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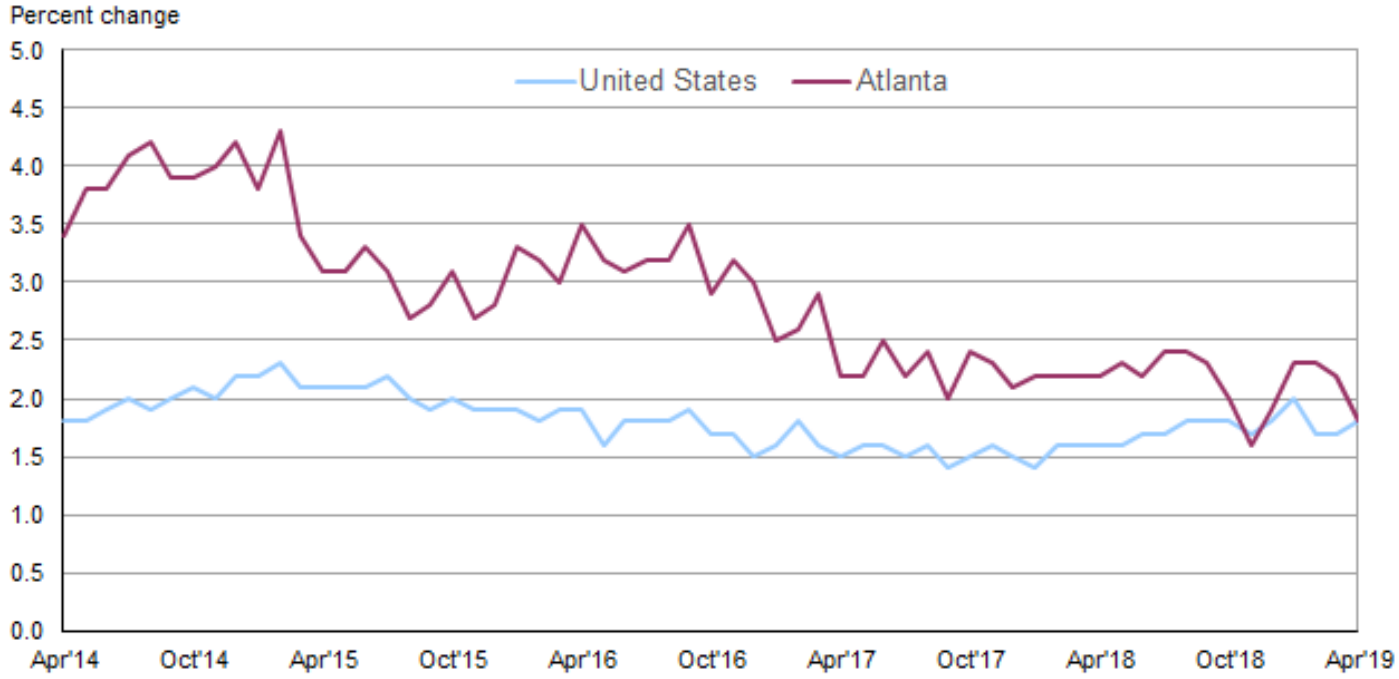
Atlanta Area Employment – April 2019

Local Rate of Employment Growth Similar to the National Average

Total nonfarm employment for the Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metropolitan Statistical Area stood at 2,817,700 in April 2019, up 50,100, or 1.8 percent, over the year, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. During the same period, the national rate of job growth was 1.8 percent. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the Atlanta area has had over-the-year employment gains each month since July 2010. (See chart 1 and table 1; the Technical Note at the end of this release contains metropolitan area definitions. All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

Chart 1. Total nonfarm employment, over-the-year percent change in the United States and the Atlanta metropolitan area, April 2014–April 2019

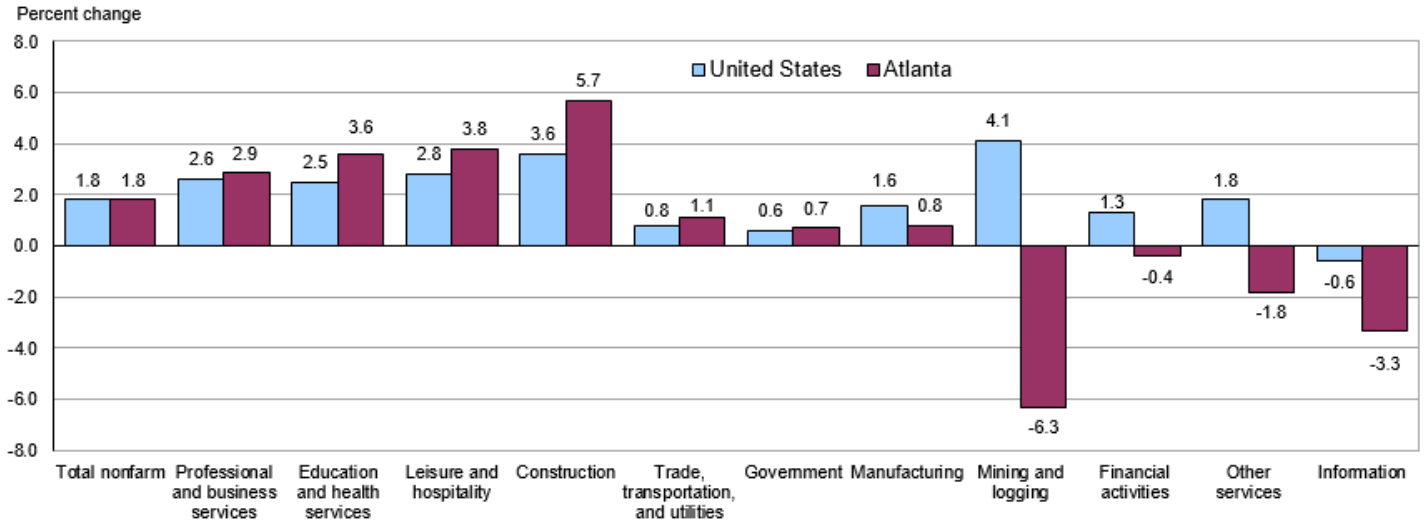


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Industry employment

In the Atlanta metropolitan area, the professional and business services industry had the largest employment gain from April 2018 to April 2019, up 15,000, or 2.9 percent. Local job gains occurred primarily in the professional, scientific, and technical services sector (+9,200). Nationwide, employment in the professional and business services industry rose 2.6 percent over the year. (See chart 2.)

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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Atlanta's education and health services supersector added 12,700 jobs, an increase of 3.6 percent since April 2018. Local employment gains were primarily in the ambulatory health care services (+5,700) and hospitals (+4,500) subsectors. Nationally, employment in education and health services was up 2.5 percent over the year.

In the Atlanta area, the leisure and hospitality industry added 11,200 jobs from April 2018 to April 2019, up 3.8 percent. Job gains in the local area were concentrated in the food services and drinking places subsector (+8,000). Nationally, employment in leisure and hospitality was up 2.8 percent over the year.

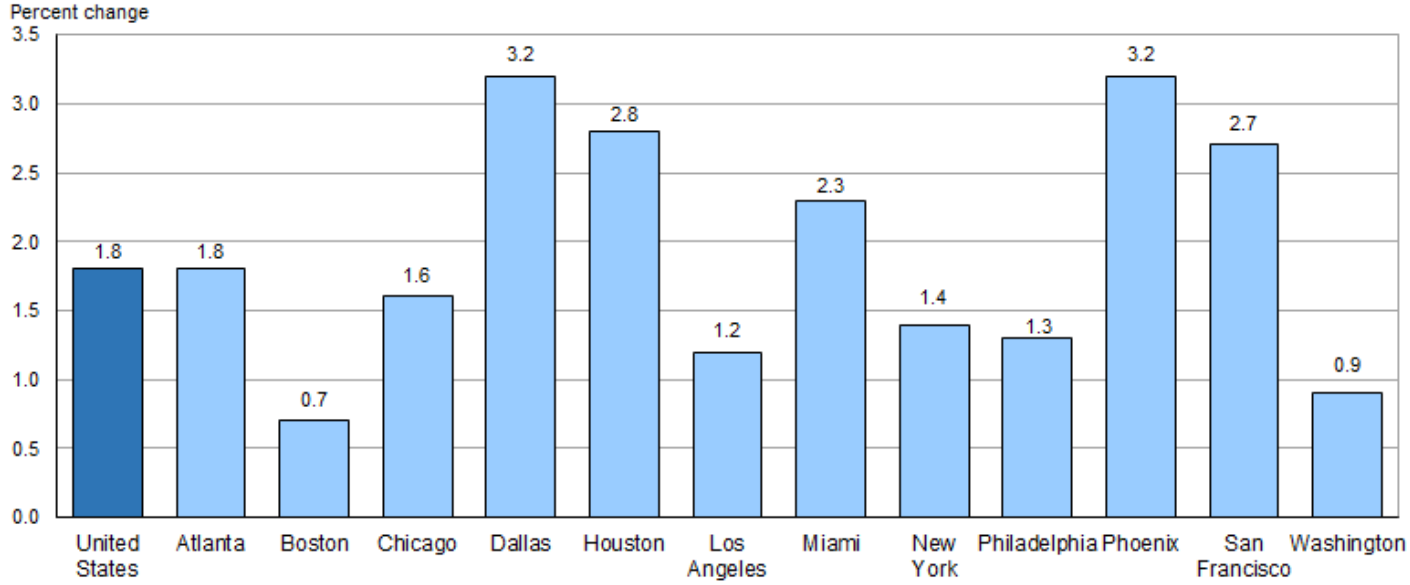
Two other supersectors in the Atlanta area gained over 6,000 jobs since last April. Atlanta's construction supersector added 7,000 jobs, up 5.7 percent; nationwide, employment in this supersector rose 3.6 percent over the year. Atlanta's trade, transportation, and utilities industry added 6,300 jobs since April 2018. The 1.1-percent rate of local job growth compared to the national gain of 0.8 percent.

Since April 2018, two industry supersectors in the Atlanta area lost over 1,000 jobs: information (-3,200, -3.3 percent) and other services (-1,800, -1.8 percent). Over the year, U.S. employment was down in information (-0.6 percent), while up in other services (+1.8 percent).

Employment in the 12 largest metropolitan areas

Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell was 1 of the nation's 12 largest metropolitan statistical areas in April 2019. All 12 areas had over-the-year job growth during the period, with the rates of job growth in 5 areas exceeding the national average of 1.8 percent. Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington and Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale had the fastest rate of job growth, up 3.2 percent each. Boston-Cambridge-Nashua had the slowest rate of job growth, 0.7 percent, followed by Washington-Arlington-Alexandria at 0.9 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 2019



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

New York-Newark-Jersey City added the largest number of jobs over the year, 139,600, followed by Dallas with 115,600 jobs. Boston had the smallest employment gain over the year, adding 19,000 jobs, followed by Washington with 29,800 jobs. Annual gains in the remaining eight metropolitan areas ranged from 86,200 in Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land to 38,400 in Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington.

Over the year, professional and business services added the most jobs in eight areas: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, Dallas, Houston, Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, and Washington. Education and health services added the most jobs in three areas: Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, New York, and Philadelphia. In the remaining area, Phoenix, the construction supersector added the largest number of jobs.

Information lost the most jobs in five areas: Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, and Miami. Financial activities lost the most jobs in three areas: Los Angeles, New York, and Phoenix.

Metropolitan area employment data for May 2019 are scheduled to be released on Friday, June 21, 2019.

Technical Note

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

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Persons are counted at their place of work rather than at their place of residence; those appearing on more than one payroll are counted on each payroll. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2017 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

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

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

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

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error for the total nonfarm employment series are available for metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions at www.bls.gov/sae/additional-resources/reliability-of-state-and-area-estimates.htm. Measures of sampling error for more detailed series at the area and division level are available upon request. Measures of sampling error for states down to the supersector level are available on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/sae/additional-resources/reliability-of-state-and-area-estimates.htm. Measures of nonsampling error are not available for the areas contained in this release. Information on recent benchmark revisions is available online at www.bls.gov/sae/publications/benchmark-article/annual-benchmark-article.pdf.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the delineations issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on April 10, 2018. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available at www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm.

The **Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes the counties of Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Jasper, Lamar, Meriwether, Morgan, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, Pike, Rockdale, Spalding, and Walton in Georgia.

Additional information

More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in *Employment and Earnings*, which is available online at www.bls.gov/opub/ee/home.htm. Industry employment data for states and metropolitan areas from the Current Employment Statistics program are also available in the above mentioned news releases and from the Internet at www.bls.gov/sae/.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry supersector, United States and the Atlanta metropolitan area, not seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands), April 2019

Area and Industry	Apr 2018	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019(p)	Apr 2018 to Apr 2019(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
United States						
Total nonfarm	148,383	149,148	149,862	150,988	2,605	1.8
Mining and logging	714	744	746	743	29	4.1
Construction	7,129	7,066	7,174	7,385	256	3.6
Manufacturing	12,579	12,766	12,780	12,784	205	1.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	27,354	27,474	27,495	27,567	213	0.8
Information	2,823	2,798	2,804	2,807	-16	-0.6
Financial activities	8,496	8,571	8,592	8,605	109	1.3
Professional and business services	20,828	20,987	21,073	21,362	534	2.6
Education and health services	23,705	24,130	24,204	24,296	591	2.5
Leisure and hospitality	16,132	15,997	16,253	16,586	454	2.8
Other services	5,821	5,837	5,877	5,923	102	1.8
Government	22,802	22,778	22,864	22,930	128	0.6
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metropolitan Statistical Area						
Total nonfarm	2,767.6	2,807.3	2,821.1	2,817.7	50.1	1.8
Mining and logging	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	-0.1	-6.3
Construction	123.7	130.6	130.9	130.7	7.0	5.7
Manufacturing	171.2	173.5	172.8	172.6	1.4	0.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	597.8	606.6	608.3	604.1	6.3	1.1
Information	98.1	94.0	95.2	94.9	-3.2	-3.3
Financial activities	173.5	174.1	174.0	172.8	-0.7	-0.4
Professional and business services	517.5	530.0	530.8	532.5	15.0	2.9
Education and health services	351.5	362.4	364.1	364.2	12.7	3.6
Leisure and hospitality	296.4	299.3	306.5	307.6	11.2	3.8
Other services	99.6	96.4	97.6	97.8	-1.8	-1.8
Government	336.7	338.8	339.4	339.0	2.3	0.7

Footnotes
(p) Preliminary

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

Area and Industry	Apr 2018	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019(p)	Apr 2018 to Apr 2019(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA						
Total nonfarm	2,767.6	2,807.3	2,821.1	2,817.7	50.1	1.8
Mining and logging	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	-0.1	-6.3
Construction	123.7	130.6	130.9	130.7	7.0	5.7
Manufacturing	171.2	173.5	172.8	172.6	1.4	0.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	597.8	606.6	608.3	604.1	6.3	1.1
Information	98.1	94.0	95.2	94.9	-3.2	-3.3
Financial activities	173.5	174.1	174.0	172.8	-0.7	-0.4
Professional and business services	517.5	530.0	530.8	532.5	15.0	2.9
Education and health services	351.5	362.4	364.1	364.2	12.7	3.6
Leisure and hospitality	296.4	299.3	306.5	307.6	11.2	3.8
Other services	99.6	96.4	97.6	97.8	-1.8	-1.8
Government	336.7	338.8	339.4	339.0	2.3	0.7
Boston-Cambridge-Nashua, MA-NH						
Total nonfarm	2,764.2	2,736.1	2,747.9	2,783.2	19.0	0.7
Mining, logging, and construction	114.9	109.6	111.8	118.0	3.1	2.7
Manufacturing	187.3	187.1	186.9	186.6	-0.7	-0.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	419.9	418.6	419.2	419.1	-0.8	-0.2
Information	80.0	81.7	81.6	81.9	1.9	2.4
Financial activities	183.9	181.5	182.2	183.2	-0.7	-0.4
Professional and business services	496.4	492.4	494.7	507.4	11.0	2.2
Education and health services	588.4	590.5	593.2	595.0	6.6	1.1
Leisure and hospitality	273.2	253.1	256.0	267.4	-5.8	-2.1
Other services	103.7	102.3	102.7	104.4	0.7	0.7
Government	316.5	319.3	319.6	320.2	3.7	1.2
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI						
Total nonfarm	4,698.4	4,700.0	4,712.9	4,772.4	74.0	1.6
Mining and logging	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.5	-0.1	-6.3
Construction	174.2	161.9	166.2	177.7	3.5	2.0
Manufacturing	419.5	425.4	424.7	423.8	4.3	1.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	938.7	946.0	945.8	949.9	11.2	1.2
Information	77.3	74.5	74.0	73.5	-3.8	-4.9
Financial activities	307.5	311.6	311.5	311.0	3.5	1.1
Professional and business services	820.4	825.2	818.8	841.4	21.0	2.6
Education and health services	734.2	749.1	748.2	752.2	18.0	2.5
Leisure and hospitality	481.4	463.8	475.6	495.8	14.4	3.0
Other services	197.7	195.2	197.5	198.2	0.5	0.3
Government	545.9	545.9	549.1	547.4	1.5	0.3
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX						
Total nonfarm	3,649.0	3,727.0	3,749.0	3,764.6	115.6	3.2
Mining, logging, and construction	216.8	221.6	222.3	226.9	10.1	4.7
Manufacturing	274.8	281.1	283.2	283.7	8.9	3.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	770.5	790.0	792.5	793.4	22.9	3.0
Information	83.1	81.7	82.5	81.5	-1.6	-1.9
Financial activities	298.3	307.4	307.2	309.8	11.5	3.9
Professional and business services	609.2	626.4	631.4	634.2	25.0	4.1
Education and health services	448.9	457.1	455.1	458.6	9.7	2.2
Leisure and hospitality	382.4	390.5	397.7	401.1	18.7	4.9
Other services	122.6	123.8	127.4	127.1	4.5	3.7
Government	442.4	447.4	449.7	448.3	5.9	1.3
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX						
Total nonfarm	3,065.1	3,117.7	3,133.8	3,151.3	86.2	2.8
Mining and logging	77.6	82.2	83.5	82.3	4.7	6.1
Construction	220.0	221.7	221.5	224.5	4.5	2.0

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 2018	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019(p)	Apr 2018 to Apr 2019(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
Manufacturing	225.4	240.8	241.5	240.3	14.9	6.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	617.7	621.2	621.2	621.3	3.6	0.6
Information	31.5	30.9	31.0	30.7	-0.8	-2.5
Financial activities	163.3	164.6	164.4	165.6	2.3	1.4
Professional and business services	488.1	502.9	505.5	510.4	22.3	4.6
Education and health services	391.1	400.6	401.4	405.6	14.5	3.7
Leisure and hospitality	324.3	316.2	325.0	332.6	8.3	2.6
Other services	111.4	115.6	116.7	116.9	5.5	4.9
Government	414.7	421.0	422.1	421.1	6.4	1.5
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA						
Total nonfarm	6,146.7	6,174.2	6,194.4	6,220.8	74.1	1.2
Mining and logging	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.1	4.2
Construction	249.4	245.7	251.1	256.7	7.3	2.9
Manufacturing	503.7	500.6	504.0	502.6	-1.1	-0.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,102.0	1,109.1	1,105.2	1,102.6	0.6	0.1
Information	238.0	239.7	242.2	242.3	4.3	1.8
Financial activities	341.8	335.7	334.2	336.3	-5.5	-1.6
Professional and business services	928.5	946.6	948.0	945.5	17.0	1.8
Education and health services	1,051.5	1,067.4	1,070.5	1,076.0	24.5	2.3
Leisure and hospitality	757.0	754.0	756.0	773.6	16.6	2.2
Other services	210.3	211.8	213.7	215.1	4.8	2.3
Government	762.1	761.1	767.0	767.6	5.5	0.7
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL						
Total nonfarm	2,676.0	2,729.1	2,733.7	2,737.8	61.8	2.3
Mining and logging	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Construction	135.3	139.1	139.9	141.8	6.5	4.8
Manufacturing	89.1	89.7	90.2	91.0	1.9	2.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	603.0	612.5	610.4	608.8	5.8	1.0
Information	50.6	51.3	51.1	50.4	-0.2	-0.4
Financial activities	183.5	185.3	185.8	185.8	2.3	1.3
Professional and business services	442.6	460.5	460.4	459.8	17.2	3.9
Education and health services	399.5	411.1	412.1	414.6	15.1	3.8
Leisure and hospitality	332.4	336.1	338.1	340.7	8.3	2.5
Other services	123.6	125.7	125.9	126.7	3.1	2.5
Government	315.7	317.1	319.1	317.5	1.8	0.6
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA						
Total nonfarm	9,792.1	9,789.1	9,845.7	9,931.7	139.6	1.4
Mining, logging, and construction	405.0	400.1	407.5	420.7	15.7	3.9
Manufacturing	360.9	361.7	362.9	363.8	2.9	0.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,719.9	1,722.8	1,721.9	1,720.4	0.5	0.0
Information	287.6	291.8	293.6	295.3	7.7	2.7
Financial activities	773.7	769.1	768.4	770.5	-3.2	-0.4
Professional and business services	1,559.9	1,546.5	1,559.8	1,575.7	15.8	1.0
Education and health services	2,002.6	2,046.3	2,062.8	2,074.3	71.7	3.6
Leisure and hospitality	924.6	891.1	903.9	938.0	13.4	1.4
Other services	423.7	428.0	427.1	430.8	7.1	1.7
Government	1,334.2	1,331.7	1,337.8	1,342.2	8.0	0.6
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD						
Total nonfarm	2,936.7	2,930.7	2,947.6	2,975.1	38.4	1.3
Mining, logging, and construction	117.7	116.9	118.2	123.1	5.4	4.6
Manufacturing	180.4	181.8	181.5	181.9	1.5	0.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	518.2	514.7	514.9	516.6	-1.6	-0.3
Information	48.8	48.0	47.7	48.2	-0.6	-1.2

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 2018	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019(p)	Apr 2018 to Apr 2019(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
Financial activities	215.4	215.4	215.2	214.6	-0.8	-0.4
Professional and business services	465.1	458.8	464.8	475.3	10.2	2.2
Education and health services	660.2	671.7	673.0	674.6	14.4	2.2
Leisure and hospitality	270.0	260.6	266.6	274.6	4.6	1.7
Other services	120.7	120.3	121.5	122.5	1.8	1.5
Government	340.2	342.5	344.2	343.7	3.5	1.0
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ						
Total nonfarm	2,101.3	2,155.4	2,160.1	2,169.3	68.0	3.2
Mining and logging	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.6	0.1	2.9
Construction	121.5	132.0	134.9	138.1	16.6	13.7
Manufacturing	126.3	131.2	131.1	132.4	6.1	4.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	397.2	407.7	407.5	408.0	10.8	2.7
Information	38.8	39.8	39.0	39.5	0.7	1.8
Financial activities	191.8	192.8	192.1	191.1	-0.7	-0.4
Professional and business services	349.6	359.0	361.7	363.8	14.2	4.1
Education and health services	324.0	337.4	337.6	338.4	14.4	4.4
Leisure and hospitality	233.4	234.9	236.1	237.8	4.4	1.9
Other services	69.3	70.4	69.8	70.4	1.1	1.6
Government	245.9	246.5	246.6	246.2	0.3	0.1
San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA						
Total nonfarm	2,426.6	2,465.9	2,478.6	2,491.3	64.7	2.7
Mining and logging	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Construction	123.7	126.7	129.6	130.8	7.1	5.7
Manufacturing	143.8	142.3	143.2	143.9	0.1	0.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	373.1	378.8	376.8	376.4	3.3	0.9
Information	112.8	118.6	119.7	120.5	7.7	6.8
Financial activities	140.7	142.3	142.6	143.4	2.7	1.9
Professional and business services	488.3	504.3	506.8	508.0	19.7	4.0
Education and health services	355.8	365.6	367.0	371.1	15.3	4.3
Leisure and hospitality	274.0	274.6	278.0	281.0	7.0	2.6
Other services	88.0	87.4	87.1	87.5	-0.5	-0.6
Government	326.1	325.0	327.5	328.4	2.3	0.7
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV						
Total nonfarm	3,300.4	3,289.8	3,309.4	3,330.2	29.8	0.9
Mining, logging, and construction	158.9	156.4	156.5	158.9	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing	55.1	54.2	55.0	54.7	-0.4	-0.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	402.4	396.2	397.5	398.2	-4.2	-1.0
Information	74.5	73.9	74.3	74.2	-0.3	-0.4
Financial activities	158.6	153.2	154.4	156.8	-1.8	-1.1
Professional and business services	758.1	763.8	768.6	773.0	14.9	2.0
Education and health services	445.6	446.7	448.7	449.8	4.2	0.9
Leisure and hospitality	331.8	330.8	338.8	346.3	14.5	4.4
Other services	207.9	207.3	207.6	208.8	0.9	0.4
Government	707.5	707.3	708.0	709.5	2.0	0.3

Footnotes
(p) Preliminary