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Current Employment Statistics Highlights



November 2023

Release Date: December 8, 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, November 2023

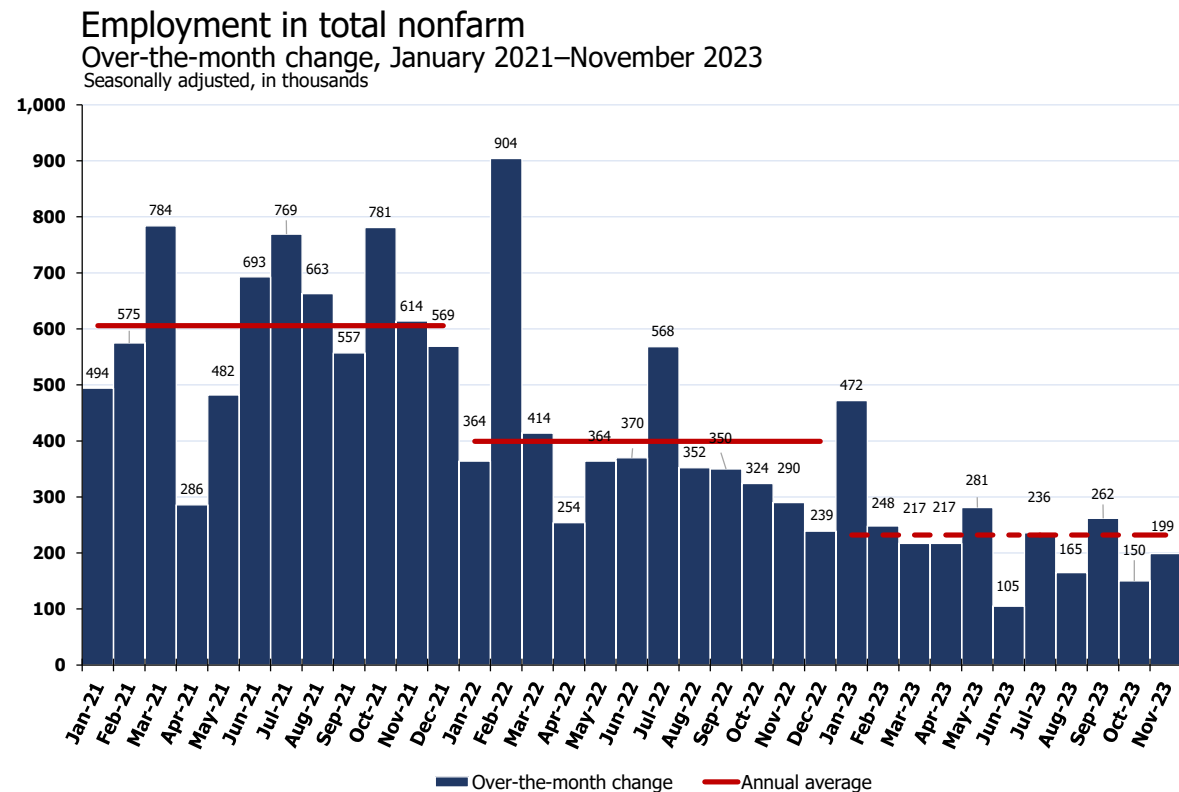
Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 199,000 in November. Employment growth is below the average monthly gain of 240,000 over the prior 12 months but is in line with job growth in recent months. In November, job gains occurred in health care and government. Employment also increased in manufacturing, reflecting the return of workers from a strike. Employment in retail trade declined.

The total nonfarm employment change for September revised down from +297,000 to +262,000, and the employment change for October remained at +150,000. The employment change over these months, on net, is 35,000 lower than previously reported.

Average hourly earnings of all employees on private-sector payrolls rose by 12 cents, or 0.4 percent, in November. Over the year, hourly earnings have increased by 4.0 percent. In November, average weekly hours of all employees edged up 0.1 hour to 34.4 hours.

+99,000 Private Education and Health Services

Employment in health care increased by 77,000 in November, above its average monthly gain of 54,000 over prior the 12 months. In November, ambulatory health care



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, December 08, 2023.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

services (+36,000), hospitals (+24,000) and nursing and residential care facilities (+17,000) added jobs.

Employment in social assistance continued to trend up in November (+16,000), after averaging gains of 23,000 per month over the prior 12 months.

+49,000 Government

Employment in government increased by 49,000 in November, in line with its average monthly gain of 55,000 over the prior 12 months.

Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, November 2023

+40,000 Leisure and Hospitality

In November, employment in food services and drinking places continued to trend up (+38,000), after averaging gains of 33,000 per month over the prior 12 months. Employment in leisure and hospitality is below its pre-pandemic February 2020 level by 158,000.

+28,000 Manufacturing

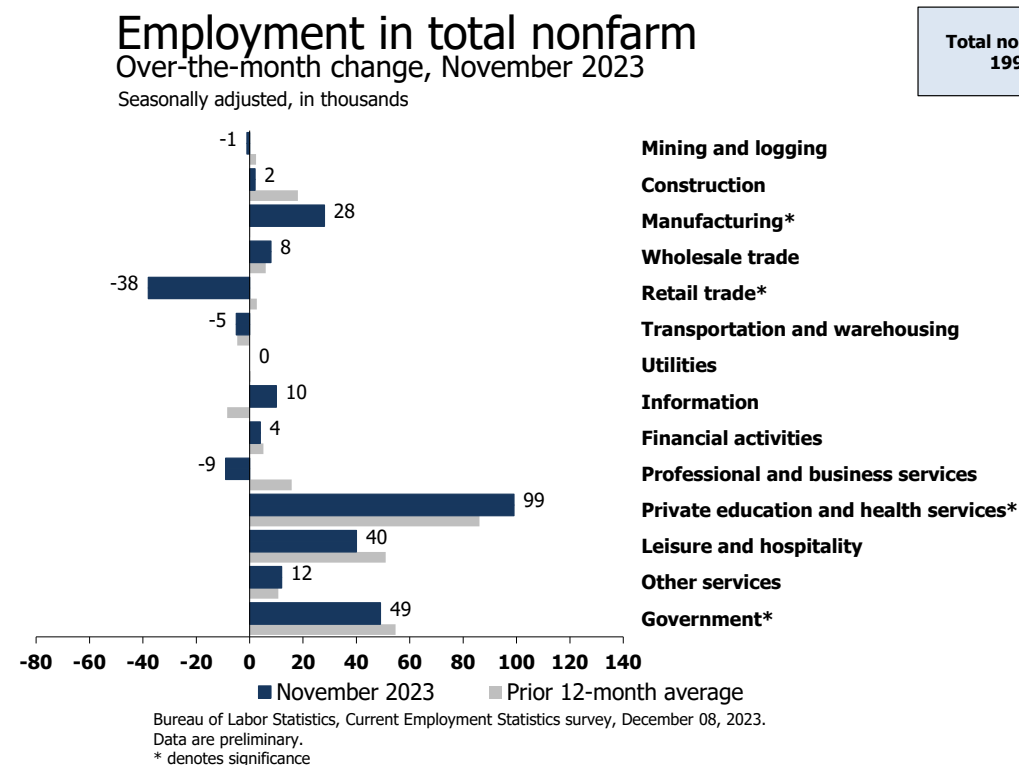
Employment in manufacturing rose by 28,000 in November but showed little net change over the year. In November, employment in motor vehicles and parts increased by 30,000, reflecting workers returning from strike activity.

+10,000 Information

Information employment changed little in November (+10,000). Employment in motion picture and sound recording industries increased by 17,000, mostly reflecting the resolution of labor disputes in the industry.

-5,000 Transportation and Warehousing

Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in November. Job losses in warehousing and storage (-8,000) were partially offset by job growth in air transportation (+4,000).



-38,000 Retail Trade

In November, employment in retail trade declined by 38,000 and has shown little net change over the year. Over the month, job losses occurred in department stores (-19,000)

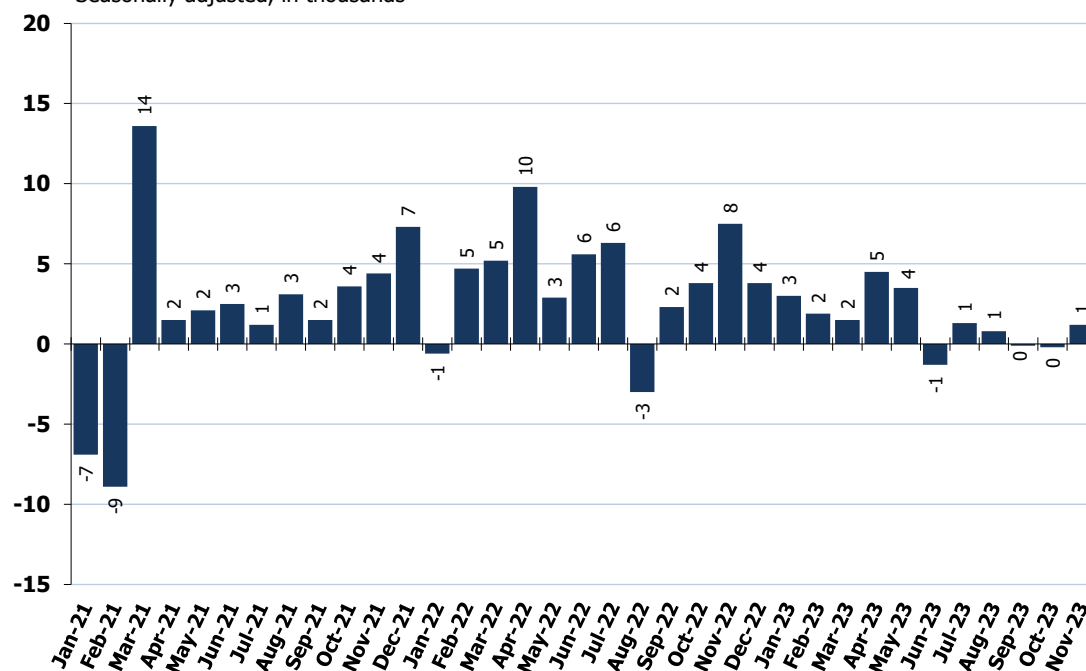
and in furniture, home furnishings, electronics, and appliance retailers (-6,000).

Mining and Logging

Employment in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction

Over-the-month change, January 2021–November 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, December 08, 2023.

Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction changed little in November (+1,000) and has shown little net change in recent months.

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

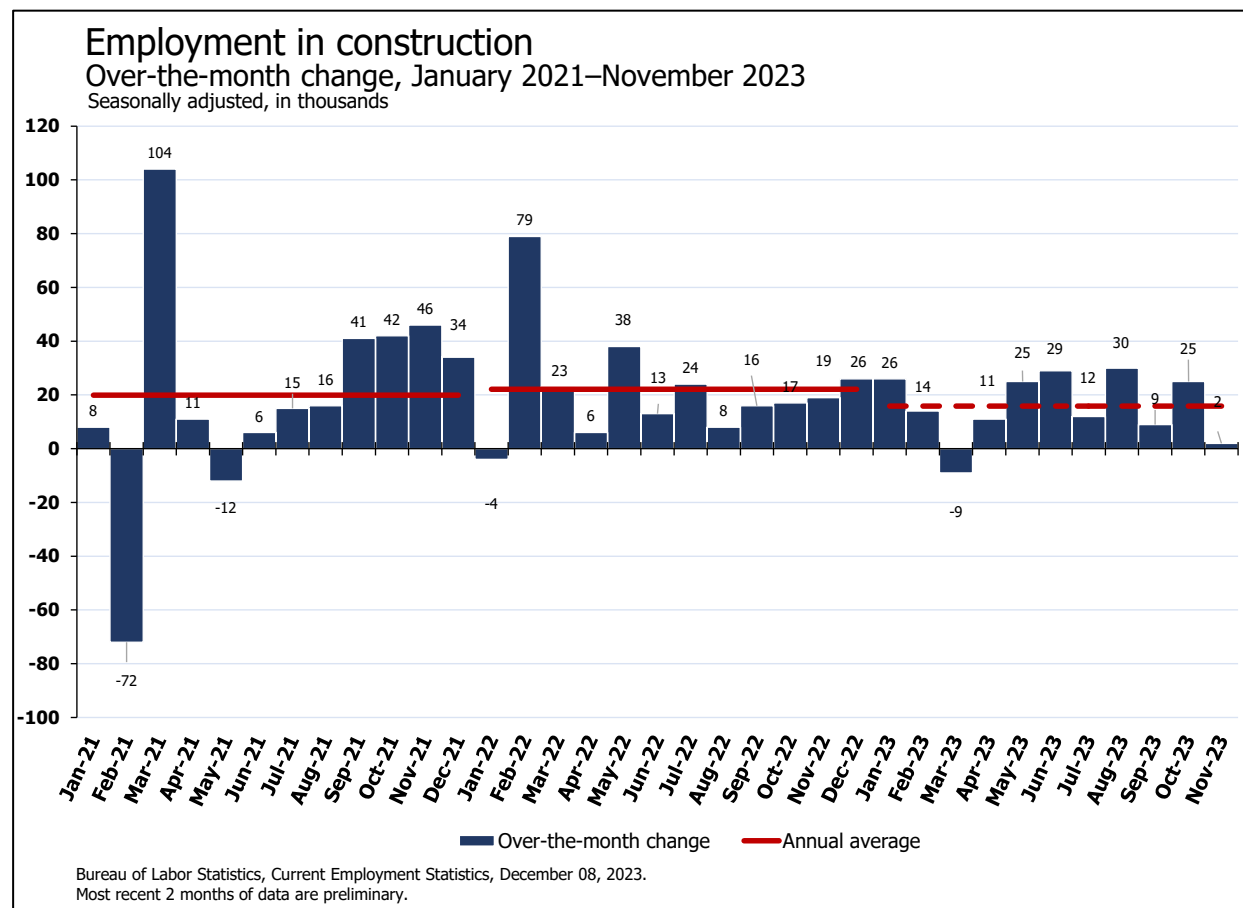
*To access the North American rotary rigs: select the first link named "North America Rotary Rig Count (Jan 2000 – Current)," go to US Count by Basin tab, scroll to the Total US Rig Count column, and take the difference of the two weeks that include the 12th of the current and previous month.

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

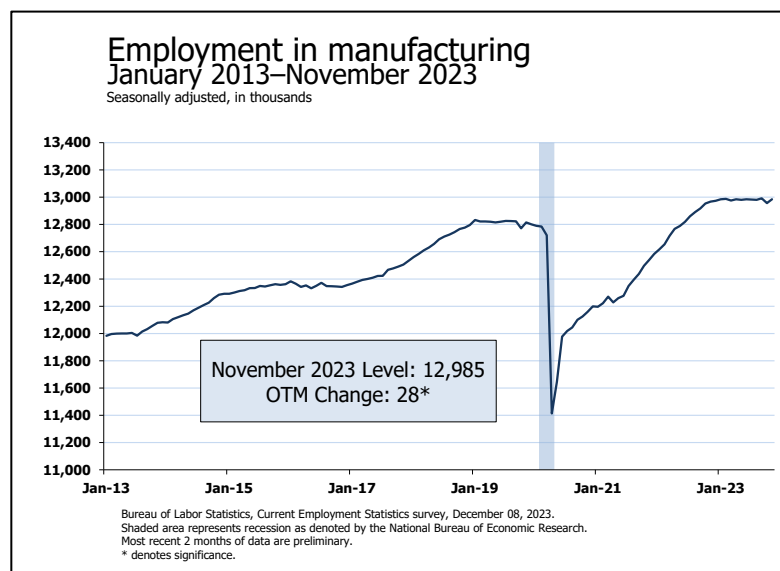
Construction

Employment in construction changed little in November (+2,000), following an increase of 25,000 in the prior month. The industry has added an average 16,000 jobs per month so far this year, in line with average gains of 22,000 per month in 2022.

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



Manufacturing

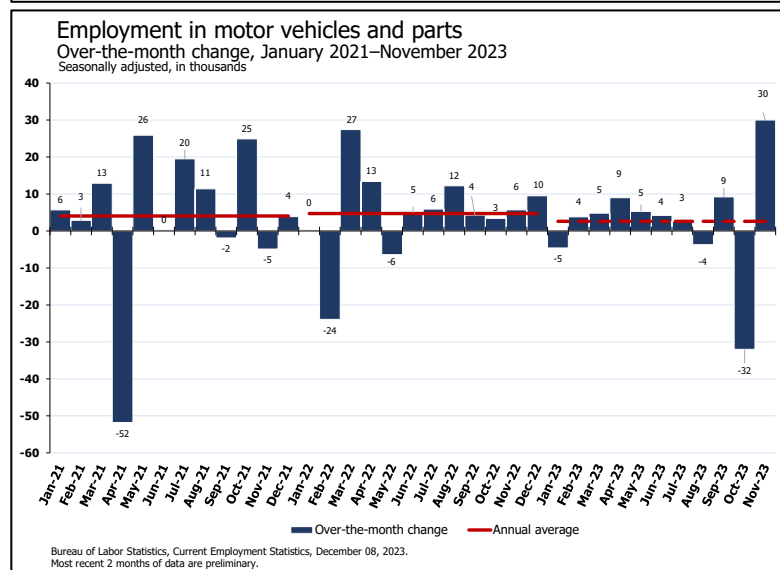


Employment in manufacturing rose by 28,000 in November, reflecting an increase of 30,000 in motor vehicles and parts as workers returned from a [strike](#). Despite these gains, manufacturing has added a net 11,000 jobs so far this year. This corresponds with weakness in both the [Institute of Supply 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 rose 4.2 to 48.6 for November. A number below 50 indicates that more manufacturing industries are losing jobs than are adding jobs.

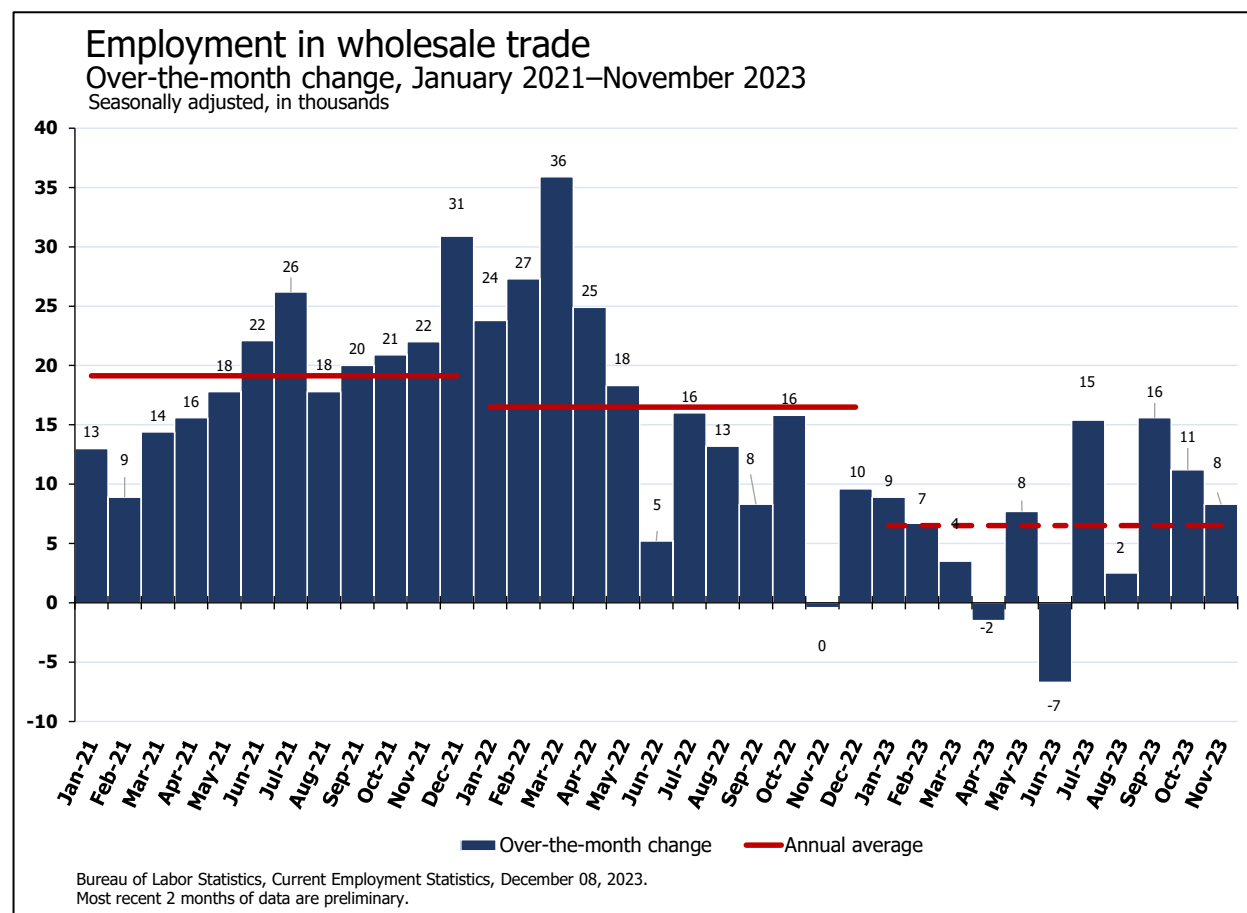
In November, average hourly earnings for all employees and for production workers in manufacturing rose by 20 cents each, to \$30.07 and \$26.87, respectively.

Average weekly hours of all employees were unchanged at 40.0 hours in November. For production workers, the average workweek was little changed (-0.1 hour) at 40.6 hours. Average weekly overtime hours for both all employees and production workers were unchanged over the month.

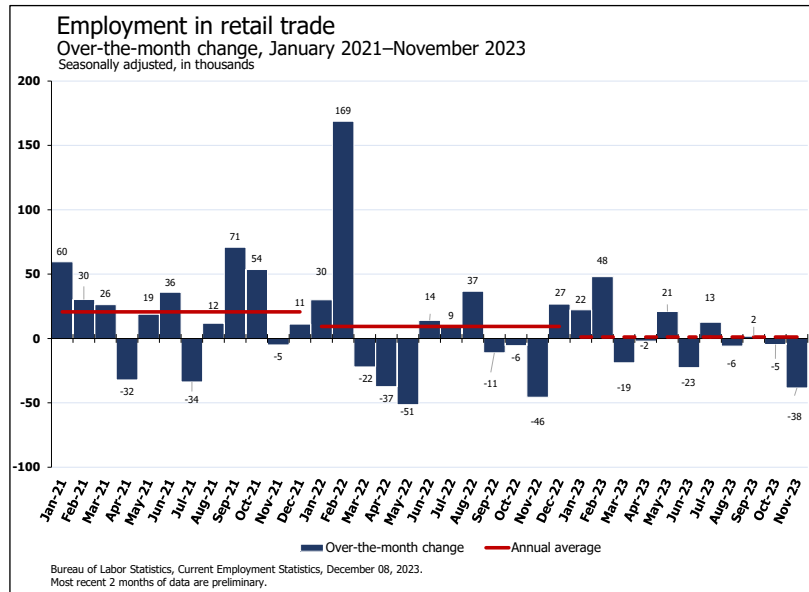


Wholesale Trade

In November, employment in wholesale trade changed little (+8,000). The industry gained an average of 6,000 jobs per month over the prior 12 months.



Retail Trade



Employment in retail trade declined by 38,000 in November and has shown little net change over the year. Over the month, job losses were concentrated in general merchandise retailers (-25,000) and in furniture, home furnishings, electronics, and appliance retailers (-6,000).

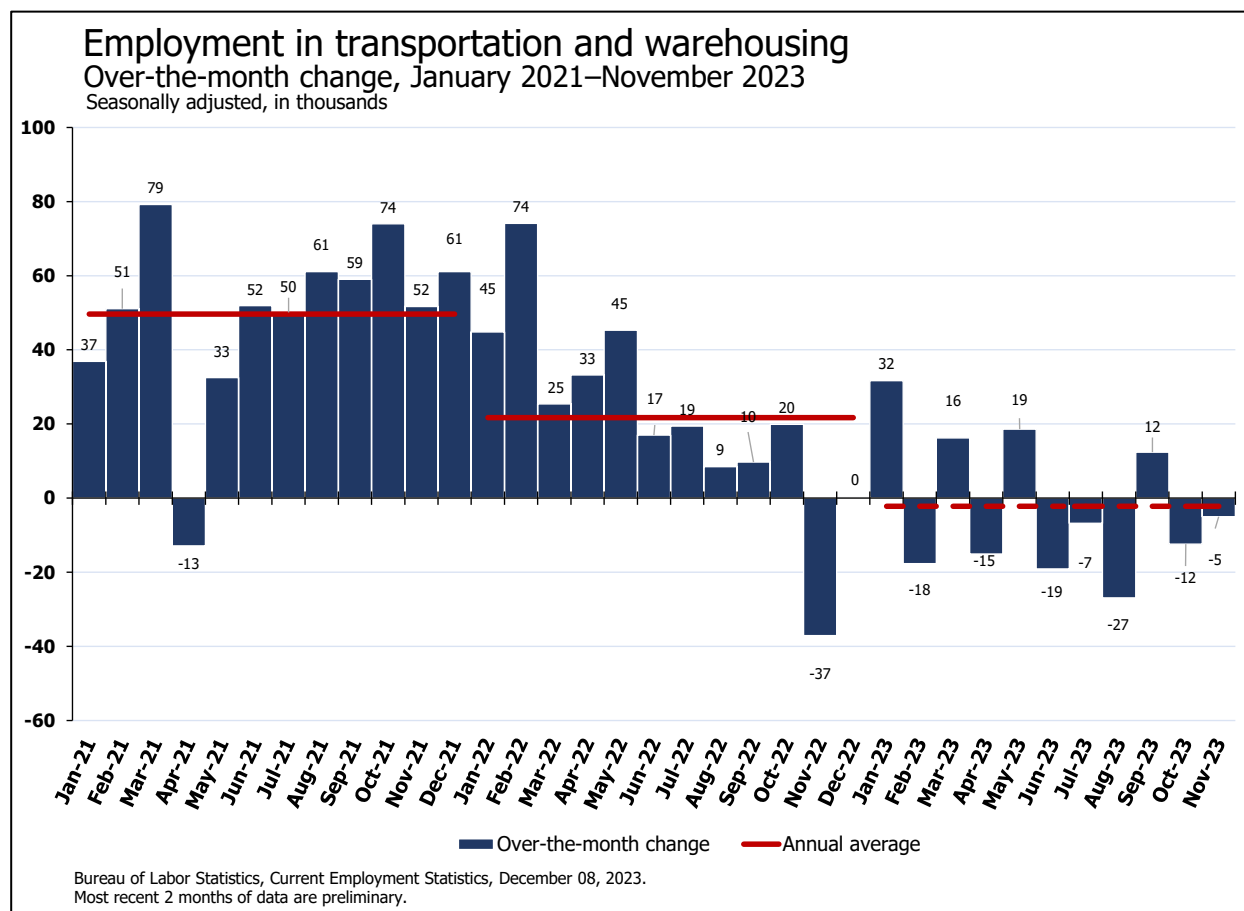


Within general merchandise retailers, employment in department stores decreased in November (-19,000) and has declined by 63,000 since the most recent peak in February 2022.

Retail-related economic indicators are mixed. In November, the [Consumer Confidence Index](#) increased, and the per-gallon price of [regular gasoline](#)* decreased. In October, [Real Personal Consumption Expenditures](#) for goods increased, while [Retail Sales](#) and [Auto Sales](#) decreased.

*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 changed little in November (-5,000).

Over the month, a loss of 8,000 jobs in warehousing and storage partially offset a gain of 4,000 jobs in air transportation.

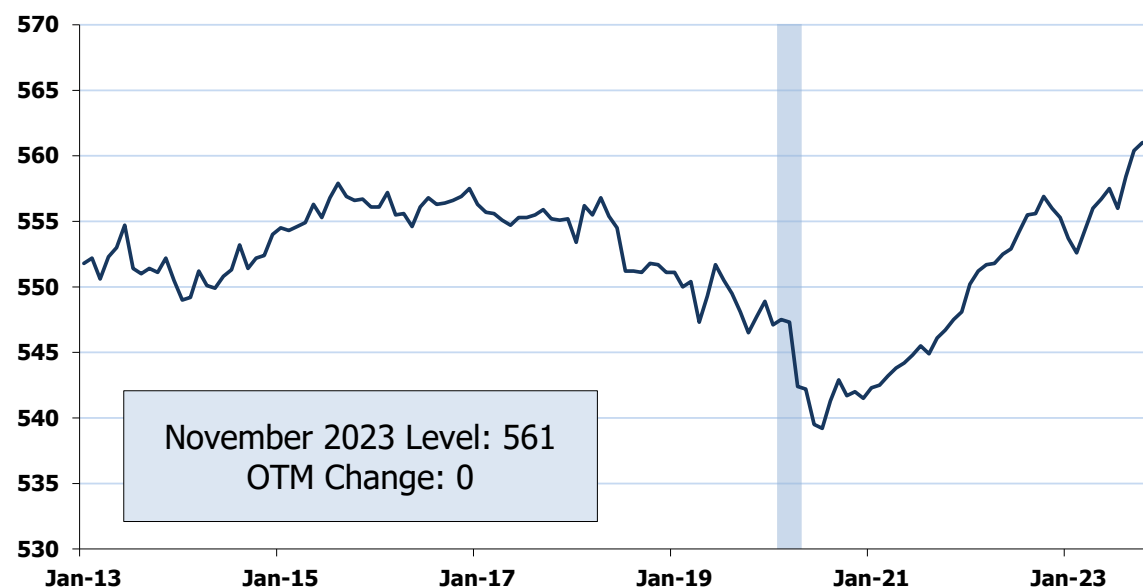
Employment in transportation and warehousing is down by 61,000 since a peak in October 2022.

Utilities

Employment in utilities was flat in November (0).

Employment in utilities January 2013–November 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

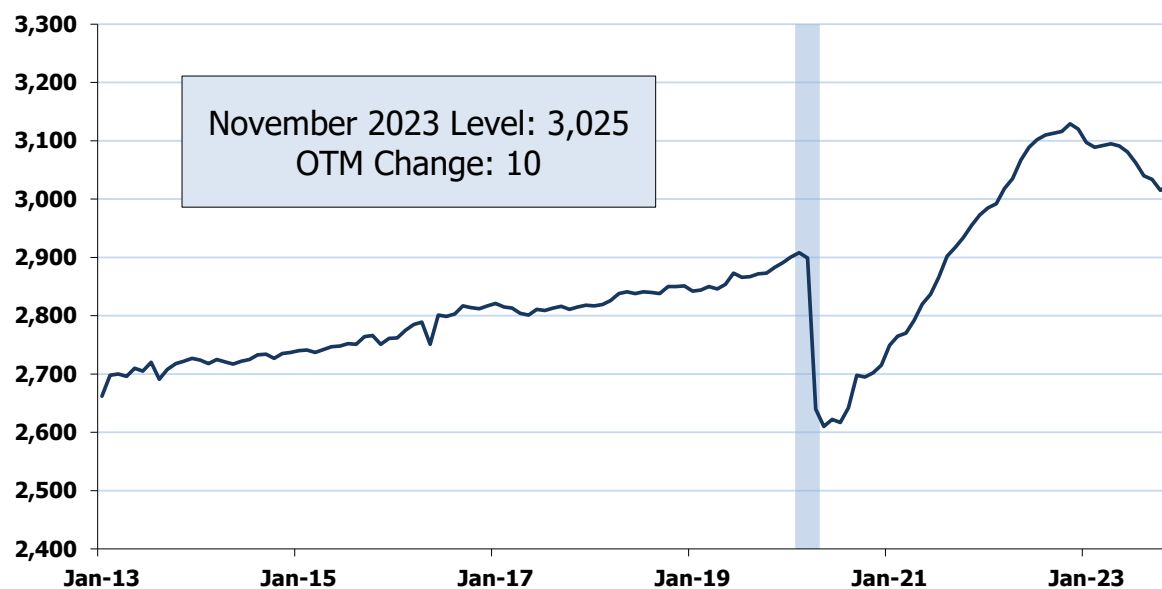


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, December 08, 2023.
Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
* denotes significance.

Information

Employment in information January 2013–November 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

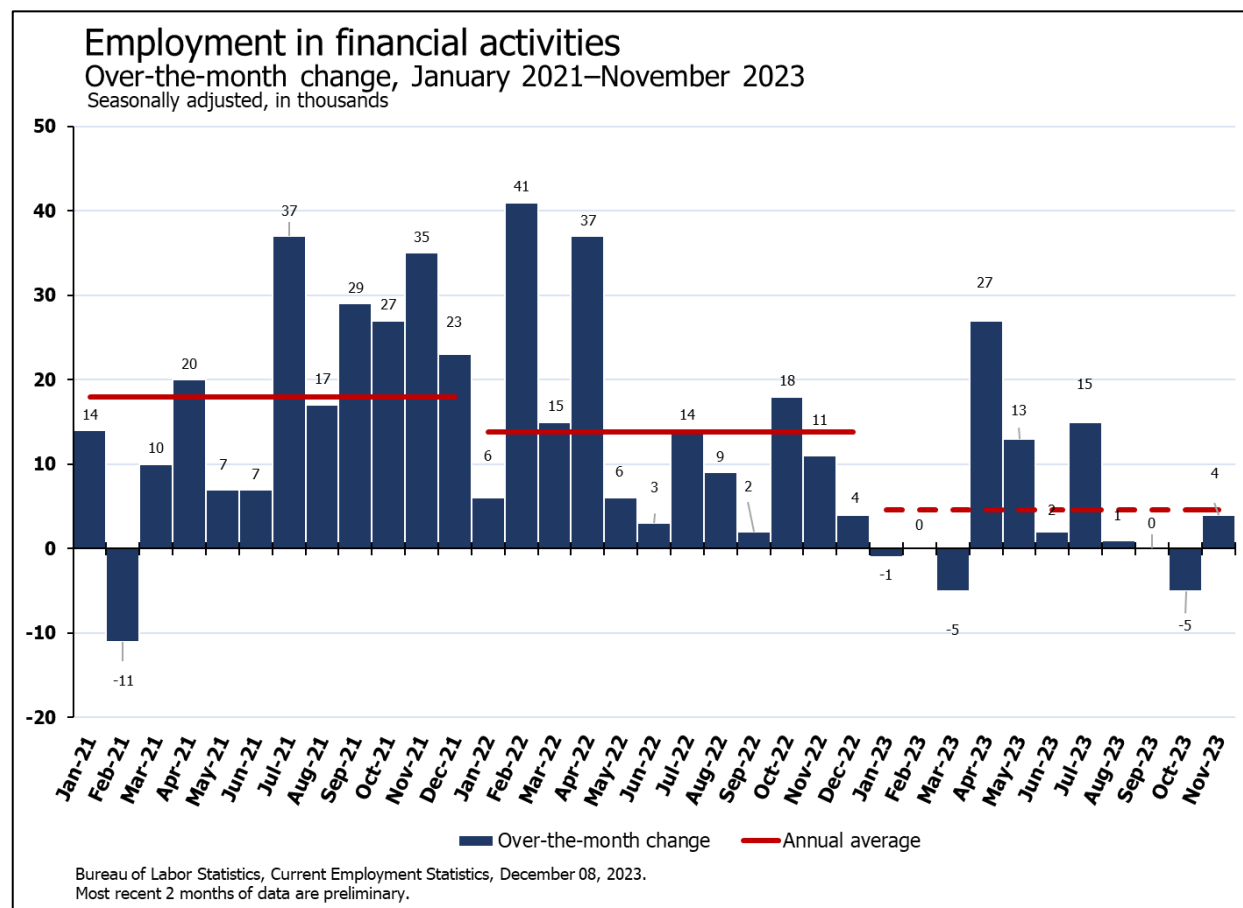


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In November, employment in information changed little (+10,000).

Motion picture and sound recording industries gained 17,000 jobs in November, reflecting the return of workers from a [strike](#).

Financial Activities



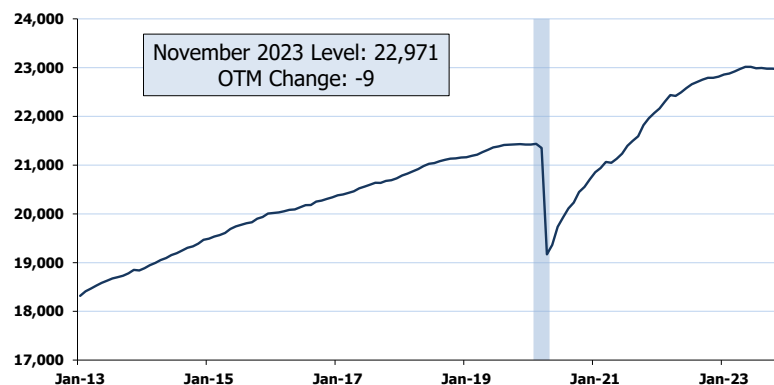
Employment in financial activities changed little in November (+4,000).

In November, employment in credit intermediation and related activities decreased by 8,000, with commercial banking accounting for 3,000 of the loss.

Professional and Business Services

Employment in professional and business services January 2013–November 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

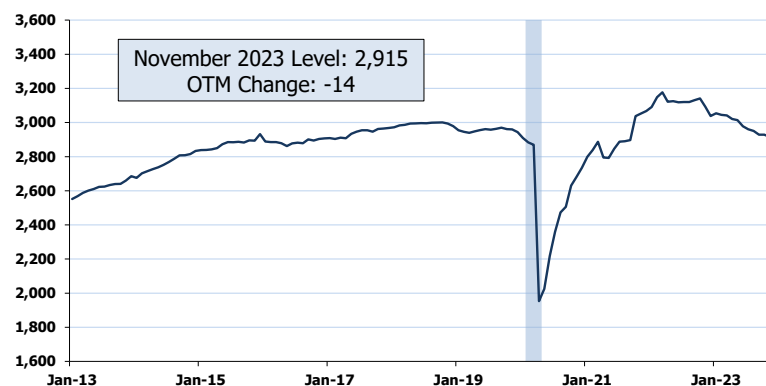


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Employment in professional and business services changed little in November (-9,000) and has shown little net change since May.

Employment in temporary help January 2013–November 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



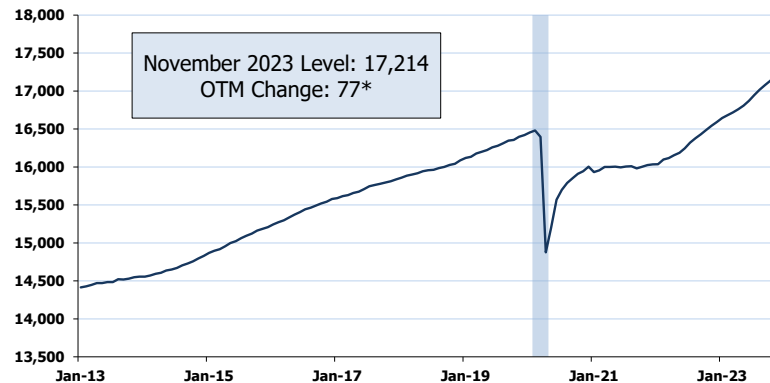
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Employment in temporary help services changed little in November (-14,000), coinciding with recent weakness in the [ASA Staffing Index](#). Since reaching an employment peak in March 2022, temporary help services has shed 262,000 jobs.

Private Education and Health Services

Employment in health care January 2013–November 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



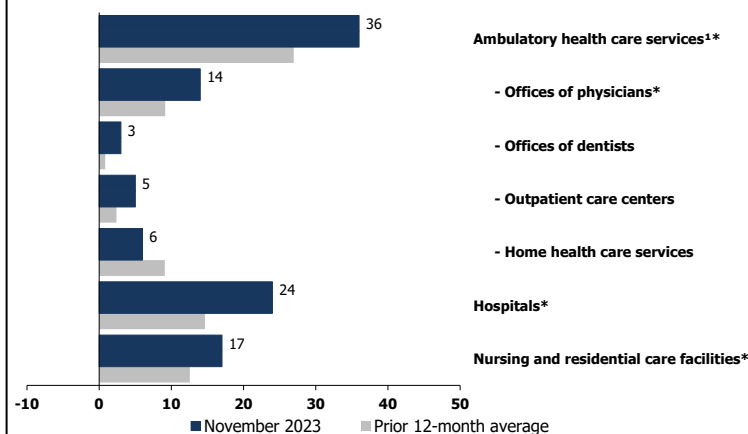
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Employment in health care increased by 77,000 in November, above its average monthly gain of 54,000 the prior 12 months.

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

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Health care industries:
77*



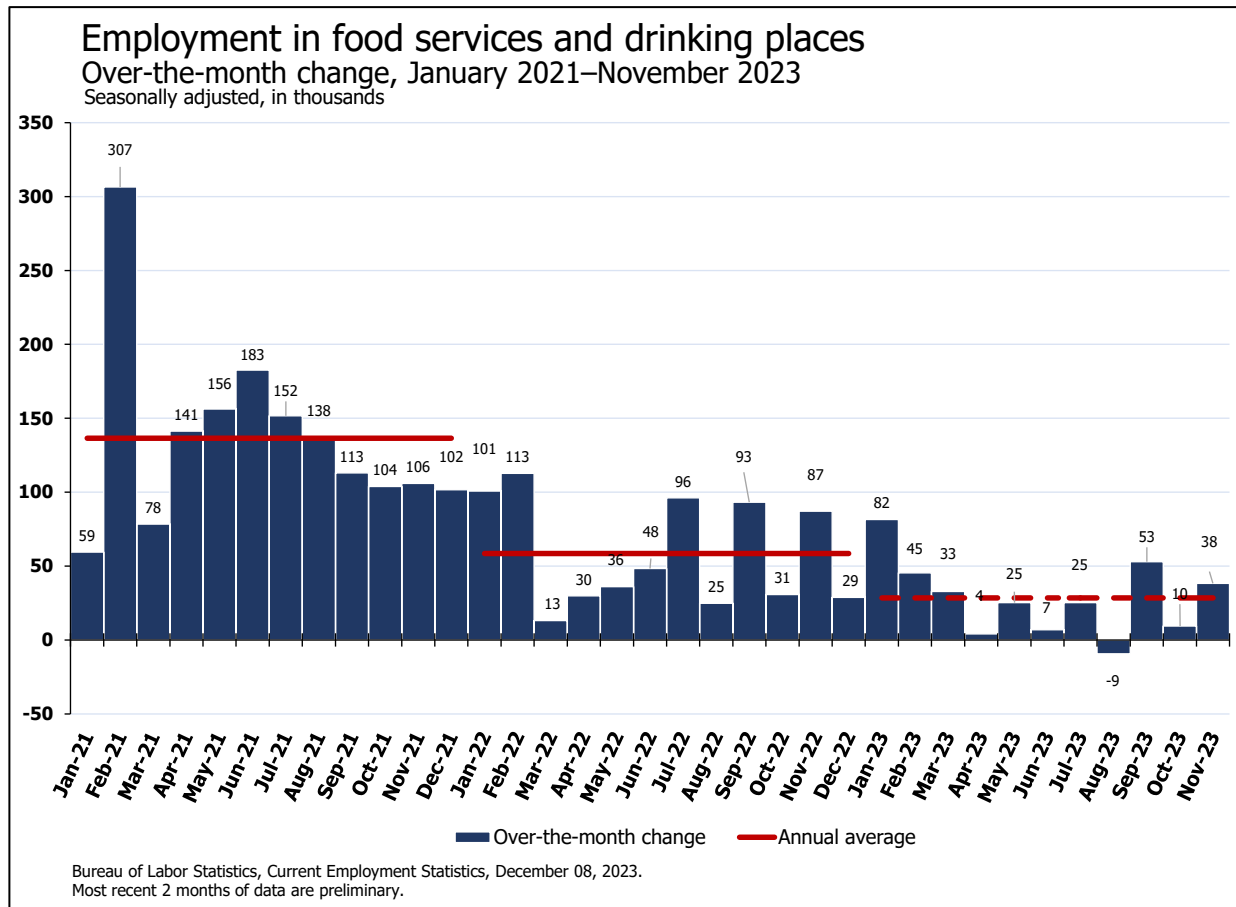
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, December 08, 2023.
Data are preliminary.
¹ Includes additional component industries not shown separately.
* denotes significance.

Within health care, employment increased in ambulatory health care services (+36,000), hospitals (+24,000) and nursing and residential care facilities (+17,000).

In November, employment in social assistance continued to trend up (+16,000).

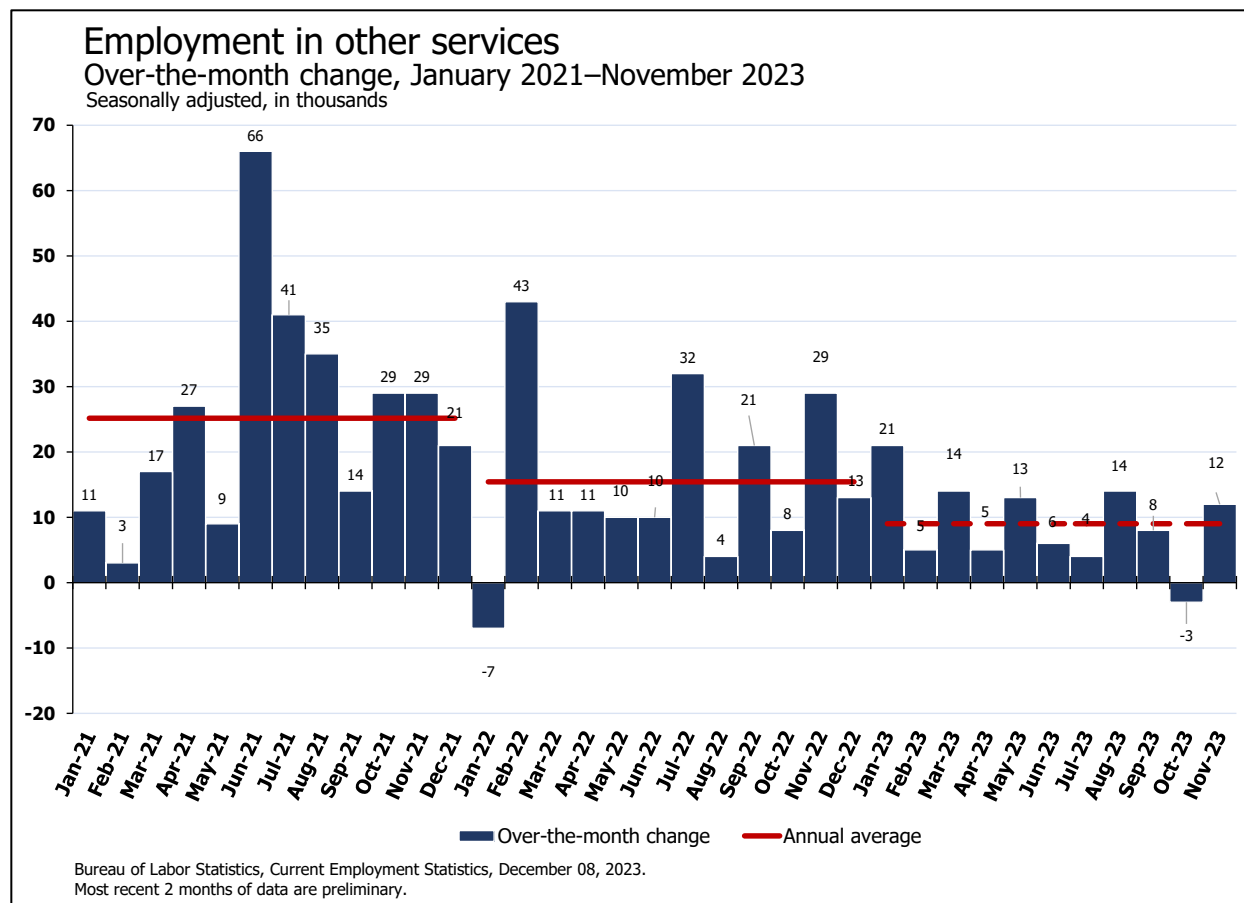
Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in food services and drinking places continued to trend up in November (+38,000). The industry has added an average 28,000 jobs per month so far this year, below average gains of 59,000 per month in 2022.



Other Services

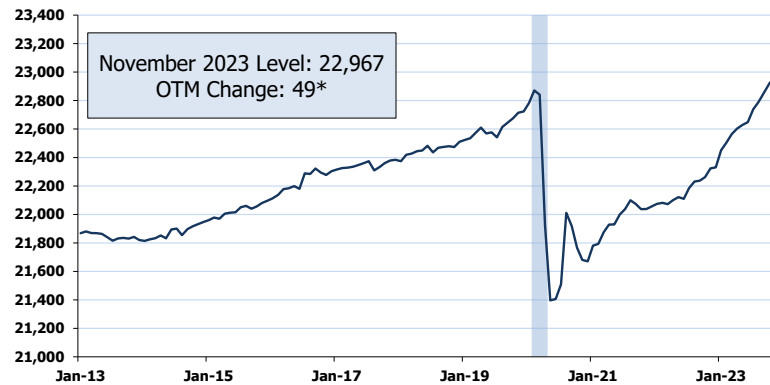
Employment in other services changed little in November (+12,000) and is 43,000 below its February 2020 level.



Government

Employment in government January 2013–November 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



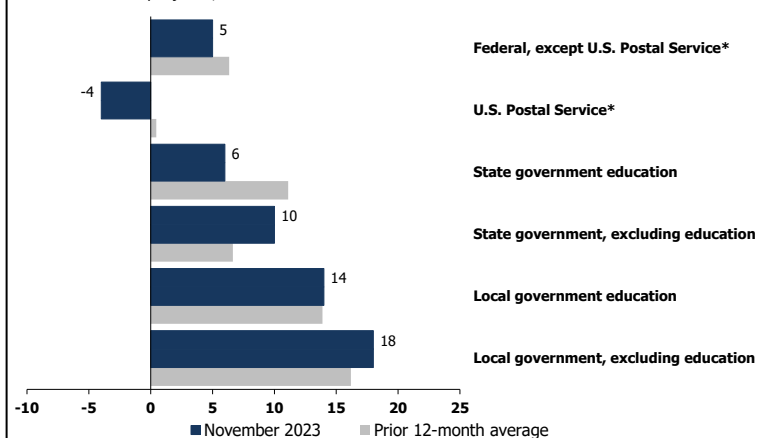
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Employment in government increased by 49,000 in November, in line with its prior 12-month average monthly gain of 55,000.

Employment in selected government Over-the-month change, November 2023

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Government:
49*



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, December 08, 2023.
Data are preliminary.
* denotes significance

In November, employment in local government (+32,000) and state government (+17,000) continued to trend up.



Prepared by Staff of the National Estimates Branch
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