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Technical information: (202) 691-6392 • lausinfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/lau

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

REGIONAL AND STATE UNEMPLOYMENT — 2016 ANNUAL AVERAGES

Annual average unemployment rates decreased in 38 states and the District of Columbia, increased in 9 states, and were unchanged in 3 states in 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Employment-population ratios increased in 36 states and the District, decreased in 12 states, and were unchanged in 2 states. The U.S. jobless rate declined by 0.4 percentage point from the prior year to 4.9 percent, and the national employment-population ratio rose by 0.4 point to 59.7 percent.

Regional Unemployment

All four regions had statistically significant unemployment rate decreases from 2015: the West (-0.6 percentage point), Northeast (-0.5 point), South (-0.4 point), and Midwest (-0.1 point). The Midwest, at 4.7 percent, had the only jobless rate significantly lower than that of the U.S. in 2016, while the West, at 5.1 percent, had the only rate significantly above the national figure. (See table 1.)

Six of the 9 geographic divisions had statistically significant over-the-year unemployment rate changes in 2016, all of which were declines. The largest of these occurred in New England (-0.8 percentage point) and the Pacific and South Atlantic (-0.7 point each). The West North Central had the lowest jobless rate among the divisions, 3.9 percent. New England, at 4.1 percent, and the Mountain division, at 4.6 percent, also had rates significantly below the U.S. average. The East South Central and Pacific, at 5.3 percent each, had unemployment rates that were measurably higher than that of the U.S.

State Unemployment

Twenty-seven states and the District of Columbia had statistically significant unemployment rate decreases in 2016. The largest declines occurred in Massachusetts and South Carolina (-1.2 percentage points each), closely followed by Arkansas and Nevada (-1.1 points each). Three states had significant over-the-year rate increases: Wyoming (+1.1 percentage points), Oklahoma (+0.5 point), and North Dakota (+0.4 point). The remaining 20 states had annual average jobless rates in 2016 that were not appreciably different from those of the previous year, though some had changes that were at least as large numerically as the significant changes. (See table A and map 1.)

New Hampshire and South Dakota had the lowest unemployment rates, 2.8 percent each in 2016. New Mexico and Alaska had the highest jobless rates, 6.7 percent and 6.6 percent, respectively. Overall, 19 states had unemployment rates that were significantly lower than the U.S. figure of 4.9 percent, while 12 states and the District of Columbia had rates measurably above it. Arkansas had the lowest unemployment rate in its series in 2016, 4.0 percent, while Oregon matched its series low of 4.9 percent, last recorded in 1995. (All region, division, and state series begin in 1976. See table B and map 2.)

Regional Employment-Population Ratios

In 2016, three regions had statistically significant changes in their employment-population ratios—the proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over who are employed—all of which were increases. These occurred in the West (+0.5 percentage point) and the Midwest and South (+0.4 point each). The Midwest had the highest ratio, 62.2 percent, while the South, at 58.3 percent, had the lowest. These two regions had the only ratios that were significantly different from the national figure of 59.7 percent. (See table 2.)

Among the nine geographic divisions, all of the significant changes in employment-population ratios from 2015 to 2016 were increases: the East South Central (+0.7 percentage point) and the East North Central, Pacific, and South Atlantic (+0.6 point each). The division with the highest employment-population ratio in 2016 was the West North Central, at 65.4 percent, followed by New England, at 62.7 percent. These two divisions, along with the East North Central and Mountain, at 60.8 percent and 60.5 percent, respectively, had employment-population ratios measurably above that of the U.S. The East South Central had the lowest proportion of employed persons, 55.0 percent. The ratios in the South Atlantic (58.6 percent), Middle Atlantic (59.0 percent), and Pacific (59.2 percent) also were appreciably below the national average.

State Employment-Population Ratios

In 2016, the largest employment-population ratio increases among the states occurred in Oregon (+1.5 percentage points) and Georgia (+1.1 points). Twelve other states also had statistically significant increases in their ratios. Three states had significant over-the-year decreases in their employment-population ratios: Louisiana and Wyoming (-1.2 percentage points each) and Nebraska (-0.4 point). (See table C.)

North Dakota had the highest proportion of employed persons, 69.2 percent in 2016. Four other states in the West North Central division had the next highest ratios: Nebraska, 67.3 percent; Iowa and South Dakota, 67.0 percent each; and Minnesota, 66.8 percent. West Virginia had the lowest employment-population ratio among the states, 50.0 percent. (West Virginia has had the lowest employment-population ratio each year since the series began in 1976.) Overall, 24 states and the District of Columbia had employment-population ratios that were significantly above the U.S. ratio of 59.7 percent and 16 states had ratios that were appreciably below it. Alaska and New Mexico, at 61.7 percent and 53.7 percent, respectively, had the lowest employment-population ratios in their series in 2016. (See table D and map 3.)

The State Employment and Unemployment news release for January 2017 is scheduled to be released on Monday, March 13, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT). The Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment news release for January 2017 is scheduled to be released on Friday, March 17, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

Table A. States with statistically significant unemployment rate changes, 2015–16 annual averages

State	Rate		Over-the-year rate change
	2015	2016	
Arizona	6.0	5.3	-0.7
Arkansas	5.1	4.0	-1.1
California	6.2	5.4	-.8
Colorado	3.9	3.3	-.6
Connecticut	5.7	5.1	-.6
District of Columbia	6.9	6.0	-.9
Florida	5.4	4.9	-.5
Georgia	6.0	5.4	-.6
Hawaii	3.6	3.0	-.6
Idaho	4.2	3.8	-.4
Maine	4.4	3.9	-.5
Maryland	5.1	4.3	-.8
Massachusetts	4.9	3.7	-1.2
Michigan	5.4	4.9	-.5
Mississippi	6.4	5.8	-.6
Missouri	5.0	4.5	-.5
Nevada	6.8	5.7	-1.1
New Hampshire	3.4	2.8	-.6
New Jersey	5.8	5.0	-.8
New York	5.3	4.8	-.5
North Carolina	5.8	5.1	-.7
North Dakota	2.8	3.2	.4
Oklahoma	4.4	4.9	.5
Oregon	5.6	4.9	-.7
Rhode Island	6.0	5.3	-.7
South Carolina	6.0	4.8	-1.2
Tennessee	5.6	4.8	-.8
Vermont	3.6	3.3	-.3
Virginia	4.5	4.0	-.5
West Virginia	6.8	6.0	-.8
Wyoming	4.2	5.3	1.1

Table B. States with unemployment rates significantly different from that of the U.S., 2016 annual averages

State	Rate
United States	4.9
Alabama	6.0
Alaska	6.6
Arkansas	4.0
California	5.4
Colorado	3.3
District of Columbia	6.0
Georgia	5.4
Hawaii	3.0
Idaho	3.8
Illinois	5.9
Iowa	3.7
Kansas	4.2
Louisiana	6.1
Maine	3.9
Maryland	4.3
Massachusetts	3.7
Minnesota	3.9
Mississippi	5.8
Montana	4.1
Nebraska	3.2
Nevada	5.7
New Hampshire	2.8
New Mexico	6.7
North Dakota	3.2
Pennsylvania	5.4
South Dakota	2.8
Utah	3.4
Vermont	3.3
Virginia	4.0
Washington	5.4
West Virginia	6.0
Wisconsin	4.1

Table C. States with statistically significant employment-population ratio changes, 2015–16 annual averages

State	Ratio		Over-the-year ratio change
	2015	2016	
Arkansas	55.1	55.8	0.7
California	58.3	58.9	.6
Florida	55.8	56.3	.5
Georgia	57.9	59.0	1.1
Hawaii	59.8	60.8	1.0
Indiana	60.8	61.8	1.0
Louisiana	56.7	55.5	-1.2
Maryland	63.5	64.2	.7
Michigan	57.2	58.2	1.0
Nebraska	67.7	67.3	-.4
New Hampshire	66.2	66.7	.5
North Carolina	57.7	58.7	1.0
Oregon	58.0	59.5	1.5
South Carolina	55.8	56.3	.5
Tennessee	56.2	57.2	1.0
Washington	59.6	60.2	.6
Wyoming	64.7	63.5	-1.2

Table D. States with employment-population ratios significantly different from that of the U.S., 2016 annual averages

State	Ratio
United States	59.7
Alabama	53.4
Alaska	61.7
Arizona	57.1
Arkansas	55.8
California	58.9
Colorado	64.7
Connecticut	62.6
District of Columbia	65.9
Florida	56.3
Idaho	61.5
Illinois	61.4
Indiana	61.8
Iowa	67.0
Kansas	64.3
Kentucky	54.7
Louisiana	55.5
Maryland	64.2
Massachusetts	62.5
Michigan	58.2
Minnesota	66.8
Mississippi	52.8
Missouri	62.4
Montana	61.2
Nebraska	67.3
New Hampshire	66.7
New Mexico	53.7
New York	57.7
North Carolina	58.7
North Dakota	69.2
Oklahoma	58.2
Rhode Island	61.0
South Carolina	56.3
South Dakota	67.0
Tennessee	57.2
Texas	60.7
Utah	66.4
Vermont	64.8
Virginia	62.2
West Virginia	50.0
Wisconsin	65.4
Wyoming	63.5

Technical Note

This release presents labor force and unemployment data for census regions and divisions and states from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program. The LAUS program is a federal-state cooperative endeavor.

Concepts

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 employed and unemployed persons on a place-of-residence basis. The universe for each is the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and older. *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 persons expressed as a percent of the labor force. The *employment-population ratio* is the proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and older that is employed.

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 uses data from several sources, including the CPS, the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey of nonfarm payroll employment, 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 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. 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 beginning of each year. The adjusted estimates incorporate updated population controls from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model re-estimation. The population controls reflect extrapolation from the 2010 Census. In most years, historical data for the most recent 5 years (both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted) are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, prior to the release of January estimates. Though the labor force estimates typically are updated for 5 years, the population estimates are revised back to the decennial estimates base (April 2010).

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. In table 1, level estimates for states may not sum to level estimates for regions and divisions because of rounding. Unemployment rates and employment-population ratios are computed from unrounded levels and, thus, may differ slightly from rates and ratios computed using the rounded level estimates displayed in table 1.

Use of error measures. 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 employment-population ratios regardless of their statistical significance. The remainder of the analysis

in the release—other than historical highs and lows—takes statistical significance into consideration. Model-based error measures are available online at www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm. BLS uses 90-percent confidence levels in determining whether changes in LAUS unemployment rates and employment-population ratios are statistically significant. The average magnitude of the over-the-year change in an annual state unemployment rate that is required in order to be statistically significant at the 90-percent confidence level is about 0.4 percentage point. The average magnitude of the over-the-year change in an

annual state employment-population ratio that is required in order to be statistically significant at the 90-percent confidence level is about 0.6 percentage point. Measures of nonsampling error are not available.

Additional information

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. Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over by region, division, and state, 2015–16 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Region, division, and state	Population		Civilian labor force		Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment rate		Error range of rate, 2016 ¹
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	
United States	250,801	253,538	157,130	159,187	148,834	151,436	8,296	7,751	5.3	4.9	4.8 – 4.9
Northeast	44,981	45,097	28,342	28,397	26,850	27,041	1,493	1,357	5.3	4.8	4.6 – 4.9
New England	11,905	11,956	7,795	7,817	7,412	7,499	383	317	4.9	4.1	3.8 – 4.3
Connecticut	2,868	2,870	1,891	1,892	1,782	1,796	108	96	5.7	5.1	4.5 – 5.7
Maine	1,092	1,095	683	691	653	664	30	27	4.4	3.9	3.3 – 4.4
Massachusetts	5,492	5,528	3,580	3,589	3,406	3,456	174	133	4.9	3.7	3.3 – 4.1
New Hampshire	1,083	1,090	743	749	718	727	25	21	3.4	2.8	2.5 – 3.2
Rhode Island	855	857	554	552	520	523	33	29	6.0	5.3	4.7 – 6.0
Vermont	515	515	345	345	333	334	12	11	3.6	3.3	2.9 – 3.6
Middle Atlantic	33,076	33,141	20,548	20,581	19,438	19,541	1,110	1,039	5.4	5.1	4.8 – 5.3
New Jersey	7,068	7,092	4,531	4,524	4,268	4,300	263	224	5.8	5.0	4.5 – 5.4
New York	15,788	15,818	9,591	9,584	9,085	9,121	507	463	5.3	4.8	4.5 – 5.1
Pennsylvania	10,220	10,231	6,426	6,472	6,085	6,120	341	352	5.3	5.4	5.1 – 5.8
Midwest	53,020	53,207	34,460	34,714	32,790	33,093	1,671	1,621	4.8	4.7	4.5 – 4.8
East North Central	36,689	36,783	23,323	23,536	22,101	22,356	1,222	1,180	5.2	5.0	4.8 – 5.2
Illinois	10,035	10,031	6,507	6,539	6,121	6,155	386	384	5.9	5.9	5.5 – 6.3
Indiana	5,118	5,145	3,272	3,272	3,114	3,180	158	147	4.8	4.4	4.0 – 4.9
Michigan	7,870	7,896	4,757	4,837	4,500	4,599	257	238	5.4	4.9	4.5 – 5.4
Ohio	9,115	9,140	5,692	5,713	5,413	5,431	279	282	4.9	4.9	4.5 – 5.3
Wisconsin	4,551	4,571	3,095	3,120	2,954	2,991	141	129	4.6	4.1	3.7 – 4.6
West North Central	16,331	16,424	11,138	11,178	10,688	10,737	449	441	4.0	3.9	3.7 – 4.2
Iowa	2,432	2,445	1,703	1,701	1,638	1,638	65	62	3.8	3.7	3.2 – 4.1
Kansas	2,203	2,211	1,489	1,484	1,427	1,422	62	62	4.2	4.2	3.7 – 4.6
Minnesota	4,283	4,317	3,001	2,976	2,865	2,884	111	117	3.7	3.9	3.5 – 4.3
Missouri	4,736	4,758	3,097	3,112	2,942	2,971	155	141	5.0	4.5	4.1 – 5.0
Nebraska	1,443	1,454	1,008	1,011	978	979	31	32	3.0	3.2	2.8 – 3.6
North Dakota	581	582	414	416	403	403	12	13	2.8	3.2	2.8 – 3.5
South Dakota	651	657	451	453	437	440	14	13	3.1	2.8	2.4 – 3.2
South	93,650	94,862	57,271	58,145	54,250	55,306	3,021	2,839	5.3	4.9	4.8 – 5.0
South Atlantic	49,652	50,338	30,441	30,992	28,774	29,493	1,667	1,499	5.5	4.8	4.7 – 5.0
Delaware	748	756	467	473	445	452	23	21	4.8	4.4	3.9 – 4.9
District of Columbia	552	560	387	392	360	369	27	24	6.9	6.0	5.5 – 6.5
Florida	16,291	16,616	9,619	9,839	9,098	9,359	521	480	5.4	4.9	4.6 – 5.2
Georgia	7,774	7,886	4,787	4,920	4,502	4,656	285	264	6.0	5.4	4.9 – 5.8
Maryland	4,704	4,726	3,147	3,170	2,987	3,034	161	136	5.1	4.3	3.8 – 4.7
North Carolina	7,786	7,892	4,768	4,876	4,494	4,629	274	246	5.8	5.1	4.6 – 5.5
South Carolina	3,822	3,887	2,270	2,298	2,135	2,187	136	111	6.0	4.8	4.3 – 5.3
Virginia	6,497	6,542	4,212	4,240	4,024	4,070	188	170	4.5	4.0	3.6 – 4.4
West Virginia	1,478	1,472	783	783	730	736	53	47	6.8	6.0	5.5 – 6.5
East South Central	14,682	14,777	8,459	8,576	7,970	8,121	489	455	5.8	5.3	5.0 – 5.6
Alabama	3,800	3,816	2,152	2,169	2,021	2,039	132	130	6.1	6.0	5.5 – 6.5
Kentucky	3,441	3,458	1,966	1,992	1,862	1,892	104	100	5.3	5.0	4.4 – 5.6
Mississippi	2,279	2,285	1,270	1,280	1,189	1,206	81	75	6.4	5.8	5.3 – 6.4
Tennessee	5,162	5,217	3,071	3,135	2,899	2,984	172	151	5.6	4.8	4.4 – 5.3
West South Central	29,317	29,747	18,371	18,577	17,506	17,692	866	885	4.7	4.8	4.6 – 5.0
Arkansas	2,298	2,311	1,333	1,343	1,265	1,289	67	54	5.1	4.0	3.6 – 4.4
Louisiana	3,570	3,587	2,161	2,121	2,024	1,992	137	129	6.3	6.1	5.6 – 6.6
Oklahoma	2,970	2,988	1,834	1,828	1,753	1,739	80	89	4.4	4.9	4.4 – 5.4
Texas	20,479	20,862	13,044	13,285	12,463	12,672	581	613	4.5	4.6	4.4 – 4.9
West	58,864	59,665	36,879	37,486	34,772	35,574	2,108	1,912	5.7	5.1	4.9 – 5.3
Mountain	18,018	18,352	11,425	11,638	10,845	11,106	580	532	5.1	4.6	4.3 – 4.8
Arizona	5,267	5,374	3,165	3,238	2,974	3,066	191	172	6.0	5.3	4.8 – 5.8
Colorado	4,234	4,323	2,834	2,891	2,723	2,795	111	96	3.9	3.3	2.9 – 3.7
Idaho	1,247	1,273	797	815	763	783	34	31	4.2	3.8	3.4 – 4.2
Montana	816	824	520	526	498	505	22	22	4.2	4.1	3.8 – 4.5
Nevada	2,249	2,297	1,415	1,427	1,318	1,346	96	81	6.8	5.7	5.1 – 6.3
New Mexico	1,604	1,610	924	927	863	865	61	62	6.6	6.7	6.2 – 7.3
Utah	2,148	2,200	1,466	1,511	1,413	1,460	53	52	3.6	3.4	3.0 – 3.8
Wyoming	452	451	305	302	292	286	13	16	4.2	5.3	4.8 – 5.8
Pacific	40,846	41,313	25,454	25,848	23,926	24,467	1,528	1,380	6.0	5.3	5.1 – 5.5
Alaska	542	546	363	360	339	337	23	24	6.4	6.6	6.0 – 7.3
California	30,379	30,669	18,893	19,103	17,723	18,065	1,170	1,038	6.2	5.4	5.2 – 5.7
Hawaii	1,088	1,093	675	685	651	665	24	21	3.6	3.0	2.6 – 3.4
Oregon	3,221	3,283	1,978	2,055	1,867	1,955	111	100	5.6	4.9	4.4 – 5.4
Washington	5,616	5,722	3,546	3,644	3,346	3,446	200	198	5.6	5.4	5.0 – 5.9
Puerto Rico	2,814	2,787	1,122	1,121	988	989	135	132	12.0	11.8	NA

¹ Error ranges are shown at the 90-percent confidence level and are based on unrounded data. NA = Data not available.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. Unemployment rates are in percent and are based on

unrounded levels. Data for subnational areas reflect revised population controls and model re-estimation. As a result, they will not add to U.S. totals. Data for Puerto Rico are derived from a monthly household survey similar to the Current Population Survey.

Table 2. Employment-population ratios of persons 16 years of age and over by region, division, and state, 2015–16 annual averages

(Percent)

Region, division, and state	Employment-population ratio ¹		Over-the-year change	Error range of ratio, 2016 ²
	2015	2016		
United States	59.3	59.7	0.4	59.5 – 59.9
Northeast	59.7	60.0	.3	59.5 – 60.4
New England	62.3	62.7	.4	62.0 – 63.5
Connecticut	62.1	62.6	.5	61.1 – 64.0
Maine	59.8	60.7	.9	59.1 – 62.2
Massachusetts	62.0	62.5	.5	61.5 – 63.6
New Hampshire	66.2	66.7	.5	65.7 – 67.8
Rhode Island	60.9	61.0	.1	59.8 – 62.2
Vermont	64.7	64.8	.1	63.5 – 66.0
Middle Atlantic	58.8	59.0	.2	58.4 – 59.5
New Jersey	60.4	60.6	.2	59.7 – 61.5
New York	57.5	57.7	.2	56.9 – 58.5
Pennsylvania	59.5	59.8	.3	59.1 – 60.6
Midwest	61.8	62.2	.4	61.8 – 62.6
East North Central	60.2	60.8	.6	60.2 – 61.3
Illinois	61.0	61.4	.4	60.5 – 62.2
Indiana	60.8	61.8	1.0	60.6 – 63.0
Michigan	57.2	58.2	1.0	57.2 – 59.3
Ohio	59.4	59.4	.0	58.4 – 60.4
Wisconsin	64.9	65.4	.5	64.1 – 66.8
West North Central	65.4	65.4	.0	64.7 – 66.1
Iowa	67.3	67.0	-.3	65.6 – 68.4
Kansas	64.8	64.3	-.5	63.0 – 65.6
Minnesota	66.9	66.8	-.1	65.7 – 67.9
Missouri	62.1	62.4	.3	61.1 – 63.8
Nebraska	67.7	67.3	-.4	66.3 – 68.3
North Dakota	69.3	69.2	-.1	67.8 – 70.6
South Dakota	67.1	67.0	-.1	65.8 – 68.3
South	57.9	58.3	.4	58.0 – 58.6
South Atlantic	58.0	58.6	.6	58.2 – 59.0
Delaware	59.5	59.8	.3	58.5 – 61.1
District of Columbia	65.3	65.9	.6	64.8 – 66.9
Florida	55.8	56.3	.5	55.6 – 57.0
Georgia	57.9	59.0	1.1	58.2 – 59.9
Maryland	63.5	64.2	.7	63.2 – 65.2
North Carolina	57.7	58.7	1.0	57.7 – 59.6
South Carolina	55.8	56.3	.5	55.4 – 57.1
Virginia	61.9	62.2	.3	61.0 – 63.4
West Virginia	49.4	50.0	.6	48.7 – 51.3
East South Central	54.3	55.0	.7	54.2 – 55.7
Alabama	53.2	53.4	.2	52.3 – 54.5
Kentucky	54.1	54.7	.6	53.3 – 56.1
Mississippi	52.2	52.8	.6	51.5 – 54.0
Tennessee	56.2	57.2	1.0	56.0 – 58.4
West South Central	59.7	59.5	-.2	58.9 – 60.1
Arkansas	55.1	55.8	.7	54.7 – 56.9
Louisiana	56.7	55.5	-1.2	54.5 – 56.5
Oklahoma	59.0	58.2	-.8	56.9 – 59.5
Texas	60.9	60.7	-.2	60.1 – 61.4
West	59.1	59.6	.5	59.3 – 60.0
Mountain	60.2	60.5	.3	59.9 – 61.2
Arizona	56.5	57.1	.6	55.9 – 58.3
Colorado	64.3	64.7	.4	63.2 – 66.1
Idaho	61.2	61.5	.3	60.3 – 62.8
Montana	61.1	61.2	.1	60.1 – 62.4
Nevada	58.6	58.6	.0	57.4 – 59.8
New Mexico	53.8	53.7	-.1	52.6 – 54.9
Utah	65.8	66.4	.6	65.2 – 67.5
Wyoming	64.7	63.5	-1.2	62.0 – 64.9
Pacific	58.6	59.2	.6	58.8 – 59.6
Alaska	62.6	61.7	-.9	59.8 – 63.6
California	58.3	58.9	.6	58.4 – 59.4
Hawaii	59.8	60.8	1.0	59.7 – 61.9
Oregon	58.0	59.5	1.5	58.4 – 60.7
Washington	59.6	60.2	.6	59.2 – 61.2
Puerto Rico	35.1	35.5	.4	NA

¹ Employment as a percent of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over.

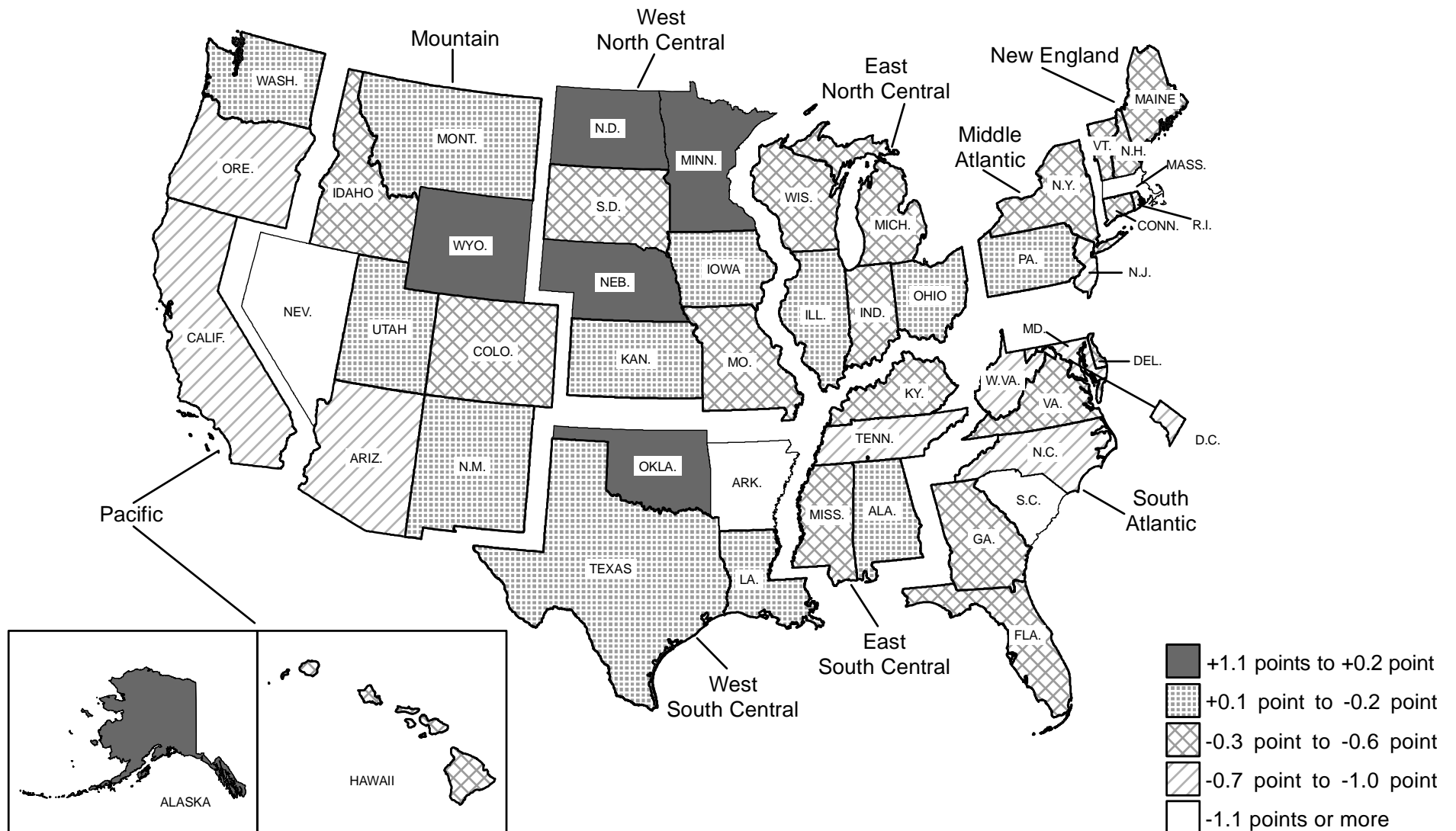
² Error ranges are shown at the 90-percent confidence level and are based on unrounded data.

NA = Data not available.

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. Employment-population ratios are based on unrounded levels. Data for subnational areas reflect revised population controls and model re-estimation. Data for Puerto Rico are derived from a monthly household survey similar to the Current Population Survey.

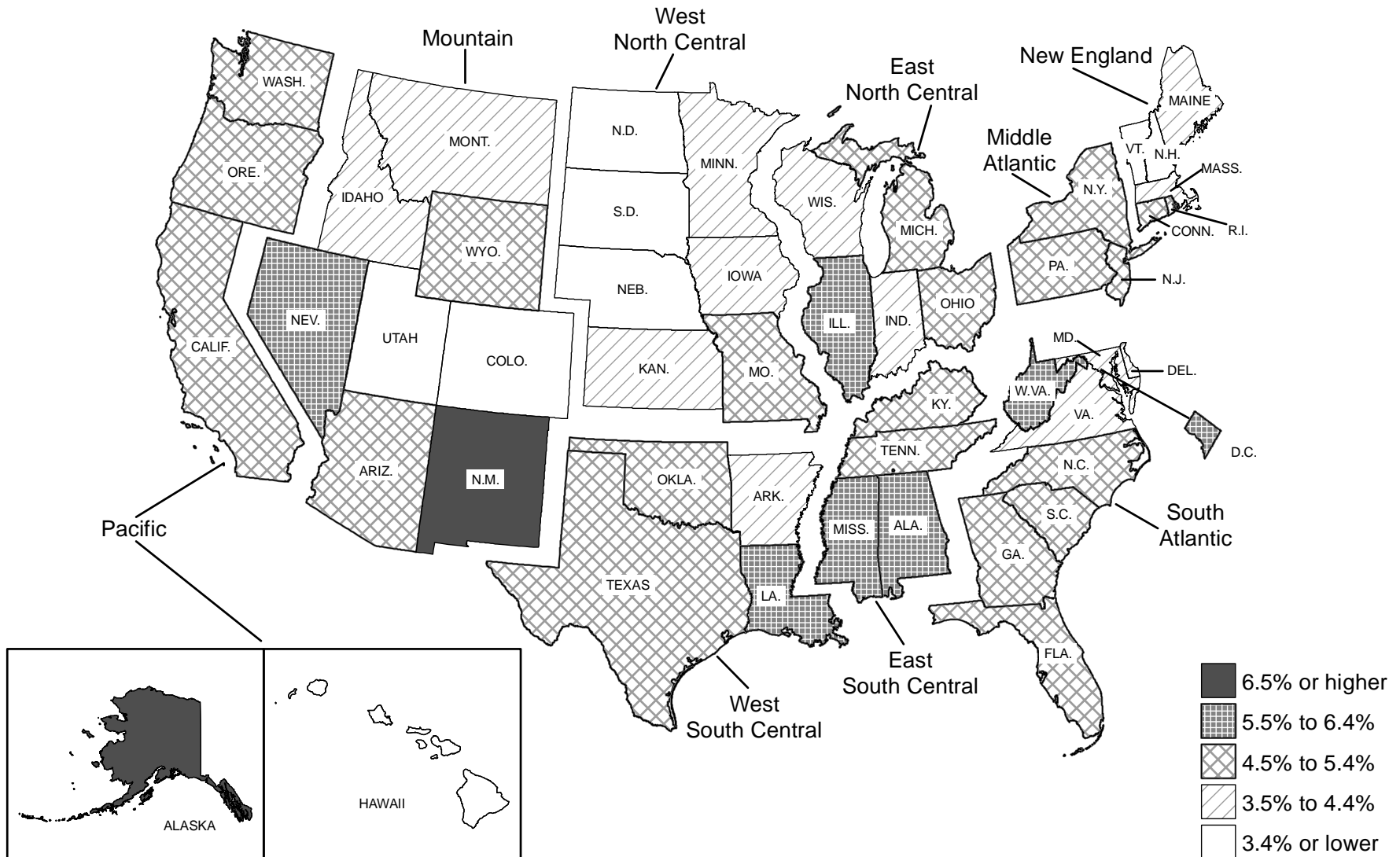
Map 1. Over-the-year change in unemployment rates by state, 2016 annual averages

(U.S. change = -0.4 percentage point)



Map 2. Unemployment rates by state, 2016 annual averages

(U.S. rate = 4.9 percent)



Map 3. Employment-population ratios by state, 2016 annual averages

(U.S. ratio = 59.7 percent)

