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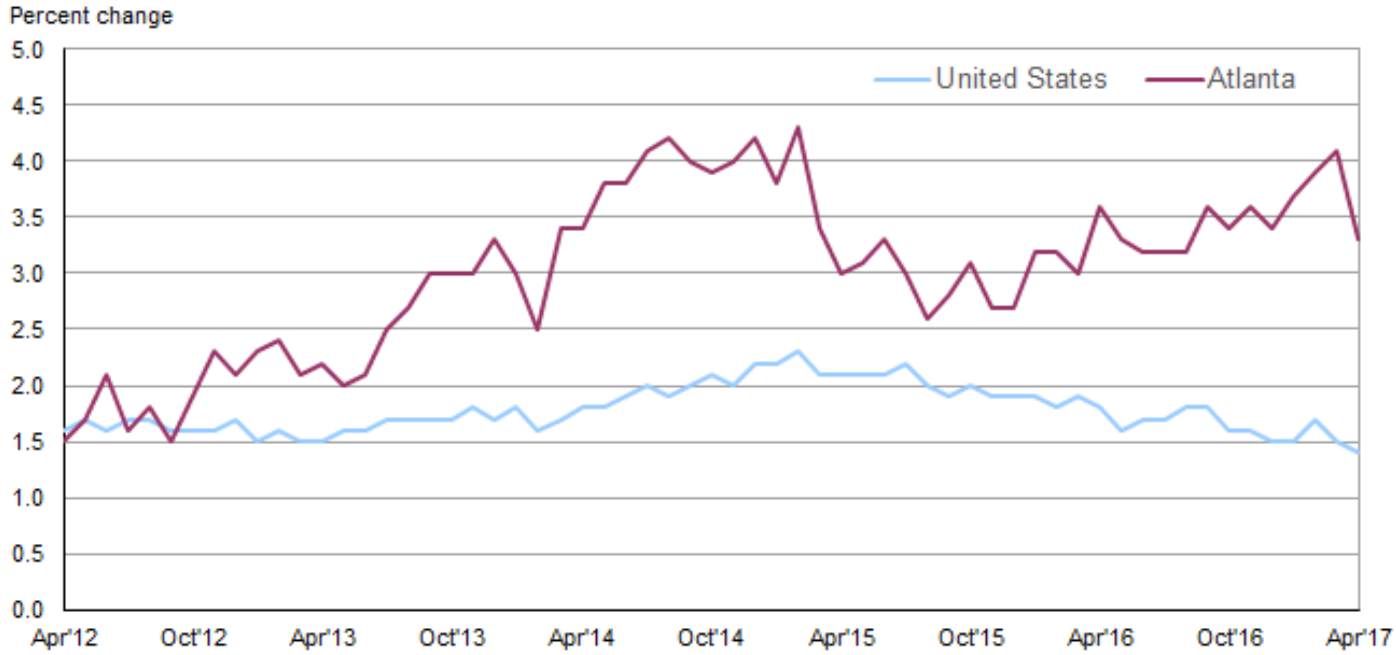
Atlanta Area Employment – April 2017

Local Rate of Employment Growth Above the National Average

Total nonfarm employment for the Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, Ga. Metropolitan Statistical Area stood at 2,739,500 in April 2017, up 87,200, or 3.3 percent, over the year, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the Atlanta area has had over-the-year employment gains of 75,000 or more since January 2016. (See chart 1 and table 1; the Technical Note at the end of this release contains metropolitan area definitions. All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

Chart 1. Total nonfarm employment, over-the-year percent change in the United States and the Atlanta metropolitan area, April 2012–April 2017

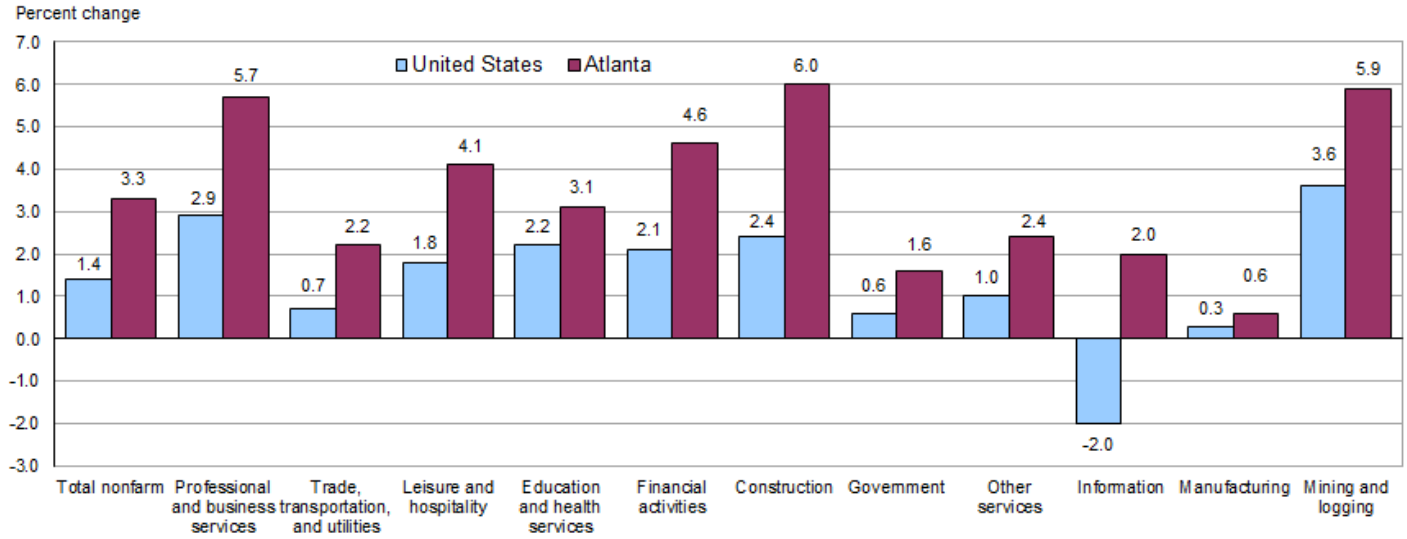


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Industry employment

In the Atlanta metropolitan area, the professional and business services industry had the largest employment gain from April 2016 to April 2017, up 27,500 or 5.7 percent. Nationwide, employment in professional and business services rose 2.9 percent from the previous April. (See chart 2.)

Chart 2. Total nonfarm and selected industry supersector employment, over-the-year percent change, United States and the Atlanta metropolitan area, April 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Trade, transportation, and utilities employment increased by 12,800 since last April, the second-largest gain in the Atlanta area. The 2.2-percent rate of local job growth for this supersector was greater than the 0.7-percent national gain.

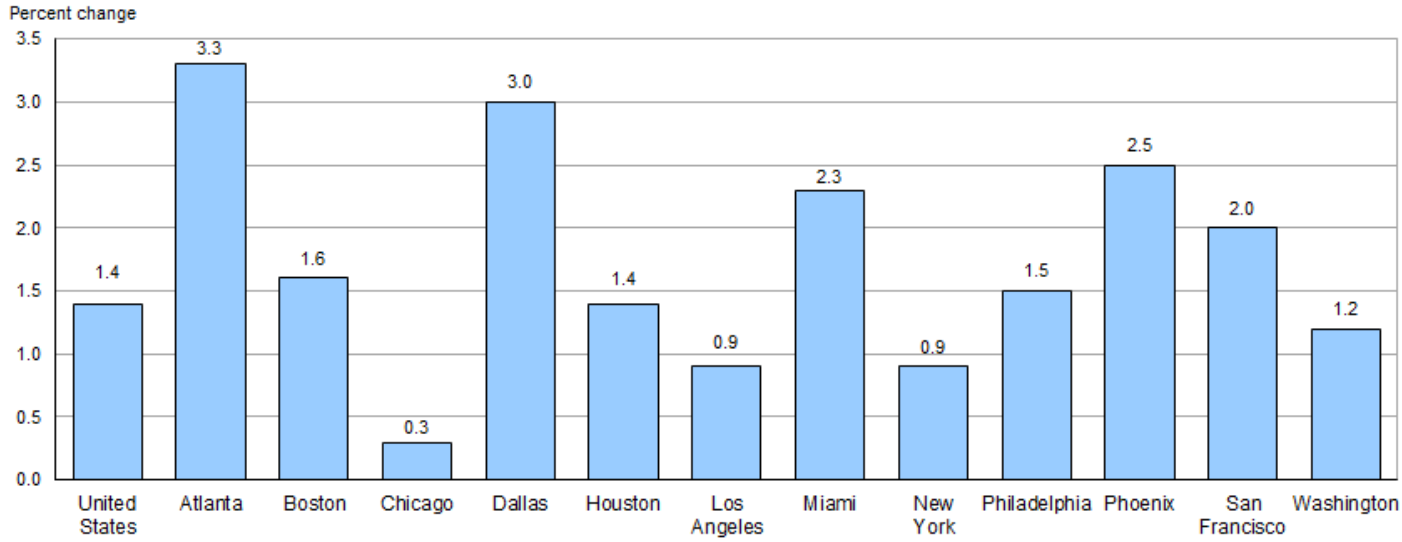
Two other supersectors in the Atlanta area gained at least 10,000 jobs since last April. The area's leisure and hospitality supersector gained 11,700 jobs, up 4.1 percent; nationwide, employment in this supersector rose 1.8 percent over the year. Education and health services added 10,200 jobs in the local area. The 3.1-percent rate of local job growth exceeded the national gain of 2.2 percent.

Six of the seven remaining supersectors had over-the-year job gains ranging from 7,600 to 1,000 in April 2017.

Employment in the 12 largest metropolitan areas

Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell was 1 of the nation's 12 largest metropolitan statistical areas in April 2017. All 12 areas had over-the-year job growth during the period, with the rates of job growth in 7 areas exceeding the national increase of 1.4 percent. Atlanta had the fastest rate of job growth, 3.3 percent, followed by Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington at 3.0 percent. Chicago-Naperville-Elgin had the slowest rate of job growth, up 0.3 percent. (See chart 3 and table 2.)

Chart 3. Total nonfarm employment, over-the-year percent change, United States and 12 largest metropolitan areas, April 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Dallas area added the largest number of jobs over the year, 104,600, followed by Atlanta (+87,200) and New York-Newark-Jersey City (+83,100). Chicago had the smallest employment gain over the year, adding 13,800 jobs, followed by Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, which added 38,000 jobs.

Over the year, education and health services added the most jobs in seven areas: Chicago, Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, New York, Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, and San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward. Manufacturing lost the most jobs over the year in three areas: Boston-Cambridge-Nashua, New York, and Philadelphia. Atlanta and San Francisco had no annual job losses in any supersector.

Metropolitan area employment data for May 2017 are scheduled to be released on Friday, June 16, 2017.

Technical Note

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

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Persons are counted at their place of work rather than at their place of residence; those appearing on more than one payroll are counted on each payroll. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2012 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Method of estimation. The employment data are estimated using a "link relative" technique in which a ratio (link relative) of current-month employment to that of the previous month is computed from a sample of establishments reporting for both months. The estimates of employment for the current month are obtained by

multiplying the estimates for the previous month by these ratios. Small-domain models are used as the official estimators for approximately 39 percent of CES published series which have insufficient sample for direct sample-based estimates.

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

Reliability of the estimates. The estimates presented in this release are based on sample survey and administrative data and thus are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability—that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data are also subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the special estimation processes used. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding.

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

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the delineations issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on July 15, 2015. 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), April 2017

Area and Industry	Apr 2016	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017(p)	Apr 2016 to Apr 2017(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
United States						
Total nonfarm	143,894	144,292	144,953	145,979	2,085	1.4
Mining and logging	669	672	683	693	24	3.6
Construction	6,609	6,479	6,580	6,769	160	2.4
Manufacturing	12,299	12,300	12,326	12,333	34	0.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26,956	27,002	27,037	27,142	186	0.7
Information	2,784	2,745	2,734	2,729	-55	-2.0
Financial activities	8,208	8,338	8,356	8,383	175	2.1
Professional and business services	19,970	20,216	20,339	20,556	586	2.9
Education and health services	22,679	23,077	23,113	23,176	497	2.2
Leisure and hospitality	15,470	15,167	15,397	15,745	275	1.8
Other services	5,672	5,673	5,696	5,730	58	1.0
Government	22,578	22,623	22,692	22,723	145	0.6
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metropolitan Statistical Area						
Total nonfarm	2,652.3	2,716.2	2,730.3	2,739.5	87.2	3.3
Mining and logging	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.1	5.9
Construction	113.2	118.5	121.0	120.0	6.8	6.0
Manufacturing	161.9	163.6	162.8	162.9	1.0	0.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	584.4	595.4	597.1	597.2	12.8	2.2
Information	96.3	98.6	98.2	98.2	1.9	2.0
Financial activities	164.8	171.4	172.2	172.4	7.6	4.6
Professional and business services	486.4	506.2	511.4	513.9	27.5	5.7
Education and health services	332.6	342.6	342.4	342.8	10.2	3.1
Leisure and hospitality	283.8	286.9	291.1	295.5	11.7	4.1
Other services	97.6	96.8	97.1	99.9	2.3	2.4
Government	329.6	334.4	335.2	334.9	5.3	1.6

Footnotes(p) Preliminary

Note: None of the statistics herein are seasonally adjusted.

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

Area and Industry	Apr 2016	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017(p)	Apr 2016 to Apr 2017(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA						
Total nonfarm	2,652.3	2,716.2	2,730.3	2,739.5	87.2	3.3
Mining and logging	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.1	5.9
Construction	113.2	118.5	121.0	120.0	6.8	6.0
Manufacturing	161.9	163.6	162.8	162.9	1.0	0.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	584.4	595.4	597.1	597.2	12.8	2.2
Information	96.3	98.6	98.2	98.2	1.9	2.0
Financial activities	164.8	171.4	172.2	172.4	7.6	4.6
Professional and business services	486.4	506.2	511.4	513.9	27.5	5.7
Education and health services	332.6	342.6	342.4	342.8	10.2	3.1
Leisure and hospitality	283.8	286.9	291.1	295.5	11.7	4.1
Other services	97.6	96.8	97.1	99.9	2.3	2.4
Government	329.6	334.4	335.2	334.9	5.3	1.6
Boston-Cambridge-Nashua, MA-NH						
Total nonfarm	2,696.2	2,688.5	2,703.1	2,739.0	42.8	1.6
Mining, logging, and construction	106.8	99.6	100.1	107.1	0.3	0.3
Manufacturing	186.8	185.3	184.9	184.8	-2.0	-1.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	417.1	415.6	416.0	418.8	1.7	0.4
Information	77.7	78.5	78.4	78.6	0.9	1.2
Financial activities	184.4	189.0	189.2	189.9	5.5	3.0
Professional and business services	465.7	466.8	468.8	481.2	15.5	3.3
Education and health services	576.8	586.1	589.5	591.9	15.1	2.6
Leisure and hospitality	262.3	247.8	252.6	261.7	-0.6	-0.2
Other services	100.6	100.0	100.9	102.7	2.1	2.1
Government	318.0	319.8	322.7	322.3	4.3	1.4
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI						
Total nonfarm	4,629.7	4,585.4	4,610.8	4,643.5	13.8	0.3
Mining and logging	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.6	0.0	0.0
Construction	168.4	156.5	157.5	164.4	-4.0	-2.4
Manufacturing	414.3	412.2	412.7	412.0	-2.3	-0.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	934.6	925.7	932.1	932.2	-2.4	-0.3
Information	79.9	80.5	80.9	81.9	2.0	2.5
Financial activities	296.8	305.6	305.6	305.4	8.6	2.9
Professional and business services	812.2	794.6	799.3	814.2	2.0	0.2
Education and health services	716.6	723.8	723.1	725.6	9.0	1.3
Leisure and hospitality	462.6	442.4	452.8	461.6	-1.0	-0.2
Other services	193.7	192.3	192.6	192.7	-1.0	-0.5
Government	549.0	550.3	552.7	551.9	2.9	0.5
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX						
Total nonfarm	3,484.2	3,572.4	3,584.6	3,588.8	104.6	3.0
Mining, logging, and construction	203.6	208.6	207.1	205.7	2.1	1.0
Manufacturing	263.9	265.5	266.1	264.9	1.0	0.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	736.8	760.3	762.4	760.8	24.0	3.3
Information	82.2	82.5	82.5	81.4	-0.8	-1.0
Financial activities	279.7	288.6	291.4	291.6	11.9	4.3
Professional and business services	574.5	591.7	595.7	597.3	22.8	4.0
Education and health services	429.1	439.5	439.5	441.0	11.9	2.8
Leisure and hospitality	366.0	374.1	377.9	383.0	17.0	4.6
Other services	120.5	124.8	124.4	125.8	5.3	4.4
Government	427.9	436.8	437.6	437.3	9.4	2.2
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX						
Total nonfarm	3,000.9	3,010.1	3,024.1	3,042.8	41.9	1.4
Mining and logging	90.0	87.2	87.3	87.6	-2.4	-2.7
Construction	221.4	215.6	217.9	213.8	-7.6	-3.4

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	Apr 2016	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017(p)	Apr 2016 to Apr 2017(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
Manufacturing	224.8	226.1	227.5	229.9	5.1	2.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	606.3	602.6	600.2	604.4	-1.9	-0.3
Information	32.4	32.8	32.5	32.1	-0.3	-0.9
Financial activities	154.2	153.7	153.9	153.5	-0.7	-0.5
Professional and business services	467.9	468.1	472.7	479.7	11.8	2.5
Education and health services	377.8	386.2	387.9	390.5	12.7	3.4
Leisure and hospitality	312.4	314.8	318.8	323.5	11.1	3.6
Other services	108.1	107.0	108.3	109.9	1.8	1.7
Government	405.6	416.0	417.1	417.9	12.3	3.0
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA						
Total nonfarm	5,969.8	6,007.7	6,032.1	6,021.7	51.9	0.9
Mining and logging	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.0	-0.1	-2.4
Construction	229.0	230.5	235.4	237.8	8.8	3.8
Manufacturing	518.3	510.8	512.8	510.7	-7.6	-1.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,079.7	1,085.6	1,083.3	1,079.2	-0.5	0.0
Information	263.0	256.2	254.8	252.4	-10.6	-4.0
Financial activities	336.2	337.6	337.2	336.5	0.3	0.1
Professional and business services	894.2	909.4	911.9	904.3	10.1	1.1
Education and health services	977.0	996.5	1,004.1	1,002.2	25.2	2.6
Leisure and hospitality	719.7	717.9	723.9	731.4	11.7	1.6
Other services	203.2	208.1	208.7	210.8	7.6	3.7
Government	745.4	751.1	756.1	752.4	7.0	0.9
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL						
Total nonfarm	2,586.8	2,630.6	2,639.7	2,647.5	60.7	2.3
Mining and logging	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Construction	120.4	124.5	123.9	125.1	4.7	3.9
Manufacturing	87.5	88.4	88.7	88.4	0.9	1.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	589.1	596.9	597.3	599.5	10.4	1.8
Information	49.2	49.0	48.9	48.9	-0.3	-0.6
Financial activities	175.9	174.3	174.1	174.5	-1.4	-0.8
Professional and business services	420.6	430.4	434.1	434.3	13.7	3.3
Education and health services	381.6	392.3	395.0	396.2	14.6	3.8
Leisure and hospitality	326.7	331.0	332.8	335.0	8.3	2.5
Other services	125.0	128.7	128.6	128.9	3.9	3.1
Government	310.1	314.4	315.6	316.0	5.9	1.9
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA						
Total nonfarm	9,503.3	9,469.1	9,514.1	9,586.4	83.1	0.9
Mining, logging, and construction	383.0	362.8	369.9	381.3	-1.7	-0.4
Manufacturing	366.2	362.9	363.5	363.2	-3.0	-0.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,708.1	1,708.4	1,709.0	1,705.6	-2.5	-0.1
Information	285.7	285.1	287.2	286.6	0.9	0.3
Financial activities	766.1	768.3	770.8	775.0	8.9	1.2
Professional and business services	1,508.8	1,506.3	1,508.5	1,525.6	16.8	1.1
Education and health services	1,879.1	1,914.5	1,921.6	1,927.9	48.8	2.6
Leisure and hospitality	879.1	842.9	856.7	887.7	8.6	1.0
Other services	415.7	412.5	413.0	416.5	0.8	0.2
Government	1,311.5	1,305.4	1,313.9	1,317.0	5.5	0.4
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD						
Total nonfarm	2,869.7	2,878.0	2,889.7	2,913.6	43.9	1.5
Mining, logging, and construction	112.9	109.4	111.7	115.8	2.9	2.6
Manufacturing	178.3	177.3	177.0	176.9	-1.4	-0.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	517.1	521.5	522.9	524.0	6.9	1.3
Information	46.9	46.1	46.2	46.2	-0.7	-1.5

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	Apr 2016	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017(p)	Apr 2016 to Apr 2017(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
Financial activities	210.7	211.4	211.3	212.6	1.9	0.9
Professional and business services	459.9	454.0	461.3	467.5	7.6	1.7
Education and health services	626.2	648.3	645.9	646.7	20.5	3.3
Leisure and hospitality	257.8	248.6	251.4	260.0	2.2	0.9
Other services	118.7	118.6	118.2	119.7	1.0	0.8
Government	341.2	342.8	343.8	344.2	3.0	0.9
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ						
Total nonfarm	1,974.6	2,013.0	2,017.3	2,023.4	48.8	2.5
Mining and logging	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	0.0	0.0
Construction	103.7	104.2	107.2	109.2	5.5	5.3
Manufacturing	120.2	121.9	121.0	121.5	1.3	1.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	382.6	387.9	387.9	387.4	4.8	1.3
Information	36.4	35.8	35.9	36.3	-0.1	-0.3
Financial activities	173.2	181.2	181.6	182.0	8.8	5.1
Professional and business services	336.2	343.4	341.6	341.3	5.1	1.5
Education and health services	292.1	298.5	299.3	300.1	8.0	2.7
Leisure and hospitality	218.9	227.7	232.0	233.6	14.7	6.7
Other services	64.3	61.9	61.9	61.9	-2.4	-3.7
Government	243.8	247.3	245.7	246.9	3.1	1.3
San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA						
Total nonfarm	2,332.1	2,356.3	2,372.5	2,377.7	45.6	2.0
Mining and logging	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.0	0.0
Construction	110.4	113.6	116.4	118.6	8.2	7.4
Manufacturing	130.7	130.6	132.0	131.0	0.3	0.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	370.9	375.3	375.9	375.0	4.1	1.1
Information	97.6	99.7	99.4	99.7	2.1	2.2
Financial activities	141.2	145.5	145.9	144.4	3.2	2.3
Professional and business services	468.6	469.7	472.8	471.4	2.8	0.6
Education and health services	339.4	347.1	348.8	348.7	9.3	2.7
Leisure and hospitality	268.1	264.8	267.8	273.0	4.9	1.8
Other services	85.2	86.1	86.8	88.1	2.9	3.4
Government	319.0	323.0	325.8	326.8	7.8	2.4
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV						
Total nonfarm	3,230.3	3,240.0	3,246.4	3,268.3	38.0	1.2
Mining, logging, and construction	156.6	151.1	150.5	156.7	0.1	0.1
Manufacturing	53.7	52.5	52.8	53.6	-0.1	-0.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	400.5	402.5	403.1	404.8	4.3	1.1
Information	74.9	72.3	71.6	71.5	-3.4	-4.5
Financial activities	156.2	155.9	155.2	155.7	-0.5	-0.3
Professional and business services	737.5	743.1	746.1	750.3	12.8	1.7
Education and health services	440.4	446.8	445.7	448.2	7.8	1.8
Leisure and hospitality	318.4	319.2	323.0	329.2	10.8	3.4
Other services	194.1	194.6	193.6	194.3	0.2	0.1
Government	698.0	702.0	704.8	704.0	6.0	0.9

Footnotes(p) Preliminary