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Current Employment Statistics Highlights



July 2023

Release Date: August 4, 2023

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

202-691-6555

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Current Employment Statistics Summary, July 2023

Nonfarm payroll employment increased by 187,000 in July, below the average monthly gain of 312,000 over the prior 12 months. In July, job gains occurred in health care, social assistance, financial activities, and wholesale trade.

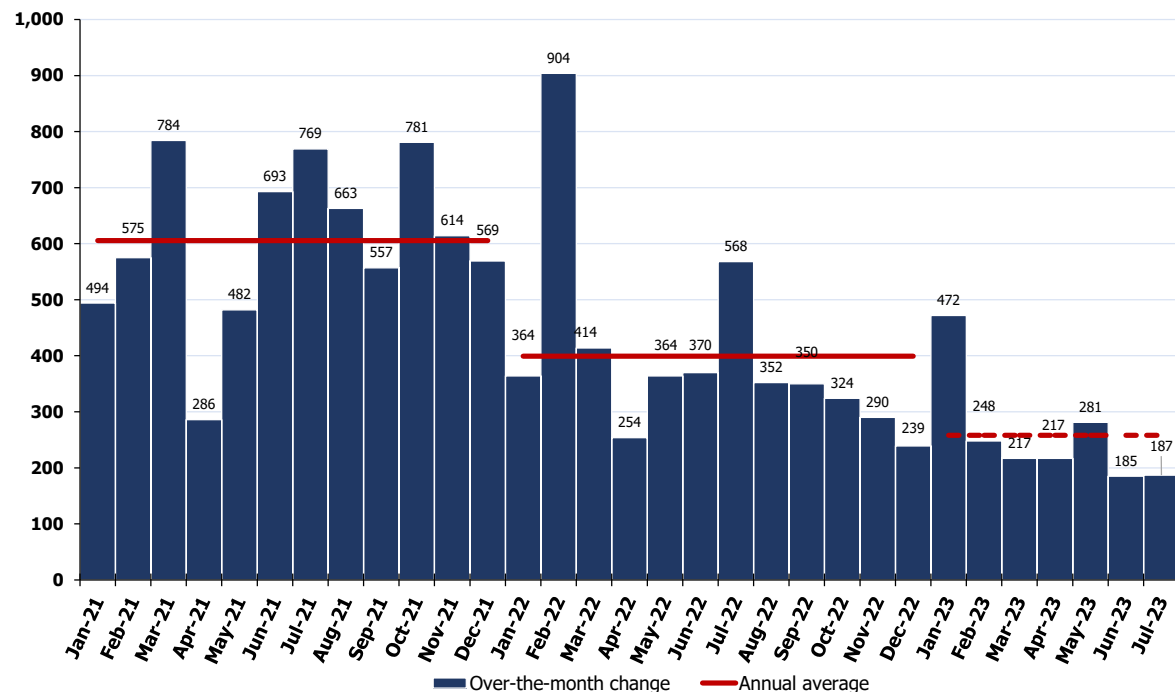
The employment change for May revised down from +306,000 to +281,000, and the change for June revised down from +209,000 to +185,000. On net, employment over these months is 49,000 lower than previously reported.

In July, average hourly earnings of all employees on private-sector payrolls rose by 14 cents or 0.4 percent. Over the year, average hourly earnings have increased by 4.4 percent. Average weekly hours of all employees edged down 0.1 hour to 34.3 hours.

+100,000 Private Education and Health Services

Employment in health care increased by 63,000 in July, compared with the average monthly gain of 51,000 jobs in the prior 12 months. Over-the-month job growth occurred in ambulatory health care services (+35,000), hospitals (+16,000), and nursing and residential care facilities (+12,000).

Employment in total nonfarm
Over-the-month change, January 2021–July 2023
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, August 04, 2023.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Social assistance added 24,000 in July, in line with average monthly gains of 23,000 over the prior 12 months. Over the month, individual and family services added 19,000 jobs.

+20,000 Other Services

Employment in other services continued to trend up in July (+20,000), mostly in personal and laundry services (+11,000). Employment in other services remains below its pre-pandemic February 2020 level by 53,000.

Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, July 2023

+19,000 Financial Activities

Employment in financial activities rose by 19,000 in July, above its prior 12-month average gain of 8,000 per month. Employment growth in real estate and rental and leasing (+12,000) was partially offset by losses in commercial banking (-3,000).

+19,000 Construction

Construction employment continued to trend up in July (+19,000), in line with the prior 12-month average gain of 17,000. Over the month, residential specialty trade contractors (+13,000) and nonresidential building construction (+11,000) added jobs.

+18,000 Wholesale Trade

In July, employment in wholesale trade increased by 18,000, above the average monthly gains of 7,000 over the prior 12 months.

+17,000 Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in leisure and hospitality changed little in July (+17,000). The industry has shown little employment change in recent months, following growth in the first quarter of the year. Employment in leisure and hospitality remains below its pre-pandemic February 2020 level by 352,000.

+15,000 Government

Government employment changed little in July (+15,000). Employment in state government education declined by 20,000, while employment in federal government rose by 7,000. Employment in government is below its February 2020 level by 170,000.

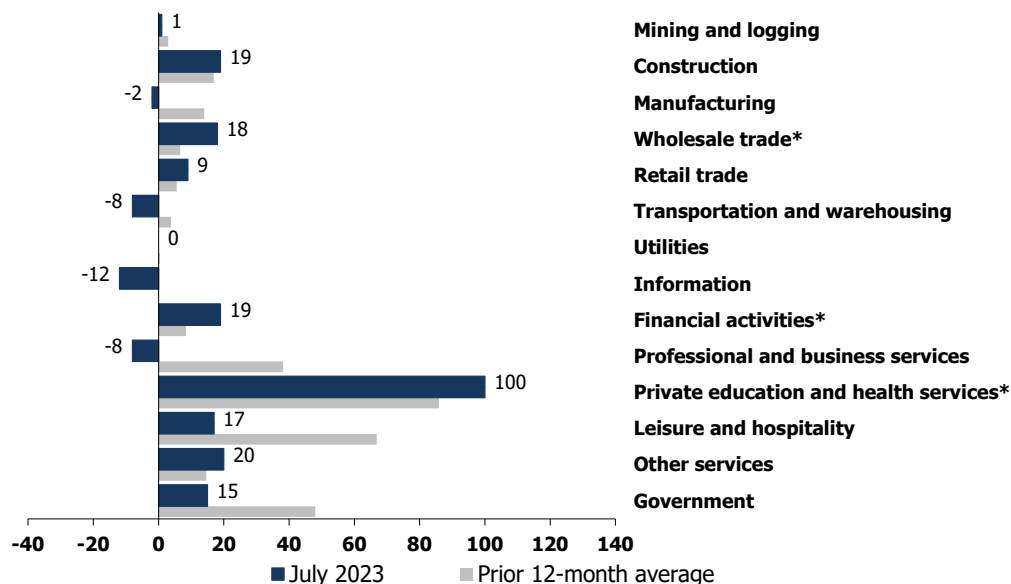
-8,000 Transportation and Warehousing

In July, employment in transportation and warehousing changed little (-8,000). Over the prior 12 months, the industry had averaged gains of 4,000 jobs per month.

Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, July 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Total nonfarm:
187*

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 04, 2023.

Data are preliminary.

* denotes significance

Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, July 2023

-8,000 Professional and Business Services

Employment in professional and business services changed little in July (-8,000). On average, the industry had added 38,000 jobs per month over the prior 12 months.

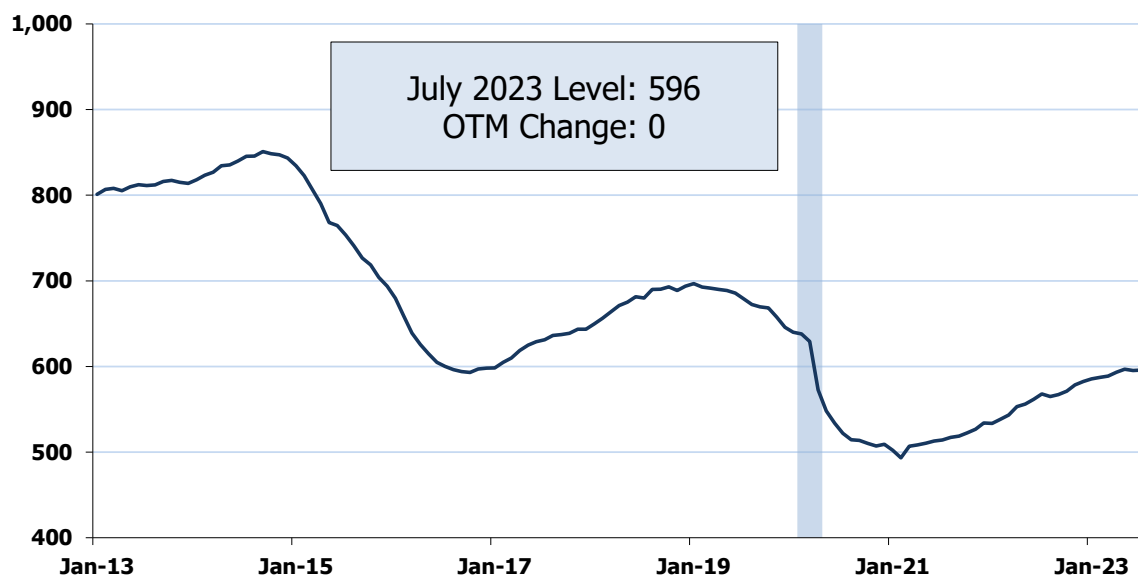
Summary	Mining & Logging	Construction	Manufacturing	Trade: Wholesale Retail	Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	Information	Financial Activities	Professional & Business Services	Private Education & Health Services	Leisure & Hospitality	Other Services	Government
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Mining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

Employment in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction

January 2013–July 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



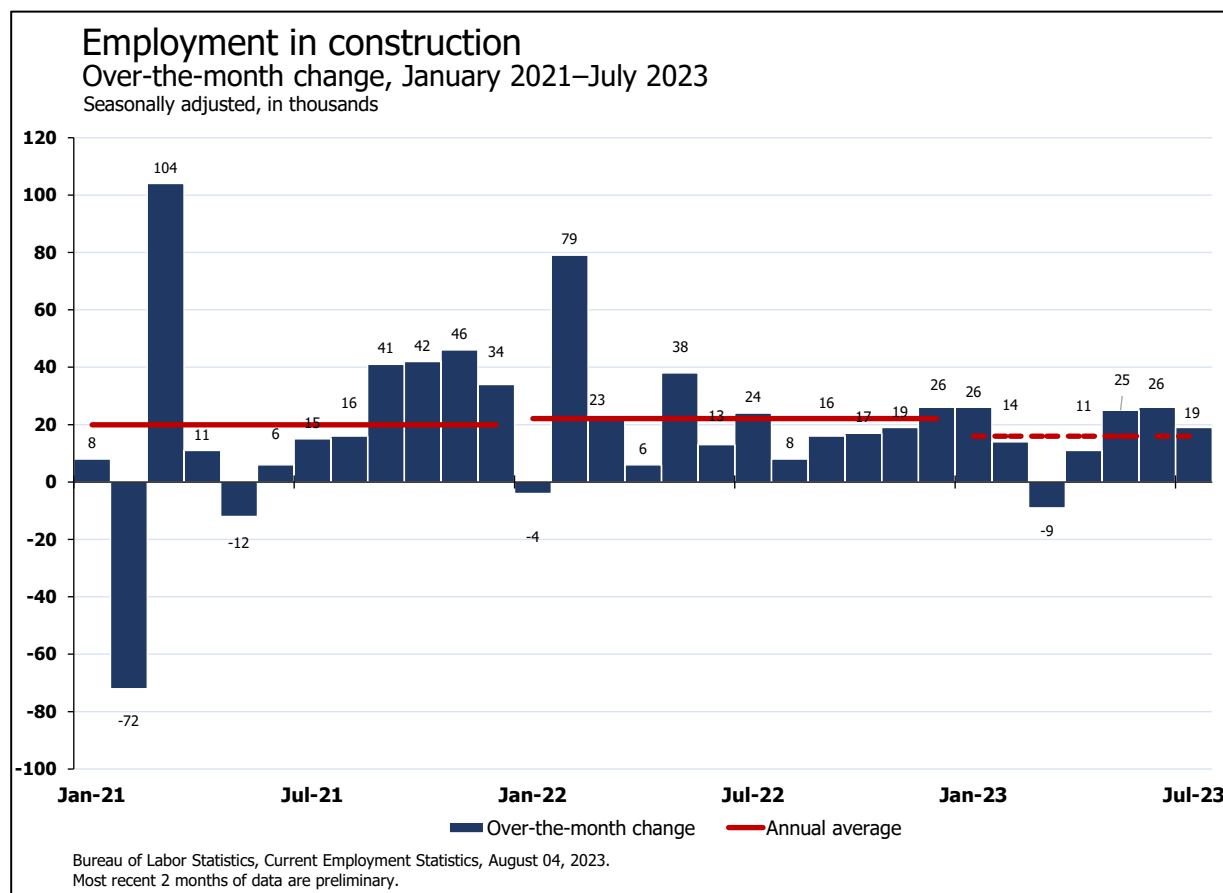
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 04, 2023.
Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
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Employment in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction was flat in July.

Over the month, the [North American rotary rig](#) count decreased, and the average weekly price of [West Texas Intermediate crude oil](#) increased.

Since an employment trough in February 2021, the industry has added 102,000 jobs.

Construction



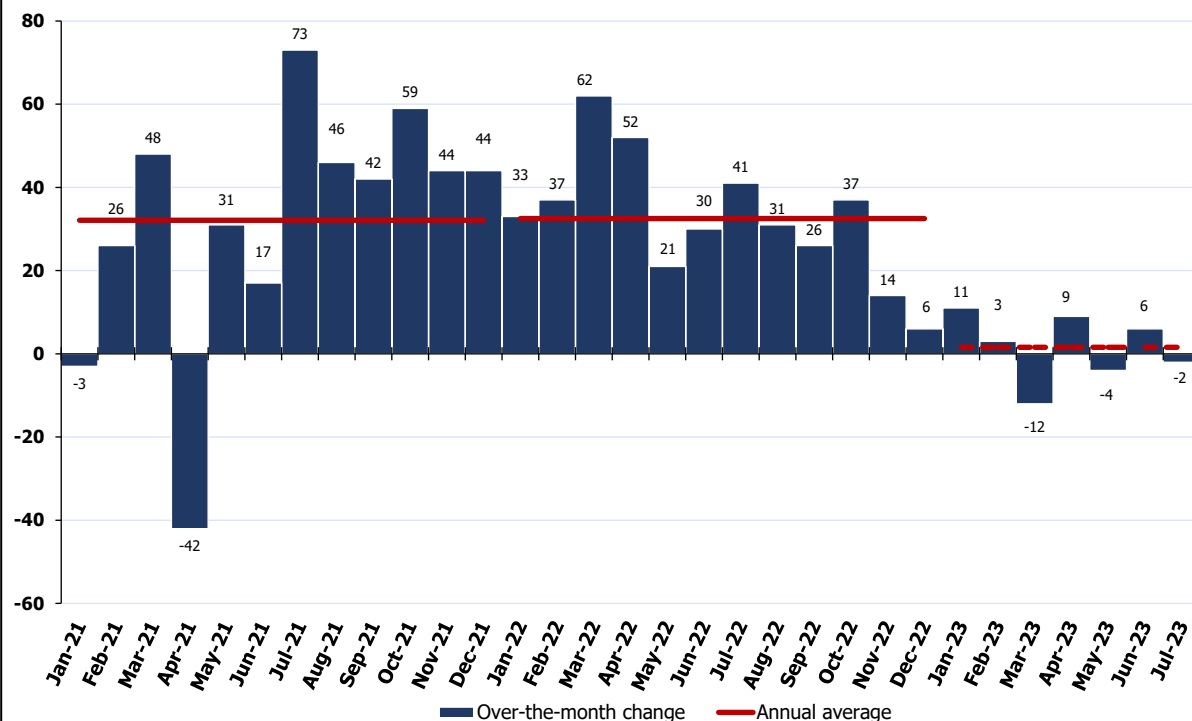
Employment in construction continued to trend up in July (+19,000). The industry had added an average 17,000 jobs per month over the prior 12 months.

In July, residential specialty trade contractors (+13,000) and nonresidential building construction (+11,000) added jobs.

The upward trend in construction employment follows recent upticks in [construction spending](#) and the [NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index](#).

Manufacturing

Employment in manufacturing
Over-the-month change, January 2021–July 2023
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, August 04, 2023.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Manufacturing employment was essentially flat in July (-2,000). Monthly job growth in the industry has been flat on net thus far in 2023, down from 33,000 in 2022.

The manufacturing 1-month diffusion index decreased 6.2 to 53.5. A number above 50 indicates that more manufacturing industries are adding jobs than are losing jobs.

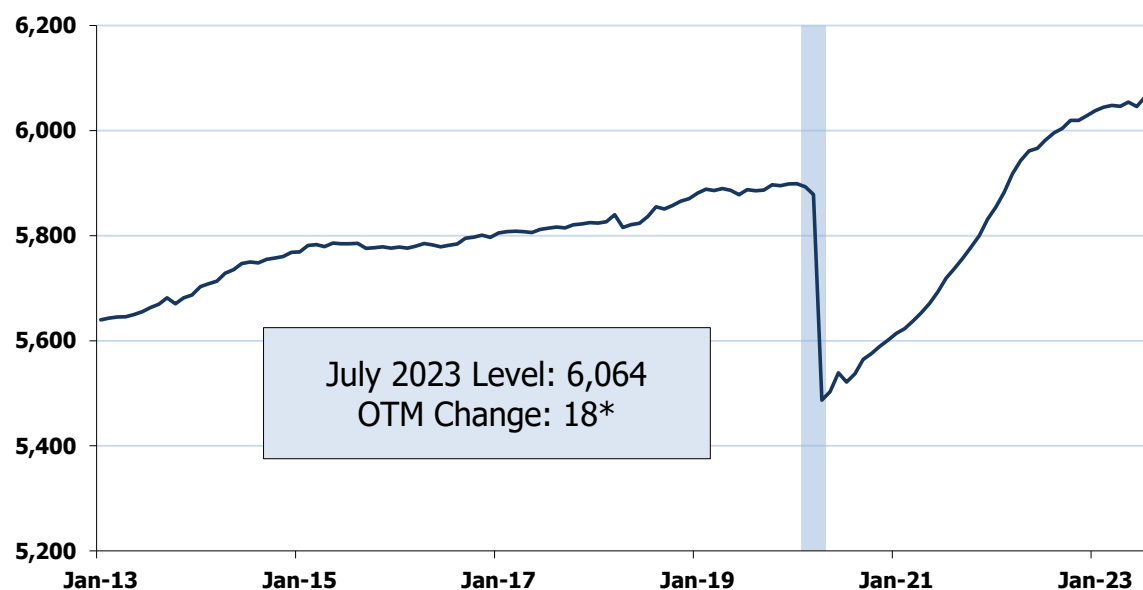
In July, average hourly earnings for all employees in manufacturing increased by 17 cents to \$32.61.

In manufacturing, average weekly hours for all employees remained unchanged. Average weekly hours for production employees, at 40.6 hours, were little changed (-0.1 hour). Overtime hours for all employees and for production employees were unchanged in July.

Wholesale Trade

Employment in wholesale trade January 2013–July 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



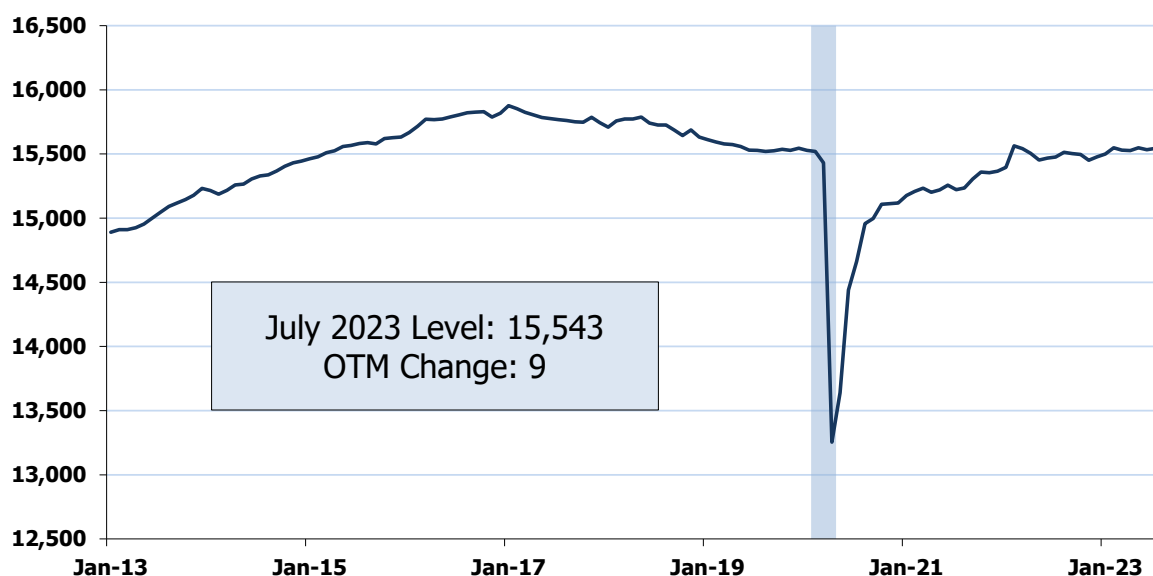
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 04, 2023.
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In July, employment in wholesale trade increased by 18,000, after showing little net change in recent months.

Retail Trade

Employment in retail trade January 2013–July 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



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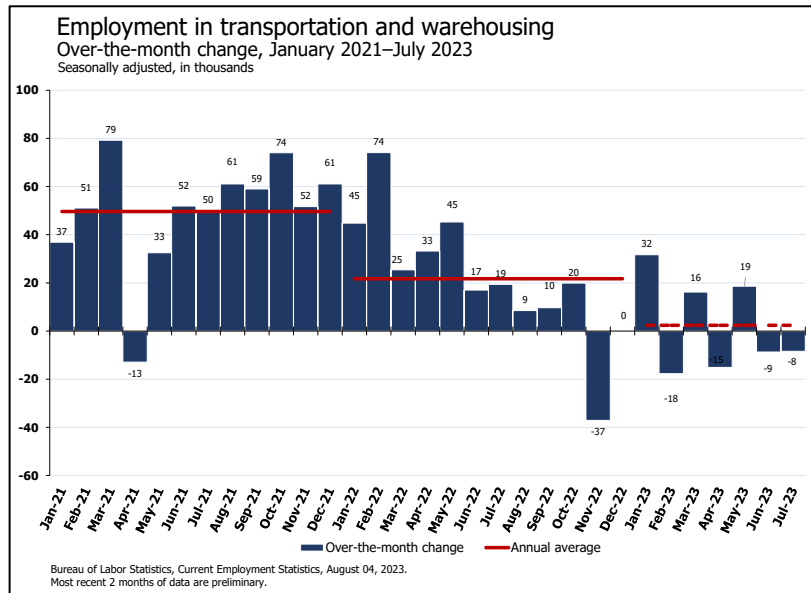
Employment in retail trade changed little in July (+9,000). The industry has shown little net change so far this year.

In July, department stores (-5,000) and furniture and home furnishings retailers (-3,000) lost jobs.

Retail-related economic indicators for the month are positive. In June, [Auto Sales](#), [Real Personal Consumption Expenditures](#) for goods, and [Retail Sales](#) increased. Similarly, the [Consumer Confidence Index](#) increased, and the per-gallon price of [regular gasoline](#) decreased in July.

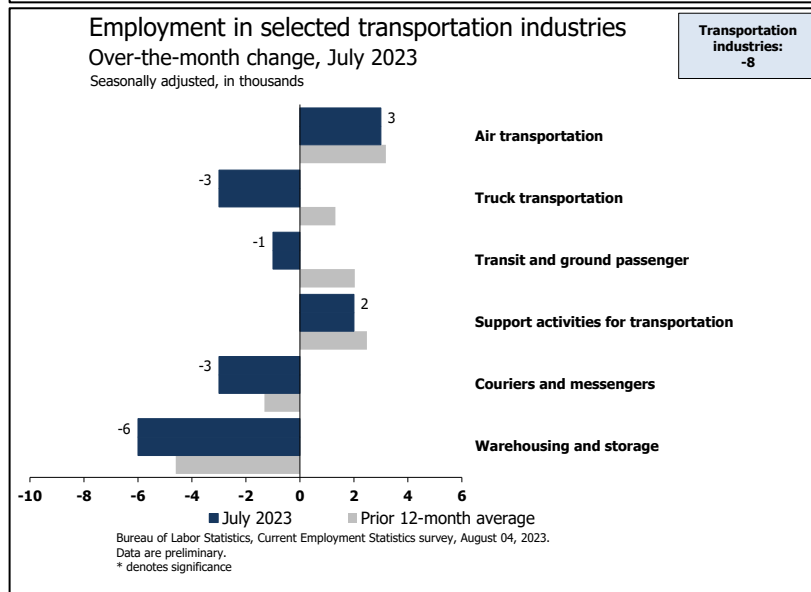
Transportation and Warehousing

Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in July (-8,000). So far this year, industry employment gains have averaged 2,000 jobs per month, below the 2022 average monthly gain of 22,000.



In July, air transportation added 3,000 jobs. Over the year, industry employment has expanded by 34,000.

Employment in warehousing and storage continued to trend down over the month (-6,000) and is 61,000 below its most recent peak in June 2022.

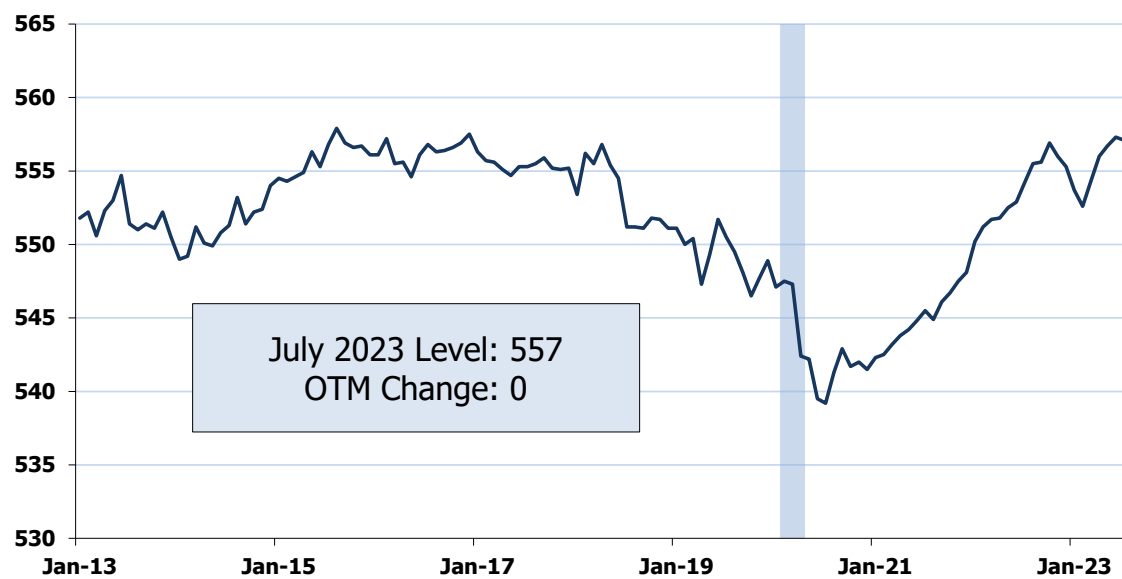


Utilities

Employment in utilities was flat in July (0).

Employment in utilities January 2013–July 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

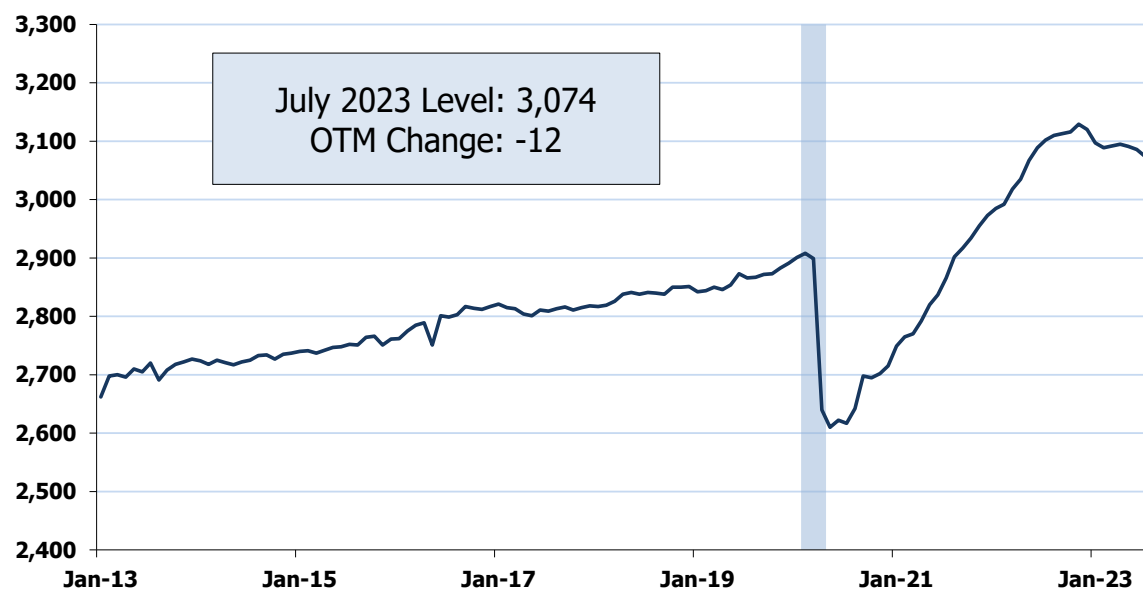


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Information

Employment in information January 2013–July 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



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In July, employment in information changed little (-12,000). Since the most recent peak in November 2022, information has shed 55,000 jobs.

Over the month, telecommunications lost 4,000 jobs. Industry employment has shown little net change so far this year (-16,000).

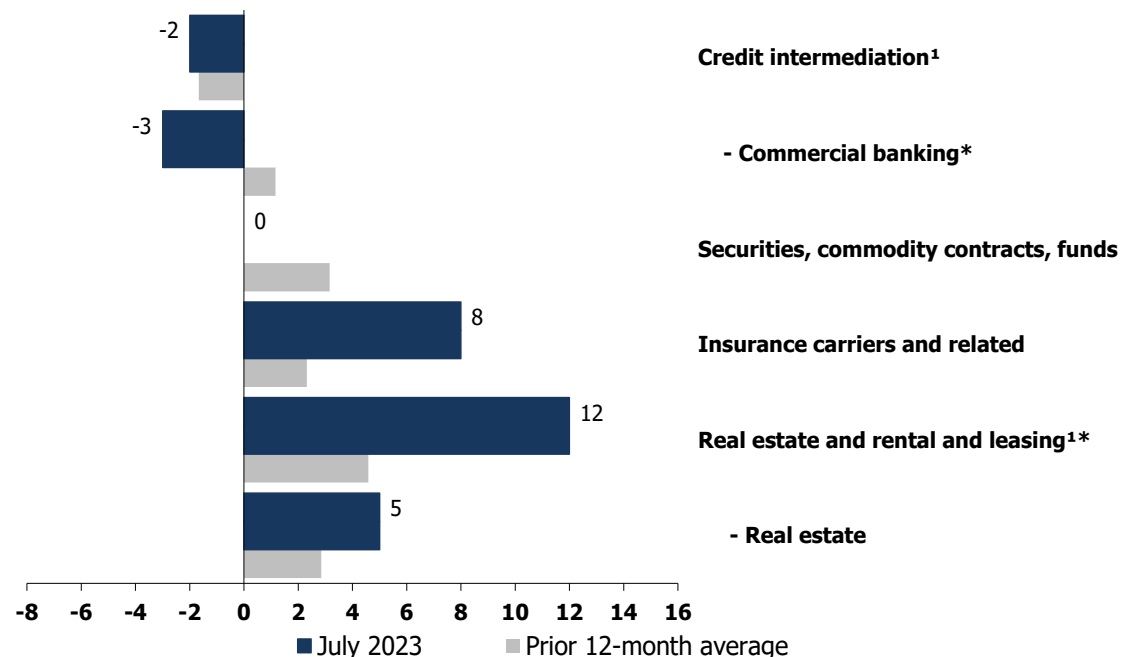
Financial Activities

Employment in selected financial activities

Over-the-month change, July 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Financial
activities:
19*



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 04, 2023.

Data are preliminary.

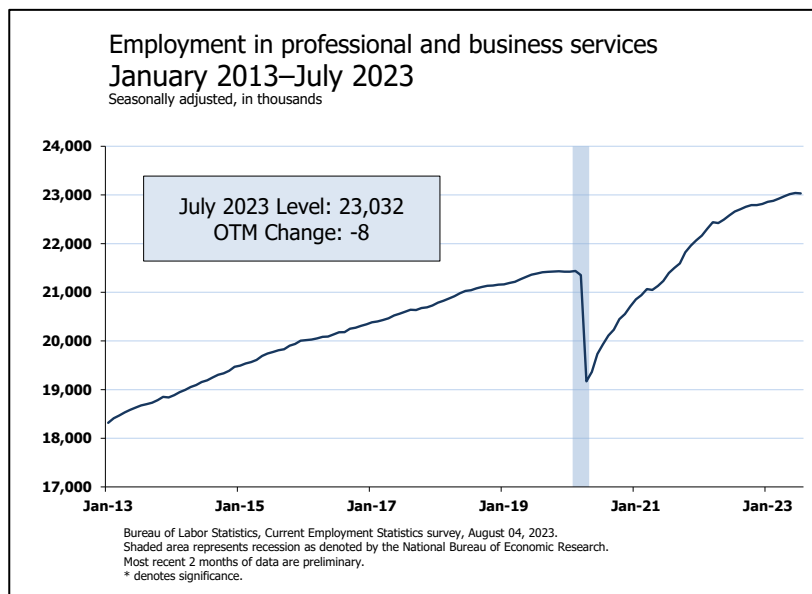
¹ Includes additional component industries not shown separately.

* denotes significance

Employment in financial activities increased by 19,000 in July. The industry had added an average of 16,000 jobs per month in the second quarter of the year, after employment was essentially flat in the first quarter.

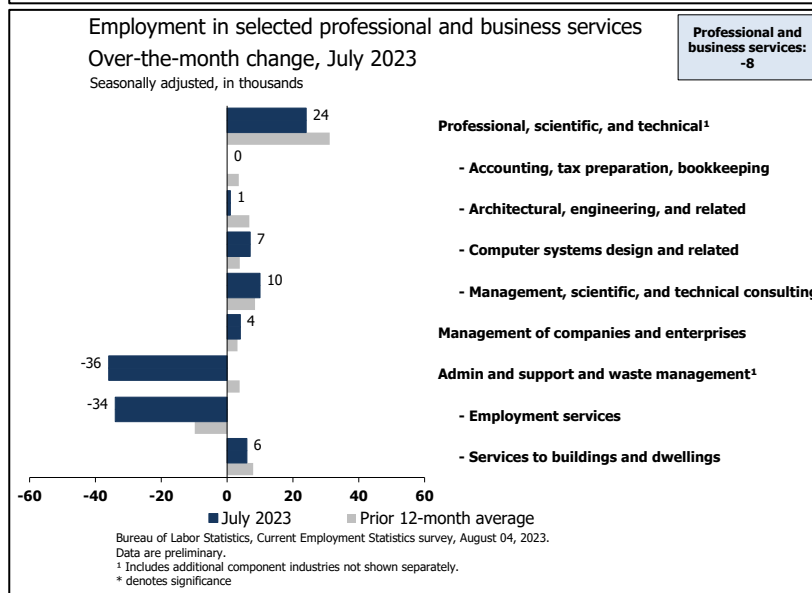
In July, real estate and rental and leasing added 12,000 jobs, with gains concentrated in rental and leasing services (+8,000). By contrast, employment declined by 3,000 in commercial banking.

Professional and Business Services



Employment in professional and business services changed little in July (-8,000). Over the prior 12 months, job gains had averaged 38,000 per month. Over the month, employment in professional, scientific, and technical services continued to trend up (+24,000).

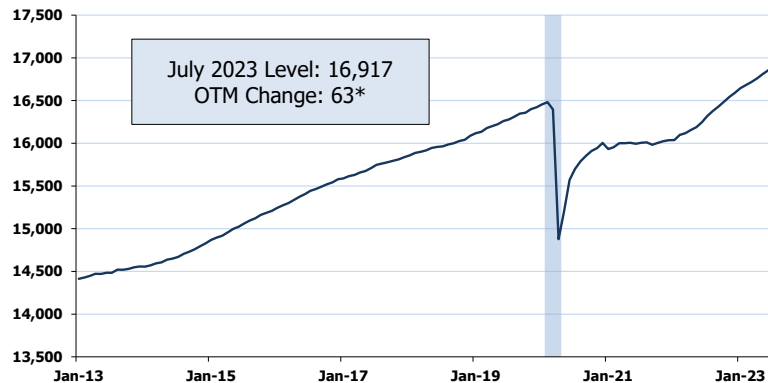
Temporary help services continued to trend down in July (-22,000), coinciding with recent weakness in the [ASA Staffing Index](#). Since reaching an employment peak in March 2022, temporary help services has shed 205,000 jobs.



Private Education and Health Services

Employment in health care January 2013–July 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



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Employment in health care increased by 63,000 in July, compared with its prior 12-month average monthly gain of 51,000.

In July, employment increased in ambulatory health care services (+35,000), with gains concentrated in home health care services (+12,000) and in offices of dentists (+8,000).

Employment in hospitals increased by 16,000 in July, in line with the prior 12-month average monthly gain of 13,000.

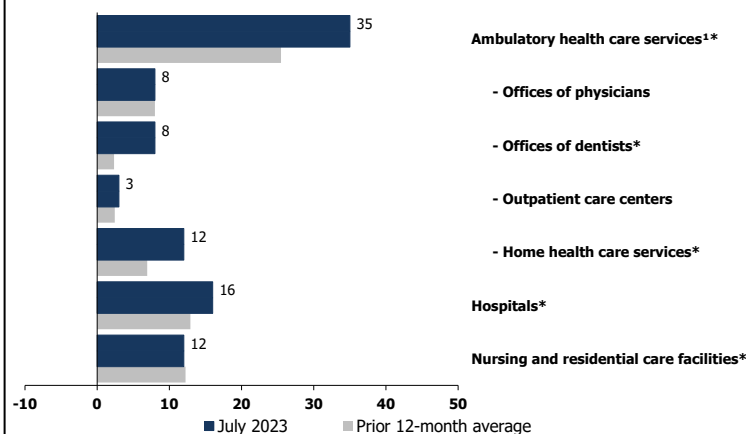
In July, nursing and residential care facilities added 12,000 jobs, with growth concentrated in skilled nursing care facilities (+6,000) and in continuing care retirement communities and assisted living facilities for the elderly (+5,000).

Over the month, employment in social assistance increased by 24,000, with individual and family services accounting for 19,000 of the gain. Employment gains in social assistance had averaged 23,000 per month over the prior 12 months.

Employment in selected health care industries Over-the-month change, July 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Health care industries:
63*

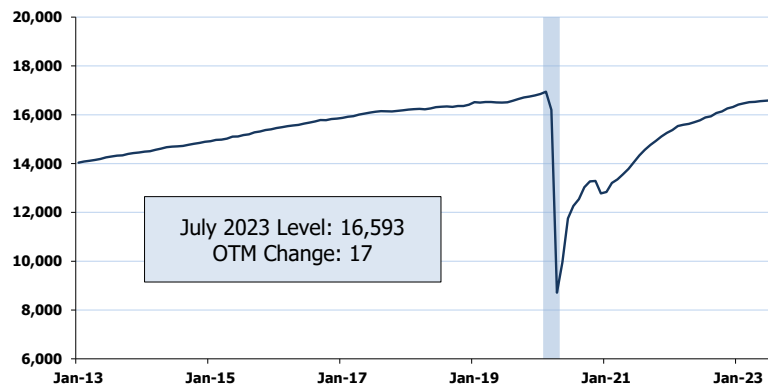


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 04, 2023.
Data are preliminary.
¹ Includes additional component industries not shown separately.
* denotes significance.

Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in leisure and hospitality January 2013–July 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



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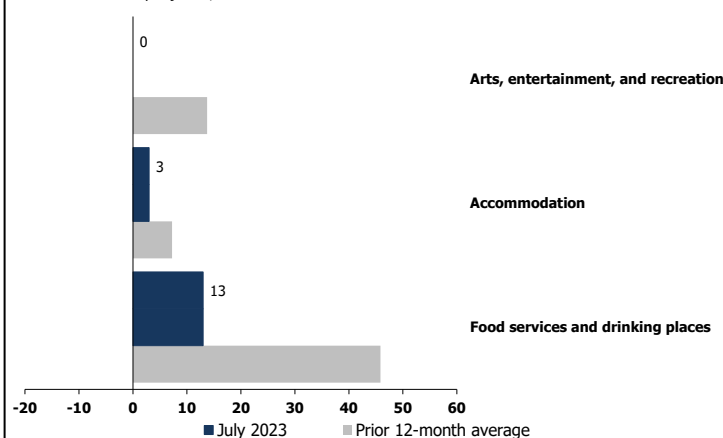
Employment in leisure and hospitality changed little in July (+17,000). The industry has shown little employment change in recent months, following average monthly gains of 67,000 in the first quarter of the year. Employment in leisure and hospitality remains 352,000 below its February 2020 level.

Over the year, average hourly earnings for all employees in leisure and hospitality rose by 5.6 percent to \$21.31.

Employment in leisure and hospitality Over-the-month change, July 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

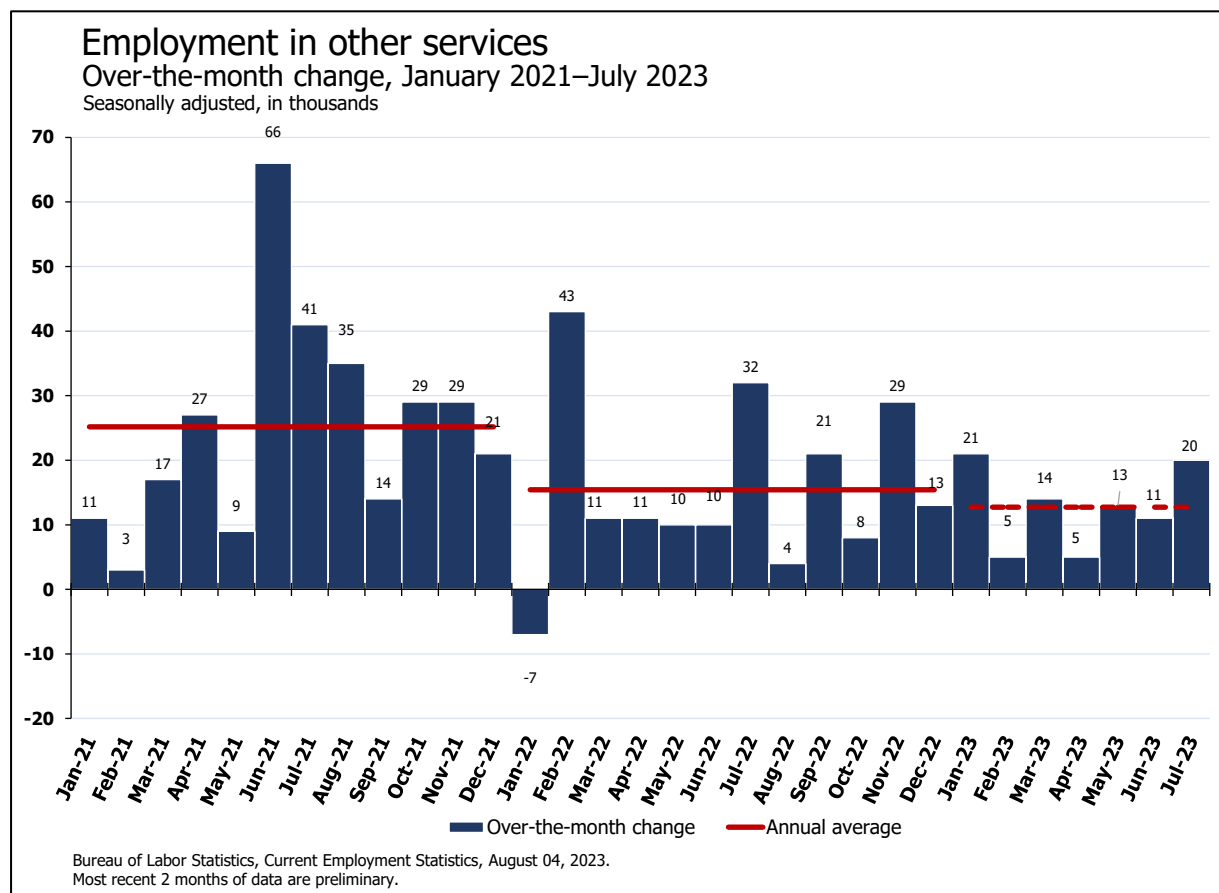
Leisure and
hospitality:
17



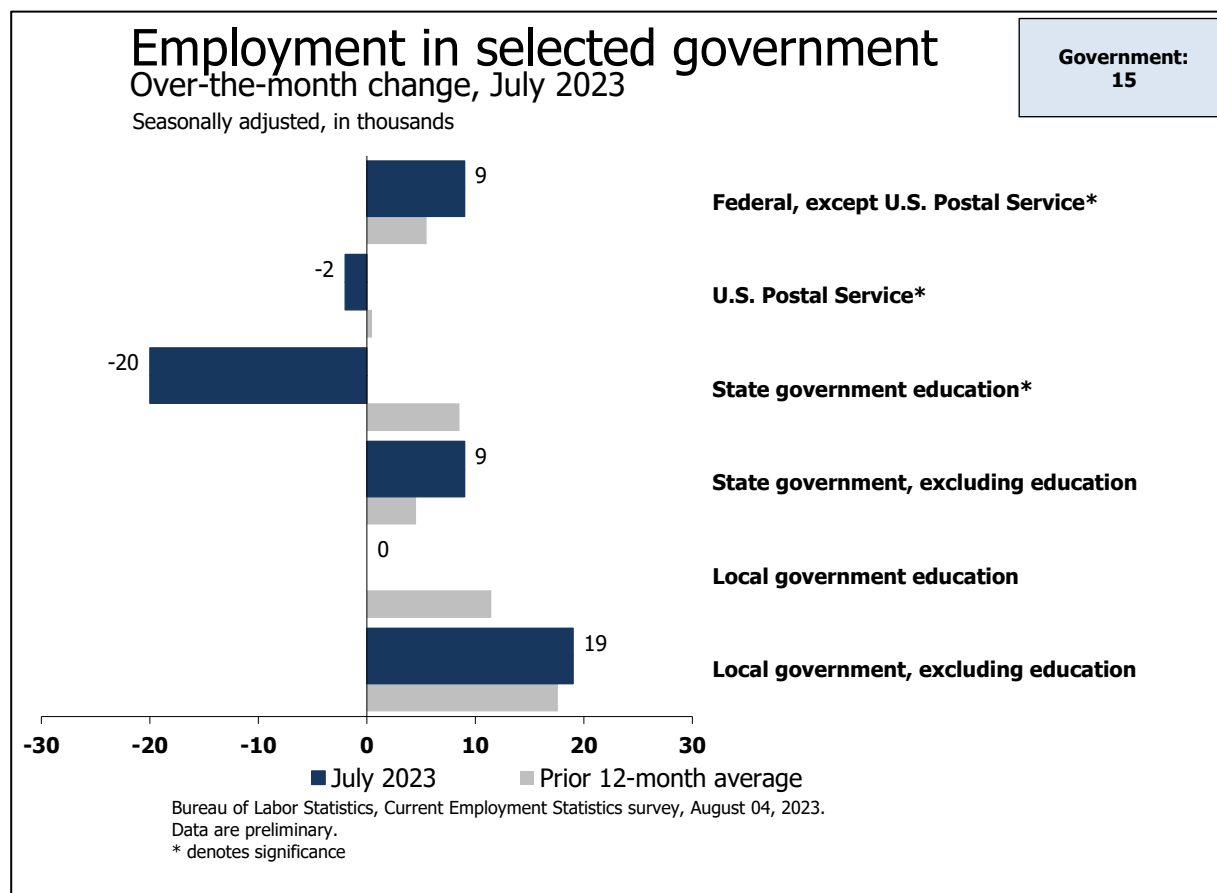
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Other Services

Employment in other services continued to trend up in July (+20,000). Industry employment is 53,000 below its February 2020 level.



Government



Government employment changed little in July (+15,000). Employment increased by 9,000 in federal, except U.S. Postal Service, which was more than offset by a decrease in state government education (-20,000).

Employment in government is 170,000 below its February 2020 level.



Prepared by Staff of the National Estimates Branch
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