

Revisions in the Establishment Survey Data

Effective with the release of The Employment Situation for January 2016 on February 5, 2016, the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey will introduce revisions to nonfarm payroll employment, hours, and earnings data to reflect the annual benchmark adjustment for March 2015 and updated seasonal adjustment factors. Not seasonally adjusted data beginning with April 2014 and seasonally adjusted data beginning with January 2011 are subject to revision. Consistent with standard practice, some historical data may be subject to minor revisions resulting from issues identified during the benchmark process.

Upcoming Changes to the Household Survey

Effective with the release of The Employment Situation for January 2016 on February 5, 2016, new population controls will be used in the Current Population Survey (CPS) estimation process. These new controls reflect the annual updating of intercensal population estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau. In accordance with usual practice, historical data will not be revised to incorporate the new controls; consequently, household survey data for January 2016 will not be directly comparable with data for December 2015 or earlier periods. A table showing the effects of the new controls on the major labor force series will be included in the January 2016 release.

Upcoming Changes to The Employment Situation News Release

Effective with the release of January 2016 data on February 5, 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics will introduce changes to The Employment Situation news release table B-1.

The establishment survey will publish additional industry employment data with the first preliminary release of monthly estimates. Employment Situation table B-1 will include 27 additional industries for both not seasonally adjusted and seasonally adjusted employment. A sample of the new table B-1 is available on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/ces/cesnewtableb1.htm.

Revision of Seasonally Adjusted Household Survey Data

At the end of each calendar year, BLS routinely updates the seasonal adjustment factors for the labor force series derived from the Current Population Survey (CPS), or household survey. As a result of this process, seasonally adjusted data for January 2011 through November 2015 were subject to revision.

Table A shows the unemployment rates for January 2015 through November 2015, as first published and as revised. The revisions to seasonal adjustment did not change the overall civilian unemployment rate for any month of 2015. Revised seasonally adjusted data for other major labor force series beginning in December 2014 appear in table B.

An article describing the seasonal adjustment methodology for the household survey data and revised data for January 2015 through November 2015 is available at www.bls.gov/cps/seasonal-adjustment-methodology-2016.pdf.

Historical data for the household series contained in the A tables of this release can be accessed at www.bls.gov/cps/cpsatabs.htm. Revised historical seasonally adjusted data are available at www.bls.gov/cps/data.htm and <http://download.bls.gov/pub/time.series/ln/>.

**Table A. Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates in 2015 and changes due to revision
January - November 2015**

Month	As first published	As revised	Change
January	5.7	5.7	0.0
February	5.5	5.5	.0
March	5.5	5.5	.0
April	5.4	5.4	.0
May	5.5	5.5	.0
June	5.3	5.3	.0
July	5.3	5.3	.0
August	5.1	5.1	.0
September	5.1	5.1	.0
October	5.0	5.0	.0
November	5.0	5.0	.0