US Labor Market Overview

July 2024

Indeed Hiring Lab



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- The US labor market's balance between demand for workers and the supply of job seekers has returned to pre-pandemic levels. The jobs market is in solid condition, but further loosening could mean a large rise in unemployment.
- Job postings and openings remain above their pre-pandemic levels, but the balance between job openings and unemployment has returned to its pre-pandemic relationship.
- The unemployment rate remains low but has crept upward. This slow but steady increase could accelerate if demand for workers continues to decline.
- The quits rate is below pre-pandemic levels, and layoffs remain low, suggesting employers are having an easier time retaining current employees.
- Wage growth continues to cool with trends in posted wage growth suggesting more cooling is in the pipeline. At the same time, posted wage growth has recently leveled off, indicating that competition for new hires is steady.

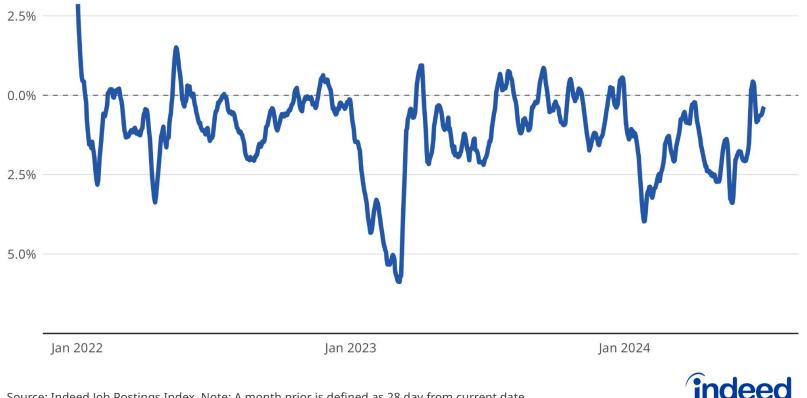
Job postings have moderated

Index (100 = Feb 1, 2020), US, data through July 5, 2024



Job postings on Indeed are down 0.4% from a month ago

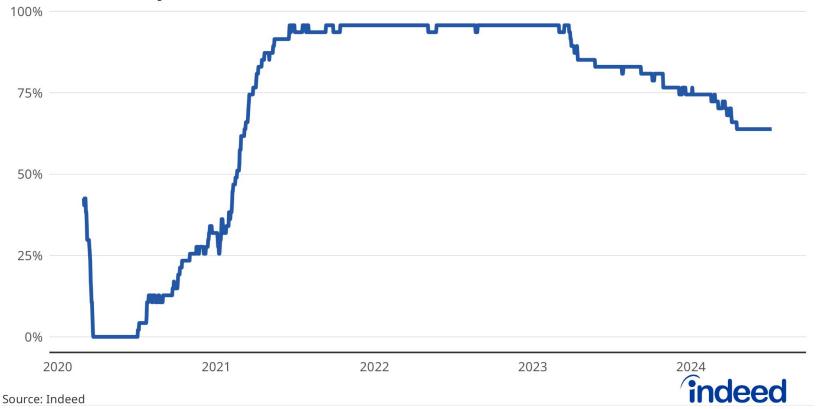
Month-over-month growth in Indeed Job Postings Index, United States, Jan 1, 2022 - July 5, 2024



Source: Indeed Job Postings Index. Note: A month prior is defined as 28 day from current date.

Job postings are elevated in 64% of US sectors

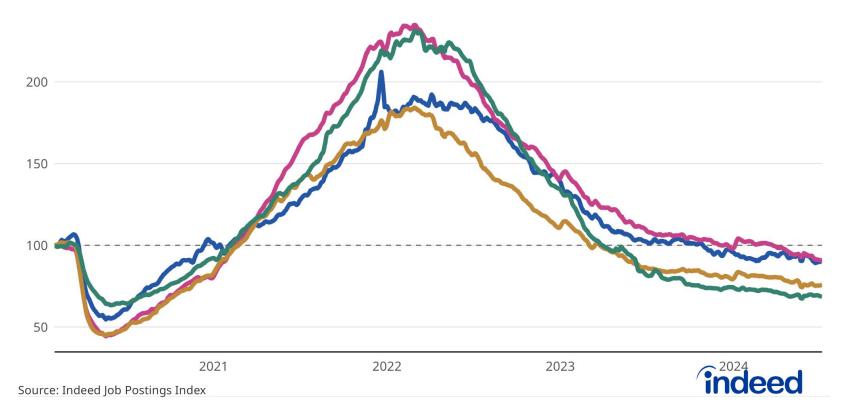
Share of occupational sectors with postings above pre-pandemic baseline, Mar 1, 2020 — Jul 05, 2024



Postings are down most in traditional 'office job' sectors

Index (100 = Feb 1, 2020), United States, through July 5, 2024

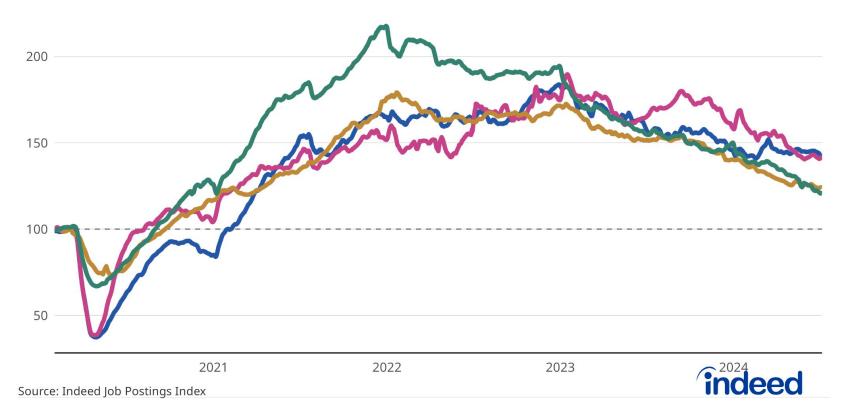
- Banking & Finance - Human Resources - Marketing - Software Development



Postings are holding up better in many 'in-person' sectors

Index (100 = Feb 1, 2020), United States, through July 5, 2024

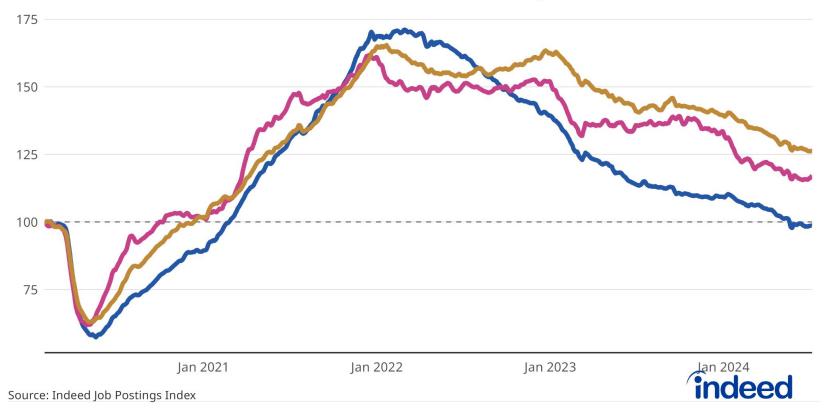
- Childcare - Dental - Nursing - Production & Manufacturing



Postings are weakest in high work-from-home sectors

US Job Postings Index by remote-work tier, data through July 5, 2024

high-remote — low-remote — middle-remote



US job openings and postings track each other

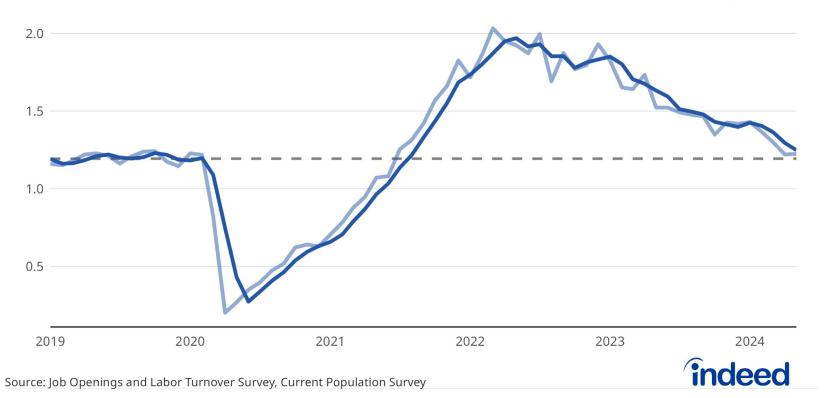
Index, Jan 31, 2020 - July 5, 2024



The ratio of openings to unemployment is back to 2019 levels

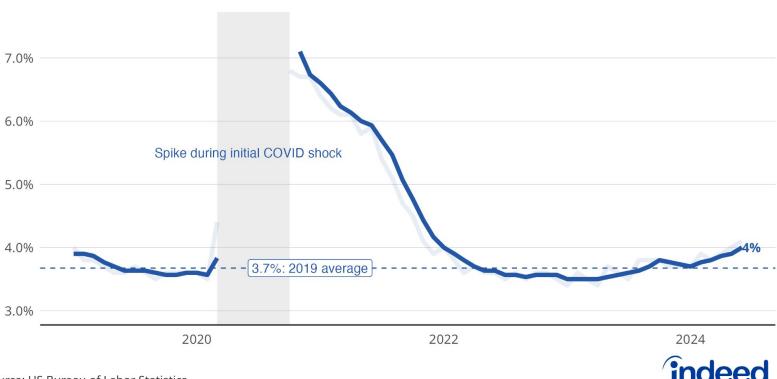
Job openings per unemployed worker, US, Jan 2019 - May 2024

🗕 3 mo avg 💻 Ratio



The unemployment rate has drifted upward

Unemployment as % of labor force, US, Jan 2019 — Jun 2024



— Monthly series — Three-month average

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

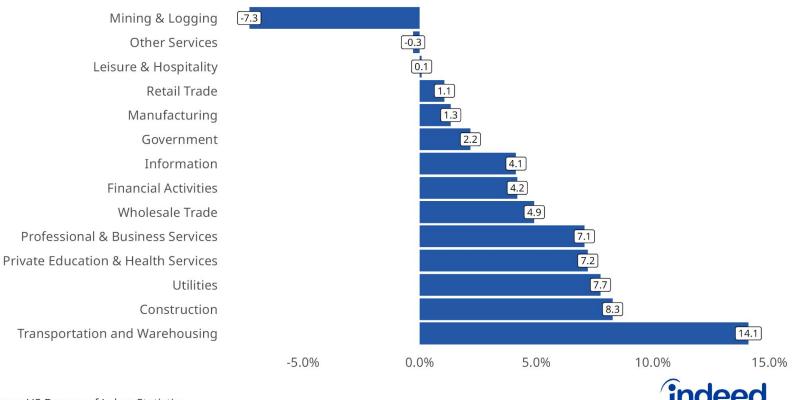
Monthly job gains have moderated

Thousands of jobs, 3 month average of monthly change, Jan 2021 - Jun 2024 average monthly gains in 2023 indeed

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Employment has recovered in almost every sector

Jun 2024, employment, % change since Feb 2020

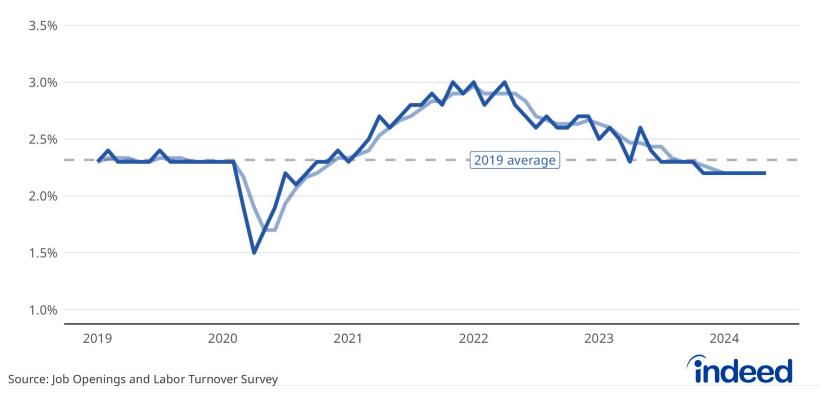


Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

The quits rate has stabilized at a healthy level

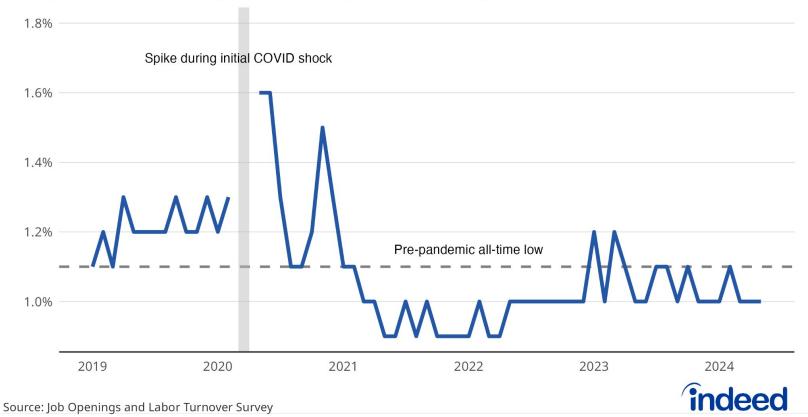
Quits as % of employment, Jan 2019 - May 2024

— 3 mo avg — Quits rate



Layoffs remain low by historical standards

Layoffs and discharges rate, US, Jan 2019 - May 2024



The prime-age employment rate is plateauing

Share of people ages 25 - 54 with a job, Jan 2019 - Jun 2024

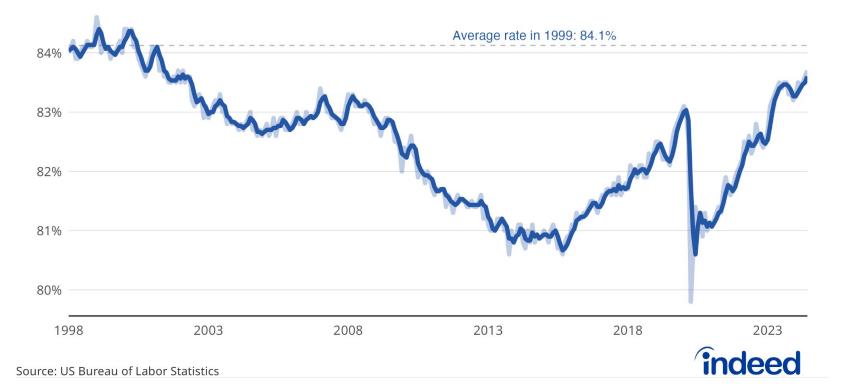
— Monthly series — Three-month moving average



Prime-age labor force participation is at a multidecade high

Share of workers aged 25 - 54 in the labor force, Jan 1998 - Jun 2024

Monthly series — Three-month moving average



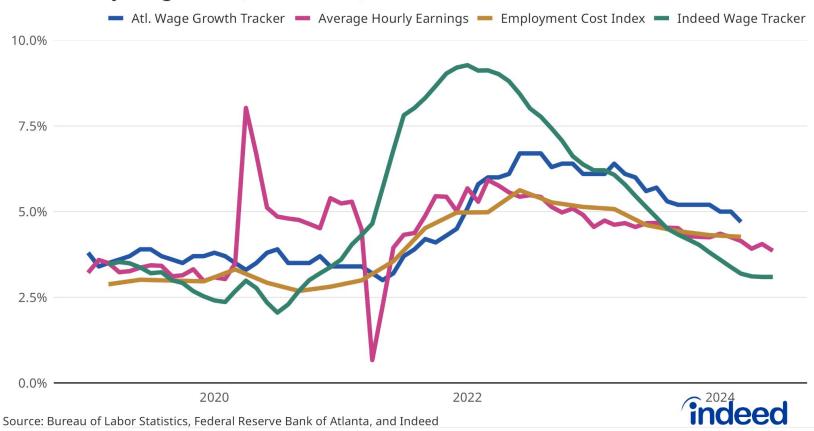
US posted wage growth has stabilized

Year-over-year growth in posted wages, Jan 2019 - June 2024



Wage growth is elevated, but trending down

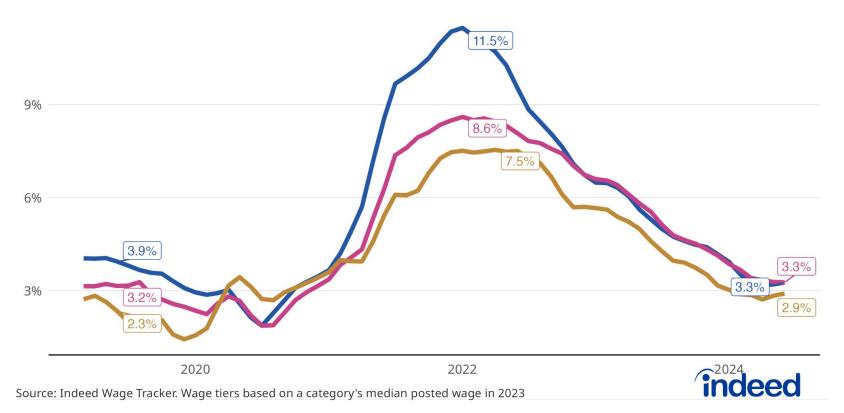
Year-over-year growth, Jan 2019 — Jun 2024



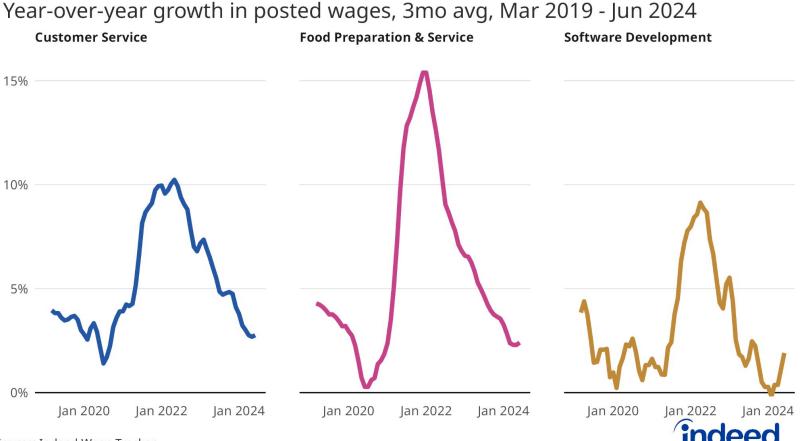
US wage growth is holding steady across wage tiers

Year-over-year growth in posted wages, 3mo avg, Mar 2019 - June 2024

🗕 low-wage 💻 middle-wage 💻 high-wage



Trends in posted wage growth by occupational sector

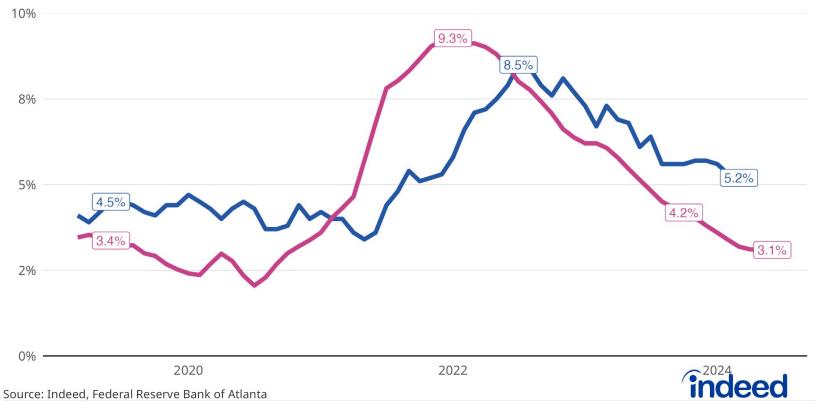


Source: Indeed Wage Tracker

US posted wage growth has led job switcher wage growth

Year-over-year growth, 3 mo moving average, Mar 2019 - June 2024

💻 Atlanta Fed Wage Growth Tracker - Job Switchers 💻 Indeed Wage Tracker



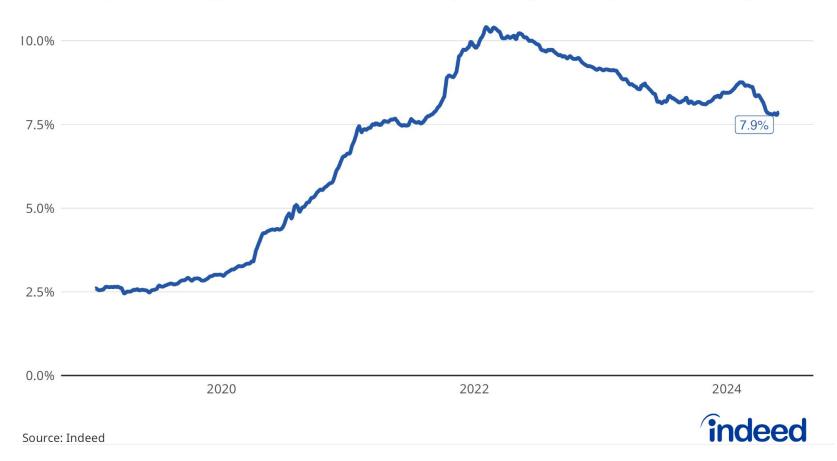
Inflation has once again eclipsed posted wage growth

Year-over-year growth, US, Jan 2019 — Jun 2024



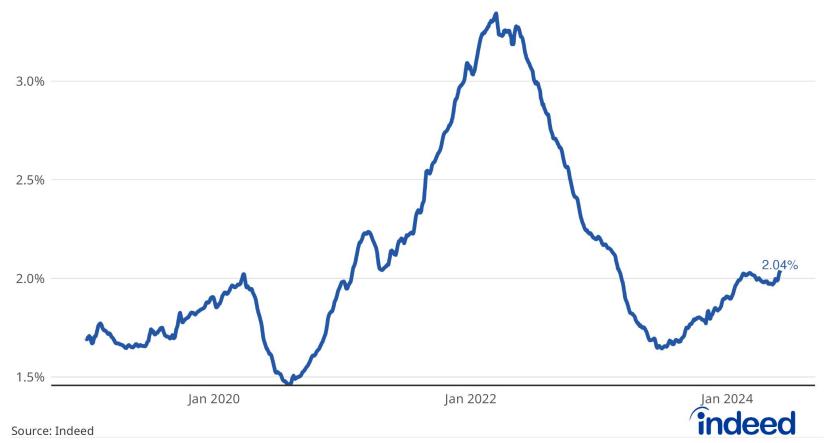
Remote job postings are still elevated in the US

Share of job postings with remote and/or hybrid keywords, Jan 2019 - May 2024



AI job postings remain below their 2022 peak

AI jobs as a share of all US job postings, Jan 2019 - May 2024



Gen AI job postings are rare, but have grown quickly

Generative AI jobs as a share of all US job postings, Jan 2022 - May 2024

