

# NEWS RELEASE

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### REGIONAL AND STATE UNEMPLOYMENT — 2021 ANNUAL AVERAGES

In 2021, annual average unemployment rates decreased in 49 states and the District of Columbia, while the rate was little changed in 1 state, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Employment-population ratios increased in 38 states and the District, decreased in 1 state, and were little changed in 11 states. The U.S. jobless rate declined by 2.8 percentage points from the prior year to 5.3 percent, while the national employment-population ratio rose by 1.6 points to 58.4 percent.

#### Regional Unemployment

Unemployment rates decreased from 2020 in all four regions: the Northeast (-2.9 percentage points), the Midwest and West (-2.8 points each), and the South (-2.4 points). The Midwest, 4.7 percent, and South, 4.8 percent, registered jobless rates lower than the U.S. rate in 2021, while the Northeast and West, 6.3 percent and 6.2 percent, respectively, had rates higher than the national figure. (See table 1.)

All nine geographic divisions had over-the-year unemployment rate decreases in 2021, with the largest of these occurring in the East North Central and Pacific (-3.4 percentage points and -3.0 points, respectively). The smallest rate decreases were in the West North Central (-2.0 percentage points) and West South Central (-2.1 points). The West North Central had the lowest jobless rate, 3.7 percent. The East South Central, Mountain, and South Atlantic divisions also had rates below the national figure. The highest jobless rates among the divisions were in the Pacific and Middle Atlantic, 6.8 percent and 6.6 percent, respectively.

#### Changes to Local Area Unemployment Statistics Data

Effective with this news release, data for regions, divisions, states, the District of Columbia, and modeled substate areas have been re-estimated from 2017 through 2021. The annual average data shown in tables 1 and 2 were affected, as were monthly seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted data. Information on these data revisions is available at [www.bls.gov/lau/important-information-on-revisions-to-data-for-model-based-areas-in-2022.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/important-information-on-revisions-to-data-for-model-based-areas-in-2022.htm).

## State Unemployment

In 2021, 49 states and the District of Columbia had unemployment rate decreases and 1 state had little change. The largest decreases occurred in Hawaii and Nevada (-6.3 percentage points each). Fifteen additional states had rate declines of at least 3.0 percentage points. (See table A and map 1.)

Nebraska had the lowest jobless rate among the states, 2.5 percent, followed by Utah, 2.7 percent. California and Nevada had the highest unemployment rates in 2021, 7.3 percent and 7.2 percent, respectively. Overall, 25 states had unemployment rates lower than the U.S. figure of 5.3 percent, 9 states and the District of Columbia had higher rates, and 16 states had rates that were not appreciably different from that of the nation. (See table B and map 2.)

## Regional Employment-Population Ratios

In 2021, all four census regions had increases in their employment-population ratios—the proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over who are employed. The West had the largest ratio increase (+1.9 percentage points). The Midwest had the highest employment-population ratio, 60.5 percent, while the South and Northeast had the lowest ratios, 57.6 percent and 57.7 percent, respectively. (See table 2.)

All nine census divisions had over-the-year increases in their employment-population ratios in 2021, the largest of which were in the Pacific (+2.0 percentage points) and East North Central (+1.9 points) and the smallest of which was in the West North Central (+0.6 point). Four divisions had ratios notably higher than the U.S. ratio of 58.4 percent: the West North Central, 63.7 percent; New England, 60.7 percent; the Mountain, 60.2 percent; and the East North Central, 59.0 percent. Four divisions had ratios that were lower than the national average: the East South Central, 55.4 percent; Middle Atlantic, 56.7 percent; Pacific, 57.4 percent; and South Atlantic, 57.6 percent.

## State Employment-Population Ratios

In 2021, the largest employment-population ratio increases among the states occurred in Hawaii (+4.5 percentage points) and Nevada (+3.1 points). Thirty-six additional states and the District of Columbia also had increases in their ratios. Vermont had the only over-the-year decrease in its employment-population ratio (-1.4 percentage points). The remaining 11 states had ratios that were not notably different from those of the previous year, though some had changes that were at least as large numerically as the significant changes. (See table C.)

Nebraska had the highest proportion of employed persons in 2021, 67.7 percent, followed by South Dakota, 66.4 percent. West Virginia and Mississippi had the lowest employment-population ratios among the states, 51.9 percent and 52.0 percent, respectively. Virginia and Wyoming had the lowest employment-population ratios in their series in 2021, 60.4 percent and 61.2 percent, respectively. (All region, division, and state series begin in 1976.) Overall, 22 states and the District of Columbia had employment-population ratios higher than the U.S. ratio of 58.4 percent, 15 states had lower ratios, and 13 states had ratios that were not appreciably different from that of the nation. (See table D and map 3.)

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**The State Employment and Unemployment news release for January 2022 is scheduled to be released on Monday, March 14, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. (ET). The Metropolitan Area Employment**

and Unemployment news release for January 2022 is scheduled to be released on Friday, March 18, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. (ET).

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on 2021 Household Survey Data**

The "Impact summary" documents associated with the Employment Situation news release listed at [www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-and-response-on-the-employment-situation-news-release.htm#summaries](http://www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-and-response-on-the-employment-situation-news-release.htm#summaries) extensively discuss the monthly impacts of a misclassification in the household survey on the national estimates from March 2020 through December 2021. Despite the considerable decline in its degree relative to the initial months of the pandemic, this misclassification continued to be widespread geographically into 2021, with BLS analysis indicating that most states still were affected to at least some extent. However, according to usual practice, the data from the household survey are accepted as recorded. To maintain data integrity, no ad hoc actions are taken to reclassify survey responses. Hence, the household survey estimates of employed and unemployed people that serve as the primary inputs to the state models were affected to varying degrees by the misclassification, which in turn affected the monthly estimates underlying the annual averages presented in this news release.

**Table A. States with statistically significant unemployment rate changes, 2020–21 annual averages**

State	Rate		Over-the-year rate change
	2020	2021	
Alabama .....	6.5	3.4	-3.1
Alaska .....	8.2	6.4	-1.8
Arizona .....	7.7	4.9	-2.8
Arkansas .....	6.1	4.0	-2.1
California .....	10.2	7.3	-2.9
Colorado .....	6.9	5.4	-1.5
Connecticut .....	7.8	6.3	-1.5
Delaware .....	7.6	5.3	-2.3
District of Columbia .....	8.0	6.6	-1.4
Florida .....	8.2	4.6	-3.6
Georgia .....	6.5	3.9	-2.6
Hawaii .....	12.0	5.7	-6.3
Idaho .....	5.5	3.6	-1.9
Illinois .....	9.2	6.1	-3.1
Indiana .....	7.2	3.6	-3.6
Iowa .....	5.1	4.2	-.9
Kansas .....	5.7	3.2	-2.5
Kentucky .....	6.4	4.7	-1.7
Louisiana .....	8.7	5.5	-3.2
Maryland .....	6.7	5.8	-.9
Massachusetts .....	9.4	5.7	-3.7
Michigan .....	10.0	5.9	-4.1
Minnesota .....	6.3	3.4	-2.9
Mississippi .....	7.9	5.6	-2.3
Missouri .....	6.1	4.4	-1.7
Montana .....	5.8	3.4	-2.4
Nebraska .....	4.1	2.5	-1.6
Nevada .....	13.5	7.2	-6.3
New Hampshire .....	6.7	3.5	-3.2
New Jersey .....	9.5	6.3	-3.2
New Mexico .....	8.1	6.8	-1.3
New York .....	9.9	6.9	-3.0
North Carolina .....	7.1	4.8	-2.3
North Dakota .....	5.1	3.7	-1.4
Ohio .....	8.2	5.1	-3.1
Oklahoma .....	6.2	3.8	-2.4
Oregon .....	7.6	5.2	-2.4
Pennsylvania .....	9.1	6.3	-2.8
Rhode Island .....	9.2	5.6	-3.6
South Carolina .....	6.0	4.0	-2.0
South Dakota .....	4.3	3.1	-1.2
Tennessee .....	7.4	4.3	-3.1
Texas .....	7.7	5.7	-2.0
Utah .....	4.7	2.7	-2.0
Vermont .....	5.6	3.4	-2.2
Virginia .....	6.2	3.9	-2.3
Washington .....	8.5	5.2	-3.3
West Virginia .....	8.2	5.0	-3.2
Wisconsin .....	6.3	3.8	-2.5
Wyoming .....	5.8	4.5	-1.3

**Table B. States with unemployment rates significantly different from that of the U.S., 2021 annual averages**

State	Rate
United States .....	5.3
Alabama .....	3.4
Alaska .....	6.4
Arkansas .....	4.0
California .....	7.3
Connecticut .....	6.3
District of Columbia .....	6.6
Florida .....	4.6
Georgia .....	3.9
Idaho .....	3.6
Illinois .....	6.1
Indiana .....	3.6
Iowa .....	4.2
Kansas .....	3.2
Kentucky .....	4.7
Minnesota .....	3.4
Missouri .....	4.4
Montana .....	3.4
Nebraska .....	2.5
Nevada .....	7.2
New Hampshire .....	3.5
New Jersey .....	6.3
New Mexico .....	6.8
New York .....	6.9
North Carolina .....	4.8
North Dakota .....	3.7
Oklahoma .....	3.8
Pennsylvania .....	6.3
South Carolina .....	4.0
South Dakota .....	3.1
Tennessee .....	4.3
Utah .....	2.7
Vermont .....	3.4
Virginia .....	3.9
Wisconsin .....	3.8
Wyoming .....	4.5

**Table C. States with statistically significant employment-population ratio changes, 2020–21 annual averages**

State	Ratio		Over-the-year ratio change
	2020	2021	
Alabama .....	53.6	54.6	1.0
Alaska .....	58.5	60.9	2.4
Arizona .....	56.5	58.1	1.6
California .....	54.7	56.6	1.9
Colorado .....	62.8	64.6	1.8
Delaware .....	56.6	58.4	1.8
District of Columbia .....	63.7	65.2	1.5
Florida .....	53.0	55.6	2.6
Georgia .....	57.3	59.4	2.1
Hawaii .....	51.9	56.4	4.5
Illinois .....	57.2	59.1	1.9
Indiana .....	58.3	60.3	2.0
Kansas .....	62.7	64.2	1.5
Kentucky .....	53.5	55.0	1.5
Louisiana .....	52.6	54.6	2.0
Massachusetts .....	59.0	61.7	2.7
Michigan .....	54.1	55.7	1.6
Mississippi .....	50.3	52.0	1.7
Missouri .....	59.1	60.3	1.2
Montana .....	59.1	60.2	1.1
Nebraska .....	66.6	67.7	1.1
Nevada .....	53.0	56.1	3.1
New Hampshire .....	62.2	63.3	1.1
New Jersey .....	57.0	59.1	2.1
New Mexico .....	51.9	52.8	.9
New York .....	53.3	55.0	1.7
North Carolina .....	54.8	56.7	1.9
Ohio .....	56.5	58.4	1.9
Oklahoma .....	56.7	58.3	1.6
Oregon .....	56.7	59.0	2.3
Pennsylvania .....	56.5	57.6	1.1
Rhode Island .....	57.5	60.0	2.5
South Carolina .....	54.0	55.1	1.1
Tennessee .....	56.0	57.8	1.8
Texas .....	57.9	59.7	1.8
Utah .....	64.6	66.1	1.5
Vermont .....	60.3	58.9	-1.4
Washington .....	58.9	60.3	1.4
West Virginia .....	49.7	51.9	2.2
Wisconsin .....	62.0	64.0	2.0

**Table D. States with employment-population ratios significantly different from that of the U.S., 2021 annual averages**

State	Ratio
United States .....	58.4
Alabama .....	54.6
Alaska .....	60.9
Arkansas .....	54.2
California .....	56.6
Colorado .....	64.6
District of Columbia .....	65.2
Florida .....	55.6
Hawaii .....	56.4
Idaho .....	60.3
Indiana .....	60.3
Iowa .....	64.1
Kansas .....	64.2
Kentucky .....	55.0
Louisiana .....	54.6
Maryland .....	61.5
Massachusetts .....	61.7
Michigan .....	55.7
Minnesota .....	65.0
Mississippi .....	52.0
Missouri .....	60.3
Montana .....	60.2
Nebraska .....	67.7
Nevada .....	56.1
New Hampshire .....	63.3
New Mexico .....	52.8
New York .....	55.0
North Carolina .....	56.7
North Dakota .....	66.0
Rhode Island .....	60.0
South Carolina .....	55.1
South Dakota .....	66.4
Texas .....	59.7
Utah .....	66.1
Virginia .....	60.4
Washington .....	60.3
West Virginia .....	51.9
Wisconsin .....	64.0
Wyoming .....	61.2

## Technical Note

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

### Concepts

**Definitions.** The labor force and unemployment data are based on the same concepts and definitions as those used for the official national estimates obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a sample survey of households that is conducted for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau. The LAUS program measures employed and unemployed persons on a place-of-residence basis. The universe for each is the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and older. *Employed* persons are those who did any work at all for pay or profit in the reference week (the week including the 12th of the month) or worked 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or farm, plus those not working who had a job from which they were temporarily absent, whether or not paid, for such reasons as labor management dispute, illness, or vacation. *Unemployed* persons are those who were not employed during the reference week (based on the definition above), had actively looked for a job sometime in the 4-week period ending with the reference week, and were currently available for work; persons on layoff expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The *labor force* is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. The *unemployment rate* is the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percent of the labor force. The *employment-population ratio* is the proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and older that is employed.

**Method of estimation.** Estimates for 48 of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale metropolitan division, New York City, and the balances of California and New York State are produced using estimating equations based on regression techniques. This method uses data from several sources, including the CPS, the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey of nonfarm payroll employment, and state unemployment insurance (UI) programs. Estimates for the state of California are derived by summing the estimates for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale metropolitan division and the balance of California. Similarly, estimates for New York State are derived by summing

the estimates for New York City and the balance of New York State. Estimates for all nine census divisions are based on a similar regression approach that does not incorporate CES or UI data. Estimates for census regions are obtained by summing the model-based estimates for the component divisions and then calculating the unemployment rate. Each month, census division estimates are controlled to national totals; state estimates are then controlled to their respective division totals. A detailed description of the estimation procedures is available from BLS upon request.

**Annual revisions.** Labor force and unemployment data for prior years reflect adjustments made at the beginning of each year. The adjusted estimates incorporate updated population controls from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model re-estimation. Historical data for the most recent 5 years (both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted) are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, prior to the release of January estimates.

The population controls for April 2020 forward reflect a “blended base,” using population totals from the 2020 Census but demographic distributions still based on the 2010 Census. Typically, population estimates are revised back to the decennial estimates base. However, due to notable discontinuities between the final, 2010-extrapolated recontrol series and the new blended base series that coincide with the peak pandemic months of March–April 2020, BLS implemented a temporary wedged population series for the 2010s through March 2020. For more information on these population controls, see [www.bls.gov/lau/important-information-on-revisions-to-data-for-model-based-areas-in-2022.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/important-information-on-revisions-to-data-for-model-based-areas-in-2022.htm).

### Reliability of the estimates

The estimates presented in this release are based on sample surveys, administrative data, and modeling and, thus, are subject to sampling and other types of errors. *Sampling error* is a measure of sampling variability—that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data also are subject to *nonsampling errors*, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the specific estimation processes used. In table 1, level estimates for states may not sum to level estimates for regions and divisions because of rounding. Unemployment rates and employment-population ratios are computed from unrounded levels and, thus, may differ slightly



from rates and ratios computed using the rounded level estimates displayed in table 1.

**Use of error measures.** Changes in unemployment rates and employment-population ratios are cited in the analysis of this release only if they have been determined to be statistically significant. Furthermore, unemployment rates and employment-population ratios for the latest year generally are cited only if they have been determined to be significantly different from the corresponding U.S. measure. The underlying model-based error measures are available online at [www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm). BLS uses 90-percent confidence levels in determining whether changes in LAUS unemployment rates and employment-population ratios are statistically significant. The

average magnitude of the over-the-year change in an annual state unemployment rate that is required in order to be statistically significant at the 90-percent confidence level is about 0.8 percentage point. The average magnitude of the over-the-year change in an annual state employment-population ratio that is required in order to be statistically significant at the 90-percent confidence level is about 0.6 percentage point. Measures of nonsampling error are not available.

### **Additional information**

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

**Table 1. Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over by region, division, and state, 2020–21 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Region, division, and state	Population		Civilian labor force		Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment rate		Error range of rate, 2021 <sup>1</sup>
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	
United States .....	260,329	261,445	160,742	161,204	147,795	152,581	12,947	8,623	8.1	5.3	5.3 – 5.4
Northeast .....	46,355	46,181	28,683	28,452	26,055	26,662	2,628	1,790	9.2	6.3	6.1 – 6.5
New England .....	12,354	12,379	7,983	7,943	7,327	7,510	656	433	8.2	5.4	5.1 – 5.8
Connecticut .....	2,916	2,926	1,898	1,856	1,750	1,740	148	116	7.8	6.3	5.5 – 7.0
Maine .....	1,127	1,138	675	682	641	650	34	32	5.0	4.6	3.9 – 5.4
Massachusetts .....	5,741	5,727	3,742	3,751	3,390	3,535	351	215	9.4	5.7	5.2 – 6.2
New Hampshire .....	1,139	1,151	760	755	709	729	51	26	6.7	3.5	3.0 – 4.0
Rhode Island .....	896	898	567	571	515	539	52	32	9.2	5.6	4.8 – 6.4
Vermont .....	535	538	341	328	322	317	19	11	5.6	3.4	3.0 – 3.9
Middle Atlantic .....	34,001	33,802	20,701	20,509	18,728	19,151	1,973	1,358	9.5	6.6	6.3 – 6.9
New Jersey .....	7,380	7,389	4,643	4,661	4,203	4,365	440	296	9.5	6.3	5.8 – 6.9
New York .....	16,196	15,989	9,575	9,441	8,631	8,786	944	655	9.9	6.9	6.5 – 7.4
Pennsylvania .....	10,425	10,424	6,483	6,406	5,894	5,999	589	407	9.1	6.3	5.9 – 6.8
Midwest .....	54,286	54,348	34,629	34,467	32,015	32,859	2,614	1,607	7.5	4.7	4.5 – 4.8
East North Central .....	37,457	37,455	23,376	23,288	21,398	22,093	1,977	1,195	8.5	5.1	4.9 – 5.4
Illinois .....	10,099	10,040	6,367	6,319	5,781	5,936	586	383	9.2	6.1	5.6 – 6.5
Indiana .....	5,289	5,316	3,323	3,322	3,083	3,203	240	118	7.2	3.6	3.1 – 4.0
Michigan .....	8,060	8,064	4,846	4,776	4,362	4,496	484	280	10.0	5.9	5.3 – 6.4
Ohio .....	9,316	9,324	5,734	5,737	5,263	5,442	471	295	8.2	5.1	4.7 – 5.6
Wisconsin .....	4,693	4,711	3,106	3,134	2,909	3,016	197	118	6.3	3.8	3.3 – 4.3
West North Central .....	16,829	16,893	11,254	11,179	10,617	10,767	637	412	5.7	3.7	3.4 – 3.9
Iowa .....	2,497	2,506	1,682	1,676	1,596	1,605	86	71	5.1	4.2	3.7 – 4.7
Kansas .....	2,249	2,255	1,494	1,496	1,409	1,447	85	48	5.7	3.2	2.8 – 3.7
Minnesota .....	4,479	4,493	3,123	3,021	2,926	2,918	197	103	6.3	3.4	2.9 – 3.9
Missouri .....	4,832	4,853	3,037	3,062	2,853	2,928	184	134	6.1	4.4	3.8 – 4.9
Nebraska .....	1,503	1,509	1,045	1,049	1,001	1,023	43	26	4.1	2.5	2.1 – 2.9
North Dakota .....	595	593	412	406	391	391	21	15	5.1	3.7	3.3 – 4.1
South Dakota .....	675	683	462	468	442	454	20	15	4.3	3.1	2.6 – 3.6
South .....	98,786	99,709	59,562	60,270	55,248	57,392	4,315	2,878	7.2	4.8	4.6 – 4.9
South Atlantic .....	52,488	52,968	31,609	31,934	29,352	30,486	2,257	1,447	7.1	4.5	4.3 – 4.7
Delaware .....	793	805	486	496	449	470	37	27	7.6	5.3	4.7 – 6.0
District of Columbia .....	563	547	389	382	358	357	31	25	8.0	6.6	5.9 – 7.2
Florida .....	17,486	17,697	10,095	10,313	9,267	9,843	828	470	8.2	4.6	4.2 – 4.9
Georgia .....	8,298	8,385	5,080	5,187	4,751	4,984	328	203	6.5	3.9	3.5 – 4.4
Maryland .....	4,860	4,866	3,228	3,176	3,012	2,992	215	183	6.7	5.8	5.1 – 6.4
North Carolina .....	8,223	8,322	4,849	4,960	4,505	4,721	343	238	7.1	4.8	4.3 – 5.3
South Carolina .....	4,058	4,118	2,331	2,364	2,191	2,270	140	95	6.0	4.0	3.5 – 4.5
Virginia .....	6,760	6,785	4,369	4,268	4,098	4,101	271	167	6.2	3.9	3.4 – 4.4
West Virginia .....	1,447	1,443	783	789	719	749	64	40	8.2	5.0	4.4 – 5.6
East South Central .....	15,216	15,298	8,828	8,866	8,209	8,481	619	385	7.0	4.3	4.0 – 4.6
Alabama .....	3,958	3,975	2,268	2,247	2,121	2,170	147	77	6.5	3.4	3.0 – 3.9
Kentucky .....	3,525	3,534	2,017	2,037	1,887	1,942	130	95	6.4	4.7	4.0 – 5.3
Mississippi .....	2,279	2,279	1,244	1,254	1,145	1,184	98	70	7.9	5.6	4.9 – 6.2
Tennessee .....	5,454	5,510	3,299	3,328	3,056	3,185	244	143	7.4	4.3	3.8 – 4.8
West South Central .....	31,082	31,443	19,125	19,470	17,687	18,425	1,439	1,045	7.5	5.4	5.1 – 5.6
Arkansas .....	2,343	2,358	1,357	1,333	1,274	1,279	83	54	6.1	4.0	3.5 – 4.5
Louisiana .....	3,581	3,569	2,062	2,062	1,883	1,949	180	113	8.7	5.5	4.9 – 6.0
Oklahoma .....	3,035	3,060	1,836	1,854	1,722	1,783	114	71	6.2	3.8	3.3 – 4.4
Texas .....	22,123	22,456	13,871	14,220	12,809	13,413	1,062	807	7.7	5.7	5.3 – 6.0
West .....	61,795	62,091	38,332	38,570	34,865	36,187	3,467	2,383	9.0	6.2	6.0 – 6.4
Mountain .....	19,496	19,817	12,357	12,561	11,426	11,937	932	624	7.5	5.0	4.7 – 5.2
Arizona .....	5,652	5,759	3,457	3,518	3,191	3,346	266	172	7.7	4.9	4.3 – 5.5
Colorado .....	4,579	4,625	3,087	3,156	2,875	2,987	212	169	6.9	5.4	4.8 – 6.0
Idaho .....	1,420	1,467	898	917	849	884	49	33	5.5	3.6	3.1 – 4.0
Montana .....	866	882	543	550	512	531	31	19	5.8	3.4	2.9 – 3.8
Nevada .....	2,454	2,489	1,503	1,505	1,300	1,396	203	109	13.5	7.2	6.5 – 8.0
New Mexico .....	1,657	1,665	936	943	860	879	76	64	8.1	6.8	6.1 – 7.5
Utah .....	2,418	2,476	1,640	1,681	1,563	1,636	78	45	4.7	2.7	2.3 – 3.1
Wyoming .....	450	453	294	290	277	277	17	13	5.8	4.5	3.9 – 5.1
Pacific .....	42,300	42,274	25,975	26,008	23,440	24,249	2,535	1,759	9.8	6.8	6.5 – 7.0
Alaska .....	544	546	347	355	318	332	29	23	8.2	6.4	5.6 – 7.2
California .....	31,095	31,015	18,931	18,923	16,997	17,542	1,934	1,381	10.2	7.3	7.0 – 7.6
Hawaii .....	1,123	1,117	662	668	583	630	80	38	12.0	5.7	5.0 – 6.4
Oregon .....	3,432	3,450	2,105	2,148	1,945	2,036	160	112	7.6	5.2	4.6 – 5.8
Washington .....	6,105	6,146	3,929	3,914	3,597	3,709	333	205	8.5	5.2	4.7 – 5.8

<sup>1</sup> Error ranges are shown at the 90-percent confidence level and are based on unrounded data.

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

unrounded levels. Data for subnational areas reflect revised population controls and model re-estimation. As a result, they will not add to U.S. totals.

**Table 2. Employment-population ratios of persons 16 years of age and over by region, division, and state, 2020–21 annual averages**

(Percent)

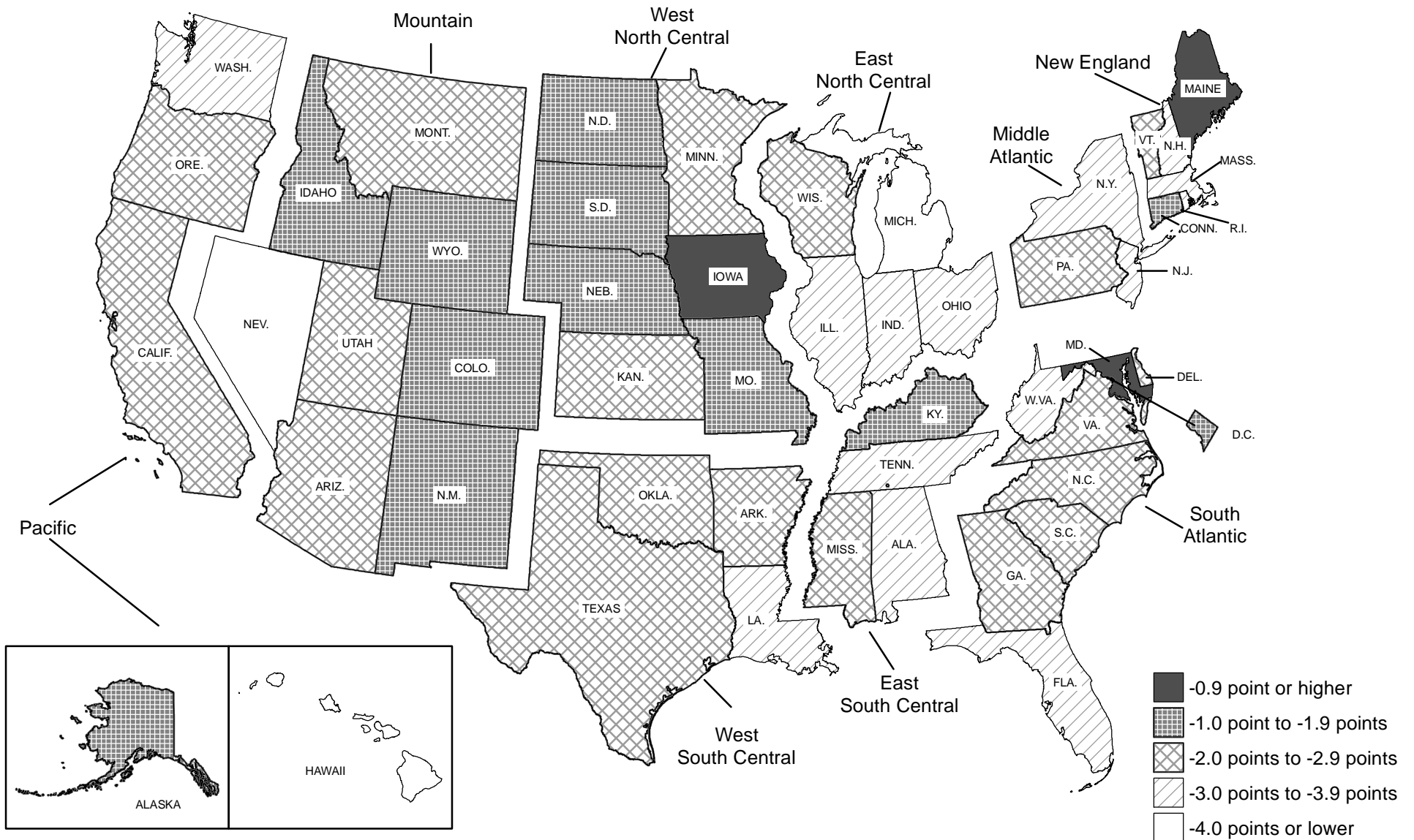
Region, division, and state	Employment-population ratio <sup>1</sup>		Over-the-year change	Error range of ratio, 2021 <sup>2</sup>
	2020	2021		
United States .....	56.8	58.4	1.6	58.2 – 58.5
Northeast .....	56.2	57.7	1.5	57.3 – 58.2
New England .....	59.3	60.7	1.4	60.0 – 61.3
Connecticut .....	60.0	59.5	-.5	58.0 – 60.9
Maine .....	56.9	57.1	.2	55.4 – 58.9
Massachusetts .....	59.0	61.7	2.7	60.7 – 62.8
New Hampshire .....	62.2	63.3	1.1	62.1 – 64.5
Rhode Island .....	57.5	60.0	2.5	58.5 – 61.6
Vermont .....	60.3	58.9	-1.4	57.6 – 60.2
Middle Atlantic .....	55.1	56.7	1.6	56.1 – 57.2
New Jersey .....	57.0	59.1	2.1	58.0 – 60.2
New York .....	53.3	55.0	1.7	54.1 – 55.8
Pennsylvania .....	56.5	57.6	1.1	56.7 – 58.5
Midwest .....	59.0	60.5	1.5	60.0 – 60.9
East North Central .....	57.1	59.0	1.9	58.5 – 59.5
Illinois .....	57.2	59.1	1.9	58.2 – 60.1
Indiana .....	58.3	60.3	2.0	59.0 – 61.5
Michigan .....	54.1	55.7	1.6	54.7 – 56.8
Ohio .....	56.5	58.4	1.9	57.4 – 59.4
Wisconsin .....	62.0	64.0	2.0	62.7 – 65.3
West North Central .....	63.1	63.7	.6	63.1 – 64.4
Iowa .....	63.9	64.1	.2	62.6 – 65.5
Kansas .....	62.7	64.2	1.5	62.9 – 65.5
Minnesota .....	65.3	65.0	-.3	63.6 – 66.3
Missouri .....	59.1	60.3	1.2	59.0 – 61.7
Nebraska .....	66.6	67.7	1.1	66.5 – 69.0
North Dakota .....	65.7	66.0	.3	64.3 – 67.7
South Dakota .....	65.4	66.4	1.0	64.9 – 67.9
South .....	55.9	57.6	1.7	57.3 – 57.9
South Atlantic .....	55.9	57.6	1.7	57.1 – 58.0
Delaware .....	56.6	58.4	1.8	57.0 – 59.8
District of Columbia .....	63.7	65.2	1.5	63.9 – 66.6
Florida .....	53.0	55.6	2.6	54.9 – 56.3
Georgia .....	57.3	59.4	2.1	58.4 – 60.5
Maryland .....	62.0	61.5	-.5	60.1 – 62.9
North Carolina .....	54.8	56.7	1.9	55.7 – 57.7
South Carolina .....	54.0	55.1	1.1	54.0 – 56.3
Virginia .....	60.6	60.4	-.2	59.3 – 61.6
West Virginia .....	49.7	51.9	2.2	50.4 – 53.4
East South Central .....	54.0	55.4	1.4	54.7 – 56.2
Alabama .....	53.6	54.6	1.0	53.3 – 55.9
Kentucky .....	53.5	55.0	1.5	53.5 – 56.4
Mississippi .....	50.3	52.0	1.7	50.7 – 53.3
Tennessee .....	56.0	57.8	1.8	56.6 – 59.0
West South Central .....	56.9	58.6	1.7	58.1 – 59.1
Arkansas .....	54.4	54.2	-.2	53.0 – 55.5
Louisiana .....	52.6	54.6	2.0	53.5 – 55.8
Oklahoma .....	56.7	58.3	1.6	57.0 – 59.6
Texas .....	57.9	59.7	1.8	59.1 – 60.4
West .....	56.4	58.3	1.9	57.9 – 58.6
Mountain .....	58.6	60.2	1.6	59.6 – 60.8
Arizona .....	56.5	58.1	1.6	56.9 – 59.3
Colorado .....	62.8	64.6	1.8	63.2 – 65.9
Idaho .....	59.8	60.3	.5	59.1 – 61.5
Montana .....	59.1	60.2	1.1	59.1 – 61.3
Nevada .....	53.0	56.1	3.1	54.7 – 57.5
New Mexico .....	51.9	52.8	.9	51.5 – 54.2
Utah .....	64.6	66.1	1.5	64.8 – 67.4
Wyoming .....	61.5	61.2	-.3	59.8 – 62.6
Pacific .....	55.4	57.4	2.0	56.9 – 57.8
Alaska .....	58.5	60.9	2.4	59.4 – 62.4
California .....	54.7	56.6	1.9	56.0 – 57.1
Hawaii .....	51.9	56.4	4.5	55.1 – 57.7
Oregon .....	56.7	59.0	2.3	57.7 – 60.4
Washington .....	58.9	60.3	1.4	59.1 – 61.5

<sup>1</sup> Employment as a percent of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over.  
<sup>2</sup> Error ranges are shown at the 90-percent confidence level and are based on unrounded data.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. Employment-population ratios are based on unrounded levels. Data for subnational areas reflect revised population controls and model re-estimation.

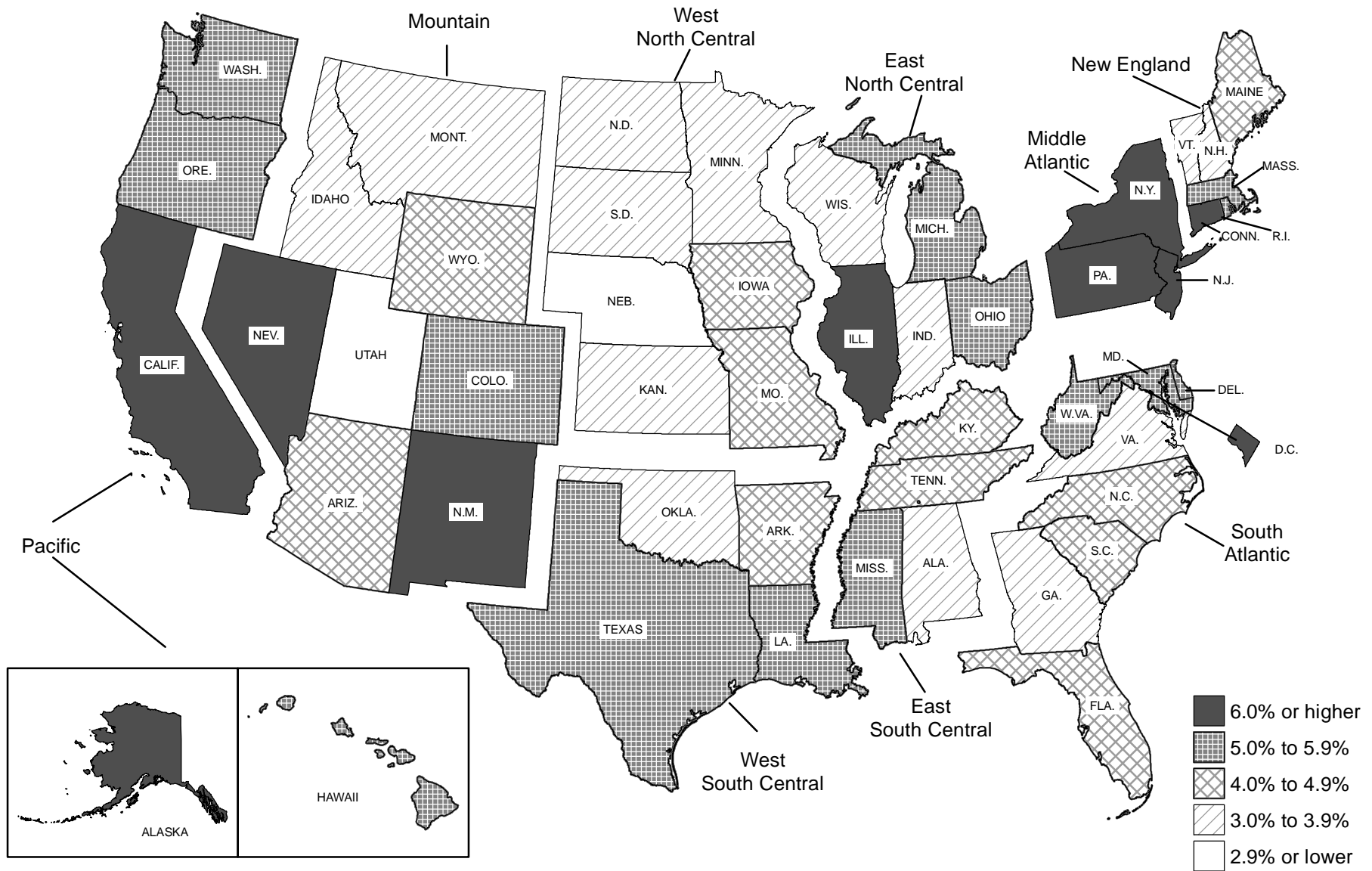
# Map 1. Over-the-year change in unemployment rates by state, 2020-21 annual averages

(U.S. change = -2.8 percentage points)



# Map 2. Unemployment rates by state, 2021 annual averages

(U.S. rate = 5.3 percent)



# Map 3. Employment-population ratios by state, 2021 annual averages

(U.S. ratio = 58.4 percent)

