Employment increased in 48 states and the District of Columbia, with 37 states and the District posting increases of 1.0 percent or more over the year. Employment was down in two states and unchanged in one (Maine).

- The largest over-the-year increases in employment occurred in Nevada (6.2 percent) and Arizona (5.3 percent).

- Reflecting the impact of the Gulf Coast hurricanes, Louisiana posted the largest percentage decrease (-2.5 percent) in employment from 2004 to 2005. Michigan registered the only other decrease (-0.2 percent).