# News

(202) 691-5902

United States Department of Labor



### **Bureau of Labor Statistics**

### Washington, D.C. 20212

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

Media contact:

USDL 09-0841

For release: 10:00 A.M. EDT Tuesday, July 21, 2009

### COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES: FOURTH QUARTER 2008

From December 2007 to December 2008, employment declined in 285 of the 334 largest U.S. counties, according to preliminary data released today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Elkhart County, Ind., located about 100 miles east of Chicago, posted the largest percentage decline, with a loss of 17.8 percent over the year, compared with a national job decrease of 2.3 percent. Manufacturing sustained the largest employment losses in Elkhart. Montgomery County, Texas, which is about 20 miles north of Houston, experienced the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment among the largest counties in the U.S., with a gain of 2.7 percent.

St. Louis City, Mo., had the largest over-the-year gain in average weekly wages in the fourth quarter of 2008, with an increase of 56.8 percent coming predominantly from the professional and business services and manufacturing supersectors. The U.S. average weekly wage rose by 2.2 percent over the same time span.



Of the 334 largest counties in the United States (as measured by 2007 annual average employment) 151 had over-the-year percentage change in employment below the national average (-2.3 percent) in December 2008; 174 large counties experienced changes above the national average. (See chart 3.) The percent change in average weekly wages was higher than the national average (2.2 percent) in 180 of the largest U.S. counties, but was below the national average in 137 counties. (See chart 4.)

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

Employment in large counties							
December 2008 emp (thousands)	bloyment	Decrease in empl December 200 (thousands	oyment, )7-08 5)	Percent decrease in employment, December 2007-08			
United States	133,870.4	United States	-3,170.1	United States	-2.3		
Los Angeles, Calif.	4,152.9	Los Angeles, Calif.	-147.8	Elkhart, Ind.	-17.8		
Cook, Ill.	2,480.0	Maricopa, Ariz.	-107.2	Lee, Fla.	-9.2		
New York, N.Y.	2,386.4	Orange, Calif.	-73.8	Sarasota, Fla.	-8.1		
Harris, Texas	2,078.1	Cook, Ill.	-71.0	Collier, Fla.	-8.0		
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,741.0	Clark, Nev.	-60.0	Marion, Fla.	-7.9		
Dallas, Texas	1,484.4	Riverside, Calif.	-44.7	Macomb, Mich.	-7.9		
Orange, Calif.	1,451.2	Miami-Dade, Fla.	-43.8	Washoe, Nev.	-7.9		
San Diego, Calif.	1,309.1	Broward, Fla.	-43.1	Seminole, Fla.	-7.5		
King, Wash.	1,175.3	Wayne, Mich.	-42.3	Horry, S.C.	-7.1		
Miami-Dade, Fla.	1,003.9	San Diego, Calif.	-39.9	Riverside, Calif.	-7.0		
				Genesee, Mich.	-7.0		

Table A. Top 10 large counties ranked by December 2008 employment, December 2007-08 employmentdecrease, and December 2007-08 percent decrease in employment

submitted by every employer subject to unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The 9.2 million employer reports cover 133.9 million full- and part-time workers.

#### Large County Employment

In December 2008, national employment, as measured by the QCEW program, was 133.9 million, down by 2.3 percent from December 2007. The 334 U.S. counties with 75,000 or more employees accounted for 71.5 percent of total U.S. employment and 77.2 percent of total wages. These 334 counties had a net job decline of 2,467,500 over the year, accounting for 77.8 percent of the overall U.S. employment decrease.

Employment declined in 285 counties from December 2007 to December 2008. The largest percentage decline in employment was in Elkhart, Ind. (-17.8 percent). Lee, Fla., had the next largest percentage decline (-9.2 percent), followed by the counties of Sarasota, Fla. (-8.1 percent), Collier, Fla. (-8.0 percent), and Marion, Fla., Macomb, Mich., and Washoe, Nev. (-7.9 percent each). The largest decline in employment levels occurred in Los Angeles, Calif. (-147,800), followed by the counties of Maricopa, Ariz. (-107,200), Orange, Calif. (-73,800), Cook, Ill. (-71,000), and Clark, Nev. (-60,000). (See table A.) Combined employment losses in these five counties over the year totaled 459,800 or 14.5 percent of the employment decline for the U.S. as a whole.

Employment rose in 37 of the large counties from December 2007 to December 2008. More than a third of these growing counties were located in Texas (13 counties). Neighboring Louisiana had the second largest number of counties (4) that experienced employment growth. Montgomery, Texas, had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment (2.7 percent) among the largest counties in the U.S. Jefferson, Texas, had the next largest increase, 2.5 percent, followed by the counties of Lubbock, Texas (2.4 percent), Fort Bend, Texas (2.2 percent), and Orleans, La. (2.1 percent). The largest gains in the level of employment from December 2007 to December 2008 were recorded in the counties of Harris, Texas (20,000), Orleans, La. (3,500), Montgomery, Texas (3,400), Bronx, N.Y. (3,200), and Jefferson, Texas (3,100).

 Table B. Top 10 large counties ranked by fourth quarter 2008 average weekly wages, fourth quarter 2007-08 growth in average weekly wages, and fourth quarter 2007-08 percent growth in average weekly wages

Average weekly wage in large counties							
Average weekly w fourth quarter 20	age, 08	Growth in average w wage, fourth quarter 2	eekly 007-08	Percent growth in average weekly wage, fourth quarter 2007-08			
United States	\$918	United States	\$20	United States	2.2		
New York, N.Y.	\$1,856	St. Louis City, Mo.	\$546	St. Louis City, Mo.	56.8		
Fairfield, Conn.	1,596	Mercer, N.J.	89	Clayton, Ga.	9.9		
Washington, D.C.	1,570	Clayton, Ga.	77	Calcasieu, La.	9.0		
Suffolk, Mass.	1,568	Washington, D.C.	76	East Baton Rouge, La.	8.0		
Santa Clara, Calif.	1,566	Madison, Ala.	73	Jefferson, Texas	8.0		
Arlington, Va.	1,509	Jefferson, Texas	70	Madison, Ala.	7.9		
St. Louis City, Mo.	1,508	Calcasieu, La.	69	Mercer, N.J.	7.7		
Somerset, N.J.	1,498	Alexandria City, Va.	69	Lake, Ind.	7.4		
San Francisco, Calif.	1,491	East Baton Rouge, La.	65	Bristol, Mass.	7.3		
San Mateo, Calif.	1,439	Providence, R.I.	62	Providence, R.I.	7.1		
				Newport News City, Va.	7.1		

#### Large County Average Weekly Wages

The national average weekly wage in the fourth quarter of 2008 was \$918. Average weekly wages were higher than the national average in 106 of the largest 334 U.S. counties. New York, N.Y., held the top position among the highest-paid large counties with an average weekly wage of \$1,856. Fairfield, Conn., was second with an average weekly wage of \$1,566, followed by Washington, D.C. (\$1,570), Suffolk, Mass. (\$1,568), and Santa Clara, Calif. (\$1,566). (See table B.) Over the year, the national average weekly wage rose by 2.2 percent. Among the largest counties, St. Louis City, Mo., led the nation in growth in average weekly wages with an increase of 56.8 percent from the fourth quarter of 2007. Clayton, Ga., was second with growth of 9.9 percent, followed by the counties of Calcasieu, La. (9.0 percent), and East Baton Rouge, La. and Jefferson, Texas (8.0 percent each).

Average weekly wages are affected by the number of high-paying and low-paying jobs in an industry. The 2.2 percent over-the-year gain in average weekly wages for the nation is partially due to large employment declines in several industries. The largest over-the-year December percent employment declines were in construction (-10.2 percent), manufacturing (-6.2 percent), professional and business services (-4.1 percent), and trade, transportation, and utilities (-3.5 percent). (See table 2.) Trade, transportation and utilities posted the largest number of jobs lost (-957,500) followed by manufacturing (-850,400), construction (-749,900), and professional and business services (-735,400). Among these industries, average weekly wage growth was strongest in construction (4.9 percent), and professional and business services (3.7 percent). (See Technical Note.)

There were 228 counties with an average weekly wage below the national average in the fourth quarter of 2008. The lowest average weekly wage was reported in Hidalgo, Texas (\$574), followed by the counties of Horry, S.C. (\$581), Cameron, Texas (\$584), Webb, Texas (\$600), and Yakima, Wash. (\$624). (See table 1.) Forty-three large counties experienced over-the-year declines in average weekly wages. Pulaski, Ark., had the largest decrease (-14.3 percent), followed by the counties of Lake, Ill. (-9.9 percent), Santa Clara, Calif. (-7.8 percent), Douglas, Colo. (-5.9 percent), and San Mateo, Calif. (-5.4 percent).

#### Ten Largest U.S. Counties

Nine of the 10 largest counties (based on 2007 annual average employment levels) experienced over-the-year percent declines in employment in December 2008. Maricopa, Ariz., experienced the largest decline in employment among the 10 largest counties with a 5.8 percent decrease. Within Maricopa, every private industry group except education and health services experienced employment declines, with construction experiencing the largest decline, -25.3 percent. (See table 2.) Orange, Calif., had the next largest decline in employment, -4.8 percent, followed by Miami-Dade, Fla. (-4.2 percent). Harris, Texas, experienced the only percentage gain in employment (1.0 percent) among the 10 largest counties. Within Harris County, the largest gains in employment were in natural resources and mining (7.1 percent) and education and health services (3.1 percent). Dallas, Texas, had the smallest decrease in employment, -1.2 percent, followed by New York, N.Y. (-1.3 percent).

Nine of the 10 largest U.S. counties saw an over-the-year increase in average weekly wages. King, Wash., had the fastest growth in wages among the 10 largest counties, with a gain of 4.0 percent. Within King County, average weekly wages increased the most in the natural resources and mining industry (11.8 percent). Miami-Dade, Fla., and Harris, Texas, tied for second in wage growth with a gain of 2.6 percent each. The only wage decrease occurred in New York, N.Y. (-0.6 percent). Dallas, Texas, had the smallest increase in wages, 1.1 percent, followed by Orange, Calif. (1.4 percent).

#### Largest County by State

Table 3 shows December 2008 employment and the 2008 fourth quarter average weekly wage in the largest county in each state, which is based on 2007 annual average employment levels. The employment levels in the counties in table 3 in December 2008 ranged from approximately 4.15 million in Los Angeles County, Calif., to 43,800 in Laramie County, Wyo. The highest average weekly wage of these counties was in New York, N.Y. (\$1,856), while the lowest average weekly wage was in Yellowstone, Mont. (\$738).

#### For More Information

The tables and charts included in this release contain data for the nation and for the 334 counties with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2007. December 2008 employment and 2008 fourth-quarter average weekly wages for all states are provided in table 4 of this release.

For additional information about the quarterly employment and wages data, please read the Technical Note. Final data for all states, metropolitan statistical areas, counties, and the nation through the fourth quarter of 2007 are available on the BLS Web site at http://www.bls.gov/cew/. Updated data for first, second, and third quarter 2008, as well as preliminary data for fourth quarter 2008 and preliminary annual averages for 2008, will be available later online. 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 http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewregional.htm.

The County Employment and Wages release for first quarter 2009 is scheduled to be released on Friday, October 16, 2009.

### **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 2007 North American Industry Classification System. Data for 2008 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 335 counties presented in this release were derived using 2007 preliminary annual averages of employment. For 2008 data, six counties have been added to the publication tables: Shelby, Ala., Boone, Ky., St. Tammany, La., Yellowstone, Mont., Warren, Ohio, and Potter, Texas. These counties will be included in all 2008 quarterly releases. The counties in table 2 are selected and sorted each year based on the annual average employment from the preceding year.

	QCEW	BED	CES
Source	Count of UI administrative records submitted by 9.1 million establish- ments	Count of longitudinally-linked UI administrative records submitted by 7.1 million private-sector employers	• Sample survey: 400,000 establishments
Coverage	• UI and UCFE coverage, including all employers subject to state and federal UI laws	• UI coverage, excluding government, private households, and establish- ments with zero employment	<ul> <li>Nonfarm wage and salary jobs:</li> <li>UI coverage, excluding agriculture, private households, and self-employed workers</li> <li>Other employment, including railroads, religious organizations, and other non-UI-covered jobs</li> </ul>
Publication fre- quency	<ul> <li>Quarterly</li> <li>7 months after the end of each quarter</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Quarterly</li> <li>8 months after the end of each quarter</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Monthly         <ul> <li>Usually first Friday of following month</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Use of UI file	• Directly summarizes and publishes each new quarter of UI data	• Links each new UI quarter to longitu- dinal database and directly summa- rizes gross job gains and losses	• Uses UI file as a sampling frame and annually realigns (benchmarks) sample estimates to first quarter UI levels
Principal products	• Provides a quarterly and annual universe count of establishments, employment, and wages at the county, MSA, state, and national levels by detailed industry	<ul> <li>Provides quarterly employer dynamics data on establishment openings, clos- ings, expansions, and contractions at the national level by NAICS supersec- tors and by size of firm, and at the state private-sector total level</li> <li>Future expansions will include data with greater industry detail and data at the county and MSA level</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Provides current monthly estimates of employment, hours, and earnings at the MSA, state, and national level by indus- try</li> </ul>
Principal uses	<ul> <li>Major uses include:         <ul> <li>Detailed locality data</li> <li>Periodic universe counts for benchmarking sample survey es- timates</li> <li>Sample frame for BLS establish- ment surveys</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Major uses include:         <ul> <li>Business cycle analysis</li> <li>Analysis of employer dynamics underlying economic expansions and contractions</li> <li>Analysis of employment expansion and contraction by size of firm</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Major uses include:         <ul> <li>Principal national economic indicator</li> <li>Official time series for employment change measures</li> <li>Input into other major economic indi- cators</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Program Web sites	• www.bls.gov/cew/	• www.bls.gov/bdm/	• www.bls.gov/ces/

Summary of Major Differences between QCEW, BED, and CES Employment Measures

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 Worksite 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 9.0 million employer reports of employment and wages submitted by states to the BLS in 2007. 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. UI and UCFE programs covered workers in 135.4 million jobs. The estimated 130.3 million workers in these jobs (after adjustment for multiple jobholders) represented 96.2 percent of civilian wage and salary employment. Covered workers received \$6.018 trillion in pay, representing 94.6 percent of the wage and salary component of personal income and 43.6 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. Overthe-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 highpaying and low-paying occupations and the incidence of pay periods within a quarter. For instance, the average weekly wage of the work force 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.

Federal government pay levels are subject to periodic, sometimes large, fluctuations due to a calendar effect that consists of some quarters having more pay periods than others. Most federal employees are paid on a biweekly pay schedule. As a result of this schedule, in some quarters, federal wages contain payments for six pay periods, while in other quarters their wages include payments for seven pay periods. Over-the-year comparisons of average weekly wages may reflect this calendar effect. Higher growth in average weekly wages may be attributed, in part, to a comparison of quarterly wages for the current year, which include seven pay periods, with year-ago wages that reflect only six pay periods. An opposite effect will occur when wages in the current period, which contain six pay periods, are compared with year-ago wages that include seven pay periods. The effect on over-the-year pay comparisons can be pronounced in federal government due to the uniform nature of federal payroll processing. This pattern may exist in private sector pay; however, because there are more pay period types (weekly, biweekly, semimonthly, monthly) it is less pronounced. The effect is most visible in counties with large concentrations of federal employment.

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 4-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 2007 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. Beginning with the first quarter of 2008, adjusted data will also account for administrative changes caused by multi-unit employers who start reporting for each individual establishment rather than as a single entity. 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

An annual bulletin, Employment and Wages, features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2007 edition of this bulletin contains selected data produced by Business Employment Dynamics (BED) on job gains and losses, as well as selected data from the first quarter 2008 version of this news release. Tables and additional content from the 2007 Employment and Wages Annual Bulletin are now available online at http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn07.htm. These tables present final 2007 annual averages. The tables will also be included on the CD which accompanies the hardcopy version of the Annual Bulletin. Employment and Wages Annual Averages, 2007 is available for sale as a chartbook from the United States Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250, telephone (866) 512-1800, outside Washington, D.C. Within Washington, D.C., the telephone number is (202) 512-1800. The fax number is (202) 512-2104.

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 $^{\scriptscriptstyle 1}$ establishments, employment, and wages in the 335 largest counties, fourth quarter 2008 $^{\scriptscriptstyle 2}$

	Establish manta	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>		
County <sup>3</sup>	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change
United States <sup>6</sup>	9,177.5	133,870.4	-2.3	_	\$918	2.2	-
Jefferson, AL Madison, AL Mobile, AL Montgomery, AL Shelby, AL Tuscaloosa, AL Anchorage Borough, AK Maricopa, AZ Pima, AZ Benton, AR	19.0 9.0 10.2 6.7 5.0 4.5 8.2 103.6 21.3 5.6	355.3 182.5 174.5 135.4 75.5 86.0 148.2 1,741.0 366.7 94.7	-3.3 -0.4 -1.6 -3.8 -2.1 -1.8 1.5 -5.8 -3.4 -2.2	234 51 118 261 153 131 8 305 241 160	922 997 806 824 842 783 969 892 805 844	2.2 7.9 5.1 -1.2 2.1 4.9 2.1 4.5 6.3	181 6 31 27 304 188 35 188 48 15
Pulaski, AR Washington, AR Alameda, CA Butte, CA Contra Costa, CA Fresno, CA Kern, CA Los Angeles, CA Marin, CA Monterey, CA	15.2 5.8 54.4 8.1 30.4 30.9 18.5 433.9 12.1 13.0	250.3 90.9 669.9 74.4 335.8 345.9 285.6 4,152.9 108.6 152.3	-1.2 -2.4 -4.0 -3.1 -3.6 -1.6 -1.2 -3.4 -2.0 -3.4	92 177 267 222 252 118 92 241 145 241	847 747 1,161 698 1,135 737 794 1,075 1,152 801	-14.3 2.2 0.1 4.6 1.7 1.7 4.5 1.8 -2.0 3.4	324 181 277 45 209 209 48 204 310 95
Orange, CA Placer, CA Riverside, CA Saramento, CA San Bernardino, CA San Diego, CA San Francisco, CA San Joaquin, CA San Luis Obispo, CA San Mateo, CA	102.7 11.0 47.5 54.7 49.8 100.0 52.7 18.1 9.8 24.2	1,451.2 130.5 593.2 610.8 640.3 1,309.1 574.0 214.5 101.8 342.4	-4.8 -5.9 -7.0 -3.6 -5.8 -3.0 -0.9 -4.4 -2.8 -1.6	286 311 317 252 305 208 76 282 196 118	1,043 892 745 1,006 788 981 1,491 796 765 1,439	1.4 1.8 2.2 3.2 3.0 2.0 -2.4 3.2 1.7 -5.4	235 204 181 107 122 192 314 107 209 320
Santa Barbara, CA Santa Clara, CA Santa Cruz, CA Solano, CA Sonoma, CA Stanislaus, CA Tulare, CA Ventura, CA Yolo, CA Adams, CO	14.4 61.2 9.2 10.2 19.0 15.1 9.7 23.7 6.0 9.2	180.5 901.1 90.0 124.8 185.8 166.7 147.6 310.4 99.1 152.4	-2.0 -1.7 -4.2 -3.1 -4.9 -4.3 -3.0 -3.4 -2.2 -2.2	145 126 273 222 291 278 208 241 160 160	868 1,566 821 903 896 759 651 926 883 840	1.6 -7.8 -2.3 3.9 3.0 3.8 3.7 -5.1 3.2 1.3	218 322 312 71 122 77 81 318 107 237
Arapahoe, CO Boulder, CO Denver, CO Douglas, CO El Paso, CO Jefferson, CO Larimer, CO Weld, CO Fairfield, CT Hartford, CT	19.3 12.9 25.6 9.5 17.3 18.5 10.4 6.0 33.1 25.6	279.7 161.1 445.0 93.8 241.7 210.9 129.9 82.3 420.2 504.5	-2.2 -0.9 -1.5 0.5 -2.9 -0.8 -0.4 -0.9 -2.2 -1.5	160 76 109 24 204 70 51 76 160 109	1,054 1,047 1,111 933 834 926 837 765 1,596 1,111	-2.8 -1.5 -5.9 3.9 2.0 3.1 2.5 1.1 1.0	315 308 305 321 71 192 114 159 247 253

	Establish manta	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>		
County <sup>3</sup>	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change
New Haven, CT New London, CT New Castle, DE Washington, DC Alachua, FL Brevard, FL Collier, FL Duval, FL Escambia, FL	22.7 7.0 18.3 34.4 6.8 15.0 65.6 12.6 27.7 8.1	366.4 130.1 278.7 687.5 121.7 195.7 729.6 125.4 455.5 122.9	-2.2 -0.8 -3.7 0.3 -2.0 -5.8 -5.6 -8.0 -4.3 -5.8	160 70 255 29 145 305 302 324 278 305	\$978 910 1,055 1,570 740 856 874 811 874 720	3.3 -0.4 2.3 5.1 -0.1 3.9 0.8 ( <sup>7</sup> ) 0.8 2.1	101 290 169 31 282 71 259 - 259 188
Hillsborough, FL Lake, FL Leon, FL Manatee, FL Marion, FL Miami-Dade, FL Okaloosa, FL Orange, FL Palm Beach, FL	38.3 7.6 20.1 8.3 9.4 8.6 86.8 6.2 36.3 51.4	609.9 83.6 203.3 141.9 114.1 97.6 1,003.9 77.1 678.3 527.4	-6.1 -5.5 -9.2 -3.3 -4.3 -7.9 -4.2 -3.8 -4.6 -6.3	312 300 326 234 278 321 273 261 285 314	872 665 760 783 691 657 924 735 829 914	2.7 -0.9 -0.3 0.5 -0.7 3.5 2.6 2.8 1.1 1.6	143 300 286 268 297 88 151 139 247 218
Pasco, FL Pinellas, FL Polk, FL Sarasota, FL Seminole, FL Volusia, FL Bibb, GA Chatham, GA Clayton, GA Cobb, GA	10.4 32.1 12.8 15.4 14.9 14.2 4.8 7.9 4.5 21.2	100.9 410.9 199.3 144.4 168.9 158.2 84.1 133.8 111.1 312.7	-3.3 -6.2 -5.4 -8.1 -7.5 -6.4 -1.0 -3.3 -4.0 -4.2	234 313 298 325 320 315 80 234 267 273	672 808 706 783 789 665 716 799 856 959	3.1 1.9 1.7 1.4 -0.3 1.5 1.8 4.4 9.9 3.1	114 200 209 235 286 224 204 52 2 114
De Kalb, GA Fulton, GA Gwinnett, GA Muscogee, GA Richmond, GA Honolulu, HI Ada, ID Champaign, IL Cook, IL Du Page, IL	18.1 39.9 24.5 4.9 4.8 24.8 15.0 4.2 141.0 36.2	294.0 732.2 310.9 94.7 101.2 449.5 202.9 92.0 2,480.0 586.1	-3.1 -3.4 -5.3 -2.7 -1.4 -2.4 -5.0 -0.6 -2.8 -3.5	222 241 297 193 104 177 293 63 196 248	936 1,183 894 721 770 850 814 777 1,118 1,059	1.6 1.0 -0.8 1.5 5.5 3.8 -1.1 5.7 1.5 0.2	218 253 299 224 23 77 301 19 224 273
Kane, IL Lake, IL McHenry, IL McLean, IL Madison, IL Peoria, IL Rock Island, IL St. Clair, IL Sangamon, IL Will, IL	12.8 21.2 8.5 3.7 6.0 4.8 3.5 5.5 5.2 13.9	203.3 328.0 100.6 85.9 95.9 105.3 79.4 96.8 128.8 194.5	-4.9 -2.5 -3.1 -0.3 -0.6 0.0 -1.2 -1.9 -1.1 -2.0	291 183 222 47 63 38 92 139 84 145	836 1,143 784 836 770 869 1,082 755 897 824	1.7 -9.9 -0.4 2.7 5.5 3.5 2.0 4.4 3.9 3.5	209 323 290 143 23 88 192 52 71 88

	Establish manta	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>		
County <sup>3</sup>	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Winnebago, IL Allen, IN Elkhart, IN Hamilton, IN Lake, IN Marion, IN St. Joseph, IN Tippecanoe, IN Vanderburgh, IN Linn, IA	7.0 9.1 5.0 7.8 10.4 24.3 6.1 3.4 4.8 6.3	134.3 180.0 101.3 111.3 193.2 571.8 121.0 76.8 107.8 127.2	-3.0 -3.0 -17.8 -1.1 -2.6 -2.8 -4.2 -0.6 -0.4 1.0	208 208 327 84 189 196 273 63 51 14	\$775 748 686 852 826 913 761 773 767 896	3.1 -1.1 -3.9 -1.3 7.4 2.8 3.5 5.3 5.5 2.3	114 301 316 305 8 139 88 29 23 169
Polk, IA Scott, IA Johnson, KS Sedgwick, KS Shawnee, KS Wyandotte, KS Boone, KY Fayette, KY Jefferson, KY Caddo, LA	14.9 5.2 20.7 12.3 4.9 3.2 3.4 9.0 22.0 7.5	273.7 88.8 316.0 261.6 96.4 80.9 74.5 178.1 423.8 125.3	-1.1 -0.4 -1.1 0.3 0.7 0.2 -2.6 (7) -3.3 -1.9	84 51 84 29 22 35 189 - 234 139	904 751 949 846 753 854 800 832 871 762	2.4 1.3 5.2 0.9 2.2 4.8 (7) 1.5 1.7	163 237 30 255 181 39 - 224 209
Calcasieu, LA East Baton Rouge, LA Jefferson, LA Lafayette, LA Orleans, LA St. Tammany, LA Cumberland, ME Anne Arundel, MD Baltimore, MD Frederick, MD	5.1 14.8 14.7 9.1 11.6 7.5 12.2 14.5 21.5 6.0	87.9 265.9 200.5 137.4 173.6 75.3 173.4 233.3 374.5 93.4	0.6 0.3 -1.5 0.5 2.1 -2.2 -2.3 -1.4 -2.7 -3.1	23 29 109 24 5 160 175 104 193 222	832 874 876 911 1,002 749 822 963 963 890	9.0 8.0 4.8 4.2 2.6 3.0 3.8 0.7 3.1	3 4 67 39 62 151 122 77 264 114
Harford, MD Howard, MD Montgomery, MD Prince Georges, MD Baltimore City, MD Barnstable, MA Bristol, MA Essex, MA Hampden, MA Middlesex, MA	5.6 8.7 32.9 15.7 14.0 9.1 15.3 20.9 14.5 47.8	82.6 147.5 460.3 312.5 340.4 84.2 215.0 298.2 199.2 826.2	(7) (7) -1.3 -3.0 -1.6 -3.2 -3.0 -1.5 -1.4 -0.4	- 100 208 118 230 208 109 104 51	846 1,073 1,219 993 1,112 813 854 976 867 1,296	(7) 3.9 1.9 2.5 1.5 3.2 7.3 3.3 6.4 -1.1	- 71 200 159 224 107 9 101 13 301
Norfolk, MA Plymouth, MA Suffolk, MA Worcester, MA Genesee, MI Ingham, MI Kalamazoo, MI Kent, MI Macomb, MI Oakland, MI	24.2 13.7 21.8 20.7 7.8 6.8 5.6 14.3 17.7 39.3	326.4 175.9 593.4 318.5 134.3 158.3 112.1 323.8 291.2 660.7	-1.1 -1.9 -0.5 -2.2 -7.0 -3.8 -4.1 -5.5 -7.9 -5.4	84 139 58 160 317 261 270 300 321 298	1,139 894 1,568 931 804 886 855 832 966 1,096	2.3 3.5 1.3 2.2 0.2 3.4 7.0 3.2 5.1 4.3	169 88 237 181 273 95 12 107 31 58

	Fatabliahmanta	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>		
County <sup>3</sup>	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Ottawa, MI Saginaw, MI Washtenaw, MI Wayne, MI Anoka, MN Dakota, MN Hennepin, MN Olmsted, MN Ramsey, MN St. Louis, MN	5.7 4.4 8.1 32.1 7.8 10.6 42.5 3.6 15.3 5.9	102.9 81.8 187.3 709.8 113.2 172.8 837.8 89.5 328.9 96.0	-5.2 -5.8 -3.8 -5.6 -3.7 -2.4 -2.4 -1.8 -1.3 -1.9	295 305 261 302 255 177 177 131 100 139	\$794 776 971 1,032 839 898 1,146 975 980 759	4.3 3.6 1.5 4.2 1.1 1.6 2.7 6.4 2.3 4.4	58 86 224 62 247 218 143 13 169 52
Stearns, MN Harrison, MS Hinds, MS Boone, MO Clay, MO Greene, MO Jackson, MO St. Charles, MO St. Louis, MO St. Louis City, MO	4.5 4.6 6.4 4.5 5.1 8.2 18.8 8.2 32.8 8.5	82.2 85.0 127.6 82.5 88.2 155.6 368.6 122.0 600.5 231.2	-1.2 -3.1 -1.8 -0.7 -3.4 -2.1 -0.9 -3.0 -3.0 -1.2	92 222 131 69 241 153 76 208 208 92	700 702 809 691 821 685 926 733 990 1,508	3.6 3.4 3.3 -0.2 3.2 3.8 -0.5 1.3 56.8	86 95 101 114 285 107 77 293 237 1
Yellowstone, MT Douglas, NE Lancaster, NE Clark, NV Washoe, NV Hillsborough, NH Rockingham, NH Atlantic, NJ Bergen, NJ Burlington, NJ	5.8 16.1 8.2 51.0 14.7 12.4 11.0 7.0 34.6 11.5	78.2 322.8 158.5 870.0 201.6 195.9 136.1 139.3 450.4 198.2	-0.2 0.0 -0.1 -6.5 -7.9 -2.6 -2.3 -4.0 -2.5 -3.9	45 38 43 316 321 189 175 267 183 266	738 842 726 856 867 1,062 906 818 1,188 968	1.2 -2.1 3.7 -2.3 0.0 1.8 1.6 1.7 0.4 3.0	245 311 81 312 280 204 218 209 270 122
Camden, NJ Essex, NJ Gloucester, NJ Hudson, NJ Mercer, NJ Middlesex, NJ Monmouth, NJ Morris, NJ Ocean, NJ Passaic, NJ	13.1 21.5 6.4 14.1 11.3 22.0 20.9 18.1 12.5 12.6	205.9 359.7 104.0 237.1 230.4 398.0 254.6 285.3 146.3 175.4	-2.8 -2.5 -1.3 -2.2 -0.6 -3.7 -2.8 -2.9 -2.5 -3.7	196 183 100 63 255 196 204 183 255	1,008 1,170 855 1,205 1,249 1,148 1,016 1,351 792 974	5.5 3.3 2.0 2.3 7.7 2.2 1.3 2.5 2.9 4.1	23 101 192 169 7 181 237 159 131 65
Somerset, NJ Union, NJ Bernalillo, NM Albany, NY Bronx, NY Broome, NY Dutchess, NY Erie, NY Kings, NY Monroe, NY	10.3 15.1 17.8 10.0 16.1 4.5 8.3 23.7 46.8 18.1	173.1 230.8 329.9 228.3 230.0 95.5 116.1 464.1 488.2 382.4	-2.1 -3.1 -2.0 -1.4 1.4 -1.1 -2.2 -0.5 0.3 -0.8	153 222 145 104 10 84 160 58 29 70	1,498 1,166 812 945 889 727 904 794 816 859	2.9 2.6 3.0 4.9 ( <sup>7</sup> ) 4.3 3.4 3.0 3.3 1.1	131 151 122 35 - 58 95 122 101 247

	Fatabliahmanta	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>		
County <sup>3</sup>	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Nassau, NY New York, NY Oneida, NY Onondaga, NY Orange, NY Queens, NY Richmond, NY Saratoga, NY Suffolk, NY	52.5 118.9 5.3 12.8 10.0 43.7 8.7 9.9 5.4 50.6	611.8 2,386.4 112.0 252.9 132.6 507.0 95.5 117.5 76.5 626.9	-1.7 -1.3 -0.5 -1.6 -1.5 -0.3 -0.2 -1.7 -2.2 -2.2	126 100 58 118 109 47 45 126 160 160	\$1,049 1,856 720 849 778 926 835 1,002 762 1,037	1.5 -0.6 5.6 0.7 4.4 3.7 4.0 ( <sup>7</sup> ) 3.4 ( <sup>7</sup> )	224 294 20 264 52 81 67 - 95 -
Westchester, NY Buncombe, NC Catawba, NC Cumberland, NC Durham, NC Forsyth, NC Guilford, NC Mecklenburg, NC New Hanover, NC Wake, NC	36.5 8.2 4.6 6.3 7.2 9.3 14.8 33.4 7.5 29.2	424.3 115.9 83.8 121.9 185.0 184.8 275.4 567.7 101.0 448.8	-2.2 -2.1 -4.8 1.0 (7) -2.5 -3.6 -1.7 -4.8 -2.1	160 153 286 14 - 183 252 126 286 153	1,234 724 695 711 1,131 826 797 1,016 755 915	-1.4 1.7 1.5 4.9 (7) 2.7 2.0 1.5 2.4 1.8	307 209 224 35 - 143 192 224 163 204
Cass, ND Butler, OH Cuyahoga, OH Franklin, OH Hamilton, OH Lake, OH Lorain, OH Lucas, OH Mahoning, OH Montgomery, OH	5.9 7.4 37.7 30.0 24.0 6.7 6.3 10.7 6.4 12.9	100.7 145.0 724.7 678.4 514.3 99.0 95.7 210.6 100.7 257.6	1.5 -3.8 -3.0 -2.2 -1.5 -3.0 -5.0 -4.3 -3.7 -4.5	8 261 208 160 109 208 293 278 255 283	778 788 926 879 980 755 742 776 670 824	2.1 1.3 2.0 3.7 2.3 2.3 3.2 0.9 3.4 2.4	188 237 192 81 169 169 107 255 95 163
Stark, OH Summit, OH Trumbull, OH Warren, OH Oklahoma, OK Tulsa, OK Clackamas, OR Jackson, OR Marion, OR	9.0 15.0 4.7 4.2 23.9 19.5 13.1 6.7 11.1 9.6	158.3 271.3 75.1 74.6 427.1 349.8 145.9 81.2 144.0 135.3	-3.3 -2.1 -3.1 -4.1 0.1 -0.1 -4.5 -5.7 -5.8 -2.9	234 153 222 270 36 43 283 304 305 204	706 827 752 763 852 838 821 665 711 711	2.9 2.4 -0.1 3.0 5.6 2.3 0.2 2.3 2.6 2.3	131 163 282 122 20 169 273 169 151 169
Multnomah, OR Washington, OR Allegheny, PA Berks, PA Bucks, PA Butler, PA Chester, PA Cumberland, PA Dauphin, PA Delaware, PA	28.7 16.4 35.3 9.2 20.1 4.8 15.3 6.0 7.4 13.7	444.7 243.3 685.4 167.8 259.8 80.8 244.4 124.5 180.8 213.0	-2.6 -4.2 -1.0 -1.8 -3.0 0.5 -0.4 -1.8 -1.0 -0.3	189 273 80 131 208 24 51 131 80 47	934 986 976 817 905 806 1,181 823 883 953	2.0 -1.8 3.5 0.2 2.6 5.8 2.2 3.0 4.1 1.1	192 309 88 273 151 18 181 122 65 247

		Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>		
County <sup>3</sup>	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Erie, PA	7.4	126.4	-1.8	131	\$729	4.0	67
Lackawanna, PA	5.9	101.2	-2.0	145	717	5.9	17
Lancaster, PA	12.5	226.9	-2.7	193	771	4.2	62
Lehigh, PA	8.8	177.6	-1.8	131	906	-0.7	297
Luzerne, PA	7.9	142.5	-1.0	80	695	1.5	224
Montgomery, PA	27.7	488.0	-1.6	118	1,151	-0.3	286
Northampton, PA	6.5	98.3	-3.3	234	805	2.7	143
Philadelphia, PA	31.5	637.6	-0.5	58	1,094	2.8	139
Washington, PA	5.4	80.5	0.9	18	814	4.5	48
Westmoreland, PA	9.4	135.7	-0.4	51	728	0.1	277
York, PA	9.2	177.6	-1.2	92	788	3.0	122
Kent, RI	5.7	77.6	-4.8	286	783	0.9	255
Providence, RI	18.1	277.8	-3.5	248	931	7.1	10
Charleston, SC	12.8	209.5	-1.9	139	782	-0.4	290
Greenville, SC	13.0	237.1	-2.8	196	795	2.7	143
Horry, SC	8.5	105.6	-7.1	319	581	-0.3	286
Lexington, SC	5.8	98.4	-1.7	126	680	1.2	245
Richland, SC	9.7	214.4	-2.1	153	790	3.3	101
Spartanburg, SC	6.3	117.9	-5.2	295	776	4.7	42
Minnehaha, SD	6.4	116.8	1.2	12	741	0.8	259
Davidson, TN Hamilton, TN Knox, TN Rutherford, TN Shelby, TN Williamson, TN Bell, TX Bexar, TX Brazoria, TX Brazos, TX	18.6 8.6 11.2 4.3 19.9 6.1 4.6 32.8 4.7 3.9	436.1 189.2 228.9 97.5 497.0 87.5 104.1 731.6 87.8 86.9	-3.0 -3.5 -1.5 -4.8 -3.5 -1.6 1.6 0.0 0.0 (7)	208 248 109 286 248 118 7 38 38 38 -	976 813 796 842 935 980 705 806 871 688	2.7 2.8 0.8 0.1 -4.9 4.6 1.9 3.9 ( <sup>7</sup> )	143 139 259 259 277 317 45 200 71 -
Cameron, TX	6.4	124.5	-0.5	58	584	5.4	27
Collin, TX	17.4	297.8	0.9	18	1,040	0.7	264
Dallas, TX	68.6	1,484.4	-1.2	92	1,123	1.1	247
Denton, TX	10.7	170.5	0.0	38	798	1.9	200
El Paso, TX	13.6	273.0	-0.6	63	643	2.9	131
Fort Bend, TX	8.5	132.3	2.2	4	967	0.5	268
Galveston, TX	5.2	93.8	-4.1	270	829	0.0	280
Harris, TX	98.1	2,078.1	1.0	14	1,187	2.6	151
Hidalgo, TX	10.7	222.4	0.9	18	574	2.0	192
Jefferson, TX	5.9	127.9	2.5	2	941	8.0	4
Lubbock, TX	6.8	126.4	2.4	3	699	2.3	169
McLennan, TX	4.9	103.6	(7)	-	718	2.4	163
Montgomery, TX	8.3	129.6	2.7	1	876	3.7	81
Nueces, TX	8.1	156.1	0.8	21	806	4.9	35
Potter, TX	3.8	77.5	1.3	11	797	( <sup>7</sup> )	-
Smith, TX	5.3	95.7	1.2	12	809	6.2	16
Tarrant, TX	37.6	770.8	-0.8	70	919	2.7	143
Travis, TX	29.3	578.8	0.1	36	1,009	-0.6	294
Webb, TX	4.8	89.4	0.4	28	600	1.5	224
Williamson, TX	7.3	121.6	-0.3	47	895	-5.1	318

### Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 335 largest counties, fourth guarter 2008<sup>2</sup>—Continued

	Establish manta	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>		
County <sup>3</sup>	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Davis, UT	7.4	101.4	-2.2	160	\$737	0.7	264
Salt Lake, UT	38.9	588.6	-1.5	109	847	0.4	270
Utah, UT	13.3	172.2	-3.2	230	727	1.7	209
Weber, UT	5.7	93.0	-2.8	196	677	0.4	270
Chittenden, VT	6.0	95.3	-1.4	104	896	2.4	163
Arlington, VA	7.8	158.6	1.9	6	1,509	3.1	114
Chesterfield, VA	7.7	120.0	-2.9	204	825	2.9	131
Fairfax, VA	34.3	589.2	-0.8	70	1,407	3.5	88
Henrico, VA	9.7	178.0	-2.4	177	916	1.3	237
Loudoun, VA	9.2	133.8	0.3	29	1,091	0.9	255
Prince William, VA	7.3	103.6	-1.2	92	816	-0.6	294
Alexandria City, VA	6.2	102.2	0.5	24	1,311	5.6	20
Chesapeake City, VA	5.8	98.5	-3.7	255	714	1.6	218
Newport News City, VA	4.0	99.2	-1.8	131	850	7.1	10
Norfolk City, VA	5.9	143.7	-1.1	84	906	4.3	58
Richmond City, VA	7.5	157.8	(7)	-	1,024	(7)	-
Virginia Beach City, VA	11.7	170.8	-3.0	208	726	2.5	159
Clark, WA	12.3	129.9	-2.8	196	817	2.9	131
King, WA	77.6	1,175.3	-1.5	109	1,130	4.0	67
Kitsap, WA	6.6	82.7	-2.4	177	822	4.6	45
Pierce, WA	20.8	269.4	-3.4	241	814	4.4	52
Snohomish, WA	17.9	250.2	-2.5	183	928	2.9	131
Spokane, WA	15.5	207.2	-2.0	145	737	4.4	52
Thurston, WA	7.0	100.0	-0.8	70	807	2.9	131
Whatcom, WA	6.9	80.6	-3.2	230	708	2.6	151
Yakima, WA	8.3	93.5	1.0	14	624	5.1	31
Kanawha, WV	6.1	109.0	-0.6	63	799	4.7	42
Brown, WI	6.8	148.1	-1.9	139	821	3.1	114
Dane, WI	14.2	304.1	-1.1	84	878	4.8	39
Milwaukee, WI	21.3	495.4	-1.6	118	923	2.6	151
Outagamie, WI	5.1	103.6	-2.0	145	784	4.5	48
Racine, WI	4.2	74.7	-3.0	208	879	-0.1	282
Waukesha, WI	13.3	231.0	-3.2	230	920	2.3	169
Winnebago, WI	3.8	91.1	0.3	29	855	4.7	42
San Juan, PR	13.0	291.7	-2.5	( <sup>8</sup> )	621	2.3	( <sup>8</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. These 334 U.S. counties comprise 71.5 percent of the total covered workers in the U.S.

<sup>2</sup> Data are preliminary.

<sup>3</sup> Includes areas not officially designated as counties. See Technical Note.

<sup>4</sup> Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

<sup>5</sup> Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note. <sup>6</sup> Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

<sup>7</sup> Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.
 <sup>8</sup> This county was not included in the U.S. rankings.

	Fatabliabmanta	Emplo	oyment	Average weekly wage <sup>3</sup>		
County by NAICS supersector	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08 <sup>4</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08 <sup>4</sup>	
United States <sup>5</sup>	9,177.5	133,870.4	-2.3	\$918	2.2	
Private industry	8,884.3	111,752.9	-2.9	919	2.0	
Natural resources and mining	127.0	1,802.7	2.0	996	5.1	
Construction	881.7	6,636.1	-10.2	1,052	4.9	
Manufacturing	360.0	12,891.3	-6.2	1,094	1.8	
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,925.3	26,316.1	-3.5	766	1.1	
Information	147.4	2,948.2	-3.4	1,360	0.1	
Financial activities	862.8	7,853.7	-3.2	1,390	-0.4	
Professional and business services	1,537.6	17,366.1	-4.1	1,201	3.7	
Education and health services	857.4	18,304.3	2.9	872	3.7	
Leisure and hospitality	742.2	12,957.7	-1.7	390	1.8	
Other services	1,229.1	4,445.7	-0.7	581	2.8	
Government	293.2	22,117.5	0.9	914	4.0	
Los Angeles, CA	433.9	4,152.9	-3.4	1,075	1.8	
Private industry	430.0	3,552.8	-3.8	1,064	1.1	
Natural resources and mining	0.5	10.5	-2.7	1,261	5.4	
Construction	14.0	136.7	-12.3	1,138	4.8	
Manufacturing	14.5	417.6	-5.9	1,107	3.8	
Trade, transportation, and utilities	53.6	802.4	-5.4	833	-0.8	
Information	8.8	207.5	( <sup>6</sup> )	1,889	( <sup>6</sup> )	
Financial activities	24.1	231.8	-5.7	1,462	-3.8	
Professional and business services	42.6	574.2	( <sup>6</sup> )	1,306	( <sup>6</sup> )	
Education and health services	28.1	500.0	1.8	979	3.8	
Leisure and hospitality	27.2	396.1	-1.6	927	5.9	
Other services	201.1	258.8	0.5	454	1.1	
Government	4.0	600.1	( <sup>6</sup> )	1,141	5.6	
Cook, IL	141.0	2,480.0	-2.8	1,118	1.5	
Private industry	139.6	2,169.2	-3.3	1,126	1.3	
Natural resources and mining	0.1	1.1	-5.6	998	-5.0	
Construction	12.4	82.8	-10.5	1,478	6.9	
Manufacturing	7.0	219.9	-6.5	1,119	3.0	
Trade, transportation, and utilities	27.6	467.7	-4.9	840	-0.4	
Information	2.6	56.1	-3.2	1,487	-4.3	
Financial activities	15.7	203.7	-4.3	2,007	0.7	
Professional and business services	29.1	423.4	-4.8	1,525	3.5	
Education and health services	14.0	386.1	3.1	930	1.3	
Leisure and hospitality	11.7	227.5	-2.2	440	0.0	
Other services	14.6	96.1	-0.1	783	3.2	
Government	1 4	310.8	0.8	1,058	2.9	
New York, NY Private industry Natural resources and mining Construction Manufacturing Trade, transportation, and utilities Information Financial activities Professional and business services Education and health services Leisure and hospitality Other services Government	118.9 118.6 0.0 2.4 3.0 22.0 4.6 19.2 25.5 8.9 11.8 18.0 0.3	2,386.4 1,934.3 0.2 36.3 33.7 255.2 134.5 369.0 489.1 297.7 224.3 90.2 452.1	-1.3 -1.6 -3.6 0.6 -8.3 -3.3 -1.5 -3.9 -2.4 1.6 0.8 0.7 0.0	1,856 2,041 1,594 1,595 1,294 2,055 4,085 2,173 1,133 889 1,102 1,062	-0.6 -0.7 4.7 0.6 0.7 -1.5 -0.3 -1.3 0.6 6.0 -0.7 7.1 1.6	

	Fatabliahmanta	Emplo	oyment	Average weekly wage <sup>3</sup>		
County by NAICS supersector	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08 <sup>4</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08 <sup>4</sup>	
Harris, TX Private industry Natural resources and mining Construction Manufacturing Trade, transportation, and utilities Information Financial activities Professional and business services	98.1 97.6 1.6 6.7 4.6 22.5 1.4 10.6 19.6	2,078.1 1,820.6 85.8 156.9 187.7 443.1 32.0 117.9 336.9	$ \begin{array}{c} 1.0\\ 0.9\\ 7.1\\ (^{6})\\ 2.4\\ 0.6\\ -2.4\\ (^{6})\\ (^{6})\\ (^{6}) \end{array} $	\$1,187 1,215 2,872 1,217 1,468 1,035 1,393 1,517 1,448	2.6 2.3 ( <sup>6</sup> ) ( <sup>6</sup> ) -3.4 4.0 8.2 4.7 3.7	
Education and health services Leisure and hospitality Other services Government	10.4 7.6 11.9 0.5	224.3 175.2 59.6 257.5	(-) 3.1 -0.6 0.4 1.8	958 404 673 988	3.2 4.7 3.2 5.2	
Maricopa, AZ Private industry Natural resources and mining Construction Manufacturing Trade, transportation, and utilities Information Financial activities Professional and business services Education and health services Leisure and hospitality Other services Government	103.6 102.9 0.5 11.0 3.6 22.9 1.7 12.9 23.2 10.3 7.4 7.4 0.7	1,741.0 1,512.8 9.0 115.5 120.8 365.7 29.4 140.1 289.2 216.8 176.8 48.4 228.2	-5.8 -6.9 -25.3 -8.0 -6.8 -4.1 -4.8 -8.5 5.7 -5.3 -4.9 2.0	892 893 1,026 986 1,217 796 1,098 1,066 989 999 420 613 881	2.1 2.2 20.6 3.4 3.6 0.9 3.4 -0.4 5.0 2.3 -1.4 2.7 0.1	
Orange, CA Private industry Natural resources and mining Construction Manufacturing Trade, transportation, and utilities Information Financial activities Professional and business services Education and health services Leisure and hospitality Other services Government	102.7 101.3 0.2 6.9 5.3 17.2 1.3 10.7 19.1 10.0 7.1 18.0 1.4	1,451.2 1,301.1 4.2 83.3 166.4 272.3 29.0 110.0 258.3 150.8 171.7 49.0 150.1	-4.8 -5.3 -9.0 -14.9 -5.7 -6.9 -3.8 -7.5 -7.6 (6) -2.2 -0.3 -0.8	1,043 1,043 665 1,234 1,226 947 1,423 1,582 1,259 960 406 569 1,044	$\begin{array}{c} 1.4\\ 1.2\\ -2.8\\ 4.5\\ -0.2\\ 1.4\\ 4.0\\ -2.6\\ 6.0\\ (\ ^{6})\\ 1.5\\ -4.2\\ 3.2 \end{array}$	
Dallas, TX Private industry	68.6 68.1 0.6 4.4 3.1 15.2 1.7 8.8 15.1 6.7 5.4 6.6 0.5	1,484.4 1,314.7 8.5 80.1 129.8 308.2 47.3 142.9 275.6 153.9 128.5 39.0 169.7	-1.2 -1.6 12.6 -4.3 -5.4 -2.1 -4.2 -1.2 -2.1 3.8 ( <sup>6</sup> ) -1.2 2.3	1,123 1,141 4,744 1,075 1,224 990 1,524 1,429 1,375 1,059 493 682 984	1.1 1.1 38.9 1.7 1.1 -4.2 3.6 -1.7 2.4 3.1 ( <sup>6</sup> ) 3.6 2.2	

### Table 2. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 10 largest counties, fourth quarter 2008 2-Continued

	Fatabliahmanta	Emplo	oyment	Average	erage weekly wage 3	
County by NAICS supersector	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08 <sup>4</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08 <sup>4</sup>	
San Diego, CA	100.0	1,309.1	-3.0	\$981	2.0	
Private industry	98.8	1,082.3	-3.5	960	1.6	
Natural resources and mining	0.8	9.4	-11.4	577	0.2	
Construction	7.0	70.4	-14.3	1,140	5.5	
Manufacturing	3.1	100.4	-3.3	1,306	0.9	
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.2	218.3	-6.3	759	0.7	
Information	1.3	38.6	0.6	1,970	2.3	
Financial activities	9.5	74.2	-5.7	1,171	-1.0	
Professional and business services	16.3	210.9	-4.4	1,238	2.0	
Education and health services	8.2	138.3	4.2	953	3.1	
Leisure and hospitality	6.9	158.2	-2.3	425	3.9	
Other services	26.9	58.4	2.0	491	1.7	
Government	1.3	226.8	-0.4	1,079	2.8	
King, WA	77.6	1,175.3	-1.5	1,130	$\begin{array}{c} 4.0\\ 4.0\\ 11.8\\ 6.8\\ 7.0\\ 1.0\\ 3.9\\ 2.6\\ 4.6\\ 3.8\\ 1.6\\ 3.6\\ 4.2\end{array}$	
Private industry	77.0	1,018.2	-2.0	1,140		
Natural resources and mining	0.4	2.9	7.0	1,573		
Construction	6.6	63.8	-11.6	1,197		
Manufacturing	2.4	108.8	-3.3	1,449		
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.9	221.8	-2.9	955		
Information	1.8	81.4	6.1	1,982		
Financial activities	6.9	72.4	-5.0	1,418		
Professional and business services	13.7	185.4	-3.3	1,378		
Education and health services	6.5	129.3	4.6	894		
Leisure and hospitality	6.2	108.6	-2.5	450		
Other services	17.6	43.7	-0.8	631		
Government	0.5	157.1	1.9	1,069		
Miami-Dade, FL	86.8	1,003.9	-4.2	924	$\begin{array}{c} 2.6\\ 2.3\\ -11.1\\ 5.3\\ 1.0\\ 1.2\\ 5.2\\ 0.1\\ 6.6\\ 1.7\\ 0.6\\ 6.0\\ (^6)\end{array}$	
Private industry	86.4	851.3	-4.7	907		
Natural resources and mining	0.5	9.6	-10.6	457		
Construction	6.4	42.0	-21.4	973		
Manufacturing	2.6	41.2	-11.7	818		
Trade, transportation, and utilities	23.5	253.4	-4.0	814		
Information	1.5	19.0	-8.1	1,266		
Financial activities	10.2	67.2	-7.6	1,387		
Professional and business services	18.2	132.2	-5.2	1,229		
Education and health services	9.4	145.9	2.8	901		
Leisure and hospitality	6.0	104.0	-1.9	514		
Other services	7.6	36.2	-3.3	579		
Government	0.4	152.6	-1.1	1,017		

<sup>1</sup> Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE)

programs.
<sup>2</sup> Data are preliminary.
<sup>3</sup> Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.
<sup>4</sup> Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.
 <sup>5</sup> Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.
 <sup>6</sup> Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.

### Table 3. Covered $^{\rm 1}$ establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, fourth quarter 2008 $^{\rm 2}$

	Establishments	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>		
County <sup>3</sup>	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	
United States <sup>6</sup>	9,177.5	133,870.4	-2.3	\$918	2.2	
Jefferson, AL Anchorage Borough, AK Maricopa, AZ	19.0 8.2 103.6	355.3 148.2 1,741.0	-3.3 1.5 -5.8	922 969 892	2.2 4.9 2.1	
Los Angeles, CA Denver, CO Hartford, CT	433.9 25.6 25.6	4,152.9 445.0 504.5	-1.2 -3.4 -1.5 -1.5	1,075 1,111 1.111	-14.3 1.8 -1.3 1.0	
New Castle, DE Washington, DC Miami-Dade, FL	18.3 34.4 86.8	278.7 687.5 1,003.9	-3.7 0.3 -4.2	1,055 1,570 924	2.3 5.1 2.6	
Fulton, GA Honolulu, HI Ada, ID	39.9 24.8 15.0	732.2 449.5 202.9	-3.4 -2.4 -5.0	1,183 850 814	1.0 3.8 -1.1	
Cook, IL Marion, IN Polk, IA	141.0 24.3 14.9 20.7	2,480.0 571.8 273.7 316.0	-2.8 -2.8 -1.1 -1.1	1,118 913 904	1.5 2.8 2.4 1.3	
Jefferson, KY East Baton Rouge, LA Cumberland, ME	22.0 14.8 12.2	423.8 265.9 173.4	-3.3 0.3 -2.3	871 874 822	1.5 1.5 8.0 3.0	
Montgomery, MD Middlesex, MA	32.9 47.8	460.3 826.2	-1.3 -0.4	1,219 1,296	1.9 -1.1	
Wayne, MI Hennepin, MN Hinds, MS St. Louis MO	32.1 42.5 6.4 32.8	709.8 837.8 127.6	-5.6 -2.4 -1.8 -3.0	1,032 1,146 809	4.2 2.7 3.3	
Yellowstone, MT Douglas, NE Clark, NV	5.8 16.1 51.0	78.2 322.8 870.0	-0.2 0.0 -6.5	738 842 856	1.2 -2.1 -2.3	
Hillsborough, NH	12.4 34.6	195.9 450 4	-2.6	1,062	1.8	
Bernalillo, NM New York, NY Mecklenburg, NC Cass, ND Cuyahoga, OH Oklahoma, OK	17.8 118.9 33.4 5.9 37.7 23.9	329.9 2,386.4 567.7 100.7 724.7 427.1	-2.0 -1.3 -1.7 1.5 -3.0 0.1	812 1,856 1,016 778 926 852	3.0 -0.6 1.5 2.1 2.0 5.6	
Multnomah, OR Allegheny, PA Providence, RI	28.7 35.3 18.1	444.7 685.4 277.8	-2.6 -1.0 -3.5	934 976 931	2.0 3.5 7.1	
Greenville, SC Minnehaha, SD Shelby, TN Harris, TX Salt Lake, UT Chittenden, VT Fairfax, VA King, WA Kanawha, WV	13.0 6.4 19.9 98.1 38.9 6.0 34.3 77.6 6.1	237.1 116.8 497.0 2,078.1 588.6 95.3 589.2 1,175.3 109.0	-2.8 1.2 -3.5 1.0 -1.5 -1.4 -0.8 -1.5 -0.6	795 741 935 1,187 847 896 1,407 1,130 799	2.7 0.8 0.1 2.6 0.4 2.4 3.5 4.0 4.7	

#### Table 3. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, fourth quarter 2008 2-Continued

County <sup>3</sup>	Fatabliahmanta	Employment		Average	weekly wage 4			
	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08 <sup>5</sup>			
Laramie, WY	3.2	43.8	0.3	\$753	2.0			
San Juan, PR St. Thomas, VI	13.0 1.8	291.7 23.9	-2.5 -0.3	621 673	2.3 -4.1			

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

 <sup>2</sup> Data are preliminary.
 <sup>3</sup> Includes areas not officially designated as counties. See Technical Note.
 <sup>4</sup> Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.
 <sup>5</sup> Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note. <sup>6</sup> Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

### Table 4. Covered $^{\rm 1}$ establishments, employment, and wages by state, fourth quarter 2008 $^{\rm 2}$

	<b>Fatabliah</b> waata	Emple	oyment	Average	weekly wage <sup>3</sup>
State	fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08
United States <sup>4</sup>	9,177.5	133,870.4	-2.3	\$918	2.2
Alabama	121.6	1,909.8	-3.1	790	3.5
Alaska	21.4	303.9	1.6	927	5.7
Arizona	164.5	2,557.9	-5.1	848	2.7
Arkansas	86.5	1,168.2	-1.5	706	-1.0
California	1,370.0	15,288.5	-3.2	1,042	0.7
Colorado	177.1	2,295.8	-1.5	932	0.5
Connecticut	113.5	1,688.0	-1.7	1,164	1.2
Delaware	29.4	416.8	-3.0	943	1.9
District of Columbia	34.4	687.5	0.3	1,570	5.1
Florida	623.0	7,586.6	-5.3	824	1.6
Georgia	276.7	3,970.3	-3.5	853	2.3
Hawaii	39.3	614.7	-3.5	821	3.5
Idaho	57.2	634.1	-3.9	693	1.0
Illinois	371.5	5,795.8	-2.3	985	1.0
Indiana	161.4	2,831.3	-3.4	764	2.7
Iowa	94.6	1,483.7	-1.0	756	3.1
Kansas	87.2	1,370.2	-0.2	769	3.1
Kentucky	108.4	1,783.2	-2.6	754	3.0
Louisiana	128.5	1,907.5	0.1	829	5.9
Maine	51.1	595.3	-2.1	735	4.0
Maryland	164.3	2,531.8	-1.9	1,010	2.4
Massachusetts	215.1	3,239.6	-1.1	1,154	1.8
Michigan	258.2	3,993.3	-4.9	903	3.6
Minnesota	172.0	2,658.8	-1.9	907	2.6
Mississippi	71.0	1,117.2	-2.8	679	3.8
Mosouri	175.7	2,700.9	-1.7	842	7.9
Montana	43.2	433.8	-1.5	678	2.9
Nebraska	60.4	923.1	-0.3	730	1.0
Nevada	77.5	1,206.5	-6.5	862	-1.1
New Hampshire	49.9	626.2	-2.0	936	2.2
New Jersey	273.7	3,927.7	-2.4	1,123	2.8
New Mexico	54.9	821.2	-1.2	768	3.9
New York	585.9	8,677.4	-1.0	1,169	1.4
North Carolina	260.1	4,003.8	-3.0	793	1.9
North Dakota	25.8	354.4	1.9	725	5.1
Ohio	293.0	5,167.5	-3.2	816	2.6
Oklahoma	100.8	1,559.8	0.0	755	4.9
Oregon	134.1	1,676.6	-3.7	808	1.3
Pennsylvania	344.0	5,645.8	-1.3	897	2.6
Rhode Island	35.9	464.3	-3.4	887	5.7
South Carolina	119.5	1,837.1	-3.5	731	2.1
South Dakota	30.8	395.2	0.4	663	2.5
Tennessee	143.1	2,695.7	-3.3	824	1.4
Texas	566.6	10,510.8	0.4	933	2.4
Utah	88.3	1,215.0	-2.1	770	1.4
Vermont	25.1	304.4	-1.7	774	4.3
Virginia	233.5	3,656.8	-1.3	953	3.3
Washington	222.8	2,885.0	-1.8	918	3.7
West Virginia	48.9	713.8	-0.1	735	7.1
Wisconsin	161.1	2,753.2	-1.9	793	3.0

### Table 4. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages by state, fourth quarter 2008 2-Continued

State	Fatabliahmanta	Employment		Average	weekly wage <sup>3</sup>		
	Establishments, fourth quarter 2008 (thousands)	December 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, December 2007-08	Average weekly wage	Percent change, fourth quarter 2007-08		
Wyoming	25.2	284.5	1.5	\$850	4.3		
Puerto Rico Virgin Islands	55.3 3.6	1,028.5 45.5	-2.9 -1.4	528 731	2.3 -0.8		

Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.
 Data are preliminary.
 Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.
 Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Chart 3. Percent change in employment in counties with 75,000 or more employees, December 2007-08 (U.S. average = -2.3 percent)



NOTE: The following counties had fewer than 75,000 employees in 2007 but are included because they are the largest county in their state or territory: Laramie, Wyo., and St. Thomas, V.I.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics July 2009 Chart 4. Percent change in average weekly wage in counties with 75,000 or more employees, fourth quarter 2007-08 (U.S. average = 2.2 percent)



NOTE: The following counties had fewer than 75,000 employees in 2007 but are included because they are the largest county in their state or territory: Laramie, Wyo., and St. Thomas, V.I.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics July 2009