

News

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REGIONAL AND STATE EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT: MARCH 2009

Regional and state unemployment rates were nearly all higher in March. Forty-six states recorded over-the-month unemployment rate increases, North Dakota and the District of Columbia registered rate decreases, and 3 states had no change in their rate, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Over the year, jobless rates were up in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The national unemployment rate rose from 8.1 percent in February to 8.5 percent in March, which was 3.4 percentage points higher than in March 2008.

In March 2009, nonfarm payroll employment decreased in 48 states and the District of Columbia and rose in 2 states. The largest over-the-month employment decrease occurred in California (-62,100), followed by Florida (-51,900), Texas (-47,100), North Carolina (-41,300), Illinois (-39,600), and Ohio (-37,500). North Carolina experienced the largest over-the-month percentage decrease in employment (-1.0 percent), followed by Idaho, Minnesota, and Washington (-0.9 percent each) and Delaware, Nebraska, and Oregon (-0.8 percent each). The 2 states to show an over-the-month increase in employment were Mississippi (+300 or less than +0.1 percent) and North Dakota (+300 or +0.1 percent). Over the year, nonfarm employment decreased in 46 states and increased in 4 states and the District of Columbia. The largest over-the-year percentage decreases in employment occurred in Arizona (-7.0 percent), Michigan (-6.4 percent), Florida, Nevada, and Oregon (-5.4 percent each), and Idaho and North Carolina (-5.0 percent each). The over-the-year percentage increases in employment occurred in the District of Columbia (+0.8 percent), Alaska (+0.7 percent), North Dakota (+0.3 percent), and Louisiana and Wyoming (+0.2 percent each).

Regional Unemployment (Seasonally Adjusted)

In March, the West posted the highest regional jobless rate, 9.8 percent, followed by the Midwest, at 9.0 percent. The Northeast recorded the lowest rate, 7.9 percent. The West reported the largest over-the-month rate increase (+0.6 percentage point), while the Midwest and South registered smaller, but also statistically significant, rate increases (+0.4 and +0.3 point, respectively). All four regions reported significant jobless rate increases from March 2008, the largest of which was recorded in the West (+4.3 percentage points). (See table 1.)

Among the nine geographic divisions, the Pacific and East North Central reported the highest unemployment rates in March, 10.8 and 10.0 percent, respectively. The West South Central registered

the lowest jobless rate, 6.5 percent. Five of the 9 divisions experienced statistically significant over-the-month unemployment rate changes, all of which were increases: the Pacific (+0.7 percentage point), East South Central (+0.6 point), East North Central (+0.5 point), Mountain (+0.3 point), and West South Central (+0.2 point). All nine divisions had significant over-the-year rate increases, with the Pacific recording the largest (+4.8 percentage points).

State Unemployment (Seasonally Adjusted)

In March, Michigan again reported the highest jobless rate, 12.6 percent. The states with the next highest rates were Oregon, 12.1 percent; South Carolina, 11.4 percent; California, 11.2 percent; North Carolina, 10.8 percent; Rhode Island, 10.5 percent; Nevada, 10.4 percent; and Indiana, 10.0 percent. Nine additional states and the District of Columbia recorded unemployment rates of at least 9.0 percent. The California and North Carolina rates were the highest on record for those states. (All state series begin in 1976.) North Dakota registered the lowest unemployment rate, 4.2 percent, in March. Overall, 12 states and the District of Columbia had significantly higher jobless rates than the U.S. figure of 8.5 percent, 25 states reported measurably lower rates, and 13 states had rates little different from that of the nation. (See tables A and 3 and chart 1.)

Twenty states recorded statistically significant over-the-month unemployment rate increases in March. Oregon reported the largest of these (+1.4 percentage points), followed by Washington and West Virginia (+0.9 point each). Thirty states and the District of Columbia registered March unemployment rates that were not appreciably different from those of a month earlier, though some had changes that were at least as large numerically as the significant changes. (See table B.)

Oregon reported the largest jobless rate increase from a year earlier (+6.6 percentage points), followed by South Carolina (+5.5 points), North Carolina (+5.4 points), and Michigan (+5.0 points). Eight additional states recorded rate increases of 4.0 percentage points or more, and 17 other states and the District of Columbia posted over-the-year rate increases of at least 3.0 percentage points. The remaining 21 states had smaller, but also statistically significant, rate increases from March 2008.

Nonfarm payroll employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

Between February and March 2009, 32 states experienced statistically significant changes in employment, all of which were decreases. The largest statistically significant decreases occurred in California (-62,100), Florida (-51,900), Texas (-47,100), and North Carolina (-41,300). (See tables C and 5.)

Over the year, 41 states experienced statistically significant changes in employment, all of which were decreases. The largest decreases occurred in California (-637,400), Florida (-424,300), Michigan (-270,500), Illinois (-232,600), Ohio (-229,500), and North Carolina (-210,000). Two states recorded statistically significant changes that were less than 15,000: Vermont (-13,300) and Montana (-8,300). (See table D.)

The Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment release for March is scheduled to be issued on Wednesday, April 29. The Regional and State Employment and Unemployment release for April is scheduled to be issued on Friday, May 22.

Table A. States with unemployment rates significantly different from that of the U.S., March 2009, seasonally adjusted

State	Rate ^P
United States ¹	8.5
Arkansas.....	6.5
California.....	11.2
Colorado.....	7.5
Connecticut.....	7.5
Delaware.....	7.7
District of Columbia.....	9.8
Florida.....	9.7
Hawaii.....	7.1
Idaho.....	7.0
Indiana.....	10.0
Iowa.....	5.2
Kansas.....	6.1
Kentucky.....	9.8
Louisiana.....	5.8
Maryland.....	6.9
Michigan.....	12.6
Montana.....	6.1
Nebraska.....	4.6
Nevada.....	10.4
New Hampshire.....	6.2
New Mexico.....	5.9
New York.....	7.8
North Carolina.....	10.8
North Dakota.....	4.2
Ohio.....	9.7
Oklahoma.....	5.9
Oregon.....	12.1
Pennsylvania.....	7.8
Rhode Island.....	10.5
South Carolina.....	11.4
South Dakota.....	4.9
Tennessee.....	9.6
Texas.....	6.7
Utah.....	5.2
Vermont.....	7.2
Virginia.....	6.8
West Virginia.....	6.9
Wyoming.....	4.5

¹ Data are not preliminary.

^P = preliminary.

Table B. States with statistically significant unemployment rate changes from February 2009 to March 2009, seasonally adjusted

State	Rate		Over-the-month rate change ^P
	February 2009	March 2009 ^P	
Alabama	8.4	9.0	0.6
Alaska	7.9	8.5	.6
California	10.6	11.2	.6
Delaware	7.3	7.7	.4
Hawaii	6.5	7.1	.6
Indiana	9.4	10.0	.6
Iowa	4.9	5.2	.3
Kentucky	9.3	9.8	.5
Michigan	12.0	12.6	.6
Nebraska	4.3	4.6	.3
New Hampshire	5.7	6.2	.5
New Mexico	5.4	5.9	.5
Oregon	10.7	12.1	1.4
South Dakota	4.6	4.9	.3
Tennessee	9.0	9.6	.6
Texas	6.5	6.7	.2
Washington	8.3	9.2	.9
West Virginia	6.0	6.9	.9
Wisconsin	7.8	8.5	.7
Wyoming	3.9	4.5	.6

^P = preliminary.

Table C. States with statistically significant employment changes from February 2009 to March 2009, seasonally adjusted

State	February 2009	March 2009 ^P	Over-the-month change ^P
Arizona.....	2,483,200	2,466,400	-16,800
Arkansas.....	1,185,900	1,179,500	-6,400
California.....	14,536,800	14,474,700	-62,100
Colorado.....	2,297,200	2,284,600	-12,600
Connecticut.....	1,658,500	1,651,400	-7,100
Delaware.....	420,300	417,100	-3,200
Florida.....	7,498,900	7,447,000	-51,900
Idaho.....	625,900	620,500	-5,400
Illinois.....	5,783,600	5,744,000	-39,600
Indiana.....	2,865,300	2,848,100	-17,200
Iowa.....	1,504,100	1,493,400	-10,700
Maryland.....	2,559,700	2,549,500	-10,200
Massachusetts.....	3,215,000	3,194,700	-20,300
Michigan.....	3,963,100	3,940,500	-22,600
Minnesota.....	2,696,300	2,673,100	-23,200
Missouri.....	2,747,900	2,736,800	-11,100
Nebraska.....	955,000	946,900	-8,100
New Jersey.....	3,973,300	3,956,100	-17,200
New York.....	8,674,500	8,640,400	-34,100
North Carolina.....	3,997,300	3,956,000	-41,300
Ohio.....	5,194,700	5,157,200	-37,500
Oklahoma.....	1,584,400	1,574,700	-9,700
Oregon.....	1,653,800	1,639,800	-14,000
Pennsylvania.....	5,708,200	5,677,700	-30,500
South Carolina.....	1,864,400	1,853,300	-11,100
Tennessee.....	2,697,300	2,678,400	-18,900
Texas.....	10,522,900	10,475,800	-47,100
Utah.....	1,233,700	1,225,800	-7,900
Vermont.....	296,700	294,600	-2,100
Washington.....	2,902,400	2,875,700	-26,700
West Virginia.....	748,800	744,100	-4,700
Wisconsin.....	2,793,200	2,773,700	-19,500

^P = preliminary.

Table D. States with statistically significant employment changes from March 2008 to March 2009, seasonally adjusted

State	March 2008	March 2009 ^P	Over-the-year change ^P
Alabama.....	2,004,800	1,920,300	-84,500
Arizona.....	2,652,500	2,466,400	-186,100
Arkansas.....	1,205,800	1,179,500	-26,300
California.....	15,112,100	14,474,700	-637,400
Colorado.....	2,354,500	2,284,600	-69,900
Connecticut.....	1,709,400	1,651,400	-58,000
Delaware.....	436,400	417,100	-19,300
Florida.....	7,871,300	7,447,000	-424,300
Georgia.....	4,140,900	3,957,900	-183,000
Hawaii.....	626,200	606,800	-19,400
Idaho.....	653,500	620,500	-33,000
Illinois.....	5,976,600	5,744,000	-232,600
Indiana.....	2,969,300	2,848,100	-121,200
Iowa.....	1,525,800	1,493,400	-32,400
Kansas.....	1,392,700	1,372,200	-20,500
Kentucky.....	1,861,200	1,798,500	-62,700
Maine.....	619,500	602,500	-17,000
Maryland.....	2,607,700	2,549,500	-58,200
Massachusetts.....	3,300,400	3,194,700	-105,700
Michigan.....	4,211,000	3,940,500	-270,500
Minnesota.....	2,773,800	2,673,100	-100,700
Mississippi.....	1,155,900	1,118,500	-37,400
Missouri.....	2,794,600	2,736,800	-57,800
Montana.....	447,000	438,700	-8,300
Nevada.....	1,278,700	1,209,300	-69,400
New Jersey.....	4,086,400	3,956,100	-130,300
New York.....	8,800,900	8,640,400	-160,500
North Carolina.....	4,166,000	3,956,000	-210,000
Ohio.....	5,386,700	5,157,200	-229,500
Oregon.....	1,733,800	1,639,800	-94,000
Pennsylvania.....	5,810,500	5,677,700	-132,800
Rhode Island.....	487,300	465,300	-22,000
South Carolina.....	1,945,600	1,853,300	-92,300
Tennessee.....	2,801,600	2,678,400	-123,200
Texas.....	10,582,300	10,475,800	-106,500
Utah.....	1,258,800	1,225,800	-33,000
Vermont.....	307,900	294,600	-13,300
Virginia.....	3,767,700	3,679,000	-88,700
Washington.....	2,970,700	2,875,700	-95,000
West Virginia.....	760,700	744,100	-16,600
Wisconsin.....	2,885,200	2,773,700	-111,500

^P = preliminary.

Technical Note

This release presents labor force and unemployment data for census regions and divisions, states, and selected substate areas from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program (tables 1 to 4). Also presented are nonfarm payroll employment estimates by state and major industry sector from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program (tables 5 and 6). 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 LAUS program measures employment and unemployment on a place-of-residence basis. The universe for each is the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. *Employed* persons are those who did any work at all for pay or profit in the 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 had 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 were not employed during the reference week (based on the definition above), had actively looked for a job sometime in the 4-week period ending with the reference week, and were currently available for work; persons on layoff expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The *labor force* is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. The *unemployment rate* is the number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force.

Method of estimation. Estimates for 48 of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale metropolitan division, New York City, and the balances of California and New York State are produced using estimating equations based on regression techniques. This method, which underwent substantial enhancement at the beginning of 2005, utilizes data from several sources, including the CPS, the CES, and state unemployment insurance (UI) programs. Estimates for the state of California are derived by summing the estimates for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale metropolitan division and the balance of California. Similarly, estimates for New York State are derived by summing the estimates for New York City and the balance of New York State. Estimates for all nine census divisions and the five additional substate areas contained in this release (the Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor and Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan areas and the Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall, and Seattle-Bellevue-Everett metropolitan divisions) and their respective

balances of state are based on a similar regression approach that does not incorporate CES or UI data. Estimates for census regions are obtained by summing the model-based estimates for the component divisions and then calculating the unemployment rate. Each month, census division estimates are controlled to national totals; state estimates are then controlled to their respective division totals. Substate and balance-of-state estimates for the five areas noted above are controlled to their respective state totals. Estimates for Puerto Rico are derived from a monthly household survey similar to the CPS. A detailed description of the estimation procedures is available from BLS upon request.

Annual revisions. Labor force and unemployment data for prior years reflect adjustments made at the end of each year. The adjusted estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model reestimation. In most years, historical data for the most recent five years (both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted) are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, prior to or coincident with the release of January estimates.

Seasonal adjustment. Seasonal adjustment of modeled estimates of employment and unemployment levels is performed within the modeling procedure. Series are decomposed into trend, seasonal, and irregular components and survey error. This directly yields seasonally adjusted estimates for employment and unemployment levels with reliability measures. Labor force levels and unemployment rates are calculated from these two estimates.

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 on November 20, 2008. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm>.

Employment—from the CES program

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period that 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 2007 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 44 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 that 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.

Seasonal adjustment. Payroll employment data are seasonally adjusted at the statewide supersector level. In some states, the seasonally adjusted payroll employment total is computed by aggregating the independently adjusted supersector series. In other states, the seasonally adjusted payroll employment total is independently adjusted. Revisions of historical data for the most recent 5 years are made once a year, coincident with annual benchmark adjustments.

Caution on aggregating state data. State estimation procedures are designed to produce accurate data for each individual state. BLS independently develops a national employment series; state estimates are not forced to sum to national totals. Because each state series is subject to larger sampling and nonsampling errors than the national series, summing them cumulates individual state level errors and can cause significant distortions at an aggregate level. Due to these statistical limitations, BLS does not compile a "sum-of-states" employment series, and cautions users that such a series is subject to a relatively large and volatile error structure.

Reliability of the estimates

The estimates presented in this release are based on sample surveys, administrative data, and modeling 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 also are 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 specific estimation processes used. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding. Unemployment rates are computed from unrounded data and thus may differ slightly from rates computed using the rounded data displayed in the tables.

Use of error measures. In 2005, the LAUS program introduced several improvements to its methodology. Among

these was the development of model-based error measures for the monthly estimates and the estimates of over-the-month changes. The introductory section of this release preserves the long-time practice of highlighting the direction of the movements in regional and state unemployment rates and state nonfarm payroll employment regardless of their statistical significance. The remainder of the analysis in the release takes statistical significance into consideration.

Labor force and unemployment estimates. Model-based error measures for both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted data and for over-the-month changes are available online at <http://www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm>. BLS uses a 90-percent confidence level in determining whether changes in LAUS unemployment rates are statistically significant. The average magnitude of the current year over-the-month change in a state unemployment rate that is required in order to be statistically significant at the 90-percent confidence level is between 0.3 and 0.4 percentage point. More details can be found on the Web site. Measures of nonsampling error are not available, but additional information on the subject is provided in *Employment and Earnings Online* at <http://www.bls.gov/opub/ee/home.htm>.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error for state CES data at the total nonfarm and supersector level and for metropolitan area CES data at the total nonfarm level are available online at <http://www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.htm>. BLS uses a 90-percent confidence level in determining whether changes in CES employment levels are statistically significant. Information on recent benchmark revisions for states is available on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/sae/>.

Additional information

More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in *Employment and Earnings Online*.

Estimates of labor force and unemployment from the LAUS program, as well as nonfarm employment from the CES program, for over 300 metropolitan areas and metropolitan New England City and Town Areas (NECTAs) are available in the news release, *Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment*. Estimates of labor force, employment, 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 on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/lau/>. Employment data from the CES program are available on the Internet at <http://www.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.

LABOR FORCE DATA
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Table 1. Civilian labor force and unemployment by census region and division, seasonally adjusted¹

(Numbers in thousands)

Census region and division	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	March 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	March 2009	March 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	March 2009	March 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	March 2009
Northeast	28,112.6	28,334.5	28,423.4	28,421.3	1,368.6	2,021.1	2,199.7	2,241.3	4.9	7.1	7.7	7.9
New England	7,645.7	7,688.2	7,697.1	7,683.7	370.8	563.6	587.5	598.8	4.8	7.3	7.6	7.8
Middle Atlantic	20,466.9	20,646.2	20,726.3	20,737.6	997.8	1,457.5	1,612.2	1,642.5	4.9	7.1	7.8	7.9
South	54,664.5	55,139.7	55,225.7	55,060.0	2,655.0	4,190.8	4,484.2	4,614.0	4.9	7.6	8.1	8.4
South Atlantic	29,353.8	29,530.8	29,569.0	29,413.6	1,450.3	2,428.0	2,646.1	2,687.9	4.9	8.2	8.9	9.1
East South Central	8,549.6	8,566.3	8,603.6	8,583.1	477.2	719.3	769.0	812.5	5.6	8.4	8.9	9.5
West South Central	16,761.1	17,042.6	17,053.1	17,063.3	727.5	1,043.5	1,069.1	1,113.6	4.3	6.1	6.3	6.5
Midwest	34,839.4	34,705.6	34,763.8	34,651.3	1,902.4	2,826.0	2,997.4	3,133.8	5.5	8.1	8.6	9.0
East North Central	23,943.9	23,767.2	23,805.9	23,686.8	1,411.8	2,118.6	2,260.3	2,368.0	5.9	8.9	9.5	10.0
West North Central	10,895.5	10,938.3	10,957.9	10,964.4	490.6	707.4	737.1	765.8	4.5	6.5	6.7	7.0
West	35,701.3	36,278.3	36,347.7	36,306.2	1,960.3	3,150.7	3,338.4	3,546.7	5.5	8.7	9.2	9.8
Mountain	11,047.5	11,201.3	11,191.0	11,135.9	481.5	739.6	789.3	818.8	4.4	6.6	7.1	7.4
Pacific	24,653.8	25,076.9	25,156.8	25,170.4	1,478.8	2,411.1	2,549.1	2,727.9	6.0	9.6	10.1	10.8

¹ Census region estimates are derived by summing the Census division model-based estimates.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. The States (including the District of Columbia) that compose the various census divisions are: New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; Middle Atlantic: New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania; South Atlantic: Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia; East South Central: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and

Tennessee; West South Central: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin; West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota; Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; and Pacific: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington. Estimates for the current year are subject to revision early in the following calendar year.

Table 2. Civilian labor force and unemployment by census region and division, not seasonally adjusted¹

(Numbers in thousands)

Census region and division	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	February		March		February		March		February		March	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
Northeast	27,913.9	28,240.0	28,006.6	28,270.5	1,432.3	2,366.3	1,423.7	2,334.6	5.1	8.4	5.1	8.3
New England	7,579.1	7,632.5	7,607.8	7,633.3	387.7	631.8	388.4	626.7	5.1	8.3	5.1	8.2
Middle Atlantic	20,334.8	20,607.6	20,398.8	20,637.2	1,044.6	1,734.5	1,035.4	1,707.9	5.1	8.4	5.1	8.3
South	54,235.4	54,827.0	54,530.5	54,802.5	2,574.4	4,615.4	2,584.6	4,609.0	4.7	8.4	4.7	8.4
South Atlantic	29,137.8	29,358.5	29,304.4	29,289.5	1,389.8	2,708.3	1,403.7	2,674.1	4.8	9.2	4.8	9.1
East South Central	8,469.4	8,532.2	8,508.9	8,531.3	475.8	809.0	477.5	829.1	5.6	9.5	5.6	9.7
West South Central	16,628.3	16,936.2	16,717.3	16,981.6	708.8	1,098.1	703.4	1,105.8	4.3	6.5	4.2	6.5
Midwest	34,565.3	34,503.9	34,689.3	34,461.3	1,983.7	3,227.7	2,004.4	3,302.2	5.7	9.4	5.8	9.6
East North Central	23,760.1	23,628.2	23,833.3	23,549.8	1,469.2	2,425.4	1,480.4	2,483.3	6.2	10.3	6.2	10.5
West North Central	10,805.1	10,875.8	10,856.0	10,911.5	514.5	802.3	524.0	818.9	4.8	7.4	4.8	7.5
West	35,525.9	36,233.3	35,644.1	36,193.7	1,947.4	3,489.5	2,000.1	3,649.3	5.5	9.6	5.6	10.1
Mountain	10,982.9	11,135.5	11,007.2	11,073.6	476.2	820.9	487.8	839.5	4.3	7.4	4.4	7.6
Pacific	24,543.0	25,097.8	24,636.8	25,120.2	1,471.1	2,668.6	1,512.4	2,809.8	6.0	10.6	6.1	11.2

¹ Census region estimates are derived by summing the Census division model-based estimates.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. The composition of the regions

and divisions is described in table 1. Estimates for the current year are subject to revision early in the following calendar year.

**ESTABLISHMENT DATA
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

**ESTABLISHMENT DATA
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

Table 5. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by state and selected industry sector, seasonally adjusted—Continued

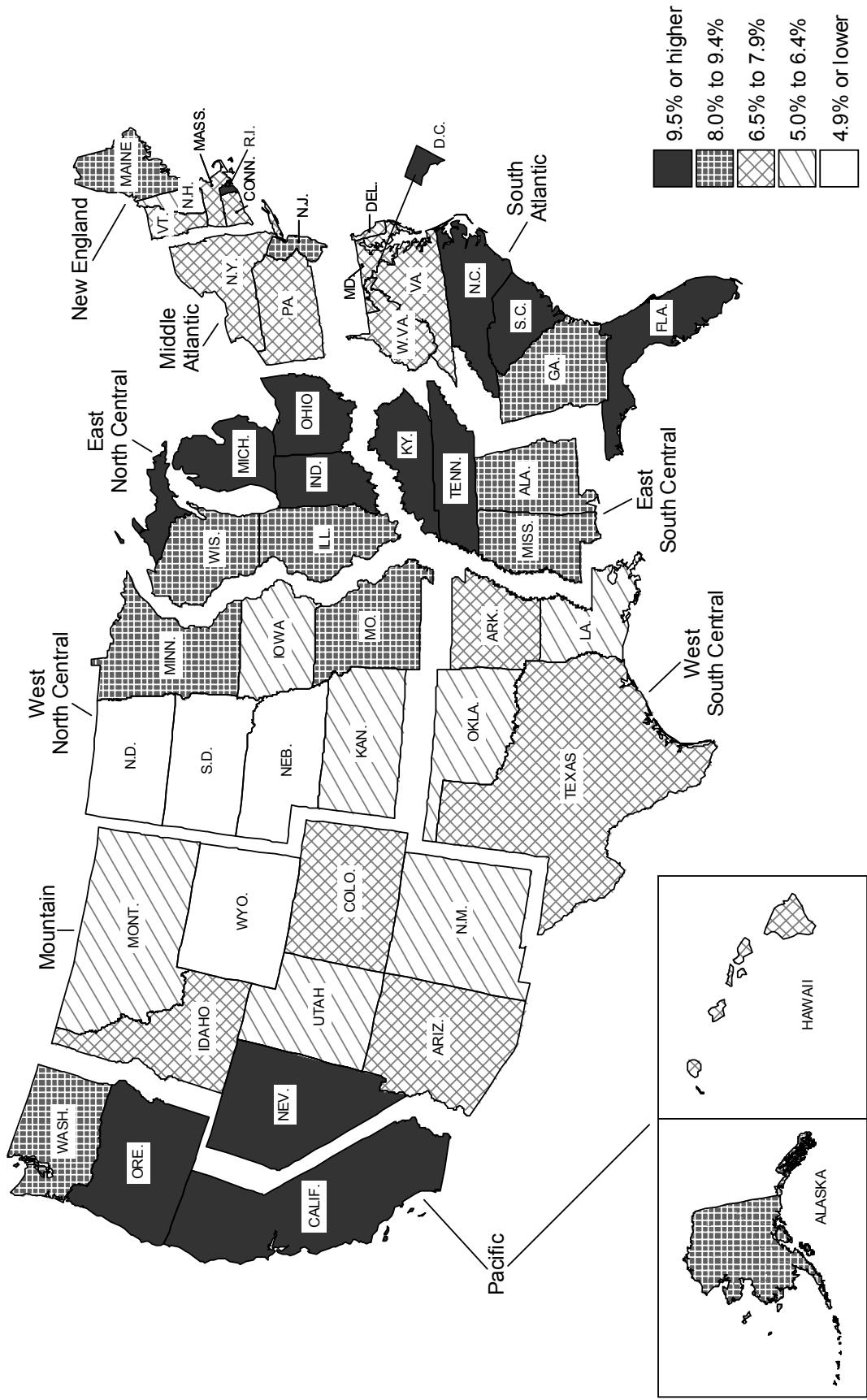
(In thousands)

State	Trade, transportation, and utilities				Financial activities				Professional and business services			
	Mar. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009 ^p	Mar. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009 ^p	Mar. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009 ^p
Alabama	392.7	382.1	378.3	380.5	99.5	99.9	100.1	100.1	222.4	207.5	206.7	205.3
Alaska	64.9	65.3	64.9	65.1	14.9	14.7	14.8	14.8	25.7	26.1	26.0	25.9
Arizona	525.7	486.2	484.3	486.9	177.7	172.7	171.3	170.0	395.8	357.9	357.0	348.8
Arkansas	249.5	239.3	238.6	237.7	53.0	50.0	50.1	49.8	117.0	116.3	116.4	113.9
California	2,893.8	2,758.4	2,739.5	2,724.3	863.9	823.9	817.9	813.5	2,260.0	2,194.4	2,166.1	2,152.0
Colorado	432.9	421.3	417.7	417.2	157.5	151.8	149.0	147.8	352.4	334.9	329.1	327.4
Connecticut	312.8	301.3	302.3	299.5	144.8	140.8	140.2	140.4	207.9	198.8	192.8	191.9
Delaware ³	82.5	77.4	76.7	77.0	45.6	44.9	45.0	44.5	60.0	54.7	54.6	53.9
District of Columbia ³	27.7	27.2	26.9	27.1	28.2	27.8	27.4	27.3	153.4	153.6	152.8	151.9
Florida	1,608.5	1,531.2	1,526.9	1,523.8	534.0	518.9	516.9	512.3	1,166.3	1,081.3	1,070.5	1,049.2
Georgia	887.9	851.5	846.5	846.9	227.2	218.9	216.2	215.3	561.6	529.7	526.1	521.7
Hawaii ³	121.2	114.6	114.5	115.3	29.6	29.1	28.8	28.8	76.2	74.0	73.9	73.8
Idaho	132.6	126.4	124.8	123.5	31.9	31.5	31.7	31.7	81.7	75.8	74.5	73.2
Illinois	1,213.1	1,181.5	1,177.2	1,170.1	395.7	385.3	384.2	380.6	870.9	827.9	816.2	803.0
Indiana	582.8	567.2	565.6	564.0	137.0	134.4	134.1	133.7	287.2	267.1	266.3	267.3
Iowa	310.7	312.8	312.8	311.4	103.2	103.4	102.3	102.7	122.7	115.0	114.9	112.2
Kansas	263.6	262.4	262.0	261.1	73.2	71.8	72.2	72.5	148.4	146.6	143.8	142.8
Kentucky	382.5	373.5	373.2	374.8	92.5	92.2	91.4	90.5	184.5	182.1	181.5	179.8
Louisiana	384.9	379.1	380.0	381.6	95.6	94.2	92.7	93.3	203.7	203.9	206.4	204.1
Maine	125.9	122.4	121.5	120.6	32.8	31.6	31.7	31.7	56.5	55.6	56.0	55.5
Maryland ³	469.9	452.7	451.9	449.5	154.7	147.2	146.5	146.0	398.1	404.9	400.9	396.9
Massachusetts	571.9	556.9	552.8	549.9	222.5	210.2	210.3	210.0	489.4	467.9	463.6	458.9
Michigan	781.2	735.8	733.3	729.3	207.7	196.6	195.9	195.3	575.1	516.1	512.3	504.0
Minnesota	527.6	514.7	511.9	510.0	177.7	177.7	176.9	175.9	329.6	310.6	305.2	299.0
Mississippi	226.5	219.2	218.6	218.2	(2 ²)	(2 ²)	(2 ²)	(2 ²)	94.7	90.6	89.8	89.9
Missouri	545.5	536.4	534.1	533.6	166.3	163.7	162.9	162.3	341.8	341.0	336.6	335.3
Montana	92.9	90.2	90.7	89.9	21.9	21.9	22.2	22.2	40.7	39.7	38.9	38.5
Nebraska ³	206.2	202.9	201.7	200.4	69.2	69.1	68.3	68.6	106.2	103.9	102.7	100.5
Nevada	233.9	228.4	226.2	225.7	62.6	59.2	59.3	59.3	155.3	146.1	145.0	143.1
New Hampshire	140.6	142.5	142.9	142.4	38.2	37.7	37.8	37.8	66.6	66.0	65.0	64.5
New Jersey	872.1	851.3	853.5	851.7	274.6	259.6	258.8	258.6	622.9	591.5	584.4	579.8
New Mexico	146.7	142.9	141.2	141.3	34.9	34.2	34.3	34.1	107.8	107.4	106.6	106.9
New York	1,533.4	1,493.0	1,488.2	1,482.6	728.5	702.4	700.6	697.1	1,157.3	1,140.9	1,128.6	1,126.2
North Carolina	779.4	744.9	738.0	734.7	212.9	208.8	205.7	204.9	507.3	480.7	478.0	467.9
North Dakota	77.8	78.9	78.9	78.9	20.1	20.4	20.4	20.7	30.2	29.7	29.6	29.3
Ohio	1,042.4	1,009.9	1,006.8	1,002.6	292.5	282.8	282.8	281.8	673.0	638.2	633.5	618.4
Oklahoma	290.3	290.1	287.9	289.3	83.0	82.9	81.5	81.6	186.0	185.1	180.9	178.0
Oregon	340.4	320.8	318.2	314.6	103.6	99.2	96.5	96.9	198.2	188.8	185.2	182.8
Pennsylvania	1,132.5	1,109.2	1,110.4	1,103.8	331.4	326.5	324.3	321.4	712.3	696.8	688.5	685.4
Rhode Island	78.5	74.5	74.1	73.8	33.7	32.7	32.5	32.4	55.3	52.5	51.9	51.9
South Carolina	377.2	360.8	359.6	359.4	106.9	106.1	104.3	103.6	224.4	209.8	211.4	210.8
South Dakota ³	82.0	83.0	82.5	81.5	31.3	31.2	30.7	30.4	28.2	27.0	27.0	26.9
Tennessee ³	608.9	585.6	581.9	580.3	145.6	139.8	139.6	138.8	325.1	313.9	311.1	309.0
Texas	2,145.9	2,117.6	2,103.3	2,109.1	647.4	643.8	644.0	647.1	1,338.3	1,329.5	1,312.3	1,300.7
Utah	248.5	245.9	245.1	244.1	74.9	73.9	73.0	72.9	163.8	162.3	161.6	160.4
Vermont	59.4	56.1	55.8	55.9	12.9	12.7	13.0	12.6	22.3	21.4	21.2	20.6
Virginia	664.5	647.3	646.7	648.2	190.3	188.6	187.1	186.4	653.8	649.9	644.1	639.9
Washington	558.0	539.0	534.7	531.9	154.3	149.4	148.8	145.8	351.0	344.2	335.5	329.4
West Virginia	142.9	140.0	138.5	137.7	29.9	29.1	28.7	28.6	61.0	59.9	58.7	58.4
Wisconsin	544.3	530.6	526.0	525.9	164.4	162.1	160.9	160.2	282.7	265.7	258.1	255.0
Wyoming	55.9	56.8	56.2	56.2	11.5	11.6	11.6	11.7	18.5	18.5	18.3	17.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Chart 1. Unemployment rates by state, seasonally adjusted, March 2009

(U.S. rate = 8.5 percent)



**Chart 2. Percentage change in nonfarm employment by state,
seasonally adjusted, March 2008 – March 2009**

