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(This release was reissued on Tuesday, August 31, 2004, to correct data in the second column of table A and in the release text associated with table A. See page 5 for corrections to data from prior releases.)

COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES: FOURTH QUARTER 2003

In December 2003, Clark County, Nev., and Loudoun County, Va., had the largest over-the-year percentage increases 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 and Loudoun counties experienced over-the-year employment gains of 5.2 percent each, compared with zero job growth in the nation. Collier County, Fla., had the largest over-the-year gain in average weekly wages in the fourth quarter of 2003, with an increase of 9.7 percent. The U.S. average weekly wage increased by 3.6 percent over the same time span.

Of the 315 largest counties in the United States, 171 had over-the-year growth in employment and 137 experienced declines in employment, while the national average employment level was unchanged. (See chart 1.) Average weekly wages grew faster than the national average in 166 of the largest U.S. counties, while the percent change in average weekly wages was below the national average in 144 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 8.3 million employer reports cover 129.3 million full- and part-time workers. The attached tables and charts contain data for the nation and for the 315 U.S. counties with employment levels of 75,000 or more. In addition, data for San Juan, Puerto Rico, are provided, but not used in calculating U.S. averages, or in the analysis in the text. (See Technical Note.) December 2003 employment and 2003 fourth-quarter average weekly wages for all states are provided in table 4 of this release. Data for all states, MSAs, counties, and the nation through the third quarter of 2003 are available on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/>. Preliminary data for the fourth quarter of 2003 and revised data for the first, second, and third quarters of 2003 will be available later in July on the BLS Web site.

Large County Employment

The national employment total in December 2003 was 129.3 million, unchanged from December 2002. The 315 U.S. counties with 75,000 or more employees accounted for 70.5 percent of total U.S. covered employment and 76.6 percent of total wages. These 315 counties had a net job loss of 26,708 over the year. The biggest gains in employment from December 2002 to December 2003 were recorded in the

Table A. Top 10 counties ranked by December 2003 employment, December 2002-03 employment change, and December 2002-03 percent change in employment

Employment in large counties					
December 2003 employment (thousands)		Net change in employment, December 2002-03 (thousands)		Percent change in employment, December 2002-03	
U.S.	129,341.5	U.S.	-37.3	U.S.	0.0
Los Angeles, Calif.	4,075.3	Clark, Nev.	38.5	Clark, Nev.	5.2
Cook, Ill.	2,539.8	Orange, Calif.	18.6	Loudoun, Va.	5.2
New York, N.Y.	2,253.6	Riverside, Calif.	16.5	Prince William, Va.	5.1
Harris, Texas	1,841.5	San Diego, Calif.	15.9	Rutherford, Tenn.	4.6
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,621.2	Fairfax, Va.	15.3	Hidalgo, Texas	4.4
Dallas, Texas	1,450.8	San Bernardino, Calif.	14.7	Montgomery, Texas	4.3
Orange, Calif.	1,436.6	Pinellas, Fla.	10.0	Placer, Calif.	4.3
San Diego, Calif.	1,278.2	Wake, N.C.	8.9	Chesapeake City, Va.	4.2
King, Wash.	1,100.6	Gwinnett, Ga.	8.2	Lee, Fla.	3.9
Miami-Dade, Fla.	980.8	Orange, Fla.	8.0	Frederick, Md.	3.8

counties of Clark, Nev. (38,500), Orange, Calif. (18,600), Riverside, Calif. (16,500), San Diego, Calif. (15,900), and Fairfax, Va. (15,300). (See table A.)

Employment increased in 171 counties from December 2002 to December 2003. Clark County, Nev., and Loudoun County, Va., had the largest over-the-year percentage increases in employment (5.2 percent each). Prince William County, Va., had the next largest increase, 5.1 percent, followed by the counties of Rutherford, Tenn. (4.6 percent), and Hidalgo, Texas (4.4 percent). (See table 1.)

Employment declined in 137 counties from December 2002 to December 2003. The largest percentage decline in employment was in San Mateo County, Calif. (-4.7 percent), followed by the counties of Sangamon, Ill. (-3.9 percent), Santa Clara, Calif. (-3.4 percent), Tulsa, Okla. (-3.0 percent), and Shawnee, Kan. (-2.9 percent). The largest absolute declines in employment occurred in Cook County, Ill. (-30,800), followed by the counties of Santa Clara, Calif. (-30,500), New York, N.Y. (-21,900), Dallas, Texas (-20,700), and Middlesex, Mass. (-20,400).

Large County Average Weekly Wages

The national average weekly wage in the fourth quarter of 2003 was \$767, which was 3.6 percent higher than in the fourth quarter of 2002. Average weekly wages were higher than the national average in 109 of the largest 315 U.S. counties. New York County, N.Y., held the top position among the highest-paid large counties with an average weekly wage of \$1,480. Santa Clara County, Calif., was second with an average weekly wage of \$1,333, followed by Fairfield, Conn. (\$1,308), Suffolk, Mass. (\$1,245), and Washington, D.C. (\$1,238). (See table B.)

Collier County, Fla., led the nation in growth in average weekly wages with an increase of 9.7 percent. Madison County, Ill., was second with 8.8 percent growth, followed by the counties of Washington, Ore. (8.5 percent), Genesee, Mich. (8.0 percent), and Peoria, Ill. (7.6 percent).

Table B. Top 10 counties ranked by fourth quarter 2003 average weekly wages, fourth quarter 2002-03 change in average weekly wages, and fourth quarter 2002-03 percent change in average weekly wages

Average weekly wage in large counties					
Average weekly wage, fourth quarter 2003		Change in average weekly wage, fourth quarter 2002-03		Percent change in average weekly wage, fourth quarter 2002-03	
U.S.	\$767	U.S.	\$27	U.S.	3.6
New York, N.Y.	\$1,480	New York, N.Y.	\$99	Collier, Fla.	9.7
Santa Clara, Calif.	1,333	Santa Clara, Calif.	86	Madison, Ill.	8.8
Fairfield, Conn.	1,308	Suffolk, Mass.	75	Washington, Ore.	8.5
Suffolk, Mass.	1,245	Fairfax, Va.	70	Genesee, Mich.	8.0
Washington, D.C.	1,238	Washington, Ore.	70	Peoria, Ill.	7.6
San Mateo, Calif.	1,234	San Mateo, Calif.	67	Okaloosa, Fla.	7.5
Arlington, Va.	1,199	Collier, Fla.	62	Norfolk City, Va.	7.3
San Francisco, Calif.	1,178	Philadelphia, Pa.	61	New York, N.Y.	7.2
Somerset, N.J.	1,159	Genesee, Mich.	59	Philadelphia, Pa.	7.2
Fairfax, Va.	1,158	Hudson, N.J.	56	Richmond, N.Y.	7.1

There were 206 counties with an average weekly wage below the national average. The lowest average weekly wages were reported in Cameron County, Texas (\$480), followed by the counties of Hidalgo, Texas (\$487), Yakima, Wash. (\$515), Horry, S.C. (\$523), and Brazos, Texas (\$537). (See table 1.)

Six large counties experienced declines in average weekly wages. Broome County, N.Y., and Olmsted County, Minn., had the largest decreases, -3.3 percent each, followed by the counties of Hamilton, Ind. (-1.5 percent), Arapahoe, Colo. (-1.3 percent), and Santa Cruz, Calif. (-1.2 percent).

Ten Largest U.S. Counties

Of the 10 largest U.S. counties (based on 2002 employment levels), 3 reported increases in employment, while declines occurred in 6 from December 2002 to December 2003. Orange County, Calif., and San Diego County, Calif., experienced the fastest growth in employment among the largest counties with a 1.3 percent increase each. Orange County showed employment gains in every private industry supersector, except manufacturing and information. San Diego County had a similar experience, but also reported a decline in the natural resources and mining supersector. Government employment in Orange County declined by 5.7 percent, whereas government employment in San Diego County increased by 0.1 percent. (See table 2.) King County, Wash., had the next largest increase in employment, 0.2 percent. The largest decline in employment for the 10 largest counties was in Dallas County, Texas, -1.4 percent. The next largest declines in employment were recorded in Cook County, Ill., -1.2 percent, and in New York County, N.Y., -1.0 percent.

All of the 10 largest U.S. counties saw over-the-year increases in average weekly wages. New York County, N.Y., had the fastest growth in wages among the top 10 counties, growing at a 7.2 percent rate. New York County's fastest growing supersectors were financial activities, where the average weekly wage rose by 16.1 percent, and information, with a 7.9 percent increase. Orange County, Calif., was second in wage growth, increasing by 5.3 percent, followed by Dallas County, Texas, where the average wage in-

creased by 4.3 percent. King County, Wash., experienced the smallest increase in average weekly wages among the largest 10 counties, rising by only 0.2 percent, primarily due to wage decreases in the information supersector. This was followed by Harris County, Texas, and San Diego County, Calif., with increases in average weekly wages of 2.1 percent and 2.6 percent, respectively.

Largest County by State

Table 3 shows December 2003 employment and 2003 fourth-quarter average weekly wage in the largest county in each state. This table includes two counties that have employment below 75,000 (Yellowstone, Mont., and Laramie, Wyo.). The employment levels in these counties in December 2003 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. (\$1,480), while the lowest average weekly wage was in Laramie, Wyo. (\$597).

Correction of Data in Prior County Employment and Wages News Releases

In addition to the corrections made to the data in the second column of table A in this release, corrections also have been made to data originally published in the second column of table A of the second and third quarter 2003 County Employment and Wages news releases (USDL 04-6 and USDL 04-599). Corrected data from these releases are presented in the tables below. All data released through Create Customized Tables, Series Report, and FTP tools on the BLS Web site are unaffected.

Table A. Top 10 counties ranked by June 2003 employment, June 2002-03 employment change, and June 2002-03 percent change in employment

Employment					
June 2003 employment (thousands)		Net change in employment, June 2002-03 (thousands)		Percent change in employment, June 2002-03	
U.S.	129,169.4	U.S.	-628.3	U.S.	-0.5
Los Angeles, Calif.	4,060.4	Clark, Nev.	25.4	Loudoun, Va.	5.2
Cook, Ill.	2,543.0	Riverside, Calif.	16.1	Yakima, Wash.	4.8
New York, N.Y.	2,214.1	Orange, Fla.	13.4	Lee, Fla.	4.6
Harris, Texas	1,837.2	Orange, Calif.	13.1	St. Charles, Mo.	4.3
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,547.0	Maricopa, Ariz.	10.5	Placer, Calif.	4.2
Dallas, Texas	1,442.7	Sacramento, Calif.	9.3	Rutherford, Tenn.	4.1
Orange, Calif.	1,433.5	Pinellas, Fla.	9.1	Pasco, Fla.	3.9
San Diego, Calif.	1,263.1	San Bernardino, Calif.	8.5	Thurston, Wash.	3.7
King, Wash.	1,090.7	Lee, Fla.	8.0	Hidalgo, Texas	3.6
Miami-Dade, Fla.	966.5	Kern, Calif.	8.0	Clark, Nev.	3.5

Table A. Top 10 counties ranked by September 2003 employment, September 2002-03 employment change, and September 2002-03 percent change in employment

Employment					
September 2003 employment (thousands)		Net change in employment, September 2002-03 (thousands)		Percent change in employment, September 2002-03	
U.S.	128,546.3	U.S.	-494.3	U.S.	-0.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	4,007.2	Clark, Nev.	32.6	Manatee, Fla.	5.7
Cook, Ill.	2,529.5	Maricopa, Ariz.	17.5	Lee, Fla.	5.4
New York, N.Y.	2,184.9	Orange, Calif.	16.1	Loudoun, Va.	5.4
Harris, Texas	1,823.7	Riverside, Calif.	14.8	Gloucester, N.J.	4.6
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,571.3	San Bernardino, Calif.	14.4	Clark, Nev.	4.4
Dallas, Texas	1,438.9	Pinellas, Fla.	11.3	Okaloosa, Fla.	4.4
Orange, Calif.	1,426.5	San Diego, Calif.	10.8	Placer, Calif.	4.3
San Diego, Calif.	1,256.7	Lee, Fla.	9.4	Hidalgo, Texas	4.0
King, Wash.	1,095.4	Fairfax, Va.	9.0	Rutherford, Tenn.	3.9
Miami-Dade, Fla.	965.2	Orange, Fla.	7.8	Pasco, Fla.	3.8

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 2003 are preliminary and subject to revision.

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.

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 below.) Additional information on each program can be obtained from the program Web sites shown in the table below.

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

	QCEW	BED	CES
Source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Count of UI administrative records submitted by 8.3 million employers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Count of longitudinally-linked UI administrative records submitted by 6.4 million private sector employers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sample survey: 400,000 employers
Coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UI and UCFE coverage, including all employers subject to state and federal UI Laws 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UI coverage, excluding government, private households, and establishments with zero employment 	Nonfarm wage and salary jobs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UI coverage, excluding agriculture, private households, and self-employed Other employment, including railroads, religious organizations, and other non-UI-covered jobs
Publication frequency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly - 7 months after the end of each quarter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly - 8 months after the end of each quarter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly - Usually first Friday of following month
Use of UI file	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directly summarizes and publishes each new quarter of UI data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Links each new UI quarter to longitudinal database and directly summarizes gross job gains and losses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses UI file as a sampling frame sample estimates to first quarter and annually realigns (benchmarks) UI levels
Principal products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a quarterly and annual universe count of establishments, employment, and wages at the county, MSA, state, and national levels by detailed industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides quarterly employer dynamics data on establishment openings, closings, expansions, and contractions at the national level Future expansions will include data at the county, MSA, and state level by industry and size of establishment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides current monthly estimates of employment, hours, and earnings at the MSA, state, and national level by industry
Principal uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major uses include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed locality data Periodic universe counts for benchmarking sample survey estimates Sample frame for BLS establishment surveys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major uses include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business cycle analysis Analysis of employer dynamics underlying economic expansions and contractions Future: employment expansion and contraction by size of establishment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major uses include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal national economic indicator Official time series for employment change measures Input into other major economic indicators
Program Web sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.bls.gov/cew/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.bls.gov/bdm/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.bls.gov/ces/

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 2002, UI and UCFE programs covered workers in 128.2 million jobs. The estimated 123.4 million workers in these jobs (after adjustment for multiple jobholders) represented 99.1 percent of civilian wage and salary employment. Covered workers received \$4.713 trillion in pay, representing 94.3 percent of the wage and salary component of personal income and 45.1 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.

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 from unrounded employment and wage values so the average wage values that can be calculated from data from this database may differ from the averages reported, due to rounding. 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. When comparing

average weekly wage levels between industries and/or states, these factors should be taken into consideration. Percent changes are calculated using the final 2002 quarterly data as the base data. Final data for 2002 may differ from preliminary data published earlier.

In order to insure 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.

These changes in classifications are partially adjusted for in order to improve the measure of economic change over time, as presented in this release. Some changes in classification reflect economic events, while other changes are simply the result of corrections and other noneconomic events. Changes of an *economic* nature (such as a firm moving from one county to another or changing its primary economic activity) are not adjusted for in the over-the-year change, because these changes are due to an actual event. But to the extent possible, changes that are *not* economic in nature (such as a correction to a previously reported location or industry classification) are adjusted for in the measures of change presented in this release.

The adjustment is made by reassigning year-ago data for establishments with noneconomic changes into the classification shown in the current data. The year-ago totals are then recreated reflecting this reassignment process. The adjusted year-ago data are then used to calculate the over-the-year change. The adjusted year-ago data differ to some extent from the data available on the BLS Web site. This process results in a more accurate presentation of change in local economic activity than what would result from the simple comparison of current and year-ago data points.

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 es-

establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. *Employment and Wages Annual Averages, 2002* is available for sale from the BLS Publications Sales Center, P.O. Box 2145, Chicago, Illinois 60690, telephone 312-353-1880. The bulletin is now available in a portable document format (PDF) on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn02.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).

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. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, fourth quarter 2003²

County ³	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
United States ⁶	8,314.1	129,341.5	0.0	-	\$767	3.6	-
Jefferson, AL	18.2	374.3	0.3	150	761	2.6	235
Madison, AL	7.7	160.0	2.5	26	825	4.8	75
Mobile, AL	9.5	161.7	-0.9	240	625	3.3	185
Montgomery, AL	6.5	130.5	0.1	163	698	4.6	88
Tuscaloosa, AL	4.1	76.7	0.4	138	657	4.3	105
Anchorage Borough, AK	7.8	140.0	1.7	59	787	2.3	256
Maricopa, AZ	80.9	1,621.2	(7)	-	757	4.0	129
Pima, AZ	17.6	335.6	1.3	74	669	4.5	92
Benton, AR	4.1	83.1	3.4	14	679	6.3	21
Pulaski, AR	13.2	242.9	1.1	88	716	4.5	92
Washington, AR	4.9	85.6	1.5	66	603	3.1	201
Alameda, CA	48.2	677.7	-2.3	297	981	3.2	195
Contra Costa, CA	27.7	338.2	-1.0	249	928	2.4	249
Fresno, CA	29.2	325.7	1.2	83	613	3.4	176
Kern, CA	15.9	246.2	1.1	88	648	3.3	185
Los Angeles, CA	356.0	4,075.3	-0.5	205	903	4.2	114
Marin, CA	11.9	111.4	-1.1	257	1,001	5.1	52
Monterey, CA	11.9	149.9	-0.6	217	672	4.3	105
Orange, CA	88.8	1,436.6	1.3	74	874	5.3	47
Placer, CA	9.2	126.9	4.3	6	731	2.8	220
Riverside, CA	36.9	549.1	3.1	18	646	5.4	40
Sacramento, CA	46.1	598.6	0.7	116	834	2.8	220
San Bernardino, CA	40.8	592.0	2.5	26	674	3.5	171
San Diego, CA	85.3	1,278.2	1.3	74	815	2.6	235
San Francisco, CA	43.8	539.1	-0.9	240	1,178	3.5	171
San Joaquin, CA	15.7	207.5	-0.5	205	675	4.3	105
San Luis Obispo, CA	8.6	97.7	0.5	132	632	4.1	122
San Mateo, CA	22.9	327.8	-4.7	312	1,234	5.7	32
Santa Barbara, CA	13.1	171.1	0.2	158	728	4.9	67
Santa Clara, CA	52.0	855.1	-3.4	310	1,333	6.9	11
Santa Cruz, CA	8.4	90.3	-1.4	271	715	-1.2	310
Solano, CA	9.3	126.3	0.3	150	703	4.8	75
Sonoma, CA	17.1	187.0	-2.8	305	753	2.7	227
Stanislaus, CA	13.1	164.5	1.2	83	636	4.1	122
Tulare, CA	8.8	133.1	-1.0	249	540	4.2	114
Ventura, CA	20.4	301.6	0.1	163	812	3.3	185
Yolo, CA	5.0	93.9	(7)	-	702	(7)	-
Adams, CO	8.5	139.1	-2.8	305	726	2.5	242
Arapahoe, CO	18.7	272.0	-1.7	278	918	-1.3	311
Boulder, CO	11.7	151.5	-1.7	278	924	4.4	99
Denver, CO	24.1	425.7	-2.3	297	935	3.4	176
El Paso, CO	15.6	233.8	-0.5	205	705	2.2	263
Jefferson, CO	17.8	204.6	-2.0	289	781	1.0	299
Larimer, CO	9.0	120.3	0.1	163	708	1.3	295
Fairfield, CT	31.9	417.3	-0.3	191	1,308	3.2	195
Hartford, CT	24.3	484.5	-0.9	240	946	3.4	176
New Haven, CT	22.0	362.8	-0.7	224	858	4.5	92
New London, CT	6.6	129.8	1.3	74	816	2.8	220
New Castle, DE	18.0	283.1	0.8	108	917	6.0	27
Washington, DC	30.0	654.8	-0.4	198	1,238	3.9	136

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, fourth quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Alachua, FL	5.8	124.7	2.3	32	\$586	3.4	176
Brevard, FL	12.1	190.5	2.2	35	714	3.0	209
Broward, FL	56.5	691.6	-0.2	184	742	4.4	99
Collier, FL	10.2	122.6	0.6	125	698	9.7	1
Duval, FL	21.8	431.6	-0.3	191	750	4.9	67
Escambia, FL	7.1	122.7	0.8	108	595	2.2	263
Hillsborough, FL	30.5	604.3	0.2	158	731	6.4	17
Lee, FL	14.6	195.3	3.9	9	641	3.7	159
Leon, FL	7.2	144.1	-0.1	176	653	0.9	300
Manatee, FL	6.7	120.3	3.7	11	583	3.4	176
Marion, FL	6.2	88.6	3.3	16	568	3.8	150
Miami-Dade, FL	80.2	980.8	-0.5	205	765	3.5	171
Okaloosa, FL	5.0	80.7	3.0	21	588	7.5	6
Orange, FL	29.0	617.2	1.3	74	707	3.5	171
Palm Beach, FL	42.5	521.8	-0.5	205	770	3.6	168
Pasco, FL	7.2	82.8	1.8	53	558	4.9	67
Pinellas, FL	27.9	436.7	2.3	32	671	1.5	290
Polk, FL	10.1	188.3	-0.7	224	617	4.9	67
Sarasota, FL	12.6	151.1	-1.6	276	648	5.7	32
Seminole, FL	11.7	150.6	0.8	108	683	2.7	227
Volusia, FL	11.5	151.2	1.1	88	583	4.5	92
Bibb, GA	4.8	87.3	2.2	35	642	0.0	308
Chatham, GA	7.0	126.6	1.6	63	639	1.8	280
Clayton, GA	4.4	109.6	-1.7	278	784	3.7	159
Cobb, GA	19.8	303.4	2.5	26	850	4.3	105
De Kalb, GA	17.1	295.7	-0.2	184	832	2.5	242
Fulton, GA	37.7	732.5	-1.3	267	990	3.6	168
Gwinnett, GA	21.4	298.0	2.8	23	823	1.5	290
Muscogee, GA	4.8	97.0	0.9	99	603	-0.5	309
Richmond, GA	4.8	106.0	0.9	99	641	3.7	159
Honolulu, HI	24.5	427.0	0.7	116	704	3.7	159
Ada, ID	13.0	184.9	1.0	95	685	1.9	278
Champaign, IL	3.9	90.5	-0.6	217	659	2.0	273
Cook, IL	126.7	2,539.8	-1.2	262	922	3.0	209
Du Page, IL	32.3	571.2	-0.6	217	921	2.4	249
Kane, IL	10.8	198.5	0.6	125	718	2.3	256
Lake, IL	18.8	320.3	-0.5	205	976	3.3	185
McHenry, IL	7.3	93.2	0.7	116	695	1.9	278
McLean, IL	3.4	86.0	-0.7	224	758	3.3	185
Madison, IL	5.6	94.9	-1.7	278	666	8.8	2
Peoria, IL	4.6	97.1	-1.9	288	749	7.6	5
Rock Island, IL	3.4	77.4	-0.7	224	792	4.9	67
St. Clair, IL	5.1	93.6	1.2	83	605	2.9	215
Sangamon, IL	5.1	136.3	-3.9	311	754	0.3	305
Will, IL	10.4	155.7	2.4	29	731	0.6	304
Winnebago, IL	6.6	137.1	-1.0	249	672	2.3	256
Allen, IN	8.7	179.8	-1.7	278	678	2.6	235
Elkhart, IN	4.8	117.8	1.8	53	685	5.4	40
Hamilton, IN	6.0	85.9	3.4	14	780	-1.5	312
Lake, IN	9.9	191.2	-0.9	240	689	5.0	59

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, fourth quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Marion, IN	23.7	578.1	-0.5	205	\$800	3.8	150
St. Joseph, IN	6.0	124.9	-0.1	176	670	5.7	32
Vanderburgh, IN	4.8	108.3	-1.0	249	666	5.4	40
Linn, IA	5.9	115.8	-1.2	262	732	5.0	59
Polk, IA	13.8	262.7	0.3	150	763	5.0	59
Scott, IA	5.0	85.5	0.4	138	643	3.9	136
Johnson, KS	18.8	293.8	0.6	125	783	2.1	267
Sedgwick, KS	11.6	240.4	-1.6	276	699	1.2	298
Shawnee, KS	4.8	95.9	-2.9	308	641	4.1	122
Wyandotte, KS	3.2	76.6	-0.4	198	744	4.3	105
Fayette, KY	8.7	167.5	0.0	173	696	4.7	82
Jefferson, KY	21.4	421.5	-0.3	191	752	3.7	159
Caddo, LA	7.0	121.1	1.4	67	647	4.0	129
Calcasieu, LA	4.5	81.9	-1.8	283	625	3.1	201
East Baton Rouge, LA	12.9	246.2	2.1	39	659	2.3	256
Jefferson, LA	13.7	213.8	0.3	150	647	3.4	176
Lafayette, LA	7.4	120.9	0.7	116	682	2.6	235
Orleans, LA	12.3	251.3	0.7	116	717	1.6	288
Cumberland, ME	11.3	172.2	1.8	53	718	5.9	31
Anne Arundel, MD	13.1	209.4	1.4	67	797	2.4	249
Baltimore, MD	20.0	361.9	-0.1	176	807	3.1	201
Frederick, MD	5.3	88.7	3.8	10	724	1.7	284
Howard, MD	7.6	138.5	1.7	59	873	3.2	195
Montgomery, MD	30.8	455.5	0.4	138	1,006	4.7	82
Prince Georges, MD	14.6	316.7	1.4	67	828	4.0	129
Baltimore City, MD	14.1	368.7	-0.4	198	870	3.8	150
Barnstable, MA	9.1	88.0	0.9	99	690	2.7	227
Bristol, MA	14.9	220.4	0.4	138	701	6.4	17
Essex, MA	20.4	294.1	-2.5	301	844	5.1	52
Hampden, MA	13.7	199.1	-2.1	291	728	5.4	40
Middlesex, MA	47.5	790.6	-2.5	301	1,085	5.0	59
Norfolk, MA	21.7	319.5	-1.3	267	971	5.0	59
Plymouth, MA	13.3	171.3	0.4	138	762	4.4	99
Suffolk, MA	22.2	563.4	-2.8	305	1,245	6.4	17
Worcester, MA	20.0	319.0	-0.5	205	799	6.3	21
Genesee, MI	8.6	156.8	-1.5	273	794	8.0	4
Ingham, MI	7.0	171.7	0.1	163	764	3.9	136
Kalamazoo, MI	5.5	116.5	-0.2	184	737	4.5	92
Kent, MI	14.4	337.3	0.1	163	744	2.2	263
Macomb, MI	18.0	325.6	-0.4	198	884	3.9	136
Oakland, MI	41.3	728.5	-1.8	283	984	3.3	185
Ottawa, MI	5.7	110.0	-0.2	184	720	1.3	295
Saginaw, MI	4.6	92.3	-0.9	240	751	4.7	82
Washtenaw, MI	8.1	197.5	-1.1	257	885	4.2	114
Wayne, MI	35.2	820.3	-1.5	273	907	5.3	47
Anoka, MN	7.4	111.7	0.8	108	753	2.0	273
Dakota, MN	9.7	167.2	1.9	51	760	2.4	249
Hennepin, MN	41.4	829.1	-1.0	249	957	3.8	150
Olmsted, MN	3.3	87.2	0.4	138	762	-3.3	313
Ramsey, MN	15.1	327.5	-0.9	240	871	3.9	136

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, fourth quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
St. Louis, MN	5.7	92.8	-2.2	294	\$621	2.5	242
Stearns, MN	4.2	77.1	-0.5	205	632	3.9	136
Harrison, MS	4.5	89.6	3.1	18	543	3.2	195
Hinds, MS	6.6	132.4	1.1	88	680	2.6	235
Boone, MO	4.2	77.3	-0.7	224	600	2.7	227
Clay, MO	4.8	85.9	-0.4	198	716	3.2	195
Greene, MO	7.9	145.9	0.7	116	589	3.7	159
Jackson, MO	18.7	365.6	-2.4	300	780	2.1	267
St. Charles, MO	7.1	108.2	1.8	53	659	3.1	201
St. Louis, MO	33.7	625.2	-1.8	283	820	2.6	235
St. Louis City, MO	8.3	227.4	-2.7	303	836	2.6	235
Douglas, NE	15.0	314.3	-0.3	191	705	2.5	242
Lancaster, NE	7.5	150.5	1.3	74	631	2.1	267
Clark, NV	36.6	779.9	5.2	1	715	4.8	75
Washoe, NV	12.2	200.1	2.1	39	739	5.3	47
Hillsborough, NH	12.2	195.8	1.1	88	876	4.8	75
Rockingham, NH	10.6	133.8	1.0	95	799	2.4	249
Atlantic, NJ	6.6	144.3	1.9	51	698	3.4	176
Bergen, NJ	34.7	455.3	-0.5	205	1,029	5.0	59
Burlington, NJ	11.1	198.5	2.2	35	819	1.5	290
Camden, NJ	13.4	207.2	1.6	63	838	(7)	-
Essex, NJ	21.6	364.0	-0.6	217	1,000	4.6	88
Gloucester, NJ	6.1	99.3	3.6	12	713	3.9	136
Hudson, NJ	14.0	236.8	-1.8	283	989	6.0	27
Mercer, NJ	10.6	223.5	2.4	29	988	4.2	114
Middlesex, NJ	20.8	396.3	-1.3	267	995	4.6	88
Monmouth, NJ	20.0	249.9	0.4	138	882	3.9	136
Morris, NJ	17.8	283.1	-0.2	184	1,135	2.3	256
Ocean, NJ	11.5	141.4	1.7	59	691	2.7	227
Passaic, NJ	12.6	178.3	-0.7	224	854	2.9	215
Somerset, NJ	10.0	165.8	(7)	-	1,159	1.7	284
Union, NJ	15.2	243.5	2.8	23	991	0.1	307
Bernalillo, NM	16.7	313.9	0.5	132	690	5.2	50
Albany, NY	9.5	232.2	0.9	99	802	5.5	37
Bronx, NY	15.1	215.1	-2.1	291	744	4.2	114
Broome, NY	4.4	95.9	-2.2	294	613	-3.3	313
Dutchess, NY	7.6	116.8	0.4	138	776	2.2	263
Erie, NY	23.1	461.5	0.1	163	682	4.4	99
Kings, NY	41.3	448.5	0.1	163	708	4.4	99
Monroe, NY	17.5	388.2	-0.3	191	748	4.0	129
Nassau, NY	50.0	608.7	0.2	158	904	6.0	27
New York, NY	111.9	2,253.6	-1.0	249	1,480	7.2	8
Oneida, NY	5.3	109.2	-0.3	191	599	3.5	171
Onondaga, NY	12.5	247.5	-0.5	205	734	3.8	150
Orange, NY	9.0	127.4	0.8	108	664	5.1	52
Queens, NY	39.7	477.3	-0.7	224	797	3.0	209
Richmond, NY	7.9	90.4	-0.8	234	726	7.1	10
Rockland, NY	9.2	113.4	0.4	138	832	5.1	52
Suffolk, NY	46.8	600.6	1.0	95	838	3.3	185
Westchester, NY	34.7	413.0	-0.2	184	1,035	5.6	35

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, fourth quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Buncombe, NC	6.7	106.2	1.4	67	\$617	4.8	75
Catawba, NC	4.3	86.8	-2.7	303	614	4.1	122
Cumberland, NC	5.6	110.8	0.5	132	579	3.0	209
Durham, NC	6.2	164.4	0.9	99	955	4.3	105
Forsyth, NC	8.4	176.8	0.1	163	730	4.4	99
Guilford, NC	13.7	267.2	-0.9	240	705	5.4	40
Mecklenburg, NC	27.5	508.9	0.0	173	878	4.9	67
New Hanover, NC	6.3	89.2	2.0	48	629	4.1	122
Wake, NC	23.2	389.7	2.3	32	783	4.7	82
Cass, ND	5.2	86.5	1.8	53	630	2.4	249
Butler, OH	6.9	131.3	1.3	74	690	3.1	201
Cuyahoga, OH	39.2	767.8	-0.8	234	803	4.7	82
Franklin, OH	29.9	696.5	-0.4	198	765	4.1	122
Hamilton, OH	25.4	550.2	-0.1	176	828	4.5	92
Lake, OH	6.8	98.6	0.7	116	641	0.8	303
Lorain, OH	6.3	100.9	-0.1	176	677	5.6	35
Lucas, OH	11.1	228.9	-0.5	205	717	4.8	75
Mahoning, OH	6.6	105.7	-1.1	257	582	3.4	176
Montgomery, OH	13.5	288.7	-1.1	257	755	4.7	82
Stark, OH	9.1	166.8	-2.2	294	609	2.4	249
Summit, OH	14.9	265.2	-0.3	191	724	3.9	136
Trumbull, OH	4.9	86.0	-2.1	291	729	6.6	14
Oklahoma, OK	21.6	404.3	-0.8	234	671	6.2	24
Tulsa, OK	18.0	319.4	-3.0	309	681	3.0	209
Clackamas, OR	11.2	134.5	0.9	99	722	4.2	114
Lane, OR	10.3	138.1	-1.2	262	614	2.7	227
Marion, OR	8.4	126.7	2.0	48	613	1.8	280
Multnomah, OR	25.7	426.0	-0.7	224	780	1.7	284
Washington, OR	14.1	221.7	-0.6	217	889	8.5	3
Allegheny, PA	36.3	695.7	-1.2	262	802	3.8	150
Berks, PA	8.9	163.1	0.6	125	715	4.1	122
Bucks, PA	19.3	253.1	0.7	116	763	5.0	59
Chester, PA	14.2	221.0	1.7	59	964	4.3	105
Cumberland, PA	5.5	125.2	0.5	132	715	3.8	150
Dauphin, PA	6.9	174.2	-0.4	198	754	6.5	15
Delaware, PA	13.8	211.4	-2.3	297	852	6.8	12
Erie, PA	7.1	125.9	0.1	163	613	2.0	273
Lackawanna, PA	5.6	98.7	0.8	108	594	5.1	52
Lancaster, PA	11.7	222.5	0.1	163	679	4.6	88
Lehigh, PA	8.2	171.0	1.8	53	783	4.0	129
Luzerne, PA	7.8	141.6	1.4	67	608	2.7	227
Montgomery, PA	27.4	481.9	-0.8	234	936	5.1	52
Northampton, PA	5.9	92.5	0.6	125	677	4.5	92
Philadelphia, PA	27.8	652.6	-1.1	257	903	7.2	8
Westmoreland, PA	9.3	132.7	-0.6	217	612	3.2	195
York, PA	8.4	166.3	0.9	99	668	3.7	159
Kent, RI	5.5	81.3	2.1	39	689	3.9	136
Providence, RI	17.4	290.7	0.4	138	763	5.5	37
Charleston, SC	11.3	189.7	2.7	25	633	3.8	150
Greenville, SC	11.9	225.4	0.5	132	683	1.8	280

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, fourth quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Horry, SC	7.5	97.8	(7)	-	\$523	2.8	220
Lexington, SC	5.2	84.6	0.9	99	595	3.7	159
Richland, SC	9.2	208.9	0.3	150	659	2.5	242
Spartanburg, SC	6.1	117.7	-0.6	217	669	1.8	280
Minnehaha, SD	5.9	109.0	0.8	108	644	4.0	129
Davidson, TN	18.0	432.3	1.1	88	778	3.7	159
Hamilton, TN	8.3	191.2	1.1	88	683	5.4	40
Knox, TN	10.2	213.0	1.2	83	679	3.3	185
Rutherford, TN	3.6	86.7	4.6	4	712	6.7	13
Shelby, TN	19.9	501.5	0.6	125	792	4.9	67
Bell, TX	4.1	90.2	0.6	125	568	2.9	215
Bexar, TX	29.5	659.9	0.5	132	675	6.1	25
Brazoria, TX	4.0	75.7	-1.0	249	719	1.4	293
Brazos, TX	3.4	78.0	0.3	150	537	4.3	105
Cameron, TX	6.0	115.3	-0.1	176	480	3.9	136
Collin, TX	12.1	198.5	2.1	39	844	1.4	293
Dallas, TX	68.6	1,450.8	-1.4	271	952	4.3	105
Denton, TX	8.2	131.6	2.1	39	654	1.7	284
El Paso, TX	12.5	254.1	-0.8	234	553	5.1	52
Fort Bend, TX	6.2	98.3	0.0	173	766	3.8	150
Galveston, TX	4.7	86.8	-1.8	283	666	0.9	300
Harris, TX	89.4	1,841.5	-0.9	240	906	2.1	267
Hidalgo, TX	9.1	186.3	4.4	5	487	3.0	209
Jefferson, TX	5.9	117.5	-0.1	176	732	6.1	25
Lubbock, TX	6.4	116.4	-0.7	224	574	2.9	215
McLennan, TX	4.7	98.1	0.2	158	605	2.0	273
Montgomery, TX	6.1	88.2	4.3	6	700	0.9	300
Nueces, TX	8.0	143.9	-0.1	176	640	3.9	136
Smith, TX	4.8	85.6	-0.2	184	661	3.1	201
Tarrant, TX	33.7	693.5	-0.9	240	793	2.3	256
Travis, TX	24.7	511.4	-1.3	267	863	3.9	136
Williamson, TX	4.8	84.3	3.2	17	751	1.6	288
Davis, UT	6.0	90.9	2.1	39	615	2.8	220
Salt Lake, UT	33.8	523.3	0.3	150	700	2.8	220
Utah, UT	10.5	147.1	2.1	39	589	2.1	267
Weber, UT	5.1	87.1	1.4	67	578	2.1	267
Chittenden, VT	5.7	95.3	0.4	138	769	4.9	67
Arlington, VA	6.9	153.5	1.2	83	1,199	4.0	129
Chesterfield, VA	6.6	112.8	2.1	39	697	3.6	168
Fairfax, VA	30.0	548.1	2.9	22	1,158	6.4	17
Henrico, VA	8.1	171.5	1.4	67	773	2.7	227
Loudoun, VA	5.9	108.0	5.2	1	965	3.1	201
Prince William, VA	5.7	91.9	5.1	3	688	4.2	114
Alexandria City, VA	5.6	92.2	1.3	74	986	2.5	242
Chesapeake City, VA	4.7	93.3	4.2	8	595	3.3	185
Newport News City, VA	3.7	97.6	1.6	63	694	5.5	37
Norfolk City, VA	5.5	146.0	-1.0	249	746	7.3	7
Richmond City, VA	7.0	159.3	-1.5	273	856	6.3	21
Virginia Beach City, VA	10.4	170.5	2.0	48	609	6.5	15
Clark, WA	10.7	117.7	3.5	13	680	2.9	215

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, fourth quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
King, WA	81.6	1,100.6	0.2	158	\$935	0.2	306
Kitsap, WA	6.3	79.2	3.1	18	678	5.4	40
Pierce, WA	20.4	246.2	2.2	35	668	4.2	114
Snohomish, WA	16.3	208.0	0.8	108	757	1.3	295
Spokane, WA	15.2	191.2	0.7	116	604	2.5	242
Thurston, WA	6.5	89.7	2.4	29	673	2.0	273
Yakima, WA	9.2	86.0	0.9	99	515	2.8	220
Kanawha, WV	6.2	109.6	-0.7	224	654	2.3	256
Brown, WI	6.8	146.0	1.3	74	714	3.3	185
Dane, WI	13.6	290.9	1.0	95	748	3.9	136
Milwaukee, WI	22.6	502.0	-1.2	262	772	5.2	50
Outagamie, WI	4.9	98.8	0.4	138	669	3.4	176
Racine, WI	4.3	76.1	-0.8	234	761	4.8	75
Waukesha, WI	13.4	226.0	0.3	150	791	3.1	201
Winnebago, WI	4.0	87.2	-2.0	289	741	5.0	59
San Juan, PR	13.0	335.5	2.1	39	512	6.0	27

¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. These 315 U.S. counties comprise 70.5 percent of the total covered workers in the U.S.

² Data are preliminary.

³ Includes areas not officially designated as counties. See Technical Note.

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

⁵ Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

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

⁷ Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, fourth quarter 2003²

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03 ³
United States ⁵	8,314.1	129,341.5	0.0	\$767	3.6
Private industry	8,048.7	108,215.1	0.0	769	3.9
Natural resources and mining	123.7	1,557.8	0.1	703	4.9
Construction	804.9	6,689.5	1.2	837	2.3
Manufacturing	376.8	14,307.8	-4.2	943	6.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,853.6	25,957.3	-0.3	665	3.4
Information	145.2	3,165.9	-4.0	1,139	3.9
Financial activities	767.0	7,874.7	1.2	1,138	5.9
Professional and business services	1,329.4	16,113.2	0.6	945	3.8
Education and health services	732.2	15,974.0	2.1	731	3.8
Leisure and hospitality	669.9	12,042.8	1.7	335	3.4
Other services	1,080.6	4,274.1	-0.1	494	3.1
Government	265.3	21,126.3	-0.2	757	2.4
Los Angeles, CA	356.0	4,075.3	-0.5	903	4.2
Private industry	352.2	3,486.3	-0.2	898	4.2
Natural resources and mining	0.6	11.0	0.7	955	16.9
Construction	12.9	133.9	-1.1	883	1.7
Manufacturing	17.8	485.2	-7.1	900	6.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	53.9	794.6	-1.2	735	2.7
Information	9.2	194.9	-2.0	1,627	5.2
Financial activities	23.0	237.9	0.9	1,258	7.0
Professional and business services	40.1	575.0	1.6	1,043	3.7
Education and health services	26.6	456.5	1.9	820	3.9
Leisure and hospitality	25.6	375.9	5.6	766	6.5
Other services	142.1	220.7	3.5	422	5.0
Government	3.8	589.0	-2.3	930	3.3
Cook, IL	126.7	2,539.8	-1.2	922	3.0
Private industry	125.5	2,221.9	-0.9	929	3.2
Natural resources and mining	0.1	1.3	-3.6	1,037	3.2
Construction	10.5	96.7	0.0	1,169	-0.8
Manufacturing	7.9	265.7	-5.1	975	6.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26.7	499.4	-0.8	753	0.4
Information	2.5	66.1	-4.1	1,164	0.1
Financial activities	13.8	219.4	-0.8	1,471	8.1
Professional and business services	26.1	405.5	-1.3	1,206	4.1
Education and health services	12.3	350.8	1.0	791	3.7
Leisure and hospitality	10.5	217.7	2.8	375	-0.3
Other services	12.6	95.1	-2.0	655	3.0
Government	1.2	317.9	-3.1	871	0.9
New York, NY	111.9	2,253.6	-1.0	1,480	7.2
Private industry	111.7	1,800.4	-0.6	1,623	8.1
Natural resources and mining	0.0	0.1	0.0	1,197	-6.5
Construction	2.2	30.0	-4.5	1,567	3.4
Manufacturing	3.5	46.6	-4.9	1,290	6.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	22.1	247.6	-1.2	1,164	5.5
Information	4.3	130.6	-5.1	1,751	7.9
Financial activities	16.7	352.0	-2.0	3,034	16.1
Professional and business services	22.6	439.7	0.5	1,702	2.6
Education and health services	7.8	273.8	2.4	918	7.6
Leisure and hospitality	10.1	188.2	0.4	787	6.1
Other services	16.0	82.9	-1.1	871	6.1
Government	0.2	453.2	-2.2	912	0.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, fourth quarter 2003² — Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03 ³
Harris, TX	89.4	1,841.5	-0.9	\$906	2.1
Private industry	89.0	1,595.2	-1.2	929	2.1
Natural resources and mining	1.2	62.5	(⁶)	2,185	(⁶)
Construction	6.3	135.5	-5.0	919	2.6
Manufacturing	4.7	164.0	-4.9	1,106	2.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	21.1	403.2	-2.1	821	1.0
Information	1.4	33.8	-3.9	1,098	0.4
Financial activities	9.7	113.1	1.7	1,181	4.9
Professional and business services	17.0	279.0	-1.7	1,073	3.2
Education and health services	8.8	188.3	1.5	812	1.8
Leisure and hospitality	6.5	155.2	0.7	335	-0.9
Other services	10.3	56.3	-3.1	539	0.4
Government	0.4	246.3	1.1	759	3.1
Maricopa, AZ	80.9	1,621.2	(⁶)	757	4.0
Private industry	80.5	1,401.8	2.2	755	3.9
Natural resources and mining	0.5	9.8	-2.6	545	4.4
Construction	8.4	131.7	5.9	779	2.1
Manufacturing	3.3	128.0	-2.5	1,050	8.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	18.6	336.4	1.5	712	3.2
Information	1.6	36.6	-4.1	872	0.5
Financial activities	9.5	133.3	1.5	933	3.7
Professional and business services	18.1	261.5	4.2	776	3.5
Education and health services	7.6	160.5	5.6	842	5.0
Leisure and hospitality	5.6	155.8	0.8	364	2.8
Other services	5.7	44.7	-2.6	500	2.2
Government	0.5	219.4	1.6	766	3.7
Dallas, TX	68.6	1,450.8	-1.4	952	4.3
Private industry	68.2	1,294.6	-1.4	970	4.8
Natural resources and mining	0.5	6.8	(⁶)	2,680	(⁶)
Construction	4.5	73.0	-2.2	909	5.5
Manufacturing	3.5	144.9	-3.1	1,075	6.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	15.8	326.1	-3.3	898	5.2
Information	1.9	64.0	-5.1	1,272	8.7
Financial activities	8.6	140.0	1.2	1,215	2.9
Professional and business services	14.0	237.7	0.0	1,152	4.2
Education and health services	6.3	131.4	2.4	887	2.7
Leisure and hospitality	5.2	127.5	0.0	432	4.3
Other services	6.7	40.5	-3.4	587	2.8
Government	0.4	156.2	-1.8	800	-0.1
Orange, CA	88.8	1,436.6	1.3	874	5.3
Private industry	87.4	1,305.5	2.1	875	5.2
Natural resources and mining	0.3	6.1	8.3	579	0.2
Construction	6.4	85.5	4.4	969	5.9
Manufacturing	6.1	179.9	-3.0	1,036	11.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	17.3	278.8	0.6	802	2.7
Information	1.5	33.8	-4.4	1,152	5.3
Financial activities	9.7	127.8	9.9	1,354	6.2
Professional and business services	17.4	261.0	1.0	942	2.8
Education and health services	9.1	126.6	6.1	849	3.7
Leisure and hospitality	6.6	159.9	2.5	358	3.8
Other services	12.9	46.0	6.3	518	3.0
Government	1.4	131.1	-5.7	859	6.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, fourth quarter 2003² — Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03 ³
San Diego, CA	85.3	1,278.2	1.3	\$815	2.6
Private industry	83.9	1,060.2	1.5	809	2.5
Natural resources and mining	0.9	11.0	-5.4	491	1.0
Construction	6.4	81.1	4.7	869	0.7
Manufacturing	3.6	105.4	-4.2	1,129	11.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.2	220.4	2.2	655	0.9
Information	1.4	36.7	-4.5	1,582	-2.0
Financial activities	8.8	81.6	4.8	1,058	0.4
Professional and business services	14.9	208.1	1.5	989	2.8
Education and health services	7.6	122.6	1.6	778	5.7
Leisure and hospitality	6.5	141.5	3.5	346	2.4
Other services	19.5	51.6	1.8	449	2.7
Government	1.3	218.0	0.1	843	2.9
King, WA	81.6	1,100.6	0.2	935	0.2
Private industry	81.0	945.5	0.1	944	-0.3
Natural resources and mining	0.4	2.8	-11.3	1,109	0.8
Construction	6.2	53.4	-0.4	921	1.4
Manufacturing	2.7	101.9	-8.2	1,176	-2.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.8	225.5	1.1	804	2.6
Information	1.5	69.2	0.8	1,829	-15.7
Financial activities	6.1	77.5	2.4	1,114	3.5
Professional and business services	11.7	158.3	0.7	1,160	8.4
Education and health services	5.9	108.3	1.5	746	4.8
Leisure and hospitality	5.4	100.5	2.9	390	3.7
Other services	26.4	48.1	1.2	463	0.4
Government	0.6	155.1	1.0	882	3.6
Miami-Dade, FL	80.2	980.8	-0.5	765	3.5
Private industry	79.9	827.5	-0.7	742	3.6
Natural resources and mining	0.5	9.9	-1.8	421	4.0
Construction	4.9	40.7	0.3	788	2.7
Manufacturing	2.8	49.4	-9.8	695	5.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	23.2	247.2	-1.7	689	4.2
Information	1.7	28.5	-3.2	990	1.7
Financial activities	8.2	65.5	0.7	1,062	-1.1
Professional and business services	15.9	132.0	-0.2	948	5.2
Education and health services	7.8	123.4	1.4	748	2.3
Leisure and hospitality	5.3	92.8	2.1	432	9.9
Other services	7.5	34.5	-1.8	450	3.0
Government	0.3	153.3	0.5	886	2.8

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

² Data are preliminary.

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

⁴ Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

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

⁶ Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.

Table 3. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, fourth quarter 2003²

County ³	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁵	
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03 ⁴	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03 ⁴
United States ⁶	8,314.1	129,341.5	0.0	\$767	3.6
Jefferson, AL	18.2	374.3	0.3	761	2.6
Anchorage Borough, AK	7.8	140.0	1.7	787	2.3
Maricopa, AZ	80.9	1,621.2	(7)	757	4.0
Pulaski, AR	13.2	242.9	1.1	716	4.5
Los Angeles, CA	356.0	4,075.3	-0.5	903	4.2
Denver, CO	24.1	425.7	-2.3	935	3.4
Hartford, CT	24.3	484.5	-0.9	946	3.4
New Castle, DE	18.0	283.1	0.8	917	6.0
Washington, DC	30.0	654.8	-0.4	1,238	3.9
Miami-Dade, FL	80.2	980.8	-0.5	765	3.5
Fulton, GA	37.7	732.5	-1.3	990	3.6
Honolulu, HI	24.5	427.0	0.7	704	3.7
Ada, ID	13.0	184.9	1.0	685	1.9
Cook, IL	126.7	2,539.8	-1.2	922	3.0
Marion, IN	23.7	578.1	-0.5	800	3.8
Polk, IA	13.8	262.7	0.3	763	5.0
Johnson, KS	18.8	293.8	0.6	783	2.1
Jefferson, KY	21.4	421.5	-0.3	752	3.7
Orleans, LA	12.3	251.3	0.7	717	1.6
Cumberland, ME	11.3	172.2	1.8	718	5.9
Montgomery, MD	30.8	455.5	0.4	1,006	4.7
Middlesex, MA	47.5	790.6	-2.5	1,085	5.0
Wayne, MI	35.2	820.3	-1.5	907	5.3
Hennepin, MN	41.4	829.1	-1.0	957	3.8
Hinds, MS	6.6	132.4	1.1	680	2.6
St. Louis, MO	33.7	625.2	-1.8	820	2.6
Yellowstone, MT	5.6	69.1	1.3	609	4.1
Douglas, NE	15.0	314.3	-0.3	705	2.5
Clark, NV	36.6	779.9	5.2	715	4.8
Hillsborough, NH	12.2	195.8	1.1	876	4.8
Bergen, NJ	34.7	455.3	-0.5	1,029	5.0
Bernalillo, NM	16.7	313.9	0.5	690	5.2
New York, NY	111.9	2,253.6	-1.0	1,480	7.2
Mecklenburg, NC	27.5	508.9	0.0	878	4.9
Cass, ND	5.2	86.5	1.8	630	2.4
Cuyahoga, OH	39.2	767.8	-0.8	803	4.7
Oklahoma, OK	21.6	404.3	-0.8	671	6.2
Multnomah, OR	25.7	426.0	-0.7	780	1.7
Allegheny, PA	36.3	695.7	-1.2	802	3.8
Providence, RI	17.4	290.7	0.4	763	5.5
Greenville, SC	11.9	225.4	0.5	683	1.8
Minnehaha, SD	5.9	109.0	0.8	644	4.0
Shelby, TN	19.9	501.5	0.6	792	4.9
Harris, TX	89.4	1,841.5	-0.9	906	2.1
Salt Lake, UT	33.8	523.3	0.3	700	2.8
Chittenden, VT	5.7	95.3	0.4	769	4.9
Fairfax, VA	30.0	548.1	2.9	1,158	6.4
King, WA	81.6	1,100.6	0.2	935	0.2
Kanawha, WV	6.2	109.6	-0.7	654	2.3
Milwaukee, WI	22.6	502.0	-1.2	772	5.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, fourth quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁵	
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03 ⁴	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03 ⁴
Laramie, WY	2.8	39.5	2.6	\$597	1.5
San Juan, PR	13.0	335.5	2.1	512	6.0
St. Thomas, VI	1.7	23.3	1.4	594	3.3

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

² Data are preliminary.

³ Includes areas not officially designated as counties. See Technical Note.

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

⁵ Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

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

⁷ Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.

Table 4. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages by state, fourth quarter 2003²

State	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03
United States ⁴	8,314.1	129,341.5	0.0	\$767	3.6
Alabama	111.8	1,838.1	-0.1	657	4.0
Alaska	20.0	282.7	1.1	746	1.1
Arizona	126.9	2,352.1	2.2	710	3.8
Arkansas	75.2	1,133.6	0.5	587	4.1
California	1,190.8	14,922.3	0.0	869	3.8
Colorado	160.0	2,134.6	-1.1	784	2.0
Connecticut	109.1	1,648.9	-0.7	992	3.8
Delaware	27.1	408.4	0.5	825	5.0
District of Columbia	30.0	654.8	-0.4	1,238	3.9
Florida	504.1	7,424.5	0.8	685	3.8
Georgia	245.6	3,845.6	0.2	734	2.8
Hawaii	37.4	583.0	1.3	678	3.7
Idaho	48.5	577.5	0.6	579	1.8
Illinois	325.7	5,738.7	-1.2	827	3.2
Indiana	152.1	2,852.2	-0.3	675	3.5
Iowa	90.6	1,418.5	0.0	626	4.7
Kansas	82.2	1,298.3	-0.9	631	2.8
Kentucky	105.7	1,740.6	0.3	645	3.5
Louisiana	114.0	1,870.9	0.5	628	2.4
Maine	47.4	595.8	0.7	631	4.6
Maryland	150.4	2,466.4	0.7	831	3.6
Massachusetts	206.6	3,154.6	-1.9	954	5.2
Michigan	251.3	4,365.8	-1.1	806	3.9
Minnesota	159.0	2,591.9	-0.5	777	3.2
Mississippi	65.6	1,108.1	0.4	559	3.7
Missouri	165.4	2,633.6	-0.7	676	2.4
Montana	42.0	396.6	1.1	549	4.0
Nebraska	55.3	884.4	0.6	613	3.2
Nevada	60.3	1,111.2	4.4	721	5.1
New Hampshire	47.0	614.9	0.6	788	4.0
New Jersey	268.1	3,912.8	0.1	945	3.4
New Mexico	50.4	757.1	1.4	612	4.1
New York	550.3	8,379.2	-0.4	959	5.2
North Carolina	227.8	3,759.6	-0.1	679	4.5
North Dakota	24.0	317.6	0.9	563	4.3
Ohio	294.2	5,322.4	-0.7	713	3.8
Oklahoma	91.6	1,423.4	-1.3	597	4.2
Oregon	118.8	1,579.8	0.2	694	3.3
Pennsylvania	326.9	5,524.5	-0.2	750	4.7
Rhode Island	34.7	480.5	1.2	738	5.1
South Carolina	108.4	1,781.0	0.3	623	3.1
South Dakota	28.1	365.4	0.3	559	4.1
Tennessee	128.4	2,648.0	0.4	689	4.2
Texas	505.3	9,300.1	-0.3	754	3.1
Utah	73.9	1,066.2	1.2	630	2.3
Vermont	24.1	300.7	0.3	661	5.1
Virginia	202.6	3,477.5	1.2	786	5.2
Washington	222.7	2,654.7	1.0	759	1.3
West Virginia	47.2	685.2	0.1	587	2.1
Wisconsin	157.6	2,715.4	0.0	683	4.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages by state, fourth quarter 2003² — Continued

State	Establishments, fourth quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		December 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2002-03	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2002-03
Wyoming	22.0	241.6	1.7	\$616	4.1
Puerto Rico	50.2	1,074.1	3.5	450	4.7
Virgin Islands	3.2	42.5	-0.2	629	2.4

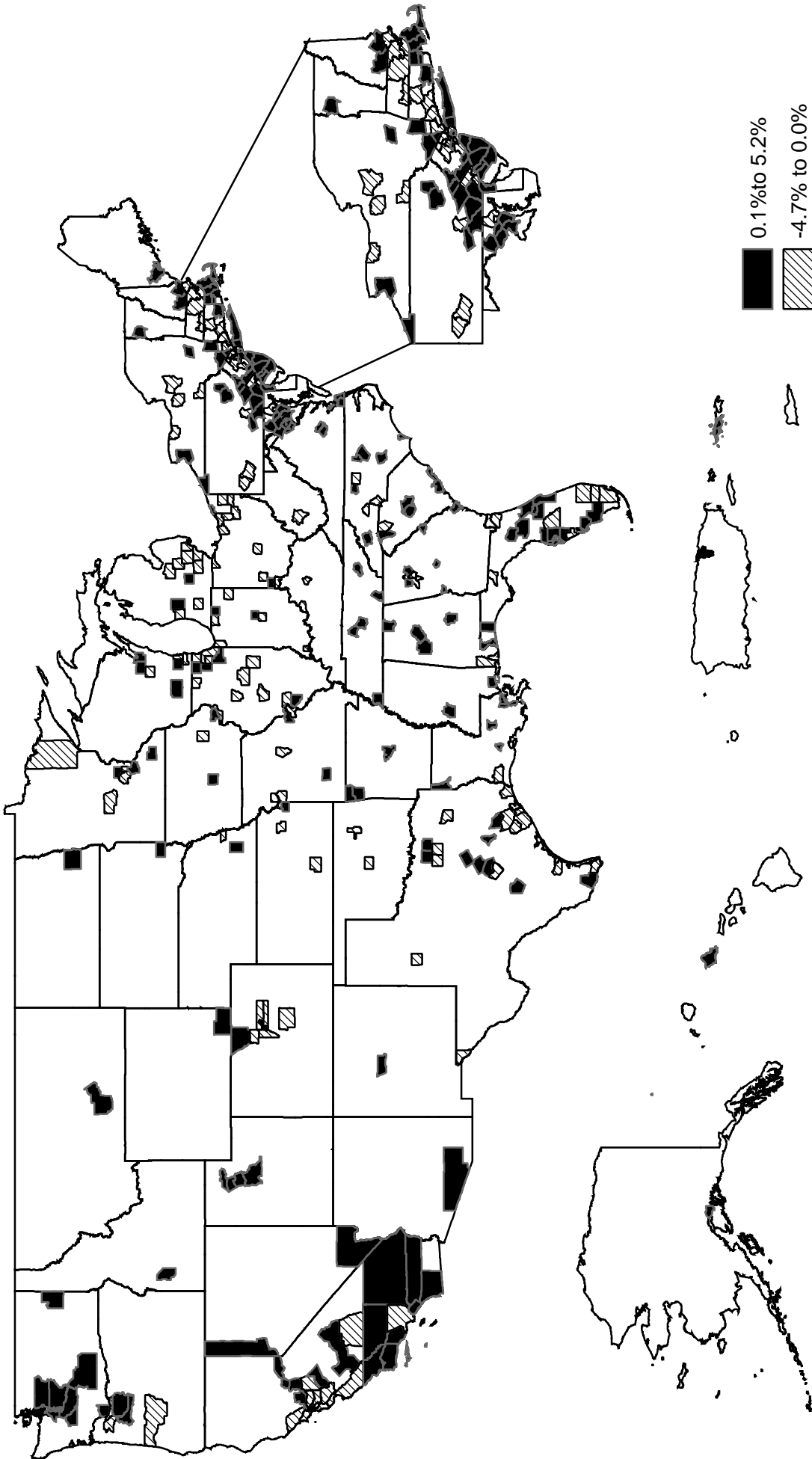
¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

² Data are preliminary.

³ Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

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

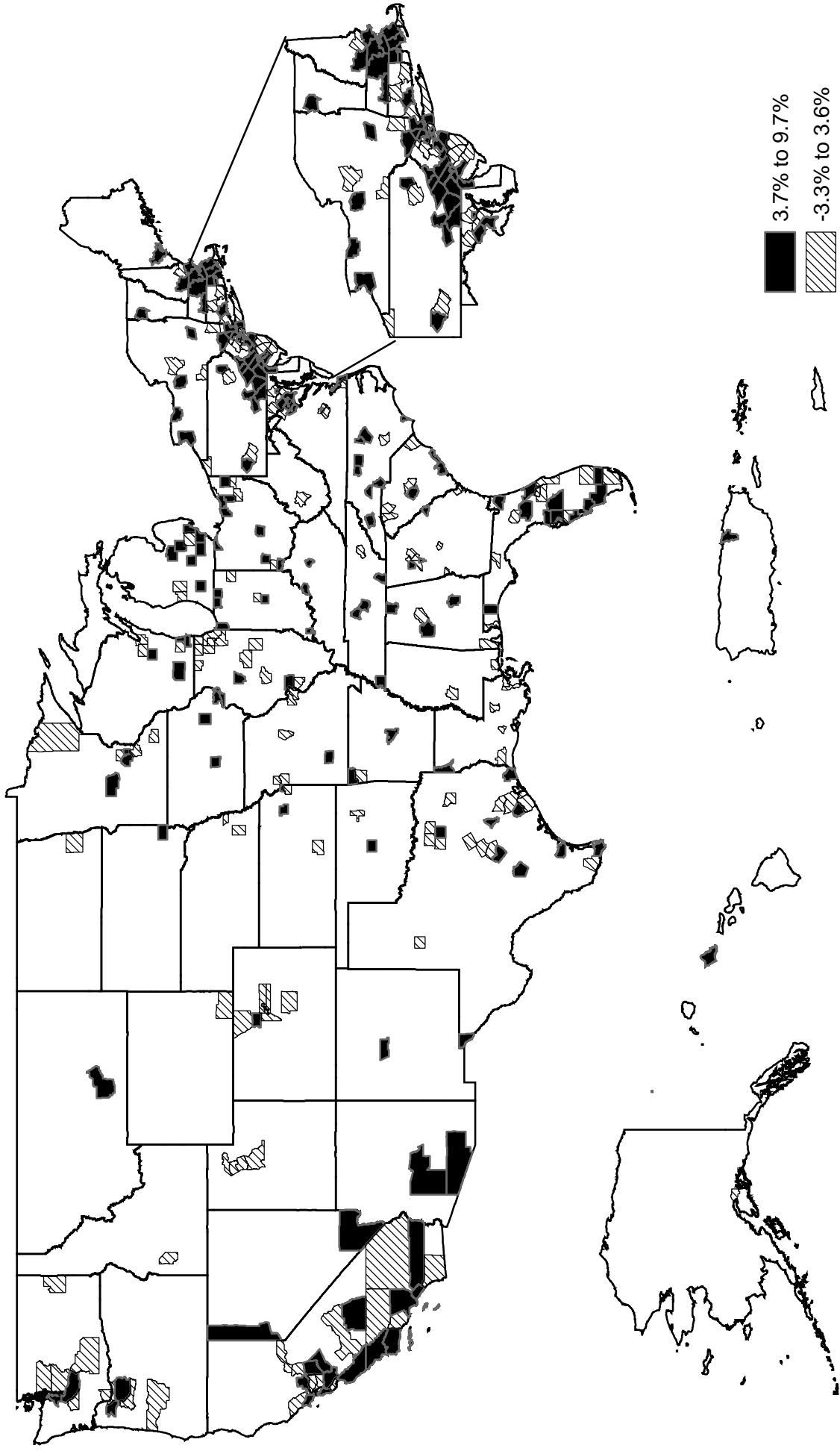
Chart 1. Percent change in employment in counties with 75,000 employees or more, December 2002-03 (U.S. Average = 0.0%)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
July 2004

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.

Chart 2. Percent change in average weekly wages in counties with 75,000 employees or more, fourth quarter 2002-03 (U.S. Average = 3.6%)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
July 2004

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.