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METROPOLITAN AREA EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT: MARCH 2003

In March, 163 metropolitan areas recorded lower unemployment rates than a year earlier, 145 areas had higher rates, and 23 areas had rates that were unchanged, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Thirteen areas registered jobless rates of at least 10.0 percent, nine of which were located in California and three were along the Mexican border in other states. Nine areas posted unemployment rates below 3.0 percent, with six of these located in the South. The national unemployment rate in March was 6.2 percent, not seasonally adjusted.

Metropolitan Area Unemployment (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Sixty-eight metropolitan areas recorded unemployment rates of at least 7.0 percent in March, almost the same number of areas (67) as a year ago, while 55 areas had rates below 4.0 percent, up slightly from 48 areas in March 2002. The highest jobless rates were again registered in four California areas—Visalia-Tulare-Porterville, 18.1 percent, Merced, 17.2 percent, Fresno, 16.8 percent, and Yuba City, 16.2 percent. Bryan-College Station, Texas, and Columbia, Mo., continued to report the lowest rates, 1.9 and 2.0 percent, respectively. Overall, 228 areas recorded unemployment rates below the U.S. average of 6.2 percent in March 2003, while 94 areas had higher rates. (See table 1 and the map.)

In March, the largest unemployment rate decreases from a year ago were again posted in Florence, Ala. (-2.6 percentage points), and Danville, Va. (-2.5 points). An additional 21 areas registered jobless rate declines of a full percentage point or more, with 8 of these located in the South and 6 in the Midwest. Another 60 areas recorded over-the-year rate decreases of at least one-half percentage point. Yuma, Ariz., reported the largest unemployment rate increase from March 2002 (+2.3 percentage points), followed by two areas in Texas—Brazoria (+1.9 points) and Beaumont-Port Arthur (+1.7 points). An additional 14 areas posted over-the-year rate increases of at least a full percentage point, while another 30 areas had increases of one-half point or more.

Of the 51 metropolitan areas with a 1990 census population of 1 million or more, Portland-Vancouver, Ore.-Wash., and San Jose, Calif., continued to report the highest unemployment rates, 8.4 percent each, followed by New York, N.Y., 7.9 percent. Among these large areas, Washington, D.C.-Md.-Va.-W.Va., continued to have the lowest unemployment rate, 3.5 percent. Another two areas had rates below 4.0 percent—Nassau-Suffolk, N.Y., and Orange County, Calif., 3.9 percent each. Among the large areas, 35 posted unemployment rates below the U.S. rate, while 12 areas had higher rates. Over the year, jobless rates were down in 26 of these large areas, up in 23 areas, and unchanged in 2 areas. The largest unemployment rate decrease from March 2002 was reported in Buffalo-Niagara Falls, N.Y. (-0.7 percentage

point). Eight other areas registered over-the-year rate decreases of at least one-half percentage point, four of which were located in the South Atlantic division. The largest over-the-year rate increase was recorded in Hartford, Conn. (+1.5 percentage points), followed by Houston, Texas (+1.0 point). Five additional areas registered rate increases of one-half percentage point or more, with three of these areas located in the Northeast.

Metropolitan Area Nonfarm Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Among the 272 metropolitan areas for which over-the-year comparisons could be made, 136 reported over-the-year decreases in employment, 132 recorded increases, and 4 had no change. The largest over-the-year employment declines were posted in New York, N.Y. (-61,200), San Jose, Calif. (-50,000), and Boston, Mass. (-41,500). The largest over-the-year percentage declines in employment were reported in San Jose, Calif. (-5.4 percent), Tulsa, Okla. (-4.1 percent), Flint, Mich. (-4.0 percent), and Toledo, Ohio (-3.9 percent). (See table 2.)

The largest over-the-year employment increases were reported in Washington, D.C.-Md.-Va.-W.Va. (+26,800), Riverside-San Bernardino, Calif. (+18,900), and Las Vegas, Nev.-Ariz. (+16,300). The largest percentage increases in employment occurred in Elkhart-Goshen, Ind. (+4.8 percent), Houma, La. (+4.1 percent), and Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito, Texas (+3.1 percent).

Over-the-year nonfarm employment comparisons could be made in 37 metropolitan areas with annual average employment levels above 750,000 in 2002. Employment declined in 23 of these 37 areas. The largest over-the-year percentage declines in employment in these large metropolitan areas were posted in San Jose, Calif. (-5.4 percent), San Francisco, Calif. (-2.6 percent), and Kansas City, Mo.-Kan. (-2.4 percent). Among the largest areas, Las Vegas, Nev.-Ariz., had the highest over-the-year percentage increase in employment (+2.1 percent), followed by Riverside-San Bernardino, Calif. (+1.8 percent), and Orlando, Fla. (+1.3 percent).

Manufacturing remained the weakest industry, with 214 metropolitan areas experiencing employment losses over the year. The information industry and trade, transportation, and utilities had employment losses in 156 and 140 metropolitan areas, respectively. Employment growth was most widespread in education and health services, in government, and in other services, with increases occurring in 225, 155, and 149 metropolitan areas, respectively.

The Regional and State Employment and Unemployment release for April is scheduled to be issued on May 30. The Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment release for April is scheduled to be issued on June 5.

Technical Note

This release presents labor force and unemployment data from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program (table 1) for 337 metropolitan areas, including those in Puerto Rico. Nonfarm payroll employment estimates from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program (table 2) are provided for over 270 of these areas. State estimates were previously published in the news release, *Regional and State Employment and Unemployment*, and are republished in this release for ease of reference. The LAUS and CES programs are both Federal-State cooperative endeavors.

Labor force and unemployment—from the LAUS program

Definitions. The labor force and unemployment data are based on the same concepts and definitions as those used for the official national estimates obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a sample survey of households that is conducted for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau. The labor force includes both the employed and the unemployed. Employed persons are those who did any work at all for pay or profit in the survey reference week (the week including the 12th of the month) or worked 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or farm, plus those not working who have a job from which they were temporarily absent, whether or not paid, for such reasons as labor-management dispute, illness, or vacation. Unemployed persons are those who did not work at all (in the reference week), have actively looked for a job (sometime in the 4-week period ending with the survey reference week), and are currently available for work; persons on layoff expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed.

Method of estimation. Effective January 1996, estimates for all states, the District of Columbia, the Los Angeles-Long Beach metropolitan area, and New York City are produced using estimating equations based on regression techniques. For all other substate areas, estimates are prepared through indirect estimation procedures. Employment estimates, which are based largely on “place of work” estimates from the CES program, are adjusted to refer to place of residence as used in the CPS. Unemployment estimates are aggregates of persons previously employed in industries covered by state unemployment (UI) laws and entrants to the labor force data from the CPS. The substate estimates of employment and unemployment which geographically exhaust the entire state, are adjusted proportionally to ensure that they add to the independently estimated state totals. A detailed description of the estimation procedures is available from BLS upon request.

Annual revisions. Labor force and unemployment data shown for the prior year reflect adjustments made at the end of each year, usually with January estimates. The adjusted estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau and any revisions in the other data sources. In addition, data for all states, the District of Columbia, and the two large substate areas noted are adjusted annually to equal the CPS annual averages, usually effective with January estimates. All other substate estimates are adjusted to add to the revised (benchmarked) state estimates.

Employment—from the CES program

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Persons are counted at their place of work rather than at their place of residence; those appearing on more than one payroll are counted on each payroll. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2002 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Method of estimation. The employment data are estimated using a “link relative” technique in which a ratio (link relative) of current-month employment to that of the previous month is computed from a sample of establishments reporting for both months. The estimates of employment for the current month are obtained by multiplying the estimates for the previous month by these ratios. Small-domain models are used as the official estimators for the approximately 10 percent of CES published series which have insufficient sample for direct sample-based estimates.

Annual revisions. Employment estimates are adjusted annually to a complete count of jobs, called benchmarks, derived principally from tax reports which are submitted by employers who are covered under state unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The benchmark information is used to adjust the monthly estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one and also to establish the level of employment for the new benchmark month. Thus, the benchmarking process establishes the level of employment, and the sample is used to measure the month-to-month changes in the level for the subsequent months.

Reliability of the estimates

The estimates presented in this release are based on sample survey and administrative data and thus are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability—that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data are also subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the special estimation processes used. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding. With respect to the LAUS program, unemployment rates are computed, in most instances, from unrounded data rather than from data that may be displayed in the tables; differences, however, are generally insignificant.

Labor force and unemployment estimates. Measures of sampling error, in the form of the standard errors for state annual average estimates derived from the CPS, are available in the annual BLS bulletin, *Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment*. Error measures cannot be computed for substate areas because of the special estimation processes used. Measures of nonsampling error for CPS data are not available, but additional information on the subject is provided in the BLS monthly periodical, *Employment and Earnings*.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error will be available for state CES data, at the supersector level and for metropolitan area CES data at the total nonfarm level. Information on recent

benchmark revisions for states is available on the BLS Web site at (<http://www.bls.gov/sae/>).

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, dated June 30, 1996. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is published annually in the May issue of *Employment and Earnings*.

Additional information

More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in *Employment and Earnings*, which is available by subscription from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 (telephone 202-512-1800).

Estimates of unadjusted and seasonally adjusted labor force and unemployment data for states, census regions and divisions, and two areas are available in the news release, *Regional and State Employment and Unemployment*. Estimates of labor force and unemployment for all states, metropolitan areas, labor market areas, counties, cities with a population of 25,000 or more, and other areas used in the administration of various federal economic assistance programs are available from the BLS Internet at (<http://stats.bls.gov/lau/>). Employment data from the CES program are available at (<http://stats.bls.gov/sae/>).

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone: 1-800-877-8339.

Table 1. Civilian labor force and unemployment by state and metropolitan area—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

State and area	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	February		March		February		March		February		March	
	2002	2003	2002	2003 ^P	2002	2003	2002	2003 ^P	2002	2003	2002	2003 ^P
Texas—Continued												
Tyler	94.0	97.1	94.4	97.5	4.4	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.3
Victoria	44.7	45.5	45.0	45.7	2.2	2.4	2.2	2.3	4.9	5.3	4.9	5.0
Waco	102.1	105.6	103.1	106.3	4.8	4.9	4.8	5.1	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.8
Wichita Falls	64.1	64.9	64.4	65.1	2.6	3.0	2.5	2.8	4.0	4.6	3.9	4.3
Utah	1,173.8	1,194.4	1,164.1	1,186.5	77.8	69.0	74.1	70.5	6.6	5.8	6.4	5.9
Provo-Orem	179.9	183.9	179.9	183.8	12.5	9.1	11.9	9.5	7.0	5.0	6.6	5.2
Salt Lake City-Ogden	747.5	755.8	737.6	750.7	46.9	43.5	45.8	44.8	6.3	5.8	6.2	6.0
Vermont	344.9	350.6	345.2	350.8	16.8	18.0	15.1	16.6	4.9	5.1	4.4	4.7
Burlington	104.7	104.1	105.5	105.3	3.7	4.0	3.4	3.8	3.6	3.9	3.2	3.6
Virginia	3,695.7	3,754.5	3,709.2	3,781.1	164.4	161.2	153.3	154.8	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.1
Charlottesville	76.1	79.1	76.8	80.0	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.7
Danville	57.4	57.6	57.0	57.8	5.6	4.3	5.7	4.2	9.8	7.5	9.9	7.4
Lynchburg	106.4	105.6	106.4	105.4	6.7	5.4	6.1	5.3	6.3	5.1	5.8	5.0
Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport News	765.2	775.5	768.9	779.7	33.8	34.5	32.1	32.5	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.2
Richmond-Petersburg	538.8	543.3	540.3	547.4	21.8	23.2	20.5	22.3	4.0	4.3	3.8	4.1
Roanoke	129.6	130.2	130.3	131.8	4.6	4.8	4.3	4.8	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.6
Washington	3,050.8	3,105.3	3,062.3	3,103.8	246.5	237.3	239.5	228.9	8.1	7.6	7.8	7.4
Bellingham	82.3	87.7	83.3	88.1	6.0	5.3	5.9	5.5	7.3	6.1	7.1	6.2
Bremerton	97.8	102.9	98.3	102.5	6.5	7.0	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.4
Olympia	103.6	108.6	104.1	108.7	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.0	6.2	5.7	6.2	5.6
Richland-Kennewick-Pasco	95.9	101.3	96.3	101.1	7.9	8.5	6.8	7.5	8.3	8.4	7.0	7.4
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett	1,391.4	1,399.2	1,391.6	1,394.5	99.6	94.2	98.5	92.7	7.2	6.7	7.1	6.6
Spokane	213.5	214.4	214.2	213.9	17.9	16.0	17.0	14.8	8.4	7.5	7.9	6.9
Tacoma	340.5	350.4	342.0	351.2	26.8	26.7	27.0	26.5	7.9	7.6	7.9	7.5
Yakima	101.6	103.7	103.9	104.3	13.0	12.6	12.8	11.6	12.8	12.2	12.4	11.2
West Virginia	802.3	798.2	803.3	795.5	52.8	54.7	52.1	50.0	6.6	6.9	6.5	6.3
Charleston	130.8	128.6	131.0	127.7	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.2	5.1	5.3	5.1	4.9
Huntington-Ashland	134.8	135.9	135.3	136.7	9.4	8.9	8.7	8.2	7.0	6.5	6.5	6.0
Parkersburg-Marietta	76.5	76.7	76.7	76.4	4.6	5.1	4.4	4.8	6.0	6.7	5.8	6.2
Wheeling	73.1	71.6	73.0	71.7	4.3	4.6	4.0	4.3	5.9	6.4	5.5	6.0
Wisconsin	3,012.7	3,081.2	3,014.8	3,083.2	205.2	198.9	201.7	199.7	6.8	6.5	6.7	6.5
Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah	232.4	239.9	232.5	239.5	14.0	13.6	13.8	13.6	6.0	5.7	6.0	5.7
Eau Claire	85.8	88.3	85.2	88.2	6.4	5.7	6.1	5.8	7.4	6.5	7.2	6.5
Green Bay	140.2	146.5	140.3	146.5	8.4	8.5	8.1	8.2	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.6
Janesville-Beloit	78.5	79.2	78.8	79.2	6.4	5.9	6.2	5.8	8.1	7.5	7.9	7.3
Kenosha	82.4	83.3	81.9	83.0	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.4	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.5
La Crosse	74.6	75.5	74.9	75.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.8	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.1
Madison	278.0	286.7	278.4	287.4	8.6	8.8	8.7	9.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
Milwaukee-Waukesha	816.1	824.8	815.7	821.8	52.4	51.4	52.0	51.8	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.3
Racine	93.6	96.2	93.3	95.6	8.1	8.2	7.9	8.4	8.6	8.5	8.4	8.7
Sheboygan	63.3	65.7	63.0	65.5	4.0	3.6	3.7	3.5	6.3	5.5	6.0	5.3
Wausau	76.1	77.5	76.3	78.4	5.2	4.6	5.1	5.0	6.8	5.9	6.7	6.3
Wyoming	267.2	271.5	269.6	273.5	13.9	14.1	13.3	13.1	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.8
Casper	35.4	36.1	35.9	36.4	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.7	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.7
Cheyenne	42.0	43.2	42.5	43.1	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7	4.5	4.5	4.2	4.1
Puerto Rico	1,374.7	1,384.0	1,358.8	1,394.8	188.0	173.4	166.9	169.0	13.7	12.5	12.3	12.1
Aguadilla	50.8	50.0	49.7	50.7	9.9	8.3	8.5	8.4	19.6	16.6	17.2	16.6
Arecibo	57.4	58.3	56.6	59.2	10.2	9.1	9.1	8.9	17.9	15.5	16.0	15.0
Caguas	120.4	122.3	119.0	123.2	15.3	14.5	13.6	13.9	12.7	11.8	11.4	11.3
Mayaguez	90.3	89.8	88.7	90.3	15.3	13.7	13.7	13.3	17.0	15.3	15.4	14.8
Ponce	104.8	107.5	103.8	108.1	17.3	17.9	15.4	17.6	16.5	16.6	14.9	16.3
San Juan-Bayamon	771.7	781.7	766.1	785.9	85.7	76.8	76.0	75.3	11.1	9.8	9.9	9.6

¹ Data for 2003 are not directly comparable with data for previous years because of a change in metropolitan area definitions.

² Area boundaries do not reflect official OMB definitions.

^P = preliminary.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. Data for Puerto Rico are derived from a

monthly household survey similar to the Current Population Survey. All estimates are provisional and will be revised when new benchmark and population information becomes available. Area definitions are published annually in the May issue of *Employment and Earnings*.

**ESTABLISHMENT DATA
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

**ESTABLISHMENT DATA
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Table 2. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by state and selected metropolitan areas, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

State and area	February		March		Change March 2002 to March 2003 ^P	
	2002	2003	2002	2003 ^P	Number	Percent
Alabama	1,868.4	1,868.8	1,882.6	1,873.9	-8.7	-0.5
Birmingham	476.6	474.8	479.5	475.3	-4.2	-9
Huntsville	181.6	181.6	183.2	181.5	-1.7	-9
Mobile	222.4	222.9	225.4	222.6	-2.8	-1.2
Montgomery	162.3	161.9	162.8	163.1	.3	.2
Tuscaloosa	82.3	83.2	83.4	83.8	.4	.5
Alaska	280.3	284.7	283.5	286.2	2.7	1.0
Anchorage	135.8	138.2	136.4	138.9	2.5	1.8
Arizona	2,251.8	2,274.9	2,268.3	2,284.8	16.5	.7
Phoenix-Mesa	1,581.4	1,597.3	1,592.8	1,604.8	12.0	.8
Tucson	347.4	349.4	348.3	349.0	.7	.2
Arkansas	1,132.8	1,137.8	1,144.1	1,146.6	2.5	.2
Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers	164.7	169.6	166.9	170.6	3.7	2.2
Fort Smith	99.5	99.4	100.2	100.1	-.1	-.1
Little Rock-North Little Rock	313.4	313.5	315.7	314.3	-1.4	-.4
Pine Bluff	35.5	35.6	36.1	35.6	-.5	-1.4
California	14,328.0	14,383.5	14,459.1	14,450.0	-9.1	-.1
Bakersfield	202.8	204.4	205.3	205.7	.4	.2
Fresno	302.9	312.1	305.9	313.4	7.5	2.5
Los Angeles-Long Beach	4,004.9	3,995.8	4,042.9	4,016.9	-26.0	-.6
Modesto	145.7	150.0	147.6	150.9	3.3	2.2
Oakland	1,031.8	1,037.4	1,039.0	1,041.5	2.5	.2
Orange County	1,389.2	1,397.5	1,399.7	1,400.2	.5	.0
Riverside-San Bernardino	1,042.6	1,063.6	1,048.6	1,067.5	18.9	1.8
Sacramento	730.4	740.6	739.9	746.1	6.2	.8
Salinas	128.7	131.0	130.4	131.0	.6	.5
San Diego	1,217.6	1,226.4	1,224.4	1,231.7	7.3	.6
San Francisco	988.4	966.2	993.8	967.5	-26.3	-2.6
San Jose	919.9	873.3	925.1	875.1	-50.0	-5.4
Santa Barbara-Santa Maria-Lompoc	164.3	164.3	165.7	164.9	-.8	-.5
Santa Rosa	185.3	183.9	187.2	184.6	-2.6	-1.4
Stockton-Lodi	188.7	193.9	190.5	195.6	5.1	2.7
Vallejo-Fairfield-Napa	176.1	180.4	178.6	181.7	3.1	1.7
Ventura	279.6	274.4	280.4	274.0	-6.4	-2.3
Colorado	2,158.0	2,153.4	2,171.3	2,158.4	-12.9	-.6
Boulder-Longmont ¹	182.8	157.7	184.3	158.8	(¹)	(¹)
Colorado Springs	236.7	237.4	238.2	237.2	-1.0	-.4
Denver ¹	1,130.0	1,142.4	1,134.5	1,146.0	(¹)	(¹)
Connecticut	1,648.7	1,633.5	1,657.5	1,640.3	-17.2	-1.0
Bridgeport	183.1	183.1	185.0	184.3	-.7	-.4
Danbury	87.4	89.3	88.2	89.9	1.7	1.9
Hartford	604.7	599.4	607.2	600.9	-6.3	-1.0
New Haven-Meriden	257.5	258.3	257.6	258.6	1.0	.4
New London-Norwich	142.3	143.1	143.4	144.1	.7	.5
Stamford-Norwalk	196.7	193.6	198.2	194.5	-3.7	-1.9
Waterbury	82.7	83.0	83.1	83.2	.1	.1
Delaware	405.1	400.5	407.9	404.9	-3.0	-.7
Dover	54.1	53.7	55.1	54.5	-.6	-1.1
Wilmington-Newark	317.4	308.5	319.3	310.0	-9.3	-2.9
District of Columbia	653.4	657.9	660.4	663.7	3.3	.5
Washington PMSA	2,754.6	2,785.2	2,779.6	2,806.4	26.8	1.0
Florida	7,157.3	7,271.2	7,219.8	7,303.0	83.2	1.2
Daytona Beach	166.1	168.7	166.8	169.4	2.6	1.6
Fort Lauderdale	700.1	711.8	708.1	714.9	6.8	1.0
Fort Myers-Cape Coral	182.8	187.6	184.3	188.0	3.7	2.0
Gainesville	122.3	122.7	123.5	123.3	-.2	-.2
Jacksonville	553.2	559.9	558.6	562.3	3.7	.7
Lakeland-Winter Haven	187.2	189.2	188.6	188.7	.1	.1
Melbourne-Titusville-Palm Bay	189.1	188.8	190.0	189.5	-.5	-.3
Miami	1,014.6	1,023.8	1,020.3	1,027.3	7.0	.7
Orlando	899.9	914.8	907.0	918.4	11.4	1.3
Pensacola	153.8	153.7	155.5	155.1	-.4	-.3
Sarasota-Bradenton	272.7	276.7	275.4	279.4	4.0	1.5
Tallahassee	158.8	157.9	158.9	158.4	-.5	-.3
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater	1,215.5	1,230.2	1,223.1	1,235.8	12.7	1.0
West Palm Beach-Boca Raton	520.4	537.2	525.4	539.8	14.4	2.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by state and selected metropolitan areas, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

State and area	February		March		Change March 2002 to March 2003 ^P	
	2002	2003	2002	2003 ^P	Number	Percent
Georgia	3,876.5	3,868.2	3,903.9	3,901.8	-2.1	-0.1
Albany	55.1	56.9	55.6	57.1	1.5	2.7
Athens	72.3	73.7	72.9	74.1	1.2	1.6
Atlanta	2,153.4	2,156.0	2,170.7	2,181.6	10.9	.5
Augusta-Aiken	196.6	196.5	197.9	197.7	-.2	-.1
Columbus	117.0	113.6	117.7	114.6	-3.1	-2.6
Macon	145.9	147.1	147.1	147.7	.6	.4
Savannah	135.7	139.7	137.1	140.2	3.1	2.3
Hawaii	549.4	564.7	554.0	567.0	13.0	2.3
Honolulu	408.3	418.7	411.0	420.6	9.6	2.3
Idaho	548.2	552.5	553.5	555.0	1.5	.3
Boise City	222.4	223.2	224.8	224.2	-.6	-.3
Illinois	5,781.8	5,778.1	5,819.9	5,796.2	-23.7	-.4
Bloomington-Normal	93.3	93.4	93.5	93.5	.0	.0
Champaign-Urbana	104.0	104.3	105.1	105.5	.4	.4
Chicago	4,054.5	4,052.5	4,075.7	4,062.3	-13.4	-.3
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island	175.6	175.9	177.1	176.5	-.6	-.3
Decatur	53.9	53.4	54.4	53.5	-.9	-1.7
Kankakee	42.9	43.0	43.1	43.1	.0	.0
Peoria-Pekin	167.5	167.0	168.7	167.3	-1.4	-.8
Rockford	170.8	170.1	172.1	170.7	-1.4	-.8
Springfield	113.1	110.1	113.9	110.6	-3.3	-2.9
Indiana	2,847.0	2,840.9	2,865.1	2,854.2	-10.9	-.4
Bloomington	66.4	65.4	66.0	65.1	-.9	-1.4
Elkhart-Goshen	113.8	119.4	115.0	120.5	5.5	4.8
Evansville-Henderson	159.9	157.1	161.6	157.2	-4.4	-2.7
Fort Wayne	263.2	264.8	265.2	264.8	-.4	-.2
Gary	253.7	252.2	254.9	253.5	-1.4	-.5
Indianapolis	865.0	851.9	870.6	854.6	-16.0	-1.8
Kokomo	49.2	49.4	49.5	49.5	.0	.0
Lafayette	97.1	96.5	97.0	96.7	-.3	-.3
Muncie	57.4	56.2	57.7	56.0	-1.7	-2.9
South Bend	129.2	130.9	129.6	130.8	1.2	.9
Terre Haute	65.3	65.7	66.0	65.6	-.4	-.6
Iowa	1,420.8	1,421.5	1,429.8	1,427.2	-2.6	-.2
Cedar Rapids	117.4	116.6	118.1	116.9	-1.2	-1.0
Des Moines	280.6	282.8	282.1	284.3	2.2	.8
Dubuque	49.7	50.3	50.1	50.2	.1	.2
Iowa City	73.7	74.3	74.5	75.5	1.0	1.3
Sioux City	63.0	63.8	63.8	64.0	.2	.3
Waterloo-Cedar Falls	72.3	72.3	72.5	72.4	-.1	-.1
Kansas	1,318.6	1,325.6	1,330.6	1,330.1	-.5	.0
Lawrence	51.3	50.5	52.7	50.7	-2.0	-3.8
Topeka	104.7	102.5	105.3	102.4	-2.9	-2.8
Wichita	282.4	277.8	285.5	278.0	-7.5	-2.6
Kentucky	1,761.8	1,763.4	1,774.7	1,772.7	-2.0	-.1
Lexington	273.1	274.5	274.6	275.5	.9	.3
Louisville	560.8	561.8	564.2	565.0	.8	.1
Owensboro	43.3	43.5	43.8	43.9	.1	.2
Louisiana	1,882.3	1,889.1	1,893.1	1,896.2	3.1	.2
Alexandria	55.3	56.2	55.7	56.1	.4	.7
Baton Rouge	298.8	301.5	301.3	302.0	.7	.2
Houma	80.0	83.6	80.5	83.8	3.3	4.1
Lafayette	166.4	168.1	167.2	169.2	2.0	1.2
Lake Charles	86.9	85.5	87.2	84.3	-2.9	-3.3
Monroe	73.9	73.3	74.7	73.7	-1.0	-1.3
New Orleans	610.7	608.0	613.9	610.0	-3.9	-.6
Shreveport-Bossier City	169.7	170.0	170.7	170.5	-.2	-.1
Maine	585.5	586.1	588.9	589.0	.1	.0
Lewiston-Auburn	45.5	45.2	45.5	45.2	-.3	-.7
Portland	150.8	151.1	151.5	151.2	-.3	-.2

See footnotes at end of table.

**ESTABLISHMENT DATA
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

**ESTABLISHMENT DATA
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

Table 2. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by state and selected metropolitan areas, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

State and area	February		March		Change March 2002 to March 2003 ^P	
	2002	2003	2002	2003 ^P	Number	Percent
Maryland	2,436.6	2,439.4	2,462.2	2,461.2	-1.0	0.0
Baltimore PMSA	1,234.2	1,237.6	1,246.4	1,247.0	.6	.0
Baltimore City	384.5	383.4	387.8	386.0	-1.8	-.5
Suburban Maryland-D.C.	918.8	917.1	927.4	923.7	-3.7	-.4
Massachusetts	3,203.9	3,175.5	3,223.4	3,179.2	-44.2	-1.4
Barnstable-Yarmouth	57.7	59.2	59.0	59.8	.8	1.4
Boston	1,962.6	1,930.0	1,972.3	1,930.8	-41.5	-2.1
Brockton	98.4	99.9	99.4	100.0	.6	.6
Fitchburg-Leominster	50.7	52.2	50.9	52.3	1.4	2.8
Lawrence	156.0	153.4	157.1	153.9	-3.2	-2.0
Lowell	125.9	122.3	125.7	122.5	-3.2	-2.5
New Bedford	64.0	64.0	64.4	63.9	-.5	-.8
Pittsfield	41.5	41.8	41.4	41.6	.2	.5
Springfield	255.1	255.6	257.1	256.9	-.2	-.1
Worcester	229.5	222.8	230.5	222.8	-7.7	-3.3
Michigan	4,401.3	4,380.2	4,427.5	4,383.6	-43.9	-1.0
Ann Arbor	289.6	285.8	290.4	286.0	-4.4	-1.5
Benton Harbor	67.5	68.5	68.8	69.0	.2	.3
Detroit	2,067.3	2,031.4	2,079.5	2,040.5	-39.0	-1.9
Flint	164.6	158.2	165.5	158.9	-6.6	-4.0
Grand Rapids-Muskegon-Holland	562.9	564.1	566.0	564.7	-1.3	-.2
Jackson	61.7	62.5	62.2	61.9	-.3	-.5
Kalamazoo-Battle Creek	208.1	205.5	209.5	206.2	-3.3	-1.6
Lansing-East Lansing	240.2	240.7	241.8	241.4	-.4	-.2
Saginaw-Bay City-Midland	173.8	174.0	174.6	173.8	-.8	-.5
Minnesota	2,601.0	2,595.1	2,607.9	2,602.4	-5.5	-.2
Duluth-Superior	112.7	114.6	113.6	114.4	.8	.7
Minneapolis-St. Paul	1,694.4	1,688.8	1,697.1	1,690.3	-6.8	-.4
Rochester	85.6	86.0	86.2	86.3	.1	.1
St. Cloud	94.3	92.9	94.7	93.5	-1.2	-1.3
Mississippi	1,113.8	1,118.4	1,120.3	1,124.0	3.7	.3
Jackson	229.2	228.7	230.4	230.3	-.1	.0
Missouri	2,667.0	2,613.9	2,691.0	2,624.8	-66.2	-2.5
Kansas City	945.1	924.1	950.8	928.4	-22.4	-2.4
St. Louis	1,294.8	1,285.3	1,302.5	1,287.6	-14.9	-1.1
Springfield	164.8	165.6	166.4	166.6	.2	.1
Montana	383.3	386.5	385.6	386.8	1.2	.3
Billings	67.2	68.1	67.7	68.5	.8	1.2
Missoula	50.3	51.3	51.3	52.2	.9	1.8
Nebraska	891.7	892.0	898.9	895.6	-3.3	-.4
Lincoln	155.2	158.2	157.0	158.2	1.2	.8
Omaha	422.5	423.4	424.7	424.6	-.1	.0
Nevada	1,025.9	1,050.3	1,037.4	1,057.5	20.1	1.9
Las Vegas	771.8	792.8	781.8	798.1	16.3	2.1
Reno	191.4	193.9	193.0	195.1	2.1	1.1
New Hampshire	608.6	609.1	611.4	609.9	-1.5	-.2
Manchester	106.6	107.2	107.1	107.8	.7	.7
Nashua	94.0	93.7	94.5	93.6	-.9	-1.0
Portsmouth-Rochester	121.5	125.0	122.4	124.7	2.3	1.9
New Jersey	3,940.2	3,930.0	3,968.8	3,969.3	.5	.0
Atlantic-Cape May	177.4	182.5	179.3	183.2	3.9	2.2
Bergen-Passaic	652.5	651.7	657.3	655.4	-1.9	-.3
Camden	504.8	503.9	508.9	506.4	-2.5	-.5
Jersey City	260.3	254.0	260.5	255.8	-4.7	-1.8
Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon	650.3	643.6	656.7	645.3	-11.4	-1.7
Monmouth-Ocean	388.4	391.5	393.4	394.5	1.1	.3
Newark	1,002.3	996.2	1,006.6	1,003.4	-3.2	-.3
Trenton	222.0	219.3	223.7	220.8	-2.9	-1.3
Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton	59.2	59.5	60.1	60.0	-.1	-.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by state and selected metropolitan areas, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

State and area	February		March		Change March 2002 to March 2003 ^P	
	2002	2003	2002	2003 ^P	Number	Percent
New Mexico	754.1	769.4	760.9	774.5	13.6	1.8
Albuquerque	353.6	359.1	356.4	362.2	5.8	1.6
Las Cruces	58.8	61.1	59.6	61.2	1.6	2.7
Santa Fe	75.1	77.5	76.0	78.2	2.2	2.9
New York	8,339.0	8,286.2	8,392.3	8,328.1	-64.2	-.8
Albany-Schenectady-Troy	452.8	454.0	456.2	457.2	1.0	.2
Binghamton	114.9	112.5	115.7	112.6	-3.1	-2.7
Buffalo-Niagara Falls	539.5	538.3	541.5	540.5	-1.0	-.2
Dutchess County	117.0	119.6	118.6	119.6	1.0	.8
Elmira	41.1	40.6	41.3	41.0	-.3	-.7
Glens Falls	48.1	48.6	48.0	48.3	.3	.6
Nassau-Suffolk	1,188.4	1,185.4	1,202.4	1,197.0	-5.4	-.4
New York PMSA	4,095.9	4,040.4	4,120.6	4,059.4	-61.2	-1.5
New York City	3,554.8	3,499.1	3,573.6	3,512.1	-61.5	-1.7
Newburgh	130.5	131.0	131.6	132.5	.9	.7
Rochester	529.0	519.8	531.0	521.3	-9.7	-1.8
Rockland County	110.3	109.7	111.3	110.7	-.6	-.5
Syracuse	339.5	343.6	341.4	344.0	2.6	.8
Utica-Rome	130.0	130.6	130.9	131.7	.8	.6
Westchester County	407.6	408.0	412.5	413.0	.5	.1
North Carolina	3,809.6	3,798.5	3,837.6	3,820.7	-16.9	-.4
Asheville	111.1	109.9	111.6	110.7	-.9	-.8
Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill	827.9	829.3	834.4	833.0	-1.4	-.2
Greensboro--Winston-Salem--High Point	643.1	635.1	647.1	638.1	-9.0	-1.4
Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill	674.6	676.8	679.0	678.9	-.1	.0
North Dakota	323.9	325.6	323.9	326.4	2.5	.8
Bismarck	51.4	51.6	51.5	51.9	.4	.8
Fargo-Moorhead	102.8	103.5	102.2	103.1	.9	.9
Grand Forks	48.7	49.0	48.6	49.3	.7	1.4
Ohio	5,363.6	5,330.2	5,398.0	5,350.0	-48.0	-.9
Akron	320.0	327.0	322.6	331.0	8.4	2.6
Canton-Massillon	179.8	177.3	181.3	178.8	-2.5	-1.4
Cincinnati	859.2	867.4	865.8	871.0	5.2	.6
Cleveland-Lorain-Elyria	1,102.6	1,101.0	1,108.7	1,105.0	-3.7	-.3
Columbus	875.0	868.5	879.3	871.8	-7.5	-.9
Dayton-Springfield	462.5	455.8	463.8	456.7	-7.1	-1.5
Hamilton-Middletown	131.8	132.5	133.0	133.6	.6	.5
Lima	76.4	75.5	76.9	76.1	-.8	-1.0
Mansfield	76.6	77.4	76.9	77.4	.5	.7
Steubenville-Weirton	48.2	48.8	48.7	49.0	.3	.6
Toledo	317.6	306.2	319.8	307.2	-12.6	-3.9
Youngstown-Warren	229.6	229.6	231.5	230.7	-.8	-.3
Oklahoma	1,476.8	1,467.2	1,487.6	1,470.5	-17.1	-1.1
Enid	23.1	23.5	23.5	23.2	-.3	-1.3
Lawton	38.0	38.3	38.3	38.1	-.2	-.5
Oklahoma City	536.2	540.0	541.0	544.9	3.9	.7
Tulsa	399.0	385.2	400.1	383.7	-16.4	-4.1
Oregon	1,546.2	1,551.5	1,554.6	1,553.1	-1.5	-.1
Eugene-Springfield	140.1	142.6	140.9	142.8	1.9	1.3
Medford-Ashland	71.1	72.2	71.8	72.7	.9	1.3
Portland-Vancouver	931.3	921.9	934.1	922.2	-11.9	-1.3
Salem	133.6	136.0	134.6	136.5	1.9	1.4
Pennsylvania	5,575.0	5,562.7	5,613.9	5,596.6	-17.3	-.3
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton	282.9	281.6	286.3	284.0	-2.3	-.8
Altoona	59.6	60.2	60.1	60.4	.3	.5
Erie	129.2	128.3	130.0	129.5	-.5	-.4
Harrisburg-Lebanon-Carlisle	359.3	361.5	362.2	365.1	2.9	.8
Johnstown	85.5	85.3	86.2	85.8	-.4	-.5
Lancaster	224.1	226.0	226.9	228.2	1.3	.6
Philadelphia PMSA	2,385.2	2,383.5	2,400.8	2,397.9	-2.9	-.1
Philadelphia City	680.6	678.9	683.4	680.1	-3.3	-.5
Pittsburgh	1,107.3	1,093.6	1,115.6	1,103.5	-12.1	-1.1
Reading	166.2	165.1	167.1	165.9	-1.2	-.7
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre--Hazleton	275.8	271.9	278.7	274.5	-4.2	-1.5
Sharon	49.5	49.3	49.6	49.5	-.1	-.2
State College	72.8	73.5	72.2	72.8	.6	.8
Williamsport	52.8	53.2	53.5	53.5	.0	.0
York	168.0	166.9	169.1	167.7	-1.4	-.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by state and selected metropolitan areas, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

State and area	February		March		Change March 2002 to March 2003 ^P	
	2002	2003	2002	2003 ^P	Number	Percent
Rhode Island	467.1	470.0	471.4	472.6	1.2	0.3
Providence-Fall River-Warwick	519.4	520.1	523.8	522.8	-1.0	-2
South Carolina	1,773.6	1,784.2	1,794.8	1,791.2	-3.6	-2
Charleston-North Charleston	254.2	252.6	257.1	255.2	-1.9	-7
Columbia	304.0	301.7	306.8	302.4	-4.4	-1.4
Greenville-Spartanburg-Anderson	468.2	461.4	472.3	461.8	-10.5	-2.2
South Dakota	365.7	370.0	367.3	371.3	4.0	1.1
Rapid City	48.6	49.5	48.7	50.0	1.3	2.7
Sioux Falls	112.9	115.0	113.3	116.0	2.7	2.4
Tennessee	2,623.1	2,635.1	2,644.3	2,656.8	12.5	.5
Chattanooga	230.9	229.6	230.8	230.7	-.1	.0
Johnson City-Kingsport-Bristol	194.0	194.2	195.1	194.6	-.5	-.3
Knoxville	334.4	337.2	338.7	341.5	2.8	.8
Memphis	578.9	577.0	582.8	580.9	-1.9	-.3
Nashville	660.9	665.5	665.5	669.0	3.5	.5
Texas	9,366.3	9,379.3	9,423.6	9,426.9	3.3	.0
Abilene	54.9	55.7	55.7	56.0	.3	.5
Amarillo	97.1	98.1	98.1	98.2	.1	.1
Austin-San Marcos	656.5	660.1	659.8	664.6	4.8	.7
Beaumont-Port Arthur	157.5	156.8	158.3	157.4	-.9	-.6
Brazoria	79.5	78.5	79.9	78.4	-1.5	-1.9
Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito	112.6	116.3	113.7	117.2	3.5	3.1
Bryan-College Station	78.3	81.4	79.7	81.6	1.9	2.4
Corpus Christi	159.7	160.6	160.2	160.6	.4	.2
Dallas	1,928.6	1,908.2	1,937.9	1,916.1	-21.8	-1.1
El Paso	251.9	257.9	254.7	257.7	3.0	1.2
Ft. Worth-Arlington	780.0	782.9	785.8	787.8	2.0	.3
Galveston-Texas City	87.0	86.2	87.9	86.5	-1.4	-1.6
Houston	2,102.6	2,088.8	2,111.5	2,098.8	-12.7	-.6
Killeen-Temple	103.9	105.8	104.5	106.0	1.5	1.4
Laredo	72.1	73.5	72.7	74.0	1.3	1.8
Longview-Marshall	91.2	92.3	91.5	92.5	1.0	1.1
Lubbock	122.2	123.4	122.6	123.8	1.2	1.0
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	166.3	169.9	168.3	170.1	1.8	1.1
Odessa-Midland	103.6	105.9	103.9	106.3	2.4	2.3
San Angelo	44.1	43.7	44.5	43.7	-.8	-1.8
San Antonio	719.2	728.8	725.1	734.6	9.5	1.3
Sherman-Denison	43.6	44.1	44.2	44.3	.1	.2
Texarkana	52.9	53.5	53.3	53.6	.3	.6
Tyler	84.2	85.8	85.2	85.9	.7	.8
Victoria	37.4	37.5	37.5	37.7	.2	.5
Waco	99.8	101.1	100.6	102.0	1.4	1.4
Wichita Falls	60.2	59.1	60.2	59.2	-1.0	-1.7
Utah	1,069.6	1,061.6	1,065.7	1,064.2	-1.5	-.1
Provo-Orem	149.8	151.3	150.7	152.4	1.7	1.1
Salt Lake City-Ogden	712.7	701.9	705.4	702.6	-2.8	-.4
Vermont	299.4	302.4	299.1	302.2	3.1	1.0
Barre-Montpelier	33.9	34.6	34.1	34.6	.5	1.5
Burlington	107.1	106.4	107.2	106.9	-.3	-.3
Virginia	3,444.5	3,444.3	3,472.7	3,461.6	-11.1	-.3
Bristol	39.8	40.2	39.9	40.3	.4	1.0
Charlottesville	85.3	87.2	86.0	87.8	1.8	2.1
Danville	45.0	45.7	44.5	45.6	1.1	2.5
Lynchburg	100.0	98.9	100.6	98.4	-2.2	-2.2
Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport News	707.1	708.3	713.3	711.7	-1.6	-.2
Northern Virginia	1,164.1	1,166.2	1,174.6	1,172.1	-2.5	-.2
Richmond-Petersburg	566.5	562.8	569.8	566.4	-3.4	-.6
Roanoke	144.3	142.9	145.2	144.1	-1.1	-.8
Washington	2,611.2	2,624.4	2,623.0	2,633.1	10.1	.4
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett	1,344.2	1,331.0	1,344.9	1,332.0	-12.9	-1.0
Spokane	192.5	190.9	193.4	192.2	-1.2	-.6
Tacoma	239.1	242.5	240.2	243.7	3.5	1.5

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by state and selected metropolitan areas, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

State and area	February		March		Change March 2002 to March 2003 ^P	
	2002	2003	2002	2003 ^P	Number	Percent
West Virginia	719.9	721.9	727.5	726.2	-1.3	-0.2
Charleston	132.4	132.4	133.8	132.8	-1.0	-.7
Huntington-Ashland	119.4	121.3	120.8	122.4	1.6	1.3
Parkersburg-Marietta	68.7	69.1	69.5	69.0	-.5	-.7
Wheeling	65.6	64.2	66.2	64.6	-1.6	-2.4
Wisconsin	2,717.6	2,732.1	2,735.9	2,741.8	5.9	.2
Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah	200.7	204.2	201.9	204.7	2.8	1.4
Eau Claire	75.2	76.6	74.8	76.7	1.9	2.5
Green Bay	142.0	145.7	142.9	146.5	3.6	2.5
Janesville-Beloit	66.3	66.4	67.1	66.6	-.5	-.7
Kenosha	53.1	52.5	52.9	52.7	-.2	-.4
La Crosse	71.8	71.4	72.4	71.3	-1.1	-1.5
Madison	290.8	293.9	292.6	295.8	3.2	1.1
Milwaukee-Waukesha	828.3	822.7	832.4	823.3	-9.1	-1.1
Racine	78.5	79.3	78.8	78.9	.1	.1
Sheboygan	60.2	61.8	60.2	61.9	1.7	2.8
Wausau	68.0	68.6	68.4	69.3	.9	1.3
Wyoming	237.7	239.2	240.2	240.4	.2	.1
Casper	32.5	33.0	32.9	33.3	.4	1.2
Puerto Rico	980.9	985.9	982.4	989.0	6.6	.7
Caguas	65.4	66.0	65.5	66.6	1.1	1.7
Mayaguez	62.8	62.6	62.7	62.9	.2	.3
Ponce	69.3	69.7	69.8	69.7	-.1	-.1
San Juan-Bayamon	636.5	645.3	639.5	646.0	6.5	1.0
Virgin Islands	44.2	42.6	44.0	42.7	-1.3	-3.0

¹ Data for 2003 are not directly comparable with data for previous years because of a change in metropolitan area definitions.

^P = preliminary.

NOTE: Data are counts of jobs by place of work. Estimates are currently projected from March 2002 benchmarks. Estimates subsequent to the current benchmark month are provisional and will be revised when new information becomes available. Area

definitions are published annually in the May issue of *Employment and Earnings*. Data reflect the conversion to the 2002 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as the basis for the assignment and tabulation of economic data by industry, replacing the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. Due to differences in NAICS and SIC structures, NAICS-based data by industry are not comparable to the SIC-based data.

Unemployment rates for metropolitan areas, not seasonally adjusted, March 2003

(U.S. rate = 6.2 percent)

