

For release 10:00 a.m. (EDT) Friday, March 25, 2011

USDL-11-0397

Technical information:

Employment: (202) 691-6559 • sminfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/sae
Unemployment: (202) 691-6392 • lausinfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/lau

Media contact: (202) 691-5902 • PressOffice@bls.gov

REGIONAL AND STATE EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT — FEBRUARY 2011

Regional and state unemployment rates were generally little changed in February. Twenty-seven states and the District of Columbia recorded unemployment rate decreases, 7 states registered rate increases, and 16 states had no change, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Forty-one states and the District of Columbia posted unemployment rate decreases from a year earlier, 7 states reported increases, and 2 states had no change. The national jobless rate was 8.9 percent in February, little changed from January but 0.8 percentage point lower than a year earlier.

In February nonfarm payroll employment increased in 35 states, decreased in 14 states and the District of Columbia, and was unchanged in 1 state. The largest over-the-month increase in employment occurred in California (+96,500), followed by Pennsylvania (+23,700), Florida and Texas (+22,700 each), and Illinois (+17,600). South Carolina experienced the largest over-the-month percentage increase in employment (+0.9 percent), followed by California and Delaware (+0.7 percent each) and Oregon and Rhode Island (+0.6 percent each). The largest over-the-month decrease in employment occurred in Kansas (-12,800), followed by Missouri (-10,100), Washington (-8,500), Indiana (-7,900), and Oklahoma (-5,200). Kansas experienced the largest over-the-month percentage decrease in employment (-1.0 percent), followed by Montana (-0.6 percent), Maine and New Mexico (-0.5 percent each), and Missouri and Wyoming (-0.4 percent each). Over the year, nonfarm employment increased in 44 states and the District of Columbia and decreased in 6 states. The largest over-the-year percentage increase occurred in North Dakota (+4.4 percent), followed by Vermont (+2.8 percent) and Alaska and Texas (+2.5 percent each). The largest over-the-year percentage decrease in employment occurred in Kansas (-1.0 percent), followed by New Mexico (-0.8 percent) and Nevada (-0.7 percent).

Regional Unemployment (Seasonally Adjusted)

The West reported the highest regional unemployment rate in February, 10.8 percent, while the Northeast and Midwest recorded the lowest rates, 8.3 and 8.4 percent, respectively. Over the month, the Midwest, South, and West each experienced statistically significant jobless rate changes (-0.1 percentage point each). Three of the 4 regions registered significant rate changes from a year earlier, all of which were declines: the Midwest (-1.6 percentage points), Northeast (-0.7 point), and South (-0.4 point). (See table 1.)

Among the nine geographic divisions, the Pacific continued to report the highest jobless rate, 11.4 percent in February. The West North Central again registered the lowest rate, 7.0 percent. The South Atlantic and Pacific were the only divisions with statistically significant over-the-month unemployment rate changes (-0.2 and -0.1 percentage point, respectively). Over the year, two divisions posted significant rate changes: the East North Central (-2.1 percentage points) and the Middle Atlantic (-0.6 point).

State Unemployment (Seasonally Adjusted)

Nevada continued to register the highest unemployment rate among the states, 13.6 percent in February. The states with the next highest rates were California, 12.2 percent, Florida, 11.5 percent, and Rhode Island, 11.2 percent. North Dakota reported the lowest jobless rate, 3.7 percent, followed by Nebraska and South Dakota, 4.3 and 4.8 percent, respectively. One state, Colorado, set a new series high, 9.3 percent. (All state series begin in 1976.) In total 22 states posted jobless rates significantly lower than the U.S. figure of 8.9 percent, 10 states recorded measurably higher rates, and 18 states and the District of Columbia had rates that were not appreciably different from that of the nation. (See tables A and 3 and chart 1.)

Nevada experienced the largest over-the-month unemployment rate decrease in February (-0.6 percentage point). Six other states also posted statistically significant rate declines from January: Florida (-0.4 percentage point); Indiana, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina (-0.3 point each); California (-0.2 point); and Maryland (-0.1 point). The remaining 43 states and the District of Columbia registered jobless rates that were not measurably different from those of a month earlier, though some had changes that were at least as large numerically as the significant changes.

Sixteen states reported statistically significant over-the-year jobless rate decreases in February, the largest of which were in Michigan (-3.1 percentage points) and Illinois (-2.2 points). The remaining 34 states and the District of Columbia registered unemployment rates that were not appreciably different from those of a year earlier. (See table B.)

Nonfarm Payroll Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

Over the month, 19 states recorded statistically significant changes in employment. The largest over-the-month statistically significant job gains occurred in California (+96,500), Pennsylvania (+23,700), Florida (+22,700), and Illinois (+17,600). Six states experienced statistically significant over-the-month declines in employment: Kansas (-12,800), Missouri (-10,100), Washington (-8,500), New Mexico (-4,000), Maine (-3,100), and Montana (-2,500). (See tables C and 5.)

Over the year, 27 states experienced statistically significant changes in employment, all of which were increases. The largest increase occurred in Texas (+254,200), followed by California (+196,400), Pennsylvania (+106,800), Ohio (+77,600), and Illinois (+75,200). (See table D.)

The Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment news release for February 2011 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, April 6, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT). The Regional and State Employment and Unemployment news release for March is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, April 19, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

Upcoming Changes to Current Employment Statistics Data

With the release of preliminary April 2011 estimates in May 2011, state and area nonfarm employment estimates will incorporate net business birth/death adjustment factors estimated on a quarterly basis, replacing the current practice of estimating the factors annually. This will allow the state and area nonfarm employment estimates to incorporate information from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages into the net birth/death adjustment factors as soon as it becomes available and thereby improve the factors.

Production of March Preliminary Current Employment Statistics Data

The production of state and metropolitan area Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates will transition from State Workforce Agencies to the BLS with the production of preliminary estimates for March 2011, to be released on April 19, 2011. Concurrent with this transition, the BLS will implement several methodological changes to standardize the estimation approach across states. While these changes will reduce the potential for statistical bias in state and metropolitan area estimates, they may increase the month-to-month variability of the estimates. More detailed information on the changes to procedures for producing CES estimates is available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/sae/cesprocs.htm.

Table A. States with unemployment rates significantly different from that of the U.S., February 2011, seasonally adjusted

State	Rate ^P
United States ¹	8.9
Alaska	7.6
Arkansas	7.8
California	12.2
Florida	11.5
Georgia	10.2
Hawaii	6.3
Iowa	6.1
Kansas	6.8
Kentucky	10.4
Maine	7.5
Maryland	7.1
Michigan	10.4
Minnesota	6.7
Montana	7.4
Nebraska	4.3
Nevada	13.6
New Hampshire	5.4
New York	8.2
North Carolina	9.7
North Dakota	3.7
Oklahoma	6.5
Oregon	10.2
Pennsylvania	8.0
Rhode Island	11.2
South Carolina	10.2
South Dakota	4.8
Texas	8.2
Utah	7.7
Vermont	5.6
Virginia	6.4
Wisconsin	7.4
Wyoming	6.2

¹ Data are not preliminary.

^P = preliminary.

Table B. States with statistically significant unemployment rate changes from February 2010 to February 2011, seasonally adjusted

State	Rate		Over-the-year rate change ^P
	February 2010	February 2011 ^P	
Illinois	11.1	8.9	-2.2
Indiana	10.7	8.8	-1.9
Maine	8.4	7.5	-.9
Maryland	7.6	7.1	-.5
Michigan	13.5	10.4	-3.1
Minnesota	7.7	6.7	-1.0
Nebraska	4.9	4.3	-.6
New Hampshire	6.6	5.4	-1.2
North Carolina	11.4	9.7	-1.7
Ohio	10.6	9.2	-1.4
South Carolina	11.6	10.2	-1.4
Vermont	6.7	5.6	-1.1
Virginia	7.2	6.4	-.8
Washington	10.0	9.1	-.9
Wisconsin	9.1	7.4	-1.7
Wyoming	7.5	6.2	-1.3

^P = preliminary.

Table C. States with statistically significant employment changes from January 2011 to February 2011, seasonally adjusted

State	January 2011	February 2011 ^P	Over-the-month change ^P
Alabama	1,861,900	1,869,700	7,800
California	13,959,400	14,055,900	96,500
Connecticut	1,617,800	1,623,200	5,400
Delaware	412,000	414,800	2,800
Florida	7,161,500	7,184,200	22,700
Georgia	3,806,600	3,821,500	14,900
Illinois	5,648,000	5,665,600	17,600
Kansas	1,319,300	1,306,500	-12,800
Maine	600,900	597,800	-3,100
Massachusetts	3,195,400	3,210,800	15,400
Missouri	2,647,800	2,637,700	-10,100
Montana	431,600	429,100	-2,500
New Mexico	799,400	795,400	-4,000
North Carolina	3,861,900	3,879,300	17,400
Oregon	1,615,200	1,625,000	9,800
Pennsylvania	5,650,400	5,674,100	23,700
Rhode Island	456,800	459,400	2,600
South Carolina	1,801,800	1,818,200	16,400
Washington	2,801,300	2,792,800	-8,500

^P = preliminary.

Table D. States with statistically significant employment changes from February 2010 to February 2011, seasonally adjusted

State	February 2010	February 2011 ^P	Over-the-year change ^P
Alaska	321,500	329,400	7,900
Arkansas	1,148,300	1,171,200	22,900
California	13,859,500	14,055,900	196,400
Connecticut	1,594,300	1,623,200	28,900
Delaware	407,400	414,800	7,400
Hawaii	585,700	595,700	10,000
Idaho	602,300	611,000	8,700
Illinois	5,590,400	5,665,600	75,200
Kentucky	1,751,200	1,780,100	28,900
Maryland	2,473,000	2,516,400	43,400
Massachusetts	3,177,300	3,210,800	33,500
Michigan	3,839,800	3,910,800	71,000
Nebraska	934,900	947,000	12,100
New York	8,511,100	8,567,500	56,400
North Carolina	3,848,800	3,879,300	30,500
North Dakota	369,800	385,900	16,100
Ohio	5,004,300	5,081,900	77,600
Oregon	1,592,700	1,625,000	32,300
Pennsylvania	5,567,300	5,674,100	106,800
South Carolina	1,795,000	1,818,200	23,200
Tennessee	2,594,200	2,631,500	37,300
Texas	10,239,500	10,493,700	254,200
Utah	1,173,000	1,187,600	14,600
Vermont	295,800	304,100	8,300
Virginia	3,595,600	3,644,800	49,200
Washington	2,766,800	2,792,800	26,000
Wisconsin	2,723,900	2,749,200	25,300

^P = preliminary.

Technical Note

This release presents labor force and unemployment data for census regions and divisions, states, and selected substate areas from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program (tables 1 to 4). Also presented are nonfarm payroll employment estimates by state and major industry sector from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program (tables 5 and 6). The LAUS and CES programs are both federal-state cooperative endeavors.

Labor force and unemployment—from the LAUS program

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 as a percent of the labor force.

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 CES, 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 and the five additional substate areas contained in this release (the Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor and Detroit-Warren-Livonia metropolitan areas and the Chicago-Joliet-Naperville, Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall, and Seattle-Bellevue-Everett metropolitan divisions) and their respective

balances of state 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. Substate and balance-of-state estimates for the five areas noted above are controlled to their respective state 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 five years (both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted) are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, prior to the release of January estimates.

Seasonal adjustment. The LAUS program introduced smoothed seasonally adjusted (SSA) estimates in January 2010. These are seasonally adjusted data that have incorporated a long-run trend smoothing procedure, resulting in estimates that are less volatile than those previously produced. The estimates are smoothed using a Henderson Trend Filter (H13). The H13 uses a filtering procedure, based on moving averages, to remove the irregular fluctuations from the seasonally adjusted series, leaving the trend. The same process is used on both historical and current year estimates. For more information about the smoothing technique, see the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/lau/lassaqa.htm.

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 on the Internet at www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm.

Employment—from the CES program

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period that 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 2007 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 the 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 that 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.

Seasonal adjustment. Payroll employment data are seasonally adjusted at the statewide supersector level. In some states, the seasonally adjusted payroll employment total is computed by aggregating the independently adjusted supersector series. In other states, the seasonally adjusted payroll employment total is independently adjusted. Revisions of historical data for the most recent 5 years are made once a year, coincident with annual benchmark adjustments.

Caution on aggregating state data. State estimation procedures are designed to produce accurate data for each individual state. BLS independently develops a national employment series; state estimates are not forced to sum to national totals. Because each state series is subject to larger sampling and nonsampling errors than the national series, summing them cumulates individual state level errors and can cause significant distortions at an aggregate level. Due to these statistical limitations, BLS does not compile a "sum-of-states" employment series, and cautions users that such a series is subject to a relatively large and volatile error structure.

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. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding. Unemployment rates are computed from unrounded data and thus may differ slightly from rates computed using the rounded data displayed in the tables.

Use of error measures. In 2005, the LAUS program introduced several improvements to its methodology. Among these were the development of model-based error measures for the monthly estimates and the estimates of over-the-month changes. 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 state nonfarm payroll employment regardless of their statistical significance. The remainder of the analysis in the release takes statistical significance into consideration.

Labor force and unemployment estimates. Model-based error measures for seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted data and for over-the-month and over-the-year changes are available online at www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm. BLS uses a 90-percent confidence level in determining whether changes in LAUS unemployment rates are statistically significant. The average magnitude of the current year over-the-month change in a state unemployment rate that is required for statistical significance at the 90-percent confidence level is just over 0.2 percentage point; the average amount of the current over-the-year change in a state rate for significance is about 0.9 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 and Earnings Online* at www.bls.gov/opub/ee/home.htm.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error for state CES data at the total nonfarm and supersector level and for metropolitan area CES data at the total nonfarm level are available online at www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.htm. BLS uses a 90-percent confidence level in determining whether changes in CES employment levels are statistically significant. Information on recent benchmark revisions for states is available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/sae/.

Additional information

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

Estimates of labor force and unemployment from the LAUS program, as well as nonfarm employment from the CES program, for 380 metropolitan areas and metropolitan New England City and Town Areas (NECTAs) are available in the news release, *Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment*. Estimates of labor force, employment, and unemployment for approximately 7,300 subnational areas are available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/lau/. Employment data from the CES program for states and metropolitan areas are available on 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. Civilian labor force and unemployment by census region and division, seasonally adjusted ¹

(Numbers in thousands)

Census region and division	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	Feb. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011	Feb. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011	Feb. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011
Northeast	28,324.4	28,145.6	28,181.8	28,216.4	2,535.7	2,373.6	2,360.4	2,345.3	9.0	8.4	8.4	8.3
New England	7,767.4	7,777.6	7,782.4	7,784.1	679.3	642.6	638.3	635.1	8.7	8.3	8.2	8.2
Middle Atlantic	20,557.0	20,368.0	20,399.3	20,432.3	1,856.3	1,731.1	1,722.0	1,710.2	9.0	8.5	8.4	8.4
South	55,226.0	55,272.3	55,292.8	55,320.7	5,247.4	5,127.5	5,112.8	5,049.3	9.5	9.3	9.2	9.1
South Atlantic	29,358.4	29,282.4	29,279.8	29,273.1	2,965.4	2,904.8	2,881.1	2,817.9	10.1	9.9	9.8	9.6
East South Central	8,604.7	8,587.4	8,609.9	8,647.2	907.3	827.1	837.8	847.9	10.5	9.6	9.7	9.8
West South Central	17,262.9	17,402.6	17,403.1	17,400.4	1,374.6	1,395.6	1,393.9	1,383.5	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Midwest	34,554.6	34,415.9	34,397.5	34,383.0	3,452.1	3,002.2	2,940.3	2,893.7	10.0	8.7	8.5	8.4
East North Central	23,598.9	23,483.6	23,455.7	23,416.9	2,632.9	2,226.8	2,170.9	2,126.6	11.2	9.5	9.3	9.1
West North Central	10,955.7	10,932.3	10,941.7	10,966.1	819.3	775.4	769.5	767.1	7.5	7.1	7.0	7.0
West	35,836.7	35,681.1	35,672.9	35,650.6	3,984.0	3,929.7	3,894.4	3,845.8	11.1	11.0	10.9	10.8
Mountain	11,122.2	11,031.9	11,023.9	11,029.0	1,084.2	1,050.7	1,047.9	1,046.7	9.7	9.5	9.5	9.5
Pacific	24,714.4	24,649.2	24,649.1	24,621.6	2,899.8	2,879.0	2,846.5	2,799.1	11.7	11.7	11.5	11.4

¹ Census region estimates are derived by summing the Census division model-based estimates.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. The States (including the District of Columbia) that compose the various census divisions are: New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; Middle Atlantic: New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania; South Atlantic: Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia; East South Central: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and

Tennessee; West South Central: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin; West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota; Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; and Pacific: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington. Estimates for the current year are subject to revision early in the following calendar year.

Table 2. Civilian labor force and unemployment by census region and division, not seasonally adjusted ¹

(Numbers in thousands)

Census region and division	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of labor force			
	January		February		January		February		January		February	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
Northeast	28,125.4	28,065.9	28,149.2	28,064.4	2,726.0	2,522.3	2,713.5	2,480.1	9.7	9.0	9.6	8.8
New England	7,704.1	7,727.7	7,703.6	7,715.5	740.2	686.3	727.1	672.1	9.6	8.9	9.4	8.7
Middle Atlantic	20,421.3	20,338.2	20,445.6	20,348.9	1,985.7	1,836.0	1,986.5	1,808.1	9.7	9.0	9.7	8.9
South	54,799.3	54,893.8	54,850.4	54,956.4	5,500.2	5,262.9	5,421.2	5,067.5	10.0	9.6	9.9	9.2
South Atlantic	29,147.4	29,062.2	29,166.0	29,063.3	3,084.1	2,918.5	3,062.3	2,789.8	10.6	10.0	10.5	9.6
East South Central	8,534.7	8,559.6	8,536.1	8,612.0	972.8	896.4	953.3	889.7	11.4	10.5	11.2	10.3
West South Central	17,117.3	17,272.0	17,148.3	17,281.1	1,443.3	1,448.0	1,405.6	1,388.0	8.4	8.4	8.2	8.0
Midwest	34,211.6	34,053.8	34,296.5	34,103.4	3,723.0	3,130.7	3,692.3	3,077.4	10.9	9.2	10.8	9.0
East North Central	23,366.6	23,196.5	23,422.6	23,190.5	2,824.3	2,293.7	2,804.0	2,253.2	12.1	9.9	12.0	9.7
West North Central	10,845.0	10,857.3	10,873.8	10,912.9	898.7	837.0	888.3	824.2	8.3	7.7	8.2	7.6
West	35,657.9	35,522.4	35,728.5	35,510.5	4,180.8	4,021.5	4,146.7	3,917.0	11.7	11.3	11.6	11.0
Mountain	11,054.7	10,966.6	11,068.6	10,992.2	1,135.9	1,096.4	1,121.5	1,073.6	10.3	10.0	10.1	9.8
Pacific	24,603.2	24,555.9	24,659.9	24,518.3	3,044.9	2,925.1	3,025.2	2,843.4	12.4	11.9	12.3	11.6

¹ Census region estimates are derived by summing the Census division model-based estimates.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. The composition of the regions

and divisions is described in table 1. Estimates for the current year are subject to revision early in the following calendar year.

Table 5. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by State and selected industry sector, seasonally adjusted

(In thousands)

State	Total ¹				Construction				Manufacturing			
	Feb. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011P	Feb. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011P	Feb. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011P
Alabama	1,860.0	1,866.0	1,861.9	1,869.7	87.6	84.1	82.0	83.6	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Alaska	321.5	328.1	328.9	329.4	16.0	15.7	16.1	15.6	12.7	13.0	12.0	13.1
Arizona	2,381.0	2,375.3	2,378.3	2,380.4	114.1	107.6	110.1	107.5	148.4	148.2	148.4	148.2
Arkansas	1,148.3	1,167.6	1,169.2	1,171.2	47.7	47.3	46.8	45.5	158.8	159.0	158.4	157.1
California	13,859.5	13,935.8	13,959.4	14,055.9	575.9	550.3	566.8	582.3	1,241.3	1,245.4	1,247.2	1,250.8
Colorado	2,214.5	2,221.2	2,225.3	2,228.3	118.6	113.4	112.4	109.7	124.8	124.1	124.8	124.3
Connecticut	1,594.3	1,618.8	1,617.8	1,623.2	49.8	48.6	50.6	52.7	165.1	168.1	167.2	166.1
Delaware ³	407.4	413.7	412.0	414.8	18.9	19.5	19.6	20.0	26.1	25.5	25.8	26.2
District of Columbia ³	703.1	714.1	715.4	714.6	9.5	10.3	10.4	11.0	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Florida	7,151.5	7,177.6	7,161.5	7,184.2	352.7	332.4	332.5	336.9	308.1	303.5	301.7	302.5
Georgia	3,809.3	3,823.7	3,806.6	3,821.5	152.1	140.4	134.3	139.3	343.4	346.8	349.9	348.8
Hawaii ³	585.7	590.3	595.7	595.7	29.3	28.9	28.0	27.9	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Idaho	602.3	604.0	610.5	611.0	32.6	31.3	31.8	31.3	53.1	52.8	53.8	54.7
Illinois	5,590.4	5,623.8	5,648.0	5,665.6	203.7	191.5	200.8	201.7	554.6	560.4	564.1	563.0
Indiana	2,775.7	2,791.2	2,803.4	2,795.5	115.1	112.7	117.6	118.8	438.9	448.2	451.4	451.3
Iowa	1,465.1	1,469.1	1,473.4	1,477.1	61.9	59.5	61.0	60.8	198.8	199.9	200.0	201.2
Kansas	1,320.3	1,320.1	1,319.3	1,306.5	52.5	54.0	49.1	49.3	159.4	158.4	158.5	158.9
Kentucky	1,751.2	1,777.7	1,781.9	1,780.1	68.5	63.7	64.1	65.2	203.7	211.7	210.8	212.8
Louisiana	1,874.0	1,890.4	1,887.1	1,891.3	122.1	121.9	120.6	123.6	137.6	137.1	137.8	137.6
Maine	592.4	593.6	600.9	597.8	24.2	25.0	26.4	25.4	51.0	51.1	51.8	52.1
Maryland ³	2,473.0	2,513.4	2,508.3	2,516.4	138.3	143.3	141.5	142.5	114.5	112.5	112.5	112.5
Massachusetts	3,177.3	3,193.8	3,195.4	3,210.8	106.9	104.3	104.9	103.9	253.1	255.7	253.7	252.6
Michigan	3,839.8	3,868.1	3,914.2	3,910.8	121.6	124.5	130.2	128.3	462.8	478.3	498.0	491.2
Minnesota	2,628.5	2,640.6	2,643.5	2,644.8	88.1	82.9	82.7	83.7	288.7	293.5	294.0	296.4
Mississippi	1,083.4	1,097.2	1,093.3	1,095.0	47.5	49.4	48.9	50.2	136.8	134.6	134.3	133.7
Missouri	2,646.6	2,640.2	2,647.8	2,637.7	106.5	104.4	101.7	101.8	242.1	243.2	247.9	245.0
Montana	427.1	428.3	431.6	429.1	22.5	22.3	22.6	22.1	16.7	16.5	16.3	16.3
Nebraska ³	934.9	943.7	944.8	947.0	43.8	41.8	42.0	42.1	91.2	91.4	92.9	93.5
Nevada	1,118.9	1,112.7	1,114.7	1,111.5	62.9	56.8	56.9	57.0	38.4	36.6	36.3	36.3
New Hampshire	620.9	627.0	626.0	628.9	21.4	20.9	20.1	20.1	65.2	66.1	66.3	66.8
New Jersey	3,842.9	3,844.7	3,828.9	3,836.4	130.8	127.0	125.7	128.7	258.3	255.6	253.8	253.9
New Mexico	802.2	796.9	799.4	795.4	44.1	43.9	42.8	42.9	29.0	29.2	29.1	29.0
New York	8,511.1	8,557.9	8,562.9	8,567.5	307.5	296.3	297.4	293.3	458.1	454.0	449.5	450.4
North Carolina	3,848.8	3,856.9	3,861.9	3,879.3	177.2	170.9	166.3	170.8	430.3	431.7	433.7	435.4
North Dakota	369.8	382.4	384.9	385.9	21.0	20.9	21.5	20.9	22.5	23.4	23.6	24.2
Ohio	5,004.3	5,034.2	5,068.3	5,081.9	169.3	163.4	168.5	171.9	611.5	621.0	624.9	620.2
Oklahoma	1,516.7	1,531.2	1,535.2	1,530.0	65.2	68.1	66.5	65.5	121.1	126.0	128.5	129.3
Oregon	1,592.7	1,608.5	1,615.2	1,625.0	68.4	67.7	68.3	70.3	163.0	164.1	165.1	167.5
Pennsylvania	5,567.3	5,639.9	5,650.4	5,674.1	210.8	218.0	222.2	225.1	557.3	562.5	567.5	568.9
Rhode Island	457.2	458.2	456.8	459.4	16.3	15.1	15.3	15.6	40.3	40.5	40.4	40.6
South Carolina	1,795.0	1,812.3	1,801.8	1,818.2	79.5	78.8	74.5	76.4	206.4	209.5	210.1	211.3
South Dakota ³	399.4	404.8	403.8	404.0	20.2	20.9	20.0	19.5	36.3	37.1	37.1	37.5
Tennessee ³	2,594.2	2,616.9	2,627.7	2,631.5	101.7	106.7	107.5	110.4	296.7	294.1	295.4	297.2
Texas	10,239.5	10,444.7	10,471.0	10,493.7	560.6	597.1	596.4	592.1	806.9	812.2	816.3	814.8
Utah	1,173.0	1,185.4	1,190.4	1,187.6	65.1	64.8	65.1	63.4	110.4	112.4	113.4	113.9
Vermont	295.8	298.6	303.6	304.1	13.5	13.0	13.7	13.7	30.4	31.3	31.5	31.3
Virginia	3,595.6	3,626.5	3,641.1	3,644.8	178.2	181.4	185.1	186.7	231.5	229.2	230.2	232.8
Washington	2,766.8	2,781.6	2,801.3	2,792.8	144.2	137.6	138.2	139.1	255.5	257.4	259.5	260.3
West Virginia	739.1	744.5	747.7	745.6	32.3	29.3	30.1	30.2	48.8	48.8	49.3	49.2
Wisconsin	2,723.9	2,736.3	2,744.0	2,749.2	96.8	89.6	89.5	88.1	424.8	433.9	437.8	442.1
Wyoming	280.2	284.3	283.8	282.7	22.6	22.7	22.9	22.9	8.6	8.9	8.8	8.7
Puerto Rico ³	938.8	917.2	921.5	922.5	35.7	28.5	29.1	27.5	87.9	85.2	85.1	84.1
Virgin Islands	44.3	43.7	43.4	43.7	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by State and selected industry sector, seasonally adjusted—Continued

(In thousands)

State	Trade, transportation, and utilities				Financial activities				Professional and business services			
	Feb. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011P	Feb. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011P	Feb. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011P
Alabama	360.8	359.7	360.8	361.1	92.9	91.3	92.3	92.2	204.0	210.4	211.0	212.7
Alaska	62.7	63.5	63.9	64.3	14.9	15.6	15.4	15.6	26.2	26.4	26.6	27.0
Arizona	469.2	468.6	468.4	472.9	164.1	161.2	161.4	161.7	338.9	341.2	335.9	333.7
Arkansas	232.7	234.9	236.7	238.3	49.0	49.0	50.2	50.0	114.9	120.7	121.0	123.8
California	2,610.3	2,621.4	2,639.4	2,648.5	760.4	761.6	757.4	759.9	2,045.2	2,106.1	2,105.5	2,145.2
Colorado	397.1	395.5	397.5	399.3	145.0	142.4	142.2	141.1	327.8	328.4	333.1	336.0
Connecticut	287.3	289.5	287.5	287.7	134.8	135.5	136.2	136.2	186.3	192.2	195.8	198.9
Delaware ³	73.3	73.6	72.5	73.4	43.0	42.3	42.5	42.9	54.4	54.7	54.7	54.7
District of Columbia ³	26.7	26.6	26.5	26.2	26.9	26.1	25.7	26.3	147.1	149.9	149.5	148.3
Florida	1,450.4	1,454.0	1,459.5	1,454.7	472.3	469.1	465.9	464.3	1,028.2	1,042.3	1,024.2	1,038.0
Georgia	806.5	807.3	803.6	810.5	205.0	201.3	197.2	197.1	510.0	529.4	528.4	532.1
Hawaii ³	109.8	107.9	110.1	109.3	27.2	27.0	26.7	26.8	70.9	72.7	73.5	74.5
Idaho	120.9	120.1	122.2	122.9	29.0	28.9	29.2	29.3	73.9	73.4	75.1	74.6
Illinois	1,119.9	1,124.6	1,136.2	1,136.4	363.6	358.0	356.5	355.4	787.4	809.5	810.8	816.4
Indiana	540.5	539.0	543.3	540.1	130.7	129.1	130.6	130.5	267.1	286.6	282.1	282.2
Iowa	298.6	301.2	302.8	302.6	101.5	101.1	100.6	100.9	119.6	122.7	125.1	125.5
Kansas	251.0	250.6	249.9	248.3	71.3	69.9	69.5	68.8	140.3	143.5	142.1	139.9
Kentucky	359.7	359.9	361.7	357.7	86.4	86.1	86.1	85.5	174.2	184.2	185.8	184.7
Louisiana	362.9	367.7	367.3	366.5	92.2	92.8	92.8	92.6	189.4	192.5	193.3	191.2
Maine	117.3	116.7	119.0	117.9	31.4	31.1	31.4	31.3	55.6	55.9	56.6	56.3
Maryland ³	428.6	440.4	443.1	442.1	143.0	141.5	141.2	141.0	379.2	388.6	389.4	391.7
Massachusetts	541.1	546.4	547.5	548.8	208.9	207.7	207.9	209.0	459.2	458.3	463.0	465.8
Michigan	706.7	707.2	717.7	716.2	187.4	186.1	186.6	188.4	504.9	521.7	525.0	538.4
Minnesota	487.7	494.5	489.6	489.4	171.6	169.9	170.6	170.0	310.0	316.6	318.1	319.3
Mississippi	212.2	214.1	214.0	214.8	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	87.8	94.9	96.9	97.7
Missouri	512.0	507.4	509.8	508.6	162.0	163.7	165.7	164.5	317.7	315.3	317.6	317.0
Montana	87.0	86.9	87.5	88.0	21.3	21.2	21.0	21.2	38.9	39.3	39.5	39.8
Nebraska ³	195.1	198.7	198.0	197.8	68.3	68.1	68.5	68.5	99.5	103.4	103.8	104.7
Nevada	209.8	207.4	207.0	206.1	52.9	50.8	51.0	51.3	133.9	138.7	136.6	136.1
New Hampshire	132.5	132.6	130.1	129.0	35.5	35.6	36.3	35.8	63.0	65.5	66.6	70.5
New Jersey	805.4	807.9	811.7	810.5	252.4	257.6	256.7	256.0	578.3	584.7	580.4	583.7
New Mexico	132.8	133.8	135.1	135.3	33.3	32.3	32.6	33.5	100.8	91.7	93.5	89.7
New York	1,449.7	1,454.4	1,461.4	1,459.2	663.5	668.9	671.1	672.1	1,085.8	1,109.7	1,112.6	1,113.3
North Carolina	710.4	708.5	720.1	718.5	198.8	201.0	202.4	201.7	472.3	490.0	488.2	495.0
North Dakota	79.1	82.1	82.9	83.6	20.3	20.4	20.4	20.4	28.5	28.7	29.2	28.7
Ohio	946.9	941.8	949.1	951.4	275.8	271.0	274.7	274.4	613.1	627.9	634.0	636.0
Oklahoma	275.6	276.9	273.7	276.2	80.3	80.2	80.5	80.4	166.3	171.1	173.8	171.4
Oregon	307.2	313.2	311.0	312.4	93.3	91.9	92.2	92.8	179.6	184.3	184.6	186.7
Pennsylvania	1,069.8	1,084.9	1,084.3	1,087.4	312.9	312.1	311.9	313.0	678.6	690.4	694.2	691.8
Rhode Island	73.1	74.1	75.3	75.4	30.5	30.1	30.1	29.8	52.5	52.9	53.3	54.3
South Carolina	343.1	347.3	345.3	348.2	97.7	98.2	97.3	98.2	205.7	221.9	221.9	226.5
South Dakota ³	80.1	81.5	81.6	81.8	29.2	28.3	28.2	28.3	26.9	27.6	28.4	28.0
Tennessee ³	551.5	557.5	560.4	558.5	138.2	136.8	137.8	137.9	298.9	308.1	309.6	308.6
Texas	2,035.8	2,062.2	2,071.0	2,078.5	623.1	620.8	622.1	619.9	1,251.7	1,290.6	1,288.4	1,302.9
Utah	228.8	230.1	230.5	229.9	68.0	67.3	67.2	66.8	149.2	155.6	156.1	156.5
Vermont	55.4	55.9	56.6	56.9	12.2	12.4	12.5	12.5	22.7	23.3	23.9	24.5
Virginia	614.7	625.4	628.0	631.0	177.1	177.4	176.4	177.7	639.2	654.3	658.8	655.8
Washington	514.3	519.6	523.8	517.1	135.6	135.8	137.4	135.6	321.5	330.8	340.7	339.5
West Virginia	134.1	135.2	136.1	135.2	28.4	28.0	27.9	28.2	59.9	61.1	62.3	61.7
Wisconsin	508.1	507.4	511.1	509.3	158.7	155.2	156.0	155.7	263.8	268.6	271.8	270.0
Wyoming	51.7	51.4	51.6	51.1	10.9	10.9	10.8	10.8	16.8	17.6	17.8	17.5
Puerto Rico ³	173.7	170.8	170.3	170.4	46.0	44.0	44.7	45.1	103.5	108.8	106.3	107.9
Virgin Islands	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.3	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by State and selected industry sector, seasonally adjusted—Continued

(In thousands)

State	Education and health services				Leisure and hospitality				Government			
	Feb. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011P	Feb. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011P	Feb. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011P
Alabama	213.0	216.2	215.8	215.6	166.4	169.9	166.8	168.9	384.9	383.9	383.7	384.5
Alaska	41.1	42.6	42.9	43.3	31.4	33.1	32.7	33.1	84.5	85.0	85.5	83.8
Arizona	340.5	349.6	350.5	354.6	251.0	256.0	257.2	255.9	418.2	410.2	412.7	413.0
Arkansas	164.5	167.3	167.4	167.1	97.2	103.8	102.0	101.6	214.9	216.2	215.2	215.9
California	1,765.0	1,813.0	1,812.2	1,814.2	1,484.9	1,511.1	1,511.0	1,516.9	2,442.1	2,374.5	2,381.3	2,380.1
Colorado	260.8	269.1	271.6	272.2	260.4	268.1	267.3	268.6	392.2	391.9	389.5	389.6
Connecticut	302.9	312.2	311.0	312.0	130.9	137.2	133.7	133.8	244.8	242.6	242.9	243.4
Delaware ³	63.8	65.6	65.0	65.4	40.0	42.3	42.0	42.8	62.8	64.3	64.3	63.8
District of Columbia ³	105.9	110.4	110.7	109.8	58.1	59.2	59.9	58.8	244.4	248.4	249.2	249.7
Florida	1,073.7	1,090.0	1,085.9	1,097.3	906.7	931.5	936.1	932.8	1,108.5	1,105.2	1,108.8	1,107.6
Georgia	480.7	490.6	488.4	493.2	369.6	375.9	371.9	373.1	678.9	668.2	668.9	662.8
Hawaii ³	75.1	77.2	78.2	78.2	99.9	101.6	103.3	103.4	124.3	124.3	125.8	125.1
Idaho	82.9	85.5	86.6	85.5	57.2	59.2	59.4	60.1	118.4	118.3	117.6	118.1
Illinois	824.2	843.9	842.7	848.4	512.9	519.6	521.4	526.2	856.9	851.9	849.4	849.7
Indiana	420.8	427.4	425.1	426.4	273.0	267.9	268.1	268.1	439.5	431.9	435.5	429.2
Iowa	213.7	213.8	215.1	214.4	130.4	130.8	130.7	133.2	252.3	253.7	252.4	252.1
Kansas	180.3	181.2	182.8	181.9	112.9	113.6	112.3	109.4	260.4	258.6	266.4	261.6
Kentucky	249.1	251.2	252.7	252.5	165.4	170.1	171.1	171.7	327.7	331.2	330.5	330.7
Louisiana	268.6	273.6	272.2	275.2	192.4	196.1	196.2	198.4	367.8	362.0	360.8	360.0
Maine	118.6	120.0	120.8	120.1	59.4	60.9	61.3	62.0	103.6	101.3	102.1	101.2
Maryland ³	392.2	403.8	401.0	401.2	224.3	227.2	225.8	227.2	495.4	497.9	496.4	501.0
Massachusetts	662.1	671.7	671.7	678.2	303.5	308.6	308.2	312.5	436.9	437.4	434.1	433.4
Michigan	613.1	625.4	627.5	628.6	376.1	371.7	373.3	370.4	638.7	624.3	624.9	619.4
Minnesota	456.3	461.1	463.7	460.8	234.2	231.4	232.9	232.5	417.1	416.1	415.6	415.7
Mississippi	131.7	134.6	135.6	135.4	117.4	121.1	118.5	117.5	249.9	247.3	244.8	245.2
Missouri	404.7	408.7	409.7	410.7	271.3	270.9	271.2	268.1	450.9	447.1	446.0	444.7
Montana	63.0	64.6	64.6	64.1	55.4	56.7	58.1	57.4	90.9	88.9	89.2	88.0
Nebraska ³	134.9	136.1	135.6	136.6	79.9	81.1	80.0	80.9	168.3	169.4	169.4	167.8
Nevada	99.0	101.1	102.5	101.8	309.0	310.7	311.0	311.0	155.2	151.3	153.9	153.0
New Hampshire	109.9	110.5	112.2	112.3	62.1	66.0	66.7	66.8	97.2	96.9	95.6	95.9
New Jersey	600.8	610.3	608.3	607.5	329.3	334.2	332.6	334.3	646.9	628.4	622.5	623.2
New Mexico	119.1	122.4	121.8	122.1	83.5	83.8	86.1	84.9	198.8	197.9	196.0	194.8
New York	1,689.2	1,723.6	1,726.5	1,729.7	723.1	742.6	738.3	736.7	1,514.5	1,484.7	1,482.4	1,486.9
North Carolina	541.6	536.9	533.7	537.8	385.4	391.9	390.8	393.8	704.5	694.2	696.3	693.3
North Dakota	54.4	55.3	54.9	55.3	33.9	35.2	35.7	35.8	79.0	80.1	79.7	80.0
Ohio	836.8	849.2	854.3	857.6	472.3	478.6	481.6	487.3	779.7	778.5	777.0	778.2
Oklahoma	203.4	205.0	207.4	204.3	137.5	138.9	140.6	138.1	340.7	334.6	335.5	334.7
Oregon	226.5	229.5	233.1	232.1	161.6	162.3	164.5	166.1	297.8	298.7	298.9	299.0
Pennsylvania	1,124.6	1,147.7	1,144.9	1,156.4	491.9	500.8	504.2	504.2	755.1	751.4	748.6	751.1
Rhode Island	101.8	101.6	100.5	100.9	48.9	50.0	49.0	50.0	61.8	61.0	61.0	60.8
South Carolina	211.3	215.2	213.8	217.5	205.1	209.6	206.5	208.6	347.3	334.1	334.7	334.3
South Dakota ³	63.9	64.7	65.1	65.1	42.6	43.6	43.3	43.2	78.0	78.8	77.8	78.3
Tennessee ³	369.7	376.2	378.7	379.9	260.6	261.1	260.5	262.9	430.6	431.8	432.3	431.8
Texas	1,371.0	1,406.6	1,415.8	1,418.1	998.1	1,019.0	1,016.9	1,020.3	1,840.7	1,860.8	1,866.4	1,866.5
Utah	153.6	155.4	157.9	157.4	109.7	110.6	111.1	110.6	215.2	215.3	215.1	215.1
Vermont	59.1	59.5	59.4	60.1	32.1	33.3	35.9	35.1	54.5	53.8	54.3	54.2
Virginia	451.8	457.4	462.7	458.8	333.1	331.4	329.5	330.3	699.6	698.9	699.9	703.6
Washington	372.9	378.8	381.6	380.8	264.2	266.3	266.5	266.9	545.9	543.4	543.2	543.0
West Virginia	119.8	121.2	123.0	122.3	70.9	73.5	73.6	74.3	151.4	150.8	148.5	147.8
Wisconsin	417.1	419.9	418.8	420.7	250.0	254.2	252.6	253.1	418.3	419.1	415.5	417.1
Wyoming	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	32.1	32.3	31.8	31.5	72.0	72.2	72.2	72.7
Puerto Rico ³	112.3	112.8	112.2	113.7	71.3	70.9	70.8	70.1	274.1	260.6	268.1	268.8
Virgin Islands	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.3	13.0	13.1	12.8	12.8

¹ Includes mining and logging, information, and other services (except public administration), not shown separately.

² This series is not published seasonally adjusted because the seasonal component, which is small relative to the trend-cycle and irregular components, cannot be separated with sufficient precision.

³ Mining and logging is combined with construction.
P = preliminary.

NOTE: Data are counts of jobs by place of work. Estimates are currently estimated from 2010 benchmark levels. Estimates subsequent to the current benchmarks are provisional and will be revised when new information becomes available.

Chart 1. Unemployment rates by state, seasonally adjusted February 2011

(U.S. rate = 8.9 percent)

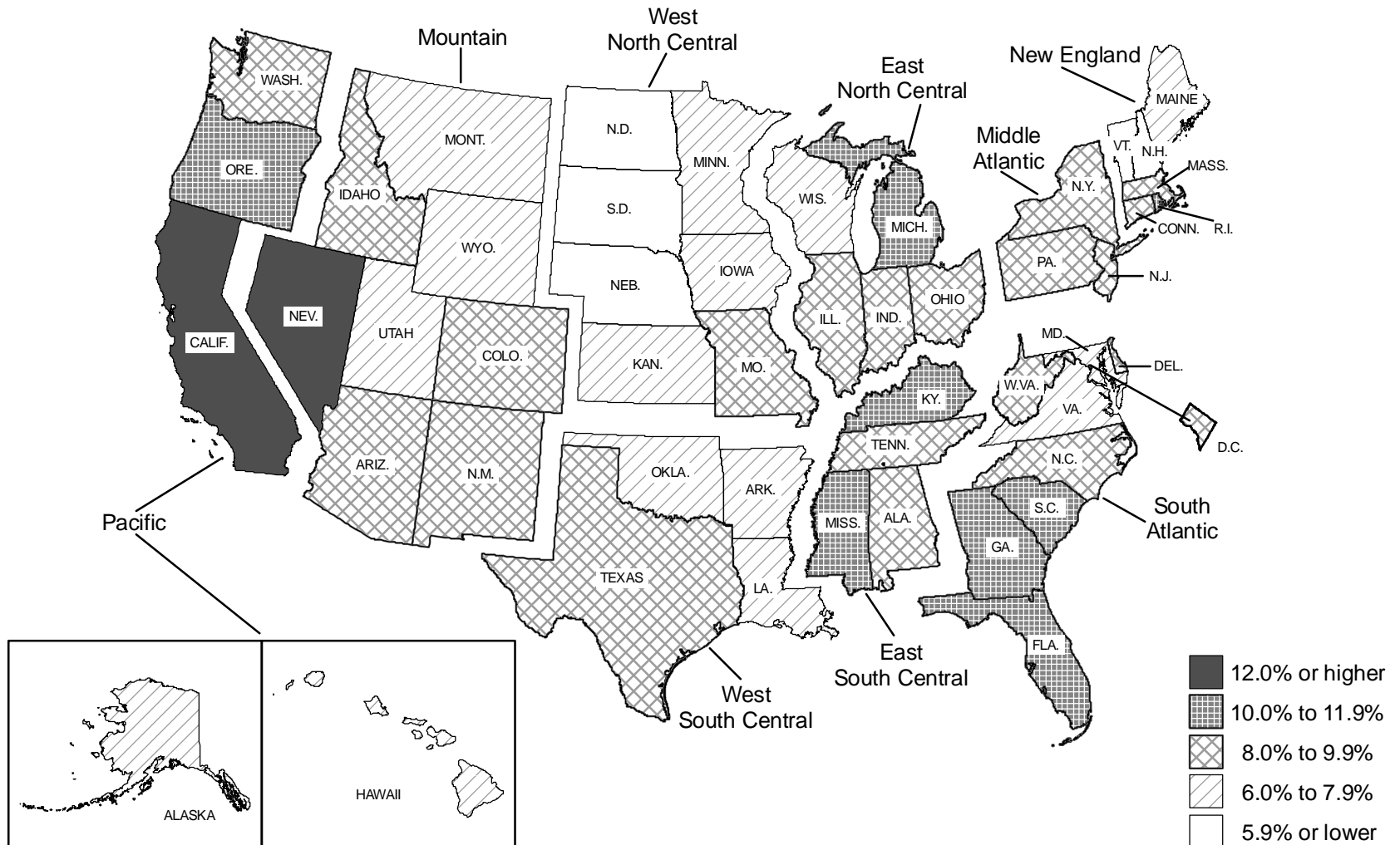


Chart 2. Percentage change in nonfarm employment by state, seasonally adjusted, February 2010 – February 2011

