



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

USDL 04-2211

Media contact: 691-5902

For release: 10:00 A.M. EDT
Tuesday, October 26, 2004

COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES: FIRST QUARTER 2004

In March 2004, Prince William County, Va., had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment among the largest counties in the U.S., according to preliminary data released today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Prince William County experienced an over-the-year employment gain of 8.0 percent, compared with national job growth of 0.8 percent. New York County, N.Y., had the largest over-the-year gain in average weekly wages in the first quarter of 2004, with an increase of 13.6 percent. The U.S. average weekly wage increased by 3.8 percent over the same time span.

Of the 317 largest counties in the United States, 161 had over-the-year percentage growth in employment above the national average in March 2004, and 144 experienced changes below the national average. (See chart 1.) Average weekly wages grew faster than the national average in 103 of the largest U.S. counties, while the percent change in average weekly wages was below the national average in 203 counties. (See chart 2.)

The employment and average weekly wage data by county are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from reports submitted by every employer subject to unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The 8.4 million employer reports cover 127.8 million full- and part-time workers. The attached tables and charts contain data for the nation and for the 317 U.S. counties with employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2003. In addition, data for San Juan, Puerto Rico, are provided, but not used in calculating U.S. averages, or in the analysis in the text. (See Technical Note.) March 2004 employment and 2004 first-quarter average weekly wages for all states are provided in table 4 of this release. Data for all states, MSAs, counties, and the nation through the fourth quarter of 2003 are available on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/>. Preliminary data for the first quarter of 2004 and revised data for 2003 will be available in October on the BLS Web site.

Large County Employment

The national employment total in March 2004 was 127.8 million, which was 0.8 percent higher than in March 2003. The 317 U.S. counties with 75,000 or more employees accounted for 70.6 percent of total U.S. covered employment and 77.4 percent of total wages. These 317 counties had a net job gain of 680,700 over the year, comprising 64 percent of the U.S. net over-the-year employment increase from March 2003. The largest gains in employment from March 2003 to March 2004 were recorded in the counties of Orange, Calif. (49,900), Clark, Nev. (40,000), Maricopa, Ariz. (39,500), Los Angeles, Calif. (29,500), and Riverside, Calif. (29,000). (See table A.)

Table A. Top 10 counties ranked by March 2004 employment, March 2003-04 employment change, and March 2003-04 percent change in employment

Employment in large counties					
March 2004 employment (thousands)		Net change in employment, March 2003-04 (thousands)		Percent change in employment, March 2003-04	
U.S.	127,778.5	U.S.	1,064.1	U.S.	0.8
Los Angeles, Calif.	4,054.6	Orange, Calif.	49.9	Prince William, Va.	8.0
Cook, Ill.	2,474.0	Clark, Nev.	40.0	Rutherford, Tenn.	7.3
New York, N.Y.	2,203.0	Maricopa, Ariz.	39.5	Marion, Fla.	6.4
Harris, Texas	1,823.3	Los Angeles, Calif.	29.5	Placer, Calif.	6.3
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,611.2	Riverside, Calif.	29.0	Lee, Fla.	5.8
Orange, Calif.	1,454.3	San Bernardino, Calif.	27.8	Collin, Texas	5.5
Dallas, Texas	1,418.2	Fairfax, Va.	21.7	Loudoun, Va.	5.5
San Diego, Calif.	1,264.0	Hillsborough, Fla.	21.4	Clark, Nev.	5.4
King, Wash.	1,075.7	Orange, Fla.	18.4	Riverside, Calif.	5.4
Miami-Dade, Fla.	982.9	San Diego, Calif.	16.4	Pasco, Fla.	5.2

Employment increased in 222 counties from March 2003 to March 2004. Prince William County, Va., had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment (8.0 percent). Rutherford County, Tenn., had the next largest increase, 7.3 percent, followed by the counties of Marion, Fla. (6.4 percent), Placer, Calif. (6.3 percent), and Lee, Fla. (5.8 percent). (See table 1.)

Employment declined in 80 counties from March 2003 to March 2004. The largest percentage decline in employment was in Trumbull County, Ohio (-3.2 percent), followed by the counties of St. Louis City, Mo. (-2.9 percent), Oakland, Mich. (-2.5 percent), Wayne, Mich. (-2.4 percent), and San Mateo, Calif. (-1.9 percent). The largest absolute declines in employment occurred in Wayne County, Mich. (-19,600), followed by the counties of Oakland, Mich. (-18,200), Cook, Ill. (-12,600), Middlesex, Mass. (-9,600), and Alameda, Calif. (-9,100).

Large County Average Weekly Wages

The national average weekly wage in the first quarter of 2004 was \$758, which was 3.8 percent higher than in the first quarter of 2003. Average weekly wages were higher than the national average in 107 of the largest 317 U.S. counties. New York County, N.Y., held the top position among the highest-paid large counties with an average weekly wage of \$1,913. Fairfield County, Conn., was second with an average weekly wage of \$1,492, followed by Suffolk, Mass. (\$1,405), Santa Clara, Calif. (\$1,338), and Somerset, N.J. (\$1,322). (See table B.)

New York County, N.Y., also led the nation in growth in average weekly wages, with an increase of 13.6 percent from the first quarter of 2003. Suffolk County, Mass., was second with 12.6 percent growth, followed by the counties of San Mateo, Calif. (10.8 percent), Olmsted, Minn. (10.4 percent), and Loudoun, Va. (10.1 percent).

There were 210 counties with an average weekly wage below the national average in the first quarter of 2004. The lowest average weekly wages were reported in Cameron County, Texas (\$445), followed by the

Table B. Top 10 counties ranked by first quarter 2004 average weekly wages, first quarter 2003-04 change in average weekly wages, and first quarter 2003-04 percent change in average weekly wages

Average weekly wage in large counties					
Average weekly wage, first quarter 2004		Change in average weekly wage, first quarter 2003-04		Percent change in average weekly wage, first quarter 2003-04	
U.S.	\$758	U.S.	\$28	U.S.	3.8
New York, N.Y.	\$1,913	New York, N.Y.	\$229	New York, N.Y.	13.6
Fairfield, Conn.	1,492	Suffolk, Mass.	157	Suffolk, Mass.	12.6
Suffolk, Mass.	1,405	San Mateo, Calif.	117	San Mateo, Calif.	10.8
Santa Clara, Calif.	1,338	Fairfield, Conn.	114	Olmsted, Minn.	10.4
Somerset, N.J.	1,322	Santa Clara, Calif.	100	Loudoun, Va.	10.1
San Francisco, Calif.	1,312	Arlington, Va.	99	Washington, Ore.	9.7
Arlington, Va.	1,240	Loudoun, Va.	90	Arlington, Va.	8.7
Washington, D.C.	1,221	Hudson, N.J.	89	Hudson, N.J.	8.6
San Mateo, Calif.	1,203	Washington, D.C.	82	Fairfield, Conn.	8.3
Fairfax, Va.	1,156	Olmsted, Minn.	79	Santa Clara, Calif.	8.1
		Washington, Ore.	79		

counties of Hidalgo, Texas (\$451), Webb, Texas (\$473), Horry, S.C. (\$484), and Yakima, Wash. (\$505). (See table 1.)

Eleven counties experienced over-the-year declines in average weekly wages. Trumbull County, Ohio, had the largest decrease, -3.0 percent, followed by the counties of Williamson, Texas (-1.6 percent), Chester, Penn. (-1.4 percent), Snohomish, Wash. (-1.3 percent), and Broome, N.Y. (-0.8 percent).

Ten Largest U.S. Counties

Of the 10 largest U.S. counties (based on 2003 employment levels), 6 reported increases in employment, while declines occurred in 4 from March 2003 to March 2004. Orange County, Calif., experienced the fastest growth in employment among the largest counties, with a 3.5 percent increase. The largest employment increases were in financial activities (10.3 percent) and professional and business services (9.2 percent). Orange County showed employment gains in every industry group except natural resources and mining, manufacturing, information, and government. (See table 2.) Maricopa County, Ariz., had the next largest increase in employment, 2.5 percent, followed by San Diego, Calif. (1.3 percent). The largest decrease in employment for the 10 largest counties was in Dallas County, Texas, with a 0.6 percent decline. The next largest declines in employment were recorded in Cook County, Ill. (-0.5 percent), and Harris County, Texas (-0.2 percent).

All of the 10 largest U.S. counties saw over-the-year increases in average weekly wages. New York County, N.Y., had the fastest growth in wages among the top 10 counties, growing at a 13.6 percent rate. New York County's fastest growing supersectors were financial activities, where the average weekly wage rose by 27.4 percent, and manufacturing, with a 9.5 percent increase. Dallas County, Texas, was second in wage growth, increasing by 6.3 percent, followed by Cook County, Ill., and Miami-Dade County, Fla., where average wages increased by 5.2 percent each. King County, Wash., experienced the smallest

increase in average weekly wages among the largest 10 counties, rising by only 2.2 percent, primarily due to wage decreases in the information supersector. This was followed by Orange County, Calif., with an increase in average weekly wages of 3.8 percent and by two other California counties, Los Angeles and San Diego (3.9 percent each).

Largest County by State

Table 3 shows March 2004 employment and the 2004 first-quarter average weekly wage in the largest county in each state. This table includes two counties that have employment levels below 75,000 (Yellowstone, Mont., and Laramie, Wyo.). The employment levels in these counties in March 2004 ranged from approximately 4.1 million in Los Angeles County, Calif., to 39,100 in Laramie County, Wyo. The highest average weekly wage of these counties was in New York, N.Y. (\$1,913), while the lowest average weekly wage was in Yellowstone County, Mont. (\$568).

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 2004 are preliminary and subject to revision.

For purposes of this release, large counties are defined as having employment levels of 75,000 or greater. Each year, these large counties are selected on the basis of the preliminary annual average of employment for the previous year. The 318 counties discussed in this release were derived using 2003

preliminary annual averages of employment. These counties will be included in all 2004 quarterly releases. The counties in table 2 are selected and sorted each year based on the annual average employment from the preceding year.

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

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

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 8.4 million employers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Count of longitudinally-linked UI administrative records submitted by 6.4 million private-sector employers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sample survey: 400,000 employers
Coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UI and UCFE coverage, including all employers subject to state and federal UI laws 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UI coverage, excluding government, private households, and establishments with zero employment 	Nonfarm wage and salary jobs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UI coverage, excluding agriculture, private households, and self-employed 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 Future expansions will include data at the county, MSA, and state level by industry and size of establishment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides current monthly estimates of employment, hours, and earnings at the MSA, state, and national level by industry
Principal uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major uses include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed locality data Periodic universe counts for benchmarking sample survey estimates Sample frame for BLS establishment surveys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major uses include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business cycle analysis Analysis of employer dynamics underlying economic expansions and contractions Future: Employment expansion and contraction by size of establishment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major uses include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal national economic indicator Official time series for employment change measures Input into other major economic indicators
Program Web sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.bls.gov/cew/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.bls.gov/bdm/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.bls.gov/ces/

quarterly UI employment reports in producing data; however, each measure has a somewhat different universe coverage, estimation procedure, and publication product.

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

Coverage

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

UI and UCFE coverage is broad and basically comparable from state to state. In 2003, UI and UCFE programs covered workers in 127.8 million jobs. The estimated 122.9 million workers in these jobs (after adjustment for multiple jobholders) represented 96.6 percent of civilian wage and salary employment. Covered workers received \$4.826 trillion in pay, representing 94.6 percent of the wage and salary component of personal income and 43.9 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. Effective January 1, 2004, the Washington Employment Security Department no longer includes as covered wages an employee's income attributable to the transfer of shares of stock to the employee. This change in wage coverage pertains to all establishments in Washington State and contributes significantly to over-the-year changes in wages in the state in 2004.

Concepts and methodology

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

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

Average weekly wages are affected by the ratio of full-time to part-time workers as well as the number of individuals in high-paying and low-paying occupations. When comparing average weekly wage levels between industries and/or states, these factors should be taken into consideration. Percent changes are calculated using an adjusted version of the final 2003 quarterly data as the base data. Final data for 2003 may differ from preliminary data published earlier.

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

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

The adjustment is made by reassigning year-ago data for establishments with noneconomic changes into the classification shown in the current data. The year-ago to-

tals are then recreated reflecting this reassignment process. The adjusted year-ago data are then used to calculate the over-the-year change. The adjusted year-ago data differ to some extent from the data available on the BLS Web site. This process results in a more accurate presentation of change in local economic activity than what would result from the simple comparison of current and year-ago data points.

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

Additional statistics and other information

An annual bulletin, *Employment and Wages*, features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. *Employment and Wages Annual Averages, 2002* is available for sale from the BLS Publications Sales Center, P.O. Box 2145, Chicago, Illinois 60690, telephone 312-353-1880. The 2002 bulletin is now available in a portable document format (PDF) on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn02.htm>. The 2003 annual bulletin will be published in late 2004. BLS also will make this bulletin available in a PDF format on the BLS Web site.

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 318 largest counties, first quarter 2004²

County ³	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
United States ⁶	8,367.2	127,778.5	0.8	-	\$758	3.8	-
Jefferson, AL	18.4	368.7	0.2	212	766	3.2	140
Madison, AL	7.8	161.4	2.1	77	760	0.1	302
Mobile, AL	9.6	160.0	-1.6	307	592	1.9	240
Montgomery, AL	6.5	130.7	1.5	103	618	2.8	170
Tuscaloosa, AL	4.1	77.2	-0.4	252	587	0.7	290
Anchorage Borough, AK	7.8	138.1	1.0	145	780	4.8	66
Maricopa, AZ	80.9	1,611.2	2.5	67	733	5.0	53
Pima, AZ	17.6	335.2	1.8	90	626	1.8	248
Benton, AR	4.3	83.2	3.4	36	775	3.2	140
Pulaski, AR	13.2	239.2	1.0	145	669	5.0	53
Washington, AR	5.0	85.1	3.1	46	566	4.2	86
Alameda, CA	48.9	678.0	-1.3	293	979	5.0	53
Contra Costa, CA	28.3	337.9	-0.3	248	972	6.0	34
Fresno, CA	29.6	316.5	2.0	80	591	1.5	267
Kern, CA	16.2	241.4	3.2	40	649	2.5	192
Los Angeles, CA	364.7	4,054.6	0.7	172	846	3.9	97
Marin, CA	12.0	107.8	0.0	224	985	5.0	53
Monterey, CA	12.2	156.6	-0.4	252	679	2.1	225
Orange, CA	90.8	1,454.3	3.5	31	872	3.8	105
Placer, CA	9.5	130.3	6.3	4	721	3.6	116
Riverside, CA	38.4	563.4	5.4	8	645	4.4	78
Sacramento, CA	47.1	602.0	1.0	145	833	1.7	253
San Bernardino, CA	42.3	600.1	4.9	12	645	2.5	192
San Diego, CA	87.0	1,264.0	1.3	119	806	3.9	97
San Francisco, CA	44.0	518.4	-1.4	302	1,312	6.1	32
San Joaquin, CA	16.1	212.1	0.7	172	643	3.4	127
San Luis Obispo, CA	8.8	99.6	0.3	201	607	1.5	267
San Mateo, CA	23.3	328.2	-1.9	311	1,203	10.8	3
Santa Barbara, CA	13.4	179.1	1.4	110	706	3.1	147
Santa Clara, CA	52.8	846.5	-1.1	287	1,338	8.1	10
Santa Cruz, CA	8.5	91.9	0.7	172	735	3.8	105
Solano, CA	9.6	125.1	0.2	212	716	6.7	21
Sonoma, CA	17.4	189.8	1.2	124	706	0.6	291
Stanislaus, CA	13.4	164.2	1.4	110	624	1.6	259
Tulare, CA	8.9	130.3	1.1	133	524	3.6	116
Ventura, CA	20.9	308.6	1.7	93	824	6.6	24
Yolo, CA	5.1	94.5	0.4	197	674	3.7	114
Adams, CO	8.5	138.5	-0.8	272	710	4.9	61
Arapahoe, CO	18.6	264.6	-0.7	268	928	1.2	282
Boulder, CO	11.6	149.0	0.3	201	923	6.0	34
Denver, CO	24.0	418.0	-1.1	287	948	7.7	12
El Paso, CO	15.7	231.3	0.8	163	687	1.9	240
Jefferson, CO	17.7	199.7	0.1	221	770	2.3	206
Larimer, CO	9.1	118.9	2.0	80	661	2.8	170
Fairfield, CT	31.8	407.1	0.1	221	1,492	8.3	9
Hartford, CT	24.2	474.1	-0.1	236	1,006	7.5	13
New Haven, CT	21.9	357.2	0.3	201	807	3.5	121
New London, CT	6.6	125.6	-0.5	256	792	5.2	49
New Castle, DE	18.6	277.3	1.9	87	957	2.2	215
Washington, DC	30.2	654.7	0.8	163	1,221	7.2	15

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, first quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Alachua, FL	5.9	123.6	2.3	75	\$550	3.8	105
Brevard, FL	12.6	194.6	4.8	13	705	6.5	25
Broward, FL	57.9	693.7	0.8	163	707	5.8	39
Collier, FL	10.5	126.3	3.3	38	636	5.0	53
Duval, FL	22.8	433.8	1.4	110	745	3.9	97
Escambia, FL	7.4	126.0	3.6	29	571	2.1	225
Hillsborough, FL	31.7	612.8	3.6	29	721	4.9	61
Lee, FL	15.2	198.9	5.8	5	613	4.8	66
Leon, FL	7.4	144.8	1.8	90	616	4.1	89
Manatee, FL	7.1	118.6	5.1	11	559	1.8	248
Marion, FL	6.5	91.0	6.4	3	530	2.9	161
Miami-Dade, FL	81.6	982.9	0.9	154	729	5.2	49
Okaloosa, FL	5.3	78.2	-1.7	310	575	6.1	32
Orange, FL	30.1	621.1	3.1	46	688	5.0	53
Palm Beach, FL	43.6	524.3	2.0	80	728	2.2	215
Pasco, FL	7.5	84.5	5.2	10	510	3.9	97
Pinellas, FL	28.7	437.3	3.5	31	641	2.7	176
Polk, FL	10.6	193.7	2.8	58	567	2.2	215
Sarasota, FL	13.2	155.8	4.8	13	606	4.8	66
Seminole, FL	12.2	150.3	3.2	40	656	3.1	147
Volusia, FL	12.0	156.7	4.1	20	530	2.3	206
Bibb, GA	4.8	87.1	3.0	54	614	2.3	206
Chatham, GA	7.1	126.9	2.5	67	622	2.5	192
Clayton, GA	4.4	106.7	(7)	-	784	1.6	259
Cobb, GA	20.0	299.9	1.4	110	821	1.7	253
De Kalb, GA	17.1	288.8	-0.8	272	828	1.3	276
Fulton, GA	37.4	722.0	0.6	180	1,043	2.5	192
Gwinnett, GA	21.4	303.4	3.3	38	791	0.4	294
Muscogee, GA	4.8	97.1	0.8	163	598	1.5	267
Richmond, GA	4.8	104.5	1.5	103	609	1.5	267
Honolulu, HI	24.6	422.7	1.2	124	681	3.2	140
Ada, ID	12.9	183.5	2.4	72	656	1.1	285
Champaign, IL	3.9	89.2	0.1	221	618	2.3	206
Cook, IL	126.5	2,474.0	-0.5	256	953	5.2	49
Du Page, IL	32.4	561.0	-0.5	256	888	3.6	116
Kane, IL	10.9	193.2	0.3	201	678	2.6	184
Lake, IL	18.9	311.3	0.0	224	932	3.2	140
McHenry, IL	7.4	92.0	3.1	46	652	2.7	176
McLean, IL	3.3	83.3	-1.3	293	733	3.5	121
Madison, IL	5.6	93.7	0.2	212	618	4.9	61
Peoria, IL	4.5	96.1	1.3	119	714	6.7	21
Rock Island, IL	3.4	76.1	-1.3	293	676	2.6	184
St. Clair, IL	5.0	91.7	0.2	212	581	3.6	116
Sangamon, IL	5.1	128.6	(7)	-	727	(7)	-
Will, IL	10.7	154.1	3.4	36	683	1.5	267
Winnebago, IL	6.6	133.9	0.3	201	643	0.6	291
Allen, IN	8.8	176.2	-0.1	236	660	0.3	297
Elkhart, IN	4.9	119.1	4.6	16	625	1.3	276
Hamilton, IN	6.2	84.6	3.0	54	812	4.0	94
Lake, IN	9.9	188.3	-1.1	287	659	3.8	105

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, first quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Marion, IN	23.8	567.9	0.2	212	\$810	5.6	43
St. Joseph, IN	6.0	121.7	0.2	212	633	1.6	259
Vanderburgh, IN	4.8	107.0	-0.9	277	632	2.8	170
Linn, IA	6.0	114.3	0.4	197	709	4.3	82
Polk, IA	14.0	255.4	2.0	80	781	4.7	70
Scott, IA	5.1	83.1	0.3	201	596	3.3	137
Johnson, KS	18.4	289.0	1.3	119	816	3.0	153
Sedgwick, KS	11.6	237.3	-1.0	280	677	2.0	231
Shawnee, KS	4.7	95.3	-1.3	293	625	3.0	153
Fayette, KY	8.7	164.2	0.9	154	699	4.2	86
Jefferson, KY	21.4	411.0	-0.5	256	750	5.6	43
Caddo, LA	6.9	118.6	1.0	145	607	3.8	105
Calcasieu, LA	4.6	81.8	-1.0	280	618	6.9	16
East Baton Rouge, LA	12.9	246.4	3.2	40	636	2.6	184
Jefferson, LA	13.8	212.6	0.0	224	604	3.4	127
Lafayette, LA	7.5	118.3	-0.5	256	625	1.5	267
Orleans, LA	12.4	250.0	0.5	187	724	6.3	29
Cumberland, ME	11.4	165.0	1.7	93	696	5.0	53
Anne Arundel, MD	13.3	211.7	3.5	31	775	5.3	47
Baltimore, MD	20.4	360.5	1.2	124	787	6.9	16
Frederick, MD	5.4	88.9	4.2	18	743	6.8	19
Howard, MD	7.8	137.1	0.9	154	850	3.3	137
Montgomery, MD	31.0	446.5	0.5	187	1,014	7.8	11
Prince Georges, MD	14.7	310.5	2.0	80	787	2.7	176
Baltimore City, MD	13.9	353.4	-1.4	302	885	6.9	16
Barnstable, MA	9.1	83.5	1.5	103	652	3.0	153
Bristol, MA	15.0	215.6	0.7	172	648	1.3	276
Essex, MA	20.5	289.1	-1.4	302	790	1.8	248
Hampden, MA	13.8	196.2	0.0	224	708	2.2	215
Middlesex, MA	47.6	772.2	-1.2	292	1,072	6.8	19
Norfolk, MA	21.7	312.7	-0.8	272	916	3.2	140
Plymouth, MA	13.4	166.7	0.9	154	704	2.0	231
Suffolk, MA	22.2	552.4	-1.4	302	1,405	12.6	2
Worcester, MA	20.1	311.9	0.0	224	748	2.3	206
Genesee, MI	8.6	152.7	-0.4	252	716	-0.3	309
Ingham, MI	7.0	166.0	-1.3	293	718	-0.7	311
Kalamazoo, MI	5.5	114.3	-0.2	241	742	4.1	89
Kent, MI	14.5	328.3	0.7	172	682	0.0	304
Macomb, MI	18.1	317.6	0.5	187	828	-0.6	310
Oakland, MI	41.5	702.8	-2.5	313	923	0.2	300
Ottawa, MI	5.7	108.3	0.5	187	654	2.3	206
Saginaw, MI	4.6	88.1	-1.1	287	677	(?)	-
Washtenaw, MI	8.2	193.0	-0.2	241	868	4.7	70
Wayne, MI	35.2	785.5	-2.4	312	893	2.9	161
Anoka, MN	7.4	108.7	1.2	124	710	2.9	161
Dakota, MN	9.6	163.1	1.1	133	752	2.2	215
Hennepin, MN	40.6	806.7	-0.7	268	983	6.5	25
Olmsted, MN	3.3	85.9	1.4	110	837	10.4	4
Ramsey, MN	14.9	319.5	-0.9	277	881	5.9	36
St. Louis, MN	5.7	90.9	-1.3	293	637	3.7	114

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, first quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Stearns, MN	4.2	75.8	1.1	133	\$579	2.8	170
Harrison, MS	4.5	88.7	0.6	180	538	0.2	300
Hinds, MS	6.5	129.9	0.3	201	646	2.9	161
Boone, MO	4.2	76.4	0.8	163	566	3.9	97
Clay, MO	4.9	84.9	-1.0	280	682	2.7	176
Greene, MO	8.0	144.1	0.3	201	560	2.8	170
Jackson, MO	18.7	360.0	-1.0	280	764	2.3	206
St. Charles, MO	7.2	109.5	3.8	26	642	1.7	253
St. Louis, MO	33.8	609.2	-1.3	293	813	3.8	105
St. Louis City, MO	8.3	223.0	-2.9	314	905	4.9	61
Douglas, NE	14.6	303.1	-0.3	248	712	2.6	184
Lancaster, NE	7.4	148.6	1.3	119	609	3.0	153
Clark, NV	37.9	784.0	5.4	8	693	5.8	39
Washoe, NV	12.5	198.2	3.1	46	693	2.8	170
Hillsborough, NH	12.2	191.6	2.1	77	806	2.9	161
Rockingham, NH	10.6	130.2	2.7	64	762	4.7	70
Atlantic, NJ	6.5	139.6	0.8	163	667	2.1	225
Bergen, NJ	34.1	444.9	0.8	163	966	3.0	153
Burlington, NJ	11.1	195.9	1.5	103	798	2.7	176
Camden, NJ	13.3	204.8	2.8	58	764	1.5	267
Essex, NJ	21.3	358.1	0.2	212	1,036	5.4	46
Gloucester, NJ	6.0	97.1	3.7	28	674	3.9	97
Hudson, NJ	13.8	231.5	-1.3	293	1,121	8.6	8
Mercer, NJ	10.6	212.1	1.1	133	987	1.9	240
Middlesex, NJ	20.5	390.5	1.4	110	1,019	3.5	121
Monmouth, NJ	19.8	247.9	3.2	40	824	1.7	253
Morris, NJ	17.6	277.3	0.9	154	1,145	3.4	127
Ocean, NJ	11.4	139.3	3.2	40	638	1.3	276
Passaic, NJ	12.4	176.6	2.3	75	794	1.9	240
Somerset, NJ	9.9	166.4	-1.6	307	1,322	1.9	240
Union, NJ	15.0	236.8	0.0	224	964	3.2	140
Bernalillo, NM	16.8	310.6	1.4	110	644	2.4	201
Albany, NY	9.5	226.6	0.6	180	778	2.2	215
Bronx, NY	15.3	211.8	-1.6	307	686	1.9	240
Broome, NY	4.4	93.9	-1.0	280	589	-0.8	312
Dutchess, NY	7.7	115.8	1.2	124	769	1.9	240
Erie, NY	23.2	453.1	1.1	133	671	2.1	225
Kings, NY	41.7	441.6	0.5	187	665	5.6	43
Monroe, NY	17.6	375.8	-0.5	256	755	3.6	116
Nassau, NY	50.3	593.3	1.1	133	831	4.4	78
New York, NY	112.3	2,203.0	-0.1	236	1,913	13.6	1
Oneida, NY	5.3	106.5	-0.2	241	581	2.7	176
Onondaga, NY	12.6	243.7	0.4	197	693	1.2	282
Orange, NY	9.1	124.5	1.4	110	623	3.0	153
Queens, NY	39.8	468.4	-0.5	256	749	3.0	153
Richmond, NY	8.0	87.2	0.5	187	659	4.9	61
Rockland, NY	9.2	109.8	1.0	145	800	4.0	94
Suffolk, NY	47.2	587.9	1.0	145	783	2.5	192
Westchester, NY	35.0	403.6	0.6	180	1,065	7.4	14
Buncombe, NC	6.8	104.3	1.2	124	562	1.4	274

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, first quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Catawba, NC	4.3	86.8	-0.7	268	\$560	1.6	259
Cumberland, NC	5.6	109.8	1.1	133	547	1.1	285
Durham, NC	6.1	166.9	1.5	103	1,052	6.4	28
Forsyth, NC	8.3	173.5	0.2	212	732	2.4	201
Guilford, NC	13.6	264.3	0.0	224	676	1.3	276
Mecklenburg, NC	27.1	498.6	-0.2	241	991	5.7	42
New Hanover, NC	6.3	88.4	2.4	72	587	3.5	121
Wake, NC	23.0	383.4	2.7	64	760	2.7	176
Cass, ND	5.3	85.5	3.0	54	605	3.8	105
Butler, OH	6.9	132.4	3.9	24	653	0.5	293
Cuyahoga, OH	38.5	746.2	-0.6	264	790	3.1	147
Franklin, OH	29.6	672.9	-0.2	241	762	2.7	176
Hamilton, OH	24.8	534.0	-0.8	272	830	3.5	121
Lake, OH	6.7	97.0	1.1	133	630	-0.2	307
Lorain, OH	6.3	100.2	1.2	124	639	3.4	127
Lucas, OH	11.0	223.1	-0.4	252	680	-0.1	306
Mahoning, OH	6.5	103.3	0.4	197	564	2.4	201
Montgomery, OH	13.3	281.3	-1.1	287	705	1.6	259
Stark, OH	9.1	163.6	-0.7	268	593	1.0	288
Summit, OH	14.8	260.2	0.5	187	713	1.4	274
Trumbull, OH	4.9	83.1	-3.2	315	654	-3.0	316
Oklahoma, OK	21.7	398.9	0.5	187	645	4.2	86
Tulsa, OK	18.3	317.2	-1.0	280	676	4.3	82
Clackamas, OR	11.6	134.9	2.8	58	684	4.1	89
Jackson, OR	6.2	77.2	3.2	40	555	2.2	215
Lane, OR	10.5	137.6	1.1	133	573	2.3	206
Marion, OR	8.5	125.1	1.6	99	588	2.4	201
Multnomah, OR	25.7	414.8	0.0	224	764	2.1	225
Washington, OR	14.5	218.7	-0.1	236	890	9.7	6
Allegheny, PA	37.0	684.7	-0.1	236	804	4.6	75
Berks, PA	9.0	159.9	1.9	87	651	-0.2	307
Bucks, PA	19.9	250.0	1.7	93	715	3.2	140
Chester, PA	14.8	220.3	1.6	99	938	-1.4	314
Cumberland, PA	5.7	125.0	1.2	124	704	2.2	215
Dauphin, PA	7.0	171.9	0.7	172	759	4.1	89
Delaware, PA	13.9	209.1	0.9	154	808	4.8	66
Erie, PA	7.2	123.7	1.0	145	578	2.5	192
Lackawanna, PA	5.8	97.3	1.5	103	567	0.4	294
Lancaster, PA	11.7	221.4	2.0	80	633	0.3	297
Lehigh, PA	8.4	170.2	1.7	93	741	2.9	161
Luzerne, PA	8.1	139.2	0.5	187	595	3.1	147
Montgomery, PA	27.7	473.8	0.0	224	1,004	6.7	21
Northampton, PA	6.2	91.4	1.5	103	646	2.9	161
Philadelphia, PA	28.3	629.6	(?)	-	891	5.9	36
Westmoreland, PA	9.5	132.4	2.6	66	580	1.6	259
York, PA	8.7	166.2	3.1	46	668	1.8	248
Kent, RI	5.5	79.5	2.5	67	678	5.9	36
Providence, RI	17.5	281.2	-0.6	264	755	1.2	282
Charleston, SC	11.3	189.4	2.5	67	608	2.0	231
Greenville, SC	11.8	224.3	-0.9	277	670	0.1	302

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, first quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Horry, SC	7.5	100.4	3.1	46	\$484	0.8	289
Lexington, SC	5.3	85.0	0.8	163	550	3.4	127
Richland, SC	9.1	203.9	0.0	224	632	2.1	225
Spartanburg, SC	6.0	109.7	-0.3	248	629	1.3	276
Minnehaha, SD	5.9	106.3	1.1	133	612	2.9	161
Davidson, TN	17.9	425.1	0.7	172	746	3.5	121
Hamilton, TN	8.3	188.9	0.9	154	626	2.5	192
Knox, TN	10.3	213.4	2.5	67	632	3.4	127
Rutherford, TN	3.6	87.7	7.3	2	651	2.0	231
Shelby, TN	19.9	491.9	-0.2	241	757	3.4	127
Bell, TX	4.2	90.1	1.8	90	542	0.4	294
Bexar, TX	29.5	656.7	0.6	180	670	5.0	53
Brazoria, TX	4.1	75.7	-0.5	256	749	6.5	25
Brazos, TX	3.5	78.0	1.0	145	520	3.4	127
Cameron, TX	6.1	116.1	0.6	180	445	1.6	259
Collin, TX	12.5	202.8	5.5	6	844	4.3	82
Dallas, TX	67.7	1,418.2	-0.6	264	947	6.3	29
Denton, TX	8.4	131.8	3.1	46	621	2.0	231
El Paso, TX	12.5	251.7	0.2	212	514	2.4	201
Fort Bend, TX	6.3	99.3	2.0	80	773	4.3	82
Galveston, TX	4.8	87.5	-1.0	280	652	2.0	231
Harris, TX	89.4	1,823.3	-0.2	241	898	4.4	78
Hidalgo, TX	9.3	187.6	3.9	24	451	1.6	259
Jefferson, TX	5.9	117.4	1.0	145	672	4.7	70
Lubbock, TX	6.4	114.8	-0.8	272	549	2.0	231
McLennan, TX	4.7	98.3	1.7	93	571	1.8	248
Montgomery, TX	6.3	89.8	4.7	15	641	3.1	147
Nueces, TX	8.0	143.6	0.9	154	601	2.6	184
Potter, TX	3.9	77.4	2.9	57	562	3.1	147
Smith, TX	4.9	85.5	1.3	119	622	5.2	49
Tarrant, TX	33.7	689.6	0.3	201	770	3.9	97
Travis, TX	24.8	509.6	1.2	124	836	2.6	184
Webb, TX	4.3	78.0	3.1	46	473	1.7	253
Williamson, TX	5.0	84.4	3.5	31	795	-1.6	315
Davis, UT	6.1	90.0	3.5	31	603	1.9	240
Salt Lake, UT	33.3	512.5	1.1	133	671	3.4	127
Utah, UT	10.6	145.4	4.1	20	544	0.0	304
Weber, UT	5.2	86.8	1.6	99	537	2.5	192
Chittenden, VT	5.7	92.7	1.1	133	730	1.7	253
Arlington, VA	6.9	151.6	2.8	58	1,240	8.7	7
Chesterfield, VA	6.6	111.5	2.8	58	667	4.1	89
Fairfax, VA	29.7	533.9	4.2	18	1,156	5.3	47
Henrico, VA	8.2	164.3	0.0	224	824	4.7	70
Loudoun, VA	6.2	109.8	5.5	6	979	10.1	5
Prince William, VA	5.8	92.9	8.0	1	637	2.2	215
Alexandria City, VA	5.7	91.6	0.5	187	924	3.0	153
Chesapeake City, VA	4.8	91.6	4.1	20	571	4.0	94
Newport News City, VA	3.7	96.5	2.1	77	652	2.0	231
Norfolk City, VA	5.6	144.6	0.6	180	720	3.4	127
Richmond City, VA	6.9	157.5	-0.3	248	905	3.9	97

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, first quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Virginia Beach City, VA	10.6	167.2	3.8	26	\$566	2.5	192
Clark, WA	10.0	117.6	4.0	23	663	2.6	184
King, WA	75.2	1,075.7	0.3	201	940	2.2	215
Kitsap, WA	6.0	79.1	4.3	17	686	3.8	105
Pierce, WA	19.0	244.7	1.9	87	667	4.4	78
Snohomish, WA	15.6	207.5	0.8	163	736	-1.3	313
Spokane, WA	14.1	189.1	0.9	154	598	2.6	184
Thurston, WA	6.1	90.7	1.6	99	661	2.3	206
Yakima, WA	8.0	88.0	0.3	201	505	3.3	137
Kanawha, WV	6.2	107.3	-0.6	264	646	1.1	285
Brown, WI	6.8	143.2	2.4	72	661	2.0	231
Dane, WI	13.8	283.9	1.4	110	728	4.6	75
Milwaukee, WI	22.3	491.1	-1.3	293	770	4.6	75
Outagamie, WI	5.0	97.3	2.8	58	660	3.8	105
Racine, WI	4.3	74.3	0.0	224	672	2.9	161
Waukesha, WI	13.4	220.6	0.7	172	739	0.3	297
Winnebago, WI	4.0	84.7	-1.4	302	744	5.8	39
San Juan, PR	12.9	322.8	1.7	93	487	6.3	29

¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. These 317 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.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, first quarter 2004²

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04 ³
United States ⁵	8,367.2	127,778.5	0.8	\$758	3.8
Private industry	8,095.7	106,575.5	1.0	758	4.1
Natural resources and mining	123.0	1,557.3	2.0	720	6.7
Construction	811.5	6,506.1	3.5	732	1.4
Manufacturing	373.7	14,177.7	-2.9	916	3.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,858.2	24,814.5	0.6	647	2.2
Information	145.0	3,120.6	-2.8	1,231	6.9
Financial activities	778.9	7,818.2	0.9	1,413	11.7
Professional and business services	1,335.2	15,994.0	2.4	907	4.9
Education and health services	740.9	16,005.0	2.1	656	3.0
Leisure and hospitality	675.1	12,031.7	2.6	311	2.6
Other services	1,081.5	4,261.8	0.4	468	2.2
Government	271.5	21,203.0	0.0	758	2.6
Los Angeles, CA	364.7	4,054.6	0.7	846	3.9
Private industry	360.9	3,466.8	1.2	825	4.0
Natural resources and mining	0.6	11.4	-0.9	1,388	47.3
Construction	13.0	133.7	2.5	796	1.4
Manufacturing	17.7	485.6	-5.1	854	4.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	54.5	760.6	0.3	689	1.3
Information	9.3	213.9	0.4	1,456	4.6
Financial activities	23.3	236.6	1.3	1,479	15.3
Professional and business services	41.2	573.1	4.0	944	1.5
Education and health services	27.1	460.3	2.9	718	3.9
Leisure and hospitality	26.2	367.2	4.2	475	5.1
Other services	147.6	223.8	4.7	391	-3.9
Government	3.8	587.8	-2.1	968	4.2
Cook, IL	126.5	2,474.0	-0.5	953	5.2
Private industry	125.2	2,152.9	-0.3	961	5.4
Natural resources and mining	0.1	1.2	-9.8	949	7.6
Construction	10.4	88.2	0.2	1,082	3.3
Manufacturing	7.6	256.8	-4.0	915	2.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26.5	470.7	-0.3	725	1.1
Information	2.5	63.1	-4.6	1,418	9.4
Financial activities	13.9	215.0	-0.1	2,099	15.6
Professional and business services	25.9	396.0	-0.6	1,196	5.8
Education and health services	12.3	351.2	2.0	699	1.6
Leisure and hospitality	10.5	211.0	2.9	355	1.1
Other services	12.7	94.4	-1.1	620	0.8
Government	1.2	321.1	-2.2	895	3.1
New York, NY	112.3	2,203.0	-0.1	1,913	13.6
Private industry	112.1	1,756.7	0.0	2,154	15.6
Natural resources and mining	0.0	0.1	1.0	1,639	-6.1
Construction	2.1	28.1	-3.2	1,293	-1.4
Manufacturing	3.4	46.3	-3.3	1,155	9.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	21.9	228.5	-0.3	1,045	3.3
Information	4.3	126.3	-5.2	2,130	8.1
Financial activities	16.8	346.4	-0.8	5,680	27.4
Professional and business services	22.4	432.0	1.6	1,799	7.3
Education and health services	7.9	273.3	0.9	855	2.5
Leisure and hospitality	10.1	184.6	1.6	676	7.0
Other services	16.1	81.3	-1.3	809	6.3
Government	0.2	446.3	-0.5	970	-1.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, first quarter 2004² — Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04 ³
Harris, TX	89.4	1,823.3	-0.2	\$898	4.4
Private industry	89.0	1,576.9	-0.5	920	4.9
Natural resources and mining	1.2	62.4	2.8	2,516	12.7
Construction	6.4	134.8	-5.8	832	3.7
Manufacturing	4.6	162.4	-2.5	1,133	4.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	21.1	385.5	-0.7	847	3.7
Information	1.4	33.5	-4.1	1,123	2.6
Financial activities	9.7	113.0	2.3	1,269	6.3
Professional and business services	17.2	280.0	-0.5	961	4.2
Education and health services	8.9	187.9	1.9	730	3.3
Leisure and hospitality	6.6	157.6	1.6	326	4.2
Other services	10.4	56.2	-1.7	521	3.2
Government	0.4	246.4	1.2	754	0.5
Maricopa, AZ	80.9	1,611.2	2.5	733	5.0
Private industry	80.4	1,393.1	2.8	737	5.6
Natural resources and mining	0.5	9.4	4.3	540	0.7
Construction	8.4	131.7	7.2	712	1.6
Manufacturing	3.2	127.6	-1.5	1,074	7.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	18.5	324.4	2.8	721	5.4
Information	1.6	35.7	-5.5	909	8.1
Financial activities	9.6	132.5	0.0	988	5.7
Professional and business services	17.8	259.2	2.9	740	8.3
Education and health services	7.7	163.3	6.1	739	6.6
Leisure and hospitality	5.6	160.2	2.8	353	4.7
Other services	5.7	45.3	1.5	480	2.8
Government	0.5	218.0	0.6	705	1.6
Dallas, TX	67.7	1,418.2	-0.6	947	6.3
Private industry	67.2	1,261.5	-0.6	967	6.9
Natural resources and mining	0.5	6.2	1.1	2,308	4.7
Construction	4.4	73.3	-0.2	795	4.9
Manufacturing	3.4	143.6	-1.7	1,096	8.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	15.6	305.7	-1.6	905	4.7
Information	1.8	61.7	-6.1	1,466	11.7
Financial activities	8.6	138.4	0.7	1,409	10.9
Professional and business services	13.9	236.1	0.9	1,016	6.2
Education and health services	6.1	128.8	0.9	815	4.0
Leisure and hospitality	5.1	123.8	-0.3	457	6.0
Other services	6.7	41.6	-3.5	557	1.8
Government	0.4	156.7	-0.4	790	1.5
Orange, CA	90.8	1,454.3	3.5	872	3.8
Private industry	89.4	1,303.6	4.2	860	4.6
Natural resources and mining	0.2	7.8	-12.9	535	15.1
Construction	6.5	87.5	5.7	882	2.2
Manufacturing	6.0	183.1	-1.8	1,015	8.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	17.4	261.7	1.3	820	3.9
Information	1.5	34.2	-3.4	1,286	7.0
Financial activities	10.0	133.6	10.3	1,448	7.9
Professional and business services	18.0	258.1	9.2	872	-0.2
Education and health services	9.3	129.1	4.9	744	6.1
Leisure and hospitality	6.8	162.1	5.5	346	0.9
Other services	13.4	46.1	4.4	501	3.1
Government	1.4	150.6	-2.1	983	-0.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, first quarter 2004² — Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04 ³
San Diego, CA	87.0	1,264.0	1.3	\$806	3.9
Private industry	85.6	1,044.7	2.2	791	4.9
Natural resources and mining	0.9	11.6	3.3	472	6.1
Construction	6.5	82.6	8.8	800	2.8
Manufacturing	3.6	104.1	-2.9	1,082	8.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.3	208.5	3.0	649	0.8
Information	1.4	36.1	-4.1	1,738	32.1
Financial activities	9.0	81.3	4.8	1,167	4.9
Professional and business services	15.4	208.9	3.8	936	1.3
Education and health services	7.6	120.4	1.2	695	5.1
Leisure and hospitality	6.6	139.7	0.2	346	3.3
Other services	20.1	51.3	2.3	425	-0.7
Government	1.4	219.3	-2.8	875	0.2
King, WA	75.2	1,075.7	0.3	940	2.2
Private industry	74.6	922.2	0.3	953	1.9
Natural resources and mining	0.4	3.2	-3.9	1,221	5.2
Construction	6.1	54.0	4.3	871	0.3
Manufacturing	2.6	101.5	-4.1	1,131	-3.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.6	212.1	-0.2	817	4.2
Information	1.5	64.9	-3.8	1,977	-6.3
Financial activities	6.1	76.1	0.7	1,309	10.6
Professional and business services	11.8	155.2	2.7	1,127	8.1
Education and health services	5.9	109.6	2.4	689	3.0
Leisure and hospitality	5.4	99.4	3.8	395	1.8
Other services	20.1	46.2	-5.8	466	6.2
Government	0.6	153.4	0.1	863	3.7
Miami-Dade, FL	81.6	982.9	0.9	729	5.2
Private industry	81.3	829.7	0.9	713	5.3
Natural resources and mining	0.5	11.3	-1.4	362	4.6
Construction	5.0	40.9	3.2	717	1.7
Manufacturing	2.8	50.9	-4.2	666	6.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	23.7	238.8	-0.7	671	1.5
Information	1.7	27.1	-2.2	1,048	2.3
Financial activities	8.6	66.2	2.4	1,173	9.8
Professional and business services	16.2	134.4	2.5	832	6.8
Education and health services	8.0	123.9	1.8	724	7.7
Leisure and hospitality	5.4	97.7	2.7	402	9.2
Other services	7.7	35.2	0.1	430	2.1
Government	0.3	153.1	0.4	816	4.9

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.

Table 3. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, first quarter 2004²

County ³	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁵	
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04 ⁴	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04 ⁴
United States ⁶	8,367.2	127,778.5	0.8	\$758	3.8
Jefferson, AL	18.4	368.7	0.2	766	3.2
Anchorage Borough, AK	7.8	138.1	1.0	780	4.8
Maricopa, AZ	80.9	1,611.2	2.5	733	5.0
Pulaski, AR	13.2	239.2	1.0	669	5.0
Los Angeles, CA	364.7	4,054.6	0.7	846	3.9
Denver, CO	24.0	418.0	-1.1	948	7.7
Hartford, CT	24.2	474.1	-0.1	1,006	7.5
New Castle, DE	18.6	277.3	1.9	957	2.2
Washington, DC	30.2	654.7	0.8	1,221	7.2
Miami-Dade, FL	81.6	982.9	0.9	729	5.2
Fulton, GA	37.4	722.0	0.6	1,043	2.5
Honolulu, HI	24.6	422.7	1.2	681	3.2
Ada, ID	12.9	183.5	2.4	656	1.1
Cook, IL	126.5	2,474.0	-0.5	953	5.2
Marion, IN	23.8	567.9	0.2	810	5.6
Polk, IA	14.0	255.4	2.0	781	4.7
Johnson, KS	18.4	289.0	1.3	816	3.0
Jefferson, KY	21.4	411.0	-0.5	750	5.6
Orleans, LA	12.4	250.0	0.5	724	6.3
Cumberland, ME	11.4	165.0	1.7	696	5.0
Montgomery, MD	31.0	446.5	0.5	1,014	7.8
Middlesex, MA	47.6	772.2	-1.2	1,072	6.8
Wayne, MI	35.2	785.5	-2.4	893	2.9
Hennepin, MN	40.6	806.7	-0.7	983	6.5
Hinds, MS	6.5	129.9	0.3	646	2.9
St. Louis, MO	33.8	609.2	-1.3	813	3.8
Yellowstone, MT	5.7	68.6	2.8	568	6.6
Douglas, NE	14.6	303.1	-0.3	712	2.6
Clark, NV	37.9	784.0	5.4	693	5.8
Hillsborough, NH	12.2	191.6	2.1	806	2.9
Bergen, NJ	34.1	444.9	0.8	966	3.0
Bernalillo, NM	16.8	310.6	1.4	644	2.4
New York, NY	112.3	2,203.0	-0.1	1,913	13.6
Mecklenburg, NC	27.1	498.6	-0.2	991	5.7
Cass, ND	5.3	85.5	3.0	605	3.8
Cuyahoga, OH	38.5	746.2	-0.6	790	3.1
Oklahoma, OK	21.7	398.9	0.5	645	4.2
Multnomah, OR	25.7	414.8	0.0	764	2.1
Allegheny, PA	37.0	684.7	-0.1	804	4.6
Providence, RI	17.5	281.2	-0.6	755	1.2
Greenville, SC	11.8	224.3	-0.9	670	0.1
Minnehaha, SD	5.9	106.3	1.1	612	2.9
Shelby, TN	19.9	491.9	-0.2	757	3.4
Harris, TX	89.4	1,823.3	-0.2	898	4.4
Salt Lake, UT	33.3	512.5	1.1	671	3.4
Chittenden, VT	5.7	92.7	1.1	730	1.7
Fairfax, VA	29.7	533.9	4.2	1,156	5.3
King, WA	75.2	1,075.7	0.3	940	2.2
Kanawha, WV	6.2	107.3	-0.6	646	1.1
Milwaukee, WI	22.3	491.1	-1.3	770	4.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, first quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁵	
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04 ⁴	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04 ⁴
Laramie, WY	2.8	39.1	2.8	\$586	4.5
San Juan, PR	12.9	322.8	1.7	487	6.3
St. Thomas, VI	1.7	23.2	-0.7	559	-1.1

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, first quarter 2004²

State	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04
United States ⁴	8,367.2	127,778.5	0.8	\$758	3.8
Alabama	113.0	1,835.1	0.9	626	2.3
Alaska	20.0	285.1	1.0	732	3.5
Arizona	127.4	2,340.1	2.5	682	4.3
Arkansas	75.7	1,128.5	1.4	563	3.3
California	1,214.0	14,873.5	1.1	854	4.4
Colorado	160.4	2,109.0	0.5	772	3.9
Connecticut	109.3	1,614.6	0.1	1,042	6.4
Delaware	28.1	401.2	2.2	844	2.4
District of Columbia	30.2	654.7	0.8	1,221	7.2
Florida	518.9	7,478.3	2.4	657	4.3
Georgia	249.2	3,831.5	1.8	728	1.8
Hawaii	37.8	578.7	1.7	656	3.1
Idaho	48.3	570.2	1.8	552	2.2
Illinois	326.3	5,614.6	-0.4	823	4.0
Indiana	153.4	2,806.2	0.6	661	3.0
Iowa	91.3	1,391.8	0.9	606	3.9
Kansas	81.4	1,280.5	0.2	621	2.3
Kentucky	105.8	1,711.9	0.8	623	3.1
Louisiana	115.0	1,862.1	0.9	602	3.6
Maine	47.8	575.9	1.0	605	2.9
Maryland	151.7	2,431.7	1.3	816	5.3
Massachusetts	207.6	3,084.8	-0.6	954	6.0
Michigan	254.5	4,235.3	-0.8	771	1.2
Minnesota	157.3	2,526.8	-0.2	777	5.0
Mississippi	65.9	1,100.0	0.9	533	2.1
Missouri	167.4	2,601.4	0.0	665	2.6
Montana	42.1	392.2	2.0	515	4.7
Nebraska	54.8	866.9	0.6	595	2.8
Nevada	62.1	1,112.9	4.7	695	5.0
New Hampshire	46.6	602.2	1.7	725	3.7
New Jersey	265.1	3,843.8	1.1	945	3.3
New Mexico	50.8	749.6	1.8	584	3.4
New York	552.9	8,186.5	0.2	1,056	8.0
North Carolina	228.1	3,721.9	0.7	670	2.9
North Dakota	24.0	312.2	1.6	541	4.2
Ohio	291.4	5,211.6	0.1	691	1.6
Oklahoma	92.6	1,413.1	0.2	582	3.4
Oregon	120.9	1,560.1	1.1	675	3.5
Pennsylvania	333.3	5,439.2	0.4	736	3.2
Rhode Island	34.9	463.7	0.6	728	2.1
South Carolina	108.0	1,768.3	0.3	596	1.9
South Dakota	28.1	358.0	1.0	531	3.3
Tennessee	129.3	2,622.3	1.6	651	3.0
Texas	506.8	9,244.0	0.6	737	3.9
Utah	73.8	1,051.7	2.4	599	2.4
Vermont	24.1	294.7	1.0	615	2.7
Virginia	204.9	3,443.9	2.3	772	4.6
Washington	206.5	2,633.1	1.3	757	2.0
West Virginia	47.6	675.9	1.2	569	1.4
Wisconsin	158.8	2,647.8	0.5	657	3.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages by state, first quarter 2004² — Continued

State	Establishments, first quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		March 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2003-04	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2003-04
Wyoming	22.1	239.3	3.4	\$583	4.1
Puerto Rico	50.5	1,036.8	1.5	422	5.0
Virgin Islands	3.1	42.8	1.3	576	-1.9

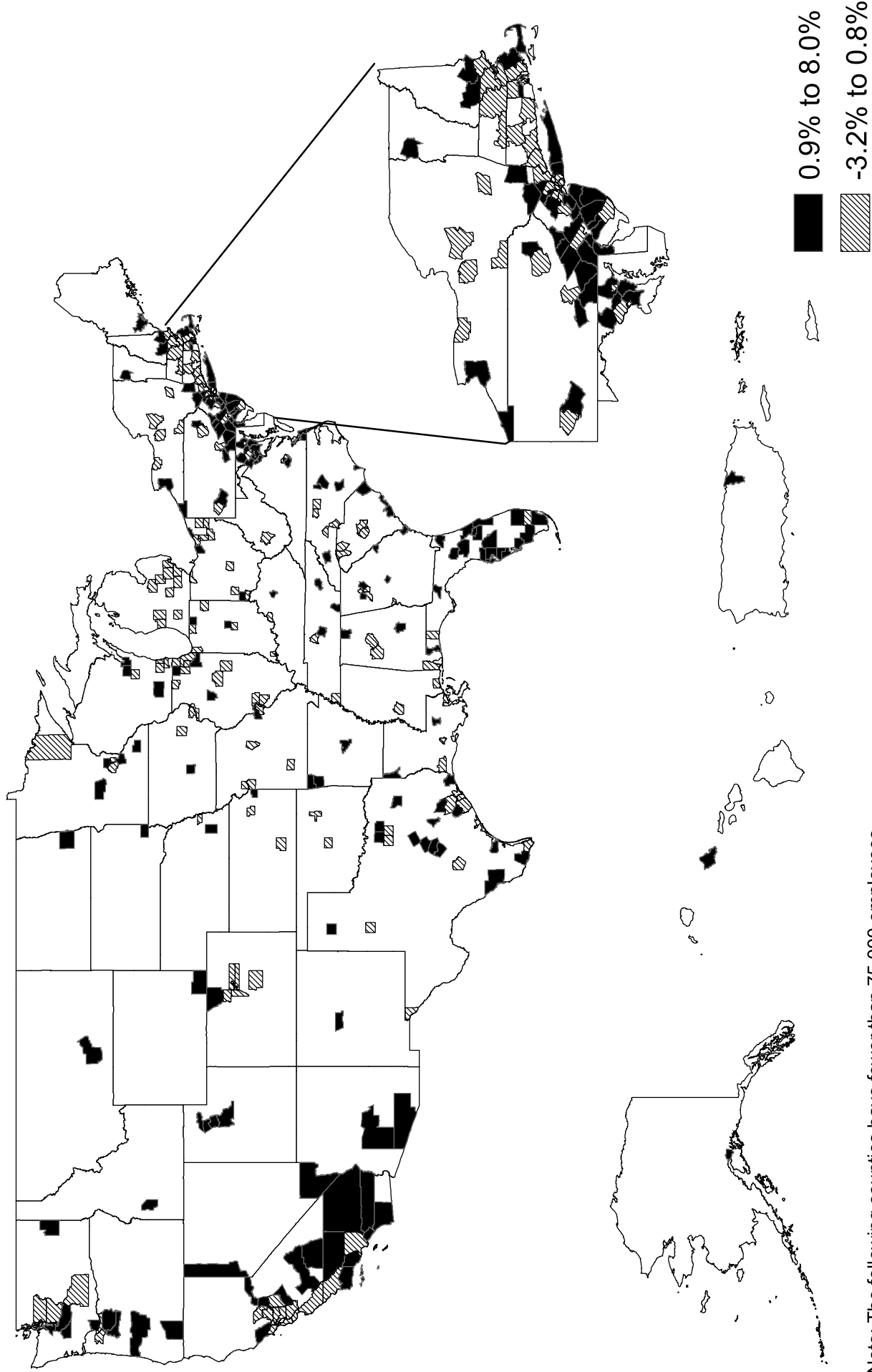
¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

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.

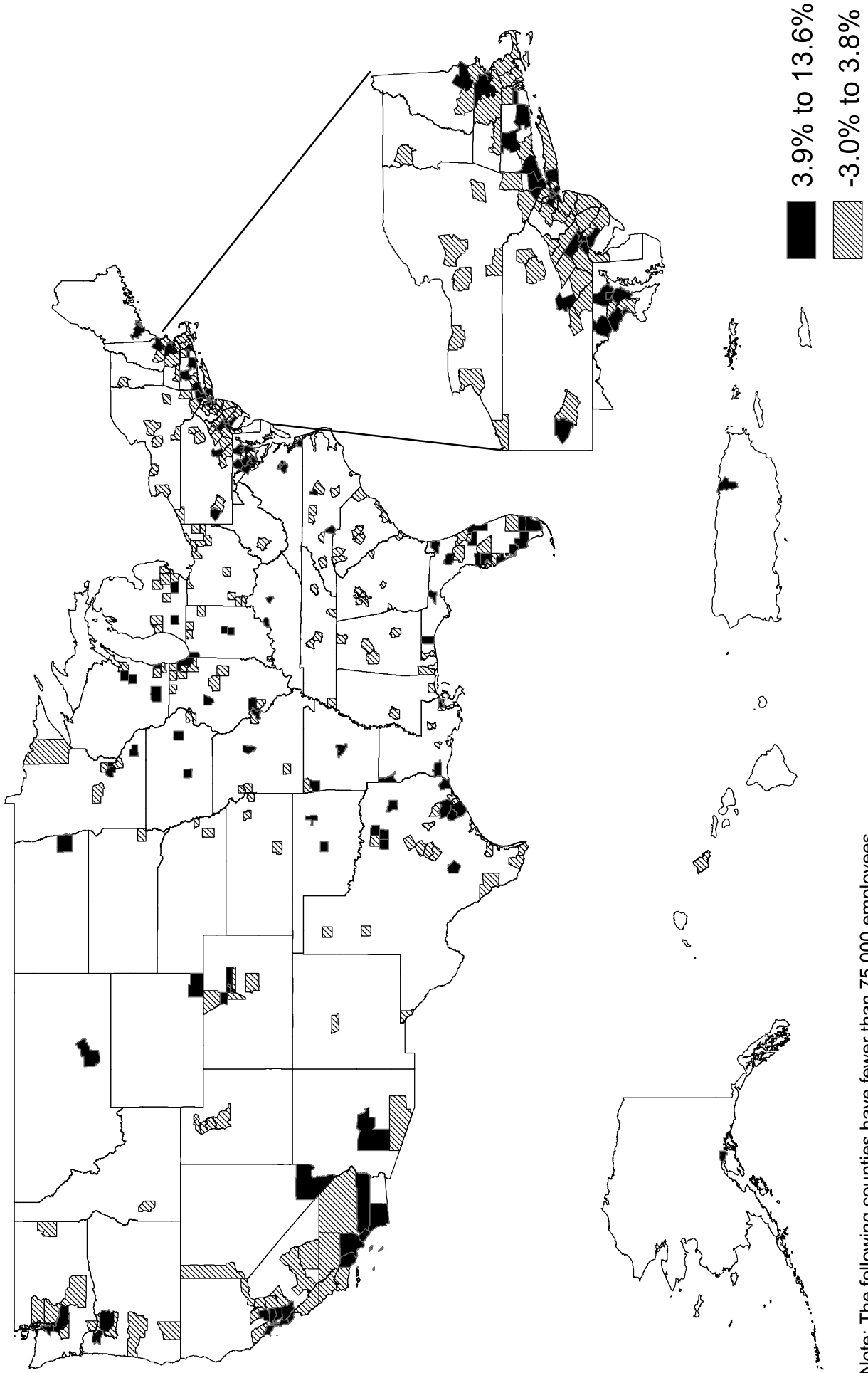
Chart 1. Percent change in employment in counties with 75,000 employees or more, March 2003–04 (U.S. Average = 0.8%)



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

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, October 2004

Chart 2. Percent change in average weekly wage in counties with 75,000 employees or more, first quarter 2003–04 (U.S. Average = 3.8%)



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

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, October 2004