

## Workforce Specialists Analytics Briefing

Volume 14

May 2018

### Overview



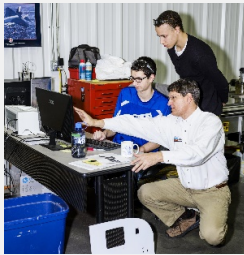
Month over month jobs snapshot: manufacturing, warehousing & storage up, trucking down.

Labor market tightening even more: **unemployment rate drop breaks 4.0% barrier.**

Labor participation rate keeps bouncing around at or just below 63%.

Employers increasingly open to **non-traditional staffing strategies** as recruiting challenges increase.

### Workforce



- Warehousing & Storage [job growth projections](#) strong. Manufacturing forecast: long term job contractions.
- A great example of employers adjusting their traditional staffing models in challenging labor market: [hiring teenagers](#).
- Retail sector might be a model of automation creating a [net increase in jobs](#) (with better pay).

### Logistics

- [6,000 more warehousing and storage jobs](#) in April according to BLS.
- Maintenance costs dropping, flexibility increasing: some reasons for [more robotics gains in DCs](#).
- [Faster & faster](#): logistics executives predict 40% of packages will be delivered within two-hour window by 2028.



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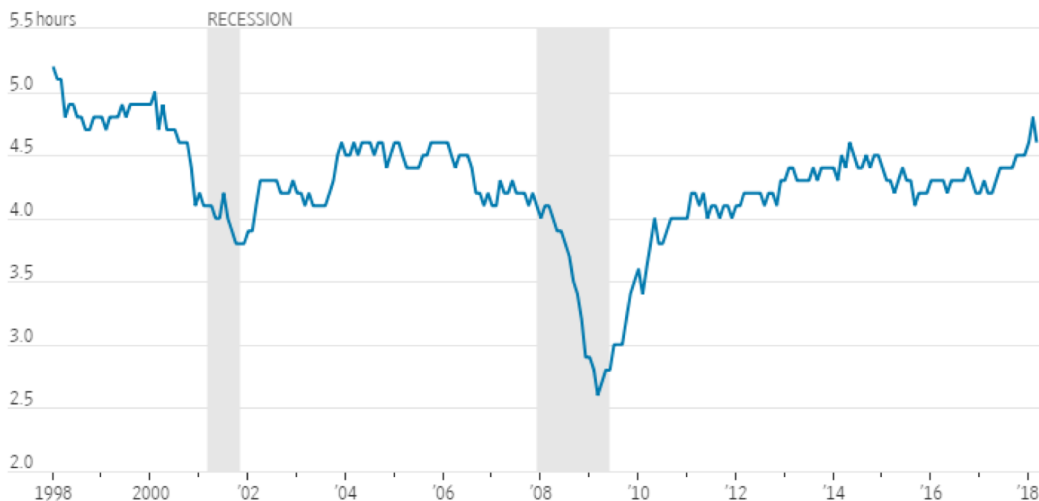
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### Manufacturing

- Manufacturing [overtime at highest levels](#) since 2000. One reason there is increasing demand for automation.
- Sector [job growth accelerating](#), up 24,000 in April month over month.
- How about this?: Elon Musk blames some [Tesla production challenges](#) on 'excessive automation'. "Humans are underrated," he says.

Average weekly overtime hours in manufacturing\*



\*For production and non-supervisory workers  
Source: Labor Department