

News Release

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Release #6091

Online Labor Demand Declined in April

- In April, most states and MSAs experienced a decrease in the number of online job ads
- Majority of occupations showed losses over the month

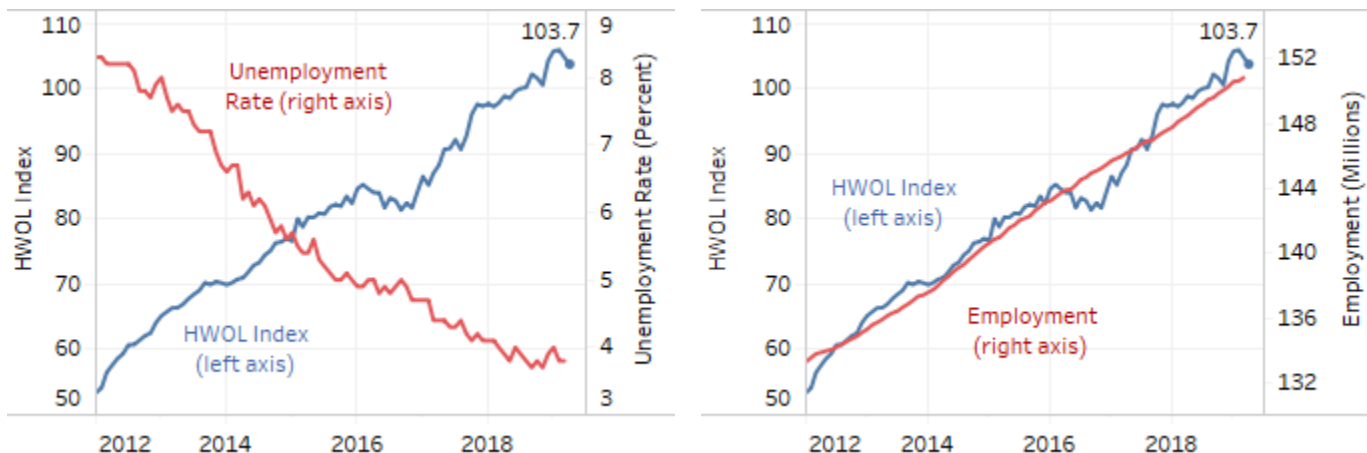
NEW YORK, May 8, 2019 ...The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine® (HWOL) Index declined in April. The Index now stands at 103.7 (July 2018=100), down from 104.8 in March. The Index declined 1.0 percent from the prior month, but is up 4.9 percent from a year ago.

In the Midwest, Illinois declined 0.9 percent, and Ohio fell 1.9 percent. In the Northeast, both New York and Pennsylvania declined 0.7 percent. In the South, Texas declined 0.7 percent and Florida fell 0.4 percent. In the West, California declined 1.4 percent and Washington dropped 0.3 percent.

The Professional occupational category saw gains in Legal (0.5 percent), and losses in Architecture and Engineering (-3.5 percent). The Services/Production occupational category saw gains in Protective Services (5.2 percent) and losses in Transportation (-3.5 percent), Healthcare Support (-2.8 percent) and Construction (-2.8 percent).

Help Wanted OnLine™ (HWOL) Index: United States, seasonally adjusted, April 2019

[July 2018=100]



Sources: The Conference Board, Bureau of Labor Statistics
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The release schedule, national historic table and technical note are available on The Conference Board website, <http://www.conference-board.org/data/helpwantedonline.cfm>. The underlying data for The Conference Board HWOL is collected by CEB, Inc.

Table 1. HWOL Index: Selected areas, seasonally adjusted, April 2019

[July 2018=100]

Area	HWOL Index ¹			Percent Change		
	Feb. 2019 ^r	Mar. 2019 ^r	Apr. 2019 ^p	1-month		12-month
				Feb. 2019-Mar. 2019	Mar. 2019-Apr. 2019	Apr. 2018-Apr. 2019
United States.....	105.9	104.8	103.7	-1.0	-1.0	4.9
Census Divisions²						
New England.....	109.1	108.4	107.9	-0.7	-0.5	9.8
Middle Atlantic.....	106.3	104.6	104.0	-1.6	-0.6	6.7
East North Central.....	103.7	102.2	100.7	-1.4	-1.5	1.7
West North Central.....	104.9	103.8	102.8	-1.1	-0.9	5.2
South Atlantic.....	107.5	106.8	106.3	-0.6	-0.5	7.3
East South Central.....	105.0	103.7	102.6	-1.2	-1.1	4.5
West South Central.....	105.1	103.5	102.6	-1.5	-0.9	3.4
Mountain.....	106.3	104.6	104.0	-1.6	-0.6	6.7
Pacific.....	105.1	103.4	102.2	-1.6	-1.2	3.4
States and MSAs³						
Alabama.....	105.1	107.7	106.7	2.5	-0.9	7.2
Birmingham.....	106.0	107.9	104.8	1.7	-2.8	9.1
Alaska.....	108.7	107.0	107.1	-1.6	0.1	8.3
Arizona.....	107.8	107.6	105.9	-0.2	-1.6	7.2
Phoenix.....	110.5	110.3	108.3	-0.2	-1.9	10.2
Tucson.....	104.1	104.3	102.6	0.2	-1.7	3.4
Arkansas.....	100.1	98.0	95.2	-2.1	-2.8	-1.5
California.....	102.8	102.0	100.5	-0.8	-1.4	1.8
Los Angeles.....	104.4	103.9	103.1	-0.4	-0.8	4.5
Riverside.....	100.8	98.4	95.5	-2.4	-3.0	-5.1
Sacramento.....	101.2	101.5	100.0	0.3	-1.5	0.2
San Diego.....	102.9	100.9	101.3	-1.9	0.4	1.4
San Francisco.....	104.5	103.2	100.7	-1.2	-2.5	4.5
San Jose.....	105.7	106.7	104.0	1.0	-2.6	5.7
Colorado.....	107.9	107.7	105.8	-0.2	-1.7	6.3
Denver.....	106.7	107.0	104.6	0.3	-2.3	4.0
Connecticut.....	109.7	108.9	108.8	-0.8	-0.1	10.8
Hartford.....	113.4	113.3	113.5	-0.1	0.1	19.2
Washington, DC.....	108.3	108.5	108.8	0.2	0.3	8.9
Delaware.....	107.7	108.1	108.2	0.4	0.1	8.9
Florida.....	104.3	103.5	103.1	-0.8	-0.4	4.0
Jacksonville.....	105.6	104.3	102.5	-1.2	-1.7	3.2
Miami.....	103.9	104.2	102.5	0.3	-1.7	3.6
Orlando.....	107.1	107.2	108.4	0.1	1.1	12.7
Tampa.....	102.7	103.5	104.3	0.7	0.8	4.3
Georgia.....	110.0	108.2	106.1	-1.6	-1.9	7.5
Atlanta.....	108.4	106.8	104.5	-1.4	-2.2	6.1
Hawaii.....	107.1	105.2	102.2	-1.8	-2.9	2.6

Area	HWOL Index ¹			Percent Change		
				1-month		12-month
	Feb. 2019 ^r	Mar. 2019 ^r	Apr. 2019 ^p	Feb. 2019-Mar. 2019	Mar. 2019-Apr. 2019	Apr. 2018-Apr. 2019
Honolulu	107.9	107.4	105.1	-0.4	-2.1	4.2
Idaho	101.7	101.0	101.7	-0.7	0.8	1.0
Illinois	103.1	102.5	101.5	-0.6	-0.9	4.5
Chicago.....	103.9	103.3	102.5	-0.6	-0.8	5.1
Indiana	101.8	100.6	98.7	-1.2	-1.9	0.6
Indianapolis.....	104.8	103.2	102.4	-1.6	-0.8	3.7
Iowa	105.9	104.5	102.3	-1.4	-2.1	4.2
Kansas	104.1	103.6	102.5	-0.4	-1.1	6.2
Kentucky.....	106.3	106.3	105.3	0.0	-1.0	7.5
Louisville	106.0	104.1	101.8	-1.8	-2.2	3.3
Louisiana	104.3	104.2	103.9	-0.1	-0.3	1.7
New Orleans.....	106.1	107.5	108.7	1.3	1.1	6.5
Maine	109.7	108.6	109.8	-1.0	1.1	6.4
Maryland	105.7	104.2	103.3	-1.4	-0.9	3.5
Baltimore	107.4	105.1	103.8	-2.1	-1.3	3.7
Massachusetts.....	107.4	107.0	106.3	-0.4	-0.7	8.7
Boston.....	109.3	108.7	108.0	-0.5	-0.6	11.1
Michigan.....	98.7	99.0	97.5	0.2	-1.5	-2.3
Detroit.....	100.6	99.9	97.0	-0.7	-3.0	-2.9
Minnesota	103.2	102.2	103.1	-0.9	0.9	7.0
Minneapolis-St. Paul.....	105.9	103.6	103.6	-2.2	0.0	7.2
Mississippi	96.9	97.3	97.3	0.4	0.0	-2.5
Missouri.....	107.7	107.1	105.6	-0.6	-1.4	6.3
Kansas City	105.9	106.5	104.0	0.5	-2.3	6.5
St. Louis.....	108.1	106.8	103.8	-1.2	-2.8	4.4
Montana.....	90.3	90.2	93.8	-0.1	4.0	-10.2
Nebraska	105.3	103.5	100.6	-1.7	-2.9	0.9
Nevada	102.2	102.4	101.1	0.2	-1.3	1.8
Las Vegas.....	104.5	106.0	105.4	1.4	-0.5	7.8
New Hampshire	112.7	110.4	108.6	-2.0	-1.6	8.4
New Jersey	108.2	105.0	104.5	-2.9	-0.4	6.9
New Mexico.....	108.8	108.3	107.0	-0.5	-1.2	6.5
New York	105.3	102.9	102.1	-2.3	-0.7	4.9
Buffalo.....	101.6	99.7	99.4	-1.9	-0.3	2.1
New York.....	106.5	103.3	102.4	-2.9	-0.9	5.2
Rochester.....	106.4	105.6	108.4	-0.8	2.7	13.6
North Carolina	109.8	108.5	107.9	-1.2	-0.6	10.8
Charlotte	112.8	113.1	112.5	0.3	-0.5	15.7
North Dakota	101.3	103.0	102.2	1.7	-0.8	3.0
Ohio.....	104.1	100.8	98.9	-3.2	-1.9	-2.6
Cincinnati	107.5	105.3	101.9	-2.1	-3.1	2.8
Cleveland.....	102.0	99.5	100.5	-2.4	1.0	-2.9
Columbus	104.0	102.7	99.4	-1.2	-3.3	-5.0
Oklahoma.....	99.8	97.9	96.4	-2.0	-1.5	-2.0

Area	HWOL Index ¹			Percent Change		
				1-month		12-month
	Feb. 2019 ^r	Mar. 2019 ^r	Apr. 2019 ^p	Feb. 2019-Mar. 2019	Mar. 2019-Apr. 2019	Apr. 2018-Apr. 2019
Oklahoma City	100.6	97.5	94.9	-3.1	-2.7	-4.3
Oregon	104.6	102.5	101.4	-2.0	-1.1	2.2
Portland	107.4	105.0	102.8	-2.2	-2.1	4.4
Pennsylvania.....	105.9	105.6	104.8	-0.3	-0.7	7.6
Philadelphia.....	109.5	109.2	108.2	-0.3	-0.9	10.5
Pittsburgh.....	104.0	103.9	102.5	-0.1	-1.4	7.1
Rhode Island.....	108.3	109.3	108.5	1.0	-0.7	13.4
Providence	108.5	108.5	108.7	0.0	0.2	11.4
South Carolina	106.4	106.3	104.5	-0.1	-1.8	5.0
South Dakota	101.4	98.2	96.8	-3.2	-1.4	-4.1
Tennessee	106.1	102.6	101.2	-3.3	-1.4	3.9
Memphis	100.7	98.7	97.3	-2.0	-1.5	1.1
Nashville.....	105.6	102.3	101.6	-3.1	-0.7	5.7
Texas	106.0	104.5	103.8	-1.4	-0.7	4.6
Austin.....	105.9	107.2	106.6	1.3	-0.6	7.8
Dallas	108.2	107.8	107.1	-0.3	-0.7	8.3
Houston	107.5	106.3	104.1	-1.2	-2.0	6.4
San Antonio.....	105.2	105.0	104.1	-0.2	-0.8	3.2
Utah	102.8	101.7	100.5	-1.1	-1.2	2.9
Salt Lake City	105.8	104.7	102.6	-1.0	-2.1	4.8
Vermont	112.0	112.5	110.4	0.5	-1.9	11.0
Virginia	109.4	109.3	109.2	-0.1	-0.1	9.8
Richmond.....	108.4	108.3	107.4	-0.1	-0.8	9.4
Virginia Beach.....	109.9	108.6	106.1	-1.2	-2.3	5.7
Washington	112.4	107.6	107.3	-4.3	-0.3	7.5
Seattle-Tacoma	113.9	109.6	110.5	-3.8	0.8	12.6
West Virginia	100.8	101.7	103.0	0.9	1.3	3.4
Wisconsin	108.3	107.6	106.3	-0.6	-1.2	9.7
Milwaukee.....	106.3	107.3	107.4	0.9	0.1	10.1
Wyoming	99.3	96.2	94.5	-3.2	-1.7	-8.7

Source: The Conference Board

p=Preliminary

r=Revised

1. Data are preliminary and subject to monthly revisions
2. Census Divisions defined by the U.S. Census Bureau
3. Metropolitan areas are based on 2005 OMB county-based MSA definitions

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Table 2. HWOL Index: Occupations, seasonally adjusted, April 2019

[July 2018=100]

SOC ²	Occupation ³	HWOL Index ¹			Percent Change		
					1-month		12-month
		Feb. 2019 ^f	Mar. 2019 ^f	Apr. 2019 ^p	Feb. 2019-Mar. 2019	Mar. 2019-Apr. 2019	Apr. 2018-Apr. 2019
	Total	105.9	104.8	103.7	-1.0	-1.0	4.9
11	Management.....	107.0	105.7	104.0	-1.2	-1.6	7.1
13	Business and financial operations.....	107.1	106.3	105.4	-0.7	-0.8	7.3
15	Computer and mathematical science	113.9	113.0	111.0	-0.8	-1.8	14.7
17	Architecture and engineering	110.3	109.8	106.0	-0.4	-3.5	9.3
19	Life, physical, and social science	103.0	103.9	104.0	0.9	0.1	8.0
21	Community and social services.....	106.8	107.8	106.0	0.9	-1.7	8.6
23	Legal	105.4	105.4	105.9	0.0	0.5	11.7
25	Education, training, and library	105.9	103.0	102.2	-2.7	-0.8	4.8
27	Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media	100.9	101.7	99.3	0.8	-2.4	2.0
29	Healthcare practitioners and technical	105.8	105.3	105.0	-0.4	-0.3	1.8
31	Healthcare support	114.1	113.3	110.1	-0.7	-2.8	9.8
33	Protective service.....	97.5	98.8	103.9	1.4	5.2	7.7
35	Food preparation and serving related	104.7	105.0	104.7	0.3	-0.3	5.1
37	Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	103.4	100.7	98.3	-2.7	-2.3	0.2
39	Personal care and service	96.8	95.4	96.2	-1.4	0.8	-3.4
41	Sales and related.....	101.3	98.9	98.7	-2.3	-0.2	-2.2
43	Office and administrative support	104.3	102.6	101.7	-1.7	-0.8	2.3
45	Farming, fishing, and forestry	101.1	99.6	101.1	-1.5	1.4	-2.6
47	Construction and extraction	103.5	100.8	97.9	-2.6	-2.8	-0.5
49	Installation, maintenance, and repair	103.7	102.2	101.1	-1.5	-1.1	2.1
51	Production	101.7	99.4	98.0	-2.3	-1.4	1.5
53	Transportation and material moving	99.1	95.6	95.6	-3.5	-3.5	0.9

Source: The Conference Board

p=Preliminary

r=Revised

1. Data are preliminary and subject to monthly revisions.

2. Ads are coded to the 6-digit Standard Occupational Classification code (SOC) level

3. Occupational categories are based on 2010 OMB Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC definitions)

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Table 3. HWOL Data Series: Total ads by Census Division, seasonally adjusted, April 2019

Area ¹	Total Ads ² (Thousands)	Area ¹	Total Ads ² (Thousands)
United States	5,244.0	South Atlantic	1,059.7
New England	306.5	East South Central	231.8
Middle Atlantic	667.5	West South Central	517.2
East North Central	719.9	Mountain	410.2
West North Central	395.0	Pacific	842.7

Source: The Conference Board

1. Census Divisions defined by the U.S. Census Bureau
2. Ad levels are seasonally adjusted and may not add up to the total US count

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Table 4. HWOL Data Series: Total ads by State, seasonally adjusted, April 2019

State	Total Ads ¹ (Thousands)	State	Total Ads ¹ (Thousands)
Alabama	59.3	Montana	19.6
Alaska	15.6	Nebraska	31.0
Arizona	100.2	Nevada	44.2
Arkansas	31.3	New Hampshire	26.9
California	574.2	New Jersey	143.7
Colorado	136.0	New Mexico	29.2
Connecticut	61.9	New York	279.1
Delaware	19.2	North Carolina	155.5
Florida	281.5	North Dakota	16.9
Georgia	171.6	Ohio	177.4
Hawaii	20.9	Oklahoma	43.8
Idaho	22.0	Oregon	68.6
Illinois	197.4	Pennsylvania	242.7
Indiana	90.6	Rhode Island	16.7
Iowa	56.8	South Carolina	67.1
Kansas	42.3	South Dakota	13.7
Kentucky	55.1	Tennessee	88.7
Louisiana	51.1	Texas	391.8
Maine	22.0	Utah	51.0
Maryland	112.7	Vermont	12.7
Massachusetts	166.1	Virginia	179.9
Michigan	145.6	Washington	162.2
Minnesota	138.9	West Virginia	24.6
Mississippi	28.9	Wisconsin	108.9
Missouri	95.6	Wyoming	8.7

Source: The Conference Board

1. Ad levels are seasonally adjusted and may not add up to the total US count

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Table 5. HWOL Data Series: Total ads by selected MSAs, seasonally adjusted, April 2019

MSA ¹	Total Ads ² (Thousands)	MSA ¹	Total Ads ² (Thousands)
Birmingham, AL	17.0	Kansas City, MO	41.4
Phoenix, AZ	69.5	St. Louis, MO	49.3
Tucson, AZ	13.0	Las Vegas, NV	29.6
Los Angeles, CA	173.0	Buffalo, NY	14.9
Riverside, CA	34.2	New York, NY	285.0
Sacramento, CA	27.9	Rochester, NY	12.5
San Diego, CA	49.7	Charlotte, NC	47.6
San Francisco, CA	120.6	Cincinnati, OH	38.1
San Jose, CA	63.9	Cleveland, OH	33.3
Denver, CO	79.7	Columbus, OH	38.1
Hartford, CT	26.6	Oklahoma City, OK	19.0
Washington, DC	177.0	Portland, OR	43.2
Jacksonville, FL	21.1	Philadelphia, PA	118.0
Miami, FL	75.5	Pittsburgh, PA	49.1
Orlando, FL	39.8	Providence, RI	23.1
Tampa, FL	45.6	Memphis, TN	17.4
Atlanta, GA	110.4	Nashville, TN	35.9
Honolulu, HI	14.5	Austin, TX	46.2
Chicago, IL	156.8	Dallas, TX	122.1
Indianapolis, IN	33.2	Houston, TX	84.2
Louisville, KY	19.7	San Antonio, TX	31.3
New Orleans, LA	20.1	Salt Lake City, UT	26.4
Baltimore, MD	60.0	Richmond, VA	23.9
Boston, MA	131.3	Virginia Beach, VA	26.3
Detroit, MI	68.6	Seattle-Tacoma, WA	111.8
Minneapolis, MN	94.0	Milwaukee, WI	35.0

Source: The Conference Board

1. Metropolitan areas are based on 2005 OMB county-based Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) definitions
2. Ad levels are seasonally adjusted and may not add up to the total US count

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PROGRAM NOTES

HWOL available on Haver Analytics

A number of the key HWOL Data Series are exclusively available on Haver Analytics. The available HWOL Data Series include the geographic and occupational series for levels and rates for both Total Ads and New Ads. In addition to the seasonally adjusted series, many of the unadjusted series are also available. The geographic detail includes: U.S., 9 Regions, 50 States, 52 MSAs (largest metro areas). The occupational detail includes: U.S. (2-digit SOC), States (1-digit SOC) and MSAs (1-digit SOC).

For more information about the Help Wanted OnLine data series delivered via Haver Analytics, please email sales@haver.com or navigate to <http://www.haver.com/contact.html>. For HWOL data for detailed geographic areas and occupations not in the press release, please contact Jeanne.Shu@conference-board.org.

The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine® (HWOL) Index measures changes over time in advertised online job vacancies, reflecting monthly trends in employment opportunities across the US. The HWOL Data Series aggregates the total number of ads available by month from the HWOL universe of online job ads. Ads in the HWOL universe are collected in real-time from over 28,000 different online job boards including traditional job boards, corporate boards, social media sites, and smaller job sites that serve niche markets and smaller geographic areas.

Like The Conference Board's long-running Help Wanted Advertising Index of print ads (which was published for over 55 years and discontinued in July 2008), **Help Wanted OnLine™** measures help wanted advertising, i.e. labor demand. The HWOL Data Series began in May 2005 and was revised in December 2018 to reflect a new universe and methodology of online job advertisements and therefore cannot be used in conjunction with the pre-revised HWOL Data Series. With the December 2018 release, The Conference Board released the experimental HWOL Index for the specific purpose of providing a robust time series for measuring changes in labor demand over time. It improves upon the HWOL Data Series' ability to assess local labor market trends by reducing volatility and non-economic noise and improving correlation with local labor market conditions. Both the HWOL Data Series and the experimental HWOL Index begin in January 2012.

People using this data are urged to review the information on the database and methodology available on The Conference Board website and contact us with questions and comments. Background information and technical notes and discussion of revisions to the series are available at: <http://www.conference-board.org/data/helpwantedonline.cfm>.

Additional information on the **Bureau of Labor Statistics** data used in this release can be found on the BLS website, www.bls.gov.

About The Conference Board

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Publication Schedule, The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine®

<u>Data for the Month</u>	<u>Release Date</u>
May 2019	June 5, 2019
June 2019	July 3, 2019
July 2019	July 31, 2019
August 2019	September 4, 2019
September 2019	October 2, 2019
October 2019	October 30, 2019
November 2019	December 4, 2019

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