

# What's up with the labor market?

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Kansas Economic Outlook Series – Dodge City

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# 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



Half full?  
Half empty?

- ▶ an 8 oz. glass with 4 oz. of liquid

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

- 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

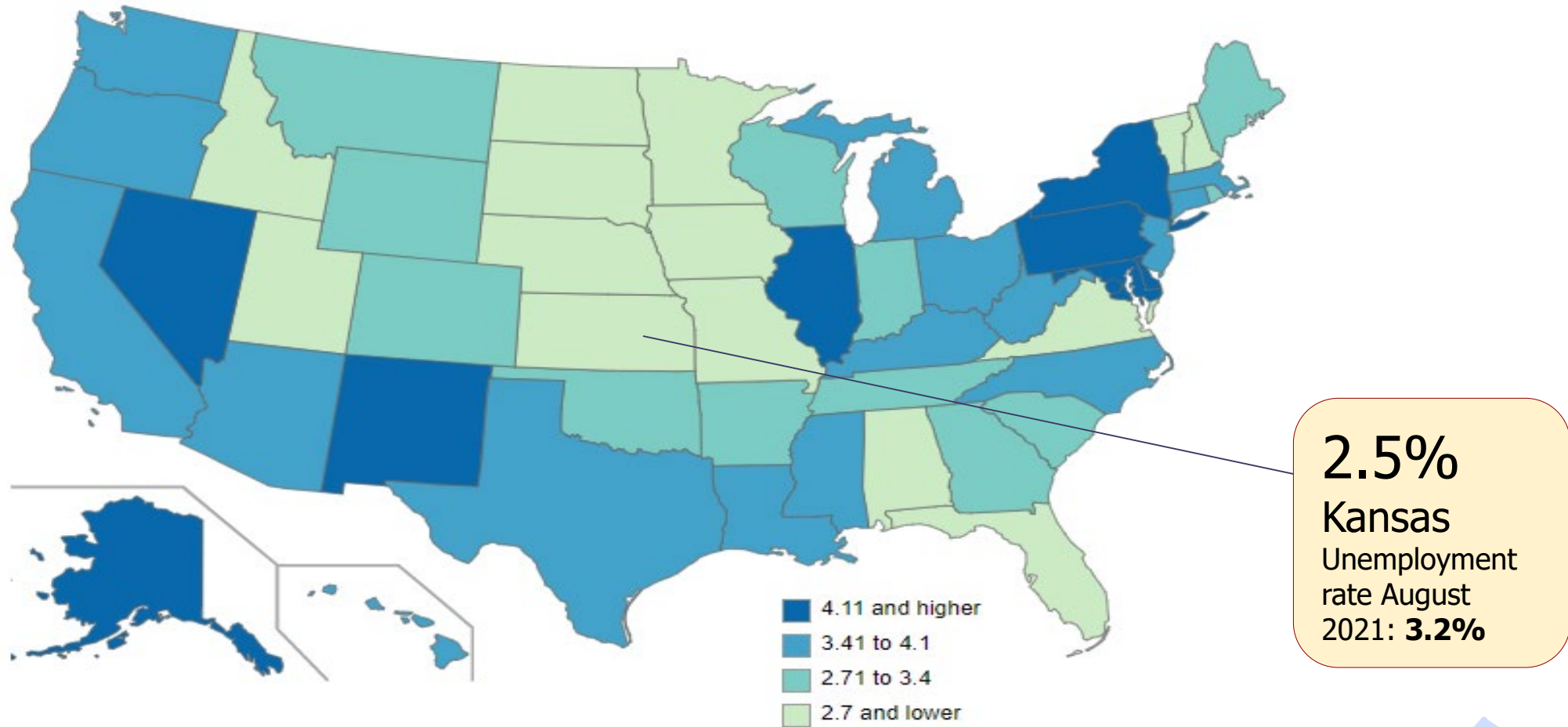
- ▶ From establishment survey
- ▶ Change in jobs during period, not people
- ▶ Detail by industry



# Household View

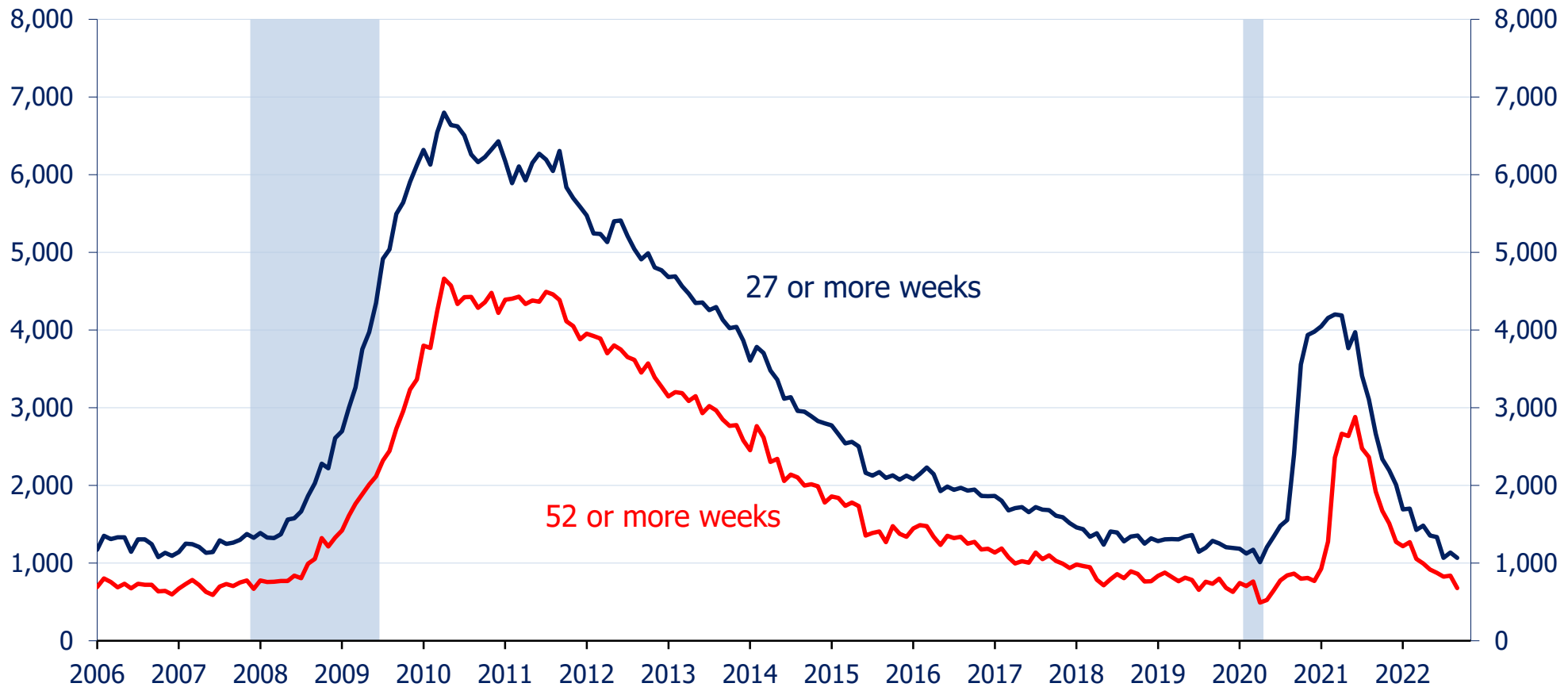


# Unemployment rates continue to decline over the year (August 2022)



# Long-term unemployment returns to pre-COVID levels

Numbers in thousands

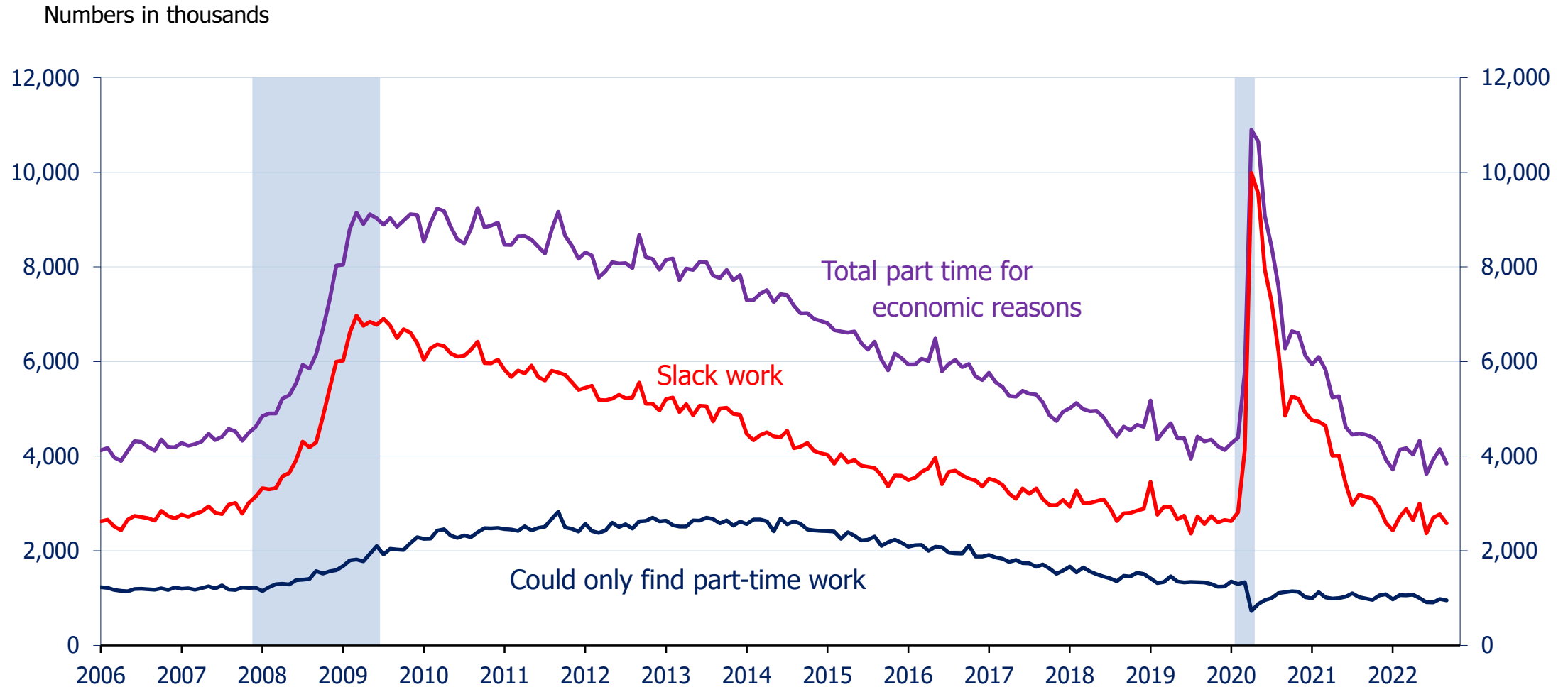


Note: Shaded area represents recession as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).  
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.





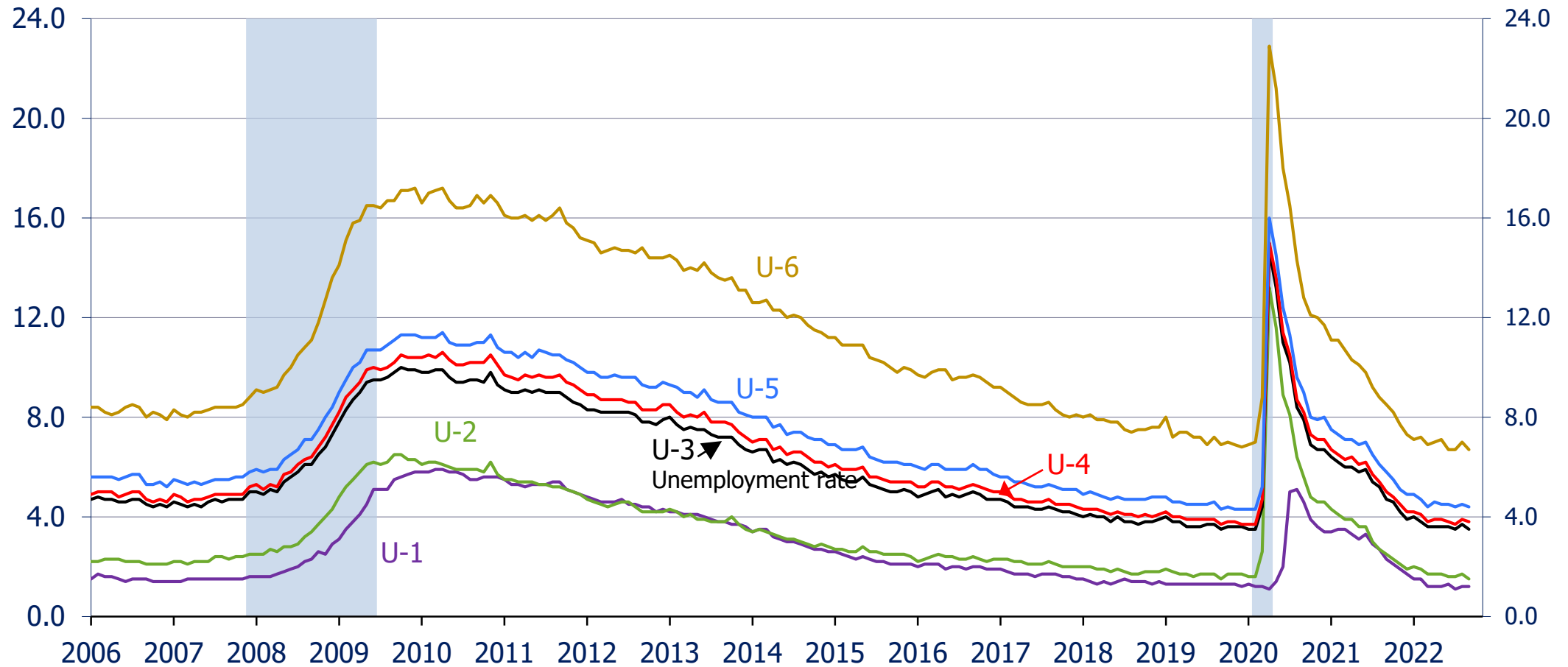
# Involuntary part time work declines below pre-COVID levels



Note: Shaded area represents recession as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).  
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.



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



Note: Shaded area represents recession as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).  
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

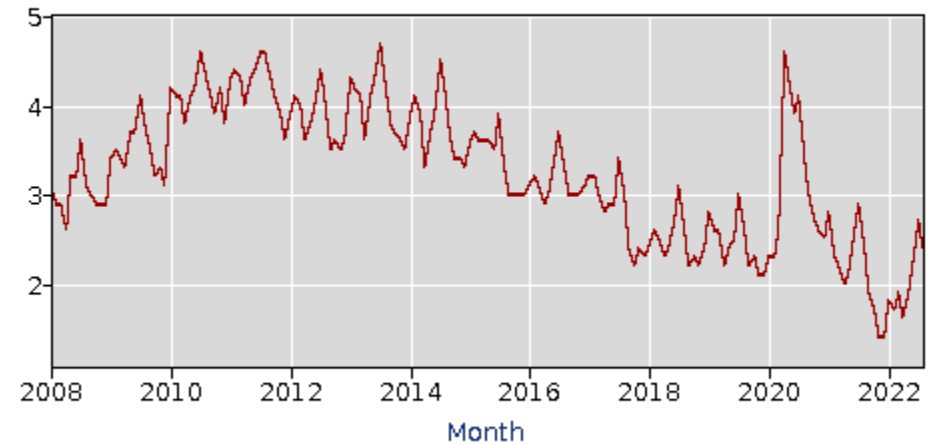


# Local labor force data for Dodge City, KS

labor force



unemployment rate



Data available at:  
<https://data.bls.gov/PDQWeb/la>

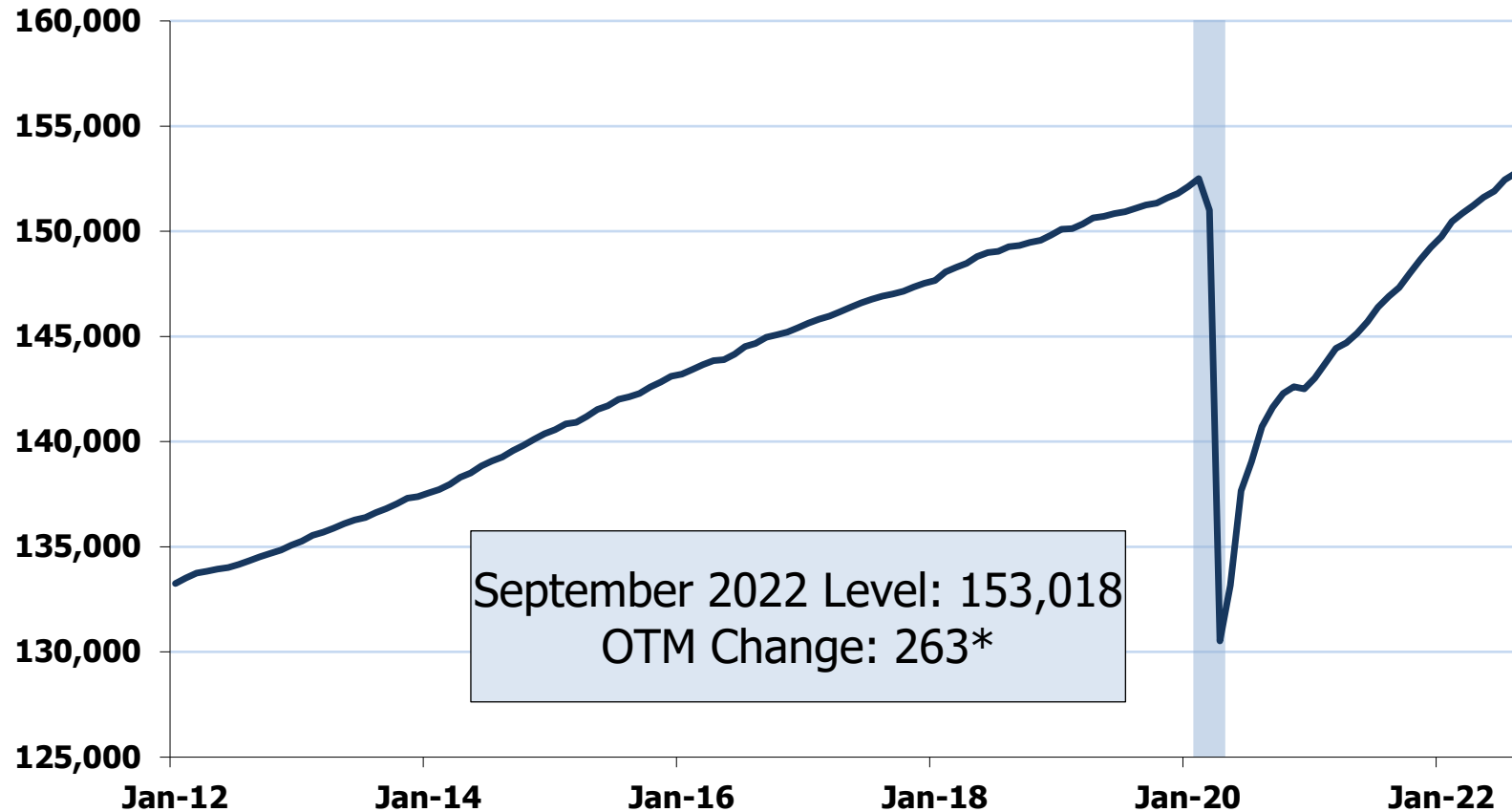


# Establishment View



# Employment in total nonfarm January 2012–September 2022

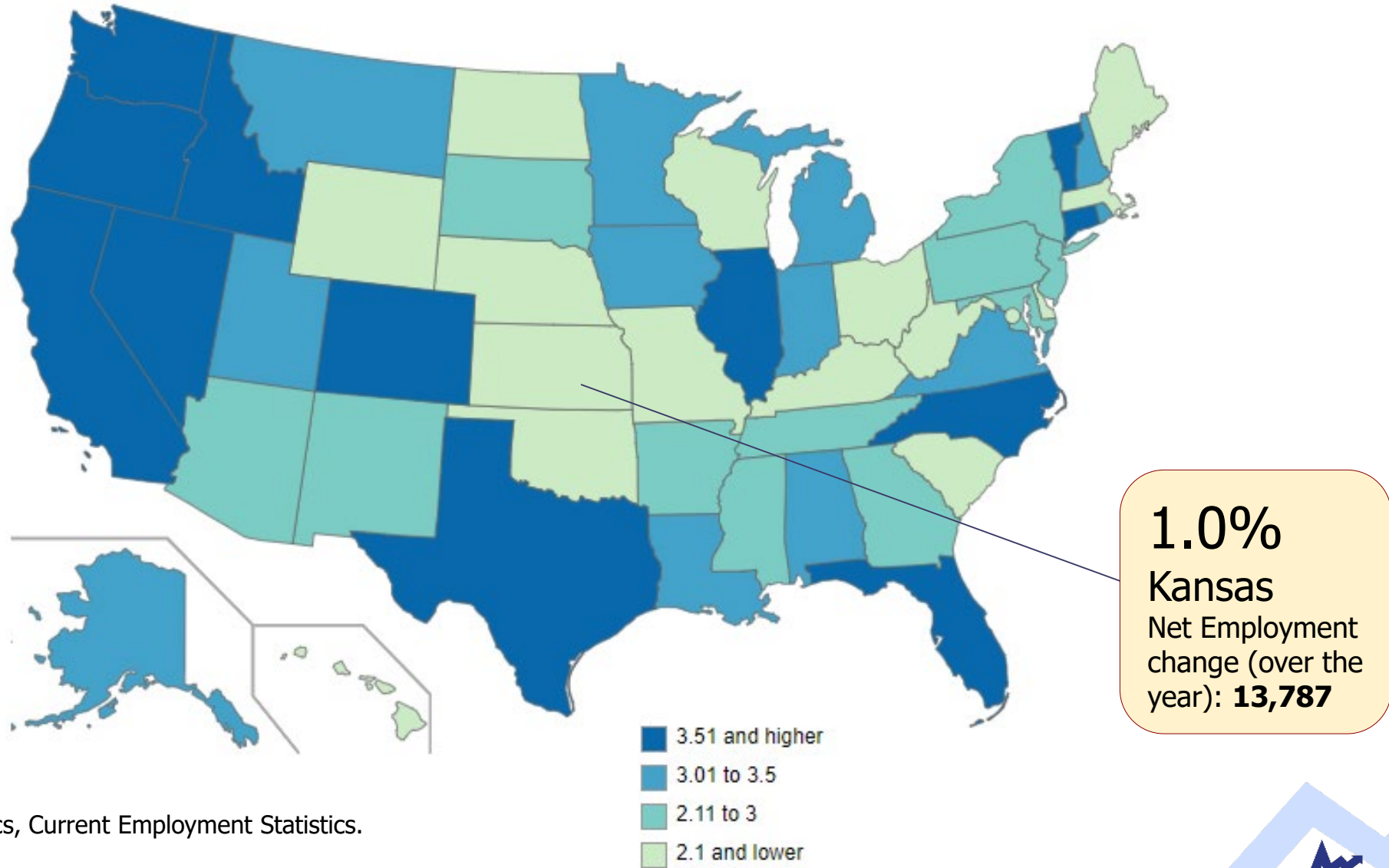
Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, October 07, 2022.  
Shaded area represents recession as denoted by the National Bureau of Economic Research.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.  
\* denotes significance.



# Employment growth by state, Aug 2021 – Aug 2022

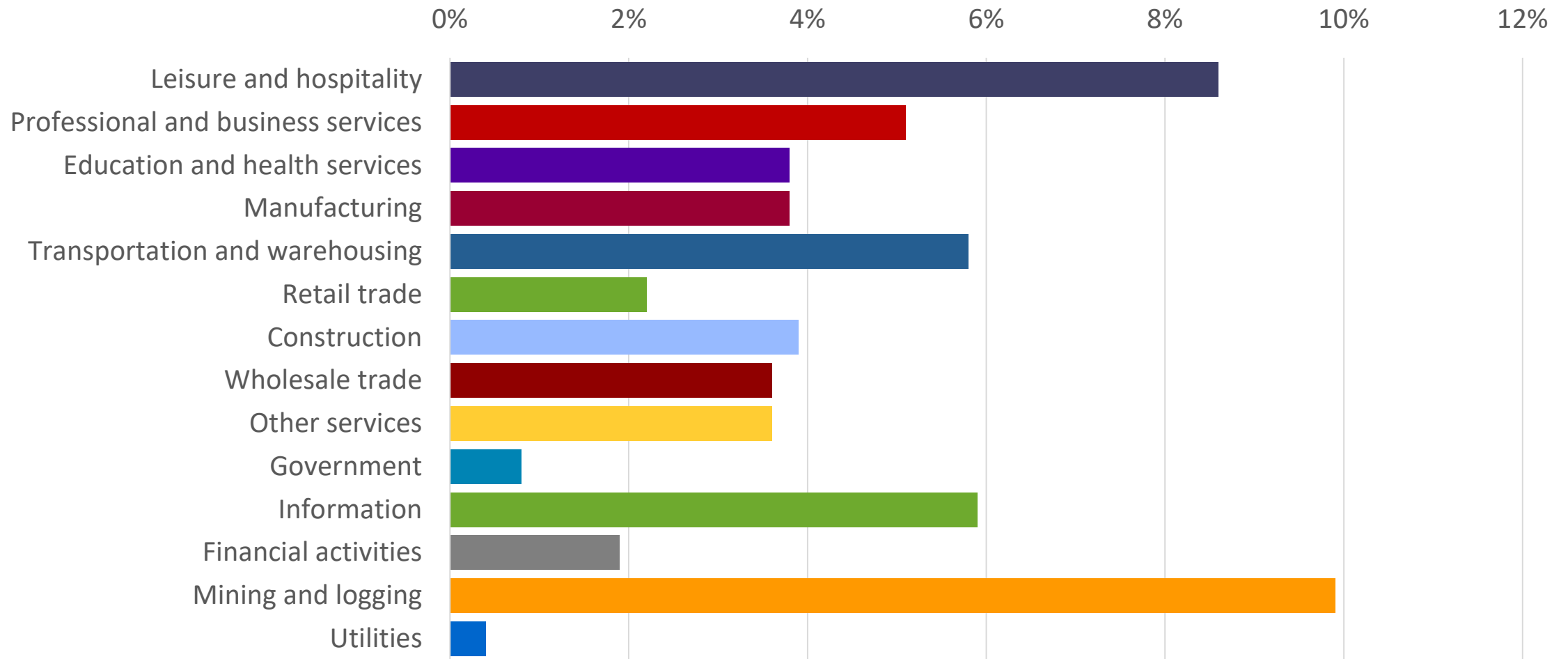


Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics.



# Employment change over the year by industry (U.S.)

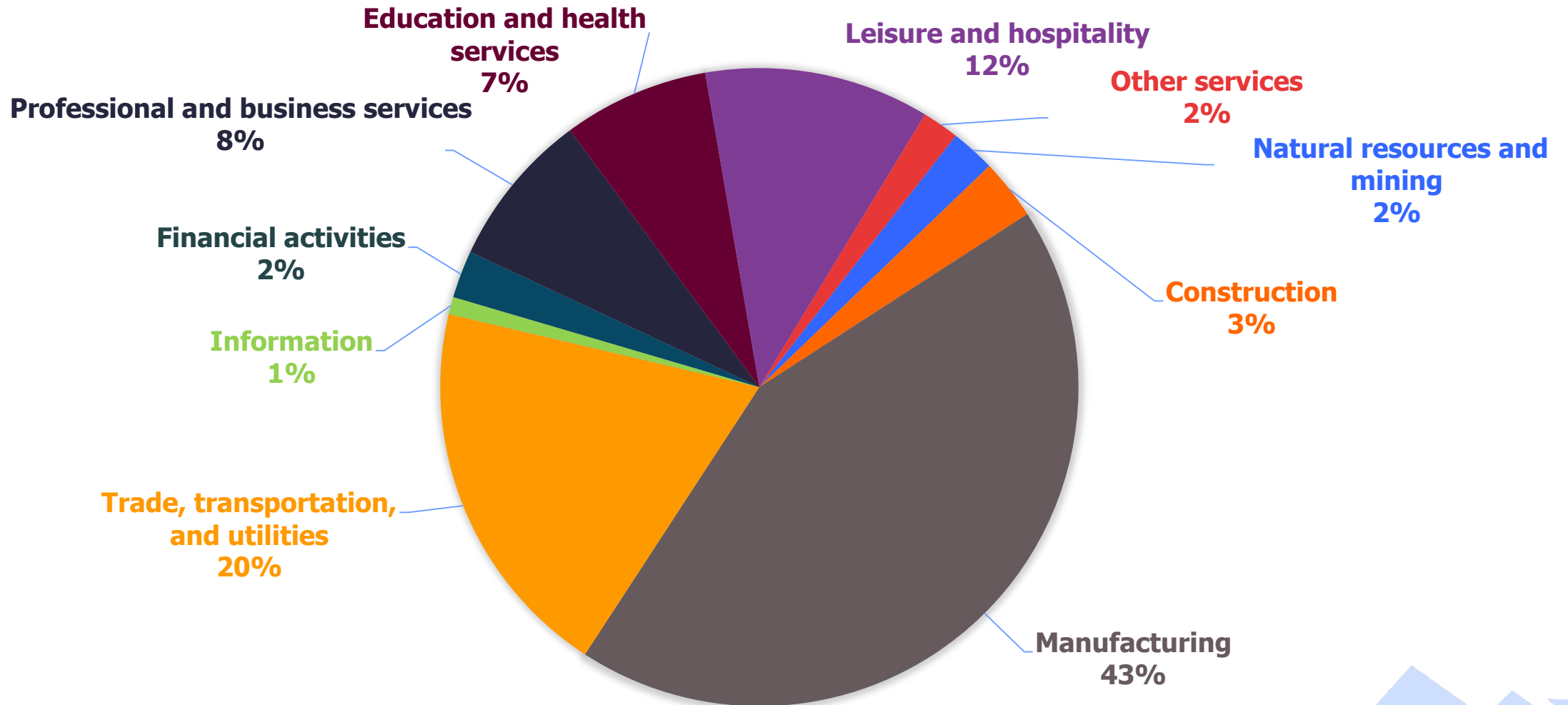
Seasonally adjusted, 12-month percent change, September 2022



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics.



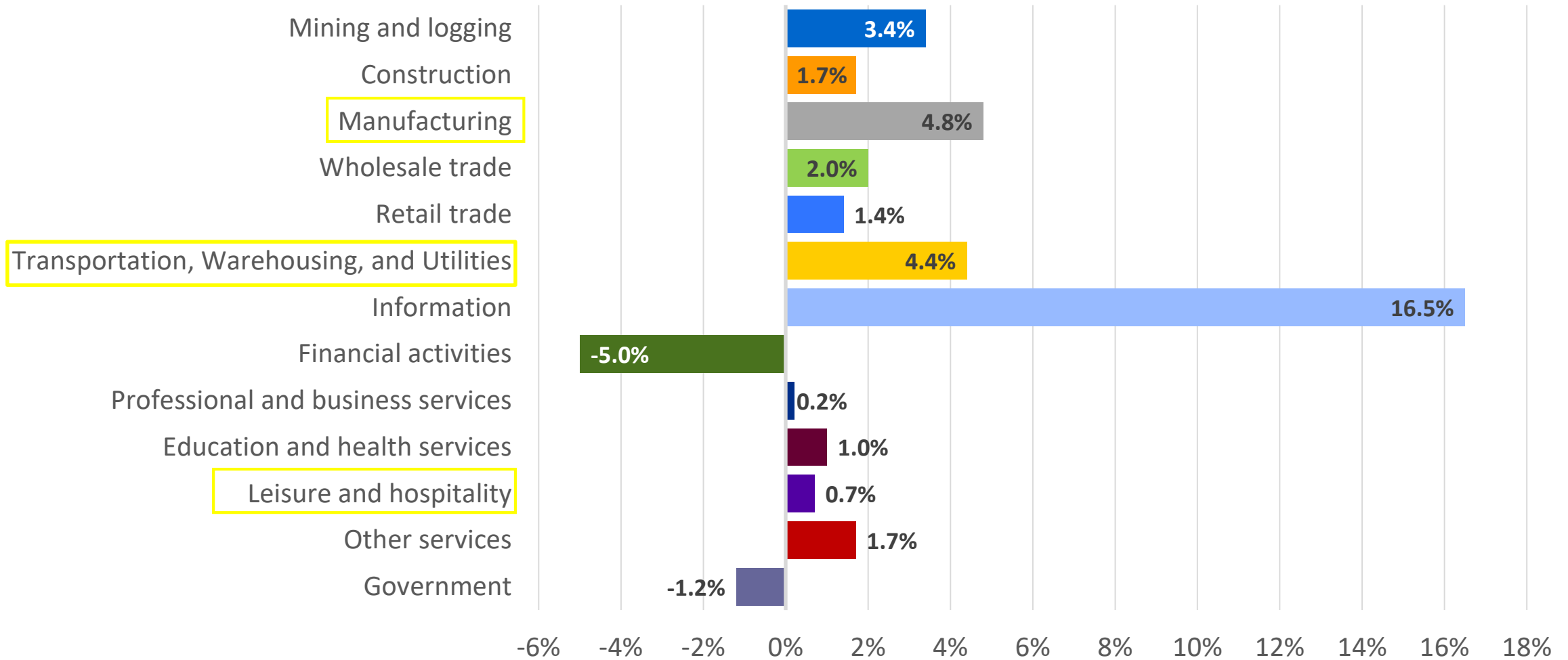
# Over Half of Ford County private industry employment is concentrated in two supersectors





# Employment change over the year by industry in Kansas

Seasonally adjusted, 12-month percent change, August 2022



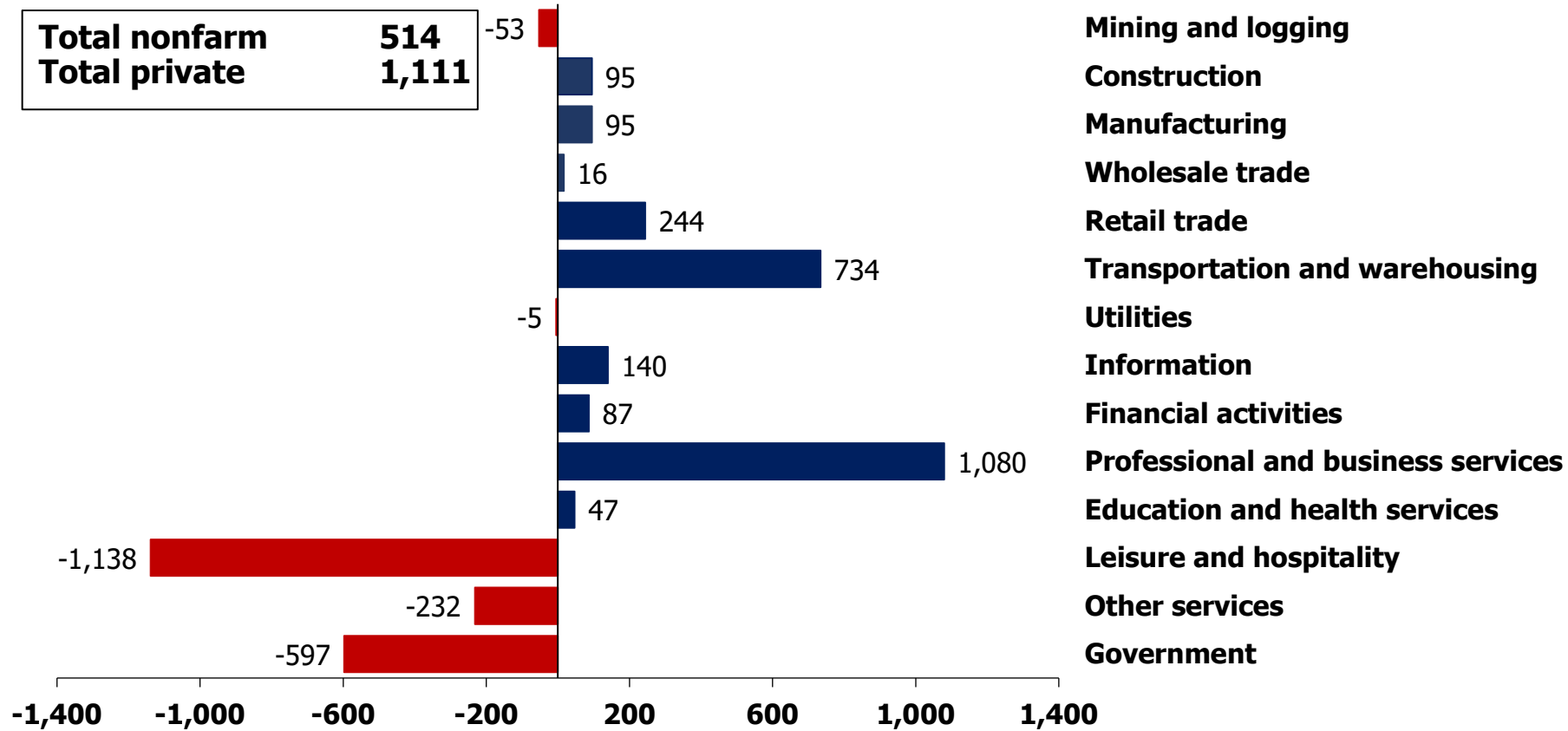
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics.



# Employment in total nonfarm

Change since February 2020

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands



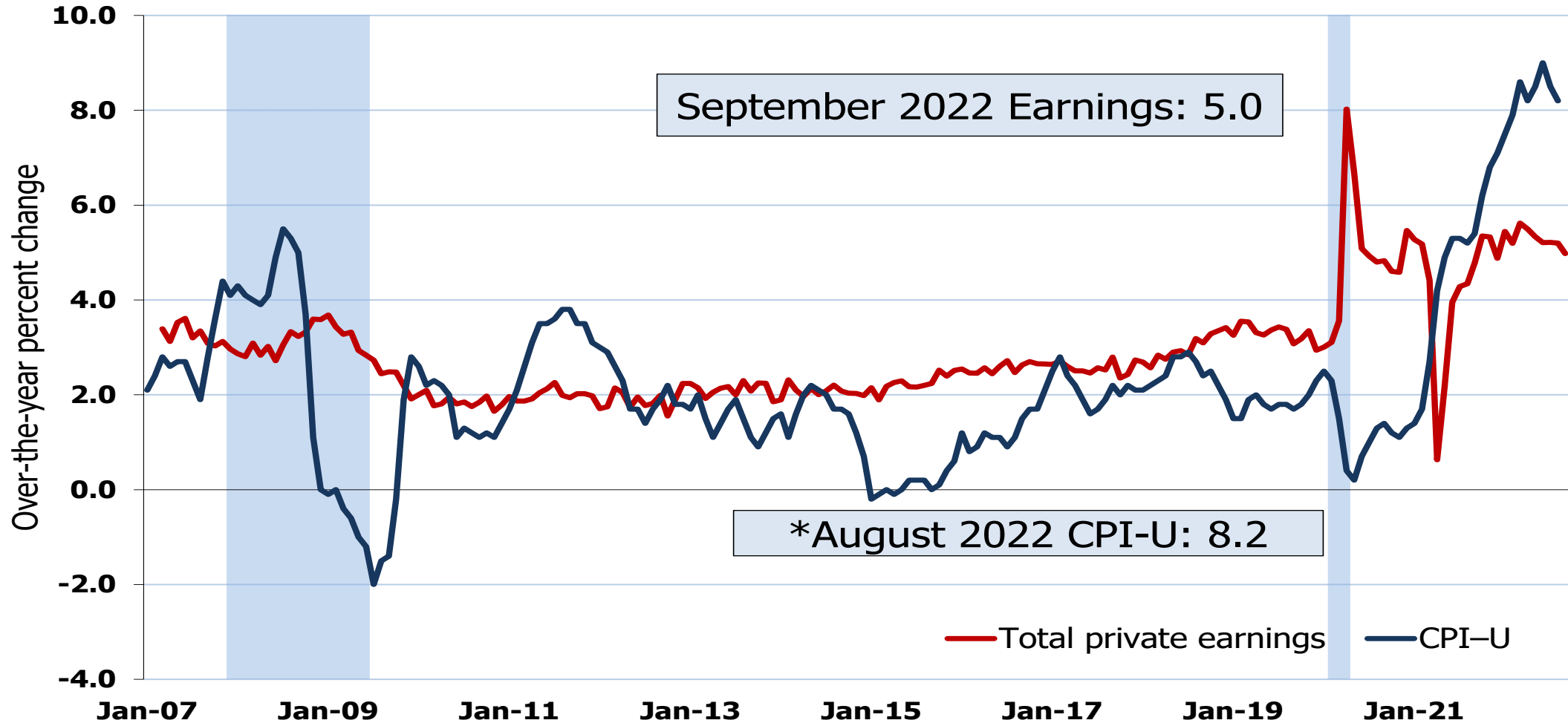
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, October 07, 2022.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.



# Average hourly earnings, all employees, and CPI-U\*

January 2007–September 2022

Seasonally adjusted



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, October 07, 2022.

\*Consumer Price Index, CPI-U (1982-84 = 100)

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



# Average hourly earnings, ranked by 12-month percent change in all employee average hourly earnings, seasonally adjusted, September 2022

		<b>AE<sup>1</sup> Avg Hourly Earnings</b>	<b>PE<sup>2</sup> Avg Hourly Earnings</b>
<b>Leisure and hospitality</b>	\$20.30	<b>7.9%</b>	7.9%
<b>Information</b>	\$47.51	<b>7.2%</b>	5.8%
<b>Transportation and warehousing</b>	\$28.41	<b>6.6%</b>	9.2%
<b>Utilities</b>	\$47.86	<b>5.7%</b>	5.2%
<b>Construction</b>	\$35.04	<b>5.5%</b>	6.7%
<b>Professional and business services</b>	\$38.93	<b>5.2%</b>	5.5%
<b>Total private</b>	\$32.46	<b>5.0%</b>	5.8%
<b>Financial activities</b>	\$42.24	<b>4.8%</b>	7.5%
<b>Education and health services</b>	\$31.96	<b>4.6%</b>	5.1%
<b>Wholesale trade</b>	\$35.42	<b>4.2%</b>	5.2%
<b>Retail trade</b>	\$23.04	<b>4.1%</b>	5.1%
<b>Mining and logging</b>	\$36.59	<b>3.8%</b>	5.3%
<b>Manufacturing</b>	\$31.13	<b>3.7%</b>	4.6%
<b>Other services</b>	\$28.79	<b>2.7%</b>	3.5%

<sup>1</sup> All employees

<sup>2</sup> Production and nonsupervisory employees

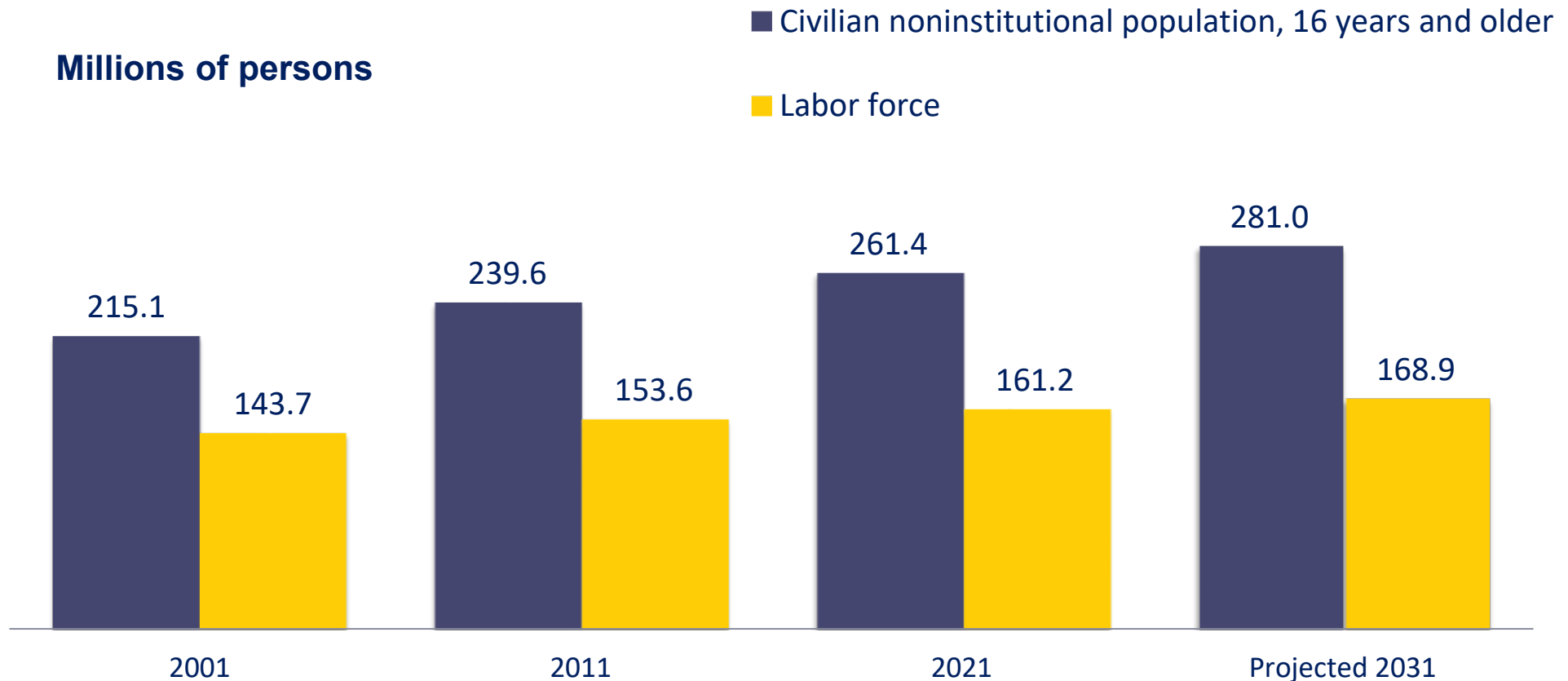
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, October 07, 2022.  
Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.



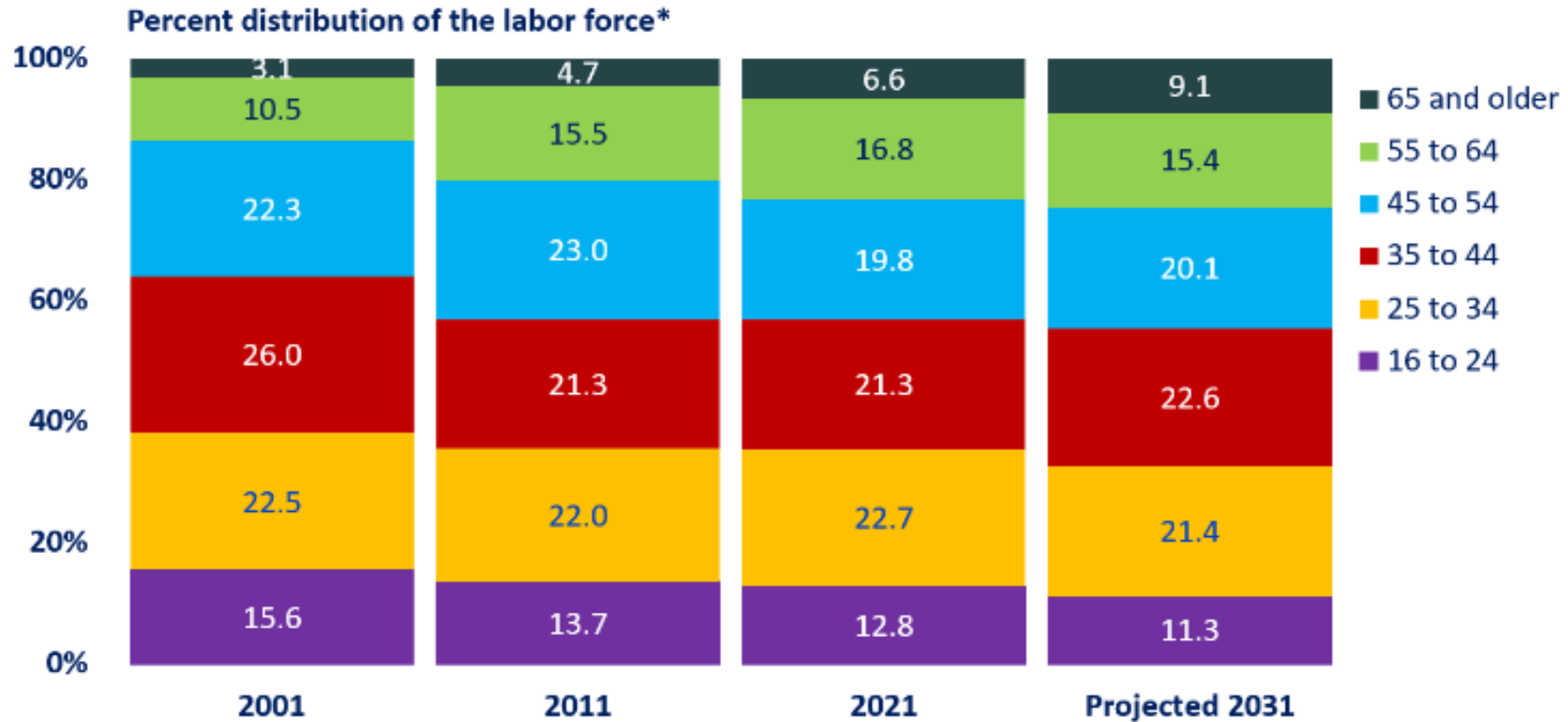
# Employment Projections



# Population and Labor Force are Constraints on Employment



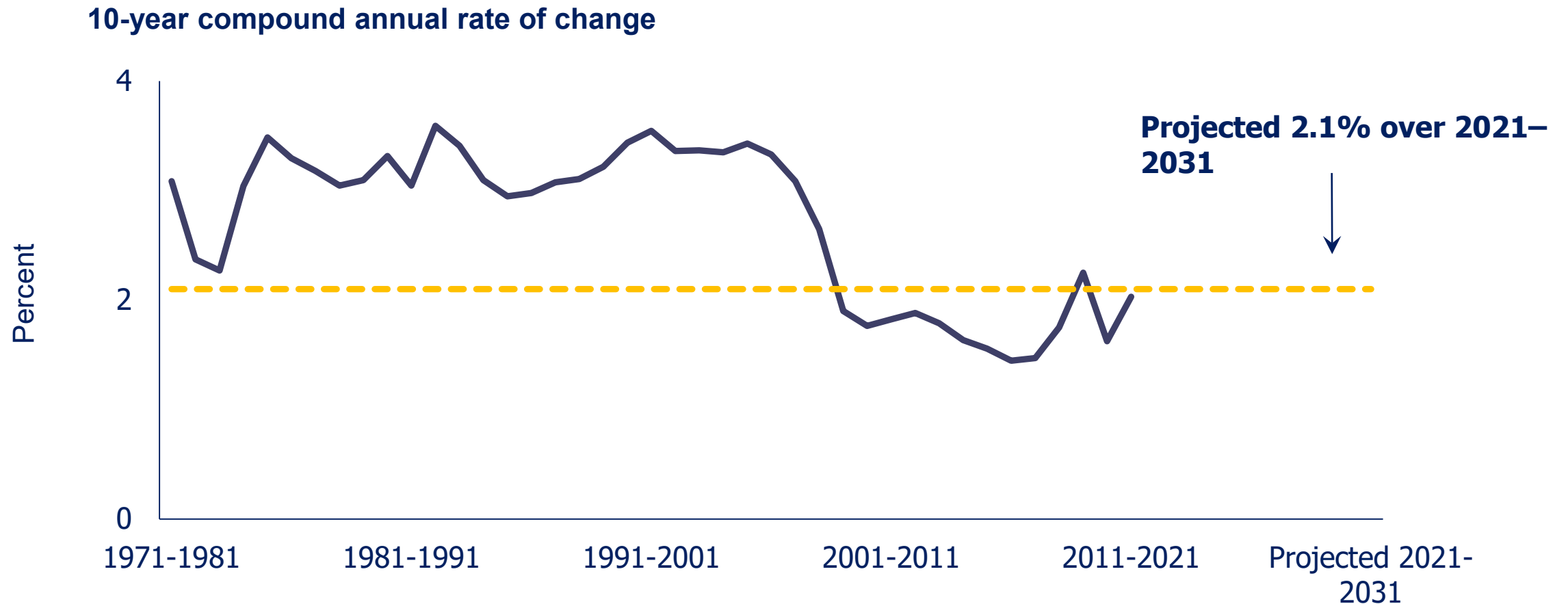
# Labor Force Share, by Age Group, 2001, 2011, 2021, and Projected 2031



\*Data may not sum to 100 percent because of rounding



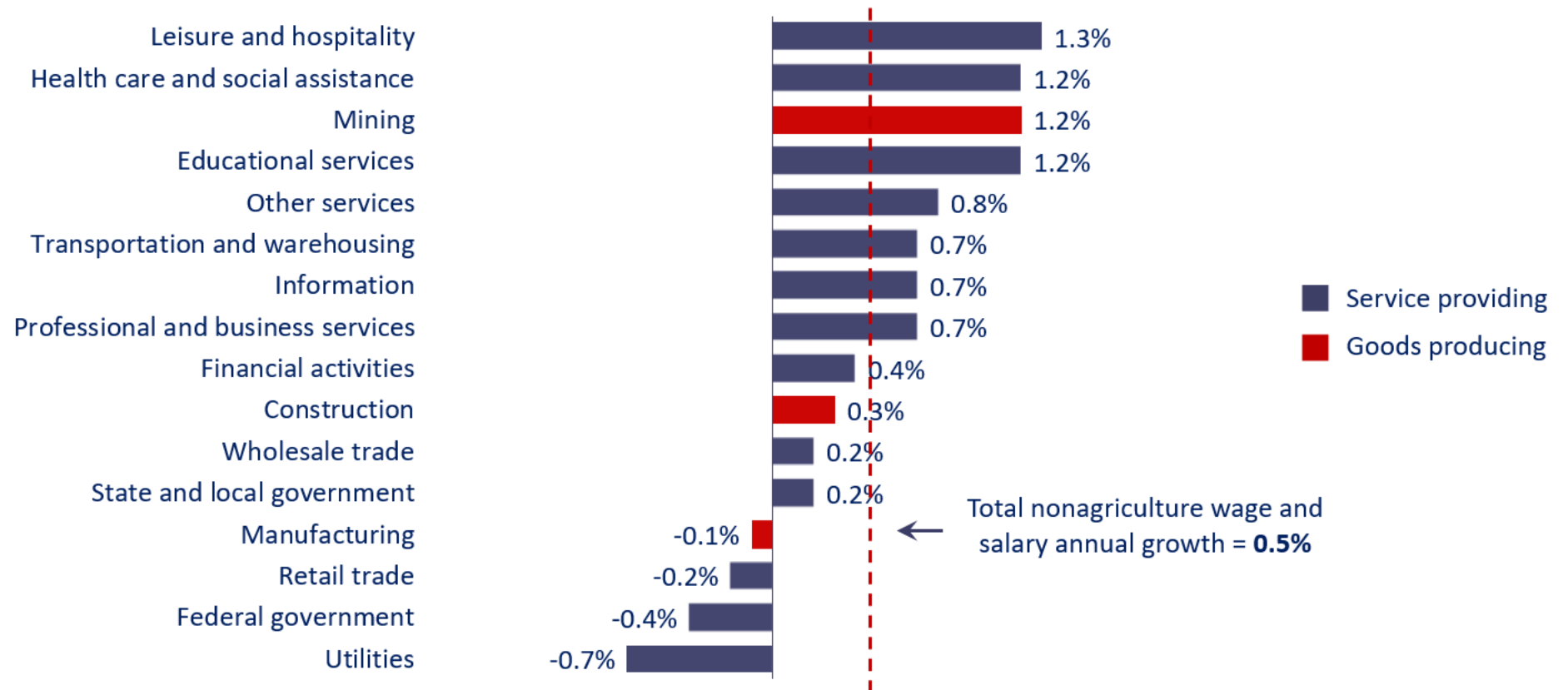
# Projected Real GDP Growth Within Historic Bounds





# Projected Annual Rate of Change in Industry Employment, 2021–31

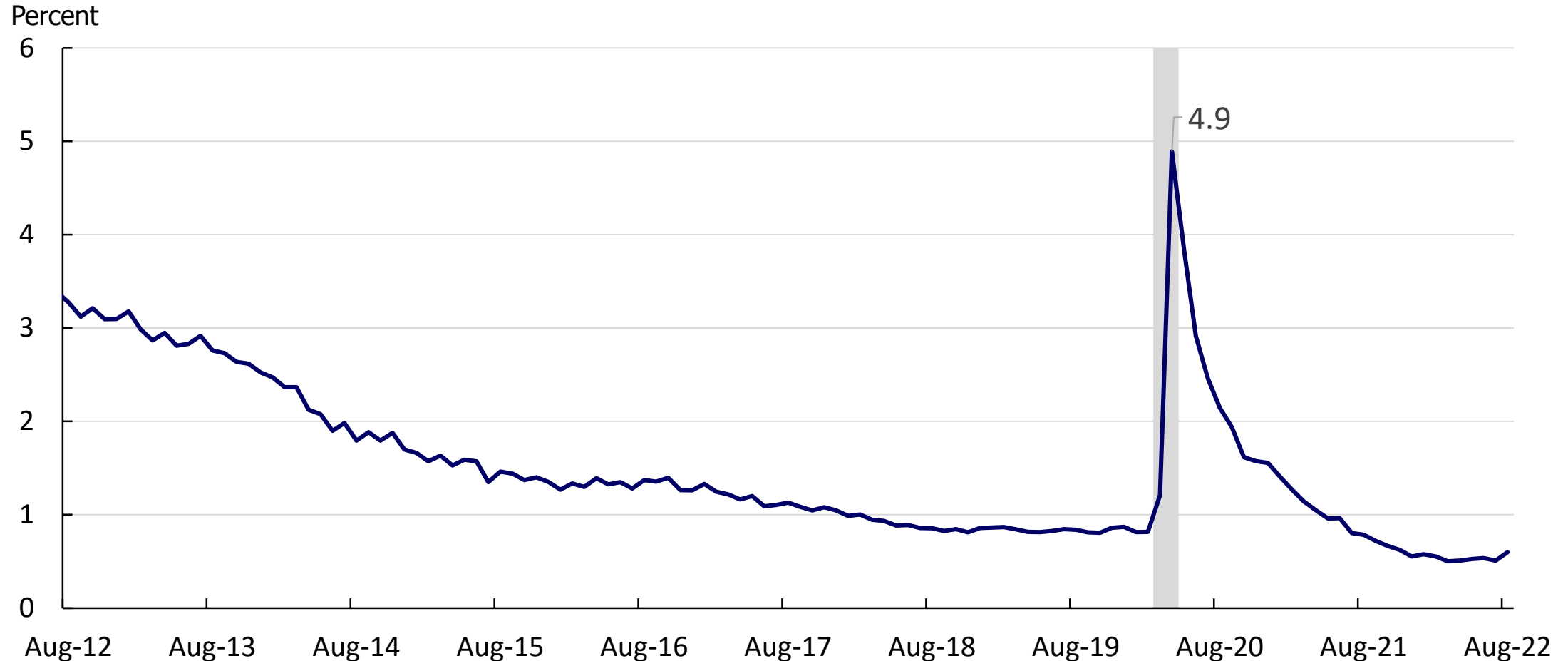
Compound annual rate of change for wage and salary employment, projected 2021–31



# Other Indicators



# Number of unemployed persons per job opening declining



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.  
Seasonally adjusted.

Note: Shaded area represents recession as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).  
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

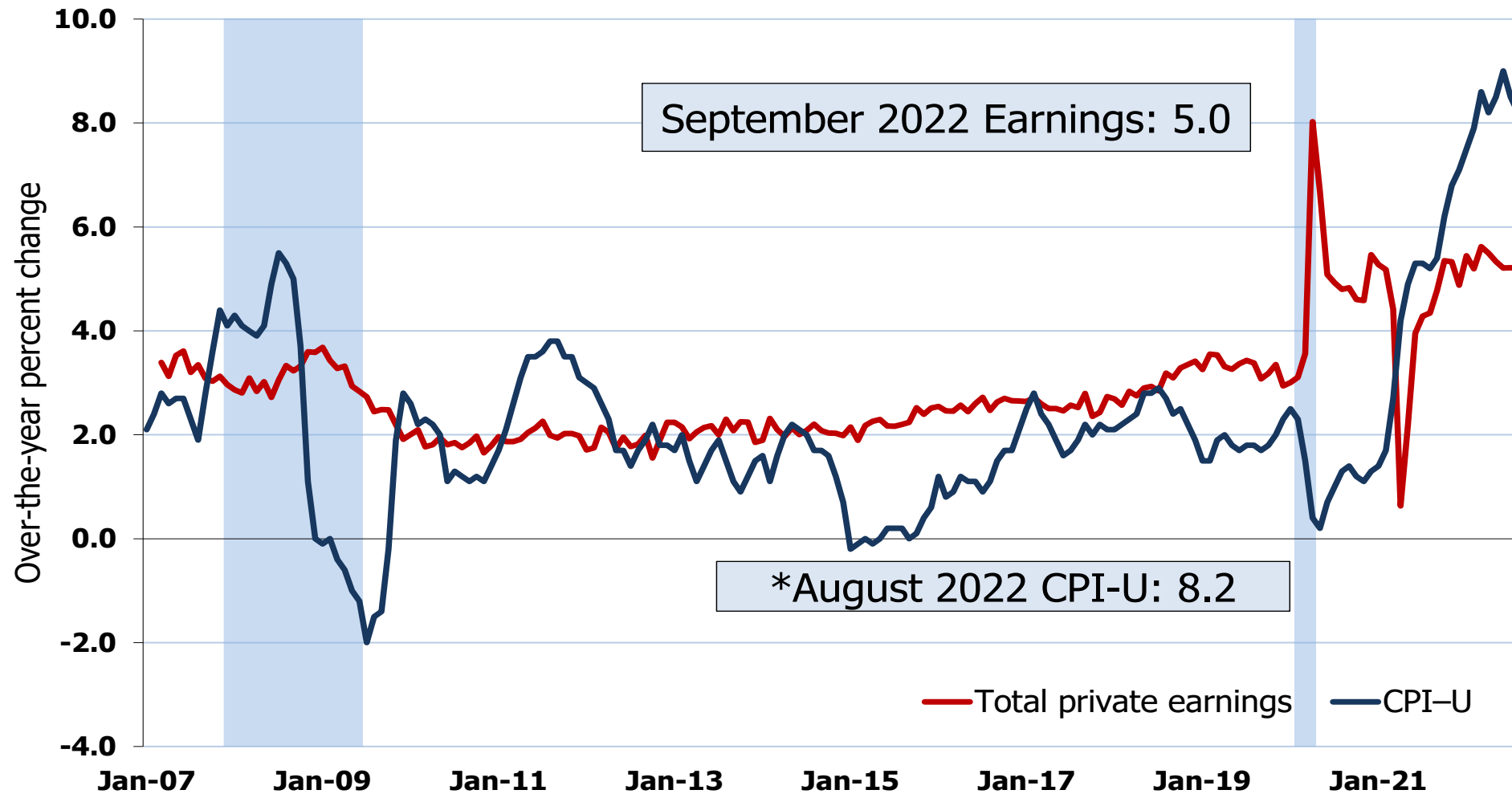
August 2022: 0.6



# Average hourly earnings, all employees, and CPI-U\*

## January 2007–September 2022

Seasonally adjusted



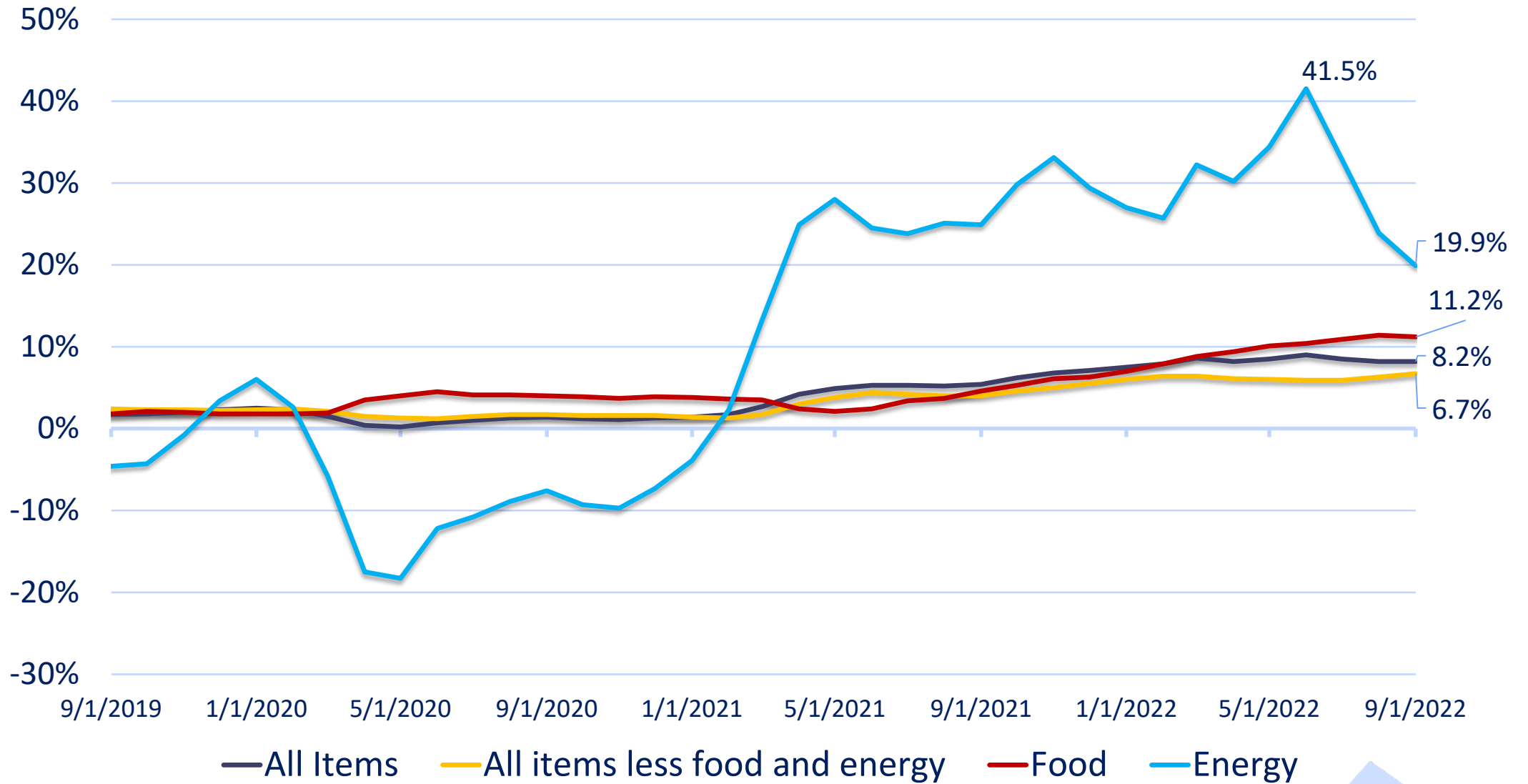
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey, October 07, 2022.

\*Consumer Price Index, CPI-U (1982-84 = 100)

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

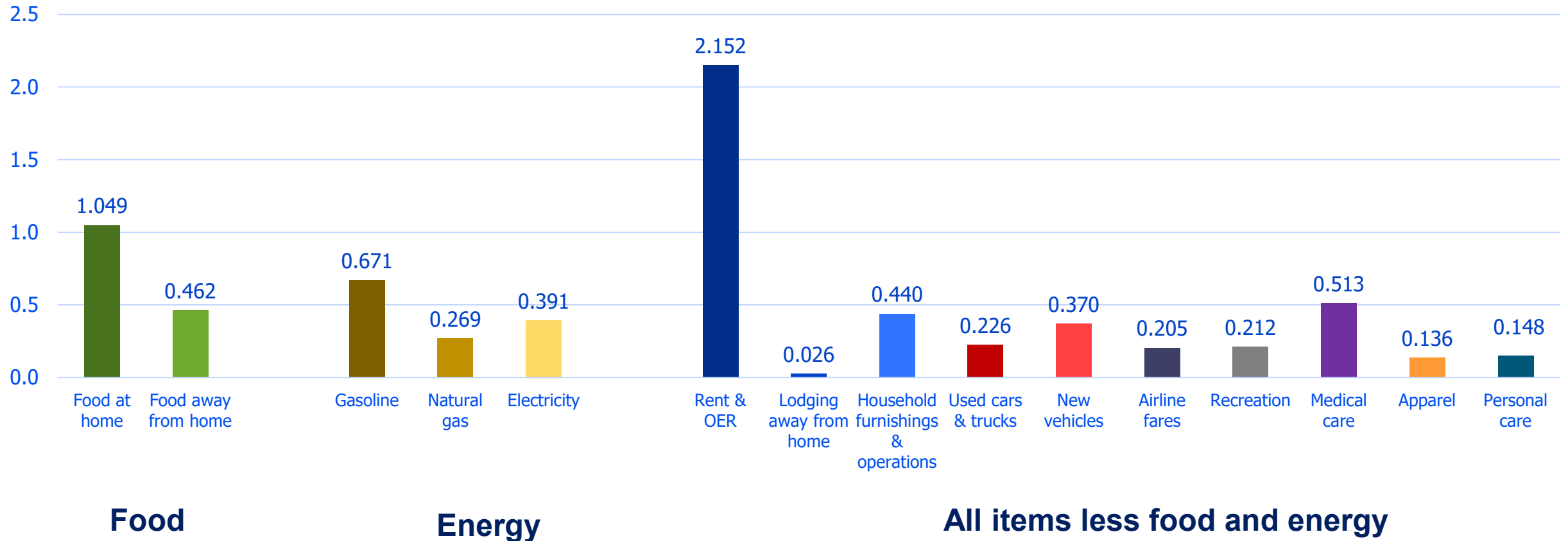


# 12-Month % Change CPI-U U.S. City Average



# 12-month analysis, September 2022

Breaking down the effect of different categories on the all items 12-month change: **8.2%**



# 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



# Contact Information

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