The Great Federal Data Re-Opening Of 2025: Frequently Asked Questions

November 11, 2025 - By Tim Cooper

With the federal government shutdown that began Oct 1 set to end later this week, dozens of postponed government agency data reports are due to be rescheduled for release over the coming weeks and months. Some may be cancelled altogether. Below we go through the prospects for major data releases over the coming weeks. MNI's rough estimates are in the table below – we will publish updates to the official calendar as and when they are announced in the coming days.

Key Data Points Postponed Due To Government Shutdown

	Period Covered	Originally Scheduled	Possible Release	Notes	Gov't Agency
CPI	September	Wed Oct 15	Released On Oct 24		
	October	Thu Nov 13	Possibly cancelled	May be combined w Nov Release	BLS
	November	Wed Dec 10	1 Week Later	May be combined w Oct data	
Nonfarm Payrolls	September	Fri Oct 3	Nov 14 - Nov 18		
	October	Fri Nov 7	3-4 Week Delay	Possible truncated report (no household survey)	BLS
	November	Fri Dec 5	1 Week Delay		
GDP	Q3 Advance	Thu Oct 30	Late Nov		BEA
PCE	September	Fri Oct 31	Late Nov	Price data relies on CPI/PPI/Imp Price reports	BEA
	October	Wed Nov 26	N/A		
PPI	September	Thu Oct 16	Late Nov		BLS
	October	Fri Nov 14	Early Dec	Data collection may be less reliable than usual	
Import/Export Prices	September	Fri Oct 17	Late Nov		BLS
	October	Tue Nov 18	Early Dec		
Retail Sales	September	Thu Oct 16	Late Nov	May be a combined release	Census Bureau
	October	Fri Nov 14	Early Dec		

Source: BLS/BEA/Census Bureau, MNI Estimates

What data has been postponed, and will postponements continue to be made after the shutdown?

- We assume that federal agencies will fully re-open on Thursday November 14.
- The only real historical analogue to the current situation is the 2013 shutdown which lasted from Oct 1 through Oct 16. That was only a little over 2 weeks compared with the roughly 6 weeks in the current shutdown, and even so it caused multiple data release postponements and even cancellations that reverberated through December.
- We enclose an appendix of the key federal government data points that were postponed from their original release dates in October through the end of this week (we don't expect any data to be released as scheduled by this Friday).
- In 2013, knock-on effects kept hitting for weeks and months after the shutdown ended, with November releases being postponed. That will be worse this time. It probably increases the probability we will get "doubled-up" releases, certainly for Census Bureau numbers as was the case in 2013, but this time given the logjam it could force combined releases for data points by the BLS too.

When will updated data release schedules be available?

- In October 2013's shutdown, then-President Obama signed the re-opening bill late Wednesday Oct 16. Federal employees went "back to work" Thursday Oct 17 and on that day, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released a schedule for postponed and upcoming data releases: we publish the major postponements published by the BLS in an appendix below.

- Almost every data point was postponed, even those due out in November, as the BLS attempted to work through the backlog and collect underlying data. The BLS's first post-shutdown release was Oct 21, which was the following Monday. September Nonfarm Payrolls, which were due out Oct 4, were released Oct 22.
- The BEA and Census Bureau weren't able to come up with a new release schedule until Tuesday Oct 21. BEA is in a relatively tougher spot because it needs data inputs from other federal agencies (including Census Bureau and BLS) for key data points including PCE and GDP, both of which were due to see the latest updates in late October.
- We would expect a similar schedule this time assuming funding is restored by late Wednesday, with BLS able to update on Thursday or at latest Friday on its updated schedule but the BEA and Census Bureau to follow behind by a few days.
- However there will be ongoing assessments as agency workers determine what they are and are not able to compile, so this will be a process, rather than an all-at-once release.

How delayed will (X or Y) data release be?

- We could simply count the number of working days between 2013's scheduled release and the eventual actual postponed release, and apply the same delay to the 2025 releases.
- That methodology could apply to some of the September reports for which data has been collected and calculations take little time to complete. However, other data points will take much longer to compile.
- To give two examples: in 2013, the BLS was due to publish Producer Price data for September on Friday Oct 11. They didn't release it until Oct 29 (recall the shutdown was over on Oct 17), suggesting that it took a fairly long time to put the prior month's data together. Conversely for the Census Bureau's durable goods orders / inventories / shipments advance report for September, it was originally due out on Oct 25 and was published on that day with no delay.
- There are other complications including the major Thanksgiving holiday at the end of the month, which could both curtail survey efforts as well as the time required for agencies to compile the data.
- We are going through the methodologies used for each of the major releases and will provide more detail on how this could delay or postpone releases. For now we will go through the "Tier 1" releases that we have already missed.

When will the monthly inflation and employment reports be released?

- Our thinking here is partly based on the 2013 experience, but also largely on interviews our Policy Team conducted with two ex-BLS commissioners available **here** and **here**.
- **CPI:** Starting with CPI: the BLS already released September data (albeit delayed), but as of this week will have postponed the October release. It looks unlikely that the BLS will be able to release October CPI at all: most of the survey and otherwise data required was not collected in the month.
- For November's report, it's a close call whether the data can be released. For example, it is questionable whether BLS field agents can collect 4 weeks of data in half that time. It will be a judgment call on the part of the BLS whether to publish their best estimate of November CPI. If they do, it is possible they linearly divide the price index growth over 2 months, to fill in a number for Oct CPI and Nov CPI. This would be unprecedented so we're not sure what the data set would look like.
- Overall, CPI data look like they will be less robust than usual until at least the December report out in Jan.
- **Nonfarm Payrolls:** In better news, the BLS is probably in a position to start releasing data as soon as Friday, namely the September nonfarm payrolls report which by all accounts was already in hand as the shutdown began. Indeed we wouldn't be surprised by a Friday morning release though this could slip into early next week (per the 2013 template).
- For the October data, we could see a partial release. The establishment data are collected electronically, so the payrolls figures will be published. However, the household survey – which is used to produce variables including the unemployment and participation rates - was never fielded, and may never be.
- For November, again looking at the 2013 example, the BLS was able to publish October payrolls on Nov 8, exactly a week after its originally scheduled date. The 2025 shutdown may have concluded just in time to allow for a similarly limited delay this time (so a Dec 5 scheduled release may be pushed back to Dec 12).

Will we see any "doubled up" reports?

- In 2013, we didn't see any "doubled up" releases from the BLS when the data flow restarted. By this we mean, the BLS schedule did not for example make any simultaneous August + September or September + October releases. For example in 2013, August JOLTS was due out on Oct 8, rescheduled to Oct 24, with the September JOLTS postponed from Nov 8 to Nov 22. Additionally there were no "doubled up" releases in terms of posting multiple different data sets at the same time: September nonfarm payrolls were released Oct 22, import/export prices Oct 23, and JOLTS Oct 24. We take from this experience that the BLS will aim to take its time and not try to release multiple major reports at once.
- The BEA only had 3 major postponed releases in 2013 and none required "doubling up". However, the Census Bureau released multiple months' worth of indicators at once in some instances: most notable was New Residential Construction data (housing starts/permits/completions) for which September, October, and November data were released simultaneously in December after multiple postponements. We wouldn't be surprised to see similar this time.

What major data is likely to be put together relatively quickly?

- **Weekly jobless claims:** The 2025 shutdown was different from 2013's from a data perspective because back then, the Department of Labor continued to publish weekly claims data. This time, the DOL has released state-by-state data but analysts have been forced to come up with their own calculations for the national figure. In theory it should be quick and easy for DOL to start back up publishing jobless claims data on Thursday at 0830ET so we wouldn't be surprised to see such a release – note that it's the DOL itself and not the BLS that publishes the claims report. That said it's sure to start getting back on the regular publication schedule by Thursday Nov 20.
- **GDP:** In 2013, this release was delayed from late October but only to Nov 7; we would expect to see the BEA pull it together by end-November.
- **PCE:** The PCE price reports of course depend on CPI (and PPI and Import Price) inputs so while a September release is likely to come around the same time as Q3 GDP, we're not sure we will get an October PCE price report at all (whether the BEA compiles spending/income data without the deflators is another question).
- **PPI / Import Prices:** The BLS produced the import/export price data without much of a delay in 2013; PPI took longer, with September's delayed from Oct 11 to 29 and October's a week (Nov 14 to 21). Import/Export prices are largely composed of administrative trade data from other agencies though there is an economist field survey element too. The PPI data inputs are largely collected via firms' electronic submissions to the BLS, being asked to report prices as of Tuesday of the week containing the 13th of the month, failing which a BLS economist calls them. As such October's data may be less reliable than usual though we await the BLS's verdict.
- **Durable goods/inventories:** See point above for how quickly the Census Bureau put this data together last time. This could be "doubled up" data for September and October for release in early November.
- **Retail sales:** As of this Friday we will have missed both the September and October releases. In 2013 Census got these together relatively quickly, with September out 2 weeks after originally due to be released and October delayed a week. It's plausible that the September data could be out by end-November, with the October data to follow shortly thereafter, though this could be a "double" release.

What federal government data will the Fed have available by its Dec 9-10 meeting?

- The Fed should have the September and October Employment Report data in hand, though the latter could be truncated as noted above. The November report looks likely to come out just after the Fed meeting.
- Inflation is a different story. September CPI of course has been published, and the September PCE data should be in line to be produced by the BEA but with a lag – in 2013 it released the September data on Nov 8.
- That will probably be the last piece of major inflation data before the Fed meeting. As noted above, the October CPI report may not be released at all. The November data was scheduled to be released on the morning of the FOMC decision but that looks extremely unlikely now.
- Q3 advance GDP should be in hand, as should September/October retail sales.

mni

U.S. Federal Agency Data Releases In Government Shutdown

Data postponed

Data postponed but imputed

Data released/expected to be released

Date	Time (ET)	Impact	Event	Provider	Period
Wednesday, Oct 01	1000	**	Construction Spending	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Aug
Thursday, Oct 02	830	***	Jobless Claims	BLS (Dept of Labor)	
Thursday, Oct 02	1000	**	Factory New Orders	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Aug
Friday, Oct 03	830	***	Employment Report	BLS (Dept of Labor)	Sept
Tuesday, Oct 07	830	**	Trade Balance	BEA / Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Aug
Thursday, Oct 09	830	***	Jobless Claims	BLS (Dept of Labor)	
Thursday, Oct 09	1000	**	Wholesale Trade	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Aug
Wednesday, Oct 15	830	***	CPI	BLS (Dept of Labor)	Sept
Thursday, Oct 16	830	***	Jobless Claims	BLS (Dept of Labor)	
Thursday, Oct 16	830	***	Retail Sales	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Sept
Thursday, Oct 16	830	***	PPI	BLS (Dept of Labor)	Sept
Thursday, Oct 16	1000	*	Business Inventories	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Sept
Friday, Oct 17	830	***	Housing Starts/Building Permits	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Sept
Friday, Oct 17	830	**	Import/Export Price Index	BLS (Dept of Labor)	Sept
Friday, Oct 17	915	***	Industrial Production	Federal Reserve	Sept
Friday, Oct 17	1600	**	TICS	Dept of Treasury	Aug
Thursday, Oct 23	830	***	Jobless Claims	BLS (Dept of Labor)	
Friday, Oct 24	830	***	CPI	BLS (Dept of Labor)	Sept
Friday, Oct 24	1000	***	New Home Sales	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Sept
Monday, Oct 27	830	**	Durable Goods Orders	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Sept
Wednesday, Oct 29	830	**	Advance Goods Trade/Business Inventories	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Sept
Thursday, Oct 30	830	***	Jobless Claims	BLS (Dept of Labor)	
Thursday, Oct 30	830	***	GDP	BEA (Dept of Commerce)	Q3 Adv.
Friday, Oct 31	830	***	PCE / Core PCE	BEA (Dept of Commerce)	Sept
Friday, Oct 31	830	***	Employment Cost Index	BEA (Dept of Commerce)	Q3
Monday, Nov 03	1000	*	Construction Spending m/m	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Sept
Tuesday, Nov 04	830	**	Trade Balance	BEA (Dept of Commerce)	Sept
Tuesday, Nov 04	1000	**	Factory Orders/Durable Goods (Final)	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Sept
Tuesday, Nov 04	1000	***	JOLTS job openings level	BLS (Dept of Labor)	Sept
Thursday, Nov 06	830	***	Jobless Claims	BLS (Dept of Labor)	
Thursday, Nov 06	830	**	Non-Farm Productivity / Unit Labor Costs	BLS (Dept of Labor)	Q3
Thursday, Nov 06	1000	**	Wholesale Inventories / Sales	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Sept
Friday, Nov 07	830	***	Nonfarm Payrolls	BLS (Dept of Labor)	Oct
Thursday, Nov 13	830	***	Jobless Claims	BLS (Dept of Labor)	
Thursday, Nov 13	830	***	CPI	BLS (Dept of Labor)	Oct
Thursday, Nov 13	1400	**	Treasury Budget Balance	Dept of Treasury	Oct
Friday, Nov 14	830	***	Retail Sales	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Oct
Friday, Nov 14	830	***	PPI	BLS (Dept of Labor)	Oct
Friday, Nov 14	1000	*	Business Inventories	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Sept
Tuesday, Nov 18	830	**	Import/Export Price Index	BLS (Dept of Labor)	Oct
Tuesday, Nov 18	915	***	Industrial Production	Federal Reserve	Oct
Tuesday, Nov 18	1600	**	Net TICS Flows	Dept of Treasury	Sept
Wednesday, Nov 19	830	***	Housing Starts/Building Permits	Census Bureau (Dept of Commerce)	Oct
Thursday, Nov 20	830	***	Initial Jobless Claims		

BLS Rescheduled Data After 2013 Shutdown

Economic Indicator	Previously Scheduled Date	Revised Release Date	Working Days Delayed	Days After October 17
Employment Situation (Sep 2013)	4-Oct-13	22-Oct-13	12	5
U.S. Import and Export Price Indexes (Sep 2013)	10-Oct-13	23-Oct-13	9	6
Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (Aug 2013)	8-Oct-13	24-Oct-13	12	7
Producer Price Index (Sep 2013)	11-Oct-13	29-Oct-13	12	12
Consumer Price Index (Sep 2013)	16-Oct-13	30-Oct-13	10	13
Employment Situation (Oct 2013)	1-Nov-13	8-Nov-13	5	22
Productivity and Costs (Prelim) (3rd Qtr 2013)	6-Nov-13	14-Nov-13	6	28
U.S. Import and Export Price Indexes (Oct 2013)	13-Nov-13	15-Nov-13	2	29
Employment Cost Index (3rd Qtr 2013)	31-Oct-13	19-Nov-13	14	33
Consumer Price Index (Oct 2013)	15-Nov-13	20-Nov-13	3	34
Producer Price Index (Oct 2013)	14-Nov-13	21-Nov-13	5	35
Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (Sep 2013)	8-Nov-13	22-Nov-13	10	36
Business Employment Dynamics (1st Qtr 2013)	19-Nov-13	10-Dec-13	16	54
Productivity and Costs (Revised) (3rd Qtr 2013)	4-Dec-13	16-Dec-13	8	60

"Alternative" Data Sources

Below is a list of data that is expected to be released throughout the duration of the US federal government shutdown:

Labor Market

- **ADP Employment -** private payrolls and wage trends, released Wed before BLS Employment Report (next Nov 5). Note ADP also produces weekly series (0815ET Tuesdays except for the week of the monthly report). https://adpemploymentreport.com/
- **Revelio Public Labor Statistics** - released day before BLS Employment Report (next Nov 6) - https://www.reveliolabs.com/public-labor-statistics/
- **Chicago Fed Labor Market Indicators -** unemployment rate estimate (semi-monthly, next prelim Oct 27 and next final Nov 6) https://www.chicagofed.org/research/data/chicago-fed-labor-market-indicators/latest-release
- **Initial / continuing jobless claims based on Department of Labor state-by-state statistics** (raw data released Thu through Friday morning, own calculations required for national reading - **ETA 539** https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/DataDownloads.asp ; seasonal factors provided by BLS: https://www.bls.gov/lau/current-factors.htm
- **Conference Board labor differential** (jobs "plentiful" minus "hard to get", correlated with trends in national unemployment rate - link under "Inflation" below
- **Indeed job openings** – daily, corresponds with JOLTS job openings data - (available through FRED though note data are copyrighted): https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/IHLIDXUS)
- **Morning Consult U.S. Jobs and Labor Tracker** – have made public their proprietary data on the labor market during the Gov't shutdown. Updates 2x a month: https://pro.morningconsult.com/trackers/jobs-and-labor-tracker
- **Homebase Main Street Health Report** (hours worked, employees working, wages) based on data gathered from 100k businesses/2M hourly employees **–** https://www.joinhomebase.com/data

Retail Sales/Consumer

- **Johnson Redbook Retail Sales Index** (weekly, Tues 0855ET)
- **Chicago CARTS** for ex-auto retail sales, 0830ET (semi-monthly)- https://www.chicagofed.org/research/data/carts/current-data
- **Wards Automotive** light vehicle sales (monthly) https://www.wardsauto.com/topic/vehicles/
- **Adobe Digital Economy** sales (https://business.adobe.com/resources/digital-economy-index.html)
- **BofA credit card spending data** (available ad hoc, no data downloadable)
- **Federal Reserve Consumer Credit** (monthly) https://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/g19/current/
- **UMichigan / Conference Board** consumer surveys links under "Inflation" below
- **OpenTable online restaurant reservations** (discretionary spending) released daily: https://www.opentable.com/c/state-of-industry/
- **TSA checkpoint numbers** (discretionary travel) with a week or so lag: https://www.tsa.gov/travel/passenger-volumes

Inflation

- **Manheim used vehicle prices**, released semi-monthly https://site.manheim.com/en/services/consulting/used-vehicle-value-index.html
- **Zillow rental inflation (released 16th of month):** https://www.zillow.com/research/data/
- **Apartment List National Rent Report (rental inflation)** – https://www.apartmentlist.com/research/national-rent-data
- **NY Fed inflation expectations -** https://www.newyorkfed.org/microeconomics/sce
- **NY Fed GSCPI supply chain index (**4th business day of month**) -** https://www.newyorkfed.org/research/policy/gscpi#/overview

- **Conference Board inflation expectations** https://www.conference-board.org/topics/consumer-confidence/
- **UMichigan inflation expectations** https://www.sca.isr.umich.edu/

General activity / multi-purpose

- **ISM Services / Manufacturing reports** (activity, employment, inflation), see MNI High-Speed Calendar for schedule
- **Regional Fed Services/Manufacturing reports** (activity, employment, inflation), see MNI High-Speed Calendar for schedule
- **MNI Chicago Business Barometer ("Chicago PMI")** (activity, employment, inflation) – last working day of month - https://chicago.ismworld.org/news-publications/reports/research-survey/
- **NFIB small business report** (activity, employment, inflation)
- **S&P Global PMIs** (activity, employment, inflation), see MNI High-Speed Calendar for schedule
- **Daily Treasury Statement** - out daily ~4pm ET. May capture employment trends via individual tax trends; also fiscal): https://fiscaldata.treasury.gov/datasets/daily-treasury-statement/operating-cash-balance
- **Dallas Fed's Weekly Economic Index** - out Thus 1130ET - based mostly on private sector indicators, and imputes weekly jobless claims while gov't is shut https://www.dallasfed.org/research/wei

Housing / Construction

- **NAHB / Wells Fargo homebuilder sentiment** and existing home sales - https://www.nahb.org/news-and-economics/housing-economics/indices/housing-market-index
- **MBA mortgage applications (**weekly, Weds 0700ET)
- **Architectural Billings Index** (general construction, monthly, dates TBD) - https://www.aia.org/aia-architecture-billings-index
- **Carlyle Group** – ad hoc, internally-generated indicators including payrolls and GDP