



Technical information:

Employment: (202) 691-6559 USDL 06-1997

<http://www.bls.gov/sae/>

Unemployment: 691-6392

<http://www.bls.gov/lau/>

For release: 10:00 A.M. EST

Media contact: 691-5902

Tuesday, November 21, 2006

REGIONAL AND STATE EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT: OCTOBER 2006

Regional and state unemployment rates were generally down slightly or unchanged in October. Overall, 32 states registered over-the-month unemployment rate decreases, 12 states recorded increases, and 6 states and the District of Columbia had no changes, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Over the year, jobless rates declined in 42 states and the District of Columbia, rose in 4 states, and were unchanged in 4 states. The national unemployment rate was 4.4 percent in October, 0.2 percentage point lower than in September and 0.5 point lower than a year earlier.

Nonfarm payroll employment increased in 26 states and the District of Columbia, decreased in 23 states and was unchanged in 1 state in October. The largest employment increases were recorded in Texas (+27,900), Arizona (+10,200), California (+9,300), Washington (+8,900), and Florida (+6,100). Montana posted the largest over-the-month percentage increase in employment (+0.5 percent), followed by Arizona and the District of Columbia (+0.4 percent each), and Idaho, Oklahoma, Texas, Washington, and Wyoming (+0.3 percent each). The largest employment decreases occurred in Michigan (-18,300), Missouri (-10,700), North Carolina (-9,100), and Virginia (-7,800). Hawaii, Michigan, and Missouri experienced the largest over-the-month percentage decline in employment (-0.4 percent each), followed by Iowa and Kentucky (-0.3 percent each). Over the year, nonfarm employment increased in 49 states and the District of Columbia and decreased in 1 state (Michigan, -27,200 or -0.6 percent). The largest over-the-year percentage gains in employment were reported in Arizona (+4.8 percent), Wyoming (+4.7 percent), Utah (+4.6 percent), and Louisiana and Nevada (+4.4 percent each).

Regional Unemployment (Seasonally Adjusted)

The Northeast posted the lowest October jobless rate among the regions, 4.2 percent, followed closely by both the South and West, at 4.3 percent each. The rate in the West was a series low for that region. (All region, division, and state series begin in 1976.) The Midwest again reported the highest unemployment rate, 4.8 percent. Two regions recorded statistically significant changes in their jobless rates from September—the Northeast (-0.4 percentage point) and West (-0.3 point). All four regions registered significantly lower unemployment rates than a year earlier: the South (-0.8 percentage point), West (-0.7 point), Northeast (-0.6 point), and Midwest (-0.4 point). (See table 1.)

Among the nine geographic divisions, the Mountain again posted the lowest unemployment rate, 3.8 percent, followed by the South Atlantic, 4.0 percent, and Middle Atlantic and West North Central, 4.2 percent each. The Pacific division had the lowest rate in its series, 4.5 percent. The East North Central again

reported the highest jobless rate, 5.1 percent. Three divisions recorded significant over-the-month jobless rate changes—the Middle Atlantic and Pacific (-0.4 percentage point each) and New England (-0.3 point). Jobless rates were significantly lower than a year earlier in eight of the nine divisions: the West South Central (-1.2 percentage points), East South Central (-1.1 points), Pacific (-0.7 point), Middle Atlantic and Mountain (-0.6 point each), East North Central (-0.5 point), South Atlantic (-0.4 point), and New England (-0.3 point).

State Unemployment (Seasonally Adjusted)

In October, Hawaii and Utah again recorded the lowest unemployment rates, 2.1 and 2.5 percent, respectively. Nine additional states registered jobless rates below 3.5 percent. The rates for Hawaii and Utah were series lows, as were those in Alabama, 3.2 percent, and California, 4.5 percent. Michigan reported the highest jobless rate in October, 6.9 percent, followed by Mississippi, 6.7 percent, and South Carolina, 6.6 percent. Overall, 15 states had unemployment rates that were significantly below the U.S. rate of 4.4 percent, 6 states and the District of Columbia reported measurably higher rates, and 29 states had rates that were statistically little different from that of the nation. (See tables A and 3 and chart 1.)

New Jersey registered the largest over-the-month unemployment rate decline in October (-0.8 percentage point). Six additional states also had statistically significant rate decreases from September—Massachusetts and Washington (-0.5 percentage point each), Hawaii and New York (-0.4 point each), and California and Pennsylvania (-0.3 point each). The remaining 43 states and the District of Columbia recorded unemployment rates that were not appreciably different from those of a month earlier, even though some had changes that were at least as large numerically as those with statistically significant changes.

Louisiana and Mississippi—the two states most affected by Hurricane Katrina—experienced the largest over-the-year jobless rate declines in October (-7.9 and -2.9 percentage points, respectively). The states with the next largest decreases were Utah (-1.7 percentage points), Illinois (-1.3 points), Kentucky (-1.2 points), Tennessee (-1.1 points), and New York (-1.0 point). Twenty-eight additional states also reported over-the-year rate decreases that were statistically significant. Nevada was the only state to record a significant over-the-year jobless rate increase (+0.3 percentage point). Fourteen states and the District of Columbia had October rates that were not appreciably different from those of a year earlier. (See table B.)

Nonfarm Payroll Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

Between September and October, five states reported statistically significant changes in employment, three of which were increases. The gains were in Texas (+27,900), Arizona (+10,200), and Washington (+8,900). Employment losses were seen in Michigan (-18,300) and Hawaii (-2,400). (See tables C and 5.)

Over the year, 31 states and the District of Columbia posted statistically significant increases in employment. The largest employment gains occurred in Florida (+219,300), Texas (+215,300), California (+163,800), and Arizona (+121,100). Six states and the District of Columbia recorded statistically significant gains in employment that were less than 15,000: Nebraska (+13,700), Hawaii (+12,800), Wyoming (+12,400), the District of Columbia (+9,500), West Virginia (+8,400), Delaware (+8,200), and North Dakota (+5,400). (See table D.)

The Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment release for October is scheduled to be issued on November 29. The Regional and State Employment and Unemployment release for November is scheduled to be issued on December 22.

Hurricane Katrina

For October, BLS and its state partners continued to make modifications to the usual estimation procedures for the LAUS program to reflect the impact of Hurricane Katrina on the labor force statistics in affected areas. These modifications included: (1) allowing the state labor force estimates for Louisiana to reflect the effects of Katrina by overriding the built-in feature of the methodology that smoothes over large shifts in a key input—nonfarm wage and salary employment; (2) modifying the state population controls to account for displacement due to Katrina; (3) developing labor force estimates for the New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner metropolitan area using an alternative to the model-based method; and (4) not publishing labor force estimates for the parishes within the New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner metropolitan area or cities within those parishes where the quality of input data was severely compromised by the hurricane.

For more information on LAUS procedures and estimates for October 2006, see *Hurricane Information: Katrina and Rita* on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/Katrina/home.htm> or call (202) 691-6392.

Table A. States with unemployment rates significantly different from that of the U.S., October 2006, seasonally adjusted

State	October 2006
United State	4.4
Alabama	3.2
Alaska	6.4
Delaware	3.6
District of Columbia	5.9
Florida	3.1
Hawaii	2.1
Idaho	3.2
Iowa	3.6
Michigan	6.9
Mississippi	6.7
Missouri	5.4
Montana	3.6
Nebraska	3.0
New Hampshire	3.3
North Dakota	3.2
Ohio	5.1
South Carolina	6.6
South Dakota	3.3
Utah	2.5
Vermont	3.6
Virginia	2.9
Wyoming	3.3

Table B. States with statistically significant unemployment rate changes from October 2005 to October 2006, seasonally adjusted

State	October 2005	October 2006	Over-the-year rate change
Alabama	4.0	3.2	-0.8
Arizona	4.8	3.9	-.9
California	5.2	4.5	-.7
Colorado	4.9	4.4	-.5
Connecticut	4.9	4.2	-.7
Delaware	4.4	3.6	-.8
Florida	3.5	3.1	-.4
Georgia	5.4	4.7	-.7
Hawaii	2.8	2.1	-.7
Idaho	3.6	3.2	-.4
Illinois	5.4	4.1	-1.3
Indiana	5.4	5.0	-.4
Iowa	4.5	3.6	-.9
Kansas	5.0	4.3	-.7
Kentucky	6.4	5.2	-1.2
Louisiana	12.1	4.2	-7.9
Mississippi	9.6	6.7	-2.9
Montana	3.9	3.6	-.3
Nebraska	3.6	3.0	-.6
Nevada	3.9	4.2	.3
New Hampshire	3.6	3.3	-.3
New Mexico	5.1	4.3	-.8
New York	5.0	4.0	-1.0
North Carolina	5.3	4.7	-.6
Ohio	5.8	5.1	-.7
Oklahoma	4.4	3.8	-.6
Oregon	5.9	5.1	-.8
Pennsylvania	4.8	4.3	-.5
South Carolina	7.2	6.6	-.6
South Dakota	3.8	3.3	-.5
Tennessee	5.6	4.5	-1.1
Texas	5.4	4.8	-.6
Utah	4.2	2.5	-1.7
Virginia	3.5	2.9	-.6
Washington	5.5	4.8	-.7
Wyoming	3.9	3.3	-.6

Table C. States with statistically significant employment changes from September 2006 to October 2006, seasonally adjusted

State	September 2006	October 2006 ^p	Over-the-month change ^p
Arizona	2,656,100	2,666,300	10,200
Hawaii	623,800	621,400	-2,400
Michigan	4,368,400	4,350,100	-18,300
Texas	10,020,200	10,048,100	27,900
Washington	2,880,900	2,889,800	8,900

p = preliminary.

Table D. States with statistically significant employment changes from October 2005 to October 2006, seasonally adjusted

State	October 2005	October 2006 ^p	Over-the-year change ^p
Arizona	2,545,200	2,666,300	121,100
California	14,889,600	15,053,400	163,800
Colorado	2,239,700	2,280,200	40,500
Delaware	432,000	440,200	8,200
District of Columbia	683,200	692,700	9,500
Florida	7,890,200	8,109,500	219,300
Georgia	4,019,000	4,097,300	78,300
Hawaii	608,600	621,400	12,800
Idaho	620,900	643,900	23,000
Illinois	5,892,500	5,953,400	60,900
Iowa	1,486,100	1,511,800	25,700
Louisiana	1,718,900	1,794,600	75,700
Maryland	2,564,700	2,596,400	31,700
Minnesota	2,721,800	2,775,300	53,500
Mississippi	1,121,400	1,146,500	25,100
Montana	422,500	439,900	17,400
Nebraska	939,500	953,200	13,700
Nevada	1,247,600	1,302,900	55,300
New Mexico	817,400	838,800	21,400
New York	8,557,500	8,625,700	68,200
North Carolina	3,930,300	3,993,500	63,200
North Dakota	346,800	352,200	5,400
Oklahoma	1,525,100	1,547,400	22,300
Oregon	1,674,600	1,723,800	49,200
Pennsylvania	5,720,500	5,771,600	51,100
South Carolina	1,868,200	1,912,600	44,400
Tennessee	2,756,200	2,785,900	29,700
Texas	9,832,800	10,048,100	215,300
Utah	1,167,700	1,221,100	53,400
Washington	2,809,000	2,889,800	80,800
West Virginia	749,800	758,200	8,400
Wyoming	264,900	277,300	12,400

p = preliminary.

Technical Note

This release presents labor force and unemployment data for census regions and divisions, states, and selected substate areas from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program (tables 1-4). 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 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 did not work at all (in the reference week), 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.

Method of estimation. Estimates for all census divisions, states, the District of Columbia, the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale metropolitan division, and New York City are produced using estimating equations based on regression techniques. This method, which underwent substantial enhancement at the beginning of 2005, utilizes data from several sources, including the CPS, the CES, and state unemployment insurance (UI) data. Estimates for the six other areas contained in this release use a different regression approach. A detailed description of the estimation procedures is available from BLS upon request. Estimates for census regions are obtained by summing the model-based estimates for the component divisions 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 implemented with January estimates. The adjusted estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model reestimation.

Seasonal adjustment. Seasonal adjustment of census division, state, and substate area model employment and unemployment levels is performed within the modeling

procedure. The model estimation is based on the classical approach to seasonal adjustment, in which the series is decomposed into trend, seasonal, irregular, and survey error. This directly yields seasonally adjusted estimates for employment and unemployment levels with reliability measures. Labor force levels and unemployment rates are calculated from these two estimates. Additionally, measures for the state of California are derived by summing the seasonally adjusted estimates for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale metropolitan division and the balance of California, and the estimates for the State of New York are the sum of the estimates for New York City and the balance of New York. Labor force estimates for census regions are calculated as the sum of the levels of the component divisions, and the unemployment rate is then calculated. In most years, historical data for the most recent 5 years are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, usually coincident with the release of January estimates.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on December 5, 2005. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available on the Web at <http://www.bls.gov/lau/laumsa.htm> and also is published annually in the May issue of *Employment and Earnings*.

Employment—from the CES program

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period that includes the 12th of the month. Persons are counted at their place of work rather than at their place of residence; those appearing on more than one payroll are counted on each payroll. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2002 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.

Annual revisions. Employment estimates are adjusted annually to a complete count of jobs, called benchmarks, derived principally from tax reports that are submitted by employers who are covered under state unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The benchmark information is used to adjust the monthly estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one and also to establish the level of employment for the new benchmark month. Thus, the benchmarking process establishes the level of employment, and the sample is used to measure the month-to-month changes in the level for the subsequent months.

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

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

Reliability of the estimates

The estimates presented in this release are based on sample 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 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. With respect to the LAUS program, unemployment rates are computed from unrounded data rather than from data that may be displayed in the tables; differences, however, are generally insignificant.

Use of error measures. In 2005, the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program introduced several improvements to its methodology. Among these was the development of model-based error measures for the monthly estimates and the estimates of over-the-month changes. The introductory section of this release preserves the long-time practice of highlighting the direction of the movements in regional and state unemployment rates and state nonfarm payroll employment regardless of their statistical significance. The remainder of the analysis in the release takes the statistical significance of monthly and annual changes into consideration.

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

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

Additional information

More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in *Employment and Earnings*, 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, as well as nonfarm employment from the CES program, for over 370 metropolitan areas and metropolitan New England City and Town Areas (NECTAs) are available in the news release, *Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment*. Estimates of labor force, employment, and unemployment for all states, metropolitan areas, labor market areas, counties, cities with a population of 25,000 or more, and other areas used in the administration of various federal economic assistance programs are available on the BLS Web site 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 region and division, seasonally adjusted ¹

(Numbers in thousands)

Census region and division	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	Oct. 2005	Aug. 2006	Sept. 2006	Oct. 2006	Oct. 2005	Aug. 2006	Sept. 2006	Oct. 2006	Oct. 2005	Aug. 2006	Sept. 2006	Oct. 2006
Northeast	27,765.9	27,869.6	27,849.9	27,875.7	1,320.8	1,350.9	1,282.7	1,182.3	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.2
New England	7,572.8	7,610.9	7,637.8	7,654.0	353.9	352.4	356.9	333.5	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.4
Middle Atlantic	20,193.1	20,258.8	20,212.0	20,221.7	966.9	998.5	925.8	848.8	4.8	4.9	4.6	4.2
South	53,139.5	53,801.9	54,029.8	54,290.8	2,689.9	2,439.5	2,354.4	2,347.9	5.1	4.5	4.4	4.3
South Atlantic	28,262.4	28,793.3	28,933.2	29,075.9	1,238.9	1,191.3	1,183.0	1,171.8	4.4	4.1	4.1	4.0
East South Central	8,433.1	8,514.4	8,555.8	8,588.5	486.2	459.9	413.4	401.8	5.8	5.4	4.8	4.7
West South Central	16,443.9	16,494.1	16,540.8	16,626.4	964.9	788.4	758.0	774.2	5.9	4.8	4.6	4.7
Midwest	34,636.6	34,850.9	35,069.8	35,164.4	1,810.1	1,776.3	1,727.7	1,703.7	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.8
East North Central	23,739.0	23,918.4	24,077.7	24,137.2	1,327.3	1,323.3	1,285.0	1,238.4	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.1
West North Central	10,897.6	10,932.6	10,992.2	11,027.2	482.8	453.0	442.6	465.3	4.4	4.1	4.0	4.2
West	34,304.9	34,560.8	34,769.5	34,804.1	1,706.3	1,599.7	1,587.9	1,496.2	5.0	4.6	4.6	4.3
Mountain	10,371.3	10,696.3	10,744.3	10,743.7	460.7	421.4	409.6	411.8	4.4	3.9	3.8	3.8
Pacific	23,933.6	23,864.5	24,025.1	24,060.3	1,245.5	1,178.3	1,178.3	1,084.4	5.2	4.9	4.9	4.5

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

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

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

Table 2. Civilian labor force and unemployment by census region and division, not seasonally adjusted ¹

(Numbers in thousands)

Census region and division	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	September		October		September		October		September		October	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Northeast	27,681.0	27,722.8	27,795.5	27,841.2	1,275.3	1,215.7	1,217.1	1,086.0	4.6	4.4	4.4	3.9
New England	7,551.4	7,609.3	7,578.0	7,642.9	341.9	342.0	318.2	300.0	4.5	4.5	4.2	3.9
Middle Atlantic	20,129.6	20,113.5	20,217.4	20,198.4	933.4	873.7	898.9	785.9	4.6	4.3	4.4	3.9
South	53,120.5	54,006.3	53,319.2	54,363.2	2,671.0	2,301.3	2,574.0	2,253.1	5.0	4.3	4.8	4.1
South Atlantic	28,244.6	28,916.9	28,343.0	29,098.3	1,246.9	1,169.5	1,193.8	1,137.1	4.4	4.0	4.2	3.9
East South Central	8,433.4	8,551.0	8,468.9	8,607.6	464.3	390.8	465.3	383.2	5.5	4.6	5.5	4.5
West South Central	16,442.5	16,538.4	16,507.3	16,657.3	959.8	740.9	914.9	732.8	5.8	4.5	5.5	4.4
Midwest	34,625.0	35,013.2	34,733.4	35,190.1	1,717.7	1,606.4	1,614.4	1,526.1	5.0	4.6	4.6	4.3
East North Central	23,750.4	24,049.6	23,812.2	24,160.4	1,262.2	1,190.9	1,191.0	1,111.6	5.3	5.0	5.0	4.6
West North Central	10,874.5	10,963.6	10,921.2	11,029.7	455.5	415.4	423.4	414.4	4.2	3.8	3.9	3.8
West	34,301.2	34,783.2	34,473.4	34,893.5	1,647.8	1,501.1	1,610.5	1,406.5	4.8	4.3	4.7	4.0
Mountain	10,377.0	10,769.5	10,430.5	10,778.3	460.8	396.3	436.3	390.7	4.4	3.7	4.2	3.6
Pacific	23,924.2	24,013.7	24,042.9	24,115.2	1,187.0	1,104.8	1,174.3	1,015.8	5.0	4.6	4.9	4.2

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

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

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

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

(Numbers in thousands)

State and area	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	Oct. 2005	Aug. 2006	Sept. 2006	Oct. 2006	Oct. 2005	Aug. 2006	Sept. 2006	Oct. 2006	Oct. 2005	Aug. 2006	Sept. 2006	Oct. 2006
Alabama	2,166.8	2,180.8	2,203.5	2,212.4	85.9	76.7	73.7	71.2	4.0	3.5	3.3	3.2
Alaska	341.1	346.1	348.3	348.7	23.4	22.4	23.0	22.4	6.9	6.5	6.6	6.4
Arizona	2,872.2	2,948.6	2,968.7	2,970.7	138.4	104.9	110.6	115.9	4.8	3.6	3.7	3.9
Arkansas	1,376.3	1,383.7	1,383.2	1,387.2	66.9	72.8	71.7	70.6	4.9	5.3	5.2	5.1
California	17,779.0	17,651.6	17,800.9	17,827.6	923.6	869.0	858.4	793.8	5.2	4.9	4.8	4.5
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale ¹	4,835.3	4,795.9	4,834.3	4,841.1	240.8	230.4	230.3	209.0	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.3
Colorado	2,556.9	2,643.7	2,647.1	2,652.6	124.7	127.7	116.6	117.4	4.9	4.8	4.4	4.4
Connecticut	1,821.0	1,846.8	1,851.8	1,856.7	88.6	83.5	86.5	78.4	4.9	4.5	4.7	4.2
Delaware	441.2	446.0	446.9	449.7	19.5	16.5	16.5	16.1	4.4	3.7	3.7	3.6
District of Columbia	293.4	290.2	289.0	295.8	17.8	17.0	17.2	17.4	6.1	5.8	5.9	5.9
Florida	8,721.8	8,963.4	9,043.2	9,096.8	303.6	296.4	289.2	281.9	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.1
Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall ¹	1,116.4	1,136.2	1,152.4	1,165.4	45.0	44.7	49.8	46.8	4.0	3.9	4.3	4.0
Georgia	4,626.5	4,690.0	4,707.7	4,745.1	248.5	214.4	212.5	225.1	5.4	4.6	4.5	4.7
Hawaii	642.3	650.4	659.0	657.7	17.7	18.2	16.2	13.7	2.8	2.8	2.5	2.1
Idaho	744.7	759.8	762.8	757.4	26.7	25.3	25.5	23.9	3.6	3.3	3.3	3.2
Illinois	6,483.7	6,577.1	6,636.6	6,663.6	350.0	308.8	294.2	275.0	5.4	4.7	4.4	4.1
Chicago-Naperville-Joliet ¹	3,953.3	4,041.6	4,064.6	4,100.2	226.1	181.1	173.4	156.3	5.7	4.5	4.3	3.8
Indiana	3,222.6	3,241.0	3,261.8	3,274.1	174.5	172.3	165.9	162.6	5.4	5.3	5.1	5.0
Iowa	1,665.5	1,684.2	1,702.0	1,700.7	75.0	61.1	57.9	60.7	4.5	3.6	3.4	3.6
Kansas	1,478.7	1,478.5	1,481.1	1,483.8	73.7	71.1	64.3	64.5	5.0	4.8	4.3	4.3
Kentucky	2,010.7	2,026.0	2,035.0	2,044.5	128.3	117.1	107.1	105.9	6.4	5.8	5.3	5.2
Louisiana	2,021.5	1,847.2	1,859.3	1,870.2	244.2	63.5	68.6	78.7	12.1	3.4	3.7	4.2
Maine	716.8	718.3	718.9	720.9	35.1	34.1	34.1	33.6	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.7
Maryland	2,955.5	3,001.6	3,010.6	3,028.3	121.5	123.3	119.5	120.4	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0
Massachusetts	3,366.0	3,370.9	3,387.4	3,387.4	160.9	163.5	171.5	156.7	4.8	4.9	5.1	4.6
Michigan	5,093.1	5,086.0	5,111.9	5,110.2	325.9	359.9	363.7	351.2	6.4	7.1	7.1	6.9
Detroit-Warren-Livonia ²	2,187.6	2,165.4	2,177.0	2,189.9	153.5	155.3	157.4	150.8	7.0	7.2	7.2	6.9
Minnesota	2,953.8	2,944.5	2,955.7	2,970.4	116.0	109.3	111.9	116.6	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.9
Mississippi	1,329.7	1,311.3	1,323.5	1,324.8	127.8	92.9	94.7	88.7	9.6	7.1	7.2	6.7
Missouri	3,027.7	3,052.4	3,068.6	3,077.8	157.9	154.6	154.3	166.8	5.2	5.1	5.0	5.4
Montana	495.9	501.9	504.1	505.3	19.4	17.8	18.0	18.1	3.9	3.5	3.6	3.6
Nebraska	986.4	982.2	990.0	992.2	35.6	32.8	30.8	30.1	3.6	3.3	3.1	3.0
Nevada	1,226.8	1,285.2	1,301.0	1,304.8	48.2	53.6	52.7	54.2	3.9	4.2	4.0	4.2
New Hampshire	734.3	739.5	741.3	745.5	26.6	25.5	24.0	24.3	3.6	3.5	3.2	3.3
New Jersey	4,456.5	4,493.8	4,476.8	4,472.2	195.5	236.1	230.7	195.7	4.4	5.3	5.2	4.4
New Mexico	942.3	951.2	954.3	951.4	47.8	40.6	39.6	40.7	5.1	4.3	4.2	4.3
New York	9,448.8	9,476.5	9,446.7	9,452.4	474.1	446.9	411.0	381.1	5.0	4.7	4.4	4.0
New York City	3,755.7	3,760.4	3,746.1	3,745.7	219.6	190.1	169.0	153.3	5.8	5.1	4.5	4.1
North Carolina	4,368.8	4,443.8	4,466.7	4,476.3	231.1	213.4	217.5	209.8	5.3	4.8	4.9	4.7
North Dakota	360.3	362.4	364.9	365.8	12.4	12.6	11.5	11.8	3.4	3.5	3.1	3.2
Ohio	5,906.5	5,936.2	5,971.0	5,981.5	344.5	341.1	316.0	306.1	5.8	5.7	5.3	5.1
Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor ²	1,092.7	1,099.3	1,101.1	1,106.1	62.1	62.0	57.0	55.3	5.7	5.6	5.2	5.0
Oklahoma	1,751.6	1,758.4	1,766.6	1,768.4	76.9	73.1	70.2	67.0	4.4	4.2	4.0	3.8
Oregon	1,866.9	1,887.1	1,892.3	1,903.0	110.5	103.5	101.7	96.3	5.9	5.5	5.4	5.1
Pennsylvania	6,292.5	6,285.2	6,290.0	6,305.8	302.6	308.9	290.4	270.2	4.8	4.9	4.6	4.3
Rhode Island	572.3	576.8	579.0	578.2	29.1	32.4	30.2	28.8	5.1	5.6	5.2	5.0
South Carolina	2,101.4	2,118.6	2,124.7	2,136.0	151.3	138.2	135.7	141.4	7.2	6.5	6.4	6.6
South Dakota	433.9	434.1	435.8	437.2	16.4	13.7	14.0	14.6	3.8	3.2	3.2	3.3
Tennessee	2,917.0	2,994.7	2,991.3	3,005.7	164.0	171.4	137.8	136.3	5.6	5.7	4.6	4.5
Texas	11,300.6	11,503.5	11,541.6	11,603.2	608.7	583.0	548.4	555.5	5.4	5.1	4.8	4.8
Utah	1,279.5	1,314.7	1,315.9	1,311.5	54.1	42.5	36.6	33.0	4.2	3.2	2.8	2.5
Vermont	358.4	364.2	366.2	368.0	13.1	13.4	13.5	13.1	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6
Virginia	3,957.7	4,001.1	4,022.5	4,027.3	136.8	127.3	127.4	117.8	3.5	3.2	3.2	2.9
Washington	3,322.9	3,328.1	3,336.7	3,336.0	183.3	172.8	177.1	158.5	5.5	5.2	5.3	4.8
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett ¹	1,374.5	1,414.1	1,415.0	1,417.2	66.2	58.7	60.5	56.4	4.8	4.2	4.3	4.0
West Virginia	804.8	821.6	823.4	822.4	40.7	48.4	44.8	42.1	5.1	5.9	5.4	5.1
Wisconsin	3,039.5	3,074.2	3,090.0	3,099.6	140.1	141.7	144.3	143.2	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.6
Wyoming	287.0	291.2	292.6	291.4	11.2	9.5	10.6	9.7	3.9	3.3	3.6	3.3
Puerto Rico	1,428.7	1,399.7	1,404.2	1,403.6	176.9	148.1	152.0	134.1	12.4	10.6	10.8	9.6

¹ Metropolitan division.

² Metropolitan statistical area.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. Data for Puerto Rico are derived from a monthly household survey similar to the Current Population Survey. Area definitions are based on Office of Management and Budget Bulletin No. 06-01,

dated December 5, 2005, and are available at <http://www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm> and in the May issue of *Employment and Earnings*. Estimates for the current year are subject to revision early in the following calendar year.

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

(Numbers in thousands)

State and area	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	September		October		September		October		September		October	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Alabama	2,168.3	2,202.2	2,185.7	2,223.2	81.3	72.5	82.1	70.8	3.8	3.3	3.8	3.2
Alaska	341.3	348.8	339.4	346.4	20.5	20.7	20.4	19.7	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.7
Arizona	2,863.8	2,975.9	2,876.7	2,978.0	144.7	117.4	136.5	117.7	5.1	3.9	4.7	4.0
Arkansas	1,375.6	1,384.1	1,376.8	1,383.4	60.0	65.9	54.7	60.6	4.4	4.8	4.0	4.4
California	17,774.0	17,792.2	17,851.0	17,863.6	879.4	815.7	875.1	756.7	4.9	4.6	4.9	4.2
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale ¹	4,832.6	4,841.5	4,863.1	4,857.4	233.8	232.9	232.6	204.0	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.2
Colorado	2,562.7	2,662.1	2,568.0	2,665.9	121.9	110.9	113.8	109.6	4.8	4.2	4.4	4.1
Connecticut	1,812.9	1,839.1	1,823.4	1,853.4	84.4	81.9	79.7	69.8	4.7	4.5	4.4	3.8
Delaware	436.5	442.6	441.0	448.7	18.3	16.2	17.6	14.9	4.2	3.7	4.0	3.3
District of Columbia	294.0	288.3	292.8	294.6	17.0	17.2	16.9	16.4	5.8	6.0	5.8	5.6
Florida	8,746.2	9,072.2	8,759.6	9,115.5	322.9	310.5	297.6	285.1	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.1
Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall ¹	1,114.6	1,148.8	1,126.3	1,174.2	46.1	51.9	46.9	49.3	4.1	4.5	4.2	4.2
Georgia	4,620.2	4,699.0	4,633.6	4,747.3	251.2	214.3	236.1	223.0	5.4	4.6	5.1	4.7
Hawaii	636.9	654.0	640.1	653.6	19.5	17.1	17.3	12.9	3.1	2.6	2.7	2.0
Idaho	739.2	761.5	746.9	759.7	22.0	20.5	21.4	19.0	3.0	2.7	2.9	2.5
Illinois	6,479.1	6,625.8	6,491.9	6,663.2	341.2	273.7	314.0	242.8	5.3	4.1	4.8	3.6
Chicago-Naperville-Joliet ¹	3,949.0	4,053.5	3,943.7	4,091.9	225.1	168.0	200.5	143.8	5.7	4.1	5.1	3.5
Indiana	3,222.2	3,259.1	3,235.9	3,282.0	162.2	153.6	160.2	150.5	5.0	4.7	4.9	4.6
Iowa	1,666.3	1,700.8	1,675.0	1,707.7	69.6	52.6	65.2	52.9	4.2	3.1	3.9	3.1
Kansas	1,473.9	1,472.3	1,481.5	1,483.6	72.1	61.0	71.5	63.0	4.9	4.1	4.8	4.2
Kentucky	2,009.5	2,034.1	2,005.7	2,035.4	111.7	98.5	112.2	96.2	5.6	4.8	5.6	4.7
Louisiana	2,024.9	1,858.4	2,030.9	1,879.5	239.5	68.1	230.3	74.1	11.8	3.7	11.3	3.9
Maine	718.1	719.2	721.7	723.9	31.5	29.5	31.7	30.4	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.2
Maryland	2,943.6	2,999.9	2,962.3	3,030.0	109.5	110.5	108.7	111.4	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7
Massachusetts	3,355.1	3,369.8	3,365.2	3,376.3	160.6	169.9	145.6	141.4	4.8	5.0	4.3	4.2
Michigan	5,095.3	5,105.8	5,103.4	5,111.7	305.5	339.7	284.3	313.9	6.0	6.7	5.6	6.1
Detroit-Warren-Livonia ²	2,193.8	2,176.1	2,200.6	2,201.9	147.1	153.3	144.0	147.5	6.7	7.0	6.5	6.7
Minnesota	2,947.9	2,956.9	2,959.2	2,973.0	110.2	106.5	95.5	98.9	3.7	3.6	3.2	3.3
Mississippi	1,331.9	1,317.4	1,333.0	1,325.5	125.9	90.0	121.0	86.9	9.4	6.8	9.1	6.6
Missouri	3,012.6	3,051.8	3,021.5	3,069.6	146.8	147.3	138.4	153.0	4.9	4.8	4.6	5.0
Montana	492.3	502.7	493.9	503.8	15.3	14.0	16.0	15.2	3.1	2.8	3.2	3.0
Nebraska	978.8	981.1	987.2	991.5	32.5	27.0	30.2	25.6	3.3	2.8	3.1	2.6
Nevada	1,220.8	1,303.1	1,226.9	1,306.4	47.9	52.0	44.4	51.7	3.9	4.0	3.6	4.0
New Hampshire	731.7	737.3	734.4	743.6	25.5	22.3	24.4	22.2	3.5	3.0	3.3	3.0
New Jersey	4,428.1	4,449.2	4,456.8	4,461.7	186.0	219.3	177.4	179.7	4.2	4.9	4.0	4.0
New Mexico	937.2	953.6	945.0	954.7	47.4	39.0	44.5	39.1	5.1	4.1	4.7	4.1
New York	9,409.7	9,389.2	9,453.0	9,430.0	467.2	393.2	446.0	359.1	5.0	4.2	4.7	3.8
New York City	3,741.4	3,725.0	3,764.3	3,744.0	220.3	164.8	219.1	155.1	5.9	4.4	5.8	4.1
North Carolina	4,359.9	4,461.3	4,386.4	4,487.3	211.2	200.4	214.2	200.6	4.8	4.5	4.9	4.5
North Dakota	361.8	365.3	361.5	366.3	9.8	8.6	8.8	8.4	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.3
Ohio	5,911.2	5,970.8	5,935.9	6,003.9	330.7	298.1	315.9	282.4	5.6	5.0	5.3	4.7
Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor ²	1,095.2	1,099.4	1,091.5	1,101.4	61.2	55.5	56.2	50.1	5.6	5.0	5.1	4.5
Oklahoma	1,746.5	1,760.4	1,759.9	1,772.0	71.9	66.8	70.4	63.8	4.1	3.8	4.0	3.6
Oregon	1,868.0	1,892.8	1,873.5	1,907.0	100.9	90.9	98.3	85.9	5.4	4.8	5.2	4.5
Pennsylvania	6,291.7	6,275.1	6,307.7	6,306.7	280.2	261.2	275.5	247.2	4.5	4.2	4.4	3.9
Rhode Island	575.5	577.5	573.4	577.2	28.7	26.2	25.8	25.2	5.0	4.5	4.5	4.4
South Carolina	2,089.4	2,120.0	2,103.5	2,135.8	145.6	136.3	144.8	140.2	7.0	6.4	6.9	6.6
South Dakota	433.2	435.1	435.2	438.1	14.5	12.3	13.9	12.7	3.3	2.8	3.2	2.9
Tennessee	2,923.7	2,997.3	2,944.5	3,023.5	145.4	129.8	150.0	129.5	5.0	4.3	5.1	4.3
Texas	11,295.5	11,535.5	11,339.7	11,622.4	588.4	540.1	559.5	534.3	5.2	4.7	4.9	4.6
Utah	1,275.4	1,317.9	1,286.0	1,318.4	52.4	33.8	50.5	30.4	4.1	2.6	3.9	2.3
Vermont	358.1	366.4	359.9	368.5	11.2	12.2	10.9	11.1	3.1	3.3	3.0	3.0
Virginia	3,949.6	4,011.2	3,957.8	4,017.3	136.4	125.7	124.2	109.1	3.5	3.1	3.1	2.7
Washington	3,303.9	3,325.9	3,338.9	3,344.6	166.7	160.5	163.2	140.6	5.0	4.8	4.9	4.2
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett ¹	1,364.5	1,402.5	1,374.7	1,407.3	68.8	62.2	66.0	54.4	5.0	4.4	4.8	3.9
West Virginia	805.1	822.4	805.9	821.6	34.9	38.6	33.8	36.4	4.3	4.7	4.2	4.4
Wisconsin	3,042.6	3,088.0	3,045.1	3,099.6	122.6	125.9	116.6	122.0	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.9
Wyoming	285.7	292.6	287.1	291.5	9.2	8.6	9.2	8.0	3.2	2.9	3.2	2.8
Puerto Rico	1,442.8	1,406.9	1,421.6	1,398.8	153.7	153.0	177.9	134.1	10.6	10.9	12.5	9.6

¹ Metropolitan division.

² Metropolitan statistical area.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. Data for Puerto Rico are derived from a monthly household survey similar to the Current Population Survey. Area definitions are based on Office of Management and Budget Bulletin No. 06-01,

dated December 5, 2005, and are available at <http://www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm> and in the May issue of *Employment and Earnings*. Estimates for the current year are subject to revision early in the following calendar year.

Chart 1. Unemployment rates by state, seasonally adjusted October 2006

(U.S. rate = 4.4 percent)



