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Current Employment Statistics Highlights



July 2024

Release Date: August 2, 2024

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, July 2024

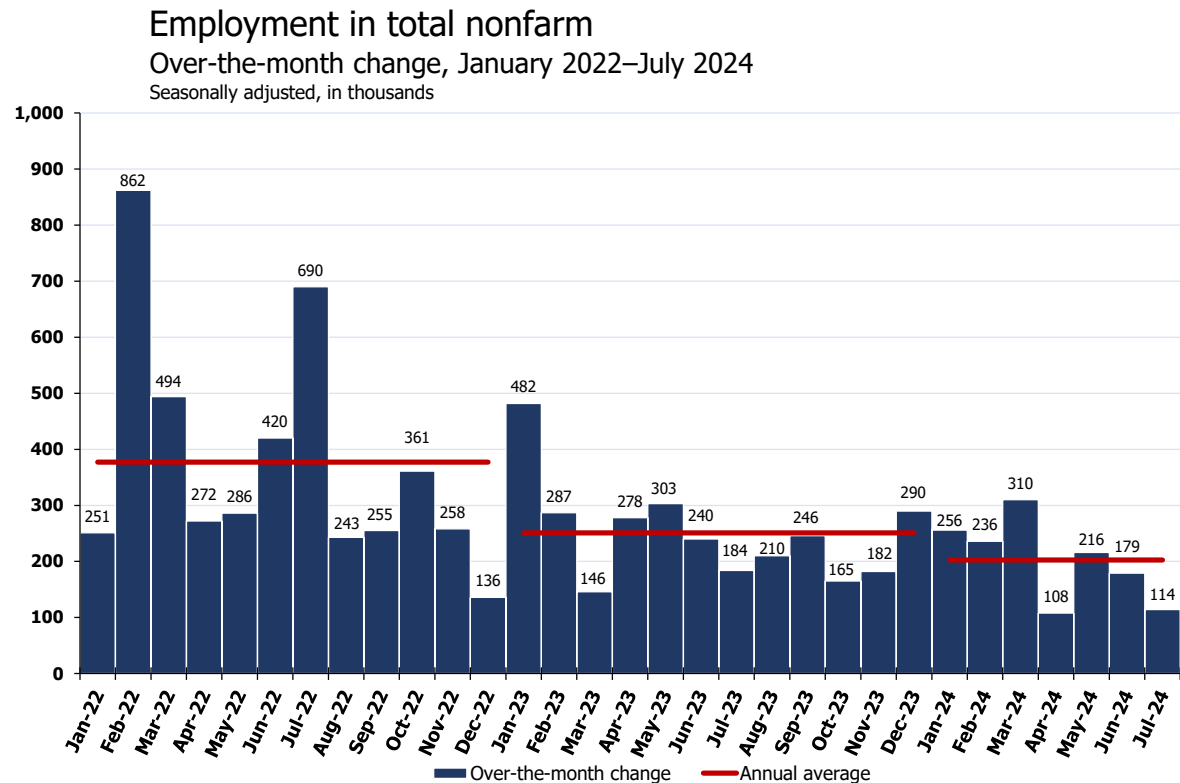
Nonfarm payroll employment edged up in July (+114,000), below the average monthly gain of 215,000 over the prior 12 months. Over the month, employment continued to trend up in health care, in construction, and in transportation and warehousing, while information lost jobs.

The employment change for May revised down from +218,000 to +216,000, and the change for June revised down from +206,000 to +179,000. On net, employment over these months is 29,000 lower than previously reported.

In July, average hourly earnings of all employees on private-sector payrolls rose by 8 cents, or 0.2 percent. Over the year, average hourly earnings have increased by 3.6 percent. In July, average weekly hours of all employees edged down by 0.1 hour to 34.2 hours.

+57,000 Private Education and Health Services

Health care employment increased by 55,000 in July, compared with its average monthly gain of 63,000 over the prior 12 months. In July, home health care services (+22,000), hospitals (+20,000), and nursing and residential care facilities (+9,000) added jobs.



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, August 02, 2024. Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Social assistance employment continued to trend up in July (+9,000), below its prior 12-month average monthly gain of 23,000.

+25,000 Construction

Employment in construction continued to trend up in July (+25,000), compared with the average monthly gain of 19,000 over the prior 12 months. In July, employment continued to

Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, July 2024

trend up in specialty trade contractors (+19,000).

+23,000 Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in leisure and hospitality changed little in July (+23,000), in line with its average monthly gain over the prior 12 months (+26,000).

+17,000 Government

Government employment was little changed in July (+17,000). Job growth in government has slowed in recent months, following strong job growth in 2023 and the first quarter of 2024.

+14,000 Transportation and Warehousing

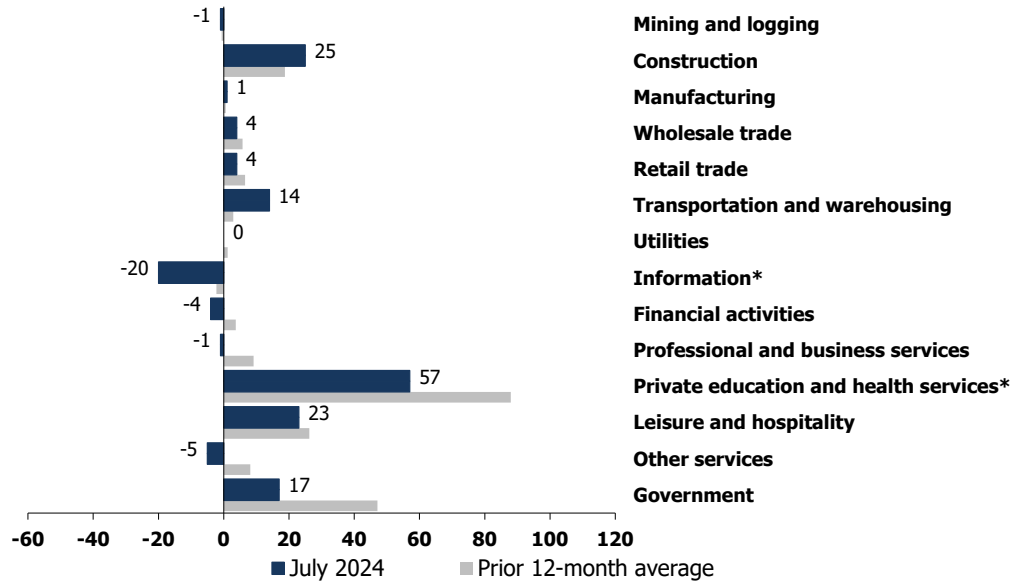
Employment in transportation and warehousing continued to trend up in July (+14,000), with gains in couriers and messengers (+11,000), warehousing and storage (+11,000), and support activities for transportation (+6,000). These gains were partially offset by a loss in transit and ground passenger transportation (-11,000). Since a recent low in January of this year, transportation and warehousing has added 119,000 jobs.

Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, July 2024

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Total nonfarm:
114

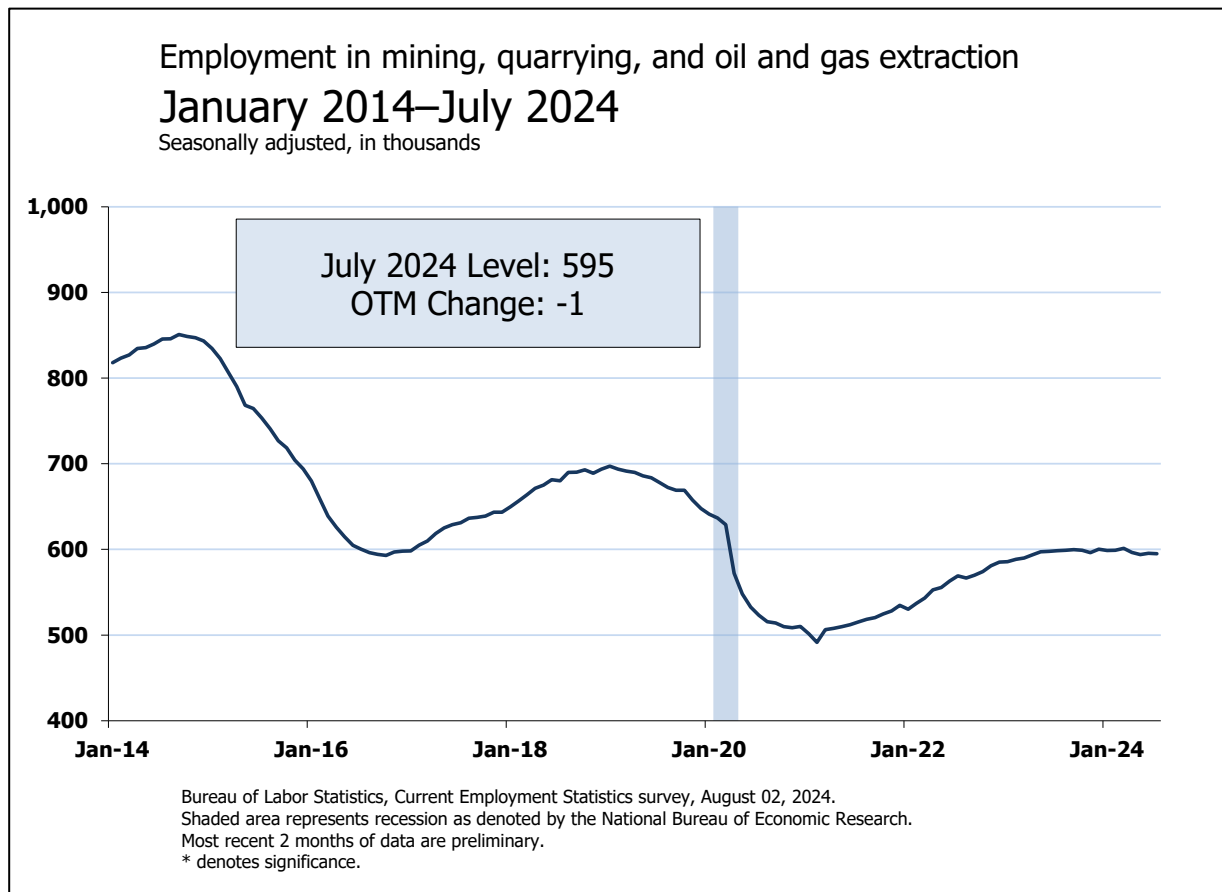


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, August 02, 2024.
Data are preliminary.
* denotes significance

-20,000 Information

Information employment declined by 20,000 in July but has changed little over the year.

Mining and Logging



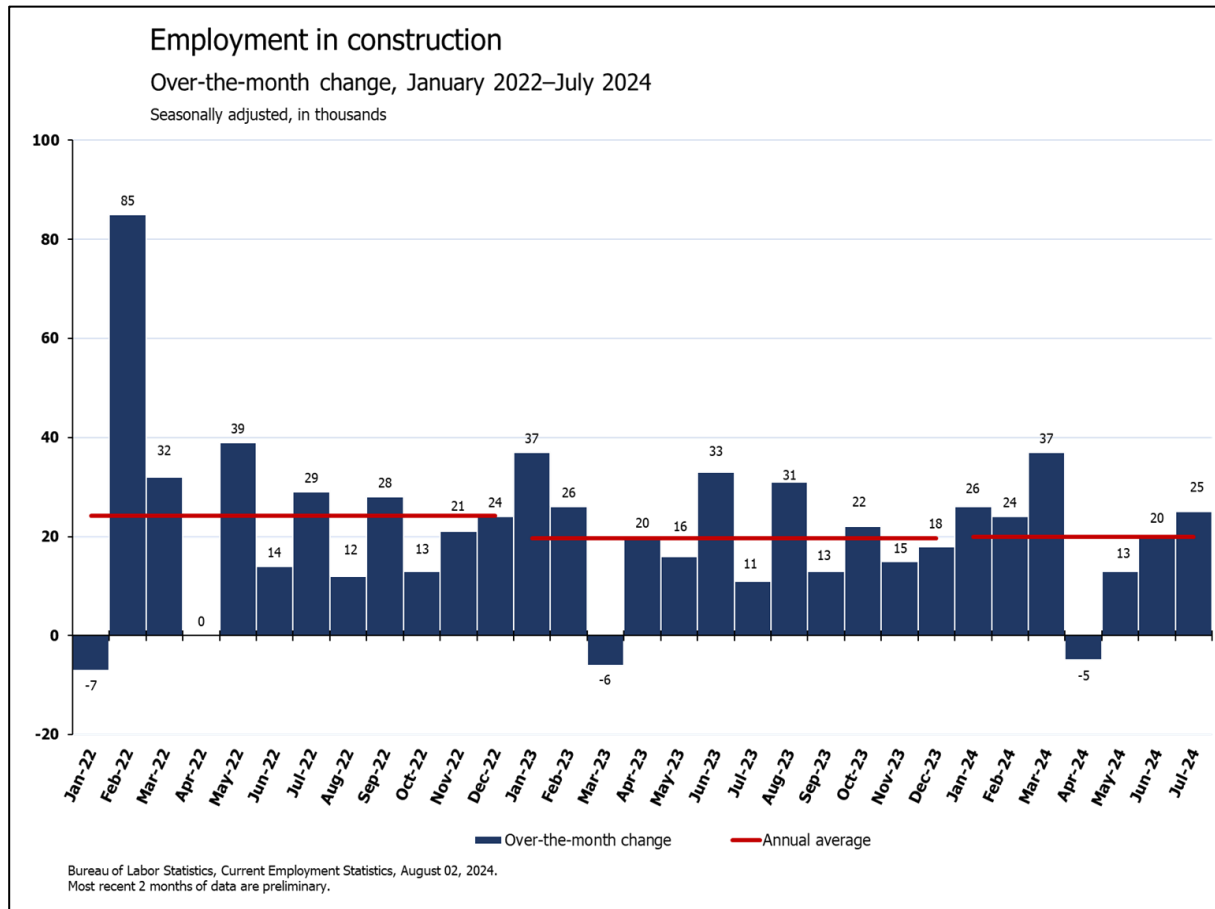
Employment in mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction changed little in July (-1,000).

Over the month, the [North American rotary rig 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 the date range to one year, including the 12th of the month.

Construction

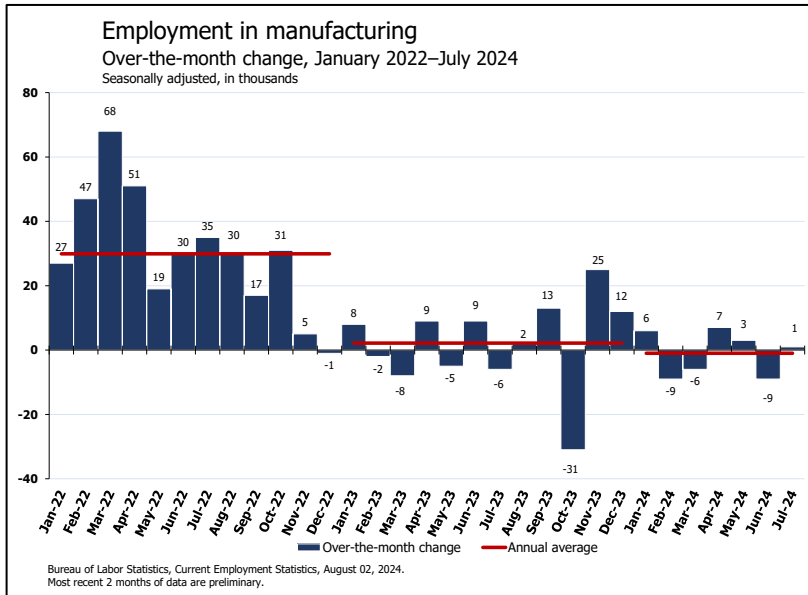


Employment in construction continued to trend up in July (+25,000), in line with the prior 12-month average monthly gain of 19,000.

Employment in specialty trade contractors continued to trend up in July (+19,000).

Residential construction-related indicators were mostly positive in recent months. The annual rates in [residential building permits](#) and [housing starts](#) increased, while [new residential sales](#) decreased in June. The [average 30-year fixed mortgage rate](#) decreased in July.

Manufacturing

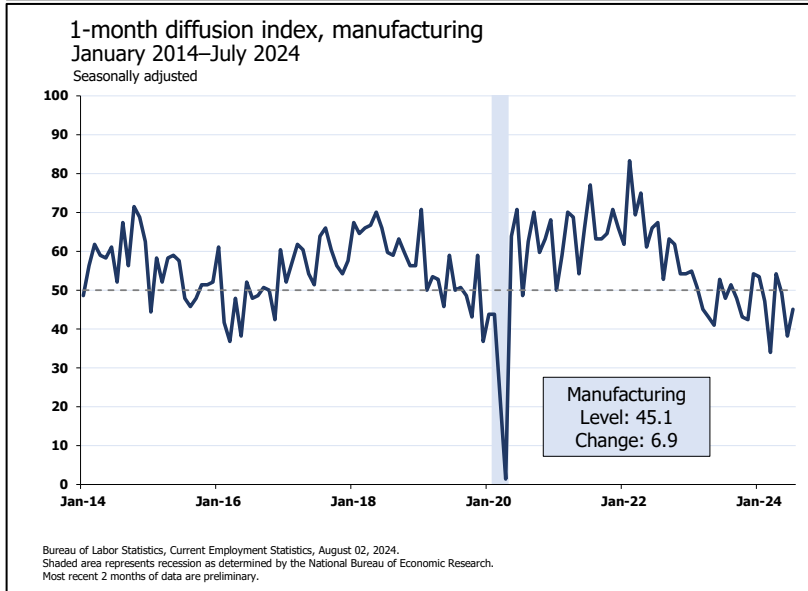


Employment in manufacturing was flat in July (+1,000) and has shown little net change over the year.

The manufacturing 1-month diffusion index rose 6.9 to 45.1 in July (a number below 50 indicates that more manufacturing industries are losing jobs than are adding jobs).

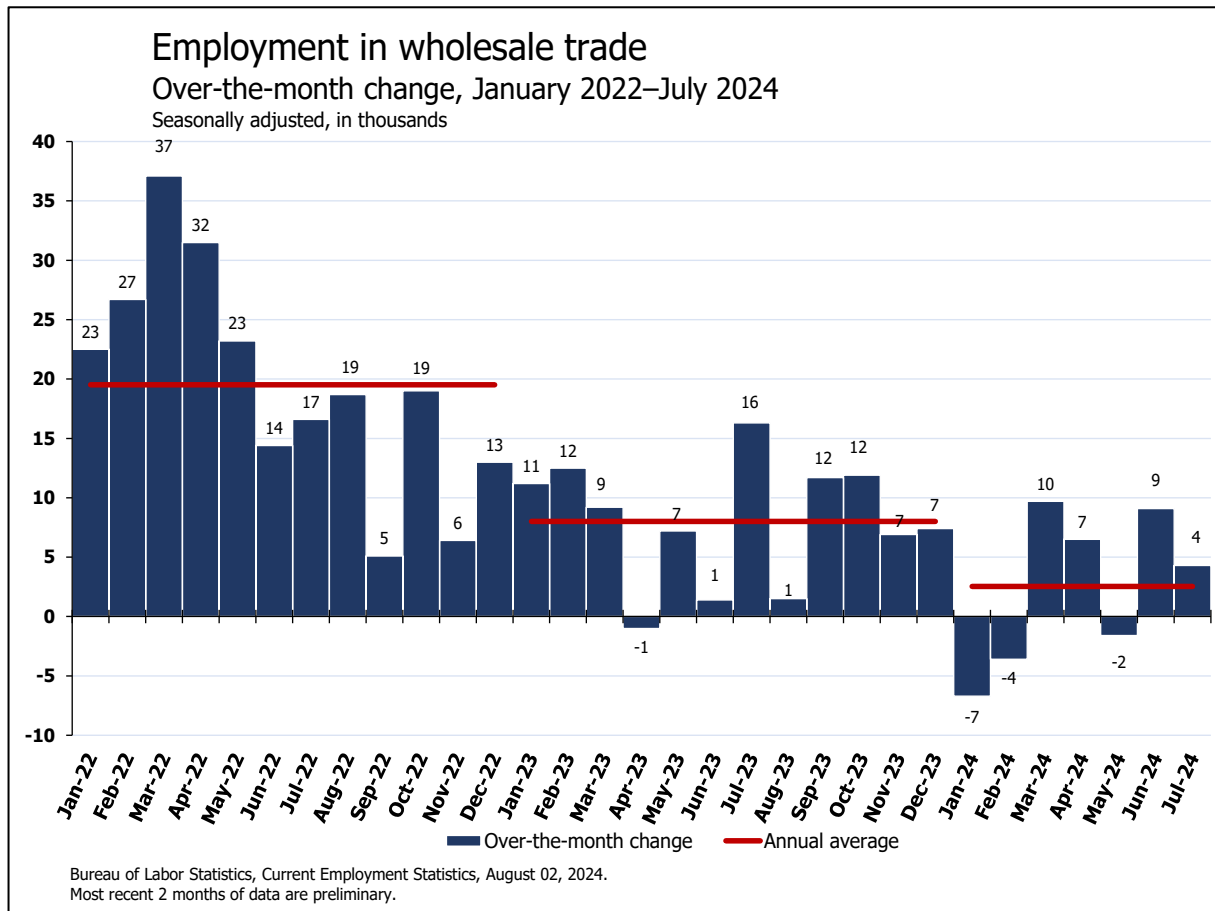
In July, average hourly earnings for all employees in manufacturing, at \$34.06, changed little (+4 cents). Average hourly earnings for production employees rose by 13 cents to \$27.92.

In July, both average weekly hours of all employees and production and nonsupervisory employees fell by 0.2 hour to 39.9 hours and 40.6 hours, respectively. In July, average weekly overtime hours for all employees edged down by 0.1 hour to 2.8 hours, while average weekly overtime hours for production and nonsupervisory employees were unchanged at 3.6 hours.

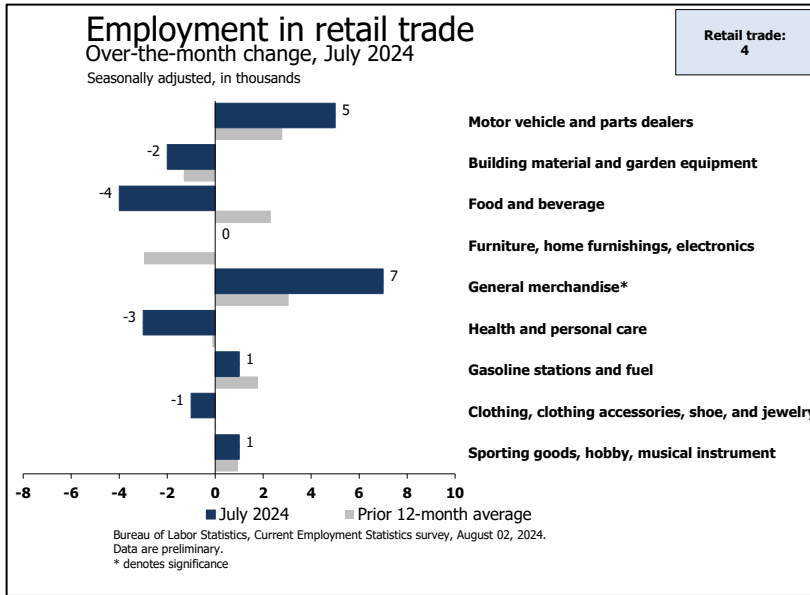


Wholesale Trade

In July, employment in wholesale trade changed little (+4,000). Over the most recent 12 months, wholesale trade has added 57,000 jobs.



Retail Trade



Employment in retail trade changed little in July (+4,000), in line with its average monthly gain over the prior 12 months (+7,000).

General merchandise retailers added 7,000 jobs over the month, with warehouse clubs, supercenters, and other general merchandise retailers accounting for 6,000 of the gain.

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

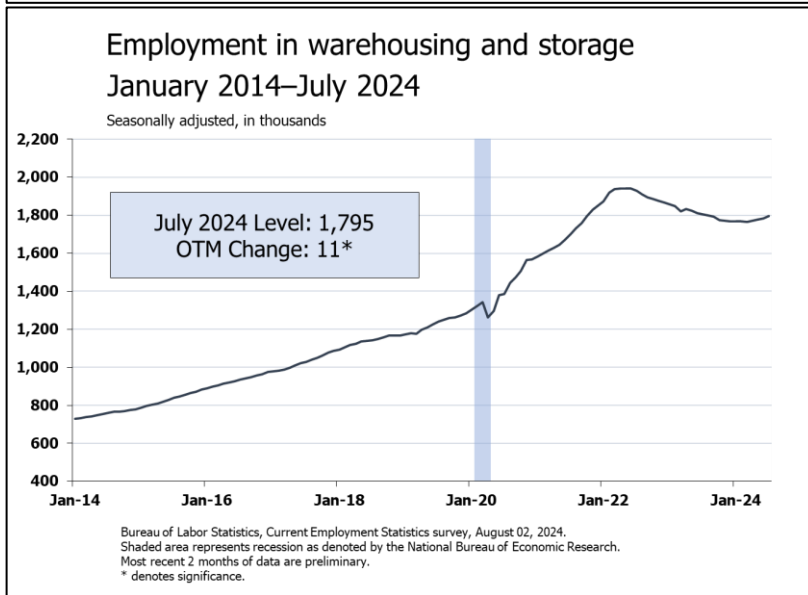
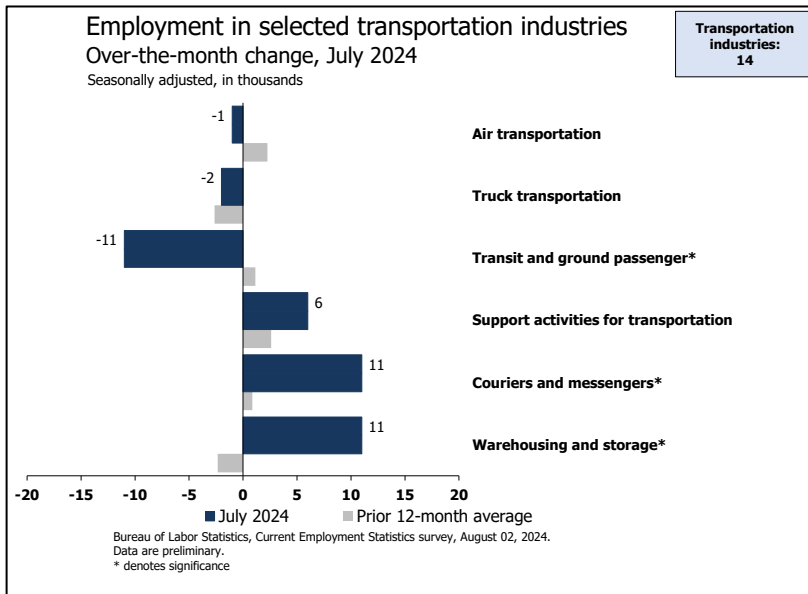


*The per-gallon price of regular gasoline is a weekly measure, and the over-the-month change reflects the difference in price for the week following the week of the 12th for both months.

Transportation and Warehousing

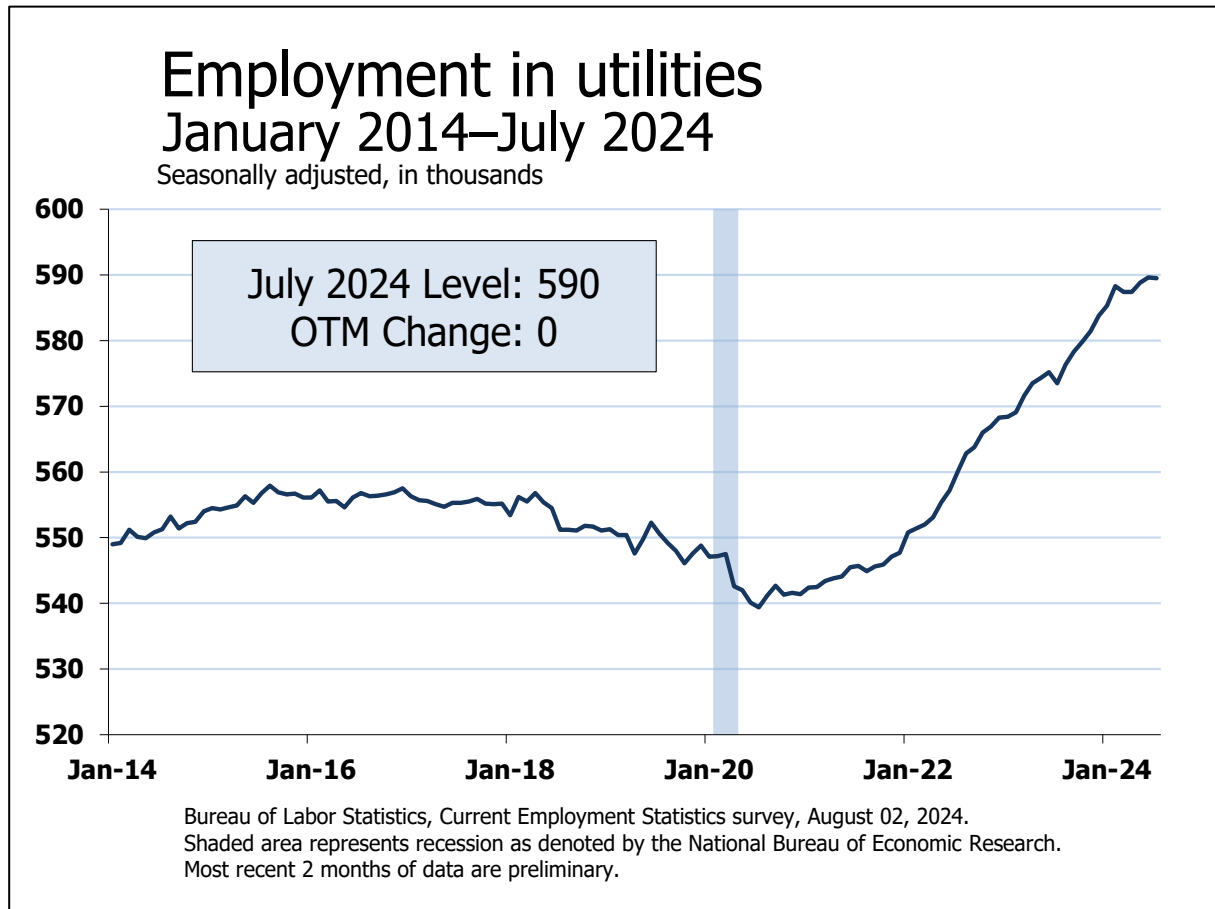
Employment in transportation and warehousing continued to trend up in July (+14,000) and has expanded by 119,000 since a recent trough in January of this year.

In July, employment gains in couriers and messengers (+11,000), warehousing and storage (+11,000), and support activities for transportation (+6,000) more than offset a loss in transit and ground passenger transportation (-11,000).



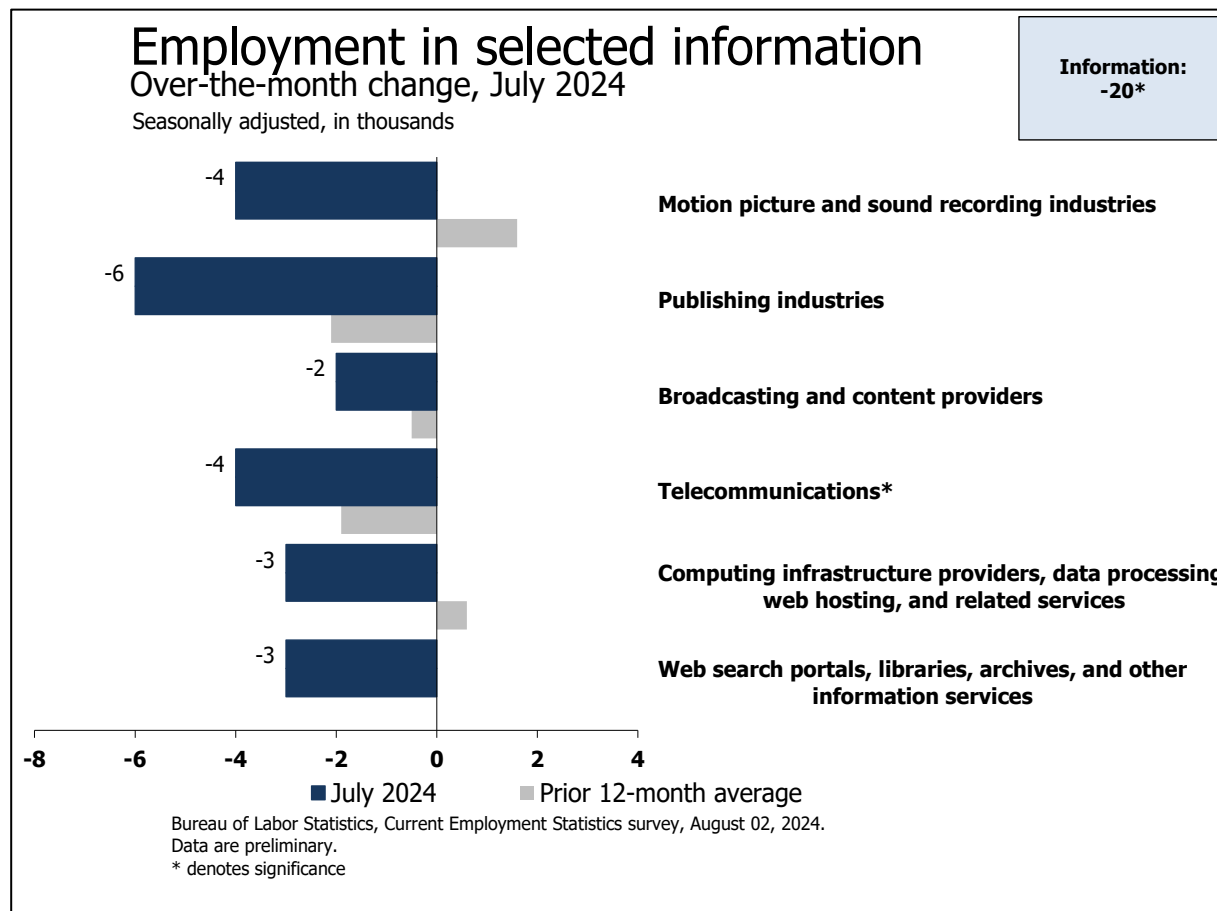
Utilities

Employment in utilities was flat in July. The industry has gained 16,000 jobs over the most recent 12 months.

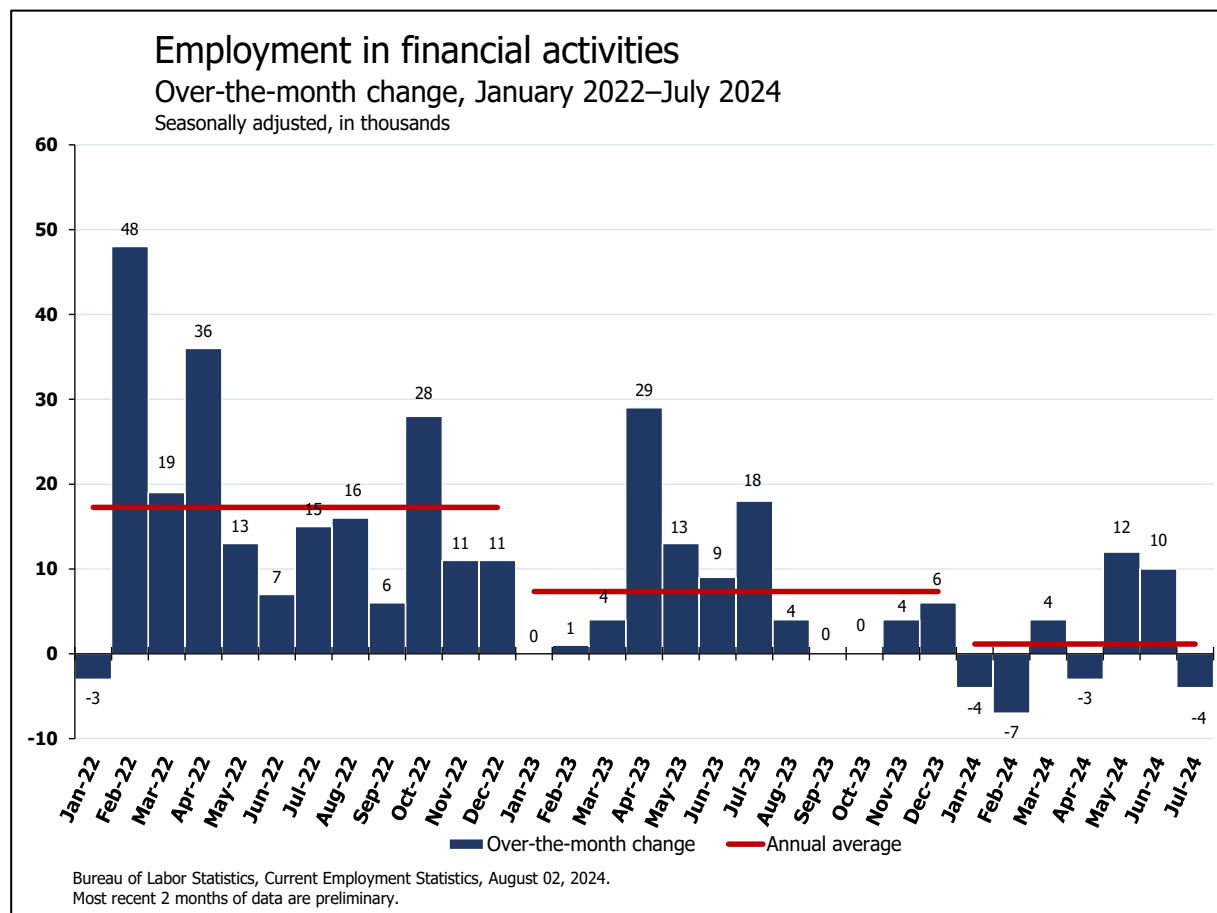


Information

Employment in information declined by 20,000 in July but has changed little over the year.



Financial Activities

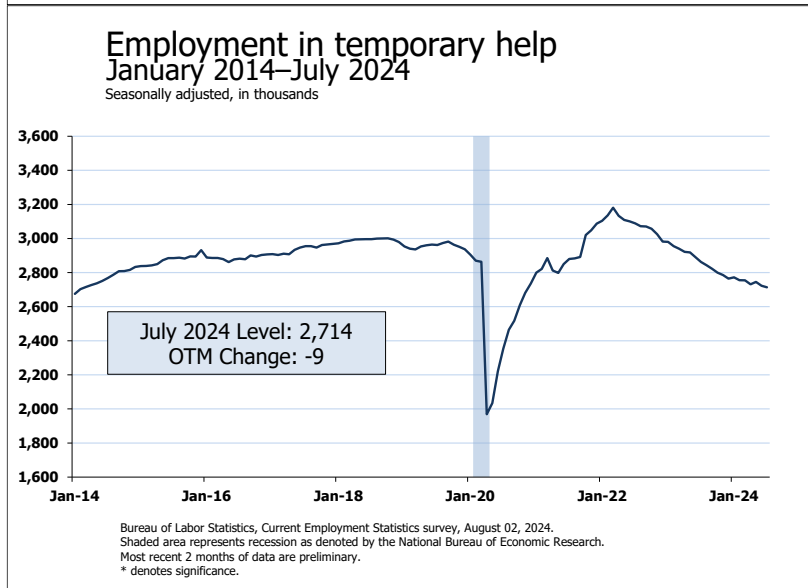
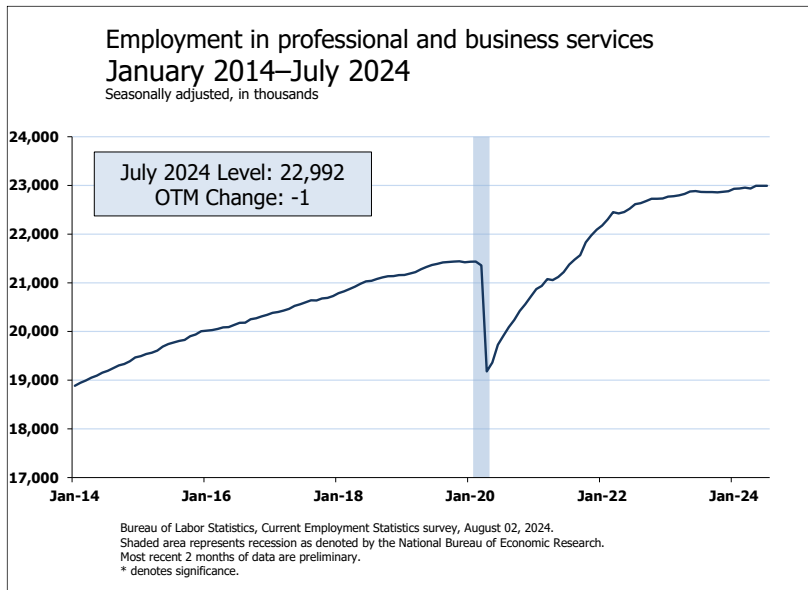


Employment in financial activities changed little in July (-4,000) and has shown little change over the year. In July, commercial banking lost 4,000 jobs.

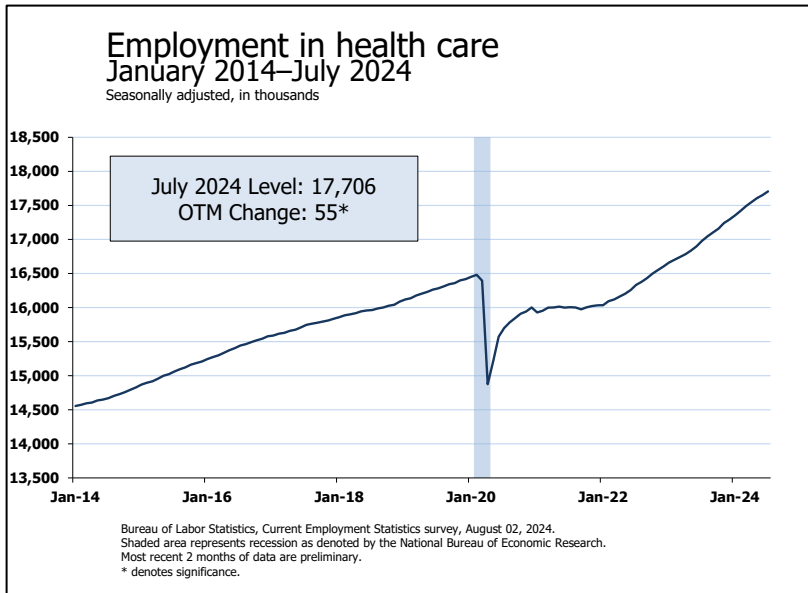
Professional and Business Services

Employment in professional and business services changed little in July (-1,000) and has shown little net change over the most recent 12 months.

Employment in temporary help services changed little in July (-9,000). Since reaching an employment peak in March 2022, temporary help services has shed 467,000 jobs, a decline of 14.7 percent. In July, employment in business support services declined by 7,000.



Private Education and Health Services

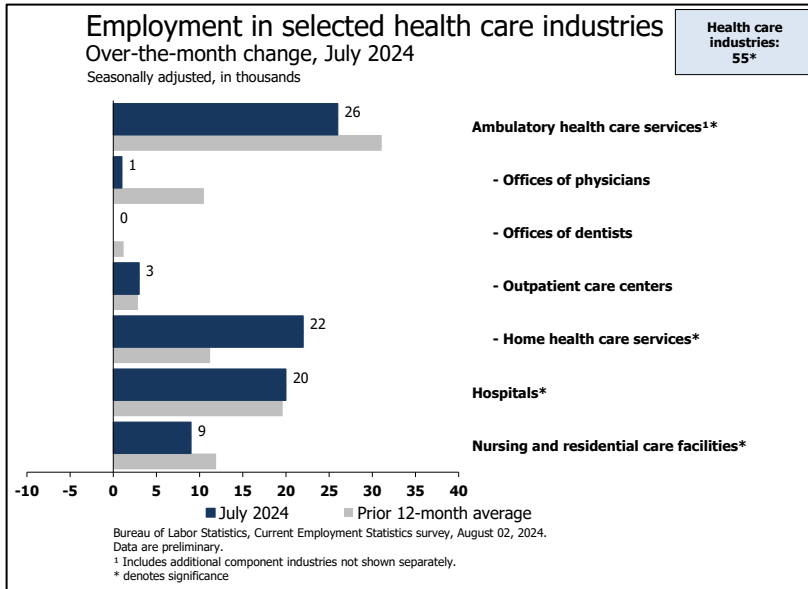


Employment in health care increased by 55,000 in July, similar to the prior 12-month average monthly gain of 63,000.

Over the month, ambulatory health care services added 26,000 jobs, reflecting a gain of 22,000 in home health care services. Over the prior 12 months, home health care services had averaged gains of 11,000 jobs per month.

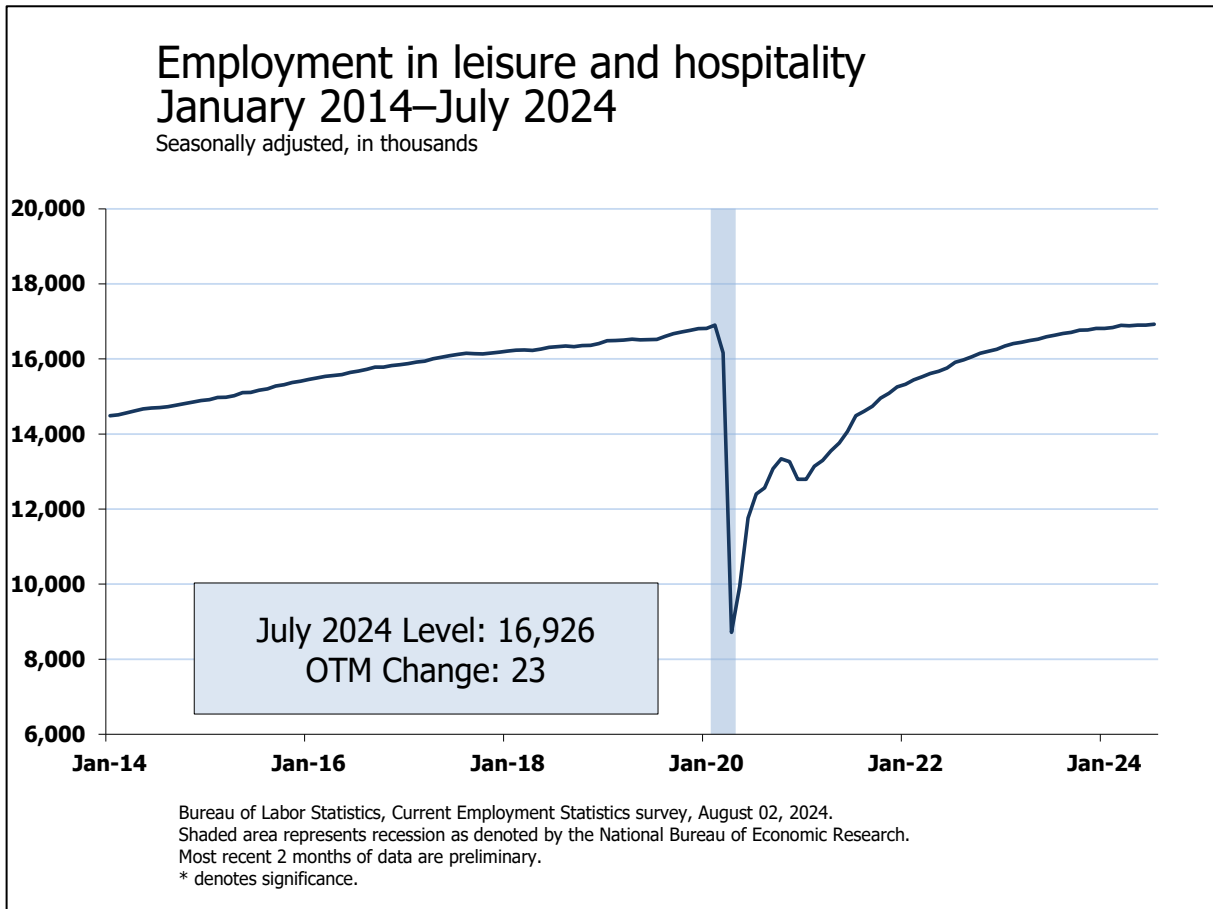
In July, employment increased in hospitals (+20,000) and in nursing and residential care facilities (+9,000).

Employment in social assistance continued its upward trend in July (+9,000) but at a slower pace than the average monthly gain over the prior 12 months (+23,000). In July, community food and housing and emergency and other relief services added 3,000 jobs.



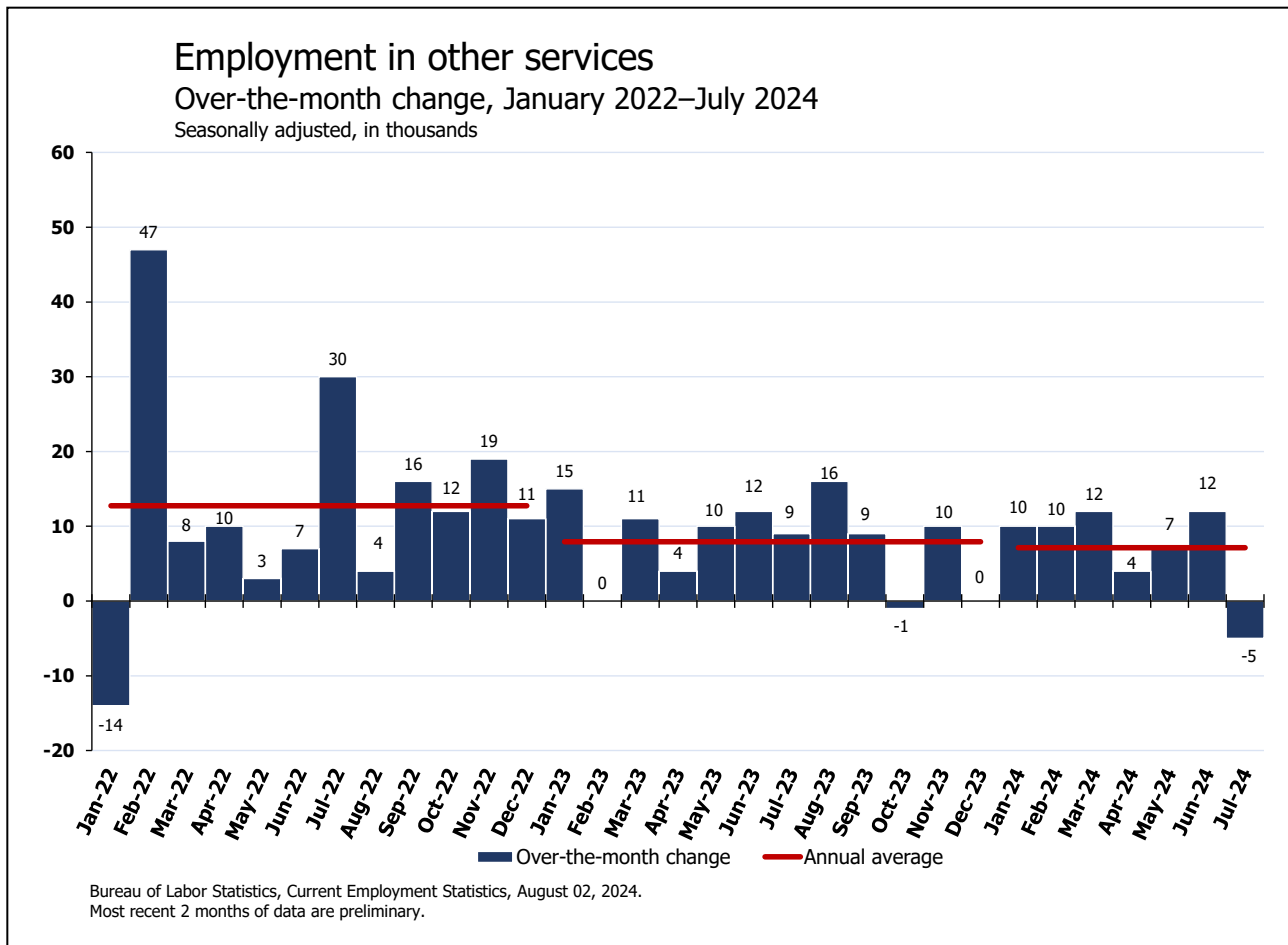
Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in leisure and hospitality changed little in July (+23,000), in line with its prior 12-month average monthly gain of 26,000.

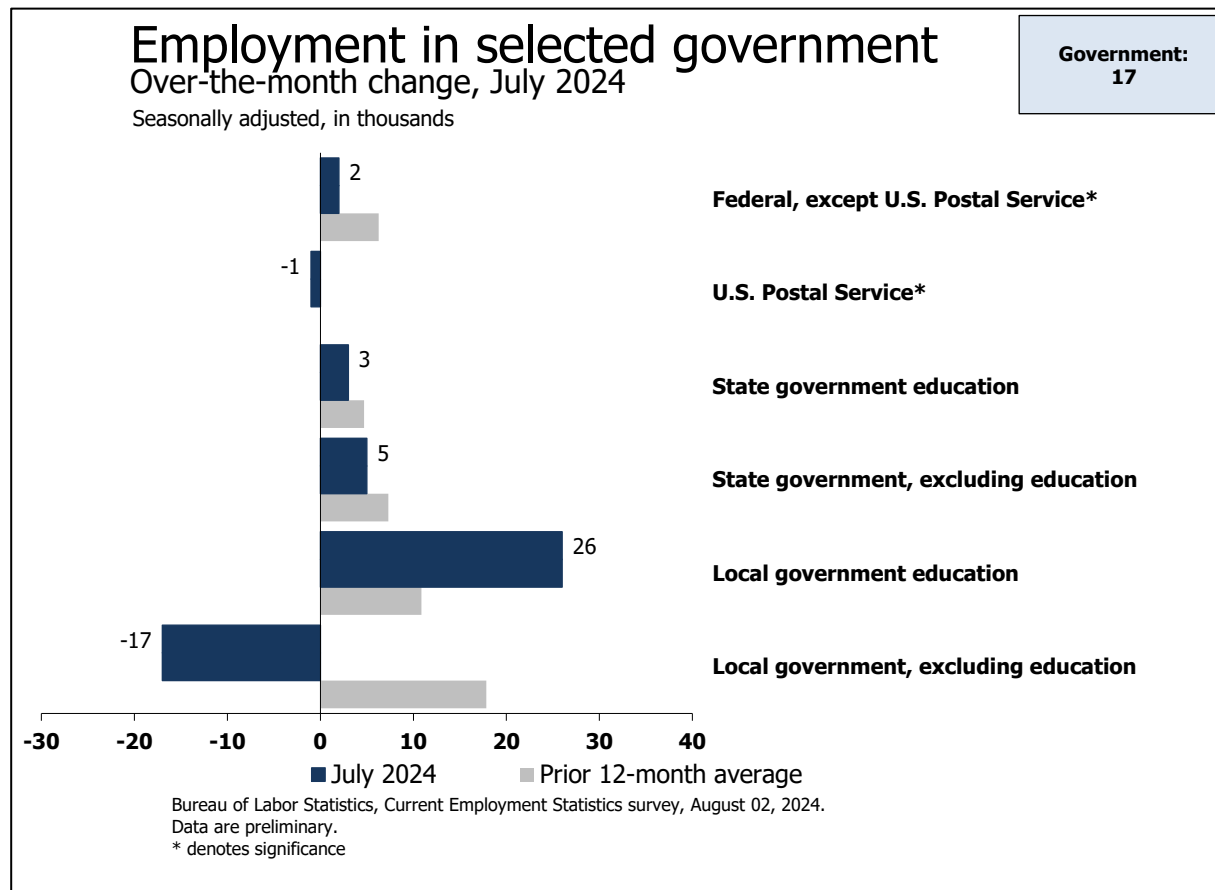


Other Services

Employment in other services changed little in July (-5,000). Industry employment is 27,000 below its February 2020 level.



Government



Government employment was little changed in July (+17,000). Job growth in government has slowed in recent months, following larger job gains in 2023 and the first quarter of 2024.



**Prepared by Staff of the National Estimates Branch
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