

News Release

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Online Labor Demand Declined in May

- In May, losses were widespread across most States and MSAs
- Majority of occupations showed declines over the month

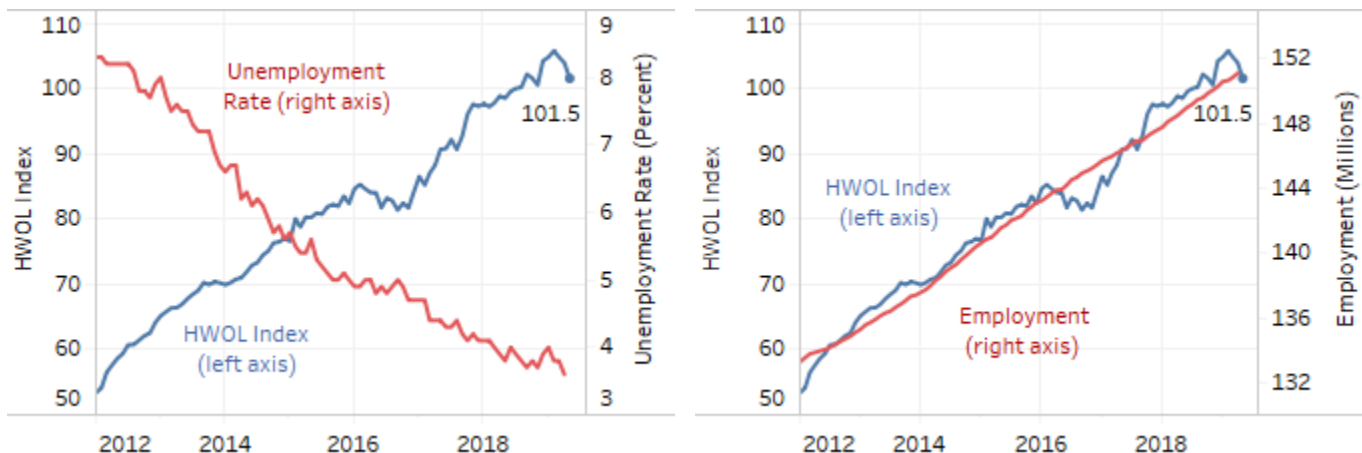
NEW YORK, June 5, 2019...*The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine® (HWOL) Index* declined in May. The Index now stands at 101.5 (July 2018=100), down from 103.9 in April. The Index declined 2.3 percent from the prior month, but is up 3.1 percent from a year ago.

In the Midwest, Nebraska declined 2.8 percent and Michigan fell 2.9 percent. In the Northeast, Rhode Island declined 5.6 percent and New Jersey fell 3.7 percent. In the South, Delaware fell 7.9 percent and West Virginia declined 3.2 percent. In the West, Washington dropped 3.1 percent and Nevada declined 2.8 percent.

The Professional occupational category saw losses in Computer and Mathematical Science (-3.6 percent) and Business and Financial Operations (-3.3 percent). The Services/Production occupational category saw losses in Production (-3.3 percent), Transportation (-2.9 percent), and Installation, Maintenance, and Repair (-2.9 percent).

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

[July 2018=100]

Area	HWOL Index ¹			Percent Change		
	Mar. 2019 ^r	Apr. 2019 ^r	May 2019 ^p	1-month		12-month
				Mar. 2019-Apr. 2019	Apr. 2019-May 2019	May 2018-May 2019
United States.....	104.8	103.9	101.5	-0.8	-2.3	3.1
Census Divisions²						
New England.....	108.2	108.0	105.7	-0.2	-2.2	7.5
Middle Atlantic.....	104.5	104.1	101.1	-0.4	-2.9	3.3
East North Central.....	102.1	100.8	99.1	-1.3	-1.7	0.8
West North Central.....	103.6	102.8	101.7	-0.8	-1.1	4.2
South Atlantic.....	106.7	106.2	104.0	-0.4	-2.1	5.2
East South Central.....	103.5	102.6	101.0	-0.9	-1.5	3.4
West South Central.....	103.3	102.5	100.0	-0.7	-2.5	1.0
Mountain.....	104.5	104.1	101.1	-0.4	-2.9	3.3
Pacific.....	104.4	103.3	100.7	-1.1	-2.5	1.8
States and MSAs³						
Alabama.....	107.1	106.6	105.5	-0.5	-1.0	7.1
Birmingham.....	107.6	105.5	104.5	-2.0	-0.9	8.2
Alaska.....	105.6	105.6	101.4	0.0	-4.0	2.5
Arizona.....	107.1	105.8	103.0	-1.2	-2.6	4.5
Phoenix.....	109.9	108.4	106.1	-1.4	-2.1	8.2
Tucson.....	102.5	100.9	97.6	-1.6	-3.2	-2.7
Arkansas.....	97.9	95.3	93.2	-2.7	-2.2	-3.6
California.....	101.8	100.4	97.8	-1.3	-2.5	-1.1
Los Angeles.....	104.0	103.3	99.9	-0.6	-3.3	1.7
Riverside.....	98.4	95.9	93.8	-2.5	-2.2	-5.8
Sacramento.....	101.6	100.4	96.7	-1.2	-3.6	-3.1
San Diego.....	100.5	101.2	101.6	0.8	0.4	2.2
San Francisco.....	102.9	100.1	96.2	-2.8	-3.9	-0.8
San Jose.....	106.3	103.9	99.2	-2.3	-4.5	0.8
Colorado.....	106.9	105.4	103.5	-1.4	-1.8	4.9
Denver.....	106.4	104.4	102.3	-1.9	-2.0	2.9
Connecticut.....	109.2	109.6	106.9	0.3	-2.4	9.8
Hartford.....	113.9	114.6	112.4	0.6	-1.9	17.6
Washington, DC.....	108.1	108.5	107.1	0.4	-1.3	7.8
Delaware.....	108.3	109.0	100.4	0.6	-7.9	0.5
Florida.....	103.1	102.7	101.3	-0.4	-1.4	2.3
Jacksonville.....	104.3	102.9	102.6	-1.4	-0.3	4.3
Miami.....	104.1	102.5	99.7	-1.6	-2.7	1.9
Orlando.....	107.2	108.5	106.5	1.2	-1.9	9.3
Tampa.....	103.3	104.7	103.6	1.3	-1.0	3.5
Georgia.....	108.0	106.3	103.6	-1.5	-2.6	5.6
Atlanta.....	106.7	104.7	102.0	-1.9	-2.5	4.0
Hawaii.....	105.0	101.9	100.9	-2.9	-1.0	0.2
Honolulu.....	107.6	105.4	103.9	-2.1	-1.4	2.8
Idaho.....	100.1	101.3	99.2	1.2	-2.1	-0.8

Area	HWOL Index ¹			Percent Change		
				1-month		12-month
	Mar. 2019 ^r	Apr. 2019 ^r	May 2019 ^p	Mar. 2019-Apr. 2019	Apr. 2019-May 2019	May 2018-May 2019
Illinois	102.2	101.5	99.7	-0.7	-1.7	2.0
Chicago.....	103.0	102.5	100.5	-0.5	-2.0	2.4
Indiana	100.1	98.7	97.1	-1.3	-1.6	-0.5
Indianapolis.....	102.3	101.9	99.9	-0.3	-1.9	1.8
Iowa	104.1	101.9	99.4	-2.1	-2.5	0.3
Kansas	103.4	102.6	101.7	-0.8	-0.8	5.2
Kentucky.....	106.6	105.8	104.1	-0.7	-1.6	6.4
Louisville	104.2	102.5	99.2	-1.7	-3.2	2.0
Louisiana	104.2	104.2	102.5	0.0	-1.6	2.2
New Orleans.....	107.6	109.0	107.4	1.3	-1.5	8.0
Maine	108.7	110.0	110.0	1.3	-0.1	8.0
Maryland	103.9	103.1	101.1	-0.8	-1.9	1.8
Baltimore	104.8	103.6	100.9	-1.1	-2.6	1.7
Massachusetts.....	106.7	106.2	103.8	-0.4	-2.3	5.6
Boston.....	108.3	107.9	104.9	-0.4	-2.8	7.4
Michigan.....	99.4	98.2	95.4	-1.2	-2.9	-3.6
Detroit.....	100.2	97.4	93.9	-2.8	-3.7	-5.1
Minnesota	101.6	102.9	103.4	1.2	0.6	8.0
Minneapolis-St. Paul.....	103.2	103.7	103.2	0.4	-0.5	7.6
Mississippi	97.5	97.6	96.3	0.1	-1.4	-3.1
Missouri.....	106.6	105.2	103.7	-1.3	-1.4	4.5
Kansas City	106.1	103.6	101.2	-2.3	-2.4	3.4
St. Louis.....	106.2	103.2	101.5	-2.8	-1.7	2.5
Montana.....	89.1	92.9	91.1	4.2	-2.0	-11.8
Nebraska	102.8	99.8	97.0	-2.9	-2.8	-1.4
Nevada	101.6	101.3	98.5	-0.3	-2.8	-0.3
Las Vegas.....	105.4	106.2	103.5	0.7	-2.5	5.6
New Hampshire	110.1	108.5	107.2	-1.4	-1.2	8.4
New Jersey	104.6	104.6	100.7	0.0	-3.7	2.4
New Mexico.....	109.0	107.9	108.2	-1.0	0.3	9.6
New York	102.9	102.3	99.5	-0.6	-2.7	1.7
Buffalo.....	99.3	99.1	96.1	-0.2	-3.0	-1.1
New York.....	103.3	102.7	99.2	-0.6	-3.4	1.2
Rochester	104.9	107.7	106.6	2.7	-1.0	10.1
North Carolina	108.8	108.4	106.5	-0.3	-1.8	8.9
Charlotte	113.5	113.8	113.0	0.3	-0.7	16.2
North Dakota.....	102.6	101.9	100.2	-0.6	-1.7	1.3
Ohio.....	101.0	99.2	98.0	-1.8	-1.2	0.0
Cincinnati	105.2	102.3	101.9	-2.8	-0.3	5.1
Cleveland.....	99.2	100.2	98.5	1.0	-1.7	-1.0
Columbus	103.3	100.1	97.8	-3.2	-2.2	-2.3
Oklahoma	97.4	96.0	93.8	-1.4	-2.3	-5.2
Oklahoma City	97.2	94.8	91.8	-2.5	-3.2	-7.3
Oregon	101.8	100.8	99.6	-1.0	-1.2	0.4

Area	HWOL Index ¹			Percent Change		
				1-month		12-month
	Mar. 2019 ^r	Apr. 2019 ^r	May 2019 ^p	Mar. 2019- Apr. 2019	Apr. 2019- May 2019	May 2018- May 2019
Portland	104.2	101.9	99.0	-2.2	-2.9	0.9
Pennsylvania.....	105.5	104.7	102.2	-0.7	-2.4	4.5
Philadelphia.....	109.4	108.7	104.6	-0.6	-3.8	6.0
Pittsburgh.....	103.9	102.5	100.2	-1.3	-2.2	3.3
Rhode Island.....	108.3	107.5	101.4	-0.8	-5.6	4.7
Providence	107.8	108.0	103.9	0.2	-3.8	6.0
South Carolina	106.2	104.6	102.2	-1.5	-2.3	3.0
South Dakota.....	97.8	96.3	94.7	-1.5	-1.7	-6.5
Tennessee	102.4	101.2	100.1	-1.2	-1.0	2.4
Memphis	99.1	97.7	98.1	-1.4	0.4	0.9
Nashville.....	102.0	101.6	101.2	-0.4	-0.4	5.2
Texas	104.2	103.8	100.9	-0.5	-2.7	2.0
Austin.....	106.9	106.4	103.9	-0.5	-2.4	6.1
Dallas	107.3	106.9	103.7	-0.3	-3.1	5.6
Houston	106.3	104.3	101.7	-1.8	-2.6	3.5
San Antonio.....	105.2	104.8	103.3	-0.4	-1.5	3.4
Utah	101.2	100.1	98.5	-1.1	-1.6	1.0
Salt Lake City	104.5	102.7	99.9	-1.7	-2.6	2.9
Vermont	111.3	111.0	110.9	-0.3	-0.1	13.8
Virginia	109.0	108.9	106.6	0.0	-2.2	7.4
Richmond.....	107.6	106.8	102.8	-0.7	-3.8	4.6
Virginia Beach.....	108.1	105.7	104.0	-2.2	-1.6	4.6
Washington	113.3	113.2	109.7	-0.1	-3.1	10.6
Seattle-Tacoma	118.1	119.3	115.0	1.0	-3.6	17.6
West Virginia	102.1	103.2	99.9	1.1	-3.2	0.5
Wisconsin	107.1	106.2	103.8	-0.8	-2.2	7.5
Milwaukee.....	107.2	107.5	103.1	0.3	-4.1	5.8
Wyoming	94.2	92.8	92.5	-1.6	-0.3	-8.5

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, May 2019

[July 2018=100]

SOC ²	Occupation ³	HWOL Index ¹			Percent Change		
					1-month		12-month
		Mar. 2019 ^f	Apr. 2019 ^f	May 2019 ^p	Mar. 2019-Apr. 2019	Apr. 2019-May 2019	May 2018-May 2019
	Total	104.8	103.9	101.5	-0.8	-2.3	3.1
11	Management.....	105.1	103.7	101.2	-1.3	-2.3	3.9
13	Business and financial operations.....	105.7	105.2	101.8	-0.5	-3.3	3.5
15	Computer and mathematical science	114.0	112.2	108.1	-1.6	-3.6	11.3
17	Architecture and engineering	109.3	105.5	102.8	-3.4	-2.6	5.9
19	Life, physical, and social science	103.4	103.6	102.3	0.2	-1.3	5.0
21	Community and social services.....	106.8	104.9	102.8	-1.7	-2.0	4.4
23	Legal	104.6	105.2	104.4	0.6	-0.7	8.7
25	Education, training, and library	102.7	102.3	100.7	-0.5	-1.6	2.1
27	Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media	101.4	99.0	97.9	-2.4	-1.1	-0.2
29	Healthcare practitioners and technical	104.9	104.6	102.3	-0.3	-2.2	1.1
31	Healthcare support	112.6	109.6	107.8	-2.7	-1.7	8.5
33	Protective service.....	99.0	104.3	105.1	5.4	0.8	9.4
35	Food preparation and serving related	105.2	105.3	104.8	0.1	-0.4	5.8
37	Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	100.1	97.7	96.4	-2.4	-1.3	-1.8
39	Personal care and service	95.9	96.3	96.4	0.5	0.0	-2.5
41	Sales and related.....	99.3	99.2	97.0	-0.1	-2.2	-2.7
43	Office and administrative support	102.7	102.2	100.4	-0.5	-1.8	1.6
45	Farming, fishing, and forestry	97.8	99.5	92.3	1.7	-7.2	-10.9
47	Construction and extraction	101.0	98.4	96.8	-2.6	-1.6	-1.2
49	Installation, maintenance, and repair	101.8	100.8	97.9	-1.0	-2.9	-1.6
51	Production	98.8	97.5	94.3	-1.3	-3.3	-3.1
53	Transportation and material moving	95.6	92.8	92.8	-2.9	-2.9	-3.6

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, May 2019

Area ¹	Total Ads ² (Thousands)	Area ¹	Total Ads ² (Thousands)
United States	5,381.1	South Atlantic	1,098.6
New England	307.4	East South Central	245.5
Middle Atlantic	664.0	West South Central	524.4
East North Central	751.7	Mountain	422.7
West North Central	415.1	Pacific	838.3

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, May 2019

State	Total Ads ¹ (Thousands)	State	Total Ads ¹ (Thousands)
Alabama	60.8	Montana	19.4
Alaska	15.2	Nebraska	30.4
Arizona	103.5	Nevada	46.1
Arkansas	31.5	New Hampshire	28.0
California	574.2	New Jersey	148.4
Colorado	138.4	New Mexico	29.1
Connecticut	63.8	New York	269.9
Delaware	18.1	North Carolina	160.7
Florida	289.7	North Dakota	17.2
Georgia	174.7	Ohio	184.5
Hawaii	21.0	Oklahoma	45.2
Idaho	23.0	Oregon	69.7
Illinois	209.4	Pennsylvania	245.7
Indiana	94.7	Rhode Island	15.4
Iowa	59.5	South Carolina	71.1
Kansas	44.1	South Dakota	16.3
Kentucky	58.2	Tennessee	95.2
Louisiana	52.3	Texas	394.3
Maine	22.8	Utah	51.1
Maryland	118.1	Vermont	12.4
Massachusetts	165.1	Virginia	185.5
Michigan	153.1	Washington	158.5
Minnesota	149.1	West Virginia	26.0
Mississippi	31.0	Wisconsin	108.1
Missouri	98.5	Wyoming	9.1

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, May 2019

MSA ¹	Total Ads ² (Thousands)	MSA ¹	Total Ads ² (Thousands)
Birmingham, AL	17.2	Kansas City, MO	42.4
Phoenix, AZ	72.3	St. Louis, MO	51.2
Tucson, AZ	12.8	Las Vegas, NV	30.3
Los Angeles, CA	170.4	Buffalo, NY	13.9
Riverside, CA	34.5	New York, NY	283.5
Sacramento, CA	29.7	Rochester, NY	12.8
San Diego, CA	51.6	Charlotte, NC	49.3
San Francisco, CA	119.2	Cincinnati, OH	39.6
San Jose, CA	61.4	Cleveland, OH	35.3
Denver, CO	80.8	Columbus, OH	37.9
Hartford, CT	27.4	Oklahoma City, OK	19.3
Washington, DC	182.3	Portland, OR	43.2
Jacksonville, FL	21.2	Philadelphia, PA	118.9
Miami, FL	76.0	Pittsburgh, PA	48.8
Orlando, FL	42.2	Providence, RI	21.8
Tampa, FL	45.7	Memphis, TN	18.7
Atlanta, GA	111.7	Nashville, TN	38.0
Honolulu, HI	14.5	Austin, TX	46.9
Chicago, IL	166.7	Dallas, TX	121.7
Indianapolis, IN	34.5	Houston, TX	85.5
Louisville, KY	20.4	San Antonio, TX	32.1
New Orleans, LA	20.0	Salt Lake City, UT	26.2
Baltimore, MD	62.2	Richmond, VA	24.0
Boston, MA	129.8	Virginia Beach, VA	27.2
Detroit, MI	68.7	Seattle-Tacoma, WA	109.9
Minneapolis, MN	100.5	Milwaukee, WI	34.6

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>
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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