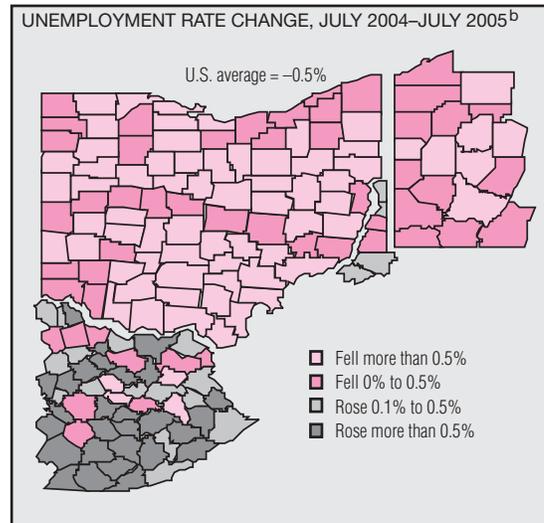
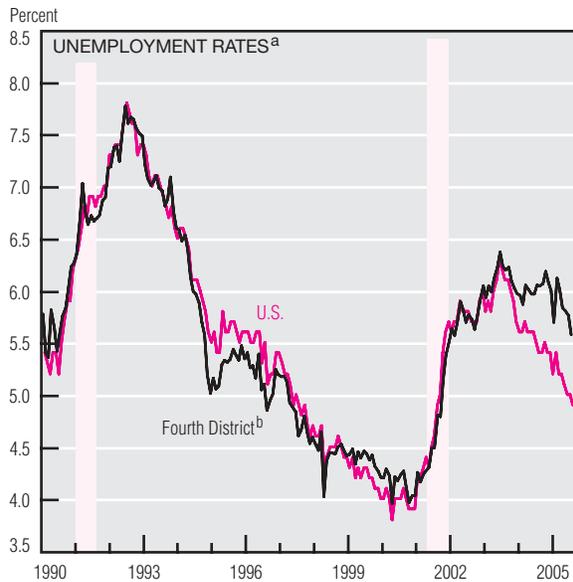


## Fourth District Employment



### Payroll Employment by Metropolitan Statistical Area

#### 12-month percent change, August 2005

	Cleveland	Columbus	Cincinnati	Dayton	Toledo	Pittsburgh	Lexington	U.S.
Total nonfarm	-0.3	0.4	0.7	-1.2	1.4	0.5	0.4	1.7
Goods-producing	0.4	1.0	2.0	-3.0	-0.4	-2.3	1.3	0.9
Manufacturing	-0.1	-1.2	1.7	-3.6	-2.2	-2.7	0.3	-0.8
Natural resources, mining, and construction	2.1	5.4	2.9	-1.2	4.7	-1.6	3.8	4.0
Service-providing	-0.5	0.3	0.4	-0.7	1.9	1.0	0.2	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	-1.4	-1.0	-0.7	-2.9	1.4	0.7	0.7	1.6
Information	-2.5	0.5	-2.3	-5.3	-2.1	-0.4	-2.2	0.5
Financial activities	0.4	-0.1	-0.3	-4.3	1.5	0.4	-0.9	2.3
Professional and business services	-0.7	-0.5	2.4	-0.4	4.3	1.3	2.1	3.1
Education and health services	1.5	2.7	2.1	2.5	0.4	2.2	0.0	2.4
Leisure and hospitality	-0.3	2.1	-1.8	-1.0	0.6	0.9	1.2	2.6
Other services	-0.9	-1.5	1.4	3.4	3.2	1.7	1.0	0.7
Government	-1.5	0.4	0.5	-0.8	3.3	-0.2	-1.7	0.9
July unemployment rate (percent) <sup>b</sup>	5.7	5.0	5.2	5.8	5.9	5.4	4.7	5.0

a. Shaded bars represent recessions.

b. Seasonally adjusted using the Census Bureau's X-11 procedure.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Fourth District's unemployment rate fell to 5.6% in July, down 0.2 percentage point from June and its lowest level in nearly three years. The U.S. rate fell from 5.0% in July to 4.9% in August.

The July unemployment rate was higher in most Fourth District counties than in the nation. In the District, 136 counties had unemployment rates higher than the U.S. rate of 5.0%, 28 had lower rates, and five had the same rate as the nation.

However, comparing the District to the nation makes it difficult to see

local improvement over time, because the District's unemployment rates have been following a downward path similar to the nation's over the past several months. To show the District's progress more distinctly, individual counties' current performance can be compared to their standing in July 2004: 122 counties' unemployment rates were the same or better than a year earlier, whereas rates worsened in only 47 counties. Most of the counties where the unemployment rate rose are in Kentucky, whose unemployment rate

increased 0.3 percentage point over the same period.

Of the District's major metropolitan areas, only Cleveland and Dayton have lost employment since August 2004. Although Cleveland had positive goods-producing employment growth, its service-providing employment growth lagged the nation's significantly. During the same period, the Dayton metropolitan area lost both goods-producing and service-providing jobs