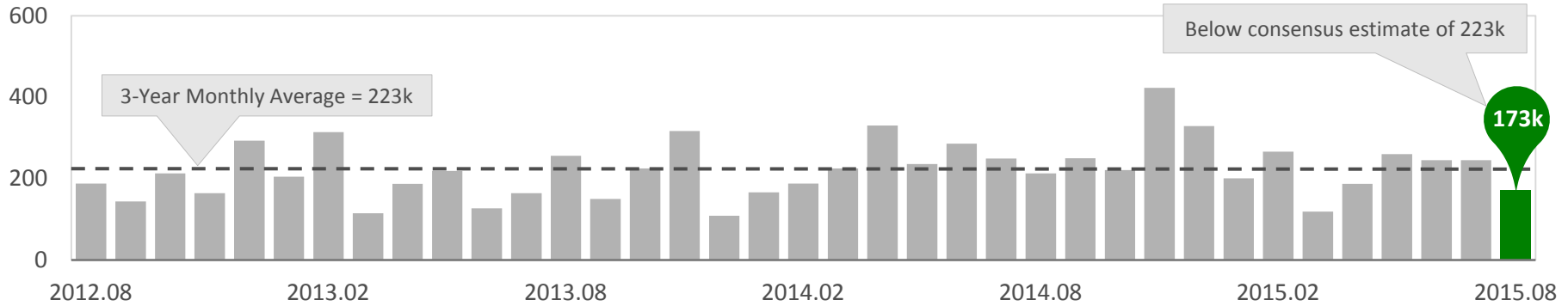


THE TOP LINE: U.S. EMPLOYMENT REPORT

August 2015 (Released 09.04.15)

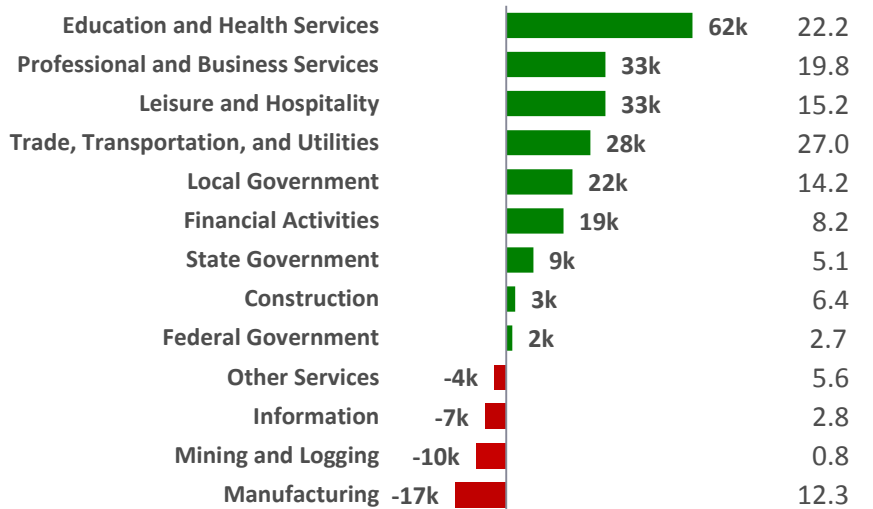
JOB GROWTH

Monthly Change in Nonfarm Payroll Employment, Thousands



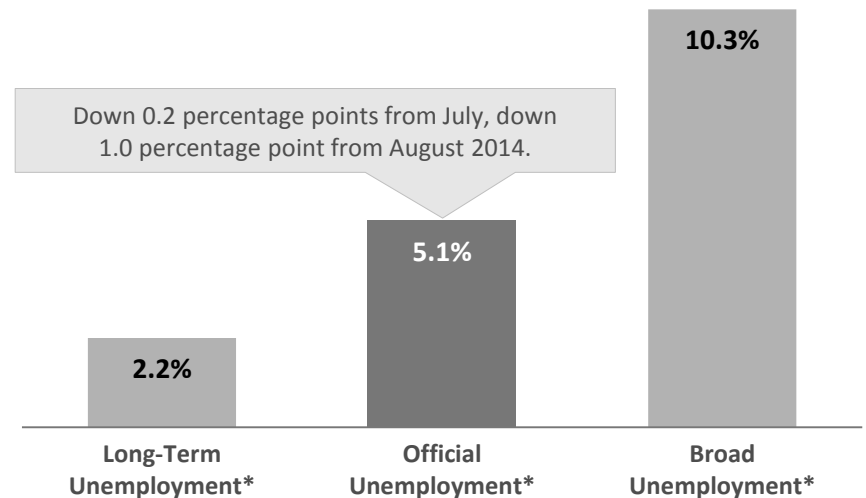
JOB GROWTH BY SECTOR

Monthly Change in Payroll Employment, Thousands



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Percentage



* Long-term unemployment accounts for those that have been unemployed for 15 weeks or more (U1); Official unemployment accounts for all those unemployed (U3); Broad unemployment accounts for all those unemployed plus all persons marginally attached to the labor force and those employed part-time for economic reasons (U6).

THE TOP LINE: U.S. EMPLOYMENT REPORT

August 2015 (Released 09.04.15)

Top Line

The U.S. labor market continued to tighten in August. Although overall job growth fell shy of market expectations, other indicators suggested solid labor market momentum, including a decline in the unemployment rate, an uptick in the average workweek, and an increase in wages. The report strengthens the case for a September rate hike, though global economic uncertainty and volatility may cause the Fed to hold off until later in the year.

173k

Change in Payroll Employment

The U.S. economy added 173,000 jobs in August, down from 245,000 (revised) in July and below expectations. However, officials point out that seasonal issues often produce low initial jobs estimates in August. Will softer August numbers be revised up next month, as has been in the case in recent years?

5.1%

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point to 5.1% in August, its lowest level since April 2008. This decline brings the unemployment rate in line with the 5-5.2% range that the Fed considers consistent with low but steady inflation, and may increase the pressure to raise interest rates this year.

0.1 hr

Change in Average Workweek

The average workweek for all private nonfarm employees ticked up to 34.6 hours in August, the first monthly increase since October 2014.

0.3%

Change in Average Hourly Earnings

Average hourly earnings ticked up by 0.3% to \$25.09 in August and are up a modest 2.2% from one year ago. Will sustained tightening in the labor market and recent decisions by several state and local governments to raise the minimum wage accelerate wage growth in the coming months?