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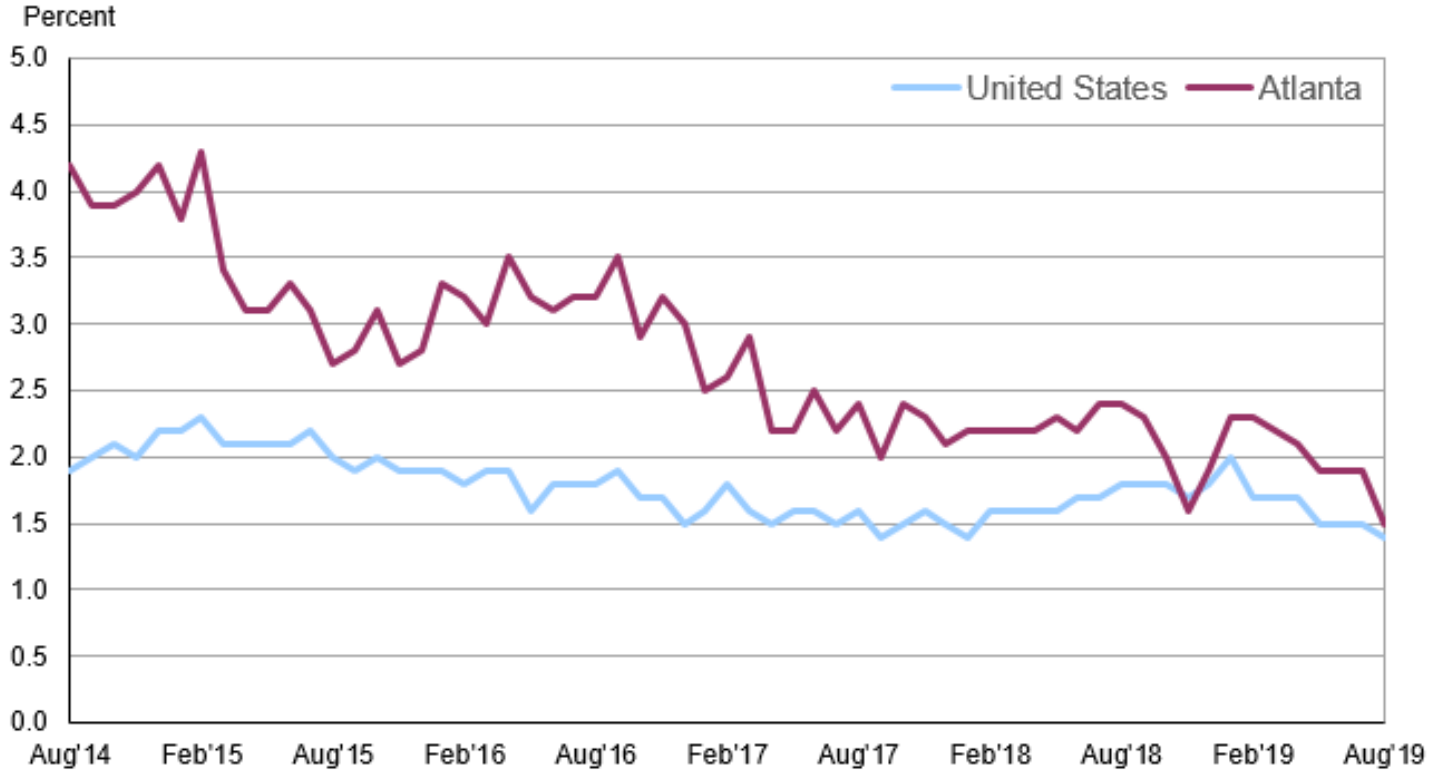
SOUTHEAST INFORMATION OFFICE: Atlanta, Ga.
Technical information: (404) 893-4222 BLSInfoAtlanta@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/southeast
Media contact: (404) 893-4220

Atlanta Area Employment – August 2019

Local Rate of Employment Growth Similar to the National Average

Total nonfarm employment for the Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA, Metropolitan Statistical Area stood at 2,848,100 in August 2019, up 42,500, or 1.5 percent, over the year, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. During the same period, the national rate of job growth was 1.4 percent. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the Atlanta area has had over-the-year employment gains each month since July 2010. (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, August 2014–August 2019

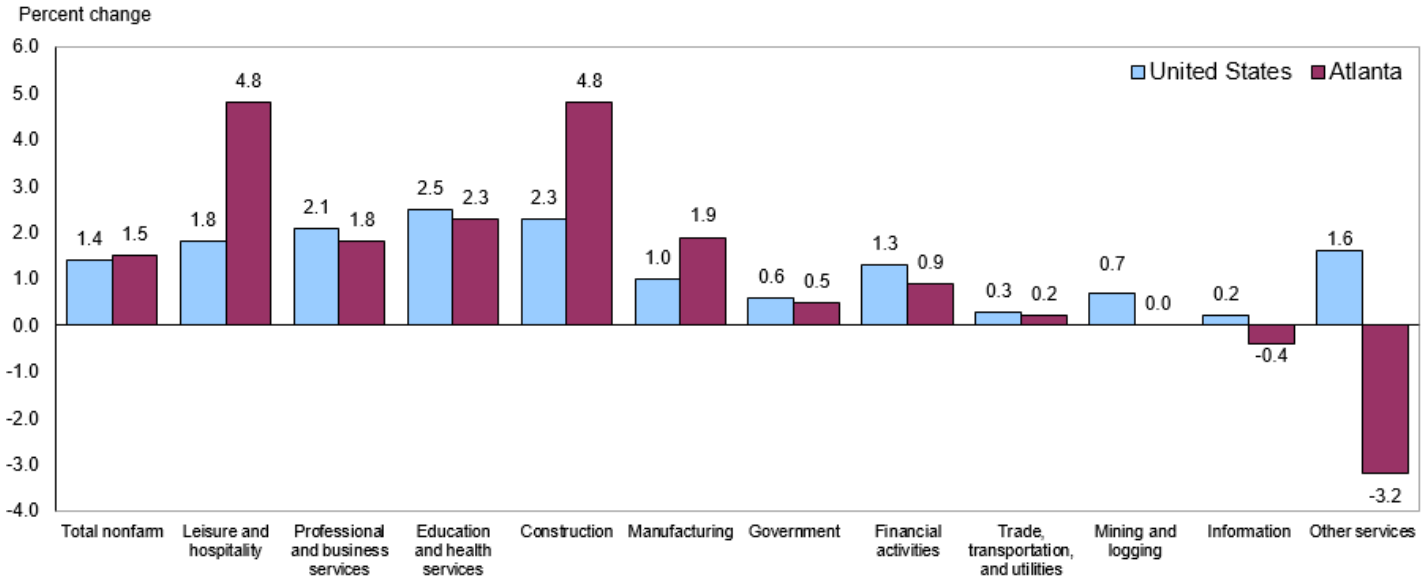


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Industry employment

In the Atlanta metropolitan area, the leisure and hospitality industry had the largest employment gain from August 2018 to August 2019, up 14,500, or 4.8 percent. Local job gains occurred primarily in the food services and drinking places subsector (+11,600). Nationwide, employment in the leisure and hospitality industry rose 1.8 percent over the year. (See chart 2.)

Chart 2. Total nonfarm and selected industry supersector employment, over-the-year percent change, United States and the Atlanta metropolitan area, August 2019



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Atlanta's professional and business services supersector added 9,600 jobs, an increase of 1.8 percent since August 2018. Local employment gains were concentrated in the professional, scientific, and technical services sector (+9,500). Nationally, employment in professional and business services was up 2.1 percent over the year.

Over the year, the education and health services supersector added 8,300 jobs in Atlanta, with over two-thirds in the ambulatory health care services subsector (+5,600). Atlanta's over the year gain in education and health services jobs (+2.3 percent) was similar to the 2.5 percent national gain.

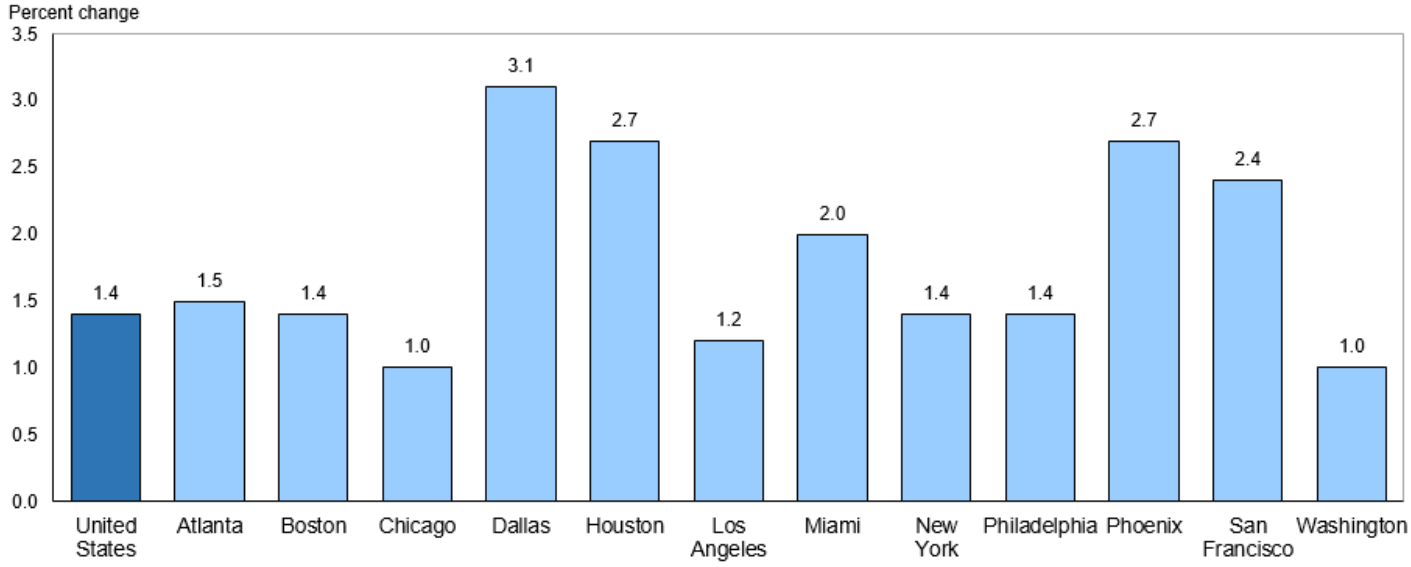
Five other supersectors in the Atlanta area gained jobs since August 2018: construction, manufacturing, government, financial activities, and trade, transportation, and utilities. Over the year employment gains for these five local industry sectors ranged from 6,100 to 1,100.

Since August 2018, the other services supersector in the Atlanta area lost 3,300 jobs, down 3.2 percent over the 12 months. Over the year, U.S. employment in other services was up 1.6 percent.

Employment in the 12 largest metropolitan areas

Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell was 1 of the nation's 12 largest metropolitan statistical areas in August 2019. All 12 areas had over-the-year job growth during the period, with the rates of job growth in 6 areas exceeding the national average of 1.4 percent. The largest over-the-year percentage gains in employment occurred in Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington (+3.1 percent), and in Houston-The Woodlands-Sugarland and Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale (+2.7 percent each). Chicago-Naperville-Elgin and Washington-Arlington-Alexandria had the slowest rates of job growth, (+1.0 percent each). (See chart 3 and table 2.)

Chart 3. Total nonfarm employment, over-the-year percent change, United States and 12 largest metropolitan areas, August 2019



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

New York-Newark-Jersey City added the largest number of jobs over the year, 134,200, followed by Dallas with 115,800 jobs. Washington had the smallest employment gain over the year, adding 33,600 jobs, followed by Boston-Cambridge-Nashua with 39,600 jobs. Annual gains in the remaining eight metropolitan areas ranged from 81,900 in Houston to 41,500 in Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington.

Over the year, educational and health services added the most jobs in seven areas: Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, New York, Philadelphia, and Phoenix. Professional and business services added the most jobs in three areas: Dallas, Houston, and San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward.

Information lost the most jobs in five areas: Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Miami, and Phoenix. Trade, transportation, and utilities lost the most jobs in three areas: Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington.

Metropolitan area employment data for September 2019 are scheduled to be released on Friday, October 18, 2019.

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 2017 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Method of estimation. CES State and Area employment data are produced using several estimation procedures. Where possible these data are produced using a "weighted link relative" estimation technique in which a ratio of current-month weighted employment to that of the previous-month weighted employment is computed from a sample of establishments reporting for both months. The estimates of employment for the current month are then obtained by multiplying these ratios by the previous month's employment estimates. The weighted link relative technique is utilized for data series where the sample size meets certain statistical criteria.

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 for the total nonfarm employment series are available for metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions at www.bls.gov/sae/additional-resources/reliability-of-state-and-area-estimates.htm. Measures of sampling error for more detailed series at the area and division level are available upon request. Measures of sampling error for states at the supersector level and for the private service-providing, goods-producing, total private and total nonfarm levels are available on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/sae/additional-resources/reliability-of-state-and-area-estimates.htm. Measures of nonsampling error are not available for the areas contained in this release. Information on recent benchmark revisions is available online at www.bls.gov/sae/publications/benchmark-article/annual-benchmark-article.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 April 10, 2018. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available at 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 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 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)

Area and Industry	Aug 2018	June 2019	July 2019	Aug 2019(p)	Aug 2018 to Aug 2019(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
United States						
Total nonfarm	149,453	152,243	151,169	151,517	2,064	1.4
Mining and logging	757	762	763	762	5	0.7
Construction	7,587	7,699	7,750	7,764	177	2.3
Manufacturing	12,801	12,926	12,922	12,934	133	1.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	27,661	27,831	27,801	27,748	87	0.3
Information	2,851	2,837	2,848	2,856	5	0.2
Financial activities	8,646	8,712	8,760	8,760	114	1.3
Professional and business services	21,216	21,584	21,604	21,668	452	2.1
Education and health services	23,444	24,032	23,944	24,021	577	2.5
Leisure and hospitality	17,096	17,403	17,478	17,398	302	1.8
Other services	5,890	6,014	6,020	5,983	93	1.6
Government	21,504	22,443	21,279	21,623	119	0.6
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metropolitan Statistical Area						
Total nonfarm	2,805.6	2,841.7	2,835.8	2,848.1	42.5	1.5
Mining and logging	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Construction	127.6	134.6	134.2	133.7	6.1	4.8
Manufacturing	172.1	174.0	175.2	175.4	3.3	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	603.1	606.6	606.1	604.2	1.1	0.2
Information	99.2	99.1	99.3	98.8	-0.4	-0.4
Financial activities	175.3	174.6	176.2	176.8	1.5	0.9
Professional and business services	528.4	539.2	538.8	538.0	9.6	1.8
Education and health services	357.6	359.7	360.4	365.9	8.3	2.3
Leisure and hospitality	304.9	318.5	318.5	319.4	14.5	4.8
Other services	101.8	98.6	99.3	98.5	-3.3	-3.2
Government	334.0	335.2	326.2	335.8	1.8	0.5

Footnotes
(p) Preliminary

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

Area and Industry	Aug 2018	June 2019	July 2019	Aug 2019(p)	Aug 2018 to Aug 2019(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA						
Total nonfarm	2,805.6	2,841.7	2,835.8	2,848.1	42.5	1.5
Mining and logging	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Construction	127.6	134.6	134.2	133.7	6.1	4.8
Manufacturing	172.1	174.0	175.2	175.4	3.3	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	603.1	606.6	606.1	604.2	1.1	0.2
Information	99.2	99.1	99.3	98.8	-0.4	-0.4
Financial activities	175.3	174.6	176.2	176.8	1.5	0.9
Professional and business services	528.4	539.2	538.8	538.0	9.6	1.8
Education and health services	357.6	359.7	360.4	365.9	8.3	2.3
Leisure and hospitality	304.9	318.5	318.5	319.4	14.5	4.8
Other services	101.8	98.6	99.3	98.5	-3.3	-3.2
Government	334.0	335.2	326.2	335.8	1.8	0.5
Boston-Cambridge-Nashua, MA-NH						
Total nonfarm	2,770.9	2,837.1	2,819.3	2,810.5	39.6	1.4
Mining, logging, and construction	122.1	122.3	124.6	123.3	1.2	1.0
Manufacturing	189.4	189.5	189.0	189.0	-0.4	-0.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	423.5	426.0	423.2	421.1	-2.4	-0.6
Information	81.9	83.4	83.7	84.9	3.0	3.7
Financial activities	186.9	186.7	187.7	188.1	1.2	0.6
Professional and business services	510.2	513.7	516.5	519.1	8.9	1.7
Education and health services	571.7	591.2	592.6	589.2	17.5	3.1
Leisure and hospitality	290.2	299.4	298.9	296.7	6.5	2.2
Other services	107.7	107.9	109.7	109.3	1.6	1.5
Government	287.3	317.0	293.4	289.8	2.5	0.9
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI						
Total nonfarm	4,782.9	4,873.1	4,848.5	4,830.4	47.5	1.0
Mining and logging	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	-0.1	-5.9
Construction	189.6	189.7	192.3	190.7	1.1	0.6
Manufacturing	424.0	430.2	429.6	428.1	4.1	1.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	950.1	962.4	959.3	959.4	9.3	1.0
Information	78.8	74.5	74.2	74.0	-4.8	-6.1
Financial activities	315.7	317.0	318.5	316.7	1.0	0.3
Professional and business services	854.5	859.7	861.6	859.7	5.2	0.6
Education and health services	719.9	746.6	739.0	740.6	20.7	2.9
Leisure and hospitality	512.7	531.4	532.2	522.0	9.3	1.8
Other services	200.1	201.2	199.6	200.8	0.7	0.3
Government	535.8	558.7	540.6	536.8	1.0	0.2
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX						
Total nonfarm	3,695.1	3,810.1	3,804.5	3,810.9	115.8	3.1
Mining, logging, and construction	223.9	234.2	236.8	238.6	14.7	6.6
Manufacturing	280.2	286.7	288.2	286.9	6.7	2.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	785.5	799.2	800.4	800.4	14.9	1.9
Information	83.1	81.4	81.5	82.2	-0.9	-1.1
Financial activities	303.7	312.3	317.6	317.7	14.0	4.6
Professional and business services	627.4	647.2	653.6	655.5	28.1	4.5
Education and health services	453.0	461.4	462.8	465.6	12.6	2.8
Leisure and hospitality	392.6	411.8	408.3	407.9	15.3	3.9
Other services	125.8	132.5	130.8	129.9	4.1	3.3
Government	419.9	443.4	424.5	426.2	6.3	1.5
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX						
Total nonfarm	3,085.0	3,185.2	3,166.9	3,166.9	81.9	2.7
Mining and logging	79.2	87.6	86.9	85.8	6.6	8.3
Construction	223.5	229.6	228.1	227.1	3.6	1.6

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	Aug 2018	June 2019	July 2019	Aug 2019(p)	Aug 2018 to Aug 2019(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
Manufacturing	231.5	240.9	241.6	243.0	11.5	5.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	624.2	630.4	630.4	630.7	6.5	1.0
Information	31.5	30.7	30.5	29.8	-1.7	-5.4
Financial activities	165.7	166.6	168.0	168.8	3.1	1.9
Professional and business services	499.5	516.4	520.6	522.3	22.8	4.6
Education and health services	396.4	402.0	400.3	406.0	9.6	2.4
Leisure and hospitality	332.9	341.1	341.4	337.6	4.7	1.4
Other services	111.9	122.2	120.3	121.6	9.7	8.7
Government	388.7	417.7	398.8	394.2	5.5	1.4
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA						
Total nonfarm	6,131.3	6,246.4	6,174.7	6,202.9	71.6	1.2
Mining and logging	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	0.1	4.2
Construction	257.7	266.8	269.6	268.5	10.8	4.2
Manufacturing	504.5	505.2	505.4	505.4	0.9	0.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,111.0	1,104.7	1,108.4	1,108.5	-2.5	-0.2
Information	240.3	236.9	236.0	241.3	1.0	0.4
Financial activities	343.4	338.1	341.6	343.9	0.5	0.1
Professional and business services	943.9	947.8	951.8	960.8	16.9	1.8
Education and health services	1,039.7	1,066.7	1,057.3	1,068.8	29.1	2.8
Leisure and hospitality	766.7	788.4	784.6	783.6	16.9	2.2
Other services	211.1	215.5	213.7	213.5	2.4	1.1
Government	710.6	773.9	703.8	706.1	-4.5	-0.6
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL						
Total nonfarm	2,672.7	2,703.8	2,699.8	2,725.8	53.1	2.0
Mining and logging	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Construction	138.9	143.5	143.5	141.7	2.8	2.0
Manufacturing	89.8	91.5	91.8	91.8	2.0	2.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	603.6	607.8	606.4	606.9	3.3	0.5
Information	51.9	50.6	50.4	50.1	-1.8	-3.5
Financial activities	184.4	186.2	186.5	187.7	3.3	1.8
Professional and business services	446.8	459.1	461.3	461.3	14.5	3.2
Education and health services	397.9	413.9	413.6	417.0	19.1	4.8
Leisure and hospitality	323.1	330.4	328.2	327.6	4.5	1.4
Other services	122.8	126.3	126.4	126.7	3.9	3.2
Government	312.8	293.8	291.0	314.3	1.5	0.5
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA						
Total nonfarm	9,803.8	10,058.8	9,990.2	9,938.0	134.2	1.4
Mining, logging, and construction	420.9	433.5	435.7	436.5	15.6	3.7
Manufacturing	362.2	366.9	364.6	363.2	1.0	0.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,717.5	1,746.3	1,727.8	1,722.0	4.5	0.3
Information	296.0	296.5	297.5	297.0	1.0	0.3
Financial activities	794.4	780.9	785.7	783.6	-10.8	-1.4
Professional and business services	1,586.9	1,607.5	1,595.0	1,590.7	3.8	0.2
Education and health services	1,926.2	2,036.8	2,001.6	1,995.9	69.7	3.6
Leisure and hospitality	985.2	1,009.4	1,025.0	1,019.9	34.7	3.5
Other services	425.0	437.2	436.6	435.4	10.4	2.4
Government	1,289.5	1,343.8	1,320.7	1,293.8	4.3	0.3
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD						
Total nonfarm	2,919.0	2,988.0	2,958.0	2,960.5	41.5	1.4
Mining, logging, and construction	121.8	128.0	128.7	128.4	6.6	5.4
Manufacturing	182.7	183.5	183.3	183.0	0.3	0.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	519.4	520.9	518.8	515.9	-3.5	-0.7
Information	48.5	49.0	49.1	49.4	0.9	1.9

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	Aug 2018	June 2019	July 2019	Aug 2019(p)	Aug 2018 to Aug 2019(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
Financial activities	217.6	218.6	218.8	219.3	1.7	0.8
Professional and business services	467.0	478.7	475.7	478.6	11.6	2.5
Education and health services	640.3	653.9	650.4	652.1	11.8	1.8
Leisure and hospitality	285.0	293.3	293.3	291.1	6.1	2.1
Other services	122.2	125.2	124.1	123.5	1.3	1.1
Government	314.5	336.9	315.8	319.2	4.7	1.5
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ						
Total nonfarm	2,102.8	2,126.5	2,117.7	2,160.4	57.6	2.7
Mining and logging	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	0.0	0.0
Construction	126.0	137.4	137.0	137.0	11.0	8.7
Manufacturing	128.4	134.8	136.0	136.5	8.1	6.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	402.6	408.8	409.0	411.3	8.7	2.2
Information	38.6	38.2	37.6	37.8	-0.8	-2.1
Financial activities	193.3	193.7	193.4	196.6	3.3	1.7
Professional and business services	355.2	361.4	360.0	359.7	4.5	1.3
Education and health services	324.5	333.7	335.2	338.6	14.1	4.3
Leisure and hospitality	224.7	228.7	227.2	228.0	3.3	1.5
Other services	69.2	70.7	70.1	71.1	1.9	2.7
Government	236.6	215.4	208.5	240.1	3.5	1.5
San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA						
Total nonfarm	2,449.7	2,512.3	2,506.2	2,508.8	59.1	2.4
Mining and logging	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Construction	127.4	137.6	137.3	137.5	10.1	7.9
Manufacturing	146.6	143.7	144.1	144.0	-2.6	-1.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	379.6	377.4	379.7	379.5	-0.1	0.0
Information	119.2	123.0	123.8	124.4	5.2	4.4
Financial activities	142.9	145.8	147.7	147.2	4.3	3.0
Professional and business services	500.7	516.7	522.0	522.2	21.5	4.3
Education and health services	352.1	365.6	363.3	364.4	12.3	3.5
Leisure and hospitality	279.4	286.0	286.4	285.7	6.3	2.3
Other services	89.1	87.5	87.4	86.7	-2.4	-2.7
Government	312.4	328.7	314.2	316.9	4.5	1.4
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV						
Total nonfarm	3,301.1	3,359.7	3,361.1	3,334.7	33.6	1.0
Mining, logging, and construction	164.6	162.8	164.9	167.3	2.7	1.6
Manufacturing	56.0	56.2	56.4	55.4	-0.6	-1.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	405.9	405.8	404.0	401.5	-4.4	-1.1
Information	74.5	73.6	73.9	73.2	-1.3	-1.7
Financial activities	160.2	158.3	157.1	158.0	-2.2	-1.4
Professional and business services	770.6	778.6	784.5	780.0	9.4	1.2
Education and health services	435.9	443.3	443.8	444.8	8.9	2.0
Leisure and hospitality	346.0	362.9	361.1	361.6	15.6	4.5
Other services	210.1	212.0	214.0	213.1	3.0	1.4
Government	677.3	706.2	701.4	679.8	2.5	0.4

Footnotes
(p) Preliminary