



Construction Industry Round Table

Economic News

A force for positive change in the design / construction industry

5/02/2014 – Construction Employment Turns Up in April

The Department of Labor's latest unemployment numbers indicate what appears to be an improving situation. Some 288,000 jobs were added in April, (well above the generally accepted estimate that it takes approximately 130,000 new jobs a month, just to sop-up the expanding workforce). The non-seasonally adjusted unemployment figure for construction moved down to 9.4% (almost four point percentage points (3.8) lower than in April '13, when it stood at 13.2%). The overall general unemployed number fell to 6.3%, BUT the better number may have been driven more by the large (806,000) drop in workforce participation, down to only 62.8%, at a 36 year low set in December 2013, than any true acceleration of better job conditions.

[See CIRT Table for details and trends.](#)