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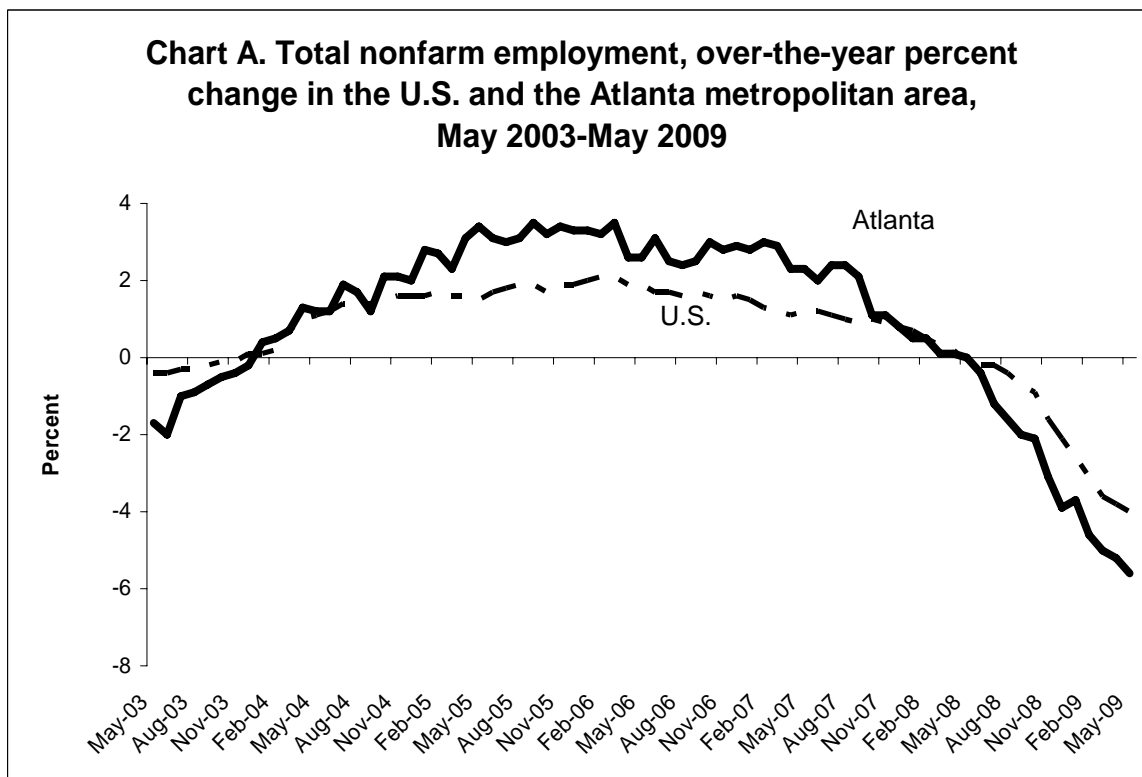
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ATLANTA AREA EMPLOYMENT: MAY 2009 Rate of Job Loss Faster than that for the Nation

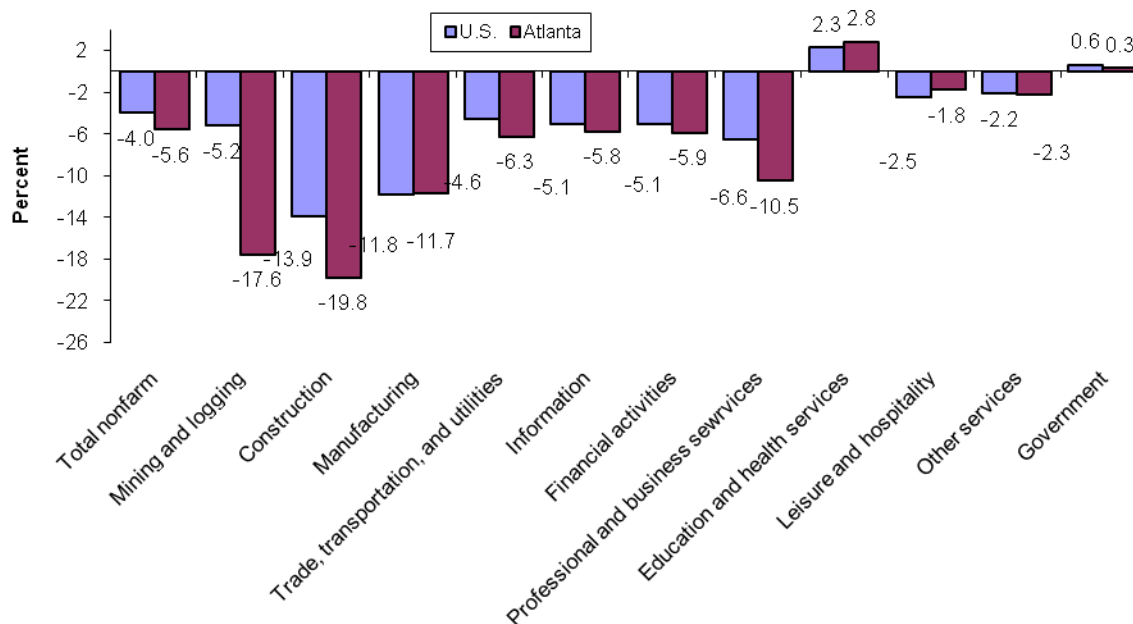
Total nonfarm employment for the Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta metropolitan statistical area stood at 2,316,400 in May 2009, a decline of 136,800 from one year-ago, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Atlanta's rate of job loss, at 5.6-percent, exceeded the national decrease of 4.0 percent from May 2008 to May 2009. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that over-the-year employment losses extended back to May 2008. (See chart A and table 1. All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)



Industry Employment

In the Atlanta metropolitan area, professional and business services experienced the largest employment decline, down 43,400, or 10.5 percent, over the year. Nationally, the rate of job loss in this industry sector was slower at 6.6 percent. Trade, transportation, and utilities dropped 34,800 jobs from May a year ago, the second largest decrease in the area. The local percentage decline in trade, transportation, and utilities (-6.3 percent) exceeded that for the nation (-4.6 percent) from May 2008 to May 2009. (See chart B and table 1.)

Chart B. Over-the-year percent change in employment by industry supersector, United States and the Atlanta metropolitan area, May 2009



Other industries in Atlanta with large over-the-year job losses included construction (-25,800) and manufacturing (-19,900). The percentage decline in construction (-19.8 percent) was greater than its respective national average (-13.9 percent), while in manufacturing (-11.7 percent), it was similar to that for the nation (-11.8 percent).

In contrast to the eight sectors with job losses of 1,000 or more in the Atlanta area, one industry, education and health services, added 7,300 jobs, increasing 2.8 percent. Nationally, this industry expanded at a 2.3-percent pace.

Employment in the 12 Largest Areas

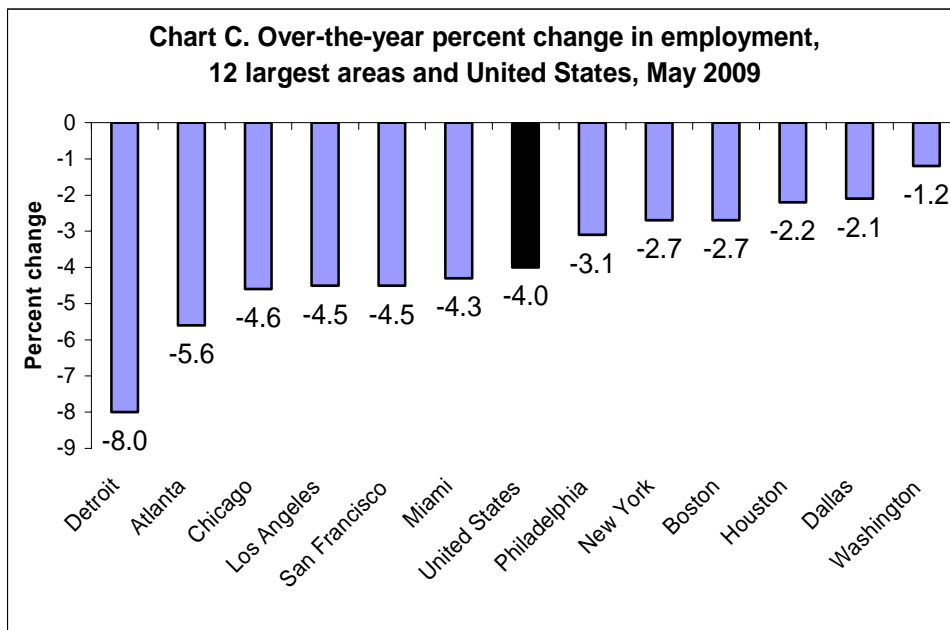
All 12 of the largest metropolitan statistical areas in the nation had over-the-year job declines in May 2009. (See chart C and table 2.) Six of these areas—Detroit-Warren-Livonia (-8.0 percent), Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta (-5.6 percent), Chicago-Naperville-Joliet (-4.6 percent), Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana and San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont (both -4.5 percent), and Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach (-4.3 percent)—experienced employment declines at a faster-than-average rate.

Six metropolitan areas had a percentage loss in jobs that fell below the national average. Five of these areas experienced declines in the 3.1- to-2.1-percent range—Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, and Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington. The employment decline in the remaining area, Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, was considerably smaller, 1.2 percent.

Six metropolitan areas experienced employment declines of over 100,000 from May a year ago, led by Los Angeles (-254,700) and New York (-232,900). Another five areas had job losses of 50,000 or more. Washington had the smallest decline, down 35,300 over the year.

In 5 of the 12 areas (Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, and Houston) professional and business services experienced the largest employment losses over the 12-month period. In four areas (Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, and San Francisco), trade, transportation, and utilities was the sector with the largest contraction.

Only two metropolitan areas failed to add at least 1,000 jobs in any industry supersector—Detroit and San Francisco. In 8 of the 10 remaining areas, education and health services was the job leader, and government led the way in the other 2 areas—Washington and Houston.



Technical Note

This release presents nonfarm payroll employment estimates from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. The CES survey is a Federal-State cooperative endeavor in which State employment security agencies prepare the data using concepts, definitions, and technical procedures prescribed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Definition. 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 places 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 (NAICS).

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 approximately 39 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, 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 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.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error are available for state CES data at the total nonfarm and supersector level and for metropolitan CES data. Information on recent benchmark revisions for states is available at 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 on November 20, 2008. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available at <http://www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm>.

The Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, Ga., Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

Includes the counties of Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Jasper, Lamar, Meriwether, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, Pike, Rockdale, Spalding, and Walton in Georgia.

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).

Industry employment data for states and metropolitan areas from the Current Employment Statistics program are also available in the above mentioned news releases and from the Internet at www.bls.gov/sae/.

For personal assistance or further information on the Current Employment Statistics program, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Southeast BLS information office at 404-893-4222 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET. Current and historical information on the Current Employment Statistics program and other surveys are also available on our regional Web site at www.bls.gov/ro4/home.htm.

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. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry supersector, United States and Atlanta metropolitan area, not seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands)

Area and Industry	May 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2009	May 2009(p)	Change from May 2008 to May 2009	
					Number	Percent
United States						
Total nonfarm	138,190.0	132,077.0	132,348.0	132,667.0	-5,523.0	-4.0
Mining and logging	764.0	739.0	728.0	724.0	-40.0	-5.2
Construction	7,352.0	6,121.0	6,202.0	6,331.0	-1,021.0	-13.9
Manufacturing	13,542.0	12,196.0	12,056.0	11,944.0	-1,598.0	-11.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26,447.0	25,173.0	25,116.0	25,232.0	-1,215.0	-4.6
Information	3,018.0	2,902.0	2,884.0	2,865.0	-153.0	-5.1
Financial activities	8,183.0	7,818.0	7,777.0	7,763.0	-420.0	-5.1
Professional and business services	17,878.0	16,691.0	16,767.0	16,704.0	-1,174.0	-6.6
Education and health services	18,847.0	19,286.0	19,326.0	19,283.0	436.0	2.3
Leisure and hospitality	13,721.0	12,820.0	13,050.0	13,377.0	-344.0	-2.5
Other services	5,562.0	5,402.0	5,414.0	5,440.0	-122.0	-2.2
Government	22,876.0	22,929.0	23,028.0	23,004.0	128.0	0.6
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA Metropolitan Statistical Area						
Total nonfarm	2,453.2	2,323.8	2,318.4	2,316.4	-136.8	-5.6
Mining and logging	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.4	-0.3	-17.6
Construction	130.6	108.8	107.2	104.8	-25.8	-19.8
Manufacturing	170.0	153.0	151.0	150.1	-19.9	-11.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	555.4	526.1	522.4	520.6	-34.8	-6.3
Information	84.5	80.7	80.5	79.6	-4.9	-5.8
Financial activities	157.1	148.3	148.0	147.8	-9.3	-5.9
Professional and business services	411.5	379.6	373.0	368.1	-43.4	-10.5
Education and health services	261.2	262.2	265.1	268.5	7.3	2.8
Leisure and hospitality	241.5	224.7	230.7	237.2	-4.3	-1.8
Other services	99.0	96.3	96.7	96.7	-2.3	-2.3
Government	340.7	342.7	342.4	341.6	0.9	0.3

(p) preliminary

Table 2. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry supersector, 12 largest metropolitan areas, not seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands)

Area and Industry	May 2008	Mar 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009(p)	Change from May 2008 to May 2009	
					Number	Percent
					Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA	
Total nonfarm	2,453.2	2,323.8	2,318.4	2,316.4	-136.8	-5.6
Mining and logging	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.4	-0.3	-17.6
Construction	130.6	108.8	107.2	104.8	-25.8	-19.8
Manufacturing	170.0	153.0	151.0	150.1	-19.9	-11.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	555.4	526.1	522.4	520.6	-34.8	-6.3
Information	84.5	80.7	80.5	79.6	-4.9	-5.8
Financial activities	157.1	148.3	148.0	147.8	-9.3	-5.9
Professional and business services	411.5	379.6	373.0	368.1	-43.4	-10.5
Education and health services	261.2	262.2	265.1	268.5	7.3	2.8
Leisure and hospitality	241.5	224.7	230.7	237.2	-4.3	-1.8
Other services	99.0	96.3	96.7	96.7	-2.3	-2.3
Government	340.7	342.7	342.4	341.6	0.9	0.3
Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, MA-NH						
Total nonfarm	2,513.1	2,411.8	2,428.2	2,444.2	-68.9	-2.7
Mining and logging	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.8	-0.1	-11.1
Construction	98.9	76.8	80.4	83.2	-15.7	-15.9
Manufacturing	216.8	208.4	207.8	207.8	-9.0	-4.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	416.7	396.4	395.8	400.1	-16.6	-4.0
Information	75.1	72.5	72.9	72.6	-2.5	-3.3
Financial activities	185.9	175.9	175.4	175.9	-10.0	-5.4
Professional and business services	418.1	387.1	390.8	394.3	-23.8	-5.7
Education and health services	474.9	490.8	489.5	485.1	10.2	2.1
Leisure and hospitality	226.2	204.8	216.2	225.4	-0.8	-0.4
Other services	89.7	86.5	86.0	87.2	-2.5	-2.8
Government	309.9	312.0	312.7	311.8	1.9	0.6
Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, IL-IN-WI						
Total nonfarm	4,575.8	4,331.5	4,346.8	4,366.8	-209.0	-4.6
Mining and logging	2.2	1.7	2.0	2.0	-0.2	-9.1
Construction	209.9	170.2	176.6	180.8	-29.1	-13.9
Manufacturing	474.2	438.4	432.2	429.3	-44.9	-9.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	926.3	888.3	886.9	891.5	-34.8	-3.8
Information	91.1	87.0	85.7	85.2	-5.9	-6.5
Financial activities	319.1	303.0	300.5	298.8	-20.3	-6.4
Professional and business services	743.8	683.4	693.5	695.9	-47.9	-6.4
Education and health services	607.1	611.5	610.9	611.0	3.9	0.6
Leisure and hospitality	421.9	381.9	390.6	401.8	-20.1	-4.8
Other services	200.3	197.2	196.7	197.2	-3.1	-1.5
Government	579.9	568.9	571.2	573.3	-6.6	-1.1
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX						
Total nonfarm	3,005.1	2,937.1	2,935.3	2,942.6	-62.5	-2.1
Mining, logging, and construction	195.9	183.8	186.6	188.0	-7.9	-4.0
Manufacturing	288.1	277.8	277.5	276.1	-12.0	-4.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	626.6	615.4	609.7	610.3	-16.3	-2.6
Information	88.9	86.5	85.6	85.1	-3.8	-4.3
Financial activities	236.8	231.6	231.0	230.7	-6.1	-2.6
Professional and business services	454.4	430.0	426.7	424.4	-30.0	-6.6
Education and health services	328.3	339.6	340.7	344.8	16.5	5.0
Leisure and hospitality	291.6	280.7	285.4	288.6	-3.0	-1.0
Other services	107.2	98.8	98.9	101.1	-6.1	-5.7
Government	387.3	392.9	393.2	393.5	6.2	1.6

(p) preliminary

Table 2. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry supersector, 12 largest metropolitan areas, not seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands)--continued

Area and Industry	May 2008	Mar 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009(p)	Change from May 2008 to May 2009	
					Number	Percent
Detroit-Warren-Livonia, MI						
Total nonfarm	1,931.5	1,770.8	1,770.0	1,777.0	-154.5	-8.0
Mining, logging, and construction	66.9	49.5	49.6	53.3	-13.6	-20.3
Manufacturing	236.0	201.7	195.5	185.9	-50.1	-21.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	360.0	337.7	336.4	338.0	-22.0	-6.1
Information	32.5	30.1	29.7	29.7	-2.8	-8.6
Financial activities	108.5	99.6	99.3	99.1	-9.4	-8.7
Professional and business services	344.0	293.2	295.2	299.3	-44.7	-13.0
Education and health services	283.4	284.2	283.5	283.7	0.3	0.1
Leisure and hospitality	186.5	169.2	174.5	181.2	-5.3	-2.8
Other services	87.9	84.8	85.3	85.2	-2.7	-3.1
Government	225.8	220.8	221.0	221.6	-4.2	-1.9
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX						
Total nonfarm	2,610.9	2,573.9	2,553.8	2,554.6	-56.3	-2.2
Mining and logging	88.5	90.9	89.9	89.7	1.2	1.4
Construction	206.7	196.5	190.9	189.0	-17.7	-8.6
Manufacturing	241.3	236.4	232.8	229.6	-11.7	-4.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	529.9	520.8	514.2	515.0	-14.9	-2.8
Information	36.8	35.4	35.3	35.3	-1.5	-4.1
Financial activities	144.2	142.7	141.0	141.2	-3.0	-2.1
Professional and business services	383.5	368.6	365.4	364.6	-18.9	-4.9
Education and health services	284.3	290.8	290.4	291.0	6.7	2.4
Leisure and hospitality	238.2	229.9	231.8	236.6	-1.6	-0.7
Other services	92.4	90.9	89.9	90.7	-1.7	-1.8
Government	365.1	371.0	372.2	371.9	6.8	1.9
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, CA						
Total nonfarm	5,607.7	5,383.9	5,367.2	5,353.0	-254.7	-4.5
Mining and logging	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	0.0	0.0
Construction	240.7	205.9	204.6	205.2	-35.5	-14.7
Manufacturing	613.6	573.5	566.2	566.6	-47.0	-7.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,077.3	1,021.3	1,016.4	1,018.2	-59.1	-5.5
Information	246.3	236.3	231.4	223.5	-22.8	-9.3
Financial activities	352.4	335.2	333.9	333.6	-18.8	-5.3
Professional and business services	856.8	815.9	813.5	807.8	-49.0	-5.7
Education and health services	655.4	670.4	669.9	667.9	12.5	1.9
Leisure and hospitality	584.7	553.8	556.8	559.2	-25.5	-4.4
Other services	195.8	190.3	190.1	190.4	-5.4	-2.8
Government	779.8	776.4	779.5	775.7	-4.1	-0.5
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL						
Total nonfarm	2,389.7	2,305.2	2,295.4	2,287.9	-101.8	-4.3
Mining and logging	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	-0.2	-25.0
Construction	137.3	114.0	111.6	111.8	-25.5	-18.6
Manufacturing	94.1	88.5	87.4	87.0	-7.1	-7.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	544.7	523.4	525.3	522.3	-22.4	-4.1
Information	51.2	48.5	48.4	48.7	-2.5	-4.9
Financial activities	173.6	166.3	164.9	163.9	-9.7	-5.6
Professional and business services	360.0	340.4	341.4	341.5	-18.5	-5.1
Education and health services	328.7	332.5	330.2	329.8	1.1	0.3
Leisure and hospitality	263.7	260.4	254.1	251.0	-12.7	-4.8
Other services	104.2	102.5	102.0	101.9	-2.3	-2.2
Government	331.4	328.1	329.5	329.4	-2.0	-0.6

(p) preliminary

Table 2. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry supersector, 12 largest metropolitan areas, not seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands)--continued

Area and Industry	May 2008	Mar 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009(p)	Change from May 2008 to May 2009	
					Number	Percent
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA						
Total nonfarm	8,663.4	8,353.2	8,387.8	8,430.5	-232.9	-2.7
Mining, logging, and construction	368.0	316.6	327.0	333.3	-34.7	-9.4
Manufacturing	433.3	398.7	396.6	398.3	-35.0	-8.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,607.6	1,538.3	1,534.4	1,540.3	-67.3	-4.2
Information	284.7	276.3	275.1	272.1	-12.6	-4.4
Financial activities	788.3	755.4	752.5	750.9	-37.4	-4.7
Professional and business services	1,327.4	1,250.7	1,259.9	1,267.1	-60.3	-4.5
Education and health services	1,480.2	1,505.6	1,511.0	1,506.7	26.5	1.8
Leisure and hospitality	682.1	634.5	647.1	677.7	-4.4	-0.6
Other services	377.3	370.3	371.6	374.9	-2.4	-0.6
Government	1,314.5	1,306.8	1,312.6	1,309.2	-5.3	-0.4
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD						
Total nonfarm	2,835.4	2,723.0	2,739.1	2,747.3	-88.1	-3.1
Mining, logging, and construction	127.3	104.1	107.2	108.9	-18.4	-14.5
Manufacturing	217.4	205.2	204.1	204.2	-13.2	-6.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	528.6	504.2	504.4	507.2	-21.4	-4.0
Information	57.9	55.0	54.9	54.6	-3.3	-5.7
Financial activities	217.8	210.2	209.7	209.0	-8.8	-4.0
Professional and business services	434.5	405.8	410.4	414.2	-20.3	-4.7
Education and health services	538.9	545.5	548.3	543.6	4.7	0.9
Leisure and hospitality	230.8	210.7	216.5	223.7	-7.1	-3.1
Other services	123.9	122.1	122.1	122.9	-1.0	-0.8
Government	358.3	360.2	361.5	359.0	0.7	0.2
San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, CA						
Total nonfarm	2,039.7	1,953.3	1,952.1	1,948.6	-91.1	-4.5
Mining and logging	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Construction	110.2	93.4	93.4	91.6	-18.6	-16.9
Manufacturing	136.5	130.1	129.3	129.1	-7.4	-5.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	355.6	336.3	333.7	333.5	-22.1	-6.2
Information	68.4	65.6	65.2	64.8	-3.6	-5.3
Financial activities	144.9	135.5	134.6	134.3	-10.6	-7.3
Professional and business services	371.5	359.7	358.9	357.4	-14.1	-3.8
Education and health services	237.7	236.5	237.4	237.2	-0.5	-0.2
Leisure and hospitality	218.5	205.0	206.8	209.1	-9.4	-4.3
Other services	76.2	73.1	72.8	72.9	-3.3	-4.3
Government	318.8	316.7	318.6	317.3	-1.5	-0.5
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV						
Total nonfarm	3,022.2	2,965.0	2,973.2	2,986.9	-35.3	-1.2
Mining, logging, and construction	174.6	155.8	156.0	158.0	-16.6	-9.5
Manufacturing	61.0	58.5	58.5	58.1	-2.9	-4.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	398.7	379.2	381.7	384.0	-14.7	-3.7
Information	92.1	87.0	86.3	86.1	-6.0	-6.5
Financial activities	155.1	148.7	148.7	149.1	-6.0	-3.9
Professional and business services	684.7	686.5	688.4	691.3	6.6	1.0
Education and health services	339.9	346.4	346.2	342.4	2.5	0.7
Leisure and hospitality	270.3	251.1	255.3	263.8	-6.5	-2.4
Other services	184.7	183.9	184.2	183.5	-1.2	-0.6
Government	661.1	667.9	667.9	670.6	9.5	1.4

(p) preliminary