

# Employment Trends in Retail Trade

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Bureau of Labor Statistics

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# Overview

- Data sources
- Retail defined
- Historical data – employment and establishments
- Projections data, 2018-28



# Data sources and retail defined

- Data sources:
  - Historical employment data: Current Employment Statistics – [bls.gov/ces](https://bls.gov/ces)
  - Historical establishment data: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages – [bls.gov/qcew](https://bls.gov/qcew)
  - Projections data: BLS National Employment Matrix – [bls.gov/emp](https://bls.gov/emp)
- NAICS definition – Sector 44-45: Retail Trade
  - “retailing merchandise generally in small quantities to the general public and providing services incidental to the sale of the merchandise.”
  - Includes both store retailers (“fixed point-of-sale locations”) and non-store retailers (e.g. catalogs, door-to-door sales, vending machines, etc.)
- E-commerce as retail?
  - There is an e-commerce retail industry (“electronic shopping industry”)
  - However, this only constitutes 2.5 percent of retail employment in 2019
  - Employment for the storage, shipment, and delivery of packages all found in the “transportation and warehousing” industry – separate from retail trade

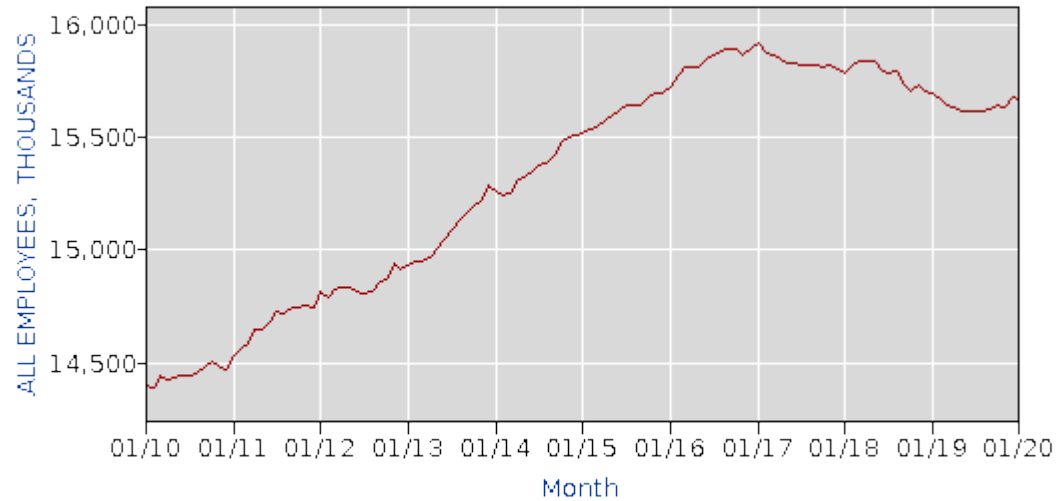


# Retail employment by sector, 2018

Industry	NAICS	Employment	Percent of retail
Retail trade	44, 45	15,833.1	
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	441	2,021.2	12.8%
Food and beverage stores	445	3,087.1	19.5%
General Merchandise stores	452	3,104.9	19.6%
All other retail	442-4, 446-8, 451, 453-4	7,619.9	48.1%



# Retail trade, employment



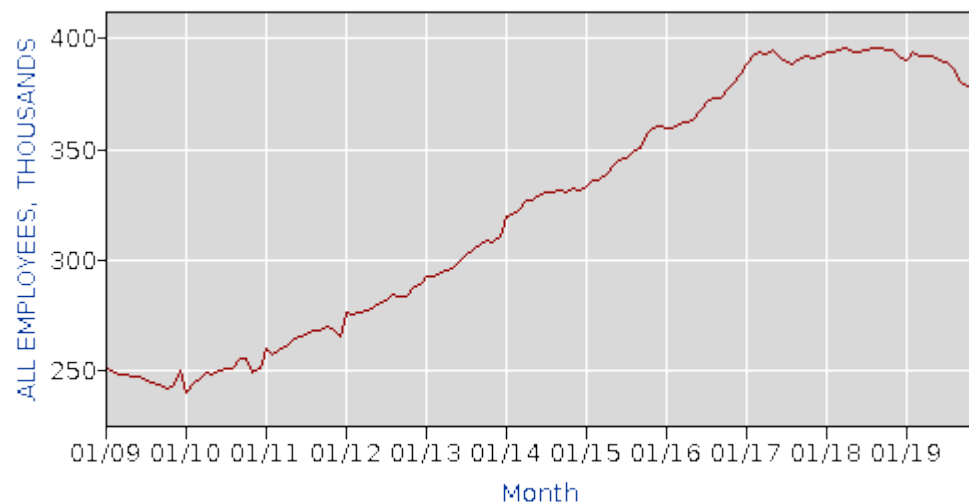
- 2009-19: 1.1 million jobs added, 7.7 percent growth
- 2009-16: 1.3 million jobs added, 9.0 percent growth
- 2016-19: 187,600 jobs lost, 1.2 percent decline

# E-Commerce sales growth



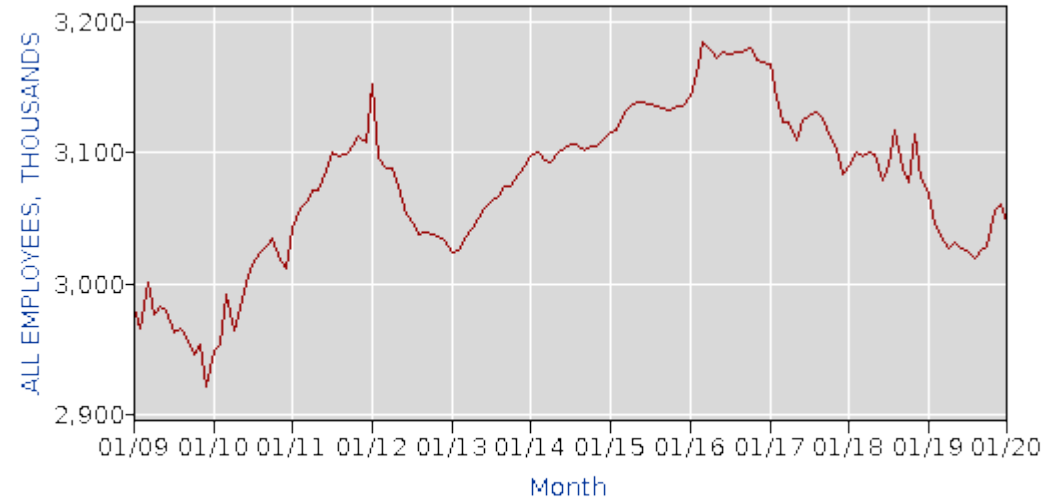
- E-commerce saw an accelerating share of overall retail sales over prior decade
  - Average annual share increases:
    - 2008-15: 0.49 percent
    - 2016-18: 0.85 percent

# Electronic shopping and mail-order houses



- 2009-16: 121,600 jobs, 49.2 percent growth
- 2016-19: 18,400 jobs, 5 percent growth

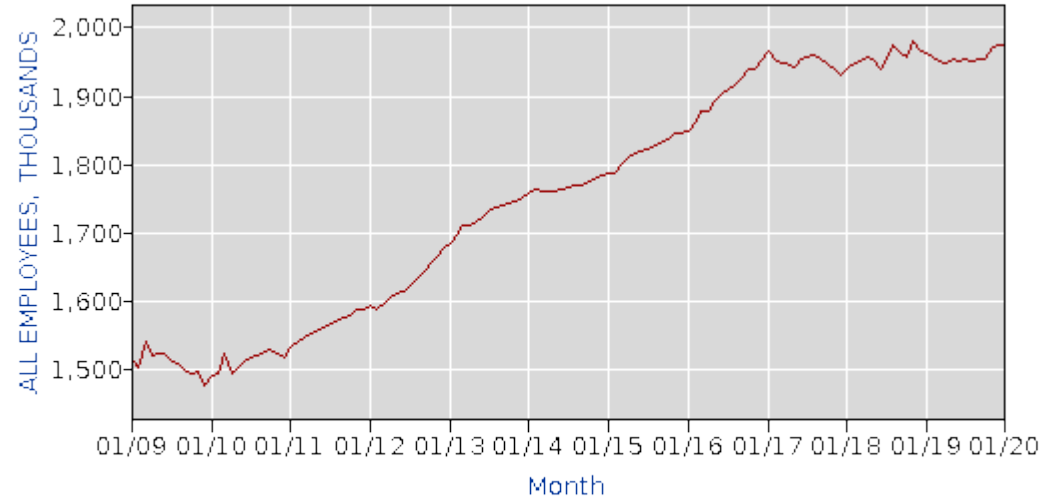
# General merchandise stores



- 2009-16: 203,200 jobs added, 6.9 percent growth
- 2016-19: 126,100 jobs lost, 4 percent decline



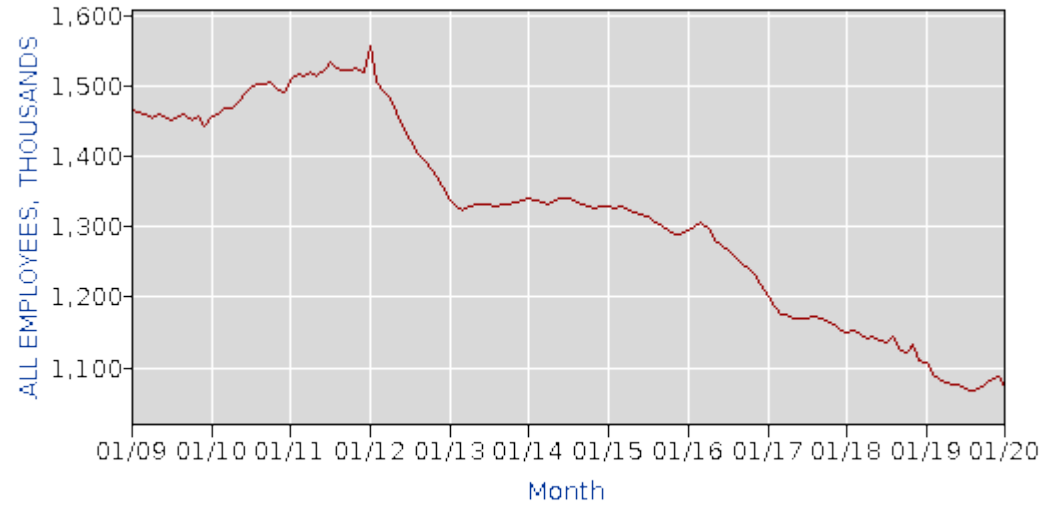
# General merchandise stores, including warehouse clubs and supercenters



- 2009-16: 392,900 jobs added, 26 percent growth
- 2016-19: 58,000 jobs added, 3 percent growth

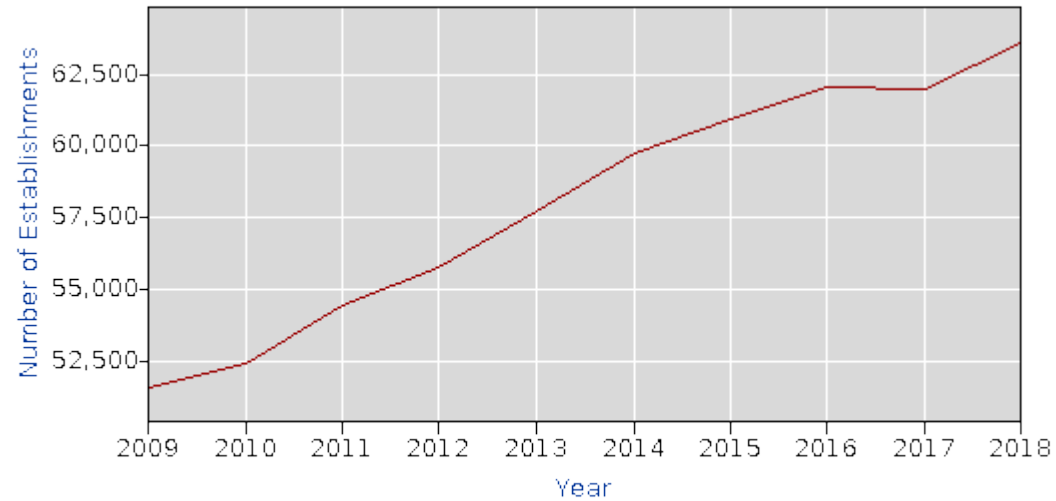


# Department stores



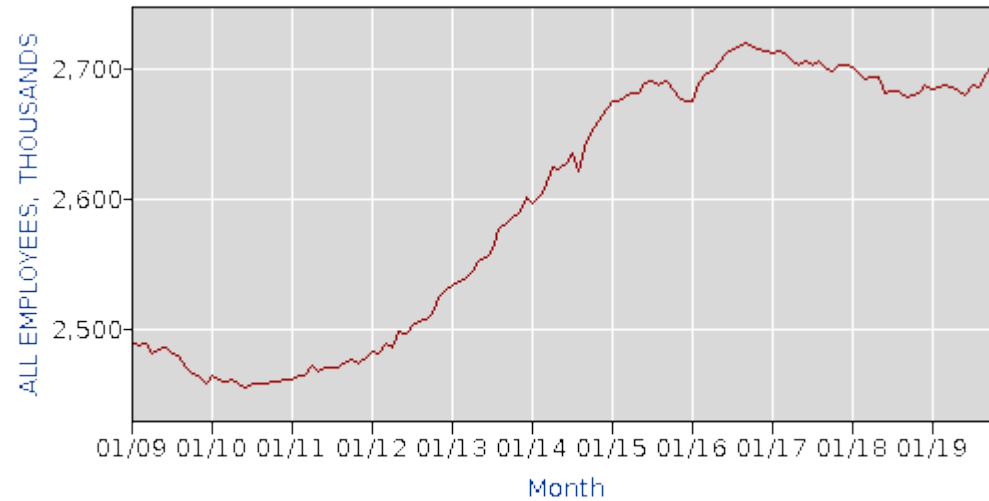
- 2009-19: 373,800 jobs lost, 25.7 percent decline

# General merchandise stores, establishments



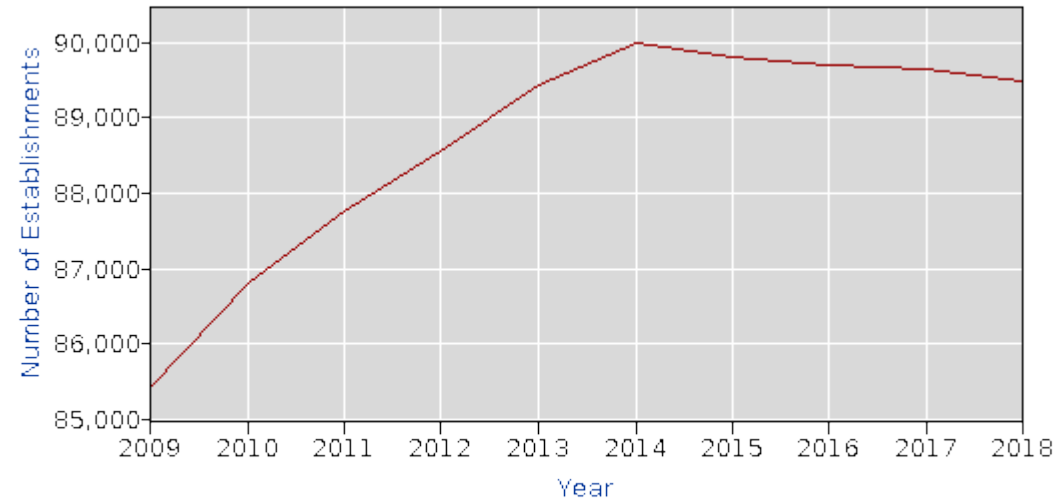
- 2009-16: 10,440 establishments added, 20.2 percent growth
- 2016-18: 1,564 establishments added, 2.5 percent growth

# Grocery stores



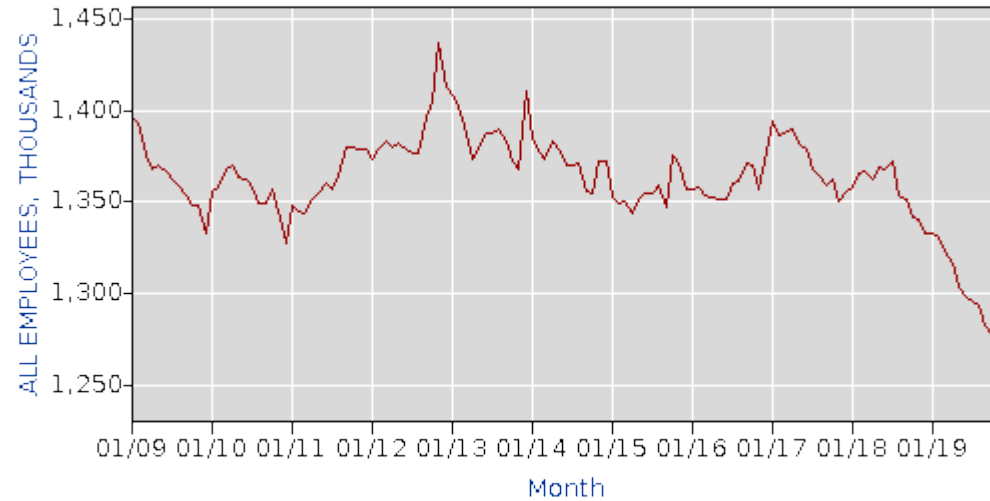
- 2009-16: 226,300 jobs added, 9.1 percent growth
- 2016-19: 16,900 jobs lost, 0.6 percent decline
- Technological factors also at work here: automated self-checkout systems replacing cashiers and retail salespersons

# Grocery stores, establishments



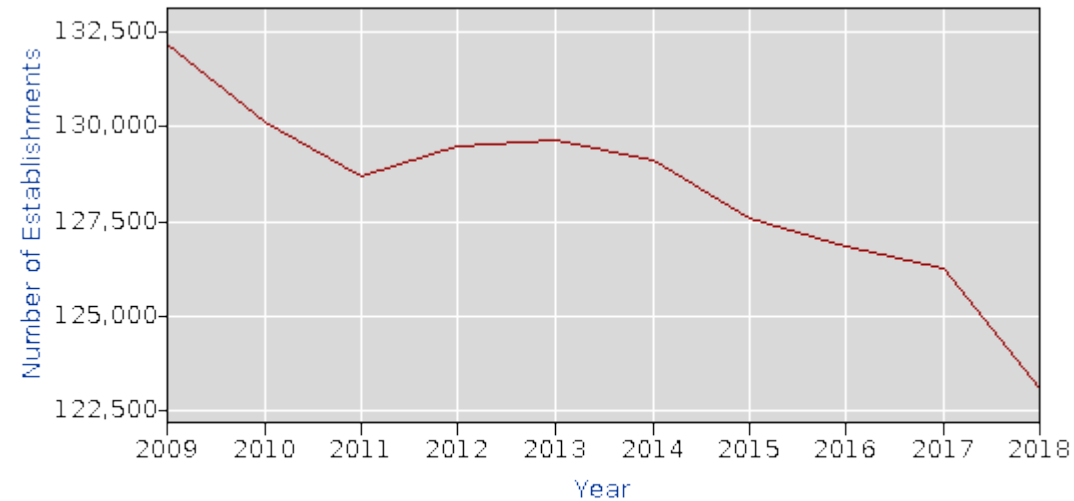
- 2009-18: 4,061 establishments added, 4.8 percent growth
- 2014-18: 515 establishments lost, 0.6 percent decline

# Clothing and clothing accessories stores



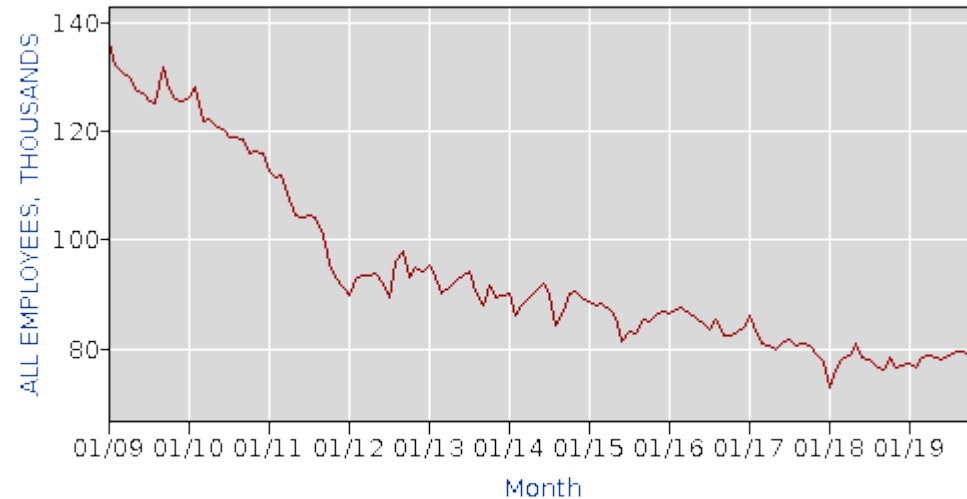
- 2009-16: 4,600 jobs lost, 0.3 percent decline
- 2016-19: 60,400 jobs lost, 4.4 percent decline

# Clothing and clothing accessories stores, number of establishments



- 2009-18: loss of 9,083 establishments, 6.9 percent decline

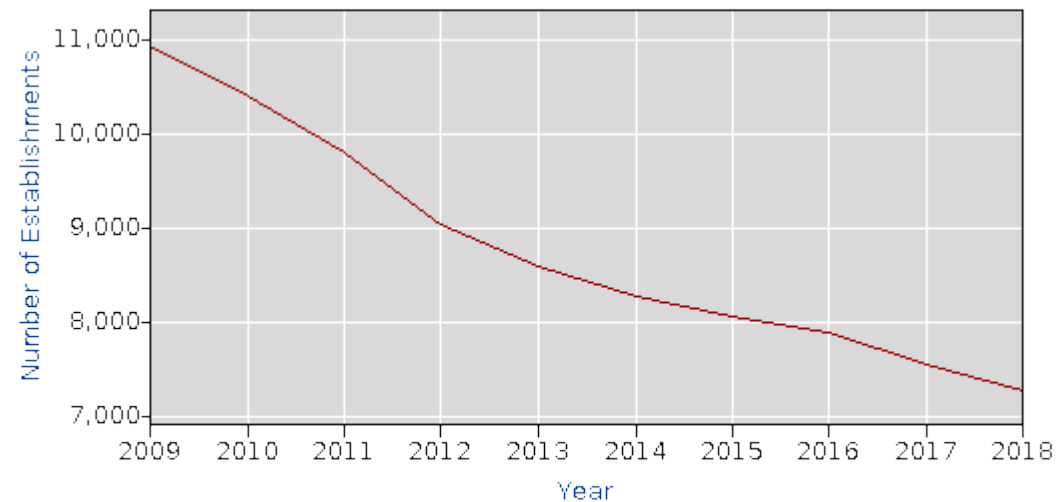
# Book stores and news dealers



- 2009-16: 44,200 jobs lost, 34.3 percent decline
- 2016-19: 6,200 jobs lost, 7.3 percent decline
- Book stores were one of the earliest detailed industries affected by e-commerce

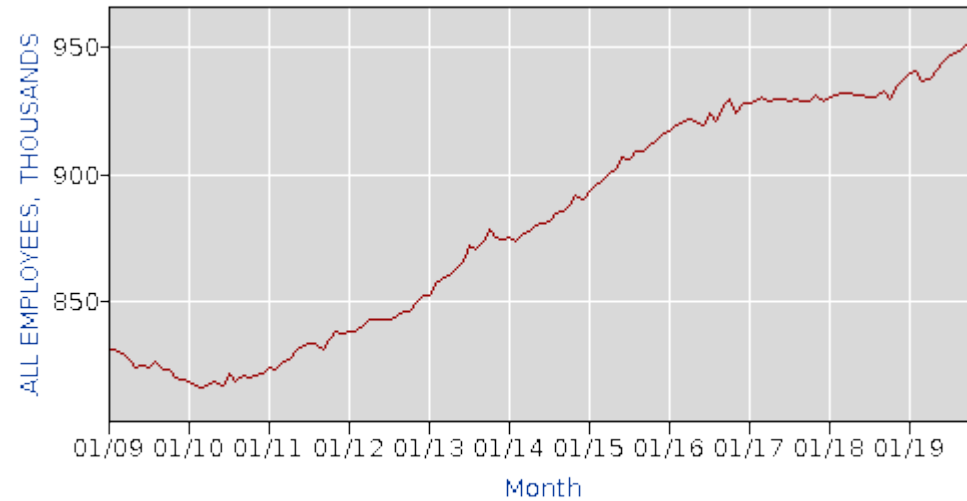


# Book stores and news dealers, establishments



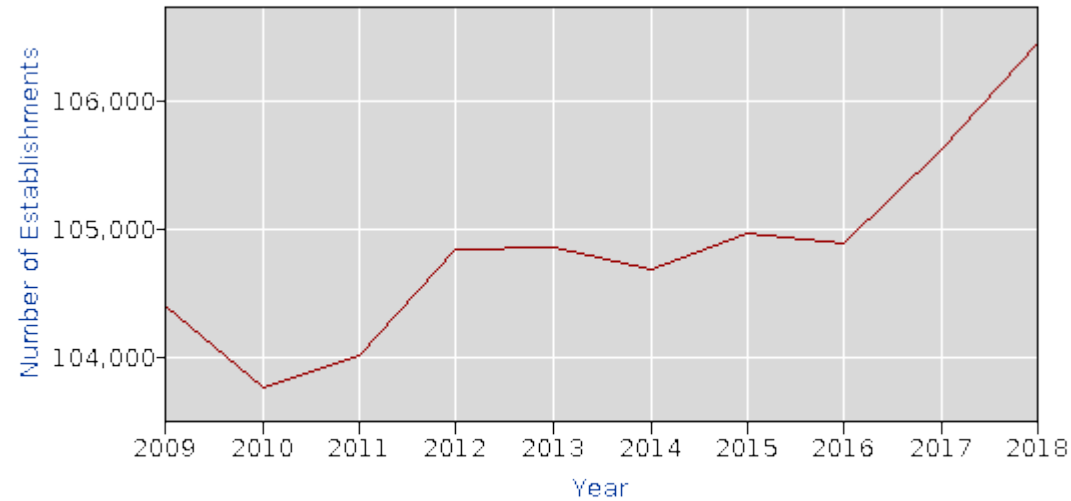
- 2009-18: loss of 3,663 establishments, 33 percent decline

# Gasoline stations



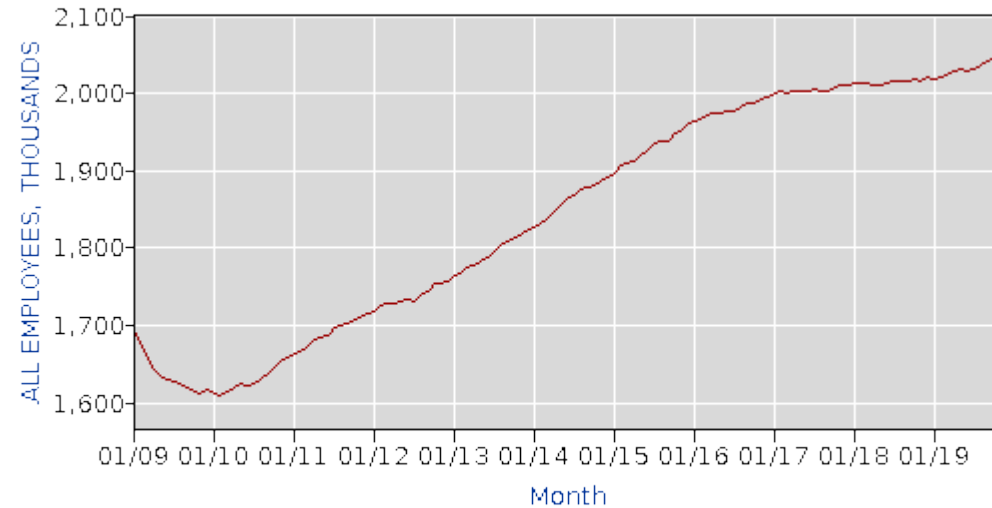
- 2009-19: 119,100 jobs added, 14.4 percent growth
- Consistent growth throughout ten-year period

# Gasoline stations, establishments



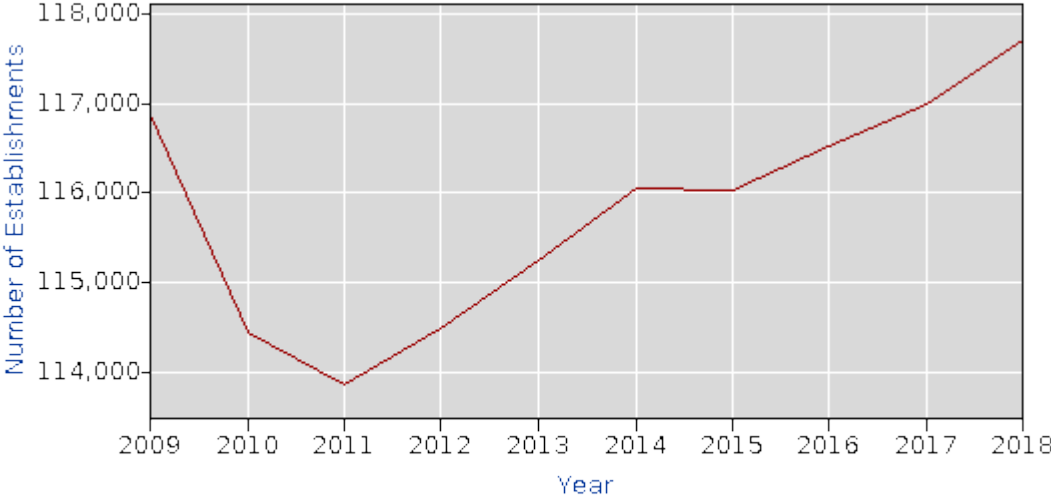
- 2009-18: 2,066 establishments added, 2 percent growth

# Motor vehicle and parts dealers



- 2009-19: 397,100 jobs added, 24.3 percent growth

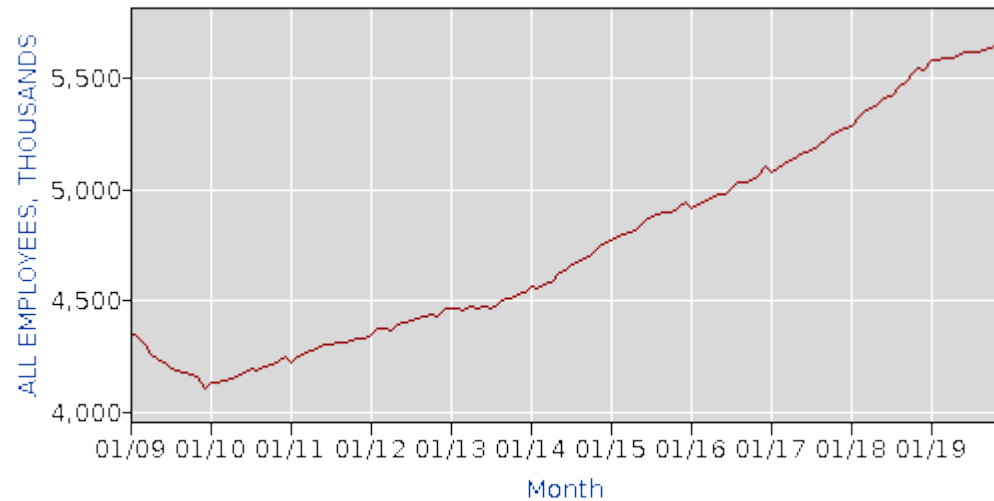
# Motor vehicle and parts dealers, establishments



- 2011-18: 3,836 establishments added, 3.4 percent growth



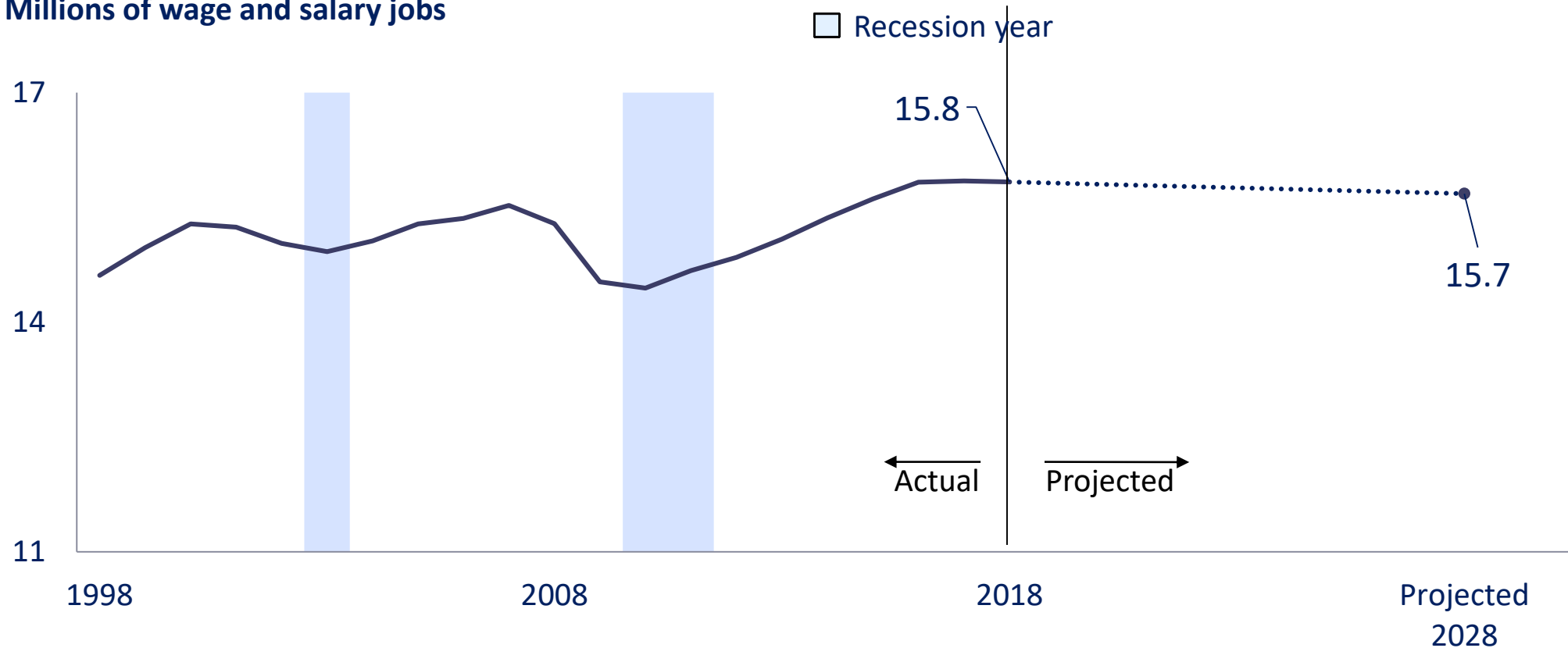
# Transportation and warehousing



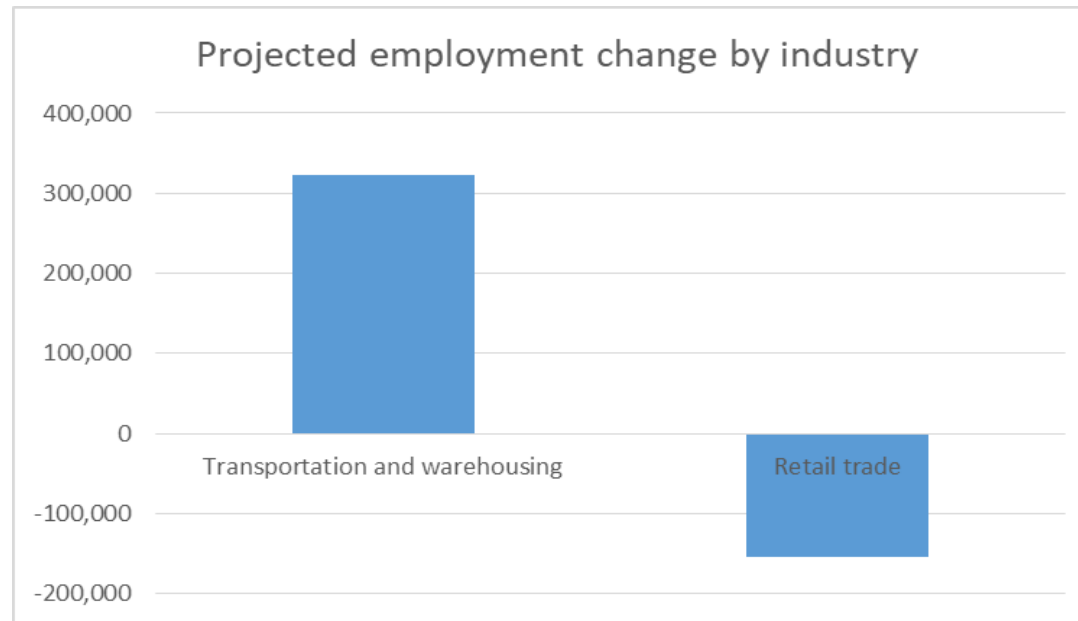
- 2009-16: 778,700 jobs added, 18.4 percent growth
- 2016-19: 614,900 jobs added, 12.3 percent growth

# Retail Trade has the Greatest Decline of the Service Sector

Millions of wage and salary jobs



# Projections, 20018-28, retail trade vs. transportation and warehousing



- Retail trade
  - 153,700 jobs lost, 1 percent decline
- Transportation and warehousing
  - 322,300 jobs added, 5.9 percent growth



# Retail-heavy occupations: retail salespersons and cashiers

- Retail salespersons (25.6 percent of retail industry employment, 2018)
  - Projected 2018-28:
    - 101,900 jobs lost
    - 2 percent decline
- Cashiers (18.8 percent of retail industry employment, 2018)
  - Projected 2018-28:
    - 138,700 jobs lost
    - 4 percent decline



# Contact Information

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