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Technical Information: (202) 691-6567 • QCEWInfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/cew

Media Contact: (202) 691-5902 • PressOffice@bls.gov

COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES
Third Quarter 2012

From September 2011 to September 2012, **employment** increased in 276 of the 328 largest U.S. counties, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Elkhart, Ind., posted the largest increase, with a gain of 6.9 percent over the year, compared with national job growth of 1.6 percent. Within Elkhart, the largest employment increase occurred in manufacturing, which gained 4,734 jobs over the year (10.1 percent). Benton, Wash., had the largest over-the-year decrease in employment among the largest counties in the U.S. with a loss of 5.2 percent. County employment and wage data are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, which produces detailed information on county employment and wages within 7 months after the end of each quarter.

The U.S. **average weekly wage** decreased over the year by 1.1 percent to \$906 in the third quarter of 2012. This is one of only six over-the-year average weekly wage declines dating back to 1978, when the first comparable quarterly data are available. (See Technical Note.) Average weekly wages declined in every industry except for information, in which wages increased by 1.3 percent. Wage declines were also widespread across states, with the notable exception of a 6.3 percent increase in North Dakota. Yolo, Calif., had the largest over-the-year decrease in average weekly wages with a loss of 7.0 percent. Within Yolo, a total wage decline of \$102.9 million (-19.1 percent) in government had the largest contribution to the decrease in average weekly wages. San Mateo, Calif., experienced the largest increase in average weekly wages with a gain of 7.3 percent over the year.

Chart 1. Large counties ranked by percent increase in employment, September 2011-12 (U.S. average = 1.6 percent)

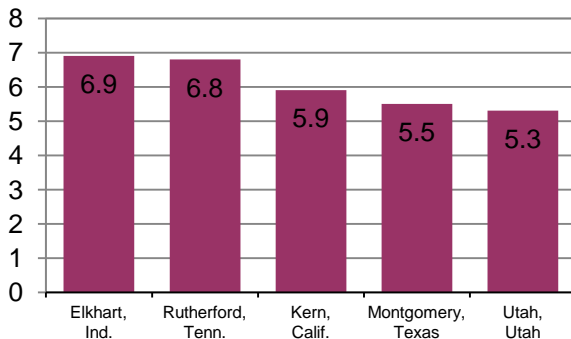


Chart 2. Large counties ranked by percent decrease in average weekly wages, third quarter 2011-12 (U.S. average = -1.1 percent)

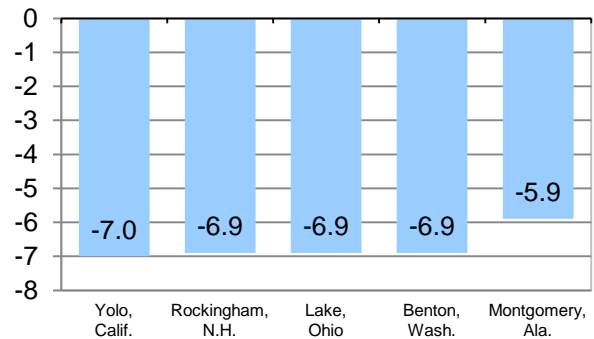


Table A. Large counties ranked by September 2012 employment, September 2011-12 employment increase, and September 2011-12 percent increase in employment

Employment in large counties					
September 2012 employment (thousands)		Increase in employment, September 2011-12 (thousands)		Percent increase in employment, September 2011-12	
United States	132,624.7	United States	2,024.9	United States	1.6
Los Angeles, Calif.	3,983.5	Los Angeles, Calif.	81.6	Elkhart, Ind.	6.9
Cook, Ill.	2,424.6	Harris, Texas	78.6	Rutherford, Tenn.	6.8
New York, N.Y.	2,385.9	New York, N.Y.	52.4	Kern, Calif.	5.9
Harris, Texas	2,128.2	Maricopa, Ariz.	40.0	Montgomery, Texas	5.5
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,674.5	Dallas, Texas	38.3	Utah, Utah	5.3
Dallas, Texas	1,478.5	Santa Clara, Calif.	28.9	Fort Bend, Texas	4.3
Orange, Calif.	1,407.6	Orange, Calif.	28.6	Lexington, S.C.	4.2
San Diego, Calif.	1,283.3	King, Wash.	27.7	Cass, N.D.	4.1
King, Wash.	1,171.9	Cook, Ill.	24.6	Travis, Texas	3.9
Miami-Dade, Fla.	990.7	San Diego, Calif.	22.8	Washington, Ark.	3.8
				Denver, Colo.	3.8
				Delaware, Ohio	3.8
				Harris, Texas	3.8

Large County Employment

In September 2012, **national employment**, as measured by the QCEW program, was 132.6 million, up by 1.6 percent or 2.0 million, from September 2011. The 328 U.S. counties with 75,000 or more jobs accounted for 71.0 percent of total U.S. employment and 76.3 percent of total wages. These 328 counties had a net job growth of 1.5 million over the year, accounting for 74.3 percent of the overall U.S. employment increase. (See chart 3.)

Elkhart, Ind., had the largest percentage increase in employment (6.9 percent) among the largest U.S. counties. The five counties with the largest increases in employment level were Los Angeles, Calif.; Harris, Texas; New York, N.Y.; Maricopa, Ariz.; and Dallas, Texas. These counties had a combined over-the-year employment gain of 290,900, or 14.4 percent of the overall job increase for the U.S. (See table A.)

Employment declined in 49 of the large counties from September 2011 to September 2012. Benton, Wash., had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease in employment (-5.2 percent). Within Benton, professional and business services was the largest contributor to the decrease in employment with a loss of 3,677 jobs (-15.8 percent). Jefferson, Texas, had the second largest percentage decrease in employment, followed by Vanderburgh, Ind.; Sangamon, Ill.; and Hinds, Miss. (See table 1.)

Table B. Large counties ranked by third quarter 2012 average weekly wages, third quarter 2011-12 decrease in average weekly wages, and third quarter 2011-12 percent decrease in average weekly wages

Average weekly wage in large counties					
Average weekly wage, third quarter 2012		Decrease in average weekly wage, third quarter 2011-12		Percent decrease in average weekly wage, third quarter 2011-12	
United States	\$906	United States	-\$10	United States	-1.1
Santa Clara, Calif.	\$1,800	Benton, Wash.	-\$68	Yolo, Calif.	-7.0
New York, N.Y.	1,626	Yolo, Calif.	-66	Rockingham, N.H.	-6.9
San Mateo, Calif.	1,537	Rockingham, N.H.	-62	Lake, Ohio	-6.9
Washington, D.C.	1,514	Fairfield, Conn.	-58	Benton, Wash.	-6.9
Arlington, Va.	1,488	Lake, Ohio	-58	Montgomery, Ala.	-5.9
San Francisco, Calif.	1,473	Arlington, Va.	-57	York, Pa.	-5.6
Fairfax, Va.	1,410	Hudson, N.J.	-52	Brevard, Fla.	-5.5
Suffolk, Mass.	1,397	Brevard, Fla.	-49	Brown, Wis.	-5.1
Fairfield, Conn.	1,371	Montgomery, Ala.	-48	Erie, Pa.	-4.6
King, Wash.	1,354	York, Pa.	-48	Winnebago, Ill.	-4.5
				Monmouth, N.J.	-4.5

Large County Average Weekly Wages

Average weekly wages for the nation decreased by 1.1 percent during the year ending in the third quarter of 2012. Among the 328 largest counties, 274 had over-the-year declines in average weekly wages. (See chart 4.) Yolo, Calif., had the largest wage decline among the largest U.S. counties (-7.0 percent).

Of the 328 largest counties, 46 experienced over-the-year increases in average weekly wages. San Mateo, Calif., had the largest average weekly wage increase with a gain of 7.3 percent. Within San Mateo, total wages in professional and business services grew by \$439.3 million (25.7 percent) over the year. Douglas, Colo., had the second largest increase in average weekly wages, followed by Pinellas, Fla. Two counties, Clayton, Ga., and King, Wash., tied for the fourth largest percentage increase. (See table 1.)

Ten Largest U.S. Counties

All of the 10 largest counties had over-the-year percentage increases in **employment** in September 2012. Harris, Texas, had the largest gain (3.8 percent). Within Harris, professional and business services had the largest over-the-year level increase among all private industry groups with a gain of 19,152 jobs (5.6 percent). Cook, Ill., had the smallest percentage increase in employment (1.0 percent) among the 10 largest counties. (See table 2.)

Nine of the 10 largest U.S. counties had over-the-year decreases in **average weekly wages**. Maricopa, Ariz., experienced the largest decline in average weekly wages (-2.1 percent). Within Maricopa, education and health services had the largest impact on the county's average weekly wage decline. Within this industry, employment grew by 5,374 (2.2 percent) while total wages paid to those workers

decreased by \$59.9 million (-2.1 percent). King, Wash., had the only average weekly wage increase (2.3 percent) among the 10 largest counties.

For More Information

The tables and charts included in this release contain data for the nation and for the 328 U.S. counties with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2011. September 2012 employment and 2012 third quarter average weekly wages for all states are provided in table 3 of this release.

The employment and wage data by county are compiled under the 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 9.2 million employer reports cover 132.6 million full- and part-time workers. For additional information about the quarterly employment and wages data, please read the Technical Note. Data for the third quarter of 2012 will be available later at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/>. Additional information about the QCEW data may be obtained by calling (202) 691-6567.

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>.

The County Employment and Wages release for fourth quarter 2012 is scheduled to be released on Thursday, June 27, 2013.

Hurricane Sandy

Hurricane Sandy made landfall in the United States on October 29, 2012, after the QCEW third quarter reference period. Any impact will be reflected in the fourth quarter release. This event did not warrant changes to QCEW methodology.

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. QCEW data in this release are based on the 2012 North American Industry Classification System. Data for 2012 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 329 counties presented in this release were derived using 2011 preliminary annual averages of employment. For 2012 data, seven counties have been added to the publication tables: Okaloosa, Fla.; Tippecanoe, Ind.; Johnson, Iowa; St. Tammany, La.; Saratoga, N.Y.; Delaware, Ohio; and Gregg, Texas. These counties will be included in all 2012 quarterly releases. One county, Jackson, Ore., which was published in the 2011 releases, will be excluded from this and future 2012 releases because its 2011 annual average employment level was less than 75,000. The counties in table 2 are selected and sorted each year based on the annual average employment from the preceding year.

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 9.2 million establishments in first quarter of 2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Count of longitudinally-linked UI administrative records submitted by 6.8 million private-sector employers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sample survey: 557,000 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 to annually realign sample-based estimates to population counts (benchmarking)
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, and at the state private-sector total level Future expansions will include data with greater industry detail and data at the county and MSA 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/

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 employment change over time. It is important to understand program differences and the intended uses of the program products. (See table.) Additional information on each program can be obtained from the program Web sites shown in the table.

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 submitted by four major federal payroll processing centers on behalf of all federal agencies, with the exception of a few agencies which still report directly to the individual SWA. 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. QCEW employment and wage data are derived from microdata summaries of 9.1 million employer reports of employment and wages submitted by states to the BLS in 2011. These reports are based on place of employment rather than place of residence.

UI and UCFE coverage is broad and has been basically comparable from state to state since 1978, when the 1976 amendments to the Federal Unemployment Tax Act became effective, expanding coverage to include most State and local government employees. In 2011, UI and UCFE programs covered workers in 129.4 million jobs. The estimated 124.8 million workers in these jobs (after adjustment for multiple jobholders) represented 95.7 percent of civilian wage and salary employment. Covered workers received \$6.217 trillion in pay, representing 93.3 percent of the wage and salary component of personal income and 41.2 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.

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 4-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 2011 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. Beginning with the first quarter of 2008, adjusted data 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. Compari-

sons 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

Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2011 edition of this publication, which was published in October 2012, contains selected data produced by Business Employment Dynamics (BED) on job gains and losses, as well as selected data from the first quarter 2012 version of this news release. Tables and additional content from *Employment and Wages Annual Averages 2011* are now available online at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn11.htm>. The 2012 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* will be available later in 2013.

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 329 largest counties, third quarter 2012²

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁴		
		September 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change	Third quarter 2012	Percent change, third quarter 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change
United States ⁶	9,165.4	132,624.7	1.6	—	\$906	-1.1	—
Jefferson, AL	17.7	336.3	1.0	186	910	-1.4	147
Madison, AL	8.9	178.6	0.1	273	1,005	-3.0	276
Mobile, AL	9.7	164.2	-0.7	307	802	-4.3	316
Montgomery, AL	6.3	128.1	1.5	140	765	-5.9	324
Tuscaloosa, AL	4.2	85.6	1.5	140	792	-0.6	86
Anchorage Borough, AK	8.3	157.0	1.1	177	1,010	-0.6	86
Maricopa, AZ	96.1	1,674.5	2.4	54	886	-2.1	213
Pima, AZ	19.1	346.8	1.3	161	787	-1.1	116
Benton, AR	5.5	97.1	0.9	200	885	1.7	9
Pulaski, AR	14.4	243.1	0.3	256	819	-2.3	228
Washington, AR	5.6	93.8	3.8	10	728	-2.5	250
Alameda, CA	53.8	664.1	3.1	30	1,188	-2.9	271
Contra Costa, CA	28.6	326.0	2.4	54	1,126	2.2	6
Fresno, CA	28.7	351.9	1.1	177	710	-1.5	155
Kern, CA	16.8	312.7	5.9	3	783	-2.7	262
Los Angeles, CA	412.7	3,983.5	2.1	89	1,002	-1.7	173
Marin, CA	11.6	107.0	3.5	22	1,069	-0.6	86
Monterey, CA	12.3	186.5	2.3	67	783	-0.8	102
Orange, CA	102.8	1,407.6	2.1	89	1,024	-1.4	147
Placer, CA	10.7	131.2	2.4	54	906	0.4	32
Riverside, CA	48.1	569.4	2.8	40	726	-3.7	304
Sacramento, CA	49.5	591.4	1.8	117	1,007	-1.5	155
San Bernardino, CA	47.6	612.5	1.9	110	771	-2.8	265
San Diego, CA	101.0	1,283.3	1.8	117	993	-2.0	202
San Francisco, CA	53.8	593.9	3.6	17	1,473	1.0	19
San Joaquin, CA	16.1	208.9	0.2	261	786	-1.8	186
San Luis Obispo, CA	9.4	107.3	3.5	22	738	-2.0	202
San Mateo, CA	24.4	342.9	3.6	17	1,537	7.3	1
Santa Barbara, CA	14.1	188.1	2.2	79	850	-3.4	300
Santa Clara, CA	62.0	907.7	3.3	26	1,800	-1.5	155
Santa Cruz, CA	8.8	98.0	2.5	49	851	1.4	14
Solano, CA	9.5	122.6	2.4	54	910	-1.2	127
Sonoma, CA	18.1	181.0	2.6	47	856	-3.1	283
Stanislaus, CA	13.6	170.0	1.5	140	776	-0.9	108
Tulare, CA	8.8	146.6	-1.4	317	636	0.0	47
Ventura, CA	23.6	303.1	2.3	67	936	0.2	41
Yolo, CA	6.2	99.2	2.3	67	882	-7.0	328
Adams, CO	9.1	161.0	2.0	97	839	-2.6	255
Arapahoe, CO	19.2	288.3	2.9	36	1,052	-3.0	276
Boulder, CO	13.3	161.5	1.7	123	1,072	0.4	32
Denver, CO	26.5	438.2	3.8	10	1,111	-1.8	186
Douglas, CO	9.9	96.0	3.6	17	1,030	5.4	2
El Paso, CO	17.1	239.1	0.7	221	846	-1.6	165
Jefferson, CO	18.1	214.4	2.2	79	919	-1.4	147
Larimer, CO	10.3	134.7	2.2	79	813	-1.1	116
Weld, CO	5.9	86.7	3.7	14	798	0.0	47
Fairfield, CT	33.0	409.5	0.8	209	1,371	-4.1	311
Hartford, CT	25.7	494.7	1.0	186	1,079	-1.7	173
New Haven, CT	22.5	356.5	0.8	209	956	-1.6	165
New London, CT	7.0	123.6	-1.1	315	902	-3.3	296

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 329 largest counties, third quarter 2012²—Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁴		
		September 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change	Third quarter 2012	Percent change, third quarter 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change
New Castle, DE	17.1	265.7	-0.2	285	\$1,039	-1.7	173
Washington, DC	36.1	714.9	0.6	233	1,514	-0.7	96
Alachua, FL	6.6	116.9	0.7	221	749	-1.7	173
Brevard, FL	14.4	186.6	-0.3	290	836	-5.5	322
Broward, FL	63.6	701.1	2.3	67	838	-2.4	240
Collier, FL	11.9	112.7	2.4	54	776	-1.1	116
Duval, FL	27.2	442.7	2.0	97	862	-1.3	140
Escambia, FL	8.0	120.0	1.0	186	702	-3.8	306
Hillsborough, FL	38.3	582.9	1.7	123	863	-2.3	228
Lake, FL	7.3	81.1	2.3	67	630	-0.6	86
Lee, FL	18.8	199.1	1.4	151	728	-1.2	127
Leon, FL	8.2	137.7	-0.1	280	755	-0.5	83
Manatee, FL	9.3	101.6	2.0	97	692	-3.8	306
Marion, FL	7.9	90.2	1.6	134	621	-2.1	213
Miami-Dade, FL	89.6	990.7	2.0	97	857	-1.7	173
Okaloosa, FL	6.0	76.0	-0.9	312	744	-2.1	213
Orange, FL	36.4	682.0	2.4	54	795	-1.9	194
Palm Beach, FL	49.8	498.7	2.1	89	862	-1.6	165
Pasco, FL	10.0	99.2	1.7	123	624	-1.4	147
Pinellas, FL	30.8	381.8	0.9	200	842	4.3	3
Polk, FL	12.4	188.4	1.2	171	708	-0.6	86
Sarasota, FL	14.5	136.4	2.7	45	733	-1.2	127
Seminole, FL	13.9	158.1	1.4	151	747	-0.7	96
Volusia, FL	13.4	149.8	0.7	221	644	-1.1	116
Bibb, GA	4.6	80.3	0.7	221	708	-3.8	306
Chatham, GA	7.8	133.9	2.3	67	777	-2.0	202
Clayton, GA	4.3	110.6	-0.7	307	894	2.3	4
Cobb, GA	21.6	300.2	1.1	177	959	0.2	41
De Kalb, GA	17.9	275.2	-0.6	303	944	-1.7	173
Fulton, GA	41.9	724.3	2.4	54	1,165	-2.5	250
Gwinnett, GA	24.3	308.5	1.0	186	892	-3.3	296
Muscogee, GA	4.7	93.7	-0.6	303	727	-0.4	76
Richmond, GA	4.7	98.3	0.4	253	791	-1.2	127
Honolulu, HI	24.6	443.7	1.6	134	862	-0.9	108
Ada, ID	13.6	202.0	2.1	89	790	-1.1	116
Champaign, IL	4.3	88.4	0.6	233	816	1.6	10
Cook, IL	149.3	2,424.6	1.0	186	1,032	-1.5	155
Du Page, IL	37.3	572.5	1.8	117	1,056	-0.2	62
Kane, IL	13.3	196.9	1.5	140	810	-2.3	228
Lake, IL	22.2	326.9	1.3	161	1,148	1.5	11
McHenry, IL	8.7	94.5	0.5	241	757	-3.1	283
McLean, IL	3.8	86.8	1.3	161	878	-3.3	296
Madison, IL	6.0	95.0	-1.0	314	752	-2.8	265
Peoria, IL	4.7	104.0	1.7	123	853	-2.5	250
St. Clair, IL	5.6	93.7	-1.8	323	753	-3.2	291
Sangamon, IL	5.3	127.7	-2.1	325	944	0.0	47
Will, IL	15.3	205.0	0.9	200	796	-2.0	202
Winnebago, IL	6.8	126.0	0.8	209	761	-4.5	318
Allen, IN	9.0	176.9	1.0	186	743	-3.1	283
Elkhart, IN	4.8	112.1	6.9	1	737	-0.3	68

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 329 largest counties, third quarter 2012²—Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁴		
		September 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change	Third quarter 2012	Percent change, third quarter 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change
Hamilton, IN	8.5	115.5	1.2	171	\$843	-2.4	240
Lake, IN	10.4	191.9	1.8	117	858	1.4	14
Marion, IN	24.0	569.4	2.6	47	931	-1.6	165
St. Joseph, IN	6.0	117.4	0.0	277	750	-0.7	96
Tippecanoe, IN	3.3	79.8	2.9	36	762	-2.3	228
Vanderburgh, IN	4.8	104.6	-2.2	326	722	-2.4	240
Johnson, IA	3.6	78.3	0.9	200	856	0.4	32
Linn, IA	6.3	126.6	0.5	241	874	-1.4	147
Polk, IA	15.1	273.7	1.9	110	905	-1.0	113
Scott, IA	5.3	88.8	0.9	200	746	-1.3	140
Johnson, KS	21.1	311.2	2.3	67	917	-1.8	186
Sedgwick, KS	12.3	239.4	0.5	241	809	-2.2	220
Shawnee, KS	4.8	94.6	-0.7	307	764	-3.0	276
Wyandotte, KS	3.2	85.6	2.9	36	854	-1.6	165
Fayette, KY	9.6	180.7	2.2	79	816	-1.9	194
Jefferson, KY	22.7	429.5	2.8	40	882	-0.6	86
Caddo, LA	7.6	119.5	-1.6	321	741	-4.1	311
Calcasieu, LA	4.9	84.4	1.9	110	785	-1.9	194
East Baton Rouge, LA	15.0	259.2	1.5	140	850	-0.2	62
Jefferson, LA	14.0	188.8	-1.6	321	847	-3.1	283
Lafayette, LA	9.2	136.5	0.9	200	878	-3.1	283
Orleans, LA	11.4	174.5	0.8	209	895	-3.1	283
St. Tammany, LA	7.6	79.1	2.1	89	769	-2.9	271
Cumberland, ME	12.7	172.4	0.6	233	799	-1.6	165
Anne Arundel, MD	14.6	241.9	3.5	22	978	-2.7	262
Baltimore, MD	21.3	364.5	1.5	140	930	-2.6	255
Frederick, MD	6.2	93.8	1.6	134	879	-2.4	240
Harford, MD	5.6	87.8	2.3	67	891	-2.7	262
Howard, MD	9.2	159.8	2.0	97	1,111	-1.7	173
Montgomery, MD	33.5	452.4	0.7	221	1,236	-0.2	62
Prince Georges, MD	15.6	301.0	0.2	261	981	-2.4	240
Baltimore City, MD	14.0	332.5	0.7	221	1,072	-0.4	76
Barnstable, MA	9.0	96.1	2.0	97	746	-1.5	155
Bristol, MA	16.1	212.9	0.1	273	816	-1.1	116
Essex, MA	21.6	308.3	1.4	151	946	-1.8	186
Hampden, MA	15.5	197.9	-0.3	290	831	-1.2	127
Middlesex, MA	49.2	829.8	1.7	123	1,318	-0.3	68
Norfolk, MA	23.4	323.0	1.3	161	1,033	-2.2	220
Plymouth, MA	14.0	178.4	2.2	79	838	-0.5	83
Suffolk, MA	23.6	598.7	1.3	161	1,397	-2.1	213
Worcester, MA	21.4	317.8	0.2	261	910	-1.9	194
Genesee, MI	7.2	129.4	0.0	277	744	-4.1	311
Ingham, MI	6.4	154.1	-0.7	307	850	-1.0	113
Kalamazoo, MI	5.4	110.2	0.7	221	838	-1.2	127
Kent, MI	14.1	337.1	2.9	36	799	-2.3	228
Macomb, MI	17.3	292.8	1.7	123	902	-2.4	240
Oakland, MI	38.4	666.4	3.2	29	997	-1.4	147
Ottawa, MI	5.6	111.4	2.3	67	738	-1.2	127
Saginaw, MI	4.2	83.5	-0.5	297	741	-2.2	220
Washtenaw, MI	8.1	194.6	2.4	54	977	0.8	23
Wayne, MI	31.7	690.3	1.2	171	984	-2.0	202

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 329 largest counties, third quarter 2012²—Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁴		
		September 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change	Third quarter 2012	Percent change, third quarter 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change
Anoka, MN	7.2	111.9	1.7	123	\$874	-0.1	55
Dakota, MN	9.9	172.8	1.1	177	882	-0.1	55
Hennepin, MN	43.1	850.1	2.0	97	1,133	0.4	32
Olmsted, MN	3.4	91.3	1.9	110	954	0.7	25
Ramsey, MN	14.0	323.1	0.3	256	990	-3.3	296
St. Louis, MN	5.6	94.7	0.1	273	778	-1.1	116
Stearns, MN	4.4	81.4	1.4	151	726	-3.2	291
Harrison, MS	4.4	82.6	-0.1	280	668	-2.8	265
Hinds, MS	5.9	119.7	-1.9	324	783	-1.1	116
Boone, MO	4.5	87.5	3.3	26	736	0.4	32
Clay, MO	5.1	87.6	-0.8	311	804	-2.2	220
Greene, MO	8.1	154.7	3.0	32	693	-2.8	265
Jackson, MO	18.8	348.7	1.5	140	914	-1.7	173
St. Charles, MO	8.3	127.6	2.3	67	713	-2.6	255
St. Louis, MO	32.3	568.5	0.3	256	963	-0.8	102
St. Louis City, MO	9.5	218.1	-0.5	297	1,001	-1.2	127
Yellowstone, MT	6.1	79.2	2.3	67	755	-1.9	194
Douglas, NE	17.7	316.7	1.7	123	853	-0.9	108
Lancaster, NE	9.4	158.6	2.5	49	742	-0.5	83
Clark, NV	48.9	821.0	1.9	110	804	-3.5	302
Washoe, NV	13.6	186.1	0.4	253	827	-2.6	255
Hillsborough, NH	12.0	189.1	1.0	186	970	-3.0	276
Rockingham, NH	10.6	138.1	1.5	140	843	-6.9	325
Atlantic, NJ	6.6	136.4	0.6	233	761	-3.2	291
Bergen, NJ	32.8	428.5	0.9	200	1,079	-0.6	86
Burlington, NJ	10.9	195.2	2.1	89	949	-2.4	240
Camden, NJ	12.0	192.0	0.2	261	893	-1.2	127
Essex, NJ	20.3	335.9	0.2	261	1,118	-1.9	194
Gloucester, NJ	6.1	97.2	0.2	261	798	-2.1	213
Hudson, NJ	13.8	233.0	1.2	171	1,236	-4.0	310
Mercer, NJ	10.8	228.9	0.8	209	1,207	-0.8	102
Middlesex, NJ	21.6	387.3	2.0	97	1,069	-3.2	291
Monmouth, NJ	19.7	243.6	0.6	233	887	-4.5	318
Morris, NJ	17.1	271.9	0.8	209	1,299	0.2	41
Ocean, NJ	12.2	152.2	1.3	161	721	-2.0	202
Passaic, NJ	12.2	170.0	0.2	261	890	-2.9	271
Somerset, NJ	10.0	171.7	1.0	186	1,327	-1.3	140
Union, NJ	14.2	219.0	1.1	177	1,140	-0.6	86
Bernalillo, NM	17.8	309.9	-0.3	290	809	-3.0	276
Albany, NY	10.1	219.9	0.5	241	953	-1.7	173
Bronx, NY	17.2	237.2	1.0	186	878	-1.2	127
Broome, NY	4.6	89.8	-0.2	285	720	-2.0	202
Dutchess, NY	8.3	110.8	-0.3	290	900	-2.6	255
Erie, NY	24.0	457.3	-0.1	280	786	-3.6	303
Kings, NY	53.7	519.6	2.4	54	747	-1.6	165
Monroe, NY	18.4	373.9	-0.2	285	877	-1.2	127
Nassau, NY	53.0	594.7	2.0	97	980	-0.8	102
New York, NY	123.7	2,385.9	2.2	79	1,626	-1.3	140
Oneida, NY	5.3	104.9	-1.5	319	713	-1.7	173
Onondaga, NY	13.0	242.6	0.2	261	832	-1.3	140
Orange, NY	9.9	131.3	-0.2	285	751	-3.1	283

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 329 largest counties, third quarter 2012²—Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁴		
		September 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change	Third quarter 2012	Percent change, third quarter 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change
Queens, NY	47.7	526.4	2.4	54	\$852	-2.2	220
Richmond, NY	9.1	92.7	1.1	177	784	-2.5	250
Rockland, NY	10.0	114.5	0.2	261	986	1.0	19
Saratoga, NY	5.6	78.2	1.6	134	804	0.4	32
Suffolk, NY	51.1	622.7	0.5	241	1,022	-0.3	68
Westchester, NY	36.2	405.6	-0.1	280	1,160	1.0	19
Buncombe, NC	8.0	115.3	3.1	30	699	-1.8	186
Catawba, NC	4.4	79.4	2.0	97	682	-2.3	228
Cumberland, NC	6.3	117.2	-1.5	319	747	-2.2	220
Durham, NC	7.4	185.3	2.4	54	1,220	-2.9	271
Forsyth, NC	9.0	174.8	1.8	117	838	-1.8	186
Guilford, NC	14.2	263.0	0.5	241	810	0.0	47
Mecklenburg, NC	33.3	570.9	2.5	49	1,055	0.7	25
New Hanover, NC	7.4	97.9	2.5	49	727	-2.3	228
Wake, NC	29.8	457.1	3.0	32	899	0.7	25
Cass, ND	6.2	108.4	4.1	8	828	0.7	25
Butler, OH	7.4	139.5	0.2	261	800	-1.7	173
Cuyahoga, OH	35.7	703.4	1.5	140	934	0.8	23
Delaware, OH	4.4	80.3	3.8	10	874	-2.0	202
Franklin, OH	29.8	672.2	1.4	151	917	-3.4	300
Hamilton, OH	23.2	492.3	1.4	151	1,028	1.8	7
Lake, OH	6.4	94.0	-0.6	303	782	-6.9	325
Lorain, OH	6.0	94.4	0.8	209	753	-2.2	220
Lucas, OH	10.1	202.4	1.7	123	789	-2.1	213
Mahoning, OH	5.9	98.6	1.0	186	666	-2.6	255
Montgomery, OH	12.1	243.6	0.7	221	799	-2.0	202
Stark, OH	8.8	154.5	1.0	186	700	-2.4	240
Summit, OH	14.3	256.4	0.6	233	822	-0.1	55
Oklahoma, OK	25.0	429.9	1.4	151	880	-2.3	228
Tulsa, OK	20.6	336.0	1.3	161	855	-1.6	165
Clackamas, OR	12.8	141.1	2.0	97	834	-0.4	76
Lane, OR	10.9	137.9	1.2	171	716	0.0	47
Marion, OR	9.5	135.7	-0.5	297	711	-0.6	86
Multnomah, OR	30.2	442.8	2.0	97	938	0.1	45
Washington, OR	16.6	251.0	2.2	79	1,111	-0.8	102
Allegheny, PA	35.7	684.5	0.8	209	988	1.5	11
Berks, PA	9.0	164.7	1.1	177	844	1.0	19
Bucks, PA	19.7	246.6	-0.6	303	869	-0.9	108
Butler, PA	4.9	83.0	-0.5	297	834	-2.3	228
Chester, PA	15.1	236.0	0.1	273	1,128	0.3	38
Cumberland, PA	6.1	124.6	1.4	151	829	-3.2	291
Dauphin, PA	7.5	174.8	1.0	186	898	-1.5	155
Delaware, PA	13.9	209.9	0.6	233	954	-2.2	220
Erie, PA	7.7	125.7	-0.4	294	734	-4.6	320
Lackawanna, PA	5.9	97.1	-0.9	312	697	-2.0	202
Lancaster, PA	12.8	220.5	0.7	221	756	-2.3	228
Lehigh, PA	8.7	176.8	0.5	241	868	-2.9	271
Luzerne, PA	7.7	139.8	0.2	261	716	-2.1	213
Montgomery, PA	27.4	465.8	1.2	171	1,109	-0.4	76
Northampton, PA	6.6	103.7	1.4	151	799	-1.5	155
Philadelphia, PA	36.1	631.9	0.9	200	1,085	-2.4	240

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 329 largest counties, third quarter 2012²—Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁴		
		September 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change	Third quarter 2012	Percent change, third quarter 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change
Washington, PA	5.6	85.8	0.2	261	\$873	-0.3	68
Westmoreland, PA	9.5	133.5	0.5	241	737	-4.2	314
York, PA	9.1	172.3	0.5	241	806	-5.6	323
Providence, RI	17.5	272.0	0.7	221	889	-2.6	255
Charleston, SC	12.0	217.7	2.5	49	800	-0.7	96
Greenville, SC	12.1	234.4	1.5	140	805	-0.2	62
Horry, SC	7.7	111.6	0.6	233	554	-1.1	116
Lexington, SC	5.7	98.9	4.2	7	697	-1.4	147
Richland, SC	8.9	203.5	1.1	177	786	-2.8	265
Spartanburg, SC	5.8	115.1	1.8	117	766	-2.0	202
Minnehaha, SD	6.6	117.4	2.8	40	776	0.0	47
Davidson, TN	18.5	434.1	2.2	79	945	-0.2	62
Hamilton, TN	8.5	185.7	1.5	140	803	-1.7	173
Knox, TN	10.9	219.6	-0.4	294	793	1.1	18
Rutherford, TN	4.4	104.5	6.8	2	798	-1.1	116
Shelby, TN	19.1	469.8	1.0	186	954	0.2	41
Williamson, TN	6.3	98.2	3.7	14	969	1.5	11
Bell, TX	4.9	108.9	1.7	123	749	-0.9	108
Bexar, TX	35.3	752.6	2.2	79	818	-0.6	86
Brazoria, TX	5.0	92.8	1.9	110	876	-1.9	194
Brazos, TX	4.0	88.7	3.6	17	721	-0.1	55
Cameron, TX	6.4	128.2	1.3	161	580	-1.4	147
Collin, TX	19.4	309.7	3.7	14	1,057	0.3	38
Dallas, TX	69.4	1,478.5	2.7	45	1,085	-1.3	140
Denton, TX	11.6	185.2	3.0	32	824	0.6	30
El Paso, TX	14.1	277.2	0.7	221	654	-2.5	250
Fort Bend, TX	9.9	144.2	4.3	6	928	-0.3	68
Galveston, TX	5.5	95.7	0.5	241	804	-4.4	317
Gregg, TX	4.2	78.3	2.1	89	834	-0.4	76
Harris, TX	103.7	2,128.2	3.8	10	1,154	-0.3	68
Hidalgo, TX	11.5	225.6	0.8	209	584	-2.3	228
Jefferson, TX	5.9	120.2	-2.9	327	913	-0.7	96
Lubbock, TX	7.1	126.1	1.6	134	716	1.8	7
McLennan, TX	4.9	102.0	0.8	209	735	-2.8	265
Montgomery, TX	9.2	143.2	5.5	4	868	-0.3	68
Nueces, TX	7.9	156.0	2.8	40	801	0.3	38
Smith, TX	5.7	92.2	-0.4	294	780	-1.5	155
Tarrant, TX	38.8	786.1	2.3	67	909	-1.0	113
Travis, TX	32.4	607.3	3.9	9	1,003	-0.8	102
Webb, TX	4.9	91.0	2.1	89	637	1.4	14
Williamson, TX	8.0	132.7	1.6	134	914	-1.8	186
Davis, UT	7.3	109.1	1.9	110	741	-3.0	276
Salt Lake, UT	38.2	594.9	3.6	17	858	-1.5	155
Utah, UT	13.1	181.3	5.3	5	704	-1.7	173
Weber, UT	5.5	90.5	1.3	161	672	-2.3	228
Chittenden, VT	6.1	98.9	1.4	151	870	-1.9	194
Arlington, VA	8.6	165.1	-1.4	317	1,488	-3.7	304
Chesterfield, VA	7.9	116.5	2.2	79	826	-0.1	55
Fairfax, VA	35.3	590.1	0.8	209	1,410	-2.4	240
Henrico, VA	10.3	178.9	2.4	54	898	-1.5	155
Loudoun, VA	10.2	142.0	3.0	32	1,077	-3.1	283
Prince William, VA	8.1	113.0	3.3	26	828	-1.8	186

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 329 largest counties, third quarter 2012²—Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁴		
		September 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change	Third quarter 2012	Percent change, third quarter 2011-12 ⁵	Ranking by percent change
Alexandria City, VA	6.3	96.3	0.9	200	\$1,266	-0.2	62
Chesapeake City, VA	5.8	94.5	-1.2	316	725	-1.2	127
Newport News City, VA	3.8	96.6	0.7	221	871	-1.2	127
Norfolk City, VA	5.7	137.6	-0.5	297	908	0.6	30
Richmond City, VA	7.2	148.9	0.5	241	1,001	-1.1	116
Virginia Beach City, VA	11.5	165.0	1.3	161	723	-0.1	55
Benton, WA	5.8	79.1	-5.2	328	913	-6.9	325
Clark, WA	13.8	131.0	2.0	97	849	1.2	17
King, WA	83.2	1,171.9	2.4	54	1,354	2.3	4
Kitsap, WA	6.7	80.3	-0.5	297	885	-0.7	96
Pierce, WA	21.9	266.0	0.5	241	840	-0.4	76
Snohomish, WA	19.4	259.7	2.8	40	996	0.7	25
Spokane, WA	16.1	200.9	0.8	209	780	-0.3	68
Thurston, WA	7.6	96.9	1.0	186	847	-0.4	76
Whatcom, WA	7.0	80.7	0.3	256	758	0.0	47
Yakima, WA	8.9	113.7	3.4	25	620	0.0	47
Kanawha, WV	6.0	104.9	-0.1	280	781	-3.0	276
Brown, WI	6.6	148.6	1.7	123	779	-5.1	321
Dane, WI	14.2	306.5	1.1	177	842	-3.9	309
Milwaukee, WI	23.4	473.7	0.3	256	879	-4.2	314
Outagamie, WI	5.1	102.3	0.4	253	771	0.1	45
Waukesha, WI	12.7	227.9	0.0	277	887	-1.3	140
Winnebago, WI	3.6	89.4	-0.2	285	829	-0.1	55
San Juan, PR	11.3	264.0	2.0	(7)	601	-0.5	(7)

¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. These 328 U.S. counties comprise 71.0 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 Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

⁵ Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.

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

⁷ This county was not included in the U.S. rankings.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 10 largest counties, third quarter 2012²

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, third quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		September 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2011-12 ⁴	Third quarter 2012	Percent change, third quarter 2011-12 ⁴
United States ⁵	9,165.4	132,624.7	1.6	\$906	-1.1
Private industry	8,869.4	111,530.4	1.9	897	-1.1
Natural resources and mining	130.9	2,105.2	3.7	984	-0.2
Construction	750.0	5,795.2	1.0	982	-0.8
Manufacturing	335.6	11,990.0	1.5	1,108	-1.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,889.4	25,186.9	1.3	772	-0.9
Information	143.6	2,661.8	-0.4	1,540	1.3
Financial activities	811.0	7,519.8	1.1	1,314	-0.7
Professional and business services	1,601.6	18,046.0	2.9	1,146	-0.2
Education and health services	935.4	19,438.8	1.7	867	-1.7
Leisure and hospitality	773.0	14,012.3	2.9	381	-1.8
Other services	1,273.7	4,548.6	2.9	571	-2.7
Government	296.0	21,094.2	-0.5	954	-1.2
Los Angeles, CA	412.7	3,983.5	2.1	1,002	-1.7
Private industry	407.0	3,457.5	2.2	976	-1.7
Natural resources and mining	0.4	9.6	0.3	2,194	-4.4
Construction	12.1	110.3	1.6	1,044	0.0
Manufacturing	12.5	366.3	0.1	1,128	1.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	50.9	754.3	1.4	822	-0.8
Information	8.3	190.4	-0.7	1,734	1.4
Financial activities	21.9	211.1	1.7	1,460	-0.8
Professional and business services	42.1	573.7	3.6	1,208	-3.8
Education and health services	29.6	529.5	1.8	954	-3.1
Leisure and hospitality	27.4	419.1	3.8	546	-4.4
Other services	176.6	274.2	2.5	433	-2.5
Government	5.7	525.9	1.2	1,180	-1.3
Cook, IL	149.3	2,424.6	1.0	1,032	-1.5
Private industry	148.0	2,128.2	1.2	1,021	-1.7
Natural resources and mining	0.1	0.9	-8.7	1,012	1.3
Construction	12.4	65.4	-3.5	1,291	0.1
Manufacturing	6.6	194.3	0.3	1,075	-1.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	29.1	441.8	0.5	837	0.4
Information	2.7	53.7	-0.7	1,513	-1.6
Financial activities	15.6	184.2	-0.6	1,705	-2.1
Professional and business services	31.5	430.7	2.8	1,278	-2.0
Education and health services	15.8	411.2	1.8	902	-2.6
Leisure and hospitality	13.3	246.4	2.2	474	-1.7
Other services	16.5	96.1	0.4	784	0.0
Government	1.4	296.5	-0.3	1,114	0.2
New York, NY	123.7	2,385.9	2.2	1,626	-1.3
Private industry	123.4	1,951.2	2.8	1,737	-1.8
Natural resources and mining	0.0	0.2	7.9	1,428	-6.7
Construction	2.1	32.0	2.9	1,627	-1.2
Manufacturing	2.4	26.6	0.7	1,104	-5.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	20.8	250.7	3.0	1,226	3.6
Information	4.4	143.5	3.6	2,153	2.0
Financial activities	18.8	351.9	-1.1	3,020	-2.6
Professional and business services	25.5	488.7	3.5	1,951	-2.3
Education and health services	9.3	305.4	1.9	1,211	0.7
Leisure and hospitality	13.0	251.6	5.1	769	-0.1
Other services	19.1	92.2	3.2	996	-0.3
Government	0.3	434.7	0.0	1,126	0.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 10 largest counties, third quarter 2012²—Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, third quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		September 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2011-12 ⁴	Third quarter 2012	Percent change, third quarter 2011-12 ⁴
Harris, TX	103.7	2,128.2	3.8	\$1,154	-0.3
Private industry	103.1	1,878.9	4.6	1,169	-0.3
Natural resources and mining	1.7	89.4	8.3	2,869	-4.7
Construction	6.4	142.2	5.0	1,143	0.4
Manufacturing	4.5	191.1	6.3	1,429	0.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	23.4	442.0	3.4	1,028	0.2
Information	1.3	27.9	-1.5	1,378	2.7
Financial activities	10.6	114.1	1.3	1,447	2.9
Professional and business services	20.7	360.7	5.6	1,354	-0.8
Education and health services	11.8	253.9	3.8	936	-1.8
Leisure and hospitality	8.5	193.6	5.6	401	-2.9
Other services	13.7	63.1	2.7	656	-0.5
Government	0.6	249.3	-1.3	1,042	-0.6
Maricopa, AZ	96.1	1,674.5	2.4	886	-2.1
Private industry	95.4	1,466.5	2.7	879	-2.0
Natural resources and mining	0.5	6.8	3.4	901	2.0
Construction	7.9	89.1	5.6	937	-0.1
Manufacturing	3.2	113.6	2.9	1,278	-3.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	21.5	339.1	1.6	829	-2.0
Information	1.6	28.0	1.7	1,138	-2.4
Financial activities	10.9	142.4	2.8	1,110	1.2
Professional and business services	22.3	273.0	2.9	931	-1.4
Education and health services	10.6	248.2	2.2	899	-4.4
Leisure and hospitality	7.3	176.1	2.5	426	-1.8
Other services	6.6	46.0	-1.1	604	-0.3
Government	0.7	208.0	0.6	940	-3.0
Dallas, TX	69.4	1,478.5	2.7	1,085	-1.3
Private industry	68.9	1,314.8	3.1	1,090	-1.3
Natural resources and mining	0.6	10.0	16.1	3,171	-3.0
Construction	3.9	70.8	3.6	1,019	-1.2
Manufacturing	2.8	112.4	0.4	1,229	0.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	15.1	295.3	2.9	1,011	-1.2
Information	1.5	46.8	2.8	1,635	-1.6
Financial activities	8.6	143.1	2.2	1,409	-1.4
Professional and business services	15.2	287.5	4.6	1,198	-2.4
Education and health services	7.6	174.0	2.5	1,011	-0.1
Leisure and hospitality	5.9	134.2	4.0	492	-4.1
Other services	7.3	40.0	-1.5	675	-0.4
Government	0.5	163.7	-0.5	1,050	-1.1
Orange, CA	102.8	1,407.6	2.1	1,024	-1.4
Private industry	101.5	1,276.7	2.4	1,013	-1.2
Natural resources and mining	0.2	3.0	-10.3	712	-0.7
Construction	6.0	73.6	3.3	1,155	1.8
Manufacturing	4.8	158.2	0.2	1,275	-4.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	16.1	246.3	1.0	942	-2.4
Information	1.2	23.9	-1.0	1,629	3.9
Financial activities	9.5	108.8	2.8	1,554	1.1
Professional and business services	18.7	258.4	3.4	1,133	-1.1
Education and health services	10.6	162.2	1.5	932	-3.7
Leisure and hospitality	7.3	184.2	3.8	469	6.8
Other services	19.0	51.6	1.9	532	0.0
Government	1.4	131.0	-0.6	1,136	-3.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 10 largest counties, third quarter 2012²—Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, third quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		September 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2011-12 ⁴	Third quarter 2012	Percent change, third quarter 2011-12 ⁴
San Diego, CA	101.0	1,283.3	1.8	\$993	-2.0
Private industry	99.6	1,068.5	2.3	960	-1.2
Natural resources and mining	0.7	10.4	7.4	599	-4.9
Construction	5.8	57.3	1.8	1,033	-4.5
Manufacturing	2.9	93.9	-0.2	1,495	7.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	13.5	206.0	0.9	789	-0.1
Information	1.1	24.6	0.6	1,573	-2.7
Financial activities	8.4	70.3	2.8	1,202	2.2
Professional and business services	16.3	216.7	2.4	1,286	-1.7
Education and health services	8.7	155.6	1.3	947	-4.7
Leisure and hospitality	7.2	164.7	3.4	436	-2.5
Other services	27.9	63.5	5.4	506	-10.0
Government	1.4	214.8	-0.4	1,168	-4.3
King, WA	83.2	1,171.9	2.4	1,354	2.3
Private industry	82.7	1,018.7	2.8	1,381	2.5
Natural resources and mining	0.4	3.0	5.5	1,372	6.8
Construction	5.3	51.5	5.9	1,151	-2.5
Manufacturing	2.2	104.3	4.2	1,468	-2.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.4	215.4	3.3	1,041	3.0
Information	1.8	81.0	0.1	4,549	9.0
Financial activities	6.2	63.6	1.3	1,437	4.1
Professional and business services	13.9	192.6	4.2	1,475	2.5
Education and health services	7.3	137.3	1.6	959	-3.0
Leisure and hospitality	6.4	116.6	2.2	489	1.2
Other services	24.8	53.3	0.3	604	0.2
Government	0.5	153.2	0.2	1,174	0.3
Miami-Dade, FL	89.6	990.7	2.0	857	-1.7
Private industry	89.2	852.2	2.6	840	-1.8
Natural resources and mining	0.5	7.5	1.8	552	3.2
Construction	5.0	30.8	1.0	835	-4.4
Manufacturing	2.6	35.6	-1.4	808	-7.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26.0	254.9	2.1	784	-0.9
Information	1.5	17.2	0.3	1,322	-2.8
Financial activities	9.2	67.5	3.3	1,232	-3.4
Professional and business services	18.7	126.9	2.5	1,021	-1.3
Education and health services	9.9	157.9	1.9	879	-2.4
Leisure and hospitality	6.8	117.9	5.4	537	4.1
Other services	7.9	34.7	2.4	543	-1.8
Government	0.4	138.4	-1.7	966	-1.2

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

² Data are preliminary. Counties selected are based on 2011 annual average employment.

³ Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

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

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

Table 3. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages by state, third quarter 2012²

State	Establishments, third quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		September 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2011-12	Third quarter 2012	Percent change, third quarter 2011-12
United States ⁴	9,165.4	132,624.7	1.6	\$906	-1.1
Alabama	116.1	1,833.5	0.6	784	-2.4
Alaska	22.0	343.6	0.6	961	-0.2
Arizona	148.5	2,437.5	2.2	846	-2.0
Arkansas	85.8	1,156.7	0.3	708	-1.0
California	1,328.5	15,109.1	2.8	1,036	-1.2
Colorado	174.4	2,284.6	2.2	936	-1.3
Connecticut	111.6	1,638.9	0.8	1,087	-2.8
Delaware	27.8	407.3	0.1	925	-2.5
District of Columbia	36.1	714.9	0.6	1,514	-0.7
Florida	611.5	7,307.9	1.9	800	-1.4
Georgia	271.2	3,841.2	1.1	854	-1.5
Hawaii	38.5	605.5	1.7	827	-1.0
Idaho	53.3	630.4	1.1	687	-1.4
Illinois	393.5	5,688.6	1.1	945	-1.4
Indiana	160.4	2,849.9	1.8	772	-1.7
Iowa	95.4	1,486.7	1.1	756	-0.5
Kansas	84.7	1,325.5	1.0	761	-1.4
Kentucky	111.3	1,779.5	1.2	751	-1.7
Louisiana	129.1	1,864.3	0.3	805	-1.8
Maine	49.6	597.0	0.2	722	-1.6
Maryland	167.5	2,533.3	1.4	1,007	-1.6
Massachusetts	221.2	3,271.6	1.2	1,102	-1.2
Michigan	239.5	3,984.2	1.5	862	-1.5
Minnesota	170.2	2,675.4	1.1	915	0.0
Mississippi	68.7	1,089.4	0.6	672	-1.2
Missouri	178.2	2,628.8	0.7	793	-1.2
Montana	42.7	441.6	1.8	689	0.3
Nebraska	67.9	924.4	2.0	742	-0.5
Nevada	73.1	1,140.1	1.5	820	-3.0
New Hampshire	49.2	620.6	1.1	874	-3.1
New Jersey	260.9	3,811.2	1.1	1,053	-1.8
New Mexico	55.5	788.7	0.0	761	-2.3
New York	608.8	8,616.8	1.2	1,088	-1.1
North Carolina	258.8	3,934.1	1.6	806	-0.2
North Dakota	29.7	422.2	7.8	872	6.3
Ohio	288.0	5,073.0	1.1	828	-0.7
Oklahoma	104.7	1,545.6	1.3	779	-0.5
Oregon	134.2	1,667.3	1.2	834	0.0
Pennsylvania	353.0	5,598.4	0.6	899	-1.3
Rhode Island	35.5	460.5	0.8	855	-1.9
South Carolina	112.7	1,814.7	1.3	738	-1.1
South Dakota	31.4	405.3	1.6	683	-0.1
Tennessee	141.8	2,674.3	1.7	814	-0.6
Texas	596.1	10,773.4	2.7	930	-0.2
Utah	86.0	1,231.0	3.3	766	-1.8
Vermont	24.5	302.0	1.2	763	-1.8
Virginia	241.9	3,631.1	0.9	960	-1.5
Washington	237.3	2,944.6	1.5	1,024	1.3
West Virginia	49.6	715.4	0.5	724	-2.4
Wisconsin	161.6	2,718.7	0.7	770	-2.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages by state, third quarter 2012²—Continued

State	Establishments, third quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		September 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2011-12	Third quarter 2012	Percent change, third quarter 2011-12
Wyoming	25.6	284.7	0.0	\$828	-0.5
Puerto Rico	48.8	933.4	2.1	506	0.0
Virgin Islands	3.5	38.6	-9.8	711	-1.1

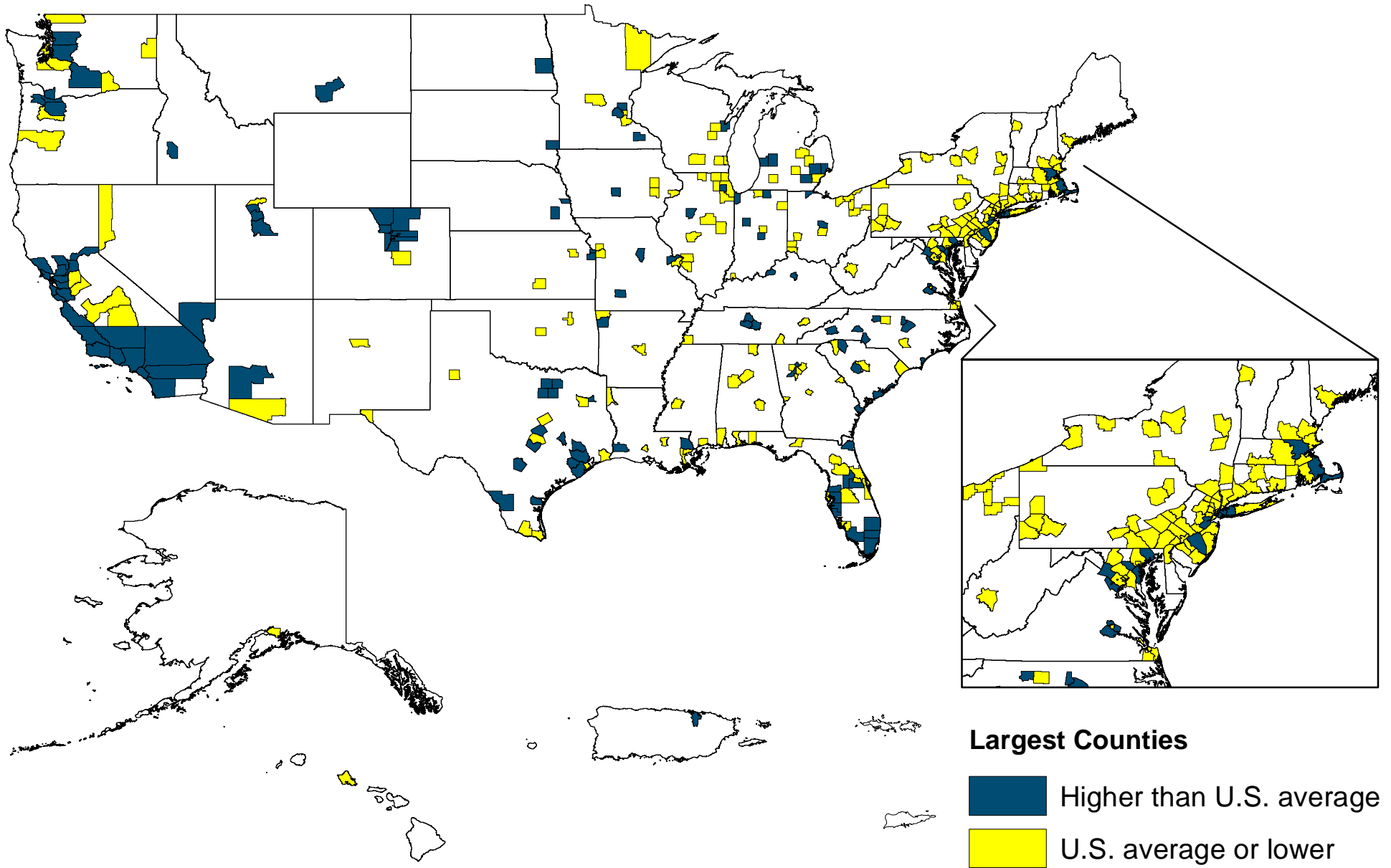
¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

² Data are preliminary.

³ Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

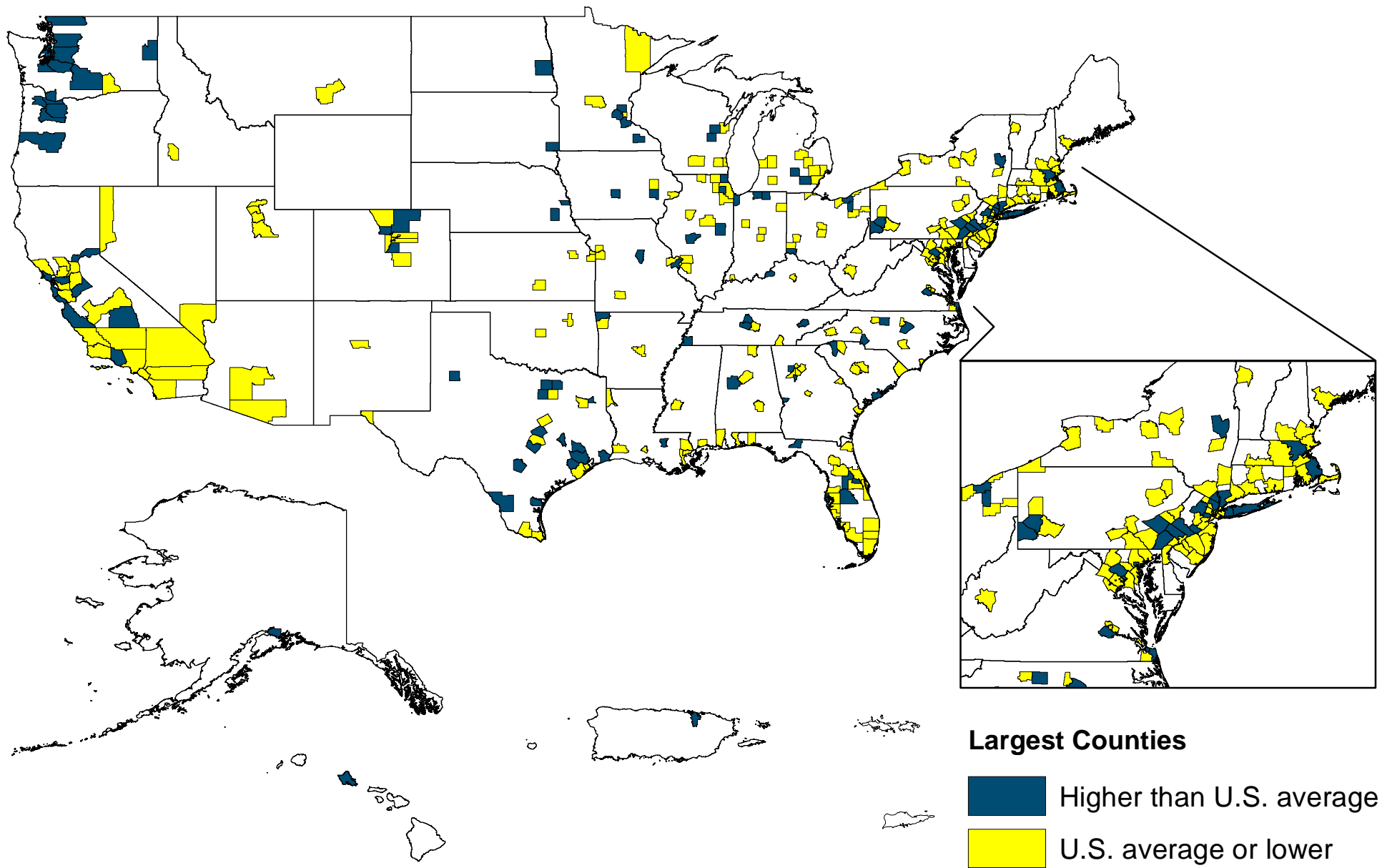
⁴ Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Chart 3. Percent change in employment in counties with 75,000 or more employees, September 2011-12 (U.S. average = 1.6 percent)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
March 2013

Chart 4. Percent change in average weekly wage in counties with 75,000 or more employees, third quarter 2011-12 (U.S. average = -1.1 percent)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
March 2013