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Current Employment Statistics Highlights



December 2013

Release Date: January 10, 2014

Prepared by Staff of the National Estimates Branch
Current Employment Statistics Survey
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

202-691-6555

[Email CES](#)

Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, December 2013

Total nonfarm: + 74,000

Total private: + 87,000

Nonfarm employment edged up in December. Job growth averaged 182,000 per month in 2013, about the same as in 2012 (+183,000 per month). In December, retail trade, temporary help services, and wholesale trade added jobs, while information lost jobs.

The employment change for November revised up by 38,000 (from +203,000 to +241,000).

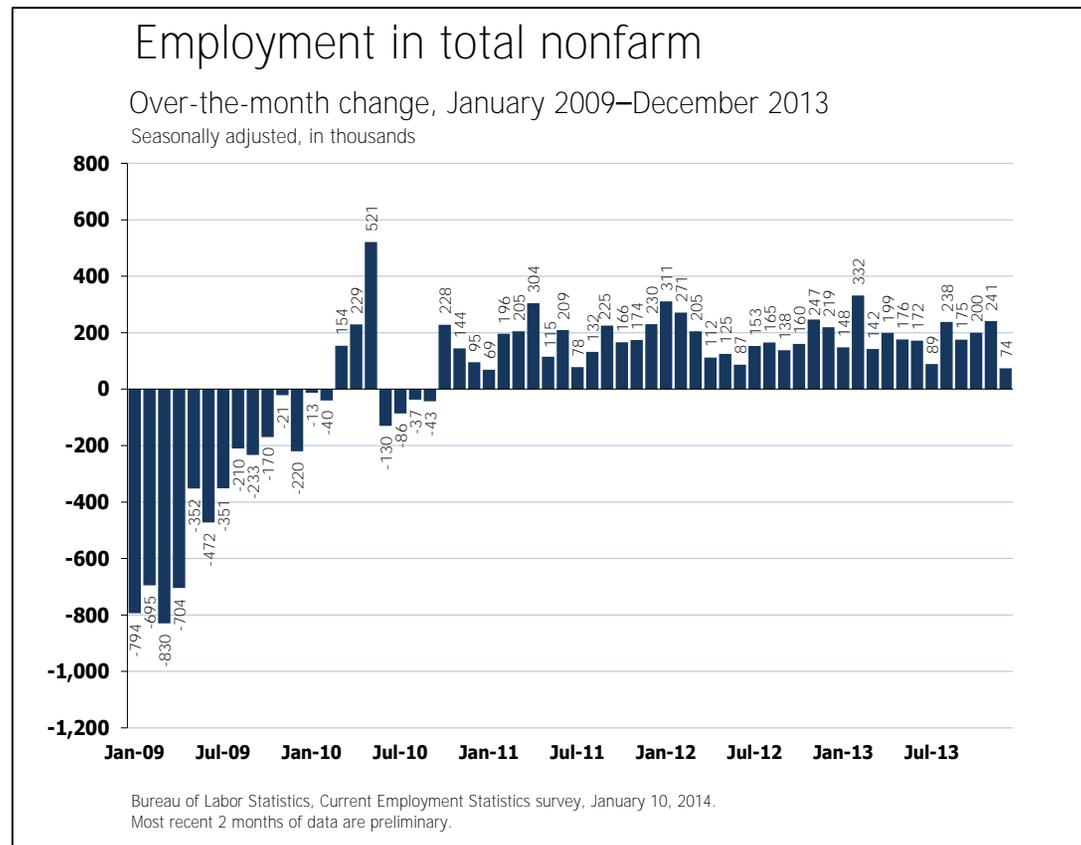
Average hourly earnings continued to trend up in December (+2 cents) and were up 1.8 percent over the year. Average weekly hours fell 0.1 hour from November to December.

+ 55,000 Retail trade

In December, retail trade added 55,000 jobs. Job growth was widespread with automobile dealers, food and beverage stores, general merchandise stores, and clothing and clothing accessories stores contributing to the gain. Over the year, employment in the retail sector expanded by an average 32,000 per month.

+ 19,000 Professional and business services

Professional and business services continued to add jobs in December (+19,000), with gains



averaging 53,000 per month in 2013.

Employment in temporary help services grew by 40,000 in December, while accounting and bookkeeping services lost 25,000 jobs.

+ 15,000 Wholesale trade

Wholesale trade continued to add jobs in December (+15,000). Employment growth in the sector averaged 8,000 per month in 2013. Most of the job growth over the month came from electronic markets and agents and brokers, which added 9,000 jobs.

Current Employment Statistics Survey, December 2013

-12,000 Information

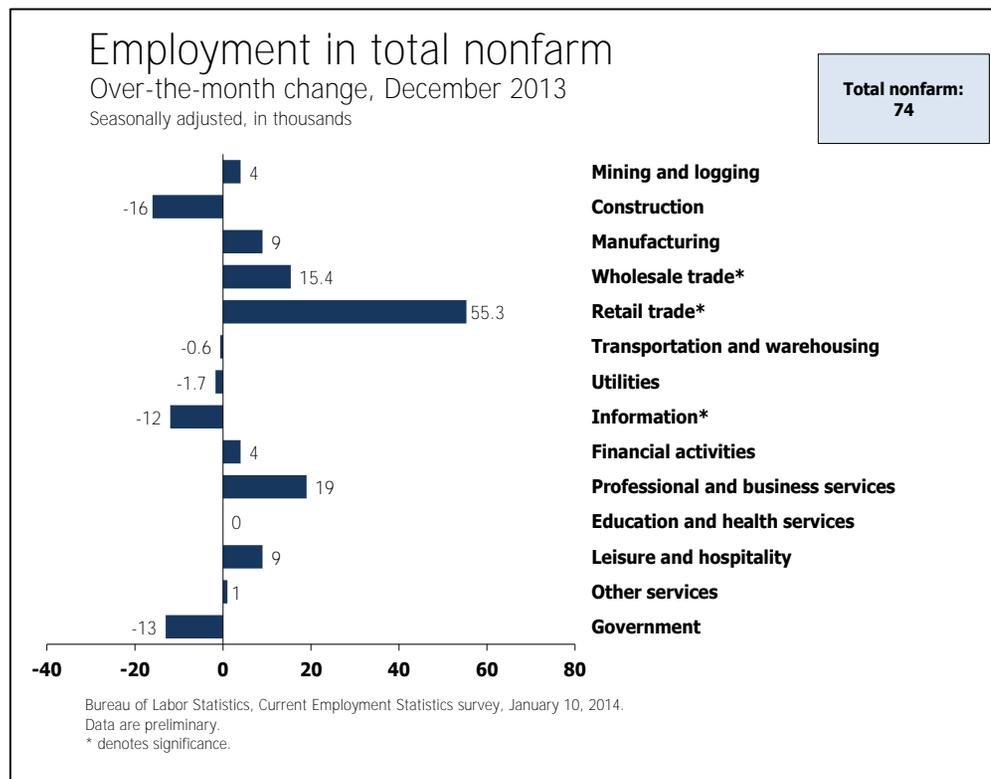
Within Information, employment in the volatile motion picture and sound recording industry fell by 14,000 jobs.

+ 9,000 Manufacturing

Manufacturing employment continued to trend up in December (+9,000). Since July, manufacturers have added 80,000 jobs, after losing 40,000 jobs in the prior 5 months. In December, primary metals and petroleum and coal products added jobs, while electronic instruments lost jobs.

- 1,000 Transportation and warehousing

Within transportation and warehousing, employment in couriers and messengers fell by 6,000, partly offsetting a gain of 14,000 in November.



0 Education and health services

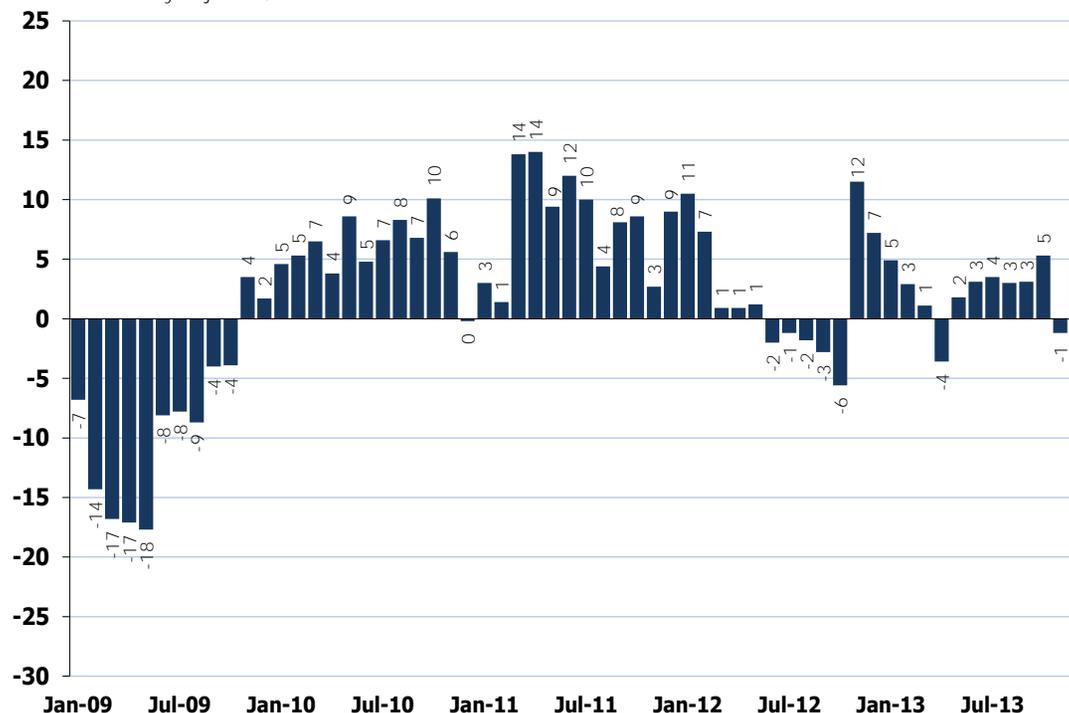
Health care employment changed little (-6,000) in December. Weakness was spread throughout most of the industry. In 2013, employment gains in health care averaged 17,000 per month, compared to an average gain of 27,000 per month in 2012.

Mining & Logging

Employment in mining

Over-the-month change, January 2009–December 2013

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



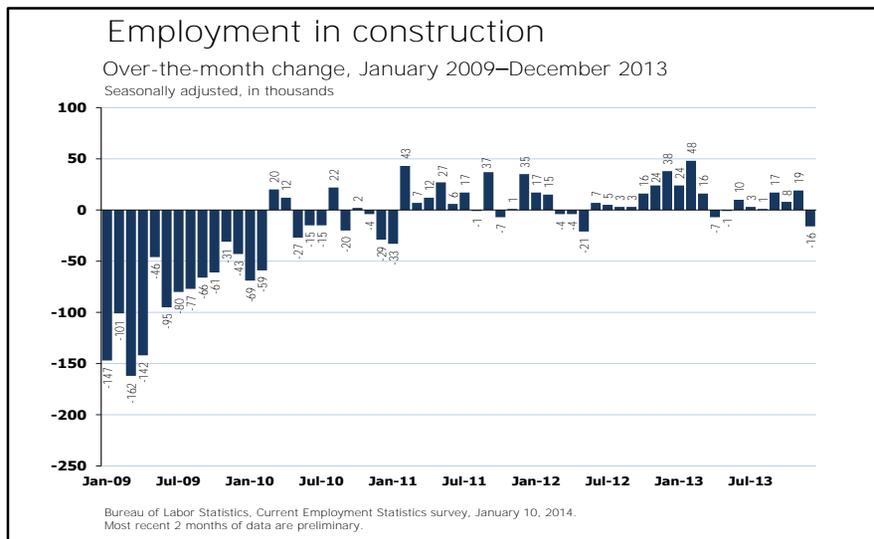
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, January 10, 2014.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

In December, mining and logging employment edged up (+4,000). Logging shed 2,000 jobs, while mining employment increased by 5,000.

During 2013, mining and logging employment expanded by 31,000. Nearly all of the job growth over the period was in mining (+29,000).

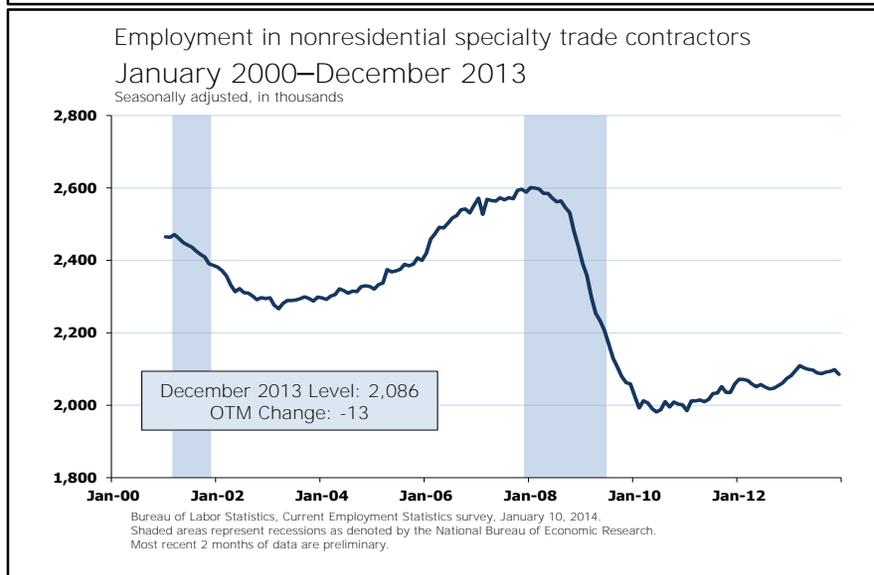
Mining-related indicators for December reflect increased demand and help explain the December employment gain. The U.S. Energy Information Administration reported the West Texas Intermediate Crude Oil price rose from \$93.80 to \$96.27 per barrel, crude oil stocks fell from 388.5 to 372.3 million barrels, and refinery capacity utilization rose from 87.8 to 91.5 percent.

Construction

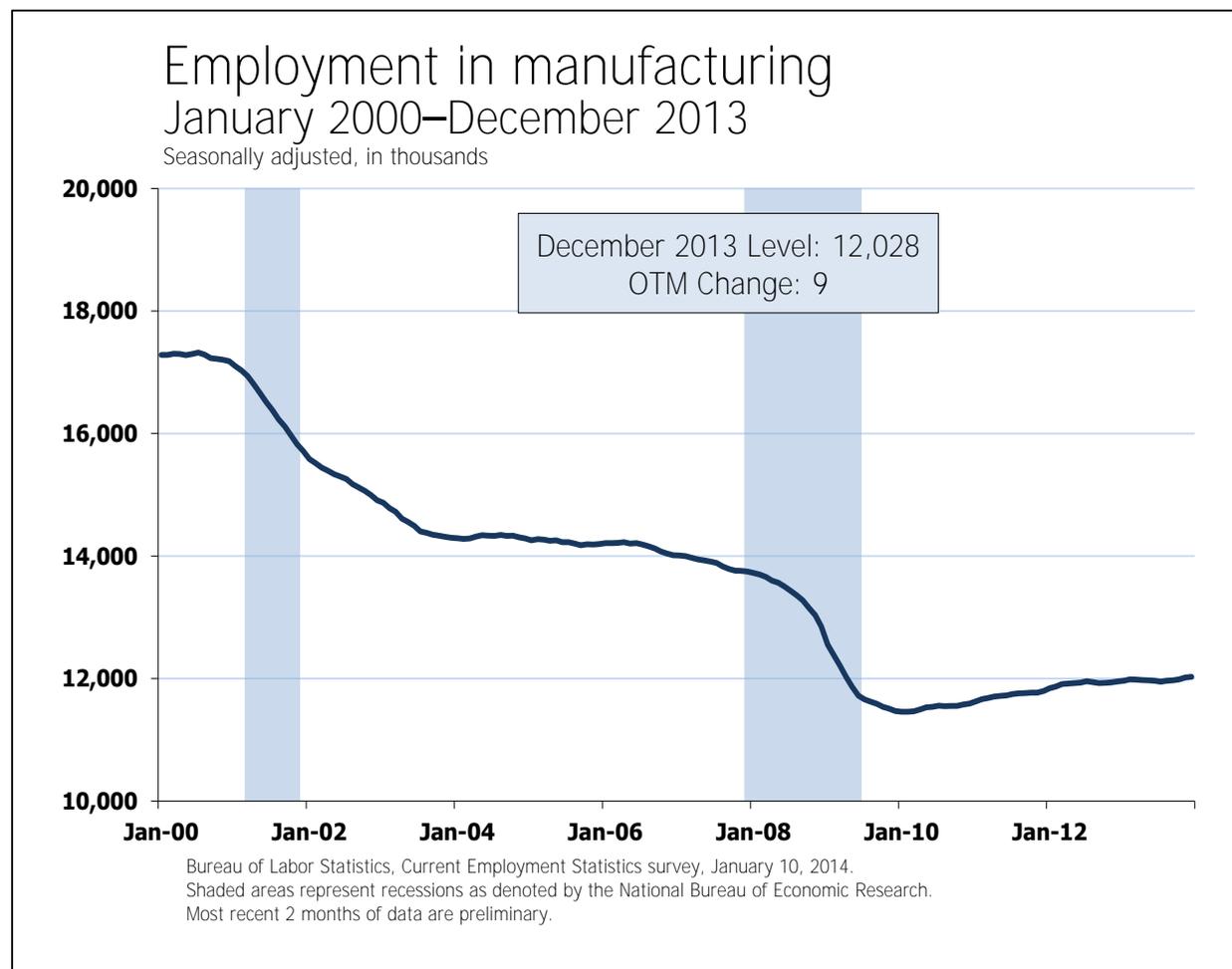


Employment in construction edged down in December (-16,000), bringing the current 6-month net change to +32,000. This change represents a deceleration in growth compared to the first 6 months of 2013, which saw a net gain of 90,000 jobs.

In December, nonresidential specialty trade contractors constituted the bulk of the job loss, shedding 13,000 jobs and reversing small gains over the prior 3 months. In December, employment declines possibly reflected unusually cold weather in parts of the country.

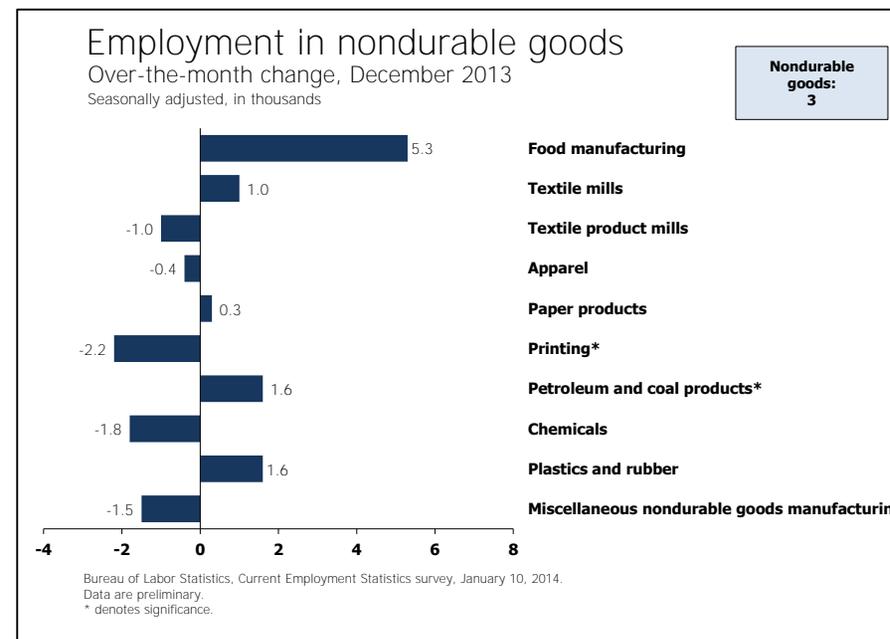
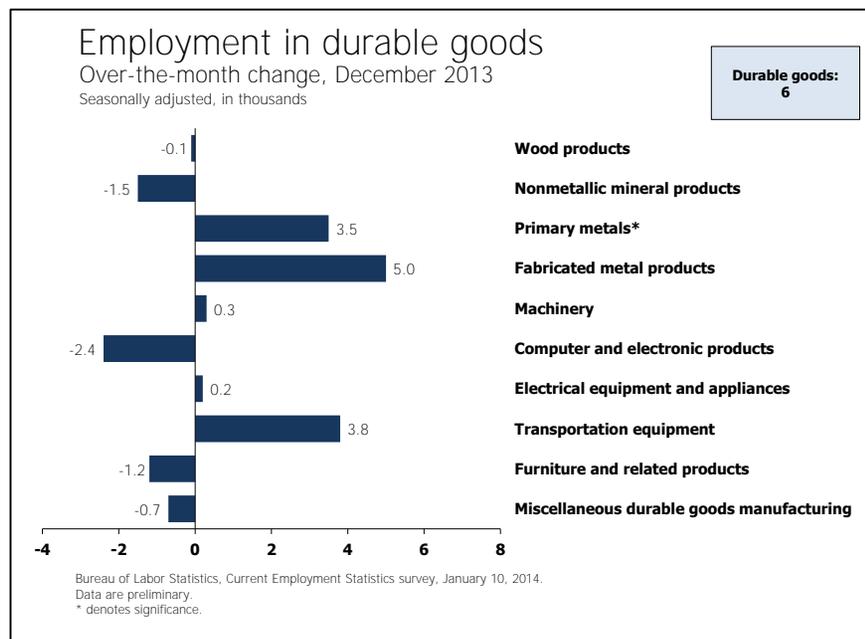


Manufacturing



In December, employment in manufacturing continued to trend up (+9,000). In 2013, the industry added 77,000 jobs, compared to 154,000 jobs added in 2012.

Manufacturing



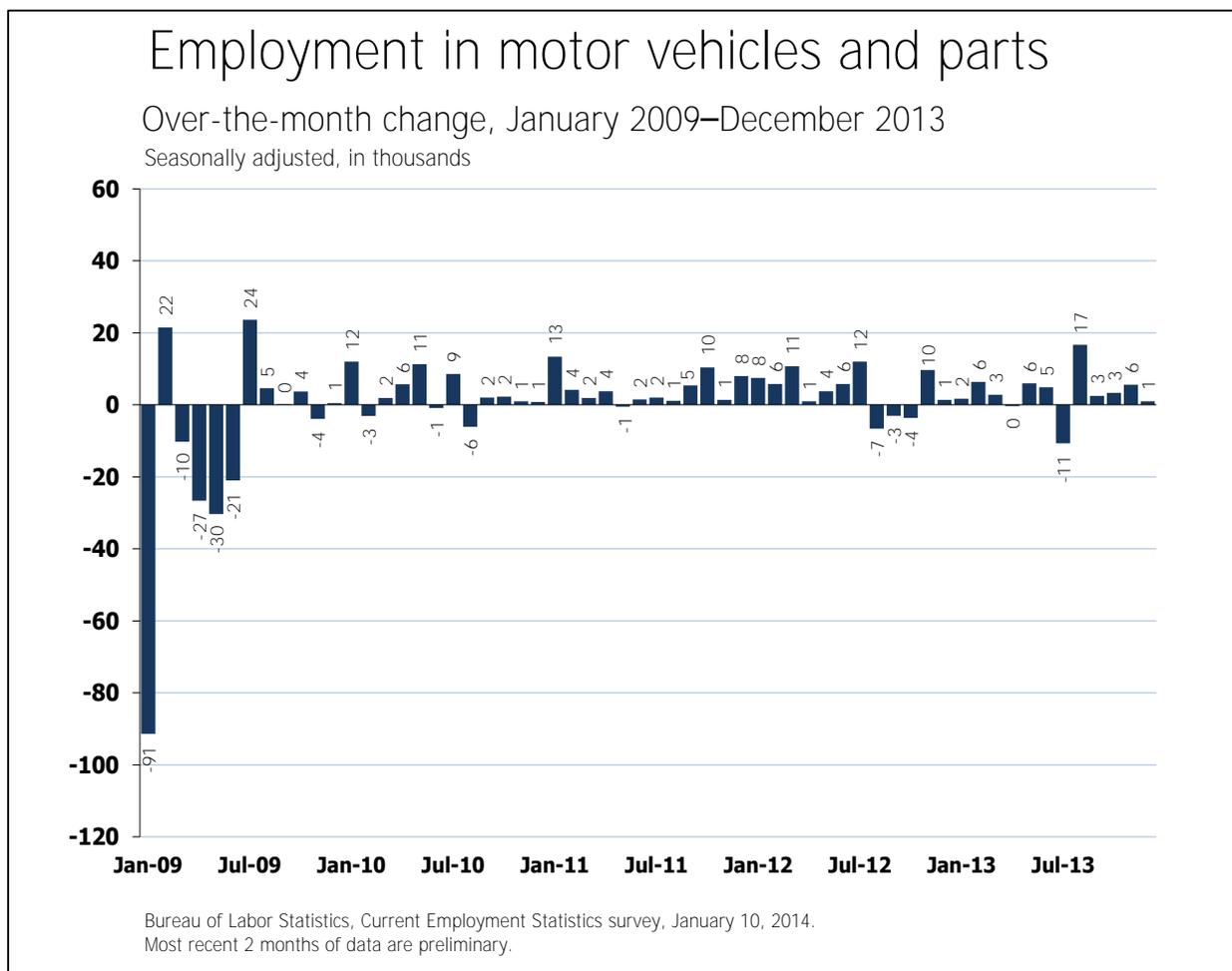
NAICS 331 – Primary metals

Primary Metals added 4,000 jobs in December, however, employment in the industry changed little, on net, over the year.

NAICS 324 – Petroleum and coal products

In December, petroleum and coal products added 2,000 jobs. During 2013, employment changed little in petroleum and coal products.

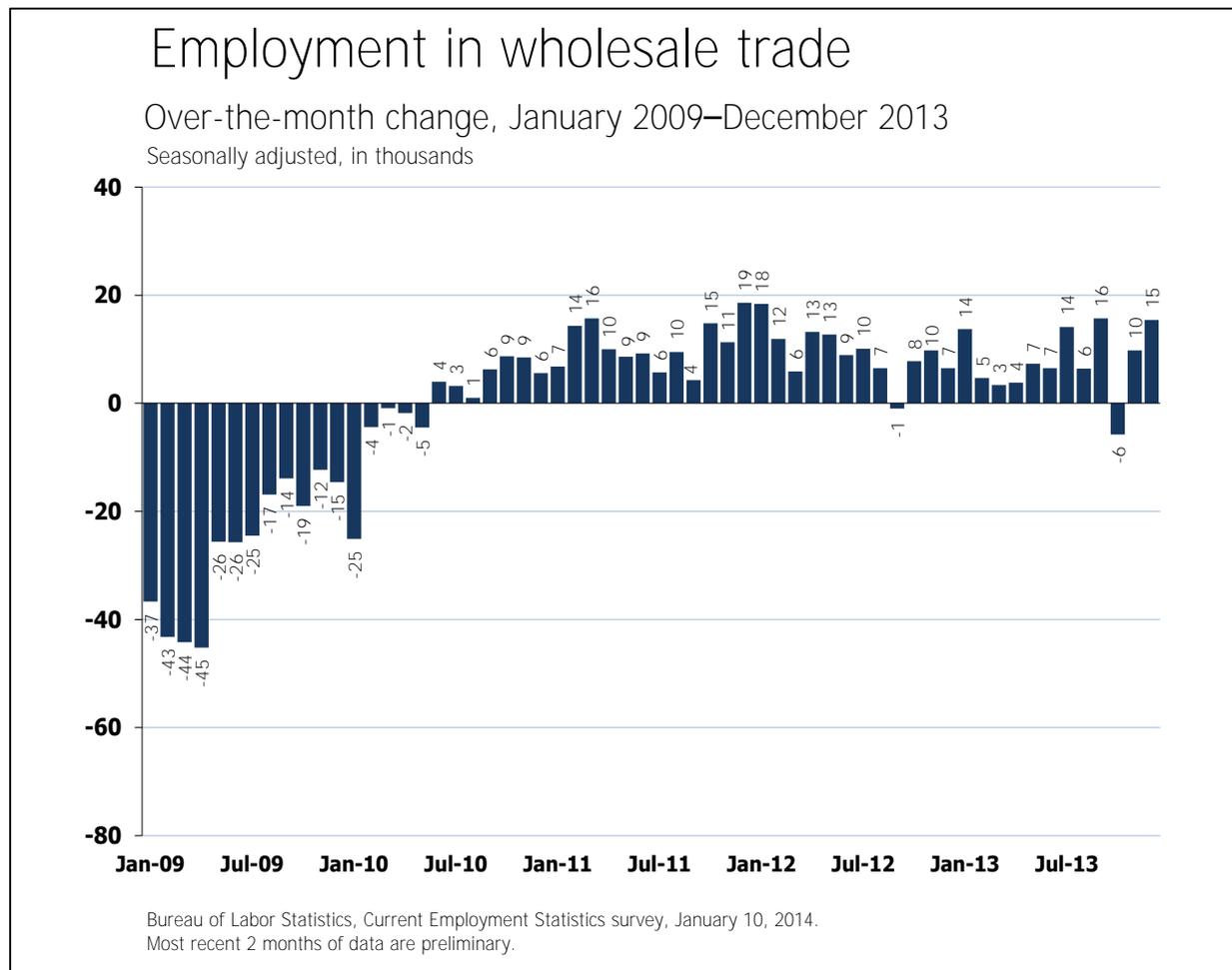
Manufacturing



NAICS 3361, 3362, and 3363 combined – Motor vehicles and parts

Motor vehicles and parts employment was essentially unchanged in December (+1,000). Over the past year, the industry added 40,000 jobs, compared to a 45,000 gain in 2012.

Wholesale Trade



Wholesale trade added 15,000 jobs in December. The industry has added 95,000 jobs over the year. Most of December's gain was concentrated in electronic markets and agents and brokers.

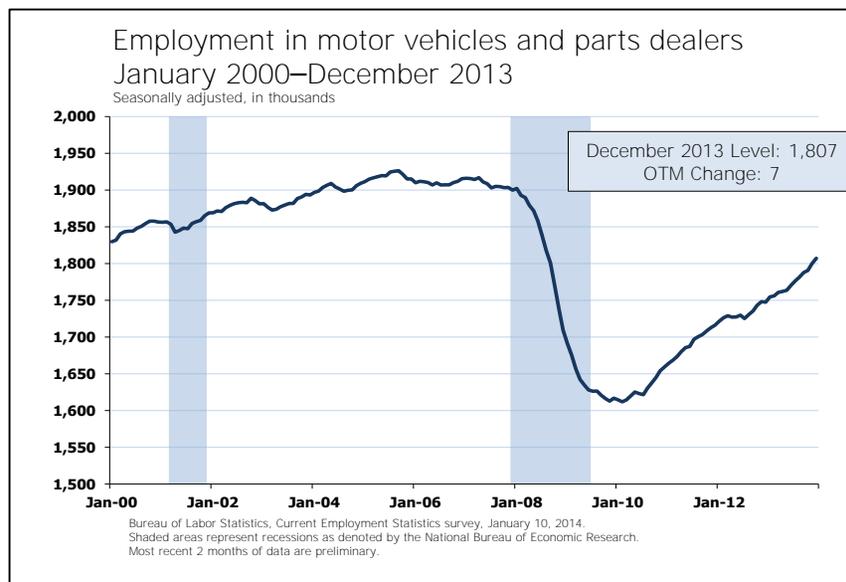
Retail Trade



Retail trade employment increased by 55,000 in December. In 2013, the industry added 381,000 jobs. December's job gains were widespread, with significant movements in motor vehicle and parts dealers (+7,000), food and beverage stores (+12,000), general merchandise stores (+8,000), and clothing and clothing accessories stores (+12,000).

Recent retail-related indicators have been mixed. As shown by [Census Bureau](#) data, retail sales increased by 0.7 percent in November and were up 4.7 percent over the year. The [Conference Board](#) noted that the Consumer Confidence Index increased by 6 points in December. In contrast, automotive sales, as measured by [MotorIntelligence](#), declined to an annualized 15.4 million vehicles. Finally, according to the [U.S. Energy Information Administration](#), the per-gallon price of gasoline in December increased by 2 cents from November levels.

Retail Trade



NAICS 441 – Motor vehicle and parts dealers

In December, motor vehicle and parts dealers employment increased by 7,000, continuing its upward trend. Employment in this industry has trended upward every month in 2013, generally aligning with strong movements in automotive sales.

NAICS 445 – Food and beverage stores

Employment in food and beverage stores increased in December by 12,000. Over-the-year, food and beverage stores have added a net 76,000 jobs.

NAICS 448 – Clothing and clothing accessories stores

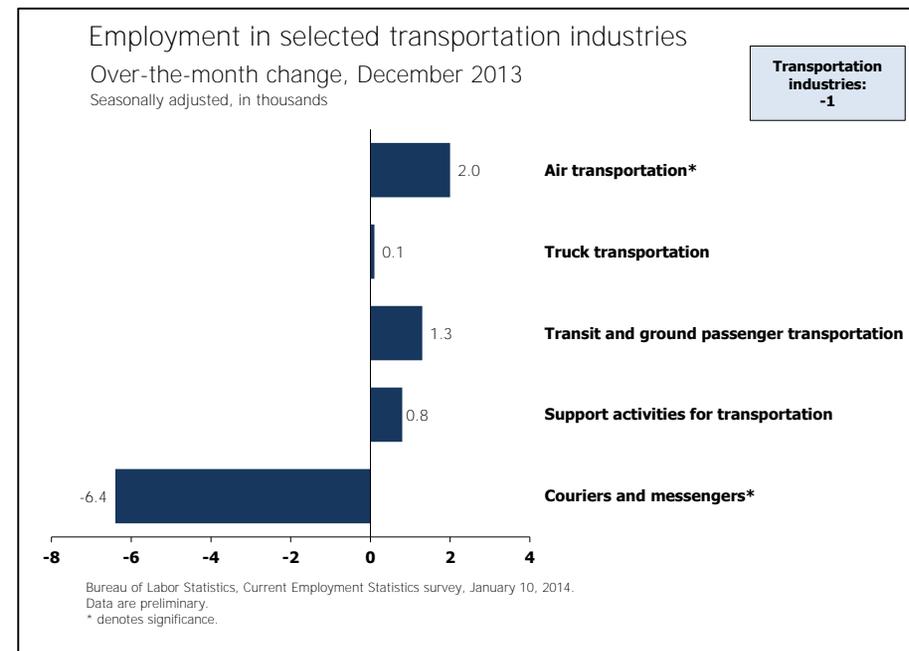
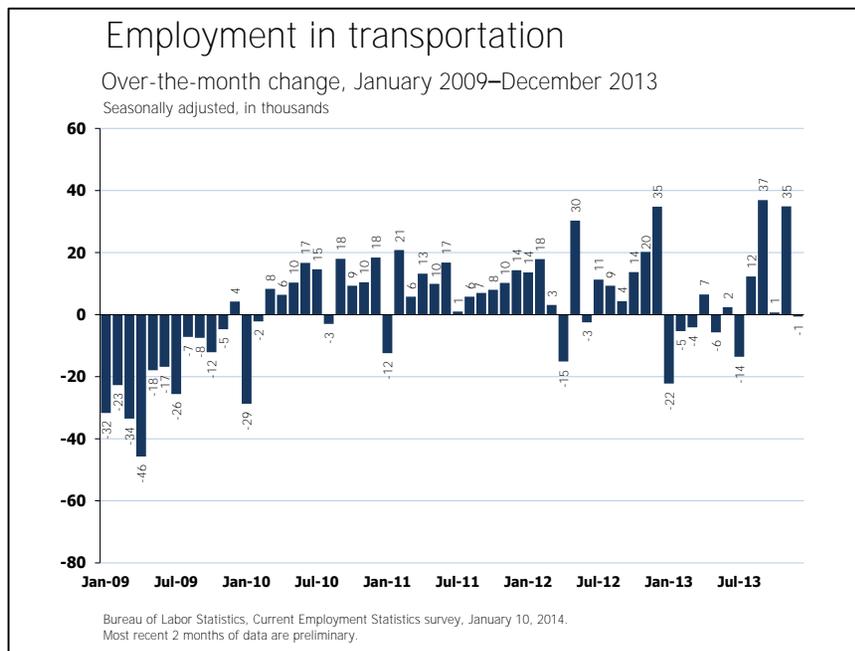
Clothing and clothing accessories stores employment grew by 12,000 jobs in December. Employment in the industry has oscillated throughout the year, resulting in little net change over the year.



Holiday-related employment build-up

December is traditionally the final month in the holiday build-up period for retail trade. On a not seasonally adjusted basis, hiring for the October-to-December 2013 build-up period is similar to the 2012 holiday build-up.

Transportation and Warehousing

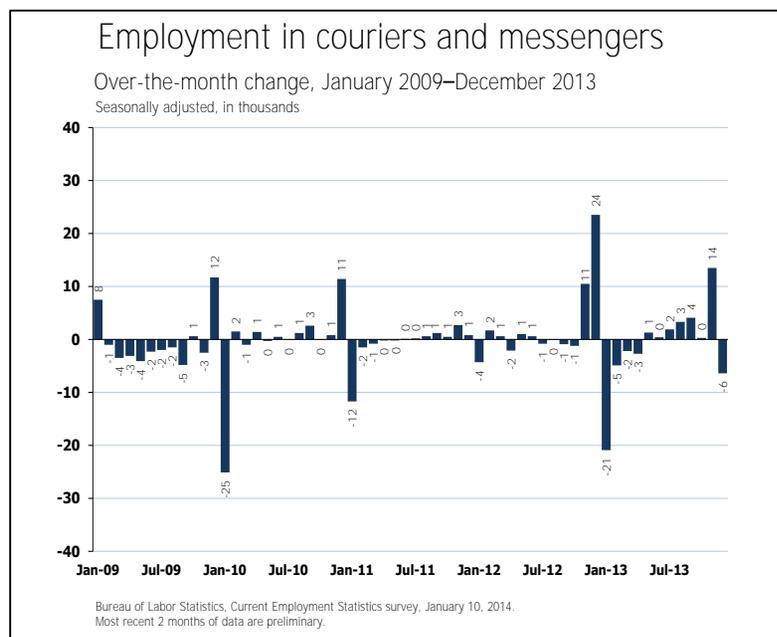


In December, employment in transportation and warehousing was essentially unchanged (-1,000), following an increase of 35,000 in November. In 2013, the industry has added 42,000 jobs, which is less than one-third of the number of jobs added in 2012 (+141,000).

NAICS 481 – Air Transportation

In December, air transportation added 2,000 jobs. Employment in the industry was little changed on net in 2013.

Transportation and Warehousing



Employment in Couriers and Messengers					
Not seasonally adjusted, in thousands					
Year	October Level	November OTM Change	December OTM Change	Total Nov + Dec OTM Change	% of October Employment
2008	564	3	29	32	5.7%
2009	536	13	46	59	11.0%
2010	521	23	81	104	20.0%
2011	521	28	71	99	19.0%
2012	517	34	98	132	25.5%
2013	527	53	72	125	23.7%

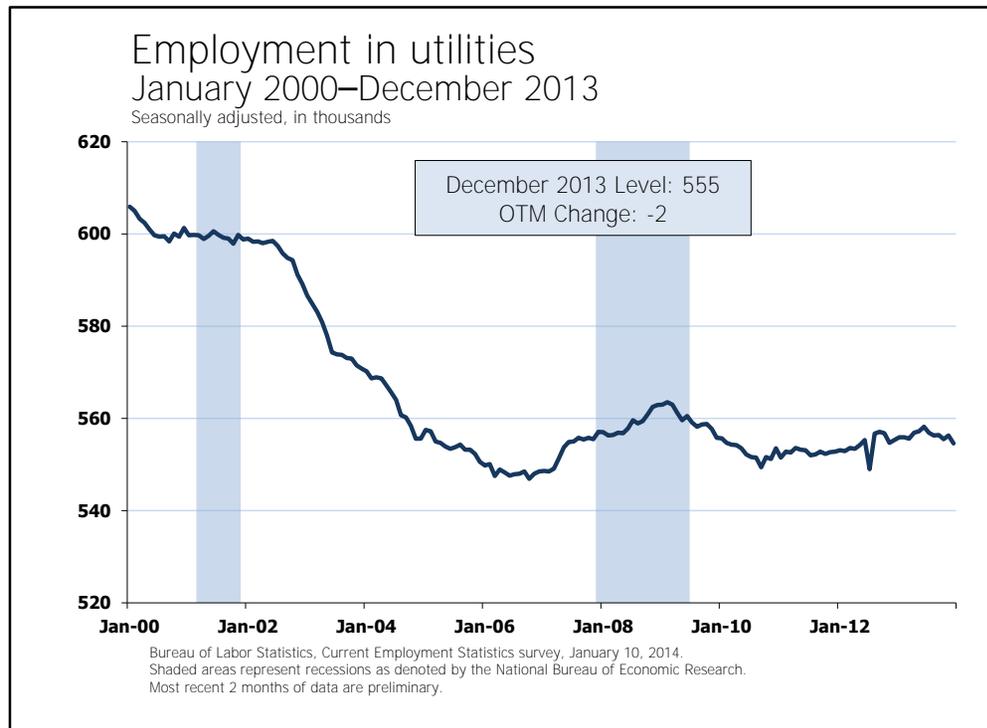
NAICS 492 – Couriers and Messengers

In December, employment in couriers and messengers declined by 6,000, following an increase of 14,000 in November. The not seasonally adjusted combined November and December build-up was 125,000 jobs, which is in line with the combined build-up over the past few years.

In seasonally adjusted employment, the average of the November and December over-the-month change is about 4,000, which is in line with the prior 12-month average of 2,000.

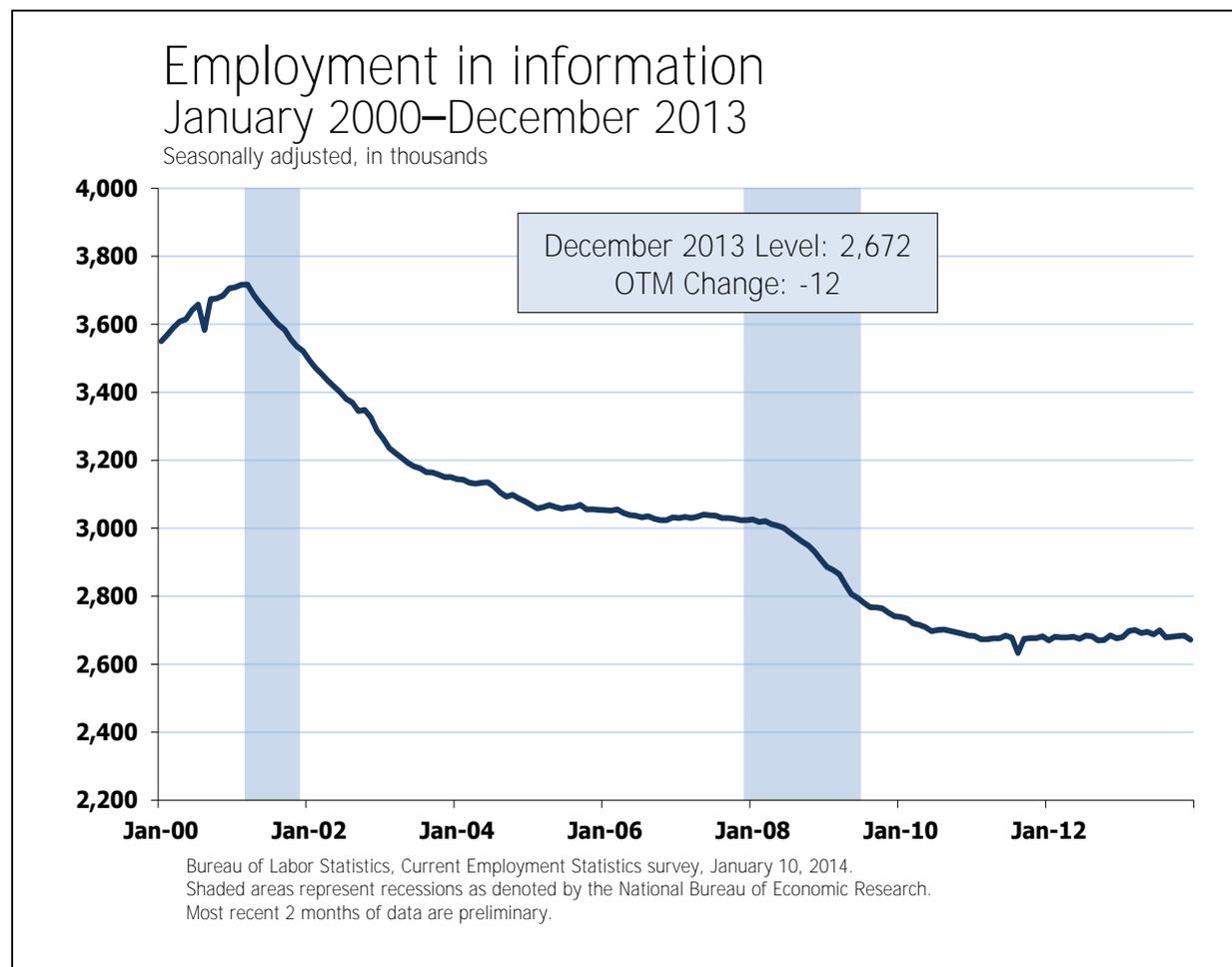
Employment in Couriers and Messengers			
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands			
Year	November OTM Change	December OTM Change	Total Nov + Dec OTM Change
2013	13.5	-6.4	7.1

Utilities



In December, employment in utilities edged down by 2,000. Since reaching an employment peak in June 2013, the industry has shed 4,000 jobs.

Information

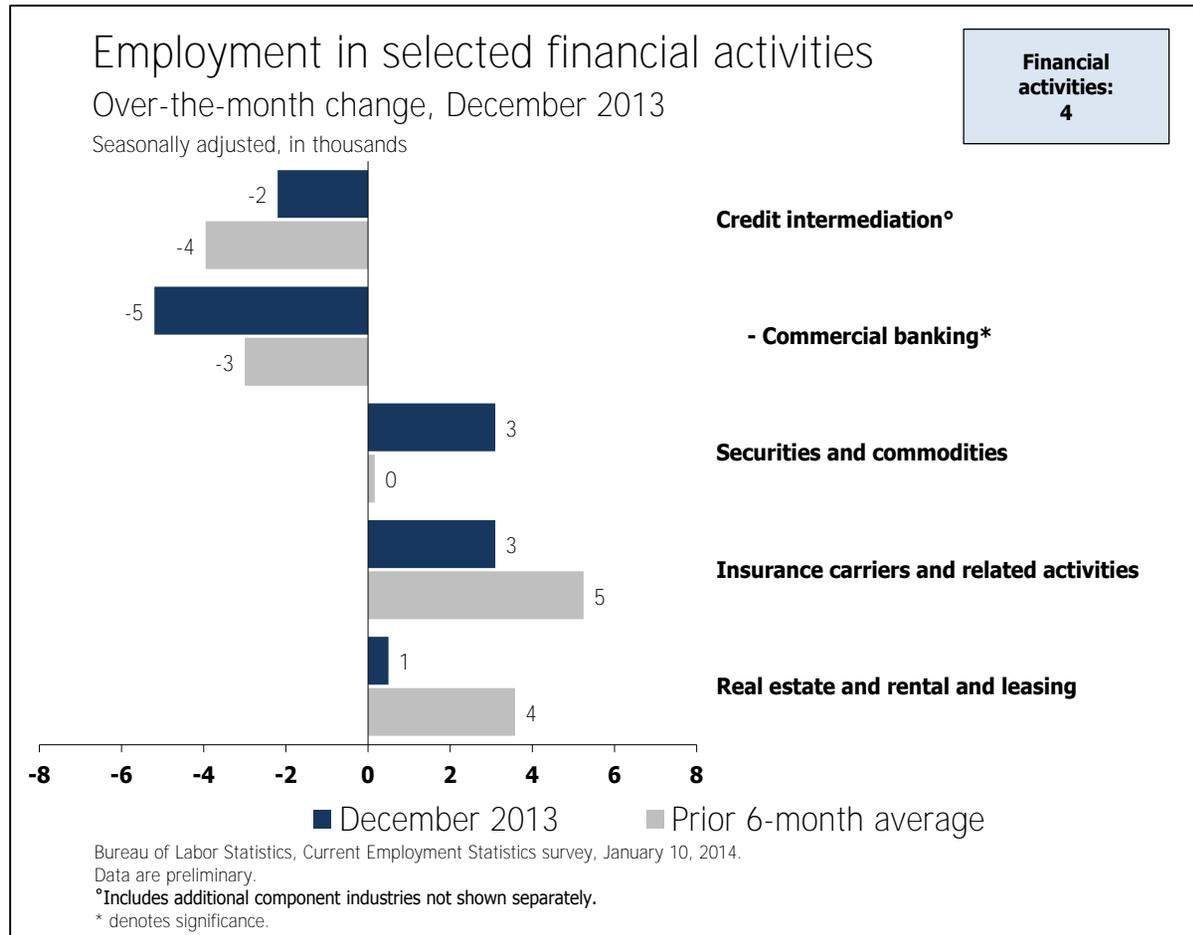


The information industry lost 12,000 jobs in December, following little employment change in November. The job loss was concentrated in motion picture and sound recording industries.

NAICS 512 – Motion picture and sound recording industries

Motion picture and sound recording industries lost 14,000 jobs in December. This industry has driven many of the noteworthy employment changes in information over the last few years but the monthly changes tend to offset each other. From January 2012 through December 2013, the net effect of these offsetting movements resulted in no net employment change.

Financial Activities

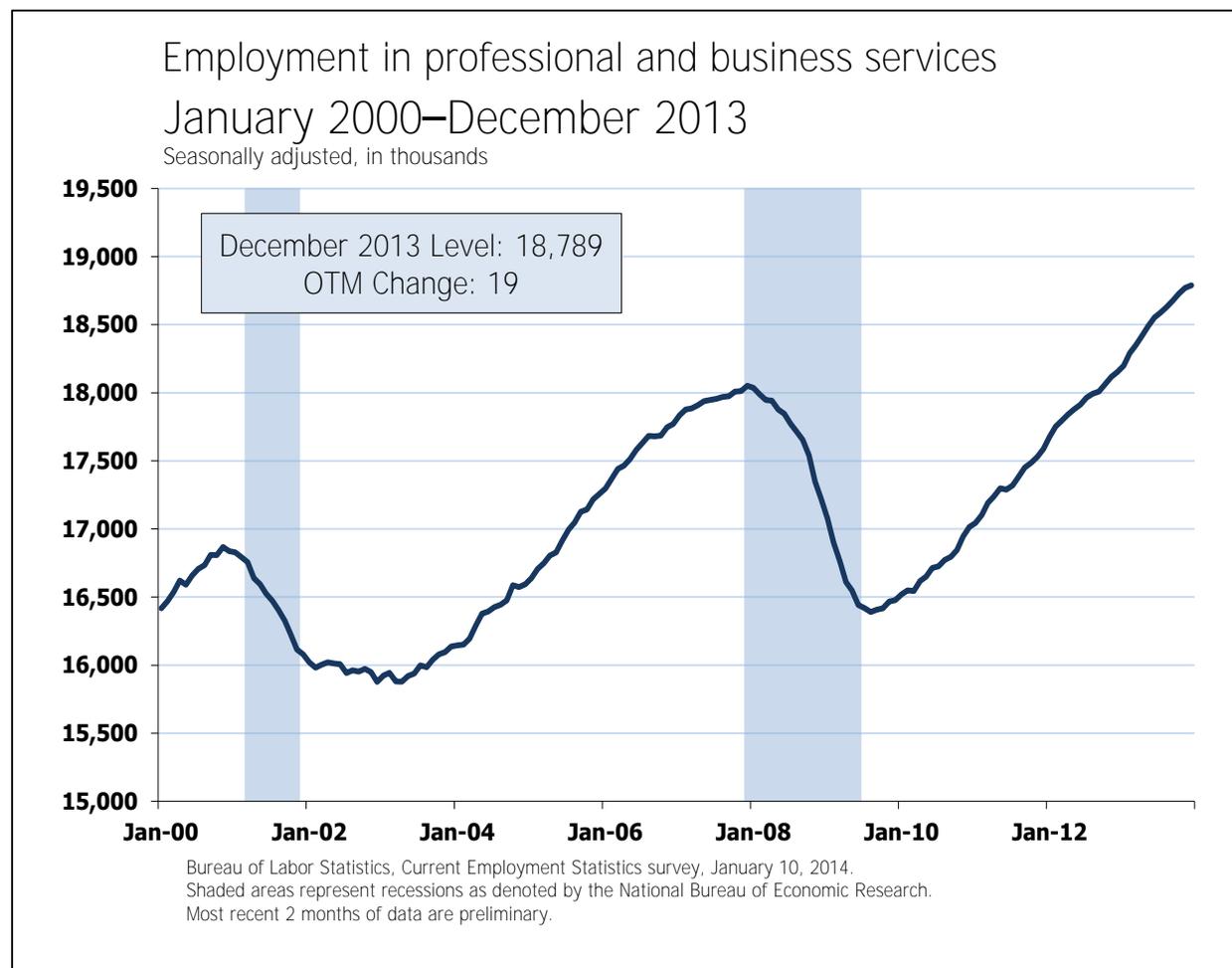


Financial activities employment changed little in December (+4,000).

Commercial banking lost 5,000 jobs in December, and losses totaled 33,000 over the year. Employment in other financial activities components changed little in December.

Financial activities employment grew by 84,000 over the past 12 months. This growth was concentrated in insurance carriers and related activities and in real estate.

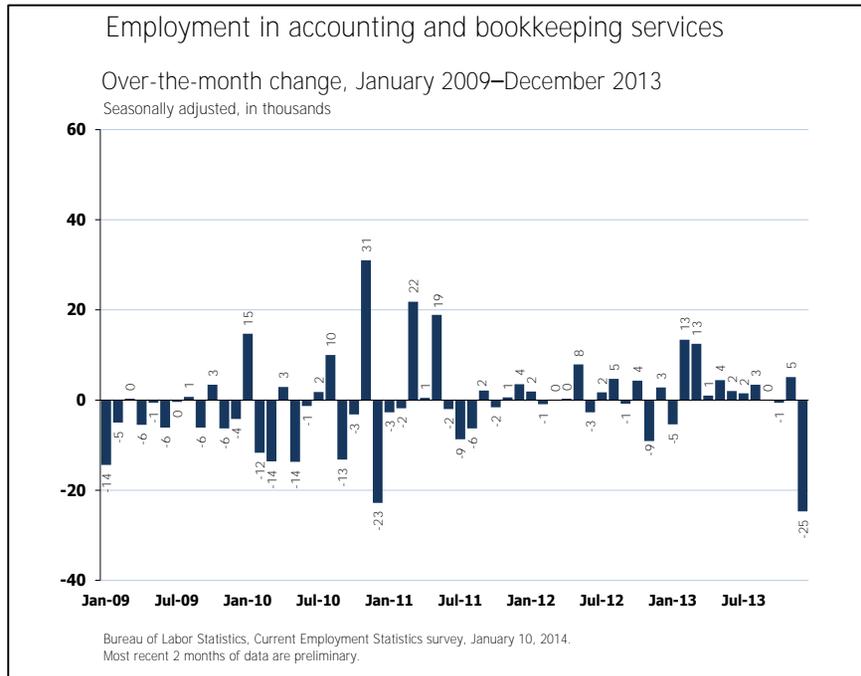
Professional and Business Services



Professional and business services employment continued to trend up in December (+19,000).

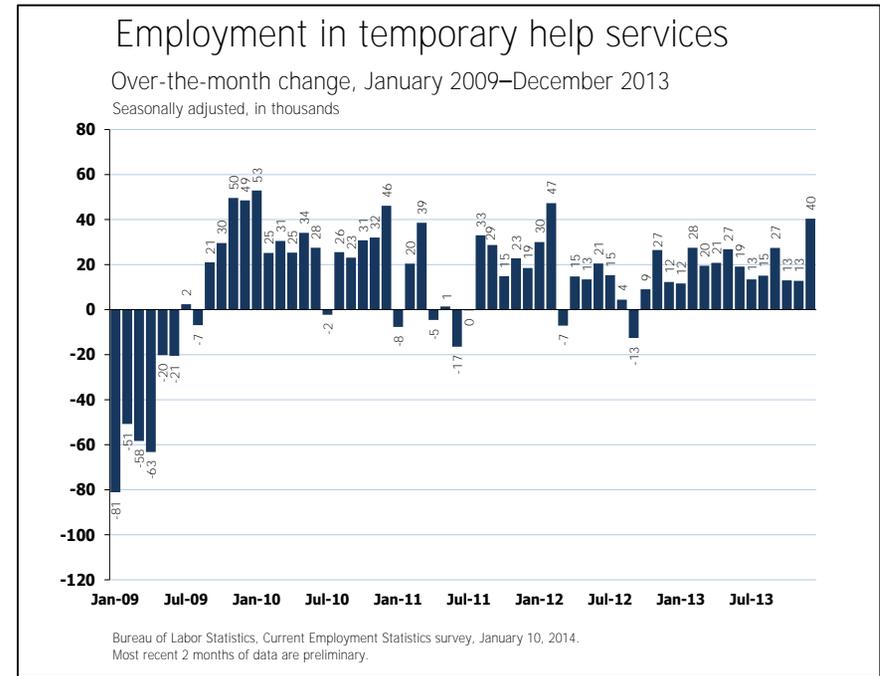
In 2013, professional and business services added 637,000 jobs. During the year, job growth slowed in professional and technical services and in management of companies and enterprises compared to 2012, while administrative and waste services employment rose by 416,000 in 2013, compared to 280,000 in 2012.

Professional and Business Services



NAICS 5412 – Accounting and bookkeeping services

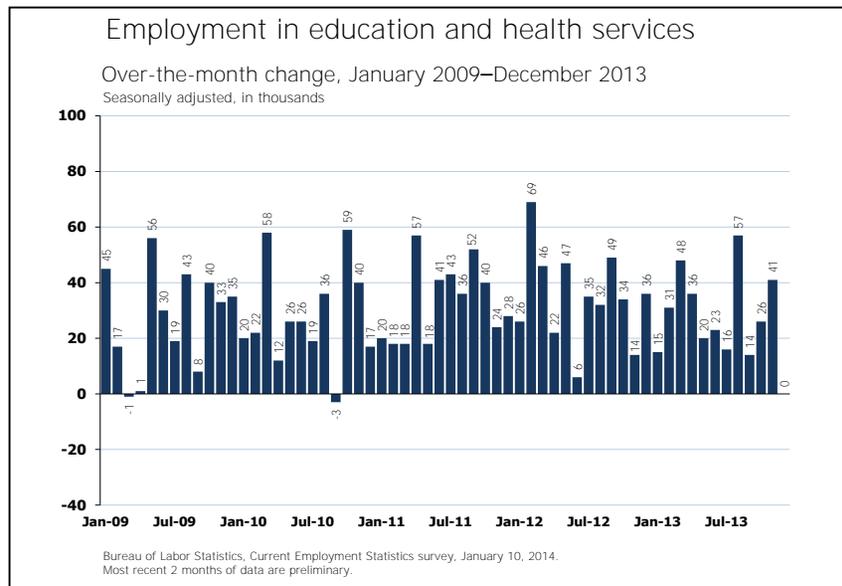
In December, employment in accounting and bookkeeping services decreased by 25,000. The job loss was concentrated in tax preparation services.



NAICS 56132 – Temporary help services

Employment in temporary help services rose by 40,000 in December. In 2013, the industry added 248,000 jobs, compared to 174,000 jobs added in 2012.

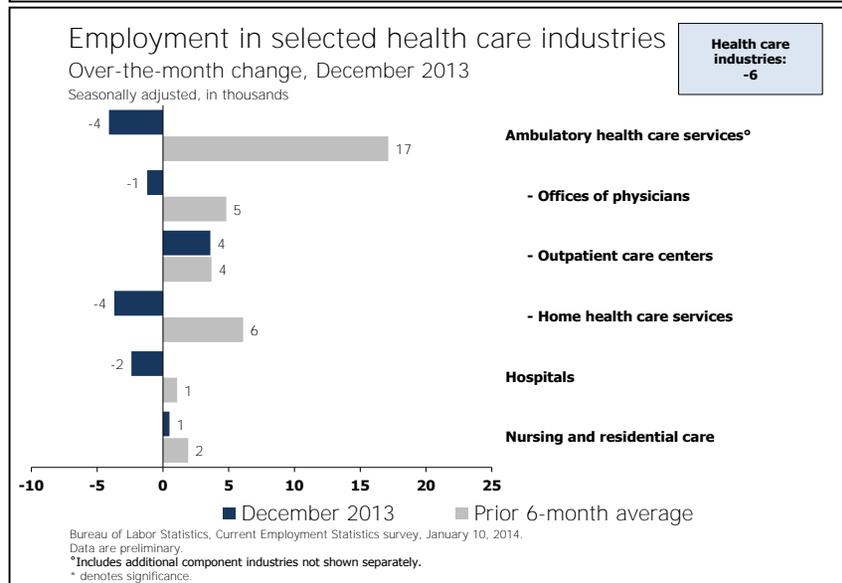
Private Education and Health Services



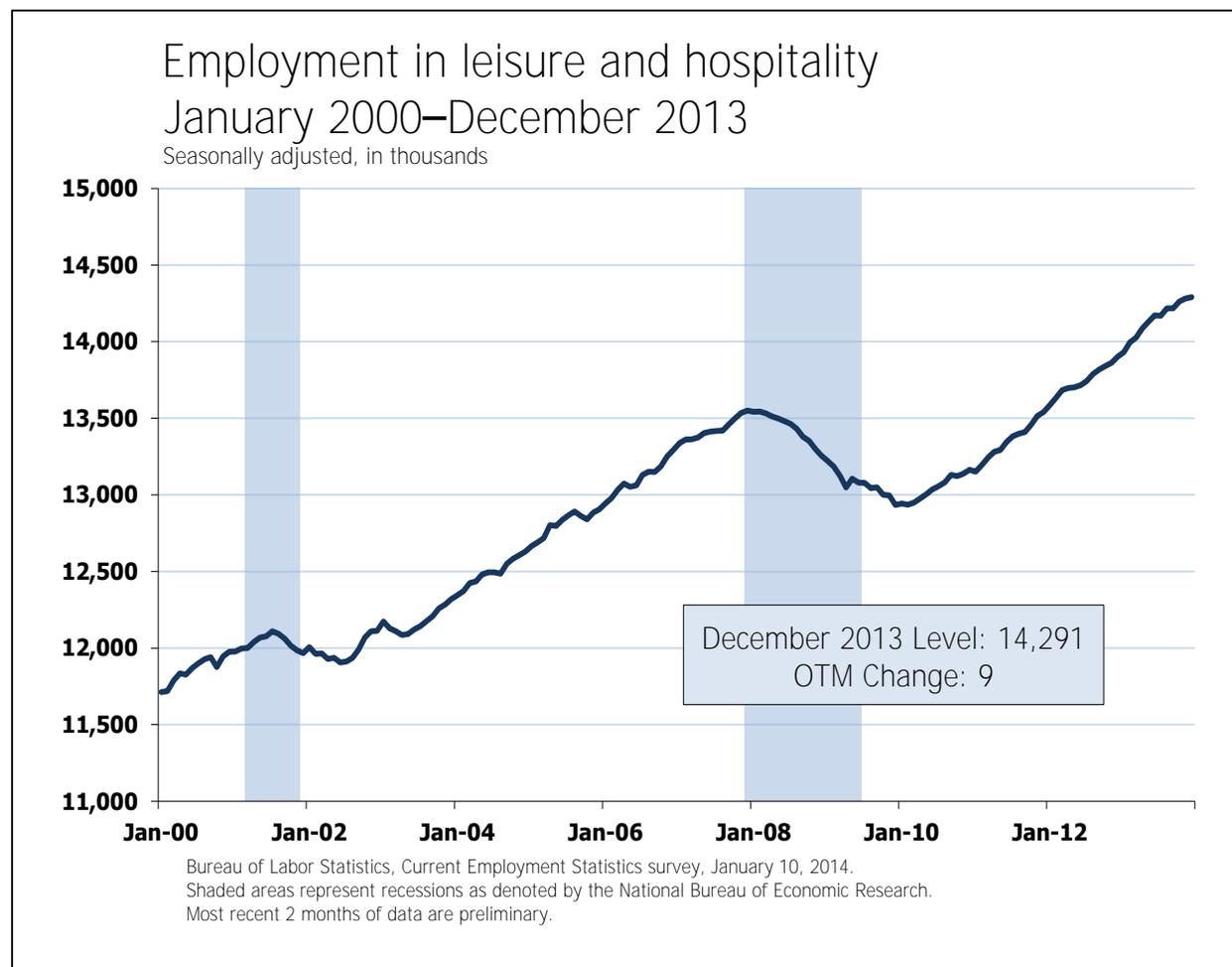
After growing by 41,000 in November, education and health services employment was unchanged in December. This is the weakest over-the-month employment change for the industry since September 2010. Employment in all of the major component industries within education and health services changed little over the month.

After adding 321,00 jobs in 2012, health care added 208,000 jobs in 2013, with job growth slowing in most components of the industry. Home health services contributed the most jobs over the year at 68,000, followed by offices of physicians and outpatient care centers, which added 43,000 and 42,000 jobs, respectively. Conversely, nursing care facilities is the one industry within health care that shed jobs in 2013 (-15,000).

Social assistance added 76,000 jobs over the year, compared to 59,000 in 2012.

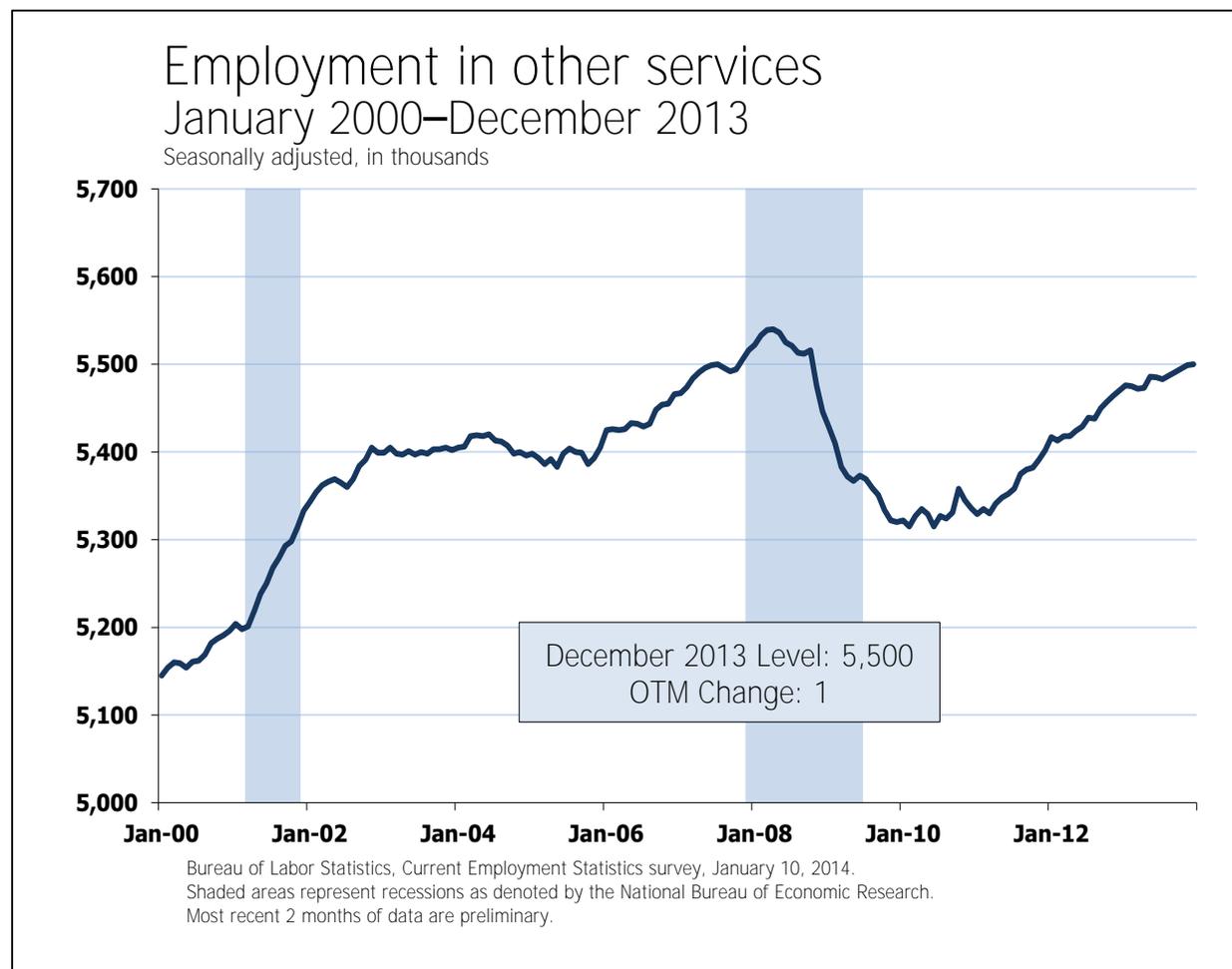


Leisure and Hospitality



Employment in leisure and hospitality was essentially unchanged in December (+9,000). Over the past 12 months, this industry has added 390,000 jobs, similar to gains during the prior 2 years.

Other Services



Employment in other services (repair and maintenance, personal and laundry services, and membership organizations) was about unchanged in December, with no component industry experiencing a significant employment change.

The other services industry has regained 82 percent of the 225,000 jobs lost between April 2008 and June 2010. The pace of job recovery, however, has recently slowed. In 2013, employment in the industry grew by 0.5 percent, less than half the growth rate experienced in each of the 2 prior years (1.2 percent).

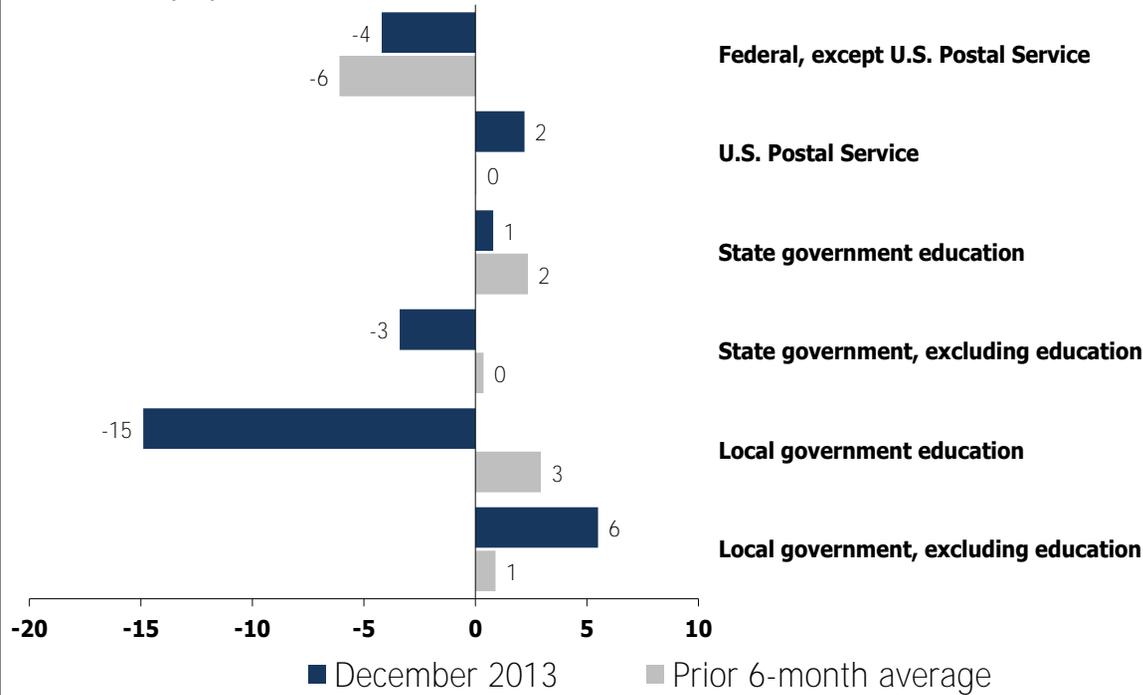
Government

Employment in selected government

Over-the-month change, December 2013

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Government:
-13



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, January 10, 2014.

Data are preliminary.
* denotes significance.

Government employment changed little in December. Federal, state, and local government employment all remained flat over the month. In 2013, Federal government lost 79,000 jobs, with federal, except U.S. Postal Service accounting for nearly all of the loss (-70,000). Over the year, state government remained essentially unchanged (+11,000), and local government added 43,000 jobs, with most coming from local government, excluding education (+28,000).



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**Prepared by Staff of the National Estimates Branch
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