

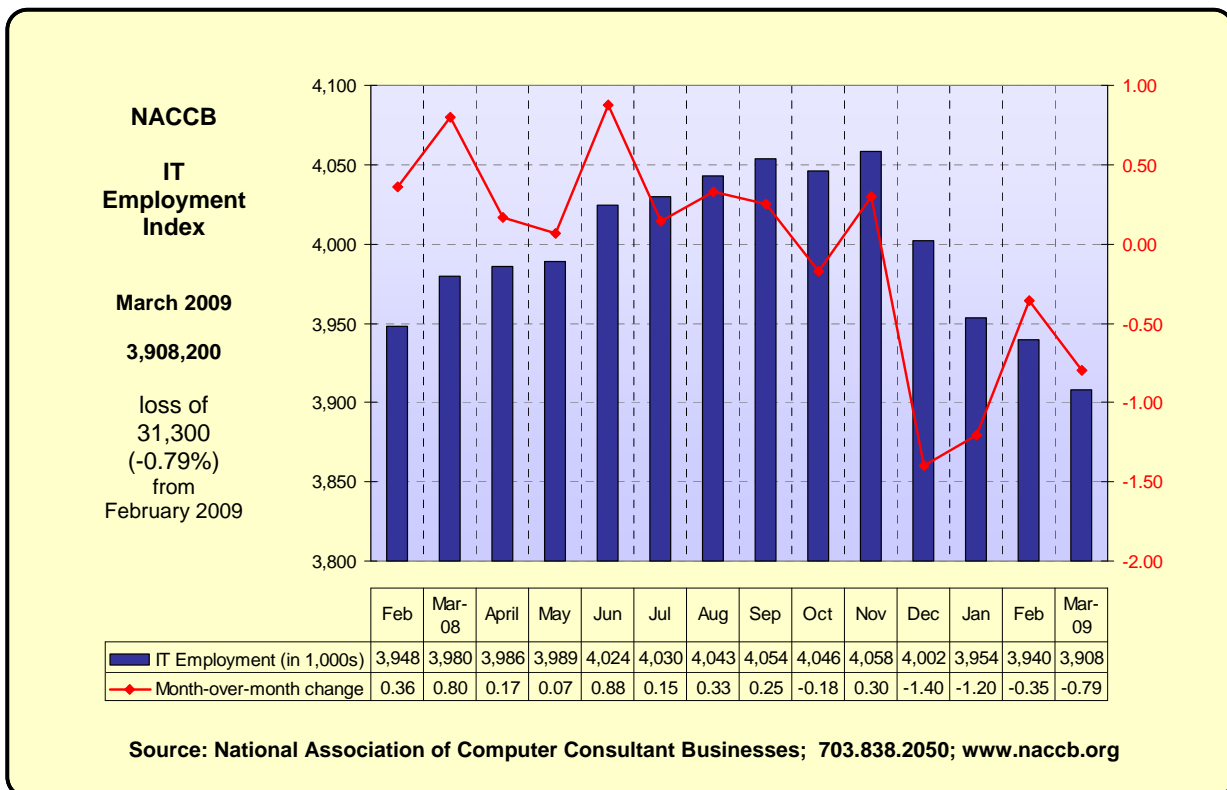
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## IT Employment Declines Again in March

Alexandria, VA, April 8, 2009 – After dropping in December (56,000 jobs or 1.4%), January (48,000 jobs or 1.2%), February (14,000 jobs or .35%), IT employment continued its descent in March shedding 31,300 jobs or .79%, according to the National Association of Computer Consultant Businesses (NACCB), which tracks monthly IT employment.

After peaking in November with over 4 million jobs, IT employment has shed approximately 150,000 jobs or 3.7%. Despite this drop, it was not until this past month that IT employment entered negative territory in a meaningful way on year-over-year basis declining 1.79% since March 2008. While small consolation for those adversely affected, IT employment continued to outperform the general workforce which has shed almost 4.8 million jobs (-3.48%) within the last twelve months.



"Given that employment has historically been a lagging indicator of an economic rebound, the continued decline in national IT employment is not surprising," observed Mark Roberts, CEO of NACCB. "While unemployment rates in many IT skill sets remain well below the national unemployment rate of 8.5%, there is very little to cheer about in March's numbers," commented Roberts.

The IT employment index is published by the National Association of Computer Consultant Businesses (NACCB), the national trade association representing IT staffing and solutions firms.

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*Technical note:* NACCB's IT Employment Index is the first specific measurement of IT employment. This unique measurement of total IT employment is created monthly by studying the ongoing staffing patterns of a dozen IT and computer related occupations in 16 industries and industry sectors employing significant numbers of IT workers including the manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade, financial, information services, business and professional services, and education and health industries. The monthly IT Employment Index is based on U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data, which is subject to monthly revisions, with concomitant revisions to the Index. The IT Employment Index is also subject to annual revisions of BLS data. The IT Index was rebenchmarked in February 2009 with the publication of the BLS January 2009 employment report, reflecting significant revisions of employment data from the past several years.

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