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Current Employment Statistics Highlights



April 2017

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Prepared by Analysts of the National Estimates Branch
Current Employment Statistics Survey
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Current Employment Statistics Summary, April 2017

Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 211,000 in April. Leisure and hospitality, health care and social assistance, financial activities, and mining added jobs.

The employment change for March revised down from +98,000 to +79,000, and the change for February revised up from +219,000 to +232,000. Incorporating revisions, job growth has averaged 174,000 per month over the past 3 months.

Average hourly earnings for all employees on private, nonfarm payrolls rose by 7 cents in April and are up 2.5 percent over the year. Average weekly hours increased 0.1 hour to 34.4 hours over the month.

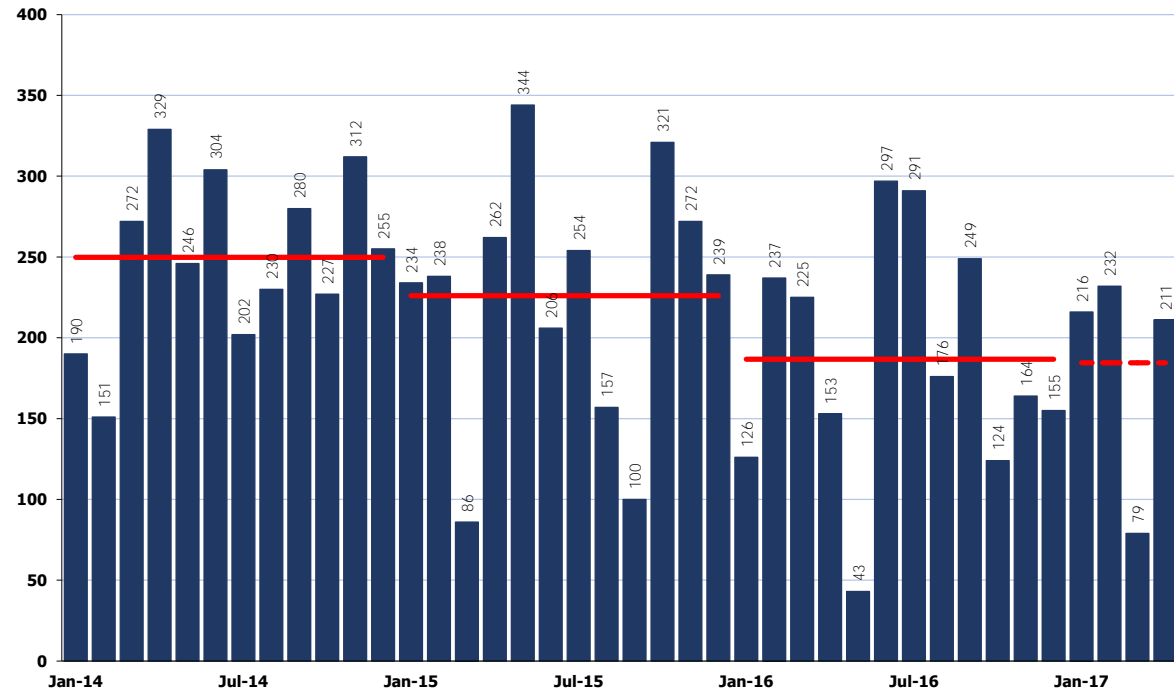
+55,000 Leisure and Hospitality

Leisure and hospitality added 55,000 jobs in April. Employment in food services and drinking places continued to trend up over the month (+26,000) and has increased by 260,000 over the year.

+41,000 Education and Health Services

In April, employment in health care continued to trend up (+20,000), in line with the average change during the first quarter. This industry had added an average 32,000

Employment in total nonfarm
Over-the-month change, January 2014–April 2017
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 05, 2017. Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

jobs per month in 2016. Within social assistance, employment in individual and family services expanded by 17,000 in April.

+39,000 Professional and Business Services

In April, employment continued to trend upward in professional and business services. Over the past 12 months, the industry has added 612,000 jobs.

Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, April 2017

+19,000 Financial Activities

Within financial activities, insurance carriers and related activities added 14,000 jobs in April. Over the year, insurance employment has grown by 56,000.

+10,000 Mining and Logging

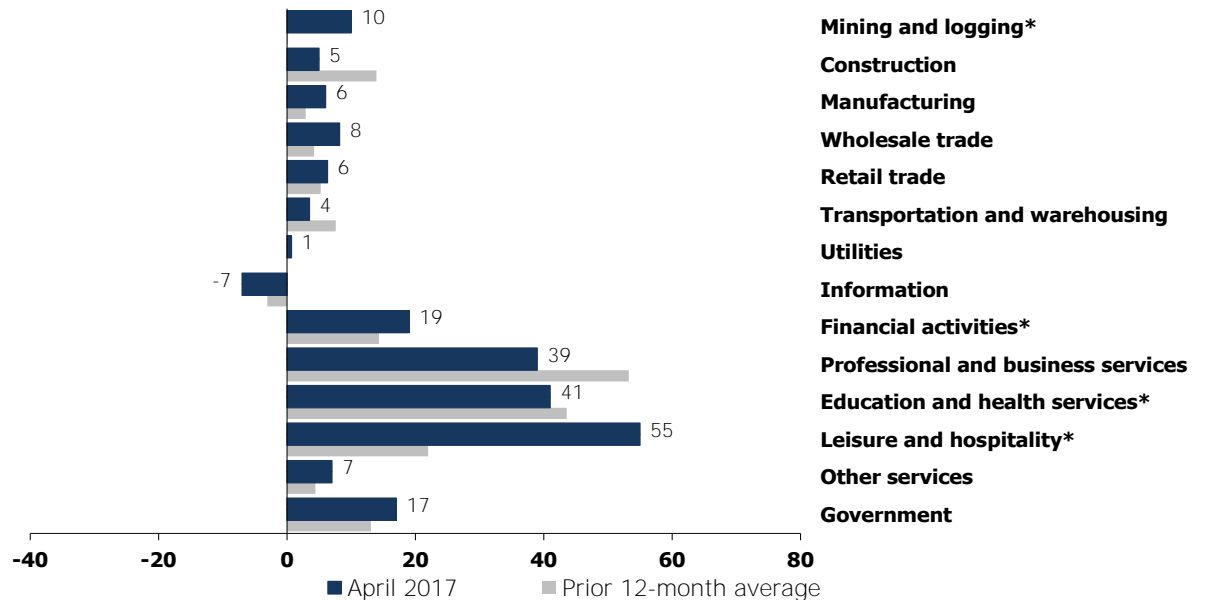
Mining employment increased by 9,000 in April, due primarily to a gain of 7,000 in support activities for mining. Since a recent employment low in October 2016, mining has added 44,000 jobs, with 33,000 of those coming in support activities.

-7,000 Information

Information employment continued to edge down (-7,000) in April, due to declines in broadcasting, except Internet (-3,000) and in telecommunications (-5,000), which partly reflects a small strike. Employment in information has declined by 45,000 over the past 6 months.

Employment in total nonfarm
Over-the-month change, April 2017
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Total nonfarm:
211*



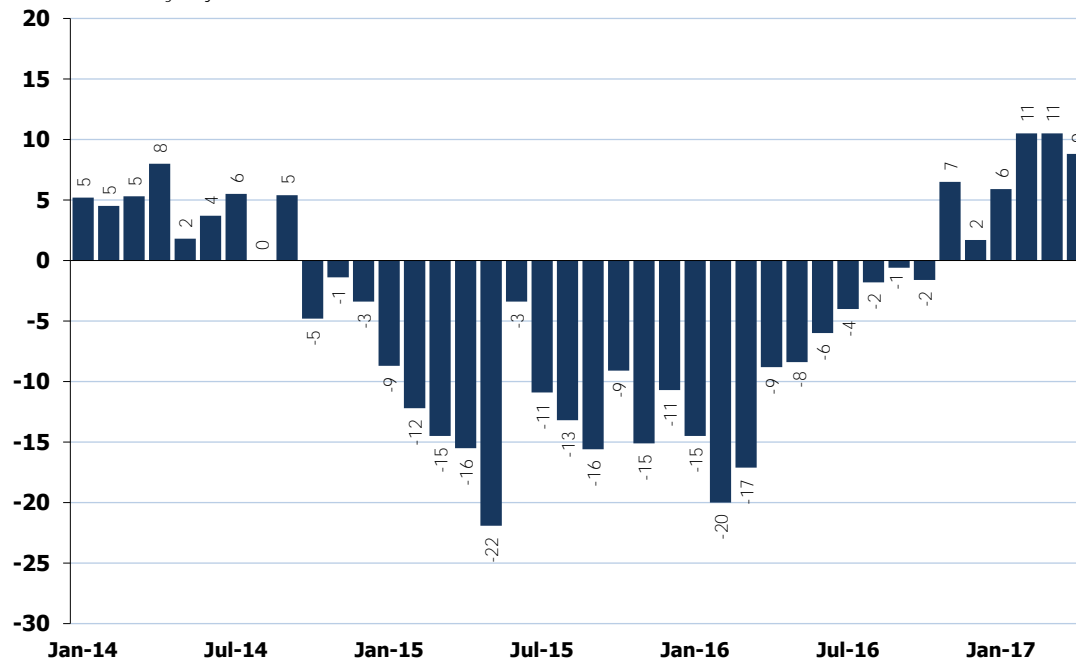
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 05, 2017.
Data are preliminary.
* denotes significance

Mining and Logging

Employment in mining

Over-the-month change, January 2014–April 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 05, 2017.

Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Mining added 9,000 jobs in April. Since a recent low in October, the industry has gained 44,000 jobs. Support activities for mining added 7,000 jobs in April.

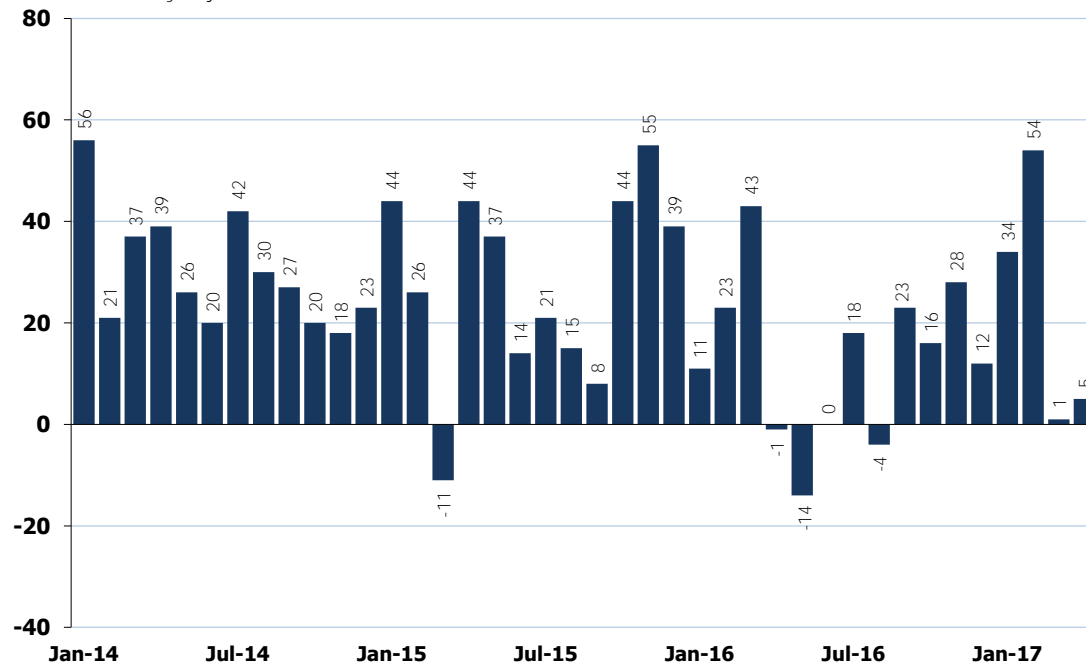
The recent job growth is consistent with trends in related economic indicators. Over the month, domestic [oil-rig](#) counts increased by 9 percent, and the price of West Texas Intermediate [oil](#) rose 11 percent.

Construction

Employment in construction

Over-the-month change, January 2014–April 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



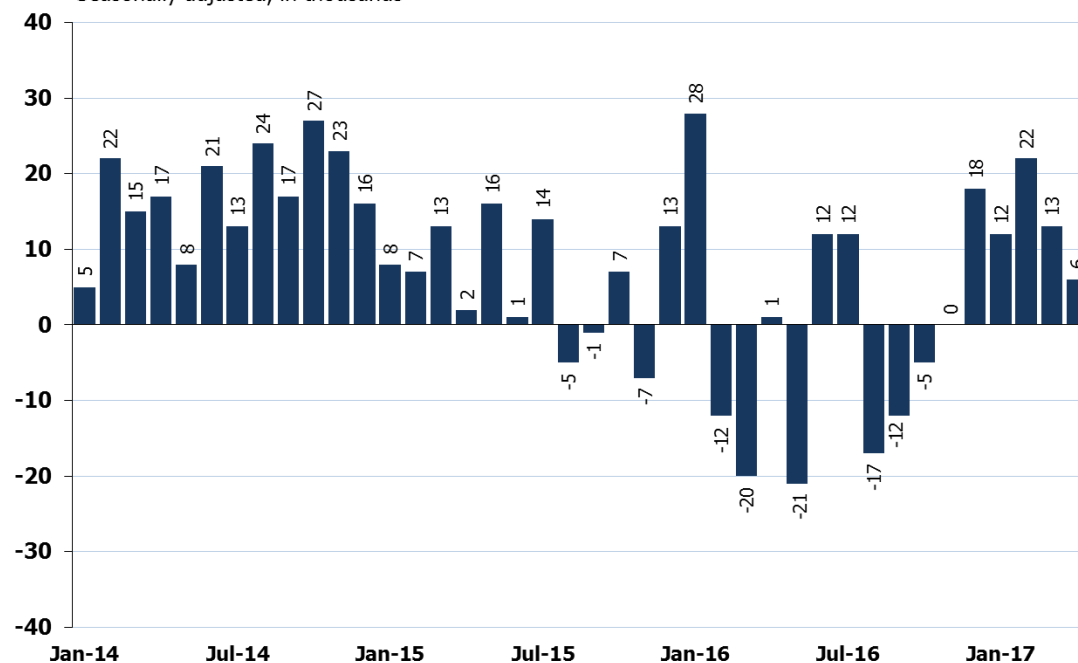
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 05, 2017.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Construction employment changed little for a second consecutive month in April (+5,000), following growth in January and February. Year to date, construction employment has risen by an average 24,000 per month, similar to the average gain over the prior 4-month period (+20,000).

Manufacturing

Employment in manufacturing Over-the-month change, January 2014–April 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 05, 2017.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in manufacturing continued to edge up in April (+6,000).

Nondurable goods employment continued to trend up in April (+9,000), driven by growth in food manufacturing (+9,000). Nearly three quarters of the employment gains in nondurable goods over the past 3 months occurred in food manufacturing. Employment in durable goods remained flat in April (-3,000).

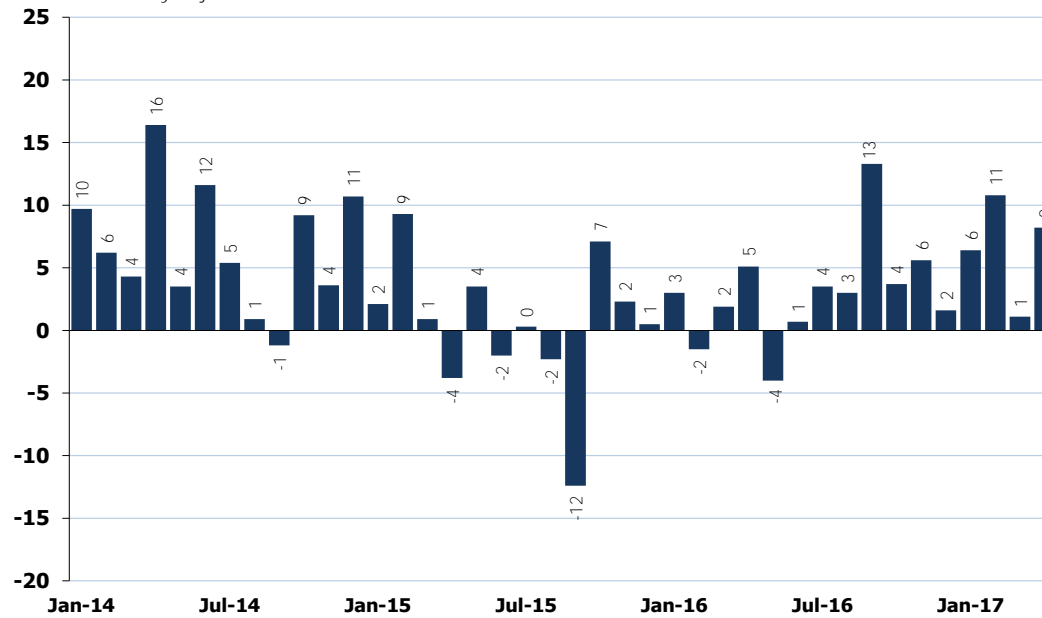
Consistent with the recent employment trend in manufacturing, in April, the [Purchasing Managers' Index](#) decreased from 57.2 to 54.8, indicating that the manufacturing sector is expanding at a slower pace than in March.

Wholesale Trade

Employment in wholesale trade

Over-the-month change, January 2014–April 2017

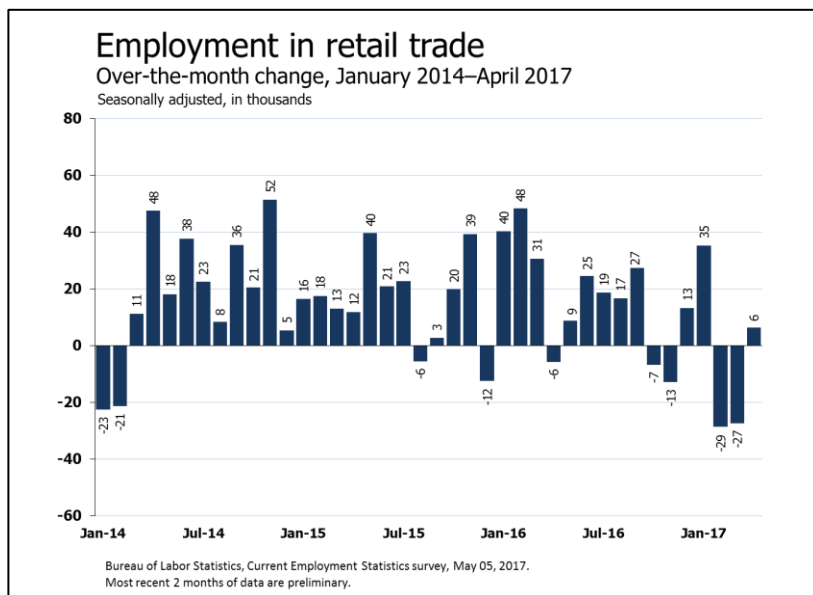
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



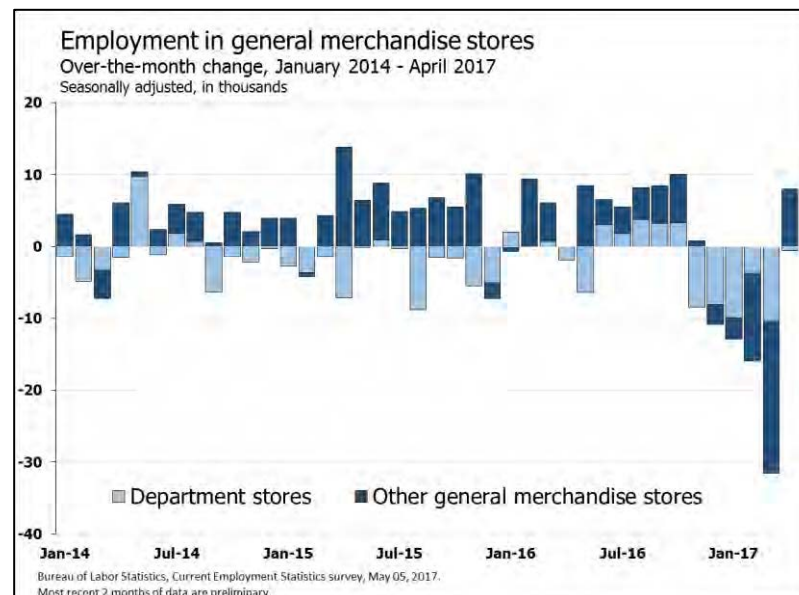
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 05, 2017.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in wholesale trade continued to trend up in April (+8,000), bringing the industry's 12-month net job gain to 54,000.

Retail Trade

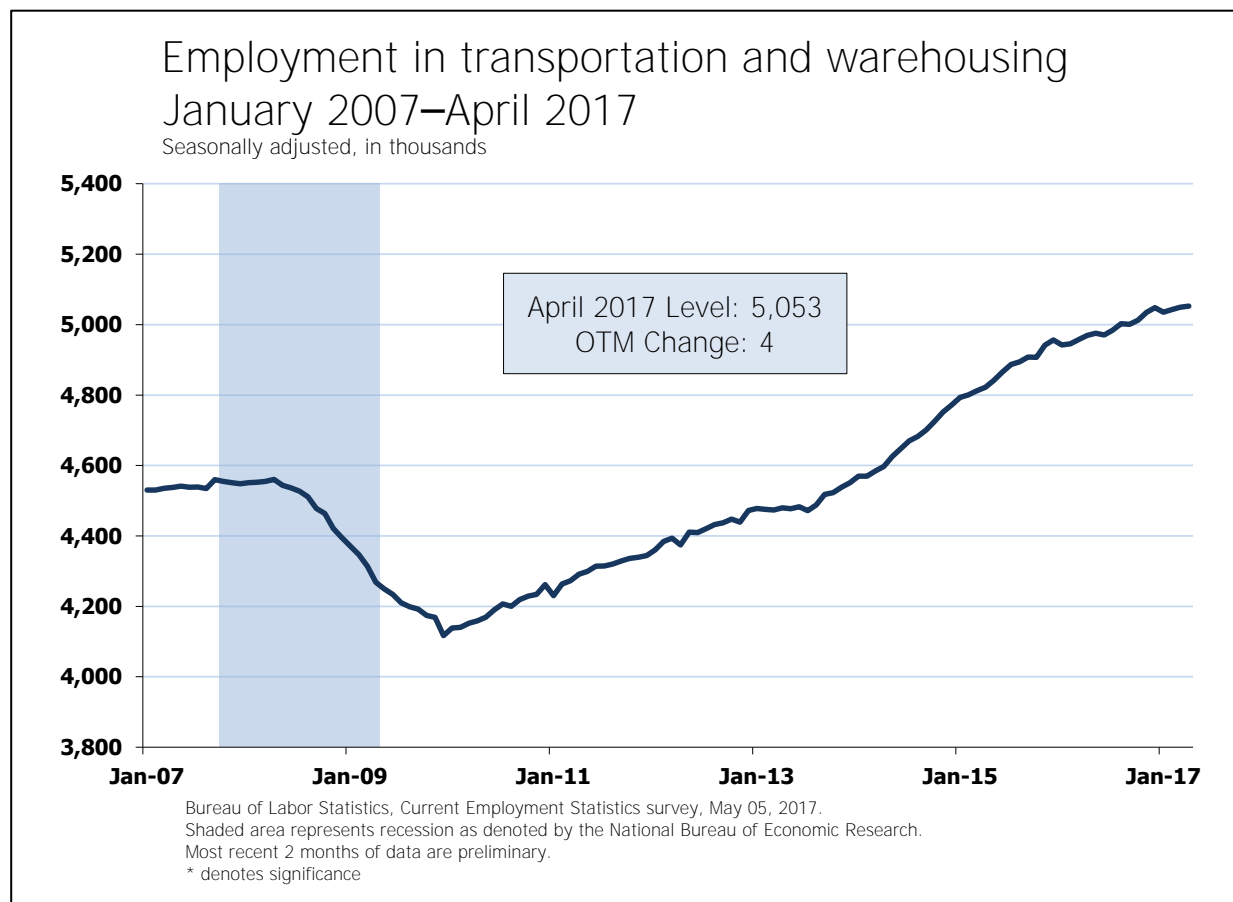


In April, employment in retail trade changed little (+6,000) following losses in February and March.



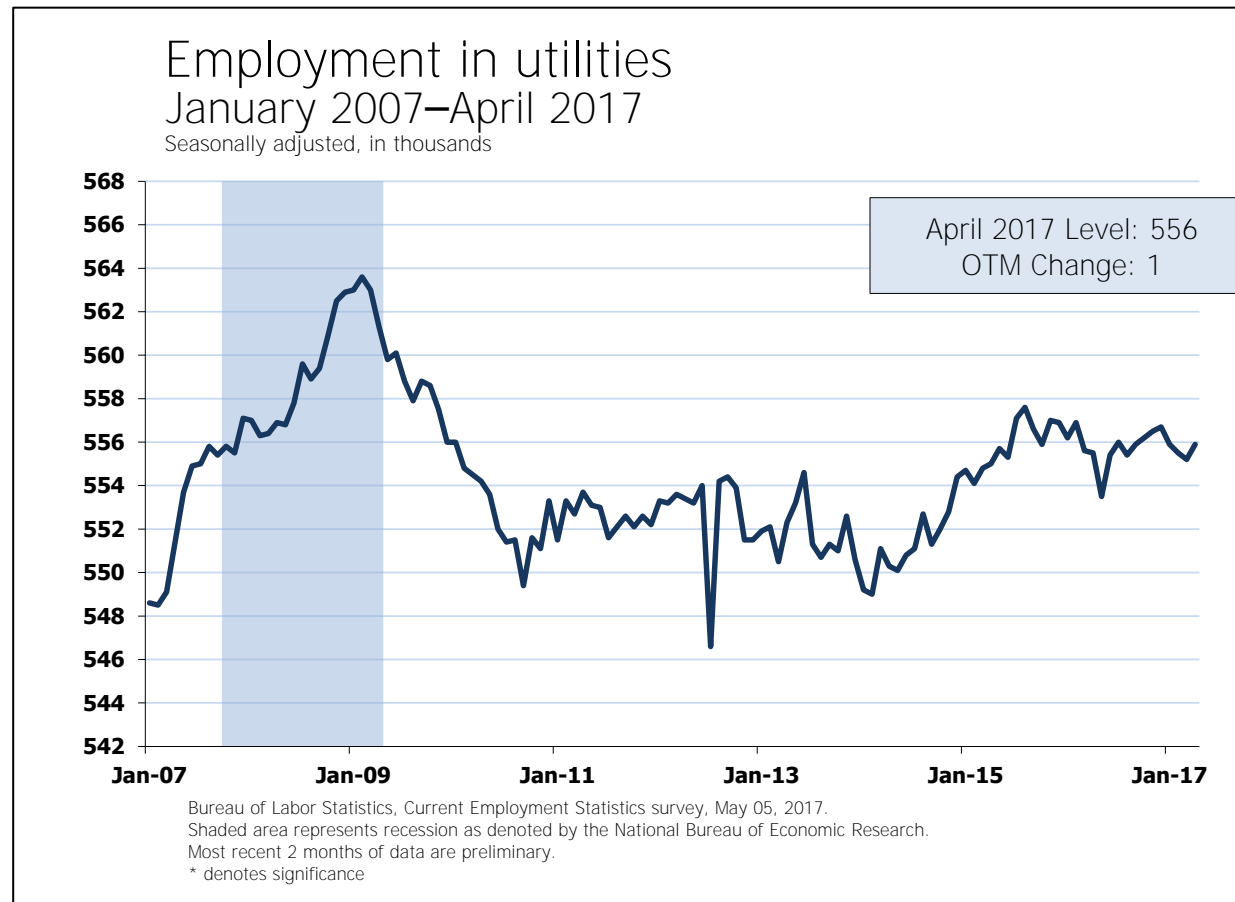
Employment in general merchandise stores edged up by 8,000 in April. Within this industry, other general merchandise stores, such as supercenters and warehouse clubs, added 8,000 jobs while employment in department stores was flat.

Transportation and Warehousing



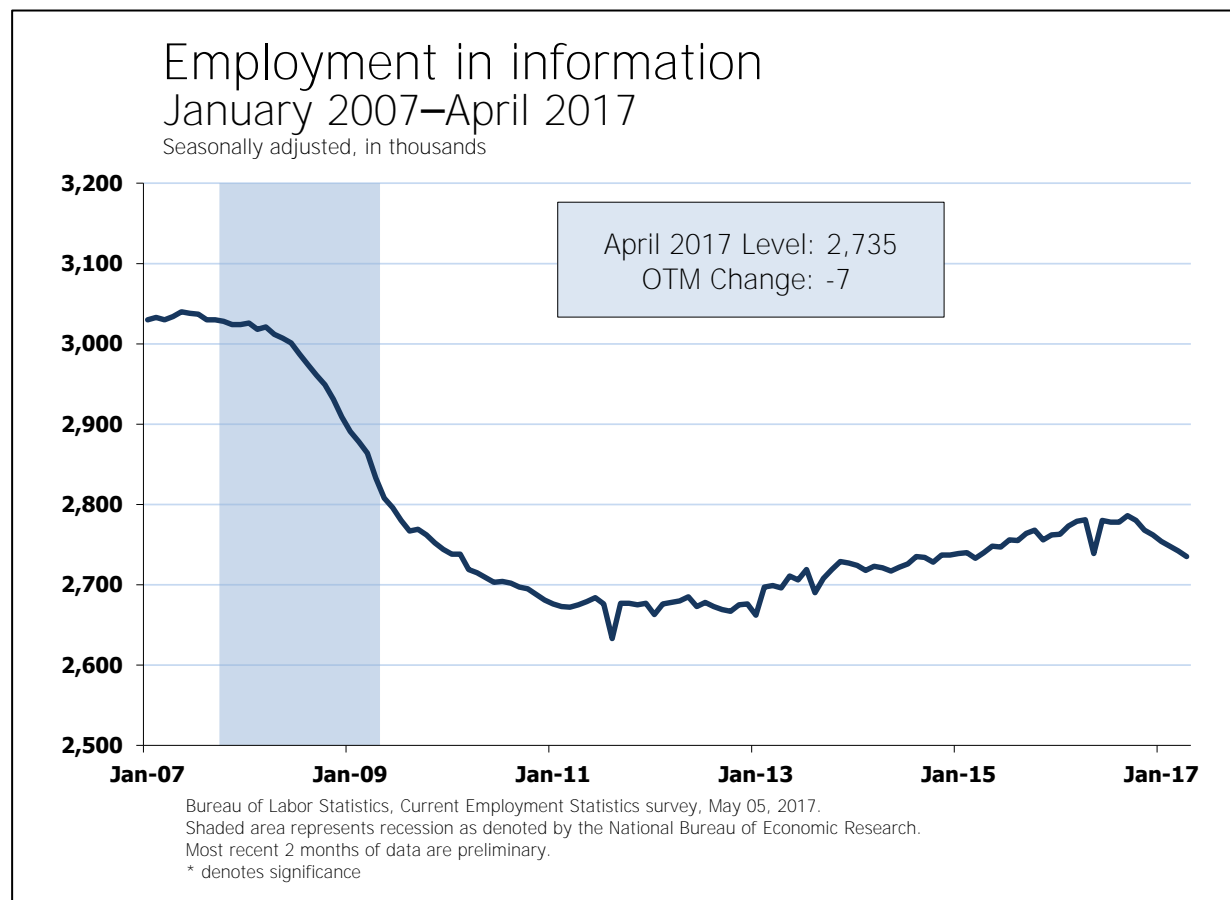
Employment in transportation and warehousing was flat in April (+4,000). This continues a trend of industry-wide deceleration. In 2014, job gains averaged 18,000 per month, compared to an average 7,000 jobs added over the latest 12 months.

Utilities



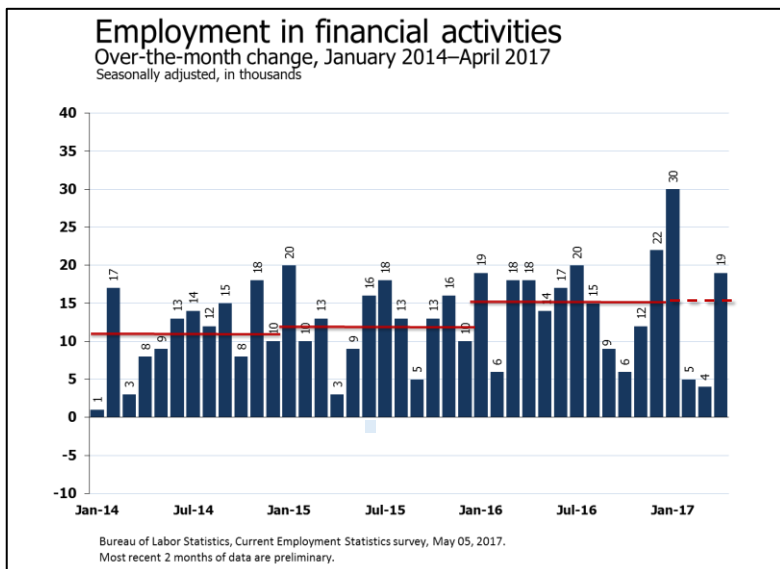
In April, employment in utilities edged up by 1,000, partly offsetting a modest decrease in the first quarter.

Information



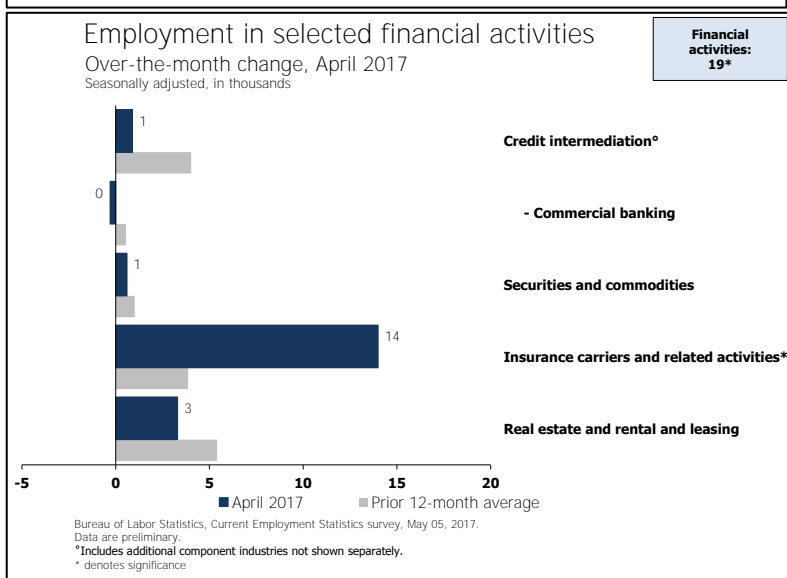
Employment in information continued to trend down in April (-7,000). This marks the seventh consecutive month of weakness, with information losing a total of 51,000 jobs since the recent peak in September 2016. A small [strike](#) contributed to a decline of 5,000 in telecommunications.

Financial Activities

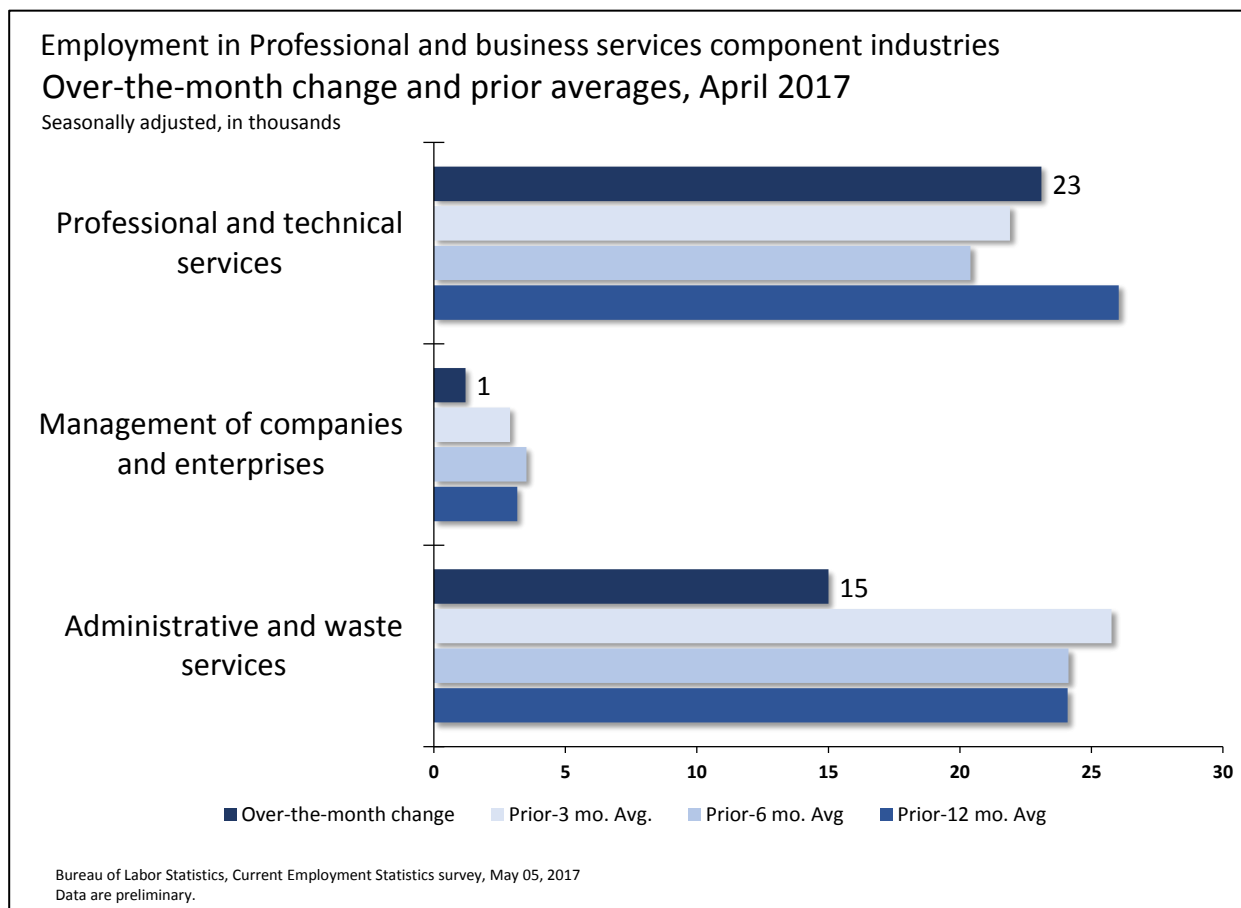


Financial activities added 19,000 jobs in April. So far this year, employment growth in the industry has remained in line with its 2016 average increase of 15,000 per month.

In April, widespread strength within insurance carriers and related activities (+14,000) contributed to the job growth in financial activities.



Professional and Business Services



Employment in professional and business services continued to trend up in April (+39,000). Both professional and technical services and management of companies and enterprises continued their recent employment trends. Employment in professional and technical services edged up by 23,000, while management of companies and enterprises changed little.

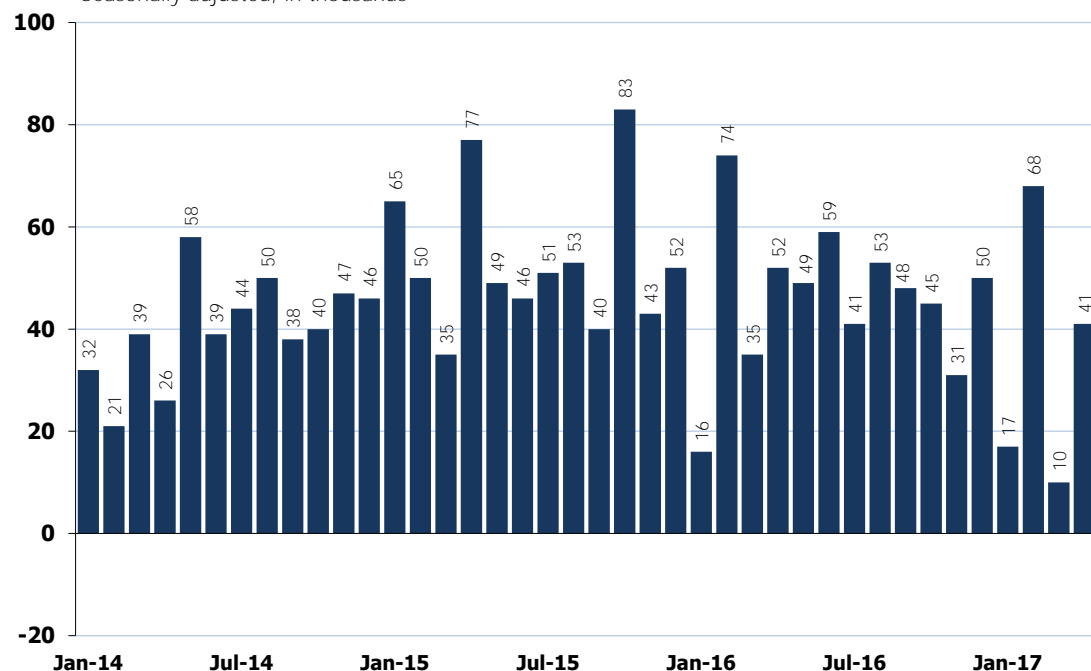
Administrative and waste services employment came in below its prior 3-, 6-, and 12-month average changes in April (+15,000). Services to building and dwellings added 10,000 jobs within the industry. Volatility in administrative and waste services employment has been the primary cause of recent fluctuations in all of professional and business services.

Private Education and Health Services

Employment in education and health services

Over-the-month change, January 2014–April 2017

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

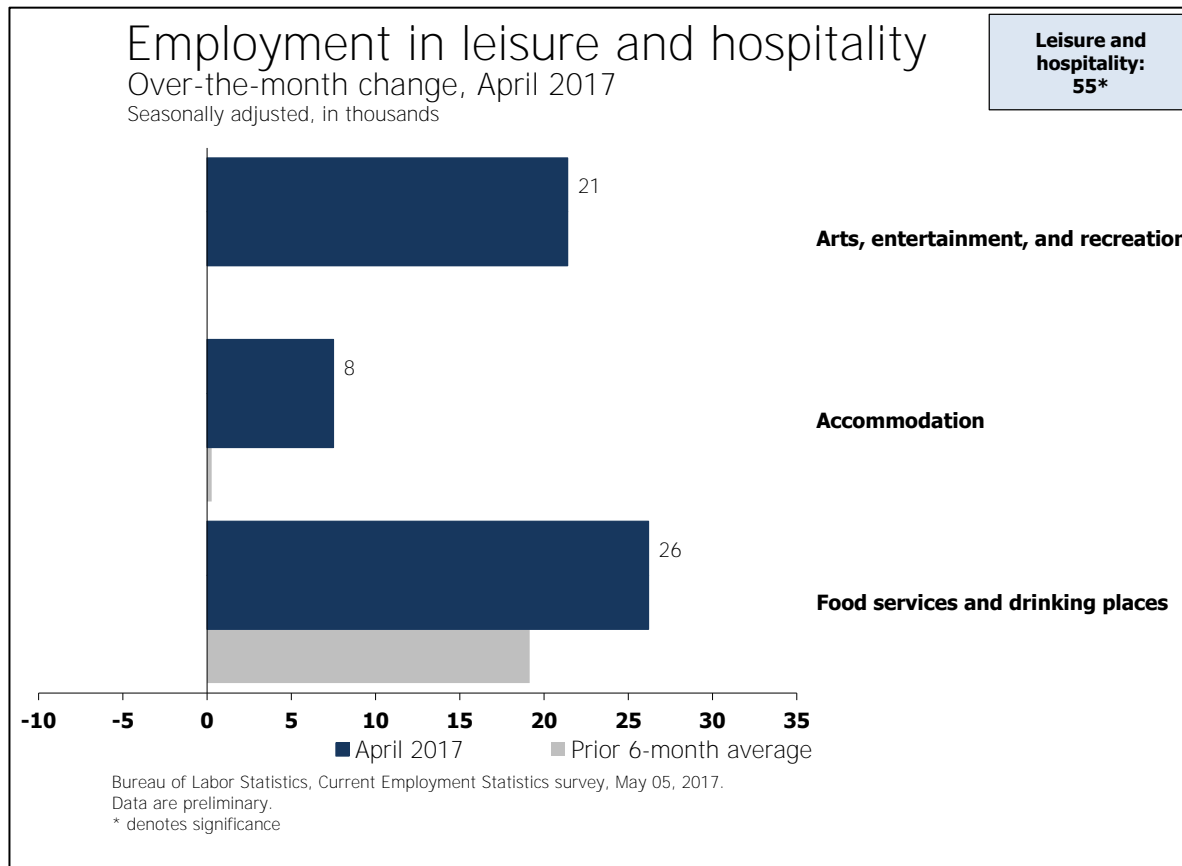


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 05, 2017.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Private education and health services added 41,000 jobs in April. So far this year, job growth in education and health services has averaged roughly 34,000 per month, below the average monthly change for 2016 (+46,000).

Within social assistance, individual and family services, added 17,000 jobs in April, well above its prior 12-month average (+6,000).

Leisure and Hospitality



Leisure and hospitality employment rose by 55,000 in April; the strength was widespread among the component industries. Food services and drinking places employment continued to trend up (+26,000).

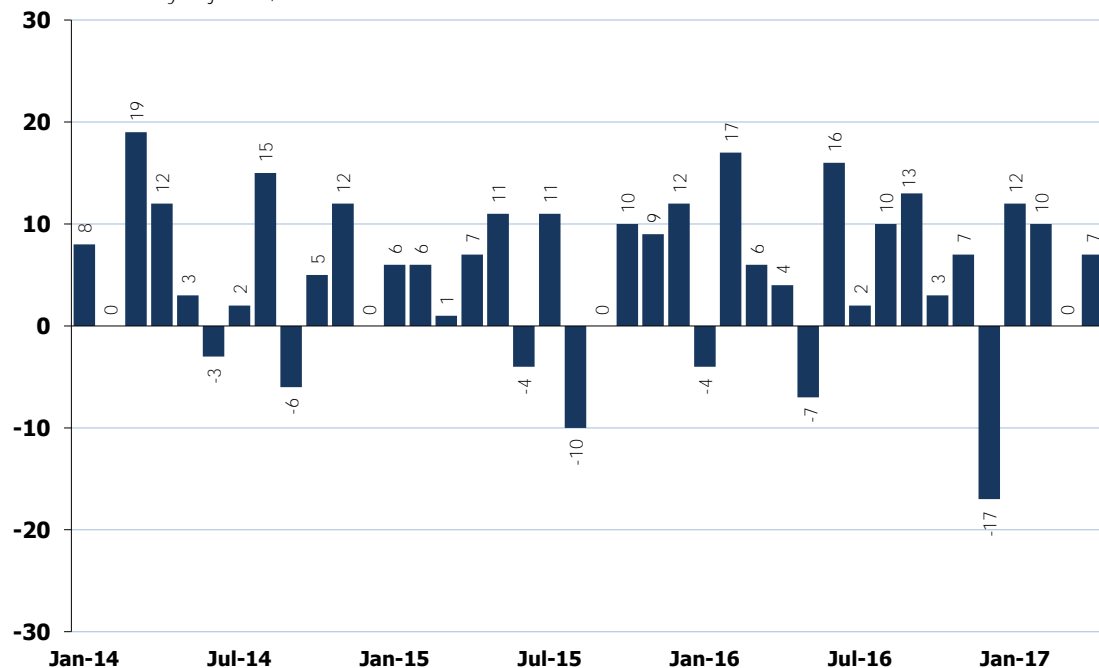
Arts, entertainment, and recreation (+21,000) also contributed to the job gain. Among its component industries, employment in performing arts and spectator sports and in amusements, gambling, and recreation edged up in April, offsetting weakness in March.

Other Services

Employment in other services

Over-the-month change, January 2014–April 2017

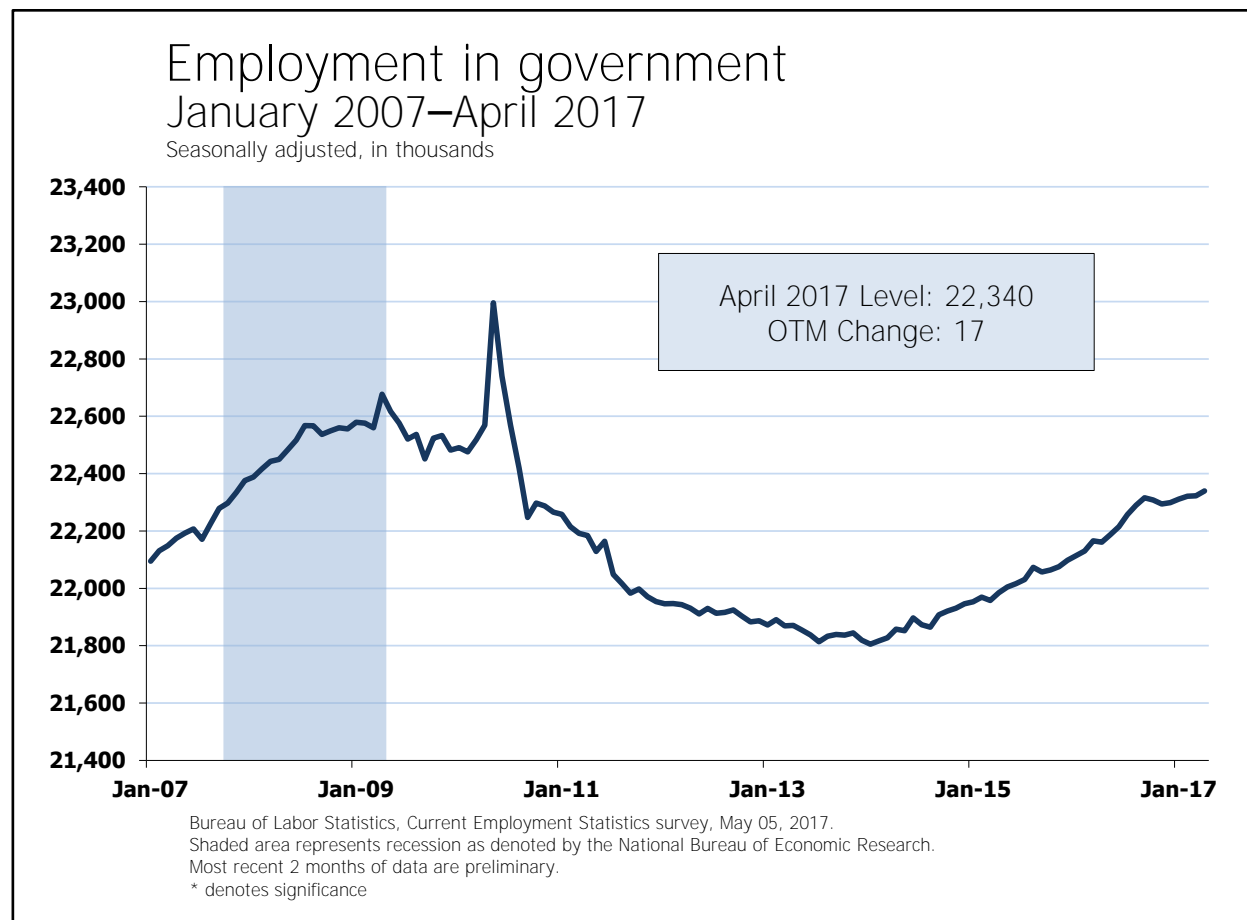
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, May 05, 2017.
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Employment in other services continued to trend up in April (+7,000). This industry has added 56,000 jobs over the year. Personal and laundry services accounted for 72 percent of the job gains over this period, including 8,000 in April.

Government



Government employment changed little in April (+17,000) and has remained essentially flat since September 2016. Since its most recent trough in January 2014, government employment has increased by 535,000. Local government accounted for 415,000 of this increase.



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