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COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES: THIRD QUARTER 2003

In September 2003, Manatee County, Fla., had the biggest 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. Manatee County, Fla., experienced an over-the-year employment gain of 5.7 percent, compared with a national decline of 0.4 percent. Arapahoe County, Colo., had the biggest over-the-year gain in average weekly wages in the third quarter of 2003, with an increase of 13.0 percent. The U.S. average weekly wage increased by 3.1 percent over the same time span.

Of the 315 largest counties in the United States, 175 had over-the-year percentage changes in employment above the national average in September 2003, and 129 experienced declines in employment greater than the national average. (See chart 1.) Average weekly wages grew faster than the national average in 149 of the largest U.S. counties, while the percent change in average weekly wages was below the national average in 159 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. These 8.3 million employer reports cover 128.5 million full- and part-time workers. The attached tables and charts contain data for the nation and for the 315 U.S. counties with employment levels of 75,000 or more. 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.) September 2003 employment and 2003 third-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 second quarter of 2003 are available on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/>. Preliminary data for the third quarter of 2003 and revised data for the first and second quarters of 2003 will be available later in April on the BLS Web site.

Large County Employment

The national employment total in September 2003 was 128.5 million, which was 0.4 percent lower than in September 2002. The 315 U.S. counties with 75,000 or more employees accounted for 70.3 percent of total U.S. covered employment, 76.3 percent of total wages, and 87.4 percent of the net over-the-year employment decline from September 2002. The biggest gains in employment from September 2002 to September 2003 were recorded in the counties of Clark, Nev. (33,913), Orange, Calif. (23,920), Riverside, Calif. (20,393), San Bernardino, Calif. (17,111), and Maricopa, Ariz. (17,005). (See table A.)

Table A. Top 10 counties ranked by September 2003 employment, September 2002-03 employment change, and September 2002-03 percent change in employment

Employment					
September 2003 employment (thousands)		Net change in employment, September 2002-03 (thousands)		Percent change in employment, September 2002-03	
U.S.	128,546.3	U.S.	-494.3	U.S.	-0.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	4,007.2	Clark, Nev.	33.9	Manatee, Fla.	5.7
Cook, Ill.	2,529.5	Orange, Calif.	23.9	Lee, Fla.	5.4
New York, N.Y.	2,184.9	Riverside, Calif.	20.4	Loudoun, Va.	5.4
Harris, Texas	1,823.7	San Bernardino, Calif.	17.1	Gloucester, N.J.	4.6
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,571.3	Maricopa, Ariz.	17.0	Clark, Nev.	4.4
Dallas, Texas	1,438.9	San Diego, Calif.	15.1	Okaloosa, Fla.	4.4
Orange, Calif.	1,426.5	Fairfax, Va.	10.6	Placer, Calif.	4.3
San Diego, Calif.	1,256.7	Lee, Fla.	10.0	Hidalgo, Texas	4.0
King, Wash.	1,095.4	Collin, Texas	7.6	Rutherford, Tenn.	3.9
Miami-Dade, Fla.	965.2	Hidalgo, Texas	7.3	Pasco, Fla.	3.8

Manatee County, Fla., had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment (5.7 percent), followed by the counties of Lee, Fla., and Loudoun, Va. (5.4 percent each), Gloucester, N.J. (4.6 percent), and Clark, Nev., and Okaloosa, Fla. (4.4 percent each). (See table 1.)

Employment declined in 163 counties from September 2002 to September 2003. The largest percentage decline in employment was in Sangamon County, Ill. (-4.9 percent), followed by the counties of San Mateo, Calif. (-4.8 percent), Santa Clara, Calif., and Somerset, N.J. (-4.7 percent each), and Tulsa, Okla. (-4.1 percent). The largest absolute declines in employment occurred in Santa Clara County, Calif. (-48,520), followed by the counties of Dallas, Texas (-45,675), Los Angeles, Calif. (-45,503), Cook, Ill. (-38,500), and New York, N.Y. (-36,415).

Large County Average Weekly Wages

The national average weekly wage in the third quarter of 2003 was \$704, which was 3.1 percent higher than in the third quarter of 2002. Average weekly wages were higher than the national average in 120 of the largest 315 U.S. counties. Santa Clara County, Calif., held the top position among the highest-paid large counties with an average weekly wage of \$1,269. New York County, N.Y., was second with an average weekly wage of \$1,239, followed by Somerset, N.J. (\$1,152), San Mateo, Calif. (\$1,127), and Washington, D.C. (\$1,123). (See table B.)

Arapahoe County, Colo., led the nation in growth in average weekly wages with an increase of 13.0 percent. Somerset County, N.J., was second with 11.6 percent growth, followed by the counties of Kalamazoo, Mich. (11.5 percent), Olmsted, Minn. (10.6 percent), and Ventura, Calif. (9.2 percent).

There were 194 counties with an average weekly wage below the national average. The lowest average weekly wages were reported in Cameron County, Texas (\$448), followed by the counties of Hidalgo, Texas (\$455), Horry, S.C. (\$476), Yakima, Wash. (\$478), and Pasco, Fla. (\$501). (See table 1.)

Table B. Top 10 counties ranked by third quarter 2003 average weekly wages, third quarter 2002-03 change in average weekly wages, and third quarter 2002-03 percent change in average weekly wages

Average weekly wage					
Average weekly wage, third quarter 2003		Change in average weekly wage, third quarter 2002-03		Percent change in average weekly wage, third quarter 2002-03	
U.S.	\$704	U.S.	\$21	U.S.	3.1
Santa Clara, Calif.	\$1,269	Somerset, N.J.	\$120	Arapahoe, Colo.	13.0
New York, N.Y.	1,239	Arapahoe, Colo.	108	Somerset, N.J.	11.6
Somerset, N.J.	1,152	Santa Clara, Calif.	91	Kalamazoo, Mich.	11.5
San Mateo, Calif.	1,127	San Mateo, Calif.	79	Olmsted, Minn.	10.6
Washington, D.C.	1,123	Kalamazoo, Mich.	76	Ventura, Calif.	9.2
Arlington, Va.	1,109	Olmsted, Minn.	76	Rock Island, Ill.	7.7
Suffolk, Mass.	1,081	Ventura, Calif.	65	Santa Clara, Calif.	7.7
Fairfield, Conn.	1,066	Hudson, N.J.	60	San Mateo, Calif.	7.5
San Francisco, Calif.	1,065	Washington, D.C.	60	Okaloosa, Fla.	7.3
Fairfax, Va.	1,038	Fairfax, Va.	57	Hudson, N.J.	6.9

Three counties experienced declines in average weekly wages. Hamilton County, Ind., had the largest decrease, -3.3 percent, followed by the counties of Broome, N.Y. (-1.2 percent), and Vanderburgh, Ind. (-0.5 percent). Additionally, the average weekly wage in Brazoria County, Texas, was unchanged, while the average weekly wage in Onondaga County, N.Y., grew by 0.1 percent.

Ten Largest U.S. Counties

Of the 10 largest U.S. counties (based on 2002 employment levels), 4 reported increases in employment, while declines occurred in 6 from September 2002 to September 2003. Maricopa County, Ariz., and Orange County, Calif., experienced the fastest growth in employment among the largest counties with a 1.1 percent increase each. Orange County showed employment gains in every private industry supersector except in manufacturing, information, and natural resources and mining. Maricopa County had a similar experience except that it also reported a decline in the other services supersector. Government employment in Maricopa County increased by 0.3 percent, whereas government employment in Orange County declined by 5.3 percent. (See table 2.) San Diego County, Calif., had the next largest increase, 0.9 percent. The largest decline in employment for the 10 largest counties was in Dallas County, Texas, -2.4 percent. The next largest declines in employment were recorded in New York County, N.Y., and Harris County, Texas, -1.6 percent each.

Nine of the 10 largest U.S. counties saw over-the-year increases in average weekly wages. King County, Wash., had the fastest growth in wages among the top 10 counties, growing at a 5.4 percent rate. King County's fastest growing supersectors were natural resources and mining, where the average weekly wage rose by 25.2 percent, and information with a 16.8 percent increase. Orange County, Calif., was second in wage growth, increasing by 5.3 percent, followed by San Diego County, Calif., where the average wage increased by 4.2 percent. Two Texas counties, Dallas and Harris, experienced the smallest increases in average weekly wages among the largest 10 counties, rising by only 2.4 percent each. This was followed by Cook County, Ill., with an increase in its average weekly wage of 2.7 percent.

Largest County by State

Table 3 shows the September 2003 employment and the 2003 third-quarter average weekly wage in the largest county in each state. This table includes two counties that have employment below 75,000 (Yellowstone, Mont., and Laramie, Wyo.). The employment levels in these counties in September 2003 ranged from approximately 4 million in Los Angeles County, Calif., to 39,400 in Laramie County, Wyo. The highest average weekly wage of these counties was in New York, N.Y. (\$1,239), while the lowest average weekly wage was in Yellowstone, Mont. (\$551).

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 Employment Security Agencies (SESAs). 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 2003 are preliminary and subject to revision.

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

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 8.3 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 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 sample estimates to first quarter and annually realigns (benchmarks) 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/

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 SESAs 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 wages 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 2002, UI and UCFE programs covered workers in 128.2 million jobs. The estimated 123.4 million workers in these jobs (after adjustment for multiple jobholders) represented 99.1 percent of civilian wage and salary employment. Covered workers received \$4.713 trillion in pay, representing 94.3 percent of the wage and salary component of personal income and 45.1 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.

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 from unrounded employment and wage values so the average wage values that can be calculated from data from this database may differ from the averages reported, due to rounding. 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 the final 2002 quarterly data as the base data. Final data for 2002 may differ from preliminary data published earlier.

In order to insure the highest possible quality of data, SESAs 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 the verification 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. For these reasons, some data, especially at more detailed industry levels, may not be strictly comparable with earlier years. The 2002 third quarter data used to calculate the over-the-year changes presented in this release were adjusted for changes in county classification to make them comparable with data for the third quarter of 2003. As a result, the adjusted 2002 third quarter data differ to some extent from the data available on the BLS Web site.

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.

Change in industry classification systems

Beginning with the release of data for 2001 in 2002, publications presenting data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages program use the 2002 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as the basis for the assignment and tabulation of economic data by industry. NAICS is the product of a cooperative effort on the part of the statistical agencies of the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The NAICS structure is significantly different from that of the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system, which had been used for industry classification purposes until 2002. Due to the differences in NAICS and SIC structures, industry data for 2001 are not comparable with the SIC-based data for earlier years.

NAICS uses a production-oriented approach to categorize economic units. Units with similar production processes are classified in the same industry. NAICS focuses on how products and services are created, as opposed to the SIC focus

on what is produced. This approach yields significantly different industry groupings than those produced by the SIC approach.

Data users will be able to work with new NAICS industrial groupings that better reflect the workings of the U.S. economy. For example, a new industry sector called information brings together units which turn information into a commodity with units which distribute that commodity. Information's major components are publishing, broadcasting, telecommunications, information services, and data processing. Under the SIC system, these units were spread across the manufacturing, communications, business services, and amusement services groups. Another new sector of interest is professional and technical services. This sector is comprised of establishments engaged in activities where human capital is the major input.

Users interested in more information about NAICS can access the Bureau of Labor Statistics Web page (<http://www.bls.gov/bls/naics.htm>) and the U.S. Census Bureau Web page (<http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/naics.html>). The NAICS 2002 manual is available from the

National Technical Information Service (NTIS) Web page (<http://www.ntis.gov/>).

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 bulletin is now available in a portable document format (PDF) on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn02.htm>.

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 316 largest counties, third quarter 2003²

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
United States ⁶	8,291.0	128,546.3	-0.4	-	\$704	3.1	-
Jefferson, AL	18.2	368.9	-0.4	176	712	2.3	220
Madison, AL	7.6	160.8	3.6	13	753	3.4	125
Mobile, AL	9.5	161.8	-0.4	176	585	2.3	220
Montgomery, AL	6.4	129.6	0.2	136	606	3.6	109
Tuscaloosa, AL	4.0	76.0	-0.4	176	599	2.2	228
Anchorage Borough, AK	7.6	143.4	1.9	48	775	3.2	145
Maricopa, AZ	80.4	1,571.3	1.1	77	699	3.4	125
Pima, AZ	17.5	329.0	0.8	100	615	3.9	84
Benton, AR	4.0	82.5	2.1	40	651	3.3	140
Pulaski, AR	13.1	240.5	1.0	82	635	3.1	151
Washington, AR	4.8	85.3	0.9	91	562	4.3	62
Alameda, CA	47.9	679.0	-2.7	302	934	4.5	57
Contra Costa, CA	27.5	334.8	-1.7	267	874	3.6	109
Fresno, CA	28.7	349.4	-2.2	283	570	4.0	79
Kern, CA	15.6	257.6	0.5	116	602	4.7	47
Los Angeles, CA	349.2	4,007.2	-0.6	190	792	3.7	100
Marin, CA	11.8	110.3	-0.8	210	870	3.6	109
Monterey, CA	11.7	176.0	-0.7	198	616	2.3	220
Orange, CA	88.1	1,426.5	1.1	77	812	5.3	23
Placer, CA	9.1	125.6	4.3	7	708	2.9	170
Riverside, CA	36.2	534.4	2.9	21	602	3.6	109
Sacramento, CA	45.5	599.6	0.3	131	799	3.8	90
San Bernardino, CA	39.9	573.0	2.6	27	627	3.3	140
San Diego, CA	84.4	1,256.7	0.9	91	761	4.2	66
San Francisco, CA	43.5	534.6	-1.6	257	1,065	0.5	309
San Joaquin, CA	15.3	218.6	0.9	91	628	3.8	90
San Luis Obispo, CA	8.6	100.6	0.6	110	585	3.2	145
San Mateo, CA	22.9	325.4	-4.8	314	1,127	7.5	8
Santa Barbara, CA	13.0	178.6	-0.3	170	679	5.8	15
Santa Clara, CA	51.4	848.7	-4.7	312	1,269	7.7	6
Santa Cruz, CA	8.3	101.1	-0.8	210	682	5.2	25
Solano, CA	9.2	127.3	-0.6	190	675	5.3	23
Sonoma, CA	17.0	189.3	-3.8	308	713	2.7	186
Stanislaus, CA	12.9	174.1	-1.1	235	610	4.5	57
Tulare, CA	8.8	140.2	0.2	136	505	5.0	31
Ventura, CA	20.3	299.5	0.5	116	769	9.2	5
Yolo, CA	5.0	97.8	(7)	-	696	3.3	140
Adams, CO	8.6	141.2	-3.0	305	686	1.5	272
Arapahoe, CO	18.9	270.5	-1.9	274	941	13.0	1
Boulder, CO	11.8	151.2	-2.5	290	863	4.6	53
Denver, CO	24.3	424.6	-3.1	306	863	4.1	72
El Paso, CO	15.6	234.5	-0.6	190	678	2.9	170
Jefferson, CO	18.0	203.2	-1.8	270	741	3.6	109
Larimer, CO	9.1	121.9	-1.3	244	668	3.2	145
Fairfield, CT	31.8	411.5	-0.3	170	1,066	4.3	62
Hartford, CT	24.2	479.5	-1.5	252	857	2.0	242
New Haven, CT	21.9	354.3	-2.4	288	782	3.7	100
New London, CT	6.6	129.7	1.0	82	730	1.5	272
New Castle, DE	17.8	278.7	0.7	106	839	4.1	72
Washington, DC	29.7	650.1	-0.4	176	1,123	5.6	19

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, third quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Alachua, FL	5.7	122.4	2.2	36	\$537	4.1	72
Brevard, FL	12.1	187.1	2.5	29	669	4.2	66
Broward, FL	56.1	679.8	0.9	91	669	5.2	25
Collier, FL	10.1	111.9	2.8	23	621	4.9	38
Duval, FL	21.6	426.5	1.2	73	691	5.7	18
Escambia, FL	7.1	121.8	3.0	17	566	3.7	100
Hillsborough, FL	30.3	594.4	1.3	71	670	5.0	31
Lee, FL	14.4	183.7	5.4	2	598	4.7	47
Leon, FL	7.1	141.4	1.5	62	607	3.4	125
Manatee, FL	6.6	113.3	5.7	1	545	2.3	220
Marion, FL	6.1	86.3	3.7	11	522	3.4	125
Miami-Dade, FL	79.9	965.2	0.1	151	682	(7)	-
Okaloosa, FL	4.9	81.0	4.4	5	556	7.3	9
Orange, FL	28.7	602.4	1.3	71	647	3.0	156
Palm Beach, FL	42.1	500.1	0.4	123	696	1.6	267
Pasco, FL	7.2	81.3	3.8	10	501	4.8	41
Pinellas, FL	27.8	427.2	2.7	25	618	2.7	186
Polk, FL	10.0	178.5	-0.2	164	577	4.2	66
Sarasota, FL	12.5	147.5	-0.9	216	584	6.6	11
Seminole, FL	11.6	147.2	1.0	82	625	1.6	267
Volusia, FL	11.4	150.4	2.4	32	521	3.4	125
Bibb, GA	4.8	85.8	1.1	77	595	1.0	293
Chatham, GA	7.0	125.2	2.0	43	604	2.2	228
Clayton, GA	4.4	109.2	-3.1	306	766	4.6	53
Cobb, GA	19.8	299.1	0.7	106	778	3.7	100
De Kalb, GA	17.1	294.4	-0.4	176	773	4.3	62
Fulton, GA	37.7	725.3	-0.9	216	913	1.8	257
Gwinnett, GA	21.3	294.6	1.5	62	766	3.5	121
Muscogee, GA	4.8	96.3	1.8	52	571	2.3	220
Richmond, GA	4.8	105.2	2.2	36	602	4.5	57
Honolulu, HI	24.3	414.3	0.8	100	673	3.4	125
Ada, ID	12.9	183.7	0.5	116	646	1.9	252
Champaign, IL	4.0	90.2	-1.0	226	624	1.1	290
Cook, IL	126.0	2,529.5	-1.2	240	835	2.7	186
Du Page, IL	32.2	564.6	-0.9	216	836	2.6	197
Kane, IL	10.7	198.9	0.9	91	664	2.0	242
Lake, IL	18.6	324.0	0.4	123	839	1.8	257
McHenry, IL	7.2	93.8	0.1	151	648	3.5	121
McLean, IL	3.3	85.4	-1.0	226	691	2.7	186
Madison, IL	5.6	95.4	-1.0	226	583	2.5	201
Peoria, IL	4.5	96.6	-2.5	290	659	2.5	201
Rock Island, IL	3.4	78.5	-2.0	277	701	7.7	6
St. Clair, IL	5.0	93.0	1.9	48	576	2.1	238
Sangamon, IL	5.1	135.6	-4.9	315	729	1.5	272
Will, IL	10.3	156.2	2.5	29	679	3.0	156
Winnebago, IL	6.6	137.2	-0.9	216	625	2.5	201
Allen, IN	8.6	178.2	-2.1	278	642	2.6	197
Elkhart, IN	4.8	118.0	1.0	82	623	1.5	272
Hamilton, IN	5.9	86.0	3.2	15	722	-3.3	314
Lake, IN	9.8	193.6	0.2	136	642	3.9	84

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, third quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Marion, IN	23.6	572.0	-0.7	198	\$738	2.8	176
St. Joseph, IN	6.0	123.0	-1.0	226	613	2.0	242
Vanderburgh, IN	4.8	109.0	0.3	131	595	-0.5	312
Linn, IA	5.9	115.1	-1.2	240	684	4.1	72
Polk, IA	13.7	261.5	0.2	136	709	3.5	121
Scott, IA	5.0	84.5	-0.2	164	588	2.4	211
Johnson, KS	18.7	290.6	0.0	153	736	3.4	125
Sedgwick, KS	11.7	238.5	-1.6	257	648	0.6	307
Shawnee, KS	4.8	96.7	-1.7	267	600	2.0	242
Wyandotte, KS	3.2	75.5	-3.9	310	715	3.0	156
Fayette, KY	8.7	165.3	-0.4	176	657	2.5	201
Jefferson, KY	21.3	416.9	-0.9	216	685	3.6	109
Caddo, LA	7.2	119.7	0.2	136	580	2.5	201
Calcasieu, LA	4.6	80.2	-2.5	290	578	2.5	201
East Baton Rouge, LA	13.3	244.0	1.9	48	608	2.4	211
Jefferson, LA	14.2	211.0	0.2	136	585	2.3	220
Lafayette, LA	7.5	118.8	0.2	136	628	2.8	176
Orleans, LA	13.0	248.7	0.2	136	673	5.5	21
Cumberland, ME	11.1	169.1	0.5	116	636	2.7	186
Anne Arundel, MD	13.0	207.4	0.9	91	738	3.7	100
Baltimore, MD	19.8	357.0	-0.2	164	739	5.9	13
Frederick, MD	5.2	87.1	3.0	17	668	3.7	100
Howard, MD	7.5	136.5	2.4	32	802	1.9	252
Montgomery, MD	30.5	450.6	0.2	136	897	5.0	31
Prince Georges, MD	14.5	313.4	0.9	91	774	2.2	228
Baltimore City, MD	13.9	366.2	-0.9	216	813	3.8	90
Barnstable, MA	9.1	99.5	1.6	58	607	4.5	57
Bristol, MA	14.8	219.5	0.0	153	632	2.3	220
Essex, MA	20.3	295.8	-2.1	278	777	5.1	29
Hampden, MA	13.5	200.1	-2.5	290	663	3.4	125
Middlesex, MA	47.2	787.0	-2.7	302	996	4.1	72
Norfolk, MA	21.5	317.9	-1.6	257	872	4.7	47
Plymouth, MA	13.2	172.0	0.2	136	688	3.6	109
Suffolk, MA	22.1	560.7	-2.9	304	1,081	3.9	84
Worcester, MA	19.9	317.3	-0.6	190	738	3.5	121
Genesee, MI	8.6	153.9	-2.6	297	697	0.9	296
Ingham, MI	7.1	171.4	-1.6	257	(?)	(?)	-
Kalamazoo, MI	5.5	116.3	-1.2	240	738	11.5	3
Kent, MI	14.4	329.6	-2.6	297	689	4.1	72
Macomb, MI	18.0	322.5	-1.0	226	783	1.3	286
Oakland, MI	41.5	723.7	-2.2	283	861	1.4	278
Ottawa, MI	5.7	111.7	-2.6	297	646	3.0	156
Saginaw, MI	4.6	91.6	-1.8	270	674	2.0	242
Washtenaw, MI	8.1	192.8	-1.4	249	826	3.8	90
Wayne, MI	35.3	805.9	-1.5	252	825	2.0	242
Anoka, MN	7.4	111.9	0.8	100	700	1.9	252
Dakota, MN	9.6	165.4	1.4	65	719	3.8	90
Hennepin, MN	41.3	820.5	-1.3	244	911	5.6	19
Olmsted, MN	3.3	86.9	1.5	62	791	10.6	4
Ramsey, MN	15.1	328.1	-0.6	190	795	2.7	186

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, third quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
St. Louis, MN	5.7	93.0	-2.3	285	\$620	2.8	176
Stearns, MN	4.1	76.5	-1.3	244	575	1.2	289
Harrison, MS	4.5	90.4	2.6	27	521	2.2	228
Hinds, MS	6.6	131.4	0.0	153	626	3.8	90
Boone, MO	4.2	76.3	-0.9	216	569	2.5	201
Clay, MO	4.8	86.2	-0.6	190	666	3.7	100
Greene, MO	7.9	145.1	1.2	73	567	2.0	242
Jackson, MO	18.7	365.5	-2.6	297	724	1.7	264
St. Charles, MO	7.0	107.6	1.9	48	614	3.4	125
St. Louis, MO	33.8	620.7	-1.8	270	768	4.1	72
St. Louis City, MO	8.4	230.2	-2.6	297	782	2.8	176
Douglas, NE	14.9	310.4	-0.9	216	679	3.8	90
Lancaster, NE	7.4	149.6	0.0	153	597	1.5	272
Clark, NV	35.5	766.1	4.4	5	670	4.9	38
Washoe, NV	11.9	199.6	2.9	21	694	4.0	79
Hillsborough, NH	12.1	192.4	2.0	43	779	4.0	79
Rockingham, NH	10.5	132.5	-0.4	176	682	1.0	293
Atlantic, NJ	6.4	147.3	2.0	43	648	3.7	100
Bergen, NJ	34.0	448.6	0.4	123	884	4.0	79
Burlington, NJ	11.0	195.7	2.4	32	760	2.0	242
Camden, NJ	13.2	205.1	1.8	52	720	3.6	109
Essex, NJ	21.2	356.7	-0.7	198	908	3.8	90
Gloucester, NJ	5.9	97.3	4.6	4	643	1.1	290
Hudson, NJ	13.7	233.6	-1.4	249	931	6.9	10
Mercer, NJ	10.4	219.5	2.5	29	921	1.0	293
Middlesex, NJ	20.4	391.1	-1.0	226	911	4.2	66
Monmouth, NJ	19.6	248.4	2.0	43	756	0.9	296
Morris, NJ	17.5	279.4	0.6	110	1,007	3.8	90
Ocean, NJ	11.4	144.8	1.7	55	602	3.3	140
Passaic, NJ	12.4	174.7	-0.4	176	757	1.7	264
Somerset, NJ	9.8	164.4	-4.7	312	1,152	11.6	2
Union, NJ	14.9	240.5	2.7	25	890	2.1	238
Bernalillo, NM	16.6	312.2	0.2	136	646	2.5	201
Albany, NY	9.4	227.3	-0.5	186	754	4.0	79
Bronx, NY	15.2	212.4	-1.6	257	707	2.9	170
Broome, NY	4.4	94.6	-2.5	290	579	-1.2	313
Dutchess, NY	7.5	113.9	-0.3	170	733	5.0	31
Erie, NY	23.2	453.7	-0.2	164	631	3.4	125
Kings, NY	41.3	437.1	-0.2	164	643	3.2	145
Monroe, NY	17.6	383.0	-0.4	176	713	0.6	307
Nassau, NY	49.9	594.5	0.8	100	785	3.6	109
New York, NY	111.7	2,184.9	-1.6	257	1,239	3.2	145
Oneida, NY	5.3	107.7	-0.5	186	560	3.3	140
Onondaga, NY	12.5	246.0	-1.1	235	669	0.1	310
Orange, NY	9.0	124.9	0.3	131	606	4.7	47
Queens, NY	39.6	471.7	-1.0	226	735	2.9	170
Richmond, NY	7.8	86.6	0.0	153	666	1.4	278
Rockland, NY	9.1	110.0	-0.1	160	744	1.4	278
Suffolk, NY	46.6	591.7	0.6	110	763	3.0	156
Westchester, NY	34.7	402.1	-0.2	164	897	4.7	47

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, third quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Buncombe, NC	6.7	105.8	2.1	40	\$562	2.0	242
Catawba, NC	4.3	85.7	-3.8	308	548	1.3	286
Cumberland, NC	5.6	109.0	1.6	58	554	1.8	257
Durham, NC	6.1	162.0	-0.3	170	928	3.7	100
Forsyth, NC	8.3	175.3	-0.7	198	708	5.0	31
Guilford, NC	13.6	264.7	-0.7	198	656	2.8	176
Mecklenburg, NC	27.1	502.6	-1.3	244	824	5.0	31
New Hanover, NC	6.2	89.0	0.8	100	570	2.7	186
Wake, NC	22.8	383.7	1.4	65	712	0.8	300
Cass, ND	5.1	86.6	1.6	58	587	4.6	53
Butler, OH	6.9	129.5	0.2	136	640	2.2	228
Cuyahoga, OH	39.0	764.8	-1.1	235	739	3.4	125
Franklin, OH	29.9	687.1	-1.1	235	714	1.4	278
Hamilton, OH	25.4	547.5	0.3	131	764	0.7	305
Lake, OH	6.8	98.0	0.2	136	611	0.7	305
Lorain, OH	6.3	101.6	0.7	106	616	1.1	290
Lucas, OH	11.0	225.3	-1.9	274	662	2.0	242
Mahoning, OH	6.6	105.7	-0.7	198	553	1.8	257
Montgomery, OH	13.4	286.9	-1.6	257	681	2.4	211
Stark, OH	9.1	167.2	-2.5	290	576	1.4	278
Summit, OH	14.9	263.2	-0.7	198	680	3.8	90
Trumbull, OH	4.9	86.7	-1.9	274	643	2.6	197
Oklahoma, OK	21.5	400.4	-1.8	270	625	5.0	31
Tulsa, OK	18.0	315.6	-4.1	311	634	2.8	176
Clackamas, OR	11.0	132.9	-0.9	216	671	4.2	66
Lane, OR	10.2	137.7	-2.1	278	579	3.0	156
Marion, OR	8.3	133.1	0.4	123	572	3.6	109
Multnomah, OR	25.4	418.9	-2.3	285	733	2.4	211
Washington, OR	14.0	220.2	-1.0	226	830	4.8	41
Allegheny, PA	36.0	692.1	-1.6	257	746	2.9	170
Berks, PA	8.8	161.3	-1.4	249	646	2.4	211
Bucks, PA	19.6	249.8	0.6	110	679	2.1	238
Chester, PA	14.2	217.6	2.0	43	856	3.1	151
Cumberland, PA	5.5	124.1	-0.6	190	685	3.9	84
Dauphin, PA	6.9	174.5	-0.7	198	700	2.2	228
Delaware, PA	13.9	206.8	-2.1	278	769	5.9	13
Erie, PA	7.1	125.7	-1.7	267	570	1.8	257
Lackawanna, PA	5.6	97.6	1.4	65	562	1.6	267
Lancaster, PA	11.5	221.6	0.3	131	628	3.1	151
Lehigh, PA	8.1	170.5	0.6	110	706	3.1	151
Luzerne, PA	7.8	141.2	0.4	123	576	0.9	296
Montgomery, PA	27.3	475.5	-0.7	198	863	5.2	25
Northampton, PA	5.9	91.9	0.9	91	631	2.3	220
Philadelphia, PA	27.5	649.2	-1.0	226	825	4.3	62
Westmoreland, PA	9.3	132.3	-1.5	252	576	2.7	186
York, PA	8.4	164.1	-0.5	186	641	3.4	125
Kent, RI	5.4	80.5	2.8	23	656	5.8	15
Providence, RI	17.3	289.2	0.4	123	695	3.0	156
Charleston, SC	13.1	186.9	1.4	65	600	3.4	125
Greenville, SC	13.4	221.0	-0.1	160	641	1.4	278

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, third quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Horry, SC	8.7	104.0	3.0	17	\$476	1.9	252
Lexington, SC	6.1	83.0	0.9	91	551	3.0	156
Richland, SC	10.5	205.1	0.0	153	617	3.2	145
Spartanburg, SC	7.0	116.7	1.0	82	625	1.3	286
Minnehaha, SD	5.9	108.1	0.5	116	591	2.8	176
Davidson, TN	17.9	428.6	1.4	65	707	3.4	125
Hamilton, TN	8.3	187.9	0.5	116	624	5.1	29
Knox, TN	10.2	210.4	1.1	77	616	4.8	41
Rutherford, TN	3.5	84.1	3.9	9	639	6.0	12
Shelby, TN	19.9	494.8	1.0	82	737	4.8	41
Bell, TX	4.1	88.6	-0.8	210	549	2.8	176
Bexar, TX	29.1	655.1	-0.7	198	619	4.9	38
Brazoria, TX	4.0	75.9	-0.6	190	680	0.0	311
Brazos, TX	3.4	77.6	0.5	116	521	4.2	66
Cameron, TX	6.0	114.3	-0.9	216	448	3.0	156
Collin, TX	11.6	194.6	2.2	36	784	2.2	228
Dallas, TX	67.4	1,438.9	-2.4	288	861	2.4	211
Denton, TX	7.9	127.8	1.2	73	615	2.5	201
El Paso, TX	12.4	253.4	-1.2	240	510	0.8	300
Fort Bend, TX	6.0	97.0	-0.3	170	713	0.8	300
Galveston, TX	4.7	88.7	1.0	82	619	4.4	61
Harris, TX	88.3	1,823.7	-1.6	257	824	2.4	211
Hidalgo, TX	9.0	177.8	4.0	8	455	1.8	257
Jefferson, TX	5.8	118.0	1.1	77	649	4.7	47
Lubbock, TX	6.4	114.9	-0.8	210	552	2.6	197
McLennan, TX	4.6	97.3	-0.8	210	572	4.8	41
Montgomery, TX	6.0	85.9	3.7	11	636	1.8	257
Nueces, TX	8.0	142.4	-0.7	198	582	3.0	156
Smith, TX	4.8	84.7	0.2	136	610	2.2	228
Tarrant, TX	33.2	689.9	-1.5	252	722	1.4	278
Travis, TX	24.2	507.0	-1.6	257	802	3.0	156
Williamson, TX	4.7	83.6	3.0	17	744	2.5	201
Davis, UT	5.9	90.4	0.8	100	597	3.6	109
Salt Lake, UT	33.3	514.4	-0.3	170	647	2.7	186
Utah, UT	10.2	143.7	0.7	106	550	1.5	272
Weber, UT	5.1	85.5	-0.4	176	548	2.4	211
Chittenden, VT	5.6	95.1	0.0	153	688	2.2	228
Arlington, VA	6.8	150.9	-0.1	160	1,109	2.8	176
Chesterfield, VA	6.5	110.4	1.6	58	638	0.9	296
Fairfax, VA	29.6	534.7	1.7	55	1,038	5.8	15
Henrico, VA	8.0	166.7	-0.1	160	731	1.4	278
Loudoun, VA	5.8	105.5	5.4	2	888	0.8	300
Prince William, VA	5.6	89.5	3.6	13	636	4.6	53
Alexandria City, VA	5.5	91.3	1.2	73	910	1.7	264
Chesapeake City, VA	4.6	90.8	3.2	15	553	2.2	228
Newport News City, VA	3.6	95.6	0.6	110	640	2.1	238
Norfolk City, VA	5.5	145.0	-0.8	210	695	3.6	109
Richmond City, VA	7.0	157.1	-2.3	285	799	3.0	156
Virginia Beach City, VA	10.3	167.0	1.0	82	551	4.8	41
Clark, WA	11.4	117.8	2.2	36	663	3.1	151

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 316 largest counties, third quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
King, WA	88.3	1,095.4	-0.7	198	\$962	5.4	22
Kitsap, WA	6.7	77.7	1.4	65	683	1.6	267
Pierce, WA	21.8	248.4	2.1	40	638	2.9	170
Snohomish, WA	17.5	206.3	-0.5	186	744	3.0	156
Spokane, WA	16.0	191.8	0.4	123	589	2.4	211
Thurston, WA	6.9	88.6	2.3	35	664	2.8	176
Yakima, WA	9.7	104.0	0.2	136	478	3.0	156
Kanawha, WV	6.1	108.4	-1.3	244	600	1.9	252
Brown, WI	6.7	145.4	1.7	55	635	1.6	267
Dane, WI	13.5	285.1	1.0	82	686	3.9	84
Milwaukee, WI	22.5	498.3	-1.1	235	712	3.9	84
Outagamie, WI	4.9	98.0	1.8	52	618	0.8	300
Racine, WI	4.3	75.0	-2.1	278	669	3.4	125
Waukesha, WI	13.2	224.9	0.4	123	722	2.7	186
Winnebago, WI	3.9	87.8	-2.5	290	674	2.7	186
San Juan, PR	11.4	306.1	-1.5	252	466	5.2	25

¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. These 315 U.S. counties comprise 70.3 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, third quarter 2003²

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03 ³
United States ⁵	8,291.0	128,546.3	-0.4	\$704	3.1
Private industry	8,025.1	107,849.8	-0.5	696	3.1
Natural resources and mining	124.5	1,764.8	-0.9	607	2.4
Construction	808.3	6,925.2	0.2	744	1.5
Manufacturing	379.4	14,401.2	-5.1	854	3.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,860.9	25,023.5	-0.7	623	2.5
Information	146.3	3,137.8	-4.7	1,100	6.0
Financial activities	762.7	7,865.6	1.9	999	6.7
Professional and business services	1,325.5	16,008.4	-0.4	823	3.0
Education and health services	729.3	15,777.6	2.3	674	3.2
Leisure and hospitality	668.9	12,436.1	1.2	305	2.3
Other services	1,070.2	4,264.2	-0.2	462	2.2
Government	265.9	20,696.5	0.1	750	3.3
Los Angeles, CA	349.2	4,007.2	-0.6	792	3.7
Private industry	345.3	3,445.6	-0.5	773	3.3
Natural resources and mining	0.6	12.2	1.2	809	10.1
Construction	12.9	135.2	-0.1	795	1.4
Manufacturing	17.9	489.9	-7.8	810	4.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	53.9	769.8	-0.7	682	2.7
Information	9.2	190.6	-5.3	1,337	3.1
Financial activities	22.9	235.7	1.0	1,190	7.0
Professional and business services	39.9	568.7	1.0	873	3.3
Education and health services	26.4	449.5	2.0	729	2.8
Leisure and hospitality	25.2	373.2	3.9	463	5.9
Other services	136.3	220.1	4.7	394	2.6
Government	3.9	561.6	-1.2	915	6.1
Cook, IL	126.0	2,529.5	-1.2	835	2.7
Private industry	124.9	2,209.1	-1.4	826	2.1
Natural resources and mining	0.1	1.5	0.7	916	3.4
Construction	10.4	102.8	1.3	1,032	-0.2
Manufacturing	7.9	266.1	-5.9	850	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26.7	479.7	-1.3	695	0.0
Information	2.5	65.3	-5.9	1,175	5.6
Financial activities	13.7	220.1	0.3	1,252	5.1
Professional and business services	25.9	404.2	-3.1	1,010	1.9
Education and health services	12.2	347.3	1.1	736	4.4
Leisure and hospitality	10.5	222.5	2.7	362	1.7
Other services	12.6	95.2	-2.1	615	1.3
Government	1.2	320.4	-0.2	(⁶)	(⁶)
New York, NY	111.7	2,184.9	-1.6	1,239	3.2
Private industry	111.5	1,747.2	-1.3	1,305	2.8
Natural resources and mining	0.0	0.1	15.0	971	-11.4
Construction	2.2	31.5	-2.1	1,300	4.6
Manufacturing	3.5	47.1	-8.9	956	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	22.3	234.2	0.0	960	2.6
Information	4.4	128.8	-5.5	1,588	5.5
Financial activities	16.8	348.8	-2.7	2,099	2.7
Professional and business services	22.7	426.3	-1.5	1,438	1.8
Education and health services	7.8	263.8	1.3	897	7.7
Leisure and hospitality	10.0	177.5	1.0	624	4.9
Other services	15.9	80.2	0.2	751	4.0
Government	0.2	437.7	-2.7	975	4.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, third quarter 2003² — Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03 ³
Harris, TX	88.3	1,823.7	-1.6	\$824	2.4
Private industry	87.9	1,584.2	-1.9	828	1.8
Natural resources and mining	1.2	61.2	(⁶)	1,811	(⁶)
Construction	6.4	140.6	-3.5	791	0.5
Manufacturing	4.7	165.2	-6.0	1,011	3.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	20.9	389.5	-3.1	761	0.8
Information	1.4	34.0	-4.3	1,022	2.1
Financial activities	9.3	112.1	1.5	1,038	6.7
Professional and business services	16.9	277.3	-3.4	913	2.4
Education and health services	8.7	187.1	1.1	758	2.3
Leisure and hospitality	6.5	156.6	0.6	318	-1.2
Other services	10.4	56.8	-3.7	503	1.0
Government	0.4	239.5	0.9	794	6.1
Maricopa, AZ	80.4	1,571.3	1.1	699	3.4
Private industry	79.9	1,357.4	1.3	696	3.1
Natural resources and mining	0.5	7.6	-3.3	499	0.6
Construction	8.4	131.1	3.4	692	1.6
Manufacturing	3.3	125.2	-6.5	999	4.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	18.6	316.0	0.0	683	2.7
Information	1.6	36.3	-3.1	826	-0.6
Financial activities	9.3	132.3	3.8	878	7.9
Professional and business services	17.9	254.6	2.1	677	3.2
Education and health services	7.5	157.6	6.6	742	4.2
Leisure and hospitality	5.6	149.4	1.4	341	3.0
Other services	5.7	44.2	-2.7	480	1.7
Government	0.5	213.9	0.3	716	4.5
Dallas, TX	67.4	1,438.9	-2.4	861	2.4
Private industry	66.9	1,281.6	-2.8	868	2.7
Natural resources and mining	0.5	6.5	(⁶)	2,365	(⁶)
Construction	4.5	76.1	-1.8	776	2.2
Manufacturing	3.5	145.2	-6.0	964	2.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	15.5	316.8	-4.1	851	4.2
Information	1.8	63.8	-6.8	1,185	0.9
Financial activities	8.4	139.6	0.8	1,099	6.5
Professional and business services	13.8	232.6	-4.3	937	1.4
Education and health services	6.1	131.2	3.2	817	2.8
Leisure and hospitality	5.0	126.7	-0.9	399	3.6
Other services	6.7	40.6	-3.3	553	-2.6
Government	0.4	157.3	1.5	(⁶)	(⁶)
Orange, CA	88.1	1,426.5	1.1	812	5.3
Private industry	86.7	1,289.3	1.9	807	5.2
Natural resources and mining	0.3	6.0	-20.1	563	15.8
Construction	6.4	85.0	2.7	872	4.6
Manufacturing	6.1	180.0	-4.9	940	8.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	17.4	266.4	1.1	755	3.3
Information	1.5	34.1	-3.6	1,089	2.6
Financial activities	9.6	127.0	12.3	1,354	11.4
Professional and business services	17.4	258.7	2.7	821	0.4
Education and health services	9.1	125.9	7.6	736	1.1
Leisure and hospitality	6.6	160.7	0.4	356	5.3
Other services	12.3	45.4	2.2	491	1.9
Government	1.4	137.2	-5.3	859	7.5

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, third quarter 2003² — Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03 ³
San Diego, CA	84.4	1,256.7	0.9	\$761	4.2
Private industry	83.0	1,045.4	1.6	739	4.2
Natural resources and mining	0.9	11.8	-2.7	462	1.1
Construction	6.4	82.1	5.5	778	1.6
Manufacturing	3.6	105.3	-5.9	986	5.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.2	208.2	1.5	639	2.9
Information	1.4	36.8	1.0	1,500	29.5
Financial activities	8.8	81.5	6.7	993	6.4
Professional and business services	14.8	203.0	0.4	864	1.5
Education and health services	7.5	121.1	2.8	687	3.5
Leisure and hospitality	6.5	143.0	2.9	348	3.9
Other services	18.9	52.3	5.4	431	0.2
Government	1.4	211.3	-2.4	870	4.1
King, WA	88.3	1,095.4	-0.7	962	5.4
Private industry	87.7	943.7	-0.8	977	5.5
Natural resources and mining	0.5	3.5	-5.4	1,047	25.2
Construction	7.1	56.9	-1.9	864	-0.3
Manufacturing	2.8	103.7	-8.3	1,115	-4.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	16.1	217.1	-0.9	780	4.3
Information	1.7	68.6	0.0	2,979	16.8
Financial activities	6.4	77.8	3.7	1,097	10.4
Professional and business services	13.0	158.5	-0.4	996	5.7
Education and health services	6.1	107.3	1.8	704	4.0
Leisure and hospitality	5.8	102.1	1.7	396	2.1
Other services	28.2	48.3	-0.6	450	1.1
Government	0.6	151.8	-0.3	869	4.4
Miami-Dade, FL	79.9	965.2	0.1	682	(⁶)
Private industry	79.6	814.6	0.1	670	3.6
Natural resources and mining	0.5	7.8	2.2	430	2.6
Construction	4.9	41.5	5.4	694	2.4
Manufacturing	2.9	51.2	-6.3	613	2.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	23.5	240.1	-2.0	637	2.9
Information	1.7	27.6	-7.5	923	1.7
Financial activities	8.2	65.2	1.4	972	8.6
Professional and business services	15.9	131.6	1.6	776	1.2
Education and health services	7.9	122.9	2.2	716	6.2
Leisure and hospitality	5.3	89.6	2.7	387	5.4
Other services	7.5	34.2	-2.0	428	2.4
Government	0.3	150.7	0.4	748	(⁶)

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.

⁶ Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.

Table 3. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, third quarter 2003²

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁵	
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03 ⁴	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03 ⁴
United States ⁶	8,291.0	128,546.3	-0.4	\$704	3.1
Jefferson, AL	18.2	368.9	-0.4	712	2.3
Anchorage Borough, AK	7.6	143.4	1.9	775	3.2
Maricopa, AZ	80.4	1,571.3	1.1	699	3.4
Pulaski, AR	13.1	240.5	1.0	635	3.1
Los Angeles, CA	349.2	4,007.2	-0.6	792	3.7
Denver, CO	24.3	424.6	-3.1	863	4.1
Hartford, CT	24.2	479.5	-1.5	857	2.0
New Castle, DE	17.8	278.7	0.7	839	4.1
Washington, DC	29.7	650.1	-0.4	1,123	5.6
Miami-Dade, FL	79.9	965.2	0.1	682	(7)
Fulton, GA	37.7	725.3	-0.9	913	1.8
Honolulu, HI	24.3	414.3	0.8	673	3.4
Ada, ID	12.9	183.7	0.5	646	1.9
Cook, IL	126.0	2,529.5	-1.2	835	2.7
Marion, IN	23.6	572.0	-0.7	738	2.8
Polk, IA	13.7	261.5	0.2	709	3.5
Johnson, KS	18.7	290.6	0.0	736	3.4
Jefferson, KY	21.3	416.9	-0.9	685	3.6
Orleans, LA	13.0	248.7	0.2	673	5.5
Cumberland, ME	11.1	169.1	0.5	636	2.7
Montgomery, MD	30.5	450.6	0.2	897	5.0
Middlesex, MA	47.2	787.0	-2.7	996	4.1
Wayne, MI	35.3	805.9	-1.5	825	2.0
Hennepin, MN	41.3	820.5	-1.3	911	5.6
Hinds, MS	6.6	131.4	0.0	626	3.8
St. Louis, MO	33.8	620.7	-1.8	768	4.1
Yellowstone, MT	5.7	69.7	1.3	551	3.4
Douglas, NE	14.9	310.4	-0.9	679	3.8
Clark, NV	35.5	766.1	4.4	670	4.9
Hillsborough, NH	12.1	192.4	2.0	779	4.0
Bergen, NJ	34.0	448.6	0.4	884	4.0
Bernalillo, NM	16.6	312.2	0.2	646	2.5
New York, NY	111.7	2,184.9	-1.6	1,239	3.2
Mecklenburg, NC	27.1	502.6	-1.3	824	5.0
Cass, ND	5.1	86.6	1.6	587	4.6
Cuyahoga, OH	39.0	764.8	-1.1	739	3.4
Oklahoma, OK	21.5	400.4	-1.8	625	5.0
Multnomah, OR	25.4	418.9	-2.3	733	2.4
Allegheny, PA	36.0	692.1	-1.6	746	2.9
Providence, RI	17.3	289.2	0.4	695	3.0
Greenville, SC	13.4	221.0	-0.1	641	1.4
Minnehaha, SD	5.9	108.1	0.5	591	2.8
Shelby, TN	19.9	494.8	1.0	737	4.8
Harris, TX	88.3	1,823.7	-1.6	824	2.4
Salt Lake, UT	33.3	514.4	-0.3	647	2.7
Chittenden, VT	5.6	95.1	0.0	688	2.2
Fairfax, VA	29.6	534.7	1.7	1,038	5.8
King, WA	88.3	1,095.4	-0.7	962	5.4
Kanawha, WV	6.1	108.4	-1.3	600	1.9
Milwaukee, WI	22.5	498.3	-1.1	712	3.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, third quarter 2003² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁵	
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03 ⁴	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03 ⁴
Laramie, WY	2.8	39.4	1.8	\$573	4.4
San Juan, PR	11.4	306.1	-1.5	466	5.2
St. Thomas, VI	1.7	22.6	-1.4	539	1.7

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.

⁷ Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.

Table 4. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages by state, third quarter 2003²

State	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03
United States ⁴	8,291.0	128,546.3	-0.4	\$704	3.1
Alabama	111.6	1,825.3	-0.6	607	3.1
Alaska	19.7	308.4	1.5	730	3.1
Arizona	125.9	2,269.0	1.3	659	3.5
Arkansas	75.0	1,130.5	-0.3	541	2.9
California	1,166.8	14,923.9	-0.3	797	3.9
Colorado	161.1	2,124.4	-1.6	744	4.5
Connecticut	108.9	1,627.4	-1.4	869	3.1
Delaware	26.8	406.1	-0.3	753	3.9
District of Columbia	29.7	650.1	-0.4	1,123	5.6
Florida	499.3	7,234.3	1.5	627	3.6
Georgia	245.6	3,811.1	-0.2	684	2.5
Hawaii	37.2	567.3	1.3	648	3.5
Idaho	48.2	590.4	0.5	547	2.1
Illinois	324.8	5,738.7	-1.2	751	2.6
Indiana	151.5	2,848.1	-0.7	627	2.1
Iowa	90.1	1,414.4	-0.4	580	3.4
Kansas	82.6	1,287.9	-1.5	594	2.6
Kentucky	105.6	1,727.7	0.1	594	3.1
Louisiana	117.1	1,853.4	0.1	579	2.8
Maine	47.0	603.7	0.2	577	2.9
Maryland	149.2	2,448.6	0.4	763	4.1
Massachusetts	205.2	3,163.9	-1.8	860	3.6
Michigan	251.6	4,349.2	-2.0	730	2.4
Minnesota	158.3	2,597.8	-0.7	730	4.3
Mississippi	65.5	1,102.5	-0.9	521	3.6
Missouri	165.9	2,633.8	-0.6	636	2.6
Montana	42.3	401.9	0.9	507	3.5
Nebraska	55.0	876.8	0.0	580	3.0
Nevada	58.7	1,096.9	3.7	675	4.5
New Hampshire	46.6	612.1	0.3	689	2.8
New Jersey	262.9	3,883.2	0.3	852	3.5
New Mexico	50.2	754.6	0.9	565	2.7
New York	548.9	8,224.3	-0.7	846	2.9
North Carolina	226.0	3,743.5	-0.8	629	2.6
North Dakota	23.8	320.6	1.1	527	4.8
Ohio	293.6	5,310.6	-1.1	658	1.7
Oklahoma	91.3	1,410.9	-2.3	560	3.9
Oregon	117.9	1,588.5	-0.9	653	3.2
Pennsylvania	326.5	5,495.6	-0.7	692	3.1
Rhode Island	34.6	481.9	1.2	677	3.7
South Carolina	124.7	1,773.4	-0.2	580	2.5
South Dakota	27.9	368.1	0.2	512	2.2
Tennessee	128.1	2,617.6	-0.1	631	3.8
Texas	500.5	9,222.7	-0.7	693	2.2
Utah	72.5	1,048.6	0.2	588	2.3
Vermont	24.0	297.8	0.1	598	2.7
Virginia	201.0	3,429.9	0.3	724	3.6
Washington	238.2	2,705.8	0.4	753	3.7
West Virginia	47.0	683.3	-0.8	533	2.3
Wisconsin	156.4	2,710.0	-0.3	624	3.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages by state, third quarter 2003² — Continued

State	Establishments, third quarter 2003 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		September 2003 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2002-03	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2002-03
Wyoming	22.0	249.9	1.4	\$562	3.5
Puerto Rico	43.5	971.0	-1.1	410	5.1
Virgin Islands	3.2	41.2	-1.6	563	-0.5

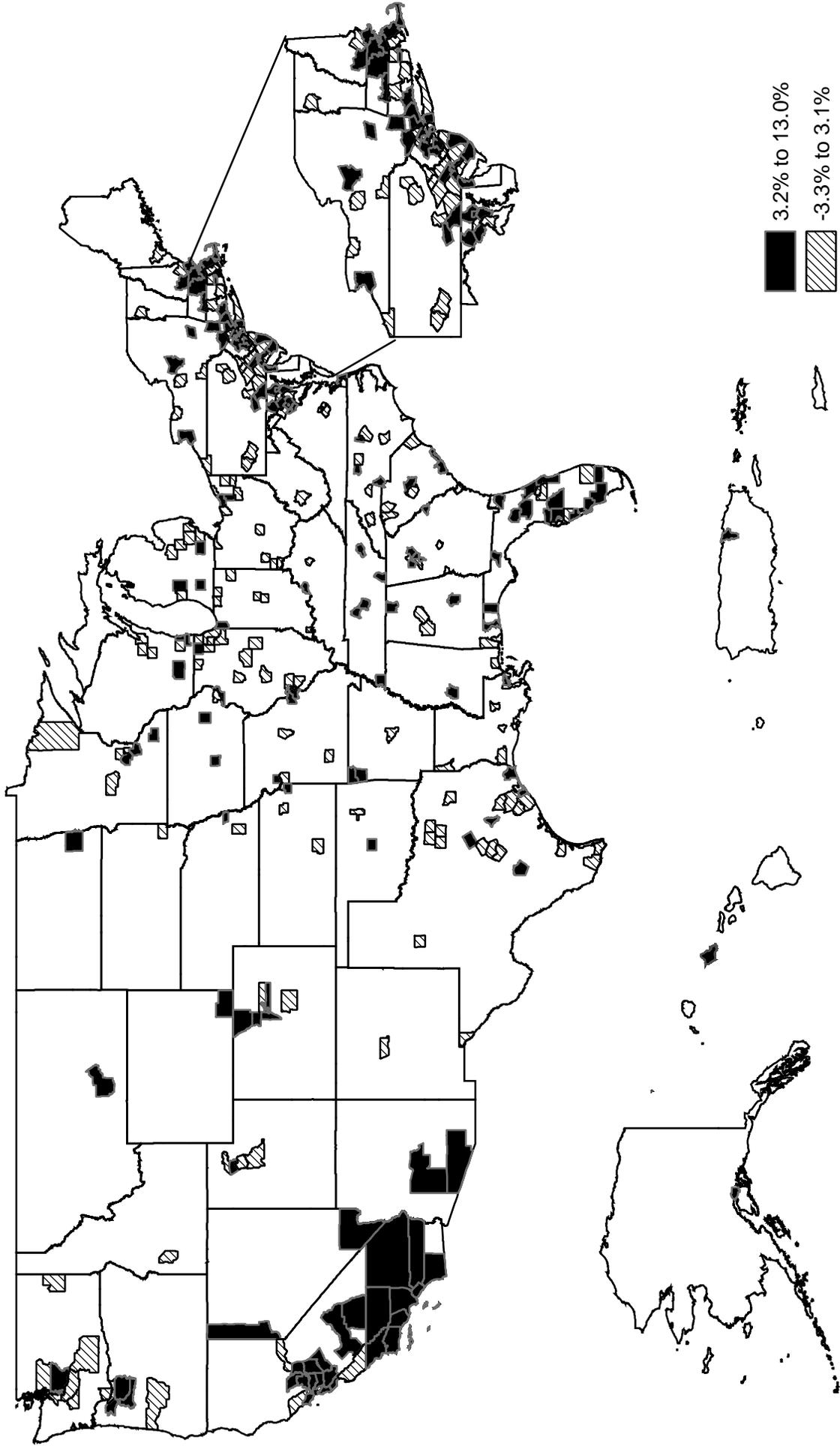
¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

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 2. Percent change in average weekly wages in counties with 75,000 employees or more, third quarter 2002-03 (U.S. Average = 3.1%)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
April 2004

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.