, meanwhile, created 223,000 new positions – the strongest showing the labor market has seen since February. The number of health care and social assistance jobs in the U.S. climbed by nearly 32,000, while retail trade outfits added more than 31,000 new positions.

Revisions to prior months' tallies added 15,000 previously unreported jobs to the labor market, and Americans' average hourly earnings ended May up 2.7 percent over the year. Although the labor force participation rate – a metric that tracks the share of Americans employed or actively looking for a job as a share of the broader population – ticked down for the second consecutive month to 62.7 percent, the bulk of the report detailed a labor market standing on particularly solid ground.

[U.S. job growth accelerates, unemployment rate drops to 3.8 percent \(Reuters\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:33 AM, Lucia Mutikani)

U.S. job growth accelerated in May and the unemployment rate dropped to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent, pointing to rapidly tightening labor market conditions, which could stir concerns about inflation.

The closely watched employment report released by the Labor Department on Friday also showed wages rising solidly, cementing expectations that the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates this month and boosting the probability of two more hikes later in the year. "The strength of the labor market supports our forecast for the Fed to raise rates three more times this year," said Ryan Sweet, a senior economist at Moody's Analytics in West Chester, Pennsylvania. "The Fed is going to get antsy that the labor market will blow too far past full employment."

[Unemployment Continues To Fall Below April's Record Rates \(Benzinga\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:35 AM, Elizabeth Balboa)

After striking record lows in April, U.S. unemployment continued to drop in May.

The Labor Department recorded a rate of just 3.8 percent against a 3.9-percent estimate. Nonfarm payrolls expanded 223,000, far exceeding a 189,000 forecast as well as last month's addition of 164,000 jobs.

[US unemployment falls to 3.8% in May, lowest in 18 years \(Breitbart\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:38 AM, AFP)

The US unemployment rate fell to its lowest level in 18 years in May as hiring was far stronger than expected and the size of the workforce

continued to shrink, the government said Friday. With a shortage of workers reported throughout the country and across many industries and skill levels, the latest data confirmed wages are rising.

The jobless rate fell to 3.8 percent from 3.9 percent in April, the lowest level since April 2000, the Labor Department reported.

[U.S. adds 223,000 jobs in May: unemployment lowest since 1969 \(Breitbart\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:38 AM, UPI)

Last month, the United States added 223,000 jobs and the unemployment rate matched its lowest level in a half-century the Labor Department said Friday. The Bureau of Labor Statistics said in its report Friday employment edged up in the retail, healthcare and construction sectors.

Retail trade added 31,000 jobs while manufacturing added 18,000. The construction industry, often a key contributor to U.S. workforce growth, gained 25,000 jobs. Healthcare jobs increased by 29,000, in line with the average monthly gain over the past year.

[May Jobs Numbers: Black Unemployment Rate Hits Record Low \(Breitbart\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:05 PM, Joshua Caplan)

Labor Department figures published Friday show the U.S. economy expanded by 223,000 jobs in May, with the black unemployment rate — among the brightest spots in the strong jobs report — at 5.9 percent, down from 6.6 percent record low the previous month. “The black unemployment rate has never been closer to the white unemployment rate,” reports the Washington Post. “The improvement in unemployment that’s been seen since the end of the recession is one thing, but black unemployment has consistently been at least 66 percent higher than the white unemployment rate.”

When asked about black unemployment rate back in January after figures showed 6.8 percent in December, President Trump said during a cabinet meeting that he was “very proud” of the numbers. “African-American unemployment reached its lowest level in history. Think of that,” the president told reporters. “On the campaign trail, remember, I said, and would constantly say, ‘What do you have to lose?’ Meaning what do you have to lose if you vote for Trump.” In his inaugural State of the Union address, Democrats infamously remained seated as President Trump touting improving economic conditions for African-Americans.

[Unemployment is about as low as it gets \(Crain's Chicago Business\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, Mark Whitehouse)

If the demand for workers outstrips supply by too much, it can start an inflationary spiral in which wages and prices drive each other higher. Economists at the Federal Reserve think that in the longer run, the “Natural” unemployment rate should be somewhere between 4.2 percent and 4.8 percent. So how can a rate of 3.8 percent be OK? One reason is that it might not represent the whole pool of available workers. During and after the last recession, millions of people gave up seeking work, and hence weren’t officially counted as unemployed.

More recently, many of them have reentered the labor force, helping to meet demand and relieve upward pressure on wages. The prime-age labor-force participation rate, for example, went from a low point of 80.6 percent in September 2015 to 81.8 percent in May 2018, an added supply of 2.4 million workers. The big question is how many more people might come off the sidelines.

[223,000 Jobs Added In May. Unemployment Falls To 3.8 Percent \(Daily Caller\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:57 PM, Tim Pearce)

The Department of Labor reported Friday 223,000 jobs were added in the month of May, and unemployment dropped to 3.8 percent. Jobs growth outpaced economists’ predictions, who estimated the number would fall just short of 200,000. Experts were also expecting the unemployment rate to stay steady from month to month at 3.9 percent.

May’s unemployment rate matches the April 2000 rate as the lowest rate in the U.S. since 1969. The falls rate signals a tightening labor market as employers are forced to compete more for employees. The competition should translate to rising wages for workers, though that has not happened to the extent economists expect.

[Black Unemployment Plunges To Record Low, Gap Between White, Black Unemployment Smallest In History \(Daily Caller\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:58 PM, Benny Johnson)

Friday’s economic numbers were very good for America. The numbers reveal that the U.S. economy is booming and many key indicators of economic health are trending in the right direction. According to the Labor Department, the unemployment rate is 3.8 percent, the lowest in nearly two decades.

223,000 jobs were created and the May increase in payroll was bullish, surprising economists, according to NPR. However, the most historic data points seem to be centered around black unemployment.

[Record Wage Increases, Record-Low Unemployment \(The Patriot Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:10 AM, Nate Jackson)

As we noted last month, a good economy is bad for Democrats. And we got another load of good economic news this morning, regardless of Leftmedia spin. First up, The Wall Street Journal's James Freeman writes, "The number of small companies raising wages hit a record high in the U.S. this month. That's according to the latest National Federation of Independent Business employment survey. A full 35% of owners of small firms report increasing labor compensation, the highest percentage since NFIB started asking about it in 1986." That trend could get even better, as Freeman notes that "businesses are ramping up spending on the tools that make their workers more productive and therefore able to command higher wages."

Much of the wage increases are due to a tighter labor market. Employers added 223,000 jobs in May, which was higher than media expectations but not quite as surprising for those of us not blinded by Trump Derangement Syndrome. Headline unemployment dropped to 3.8%, the lowest since 2000. Black unemployment dropped to a new record low of 5.9%.

[U.S. unemployment rate lowest in 18 years \(Ponte al Dia\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:04 PM, Staff)

The United States' headline unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent in May, the lowest level since April 2000, the Labor Department said Friday. A total of 223,000 new nonfarm jobs were created last month, exceeding economists' expectations. U.S. employment has risen for 92 consecutive months, the longest jobs-expansion streak on record, while the current jobless rate in the U.S. indicates a market with virtually full employment. Average hourly wages for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by an average of \$0.08 last month to \$26.92; average hourly earnings have moved up 2.7 percent so far this year, and economists expect labor costs to keep rising. The labor force participation rate, defined as the share of the population 16 years and older either working or seeking work, dropped minimally from 62.8 percent to 62.7 percent.

"With the unemployment rate falling to 3.8 percent in May, the lowest in over 18 years, America's job market remains strong. The unemployment rates for African-Americans and Asian-Americans reached record lows. Adult women and adult men recorded the lowest unemployment rates since 2000, at 3.3 percent and 3.5 percent, respectively," Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta said in a statement.

[The gap between black unemployment and white unemployment is now the smallest in history \(The Week Magazine\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:16 AM, Summer Meza)

The unemployment rate in the U.S. has fallen to its lowest point in 18 years, additionally shrinking the gap between black unemployment and white unemployment, the Labor Department reported Friday. Black unemployment is down to 5.9 percent, while white unemployment is at 3.5 percent — the smallest gap between the two rates ever recorded. The overall rate is at an 18-year low, at 3.8 percent. The economy added 223,000 jobs in May, even more than economists predicted. Unemployment has fallen steadily since the Great Recession, reports CNN Money, after peaking at 10 percent in 2009.

President Trump has often touted his administration's success in bringing down the unemployment rate for black Americans and other minorities, and he took to Twitter to preview today's good news. The black unemployment rate has fallen from 7.8 percent to 5.9 percent since Trump took office, the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis reports. Data shows that between 2010 and 2017, the rate fell from a peak of 16.8 percent to 7.8 percent.

[Record-low jobless rates for black Americans and Asians \(Minneapolis/St.Paul Star-Tribune\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:45 PM, Associated Press)

The unemployment rates for black Americans and Asian-Americans hit record lows in May, aided by solid hiring that is benefiting a wider range of demographic groups. The jobless rate for black Americans tumbled to 5.9 percent from 6.6 percent in April. May's figure marks the second straight month that the rate has hit a record low in government records dating to 1972. The unemployment rate for Asian Americans fell to 2.1 percent, the lowest level since record-keeping began in 2003. With the jobless rate so low, employers have complained for months about the difficulty of finding workers to fill jobs.

That's helping those with lower education levels. The jobless rate for those with only a high school diploma fell to 3.9 percent, a 17-year-low. All told, employers added 223,000 jobs in May. The unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent. The data for demographic groups came from a survey of households that is part of the Labor Department's monthly jobs report.

[\[VT\] Vermont coffee company lays off 35 mostly in manufacturing \(Belleville News-Democrat\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:12 AM, Associated Press)

The Vermont coffee company known for its K-cup machines is laying off 35 employees in the state, mostly in manufacturing. State Labor Commissioner Lindsay Kurrle says the layoffs by Keurig Green Mountain are spread across three company locations in Vermont: Essex, Williston and Waterbury.

In a statement, Keurig spokeswoman Katie Gilroy called the layoffs "a targeted headcount reduction." The company's website says it had 6,000

employees as of fiscal year 2015.

[\[RI\] Amazon's distributor leaving R.I. for Hartford; 149 layoffs \(WWLP-TV 22 Chicopee\)](#)

(6/2/2018 4:35 AM, Shiina Losciuto & Ted Nesi)

A company that helps Amazon.com handle distribution in Rhode Island abruptly informed employees Friday it will shut down next month, Eyewitness News has learned. The Texas-based company, Pinnacle Logistics, will lay off 149 workers, according to a letter sent to the R.I. Department of Labor and Training by Mark Elsea, the company's chief operating officer. Pinnacle has had a busy warehouse operation at the Quonset Business Park and T.F. Green Airport.

Amazon confirmed that Pinnacle's operation will be moving to Bradley International Airport in Hartford, and workers at the Rhode Island facility will be given preferential treatment in hiring. The termination letter, provided by an employee who asked to remain anonymous, said Amazon "has elected to terminate its PVD operations" due to "business reasons unrelated to PVD's performance." The employee said workers were stunned by the news in light of how busy and high-performing the facility appeared to them.

[\[WA\] After Georgia-Pacific cut up to 300 employees, workers trying to find footing \(Vancouver Columbian\)](#)

(6/3/2018 6:02 AM, Troy Brynson)

The cavernous Georgia-Pacific paper mill, which churned with thousands of papermakers a generation ago, is now a ghost town, said Felicia Tillery; and former workers like her are in limbo. "It is hard," she said, trying to describe this past month when up to 300 workers have been laid off. Tillery made her comments from a classroom at WorkSource Vancouver, where she recently joined a handful of ex-mill workers looking for help with life after layoffs. There, at 204 S.E. Stone Mill Drive, representatives from WorkSource try to help laid off former mill workers carve out some options, like applying for new jobs, filing for unemployment benefits or even enrolling in school.

The Atlanta, Ga.-based company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Koch Industries, said demand has dwindled for communications paper, used in office copiers, printers and the like. Large portions of the mill will be torn down starting next year and layoffs began this spring. The mill, which arrived in the late 19th century and peaked at 2,600 jobs in the 1970s, will be left with just over 100 workers to keep running a machine that makes tissue products such as paper towels. The U.S. Department of Labor is considering offering Trade Adjustment Assistance to former mill workers, which would help pay for college.

Apprenticeship

[\[RI\] Apprenticeship teaches the ins and outs of fishing \(Narragansett Times\)](#)

(6/2/2018 10:15 AM, Kendra Gravelle)

In an effort to attract more young people to the fishing profession, an apprenticeship program based out of Point Judith with courses in Kingston will show participants all it takes to be in the commercial fishing industry. Now in its second year, the four-week Commercial Fisherman Apprenticeship Program was created to prepare young people for careers in New England's demanding but rewarding fishing industry. A collaboration between Commercial Fisheries Center of Rhode Island and the University of Rhode Island, the program is funded fully through Real Jobs Rhode Island. "There's a desperate need for new crew members," explained Fred Mattera, executive director of CFCRI.

Workers in the fishing industry are aging, Mattera said, adding that the average age for Rhode Island's fishermen today is close to 50 years old. Mattera said an overall reluctance by young people to become fishermen has contributed to a decline in men and women choosing to enter into the commercial fishing industry. He said because pay depends on fishing conditions, that uncertainty tends to scare off some prospective fishermen. Through the apprenticeship program, Mattera said aspiring fishermen will receive proper training in things like safety before they're taken out to sea. This year, with more funding available, 16 individuals will be selected for participation in the program.

[\[NY\] NY to give \\$3M for state's workforce needs \(Long Island Business News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:00 PM, Adina Genn)

New York is investing \$3 million in the state's workforce needs, officials said. Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced that the funds are for the State University of New York and the state's Department of Labor as they partner with businesses to develop registered apprenticeship positions.

The programs aim to support as many as 2,000 new pre-apprenticeship and registered apprenticeship positions in advanced manufacturing and healthcare over the next four to six years. The registered apprenticeship program will provide further on-the-job training and related instruction for apprenticeships. These benefits include competency-based training as well as the opportunity to explore certificate and degree programs, along with implementing online modules and faculty experts to assist in updating curricula. Additionally, the program will look at new ideas for pre-apprenticeship training to include a path for underrepresented minority populations.

[\[PA\] 57 craftsmen graduate from ABC Keystone Chapter's apprenticeship program \(Lancaster Online\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:37 AM, Tim Mekeel)

Fifty-seven construction workers graduated last month from the Apprentice Craft Training Program of the Manheim-based Keystone Chapter, Associated Builders and Contractors. Lancaster County residents who won honors at the Keystone Center for Construction Careers' graduation ceremony included electrical instructor Terry Boyer of Lititz, Instructor of the Year, and Wohlsen Construction carpentry apprentice Phil Garrett of Elizabethtown, Craft Professional of the Year.

Recognized with High Achiever Awards were: Travis B. Duncker of Etters, York County, sheet metal, Frey Lutz; Jonathan E. Godinez of Lancaster, carpentry, Benchmark Construction; Travis A. Horton, of Todd, Huntingdon County, plumbing, The Farfield Co.; Nathan Mullin of Leola, HVAC, Ranck Plumbing Heating AC; and Brian M. Young of Annville, Lebanon County, electrical, Wilco Electric, Columbia.

[\[TX\] Climbing the Ladder: Put in the time to make plumbing pay off \(San Angelo Standard-Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:00 AM, Krista Johnson)

These days finding a prospective plumber to hire is a "dime a dozen" — it's hanging on to them that's the problem, said Slater Chapa, owner of Lone Star Contracting. A plumber for 22 years, Chapa started an apprenticeship program within his company about eight years ago to help retain workers, but he still struggles to keep people on the job, with the oil fields taking a big portion of the blame. "The younger guys that come through here, 60-70 percent don't stick it out because they're chasing the quick buck," he said, adding that they "don't want to put the time in."

Starting out as a helper, new hires are teamed up with a licensed plumber, working side-by-side while learning the trade for the first two years on the job. At the very least, helpers learn about service work, grab tools off the truck, learn the fittings and parts and get feedback from their mentor before taking the state's licensing exam to become a tradesman, Chapa said. While it takes 4,000 hours of on-the-job training, along with 40 classroom hours and passing the exam to get that license — and in return a significant raise — there are significant benefits to the journey, Chapa said.

Labor

[US manufacturing picks up pace in May \(New York Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:30 AM, Paul Wiseman – Associated Press)

U.S. manufacturers expanded at a faster pace last month, another sign of strength for American industry. The Institute for Supply Management, a trade group of purchasing managers, reports that its manufacturing index rose to 58.7 in May from 57.3 in April. Anything above 50 signals growth. American manufacturing is enjoying a 21-month winning streak. New orders, production and hiring all grew faster. Export orders grew more slowly than they did in April.

Sixteen of 18 manufacturing industries expanded, led by textile mills and producers nonmetallic minerals. Factories are benefiting from healthy economic growth in the United States and around the world. In another sign of strength, the Labor Department says that employers added 223,000 jobs in May and the unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent.

[Trump breaks protocol to tout jobs report \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:32 PM, Cate Martel)

The U.S. economy added a robust 223,000 jobs last month, the Labor Department announced this morning. The unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent, the lowest level since April 2000. What was expected for May: 200,000. Oh and: Job gains were 15,000 more than previously reported in March and April.

UHHHH, TRUMP WASN'T SUPPOSED TO TWEET THIS: Via The Washington Post's Damian Paletta, President Trump tweeted his excitement about the jobs numbers 69 minutes before the Labor Department released the numbers, breaking decades of protocol. What Trump tweeted at 7:21 a.m.: "Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning." Reaction: "Treasury yields moved sharply higher within seconds."

Context: "The jobs data come out once a month and often can lead to massive buying or selling trends on Wall Street, depending on how the information is received. It is extremely closely held and kept under tight control until it is released at 8:30 a.m. on the first Friday of each month." The numbers are often privately shared with the president beforehand.

[If Robots Steal Our Jobs, Maybe We Should Make Them Pay Tax \(Huffington Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:46 AM, Laura Paddison)

Walk into this San Francisco restaurant and you are greeted with a wall of numbered cubbyholes with acrylic doors. Dotted around the room are tablet screens for placing orders. What you won't find are any people serving. There's no counter, no human to take your order or hand over the food. Instead, customers scroll through the menu of quinoa and rice bowls on the in-store screens or on a mobile app, tap in their order and wait for their name to flash on one of the cubbies, where their food will be waiting.

This is Eatsa, an automated restaurant. Well, sort of. There are still humans preparing food behind the scenes. But the company hopes to eventually automate this process too. The concept restaurant, while it has had recent setbacks, represents another step in the onward march of automation. To some, Eatsa is a sign of innovation, providing people with fast, smooth service without the need to speak to another person. But for others, like San Francisco Supervisor Jane Kim, who represents the district the restaurant is in, “there’s a big question mark about what this means for us as a society,” she says. Not only what it means to have less human interaction but also what it will do to jobs.

[As the US population ages, the need for home health-care workers skyrockets \(CNBC\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:39 AM, Kate Rogers)

Each day, some 10,000 seniors turn 65 in the United States, and the majority of them are hoping to age in their own homes. The staggering number of aging Americans has created demand for home health-care workers — from nurses to aides and caregivers.

Jobs in health care have already been growing at breakneck speed. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, from 2006 through 2016 2.8 million jobs were added in the health-care sector at a rate that was seven times faster than the rest of the economy. Through 2026, the projected growth of jobs in health-care settings is at 18 percent. But the demand for home health and personal care aides will far outpace the sector’s growth, with an increase of 41 percent to more than 4 million jobs.

“The demand for home care and hospice continues to grow as we see a graying of the U.S. population,” said Bill Dombi, president of the National Association for Home Care and Hospice, adding that both younger and older patients are pivoting ever more toward in-home care. “The shift has also been in financing from government sources — primarily through Medicare and Medicaid. In 2015, it was the first time nationally that more money was spent on home care than nursing home care. We’ve seen a culture and financing shift toward home and community-based care.”

[The US economy needs seniors to work longer. Here’s how to make that happen \(CNN\)](#)

(6/2/2018 9:50 AM, Lydia DePillis)

When she retired from her job as a legal secretary for the federal government at age 62, Linda Spencer thought retirement would be a blast. Then the Great Recession blew a hole in her savings, and free time wasn’t much fun without cash to travel and buy the nice clothes she’d gotten a taste for while working at Saks Fifth Avenue decades earlier. Jobs were scarce when she went out looking a couple of years ago, and so she found the federally-funded Senior Community Service Employment Program, which helps low-income seniors find employment in Northern Virginia. It pays minimum wage, or \$7.25 an hour, for her to do administrative work while she learns computer skills and looks for other jobs - which she now wants for more than just the financial reasons.

Getting more people to work later in life could help blunt the impact of the graying population on the nation’s finances, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Baby boomers are reaching retirement age rapidly, and the generations to follow are thinning as the American birth rate sinks ever lower. Luckily, workers are staying healthier and no longer feel that the traditional retirement age is an expiration date. Older workers are in particularly high demand for positions serving a fast-growing consumer category: People just a few years older than they are in need of health care services. Advocacy groups are working to convince employers that older workers are worth keeping around, countering perceptions that they can’t keep up with new technology or work with younger colleagues.

[The Death of a Gig Worker \(Atlantic Monthly\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:20 AM, Thomas Fox Parry)

An 8-year-old told me about Pablo Avendano’s death: “My dad’s friend was just killed riding his bike.” “He went out to work and he’s never coming back,” my son’s friend said, bobbing on his feet. “And he didn’t even like his job!” Avendano made deliveries through Caviar, the food-ordering app. “His boss is probably in trouble,” Dai said. Since his death, Avendano’s friends have organized themselves into a group called The Friends and Comrades of Pablo Avendano, and they have demands. They want a union for Caviar couriers, a wage starting at \$20 per hour, benefits including hazard pay, and for Caviar to reclassify couriers from independent contractors to W-2 employees. None of this appears likely to materialize—gig-economy companies have often brushed off similar demands in the past—but then, neither did the tomato workers’ demands back in Immokalee.

Caviar represents itself as a food-ordering platform, not a food-delivery service. Couriers are not employees. Along with the millions of workers who earn through Uber, UberEats, Lyft, DoorDash, Postmates, GrubHub, TaskRabbit, and more, Caviar couriers are considered independent contractors. In this gig economy, liability for work injuries, including death, falls on the worker and their family. “All of us at Caviar are deeply saddened by this news,” a Caviar spokesperson wrote to me in a statement. “This is a horrible tragedy and our thoughts are with Pablo’s family. We will work closely with authorities and assist in any way we can.”

[Editorial Note: Consult source link for full details.]

[Let the Labor Market Continue to Tighten \(National Review\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:22 PM, Mark Krikorian)

Today's jobs report showing the unemployment rate dropping yet again, to 3.8 percent, is great news for American workers. As I noted last week on the home page, a tight labor market, where employers have to hustle to recruit and retain workers, is the best social policy, raising the wages of our lowest-paid compatriots and drawing people back into the labor market (who aren't currently even counted in the unemployment statistics).

Unfortunately, today is also when the Federal Register published the formal rule, announced last week, that up to 15,000 extra H-2B visas would be issued to employers wanting to import seasonal, unskilled, non-agricultural workers, mostly in landscaping and hospitality (waiters, maids, etc.). This is the result of Congress chickening out of simply increasing the cap on H-2B visas (currently 66,000 a year) and instead passing the buck to the Department of Homeland Security in the recent omnibus funding measure.

This same dodge happened last year, when John Kelly was still DHS secretary. He came under extreme pressure (from Senator Thom Tillis and from the White House, whose occupant is an enthusiastic booster of guest worker visas) and agreed to a "one-time increase." Now that it's happened again, I guess "one-time" has a different meaning inside the Beltway.

[The US is having a hard time keeping teachers in their jobs \(Quartz\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:26 AM, Preeti Varathan)

One way to protest low wages is to go on strike. That's what teachers in the US have recently been doing in many states, like West Virginia, Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Arizona. Another option is to quit. A new analysis by the US Census Bureau suggests an increasing number of teachers are taking on new jobs.

Some turnover is normal, even healthy, as teachers leave to find schools or different professions that suit them better. In 2015, the latest data available, a bit more than 1 million teachers left for a different job, in education or another industry. Less encouragingly, that same year 1.8 million teachers became "persistently nonemployed"—Census lingo for teachers who didn't find a job elsewhere after leaving their position.

[AI, automation, and the future of work: Ten things to solve for \(McKinsey & Company\)](#)

(6/2/2018 8:36 AM, James Manyika & Kevin Sneider)

Automation and artificial intelligence (AI) are transforming businesses and will contribute to economic growth via contributions to productivity. At the same time, these technologies will transform the nature of work and the workplace itself. Machines will be able to carry out more of the tasks done by humans, complement the work that humans do, and even perform some tasks that go beyond what humans can do. While we believe there will be enough work to go around, society will need to grapple with significant workforce transitions and dislocation. Workers will need to acquire new skills and adapt to the increasingly capable machines alongside them in the workplace.

This executive briefing, which draws on the latest research from the McKinsey Global Institute, examines both the promise and the challenge of automation and AI in the workplace and outlines some of the critical issues that policy makers, companies, and individuals will need to solve for. Accelerating progress in AI and automation is creating opportunities for businesses, the economy, and society. Deployment of AI and automation technologies can do much to lift the global economy and increase global prosperity, at a time when aging and falling birth rates are acting as a drag on growth. We have found that around 15 percent of the global workforce, or about 400 million workers, could be displaced by automation in the period 2016-2030. Work will need to be redesigned to ensure that humans work alongside machines most effectively.

[In Market: Heigh-ho, heigh-ho, it's off to co-work we go \(Fort Worth Business Press\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:46 AM, Robert Francis)

Content in your little cubicle with photos of the spouse and kids and maybe a sports calendar on the wall? Millennials aren't. No, they have to have coffee and "be comfortable" while they work. You'd think it was written in the Bill of Rights. According to some new research from Thumbtack, a San Francisco-based online marketplace that connects local service providers, millennials are rejecting all sorts of workplace rules that we once thought were etched in stone like those 10 Commandments, though we seem to have broken a few of those as well. Here are some highlights from Thumbtack's research:

Millennials don't go around singing Dolly Parton's 9 to 5, choosing independent work and entrepreneurship over traditional employment hours bemoaned by the Backwoods Barbie. Forty percent of millennials plan on leaving their full-time employers to work as a freelancers within five years.

Facebook, Twitter, etc. Millennials use technology to help grow their business, utilizing social media for marketing (84 percent) and platforms like YouTube to answer customer questions.

Cash isn't king for millennials either. Three in five report starting a business to be more fulfilled, not to make more money.

Millennial entrepreneurs aren't tied to a traditional office setting. Only 11 percent of millennials report working from an office, while 27 percent work from home. Twenty-seven percent use public spaces like coffee shops or libraries and 11 percent use co-working

spaces.

[Fannie, Freddie want to make mortgages easier for gig-economy workers \(Worcester Telegram\)](#)

(5/31/2018 8:02 PM, Kenneth R. Harney)

The two biggest sources of home-mortgage money in the country, investors Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, are quietly working on ways to make qualifying for a home purchase easier for participants in the booming “gig” economy.

The gig economy refers to hundreds of income-earning activities that allow workers to set their own hours, work for as long or as little as they choose, and function as independent contractors or freelancers as opposed to salaried employees. Prominent examples include people who work as drivers for Uber or Lyft, assemble IKEA furniture for TaskRabbit or offer rooms in their homes on Airbnb. Estimates vary, but anywhere from just under 20 percent to 30 percent or more of the U.S. workforce participates in some way in the gig economy. Last year, Intuit, which owns TurboTax, estimated that 34 percent of the workforce earned money in gig pursuits and projected that this could rise to 43 percent by 2020.

[Report: Americans are finding work, but the better paying jobs require a college degree \(Miami Herald\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:20 PM, Eduardo J. Padrón & Edward Alden)

The official unemployment rate has fallen below four percent for the first time since July of 2001. More companies are offering hiring bonuses to attract workers, and the retirement of baby boomers is opening more jobs for young adults. While jobs are plentiful, good jobs are increasingly hard to find, especially for those without access to higher education. As technology and global competition continue to reshape the work landscape, too many of the new jobs are low-wage with few benefits or possibilities for advancement, while the better jobs require education and skills that remain beyond the reach of way too many Americans.

In our new Council on Foreign Relations Task Force report, The Work Ahead, we offer recommendations regarding how business, educators, and governments can ensure that Americans are prepared for the better-paying jobs of the new global knowledge economy. In the report, we argue that rebuilding the pathway from education to opportunity in the face of accelerating technological change is the critical challenge of our time. Every young person should have the opportunity to do some sort of job-related training while in school, including a significant expansion of apprenticeships and internships.

[This jobs program just might get people back to work \(Seattle Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:37 PM, Sophie Quinton, Stateline.org)

When the man in the teal hoodie mentioned that he had trained as a pharmacy technician, Lachelle Hill's voice rose in excitement. “Why don't I see that on here?” the state job counselor asked, pointing at the paperwork on the table between them. Hill was counseling Corey, a 30-year-old job seeker who didn't share his last name, at a federally funded job center on the top floor of a Baltimore shopping mall, an escalator ride away from a Forever 21 and a Cinnabon.

Unemployment insurance beneficiaries are required to look for work, but Hill wasn't just checking Corey's paperwork for compliance. She was helping him focus his job search, and trying to steer him toward positions he was qualified for.

[\[PA\] Pa. can build on apprenticeships, skills training and STEM education progress \(PennLive\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:00 AM, Tom Wolf)

Pennsylvania's economy is growing and setting records, recently passing more than six million jobs for the first time in our history. All of us working together makes the commonwealth the 14th largest economy in the world. But the global marketplace is extremely competitive. To attract businesses to grow and expand here, we need more talented workers, and we must prepare now.

Recently, I brought together labor and business leaders, who along with educators, traveled the state, listening to employers, workers, and job trainers.

[\[PA\] Ready? Set? Work \(TheNoteBook\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:44 PM, Dale Mezzacappa & Jane M. Von Bergen)

Teachers in automotive, welding, plumbing, and solar energy shops in schools across the city say that every one of their seniors who wants a job – right out of high school – can have one in that field. Given what's happening the broader economy, that's not a surprise. “People are worried about the future of the workforce,” said H. Patrick Clancy, president and chief executive officer of Philadelphia Works, the quasi-public agency that distributes dollars from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

People are also worried about the future of today's youth. And increasingly, those worried about the workforce and those worried about the youth are talking to each other. The city's workforce development report released in January, “Fueling Philadelphia's Talent Engine,” promises more alignment of public and private investment – a tall order in a city not known for smooth relationships between the two sectors and historically fragmented within its government agencies. Philadelphia's overall high school graduation rate has been slowly rising, and it now stands at 67 percent. But concerns remain that many of the graduates are ill-prepared for college or work. The city has a huge contingent of so-called

"opportunity youth" between the ages of 16 and 24, disconnected from school, and unemployed.

[\[PA\] The 'Help Wanted' sign is out for those needing jobs \(Johnstown Tribune-Democrat\)](#)

(6/3/2018 7:00 AM, Editorial)

A scan of the "Help Wanted" section of The Tribune-Democrat's Classified section amplifies the notion that there are jobs available in a variety of fields in our region. Johnstown Area Regional Industries Workforce Development Director Deb Balog told reporter David Hurst that Cambria County has 1,000 or more positions open every month. That contradicts the assumption some might have that there are no jobs in the Johnstown market.

Like much of Pennsylvania and the nation, we're facing a dangerous shortage, especially in health care, the building trades and heavy industry. Across the region, the story is the same: Various factors - baby-boomer retirements, skill and education gaps, even opioid addiction and disinterest - are hindering companies at a time when those communities could use an economic shot in the arm. Companies are getting creative to attract and keep workers. Educational institutions are shifting the focus toward programs that will send graduates out into the job market with the necessary skills - which often doesn't mean a traditional four-year degree.

[\[NJ\] STEM program will boost NJ's economy \(Burlington County Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:00 AM, Editorial)

On Tuesday, Gov. Phil Murphy proposed a loan forgiveness program for college graduates who take jobs in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields in New Jersey and a program that would reimburse STEM employers for the cost of internships.

Under the forgiveness plan, the state's Higher Education Student Assistance Authority would offer graduates \$1,000 a year for four years to help defray the costs of outstanding loans. The internship program would reimburse employers in STEM fields up to a maximum of \$1,500 in wages for interns from New Jersey high schools, colleges or universities. The estimated cost to the state would be about \$12 million, beginning in 2022, when eligible students graduate.

[\[MD\] Emergency call-takers, dispatchers overcome staffing challenges, stressful work \(Frederick News-Post\)](#)

(6/2/2018 11:00 PM, Jeremy Arias)

It was just before 8 p.m. May 25, and Renae Coolidge was just hanging up her phone at the Frederick County Emergency Communications Center after helping a resident set up a burn permit. In the seat next to her, fellow 911 call-taker Kim Woolcock gave her a sympathetic smile, having just finished taking a similar call herself. "There's going to be a lot of those this week," Woolcock said, explaining that a countywide burn ban will go into effect June 1 and last until Aug. 31, meaning that any farmers who need to burn waste would likely call in. A truly quiet night is an anomaly at the ECC, where life-or-death emergencies are only a three-digit phone call away.

The ECC handles 1,200 calls on an average day, said Jen Stahley, an ECC manager. The center's minimum staffing level varies between eight and 12 employees depending on the time of day, but managers like Stahley and LeighAnn Tepper say they prefer 17 to be comfortable during the busier times of the day.

Some mistakes are already happening in the form of missed or dropped 911 calls, with ECC Director John Woelfel estimating in a recent budget hearing before the County Council that about 60 calls to 911 went unanswered over the course of six months. Jack Markey, director of the county's Emergency Management Division, emphasized in that same meeting that the rate was very low and that most missed calls result from a large number of people calling about the same incident. Call-takers always call the numbers back promptly just in case, Markey added.

[\[NC\] Goodwill Partners With Charlotte, N.C. Agencies to Open Construction Skills Training Center \(Builder\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:42 AM, Charlotte Business Journal)

Goodwill Industries of the Southern Piedmont has partnered with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Central Piedmont Community College and Rebuilding Opportunities in Construction (The ROC) to create the Goodwill Construction Skills Training Center in a former Goodwill warehouse on the west side of Charlotte, North Carolina.

The partnership will offer its first classes in August at CMS's Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology across the street, and the \$2.5 million center will open to its first students in January, once renovations are complete. The free program will start with construction training, then move into specialized study that may include cover construction, field supervision, concrete and masonry, apartment maintenance, advanced carpentry, computer aided drafting & design, HVAC or electrical training.

The partnership aims to graduate 520 students per year by 2020. Once students complete the free training and certification, they will be ready to apply for a job or apprenticeship, or transfer up to 53 credit hours toward an associate's degree at Central Piedmont Community College.

[\[NC\] Skills gap creates opportunities in cyber security \(Spectrum News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:42 PM, Staff)

Employers need talent to fill one of the country's largest skills gaps. Nearly 750,000 tech jobs are available in the U.S. with 20,000 tech jobs available in North Carolina. Median data-security analyst salary is about \$121,000.

Organizations set up at Pfeiffer University for the Come Tech Out Charlotte job fair. Over the past year, openings for information security analysts in the state have grown nearly 70 percent.

[\[OH\] Labor shortages, immigrant worker cap and weed are cutting into business, landscapers say \(Akron Beacon-Journal\)](#)

(6/2/2018 11:11 PM, Jim Mackinnon)

Many landscaping businesses in Northeast Ohio say they are short on workers this year. That reflects in part a national unemployment rate now at an 18-year low of 3.8 percent. But the businesses say they also are unable to bring in enough legal immigrants, predominantly from Mexico, using a long-established federal visa program designed to fill seasonal low-skill jobs. The government no longer is granting exemptions to the visa program that had made thousands more returning migrant workers available in previous seasons, the landscapers said. It's not just a local issue. There's a national shortage of immigrant seasonal workers affecting other industries besides landscaping.

In many cases U.S. citizens are not as reliable as the H-2B workers, some said. Jacob Grimm said his 25-person firm received 146 job applications last year. Of those, 120 people did not come in for an interview, he said. Twenty-four applicants were considered employable, but half of those declined to take a drug test, he said. Of four people who accepted job offers, one remains this year, Grimm said.

[\[OH\] Building skills for that first summer job \(Lima News\)](#)

(6/2/2018 7:49 PM, Sam Shriver)

With most schools already ending for the year, many young people are looking for summer jobs

Getting that summer job should be easier because teen unemployment is below 13 percent, something that hasn't happened for many years. On the other hand, due to factors like a rising minimum wage, inexperienced high schoolers could be priced out of the running for those jobs.

According to Michael Saltsman, managing director of the Employment Policies Institute, over the past five years, the summer teen labor force participation rate during the summer months has remained steady at around 35 percent. Older more experienced workers are also competing for those summer jobs. A Drexel University report tracked a 5 percentage point drop in the share of teens working restaurant jobs over the last two decades. Kylon Petty, 13, and his sister Jakyra, 15, hope their participation in Derry Glenn's Rent-A-Kid program will get them experience in the workforce, whether its mowing grass or doing other chores. Ohio Means Jobs means opportunities for young people. Lima City Schools are training kids to be employable.

[\[OH\] Bridging the gap between education and employment \(Coshocton Tribune\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:56 AM, Leonard Hayhurst)

A new program to do that starting at the end of June at the local campus is Advancing Coshocton through Technical Training, or ACtTT. It features 12 courses over four semesters focused on skills local employers have said they are looking for. While it's open to anyone, ACtTT is being specifically offered to students of the Coshocton County Career Center. COTC has branches in Newark, Coshocton, Mount Vernon and Pataskala. Across all campuses, 45 degree and certificate programs are offered.

The program is free to anyone willing to complete all classes and would not result in a degree, but could play into earning a degree if a student wishes to go in that direction. ACtTT is possible through a \$238,000 competitive grant from the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association to be used on job readiness programs. Coshocton County received one of only five such grants from OMEGA. "We cannot and are not looking at this as an enrollment driver. Instead, we're looking at it specifically as a job readiness program," Maple said. "What we really want to happen is for (students) to complete these classes and get hired along the way or at the end."

[\[MI\] Employing Disadvantaged Groups Begins by Bringing Schools, Community Leaders and Businesses to the Table \(Detroit Regional Chamber\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:34 AM, Detroit Regional Chamber)

There is a strong disconnect between workforce training systems, educational systems, and business. How can organizations collaborate to fill positions and give chronically underemployed groups employment opportunities? This was the topic during W.K. Kellogg Foundation's session, "The Future of Work in Michigan: Partnerships Pave the Way to Prosperity" at the Mackinac Policy Conference.

Panelists included Heidi Kaplan, senior community development analyst for the Federal Reserve Board of Governors; David Meador, vice chairman and chief administrative officer for DTE Energy; and Bill Pink, president of Grand Rapids Community College. La June Montgomery Tabron, president and CEO of W.K. Kellogg Foundation, moderated the panel.

[\[WI\] Wisconsin's tight workforce pushes more employers to prison labor \(WISN-TV ABC 12 Milwaukee\)](#)

(6/2/2018 4:47 PM, Nick Bohr)

More than 1,600 inmates around the state are currently involved in the Wisconsin Department of Corrections' work release program that lines up

willing workers with employers eager for employees, and it goes far beyond making license plates. The program offers a stepping stone from incarceration to freedom and opportunities to show responsibility, earn money and support a family. In order to be eligible, the inmates first have to work prison jobs as cooks and maintenance personnel and perform 16 hours of community service.

The inmates also have to pay the Department of Corrections \$740 per month from their wages to reimburse the state for their living expenses and transportation costs. Though the state transports the inmates, the employers are not subsidized by the state. They pay prevailing wages ranging from minimum wage up to more than \$15 per hour.

[\[ND\] Trucker shortage has industry recruiters in overdrive \(Fargo Forum\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:00 PM, Dave Olson)

A driver shortage has recruitment efforts in overdrive as area trucking companies seek to attract a younger generation to an industry that touches nearly every aspect of the American economy. Dixon said that whenever members of the association gather hiring is the most talked about item. She said the problem has long existed nationwide, but the Fargo-Moorhead region is now feeling the pinch as well.

When it comes to trucking companies that want to grow, or even maintain their current operations, the driver shortage is a huge challenge, according to Mark Wolter, director of safety and maintenance at Midnite Express Inc. in West Fargo. Wolter said the rigors of trucking can be a hindrance to some, as the job can take someone away from their family for seven to 10 days at a time. In the past, Midnite Express offered signing bonuses of \$1,000 in an effort to attract drivers, but that amount has been boosted to \$1,500 as drivers have become even more scarce.

[\[SD\] Diversion program gives young adults a second chance \(KOTA-TV Rapid City\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:02 AM, Meredith James)

The Young Adult Diversion program began in 2016 and is open to people 18 to 25 year old, who have a limited criminal history. This gives people with non-violent misdemeanors or low-level felonies a chance for the state to dismiss their criminal charge. "The purpose of the program is not to negate responsibility. What we've tried to do for those offenders is to make our programming more difficult than pleading guilty. So they have to put the effort in," says Carolyn Olson, the deputy state's attorney.

If accepted into the program, participants complete community service at places like the Department of Labor, B&T Manufacturing and elsewhere. As for Bob Ketchum at Youth & Family Services, he is happy to mentor young adults from the diversion program and see their personal growth. "They get more and more involved and come out of their shells and they realize there is, there are other adults out there that care about who they are and what they're doing in life and want them to succeed," says Ketchum.

[\[TX\] Hunt for summer jobs \(Brownsville Herald\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:04 AM, Staff)

School's almost out, and the only thing hotter than the weather is parents' desire to get their teens out of the house and into the summer work force. This summer that'll be easier than usual; the teen unemployment rate has dipped below 13 percent, a level not seen since the Clinton years. Despite the low youth unemployment rate, the number of teenagers who have exited the labor force is near an all-time high. One factor to blame: Aggressive increases in the minimum wage at the state and local level. For the past five years, the summer teen labor force participation rate has held steady around 35 percent; as recently as 2001, this figure was above 50 percent. A 2017 report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics identified some arguably beneficial reasons for this trend, such as teens opting to enroll in summer school over a summer job. There's another not-so-beneficial reason: A rising minimum wage. A recent Mercatus Center study, authored by economists David Neumark and Cortnie Shupe, identified higher minimum wages as the "predominant factor" in the decline in the teen labor force participation rate. The economists studied the sharp decline in teen employment since 2000, and cited that "a rising minimum wage could have priced some teenagers out of the labor market."

Minimum wage increases are also a leading factor in businesses being forced to provide the same service at a lower cost - either by automating or just eliminating certain positions. Other consequences of rising labor costs are business closures. The decline in teen employment should be worrisome for economists and parents alike.

[\[TX\] Companies, needing Permian workers, find West Texas a hard sell \(Houston Chronicle\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:00 AM, Jordan Blum)

Josh Garcia found himself in a position familiar to many energy workers when he was laid off from Houston's C&J Energy Services during the recent oil bust. The company, Centurion Technologies, offered a six-figure salary, free housing for a year, and a company car. But Garcia, 33, still hesitated, unsure about moving far from the state's population centers and the diversions they offer to young professionals. "I knew how remote it is out here," Garcia said. "There's not another industry out here if things go south. It's either sink or swim."

With the local supply of labor all but exhausted, energy companies are finding that recruiting workers like Garcia to West Texas is a tough sell — one made all the harder by strong national and state economies that provide skilled workers with plenty of options elsewhere.

[\[NV\] Las Vegas hotel workers vs. robots is a sign of looming labor challenges \(Miami Herald\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:45 PM, Andrés Oppenheimer)

The most important news story in recent days is one that has gone practically unnoticed in the media: the threat by 50,000 Las Vegas hotel and casino workers to go on strike. As kitchen workers, concierges and receptionists are increasingly replaced by robots - as will accountants, lawyers and journalists - you will see a growing wave of anti-tech, anti-automation protests around the world. The next wave of public discontent may be aimed at job-threatening robots.

A 2013 Oxford University study by Carl B. Frey and Michael A. Osborne - whom, for full disclosure, I have interviewed extensively for a book I wrote on this issue that's due to be released this year - predicted that up to 47 percent of U.S. jobs are at risk of being replaced by automation in the next 15 years. In a May 23 vote, 99 percent of the 25,000 Las Vegas Culinary Workers Union members who cast their ballots voted to go on strike when their contract expired June 1. In addition to higher pay and job security against robots, they demanded that casinos take stronger measures against sexual harassment and immigration-related abuses.

[\[CA\] Bernie Sanders: Disney needs 'moral defense' for having hungry workers while making billions \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/2/2018 10:12 PM, Luis Sanchez)

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) lambasted Walt Disney Co. on Saturday for making billions of dollars in profits while failing to pay workers "a living wage." At a rally in Anaheim, Calif., Sanders demanded a "moral defense" for Disney and other billion-dollar corporations that pay their executives high salaries but have made efforts to avoid raising other workers' salaries. "I want to hear the moral defense of a company that makes \$9 billion in profits, \$400 million for their CEOs and have a 30-year worker going hungry," Sanders told the crowd. "The struggle that you are waging here in Anaheim is not just for you," Sanders said. "It is a struggle for millions of workers all across this country who are sick and tired of working longer hours for lower wages."

Sanders was joined on stage by members of a coalition of unions that had gathered about 21,000 signatures to qualify for the November municipal ballot that seeks to require large employers who receive government subsidies to maintain a \$15 minimum wage. To qualify for the ballot only 10 percent, or 13,150, of Anaheim voters needed to provide their signatures.

[\[CA\] Bernie Sanders takes job-killing stands at Disney workers' rally, critics say \(Fox News\)](#)

(6/3/2018 6:00 AM, Stephen Sorce)

U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., rallied California's Disneyland Resort workers in Anaheim on Saturday in support of a state wage-increase measure that some say would cost the state "thousands" of jobs. In the same speech, Sanders also praised Disney CEO Bob Iger for canceling ABC's "Roseanne" after its star's recent Twitter meltdown -- even though the sitcom's shutdown reportedly threw hundreds of crew members out of work.

So it may be no surprise that some observers were left skeptical of Sanders' credentials as an advocate for working Americans. "While touting himself as a friend of the working man, Bernie has come all this way to support a measure that will result in thousands of lost jobs for the people of Anaheim," Todd Ament, CEO of the Anaheim Chamber of Commerce, said in a written statement.

[\[AK\] New DOL rules protect worker rights \(Cordova Times\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:10 PM, Staff)

New state labor regulations effective June 7 aim to ensure law abiding state contractors are not outbid by unscrupulous bidders who would deprive workers of basic employment rights. These include minimum wage, overtime, workers' compensation and a safe work environment. The regulations fulfill the intent of Administrative Order 286, issued by Gov. Bill Walker last year.

The new regulations will ensure the state plays a positive role in the marketplace by embedding support for labor rights in the procurement process. Incentivizing labor rights compliance has beneficial ripple effects, since most state government contractors also work in other areas of business, state labor officials said. Sustaining and strengthening labor rights enforcement also has positive economic impacts by ensuring wages stay in Alaska and recirculate in the state's economy.

Child Labor

[What Employers Need to Know About Hiring Minors \(EHS Today\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, David Sparkman)

In the summer when most teenagers are thinking of vacation and the beach, some choose to enter the workforce, even if they only do so temporarily. A number of federal laws and regulations on the books are aimed at protecting them from dangerous kinds of work—and sometimes from dangerous employers. The Department of Labor (DOL) has issued regulations for these younger workers in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Although there are a few exceptions, for the most part workers under the age of 18 are entitled to minimum wages

and overtime pay just like their adult co-workers.

The FLSA also includes other protections by setting out when and what a minor can do. Federal law strictly prohibits the employment of minors in non-agricultural work falling within any of the DOL's list of hazardous occupations. These include—but are not limited to—manufacturing or storing explosives, driving a motor vehicle, working as an outside helper on motor vehicles, coal mining, firefighting, power-driven tools, exposure to radioactive substances and many more. Many of them have to do with dangerous tools, equipment and processes that are commonly employed in manufacturing and agriculture.

[Who-When-What: State Law Basics On Summer Hiring \(Mondaq\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:00 AM, Sade Tidwell)

Here we are - the school year is coming to a close and you are eager to get your business staffed with forward-thinking, millennial summer hires. Don't move too fast though, because in addition to the federal Fair Labor Standards Act's restrictions we discussed earlier this month, there are numerous states that provide even more rigorous limitations on the employment of minors. Typically, state laws regulating child labor set the minimum age of employment for youth; the duties they can perform; and whether their employment requires a work permit, among other things. To give you a taste of how varied these requirements can be, here are some samples from the southeastern states (i.e., states that typically follow the FLSA otherwise).

Some states have both general minimum age requirements for employment, and higher thresholds for certain work. In Georgia, for instance, minors under 12 years of age generally are prohibited from working in any gainful occupation. All minors under 17, however, specifically are prohibited from working in mills, factories, laundry facilities, manufacturing establishments, workshops, or in any other occupation which has been designated as "hazardous" under Georgia law. In Florida, minors younger than 16 cannot conduct door-to-door sales. Tennessee law prohibits minors from working at heights greater than 10 feet off the ground. It is a good idea to get familiar with the various limitations in your state because, as you can see, a state might have its own specific areas of concern.

[Congressman Questions DOL Proposal to Loosen Restrictions on Teen Workers and Hazardous Jobs \(WorkersCompensation\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:05 AM, National Safety Council)

A leading Democratic congressman is questioning why the Department of Labor wants to expand the number of hazardous jobs available to 16- and 17-year-olds. Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN), deputy chair of the Democratic National Committee, wrote a letter to Secretary of Labor R. Alexander Acosta on May 23 inquiring about a proposed rule on the Spring 2018 regulatory agenda, Expanding Apprenticeship and Employment Opportunities to 16 and 17-Year Olds Under the FLSA (Fair Labor Standards Act).

FLSA prohibits 16- and 17-year-old workers from performing certain hazardous jobs outside of the agricultural industry, but provides limited exemptions for apprentices and student learners working "under certain conditions," the regulatory agenda entry states. In a notice of proposed rulemaking slated for publication in October, DOL is planning to consider whether Hazardous Occupations Orders "should be updated to reflect the current economic and work environments and to allow for safe and meaningful apprenticeship opportunities and student-learner programs."

According to Ellison's letter, 17 Hazardous Occupations Orders restrict younger workers in areas such as coal mining or fighting forest fires. He also states that because of those laws, work-related deaths among teens have dropped to 27 a year in 2015 and 2016 from 72.5 a year in 1999 and 2000. "Rolling back these regulations could jeopardize the safety of America's youth and lead to an increase in the rate of workplace injuries, or even death, for underage workers," Ellison wrote. Ellison concludes his letter with a series of questions for Acosta, requesting a response by June

[\[NH\] Bill giving New Hampshire teens more work flexibility narrowly survives Democratic opposition \(KPVI-TV NBC 6 Pocatello\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:03 AM, Dave Lemery)

Currently, if school is in session at all during the work week, a student can't work more than 30 hours in that week. Senate Bill 318 would let a student increase that to 40¼ hours if class was in session for four days and 48 hours if it's in session for three or fewer days. The bill had sailed through the House on its original consideration in April, but when it came time to vote on the committee of conference report, Rep. Douglas Ley, D-Jaffrey, argued that the teen work hour's proposal was one cherry-picked piece of policy from a raft of potential youth labor reforms that had otherwise been put off for more study.

"During the committee of conference, it was repeatedly stated by ... one of the House members that this really should have gone to interim study, that the goal of the Committee of Labor has always been to study the entire set of labor statutes and regulations regarding youth hours," Ley said. "And in fact, this house has already endorsed that on two bills for the Committee of Labor to do such a thing. And yet here we are changing labor statutes for youth ages 16 to 17. We are doing this in an ad hoc manner before we have even reviewed the entirety of the system."

[\[AL\] Labor department talks teenage employment \(Athens News-Courier\)](#)

(6/2/2018 7:30 AM, Jessica Barnett)

School's out for summer, and that means more teenagers are available for summer work. The hiring of teenagers can provide great opportunities for both employers and employees, but the Alabama Department of Labor and Alabama Career Center System wants businesses and workers alike to know the rules of seasonal teenage employment beforehand. In Alabama, teens as young as 14 can be employed, though employers must obtain a child labor certificate from ADOL.

One certificate allows a business to employ as many teens as they need for an entire year. The rules for teenagers vary based on their age, which is why many places start hiring at 16. Sixteen- and 17-year-olds have no hour restrictions when school is in session; Fourteen- and 15-year-olds may work between the hours of 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. during months school is not in session. They may work no more than eight hours per day, 40 hours per week or six days per week. A 30-minute break is required if the teen works more than five hours. To view an entire list of restrictions for teenage workers, please visit the link above.

Immigration

[U.S. Farms Can't Compete Without Foreign Workers \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:00 AM, Editorial)

American farmers have been complaining of labor shortages for several years now. Given a multi-year decline in illegal immigration, and a similarly sustained pickup in the U.S. job market, the complaints are unlikely to stop without an overhaul of immigration rules for farm workers. Efforts to create a more straightforward agricultural-workers visa that would enable foreign workers to stay longer in the U.S. and change jobs within the industry have so far failed in Congress. If this doesn't change, American businesses, communities and consumers will be the losers.

Perhaps half of U.S. farm laborers are undocumented immigrants. As fewer such workers enter the U.S., the characteristics of the agricultural workforce are changing. Today's farm laborers, while still predominantly born in Mexico, are more likely to be settled, rather than migrating, and more likely to be married than single. They are also aging. At the start of this century, about one-third of crop workers were over the age of 35. Now, more than half are. And crop picking is hard on older bodies. One oft-debated cure for this labor shortage remains as implausible as it has been all along: Native U.S. workers won't be returning to the farm.

[Employers Skate on Thin Ice With Immigration Compliance, Bias \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 AM, Laura D. Francis)

Employers have been subject to a whirlwind of new and evolving immigration policies over the last year and a half that have kept them on their toes. How they respond determines whether they also risk violating employment law and anti-discrimination measures in particular. Both Procter & Gamble and Bank of America found that out when they were sued recently over allegedly refusing to hire immigrants with work permits through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

The cases present the question of what employers should do if they're concerned about hiring someone whose immigration status and work authorization could end in the near future. The issue has taken on increased importance with the Trump administration's ending of DACA as well as temporary protected status for the nationals of several countries.

[U.S. may open door to more temporary immigrant workers, Trump aide says \(Reuters\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:04 AM, Susan Heavey)

The Trump administration is examining ways U.S. industries could hire more immigrant workers on a temporary basis, White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow said on Friday, as data showed the United States unemployment rate at an 18-year low. "We are looking at ways to bring temporary immigrants with temporary visas legally into the United States in a number of industries," Kudlow told CNBC in an interview, adding he did not want to say more that would "get ahead of the curve."

Kudlow, who also spoke on Fox Business Network, noted that while the White House was wrestling with Congress over legislation to address immigration long-term, "I think you're going to see some progress" on immigrant employment visas near-term. He gave no other details. Earlier on Friday, Labor Department data showed job growth accelerated in May and the unemployment rate dropped to 3.8 percent, pointing to rapidly tightening labor market conditions that also showed wages rising solidly. The strong employment report also hinted at a labor market squeeze that could leave employers struggling to find qualified workers, slowing job growth and lifting wages.

[How Trump's Visa Crackdown Worsens The Doctor Shortage \(Forbes\)](#)

(6/3/2018 9:15 AM, Bruce Japsen)

The Trump administration's scrutiny of international medical graduates who have already been accepted into U.S. residency programs has led to delays of visas for doctors-in-training, several national doctor groups say. Most residency programs begin in the next month so delaying medical resident visas has immediate repercussions.

Nearly 4,000 international medical graduates have already been accepted to U.S. residency programs, but the U.S. Department of Labor has

slowed processing of H-1B visas, citing the lack of wage data, the doctor groups say. The doctor groups question whether the data request is an excuse to merely deny visas, considering the labor department has long used "resident stipend data" from the Association of American Medical Colleges. If the visas aren't approved soon, patients will face treatment delays and gaps in care given a lack of medical care providers, particularly in rural and urban areas. It's not uncommon for one medical resident to see 3,000 or more patients, doctor groups say.

[GOP Reps. Demand 100,000 More Work Permits for Foreign College Grads \(Breitbart\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:33 AM, Neil Munro)

At least 10 Republican members of Congress are pushing a plan to grant 100,000 extra work-permits to foreign college grads, despite the reality of high debts and stalled salaries for American graduates. "We write to urge you to maintain the current regulation granting work authorization to certain H-4 dependent spouses of H-1B nonimmigrant workers," says the letter to the Department of Homeland Security which was signed by 110 Democrats and by 10 GOP legislators led by Utah. Rep. Mia Love.

The letter is intended to preserve the 100,000 work permits which were given to the spouses of foreign H-1B workers by officials working for former President Barack Obama. The 2015 policy provides the permits to the spouses of many H-1B workers who have been approved to get green cards, but who are waiting in a multi-decade backlog.

[Steve Bannon: Visas that allow immigrants to take the jobs of Americans are not acceptable, 'and that's not racist' \(Washington Examiner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:24 PM, Many Mayfield)

Former White House chief strategist Steve Bannon defended his views on immigration during an interview that aired Friday and said they exhibited "Economic nationalism," not racism. "The H-1B Visa where you come and take the jobs of American citizens is just not acceptable," Bannon said during an interview with CNN's Fareed Zakaria that aired Friday.

"The central beating heart of this is that Hispanics and blacks have to get into the high valley tech jobs, we're not doing that as long as they have unfair competition," he added. The remarks came in response to a question from Zakaria about whether some of Bannon's past rhetoric on the subject was racist.

[Agriculture Industry Faces Labor Shortage \(Food Logistics\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:05 PM, Staff)

According to Bakersfield.com, competition for farmworkers have tightened so much that Ibarra now earns \$12 per hour, plus a bonus for high productivity. However, as the money may get better, Ibarra is still thinking about leaving the field due to a lack of career development and promotions. The agriculture industry is starting to see a challenge in maintaining workers, causing companies to face steep labor costs. Bakersfield.com reports that competition from farmers to the north and overall improvement to the economy is threatening to cut profits of local growing operations.

Fortunately for some farms, the severity of the labor shortage depends on the crop and the time of the year. Weather conditions can also play a factor in harvests. Yet, farms like Sun Pacific Shippers have still had to increase wages to attract the skilled workers that is required in their fields. The company isn't optimistic about next year's growth labor either. President Al Bates tells Bakersfield.com that they are figuring out a way to continue to have enough people to harvest their crops. The agriculture industry isn't the only one that has faced labor shortages. The trucking industry is facing a shortage of drivers and is also attempting to lure workers by increasing pay and offering more perks and benefits.

[Insufficient numbers of seasonal workers under H-2B visa program an issue for course operators \(GolfWeek\)](#)

(6/3/2018 5:55 PM, Martin Kaufmann)

Few public-policy issues inspire as much heated conversations as immigration, and the golf industry perennially finds itself smack dab in the middle of the debate. Golf is a big employer of temporary immigrant laborers who arrive in the U.S. under the H-2B visa program for temporary nonagricultural jobs. Golf course operators typically hire these seasonal workers to staff their grounds crews, though some also are recruited to work in other areas, such as food and beverage.

The golf industry has experienced a slow, steady contraction over the past decade, with more courses closing than opening each year. But the demand for temporary workers is as strong as ever. The industry's lobbyists say the labor shortage is growing more acute as the U.S. labor market tightens. On June 1, the U.S. Department of Labor announced the unemployment rate had fallen to 3.8 percent, an 18-year low. The Labor Department also noted that wages for nonsupervisor employees rose 2.8 percent over the past year, the biggest gain since 2009.

[Illegal immigration damages economy \(Bloomington Pantagraph\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:00 AM, Letter to the Editor)

As Democrats seek to whitewash their history by tearing down Confederate statues, they employ the economic arguments of slavery to justify luring a foreign population into black market labor for slave wages. Democrats argue that without illegal immigrants to "do the work that no one else will do," industries will suffer, prices will skyrocket and our nation's economy will be jeopardized.

The ICE raid at Cloverhill Bakery in Chicago exposed the fallacious nature of this economic argument and the subversive nature of the economic model. According to the Chicago Sun Times, 800 illegal immigrants were taken into custody, creating opportunities for American workers to fill those jobs. Consequently, wages were increased from \$10 to over \$14 per hour, with African-Americans and Latino-Americans the main beneficiaries.

[\[OH\] Immigrant worker cap creates labor crisis for landscapers \(Columbus Dispatch\)](#)

(6/3/2018 9:47 AM, Jim Mackinnon)

Landscaping companies are feeling the heat. And it's not because of what recently has been a warmer-than-typical spring. Many landscaping businesses in Ohio say they are short on workers this year. That reflects in part a national unemployment rate now at an 18-year low of 3.8 percent. But the businesses say they also are unable to bring in enough legal immigrants, predominantly from Mexico, using a long-established federal visa program designed to fill seasonal low-skill jobs. The government no longer is granting exemptions to the visa program that had made thousands more returning migrant workers available in previous seasons, the landscapers said.

It's not just a local issue. There's a national shortage of immigrant seasonal workers affecting other industries besides landscaping. That's largely because the decades-old law caps the number of immigrant seasonal workers at 66,000 for the whole country – although the federal government has waived that limit to allow 15,000 more visas so far this year. Previously, the returning workers did not count against the 66,000 visa cap limit. But there's no exemption this year. Problems caused by the inability to bring in additional legal immigrant workers are exacerbated by American applicants who can't be hired because they fail drug tests, don't have driver's licenses, or stop showing up shortly after being hired, local landscapers say.

[\[NE\] Labor shortage becoming crisis \(Thibodaux Daily Comet\)](#)

(6/3/2018 2:01 AM, Alfredo Corchado)

Roberto Rodriguez works at a meat-packing company in Nebraska's capital. For years, most of his colleagues were fellow Mexicans and Central Americans. These days, the men standing by his side increasingly are Middle Easterners. In Lincoln, the face of immigrant labor is changing. Workers are harder to come by, and immigrant labor is no longer the exclusive domain of Mexicans and Central Americans. It's a dynamic playing out across the U.S. By 2020, the private sector will facing a shortage of 7.5 million workers, said Ali Noorani, of the National Immigration Forum, a Washington-based think tank, citing a study by the American Action Forum, a moderate policy institute that promotes rights for immigrants.

Some companies in the Midwest are literally rolling out the welcome mat for immigrants and refugees. Muslim prayer rooms, complete with rugs, have been installed for Middle Eastern workers. Some employers help workers enroll in English classes. Others push for a more robust guest worker program to fill jobs once filled by Mexican laborers. With Baby Boomers retiring and U.S. birth rates and migration from Mexico falling, the nation is relying on a mixture of immigrants and refugees to keep its labor force growing. Immigrants make up about 17 percent of the U.S. labor force, with about one-quarter of those undocumented.

[\[TX\] Immigrant shortage? Wages surge 12% and D-FW builders still can't fill thousands of jobs \(Dallas Morning News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:00 AM, Mitchell Schnurman)

In the last year, hourly wages for Texas construction workers rose almost 12 percent. That's huge — over seven times higher than the increase for all private employees in the state. Yet builders in the Dallas-Fort Worth area still can't hire enough people, not with immigrants accounting for almost half the workforce. They have nearly 38,000 construction jobs that remain unfilled, twice as many openings as two years ago, according to the Dallas Builders Association.

The worker shortage adds about two months, and \$5,000, to a typical home building project, the group said. It also means that builders can't produce enough houses to satisfy the current record demand. Higher pay, longer completion times and short supply help explain why it's hard to find a bargain these days. In D-FW, new construction fetches 36 percent more than an existing home, a premium that's more than doubled in a decade.

[\[WA\] Immigration Opportunities: H-1B Alternatives for Employing Foreign Workers \(JD Supra\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:17 AM, Christopher Motta-Wurst & Dustin O'Quinn)

Washington state has more than 90,000 jobs with the title of software developer. Yet, each year, Washington public colleges and universities produce only around 9,000 graduates who hold degrees in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM). U.S. employers across all industries are having a difficult time hiring and retaining the workforce they need to be competitive in the marketplace. Consequently, companies are looking to employment-based immigration options to staff their open positions with candidates from other countries. One of the most popular ways for U.S. companies to employ foreign workers is through the H-1B program.

Companies may submit an application to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for a candidate to assume a position that requires at least a bachelor's degree. Though many U.S. employers rely on the H-1B program, it has become notorious for its uncertainty. There

are only 85,000 new H-1B visas available each year, but that has proven to be insufficient. Since so many H-1B applications are not selected in the lottery, companies must assess other options to employ foreign workers such as: Optional Practical Training (OPT), Trade NAFTA status, E-3, H-1B1, O-1, and L1.

Working Women

[The extraordinary courage of an ordinary woman: Lorena Weeks broke barriers for working women \(Timeline\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:00 AM, Meagan Day)

Lorena Weeks worked nearly all her life. When she was a child in Georgia, her father was killed in a sawmill accident, and her mother—29 years old, with four children—struggled to make ends meet. She entered the workforce, and Lorena did, too. “I went to work at the five-and-ten-cent store when I was nine years old,” she later recalled. “I could barely see over the counter because I was small in stature. I worked for one dollar a day.” When Weeks was 18, her mother died, too, leaving her to raise her younger siblings alone. That was when she went to work for the Southern Bell telephone company in Wadley, Georgia in the late 1940s. Eventually she would sue the company for discriminating against her based on her gender—a landmark 1966 case that would open up economic opportunities for women all across the nation.

At first, it was just a job. She married Billy Weeks, a part-time electrician and rural mailman who just happened to have the same last name as her. Billy and Lorena weren’t rich, but they had ambitions—they scrimped and saved to buy a vacant plot of land and planned to build a house on it one day. They had three children in quick succession. Lorena dreamed of raising them in the countryside, but it didn’t happen quite like that. “When my little girl was old enough to call me on the telephone, I went back to work,” she recalled. “We needed the money.”

[Female Friendly: How to Attract, Hire and Retain Women as Employees \(National Oil & Lube News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:18 AM, Jody DeVere)

Only 26 percent of the workforce in the automotive industry, including manufacturing, are roles held by women. With this in mind, what is your strategy to attract, hire and retain women? Having more women on staff in all positions including leadership roles will result in higher profits overall, give your business a strategic market advantage and increase your overall employee retention. Working towards gender-parity will also result in attracting, selling and retaining more women customers.

Efforts to achieve equality benefit us all. Diversity leads to stronger business results, as numerous studies have shown. When the most talented people can rise to the top, regardless of what they look like and where they’re from, we all end up winning.

[\[PA\] Remembering the working ‘Rosies’ of World War II \(Philadelphia Inquirer\)](#)

(6/2/2018 11:07 PM, Jason Laughlin)

The drafting room at the Philadelphia Navy Yard was brutally hot in the summer of 1943 and ineffectively cooled by big fans, June Robbins remembers. The heating systems weren’t much better in the winter, she said. The work, redesigning cargo ships to serve as troop carriers, was high pressured and exhausting. But at 17 years old there was nowhere else Robbins, now a Media resident, wanted to be. Wanting to help the war effort, she cajoled a teacher into allowing her to take an usually all-male drafting class, and then lied about her age to get hired at the Navy Yard. “I knew I had to get out there and do something for my country,” she said. Robbins, 91, was among the generation of women who took jobs critical to the war effort during the absence of men who were fighting in World War II. That group of women has come to be represented by the iconic “Rosie the Riveter” character.

On Saturday, the Philadelphia Girls Choir performed a song written about the “Rosies” to Robbins and another former worker, Anna Hess, 89. Women in the American workforce increased from 25 to 36 percent, during the war years, and the number of working young women in particular surged. In 1940, 20 percent of women age 20 to 24 were working. Five years later, 40 percent of women in that age range had jobs, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

[\[SC\] New law will help pregnant women on the job \(Charleston Post & Courier\)](#)

(6/3/2018 11:45 PM, Natasha Jackson)

Gov. Henry McMaster recently signed the Pregnancy Accommodations Act into law. The law, which passed with unanimous support in the Legislature, will ensure that no pregnant woman in South Carolina has to choose between her job and a healthy pregnancy. The South Carolina Pregnancy Accommodations Act will ensure that South Carolina women cannot be forced to choose between their paychecks and a healthy pregnancy. The law provides a clear right to accommodation for pregnancy-related medical needs absent “undue hardship” to the employer - the same familiar standard in place for workers with disabilities.

South Carolina is now the 23rd state to grant explicit protections to pregnant workers, joining states including West Virginia, Louisiana, and North Dakota, where the laws also passed with virtually unanimous bipartisan support. Accommodating pregnant workers is not just good for women, it is also good for South Carolina’s economy. When South Carolina women are forced off the job due to pregnancy, they must often turn to public assistance to stay afloat, increasing taxpayer costs. At the same time, research shows that taking steps to reduce premature deliveries, and

associated maternal and infant health complications, could save the state of South Carolina millions of dollars annually in health care costs.

[\[WI\] Construction opens opportunities to women \(Youngstown Vindicator\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:00 AM, Abigail Becker)

Sandy Thistle never considered becoming a carpenter before two of her friends started pursuing careers in the skilled trades. Thistle pursued commercial construction, including a stint at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's carpenter shop, and got involved with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters Local 314 to forward her vision of recruiting more women and people of color into the skilled trades. She is now the co-program director for Madison College's construction and remodeling program.

Women make up just 4 percent of the national workforce in natural resources, construction and maintenance, according to 2010 Bureau of Labor statistics data. In Wisconsin, women make up 5 percent of the 10,251 active apprenticeships in the trades, according to Department of Workforce Development data as of April 4. Though local organizations such as Big Step are working to close the gender gap, barriers to entry and retention still exist. Women say lack of awareness, persistent gender stereotypes, responsibilities at home and few examples of women entering the trades can be deterrents. Long hours, the unpredictability of working at different job sites and discomfort that comes from working outside in the heat and cold dissuade both genders from pursuing construction careers.

Wages & Compensation

[Fighting to make sure janitors get a fair wage \(Los Angeles Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:00 AM, Andrew Khouri)

Lilia Garcia-Brower, 45, is executive director of the Maintenance Cooperation Trust Fund. The Los Angeles-based organization investigates wage theft and other abuses in the janitorial industry, which is notorious for paying workers below minimum wage. The organization, funded by unionized janitorial companies, partners with government enforcement agencies or organizes private lawsuits to bring cases. It has helped collect more than \$30 million in unpaid wages owed to thousands of janitors since its founding in 1999.

Cases often start with a tip from an employer that lost a cleaning contract and suspects it was because the winning bidder doesn't pay minimum wage or taxes or doesn't carry worker's compensation insurance. Cases also begin with Garcia-Brower's ground troops of 10 field investigators — all former janitors. They conduct weekly "blitzes," showing up unannounced to conduct interviews with workers. Garcia-Brower estimates they hit 100 buildings a week.

[Retail Workers' Gains Drive Long-Awaited Pickup in U.S. Wages \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:51 AM, Matthew Boesler)

Average hourly earnings for production and nonsupervisory employees -- a group which comprises 82 percent of the private-sector workforce -- rose 2.8 percent in the year through May, the biggest advance of the expansion that began in mid-2009, according to Labor Department data published Friday. The numbers look even stronger, and more like what you would expect based on employment trends, if you look past three sectors that have been gumming up the so-called Phillips curve relationship between unemployment and wage growth during this economic expansion.

Those three sectors -- financial activities, professional and business services, and education and health care services -- account for 43 percent of private production and nonsupervisory employees. The financial sector didn't really show a strong relationship with employment trends in the past, but the professional and business services and education and health care services sectors did. The biggest driver of the acceleration in wage growth in the rest of the labor market over the last few months has been a surge in worker earnings at retailers. Construction and manufacturing have also contributed to the pickup. Retail wage growth took a big hit in 2016 and 2017 due to fallout in that sector from the structural shift toward online shopping. If the strong gains hold, it will mark a return to levels of wage growth more consistent with the current levels of overall employment in the U.S. economy.

[We can't fix the pay gap without addressing the culture that punishes working mothers \(NBC News\)](#)

(6/2/2018 4:37 AM, Staff)

The much-vaunted "gender wage gap" - which has been key to countless feminist arguments about workplace inequity - is actually just a motherhood penalty. When women become mothers, their wages take a dive from which they may never fully recover: Where childless women earn an average of 80 cents to a white man's dollar, mothers on average earn only 71 cents. Those mothers earning 71 cents on a man's dollar are the women who are keeping their heads above water and their career intact. Given the skyrocketing cost of private child care, some mothers either can't afford to go back to work at all or else they work to keep their careers alive in the long-term, while spending much, if not all, of their earnings on child care.

A problem this big can't be solved by personal efforts or policies that address the symptoms of the deeper injustice. Working mothers aren't just experiencing unequal pay: They're facing unequal demands on their energy and time in a culture that is still not set up to reflect women's lived

realities. Fathers have been able to work in the endless, obsessive way demanded by American culture, because they usually have wives onto whom they offload their child- and home care. The people who are expected to adapt are mostly women. No matter how "understanding" a boss wants to be, and no matter how good those women are at advocating for themselves, unless the culture of work changes, they'll fall behind. The solution has to go further, down to the level of what we expect from each other and from work.

[Car payments, child care help? Dunkin' Donuts sweetens offers for workers to stay \(MSN\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:09 PM, Stephanie Ritenbaugh)

Heartland Restaurant Group, which operates 48 Dunkin' Donuts locations in southwestern Pennsylvania, is marking its 10th anniversary. The franchise group has more than 1,000 employees and serves about 11 million guests a year, the firm said. "We got here based on our employees' performance," said Anthony Braun, chief operating officer and chief financial officer of Heartland, which is based in the Strip District. It opens about four to six Dunkin' locations a year, Mr. Braun said.

Retailers have faced tough competition for workers over the past several years. For instance, convenience store chains Sheetz Inc. and Wawa Inc. have boosted their starting pay and have been touting their benefit packages. Retail giant Walmart said in 2016 it would invest \$2.7 billion over two years to give a pay bump to 1.2 million hourly workers, increasing wages to \$10 an hour. This week, America's largest private employer said it will offer workers affordable access to a college degree in hopes the new benefit will help it recruit and retain higher quality entry-level employees in a tight U.S. labor market.

[Who is getting paid more? 16 states where personal incomes are booming \(USA Today\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:51 AM, Michael B. Sauter & Grant Suneson)

During the Great Recession, U.S. gross domestic product declined 4.3%. Since then, the economy has rebounded and is now in one of the longest periods of expansion on record. As the economy recovered, the U.S. labor market also began to improve. The unemployment rate dropped from 8.1% in 2012 to 4.4% in 2017, and total employment increased by over five million people. Personal income also grew by 11.2% across the nation in that time frame, while per capita personal income increased by 7.2%.

The economic expansion has not benefited all states equally. In some states, personal incomes grew by less than 5%, and one, North Dakota, actually reported an income decline of 1.8% between 2012 and 2017. On the other hand, total personal income in some states has grown by more than 15% and even over 20% in one over the last five years

[A pay increase for entry-level jobs \(Marketplace\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:10 AM, Mitchell Hartman)

The job market is now being flooded by the class of 2018 — both college and high school graduates. Leticia Aguilar is among them. She's about to graduate from Franklin High School in Portland, Oregon. "I will be working in the summer and then I will be attending PCC [Portland Community College]," Aguilar said recently in the college and career counselor's office at her school. She's hoping to continue her education after community college and transfer to a four-year college to complete a degree in social work or teaching.

Aguilar is 17 and supports herself financially: "I've been working in retail 30-plus hours a week since I was 16," she said. Once she's in college, she hopes to find a better-paying job to make ends meet. And she might just be in luck.

[25% of employers hiring for summer plan to pay more than \\$15 an hour \(Recruiting Headlines\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:52 AM, Staff)

Employers are targeting various workforce segments to fill their summer jobs. Nearly 3 in 4 (73 percent) say they plan to recruit college students, 39 percent say high school students and 26 percent say retirees. Two in five employers hiring for the summer (41 percent) are looking to hire veterans for their summer positions. The national survey was conducted online by The Harris Poll on behalf of CareerBuilder between April 4 and May 1, 2018, and included representative samples of 1,012 hiring managers and human resource professionals in the private sector and 1,117 full-time workers across industries and company sizes.

"Employers are grappling with a tough hiring environment, and summer workers are reaping the benefits," said Irina Novoselsky, president and COO of CareerBuilder. "Employers are becoming more competitive with pay and offering more long-term employment opportunities to summer workers. It's a great way for workers to add new skills, build up their resumes and expand their professional networks."

[Walmart's too-good-to-be-true "\\$1 a day" college tuition plan, explained \(Vox\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:00 AM, Matthew Yglesias)

Walmart is the largest private employer in the United States, so its human resources policies are always big news with national implications. If headlines this week like "Walmart's perk for workers: Go to college for \$1 a day" (CNN) or "Walmart to offer employees a college education for \$1 a day" (Washington Post) sound too good to be true, that's because they largely are. The benefit is real, but it is much more restrictive than those headlines suggest. It's essentially a bulk purchasing discount for a narrow range of online college courses.

It's also a telling benefit on a number of levels. The labor market is getting stronger, and employers are needing to think harder about how to invest in recruiting and retaining employees. But the old-fashioned strategy of paying more continues to be something corporate America resists, in part out of habit and in part because offering higher wages is a little more complicated than it looks. Companies like Walmart are, in essence, trying to get creative with their compensation packages in hopes of narrowly targeting the money they expend on the core goal of recruiting and retaining desirable workers.

[\[MA\] AG fines firms for ducking prevailing wage \(Bay State Banner\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:00 AM, Bay State Boston Banner)

Three Massachusetts construction companies have been cited more than \$155,000 in restitution and penalties for failing to pay the proper prevailing wage rate for work performed on public works projects and for other violations of state wage laws, Attorney General Maura Healey announced today.

"Employers working on public projects have a duty to treat workers fairly and pay them what they are due," said Healey. "My office works hard to uphold the prevailing wage laws because Massachusetts residents deserve to know their tax dollars are spent appropriately."

[\[NY\] Restaurant owners and workers united amid Cuomo's tipping wage rule changes \(Crain's NY Business\)](#)

(6/3/2018 10:13 PM, Cara Eisenpress)

Everyone who can accept tips under state law-the bartenders, sommeliers, servers, runners and hosts-gathers, and a designated captain divides the night's cash gratuities according to a previously agreed-upon ratio. Later in the week, managers add each employee's share of tips paid by credit card to their hourly wages, which start at \$8.65 per hour, and then divide that by the hours worked to figure out whether each tipped employee earned the city's minimum wage of \$13 and spent no more than 20% of their time doing non-tipped work. The tip-splitting ritual is one way that restaurants, salons and car washes, among other businesses, stick to the many rules around the "tip credit," the amount employers can subtract from the regular minimum wage to set a lower base wage for their tipped workers. Other practices at some tipped workplaces are illegal: Employees pocket their own cash tips tax-free; managers cut workers' base pay below what is legal, reasoning that tips brought their pay up to the regular minimum wage; and owners pocket some tips. Federal law requires owners to make up the difference if tips do not get a worker's pay up to the minimum wage, but some fail to do so.

This summer, following the recommendation of a wage board in 2015 and after seven hearings around the state, Gov. Andrew Cuomo and his labor commissioner, Roberta Reardon, will decide whether to eliminate the tip credit-and, by extension, the customs that surround it. Implementing a consistent minimum wage, supporters say, would reduce wage theft in industries with tipped workers, who are often women, minorities and immigrants who do not report violations. This time restaurateurs have a trump card: Many of their workers are siding with them and against the advocates championing tipped employees. Complicating the conversation around tips are the rules and regulations that govern the use of the tip credit. The industry's position is that the state should enforce the law, and the tip credit is no more subject to abuse than other wage rules, such as overtime pay or the standard minimum wage. Including the back of the house in tip pools, which laws have long forbidden, is another potential solution.

[\[MD\] Employers offering more paid internships \(Bend Bulletin\)](#)

(6/2/2018 5:01 PM, Lorraine Mirabella)

The nearly 100 interns arriving at Under Armour's Locust Point campus in Baltimore from colleges around the country this summer will meet top executives, help design and sell sports apparel and learn to solve business challenges, all while earning a paycheck. Summer interns at M&T Bank, Travelers Insurance and Johns Hopkins also are getting paid. New federal guidelines have made it easier than ever for employers to count interns as non-employees - and not pay them. Despite the changes, more employers are offering interns wages to go with the experience they gain. Bryan Kaminski, Under Armour's director of university programs and recruiting, says paying the equivalent of entry-level salaries to interns, whom the company views as an extension of full-time workers, helps make those positions accessible to more people.

The Fair Labor Standards Act requires employers to pay employees, but students and interns are not always considered employees. Before the U.S. Department of Labor updated its guidelines in January, employers were required to prove each of six factors before they could take on an unpaid intern as a non-employee.

[\[OH\] Large, small Ohio businesses give back to employees, charities after federal tax reform \(KPVI-TV NBC 6 Pocatello\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:31 AM, Bethany Blankley, Watchdog.org)

Dozens of employers in Ohio have given tens of thousands of employees raises and expanded employee benefits as a result of federal tax reform. "The Tax reform bill is helping Ohioans and Ohio businesses," Rea Hederman of the Buckeye Institute said. "Manufacturing remains a vital Ohio industry, and now Ohio businesses are more competitive in the world market with a lower corporate tax rate. This means more jobs and more money for hard working Ohioans."

Many local companies gave bonuses and increased wages because of the tax reform bill championed by President Donald Trump. Akron-

based First Communications, LLC gave its 83 Akron-based and 70 Chicago-based employees \$1,000 bonuses. It's also investing \$3 million in capital improvements to its data networking, cloud, voice and managed services throughout the Midwest.

[\[MI\] Showdown looms for prevailing wage repeal plan \(Detroit News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:15 PM, Beth LeBlanc & Jonathan Oosting)

A proposal to repeal Michigan's prevailing wage law could be taken up by lawmakers as early as next week, after a state board approved Friday the certification of signatures. The Board of State Canvassers unanimously approved a ballot measure that would repeal the 1965 law that requires contractors to pay union wages and benefits on state-funded projects.

Republican lawmakers have said they would approve the proposal themselves rather than allow voters to decide on the proposal in November. If it becomes law, the repeal measure would increase competition for public construction contracts, potentially lower building costs and possibly alter pay levels for construction workers. Pro-repeal groups have said current law inflates construction costs that are ultimately borne by taxpayers. Prevailing wage supporters have said a repeal would lower wages and limit training programs.

[\[MI\] Michigan certifies prevailing wage ballot petition \(Durham Herald-Sun\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:31 AM, Staff)

Michigan's Board of State Canvassers has cleared a ballot petition to repeal Michigan's prevailing wage law, setting the stage for lawmakers to vote on veto-proof legislation for it possibly next week. The board certified the petition Friday, two days after the state Supreme Court struck down a challenge to an appeals court decision ordering certification of the measure. The 1965 prevailing wage law requires paying the local wage and benefit rate — usually union scale — on state-financed projects. Republicans say the law inflates costs. Union contractors and Democrats say it prevents workers from being paid less.

The bipartisan board deadlocked in April. Democrats voted "no" after opposition raised objections about fraudulent addresses from circulators. The Republican-controlled Legislature has indicated support for repealing prevailing wage. It has 40 days to do so or it would proceed to the November ballot.

[\[WI\] Dozens of Wisconsin companies give millions in raises, bonuses, because of federal tax reform \(KPVI-TV NBC 6 Pocatello\)](#)

(6/2/2018 12:30 PM, Bethany Blankley)

More than 30 companies in Wisconsin have given raises and bonuses to their employees, donated to local charities, invested in new equipment, hired new employees, enhanced benefit packages, and reduced rates, all citing the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act that President Donald Trump signed into law last December. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce created an interactive tax map and Americans for Tax Reform compiled a comprehensive list of businesses giving raises, bonuses, and other savings to employees and customers in Wisconsin.

The U.S. Treasury Department projects that the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act will result in 90 percent of wage earners receiving higher take-home pay. Companies increased their wages, expanded their benefits plans, gave out bonuses or gave larger donations to charities. Utility companies in Wisconsin, like other states across the country, announced lower rates for their customers as a result of tax reform.

[\[OR\] Portland Spurs Efforts to Rein In CEO-to-Worker Pay Gaps \(Bloomberg Law\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:21 PM, Jacob Rund)

About 500 publicly traded companies doing business in Portland, Ore., are likely to face a tax for big pay gaps between their CEO and rank-and-file workers, representing the first tangible aftereffect of a federal rule that requires disclosure of those figures. Big corporations like Walmart Inc., Verizon Communications Inc. and Marriott International Inc. have a presence in the city and each disclosed "pay ratios" large enough to trigger a new local surtax. So did TJX Companies Inc., which owns TJ Maxx, Marshalls and other retail store chains, and restaurant operator Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc. The city's tax on certain ratios—expected to yield about \$3 million in its first year—has spawned similar proposals across the country.

Both supporters and opponents of Portland's surtax admit it's not likely to put a dent in the coffers of most companies, and whether it spurs changes in corporate compensation practices is likely to hinge on this strategy's widespread adoption. The surtax has rankled some members of the city's business community, including apparel brand Columbia Sportswear Co. The Portland-based company is subject to the tax, which it says is based on an inconsistent metric and is meant as a shame tactic.

[\[CA\] Chick-fil-A Mocks The Lefty Myth About Wage Stagnation \(Town Hall\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:08 AM, John Tamny)

"As the owner, I'm looking at it big picture and long term." Those are the words of Eric Mason, owner of a Chick-fil-A in Sacramento, CA. Mason was talking about his employees and sales. He believes successful restaurants are an effect of happy, well-paid workers. That's why he's offering his employees wage increases that would boost their pay from \$12-13/hr. to \$17-18/hr. That Mason is raising worker pay well beyond California's minimum wage is a reminder that pundits on the left are flying blind when they emote about stagnant wages. They could learn a lot

from Mason. Mason sees very clearly what they don't: low-wage workers are incredibly expensive.

They are because they're not very productive. As is frequently said, you get what you pay for. Low-wage workers don't need to perform very well simply because they're not being compensated for it. Mason wants his business to boom, which means he wants his employees to feel well rewarded. Quoted in the Washington Post about his decision to boost employee compensation, Mason said "[W]hat that [pay well above the minimum wage] does for the business is provide consistency, someone that has relationships with our guests, and it's going to be building a long-term culture."

[\[CA\] California prison guards get a huge pay hike \(Whittier Daily News\)](#)

(6/3/2018 6:56 PM, Susan Shelley)

Only Texas employs more prison guards than California, but in Texas, taxpayers get more for their money. The annual salary for a correctional officer or jailer in Texas, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, averaged out to \$41,420 as of May 2017. In California, it was \$71,630. About 27,000 of West Coast prison guards are represented by the California Correctional Peace Officers Association. For them, the average base wage in 2015 was \$76,000. No state pays its prison guards more than California. So taxpayers may wonder why Gov. Jerry Brown has just negotiated a new one-year contract with the CCPOA that provides an unusually generous 5 percent raise.

The nonpartisan state Legislative Analyst's Office has asked that very question. Brown has a "weak justification" for the 5 percent raise, the LAO concluded in a report to the Legislature, which will vote on whether to approve the contract. If the new contract is approved, wages for correctional officers will be 67 percent higher than they were in 2001. The Brown administration estimates that the contract will cost taxpayers about \$330 million over the next two years, but the Legislative Analyst's Office thinks it will cost a lot more. That's because higher wages translate into higher overtime costs and higher pension contributions. The total amount contributed by the CCPOA to political campaign committees since 2001 is over \$71.8 million.

Minimum Wage

[Costco to boost its minimum wage to \\$14 an hour \(MarketWatch\)](#)

(5/31/2018 7:33 PM, Sarah Nassauer)

Costco Wholesale Corp. said Thursday it would raise its minimum wage and boost pay for 130,000 U.S. store staff, intensifying the battle for unskilled workers in a tight U.S. job market. The retail chain, second only to Walmart Inc. in terms of U.S. sales, said it would increase its starting hourly wages by \$1 to \$14 or \$14.50 an hour. Other hourly workers will receive raises of between 25 cents and 50 cents. The new wages take effect on June 11.

Executives said the company was using some of its savings from last year's U.S. tax overhaul to invest in its workforce. The legislation lowered the corporate tax rate, a boon for companies like Costco with large U.S. operations. Richard Galanti, Costco's finance chief, estimated the annual cost of the wage increases will be between \$110 million and \$120 million pretax. However, he said the company expects an effective tax rate of 28% this fiscal year, compared with about 35% last year.

[Costco raising minimum wage to \\$14 an hour \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:12 AM, Avery Anapol)

Retail giant Costco said Thursday that it would raise its starting minimum wage to \$14 an hour, a \$1 increase for entry level positions. MarketWatch reported that the company will also raise wages for other hourly workers by up to 50 cents. The changes will take effect on June 11 and are expected to affect 130,000 employees.

Costco finance chief Richard Galanti said the change is expected to cost between \$110 million and \$120 million annually, but that due to the new GOP tax law, the company expects a 7 percent drop in its tax rate, according to MarketWatch. The wholesale chain announced its quarterly earnings on Thursday, reporting a \$750 million profit, a \$50 million increase from last year, and a total revenue of \$32.36 billion. The company also announced Thursday that it has had a strong showing in e-commerce, with a reported 36.8 percent increase in online sales, according to USA Today.

[Costco ups wage to \\$14 amid growing global movements \(United Press International\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:22 PM, Susan McFarland)

Hourly employees will soon earn more at Costco, the latest company to raise its minimum wage in an effort to hire and retain quality workers in a tight U.S. job market. Costco said Thursday 130,000 employees will get a boost in pay to \$14 or \$14.50 per hour. Others will see raises between 25 and 50 cents per hour when the new rates take effect June 11. Costco said the pay hike is owed to last year's federal tax overhaul, which lowered the corporate rate. Costco said it'll use the savings to invest in its workforce.

Data released Friday showed U.S. unemployment is at its lowest point in a half-century, something that forces large companies like Costco to

compete for talent in industries with high turnover. Costco's move is the latest in a years-long national campaign by workers and advocates to hike the minimum wage.

[\[NJ\] A dire warning about the \\$15 minimum wage in NJ \(New Jersey 101.5 Ewing\)](#)

(6/3/2018 10:15 PM, Joe Cutter)

A report from the nonprofit Employment Policies Institute suggests New Jersey could lose roughly 32,000 minimum wage jobs if the state raises the minimum to \$15 an hour. Two economists, David MacPherson, of Trinity University, and William Even, of Miami University, examined the effects should the Garden State hike the minimum to \$15. Institute Managing Director Michael Saltsman says early research from San Francisco and Seattle is not encouraging, and shows thousands of minimum wage job losses.

"The businesses that tend to be impacted by a higher minimum wage are low margin businesses," he said. "They are only keeping a few cents in profit on each sales dollar. And so when the minimum wage goes up, if they cannot pass that cost on to customers through higher prices, they have got to make one of a few difficult choices."

[\[PA\] A boost in the minimum wage in this year's Pa. budget? \(Philadelphia Inquirer\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:20 AM, Lasherica Thornton)

As Pennsylvania's legislature prepares to tackle the state budget in the coming weeks, lawmakers and advocates are pushing legislation to increase the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, a change that could lift the incomes of more than 250,000 residents in Philadelphia alone. The longstanding fight over whether to boost the minimum wage of \$7.25 - the same as the federal minimum - is bound to be front and center as legislators return to the Capitol on Monday to begin trying to wrap up the budget by the June 30 deadline.

Gov. Wolf, a Democrat, proposed an increase to \$12 as part of his budget proposal this year, and several Democratic lawmakers and at least one Republican senator also support a hike. Advocates say an increase would not only help low-income families live more comfortably, but help bolster the economy by giving more people more spending power. Critics counter that it would cost jobs as businesses hire fewer people. Pressure has been building to at least consider it: Pennsylvania's minimum wage has been stagnant for 11 years, even as bordering states have pegged theirs at \$8.25 to \$10.40.

[\[NC\] Raising N.C. minimum wage likely limited to state government employees \(Winston-Salem Journal\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:30 AM, Richard Craver)

The Republican-controlled General Assembly is set to approve a \$15 an hour minimum wage for all full-time state government employees, going into effect July 1 with the 2018-19 state budget. About 8,000 employees, or 12 percent of the state government workforce, will benefit from the increase, according to the office of Senate leader Phil Berger, R-Rockingham. Republican Sen. Harry Brown, co-chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said during last week's budget debate that "this will be a huge raise for them and put them at what we could say is a living wage." Key Republican legislative leaders say the free-market system should continue to dictate wages for private-sector employers. The bureau reported that as of Jan. 1, there were 38,000 federal minimum wage workers in North Carolina. Rep. Evelyn Terry, D-Forsyth, praised the legislature's decision to raise the minimum wage for state government employees. She argued that it should be done in tandem with raising the state minimum wage for private-sector workers by \$1.25 an hour each year until it reaches \$15 an hour in 2022.

The divisive House Bill 2, passed in March 2016 by the N.C. legislature and known primarily for its transgender restroom access language, also forbid local government from requiring contractors pay above the federal minimum wage for providing services to those governments.

[\[NV\] Nevada justices define minimum health benefits for lower wage workers \(Nevada Appeal\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:55 PM, Geoff Dornan)

The Nevada Supreme Court, in an opinion issued this week, has unanimously defined what health benefits an employer must provide to qualify for a lower minimum wage. Under the minimum wage amendment to the state constitution, businesses that provide workers health benefits can pay workers a dollar less than those who don't provide benefits. At present, that's \$7.25 instead of \$8.25.

The opinion grants a writ of mandamus directing the district court to vacate its decision granting partial summary judgment to the employees who sued MDC Restaurants and to hold hearings to determine whether the health plans offered workers meet the requirements of the amendment. The opinion rejects MDC's argument the decision should be up to the Nevada Labor commissioner whether different health plans qualify for the lower minimum wage.

[\[CA\] Disney Proposes \\$15 Wage Hike by 2020 for Some Union Workers, But Not All \(Orange County Weekly\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:58 AM, Gabriel San Roman)

On the eve of United States Senator Bernie Sanders coming to Anaheim for a Disney Resort workers rally on Saturday, the Mouse is suddenly feeling generous. The Disneyland Resort decided to bargain in public by announcing a proposal yesterday that seeks to boost the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2020 for 9,500 hourly "Master Services" workers represented by four unions. The corporation is also pledging to launch an education investment program for employees in the fall with an initial \$50 million investment in news first reported in the local media by

"Today's investment in our cast—along with world-class training and development opportunities for both full- and part-time cast members—confirms that working at the Disneyland Resort is not only a good opportunity today, but a pathway to growth opportunities and career advancement tomorrow," said Josh D'Amaro, Disneyland Resort president, in a press statement. "We look forward to productive negotiations with our unions as we set a foundation for our exciting future ahead."

[\[CA\] Disney embraces \\$15 minimum wage in negotiations with workers \(CNN\)](#)

(6/3/2018 2:26 PM, Jackie Wattles)

Disney is embracing the idea of a \$15 per hour minimum wage in its latest contract negotiations with unions — but workers aren't won over yet. Service Trades Council Union representatives in Florida head to the bargaining table this week to discuss the latest offer from Disney, which would include wage hikes for about 34,000 workers at Walt Disney World in Orlando. It would lift their minimum wage from \$10 per hour to \$15 per hour by fall of 2021.

Disney says that marks the largest increase to starting wages it's ever offered. But while workers in Orlando are anxious to nab the wage hikes, there's still some hesitation. "The devil is in the details," said Eric Clinton, president of Unite Here Local 362, an affiliate of the Service Trades Council Union.

Overtime

[DOL Announces Plans to Revisit Overtime Rule \(Durability & Design\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:00 AM, Staff Report)

The Department of Labor recently announced its latest regulatory agenda, in which it discussed plans to revisit the overtime eligibility threshold, as well as calculations for regular rate of pay. The DOL noted that it plans to "clarify, update and define regular rate requirements" under the Fair Labor Standards Act, which notes that employers must pay covered employees at least one-and-a-half times their regular rate of pay in hours that are in excess of 40 hours in a workweek.

Bloomberg spoke with several analysts who took a guess at what exactly the DOL might clarify, since this agenda item had not been discussed publicly prior to this announcement. "When do you have to pay overtime on prizes, awards, bonuses? That might be the number one question I get," said Tammy McCutchen, an attorney with management-side firm Littler Mendelson. "There's a lot of confusion." A DOL spokesperson added that regular rate regulations have not been updated "in decades," though compensation practices have evolved throughout the years. On way in which the DOL could clarify the FLSA is to add categories of compensation that are excluded from the regular rate, officials said.

[\[MA\] Federal grand jury targets Massachusetts State Police alleged overtime abuse \(Boston Globe\)](#)

(6/2/2018 8:35 PM, Andrea Estes and Shelley Murphy)

A federal grand jury is investigating the alleged theft of overtime pay and other misconduct involving members of the Massachusetts State Police, according to multiple people with knowledge of the criminal probe. Prosecutors are examining whether members of Troop E - the unit that until recently patrolled the Massachusetts Turnpike - committed fraud by collecting pay for overtime shifts they did not work, and whether supervisors were aware of or participated in the practice, the people said. Dozens of current and former Troop E members have been linked in recent months to the alleged pay scandal, resulting in a wide-scale audit, a series of internal State Police investigations, a separate probe by the attorney general's office, and the disbanding of the entire unit. Records show some troopers reported earning five- and six-figure overtime payouts.

Two Troop E members in Western Massachusetts - Sergeant Jason Sternfield and Sergeant Michael Lynch - received orders to appear June 7 before a federal grand jury in Worcester, according to a person familiar with the investigation. A state criminal investigation, led by Attorney General Maura Healey's office, is ongoing. The State Police Association of Massachusetts, the union that represents troopers, has opposed the measure. In early May the union filed a complaint with the Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations accusing the agency of acting in bad faith by not giving the union a chance to negotiate the decision to implement vehicle tracking.

[\[MA\] Federal grand jury investigating Mass. State Police overtime abuse scandal \(MassLive\)](#)

(6/2/2018 9:45 AM, Gintautas Dumcius)

A federal grand jury is looking into the overtime abuse scandal within the Massachusetts State Police. Citing multiple sources, the Boston Globe reports that federal prosecutors have issued subpoenas to current and retired members of the former Troop E, which was charged with patrolling the Massachusetts Turnpike. The federal grand jury is meeting in Worcester, the newspaper reported.

Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey's office is also investigating the alleged overtime abuse. Kerry Gilpin, the head of the State Police, announced as part of ongoing internal audit that five additional troopers are allegedly involved the scandal. The State Police did not

release their names in the announcement. There are now over 30 current and former members of Troop E linked to discrepancies between overtime pay they've received and the hours they actually worked. Gov. Charlie Baker said Friday that the scandal is a "terrible stain" on the State Police and an "alleged scam" that's been going on for years.

[\[FL\] Miami Marlins Move Ex-Cheerleader's OT Suit To Fed. Court \(Law360\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:24 PM, Nathan Hale)

The Miami Marlins face claims from a former cheerleader that they failed to pay him overtime in violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act, in a suit the team's current and former owners removed to federal court in Miami on Friday. Boris Garcia Menier claims that during his tenure working for the Major League Baseball team, from October 2016 through most of February 2018, he regularly worked more than 40 hours but was not paid proper amounts for overtime as required in Florida and federal law.

Paid Leave

[Best baby shower gift: paid time off for new parents \(CNBC\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, Jessica Dickler)

For many new parents, the experience of welcoming a child comes with only a brief break from the daily grind. In federal offices, one of the most popular baby shower gifts is personal days, according to a recent report in The Washington Post. Co-workers donate them so a new mom can extend her leave beyond six weeks after giving birth.

Currently, 15 percent of employers allow workers to donate their paid time off to other workers, according to the Society for Human Resource Management's upcoming employee benefits survey, which will be released on June 19. "The way we support or don't support new mothers and fathers makes it really hard," said Ellen Galinsky, president of the Families and Work Institute. "It's a house of cards that people patch together to build the arrangements for their child." The rising tide of generous policies in corporate America has helped, but still, the U.S. lags other countries when it comes to parental leave.

[Summer Hours to Family Leave, Work-Life Balance Gets Top-Down Approach at NJ Firms \(New Jersey Law Journal\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:31, David Gialanella)

Leisure time and flextime are obviously part of the equation, but so is extended time away, according to Michael Stein, whose firm last year instituted a paid family leave policy, whereby a new parent is provided up to 20 weeks of leave with full pay. The parent, if the child's primary caregiver, can get the full 20 weeks paid, and if the secondary caregiver, can get up to eight weeks paid, with the option of an additional four weeks unpaid. "Paid leave is expensive," said Stein, managing partner of Pashman Stein Walder Hayden in Hackensack, but "You make it a priority." The program, launched last September, allows the new parent to use leave gradually over a six-month period, according to Stein, who said at least two people have used the program since its inception.

Asked whether firm leaders budgeted for the possible lost revenue and productivity that might come with having several employees on fully paid leave simultaneously, Stein said, "Because of the unpredictable nature of it, we didn't do it with precision." "I was amazed at how little resistance there was, because everybody loved providing this kind of support and the kind of message it sends," he said, noting that the idea was borne of discussions firm leaders had about recruitment, and how female lawyers cited paid leave as a draw.

Worker's Compensation

[\[FL\] Florida Approves Second Workers' Comp Rate Decrease in Six Months \(South Florida Hospital News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:37 AM, Tom Murphy)

For the second time in six months, the Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR) has approved a rate decrease that will affect all Florida businesses. Insurance commissioner David Altmaier's statement attributes the 1.8% overall decrease to the recent federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. The new rates will take effect for all new and renewal workers' compensation policies as of June 1, 2018.

The first rate decrease of 9.8% went into effect on January 1, 2018 and was basically approved and based upon claims payments from years prior to 2017, when the Florida Supreme Court made two major rulings that in essence provided greater benefits for injured workers but also removed attorney fee caps that had been in place since 2004. It is widely anticipated that these rulings will have a detrimental effect on the Florida workers' compensation system in the coming years and that the courts and insurance carriers are already starting to see the results of having to pay more as a result of these changes.

[\[CA\] Report: California Workers' Comp Direct Written Premiums Fell \(Insurance Journal\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:00 PM, Staff Report)

California workers' compensation covered payroll rose last year, but the average premium rate charged to employers fell 10 percent, so total

direct written premium in the system declined by \$192 million to \$12.77 billion in 2017, 1.5 percent less than in 2016, according to the latest data from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

The NAIC data was released by the California Department of Insurance, and the California Workers' Compensation Institute called out noteworthy points in the data in a report it issued on Friday.

Employee Misclassification

[\[MI\] Roofing and siding company to pay \\$310,000 in back overtime wages and damages \(Bay City Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:00 PM, John Tunison)

A roofing and siding contractor has agreed to pay \$310,000 in back overtime wages and damages to 74 employees after a federal investigation. American Classic Construction Inc., based in the Grant area, recently entered into a consent agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division. Federal investigators alleged the company owners violated overtime and record-keeping requirements. Employees were misclassified as independent contractors and not paid at the required time-and-one-half rate for working beyond 40 hours, investigators said.

Company leaders also failed to maintain accurate records for the number of hours worked by employees, according to the allegations. The \$310,000 going to employees is split into two parts - \$155,000 for back overtime and \$155,000 for liquidated damages.

Wage Violations

[\[TX\] Texans Cheerleaders Sue Over Unpaid Minimum Wages In 'Hostile' Work Setting \(Huffington Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:05 PM, Sara Boboltz)

A group of former cheerleaders for the Houston Texans are suing the football team over unpaid wages and what they call a "hostile and unfair" work environment. Five former cheerleaders involved in the suit appeared at a Friday press conference in Houston alongside famed women's rights attorney Gloria Allred. Also present were two Houston attorneys who are representing the five women. The women say they made federal minimum wage, or \$7.25 per hour, working on the NFL team. For some of the work they did as cheerleaders, they allegedly weren't compensated at all — including for merchandise featuring their images.

The women also took issue with how they were treated. The suit alleges a threat of bodily injury made by Texans cheerleaders coach Alto Gary, according to Houston Public Media, a local outlet. Hannah Turnbow, one of the former cheerleaders, said at the press conference that a fan once physically assaulted her, leaving abrasions on her shoulders. When she went to management, she said, she was told to "get over it." "We were harassed, we were bullied and we were body shamed for \$7.25 an hour," Ainsley Parish, another former cheerleader, said at the presser.

[\[TX\] Former Cheerleaders Sue Houston Texans For Sex Discrimination \(Houston Public Media\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:50 PM, Florian Martin)

Five former Houston Texans cheerleaders are suing the team alleging sex discrimination and violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Attorney Gloria Allred filed the lawsuit in the Southern District Court of Texas in Houston on Friday morning. It claims the Texans failed to compensate the cheerleaders for all hours worked and failed to pay minimum wage. It also alleges assault by threat of bodily injury by the Texans cheerleaders coach Altovise Gary and not compensating the plaintiffs for using their images on calendars and other merchandise. The five former cheerleaders ask to receive payment for the additional hours they worked but were not paid for as well as damages.

Worker Safety

[Century-old workplace safety organization changes name \(Business Insurance\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:36 PM, Louise Esola)

American Society of Safety Engineers has changed its name to the American Society of Safety Professionals to attract and retain members who work in safety but are not necessarily engineers, the Park Ridge, Illinois-based group announced Friday. The 37,000-member American Society of Safety Professionals, which advocates for safe and healthy work environments by preventing injuries, illnesses and fatalities in a variety of industries, has also refreshed its logo, redesigned its website and rebranded its social media channels, according to a press release.

[\[NJ\] Man struck, killed by tractor at N.J. recycling plant \(Warren Reporter\)](#)

(6/3/2018 1:14 PM, Alexis Johnson)

Police are investigating an accident at a Hudson County recycling plant in which a construction loader struck and killed a man Saturday morning. Angelo Maietta, 31, of Bayonne, was hit by a payload at Lincoln Recycling in North Bergen just before 10:30 a.m. Saturday, according to Captain William Lyons of the North Bergen police department, who called it a "tragic death."

News 12 reported that Maietta was working with his brother, Rafel Maietta, for a junk removal company when the two men made a regular stop at Lincoln Recycling on Dell Avenue. Rafel told News 12 that Angelo was closing the doors on the back of their truck when a payloader came speeding in reverse and struck Angelo and his vehicle. Rafel said his truck was pushed a couple of feet forward and he knew instantly that his brother was hit. It's not clear whether any charges will be filed against the driver of the payloader. The North Bergen police department as well as the Hudson County Prosecutor's office are investigating the incident. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is conducting their own investigation as well, police said.

[\[KY\] Explosion at UPS freight center set off by propane torch, investigators report \(Princeton Times-Leader\)](#)

(6/2/2018 1:00 AM, Mike Stunson)

A propane torch set off an explosion that heavily damaged a UPS freight center, a Lexington fire investigator said Thursday. The torch likely ignited acetylene gas released from tanks of the gas carried by a truck inside the facility, said Maj. Robert King of the department's fire investigation unit. The tanks of gas did not explode inside the center as initially reported by a fire official Wednesday, said department spokeswoman Jessica Bowman. All the tanks were accounted for in the subsequent investigation.

UPS said Wednesday that "initial reports indicate the cause may have been a gas leak from materials contained in a trailer." In addition to Lexington fire investigators, the Department of Transportation, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and UPS Risk Management were examining the UPS freight services center off Blue Sky Parkway Thursday, Lt. Bowman said. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives also had investigators on scene. Eight people were sent to the hospital Wednesday following the explosion.

[\[FL\] OSHA investigating company where construction worker died on the job \(WZVN-TV ABC 7 Fort Myers\)](#)

(5/31/2018 6:47 AM, Trent Kelly)

The name of the company involved in a deadly workplace accident that killed a Lee County father has been released. John Pullen, 47, died on Tuesday after a concrete wall collapsed inside a vacant storefront off Bonita Beach Road. Pullen, a father to two daughters, died after being rushed to the hospital. A representative for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, or OSHA, said Pullen was working for a company called Al Hauls It All, LLC.

According to online filings with the state of Florida, the company is based out of a Cape Coral home. OSHA said the company does not have any history of previous workplace violations. On Wednesday, one day after the accident, inspectors with the city of Bonita Springs posted a safety notice to the storefront's front doors to warn workers about unsafe conditions. In a Facebook post, one of Pullen's daughters is remembering her dad as, "an amazing father, protector, and best friend."

[\[MI\] Students Complete OSHA Safety Course at "The Bridge" Alternative High School \(WHMI-FM 93.5 Howell\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:06 AM, WHMI 93.5 FM)

A group of students at The Bridge Alternative High School in Brighton have completed a 10-hour course in workplace safety and safety-related employee rights. Some 16 Bridge Alternative High School students were presented with certificates for successfully completing a course in workplace safety and employee rights at ceremonies Wednesday evening. The certificates, given to the 16 students who took the course, are earned through the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration, known commonly as OSHA.

The ceremonies were held at the Brighton Education and Community Center, with about 50 students, parents and supporters in attendance. The Bridge Principal Colleen Deaven says that instructor Dan Bastien, who is certified by OSHA to teach courses in workplace safety and procedures, offered to teach the 10-hour course at no cost in memory of son Daniel, a former Bridge student who passed away.

Deaven says it is the first time the course has been offered in a high school setting in Michigan and the students were given one-half-hour class credit for passing the course. Next fall, a 30-hour OSHA course in workplace safety will be offered to the Bridge students, again at no cost. Deaven says The Bridge is the perfect place to present the course, since the majority of its students either directly enter the workforce, or enroll in a technical school, upon graduation from The Bridge.

[\[KS\] Workers injured with severe burns at Jeffrey Energy Center \(WIBW-TV 13 Topeka\)](#)

(6/3/2018 4:30 PM, Erika Hall)

There has been an incident at Jeffrey Energy Center resulting in injuries, according to spokeswoman Gina Penzig with Westar Energy. Penzig confirmed two workers were injured with severe burns before 12:30 p.m. on Sunday at the St. Marys facility located at 25905 Jeffrey Rd.

The workers were transported to the University of Kansas Medical Center by helicopter. Part of the facility has been shut down, but the plant is still operational. Jeffrey Energy Center is a 2,178 megawatt coal-fired power plant.

[\[MT\] OSHA fines Billings construction firm \\$8,000 for safety violations following fatal accident \(KTVQ-TV 2 Billings\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:30 PM, Staff Report)

Federal regulators have fined a Billings construction company \$8,000 for health and safety violations related to the January death of worker at the former Labor Temple on the South Side. Fisher Construction was initially fined \$11,445 for two citations for serious violations, but the penalties were reduced after the company held an informal conference with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, according to Jose Carnevali, a spokesman for the agency.

The citations do not specifically mention the death of 39-year-old David Shepard, a worker who died when a large piece of concrete fell at the site and struck him. Carnevali said that incident sparked the OSHA investigation and fines, which Fisher paid last month.

[\[WA\] State fines Camas \\$4,800 over firefighter safety violations \(Camas Post-Record\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:58 PM, Kelly Moyer)

The Washington Department of Labor and Industry has issued fines totalling \$4,800 against the city of Camas for violating safe workplace standards and endangering Camas-Washougal Fire Department firefighters. The fines and related safe-workplace violations are connected to a Feb. 14 house fire in Camas' Northwest Prune Hill neighborhood, in which two CWFD firefighters entered a burning, smoke-filled house to rescue a man and his two dogs. Adam Brice, president of East Clark Professional Fire Fighters, the local firefighters' union, filed a complaint against the city on behalf of the firefighters in late February, and said the city's policy of sending only two firefighters to a fire call violated the state's workplace safety laws.

The first violation addressed the number of firefighters responding to the Feb. 14 house fire. The second violation stemmed from the city's failure to "ensure that respirators were used by all personnel working in areas where the atmosphere is hazardous as required by the standard," according to the L&I findings. A third, general violation, which came with no financial penalty, said CWFD firefighters "only have one set of standard turnout gear assigned to them turnout gear needs to be washed and disinfected."

Veteran

[More vets had jobs in May \(Military Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:01 PM, Natalie Gross)

The percentage of veterans without jobs dipped once again in May as the national unemployment rate hit its lowest mark in 18 years. The unemployment rate for post-9/11 veterans hit 4.2 percent last month, down from 4.9 percent in April, according to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics figures released today. Overall veteran unemployment ticked down from 3.7 percent to 3.4 percent. Meanwhile, the comparable nonveteran employment rate saw a slight change from 3.5 percent to 3.4 percent. Experts warn against putting too much stock in the monthly veteran unemployment numbers, which can be volatile since the data is drawn from a smaller sample size than the overall population.

Nationally, the U.S. charted a 3.8 percent unemployment rate in May — the lowest since 2000. In April, the national unemployment rate hit 3.9 percent after six straight months at 4.1 percent. Overall, the U.S. added 223,000 jobs last month, primarily in the retail trade, health care and construction industries.

[Like a boss: Boots to Business helps transitioning veterans become entrepreneurs \(Peninsula Warrior\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:59 AM, Ms. Mary Ann Davis)

Thanks to the Boots to Business Program, sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration, transitioning veterans have the opportunity to follow their dreams of entrepreneurship as they transfer back to the civilian sector. "B2B is an entrepreneurial education and training program offered by the Small Business Administration as part of the Soldier for Life -- Transition Assistance Program," said Lew Lewis, U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz Transition Services manager. "The program provides transitioning service members and military spouses an overview of the business-ownership process, opportunities and challenges, what it means to be an entrepreneur and military skills and attributes that transfer over to entrepreneurship."

B2B began in 2012 through a joint initiative between the Department of Defense and SBA and later expanded through a contract with the Institute for Veterans and Military Families Program at Syracuse University, New York, in 2014. The university has offered the "Entrepreneurship Boot Camp for Veterans" since 2007, which took B2B to transitioning veterans worldwide through the work of IVMF Executive Director J. Michael Haynie, Professor of Entrepreneurship and Air Force veteran. "The principal reason why veterans make good entrepreneurs is the skills they learned in the military are transferrable to an entrepreneurship setting," said Todd Moss, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship and Emerging Enterprises at Syracuse University and B2B instructor.

[\[WI\] Program in Wisconsin raises vets' employment hopes \(Raleigh News & Observer\)](#)

(6/4/2018 1:01 AM, Katy Macek)

Two months ago, U.S. Army veteran Terry Treleven didn't have a home for over a year after going through a difficult divorce. He recently found himself doing mock interviews to prepare for getting back into the workforce at the Chippewa Falls Veterans Housing and Recovery Program, where he has been staying for a month. "I worked at other jobs, but I couldn't stick with it," Treleven said. "It's just so hard when you don't have a

place at night to lay your head. I no longer consider myself homeless because I'm here, and now it's time to work."

Thanks to U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson's The Joseph Project, Treleven and five other veterans at the Chippewa Falls facility are getting that chance. The project is a faith-based initiative to connect people with jobs throughout the state, said Scott Bolstad, Wisconsin outreach director for Johnson's office. It is a weeklong class that teaches time and financial management, goal setting, spiritual fitness, conflict resolution and other topics. The class always ends by taking the participants to interview for companies, in this case Sourcecut Industries in Osseo.

[\[ID\] Organizations partner to connect veterans with jobs in south-central Idaho \(KPVI-TV NBC 6 Pocatello\)](#)

(6/3/2018 4:00 AM, Heather Kennison)

As the state and region turn their attention to talent recruitment, Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization is exploring ways to attract veterans. The organization has received a \$5,000 grant from Idaho National Laboratory that will help it reach out to service members and employers to transition veterans into vacant positions across the region. SIEDO is partnering with INL, the Idaho Department of Labor, the Idaho Division of Veteran Services and regional employers. With the funds, these partners will attend job fairs and host trainings for veterans and businesses.

According to the Idaho Department of Labor, 10 percent of adults in Idaho are veterans of the armed forces. The American Community Survey from the U.S. Census estimates that on average, 5 percent of the veteran labor force in south-central Idaho was unemployed between 2012 and 2016. The veteran age group with the highest unemployment rate was those ages 18-34 - where 10.2 percent were unemployed. To attract veterans, SIEDO representatives have been doing presentations at the Mountain Home Air Force Base and Hill Air Force Base, Stopher said. The training includes tips for applications, resumes and job interviews - and raises awareness about employers and job openings in the Magic Valley.

Union

[Unions Brace for Pivotal Court Decision Amid Politicking \(Roll Call\)](#)

(6/4/2018 5:04 AM, Kate Ackley)

In preparation for a Supreme Court decision that may deal a significant setback to public-sector unions, organized labor groups are launching new recruiting efforts as they mobilize for the midterm elections. The case — brought by Illinois state worker Mark Janus against the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees — challenges existing law that allows government-employee unions to collect fees from nonmembers. The court could announce a decision as soon as Monday.

The AFL-CIO in recent days has started a nationwide advertising campaign, along with a companion website dubbed "Freedom to Join," making a sales pitch for the perks of union membership. The ads are running in newspapers in nine states, including Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania, as well as in USA Today and The Washington Post. "From the boardroom to the steps of the Supreme Court, a dark web of corporate interests is trying to stop us with everything it has," reads the text of the ad from AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka. "But no matter what any CEO or lobbyist does, we're standing up for the freedom to join together in a union."

[The Unions Strike Back: Janus, West Virginia, Oklahoma, and the Future of Organized Labor \(Brown Political Review\)](#)

(6/2/2018 12:00 PM, Nathaniel Pettit)

The echoes of the Battle of Blair Mountain, the nation's largest armed labor uprising, still reverberate throughout West Virginia's rolling hills—and its classrooms. Starting on February 25, all of the state's public schools closed for nearly two weeks, as teachers statewide joined picket lines. The protest was the culmination of years-long objections to low pay; the state's average teacher salary ranks 48th in the nation. Three days before the teachers began their strike, Governor Jim Justice had signed legislation that provided a gradual pay raise for teachers, but one so modest that it would not cover the increase in the cost of living over the next five years. With the legislation failing to address concerns relating to public employee insurance programs, health care costs, and payroll tax deduction options, the teachers decided that they had had enough. Joining together, the teachers and their unions demonstrated that the labor movement is alive and well in the Mountain State.

Ironically, four days into the strike, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in a case from Illinois that is expected to critically hobble, if not permanently cripple, American unions. In *Janus v. American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 31 (AFSCME)*, the Court revisits its 1977 decision in *Abood v. Detroit Board of Education*. The Supreme Court is now being asked to hold that, because collective bargaining is a form of political speech, the First Amendment forbids requiring workers to subsidize it, even through agency fees, which the case's plaintiff claims is inseparable from the political activities of the union. If *Janus* is decided this way—an outcome nearly all legal commentators expect—public-sector unions such as AFSCME anticipate losing as much as 65 percent of their membership. Indeed, that's what happened in Wisconsin after Scott Walker and the Republican legislature enacted public-sector right-to-work through the infamous Act 10 in 2010.

[Nabisco Unilaterally Imposes Contract, Axing Pensions \(Labor Press\)](#)

(6/4/2018 12:0 AM, Steve Wishnia and Neal Tepel)

The Mondelez International corporation announced May 23 that it would end pensions for about 2,000 workers at Nabisco bakeries, unilaterally implementing parts of a contract offer their union had rejected. The company, which has not negotiated with the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco and Grain Millers union since their last contract expired two years ago, had told workers in April that it would give them raises and a \$15,000 bonus if they agreed by May 20 to take the health-benefit cuts and switch to a 401(k) retirement plan.

The BCTGM refused to hold a vote on that proposal; Local 364 Vice President Leo Lovato told NWLaborPress that he'd seen workers at the Portland bakery rip up the letters from the company and throw them in the garbage. The imposed contract will give workers raises of 2.25% a year retroactive to March 2016, but end the company's contributions to the union's pension plan. It does not include Mondelez's plan to charge health-care premiums of \$28 to \$68 a month and double deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums.

[Striking AT&T workers vocal about alleged unfair labor practices by management \(WJRT-TV ABC 12 Flint\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:54 PM, Terry Camp)

About 400 AT&T workers remained on strike Friday over what they consider to be unfair labor practices on the behalf of company management. Friday was day two of the strike by AT&T workers, which appears to be spreading around the Upper Midwest. Already, 300 workers in Flint, Saginaw and Bay City walked off the job. The strike may lead to longer waits for service calls and getting service questions answered for customers.

Workers from CWA Local 4108 have been working without a new contract since April. The strike centers around an email that AT&T management sent to the employees about a tentative agreement for a new contract that it said it was fair and final. The Communications Workers of America union said the company can't negotiate with the employees directly, that the negotiating has to stay with the union's bargaining team.

[Why unions may be answer for fast-food workers \(Detroit Free Press\)](#)

(6/3/2018 6:01 AM, Frank Witsil)

Jamika Ruffin is a part-time Burger King cashier trying to make ends meet on about \$9.25 an hour. On Monday, she and about 150 other lower-wage workers will have a chance to make their case for better wages to four key Democratic representatives to Congress - Sander Levin, Royal Oak; Dan Kildee, Flint; Debbie Dingell, Dearborn, and Brenda Lawrence, Southfield - at an open, town hall-style meeting at 11 a.m. at Wayne County Community College in Detroit. Monday's gathering - which organizers are calling Michigan Needs Unions - is part of a national effort to organize and to enlist public officials and candidates in supporting the workers' cause, especially as November elections near. Organizers said their concerns are resonating in metro Detroit - which has long been a bastion of organized labor - because the real median hourly wage is falling, union membership is declining and the percentage of workers in service jobs, like fast food cashiers, is on the rise. Organizers added, Michigan's governor and Republican lawmakers have gone after unions by prohibiting dues as a condition of employment and banning Michigan municipalities from setting minimum wages.

The effort to increase minimum wages has been gaining political traction. In 2015, then-U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez came to Detroit to hear dozens of fast food workers tell him and Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan their experiences working multiple jobs to make ends meet.

[\[SC\] Labor Board Republicans May Decide Fate of Boeing Union \(Bloomberg BNA\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, Chris Opfer)

Shortly before workers voted in favor of organizing at a Boeing plant in South Carolina, a National Labor Relations Board ethics official made a decision that could shape the company's legal fight to keep unions off the campus. Ethics official Lori Ketcham recently cleared Member William Emanuel (R) to participate in Boeing's case challenging the workers' vote for representation by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, an agency spokesperson told Bloomberg Law. Although Emanuel's former law firm has represented Boeing on other employment matters, the spokesperson said Ketcham determined Emanuel could rule on this case because the firm isn't involved.

Emanuel and two other members denied Boeing's request to pause the May 31 vote by a group of workers at the North Charleston plant. But his participation in the case means the board's Republican majority will likely eventually decide Boeing's claim that the group shouldn't have been allowed to vote in the first place. "Boeing continues to believe that this micro-unit is prohibited by federal law," the company said in a May 31 tweet. "We are deeply disappointed with the result and are appealing."

[\[SC\] Boeing Flight Line Workers In Charleston, S.C., Vote To Unionize \(WEKU-FM 88.9 Richmond Public Radio\)](#)

(6/1/2018 1:26 PM, Bill Chappell)

It only covers about 178 workers, but it's still a union foothold: Flight-readiness technicians and inspectors at Boeing's factory in North Charleston, S.C., voted to unionize on Thursday, more than a year after a broader union vote failed at the plant that makes Boeing 787 airliners. The workers will be represented by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers union, despite intense resistance from Boeing.

The company accused the union of using gerrymandering to form a "micro-unit" at the facility it built in South Carolina — a "right to work state" — after running into difficulty dealing with the Machinists' union (including a strike) in Washington state 10 years ago.

[\[SC\] Union breaches Boeing bastion in rare win \(Crain's Chicago Business\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:30 AM, Staff)

Boeing Co. technicians voted to form the first collective bargaining unit at the plane maker's factory in South Carolina, scoring a rare victory for organized labor in a state traditionally hostile to unions. The "Micro-unit" will represent fewer than 180 flight-line workers, a small subset of the 7,000 or so workers who build Boeing 787 Dreamliners in North Charleston. The result gives the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers a foothold in a so-called right-to-work state.

The world's largest plane maker vowed to challenge the election by the small worker group, saying it violated U.S. labor law. "Boeing continues to believe that this type of micro-unit is prohibited by federal law," the company said in a statement Thursday. The union victory marked a turnabout in a long struggle between management and the Machinists, with the South Carolina plant the latest battleground. An attempt to organize the factory last year was rejected by 74 percent of workers, while a 2015 campaign fizzled amid an anti-union barrage led by then-Governor Nikki Haley.

[\[SC\] South Carolina Boeing workers vote to unionize in major win for labor rights \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:46 AM, Elham Khatami)

Flight-line workers at Boeing's South Carolina plant pushed back against the company's executive team in voting overwhelmingly in favor of unionization Thursday, marking a rare win for organized labor in the South. Employees at the aerospace giant's North Charleston plant voted 104-65 to have the International Association of Machinists (IAM) represent them in collective bargaining, according to The Post and Courier, despite Boeing's efforts to dissuade the workers from organizing. Prior to the vote, the company launched an anti-union social media campaign, arguing that such "micro-units" are prohibited by federal law, and tried to delay the election. Company spokesman Victor Scott said Boeing will appeal the decision.

Workers at Boeing's North Charleston plant reached out to IAM last year, citing "changes to work rules, threatened layoffs and mandatory overtime on weekends," as well as less-than-average hourly pay, The Post and Courier reported. In February 2017, about 2,800 North Charleston Boeing employees voted to reject unionization. Since then, company executives have cut employees' pay raises from twice a year to once a year.

[\[SC\] Union presence could benefit all workers at Boeing's North Charleston campus, experts say \(Charleston Post & Courier\)](#)

(6/2/2018 6:00 AM, David Wren)

South Carolina's right-to-work law guarantees employees don't have to join a union to keep their jobs, but Thursday's vote at Boeing Co.'s North Charleston campus will likely be felt throughout the workplace. Flight-line workers voted 104 to 65 in favor of having the International Association of Machinists represent them in collective bargaining. Employers typically raise wages and benefits for all workers - not just those covered by union contracts - whenever a labor union is successful in organizing part, but not all, of a business, a labor expert said.

When a union has a strong workplace presence, the average pay of non-union workers is 5 percent higher, according to a review of 35 years of data by the pro-union Economic Policy Institute. The road to a union contract for Boeing's flight line workers promises to be long. The IAM and Boeing have seven days to challenge Thursday's vote. If neither side raises any issues, the National Labor Relations Board will certify the election. Boeing has already said it will appeal the NLRB decision that allowed the vote to take place.

[\[OH\] AT&T locals across five states walk out \(Zanesville Times Recorder\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:00 PM, Shelly Schultz)

Local AT&T employees joined thousands across five states in a walk-out that began Thursday. "Yesterday at 11, along with five other states that are in the District 4 Local, we walked out against the unfair labor practices of AT&T," said Kyle Ogilbee, secretary and treasurer for Local 4324. "They have not been to the bargaining table for us for about two weeks and we've been working without a contract."

The workers are represented by the Communications Workers of America, which has been in talks since March on behalf of 14,000 workers in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. About 18 Zanesville employees took to the street to voice their opinion. AT&T employees are asking for more job security, health care and pensions.

[\[OH\] Local AT&T workers strike: What it means for customers \(Dayton Daily News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:19 AM, Kara Driscoll & Max Filby)

More than 300 Dayton area AT&T workers represented by the Communications Worker of America Local 4322 have gone on strike, according to an union representative.

The CWA has been in ongoing contract talks since March with AT&T on behalf of 14,000 workers in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and

Wisconsin, as well as its nationwide Legacy T contract. When asked how long the workers would be on strike, a union representative said "it could be indefinite."

[\[MI\] AT&T union workers on strike say company 'intimidated' them to approve contract \(Grand Valley Advance\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:01 AM, Isis Simpson-Mersha)

Union workers in Saginaw, Midland, and Bay City walked out of their jobs Thursday, arguing their employer, AT&T, is intimidating and attempting to influence them to accept a new labor contract. Over 400 members of the Communications Workers of America union participated in an unfair labor practice strike on Thursday, May 31, arguing AT&T tried to bargain with employees directly and not with the union's bargaining team. Similar strikes are planned Friday, June 1. "The company went behind the bargaining team's back and tried to influence us via company email to accept this offer," said Martin Szeliga, vice president of Local 4108.

Union workers were working under a three-year contract that expired on April 15. Weeks leading up to the expired contract, AT&T and the bargaining teams were in discussion to work up a new contract. As both parties negotiated, the union workers agreed to keep working without a contract. Szeliga said the email, which was sent out last week, boasted about wage increases and continued job security. He said the company shouldn't be reaching out to employees directly during negotiations. After the bargaining process, the bargaining team discusses details about the offer to employees and they are able to vote on whether or not they will accept the offer.

[\[MI\] Nurses at hospital in Michigan's Upper Peninsula OK contract \(Rock Hill Herald\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:05 AM, Associated Press)

Nurses at a hospital in Michigan's Upper Peninsula have voted to accept a new contract. WLUC-TV reports the agreement with Duke LifePoint for nurses at UP Health System Marquette was reached following negotiations with the Michigan Nurses Association.

The union says the contract contains many improvements for nurses and patients, including language to ensure that nurses have a stronger voice in staffing decisions. The union says it includes wage increases and robust health insurance to help retain nurses. Nurses had been working without a contract since last year. In October, they held a two-day strike.

[\[MI\] Nurses at Marquette hospital OK new contract \(Crain's Detroit Business\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:58 AM, Associated Press)

Nurses at a hospital in Marquette have voted to accept a new contract. The agreement with Duke LifePoint for nurses at UP Health System Marquette was reached following negotiations with the Michigan Nurses Association, WLUC-TV reported.

The union said the contract contains many improvements for nurses and patients, including language to ensure that nurses have a stronger voice in staffing decisions. It includes wage increases and robust health insurance to help retain nurses. Nurses had been working without a contract since last year. In October, they held a two-day strike.

[\[MT\] Montana Unions Expecting Right-To-Work Blow From US Supreme Court \(Montana Public Radio\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:16 AM, Corin Cates-Carney)

A U-S Supreme court decision expected in the coming weeks could deal a big blow to Montana's public sector unions. The decision could make Montana a so-called 'Right-to-Work' state in the public sector, costing the state's biggest union membership, revenue, and bargaining power.

"A union only works or only works well when the majority, if not a vast majority, of the members in a bargaining unit are members of that union," Montana Federation of Public Employees Eric Feaver says. "When some people decide for whatever reason they just don't want to participate in the work of the union and they don't even want to pay dues to the union, because what, it doesn't mean anything to them?" Feaver says public union membership here could fall by ten percent if labor groups are no longer allowed to mandate union fees.

[\[NV\] Las Vegas union: Tentative labor deal struck with Caesars \(Washington Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:35 AM, Regina Garcia Cano - Associated Press)

Negotiators have reached a tentative labor agreement that would cover about a quarter of the 50,000 hotel and casino workers who are threatening to strike in Las Vegas. The Culinary Workers Union Local 226 on Friday said the new five-year deal with Caesars Entertainment covers about 12,000 workers at nine casino resorts on the Las Vegas Strip. Tens of thousands of bartenders, housekeepers, bellmen and other unionized workers at 34 casino-hotels on the Strip and in downtown Las Vegas have sought new, five-year contracts for months. The current contracts expired at midnight.

Ninety-nine percent of about 25,000 workers voted last week to authorize a strike at any time starting Friday. No date has been set, but workers have started signing up for strike pay, financial assistance and picketing shifts.

[\[NV\] Culinary Union says deal reached with Caesars, rest still in negotiations \(KSNV-TV NBC 3 Las Vegas\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:03 AM, Matthew Seeman)

The Culinary Union says it reached a tentative agreement on a new contract with Caesars Entertainment, hours after the previous contract with Strip and downtown properties expired at midnight Friday.

The union's Twitter account posted just after 2:40 a.m. Friday that the five-year deal would cover 12,000 workers at nine Las Vegas Strip resorts: Bally's, Caesars Palace, Flamingo, Harrah's, Paris, Planet Hollywood, The Cromwell and The LINQ. The union said more details on the agreement would be released later Friday.

[\[NV\] Union: tentative labor deal struck with Caesars \(Austin American-Statesman\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:24 AM, Associated Press)

A union for casino workers and one of the largest resort operators in Las Vegas reached a tentative labor agreement Friday that would cover about a quarter of the 50,000 employees threatening the first citywide strike in more than 30 years.

The new five-year deal with Caesars Entertainment covers about 12,000 bartenders, housekeepers, kitchen workers and others at nine casino-resorts on the Las Vegas Strip, the Culinary Workers Union Local 226 said. It declined to provide details because workers have not approved the contract, but generally both sides agreed to wage increases and stronger language against sexual harassment. "We feel very good about the contract," said Geoconda Arguello-Kline, union secretary-treasurer. "We feel like the company got what they need for their business to continue, and we feel like we can still provide the American dream for the members."

[\[NV\] Partial resolution reached in Vegas as strike talks continue \(CNBC\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:49 AM, CNBC)

The union says the five-year deal covers approximately 12,000 workers at nine casino resorts on the Las Vegas Strip, reports CNBC's Jane Wells with the latest details.

[Editorial note: VIDEO at source].

[\[NV\] Las Vegas Culinary Union Settles with Caesars Entertainment, as MGM, Other Casinos Continue to Hammer Out Contract Terms \(Casino\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:21 AM, Devin O'Connor)

But MGM resorts — the largest casino owner in Las Vegas with 10 venues — is still hammering out their own deal, hoping to avert a strike which technically could still happen now that Culinary Union contracts have expired. SLS, Stratosphere, The Tropicana, The Westgate, and The D downtown also remain in jeopardy as talks continue. Nevada's largest union represents kitchen workers, cocktail and food servers, bartenders, guestroom attendants, and porters. Union officials are seeking increased wages and benefits, measures to combat sexual harassment, and guarantees from casino operators that workers will receive advanced skill training and not be replaced by digital technologies.

On May 22, 99 percent of voting union members supported authorizing a strike should new terms not be reached in their favor and in a timely manner. A walkout has always been considered a "last resort," according to union leaders, and negotiations are continuing past the contract expiration for the remaining casinos. Details of Caesars' new five-year agreement with the Culinary Union have not yet been released.

[\[NV\] Caesars reaches tentative agreement with Culinary Union \(Las Vegas Review Journal\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:06 AM, Richard N. Velotta)

The threat of a crippling strike in the city's resort corridor might be averted. With a tentative five-year labor agreement established by Culinary Local 226 and Bartenders Local 165 with Caesars Entertainment Corp., the focus of labor negotiations now shifts to the other big Strip player: MGM Resorts International. A union representative said negotiations with MGM would resume Saturday. Still, more than 100 union members, most of them clad in red T-shirts, rallied at their "Strike HQ" Friday to make hundreds of picket signs declaring a walkout of MGM properties.

[\[NV\] Culinary Union, MGM Resorts reach tentative contract deal \(Las Vegas Review Journal\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:32 AM, Todd Prince)

Las Vegas tourists can rest assured this weekend that service won't be disrupted. Union negotiators say they struck a tentative deal with MGM Resorts International, the state's largest hotel operator by employees, just a day after workers began preparing strike signs. The historic new 5-year contract covers approximately 24,00 workers at 10 casino resorts on the Las Vegas Strip. The deal comes a day after Caesars Entertainment Corp., Nevada's second-largest hotel operator, reached a similar tentative agreement with the union.

Culinary Local 226 and Bartenders Local 165, part of UNITE HERE, threatened to strike for the first time in more than three decades if they did not reach a new agreement by midnight on Thursday. Contracts for 50,000 Las Vegas hotel employees, including housekeeping staff, bell staff, bartenders and cocktail waitresses expired June 1. The workers were demanding an average annual increase in wages and benefits of 4 percent over the next five years. A union vote will be scheduled in the coming days for both the Caesars and MGM contracts.

[\[NV\] Culinary Union, MGM resume negotiations after nearly week's delay \(KSNV-TV NBC 3 Las Vegas\)](#)

(6/2/2018 4:27 PM, Marvin Clemons)

Officials on both sides confirmed that MGM Resorts and the Culinary Union resumed contract negotiations on Saturday. Union and MGM officials last talked on Monday. In the meantime, the union reached an agreement with Caesars Entertainment on Friday morning, the morning after the contract officially expired.

Union and MGM spokespeople confirmed the talks. Union workers have been preparing for actually going on strike after voting "99 to 1" to authorize union leaders to call a strike in a vote about a week ago. A total of 25 hotel/casinos have yet to reach a deal with the union after the 9 hotels/casinos owned by Caesars agreed to a contract.

[\[NV\] MGM Resorts reaches tentative deal with Las Vegas unions \(Las Vegas Review-Journal\)](#)

(6/3/2018 7:08 PM, Todd Prince and Richard N. Velotta)

With the two largest employer groups on the Strip reaching tentative labor agreements over the weekend, Las Vegas tourists can rest assured that service at resorts won't be disrupted. MGM Resorts International, the state's largest hotel operator by employees, late Saturday joined Caesars Entertainment Corp. in approving new five-year contracts with Culinary Local 226 and Bartenders Local 165.

The deal heads off a potential nightmare scenario for MGM Resorts, whose business could have been disrupted as the Stanley Cup Final returns to T-Mobile Arena for Game 5 on Thursday. Like the agreement reached Friday with Caesars Entertainment, details of the settlement weren't disclosed. Rank-and-file workers will consider the contracts in as-yet-unscheduled ratification votes. Culinary spokeswoman Bethany Khan and an MGM Resorts representative said a joint statement would be issued Sunday or Monday. The tentative deal was reached a day after more than 100 union workers made hundreds of picket signs in preparation for a strike against MGM Resorts.

[\[NV\] Las Vegas casino workers reach tentative new deals with two largest casino chains amid strike threat \(ThinkProgress\)](#)

(6/3/2018 12:43 PM, Luke Barnes)

Two major casino chains have reached deals with their workers in Las Vegas over new contracts, in the face of potential strike action which had the capacity of dealing a potentially crippling blow to the city's resorts and casinos. The Culinary and Bartender's Union, which represents casino staff like cocktail servers, maids, cooks, bartenders and others employed in the hospitality industry, have been locked in negotiations with Nevada's hospitality companies over a new five-year contract, which expired on Friday. Chief among concerns are wage increases and the looming danger of automation. Ninety-nine per cent of the 25,000 workers who participated in a May 22 vote supported going out on strike.

On Friday, workers reached a tentative agreement with one employer, Caesar's Entertainment, over a new contract, which would cover 12,000 workers at nine casinos. Just as workers began to make strike signs, the Union announced a last-minute, tentative deal with MGM resorts for a new five-year-contract covering 24,000 workers at 10 casinos. Negotiations continue with 15 other Las Vegas resorts where contracts have expired, but the fact that Caesar's and MGM, the two largest employers have reached deals makes it much more likely that the smaller ones will soon as well.

[\[NV\] Vegas MGM union workers reach deal with casino \(Houston Chronicle\)](#)

(6/3/2018 1:31 PM, Anita Snow – Associated Press)

A union for casino-hotel workers says it has reached a tentative agreement with MGM Resorts International, covering nearly half of the 50,000 employees threatening to strike in Las Vegas. The deal between MGM and the Culinary Workers Union Local 226 was announced by the union in a tweet late Saturday. A tentative accord between the labor union and the other big casino employer threatened by the job action, Caesars Entertainment, was reached Friday afternoon. Union spokeswoman Bethany Khan confirmed Sunday that the tentative deal had been reached.

MGM spokeswoman Mary Hynes deferred to the union for any further comment about the accord. Some smaller casino operators have yet to reach agreements with the union and could still face the first citywide strike in more than 30 years. The union says the main sticking points have been wages, workplace training and job security as casino-hotels turn to technology that can displace workers. Employees want contract language that would protect them if properties are sold and an independent workload study for housekeepers. Workers have voted to authorize a strike, but no date has been set.

[\[NV\] Culinary: Tentative deal reached with MGM on 5-year contract \(Las Vegas Sun\)](#)

(6/3/2018 7:53 AM, Ray Brower)

The Culinary Workers Union and MGM Resorts International reached a tentative agreement on a five-year deal late Saturday, the union announced on Twitter. The contract covers 24,000 employees at 10 Las Vegas Strip properties and would end the union's threats to strike if a deal wasn't reached this week. Specifics on the deal with MGM will be released later, according to the Culinary's tweet.

It comes one day after the union finalized details of a five-year contract with Caesars Entertainment for 12,000 employees. That deal includes "groundbreaking language on worker security regarding sexual harassment, workload, technology, and immigration," according to a union statement. In their threats prior to the agreements, union representatives estimated a strike of its 50,000 workers from 34 casinos on the Strip and in downtown could have cost those properties more than \$300 million in the first month.

[\[NV\] Labor Unions and Robots: What Happens In Vegas Isn't Likely to Stay There \(Real Clear Markets\)](#)

(6/4/2018 12:00 AM, Allan Golombek)

It was bound to happen. Attempts to slow down the pace of automation are making their way to the top of the union agenda. The first major battle is taking place in Las Vegas. But in this case, what happens in Vegas isn't likely to stay in Vegas. The city that never sleeps has been the site of a battle waged by the Culinary Workers and the Bartenders unions to prevent or slow the introduction of new technologies at Vegas hotels. The union threatened to strike largely based on these issues, before reaching settlements with Caesar's and MGM Resorts. (Details of the agreements have yet to be released.)

The city isn't the first place where the backlash against technological progress has reared its head. A growing realization that jobs aren't going to Mexico or China so much as to robots and other technologies has spawned a new ludditism, aimed at clinging to jobs by stopping or at least slowing the advance of technology. The same job-protection impulse that drives opposition to free trade is now being directed at new technologies. In New York, for example, cabbies are demanding a ban on self-driving cars. In most cities, the companies are trying to block ride-sharing services. But it isn't surprising that the first major union battle over the introduction of artificial intelligence is taking place in the gambling mecca. A majority of Nevada's workers are employed in legacy service sector jobs especially susceptible to automation. Redlands University economist Johannes Moenius calls Las Vegas "the epicenter of a potential wave of automation."

[\[WA\] UW grad-student workers OK contract \(Seattle Times\)](#)

(6/3/2018 9:12 PM, Lewis Kamb)

The union representing 4,500 teaching assistants, researchers and other graduate-student employees of the University of Washington voted overwhelmingly Sunday to accept a new contract with the university, avoiding a possible walkout during finals week. The new agreement includes 2 percent pay raises each year for the next three years and a new annual lump-sum payment of \$100 to each student employee to help defray student fees incurred during the academic year.

The contract also increases quarterly child-care subsidies for student employees from \$900 to \$1,250, and raises their overall child-care fund from \$45,000 to \$60,000. The academic student employees - most of them doctoral students - previously had threatened a 14-day strike, meaning some student papers and final exams wouldn't have been graded right away as the school year closes out.

[\[CA\] California unions want to keep anti-labor activists from meeting new teachers and cops \(Sacramento Bee\)](#)

(6/4/2018 12:01 AM, Adam Ashton)

California's public employee unions are backing a pack of bills that might help them hold on to members if the Supreme Court this summer issues a ruling that's expected to deliver a serious blow to the finances for labor organizations. Two of the bills lay out standard guidelines governing how public agencies collect dues from union members. Both give unions time to call workers and try to change the minds of those who want to stop paying dues.

One of the bills would require local governments to grant time off to union shop stewards. It requires the unions to reimburse government agencies, but local government lobbyists still have concerns about it. Another, Assembly Bill 2970, would prohibit government agencies from publicly disclosing information about new employee orientations.

Disability

[nTIDE May 2018 Jobs Report: Despite Fewer Looking for Work, Gains Continue for Americans with Disabilities \(Benzinga\)](#)

(6/1/2018 11:31 AM, Staff)

Job gains continued for Americans with disabilities in May, although fewer were looking for work, according to today's National Trends in Disability Employment – Monthly Update (nTIDE), issued by Kessler Foundation and the University of New Hampshire's Institute on Disability (UNH-IOD). While greater numbers of people with disabilities have entered the workforce over the past two years, Americans with disabilities are still striving for jobs that support their independence. Employment First is a national initiative that has identified competitive, integrated employment as the cornerstone of full community participation by all people with disabilities. Employment First, which provides a framework for systems changes that prioritize employment, has been adopted in some form in 49 states and the District of Columbia.

In the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Jobs Report released Friday, June 1, the employment-to-population ratio for working-age people with disabilities increased from 29.2 percent in May 2017 to 29.7 percent in May 2018 (up 1.7 percent; 0.5 percentage points). For working-age people without disabilities, the employment-to-population ratio also increased from 73.6 percent in May 2017 to 74.2 percent in May 2018 (up 0.8 percent; 0.6 percentage points). The employment-to-population ratio, a key indicator, reflects the percentage of people who are working relative to the total population (the number of people working divided by the number of people in the total population multiplied by 100).

[Training students with disabilities to work at banks \(American Banker\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:41 PM, Laura Alix)

If there's one thing Fifth Third Bancorp's Mitch Morgan wants people to know about Project SEARCH, it's that this isn't a charity case. Project SEARCH is a high school transitional program aimed at preparing young adults with intellectual and cognitive disabilities for the workforce. First and foremost, the \$142 billion-asset Fifth Third joined the program because it was facing a shortage of talent, said Morgan, who is the bank's manager for diversity and inclusion. Simply put, the bank had jobs it desperately needed to fill, and this was one way to do that.

There is an increased awareness that financial institutions can do more to make financial services accessible to people with disabilities. Besides the legal and altruistic reasons, about one in every five Americans has a disability, and it simply makes good business sense to meet their needs. Accessibility in both branches and digital services is important, and specialized financial literacy efforts are another good step, but many disability advocates say that hiring people with disabilities is another crucial need. Today, the nonprofit has more than 500 program sites worldwide, with most them in the health care industry. Fifth Third was the first bank to launch Project SEARCH, 13 years ago, and last year TD Bank became the second.

[Work Gains Continue For Americans With Disabilities \(Arizona Daily Independent\)](#)

(6/3/2018 11:59 PM, Staff Report)

Job gains continued for Americans with disabilities in May, although fewer were looking for work, according to National Trends in Disability Employment. While greater numbers of people with disabilities have entered the workforce over the past two years, Americans with disabilities are still striving for jobs that support their independence.

In the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Jobs Report released Friday, June 1, the employment-to-population ratio for working-age people with disabilities increased from 29.2 percent in May 2017 to 29.7 percent in May 2018 (up 1.7 percent; 0.5 percentage points). For working-age people without disabilities, the employment-to-population ratio also increased from 73.6 percent in May 2017 to 74.2 percent in May 2018 (up 0.8 percent; 0.6 percentage points). The employment-to-population ratio, a key indicator, reflects the percentage of people who are working relative to the total population (the number of people working divided by the number of people in the total population multiplied by 100). "This is the 26th consecutive month that we are seeing improvement in the employment-to-population ratio," according to John O'Neill, PhD, director of employment and disability research at the Kessler Foundation. "It is indeed good news that we are seeing more people with disabilities finding jobs."

[\[PA\] Helping young adults with disabilities take the next step \[editorial\] \(Lancaster Online\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:00 AM, Editorial)

As part of Manheim Central School District's Next Step program, six students with intellectual disabilities graduated earlier this month. Next Step is designed to help these students gain critical skills and experience needed to obtain employment beyond graduation in fields such as manufacturing, hospitality and food service. Sometimes the best testimonial of a program's effectiveness doesn't come from gushing praise — although that's nice, too.

It comes from realizing what the absence of said program would mean for those it's intended to benefit. That's the case with 20-year-old Tyler Hornberger, a Next Step graduate who works three days a week cleaning at the Manheim Hampton Inn on Lebanon Road.

[\[WA\] The road to helping people with disabilities \(Federal Way Mirror\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:30 AM, Julie Pollard)

Over the loudspeaker the bulletin announcer read, "If you're interested in volunteering at Camp Easter Seal come to the counseling center and pick up an application." I was intrigued. It was 1985; I was 14 and ready for a little freedom. I picked up the application materials and learned the camp was for people with disabilities. I wasn't sure who that meant exactly, but I filled out the application anyway with visions of a week with no parents and the chance to meet boys — and got in.

I arrived to camp excited at my opportunity for freedom. The week began, and I fell in love. Not with a boy, but a mission. The campers I met over the week were smart, funny, kind and talented. Where were these cool people at school? Why didn't I have anyone with Down syndrome in any of my classes? Why did I never see anyone except elderly people who used wheelchairs?

Law & Compliance

[NLRB Rulemaking, OFCCP Jurisdiction Update, H-2B Cap Relief \(National Law Review\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:04 PM, James J. Plunkett)

Late last week, senators Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), and Bernie Sanders (I-VT) sent a letter to National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) Chairman John Ring asking him to put the brakes on the Board's recently announced decision to explore rulemaking as a means to address the joint-employer issue. The senators argue that rulemaking on this matter is an attempt "to evade the ethical restrictions that apply to adjudications." While the Buzz doesn't think that this letter will ultimately impact the Board's decision on whether to pursue rulemaking, it is

indicative of the scrutiny that the Board will continue to face from certain lawmakers who are intent on preserving as much of the previous Board's legacy as possible.

Moreover, if the House and/or Senate flips in November, these letters will turn into hearings, which could really slow things down at the Board. Finally, by arguing that the Board has already determined what a final joint-employer rule will look like, the letter appears to forecast a potential Administrative Procedure Act legal challenge that opponents of the traditional joint-employer standard might wield against any final rule.

[\[FL\] Labor board rules Disney didn't discriminate against Orlando union workers by withholding bonuses \(Orlando Weekly\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:13 PM, Monivette Cordeiro)

The National Labor Relations Board ruled Friday that Walt Disney World did not discriminate against Orlando union workers when the company chose to withhold \$1,000 bonuses from those employees. Back in January, Disney announced it would give \$1,000 one-time cash bonuses to 125,000 domestic workers - an initiative that the theme park company attributed to GOP corporate tax cuts.

The six Orlando unions that make up the Service Trades Council Union filed an unfair labor complaint against Disney, alleging the company was retaliating against unionized cast members by refusing to give them the \$1,000 bonus until they approved Disney's wage offer. NLRB Regional Director David Cohen dismissed the unions' complaint on Friday, arguing that there was "no evidence" to show Disney's decision to bargain with STCU over the bonuses was motivated by "anti-union animus." Eric Clinton, president of UNITE HERE Local 362, says the organization is disappointed and "strongly disagrees" with Cohen's decision. Clinton adds that the unions will begin bargaining talks again with Disney on June 8.

[\[CA\] 5 Workplace Compliance Issues for Northern California \(Society for Human Resource Management\)](#)

(6/4/2018 12:01 AM, Lisa Nagele-Piazza)

California is known for its abundance of workplace laws and regulations—and compliance gets particularly complicated for businesses in the northern part of the state that must follow more stringent local rules. "Employers in Northern California are still adapting to several new workplace laws unique to the area," said Elizabeth Stonhaus, an attorney with Dolowich & Voluck in San Francisco.

Employers have to be very conscious of all the laws that pertain to their jurisdictions, said Benjamin Ebbink, an attorney with Fisher Phillips in Sacramento. "Keeping up with the local ordinances can be quite a challenge, and I definitely recommend touching base with counsel." Here are some of the top Northern California-specific compliance issues that employers should note.

1. Minimum-Wage Hikes - Many Northern California cities have increased or plan to increase their minimum wages to rates that exceed the statewide minimum
2. Predictable Scheduling and Opportunity to Work - Predictable scheduling is the next big issue, according to Ebbink. During the last several years, San Francisco and Emeryville have rolled out predictive scheduling ordinances.
3. Paid Family Leave - San Francisco's Paid Parental Leave Ordinance took effect Jan. 1 and applies to employers with 20 or more workers. Covered businesses must provide up to six weeks of supplemental compensation to employees who receive state paid-family-leave benefits for baby bonding.
4. Paid Sick Leave - In addition to a statewide paid-sick-leave law, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland and San Francisco have their own ordinances that require employers to provide workers with paid time off to care for their own or a family member's illness or injury.
5. Lactation-Accommodation Requirements - Though there are federal and state lactation-accommodation rules, San Francisco has a more expansive ordinance, which took effect Jan. 1.

[\[CA\] Can an "Applicant" Be Discriminated Against When She Hasn't Applied for the Job? \(Vinson & Elkins\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:15 PM, Staff)

Under the California analogue to Title VII, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), it is unlawful for an employer to refuse to hire someone based on their "sex," which includes a woman's pregnancy status. Normally, to be eligible for protections under discrimination statutes like Title VII and FEHA in the hiring context, an individual needs to have at least applied for an open position. However, one California court of appeals indicated that, at least in some situations, FEHA sex discrimination may occur even when the plaintiff never applied for a position.

In *Abed v. Western Dental Services, Inc.*, the plaintiff worked as an extern for a dental practice and inquired about open dental assistant positions shortly after learning she was pregnant. She was informed there were no open positions. She later found out that the dental practice listed an opening on its website and hired a dental assistant shortly after her externship ended. The plaintiff sued, claiming the practice had falsely told her no position was open because she was pregnant. The employer argued that her claim must fail as a matter of law because she had not actually applied for any position. In denying the employer's motion for summary judgment on her discrimination claim, the court held that

submitting an application was not required to make out a prima facie showing of discrimination and that the employer's actions in falsely communicating that there were no openings interfered with her right to apply.

[\[CA\] Lawsuit alleges UPS 'systematically' violates labor law \(Northern California Record\)](#)

(6/2/2018 1:12 PM, Glenn Minnis)

A California woman has filed a class action lawsuit against former employer United Parcel Service, alleging the company systematically violated federal labor codes by not allowing certain employees rest or meal breaks and not properly compensating them for all hours worked. Emilia Santos was formerly employed by the company's San Ramon Customer Center as a non-exempt, hourly, part-time supervisor from July 2017 to February 2018, during which time she alleges she regularly worked shifts of more than six-hours without being afforded a 30-minute meal break or being paid for that time spent still working, in violation of state law.

Santos further maintained in her complaint -filed in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California - that in order to uphold the long held practice, the company had a system by which part-time employees would clock out for breaks, but be required to continue working as a means of keeping up production and controlling costs. In instances where workers failed to clock out, attorneys for Santos told the court UPS managers or supervisors would access the timecard system and edit the times as they saw fit.

[\[CA\] Editorial: California ruling challenges the new-economy definition of who 's an employee and who's a contractor \(St. Louis Post-Dispatch\)](#)

(6/3/2018 1:00 PM, Staff)

A recent decision by the California Supreme Court is causing consternation in the so-called "gig economy." The decision makes it harder for companies like Uber, Lyft and Amazon to classify workers as contractors rather than employees and may conflict with other court decisions saying just the opposite. The U.S. Supreme Court will almost certainly be asked to settle the question. The issue is of major consequence, because gig employees tend to cost employers up to 30 percent less than company employees and because non-traditional employees are the fastest growing segment of the U.S. workforce. Labor laws need to be updated to address the new reality. By one estimate, almost every net new job created in the United States between 2005 and 2015 was in what the Labor Department calls the "alternative work" or "contingent employee" category.

No one-size-fits-all definition applies, but the California Supreme Court suggested a test similar to laws in Massachusetts and New Jersey: To be classified as a contractor, the worker must first be free from the control and direction of the employer; his or her duties must be outside the usual course of the employer's business and such workers must regularly perform for others the same kind of jobs they do for the hiring entity.

Family and Medical Leave

[Got FMLA Forms? Visit DOL.gov for Updated Expiration Date on Model Notices \(HR Daily Advisor\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:06 PM, Holly Jones)

Those with eagle eyes and current FMLA administration needs may have noticed the May 31, 2018, expiration of several model DOL forms. Never fear, fresh forms—now sporting a June 30, 2018, expiration—are now available from the DOL. Aside from the one-month expiration extension, no other changes have been made to the forms. Every three years these forms expire, often with little fanfare and much confusion from employers. Thanks to Jeff Nowak's excellent investigative journalism over on the FMLA Insights blog, we can explain why: federal formality. That's right, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 requires the forms to be reviewed and reapproved every three years.

New forms, which have no changes other than the expiration date extension, have been submitted for approval and review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Once this review is complete, these new forms will be good for another three years. However, until that review is complete, the DOL will simply extend the deadline on the current forms each month.

Retirement

[SEC's regulation best interest falls short of making broker-dealers fiduciaries \(Employee Benefit News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:36 AM, Staff Report)

Ever since the Securities and Exchange Commission came out with its own proposed suitability standard for financial advice in April, the benefit industry has been trying to pick it apart and figure out what broker-dealers and registered investment advisers would have to do to comply with the proposal's regulation best interest concept. Regulation best interest requires anyone who advises retail investment accounts to follow a standard of care that falls short of the Department of Labor's fiduciary rule, which was recently vacated by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The big takeaway is that the proposed SEC rules probably don't apply to advice given to retirement plan sponsors but would apply to advice given to participants in a workplace plan, especially as it pertains to rolling over their retirement accounts into an individual retirement account. The SEC's work was mandated by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act in July 2010, which asked the SEC to conduct a study on the

regulatory standard of care for broker-dealers and investment advisers for providing personalized investment advice and recommendations about securities, says Sandy Grannum, a partner at Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP in New York City and chair of the law firm's broker-dealer and FINRA group.

[5th Circuit mandate to vacate DOL fiduciary rule 'still pending' \(Investment News\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:39 PM, Mark Schoeff Jr.)

As death watches go, the vigil over the Labor Department's fiduciary rule has been a long one. Back on March 15, the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals struck down the regulation in a 2-1 decision. The Department of Justice, on behalf of the DOL, declined to appeal the decision by the April 30 deadline. Attempts by AARP and three states to intervene as the defendants were denied on two different occasions in May. The court was originally supposed to issue a mandate by May 7 making the March 15 decision effective, but has not yet done so.

The parts of the rule that were implemented almost a year ago — impartial conduct standards for brokers when working with clients in retirement accounts — are still operational until the 5th Circuit ruling becomes effective. In the meantime, the DOL has reiterated its temporary non-enforcement policy, allowing brokers to use exemptions in the regulation without a contract as long as they make a good-faith effort to comply with the impartial conduct standards, such as acting in a client's best interests, charging reasonable fees and not making any misleading statements.

[Why Do Some People Choose to Work Past 70? \(Entrepreneur\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, Joseph Chukwube)

Of course, "mature employee" could be anyone past, say, 55. But what would a worker gain by staying past 70? While Americans' life expectancy has dropped for the second year in a row, we're living longer than we did in the 1990s, for instance. Apart from older workers possibly enjoying the opportunity to share their skills and mentor young minds, there are several more reasons why some people find it beneficial to work past 70.

1. Health benefits: Did you know that working longer might actually prolong your life? A study conducted by Oregon State University showed that working past the age of 65 can help you live longer.
2. Social Security benefits: For every year you delay Social Security, Blackman says, you increase your benefits by 8 percent until you reach 70.
3. A bigger nest egg: As a general rule, most financial planners will recommend that you save enough to last 25 years after retirement. Meaning, if what you have left after spending your income

[Pension Reform That Public Workers Are Actually Happy About \(Governing\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:00 AM, Jessie Van Berkel)

Hundreds of thousands of public employees and retirees stand to benefit from a major pension reform package that Gov. Mark Dayton signed into law on Thursday. Schoolteachers, office workers, police officers and a retired parks maintenance worker were among the triumphant crowd that filled the Capitol rotunda in a ceremony for a bill signing that Dayton said would be the last piece of legislation he would sign as governor. "I can't tell you how many retirees and active employees have spoken with me in the last few days and told me how vitally important this is for their peace of mind, for their financial security, for their sense of being able to rely on pensions, on the promise that they've earned," Dayton said.

Pension reform efforts had been going on for years, as the state stared down a future debt of \$16.2 billion for pensions. Credit rating agencies warned state budget officials to get their unfunded liabilities in order, while retirees fretted about the prospect of larger cuts to their benefits. The pension changes that passed will immediately eliminate \$3.4 billion in unfunded liabilities and put Minnesota on a more stable path for the future, legislators said. The state will be contributing \$141 million to pension plans over the next few years, while retirees agreed to some benefit reductions and current workers must increase their contributions to the pension funds.

[Why This Obama-Era Retirement Account Was Doomed From the Start \(Motley Fool\)](#)

(6/2/2018 8:31 AM, Dan Caplinger)

Saving for retirement is important for everyone, but it's especially difficult for those who don't make much money in the first place. If you barely have enough to make ends meet right now, worrying about what'll happen to you years or even decades down the road isn't something you have the luxury to do. In order to try to solve some of the problems that low-income workers face in saving for retirement, the Obama administration in early 2014 created what became known as MyRA accounts. Despite the best intentions of those who created the program, the MyRA didn't live up to the hopes of those who had established it, and the Trump administration ended up starting to phase out the program last year. For some, the inevitability of that outcome was clear from the beginning.

The MyRA was initially intended as a first retirement savings option for those who hadn't yet had an opportunity to use other alternatives. It was designed to be easy to use for people who didn't have access to a 401(k) or other similar retirement plan at work, providing for workers to make

contributions through payroll deduction, contributions from a bank account, or deposit of a worker's tax refund. Low investment limits were available, including a \$25 initial contribution and \$5 additions. However, MyRAs didn't take off to the extent that their proponents had hoped. After three years, only 30,000 accounts had been opened, with just \$34 million contributed in total.

[American Benefits Council offers help on DOL push to find missing participants \(Pensions & Investments\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:4529 PM, Staff)

In a letter Thursday to Preston Rutledge, assistant secretary of labor for the Employee Benefits Security Administration, the trade association offered to work with the government agency to develop guidance so plan sponsors know what to expect moving forward from DOL audits. ABC said in a news release that DOL strategies to reach missing participants have become "a contentious matter during federal agency benefit plan audits. In the meantime, given the common objectives of the government and employers, the council believes that collaboration between the DOL and private-sector employers can improve the situation."

ABC's letter offered several ideas, including possible pilot projects and opportunities to share strategies that could take place outside the context of a federal agency audit. The DOL started a pilot program to address the missing participants issue in 2016 out of the EBSA's Philadelphia office and has since expanded it across the country. In fiscal year 2017, the Labor Department recovered \$326.7 million for plan participants, and as of early March, the tally was \$114.6 million in fiscal 2018, according to agency data.

[\[MA\] Public pension changes a giveaway to retirees \(Boston Herald\)](#)

(6/3/2018 3:00 AM, Editorial)

The state Legislature is cooking up another piece of warm "money" pie — complete with a cherry on top — for its friends. From the same group that voted themselves an 18-percent pay raise comes an end-of-the-budget-season "gift" to state and municipal retirees seeking to earn more taxpayer-funded income as "double-dippers." They want to cash their public pensions — plus be able to pad them with less restrictive rules on how many hours they can work in retirement doing their former jobs. You've read that right. Police officers, firefighters, teachers and others who chose to retire early from their jobs with public pensions want to work more and earn more on the public dole. It appears both the Democratic-controlled House and Senate are planning to oblige them.

Why are former state workers who chose to retire early now saying they can't make ends meet? Except for state judges, there's no mandatory retirement age in public service. No one kicked the former employees out of their public jobs, so why are they returning to public service seeking more part-time hours? At present, retirees — both state and local government — are limited to working 960 hours per year. A bill passed by the Senate would raise the cap to 1,200 hours; the House version would pack on a generous 56 percent increase to 1,500 hours. The bills were tucked into each chamber's proposed \$41.5 billion state budget, and need to be reconciled to become law.

[\[NJ\] They get \\$190,000 pensions! NJ retirement system costs hit \\$11B \(New Jersey 101.5 Ewing\)](#)

(6/3/2018 3:45 PM, Michael Symons & Sergio Bichao)

The former president of Essex County College may have retired in 2010, but he's still collecting \$195,000 courtesy of the state's public pension system. State Sen. Nicholas Sacco, a Democrat who also doubles as the mayor of North Bergen, has been collecting a pension of \$190,275 since his retirement as assistant superintendent of his township's school districts. They're among 50 retirees drawing annual pensions of more than \$150,000, a New Jersey 101.5 analysis of state records finds. Nearly 3,000 retirees or their beneficiaries are collecting six-figure pensions.

The average state pension is just \$31,600, but with 340,000 retirees, and growing by 10,000 a year, that comes to \$11 billion in benefits this year. It's not likely to happen this month, when the battle over the state budget shares center stage with major issues like school funding, sports betting and marijuana legalization. Gov. Phil Murphy said any discussion of changes should wait until full contributions are being made, which isn't for four years. The final increase in what workers must contribute to the two main pension funds - the Public Employees' Retirement System and Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund - under the 2011 reforms takes effect July 1.

Trade

[Trump Wanted a Trade War. Here's What One Looks Like \(Washington Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 4:30 PM, Andrew Mayeda & Bryce Baschuk)

Why did Trump invite this fight?: In a March 2 Twitter post, he declared trade wars "good, and easy to win," though later he denied the U.S. and China are in one. He repeatedly pledges to reduce the U.S. trade deficit, which shows the country imports hundreds of billions of dollars more than it exports. By the end of 2017, the U.S. trade deficit had risen to \$568 billion from \$505 billion in 2016. His administration has asked China specifically to reduce its trade surplus with the U.S. by \$200 billion, more than half the 2017 total, which was a record-high \$375 billion. Stepping back from trade deals like the North American Free Trade Agreement and the Trans-Pacific Partnership also appeals to Trump's base of voters in America's Rust Belt. But talk of a trade war is alarming to many U.S. business leaders, who largely support existing trade deals, and the securities markets, which fear lower profits and slower economic growth if the U.S. turns protectionist and other countries retaliate.

Who has retaliated?: China has imposed tariffs on about \$3 billion of American goods in retaliation for steel and aluminum duties that Trump enacted in March. Beijing has pledged to step up the fight if the White House makes good on plans to slap duties on another \$50 billion of the country's products in response to alleged violations of intellectual property. Meanwhile a handful of American allies have threatened to impose tariffs in retaliation against Trump's metal duties, including Canada, Mexico and the EU. The three are considering import barriers against iconic and politically sensitive American goods including motorcycles and bourbon. The duties could take effect in coming weeks.

[Trump thinks he's saving trade. The rest of the world thinks he's blowing it up. \(Washington Post\)](#)

(6/2/2018 6:48 PM, Heather Long and Steven Mufson)

President Trump appears prepared to unravel 70 years of painstaking effort that the United States has led to build an international system of trade based on mutually accepted rules and principles. With Trump's decision last week to enact aluminum and steel tariffs against U.S. allies in Europe and North America, he is subverting previously agreed-upon trade pacts. The result is a brewing trade war with Canada, Mexico and Europe, which are expressing shock and bitter frustration while enacting tariffs of their own on a bevy of American products.

Veterans of trade policy worry that tensions will further escalate, putting existing trade agreements in peril and the future of World Trade Organization, the group that the United States helped establish in 1995 to adjudicate the rules of global trade, in doubt. The bigger issue is a political one: the aggressive imposition of tariffs on an unprecedentedly wide variety of U.S. allies, and the use of national security as the justification for doing it. As a result, America's longtime partners are starting to view Trump's move as a sea change in U.S. policy.

[Trump tariffs could throw NAFTA action into 2019 \(Politico\)](#)

(6/1/2018 10:00 AM, Doug Palmer)

NAFTA 1.0 just might hang on to see its 25th birthday before NAFTA 2.0 arrives onto the scene because of President Donald Trump's decision on Thursday to impose new tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico. Unless, of course, Trump pulls the plug on the pact before the silver anniversary of its enactment rolls around Jan. 1. Canada and Mexico had been temporarily exempted from the tariffs because of the ongoing NAFTA talks. But those negotiations have blown past one provisional deadline after another and "there is no longer a very precise date when they may be concluded," Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross told reporters.

Even by the most optimistic calculations, only a few weeks remain before a window closes for Congress to consider a NAFTA deal this year because of a complicated timeline of events that have to take place under the "fast track" authority. In addition, the Mexican presidential elections are about a month away, leaving the current administration there with little wiggle room to make big concessions. Trump's action "derails the spirit of the renegotiation of NAFTA," said Jorge Guajardo, a former Mexican ambassador who now works as a senior director at McLarty Associates in Washington. "We had been very specific, both Canada and Mexico, that we would not negotiate with a gun pointed to our heads. That's exactly what they are doing now."

[Other nations forced Trump's hand on steel tariffs \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/3/2018 11:30 AM, Dan Dimicco)

There's a lot of fuss right now about President Trump imposing tariffs on steel and aluminum imports. Realistically, the president had no choice but to stand up for America's steel and aluminum producers. It's simply a necessary step at a time when America's industrial base is in worrying decline. Steel production in the U.S. has fallen by 20 percent over the past decade alone. Steel employment has dropped by roughly 50,000 jobs since 2000.

Overall, the U.S. has lost almost 5 million manufacturing jobs over the past 20 years. More than 60,000 factories, which once employed skilled workers and provided good, middle-class wages, have disappeared. It's also inevitable, given the set of naive trade policies that invited predatory trade from other countries. The bottom line is that America is losing its steel industry. Where the United States once pioneered the world's steel industry, it now imports nearly four times as much as its exports. The president made the right decision, and the Section 232 tariffs he imposed are necessary to ensure the future viability of America's manufacturing base and military self-reliance.

[US steel and aluminum tariffs — the right move at the right time \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/2/2018 12:30 PM, Jeff Ferry)

The U.S. government's steel and aluminum tariffs went into effect — and they have already created an international furor. So mission number one is accomplished. The tariffs were intended to upset the applecart of an obsolete world trading system that is politically dangerous and economically disastrous. But there is more to do.

First of all, it must be understood that these tariffs are aimed at redressing U.S. national security and they are a response to a serious decline in U.S. production and capacity in these two industries. Worldwide overproduction and overcapacity in both metals have undermined the U.S. industries. There is an estimated 400 million tons of excess steel capacity in the world (about 25 of total capacity). That has hurt the U.S. industry badly in terms of price, profit, and employment. The situation in aluminum is even worse. In 1993, the U.S. had 23 operational aluminum smelters. Today it has five. Some 90 of primary aluminum consumed in the U.S. is imported.

[Trump defiant on tariffs, touts job numbers \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:51 PM, Max Greenwood)

President Trump on Friday struck a defiant tone as he waved off concerns of a mounting trade dispute with the European Union and other U.S. allies over steep tariffs on steel and aluminum imports. Speaking to reporters outside the White House, Trump cast his decision to impose tariffs on steel and aluminum exported to the U.S. from the E.U., Canada and Mexico as a way to level an uneven playing field.

Financial markets appeared to agree with the tariffs, Trump said, pointing to new employment numbers released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on Friday showing that the economy added 223,000 jobs and the unemployment rate dropping to 3.8 percent. He also said that leaders in Europe, Canada and Mexico had acknowledged to him in past discussions that their trade arrangements with the U.S. were one-sided.

[Trump applying 19th-century remedies to 21st-century problems \(The Hill\)](#)

(6/1/2018 9:30 AM, Menzie Chinn)

Is it a trade dispute with China, or is it a trade war? If the latter, is it on hold, or not? The flip-flops in America's trade relationship with China are coming in ever more frequently, as President Trump issues and rescind threats. Only some anti-dumping measures nearly a year into the new administration signaled a possible new direction. That all changed in March, as Trump announced a series of radical measures, rationalized on grounds of national security and intellectual property rights violations.

It's tempting to argue that it's some kind of turf war between officials representing differing agencies, or personality conflicts bursting out into the open. The widely reported episode of Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin and White House National Trade Council Director Peter Navarro shouting at each other in front of the meeting venue in Beijing certainly lends credibility to those interpretations. The proposed remedy is tariffs of 25 percent on Chinese exports to the United States. Some of the items covered in the proposed target list bear little relationship to the sectors in which such intellectual property infringements take place.

[America's Allies Lose It Over Trump's Tariffs \(Bloomberg\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:03 AM, Anthony Halpin)

For U.S. allies frustrated with President Donald Trump's "America First" policy, his decision to slap tariffs on imported metals from Europe, Canada and Mexico on national security grounds may have been the final straw.

Canada's normally affable premier, Justin Trudeau, said the measures were "totally unacceptable" and retaliated with tariffs on \$12.8 billion of U.S. goods. "We have to believe that at some point their common sense will prevail," he lamented. Amid fears of a transatlantic trade war, the European Union also plans to strike back by imposing tariffs on U.S. imports including Harley-Davidson motorcycles and bourbon.

[White House points to booming economy to ease fears over trade dispute \(Washington Times\)](#)

(6/3/2018 10:30 AM, Valerie Richardson)

Those worried that tariffs could backfire by killing U.S. jobs need to remember that nobody has been more effective in building up the poor than President Trump, according to his senior trade adviser. Peter Navarro, White House director of trade policy, cited falling unemployment rates, including Friday's jobs report showing record-low black unemployment, as well as the expansion of manufacturing.

"No president has fought the war on poverty better than Donald J. Trump," Mr. Navarro said on Fox's "Sunday Morning Futures." His comments came after G7 nations released a statement Saturday conveying their "unanimous concern and disappointment" about recent steel and aluminum tariffs from finance leaders from Canada, the United Kingdom, Japan, France, Italy and Germany. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has called the tariffs "totally unacceptable," but Mr. Navarro said U.S. trade partners need to examine their own "unfair trade practices."

[Trump's trade war is likely going to kill hundreds of thousands of jobs \(Business Insider\)](#)

(6/3/2018 10:03 AM, Bob Bryan)

President Donald Trump's trade war is supposed to help boost America's job market, but new tariffs could actually make things ugly for US workers. On Thursday, Trump announced that the US would impose tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from three key US allies: Canada, Mexico, and the European Union. Peter Navarro, Trump's protectionist-leaning trade adviser, wrote in a USA Today op-ed that the metals tariffs will be a boon for American workers.

Economists and trade experts say the ultimate result will be a net loss in US jobs - perhaps in the hundreds of thousands. The tariffs will likely boost the price of steel and aluminum in the US, since metal imports will be subject to the additional tax. These higher prices are good news for steel and aluminum manufacturers, but they present a problem for companies that use those metals. Some of the necessary cost cutting is likely to come from the workforce, leading to layoffs. Other economists estimated that the net loss would be somewhat smaller, but almost no major study showed that the tariffs would result in a net boost to employment.

[It's time for free-trading Republicans to stand up to Trump on tariffs — and for Democrats to stand with them \(Business Insider\)](#)

(6/2/2018 10:03 AM, Josh Barro)

The reviews are in: Republicans in Congress hate President Donald Trump's new tariffs on steel and aluminum. Sen. Ben Sasse of Nebraska says they are "dumb." Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida says "instead of opening up another front in trade disputes, we should be teaming up with Europe to confront China." Sen. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee says "these tariffs will raise prices and destroy manufacturing jobs, especially auto jobs." Sen. Bob Corker, also of Tennessee, says they are the "wrong approach" and an "abuse of authority." House Speaker Paul Ryan says "there are better ways to help American workers and consumers." House Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady says administration officials "Will need to come to Capitol hill to provide answers about the indiscriminate harm these tariffs are causing our local businesses."

The Constitution vests the power to levy tariffs in Congress. Trump only has the power to impose tariffs Republican lawmakers hate because past congresses passed laws to give presidents those powers. If Congress thinks the president is using those delegated powers stupidly, they can take the powers back - or at least impose a rule that lets Congress override the president when he really screws up with a tariff policy. It would require them to engage in open conflict with a president who remains very popular within the party, depressing enthusiasm among Republican voters. Since Trump would be likely to veto any such proposal, it might not even work.

[Trump trade policies could lose 2.6 million U.S. jobs: Chamber of Commerce \(Metro\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:50 PM, Michael Martin)

President Trump's "America first" trade policy could actually lose 2.6 million American jobs, the Chamber of Commerce warned on Thursday. That's according to a confidential memo CEO Tom Donohue sent to the Chamber's board of directors, CNN Money reported. Citing outside studies, the memo totaled the effect of Trump's tariffs — both threatened and recently enacted — plus the withdrawal from NAFTA he has promised. Leaving NAFTA would lose 1.8 million American jobs in the first year, the memo said. Tariffs against China could lose 134,000 U.S. jobs, steel and aluminum tariffs could cut 70,000 jobs, and tariffs on cars and auto parts could cost 157,000 jobs.

Donohue sent the memo the same day that Trump announced he would slap steep tariffs on steel and aluminum imported from Canada, the European Union and Mexico — the country's three biggest trading partners. On Thursday, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced \$12.8 billion in retaliatory tariffs against American products, ranging from steel and sailboats to toilet paper. The EU have vowed to enact their own tariffs on U.S.-made goods, including motorcycles, whiskey, peanut butter and denim.

[Investors discount tariff threats as U.S. economy surges under Trump \(Philadelphia Inquirer\)](#)

(6/1/2018 3:52 PM, Joseph N. DiStefano)

U.S. stock prices rebounded Friday, as another strong jobs report showed the economy under President Trump continues to create new positions at a rate of more than 200,000 a month. The employment news seemed to reassure traders who had been spooked by Thursday's promises by leaders in Europe, Canada and Mexico to retaliate against Trump's steel import tariffs with their own new fees on U.S. farm and factory products. The job report looked good all around: "Hiring [and] wages are up, unemployment is down," to a 27-year low of 3.8 percent, trumpeted chief economist John E. Silvia, told clients of Wells Fargo & Co.

Despite fears of a trade war that could jack up prices for many consumer and industrial goods in the months ahead, the U.S. economy — especially construction and manufacturing — has been so strong that the Federal Reserve will probably raise interest rates again this month, Silvia added. That would boost profits for banks. There are also signs the tariff fight isn't as much a long-term job strategy as a tactic to push Europeans, at least, to align more closely with Trump policies worldwide. The fact the U.S. is growing faster than its "so-called trading partners" ought to send the Europeans a message, Larry Kudlow, Trump's National Economic Council chairman, told CNBC Friday.

[Trump tell allies to fix trade after U.S. tariffs strike \(WTAQ-AM 1360 Green Bay\)](#)

(6/1/2018 6:10 AM, Leika Kihara & Gernot Heller)

The United States' closest allies attacked the Trump administration on Friday for imposing tariffs on steel and aluminum imports and mounted challenges with the world's top trade body, fouling the mood at a G7 finance leaders meeting. U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin was the prime target of the criticism at the meeting of Group of Seven finance ministers and central bank governors in Canada, with the six other G7 member countries subject to the U.S. metals tariffs, which were imposed on national security grounds.

The tariffs also are complicating U.S. efforts to gain cooperation to challenge China's trade practices as U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross arrives in Beijing on Saturday for talks aimed at averting a U.S.-China trade war. Japanese Finance Minister Taro Aso, whose country's steel and aluminum producers have been paying the U.S. metals tariffs since March 23, called the U.S. action "deeply deplorable." "This doesn't happen that often at G7 meetings, but it was U.S. against everyone else," Aso told reporters.

[\[EU\] Moment of Truth Arrives for EU After U.S. Tariffs Strike \(New York Times\)](#)

(6/1/2018 7:00 AM, Reuters)

After all the condemnation of U.S. tariffs on EU metal exports and calls for unity, the European Union still has two decisions to make - how hard to

hit back at the United States and whether to engage in trade talks with Washington. Neither is a given. The EU can act only by consensus, and its 28 members have different interests. Germany, by far the largest European exporter to the United States, is the most fearful of a trade war. Others, including France, are determined not to yield to what they see as U.S. bullying.

The European Commission is considering safeguards to prevent a surge of imports into the bloc and will launch a legal challenge at the World Trade Organization after the EU producers were hit by U.S. tariffs of 25 percent on steel and 10 percent on aluminum. EU countries have also given broad support to its plan to set its own duties of 25 percent on 2.8 billion euros (\$3.3 billion) of U.S. exports, including bourbon and motor-bikes to "rebalance" the U.S. tariffs on 6.4 billion euros of EU metals.

[\[China\] US-China talk trade again as global tensions rise \(CNN\)](#)

(6/2/2018 5:46 AM, Daniel Shane)

As fears of a global trade war escalate, all eyes will be on Beijing this weekend. US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross arrived in the Chinese capital on Saturday for talks with trade negotiators from the world's second-biggest economy.

Ross is due to hold meetings on Sunday, before departing Beijing on Monday, a US Commerce Department official told CNN. The official would not provide any more information about the meetings

[\[China\] Can US-China talks calm global trade war fears? \(CNN\)](#)

(6/1/2018 5:46 AM, Daniel Shane)

As fears of a global trade war escalate, all eyes will be on Beijing this weekend. US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross arrived in the Chinese capital on Saturday for talks with trade negotiators from the world's second-biggest economy.

Ross is due to hold meetings on Sunday, before departing Beijing on Monday, a US Commerce Department official told CNN. The official would not provide any more information about the meetings. The negotiations come after a rocky week during which the United States tore up a tentative trade truce with China and hit Canada, Mexico and the European Union with big tariffs on metal imports. All three will retaliate.

[\[China\] The U.S. Trade War with China Has Reached a Dangerous New Phase \(Time\)](#)

(6/1/2018 2:40 PM, Ian Bremmer)

On May 29, President Trump launched an offensive against that plan. To protect its national security, the White House said in a statement, the U.S. will restrict investment in and control exports of "industrially significant technology." The Trump Administration proposes to slap 25% tariffs on some \$50 billion of Chinese tech imports, including those related to the vaunted Made in China 2025 program. In essence, the battle for the future has been joined.

Trump has been trying to strike a delicate balance in U.S. relations with China, and until now has blown hot and cold on trade. He adopted the tough stance he promised voters while blaming the \$375 billion goods trade deficit on former U.S. Presidents rather than on Beijing. Trump would love to have warmer relations with China, just as he would with Russia. Trump has praised Xi just as he's repeatedly saluted Russia's Vladimir Putin.

National

[Nice recovery you've got there. It'd be a shame if something should happen to it. \(Washington Post\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:28 PM, Jared Bernstein)

The African American rate fell to 5.9 percent, by far the lowest on record. Typically, the black unemployment rate is twice the white rate. But persistently tight labor markets are especially helpful for minority workers, as they make it costlier for employers to discriminate. In May, the black/white ratio was 1.7, still too high, but lower than average, underscoring the relative gains from tight job markets for less-advantaged workers. Wage growth has been a soft spot in the recovery, especially given how low the jobless rate has been. This persisted to some degree in May, but there was a nice bump in the growth rate for middle-wage workers, which rose from 2.6 percent, year-over-year, to 2.8 percent.

Both that wage bump and the black jobless rate result underscore the punchline from the solid report: In an economy like ours, with little union power, tremendous finance power and, thereby, far too much inequality, the best friend for people who depend on their paychecks as opposed to their stock portfolios is a tight labor market.

[Countries investing more in social programs have less child poverty \(Economic Policy Institute\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:00 PM, Valerie Wilson & Jessica Schieder)

Poverty is a universal problem that affects every nation on earth—both rich and poor. The world's wealthiest nations have the means to substantially reduce poverty rates in their countries by providing cash assistance and in-kind benefits to those in need. The generosity of a country's expenditures on public assistance is related to the child poverty rate after accounting for those expenditures. Specifically, we plot

social expenditures minus pensions as a share of gross domestic product (GDP) for the United States and select Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries against each country's post-tax, post-transfer child poverty rate in 2014. We subtract pensions from social expenditures because they are a relatively large social expenditure in some countries, but do not directly benefit most children. While social expenditures alone don't determine a country's poverty rate—unemployment, wages, inequality, and the overall strength and stability of the economy are the biggest determinants—there is a clear relationship.

The data show that on average, the relative child poverty rate tends to be lower in countries that choose to invest more of their national income in programs that alleviate poverty and material hardship. For example, Denmark and Finland are among the nations with the most generous social expenditures (each spending close to one-fifth of their GDP) and the lowest post-tax post-transfer, child poverty rates (both below 4 percent). The United States, in contrast, is much less likely than peer countries to step in where markets and labor policy fail in order to lift their most disadvantaged citizens out of poverty. In 2014, the United States had the second highest post-tax, post-transfer child poverty rate (20.2 percent) among the developed OECD countries included in the graph and spent the third lowest share of GDP on social programs (12.0 percent), after Slovenia (11.3 percent) and Slovakia (11.7 percent).

['Experts' Told The American People President Trump Would Tank The Economy. That Didn't Happen \(Daily Caller\)](#)

(6/1/2018 12:12 PM, Joe Simonson)

With employment hitting new lows and wages continuing to finally rise, the American people have good reason to feel that the economy isn't going off the rails any time soon. One should always exercise discretion when giving credit to a president for the economy's health. While Trump has helped foment conditions conducive to growth through his tax reductions, regulation slashing, and most importantly, creating a climate where business owners don't share anxiety over future regulations or interference, no single individual can accept all the praise. Yet the American people were told something very different in November 2016 and in the months leading up to the election: A Trump victory could single-handedly, in the words of The Washington Post, "Destroy the world economy."

Despite these apocalyptic predictions by the nation's pundit class, there's been no evidence of any humility going forward. One would imagine that any person, let alone someone who fancies himself an "Expert," would take a long pause and reassess how they let themselves call it so poorly. Perhaps New York Times columnist Paul Krugman could go a step further rather than just a one-off tweet and offer a detailed explanation for why the post-Election Day "Global recession, with no end in sight" has not yet materialized. Such a prediction was shared by former Clinton and Obama chief economist Larry Summers and MSNBC economic analyst Steve Rattner.

[America Doesn't Measure the Difference Between Good Jobs and Bad Jobs \(Medium\)](#)

(6/1/2018 8:15 PM, Paul Constant)

This morning on Twitter, Donald Trump hinted that the upcoming May jobs report was going to be very good. The tweet was a clever strategy for Trump, because it allowed him to frame the story for every news outlet in the world. Once the report actually came out, journalists were primed to label it as a success. On Twitter, our pal Invictus pointed out that the numbers under Trump that the press lost their minds over were the same numbers that under Obama supposedly indicated an economy in desperate need of repair. The fact is, some time in the 1970s America made the switch from high-quality, high-wage employment to low-quality, low-wage employment—and the shift is getting progressively worse. The report that Donald Trump touted today only counted the number of jobs created, not the quality of those jobs.

All the "good" employment news just so happened to bury a story by Ed Pilkington, a New York-based journalist for The Guardian. Pilkington was sharing the news of a new special report by United Nations poverty watchdog Philip Alston. Donald Trump is deliberately forcing millions of Americans into financial ruin, cruelly depriving them of food and other basic protections while lavishing vast riches on the super-wealthy. Alston's full report delves deep into our economic inequality problem and explains how America has failed its people. When we blare the news of a great new jobs report, no matter which party is in power, we are advancing the narrative that as long as we hit our marks, nothing else matters.

{End of Report}

From: Wilson, Thomas - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 02:38:08 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: FYI

From: Langston, Joy - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 2:04 PM
To: Wilson, Thomas - BLS; Potts, Andrew - BLS; Weber, Ryan - BLS
Subject: RE: FYI

Haha technically he didn't say anything, but still....

From: Wilson, Thomas - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 1:55 PM
To: Langston, Joy - BLS <Langston.Joy@bls.gov>; Potts, Andrew - BLS <Potts.Andrew@bls.gov>; Weber, Ryan - BLS <Weber.Ryan@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: FYI

Have fun!

From: Langston, Joy - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 1:00 PM
To: Potts, Andrew - BLS <Potts.Andrew@bls.gov>; Weber, Ryan - BLS <Weber.Ryan@bls.gov>; Wilson, Thomas - BLS <Wilson.Thomas@bls.gov>
Subject: FYI

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.213c711c6a20

From: Pollock, Jayson - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 09:41:32 AM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: FYI

From: Cedeño, Wander - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 10:04 AM
To: Pollock, Jayson - BLS
Subject: FW: FYI

From: Cedeño, Wander - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 9:16 AM
To: Kelter, Laura - BLS <Kelter.Laura@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: FYI

Here's another:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.56116c5f0418

From: Cedeño, Wander - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:29 AM
To: Kelter, Laura - BLS <Kelter.Laura@bls.gov>
Subject: FYI

Tweets Tweets & replies Media



Donald J. Trump  @realDonaldTrump · 1h

Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning.

 4.8K  3.7K  19K

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2018/06/01/u-s-economy-continues-its-hiring-spree-and-is-projected-to-add-200000-jobs-in-may/?utm_term=.ecaf70b63b7d

"In a highly unusual move, President Trump tweeted Friday morning that he is "looking forward to seeing the employment numbers." Trump's tweet made many on Wall Street wonder if the number would be far higher than predicted."

Wander Cedeño

Economist

Division of Current Employment Statistics | National
Bureau of Labor Statistics
U.S. Department of Labor | Washington, D.C.
cesinfo@bls.gov | (202) 691-6555

bls.gov |  @BLS_gov



We have a stat for that!

From: Kelter, Laura - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 03:59:22 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: fyi

From: Haugen, Steven - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 8:33 AM
To: Kelter, Laura - BLS; Morisi, Teri - BLS
Subject: fyi

<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/05/31/as-the-us-population-ages-the-need-for-home-health-care-workers-skyrockets.html>

From: Kelter, Laura - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 04:00:17 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: FYI

From: Cedeño, Wander - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 9:16 AM
To: Kelter, Laura - BLS
Subject: RE: FYI

Here's another:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.56116c5f0418

From: Cedeño, Wander - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:29 AM
To: Kelter, Laura - BLS <Kelter.Laura@bls.gov>
Subject: FYI

Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media



Donald J. Trump  @realDonaldTrump · 1h

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https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2018/06/01/u-s-economy-continues-its-hiring-spree-and-is-projected-to-add-200000-jobs-in-may/?utm_term=.ecaf70b63b7d

“In a highly unusual move, President Trump tweeted Friday morning that he is “looking forward to seeing the employment numbers.” Trump's tweet made many on Wall Street wonder if the number would be far higher than predicted.”

Wander Cedeño

Economist

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Bureau of Labor Statistics
U.S. Department of Labor | Washington, D.C.
cesinfo@bls.gov | (202) 691-6555

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We have a stat for that!

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 02:42:25 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: FYI

From: Barr, G. Stephen - OPA <Barr.G.Stephen@dol.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:00 AM
To: Kindelan, Megan - BLS; Levi, Michael - BLS
Subject: FYI

From: POLITICO Pro <politicoemail@politicopro.com>
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 10:55 AM
To: Barr, G. Stephen - OPA <Barr.G.Stephen@dol.gov>
Subject: Trump breaks protocol and jolts markets by teasing secret jobs numbers

Trump breaks protocol and jolts markets by teasing secret jobs numbers

By Ben White

06/01/2018 09:09 AM EDT

Updated 06/01/2018 10:52 AM EDT

President Donald Trump moved markets and busted norms on Friday morning with a tweet about the May employment report more than an hour before the numbers came out.

The post appeared to skirt strict rules on government employees not commenting on the highly sensitive economic data until an hour after its public release at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time.

Trump, who received the numbers Thursday night on Air Force One, did not include any of the jobs data in his tweet. But it appeared positive enough to suggest to Wall Street that a good number was coming Friday morning.

"Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning," the president tweeted at 7:21 a.m.

And the numbers were in fact quite good, showing a better than expected gain of 223,000 jobs and a dip in unemployment to 3.8 percent, the lowest level since April of 2000, sending Dow futures higher.

But markets were already moving before the release and popped immediately after Trump's tweet, with the yield on the 10-year Treasury note moving higher along with stock market futures. The rise in the 10-year yield suggested traders assumed Trump's tweet meant the jobs number would be strong and push the Fed to raise interest rates more quickly. Former Obama administration officials pounced on Trump's tweet even before the public got to see the numbers, saying it violated rules banning federal employees with access to the jobs data from saying anything at all about it until 9:30 a.m. Eastern time.

The one-hour lag is meant to allow the jobs data — compiled by nonpartisan career employees at the Bureau of Labor Statistics — to stand on its own without any immediate spin from elected officials.

"We took the one-hour delay 100 percent seriously," said Jason Furman, who served as chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under former President Barack Obama, in an interview. "There were times when there was a good number and they wanted to send the president out to talk about it, but Air Force One was scheduled to leave at 9:15 a.m. and we would tell them to delay the flight until after 9:30 a.m."

Furman suggested Trump should no longer get the numbers in advance.

"The jobs number is the biggest market-mover there is, and this certainly undermines trust in the numbers and raises the specter that there is something much more sinister going on," he said. "I'd suggest that CEA no longer give the president the number. And if they do give it to him and he says anything about it at all before release, they should share all the data with everyone immediately."

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders told CNBC that Trump was in fact briefed on the jobs report Thursday night and the tweet was appropriate because he did not put the numbers out early.

Larry Kudlow, chairman of the National Economic Council, told CNBC he got the numbers Thursday evening and called Trump on Air Force One to share them.

"He chose to tweet. His tweet basically said, like everybody else, we await the jobs number. You can read into that 10 different things if you want to read into it," he said. "I don't think he gave anything away incidentally. I think this is all according to routine."

But even short of offering the actual numbers, the mere fact that Trump would say he was "looking forward" to the release suggested to traders that the figures would be good. And if Trump doesn't tweet about the numbers next time, it could suggest to Wall Street that a bad report is coming.

"If the president just tipped that the numbers are good, he broke the law," former Obama CEA Chairman Austan Goolsbee tweeted on Friday morning.

The White House's CEA receives the jobs data from BLS around 1 p.m. on Thursday, before the official release. The CEA head then typically walks the number to the president in the Oval Office later in the afternoon or calls the president on the road. BLS also provides the data on Thursday to the chair of the Federal Reserve, the Treasury secretary and the director of the NEC — in this case Kudlow. All are under strict guidance to say nothing at all about the figures until one hour after their release.

A spokesperson for current CEA Chairman Kevin Hassett did not immediately respond to request for comment on Friday. The jobs report data is governed by rules issued by OMB including the provision that officials wait an hour to say anything. A Labor Department economist on Friday described the delivery of the figures to the president as "a courtesy." Prior presidents generally followed the protocol closely, though in the 1960s President Lyndon Johnson had a [habit of talking about the numbers](#) in advance.

Andrew Hanna contributed to this report.

To view online:

<https://subscriber.politicopro.com/employment-immigration/whiteboard/2018/06/obama-officials-slam-trump-after-he-breaks-protocol-with-jobs-numbers-tease-584732>

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From: Mockovak, William - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 01:37:02 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Hmm...

From: Mockovak, William - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 12:18 PM
To: Martinez, Wendy - BLS; Edgar, Jennifer - BLS
Subject: RE: Hmm...

Double wow!!

From: Martinez, Wendy - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 12:08 PM
To: Edgar, Jennifer - BLS <Edgar.Jennifer@bls.gov>; Mockovak, William - BLS <Mockovak.William@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Hmm...

WOW!!!!

From: Edgar, Jennifer - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 12:05 PM
To: Mockovak, William - BLS <Mockovak.William@bls.gov>; Martinez, Wendy - BLS <Martinez.Wendy@bls.gov>
Subject: Hmm...

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.95e86f1a5e8d

From: Martinez, Wendy - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 02:06:54 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Hmm...

From: Martinez, Wendy - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 12:07 PM
To: Edgar, Jennifer - BLS; Mockovak, William - BLS
Subject: RE: Hmm...

WOW!!!!

From: Edgar, Jennifer - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 12:05 PM
To: Mockovak, William - BLS <Mockovak.William@bls.gov>; Martinez, Wendy - BLS <Martinez.Wendy@bls.gov>
Subject: Hmm...

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.95e86f1a5e8d

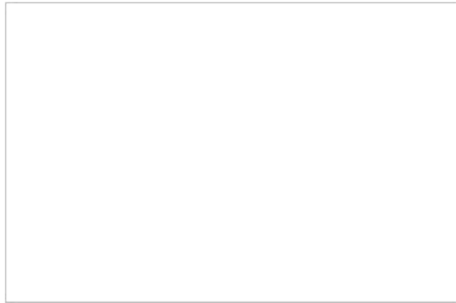
From: Olson, Holly - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 10:25:42 AM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Holy moley

From: Olson, Holly - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 12:04 PM
To: A P
Subject: RE: Holy moley

Wow, I just got out of a meeting and am only now seeing this....

From: A P [mailto:acp1629@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:13 AM
To: Olson, Holly - BLS <Olson.Holly@bls.gov>
Subject: Holy moley

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.5a0c07ec2c78



[Trump breaks protocol, sends markets a clear signal on jobs report before numbers are released](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.5a0c07ec2c78)

www.washingtonpost.com

President Trump on Friday broke with decades of protocol and commented publicly about the highly anticipated jobs report data 69 minutes before they were released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

From: Njie, Hassan - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 10:30:53 AM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: In case you didn't see this

From: Gallagher, Claire - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 12:04 PM
To: Hatch, Julie - BLS; Allard, Dorinda - BLS; Haugen, Steven - BLS; Horvath, Fran - BLS; DDDP-Sup
Subject: In case you didn't see this

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.acd45b4ac9a5

Claire

From: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 03:53:38 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Information from the Council of Economic Advisors

From: Conway, Molly E - OSEC <Conway.Molly.E@dol.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 1:25 PM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS; Geale, Nicholas C. - OSEC; Pizzella, Patrick - OSEC
Cc: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Subject: RE: Information from the Council of Economic Advisors

Thank you, Bill. Appreciate your diligence on this!

Molly

From: Wiatrowski, William - BLS <Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 1:13 PM
To: Geale, Nicholas C. - OSEC <Geale.Nicholas@DOL.GOV>; Conway, Molly E - OSEC <Conway.Molly.E@dol.gov>; Pizzella, Patrick - OSEC <pizzella.patrick@dol.gov>
Cc: Wiatrowski, William - BLS <Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>
Subject: Information from the Council of Economic Advisors

I know you are aware of the press surrounding the President's tweet this morning. I have been in touch with Stephen Barr of OPA about it. BLS followed all of our regular procedures.

I also wanted you to know the following --

Staff at the Council of Economic Advisors contacted me and were very apologetic. They said they are talking to White House counsel and OMB counsel and discussing ways to avoid in future. For example, reminder of rule with each briefing.

Separately I spoke with Nancy Potok, the Chief Economist of the US (part of OMB) and she is talking to her bosses and CEA to emphasize rules.

We have also gotten a request from the DOL Inspector General regarding our procedures and have received several FOIA requests. We are working with SOL on the FOIA requests.

If you need anything more from BLS, please let me know.

Bill

From: Simmons, Drew - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 05:11:58 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: interesting

From: Simmons, Drew - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 9:13 AM
To: Hartmann, Karl - BLS
Subject: interesting

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.ffe9d4c51dbd

From: Spinner, Gary - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 04:59:42 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Is it OK for us now too?

From: Graham, Webster - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 12:08 PM
To: Spinner, Gary - BLS
Subject: RE: Is it OK for us now too?

Thanks for sharing this. The President anticipated a good report and people took it that the President knew something. The truth is no one but sworn BLDS staff knows the data before it's released. Nothing stops the President advisors to answer a question from the President and suggest that the reports should continue on an upward trend.

From: Spinner, Gary - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 12:03 PM
To: Graham, Webster - BLS <Graham.Webster@BLS.GOV>
Subject: Is it OK for us now too?

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.ba0bd77ebf4b

From: Stewart, John - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 04:31:52 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Jobs numbers

From: Haughton, Donald W - ETA <Haughton.Donald.W@DOL.GOV>
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 9:59 AM
To: Stewart, John - BLS
Subject: RE: Jobs numbers

At least the numbers aren't fake anymore.....

Don Haughton
202.693.2784

From: Stewart, John - BLS <Stewart.John@bls.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 9:43 AM
To: Haughton, Donald W - ETA <Haughton.Donald.W@DOL.GOV>
Subject: RE: Jobs numbers

Hah...is that the silver lining....at least he has better hair than Nixon....

From: Haughton, Donald W - ETA [<mailto:Haughton.Donald.W@DOL.GOV>]
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 9:40 AM
To: Stewart, John - BLS <Stewart.John@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Jobs numbers

Start calling him "Nixon with good hair"?

Don Haughton
202.693.2784

From: Stewart, John - BLS <Stewart.John@bls.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 9:38 AM
To: Haughton, Donald W - ETA <Haughton.Donald.W@DOL.GOV>
Subject: RE: Jobs numbers

Yeah, not a good morning; I thought this was taken care of in the 70's, but as we know history has a tendency to repeat itself (despite the rules and regulations you put in place...). It's time for a run.....

From: Haughton, Donald W - ETA [<mailto:Haughton.Donald.W@DOL.GOV>]
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 9:30 AM
To: Stewart, John - BLS <Stewart.John@bls.gov>
Subject: Jobs numbers

At least next month your staff won't get all the normal 8:29 phone calls – the reporters can get the information early Friday morning from the POTUS tweet

Don Haughton
202.693.2784

From: Witherspoon, Andrew - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 02:14:37 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Jobs report

From: Marcotte, Mary - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 10:32 AM
To: IP-CHI
Subject: RE: Jobs report

5 days ago he stated on Meet the Press that 90% of the jobs report is fiction. Also, Sarah Huckabee Sanders confirmed that he was briefed on the numbers last night.

Mary Marcotte
Senior Field Statistician

Stay connected:



U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
5600 American Boulevard West, Suite 130
Bloomington, MN 55437
TEL: 952-806-9011
FAX: 952-806-9021

"When you agree to participate in a Bureau of Labor Statistics survey, you help provide the vital statistics we use to analyze our economy and keep it strong. For that, I thank you."

Janet Yellen, Chair of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors

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From: Marcotte, Mary - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 9:20 AM
To: IP-CHI <ip-chi@BLS.GOV>
Subject: Jobs report

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.0330f2d4c671

Mary Marcotte
Senior Field Statistician

Stay connected:



U.S. Department of Labor
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Janet Yellen, Chair of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors

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From: Steinberg, Gary E - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 04:54:44 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: lockup story

From: Steinberg, Gary E - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 12:55 PM
To: Standish, Stacey - BLS
Subject: lockup story

<https://www.politico.com/story/2018/06/01/obama-officials-slam-trump-after-he-breaks-protocol-with-jobs-numbers-tease-616321>

From: Flango, Cheryl - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 10:11:59 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: looking forward to seeing the numbers

From: Flango, Cheryl - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 12:57 PM
To: Cooke, David - CES,Oregon
Subject: RE: looking forward to seeing the numbers

Hi David,

Thanks for the note and interesting idea...I woke up to the Washington Post headline that the President "broke from decades of protocol" with this tweet. It's the larger headline than the jobs report in many news outlets.

Have a good day, too!

Cheryl

From: Cooke, David - CES,Oregon [mailto:cookedc@states.bls.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 9:50 AM
To: SFCES <SFCATI@bls.gov>
Subject: looking forward to seeing the numbers

Good morning CES Regional Office,

There's probably some way in which this incident could be incorporated into our annual confidentiality training.

In a [highly unusual move](#), President Trump tweeted early Friday morning that he was "looking forward to seeing the employment numbers." Trump's tweet moved markets as many on Wall Street thought the president was signaling that job gains would be far higher than the 200,000 that had been expected. Stocks jumped at the open with the Dow rising more than 200 points."

Have a good day,
David

From: Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 05:25:10 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: OMB Statistical Policy Directive #3
Attachments: OMB Directive 3.pdf

From: Molina, Eric - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 4:40 PM
To: Ruiz de Gamboa, Nancy - BLS
Cc: Berrington, Emily - BLS; Bennett, Leslie - BLS
Subject: OMB Statistical Policy Directive #3

OMB Statistical Policy Directive (SPD) No. 3 (attached) is focused on the Compilation, Release, and Evaluation of Principal Federal Economic Indicators. Specifically, section 5 is focused on Release Procedures. As noted in OMB SPD No. 3, "All employees of the Executive Branch who receive prerelease distribution of information and data estimates as authorized above are responsible for assuring that there is no release prior to the official release time." This means that information regarding the PFEI release should not be disclosed prior to the official release. Furthermore, section 5 goes on to state, "Except for members of the staff of the agency issuing the principal economic indicator who have been designated by the agency head to provide technical explanations of the data, employees of the Executive Branch shall not comment publicly on the data until at least one hour after the official release time." Thus, if a member of the Executive Branch, no comments should be made on the Employment Situation (as it is a PFEI) until 9:30AM given the release is at 8:30AM.

From: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 03:57:17 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: POTUS tweet this morning

From: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:24 AM
To: Levi, Michael - BLS
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning

Thanks

From: Levi, Michael - BLS <Levi.Michael@bls.gov>
Date: Friday, Jun 01, 2018, 10:34 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS <Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>
Cc: Levi, Michael - BLS <Levi.Michael@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning

Yes, I forgot them, but Emily remembered and sent them the same guidance.

-- Michael

Michael D. Levi
Associate Commissioner for Publications and Special Studies
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-5100



From: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:26 AM
To: Levi, Michael - BLS <Levi.Michael@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: POTUS tweet this morning

I think you told your staff to send any questions to OPA. Can you send same information to Horrigan and Hatch.

Thanks

From: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS <Meisenheimer.Jay@bls.gov>
Date: Friday, Jun 01, 2018, 8:37 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS <Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>, Levi, Michael - BLS <Levi.Michael@bls.gov>, Mele, Kathy - BLS <Mele.Kathy@bls.gov>, Liddel, Emily L - BLS <Liddel.Emily@bls.gov>, Standish, Stacey - BLS <Standish.Stacey@bls.gov>, Steinberg, Gary E - BLS <Steinberg.Gary@bls.gov>, Jack, Tracy - BLS <Jack.Tracy@bls.gov>
Subject: POTUS tweet this morning

FYI because we will probably get calls about this. He tweeted this at 7:21 EDT, and now there is considerable Twitter chatter that it breaks the embargo by signaling a good report.

<https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1002510522032541701>

Jay Meisenheimer, Chief
Division of New Media

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

(202) 691-7409

<https://www.bls.gov/>

https://twitter.com/BLS_gov

From: Steinberg, Gary E - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 04:53:27 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: POTUS tweet this morning

From: Jack, Tracy - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 8:43 AM
To: Levi, Michael - BLS; Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS; Wiatrowski, William - BLS; Mele, Kathy - BLS; Liddel, Emily L - BLS; Standish, Stacey - BLS; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS
Cc: PRESS_TEAM
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning

ok

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:44 AM
To: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS <Meisenheimer.Jay@bls.gov>; Wiatrowski, William - BLS <Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>; Mele, Kathy - BLS <Mele.Kathy@bls.gov>; Liddel, Emily L - BLS <Liddel.Emily@bls.gov>; Standish, Stacey - BLS <Standish.Stacey@bls.gov>; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS <Steinberg.Gary@bls.gov>; Jack, Tracy - BLS <Jack.Tracy@bls.gov>
Cc: PRESS_TEAM <press_team@BLS.GOV>
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning

Just talked with Steve Barr. Let's pass any and all inquiries on this topic to OPA.

Thanks,

-- Michael

Michael D. Levi
Associate Commissioner for Publications and Special Studies
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-5100



From: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:37 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS <Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>; Levi, Michael - BLS <Levi.Michael@bls.gov>; Mele, Kathy - BLS <Mele.Kathy@bls.gov>; Liddel, Emily L - BLS <Liddel.Emily@bls.gov>; Standish, Stacey - BLS <Standish.Stacey@bls.gov>; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS <Steinberg.Gary@bls.gov>; Jack, Tracy - BLS <Jack.Tracy@bls.gov>
Subject: POTUS tweet this morning

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Jay Meisenheimer, Chief
Division of New Media
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-7409
<https://www.bls.gov/>
https://twitter.com/BLS_gov

From: Sockwell, Wanda - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 05:03:48 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: POTUS tweet this morning

From: Jack, Tracy - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 8:46 AM
To: INFOSERV
Subject: FW: POTUS tweet this morning

Hi folks,
Please read the email trail below. If you get any inquiries about Tweets about this issue, please pass the inquiry to OPA.

Tracy

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:44 AM
To: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS <Meisenheimer.Jay@bls.gov>; Wiatrowski, William - BLS <Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>; Mele, Kathy - BLS <Mele.Kathy@bls.gov>; Liddel, Emily L - BLS <Liddel.Emily@bls.gov>; Standish, Stacey - BLS <Standish.Stacey@bls.gov>; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS <Steinberg.Gary@bls.gov>; Jack, Tracy - BLS <Jack.Tracy@bls.gov>
Cc: PRESS_TEAM <press_team@BLS.GOV>
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning

Just talked with Steve Barr. Let's pass any and all inquiries on this topic to OPA.

Thanks,

-- Michael

Michael D. Levi
Associate Commissioner for Publications and Special Studies
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-5100



From: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:37 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS <Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>; Levi, Michael - BLS <Levi.Michael@bls.gov>; Mele, Kathy - BLS <Mele.Kathy@bls.gov>; Liddel, Emily L - BLS <Liddel.Emily@bls.gov>; Standish, Stacey - BLS <Standish.Stacey@bls.gov>; Steinberg, Gary E - BLS <Steinberg.Gary@bls.gov>; Jack, Tracy - BLS <Jack.Tracy@bls.gov>
Subject: POTUS tweet this morning

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Jay Meisenheimer, Chief
Division of New Media
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-7409
<https://www.bls.gov/>
https://twitter.com/BLS_gov

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 02:42:03 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: POTUS tweet this morning

From: Levi, Michael - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 10:34 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Cc: Levi, Michael - BLS
Subject: RE: POTUS tweet this morning

Yes, I forgot them, but Emily remembered and sent them the same guidance.

-- Michael

Michael D. Levi
Associate Commissioner for Publications and Special Studies
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From: Wiatrowski, William - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:26 AM
To: Levi, Michael - BLS <Levi.Michael@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: POTUS tweet this morning

I think you told your staff to send any questions to OPA. Can you send same information to Horrigan and Hatch.

Thanks

From: Meisenheimer, Joseph - BLS <Meisenheimer.Jay@bls.gov>
Date: Friday, Jun 01, 2018, 8:37 AM
To: Wiatrowski, William - BLS <Wiatrowski.William@bls.gov>, Levi, Michael - BLS <Levi.Michael@bls.gov>, Mele, Kathy - BLS <Mele.Kathy@bls.gov>, Liddel, Emily L - BLS <Liddel.Emily@bls.gov>, Standish, Stacey - BLS <Standish.Stacey@bls.gov>, Steinberg, Gary E - BLS <Steinberg.Gary@bls.gov>, Jack, Tracy - BLS <Jack.Tracy@bls.gov>
Subject: POTUS tweet this morning

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<https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1002510522032541701>

Jay Meisenheimer, Chief
Division of New Media
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-7409
<https://www.bls.gov/>
https://twitter.com/BLS_gov

From: Mullins, John - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 12:46:22 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: protocol

From: Mullins, John - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 9:41 AM
To: Kelter, Laura - BLS
Subject: protocol

[Trump breaks protocol, sends markets a clear signal on jobs report before numbers are released](#)

From: Mrstik, Christopher - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 12:55:59 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Release Process for Employment Situation and Other Releases

From: Rodriguez, Elizabeth - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 3:05 PM
To: Mrstik, Christopher - BLS
Subject: RE: Release Process for Employment Situation and Other Releases

Yup. I'm guessing there won't be any repercussions for him either.

From: Mrstik, Christopher - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 3:05 PM
To: Rodriguez, Elizabeth - BLS <Rodriguez.Elizabeth@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Release Process for Employment Situation and Other Releases

And the ensuing media coverage, I'm sure. Good times.

From: Rodriguez, Elizabeth - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 3:04 PM
To: Mrstik, Christopher - BLS <Mrstik.Christopher@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Release Process for Employment Situation and Other Releases

I'm guessing it's because of the tweet this morning...

From: Mrstik, Christopher - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 3:03 PM
To: Genovese, James -BLS <Genovese.James@bls.gov>
Cc: Rodriguez, Elizabeth - BLS <Rodriguez.Elizabeth@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Release Process for Employment Situation and Other Releases

Thanks much!

From: Genovese, James -BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 2:59 PM
To: Mrstik, Christopher - BLS <Mrstik.Christopher@bls.gov>
Cc: Rodriguez, Elizabeth - BLS <Rodriguez.Elizabeth@bls.gov>
Subject: Release Process for Employment Situation and Other Releases

Hi Chris,

Find a clean copy of the document here for OAFO: "[S:\Transition Materials \(Administration\)\Commissioner Briefing Materials \(2017\)\II. Mission\C. 2017 Release Process of Principal Federal Economic Indicators - for OAFO.docx](#)".

Thanks,
Jim

From: Spinner, Gary - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 05:00:04 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: So much for BLS security protocols

From: Spinner, Gary - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 12:13 PM
To: Bergman, Bruce - BLS
Subject: So much for BLS security protocols

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.ba0bd77ebf4b

From: Mullins, John - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 12:47:04 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: So now what?

From: Mullins, John - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 1:13 PM
To: Green, Kathleen - BLS
Subject: RE: So now what?

Oh well, have a good weekend anyway.

From: Green, Kathleen - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 1:12 PM
To: Mullins, John - BLS <Mullins.John@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: So now what?

There's a chance he won't get reelected, if Dems put up a decent candidate. And maybe if John Kasich challenges Trump and then runs as an independent. OK, you're right. I still can't believe we'll have to put up with 4 years of that bozo, let alone 8.

I saved the WaPo's special section earlier this week on retiring abroad.

From: Mullins, John - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 1:09 PM
To: Green, Kathleen - BLS <Green.Kathleen@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: So now what?

He'll get reelected too. Americans are stupid.

From: Green, Kathleen - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 1:08 PM
To: Mullins, John - BLS <Mullins.John@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: So now what?

How is he still in office?! Never mind. You answered that already.

From: Mullins, John - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 1:07 PM
To: Green, Kathleen - BLS <Green.Kathleen@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: So now what?

Now nothing. Consequences are for the little people, not bigshots with little hands.

From: Green, Kathleen - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 1:05 PM
To: Mullins, John - BLS <Mullins.John@bls.gov>
Subject: So now what?

What an ass.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/>

From: Morales, Roberto - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 01:10:02 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Trump breaks protocol, sends markets a clear signal on jobs report before numbers are released - The Washington Post

From: Morales, Roberto - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 8:57 AM
To: Pauline.Walsh@international.gc.ca
Subject: Trump breaks protocol, sends markets a clear signal on jobs report before numbers are released - The Washington Post

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.d269f025c522

From: Morales, Roberto - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 01:10:15 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Trump breaks protocol, sends markets a clear signal on jobs report before numbers are released -

From: Morales, Roberto - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 8:56 AM
To: Michael P. Darrow
Subject: Trump breaks protocol, sends markets a clear signal on jobs report before numbers are released -

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.d269f025c522

From: Winslow, Eric - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 02:18:53 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Trump breaks protocol

From: Reid, Curtis E. - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 8:52 AM
To: Kropf, Jorgen - BLS; Winslow, Eric - BLS; Murphy, Michael - BLS
Subject: Trump breaks protocol

Trump breaks protocol, sends markets a clear signal on jobs report before numbers are released

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released>

Curtis E. Reid, Information Technology Specialist
Bureau of Labor Statistics, OEUS/DIDD – PSB 4170-A003
2 Massachusetts Ave, NE, Washington, DC 20212-0002
+1 202-540-9165 V or VP; +1 202-691-6644 FAX; www.bls.gov/ces

From: Sosnowski, Kate - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 05:03:02 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

From: Ransom, Karen - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:49 AM
To: Sosnowski, Kate - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

Thanks for forwarding this. We were just talking about this actually. ☺

From: Sosnowski, Kate - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:45 AM
To: Ransom, Karen - BLS <Ransom.Karen@bls.gov>
Subject: NYT: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

In case you didn't see this yet:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/01/us/politics/trump-jobs-twitter.html>

From: Sielaff, Connie - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 05:12:58 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

From: Sielaff, Thomas (CTR)
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 1:10 PM
To: Sielaff, Connie - BLS
Subject: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/politics/trump-tweets-about-jobs-report-before-its-release-breaking-protocol/ar-AAy6Dkq?ocid=ientp>

From: Shepler, Nicole - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 05:15:28 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

From: Sosnowski, Kate - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:41 AM
To: BCPMGRS
Subject: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

In case you didn't see this yet:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/01/us/politics/trump-jobs-twitter.html>

From: Ransom, Karen - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 09:20:01 AM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

From: Ransom, Karen - BLS
Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 8:01 AM
To: Kelter, Laura - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

Well, that's good.
Things are good here, busy like everyone else!

From: Kelter, Laura - BLS
Sent: Monday, June 04, 2018 7:09 AM
To: Ransom, Karen - BLS <Ransom.Karen@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

Thank you. Surprisingly, this did not impact our day at all. After he did it last time, I think the press knew what was up. They were even using our standard response in some of the news articles. LOL

How are thing in CPI?

From: Ransom, Karen - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:50 AM
To: Kelter, Laura - BLS <Kelter.Laura@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

I'm sure you've already seen this, but just in case...

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/01/us/politics/trump-jobs-twitter.html>

From: Khatchadourian, Ara - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 03:41:01 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

From: Khatchadourian, Ara - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:45 AM
To: Khatchadourian, Kelley - BLS
Subject: RE: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

I don't know why anyone tells Trump anything.

From: Khatchadourian, Kelley - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:43 AM
To: Khatchadourian, Ara - BLS <Khatchadourian.Ara@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

From: Sosnowski, Kate - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:42 AM
To: BCPMGRS <BCPMGRS@BLS.GOV>
Subject: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

In case you didn't see this yet:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/01/us/politics/trump-jobs-twitter.html>

From: Khatchadourian, Kelley - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 03:55:47 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

From: Sosnowski, Kate - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:41 AM
To: BCPMGRS
Subject: Trump Tweets About Jobs Report Before Its Release, Breaking Protocol

In case you didn't see this yet:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/01/us/politics/trump-jobs-twitter.html>

From: Kelter, Laura - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 04:11:21 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: tweet/reaction

From: Kelter, Laura - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 9:17 AM
To: Manning, Chris - BLS
Subject: RE: tweet/reaction

Here's another:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.56116c5f0418

From: Manning, Chris - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:47 AM
To: Kelter, Laura - BLS <Kelter.Laura@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: tweet/reaction

Thanks.

From: Kelter, Laura - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:30 AM
To: Manning, Chris - BLS <Manning.Chris@bls.gov>
Subject: tweet/reaction
Importance: High

From: Cedeño, Wander - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:29 AM
To: Kelter, Laura - BLS <Kelter.Laura@bls.gov>
Subject: FYI

Tweets Tweets & replies Media



Donald J. Trump  @realDonaldTrump · 1h

Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning.

 4.8K  3.7K  19K

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2018/06/01/u-s-economy-continues-its-hiring-spree-and-is-projected-to-add-200000-jobs-in-may/?utm_term=.ecaf70b63b7d

"In a highly unusual move, President Trump tweeted Friday morning that he is "looking forward to seeing the employment numbers." Trump's tweet made many on Wall Street wonder if the number would be far higher than predicted."

Wander Cedeño

Economist

Division of Current Employment Statistics | National
Bureau of Labor Statistics
U.S. Department of Labor | Washington, D.C.
cesinfo@bls.gov | (202) 691-6555

bls.gov |  @BLS_gov



We have a stat for that!

From: Pina, Jose - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 09:49:36 AM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: ummm....

From: Pina, Jose - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:21 AM
To: Boulanger, Tiffany - BLS
Subject: RE: ummm....

That is a mystery!!! ;-)

José A Piña

From: Boulanger, Tiffany - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:21 AM
To: Pina, Jose - BLS <Pina.Jose@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: ummm....

Would he have tweeted that if it weren't good?

From: Pina, Jose - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:20 AM
To: Boulanger, Tiffany - BLS <Boulanger.Tiffany@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: ummm....

Yeah, I saw the tweet at around 7:55 AM. The trading of S&P 500 futures accelerated right away...seconds after the tweet appeared.

José A Piña

From: Boulanger, Tiffany - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:16 AM
To: CESBOS <CESBOS@bls.gov>
Subject: ummm....

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.8937d8ef4ad8

Tiffany Boulanger
Branch Chief CES/QCEW
Boston/New York Region
617-565-2337
boulanger.tiffany@bls.gov

From: York, Stephen - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 01:44:32 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: WAPO article

From: York, Stephen - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 10:54 AM
To: Chaiken, Emma - BLS; Joseph, Gabbrielle - BLS
Subject: RE: WAPO article

Here's another one I found

<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/trumps-jobs-report-tweet-in-advance-of-release-appears-to-have-violated-federal-rules-2018-06-01>

From: Chaiken, Emma - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 10:53 AM
To: Joseph, Gabbrielle - BLS <Joseph.Gabbrielle@bls.gov>; York, Stephen - BLS <York.Stephen@bls.gov>
Subject: WAPO article

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.744db8729bf8

Emma Chaiken
Producer Price Index
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Direct Line: (202) 691-5297
Chaiken.Emma@bls.gov

From: Friesenhahn, Erik - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 09:37:28 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Well? Trump breaks protocol, sends markets a clear signal on jobs report before numbers are released - The Washington Post

From: Friesenhahn, Erik - BLS
Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 6:45 AM
To: Leo Penne
Subject: RE: Well? Trump breaks protocol, sends markets a clear signal on jobs report before numbers are released - The Washington Post

Blah, blah, blah.

Kinda reminds me of the late 90s when the Clinton administration released the actual employment numbers Thursday evening right before the official Friday release date. Well, actually no, as the Clinton people released the actual number as opposed to just saying that they were looking forward to the data coming out. Funny thing, though, I don't recall there being much of a media uproar like there is with this tweet.

People on the left need to get over it: Trump won the election and he's the president.

From: Leo Penne [mailto:leopenne@outlook.com]
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 5:30 PM
To: Friesenhahn, Erik - BLS <Friesenhahn.Erik@bls.gov>
Subject: Well? Trump breaks protocol, sends markets a clear signal on jobs report before numbers are released - The Washington Post

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?wpisrc=nl_evening&wpmm=1&noredirect=on

Trump breaks protocol, sends markets a clear signal on jobs report before numbers are released

by [Damian Paletta](#) June 1 at 8:34 AM

Trump touts jobs report as economy adds 223,000 jobs
Job growth accelerated in May, and the unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent.
(Reuters)

President Trump on Friday broke with decades of protocol and commented publicly about the highly anticipated jobs report data 69 minutes before they were released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Treasury yields moved sharply higher within seconds of a tweet from Trump that said he was "looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning." He had never issued such a tweet before. Bloomberg News data also showed that the value of the U.S. dollar moved sharply higher after the Twitter post compared with previous trades the mornings jobs data are released. That means traders were probably making investment decisions based on signals they took from Trump's post.

Looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning.

— Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) [7:21 AM - Jun 1, 2018](#)

One hour and nine minutes later, the [Bureau of Labor Statistics announced](#) that 223,000 jobs were created in May, beating expectations, and the unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent.

White House National Economic Council Director Larry Kudlow said on CNBC on Friday morning that he briefed Trump on the details of the report Thursday evening, calling him on Air Force One. That means Trump had detailed knowledge of the specifics of the jobs report, knowing that it would be strong and better than expected.

The jobs data come out once a month and often can lead to massive buying or selling trends on Wall Street, depending on how the information is received. It is extremely closely held and kept under tight control until it is released at 8:30 a.m. on the first Friday of each month. A select number of administration officials receive the data the day before, but officials are prohibited from tipping their hand about what the numbers reveal.

“He chose to tweet,” Kudlow said, downplaying the matter. “You can read into that 10 different things if you want to read into it.”

Kudlow said of the way he personally handled it, giving it to Trump the evening before, “by law and custom, that is correct.”

But it led to an outcry from Democrats and Republicans, particularly veterans of past White House teams, who said the restrictions in place are meant to both prevent the politicization of these reports and leaks of market-moving information. Ari Fleischer, who served as press secretary to President George W. Bush, said of Trump’s post: “This certainly was a no-no. The advance info is sacrosanct – not to be shared.”

Former treasury secretary Lawrence Summers said it was a remarkable breach that in the past would have led to multiple investigations.

If during the Clinton or Obama Administrations there had been a statement from [@POTUS](#) or anyone senior official in the morning before the Employment Report it would have been a major scandal—with all sorts of investigations following on.

— Lawrence H. Summers (@LHSummers) [9:13 AM - Jun 1, 2018](#)

A positive jobs report does not necessarily mean the stock market will go up, as investors could see it as a signal that the Federal Reserve will move more aggressively to raise interest rates to keep the economy from overheating. In fact, a strong jobs report often leads investors to sell equities and buy government debt because they will reap the benefits of higher interest rates. That’s why giving the market any kind of clue ahead of time is extremely unusual. A federal rule from 1985 prohibits any federal worker from commenting on the jobs report for at least one hour after its release, though the Trump administration has breached that standard a few times by commenting less than an hour after the release. But administration officials never appeared to comment before the report came out as Trump did on Friday.

Jason Furman, who served as chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers during the Obama administration, said this data has remained closely guarded for years, with many cabinet members even shielded from the information until it becomes public.

“It’s market moving and it creates instability and uncertainty in markets,” Furman said. “But secondly, and fundamentally, it’s really important that government statistics are perceived as being nonpartisan, nonpolitical data.”

During the Obama administration, Trump would often ridicule the jobs data, saying it consisted of fake numbers assembled by Democrats to make the economy look rosy. He has championed the data since becoming president, though, particularly when it reflects strength.

Diane Swonk, chief economist at Grant Thornton, says the government takes extreme measures to keep this information closely held to try and protect it from any sort of politicization or the appearance that it has been tampered with.

“The idea that someone who is political would let information out ahead of time undermines that independence and credibility at a time when it’s under attack pretty aggressively already,” she said.

Trump has tried to tie the success of his presidency to the success of the economy. In November and December, he routinely posted daily updates on the rising stock market, attributing it to his tenure. He has largely stopped this since the Dow Jones Industrial Average peaked in January, sliding down more than 2,000 amid fears of a prolonged trade war.

The economy has strengthened during his time in office, though many metrics are mostly consistent with the post-financial-crisis recovery that began in 2009. Unemployment has steadily improved, economic growth has ticked up slightly, and wage growth has been slight.

The 1985 rule that bars White House officials from releasing details of jobs reports ahead of time was written by the Reagan administration.

“All employees of the executive branch who receive prerelease distribution of information and data estimates are responsible for assuring that there is no release prior to the official release time,” the rule says.

Kudlow said Friday that Trump didn’t breach this prohibition because he didn’t reveal the precise numbers in the jobs report, only telling people on Twitter that he was “looking forward” to its release. Trump has, on at least one other occasion, publicly revealed the contents of a tightly held government report before its release. In April 2017, he told the Wall Street Journal in an interview that the Treasury Department would not soon label China a “currency manipulator.” Government officials have traditionally kept that information very confidential before it is released by Treasury.

Sent from my iPhone

Leo Penne

leopenne@outlook.com

202 285 1145

From: Sirois, Tod - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 05:09:29 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Who gets to file the breach report?

From: Sirois, Tod - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 8:53 AM
To: OFOCPIM
Subject: Who gets to file the breach report?

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/>

From: Wakefield, James - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 04:14:47 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Wow

From: Wakefield, James - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 9:16 AM
To: Stanley, Sara - BLS; Mead, Dave - BLS
Subject: RE: Wow

WOW!! SMH... WOW... SMH

From: Stanley, Sara - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 9:12 AM
To: Wakefield, James - BLS <Wakefield.James@bls.gov>; Mead, Dave - BLS <Mead.Dave@bls.gov>
Subject: Wow

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.d731494eacd5&wpisrc=al_news_alert-economy--alert-national&wpmk=1

From: Wigdor, Hazel - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 03:43:38 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Yikes

From: Roosma, Michael - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 9:41 AM
To: Wigdor, Hazel - BLS; Walker, Michele - BLS
Subject: RE: Yikes

Tell me something new....

From: Wigdor, Hazel - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 9:27 AM
To: Walker, Michele - BLS <walker.michele@bls.gov>; Roosma, Michael - BLS <Roosma.Mike@bls.gov>
Subject: RE: Yikes

Oh boy.

From: Walker, Michele - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 9:18 AM
To: Roosma, Michael - BLS <Roosma.Mike@bls.gov>; Wigdor, Hazel - BLS <Wigdor.Hazel@bls.gov>
Subject: Yikes

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/business/wp/2018/06/01/trump-breaks-protocol-sends-markets-a-clear-signal-on-jobs-report-before-numbers-are-released/?utm_term=.4c2afe1abbb1

From: Strople, Michael - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 04:30:48 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] UNECE Data Collection Workshop 'Resourceful Data Acquisition' 10-12 October 2018
Attachments: Invitation letter Data Collection 2018.pdf INF.1 DC 2018.pdf

From: Mousa, Jay - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 4:24 PM
To: Strople, Michael - BLS
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] UNECE Data Collection Workshop 'Resourceful Data Acquisition' 10-12 October 2018

I am think of attending, but not sure about it. So, let's talk about the possibility of requesting that you attend, if I can't.

From: Dumas, Mark - BLS
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 1:03 PM
To: Mousa, Jay - BLS <Mousa.Jay@BLS.GOV>; Horrigan, Michael - BLS <Horrigan.Michael@bls.gov>; Levi, Michael - BLS <Levi.Michael@bls.gov>; OSMRACs <OSMRACs@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] UNECE Data Collection Workshop 'Resourceful Data Acquisition' 10-12 October 2018

Acting Commissioner Wiatrowski suggested that I forward the attached meeting invitation to you for consideration.

Please let me know if you or members of your staff have interest in attending this workshop. A response is requested on or before **July 18th**.

Other key dates follow:

18 July 2018 **Participation Notification**
18 July 2018 **Abstract** or proposal for intended contribution
15 August 2018 **Registration**
12 September 2018 **Paper** or detailed abstract if no paper is provided
12 September 2018 **Presentation** or other material to be presented (draft)
Final versions of presentations can be uploaded until 9 October

Please note that given the workshop's timing – just after the new fiscal year begins – attending may be problematic.

Thanks,

Mark

From: FN-OMB-OIRA-Office of the U.S. Chief Statistician <US_Chief_Statistician@omb.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 12:51 PM
To: Kong, Kali K. EOP/OMB <Kali.K.Kong@omb.eop.gov>
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] UNECE Data Collection Workshop 'Resourceful Data Acquisition' 10-12 October 2018

From: Taeke Gjaltema <Taeke.Gjaltema@unece.org>
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2018 3:58 AM
To: O.Solodukha@ukrstat.gov.ua; obaddour@wmo.int; ochinganya@uneca.org; office.geneva@unido.org; office@ukrstat.gov.ua; olafur.hjalmarsson@statice.is; olga.barquero@ine.cl; ons@psa.gov.ph; padraig.dalton@cso.ie; papa.seck@unwomen.org; Pascual.GERSTENFELD@cepal.org; paula.fuenzalida@cepal.org; petr.kolovecky@czso.cz; PGSEK@stat.gov.pl; pieter.everaers@ec.europa.eu; pietro.gennari@fao.org; pilar.garcia@inegi.gob.mx; pprotopapas@cystat.mof.gov.cy; predsedkyne@czso.cz; pres@istat.it; protocol@nsi.bg; r.mahjoubi@afdb.org; rasandiharisoa@un.org; ravnatelj@dzs.hr; Rebecca.GENTILE@ext.ec.europa.eu; rec@ine.pt; riecan@un.org; risenga@roberta.mularoni.pa.sm; roberto.olinto@ibge.gov.br; roberto.santanna@ibge.gov.br; rolf.escher@bfs.admin.ch; s.montoya@uis.unesco.org; s.upadhyaya@unido.org; sara.frankl@scb.se; sc@azstat.org; schweinfest@un.org; secpi@nic.in; sennur.onur@tuik.gov.tr; serge.allegrezza@statec.etat.lu; sigalit@cbs.gov.il; sokolin@cisstat.org; stat.unescap@un.org; stat@stat.ee; stat@tojikiston.com; statcan.mutilateralrelations-relationsmultilaterales.statcan@canada.ca; stat-general@soumu.go.jp; statistics@unctad.org; statisticsnetherlands@cbs.nl; statistika@stat.gov.lt; statnor@ssb.no; Stephan.Moens@economie.fgov.be; steve.macfeely@unctad.org; STsvetarsky@nsi.bg; surinov@gks.ru;

susan.teltscher@itu.int; T.Shcherban@ukrstat.gov.ua; Tamara.Pal@ksh.hu; tatjana.mitevaska@stat.gov.mk;
tgogishvili@geostat.ge; thorbjorn.jagland@coe.int; TTIN@cbs.nl; tudorel.andrei@insse.ro; turkmenstat@gmail.com;
tm.hasabat@mail.ru; turkmenstat@online.tm; FN-OMB-OIRA-Office of the U.S. Chief Statistician; Kong, Kali K. EOP/OMB;
velimir.jukic@bhas.ba; venetapetrova@nsi.bg; vilija.lapeniene@stat.gov.lt; Volker.Taube@ext.ec.europa.eu;
vsimoni@instat.gov.al; vukovich.gabriella@ksh.hu; werner.bier@ecb.europa.eu; Ximena.clark@ine.cl; yhan@stats.gov.cn;
yoel@cbs.gov.il; zhangjun@stats.gov.cn; zhangy@un.org; zkoc@sesric.org; zehrazumrut@gmail.com; taeke.gjaltema@un.org

Cc: Gerald Muriel

Subject: [EXTERNAL] UNECE Data Collection Workshop 'Resourceful Data Acquisition' 10-12 October 2018

To: Heads of national and international statistical organisations

Cc: International cooperation departments

Dear colleagues,

Please find attached to this email an invitation from Ms Lidia Bratanova, Director, UNECE Statistical Division, and an information notice for the Workshop on Statistical Data Collection 'Resourceful Data Acquisition' to be held from 10 to 12 October 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The objective of this workshop is to identify innovative ways and best practices in statistical data collection, and to provide a platform for practitioners to exchange experiences and foster collaboration in this area. The target audience includes senior and middle-level managers responsible for data collection activities and new data sources, across all statistical domains.

We would be grateful if you could inform us if your office intends to participate by Wednesday 18 July 2018 by replying to this email. Abstracts or proposals for intended contributions must be submitted by the same date. Participants can register until 15 August 2018.

Further details are provided in the attached Information Notice.

With best regards,
Taeke Gjaltema

(See attached file: Invitation letter Data Collection 2018.pdf)(See attached file: INF.1 DC 2018.pdf)

Taeke Gjaltema
UNECE - Statistics Division
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland
Tel.: +41 22 917 1272



From: Njie, Hassan - BLS
Sent time: 07/22/2018 10:30:37 AM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: [MARKETING] News Alert: Trump breaks with decades of protocol, hinting at positive jobs numbers before official release

From: Njie, Hassan - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 10:30 AM
To: Cook, Khary - BLS
Subject: FW: [MARKETING] News Alert: Trump breaks with decades of protocol, hinting at positive jobs numbers before official release

From: The Washington Post [mailto:email@washingtonpost.com]
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:51 AM
To: Njie, Hassan - BLS <Njie.Hassan@bls.gov>
Subject: [MARKETING] News Alert: Trump breaks with decades of protocol, hinting at positive jobs numbers before official release

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

News Alert

Jun 1, 8:50 AM

Trump breaks with decades of protocol, hinting at positive jobs numbers before official release

President Trump broke with decades of presidential protocol and commented publicly about the highly anticipated jobs report data 69 minutes before it was released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Treasury bond yields moved sharply higher within seconds of a Twitter post from Trump that said he was “looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning.”

The numbers are closely held and are supposed to never be released ahead of their formal publication time, as they have a large influence on markets.

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

From: Yowler, William - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 01:40:47 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: [MARKETING] News Alert: Trump breaks with decades of protocol, hinting at positive jobs numbers before official release

From: Unger, Linda - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 8:54 AM
To: Yowler, William - BLS
Subject: FW: [MARKETING] News Alert: Trump breaks with decades of protocol, hinting at positive jobs numbers before official release

From: The Washington Post [mailto:email@washingtonpost.com]
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 8:53 AM
To: Unger, Linda - BLS <Unger.Linda@bls.gov>
Subject: [MARKETING] News Alert: Trump breaks with decades of protocol, hinting at positive jobs numbers before official release

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

News Alert

Jun 1, 8:50 AM

Trump breaks with decades of protocol, hinting at positive jobs numbers before official release

President Trump broke with decades of presidential protocol and commented publicly about the highly anticipated jobs report data 69 minutes before it was released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Treasury bond yields moved sharply higher within seconds of a Twitter post from Trump that said he was “looking forward to seeing the employment numbers at 8:30 this morning.”

The numbers are closely held and are supposed to never be released ahead of their formal publication time, as they have a large influence on markets.

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From: Woods, Rose A - BLS
Sent time: 07/20/2018 01:46:47 PM
To: yanofsky
Subject: Fw: Daily Report

From: Woods, Rose A - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 2:09 PM
To: Lettau, Michael - BLS
Subject: RE: Daily Report

Thanks. As I scrolled through the Daily Report, I was wondering who this might be. Was not expecting Steve Rick, but it kind of made my otherwise uneventful day.

(b) (6)



From: Lettau, Michael - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:45 AM
To: Woods, Rose A - BLS <Woods.Rose@bls.gov>
Subject: FW: Daily Report

See highlight below. A name from the past!

How's your (b) (6) going? (b) (6) ?

From: Newton, Vanessa - BLS
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 11:37 AM
To: DailyReport <dailyreport2@BLS.GOV>
Subject: Daily Report

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, DAILY REPORT, FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018:

RELEASED TODAY: Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 223,000 in May, and the unemployment rate edged down to 3.8 percent (*BLS News Release*, "[The Employment Situation – May 2018](#)"). Employment continued to trend up in several industries, including retail trade, health care, and construction.

The U.S. added a higher-than-expected number of jobs in May – with the Labor Department reporting that 223,000 jobs were added, more than the 188,000 jobs analysts polled by Thomson Reuters were expecting (*Leia Klingel, Fox Business*, "[May jobs report surprises to the upside](#)"). Job creation was also above the average 190,000 jobs created each month after the past year. The unemployment rate ticked down to 3.8% from April's 3.9%. The unemployment rate is now at an 18-year low. Wage inflation came in above expectations, at 0.3%. Analysts polled by Thomson Reuters were anticipating wages would increase by 0.2%. "Payrolls came in ahead of expectations, but very much in line with recent averages. The unemployment and underemployment rates both ticked down, and reflect the continued tightening in the labor market," Sameer Samana, global quantitative and technical strategist with Wells Fargo Investment Institute told FOX Business. "Wage growth ticked up and came in a bit ahead of expectations, but nothing that would worry us about runaway wage inflation," he added. Noting that there was a touch of softness in the manufacturing payrolls and participation rate both of which bear watching, according to Samana. Samana said the jobs report reinforces Wells Fargo's outlook for solid economic growth, driven by consumption. Investors should get fully invested in equities, and be a bit cautious in fixed income, as yields will continue to grind higher.

The numbers: The U.S. created a robust 223,000 new jobs in May to push unemployment down to an 18-year low of 3.8%, signaling that a nine-year-old economic expansion still has plenty of steam despite being one of the oldest ever (*Jeffrey Bartash, MarketWatch*, "[U.S. adds 223,000 new jobs as unemployment falls to 18-year low in May](#)"). The increase in hiring — the biggest in three months — exceeded the 200,000 forecast of economists polled by MarketWatch. In an unusual and controversial move, President Trump foreshadowed the strong employment report in an early-morning tweet in which he said he looked forward to the May jobs figures. Investors took that to mean they should expect a good report. By and large, the reported showed an economy with plenty of vigor. Most industries added jobs and worker pay increased at a somewhat faster pace. The unemployment rate fell again to the lowest level since April 2000 as more people found work. The last time the jobless rate was even lower was in 1969. What happened: Retailers led the way in hiring by adding 31,000 new jobs. Health-care companies boosted payrolls by 29,000, construction firms took on 25,000 workers and manufacturers increased employment by 18,000. Steady hiring by construction and manufacturing companies is particularly surprising. They are the among the industries that have complained the loudest about a shortage of skilled workers. Record job

openings, an uber-tight labor market and growing complaints about a labor shortage still aren't leading to big pay raises most employees, but wages are rising gradually. Hourly pay rose by 8 cents, or 0.3% to \$28.92 an hour in May. As a result, the 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7% after holding at 2.6% for three months in a row. Employment gains for April and March were revised up by a combined 15,000, the Labor Department said Friday.

The May employment report was seen as strong across the board and certainly prompts the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates in 12 days, but it doesn't settle the larger debate over whether there will be three or four total moves this year (*Greg Robb, MarketWatch, "Strong jobs report doesn't guarantee four Fed interest rate hikes this year"*). "It certainly gives them the green light to go in June," said Scott Anderson, chief economist at Bank of the West in San Francisco. "And it raises the odds they go four rather than three this year." Traders in the fed futures market raised the odds of four rate hikes to 38% after the jobs report. In the wake of the market turmoil over the political situation in Italy, those odds had fallen below 20%. Anderson said he thought the odds of a fourth hike this year were 50-50 but he was sticking with his baseline of three moves. The threat of a trade was a gray cloud over the outlook, he said. The Labor Department reported the U.S. added 223,000 new jobs in May and the unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low of 3.8%. That level is well below the Fed's estimate of the nonaccelerating inflation rate of unemployment, or NAIRU, which is now 4.5%. In an appearance after the employment report was released, Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari said the report shows that "wage growth is slowly picking up." The 12-month increase in wages rose to 2.7%, the government said. Michael Hanson, chief U.S. macro strategist at TD Securities, said the May employment report "does not give decisive input" on the debate over three or four hikes. "I don't think it forces the dot-plot higher," he said.

Certain college graduates from the Class of 2018 will start out their careers behind some of their friends, due to circumstances beyond their control (*Jillian Berman, MarketWatch, "Women and black college graduates are paid less right out of the gate"*). May's jobs report showed the country's nine-year economic expansion appears to still have plenty of steam. But not everyone will see the full benefits of that. On average, black college graduates between the ages of 21 and 24 earn \$3.34 less per hour than their white counterparts, a difference of about \$7,000 per year, according to an analysis published earlier this month by the Economic Policy Institute, a left-leaning think tank. And though not quite as steep, the gulf between the wages of female and male young college graduates stands at a still large \$3.15 per hour, the EPI found. The data indicate that, despite the large pay gaps, these workers earned similar credentials and have had similar levels of experience. "To see such a large and economically meaningful gender and racial gap at the start of their careers is troubling to say the least," said Elise Gould, a senior economist at the EPI and one of the authors of the report. The research is the latest evidence that some groups reap a bigger benefit from college than others. Women hold two-thirds of outstanding student-loan debt in the U.S. in part because they struggle more to repay it. African-American students tend to borrow more to attend college and also struggle more to repay it than their white peers. For both women and African-American borrowers, the wage gap is part of what fuels these challenges paying back loans. It's hard to figure out exactly why these pay gulfs exist even at the beginning of college graduates' careers, particularly because it can't be explained by some of the more popular reasoning offered for the gender pay gap, like the so-called "mommy penalty" that typically occurs later in a workers' career.

We might not understand consumer prices as well as we thought we did (*Maria Lamagna, MarketWatch, "Researchers suggest one important change in how we evaluate consumer prices"*). Consumer prices may be more volatile than previously thought, based on current indexes, according to a new report from researchers at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. The researchers analyzed how housing rent is currently factored into official price indexes, including the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' consumer price index (CPI) and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis's index for personal consumption expenditure (PCE). Both of those indexes are designed to show price moves, based on the prices of a certain collection of consumer goods. But information about housing rent that both bureaus collect might lead to errors in the inflation rates, the Penn State researchers found. Those bureaus did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Here's why: Both indexes use results from questionnaires that are sent out to existing tenants. The Bureau of Labor Statistics sends out the questionnaires to the same people over time. As a result, they are usually collecting information from renters who are renewing their leases, and the price of renewing is usually less volatile than renting a new place. "Landlords tend to increase rents when tenants change," said Jiro Yoshida, an associate professor at the Penn State Smeal College of Business. "The official rent surveys, then, tend to miss that big change." That may seem like a small difference, but rent makes up a large part of inflation indexes, the researchers said. In 2016, housing made up one third of the CPI and 42% of the core CPI, which excludes food and energy. Rents account for 15.8% of the PCE and 17.7% of the core PCE. As a result of their observations, the researchers came up with a new method for estimating inflation in housing rent, by using data including the Moody's/RCA Commercial Property Price Index.

The gray-haired couple sipping champagne on a beach at sunset (*Dayana Yochim, NerdWallet.com on USA Today, "Let's get real about planning: What an average retirement costs"*). Grandpa teaching the grandkids how to fish at the family lake house. Are these scenes of carefree times in retirement based on financial reality? According to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics data, which is based on 2016 figures, "older households" — defined as those run by someone 65 and older — spend an average of \$45,756 per year, or roughly \$3,800 a month. That's about \$1,000 less than the monthly average spent by all U.S. households combined. Naturally, your spending in retirement will vary based on countless variables, including the price of your preferred champagne and the annual property taxes on that lake house (if those things happen to be on your retirement vision board). Read on to learn how retirees' spending habits tend to differ from the working population, and how you can plan for your personal post-work needs. With fewer mouths to feed and no work-related costs to worry about, you may have expected retirement expenses to be even lower than the BLS data indicates. In some categories, spending does indeed decrease, even in surprising ones like food. In others areas, like health care, life becomes more expensive as you age. Here's the data, shown as a monthly breakdown of how households headed by a retirement-age person spend money, on average, in seven major categories: Housing: \$1,322 - You may be close to paying off your mortgage, but housing is the biggest spending category for all age groups — retirees included. Some costs never go away, even when a home loan is fully paid. This monthly expenditure includes property taxes, insurance, utilities, repairs and maintenance and household supplies.

Since the economic recovery began in 2010, the private sector has added 16 million jobs (*Michael B. Sauter, 24/7 Wall Street on USA Today, "Public sector jobs: States where the most people work for the government"*). At the same time, however, the number of public sector jobs has remained static. As a result, government employment as a share of total employment has declined from 17.3% to

15.2%, according to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics figures. Government employment across the country is far from evenly distributed. In some states, federal workers, as well as state and local government employees, account for anywhere between 12% and 25% of total employment. While some might expect that high government spending would also entail substantial government employment, relative to the state's workforce, the opposite tends to be true. Based on 2017 employment figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 24/7 Wall St. ranked all 50 states based on federal, state, and local government employees as a share of total employment. While states with government-friendly political environments, such as New York, Pennsylvania, and California, might spend more overall, they tend to have the fewest government jobs as a share of total state employment. Rather, sparsely-populated states, such as Wyoming, Alaska, and Montana, have relatively larger public sector workers. Martin Kohli, chief regional economist at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, explained that the primary reason for this is that government services, particularly local government jobs, exist even in small towns. Such government services provide jobs even if there are no major sources of private sector jobs. "Nationally, about one out of every 20 jobs in the country and about one out of every three government jobs is in local government education," said Kohli. "If a small town in Wyoming wants to have a school, that school is going to be a significant share of local employment," Kohli added.

The U.S. economy continued to add jobs at a solid clip in May, with nonfarm payrolls up 223,000 and the unemployment rate falling to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Friday (Jeff Cox, *CNBC*, "[Nonfarm payrolls increase by 223,000 in May, vs 188,000 estimate](#)"). Economists had been expecting payroll growth of 188,000 and the jobless rate to hold steady at 3.9 percent. The unemployment rate was last this low in April 2000. A separate level of unemployment that adds in discouraged workers and those holding part-time positions for economic reasons fell to 7.6 percent, the lowest since May 2001. A 0.1-point decline in the labor force participation rate to 62.7 percent, tied for the lowest level in 2018, contributed to the headline unemployment rate decline. The closely watched average hourly earnings metric rose 0.3 percent, as expected. That translates to an annualized rate of 2.7 percent, up 0.1 point from April. "The employment this month really underscores, once again, the robust strength of the labor market," said Steve Rick, chief economist at CUNA Mutual Group. "May showed steady momentum in jobs and certainly hit back at any worries among economists who thought hiring was beginning to finally slow after seeing last month's report." In addition to the better-than-expected payrolls for May, March's count was revised up from 135,000 to 155,000 while April ended lower from 164,000 to 159,000, for a net gain of 15,000. Job gains came from retail (31,000), health care (29,000), construction (25,000), professional and technical services (23,000) and transportation and warehousing, which added 19,000. Manufacturing also contributed 18,000 and mining grew by 6,000.

Each day, some 10,000 seniors turn 65 in the United States, and the majority of them are hoping to age in their own homes (Kate Rogers, *CNBC*, "[As the US population ages, the need for home health-care workers skyrockets](#)"). The staggering number of aging Americans has created demand for home health-care workers — from nurses to aides and caregivers. Jobs in health care have already been growing at breakneck speed. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, from 2006 through 2016 2.8 million jobs were added in the health-care sector at a rate that was seven times faster than the rest of the economy. Through 2026, the projected growth of jobs in health-care settings is at 18 percent. But the demand for home health and personal care aides will far outpace the sector's growth, with an increase of 41 percent to more than 4 million jobs. "The demand for home care and hospice continues to grow as we see a graying of the U.S. population," said Bill Dombi, president of the National Association for Home Care and Hospice, adding that both younger and older patients are pivoting ever more toward in-home care. "The shift has also been in financing from government sources — primarily through Medicare and Medicaid. In 2015, it was the first time nationally that more money was spent on home care than nursing home care. We've seen a culture and financing shift toward home and community-based care." Opportunities in the industry range from the highest level of skilled nurses and therapists through paraprofessionals, including home health and personal care aides, Dombi said. Lower-skilled positions may not require medical degrees, but they do often require training and a competency test.

The number of small companies raising wages hit a record high in the U.S. this month (James Freeman, *The Wall Street Journal*, "[A Record Month for Raises](#)"). That's according to the latest National Federation of Independent Business employment survey, due out later today. A full 35% of owners of small firms report increasing labor compensation, the highest percentage since NFIB started asking about it in 1986. Companies have been looking to increase hiring and are paying more to attract scarce workers. "Reports of employment gains remain strong among small businesses. Owners reported adding a net 0.20 workers per firm on average, slower than earlier in the year but strong. The availability of qualified workers is impeding the growth in employment. Job openings are at record high levels," adds NFIB Chief Economist William Dunkelberg. NFIB also finds that 23% of business owners now cite the difficulty of finding qualified workers as their "single most important business problem." This is just one percentage point below the record high set in 2000. The labor shortage is most acute in the construction industry, with 57% of such firms reporting current job openings. Other industries where wages are also rising to attract workers include transportation, travel, communication, utilities and manufacturing. "Labor markets are very tight, for both skilled and unskilled workers," adds Mr. Dunkelberg, who is expecting a further decline in the unemployment rate when the Labor Department on Friday issues its monthly report on the broader U.S. economy. The NFIB economist is expecting the government will report "job creation around 170,000, absent a surprise increase in the labor force participation rate." Such a surprise would be most welcome. It would likely signal that discouraged workers who left the job market during the recent era of sluggish economic growth are rejoining the workforce to seize new opportunities.

A thank you video from CNBC's Hampton Pearson thanking OPUBSS staff, Stacey Standish and Eleni Karageorge, for their help over the past decade in the Employment Situation lock-up room (*CNBC*, <https://www.cnbc.com/video/2018/06/01/hampton-pearson-retirement.html>).

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