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REGIONAL AND STATE UNEMPLOYMENT – 2009 ANNUAL AVERAGES

Annual average unemployment rates rose in 2009 in all regions, divisions, and states, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Employment-population ratios decreased across all of these geographic areas as well. The U.S. jobless rate jumped by 3.5 percentage points from the prior year to 9.3 percent, while the national employment-population ratio fell by 2.9 points to 59.3 percent.

Regional Unemployment

All four regions posted statistically significant unemployment rate increases from 2008. The West experienced the greatest jump (+3.8 percentage points), followed by the Midwest (+3.6 points), South (+3.4 points), and Northeast (+3.0 points). The West, at 10.1 percent, and Midwest, at 9.6 percent, registered jobless rates significantly higher than the U.S. rate in 2009. The Northeast and South, at 8.4 and 8.9 percent, respectively, both had rates significantly below the national figure. In 2009, the West recorded the highest annual jobless rate in its series. (All region, division, and state series begin in 1976.) (See table 1.)

All nine geographic divisions also reported statistically significant over-the-year unemployment rate increases in 2009, with the largest occurring in the Pacific and East North Central (+4.1 and +4.0 percentage points, respectively). The divisions with the smallest rate increases were the West North Central (+2.4 percentage points) and West South Central (+2.6 points). Three divisions registered unemployment rates over 10.0 percent: the Pacific division posted the highest rate, 10.9 percent, followed by the East North Central, 10.6 percent, and the East South Central, 10.2 percent—all three rates were significantly above the U.S. rate. The divisions with the lowest jobless rates last year were the West North Central, 7.3 percent, and West South Central, 7.4 percent. In addition to these two, the Middle Atlantic, Mountain, and New England divisions had rates significantly below the national figure. Two divisions reported the highest jobless rates in their series in 2009: the Pacific, 10.9 percent, and South Atlantic, 9.5 percent.

State Unemployment

All 50 states and the District of Columbia posted statistically significant unemployment rate increases in 2009. Michigan and Nevada experienced the largest increases in their jobless rates (+5.3 and +5.1 percentage points, respectively). Seven additional states recorded rate jumps of at least 4.0 percentage points. (See table A and chart 1.)

In 2009, 14 states and the District of Columbia reported unemployment rates of 10.0 percent or more. Michigan posted the highest unemployment rate for the fourth year in a row, 13.6 percent, followed by

Nevada, 11.8 percent, and South Carolina, 11.7 percent. North Dakota registered the lowest jobless rate among the states, 4.3 percent, with Nebraska and South Dakota close behind at 4.6 and 4.8 percent, respectively. Thirty states had unemployment rates that were significantly lower than the U.S. rate of 9.3 percent, and 13 states and the District of Columbia recorded rates significantly above it. Nine states reported the highest jobless rates in their annual series: California (11.4 percent), Delaware (8.1 percent), Florida (10.5 percent), Georgia (9.6 percent), Kansas (6.7 percent), Nevada (11.8 percent), North Carolina (10.6 percent), Rhode Island (11.2 percent), and South Carolina (11.7 percent). (See table B and chart 2.)

Regional Employment-Population Ratios

In 2009, all four regions registered statistically significant deterioration in their employment-population ratios—the proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years and older with a job. The West experienced the largest over-the-year decrease in its employment-population ratio (-3.3 percentage points), followed by the Midwest (-3.1 points), South (-2.7 points), and Northeast (-2.2 points). Despite the large decline in its employment-population ratio, the Midwest continued to report the highest ratio, 60.8 percent, while the South, at 58.3 percent, recorded the lowest. These two regions had employment-population ratios that were significantly different from the national figure of 59.3 percent. (See table 2.)

All nine divisions registered statistically significant decreases in their employment-population ratios in 2009. The East North Central reported the greatest drop (-3.5 percentage points), followed by the Pacific and South Atlantic (-3.3 points each) and East South Central and Mountain (-3.2 points each). In 2009, the East South Central again recorded the lowest proportion of employed persons, 54.4 percent, with the South Atlantic and Pacific posting the next lowest, 58.4 and 58.5 percent, respectively. All were significantly below the national average. The divisions with the highest employment-population ratios were the West North Central, 65.2 percent, and New England, 62.0 percent. The Mountain division also recorded an employment-population ratio significantly above the U.S. figure.

State Employment-Population Ratios

In 2009, all 50 states and the District of Columbia registered statistically significant decreases in their proportions of employed persons. Four states and the District of Columbia reported drops of 4.0 percentage points or more: Alabama (-4.4 points), Indiana and Michigan (-4.3 points), North Carolina (-4.1 points), and the District of Columbia (-4.0 points). Sixteen other states recorded declines in their employment-population ratios of -3.0 to -3.9 percentage points, 20 states had decreases of -2.0 to -2.9 points, and the remaining 10 states had declines of -1.0 to -1.9 points.

West Virginia again reported the lowest employment-population ratio among the states (50.5 percent), which it has done for 34 consecutive years. Almost half (24) of the states had employment-population ratios in 2009 that were below 60.0 percent, while no state registered a ratio of 70.0 percent or higher last year. Three states in the West North Central division again posted the highest ratios: North Dakota (69.4 percent) and Nebraska and South Dakota (68.9 percent each). Twenty-two states and the District of Columbia recorded employment-population ratios that were significantly above the U.S. ratio of 59.3 percent, and 16 states had ratios that were appreciably below it. The remaining 12 states reported ratios that were not measurably different from that of the nation. Four states registered the lowest employment-population ratios in their series in 2009: Hawaii (59.9 percent), Nevada (60.4 percent), North Carolina (57.0 percent), and South Carolina (55.0 percent). (See tables C and D and chart 3.)

The Regional and State Employment and Unemployment news release for January 2010 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, March 10, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. (EST). The Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment news release for January 2010 is scheduled to be released on Friday, March 19, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

Table A. States with statistically significant unemployment rate changes, 2008–09 annual averages

State	Rate		Over-the-year rate change
	2008	2009	
Alabama	5.2	10.1	4.9
Alaska	6.5	8.0	1.5
Arizona	5.9	9.1	3.2
Arkansas	5.2	7.3	2.1
California	7.2	11.4	4.2
Colorado	4.9	7.7	2.8
Connecticut	5.6	8.2	2.6
Delaware	4.9	8.1	3.2
District of Columbia	6.6	10.2	3.6
Florida	6.3	10.5	4.2
Georgia	6.2	9.6	3.4
Hawaii	4.0	6.8	2.8
Idaho	4.9	8.0	3.1
Illinois	6.4	10.1	3.7
Indiana	5.8	10.1	4.3
Iowa	4.4	6.0	1.6
Kansas	4.4	6.7	2.3
Kentucky	6.6	10.5	3.9
Louisiana	4.5	6.8	2.3
Maine	5.3	8.0	2.7
Maryland	4.4	7.0	2.6
Massachusetts	5.3	8.4	3.1
Michigan	8.3	13.6	5.3
Minnesota	5.4	8.0	2.6
Mississippi	6.8	9.6	2.8
Missouri	6.1	9.3	3.2
Montana	4.6	6.2	1.6
Nebraska	3.3	4.6	1.3
Nevada	6.7	11.8	5.1
New Hampshire	3.9	6.3	2.4
New Jersey	5.5	9.2	3.7
New Mexico	4.5	7.2	2.7
New York	5.3	8.4	3.1
North Carolina	6.2	10.6	4.4
North Dakota	3.2	4.3	1.1
Ohio	6.6	10.2	3.6
Oklahoma	3.7	6.4	2.7
Oregon	6.5	11.1	4.6
Pennsylvania	5.3	8.1	2.8
Rhode Island	7.6	11.2	3.6
South Carolina	6.9	11.7	4.8
South Dakota	3.1	4.8	1.7
Tennessee	6.7	10.5	3.8
Texas	4.9	7.6	2.7
Utah	3.7	6.6	2.9
Vermont	4.5	6.9	2.4
Virginia	3.9	6.7	2.8
Washington	5.4	8.9	3.5
West Virginia	4.3	7.9	3.6
Wisconsin	4.8	8.5	3.7
Wyoming	3.2	6.4	3.2

Table B. States with unemployment rates significantly different from that of the U.S., 2009 annual averages

State	Rate
United States	9.3
Alaska	8.0
Arkansas	7.3
California	11.4
Colorado	7.7
Connecticut	8.2
Delaware	8.1
District of Columbia	10.2
Florida	10.5
Hawaii	6.8
Idaho	8.0
Illinois	10.1
Indiana	10.1
Iowa	6.0
Kansas	6.7
Kentucky	10.5
Louisiana	6.8
Maine	8.0
Maryland	7.0
Massachusetts	8.4
Michigan	13.6
Minnesota	8.0
Montana	6.2
Nebraska	4.6
Nevada	11.8
New Hampshire	6.3
New Mexico	7.2
New York	8.4
North Carolina	10.6
North Dakota	4.3
Ohio	10.2
Oklahoma	6.4
Oregon	11.1
Pennsylvania	8.1
Rhode Island	11.2
South Carolina	11.7
South Dakota	4.8
Tennessee	10.5
Texas	7.6
Utah	6.6
Vermont	6.9
Virginia	6.7
West Virginia	7.9
Wisconsin	8.5
Wyoming	6.4

Table C. States with statistically significant employment-population ratio changes, 2008–09 annual averages

State	Ratio		Over-the-year ratio change
	2008	2009	
Alabama	56.8	52.4	-4.4
Alaska	66.5	64.5	-2.0
Arizona	60.3	57.7	-2.6
Arkansas	59.6	57.6	-2.0
California	61.2	57.7	-3.5
Colorado	68.8	64.9	-3.9
Connecticut	64.7	63.1	-1.6
Delaware	61.8	58.2	-3.6
District of Columbia	65.1	61.1	-4.0
Florida	59.6	56.4	-3.2
Georgia	63.0	59.1	-3.9
Hawaii	62.9	59.9	-3.0
Idaho	63.6	60.1	-3.5
Illinois	63.6	60.1	-3.5
Indiana	62.6	58.3	-4.3
Iowa	69.3	67.5	-1.8
Kansas	67.6	66.6	-1.0
Kentucky	57.8	56.0	-1.8
Louisiana	58.8	56.7	-2.1
Maine	62.8	60.8	-2.0
Maryland	66.3	63.0	-3.3
Massachusetts	63.3	60.7	-2.6
Michigan	58.6	54.3	-4.3
Minnesota	68.7	66.9	-1.8
Mississippi	55.3	53.1	-2.2
Missouri	62.5	59.7	-2.8
Montana	64.2	61.1	-3.1
Nebraska	71.1	68.9	-2.2
Nevada	63.6	60.4	-3.2
New Hampshire	68.0	65.8	-2.2
New Jersey	63.2	60.7	-2.5
New Mexico	61.0	58.3	-2.7
New York	59.9	57.8	-2.1
North Carolina	61.1	57.0	-4.1
North Dakota	70.8	69.4	-1.4
Ohio	62.6	59.7	-2.9
Oklahoma	61.4	59.7	-1.7
Oregon	61.4	58.1	-3.3
Pennsylvania	61.6	59.3	-2.3
Rhode Island	63.0	60.1	-2.9
South Carolina	57.9	55.0	-2.9
South Dakota	70.8	68.9	-1.9
Tennessee	59.0	55.5	-3.5
Texas	62.3	60.9	-1.4
Utah	68.1	64.6	-3.5
Vermont	67.8	66.2	-1.6
Virginia	66.8	64.8	-2.0
Washington	64.7	62.2	-2.5
West Virginia	53.4	50.5	-2.9
Wisconsin	66.9	63.9	-3.0
Wyoming	69.4	66.0	-3.4

Table D. States with employment-population ratios significantly different from that of the U.S., 2009 annual averages

State	Ratio
United States	59.3
Alabama	52.4
Alaska	64.5
Arizona	57.7
Arkansas	57.6
California	57.7
Colorado	64.9
Connecticut	63.1
Delaware	58.2
District of Columbia	61.1
Florida	56.4
Iowa	67.5
Kansas	66.6
Kentucky	56.0
Louisiana	56.7
Maine	60.8
Maryland	63.0
Massachusetts	60.7
Michigan	54.3
Minnesota	66.9
Mississippi	53.1
Montana	61.1
Nebraska	68.9
New Hampshire	65.8
New Jersey	60.7
New York	57.8
North Carolina	57.0
North Dakota	69.4
Oregon	58.1
South Carolina	55.0
South Dakota	68.9
Tennessee	55.5
Texas	60.9
Utah	64.6
Vermont	66.2
Virginia	64.8
Washington	62.2
West Virginia	50.5
Wisconsin	63.9
Wyoming	66.0

Technical Note

This release presents labor force and unemployment data for census regions and divisions and states from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program. The LAUS program is a federal-state cooperative endeavor.

Concepts

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. The *employment-population ratio* is the proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population aged 16 years and over that is employed.

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 Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey of nonfarm payroll employment, 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 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. 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 5 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.

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 were the development of model-based error measures for the monthly estimates and the estimates of over-the-month changes. Annual average error measures became available for the first time after 2006. The introductory section of this release preserves the long-time practice of highlighting the direction of the movements in regional and state unemployment rates regardless of their statistical significance. The remainder of the analysis in the release takes statistical significance into consideration. Model-based error measures are available online at 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 over-the-year change in an annual average state unemployment rate that is required in order to be statistically significant at the 90-percent confidence level is about 0.5 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* available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/opub/ee/home.htm.

Additional information

More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in

Employment and Earnings Online.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over by region, division, and state, 2008-09 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Region, division, and state	Population		Civilian labor force		Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment rate		Error range of rate, 2009 ¹	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009		
United States	233,788	235,801	154,287	154,142	145,362	139,877	8,924	14,265	5.8	9.3	9.2	- 9.3
Northeast	43,280	43,565	28,325	28,387	26,809	25,995	1,516	2,392	5.4	8.4	8.2	- 8.6
New England	11,363	11,450	7,710	7,737	7,297	7,096	413	641	5.4	8.3	8.0	- 8.6
Connecticut	2,727	2,748	1,870	1,890	1,766	1,734	104	156	5.6	8.2	7.7	- 8.8
Maine	1,063	1,066	705	704	668	647	38	57	5.3	8.0	7.5	- 8.6
Massachusetts	5,185	5,237	3,465	3,473	3,282	3,181	183	293	5.3	8.4	7.8	- 9.0
New Hampshire	1,050	1,056	743	742	714	695	29	47	3.9	6.3	5.9	- 6.7
Rhode Island	835	837	570	567	526	503	43	64	7.6	11.2	10.5	- 11.9
Vermont	504	506	357	360	341	335	16	25	4.5	6.9	6.4	- 7.4
Middle Atlantic	31,917	32,115	20,615	20,650	19,512	18,899	1,102	1,751	5.3	8.5	8.2	- 8.7
New Jersey	6,731	6,780	4,503	4,537	4,257	4,118	246	418	5.5	9.2	8.7	- 9.8
New York	15,293	15,386	9,671	9,699	9,157	8,886	514	813	5.3	8.4	8.0	- 8.7
Pennsylvania	9,892	9,948	6,441	6,414	6,099	5,895	342	519	5.3	8.1	7.7	- 8.5
Midwest	51,317	51,606	34,922	34,723	32,811	31,397	2,111	3,327	6.0	9.6	9.4	- 9.8
East North Central	35,803	35,972	23,961	23,731	22,390	21,208	1,571	2,523	6.6	10.6	10.3	- 10.9
Illinois	9,822	9,892	6,676	6,606	6,248	5,941	428	665	6.4	10.1	9.5	- 10.6
Indiana	4,877	4,912	3,244	3,185	3,055	2,865	189	320	5.8	10.1	9.3	- 10.8
Michigan	7,780	7,782	4,976	4,889	4,563	4,224	413	665	8.3	13.6	12.9	- 14.3
Ohio	8,939	8,970	5,985	5,970	5,592	5,359	393	611	6.6	10.2	9.7	- 10.8
Wisconsin	4,386	4,416	3,081	3,081	2,933	2,820	148	262	4.8	8.5	8.0	- 9.0
West North Central	15,513	15,633	10,960	10,992	10,420	10,189	540	803	4.9	7.3	7.0	- 7.6
Iowa	2,317	2,330	1,678	1,674	1,605	1,574	73	100	4.4	6.0	5.5	- 6.4
Kansas	2,112	2,129	1,494	1,519	1,428	1,417	66	102	4.4	6.7	6.2	- 7.2
Minnesota	4,046	4,081	2,938	2,968	2,780	2,732	158	236	5.4	8.0	7.5	- 8.4
Missouri	4,577	4,611	3,047	3,037	2,861	2,754	186	283	6.1	9.3	8.6	- 10.0
Nebraska	1,352	1,362	993	984	961	938	33	45	3.3	4.6	4.2	- 5.0
North Dakota	498	503	364	365	353	349	12	16	3.2	4.3	3.9	- 4.8
South Dakota	611	617	446	446	433	425	14	21	3.1	4.8	4.4	- 5.1
South	85,026	86,081	54,880	55,063	51,853	50,146	3,027	4,917	5.5	8.9	8.8	- 9.1
South Atlantic	45,059	45,574	29,498	29,416	27,814	26,634	1,684	2,781	5.7	9.5	9.2	- 9.7
Delaware	678	687	441	435	419	400	22	35	4.9	8.1	7.5	- 8.7
District of Columbia	480	488	334	332	312	298	22	34	6.6	10.2	9.5	- 11.0
Florida	14,487	14,602	9,206	9,197	8,628	8,232	578	966	6.3	10.5	10.1	- 10.9
Georgia	7,197	7,300	4,838	4,769	4,536	4,312	302	457	6.2	9.6	9.0	- 10.2
Maryland	4,367	4,407	3,026	2,987	2,894	2,778	133	209	4.4	7.0	6.6	- 7.4
North Carolina	7,019	7,129	4,570	4,545	4,287	4,061	283	484	6.2	10.6	10.1	- 11.2
South Carolina	3,445	3,497	2,143	2,179	1,995	1,924	147	255	6.9	11.7	10.9	- 12.5
Virginia	5,936	6,011	4,131	4,174	3,968	3,896	162	278	3.9	6.7	6.2	- 7.1
West Virginia	1,449	1,454	809	798	774	735	34	63	4.3	7.9	7.1	- 8.8
East South Central	13,918	14,027	8,552	8,505	8,013	7,635	539	870	6.3	10.2	9.7	- 10.7
Alabama	3,598	3,627	2,156	2,113	2,044	1,900	112	212	5.2	10.1	8.9	- 11.2
Kentucky	3,308	3,329	2,047	2,080	1,912	1,863	135	218	6.6	10.5	9.7	- 11.2
Mississippi	2,189	2,201	1,299	1,292	1,210	1,169	89	123	6.8	9.6	8.7	- 10.4
Tennessee	4,822	4,870	3,050	3,020	2,846	2,703	204	317	6.7	10.5	9.8	- 11.2
West South Central	26,049	26,480	16,830	17,142	16,026	15,877	804	1,265	4.8	7.4	7.1	- 7.7
Arkansas	2,188	2,205	1,376	1,370	1,305	1,271	72	100	5.2	7.3	6.5	- 8.0
Louisiana	3,360	3,397	2,067	2,068	1,975	1,926	92	141	4.5	6.8	6.0	- 7.7
Oklahoma	2,748	2,778	1,751	1,773	1,687	1,660	64	114	3.7	6.4	5.8	- 7.0
Texas	17,753	18,099	11,635	11,931	11,059	11,020	576	911	4.9	7.6	7.3	- 8.0
West	53,578	54,323	35,761	35,818	33,517	32,206	2,244	3,612	6.3	10.1	9.9	- 10.3
Mountain	16,353	16,617	11,082	11,076	10,511	10,154	570	922	5.1	8.3	8.0	- 8.6
Arizona	4,868	4,951	3,117	3,143	2,934	2,858	183	284	5.9	9.1	8.3	- 9.8
Colorado	3,770	3,840	2,728	2,701	2,595	2,493	132	208	4.9	7.7	7.2	- 8.2
Idaho	1,132	1,147	756	750	719	690	37	60	4.9	8.0	7.2	- 8.8
Montana	758	765	510	499	487	468	23	31	4.6	6.2	5.5	- 6.9
Nevada	1,976	2,001	1,347	1,370	1,257	1,209	90	161	6.7	11.8	11.0	- 12.5
New Mexico	1,505	1,522	961	956	918	887	43	69	4.5	7.2	6.4	- 7.9
Utah	1,934	1,973	1,368	1,364	1,317	1,275	51	90	3.7	6.6	6.0	- 7.1
Wyoming	410	417	294	294	285	275	9	19	3.2	6.4	5.8	- 6.9
Pacific	37,225	37,706	24,680	24,741	23,005	22,052	1,674	2,689	6.8	10.9	10.6	- 11.1
Alaska	503	515	357	361	334	332	23	29	6.5	8.0	7.2	- 8.7
California	27,679	28,025	18,252	18,250	16,938	16,164	1,313	2,086	7.2	11.4	11.1	- 11.8
Hawaii	985	992	646	638	620	595	26	43	4.0	6.8	6.2	- 7.3
Oregon	2,970	3,008	1,949	1,964	1,823	1,747	126	217	6.5	11.1	10.4	- 11.7
Washington	5,087	5,167	3,476	3,529	3,290	3,215	186	314	5.4	8.9	8.3	- 9.5
Puerto Rico	3,050	3,070	1,366	1,326	1,209	1,127	158	199	11.5	15.0	NA	

¹ Error ranges are shown at the 90-percent confidence level and are based on unrounded data. NA = Data not available.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. Unemployment rates are in percent and are based on

unrounded levels. Data for subnational areas reflect revised population controls and model reestimation. As a result, they will not add to U.S. totals. Data for Puerto Rico are derived from a monthly household survey similar to the Current Population Survey.

Table 2. Employment-population ratios of persons 16 years of age and over by region, division, and state, 2008-09 annual averages

(Percent)

Region, division, and state	Employment-population ratio ¹		Over-the-year change	Error range of employment-population ratio, 2009 ²	
	2008	2009			
United States	62.2	59.3	-2.9	59.1	- 59.5
Northeast	61.9	59.7	-2.2	59.2	- 60.1
New England	64.2	62.0	-2.2	61.3	- 62.7
Connecticut	64.7	63.1	-1.6	61.9	- 64.3
Maine	62.8	60.8	-2.0	59.5	- 62.0
Massachusetts	63.3	60.7	-2.6	59.6	- 61.8
New Hampshire	68.0	65.8	-2.2	64.8	- 66.8
Rhode Island	63.0	60.1	-2.9	59.0	- 61.3
Vermont	67.8	66.2	-1.6	65.0	- 67.4
Middle Atlantic	61.1	58.8	-2.3	58.3	- 59.4
New Jersey	63.2	60.7	-2.5	59.8	- 61.7
New York	59.9	57.8	-2.1	57.1	- 58.4
Pennsylvania	61.6	59.3	-2.3	58.4	- 60.1
Midwest	63.9	60.8	-3.1	60.4	- 61.2
East North Central	62.5	59.0	-3.5	58.4	- 59.5
Illinois	63.6	60.1	-3.5	59.1	- 61.0
Indiana	62.6	58.3	-4.3	56.9	- 59.8
Michigan	58.6	54.3	-4.3	53.3	- 55.3
Ohio	62.6	59.7	-2.9	58.9	- 60.6
Wisconsin	66.9	63.9	-3.0	62.5	- 65.2
West North Central	67.2	65.2	-2.0	64.6	- 65.8
Iowa	69.3	67.5	-1.8	66.5	- 68.6
Kansas	67.6	66.6	-1.0	65.4	- 67.7
Minnesota	68.7	66.9	-1.8	65.8	- 68.1
Missouri	62.5	59.7	-2.8	58.4	- 61.1
Nebraska	71.1	68.9	-2.2	67.7	- 70.0
North Dakota	70.8	69.4	-1.4	67.7	- 71.1
South Dakota	70.8	68.9	-1.9	67.7	- 70.1
South	61.0	58.3	-2.7	57.9	- 58.6
South Atlantic	61.7	58.4	-3.3	58.0	- 58.9
Delaware	61.8	58.2	-3.6	57.1	- 59.3
District of Columbia	65.1	61.1	-4.0	59.9	- 62.3
Florida	59.6	56.4	-3.2	55.5	- 57.3
Georgia	63.0	59.1	-3.9	58.1	- 60.0
Maryland	66.3	63.0	-3.3	62.1	- 63.9
North Carolina	61.1	57.0	-4.1	55.9	- 58.0
South Carolina	57.9	55.0	-2.9	54.0	- 56.0
Virginia	66.8	64.8	-2.0	64.0	- 65.7
West Virginia	53.4	50.5	-2.9	48.9	- 52.2
East South Central	57.6	54.4	-3.2	53.6	- 55.3
Alabama	56.8	52.4	-4.4	50.7	- 54.1
Kentucky	57.8	56.0	-1.8	54.6	- 57.3
Mississippi	55.3	53.1	-2.2	51.5	- 54.6
Tennessee	59.0	55.5	-3.5	54.3	- 56.7
West South Central	61.5	60.0	-1.5	59.3	- 60.6
Arkansas	59.6	57.6	-2.0	56.4	- 58.8
Louisiana	58.8	56.7	-2.1	55.1	- 58.3
Oklahoma	61.4	59.7	-1.7	58.4	- 61.1
Texas	62.3	60.9	-1.4	60.2	- 61.6
West	62.6	59.3	-3.3	58.9	- 59.6
Mountain	64.3	61.1	-3.2	60.5	- 61.7
Arizona	60.3	57.7	-2.6	56.3	- 59.2
Colorado	68.8	64.9	-3.9	63.4	- 66.4
Idaho	63.6	60.1	-3.5	58.7	- 61.6
Montana	64.2	61.1	-3.1	59.8	- 62.5
Nevada	63.6	60.4	-3.2	59.2	- 61.6
New Mexico	61.0	58.3	-2.7	57.3	- 59.3
Utah	68.1	64.6	-3.5	63.1	- 66.2
Wyoming	69.4	66.0	-3.4	64.6	- 67.3
Pacific	61.8	58.5	-3.3	58.1	- 58.9
Alaska	66.5	64.5	-2.0	62.8	- 66.3
California	61.2	57.7	-3.5	57.2	- 58.1
Hawaii	62.9	59.9	-3.0	58.7	- 61.2
Oregon	61.4	58.1	-3.3	57.1	- 59.1
Washington	64.7	62.2	-2.5	61.2	- 63.2
Puerto Rico	39.6	36.7	-2.9	NA	

¹ Employment as a percent of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over.

² Error ranges are shown at the 90-percent confidence level and are based on unrounded data.

NA = Data not available.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. Employment-population ratios are based on unrounded levels. Data for subnational areas reflect revised population controls and model reestimation. Data for Puerto Rico are derived from a monthly household survey similar to the Current Population Survey.

Chart 1. Over-the-year change in unemployment rates by state, 2009 annual averages

(U.S. change = +3.5 percentage points)

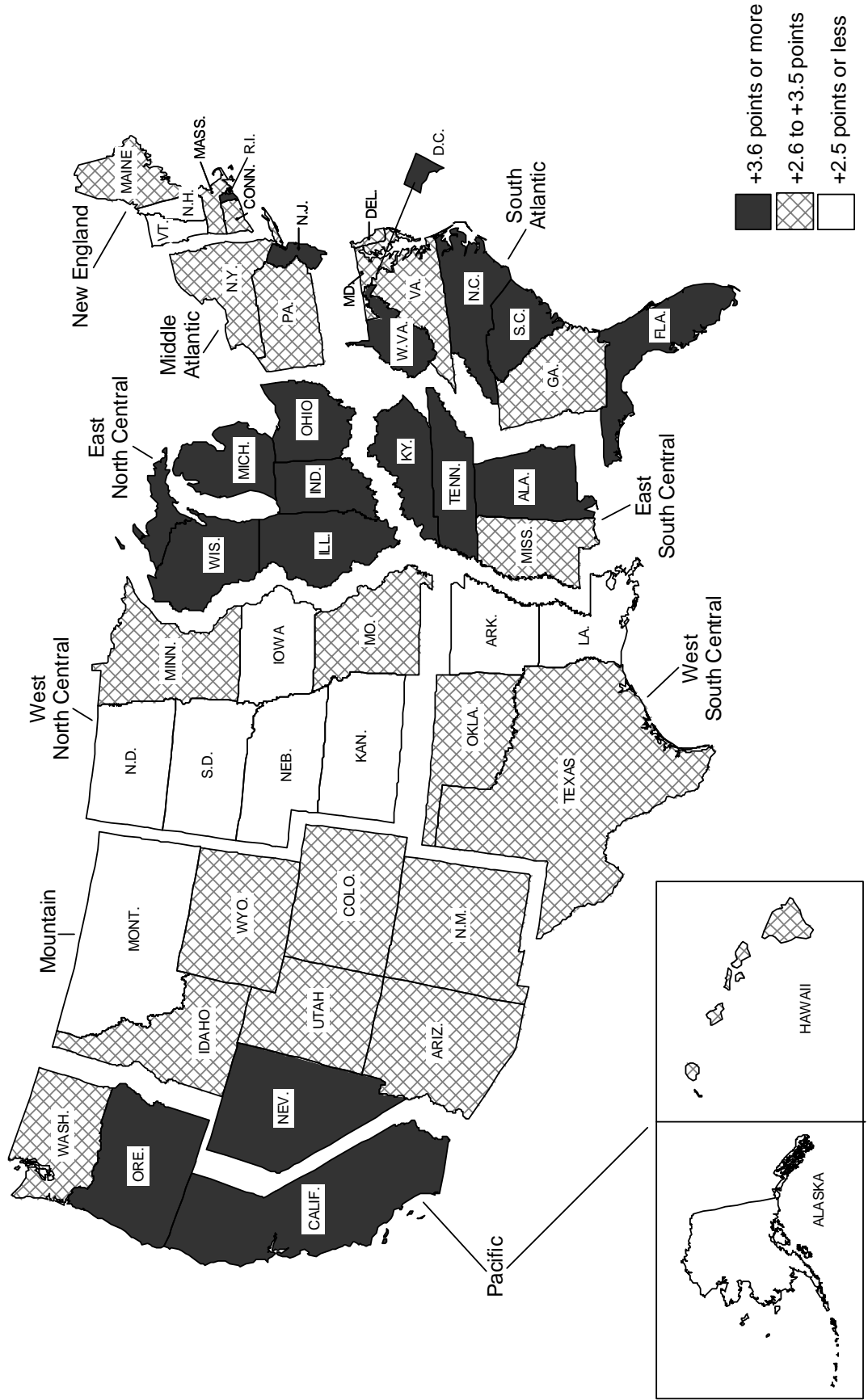


Chart 2. Unemployment rates by state, 2009 annual averages

(U.S. rate = 9.3 percent)

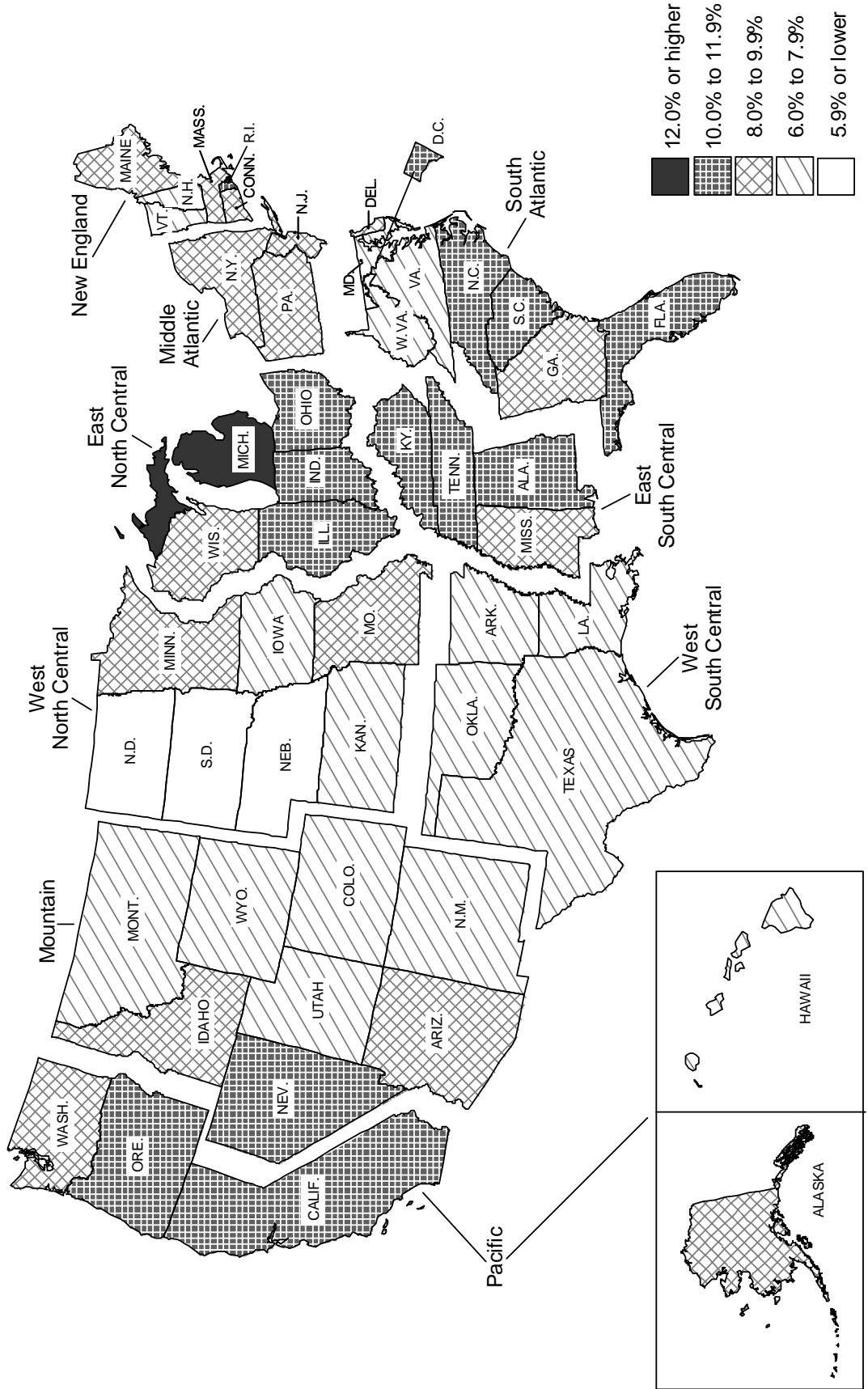


Chart 3. Employment-population ratios by state, 2009 annual averages

(U.S. average = 59.3 percent)

