



Technical information: (202) 691-6567  
<http://www.bls.gov/cew/>

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Media contact: 691-5902

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## **COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES: FIRST QUARTER 2005**

In March 2005, Clark County, Nev., had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment among the largest counties in the U.S., according to preliminary data released today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Clark County experienced an over-the-year employment gain of 7.6 percent, compared with national job growth of 1.7 percent. Collier County, Fla., had the largest over-the-year gain in average weekly wages in the first quarter of 2005, with an increase of 10.7 percent. The U.S. average weekly wage increased by 2.2 percent over the same time span.

Of the 322 largest counties in the United States, as measured by 2004 annual average employment, 118 had over-the-year percentage growth in employment above the national average in March 2005, and 186 experienced changes below the national average. (See chart 1.) Average weekly wages grew faster than the national average in 130 of the largest U.S. counties, while the percent change in average weekly wages was below the national average in 173 counties. (See chart 2.)

The employment and average weekly wage data by county are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from reports submitted by every employer subject to unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The 8.5 million employer reports cover 129.8 million full- and part-time workers. The attached tables and charts contain data for the nation and for the 322 U.S. counties with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2004. In addition, data for San Juan, Puerto Rico, are provided, but not used in calculating U.S. averages, rankings, or in the analysis in the text. March 2005 employment and 2005 first-quarter average weekly wages for all states are provided in table 4 of this release. Data for all states, metropolitan statistical areas, counties, and the nation through the fourth quarter of 2004 are available on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/>. Preliminary data for the first quarter of 2005 and final data for 2004 will be available later in October on the BLS Web site.

### **Five Counties Added to the 2005 County Employment and Wages News Releases**

Counties with employment of 75,000 or more are included in this release. For 2005 data, five counties have been added to the publication tables: Lake, Fla., Wyandotte, Kan., Harford, Md., Washington, Pa., and Whatcom, Wash. All counties published in the 2004 releases continue to have employment levels of 75,000 or more and will be included in the 2005 releases.

**Table A. Top 10 counties ranked by March 2005 employment, March 2004-05 employment change, and March 2004-05 percent change in employment**

Employment in large counties					
March 2005 employment (thousands)		Net change in employment, March 2004-05 (thousands)		Percent change in employment, March 2004-05	
U.S.	129,802.3	U.S.	2,146.7	U.S.	1.7
Los Angeles, Calif.	4,051.2	Maricopa, Ariz.	85.1	Clark, Nev.	7.6
Cook, Ill.	2,466.4	Clark, Nev.	59.9	Lee, Fla.	7.5
New York, N.Y.	2,221.5	Orange, Calif.	32.8	Rutherford, Tenn.	7.1
Harris, Texas	1,840.9	Harris, Texas	30.6	Seminole, Fla.	6.9
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,685.4	Riverside, Calif.	29.8	Montgomery, Texas	6.1
Orange, Calif.	1,477.6	San Bernardino, Calif.	29.2	Benton, Ark.	5.7
Dallas, Texas	1,402.1	Palm Beach, Fla.	25.0	Lake, Fla.	5.4
San Diego, Calif.	1,282.1	Broward, Fla.	24.4	Williamson, Texas	5.4
King, Wash.	1,093.0	Hillsborough, Fla.	22.3	Maricopa, Ariz.	5.3
Miami-Dade, Fla.	994.9	Fairfax, Va.	21.3	Utah, Utah	5.3
				Whatcom, Wash.	5.3

#### Large County Employment

In March 2005, national employment, as measured by the QCEW program, was 129.8 million, up by 1.7 percent from March 2004. The 322 U.S. counties with 75,000 or more employees accounted for 70.8 percent of total U.S. covered employment and 77.5 percent of total covered wages. These 322 counties had a net job gain of 1,324,000 over the year, accounting for 61.7 percent of the U.S. employment increase. Employment increased in 254 of the large counties from March 2004 to March 2005. Clark County, Nev., had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment (7.6 percent). Lee, Fla., had the next largest increase, 7.5 percent, followed by the counties of Rutherford, Tenn. (7.1 percent), Seminole, Fla. (6.9 percent), and Montgomery, Texas (6.1 percent). (See table 1.)

Employment declined in 51 counties from March 2004 to March 2005. The largest percentage decline in employment was in Bibb County, Ga. (-1.9 percent), followed by the counties of McLean, Ill. (-1.7 percent), Broome, N.Y. (-1.5 percent), and Madison, Ill., and St. Louis City, Mo. (-1.4 percent each).

The largest gains in employment from March 2004 to March 2005 were recorded in the counties of Maricopa, Ariz. (85,100), Clark, Nev. (59,900), Orange, Calif. (32,800), Harris, Texas (30,600), and Riverside, Calif. (29,800). (See table A.)

The largest decline in employment occurred in Wayne County, Mich. (-8,300), followed by the counties of Allegheny, Pa. (-5,400), Erie, N.Y. (-3,500), St. Louis City, Mo. (-3,100), and Milwaukee, Wis. (-2,800).

#### Large County Average Weekly Wages

The national average weekly wage in the first quarter of 2005 was \$775. Average weekly wages were higher than the national average in 101 of the largest 322 U.S. counties. New York County, N.Y., held the top position among the highest-paid large counties with an average weekly wage of \$2,025. Fairfield

**Table B. Top 10 counties ranked by first quarter 2005 average weekly wages, first quarter 2004-05 change in average weekly wages, and first quarter 2004-05 percent change in average weekly wages**

Average weekly wage in large counties					
Average weekly wage, first quarter 2005		Change in average weekly wage, first quarter 2004-05		Percent change in average weekly wage, first quarter 2004-05	
U.S.	\$775	U.S.	\$17	U.S.	2.2
New York, N.Y.	\$2,025	Fairfield, Conn.	\$115	Collier, Fla.	10.7
Fairfield, Conn.	1,613	New York, N.Y.	111	Cumberland, Pa.	9.3
Suffolk, Mass.	1,390	Hudson, N.J.	102	Hudson, N.J.	9.0
Santa Clara, Calif.	1,372	Henrico, Va.	69	Henrico, Va.	8.4
San Francisco, Calif.	1,368	Collier, Fla.	68	Fairfield, Conn.	7.7
Somerset, N.J.	1,343	Cumberland, Pa.	67	Rock Island, Ill.	7.7
Arlington, Va.	1,286	Mecklenburg, N.C.	57	Trumbull, Ohio	7.3
Washington, D.C.	1,277	Washington, D.C.	52	Tuscaloosa, Ala.	7.0
Hudson, N.J.	1,236	Rock Island, Ill.	52	Peoria, Ill.	6.8
San Mateo, Calif.	1,220	Harris, Texas	52	Jefferson, Texas	6.5

County, Conn., was second with an average weekly wage of \$1,613, followed by Suffolk, Mass. (\$1,390), Santa Clara, Calif. (\$1,372), and San Francisco, Calif. (\$1,368). (See table B.)

There were 220 counties with an average weekly wage below the national average in the first quarter of 2005. The lowest average weekly wages were reported in Cameron County, Texas (\$460), followed by the counties of Hidalgo, Texas (\$463), Horry, S.C. (\$479), Webb, Texas (\$490), and Yakima, Wash. (\$516). (See table 1.)

Over the year, the national average weekly wage rose by 2.2 percent. Among the largest counties, Collier, Fla., led the nation in growth in average weekly wages, with an increase of 10.7 percent from the first quarter of 2004. Cumberland, Pa., was second with 9.3 percent growth, followed by the counties of Hudson, N.J. (9.0 percent), Henrico, Va. (8.4 percent), and Fairfield, Conn., and Rock Island, Ill. (7.7 percent each).

Thirty-five counties experienced over-the-year declines in average weekly wages. Clayton County, Ga., had the largest decrease, -6.0 percent, followed by the counties of Marin, Calif. (-5.6 percent), Hamilton, Ind. (-4.3 percent), McLean, Ill. (-2.8 percent), and St. Louis, Minn. (-2.7 percent).

#### Ten Largest U.S. Counties

Of the 10 largest U.S. counties (based on 2004 annual average employment levels), 8 reported increases in employment, while 2 showed a decline from March 2004 to March 2005. Maricopa County, Ariz., experienced the fastest growth in employment among the largest counties, with a 5.3 percent increase. Within Maricopa County, employment rose in every industry group except information. The largest gains were in construction (15.1 percent) and professional and business services (7.5 percent). (See table 2.) Orange County, Calif., had the next largest increase in employment, 2.3 percent, followed by Miami-Dade, Fla.

(1.9 percent). The smallest employment gain occurred in New York, N.Y. (0.8 percent). Both Cook County, Ill., and Los Angeles, Calif. experienced a 0.1 percent decrease in employment over the year.

All of the 10 largest U.S. counties saw over-the-year increases in average weekly wages. New York County, N.Y., and Harris, Texas, had the fastest growth in wages among the 10 largest counties, increasing by 5.8 percent each. Within New York County, wages increased the most in manufacturing (25.7 percent) and natural resources and mining (14.4 percent). Within Harris County, wages increased most in natural resources and mining (17.4 percent) and manufacturing (12.1 percent). King, Wash., and Miami-Dade, Fla., were second in wage growth, increasing by 2.9 percent each. The smallest wage gains among the 10 largest counties occurred in San Diego County, Calif. (1.4 percent), and Dallas, Texas, and Maricopa, Ariz. (1.5 percent each).

#### Largest County by State

Table 3 shows March 2005 employment and the 2005 first quarter average weekly wage in the largest county in each state. (This table includes two counties—Yellowstone, Mont., and Laramie, Wyo.—that have employment levels below 75,000.) The employment levels in these counties in March 2005 ranged from approximately 4.1 million in Los Angeles County, Calif., to 39,500 in Laramie County, Wyo. The highest average weekly wage of these counties was in New York, N.Y. (\$2,025), while the lowest average weekly wage was in Yellowstone County, Mont. (\$596).

#### **Regional Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages News Releases**

Several BLS regional offices have recently begun issuing QCEW news releases targeted to local data users. For links to these releases, see <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewregional.htm>.

# Technical Note

These data are the product of a federal-state cooperative program, the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from summaries of employment and total pay of workers covered by state and federal unemployment insurance (UI) legislation and provided by State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). The summaries are a result of the administration of state unemployment insurance programs that require most employers to pay quarterly taxes based on the employment and wages of workers covered by UI. Data for 2005 are preliminary and subject to revision.

For purposes of this release, large counties are defined as having employment levels of 75,000 or greater. Each year, these large counties are selected on the basis of the preliminary annual average of employment for the previous year. The 323

counties presented in this release were derived using 2004 preliminary annual averages of employment. All of the 318 counties that were published in the 2004 releases are included in the 2005 releases. The following counties grew enough in 2004 to be included in the 2005 releases: Lake, Fla., Wyandotte, Kan., Harford, Md., Washington, Pa., and Whatcom, Wash. These counties will be included in all 2005 quarterly releases. The counties in table 2 are selected and sorted each year based on the annual average employment from the preceding year.

The preliminary QCEW data presented in this release may differ from data released by the individual states. These potential differences result from the states' continuing receipt of UI data over time and ongoing review and editing. The individual states determine their data release timetables.

**Summary of Major Differences between QCEW, BED, and CES Employment Measures**

	<b>QCEW</b>	<b>BED</b>	<b>CES</b>
<b>Source</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Count of UI administrative records submitted by 8.5 million establishments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Count of longitudinally-linked UI administrative records submitted by 6.5 million private-sector employers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sample survey: 400,000 establishments</li> </ul>
<b>Coverage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UI and UCFE coverage, including all employers subject to state and federal UI laws</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UI coverage, excluding government, private households, and establishments with zero employment</li> </ul>	Nonfarm wage and salary jobs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UI coverage, excluding agriculture, private households, and self-employed workers</li> <li>Other employment, including railroads, religious organizations, and other non-UI-covered jobs</li> </ul>
<b>Publication frequency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly</li> <li>- 7 months after the end of each quarter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly</li> <li>- 8 months after the end of each quarter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly</li> <li>- Usually first Friday of following month</li> </ul>
<b>Use of UI file</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Directly summarizes and publishes each new quarter of UI data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Links each new UI quarter to longitudinal database and directly summarizes gross job gains and losses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses UI file as a sampling frame and annually realigns (benchmarks) sample estimates to first quarter UI levels</li> </ul>
<b>Principal products</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides a quarterly and annual universe count of establishments, employment, and wages at the county, MSA, state, and national levels by detailed industry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides quarterly employer dynamics data on establishment openings, closings, expansions, and contractions at the national level</li> <li>Future expansions will include data at the county, MSA, and state level and by size of establishment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides current monthly estimates of employment, hours, and earnings at the MSA, state, and national level by industry</li> </ul>
<b>Principal uses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major uses include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed locality data</li> <li>Periodic universe counts for benchmarking sample survey estimates</li> <li>Sample frame for BLS establishment surveys</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major uses include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business cycle analysis</li> <li>Analysis of employer dynamics underlying economic expansions and contractions</li> <li>Future: Employment expansion and contraction by size of establishment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major uses include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principal national economic indicator</li> <li>Official time series for employment change measures</li> <li>Input into other major economic indicators</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Program Web sites</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.bls.gov/cew/">www.bls.gov/cew/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.bls.gov/bdm/">www.bls.gov/bdm/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.bls.gov/ces/">www.bls.gov/ces/</a></li> </ul>

## Differences between QCEW, BED, and CES employment measures

The Bureau publishes three different establishment-based employment measures for any given quarter. Each of these measures—QCEW, Business Employment Dynamics (BED), and Current Employment Statistics (CES)—makes use of the quarterly UI employment reports in producing data; however, each measure has a somewhat different universe coverage, estimation procedure, and publication product.

Differences in coverage and estimation methods can result in somewhat different measures of over-the-quarter employment change. It is important to understand program differences and the intended uses of the program products. (See table on the previous page.) Additional information on each program can be obtained from the program Web sites shown in the table on the previous page.

## Coverage

Employment and wage data for workers covered by state UI laws and for federal civilian workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program are compiled from quarterly contribution reports submitted to the SWAs by employers. In addition to the quarterly contribution reports, employers who operate multiple establishments within a state complete a questionnaire, called the “Multiple Worksite Report,” which provides detailed information on the location and industry of each of their establishments. The employment and wage data included in this release are derived from microdata summaries of more than 8 million employer reports of employment and wages submitted by states to the BLS. These reports are based on place of employment rather than place of residence.

UI and UCFE coverage is broad and basically comparable from state to state. In 2004, UI and UCFE programs covered workers in 129.3 million jobs. The estimated 124.4 million workers in these jobs (after adjustment for multiple jobholders) represented 96.6 percent of civilian wage and salary employment. Covered workers received \$5.088 trillion in pay, representing 94.4 percent of the wage and salary component of personal income and 43.4 percent of the gross domestic product.

Major exclusions from UI coverage include self-employed workers, most agricultural workers on small farms, all members of the Armed Forces, elected officials in most states, most employees of railroads, some domestic workers, most student workers at schools, and employees of certain small nonprofit organizations.

State and federal UI laws change periodically. These changes may have an impact on the employment and wages reported by employers covered under the UI program. Coverage changes may affect the over-the-year comparisons presented in this news release. Beginning with the first quarter of 2005, Oregon implemented a change in their state UI laws. This change extended UI coverage to providers of home care

for the elderly. These providers are now considered state workers for purposes of UI benefits.

## Concepts and methodology

Monthly employment is based on the number of workers who worked during or received pay for the pay period including the 12th of the month. With few exceptions, all employees of covered firms are reported, including production and sales workers, corporation officials, executives, supervisory personnel, and clerical workers. Workers on paid vacations and part-time workers also are included.

Average weekly wage values are calculated by dividing quarterly total wages by the average of the three monthly employment levels (all employees, as described above) and dividing the result by 13, for the 13 weeks in the quarter. These calculations are made using unrounded employment and wage values. The average wage values that can be calculated using rounded data from the BLS database may differ from the averages reported. Included in the quarterly wage data are non-wage cash payments such as bonuses, the cash value of meals and lodging when supplied, tips and other gratuities, and, in some states, employer contributions to certain deferred compensation plans such as 401(k) plans and stock options.

Average weekly wages are affected by the ratio of full-time to part-time workers as well as the number of individuals in high-paying and low-paying occupations and the incidence of pay periods within a quarter. When comparing average weekly wage levels between industries and/or states, these factors should be taken into consideration.

Federal government pay levels are subject to periodic, sometimes large, fluctuations due to a calendar effect that consists of some quarters having more pay periods than others. Most federal employees are paid on a biweekly pay schedule. As a result of this schedule, in some quarters, federal wages contain payments for six pay periods, while in other quarters their wages include payments for seven pay periods. Over-the-year comparisons of average weekly wages may reflect this calendar effect. Higher growth in average weekly wages may be attributed, in part, to a comparison of quarterly wages for the current year, which include seven pay periods, with year-ago wages that reflect only six pay periods. An opposite effect will occur when wages in the current period, which contain six pay periods, are compared with year-ago wages that include seven pay periods. The effect on over-the-year pay comparisons can be pronounced in federal government due to the uniform nature of federal payroll processing. This pattern may exist in private sector pay, however, because there are more pay period types (weekly, biweekly, semimonthly, monthly) it is less pronounced. The effect is most visible in counties with large concentrations of federal employment.

In order to ensure the highest possible quality of data, states verify with employers and update, if necessary, the industry, location, and ownership classification of all establishments on a 3-year cycle. Changes in establishment classification codes resulting from this process are introduced

with the data reported for the first quarter of the year. Changes resulting from improved employer reporting also are introduced in the first quarter.

QCEW data are not designed as a time series. QCEW data are simply the sums of individual establishment records and reflect the number of establishments that exist in a county or industry at a point in time. Establishments can move in or out of a county or industry for a number of reasons—some reflecting economic events, others reflecting administrative changes. For example, economic change would come from a firm relocating into the county; administrative change would come from a company correcting its county designation.

The over-the-year changes of employment and wages presented in this release have been adjusted to account for most of the administrative corrections made to the underlying establishment reports. This is done by modifying the prior-year levels used to calculate the over-the-year changes. Percent changes are calculated using an adjusted version of the final 2004 quarterly data as the base data. The adjusted prior-year levels used to calculate the over-the-year percent change in employment and wages are not published. These adjusted prior-year levels do not match the unadjusted data maintained on the BLS Web site. Over-the-year change calculations based on data from the Web site, or from data published in prior BLS news releases, may differ substantially from the over-the-year changes presented in this news release.

The adjusted data used to calculate the over-the-year change measures presented in this release account for most of the administrative changes—those occurring when employers update the industry, location, and ownership information of their establishments. The most common adjustments for administrative change are the result of updated information about the county location of individual establishments.

The adjusted data do not account for administrative changes caused by (1) multi-unit employers who start reporting for each individual establishment rather than as a single entity and (2) the classification of establishments previously reported in the unknown county or unknown industry categories.

The adjusted data used to calculate the over-the-year change measures presented in any County Employment and Wages news release are valid for comparisons between the starting and ending points (a 12-month period) used in that particular release.

Comparisons may not be valid for any time period other than the one featured in a release even if the changes were calculated using adjusted data.

County definitions are assigned according to Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) as issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 and the Computer Security Act of 1987, Public Law 104-106. Areas shown as counties include those designated as independent cities in some jurisdictions and, in Alaska, those designated as census areas where counties have not been created. County data also are presented for the New England states for comparative purposes even though townships are the more common designation used in New England (and New Jersey). The regions referred to in this release are defined as census regions.

### **Additional statistics and other information**

An annual bulletin, *Employment and Wages*, features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2004 edition of this bulletin contains selected data produced by Business Employment Dynamics (BED) on job gains and losses, as well as selected data from the fourth quarter 2004 version of this news release. *Employment and Wages Annual Averages, 2004* will be available for sale in late 2005 from the United States Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250, telephone 866-512-1800, outside of Washington, D.C. Within Washington, D.C., the telephone number is 202-512-1800. The fax number is 202-512-2104. Also, the 2004 bulletin will be available in a portable document format (PDF) on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn04.htm>.

News releases on quarterly measures of gross job flows also are available upon request from the Division of Administrative Statistics and Labor Turnover (Business Employment Dynamics), telephone 202-691-6467; (<http://www.bls.gov/bdm/>); (e-mail: [BDMInfo@bls.gov](mailto:BDMInfo@bls.gov)).

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup>**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
United States <sup>6</sup> .....	8,543.2	129,802.3	1.7	-	\$775	2.2	-
Jefferson, AL .....	18.7	366.3	-0.6	287	788	2.6	105
Madison, AL .....	8.1	165.6	2.5	83	799	5.1	17
Mobile, AL .....	9.7	165.1	3.3	54	608	3.1	73
Montgomery, AL .....	6.6	132.3	1.2	156	631	2.1	141
Tuscaloosa, AL .....	4.2	80.0	3.4	49	626	7.0	8
Anchorage Borough, AK ....	7.8	139.6	1.2	156	793	1.5	182
Maricopa, AZ .....	81.2	1,685.4	5.3	9	746	1.5	182
Pima, AZ .....	17.8	350.6	3.2	58	647	3.2	67
Benton, AR .....	4.7	88.3	5.7	6	771	-0.5	287
Pulaski, AR .....	13.4	241.8	1.4	139	683	2.2	131
Washington, AR .....	5.2	88.0	4.2	32	585	3.2	67
Alameda, CA .....	48.5	674.5	0.1	250	997	2.9	86
Contra Costa, CA .....	27.9	338.4	0.2	248	1,021	5.0	19
Fresno, CA .....	29.4	324.6	2.6	80	600	1.4	194
Kern, CA .....	16.4	249.0	3.5	45	652	0.0	275
Los Angeles, CA .....	373.9	4,051.2	-0.1	262	864	2.0	148
Marin, CA .....	11.8	108.1	0.8	200	933	-5.6	312
Monterey, CA .....	12.0	157.7	0.6	223	697	3.0	83
Orange, CA .....	91.4	1,477.6	2.3	92	893	2.2	131
Placer, CA .....	9.7	133.5	3.6	41	749	3.5	50
Riverside, CA .....	40.0	598.4	5.2	12	652	0.9	230
Sacramento, CA .....	48.1	616.9	2.3	92	855	2.5	111
San Bernardino, CA .....	43.7	627.1	4.9	20	654	0.8	240
San Diego, CA .....	88.4	1,282.1	1.2	156	816	1.4	194
San Francisco, CA .....	43.5	519.9	0.7	209	1,368	3.8	37
San Joaquin, CA .....	16.3	215.4	1.3	149	638	-0.6	289
San Luis Obispo, CA .....	8.8	101.3	0.8	200	621	2.1	141
San Mateo, CA .....	22.9	325.0	-0.5	278	1,220	1.2	206
Santa Barbara, CA .....	13.3	179.5	0.3	243	733	3.7	41
Santa Clara, CA .....	53.2	850.1	1.0	177	1,372	2.1	141
Santa Cruz, CA .....	8.5	92.3	1.0	177	723	-2.4	307
Solano, CA .....	9.7	127.4	1.9	109	715	0.1	271
Sonoma, CA .....	17.4	187.8	0.0	255	737	3.7	41
Stanislaus, CA .....	13.5	169.5	4.0	34	635	1.0	221
Tulare, CA .....	8.6	133.2	2.5	83	530	1.0	221
Ventura, CA .....	21.0	313.6	1.3	149	861	4.5	26
Yolo, CA .....	5.2	96.4	1.2	156	704	4.3	29
Adams, CO .....	8.8	144.2	3.0	68	712	0.3	262
Arapahoe, CO .....	19.1	268.0	1.3	149	943	1.5	182
Boulder, CO .....	12.0	152.7	3.2	58	919	-0.3	279
Denver, CO .....	24.4	418.1	1.0	177	976	3.8	37
El Paso, CO .....	16.3	235.2	2.0	105	692	0.9	230
Jefferson, CO .....	18.2	203.2	1.9	109	795	3.7	41
Larimer, CO .....	9.4	121.5	2.2	97	670	1.2	206
Fairfield, CT .....	31.8	406.5	0.3	243	1,613	7.7	5
Hartford, CT .....	24.4	480.1	1.2	156	1,041	3.4	58
New Haven, CT .....	22.1	357.9	0.5	236	816	1.0	221
New London, CT .....	6.7	127.9	1.8	115	784	-0.8	294
New Castle, DE .....	19.6	278.6	0.1	250	1,005	4.9	20
Washington, DC .....	30.5	661.7	1.1	168	1,277	4.2	31

See footnotes at end of table.



**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Alachua, FL .....	6.1	123.0	(7)	-	\$591	(7)	-
Brevard, FL .....	13.3	201.1	3.6	41	701	-0.3	279
Broward, FL .....	60.0	722.8	3.5	45	732	3.1	73
Collier, FL .....	11.1	130.0	2.7	75	702	10.7	1
Duval, FL .....	23.9	444.7	3.2	58	766	2.7	96
Escambia, FL .....	7.5	128.0	3.1	64	589	3.2	67
Hillsborough, FL .....	33.2	628.9	3.7	40	732	1.5	182
Lake, FL .....	6.0	79.9	5.4	7	536	2.5	111
Lee, FL .....	16.6	210.5	7.5	2	649	5.4	16
Leon, FL .....	7.6	144.7	0.0	255	625	1.3	198
Manatee, FL .....	7.9	129.9	4.4	30	560	3.3	62
Marion, FL .....	7.1	96.7	(7)	-	541	1.9	153
Miami-Dade, FL .....	83.6	994.9	1.9	109	748	2.9	86
Okaloosa, FL .....	5.8	81.2	4.5	27	593	4.4	27
Orange, FL .....	31.4	660.0	(7)	-	703	(7)	-
Palm Beach, FL .....	45.7	549.1	4.8	23	769	5.8	12
Pasco, FL .....	8.1	91.9	(7)	-	518	(7)	-
Pinellas, FL .....	29.6	434.6	-0.3	269	659	3.3	62
Polk, FL .....	11.3	201.9	3.6	41	582	2.8	92
Sarasota, FL .....	14.0	155.3	5.1	16	640	2.4	120
Seminole, FL .....	13.0	162.3	6.9	4	691	4.7	25
Volusia, FL .....	12.8	162.3	3.5	45	550	3.8	37
Bibb, GA .....	4.7	85.5	-1.9	312	632	2.9	86
Chatham, GA .....	7.1	129.5	1.6	127	629	1.5	182
Clayton, GA .....	4.3	108.2	1.8	115	740	-6.0	313
Cobb, GA .....	19.9	303.3	0.9	186	830	2.3	126
De Kalb, GA .....	16.9	288.9	0.8	200	845	2.2	131
Fulton, GA .....	37.3	729.7	0.9	186	1,076	3.0	83
Gwinnett, GA .....	21.7	309.2	1.6	127	804	0.9	230
Muscogee, GA .....	4.7	96.6	0.6	223	606	0.5	254
Richmond, GA .....	4.7	104.5	-0.6	287	625	2.5	111
Honolulu, HI .....	23.6	436.2	3.0	68	693	1.5	182
Ada, ID .....	13.5	192.2	4.5	27	667	1.7	165
Champaign, IL .....	4.0	89.7	0.7	209	619	-0.3	279
Cook, IL .....	128.4	2,466.4	-0.1	262	983	2.8	92
Du Page, IL .....	33.2	569.9	0.9	186	918	3.5	50
Kane, IL .....	11.5	197.7	1.8	115	689	1.5	182
Lake, IL .....	19.4	315.6	1.0	177	955	2.5	111
McHenry, IL .....	7.7	94.0	2.1	99	644	-0.9	297
McLean, IL .....	3.4	80.4	-1.7	311	716	-2.8	310
Madison, IL .....	5.7	92.8	-1.4	308	640	3.2	67
Peoria, IL .....	4.6	99.8	2.4	87	759	6.8	9
Rock Island, IL .....	3.4	77.2	0.9	186	728	7.7	5
St. Clair, IL .....	5.1	92.8	0.6	223	591	1.7	165
Sangamon, IL .....	5.1	128.9	-0.2	267	753	4.0	33
Will, IL .....	11.2	161.1	2.1	99	689	0.9	230
Winnebago, IL .....	6.7	134.5	-1.0	300	652	2.7	96
Allen, IN .....	8.9	177.4	0.0	255	658	-0.3	279
Elkhart, IN .....	4.9	123.9	3.8	38	635	1.6	169
Hamilton, IN .....	6.6	91.4	5.2	12	781	-4.3	311

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Lake, IN .....	10.1	190.3	1.2	156	\$671	1.8	160
Marion, IN .....	24.0	575.1	1.4	139	818	1.0	221
St. Joseph, IN .....	6.1	124.2	0.5	236	636	1.6	169
Vanderburgh, IN .....	4.8	107.2	0.3	243	644	2.1	141
Linn, IA .....	6.1	117.0	2.1	99	725	2.3	126
Polk, IA .....	14.1	259.9	1.9	109	792	1.5	182
Scott, IA .....	5.1	86.2	3.6	41	607	2.0	148
Johnson, KS .....	19.0	294.1	1.7	119	817	0.0	275
Sedgwick, KS .....	11.8	239.5	1.1	168	706	3.7	41
Shawnee, KS .....	4.8	93.8	-0.9	299	632	1.3	198
Wyandotte, KS .....	3.2	74.7	1.0	177	728	-0.5	287
Fayette, KY .....	8.8	167.5	2.4	87	684	-2.3	305
Jefferson, KY .....	21.7	415.8	1.0	177	742	-1.1	299
Caddo, LA .....	7.1	122.0	2.3	92	600	-1.3	300
Calcasieu, LA .....	4.7	83.0	1.4	139	639	3.4	58
East Baton Rouge, LA .....	13.1	246.2	0.1	250	654	3.2	67
Jefferson, LA .....	14.0	213.0	-0.3	269	633	3.3	62
Lafayette, LA .....	7.7	120.1	2.7	75	642	2.6	105
Orleans, LA .....	12.6	244.5	-1.1	303	738	2.2	131
Cumberland, ME .....	11.6	165.1	0.0	255	707	1.6	169
Anne Arundel, MD .....	14.0	217.9	1.4	139	792	2.5	111
Baltimore, MD .....	21.2	356.0	0.7	209	785	1.0	221
Frederick, MD .....	5.7	90.0	0.9	186	725	-2.4	307
Harford, MD .....	5.4	79.3	2.0	105	704	6.2	11
Howard, MD .....	8.2	135.4	-0.5	278	875	3.1	73
Montgomery, MD .....	32.4	452.6	1.6	127	1,041	2.6	105
Prince Georges, MD .....	15.5	310.5	-0.4	274	797	1.1	213
Baltimore City, MD .....	14.0	357.5	0.1	250	909	1.6	169
Barnstable, MA .....	9.4	82.5	-0.8	294	653	0.9	230
Bristol, MA .....	15.6	216.0	-0.5	278	661	1.8	160
Essex, MA .....	21.1	287.8	-0.7	292	803	1.6	169
Hampden, MA .....	14.4	195.4	-0.5	278	728	3.1	73
Middlesex, MA .....	48.9	775.9	0.5	236	1,097	2.2	131
Norfolk, MA .....	22.2	311.4	-0.5	278	916	0.1	271
Plymouth, MA .....	14.0	170.7	2.0	105	705	-0.3	279
Suffolk, MA .....	22.6	556.6	0.7	209	1,390	-1.0	298
Worcester, MA .....	20.7	312.4	-0.6	287	754	1.3	198
Genesee, MI .....	8.5	147.0	(7)	-	710	(7)	-
Ingham, MI .....	7.1	162.4	(7)	-	754	(7)	-
Kalamazoo, MI .....	5.5	115.0	-0.1	262	721	-2.3	305
Kent, MI .....	14.6	332.0	0.9	186	692	1.6	169
Macomb, MI .....	18.0	320.3	-0.3	269	830	0.6	251
Oakland, MI .....	40.9	703.0	-0.3	269	932	1.2	206
Ottawa, MI .....	5.8	109.6	1.4	139	676	3.2	67
Saginaw, MI .....	4.6	88.0	-0.7	292	686	1.6	169
Washtenaw, MI .....	8.2	193.9	0.4	239	859	-0.8	294
Wayne, MI .....	34.4	783.3	-1.1	303	892	0.2	267
Anoka, MN .....	7.4	110.5	1.7	119	720	1.0	221
Dakota, MN .....	9.7	166.3	1.2	156	755	0.3	262
Hennepin, MN .....	40.0	815.7	1.4	139	999	1.4	194

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Olmsted, MN .....	3.3	86.1	-0.6	287	\$860	1.1	213
Ramsey, MN .....	14.7	323.1	1.0	177	875	-0.6	289
St. Louis, MN .....	5.7	91.9	0.9	186	618	-2.7	309
Stearns, MN .....	4.2	76.2	0.8	200	583	0.3	262
Harrison, MS .....	4.6	90.7	1.6	127	561	4.3	29
Hinds, MS .....	6.5	128.0	-0.8	294	653	0.9	230
Boone, MO .....	4.3	79.0	3.4	49	573	1.2	206
Clay, MO .....	5.0	86.1	1.1	168	693	1.5	182
Greene, MO .....	8.0	147.7	2.7	75	576	2.7	96
Jackson, MO .....	18.7	360.7	0.6	223	776	1.3	198
St. Charles, MO .....	7.5	115.7	4.8	23	652	1.2	206
St. Louis, MO .....	33.9	612.3	0.6	223	819	0.7	246
St. Louis City, MO .....	8.2	219.4	-1.4	308	910	0.9	230
Douglas, NE .....	14.9	304.9	0.7	209	708	-0.6	289
Lancaster, NE .....	7.6	151.5	2.1	99	610	0.2	267
Clark, NV .....	40.9	844.7	7.6	1	718	3.5	50
Washoe, NV .....	13.1	206.7	4.3	31	705	1.9	153
Hillsborough, NH .....	12.2	192.6	0.7	209	827	2.6	105
Rockingham, NH .....	10.7	132.0	1.2	156	766	0.4	255
Atlantic, NJ .....	6.7	142.0	1.2	156	676	0.7	246
Bergen, NJ .....	34.2	442.4	0.0	255	982	1.9	153
Burlington, NJ .....	11.2	198.2	1.1	168	801	0.4	255
Camden, NJ .....	13.5	208.7	1.5	135	756	-0.7	293
Essex, NJ .....	21.2	355.6	-0.1	262	1,050	1.1	213
Gloucester, NJ .....	6.2	100.9	3.4	49	679	0.7	246
Hudson, NJ .....	13.9	235.5	0.4	239	1,236	9.0	3
Mercer, NJ .....	10.8	218.9	2.6	80	990	0.4	255
Middlesex, NJ .....	20.7	386.8	-0.3	269	1,022	0.6	251
Monmouth, NJ .....	20.0	249.0	0.7	209	836	1.6	169
Morris, NJ .....	17.7	278.0	-0.8	294	1,190	3.7	41
Ocean, NJ .....	11.5	140.3	0.9	186	649	1.9	153
Passaic, NJ .....	12.5	174.9	0.8	200	805	1.6	169
Somerset, NJ .....	10.0	166.3	0.1	250	1,343	1.5	182
Union, NJ .....	14.9	226.7	(7)	-	1,004	(7)	-
Bernalillo, NM .....	16.6	313.7	1.1	168	657	1.9	153
Albany, NY .....	9.6	225.7	-0.4	274	780	0.0	275
Bronx, NY .....	15.6	219.0	2.6	80	705	2.2	131
Broome, NY .....	4.5	92.9	-1.5	310	602	2.0	148
Dutchess, NY .....	7.9	116.6	0.6	223	801	3.5	50
Erie, NY .....	23.2	449.9	-0.8	294	680	0.7	246
Kings, NY .....	42.3	451.5	1.7	119	660	-0.3	279
Monroe, NY .....	17.6	379.8	0.9	186	744	-1.8	303
Nassau, NY .....	51.0	588.0	-0.1	262	860	3.4	58
New York, NY .....	113.4	2,221.5	0.8	200	2,025	5.8	12
Oneida, NY .....	5.3	107.3	0.7	209	587	0.9	230
Onondaga, NY .....	12.7	244.7	0.6	223	694	0.1	271
Orange, NY .....	9.4	125.7	0.6	223	648	4.0	33
Queens, NY .....	40.3	471.5	1.1	168	759	1.9	153
Richmond, NY .....	8.2	88.2	0.6	223	664	0.8	240
Rockland, NY .....	9.4	111.0	1.2	156	806	1.0	221

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Suffolk, NY .....	48.2	593.6	0.3	243	\$787	0.4	255
Westchester, NY .....	35.6	407.5	0.7	209	1,102	3.1	73
Buncombe, NC .....	7.0	108.3	3.4	49	575	1.8	160
Catawba, NC .....	4.3	86.5	-0.4	274	580	3.6	47
Cumberland, NC .....	5.8	115.1	4.0	34	558	2.2	131
Durham, NC .....	6.2	168.9	1.0	177	1,032	-2.0	304
Forsyth, NC .....	8.4	177.3	1.8	115	729	-0.3	279
Guilford, NC .....	13.7	269.8	1.7	119	686	1.6	169
Mecklenburg, NC .....	27.4	513.7	3.2	58	1,048	5.8	12
New Hanover, NC .....	6.6	93.2	5.2	12	611	4.8	23
Wake, NC .....	23.7	394.7	2.9	70	765	1.1	213
Cass, ND .....	5.5	88.5	3.2	58	610	0.8	240
Butler, OH .....	7.0	133.7	0.4	239	679	3.3	62
Cuyahoga, OH .....	38.1	740.8	0.0	255	813	2.8	92
Franklin, OH .....	29.1	671.3	0.7	209	776	2.0	148
Hamilton, OH .....	24.6	529.4	-0.5	278	850	2.4	120
Lake, OH .....	6.8	98.8	1.3	149	662	4.4	27
Lorain, OH .....	6.3	99.8	-1.3	307	653	2.2	131
Lucas, OH .....	10.9	222.0	(7)	-	705	(7)	-
Mahoning, OH .....	6.5	104.2	0.7	209	555	-1.6	302
Montgomery, OH .....	13.2	279.1	-0.4	274	725	2.7	96
Stark, OH .....	9.3	165.1	0.7	209	597	1.0	221
Summit, OH .....	14.9	266.4	1.7	119	714	-0.4	286
Trumbull, OH .....	4.8	82.7	-1.0	300	704	7.3	7
Oklahoma, OK .....	22.2	406.2	1.3	149	657	1.7	165
Tulsa, OK .....	18.4	324.5	3.1	64	686	2.2	131
Clackamas, OR .....	11.7	141.4	4.9	20	695	1.6	169
Jackson, OR .....	6.4	80.8	4.9	20	562	1.1	213
Lane, OR .....	10.4	143.1	4.2	32	586	2.3	126
Marion, OR .....	8.7	131.4	5.0	17	594	0.8	240
Multnomah, OR .....	25.6	424.2	3.1	64	778	2.2	131
Washington, OR .....	14.8	230.4	5.0	17	890	-0.6	289
Allegheny, PA .....	35.7	672.8	-0.8	294	817	1.4	194
Berks, PA .....	9.1	161.3	1.2	156	667	2.5	111
Bucks, PA .....	20.4	255.4	1.4	139	723	1.3	198
Chester, PA .....	15.0	225.9	1.6	127	985	3.5	50
Cumberland, PA .....	5.8	123.3	-1.0	300	784	9.3	2
Dauphin, PA .....	7.1	173.9	1.9	109	764	0.7	246
Delaware, PA .....	13.8	206.8	-0.5	278	799	0.6	251
Erie, PA .....	7.2	125.8	1.6	127	582	0.9	230
Lackawanna, PA .....	5.9	98.3	1.7	119	573	1.1	213
Lancaster, PA .....	12.0	224.9	1.5	135	640	1.3	198
Lehigh, PA .....	8.4	172.0	0.8	200	758	2.7	96
Luzerne, PA .....	8.2	140.7	0.9	186	590	-0.8	294
Montgomery, PA .....	27.8	476.1	0.6	223	1,010	0.2	267
Northampton, PA .....	6.4	92.5	1.3	149	668	2.9	86
Philadelphia, PA .....	29.7	631.7	1.1	168	895	0.4	255
Washington, PA .....	5.3	74.1	0.9	186	629	1.6	169
Westmoreland, PA .....	9.7	136.4	1.4	139	591	3.0	83
York, PA .....	8.9	171.4	2.8	72	669	0.0	275

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Kent, RI .....	5.6	79.8	0.2	248	\$682	0.3	262
Providence, RI .....	18.0	281.0	-0.5	278	764	1.3	198
Charleston, SC .....	12.1	194.4	2.4	87	629	3.3	62
Greenville, SC .....	12.4	222.8	1.4	139	658	0.8	240
Horry, SC .....	8.2	103.7	4.6	25	479	0.4	255
Lexington, SC .....	5.7	87.8	5.0	17	570	4.8	23
Richland, SC .....	9.6	205.1	2.8	72	643	2.4	120
Spartanburg, SC .....	6.3	115.0	0.3	243	682	3.5	50
Minnehaha, SD .....	6.0	108.2	2.3	92	635	3.8	37
Davidson, TN .....	17.9	431.8	1.6	127	765	2.4	120
Hamilton, TN .....	8.3	191.1	1.2	156	640	2.1	141
Knox, TN .....	10.4	215.5	1.5	135	639	1.1	213
Rutherford, TN .....	3.7	93.9	7.1	3	657	0.9	230
Shelby, TN .....	19.7	494.2	0.7	209	759	0.3	262
Bell, TX .....	4.2	93.8	(7)	-	560	3.5	50
Bexar, TX .....	30.0	663.0	1.9	109	688	2.5	111
Brazoria, TX .....	4.2	78.5	2.1	99	751	1.1	213
Brazos, TX .....	3.6	79.0	0.4	239	542	2.7	96
Cameron, TX .....	6.2	115.8	-0.5	278	460	3.6	47
Collin, TX .....	14.0	238.3	(7)	-	908	(7)	-
Dallas, TX .....	65.9	1,402.1	1.0	177	954	1.5	182
Denton, TX .....	9.2	144.6	3.8	38	650	2.5	111
El Paso, TX .....	12.6	254.4	1.4	139	529	3.1	73
Fort Bend, TX .....	7.1	107.5	2.8	72	820	3.1	73
Galveston, TX .....	4.8	86.5	0.9	186	673	4.0	33
Harris, TX .....	89.9	1,840.9	1.7	119	950	5.8	12
Hidalgo, TX .....	9.6	197.4	4.6	25	463	2.7	96
Jefferson, TX .....	5.8	116.6	0.7	209	718	6.5	10
Lubbock, TX .....	6.5	118.3	2.4	87	551	0.4	255
McLennan, TX .....	4.8	101.4	1.6	127	605	4.9	20
Montgomery, TX .....	7.0	100.8	6.1	5	670	2.8	92
Nueces, TX .....	8.0	146.8	1.5	135	614	2.5	111
Potter, TX .....	3.7	71.4	-1.1	303	587	2.4	120
Smith, TX .....	5.0	89.4	3.3	54	631	1.9	153
Tarrant, TX .....	34.6	705.7	2.2	97	775	2.0	148
Travis, TX .....	25.0	521.8	3.3	54	866	3.1	73
Webb, TX .....	4.4	79.3	1.1	168	490	3.6	47
Williamson, TX .....	5.8	99.5	5.4	7	802	2.3	126
Davis, UT .....	6.5	93.0	3.2	58	594	-1.5	301
Salt Lake, UT .....	35.4	529.0	3.4	49	680	1.3	198
Utah, UT .....	11.5	152.8	5.3	9	560	2.9	86
Weber, UT .....	5.5	87.8	1.1	168	538	0.2	267
Chittenden, VT .....	5.7	93.4	0.8	200	766	4.9	20
Arlington, VA .....	7.1	152.4	0.9	186	1,286	3.5	50
Chesterfield, VA .....	6.8	112.9	2.0	105	694	3.9	36
Fairfax, VA .....	30.4	555.9	4.0	34	1,181	2.1	141
Henrico, VA .....	8.4	170.4	2.9	70	891	8.4	4
Loudoun, VA .....	6.8	116.3	5.2	12	1,005	3.1	73
Prince William, VA .....	6.2	97.4	3.5	45	654	2.7	96
Alexandria City, VA .....	5.7	92.3	0.6	223	972	5.1	17

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Chesapeake City, VA .....	5.0	93.9	2.4	87	\$576	1.2	206
Newport News City, VA .....	3.8	98.4	2.1	99	672	3.1	73
Norfolk City, VA .....	5.6	145.4	0.9	186	723	0.8	240
Richmond City, VA .....	7.0	157.5	0.6	223	907	0.1	271
Virginia Beach City, VA .....	10.8	172.8	3.1	64	584	2.6	105
Clark, WA .....	10.2	123.1	4.5	27	675	2.1	141
King, WA .....	73.3	1,093.0	1.7	119	948	2.9	86
Kitsap, WA .....	6.1	80.8	2.3	92	659	( <sup>7</sup> )	-
Pierce, WA .....	18.9	253.7	3.3	54	683	2.4	120
Snohomish, WA .....	15.8	216.6	4.0	34	761	3.7	41
Spokane, WA .....	14.0	194.1	2.5	83	609	1.5	182
Thurston, WA .....	6.1	92.6	2.7	75	676	2.7	96
Whatcom, WA .....	6.3	77.2	5.3	9	578	2.3	126
Yakima, WA .....	7.4	90.3	2.7	75	516	2.6	105
Kanawha, WV .....	6.2	106.3	-1.1	303	660	1.7	165
Brown, WI .....	6.7	143.7	-0.2	267	689	4.2	31
Dane, WI .....	13.8	291.6	2.5	83	740	1.8	160
Milwaukee, WI .....	21.5	485.6	-0.6	287	785	1.8	160
Outagamie, WI .....	5.0	99.1	1.3	149	667	1.2	206
Racine, WI .....	4.3	74.5	0.0	255	677	1.0	221
Waukesha, WI .....	13.3	225.2	0.6	223	765	3.4	58
Winnebago, WI .....	3.9	85.6	0.8	200	753	1.6	169
San Juan, PR .....	13.9	316.4	0.6	( <sup>8</sup> )	511	5.8	( <sup>8</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. These 322 U.S. counties comprise 70.8 percent of the total covered workers in the U.S.

<sup>2</sup> Data are preliminary.

<sup>3</sup> Includes areas not officially designated as counties. See Technical Note.

<sup>4</sup> Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.

<sup>5</sup> Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

<sup>6</sup> Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

<sup>7</sup> Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.

<sup>8</sup> This county was not included in the U.S. rankings.

**Table 2. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup>**

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>	
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05 <sup>3</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05 <sup>3</sup>
United States <sup>5</sup> .....	8,543.2	129,802.3	1.7	\$775	2.2
Private industry .....	8,267.3	108,445.3	1.9	777	2.5
Natural resources and mining .....	122.8	1,586.6	2.3	781	8.0
Construction .....	834.9	6,782.2	4.1	750	2.5
Manufacturing .....	368.2	14,153.4	-0.2	940	2.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	1,865.7	25,176.2	1.5	657	1.7
Information .....	142.4	3,036.8	-2.5	1,245	1.5
Financial activities .....	803.4	7,921.1	1.4	1,479	4.6
Professional and business services .....	1,359.5	16,499.3	3.7	938	3.3
Education and health services .....	759.1	16,348.2	2.1	665	1.4
Leisure and hospitality .....	686.2	12,308.8	2.3	313	0.6
Other services .....	1,102.7	4,280.6	0.4	474	1.3
Government .....	276.0	21,357.0	0.7	767	1.2
Los Angeles, CA .....	373.9	4,051.2	-0.1	864	2.0
Private industry .....	370.0	3,464.6	0.0	848	2.7
Natural resources and mining .....	0.6	11.6	1.6	1,115	-19.7
Construction .....	13.4	142.2	4.7	808	3.3
Manufacturing .....	16.6	467.1	-4.3	895	4.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	53.4	778.4	1.3	712	2.7
Information .....	8.8	199.4	-9.3	1,562	6.5
Financial activities .....	23.3	239.3	0.5	1,559	5.3
Professional and business services .....	40.4	565.8	1.9	983	4.2
Education and health services .....	27.3	459.0	-0.7	729	2.0
Leisure and hospitality .....	25.9	370.9	2.1	452	-3.2
Other services .....	160.0	229.8	3.0	395	1.3
Government .....	3.9	586.6	-0.2	965	-0.2
Cook, IL .....	128.4	2,466.4	-0.1	983	2.8
Private industry .....	127.2	2,147.6	0.1	992	3.0
Natural resources and mining .....	0.1	1.2	-0.1	971	0.7
Construction .....	10.7	85.4	-2.3	1,135	5.0
Manufacturing .....	7.5	253.2	-1.4	962	6.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	26.8	468.0	-0.2	746	2.9
Information .....	2.5	60.8	-2.2	1,495	4.0
Financial activities .....	14.3	214.1	-0.5	2,150	2.0
Professional and business services .....	26.3	403.4	2.1	1,241	3.1
Education and health services .....	12.7	353.5	1.2	713	1.7
Leisure and hospitality .....	10.7	209.2	-1.1	358	1.4
Other services .....	12.8	93.7	-2.2	627	2.3
Government .....	1.2	318.7	-0.9	921	1.1
New York, NY .....	113.4	2,221.5	0.8	2,025	5.8
Private industry .....	113.2	1,776.9	1.1	2,303	6.8
Natural resources and mining .....	0.0	0.1	7.1	2,002	14.4
Construction .....	2.1	28.4	0.7	1,327	3.2
Manufacturing .....	3.2	43.2	-6.4	1,437	25.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	21.7	232.0	1.1	1,072	2.5
Information .....	4.1	127.1	-0.1	2,238	5.2
Financial activities .....	17.0	348.7	0.0	6,199	9.3
Professional and business services .....	22.5	438.7	1.3	1,907	6.5
Education and health services .....	8.0	276.2	1.1	884	3.9
Leisure and hospitality .....	10.3	190.1	1.8	678	1.0
Other services .....	16.2	82.5	0.5	855	5.9
Government .....	0.2	444.6	-0.3	922	-4.9

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>	
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05 <sup>3</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05 <sup>3</sup>
Harris, TX .....	89.9	1,840.9	1.7	\$950	5.8
Private industry .....	89.4	1,594.4	1.9	978	6.2
Natural resources and mining .....	1.3	65.1	5.9	3,004	17.4
Construction .....	6.2	132.0	-0.2	837	1.9
Manufacturing .....	4.5	164.2	1.4	1,270	12.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	20.9	385.5	0.8	870	2.7
Information .....	1.3	31.8	-4.6	1,174	4.1
Financial activities .....	9.8	114.7	1.6	1,318	4.0
Professional and business services .....	17.3	291.6	5.1	1,019	5.9
Education and health services .....	9.2	192.1	2.1	720	-1.9
Leisure and hospitality .....	6.7	158.9	0.9	339	4.0
Other services .....	10.4	54.5	-1.9	520	0.0
Government .....	0.5	246.5	0.1	768	1.9
Maricopa, AZ .....	81.2	1,685.4	5.3	746	1.5
Private industry .....	80.6	1,476.6	5.8	747	1.4
Natural resources and mining .....	0.5	9.0	2.6	574	2.3
Construction .....	8.4	152.6	15.1	724	2.0
Manufacturing .....	3.2	130.5	1.9	1,116	4.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	18.4	342.6	5.1	720	0.0
Information .....	1.4	32.3	-7.2	967	5.5
Financial activities .....	9.9	142.7	6.3	1,058	7.5
Professional and business services .....	17.8	280.2	7.5	717	-3.5
Education and health services .....	8.0	172.5	5.7	748	1.1
Leisure and hospitality .....	5.8	165.6	2.6	346	-1.7
Other services .....	5.6	45.9	0.8	494	2.7
Government .....	0.6	208.9	2.2	736	2.9
Orange, CA .....	91.4	1,477.6	2.3	893	2.2
Private industry .....	90.0	1,325.4	2.4	881	2.2
Natural resources and mining .....	0.2	6.7	-11.7	541	0.4
Construction .....	6.7	94.2	3.2	915	4.0
Manufacturing .....	5.8	183.8	0.7	1,023	0.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	17.3	267.0	1.4	816	-1.2
Information .....	1.4	32.7	-1.6	1,256	1.0
Financial activities .....	10.3	139.0	4.9	1,549	7.9
Professional and business services .....	17.8	261.2	5.6	897	1.1
Education and health services .....	9.4	130.9	1.4	769	3.9
Leisure and hospitality .....	6.8	161.8	1.0	343	-1.2
Other services .....	14.1	47.4	2.0	507	0.8
Government .....	1.4	152.1	1.0	996	1.3
Dallas, TX .....	65.9	1,402.1	1.0	954	1.5
Private industry .....	65.4	1,243.2	1.0	972	1.4
Natural resources and mining .....	0.5	6.9	2.0	2,614	8.2
Construction .....	4.3	74.2	3.9	833	5.8
Manufacturing .....	3.3	143.3	0.5	1,172	6.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	14.9	298.3	1.0	874	0.8
Information .....	1.7	54.1	-5.1	1,369	-6.1
Financial activities .....	8.4	133.7	1.2	1,496	4.8
Professional and business services .....	13.6	237.4	1.0	1,017	-0.1
Education and health services .....	6.1	130.7	0.7	801	-1.5
Leisure and hospitality .....	4.9	121.8	1.1	437	-5.6
Other services .....	6.5	40.1	-0.8	569	1.6
Government .....	0.5	158.9	1.4	809	2.1

See footnotes at end of table.



**Table 2. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>	
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05 <sup>3</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05 <sup>3</sup>
San Diego, CA .....	88.4	1,282.1	1.2	\$816	1.4
Private industry .....	87.0	1,062.6	1.4	806	2.0
Natural resources and mining .....	0.8	11.1	-4.8	465	2.0
Construction .....	6.8	88.8	3.6	811	2.0
Manufacturing .....	3.5	104.3	0.6	1,095	1.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	14.2	212.6	1.3	673	3.9
Information .....	1.3	37.4	2.9	1,633	-6.0
Financial activities .....	9.2	82.0	0.1	1,224	5.2
Professional and business services .....	15.1	207.7	1.8	954	1.6
Education and health services .....	7.8	120.8	-0.8	711	2.9
Leisure and hospitality .....	6.6	143.3	2.2	356	3.2
Other services .....	21.5	54.2	3.0	433	-0.9
Government .....	1.4	219.5	0.2	867	-1.1
King, WA .....	73.3	1,093.0	1.7	948	2.9
Private industry .....	72.7	939.9	2.0	957	2.9
Natural resources and mining .....	0.4	3.3	4.2	1,269	6.5
Construction .....	6.2	55.8	3.6	889	2.4
Manufacturing .....	2.6	103.8	2.6	1,214	7.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	14.5	213.7	1.7	832	2.3
Information .....	1.6	68.7	1.2	1,666	1.6
Financial activities .....	6.3	74.2	-1.0	1,370	3.8
Professional and business services .....	11.9	162.4	4.9	1,109	-1.6
Education and health services .....	6.1	113.2	3.4	708	2.9
Leisure and hospitality .....	5.5	99.7	0.5	426	8.7
Other services .....	17.8	45.0	-3.6	490	5.8
Government .....	0.5	153.1	-0.2	892	3.4
Miami-Dade, FL .....	83.6	994.9	1.9	748	2.9
Private industry .....	83.3	841.3	2.2	726	2.1
Natural resources and mining .....	0.5	11.1	-2.6	380	4.1
Construction .....	5.3	43.6	9.1	759	7.2
Manufacturing .....	2.7	49.3	-4.0	688	3.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	24.0	241.5	1.2	688	3.0
Information .....	1.8	23.6	( <sup>6</sup> )	1,155	( <sup>6</sup> )
Financial activities .....	9.1	68.0	3.4	1,207	0.8
Professional and business services .....	16.5	141.7	7.1	829	1.7
Education and health services .....	8.2	124.9	0.9	704	-2.6
Leisure and hospitality .....	5.6	98.5	1.5	420	4.7
Other services .....	7.6	34.7	-0.1	439	1.6
Government .....	0.3	153.6	0.3	867	6.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

<sup>2</sup> Data are preliminary.

<sup>3</sup> Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.

<sup>4</sup> Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

<sup>5</sup> Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

<sup>6</sup> Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.

**Table 3. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup>**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>	
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>
United States <sup>6</sup> .....	8,543.2	129,802.3	1.7	\$775	2.2
Jefferson, AL .....	18.7	366.3	-0.6	788	2.6
Anchorage Borough, AK ....	7.8	139.6	1.2	793	1.5
Maricopa, AZ .....	81.2	1,685.4	5.3	746	1.5
Pulaski, AR .....	13.4	241.8	1.4	683	2.2
Los Angeles, CA .....	373.9	4,051.2	-0.1	864	2.0
Denver, CO .....	24.4	418.1	1.0	976	3.8
Hartford, CT .....	24.4	480.1	1.2	1,041	3.4
New Castle, DE .....	19.6	278.6	0.1	1,005	4.9
Washington, DC .....	30.5	661.7	1.1	1,277	4.2
Miami-Dade, FL .....	83.6	994.9	1.9	748	2.9
Fulton, GA .....	37.3	729.7	0.9	1,076	3.0
Honolulu, HI .....	23.6	436.2	3.0	693	1.5
Ada, ID .....	13.5	192.2	4.5	667	1.7
Cook, IL .....	128.4	2,466.4	-0.1	983	2.8
Marion, IN .....	24.0	575.1	1.4	818	1.0
Polk, IA .....	14.1	259.9	1.9	792	1.5
Johnson, KS .....	19.0	294.1	1.7	817	0.0
Jefferson, KY .....	21.7	415.8	1.0	742	-1.1
Orleans, LA .....	12.6	244.5	-1.1	738	2.2
Cumberland, ME .....	11.6	165.1	0.0	707	1.6
Montgomery, MD .....	32.4	452.6	1.6	1,041	2.6
Middlesex, MA .....	48.9	775.9	0.5	1,097	2.2
Wayne, MI .....	34.4	783.3	-1.1	892	0.2
Hennepin, MN .....	40.0	815.7	1.4	999	1.4
Hinds, MS .....	6.5	128.0	-0.8	653	0.9
St. Louis, MO .....	33.9	612.3	0.6	819	0.7
Yellowstone, MT .....	5.3	71.2	3.4	596	5.1
Douglas, NE .....	14.9	304.9	0.7	708	-0.6
Clark, NV .....	40.9	844.7	7.6	718	3.5
Hillsborough, NH .....	12.2	192.6	0.7	827	2.6
Bergen, NJ .....	34.2	442.4	0.0	982	1.9
Bernalillo, NM .....	16.6	313.7	1.1	657	1.9
New York, NY .....	113.4	2,221.5	0.8	2,025	5.8
Mecklenburg, NC .....	27.4	513.7	3.2	1,048	5.8
Cass, ND .....	5.5	88.5	3.2	610	0.8
Cuyahoga, OH .....	38.1	740.8	0.0	813	2.8
Oklahoma, OK .....	22.2	406.2	1.3	657	1.7
Multnomah, OR .....	25.6	424.2	3.1	778	2.2
Allegheny, PA .....	35.7	672.8	-0.8	817	1.4
Providence, RI .....	18.0	281.0	-0.5	764	1.3
Greenville, SC .....	12.4	222.8	1.4	658	0.8
Minnehaha, SD .....	6.0	108.2	2.3	635	3.8
Shelby, TN .....	19.7	494.2	0.7	759	0.3
Harris, TX .....	89.9	1,840.9	1.7	950	5.8
Salt Lake, UT .....	35.4	529.0	3.4	680	1.3
Chittenden, VT .....	5.7	93.4	0.8	766	4.9
Fairfax, VA .....	30.4	555.9	4.0	1,181	2.1
King, WA .....	73.3	1,093.0	1.7	948	2.9
Kanawha, WV .....	6.2	106.3	-1.1	660	1.7
Milwaukee, WI .....	21.5	485.6	-0.6	785	1.8

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 3. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>	
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05 <sup>4</sup>
Laramie, WY .....	2.9	39.5	1.3	\$601	2.6
San Juan, PR .....	13.9	316.4	0.6	511	5.8
St. Thomas, VI .....	1.7	23.2	-1.1	583	4.3

<sup>1</sup> Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

<sup>2</sup> Data are preliminary.

<sup>3</sup> Includes areas not officially designated as counties. See Technical Note.

<sup>4</sup> Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.

<sup>5</sup> Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

<sup>6</sup> Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

**Table 4. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages by state, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup>**

State	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>3</sup>	
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05
United States <sup>4</sup> .....	8,543.2	129,802.3	1.7	\$775	2.2
Alabama .....	116.0	1,871.5	2.0	642	2.6
Alaska .....	20.3	290.3	2.0	744	1.5
Arizona .....	129.3	2,459.7	5.0	698	2.3
Arkansas .....	77.5	1,144.8	1.7	579	2.8
California .....	1,247.9	15,064.5	1.9	872	2.0
Colorado .....	166.7	2,158.6	2.4	787	2.2
Connecticut .....	109.8	1,624.7	0.8	1,084	3.9
Delaware .....	29.7	407.9	1.2	878	4.0
District of Columbia .....	30.5	661.7	1.1	1,277	4.2
Florida .....	547.0	7,731.0	3.5	679	3.5
Georgia .....	252.9	3,877.0	1.5	742	1.9
Hawaii .....	36.1	597.6	3.1	669	2.0
Idaho .....	50.9	594.2	4.2	561	1.6
Illinois .....	333.4	5,644.9	0.5	848	2.9
Indiana .....	155.3	2,838.7	1.1	667	0.9
Iowa .....	91.5	1,419.5	1.9	616	1.7
Kansas .....	82.9	1,290.7	0.9	631	1.4
Kentucky .....	107.4	1,741.2	1.8	628	0.6
Louisiana .....	118.0	1,873.8	0.6	619	2.8
Maine .....	48.1	573.2	-0.5	614	1.7
Maryland .....	159.5	2,458.0	1.1	831	2.0
Massachusetts .....	214.7	3,094.8	0.1	964	1.2
Michigan .....	255.8	4,218.3	-0.4	780	1.2
Minnesota .....	156.7	2,559.7	1.3	783	0.8
Mississippi .....	67.6	1,113.1	1.3	545	2.3
Missouri .....	170.0	2,644.2	1.8	671	0.9
Montana .....	39.8	403.8	3.2	533	3.5
Nebraska .....	55.8	879.8	1.5	600	0.8
Nevada .....	66.1	1,187.6	6.7	714	2.6
New Hampshire .....	47.3	606.9	0.8	745	2.8
New Jersey .....	269.5	3,863.5	0.8	963	1.8
New Mexico .....	50.6	765.0	2.2	596	2.1
New York .....	558.2	8,242.3	0.8	1,096	3.7
North Carolina .....	233.1	3,808.0	2.3	687	2.7
North Dakota .....	24.5	320.4	2.6	550	1.5
Ohio .....	290.7	5,228.6	0.4	706	2.0
Oklahoma .....	93.9	1,453.9	2.5	591	1.9
Oregon .....	122.1	1,621.6	4.2	685	1.5
Pennsylvania .....	338.0	5,481.0	1.0	747	1.5
Rhode Island .....	35.4	466.9	0.5	736	1.2
South Carolina .....	116.1	1,800.3	1.5	611	2.5
South Dakota .....	28.9	365.1	2.0	544	2.4
Tennessee .....	131.7	2,665.2	1.8	660	1.4
Texas .....	517.4	9,454.6	2.2	760	3.1
Utah .....	78.9	1,091.9	3.9	607	1.3
Vermont .....	24.4	297.5	0.9	639	3.9
Virginia .....	211.3	3,525.7	2.4	794	2.7
Washington .....	204.2	2,702.3	2.6	766	2.4
West Virginia .....	47.6	683.6	1.1	583	2.5
Wisconsin .....	159.5	2,687.0	1.4	668	1.7

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 4. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages by state, first quarter 2005<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

State	Establishments, first quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>3</sup>	
		March 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2004-05	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2004-05
Wyoming .....	22.8	246.2	3.0	\$606	3.9
Puerto Rico .....	55.5	1,048.2	1.4	433	3.3
Virgin Islands .....	3.4	44.2	2.1	650	13.4

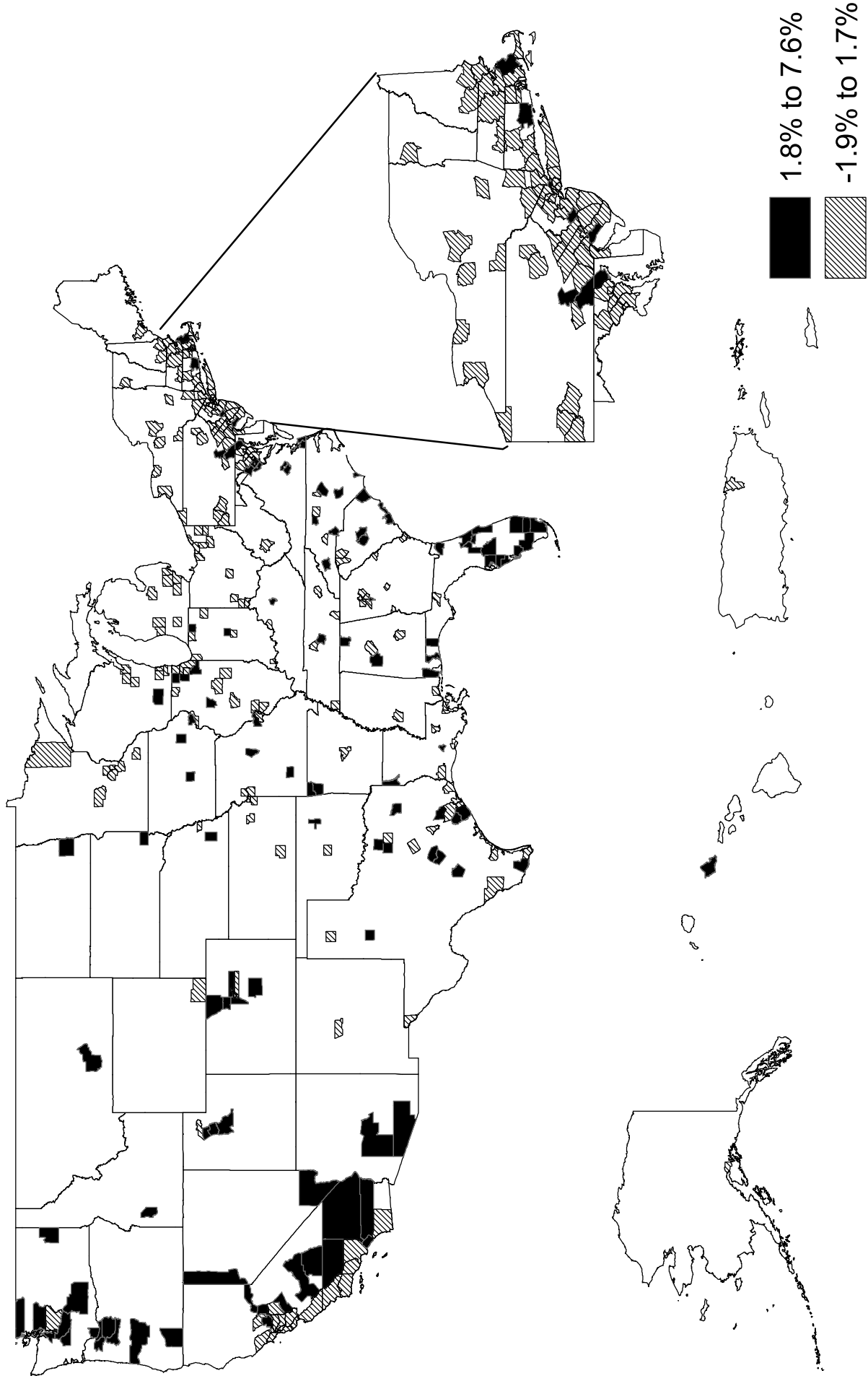
<sup>1</sup> Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

<sup>2</sup> Data are preliminary.

<sup>3</sup> Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

<sup>4</sup> Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

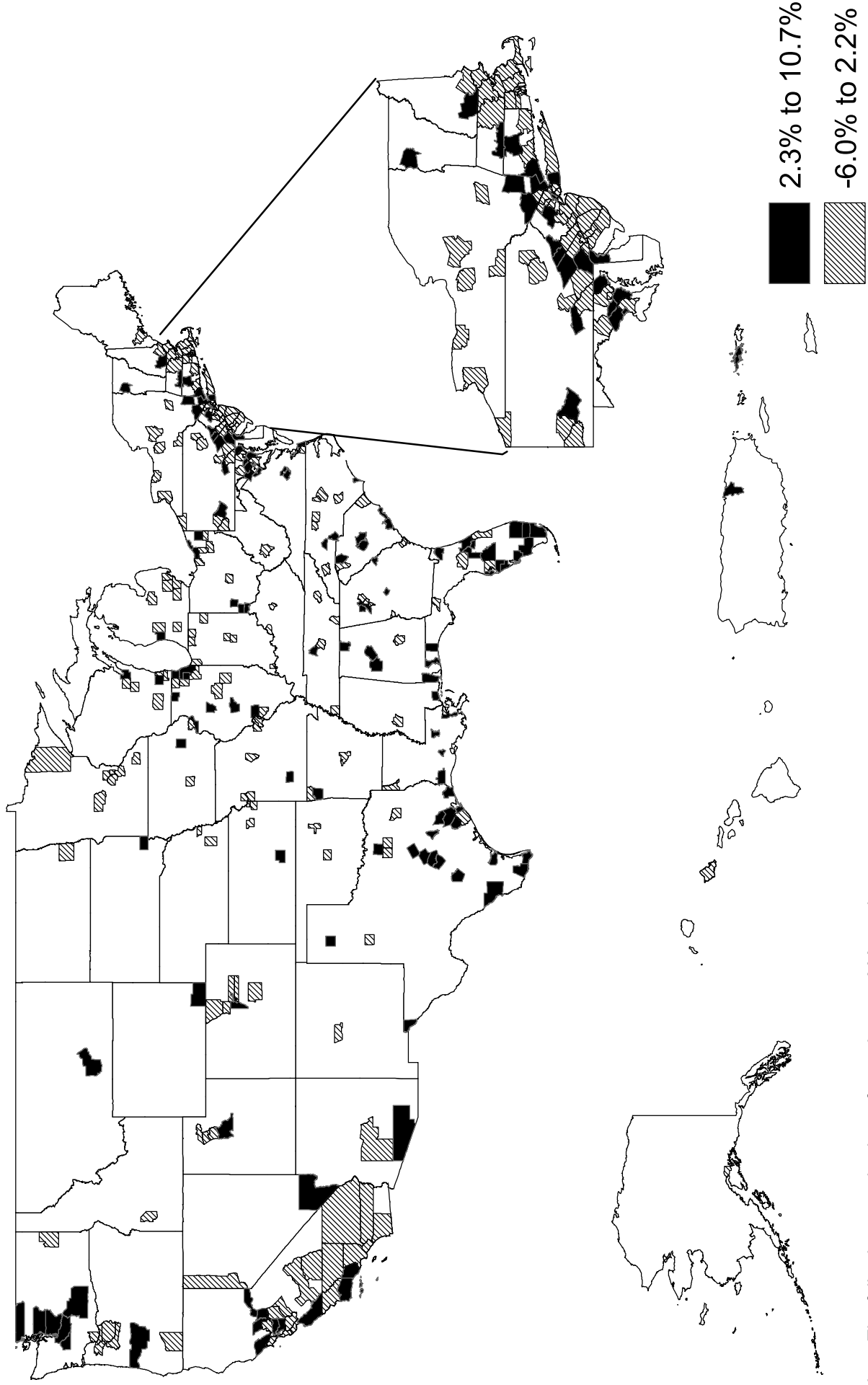
**Chart 1. Percent change in employment in counties with 75,000 employees or more, March 2004–05 (U.S. Average = 1.7%)**



Note: The following counties have fewer than 75,000 employees but are included because they are the largest county in their state or territory: Laramie, Wyo., Yellowstone, Mont., and St. Thomas, V.I.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics  
October 2005

**Chart 2. Percent change in average weekly wage in counties with 75,000 employees or more, first quarter 2004–05 (U.S. Average = 2.2%)**



Note: The following counties have fewer than 75,000 employees but are included because they are the largest county in their state or territory: Laramie, Wyo., Yellowstone, Mont., and St. Thomas, V.I.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics  
October 2005