

September 3, 2021

Job growth slows

- The U.S. labor market slowed its job growth with the addition of 235,000 jobs in August, the smallest jobs gain over the last seven months. August job gains greatly underperformed expectations as the Delta variant COVID threat had more dramatic impacts on demand than was forecast. Revisions to the June and July numbers have brought the total job gains in 2021 year-to-date to nearly 4.7 million. Total U.S. employment remains down by around 5.3 million compared to pre-COVID levels.
- U.S. job gains were driven by recovery in the professional and business services sector, which added 74K jobs in August. The hospitality and leisure sector had been the driving force for job gains throughout the recovery but remained entirely flat in August. Transportation and warehousing gained 35K jobs in August. The retail trade sector lost 29K jobs in August.
- The unemployment rate fell to 5.2% in August. Average hourly earnings increased to \$30.73, up 17 cents compared to July and 4.3% year over year, continuing to suggest that rising demand for talent is putting continued upward pressure on wages.

NOTABLE SECTORS

Professional & Business Services	+74K
Transportation and Warehousing	+35K
Leisure and Hospitality	+0K
Retail Trade	-29K



US Monthly Job Change and Unemployment Rate

