



Technical information:

Employment: (202) 691-6559
<http://www.bls.gov/sae/>

USDL 02-649

Unemployment: 691-6392
<http://www.bls.gov/lau/>

For release: 10:00 A.M. EST

Media contact: 691-5902

Wednesday, November 20, 2002

REGIONAL AND STATE EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT: OCTOBER 2002

Regional and state unemployment rates were generally stable in October. All four regions recorded little change from September, and 44 states and the District of Columbia recorded shifts of 0.3 percentage point or less, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The national jobless rate was essentially unchanged at 5.7 percent in October. Nonfarm employment decreased in 25 states and the District of Columbia in October.

Regional Unemployment (Seasonally Adjusted)

In October, the South reported the lowest unemployment rate, 5.2 percent, closely followed by the Midwest and Northeast with rates of 5.3 percent each. The West continued to post the highest rate, 6.1 percent. Over the year, the Northeast registered the largest unemployment rate increase (+0.5 percentage point). The Midwest and West also reported rate increases (+0.4 and +0.3 point, respectively). The unemployment rate in the South was unchanged over the year. (See table 1.)

Among the nine geographic divisions, the West North Central again registered the lowest unemployment rate, 4.2 percent. The Pacific division continued to have the highest rate, 6.4 percent. All divisions recorded little to no rate change from September. Over the year, the New England division had the largest unemployment rate increase (+0.7 percentage point), followed by the East North Central, Middle Atlantic, and West South Central divisions (+0.5 point each). The East South Central division reported an over-the-year jobless rate decline of 0.3 percentage point.

State Unemployment (Seasonally Adjusted)

Among the states, South Dakota continued to register the lowest unemployment rate, 2.7 percent in October, followed once more by two other West North Central division states—Nebraska, 3.2 percent, and North Dakota, 3.7 percent. Oregon posted the highest jobless rate, 7.0 percent, followed by Alaska, 6.8 percent, and Illinois, Mississippi, and Washington, 6.7 percent each. (See table 3 and chart 1.)

Over the month, unemployment rates decreased in 22 states and the District of Columbia, increased in 18 states, and were unchanged in 10 states. Alaska and Washington reported the largest over-the-month rate declines (-0.7 percentage point each). Mississippi had the largest rate increase from September (+0.8 point). No other state had a rate change of 0.5 percentage point or more.

Compared with October 2001, jobless rates were higher in 25 states, lower in 20 states and the District of Columbia, and unchanged in 5 states. Nevada posted the largest unemployment rate decline (-2.1 percentage points), followed by Hawaii (-1.4 points). Both states had registered substantial rate increases in October 2001, due to a dropoff in tourism and employment in related activities, such as hotels and casinos. Kentucky and South Dakota recorded the next largest over-the-year rate declines (-1.1 and -1.0 points, respectively). West Virginia again registered the largest over-the-year unemployment rate increase (+1.6 percentage points). Of the four states with the next largest rate increase (+1.0 percentage point each), three were located in the Midwest—Illinois, North Dakota, and Ohio.

Nonfarm Payroll Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

Total nonfarm employment decreased in 25 states and the District of Columbia and increased in 25 states in October. The largest employment decreases occurred in North Carolina (-11,200), Georgia (-10,600), Michigan (-8,000), and Texas (-7,300). Delaware reported the largest over-the-month percentage decline in employment (-1.0 percent), followed by Iowa (-0.4 percent) and Alabama, Georgia, New Hampshire, North Carolina, and South Dakota (-0.3 percent each). The largest employment increases were posted in California (+19,800), Arizona (+16,400), New Jersey (+10,400), and Nevada (+8,000). Arizona, Nevada, and Vermont reported the largest over-the-month percentage increases in employment (+0.7 percent each), followed by Nebraska (+0.6 percent) and New Mexico (+0.4 percent). (See table 5.)

Over the year, employment decreased in 34 states and the District of Columbia. The largest employment decreases were in Georgia (-86,500), Illinois (-63,900), Texas (-47,700), and Ohio (-47,500). Georgia recorded the largest percentage decline in employment (-2.2 percent), followed by Delaware (-1.8 percent), Colorado (-1.6 percent), and Missouri and Utah (-1.5 percent each). The biggest over-the-year gains in employment occurred in Nevada (+30,300), Florida (+27,200), Kentucky (+22,800), and Wisconsin (+22,000). The largest percentage increases were reported in Nevada (+2.9 percent), Montana (+1.9 percent), Alaska (+1.4 percent), and Kentucky (+1.3 percent). (See chart 2.)

Over the year, most major industry divisions experienced employment declines. Manufacturing remained the weakest industry division, with 48 states and the District of Columbia posting over-the-year employment decreases. Employment losses also were widespread in transportation and public utilities, with 44 states and the District of Columbia experiencing over-the-year declines. In contrast to these losses, 42 states reported employment gains in government, and 37 states and the District of Columbia reported over-the-year employment gains in services.

The Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment release for October is scheduled to be issued on November 27, 2002. The Regional and State Employment and Unemployment release for November is scheduled to be issued on December 20, 2002.

Upcoming Changes to State and Metropolitan Area Nonfarm Payroll Series in March 2003

NAICS conversion. The nonfarm payroll series for states and metropolitan areas, produced from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program and presented for states in tables 5 and 6 of this news release, will be converted from the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) basis to the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) basis with the release in March 2003 of January 2003 estimates. The NAICS conversion involves major definitional changes to many of the currently published SIC-based series. After the conversion to NAICS, SIC-based series will no longer be produced or published. Historical time series will be reconstructed as part of the NAICS conversion process. At the state and metropolitan area level, the NAICS-based reconstruction effort will cover only the all employee series, which will have a NAICS-based history extending back to January 1990, except for total nonfarm employment series, which will retain their current beginning dates. There will be no reconstruction of average weekly hours, average hourly earnings, or other data types; these series will begin in January 2001 on a NAICS basis.

Completion of the CES sample redesign. March 2003 also will mark the completion of the CES sample redesign phase-in at the state and metropolitan area level. The redesign converts the CES from a quota-based sample to a probability-based sample. In March 2003, at the state and metropolitan area level, the transportation and public utilities; finance, insurance, and real estate; retail trade; and services industries will be converted to the new sample. All other private sector industries have already been converted. The final stage of sample redesign phase-in may result in level shifts for average weekly hours, average hourly earnings, and production worker employment series. New levels for these series are being recomputed from the NAICS-probability sample.

Small domain models. With the full implementation of the CES sample redesign at the state and metropolitan area level in March 2003, some redistribution of sample from smaller to larger metropolitan areas will be needed in order to maximize the reliability of the statewide total nonfarm estimates. In order to sustain the viability of the employment series for smaller domains, primarily detailed industry series within the smallest metropolitan areas, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has developed a small domain model, based on weighted least squares regression methodology. The inputs for the model are available sample, time series history, and additional information from the full state sample. In March 2003, the model will be implemented as the official estimator for the approximately 10 percent of CES published series which have insufficient sample for direct sample-based estimates.

Further information on upcoming changes to CES data series is available through the BLS public database at the state and area homepage at <http://www.bls.gov/sae/> or by calling 202-691-6559.

Technical Note

This release presents labor force and unemployment data for census regions and divisions, states, the Los Angeles-Long Beach metropolitan area, and New York City from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program (tables 1-4). Also presented are nonfarm payroll employment estimates by state and major industry 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 labor force includes both the employed and the unemployed. Employed persons are those who did any work at all for pay or profit in the survey reference week (the week including the 12th of the month) or worked 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or farm, plus those not working who have a job from which they were temporarily absent, whether or not paid, for such reasons as labor-management dispute, illness, or vacation. Unemployed persons are those who did not work at all (in the reference week), have actively looked for a job (sometime in the 4-week period ending with the survey reference week), and are currently available for work; persons on layoff expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed.

Method of estimation. Effective January 1996, estimates for all states, the District of Columbia, the Los Angeles-Long Beach metropolitan area, and New York City are produced using estimating equations based on regression techniques. This method utilizes data from several sources, including the CPS, the CES, and state unemployment insurance (UI) data. A detailed description of the estimation procedures is available from BLS upon request. Effective January 1998, estimates for census regions and divisions are obtained by summing the model-based estimates for the component states and then calculating the unemployment rate.

Annual revisions. Labor force and unemployment data shown for the prior year reflect adjustments made at the end of each year, usually with January estimates. The adjusted estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau and any revisions in the other data sources. In addition, data for all states, the District of Columbia, and the two large substate areas noted are adjusted annually to equal the CPS annual averages, usually effective with January estimates. The regional and state data will not sum to national totals obtained from the CPS, since the monthly state estimates are not based directly on the CPS.

Seasonal adjustment. Seasonal adjustment of state (and Los Angeles-Long Beach and New York City) labor force levels are computed by aggregating independently seasonally adjusted employment and unemployment levels. Unemployment rates are then computed from these independently adjusted levels. Region and

division levels are calculated as the sum of the levels of the component states. Revisions of historical data for the most recent 5 years are usually made at the beginning of each calendar year, usually coincident with January estimates.

Employment from the CES program

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month, except for federal government employment, which represents the number of persons who occupied positions on the last day 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 product or activity in accordance with the *1987 Standard Industrial Classification Manual*.

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.

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.

Seasonal adjustment. Seasonally adjusted payroll employment totals for states are computed by aggregating independently adjusted series for major industry divisions. 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 survey and administrative data and thus are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability—

that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data 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 special estimation processes used. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding. With respect to the LAUS program, unemployment rates are computed, in most instances, from unrounded data rather than from data that may be displayed in the tables; differences, however, are generally insignificant.

Labor force and unemployment estimates. Measures of sampling error, in the form of standard errors for state annual average estimates derived from the CPS, are available in the annual BLS bulletin, *Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment*. Measures of nonsampling error for CPS data are not available, but additional information on the subject is provided in the BLS monthly periodical, *Employment and Earnings*.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error are not available for state CES data, but the relatively large size of the samples maintained by the state agencies and the annual adjustment of employment estimates to more recent benchmark levels assure a high

degree of accuracy. Information on recent benchmark revisions for states is available upon request.

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), and from the *BLS Handbook of Methods*, Bulletin 2490, August 1997.

Estimates of labor force and unemployment for over 330 metropolitan areas 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 from the BLS Internet at (<http://www.bls.gov/lau/>). Employment data from the CES program are available 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.

Table 1. Civilian labor force and unemployment by census regions and divisions, seasonally adjusted¹

(Numbers in thousands)

Census region and division	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	Oct. 2001	Aug. 2002	Sept. 2002	Oct. 2002 ^P	Oct. 2001	Aug. 2002	Sept. 2002	Oct. 2002 ^P	Oct. 2001	Aug. 2002	Sept. 2002	Oct. 2002 ^P
Northeast	26,315.7	26,740.4	26,718.9	26,740.7	1,268.5	1,425.6	1,395.5	1,428.6	4.8	5.3	5.2	5.3
New England	7,221.1	7,352.2	7,355.9	7,375.5	296.4	343.9	347.1	351.1	4.1	4.7	4.7	4.8
Middle Atlantic	19,094.6	19,388.2	19,363.0	19,365.3	972.0	1,081.7	1,048.4	1,077.4	5.1	5.6	5.4	5.6
South	49,611.2	50,215.2	50,247.8	50,226.4	2,583.9	2,704.2	2,665.3	2,632.9	5.2	5.4	5.3	5.2
South Atlantic	25,889.2	26,225.2	26,197.3	26,173.4	1,302.8	1,350.0	1,309.3	1,282.8	5.0	5.1	5.0	4.9
East South Central	8,245.5	8,306.6	8,321.7	8,333.3	454.1	438.7	440.6	435.3	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.2
West South Central	15,476.6	15,683.4	15,728.7	15,719.7	827.1	915.5	915.5	914.8	5.3	5.8	5.8	5.8
Midwest	33,970.6	34,122.9	34,086.4	34,083.6	1,661.4	1,811.1	1,778.4	1,793.6	4.9	5.3	5.2	5.3
East North Central	23,526.0	23,541.2	23,503.4	23,497.0	1,232.0	1,365.9	1,336.7	1,350.6	5.2	5.8	5.7	5.7
West North Central	10,444.6	10,581.8	10,583.0	10,586.6	429.5	445.1	441.8	443.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2
West	32,352.9	32,632.1	32,714.7	32,775.1	1,883.6	2,003.2	2,024.1	1,991.4	5.8	6.1	6.2	6.1
Mountain	9,176.8	9,350.5	9,342.0	9,363.4	462.9	493.0	495.1	491.5	5.0	5.3	5.3	5.2
Pacific	23,176.0	23,281.7	23,372.7	23,411.6	1,420.8	1,510.3	1,529.0	1,499.9	6.1	6.5	6.5	6.4

¹ These estimates are obtained by summing the state estimates.

^P = preliminary.

NOTE: 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. All estimates are provisional and will be revised when new benchmark and population information becomes available.

Table 2. Civilian labor force and unemployment by census regions and divisions, not seasonally adjusted¹

(Numbers in thousands)

Census region and division	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	September		October		September		October		September		October	
2001	2002	2001	2002 ^P	2001	2002	2001	2002 ^P	2001	2002	2001	2002 ^P	
Northeast	26,190.6	26,564.4	26,298.7	26,692.8	1,182.3	1,349.5	1,202.5	1,359.4	4.5	5.1	4.6	5.1
New England	7,182.8	7,315.8	7,217.2	7,361.9	269.6	330.7	271.0	327.7	3.8	4.5	3.8	4.5
Middle Atlantic	19,007.8	19,248.6	19,081.6	19,331.0	912.7	1,018.9	931.4	1,031.7	4.8	5.3	4.9	5.3
South	49,493.7	50,244.2	49,725.9	50,309.7	2,441.9	2,656.8	2,534.1	2,585.7	4.9	5.3	5.1	5.1
South Atlantic	25,835.5	26,209.0	25,946.6	26,216.8	1,238.0	1,323.2	1,305.1	1,288.0	4.8	5.0	5.0	4.9
East South Central	8,220.0	8,310.5	8,269.9	8,348.5	417.2	423.8	451.1	433.7	5.1	5.1	5.5	5.2
West South Central	15,438.2	15,724.7	15,509.4	15,744.4	786.6	909.7	777.9	864.0	5.1	5.8	5.0	5.5
Midwest	33,835.1	33,979.2	34,014.4	34,086.9	1,474.1	1,652.7	1,500.0	1,620.1	4.4	4.9	4.4	4.8
East North Central	23,430.6	23,435.3	23,557.2	23,501.0	1,089.5	1,240.6	1,112.6	1,221.5	4.7	5.3	4.7	5.2
West North Central	10,404.5	10,543.9	10,457.2	10,585.9	384.6	412.1	387.4	398.5	3.7	3.9	3.7	3.8
West	32,323.8	32,764.7	32,475.6	32,870.2	1,708.4	1,941.0	1,813.4	1,919.8	5.3	5.9	5.6	5.8
Mountain	9,193.7	9,383.9	9,224.7	9,400.4	422.5	484.8	448.7	476.2	4.6	5.2	4.9	5.1
Pacific	23,130.1	23,380.8	23,250.9	23,469.8	1,285.9	1,456.2	1,364.7	1,443.7	5.6	6.2	5.9	6.2

¹ These estimates are obtained by summing the state estimates. The composition of the regions and divisions is described in table 1.

^P = preliminary.

NOTE: All estimates are provisional and will be revised when new benchmark and population information becomes available.

**LABOR FORCE DATA
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

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SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

Table 3. Civilian labor force and unemployment by state and selected areas, seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

State and Area	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	Oct. 2001	Aug. 2002	Sept. 2002	Oct. 2002 ^P	Oct. 2001	Aug. 2002	Sept. 2002	Oct. 2002 ^P	Oct. 2001	Aug. 2002	Sept. 2002	Oct. 2002 ^P
Alabama	2,152.9	2,146.7	2,151.5	2,157.1	123.5	122.2	121.6	121.2	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.6
Alaska	322.4	332.2	333.8	332.6	19.6	24.4	24.9	22.7	6.1	7.3	7.5	6.8
Arizona	2,448.2	2,510.0	2,498.2	2,499.2	129.3	144.1	141.9	143.5	5.3	5.7	5.7	5.7
Arkansas	1,223.9	1,282.8	1,288.7	1,291.8	64.6	64.5	64.4	66.0	5.3	5.0	5.0	5.1
California	17,463.3	17,503.5	17,556.7	17,614.1	1,031.6	1,115.8	1,129.1	1,121.5	5.9	6.4	6.4	6.4
Los Angeles-Long Beach	4,905.9	4,859.3	4,868.1	4,899.6	302.0	321.8	317.0	296.5	6.2	6.6	6.5	6.1
Colorado	2,309.0	2,364.9	2,370.8	2,375.0	103.0	121.0	123.0	123.8	4.5	5.1	5.2	5.2
Connecticut	1,710.0	1,717.8	1,720.1	1,723.9	64.2	68.1	70.4	72.1	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.2
Delaware	420.1	414.3	412.4	412.3	13.8	15.9	16.0	16.0	3.3	3.8	4.1	3.9
District of Columbia	276.9	270.2	270.4	267.4	18.4	16.1	16.4	16.2	6.6	6.0	6.1	6.0
Florida	7,731.8	7,842.4	7,811.5	7,792.3	417.7	435.7	413.2	399.8	5.4	5.6	5.3	5.1
Georgia	4,122.1	4,223.6	4,230.8	4,223.9	177.1	196.1	197.7	193.4	4.3	4.6	4.7	4.6
Hawaii	610.1	594.0	596.1	593.3	33.1	23.6	25.1	23.8	5.4	4.0	4.2	4.0
Idaho	689.6	689.6	686.5	687.1	35.3	36.4	37.1	37.7	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.5
Illinois	6,336.5	6,266.1	6,244.9	6,249.9	363.1	391.4	396.4	421.2	5.7	6.2	6.3	6.7
Indiana	3,119.9	3,164.4	3,157.3	3,148.4	154.9	165.0	158.2	158.5	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.0
Iowa	1,600.1	1,625.7	1,630.5	1,625.3	59.2	60.7	63.2	65.7	3.7	3.7	3.9	4.0
Kansas	1,377.5	1,454.1	1,456.8	1,458.4	60.6	65.9	67.1	67.2	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.6
Kentucky	1,967.9	1,993.0	1,991.1	1,986.2	118.8	104.5	104.5	97.3	6.0	5.2	5.2	4.9
Louisiana	2,063.1	2,011.2	2,009.2	1,984.2	127.9	119.6	118.9	114.5	6.2	5.9	5.9	5.8
Maine	685.1	686.5	684.1	692.5	29.5	27.3	27.8	28.2	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.1
Maryland	2,852.1	2,912.4	2,904.6	2,908.6	123.5	125.0	117.0	113.1	4.3	4.3	4.0	3.9
Massachusetts	3,298.5	3,374.9	3,383.0	3,385.0	138.6	175.6	177.3	176.7	4.2	5.2	5.2	5.2
Michigan	5,184.0	5,155.0	5,141.3	5,125.4	302.9	322.2	299.0	288.8	5.8	6.2	5.8	5.6
Minnesota	2,827.2	2,852.0	2,850.9	2,853.7	109.1	124.8	114.6	112.7	3.9	4.4	4.0	3.9
Mississippi	1,294.2	1,298.9	1,302.5	1,316.3	77.4	79.3	77.0	87.6	6.0	6.1	5.9	6.7
Missouri	2,965.2	2,954.2	2,944.3	2,945.5	146.5	139.7	141.3	143.5	4.9	4.7	4.8	4.9
Montana	462.2	469.8	470.1	474.1	21.1	18.7	18.4	20.4	4.6	4.0	3.9	4.3
Nebraska	930.2	948.9	951.9	954.9	29.7	32.6	33.1	30.6	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.2
Nevada	1,037.2	1,045.8	1,046.0	1,051.8	68.0	52.8	51.3	46.8	6.6	5.0	4.9	4.5
New Hampshire	688.8	713.8	713.2	716.6	27.0	33.5	32.0	34.4	3.9	4.7	4.5	4.8
New Jersey	4,195.5	4,252.0	4,260.3	4,266.7	195.5	225.6	228.7	236.6	4.7	5.3	5.4	5.5
New Mexico	838.8	856.6	859.5	864.9	41.5	52.5	51.8	50.5	4.9	6.1	6.0	5.8
New York	8,810.3	9,006.6	8,990.2	8,996.9	474.7	528.8	500.5	514.6	5.4	5.9	5.6	5.7
New York City	3,478.0	3,557.4	3,544.2	3,554.0	236.2	270.9	253.1	276.0	6.8	7.6	7.1	7.8
North Carolina	4,009.5	3,964.9	3,971.0	3,960.2	244.2	249.6	244.9	238.8	6.1	6.3	6.2	6.0
North Dakota	338.0	336.2	339.2	337.9	9.2	10.6	12.0	12.3	2.7	3.2	3.5	3.7
Ohio	5,885.8	5,895.1	5,894.9	5,904.2	268.8	327.3	327.9	332.4	4.6	5.6	5.6	5.6
Oklahoma	1,676.6	1,690.7	1,689.0	1,683.0	71.4	73.5	70.8	69.2	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.1
Oregon	1,798.8	1,808.0	1,804.2	1,802.2	129.3	127.2	122.0	126.6	7.2	7.0	6.8	7.0
Pennsylvania	6,088.8	6,129.5	6,112.5	6,101.7	301.8	327.3	319.2	326.2	5.0	5.3	5.2	5.3
Rhode Island	502.9	511.1	508.4	508.6	23.9	24.8	25.7	26.2	4.8	4.8	5.1	5.2
South Carolina	1,944.6	2,010.6	2,009.4	2,015.0	114.3	108.3	107.7	111.6	5.9	5.4	5.4	5.5
South Dakota	406.5	410.5	409.4	410.8	15.2	10.8	10.5	11.0	3.7	2.6	2.6	2.7
Tennessee	2,830.5	2,868.0	2,876.6	2,873.7	134.4	132.6	137.4	129.2	4.7	4.6	4.8	4.5
Texas	10,512.9	10,698.7	10,741.9	10,760.6	563.1	657.9	661.3	665.2	5.4	6.1	6.2	6.2
Utah	1,119.2	1,143.5	1,139.7	1,139.8	53.6	57.6	60.9	58.1	4.8	5.0	5.3	5.1
Vermont	335.9	348.1	347.2	348.9	13.1	14.6	13.8	13.6	3.9	4.2	4.0	3.9
Virginia	3,700.3	3,776.9	3,778.3	3,783.2	155.5	155.4	146.5	143.8	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.8
Washington	2,981.3	3,044.0	3,081.8	3,069.5	207.2	219.3	227.9	205.4	6.9	7.2	7.4	6.7
West Virginia	831.7	809.8	808.9	810.6	38.3	47.9	49.0	50.1	4.6	5.9	6.1	6.2
Wisconsin	2,999.8	3,060.6	3,064.9	3,069.0	142.3	160.0	155.1	149.6	4.7	5.2	5.1	4.9
Wyoming	272.7	270.2	271.3	271.5	11.0	9.8	10.5	10.7	4.0	3.6	3.9	3.9
Puerto Rico	1,311.0	1,367.8	1,369.3	1,360.5	156.6	166.2	166.2	155.7	11.9	12.1	12.1	11.4

^P = preliminary.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. Data for Puerto Rico are derived from a monthly household survey similar to the Current Population

Survey. All estimates are provisional and will be revised when new benchmark and population information becomes available.

**LABOR FORCE DATA
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

**LABOR FORCE DATA
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

Table 4. Civilian labor force and unemployment by state and selected areas, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

State and Area	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	September		October		September		October		September		October	
	2001	2002	2001	2002P	2001	2002	2001	2002P	2001	2002	2001	2002P
Alabama	2,145.5	2,149.0	2,159.8	2,163.2	120.9	123.7	130.0	128.5	5.6	5.8	6.0	5.9
Alaska	323.1	334.0	322.4	331.9	16.9	21.1	18.2	21.0	5.2	6.3	5.7	6.3
Arizona	2,453.3	2,510.0	2,460.0	2,509.6	133.6	151.5	132.1	146.9	5.4	6.0	5.4	5.9
Arkansas	1,222.3	1,283.2	1,218.0	1,280.1	56.9	57.0	52.0	52.9	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.1
California	17,450.3	17,594.9	17,518.7	17,660.8	950.0	1,092.0	998.0	1,087.2	5.4	6.2	5.7	6.2
Los Angeles-Long Beach	4,926.9	4,915.5	4,923.2	4,915.0	300.0	329.6	304.3	298.7	6.1	6.7	6.2	6.1
Colorado	2,328.7	2,394.2	2,328.5	2,389.5	91.8	119.6	100.1	119.3	3.9	5.0	4.3	5.0
Connecticut	1,696.7	1,706.5	1,707.4	1,721.3	52.8	61.8	57.3	66.1	3.1	3.6	3.4	3.8
Delaware	413.8	407.4	416.6	409.0	13.3	16.2	12.5	14.7	3.2	4.0	3.0	3.6
District of Columbia	276.6	269.4	277.0	267.5	18.2	16.1	18.3	16.0	6.6	6.0	6.6	6.0
Florida	7,730.3	7,839.2	7,768.5	7,823.4	401.2	433.5	430.3	416.2	5.2	5.5	5.5	5.3
Georgia	4,105.2	4,221.4	4,141.9	4,238.2	172.2	204.5	183.0	199.6	4.2	4.8	4.4	4.7
Hawaii	601.8	590.8	607.7	591.3	27.5	25.4	32.3	23.5	4.6	4.3	5.3	4.0
Idaho	691.4	690.5	690.2	688.1	28.8	31.0	29.4	31.7	4.2	4.5	4.3	4.6
Illinois	6,323.1	6,224.2	6,333.1	6,234.8	329.5	369.9	323.5	377.0	5.2	5.9	5.1	6.0
Indiana	3,109.2	3,152.9	3,128.8	3,155.3	132.7	146.0	143.7	148.0	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.7
Iowa	1,595.3	1,627.7	1,597.2	1,622.5	49.6	55.8	47.7	53.6	3.1	3.4	3.0	3.3
Kansas	1,365.7	1,441.4	1,379.5	1,455.2	55.1	62.8	60.4	66.7	4.0	4.4	4.4	4.6
Kentucky	1,953.1	1,980.6	1,963.4	1,980.8	101.2	96.3	114.2	95.3	5.2	4.9	5.8	4.8
Louisiana	2,051.0	2,005.4	2,070.1	1,994.8	120.7	117.0	125.5	114.2	5.9	5.8	6.1	5.7
Maine	686.4	686.3	687.1	694.8	25.2	24.2	26.8	25.8	3.7	3.5	3.9	3.7
Maryland	2,856.0	2,910.6	2,864.5	2,917.9	118.7	114.7	124.5	112.2	4.2	3.9	4.3	3.8
Massachusetts	3,278.5	3,361.1	3,296.7	3,376.0	133.6	177.9	129.1	167.7	4.1	5.3	3.9	5.0
Michigan	5,145.6	5,117.0	5,191.7	5,134.8	261.5	274.6	271.2	259.6	5.1	5.4	5.2	5.1
Minnesota	2,824.4	2,852.8	2,839.7	2,862.9	100.6	111.7	97.0	99.3	3.6	3.9	3.4	3.5
Mississippi	1,283.3	1,291.8	1,292.0	1,311.8	72.3	73.8	76.3	86.4	5.6	5.7	5.9	6.6
Missouri	2,953.8	2,931.5	2,965.7	2,945.2	135.3	135.3	134.2	132.2	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5
Montana	460.4	467.9	459.4	470.7	17.2	14.5	18.7	18.0	3.7	3.1	4.1	3.8
Nebraska	920.5	941.6	930.1	952.7	25.3	28.9	28.1	28.7	2.7	3.1	3.0	3.0
Nevada	1,033.1	1,053.1	1,042.8	1,056.8	53.2	51.4	67.8	47.5	5.1	4.9	6.5	4.5
New Hampshire	680.7	704.4	684.9	711.4	25.2	29.9	23.9	31.3	3.7	4.2	3.5	4.4
New Jersey	4,154.4	4,229.5	4,190.2	4,257.5	183.2	224.3	187.1	226.9	4.4	5.3	4.5	5.3
New Mexico	834.5	855.7	841.7	866.2	39.5	50.2	39.9	48.2	4.7	5.9	4.7	5.6
New York	8,774.3	8,916.8	8,803.7	8,977.0	450.5	490.5	462.3	502.0	5.1	5.5	5.3	5.6
New York City	3,482.1	3,511.2	3,485.4	3,559.4	226.9	249.7	240.5	281.0	6.5	7.1	6.9	7.9
North Carolina	3,994.2	3,973.2	4,026.2	3,978.0	220.0	232.2	239.6	234.3	5.5	5.8	6.0	5.9
North Dakota	339.6	340.1	337.1	335.6	6.4	8.8	6.1	8.0	1.9	2.6	1.8	2.4
Ohio	5,871.8	5,892.0	5,910.6	5,921.8	253.5	319.4	252.0	311.0	4.3	5.4	4.3	5.3
Oklahoma	1,670.7	1,688.3	1,691.7	1,697.0	64.7	68.5	72.0	70.2	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.1
Oregon	1,807.8	1,814.3	1,798.6	1,800.9	115.5	113.0	117.3	114.6	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.4
Pennsylvania	6,079.1	6,102.4	6,087.6	6,096.5	278.9	304.1	282.1	302.8	4.6	5.0	4.6	5.0
Rhode Island	504.2	509.8	505.0	510.2	21.9	24.7	22.7	24.9	4.3	4.8	4.5	4.9
South Carolina	1,944.5	2,007.2	1,937.4	2,005.0	111.8	107.6	111.2	108.4	5.8	5.4	5.7	5.4
South Dakota	405.2	408.9	407.8	411.9	12.3	8.7	14.0	10.1	3.0	2.1	3.4	2.5
Tennessee	2,838.0	2,889.0	2,854.8	2,892.7	122.9	130.1	130.6	123.6	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.3
Texas	10,494.3	10,747.8	10,529.6	10,772.5	544.3	667.2	528.4	626.7	5.2	6.2	5.0	5.8
Utah	1,119.6	1,140.7	1,128.5	1,146.8	48.8	57.5	51.4	55.3	4.4	5.0	4.6	4.8
Vermont	336.2	347.7	336.2	348.2	10.9	12.1	11.2	11.8	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.4
Virginia	3,682.4	3,771.8	3,687.2	3,770.3	148.0	154.5	152.0	141.8	4.0	4.1	4.1	3.8
Washington	2,947.1	3,046.9	3,003.5	3,084.9	176.0	204.8	198.9	197.3	6.0	6.7	6.6	6.4
West Virginia	832.4	808.8	827.3	807.5	34.6	44.0	33.6	44.7	4.2	5.4	4.1	5.5
Wisconsin	2,980.8	3,049.3	2,993.0	3,054.2	112.4	130.7	122.2	126.0	3.8	4.3	4.1	4.1
Wyoming	272.7	271.7	273.6	272.7	9.4	9.0	9.4	9.2	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.4
Puerto Rico	1,301.9	1,357.3	1,303.5	1,349.7	164.2	170.5	164.9	162.2	12.6	12.6	12.7	12.0

P = preliminary.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. Data for Puerto Rico are derived from a monthly household survey similar to the Current

Population Survey. All estimates are provisional and will be revised when new benchmark and population information becomes available.

Chart 1. Unemployment rates by state, seasonally adjusted October 2002

(U.S. rate = 5.7 percent)

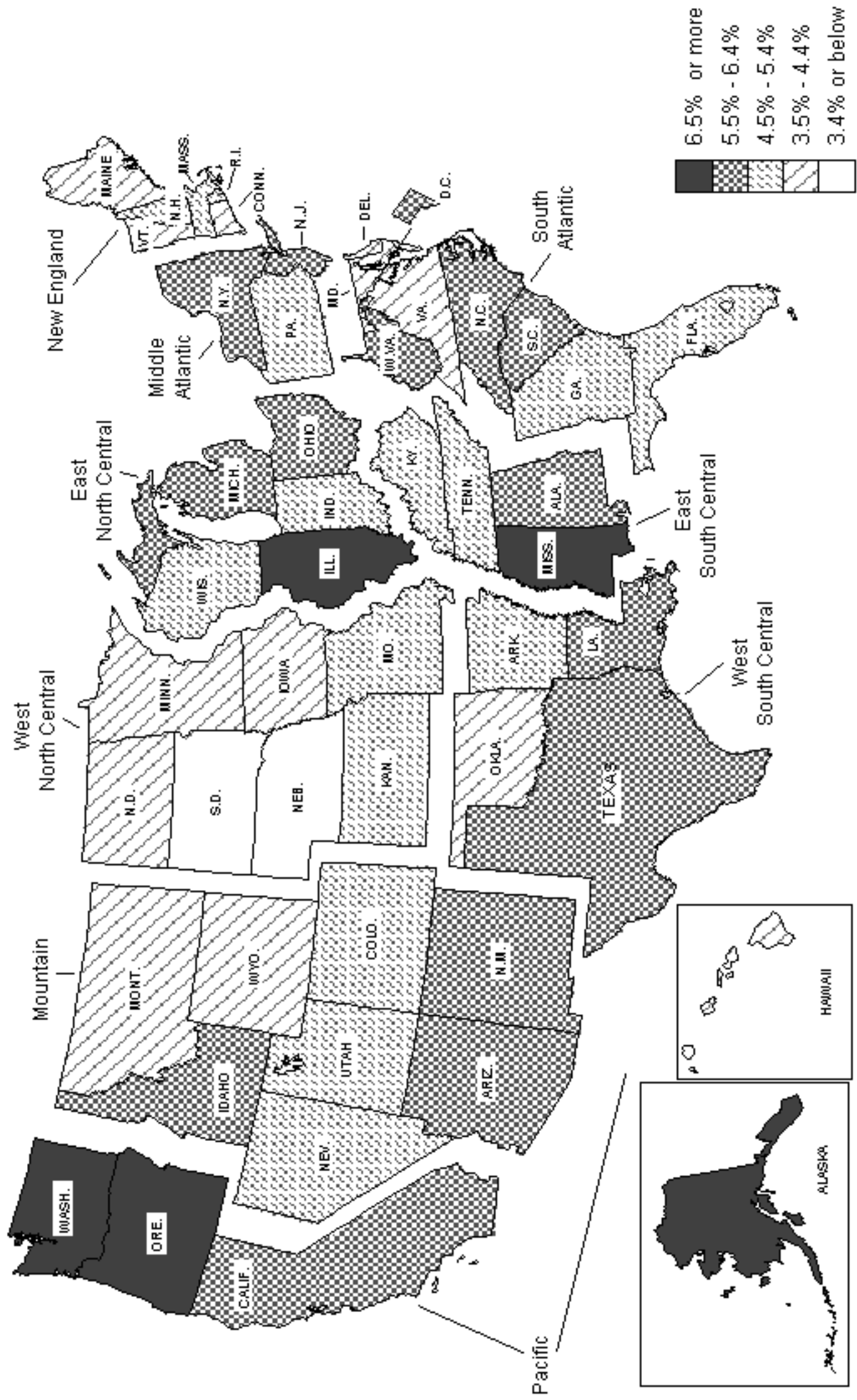


Chart 2. Percentage change in nonfarm employment by state, seasonally adjusted, October 2001 – October 2002

