JUNE EMPLOYMENT REPORT INCREASES PROBABILITY THAT BUSH WILL FINISH TERM WITH WORST JOB RECORD SINCE HOOVER

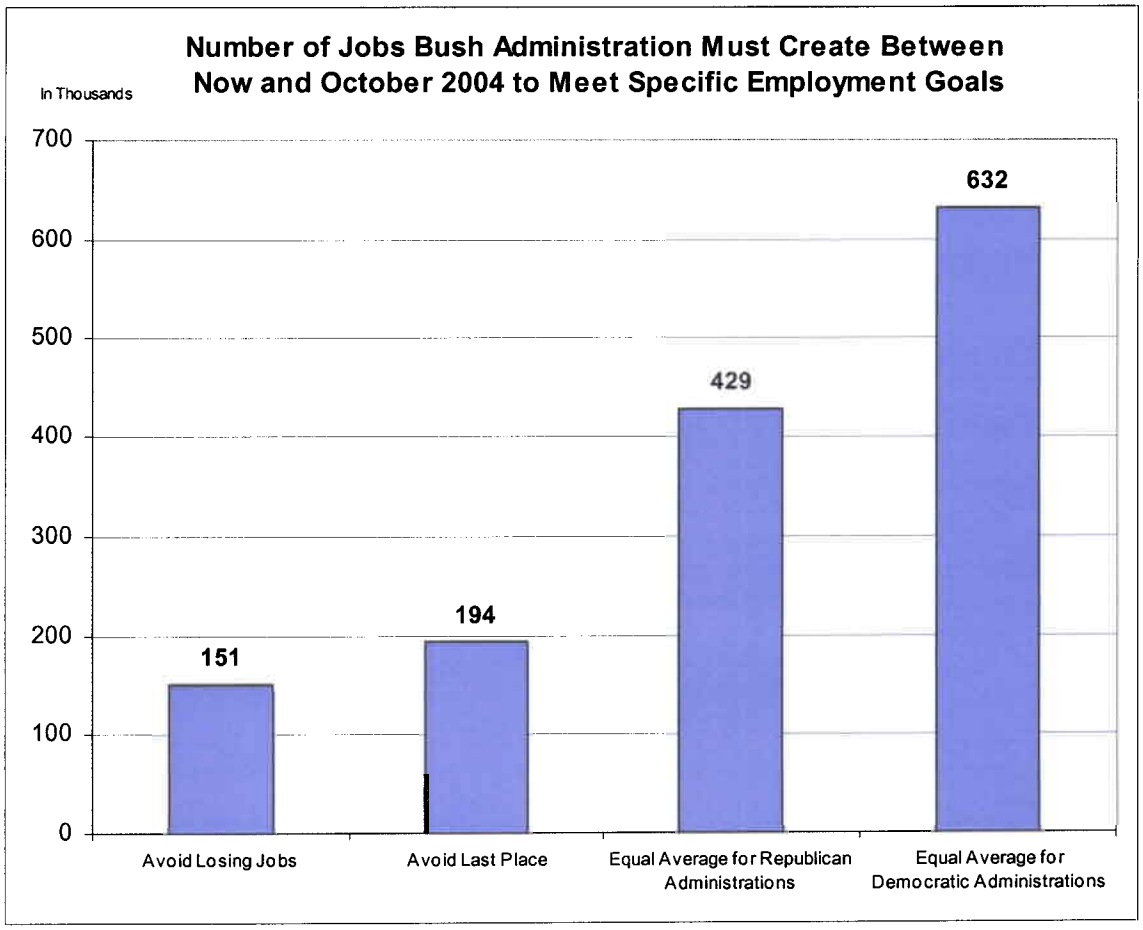
A Report by the Minority Staff of the House Appropriations Committee

This mornings Unemployment Report indicates that the United States has lost another 30,000 jobs. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Non Farm Payrolls have declined from the level of 132,380,00 that existed on the date this administration took office to 129,960,000 in June—a loss of 2,420,000 jobs. With only 16 monthly employment reports left before the 2004 elections it appears increasingly likely that this President may face re-election with the worst job creation record since Herbert Hoover.

No President since Hoover has actually lost jobs over the course of a four-year term. In order to restore sufficient jobs to the American economy to avoid that distinction the Bush Administration will have to add an average of 151,000 jobs a month between now and October 2004. That would be a stark reversal from the average monthly job loss of 83,000 that the country has suffered since this administration took office.

Even then, however, this administration would maintain the worst record since Hoover because the next worst record which belonged to the 2nd Eisenhower Administration, which produced 726,000 jobs or a little more than 15,000 jobs a month. In order to beat that record and avoid last place among administrations since Hoover, the Bush Administration will have to find some way of getting the American economy to produce an 194,000 jobs a month over the next 16 months.

Even that level of economic performance would leave the Bush II record far below average. Among the fourteen presidential administrations prior to the current administration, seven have been Democratic and seven have been Republican. On average Democratic administrations have produced significantly more jobs than Republican administrations. The economy has added an average of 170,000 jobs a month while Democrats were in office and about 99,000 a month while the Republicans were in office. To reach even the Republican average rate of job growth this administration would have to add 429,000 jobs per month over the next 16 months.

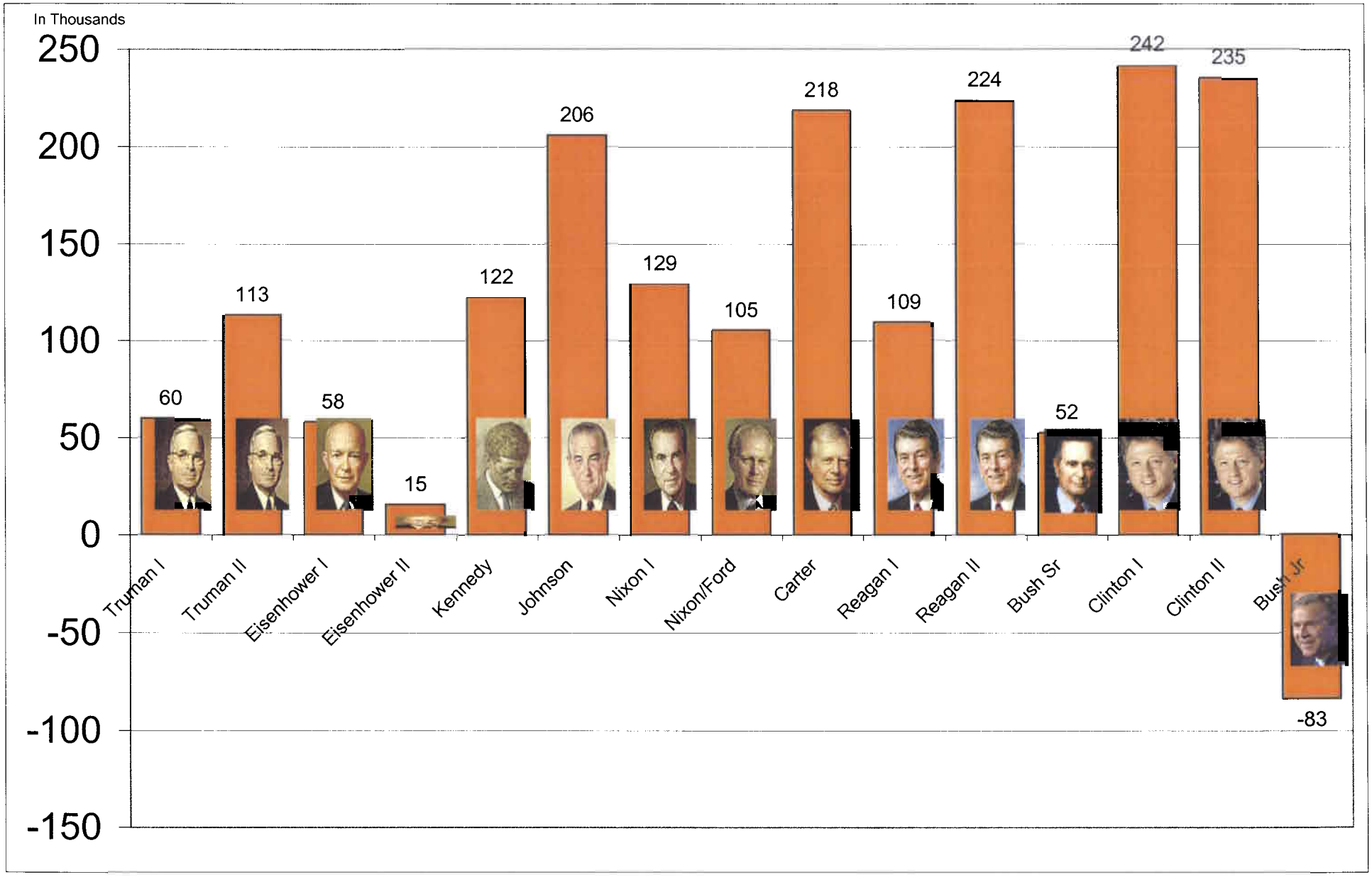


Bureau of Labor Statistics employment numbers also contradict recent claims by the Bush White House that the current employment situation is an extension of problems inherited from the Clinton Administration. The employment statistics not only indicate continued strong growth in the final year of the Clinton Administration with the economy adding an average of 138,000 jobs a month during that twelve month period, but it also show continued job growth in the first months of the Bush administration. During the first three months of 2001, Non Farm payrolls grew by 142,000. Had the economy continued to produce new jobs at the same rate at which they were produced in the first quarter of 2001, there would be nearly four million more people with jobs in the United States than is indicated by the June unemployment report indicates

Bush Closing in on Worst Job Creation Record Since Hoover

June Data Indicates U.S. Has Lost 2,420,000 Non Farm Jobs in Last 29 Months

(Average Monthly Growth in Employment During Presidency)



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