

NEWS

from

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Arthur J. Goldberg, Secretary

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FOR RELEASE: 12 Noon, Tuesday
May 15, 1962U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BES, Tel. 961 - 2916
BLS, Tel. 961 - 2634**THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: APRIL 1962**

NOTE: Beginning with the figures for April 1962 information from the 1960 Census of Population replaces that from the 1950 Census in the estimation procedures for the labor force survey. The monthly and annual changes in the labor force data quoted in this release are based on the old April figures, which are comparable with previously published data. The differences between the old and new data are small (see page S-1 in attached Monthly Report on the Labor Force).

Factory employment and hours of work showed continued strong improvement in April, Secretary of Labor Arthur J. Goldberg announced today.

With most manufacturing industries reporting better-than-seasonal developments during the month, jobs in this sector rose by 80,000 instead of showing the small decline usual at this time of year. Construction employment expanded sharply during the month after the usual spring pickup had been delayed by bad weather in March. Trade employment continued to show better-than-seasonal improvement for the fourth consecutive month. Altogether, nonfarm payroll employment at 54.7 million was up 675,000 from March to April, or a quarter of a million more than seasonally.

With the gains of the past few months, manufacturing employment has returned to within 200,000 of the level in May 1960, the prerecession peak in general business activity, while trade is now significantly above that level.