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COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

Fourth Quarter 2015

From December 2014 to December 2015, **employment** increased in 308 of the 342 largest U.S. counties, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Williamson, Tenn., had the largest percentage increase with a gain of 6.8 percent over the year, above the national job growth rate of 1.9 percent. Within Williamson, the largest employment increase occurred in professional and business services, which gained 3,185 jobs over the year (10.9 percent). Ector, Texas, had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease in employment among the largest counties in the U.S., with a loss of 11.8 percent. Within Ector, natural resources and mining had the largest decrease in employment, with a loss of 4,509 jobs (-34.1 percent). County employment and wage data are from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, which provides the only detailed quarterly and annual universe count of establishments, employment, and wages at the county, MSA, state, and national levels by detailed industry. These detailed data are published within six months following the end of each calendar quarter.

The U.S. **average weekly wage** increased 4.4 percent over the year, growing to \$1,082 in the fourth quarter of 2015. Wyandotte, Kan., had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in average weekly wages with a gain of 10.4 percent. Within Wyandotte, an average weekly wage gain of \$250, or 21.2 percent, in manufacturing made the largest contribution to the county's increase in average weekly wages. Midland, Texas, experienced the largest percentage decrease in average weekly wages with a loss of 11.5 percent over the year. Within Midland, natural resources and mining had the largest impact on the county's average weekly wage decline with a decrease of \$257 (-11.6 percent) over the year.

Chart 1. Large counties ranked by percent increase in employment, December 2014-15 (U.S. average = 1.9 percent)

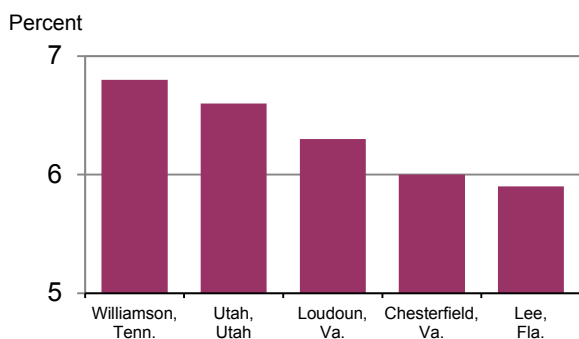
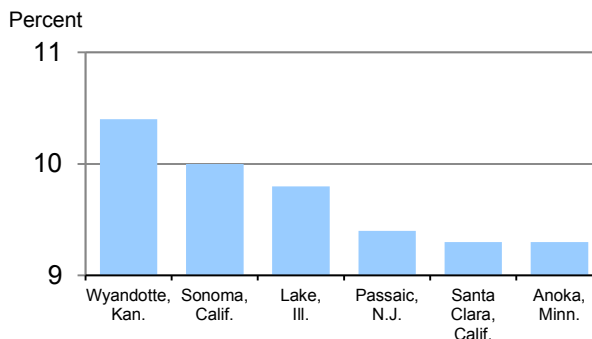


Chart 2. Large counties ranked by percent increase in average weekly wages, fourth quarter 2014-15 (U.S. average = 4.4 percent)



Large County Employment

In December 2015, national employment was 141.9 million (as measured by the QCEW program). Over the year, employment increased 1.9 percent, or 2.7 million. In December 2015, the 342 U.S. counties with 75,000 or more jobs accounted for 72.5 percent of total U.S. employment and 77.8 percent of total wages. These 342 counties had a net job growth of 2.2 million over the year, accounting for 81.4 percent of the overall U.S. employment increase. (See chart 3.) The five counties with the largest increases in employment levels had a combined over-the-year employment gain of 319,200 jobs, which was 12.0 percent of the overall job increase for the U.S. (See table A.)

Employment declined in 26 of the largest counties from December 2014 to December 2015. Ector, Texas, had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease in employment (-11.8 percent), followed by Midland, Texas; Lafayette, La.; Gregg, Texas; and Weld, Colo. (See table 1.)

Table A. Large counties ranked by December 2015 employment, December 2014-15 employment increase, and December 2014-15 percent increase in employment

Employment in large counties					
December 2015 employment (thousands)		Increase in employment, December 2014-15 (thousands)		Percent increase in employment, December 2014-15	
United States	141,924.5	United States	2,658.0	United States	1.9
Los Angeles, Calif.	4,341.0	Los Angeles, Calif.	99.3	Williamson, Tenn.	6.8
Cook, Ill.	2,575.7	Dallas, Texas	62.4	Utah, Utah	6.6
New York, N.Y.	2,442.2	Maricopa, Ariz.	58.6	Loudoun, Va.	6.3
Harris, Texas	2,302.8	New York, N.Y.	50.7	Chesterfield, Va.	6.0
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,883.2	Cook, Ill.	48.2	Lee, Fla.	5.9
Dallas, Texas	1,651.6	Santa Clara, Calif.	38.5	Osceola, Fla.	5.8
Orange, Calif.	1,550.6	King, Wash.	36.3	Bell, Texas	5.4
San Diego, Calif.	1,399.7	San Diego, Calif.	35.4	Boone, Ky.	5.1
King, Wash.	1,297.2	Orange, Calif.	34.7	Clay, Mo.	5.1
Miami-Dade, Fla.	1,115.9	Clark, Nev.	33.0	Hall, Ga.	5.0

Large County Average Weekly Wages

Average weekly wages for the nation increased to \$1,082, a 4.4 percent increase, during the year ending in the fourth quarter of 2015. Among the 342 largest counties, 325 had over-the-year increases in average weekly wages. (See chart 4.) Wyandotte, Kan., had the largest percentage wage increase among the largest U.S. counties (10.4 percent).

Of the 342 largest counties, 10 experienced over-the-year decreases in average weekly wages. Midland, Texas, had the largest percentage decrease in average weekly wages (-11.5 percent), followed by Ector, Texas; Lafayette, La.; Gregg, Texas; and San Mateo, Calif. (See table 1.)

Table B. Large counties ranked by fourth quarter 2015 average weekly wages, fourth quarter 2014-15 increase in average weekly wages, and fourth quarter 2014-15 percent increase in average weekly wages

Average weekly wage in large counties					
Average weekly wage, fourth quarter 2015		Increase in average weekly wage, fourth quarter 2014-15		Percent increase in average weekly wage, fourth quarter 2014-15	
United States	\$1,082	United States	\$46	United States	4.4
Santa Clara, Calif.	\$2,335	Santa Clara, Calif.	\$198	Wyandotte, Kan.	10.4
New York, N.Y.	2,235	Lake, Ill.	129	Sonoma, Calif.	10.0
San Mateo, Calif.	2,095	San Francisco, Calif.	118	Lake, Ill.	9.8
San Francisco, Calif.	1,961	Wyandotte, Kan.	98	Passaic, N.J.	9.4
Suffolk, Mass.	1,943	Sonoma, Calif.	95	Santa Clara, Calif.	9.3
Washington, D.C.	1,756	Passaic, N.J.	95	Anoka, Minn.	9.3
Fairfield, Conn.	1,735	Suffolk, Mass.	92	Clay, Mo.	9.2
Arlington, Va.	1,686	Wayne, Mich.	91	Collier, Fla.	9.1
Fairfax, Va.	1,618	Anoka, Minn.	88	Catawba, N.C.	8.9
Morris, N.J.	1,601	Alameda, Calif.	86	Bell, Texas	8.9

Ten Largest U.S. Counties

Among the 10 largest counties, 9 had over-the-year percentage increases in **employment** in December 2015. Dallas, Texas, had the largest gain (3.9 percent). Within Dallas, trade, transportation, and utilities had the largest over-the-year employment level increase, with a gain of 20,999 jobs, or 6.3 percent. Harris, Texas, had the only percentage decrease in employment among the 10 largest counties (-0.5 percent). (See table 2.)

Average weekly wages increased over the year in all of the 10 largest U.S. counties. Los Angeles, Calif., experienced the largest percentage gain in average weekly wages (5.5 percent). Within Los Angeles, information tied with professional and business services for the largest impact on the county's average weekly wage growth. Within information, average weekly wages increased by \$259, or 11.3 percent, over the year. Within professional and business services, average weekly wages increased by \$106, or 6.9 percent, over the year. Harris, Texas, had the smallest percentage gain in average weekly wages among the 10 largest counties (0.4 percent).

For More Information

The tables and charts included in this release contain data for the nation and for the 342 U.S. counties with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2014. December 2015 employment and 2015 fourth quarter average weekly wages for all states are provided in table 3 of this release.

The data are derived from reports submitted by every employer subject to unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The 9.7 million employer reports cover 141.9 million full- and part-time workers. Data for the fourth quarter of 2015 will be available electronically later at www.bls.gov/cew/. For additional information about the quarterly employment and wages data, please read the Technical Note. 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 www.bls.gov/cew/cewregional.htm.

The County Employment and Wages release for first quarter 2016 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, September 7, 2016.

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 2015 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 343 counties presented in this release were derived using 2014 preliminary annual averages of employment. For 2015 data, three counties have been added to the publication tables: Butte, Calif.; Hall, Ga.; and Ector, Texas. These counties will be included in all 2015 quarterly releases. 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 9.5 million establishments in first quarter of 2015 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Count of longitudinally-linked UI administrative records submitted by 7.6 million private-sector employers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sample survey: 623,000 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 – 6 months after the end of each quarter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly – 7 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 super-sectors 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 Worksites 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 9.4 million employer reports of employment and wages submitted by states to the BLS in 2014. 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 2014, UI and UCFE programs covered workers in 136.6 million jobs. The estimated 131.8 million workers in these jobs (after adjustment for multiple job-holders) represented 96.3 percent of civilian wage and salary employment. Covered workers received \$7.017 trillion in pay, representing 93.8 percent of the wage and salary component of personal income and 40.5 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 workforce 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.

Wages measured by QCEW may be subject to periodic and sometimes large fluctuations. This variability may be due to calendar effects resulting from some quarters having more pay dates than others. The effect is most visible in counties with a dominant employer. In particular, this effect has been observed in counties where government employers represent a large fraction of overall employment. Similar calendar effects can result from private sector pay practices. However, these effects are typically less pronounced for two reasons: employment is less concentrated in a single private employer, and private employers use a variety of pay period types (weekly, biweekly, semi-monthly, monthly).

For example, the effect on over-the-year pay comparisons can be pronounced in federal government due to the uniform nature of federal payroll processing. Most federal employees are paid on a biweekly pay schedule. As a result, in some quarters federal wages include six pay dates, while in other quarters there are seven pay dates. Over-the-year comparisons of average weekly wages may also reflect this calendar effect. Growth in average weekly wages may be attributed, in part, to a comparison of quarterly wages for the current year, which include seven pay dates, with year-ago wages that reflect only six pay dates. An opposite effect will occur when wages in the current quarter reflecting six pay dates are compared with year-ago wages for a quarter including seven pay dates.

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

year. Changes resulting from improved employer reporting also are introduced in the first quarter.

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

The over-the-year changes of employment and wages presented in this release have been adjusted to account for most of the administrative corrections made to the underlying establishment reports. This is done by modifying the prior-year levels used to calculate the over-the-year changes. Percent changes are calculated using an adjusted version of the final 2014 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. Adjusted data account for improvements in reporting employment and wages for individual and multi-unit establishments. To accomplish this, adjustments were implemented to account for: administrative changes caused by multi-unit employers who start reporting for each individual establishment rather than as a single entity (first quarter of 2008); selected large administrative changes in employment and wages (second quarter of 2011); and state verified improvements in reporting of employment and wages (third quarter of 2014). These adjustments allow QCEW to include county employment and wage

growth rates in this news release that would otherwise not meet publication standards.

The adjusted data used to calculate the over-the-year change measures presented in any County Employment and Wages news release are valid for comparisons between the starting and ending points (a 12-month period) used in that particular release. Comparisons may not be valid for any time period other than the one featured in a release even if the changes were calculated using adjusted data.

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

Additional statistics and other information

Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2014 edition of this publication, which was published in September 2015, contains selected data produced by Business Employment Dynamics (BED) on job gains and losses, as well as selected data from the first quarter 2015 version of this news release. Tables and additional content from the 2014 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* are now available at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn14.htm>. The 2015 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* will be available in September 2016.

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. Covered establishments, employment, and wages in the 343 largest counties, fourth quarter 2015

County ¹	Establishments, fourth quarter 2015 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ²		
		December 2015 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change	Fourth quarter 2015	Percent change, fourth quarter 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change
United States ⁴	9,685.3	141,924.5	1.9	-	\$1,082	4.4	-
Jefferson, AL.....	17.9	341.9	0.8	264	1,049	2.4	300
Madison, AL.....	9.3	191.1	2.3	138	1,143	3.3	276
Mobile, AL.....	9.8	169.5	1.1	235	941	4.8	172
Montgomery, AL.....	6.4	130.5	1.0	246	935	3.4	266
Shelby, AL.....	5.6	84.6	1.3	213	1,026	3.8	246
Tuscaloosa, AL.....	4.4	92.6	0.6	281	883	1.6	313
Anchorage Borough, AK.....	8.4	152.7	-0.2	316	1,136	3.9	237
Maricopa, AZ.....	97.2	1,883.2	3.2	77	1,016	4.1	225
Pima, AZ.....	19.1	361.7	0.7	273	891	4.0	230
Benton, AR.....	6.0	112.7	3.6	51	1,042	3.5	262
Pulaski, AR.....	14.6	250.2	1.9	171	972	3.7	254
Washington, AR.....	5.9	102.7	4.3	25	952	6.7	39
Alameda, CA.....	60.2	741.1	3.3	69	1,407	6.5	53
Butte, CA.....	8.1	79.3	2.7	119	800	5.5	114
Contra Costa, CA.....	31.2	354.7	3.2	77	1,286	6.5	53
Fresno, CA.....	32.8	363.6	3.5	58	849	5.2	137
Kern, CA.....	17.7	305.9	-0.8	325	884	0.6	323
Los Angeles, CA.....	463.6	4,341.0	2.3	138	1,266	5.5	114
Marin, CA.....	12.4	114.0	2.8	108	1,334	4.7	175
Monterey, CA.....	13.3	165.6	3.8	37	914	6.8	36
Orange, CA.....	113.6	1,550.6	2.3	138	1,205	4.1	225
Placer, CA.....	12.1	151.7	4.4	21	1,071	3.4	266
Riverside, CA.....	58.0	679.7	4.9	11	840	4.7	175
Sacramento, CA.....	54.7	637.1	3.7	46	1,153	5.2	137
San Bernardino, CA.....	54.3	719.8	3.6	51	888	4.7	175
San Diego, CA.....	105.7	1,399.7	2.6	125	1,184	4.3	212
San Francisco, CA.....	59.5	691.6	4.6	17	1,961	6.4	61
San Joaquin, CA.....	17.2	233.2	4.2	27	894	7.1	28
San Luis Obispo, CA.....	10.1	113.5	3.2	77	900	8.2	15
San Mateo, CA.....	27.4	393.3	3.8	37	2,095	-2.3	332
Santa Barbara, CA.....	15.1	191.9	3.0	93	1,038	5.8	94
Santa Clara, CA.....	69.3	1,040.8	3.8	37	2,335	9.3	5
Santa Cruz, CA.....	9.5	97.5	3.2	77	952	3.1	284
Solano, CA.....	10.7	134.0	3.4	63	1,080	5.3	127
Sonoma, CA.....	19.4	199.5	3.7	46	1,049	10.0	2
Stanislaus, CA.....	14.9	179.0	4.2	27	888	6.2	68
Tulare, CA.....	9.7	153.0	3.3	69	761	3.8	246
Ventura, CA.....	25.8	320.6	1.1	235	1,065	3.9	237
Yolo, CA.....	6.4	96.4	3.2	77	1,151	5.4	120
Adams, CO.....	10.1	195.0	2.8	108	1,036	5.1	148
Arapahoe, CO.....	20.9	321.8	2.8	108	1,242	2.1	309
Boulder, CO.....	14.3	175.1	2.5	130	1,265	5.0	154
Denver, CO.....	29.7	485.3	3.2	77	1,292	2.9	291
Douglas, CO.....	11.1	115.3	3.2	77	1,291	3.0	289
El Paso, CO.....	18.2	261.5	3.2	77	952	3.9	237
Jefferson, CO.....	19.1	232.8	3.0	93	1,082	3.9	237
Larimer, CO.....	11.3	149.9	3.7	46	986	2.3	306
Weld, CO.....	6.7	100.2	-3.1	333	928	0.3	325
Fairfield, CT.....	34.8	429.7	0.5	286	1,735	3.5	262
Hartford, CT.....	27.2	511.0	0.3	299	1,306	4.6	189

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered establishments, employment, and wages in the 343 largest counties, fourth quarter 2015 - Continued

County ¹	Establishments, fourth quarter 2015 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ²		
		December 2015 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change	Fourth quarter 2015	Percent change, fourth quarter 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change
New Haven, CT.....	23.5	366.3	0.5	286	\$1,128	3.7	254
New London, CT.....	7.3	122.3	0.8	264	1,053	4.2	218
New Castle, DE.....	18.9	293.2	1.9	171	1,198	2.9	291
Washington, DC.....	39.0	754.2	2.2	144	1,756	3.4	266
Alachua, FL.....	6.8	126.3	3.0	93	911	3.1	284
Brevard, FL.....	15.0	197.7	2.1	156	939	6.0	80
Broward, FL.....	67.3	785.7	2.8	108	1,018	6.0	80
Collier, FL.....	13.1	143.1	3.4	63	969	9.1	8
Duval, FL.....	27.9	485.6	3.2	77	1,008	2.0	310
Escambia, FL.....	8.0	127.8	2.0	165	857	5.2	137
Hillsborough, FL.....	39.9	671.9	4.4	21	1,029	4.7	175
Lake, FL.....	7.7	93.2	4.9	11	738	6.6	43
Lee, FL.....	20.6	253.1	5.9	5	842	4.7	175
Leon, FL.....	8.3	145.2	1.2	221	881	4.5	196
Manatee, FL.....	10.1	120.7	2.6	125	818	6.5	53
Marion, FL.....	8.1	98.9	2.1	156	749	5.9	88
Miami-Dade, FL.....	94.8	1,115.9	3.0	93	1,051	4.4	208
Okaloosa, FL.....	6.2	80.4	3.8	37	859	4.9	161
Orange, FL.....	39.3	786.0	4.4	21	945	5.7	100
Osceola, FL.....	6.3	87.6	5.8	6	730	6.6	43
Palm Beach, FL.....	53.6	588.9	4.0	33	1,081	7.2	26
Pasco, FL.....	10.3	113.2	4.4	21	749	5.8	94
Pinellas, FL.....	31.9	418.7	3.6	51	979	5.6	105
Polk, FL.....	12.6	209.9	2.7	119	816	5.2	137
Sarasota, FL.....	15.3	164.4	3.8	37	914	5.9	88
Seminole, FL.....	14.4	180.3	3.9	35	897	6.0	80
Volusia, FL.....	13.8	164.0	3.3	69	759	4.5	196
Bibb, GA.....	4.6	84.8	1.1	235	838	4.5	196
Chatham, GA.....	8.5	147.9	3.3	69	921	5.9	88
Clayton, GA.....	4.4	121.9	4.8	13	957	-1.8	330
Cobb, GA.....	23.5	340.6	3.0	93	1,118	3.4	266
DeKalb, GA.....	19.4	301.0	3.8	37	1,048	3.4	266
Fulton, GA.....	46.3	811.4	2.8	108	1,402	4.5	196
Gwinnett, GA.....	26.5	341.9	2.9	102	1,041	4.0	230
Hall, GA.....	4.6	82.2	5.0	10	930	7.4	20
Muscogee, GA.....	4.9	94.9	0.1	306	860	6.6	43
Richmond, GA.....	4.8	105.3	1.2	221	875	4.8	172
Honolulu, HI.....	25.5	476.5	1.9	171	997	5.6	105
Ada, ID.....	14.3	221.3	3.8	37	938	-1.5	329
Champaign, IL.....	4.4	90.0	-0.1	312	901	4.0	230
Cook, IL.....	158.4	2,575.7	1.9	171	1,267	4.4	208
DuPage, IL.....	38.8	612.2	0.4	294	1,257	6.6	43
Kane, IL.....	14.0	209.5	0.8	264	968	6.4	61
Lake, IL.....	22.9	333.5	0.9	254	1,450	9.8	3
McHenry, IL.....	8.9	97.0	1.2	221	904	6.5	53
McLean, IL.....	3.9	84.6	0.0	309	1,010	4.1	225
Madison, IL.....	6.1	98.4	0.0	309	876	3.4	266
Peoria, IL.....	4.7	102.2	1.1	235	1,012	5.9	88
St. Clair, IL.....	5.6	94.1	0.4	294	838	5.1	148
Sangamon, IL.....	5.3	128.6	-1.6	331	1,063	4.3	212

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered establishments, employment, and wages in the 343 largest counties, fourth quarter 2015 - Continued

County ¹	Establishments, fourth quarter 2015 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ²		
		December 2015 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change	Fourth quarter 2015	Percent change, fourth quarter 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change
Will, IL.....	16.5	225.8	2.2	144	\$943	5.1	148
Winnebago, IL.....	6.9	129.3	0.9	254	898	3.1	284
Allen, IN.....	8.8	185.0	2.0	165	868	7.3	23
Elkhart, IN.....	4.7	126.2	2.9	102	886	5.6	105
Hamilton, IN.....	9.0	134.8	3.6	51	1,020	4.9	161
Lake, IN.....	10.3	187.9	0.1	306	909	1.6	313
Marion, IN.....	23.9	594.7	1.8	183	1,056	4.9	161
St. Joseph, IN.....	5.8	123.0	2.6	125	855	5.9	88
Tiptecanoe, IN.....	3.4	82.8	0.9	254	904	6.0	80
Vanderburgh, IN.....	4.8	108.0	0.5	286	886	4.1	225
Black Hawk, IA.....	3.8	74.6	-1.0	327	984	5.8	94
Johnson, IA.....	4.1	82.0	1.2	221	951	3.7	254
Linn, IA.....	6.6	130.5	0.5	286	1,069	4.7	175
Polk, IA.....	16.7	291.7	1.6	197	1,096	6.5	53
Scott, IA.....	5.6	91.4	0.3	299	903	5.5	114
Johnson, KS.....	22.6	339.8	1.4	208	1,097	5.3	127
Sedgwick, KS.....	12.8	250.6	0.9	254	960	4.2	218
Shawnee, KS.....	5.0	97.9	1.3	213	856	4.4	208
Wyandotte, KS.....	3.5	90.3	1.9	171	1,037	10.4	1
Boone, KY.....	4.3	85.2	5.1	8	921	3.4	266
Fayette, KY.....	10.6	198.1	2.8	108	935	6.9	33
Jefferson, KY.....	25.0	461.4	2.2	144	1,049	8.6	11
Caddo, LA.....	7.3	116.3	-0.6	320	877	1.7	312
Calcasieu, LA.....	5.0	92.6	1.3	213	963	5.5	114
East Baton Rouge, LA.....	15.0	272.0	0.5	286	1,014	4.2	218
Jefferson, LA.....	13.4	195.9	-0.7	323	980	5.0	154
Lafayette, LA.....	9.3	136.1	-5.6	335	990	-4.3	334
Orleans, LA.....	12.0	195.9	3.0	93	1,021	3.2	280
St. Tammany, LA.....	7.8	87.9	2.3	138	916	2.9	291
Cumberland, ME.....	13.3	177.1	0.9	254	1,004	5.7	100
Anne Arundel, MD.....	15.0	265.6	2.9	102	1,145	5.4	120
Baltimore, MD.....	21.2	380.9	1.2	221	1,094	5.1	148
Frederick, MD.....	6.4	100.4	2.5	130	1,005	4.3	212
Harford, MD.....	5.8	93.3	2.3	138	1,033	5.4	120
Howard, MD.....	9.9	166.5	2.0	165	1,323	5.3	127
Montgomery, MD.....	32.8	466.0	0.7	273	1,419	5.7	100
Prince George's, MD.....	15.8	312.2	0.9	254	1,102	5.2	137
Baltimore City, MD.....	13.6	338.6	1.3	213	1,296	6.1	73
Barnstable, MA.....	9.3	90.0	1.1	235	955	7.7	17
Bristol, MA.....	17.0	224.7	0.7	273	984	2.3	306
Essex, MA.....	23.8	323.8	1.2	221	1,149	4.9	161
Hampden, MA.....	17.3	206.6	1.0	246	993	4.9	161
Middlesex, MA.....	53.1	889.2	1.6	197	1,563	5.3	127
Norfolk, MA.....	24.6	349.7	1.1	235	1,338	6.2	68
Plymouth, MA.....	15.1	188.2	0.7	273	1,035	5.6	105
Suffolk, MA.....	27.5	652.1	2.7	119	1,943	5.0	154
Worcester, MA.....	23.9	341.5	1.8	183	1,086	6.1	73
Genesee, MI.....	6.9	134.6	-0.1	312	918	8.4	13
Ingham, MI.....	6.0	149.0	1.0	246	1,028	6.6	43
Kalamazoo, MI.....	5.0	116.2	0.6	281	1,000	7.0	30

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered establishments, employment, and wages in the 343 largest counties, fourth quarter 2015 - Continued

County ¹	Establishments, fourth quarter 2015 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ²		
		December 2015 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change	Fourth quarter 2015	Percent change, fourth quarter 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change
Kent, MI.....	14.0	382.1	3.4	63	\$963	4.9	161
Macomb, MI.....	17.3	319.5	1.4	208	1,097	8.4	13
Oakland, MI.....	38.5	719.3	1.8	183	1,222	4.8	172
Ottawa, MI.....	5.5	120.3	3.1	87	950	3.7	254
Saginaw, MI.....	4.0	85.8	1.0	246	877	7.5	18
Washtenaw, MI.....	8.0	208.5	1.9	171	1,116	4.6	189
Wayne, MI.....	30.2	709.0	0.4	294	1,209	8.1	16
Anoka, MN.....	6.7	120.0	1.4	208	1,035	9.3	5
Dakota, MN.....	9.4	185.8	0.6	281	1,051	6.7	39
Hennepin, MN.....	37.0	897.3	1.7	191	1,301	3.2	280
Olmsted, MN.....	3.3	94.8	2.5	130	1,058	3.8	246
Ramsey, MN.....	12.8	330.9	1.3	213	1,189	4.7	175
St. Louis, MN.....	5.1	96.6	-0.1	312	869	5.5	114
Stearns, MN.....	4.1	85.7	0.8	264	884	6.6	43
Washington, MN.....	5.2	80.3	2.9	102	889	6.6	43
Harrison, MS.....	4.5	84.3	2.1	156	729	2.4	300
Hinds, MS.....	5.9	121.6	1.0	246	896	3.2	280
Boone, MO.....	4.9	93.4	1.8	183	823	4.0	230
Clay, MO.....	5.5	99.6	5.1	8	1,006	9.2	7
Greene, MO.....	8.5	164.1	1.1	235	810	4.9	161
Jackson, MO.....	21.2	362.7	2.0	165	1,091	5.4	120
St. Charles, MO.....	9.0	142.9	4.1	31	870	7.1	28
St. Louis, MO.....	36.2	602.5	1.8	183	1,148	2.2	308
St. Louis City, MO.....	13.0	227.3	1.2	221	1,144	7.4	20
Yellowstone, MT.....	6.4	81.4	2.1	156	922	2.7	296
Douglas, NE.....	18.6	338.6	2.2	144	994	6.5	53
Lancaster, NE.....	10.0	168.8	2.2	144	853	4.2	218
Clark, NV.....	54.6	928.6	3.7	46	920	3.8	246
Washoe, NV.....	14.5	208.0	4.5	18	955	3.8	246
Hillsborough, NH.....	12.3	202.1	1.6	197	1,264	4.5	196
Rockingham, NH.....	10.9	146.8	2.7	119	1,119	5.6	105
Atlantic, NJ.....	6.6	124.5	0.2	304	896	2.4	300
Bergen, NJ.....	33.3	454.1	0.7	273	1,324	2.5	298
Burlington, NJ.....	11.1	201.2	0.9	254	1,124	5.8	94
Camden, NJ.....	12.2	201.4	2.6	125	1,090	5.3	127
Essex, NJ.....	20.6	343.4	0.3	299	1,295	5.7	100
Gloucester, NJ.....	6.3	105.5	2.2	144	946	3.7	254
Hudson, NJ.....	14.8	250.3	3.1	87	1,375	3.9	237
Mercer, NJ.....	11.3	248.5	3.6	51	1,327	1.1	320
Middlesex, NJ.....	22.2	415.6	1.5	205	1,274	5.1	148
Monmouth, NJ.....	20.1	257.1	2.2	144	1,091	3.2	280
Morris, NJ.....	17.0	291.5	2.3	138	1,601	5.2	137
Ocean, NJ.....	12.9	160.5	2.8	108	890	4.3	212
Passaic, NJ.....	12.5	169.0	-1.1	329	1,111	9.4	4
Somerset, NJ.....	10.1	186.2	1.9	171	1,576	1.0	321
Union, NJ.....	14.4	219.3	(⁵)	-	1,373	(⁵)	-
Bernalillo, NM.....	18.1	322.8	1.2	221	904	3.6	260
Albany, NY.....	10.4	233.5	0.8	264	1,113	5.0	154
Bronx, NY.....	18.7	304.4	1.1	235	996	3.1	284
Broome, NY.....	4.6	87.9	-0.7	323	833	6.1	73

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered establishments, employment, and wages in the 343 largest counties, fourth quarter 2015 - Continued

County ¹	Establishments, fourth quarter 2015 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ²		
		December 2015 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change	Fourth quarter 2015	Percent change, fourth quarter 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change
Dutchess, NY.....	8.5	113.1	1.2	221	\$1,031	3.4	266
Erie, NY.....	24.8	472.4	1.0	246	958	6.7	39
Kings, NY.....	60.8	681.7	3.4	63	922	5.4	120
Monroe, NY.....	18.8	386.3	0.8	264	1,005	7.5	18
Nassau, NY.....	54.4	631.6	1.1	235	1,238	6.4	61
New York, NY.....	129.9	2,442.2	2.1	156	2,235	0.8	322
Oneida, NY.....	5.4	104.2	-0.6	320	832	4.7	175
Onondaga, NY.....	13.1	246.9	0.3	299	995	6.2	68
Orange, NY.....	10.3	142.5	0.8	264	903	6.4	61
Queens, NY.....	51.8	648.2	3.3	69	1,022	4.2	218
Richmond, NY.....	9.8	117.0	3.3	69	959	4.6	189
Rockland, NY.....	10.6	120.3	0.6	281	1,072	4.0	230
Saratoga, NY.....	5.9	84.4	1.7	191	974	6.6	43
Suffolk, NY.....	52.6	653.0	0.9	254	1,187	5.5	114
Westchester, NY.....	36.7	427.4	1.2	221	1,449	2.0	310
Buncombe, NC.....	8.8	127.7	3.4	63	841	5.3	127
Catawba, NC.....	4.3	85.3	2.2	144	836	8.9	9
Cumberland, NC.....	6.3	119.7	0.7	273	814	6.1	73
Durham, NC.....	8.1	194.8	3.8	37	1,278	4.2	218
Forsyth, NC.....	9.3	183.4	1.1	235	976	4.7	175
Guilford, NC.....	14.3	281.1	1.9	171	930	4.7	175
Mecklenburg, NC.....	36.1	658.4	4.0	33	1,204	6.8	36
New Hanover, NC.....	7.7	107.3	2.8	108	866	4.7	175
Wake, NC.....	32.5	525.1	3.6	51	1,071	4.2	218
Cass, ND.....	6.9	117.1	1.3	213	977	4.6	189
Butler, OH.....	7.6	150.6	2.8	108	949	7.4	20
Cuyahoga, OH.....	35.6	721.6	0.4	294	1,097	4.5	196
Delaware, OH.....	4.9	86.2	2.4	134	1,005	4.0	230
Franklin, OH.....	31.0	739.7	1.8	183	1,068	7.0	30
Hamilton, OH.....	23.5	511.5	1.5	205	1,148	4.0	230
Lake, OH.....	6.2	95.1	0.2	304	886	3.0	289
Lorain, OH.....	6.1	97.7	0.3	299	848	4.6	189
Lucas, OH.....	10.1	212.1	1.9	171	937	4.5	196
Mahoning, OH.....	5.9	99.1	-0.6	320	762	4.1	225
Montgomery, OH.....	12.0	254.7	2.1	156	924	5.0	154
Stark, OH.....	8.6	159.1	-0.1	312	818	3.8	246
Summit, OH.....	14.1	267.9	0.7	273	959	5.3	127
Warren, OH.....	4.7	87.0	3.1	87	932	6.2	68
Cleveland, OK.....	5.5	82.6	1.0	246	791	3.3	276
Oklahoma, OK.....	27.3	454.4	0.1	306	1,017	3.9	237
Tulsa, OK.....	22.0	353.6	0.6	281	978	2.8	294
Clackamas, OR.....	14.2	153.9	3.1	87	998	5.2	137
Jackson, OR.....	7.1	84.4	2.2	144	793	6.9	33
Lane, OR.....	11.8	150.7	3.4	63	837	5.0	154
Marion, OR.....	10.2	145.5	3.5	58	853	5.2	137
Multnomah, OR.....	33.1	490.9	3.5	58	1,099	6.6	43
Washington, OR.....	18.5	280.3	3.0	93	1,285	4.9	161
Allegheny, PA.....	35.8	692.4	0.5	286	1,152	5.2	137
Berks, PA.....	9.0	171.6	0.9	254	972	6.5	53
Bucks, PA.....	19.9	258.3	0.8	264	1,037	3.4	266

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered establishments, employment, and wages in the 343 largest counties, fourth quarter 2015 - Continued

County ¹	Establishments, fourth quarter 2015 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ²		
		December 2015 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change	Fourth quarter 2015	Percent change, fourth quarter 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change
Butler, PA.....	5.0	85.9	0.5	286	\$1,000	5.6	105
Chester, PA.....	15.5	247.7	1.0	246	1,364	2.4	300
Cumberland, PA.....	6.4	133.6	2.9	102	951	3.3	276
Dauphin, PA.....	7.5	178.7	0.5	286	1,078	8.6	11
Delaware, PA.....	14.0	222.2	0.7	273	1,144	5.8	94
Erie, PA.....	7.1	124.6	-0.3	317	842	4.9	161
Lackawanna, PA.....	5.8	98.1	0.0	309	810	5.7	100
Lancaster, PA.....	13.2	233.6	1.7	191	905	6.0	80
Lehigh, PA.....	8.6	189.0	2.0	165	1,076	4.9	161
Luzerne, PA.....	7.6	147.5	1.3	213	818	4.7	175
Montgomery, PA.....	27.6	488.6	1.9	171	1,327	4.7	175
Northampton, PA.....	6.7	110.1	1.7	191	936	6.7	39
Philadelphia, PA.....	35.1	662.5	1.6	197	1,283	5.9	88
Washington, PA.....	5.5	86.5	-2.1	332	1,064	-2.1	331
Westmoreland, PA.....	9.3	135.3	1.3	213	863	3.9	237
York, PA.....	9.0	176.4	1.2	221	923	6.0	80
Providence, RI.....	17.6	286.8	1.1	235	1,102	3.7	254
Charleston, SC.....	14.2	239.9	3.6	51	927	5.1	148
Greenville, SC.....	13.9	262.9	3.0	93	935	6.3	66
Horry, SC.....	8.7	114.4	3.5	58	653	6.9	33
Lexington, SC.....	6.5	119.5	4.2	27	794	3.9	237
Richland, SC.....	9.9	217.4	2.2	144	903	5.4	120
Spartanburg, SC.....	6.1	130.9	3.2	77	899	4.5	196
York, SC.....	5.2	88.6	4.5	18	842	4.7	175
Minnehaha, SD.....	7.0	124.4	1.7	191	932	6.3	66
Davidson, TN.....	20.9	466.8	3.1	87	1,169	7.2	26
Hamilton, TN.....	9.2	196.8	3.3	69	1,031	6.0	80
Knox, TN.....	11.7	236.1	1.6	197	977	6.1	73
Rutherford, TN.....	5.1	120.0	4.2	27	952	4.4	208
Shelby, TN.....	19.9	497.6	1.8	183	1,096	5.2	137
Williamson, TN.....	7.9	120.3	6.8	1	1,234	0.0	326
Bell, TX.....	5.1	119.6	5.4	7	881	8.9	9
Bexar, TX.....	38.8	834.2	2.6	125	965	6.0	80
Brazoria, TX.....	5.4	104.7	2.8	108	1,106	6.1	73
Brazos, TX.....	4.3	100.5	2.4	134	785	1.4	316
Cameron, TX.....	6.5	138.4	1.9	171	649	4.5	196
Collin, TX.....	22.7	375.2	4.8	13	1,228	3.4	266
Dallas, TX.....	73.9	1,651.6	3.9	35	1,287	4.5	196
Denton, TX.....	13.6	224.4	4.8	13	973	4.5	196
Ector, TX.....	4.0	70.6	-11.8	337	1,094	-8.0	335
El Paso, TX.....	14.7	297.3	3.0	93	743	5.4	120
Fort Bend, TX.....	12.0	174.3	2.2	144	1,028	-1.1	328
Galveston, TX.....	5.9	105.4	4.7	16	933	1.5	315
Gregg, TX.....	4.3	76.2	-5.1	334	910	-3.2	333
Harris, TX.....	112.2	2,302.8	-0.5	319	1,382	0.4	324
Hidalgo, TX.....	12.0	251.8	1.9	171	661	3.1	284
Jefferson, TX.....	5.9	124.3	-0.8	325	1,119	2.8	294
Lubbock, TX.....	7.4	136.9	2.4	134	838	4.6	189
McLennan, TX.....	5.1	109.8	1.6	197	875	5.3	127
Midland, TX.....	5.4	86.6	-9.3	336	1,263	-11.5	336

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered establishments, employment, and wages in the 343 largest counties, fourth quarter 2015 - Continued

County ¹	Establishments, fourth quarter 2015 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ²		
		December 2015 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change	Fourth quarter 2015	Percent change, fourth quarter 2014-15 ³	Ranking by percent change
Montgomery, TX.....	10.6	168.3	1.6	197	\$1,043	-0.9	327
Nueces, TX.....	8.3	162.7	-1.5	330	932	1.3	319
Potter, TX.....	4.0	80.2	0.8	264	871	4.9	161
Smith, TX.....	6.0	102.8	2.5	130	900	3.6	260
Tarrant, TX.....	41.3	858.7	2.2	144	1,093	7.3	23
Travis, TX.....	37.9	703.1	4.3	25	1,234	5.0	154
Webb, TX.....	5.2	99.1	1.2	221	706	1.4	316
Williamson, TX.....	9.6	154.9	4.5	18	1,010	5.2	137
Davis, UT.....	8.1	120.1	3.7	46	839	4.5	196
Salt Lake, UT.....	43.1	663.8	3.8	37	1,035	5.3	127
Utah, UT.....	14.9	215.7	6.6	2	869	7.3	23
Weber, UT.....	5.8	100.5	3.1	87	790	5.3	127
Chittenden, VT.....	6.6	102.5	0.9	254	1,071	3.8	246
Arlington, VA.....	9.4	173.6	3.3	69	1,686	2.4	300
Chesterfield, VA.....	8.7	140.1	6.0	4	890	2.4	300
Fairfax, VA.....	37.5	598.9	2.8	108	1,618	2.5	298
Henrico, VA.....	11.3	191.5	3.5	58	1,020	4.3	212
Loudoun, VA.....	11.8	159.8	6.3	3	1,236	2.7	296
Prince William, VA.....	9.1	125.8	4.1	31	923	4.3	212
Alexandria City, VA.....	6.7	97.7	2.1	156	1,487	1.4	316
Chesapeake City, VA.....	6.0	98.9	1.2	221	825	3.8	246
Newport News City, VA.....	3.8	98.4	-0.4	318	1,017	6.2	68
Norfolk City, VA.....	5.9	142.5	1.2	221	1,066	3.5	262
Richmond City, VA.....	7.6	151.1	2.1	156	1,153	4.6	189
Virginia Beach City, VA.....	12.1	174.2	2.1	156	851	5.6	105
Benton, WA.....	5.6	80.8	1.5	205	1,063	(⁵)	-
Clark, WA.....	14.0	147.6	(⁵)	-	975	(⁵)	-
King, WA.....	85.3	1,297.2	2.9	102	1,429	3.3	276
Kitsap, WA.....	6.7	86.0	2.7	119	935	7.0	30
Pierce, WA.....	21.7	291.4	(⁵)	-	940	(⁵)	-
Snohomish, WA.....	20.4	280.1	2.7	119	1,136	6.6	43
Spokane, WA.....	15.6	212.4	(⁵)	-	884	(⁵)	-
Thurston, WA.....	8.0	107.4	2.0	165	923	5.6	105
Whatcom, WA.....	7.1	85.8	1.4	208	848	5.6	105
Yakima, WA.....	7.8	99.7	(⁵)	-	740	(⁵)	-
Kanawha, WV.....	5.9	103.8	-1.0	327	897	3.9	237
Brown, WI.....	6.8	154.1	1.7	191	986	6.4	61
Dane, WI.....	15.1	329.9	2.4	134	1,081	6.1	73
Milwaukee, WI.....	26.2	489.1	0.4	294	1,043	3.5	262
Outagamie, WI.....	5.2	106.9	1.8	183	926	6.8	36
Waukesha, WI.....	12.9	239.1	1.6	197	1,084	5.8	94
Winnebago, WI.....	3.7	91.8	1.4	208	1,033	6.5	53
San Juan, PR.....	10.6	257.3	-1.9	(⁶)	675	2.1	(⁶)

¹ Includes areas not officially designated as counties. See Technical Note.

² Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

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

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

⁵ Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

⁶ This county was not included in the U.S. rankings.

Note: Data are preliminary. Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. These 342 U.S. counties comprise 72.5 percent of the total covered workers in the U.S.

Table 2. Covered establishments, employment, and wages in the 10 largest counties, fourth quarter 2015

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, fourth quarter 2015 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ¹	
		December 2015 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2014-15 ²	Fourth quarter 2015	Percent change, fourth quarter 2014-15 ²
United States ³	9,685.3	141,924.5	1.9	\$1,082	4.4
Private industry.....	9,386.7	120,234.9	2.1	1,089	4.5
Natural resources and mining.....	138.6	1,819.6	-8.9	1,157	-5.0
Construction.....	770.9	6,521.4	4.9	1,233	5.1
Manufacturing.....	342.8	12,291.3	0.0	1,322	4.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	1,925.8	27,688.6	1.6	904	4.9
Information.....	155.5	2,793.9	1.6	1,907	8.0
Financial activities.....	854.5	7,920.5	1.9	1,710	2.7
Professional and business services.....	1,754.0	19,995.4	2.2	1,438	4.3
Education and health services.....	1,557.4	21,495.3	2.5	994	5.7
Leisure and hospitality.....	814.2	15,025.8	3.3	462	5.5
Other services.....	832.4	4,331.1	1.7	724	5.4
Government.....	298.5	21,689.5	0.7	1,047	4.9
Los Angeles, CA.....	463.6	4,341.0	2.3	1,266	5.5
Private industry.....	457.8	3,775.7	2.4	1,260	6.1
Natural resources and mining.....	0.5	8.3	-8.3	1,573	13.6
Construction.....	13.6	129.6	8.1	1,267	5.3
Manufacturing.....	12.3	352.9	-2.2	1,330	8.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	53.4	830.3	0.7	986	5.6
Information.....	9.8	213.4	4.7	2,556	11.3
Financial activities.....	25.0	214.6	0.5	1,916	3.7
Professional and business services.....	48.0	606.0	0.7	1,652	6.9
Education and health services.....	213.6	740.6	3.1	930	3.8
Leisure and hospitality.....	31.8	490.8	2.9	974	1.9
Other services.....	27.8	146.7	0.3	746	8.0
Government.....	5.8	565.3	1.9	1,309	2.3
New York, NY.....	129.9	2,442.2	2.1	2,235	0.8
Private industry.....	129.1	2,174.2	2.2	2,350	0.5
Natural resources and mining.....	0.0	0.2	-4.2	2,033	-3.4
Construction.....	2.2	38.8	9.0	2,311	4.1
Manufacturing.....	2.2	27.4	0.8	1,636	0.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	20.0	268.9	-2.4	1,493	3.9
Information.....	4.9	155.6	1.0	2,804	2.9
Financial activities.....	19.1	372.4	1.9	4,593	-7.8
Professional and business services.....	27.6	556.2	3.3	2,687	6.1
Education and health services.....	9.8	342.2	2.5	1,384	6.7
Leisure and hospitality.....	13.8	297.5	2.4	1,027	4.3
Other services.....	20.3	102.2	0.5	1,210	5.6
Government.....	0.8	268.0	1.2	1,301	3.7
Cook, IL.....	158.4	2,575.7	1.9	1,267	4.4
Private industry.....	157.1	2,276.8	2.0	1,274	4.9
Natural resources and mining.....	0.1	1.1	29.7	1,342	4.0
Construction.....	12.8	70.8	2.3	1,635	1.8
Manufacturing.....	6.5	186.6	-0.6	1,405	7.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	31.1	486.2	1.5	971	3.2
Information.....	2.7	55.0	1.6	1,802	7.9
Financial activities.....	15.7	190.0	0.7	2,298	4.1
Professional and business services.....	33.7	474.5	1.8	1,690	5.8
Education and health services.....	16.7	442.8	2.5	1,048	4.3
Leisure and hospitality.....	14.5	267.9	5.2	543	9.7
Other services.....	17.7	95.9	-0.1	967	6.9
Government.....	1.3	298.9	0.9	1,221	1.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered establishments, employment, and wages in the 10 largest counties, fourth quarter 2015 - Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, fourth quarter 2015 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ¹	
		December 2015 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2014-15 ²	Fourth quarter 2015	Percent change, fourth quarter 2014-15 ²
Harris, TX.....	112.2	2,302.8	-0.5	\$1,382	0.4
Private industry.....	111.6	2,031.1	-0.8	1,414	-0.1
Natural resources and mining.....	1.8	81.2	-15.7	3,380	0.8
Construction.....	7.1	163.5	2.3	1,530	4.7
Manufacturing.....	4.8	179.8	-11.9	1,681	0.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	25.0	486.1	0.2	1,234	1.7
Information.....	1.2	27.6	0.6	1,497	-2.5
Financial activities.....	11.6	122.4	1.3	1,824	3.5
Professional and business services.....	23.0	395.7	-1.1	1,768	-0.7
Education and health services.....	15.5	286.3	3.8	1,103	4.5
Leisure and hospitality.....	9.5	222.8	5.2	474	4.2
Other services.....	11.7	65.0	0.5	843	3.8
Government.....	0.6	271.7	1.9	1,147	6.5
Maricopa, AZ.....	97.2	1,883.2	3.2	1,016	4.1
Private industry.....	96.5	1,670.6	3.6	1,015	4.2
Natural resources and mining.....	0.4	8.3	-1.2	953	3.5
Construction.....	7.1	98.4	4.5	1,124	4.2
Manufacturing.....	3.2	116.6	0.6	1,451	5.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	19.7	378.4	2.6	913	4.5
Information.....	1.6	35.1	2.1	1,358	6.2
Financial activities.....	11.1	164.9	5.1	1,305	6.2
Professional and business services.....	21.9	322.9	2.6	1,127	2.9
Education and health services.....	10.9	279.9	3.6	1,041	3.5
Leisure and hospitality.....	7.6	205.3	3.6	488	5.4
Other services.....	6.2	49.8	1.4	718	5.4
Government.....	0.7	212.6	0.0	1,024	3.9
Dallas, TX.....	73.9	1,651.6	3.9	1,287	4.5
Private industry.....	73.4	1,478.2	4.1	1,303	4.3
Natural resources and mining.....	0.6	9.0	-5.0	3,562	-6.1
Construction.....	4.3	82.0	5.3	1,344	7.3
Manufacturing.....	2.7	105.8	-1.0	1,487	3.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	15.9	352.4	6.3	1,099	3.6
Information.....	1.4	49.1	1.7	1,813	2.3
Financial activities.....	9.1	159.2	2.4	1,764	4.1
Professional and business services.....	16.7	333.6	4.1	1,577	5.3
Education and health services.....	9.1	191.6	4.4	1,159	8.2
Leisure and hospitality.....	6.4	153.9	6.2	554	8.8
Other services.....	6.9	40.9	0.4	821	2.1
Government.....	0.5	173.5	2.1	1,152	5.7
Orange, CA.....	113.6	1,550.6	2.3	1,205	4.1
Private industry.....	112.3	1,406.3	2.5	1,209	3.8
Natural resources and mining.....	0.2	2.7	-11.7	919	6.1
Construction.....	6.6	92.5	9.5	1,376	6.7
Manufacturing.....	4.8	156.3	-0.3	1,498	4.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	16.7	264.5	-0.3	1,067	4.9
Information.....	1.3	25.1	0.4	1,952	7.4
Financial activities.....	10.9	117.5	2.1	1,988	1.2
Professional and business services.....	20.5	289.1	0.3	1,450	2.9
Education and health services.....	29.4	196.8	3.7	1,047	5.9
Leisure and hospitality.....	8.1	203.5	3.3	495	6.0
Other services.....	7.0	44.0	1.2	730	4.9
Government.....	1.4	144.3	0.3	1,168	6.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered establishments, employment, and wages in the 10 largest counties, fourth quarter 2015 - Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, fourth quarter 2015 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ¹	
		December 2015 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2014-15 ²	Fourth quarter 2015	Percent change, fourth quarter 2014-15 ²
San Diego, CA.....	105.7	1,399.7	2.6	\$1,184	4.3
Private industry.....	103.9	1,169.6	2.7	1,172	4.3
Natural resources and mining.....	0.7	9.0	1.4	730	4.3
Construction.....	6.5	71.7	9.0	1,260	6.6
Manufacturing.....	3.1	104.3	0.9	1,755	11.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	14.2	224.7	0.1	887	5.2
Information.....	1.2	23.7	-3.3	1,742	4.7
Financial activities.....	9.6	71.8	3.3	1,533	9.0
Professional and business services.....	18.2	232.7	1.9	1,768	-1.9
Education and health services.....	29.3	190.1	3.1	1,036	6.1
Leisure and hospitality.....	7.8	181.1	1.6	497	8.3
Other services.....	7.5	49.3	0.6	636	5.8
Government.....	1.8	230.1	2.1	1,247	4.6
King, WA.....	85.3	1,297.2	2.9	1,429	3.3
Private industry.....	84.8	1,131.8	3.0	1,446	3.2
Natural resources and mining.....	0.4	3.0	23.3	1,336	-5.1
Construction.....	6.3	64.2	5.4	1,383	5.6
Manufacturing.....	2.4	105.3	-1.0	1,663	1.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	14.6	250.3	3.8	1,236	5.7
Information.....	2.1	91.6	6.4	2,912	-2.7
Financial activities.....	6.5	67.2	1.9	1,728	-3.2
Professional and business services.....	16.8	216.9	4.0	1,822	4.2
Education and health services.....	19.7	162.3	(⁴)	1,060	(⁴)
Leisure and hospitality.....	7.0	128.1	4.0	568	4.4
Other services.....	8.9	42.8	1.9	849	5.3
Government.....	0.5	165.4	2.1	1,314	3.8
Miami-Dade, FL.....	94.8	1,115.9	3.0	1,051	4.4
Private industry.....	94.4	978.5	3.3	1,029	4.6
Natural resources and mining.....	0.5	9.7	5.5	661	11.7
Construction.....	5.8	41.7	10.7	1,015	2.7
Manufacturing.....	2.8	39.8	4.0	991	0.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities.....	26.4	288.6	1.5	927	5.6
Information.....	1.5	17.8	-2.4	1,648	7.2
Financial activities.....	10.2	75.2	2.5	1,645	3.1
Professional and business services.....	20.7	154.2	4.5	1,328	1.0
Education and health services.....	10.1	171.1	2.9	1,050	7.3
Leisure and hospitality.....	7.1	138.5	4.6	615	9.0
Other services.....	8.1	41.3	3.4	644	4.9
Government.....	0.3	137.3	0.8	1,206	3.7

¹ Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

² Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.

³ Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

⁴ Data do not meet BLS or state agency disclosure standards.

Note: Data are preliminary. Counties selected are based on 2014 annual average employment. Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Table 3. Covered establishments, employment, and wages by state, fourth quarter 2015

State	Establishments, fourth quarter 2015 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ¹	
		December 2015 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2014-15	Fourth quarter 2015	Percent change, fourth quarter 2014-15
United States ²	9,685.3	141,924.5	1.9	\$1,082	4.4
Alabama.....	120.6	1,916.2	1.4	912	3.4
Alaska.....	22.4	315.9	-0.5	1,095	2.9
Arizona.....	155.1	2,701.8	2.6	967	4.4
Arkansas.....	89.2	1,201.4	1.7	838	3.8
California.....	1,454.6	16,593.8	3.1	1,274	5.4
Colorado.....	187.6	2,537.5	2.5	1,103	3.3
Connecticut.....	116.4	1,685.1	0.3	1,334	4.3
Delaware.....	30.7	441.2	1.8	1,086	3.4
District of Columbia.....	39.0	754.2	2.2	1,756	3.4
Florida.....	652.3	8,308.1	3.7	958	5.2
Georgia.....	296.0	4,249.4	2.9	1,001	4.5
Hawaii.....	40.0	653.0	2.2	957	5.4
Idaho.....	57.0	670.1	3.4	803	2.6
Illinois.....	414.9	5,931.2	1.4	1,146	5.1
Indiana.....	161.3	2,996.3	1.7	891	5.3
Iowa.....	101.0	1,539.0	0.7	920	5.7
Kansas.....	88.1	1,382.1	0.4	898	5.0
Kentucky.....	122.5	1,881.3	1.6	885	5.9
Louisiana.....	127.4	1,937.4	-1.0	940	1.8
Maine.....	52.1	596.9	0.7	873	5.7
Maryland.....	168.7	2,636.7	1.7	1,175	5.6
Massachusetts.....	241.5	3,479.1	1.6	1,385	5.4
Michigan.....	240.1	4,218.9	1.5	1,043	5.9
Minnesota.....	160.3	2,805.8	1.5	1,073	4.8
Mississippi.....	72.8	1,133.8	1.3	770	3.1
Missouri.....	195.0	2,759.6	1.8	933	4.6
Montana.....	45.8	453.2	2.5	818	3.0
Nebraska.....	70.9	971.8	1.4	880	5.1
Nevada.....	79.8	1,272.2	3.5	935	4.0
New Hampshire.....	51.6	648.6	1.7	1,139	5.4
New Jersey.....	269.9	3,988.4	1.7	1,262	4.0
New Mexico.....	57.4	808.9	-0.1	865	1.8
New York.....	640.6	9,227.6	1.7	1,372	3.9
North Carolina.....	270.1	4,247.1	2.5	939	5.5
North Dakota.....	32.2	428.1	-5.9	1,021	-2.8
Ohio.....	292.4	5,328.8	1.2	964	4.6
Oklahoma.....	109.0	1,605.0	-0.7	896	2.3
Oregon.....	146.0	1,814.8	3.3	979	5.5
Pennsylvania.....	355.2	5,759.7	0.7	1,063	4.9
Rhode Island.....	36.7	478.1	1.5	1,043	4.0
South Carolina.....	125.7	1,987.1	2.8	860	5.3
South Dakota.....	32.8	417.7	1.2	832	5.2
Tennessee.....	151.5	2,898.1	2.8	980	5.6
Texas.....	645.6	11,832.1	1.4	1,099	2.7
Utah.....	95.5	1,375.6	3.8	913	4.7
Vermont.....	24.8	312.1	0.3	919	4.1
Virginia.....	261.3	3,806.2	3.0	1,094	3.5
Washington.....	237.7	3,137.2	2.3	1,132	4.7
West Virginia.....	50.3	703.7	-1.3	829	1.3
Wisconsin.....	170.0	2,820.5	1.1	944	5.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered establishments, employment, and wages by state, fourth quarter 2015 - Continued

State	Establishments, fourth quarter 2015 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ¹	
		December 2015 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2014-15	Fourth quarter 2015	Percent change, fourth quarter 2014-15
Wyoming.....	26.0	276.0	-2.9	\$937	-1.7
Puerto Rico.....	45.4	929.9	-1.6	565	1.6
Virgin Islands.....	3.3	38.4	-0.3	787	4.7

¹ Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

² Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Note: Data are preliminary. Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Chart 3. Percent change in employment in counties with 75,000 or more employees, December 2014-15 (U.S. average = 1.9 percent)

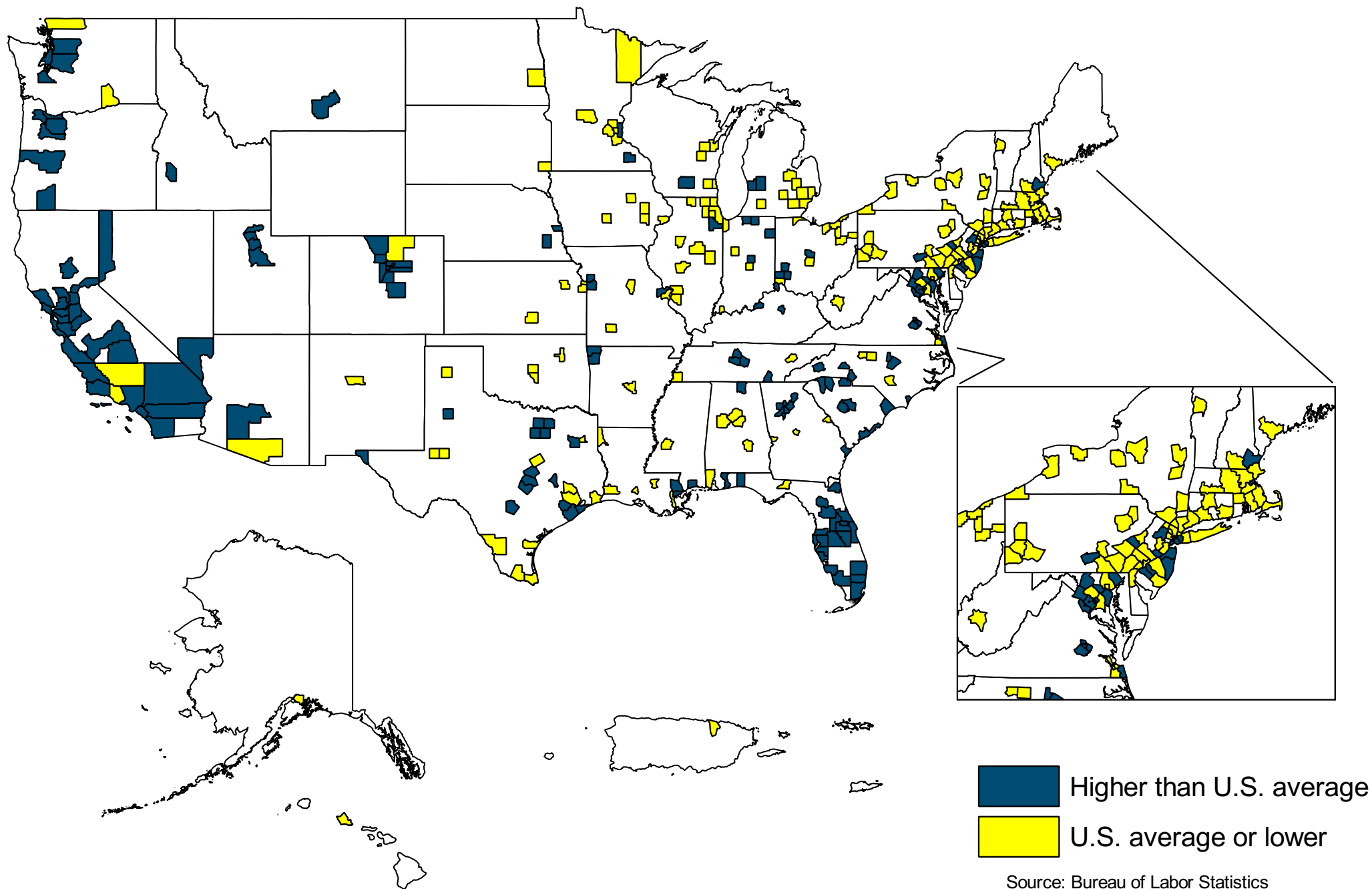


Chart 4. Percent change in average weekly wage in counties with 75,000 or more employees, fourth quarter 2014-15 (U.S. average = 4.4 percent)

