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Current Employment Statistics Highlights



September 2024

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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, September 2024

Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 254,000 in September, higher than the average monthly gain of 203,000 over the prior 12 months. In September, employment continued to trend up in food services and drinking places, health care, government, social assistance, and construction.

The employment change for July revised up from +89,000 to +144,000, and the change for August revised up from +142,000 to +159,000. On net, employment over these months is 72,000 higher than previously reported.

In September, average hourly earnings of all employees on private-sector payrolls rose by 13 cents, or 0.4 percent. Over the year, average hourly earnings have increased by 4.0 percent. In September, average weekly hours of all employees edged down by 0.1 hour to 34.2 hours.

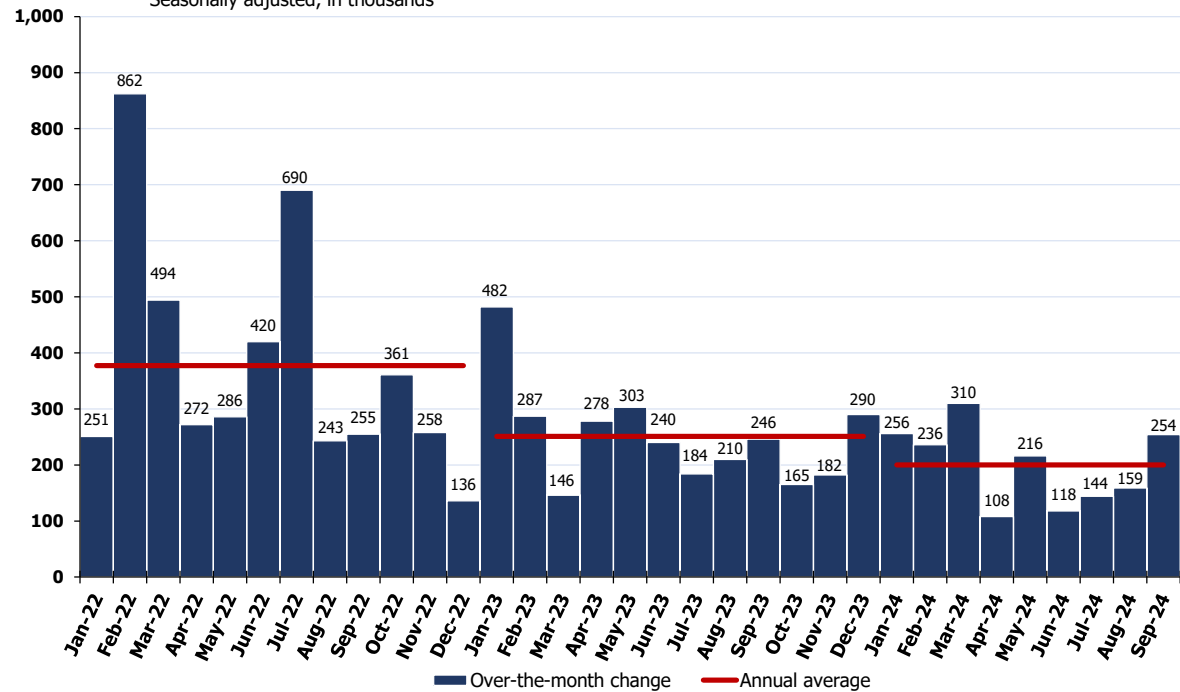
+81,000 Private Education and Health Services

Employment in health care increased by 45,000 in September, below its average monthly gain of 57,000 over the prior 12 months. In September, home health care services (+13,000), hospitals (+12,000), and nursing and residential care facilities (+9,000) added jobs.

Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, January 2022–September 2024

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, October 04, 2024. Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in social assistance increased by 27,000 in September, compared with its prior 12-month average monthly gain of 21,000. Over the month, employment in individual and family services rose by 21,000.

+78,000 Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in food services and drinking places rose by 69,000 in September, higher than its prior 12-month average monthly gain (+14,000).

Current Employment Statistics Summary, September 2024

+31,000 Government

Employment in government continued to trend up in September (+31,000). Government had added an average of 45,000 jobs per month over the prior 12 months. In September, employment continued to trend up in local government (+16,000) and state government (+13,000).

+25,000 Construction

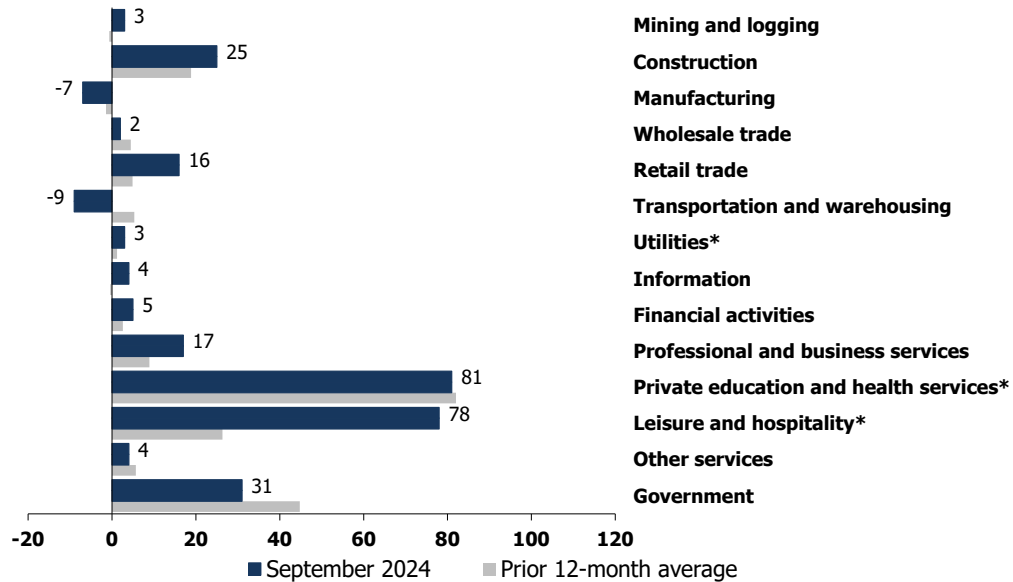
Employment in construction continued to trend up in September (+25,000), similar to the average monthly gain over the prior 12 months (+19,000). In September, employment increased by 17,000 in nonresidential specialty trade contractors.

Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, September 2024

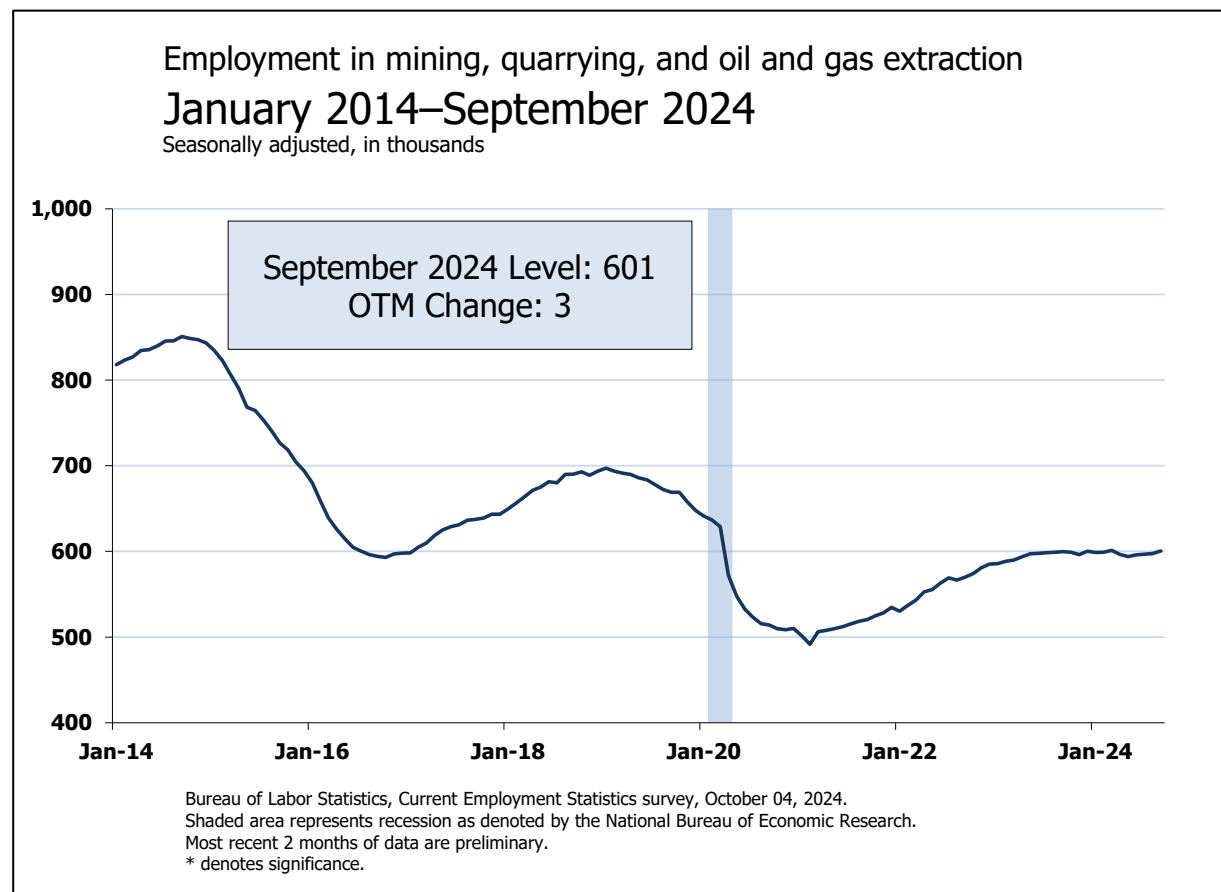
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Total nonfarm:
254*



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, October 04, 2024.
Data are preliminary.
* denotes significance

Mining and Logging



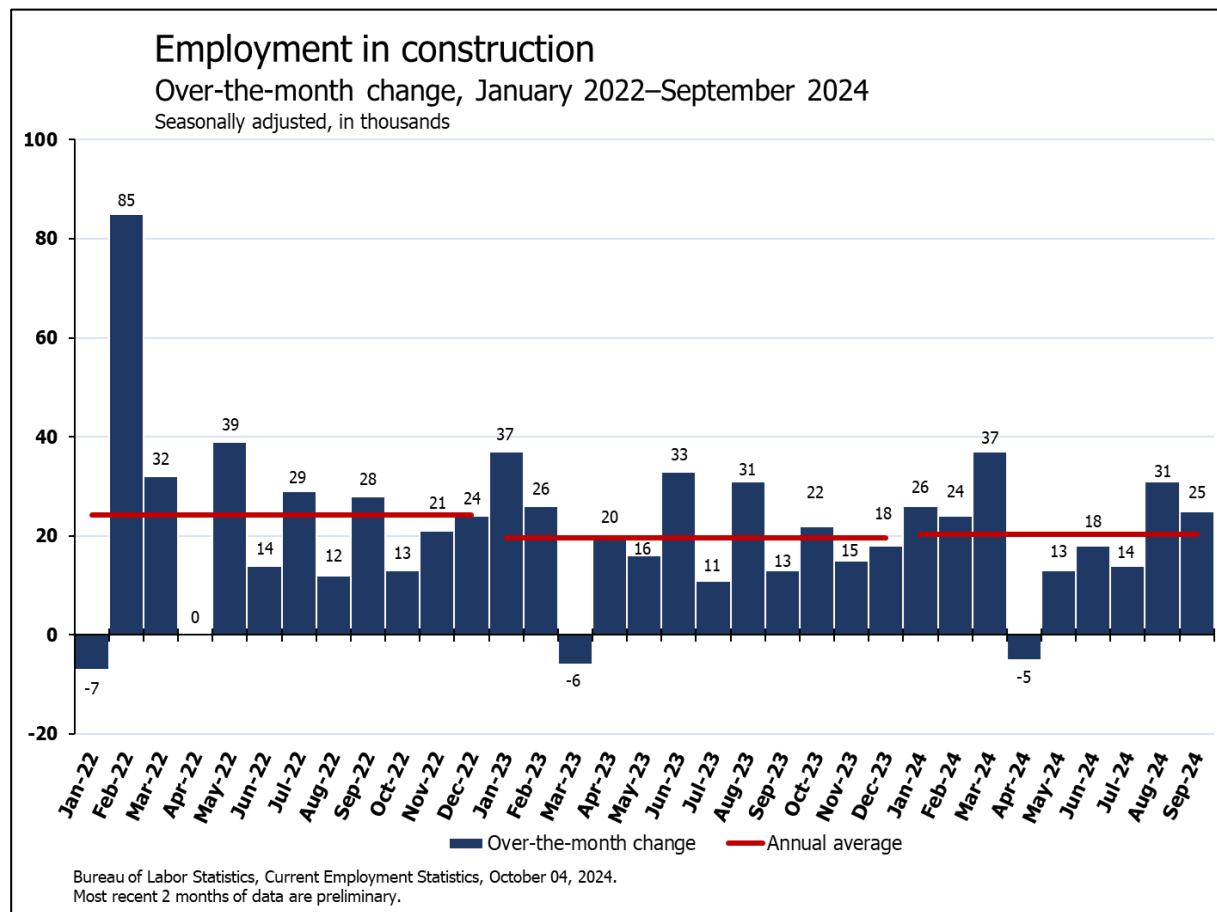
Employment in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction changed little in September (+3,000).

According to the [North America Rotary Rig Count*](#), rig counts increased in September, while the average weekly price of [West Texas Intermediate**](#) crude oil decreased.

*To access the North American rotary rigs: select the link named “North America Rotary Rig Count Report – New Report,” go to the NAM Breakdown tab, and scroll to cell U7 (“Monthly chg”).

**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 one year, including the 12th of the month.

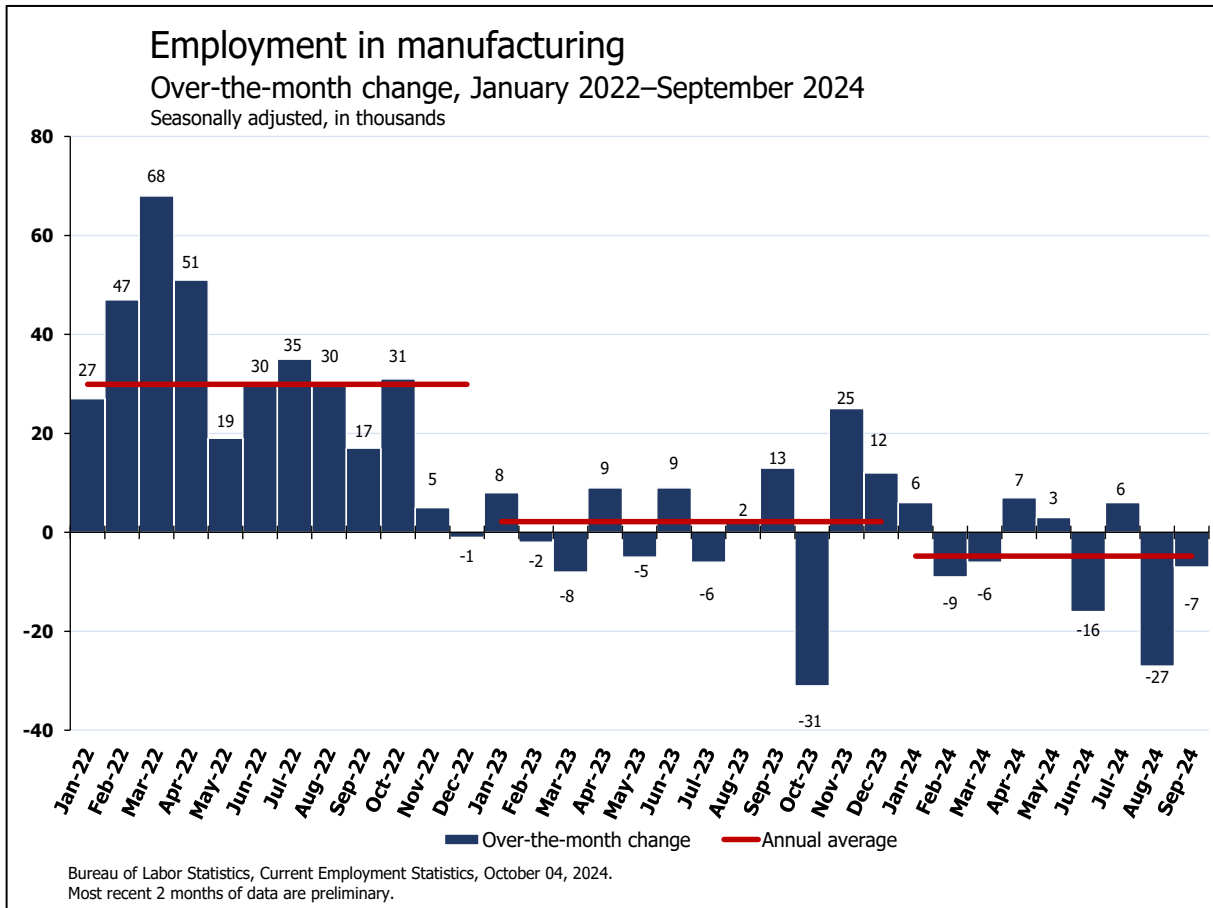
Construction



Employment in construction continued to trend up in September (+25,000), in line with its prior 12-month average monthly gain of 19,000. In September, nonresidential specialty trade contractors added 17,000 jobs.

Recent residential construction-related indicators are mostly positive. [Residential building permits and housing starts](#) increased in August, while [new residential sales](#) decreased. In September, the [average 30-year fixed mortgage rate](#) decreased.

Manufacturing



Employment in manufacturing changed little in September (-7,000), following a decrease in August (-27,000).

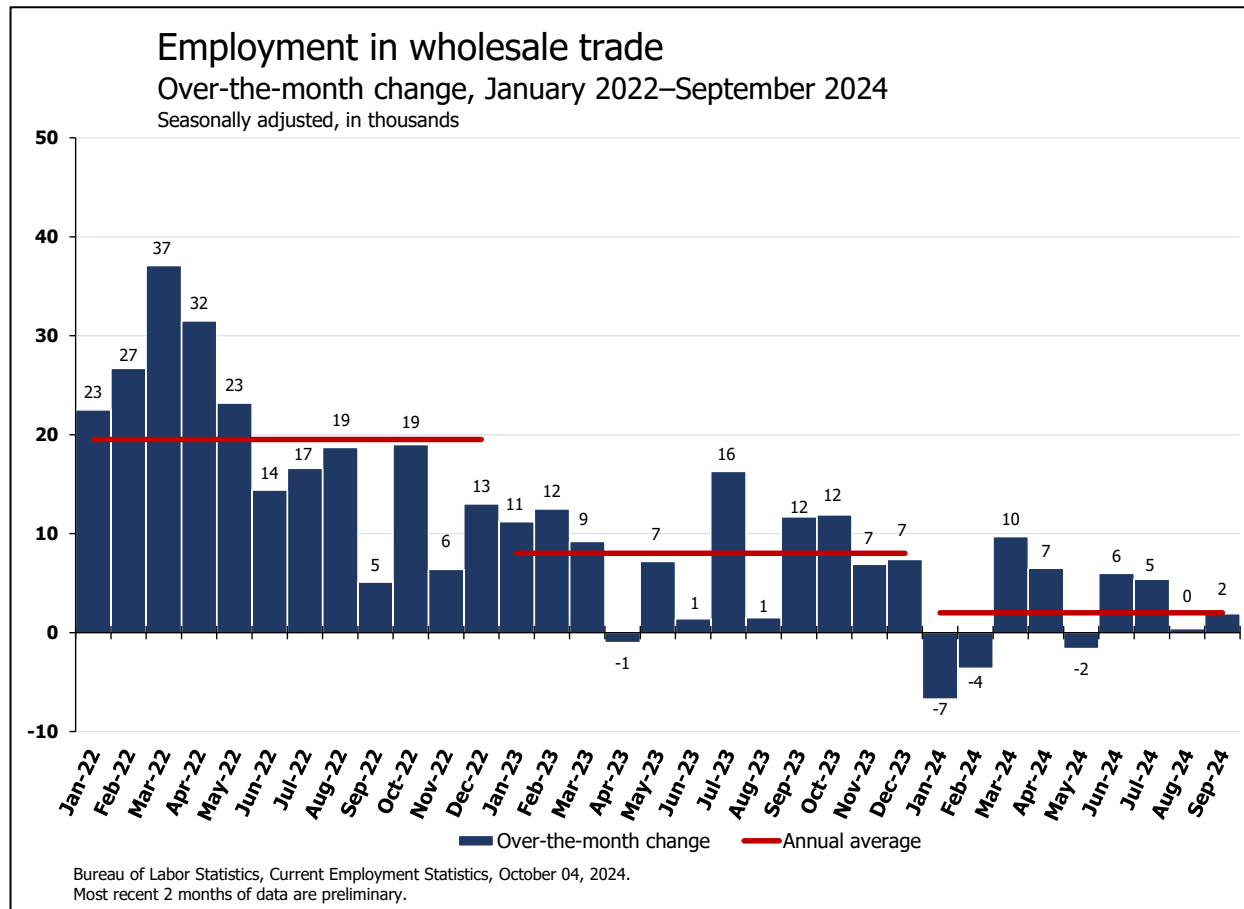
Manufacturing-related indicators were mixed over the month. [The Institute of Supply Management’s Purchasing Managers’ Index \(PMI\)](#) was unchanged in September, while their Employment Index fell. The [S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI](#) decreased.

In September, manufacturing average hourly earnings for all employees increased by 16 cents to \$34.42, while average hourly earnings for production employees edged up by 12 cents to \$28.10.

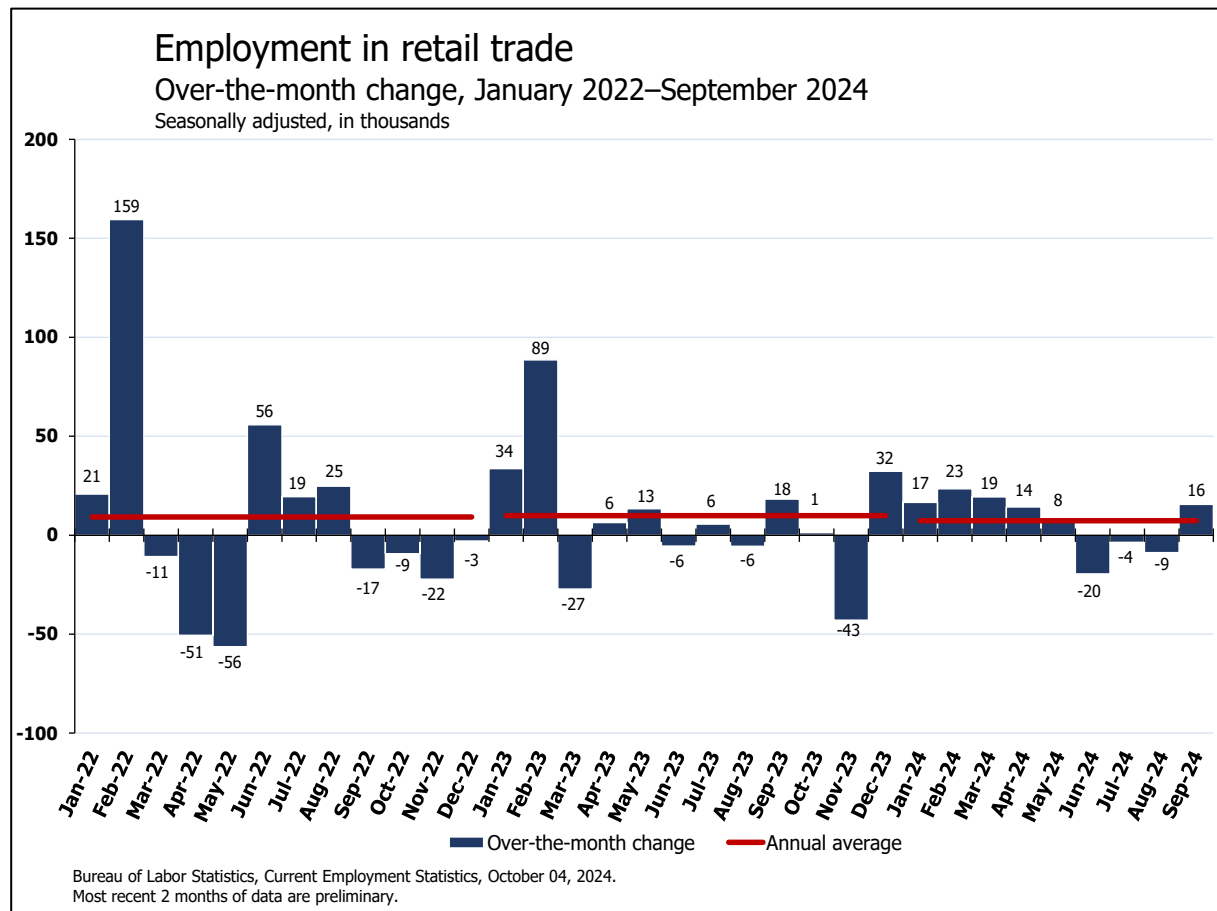
In September, average weekly hours of both all employees and of production and nonsupervisory employees remained unchanged at 40.0 hours and 40.7 hours, respectively. In September, average weekly overtime hours for both all employees and for production and nonsupervisory employees edged down at 2.9 hours and 3.6 hours, respectively.

Wholesale Trade

In September, employment in wholesale trade changed little (+2,000) and has shown little net change over the most recent 12 months.



Retail Trade



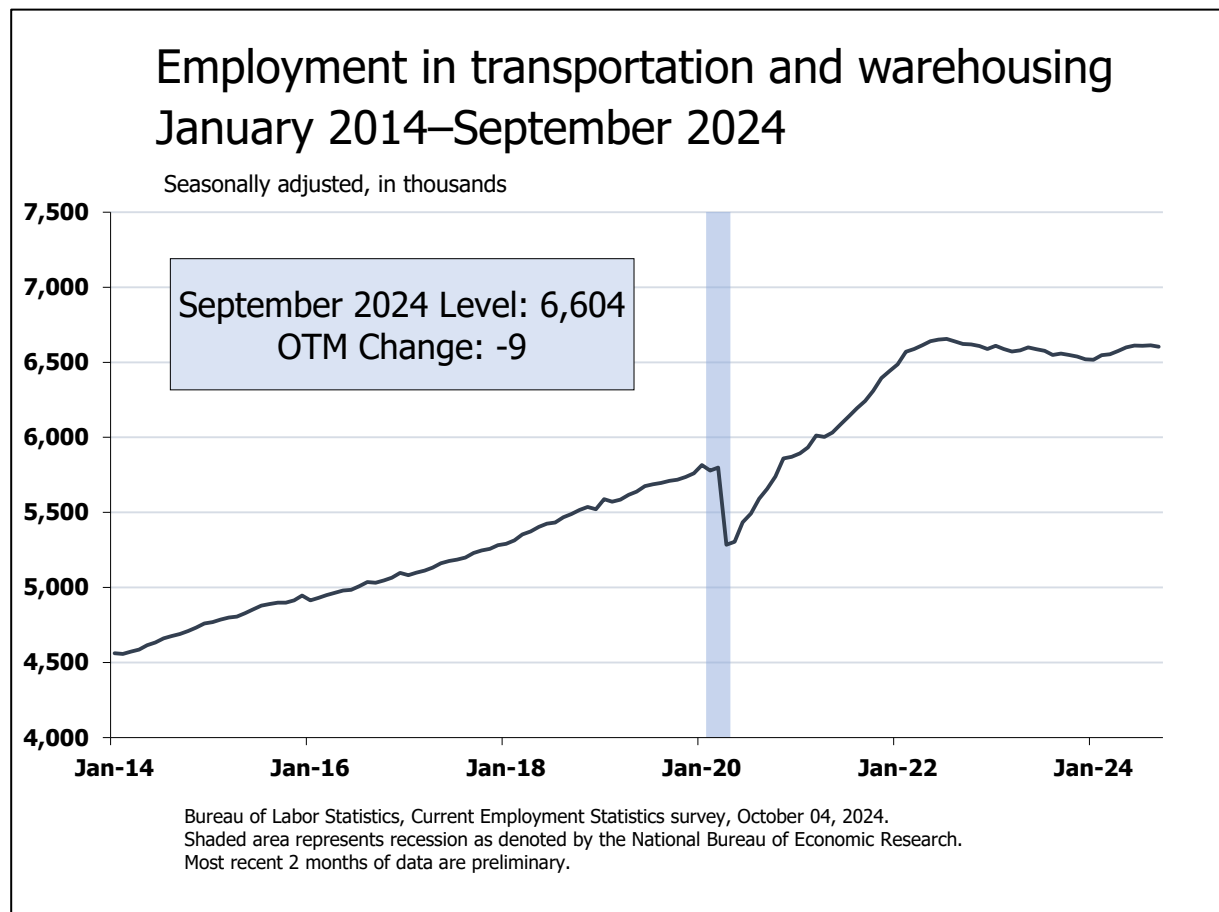
Employment in retail trade changed little in September (+16,000) and has shown little net change over the year.

Over the month, job growth occurred in department stores (+4,000).

Recent retail-related economic indicators are mixed. In September, the per-gallon price of [regular gasoline](#)* decreased. In August, [Retail Sales](#) changed little, the [Real Personal Consumption Expenditures](#) for goods increased, and [Auto Sales](#) decreased. Similarly, the [Consumer Confidence Index](#) decreased in September.

*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 following the week of the 12th for both months.

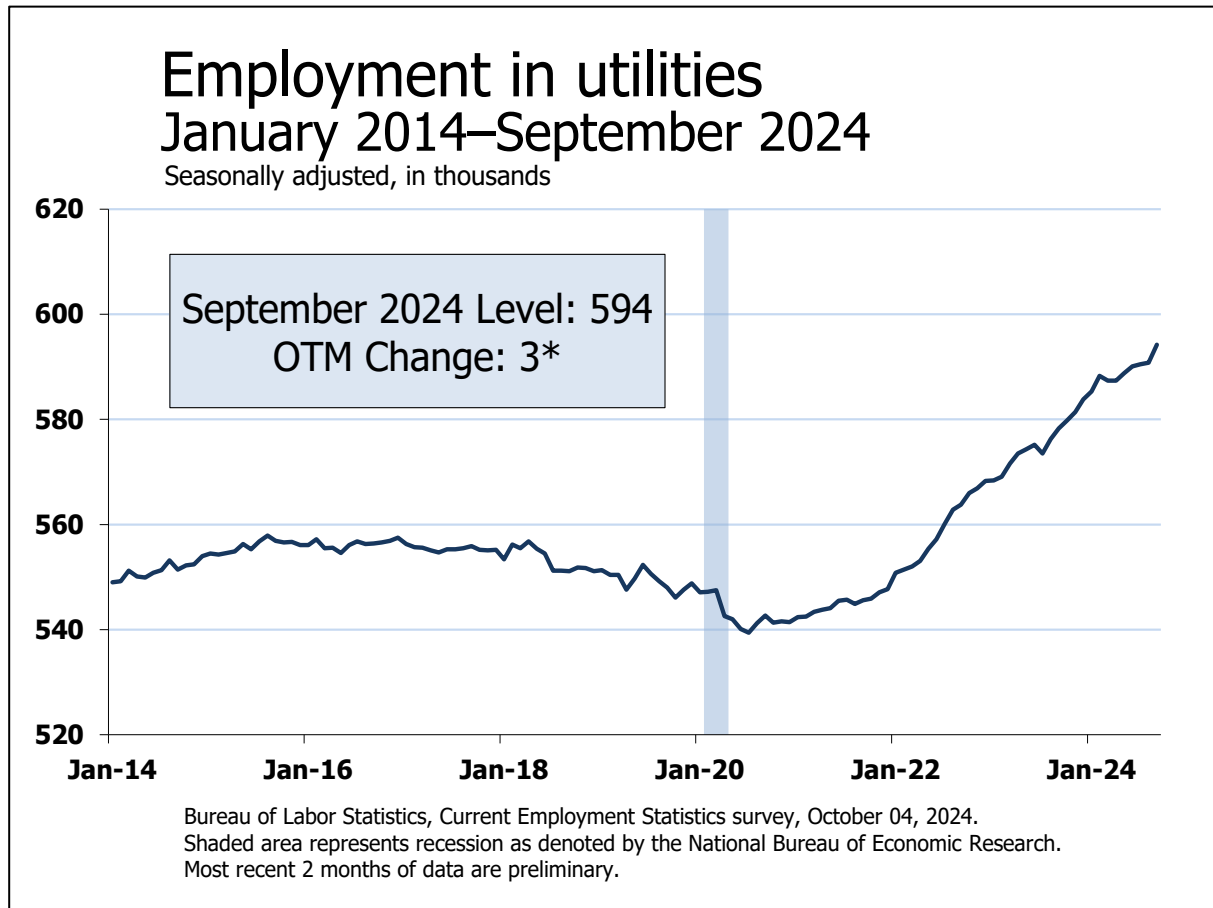
Transportation and Warehousing



Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in September (-9,000) but is up by 87,000 since the most recent trough in January of this year. Warehousing and storage lost 11,000 jobs in September.

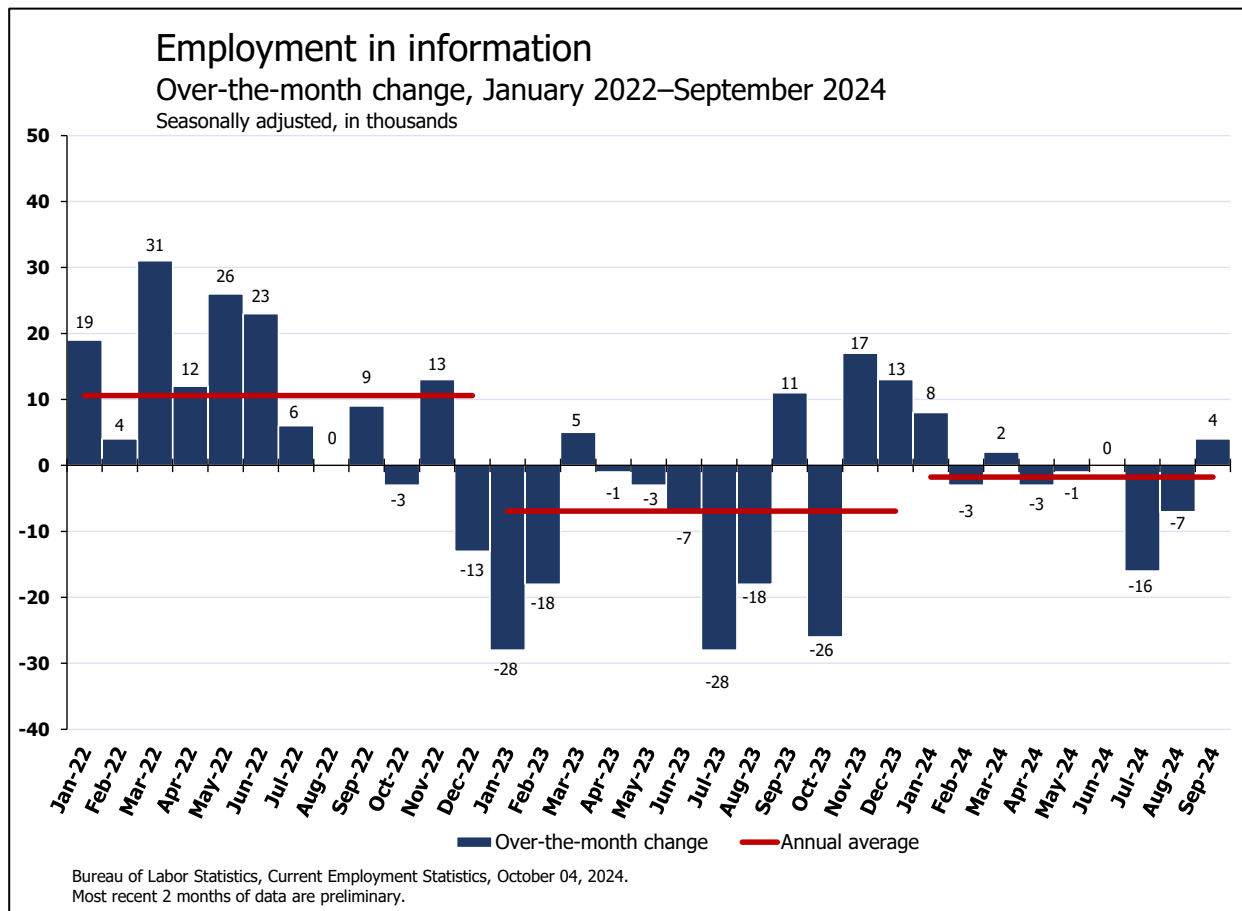
Utilities

Utilities added 3,000 jobs in September. Employment in this industry is 55,000 higher than in the most recent trough in July 2020.



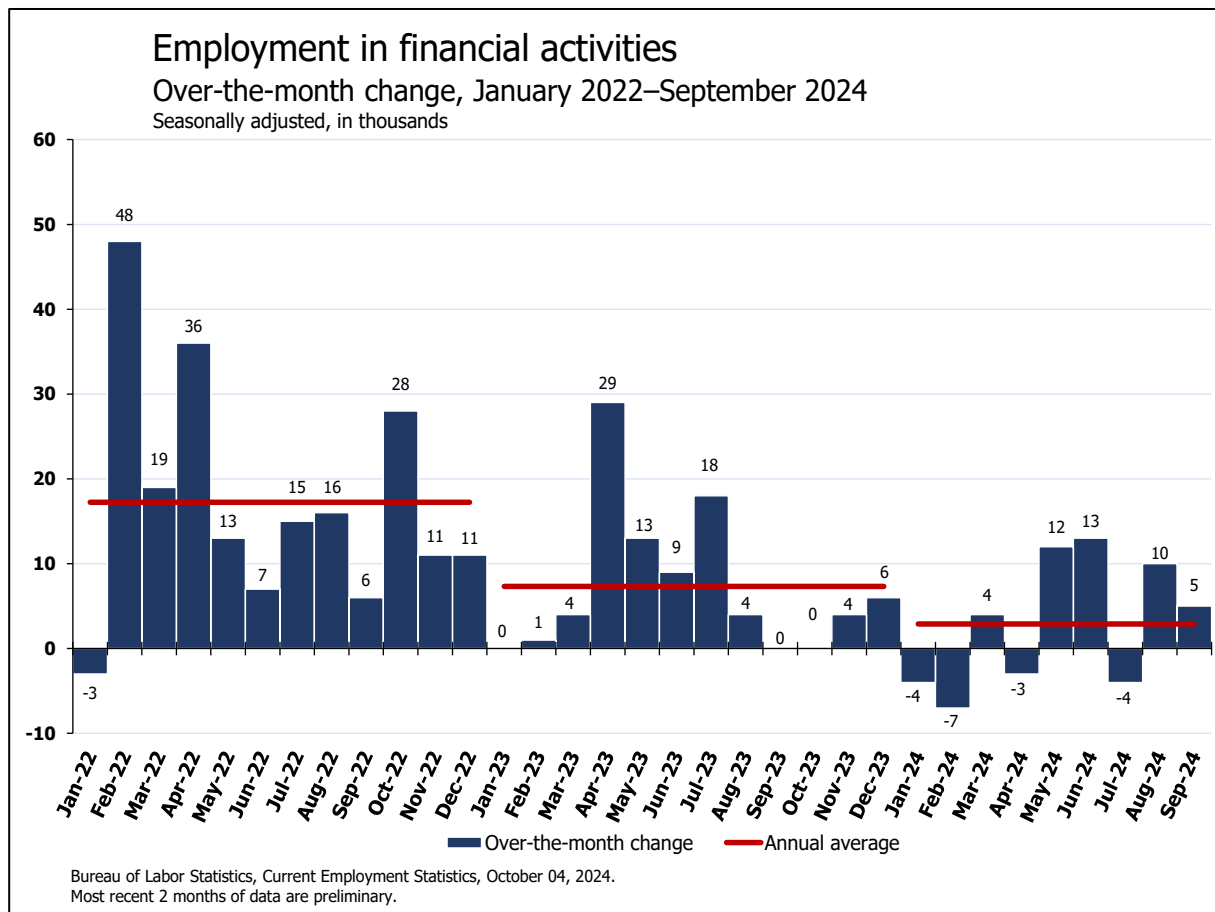
Information

Employment in information changed little in September (+4,000) and has shown little net change over the most recent 12 months.



Financial Activities

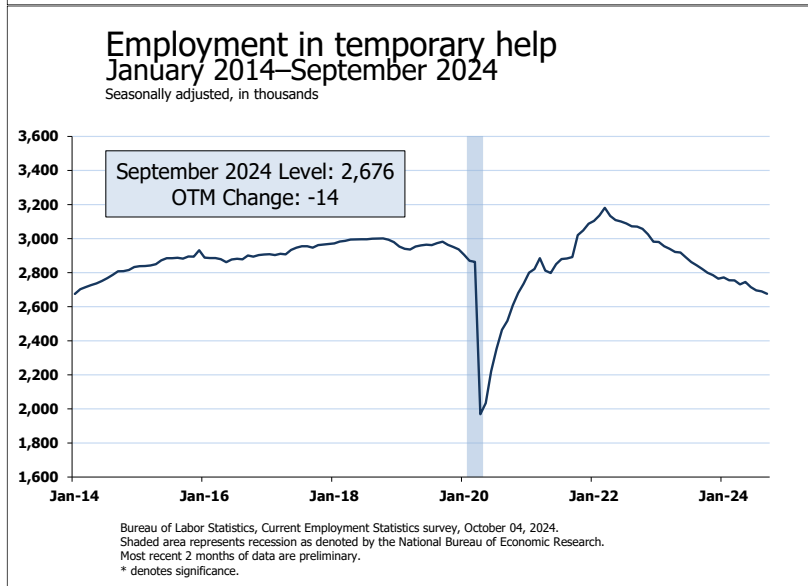
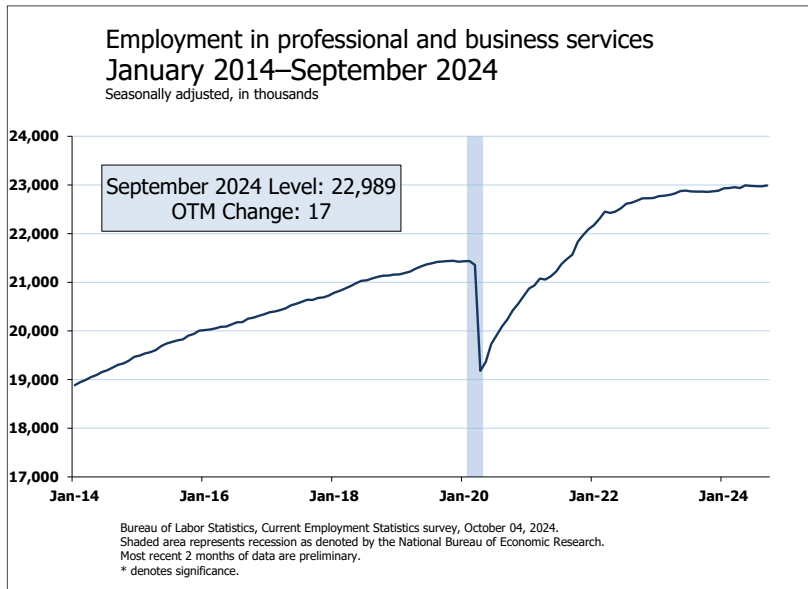
Employment in financial activities changed little in September (+5,000) and has shown little change over the year.



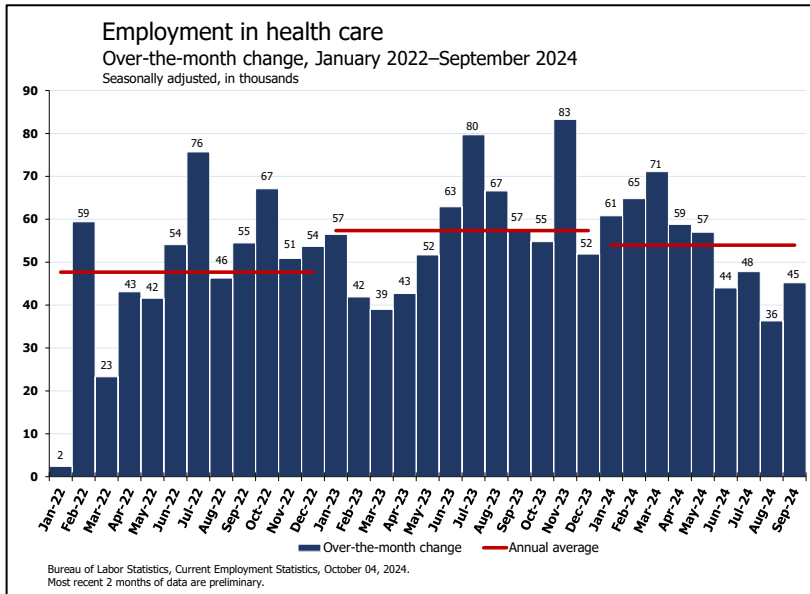
Professional and Business Services

Employment in professional and business services changed little in September (+17,000) and has shown little net change over the most recent 12 months.

Employment in temporary help services changed little in September (-14,000). Since reaching an employment peak in March 2022, temporary help services has shed 505,000 jobs, a decline of 15.9 percent.



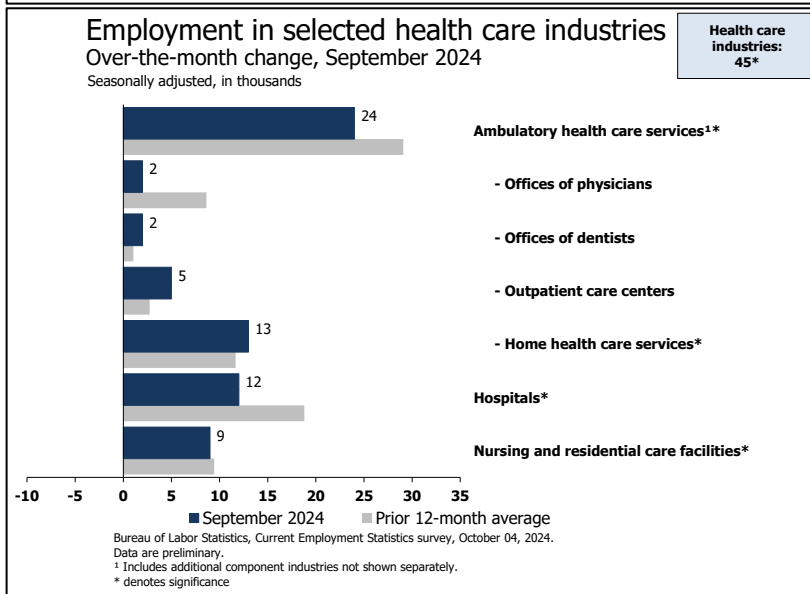
Private Education and Health Services



Employment in health care increased by 45,000 in September, below its average monthly gain of 57,000 over the prior 12 months.

In September, ambulatory health care services added 24,000 jobs, with a gain of 13,000 jobs in home health care services. Employment increased in hospitals (+12,000) and nursing and residential care facilities (+9,000) over the month.

Employment in social assistance increased by 27,000 in September, with gains concentrated in individual and family services (+21,000). Over the prior 12 months, social assistance had averaged gains of 21,000 jobs per month.

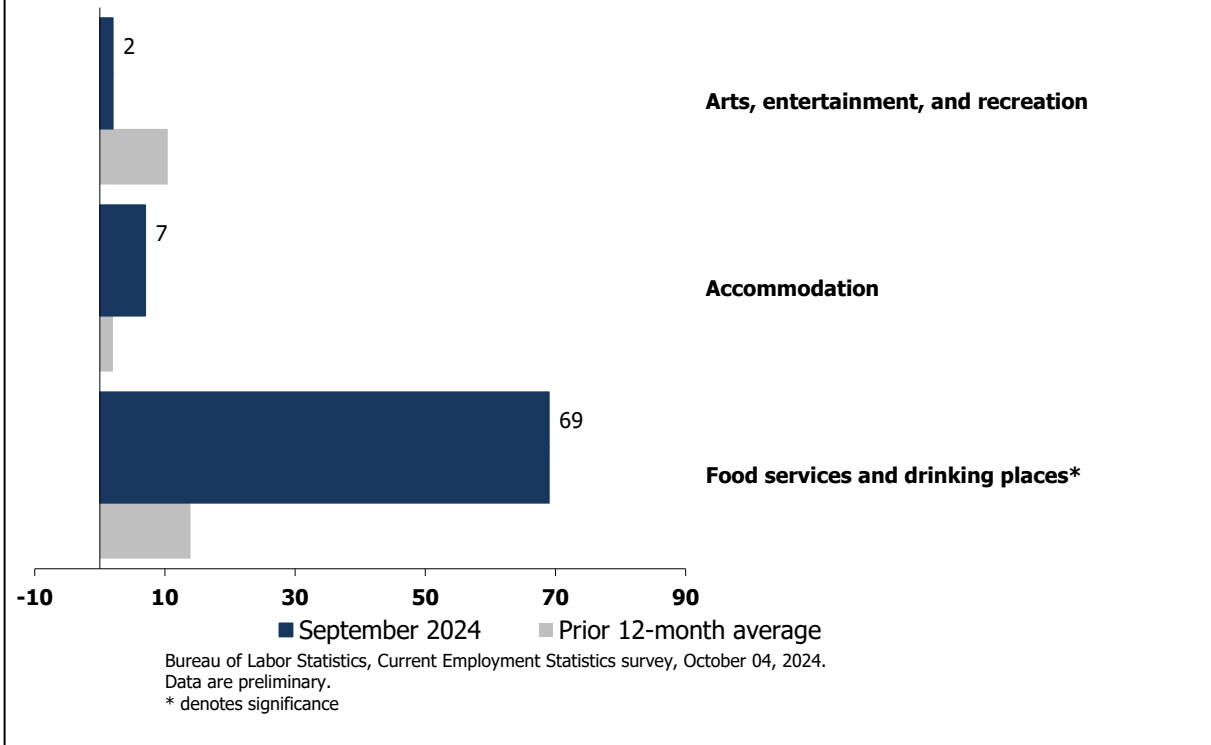


Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in leisure and hospitality Over-the-month change, September 2024

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Leisure and
hospitality:
78*

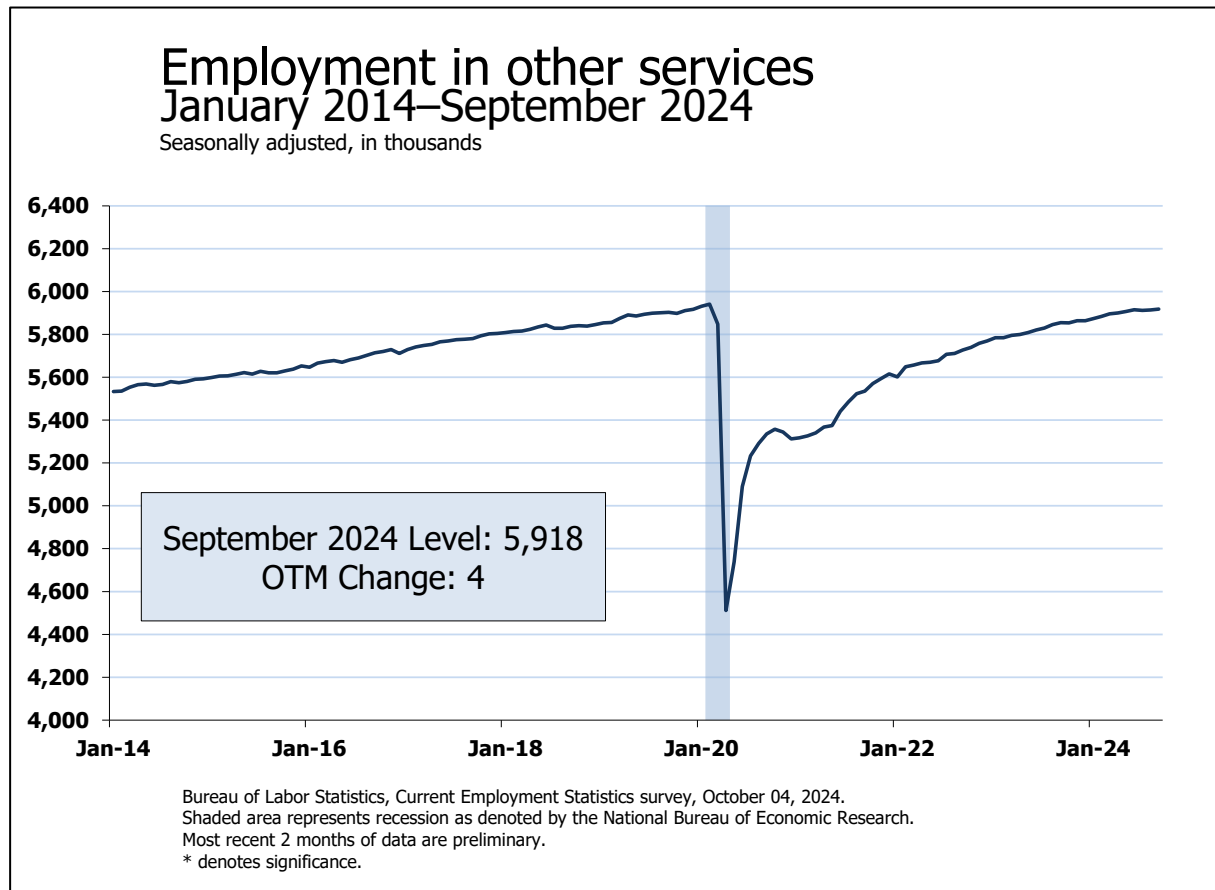


Food services and drinking places added 69,000 jobs in September, well above the prior 12-month average monthly gain of 14,000.

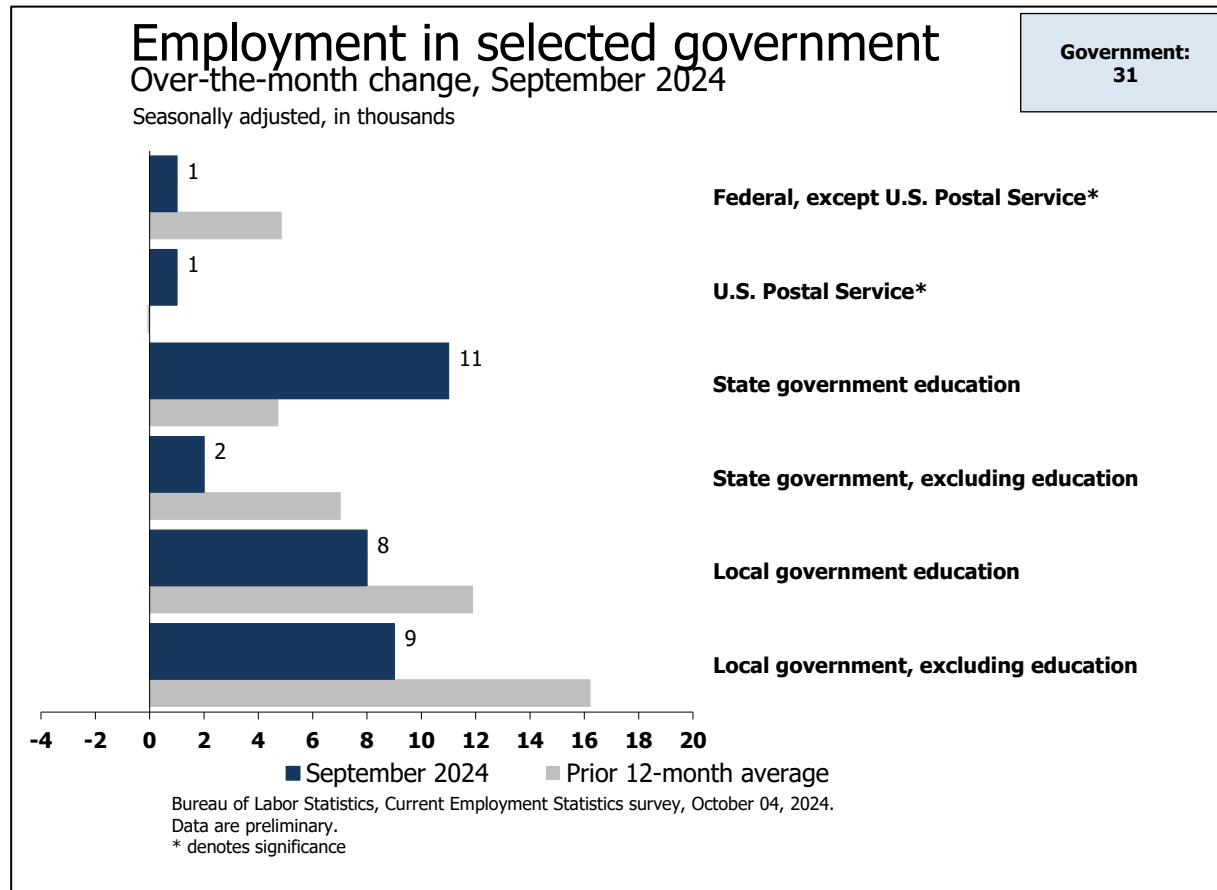
Over the month, [food services and drinking places sales](#) changed little, while the number of [seated diners](#) increased.

Other Services

Employment in other services changed little in September (+4,000). Industry employment is 23,000 below its pre-pandemic February 2020 level.



Government



Employment in government continued to trend up in September (+31,000). Over the prior 12 months, government employment had averaged gains of 45,000 per month.

In September, employment continued to trend up in local government (+16,000) and in state government (+13,000).



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