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# Current Employment Statistics Highlights



**October 2023**

Release Date: November 3, 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, October 2023

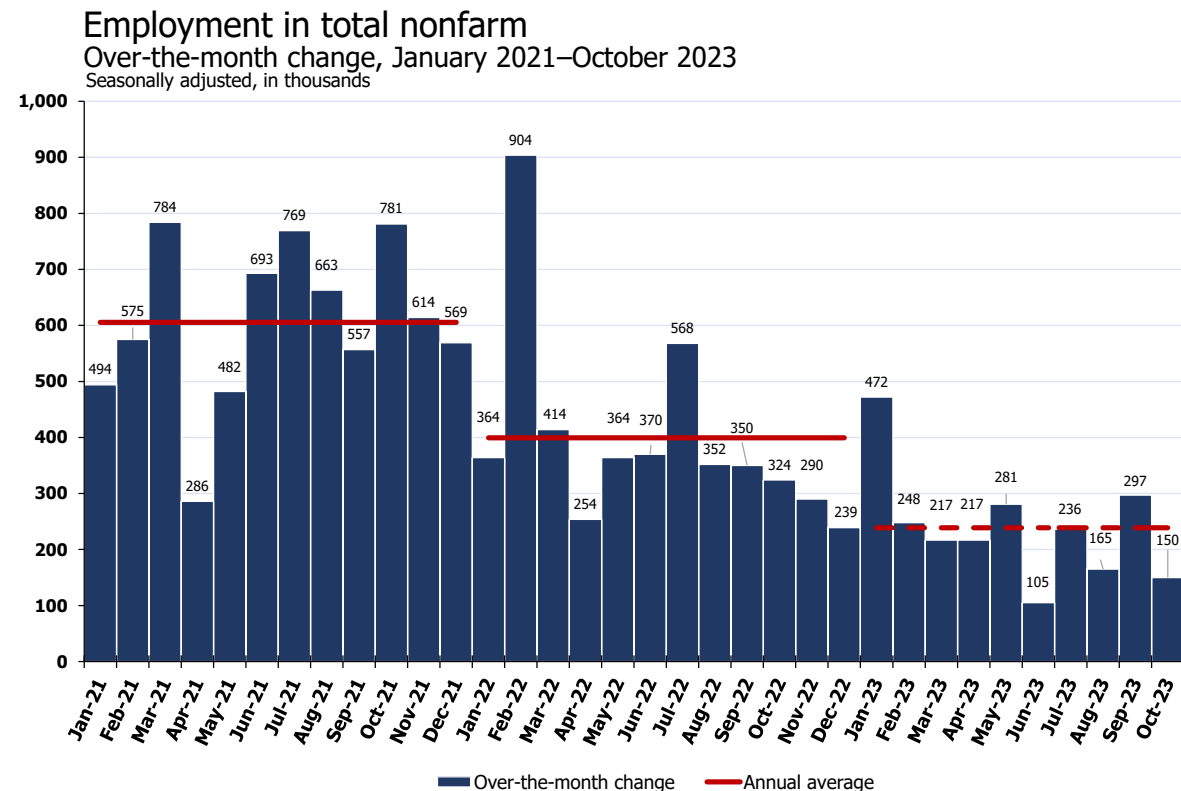
Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 150,000 in October, lower than the average monthly gain of 258,000 over the prior 12 months. In October, job gains occurred in health care, government, and social assistance. Employment declined in manufacturing due to strike activity.

The employment change for August revised down from +227,000 to +165,000, and the change for September revised down from +336,000 to +297,000. On net, employment over these months is 101,000 lower than previously reported.

In October, average hourly earnings of all employees on private-sector payrolls rose by 7 cents, or 0.2 percent. Over the year, average hourly earnings have increased by 4.1 percent. In October, average weekly hours of all employees edged down by 0.1 hour to 34.3 hours.

### +89,000 Private Education and Health Services

Employment in health care increased by 58,000 in October, in line with its average monthly gain of 53,000 over prior 12 months. In October, employment continued to trend up in ambulatory health care services (+32,000),



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, November 03, 2023.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

hospitals (+18,000), and nursing and residential care facilities (+8,000).

Social assistance employment increased by 19,000 in October, in line with its average monthly gain of 23,000 over the prior 12

months. In October, employment in individual and family services continued trend up (+14,000).

## Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, October 2023

**+51,000 Government**

Employment in government increased by 51,000 in October, in line with its average monthly gain of 50,000 over prior 12 months. In October, local government employment continued to trend up (+38,000).

**+23,000 Construction**

Construction employment continued to trend up in October (+23,000), in line with its prior 12-month average monthly gain of 18,000.

**+19,000 Leisure and Hospitality**

In October, employment in leisure and hospitality changed little (+19,000). The industry had added an average of 52,000 jobs per month over the prior 12 months.

**+15,000 Professional and Business Services**

Employment in professional and business services changed little in October (+15,000). Employment in temporary help services changed little over the month (+7,000) but is 229,000 below its peak in March 2022.

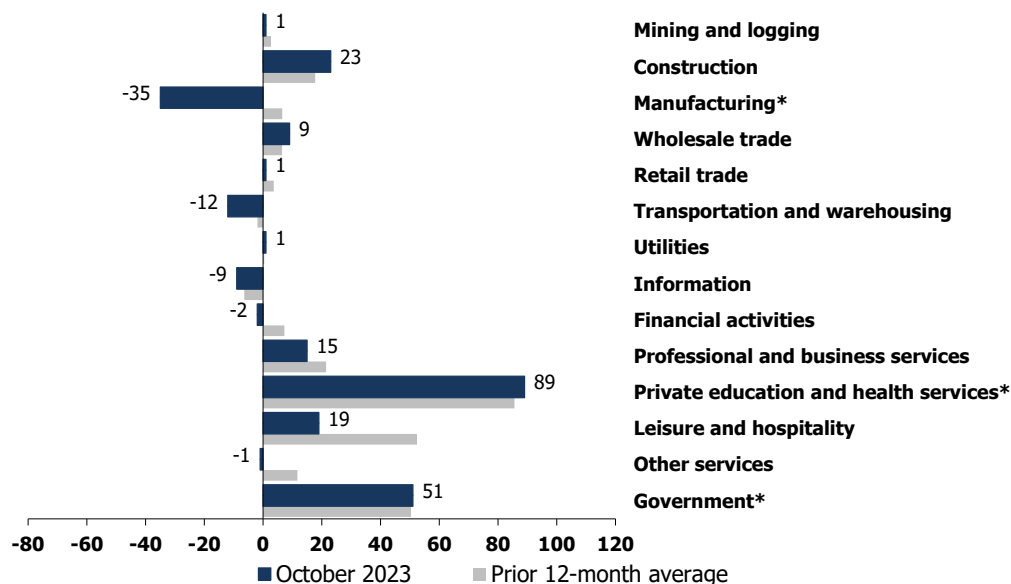
**-12,000 Transportation and Warehousing**

Transportation and warehousing employment changed little in October (-12,000) and had shown little net change over

## Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, October 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Total nonfarm:  
150\*

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2023.

Data are preliminary.

\* denotes significance

the prior 12 months. In October, warehousing and storage lost 11,000 jobs, while air transportation added 4,000.

**-35,000 Manufacturing**

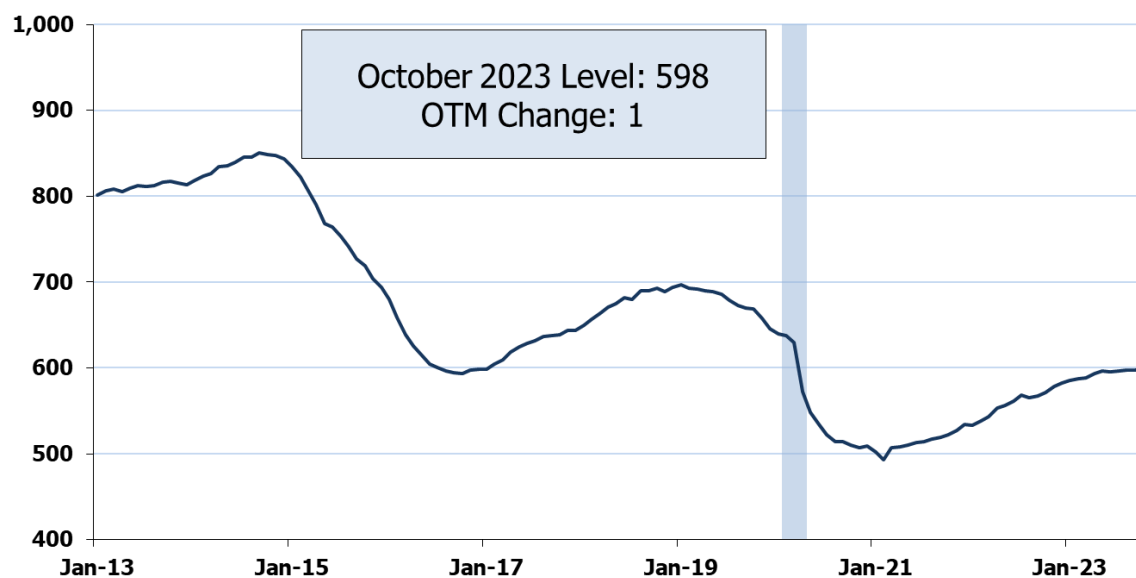
In October, employment in manufacturing fell by 35,000. Motor vehicles and parts lost 33,000 jobs, reflecting strike activity and related layoffs.

## Mining and Logging

### Employment in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction

#### January 2013–October 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2023.  
Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.  
\* denotes significance.

Employment in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction changed little in October (+1,000), compared with its average monthly gain of 3,000 over the prior 12 months.

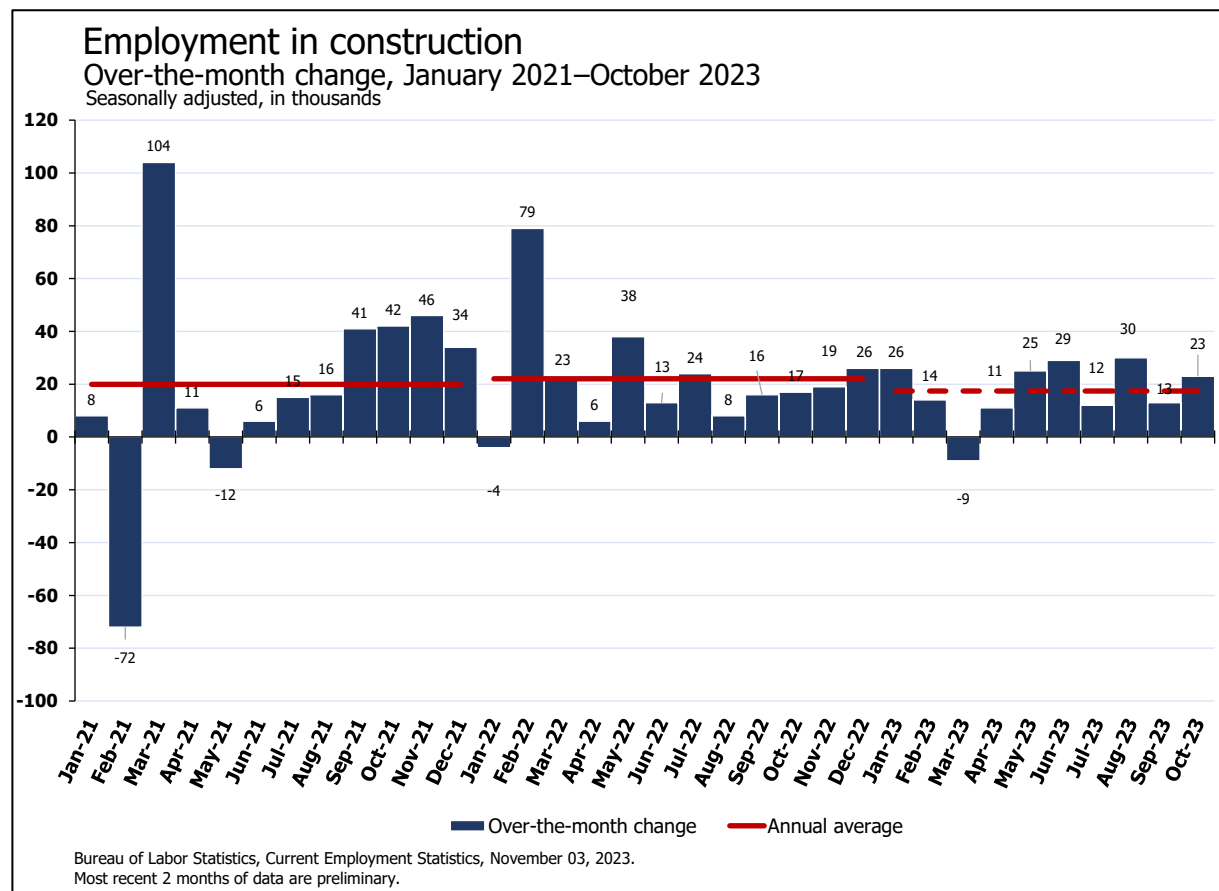
Over the month, both the [North American rotary rigs count](#)\* and the average weekly price of [West Texas Intermediate crude oil](#)\*\* decreased.

Since an employment trough in February 2021, the industry has expanded by 105,000.

\*To access the North American rotary rigs: select the first link named "North America Rotary Rig Count (Jan 2000 – Current)", go to US Count by Basin tab, scroll to the Total US Rig Count column, take the difference of the two weeks that include the 12<sup>th</sup> of the current and previous month.

\*\*To access West Texas Intermediate crude oil: select "EDIT GRAPH" and change the "Modify frequency" to "Weekly, Ending Friday." Above the graph, modify the date range to a year, including the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## Construction



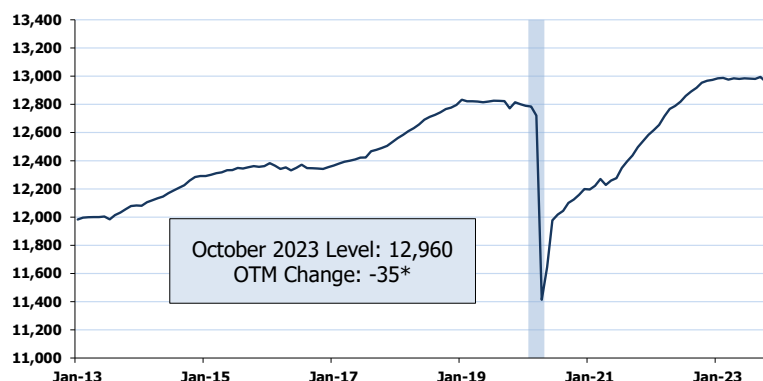
Employment in construction continued to trend up in October (+23,000). The industry has added an average of 17,000 jobs per month so far this year, about in line with average gains of 22,000 per month in 2022.

Recent construction-related indicators are mixed. In October, the [30-year fixed mortgage rate](#) increased, and [residential building permits](#) decreased in September. In contrast, [housing starts](#) increased in September.

## Manufacturing

### Employment in manufacturing January 2013–October 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2023.  
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Manufacturing employment decreased by 35,000 in October, with losses concentrated in motor vehicles and parts (-33,000). Job losses reflect recent strike activity and related layoffs in motor vehicles and parts and in machinery manufacturing.

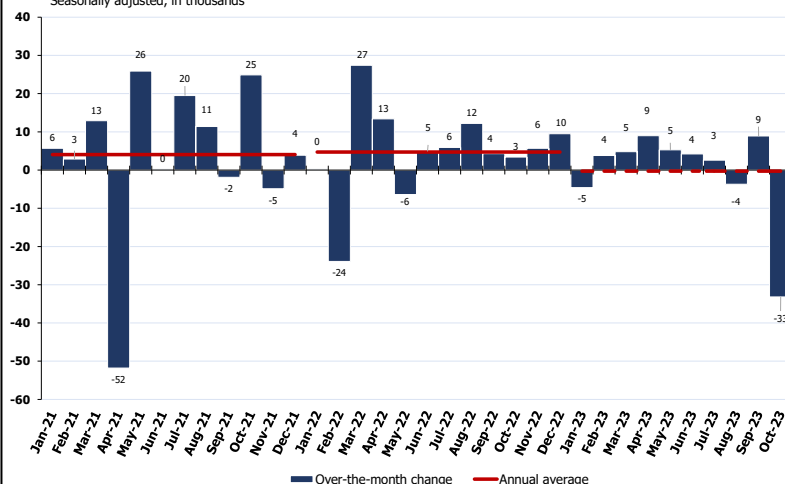
The recent weakness in manufacturing employment corresponds with mixed results in both the [Institute of Supply Management's Purchasing Managers' Index \(PMI\)](#) and [the S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI](#), which measure business sentiment and expectations.

The manufacturing 1-month diffusion index fell by 5.5 to 42.4 in October. A number below 50 indicates that more manufacturing industries are losing jobs than are adding jobs.

In October, average weekly hours for all manufacturing employees changed little (-0.1 hour), and average weekly hours for production employees was unchanged. Average weekly overtime hours edged down by 0.1 hour for all employees and for production workers.

### Employment in motor vehicles and parts Over-the-month change, January 2021–October 2023

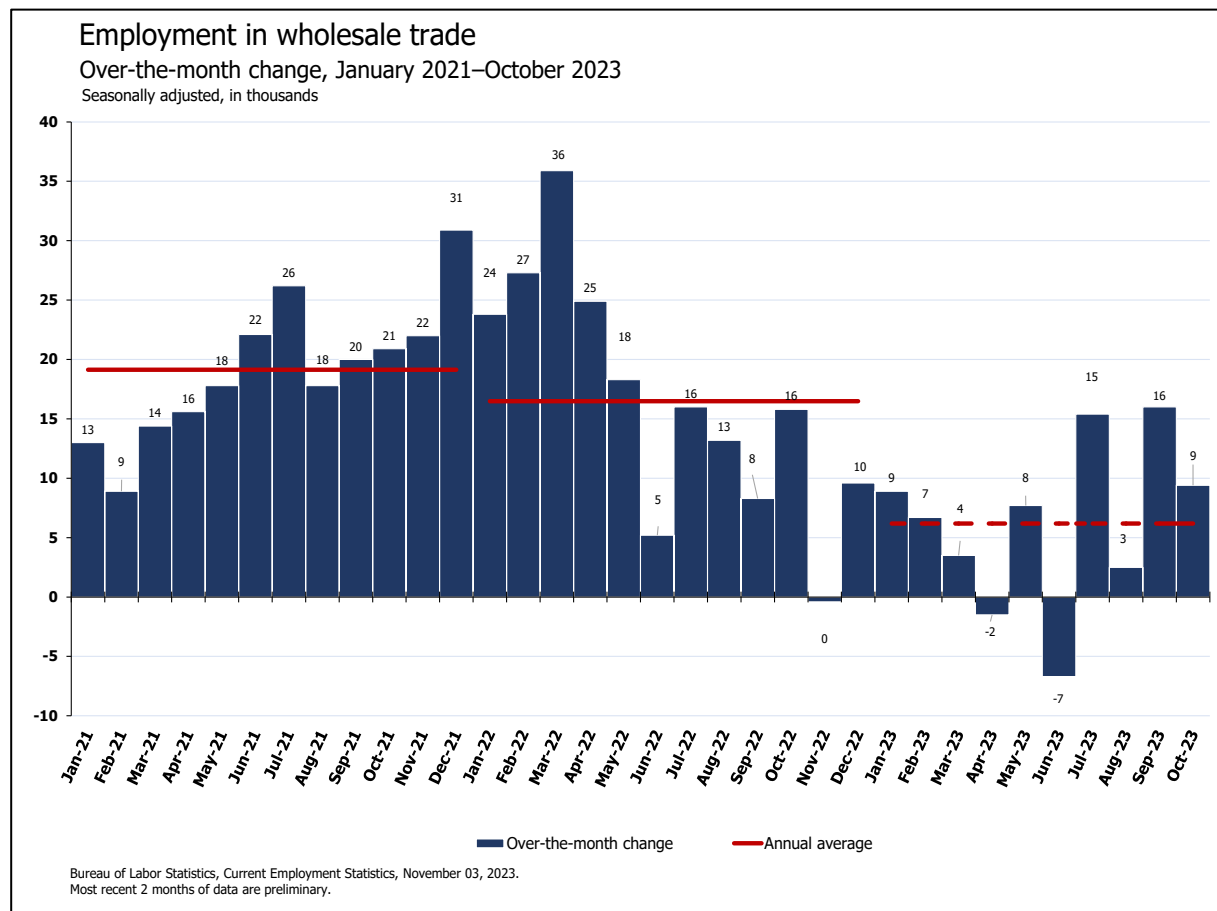
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, November 03, 2023.  
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## Wholesale Trade

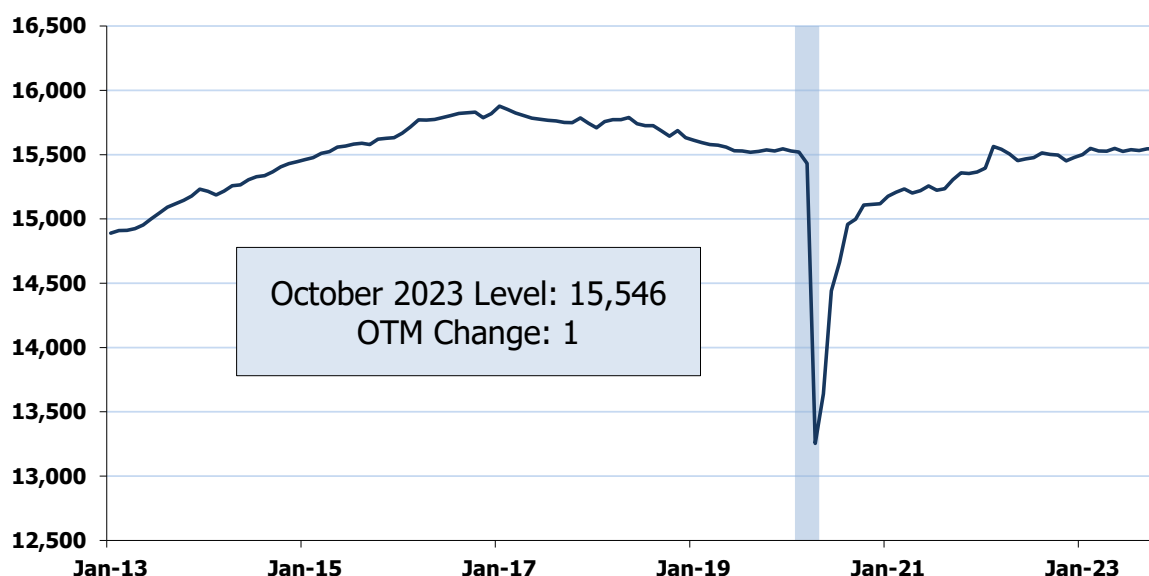
In October, employment in wholesale trade changed little (+9,000).



## Retail Trade

### Employment in retail trade January 2013–October 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2023.  
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\* denotes significance.

Employment in retail trade changed little in October (+1,000). A gain in automobile dealers (+6,000) partially offset a loss in electronics and appliance retailers (-5,000).

So far this year, employment in retail trade has shown little net change (+68,000).

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

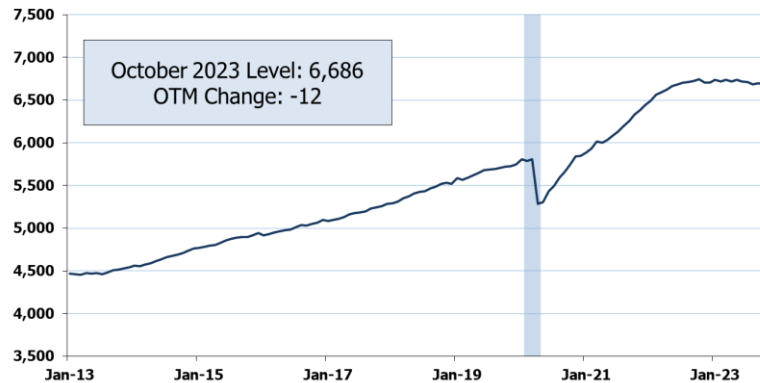
\*The per-gallon price of regular gasoline is a weekly measure, and the over-the-month change reflects the difference in price for the week including the 12th for both months.



## Transportation and Warehousing

### Employment in transportation and warehousing January 2013–October 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

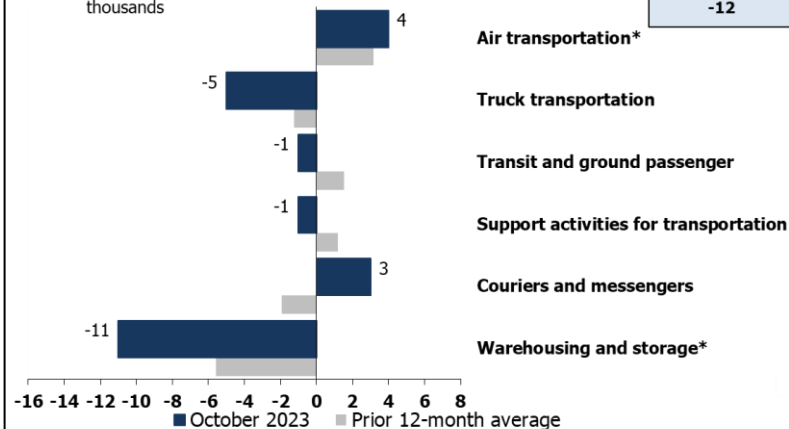


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2023.  
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Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in October (-12,000) and has shown little net change over the year.

### Employment in selected transportation industries Over-the-month change, October 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



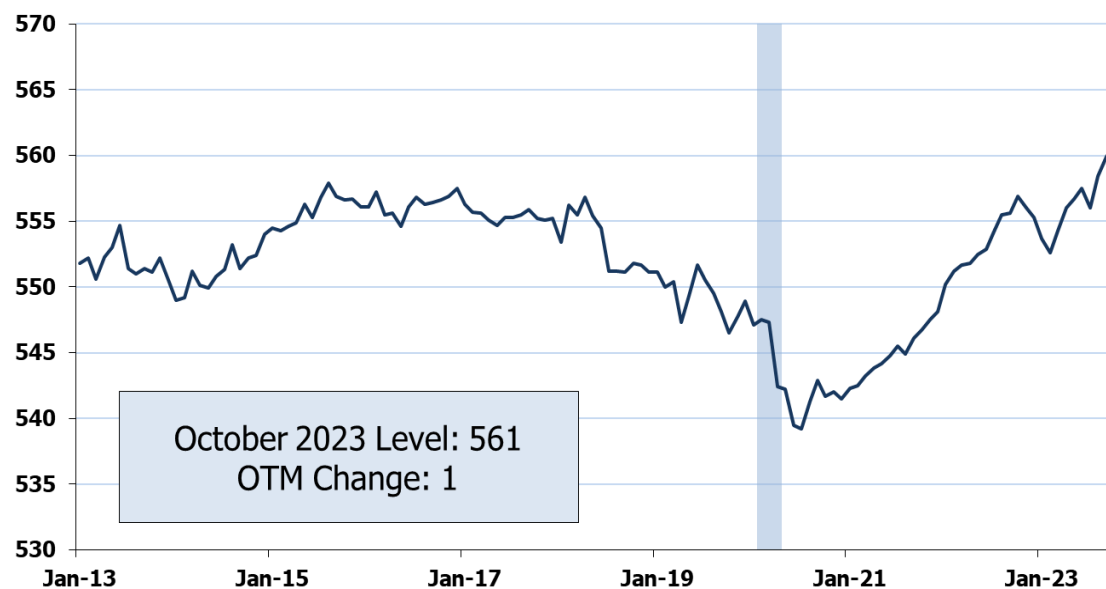
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2023.  
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\* denotes significance

In October, air transportation added 4,000 jobs. Warehousing and storage lost 11,000 jobs over the month and has lost 62,000 jobs so far this year.

## Utilities

### Employment in utilities January 2013–October 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



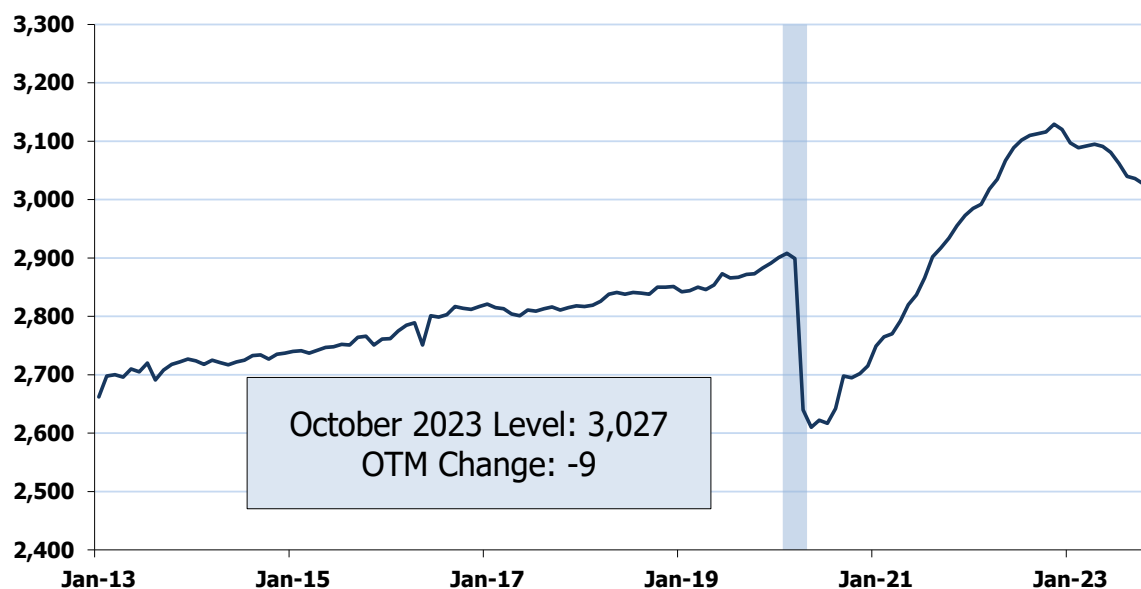
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2023.  
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Employment in utilities changed little in October (+1,000), in line with its prior 6-month average (+1,000). Since the most recent employment trough in July 2020, the industry has expanded by 22,000 jobs.

## Information

### Employment in information January 2013–October 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

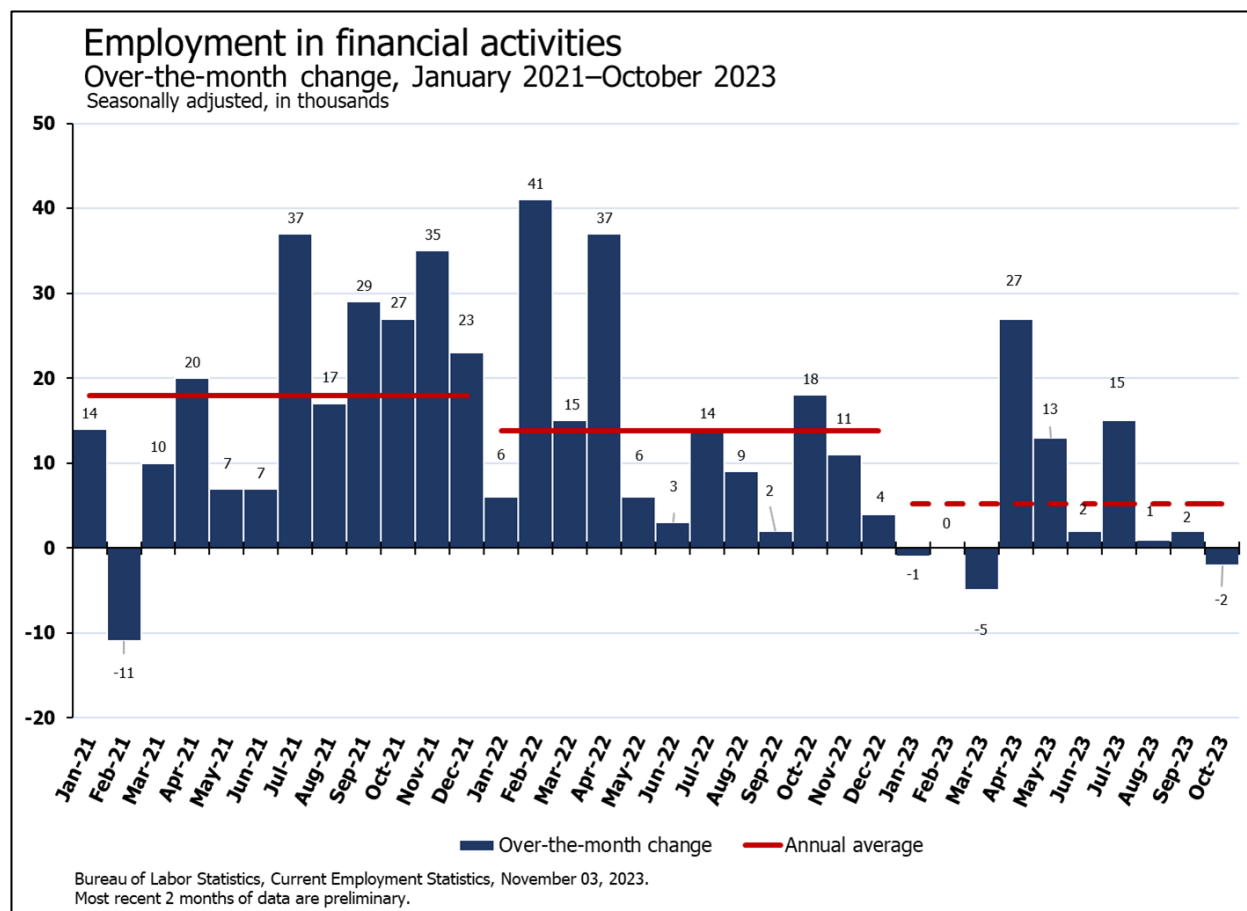


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2023.  
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Employment in information changed little in October (-9,000).

Over the month, employment in motion picture and sound recording industries continued to trend down (-5,000); the industry has lost 44,000 jobs since May, at least partially reflecting the impact of ongoing strike activity.

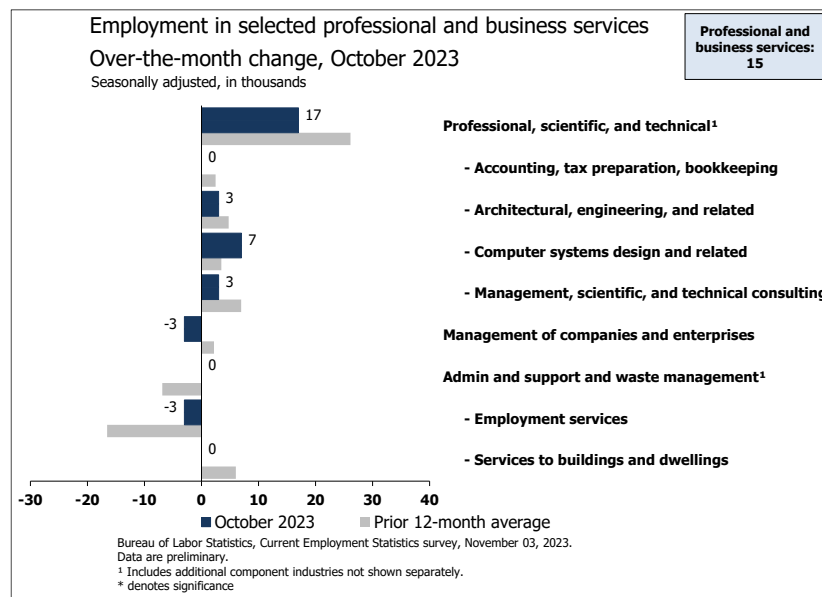
## Financial Activities



Employment in financial activities changed little in October (-2,000) but has increased by 67,000 over the last 12 months.

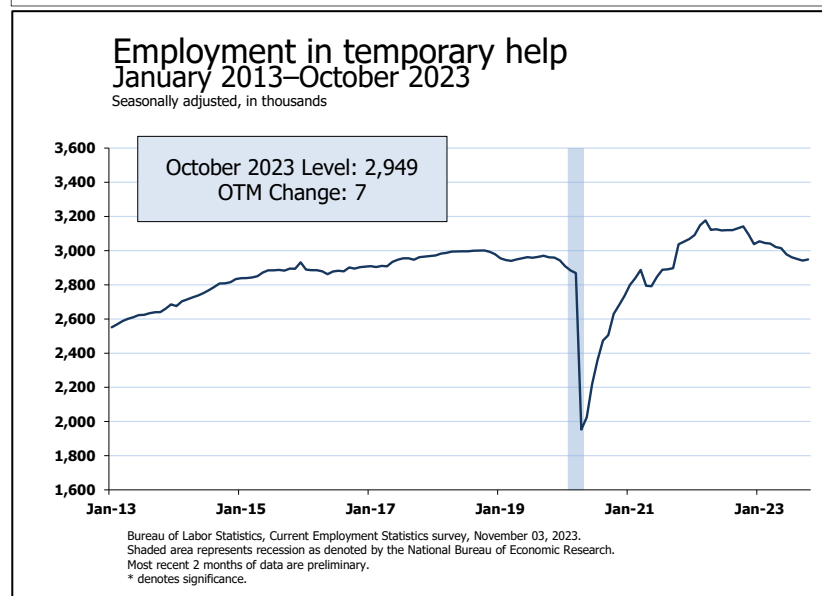
In October, employment in credit intermediation and related activities declined by 10,000. Within the industry, commercial banking lost 6,000 jobs.

## Professional and Business Services



Employment in professional and business services changed little in October (+15,000) and has shown little net change since May.

In October, employment in professional, scientific, and technical services continued to trend up (+17,000), while employment in management of companies and enterprises changed little (-3,000). Employment in administrative and support and waste management and remediation services was flat (0), with office administrative services (+6,000) and travel arrangement and reservation services (+3,000) adding jobs and business support services losing jobs (-8,000).

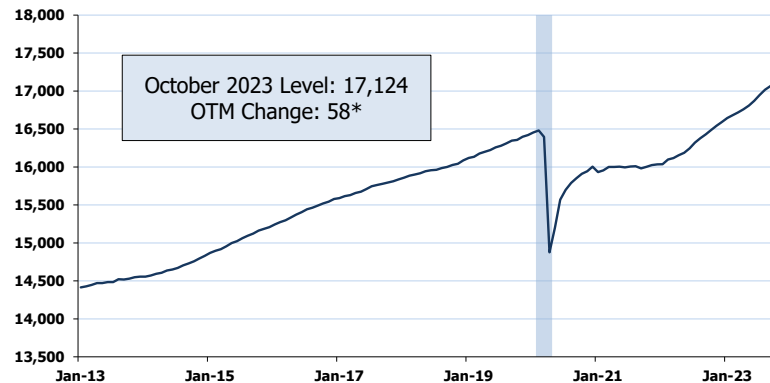


Employment in temporary help services changed little in October (+7,000), coinciding with recent weakness in the [ASA Staffing Index](#). Since reaching an employment peak in March 2022, temporary help services has shed 229,000 jobs.

## Private Education and Health Services

### Employment in health care January 2013–October 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



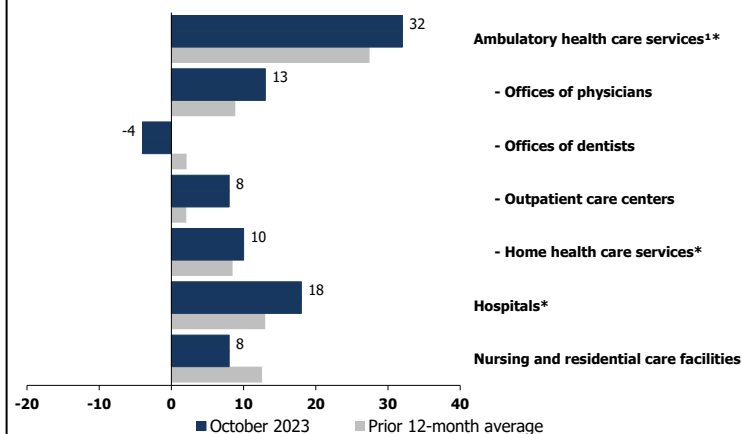
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2023.  
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Employment in health care increased by 58,000 in October, in line with its average monthly gain of 53,000 over the prior 12 months.

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

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Health care industries:  
58\*



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2023.  
Data are preliminary.  
\* Includes additional component industries not shown separately.  
\* denotes significance

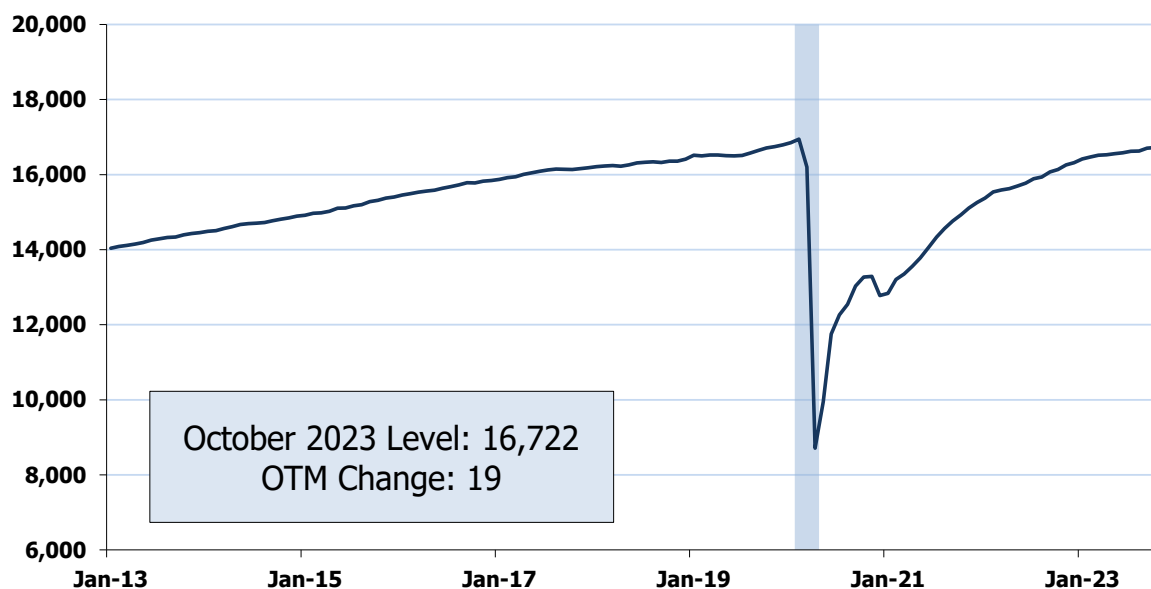
Within health care, employment continued to trend up in ambulatory health care services (+32,000), hospitals (+18,000), and nursing and residential care facilities (+8,000).

In October, social assistance employment increased by 19,000, with employment in individual and family services continuing to trend up (+14,000).

## Leisure and Hospitality

### Employment in leisure and hospitality January 2013–October 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

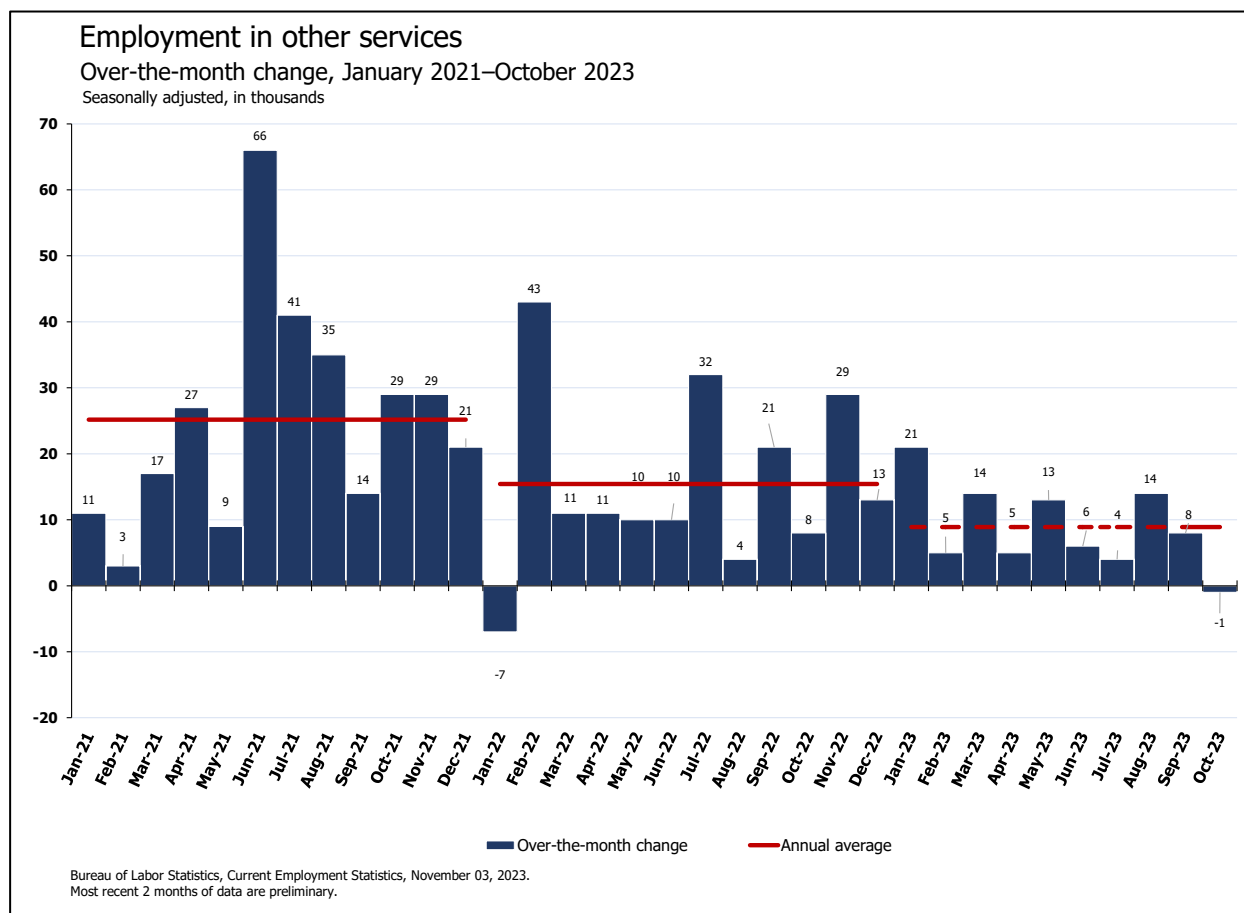


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Employment in leisure and hospitality changed little in October (+19,000). So far this year, the industry has added an average of 41,000 jobs per month, down from 88,000 jobs per month in 2022. Despite these gains, employment in the industry is 223,000 below its February 2020 level.

## Other Services

Employment in other services changed little in October (-1,000) and is 53,000 below its February 2020 level.





## Government

### Employment in government January 2013–October 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



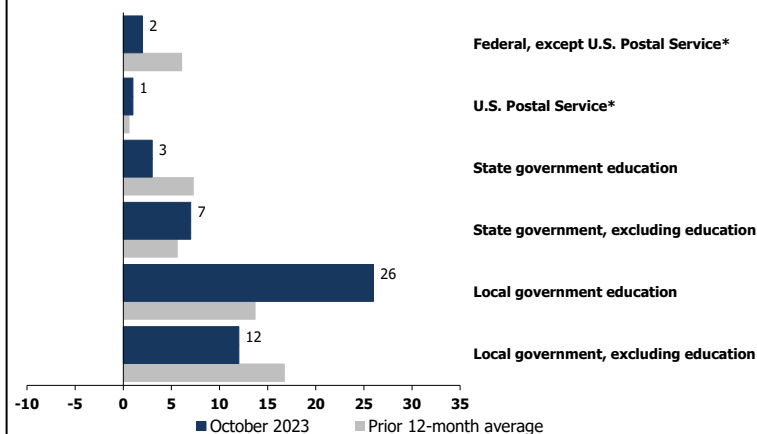
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2023.  
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\* denotes significance.

Employment in government increased by 51,000 in October, in line with its prior 12-month average gain of 50,000 per month. As of October, the industry has recovered to its pre-pandemic February 2020 level.

### Employment in selected government Over-the-month change, October 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Government:  
51\*



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 03, 2023.  
Data are preliminary.  
\* denotes significance

In October, local government employment continued to trend up (+38,000).

## Current Employment Statistics Highlights

### Detailed Industry Employment Analysis



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