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Current Employment Statistics Highlights

October 2022

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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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Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 261,000 in October. Monthly job growth has averaged 407,000 thus far in 2022, compared with 562,000 per month in 2021. Over the month, employment rose in health care, professional and technical services, and manufacturing.

The employment change for August revised down from +315,000 to +292,000, and the change for September revised up from +263,000 to +315,000. Employment over these months is 29,000 higher than previously reported.

Average hourly earnings of all employees on private-sector payrolls rose by 12 cents, or 0.4 percent, in October. Over the year, hourly earnings have increased by 4.7 percent. Average weekly hours, at 34.5 hours, were unchanged in October.

**+79,000 Education and Health Services**

Health care added 53,000 jobs in October. Within the industry, employment increased in ambulatory health care services (+31,000), nursing and residential care facilities (+11,000), and hospitals (+11,000). Employment in health care has grown by 473,000 so far this year.

Employment in social assistance rose by 19,000 in October and by 169,000 so far this year.

**+39,000 Professional and Business Services**

In October, employment rose in professional and technical services (+43,000). Within the industry, employment continued to trend up in management and technical
consulting services (+7,000), architectural and engineering services (+7,000), scientific research and development services (+5,000), and other professional and technical services (+4,000). So far this year, professional and technical services has added an average 41,000 jobs per month, compared with 53,000 per month in 2021.

**+35,000 Leisure and Hospitality**

Employment in leisure and hospitality continued to trend up in October (+35,000). Within the industry, accommodation added 20,000 jobs. Employment in food services and drinking places changed little over the month (+6,000). Job growth in leisure and hospitality has averaged 78,000 per month so far this year, down from an average 196,000 per month in 2021. Despite the growth, employment in the industry is 1.1 million lower than in February 2020.

**+32,000 Manufacturing**

Employment in manufacturing grew by 32,000 in October, with growth concentrated in durable goods (+23,000). So far this year, employment in manufacturing has risen by an average 37,000 per month, compared with 30,000 per month in 2021.

**+28,000 Government**

Employment in government changed little in October and is 529,000 lower than in February 2020.

**+15,000 Wholesale Trade**

In October, employment continued to trend up in wholesale trade (+15,000). So far this year, employment in the industry has grown by an average 17,000 per month, compared with 13,000 per month in 2021.
Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, October 2022

**+8,000 Transportation and Warehousing**
Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little in October (+8,000). Within the industry, job gains in truck transportation (+13,000), in couriers and messengers (+7,000) and in air transportation (+4,000) more than offset a job loss in warehousing and storage (-20,000). So far this year, employment in transportation and warehousing has risen by an average 25,000 per month, down from an average 36,000 per month in 2021.

**+3,000 Financial Activities**
Employment in financial activities changed little in October (+3,000). Within the industry, job gains in insurance carriers and related activities (+9,000) and in securities, commodity contracts, investments and funds and trusts (+5,000) more than offset a job loss in rental and leasing services (-8,000). Over the past 6 months, employment in financial activities has changed little (+35,000).
Employment in mining changed little in October (+1,000) and has shown little net change over the past 4 months.

Recent flatness in mining employment has coincided with a moderate increase in North American rotary rigs and with a downward trend in the average weekly price of West Texas Intermediate crude oil in recent months.
Employment in construction was essentially unchanged (+1,000) in October, after increasing by 22,000 in September. So far this year, construction has added 175,000 jobs.

The weakness in October construction employment follows little change in housing starts, residential building permits, and new home sales in September.
Manufacturing added 32,000 jobs in October and 456,000 jobs over the past 12 months.

Durable goods added 23,000 jobs in October. Employment in durable goods is 23,000 below its most recent peak in February 2019.

The manufacturing 1-month diffusion index decreased 0.6 point to 56.8 in October. Despite the decline, a number above 50 indicates that more manufacturing industries are adding jobs, than are losing jobs.

Weakness in the diffusion index coincides with decreases in the ISM Manufacturing Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI) and S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI.

Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings of all employees in manufacturing increased by 3.6 percent to $31.23. Production workers’ average hourly earnings increased by 4.9 percent to $25.35 over the year.

In October, average weekly hours of all employees in manufacturing, at 40.4 hours, were little changed (+ 0.1 hour). The average workweek of production employees was unchanged at 41.1 hours. Average weekly overtime hours for all employees fell 0.1 hour to 3.1 hours in October. Overtime hours for production workers remained unchanged at 3.9 hours.
Employment in wholesale trade rose in October (+15,000) and has increased by 173,000 so far this year.

Employment in durable goods is 46,000 higher than in February 2020; however, employment is 10,000 lower in nondurable goods and 6,000 lower in electronic markets and agents and brokers.
Employment in retail trade changed little in October (+7,000), although electronics and appliance stores (-6,000) and department stores (-5,000) lost jobs.

Retail trade has added an average 23,000 jobs per month in 2022, down from 35,000 per month in 2021.

Retail-related economic indicators are mixed. In October, the per-gallon price of regular gasoline increased, and the Consumer Confidence Index decreased. Conversely, in September, Retail Sales were flat, while Real Personal Consumption Expenditures for goods and Auto Sales increased.
Employment in transportation and warehousing changed little (+8,000) in October. So far this year, transportation and warehousing has added an average 25,000 jobs per month, compared with an average 36,000 per month in 2021.

In October, employment gains in truck transportation (+13,000), couriers and messengers (+7,000), and air transportation (+4,000) more than offset a job loss in warehousing and storage (-20,000). Job growth in warehousing and storage has averaged 3,000 per month in 2022, compared with 13,000 per month in 2021. Recent weakness in the industry follows news reports citing labor shortages and increased automation.
Employment in utilities was flat (+1,000) in October.

Employment in utilities January 2012–October 2022
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

October 2022 Level: 544
OTM Change: 1

Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
* denotes significance.
Employment in information changed little in October (+4,000) and has shown little net change over the past 3 months.

In October, other information services—which includes news syndicates, libraries, archives, exclusive internet publishing and/or broadcasting, and web search portals—added 7,000 jobs.
Employment in financial activities changed little in October (+3,000) and has shown little net change over the past 6 months.

In October, job gains were driven by insurance carriers and related activities (+9,000), securities and commodities (+5,000), and commercial banking (+3,000). These gains were partially offset by decreases in rental and leasing services (-8,000) and activities related to credit intermediation (-4,000).
Employment in professional and business services continued to trend up in October (+39,000). Job growth has averaged 67,000 per month in 2022, compared with 94,000 per month in 2021.

In October, employment in professional and technical services increased by 43,000. Employment continued to trend up in management and technical consulting services (+7,000), architectural and engineering services (+7,000), scientific research and development services (+5,000), and other professional and technical services (+4,000).

Employment in temporary help services changed little in October (+12,000). Employment in the industry has changed by an average 10,000 per month in 2022, down from an average 25,000 per month in 2021.

The recent trend in temporary help services coincides with weakness in the ASA Staffing Index report.
Employment in health care increased by 53,000 in October. Job growth has averaged 47,000 per month in 2022, compared with 9,000 per month in 2021.

In October, ambulatory health care services added 31,000 jobs. Elsewhere in health care, hospitals added 11,000 jobs and nursing and residential care facilities added 11,000 jobs.

Employment in social assistance increased by 19,000 over the month and is 9,000 below its February 2020 level.
In October, employment in leisure and hospitality changed little (+35,000). Job growth has slowed to an average 78,000 per month in 2022, down from an average 196,000 per month in 2021. Despite these gains, employment in the industry is 1.1 million below its February 2020 level.

Over the year, average hourly earnings for all employees in leisure and hospitality rose 6.5 percent to $20.43.

Employment in accommodation increased by 20,000 in October. Job gains have averaged 13,000 per month in 2022, compared to 26,000 per month in 2021.

In October, employment in food services and drinking places was flat (+6,000). Job gains have averaged 51,000 per month this year, well below the average 196,000 per month in 2021. Employment in the industry is 565,000 below its February 2020 level.
Employment in other services changed little in October (+9,000) and is 218,000 below its February 2020 level.
Employment in government changed little in October (+28,000) and is 529,000 below its February 2020 level.
Current Employment Statistics Highlights

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