



Construction Industry Round Table

Economic News

A force for positive change in the design / construction industry

12/15/2015 – November '15 Unemployment Numbers Hold Steady

Employment figures from the Department of Labor showed a sizable increase of some 211,000 jobs being added in November 2015 (down 60K from October's growth, but still well above the generally accepted estimate that it takes approximately 130-150,000 new jobs per month, just to absorb the expanding workforce). The non-seasonally adjusted unemployment figure for construction stayed the same at 6.2 percent [1.2 basis points (percent points), below a year ago November 2014, when it stood at 7.5%].

The overall unemployment rate also stayed the same at 5.0%. Meantime, the "labor force participation" rate inched-up one "tick" to 62.5 percent, a level still hovering at historic lows set almost 40-years ago (when women were not as prevalent in the work force). [The "employed-population ratio" is only 59.3%, which tends to support the view that people have given up looking for work, and/or are satisfied with government programs that supply them with sufficient incomes to sustain their lifestyles].

*You can view the current and historical **Workforce Statistics** charts [here](#).*