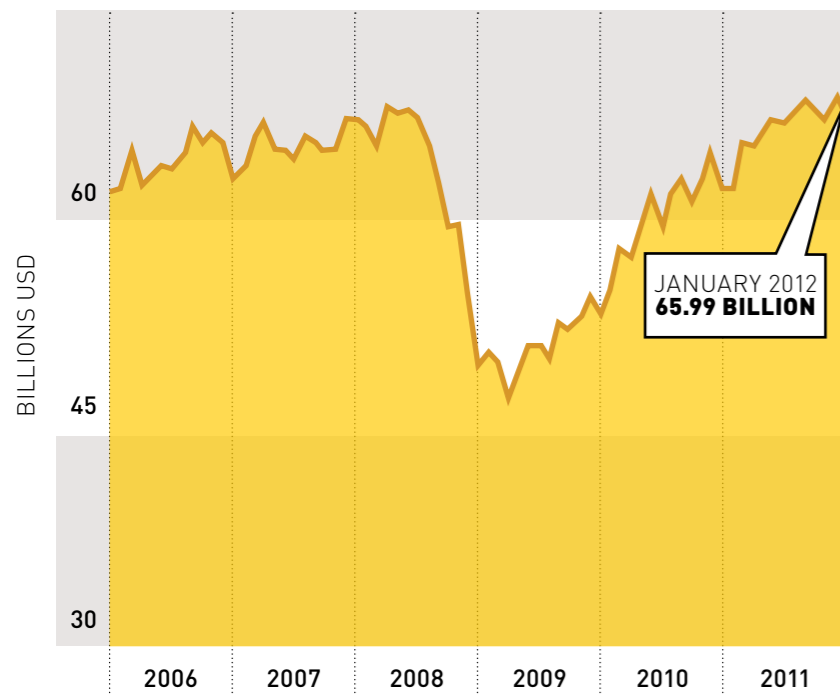


# datapoints

## AND WE'RE BACK

Nondefense capital-goods orders dropped in January, but have returned to 2008 highs.



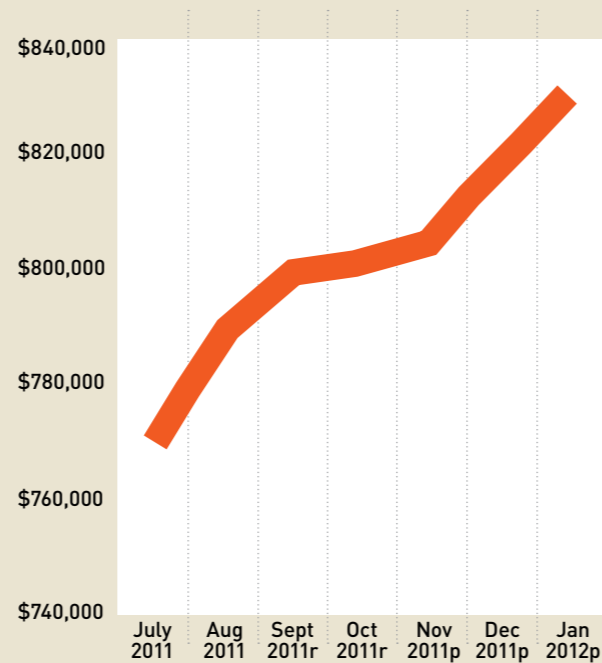
JANUARY 2012  
65.99 BILLION

\*Excludes aircraft

SOURCE: WALL STREET JOURNAL; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## CONSTRUCTION SPENDING BODES WELL

Total construction spending is up for more than seven consecutive months.



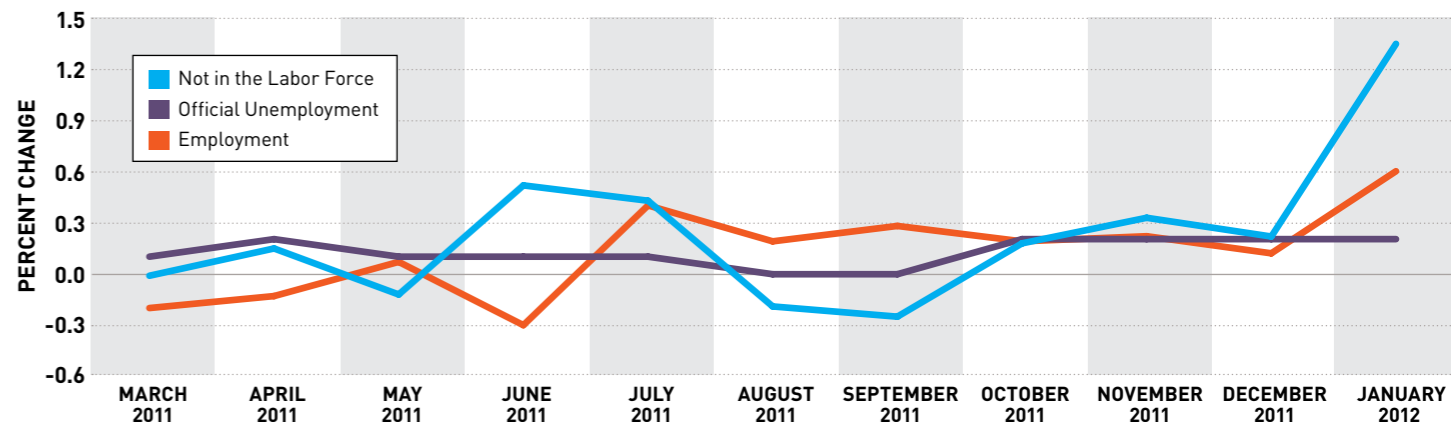
r=revised p=preliminary

SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT COMMERCE

## The economy looks up. Or does it?

### THE REAL JOBLESS RATE

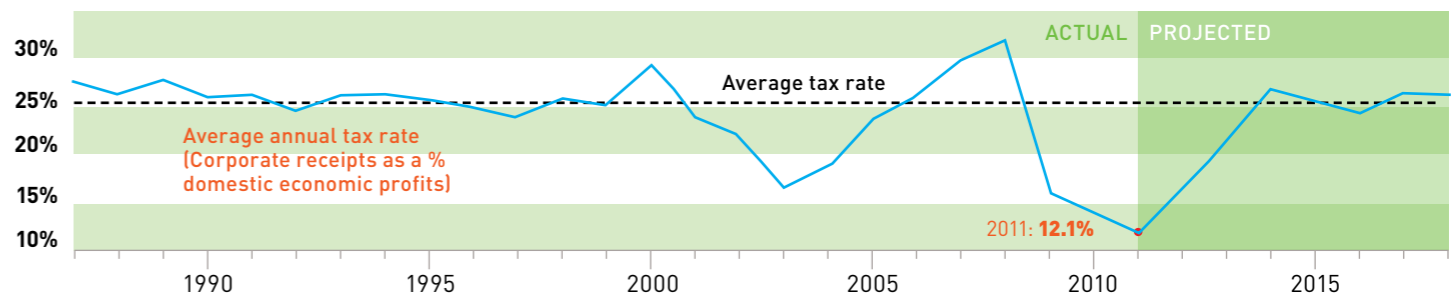
There are two ways unemployment can decrease—through people getting jobs and through people giving up looking for work.



SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR; BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

### TAXES DOWN, BUT NOT FOR LONG

In 2011, the corporate tax rate was the lowest it's been since the 1970s. But the tax break known as "bonus depreciation" shrinks for 2012, meaning a higher tax year.



SOURCE: WALL STREET JOURNAL; CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE