

Fiscal and Economic Issues Agenda
July 2014 :

- **(Karl / Helen) Intro of Karl and Helen for Fiscal and Economic Issues**
 - **Introduction of new team members (2 minutes each) - why they volunteer for OFA**
 - **Announcement re monthly NWS OFA meeting on Wed, July 16th at Arlington Heights Memorial Library**

Status of the economic recovery, including the June 2014 jobs report (May 2014 for IL data)

- We are recovering, but we haven't fully recovered yet. Labor Force up 1,631,000 since Jan 2008; Marginally attached up 300,000 since January 2008 (1.7 million).
- Don't put too much emphasis on a single monthly report. Look instead at longer term trends. (Except for you stock traders).
- We set a new private sector jobs record in March and set a new total jobs record in May
 - i. This is not complete recovery nationally, but still a significant milestone nonetheless. A full recovery nationally will likely occur in 2015.
 - ii. IL's recovery is lagging the national recovery by about two years.

	Total Jobs Added / (Lost)	Private Sector Jobs Added / (Lost)	Illinois total Jobs Added / Lost	IL Private Sector Jobs Added / Lost
2014 YTD	1,385,000	1,331,000	(24,700)	(26,300)
2013	2,331,000	2,365,000	50,300	52,200
2012	2,236,000	2,294,000	79,500	77,600
2011	2,083,000	2,400,000	57,700	68,500
2010	1,058,000	1,277,000	56,300	70,300
2009	(5,087,000)	(5,013,000)	(286,600)	(266,800)
2008	(3,576,000)	(3,756,000)	(134,400)	(142,200)
Total Jan 2008 - YTD 2014	+415,000	+895,000	(190,500)	(170,100)

- iii. 288,000 jobs added in June;
- iv. April and May employment revised up by 29,000 jobs
- o Unemployment rate nationally down to 6.1% in June, and continues to trend down from its high of 10.0% in October 2009..
- o IL unemployment rate was 7.5% in April , down from 7.9% in March, 8.4% in March and 8.7% in Feb and trending down from its high of 11.4%
- o Conservatives talking point this month is that part time jobs were up 799,000 in June on a seasonally adjusted basis.
(<http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS12600000>) What they ignore is that part time jobs are only up 10,000 vs. June 2013 while we were adding 2.5 million jobs in total.
- o <http://truth-out.org/opinion/item/24804-the-good-news-about-obamacare-in-the-june-jobs-report>
- o http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2014/07/03/employment-situation-june?utm_source=email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=email349-text2&utm_campaign=economy
- o http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-07-04/u-s-seen-as-biggest-oil-producer-after-overtaking-saudi.html?mc_cid=ace7d9450e&mc_eid=dd2d565966
- o **Total Jobs** - <http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES0000000001>
- o **Private Sector Jobs** - <http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES0500000001>
- o **Unemployment Rate** - <http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS14000000>
- o <http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/SMS170000000000000001>
- o <http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/SMS170000090000000001>
- o Renewed Extended Unemployment Insurance Benefits through May passed in the Senate but died in the House. Now we need to start over and get them extended through 2015. Current proposal is to extend for five months, but not make them retroactive.
- o News Release: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.nr0.htm>

2. Budget Deficits - Historical and Projected

Fiscal Year Totals (billions of dollars)

	Bush Budget Years			Obama Budget Years			CBO Projections	
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Receipts	2,524	2,105	2,163	2,303	2,449	2,774	3,032	3,305
% of GDP	17.0%	14.6%	14.7%	14.9%	15.3%	16.7%	17.6%	18.2%
Outlays	2,983	3,518	3,457	3,603	3,538	3,454	3,523	3,774
% of GDP	20.1%	24.4%	23.5%	23.3%	22.1%	20.8%	20.4%	20.8%
Deficit	-459	-1,413	-1,294	-1,300	-1,089	-680	-492	-469
% of GDP	-3.1%	-9.8%	-8.8%	-8.4%	-6.8%	-4.1%	-2.8%	-2.6%

Historical Data - <http://www.cbo.gov/publication/44716>

Apr 2014 Projections - Page 7 of pdf at

http://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/cbofiles/attachments/45229-UpdatedBudgetProjections_2.pdf

- 2014-07-03
<http://theweek.com/article/index/264151/obamas-greatest-failure-the-rapidly-falling-deficit>
- <http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2014-04-14/more-good-news-on-obama-care-just-when-democrats-need-it>
- <http://wallstcheatsheet.com/personal-finance/10-states-most-dependent-on-the-federal-government.html/?ref=YF>

3. Fiscal Action Plan discussion: (Jim Stewart - facilitator)

- Events:
 - minimum wage petition drive
 - July 14th - Minimum Wage Day of Action
 - August 20th - Economic Opportunity Day of Action
- Outreach
 - millennials through social media (twitter, facebook)
 - movie nights (Koch movie - 50 minutes), with discussion points from moveon.org
 - coalescing of grassroots campaigns against greed
<http://billmoyers.com/segment/segment-jim-hightower-on-the-rise-of-populism/>
<http://billmoyers.com/content/activists-to-watch/>
- Voter turnout
 - ~16% voter turnout in the March primary
 - Older voters dominated the turnout, with 24,906 people between 55-64 and 23,418 people aged 65-74 casting ballots. A total of 17,506 over age 75 had voted. A total of 19,000 voters under the age of 45 had gone to the polls.
<http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2014/03/18/in-chicago-voter-turnout-extremely-low/>
2012 turnout : http://elections.gmu.edu/Turnout_2012G.html
 - online registration now available in IL <https://ova.elections.il.gov/>
 - voter information : <http://votesmart.org>
- The president's economic agenda as laid out by Jason Furman
http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/unemployment-is-down-and-we-still-have-work-to-do/2014/07/04/7172bee6-0383-11e4-b8ff-89afd3fad6bd_story.html
- 2014-07-04
http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/with-democrats-split-on-inequality-issues-obama-shifts-talk-away-from-income-gap/2014/07/04/102f1f32-02be-11e4-b8ff-89afd3fad6bd_story.html?hpid=z1
- Good news on Obamacare in jobs report (Sara)
<http://truth-out.org/opinion/item/24804-the-good-news-about-obamacare-in-the-june-jobs->

[report](#)

- Raising the minimum wage
 - “Beginning in January of this year, 13 states individually increased their own minimum wages, creating a sort of natural experiment in which the remaining states could serve as a control group. ... Of the 13 states that raised their minimum wages, all but one saw job growth in the first five months of 2014 (NJ). ... Four of the top ten states in terms of employment performance were states that raised the wage, including Washington, Oregon, Colorado, and Florida.”
<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/no-job-loss-most-states-094500529.html>
<http://www.thefiscaltimes.com/Articles/2014/07/03/Unemployment-Insurance-Strong-June-Jobs-Report-Masks-Woes-Long-Term-Unemployed>
 - minimum wage map of US and Canada
<http://www.retailcouncil.org/sites/default/files/documents/us-canada-minimum-wage-map-2014.pdf>
 - <http://www.nber.org/papers/w15258.pdf>
 - http://www.minneapolisfed.org/publications_papers/pub_display.cfm?id=4620
 - <http://blogs.wsj.com/five-things/2014/04/04/5-things-to-know-about-the-tipped-minimum-wage-debate/>
 - <http://www.forbes.com/sites/jeffreydorfman/2014/01/30/almost-everything-you-have-been-told-about-the-minimum-wage-is-false/print/>
 - <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-schiller-minimum-wage-obama-20140528-story.html>
 - <http://www.cato.org/sites/cato.org/files/pubs/pdf/PA701.pdf>
 - Bill Clinton’s case against a minimum wage hike
<http://www.minimumwage.com/author/saltsman/>
 - <http://www.epi.org/blog/raising-federal-minimum-wage-will-not-lead-to-job-loss/>
 - [http://www.fee.org/the_freeman/detail/slogans-or-science?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+FEE-Freeman+\(Foundation+for+Economic+Education\)](http://www.fee.org/the_freeman/detail/slogans-or-science?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+FEE-Freeman+(Foundation+for+Economic+Education))
 - http://www.socsci.uci.edu/~dneumark/min_wage_review.pdf