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Technical information: (202) 691-6392 • lausinfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/lau
Media contact: (202) 691-5902 • PressOffice@bls.gov

REGIONAL AND STATE UNEMPLOYMENT — 2010 ANNUAL AVERAGES

Annual average unemployment rates in 2010 rose in 31 states and the District of Columbia, declined in 18 states, and remained the same in 1 state, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Employment-population ratios decreased in 43 states and the District of Columbia, increased in 3 states, and were unchanged in 4 states. Jobless rates increased in three regions and decreased in one, and employment-population ratios declined in all four regions in 2010. The U.S. jobless rate rose by 0.3 percentage point from the prior year to 9.6 percent, while the national employment-population ratio fell by 0.8 point to 58.5 percent.

Regional Unemployment

Three of the 4 regions posted statistically significant unemployment rate changes from 2009, all of which were increases. The West experienced the largest rise (+0.9 percentage point), followed by the South (+0.4 point) and Northeast (+0.3 point). The West, at 11.1 percent, also registered the only jobless rate significantly above that of the U.S., 9.6 percent in 2010. The Northeast and South, at 8.7 and 9.3 percent, respectively, both had rates significantly below the national figure. The rates in the West and South set new annual series highs in 2010. (All region, division, and state series begin in 1976.) (See table 1.)

Five of the 9 geographic divisions also reported statistically significant over-the-year unemployment rate increases in 2010: the Mountain (+0.9 percentage point), Pacific (+0.8 point), West South Central (+0.7 point), South Atlantic (+0.5 point), and Middle Atlantic (+0.4 point). The four remaining divisions registered jobless rates that were not significantly different from those of a year earlier. The Pacific division posted the highest unemployment rate, 11.7 percent. The divisions with the next highest rates were the East North Central, 10.4 percent, and the East South Central, 10.0 percent. The rates for the Pacific and East North Central divisions were significantly above the U.S. rate, as was the rate in the South Atlantic, 9.9 percent. The rates in the Pacific and South Atlantic set new series highs, as did the 9.7 percent rate in the Mountain division. The division with the lowest unemployment rate was the West North Central, 7.3 percent. Three other divisions—the Middle Atlantic, New England, and West South Central—also recorded rates significantly lower than the U.S. rate.

State Unemployment

Twenty-two states reported statistically significant unemployment rate changes from 2009 to 2010, 18 of which were increases and 4 of which were decreases. Of those increases, six were greater than 1.0 percentage point: Nevada (+2.4 points), Idaho (+1.6 points), New Mexico and West Virginia (+1.4

points each), Florida (+1.3 points), and California (+1.1 points). Michigan and Minnesota recorded the largest rate declines over the year (-0.8 percentage point each), closely followed by Tennessee and Vermont (-0.7 point each); all four changes were significant. Twenty-eight states and the District of Columbia reported annual average unemployment rates for 2010 that were not appreciably different from those of the previous year, even though some had changes that were at least as large numerically as the statistically significant changes. (See table A and chart 1.)

In 2010, 15 states reported unemployment rates of 10.0 percent or more. Nevada recorded the highest rate, 14.9 percent, followed by Michigan, 12.5 percent, and California, 12.4 percent. (This was the first time since 2005 that Michigan did not post the highest unemployment rate among the states.) North Dakota again registered the lowest jobless rate among the states, 3.9 percent in 2010. The states with the next lowest rates were Nebraska and South Dakota, at 4.7 and 4.8 percent, respectively. Twenty-seven states had unemployment rates that were significantly lower than the U.S. rate of 9.6 percent, and 10 states recorded rates significantly above it. Eight states reported the highest jobless rates in their annual series: California, 12.4 percent; Colorado, 8.9 percent; Delaware, 8.5 percent; Florida, 11.5 percent; Georgia, 10.2 percent; Idaho, 9.3 percent; Nevada, 14.9 percent; and Rhode Island, 11.6 percent. (See table B and chart 2.)

Regional Employment-Population Ratios

In 2010 all four regions registered statistically significant deterioration in their employment-population ratios—the proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over with a job. The West experienced the largest over-the-year decrease in its employment-population ratio (-1.4 percentage points), followed by the South (-0.8 point), Northeast (-0.7 point), and Midwest (-0.4 point). The Midwest continued to report the highest ratio, 60.3 percent, while the South, at 57.5 percent, maintained the lowest. The South and West posted employment-population ratios that were significantly lower than the national figure of 58.5 percent, and the Midwest recorded a significantly higher ratio. (See table 2.)

Six of the 9 divisions registered statistically significant changes in their employment-population ratios in 2010, all of which were decreases. The Mountain experienced the greatest drop (-1.5 percentage points), followed by the Pacific and South Atlantic (-1.3 and -1.2 points, respectively). In 2010 the East South Central again recorded the lowest proportion of employed persons, 54.7 percent. The next lowest ratios were posted in the Pacific, 57.2 percent, and South Atlantic, 57.3 percent. Ratios in all three of these divisions were significantly below the national average. The divisions with the highest employment-population ratios were the West North Central, 64.4 percent, and New England, 61.7 percent. These two divisions, along with the Mountain, 59.5 percent, and West South Central, 59.4 percent, registered employment-population ratios measurably above that of the U.S. The remaining two divisions had ratios that were not significantly different from the national average.

State Employment-Population Ratios

In 2010, 32 states and the District of Columbia registered statistically significant decreases in their proportions of employed persons, while 18 states had proportions that were not significantly different from those of a year earlier. Four states reported declines of 2.0 percentage points or more: Colorado (-2.4 points), Utah (-2.3 points), Nevada (-2.2 points), and Delaware (-2.1 points). Twelve other states and the District of Columbia recorded decreases in their employment-population ratios ranging from -1.0 to -1.9 percentage points. (See table C.)

West Virginia again reported the lowest employment-population ratio among the states, 48.8 percent, which it has done for 35 consecutive years. Three states in the West North Central division again posted the highest ratios: North Dakota, 69.8 percent, Nebraska, 67.7 percent, and South Dakota, 67.6 percent. Twenty-three states and the District of Columbia recorded employment-population ratios that were significantly above the U.S. ratio of 58.5 percent, and 18 states had ratios that were appreciably below it. The remaining nine states reported ratios that were not measurably different from that of the nation. Nine states registered the lowest employment-population ratios in their series in 2010: California, 56.3 percent; Colorado, 62.8 percent; Delaware, 56.2 percent; Georgia, 57.0 percent; Hawaii, 59.4 percent; Kentucky, 55.6 percent; Nevada, 57.0 percent; North Carolina, 56.1 percent; and South Carolina, 54.5 percent. (See table D and chart 3.)

The Regional and State Employment and Unemployment news release for January 2011 is scheduled to be released on Thursday, March 10, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. (EST). The Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment news release for January 2011 is scheduled to be released on Friday, March 18, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

Table A. States with statistically significant unemployment rate changes, 2009–10 annual averages

State	Rate		Over-the-year rate change
	2009	2010	
California	11.3	12.4	1.1
Colorado	8.3	8.9	.6
Connecticut	8.3	9.1	.8
Delaware	8.0	8.5	.5
Florida	10.2	11.5	1.3
Georgia	9.7	10.2	.5
Idaho	7.7	9.3	1.6
Iowa	5.6	6.1	.5
Louisiana	6.6	7.5	.9
Maryland	7.1	7.5	.4
Michigan	13.3	12.5	-.8
Minnesota	8.1	7.3	-.8
Montana	6.3	7.2	.9
Nevada	12.5	14.9	2.4
New Mexico	7.0	8.4	1.4
Pennsylvania	8.0	8.7	.7
Rhode Island	10.8	11.6	.8
Tennessee	10.4	9.7	-.7
Texas	7.6	8.2	.6
Utah	7.1	7.7	.6
Vermont	6.9	6.2	-.7
West Virginia	7.7	9.1	1.4

Table B. States with unemployment rates significantly different from that of the U.S., 2010 annual averages

State	Rate
United States	9.6
Alaska	8.0
Arkansas	7.9
California	12.4
Colorado	8.9
Delaware	8.5
Florida	11.5
Hawaii	6.6
Illinois	10.3
Iowa	6.1
Kansas	7.0
Kentucky	10.5
Louisiana	7.5
Maine	7.9
Maryland	7.5
Massachusetts	8.5
Michigan	12.5
Minnesota	7.3
Montana	7.2
Nebraska	4.7
Nevada	14.9
New Hampshire	6.1
New Mexico	8.4
New York	8.6
North Carolina	10.6
North Dakota	3.9
Oklahoma	7.1
Oregon	10.8
Pennsylvania	8.7
Rhode Island	11.6
South Carolina	11.2
South Dakota	4.8
Texas	8.2
Utah	7.7
Vermont	6.2
Virginia	6.9
Wisconsin	8.3
Wyoming	7.0

Table C. States with statistically significant employment-population ratio changes, 2009–10 annual averages

State	Ratio		Over-the-year ratio change
	2009	2010	
Alabama	54.1	52.8	-1.3
Arizona	57.6	56.9	-.7
California	57.8	56.3	-1.5
Colorado	65.2	62.8	-2.4
Connecticut	63.0	62.3	-.7
Delaware	58.3	56.2	-2.1
District of Columbia	61.7	60.6	-1.1
Florida	56.3	55.4	-.9
Georgia	58.9	57.0	-1.9
Idaho	60.3	59.1	-1.2
Indiana	58.1	57.2	-.9
Kansas	65.8	65.1	-.7
Maryland	63.4	62.1	-1.3
Missouri	60.0	58.7	-1.3
Montana	60.6	59.7	-.9
Nebraska	68.5	67.7	-.8
Nevada	59.2	57.0	-2.2
New Jersey	60.8	59.8	-1.0
New Mexico	57.8	56.9	-.9
New York	57.7	57.1	-.6
North Carolina	57.1	56.1	-1.0
Ohio	59.6	59.1	-.5
Oklahoma	59.0	58.2	-.8
Pennsylvania	59.1	58.0	-1.1
South Carolina	55.2	54.5	-.7
South Dakota	68.3	67.6	-.7
Texas	60.8	60.5	-.3
Utah	65.2	62.9	-2.3
Virginia	64.9	64.1	-.8
Washington	62.0	60.8	-1.2
West Virginia	50.6	48.8	-1.8
Wisconsin	64.1	63.2	-.9
Wyoming	66.4	64.8	-1.6

Table D. States with employment-population ratios significantly different from that of the U.S., 2010 annual averages

State	Ratio
United States	58.5
Alabama	52.8
Alaska	64.2
Arizona	56.9
Arkansas	56.1
California	56.3
Colorado	62.8
Connecticut	62.3
Delaware	56.2
District of Columbia	60.6
Florida	55.4
Georgia	57.0
Illinois	60.0
Iowa	66.8
Kansas	65.1
Kentucky	55.6
Louisiana	56.3
Maine	60.2
Maryland	62.1
Massachusetts	60.5
Michigan	53.9
Minnesota	66.8
Mississippi	53.2
Nebraska	67.7
Nevada	57.0
New Hampshire	65.8
New Jersey	59.8
New Mexico	56.9
New York	57.1
North Carolina	56.1
North Dakota	69.8
Rhode Island	60.2
South Carolina	54.5
South Dakota	67.6
Tennessee	56.2
Texas	60.5
Utah	62.9
Vermont	66.3
Virginia	64.1
Washington	60.8
West Virginia	48.8
Wisconsin	63.2
Wyoming	64.8

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 employment and unemployment on a place-of-residence basis. The universe for each is the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. *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 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 over 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, which underwent substantial enhancement at the beginning of 2005, utilizes 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. Estimates for Puerto Rico are derived from a monthly household survey similar to the CPS. 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 end of each year. The adjusted estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model reestimation. In most years, 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. Though the labor force estimates are changed for only 5 years, the population estimates—and, thus, employment-population ratios—are adjusted back to the decennial estimates base, currently April 2000.

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. In 2005, the 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. Annual average model-based error measures became available for the first time after 2006. 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 employment-population ratios regardless of their statistical significance. The remainder of the analysis in the release—other than historical highs and lows—takes statistical significance into consideration. Model-based error measures are available online at www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm. BLS uses 90-percent confidence levels in determining whether changes in LAUS unemployment rates or 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 0.5 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. 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 *Employment & Earnings Online*, available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/opub/ee/home.htm.

Additional information

More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in *Employment & Earnings Online*.

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. Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over by region, division, and state, 2009-10 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Region, division, and state	Population		Civilian labor force		Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment rate		Error range of rate, 2010 ¹
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	
United States	235,801	237,830	154,142	153,889	139,877	139,064	14,265	14,825	9.3	9.6	9.5 - 9.7
Northeast	43,515	43,762	28,321	28,243	25,950	25,784	2,370	2,459	8.4	8.7	8.5 - 8.9
New England	11,455	11,532	7,733	7,770	7,100	7,109	633	660	8.2	8.5	8.2 - 8.8
Connecticut	2,747	2,765	1,887	1,897	1,730	1,724	157	173	8.3	9.1	8.6 - 9.7
Maine	1,065	1,066	698	697	641	642	57	55	8.2	7.9	7.4 - 8.5
Massachusetts	5,237	5,282	3,477	3,494	3,190	3,197	286	297	8.2	8.5	7.9 - 9.1
New Hampshire	1,057	1,063	745	744	698	699	47	45	6.3	6.1	5.7 - 6.4
Rhode Island	842	845	566	576	505	509	61	67	10.8	11.6	10.9 - 12.3
Vermont	507	510	360	361	335	338	25	22	6.9	6.2	5.8 - 6.7
Middle Atlantic	32,060	32,230	20,587	20,473	18,850	18,675	1,737	1,799	8.4	8.8	8.5 - 9.1
New Jersey	6,766	6,812	4,527	4,502	4,116	4,077	410	426	9.1	9.5	8.9 - 10.0
New York	15,354	15,431	9,678	9,631	8,864	8,807	813	824	8.4	8.6	8.2 - 8.9
Pennsylvania	9,939	9,987	6,383	6,340	5,870	5,791	514	549	8.0	8.7	8.2 - 9.1
Midwest	51,568	51,830	34,637	34,480	31,317	31,237	3,319	3,243	9.6	9.4	9.2 - 9.6
East North Central	35,927	36,072	23,667	23,538	21,155	21,091	2,513	2,448	10.6	10.4	10.1 - 10.7
Illinois	9,877	9,936	6,588	6,646	5,928	5,965	660	681	10.0	10.3	9.7 - 10.8
Indiana	4,907	4,939	3,184	3,142	2,852	2,823	332	320	10.4	10.2	9.4 - 10.9
Michigan	7,772	7,780	4,859	4,790	4,211	4,193	648	597	13.3	12.5	11.8 - 13.1
Ohio	8,954	8,976	5,935	5,898	5,335	5,303	601	595	10.1	10.1	9.5 - 10.7
Wisconsin	4,417	4,440	3,101	3,063	2,829	2,807	271	255	8.7	8.3	7.8 - 8.9
West North Central	15,640	15,759	10,969	10,942	10,163	10,146	806	796	7.4	7.3	7.0 - 7.5
Iowa	2,334	2,348	1,665	1,671	1,572	1,568	94	103	5.6	6.1	5.7 - 6.6
Kansas	2,129	2,146	1,508	1,502	1,402	1,397	107	106	7.1	7.0	6.5 - 7.6
Minnesota	4,083	4,112	2,951	2,963	2,712	2,746	238	217	8.1	7.3	6.9 - 7.8
Missouri	4,610	4,642	3,051	3,014	2,768	2,726	283	289	9.3	9.6	8.8 - 10.3
Nebraska	1,363	1,375	981	977	934	931	47	45	4.8	4.7	4.2 - 5.1
North Dakota	504	510	369	370	353	356	16	15	4.3	3.9	3.5 - 4.4
South Dakota	618	625	444	444	422	423	22	21	5.0	4.8	4.5 - 5.2
South	85,998	87,017	55,051	55,210	50,166	50,060	4,885	5,150	8.9	9.3	9.2 - 9.5
South Atlantic	45,522	46,029	29,378	29,303	26,621	26,388	2,758	2,915	9.4	9.9	9.7 - 10.2
Delaware	686	693	435	426	400	390	35	36	8.0	8.5	7.9 - 9.1
District of Columbia	486	496	332	334	300	301	32	33	9.6	9.9	9.2 - 10.6
Florida	14,589	14,736	9,139	9,224	8,209	8,159	930	1,065	10.2	11.5	11.1 - 12.0
Georgia	7,301	7,396	4,766	4,694	4,302	4,214	464	480	9.7	10.2	9.6 - 10.8
Maryland	4,397	4,443	3,001	2,981	2,786	2,758	215	223	7.1	7.5	7.1 - 7.9
North Carolina	7,118	7,200	4,555	4,513	4,065	4,036	490	476	10.8	10.6	10.0 - 11.1
South Carolina	3,490	3,530	2,175	2,165	1,928	1,923	247	242	11.3	11.2	10.4 - 12.0
Virginia	6,001	6,077	4,180	4,185	3,895	3,896	284	289	6.8	6.9	6.4 - 7.4
West Virginia	1,453	1,458	797	782	735	711	62	71	7.7	9.1	8.2 - 10.0
East South Central	14,019	14,125	8,597	8,581	7,722	7,727	875	855	10.2	10.0	9.5 - 10.4
Alabama	3,621	3,646	2,171	2,127	1,960	1,925	211	202	9.7	9.5	8.3 - 10.7
Kentucky	3,329	3,354	2,079	2,084	1,858	1,866	222	218	10.7	10.5	9.7 - 11.3
Mississippi	2,200	2,211	1,296	1,313	1,171	1,176	125	137	9.6	10.4	9.5 - 11.4
Tennessee	4,868	4,913	3,052	3,057	2,734	2,759	317	297	10.4	9.7	9.0 - 10.4
West South Central	26,458	26,863	17,076	17,326	15,823	15,946	1,253	1,380	7.3	8.0	7.7 - 8.3
Arkansas	2,204	2,221	1,356	1,353	1,256	1,247	100	107	7.4	7.9	7.1 - 8.6
Louisiana	3,389	3,420	2,060	2,082	1,924	1,926	136	155	6.6	7.5	6.6 - 8.3
Oklahoma	2,774	2,802	1,753	1,755	1,637	1,631	116	124	6.6	7.1	6.5 - 7.7
Texas	18,091	18,419	11,907	12,136	11,006	11,142	900	994	7.6	8.2	7.8 - 8.6
West	54,236	54,927	35,817	35,767	32,161	31,812	3,656	3,955	10.2	11.1	10.8 - 11.3
Mountain	16,613	16,841	11,108	11,084	10,135	10,014	973	1,070	8.8	9.7	9.3 - 10.0
Arizona	4,951	5,027	3,157	3,176	2,851	2,860	306	316	9.7	10.0	9.2 - 10.7
Colorado	3,838	3,899	2,728	2,687	2,502	2,448	226	240	8.3	8.9	8.4 - 9.5
Idaho	1,150	1,163	751	758	693	687	58	71	7.7	9.3	8.5 - 10.2
Montana	767	773	496	497	465	461	31	36	6.3	7.2	6.5 - 8.0
Nevada	2,000	2,015	1,354	1,350	1,184	1,150	170	201	12.5	14.9	14.0 - 15.7
New Mexico	1,516	1,535	942	953	876	873	66	80	7.0	8.4	7.6 - 9.2
Utah	1,972	2,007	1,383	1,368	1,285	1,262	98	106	7.1	7.7	7.1 - 8.3
Wyoming	418	422	297	294	278	273	19	20	6.5	7.0	6.4 - 7.5
Pacific	37,622	38,086	24,709	24,683	22,026	21,798	2,683	2,885	10.9	11.7	11.4 - 12.0
Alaska	512	518	359	361	331	332	28	29	7.8	8.0	7.2 - 8.8
California	27,947	28,293	18,204	18,176	16,142	15,916	2,063	2,260	11.3	12.4	12.1 - 12.8
Hawaii	982	989	632	629	589	587	43	42	6.8	6.6	6.0 - 7.2
Oregon	3,008	3,039	1,980	1,985	1,760	1,770	221	215	11.1	10.8	10.2 - 11.5
Washington	5,174	5,247	3,534	3,532	3,206	3,192	329	340	9.3	9.6	9.0 - 10.2
Puerto Rico	3,070	3,100	1,326	1,297	1,127	1,089	199	209	15.0	16.1	NA

¹ Error ranges are shown at the 90-percent confidence level and are based on unrounded data.
 NA = Data not available.
 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 reestimation. As a result, they will not add to U.S. totals. Data for Puerto Rico are derived from a monthly household survey similar to the Current Population Survey.

Table 2. Employment-population ratios of persons 16 years of age and over by region, division, and state, 2009-10 annual averages

(Percent)

Region, division, and state	Employment-population ratio ¹		Over-the-year change	Error range of ratio, 2010 ²	
	2009	2010			
United States	59.3	58.5	-0.8	58.3	- 58.7
Northeast	59.6	58.9	-7	58.5	- 59.4
New England	62.0	61.7	-3	60.9	- 62.4
Connecticut	63.0	62.3	-7	61.2	- 63.5
Maine	60.2	60.2	.0	59.0	- 61.4
Massachusetts	60.9	60.5	-4	59.4	- 61.6
New Hampshire	66.0	65.8	-2	64.8	- 66.8
Rhode Island	60.0	60.2	.2	59.1	- 61.4
Vermont	66.1	66.3	.2	65.2	- 67.5
Middle Atlantic	58.8	57.9	-9	57.4	- 58.5
New Jersey	60.8	59.8	-1.0	58.9	- 60.8
New York	57.7	57.1	-6	56.4	- 57.7
Pennsylvania	59.1	58.0	-1.1	57.2	- 58.8
Midwest	60.7	60.3	-4	59.9	- 60.7
East North Central	58.9	58.5	-4	58.0	- 59.0
Illinois	60.0	60.0	.0	59.1	- 61.0
Indiana	58.1	57.2	-9	55.7	- 58.6
Michigan	54.2	53.9	-3	52.9	- 54.9
Ohio	59.6	59.1	-5	58.2	- 59.9
Wisconsin	64.1	63.2	-9	61.9	- 64.6
West North Central	65.0	64.4	-6	63.8	- 65.0
Iowa	67.4	66.8	-6	65.7	- 67.9
Kansas	65.8	65.1	-7	63.9	- 66.2
Minnesota	66.4	66.8	.4	65.6	- 67.9
Missouri	60.0	58.7	-1.3	57.4	- 60.1
Nebraska	68.5	67.7	-8	66.6	- 68.8
North Dakota	70.1	69.8	-3	68.1	- 71.4
South Dakota	68.3	67.6	-7	66.4	- 68.8
South	58.3	57.5	-8	57.2	- 57.9
South Atlantic	58.5	57.3	-1.2	56.9	- 57.8
Delaware	58.3	56.2	-2.1	55.1	- 57.3
District of Columbia	61.7	60.6	-1.1	59.4	- 61.8
Florida	56.3	55.4	-9	54.5	- 56.3
Georgia	58.9	57.0	-1.9	56.0	- 57.9
Maryland	63.4	62.1	-1.3	61.2	- 63.0
North Carolina	57.1	56.1	-1.0	55.0	- 57.1
South Carolina	55.2	54.5	-7	53.5	- 55.5
Virginia	64.9	64.1	-8	63.3	- 65.0
West Virginia	50.6	48.8	-1.8	47.1	- 50.4
East South Central	55.1	54.7	-4	53.9	- 55.5
Alabama	54.1	52.8	-1.3	51.1	- 54.5
Kentucky	55.8	55.6	-2	54.3	- 56.9
Mississippi	53.2	53.2	.0	51.7	- 54.7
Tennessee	56.2	56.2	.0	55.0	- 57.3
West South Central	59.8	59.4	-4	58.8	- 60.0
Arkansas	57.0	56.1	-9	54.9	- 57.3
Louisiana	56.8	56.3	-5	54.7	- 57.9
Oklahoma	59.0	58.2	-8	56.9	- 59.5
Texas	60.8	60.5	-3	59.8	- 61.2
West	59.3	57.9	-1.4	57.6	- 58.3
Mountain	61.0	59.5	-1.5	58.8	- 60.1
Arizona	57.6	56.9	-7	55.4	- 58.4
Colorado	65.2	62.8	-2.4	61.3	- 64.3
Idaho	60.3	59.1	-1.2	57.7	- 60.5
Montana	60.6	59.7	-9	58.3	- 61.1
Nevada	59.2	57.0	-2.2	55.9	- 58.2
New Mexico	57.8	56.9	-9	55.8	- 57.9
Utah	65.2	62.9	-2.3	61.3	- 64.4
Wyoming	66.4	64.8	-1.6	63.5	- 66.1
Pacific	58.5	57.2	-1.3	56.8	- 57.7
Alaska	64.6	64.2	-4	62.4	- 65.9
California	57.8	56.3	-1.5	55.8	- 56.7
Hawaii	60.0	59.4	-6	58.1	- 60.7
Oregon	58.5	58.2	-3	57.2	- 59.2
Washington	62.0	60.8	-1.2	59.8	- 61.8
Puerto Rico	36.7	35.1	-1.6		NA

¹ Employment as a percent of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over.
² Error ranges are shown at the 90-percent confidence level and are based on unrounded data.
 NA = Data not available.

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 reestimation. Data for Puerto Rico are derived from a monthly household survey similar to the Current Population Survey.

Chart 1. Over-the-year change in unemployment rates by state, 2010 annual averages

(U.S. change = +0.3 percentage point)

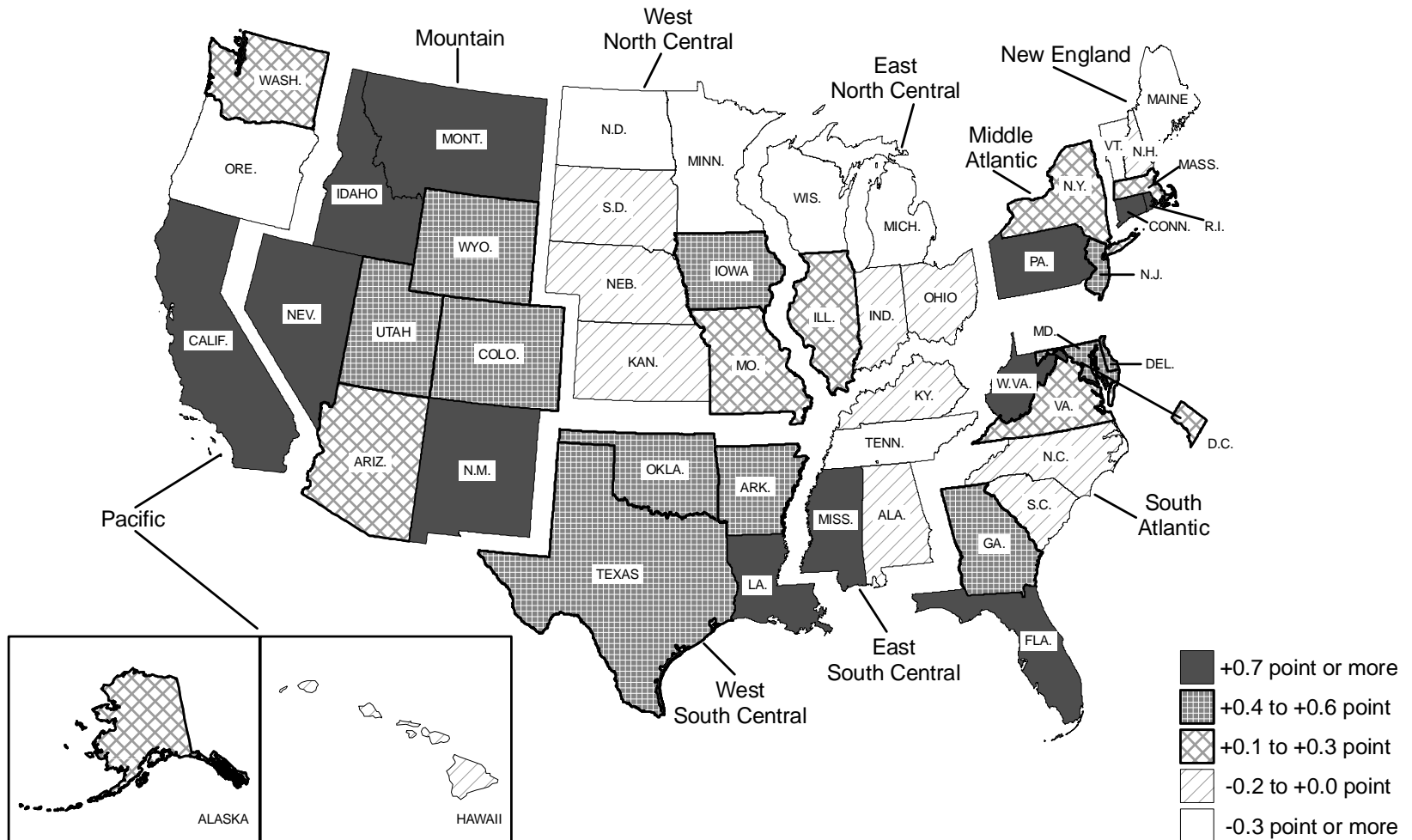


Chart 3. Employment-population ratios by state, 2010 annual averages

(U.S. average = 58.5 percent)

