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Small Business Employment Growth Slowed in January

Compensation, Hours Worked Declined

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- U.S. small business employment gained 10,000 jobs in January, although the pace of growth slowed slightly. Meanwhile, hourly employees made slightly less money and worked fewer hours. Overall, small business revenue declined 0.5 percent in December.

Those are among the findings of the monthly [Intuit Inc.](#) (Nasdaq: INTU) [Small Business Employment and Revenue Indexes](#). The figures also revealed:

- Employment increased 0.04 percent from December to January.
- Average monthly compensation fell 0.02 percent in January, a decrease of 50 cents from December.
- Average monthly hours worked by hourly employees declined 0.2 percent in January, a decrease of approximately 12 minutes from December.

The employment index is based on data from [Intuit Online Payroll](#) and [QuickBooks Online Payroll](#), covering the period from Dec. 24 through Jan. 23.

“Businesses with 1 to 19 employees now employ 20.3 million people,” said [Susan Woodward](#), the economist who works with Intuit to create the indexes. “That number is still below the 21.2 million they employed in March 2007, but it is a welcome change from the employment stall from May through October.”

Slight Declines in Hours Worked, Compensation

Hourly employees worked an average of 107.4 hours in January, which is a 12-minute decrease from December’s figure of 107.2 hours, making for a 24.7-hour work week.

Average monthly pay for small business employees also dropped slightly, falling 50 cents to \$2,703 in January. The equivalent yearly wages would be about \$32,400. This average includes wages that small business owners pay to themselves.

Strong Regional Small Business Employment Growth

Small business employment increased in 24 of the 38 states tracked by Intuit’s Small Business Employment Index. Ten states showed employment declines, while four remained flat. Kentucky saw the largest employment increase in January, at 0.3 percent. The largest decline was in Pennsylvania, at 0.13 percent.

state	change
Alabama	0
Arizona	0.14
Arkansas	0.03
California	0.07
Colorado	0.07
Connecticut	-0.04
Florida	0.12
Georgia	0.07
Hawaii	0.03
Idaho	0.05
Illinois	-0.02
Indiana	0.02
Iowa	0
Kansas	0
Kentucky	0.3
Louisiana	-0.02
Maryland	0.09
Massachusetts	-0.04
Michigan	-0.05
Minnesota	0.14
Mississippi	0.03
Missouri	-0.1
Nevada	0.14
New Jersey	-0.04
New Mexico	0.07
New York	0.08
North Carolina	0.07
Ohio	0
Oklahoma	0.02
Oregon	0.17
Pennsylvania	-0.13
South Carolina	-0.05
Tennessee	0.03
Texas	0.08
Utah	-0.05
Virginia	0.02
Washington	0.17
Wisconsin	0.04

Small Business Employment results were mixed for the states in which Intuit Online

Payroll and QuickBooks Online Payroll has more than 1,000 small business firms. The month-to-month changes are seasonally adjusted and informative about the overall economy.

Small Business Revenue Continues Decline

The December revenue index showed overall small business revenue decreased 0.5 percent on a per-business basis. Continuing the trend from December, all industries saw revenue decline except for the construction and “other services” sectors, the latter of which covers non-professional services.

The real estate services industry showed the largest decline at 1 percent. The retail industry followed, dropping by 0.8 percent.

This index is based on data from [QuickBooks Online](#), covering the period from Dec. 1-31.

About The Intuit Small Business Indexes

The Intuit Small Business Indexes provide unique, near real-time information each month on the activity of the smallest businesses in the U.S. in terms of revenue, hiring and compensation trends. The Employment Index is based on anonymized, non-identifiable aggregated data from approximately 200,000 small business employers, a subset of users that use [Intuit Online Payroll](#) and [QuickBooks Online Payroll](#). The Revenue Index is based on anonymized, non-identifiable aggregated data from approximately 150,000 small businesses, a subset of users that use Intuit’s [QuickBooks Online](#) financial management offering and are matched in [Dun & Bradstreet](#)’s small business industry classifications. Together, the indexes provide a more complete picture of the economic health of the nation’s small businesses. More information on the Intuit Small Business Indexes is available at [index.intuit.com](#).

About Intuit Inc.

[Intuit Inc.](#) creates business and financial management solutions that simplify the business of life for small businesses, consumers and accounting professionals.

Its flagship products and services include [QuickBooks®](#), [Quicken®](#) and [TurboTax®](#), which make it easier to manage [small businesses](#) and [payroll processing](#), [personal finance](#), and [tax preparation and filing](#). [Mint.com](#) provides a fresh, easy and intelligent way for people to manage their money, while [Demandforce®](#) offers marketing and communication tools for small businesses. [ProSeries®](#) and [Lacerte®](#) are Intuit’s leading tax preparation offerings for professional accountants.

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