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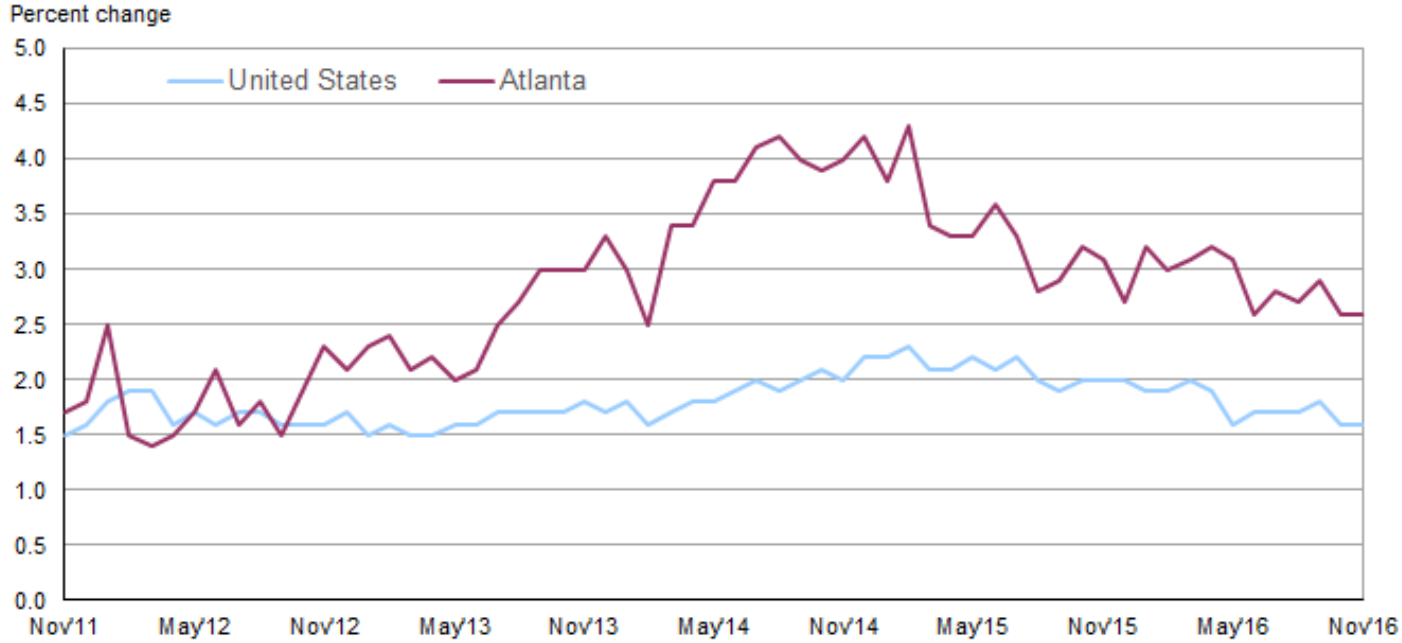
Atlanta Area Employment – November 2016

Total nonfarm employment for the Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, Ga. Metropolitan Statistical Area stood at 2,711,900 in November 2016, an increase of 68,200 or 2.6 percent, from a year ago, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the Atlanta area has had over-the-year employment gains of more than 50,000 each month since July 2013. Nationally, nonfarm employment increased 1.6 percent from November 2015 to November 2016. (See chart 1 and table 1; the Technical Note at the end of this release contains metropolitan area definitions. All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

Chart 1. Total nonfarm employment, over-the-year percent change in the United States and the Atlanta metropolitan area, November 2011–November 2016

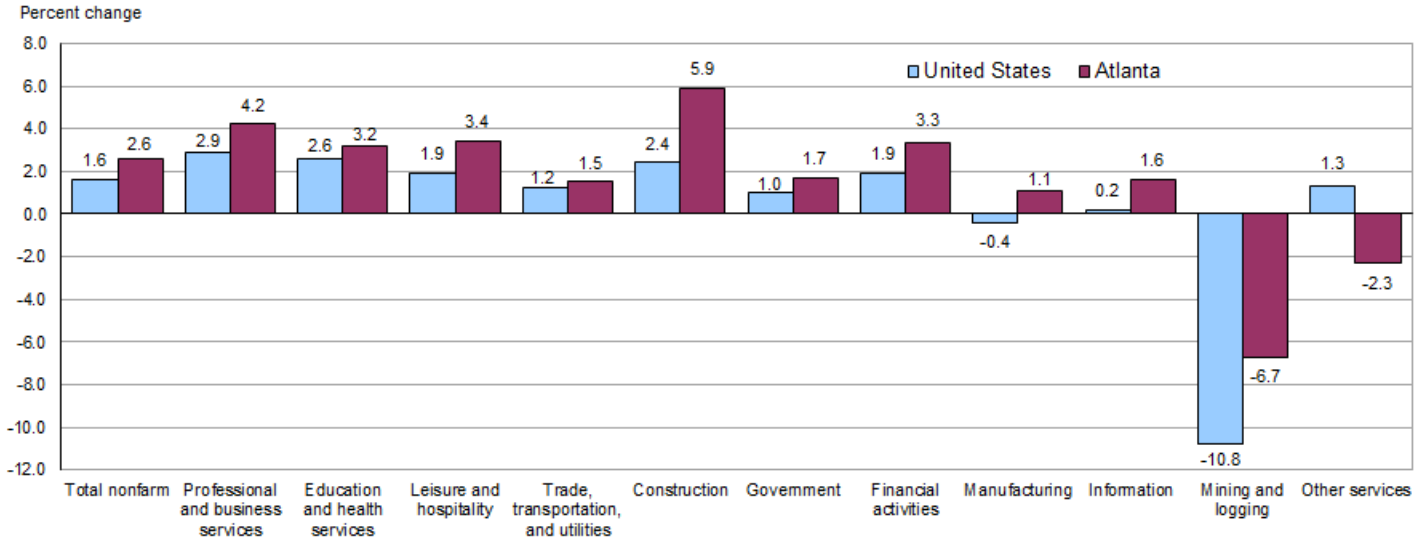


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Industry employment

In the Atlanta metropolitan area, the professional and business services industry had the largest employment gain from November 2015 to November 2016, up 20,700 or 4.2 percent. Nationwide, employment in professional and business services rose 2.9 percent from the previous November. (See chart 2.)

Chart 2. Total nonfarm and selected industry supersector employment, over-the-year percent change, United States and the Atlanta metropolitan area, November 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Education and health services added 10,500 jobs in the local area since November 2015. Employment in this supersector grew 3.2 percent in the Atlanta area compared to 2.6 percent for the nation.

Leisure and hospitality had the third largest increase in employment locally, gaining 9,500 jobs from the previous November. The 3.4-percent rate of local job growth was faster-paced than the national rate of 1.9 percent.

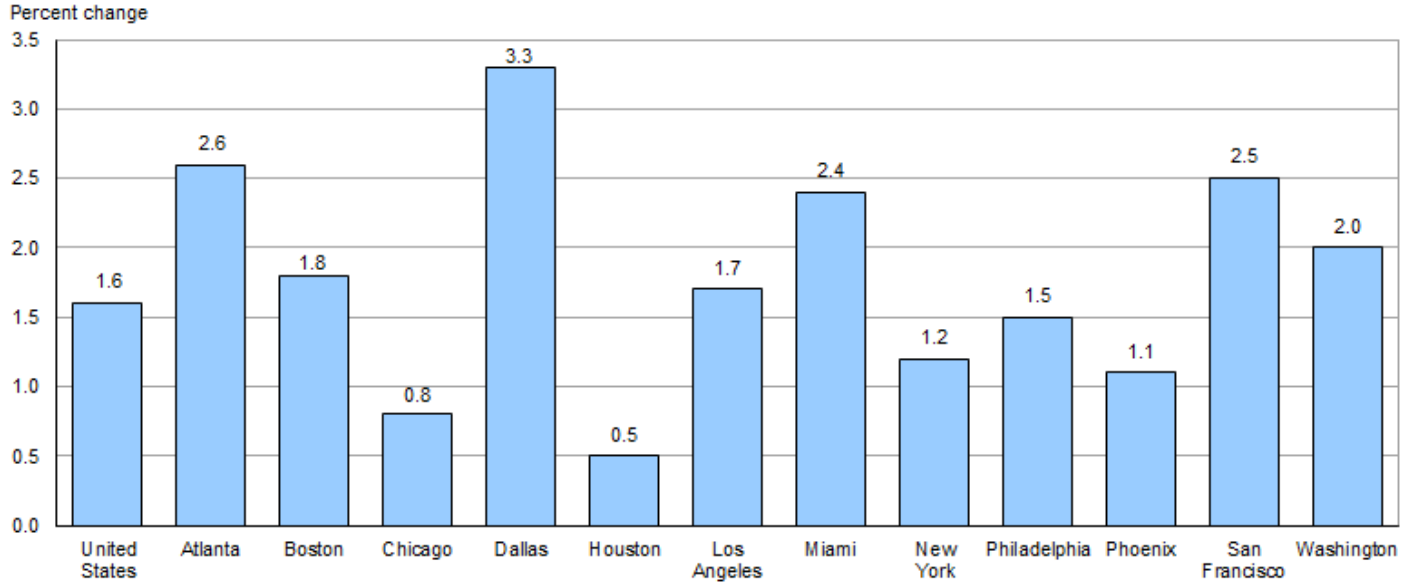
Four other supersectors in the Atlanta area gained at least 5,000 jobs since last November — trade, transportation, and utilities; construction; government; and financial activities. The local rates of job growth were higher than the respective national rates in each of these four supersectors.

Other services was the only supersector in the Atlanta area that lost more than 1,000 jobs from the previous November—down 2,300 (-2.3 percent). Nationally, this supersector added jobs over the 12-month period, increasing 1.3 percent.

Employment in the 12 largest metropolitan areas

Atlanta was 1 of the nation's 12 largest metropolitan statistical areas in November 2016. All 12 areas experienced over-the-year job growth during the period, with the rates of growth in 7 areas exceeding the national average of 1.6 percent. The fastest rate of job growth was in Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, 3.3 percent, followed by Atlanta at 2.6 percent. Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land had the slowest rate of job growth, up 0.5 percent. (See chart 3 and table 2.)

Chart 3. Total nonfarm employment, over-the-year percent change, United States and 12 largest metropolitan areas, November 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The New York-Newark-Jersey City area added the largest number of jobs, 117,300, since November 2015. The Dallas and Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim areas also added over 100,000 jobs each. Houston had the smallest employment gain, adding 16,100 jobs over the 12-month period.

Two supersectors accounted for most of the job growth in the 12 largest areas. Professional and business services added the most jobs in five areas—Atlanta, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, and Washington-Arlington-Alexandria. Education and health services added the most jobs in five other areas—Boston-Cambridge-Nashua, Los Angeles, New York, Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, and San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward.

Manufacturing had the largest over-the-year loss of jobs in four areas—Boston, Dallas, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

Metropolitan area employment data for December 2016 are scheduled to be released on Tuesday, January 24, 2017.

Technical Note

This release presents nonfarm payroll employment estimates from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. The CES survey is a Federal-State cooperative endeavor between State employment security agencies and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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. 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 2012 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Method of estimation. The employment data are estimated using a "link relative" technique in which a ratio (link relative) of current-month employment to that of the previous month is computed from a sample of establishments reporting for both months. The estimates of employment for the current month are obtained by multiplying the estimates for the previous month by these ratios. Small-domain models are used as the official estimators for approximately 39 percent of CES published series which have insufficient sample for direct sample-based estimates.

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

Reliability of the estimates. The estimates presented in this release are based on sample survey 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 are also subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the special estimation processes used. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error are available for metropolitan areas or metropolitan divisions upon request. Measures of sampling error for states down to the supersector level are available on the BLS website at https://www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.htm. Information on recent benchmark revisions is available online at https://www.bls.gov/sae/benchmark2016.pdf.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the delineations issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on February 28, 2013. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available at https://www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm.

The **Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, Ga. Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes the counties of Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Jasper, Lamar, Meriwether, Morgan, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, Pike, Rockdale, Spalding, and Walton in Georgia.

Additional information

More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in Employment and Earnings, which is available online at https://www.bls.gov/opub/ee/home.htm. Industry employment data for states and metropolitan areas from the Current Employment Statistics program are also available in the above mentioned news releases and from the Internet at https://www.bls.gov/sae/.

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. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry supersector, United States and the Atlanta metropolitan area, not seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands), November 2016

Area and Industry	Nov 2015	Sept 2016	Oct 2016	Nov 2016 (P)	Nov 2015 to Nov 2016 (P)	
					Net change	Percent change
United States						
Total nonfarm	144,122	145,052	145,920	146,399	2,277	1.6
Mining and logging	776	688	691	692	-84	-10.8
Construction	6,654	6,886	6,891	6,813	159	2.4
Manufacturing	12,317	12,307	12,289	12,273	-44	-0.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	27,596	27,281	27,465	27,919	323	1.2
Information	2,767	2,772	2,776	2,773	6	0.2
Financial activities	8,183	8,329	8,336	8,337	154	1.9
Professional and business services	20,081	20,451	20,601	20,669	588	2.9
Education and health services	22,569	22,738	23,050	23,145	576	2.6
Leisure and hospitality	15,034	15,748	15,518	15,327	293	1.9
Other services	5,634	5,700	5,715	5,709	75	1.3
Government	22,511	22,152	22,588	22,742	231	1.0
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metropolitan Statistical Area						
Total nonfarm	2,643.7	2,668.0	2,692.7	2,711.9	68.2	2.6
Mining and logging	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	-0.1	-6.7
Construction	111.0	117.0	118.6	117.6	6.6	5.9
Manufacturing	160.8	161.2	161.3	162.5	1.7	1.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	601.0	593.0	598.7	610.2	9.2	1.5
Information	88.0	88.2	88.5	89.4	1.4	1.6
Financial activities	164.5	168.2	168.9	169.9	5.4	3.3
Professional and business services	489.5	497.9	507.2	510.2	20.7	4.2
Education and health services	323.3	329.5	333.1	333.8	10.5	3.2
Leisure and hospitality	277.2	286.3	286.5	286.7	9.5	3.4
Other services	98.0	95.1	95.6	95.7	-2.3	-2.3
Government	328.9	330.2	332.9	334.5	5.6	1.7

(p) Preliminary

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

Area and Industry	Nov 2015	Sept 2016	Oct 2016	Nov 2016 (P)	Nov 2015 to Nov 2016 (P)	
					Net change	Percent change
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA						
Total nonfarm	2,643.7	2,668.0	2,692.7	2,711.9	68.2	2.6
Mining and logging	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	-0.1	-6.7
Construction	111.0	117.0	118.6	117.6	6.6	5.9
Manufacturing	160.8	161.2	161.3	162.5	1.7	1.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	601.0	593.0	598.7	610.2	9.2	1.5
Information	88.0	88.2	88.5	89.4	1.4	1.6
Financial activities	164.5	168.2	168.9	169.9	5.4	3.3
Professional and business services	489.5	497.9	507.2	510.2	20.7	4.2
Education and health services	323.3	329.5	333.1	333.8	10.5	3.2
Leisure and hospitality	277.2	286.3	286.5	286.7	9.5	3.4
Other services	98.0	95.1	95.6	95.7	-2.3	-2.3
Government	328.9	330.2	332.9	334.5	5.6	1.7
Boston-Cambridge-Nashua, MA-NH						
Total nonfarm	2,684.7	2,709.0	2,727.3	2,732.2	47.5	1.8
Mining, logging, and construction	110.6	117.3	116.6	114.9	4.3	3.9
Manufacturing	191.2	188.6	188.7	189.7	-1.5	-0.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	425.2	421.2	423.7	427.6	2.4	0.6
Information	76.8	78.3	77.8	77.6	0.8	1.0
Financial activities	183.7	188.3	188.8	189.3	5.6	3.0
Professional and business services	461.6	466.0	469.8	470.2	8.6	1.9
Education and health services	565.6	567.7	576.4	579.7	14.1	2.5
Leisure and hospitality	251.5	268.5	267.5	259.9	8.4	3.3
Other services	101.4	101.9	102.2	103.3	1.9	1.9
Government	317.1	311.2	315.8	320.0	2.9	0.9
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI						
Total nonfarm	4,660.1	4,677.0	4,701.6	4,698.0	37.9	0.8
Mining and logging	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	-0.1	-6.3
Construction	173.7	182.0	183.0	177.7	4.0	2.3
Manufacturing	413.6	409.7	411.0	411.7	-1.9	-0.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	951.9	934.8	940.7	955.2	3.3	0.3
Information	83.4	80.5	80.1	80.1	-3.3	-4.0
Financial activities	295.1	288.7	289.0	288.6	-6.5	-2.2
Professional and business services	814.0	838.5	845.1	837.2	23.2	2.9
Education and health services	716.4	705.5	715.5	719.1	2.7	0.4
Leisure and hospitality	451.9	480.0	473.5	464.0	12.1	2.7
Other services	196.3	197.8	197.9	197.7	1.4	0.7
Government	562.2	558.0	564.3	565.2	3.0	0.5
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX						
Total nonfarm	3,475.3	3,545.1	3,569.5	3,590.1	114.8	3.3
Mining, logging, and construction	201.7	205.0	206.4	205.4	3.7	1.8
Manufacturing	262.3	259.7	260.3	261.3	-1.0	-0.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	749.7	764.2	773.0	783.7	34.0	4.5
Information	80.9	82.0	81.5	81.7	0.8	1.0
Financial activities	281.4	293.3	294.3	295.0	13.6	4.8
Professional and business services	573.4	592.8	593.6	598.4	25.0	4.4
Education and health services	428.1	436.3	440.9	441.4	13.3	3.1
Leisure and hospitality	360.5	371.9	371.2	370.7	10.2	2.8
Other services	117.8	120.0	120.7	121.5	3.7	3.1
Government	419.5	419.9	427.6	431.0	11.5	2.7
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX						
Total nonfarm	3,015.4	3,004.4	3,025.8	3,031.5	16.1	0.5
Mining and logging	95.1	86.9	86.4	87.2	-7.9	-8.3
Construction	225.8	216.6	219.4	213.1	-12.7	-5.6

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

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

Area and Industry	Nov 2015	Sept 2016	Oct 2016	Nov 2016 (P)	Nov 2015 to Nov 2016 (P)	
					Net change	Percent change
Manufacturing	237.8	230.0	231.5	230.6	-7.2	-3.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	619.5	618.1	623.2	630.0	10.5	1.7
Information	31.5	30.4	30.7	31.2	-0.3	-1.0
Financial activities	153.3	152.4	153.6	153.2	-0.1	-0.1
Professional and business services	469.3	463.3	466.6	465.4	-3.9	-0.8
Education and health services	376.1	387.9	390.1	390.6	14.5	3.9
Leisure and hospitality	307.7	323.0	320.0	324.4	16.7	5.4
Other services	107.1	106.7	105.4	104.5	-2.6	-2.4
Government	392.2	389.1	398.9	401.3	9.1	2.3
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA						
Total nonfarm	5,928.5	5,958.8	6,000.7	6,032.1	103.6	1.7
Mining and logging	4.6	4.0	4.0	4.0	-0.6	-13.0
Construction	223.8	229.2	228.8	224.9	1.1	0.5
Manufacturing	514.3	510.8	509.3	509.6	-4.7	-0.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,108.2	1,087.4	1,093.0	1,116.5	8.3	0.7
Information	231.3	232.6	237.1	236.8	5.5	2.4
Financial activities	333.6	338.4	339.0	338.2	4.6	1.4
Professional and business services	903.5	916.1	917.6	920.5	17.0	1.9
Education and health services	966.7	980.8	996.2	997.0	30.3	3.1
Leisure and hospitality	701.2	727.7	723.4	723.0	21.8	3.1
Other services	202.5	204.2	205.2	206.0	3.5	1.7
Government	738.8	727.6	747.1	755.6	16.8	2.3
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL						
Total nonfarm	2,564.1	2,565.9	2,586.6	2,626.0	61.9	2.4
Mining and logging	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Construction	118.1	122.0	121.7	121.5	3.4	2.9
Manufacturing	85.3	84.3	84.4	84.7	-0.6	-0.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	598.0	592.8	596.5	613.0	15.0	2.5
Information	48.7	47.6	48.0	48.7	0.0	0.0
Financial activities	178.0	181.9	181.5	181.4	3.4	1.9
Professional and business services	418.7	423.1	428.0	434.3	15.6	3.7
Education and health services	373.3	376.2	379.6	383.4	10.1	2.7
Leisure and hospitality	311.7	309.1	314.6	323.2	11.5	3.7
Other services	123.2	121.2	122.9	125.0	1.8	1.5
Government	308.5	307.1	308.8	310.2	1.7	0.6
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA						
Total nonfarm	9,522.4	9,523.3	9,601.4	9,639.7	117.3	1.2
Mining, logging, and construction	390.5	398.4	394.1	389.0	-1.5	-0.4
Manufacturing	370.7	373.3	371.9	369.9	-0.8	-0.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,760.5	1,733.7	1,746.1	1,777.1	16.6	0.9
Information	285.3	288.9	288.4	288.7	3.4	1.2
Financial activities	770.3	771.5	767.2	767.4	-2.9	-0.4
Professional and business services	1,516.6	1,516.5	1,528.8	1,530.6	14.0	0.9
Education and health services	1,823.7	1,812.3	1,849.3	1,867.3	43.6	2.4
Leisure and hospitality	866.7	923.3	906.7	890.3	23.6	2.7
Other services	412.9	420.5	420.8	422.4	9.5	2.3
Government	1,325.2	1,284.9	1,328.1	1,337.0	11.8	0.9
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD						
Total nonfarm	2,875.4	2,879.2	2,905.0	2,919.0	43.6	1.5
Mining, logging, and construction	114.4	118.1	117.2	117.3	2.9	2.5
Manufacturing	181.2	184.2	183.3	182.9	1.7	0.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	531.6	523.3	528.5	536.9	5.3	1.0
Information	46.5	46.0	45.8	45.8	-0.7	-1.5
Financial activities	209.2	211.8	211.6	211.7	2.5	1.2

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

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

Area and Industry	Nov 2015	Sept 2016	Oct 2016	Nov 2016 (P)	Nov 2015 to Nov 2016 (P)	
					Net change	Percent change
Professional and business services	460.2	465.8	467.1	472.6	12.4	2.7
Education and health services	619.4	613.6	624.5	629.8	10.4	1.7
Leisure and hospitality	249.7	263.8	264.4	257.3	7.6	3.0
Other services	118.3	118.2	119.3	119.9	1.6	1.4
Government	344.9	334.4	343.3	344.8	-0.1	0.0
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ						
Total nonfarm	1,979.0	1,967.4	1,987.8	2,000.5	21.5	1.1
Mining and logging	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0
Construction	102.5	109.4	109.6	107.7	5.2	5.1
Manufacturing	121.4	118.5	118.4	119.0	-2.4	-2.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	395.4	383.7	389.7	397.6	2.2	0.6
Information	37.6	37.5	38.3	38.0	0.4	1.1
Financial activities	169.6	174.0	175.4	175.1	5.5	3.2
Professional and business services	336.8	328.1	331.9	336.3	-0.5	-0.1
Education and health services	290.7	297.0	299.2	299.0	8.3	2.9
Leisure and hospitality	211.7	212.5	215.9	219.4	7.7	3.6
Other services	65.9	64.2	64.3	62.6	-3.3	-5.0
Government	244.1	239.2	241.8	242.5	-1.6	-0.7
San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA						
Total nonfarm	2,304.1	2,334.8	2,352.9	2,360.7	56.6	2.5
Mining and logging	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	-0.1	-10.0
Construction	114.4	124.4	123.3	124.0	9.6	8.4
Manufacturing	127.8	129.2	126.8	126.6	-1.2	-0.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	380.5	374.3	377.2	388.3	7.8	2.0
Information	86.5	86.3	86.8	86.7	0.2	0.2
Financial activities	129.5	130.8	131.9	131.6	2.1	1.6
Professional and business services	473.1	483.1	486.0	483.8	10.7	2.3
Education and health services	335.3	344.9	350.1	349.8	14.5	4.3
Leisure and hospitality	258.5	269.7	272.3	268.3	9.8	3.8
Other services	83.6	83.3	83.6	83.8	0.2	0.2
Government	313.9	307.9	314.0	316.9	3.0	1.0
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV						
Total nonfarm	3,219.5	3,257.5	3,279.2	3,285.0	65.5	2.0
Mining, logging, and construction	155.5	159.7	159.0	157.3	1.8	1.2
Manufacturing	54.1	53.7	54.4	54.7	0.6	1.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	412.6	412.5	415.7	422.9	10.3	2.5
Information	76.3	75.1	74.1	74.3	-2.0	-2.6
Financial activities	154.6	154.4	153.7	153.5	-1.1	-0.7
Professional and business services	732.6	746.0	754.1	754.6	22.0	3.0
Education and health services	419.4	429.3	433.5	431.5	12.1	2.9
Leisure and hospitality	311.5	322.2	321.7	318.8	7.3	2.3
Other services	199.5	202.1	201.0	200.9	1.4	0.7
Government	703.4	702.5	712.0	716.5	13.1	1.9

(p) Preliminary