

Healthcare Workplace Economy July 2011

Jobs Report Summary for the Healthcare Industry Based on the BLS Report with June 2011 data

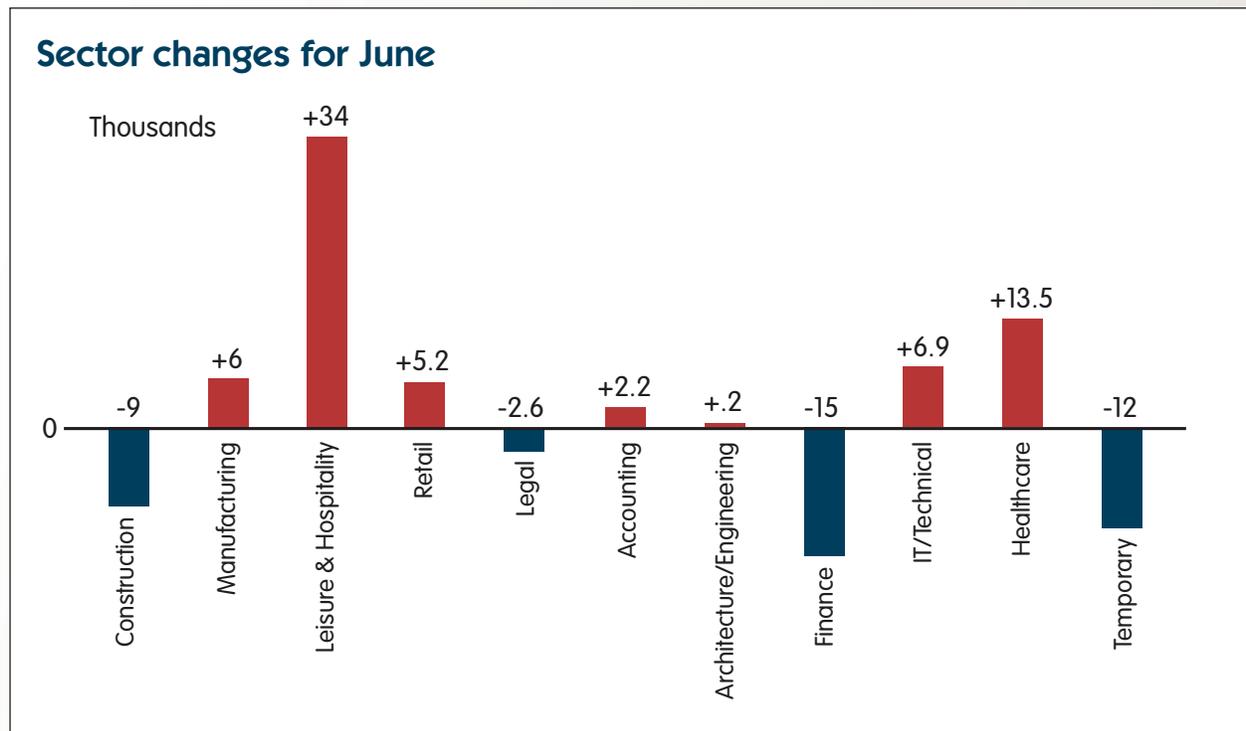
The unemployment rate rose yet again to 9.2% in June 2011. While many were dismayed by the BLS report this month, this rise in the unemployment rate was predicted as more job seekers enter the market. The number of discouraged workers decreased by 225,000 from the year before thereby increasing the number of eligible workers in the market.

A total of 18,000 jobs were added in June, which was even lower than the revised number of gains in May of 25,000. April's job gains were also revised down to 217,000. Before the words "double dip" are uttered in response to this month's report, it's important to remember this was predicted. A

more appropriate description thus far might be a "bumpy road." Even still, the economy is moving slower than needed to recover as well as keep up with population growth. To really decrease the unemployment rate, approximately 300,000 jobs should be added each month. The government sector was expected to contract leaving the growth to the private sector. The public sector shed 39,000 jobs in June.

Some industries faring better than others:

- **Healthcare:** Healthcare added 13,500 jobs in June with the largest gains seen in ambulatory health care services. On average, the sector has added 24,000 jobs a month in the past year. Job demand within the healthcare sector spans all skill levels with more discussion about public healthcare calling attention to the need for more registered nurses and physician assistants.



- **Manufacturing:** Manufacturing only added 6,000 jobs in June 2011. Economists expect this sector to pick up in the near future as delays from the Japan earthquake and tsunami subside. Fabricated metal products added 8,000 jobs while wood products lost 5,000 jobs. President Obama's recent comments on the job market indicate the manufacturing sector is top of mind for the administration as they look to build initiatives focused on combining manufacturing with new technology.
- **Retail & Leisure and Hospitality:** Both retail and leisure and hospitality fared surprisingly well in June comparatively speaking. Employment within leisure and hospitality was strong adding 34,000 jobs. Retail trade added 5,200 jobs. According to the BLS, leisure and hospitality has grown by 279,000 jobs since a recent low in January 2010.
- **Professional and business services:** In total, professional and business services added 12,000 jobs in June. The sector as a whole remains one of the most watched industries, as it has been a leading indicator of overall private sector growth.
- **Temporary:** The temporary sector saw little change yet again in June and the sector shed 12,000 jobs. As long as the private sector contracts, temporary growth will remain close to its current level until demand picks up. Temporary jobs continue to be the leading indicator of the future job market.

Of interest

Top 5 security threats in healthcare

Source: www.healthcareitnews.com

With the increase of mobile devices, embedded devices, virtualization software, social media and the consumerization of IT there are a few security threats that the healthcare industry needs to consider.

There's a growing number of physicians, nurses, clinicians, specialists, administrators and staff that now use the above within their daily work activities – which can bring about comprised infrastructures, strained bandwidth and increased exposure to

viruses. Hospital facilities need to incorporate security solutions and network access control (NAC) solutions for if/when a virus breaks out.

Virtualization from desktops to servers also poses the same threat to networks as any connected device. Where there are mobile devices and tablets there are social media platforms. By having the proper security measures in place, the infected device can be detected in a timely manner ensuring further infection can be prevented. Once again with the growing number of physicians and employees needing access to a facility's network this increases the security threat – a solid NAC system can help head off each threat as it occurs.

Healthcare IT Industry Shies Away from Cloud Adoption

Source: www.eweek.com

While healthcare organizations have been taking small steps toward using cloud-based applications, the industry as a whole has been slow to fully adopt a comprehensive cloud computing strategy, according to a new Cloud Computing Tracking Poll by IT services provider CDW. The reasons behind the tentative cloud computing planning in healthcare revolve around concerns about data security, privacy and cloud management. In addition, HIPAA compliance and other regulatory requirements increase the financial risk of data breaches and loss to healthcare organizations.

By using cloud computing, healthcare organizations can consolidate their IT infrastructure and reduce IT energy costs while getting access to documents from anywhere. Currently, the healthcare industry is using hosted applications for EHRs (electronic health records) as well as for practice or hospital management; however, these services fail to meet the criteria to be considered “cloud services.”

Cloud applications that are being used involve conferencing, collaboration, e-mail and online learning, as well as cloud storage services and productivity suites. Although healthcare companies have been slow to adopt public cloud applications, they are using private clouds which reduce IT costs and increase flexibility.