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Chinese soldiers help clean up Hong Kong streets, but violence flares again



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Southern DAILY

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White House budget official testifies in impeachment probe on Saturday



Mark Sandy, official of the Office of Management and Budget, arrives for a closed-door deposition as part of the House of Representatives impeachment inquiry into U.S. President Trump on Capitol Hill in Washington, U.S., November 16, 2019. REUTERS/Yara Nardi

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Trump's pressure on Ukraine is at the heart of the Democratic-led inquiry into whether the Republican president misused U.S. foreign policy to undermine former Vice President Joe Biden, one of his potential opponents in the 2020 election.

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DIPLOMATIC SERVICE

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Editor's Choice



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Trump Administration Argues Civil Rights Law Doesn't Cover LGBTQ Workers



Demonstrators outside the Supreme Court on Oct. 8.
(Photo/AFP via Getty Images)

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

The Trump administration urged the Supreme Court on Tuesday to rule that LGBTQ people can be fired because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Where it stands: The administration's involvement in LGBTQ cases supplements a 2-year White House playbook to undo many protections the LGBTQ community secured under President Obama. One of the cases is the first to ask the court to determine the civil rights of transgender people, per the ACLU.

The big picture: Title VII of the Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination "because of sex." The Justice Department argued in 3 cases Tuesday that those rules don't ban discrimination against LBGQ or transgender workers.

The Justice Department is at odds with its own Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in the case of Aimee Stephens, a transgender woman who was fired from a funeral home because she wanted to "dress as a woman," according to the business owner's testimony. The EEOC sued on Stephens' behalf in 2014. **What they're saying:** The administration argues that "Title VII's protections apply fully to transgender individuals"

when it comes to sex discrimination — women being treated worse than men, or vice versa — but "treating a transgender person less favorably than a non-transgender person" is not part of the law's protections.

•It says there is no "evidence that the funeral home treated some or all biologically male employees less favorably than similarly situated biologically female employees."



LGBTQ workers seek federal protection.

The other side: "Congress wrote a broad statute that prohibits all sex discrimination," Chase Strangio, part of Stephens' legal team at the ACLU and a transgender activist, tells Axios. "When an employer fires someone for being transgender, no matter how sex is defined, that is discrimination because of sex."

In 2 other cases, which were argued

together, the Trump administration says that Title VII doesn't cover discrimination based on sexual orientation. Both suits were filed by men who say they were fired for being gay.

•An employer who discriminates against employees in same-sex relationships doesn't violate Title VII as long as it treats men and women in those relationships the same way, their argument says. **Yes, but:** 69% of Americans — and 56% of Republicans — favor laws that would protect LGBTQ people from job and housing discrimination, a 2018 PRRI survey found.

What to watch: This issue — alongside cases on abortion access, guns and immigration — will likely come to a head next summer before the 2020 presidential election.

2019's Supreme Court cases to watch



(Photo/Getty Images)

The Supreme Court, now with a solid conservative majority after Justice Brett Kavanaugh's appointment, is hearing cases that could have significant ramifications for generations to come on issues like immigration, LGBTQ employment protections and abortion access.

The big picture: The high court — with 5 conservatives and 4 liberals — kept a relatively low profile in its first term this year. But it could hand major wins to Republicans in 2020's second term, emboldened by Kavanaugh's appointment and sharpening their focus as a slew of hot-button disputes work their way up from lower courts.

Key cases to watch this term:

Abortion: The Supreme Court agreed to take up a case on Louisiana's abortion law which requires doctors to have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals to perform an abortion.

LGBTQ workplace discrimination:

The court will hear oral arguments for 3 blockbuster cases on Oct. 8 that question whether Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act prohibits employers from discriminating against workers based on their sexual orientation and status as a transgender person.



Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals: The Supreme Court will hear a set of lawsuits on Nov. 12 challenging President Trump's effort to end DACA, the Obama-era immigration program that shields roughly 700,000 children from deportation.

Future cases to watch:

Puerto Rico's financial crisis: The court will decide if the appointments to the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico were constitutional. A federal appeals court previously ruled the appointments were not constitutional because the Senate didn't confirm them.

Mexico border shooting: The Supreme Court will in the fall decide whether families of Mexican teenagers who were fatally shot by American border agents in Texas and Arizona can sue in U.S. courts for damages, per the AP.

Affordable Care Act: Legal challenges by Republicans against the ACA, which the court upheld in 2012 and 2015, are likely to reach the high court again.



Results of this year's other major cases
2020 citizenship question: The court temporarily froze the Trump administration's decision to add a controversial citizenship question to the 2020 census in June, causing the administration to print the census without the question.

Apple iPhone app pricing: The court allowed a massive antitrust lawsuit against Apple to move forward in May.



Partisan gerrymandering: In a move that will allow gerrymandering to get even more aggressive, the court said in June that cases about partisan gerrymandering are "beyond the reach of the federal courts" — a blow to voting-rights activists and Democrats.

Double jeopardy: The court decided in June not to overrule its long-standing decision that sometimes allows criminal defendants to be prosecuted twice for the same crimes — by allowing them to be prosecuted in state and federal court. (Courtesy axios.com)

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Editor's Choice



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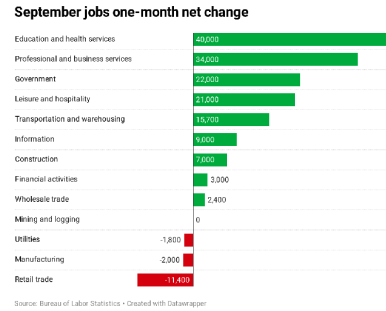
Here's Where The Jobs Are

The September 2019 jobs report showed decent hiring during the month with the health-care and education industries seeing the biggest growth.

The government reported Friday that payrolls increased by 136,000, missing the 145,000 estimate economists polled by Dow Jones had forecast. The unemployment rate, however, fell to a new 50-year low of 3.5%.

CNBC studied the net changes by industry for September jobs based on data from the Labor Department contained in the employment report.

Health care and education — a consistent employment gainer — topped the list in September with a net gain of 40,000 payrolls. Stripping out the education components, health care and social services added 41,400 jobs amid strong hiring in ambulatory outpatient care, hospitals and nursing.



Professional and business services added 34,000 jobs amid gains in management consultant positions as well as an uptick in temporary help services. Manufacturing saw a net loss of 2,000 jobs.

The government, which doesn't tend to post big employment swings from month to month, added a hefty 22,000 positions in September after a whopping addition of 46,000 jobs in August. The government noted, however, that hiring is surging between local government adds; Washington posted strong gains in the prior month as the federal government works to staff up with temporary workers ahead of the 2020 census.

"In September, health care added 39,000 jobs, in line with its average monthly gain over the prior 12 months," the Labor Department said in a release. "Em-



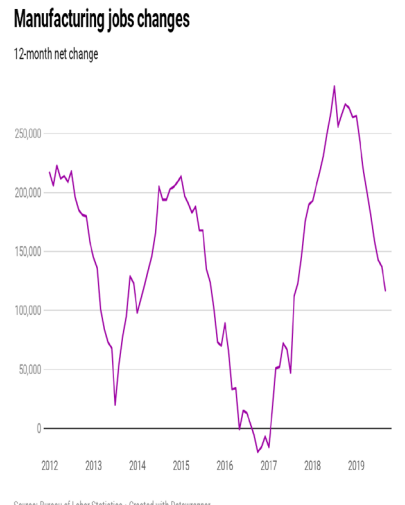
Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

ployment in professional and business services continued to trend up in September (+34,000). The industry has added an average of 35,000 jobs per month thus far in 2019, compared with 47,000 jobs per month in 2018.

Retail trade continued its streak of losses with a decline of 11,400 jobs for the month. Since reaching a peak in January 2017, retail trade has lost 197,000 jobs. The government also said wages increased at a slower pace, up little between August and September and rising just 2.9% over the year.

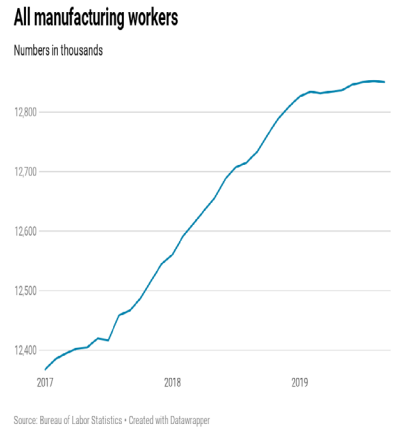


Manufacturing Jobs Getting Crushed



The U.S. manufacturing sector is not in a good place. The latest poor results came from the government's jobs report on Friday. The Labor Department reported that manufacturers lost 2,000 jobs in September, well below the 18,000 positions it added this time last year and even below the

2,000 gain it saw in August.



Machinery and transportation manufacturing, which includes the production of cars, trains and ships, have seen some of the worst deceleration over the last year. Machinery's net job gains over the last 12 months slowed to just 6,000 by September, while transportation's trickled to a 23-month low of 23,000. The fabricated metals subindustry, which transforms metal into intermediate or end products, lost 3,000 jobs last month.

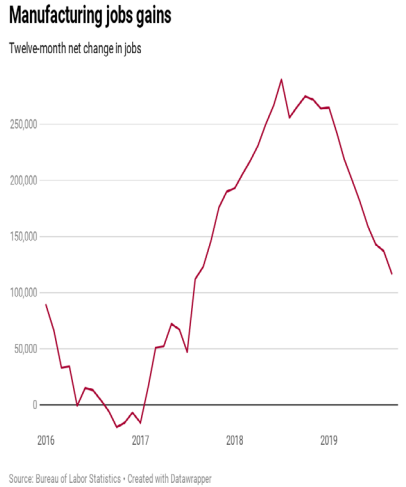
While the manufacturing sector as a whole has seen marked hiring since President Donald Trump's oath of office, the jobs gains have largely plateaued.

Eric Winograd, senior economist at AllianceBernstein, said in a note Friday that the president's trade war strategies appeared to be in part responsible for the slowdown.

"A big part of the story for the economy as a whole, of course, is the trade war. We can see that in the payrolls figures too," Winograd wrote. "Manufacturing has been the hardest hit industry by trade policy and, not coincidentally, manufacturing employment has suffered."

But it was more than job losses in the manufacturing sector that turned heads this week.

A gauge of U.S. manufacturing showed



the lowest reading in more than 10 years for September as exports dived amid the escalated trade war. The U.S. manufacturing purchasing managers' index from the Institute for Supply Management came in at 47.8% for September, the lowest since June 2009, marking the second consecutive month of contraction. Any figure below 50% signals a contraction. (Courtesy cnbc.com)

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Trump Administration Argues Civil Rights Law Doesn't Cover LGBTQ Workers



Demonstrators outside the Supreme Court on Oct. 8.
(Photo/AFP via Getty Images)

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

The Trump administration urged the Supreme Court on Tuesday to rule that LGBTQ people can be fired because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Where it stands: The administration's involvement in LGBTQ cases supplements a 2-year White House playbook to undo many protections the LGBTQ community secured under President Obama. One of the cases is the first to ask the court to determine the civil rights of transgender people, per the ACLU.

The big picture: Title VII of the Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination "because of sex." The Justice Department argued in 3 cases Tuesday that those rules don't ban discrimination against LBGQ or transgender workers.

The Justice Department is at odds with its own Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in the case of Aimee Stephens, a transgender woman who was fired from a funeral home because she wanted to "dress as a woman," according to the business owner's testimony. The EEOC sued on Stephens' behalf in 2014.

What they're saying: The administration argues that "Title VII's protections apply fully to transgender individuals"

when it comes to sex discrimination — women being treated worse than men, or vice versa — but "treating a transgender person less favorably than a non-transgender person" is not part of the law's protections.

•It says there is no "evidence that the funeral home treated some or all biologically male employees less favorably than similarly situated biologically female employees."

LGBTQ workers seek federal protection.

The other side: "Congress wrote a broad statute that prohibits all sex discrimination," Chase Strangio, part of Stephens' legal team at the ACLU and a transgender activist, tells Axios. "When an employer fires someone for being transgender, no matter how sex is defined, that is discrimination because of sex."

In 2 other cases, which were argued

together, the Trump administration says that Title VII doesn't cover discrimination based on sexual orientation. Both suits were filed by men who say they were fired for being gay.

•**An employer** who discriminates against employees in same-sex relationships doesn't violate Title VII as long as it treats men and women in those relationships the same way, their argument says.

Yes, but: 69% of Americans — and 56% of Republicans — favor laws that would protect LGBTQ people from job and housing discrimination, a 2018 PRRI survey found.

What to watch: This issue — alongside cases on abortion access, guns and immigration — will likely come to a head next summer before the 2020 presidential election.

2019's Supreme Court cases to watch



(Photo/Getty Images)

The Supreme Court, now with a solid conservative majority after Justice Brett Kavanaugh's appointment, is hearing cases that could have significant ramifications for generations to come on issues like immigration, LGBTQ employment protections and abortion access.

The big picture: The high court — with 5 conservatives and 4 liberals — kept a relatively low profile in its first term this year. But it could hand major wins to Republicans in 2020's second term, emboldened by Kavanaugh's appointment and sharpening their focus as a slew of hot-button disputes work their way up from lower courts.

Key cases to watch this term:

Abortion: The Supreme Court agreed to take up a case on Louisiana's abortion law which requires doctors to have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals to perform an abortion.

LGBTQ workplace discrimination:

The court will hear oral arguments for 3 blockbuster cases on Oct. 8 that question whether Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act prohibits employers from discriminating against workers based on their sexual orientation and status as a transgender person.



Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals: The Supreme Court will hear a set of lawsuits on Nov. 12 challenging President Trump's effort to end DACA, the Obama-era immigration program that shields roughly 700,000 children from deportation.

Future cases to watch:

Puerto Rico's financial crisis: The court will decide if the appointments to the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico were constitutional. A federal appeals court previously ruled the appointments were not constitutional because the Senate didn't confirm them.

Mexico border shooting: The Supreme Court will in the fall decide whether families of Mexican teenagers who were fatally shot by American border agents in Texas and Arizona can sue in U.S. courts for damages, per the AP.

Affordable Care Act: Legal challenges by Republicans against the ACA, which the court upheld in 2012 and 2015, are likely to reach the high court again.



Results of this year's other major cases

2020 citizenship question: The court temporarily froze the Trump administration's decision to add a controversial citizenship question to the 2020 census in June, causing the administration to print the census without the question.

Apple iPhone app pricing: The court allowed a massive antitrust lawsuit against Apple to move forward in May.



Partisan gerrymandering: In a move that will allow gerrymandering to get even more aggressive, the court said in June that cases about partisan gerrymandering are "beyond the reach of the federal courts" — a blow to voting-rights activists and Democrats.

Double jeopardy: The court decided in June not to overrule its long-standing decision that sometimes allows criminal defendants to be prosecuted twice for the same crimes — by allowing them to be prosecuted in state and federal court. (Courtesy axios.com)

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