
WHAT'S UP WITH THE LABOR MARKET?

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*CEDBR – Kansas Economic Outlook
Salina, KS*

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Agenda

- About BLS
 - ▶ Key product: *The Employment Situation*
- National and regional labor market conditions
- What you can do to help

What *is* the BLS?

- Part of U.S. Department of Labor and an independent statistical agency
- Principal Federal agency responsible for measuring
 - Labor market activity
 - Working conditions
 - Price changes in the economy
- Mission: **Collect, analyze, and disseminate** essential economic **information** to support public and private decision-making
- Serve diverse user communities by providing **products** and **services** that are accurate, objective, relevant, timely and accessible

BLS values in action



- Is the glass half full or half empty?
 - ▶ It is an 8 oz. glass with 4 oz. of liquid
- Equal access to data for all users

The Employment Situation



NEWS RELEASE



Transmission of material in this release is embargoed until
8:30 a.m. (EST) Friday, November 6, 2015

USDL-15-2125

Technical information:

Household data: (202) 691-6378 • cpsinfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/cps
Establishment data: (202) 691-6555 • cesinfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/ces

Media contact: (202) 691-5902 • PressOffice@bls.gov

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION—OCTOBER 2015

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 271,000 in October, and the unemployment rate was essentially unchanged at 5.0 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Job gains occurred in professional and business services, health care, retail trade, food services and drinking places, and construction.

Chart 1. Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, October 2013 – October 2015

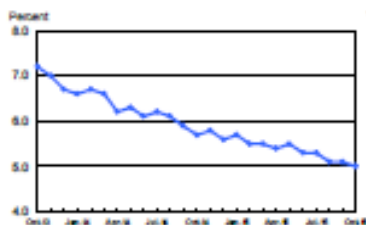
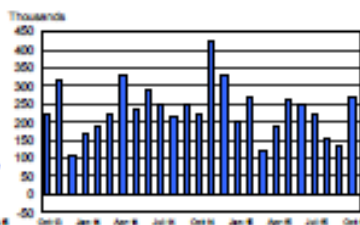


Chart 2. Nonfarm payroll employment over-the-month change, seasonally adjusted, October 2013 – October 2015



Household Survey Data

Both the unemployment rate (5.0 percent) and the number of unemployed persons (7.9 million) were essentially unchanged in October. Over the past 12 months, the unemployment rate and the number of unemployed persons were down by 0.7 percentage point and 1.1 million, respectively. (See table A-1.)

Among the major worker groups, the unemployment rates for adult men (4.7 percent), adult women (4.5 percent), teenagers (15.9 percent), whites (4.4 percent), blacks (9.2 percent), Asians (3.5 percent), and Hispanics (6.3 percent) showed little or no change in October. (See tables A-1, A-2, and A-3.)

- Brief text, two charts, plus many tables and technical notes
- Commissioner's statement issued also
- Released at 8:30 a.m., usually on first Friday of month
 - Schedule depends on reference week of surveys
 - Schedule posted a year in advance

What's inside?

- Two independent perspectives
 - ▶ Current Population Survey (household data)
 - ▶ Current Employment Statistics (establishment data)
- Why two?
 - ▶ More complete picture—employers and employees
 - ▶ Compensating advantages

The Employment Situation's **two headline indicators**

■ **Unemployment rate**

- ▶ From household survey
- ▶ Share of people in labor force that are unemployed (by official definition)
- ▶ Detail by demographics, occupation, duration of unemployment, etc.

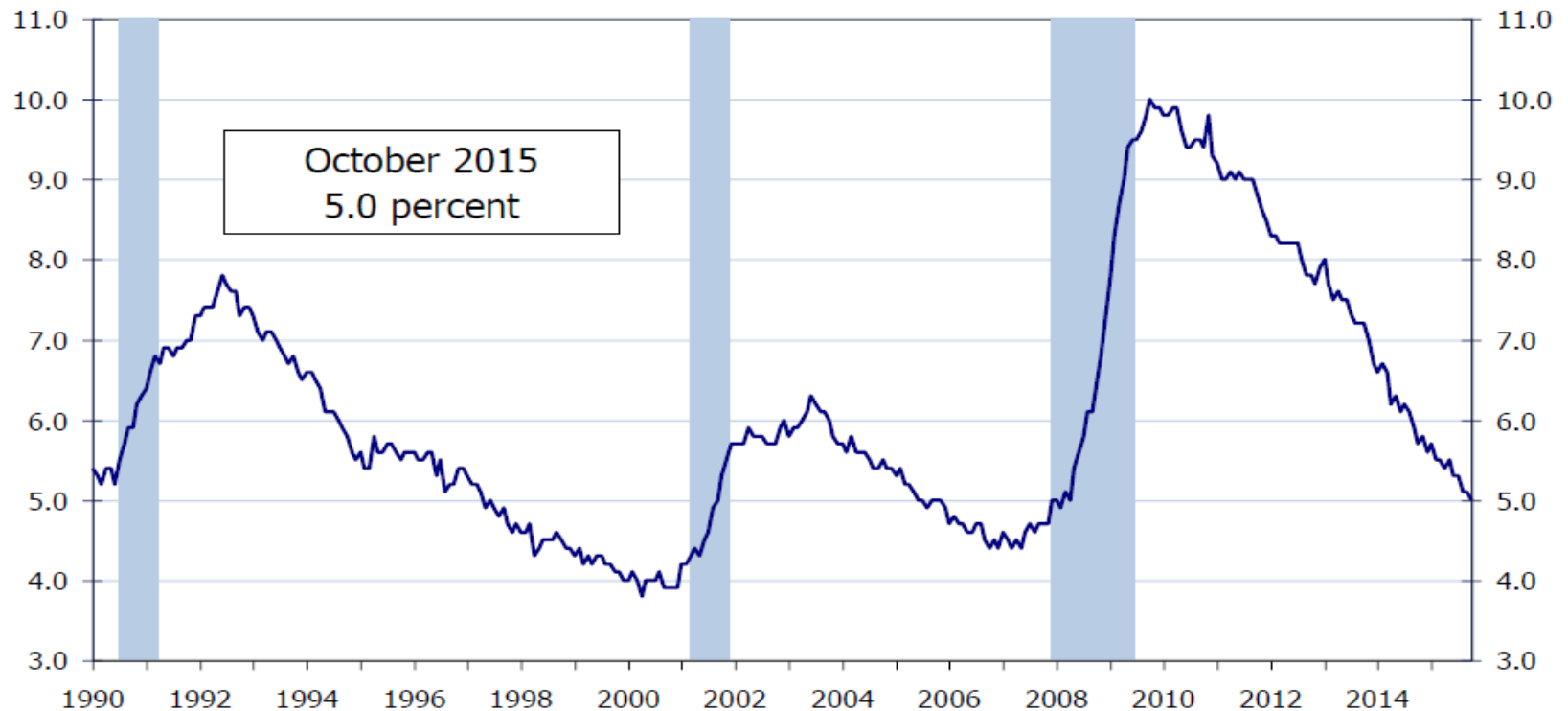
■ **Payroll growth**

- ▶ From establishment survey
- ▶ Change in jobs during period, not people
- ▶ Detail by industry

NATIONAL CONDITIONS: HOUSEHOLD VIEW

Unemployment rate was 5.0 percent in October

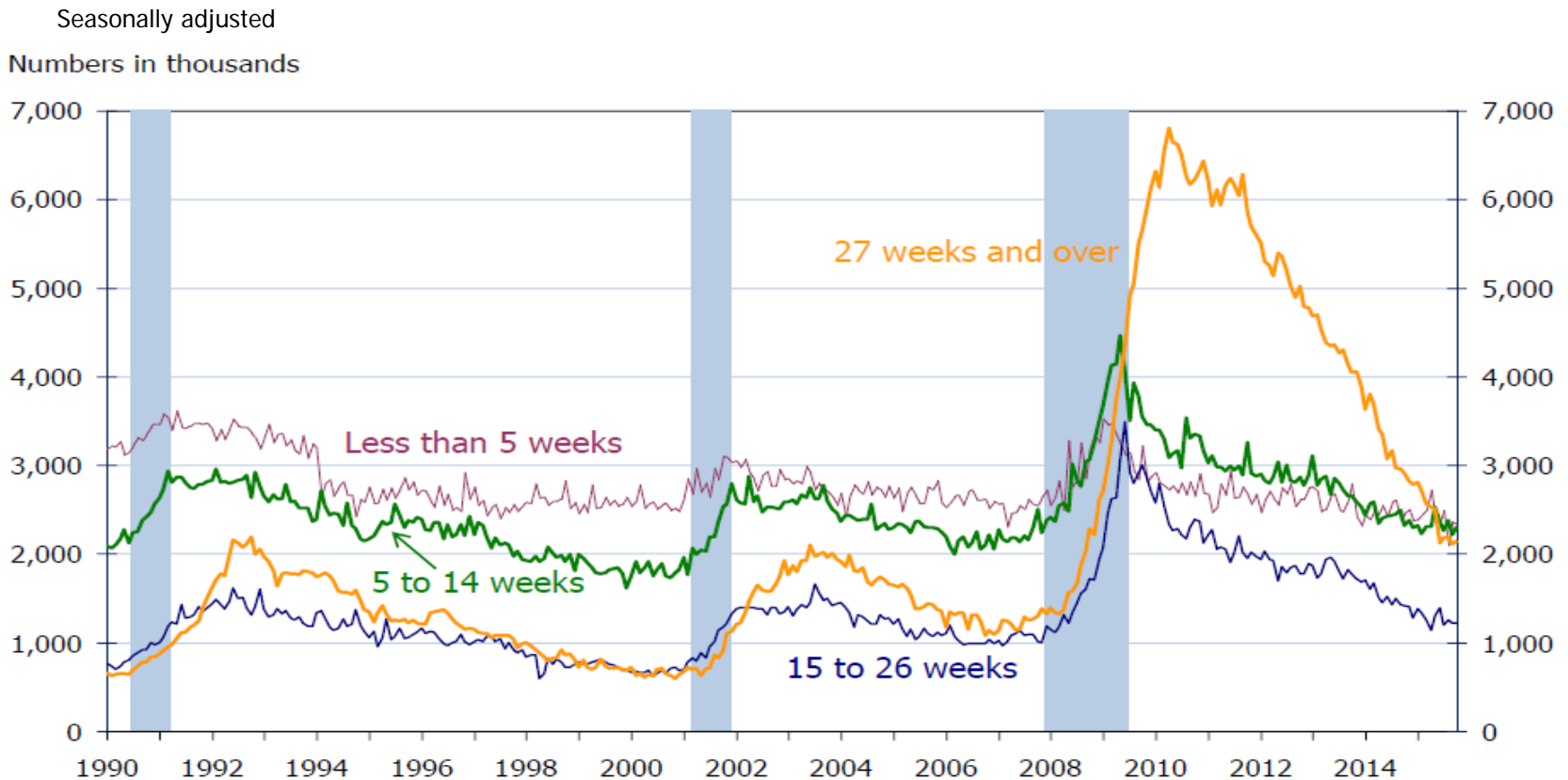
Seasonally adjusted
Percent



Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Data online at <http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS14000000>.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, November 6, 2015.

Long-term unemployment declining, but still historically high

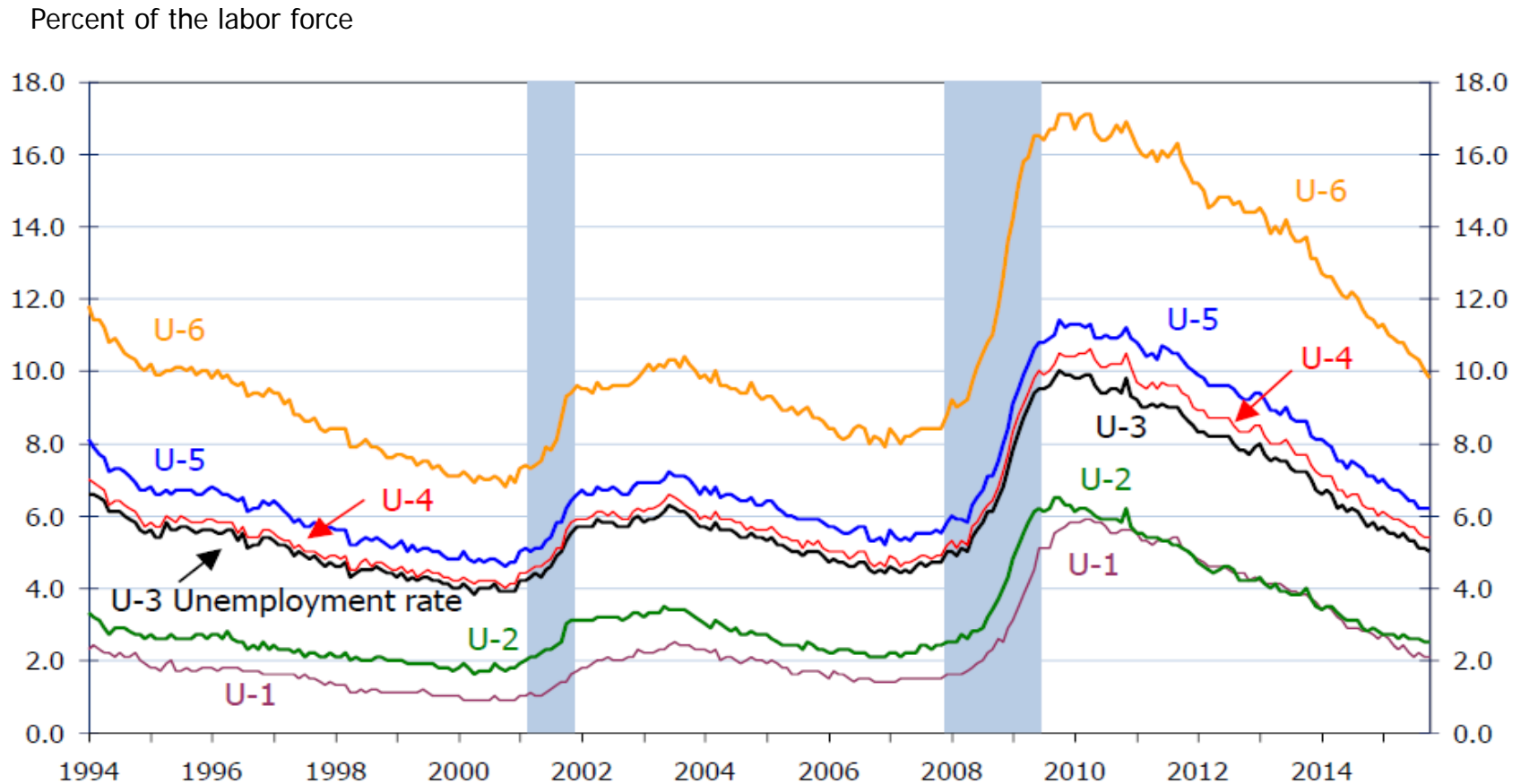


Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Data online at http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS13008396&series_id=LNS13008756&series_id=LNS13008876&series_id=LNS13008636.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, November 6, 2015.

Alternative labor underutilization measures tell similar story about the recession and recovery

U-6: Adds marginally attached workers and persons employed part-time for economic reasons, as a percent of labor force plus marginally attached workers.



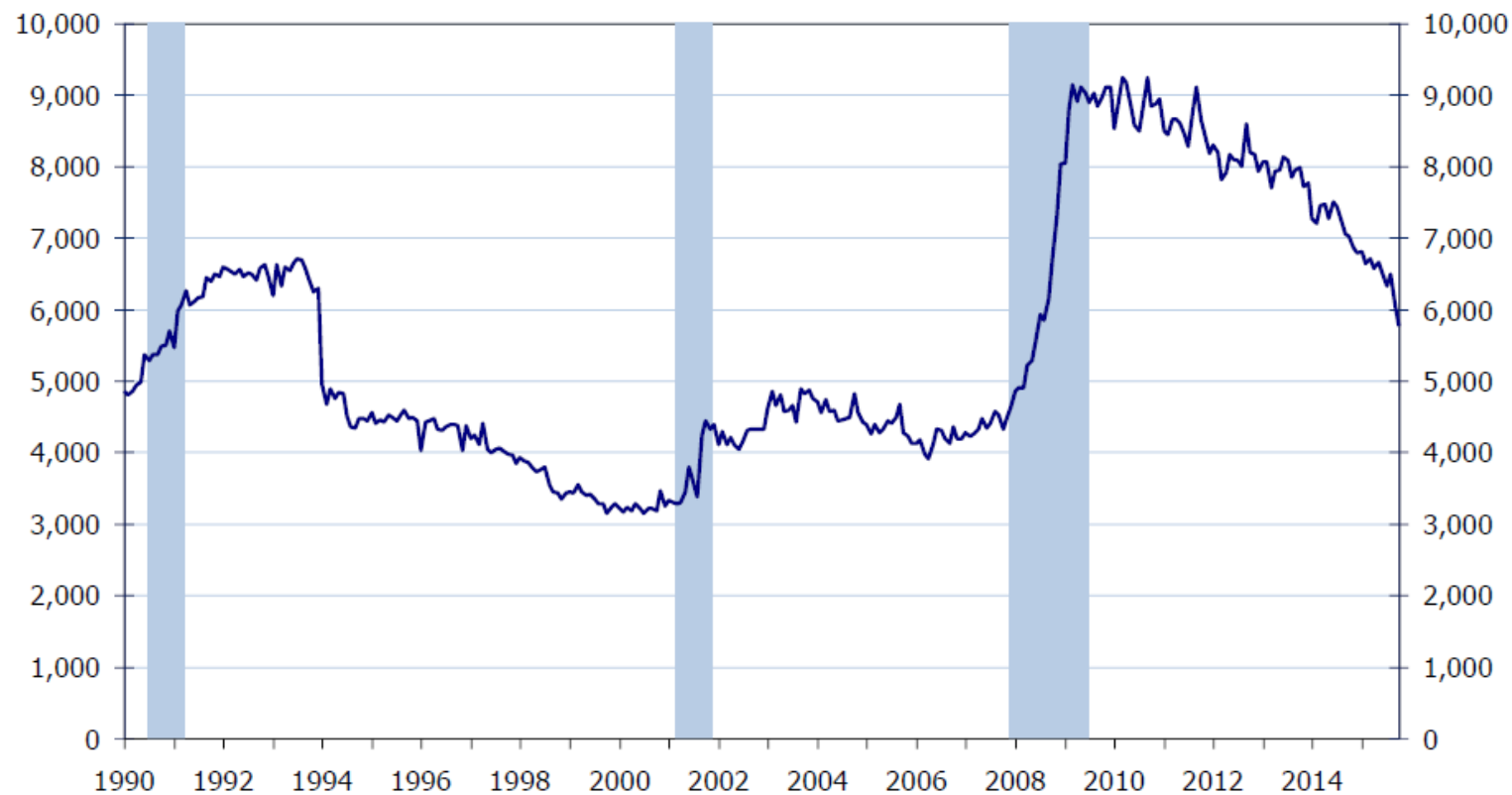
Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Data online at http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS13025670&series_id=LNS14023621&series_id=LNS14000000&series_id=LNS13327707 and at http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS13327708&series_id=LNS13327709.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, November 6, 2015.



Involuntary part time work declining, but still high

Numbers in thousands

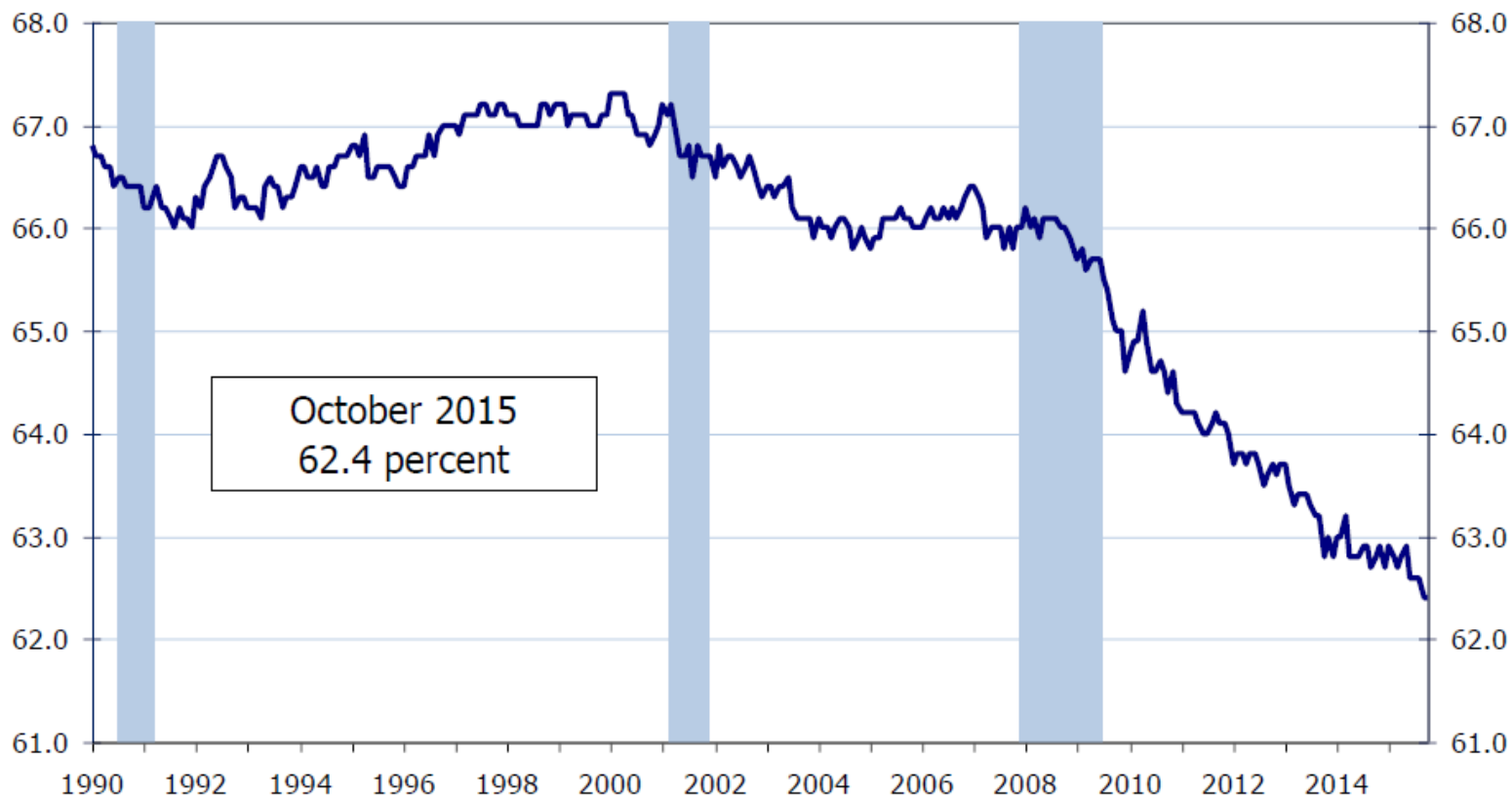


Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Beginning in 1994, data reflect the introduction of a major redesign of the Current Population Survey. Data online at <http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS12032194>.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, November 6, 2015.

Labor force participation down sharply since end of Great Recession

Percent of the adult population working or looking for work



Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Data online at <http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS11300000>.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, November 6, 2015.

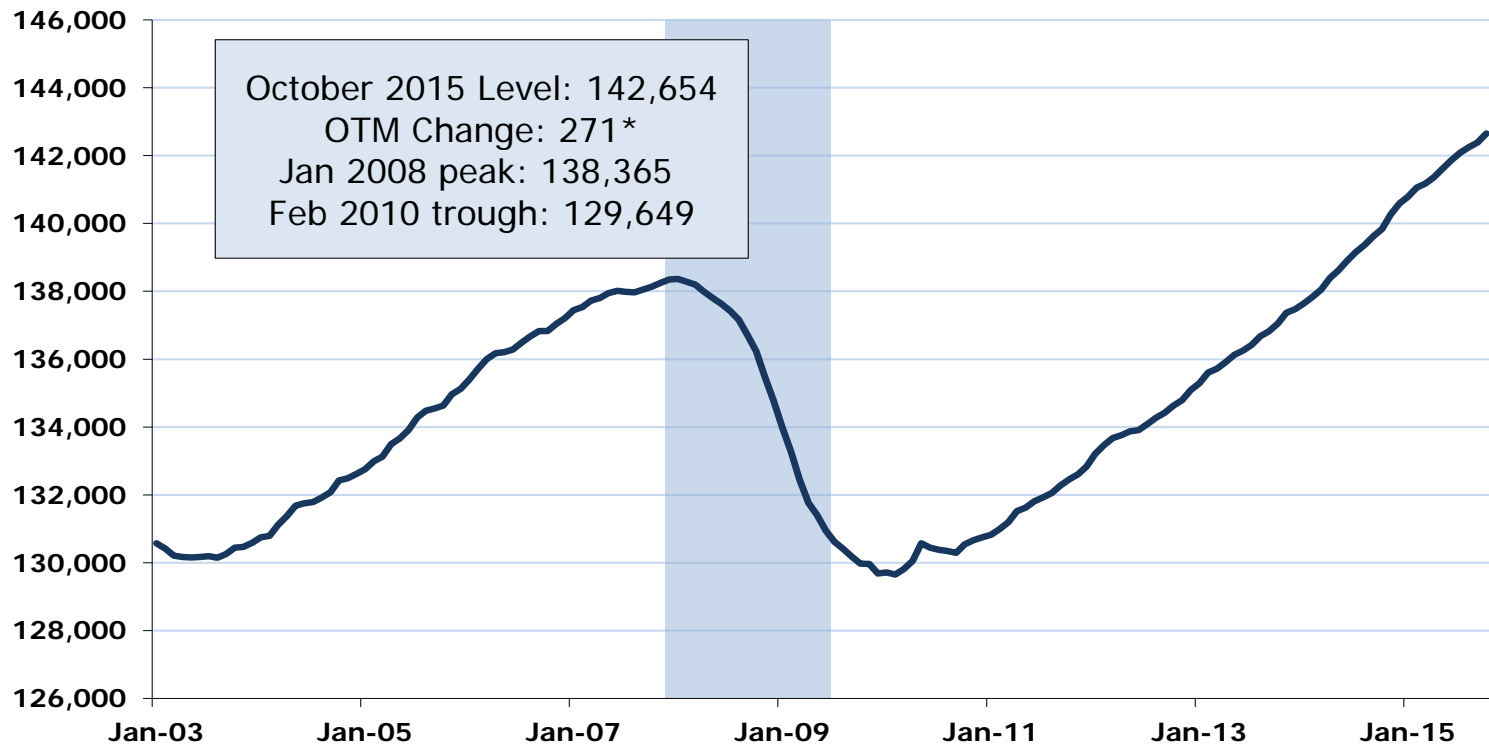


NATIONAL CONDITIONS: ESTABLISHMENT VIEW

Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 271,000 in October

Employment in total nonfarm January 2003–October 2015

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

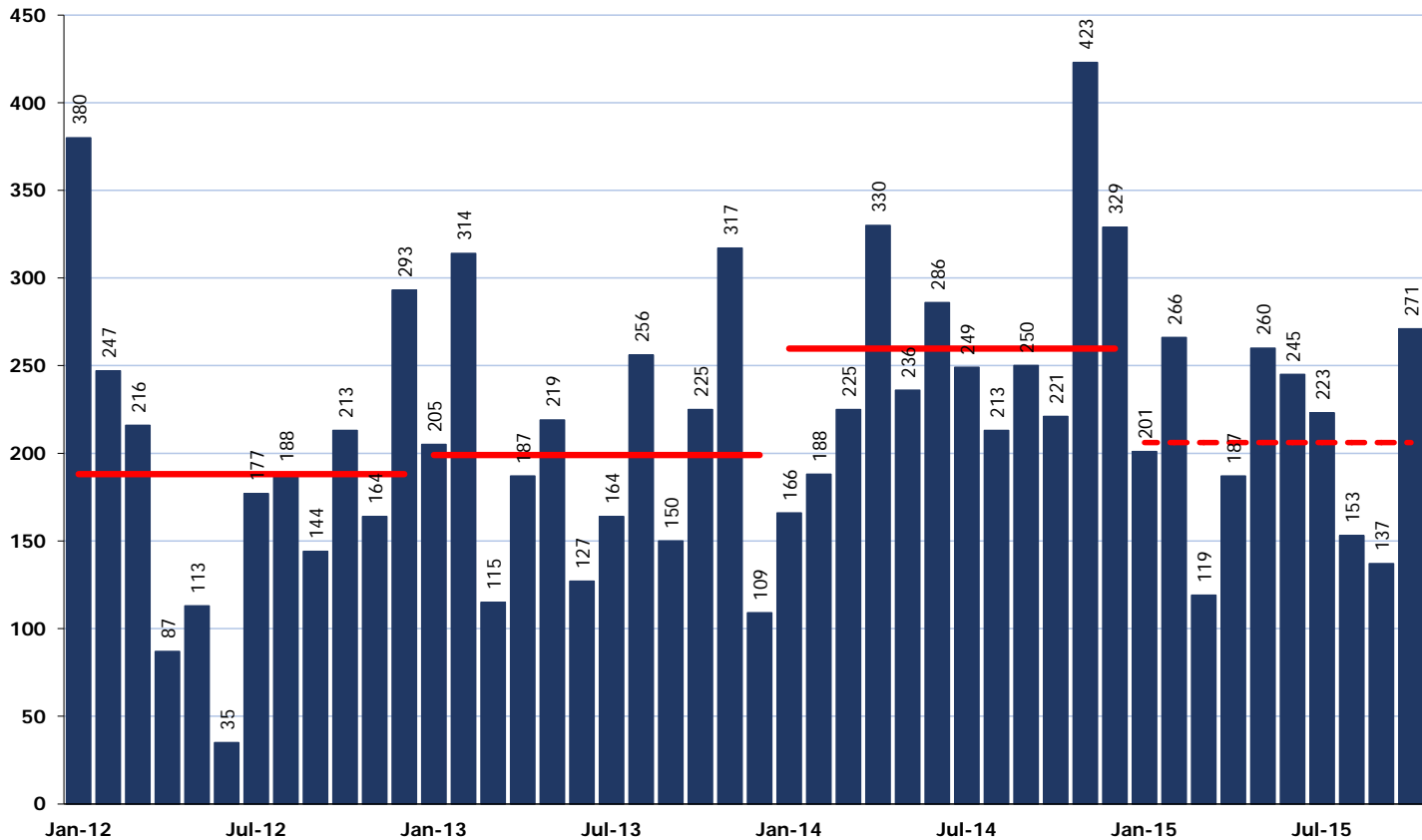


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.
Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
* denotes significance.

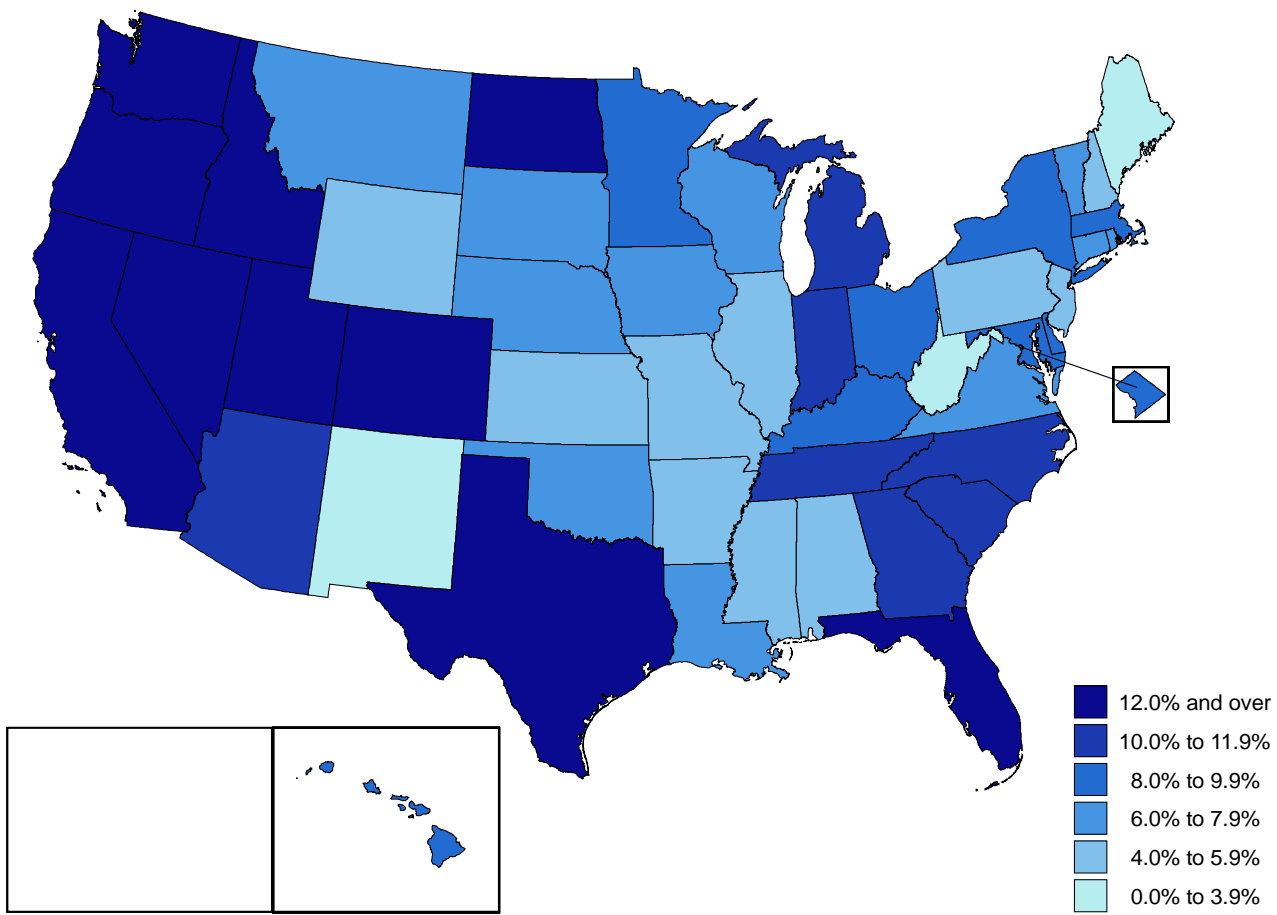
Job growth has averaged over 200,000 per month in 2015

Employment in total nonfarm

Over-the-month change, January 2012 - October 2015
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



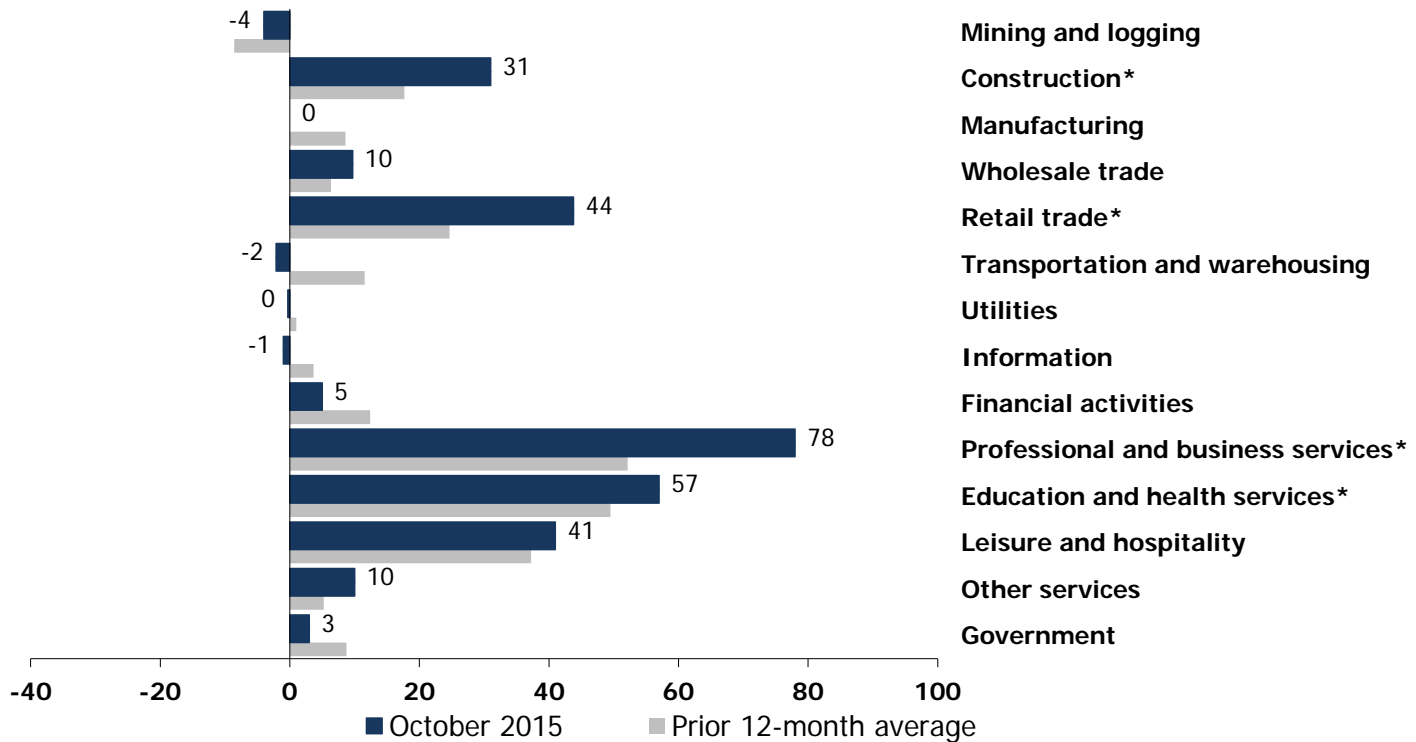
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.



Service industries lead growth

Employment in total nonfarm
Over-the-month change, October 2015
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Total nonfarm:
271*



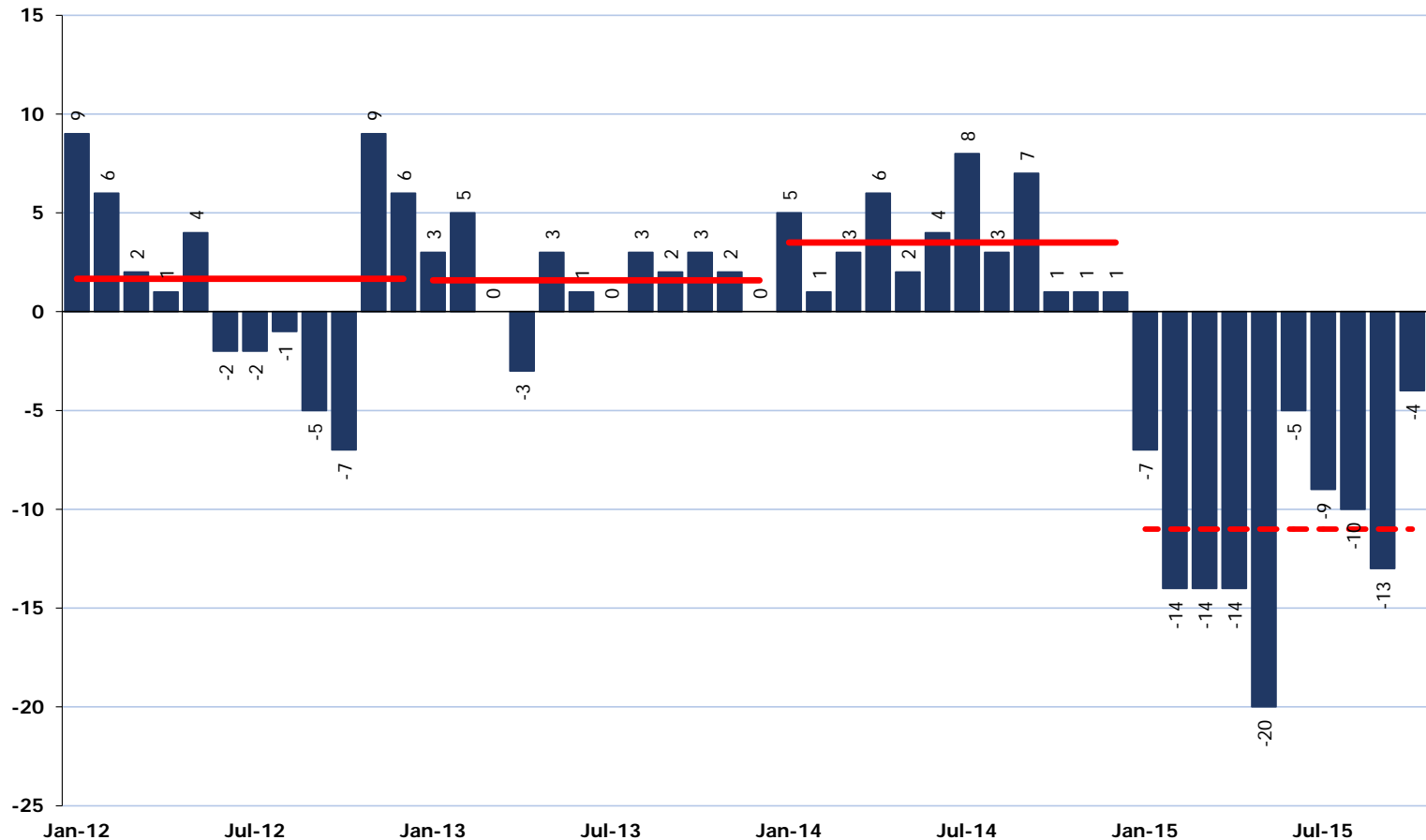
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.

Data are preliminary.

* denotes significance.

Mining and logging lost jobs every month in 2015

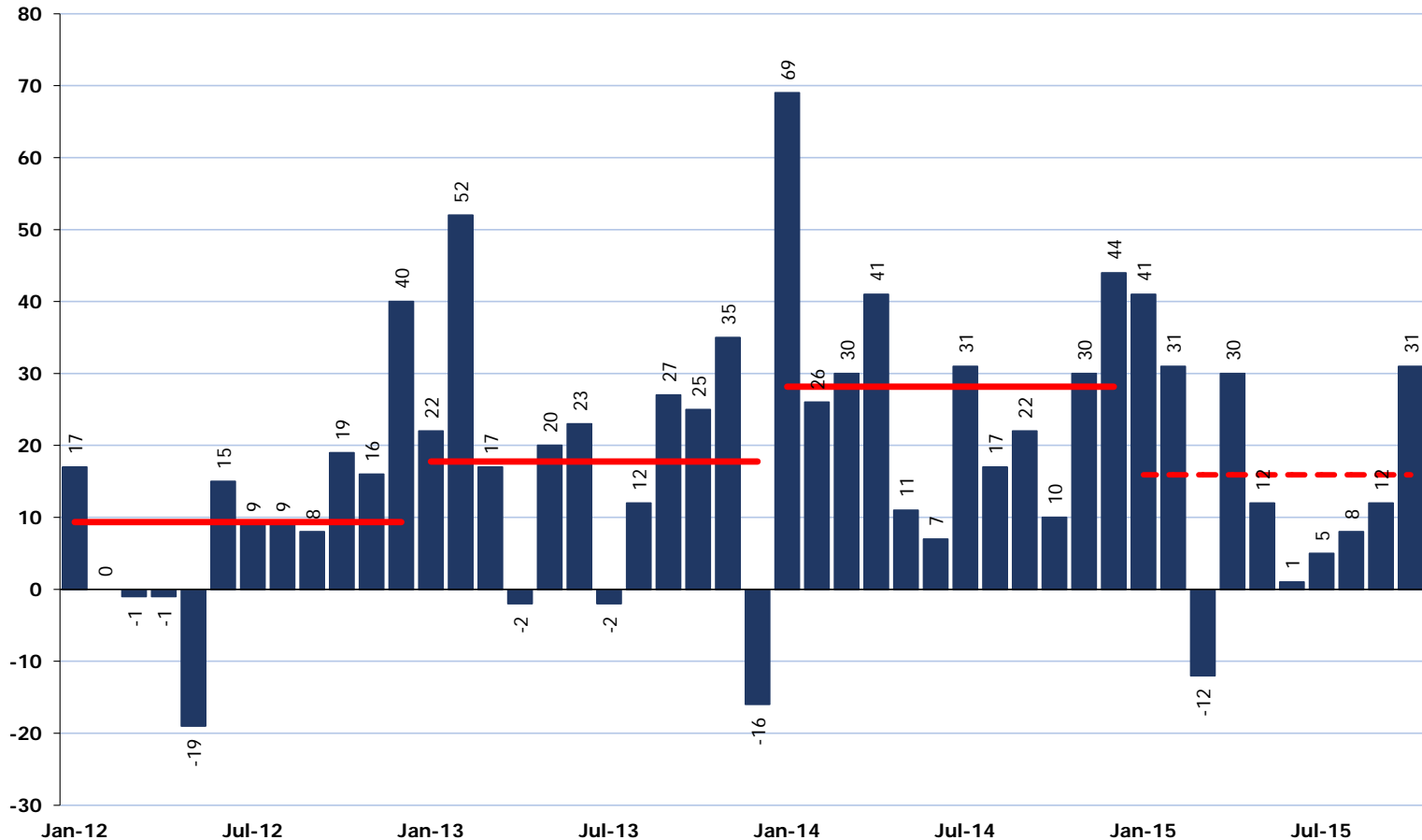
Over-the-month change, January 2012 - October 2015
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Construction growth accelerated in October 2015

Over-the-month change, January 2012 - October 2015
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

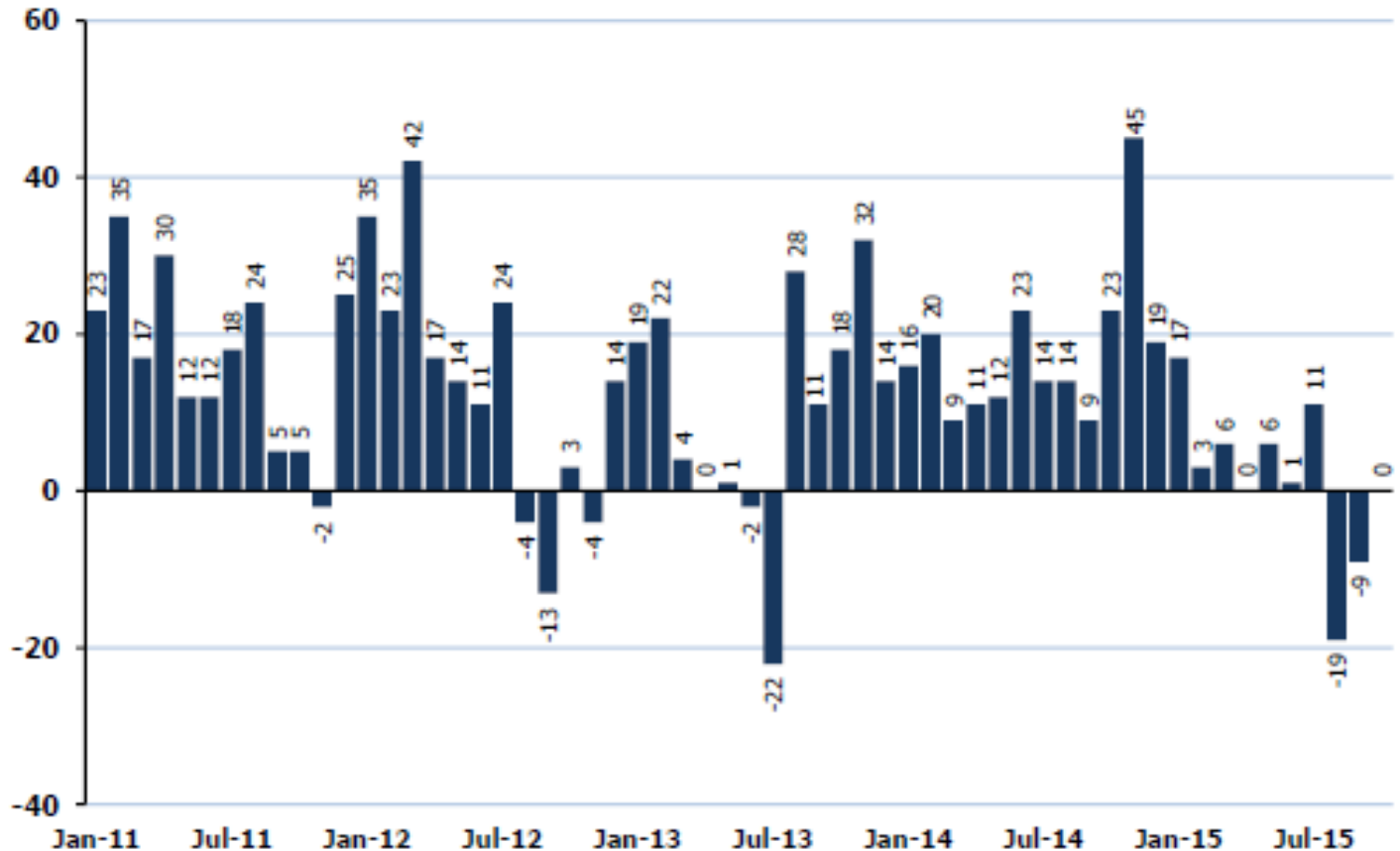


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Manufacturing unchanged in October 2015

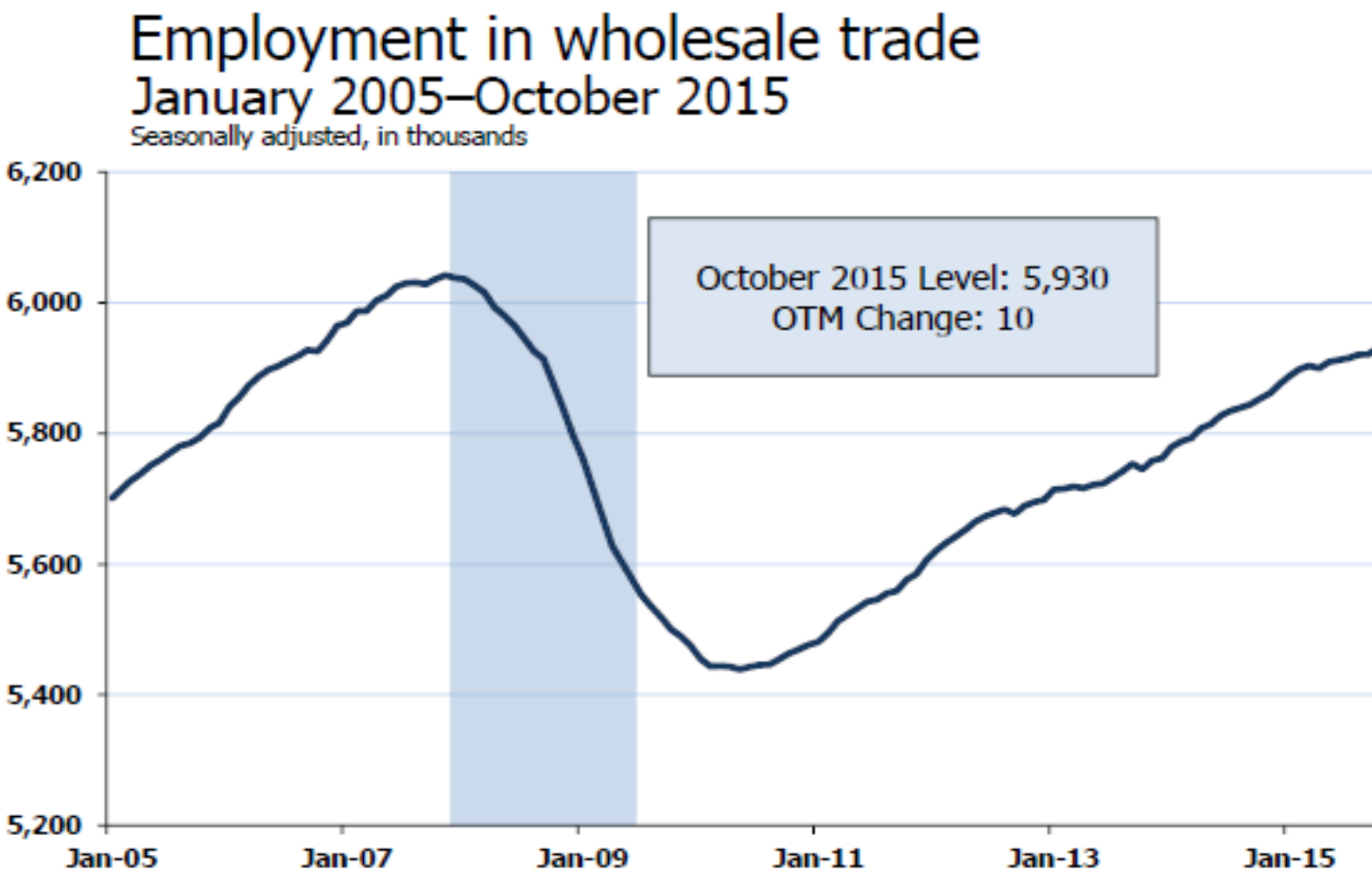
Over-the-month change, January 2011–October 2015

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

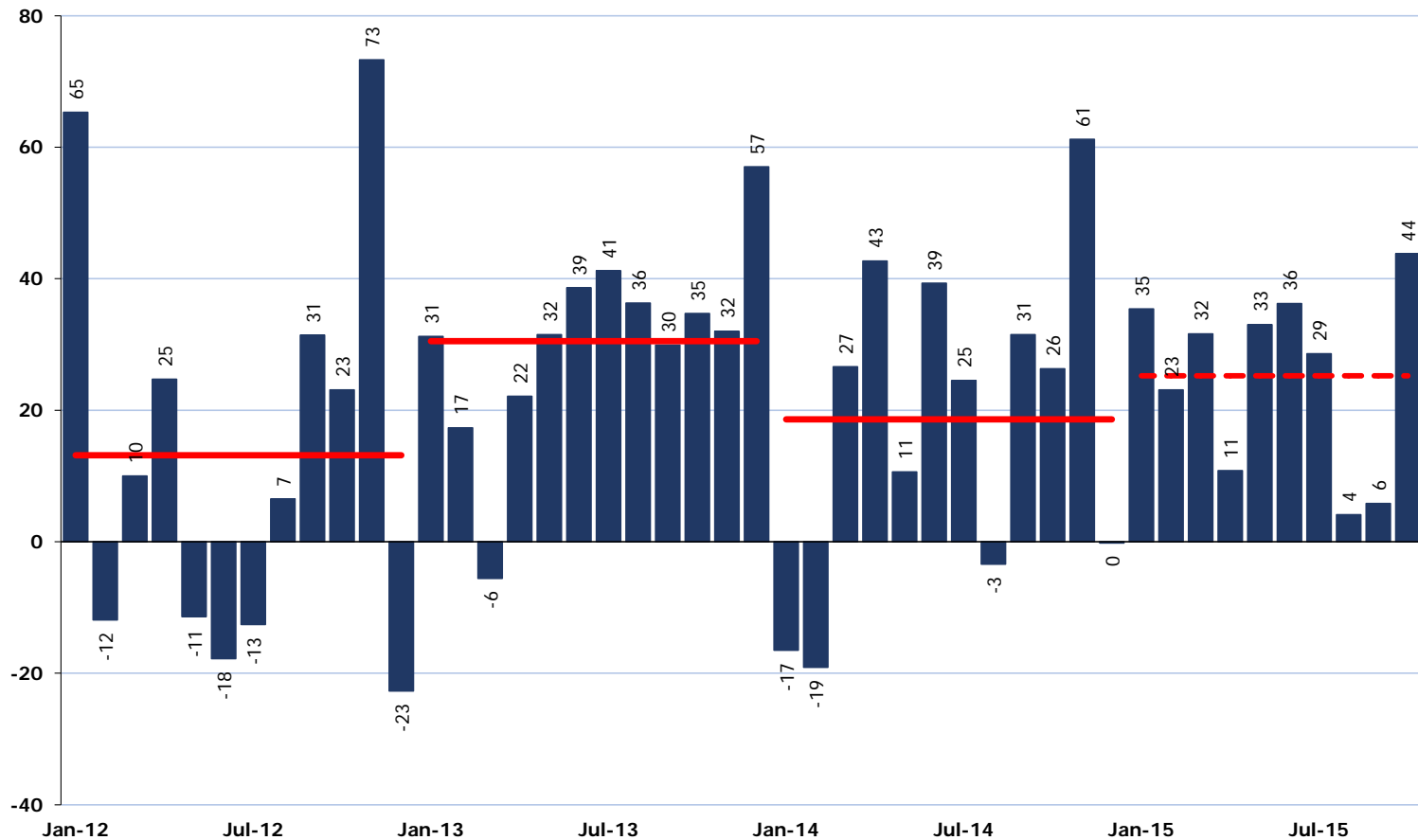
Wholesale trade has not yet regained lost jobs



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.
Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Retail trade registered its largest employment increase of 2015

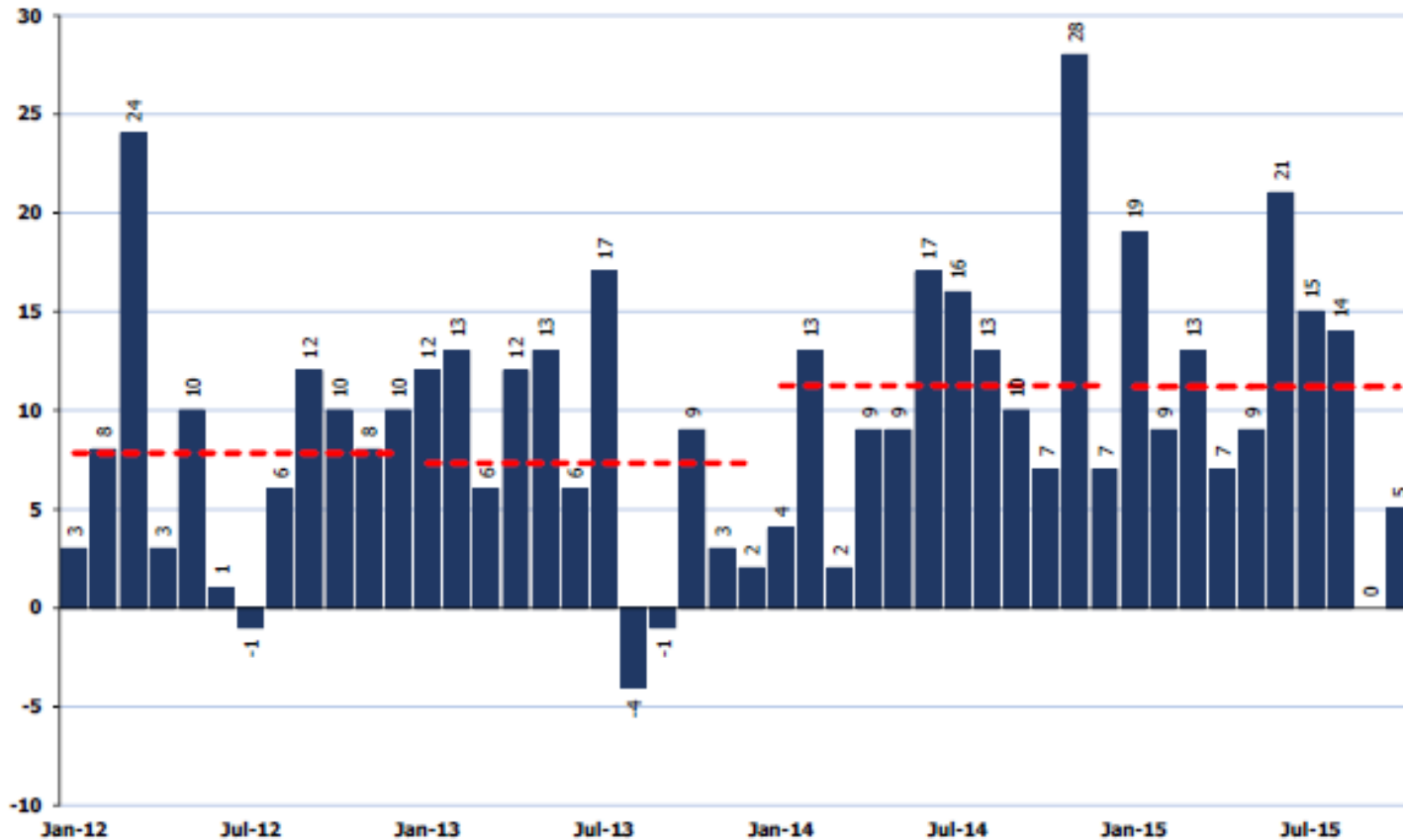
Over-the-month change, January 2012 - October 2015
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Financial activities averaged monthly growth of 11,000 for 2015

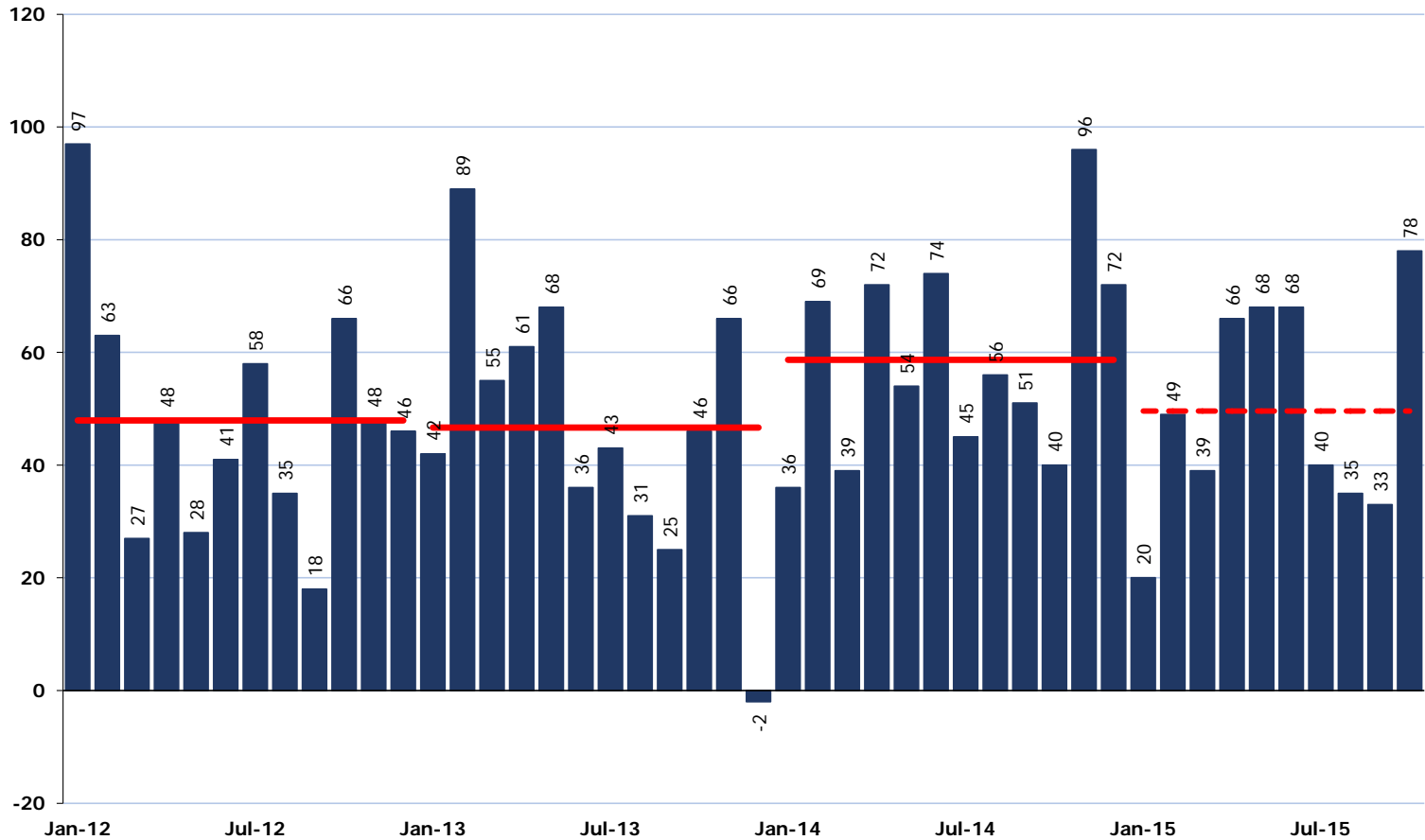
Employment in financial activities
 Over-the-month change, January 2012 - October 2015
 Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.
 Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Professional and business services growth strong

Over-the-month change, January 2012 - October 2015
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



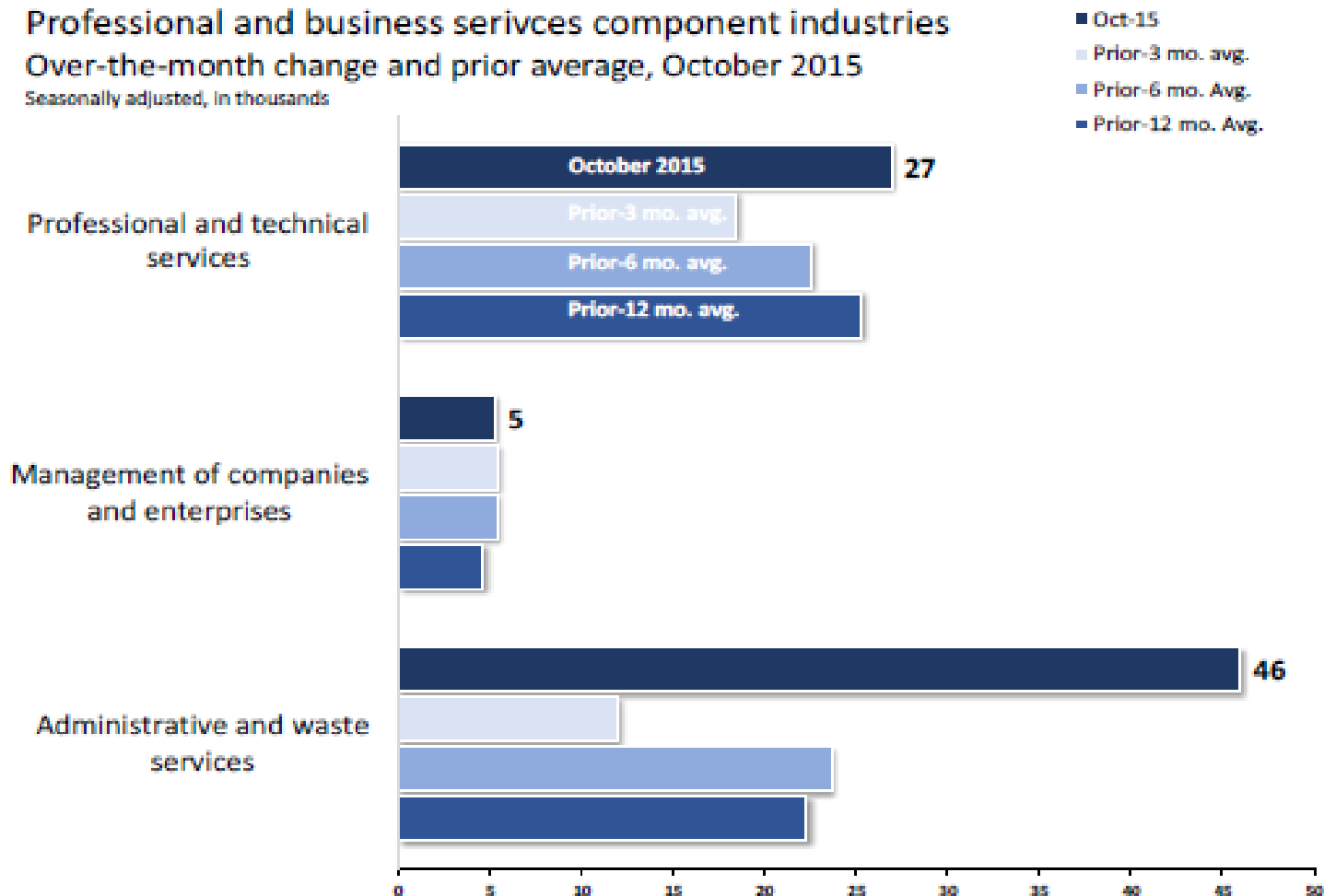
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Growth in all major components of professional and business services

Professional and business services component industries

Over-the-month change and prior average, October 2015

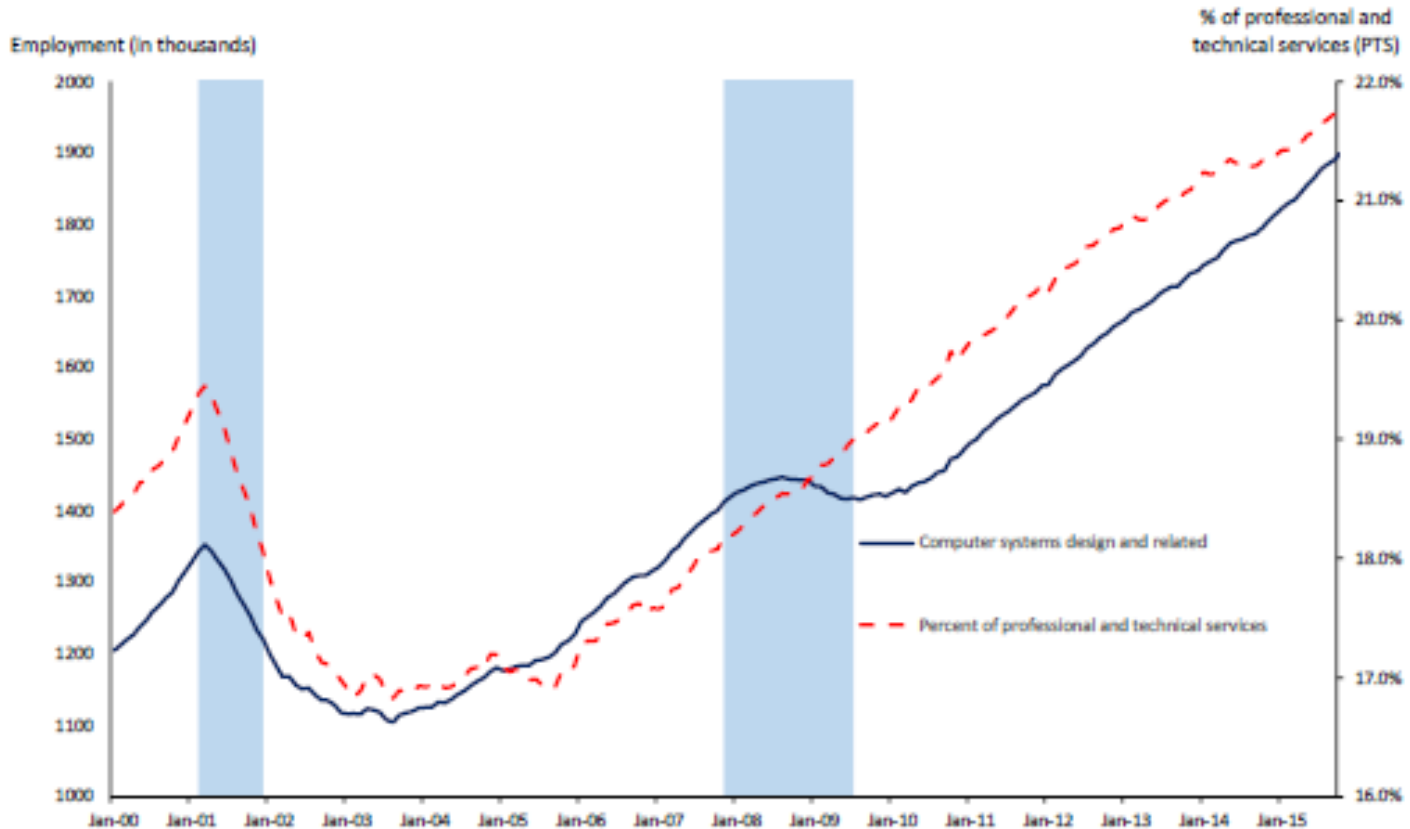
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Computer systems design and related services added 10,000 jobs in October

Employment in computer systems design and related services and as a percentage of professional and technical services
January 2000 - October 2015
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

OTM change: 10
Prior-12: 9

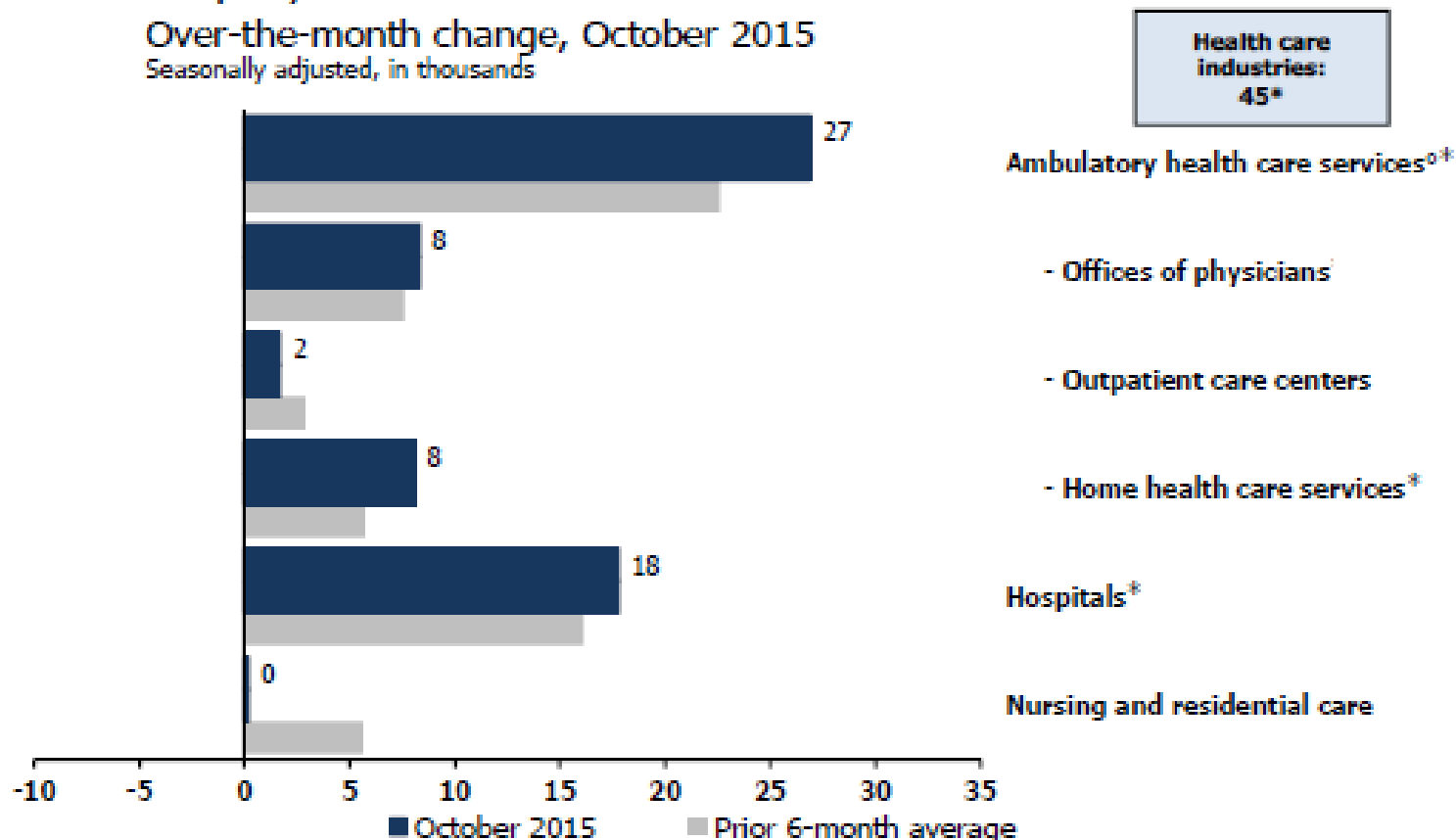


Health care added 45,000 jobs in October 2015

Employment in selected health care industries

Over-the-month change, October 2015

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.

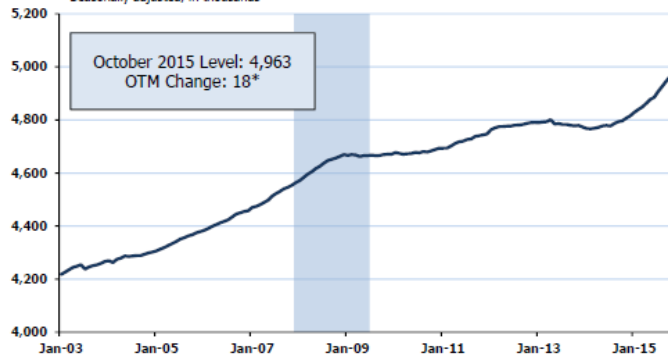
Data are preliminary.

^oIncludes additional component industries not shown separately.

* denotes significance.

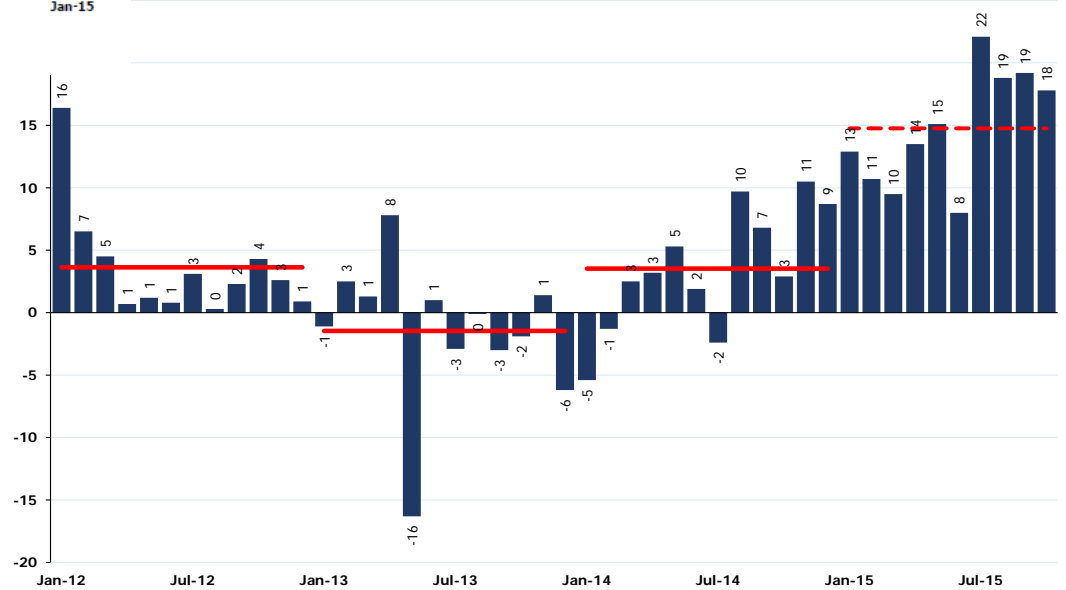
Employment in hospitals continues to grow

Employment in hospitals
January 2003–October 2015
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.
Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
*denotes significance

Over-the-month change, January 2012 - October 2015
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



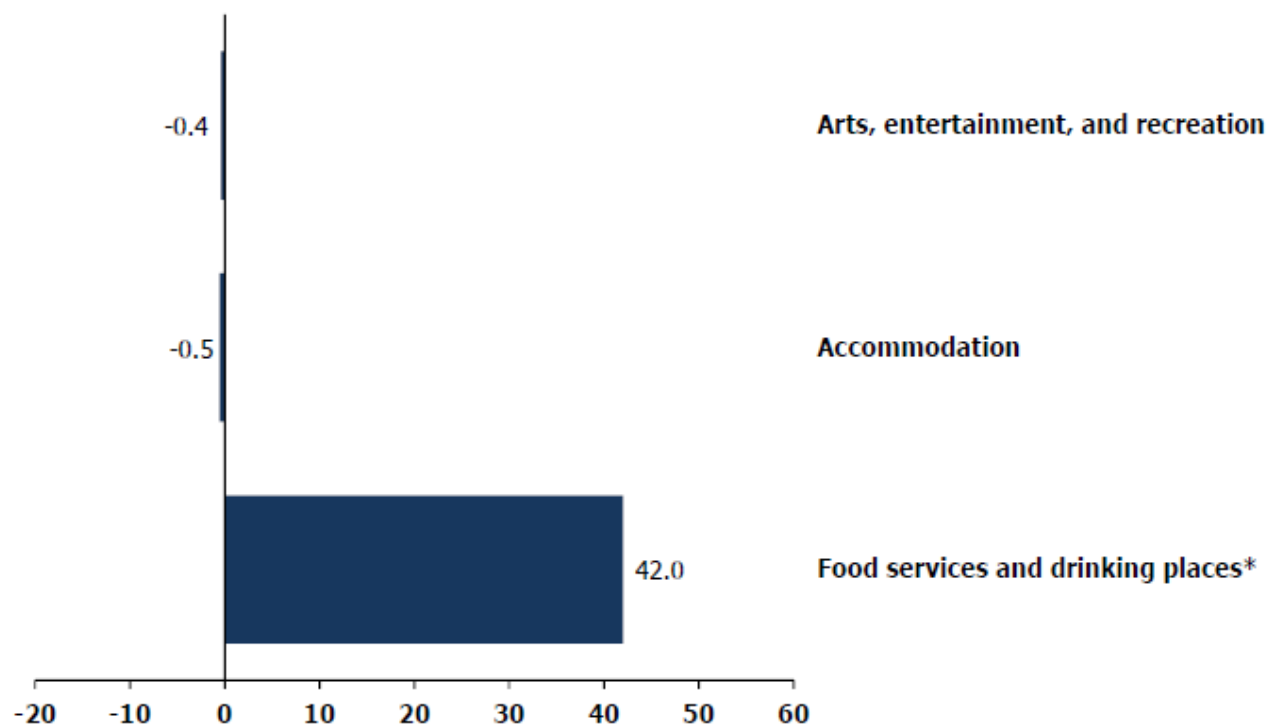
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

Food and drink account for leisure and hospitality growth

Employment in leisure and hospitality

Over-the-month change, October 2015

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.

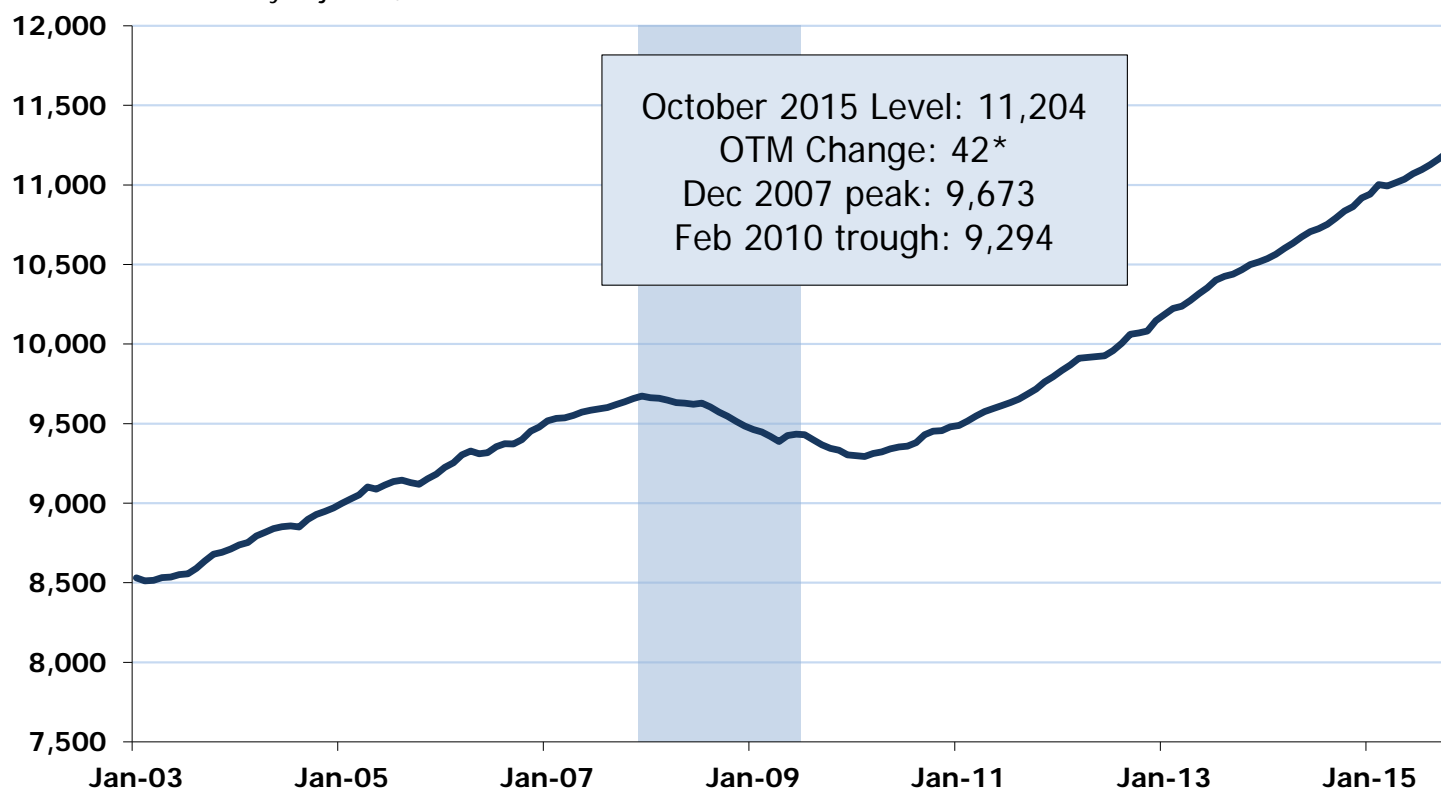
Data are preliminary.

* denotes significance.

Steady growth in food services and drinking places

January 2003–October 2015

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, November 06, 2015.

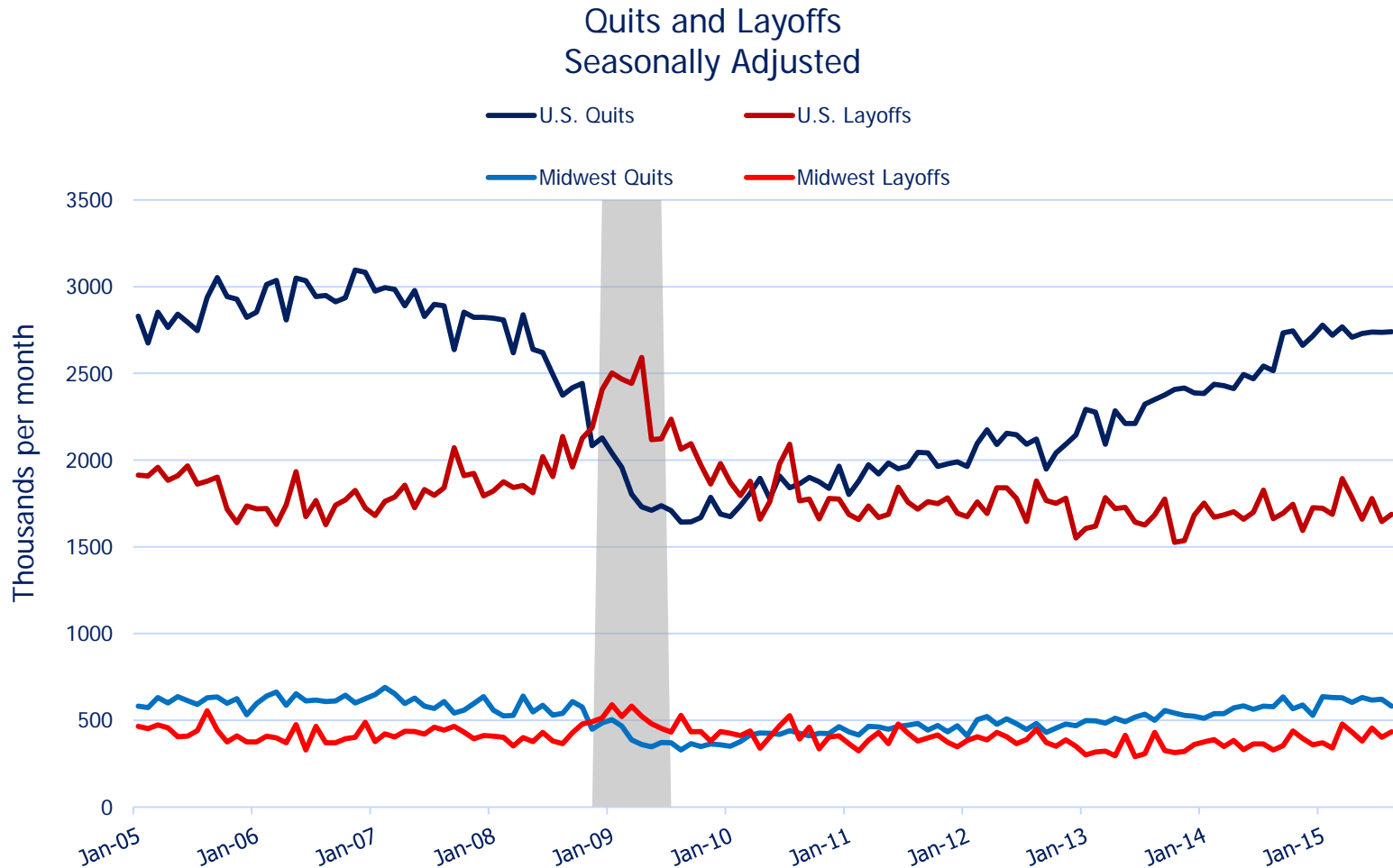
Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.

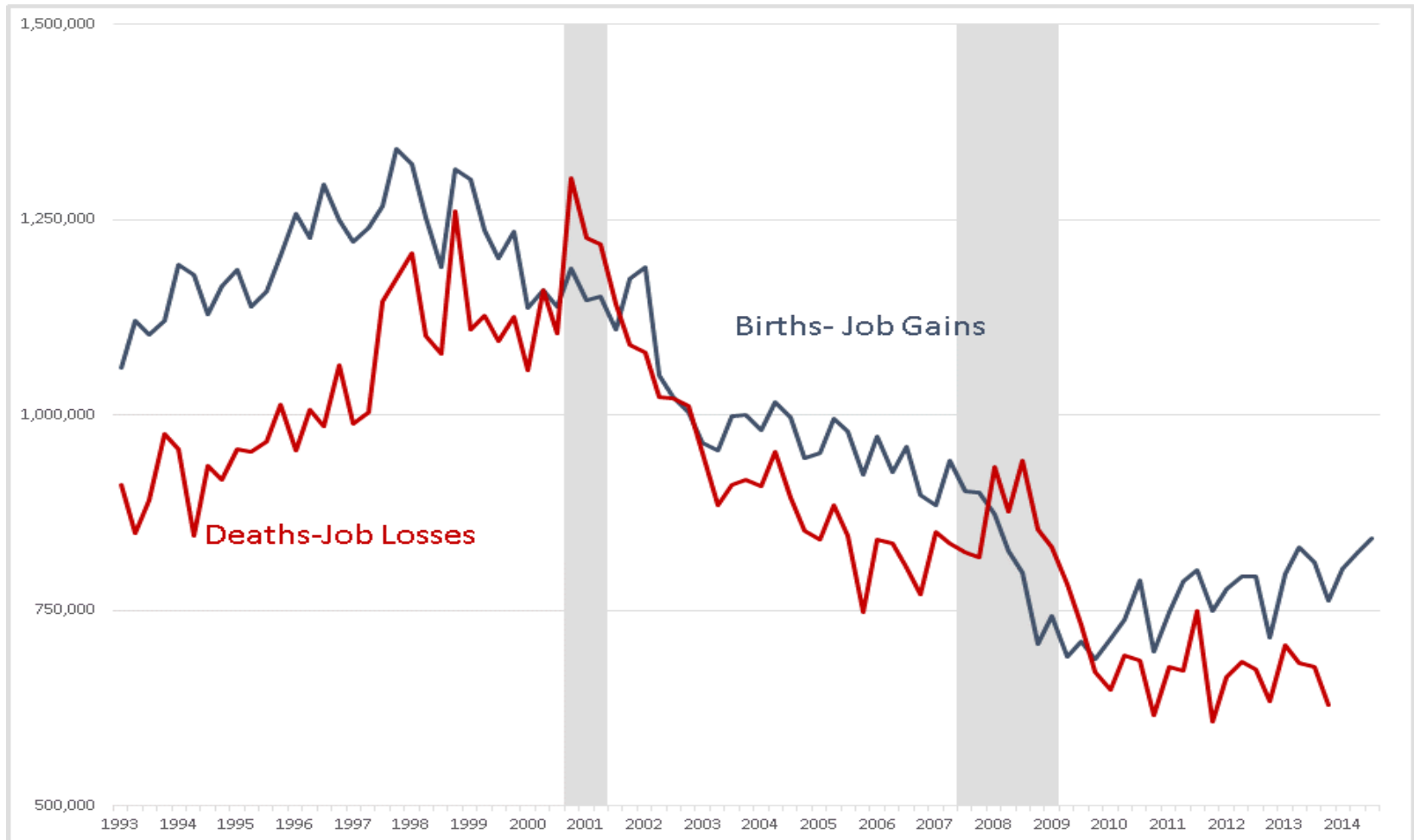
* denotes significance.

OTHER INDICATORS

Quits rising, but still below pre-recession levels for the U.S.



Employment gains from establishment births have declined since March 1998



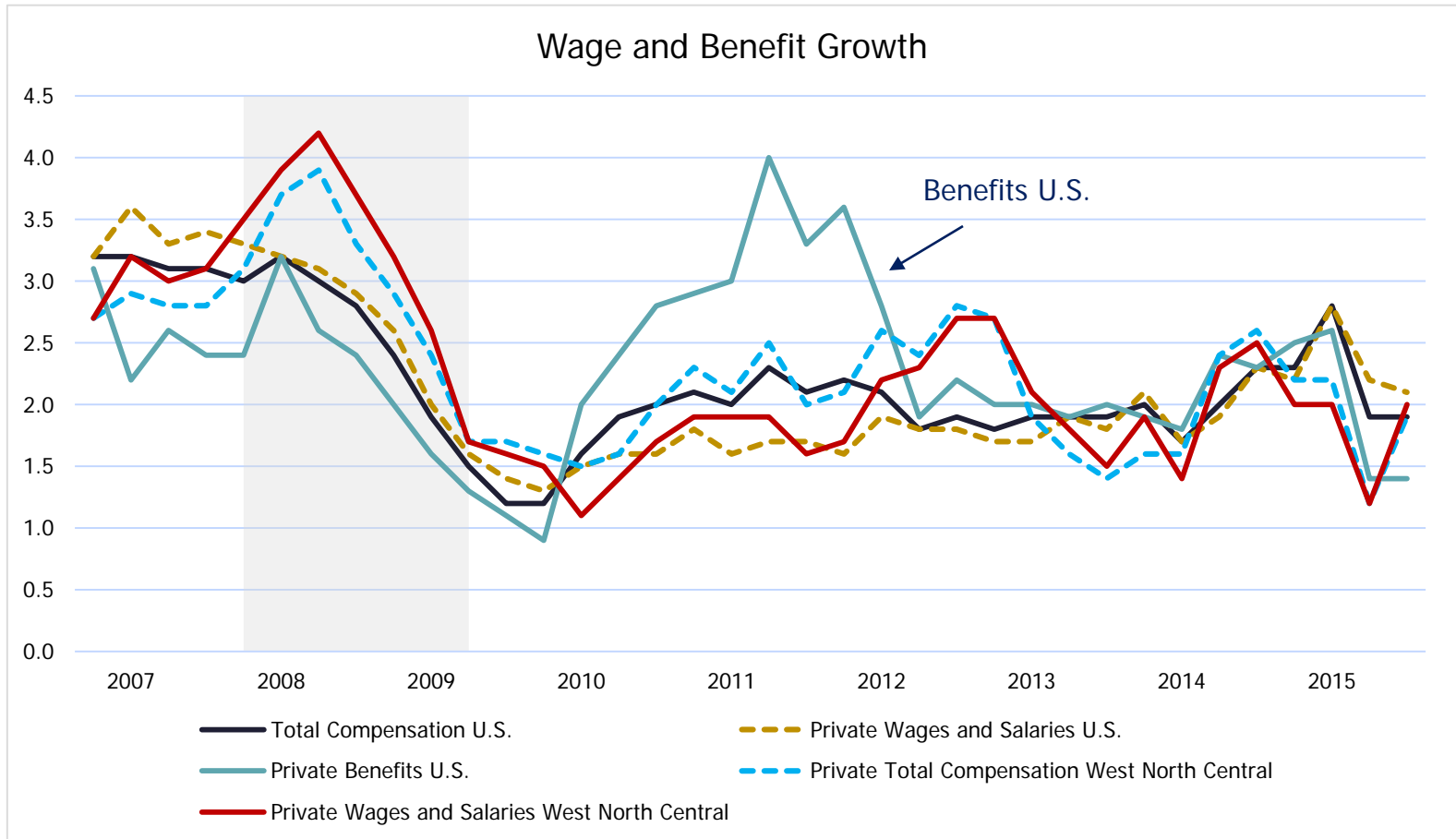
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics, U.S. total private sector, seasonally adjusted.

Note: Shaded area represents NBER defined recession period

Quarterly Job Gains and Losses from Establishment Births and Deaths.

Wage and benefit growth remain low

12-month percent change



BLS has extensive regional, state and local area data



NEWS RELEASE



MIDWEST INFORMATION OFFICE
Chicago, Ill.

For release: Tuesday, April 1, 2014

14-526-CHI

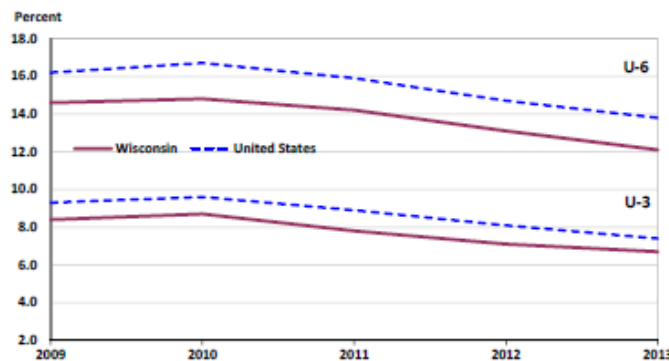
Technical information: (312) 353-1880 • BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/ro5
Media contact: (312) 353-1138

ALTERNATIVE MEASURES OF LABOR UNDERUTILIZATION, WISCONSIN – 2013

In 2013, the broadest measure of labor underutilization, designated U-6 (which includes the unemployed, workers employed part time for economic reasons, and the marginally attached to the labor force), was 12.1 percent in Wisconsin, down from 13.1 percent in 2012, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See table 1.) Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that the U-6 rate peaked at 14.8 percent in 2010, one year after the national recession officially ended. (See chart 1.) Nationally, the U-6 rate averaged 13.8 percent in 2013.

The official concept of unemployment (U-3 in the U-1 to U-6 range of measures) includes all jobless persons who are available to take a job and have actively sought work in the past four weeks. In Wisconsin, 6.7 percent of the labor force was unemployed, as measured by U-3 in 2013. By comparison, 7.4 percent were jobless nationwide. (The official measure of unemployment in states is derived using a statistical model that incorporates data from the Current Population Survey [CPS] and other sources, and this model-based estimate can differ from the direct CPS estimate discussed here.)

Chart 1. Two measures of labor underutilization, Wisconsin and the United States, 2009-2013 annual averages



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



For release: 8:30 a.m. ET, Tuesday, April 15, 2014
Technical information: (312) 353-1880 • BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov
Media contact: (312) 353-1138

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, CLEVELAND

The Cleveland-Akron, Ohio, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers rose 0.1 percent from January to March, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that the index has risen 1.2 percent since January 2013.



For release: Tuesday, May 20, 2014
Technical information: (312) 353-1880 • BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov
Media contact: (312) 353-1138

AVERAGE ENERGY PRICES, CLEVELAND

Gasoline prices averaged \$3.670 a gallon in the Cleveland-Akron, Ohio, metropolitan area, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that this figure was 6.5 percent lower than the \$48,926 average expenditure level for a typical household in the Cleveland area spent less than the national average of \$48,926. Although households in the Cleveland area spent less than the national average, the share of expenditures for personal insurance and health care was significantly higher. For example, the share of expenditures for personal insurance and health care in the Cleveland area was 11.8 percent, compared with the nationwide average of 11.0 percent. (See chart 1 and table 1.)

Chart 1. Average Prices for Gasoline (per gallon) in Cleveland-Akron, Ohio, Metropolitan Area, 2009-2013



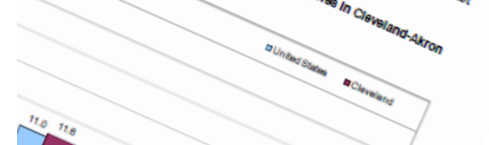
For release: 7:30 a.m. CT, Thursday, May 15, 2014
Technical information: (312) 353-1880 • BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov
Media contact: (312) 353-1138



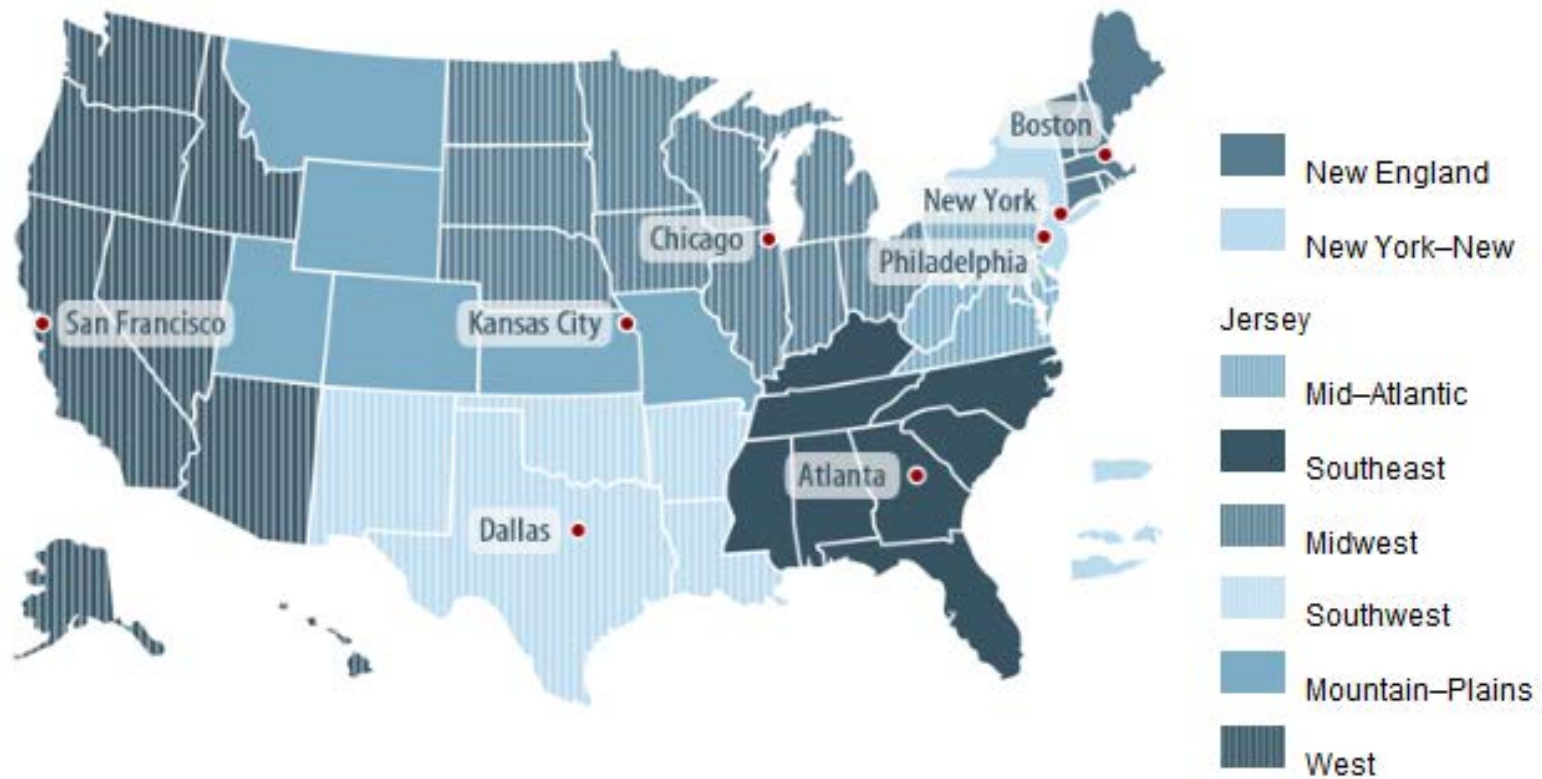
For release: Tuesday, February 19, 2013
Technical information: (312) 353-1880 • BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov
Media contact: (312) 353-1138

CONSUMER EXPENDITURES FOR THE CLEVELAND AREA: 2010-2011

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today that the average expenditure level for a typical household in the Cleveland area spent less than the national average of \$48,926. Although households in the Cleveland area spent less than the national average, the share of expenditures for personal insurance and health care was significantly higher. For example, the share of expenditures for personal insurance and health care in the Cleveland area was 11.8 percent, compared with the nationwide average of 11.0 percent. (See chart 1 and table 1.)



BLS Regional Offices



What you can do for us

- Use BLS data
 - ▶ Wages, benefits, injuries, prices, careers...
 - ▶ Visit [BLS.gov](https://www.bls.gov), sign up for tweets, call us, etc.
- Promote high response rates from your employer, business associates and others
- Give us feedback
 - ▶ As respondents—to reduce burden
 - ▶ As users—to improve products and accessibility
- Speak up for national statistics
 - ▶ Trustworthy
 - ▶ Needed

Conclusion

- We've come a long way from the recession's trough
- However, many indicators suggest that we haven't recovered fully
 - ▶ Wage and benefit growth
 - ▶ Quits
 - ▶ Long-term unemployment
- We know much of what we do thanks to government statistics
 - ▶ We need this information and you can help

APPENDIX

Official definition of unemployment

- To be counted as unemployed, a person must
 - ▶ Be without work
 - ▶ Be available for work
 - ▶ Have *actively* searched for work in last 4 weeks
- Key advantages of definition
 - ▶ Objective
 - ▶ Comparable historically and internationally (broadly applicable)
 - ▶ Correlates well with other key measures of business cycle
- Official definition has stood the test of time
 - ▶ Several internal and external reviews resulted in only minor tweaks to definition since inception in 1940

Alternative measures of labor underutilization

- U-1 Persons unemployed 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force
- U-2 Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force
- U-3 Total unemployed, as a percent of the civilian labor force (**official unemployment rate**)
- U-4 Total unemployed plus discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers
- U-5 Total unemployed, plus discouraged workers, plus all persons marginally attached to the labor force, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers
- U-6 Total unemployed, plus all persons marginally attached to the labor force, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached to the labor force