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# Current Employment Statistics Highlights



**August 2016**

Release Date: September 2, 2016

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 Survey Summary, August 2016

Nonfarm payroll employment increased by 151,000 in August. Employment continued to trend up in health care and social assistance, food services and drinking places, professional and technical services, and financial activities.

Average hourly earnings of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased 3 cents in August, following an increase of 8 cents in July. Over the past 12 months, hourly earnings have increased by 2.4 percent. Average weekly hours fell 0.1 hour to 34.3 hours over the month and are down 0.3 hour since reaching a peak in August 2015.

The employment change for June 2016 revised down from +292,000 to +271,000. The change for July 2016 revised up from +255,000 to +275,000. Over the past 3 months, job growth has averaged 232,000 per month.

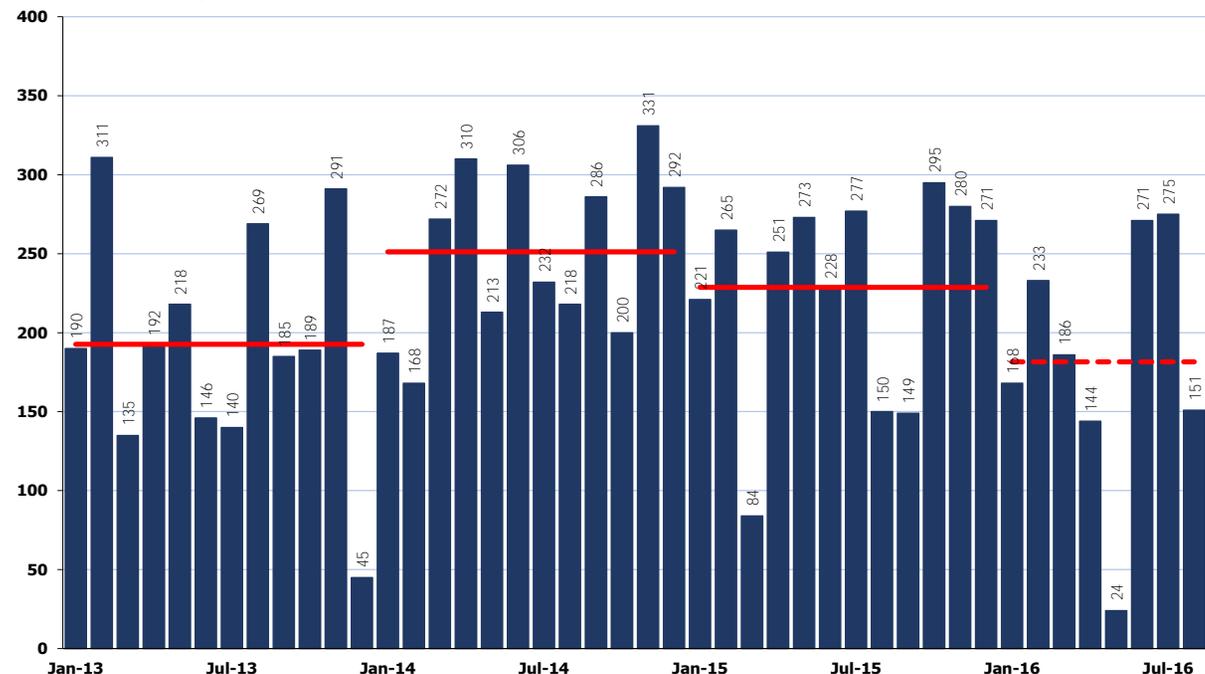
### +39,000 Education and Health Services

Employment in health care continued to trend up in August (+14,000); job growth had averaged 39,000 per month over the prior 12 months.

Within health care, hospital employment rose by 11,000 in August and has grown by 167,000 over the year. Nursing and residential care facilities lost 9,000 jobs over the month, following a gain of 9,000 in July.

### Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, January 2013–August 2016  
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, September 02, 2016.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in social assistance rose by 22,000 in August. Job gains occurred in individual and family services (+17,000) and in emergency and other relief services (+3,000). Over the year, social assistance has added 113,000 jobs.

### +29,000 Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in food services and drinking places continued to trend up over the month (+34,000). Over the year, employment in food services has risen by 312,000.

### Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, August 2016

#### +22,000 Professional and Business Services

Employment in professional and technical services continued to trend up in August (+20,000). Within the industry, employment edged up over the month in computer systems design and related services (+6,000) and in management and technical consulting services (+7,000). Professional and technical services employment has grown by 287,000 jobs over the year.

#### +15,000 Financial Activities

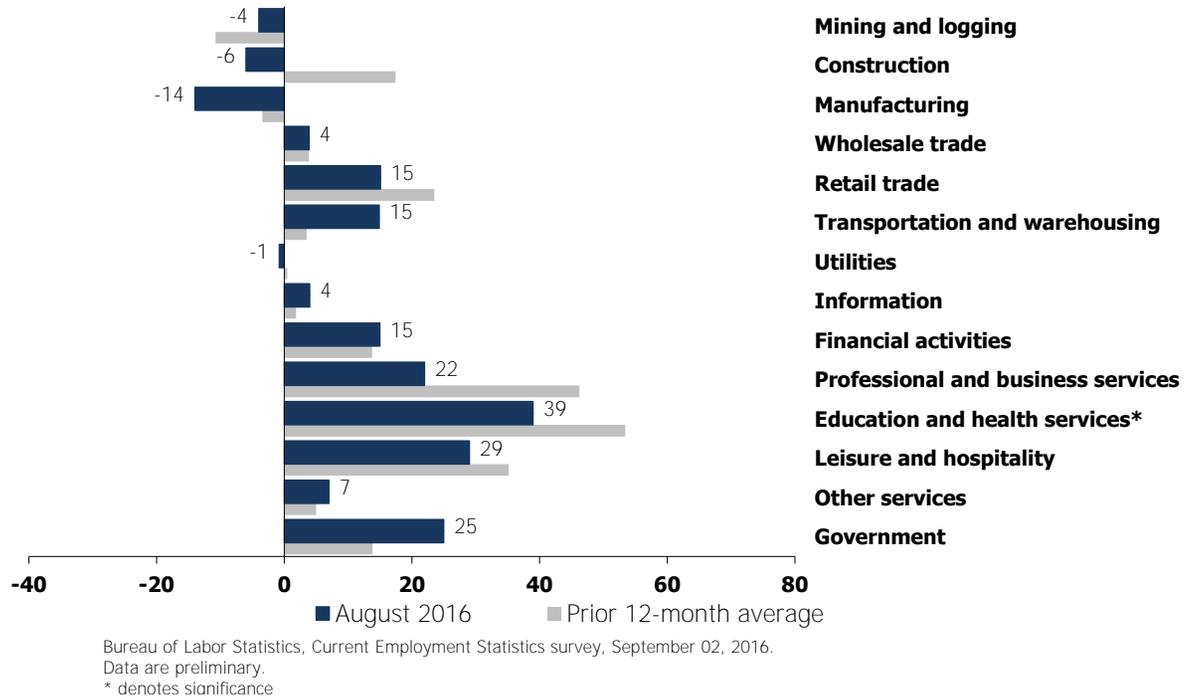
Employment in financial activities continued to trend up in August. Over the year, financial activities has added 167,000 jobs.

#### -4,000 Mining and Logging

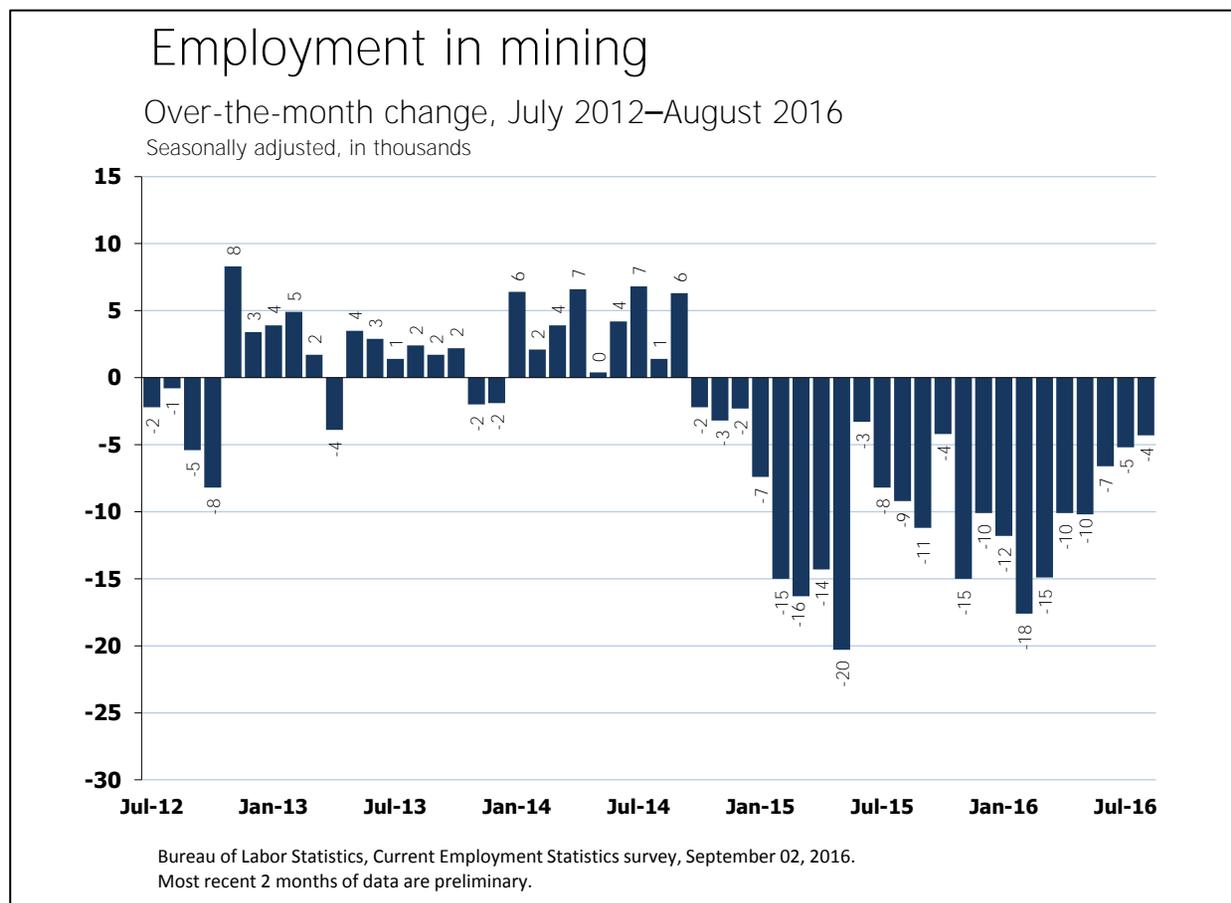
Mining employment continued to trend down in August (-4,000). Since reaching a peak in September 2014, mining employment has declined by 223,000 and is currently at its lowest level since February 2010.

Employment in total nonfarm  
Over-the-month change, August 2016  
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

**Total nonfarm:  
151\***



## Mining & Logging



Mining and logging employment declined by 4,000 in August. The loss was concentrated in mining (-4,000).

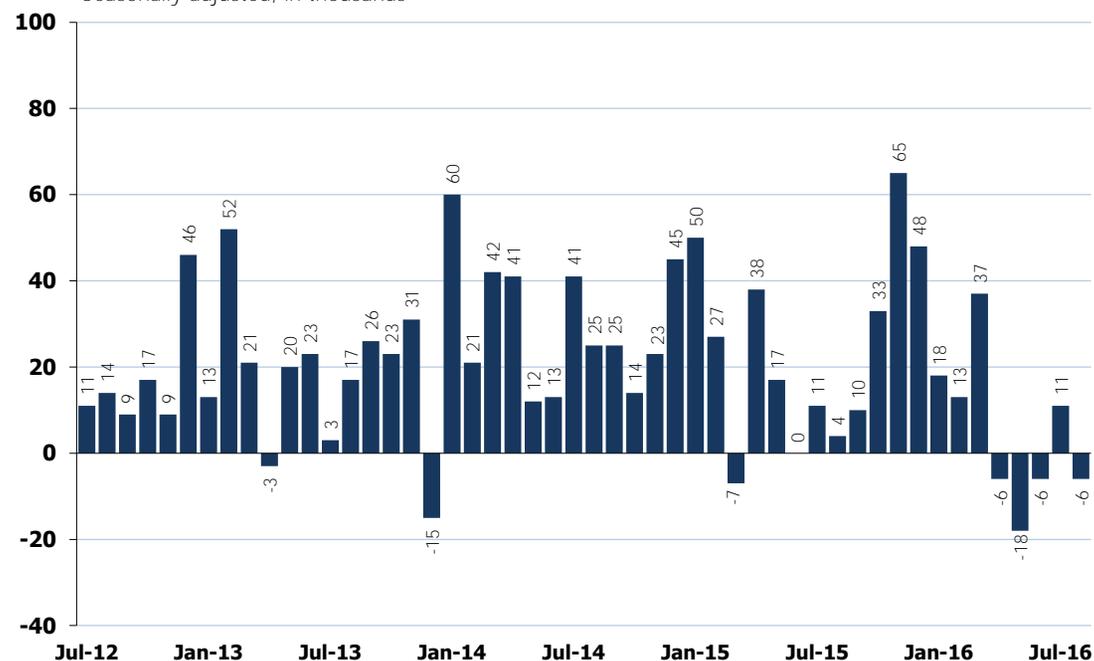
Job losses in mining have moderated in recent months as economic indicators for the industry have shown mixed results. Domestic oil rigs ([Baker Hughes](#)) have increased by roughly 7.6 percent from the July reference period to August, and the price of West Texas Intermediate oil ([U.S produced](#)) has decreased 5 percent over the same period.

## Construction

### Employment in construction

Over-the-month change, July 2012–August 2016

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, September 02, 2016.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in construction changed little in August (-6,000). Nonresidential building lost 8,000 jobs over the month.

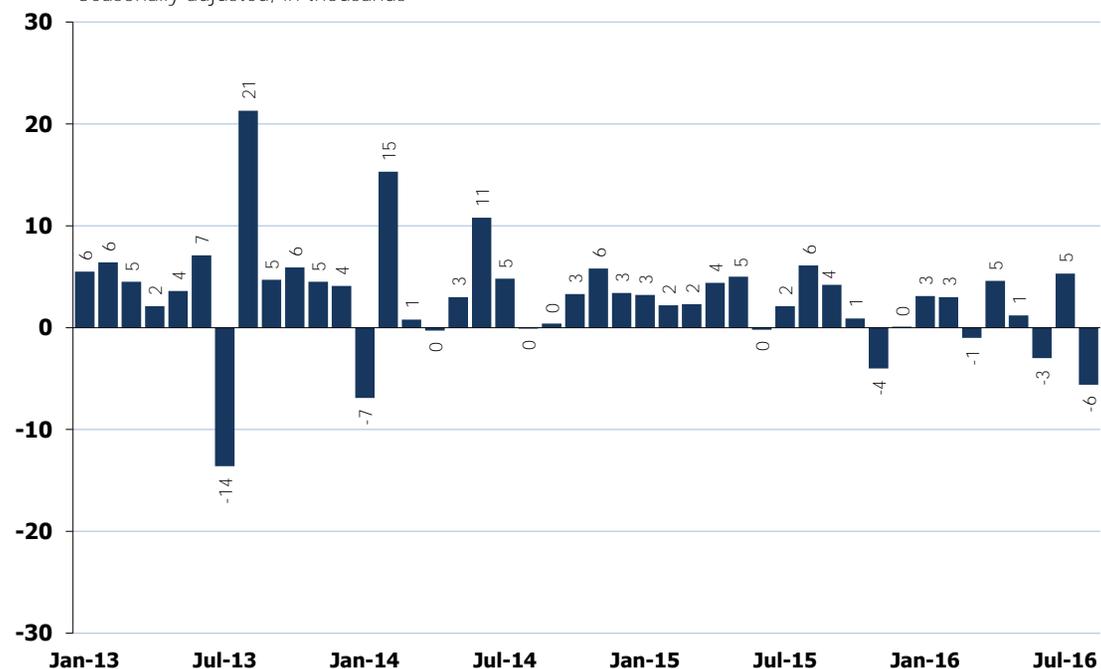
Thus far in 2016, construction employment has shown little net change (+5,000 per month). The industry had added an average 25,000 jobs per month in 2015.

## Manufacturing

### Employment in motor vehicles and parts

Over-the-month change, January 2013–August 2016

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, September 02, 2016.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Manufacturing employment changed little in August (-14,000). The 1-month diffusion index decreased by 4.4 points to 45.6. A value under 50 indicates that more industries are losing jobs than adding them.

Average weekly hours in manufacturing decreased by 0.2 hour for both all employees and production employees.

Within durable goods, motor vehicles and parts lost 6,000 jobs, offsetting a 5,000 gain in July. Nondurable goods employment was flat in August (+2,000).

## Wholesale Trade



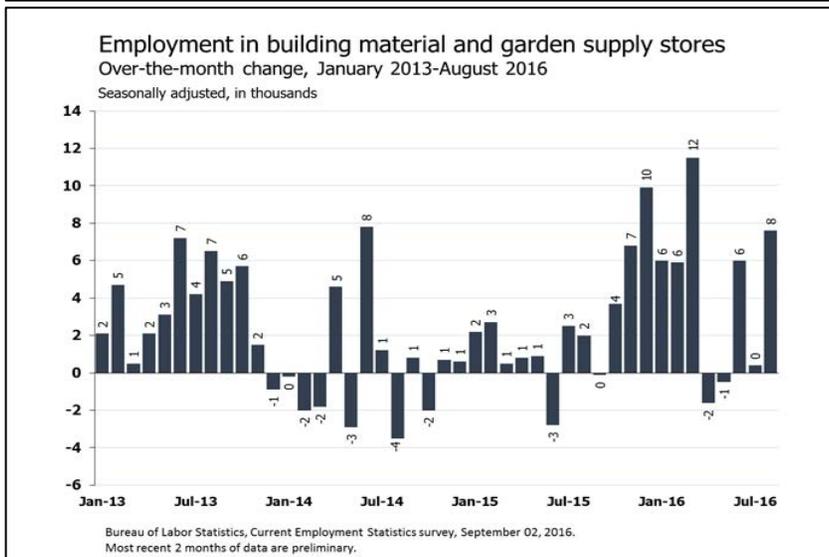
Employment in wholesale trade changed little in August (+4,000). The industry has shown little net change in employment over the most recent 6 months (+10,000); this compares with 37,000 jobs added in the preceding 6-month period.

## Retail Trade

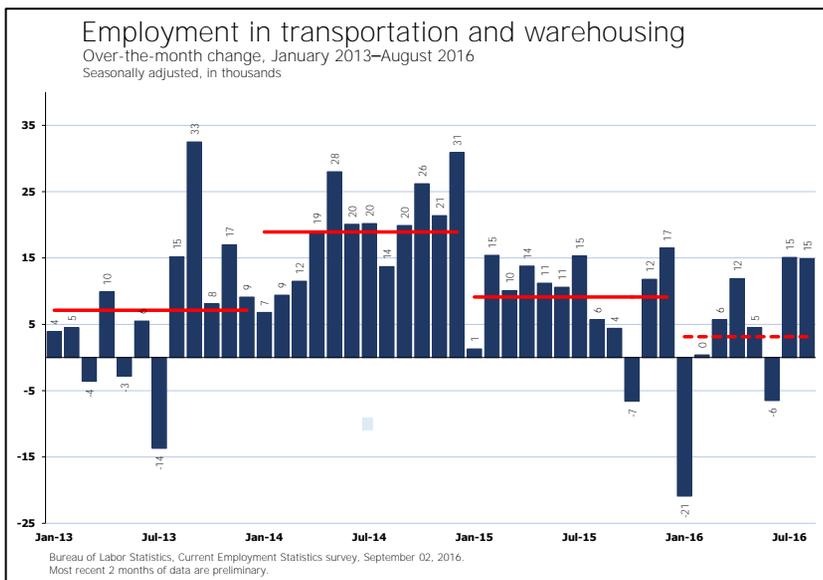


Employment in retail trade changed little in August (+15,000). Over the past year, employment in this industry increased by 293,000, adding an average of 24,000 jobs per month.

Within retail trade, employment in building material and garden supply stores added 8,000 jobs in August, after experiencing no change in July. Over the past year, employment in this industry grew by 56,000 jobs, adding 5,000 jobs per month on average.

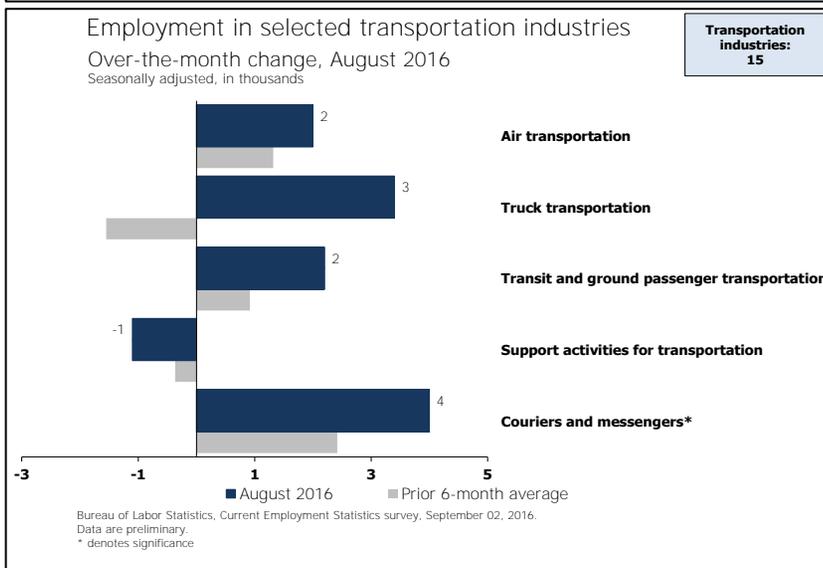


## Transportation and Warehousing

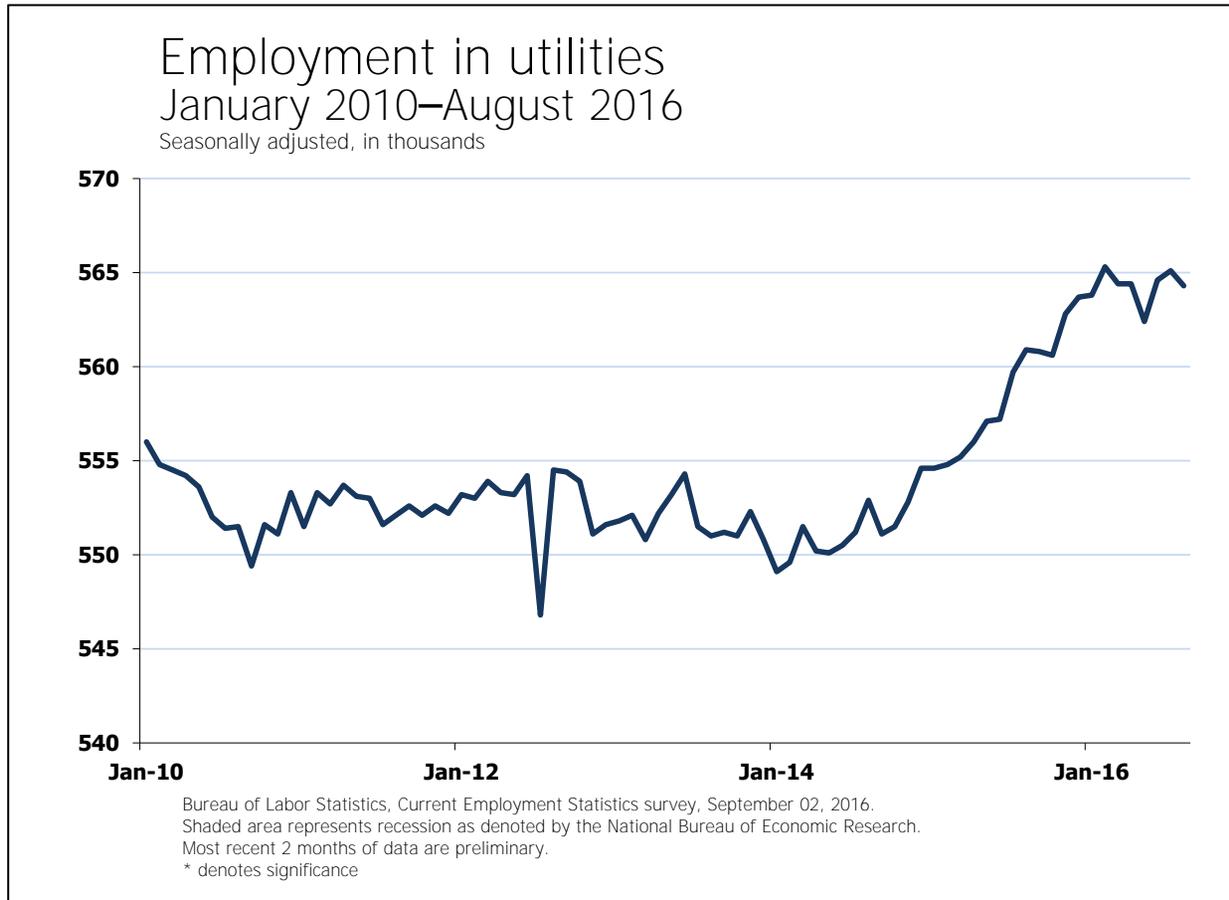


Employment in transportation and warehousing ticked up (+15,000) in August, following a similar movement in July. Over the year, transportation and warehousing has added 51,000 jobs.

Employment in couriers and messengers increased by 4,000 in August. Over the year, this component has added 23,000 jobs.

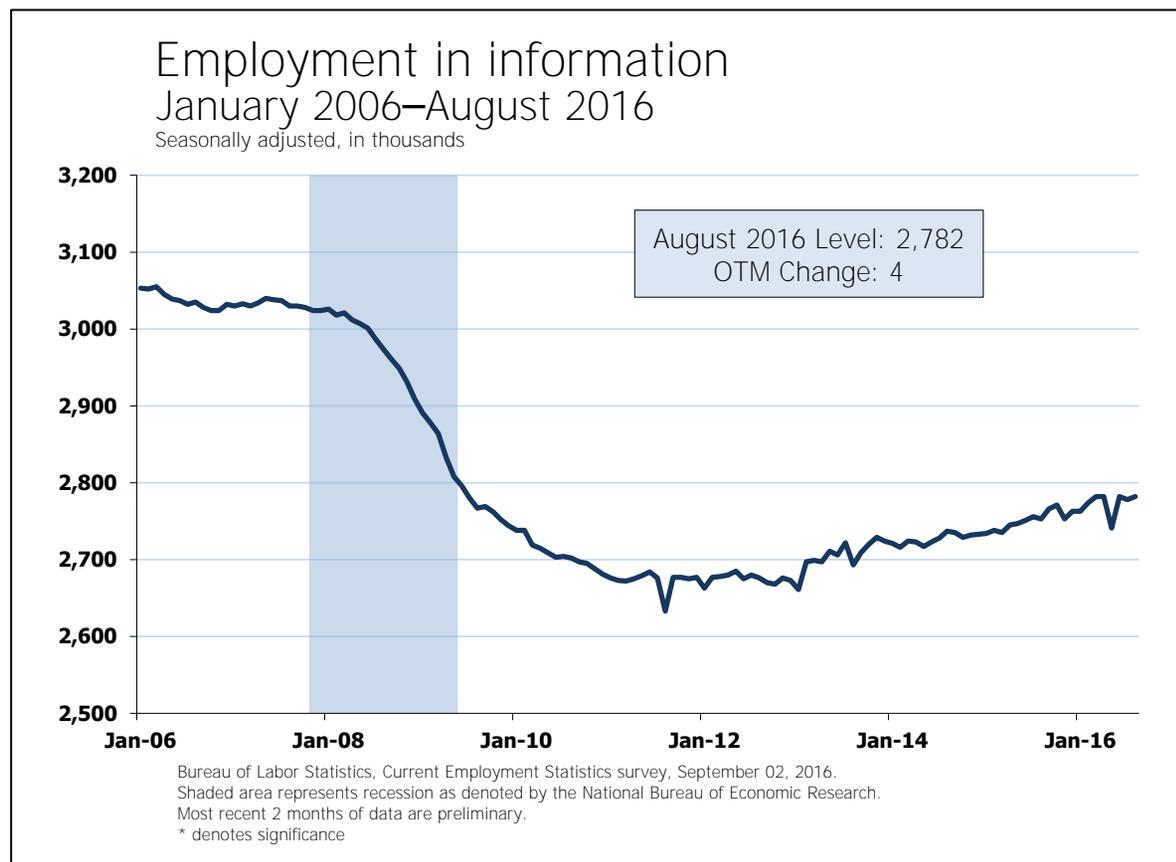


## Utilities



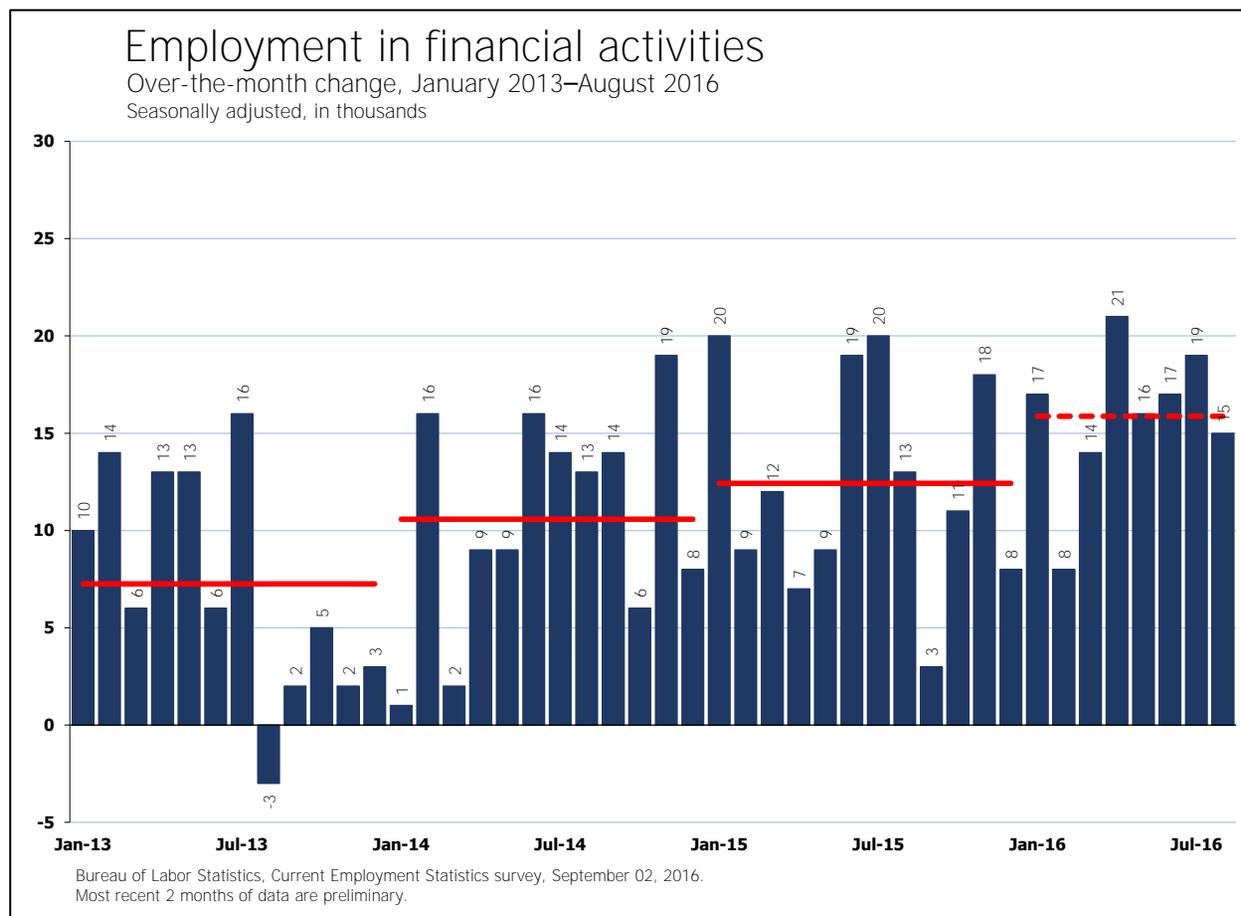
Employment in utilities experienced little change in August (-1,000). The industry has gained 15,000 jobs since its most recent trough in January 2014.

### Information



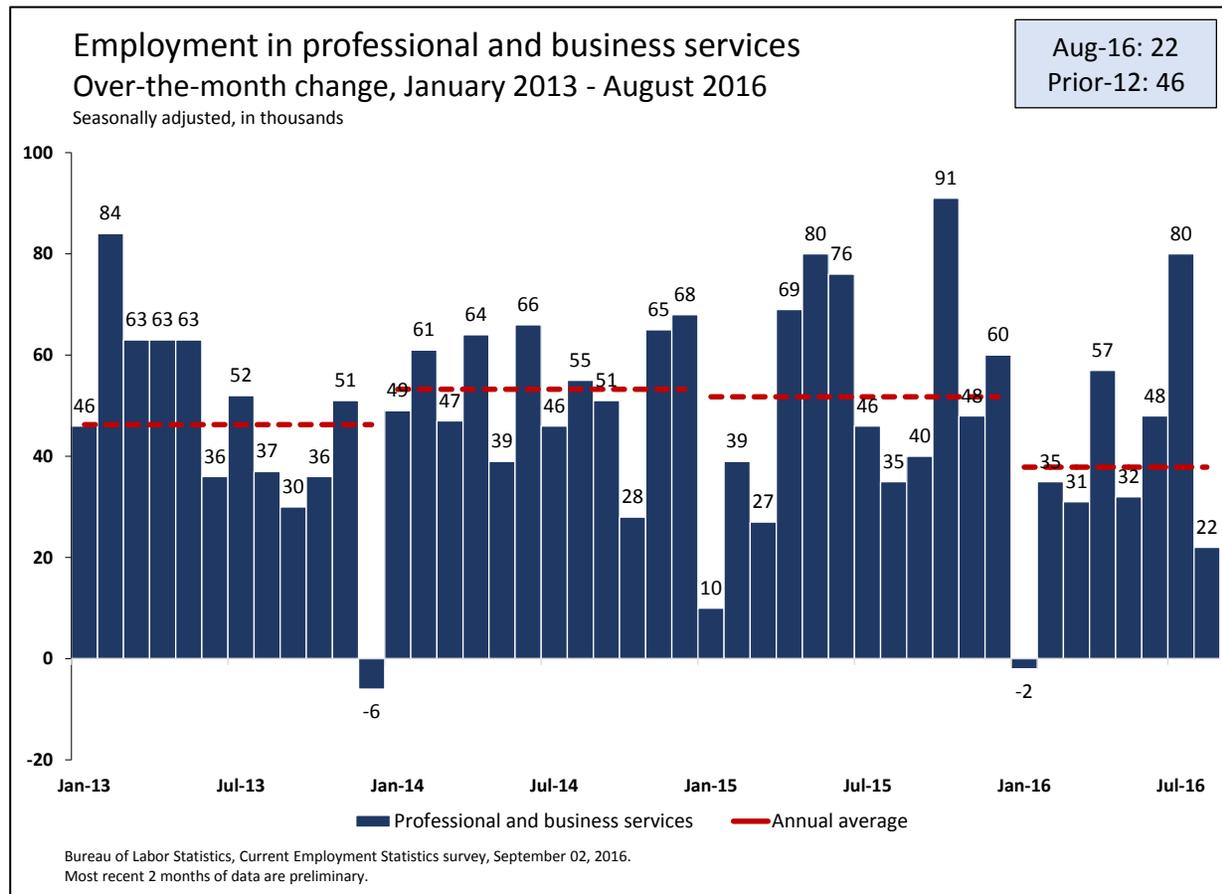
Employment in information changed little in August (+4,000) and has shown little net change so far this year (+19,000).

## Financial Activities



Employment in financial activities continued to trend up in August (+15,000). In 2016, financial activities has added 127,000 jobs.

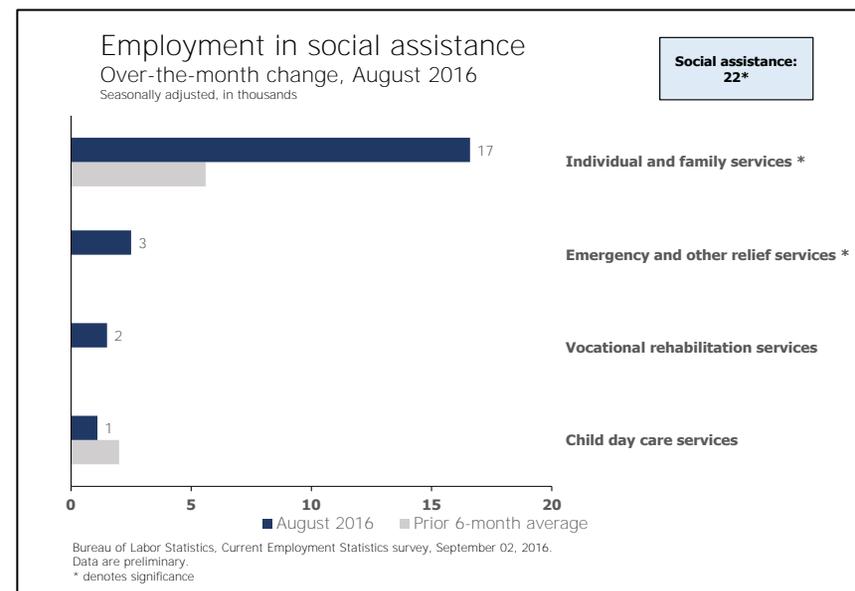
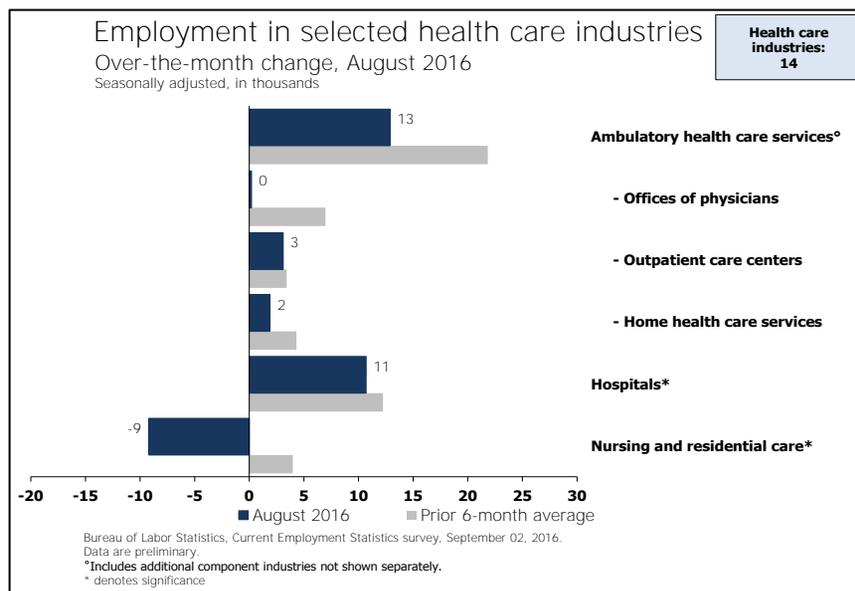
## Professional and Business Services



Professional and business services employment changed little in August (+22,000)—half of the industry’s prior 12-month average change.

Employment continued to trend up in professional and technical service industries (+20,000), led by management and technical consulting (+7,000) and computer systems design and related services (+6,000). Administrative and waste services employment was unchanged in August, with small movements among component industries. Temporary help services employment was flat (-3,000).

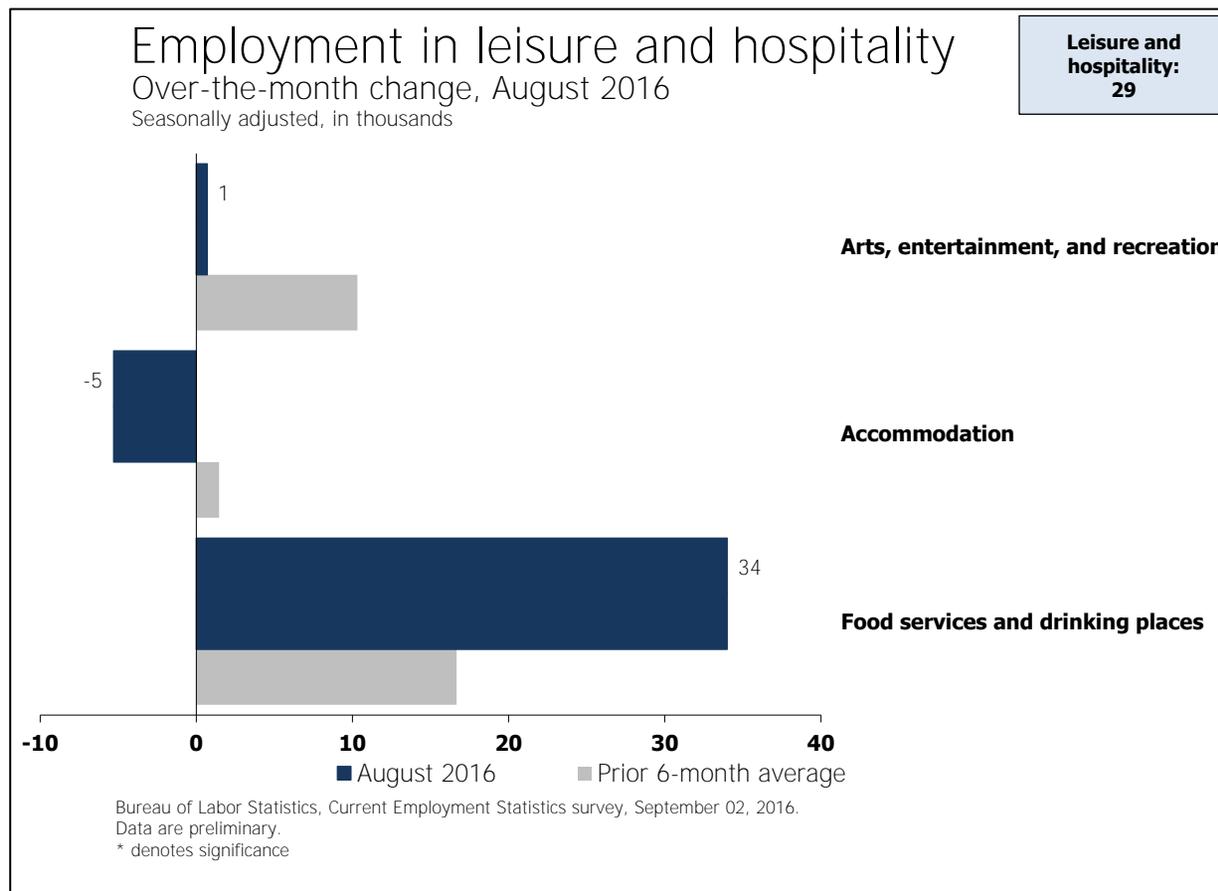
## Private Education and Health Services



Employment in education and health services continued to rise in August (+39,000). Within health care, employment in hospitals increased by 11,000, in line with the industry's 6-month trend. Employment in nursing and residential care decreased by 9,000 in August, offsetting a gain of 9,000 in July.

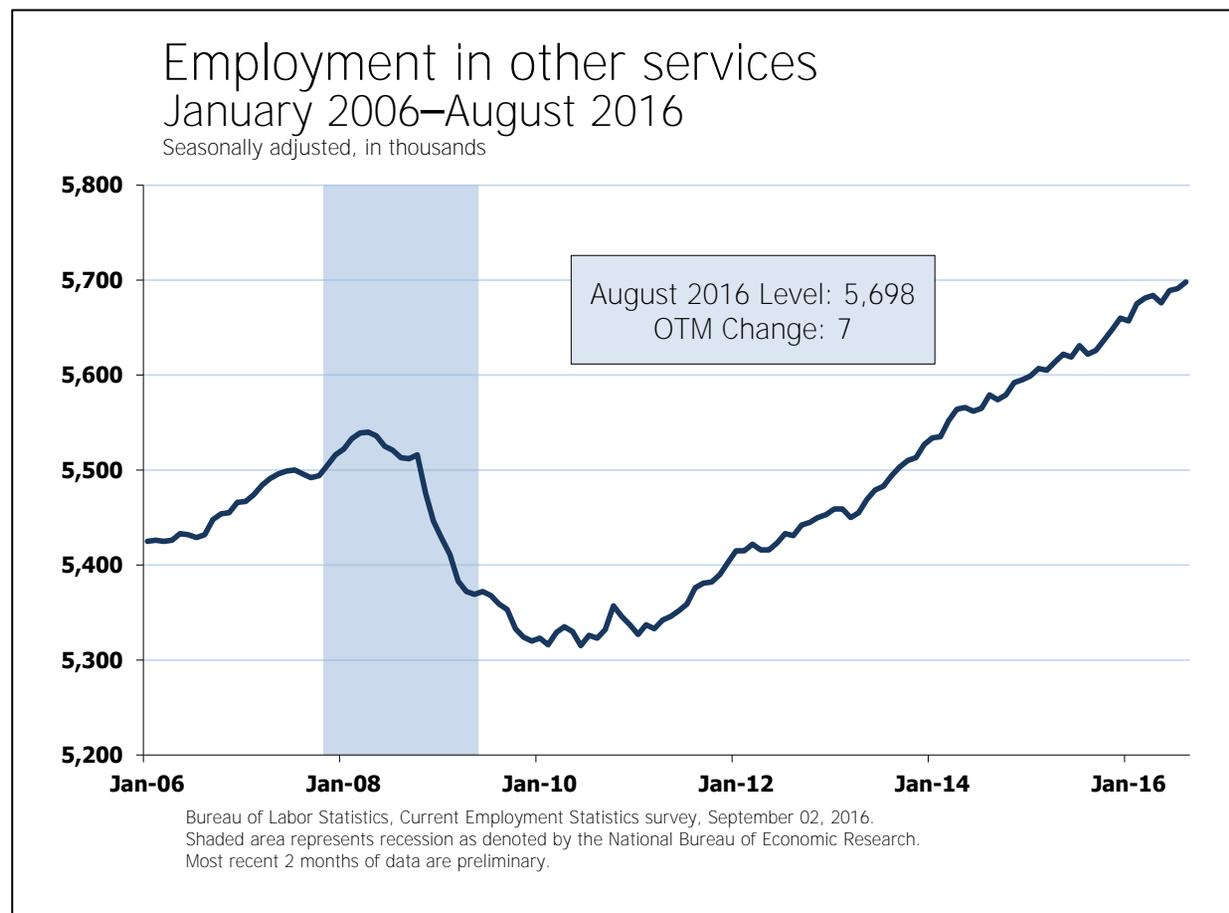
Social assistance added 22,000 jobs in August, outpacing its prior 6-month average of +8,000. The main contributor, individual and family services, added 17,000 jobs over the month. Emergency and other relief services also added 3,000 jobs in August.

## Leisure and Hospitality



Food services and drinking places employment continued to trend up in August (+34,000). Over the year, the industry has added 312,000 jobs.

## Other Services



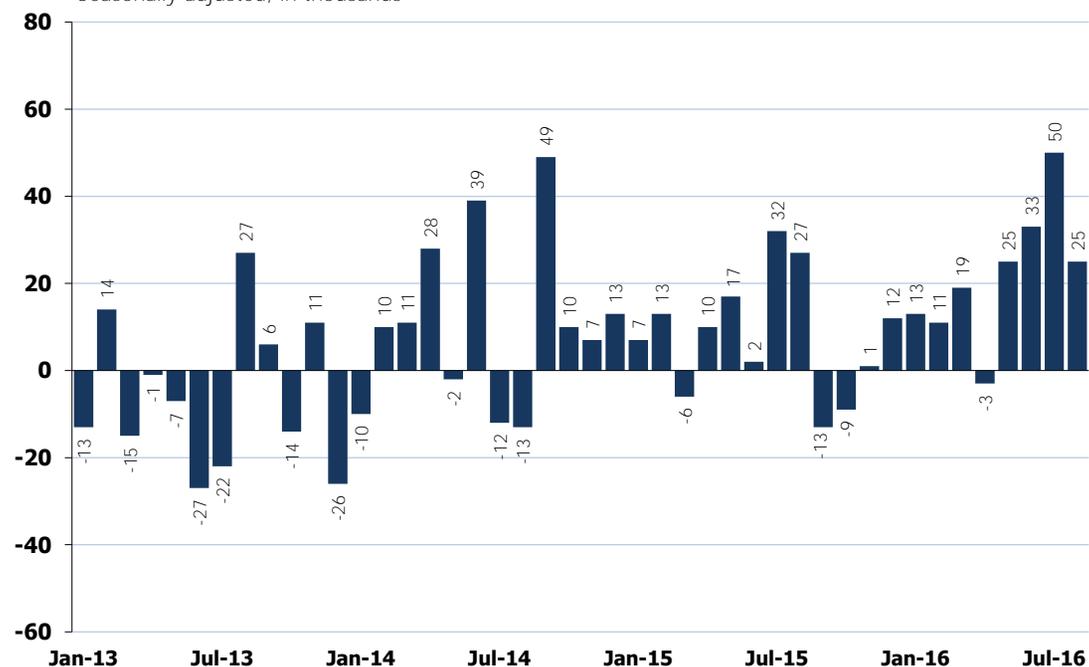
Employment in other services changed little in August (+7,000). The industry has added 76,000 jobs over the year, including 35,000 each in personal and laundry services and in membership associations and organizations.

## Government

### Employment in government

Over-the-month change, January 2013–August 2016

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, September 02, 2016.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Employment in government continued to trend up in August (+25,000). Over the past 12 months, government has added 164,000 jobs, with local government, excluding education, accounting for 93,000 of the gains.



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