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Current Employment Statistics Highlights



January 2013

Release Date: February 1, 2013

Prepared by Staff of the National Estimates Branch
Current Employment Statistics Survey

202-691-6555

[Email CES](#)

Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, January 2013

+ 157,000 Total Nonfarm
+ 166,000 Total Private

Total nonfarm employment increased by 157,000 in January, compared to an average over-the-month gain of 181,000 in 2012. Since reaching an employment low in February 2010, nonfarm employment has grown by 5.5 million. Construction, wholesale trade, retail trade, and healthcare added jobs in January.

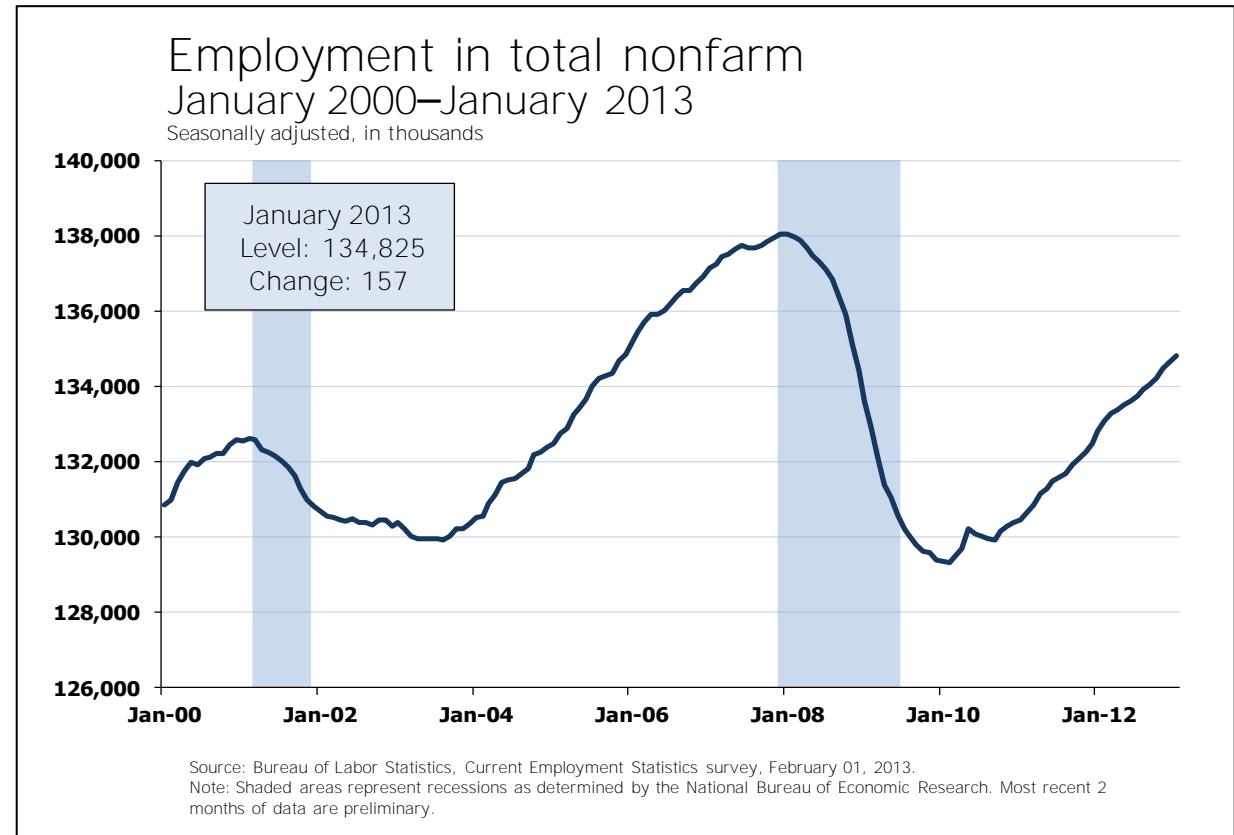
Average hourly earnings for all private-sector employees increased by 4 cents in January. Hourly earnings are up 2.1 percent over the year. Average weekly hours remained unchanged in January at 34.4 hours.

+ 28,000 Construction

Construction employment rose in January, with gains concentrated in specialty trade contractors (+26,000). Since reaching a low in January 2011, the construction industry has added 296,000 jobs.

+ 15,000 Wholesale trade

Employment in wholesale trade grew by 15,000 in January, with the gain concentrated in nondurable goods. Employment in wholesale has expanded by 291,000 since a



trough in May 2010.

+ 33,000 Retail trade

Retail trade employment rose by 33,000 in January following gains averaging 20,000 per

month in 2012. Employment growth in January was spread across retail trade, with electronics and appliance stores and automobile dealers adding 5,000 and 4,000 jobs, respectively.

Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary, January 2013

-14,000 Transportation and warehousing

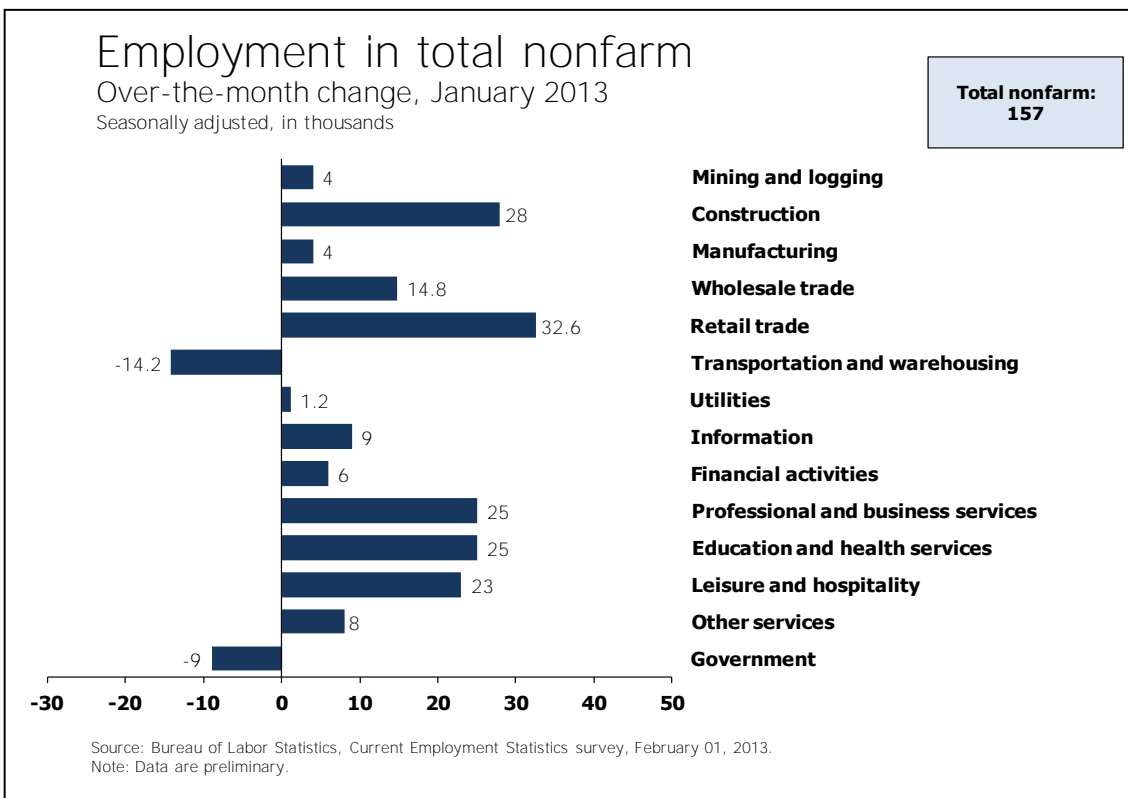
Within transportation and warehousing, employment in couriers and messengers fell by 19,000 in January. Larger-than-normal seasonal gains in November and December related to the holiday build up were partly offset by a larger-than-normal seasonal decline in January.

+25,000 Professional and business services

Employment continued to trend up in professional and business services in January. In 2012, the industry had added an average 44,000 jobs per month. Management and technical consulting services added 12,000 jobs in January, while employment in temporary help services changed little over the month.

+ 25,000 Private education and health services

Health care added 23,000 jobs over the month. Job gains of 28,000 in ambulatory health care services, including offices of physicians and outpatient care centers, were partly offset by a loss of 8,000 in nursing and residential care facilities. During 2012, health care had added an average 27,000 jobs per month.



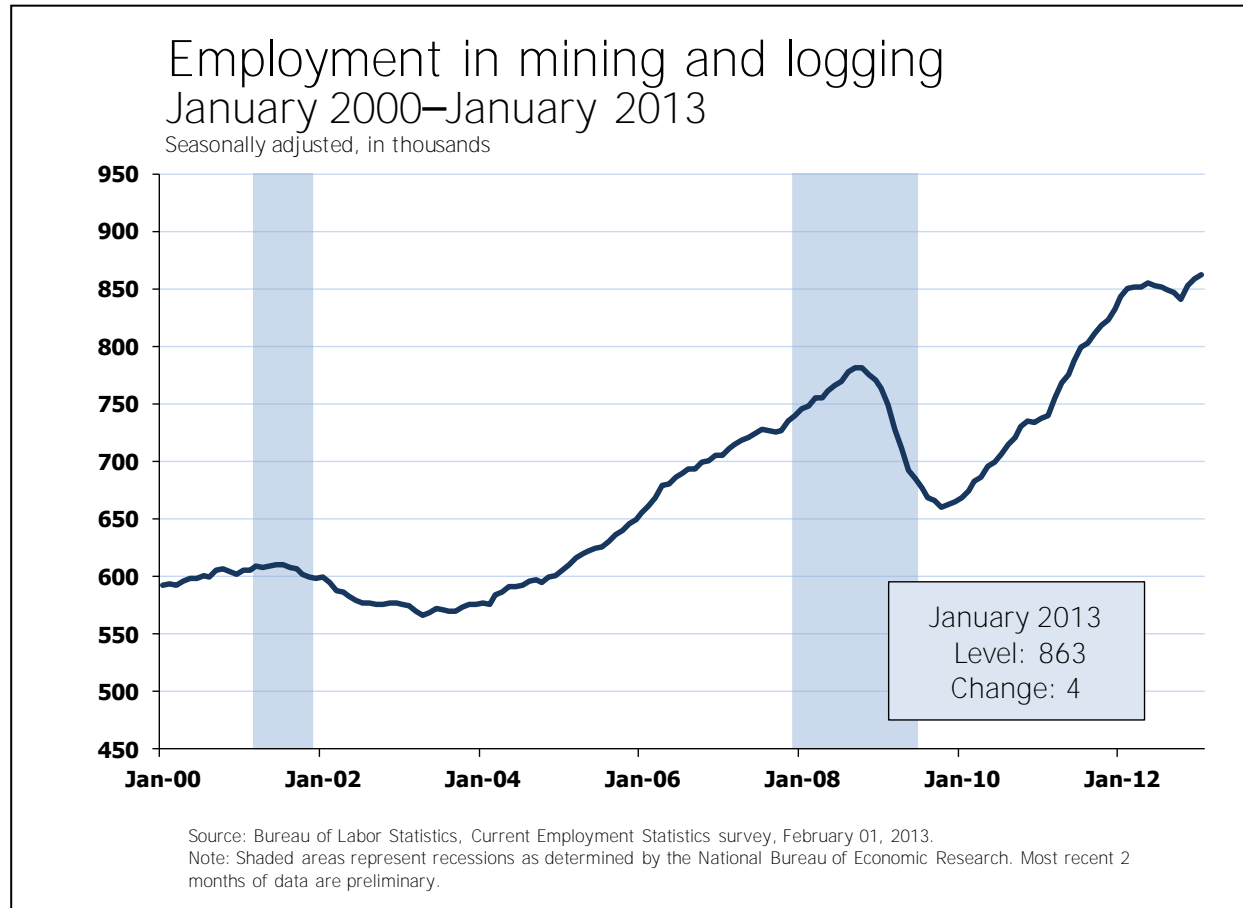
+23,000 Leisure and hospitality

Within leisure and hospitality, employment in food services and drinking places (+17,000) continued to trend up over the month. In 2012, food services and drinking places had added 301,000 jobs--an average of 25,000 per month.

**Current Employment Statistics Survey Summary,
January 2013**

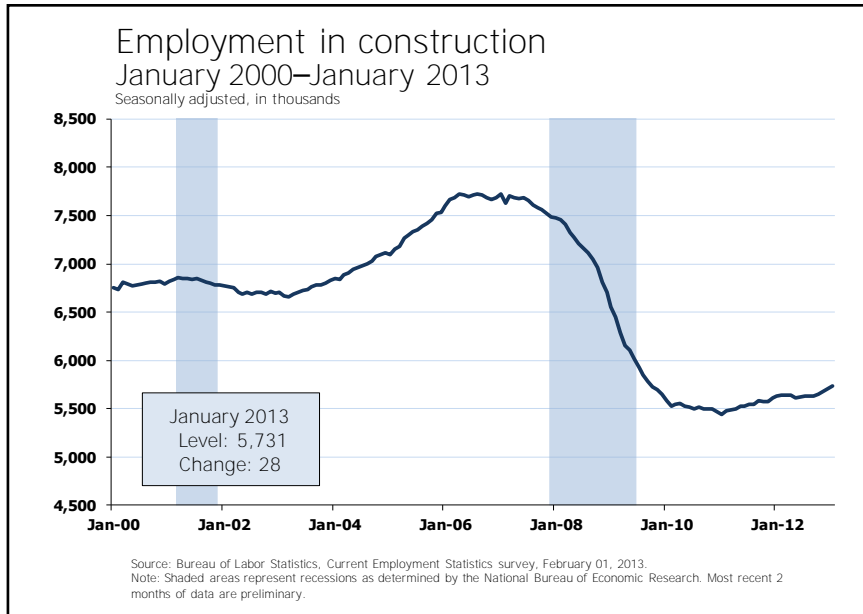
Other Employment Changes*	
Mining and logging	+ 4,000
Manufacturing	+4,000
Utilities	+ 1,000
Information	+9,000
Financial activities	+ 6,000
Other services	+ 8,000
Government	- 9,000
*Over-the-month changes in this table are not statistically significant (based on a 90% confidence interval)	

Mining and Logging

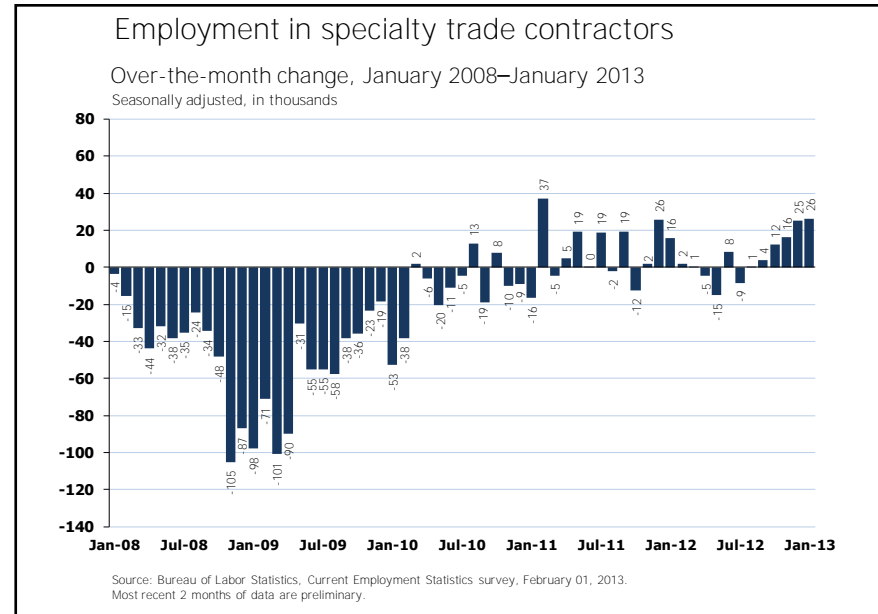


Employment in mining rose by 6,000 in January, with small increases distributed throughout most of the sector. Over 3 months, mining has added 23,000 jobs. In January, logging employment decreased by 2,000.

Construction



Construction employment rose by 28,000 in January. Construction employment growth has picked up lately, bringing the current 4-month change to +98,000. Since reaching an employment trough in January 2011, the industry has added 296,000 jobs.



NAICS 238 – Specialty trade contractors

Employment in specialty trade contractors rose by 26,000 in January, and constituted the bulk of the job gain within construction. Within the industry, *residential specialty trade contractors* added 14,000 jobs, which is consistent with the [Census Bureau's](#) report that housing starts rose 12.1 percent in December. The National Association of Home Builders also reported that its [Remodeling Market Index](#) in the fourth quarter of 2012 was the highest reading since the first quarter of 2004.

Employment in *nonresidential specialty trade contractors (NAICS 238002)* also continued to trend up in January (+12,000). This industry has added 40,000 jobs over the last 4 months.

Manufacturing

In January, manufacturing employment for both durables and nondurables changed little.

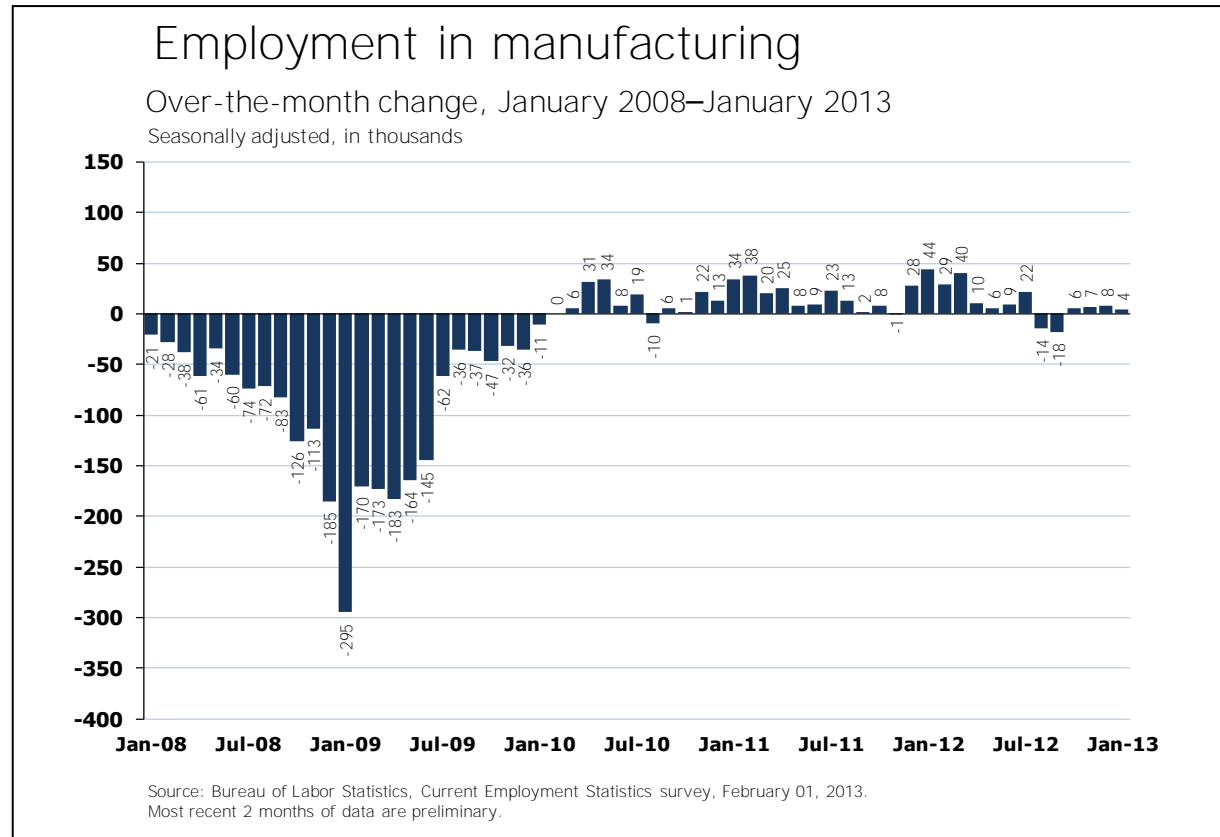
The 1-month diffusion index of manufacturing employment fell from 54.9 in December to 48.1 in January. The diffusion index measures the dispersion of employment change in manufacturing, with a value above 50 indicating that more manufacturing industries are adding jobs than losing them.

In January, the factory workweek for production employees was 0.1 hour shorter than in December. The factory workweek is considered a leading economic indicator. The January index of aggregate weekly hours for production employees decreased 0.2 percent over the month.

In 2012, manufacturing added 149,000 jobs, compared to a 207,000 increase in 2011. While the industry enjoyed relatively strong job growth over the past 2 years, hiring slowed over the last 6 months.

NAICS 3361, 3362, and 3363 combined – Motor vehicles and parts

Employment in motor vehicles and parts manufacturing trended up for the third consecutive month in January. Since reaching an employment trough in June 2009, the



industry has grown by 164,000 jobs.

NAICS 324 – Petroleum and coal products

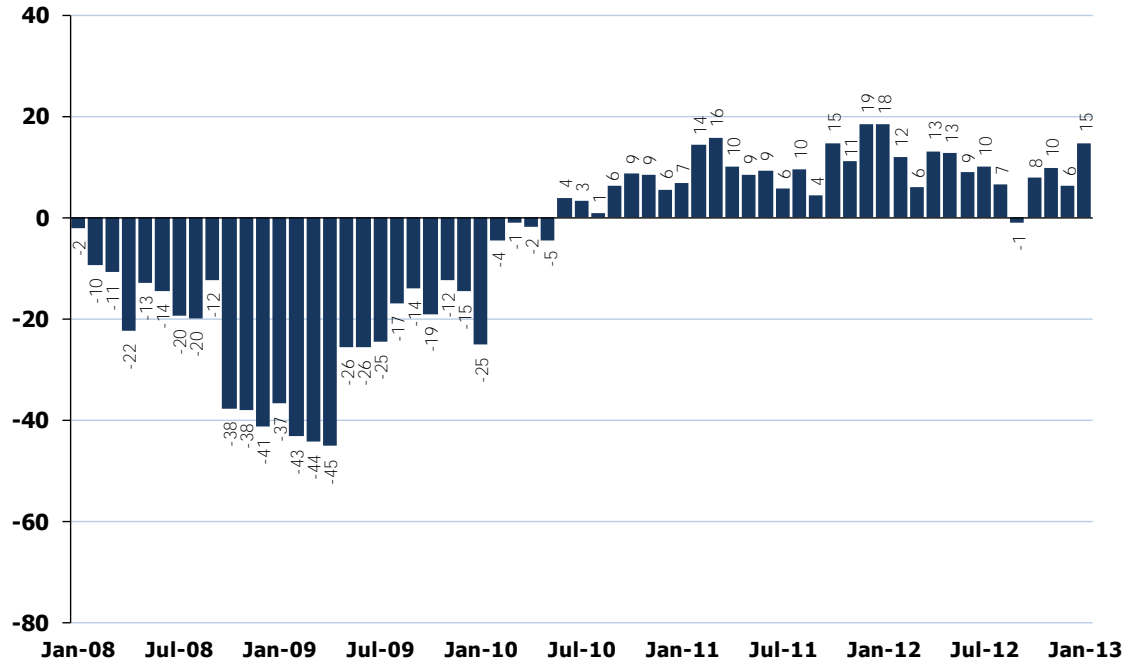
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing added 2,000 jobs in January. Employment in the industry reached a trough in January 2011 and has since expanded by 7,000. This

employment increase coincides with the U.S. becoming a net exporter of refined petroleum products (Source: [U.S. Energy Information Administration](#)).

Wholesale Trade

Employment in wholesale trade

Over-the-month change, January 2008–January 2013
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

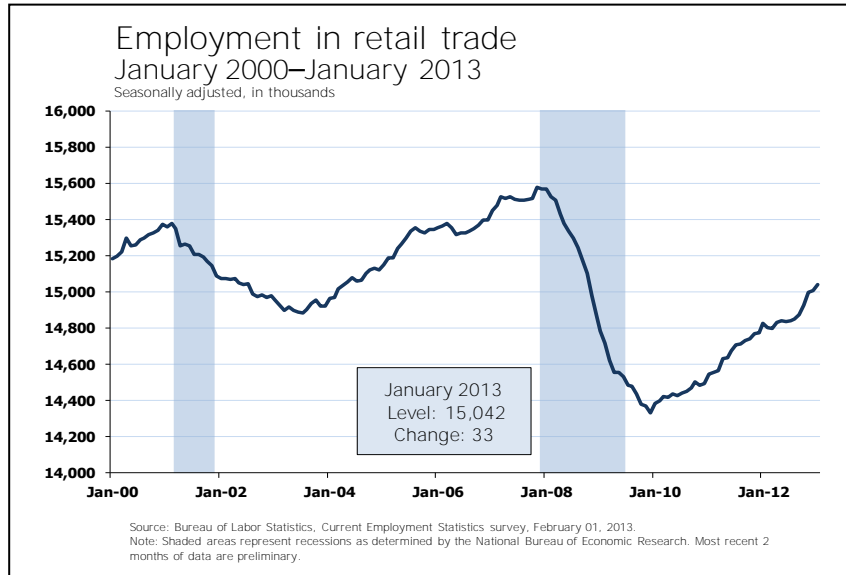


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 01, 2013.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

In January, employment in wholesale trade rose by 15,000. The majority of the employment increase occurred in nondurable goods (+11,000).

Nondurable goods has added 48,000 jobs over the past 12 months.

Retail Trade



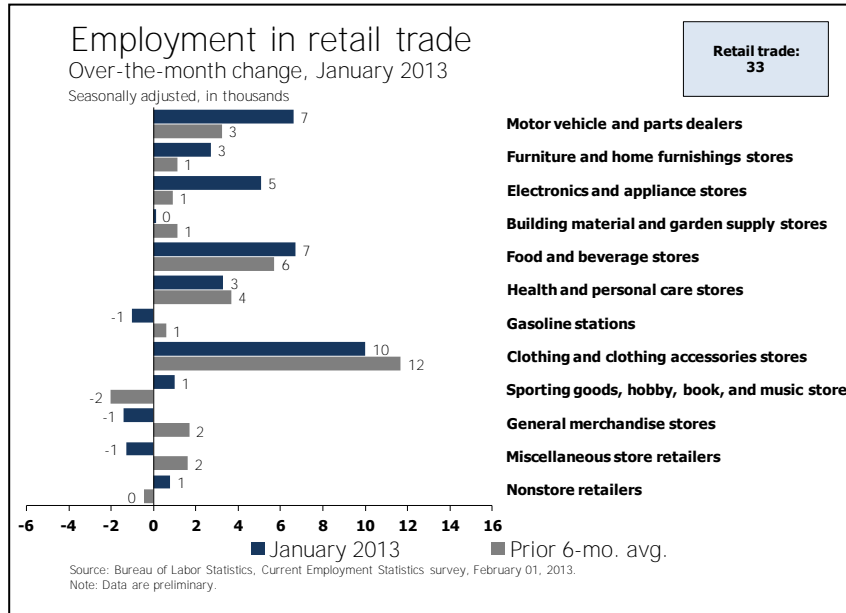
Retail trade employment grew by 33,000 in January. This growth continues the upward trend seen in the last half of 2012 when retail had a monthly average job gain of 29,000.

January’s movement was driven by employment gains in *motor vehicle and parts dealers* (+7,000)—specifically *automobile dealers* (+4,000)—along with a gain in *electronics and appliance stores* (+5,000). *Clothing and clothing accessories stores* continued to trend up over the month.

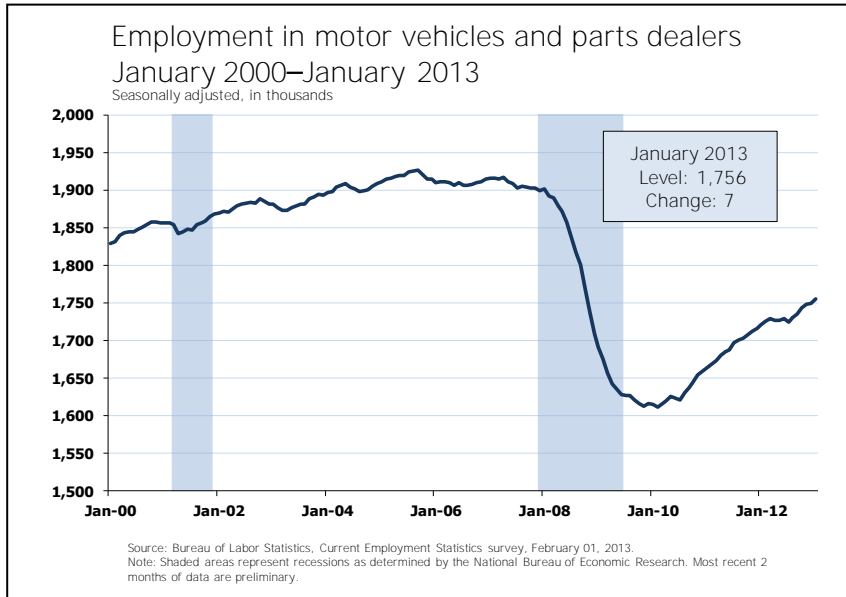
Since the most recent employment low in December 2009, retail employment has recovered 708,000 jobs or approximately 57 percent of the jobs lost during its November 2007 – December 2009 downturn.

Recent retail-related indicators have been generally positive. As shown by [Census Bureau data](#), retail sales for December increased 0.5 percent and were up 4.7 percent over the year, with sales gains occurring in the majority of the retail sectors. In December, automotive sales as measured by [MotorIntelligence](#) were up 1.8 million from year-ago levels. Also, according to the [U.S. Energy Information Administration](#), while the price of gasoline is up 5 cents per gallon from December, the cost per gallon is 7 cents below year-ago levels.

However, the [Conference Board](#) notes that the Consumer Confidence Index declined in January. Consumers’ concern over their financial situation was a major factor cited in declining confidence over the month.



Retail Trade

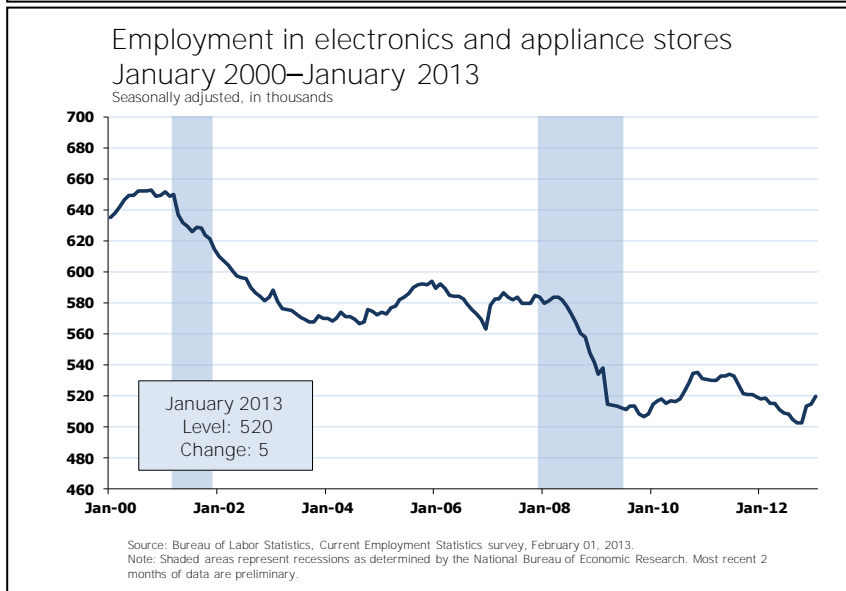


NAICS 441 – Motor vehicles and parts dealers

Employment in motor vehicle and parts dealers grew by 7,000 in January and is up 34,000 over the year. The strength in this industry was led by automobile dealers and correlates with strong vehicle sales throughout the past year, as measured by [MotorIntelligence](#).

NAICS – 443 Electronics and appliance stores

In January, electronics and appliance stores added 5,000 jobs. This gain may be attributable to weaker-than-expected seasonal layoffs.



Retail Trade

RETAIL TRADE
Holiday Season Employment Buildup
(Not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

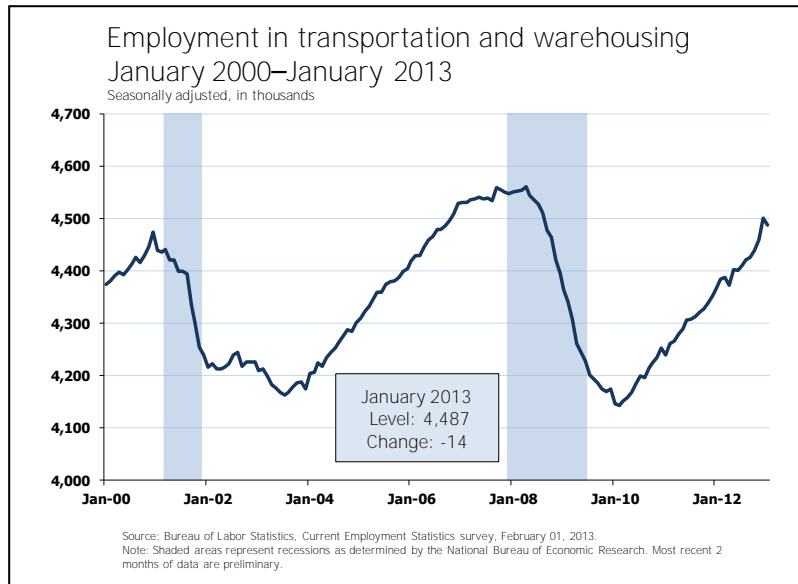
YEAR	SEPT. LEVEL	TOTAL HOLIDAY BUILDUP (OCT. -DEC.)	% HOLIDAY BUILDUP	OVER-THE-MONTH CHANGE	PERCENT HOLIDAY LAYOFF Thru JAN
				JAN.	
2007-08	8,442.0	775.6	9.2	-610.8	-78.8
2008-09	8,292.6	473.9	5.7	-609.6	-128.6
2009-10	7,880.8	555.3	7.0	-487.6*	-88
2010-11	7,906.4	634.2	8.0	-477.1*	-75.2
2011-12	8,045.5	667.9	8.3	-486.3	-72.8
Average	8,113.5	621.4	7.7	-534.3	-86.0
2012-13	8,128.5	740.7	9.1	-523.3	-70.6

The October-to-December holiday retail hiring buildup (a 9.1 percent employment increase, not seasonally adjusted) was the strongest since 2007. This stronger-than-average buildup, however, was followed by a below average layoff in January (70.6 percent of the seasonal buildup), which resulted in a seasonally adjusted gain in January.

Includes employment only from furniture and home furnishings stores, electronics and appliance stores, other specialty food stores, health and personal care stores, clothing and clothing accessories stores, sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores, general merchandise stores, miscellaneous store retailers, and electronic shopping and mail-order houses.

*Indicates 5 weeks between weeks of the 12th for the current and prior month, there are 4 weeks when not annotated. The CES reference period is the pay period that includes the 12th of the month. Seasonal movements can differ depending on the number of weeks between surveys.

Transportation and Warehousing



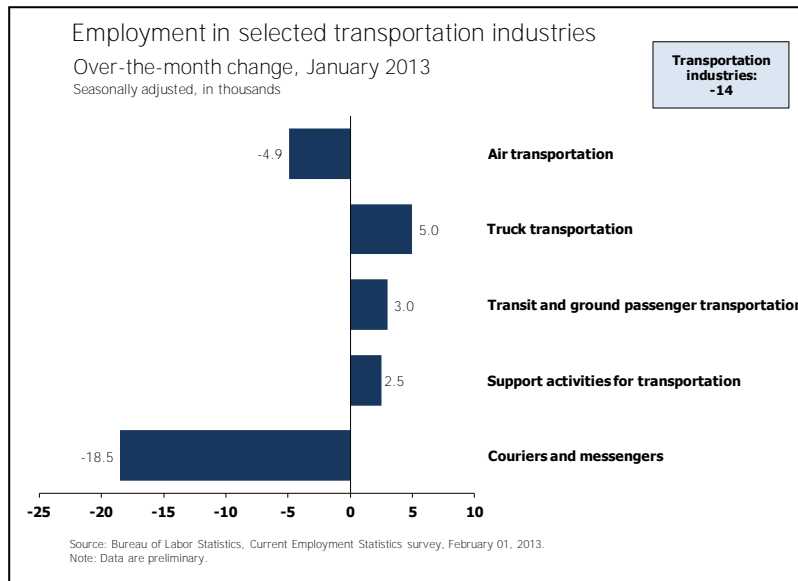
Employment in transportation and warehousing edged downward in January. Both *air transportation* and *couriers and messengers* lost jobs over the month. Over the past 12 months, employment in transportation and warehousing added 121,000 jobs; *truck transportation and warehousing and storage* accounted for 82,000 of the increase.

NAICS 481 – Air transportation

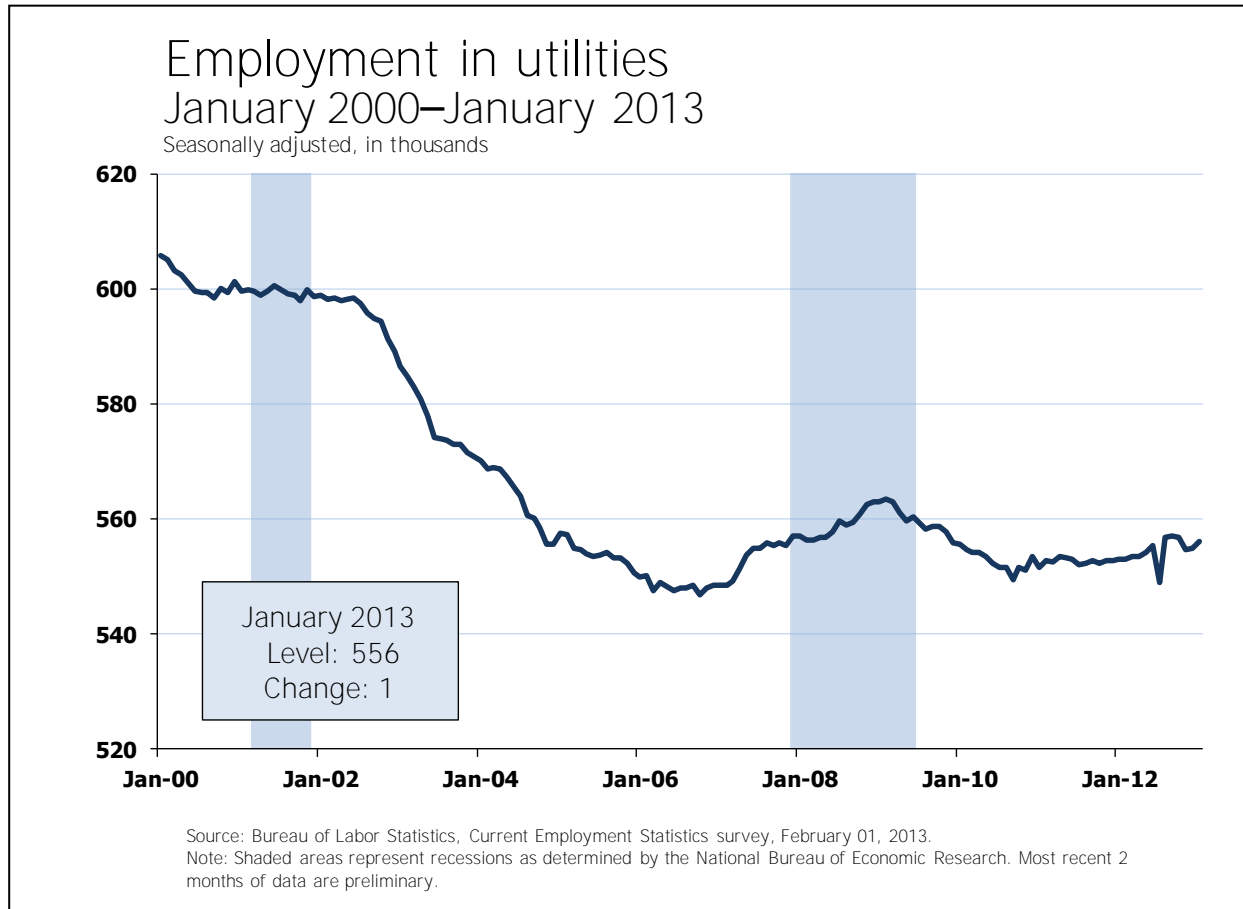
Air transportation continued a downward trend of losing jobs in January. Since June, the industry has lost 15,000 jobs. Recent restructuring among airlines has negatively impacted air transportation employment (Source: [Bureau of Transportation Statistics](#)).

NAICS 492 – Couriers and messengers

After strong seasonal hiring in November and December, couriers and messengers lost 19,000 jobs seasonally adjusted in January. High volumes of package returns generated via e-commerce (Source: [Reuters](#)) may have resulted in a smaller-than-normal seasonal layoff in January.

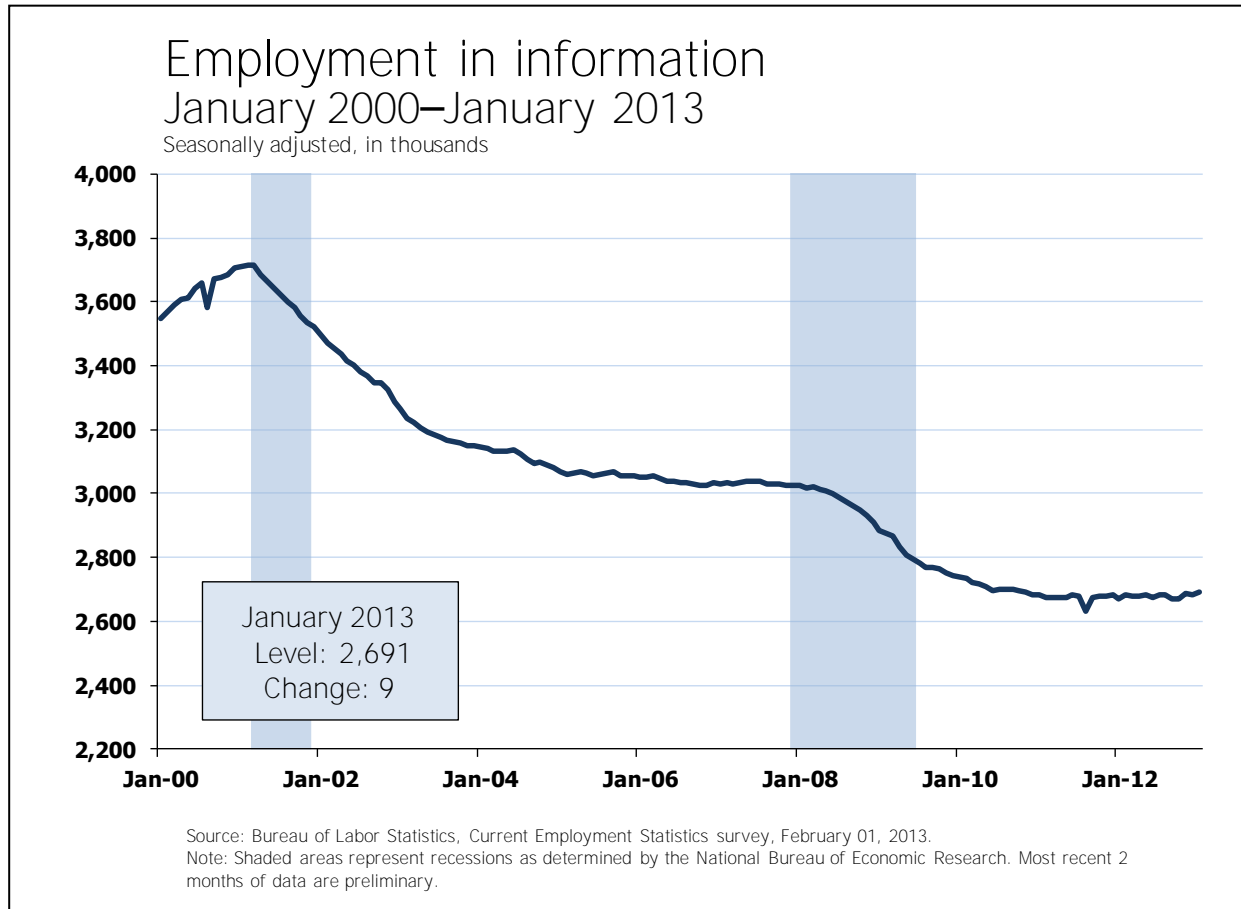


Utilities



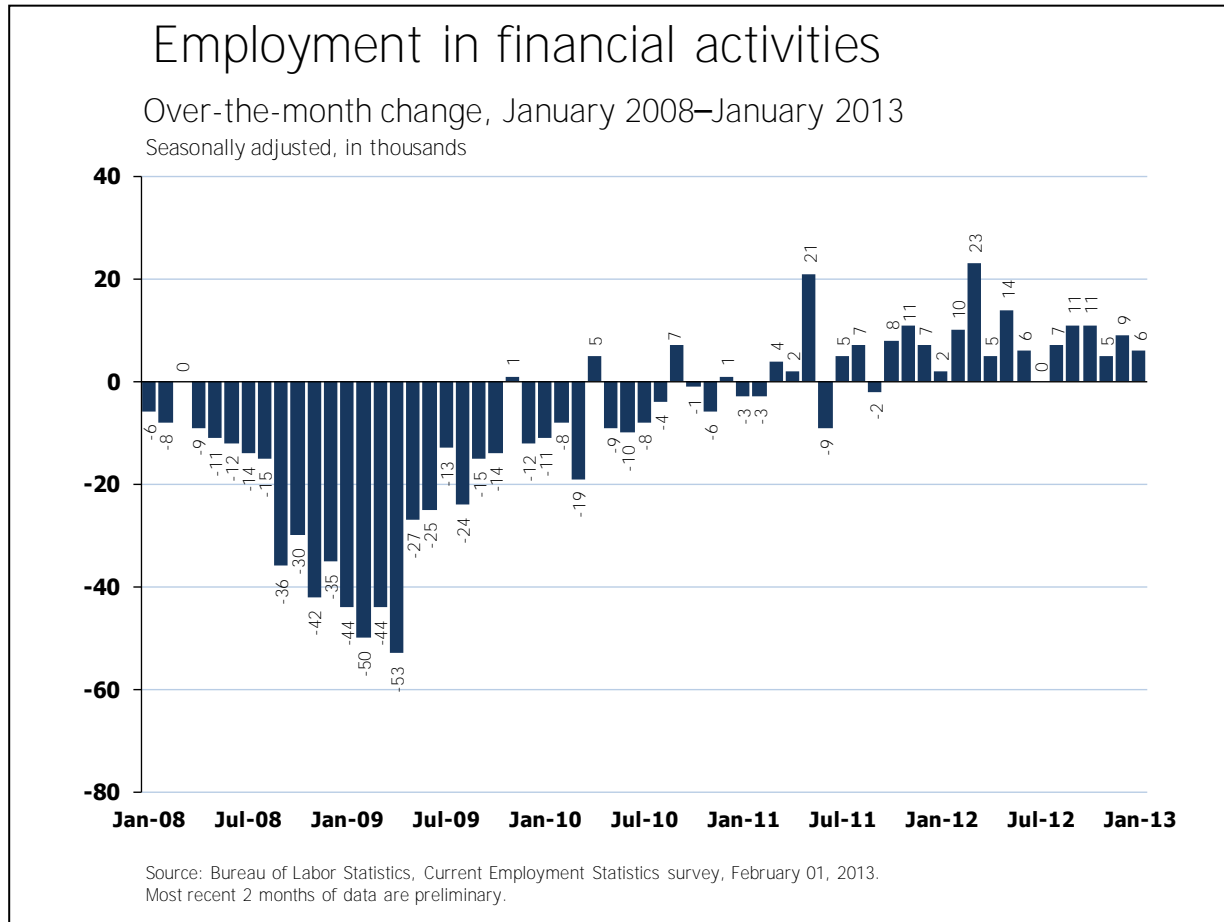
There was no significant employment change in utilities in January.

Information



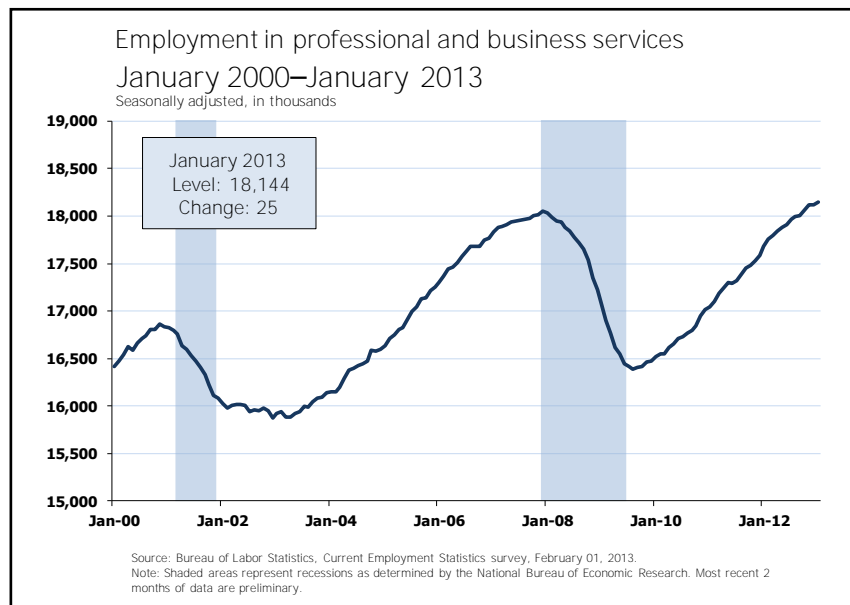
Information employment edged up (+9,000) in January, with small movements occurring in most component industries. Telecommunications added 5,000 jobs over the month. This gain represents a departure from the industry’s long-term trend of job loss. Despite occasional monthly upticks, telecommunications employment has fallen by 607,000 since last reaching a high point in March 2001. Wired telecommunications carriers accounted for about two-thirds of jobs lost over this period.

Financial Activities



Employment in financial activities continued to trend up in January (+6,000), with small offsetting movements among its component industries. Employment has increased by an average 7,000 per month in financial activities since reaching a trough in February 2011.

Professional and business services



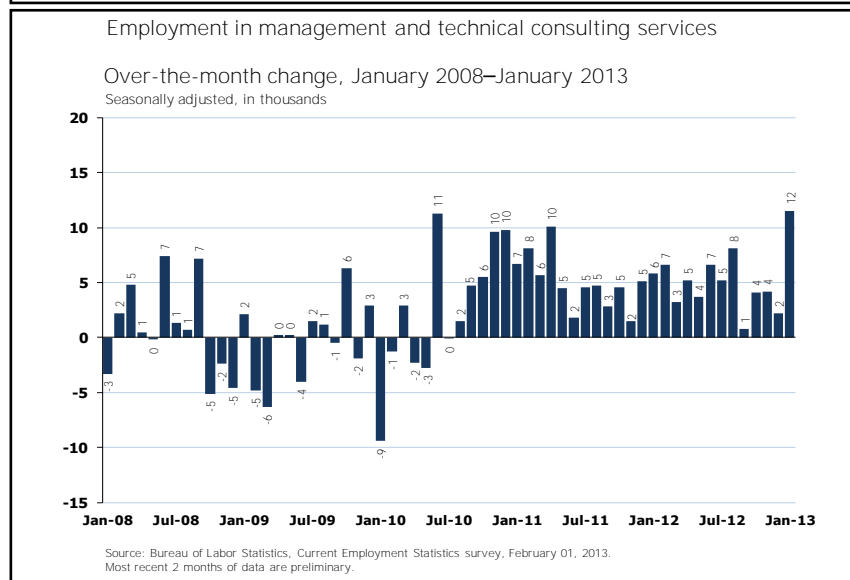
Professional and business services employment continued to trend up (+25,000) in January. The change was split between *professional and technical services* (+15,000) and *administrative and waste services* (+11,000).

NAICS 5415 – Computer systems design and related services

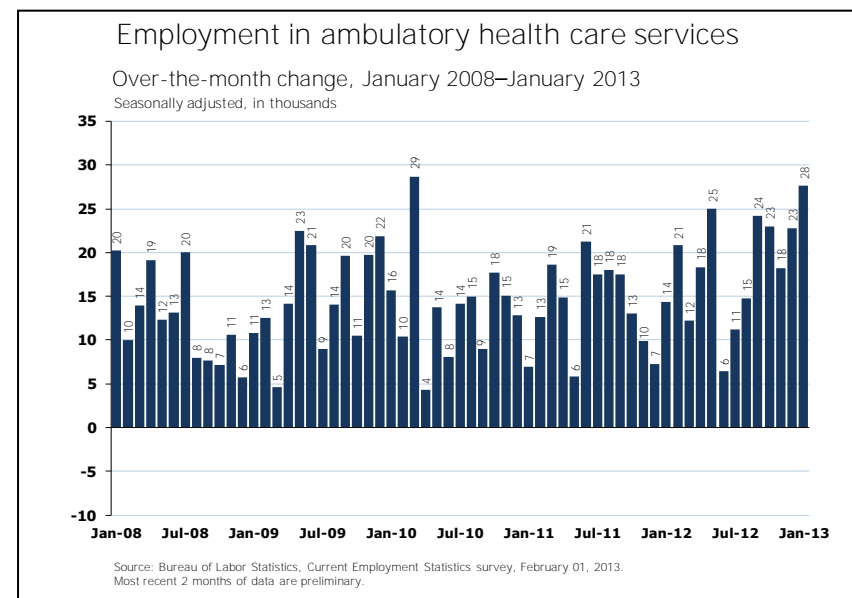
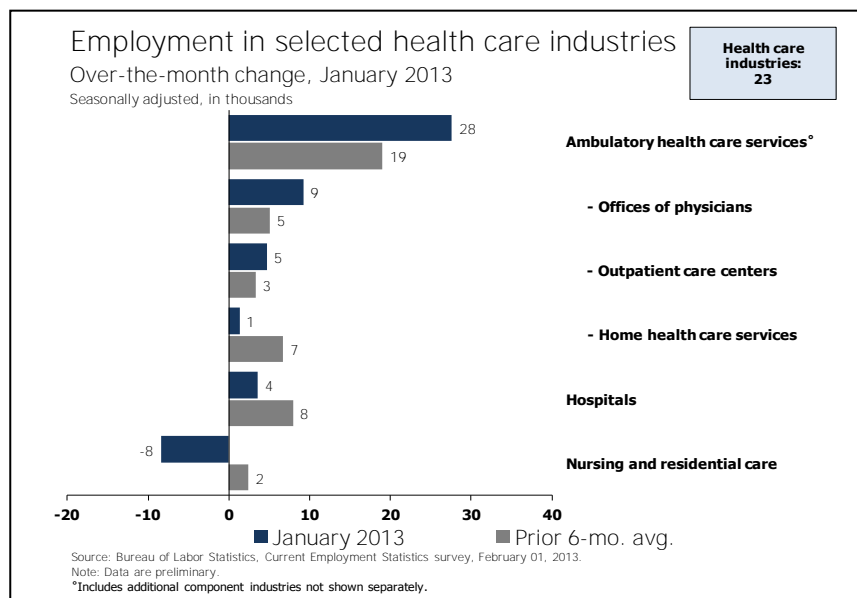
Employment in *computer systems design and related services* also continued to rise (+5,000) over the month. This industry reached an employment trough in August 2009 and has added 251,000 jobs since that time.

NAICS 5416 – Management and technical consulting services

The largest gain within professional and technical services occurred in *management and technical consulting services*, which added 12,000 jobs in January. The majority of this gain can be attributed to *administrative consulting services*. Since reaching an employment low in May 2010, management and technical consulting services has added 170,000 payroll jobs.



Private education and health services



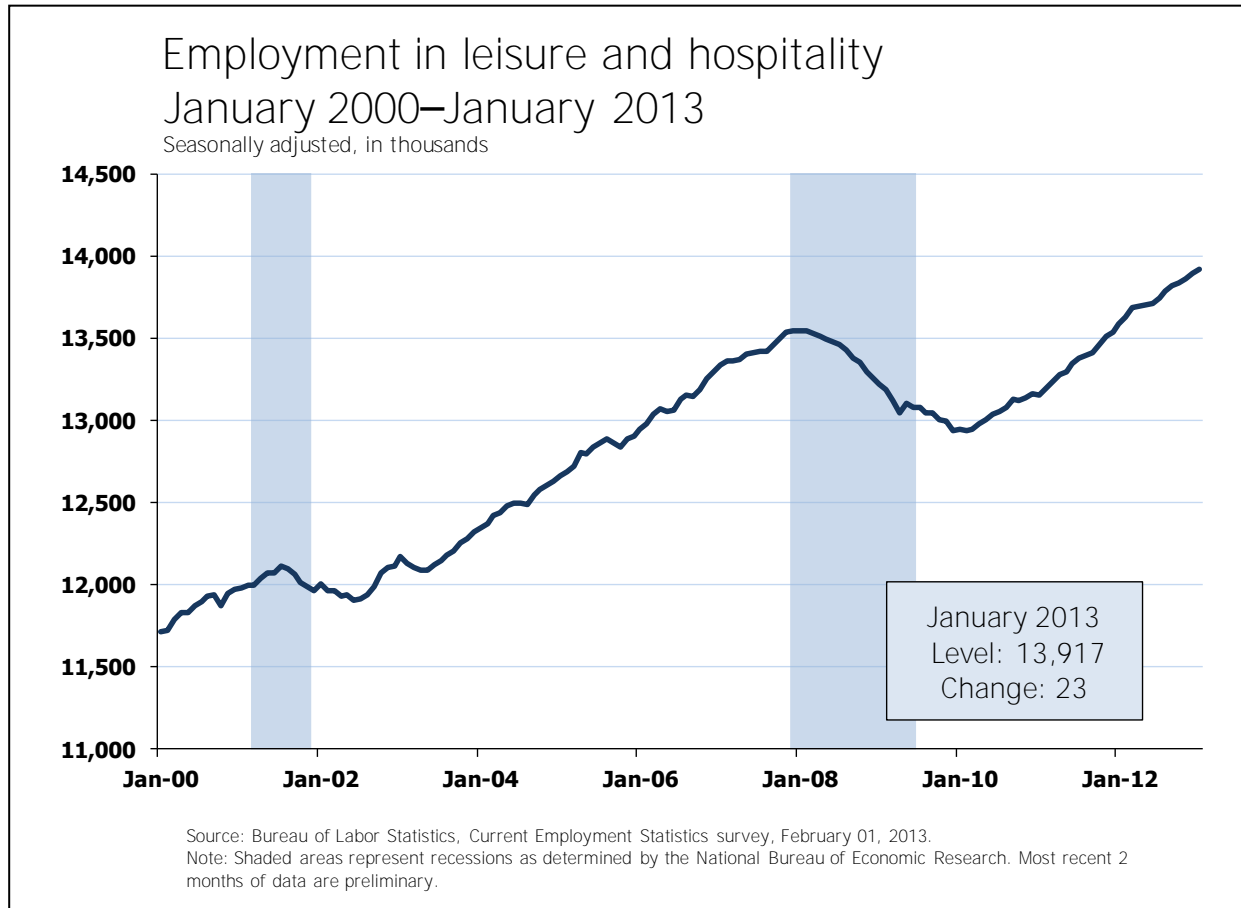
Education and health services continued to add jobs in January. Health care and social assistance accounted for virtually all of the job gain (+28,000), while educational services employment remained flat.

Health care employment rose by 23,000 over the month, in line with its prior 12-month average gain of 27,000. Within the industry in January, job gains in ambulatory health care services (+28,000) were partially offset by a decline in nursing and residential care employment (-8,000). This over-the-month job loss follows a gain of 9,000 in December. Social assistance employment (+5,000) continued a modest upward trend.

Within ambulatory health care services, employment increased over the month in offices of physicians (+9,000) and outpatient care centers (+5,000). Since January 2012, employment in these industries has increased by 2.8 percent and 6.3 percent, respectively.

Over the past 12 months, health care added 320,000 jobs, with ambulatory health care services accounting for 70 percent of the gain.

Leisure and Hospitality



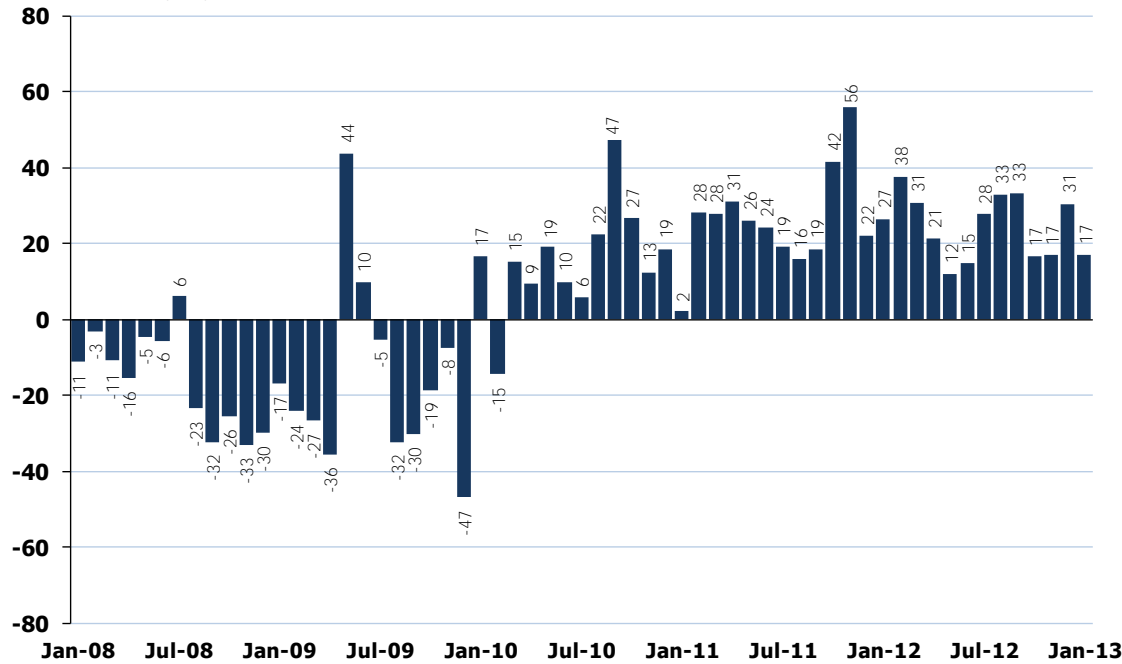
Employment in leisure and hospitality edged up in January, continuing its trend of steady, moderate growth. This industry added 77,000 jobs in the last 3 months with *food services and drinking places* accounting for over 80 percent of the job gain.

Since reaching an employment trough in December 2009, leisure and hospitality has added 983,000 jobs, putting employment in the industry 367,000 above its most recent peak reached in December 2007.

Leisure and Hospitality

Employment in food services and drinking places

Over-the-month change, January 2008–January 2013
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



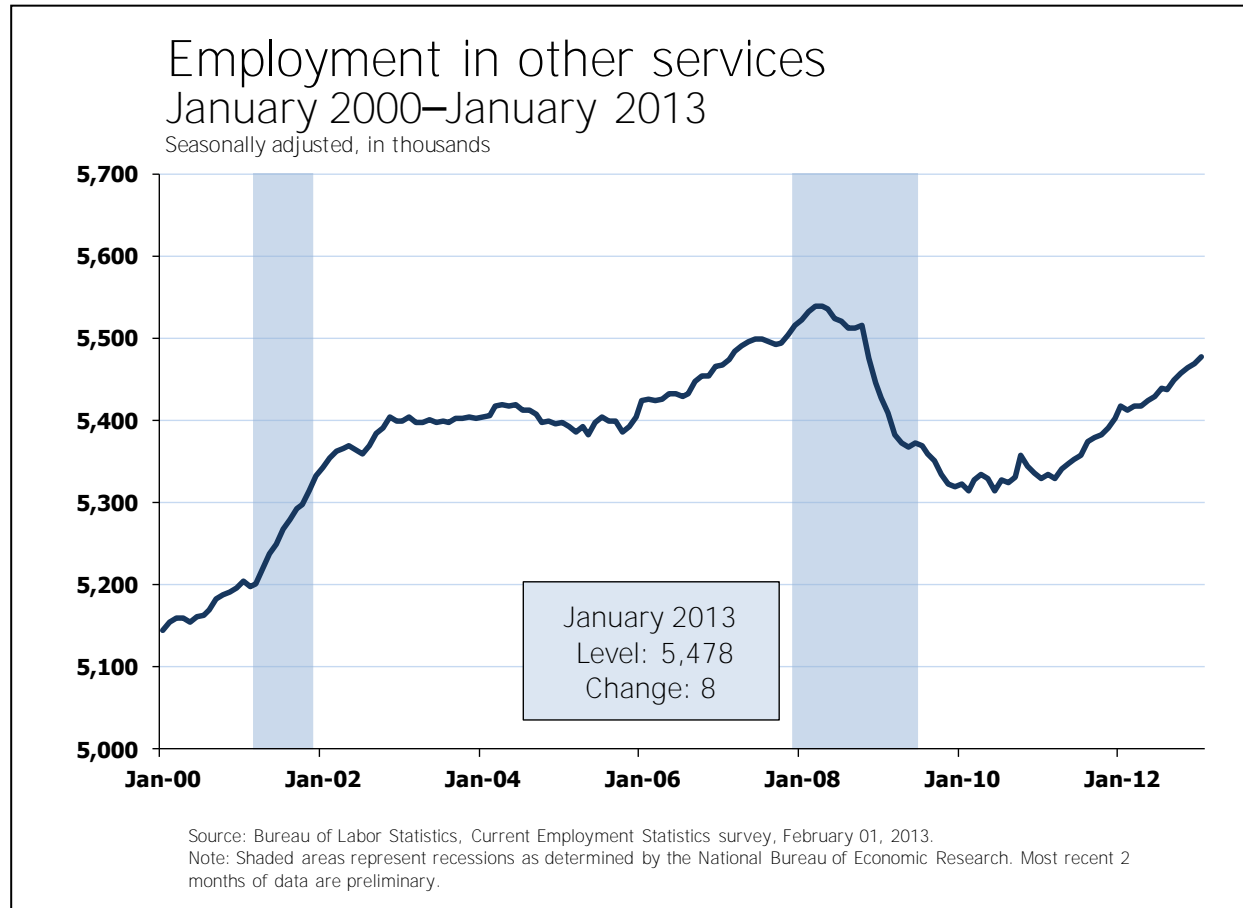
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, February 01, 2013.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

NAICS 722 – Food services and drinking places

Employment in food services and drinking places edged up in January following a gain of 31,000 in December.

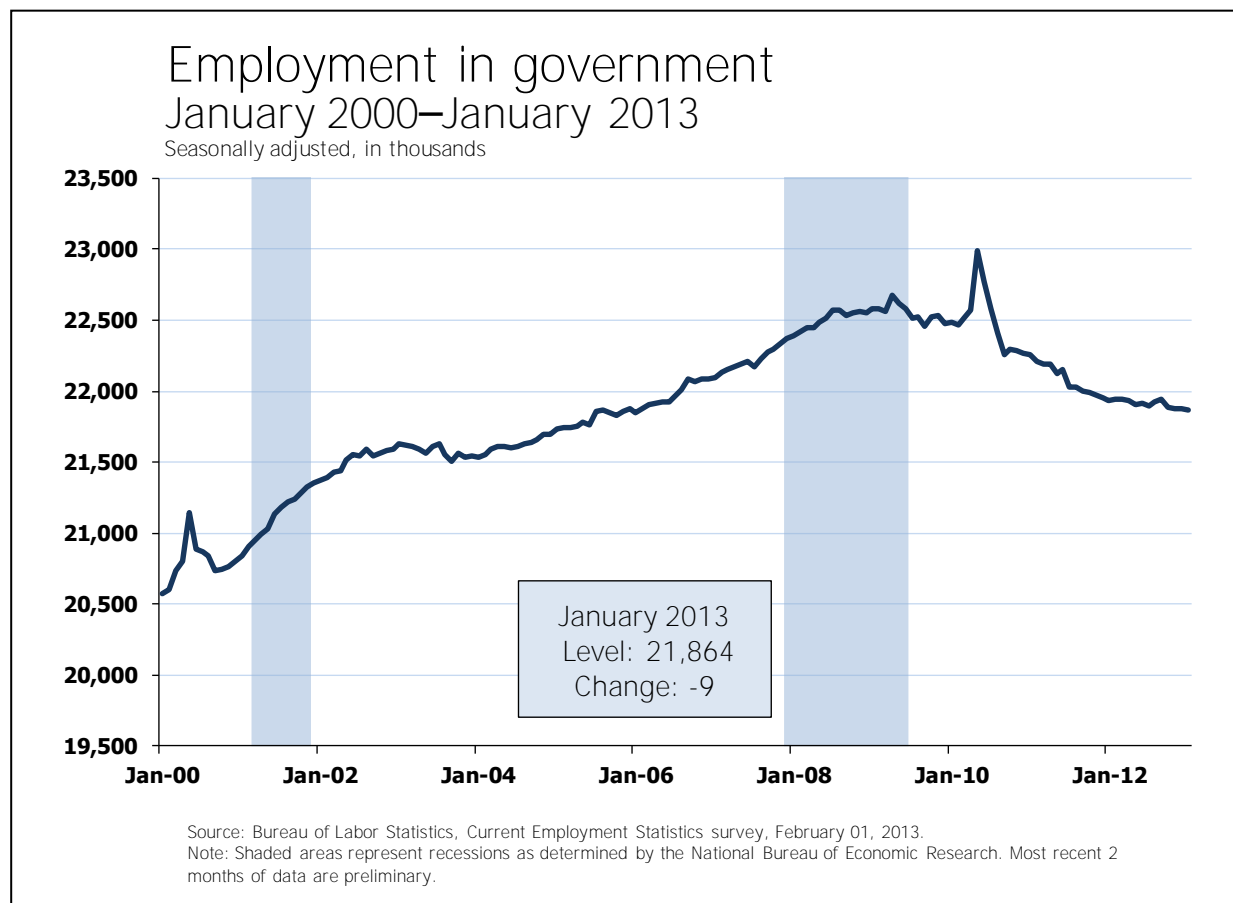
January marks 35 consecutive months without a job loss in this industry. Food services and drinking places recovered all the jobs it lost in the most recent recession, and employment is now 441,000 above its most recent peak reached in December 2007.

Other Services



Employment in other services continued to edge up in January, consistent with its prior 12-month average change. Since reaching an employment trough in June 2010, this industry has added 163,000 jobs, putting employment in the industry 62,000 jobs below its most recent peak reached in April 2008.

Government



Government employment continued to edge down in January (-9,000), on trend with its average monthly job loss of 6,000 in 2012. Employment changed little over the month at the federal, state, and local government levels.

In total, government has shed 704,000 jobs since July 2008, approximately the time when both state and local governments reached employment peaks. Local government education accounted for over half of the jobs lost during this time, while local government, excluding education accounted for about one-third. Over the same period, federal government employment has remained essentially unchanged, on net.



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