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Small Business Employment Declines in July

Construction Revenues Increase While Overall Revenues Decrease

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- U.S. small business employment declined by 10,000 jobs in July, while average compensation and hours worked also dropped. Small business revenues saw an overall decline of 0.3 percent in June, with the exception of the construction industry, which recorded a 0.2 percent increase.

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

- Employment dropped 0.05 percent in July.
- Average monthly compensation decreased 0.2 percent in July, with average monthly pay reaching the equivalent of \$2,692, down \$7 from June.
- Average monthly hours worked by hourly employees decreased by 0.3 percent in July, which is equivalent to 107.6 hours, down 18 minutes from June.

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

“The recovery for small business has been slower and more bumpy than for big business,” said [Susan Woodward](#), the economist who worked with Intuit to create the indexes. “Total employment has risen 5.1 percent from its bottom in January 2010, but employment for businesses with fewer than 20 employees has risen only 2 percent from its bottom in March 2010.

“Small business revenues have declined 2.5 percent on a per-business basis from their peak in November 2012. It’s unclear why revenues are dropping across industries. But we can attribute the decline in revenues per business in the real estate sector partly to more real estate agents entering the market, taking business from existing agents.”

Decrease in Hours Worked, Compensation

Small business hourly employees worked an average of 107.6 hours in July, making for a 24.8-hour work week, down slightly from June’s figure of 107.9 hours.

Average monthly pay for small business employees decreased from \$2,699 in June to \$2,692 in July. The equivalent yearly wages would be about \$32,300.

Small Business Employment Changes Slight and Sporadic

Of the 36 states tracked by Intuit’s Small Business Employment Index, 22 showed

employment gains, while 13 saw declines and one remained flat. Missouri saw the greatest employment gain, at 0.12 percent, while Oklahoma saw the greatest decline at 0.07 percent.

By census divisions, the Pacific region, which includes California, saw a decline of 0.01 percent. The rest of the divisions saw gains, with the exception of the South Atlantic, which remained flat.

Small Business Revenue Continues Overall Decline

The June revenue index showed a 0.3 percent drop in overall small business revenue on a per-business basis.

The accommodation and food services sector led the decline among industries tracked, falling 0.6 percent. The retail industry followed with a 0.4 percent drop.

Conversely, construction increased by 0.2 percent. This index is based on data from [QuickBooks Online](#), covering the period from June 1-30.

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](#).

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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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