



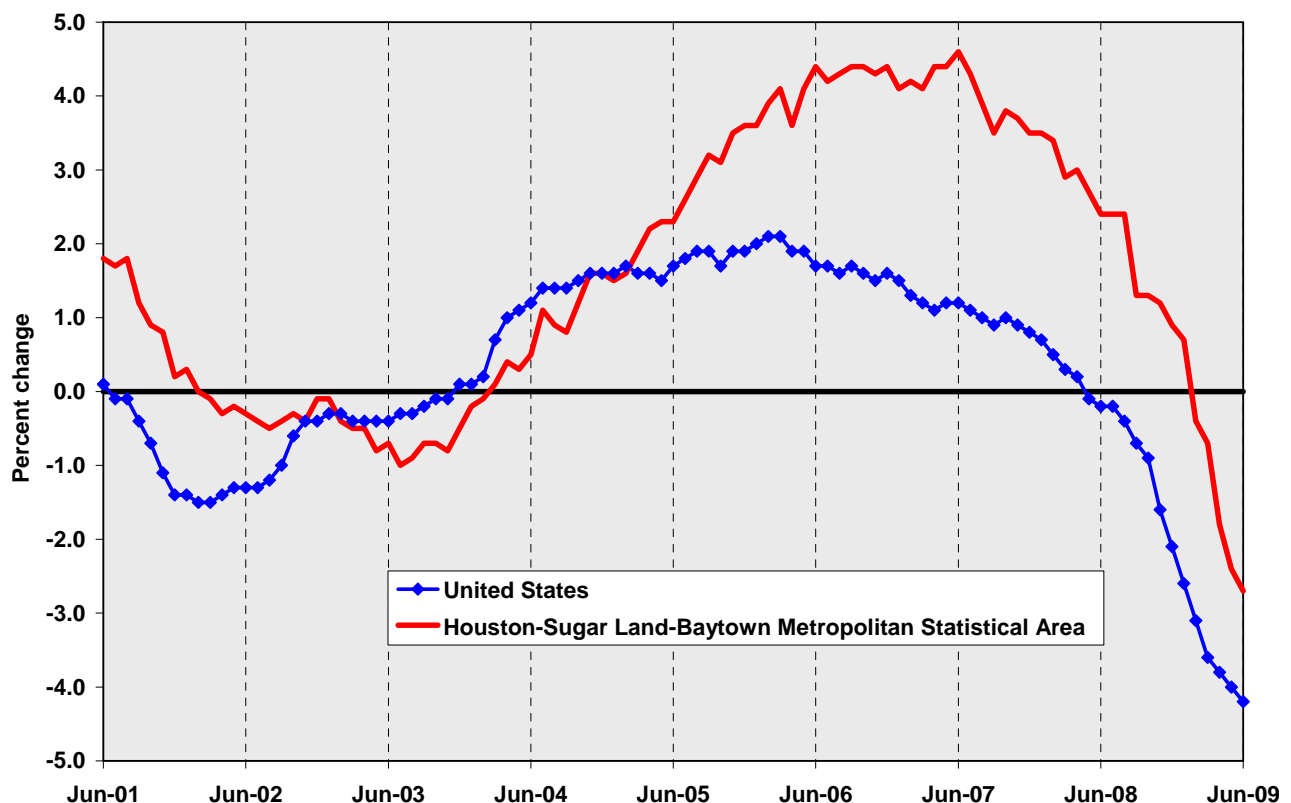
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FOR RELEASE:
July 29, 2009

HOUSTON AREA EMPLOYMENT: JUNE 2009 Job Count Falls by 69,600 Over the Year

Total nonfarm employment in the Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown Metropolitan Statistical Area stood at 2,550,900 in June 2009, down 69,600 jobs from one year ago, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. From June 2008 to June 2009, local nonfarm employment fell 2.7 percent compared to the national decline of 4.2 percent. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted this was the fifth consecutive month of over-the-year job losses following nearly five years of expansion in the Houston area. (See chart A and table 1; Technical Note at end of release contains metropolitan area definitions. All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

Chart A. Total nonfarm employment, over-the-year percent change in the Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown metropolitan area, June 2001-June 2009



Industry employment

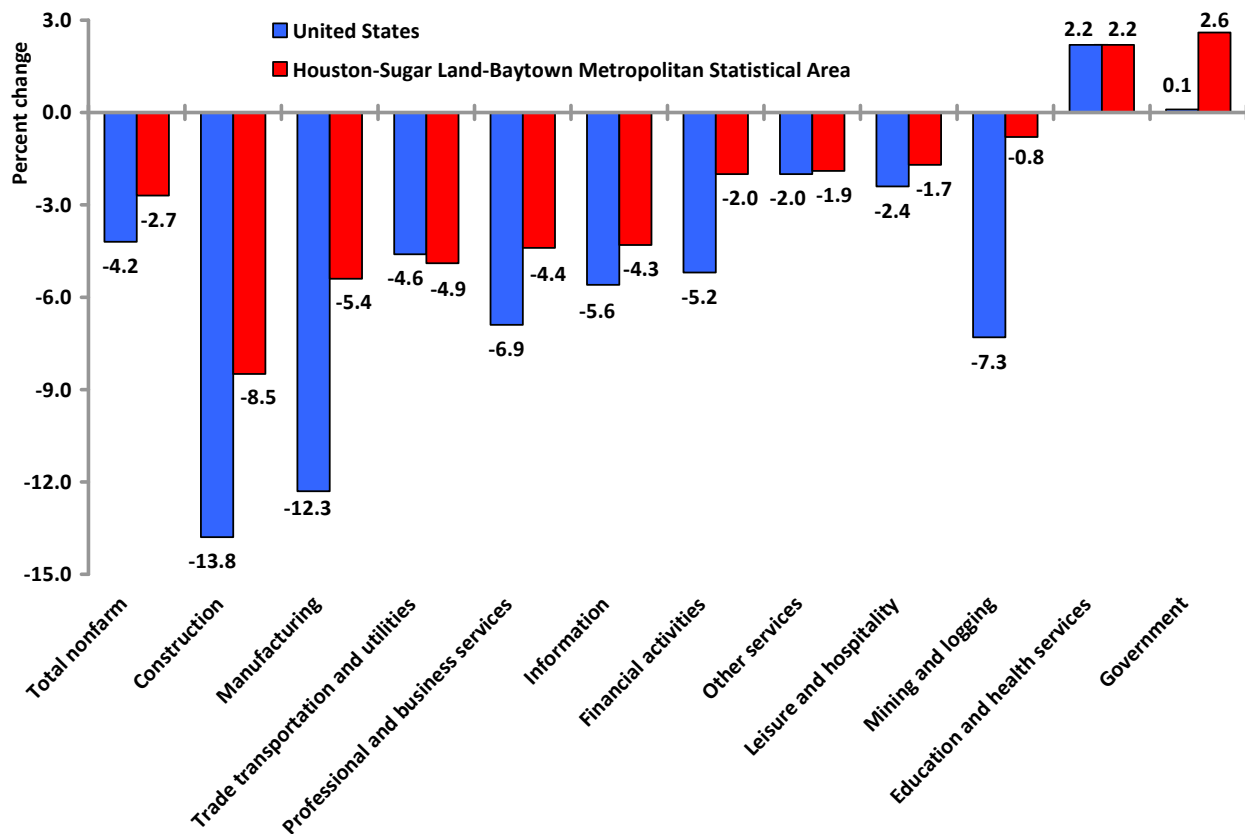
Employment declined in 9 of the 11 industry supersectors in the Houston metropolitan area from June 2008 to June 2009. Trade, transportation, and utilities – the largest local employer – experienced the largest over-the-year decrease, a loss of 26,100 jobs. This supersector accounted for 20 percent of all employment in the Houston area in June 2009. (See table 1 and chart B.)

Job losses in the construction industry amounted to 17,500 over the last 12 months. This supersector has experienced one of the sharpest reversals in the local economy. In June 2008, construction employment expanded by 3.2 percent over-the-year. In June 2009, the annual rate of job loss stood at 8.5 percent. All three industry components registered declines, but the largest loss was experienced among specialty trade contractors. Jobs in that industry accounted for half of total construction employment, but nearly three-fourths of the decline in construction.

Houston's professional and business services supersector lost 17,200 jobs, a decline of 4.4-percent in June 2009. Nationwide, employment in professional and business services fell 6.9 percent.

Manufacturing was the only other supersector to lose more than 10,000 jobs during the period. From June 2008 to June 2009, manufacturing employment fell by 13,200, a decline of 5.4 percent. This industry experienced over-the-year job gains as recently as February 2009. However, the current rate of decline was less than half the national decrease of 12.3 percent.

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



Four other local supersectors registered over-the-year job losses exceeding 1,000 -- leisure and hospitality (-4,100), financial activities (-2,900), other services (-1,800), and information (-1,600). Local rates of job loss in each of these sectors were slower-paced than the nation. In particular, employment losses in the financial activities industry were lower in Houston (-2.9 percent) than the nation (-5.2 percent).

Two supersectors in the Houston metropolitan area experienced job growth from June 2008 to June 2009. Government employment rose by 9,200 in the Houston area, a 2.6-percent gain. With few exceptions, the public sector has recorded annual job gains since reporting of over-the-year changes began in January 1991. Local government in the Houston area accounted for more than half of the total government employment gain. For the nation as a whole, the number of public sector jobs edged up 0.1 percent from June 2008.

Education and health services added 6,300 jobs over the year in the Houston area, expanding 2.2 percent and matching the national growth rate. The majority of the local increase came in the health care and social assistance industry.

Employment in the 12 largest metropolitan areas

The Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown area was 1 of the nation's 12 largest metropolitan statistical areas in June 2009. All of these areas experienced over-the-year job losses. (See chart C and table 2.) Nationally, employment fell 4.2 percent from June 2008 to June 2009.

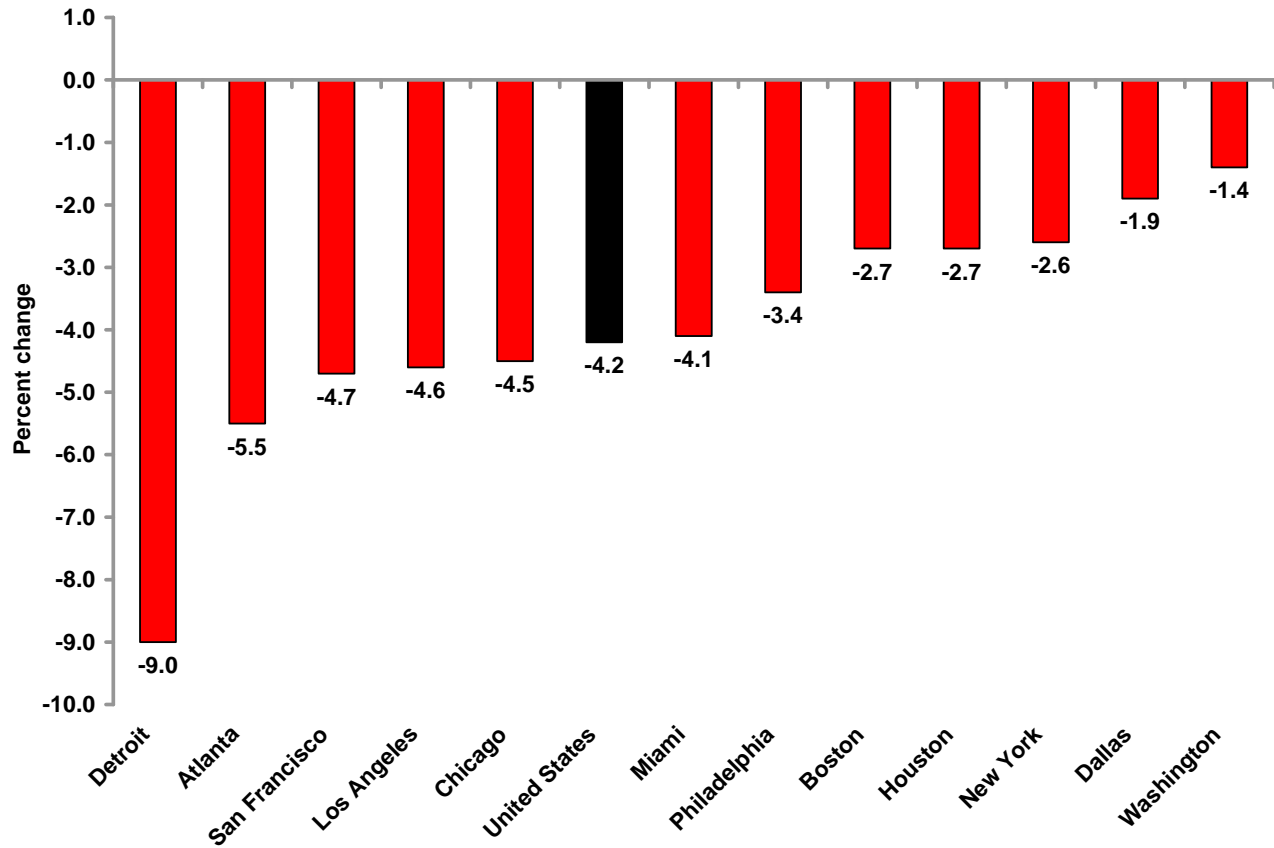
Of these 12 metropolitan areas, 5 -- Detroit-Warren-Livonia, Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, and Chicago-Naperville-Joliet -- recorded employment declines at a faster-than-average pace. Detroit's rate of job loss, at 9.0 percent, was more than double the national average. The other four experienced declines from 5.5 to 4.5 percent.

Conversely, seven metropolitan areas lost jobs at a slower pace than that for the nation. Five of these areas experienced declines in the 4.1- to 2.6-percent range -- Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, and New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island. Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington and Washington-Arlington-Alexandria posted the smallest losses (-1.9 and -1.4 percent, respectively).

Three metropolitan areas experienced employment declines of over 200,000 from June a year ago: Los Angeles (-259,100), New York (-226,900), and Chicago (-207,600). Only one area, Washington, lost fewer than 50,000 jobs over the year.

In 4 of the 12 areas, professional and business services recorded the largest loss of jobs from June 2008, while trade, transportation, and utilities registered the largest loss in 4 additional areas. Education and health services added the most jobs in 9 of the 12 areas.

Chart C. Over-the-year percent change in employment, United States and 12 largest metropolitan areas, June 2009



Additional information

For personal assistance or further information on the Current Employment Statistics program, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Southwest Information Office at 972-850-4800 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. 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.

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.

Employment definition. 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 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 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.

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.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error are available for state CES data at the total nonfarm and supersector level and for metropolitan area CES data. Information on recent benchmark revisions for states is available on the BLS Web site 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 list of definitions is available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/omb/bulletins/fy2009/09-01.pdf>.

The Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, San Jacinto, and Waller Counties in Texas.

Table 1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry supersector, U.S. and Houston metropolitan area, not seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands)

Area and Industry	June 2008	Apr 2009	May 2009	June 2009(p)	Change from June 2008 to June 2009	
					Number	Percent
U.S.						
Total nonfarm	138,451	132,336	132,719	132,609	-5,842	-4.2
Mining and logging	780	729	723	723	-57	-7.3
Construction	7,466	6,205	6,348	6,432	-1,034	-13.8
Manufacturing	13,599	12,055	11,942	11,920	-1,679	-12.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26,522	25,119	25,236	25,311	-1,211	-4.6
Information	3,029	2,883	2,865	2,858	-171	-5.6
Financial activities	8,228	7,778	7,764	7,802	-426	-5.2
Professional and business services	17,984	16,763	16,722	16,735	-1,249	-6.9
Education and health services	18,677	19,327	19,282	19,087	410	2.2
Leisure and hospitality	14,069	13,052	13,411	13,732	-337	-2.4
Other services	5,608	5,413	5,438	5,498	-110	-2.0
Government	22,489	23,012	22,988	22,511	22	0.1
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown TX						
Total nonfarm	2,620.5	2,553.8	2,548.7	2,550.9	-69.6	-2.7
Mining and logging	90.4	89.9	89.5	89.7	-0.7	-0.8
Construction	206.2	190.9	188.8	188.7	-17.5	-8.5
Manufacturing	243.2	232.8	228.8	230.0	-13.2	-5.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	533.9	514.2	510.6	507.8	-26.1	-4.9
Information	36.8	35.3	35.3	35.2	-1.6	-4.3
Financial activities	144.6	141.0	140.8	141.7	-2.9	-2.0
Professional and business services	387.5	365.4	364.0	370.3	-17.2	-4.4
Education and health services	284.8	290.4	291.1	291.1	6.3	2.2
Leisure and hospitality	242.5	231.8	236.9	238.4	-4.1	-1.7
Other services	93.8	89.9	90.8	92.0	-1.8	-1.9
Government	356.8	372.2	372.1	366.0	9.2	2.6

(p) preliminary

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

Area and Industry	June 2008	Apr 2009	May 2009	June 2009(p)	Change from June 2008 to June	
					Number	Percent
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA						
Total nonfarm	2,437.6	2,318.4	2,316.1	2,304.1	-133.5	-5.5
Mining and logging	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.4	-0.3	-17.6
Construction	130.1	107.2	104.5	104.4	-25.7	-19.8
Manufacturing	169.6	151.0	150.2	149.9	-19.7	-11.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	553.2	522.4	520.3	517.0	-36.2	-6.5
Information	84.7	80.5	79.5	79.0	-5.7	-6.7
Financial activities	156.3	148.0	147.5	146.3	-10.0	-6.4
Professional and business services	412.5	373.0	369.4	371.3	-41.2	-10.0
Education and health services	256.0	265.1	268.6	264.9	8.9	3.5
Leisure and hospitality	241.5	230.7	237.6	237.8	-3.7	-1.5
Other services	98.8	96.7	96.6	96.9	-1.9	-1.9
Government	333.2	342.4	340.5	335.2	2.0	0.6
Boston-Cambridge-Quincy MA-NH						
Total nonfarm	2,524.1	2,428.2	2,442.0	2,455.7	-68.4	-2.7
Mining and logging	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.8	-0.1	-11.1
Construction	101.0	80.4	83.1	85.1	-15.9	-15.7
Manufacturing	218.3	207.8	207.8	208.1	-10.2	-4.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	421.2	395.8	400.4	404.7	-16.5	-3.9
Information	76.1	72.9	72.6	73.0	-3.1	-4.1
Financial activities	187.6	175.4	175.4	177.3	-10.3	-5.5
Professional and business services	422.3	390.8	393.8	397.9	-24.4	-5.8
Education and health services	464.8	489.5	483.2	477.7	12.9	2.8
Leisure and hospitality	233.5	216.2	226.7	234.0	0.5	0.2
Other services	91.2	86.0	87.6	89.8	-1.4	-1.5
Government	307.2	312.7	310.6	307.3	0.1	0.0
Chicago-Naperville-Joliet IL-IN-WI						
Total nonfarm	4,594.8	4,346.8	4,370.3	4,387.2	-207.6	-4.5
Mining and logging	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.1	-0.1	-4.5
Construction	213.3	176.6	181.2	184.4	-28.9	-13.5
Manufacturing	475.6	432.2	429.0	428.0	-47.6	-10.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	929.5	886.9	892.6	896.6	-32.9	-3.5
Information	91.2	85.7	84.4	84.8	-6.4	-7.0
Financial activities	320.9	300.5	298.9	300.5	-20.4	-6.4
Professional and business services	747.8	693.5	696.0	702.4	-45.4	-6.1
Education and health services	604.5	610.9	612.1	606.4	1.9	0.3
Leisure and hospitality	431.5	390.6	403.5	412.3	-19.2	-4.4
Other services	202.6	196.7	197.7	200.5	-2.1	-1.0
Government	575.7	571.2	572.9	569.2	-6.5	-1.1
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington TX						
Total nonfarm	3,005.5	2,935.3	2,946.4	2,947.2	-58.3	-1.9
Mining, logging, and construction	198.8	186.6	186.9	188.6	-10.2	-5.1
Manufacturing	288.0	277.5	276.5	274.0	-14.0	-4.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	628.4	609.7	609.6	608.0	-20.4	-3.2
Information	88.6	85.6	85.1	84.4	-4.2	-4.7
Financial activities	237.6	231.0	231.4	232.6	-5.0	-2.1
Professional and business services	457.5	426.7	426.3	425.9	-31.6	-6.9
Education and health services	326.2	340.7	345.4	347.6	21.4	6.6
Leisure and hospitality	292.6	285.4	288.8	291.3	-1.3	-0.4
Other services	107.9	98.9	102.5	103.4	-4.5	-4.2
Government	379.9	393.2	393.9	391.4	11.5	3.0

(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	June 2008	Apr 2009	May 2009	June 2009(p)	Change from June 2008 to June	
					Number	Percent
Detroit-Warren-Livonia MI						
Total nonfarm	1,942.7	1,770.0	1,773.8	1,767.3	-175.4	-9.0
Mining, logging, and construction	69.1	49.6	53.7	55.1	-14.0	-20.3
Manufacturing	245.4	195.5	185.7	182.6	-62.8	-25.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	360.9	336.4	337.5	338.4	-22.5	-6.2
Information	32.5	29.7	29.7	29.3	-3.2	-9.8
Financial activities	108.4	99.3	99.1	99.7	-8.7	-8.0
Professional and business services	345.1	295.2	297.3	294.8	-50.3	-14.6
Education and health services	281.5	283.5	284.2	281.5	0.0	0.0
Leisure and hospitality	188.5	174.5	180.8	182.0	-6.5	-3.4
Other services	88.1	85.3	84.5	84.9	-3.2	-3.6
Government	223.2	221.0	221.3	219.0	-4.2	-1.9
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown TX						
Total nonfarm	2,620.5	2,553.8	2,548.7	2,550.9	-69.6	-2.7
Mining and logging	90.4	89.9	89.5	89.7	-0.7	-0.8
Construction	206.2	190.9	188.8	188.7	-17.5	-8.5
Manufacturing	243.2	232.8	228.8	230.0	-13.2	-5.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	533.9	514.2	510.6	507.8	-26.1	-4.9
Information	36.8	35.3	35.3	35.2	-1.6	-4.3
Financial activities	144.6	141.0	140.8	141.7	-2.9	-2.0
Professional and business services	387.5	365.4	364.0	370.3	-17.2	-4.4
Education and health services	284.8	290.4	291.1	291.1	6.3	2.2
Leisure and hospitality	242.5	231.8	236.9	238.4	-4.1	-1.7
Other services	93.8	89.9	90.8	92.0	-1.8	-1.9
Government	356.8	372.2	372.1	366.0	9.2	2.6
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana CA						
Total nonfarm	5,603.2	5,367.2	5,357.7	5,344.1	-259.1	-4.6
Mining and logging	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9	-0.1	-2.0
Construction	239.2	204.6	205.3	206.4	-32.8	-13.7
Manufacturing	613.4	566.2	565.4	564.1	-49.3	-8.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,078.6	1,016.4	1,018.0	1,017.3	-61.3	-5.7
Information	248.6	231.4	225.3	222.5	-26.1	-10.5
Financial activities	351.5	333.9	333.6	333.8	-17.7	-5.0
Professional and business services	857.1	813.5	809.4	809.2	-47.9	-5.6
Education and health services	644.8	669.9	668.1	656.8	12.0	1.9
Leisure and hospitality	590.3	556.8	560.6	563.3	-27.0	-4.6
Other services	196.0	190.1	190.3	190.8	-5.2	-2.7
Government	778.7	779.5	776.8	775.0	-3.7	-0.5
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach FL						
Total nonfarm	2,348.5	2,295.4	2,289.1	2,252.1	-96.4	-4.1
Mining and logging	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	-0.1	-14.3
Construction	137.1	111.6	112.2	112.1	-25.0	-18.2
Manufacturing	93.7	87.4	86.9	86.5	-7.2	-7.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	542.1	525.3	522.2	521.2	-20.9	-3.9
Information	51.0	48.4	48.5	48.1	-2.9	-5.7
Financial activities	172.9	164.9	164.4	164.2	-8.7	-5.0
Professional and business services	358.3	341.4	341.8	341.4	-16.9	-4.7
Education and health services	327.0	330.2	330.1	329.0	2.0	0.6
Leisure and hospitality	259.4	254.1	251.0	247.2	-12.2	-4.7
Other services	104.1	102.0	101.9	101.4	-2.7	-2.6
Government	302.2	329.5	329.5	300.4	-1.8	-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	June 2008	Apr 2009	May 2009	June 2009(p)	Change from June 2008 to June	
					Number	Percent
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island NY-NJ-PA						
Total nonfarm	8,717.3	8,387.8	8,429.0	8,490.4	-226.9	-2.6
Mining, logging, and construction	371.7	327.0	331.8	337.8	-33.9	-9.1
Manufacturing	434.8	396.6	397.1	399.2	-35.6	-8.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,622.0	1,534.4	1,539.9	1,551.0	-71.0	-4.4
Information	287.2	275.1	271.7	272.4	-14.8	-5.2
Financial activities	795.7	752.5	750.2	750.6	-45.1	-5.7
Professional and business services	1,340.7	1,259.9	1,264.1	1,277.1	-63.6	-4.7
Education and health services	1,465.5	1,511.0	1,506.4	1,499.7	34.2	2.3
Leisure and hospitality	702.5	647.1	678.3	706.4	3.9	0.6
Other services	380.4	371.6	375.6	381.9	1.5	0.4
Government	1,316.8	1,312.6	1,313.9	1,314.3	-2.5	-0.2
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington PA-NJ-DE-MD						
Total nonfarm	2,836.0	2,739.1	2,748.1	2,740.0	-96.0	-3.4
Mining, logging, and construction	128.7	107.2	108.6	110.0	-18.7	-14.5
Manufacturing	219.5	204.1	204.1	203.6	-15.9	-7.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	528.9	504.4	507.2	508.7	-20.2	-3.8
Information	57.5	54.9	54.6	54.2	-3.3	-5.7
Financial activities	218.7	209.7	209.1	210.2	-8.5	-3.9
Professional and business services	435.7	410.4	414.8	411.6	-24.1	-5.5
Education and health services	529.1	548.3	543.9	533.0	3.9	0.7
Leisure and hospitality	236.0	216.5	223.6	226.2	-9.8	-4.2
Other services	125.1	122.1	122.9	124.0	-1.1	-0.9
Government	356.8	361.5	359.3	358.5	1.7	0.5
San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont CA						
Total nonfarm	2,042.9	1,952.1	1,948.9	1,946.1	-96.8	-4.7
Mining and logging	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	-0.1	-7.1
Construction	111.2	93.4	92.0	92.6	-18.6	-16.7
Manufacturing	136.7	129.3	128.9	128.7	-8.0	-5.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	356.3	333.7	333.8	332.4	-23.9	-6.7
Information	68.1	65.2	64.9	64.5	-3.6	-5.3
Financial activities	145.1	134.6	134.3	134.6	-10.5	-7.2
Professional and business services	373.7	358.9	358.1	358.7	-15.0	-4.0
Education and health services	233.3	237.4	236.8	234.7	1.4	0.6
Leisure and hospitality	220.8	206.8	208.5	210.3	-10.5	-4.8
Other services	76.4	72.8	73.1	73.3	-3.1	-4.1
Government	319.9	318.6	317.1	315.0	-4.9	-1.5
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria DC-VA-MD-WV						
Total nonfarm	3,031.9	2,973.2	2,985.8	2,989.4	-42.5	-1.4
Mining, logging, and construction	175.8	156.0	157.6	158.6	-17.2	-9.8
Manufacturing	61.2	58.5	58.2	58.4	-2.8	-4.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	401.6	381.7	384.2	387.7	-13.9	-3.5
Information	92.0	86.3	86.3	86.1	-5.9	-6.4
Financial activities	155.9	148.7	148.5	148.6	-7.3	-4.7
Professional and business services	689.4	688.4	689.7	693.4	4.0	0.6
Education and health services	334.7	346.2	342.5	337.4	2.7	0.8
Leisure and hospitality	274.9	255.3	264.5	269.4	-5.5	-2.0
Other services	186.6	184.2	183.3	185.1	-1.5	-0.8
Government	659.8	667.9	671.0	664.7	4.9	0.7

(p) preliminary