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Current Employment Statistics Highlights



July 2020

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

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Current Employment Statistics Summary, July 2020

Payroll employment rose by 1.8 million in July, led by large gains in leisure and hospitality, government, retail trade, professional and business services, other services, and health care.

The diffusion index at 61.4 indicates that job gains were widespread over the month; however over 6 months, the index at 7.1 shows very few industries have added jobs over the longer period.

The employment change for June revised down from +4,800,000 to +4,791,000, and the change for May revised up from +2,699,000 to +2,725,000. On net, employment over these months is 17,000 higher than previously reported.

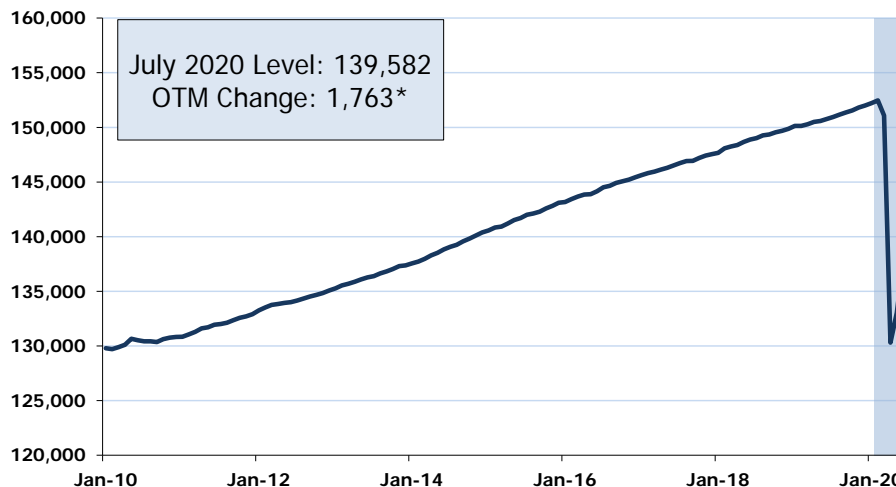
Average hourly earnings of all employees on private-sector payrolls rose by 7 cents or 0.2 percent in July. Over the year, hourly earnings have increased by 4.8 percent. Average weekly hours declined by 0.1 hour to 34.5 hours.

+592,000 Leisure and Hospitality

Leisure and hospitality accounted for about one-third of all nonfarm jobs added in July. Within the sector, food services and drinking places added 502,000 jobs, bringing job gains to 3.4 million over the last 3 months. However, employment in food services had fallen by a

Employment in total nonfarm January 2010–July 2020

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 07, 2020.
 Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
 Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
 * denotes significance.

total 6.1 million in March and April and is still 2.6 million below February's level. Amusements, gambling, and recreation added 100,000 jobs in July.

+301,000 Government

Government added 301,000 jobs in July. Local education and state education added

215,000 and 30,000 jobs respectively. Education industries typically layoff large numbers of employees in July; however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic many of the layoffs occurred earlier in the year. Since February, employment in local government education and in state education has decreased by

Current Employment Statistics Summary, July 2020

455,000 and 186,000, respectively, after seasonal adjustment.

Employment in Federal government rose by 27,000 in July. Hiring for Census 2020 accounted for the strength. The U.S. Postal Service lost 5,000 jobs.

+258,000 Retail Trade

Retail trade added 258,000 jobs in July. While jobs gains were spread among most of the retail industries, clothing and clothing accessories stores accounted for 121,000 of the gain. Employment in retail trade is 913,000 below its February level.

+215,000 Education and Health Services

Within health care, employment rose in ambulatory care (+126,000) and in hospitals (+27,000) in July, while nursing and residential care facilities lost 28,000 jobs. Despite the gains in health care, employment is still 797,000 lower than in February.

Social assistance added 66,000 jobs over the month, but employment in the industry is down by 460,000 since February.

+170,000 Professional and Business Services

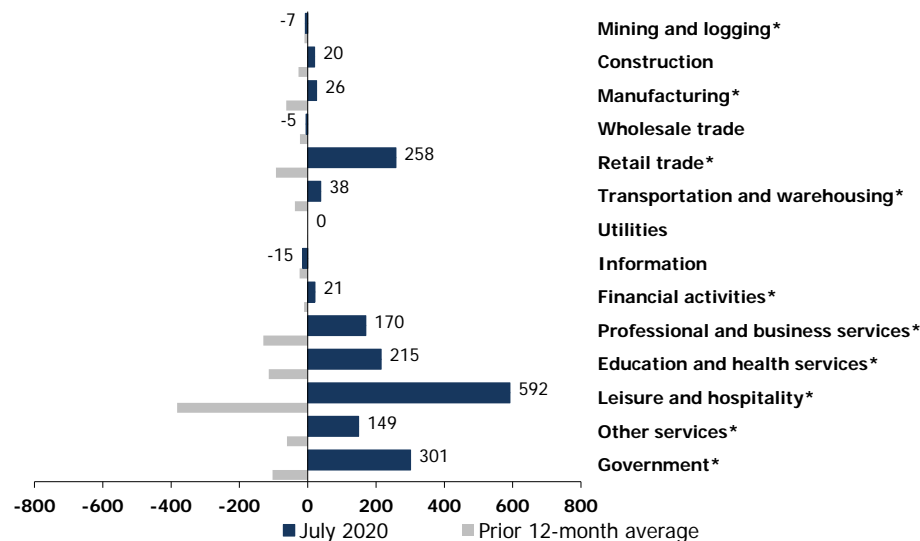
Professional and business services added 170,000 jobs in July, mostly in temporary help services (+144,000). Despite jobs gains over the past 3 months, employment in professional and business services is down 1.6 million since reaching a peak in February.

Most of the net decline over the period came in temporary help services (-558,000) and professional and technical services (-409,000).

Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, July 2020
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Total nonfarm:
1,763*



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 07, 2020.
Data are preliminary.
* denotes significance

Current Employment Statistics Summary, July 2020

+149,000 Other Services

Employment in other services rose by 149,000 in July, largely in personal and laundry services (+119,000). Although other services has added jobs over the past 3 months, employment is still 627,000 lower than in February.

+38,000 Transportation and Warehousing

Employment in transportation and warehousing increased by 38,000 in July; however, since reaching an employment peak in January, the industry has lost 470,000 jobs.

+26,000 Manufacturing

Manufacturing added 26,000 jobs in July, following gains totaling 597,000 over the prior 2 months. Despite these job gains, employment in the industry is still 740,000 lower than it was in February. In July, motor vehicles and parts added 39,000 jobs, which were partly offset by declines in fabricated metals, machinery, and computer and electronic products.

+21,000 Financial Activities

Financial activities added 21,000 jobs to payrolls in July, with real estate and rental and

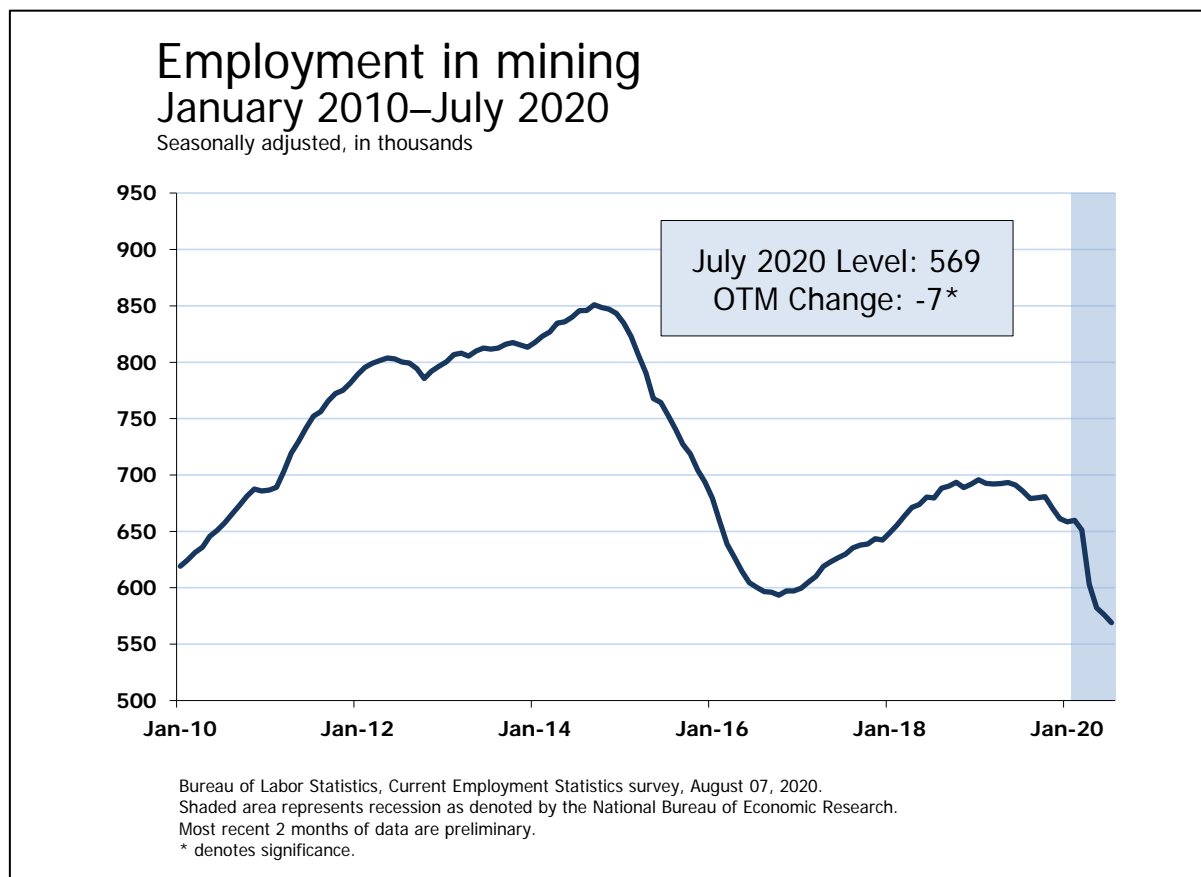
leasing accounting for 15,000 of the gain. Although employment in financial activities has risen over the past 3 months, it is still 216,000 lower than in February.

-7,000 Mining and Logging

Employment in mining and logging continued to decline in July. Since an employment peak in January 2019, the industry has lost 125,000 jobs; about three-fourths of the losses have occurred since February 2020.

Summary	Mining & Logging	Construction	Manufacturing	Trade: Wholesale Retail	Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	Information	Financial Activities	Professional & Business Services	Private Education & Health Services	Leisure & Hospitality	Other Services	Government
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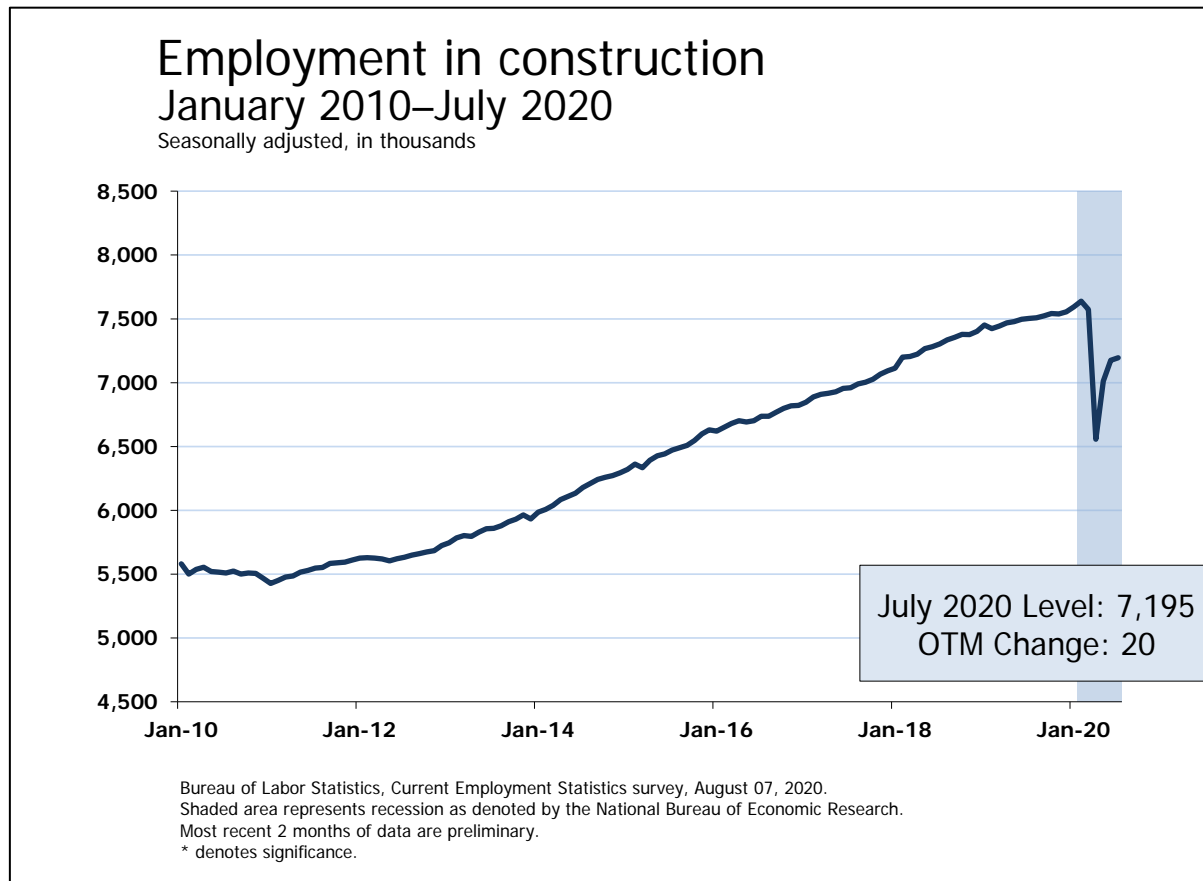
Mining and Logging



Mining employment declined by 7,000 in July, with job losses totaling 91,000 since February. Support activities for mining declined by 11,000 jobs over the month.

Mining employment losses are reflected in July indicator data, which show a decline in active [North American rotary rigs](#).

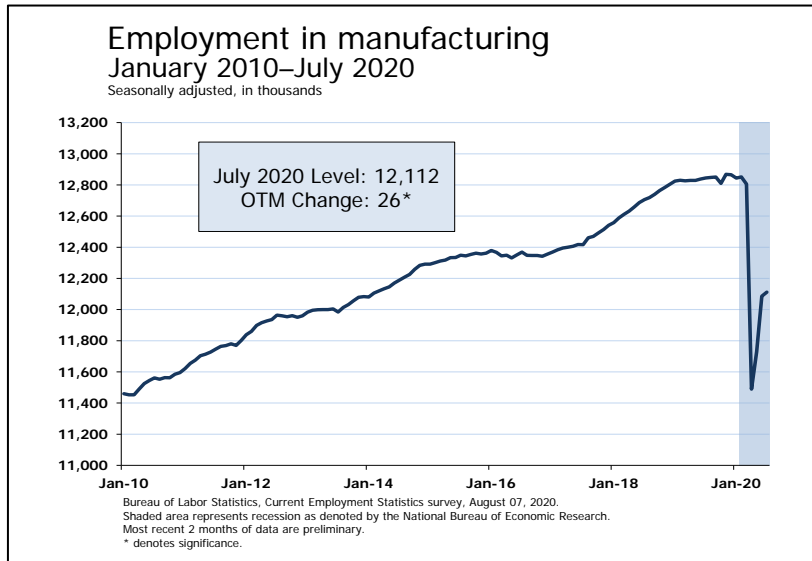
Construction



Construction employment edged up by 20,000 in July. Despite job gains over the last 3 months, construction has lost 444,000 jobs since employment reached a peak in February.

The uptick in July employment represents a continued recovery from losses earlier in the year and follows strength in [residential building permits](#) and [new home sales](#) in June.

Manufacturing



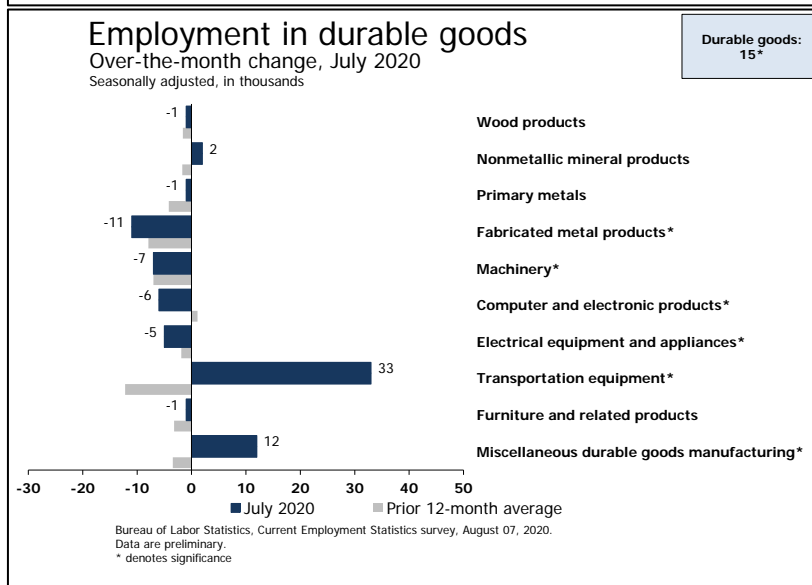
Manufacturing employment increased by 26,000 in July, with both durable goods (+15,000) and nondurable goods (+11,000) adding jobs. While job gains have been widespread over the past 3 months, employment in manufacturing is 740,000 lower than in February.

Employment in transportation equipment (+33,000) and miscellaneous durable goods manufacturing (+12,000) drove the gains in durable goods in July. Employment in all other industries in durable goods experienced significant job losses or was flat over the month.

In July, the manufacturing 1-month diffusion index, which measures the breadth of employment change across industries, fell sharply to 43.4—a drop of 33.6 points. A value below 50 indicates that more manufacturing industries are losing jobs than are gaining jobs.

After 2 months of declines, average hourly earnings for all employees in manufacturing increased by 17 cents in July. Average hourly earnings of production workers rose by 22 cents over the month.

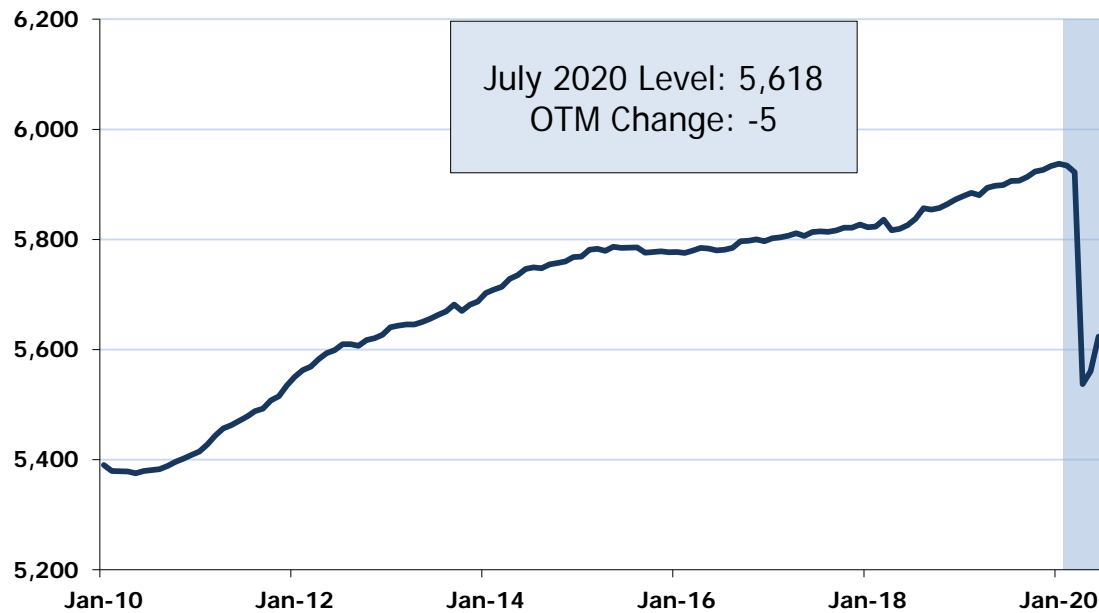
Average weekly hours of all employees rose 0.7 hour in July to 39.7 hours. For production workers, the average workweek rose 0.8 hour in July to 40.6 hours.



Wholesale Trade

Employment in wholesale trade January 2010–July 2020

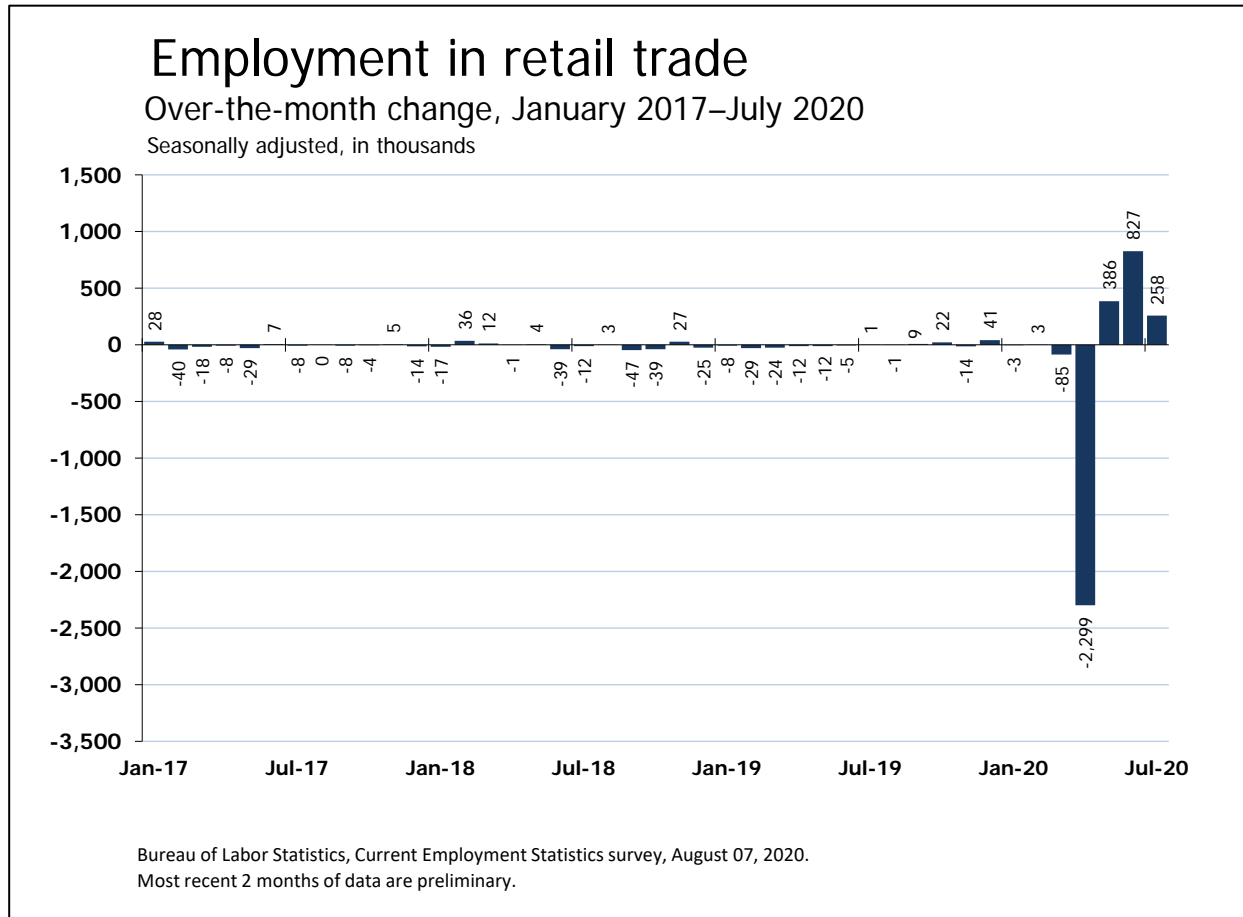
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 07, 2020.
 Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
 Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
 * denotes significance.

Wholesale trade employment changed little in July (-5,000) after recovering 86,000 jobs over the prior 2 months. However, employment is down by 319,000 since reaching a peak in January. In July, nondurable goods shed 14,000 jobs.

Retail trade

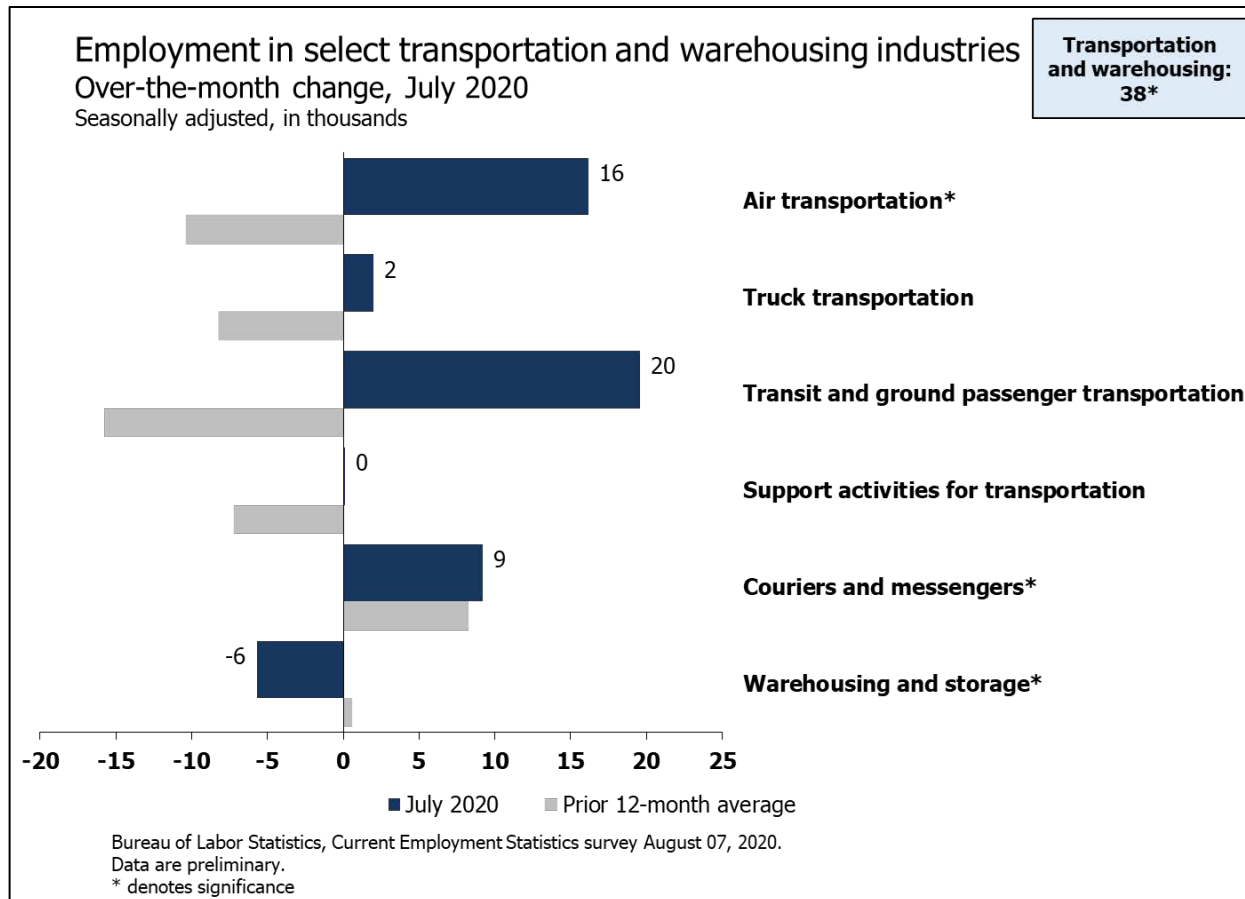


Employment in retail trade rose by 258,000 in July, after increasing by 827,000 in June. Since February, industry employment has declined by 913,000.

Job gains were widespread in July, led by clothing and clothing accessories stores (+121,000), department stores (+45,000), and electronics and appliance stores (+31,000). In contrast, the component of general merchandise stores that includes warehouse clubs and supercenters lost 64,000 jobs over the month.

Recent retail-related economic indicators are mixed. [Retail sales](#) increased in June. Conversely, the [Consumer Confidence Index](#) declined in July.

Transportation and Warehousing



Employment in transportation and warehousing grew by 38,000 in July. Since February, however, the industry has experienced a net employment loss of 470,000.

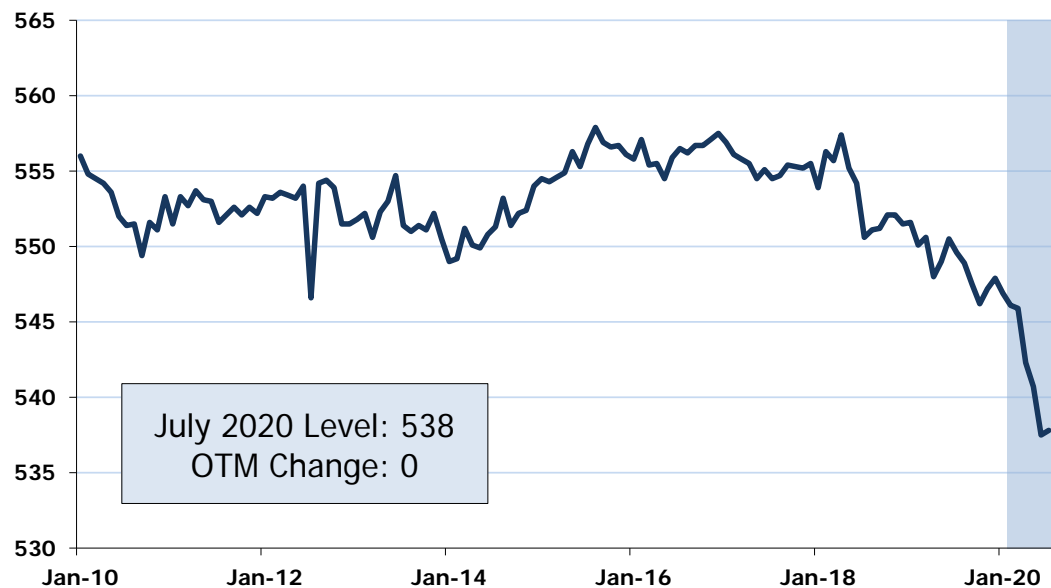
In July, job gains were concentrated in transit and ground passenger transportation (+20,000) and air transportation (+16,000). Despite the gains, transit and ground passenger transportation and air transportation have lost 175,000 jobs and 116,000 jobs, respectively, since February.

In July, couriers and messengers added 9,000 jobs, offsetting a loss of 6,000 in warehousing and storage. Over the year, couriers have added 101,000 jobs.

Utilities

Employment in utilities January 2010–July 2020

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



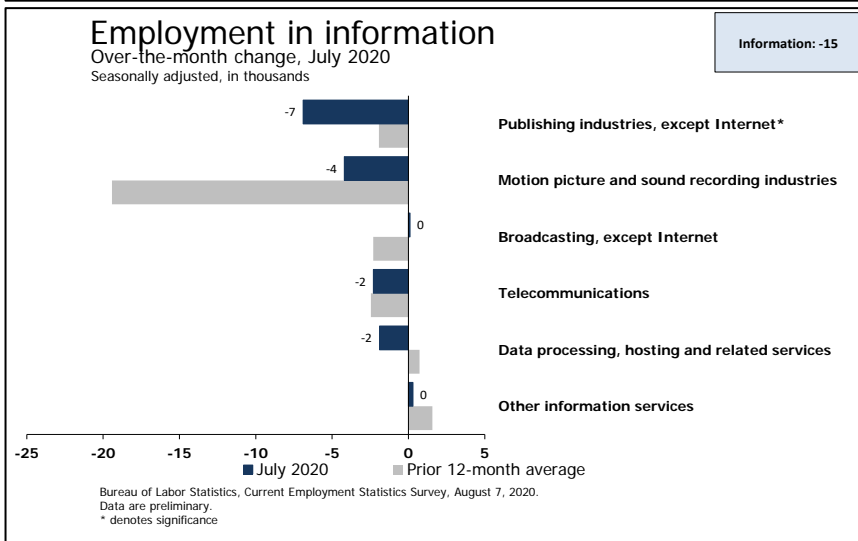
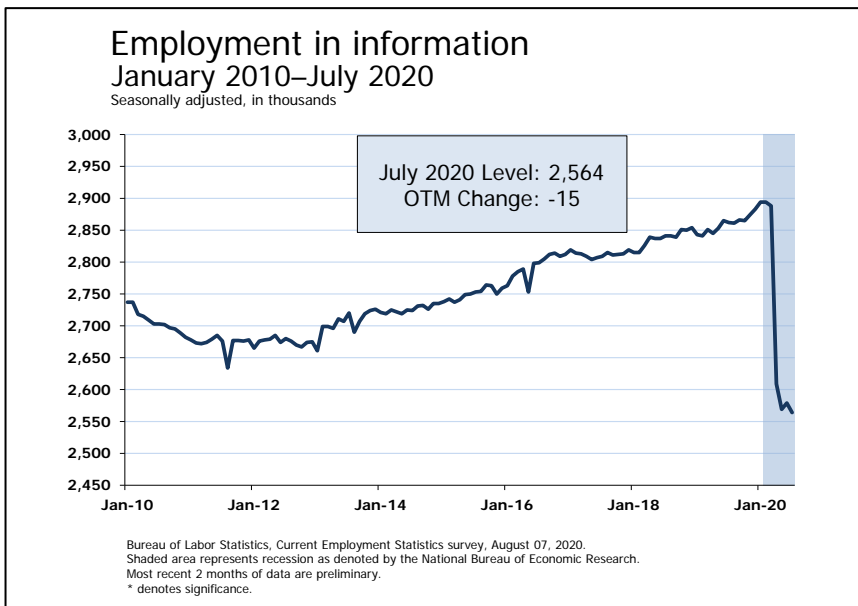
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Employment in utilities was essentially unchanged in July, although the industry has lost 10,000 jobs year to date.

Information

Information employment changed little in July (-15,000) and has declined by 330,000 since February.

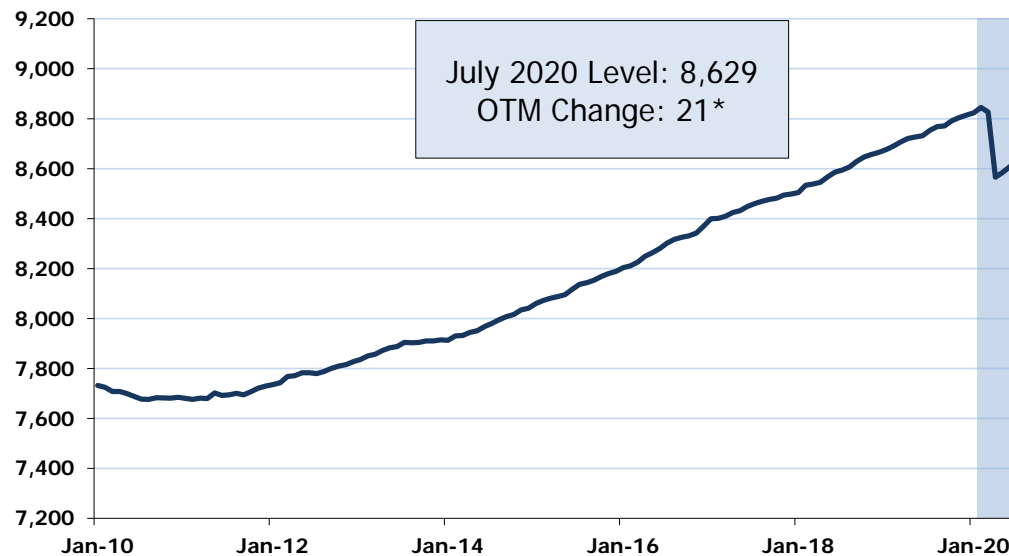
Publishing industries, except internet lost 7,000 jobs in July, and employment is 38,000 lower than in February.



Financial Activities

Employment in financial activities January 2010–July 2020

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

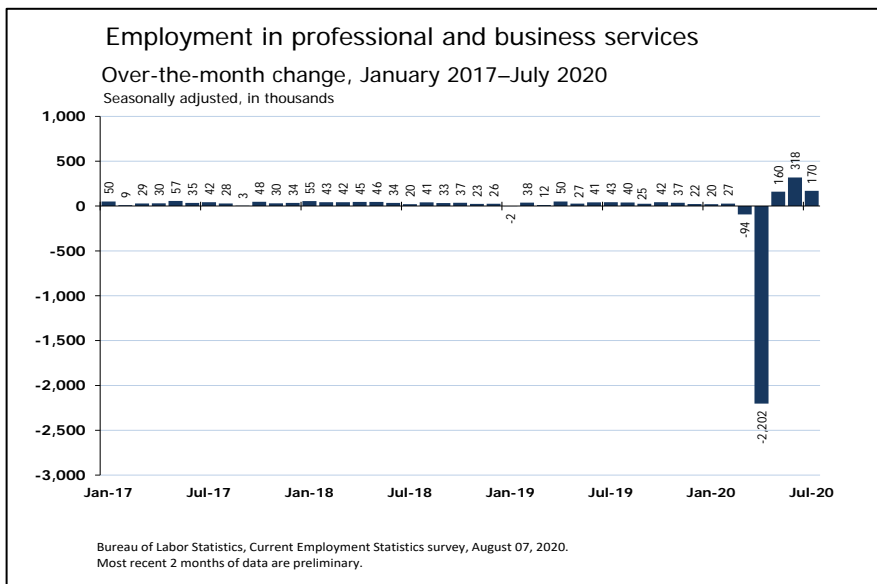


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 07, 2020.
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Employment in financial activities rose by 21,000 in July, following a gain of 23,000 in June. Since reaching a peak in February however, employment in the industry has decreased by 216,000 or 2.4 percent.

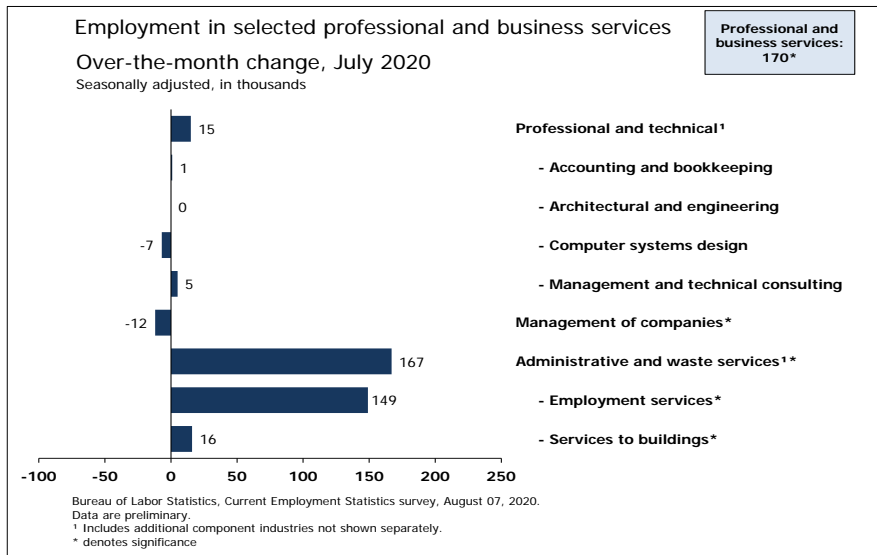
An upward movement of 15,000 jobs in real estate and rental and leasing was partially offset by a decline of 5,000 in commercial banking.

Professional and Business Services



Employment in professional and business services increased by 170,000 in July. Over the past 3 months, industry employment has increased by 648,000 but is still 1.6 million below its peak employment in February.

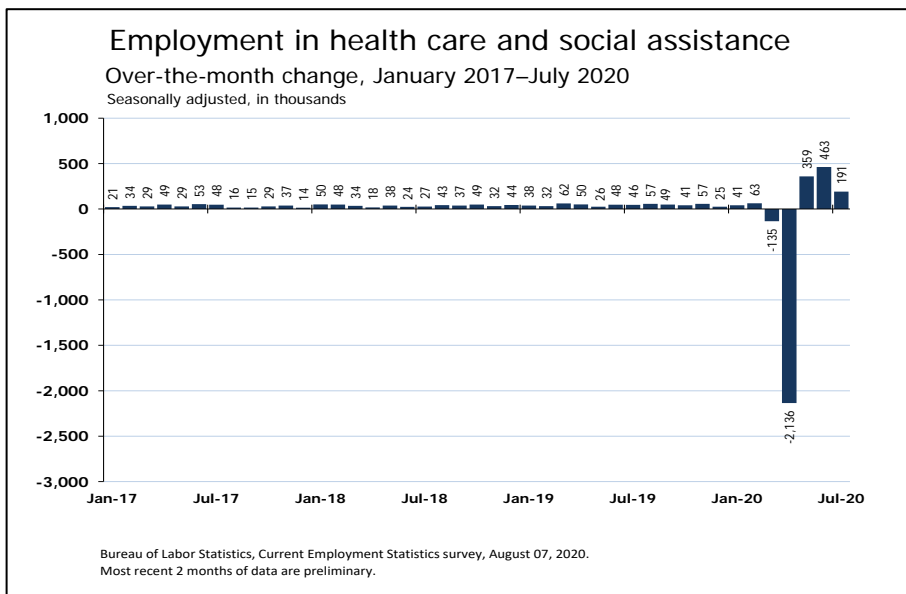
In July, administrative and support services added 168,000 jobs, with temporary help services accounting for 144,000 of the increase. Year to date however, employment in temporary help services is down by 568,000. Services to buildings and dwellings (+16,000) and office administrative services (+12,000) added jobs over the month.



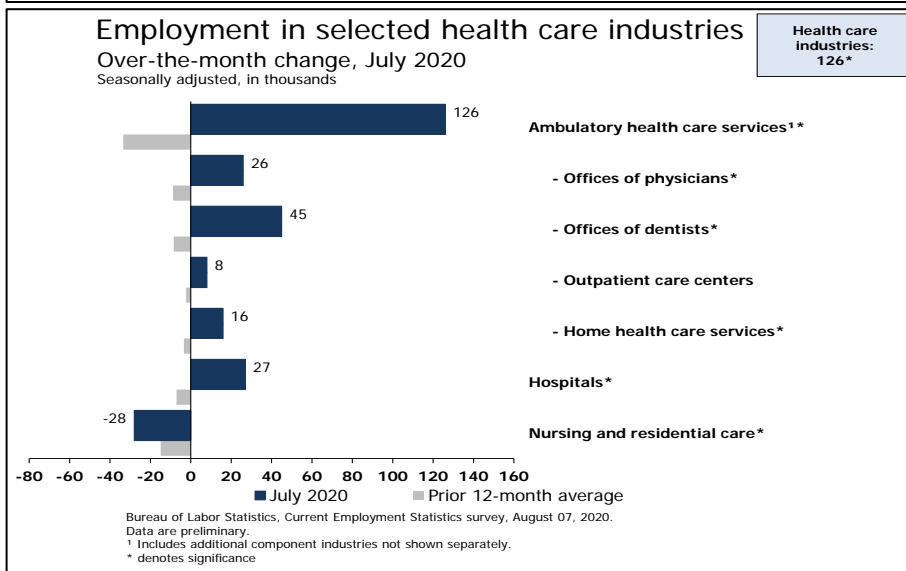
Management of companies and enterprises lost 12,000 jobs in July and 119,000 since an employment peak in January.

Within professional and technical services, other professional and technical services added 18,000 jobs, partially offsetting a decrease of 8,000 jobs in advertising and related services.

Private Education and Health Services



In July, employment in health care and social assistance increased by 191,000. Within social assistance, child day care services (+45,000) and emergency and other relief services (+6,000) added jobs. Despite the gains in July, employment in health care and social assistance is 1.3 million lower than in February.

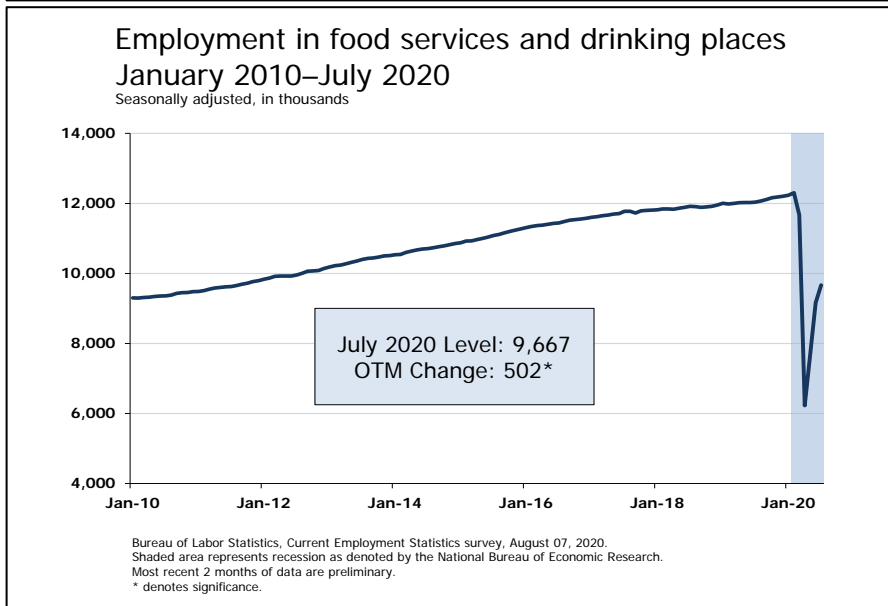
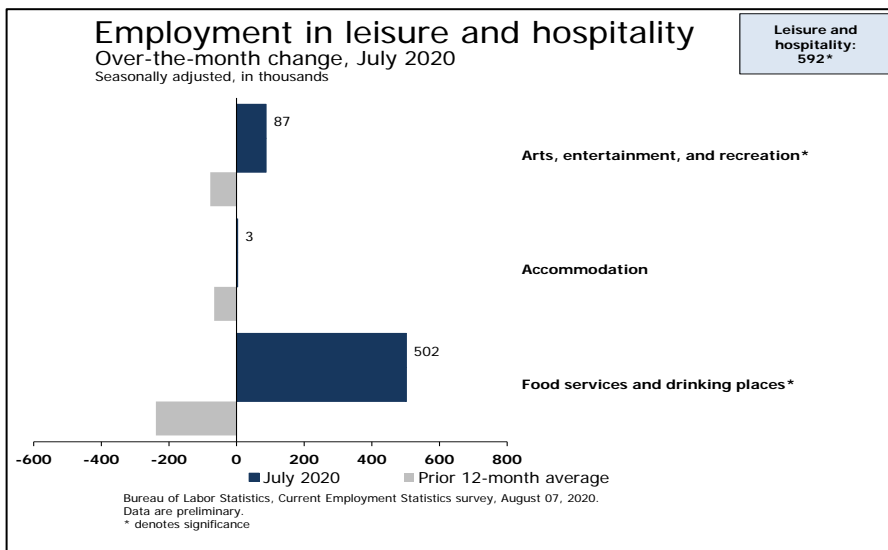


Employment in ambulatory health care services increased by 126,000 in July, with offices of dentists accounting for 45,000 of the gains. Offices of physicians (+26,000), offices of other health practitioners (+22,000), home health care services (+16,000), and medical and diagnostic laboratories (+8,000) also added jobs.

In July, employment in nursing and residential care facilities fell by 28,000, offsetting a gain of 27,000 jobs in hospitals.

Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in leisure and hospitality increased by 592,000 in July, after rising by 2.0 million in June. Since February, however, the industry has lost 4.3 million jobs.

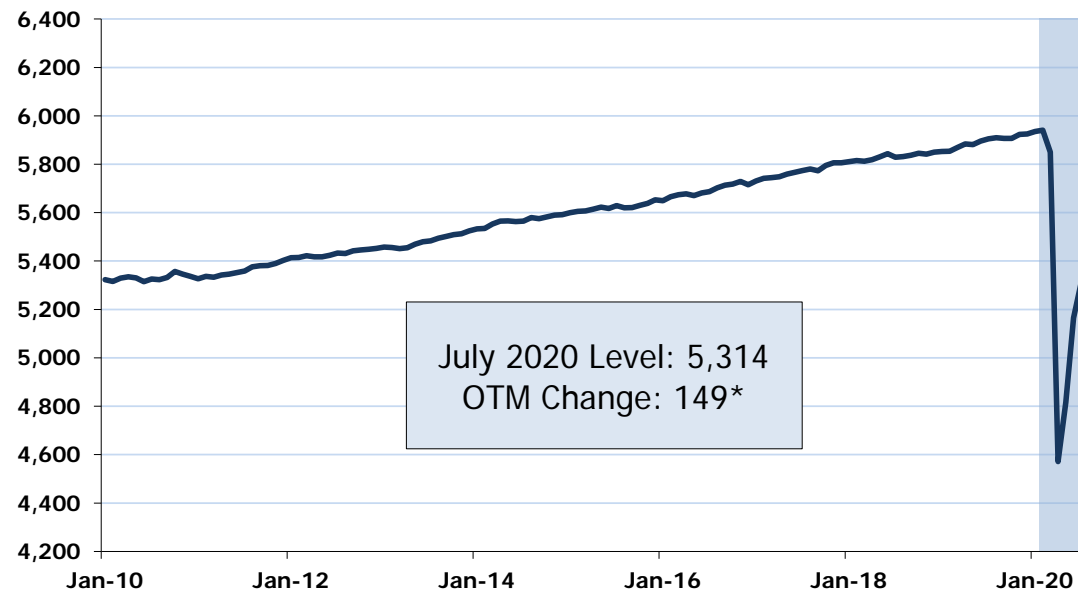


Employment in food services and drinking places grew by 502,000 in July. This increase follows an upswing in food service [sales](#) in June. Despite adding 3.4 million jobs over the past 3 months, employment in food services and drinking places is still 2.6 million lower than in February.

Other Services

Employment in other services January 2010–July 2020

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



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Employment in other services grew by 149,000 in July, following a gain of 349,000 in June. However, employment is still 627,000 lower than in February.

Among the component industries, the largest job gain in July occurred in personal and laundry services (+119,000), following an increase of 252,000 in June. These gains coincided with the continued easing of pandemic-related restrictions on barbershops, hairs salons, and other establishments whose business involves close personal contact. Employment in July is still 325,000 below February's level.

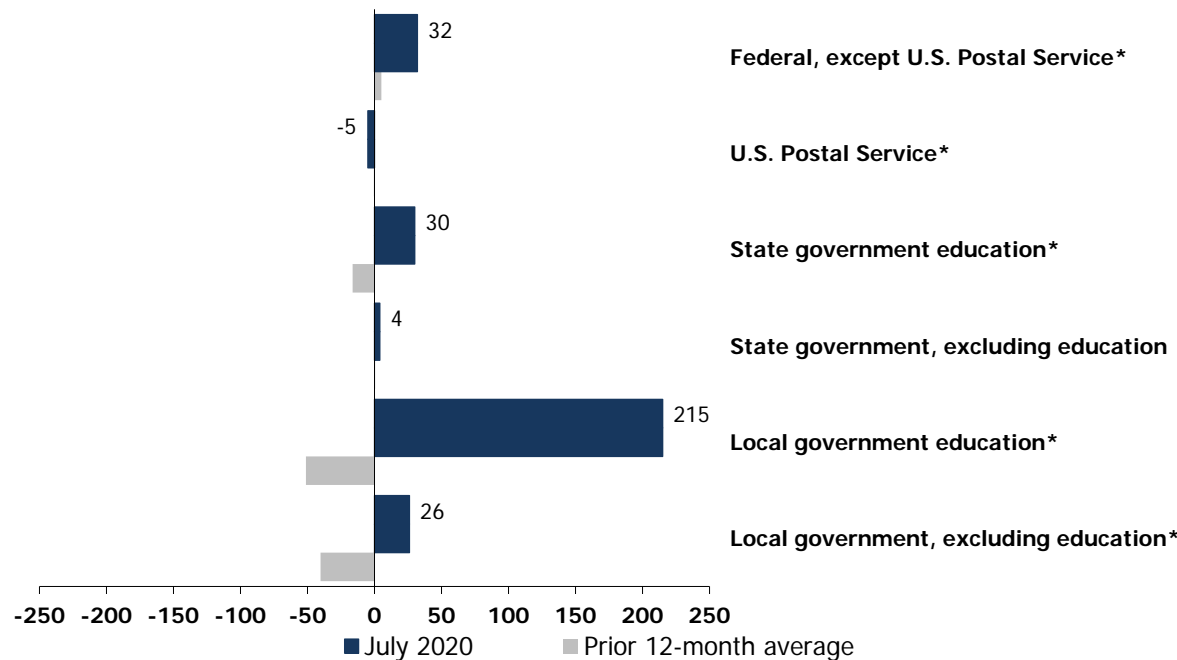
Government

Employment in selected government

Over-the-month change, July 2020

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Government:
301*



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 07, 2020.

Data are preliminary.

* denotes significance

In July, government employment increased by 301,000 with local government education accounting for 215,000 of the increase. Typically, education industries layoff a large number of workers in July; however, due to earlier layoffs related to the pandemic, fewer layoffs occurred in July, resulting in employment gains after seasonal adjustment.

Hiring for Census 2020 accounted for 27,000 of the increase in federal government employment. The U.S. Postal Service lost 5,000 jobs over the month.



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