

Nationally, employment growth in leisure and hospitality slowed considerably in 2008, and employment levels declined through the fourth quarter, beginning in October.

👉 Over-the-year employment growth had been relatively stable in 2006 and 2007, growing at an annual average of about 294,000 workers a year. In 2008, leisure and hospitality grew by 67,300 workers.

👉 The entire employment decline for 2008 occurred in the fourth quarter with 449,300 jobs lost.

FIGURE 21 Over-the-year (OTY) change in private-sector employment in leisure and hospitality, 2005–2008

