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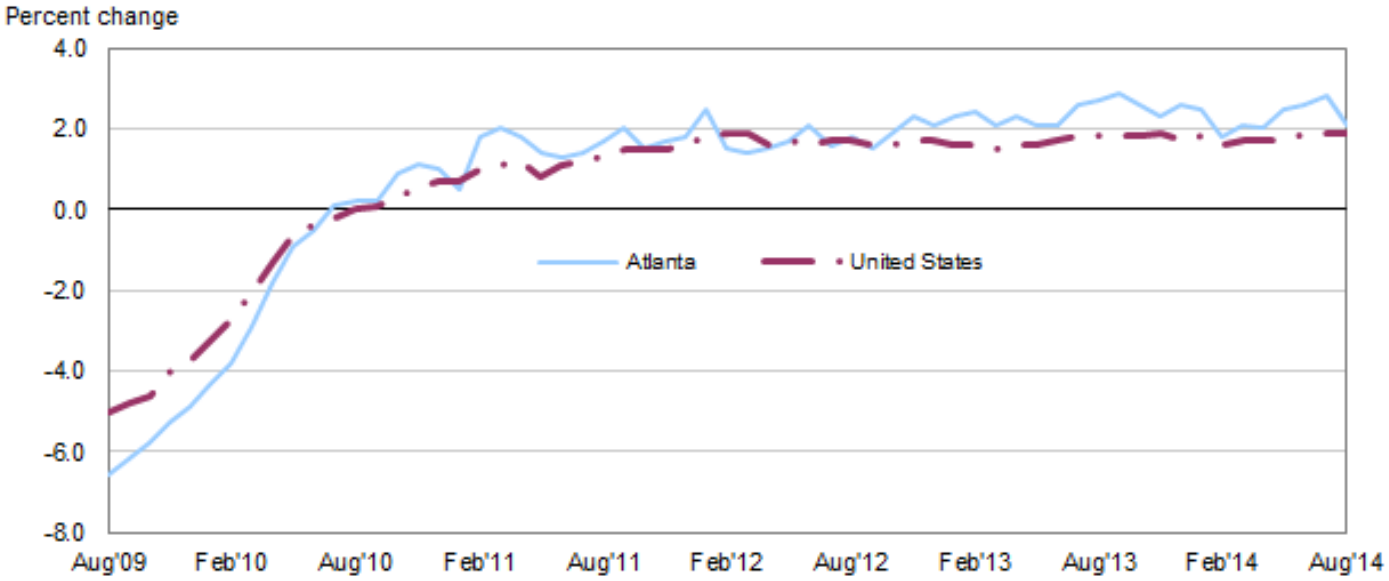
Atlanta Area Employment-August 2014

Total nonfarm employment for the Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta Metropolitan Statistical Area stood at 2,470,600 in August 2014, an increase of 51,400, or 2.1 percent, from one year ago, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the Atlanta area has recorded over-the-year employment gains each month for the last four years. Nationally, nonfarm employment increased 1.9 percent from August 2013. (See chart 1 and table 1; Technical Note at end of 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 U.S. and the Atlanta metropolitan area, August 2009–August 2014



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

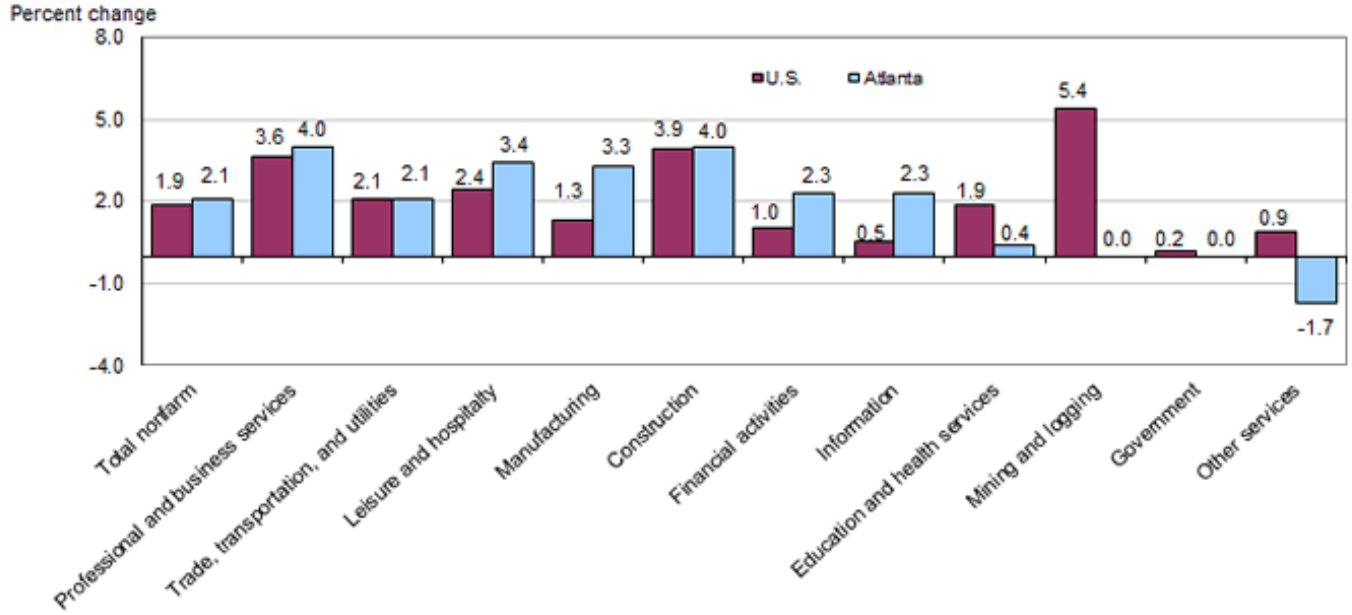
Industry employment

In the Atlanta metropolitan area, professional and business services added the most jobs in August 2014, up 17,600, or 4.0 percent, over the 12-month period. Atlanta's professional and business services sector has recorded over-the-year employment gains each month since March 2010. This supersector grew 3.6 percent nationally from August a year ago. (See chart 2.)

Trade, transportation, and utilities had the second largest increase in jobs locally, increasing by 11,300 from the previous August. Employment in trade, transportation, and utilities grew 2.1 percent in both Atlanta and the nation.

Leisure and hospitality was the only other supersector in the Atlanta area to add more than 8,000 jobs over the year. Employment in leisure and hospitality grew 3.4 percent over the 12-month period. Nationally, this industry experienced growth of 2.4 percent.

Chart 2. Total nonfarm and supersector employment, over-the-year percent change, United States and the Atlanta metropolitan area, August 2014



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Other services was the only supersector in the Atlanta area recording a decline in employment from the previous August, down 1,600 or 1.7 percent. Nationally, employment in this supersector increased 0.9 percent.

Employment in the 12 largest metropolitan areas

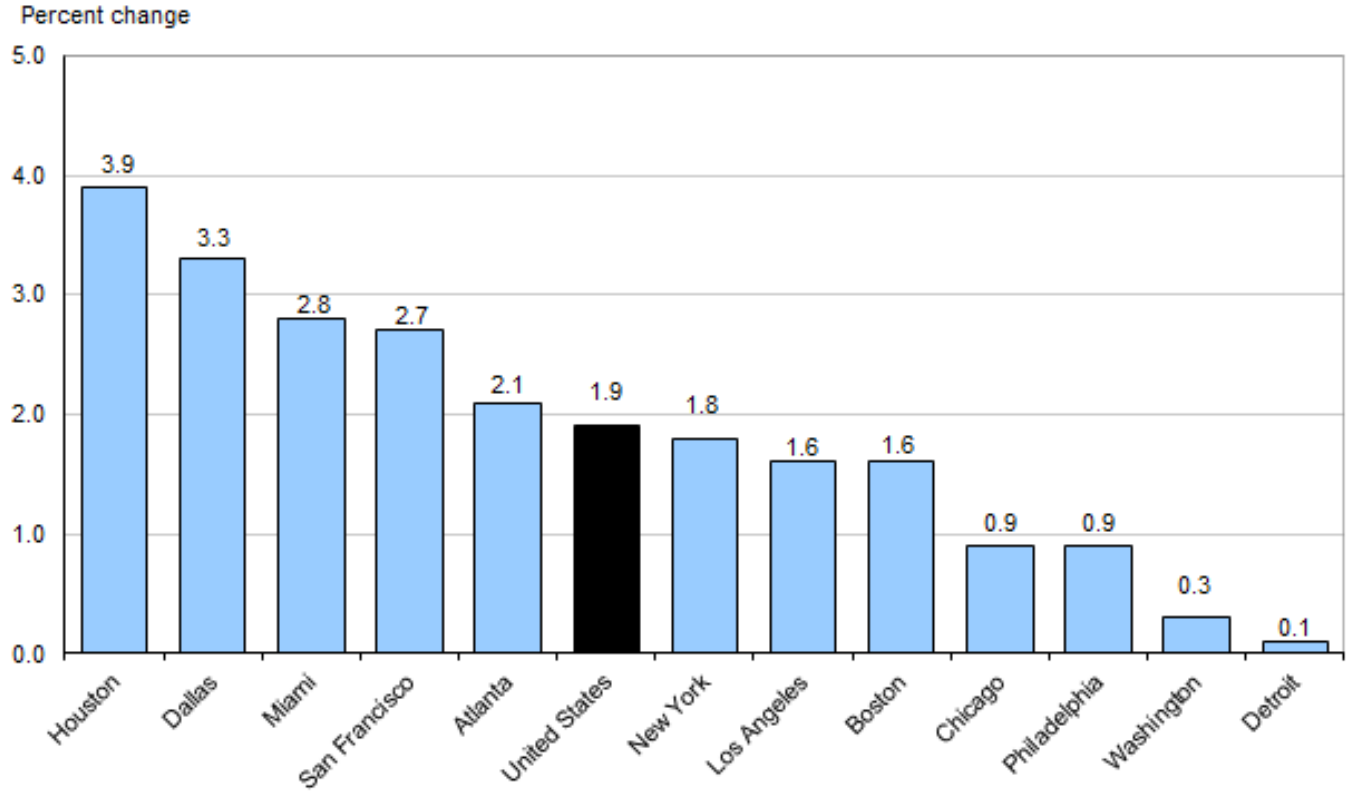
Atlanta was 1 of the nation's 12 largest metropolitan statistical areas in August 2014. All of these areas experienced over-the-year job growth during the period, with six exceeding or matching the national average of 1.8 percent. The fastest rate of job growth was registered in Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, up 3.9 percent, more than double that for the nation. Detroit-Warren-Livonia had the smallest increase, up 0.1 percent. (See chart 3 and table 2.)

The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island area added the largest number of jobs, 156,500, since August 2013. Two other metropolitan areas gained more than 100,000 jobs—Houston (107,400) and Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington (101,500). Detroit recorded the smallest employment gain over the year, up 2,700 jobs, and was the only area of the 12 to add fewer than 10,000 jobs.

Professional and business services led employment growth in 6 of the 12 metropolitan areas over the year: Atlanta, Chicago-Joliet-Naperville, Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, and San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont. (See table 2.) Education and health services recorded the largest gains in four areas: Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, Houston, New York, and Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington.

Over the year, government recorded the largest loss of jobs in two areas—New York and Philadelphia. Manufacturing lost the most jobs in two areas—Chicago and Los Angeles. Dallas, Houston, and Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach experienced no annual job losses in any supersector.

Chart 3. Total nonfarm employment, over-the-year percent change, United States and 12 largest areas, August 2014



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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.

Definition. 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 places 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 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

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, 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 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 are not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error for state CES data at the supersector level are available online at www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.htm. Information on recent benchmark revisions for states is available at www.bls.gov/sae/.

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 www.bls.gov/sae/.

Current and historical information on the Current Employment Statistics program and other surveys are also available on our regional Web site at www.bls.gov/regions/southeast/home.htm. 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.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on December 1, 2009. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available at www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm.

The Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, 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, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, Pike, Rockdale, Spalding, and Walton in Georgia.

Table 1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry supersector, United States and Atlanta metropolitan area, not seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands)

Area and Industry	Aug. 2013	June 2014	July 2014	Aug. 2014(p)	Change from Aug. 2013 to Aug. 2014(p) Number	Percent
United States						
Total nonfarm	136477	139772	138662	139051	2574	1.9
Mining and logging	887	916	931	935	48	5.4
Construction	6114	6207	6315	6350	236	3.9
Manufacturing	12088	12210	12215	12249	161	1.3
Trade transportation and utilities	25901	26441	26441	26432	531	2.1
Information	2683	2674	2688	2697	14	0.5
Financial activities	7950	7999	8028	8031	81	1.0
Professional and business services	18792	19353	19360	19460	668	3.6
Education and health services	20842	21271	21164	21229	387	1.9
Leisure and hospitality	14945	15270	15345	15300	355	2.4
Other services	5507	5572	5574	5559	52	0.9
Government	20768	21859	20601	20809	41	0.2
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA Metropolitan Statistical Area						
Total nonfarm	2419.2	2463.9	2464.7	2470.6	51.4	2.1
Mining and logging	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Construction	94.3	97.5	97.7	98.1	3.8	4.0
Manufacturing	149.3	153.2	153.7	154.2	4.9	3.3
Trade transportation and utilities	538.2	548.6	551	549.5	11.3	2.1
Information	85.2	86.7	87.4	87.2	2.0	2.3
Financial activities	157.9	160	162.3	161.5	3.6	2.3
Professional and business services	439.8	453.6	458.2	457.4	17.6	4.0
Education and health services	294.5	292.2	291.8	295.8	1.3	0.4
Leisure and hospitality	252.9	263.7	264.4	261.4	8.5	3.4
Other services	94.2	92.3	92.2	92.6	-1.6	-1.7
Government	311.7	314.9	304.8	311.7	0.0	0.0

(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. 2013	June 2014	July 2014	Aug. 2014(p)	Change from Aug. 2013 to Aug. 2014(p)	
					Number	Percent
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA						
Total nonfarm	2,419.2	2,463.9	2,464.7	2,470.6	51.4	2.1
Mining and logging	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Construction	94.3	97.5	97.7	98.1	3.8	4.0
Manufacturing	149.3	153.2	153.7	154.2	4.9	3.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	538.2	548.6	551.0	549.5	11.3	2.1
Information	85.2	86.7	87.4	87.2	2.0	2.3
Financial activities	157.9	160.0	162.3	161.5	3.6	2.3
Professional and business services	439.8	453.6	458.2	457.4	17.6	4.0
Education and health services	294.5	292.2	291.8	295.8	1.3	0.4
Leisure and hospitality	252.9	263.7	264.4	261.4	8.5	3.4
Other services	94.2	92.3	92.2	92.6	-1.6	-1.7
Government	311.7	314.9	304.8	311.7	0.0	0.0
Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, MA-NH						
Total nonfarm	2,551.8	2,622.0	2,610.8	2,591.9	40.1	1.6
Mining and logging	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Construction	95.8	93.0	96.5	96.0	0.2	0.2
Manufacturing	194.2	195.5	195.2	195.4	1.2	0.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	409.5	421.3	418.9	405.4	-4.1	-1.0
Information	75.3	78.6	79.4	79.8	4.5	6.0
Financial activities	175.2	174.2	176.1	176.2	1.0	0.6
Professional and business services	441.4	447.3	450.9	451.0	9.6	2.2
Education and health services	522.8	539.5	543.8	541.0	18.2	3.5
Leisure and hospitality	259.8	262.5	265.0	267.0	7.2	2.8
Other services	101.8	103.0	104.7	104.1	2.3	2.3
Government	275.4	306.5	279.7	275.4	0.0	0.0
Chicago-Joliet-Naperville, IL-IN-WI						
Total nonfarm	4,472.3	4,527.3	4,505.7	4,510.6	38.3	0.9
Mining and logging	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.4	-0.2	-12.5
Construction	160.4	163.1	167.0	167.3	6.9	4.3
Manufacturing	411.2	405.9	407.8	408.9	-2.3	-0.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	900.1	904.5	903.0	903.4	3.3	0.4
Information	80.7	80.6	80.9	80.6	-0.1	-0.1
Financial activities	291.9	290.7	291.7	290.6	-1.3	-0.4
Professional and business services	780.4	790.8	794.5	799.0	18.6	2.4
Education and health services	670.3	683.5	673.7	673.7	3.4	0.5
Leisure and hospitality	446.5	451.3	449.0	452.4	5.9	1.3
Other services	193.9	196.1	194.5	194.1	0.2	0.1
Government	535.3	559.4	542.2	539.2	3.9	0.7
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX						
Total nonfarm	3,107.5	3,216.6	3,202.8	3,209.0	101.5	3.3
Mining, logging, and construction	180.5	191.1	191.2	193.0	12.5	6.9
Manufacturing	258.6	257.9	258.6	258.7	0.1	0.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	643.2	663.7	664.3	665.2	22.0	3.4
Information	80.2	81.0	80.5	80.2	0.0	0.0
Financial activities	256.4	255.5	256.3	257.5	1.1	0.4
Professional and business services	489.7	522.3	525.4	529.5	39.8	8.1
Education and health services	384.2	392.4	389.9	390.7	6.5	1.7
Leisure and hospitality	323.1	338.7	337.1	333.2	10.1	3.1
Other services	112.6	114.4	115.1	114.4	1.8	1.6
Government	379.0	399.6	384.4	386.6	7.6	2.0
Detroit-Warren-Livonia, MI						
Total nonfarm	1,867.8	1,896.9	1,865.1	1,870.5	2.7	0.1
Mining, logging, and construction	62.4	62.9	64.5	65.8	3.4	5.4

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. 2013	June 2014	July 2014	Aug. 2014(p)	Change from Aug. 2013 to Aug. 2014(p)	
					Number	Percent
Manufacturing	232.5	238.4	230.8	237.0	4.5	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	350.5	355.9	354.2	353.1	2.6	0.7
Information	27.4	27.4	27.4	27.3	-0.1	-0.4
Financial activities	104.5	98.3	98.1	97.8	-6.7	-6.4
Professional and business services	360.2	365.3	359.3	366.2	6.0	1.7
Education and health services	294.6	298.5	297.4	293.7	-0.9	-0.3
Leisure and hospitality	185.2	186.2	185.7	183.2	-2.0	-1.1
Other services	78.3	77.0	76.5	76.3	-2.0	-2.6
Government	172.2	187.0	171.2	170.1	-2.1	-1.2
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX						
Total nonfarm	2,789.0	2,895.3	2,892.7	2,896.4	107.4	3.9
Mining and logging	108.9	114.6	116.4	117.8	8.9	8.2
Construction	190.5	196.6	195.7	201.4	10.9	5.7
Manufacturing	252.8	260.5	261.5	262.2	9.4	3.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	570.8	583.1	585.4	584.8	14.0	2.5
Information	32.8	33.2	33.3	33.3	0.5	1.5
Financial activities	144.4	145.5	146.5	147.1	2.7	1.9
Professional and business services	431.6	443.1	446.1	447.6	16.0	3.7
Education and health services	335.4	347.6	348.5	354.4	19.0	5.7
Leisure and hospitality	276.9	290.0	291.3	287.6	10.7	3.9
Other services	98.9	102.6	103.5	102.4	3.5	3.5
Government	346.0	378.5	364.5	357.8	11.8	3.4
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, CA						
Total nonfarm	5,551.5	5,687.8	5,622.8	5,638.5	87.0	1.6
Mining and logging	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.6	0.4	7.7
Construction	198.4	210.0	207.8	209.5	11.1	5.6
Manufacturing	525.9	510.3	511.0	511.3	-14.6	-2.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,031.9	1,043.0	1,041.7	1,041.4	9.5	0.9
Information	224.6	231.6	229.0	230.0	5.4	2.4
Financial activities	326.0	322.5	321.2	321.8	-4.2	-1.3
Professional and business services	859.0	884.1	887.9	894.8	35.8	4.2
Education and health services	890.6	922.0	909.8	916.8	26.2	2.9
Leisure and hospitality	636.2	649.2	650.3	649.4	13.2	2.1
Other services	191.2	197.9	196.5	197.3	6.1	3.2
Government	662.5	711.8	662.1	660.6	-1.9	-0.3
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL						
Total nonfarm	2,336.3	2,391.2	2,379.5	2,401.9	65.6	2.8
Mining and logging	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Construction	96.0	101.5	101.0	102.8	6.8	7.1
Manufacturing	78.0	79.3	78.4	78.6	0.6	0.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	545.6	563.2	563.9	564.0	18.4	3.4
Information	46.2	46.6	46.5	46.7	0.5	1.1
Financial activities	165.5	168.9	169.3	168.6	3.1	1.9
Professional and business services	371.8	384.6	382.9	384.2	12.4	3.3
Education and health services	343.8	351.3	349.3	351.0	7.2	2.1
Leisure and hospitality	279.8	297.4	291.7	288.8	9.0	3.2
Other services	110.2	115.5	115.6	115.1	4.9	4.4
Government	298.8	282.3	280.3	301.5	2.7	0.9
New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA						
Total nonfarm	8,679.7	8,918.7	8,873.8	8,836.2	156.5	1.8
Mining, logging, and construction	334.7	330.9	334.8	334.3	-0.4	-0.1
Manufacturing	357.2	358.5	354.3	356.1	-1.1	-0.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,592.5	1,647.2	1,632.9	1,634.0	41.5	2.6
Information	280.0	272.9	275.4	276.4	-3.6	-1.3

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. 2013	June 2014	July 2014	Aug. 2014(p)	Change from Aug. 2013 to Aug. 2014(p)	
					Number	Percent
Financial activities	747.3	742.1	747.8	745.9	-1.4	-0.2
Professional and business services	1,405.1	1,425.0	1,430.2	1,435.1	30.0	2.1
Education and health services	1,568.8	1,656.8	1,636.7	1,632.4	63.6	4.1
Leisure and hospitality	820.1	849.6	854.6	845.2	25.1	3.1
Other services	383.0	392.1	390.7	389.6	6.6	1.7
Government	1,191.0	1,243.6	1,216.4	1,187.2	-3.8	-0.3
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD						
Total nonfarm	2,726.4	2,798.1	2,763.9	2,751.1	24.7	0.9
Mining, logging, and construction	106.8	110.5	115.3	114.3	7.5	7.0
Manufacturing	180.6	179.7	179.8	178.9	-1.7	-0.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	505.6	515.0	512.5	512.5	6.9	1.4
Information	47.6	46.4	46.2	46.1	-1.5	-3.2
Financial activities	204.8	205.2	206.4	206.5	1.7	0.8
Professional and business services	438.4	446.2	447.9	444.1	5.7	1.3
Education and health services	556.4	574.9	571.2	568.4	12.0	2.2
Leisure and hospitality	252.4	259.8	256.3	254.0	1.6	0.6
Other services	122.0	123.1	120.7	120.4	-1.6	-1.3
Government	311.8	337.3	307.6	305.9	-5.9	-1.9
San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, CA						
Total nonfarm	2,112.3	2,166.5	2,160.7	2,170.1	57.8	2.7
Mining and logging	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	-0.1	-7.7
Construction	97.6	100.2	103.1	106.1	8.5	8.7
Manufacturing	117.0	117.7	118.5	118.0	1.0	0.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	345.6	350.7	352.2	353.7	8.1	2.3
Information	74.2	76.2	76.9	76.8	2.6	3.5
Financial activities	126.8	127.0	127.3	127.2	0.4	0.3
Professional and business services	423.2	433.3	436.3	437.2	14.0	3.3
Education and health services	312.7	324.0	321.9	322.0	9.3	3.0
Leisure and hospitality	245.4	252.2	251.7	255.0	9.6	3.9
Other services	80.3	80.3	80.3	81.1	0.8	1.0
Government	288.2	303.7	291.3	291.8	3.6	1.2
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV						
Total nonfarm	3,073.9	3,121.4	3,108.0	3,084.2	10.3	0.3
Mining, logging, and construction	150.8	150.7	150.5	151.7	0.9	0.6
Manufacturing	48.4	46.0	45.8	46.4	-2.0	-4.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	389.3	396.5	397.5	395.1	5.8	1.5
Information	77.6	74.1	74.0	73.6	-4.0	-5.2
Financial activities	152.1	155.1	156.8	156.5	4.4	2.9
Professional and business services	713.3	712.8	713.3	707.9	-5.4	-0.8
Education and health services	385.9	391.8	390.6	387.0	1.1	0.3
Leisure and hospitality	302.7	314.1	312.9	310.7	8.0	2.6
Other services	190.2	192.8	193.6	192.9	2.7	1.4
Government	663.6	687.5	673.0	662.4	-1.2	-0.2

(p) preliminary