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Statement of

Erica L. Groshen
Commissioner
Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Nonfarm payroll employment increased by 195,000 in June and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 7.6 percent. Over the prior 12 months, job gains averaged 182,000 per month. In June, employment increased in leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, retail trade, health care, and financial activities.

Employment in leisure and hospitality rose by 75,000 over the month. Monthly job growth in this industry has averaged 55,000 thus far in 2013, almost twice the average gain of 30,000 per month in 2012. In June, employment continued to rise in food services and drinking places (+52,000) and in amusements, gambling, and recreation (+19,000).

Professional and business services added 53,000 jobs in June. Job gains occurred in management and technical consulting services (+8,000) and in computer systems design (+7,000).

Employment in temporary help services continued to trend up (+10,000).

In June, retail trade added 37,000 jobs. Within this industry, employment rose over the month in building material and garden supply stores (+9,000) and in motor vehicle and parts dealers (+8,000). Wholesale trade employment continued to trend up in June (+11,000).

Health care added 20,000 jobs over the month. Employment continued to trend up in ambulatory health care services (+13,000). A gain of 5,000 jobs in hospitals followed a loss of 8,000 jobs in May.

Employment in financial activities rose by 17,000 in June. Over the month, 6,000 jobs were added in both credit intermediation and related activities and in insurance carriers and related activities.

Federal government employment continued to trend down in June (-5,000) and has declined by 65,000 over the past 12 months. Employment in other major industries changed little in June.

Average hourly earnings of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 10 cents in June. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have risen by 51 cents, or 2.2 percent. From May 2012 to May 2013, the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased by 1.4 percent.

Turning now to our survey of households, the unemployment rate was unchanged at 7.6 percent in June, and the number of unemployed persons remained at 11.8 million. Both of these measures have been relatively flat since February. The labor force participation rate, at 63.5 percent, and the employment-population ratio, at 58.7 percent, were little changed in June.

The portion of the unemployed who had been jobless for 27 weeks or more continued to trend down, reaching 36.7 percent. Among the employed, those working part time for economic reasons rose by 322,000 to 8.2 million, nearly the same level as a year earlier.

Among persons who were neither working nor looking for work in June, 2.6 million were classified as marginally attached to the labor force, about the same as a year earlier. These individuals had not looked for work in the 4 weeks prior to the survey but wanted a job, were available for work, and had looked for a job within the last 12 months. The number of discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached who believed that no jobs were available for them, was 1.0 million in June, up from 821,000 a year earlier.

In summary, nonfarm payroll employment increased by 195,000 in June, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 7.6 percent.