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Current Employment Statistics Highlights



May 2025

Release Date: June 6, 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, May 2025

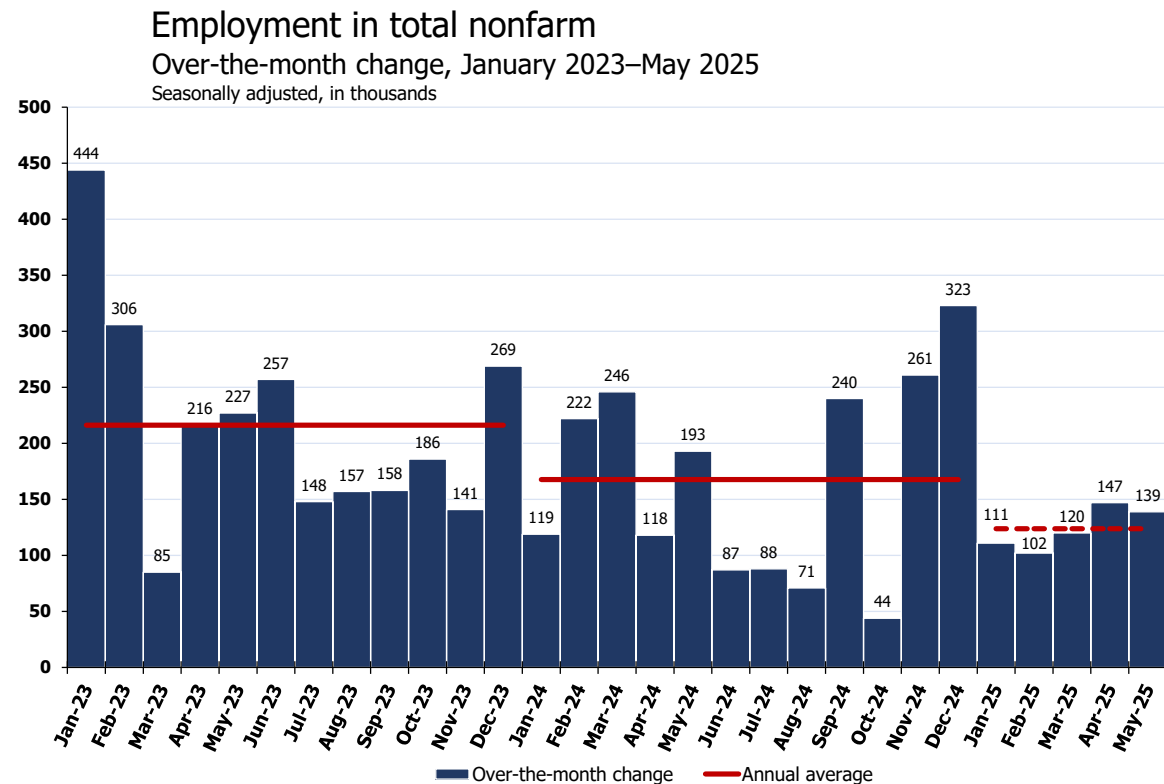
Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 139,000 in May, similar to the average monthly gain of 149,000 over the prior 12 months. In May, employment continued to trend up in health care, leisure and hospitality, and social assistance. Federal government continued to lose jobs.

The total nonfarm employment change for March revised down from +185,000 to +120,000, and the change for April revised down from +177,000 to +147,000. On net, employment over these months is 95,000 lower than previously reported.

In May, average hourly earnings of all employees on private-sector payrolls rose by 15 cents, or 0.4 percent. Over the year, average hourly earnings have increased by 3.9 percent. In May, average weekly hours of all employees remained unchanged at 34.3 hours.

+87,000 Private Education and Health Services

Employment in health care increased by 62,000 in May, higher than its prior 12-month average monthly gain of 44,000. Over the month, hospitals (+30,000), ambulatory health care services (+29,000), and skilled nursing care facilities (+6,000) added jobs.



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, June 06, 2025.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

In May, employment in social assistance continued to trend up (+16,000), reflecting continued growth in individual and family services (+16,000).

+48,000 Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in leisure and hospitality continued to trend up in May (+48,000), driven by food services and drinking places (+30,000). Over the prior 12 months, leisure and

Current Employment Statistics Summary, May 2025

hospitality had added an average of 20,000 jobs per month.

-1,000 Government

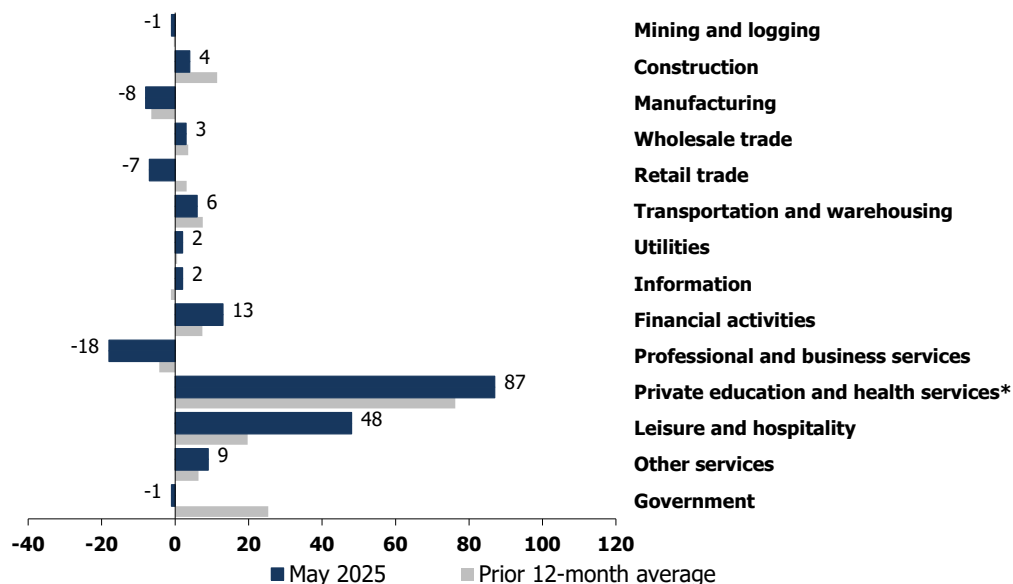
Within government, federal government employment continued to decline in May (-22,000) and is down by 59,000 since January. (Employees on paid leave or receiving ongoing severance pay are counted as employed in the establishment survey.)

Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, May 2025

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Total nonfarm:
139*



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 06, 2025.

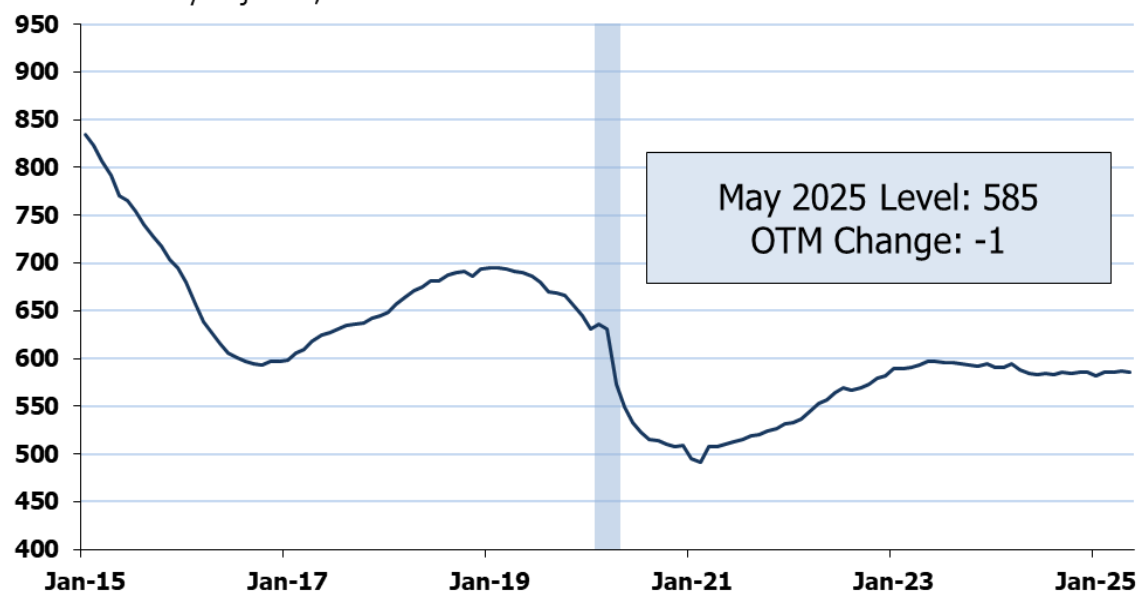
Data are preliminary.

* denotes significance

Mining and Logging

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

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 06, 2025.
Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
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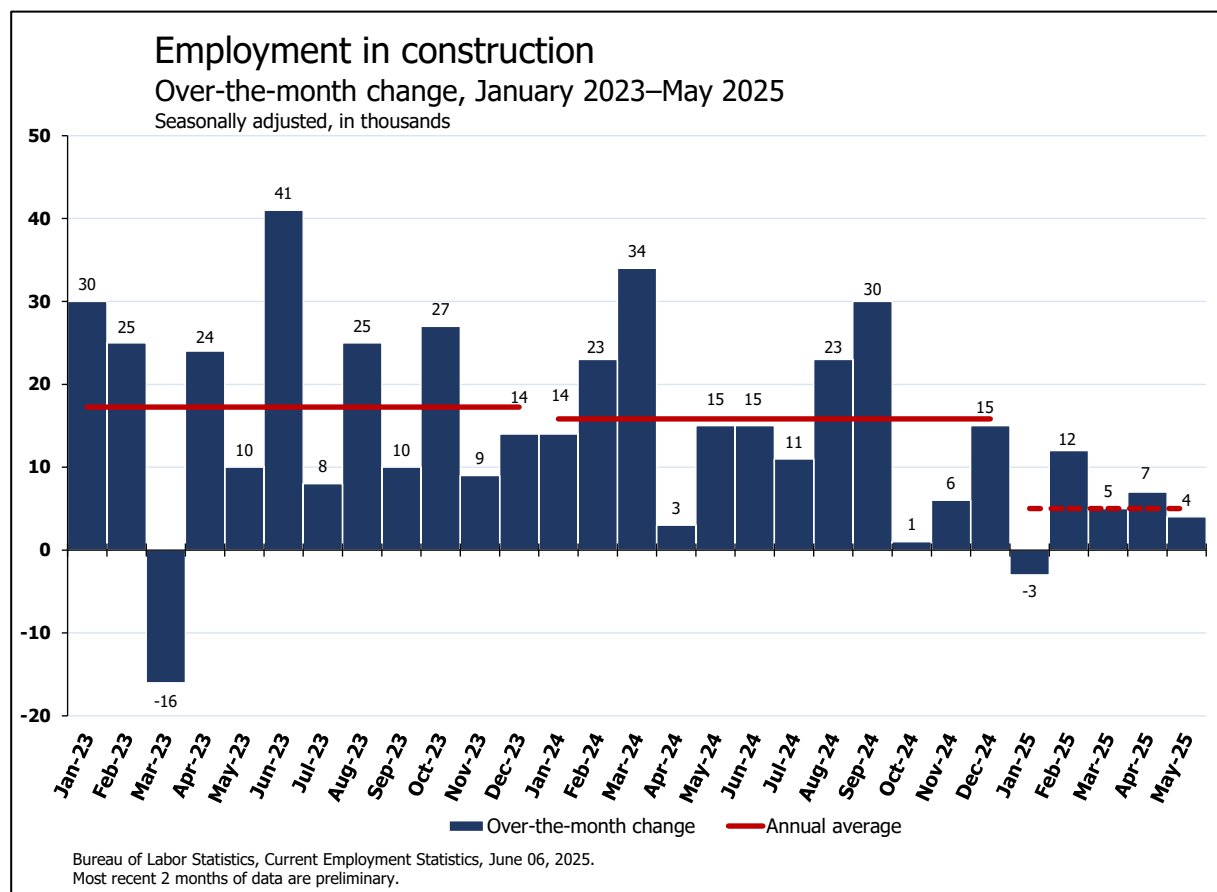
In May, employment in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction changed little (-1,000).

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

*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 date range to one year, including the 12th of the month.

Construction

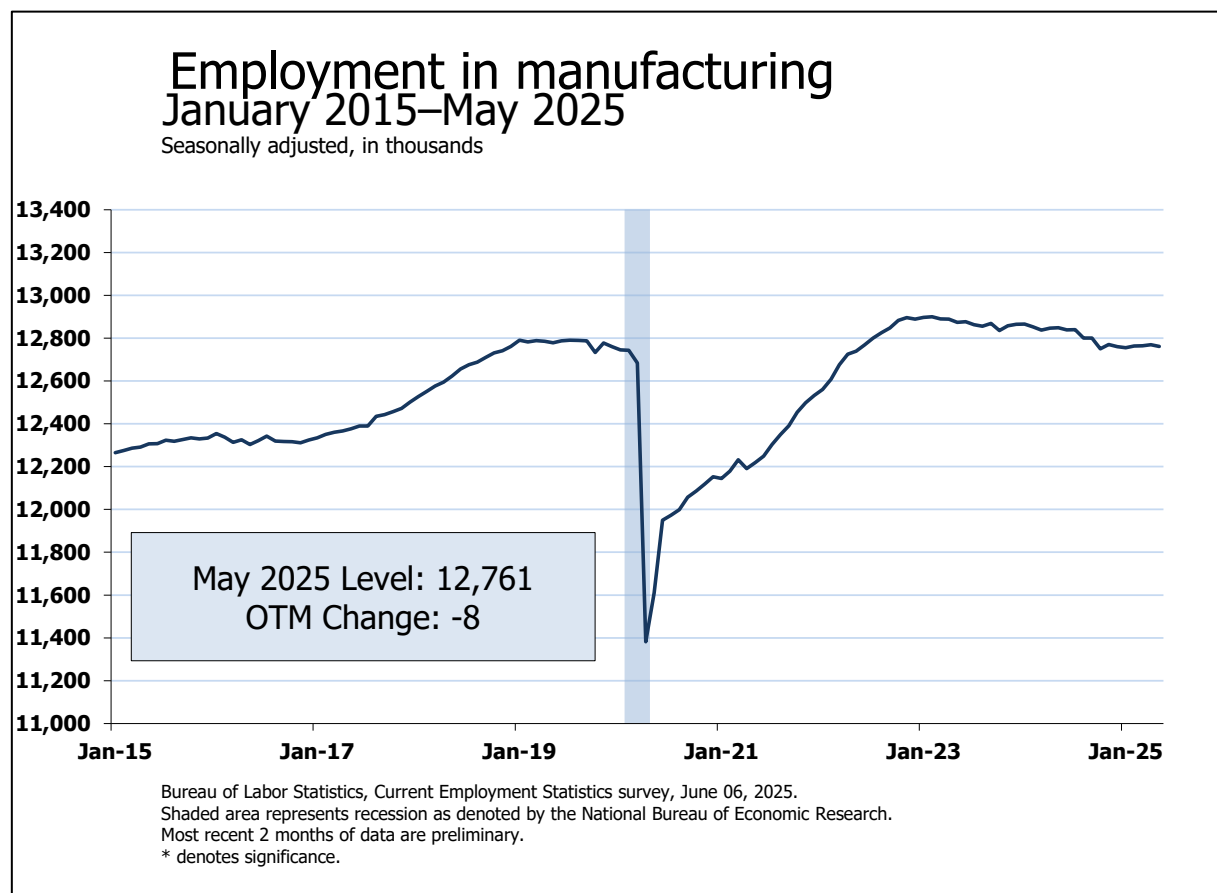


Employment in construction changed little in May (+4,000). Over the prior 12 months, industry employment had averaged monthly gains of 11,000.

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

*The average 30-year fixed mortgage rate is a weekly measure. The over-the-month change reflects the difference in rate for the week that includes May 12th and the week that includes April 12th.

Manufacturing



In May, employment in manufacturing changed little (-8,000). The industry has lost 88,000 jobs over the year.

Average hourly earnings in manufacturing for all employees rose by 17 cents to \$35.28 in May. Average hourly earnings for production workers edged up by 12 cents to \$28.92.

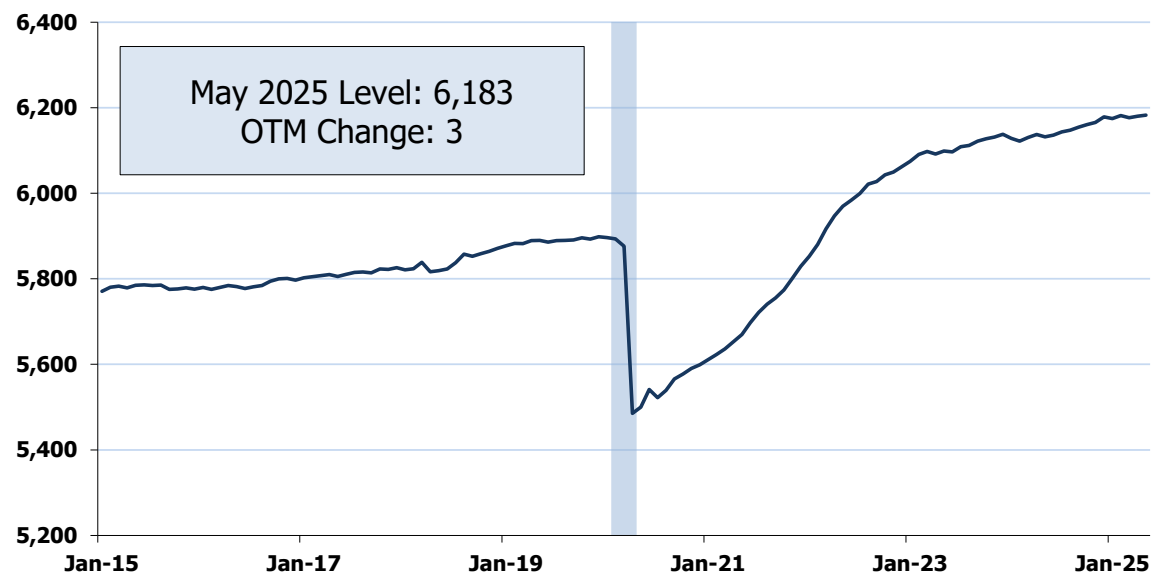
In May, manufacturing average weekly hours for both all employees and production workers changed little (+0.1 hour) to 40.1 and 41.0 hours, respectively. Average weekly overtime hours for all employees remained unchanged at 2.9 hours. Average overtime hours for production workers edged up by 0.1 hour to 3.7 hours.

Wholesale Trade

Employment in wholesale trade changed little in May (+3,000).

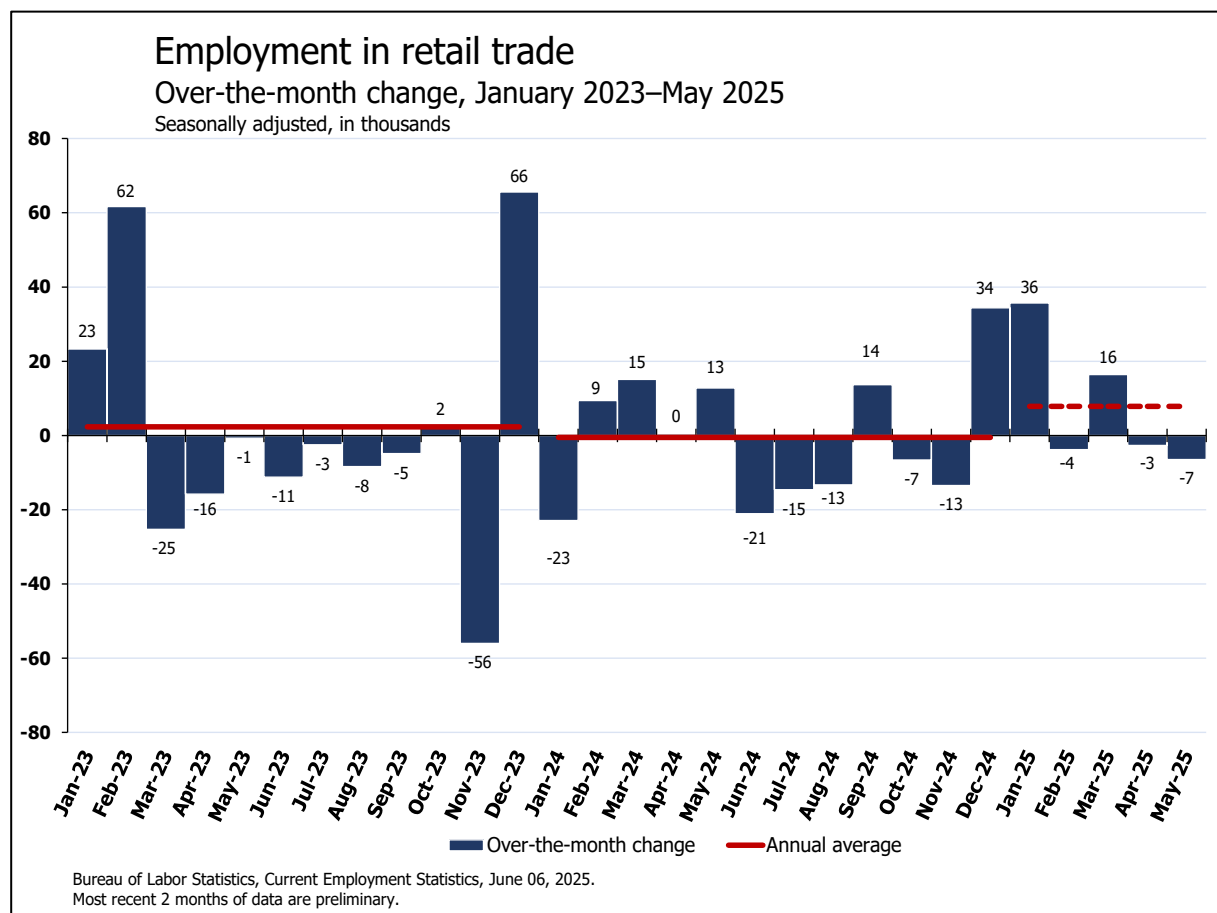
Employment in wholesale trade January 2015–May 2025

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 06, 2025.
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* denotes significance.

Retail Trade



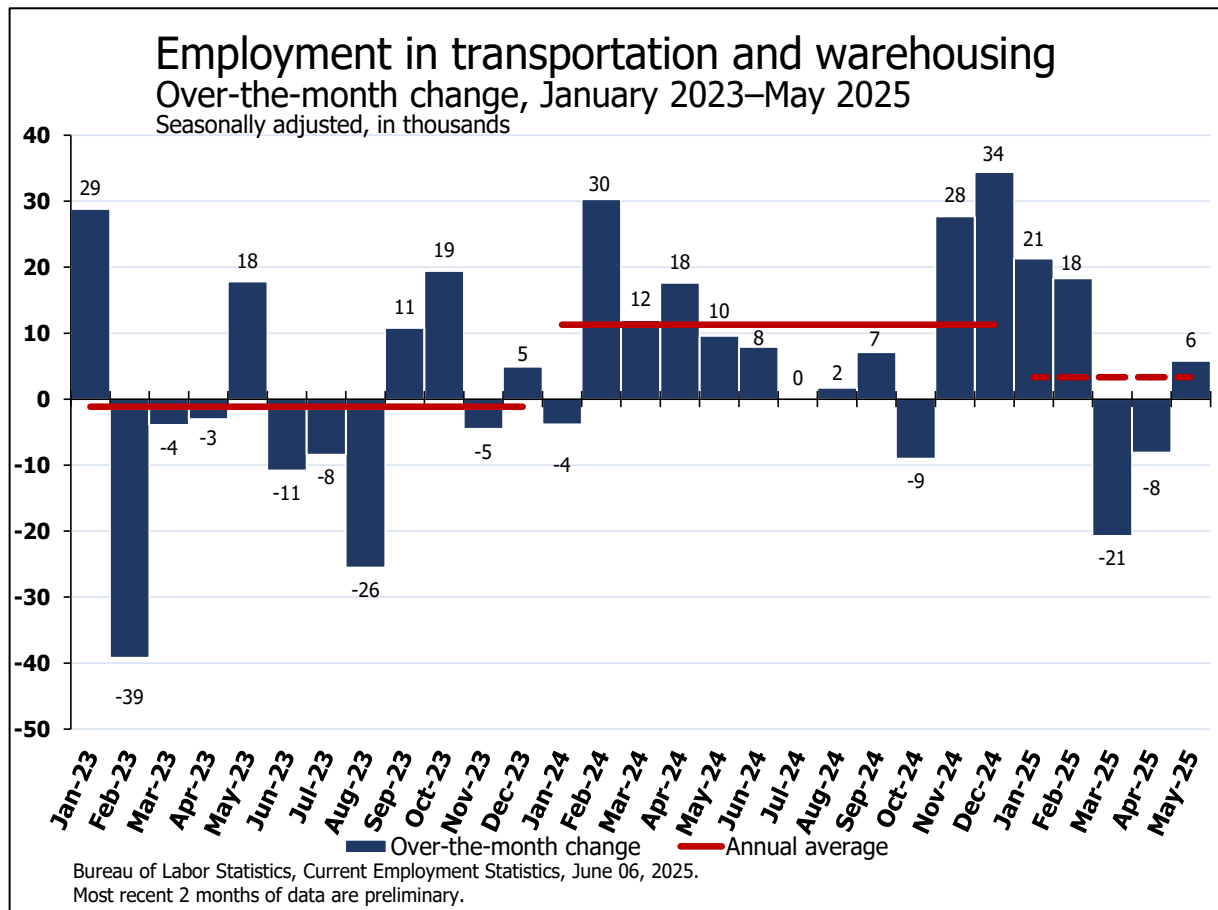
Employment in retail trade changed little in May (-7,000) and has shown little net change over the year.

Over the month, other motor vehicle dealers lost 3,000 jobs.

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

*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

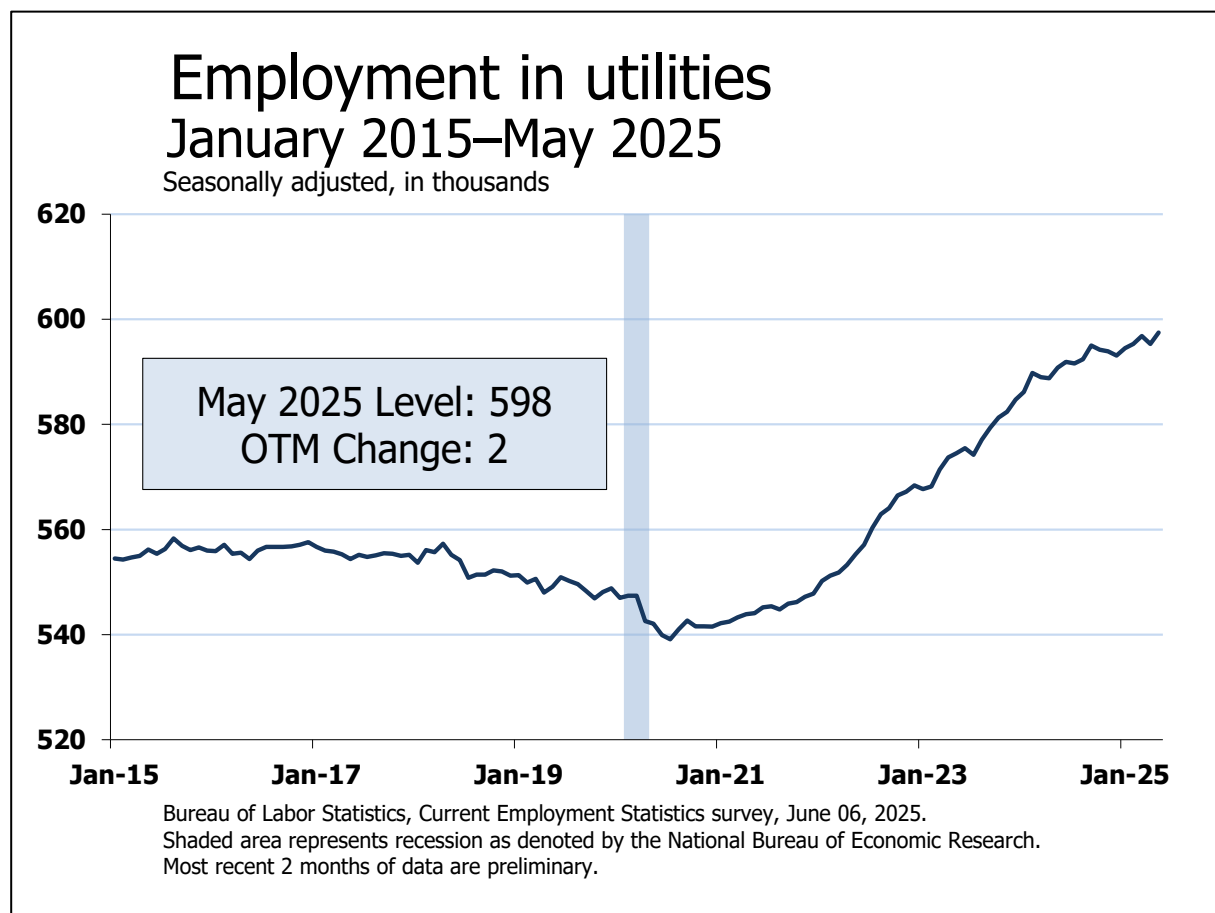


Transportation and warehousing employment changed little in May (+6,000), similar to the prior 12-month average monthly gain of 8,000.

In May, employment gains in couriers and messengers (+7,000) and air transportation (+4,000) were partially offset by a loss in warehousing and storage (-5,000).

Utilities

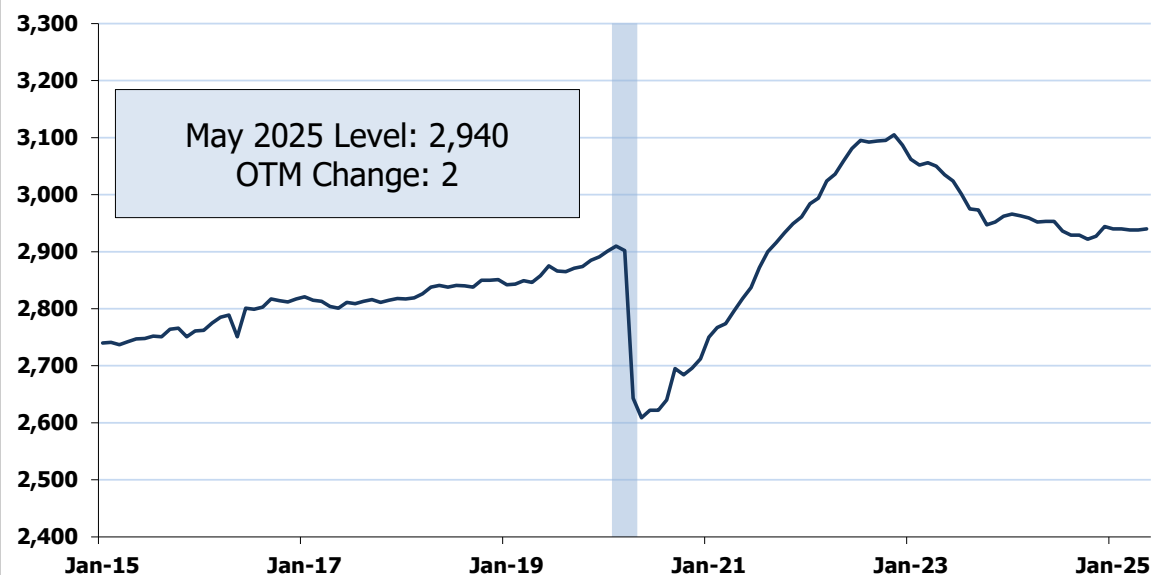
Utilities employment edged up by 2,000 in May.



Information

Employment in information January 2015–May 2025

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



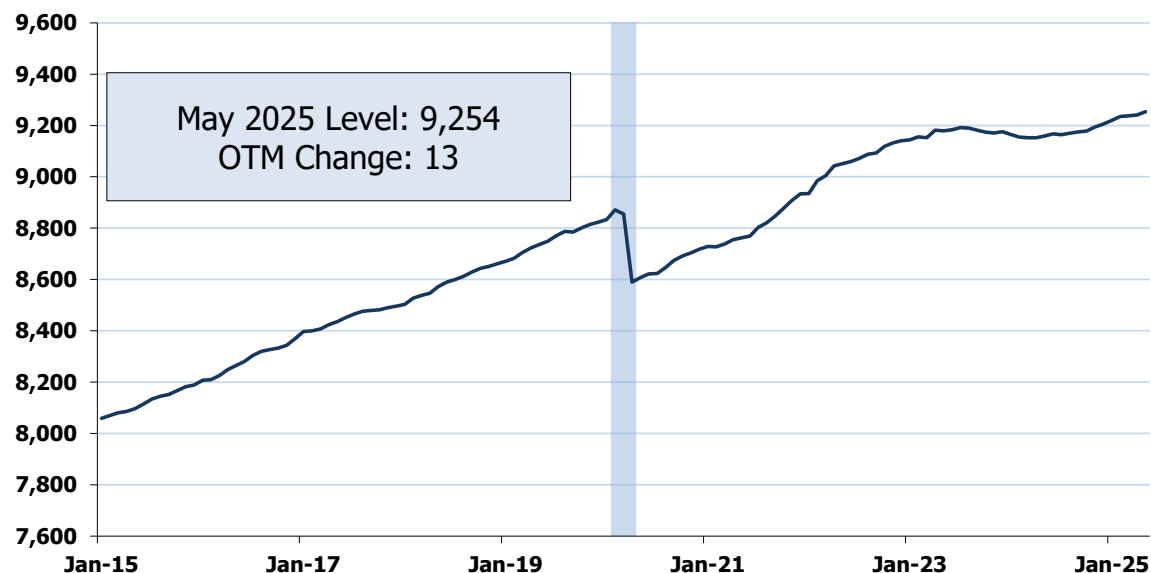
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, June 06, 2025.
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Employment in information changed little in May (+2,000) and has shown little net change over the most recent 12 months.

Financial Activities

Employment in financial activities January 2015–May 2025

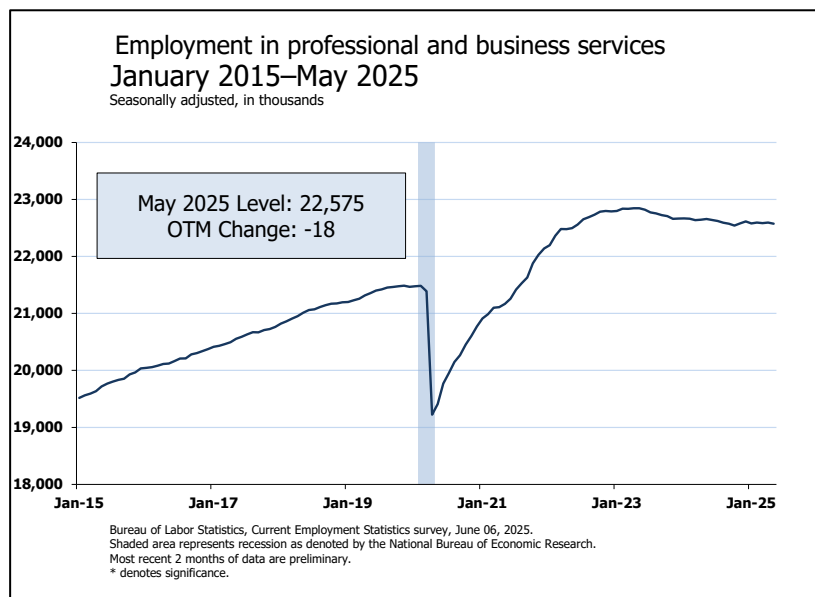
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



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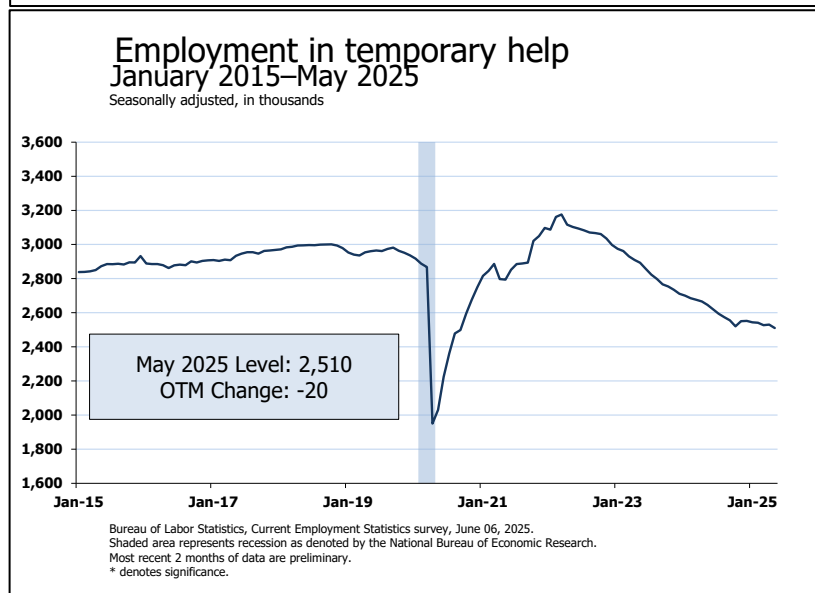
Employment in financial activities changed little in May (+13,000). The industry has added 102,000 jobs since its most recent employment trough in April 2024.

Professional and Business Services

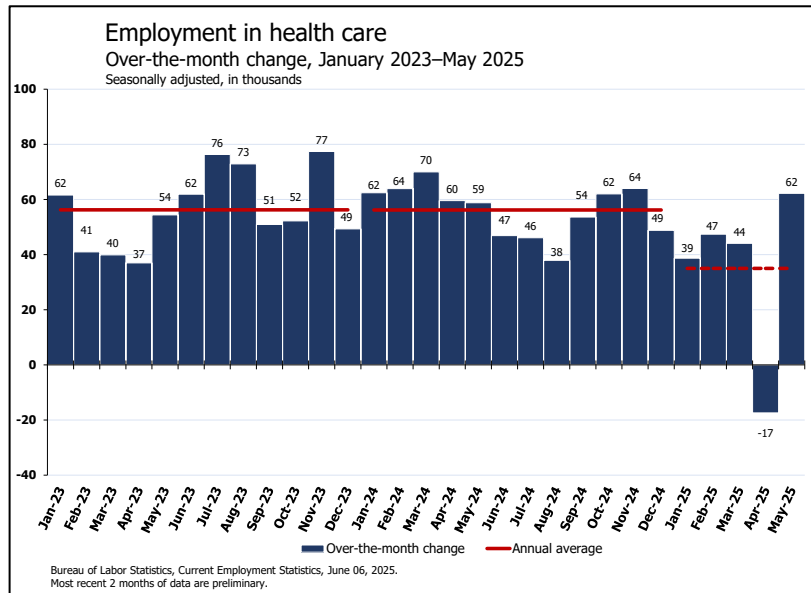


Employment in professional and business services changed little in May (-18,000). The industry has lost 271,000 jobs since its most recent peak in May 2023.

In May, employment in temporary help services changed little (-20,000). Since reaching an employment peak in March 2022, temporary help services has shed 666,000 jobs, a decline of 21.0 percent.



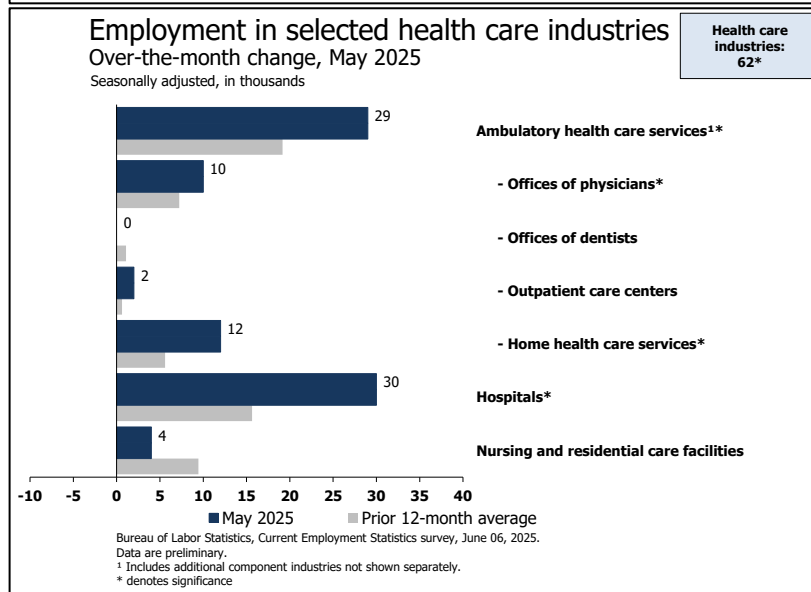
Private Education and Health Services



Employment in health care increased by 62,000 in May, above its prior 12-month average gain of 44,000 per month.

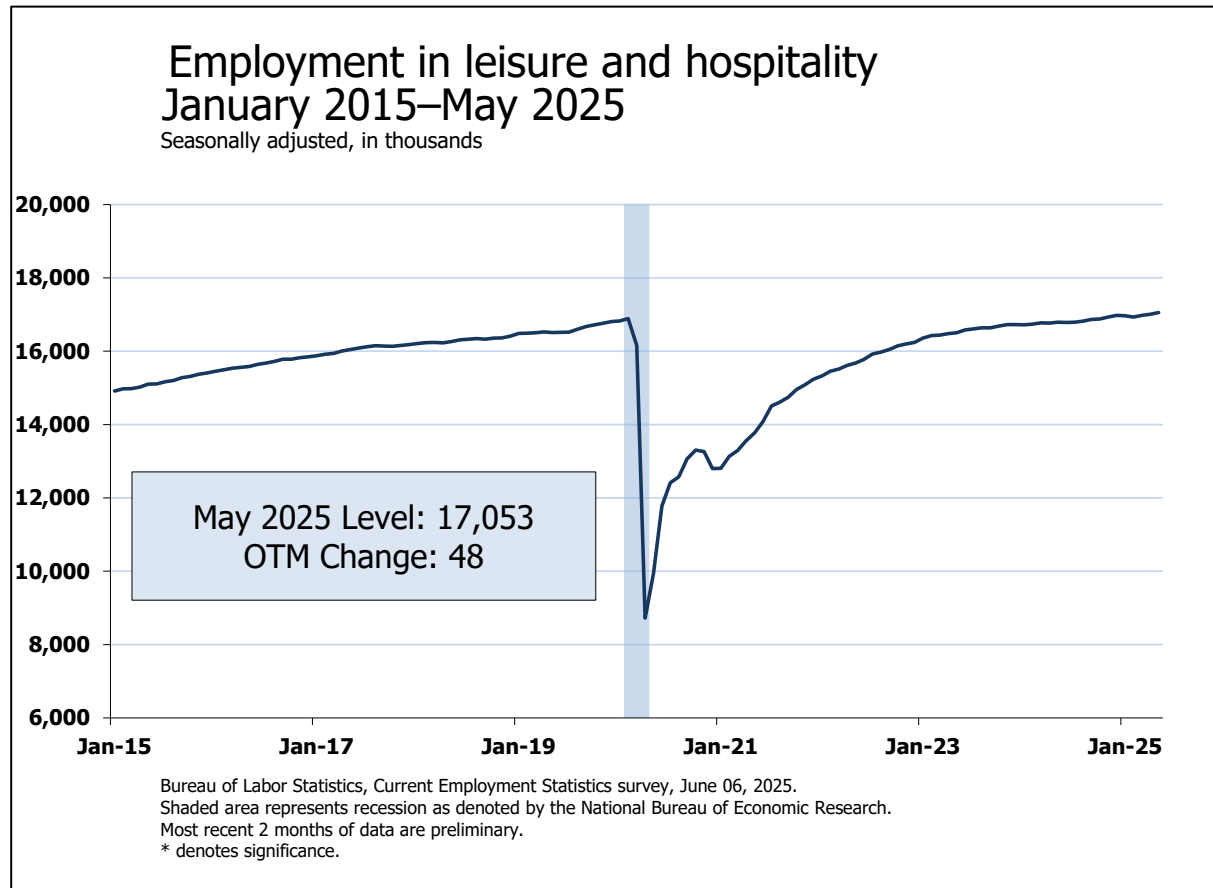
Over the month, hospitals (+30,000), ambulatory health care services (+29,000), and skilled nursing care facilities (+6,000) added jobs. Within ambulatory health care services, home health care (+12,000) and offices of physicians (+10,000) added jobs.

In May, employment in social assistance continued to trend up (+16,000), reflecting continued growth in individual and family services.



Note: April estimates from the establishment survey reflect the movement of workers between two different industries: home health care services and individual and family services. Changes in the administration of a New York state program caused workers who had previously been paid by establishments in the home health care services component of the health care industry to be included on payrolls in the individual and family services component of social assistance. This movement is reflected in the April 2025 estimates and contributed to an employment decline in health care and an employment gain in social assistance.

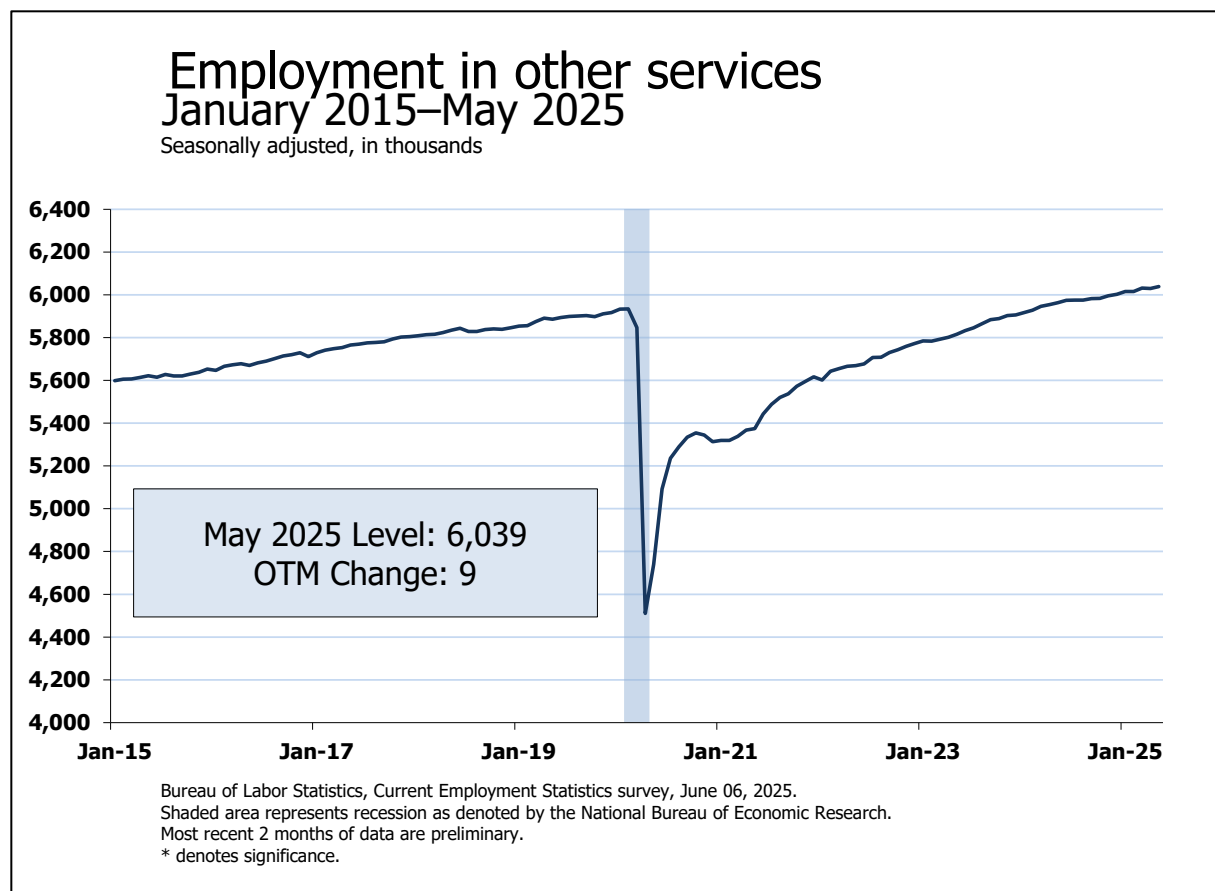
Leisure and Hospitality



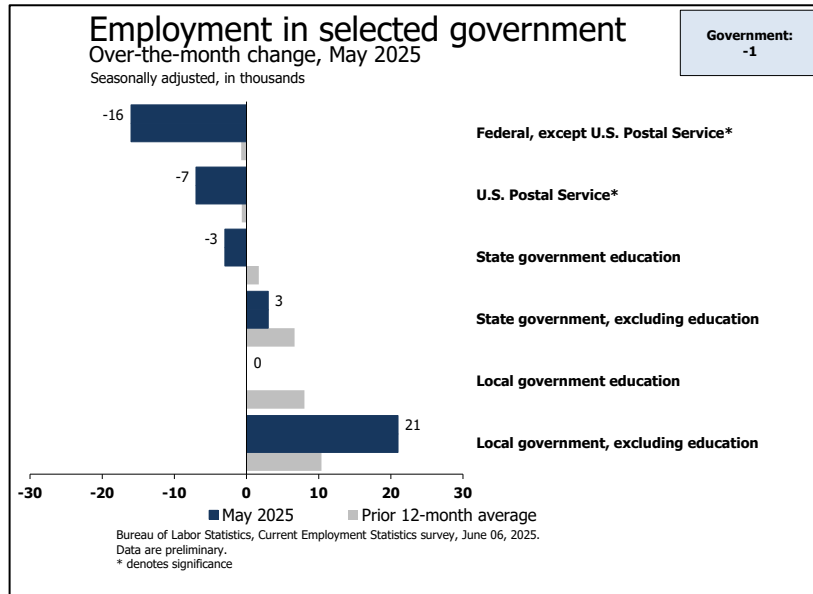
Employment in leisure and hospitality continued to trend up in May (+48,000), largely in food services and drinking places (+30,000). Over the prior 12 months, leisure and hospitality had added an average of 20,000 jobs per month.

Other Services

Employment in other services changed little in May (+9,000). Over the most recent 12 months, the industry has added 76,000 jobs.

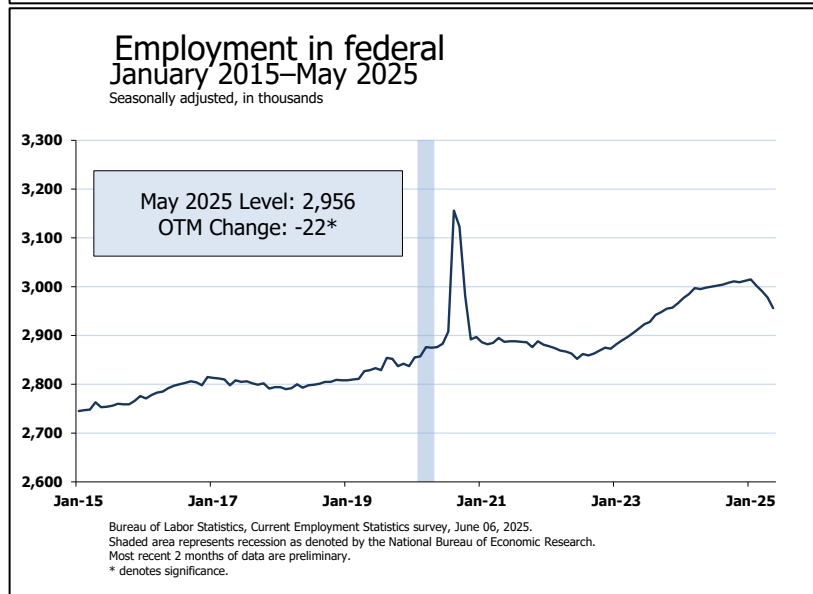


Government



In May, employment in government changed little (-1,000), following an average monthly gain of 25,000 over the prior 12 months.

Over the month, employment in federal government decreased by 22,000, with losses in federal, except U.S. Postal Service (-16,000) and in U.S. Postal Service (-7,000). Since January, federal government employment has fallen by 59,000. (Employees on paid leave or receiving ongoing severance pay are included as employed in the establishment survey.)





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