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# Current Employment Statistics Highlights



**January 2022**

Release Date: February 4, 2022

Prepared by Analysts 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 2022

Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 467,000 in January, compared to an average monthly increase of 555,000 in 2021. Over the month, leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, retail trade, and transportation and warehousing added jobs. Total nonfarm employment is 2.9 million below its February 2020 peak.<sup>1</sup>

Average hourly earnings of all employees on private-sector payrolls rose by 23 cents or 0.7 percent in January. Over the year, hourly earnings have increased by 5.7 percent. In January, average weekly hours declined by 0.2 hour to 34.5 hours.

### Benchmark revision and seasonal adjustment

In accordance with annual practice, CES data have been revised to reflect comprehensive counts of payroll jobs, or benchmarks, derived primarily from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, which enumerates jobs covered by unemployment insurance tax records. CES employment for March 2021 was revised up by 374,000 on a seasonally adjusted basis (and down by 7,000, or less than 0.05 percent, on a not seasonally adjusted basis).

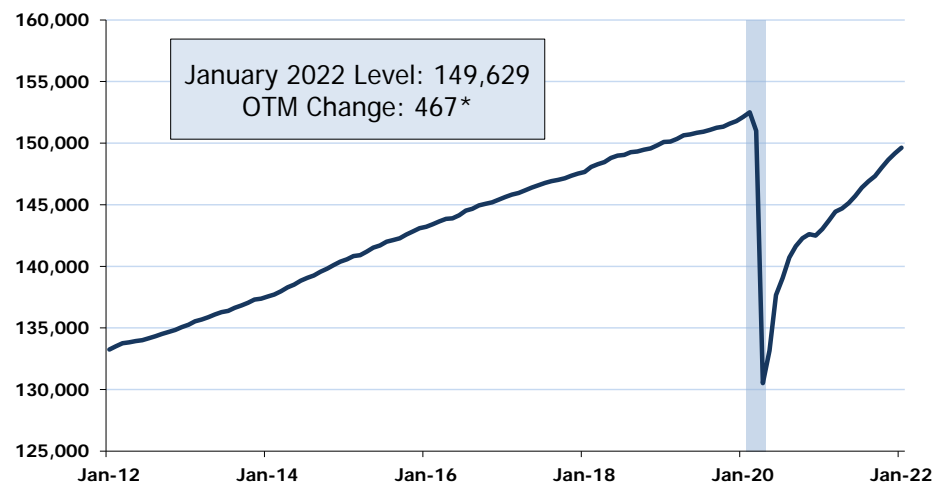
In addition, models for seasonally adjusting data have been updated and include two additional types of outliers—level shifts and

temporary changes. These outlier types better identify the extreme effects on CES data trends and changes in seasonal patterns that resulted from the pandemic and the ongoing recovery. The incorporation of these additional outlier types has resulted in more stable seasonal factors, but also has resulted in some large revisions to over-the-month

employment changes. These monthly revisions mostly offset each other. For example, employment in June and July 2021 combined is 807,000 lower than previously reported, while employment in November and December 2021 combined is 709,000 higher. Overall, the 2021 over-the-year change of +6.7 million is 217,000 more than previously

## Employment in total nonfarm January 2012–January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.  
Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.  
\* denotes significance.

## Current Employment Statistics Summary, January 2022

reported. Going forward, the updated models should produce more reliable estimates of seasonal movements. BLS recommends that data users focus on the longer-run trends of the revised history, rather than the individual month-to-month changes.

(Additional information about the benchmark revision and its impact is contained in the Employment Situation news release for January 2022 and at [www.bls.gov/web/empstat/cesbmart.htm](http://www.bls.gov/web/empstat/cesbmart.htm).)

### +151,000 Leisure and Hospitality

Employment increased in leisure and hospitality in January (+151,000) but is 1.8 million below its February 2020 level. Within the sector, food services and drinking places added 108,000 jobs over the month, while accommodation added 23,000 jobs.

### +86,000 Professional and Business Services

Job growth continued in professional and business services in January (+86,000), and employment has expanded by 511,000 above the February 2020 level. In January, employment rose in management and technical consulting (+16,000), computer systems design and related services (+15,000),

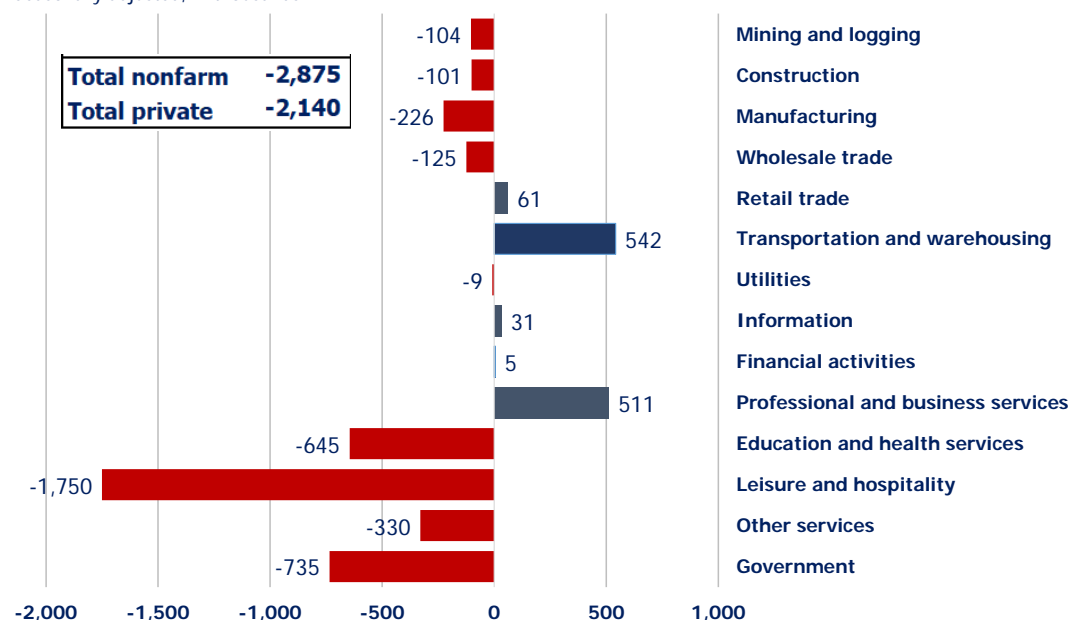
architectural and engineering services (+8,000), and in other professional and technical services (+7,000). Employment continued to trend up in temporary help services (+26,000) and has expanded by 185,000 above its February 2020 level.

### +61,000 Retail Trade

Retail trade added 61,000 payroll jobs in January, with jobs gains in general merchandise stores (+29,000); in health and personal care stores (+11,000); and in sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores (+7,000). Retail employment is 61,000 above its February level.

## Employment in total nonfarm, change since February 2020

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey February 04, 2022  
Data are preliminary.

## Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, January 2022

### +54,000 Transportation and Warehousing

Transportation and warehousing added 54,000 jobs in January. Couriers and messengers contributed with a gain of 21,000 jobs, followed by warehousing and storage (+13,000), truck transportation (+8,000), and air transportation (+7,000). Employment in transportation and warehousing has expanded by 542,000 above its February 2020 level.

### +16,000 Wholesale Trade

Wholesale trade added 16,000 jobs in January, with gains in both durable goods (+11,000) and nondurable goods (+8,000). Employment in wholesale trade is 125,000 lower than in February 2020.

### +29,000 Education and Health Services

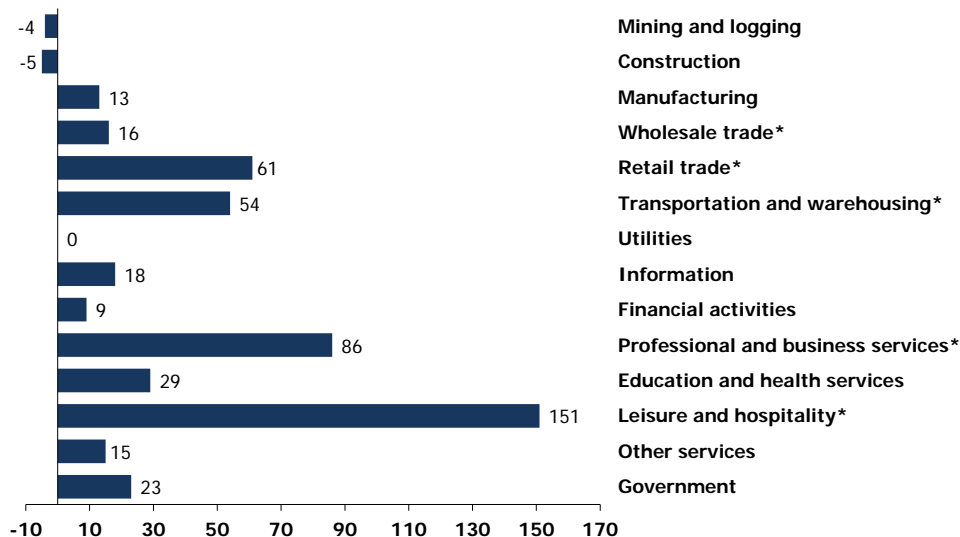
Employment in health care continued to trend up in January (+18,000), but is 378,000 below its February 2020 peak.<sup>1</sup> Most of the trend growth has occurred in ambulatory health care services, which reflects a net employment increase of 135,000 since February 2020. In contrast, employment in nursing and residential care facilities was unchanged in January and is down 409,000 over the longer span.

## Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Total nonfarm:  
467\*



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.

Data are preliminary.

\* denotes significance

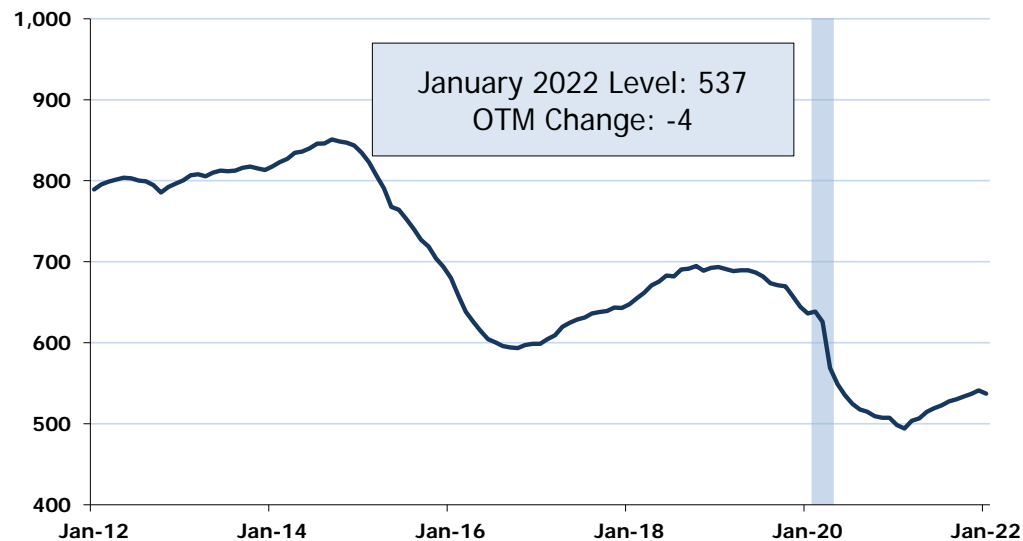
### +23,000 Government

Within government, local education added 29,000 jobs in January, although employment is 359,000 lower than in February 2020.

## Mining and Logging

### Employment in mining January 2012–January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.  
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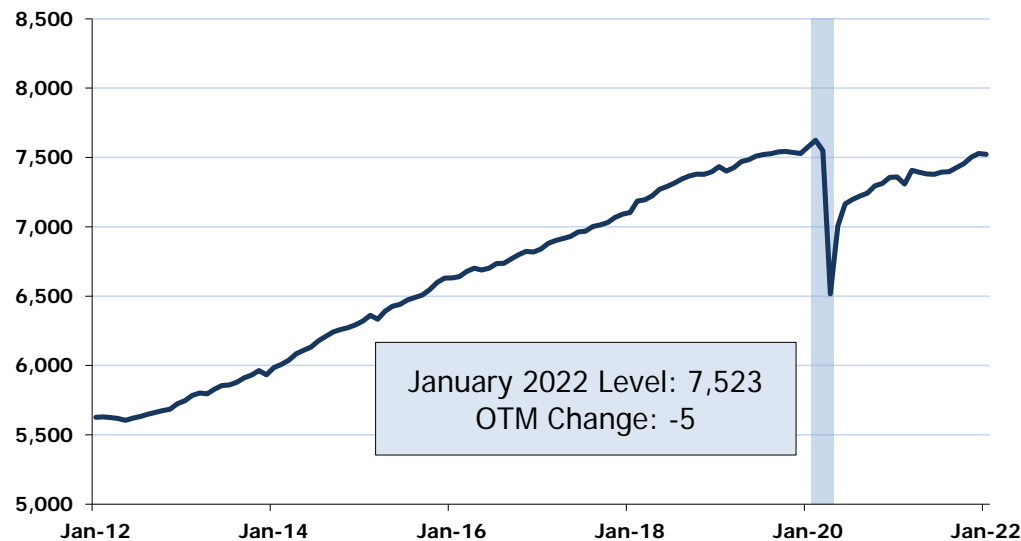
Employment in mining edged down by 4,000 in January. Since an employment trough in February 2021, mining employment has added 43,000 jobs.

Weakness in mining employment occurred despite an increase in the count of [North American rotary rigs](#) and volatility in the average weekly price of [West Texas Intermediate crude oil](#) in recent months, including an increase in January.

## Construction

### Employment in construction January 2012–January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.  
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Employment in construction changed little in January (-5,000) and is 101,000 below its February 2020 peak.<sup>1</sup>

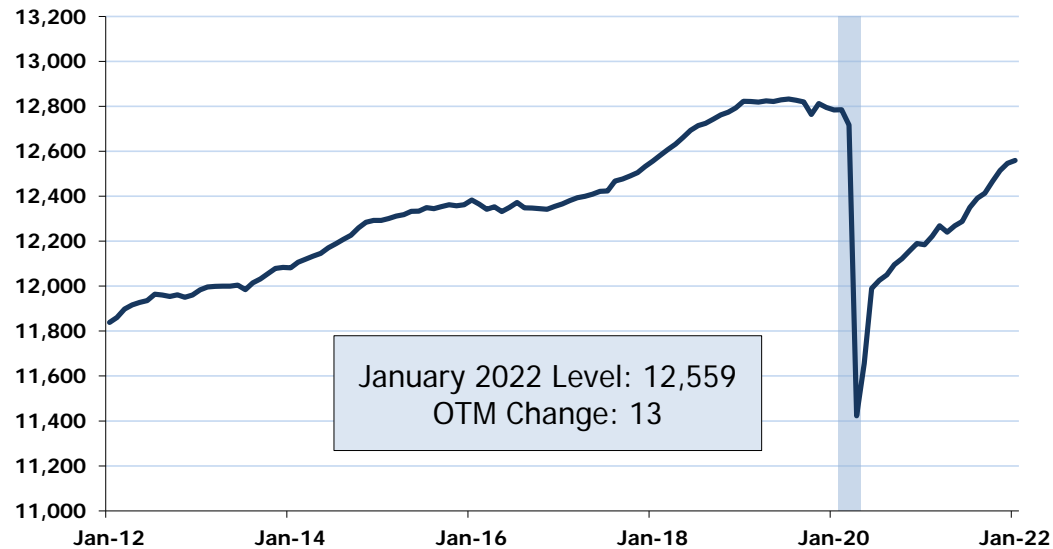
In January, job losses were driven by heavy and civil engineering construction (-10,000). Employment in heavy and civil engineering construction is 49,000 below its February 2020 level. In line with the industry's weakness, [public construction spending](#) declined from February 2020 to December 2021.

As of January, employment is below February 2020 levels in both nonresidential specialty trade contractors (-109,000) and nonresidential building (-55,000), while employment has expanded in residential specialty trade contractors (+68,000) and in residential building (+44,000). In line with recent employment trends, [nonresidential spending](#) has declined, while [residential spending](#) has increased sharply from February 2020 to December 2021.

## Manufacturing

### Employment in manufacturing January 2012–January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.  
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\* denotes significance.

Manufacturing employment changed little in January (+13,000), following gains of 32,000 in December and 48,000 in November. Employment in the industry has continued to trend up over the past 9 months, but is 226,000 below the February 2020 level.

The manufacturing 1-month diffusion index decreased in January by 6.8 points to 58.1. Despite the decline, a number above 50 indicates that more manufacturing industries are adding jobs than are losing jobs.

The weakness in manufacturing employment corresponded to slowed growth in both the [Institute of Supply Management's Purchasing Managers' Index](#) (PMI) and [IHS Markit US Manufacturing PMI](#), which measure business sentiment and expectations.

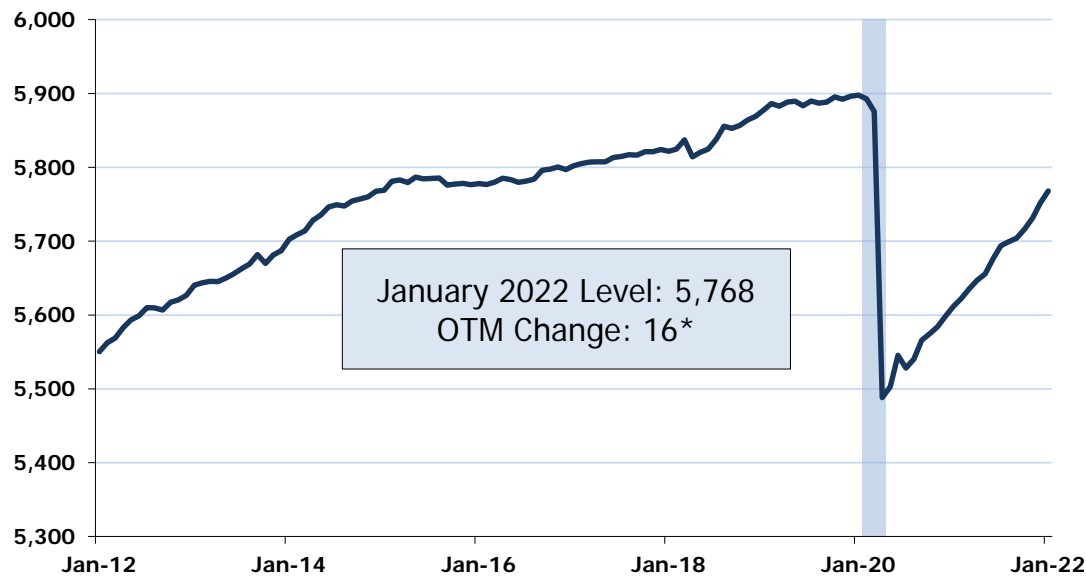
In January, average hourly earnings for all employees in manufacturing increased by 19 cents to \$30.56. Average hourly earnings of production workers increased by 11 cents to \$24.48.

Average weekly hours of all employees fell by 0.1 hour to 40.2 hours in January. Production employees' average workweek fell by 0.1 hour to 41.2 hours. Average weekly overtime hours for all employees rose by 0.1 hour to 3.3 hours. Overtime hours for production workers remained unchanged at 4.1 hours in January.

## Wholesale Trade

### Employment in wholesale trade January 2012–January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



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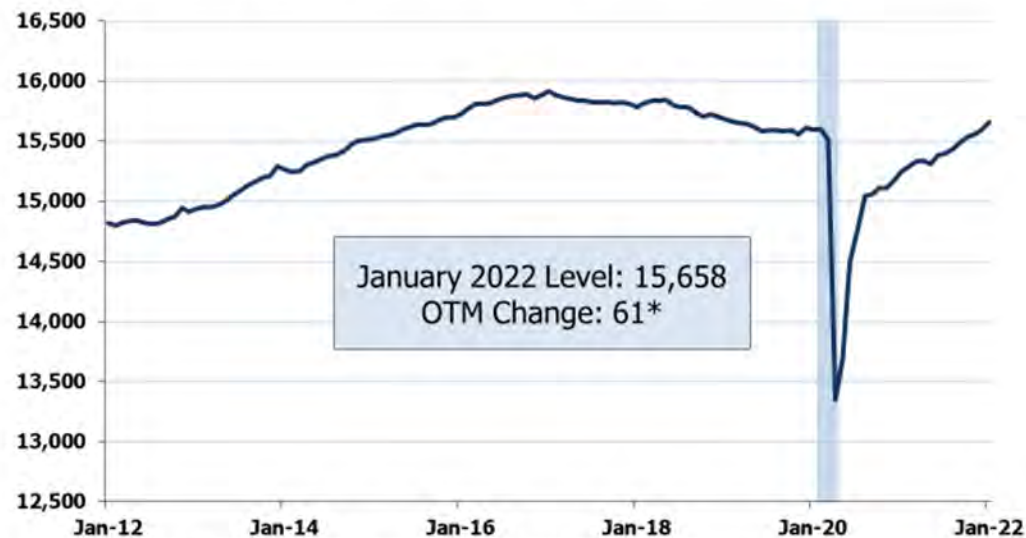
Employment in wholesale trade increased by 16,000 in January. Since losing 405,000 jobs in March and April 2020, the industry has recovered 280,000 jobs, or 69 percent. Job gains since April 2020 have been split between durable goods (+169,000) and nondurable goods (+109,000).



## Retail Trade

### Employment in retail trade January 2012–January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



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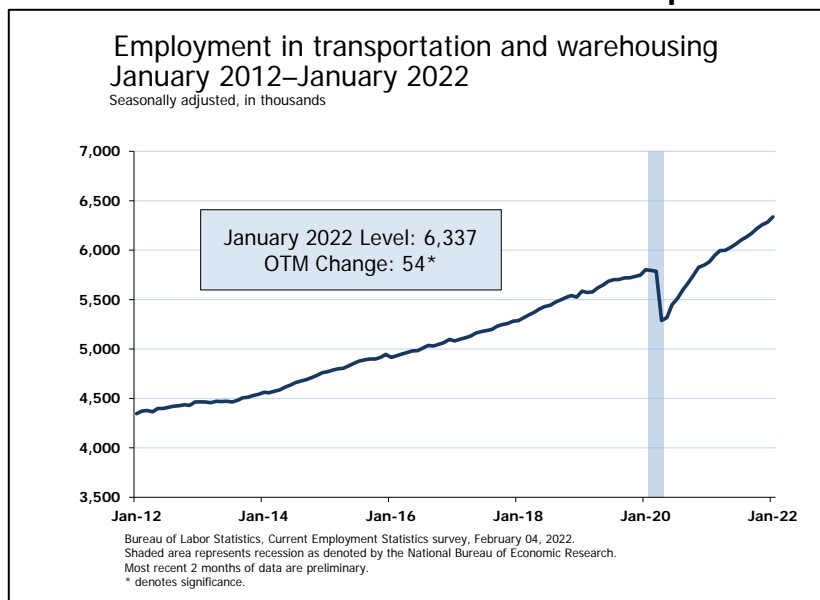
1 — U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS • bls.gov

Employment in retail trade increased by 61,000 in January, following gains totaling 103,000 over the prior 3 months. Since February 2020, industry employment is up by 61,000.

In January, job gains were widespread, led by general merchandise stores (+29,000); health and personal care stores (+11,000); and sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores (+7,000). Employment in furniture and home furnishing stores declined by 4,000.

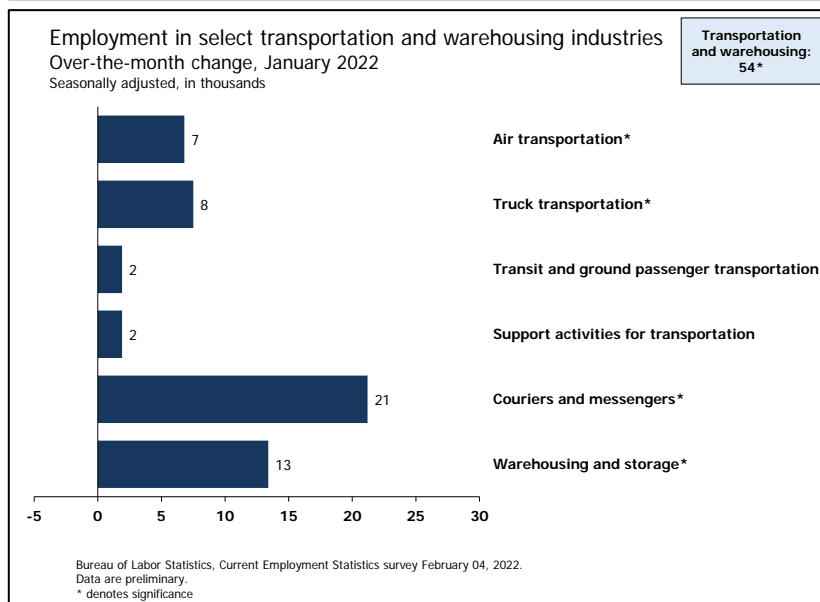
Retail related-economic indicators are mostly negative. [Retail Sales](#) and [Auto Sales](#) both declined in December, and the [Consumer Confidence Index](#) decreased in January.

## Transportation and Warehousing



Employment in transportation and warehousing grew by 54,000 in January and is 542,000 above its February 2020 level.

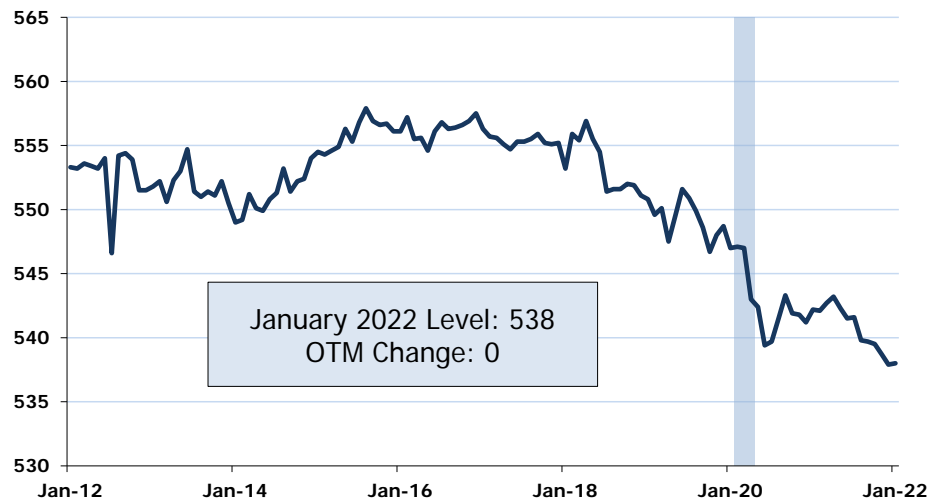
In January, job growth was led by couriers and messengers (+21,000), followed by warehousing and storage (+13,000), truck transportation (+8,000), and air transportation (+7,000).



## Utilities

### Employment in utilities January 2012–January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.  
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Employment in utilities was unchanged in January. Since February 2020, employment has fallen by 9,000.

## Information

### Employment in information January 2012–January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



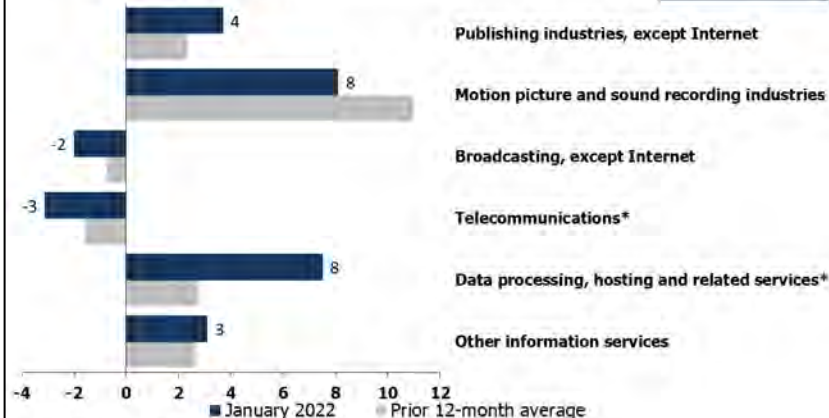
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.  
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\* denotes significance.

Employment in information continued to trend up (+18,000) in January after adding an average 16,000 jobs per month in 2021. Since February 2020, information has added 328,000 jobs, and employment is 31,000 above its February 2020 level.

### Employment in information Over-the-month change, January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Information: 18



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics Survey, February 04, 2022.  
Data are preliminary.  
\* denotes significance

In January, data processing, hosting, and related services added 8,000 jobs, while telecommunications lost 3,000 jobs.

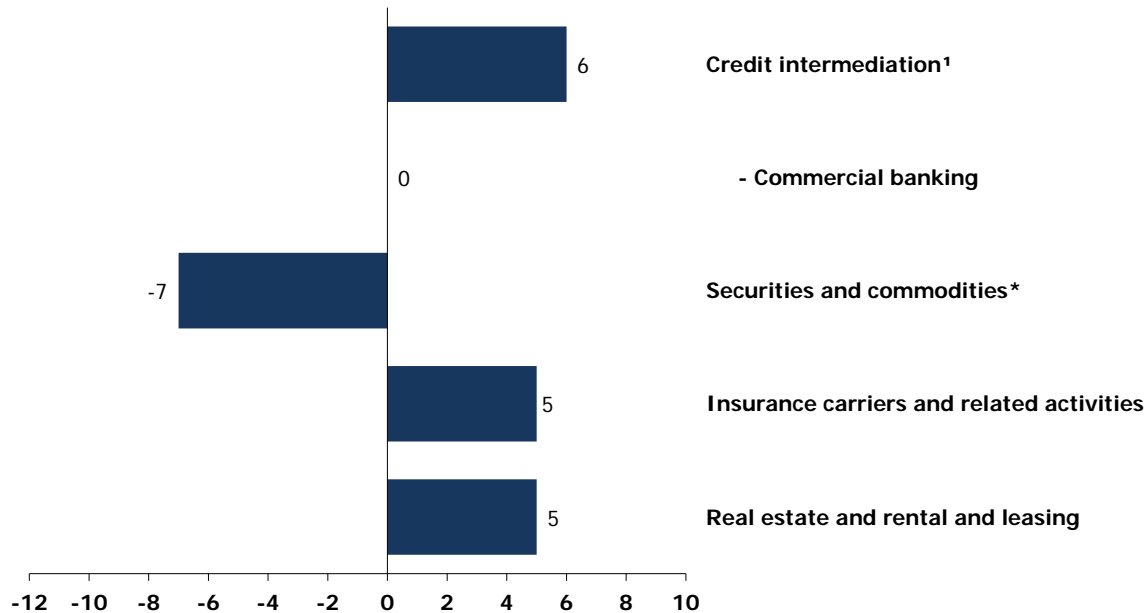
## Financial Activities

### Employment in selected financial activities

Over-the-month change, January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Financial  
activities:  
9



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.

Data are preliminary.

<sup>1</sup> Includes additional component industries not shown separately.

\* denotes significance

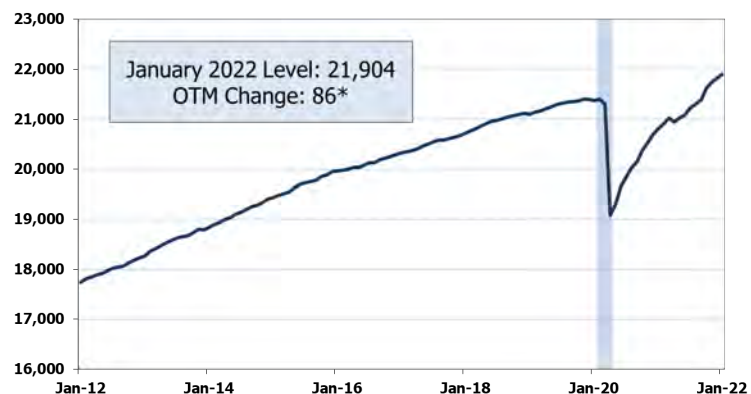
Employment in financial activities changed little in January (+9,000). The industry has recovered all of the jobs lost in March and April 2020.

Nondepository credit intermediation added 5,000 jobs in January. This gain was offset by a decline of 7,000 jobs in securities and commodities.

## Professional and Business Services

### Employment in professional and business services January 2012–January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



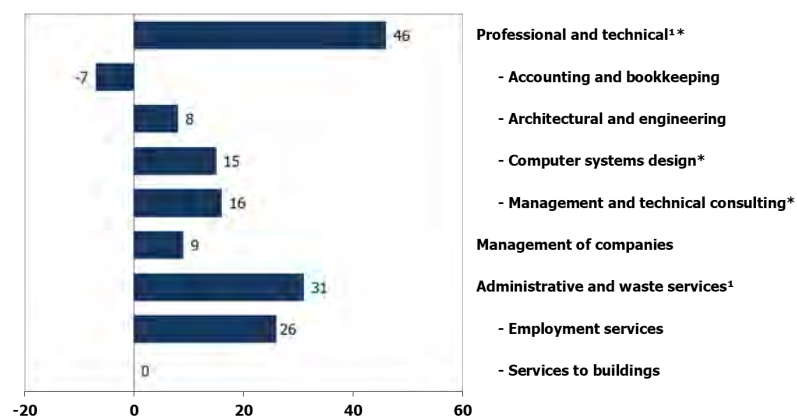
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.  
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Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.  
\* denotes significance.

In January, employment in professional and business services increased by 86,000 and is 511,000 jobs above its February 2020 level.

In January, professional and technical services added 46,000 jobs, and gains were led by management and technical consulting (+16,000), computer systems design and related services (+15,000), and other professional and technical services (+7,000).

### Employment in selected professional and business services Over-the-month change, January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.  
Data are preliminary.  
<sup>1</sup> Includes additional component industries not shown separately.  
\* denotes significance

In January, employment in temporary help services trended upward (+26,000) and is 185,000 above its February 2020.

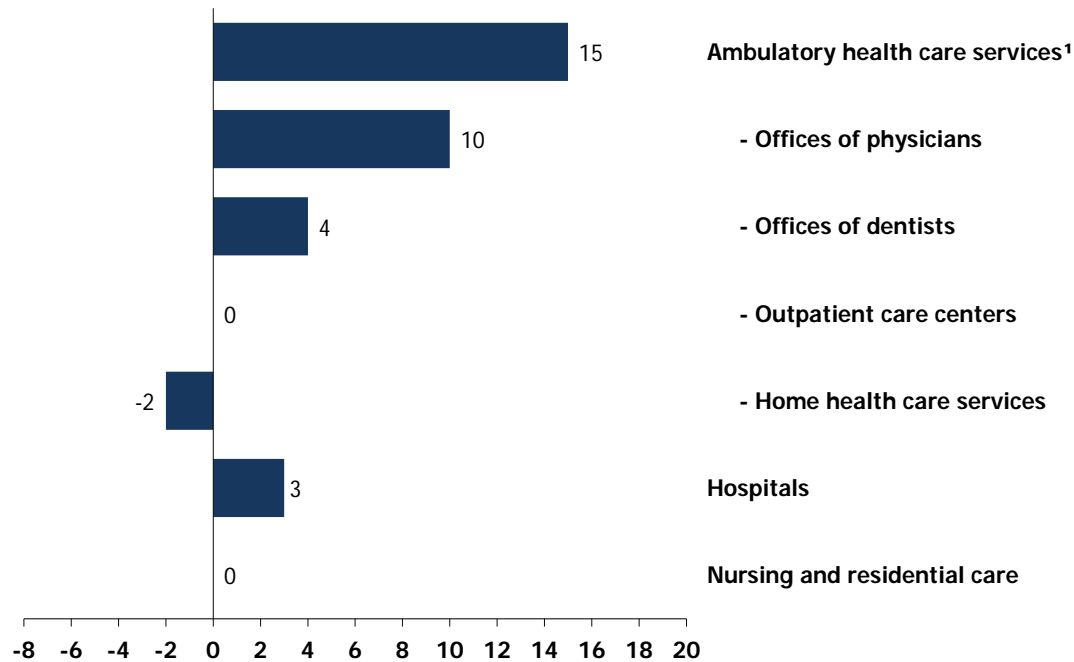
## Private Education and Health Services

### Employment in selected health care industries

Over-the-month change, January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Health care industries:  
18



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.

Data are preliminary.

<sup>1</sup> Includes additional component industries not shown separately.

\* denotes significance

Employment in health care changed little in January (+18,000), however, the industry has recovered 1.2 million of 1.6 million jobs lost in March and April 2020.

## Leisure and Hospitality

### Employment in leisure and hospitality January 2012–January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

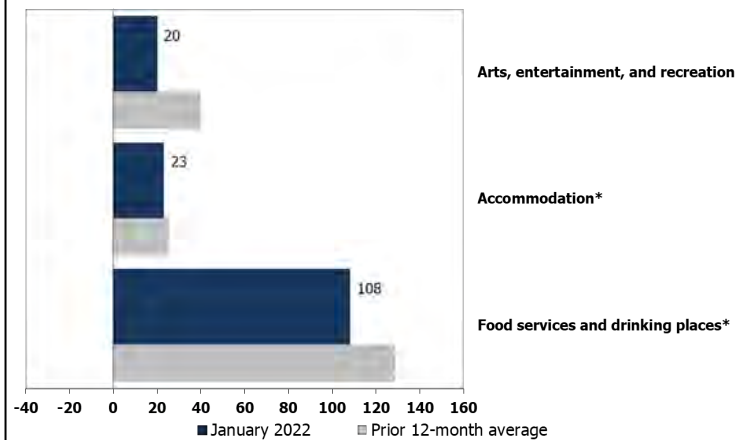


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.  
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Employment in leisure and hospitality grew by 151,000 in January, as leisure-related [Unemployment Insurance claims](#) fell below pre-pandemic levels. The industry has recovered 6.5 million of 8.2 million jobs lost in March and April 2020.

### Employment in leisure and hospitality Over-the-month change, January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.  
Data are preliminary.  
\* denotes significance

Accommodation (+23,000) and food services (+108,000) added jobs in January and have added 339,000 and 1.6 million jobs, respectively, over the past 12 months.

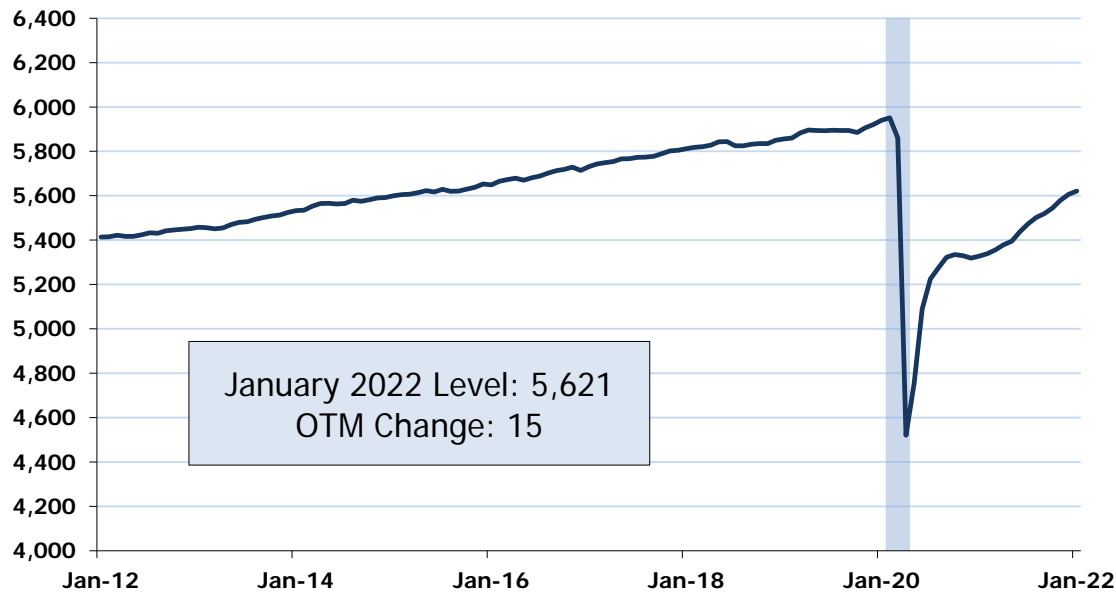
Average hourly earnings of nonsupervisory leisure and hospitality workers have risen \$2.12, or 14 percent, since February 2020, as restaurant owners have [raised wages and/or benefits to attract and/or retain staff](#).



## Other Services

### Employment in other services January 2012–January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.  
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\* denotes significance.

In January, employment in other services continued to trend up (+15,000). The industry has regained 1.1 million of 1.4 million jobs lost in March and April 2020.

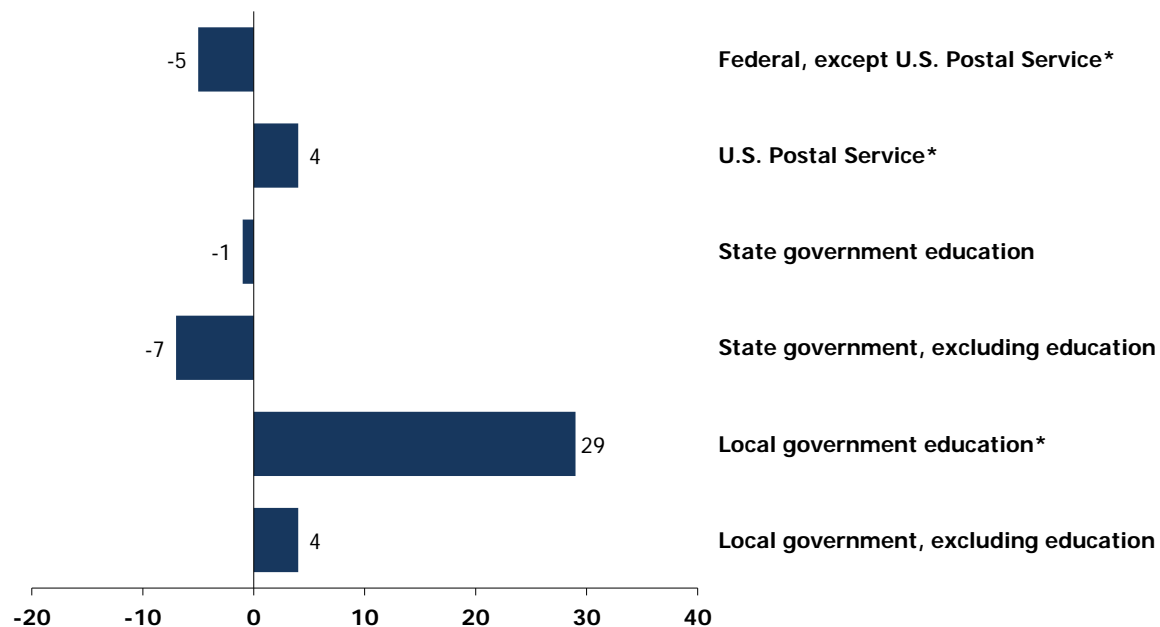
## Government

### Employment in selected government

Over-the-month change, January 2022

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Government:  
23



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 04, 2022.

Data are preliminary.

\* denotes significance

Government employment changed little in January (+23,000) and is 735,000 lower than in February 2020.

In January, a job loss in federal, except U.S. Postal Service (-5,000) was more than offset by gains in local government education (+29,000) and in the U.S. Postal Service (+4,000).

<sup>1</sup> The Current Employment Statistics program for national estimates designates cyclical peaks and troughs in time series of employment, hours, and earnings. Generally, the period between a peak and a trough must be at least 6 months in duration. (See <https://www.bls.gov/ces/tables/peak-trough.htm> for more details.) The extreme magnitude and dispersion of job losses across nearly all industries warrants treating the shorter downturn as a cyclical peak-to-trough phase that occurred primarily from February to April 2020. This determination mirrors a similar decision made by the business cycle dating committee of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) to designate the episode as a recession, even though the downturn was briefer than earlier contractions. (<https://www.nber.org/news/business-cycle-dating-committee-announcement-july-19-2021>)

## Current Employment Statistics Highlights

### Detailed Industry Employment Analysis



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