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Practice Advisor

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for the first time since April, according to the latest Paychex IHS Markit Small Business Employment Watch report.

Isaac M. O'Bannon • Oct. 04, 2022



Hourly earnings growth for workers of U.S. small businesses slowed in September, according to the latest Paychex | IHS Markit Small Business Employment Watch. Hourly earnings growth stood at 4.98 percent in September, falling below 5 percent for the first time since April. The Small Business Job Index, which measures the rate of small business job growth, also slowed slightly from the previous month, down -0.19 percent to 99.75.

"Decreasing for the seventh consecutive month, the jobs index is now below its level

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- One-month annualized hourly earnings growth fell to 3.35 percent, the weakest growth rate since April 2021.
- Small business employment gains slowed during the spring and summer as monthly decreases averaged -0.26 percent from April through September.
- North Carolina remained the top state for small business job growth; Florida was once again the top state for worker hourly earnings growth (6.47 percent).
- Dallas continues to lead U.S. metros in small business job growth and hourly earnings growth for workers.
- Other services (except public administration) remained the top sector for job growth in September at 102.68.

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