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## **REGIONAL AND STATE UNEMPLOYMENT — 2017 ANNUAL AVERAGES**

In 2017, annual average unemployment rates decreased in 32 states and were little changed or unchanged in 18 states and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Employment-population ratios increased in 12 states, decreased in 2 states, and were little changed or unchanged in 36 states and the District. The U.S. jobless rate declined by 0.5 percentage point from the prior year to 4.4 percent, and the national employment-population ratio rose by 0.4 point to 60.1 percent.

### **Regional Unemployment**

All four census regions had unemployment rate decreases from 2016: the Midwest, South, and West (-0.6 percentage point each) and the Northeast (-0.3 point). The Midwest had the lowest jobless rate, 4.1 percent in 2017. No other region had a rate significantly different from that of the U.S. The West recorded the lowest unemployment rate in its series, 4.5 percent. (All region, division, and state series begin in 1976. See table 1.)

All nine geographic divisions had over-the-year unemployment rate declines in 2017. The largest of these occurred in the East South Central (-0.9 percentage point). The lowest jobless rate was in the West North Central, 3.4 percent, followed by the New England and Mountain divisions (3.8 percent and 4.1 percent, respectively). The highest rates were in the Middle Atlantic and Pacific (4.7 percent each). The remaining four divisions had rates that were not significantly different from that of the U.S. The Pacific recorded the lowest unemployment rate in its series, 4.7 percent.

### **Changes to Local Area Unemployment Statistics Data**

Effective with this news release, the civilian labor force and unemployment data for census regions and divisions, the states and the District of Columbia, and the modeled substate areas were revised to incorporate updated inputs, new population controls, reestimation of models, and adjustment to new control totals. In addition, a new procedure for seasonally adjusting the data was implemented. While the not seasonally adjusted data were revised from 2013 forward, the seasonally adjusted data were revised back to 1976. Information on the new seasonal adjustment procedure is available at [www.bls.gov/lau/ssachanges2018.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/ssachanges2018.htm).

## **State Unemployment**

Thirty-two states had statistically significant unemployment rate decreases in 2017. The largest decline occurred in Alabama (-1.5 percentage points), followed by Wyoming (-1.1 points) and Tennessee (-1.0 point). The remaining 18 states and the District of Columbia had annual average jobless rates in 2017 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.)

Hawaii and North Dakota had the lowest unemployment rates in 2017, 2.4 percent and 2.6 percent, respectively. Alaska had the highest jobless rate, 7.2 percent, followed by New Mexico, 6.2 percent. The District of Columbia had a rate of 6.1 percent. Overall, 20 states had unemployment rates significantly lower than the U.S. figure of 4.4 percent, 12 states and the District had higher rates, and 18 states had rates that were not appreciably different from that of the nation. Seven states recorded the lowest unemployment rates in their series in 2017: Arkansas (3.7 percent), California (4.8 percent), Hawaii (2.4 percent), Maine (3.3 percent), North Dakota (2.6 percent), Oregon (4.1 percent), and Tennessee (3.7 percent). (See table B and map 2.)

## **Regional Employment-Population Ratios**

In 2017, two census 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—both of which were increases. These occurred in the West (+0.6 percentage point) and South (+0.5 point). The Midwest had the highest ratio, 62.3 percent, while the South, at 58.8 percent, had the lowest. These two regions had the only ratios that were notably different from the national figure of 60.1 percent. (See table 2.)

Four of the 9 geographic divisions had increases in their employment-population ratios from 2016 to 2017: the East South Central and South Atlantic (+0.7 percentage point each) and the Mountain and Pacific (+0.6 point each). The remaining five divisions experienced little or no change in their ratios. The division with the highest employment-population ratio in 2017 was the West North Central, 65.2 percent, followed by New England, 63.2 percent. These two divisions, along with the Mountain and East North Central, at 61.2 percent and 61.1 percent, respectively, had employment-population ratios significantly above that of the U.S. The East South Central had the lowest proportion of employed persons, 55.9 percent. The ratios in the Middle Atlantic (59.0 percent) and South Atlantic (59.2 percent) also were appreciably below the national average.

## **State Employment-Population Ratios**

In 2017, the largest employment-population ratio increase among the states occurred in Colorado (+1.3 percentage points), followed by Georgia and Tennessee (+1.1 points each). Nine other states also had significant increases in their ratios. Two states had over-the-year decreases in their employment-population ratios: Nebraska (-0.5 percentage point) and New Hampshire (-0.4 point). The remaining 36 states and the District of Columbia had ratios 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 C.)

North Dakota had the highest proportion of employed persons, 69.6 percent in 2017. The next highest ratios were in Minnesota, 67.8 percent, and Utah, 67.2 percent. West Virginia had the lowest employment-population ratio among the states, 50.5 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 significantly higher than the U.S. ratio of 60.1 percent and 16 states had ratios that were below it. Alaska had the lowest employment-population ratio in its series, 61.6 percent. (See table D and map 3.)

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**The State Employment and Unemployment news release for January 2018 is scheduled to be released on Monday, March 12, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT). The Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment news release for January 2018 is scheduled to be released on Friday, March 16, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).**

**Table A. States with statistically significant unemployment rate changes, 2016–17 annual averages**

State	Rate		Over-the-year rate change
	2016	2017	
Alabama .....	5.9	4.4	-1.5
Arizona .....	5.4	4.9	-.5
California .....	5.5	4.8	-.7
Colorado .....	3.3	2.8	-.5
Florida .....	4.8	4.2	-.6
Georgia .....	5.4	4.7	-.7
Hawaii .....	2.9	2.4	-.5
Idaho .....	3.8	3.2	-.6
Illinois .....	5.8	5.0	-.8
Indiana .....	4.4	3.5	-.9
Iowa .....	3.6	3.1	-.5
Kansas .....	4.0	3.6	-.4
Louisiana .....	6.0	5.1	-.9
Maine .....	3.8	3.3	-.5
Minnesota .....	3.9	3.5	-.4
Mississippi .....	5.8	5.1	-.7
Missouri .....	4.6	3.8	-.8
Nevada .....	5.7	5.0	-.7
New Mexico .....	6.7	6.2	-.5
North Carolina .....	5.1	4.6	-.5
North Dakota .....	3.1	2.6	-.5
Oklahoma .....	4.8	4.3	-.5
Oregon .....	4.8	4.1	-.7
Pennsylvania .....	5.4	4.9	-.5
Rhode Island .....	5.2	4.5	-.7
South Carolina .....	5.0	4.3	-.7
Tennessee .....	4.7	3.7	-1.0
Texas .....	4.6	4.3	-.3
Washington .....	5.3	4.8	-.5
West Virginia .....	6.1	5.2	-.9
Wisconsin .....	4.0	3.3	-.7
Wyoming .....	5.3	4.2	-1.1

**Table B. States with unemployment rates significantly different from that of the U.S., 2017 annual averages**

State	Rate
United States .....	4.4
Alaska .....	7.2
Arizona .....	4.9
Arkansas .....	3.7
California .....	4.8
Colorado .....	2.8
District of Columbia .....	6.1
Hawaii .....	2.4
Idaho .....	3.2
Illinois .....	5.0
Indiana .....	3.5
Iowa .....	3.1
Kansas .....	3.6
Louisiana .....	5.1
Maine .....	3.3
Massachusetts .....	3.7
Minnesota .....	3.5
Mississippi .....	5.1
Missouri .....	3.8
Nebraska .....	2.9
Nevada .....	5.0
New Hampshire .....	2.7
New Mexico .....	6.2
New York .....	4.7
North Dakota .....	2.6
Ohio .....	5.0
Pennsylvania .....	4.9
South Dakota .....	3.3
Tennessee .....	3.7
Utah .....	3.2
Vermont .....	3.0
Virginia .....	3.8
West Virginia .....	5.2
Wisconsin .....	3.3

**Table C. States with statistically significant employment-population ratio changes, 2016–17 annual averages**

State	Ratio		Over-the-year ratio change
	2016	2017	
Alabama .....	53.7	54.1	0.4
Arizona .....	57.0	57.7	.7
California .....	58.8	59.4	.6
Colorado .....	64.9	66.2	1.3
Florida .....	56.3	57.1	.8
Georgia .....	59.1	60.2	1.1
Kentucky .....	55.2	56.2	1.0
Maryland .....	64.2	64.8	.6
Nebraska .....	67.2	66.7	-.5
New Hampshire .....	66.5	66.1	-.4
Oregon .....	59.6	60.6	1.0
Tennessee .....	57.3	58.4	1.1
Utah .....	66.5	67.2	.7
Washington .....	60.2	60.9	.7

**Table D. States with employment-population ratios significantly different from that of the U.S., 2017 annual averages**

State	Ratio
United States .....	60.1
Alabama .....	54.1
Alaska .....	61.6
Arizona .....	57.7
Arkansas .....	56.1
California .....	59.4
Colorado .....	66.2
Connecticut .....	63.3
District of Columbia .....	66.1
Florida .....	57.1
Idaho .....	62.0
Illinois .....	61.3
Indiana .....	61.8
Iowa .....	66.2
Kansas .....	64.2
Kentucky .....	56.2
Louisiana .....	55.7
Maine .....	61.5
Maryland .....	64.8
Massachusetts .....	63.1
Michigan .....	58.6
Minnesota .....	67.8
Mississippi .....	53.1
Missouri .....	61.4
Nebraska .....	66.7
New Hampshire .....	66.1
New Mexico .....	53.9
New York .....	58.0
North Carolina .....	58.7
North Dakota .....	69.6
Oklahoma .....	58.6
Rhode Island .....	61.5
South Carolina .....	56.1
South Dakota .....	66.7
Tennessee .....	58.4
Texas .....	61.0
Utah .....	67.2
Vermont .....	64.9
Virginia .....	62.8
West Virginia .....	50.5
Wisconsin .....	66.4
Wyoming .....	62.7

# 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.** Changes in unemployment rates and employment-population ratios are cited in the analysis of this release only if they have been determined to be statistically significant. Furthermore, unemployment rates and employment-population ratios for the latest year generally are cited only if they



have been determined to be significantly different from the corresponding U.S. measure. The underlying model-based error measures are available online at [www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm](http://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, 2016–17 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Region, division, and state	Population		Civilian labor force		Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment rate		Error range of rate, 2017 <sup>1</sup>
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	
United States .....	253,538	255,079	159,187	160,320	151,436	153,337	7,751	6,982	4.9	4.4	4.3 – 4.4
Northeast .....	45,246	45,414	28,505	28,573	27,138	27,289	1,367	1,284	4.8	4.5	4.3 – 4.7
New England .....	11,984	12,053	7,853	7,922	7,527	7,618	326	303	4.1	3.8	3.6 – 4.1
Connecticut .....	2,883	2,890	1,905	1,919	1,807	1,829	98	90	5.1	4.7	4.1 – 5.3
Maine .....	1,094	1,101	692	700	666	677	26	23	3.8	3.3	2.8 – 3.8
Massachusetts .....	5,543	5,584	3,611	3,657	3,471	3,521	140	136	3.9	3.7	3.3 – 4.1
New Hampshire .....	1,091	1,100	746	747	725	727	21	20	2.9	2.7	2.3 – 3.0
Rhode Island .....	859	862	554	555	525	530	29	25	5.2	4.5	3.8 – 5.1
Vermont .....	514	516	345	345	333	334	11	10	3.2	3.0	2.6 – 3.4
Middle Atlantic .....	33,262	33,362	20,652	20,651	19,611	19,671	1,041	980	5.0	4.7	4.5 – 5.0
New Jersey .....	7,123	7,159	4,531	4,519	4,306	4,310	225	209	5.0	4.6	4.2 – 5.1
New York .....	15,904	15,941	9,669	9,705	9,200	9,249	468	455	4.8	4.7	4.4 – 5.0
Pennsylvania .....	10,235	10,261	6,453	6,427	6,105	6,112	348	316	5.4	4.9	4.5 – 5.3
Midwest .....	53,240	53,492	34,760	34,777	33,142	33,337	1,617	1,440	4.7	4.1	4.0 – 4.3
East North Central .....	36,823	36,967	23,587	23,629	22,406	22,571	1,182	1,058	5.0	4.5	4.3 – 4.7
Illinois .....	10,060	10,060	6,550	6,493	6,170	6,171	380	322	5.8	5.0	4.6 – 5.3
Indiana .....	5,147	5,181	3,327	3,320	3,180	3,203	147	117	4.4	3.5	3.1 – 4.0
Michigan .....	7,903	7,944	4,840	4,884	4,599	4,657	241	227	5.0	4.6	4.2 – 5.1
Ohio .....	9,147	9,190	5,739	5,780	5,451	5,491	288	289	5.0	5.0	4.6 – 5.4
Wisconsin .....	4,566	4,592	3,131	3,152	3,005	3,048	125	104	4.0	3.3	2.9 – 3.7
West North Central .....	16,417	16,525	11,172	11,148	10,736	10,766	436	382	3.9	3.4	3.2 – 3.6
Iowa .....	2,441	2,455	1,696	1,679	1,635	1,626	61	53	3.6	3.1	2.7 – 3.6
Kansas .....	2,211	2,219	1,485	1,479	1,425	1,425	60	54	4.0	3.6	3.2 – 4.1
Minnesota .....	4,321	4,365	3,036	3,064	2,919	2,958	117	106	3.9	3.5	3.0 – 3.9
Missouri .....	4,756	4,781	3,080	3,051	2,939	2,936	140	115	4.6	3.8	3.3 – 4.2
Nebraska .....	1,454	1,466	1,009	1,007	978	977	31	30	3.1	2.9	2.6 – 3.3
North Dakota .....	581	580	414	414	402	404	13	11	3.1	2.6	2.3 – 2.9
South Dakota .....	653	659	452	455	438	440	14	15	3.0	3.3	2.8 – 3.8
South .....	94,960	96,155	58,207	59,139	55,364	56,581	2,843	2,558	4.9	4.3	4.2 – 4.4
South Atlantic .....	50,409	51,104	30,993	31,600	29,487	30,236	1,505	1,364	4.9	4.3	4.1 – 4.5
Delaware .....	757	766	474	477	452	455	21	22	4.5	4.6	4.0 – 5.2
District of Columbia .....	563	570	395	401	371	377	24	24	6.1	6.1	5.5 – 6.6
Florida .....	16,646	16,951	9,846	10,100	9,373	9,681	473	419	4.8	4.2	3.9 – 4.5
Georgia .....	7,893	8,007	4,927	5,061	4,663	4,822	264	240	5.4	4.7	4.3 – 5.2
Maryland .....	4,735	4,764	3,179	3,219	3,038	3,086	141	133	4.4	4.1	3.7 – 4.6
North Carolina .....	7,910	8,030	4,855	4,942	4,608	4,717	247	225	5.1	4.6	4.1 – 5.0
South Carolina .....	3,886	3,948	2,294	2,313	2,180	2,214	114	99	5.0	4.3	3.8 – 4.8
Virginia .....	6,548	6,606	4,243	4,308	4,069	4,146	174	162	4.1	3.8	3.4 – 4.2
West Virginia .....	1,471	1,462	782	779	734	738	48	41	6.1	5.2	4.7 – 5.8
East South Central .....	14,767	14,873	8,599	8,700	8,146	8,320	453	379	5.3	4.4	4.1 – 4.6
Alabama .....	3,812	3,830	2,173	2,168	2,046	2,073	128	95	5.9	4.4	3.9 – 4.9
Kentucky .....	3,457	3,476	2,012	2,052	1,909	1,952	103	100	5.1	4.9	4.3 – 5.5
Mississippi .....	2,283	2,289	1,279	1,280	1,204	1,215	74	65	5.8	5.1	4.5 – 5.6
Tennessee .....	5,215	5,278	3,135	3,199	2,987	3,080	148	119	4.7	3.7	3.3 – 4.1
West South Central .....	29,783	30,179	18,615	18,839	17,730	18,025	885	815	4.8	4.3	4.1 – 4.5
Arkansas .....	2,310	2,325	1,343	1,354	1,290	1,304	53	50	3.9	3.7	3.2 – 4.1
Louisiana .....	3,590	3,595	2,126	2,112	1,997	2,004	129	108	6.0	5.1	4.6 – 5.6
Oklahoma .....	2,985	2,997	1,829	1,834	1,741	1,756	88	79	4.8	4.3	3.8 – 4.8
Texas .....	20,898	21,261	13,317	13,538	12,702	12,961	615	578	4.6	4.3	4.0 – 4.5
West .....	59,674	60,443	37,450	38,100	35,539	36,387	1,911	1,712	5.1	4.5	4.3 – 4.6
Mountain .....	18,320	18,653	11,625	11,911	11,093	11,423	531	487	4.6	4.1	3.9 – 4.3
Arizona .....	5,357	5,462	3,226	3,313	3,053	3,151	173	161	5.4	4.9	4.4 – 5.4
Colorado .....	4,315	4,392	2,893	2,992	2,799	2,907	94	85	3.3	2.8	2.4 – 3.2
Idaho .....	1,271	1,302	813	833	782	807	31	26	3.8	3.2	2.8 – 3.6
Montana .....	821	832	522	525	500	504	22	21	4.1	4.0	3.6 – 4.5
Nevada .....	2,298	2,349	1,430	1,463	1,348	1,389	82	74	5.7	5.0	4.4 – 5.6
New Mexico .....	1,612	1,620	929	930	867	872	62	57	6.7	6.2	5.6 – 6.7
Utah .....	2,195	2,248	1,511	1,561	1,459	1,510	52	51	3.4	3.2	2.9 – 3.6
Wyoming .....	451	448	301	293	285	281	16	12	5.3	4.2	3.7 – 4.7
Pacific .....	41,354	41,790	25,826	26,189	24,446	24,964	1,379	1,225	5.3	4.7	4.5 – 4.9
Alaska .....	546	547	363	363	338	337	25	26	6.9	7.2	6.5 – 7.9
California .....	30,720	30,990	19,094	19,312	18,049	18,393	1,045	919	5.5	4.8	4.5 – 5.0
Hawaii .....	1,094	1,096	684	685	664	669	20	16	2.9	2.4	2.0 – 2.7
Oregon .....	3,274	3,329	2,049	2,104	1,951	2,017	98	87	4.8	4.1	3.6 – 4.6
Washington .....	5,719	5,829	3,635	3,725	3,444	3,547	191	177	5.3	4.8	4.3 – 5.2
Puerto Rico .....	2,786	2,751	1,118	1,103	986	983	132	119	11.8	10.8	NA

<sup>1</sup> 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, 2016–17 annual averages**

(Percent)

Region, division, and state	Employment-population ratio <sup>1</sup>		Over-the-year change	Error range of ratio, 2017 <sup>2</sup>
	2016	2017		
United States .....	59.7	60.1	0.4	59.9 – 60.3
Northeast .....	60.0	60.1	.1	59.7 – 60.5
New England .....	62.8	63.2	.4	62.6 – 63.8
Connecticut .....	62.7	63.3	.6	62.0 – 64.5
Maine .....	60.9	61.5	.6	60.1 – 62.9
Massachusetts .....	62.6	63.1	.5	62.2 – 63.9
New Hampshire .....	66.5	66.1	-.4	65.0 – 67.1
Rhode Island .....	61.1	61.5	.4	60.2 – 62.7
Vermont .....	64.8	64.9	.1	63.7 – 66.0
Middle Atlantic .....	59.0	59.0	.0	58.5 – 59.5
New Jersey .....	60.4	60.2	-.2	59.3 – 61.1
New York .....	57.8	58.0	.2	57.3 – 58.7
Pennsylvania .....	59.7	59.6	-.1	58.8 – 60.3
Midwest .....	62.3	62.3	.0	61.9 – 62.7
East North Central .....	60.8	61.1	.3	60.6 – 61.5
Illinois .....	61.3	61.3	.0	60.5 – 62.2
Indiana .....	61.8	61.8	.0	60.8 – 62.9
Michigan .....	58.2	58.6	.4	57.7 – 59.5
Ohio .....	59.6	59.8	.2	58.9 – 60.6
Wisconsin .....	65.8	66.4	.6	65.3 – 67.4
West North Central .....	65.4	65.2	-.2	64.5 – 65.8
Iowa .....	67.0	66.2	-.8	65.0 – 67.5
Kansas .....	64.5	64.2	-.3	63.1 – 65.4
Minnesota .....	67.6	67.8	.2	66.6 – 68.9
Missouri .....	61.8	61.4	-.4	60.3 – 62.5
Nebraska .....	67.2	66.7	-.5	65.6 – 67.7
North Dakota .....	69.1	69.6	.5	68.2 – 71.0
South Dakota .....	67.1	66.7	-.4	65.4 – 68.0
South .....	58.3	58.8	.5	58.6 – 59.1
South Atlantic .....	58.5	59.2	.7	58.8 – 59.6
Delaware .....	59.8	59.4	-.4	58.2 – 60.7
District of Columbia .....	65.8	66.1	.3	65.0 – 67.3
Florida .....	56.3	57.1	.8	56.5 – 57.7
Georgia .....	59.1	60.2	1.1	59.3 – 61.1
Maryland .....	64.2	64.8	.6	63.7 – 65.8
North Carolina .....	58.3	58.7	.4	57.9 – 59.5
South Carolina .....	56.1	56.1	.0	55.2 – 57.0
Virginia .....	62.1	62.8	.7	61.8 – 63.7
West Virginia .....	49.9	50.5	.6	48.9 – 52.1
East South Central .....	55.2	55.9	.7	55.3 – 56.6
Alabama .....	53.7	54.1	.4	53.1 – 55.1
Kentucky .....	55.2	56.2	1.0	55.0 – 57.3
Mississippi .....	52.8	53.1	.3	51.9 – 54.3
Tennessee .....	57.3	58.4	1.1	57.3 – 59.4
West South Central .....	59.5	59.7	.2	59.2 – 60.2
Arkansas .....	55.8	56.1	.3	55.1 – 57.1
Louisiana .....	55.6	55.7	.1	54.7 – 56.8
Oklahoma .....	58.3	58.6	.3	57.3 – 59.8
Texas .....	60.8	61.0	.2	60.4 – 61.5
West .....	59.6	60.2	.6	59.9 – 60.5
Mountain .....	60.6	61.2	.6	60.7 – 61.8
Arizona .....	57.0	57.7	.7	56.6 – 58.8
Colorado .....	64.9	66.2	1.3	65.0 – 67.4
Idaho .....	61.6	62.0	.4	60.9 – 63.1
Montana .....	60.9	60.6	-.3	59.6 – 61.7
Nevada .....	58.7	59.1	.4	58.2 – 60.1
New Mexico .....	53.7	53.9	.2	52.7 – 55.0
Utah .....	66.5	67.2	.7	66.2 – 68.2
Wyoming .....	63.2	62.7	-.5	61.4 – 64.1
Pacific .....	59.1	59.7	.6	59.3 – 60.2
Alaska .....	61.8	61.6	-.2	60.2 – 63.1
California .....	58.8	59.4	.6	58.9 – 59.8
Hawaii .....	60.7	61.1	.4	60.0 – 62.2
Oregon .....	59.6	60.6	1.0	59.4 – 61.8
Washington .....	60.2	60.9	.7	59.9 – 61.8
Puerto Rico .....	35.4	35.7	.3	NA

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

<sup>2</sup> 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.

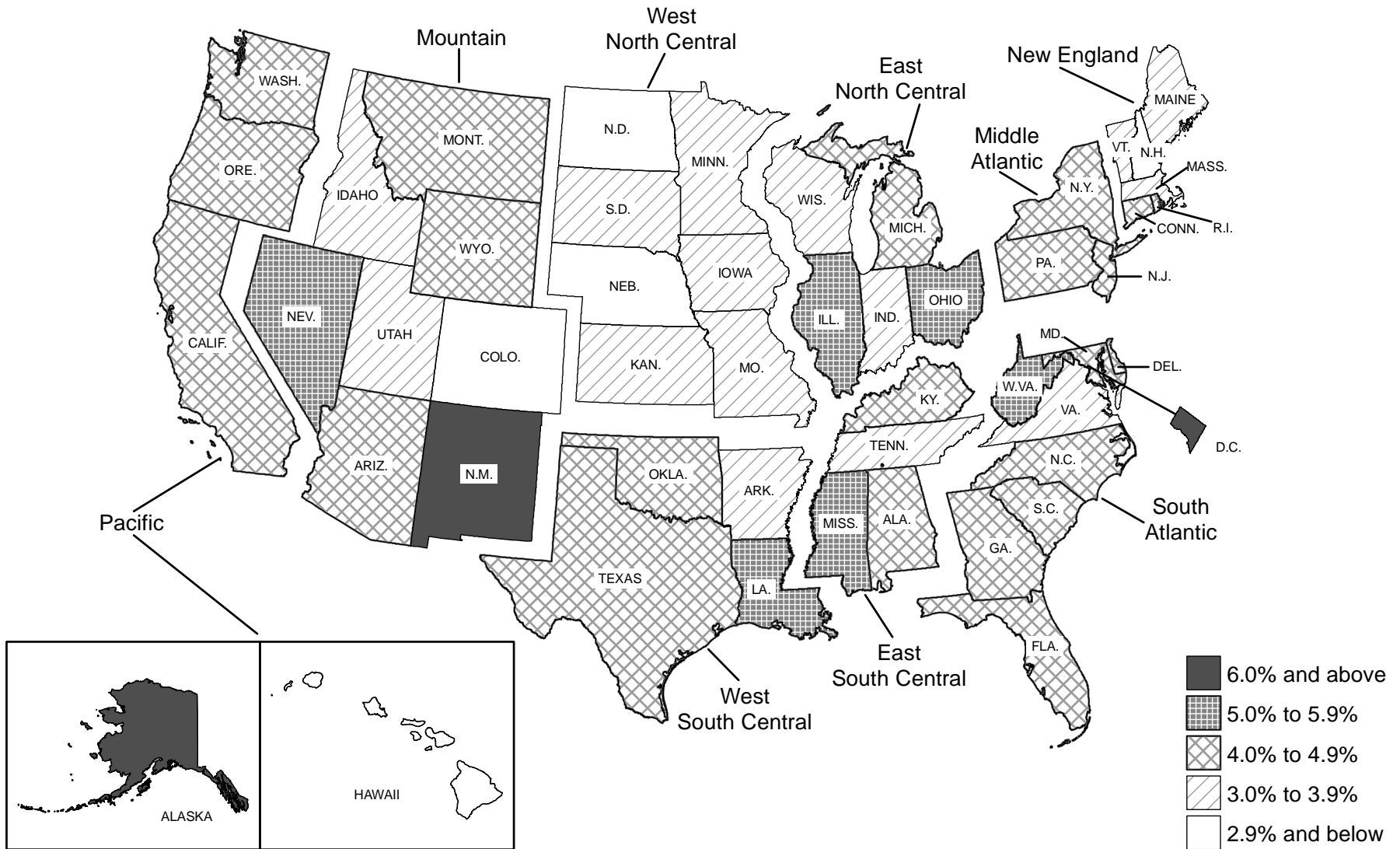
# Map 1. Over-the-year change in unemployment rates by state, 2017 annual averages

(U.S. change = -0.5 percentage point)



# Map 2. Unemployment rates by state, 2017 annual averages

(U.S. rate = 4.4 percent)



# Map 3. Employment-population ratios by state, 2017 annual averages

(U.S. ratio = 60.1 percent)

