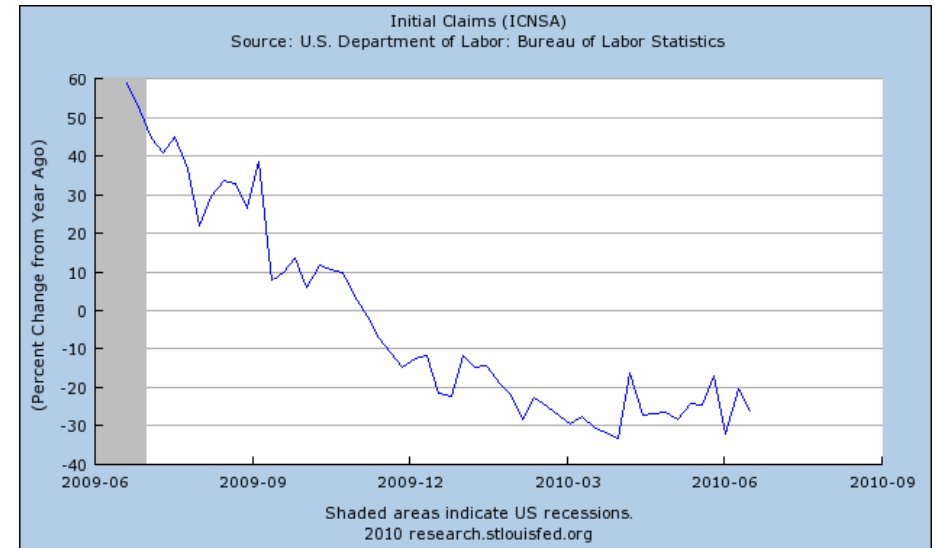
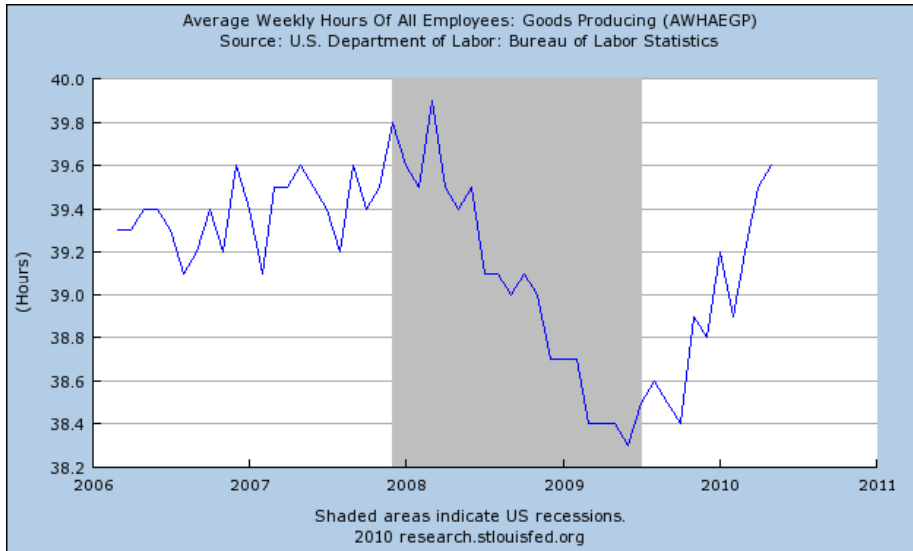


# Lost in the Noise

Pessimistic views of the economy dominate the news, but employment and productivity show signs of continuing improvement.



Initial jobless claims (top right chart) and measures of labor productivity such as average weekly hours of goods producing employees (top left chart) indicate that employment has consistently improved since the economic recovery began in early to mid 2009. Next week's chart will continue to investigate fundamental indicators of economic health and stability.

Data from <http://federalreserve.gov>