NEWS RELEASE
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

For Release: Wednesday, April 03, 2019 **19-583-ATL**

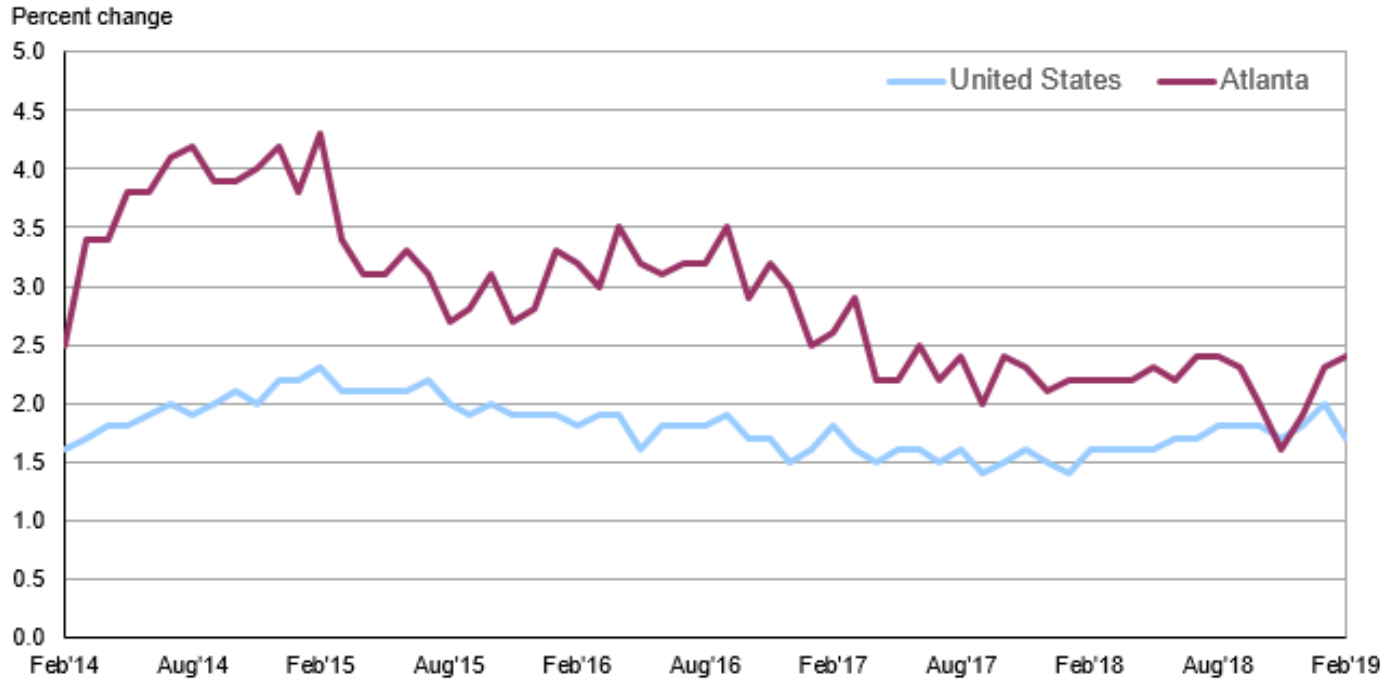
SOUTHEAST INFORMATION OFFICE: Atlanta, Ga.
Technical information: (404) 893-4222 BLSInfoAtlanta@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/southeast
Media contact: (404) 893-4220

Atlanta Area Employment – February 2019

Local Rate of Employment Growth Above the National Average

Total nonfarm employment for the Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metropolitan Statistical Area stood at 2,809,500 in February 2019, up 66,500, or 2.4 percent, over the year, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. During the same period, the national rate of job growth was 1.7 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, February 2014–February 2019

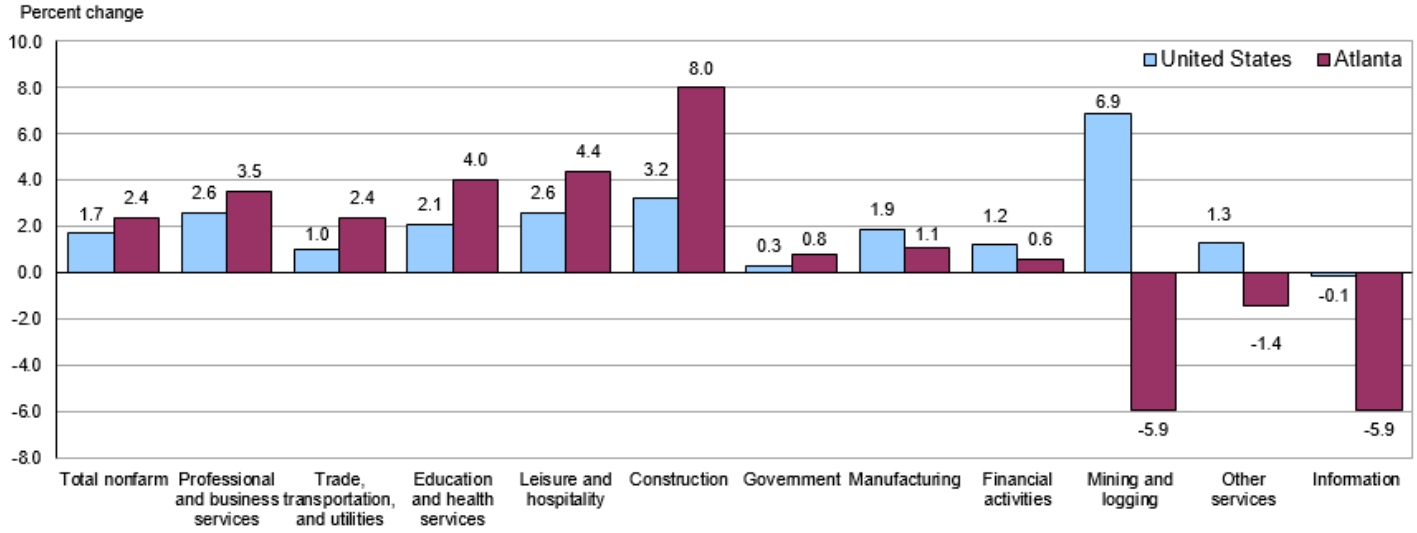


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Industry employment

In the Atlanta metropolitan area, the professional and business services industry had the largest employment gain from February 2018 to February 2019, up 17,900, or 3.5 percent. Local job gains, for the most part, were in the employment services industry group (+8,400). 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, February 2019



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Atlanta's trade, transportation, and utilities supersector added 14,200 jobs, a 2.4-percent increase over the 12-month period. Local job gains in the industry were primarily in the transportation and warehousing (+6,600) and wholesale trade (+5,700) sectors. The local retail trade sector added 1,700 jobs over the year. Employment nationwide in trade, transportation, and utilities increased 1.0 percent for the 12 months ended February 2019.

In the Atlanta area, the education and health services supersector added 13,800 jobs, an increase of 4.0 percent since February 2018. Local employment gains were primarily in the ambulatory health care services (+5,300) and hospitals (+5,000) subsectors. Nationally, employment in education and health services was up 2.1 percent over the year.

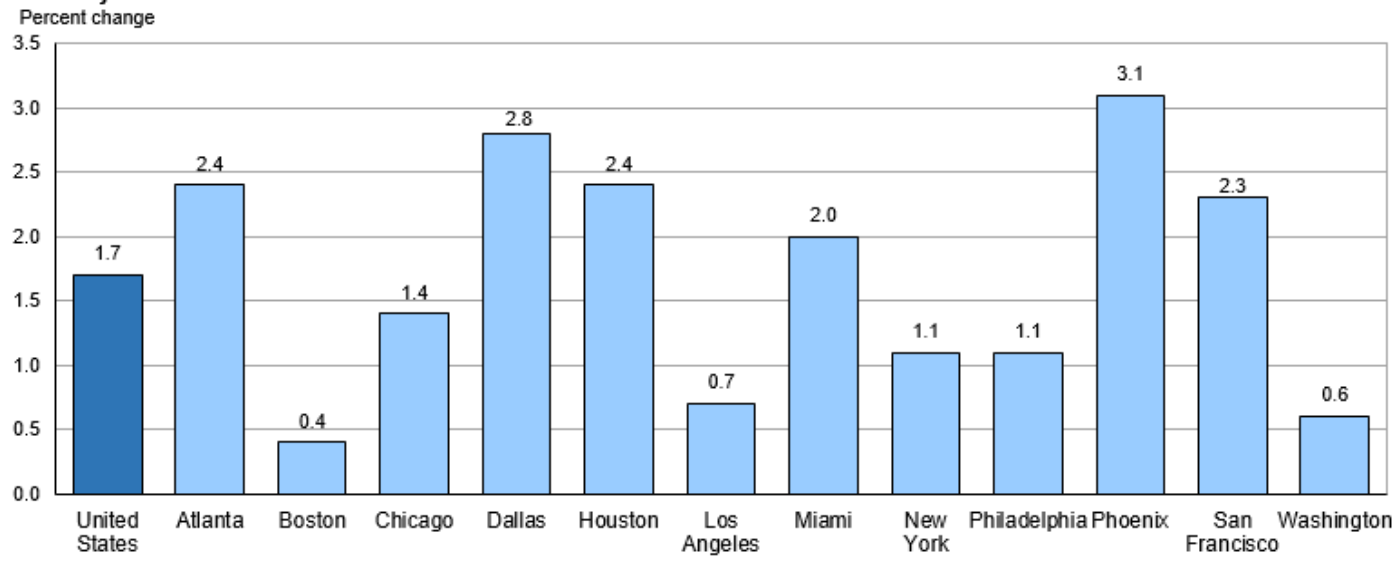
Atlanta's leisure and hospitality industry added 12,700 jobs from February 2018 to February 2019, up 4.4 percent. Job gains in the local area were concentrated in the food services and drinking places subsector (+9,700). Nationally, employment in leisure and hospitality was up 2.6 percent over the year.

Since February 2018, two industry supersectors in the Atlanta area lost over 1,000 jobs: information (-5,900, -5.9 percent) and other services (-1,400, -1.4 percent). Over the year, U.S. employment was up in other services (+1.3 percent), while down in information (-0.1 percent).

Employment in the 12 largest metropolitan areas

Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell was 1 of the nation's 12 largest metropolitan statistical areas in February 2019. All 12 areas had over-the-year job growth during the period, with the rates of job growth in 6 areas exceeding the national average of 1.7 percent. Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale had the fastest rate of job growth, up 3.1 percent, followed by Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington at 2.8 percent. Boston-Cambridge-Nashua had the slowest rate of job growth, 0.4 percent, followed by Washington-Arlington-Alexandria at 0.6 percent. (See chart 3 and table 2.)

Chart 3. Total nonfarm employment, over-the-year percent change, United States and 12 largest metropolitan areas, February 2019



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

New York-Newark-Jersey City added the largest number of jobs over the year, 107,800, followed by Dallas with 102,500 jobs. Boston had the smallest employment gain over the year, adding 10,200 jobs, followed by Washington with 20,700 jobs. Annual gains in the remaining eight metropolitan areas ranged from 72,600 in Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land to 31,100 in Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington.

Over the year, professional and business services added the most jobs in five areas: Atlanta, Dallas, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, and San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward. Education and health services added the most jobs in five other areas: Boston, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, New York, Philadelphia, and Phoenix. Information lost the most jobs in six areas: Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, and Miami. Phoenix was the only area to experience annual gains in all reporting supersectors from February a year ago.

Metropolitan area employment data for March 2019 are scheduled to be released on Friday, April 19, 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 private employment series are available for metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions at www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.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/790stderr.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/web/laus/benchmark.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)

Area and Industry	Feb 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019(p)	Feb 2018 to Feb 2019(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
United States						
Total nonfarm	146,665	151,203	148,306	149,133	2,468	1.7
Mining and logging	695	753	746	743	48	6.9
Construction	6,840	7,313	7,072	7,062	222	3.2
Manufacturing	12,521	12,815	12,741	12,765	244	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	27,198	28,512	27,705	27,475	277	1.0
Information	2,807	2,839	2,769	2,805	-2	-0.1
Financial activities	8,476	8,622	8,567	8,576	100	1.2
Professional and business services	20,462	21,345	20,853	20,989	527	2.6
Education and health services	23,620	24,092	23,801	24,112	492	2.1
Leisure and hospitality	15,588	16,213	15,880	15,999	411	2.6
Other services	5,761	5,859	5,811	5,837	76	1.3
Government	22,697	22,840	22,361	22,770	73	0.3
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metropolitan Statistical Area						
Total nonfarm	2,743.0	2,835.3	2,788.1	2,809.5	66.5	2.4
Mining and logging	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	-0.1	-5.9
Construction	121.2	129.9	128.3	130.9	9.7	8.0
Manufacturing	171.8	172.9	171.3	173.7	1.9	1.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	593.7	620.3	608.1	607.9	14.2	2.4
Information	99.7	97.5	94.3	93.8	-5.9	-5.9
Financial activities	172.8	175.5	172.9	173.8	1.0	0.6
Professional and business services	512.4	539.3	521.6	530.3	17.9	3.5
Education and health services	348.6	361.2	359.0	362.4	13.8	4.0
Leisure and hospitality	286.9	301.3	298.8	299.6	12.7	4.4
Other services	98.0	96.8	94.9	96.6	-1.4	-1.4
Government	336.2	339.0	337.3	338.9	2.7	0.8

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	Feb 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019(p)	Feb 2018 to Feb 2019(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA						
Total nonfarm	2,743.0	2,835.3	2,788.1	2,809.5	66.5	2.4
Mining and logging	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	-0.1	-5.9
Construction	121.2	129.9	128.3	130.9	9.7	8.0
Manufacturing	171.8	172.9	171.3	173.7	1.9	1.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	593.7	620.3	608.1	607.9	14.2	2.4
Information	99.7	97.5	94.3	93.8	-5.9	-5.9
Financial activities	172.8	175.5	172.9	173.8	1.0	0.6
Professional and business services	512.4	539.3	521.6	530.3	17.9	3.5
Education and health services	348.6	361.2	359.0	362.4	13.8	4.0
Leisure and hospitality	286.9	301.3	298.8	299.6	12.7	4.4
Other services	98.0	96.8	94.9	96.6	-1.4	-1.4
Government	336.2	339.0	337.3	338.9	2.7	0.8
Boston-Cambridge-Nashua, MA-NH						
Total nonfarm	2,727.6	2,786.1	2,726.8	2,737.8	10.2	0.4
Mining, logging, and construction	107.7	115.4	110.4	110.0	2.3	2.1
Manufacturing	186.8	189.4	188.6	187.4	0.6	0.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	420.0	435.9	424.9	417.2	-2.8	-0.7
Information	80.6	81.7	81.2	81.5	0.9	1.1
Financial activities	183.3	183.2	181.3	181.2	-2.1	-1.1
Professional and business services	485.0	502.2	491.3	492.6	7.6	1.6
Education and health services	583.3	590.0	580.0	594.0	10.7	1.8
Leisure and hospitality	262.5	263.6	254.2	252.6	-9.9	-3.8
Other services	101.7	103.3	102.1	102.0	0.3	0.3
Government	316.7	321.4	312.8	319.3	2.6	0.8
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI						
Total nonfarm	4,636.6	4,803.2	4,693.2	4,699.6	63.0	1.4
Mining and logging	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Construction	157.1	172.9	161.4	162.0	4.9	3.1
Manufacturing	417.0	424.5	423.7	425.1	8.1	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	934.6	987.2	956.6	946.1	11.5	1.2
Information	76.9	76.2	75.0	74.6	-2.3	-3.0
Financial activities	306.1	313.8	311.7	311.3	5.2	1.7
Professional and business services	815.6	849.4	819.9	823.8	8.2	1.0
Education and health services	731.6	744.5	738.0	750.3	18.7	2.6
Leisure and hospitality	457.7	479.7	470.8	463.8	6.1	1.3
Other services	196.0	199.6	196.3	195.2	-0.8	-0.4
Government	542.6	553.9	538.4	546.0	3.4	0.6
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX						
Total nonfarm	3,628.1	3,759.2	3,705.6	3,730.6	102.5	2.8
Mining, logging, and construction	213.9	225.5	220.8	221.0	7.1	3.3
Manufacturing	274.5	284.0	281.4	281.1	6.6	2.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	769.2	816.4	794.3	790.6	21.4	2.8
Information	83.9	82.5	81.4	81.3	-2.6	-3.1
Financial activities	299.5	305.0	305.0	307.1	7.6	2.5
Professional and business services	604.0	622.4	617.9	626.8	22.8	3.8
Education and health services	447.5	457.9	458.0	459.2	11.7	2.6
Leisure and hospitality	373.5	393.7	385.3	392.3	18.8	5.0
Other services	120.0	124.0	122.5	123.7	3.7	3.1
Government	442.1	447.8	439.0	447.5	5.4	1.2
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX						
Total nonfarm	3,047.7	3,137.7	3,093.4	3,120.3	72.6	2.4
Mining and logging	77.9	81.0	80.8	81.7	3.8	4.9
Construction	216.6	222.9	217.8	220.8	4.2	1.9

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	Feb 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019(p)	Feb 2018 to Feb 2019(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
Manufacturing	223.7	235.8	235.6	240.8	17.1	7.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	617.4	644.7	627.6	621.6	4.2	0.7
Information	31.7	31.8	31.1	30.9	-0.8	-2.5
Financial activities	162.7	164.1	164.3	165.1	2.4	1.5
Professional and business services	487.0	500.5	495.8	504.0	17.0	3.5
Education and health services	389.5	398.6	396.5	401.3	11.8	3.0
Leisure and hospitality	316.1	323.5	317.3	316.1	0.0	0.0
Other services	109.3	112.7	113.2	115.9	6.6	6.0
Government	415.8	422.1	413.4	422.1	6.3	1.5
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA						
Total nonfarm	6,128.2	6,251.0	6,129.9	6,171.1	42.9	0.7
Mining and logging	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.5	0.1	4.2
Construction	247.8	250.9	245.5	246.6	-1.2	-0.5
Manufacturing	504.6	502.7	501.2	500.2	-4.4	-0.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,101.6	1,149.2	1,114.0	1,108.0	6.4	0.6
Information	255.2	248.7	238.0	239.2	-16.0	-6.3
Financial activities	341.9	342.8	336.4	335.4	-6.5	-1.9
Professional and business services	920.8	947.8	930.7	946.2	25.4	2.8
Education and health services	1,045.4	1,068.5	1,057.7	1,067.1	21.7	2.1
Leisure and hospitality	742.3	760.4	742.8	753.9	11.6	1.6
Other services	208.1	213.6	209.2	211.4	3.3	1.6
Government	758.1	763.9	752.0	760.6	2.5	0.3
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL						
Total nonfarm	2,672.1	2,740.7	2,705.9	2,725.1	53.0	2.0
Mining and logging	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Construction	133.5	140.1	136.8	139.0	5.5	4.1
Manufacturing	88.8	91.7	89.7	89.7	0.9	1.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	604.8	630.1	615.8	612.3	7.5	1.2
Information	51.6	51.7	50.9	51.2	-0.4	-0.8
Financial activities	182.2	187.7	183.6	185.3	3.1	1.7
Professional and business services	440.0	455.9	454.6	458.5	18.5	4.2
Education and health services	399.1	408.5	403.8	409.3	10.2	2.6
Leisure and hospitality	333.1	333.3	330.8	335.9	2.8	0.8
Other services	123.1	124.5	123.6	126.2	3.1	2.5
Government	315.2	316.5	315.6	317.0	1.8	0.6
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA						
Total nonfarm	9,671.0	9,985.7	9,722.7	9,778.8	107.8	1.1
Mining, logging, and construction	387.7	412.6	400.0	400.7	13.0	3.4
Manufacturing	360.5	363.9	359.3	361.5	1.0	0.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,720.2	1,802.0	1,743.4	1,720.7	0.5	0.0
Information	290.6	292.0	284.3	287.9	-2.7	-0.9
Financial activities	772.8	779.0	770.6	769.3	-3.5	-0.5
Professional and business services	1,531.7	1,582.7	1,532.3	1,541.2	9.5	0.6
Education and health services	1,981.4	2,056.5	2,013.8	2,045.7	64.3	3.2
Leisure and hospitality	883.3	920.3	888.8	892.1	8.8	1.0
Other services	417.7	431.2	427.2	428.1	10.4	2.5
Government	1,325.1	1,345.5	1,303.0	1,331.6	6.5	0.5
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD						
Total nonfarm	2,900.0	2,984.7	2,915.1	2,931.1	31.1	1.1
Mining, logging, and construction	110.3	121.2	117.7	117.2	6.9	6.3
Manufacturing	180.2	181.7	182.0	182.0	1.8	1.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	515.2	539.7	521.2	516.4	1.2	0.2
Information	48.1	48.4	47.6	47.9	-0.2	-0.4

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	Feb 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019(p)	Feb 2018 to Feb 2019(p)	
					Net change	Percent change
Financial activities	215.2	216.7	214.9	216.1	0.9	0.4
Professional and business services	460.8	470.1	456.6	457.4	-3.4	-0.7
Education and health services	656.9	671.1	658.5	671.8	14.9	2.3
Leisure and hospitality	255.6	269.5	260.9	259.9	4.3	1.7
Other services	118.6	121.6	120.5	120.0	1.4	1.2
Government	339.1	344.7	335.2	342.4	3.3	1.0
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ						
Total nonfarm	2,093.2	2,169.5	2,135.1	2,157.8	64.6	3.1
Mining and logging	3.5	3.8	3.7	3.7	0.2	5.7
Construction	119.8	130.6	130.3	131.7	11.9	9.9
Manufacturing	126.2	131.1	130.8	131.4	5.2	4.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	396.8	420.6	409.3	409.4	12.6	3.2
Information	39.1	39.1	38.8	39.2	0.1	0.3
Financial activities	191.6	193.9	192.1	193.4	1.8	0.9
Professional and business services	349.2	366.2	358.2	359.5	10.3	2.9
Education and health services	322.1	335.9	333.3	337.2	15.1	4.7
Leisure and hospitality	230.3	233.2	230.4	235.2	4.9	2.1
Other services	68.2	70.3	70.0	70.5	2.3	3.4
Government	246.4	244.8	238.2	246.6	0.2	0.1
San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA						
Total nonfarm	2,406.4	2,490.3	2,447.9	2,462.7	56.3	2.3
Mining and logging	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Construction	122.5	127.0	124.1	126.2	3.7	3.0
Manufacturing	142.8	144.8	142.1	142.3	-0.5	-0.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	374.5	394.5	380.5	377.7	3.2	0.9
Information	112.0	119.1	118.1	118.4	6.4	5.7
Financial activities	140.3	142.3	141.2	141.8	1.5	1.1
Professional and business services	482.7	506.9	501.0	504.6	21.9	4.5
Education and health services	354.0	363.4	359.8	365.3	11.3	3.2
Leisure and hospitality	267.3	277.7	271.7	275.0	7.7	2.9
Other services	86.8	88.2	88.0	87.5	0.7	0.8
Government	323.2	326.1	321.1	323.6	0.4	0.1
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV						
Total nonfarm	3,268.9	3,324.6	3,275.9	3,289.6	20.7	0.6
Mining, logging, and construction	156.1	161.5	156.6	155.9	-0.2	-0.1
Manufacturing	54.5	55.2	53.9	54.0	-0.5	-0.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	401.6	418.6	402.9	395.8	-5.8	-1.4
Information	74.7	74.6	73.9	73.6	-1.1	-1.5
Financial activities	157.9	155.1	154.9	153.1	-4.8	-3.0
Professional and business services	751.4	764.9	762.1	764.9	13.5	1.8
Education and health services	442.7	449.4	443.1	445.5	2.8	0.6
Leisure and hospitality	317.6	332.9	327.4	331.5	13.9	4.4
Other services	206.7	208.3	206.7	207.2	0.5	0.2
Government	705.7	704.1	694.4	708.1	2.4	0.3

Footnotes
(p) Preliminary