More than half of the large counties experienced average weekly wage growth equal to or greater than the U.S. average rate of -2.4 percent.

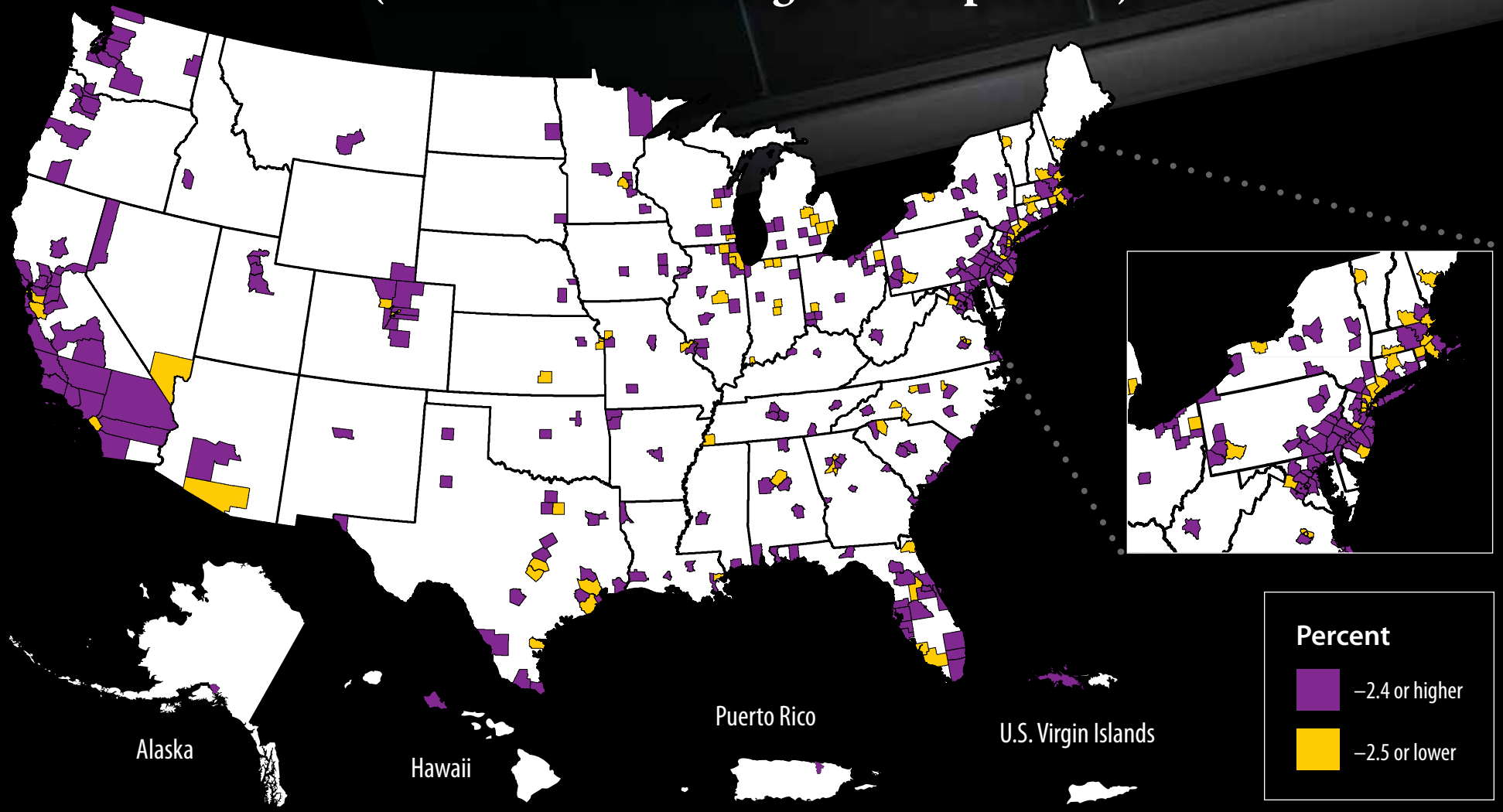
- Large counties were more likely to experience a positive—or less than -2.4 percent—change in average weekly wages.

- Counties with large declines were mostly found in the eastern half of the United States.

BLS

FIGURE 5 Percent change in average weekly wage in counties with 75,000 or more employees, first quarter 2008–2009

(United States average = –2.5 percent)



NOTE: *The following counties had fewer than 75,000 employees in 2008, but are included because they are the largest county in their State or territory: Laramie, Wyoming and St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.*