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# Current Employment Statistics Highlights



**January 2014**

**Release Date:** February 7, 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, January 2014

**Total Nonfarm** + 113,000

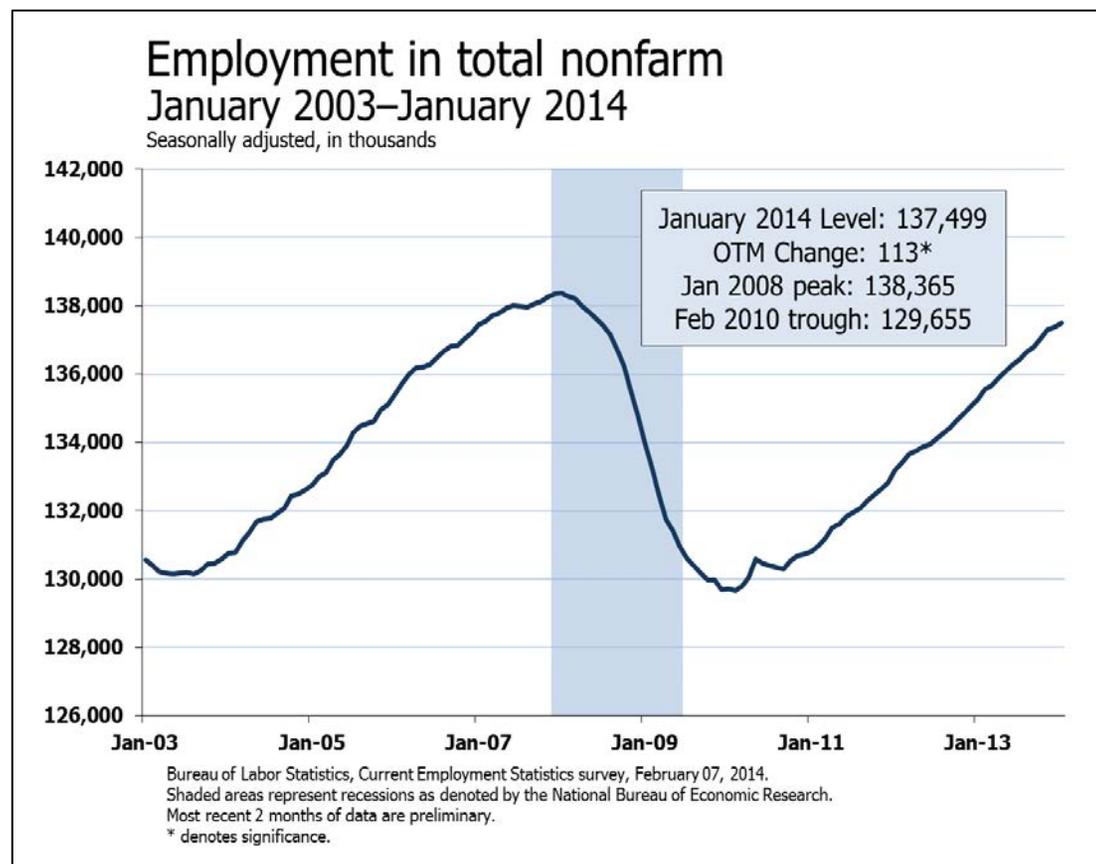
**Total Private** + 142,000

Nonfarm employment increased by 113,000 in January. Construction, manufacturing, wholesale trade, and mining added jobs.

Average hourly earnings of all private-sector employees increased by 5 cents (0.2 percent) over the month. Hourly earnings were up 1.9 percent over the year. Average weekly hours, at 34.4, were unchanged in January.

In accordance with annual practice, the establishment survey data have been revised to reflect comprehensive counts of payroll jobs, or benchmarks, derived principally from unemployment insurance tax records. Nonfarm employment for March 2013 was revised up by 369,000 (347,000 on a not seasonally adjusted basis).

The benchmark revision incorporates a large non-economic change that resulted from a reclassification of 466,000 jobs from private households (out of scope by CES definition) to services for the elderly and disabled (in scope for CES). Additional historical data were revised to reflect this non-economic change. The benchmark revision also includes a



revision of -119,000 not seasonally adjusted, which is due to survey error.

An article analyzing the benchmark revisions is available via the CES homepage at [//www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cesbmart.htm](http://www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cesbmart.htm).

**Construction** + 48,000

Construction employment rose by 48,000 in January, more than offsetting a loss in December (-22,000). Over the 2 months, the industry added an average of 13,000 jobs per

## Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, January 2014

month, about in line with the average gain of 17,000 for the preceding 12 months.

### Manufacturing + 21,000

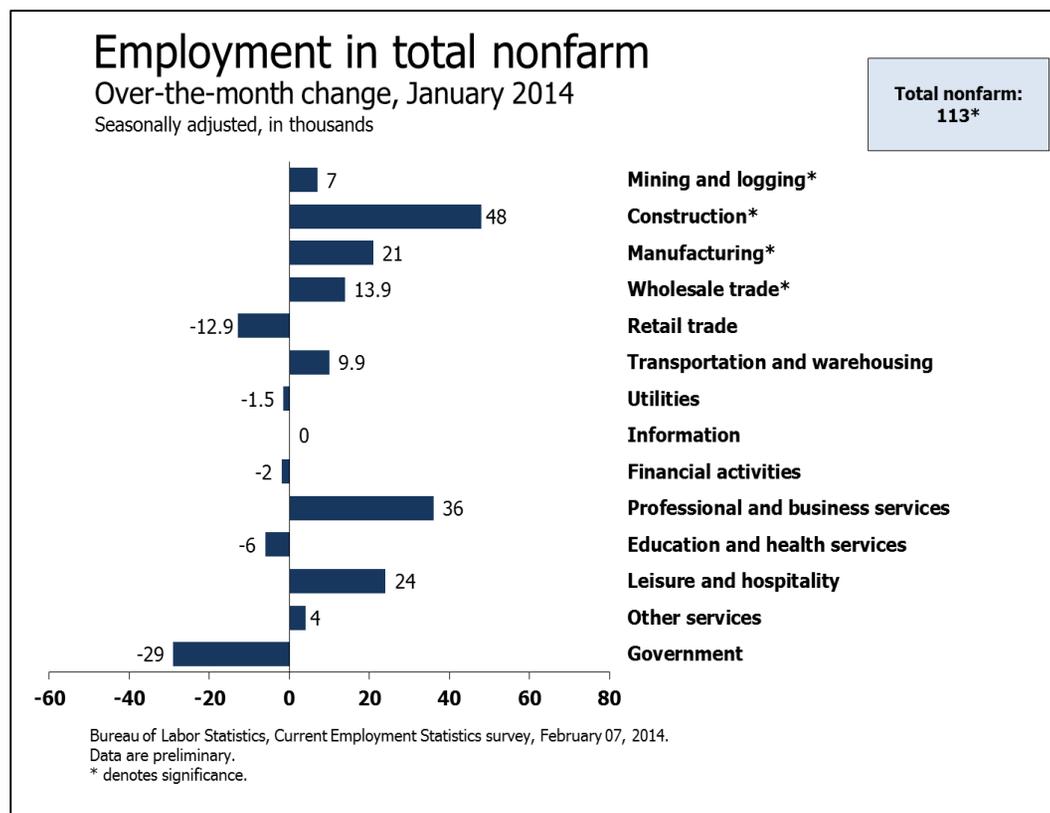
Manufacturers added 21,000 jobs in January, largely in durable goods industries. Notable employment gains occurred in machinery, motor vehicles and parts, and wood products. In 2013, manufacturing employment rose by an average 7,000 per month.

### Wholesale Trade + 14,000

Wholesale trade added 14,000 jobs, mostly in nondurable goods. Monthly jobs gains in wholesale trade had averaged 8,000 per month in 2013.

### Mining and Logging + 7,000

Mining added 7,000 jobs in January. The industry had added an average 2,000 jobs per month in 2013. Logging employment was flat in January and had changed little in 2013.



**Professional and business services + 36,000** (+13,000); the industry had added an average 35,000 jobs per month in 2013.

Professional and technical services added 20,000 jobs in January; job growth had averaged 17,000 per month in 2013. Employment in administrative and waste services changed little over the month

## Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, January 2014

### Leisure and hospitality + 24,000

Employment in leisure and hospitality continued to trend higher in January. Job growth in the industry had averaged 38,000 per month in 2013.

### Retail Trade - 13,000

Employment in retail trade changed little in January (-13,000) following a gain of 63,000 in December. Over this 2-month period, employment rose by an average 25,000 per month, the same as the prior 12-month average change. In January, sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores lost 22,000 jobs, while motor vehicle and parts dealers added 7,000 jobs.

### Education and health services - 6,000

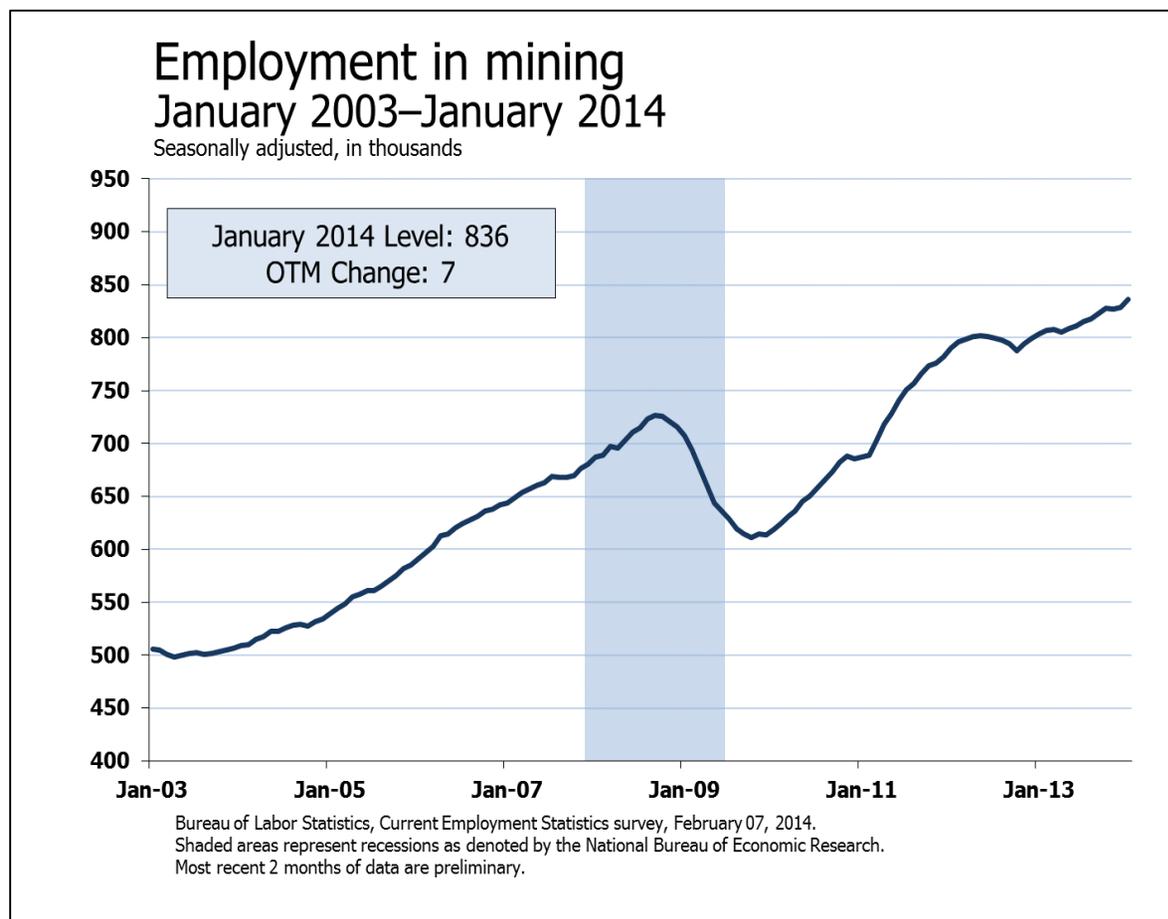
Health care employment was essentially unchanged for a second month in January, and the weakness was evident throughout the industry. Job growth in health care slowed from an average of 22,000 jobs per month in 2012 to 17,000 per month in 2013.

### Government - 29,000

The Federal government reduced employment by 12,000 in January; the U.S. Postal Services accounted for most of the decline (-9,000). Over the past 12 months, Federal government employment has decreased by 85,000 or 3.0 percent.

Employment in State government and in local government changed little in January.

## Mining & Logging



In January, mining and logging added 7,000 jobs; all of the gains were in mining.

Economic indicators related to mining also reflected strength in January. Crude oil stocks fell from 372.3 in December 2013 to 351.2 million barrels in January. West Texas Intermediate Crude Oil price and refinery capacity utilization declined slightly from December to January, but were still at high levels. (Source: [U.S. Energy Information Administration](#))

Over the past year, mining exhibited consistent employment growth (+32,000), mostly in support activities for mining. The employment trend is also reflected in increased domestic fuel production and reduced petroleum imports to the United States. (Source: [U.S. Energy Information Administration](#))

### NAICS 212 – Mining, except oil and gas

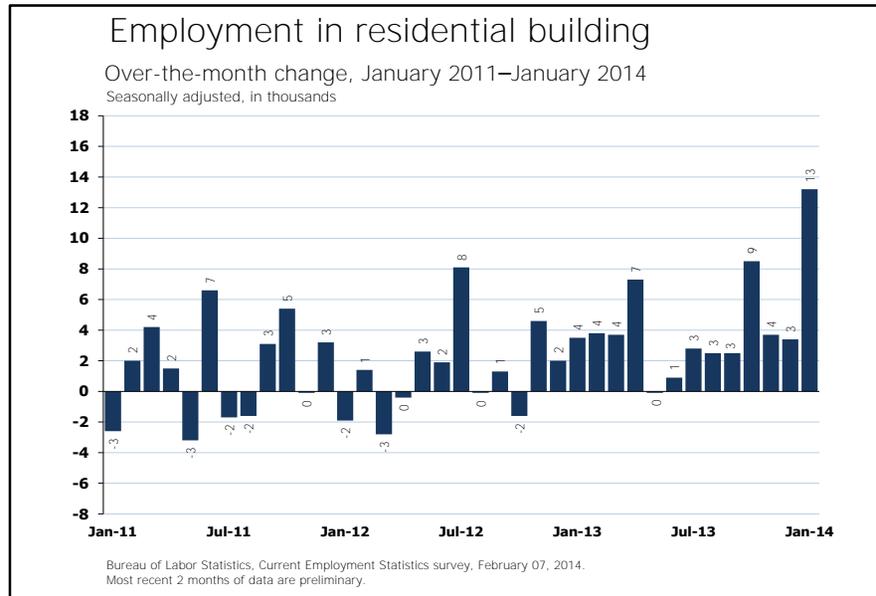
Mining, except oil and gas added 3,000 jobs in January. In 2013, employment in this industry changed little.

## Construction



Employment in construction grew by 48,000 in January, the largest 1-month increase since March 2007 when the industry added 80,000 jobs. The January gain follows a loss of 22,000 jobs the prior month. Since reaching an employment trough in January 2011, the industry has recovered 490,000 jobs, or 21.4 percent of the jobs lost during the most recent employment downturn.

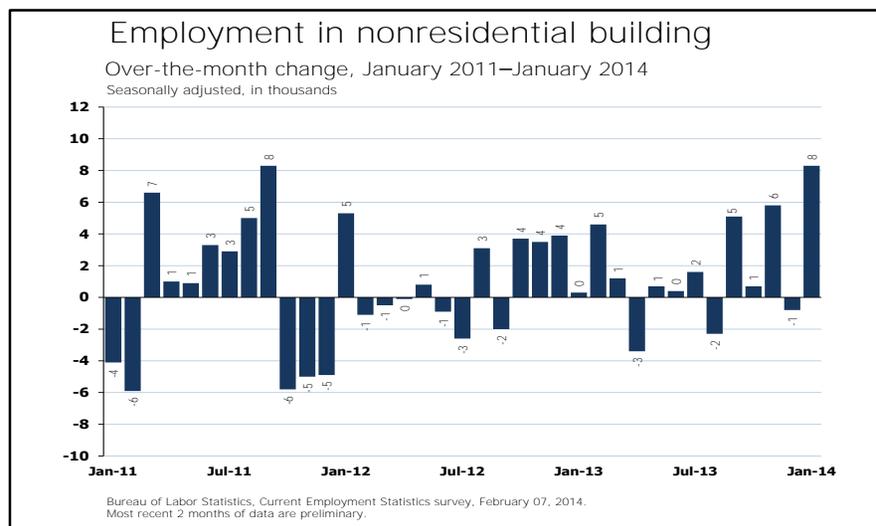
Job gains in January were spread across most industries within construction. In addition, these over-the-month gains may have been supported by warmer than average temperatures throughout much of the country during the January reference week and colder than average temperatures throughout much of the country during the December 2013 reference week.



### NAICS 2361—Residential building

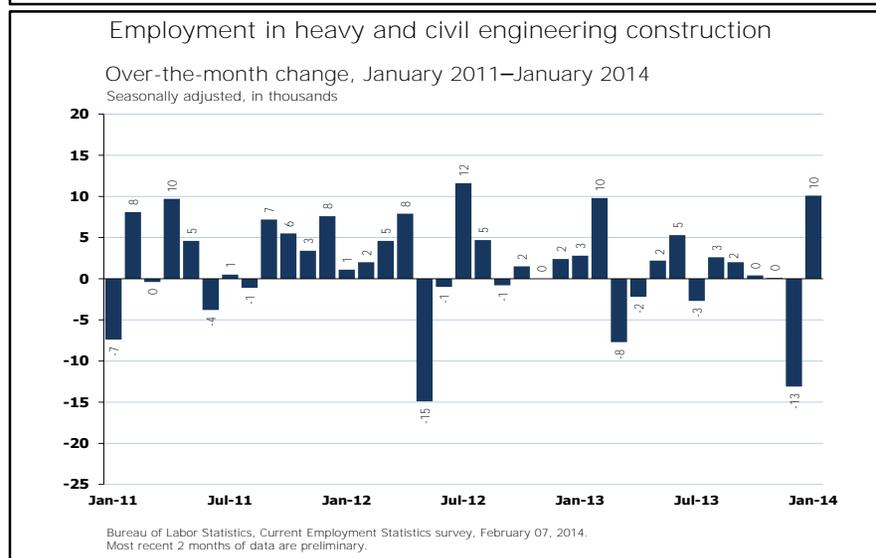
Residential building construction added 13,000 jobs in January. The [National Association of Homebuilders](#) reported that homebuilder confidence fell 1 point in January to 56, but remained above the 50-point threshold indicating that more builders reported optimism than pessimism about market conditions.

## Construction



### NAICS 2362—Nonresidential building

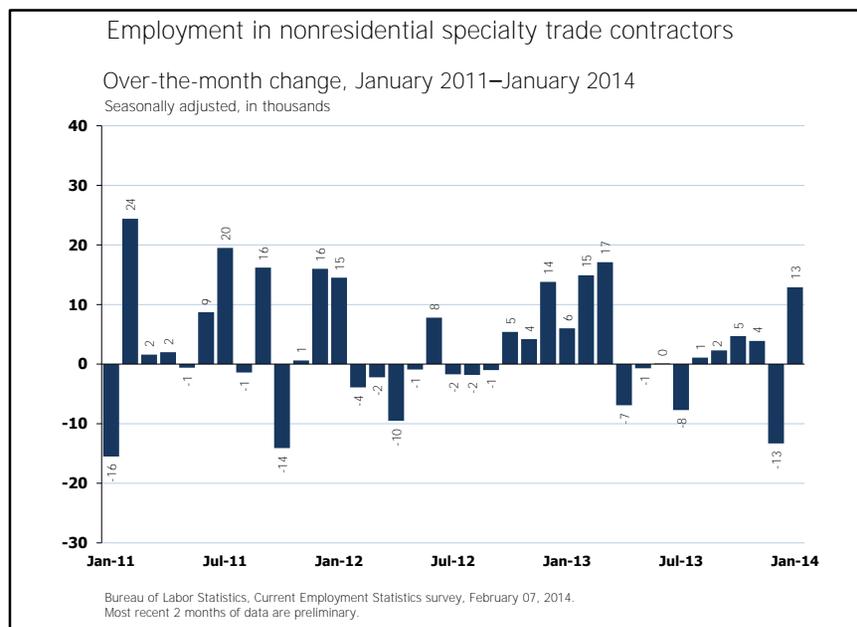
Employment in nonresidential building construction grew by 8,000 in January. Since reaching an employment trough in February 2011, the industry has recovered 48,000 jobs.



### NAICS 237—Heavy and civil engineering

Employment in heavy and civil engineering construction grew by 10,000 in January, largely offsetting a loss of 13,000 jobs in the prior month. Since reaching an employment trough in February 2010, the industry has added 78,000 jobs.

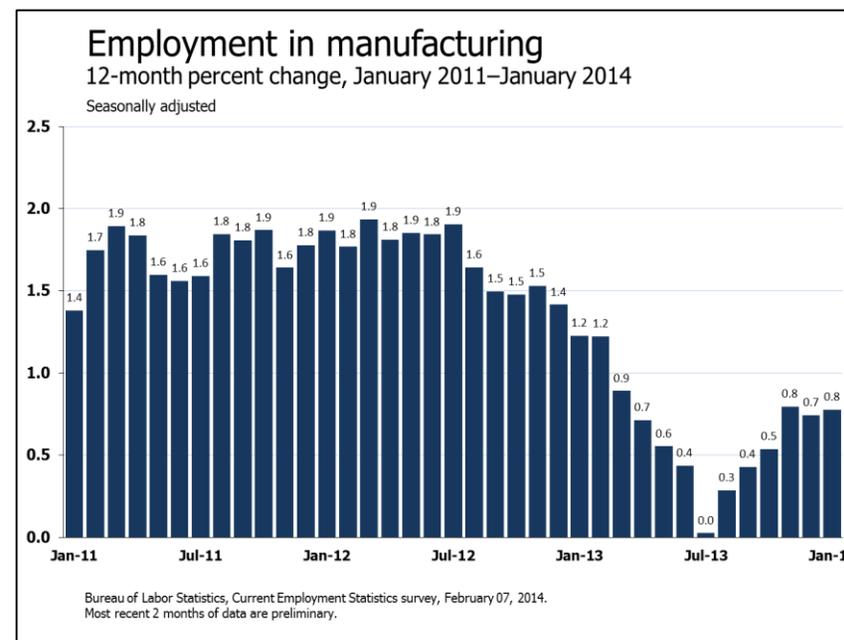
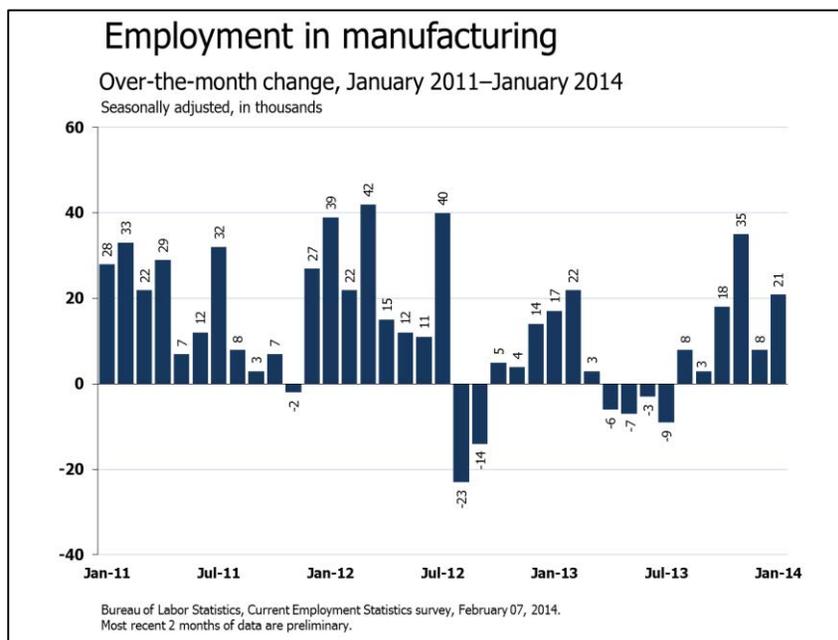
## Construction



### NAICS 238002—Nonresidential specialty trade contractors

Employment in nonresidential specialty trade contractors grew by 13,000 in January, offsetting a decline of similar magnitude the prior month. The industry has added 132,000 jobs since reaching an employment trough in June 2010.

## Manufacturing

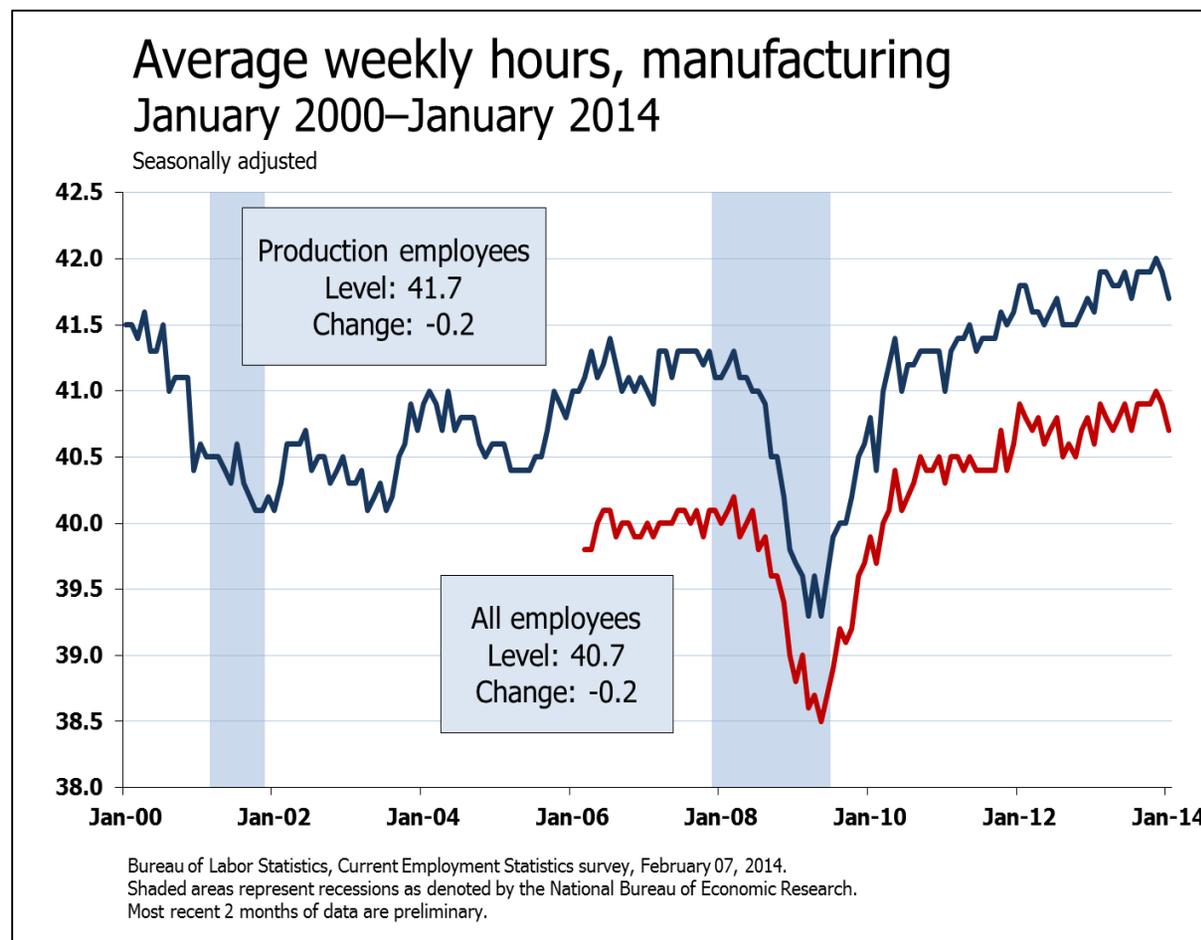


In January, manufacturing added 21,000 jobs, in line with its prior 3-month average. The January payroll increase resulted primarily from durable goods adding 15,000 jobs.

The 1-month diffusion index of manufacturing employment fell from 59.9 in December to 54.3 in January. The diffusion index measures the dispersion of employment change in manufacturing, with a value above 50 indicating that more manufacturing industries are adding jobs than losing them. January marks the 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive month the index registered above 50.

Since reaching a trough in February 2010, manufacturing has been adding jobs, but at an inconsistent pace. In 2011 and 2012, manufacturing employment grew between 1.4 and 1.9 percent on an over-the-year basis. Job growth decelerated through mid-2013, and then accelerated after July. In January 2014, manufacturing employment increased by 0.8 percent over the year.

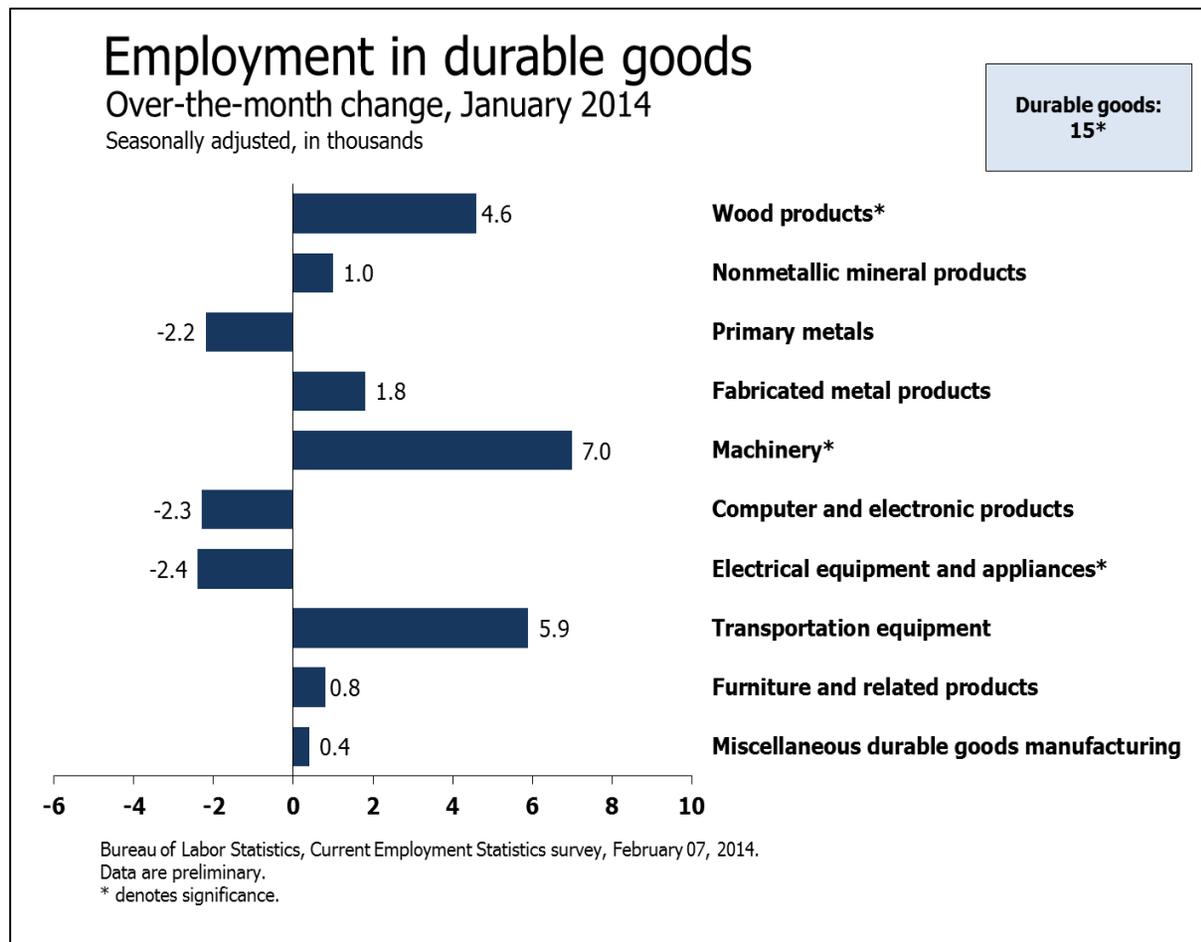
## Manufacturing



In January, the manufacturing workweek for all employees fell 0.2 hour to 40.7 hours. Similarly, the manufacturing workweek for production employees fell 0.2 hour to 41.7 hours. Average weekly hours have remained at historically high levels for the past 2 years.

Recent manufacturing-related indicators have been weak. The [U.S. Census Bureau](#) reported that durable goods orders fell 4.2 percent and inventories rose 0.8 percent in December. The [Institute for Supply Management](#) reported that the Purchasing Managers' Index® decreased 5.2 percent to 51.3, indicating that economic activity in the manufacturing sector expanded at a slower pace, in January.

## Manufacturing



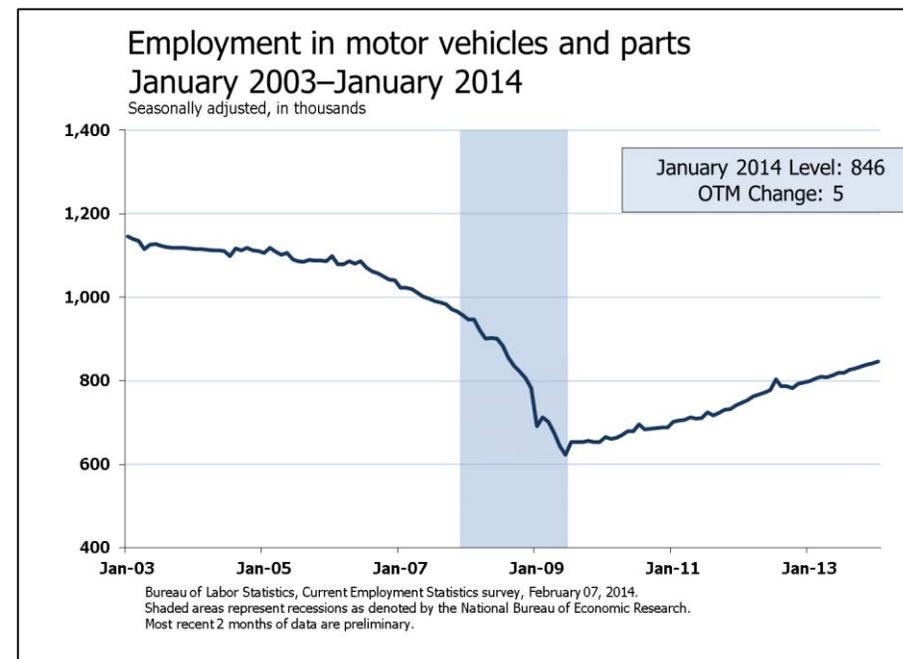
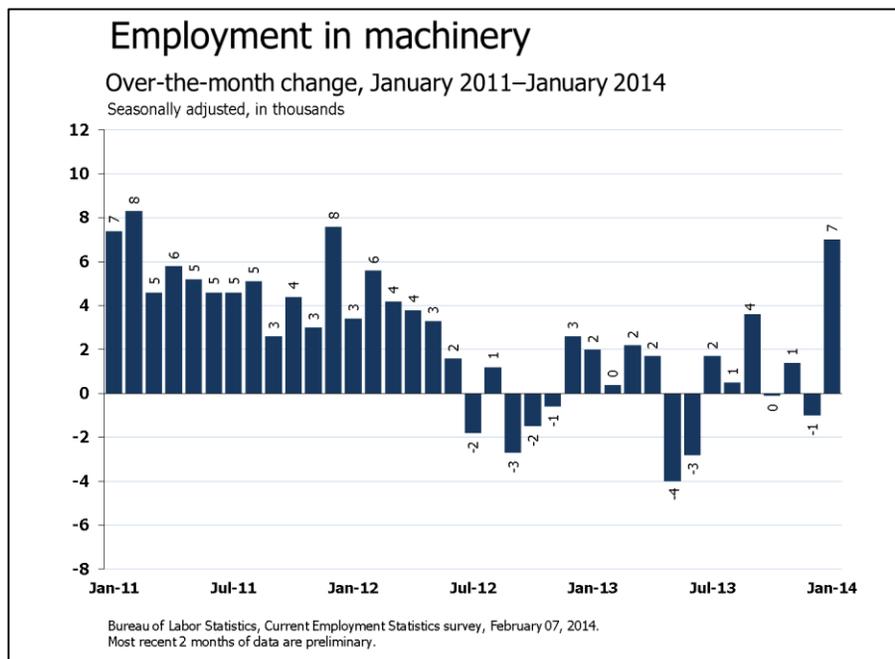
In January, durable goods industries accounted for 15,000 of the jobs added in manufacturing. Growth occurred in wood products, machinery, and transportation equipment.

### NAICS 321 – Wood products

Wood products manufacturing added 5,000 jobs in January. Most of the employment gain occurred in other wood products.

The employment increase in wood products coincides with an increase in construction employment. Wood products manufacturing produces inputs for home building.

## Manufacturing



### NAICS 333 – Machinery

Employment in machinery increased by 7,000 in January, the largest over-the-month gain since December 2011. This industry manufactures equipment for both construction and mining, two industries that also had jobs gains in January.

### NAICS 3361, 2, 3 – Motor Vehicles and Parts

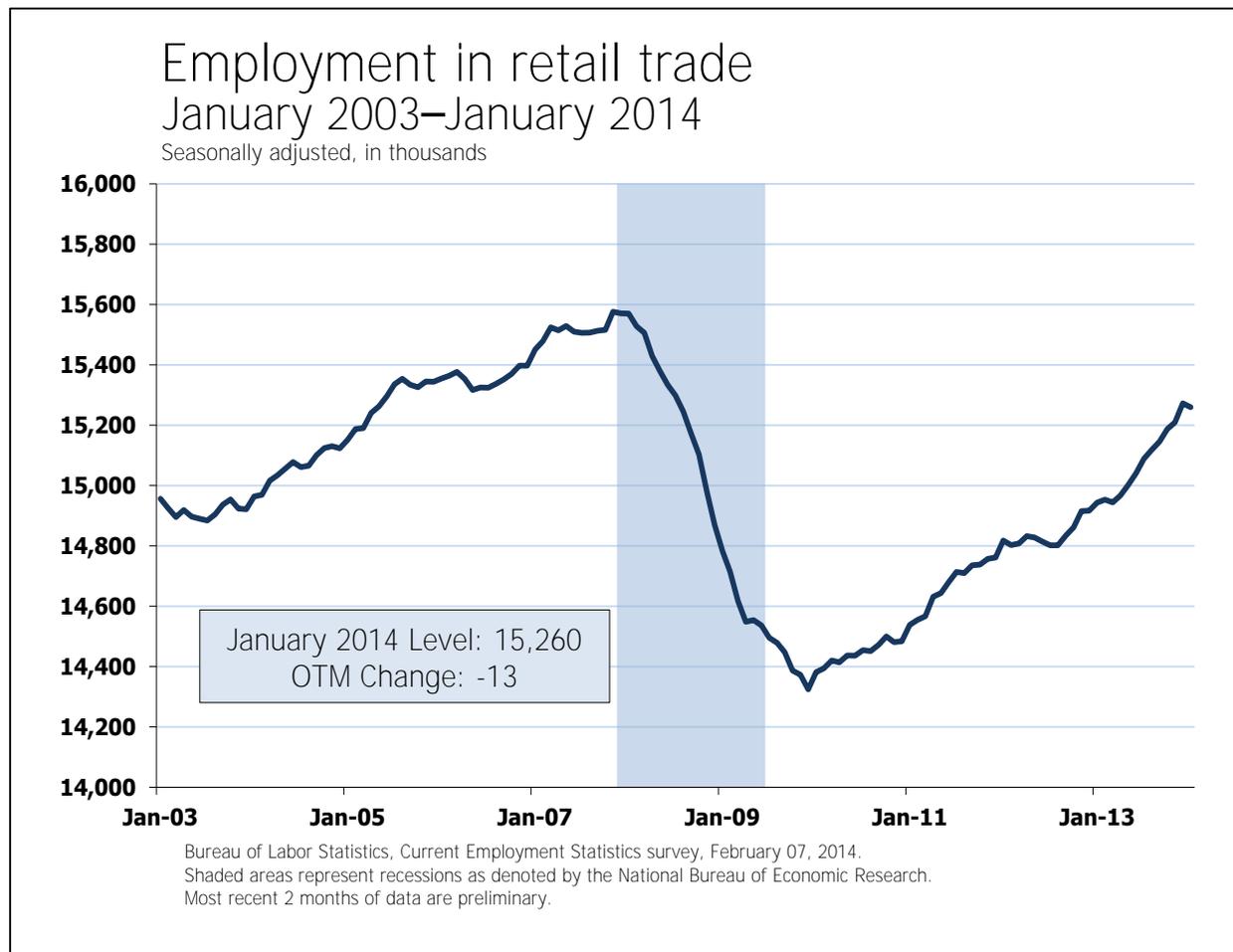
Motor vehicles and parts added 5,000 jobs in January, similar to an average gain of 4,000 jobs per month in 2013. Corroborating the employment trend, U.S. auto production, as measured by [Automotive News Data Center](#), was at 243,000 vehicles in January, the highest level of production over the past 5 years.

## Wholesale Trade



Wholesale trade added 14,000 jobs in January. The industry has added 96,000 jobs over the year. Most of January's gain was concentrated in non-durable goods (+10,000).

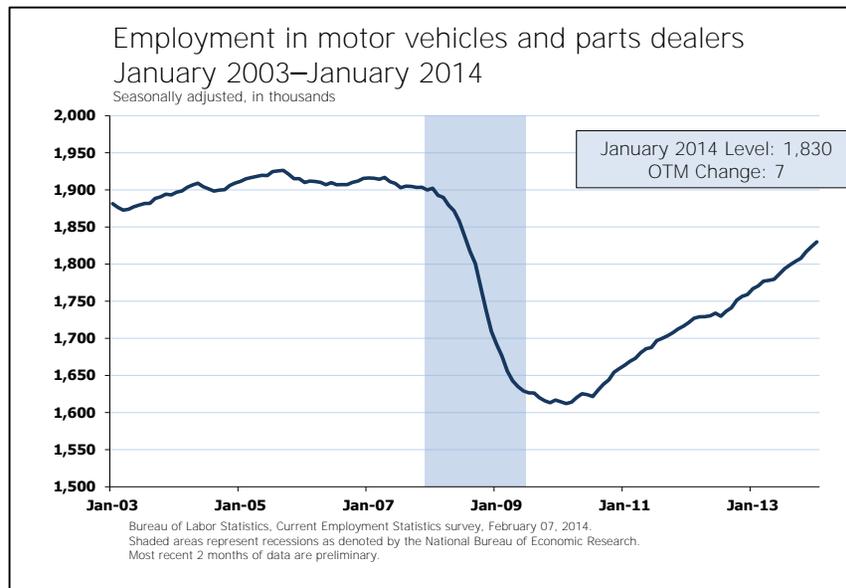
## Retail Trade



Retail trade employment changed little in January (-13,000). Employment in the component industries was mostly flat, with the exceptions being significant movements in motor vehicle and parts dealers (+7,000) and sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores (-22,000).

Recent retail-related indicators have been neutral. As shown by [Census Bureau](#) data, retail sales for December 2013 increased by 0.2 percent. Retail sales were up 4.1 percent over the year. According to the [U.S. Energy Information Administration](#), the per-gallon price of gasoline in January increased by 9 cents from December levels. Finally, the [Conference Board](#) noted that the Consumer Confidence Index increased by 3 points in January.

## Retail Trade



### NAICS 441 – Motor vehicle and parts dealers

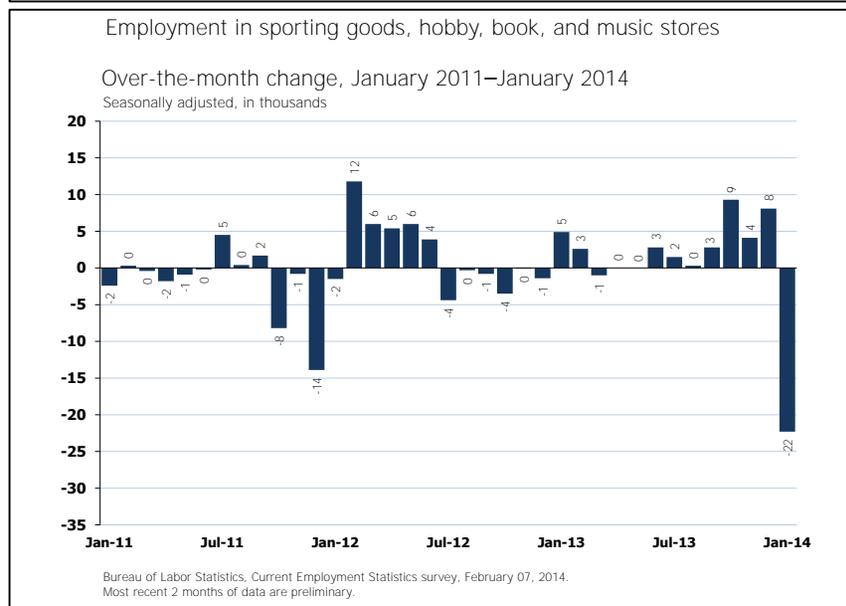
In January, motor vehicle and parts dealers employment increased by 7,000, continuing its upward trend. Automotive sales, as measured by [MotorIntelligence](#), declined to an annualized 15.2 million vehicles in January, but were still at high levels.

### NAICS 451 – Sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores

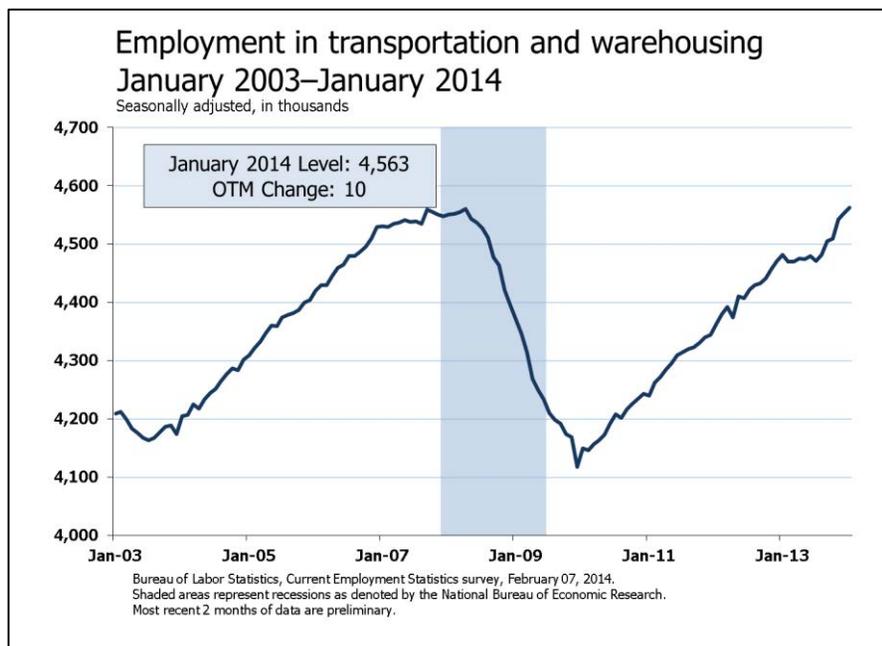
Employment in sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores declined by 22,000 in January. The majority of the decline was in hobby, toy, and game stores. The January decline is a seasonal offset from the strong hiring during the holiday build-up months, October through December.

### Holiday-related employment lay-off

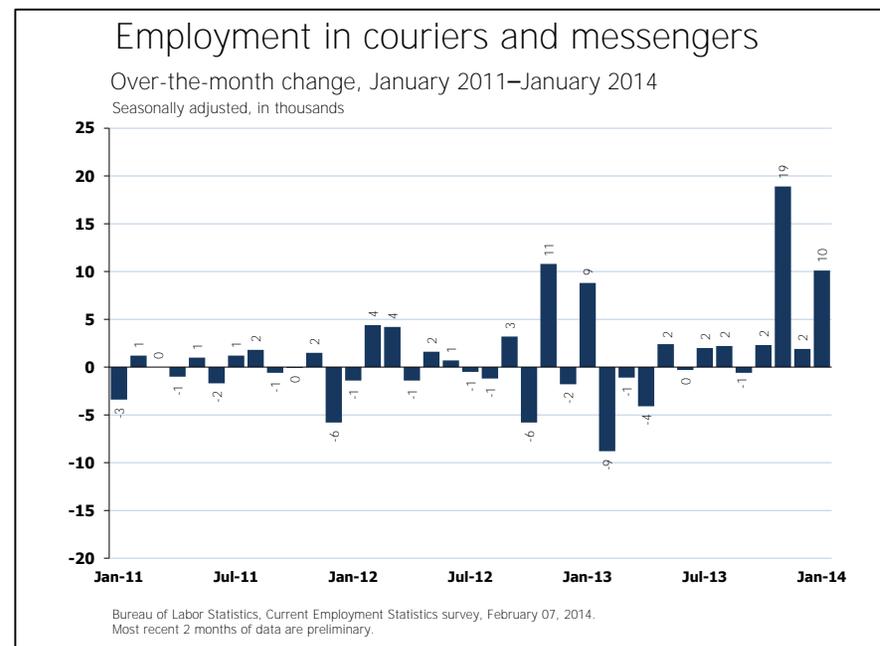
January is traditionally the first month in the holiday lay-off period for retail trade. On a not seasonally adjusted basis, the January layoff as a percentage of the total build-up was in line with the January layoff in the prior 3 years.



## Transportation and Warehousing



Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in January (+10,000). The industry reached its highest employment level in the history of the series, recovering all of the 443,000 jobs lost from April 2008 to December 2009.



### NAICS 492 – Couriers and Messengers

Employment in couriers and messengers increased by 10,000 in January.

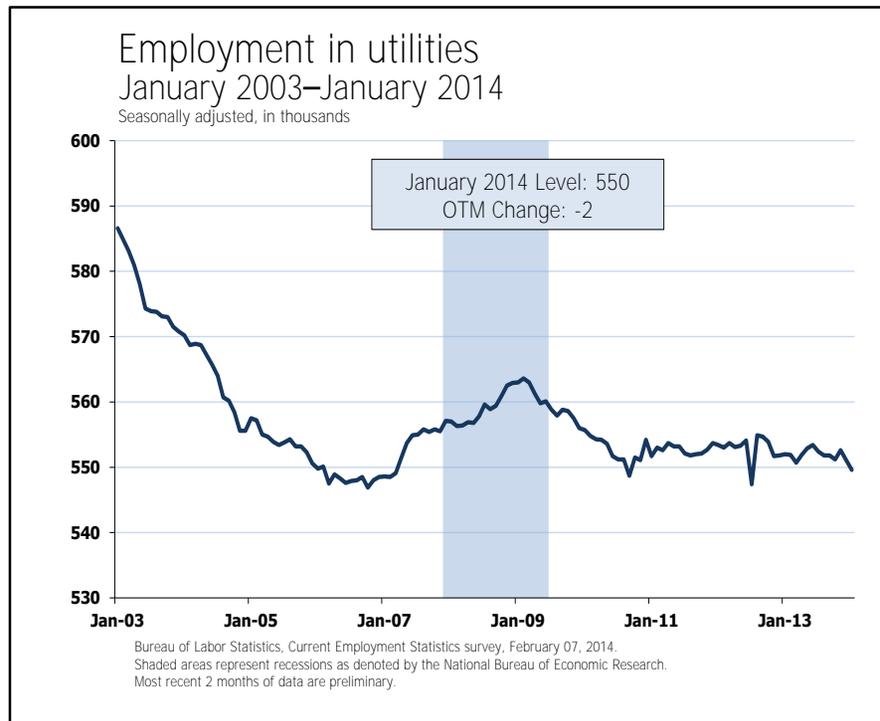
On a not seasonally adjusted basis, the industry laid off 65 percent of the employment that it built up in November and December of 2013. In February 2013, couriers and messengers continued to lay off employees.

### NAICS 493 – Warehousing and Storage

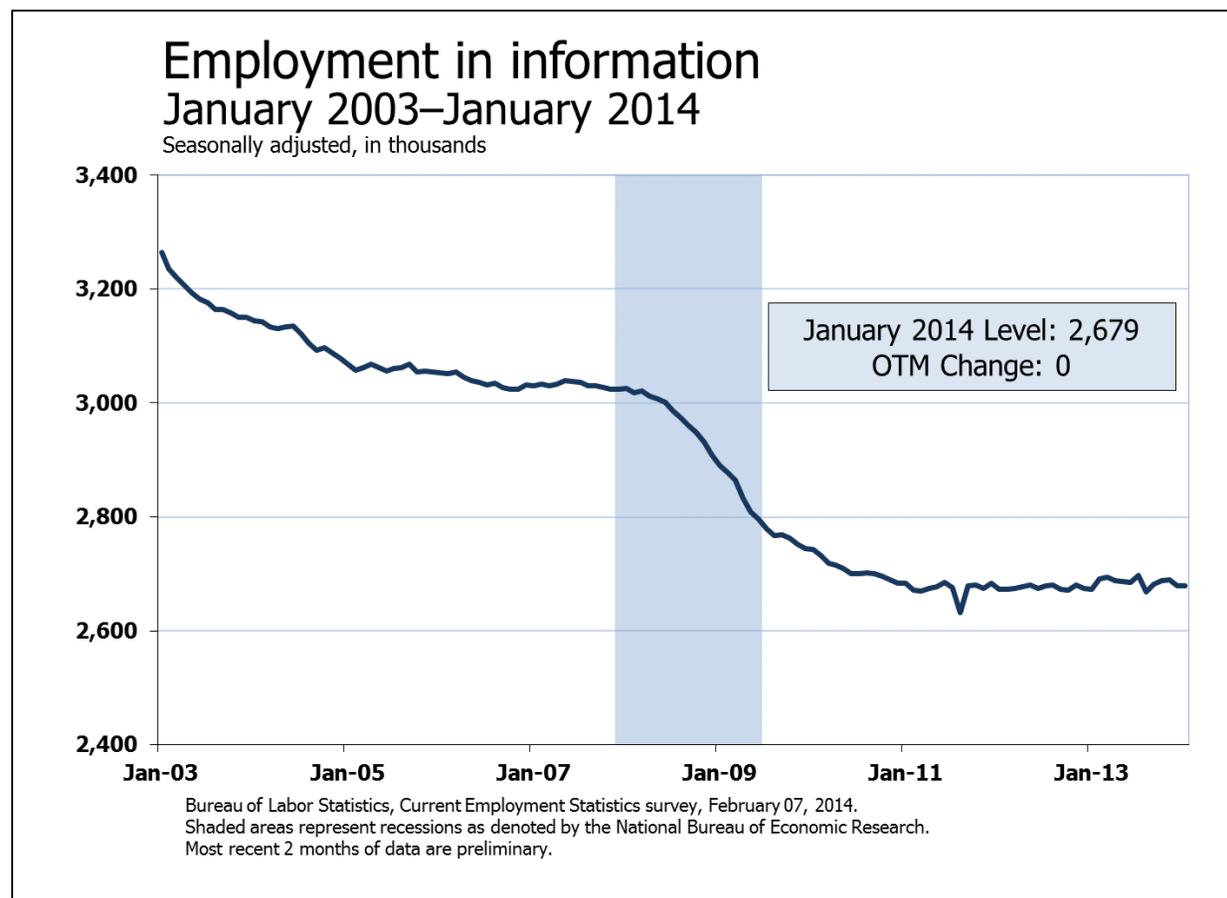
Warehousing and storage lost 5,000 jobs in January.

## Utilities

In January, employment in utilities edged down. Over the past 4 years, the industry has shown little net employment change.



### Information

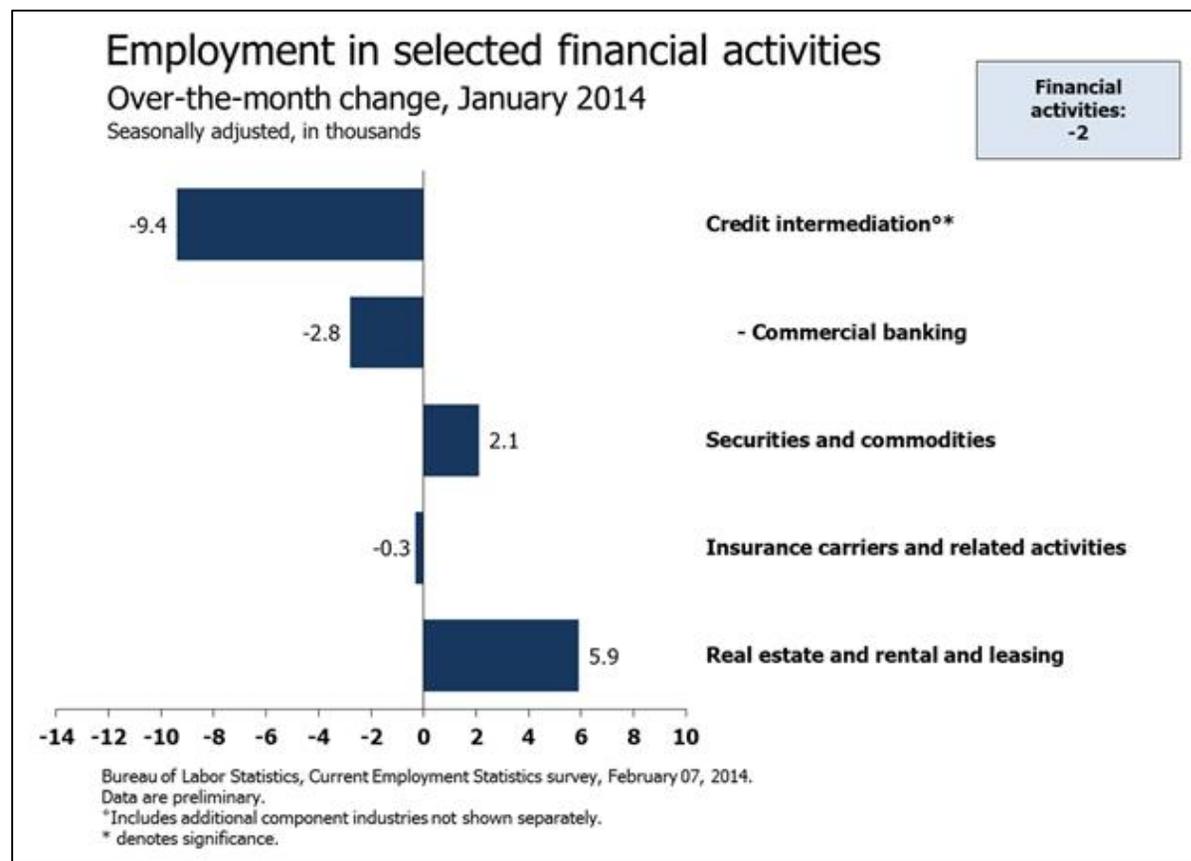


Information employment was unchanged in January. A job loss in telecommunications was offset by small gains in other information industries. Over the past two years, information employment has changed little, on net.

#### NAICS 517 – Telecommunications

Telecommunications lost 10,000 jobs in January. Most of the loss occurred in wired telecommunications carriers. Telecommunications employment has changed little over the year (-4,000).

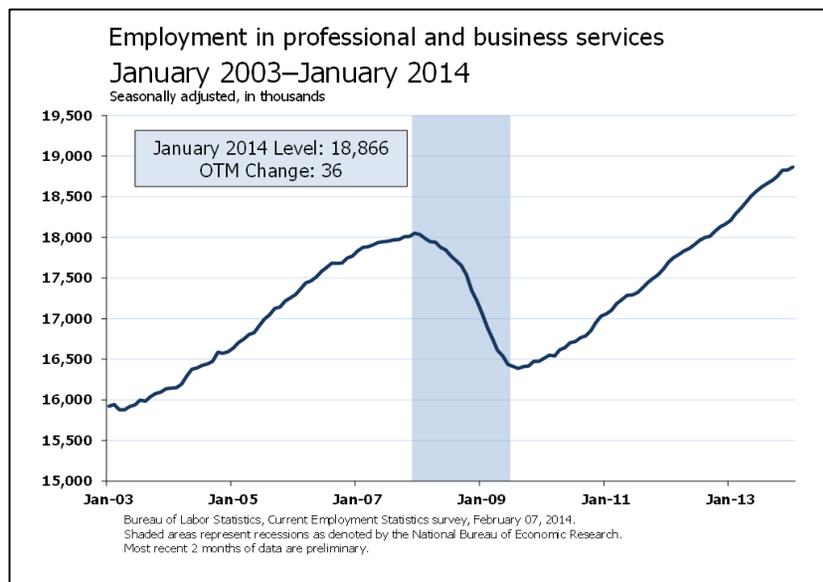
## Financial Activities



Financial activities employment was essentially unchanged in January (-2,000). Credit intermediation and related activities employment declined by 9,000 over the month, while employment elsewhere in the sector changed little.

Since reaching an employment trough in February 2011, financial activities has added an average of 6,000 jobs per month.

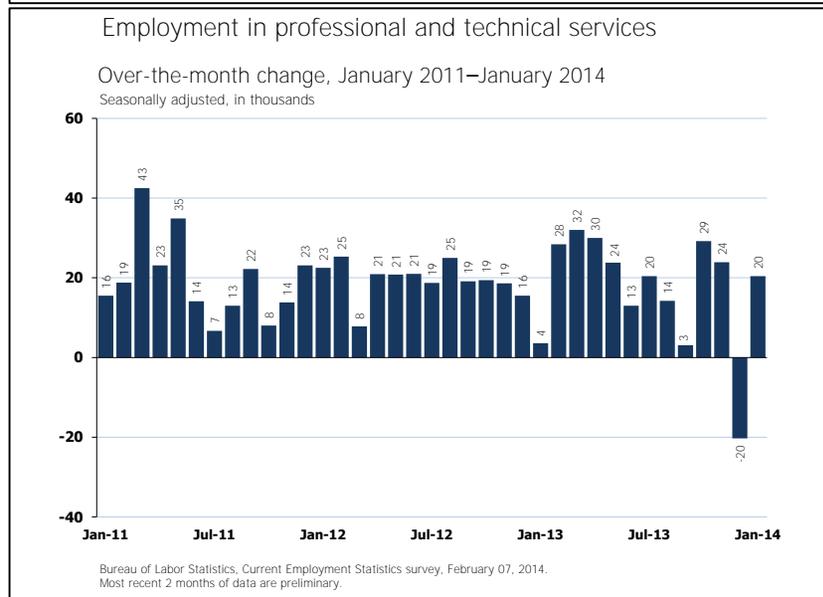
## Professional and Business Services



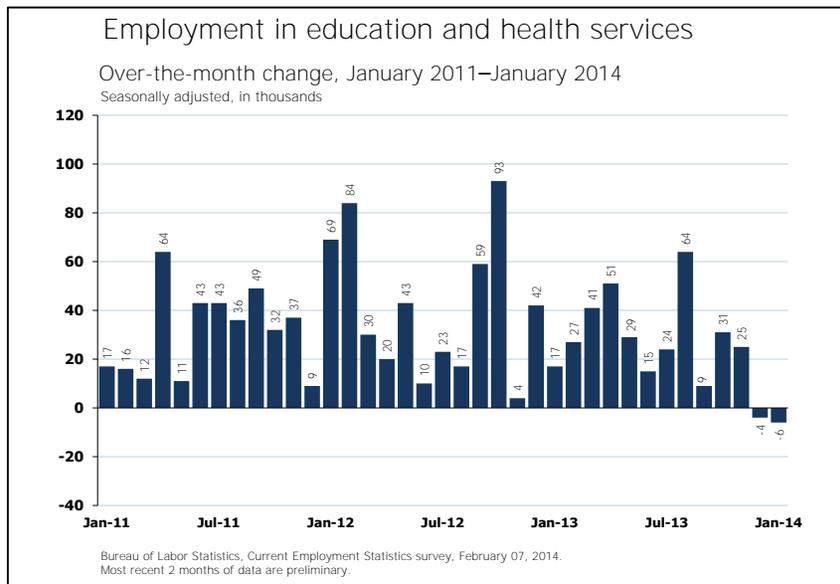
Professional and business services employment continued to trend up in January (+36,000), in line with the prior 6-month average over-the-month change (+43,000). The industry has surpassed its most recent employment peak by 815,000.

Employment in professional and technical services increased by 20,000 in January. Employment edged up in accounting and bookkeeping services, architectural and engineering services, and computer systems design services.

Temporary help services employment continued to trend up (+8,000) in January. Job growth averaged 19,000 per month in 2013.

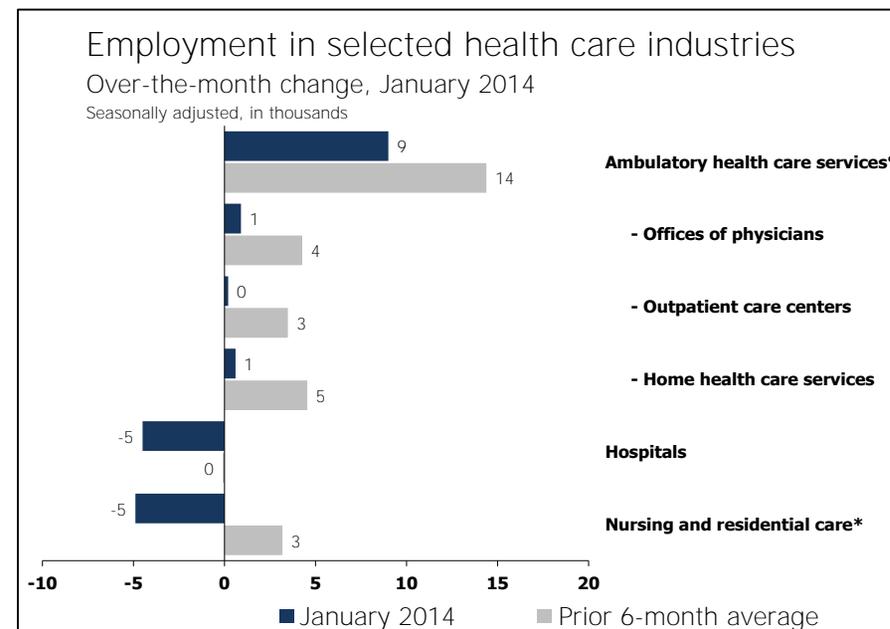
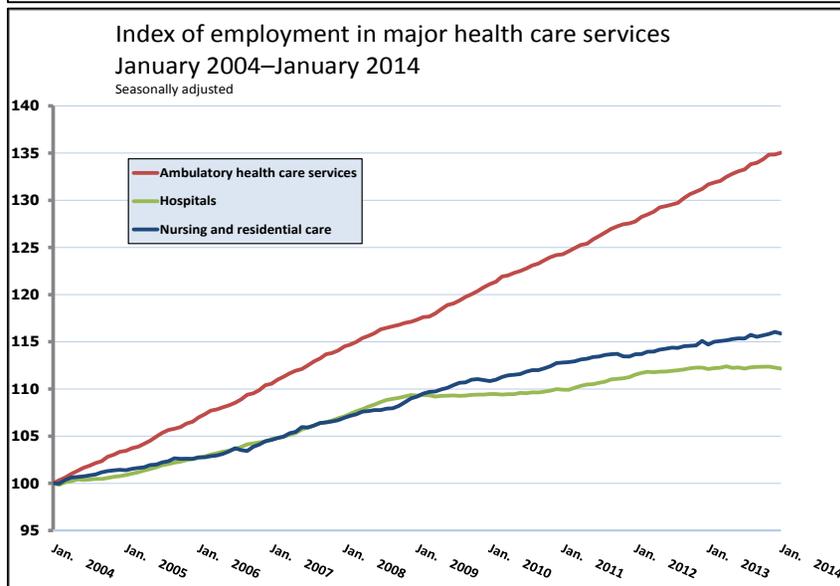


## Private Education and Health Services



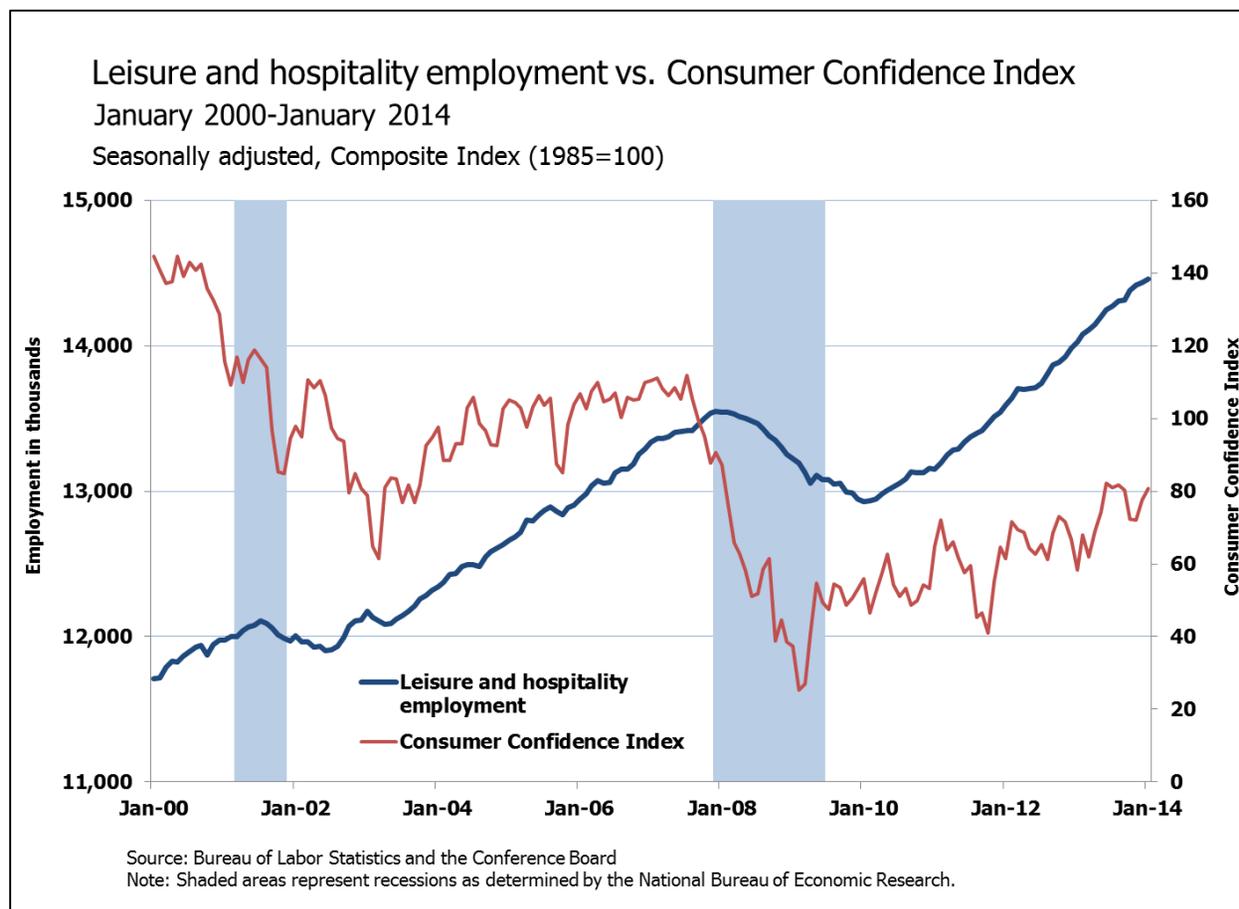
In January, education and health services employment remained flat for the second consecutive month. Employment in all of the major component industries within education and health services changed little in January, also similar to the prior month.

Within health care, ambulatory health care services was the major driver of employment growth in 2013, adding an average of 15,000 jobs per month, in line with the prior year's trend. Employment growth in hospitals and nursing and residential care facilities has slowed. Hospitals showed little net change in 2013, compared to 4,000 jobs added per month in 2012. Nursing and residential care facilities added an average of 2,000 jobs per month in 2013, compared to 4,000 per month in 2012.



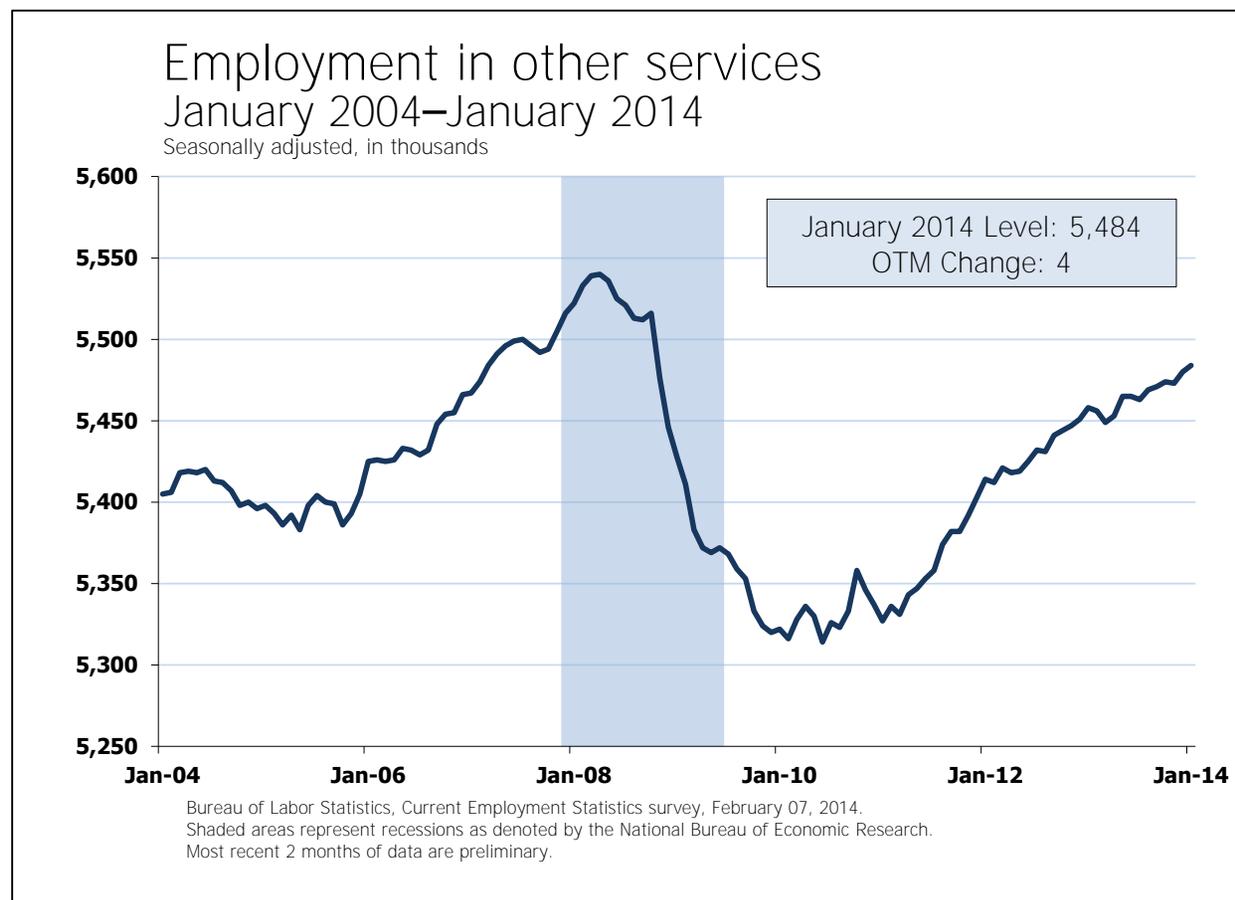
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 07, 2014.

## Leisure and Hospitality



Employment in leisure and hospitality edged up in January (+24,000) following a similar movement in December. Over the prior 12 months, this industry had added an average of 38,000 jobs per month. The gains seen in the last year coincide with an increase in the consumer confidence index, which trended up over the same period (source: [The Conference Board](#)).

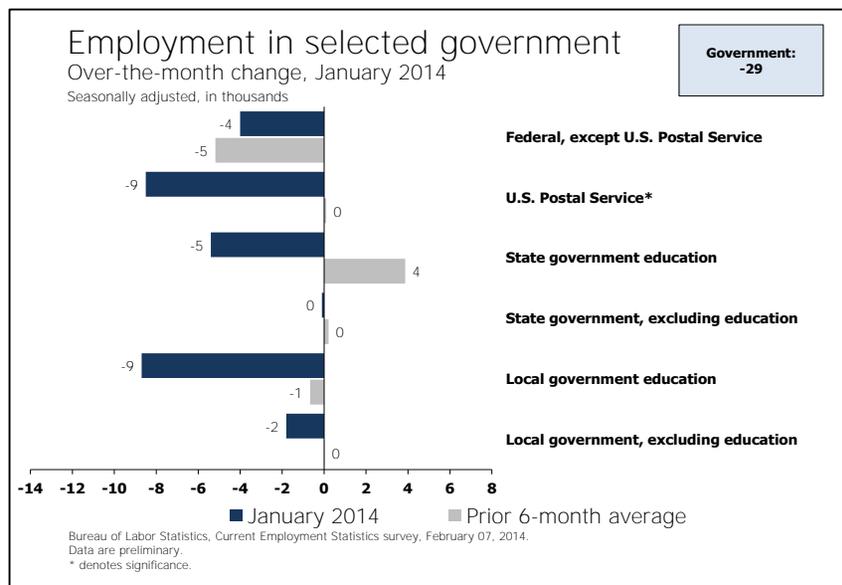
### Other Services



Employment in other services was about unchanged in January, with no component industry experiencing a significant employment change.

The other services industry has regained 75 percent of the 226,000 jobs it lost between April 2008 and June 2010. The largest contributor to this rebound was the personal and laundry services industry, which has recovered all of the jobs lost in the most recent downturn. The repair and maintenance industry has also been a large contributor to post-recession job gains in other services, although employment in this industry group has been essentially flat for the past year.

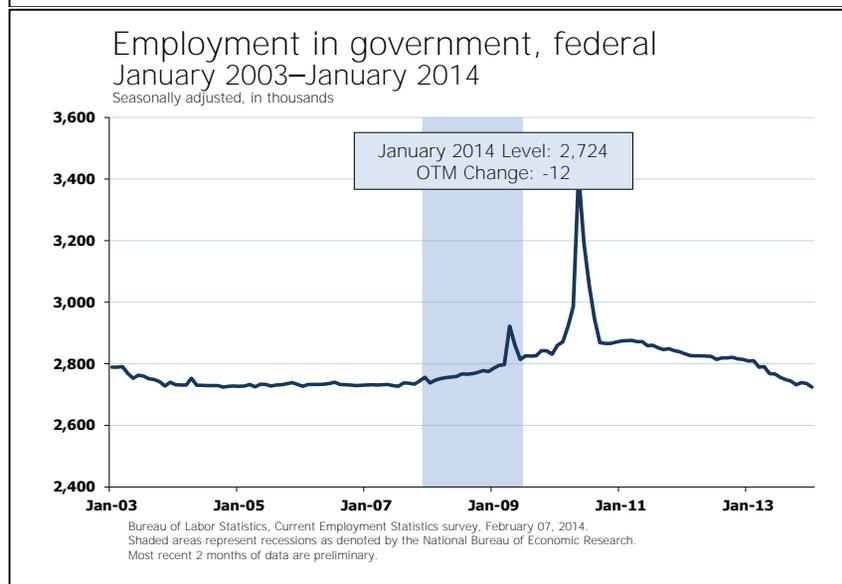
## Government



Government employment edged down in January. Within government, federal government shed jobs. State and local employment changed little over the month.

### NAICS 91 – Federal government

In January, federal government employment declined by 12,000, with the majority of the loss occurring in U.S. Postal Service. Over the year, the U.S. Postal Service employment lost 17,000 jobs on net, while federal, except U.S. Postal Service employment shed 68,000 jobs.



# Current Employment Statistics Highlights

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## CES Analysts

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Richa Ajmera  
Megan Barker  
John Coughlan  
Steve Crestol  
John Eddlemon  
Lyda Ghanbari  
Mike McCall  
John Mullins  
Edward Park  
Sutton Puglia  
Kara Sullivan  
Parth Tikiwala

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

202-691-6555  
[Email CES](#)