

Workforce and Transportation Analytics Briefing

Volume 12

March 2018

Transportation



Really strong job growth numbers almost across the board.

And finally some upward movement in labor force participation rates.

But unemployment rates stay put.

And wage increases continue at snail's pace.

As goes manufacturing (and logistics) so goes trucking. A [13-year high in orders for new big rigs](#) as companies try to keep up with demand.

And as demand rises so should trucker pay. Here are a [few recent examples](#).

Our clients might not all agree, but for many in the sector, these times are [bringing higher revenue and profitability](#). Will it continue to translate into investment in trucker workforce?

Workforce

- Wages are up, but still not as quickly as would be expected in this positive economic climate. And [real wages](#) (when adjusted for cost of living) just keeping ahead of inflation.
- [2.5% unemployment by next summer?](#) Moody's Analytics thinks it is possible if trends continue. Employee retention and engagement become even more critical.
- One road to retention and engagement is [training](#). But it is not common and nearly half who do get it view it as ineffective.

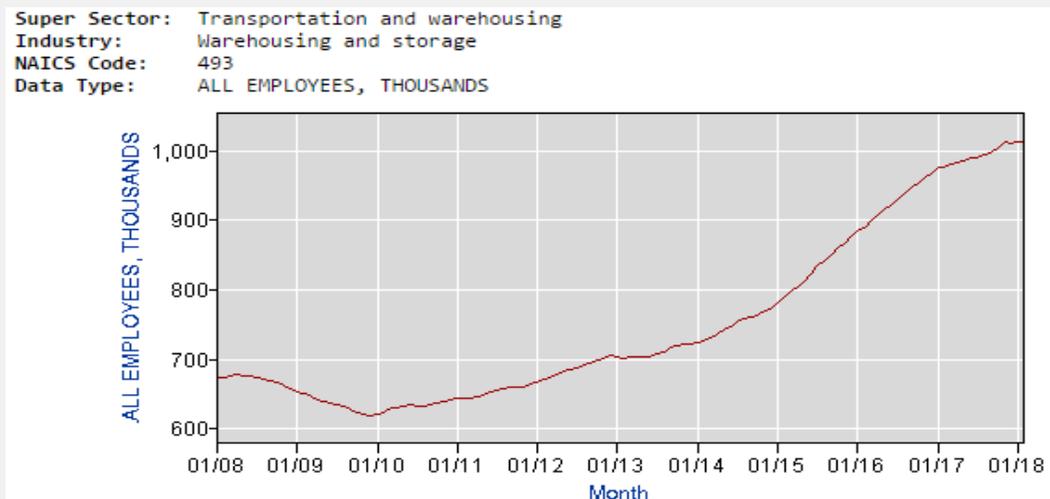
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Logistics

- Warehousing & Storage jobs are flat month over month, and still below November season highs. A four-month flat trend is worth monitoring (see chart below)



- In meantime, ecommerce part of the sector continues to [add smaller facilities](#) closer to end users.
- [WERC conducts its own annual survey](#) and the latest numbers include pay rate shift differentials, sector usage of staffing industry (81.6% of companies) and turnover (up)