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# Current Employment Statistics Highlights



**August 2013**

**Release Date:** September 6, 2013

**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, August 2013

Nonfarm payroll employment increased by 169,000 in August. Retail trade and health care added jobs.

The employment change for June revised down by 16,000 (from +188,000 to +172,000), and the employment change for July revised down by 58,000 (from +162,000 to +104,000).

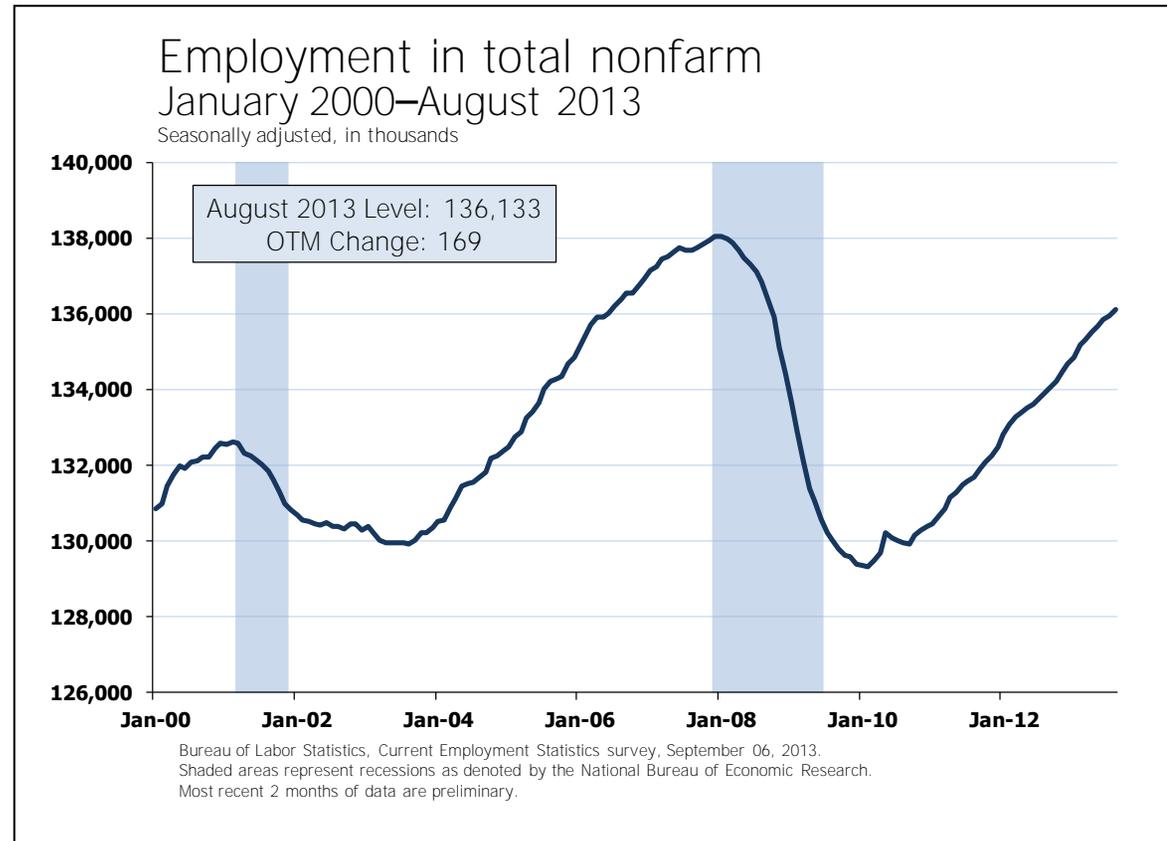
In August, average hourly earnings for all private-sector jobs increased by 5 cents. Hourly earnings are up 2.2 percent over the year. Average weekly hours edged up 0.1 hour.

### +44,000, Retail Trade

Retail trade added 44,000 jobs in August. Several retail industries that cater to back-to-school shoppers—clothing and accessory stores, general merchandise stores, and electronic and appliance stores—contributed to the job gain. Employment in food and beverage stores also rose.

### +43,000, Education and health services

Health care added 33,000 jobs in August. Ambulatory health care services accounted for 27,000 of the job gain, including 10,000 in home health care. Over the past 12 months, employment in health care has risen by 288,000.



### +23,000, Professional and business services

Employment continued to trend up in professional and business services in August. Over the past 12 months, job growth has averaged 51,000 per month.

### +27,000, Leisure and hospitality

Food services and drinking places continued to add jobs in August (+21,000). Over the past 12 months, employment has risen by 354,000

## Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, August 2013

in this industry.

### +14,000, Manufacturing

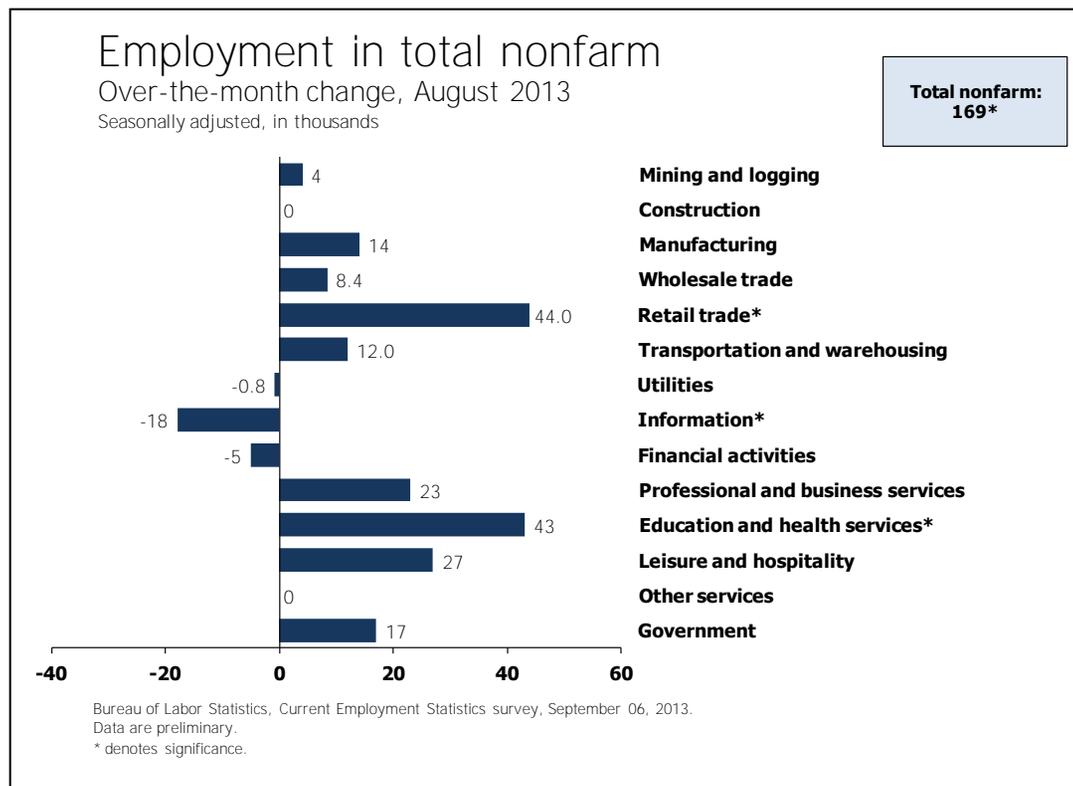
Within durable goods, motor vehicles and parts manufacturing added 19,000 jobs in August, following a loss of 10,000 jobs in July. These offsetting movements reflect, at least in part, a large layoff for model changeover in July followed by a return to work in August.

### +8,000, Wholesale Trade

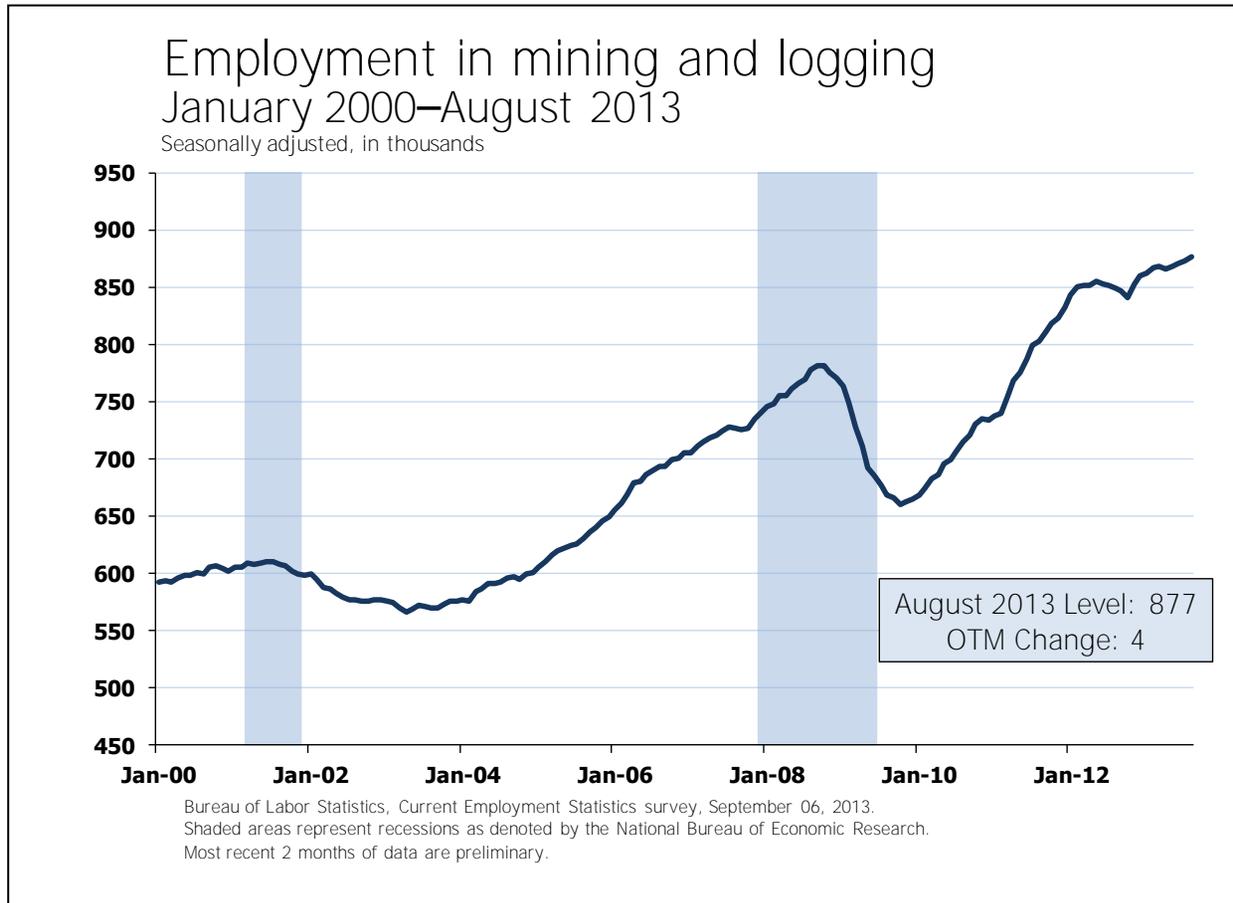
Employment in wholesale trade continued to trend up in August. Over the year, the industry has added 83,000 jobs.

### -18,000, Information

Motion picture and sound recording industries lost 22,000 jobs in August after gaining 8,000 jobs in July. Employment in this industry can be erratic from month to month; over the year, employment has shown little net change.



### Mining & Logging



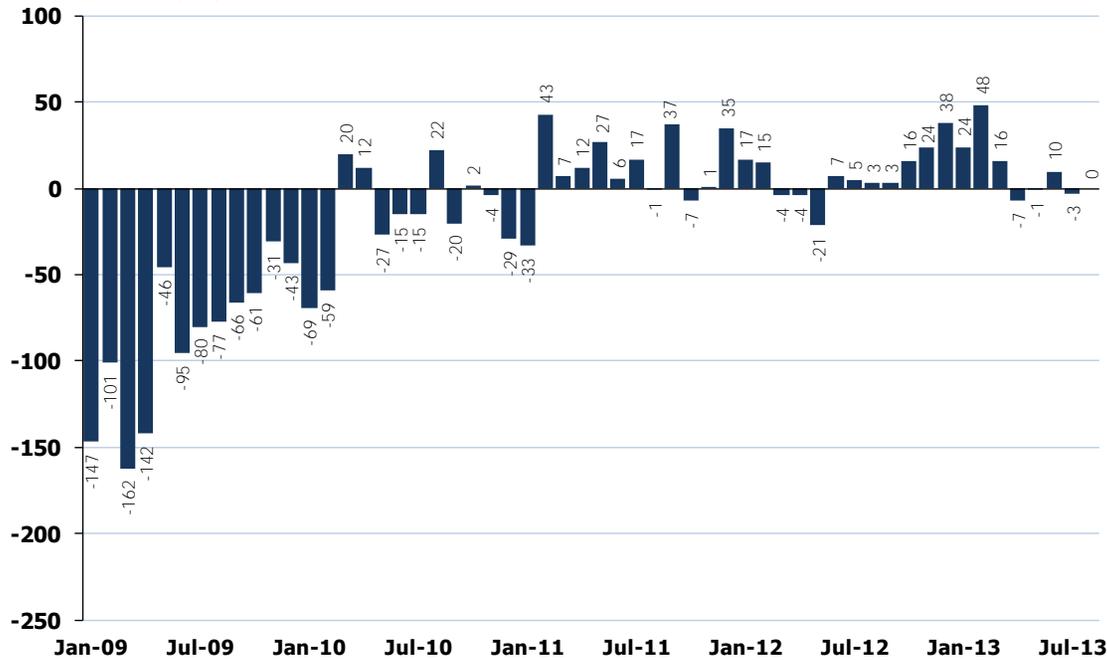
In August, mining and logging employment changed little.

Since reaching an employment trough in October 2009, mining has added 217,000 jobs. During this period, employment growth in the industry was fueled by support activities for mining as establishments increased exploration of prospective sites, despite stalled growth in 2012.

### Construction

## Employment in construction

Over-the-month change, January 2009–August 2013  
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, September 06, 2013.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in construction was unchanged in August. After adding 166,000 jobs between September 2012 and March 2013, construction employment has shown no net change.

Construction employment remains 1.9 million below the most recent peak in April 2006.

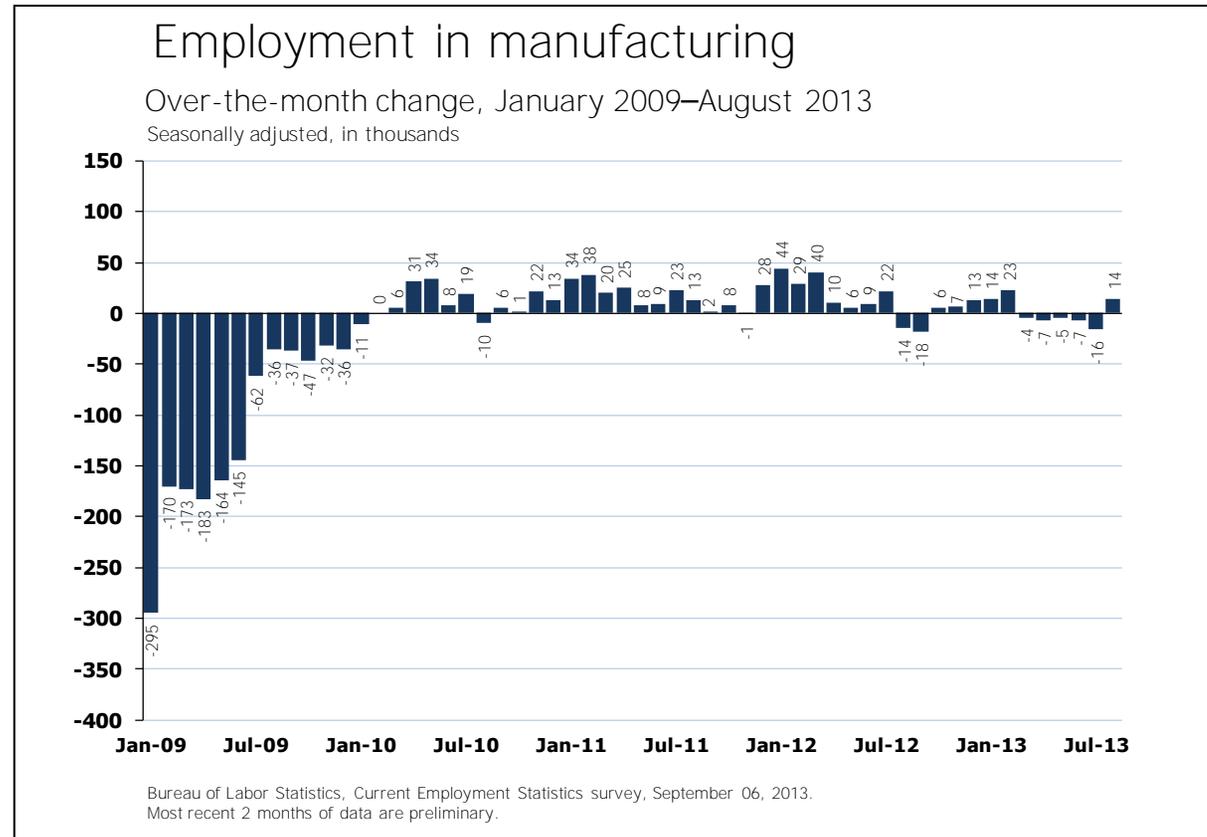
## Manufacturing

Manufacturing employment edged up in August (+14,000), following a decrease in July (-16,000). Over the month, durable goods employment increased by 22,000, largely due to motor vehicle and parts manufacturing. Nondurable goods employment continued to edge down in August (-8,000).

The 1-month diffusion index of manufacturing employment rose from 46.9 in July to 49.4 in August. The diffusion index measures the dispersion of employment change in manufacturing, with a value below 50 indicating that more manufacturing industries are losing jobs than adding them. August marks the fifth consecutive month where more manufacturing industries lost jobs than added jobs.

In August, the manufacturing workweek for all employees rose 0.1 hour. The increase in weekly hours combined with the employment increase resulted in a 0.3-percent increase in the index of aggregate weekly hours.

Recent manufacturing-related indicators have been mixed. In August, the [Institute for Supply Management PMI](#) (a measure of the manufacturing sector's economic activity) registered its highest reading of the year at 55.7



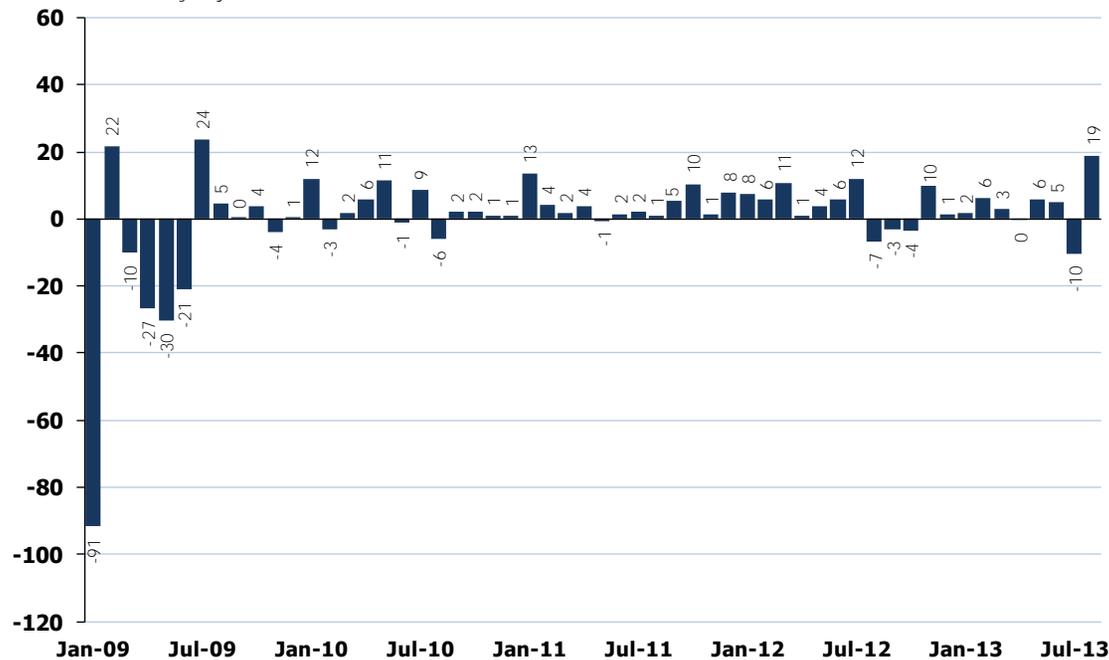
percent, indicating manufacturing sector expansion. In contrast, the [U.S. Census Bureau](#) reported that new orders of durables decreased 7.3 percent and durables inventories increased 0.4 percent in July.

## Manufacturing

### Employment in motor vehicles and parts

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

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, September 06, 2013.  
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### NAICS 3361, 3362, and 3363 – Motor vehicles and parts manufacturing

Employment in motor vehicles and parts increased by 19,000 in August, offsetting a decline of 10,000 in July. Motor vehicle production returned to normal in August after annual retooling in July, where companies prepare factories for new model year vehicles (Source: [Automotive News](#)).

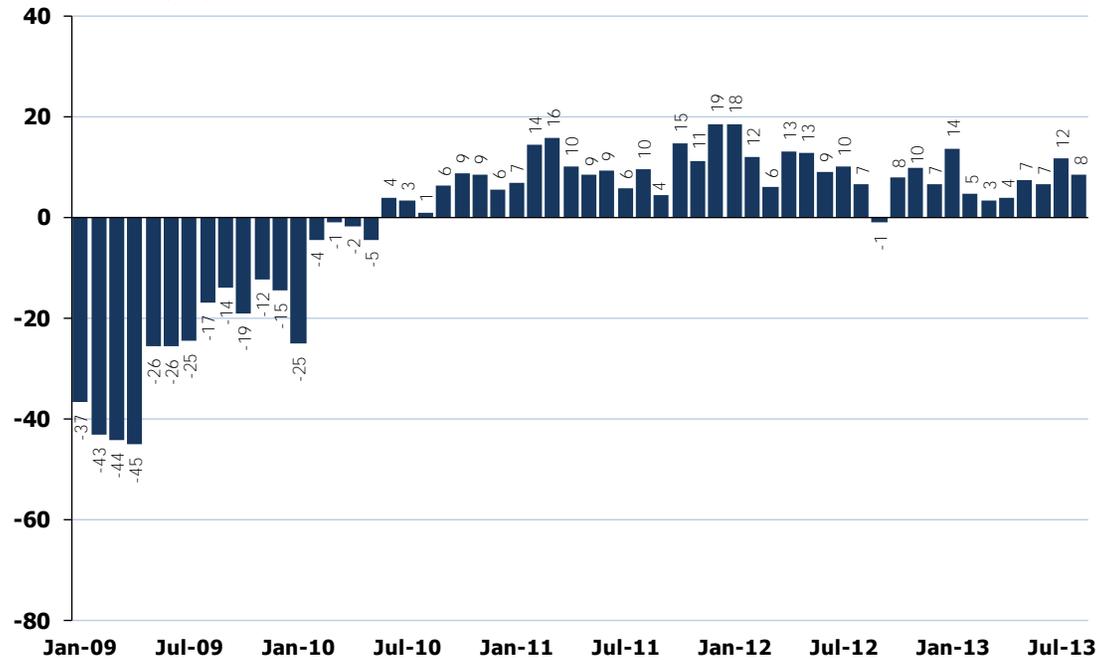
Since reaching an employment low in June 2009, motor vehicles and parts manufacturing has added 191,000 jobs.

### Wholesale Trade

## Employment in wholesale trade

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

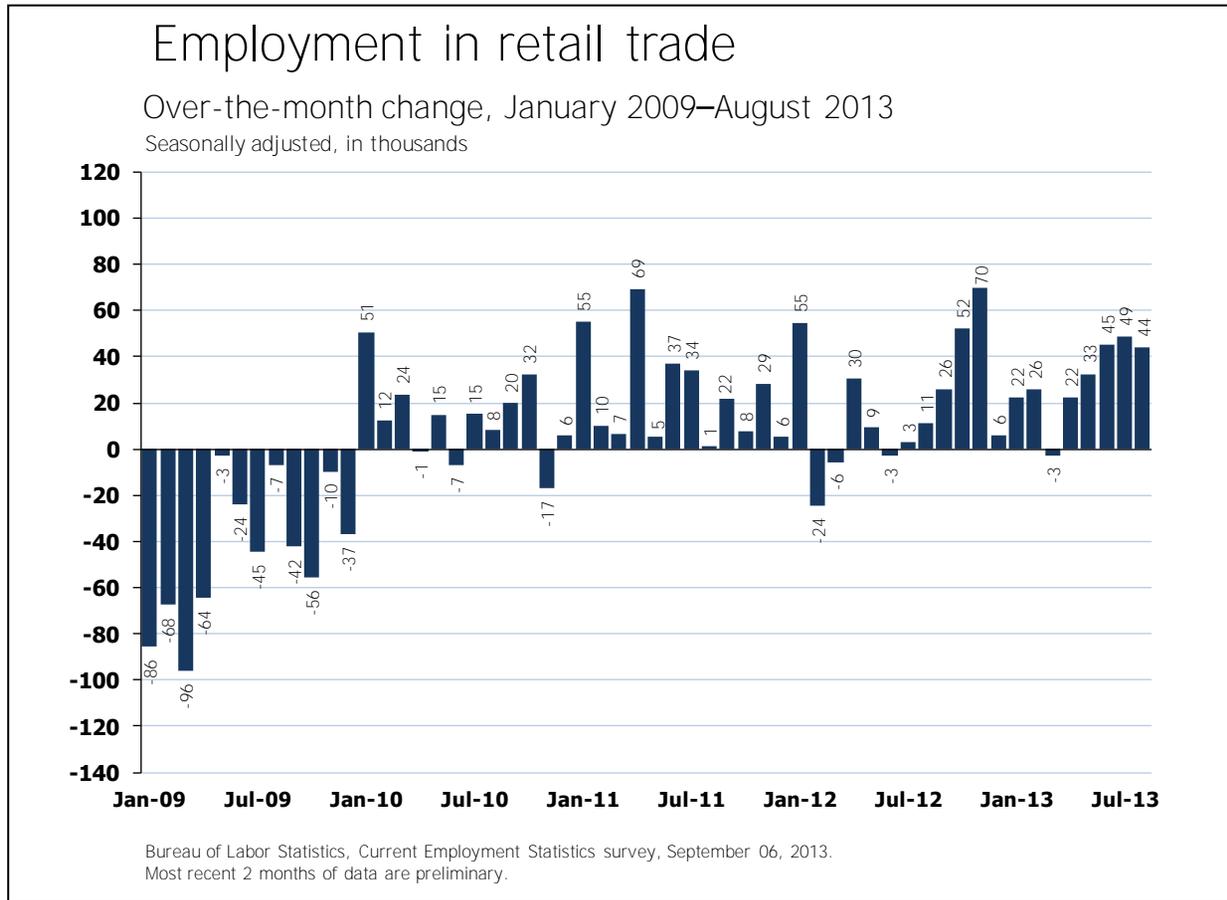
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, September 06, 2013.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in wholesale trade edged up in August (+8,000) and has added 83,000 jobs over the year. Wholesale trade employment continues to grow slowly but steadily and is up by 336,000 since the most recent trough in May 2010.

### Retail Trade



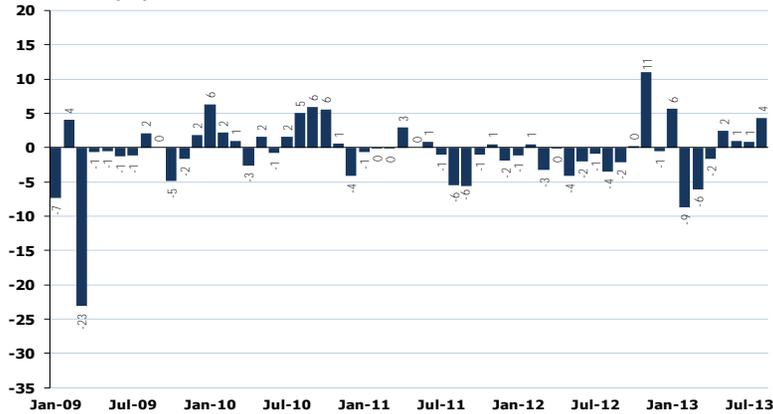
Retail trade employment increased by 44,000 in August. Job growth occurred mainly in sectors that are related to the back-to-school season. These include electronics and appliance stores (+4,000), general merchandise stores (+9,000), and clothing and clothing accessories stores (+14,000). Food and beverage stores also added jobs in August (+12,000). Overall, retail trade employment has increased by 393,000 over the past 12 months.

Recent retail-related indicators have been positive. As shown by [Census Bureau](#) data, retail sales for July increased by 0.2 percent and were up 5.4 percent over the year. Over the month, small sales gains occurred throughout most of the retail sectors. Automotive sales, as measured by [MotorIntelligence](#), increased to an annualized 16.1 million vehicles in August. And according to the [U.S. Energy Information Administration](#), the per-gallon price of gasoline in August was down 8 cents from July levels. Finally, the [Conference Board](#) notes that the Consumer Confidence Index increased slightly in August; it remains at one of the highest levels since January 2008.

### Retail Trade

#### Employment in electronics and appliance stores

Over-the-month change, January 2009–August 2013  
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, September 06, 2013.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

#### NAICS 443 – Electronics and appliance stores

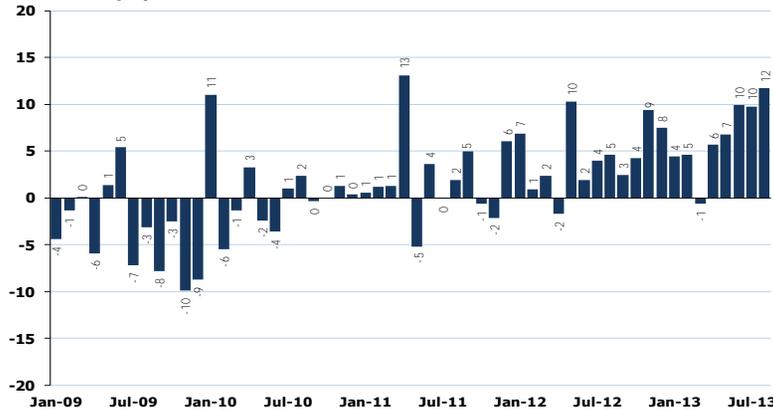
In August, electronics and appliance stores employment increased by 4,000, with nearly all the gain coming from electronics stores. However, employment in electronics and appliance stores has changed little, on net, over the year.

#### NAICS 445 – Food and beverage stores

Employment in food and beverage stores rose by 12,000 in August—more than half of the job gain came from grocery stores. Over the year, employment in food and beverage stores accounted for nearly 20 percent of the total retail employment gain during this period.

#### Employment in food and beverage stores

Over-the-month change, January 2009–August 2013  
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, September 06, 2013.  
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## Retail Trade



### NAICS 448 – Clothing and clothing accessories stores

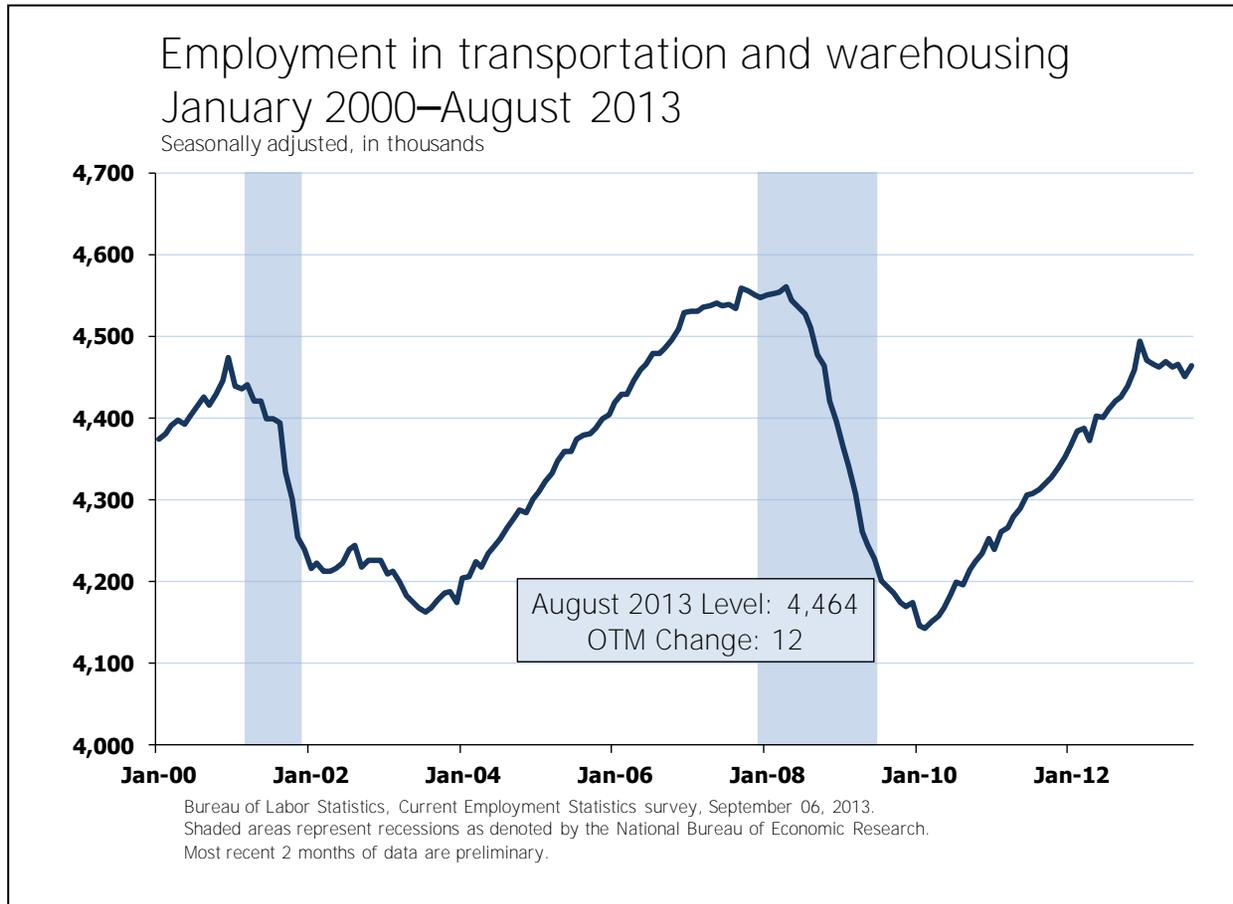
In August, clothing and clothing accessories stores employment increased by 14,000, the largest job gain within retail trade in August. Half of the gain came from family clothing stores, coinciding with the back-to-school season.

### NAICS 452 – General merchandise stores

Employment in general merchandise stores rose by 9,000 with most of the gain occurring in other general merchandise stores. Since reaching an employment low in August 2012, general merchandise stores has added 83,000 jobs.



### Transportation and Warehousing



Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in August.

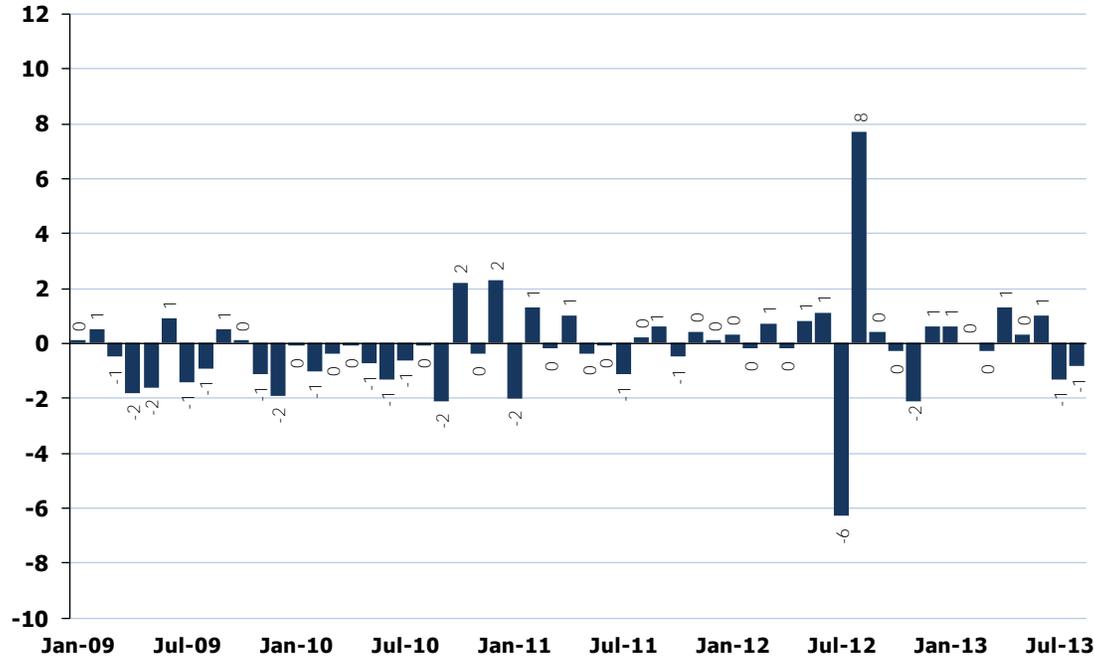
#### NAICS 485 – Transit and ground passenger transportation

Transit and ground passenger transportation employment edged up in August (+8,000), following a decline of 20,000 in July. August and July changes were concentrated in school and employee bus transportation.

### Utilities

## Employment in utilities

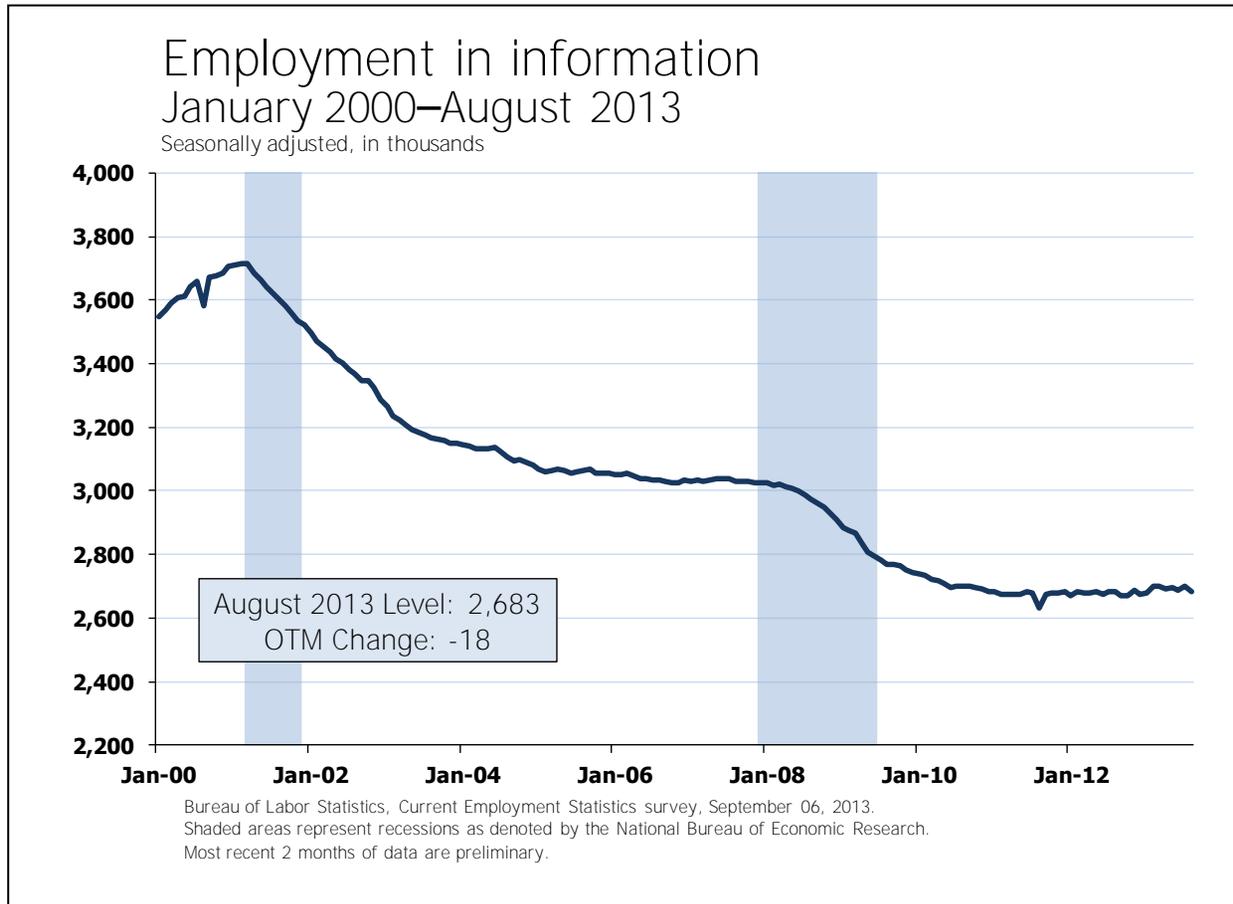
Over-the-month change, January 2009–August 2013  
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, September 06, 2013.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

In August, employment in utilities changed little (-1,000). Over the last 12 months, this industry’s employment has shown no net change.

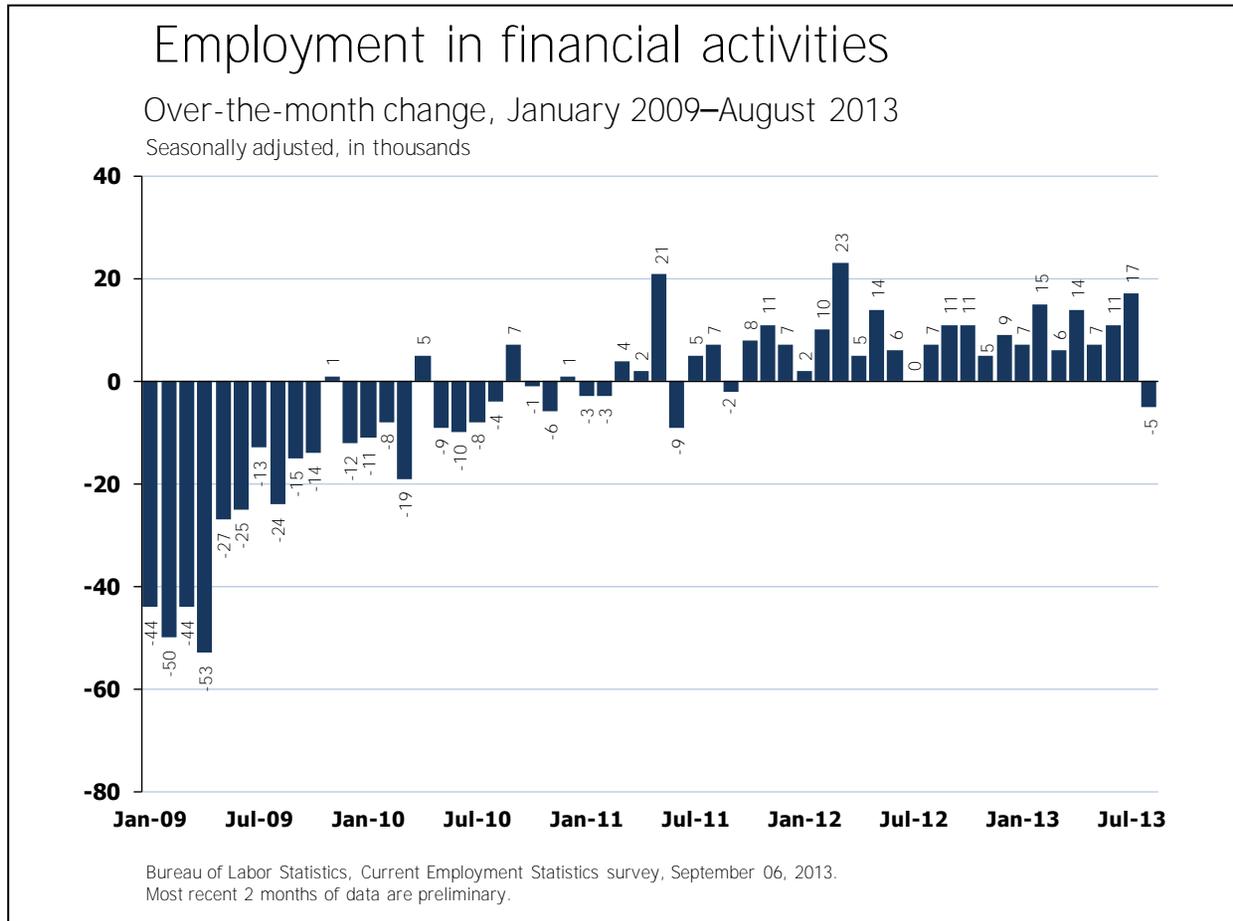
**Information**



Information employment fell by 18,000 in August. This loss was concentrated in motion picture and sound recording industries, which shed 22,000 jobs.

Since August 2011, information employment has changed little.

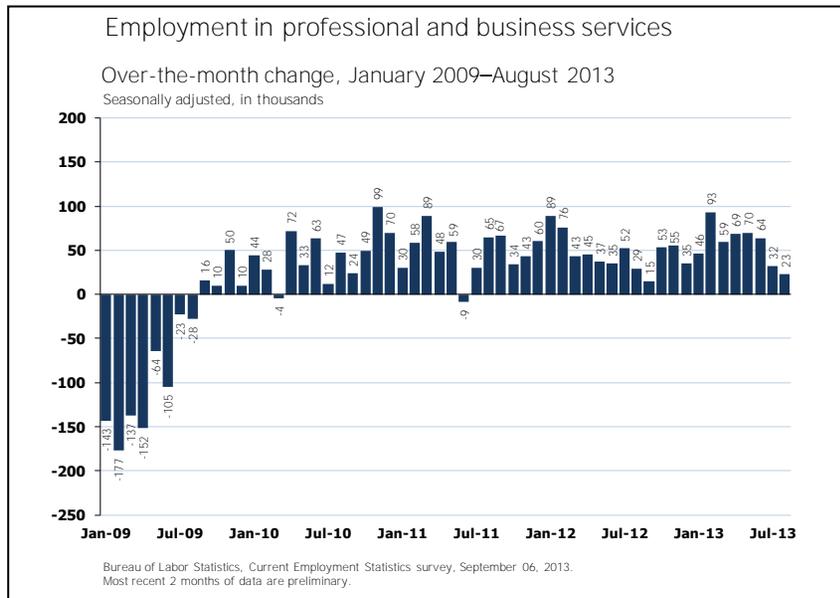
### Financial Activities



Financial activities employment changed little in August (-5,000). However, since reaching a trough in February 2011, financial activities has added 229,000 jobs.

Commercial banking employment declined by 4,000 in August, and the industry has lost 28,000 jobs since an employment peak in March 2012.

## Professional and Business Services



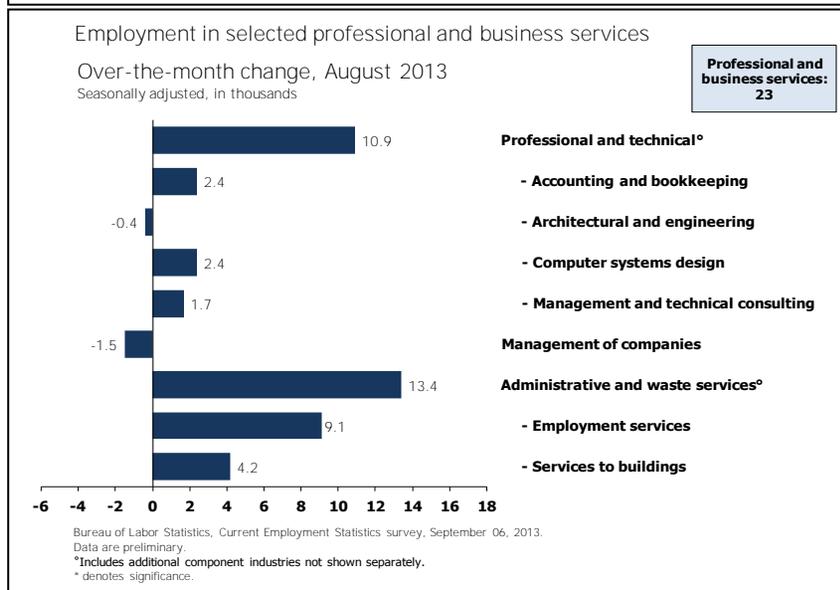
Employment in professional and business services continued to trend up in August (+23,000). Since the most recent employment trough in August 2009, employment in the industry has expanded by 2.2 million.

### NAICS 54 – Professional and technical services

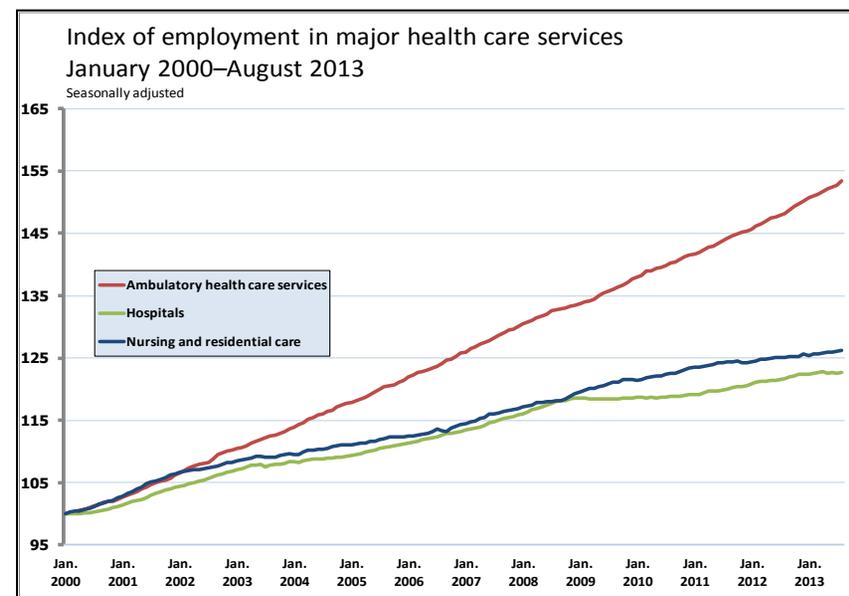
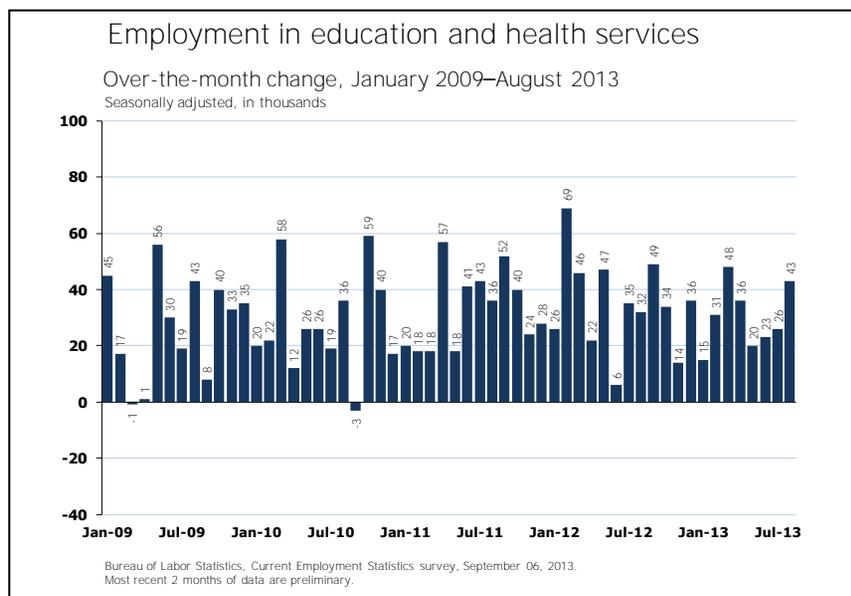
Professional and technical services employment continued to trend up in August (+11,000). These industries account for 702,000 of the jobs gained in professional and business services since August 2009.

### NAICS 56 – Administrative and waste services

Temporary help services employment also continued to edge up in August (+13,000) and has added 969,000 jobs since August 2009.



## Private Education and Health Services



Education and health services employment expanded by 43,000 in August. Within the industry, employment in both educational services and social assistance continued their upward trends over the month (+5,000 and +6,000, respectively). Over the past 6 months, educational services has added 47,000 jobs, mostly in elementary and secondary schools. Over the same time period, social assistance has gained 30,000 jobs, the majority of the gain coming from services for the elderly and disabled.

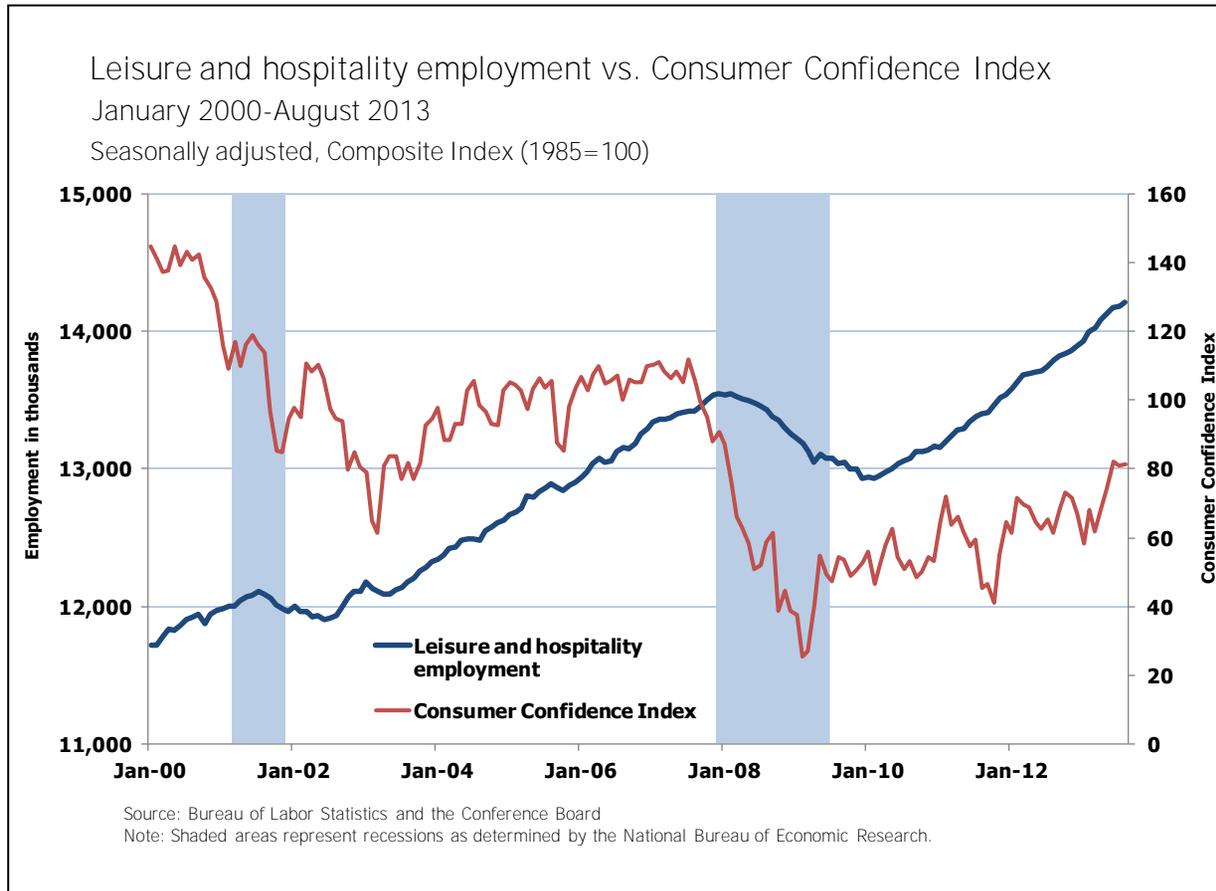
In August, health care employment grew by 33,000, after changing little in July. Health care has gained 119,000 jobs over the past 6 months.

### NAICS 621 – Ambulatory health care services

Ambulatory health care services employment expanded by 27,000 in August, after little change in July (+12,000). The industry has added a total of 101,000 jobs over the past 6 months.

Within ambulatory health care services, home health care services employment grew by 10,000 in August. Home health care services has added 43,000 jobs over the past 6 months. In August, employment continued to trend up in offices of physicians (+6,000) and in outpatient care centers (+3,000). The two industries have added 22,000 and 19,000 jobs over the past 6 months, respectively.

### Leisure and Hospitality

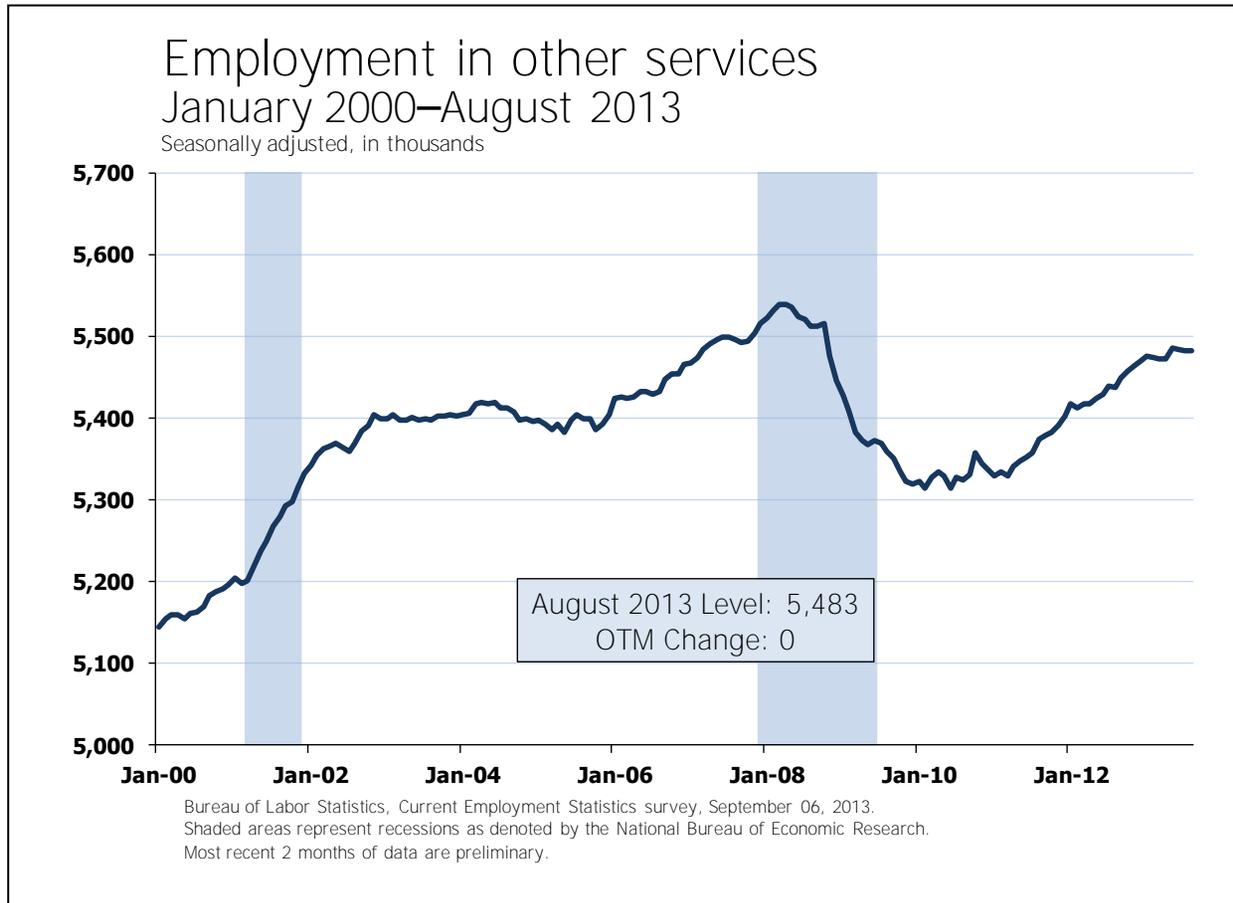


Employment in leisure and hospitality continued to trend up in August (+27,000). In the last 12 months, this industry gained 424,000 jobs. Recent growth in this industry coincides with a generally positive but somewhat volatile trend in the [consumer confidence index](#).

#### NAICS 722 – Food services and drinking places

Food services and drinking places employment also continued an upward trend in August. Over the last 12 months, this industry added 354,000 jobs, accounting for over 80 percent of the jobs gained in leisure and hospitality during the same period.

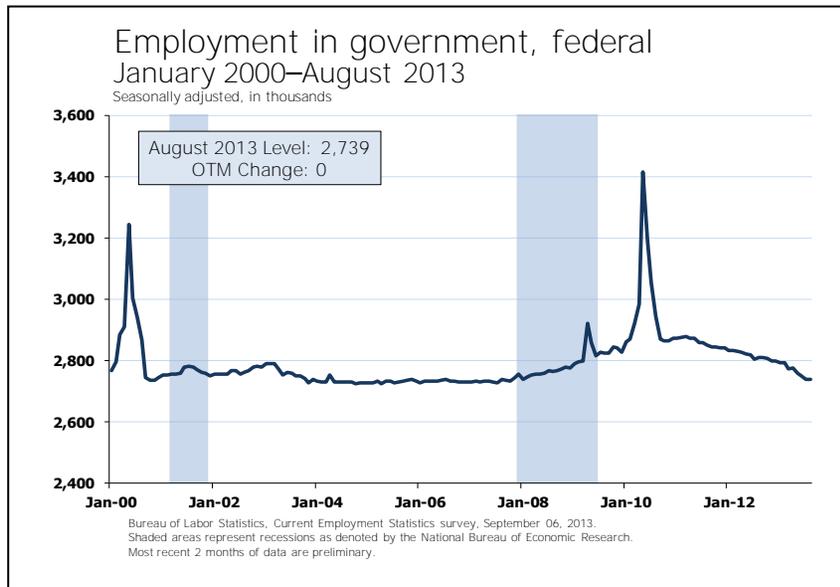
### Other Services



Employment in other services was unchanged in August, and no component industry experienced a significant change.

Other services has regained about 75 percent of jobs lost between April 2008 and June 2010. The pace of job growth, however, has recently slowed. After growing by 1.2 percent in 2011 and 1.3 percent in 2012, employment growth has fallen to an annualized rate of 0.4 percent in 2013.

## Government



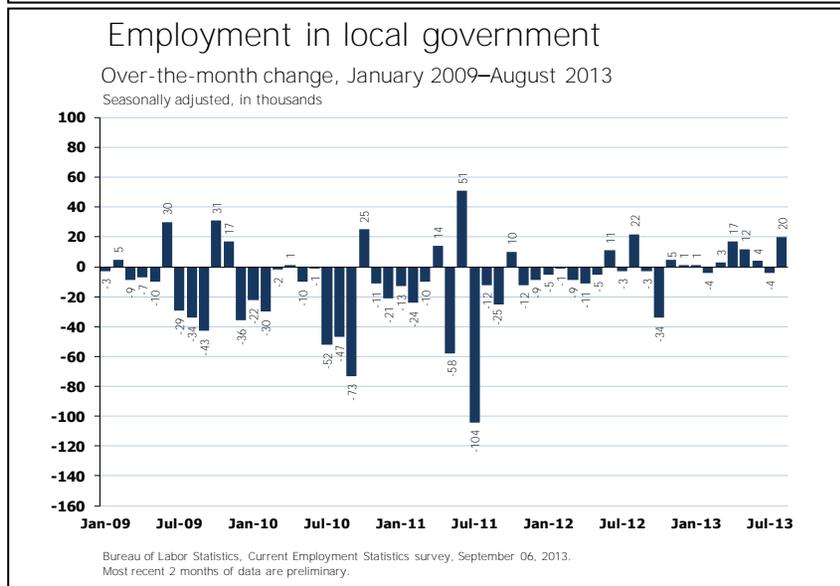
Government employment was little changed in August (+17,000). Federal and state government employment was flat over the month, while local government employment edged up (+20,000).

### NAICS 91 – Federal government

Federal employment was unchanged in August. The Federal government has shed 60,000 jobs, on net, so far in 2013, with the majority of jobs lost in federal, except U.S. Postal Service.

### NAICS 93 – Local government

Local government employment edged up in August (+20,000). The industry has begun to rebound from its recent employment downturn, gaining back 55,000 jobs after losing 581,000 between July 2008 and October 2012. Local education accounts for 39,000 of the jobs gained since October 2012.





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