

## Current Employment Statistics Highlights

Detailed Industry Employment Analysis

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# Current Employment Statistics Highlights



**February 2025**

**Release Date:** March 7, 2025

**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, February 2025

Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 151,000 in February, similar to the average monthly gain of 168,000 over the prior 12 months. In February, employment trended up in health care, financial activities, transportation and warehousing, and social assistance. Federal government employment declined.

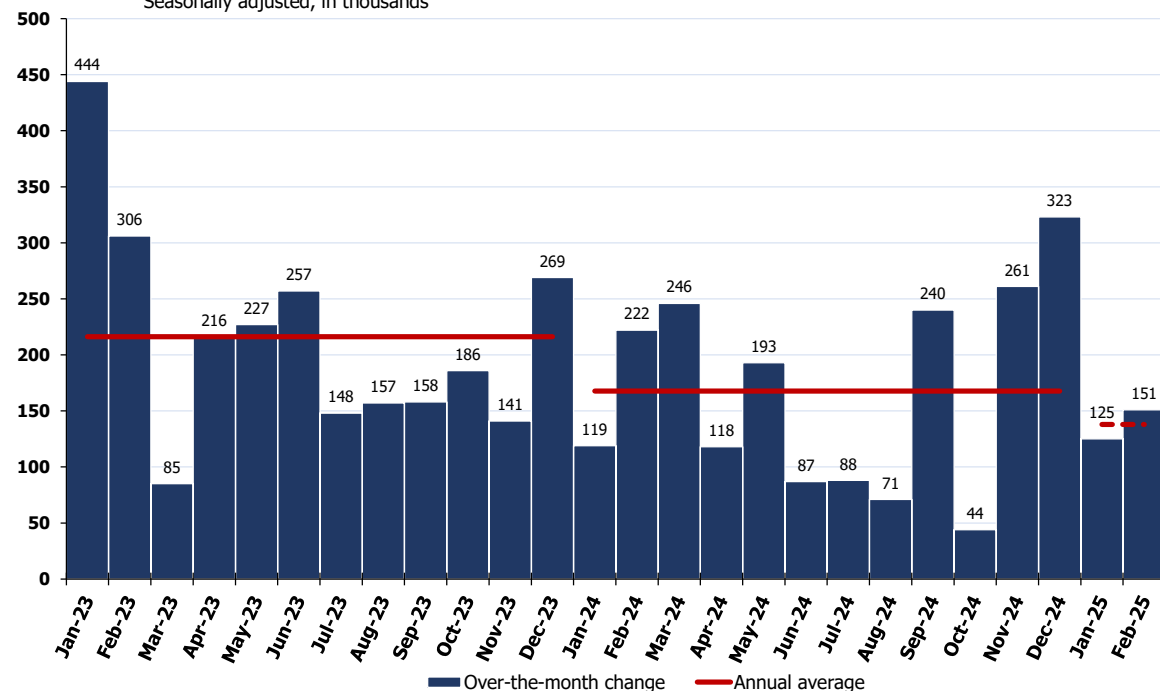
The total nonfarm employment change for December revised up from +307,000 to +323,000, and the change for January revised down from +143,000 to +125,000. On net, employment over these months is 2,000 lower than previously reported.

In February, average hourly earnings of all employees on private-sector payrolls rose by 10 cents, or 0.3 percent. Over the year, average hourly earnings have increased by 4.0 percent. In February, average weekly hours of all employees were unchanged at 34.1 hours.

### +73,000 Private Education and Health Services

Employment in health care increased by 52,000 in February, in line with its prior 12-month average monthly gain of 54,000. Over the month, job growth continued in ambulatory health care services (+26,000), hospitals (+15,000), and nursing and

**Employment in total nonfarm**  
Over-the-month change, January 2023–February 2025  
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, March 07, 2025.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

residential care facilities (+12,000). Social assistance employment continued to trend up in February (+11,000), below the average monthly gain over the prior 12 months (+21,000). Over the month, employment

continued to trend up in individual and family services (+10,000).

## Current Employment Statistics Summary, February 2025

### +21,000 Financial Activities

Financial activities added 21,000 jobs in February, above the prior 12-month average gain (+5,000). Over the month, employment continued to trend up in real estate and rental and leasing (+10,000) and in insurance carriers and related activities (+5,000), while commercial banking lost jobs (-5,000).

### +18,000 Transportation and Warehousing

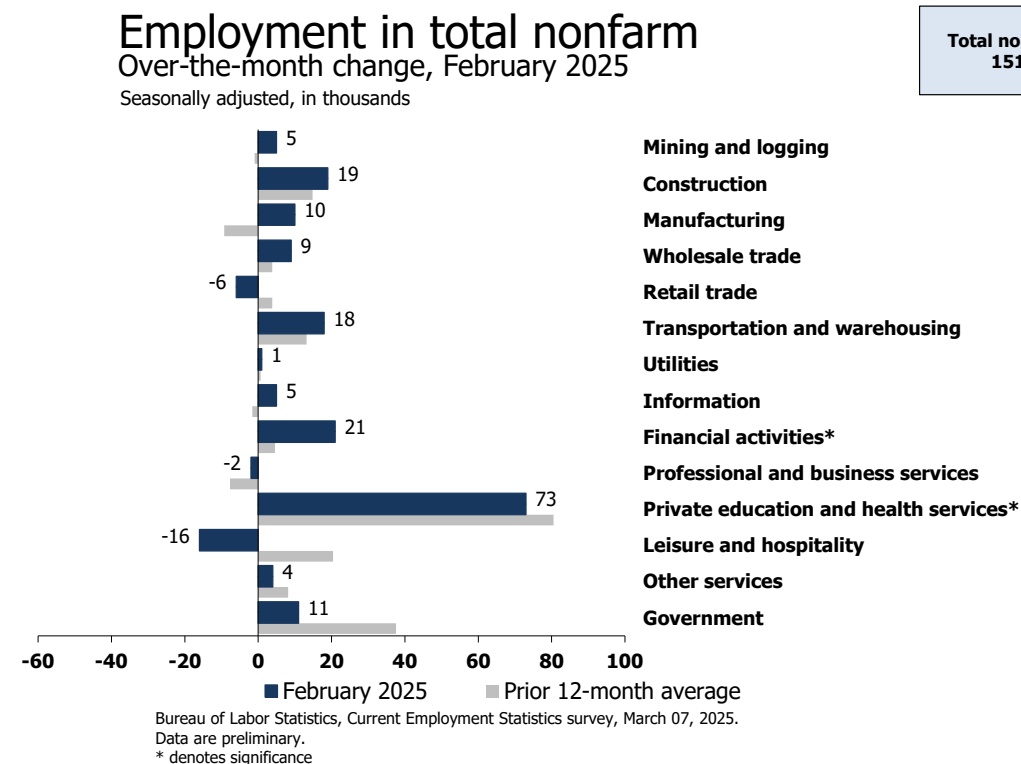
Employment in transportation and warehousing continued to trend up in February (+18,000), in line with the average monthly gain over the prior 12 months (+13,000). Over the month, job growth occurred in couriers and messengers (+24,000) and in air transportation (+4,000).

### +11,000 Government

Within government, federal government employment declined by 10,000 in February.

### -6,000 Retail Trade

Retail trade employment changed little in February (-6,000) and has shown little net change over the year. Over the month, employment in food and beverage retailers declined by 15,000, largely due to strike activity. Warehouse clubs, supercenters, and

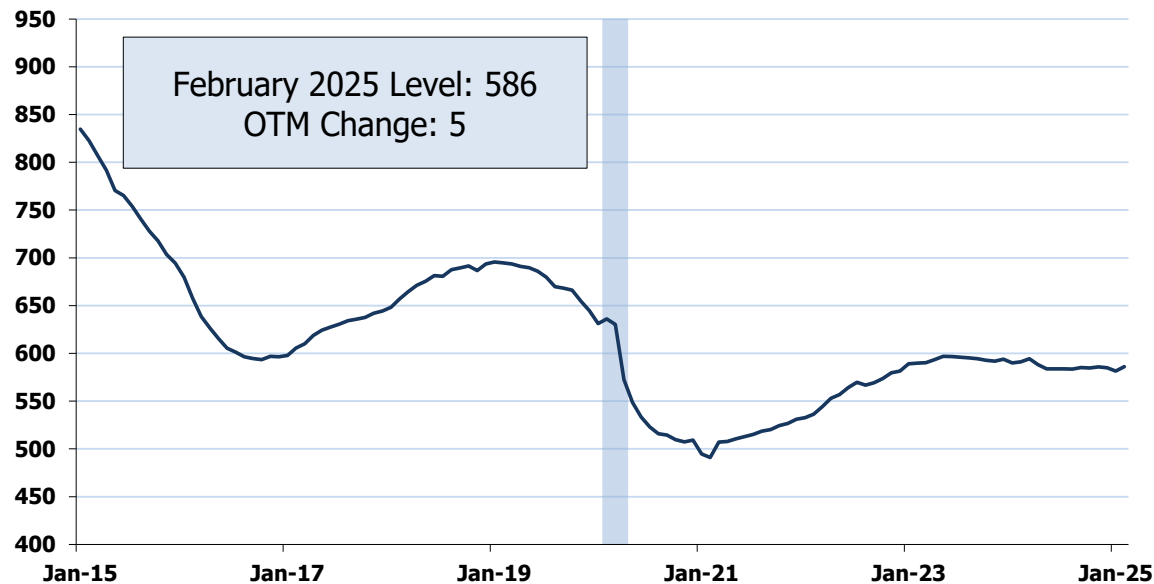


other general merchandise retailers added 10,000 jobs.

## Mining and Logging

### Employment in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction January 2015–February 2025

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, March 07, 2025.  
Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.  
\* denotes significance.

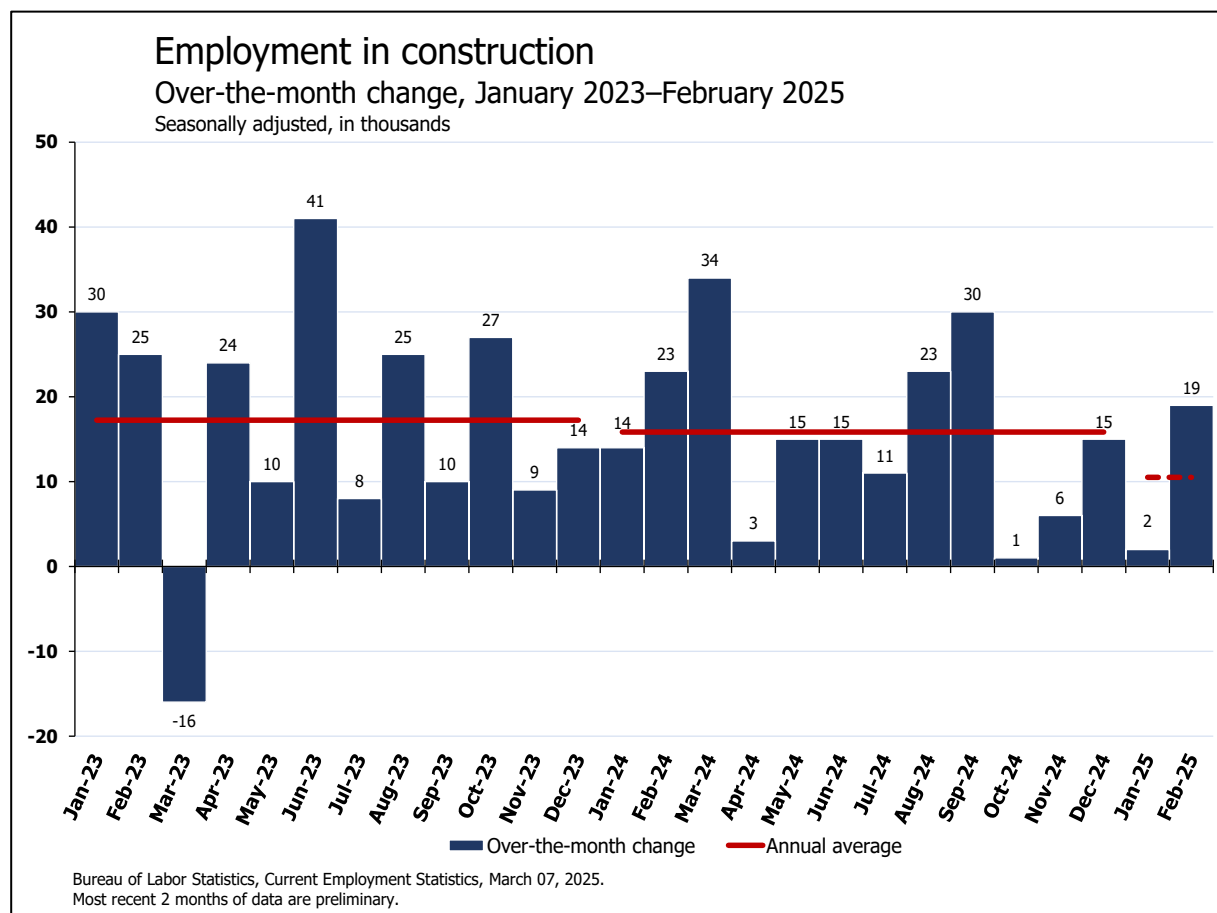
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction employment changed little in February (+5,000), above the prior 12-month average (-1,000).

Over the month, the [North America Rotary Rig Count](#)\* increased, 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 12<sup>th</sup> of the month.

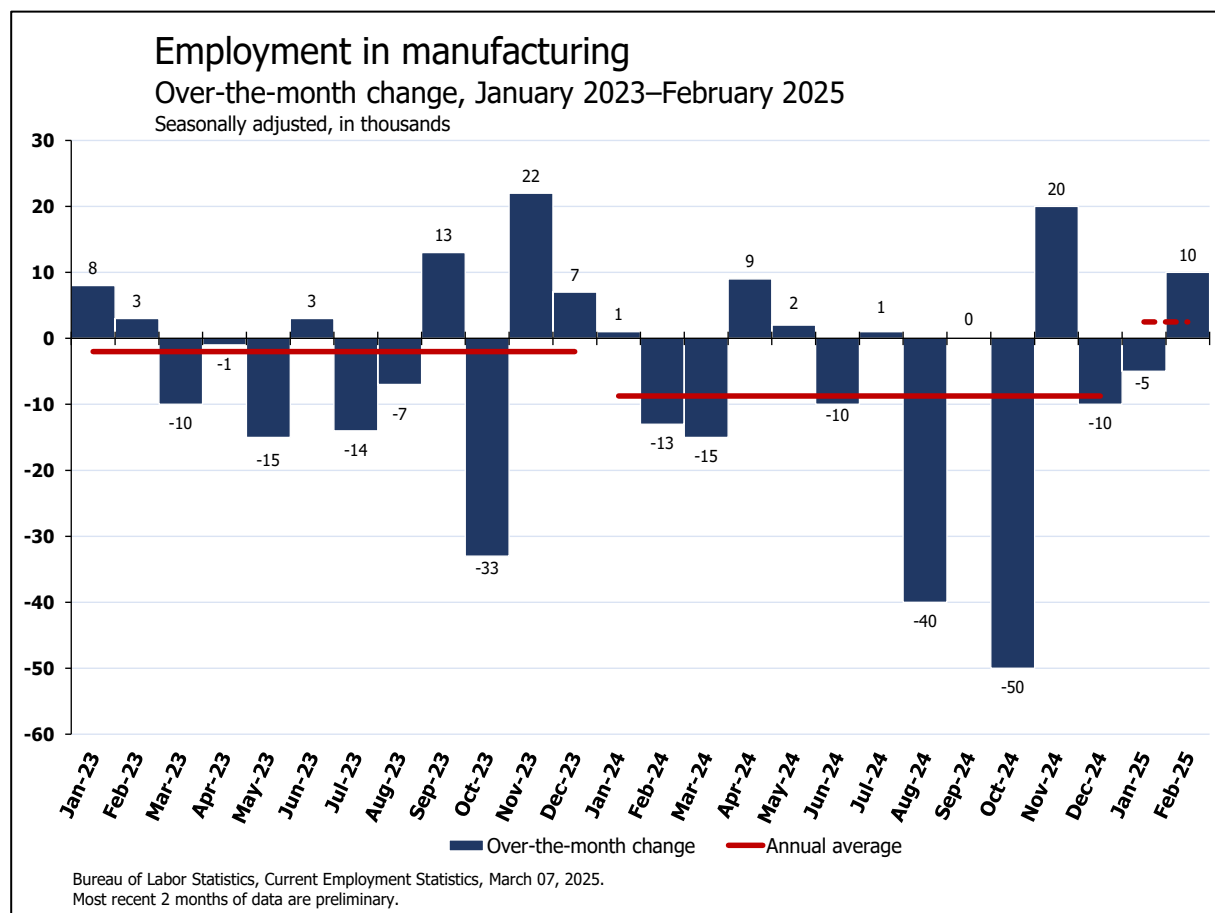
## Construction



Employment in construction changed little in February (+19,000). Over the prior 12 months, construction had added an average of 15,000 jobs per month.

Recent residential construction-related indicators are mixed. In January, [residential building permits](#) increased, while [housing starts](#) and [new residential sales](#) changed little. In February, the [average 30-year fixed mortgage rate](#) decreased.

## Manufacturing



In February, employment in manufacturing changed little (+10,000).

The 1-month diffusion index for February rose by 9.1 points to 54.9. A number above 50 indicates that more manufacturing industries are adding jobs than losing jobs.

Employment in semiconductor and other component manufacturing continued to decline in February (-3,000). The industry has lost 22,000 jobs since its most recent peak in January 2023.

In February, average hourly earnings for all employees in manufacturing increased by 14 cents to \$34.83. Average hourly earnings for production workers changed little (+10 cents) to \$28.64.

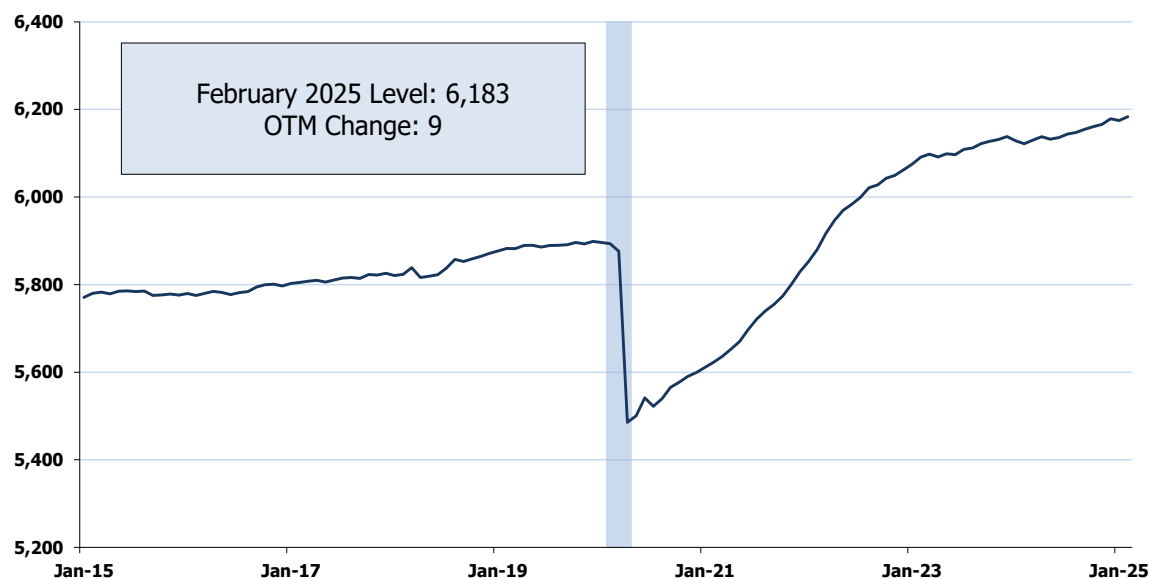
In February, average weekly hours for all employees in manufacturing were 40.1 hours for the fourth consecutive month. Average weekly hours for production workers rose by 0.2 hours to 40.9 hours.

Average weekly overtime hours for all employees in manufacturing rose by 0.1 hour to 2.9 hours. Average weekly overtime hours for production workers increased by 0.2 hours to 3.8 hours.

## Wholesale Trade

### Employment in wholesale trade January 2015–February 2025

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



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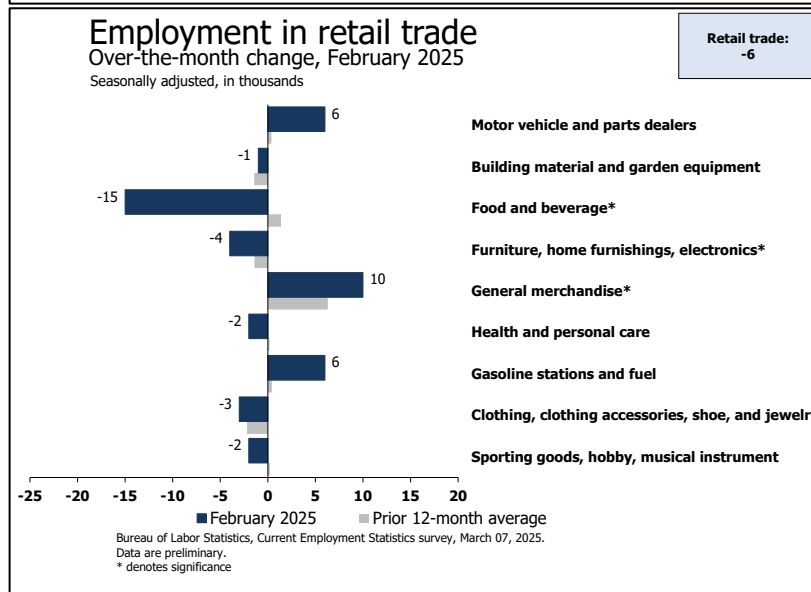
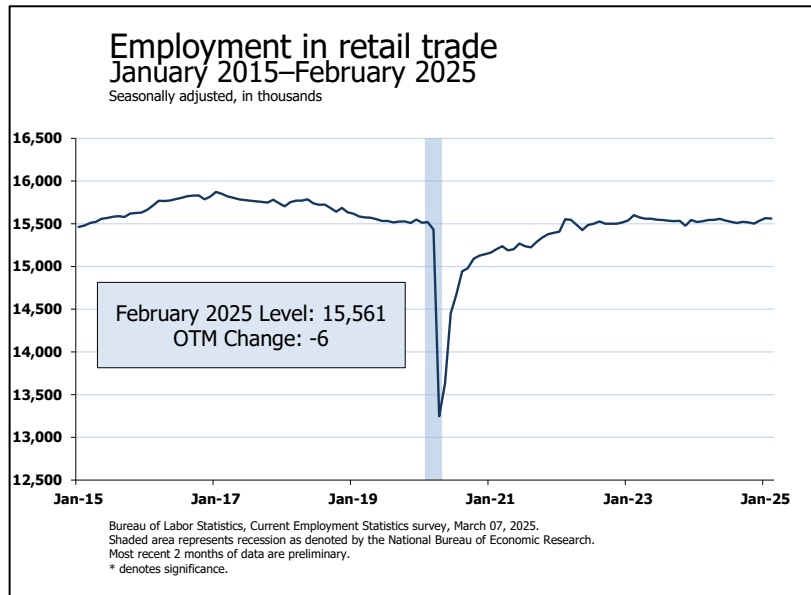
In February, employment in wholesale trade changed little (+9,000). In the most recent 12 months, the industry has added 62,000 jobs.

## Retail Trade

Employment in retail trade changed little in February (-6,000) and has shown little net change over the year.

Over the month, employment in food and beverage retailers declined by 15,000, largely due to strike activity. Furniture, home furnishings, electronics, and appliance retailers lost jobs (-4,000), while employment rose in warehouse clubs, supercenters, and other general merchandise retailers (+10,000); gasoline stations and fuel dealers (+6,000); and automotive parts, accessories, and tire retailers (+4,000).

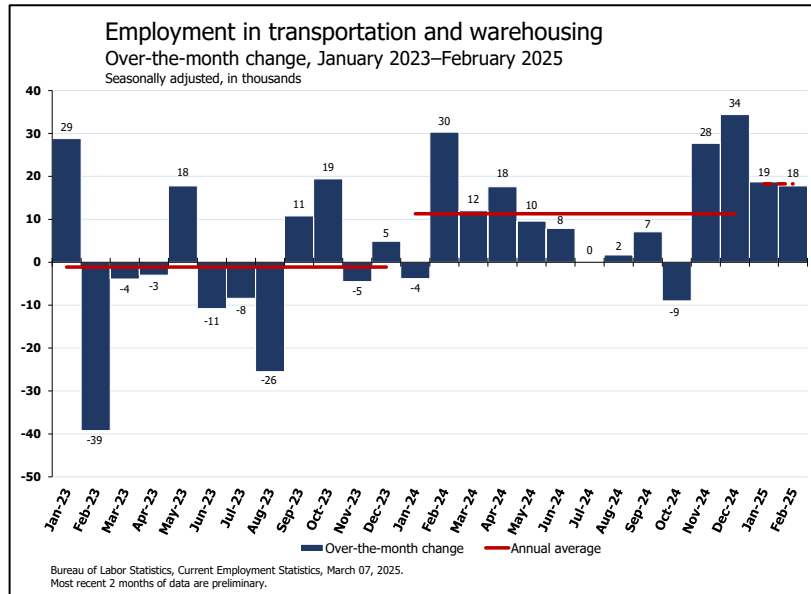
Recent retail-related economic indicators are negative. In January, [Auto Sales](#), [Retail Sales](#), and the [Real Personal Consumption Expenditures](#) for goods decreased. Similarly, the [Consumer Confidence Index](#) decreased in February, and the per-gallon price of [regular gasoline](#)\* increased.



\*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 12<sup>th</sup> for both months.

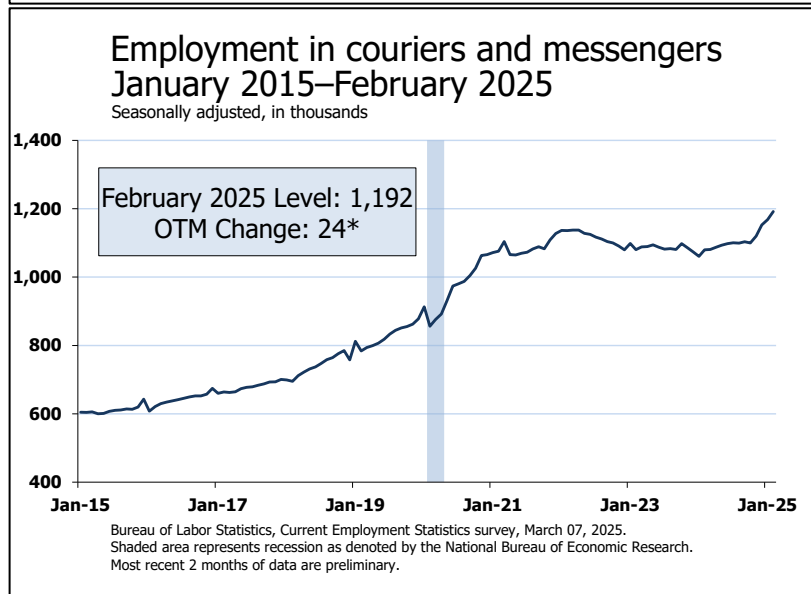


## Transportation and Warehousing



Employment in transportation and warehousing continued to trend up in February (+18,000), in line with the prior 12 month-average monthly gain of 13,000.

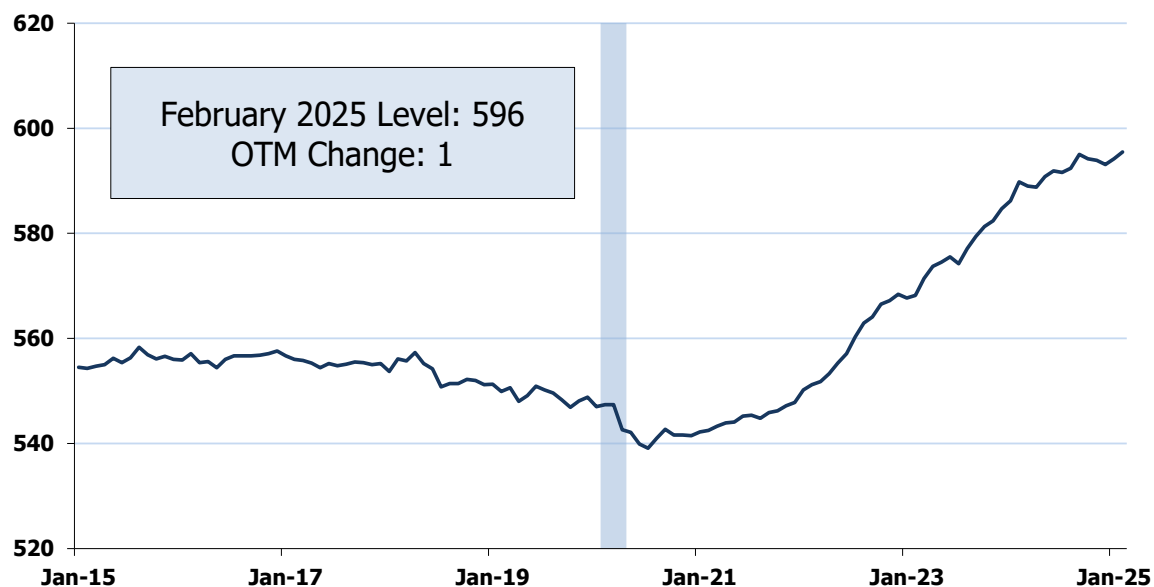
Over the month, employment increased in couriers and messengers (+24,000) and in air transportation (+4,000).



## Utilities

### Employment in utilities January 2015–February 2025

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



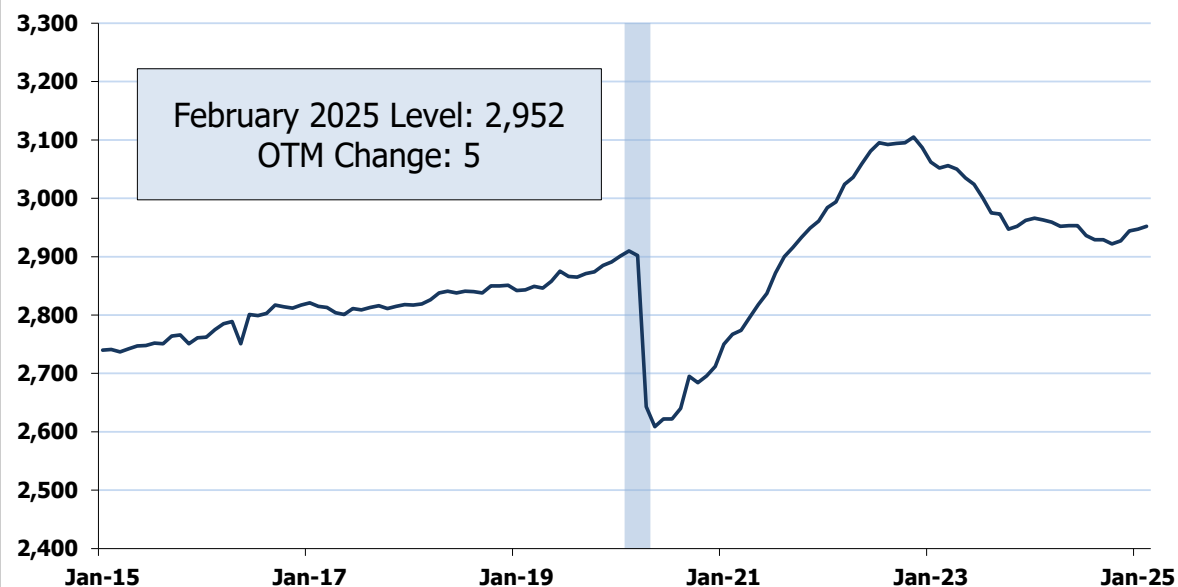
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, March 07, 2025.  
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\* denotes significance.

Utilities employment changed little in February (+1,000). Industry employment has increased by 56,000 since its most recent trough in July 2020.

## Information

### Employment in information January 2015–February 2025

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

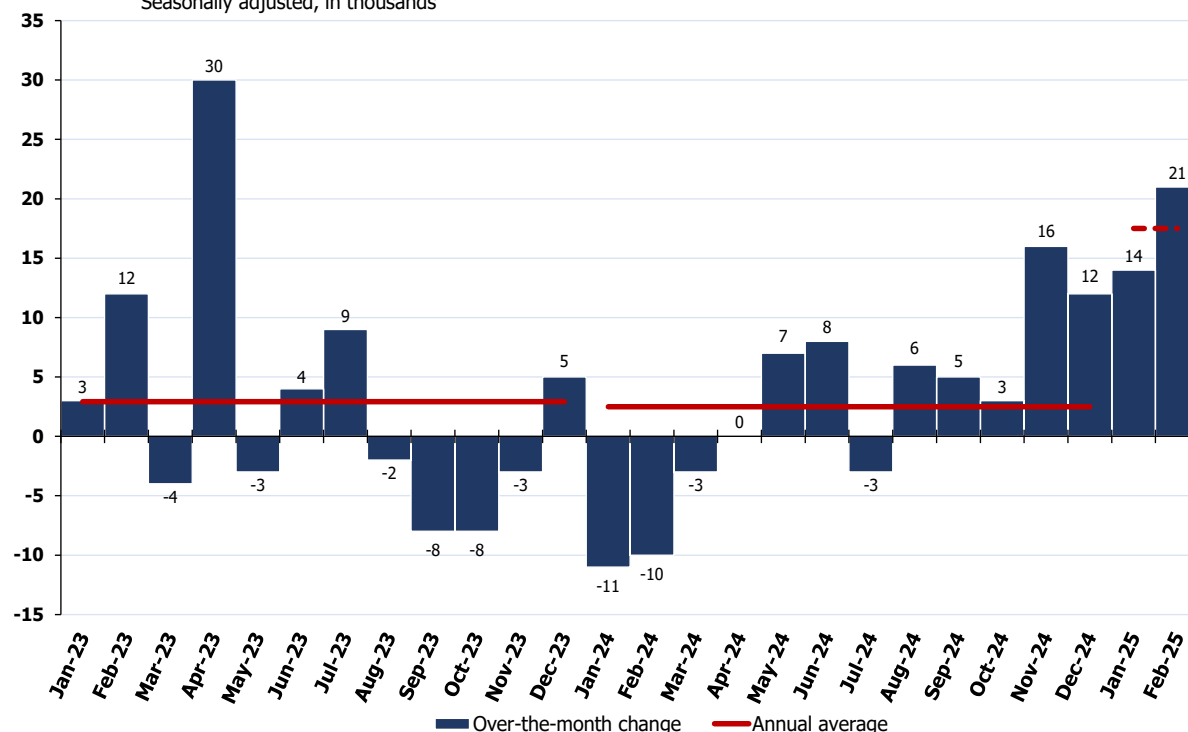


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, March 07, 2025.  
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In February, employment in information changed little (+5,000) and has shown little net change over the most recent 12 months.

## Financial Activities

**Employment in financial activities**  
Over-the-month change, January 2023–February 2025  
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

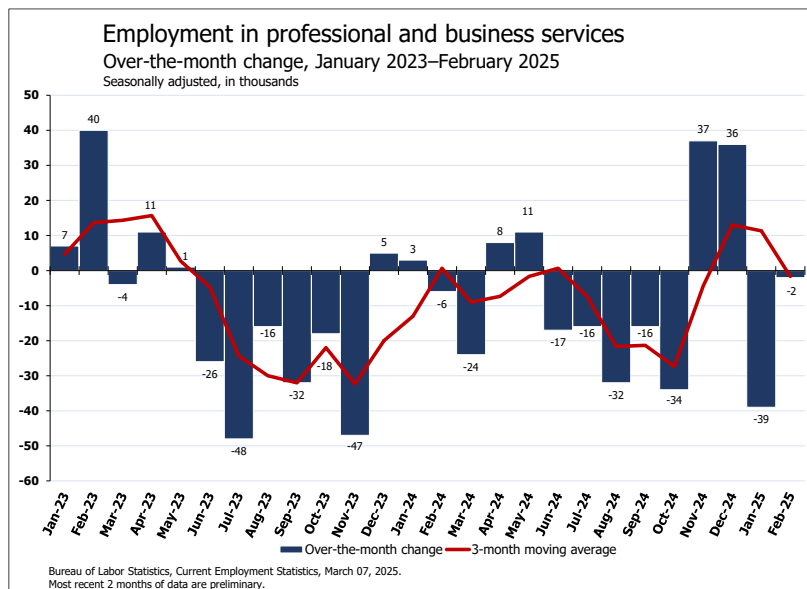


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, March 07, 2025.  
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Employment in financial activities increased by 21,000 in February, above the prior 12-month average gain (+5,000). The industry has added 89,000 jobs since its most recent trough in April 2024.

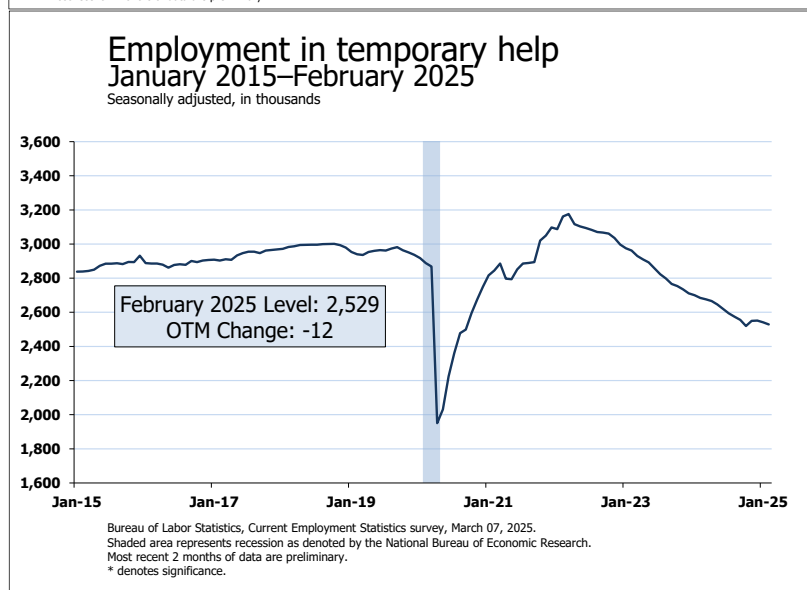
In February, employment continued to trend up in real estate and rental and leasing (+10,000) and in insurance carriers and related activities (+5,000), while commercial banking lost jobs (-5,000).

## Professional and Business Services



Employment in professional and business services was flat in February (-2,000). The industry has lost 273,000 jobs since its most recent peak in May 2023.

In February, employment in temporary help services changed little (-12,000). Since reaching an employment peak in March 2022, temporary help services has shed 647,000 jobs, a decline of 20.4 percent.

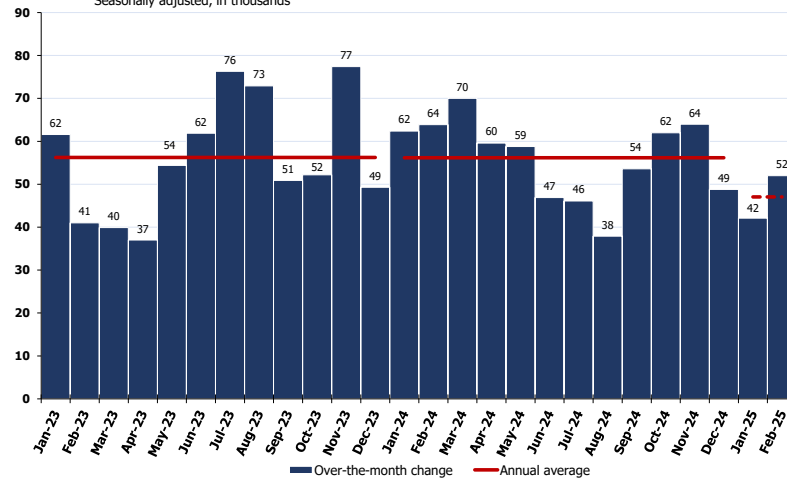


## Private Education and Health Services

### Employment in health care

Over-the-month change, January 2023–February 2025

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, March 07, 2025.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in health care increased by 52,000 in February, in line with its prior 12-month average gain of 54,000 per month.

Over the month, ambulatory health care services (+26,000), hospitals (+15,000), and nursing and residential care facilities (+12,000) added jobs.

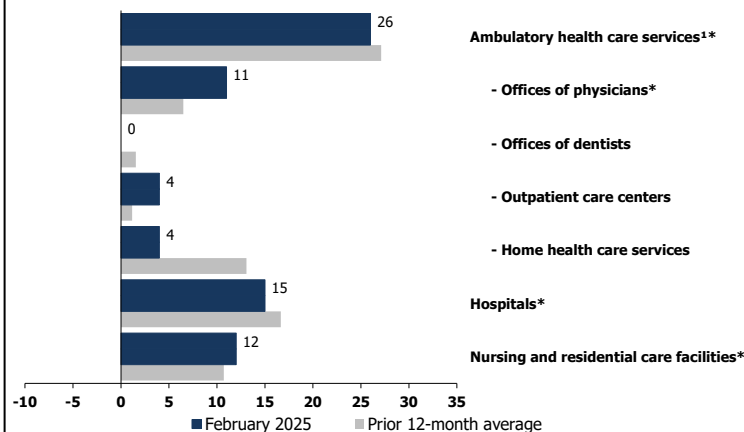
Employment in social assistance continued to trend up in February (+11,000), below the average monthly gain over the prior 12 months (+21,000). Over the month, employment continued to trend up in individual and family services (+10,000).

### Employment in selected health care industries

Over-the-month change, February 2025

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Health care industries:  
52\*

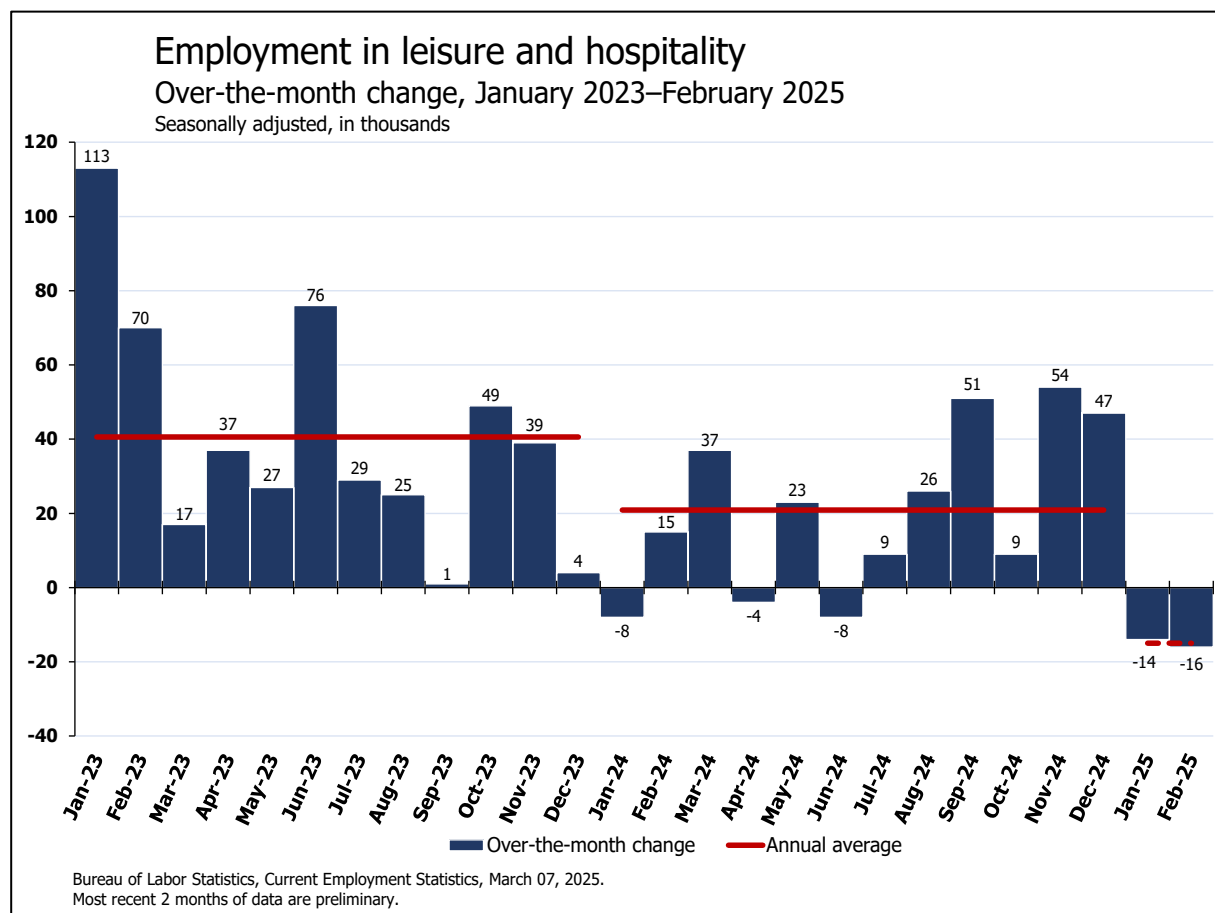


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, March 07, 2025.  
Data are preliminary.

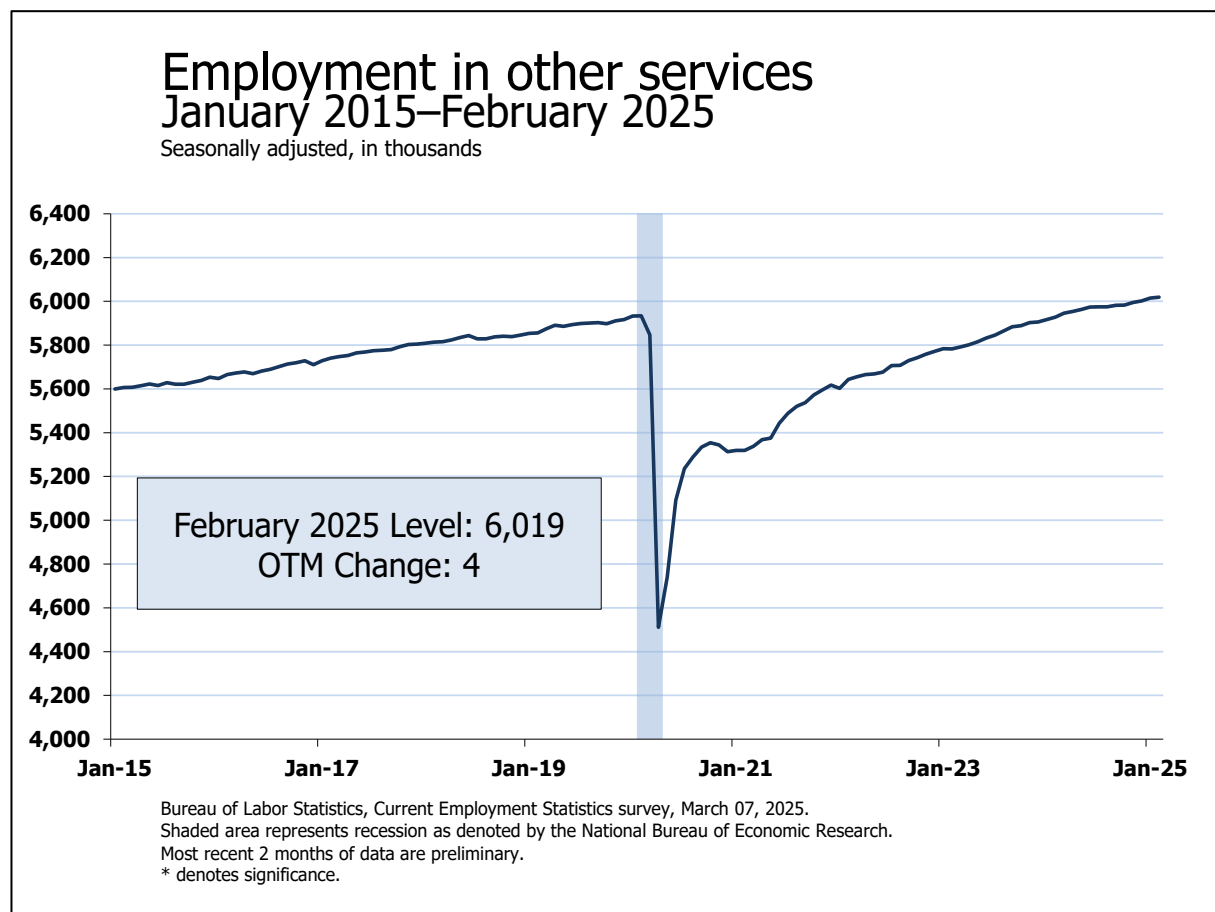
<sup>1</sup> Includes additional component industries not shown separately.  
\* denotes significance

## Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in leisure and hospitality changed little in February (-16,000), below the average gain of 20,000 over the prior 12 months.



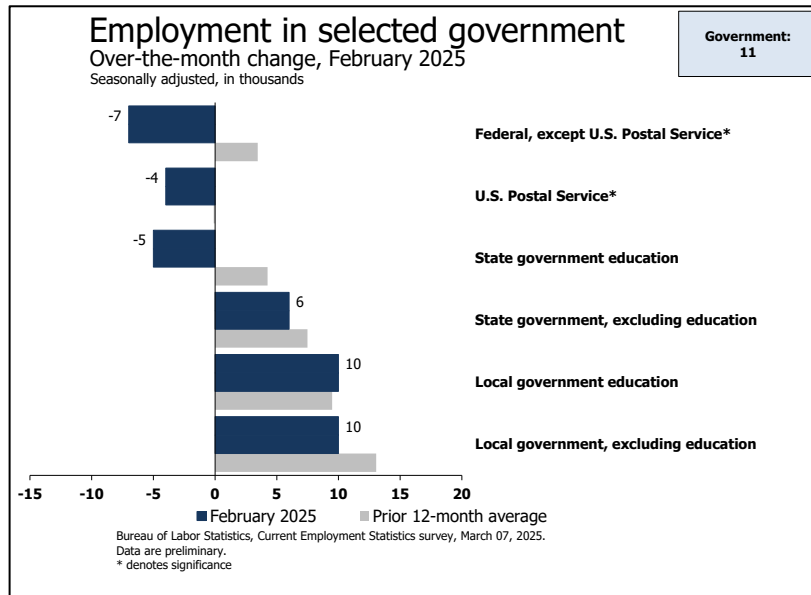
## Other Services



Employment in other services changed little in February (+4,000). Over the most recent 12 months, the industry has added 91,000 jobs.

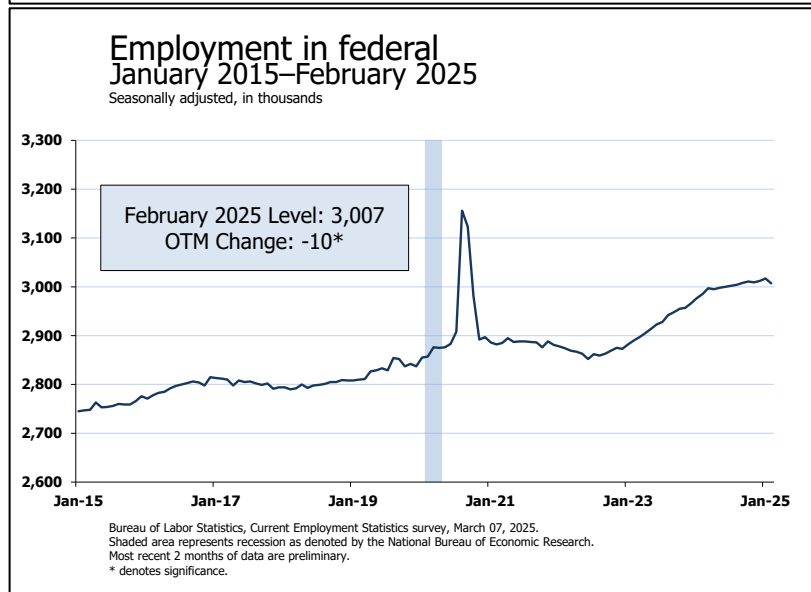


## Government



In February, employment in government changed little (+11,000), following an average monthly gain of 38,000 over the prior 12 months.

Over the month, employment in federal government decreased by 10,000, with losses concentrated in federal, except U.S. Postal Service (-7,000).





**Prepared by Staff of the National Estimates Branch  
Current Employment Statistics Survey  
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