



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

USDL 06-638

Media contact: 691-5902

For release: 10:00 A.M. EDT
Wednesday, April 12, 2006

COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES: THIRD QUARTER 2005

In September 2005, Lee County, Fla., had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment among the largest counties in the United States, according to preliminary data released today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Lee County, which includes Fort Myers, experienced an over-the-year employment gain of 11.4 percent, compared with national job growth of 2.0 percent. Passaic County, N.J., an area north of Newark, had the largest over-the-year gain in average weekly wages in the third quarter of 2005, with an increase of 19.0 percent. The U.S. average weekly wage increased by 6.1 percent over the same time span.

Of the 322 largest counties in the U.S., as measured by 2004 annual average employment, 136 had over-the-year percentage growth in employment above the national average in September 2005, and 173 experienced changes below the national average. (See chart 1.) Average weekly wages grew faster than the national average in 132 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 employers subject to unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The 8.6 million employer reports cover 132.9 million full- and part-time workers. The attached tables and charts contain data for the

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

The measures of employment and wages reported in this news release reflect the impact of Hurricane Katrina and ongoing labor market trends. Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast on August 29, 2005, with catastrophic effects in parts of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. This event occurred after the August QCEW reference period and before the September period. Its effects are first reflected in the September QCEW employment counts and the wage totals for the third quarter of 2005. QCEW nonresponse adjustment methods were modified for September 2005 to better reflect the impact of the hurricane in parts of Louisiana and Mississippi. For more information, see the QCEW section of the Katrina coverage on the BLS Web site (<http://www.bls.gov/katrina/qcewquestions.htm>).

Hurricane Rita made landfall September 24, after the September reference period. The impact of this event did not warrant changes to QCEW methodology for the third quarter of 2005.

Table A. Top 10 counties ranked by September 2005 employment, September 2004-05 employment growth, and September 2004-05 percent growth in employment

Employment in large counties					
September 2005 employment (thousands)		Growth in employment, September 2004-05 (thousands)		Percent growth in employment, September 2004-05	
U.S.	132,929.3	U.S.	2,614.4	U.S.	2.0
Los Angeles, Calif.	4,105	Maricopa, Ariz.	105.5	Lee, Fla.	11.4
Cook, Ill.	2,529	Los Angeles, Calif.	72.1	Seminole, Fla.	10.7
New York, N.Y.	2,243	Harris, Texas	61.9	Collier, Fla.	8.2
Harris, Texas	1,882	Clark, Nev.	58.7	Kern, Calif.	7.6
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,735	Broward, Fla.	44.9	Lake, Fla.	7.4
Orange, Calif.	1,498	Orange, Fla.	40.0	Volusia, Fla.	7.4
Dallas, Texas	1,431	New York, N.Y.	37.0	Clark, Nev.	7.1
San Diego, Calif.	1,301	Miami-Dade, Fla.	32.0	Polk, Fla.	6.9
King, Wash.	1,129	Orange, Calif.	31.6	Maricopa, Ariz.	6.5
Miami-Dade, Fla.	1,003	San Bernardino, Calif.	31.1	Broward, Fla.	6.5

nation and for the 322 U.S. counties with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2004. September 2005 employment and 2005 third-quarter average weekly wages for all states are provided in table 4 of this release. Final 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 first, second, and third quarters of 2005 will be available later in April on the BLS Web site.

Large County Employment

In September 2005, national employment, as measured by the QCEW program, was 132.9 million, up by 2.0 percent from September 2004. The 322 U.S. counties with 75,000 or more employees accounted for 70.6 percent of total U.S. covered employment and 76.4 percent of total covered wages. These 322 counties had a net job gain of 1,776,000 over the year, accounting for 67.9 percent of the U.S. employment increase. Employment increased in 275 of the large counties from September 2004 to September 2005. Lee County, Fla., had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment (11.4 percent). Seminole, Fla., had the next largest increase, 10.7 percent, followed by the counties of Collier, Fla. (8.2 percent), Kern, Calif. (7.6 percent), and Lake and Volusia, Fla. (7.4 percent each). (See table 1.)

Employment declined in 35 large counties from September 2004 to September 2005. The largest percentage decline in employment was in Orleans County, La. (-26.3 percent), followed by the counties of Jefferson, La. (-25.6 percent), and Harrison, Miss. (-13.9 percent). Employment losses in these three Gulf Coast counties reflected the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. Hinds, Miss., located farther inland and within 100 miles of the path of Katrina, had the next largest employment decline (-2.1 percent). Winnebago, Ill., followed with a 1.4 percent decline.

The largest gains in employment from September 2004 to September 2005 were recorded in the counties of Maricopa, Ariz. (105,500), Los Angeles, Calif. (72,100), Harris, Texas (61,900), Clark, Nev. (58,700), and Broward, Fla. (44,900). (See table A.)

The largest decline in employment occurred in Orleans County, La. (-63,600), followed by the counties of Jefferson, La. (-54,400), Harrison, Miss. (-12,500), Wayne, Mich. (-9,900), and Hinds, Miss. (-2,700).

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

Average weekly wage in large counties					
Average weekly wage, third quarter 2005		Growth in average weekly wage, third quarter 2004-05		Percent growth in average weekly wage, third quarter 2004-05	
U.S.	\$777	U.S.	\$45	U.S.	6.1
New York, N.Y.	\$1,419	Passaic, N.J.	\$148	Passaic, N.J.	19.0
Santa Clara, Calif.	1,403	San Mateo, Calif.	143	Fort Bend, Texas	15.4
Arlington, Va.	1,292	Boulder, Colo.	120	Boulder, Colo.	13.8
San Mateo, Calif.	1,268	Fairfax, Va.	117	San Mateo, Calif.	12.7
Washington, D.C.	1,265	Fort Bend, Texas	115	Harrison, Miss.	12.7
San Francisco, Calif.	1,219	San Francisco, Calif.	108	Fairfax, Va.	10.9
Suffolk, Mass.	1,198	Santa Clara, Calif.	95	Ventura, Calif.	10.7
Fairfield, Conn.	1,197	New York, N.Y.	93	Orleans, La.	10.7
Fairfax, Va.	1,188	Arlington, Va.	92	Montgomery, Texas	10.5
Somerset, N.J.	1,148	Alameda, Calif.	83	Collier, Fla.	10.4
		Marin, Calif.	83		
		Ventura, Calif.	83		

Large County Average Weekly Wages

The national average weekly wage in the third quarter of 2005 was \$777. Average weekly wages were higher than the national average in 115 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 \$1,419. Santa Clara, Calif., was second with an average weekly wage of \$1,403, followed by Arlington, Va. (\$1,292), San Mateo, Calif. (\$1,268), and Washington, D.C. (\$1,265). (See table B.)

There were 206 counties with an average weekly wage below the national average in the third quarter of 2005. The lowest average weekly wages were reported in Cameron County, Texas (\$486), followed by the counties of Hidalgo, Texas (\$499), Horry, S.C. (\$505), and Webb, Texas, and Yakima, Wash. (\$525 each). (See table 1.)

Over the year, the national average weekly wage rose by 6.1 percent. Among the largest counties, Passaic, N.J., led the nation in growth in average weekly wages, with an increase of 19.0 percent from the third quarter of 2004. Fort Bend, Texas, was second with 15.4 percent growth, followed by the counties of Boulder, Colo. (13.8 percent), and San Mateo, Calif., and Harrison, Miss. (12.7 percent each). The average weekly wage growth rate for Harrison, Miss., and the 10.7 percent wage gain for Orleans, La., were boosted as a result of the disproportionate job and pay losses in lower-paid industries following Hurricane Katrina.

Five counties experienced over-the-year declines in average weekly wages. Clayton County, Ga., had the largest decrease, -5.1 percent, followed by the counties of Benton, Ark. (-1.2 percent), Trumbull, Ohio (-0.6 percent), Saginaw, Mich. (-0.4 percent), and St. Joseph, Ind. (-0.1 percent).

Ten Largest U.S. Counties

Of the 10 largest U.S. counties (based on 2004 annual average employment levels), all reported increases in employment from September 2004 to September 2005. Maricopa County, Ariz., experienced the fastest growth in employment among the largest counties, with a 6.5 percent increase. Within Maricopa County, employment rose in every industry group except information. The largest gains were in construction (15.0 percent) and professional and business services (8.2 percent). (See table 2.) Harris, Texas, had the next largest increase in employment, 3.4 percent, followed by Miami-Dade, Fla. (3.3 percent). The smallest employment gains occurred in Cook County, Ill. (0.7 percent), followed by the counties of San Diego, Calif. (1.6 percent), and New York, N.Y. (1.7 percent).

All of the 10 largest U.S. counties saw over-the-year increases in average weekly wages. Miami-Dade, Fla., had the fastest growth in wages among the 10 largest counties, 8.9 percent. Within Miami-Dade County, wages increased the most in government (13.2 percent) and manufacturing (11.2 percent). Maricopa, Ariz., was second in wage growth, with a gain of 8.1 percent, followed by Harris County, Texas (7.8 percent). The smallest wage gains among the 10 largest counties occurred in Los Angeles, Calif., and Cook, Ill. (5.5 percent each), followed by Dallas County, Texas (6.6 percent).

Largest County by State

Table 3 shows September 2005 employment and the 2005 third-quarter average weekly wage in the largest county in each state (based on 2004 annual average employment levels). (This table includes two counties—Yellowstone, Mont., and Laramie, Wyo.—that have employment levels below 75,000.) The employment levels in these counties in September 2005 ranged from approximately 4.1 million in Los Angeles County, Calif., to 41,000 in Laramie County, Wyo. The highest average weekly wage of these counties was in New York, N.Y. (\$1,419), while the lowest average weekly wage was in Yellowstone, Mont. (\$619).

For More Information

For additional information about the quarterly employment and wages data, please read the Technical Note or visit the QCEW Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/>. Additional information about the QCEW data also may be obtained by e-mailing QCEWinfo@bls.gov or by calling (202) 691-6567.

Regional Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages News Releases

Several BLS regional offices are 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. 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. 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

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 8.6 million establishments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Count of longitudinally-linked UI administrative records submitted by 6.7 million private-sector employers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sample survey: 400,000 establishments
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 workers 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 and annually realigns (benchmarks) sample estimates to first quarter 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 by NAICS supersectors and by size of firm Future expansions will include data at the county, MSA, and state level 	<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 Analysis of employment expansion and contraction by size of firm 	<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/

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 employment change over time. 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 are compiled from quarterly contribution reports submitted to the SWAs by employers. For federal civilian workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program, employment and wage data are compiled from quarterly reports that are sent to the appropriate SWA by the specific federal agency. 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. Over-the-year comparisons of average weekly wages may reflect fluctuations in average monthly employment and/or total quarterly wages between the current quarter and prior year levels.

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. For instance, the average weekly wage of the work force could increase significantly when there is a large decline in the number of employees that had been receiving below-average wages. Wages may include payments to workers not present in the employment counts because they did not work during the pay period including the 12th of the month. When comparing average weekly wage levels between industries, states, or quarters, 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. Included in these adjustments are administrative changes involving the classification of establishments that were previously reported in the unknown or statewide county or unknown industry categories. The adjusted data do not account for administrative

changes caused by multi-unit employers who start reporting for each individual establishment rather than as a single entity.

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* is now available for sale 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 is 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).

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 323 largest counties, third quarter 2005²

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
United States ⁶	8,634.7	132,929.3	2.0	-	\$777	6.1	-
Jefferson, AL	18.8	372.8	1.3	186	796	7.7	51
Madison, AL	8.2	169.6	2.5	103	847	9.3	14
Mobile, AL	9.8	166.4	3.2	72	638	6.2	126
Montgomery, AL	6.7	136.0	3.3	67	658	6.3	120
Tuscaloosa, AL	4.2	81.9	4.4	43	655	6.7	98
Anchorage Borough, AK	7.9	148.0	1.9	141	857	5.8	153
Maricopa, AZ	84.3	1,735.0	6.5	9	790	8.1	35
Pima, AZ	18.3	356.9	3.6	61	697	8.7	23
Benton, AR	4.9	90.8	5.3	22	673	-1.2	313
Pulaski, AR	13.5	245.7	1.3	186	709	6.1	133
Washington, AR	5.3	91.3	5.0	28	634	5.3	194
Alameda, CA	47.5	681.8	0.3	256	1,053	8.6	26
Contra Costa, CA	27.1	343.1	0.5	243	973	5.6	168
Fresno, CA	28.6	354.6	1.7	155	616	3.9	266
Kern, CA	16.4	280.5	7.6	4	658	(7)	-
Los Angeles, CA	370.3	4,105.4	1.8	150	879	5.5	174
Marin, CA	11.5	110.2	0.6	237	988	9.2	15
Monterey, CA	11.8	179.8	0.2	265	687	6.7	98
Orange, CA	90.3	1,497.5	2.2	122	907	7.1	71
Placer, CA	9.7	134.8	(7)	-	783	(7)	-
Riverside, CA	39.9	610.6	5.3	22	680	7.1	71
Sacramento, CA	47.6	630.6	2.6	99	878	7.9	42
San Bernardino, CA	43.0	637.2	5.1	25	698	6.6	105
San Diego, CA	87.6	1,301.3	1.6	164	855	7.3	60
San Francisco, CA	42.8	528.9	1.4	176	1,219	9.7	12
San Joaquin, CA	16.1	224.8	1.0	209	686	6.0	142
San Luis Obispo, CA	8.7	104.4	1.5	167	655	3.8	271
San Mateo, CA	22.4	329.0	0.3	256	1,268	12.7	4
Santa Barbara, CA	13.1	186.1	2.3	114	751	7.1	71
Santa Clara, CA	52.7	864.2	1.7	155	1,403	7.3	60
Santa Cruz, CA	8.4	100.4	0.1	271	750	9.8	11
Solano, CA	9.5	131.7	1.7	155	753	8.7	23
Sonoma, CA	17.1	193.4	-0.2	287	772	5.5	174
Stanislaus, CA	13.2	177.9	1.5	167	671	5.8	153
Tulare, CA	8.4	144.1	5.1	25	556	5.3	194
Ventura, CA	20.7	312.5	2.0	137	861	10.7	7
Yolo, CA	5.2	100.7	1.2	192	784	6.7	98
Adams, CO	9.1	150.2	3.0	83	755	6.9	86
Arapahoe, CO	19.6	273.0	1.6	164	935	7.3	60
Boulder, CO	12.4	155.5	2.1	130	989	13.8	3
Denver, CO	25.1	429.4	1.7	155	947	6.6	105
El Paso, CO	16.9	241.9	2.2	122	741	6.5	111
Jefferson, CO	18.8	208.0	2.0	137	810	6.0	142
Larimer, CO	9.8	127.3	2.1	130	722	4.6	240
Fairfield, CT	32.2	413.7	0.9	221	1,197	5.7	159
Hartford, CT	24.6	488.6	1.2	192	968	5.6	168
New Haven, CT	22.2	361.9	0.0	276	845	4.2	258
New London, CT	6.7	130.6	0.8	227	812	6.6	105
New Castle, DE	19.8	281.2	0.3	256	921	7.5	56
Washington, DC	30.7	666.4	0.8	227	1,265	4.5	244

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, third quarter 2005² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Alachua, FL	6.2	124.4	(7)	-	\$665	(7)	-
Brevard, FL	13.9	204.1	5.4	19	746	2.1	301
Broward, FL	61.6	738.1	6.5	9	746	6.9	86
Collier, FL	11.7	125.1	8.2	3	722	10.4	10
Duval, FL	24.6	452.7	4.9	32	765	6.8	93
Escambia, FL	7.6	127.2	2.9	86	632	8.2	33
Hillsborough, FL	34.5	626.2	4.1	48	745	7.3	60
Lake, FL	6.4	80.7	7.4	5	600	8.9	21
Lee, FL	17.4	214.0	11.4	1	685	7.9	42
Leon, FL	7.8	148.8	3.2	72	679	7.8	47
Manatee, FL	8.2	122.5	5.6	17	624	9.1	18
Marion, FL	7.5	98.7	(7)	-	580	(7)	-
Miami-Dade, FL	84.4	1,003.2	3.3	67	781	8.9	21
Okaloosa, FL	6.0	83.6	6.0	15	642	9.6	13
Orange, FL	32.6	665.8	6.4	11	729	6.9	86
Palm Beach, FL	47.2	546.3	(7)	-	768	6.7	98
Pasco, FL	8.6	94.2	(7)	-	565	(7)	-
Pinellas, FL	30.4	441.9	1.5	167	687	7.7	51
Polk, FL	11.7	201.8	6.9	8	629	4.8	223
Sarasota, FL	14.7	158.9	3.8	54	679	9.2	15
Seminole, FL	13.6	171.5	10.7	2	699	7.0	79
Volusia, FL	13.3	164.3	7.4	5	571	3.6	279
Bibb, GA	4.7	85.1	-1.2	305	653	4.5	244
Chatham, GA	7.2	132.0	2.6	99	674	7.2	68
Clayton, GA	4.4	109.6	3.3	67	765	-5.1	314
Cobb, GA	20.2	313.1	4.5	41	857	7.1	71
De Kalb, GA	17.0	291.5	1.1	202	843	7.3	60
Fulton, GA	38.0	744.4	2.2	122	1,007	4.9	218
Gwinnett, GA	22.3	319.7	3.6	61	828	6.0	142
Muscogee, GA	4.8	98.7	2.3	114	627	6.6	105
Richmond, GA	4.8	104.6	1.9	141	667	6.4	115
Honolulu, HI	23.8	441.7	3.2	72	740	5.3	194
Ada, ID	13.9	201.2	5.4	19	719	6.4	115
Champaign, IL	4.0	91.4	1.2	192	670	3.2	289
Cook, IL	131.0	2,529.4	0.7	232	920	5.5	174
Du Page, IL	33.7	587.8	1.5	167	913	7.0	79
Kane, IL	11.6	208.0	2.8	88	732	6.1	133
Lake, IL	19.6	329.9	0.6	237	909	3.9	266
McHenry, IL	7.8	99.6	2.7	94	694	4.8	223
McLean, IL	3.5	85.8	1.9	141	760	8.6	26
Madison, IL	5.8	94.2	0.2	265	648	5.5	174
Peoria, IL	4.6	100.6	2.4	109	753	8.5	30
Rock Island, IL	3.4	79.9	1.9	141	755	5.6	168
St. Clair, IL	5.2	94.3	0.4	252	641	6.3	120
Sangamon, IL	5.2	131.8	0.6	237	767	4.8	223
Will, IL	11.7	172.4	3.2	72	727	4.2	258
Winnebago, IL	6.7	136.4	-1.4	309	685	(7)	-
Allen, IN	8.7	182.7	0.7	232	683	4.0	263
Elkhart, IN	4.8	126.8	0.3	256	687	4.4	248
Hamilton, IN	6.6	96.9	4.3	44	795	4.7	232

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, third quarter 2005² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Lake, IN	10.0	195.6	1.0	209	\$700	4.5	244
Marion, IN	23.5	584.0	0.5	243	819	7.1	71
St. Joseph, IN	6.0	126.7	-0.5	297	666	-0.1	310
Vanderburgh, IN	4.8	108.5	1.0	209	676	7.5	56
Linn, IA	6.1	118.3	1.7	155	763	8.1	35
Polk, IA	14.2	265.6	1.9	141	792	6.9	86
Scott, IA	5.1	89.9	3.9	52	641	6.3	120
Johnson, KS	19.4	302.9	1.7	155	823	7.9	42
Sedgwick, KS	11.8	244.0	0.7	232	727	5.7	159
Shawnee, KS	4.7	94.0	-0.8	300	673	8.0	39
Wyandotte, KS	3.2	78.3	1.2	192	764	2.3	299
Fayette, KY	8.8	169.8	2.4	109	711	3.8	271
Jefferson, KY	21.6	425.3	1.4	176	761	5.5	174
Caddo, LA	7.2	124.1	2.3	114	647	5.4	188
Calcasieu, LA	4.8	85.0	4.7	35	654	9.0	19
East Baton Rouge, LA	13.3	256.2	4.8	34	653	5.2	203
Jefferson, LA	14.3	158.3	-25.6	312	656	6.0	142
Lafayette, LA	7.9	125.1	6.2	13	680	6.8	93
Orleans, LA	12.9	178.2	-26.3	313	742	10.7	7
Cumberland, ME	11.7	171.3	-0.1	279	710	6.0	142
Anne Arundel, MD	14.0	224.3	2.2	122	817	6.8	93
Baltimore, MD	21.0	374.1	1.4	176	808	7.3	60
Frederick, MD	5.7	92.5	2.2	122	748	7.0	79
Harford, MD	5.4	81.5	2.5	103	754	9.0	19
Howard, MD	8.2	140.0	2.5	103	921	8.0	39
Montgomery, MD	32.0	462.4	2.6	99	1,027	8.0	39
Prince Georges, MD	15.4	316.0	0.4	252	869	6.2	126
Baltimore City, MD	13.9	352.1	0.3	256	908	8.1	35
Barnstable, MA	9.6	99.3	0.0	276	664	4.9	218
Bristol, MA	16.0	221.0	0.2	265	695	3.4	285
Essex, MA	21.4	296.7	0.1	271	848	7.1	71
Hampden, MA	14.8	201.7	1.4	176	731	3.8	271
Middlesex, MA	49.8	791.8	0.9	221	1,110	6.5	111
Norfolk, MA	22.6	319.5	0.6	237	923	4.3	255
Plymouth, MA	14.3	178.5	1.4	176	748	3.6	279
Suffolk, MA	22.9	566.3	1.5	167	1,198	1.6	307
Worcester, MA	21.1	318.6	-0.5	297	799	2.3	299
Genesee, MI	8.4	149.9	(7)	-	736	1.1	308
Ingham, MI	7.1	163.8	(7)	-	741	2.9	292
Kalamazoo, MI	5.5	117.9	0.8	227	708	3.4	285
Kent, MI	14.6	347.1	2.9	86	721	2.7	295
Macomb, MI	18.2	332.4	1.1	202	849	4.0	263
Oakland, MI	40.8	720.6	-0.1	279	935	4.7	232
Ottawa, MI	5.8	115.3	0.2	265	705	4.9	218
Saginaw, MI	4.5	89.8	(7)	-	689	-0.4	311
Washtenaw, MI	8.2	194.1	-1.0	303	891	5.3	194
Wayne, MI	34.2	789.3	-1.2	305	910	4.8	223
Anoka, MN	7.8	115.6	1.8	150	751	2.0	302
Dakota, MN	10.3	171.8	0.6	237	777	4.4	248
Hennepin, MN	41.9	837.8	1.4	176	990	6.1	133

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, third quarter 2005² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Olmsted, MN	3.5	89.4	1.4	176	\$854	3.1	291
Ramsey, MN	15.5	334.1	1.2	192	864	5.6	168
St. Louis, MN	5.9	95.0	0.0	276	655	3.5	283
Stearns, MN	4.4	78.3	1.9	141	628	3.5	283
Harrison, MS	4.6	77.8	-13.9	311	586	12.7	4
Hinds, MS	6.5	126.9	-2.1	310	689	5.5	174
Boone, MO	4.4	81.4	4.2	46	615	5.3	194
Clay, MO	5.0	87.9	1.0	209	761	8.6	26
Greene, MO	8.0	150.9	3.5	63	623	5.2	203
Jackson, MO	18.7	364.2	0.3	256	794	4.6	240
St. Charles, MO	7.6	118.7	2.8	88	682	5.6	168
St. Louis, MO	33.8	622.5	1.0	209	828	6.4	115
St. Louis City, MO	8.1	224.2	-0.1	279	869	7.7	51
Douglas, NE	15.2	310.3	0.5	243	741	5.6	168
Lancaster, NE	7.8	154.3	0.6	237	653	5.3	194
Clark, NV	42.3	883.1	7.1	7	752	7.3	60
Washoe, NV	13.3	217.1	3.8	54	747	4.8	223
Hillsborough, NH	12.3	197.6	1.7	155	854	3.3	288
Rockingham, NH	10.8	138.8	1.3	186	784	6.1	133
Atlantic, NJ	6.7	149.3	1.1	202	698	4.5	244
Bergen, NJ	34.2	450.2	0.5	243	964	5.9	149
Burlington, NJ	11.3	200.5	0.5	243	853	7.8	47
Camden, NJ	13.5	210.8	0.5	243	804	7.9	42
Essex, NJ	21.3	358.4	0.7	232	998	5.3	194
Gloucester, NJ	6.3	105.2	4.0	49	712	4.7	232
Hudson, NJ	14.1	239.1	1.5	167	1,024	4.0	263
Mercer, NJ	10.9	223.6	2.8	88	987	5.2	203
Middlesex, NJ	20.8	392.4	-0.1	279	960	2.0	302
Monmouth, NJ	20.2	257.8	1.2	192	828	5.1	209
Morris, NJ	17.9	283.7	-0.1	279	1,086	5.2	203
Ocean, NJ	11.7	150.4	1.0	209	669	7.7	51
Passaic, NJ	12.6	176.3	-0.2	287	929	19.0	1
Somerset, NJ	10.1	171.3	3.2	72	1,148	4.4	248
Union, NJ	14.9	226.7	(7)	-	977	(7)	-
Bernalillo, NM	16.5	323.4	2.6	99	707	6.2	126
Albany, NY	9.7	229.3	0.2	265	804	1.9	305
Bronx, NY	15.7	221.2	1.9	141	772	2.8	294
Broome, NY	4.5	94.8	0.4	252	623	3.7	275
Dutchess, NY	8.1	117.5	-0.1	279	783	5.5	174
Erie, NY	23.4	457.2	-0.4	293	690	3.9	266
Kings, NY	42.8	457.5	2.2	122	686	3.2	289
Monroe, NY	17.8	382.7	0.8	227	766	2.0	302
Nassau, NY	51.6	597.8	0.4	252	862	(7)	-
New York, NY	114.3	2,243.4	1.7	155	1,419	7.0	79
Oneida, NY	5.4	108.9	0.2	265	613	4.1	260
Onondaga, NY	12.8	251.7	1.0	209	718	3.9	266
Orange, NY	9.6	129.6	0.9	221	670	5.5	174
Queens, NY	40.8	484.6	1.3	186	794	5.7	159
Richmond, NY	8.2	89.7	0.8	227	709	2.5	298
Rockland, NY	9.5	112.4	1.6	164	806	4.8	223

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, third quarter 2005² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Suffolk, NY	48.8	609.8	0.3	256	\$836	5.0	213
Westchester, NY	35.9	411.9	0.3	256	1,005	4.1	260
Buncombe, NC	7.1	109.7	2.1	130	613	4.8	223
Catawba, NC	4.3	86.0	-1.1	304	611	3.7	275
Cumberland, NC	5.8	117.0	3.2	72	614	5.5	174
Durham, NC	6.2	170.1	1.8	150	1,019	6.8	93
Forsyth, NC	8.5	180.3	1.7	155	763	0.7	309
Guilford, NC	13.6	272.5	1.2	192	710	5.5	174
Mecklenburg, NC	27.7	527.4	3.7	58	894	6.9	86
New Hanover, NC	6.6	97.7	4.6	37	639	7.0	79
Wake, NC	24.0	409.9	4.3	44	778	6.3	120
Cass, ND	5.7	93.0	3.3	67	648	6.2	126
Butler, OH	7.1	139.0	2.4	109	703	5.7	159
Cuyahoga, OH	38.1	755.8	0.1	271	802	3.4	285
Franklin, OH	29.2	686.1	1.1	202	802	8.5	30
Hamilton, OH	24.5	541.6	-0.4	293	862	7.1	71
Lake, OH	6.9	100.8	1.1	202	657	3.8	271
Lorain, OH	6.3	102.0	-1.3	307	698	7.9	42
Lucas, OH	10.9	227.7	-0.1	279	707	5.7	159
Mahoning, OH	6.5	108.4	1.3	186	590	3.7	275
Montgomery, OH	13.2	282.3	-0.8	300	747	5.7	159
Stark, OH	9.3	167.4	0.1	271	634	6.6	105
Summit, OH	15.0	273.9	1.5	167	729	4.4	248
Trumbull, OH	4.8	84.0	-0.1	279	684	-0.6	312
Oklahoma, OK	22.5	415.7	1.5	167	685	6.4	115
Tulsa, OK	18.6	334.0	4.2	46	701	5.7	159
Clackamas, OR	12.0	145.1	4.6	37	739	7.3	60
Jackson, OR	6.5	84.8	4.0	49	600	5.1	209
Lane, OR	10.6	147.3	3.7	58	633	5.9	149
Marion, OR	9.0	139.6	2.8	88	613	5.5	174
Multnomah, OR	26.2	430.5	2.4	109	798	5.3	194
Washington, OR	15.2	237.7	4.0	49	943	7.2	68
Allegheny, PA	35.0	682.9	-0.3	292	811	4.6	240
Berks, PA	9.0	165.5	1.8	150	705	5.4	188
Bucks, PA	20.5	262.3	1.3	186	757	6.5	111
Chester, PA	15.1	231.7	2.3	114	986	8.2	33
Cumberland, PA	5.8	125.8	-0.2	287	748	6.3	120
Dauphin, PA	7.2	177.3	0.9	221	780	5.8	153
Delaware, PA	13.6	208.6	0.1	271	813	2.9	292
Erie, PA	7.2	129.6	1.2	192	626	5.2	203
Lackawanna, PA	5.7	100.6	2.1	130	617	4.9	218
Lancaster, PA	11.9	229.7	1.5	167	696	6.1	133
Lehigh, PA	8.4	175.5	1.0	209	762	5.0	213
Luzerne, PA	7.9	144.3	1.0	209	627	4.7	232
Montgomery, PA	28.0	483.5	1.1	202	956	5.5	174
Northampton, PA	6.2	95.5	3.0	83	696	4.3	255
Philadelphia, PA	29.1	633.9	0.9	221	921	6.0	142
Washington, PA	5.4	76.3	0.7	232	675	6.5	111
Westmoreland, PA	9.6	140.4	1.0	209	642	7.5	56
York, PA	8.8	173.4	2.1	130	705	6.0	142

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, third quarter 2005² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Kent, RI	5.7	82.7	1.2	192	\$715	6.1	133
Providence, RI	18.2	290.8	0.9	221	750	2.7	295
Charleston, SC	12.5	199.6	2.8	88	674	8.5	30
Greenville, SC	12.7	227.4	2.5	103	688	3.9	266
Horry, SC	8.5	112.1	4.6	37	505	4.6	240
Lexington, SC	5.9	88.3	4.6	37	608	4.3	255
Richland, SC	9.8	206.7	-0.4	293	685	6.2	126
Spartanburg, SC	6.4	115.6	-0.2	287	684	5.7	159
Minnehaha, SD	6.1	111.3	2.3	114	666	6.7	98
Davidson, TN	17.9	446.0	3.2	72	773	5.0	213
Hamilton, TN	8.4	193.2	1.0	209	686	6.2	126
Knox, TN	10.4	220.6	1.1	202	666	5.5	174
Rutherford, TN	3.8	95.9	3.9	52	668	3.6	279
Shelby, TN	19.7	505.9	1.9	141	814	3.7	275
Bell, TX	4.3	94.4	5.0	28	596	4.4	248
Bexar, TX	30.2	677.9	3.2	72	675	5.0	213
Brazoria, TX	4.3	80.1	3.2	72	719	4.7	232
Brazos, TX	3.6	82.6	3.8	54	551	1.7	306
Cameron, TX	6.2	117.0	1.9	141	486	3.6	279
Collin, TX	14.3	250.4	6.3	12	913	6.9	86
Dallas, TX	66.1	1,431.1	2.0	137	940	6.6	105
Denton, TX	9.3	149.5	4.9	32	687	6.7	98
El Paso, TX	12.8	260.1	2.3	114	558	5.5	174
Fort Bend, TX	7.2	111.0	2.7	94	860	15.4	2
Galveston, TX	4.9	87.7	3.3	67	671	4.7	232
Harris, TX	90.4	1,882.0	3.4	66	930	7.8	47
Hidalgo, TX	9.7	196.2	5.0	28	499	5.1	209
Jefferson, TX	5.8	117.7	2.1	130	711	6.9	86
Lubbock, TX	6.5	120.2	2.2	122	590	6.1	133
McLennan, TX	4.8	101.9	0.5	243	627	5.4	188
Montgomery, TX	7.1	104.8	6.2	13	727	10.5	9
Nueces, TX	8.0	147.2	2.5	103	654	7.4	59
Potter, TX	3.7	72.0	1.4	176	631	5.3	194
Smith, TX	5.0	89.7	2.0	137	680	5.4	188
Tarrant, TX	34.7	719.8	2.3	114	789	5.8	153
Travis, TX	25.4	531.0	3.8	54	882	6.7	98
Webb, TX	4.4	82.2	5.3	22	525	6.1	133
Williamson, TX	6.0	102.0	5.1	25	785	5.9	149
Davis, UT	6.8	97.5	3.5	63	636	5.0	213
Salt Lake, UT	36.9	547.1	4.5	41	719	7.0	79
Utah, UT	11.9	160.8	5.8	16	591	4.8	223
Weber, UT	5.6	89.5	2.8	88	583	4.9	218
Chittenden, VT	5.7	95.5	-0.9	302	764	5.4	188
Arlington, VA	7.2	154.3	0.5	243	1,292	7.7	51
Chesterfield, VA	6.8	115.2	3.2	72	710	5.7	159
Fairfax, VA	30.8	569.6	3.7	58	1,188	10.9	6
Henrico, VA	8.6	172.4	2.2	122	816	5.2	203
Loudoun, VA	7.0	123.1	5.5	18	1,008	4.7	232
Prince William, VA	6.4	102.0	5.4	19	721	8.7	23
Alexandria City, VA	5.8	94.2	1.2	192	1,013	7.1	71

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 323 largest counties, third quarter 2005² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Chesapeake City, VA	5.1	96.4	2.5	103	\$627	8.1	35
Newport News City, VA	3.8	98.6	1.4	176	719	6.8	93
Norfolk City, VA	5.6	144.4	-0.2	287	761	5.8	153
Richmond City, VA	7.0	161.9	2.7	94	876	7.0	79
Virginia Beach City, VA	10.9	179.1	3.5	63	619	8.6	26
Clark, WA	10.7	128.2	5.0	28	720	5.4	188
King, WA	75.2	1,129.1	2.7	94	997	7.2	68
Kitsap, WA	6.3	82.6	3.0	83	734	5.8	153
Pierce, WA	19.5	262.0	3.1	82	715	6.4	115
Snohomish, WA	16.3	217.4	2.1	130	802	5.1	209
Spokane, WA	14.5	199.3	2.7	94	643	6.1	133
Thurston, WA	6.3	93.6	2.4	109	714	4.7	232
Whatcom, WA	6.5	78.6	4.7	35	609	7.8	47
Yakima, WA	7.7	105.8	1.8	150	525	4.4	248
Kanawha, WV	6.2	107.4	-0.5	297	668	6.2	126
Brown, WI	6.8	148.8	1.0	209	695	5.9	149
Dane, WI	14.0	300.8	2.3	114	780	9.2	15
Milwaukee, WI	21.8	494.8	0.3	256	785	4.8	223
Outagamie, WI	5.0	101.3	-0.4	293	678	4.1	260
Racine, WI	4.3	76.1	-1.3	307	737	6.3	120
Waukesha, WI	13.5	232.5	0.5	243	781	2.6	297
Winnebago, WI	3.9	89.3	1.4	176	737	4.4	248
San Juan, PR	14.3	313.4	-2.2	(⁶)	504	4.6	(⁶)

¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. These 322 U.S. counties comprise 70.6 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.

⁸ This county was not included in the U.S. rankings.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, third quarter 2005²

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05 ³
United States ⁵	8,634.7	132,929.3	2.0	\$777	6.1
Private industry	8,357.6	111,846.5	2.2	770	6.4
Natural resources and mining	122.9	1,834.7	3.3	732	12.1
Construction	851.0	7,581.2	5.4	816	6.3
Manufacturing	365.9	14,218.1	-0.9	946	5.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,873.5	25,666.2	1.6	682	5.2
Information	142.3	3,057.1	-0.2	1,207	8.3
Financial activities	816.5	8,084.8	2.2	1,113	7.1
Professional and business services	1,378.4	17,138.0	4.0	929	8.0
Education and health services	769.3	16,557.0	2.7	745	5.8
Leisure and hospitality	693.9	13,006.0	1.8	331	5.4
Other services	1,104.0	4,329.4	0.9	505	5.9
Government	277.1	21,082.9	1.2	817	4.6
Los Angeles, CA	370.3	4,105.4	1.8	879	5.5
Private industry	366.4	3,554.9	1.9	862	5.9
Natural resources and mining	0.5	11.4	-2.4	1,207	17.6
Construction	13.2	154.6	6.6	891	8.9
Manufacturing	16.1	467.5	-3.0	908	4.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	52.6	794.4	1.8	745	5.4
Information	8.5	211.2	2.4	1,456	5.1
Financial activities	23.2	245.0	2.4	1,409	11.1
Professional and business services	39.8	587.0	4.5	987	6.9
Education and health services	27.1	459.5	0.4	816	7.7
Leisure and hospitality	25.6	382.8	1.8	498	0.0
Other services	159.5	241.0	6.4	407	1.2
Government	3.9	550.5	0.8	994	4.2
Cook, IL	131.0	2,529.4	0.7	920	5.5
Private industry	129.7	2,214.7	0.9	915	5.9
Natural resources and mining	0.1	1.5	9.7	989	5.0
Construction	11.2	97.4	-0.4	1,110	3.4
Manufacturing	7.5	252.3	-2.1	958	6.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	27.0	475.0	-0.1	759	3.8
Information	2.5	60.4	-1.4	1,315	8.9
Financial activities	14.6	218.3	0.8	1,394	4.0
Professional and business services	26.8	423.8	3.1	1,143	8.3
Education and health services	12.9	357.3	2.2	808	6.2
Leisure and hospitality	11.0	229.1	1.3	403	6.9
Other services	13.0	95.0	-0.6	664	6.1
Government	1.2	314.7	-0.7	959	3.3
New York, NY	114.3	2,243.4	1.7	1,419	7.0
Private industry	114.0	1,801.7	1.8	1,507	7.5
Natural resources and mining	0.0	0.1	6.3	1,407	26.1
Construction	2.1	29.9	2.1	1,363	4.0
Manufacturing	3.1	42.1	-7.6	1,101	10.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	21.4	237.2	1.2	1,071	7.7
Information	4.1	130.7	0.8	1,777	3.6
Financial activities	17.3	356.3	2.0	2,605	8.3
Professional and business services	22.6	447.6	2.3	1,632	7.9
Education and health services	8.0	269.1	0.9	979	6.5
Leisure and hospitality	10.4	192.0	0.7	679	6.8
Other services	16.4	83.6	1.9	822	6.2
Government	0.2	441.7	1.0	1,064	4.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, third quarter 2005² — Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05 ³
Harris, TX	90.4	1,882.0	3.4	\$930	7.8
Private industry	90.0	1,636.5	3.7	944	8.3
Natural resources and mining	1.3	67.1	6.7	2,409	18.3
Construction	6.2	132.7	4.0	867	4.7
Manufacturing	4.6	169.9	4.6	1,188	10.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	21.0	396.3	3.0	829	6.3
Information	1.3	32.1	-2.3	1,152	7.7
Financial activities	9.8	117.1	2.3	1,127	7.0
Professional and business services	17.6	302.8	5.5	1,062	7.7
Education and health services	9.3	196.4	3.6	807	2.7
Leisure and hospitality	6.8	162.7	1.5	356	9.9
Other services	10.5	55.4	0.4	547	5.8
Government	0.4	245.5	1.5	837	4.6
Maricopa, AZ	84.3	1,735.0	6.5	790	8.1
Private industry	83.7	1,524.0	7.2	785	8.1
Natural resources and mining	0.5	7.9	2.5	607	6.5
Construction	8.6	165.9	15.0	798	11.3
Manufacturing	3.3	133.2	2.6	1,077	4.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	18.7	350.4	6.4	765	7.6
Information	1.4	31.5	-2.1	991	14.4
Financial activities	10.1	146.1	6.9	1,032	14.7
Professional and business services	18.3	294.9	8.2	761	5.7
Education and health services	8.2	177.1	5.8	841	7.5
Leisure and hospitality	6.0	165.4	6.0	376	7.4
Other services	5.8	45.9	1.6	547	9.2
Government	0.6	211.0	1.7	836	8.2
Orange, CA	90.3	1,497.5	2.2	907	7.1
Private industry	88.9	1,359.2	2.5	903	7.1
Natural resources and mining	0.2	5.5	-4.3	629	10.5
Construction	6.7	105.4	6.9	962	9.4
Manufacturing	5.7	182.9	-0.7	1,059	6.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	17.0	270.9	1.1	829	5.5
Information	1.4	32.2	-0.9	1,250	3.6
Financial activities	10.3	144.1	4.5	1,466	6.5
Professional and business services	17.7	271.4	5.7	926	7.8
Education and health services	9.4	131.6	1.8	845	8.2
Leisure and hospitality	6.7	166.4	0.6	388	6.0
Other services	13.8	48.7	2.6	550	7.2
Government	1.4	138.3	-1.2	951	7.5
Dallas, TX	66.1	1,431.1	2.0	940	6.6
Private industry	65.6	1,272.6	2.2	949	6.9
Natural resources and mining	0.5	7.3	7.8	2,432	10.3
Construction	4.3	78.4	5.0	856	8.4
Manufacturing	3.3	146.0	0.5	1,135	12.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.8	301.8	0.9	895	5.2
Information	1.7	53.8	-0.1	1,257	4.5
Financial activities	8.3	136.0	1.5	1,213	8.3
Professional and business services	13.7	250.9	5.4	1,021	5.7
Education and health services	6.2	134.0	2.0	901	5.1
Leisure and hospitality	5.0	122.6	0.3	429	5.7
Other services	6.5	38.5	-0.1	606	5.2
Government	0.5	158.5	0.0	867	4.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, third quarter 2005² — Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05 ³
San Diego, CA	87.6	1,301.3	1.6	\$855	7.3
Private industry	86.2	1,088.1	1.6	838	7.7
Natural resources and mining	0.8	11.3	-1.8	534	8.1
Construction	6.8	93.7	2.5	897	9.4
Manufacturing	3.4	103.7	-0.6	1,102	4.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.1	218.6	2.6	691	6.0
Information	1.3	37.6	1.4	1,903	12.2
Financial activities	9.3	83.5	1.3	1,077	6.4
Professional and business services	15.0	210.8	1.5	999	9.8
Education and health services	7.7	120.9	0.6	804	10.1
Leisure and hospitality	6.6	153.0	2.3	399	5.6
Other services	21.1	55.0	1.2	478	6.2
Government	1.4	213.2	1.8	944	4.9
King, WA	75.2	1,129.1	2.7	997	7.2
Private industry	74.8	976.9	3.2	1,005	7.7
Natural resources and mining	0.4	3.2	0.6	1,009	7.5
Construction	6.4	63.6	10.5	954	8.3
Manufacturing	2.6	100.2	-1.9	1,245	3.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.6	219.1	1.3	854	4.8
Information	1.6	70.6	3.5	2,347	18.8
Financial activities	6.4	76.4	1.9	1,166	5.2
Professional and business services	12.1	174.6	7.6	1,090	5.1
Education and health services	6.1	115.9	4.2	792	9.5
Leisure and hospitality	5.7	108.0	3.3	413	3.3
Other services	18.8	45.2	-2.7	527	9.8
Government	0.5	152.2	-0.3	940	3.6
Miami-Dade, FL	84.4	1,003.2	3.3	781	8.9
Private industry	84.1	850.5	3.5	750	7.9
Natural resources and mining	0.5	8.5	6.2	478	8.9
Construction	5.6	46.5	11.6	805	6.8
Manufacturing	2.7	48.6	-2.5	717	11.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	24.0	244.5	2.0	716	7.2
Information	1.8	23.0	(⁶)	1,097	(⁶)
Financial activities	9.5	69.8	4.3	1,076	11.0
Professional and business services	16.8	144.8	7.5	886	10.2
Education and health services	8.4	128.7	2.9	758	4.0
Leisure and hospitality	5.8	97.7	3.4	434	7.7
Other services	7.7	35.0	0.8	476	9.7
Government	0.3	152.7	1.9	961	13.2

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, third quarter 2005²

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁵	
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05 ⁴	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05 ⁴
United States ⁶	8,634.7	132,929.3	2.0	\$777	6.1
Jefferson, AL	18.8	372.8	1.3	796	7.7
Anchorage Borough, AK	7.9	148.0	1.9	857	5.8
Maricopa, AZ	84.3	1,735.0	6.5	790	8.1
Pulaski, AR	13.5	245.7	1.3	709	6.1
Los Angeles, CA	370.3	4,105.4	1.8	879	5.5
Denver, CO	25.1	429.4	1.7	947	6.6
Hartford, CT	24.6	488.6	1.2	968	5.6
New Castle, DE	19.8	281.2	0.3	921	7.5
Washington, DC	30.7	666.4	0.8	1,265	4.5
Miami-Dade, FL	84.4	1,003.2	3.3	781	8.9
Fulton, GA	38.0	744.4	2.2	1,007	4.9
Honolulu, HI	23.8	441.7	3.2	740	5.3
Ada, ID	13.9	201.2	5.4	719	6.4
Cook, IL	131.0	2,529.4	0.7	920	5.5
Marion, IN	23.5	584.0	0.5	819	7.1
Polk, IA	14.2	265.6	1.9	792	6.9
Johnson, KS	19.4	302.9	1.7	823	7.9
Jefferson, KY	21.6	425.3	1.4	761	5.5
Orleans, LA	12.9	178.2	-26.3	742	10.7
Cumberland, ME	11.7	171.3	-0.1	710	6.0
Montgomery, MD	32.0	462.4	2.6	1,027	8.0
Middlesex, MA	49.8	791.8	0.9	1,110	6.5
Wayne, MI	34.2	789.3	-1.2	910	4.8
Hennepin, MN	41.9	837.8	1.4	990	6.1
Hinds, MS	6.5	126.9	-2.1	689	5.5
St. Louis, MO	33.8	622.5	1.0	828	6.4
Yellowstone, MT	5.4	73.6	3.0	619	8.2
Douglas, NE	15.2	310.3	0.5	741	5.6
Clark, NV	42.3	883.1	7.1	752	7.3
Hillsborough, NH	12.3	197.6	1.7	854	3.3
Bergen, NJ	34.2	450.2	0.5	964	5.9
Bernalillo, NM	16.5	323.4	2.6	707	6.2
New York, NY	114.3	2,243.4	1.7	1,419	7.0
Mecklenburg, NC	27.7	527.4	3.7	894	6.9
Cass, ND	5.7	93.0	3.3	648	6.2
Cuyahoga, OH	38.1	755.8	0.1	802	3.4
Oklahoma, OK	22.5	415.7	1.5	685	6.4
Multnomah, OR	26.2	430.5	2.4	798	5.3
Allegheny, PA	35.0	682.9	-0.3	811	4.6
Providence, RI	18.2	290.8	0.9	750	2.7
Greenville, SC	12.7	227.4	2.5	688	3.9
Minnehaha, SD	6.1	111.3	2.3	666	6.7
Shelby, TN	19.7	505.9	1.9	814	3.7
Harris, TX	90.4	1,882.0	3.4	930	7.8
Salt Lake, UT	36.9	547.1	4.5	719	7.0
Chittenden, VT	5.7	95.5	-0.9	764	5.4
Fairfax, VA	30.8	569.6	3.7	1,188	10.9
King, WA	75.2	1,129.1	2.7	997	7.2
Kanawha, WV	6.2	107.4	-0.5	668	6.2
Milwaukee, WI	21.8	494.8	0.3	785	4.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, third quarter 2005² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁵	
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05 ⁴	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05 ⁴
Laramie, WY	3.0	41.0	3.1	\$634	6.6
San Juan, PR	14.3	313.4	-2.2	504	4.6
St. Thomas, VI	1.8	22.6	0.2	575	1.4

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.

Table 4. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages by state, third quarter 2005²

State	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05
United States ⁴	8,634.7	132,929.3	2.0	\$777	6.1
Alabama	117.1	1,905.9	2.5	669	6.4
Alaska	20.7	320.2	1.8	797	5.6
Arizona	135.9	2,511.8	6.0	748	8.2
Arkansas	77.9	1,165.7	1.9	599	4.9
California	1,237.6	15,443.3	2.5	887	7.0
Colorado	171.8	2,212.1	2.3	808	7.3
Connecticut	110.8	1,655.2	0.8	966	5.3
Delaware	30.1	420.1	1.3	823	7.0
District of Columbia	30.7	666.4	0.8	1,265	4.5
Florida	564.9	7,801.6	5.5	708	8.1
Georgia	257.3	3,960.8	3.2	748	5.2
Hawaii	36.5	606.0	3.2	714	5.8
Idaho	52.4	635.5	4.5	605	6.0
Illinois	339.7	5,820.7	1.2	825	5.9
Indiana	153.2	2,916.3	1.0	689	5.2
Iowa	91.8	1,461.1	1.9	641	6.1
Kansas	83.1	1,315.3	0.5	659	6.5
Kentucky	107.2	1,779.5	1.9	651	5.2
Louisiana	120.3	1,770.8	-4.9	637	6.9
Maine	48.5	606.0	-0.5	631	4.6
Maryland	158.3	2,526.5	1.9	854	7.6
Massachusetts	219.0	3,193.3	0.8	947	4.5
Michigan	257.2	4,353.1	-0.1	787	4.1
Minnesota	165.1	2,671.9	1.4	790	4.9
Mississippi	68.0	1,098.4	-1.4	573	5.9
Missouri	170.9	2,696.2	1.6	691	5.5
Montana	40.5	424.2	2.7	563	7.4
Nebraska	56.9	896.7	1.1	633	5.3
Nevada	67.7	1,242.5	6.3	750	6.7
New Hampshire	47.8	630.7	1.2	772	5.8
New Jersey	272.7	3,960.8	1.2	928	5.8
New Mexico	50.5	791.0	3.0	629	6.8
New York	564.1	8,394.8	0.9	941	5.7
North Carolina	234.2	3,903.7	1.9	690	5.7
North Dakota	24.9	335.4	2.4	581	6.0
Ohio	291.4	5,360.6	0.5	723	5.5
Oklahoma	94.3	1,482.5	2.8	612	5.7
Oregon	124.8	1,683.4	3.5	714	5.6
Pennsylvania	335.9	5,597.6	1.1	764	5.7
Rhode Island	35.9	488.9	1.0	736	4.1
South Carolina	119.8	1,831.2	1.6	637	5.6
South Dakota	29.2	381.6	1.6	567	5.4
Tennessee	132.8	2,724.0	2.0	689	4.6
Texas	521.6	9,659.3	3.1	767	6.7
Utah	82.1	1,135.1	4.7	647	6.6
Vermont	24.6	303.4	0.2	663	4.7
Virginia	213.4	3,617.7	2.7	815	7.7
Washington	210.4	2,820.6	2.5	801	6.5
West Virginia	48.2	702.9	1.3	589	5.4
Wisconsin	161.7	2,783.4	1.2	688	5.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages by state, third quarter 2005² — Continued

State	Establishments, third quarter 2005 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		September 2005 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2004-05	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2004-05
Wyoming	23.3	263.4	3.8	\$638	8.0
Puerto Rico	57.2	1,037.4	-0.6	435	3.8
Virgin Islands	3.5	44.0	3.0	616	2.8

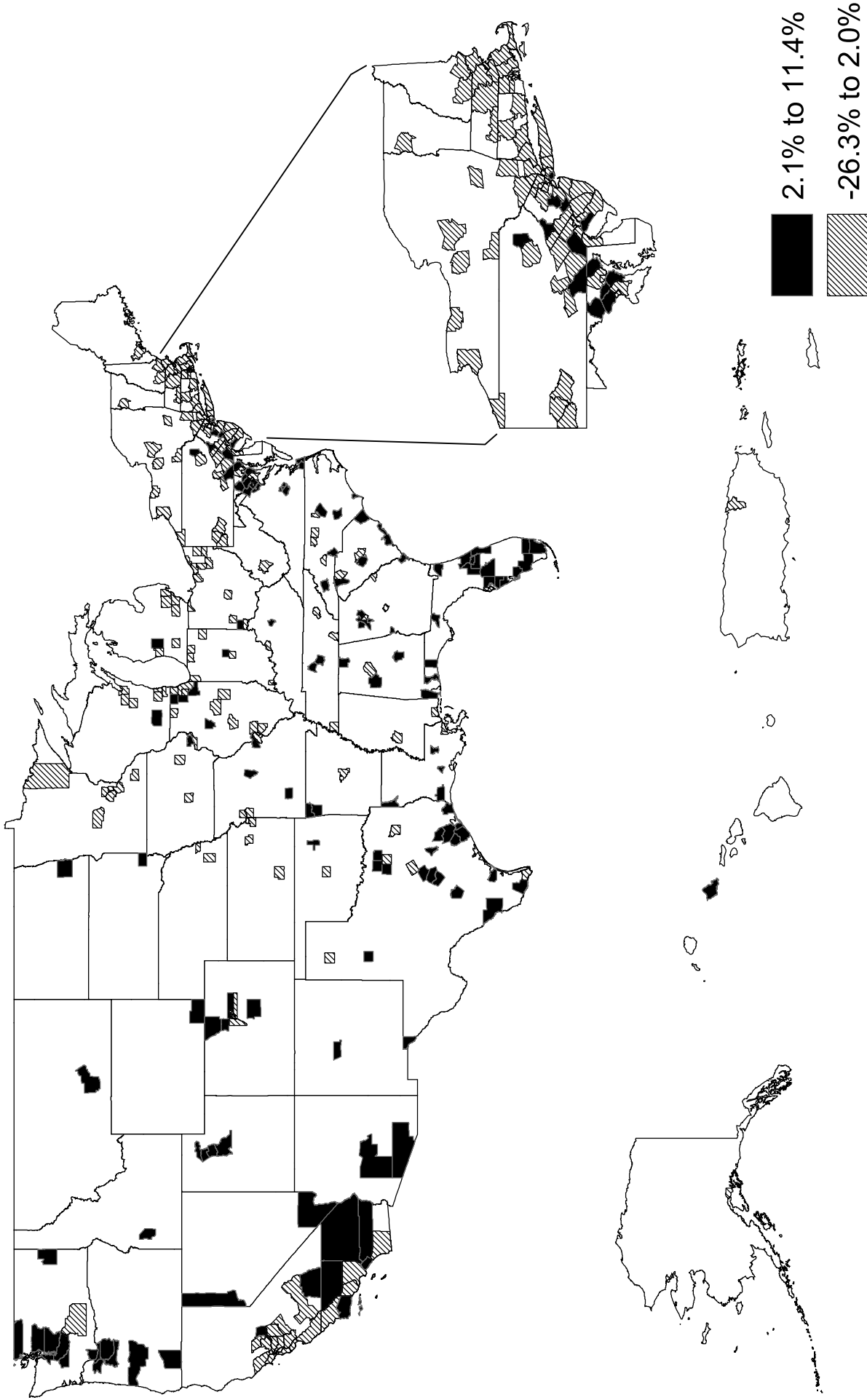
¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

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.

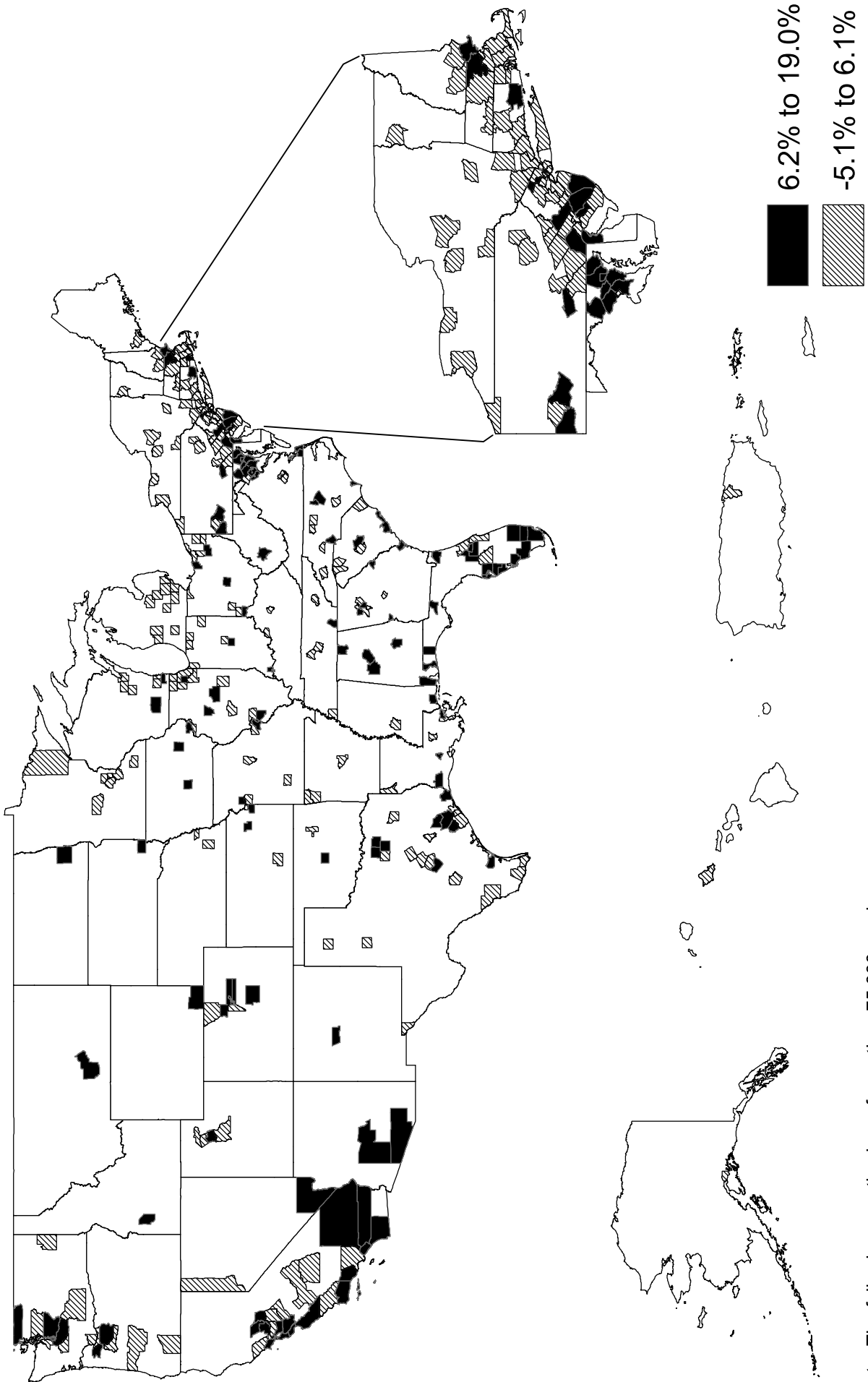
Chart 1. Percent change in employment in counties with 75,000 employees or more, September 2004–05 (U.S. Average = 2.0%)



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
April 2006

Chart 2. Percent change in average weekly wage in counties with 75,000 employees or more, third quarter 2004–05 (U.S. Average = 6.1%)



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
April 2006