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Statement of

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Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 211,000 in November, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.0 percent. Job gains occurred in construction, professional and technical services, and health care. Employment declined in mining and information.

Incorporating revisions for September and October, which increased nonfarm payroll employment by 35,000, monthly job gains have averaged 218,000 over the past 3 months. In the 12 months prior to November, employment growth averaged 237,000 per month.

Construction employment rose by 46,000 in November; more than half of the gain was among residential specialty trade contractors (+26,000). Job growth in construction has picked up in recent months. Over the year, construction has added 259,000 jobs.

Employment in professional and technical services rose by 28,000 in November. Within this industry, accounting and bookkeeping services added 11,000 jobs, and employment continued to trend up in computer systems design and related services (+5,000).

Health care employment increased by 24,000 over the month, following a large gain in October (+51,000). Hospitals added 13,000 jobs in November. Over the past 12 months, health care employment has risen by 470,000.

Employment in food services and drinking places continued to trend up over the month (+32,000). Employment in this industry has grown by 374,000 over the year.

Retail trade employment continued on an upward trend in November (+31,000) and has risen by 284,000 over the year. November job gains occurred in general merchandise stores (+12,000) and motor vehicle and parts dealers (+9,000). Over the past 12 months, these two industries have added 85,000 jobs and 71,000 jobs, respectively.

Mining employment declined by 11,000 over the month. Since a recent peak in December 2014, mining employment has declined by 123,000, or 14 percent. Three-fourths of the job losses over this period have been in support activities for mining.

Employment in information was down by 12,000 in November, as motion picture and sound recording industries shed 13,000

jobs. Employment in motion picture and sound recording industries has shown little change on net over the year.

Average hourly earnings of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 4 cents in November to \$25.25, following a 9-cent increase in October. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have risen by 2.3 percent. From October 2014 to October 2015, the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) was up by 0.1 percentage point (on a seasonally adjusted basis).

Turning now to data from the survey of households, the unemployment rate held at 5.0 percent in November, and the number of unemployed, at 7.9 million, was essentially unchanged. These measures are down by 0.8 percentage point and 1.1 million, respectively, over the year. Among the unemployed in November, 25.7 percent, or 2.1 million, had been unemployed for 27 weeks or more.

The labor force participation rate, at 62.5 percent, changed little in November. The employment-population ratio, at 59.3 percent, was unchanged over the month and has shown little movement since October 2014.

Among those employed, the number working part time for economic reasons, also referred to as involuntary part-time workers, rose by 319,000 in November to 6.1 million, following declines in September and October. Over the longer term, the

number of involuntary part-time workers has been trending down since 2011. (Involuntary part-time workers are those who would have preferred full-time employment but were working part time because their hours had been cut back or because they were unable to find full-time work.)

Among people who were neither working nor looking for work in November, 1.7 million were classified as marginally attached to the labor force, down from 2.1 million a year earlier. The number of discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached who believed that no jobs were available for them, was 594,000 in November, little different from a year earlier. (The marginally attached are individuals who 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.)

In summary, nonfarm payroll employment rose by 211,000 in November, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.0 percent.