News

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COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES: FIRST QUARTER 2008

In March 2008, Orleans County, La., had the largest 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. Orleans County, which includes the city of New Orleans, experienced an over-the-year employment gain of 5.0 percent, compared with national job growth of 0.4 percent. Westmoreland County, Pa., near Pittsburgh, had the largest over-the-year gain in average weekly wages in the first quarter of 2008, with an increase of 14.9 percent due to an increase in the professional and business services supersector. The U.S. average weekly wage rose by 2.4 percent over the same time span.

Chart 1. Top ranking large counties by percent growth in employment, March 2008 (U.S. average = 0.4 percent)

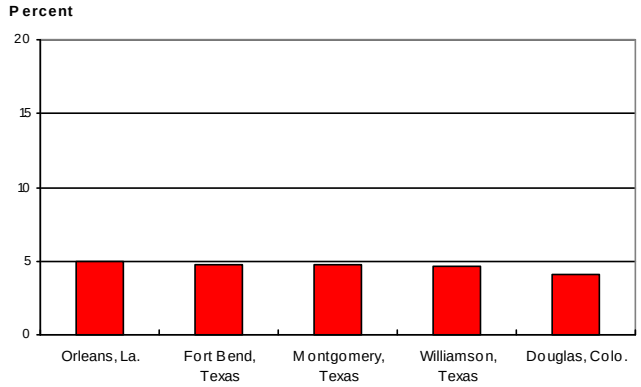
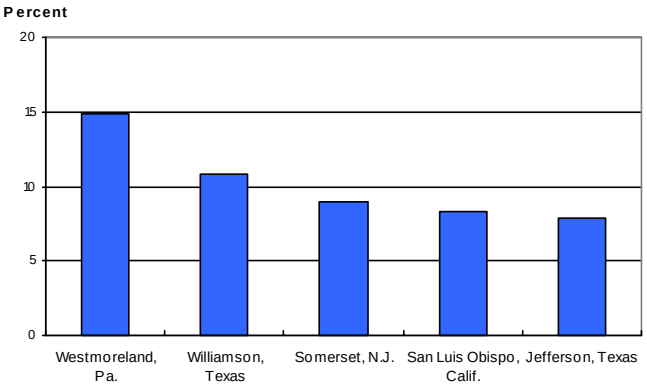


Chart 2. Top ranking large counties by percent growth in average weekly wages, first quarter 2008 (U.S. average = 2.4 percent)



Of the 334 largest counties in the United States, as measured by 2007 annual average employment, 146 had over-the-year percentage growth in employment above the national average (0.4 percent) in March 2008; 178 large counties experienced changes below the national average. (See chart 3.) The percent change in average weekly wages was higher than the national average (2.4 percent) in 183 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 submitted by every employer subject to unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The 9.1 million employer reports cover 134.8 million full- and part-time workers. The attached tables and charts contain data for the nation and for the 334 U.S. counties with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2007. March 2008 employment and 2008 first-quarter average weekly wages for all states are provided in table 4 of this release.

Table A. Top 10 large counties ranked by March 2008 employment, March 2007-08 employment growth, and March 2007-08 percent growth in employment

Employment in large counties					
March 2008 employment (thousands)		Growth in employment, March 2007-08 (thousands)		Percent growth in employment, March 2007-08	
United States	134,761.1	United States	481.0	United States	0.4
Los Angeles, Calif.	4,229.6	Harris, Texas	67.2	Orleans, La.	5.0
Cook, Ill.	2,490.4	New York, N.Y.	38.7	Fort Bend, Texas	4.7
New York, N.Y.	2,376.0	King, Wash.	31.0	Montgomery, Texas	4.7
Harris, Texas	2,046.5	Dallas, Texas	29.1	Williamson, Texas	4.6
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,805.2	Bexar, Texas	20.2	Douglas, Colo.	4.1
Orange, Calif.	1,504.9	Tarrant, Texas	17.6	Potter, Texas	4.1
Dallas, Texas	1,489.7	Santa Clara, Calif.	16.8	Cass, N.D.	3.8
San Diego, Calif.	1,327.6	San Francisco, Calif.	16.1	El Paso, Texas	3.7
King, Wash.	1,186.2	Los Angeles, Calif.	15.2	Yakima, Wash.	3.6
Miami-Dade, Fla.	1,029.9	Wake, N.C.	15.2	Wake, N.C.	3.5

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. Preliminary data for first quarter 2008 and final data for 2007 will be available later in October on the BLS Web site.

Large County Employment

In March 2008, national employment, as measured by the QCEW program, was 134.8 million, up by 0.4 percent from March 2007. The 334 U.S. counties with 75,000 or more employees accounted for 71.5 percent of total U.S. employment and 78.3 percent of total wages. These 334 counties had a net job gain of 198,000 over the year, accounting for 41.2 percent of the overall U.S. employment increase. Employment rose in 189 of the large counties from March 2007 to March 2008. Orleans County, La., had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment (5.0 percent). Fort Bend, Texas, and Montgomery, Texas, tied for the next largest increase, 4.7 percent, followed by the counties of Williamson, Texas (4.6 percent), and Douglas, Colo., and Potter, Texas (4.1 percent each).

Employment declined in 129 counties from March 2007 to March 2008. The largest percentage decline in employment was in Lee, Fla. (-8.1 percent). Collier, Fla., had the next largest employment decline (-7.4 percent), followed by the counties of Genesee, Mich. (-6.5 percent), Saginaw, Mich. (-5.2 percent), and Marion, Fla., (-5.1 percent).

The largest gains in the level of employment from March 2007 to March 2008 were recorded in the counties of Harris, Texas (67,200), New York, N.Y. (38,700), King, Wash. (31,000), Dallas, Texas (29,100), and Bexar, Texas (20,200). (See table A.) The largest decline in employment levels occurred in Maricopa, Ariz. (-25,100), followed by the counties of Hillsborough, Fla. (-23,700), Wayne, Mich. (-23,000), Oakland, Mich. (-19,500), and Lee, Fla. (-19,400).

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

Average weekly wage in large counties					
Average weekly wage, first quarter 2008		Growth in average weekly wage, first quarter 2007-08		Percent growth in average weekly wage, first quarter 2007-08	
United States	$905	United States	$21	United States	2.4
New York, N.Y.	$2,805	Somerset, N.J.	$146	Westmoreland, Pa.	14.9
Fairfield, Conn.	1,905	Westmoreland, Pa.	98	Williamson, Texas	10.8
Somerset, N.J.	1,765	Williamson, Texas	89	Somerset, N.J.	9.0
Suffolk, Mass.	1,708	Hudson, N.J.	87	San Luis Obispo, Calif.	8.3
San Francisco, Calif.	1,639	Mercer, N.J.	66	Jefferson, Texas	7.9
Santa Clara, Calif.	1,631	New London, Conn.	64	New London, Conn.	7.3
Hudson, N.J.	1,528	Jefferson, Texas	63	Adams, Colo.	6.8
Washington, D.C.	1,488	Washington, D.C.	62	Pima, Ariz.	6.7
Arlington, Va.	1,473	Hennepin, Minn.	59	Clayton, Ga.	6.7
San Mateo, Calif.	1,457	McLean, Ill.	58	McLean, Ill.	6.7
		Hillsborough, N.H.	58		
		Washington, Ore.	58		

Large County Average Weekly Wages

The national average weekly wage in the first quarter of 2008 was $905. Average weekly wages were higher than the national average in 183 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 $2,805. Fairfield, Conn., was second with an average weekly wage of $1,905, followed by Somerset, N.J. ($1,765), Suffolk, Mass. ($1,708), and San Francisco, Calif. ($1,639). (See table B.)

There were 137 counties with an average weekly wage below the national average in the first quarter of 2008. The lowest average weekly wage was reported in Cameron County, Texas ($523), followed by the counties of Hidalgo, Texas ($532), Horry, S.C. ($534), Webb, Texas ($554), and Yakima, Wash. ($587). (See table 1.)

Over the year, the national average weekly wage rose by 2.4 percent. Among the largest counties, Westmoreland, Pa., led the nation in growth in average weekly wages, with an increase of 14.9 percent from the first quarter of 2007. Williamson, Texas, was second with growth of 10.8 percent, followed by the counties of Somerset, N.J. (9.0 percent), San Luis Obispo, Calif. (8.3 percent), and Jefferson, Texas (7.9 percent).

Thirty-four large counties experienced over-the-year declines in average weekly wages. Trumbull, Ohio, had the largest decrease (-17.2 percent), followed by the counties of Saginaw, Mich. (-4.4 percent), Rockingham, N.H. (-3.9 percent), Fairfield, Conn. (-3.8 percent), and Mecklenburg, N.C. (-3.4 percent).

Ten Largest U.S. Counties

Five of the 10 largest counties (based on 2007 annual average employment levels) experienced over-the-year percent increases in employment in March 2008. Harris, Texas, experienced the largest percent gain in employment (3.4 percent) among the 10 largest counties. Within Harris County, the largest gains in employment were in natural resources and mining (5.5 percent) and construction (5.4 percent). King, Wash., had the next largest increase in employment, 2.7 percent, followed by Dallas, Texas (2.0 percent). Maricopa, Ariz., experienced the largest decline in employment among the 10 largest counties with a 1.4 percent decrease. Within Maricopa, six industry groups experienced employment declines, with construction experiencing the largest

decline, -14.2 percent. Orange, Calif., had the next largest decline in employment, -1.1 percent, followed by Miami-Dade, Fla. (-1.0 percent). (See table 2.)

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 4.2 percent. Within King County, average weekly wages increased the most in the information industry (12.8 percent), followed by the other services industry (7.7 percent). Harris, Texas, was second in wage growth with a gain of 3.8 percent, followed by Cook, Ill. (2.7 percent). The smallest wage gain occurred in Orange, Calif. (1.2 percent), followed by Maricopa, Ariz. (1.3 percent). The only wage decline among the 10 largest counties occurred in New York, N.Y. (-1.0 percent).

Within New York County, two industry groups experienced over-the-year wage declines in the first quarter of 2008—manufacturing (-4.1 percent) and financial activities (-3.7 percent). Financial activities employs ten times more workers than manufacturing in New York County and had the county's highest average weekly wages. The declines for the first quarter of 2008 follow over-the-year average weekly wage gains of 14.6 percent in manufacturing and 24.2 percent in financial activities in the first quarter of 2007.

Largest County by State

Table 3 shows March 2008 employment and the 2008 first quarter average weekly wage in the largest county in each state, which is based on 2007 annual average employment levels. (This table includes one county—Laramie, Wyo.—that had an employment level below 75,000 in 2007.) The employment levels in the counties in table 3 in March 2008 ranged from approximately 4.23 million in Los Angeles County, Calif., to 43,100 in Laramie County, Wyo. The highest average weekly wage of these counties was in New York, N.Y. ($2,805), while the lowest average weekly wage was in Yellowstone, Mont. ($695).

For More Information

For additional information about the quarterly employment and wages data, please read the Technical Note or visit the QCEW Web site at http://www.bls.gov/cew/. Additional information about the QCEW data also 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 second quarter 2008 is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, January 13, 2009.

County Changes for the 2008 County Employment and Wages News Releases: Six Counties Added

Counties with annual average employment of 75,000 or more in 2007 are included in this release. 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.

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.

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

	QCEW	BED	CES
Source	• Count of UI administrative records submitted by 9.1 million establishments	• 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 establishments with zero employment	Nonfarm wage and salary jobs: • UI coverage, excluding agriculture, private households, and self-employed workers • Other employment, including railroads, religious organizations, and other non-UI-covered jobs
Publication frequency	• Quarterly – 7 months after the end of each quarter	• Quarterly – 8 months after the end of each quarter	• Monthly – Usually first Friday of following month
Use of UI file	• Directly summarizes and publishes each new quarter of UI data	• Links each new UI quarter to longitudinal database and directly summarizes 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	• Provides quarterly employer dynamics data on establishment openings, closings, expansions, and contractions at the national level by NAICS supersectors and by size of firm, and at the state private-sector total level • Future expansions will include data with greater industry detail and data at the county and MSA level	• Provides current monthly estimates of employment, hours, and earnings at the MSA, state, and national level by industry
Principal uses	• Major uses include: – Detailed locality data – Periodic universe counts for benchmarking sample survey estimates – Sample frame for BLS establishment surveys	• Major uses include: – Business cycle analysis – Analysis of employer dynamics underlying economic expansions and contractions – Analysis of employment expansion and contraction by size of firm	• Major uses include: – Principal national economic indicator – Official time series for employment change measures – Input into other major economic indicators
Program Web sites	• www.bls.gov/cew/	• www.bls.gov/bdm/	• www.bls.gov/ces/

The preliminary QCEW data presented in this release may differ from data released by the individual states. These potential differences result from the states' continuing receipt of UI data over time and ongoing review and editing. The individual states determine their data release timetables.

Differences between QCEW, BED, and CES employment measures

The Bureau publishes three different establishment-based employment measures for any given quarter. Each of these measures—QCEW, Business Employment Dynamics (BED), and Current Employment Statistics (CES)—makes use of the quarterly UI employment reports in producing data; however, each measure has a somewhat different universe coverage, estimation procedure, and publication product.

Differences in coverage and estimation methods can result in somewhat different measures of employment change over time. It is important to understand program differences and the intended uses of the program products. (See table.) Additional information on each program can be obtained from the program Web sites shown in the table.

Coverage

Employment and wage data for workers covered by state UI laws are compiled from quarterly contribution reports submitted to the SWAs by employers. For federal civilian workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program, employment and wage data are compiled from quarterly reports submitted by four major federal payroll processing centers on behalf of all federal agencies, with the exception of a few agencies which still report directly to the individual SWA. In addition to the quarterly contribution reports, employers who operate multiple establishments within a state complete a questionnaire, called the "Multiple Worksite Report," which provides detailed information on the location and industry of each of their establishments. The employment and wage data included in this release are derived from microdata summaries of 9.1 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 2007, 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. Over-the-year comparisons of average weekly wages may reflect fluctuations in average monthly employment and/or total quarterly wages between the current quarter and prior year levels.

Average weekly wages are affected by the ratio of full-time to part-time workers as well as the number of individuals in high-paying and low-paying occupations and the incidence of pay periods within a quarter. For instance, the average weekly wage of the 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 2006 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 2007 version of this news release. As with the 2005 edition, this edition includes the data on a CD for enhanced access and usability with the printed booklet containing selected graphic representations of QCEW data; the data tables themselves have been published exclusively in electronic formats as PDFs. *Employment and Wages Annual Averages, 2006* is available in a PDF on the BLS Web site at
http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn06.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. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 335 largest counties, first quarter 2008 [2]

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change
United States [6]	9,112.7	134,761.1	0.4	–	$905	2.4	–
Jefferson, AL	19.0	359.3	-1.3	277	914	4.0	62
Madison, AL	8.9	181.4	3.4	11	919	3.3	112
Mobile, AL	10.1	176.0	0.5	139	710	2.7	158
Montgomery, AL	6.8	138.9	-0.4	226	723	1.4	233
Shelby, AL	5.0	75.8	2.5	23	878	0.9	260
Tuscaloosa, AL	4.5	86.0	-0.5	230	718	2.9	140
Anchorage Borough, AK	8.1	144.4	0.6	120	916	4.7	38
Maricopa, AZ	101.7	1,805.2	-1.4	282	867	1.3	239
Pima, AZ	21.2	373.5	-1.5	283	778	6.7	8
Benton, AR	5.6	95.7	-0.9	257	880	4.9	30
Pulaski, AR	14.8	250.4	0.9	93	791	4.8	35
Washington, AR	5.7	91.7	-1.3	277	690	4.9	30
Alameda, CA	51.8	686.6	-0.6	237	1,146	1.0	253
Butte, CA	8.0	75.6	0.2	168	640	1.7	224
Contra Costa, CA	29.5	341.6	-0.8	249	1,109	-0.5	304
Fresno, CA	30.7	339.8	-0.9	257	689	3.3	112
Kern, CA	18.4	267.5	0.1	180	758	3.6	89
Los Angeles, CA	425.0	4,229.6	0.4	147	992	2.1	204
Marin, CA	12.0	109.0	0.7	107	1,073	3.4	103
Monterey, CA	12.7	160.6	2.3	27	800	1.7	224
Orange, CA	100.1	1,504.9	-1.1	264	1,019	1.2	243
Placer, CA	11.0	137.7	-2.3	302	829	-0.1	295
Riverside, CA	46.5	624.8	-2.9	311	751	1.9	217
Sacramento, CA	54.3	632.7	-1.2	272	962	3.6	89
San Bernardino, CA	49.2	656.3	-2.3	302	741	2.2	199
San Diego, CA	97.8	1,327.6	0.0	190	945	1.9	217
San Francisco, CA	47.2	564.5	2.9	16	1,639	-0.4	300
San Joaquin, CA	18.1	218.5	-2.1	296	731	3.2	122
San Luis Obispo, CA	9.5	105.8	0.3	154	741	8.3	4
San Mateo, CA	24.1	343.9	1.3	70	1,457	0.6	271
Santa Barbara, CA	14.3	186.7	0.6	120	821	0.9	260
Santa Clara, CA	60.0	912.0	1.9	48	1,631	3.1	129
Santa Cruz, CA	9.1	92.7	-1.2	272	819	-2.3	320
Solano, CA	10.2	124.8	-2.4	305	837	1.2	243
Sonoma, CA	18.7	192.9	0.7	107	817	1.7	224
Stanislaus, CA	14.9	171.2	-0.8	249	713	2.6	163
Tulare, CA	9.5	144.1	1.9	48	608	3.4	103
Ventura, CA	23.0	318.9	-1.1	264	924	-0.6	307
Yolo, CA	5.9	100.8	0.5	139	806	-0.5	304
Adams, CO	9.3	154.4	3.1	14	813	6.8	7
Arapahoe, CO	19.5	281.6	1.9	48	1,081	2.3	192
Boulder, CO	12.9	161.8	2.1	39	1,068	3.5	97
Denver, CO	25.7	445.9	1.6	60	1,166	4.2	56
Douglas, CO	9.5	91.9	4.1	5	952	6.3	11
El Paso, CO	17.6	244.2	0.0	190	788	3.7	80
Jefferson, CO	18.7	209.7	1.2	77	899	1.8	221
Larimer, CO	10.4	128.1	1.4	65	755	2.0	212
Weld, CO	6.1	82.8	1.7	56	718	4.7	38
Fairfield, CT	32.9	418.1	1.2	77	1,905	-3.8	325
Hartford, CT	25.5	503.7	1.2	77	1,188	0.3	283

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 335 largest counties, first quarter 2008 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change
New Haven, CT	22.7	366.2	0.6	120	$924	1.2	243
New London, CT	6.9	128.4	0.3	154	939	7.3	6
New Castle, DE	18.4	279.9	-0.2	212	1,130	-0.2	297
Washington, DC	32.5	680.8	1.1	84	1,488	4.3	52
Alachua, FL	6.9	122.6	([7])	–	725	([7])	–
Brevard, FL	15.2	204.8	-2.3	302	777	1.2	243
Broward, FL	66.6	757.1	-1.9	292	815	-0.4	300
Collier, FL	12.8	134.6	-7.4	330	750	-1.4	315
Duval, FL	27.3	466.7	-1.8	290	888	2.8	151
Escambia, FL	8.1	128.3	-2.5	307	675	2.6	163
Hillsborough, FL	38.0	633.8	-3.6	321	843	4.2	56
Lake, FL	7.4	86.5	-3.3	317	595	2.6	163
Lee, FL	20.3	219.3	-8.1	331	718	2.1	204
Leon, FL	8.3	145.0	-2.4	305	717	2.9	140
Manatee, FL	9.5	115.4	0.0	190	664	0.2	286
Marion, FL	8.8	104.2	-5.1	327	609	1.8	221
Miami-Dade, FL	88.2	1,029.9	-1.0	262	871	1.5	231
Okaloosa, FL	6.2	80.1	-3.5	320	681	3.2	122
Orange, FL	37.5	701.4	-0.4	226	796	3.1	129
Palm Beach, FL	51.6	552.2	-3.3	317	851	0.4	279
Pasco, FL	10.2	104.3	-0.3	219	594	1.0	253
Pinellas, FL	32.1	433.4	-3.3	317	742	3.6	89
Polk, FL	13.0	210.0	-1.8	290	664	2.8	151
Sarasota, FL	15.6	157.6	-4.8	326	717	0.6	271
Seminole, FL	15.4	178.6	-2.0	294	745	2.1	204
Volusia, FL	14.3	168.2	-4.1	324	616	2.2	199
Bibb, GA	4.6	83.8	-0.6	237	693	3.1	129
Chatham, GA	7.6	136.8	-1.3	277	736	([7])	–
Clayton, GA	4.4	113.6	0.6	120	810	6.7	8
Cobb, GA	20.8	318.5	-0.3	219	969	-2.6	323
De Kalb, GA	16.9	300.2	-0.1	203	962	0.2	286
Fulton, GA	39.4	749.3	0.6	120	1,268	0.1	290
Gwinnett, GA	23.7	321.7	-1.1	264	876	0.0	292
Muscogee, GA	4.9	96.3	-0.7	243	708	3.4	103
Richmond, GA	4.8	101.5	0.2	168	727	4.0	62
Honolulu, HI	24.6	452.8	0.0	190	800	3.6	89
Ada, ID	15.3	209.2	-0.5	230	746	-2.4	321
Champaign, IL	4.1	91.4	0.5	139	705	4.0	62
Cook, IL	138.2	2,490.4	-0.5	230	1,147	2.7	158
Du Page, IL	35.9	590.6	-0.1	203	1,058	1.3	239
Kane, IL	12.7	205.7	-1.2	272	763	3.0	136
Lake, IL	21.0	326.0	0.2	168	1,134	0.4	279
McHenry, IL	8.4	100.1	-0.1	203	729	1.7	224
McLean, IL	3.7	85.2	0.2	168	918	6.7	8
Madison, IL	6.0	95.9	0.9	93	704	3.5	97
Peoria, IL	4.8	104.3	1.4	65	840	3.2	122
Rock Island, IL	3.5	79.3	0.6	120	863	2.0	212
St. Clair, IL	5.4	95.9	0.2	168	673	3.1	129
Sangamon, IL	5.2	128.3	0.1	180	849	4.9	30
Will, IL	13.5	192.7	2.3	27	757	3.1	129

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 335 largest counties, first quarter 2008 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change
Winnebago, IL	6.9	135.5	-0.2	212	$751	2.9	140
Allen, IN	9.1	178.2	-2.8	308	726	1.4	233
Elkhart, IN	5.0	120.2	-3.6	321	703	0.1	290
Hamilton, IN	7.6	109.4	1.7	56	897	3.7	80
Lake, IN	10.3	192.7	-0.1	203	752	2.6	163
Marion, IN	24.2	575.0	0.3	154	953	2.5	177
St. Joseph, IN	6.1	122.1	-0.9	257	740	6.2	13
Tippecanoe, IN	3.3	75.3	-1.6	287	765	4.4	48
Vanderburgh, IN	4.8	106.5	-0.9	257	728	3.7	80
Linn, IA	6.3	124.1	2.3	27	834	2.3	192
Polk, IA	14.8	271.7	1.6	60	905	2.3	192
Scott, IA	5.2	88.0	0.7	107	698	4.3	52
Johnson, KS	20.2	316.7	1.5	63	938	2.9	140
Sedgwick, KS	12.0	259.2	1.3	70	836	-1.1	312
Shawnee, KS	4.8	94.6	0.3	154	736	2.8	151
Wyandotte, KS	3.2	80.2	0.5	139	805	2.0	212
Boone, KY	3.6	74.4	2.2	37	751	2.2	199
Fayette, KY	9.4	174.3	-0.4	226	767	0.8	263
Jefferson, KY	22.7	426.6	0.3	154	849	0.7	267
Caddo, LA	7.3	126.0	0.8	101	693	2.4	184
Calcasieu, LA	4.8	86.2	-1.1	264	749	5.8	19
East Baton Rouge, LA	14.1	265.1	1.4	65	814	4.9	30
Jefferson, LA	13.8	199.5	0.3	154	797	3.8	73
Lafayette, LA	8.6	135.3	2.0	42	817	3.9	70
Orleans, LA	10.2	171.6	5.0	1	1,005	2.7	158
St. Tammany, LA	7.1	74.8	-1.2	272	689	4.7	38
Cumberland, ME	12.4	169.6	0.7	107	824	5.0	28
Anne Arundel, MD	14.6	232.5	0.6	120	928	3.2	122
Baltimore, MD	21.7	374.7	0.0	190	901	2.5	177
Frederick, MD	6.0	94.1	-0.5	230	863	3.6	89
Harford, MD	5.7	82.2	-1.9	292	826	2.6	163
Howard, MD	8.7	147.9	0.6	120	1,025	2.0	212
Montgomery, MD	33.0	455.7	-0.4	226	1,238	2.1	204
Prince Georges, MD	15.8	314.5	0.4	147	913	2.8	151
Baltimore City, MD	14.1	340.7	-0.8	249	1,033	4.1	60
Barnstable, MA	9.1	82.7	-0.5	230	748	3.5	97
Bristol, MA	15.5	214.8	-0.8	249	770	4.9	30
Essex, MA	20.8	296.3	1.2	77	922	0.4	279
Hampden, MA	14.2	196.9	0.2	168	824	3.1	129
Middlesex, MA	47.5	814.4	1.3	70	1,285	3.0	136
Norfolk, MA	22.8	320.0	0.8	101	1,066	2.6	163
Plymouth, MA	13.8	173.7	0.3	154	798	2.4	184
Suffolk, MA	21.7	587.3	1.5	63	1,708	3.4	103
Worcester, MA	20.7	318.3	0.2	168	875	3.6	89
Genesee, MI	7.8	134.7	-6.5	329	750	-0.9	310
Ingham, MI	6.8	159.8	-1.0	262	819	2.8	151
Kalamazoo, MI	5.5	114.1	-2.2	299	773	4.0	62
Kent, MI	14.2	330.2	-1.1	264	770	1.0	253
Macomb, MI	17.7	302.0	-3.2	313	879	-1.3	314
Oakland, MI	39.0	668.6	-2.8	308	1,021	1.2	243

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 335 largest counties, first quarter 2008 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change
Ottawa, MI	5.7	105.8	-2.2	299	$715	0.3	283
Saginaw, MI	4.3	81.8	-5.2	328	717	-4.4	327
Washtenaw, MI	8.0	187.5	-2.8	308	947	-2.0	318
Wayne, MI	32.1	724.6	-3.1	312	1,013	1.7	224
Anoka, MN	7.9	112.4	-1.1	264	796	2.7	158
Dakota, MN	10.7	172.8	0.1	180	870	3.4	103
Hennepin, MN	42.9	837.2	0.4	147	1,188	5.2	24
Olmsted, MN	3.6	89.3	0.9	93	910	-2.5	322
Ramsey, MN	15.5	327.4	0.1	180	1,006	2.3	192
St. Louis, MN	6.0	95.8	1.3	70	691	2.5	177
Stearns, MN	4.6	81.2	0.7	107	683	4.4	48
Harrison, MS	4.6	86.9	1.9	48	667	1.1	252
Hinds, MS	6.4	127.3	-0.1	203	755	0.8	263
Boone, MO	4.6	82.8	0.4	147	655	3.8	73
Clay, MO	5.1	89.1	-0.7	243	809	0.6	271
Greene, MO	8.2	155.4	-0.6	237	638	1.8	221
Jackson, MO	18.7	370.0	0.6	120	894	3.0	136
St. Charles, MO	8.2	120.8	-2.1	296	741	0.7	267
St. Louis, MO	32.8	600.2	-1.1	264	953	5.4	22
St. Louis City, MO	8.5	232.3	0.7	107	1,033	1.9	217
Yellowstone, MT	5.7	77.1	2.0	42	695	3.4	103
Douglas, NE	15.7	317.4	2.0	42	814	2.6	163
Lancaster, NE	8.0	155.9	1.2	77	683	2.1	204
Clark, NV	50.2	917.5	-0.6	237	854	5.3	23
Washoe, NV	14.6	209.5	-3.2	313	796	3.8	73
Hillsborough, NH	12.3	195.0	0.0	190	982	6.3	11
Rockingham, NH	10.9	134.4	-0.7	243	839	-3.9	326
Atlantic, NJ	7.1	142.2	-0.1	203	790	3.3	112
Bergen, NJ	35.1	447.7	0.1	180	1,150	4.0	62
Burlington, NJ	11.6	202.4	0.0	190	921	2.4	184
Camden, NJ	13.2	207.4	0.0	190	882	0.8	263
Essex, NJ	21.6	362.0	0.1	180	1,190	0.5	276
Gloucester, NJ	6.3	103.0	0.6	120	784	4.7	38
Hudson, NJ	14.1	236.6	0.7	107	1,528	6.0	15
Mercer, NJ	11.4	229.3	2.0	42	1,206	5.8	19
Middlesex, NJ	22.3	403.8	-0.3	219	1,167	2.9	140
Monmouth, NJ	21.1	254.9	0.1	180	935	3.3	112
Morris, NJ	18.4	284.3	-1.5	283	1,388	2.1	204
Ocean, NJ	12.6	146.2	0.2	168	725	1.4	233
Passaic, NJ	12.7	177.5	-0.3	219	894	0.8	263
Somerset, NJ	10.4	172.8	0.5	139	1,765	9.0	3
Union, NJ	15.3	234.4	1.0	88	1,231	0.7	267
Bernalillo, NM	17.6	331.4	-0.2	212	758	3.7	80
Albany, NY	9.9	225.8	-0.1	203	858	2.0	212
Bronx, NY	15.9	224.6	2.2	37	803	2.3	192
Broome, NY	4.5	95.0	0.6	120	695	3.4	103
Dutchess, NY	8.4	115.2	-0.8	249	906	3.7	80
Erie, NY	23.6	453.4	0.3	154	762	0.0	292
Kings, NY	45.6	478.3	2.1	39	730	-1.2	313
Monroe, NY	18.0	376.4	-0.3	219	863	3.2	122

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 335 largest counties, first quarter 2008 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change
Nassau, NY	52.5	601.3	0.6	120	$958	-2.1	319
New York, NY	118.5	2,376.0	1.7	56	2,805	-1.0	311
Oneida, NY	5.3	109.5	0.4	147	676	0.9	260
Onondaga, NY	12.8	248.6	0.5	139	804	2.4	184
Orange, NY	10.0	130.2	0.8	101	723	1.4	233
Queens, NY	43.2	499.9	2.3	27	852	3.1	129
Richmond, NY	8.7	93.1	0.1	180	745	2.1	204
Rockland, NY	9.8	115.6	1.9	48	949	3.4	103
Saratoga, NY	5.4	74.9	-0.2	212	743	3.8	73
Suffolk, NY	50.5	618.0	1.0	88	892	0.2	286
Westchester, NY	36.6	418.5	0.6	120	1,311	-0.2	297
Buncombe, NC	8.1	115.8	1.1	84	657	3.3	112
Catawba, NC	4.6	86.8	-2.1	296	662	1.5	231
Cumberland, NC	6.3	119.1	0.5	139	657	4.6	42
Durham, NC	7.0	184.9	1.0	88	1,237	2.6	163
Forsyth, NC	9.3	186.3	0.6	120	827	5.1	26
Guilford, NC	14.9	281.0	0.2	168	770	1.0	253
Mecklenburg, NC	32.8	571.2	2.1	39	1,181	-3.4	324
New Hanover, NC	7.5	104.5	0.0	190	704	3.7	80
Wake, NC	28.6	452.1	3.5	10	877	1.2	243
Cass, ND	5.8	98.1	3.8	7	715	5.6	21
Butler, OH	7.4	146.9	0.6	120	778	3.9	70
Cuyahoga, OH	37.8	725.6	-1.7	288	907	-0.4	300
Franklin, OH	29.9	674.4	-0.1	203	906	1.2	243
Hamilton, OH	24.1	511.0	0.0	190	961	1.2	243
Lake, OH	6.8	98.8	-0.6	237	731	1.0	253
Lorain, OH	6.3	95.9	-4.2	325	721	1.7	224
Lucas, OH	10.8	212.7	-2.0	294	771	-0.5	304
Mahoning, OH	6.4	100.5	-1.5	283	618	1.0	253
Montgomery, OH	12.9	259.2	-3.2	313	804	-1.5	316
Stark, OH	9.1	160.1	-0.2	212	679	1.3	239
Summit, OH	15.0	270.8	0.6	120	814	2.9	140
Trumbull, OH	4.7	75.5	-3.2	313	709	-17.2	328
Warren, OH	4.2	76.0	-0.7	243	747	([7])	–
Oklahoma, OK	23.8	424.9	1.3	70	788	5.2	24
Tulsa, OK	19.4	348.8	1.1	84	823	4.0	62
Clackamas, OR	13.0	150.8	0.9	93	789	2.6	163
Jackson, OR	6.8	81.8	-1.7	288	620	0.6	271
Lane, OR	11.0	149.6	0.1	180	657	2.5	177
Marion, OR	9.6	138.2	0.7	107	675	2.7	158
Multnomah, OR	28.3	449.5	1.7	56	885	2.4	184
Washington, OR	16.4	249.1	-0.2	212	1,020	6.0	15
Allegheny, PA	35.4	677.2	0.3	154	952	0.5	276
Berks, PA	9.2	167.9	0.2	168	770	2.4	184
Bucks, PA	20.3	262.0	0.5	139	849	2.3	192
Butler, PA	4.8	78.8	0.8	101	750	6.1	14
Chester, PA	15.2	241.7	2.0	42	1,118	0.3	283
Cumberland, PA	6.0	125.1	0.3	154	794	2.3	192
Dauphin, PA	7.4	180.0	0.1	180	842	1.4	233
Delaware, PA	13.8	209.1	0.6	120	959	3.7	80

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 335 largest counties, first quarter 2008 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change
Erie, PA	7.3	125.4	-1.1	264	$683	2.4	184
Lackawanna, PA	5.8	100.4	-0.9	257	645	2.4	184
Lancaster, PA	12.4	227.3	0.7	107	729	2.8	151
Lehigh, PA	8.7	176.4	0.2	168	872	0.7	267
Luzerne, PA	7.9	140.2	0.0	190	674	-0.7	308
Montgomery, PA	27.6	486.3	1.0	88	1,189	1.0	253
Northampton, PA	6.5	99.2	0.8	101	772	3.9	70
Philadelphia, PA	30.4	630.8	-0.3	219	1,064	2.6	163
Washington, PA	5.3	78.1	1.2	77	762	3.5	97
Westmoreland, PA	9.5	133.6	-0.5	230	757	14.9	1
York, PA	9.1	176.3	0.6	120	759	3.3	112
Kent, RI	5.7	78.0	-3.6	321	773	1.2	243
Providence, RI	18.1	279.3	-2.2	299	896	4.2	56
Charleston, SC	12.1	209.4	0.7	107	733	4.3	52
Greenville, SC	12.5	240.6	0.9	93	733	2.9	140
Horry, SC	8.3	113.9	-1.3	277	534	-0.4	300
Lexington, SC	5.6	97.3	0.9	93	639	2.9	140
Richland, SC	9.4	215.6	0.0	190	771	2.9	140
Spartanburg, SC	6.1	119.9	0.7	107	783	3.2	122
Minnehaha, SD	6.3	114.6	2.5	23	736	4.5	46
Davidson, TN	18.8	438.8	0.4	147	898	4.1	60
Hamilton, TN	8.7	195.0	1.2	77	742	2.2	199
Knox, TN	11.2	230.5	2.3	27	711	0.6	271
Rutherford, TN	4.3	100.4	1.4	65	741	-1.9	317
Shelby, TN	20.2	502.6	-0.2	212	883	5.1	26
Williamson, TN	6.1	87.0	2.3	27	939	2.8	151
Bell, TX	4.6	102.3	2.6	20	674	5.0	28
Bexar, TX	32.2	729.6	2.9	16	788	2.9	140
Brazoria, TX	4.6	87.4	1.8	55	867	3.7	80
Brazos, TX	3.8	84.2	([7])	–	637	([7])	–
Cameron, TX	6.5	125.2	1.1	84	523	4.6	42
Collin, TX	16.8	293.3	([7])	–	1,059	([7])	–
Dallas, TX	67.8	1,489.7	2.0	42	1,119	2.6	163
Denton, TX	10.4	168.2	2.7	18	744	3.3	112
El Paso, TX	13.4	273.6	3.7	8	599	0.0	292
Fort Bend, TX	8.2	127.8	4.7	2	968	4.0	62
Galveston, TX	5.2	96.9	3.1	14	840	4.6	42
Harris, TX	96.6	2,046.5	3.4	11	1,172	3.8	73
Hidalgo, TX	10.6	221.2	3.4	11	532	3.5	97
Jefferson, TX	5.9	124.9	-0.8	249	856	7.9	5
Lubbock, TX	6.8	122.9	2.5	23	626	3.6	89
McLennan, TX	4.9	103.3	1.3	70	694	4.4	48
Montgomery, TX	8.1	125.1	4.7	2	797	3.2	122
Nueces, TX	8.1	155.0	2.6	20	754	6.0	15
Potter, TX	3.8	76.4	4.1	5	739	([7])	–
Smith, TX	5.2	94.1	2.3	27	711	3.3	112
Tarrant, TX	37.1	770.1	2.3	27	885	2.5	177
Travis, TX	28.6	577.5	2.4	26	974	3.6	89
Webb, TX	4.8	88.6	1.4	65	554	1.3	239
Williamson, TX	7.1	121.2	4.6	4	912	10.8	2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 335 largest counties, first quarter 2008 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08 [5]	Ranking by percent change
Davis, UT	7.2	101.7	-0.6	237	$671	2.1	204
Salt Lake, UT	38.2	587.6	1.9	48	811	3.0	136
Utah, UT	13.0	173.1	-0.3	219	651	4.3	52
Weber, UT	5.7	95.0	1.6	60	617	2.5	177
Chittenden, VT	5.9	93.5	-0.5	230	896	6.0	15
Arlington, VA	7.6	153.1	1.0	88	1,473	1.7	224
Chesterfield, VA	7.5	120.1	-0.8	249	790	3.3	112
Fairfax, VA	33.2	585.0	0.8	101	1,376	0.4	279
Henrico, VA	9.4	179.6	0.4	147	998	-0.8	309
Loudoun, VA	8.7	130.2	1.9	48	1,105	2.5	177
Prince William, VA	7.0	102.6	0.2	168	761	2.6	163
Alexandria City, VA	6.1	99.8	0.3	154	1,180	4.0	62
Chesapeake City, VA	5.7	99.3	-1.3	277	672	1.4	233
Newport News City, VA	4.0	99.5	-0.1	203	794	4.6	42
Norfolk City, VA	5.8	143.6	-0.7	243	826	-0.2	297
Richmond City, VA	7.4	157.8	0.7	107	1,114	4.4	48
Virginia Beach City, VA	11.6	172.7	-0.7	243	683	3.8	73
Clark, WA	12.0	132.0	0.6	120	770	3.5	97
King, WA	76.8	1,186.2	2.7	18	1,125	4.2	56
Kitsap, WA	6.6	83.8	0.3	154	744	2.6	163
Pierce, WA	20.4	273.9	0.7	107	804	4.8	35
Snohomish, WA	17.8	254.2	2.3	27	895	0.2	286
Spokane, WA	15.0	209.4	1.3	70	701	3.4	103
Thurston, WA	6.8	100.9	2.6	20	769	3.8	73
Whatcom, WA	6.9	83.0	2.3	27	683	4.8	35
Yakima, WA	7.7	97.7	3.6	9	587	3.3	112
Kanawha, WV	6.1	106.5	-1.2	272	765	3.7	80
Brown, WI	6.7	146.8	0.0	190	787	4.5	46
Dane, WI	14.0	299.3	0.3	154	859	1.9	217
Milwaukee, WI	21.0	494.8	0.9	93	893	2.2	199
Outagamie, WI	5.1	101.8	0.3	154	737	2.6	163
Racine, WI	4.2	74.1	-1.5	283	784	2.9	140
Waukesha, WI	13.3	230.6	-0.8	249	867	0.5	276
Winnebago, WI	3.8	89.2	0.9	93	823	-0.1	295
San Juan, PR	13.5	284.1	-2.4	([8])	593	3.1	([8])

[1] 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.
[2] Data are preliminary.
[3] Includes areas not officially designated as counties. See Technical Note.
[4] Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.
[5] Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.
[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.
[8] This county was not included in the U.S. rankings.

Table 2. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 10 largest counties, first quarter 2008 [2]

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage [3]	
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08 [4]	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08 [4]
United States [5]	9,112.7	134,761.1	0.4	$905	2.4
Private industry	8,820.9	112,728.2	0.2	913	2.4
Natural resources and mining	125.3	1,731.8	2.7	1,020	10.5
Construction	890.0	7,020.0	-4.1	898	4.8
Manufacturing	361.3	13,529.8	-2.3	1,079	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,923.2	26,031.1	0.2	745	1.9
Information	144.9	3,013.5	-0.1	1,469	2.3
Financial activities	872.4	8,005.6	-1.7	1,898	0.2
Professional and business services	1,504.2	17,691.9	0.5	1,131	4.2
Education and health services	838.9	17,845.8	3.0	767	3.6
Leisure and hospitality	731.2	13,112.5	1.3	360	2.9
Other services	1,194.1	4,444.1	1.0	547	3.4
Government	291.8	22,032.9	1.3	868	2.7
Los Angeles, CA	425.0	4,229.6	0.4	992	2.1
Private industry	421.0	3,617.0	-0.1	975	2.1
Natural resources and mining	0.5	11.4	-5.0	1,745	13.8
Construction	14.0	149.6	-5.5	975	2.6
Manufacturing	14.8	440.0	-3.4	1,084	5.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	54.2	803.6	0.0	792	1.1
Information	8.5	214.6	2.2	1,723	0.5
Financial activities	24.4	240.6	-4.3	1,807	0.3
Professional and business services	42.4	597.5	-1.5	1,165	4.3
Education and health services	27.9	492.5	2.9	848	3.4
Leisure and hospitality	26.7	397.9	1.2	528	3.5
Other services	192.2	250.0	1.3	441	4.8
Government	4.0	612.6	3.2	1,088	1.5
Cook, IL	138.2	2,490.4	-0.5	1,147	2.7
Private industry	136.8	2,178.2	-0.5	1,167	2.9
Natural resources and mining	0.1	1.0	-10.7	919	-6.5
Construction	12.1	84.3	-4.9	1,315	9.2
Manufacturing	7.0	229.4	-3.0	1,062	1.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	27.4	465.9	-1.1	838	2.7
Information	2.5	57.5	0.4	1,820	0.2
Financial activities	15.7	209.6	-2.4	2,905	4.5
Professional and business services	28.5	431.2	-0.1	1,403	3.2
Education and health services	13.7	373.1	1.9	833	3.3
Leisure and hospitality	11.5	226.6	1.2	412	1.2
Other services	14.2	95.6	0.6	721	2.9
Government	1.4	312.2	-0.5	1,006	1.3
New York, NY	118.5	2,376.0	1.7	2,805	-1.0
Private industry	118.3	1,923.2	1.9	3,229	-1.4
Natural resources and mining	0.0	0.2	-4.5	2,375	23.3
Construction	2.3	36.2	8.9	1,596	8.6
Manufacturing	3.0	36.0	-6.3	1,499	-4.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	21.7	246.4	0.8	1,211	0.8
Information	4.4	134.1	0.7	2,698	5.0
Financial activities	18.7	377.6	0.7	9,840	-3.7
Professional and business services	24.7	489.3	1.9	2,343	3.8
Education and health services	8.7	293.1	1.5	989	3.9
Leisure and hospitality	11.3	213.9	3.7	766	2.7
Other services	17.6	87.8	1.8	1,105	7.6
Government	0.3	452.8	0.8	1,004	1.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 10 largest counties, first quarter 2008 [2]—Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage [3]	
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08 [4]	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08 [4]
Harris, TX	96.6	2,046.5	3.4	$1,172	3.8
Private industry	96.1	1,791.5	3.5	1,212	3.9
Natural resources and mining	1.5	80.0	5.5	3,698	13.5
Construction	6.7	157.0	5.4	1,042	3.6
Manufacturing	4.7	184.1	2.7	1,524	2.8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	22.2	426.9	3.3	1,068	1.6
Information	1.4	32.6	0.0	1,363	-4.0
Financial activities	10.6	120.3	0.9	1,701	1.3
Professional and business services	19.3	337.7	3.6	1,293	4.0
Education and health services	10.2	216.5	4.6	839	3.1
Leisure and hospitality	7.5	176.8	3.0	384	2.7
Other services	11.4	58.5	1.7	632	5.3
Government	0.5	255.0	2.9	893	2.1
Maricopa, AZ	101.7	1,805.2	-1.4	867	1.3
Private industry	101.0	1,580.7	-1.9	865	1.1
Natural resources and mining	0.5	8.7	-4.2	991	22.5
Construction	11.0	144.5	-14.2	884	2.4
Manufacturing	3.6	127.3	-4.6	1,252	5.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	22.4	372.2	-0.1	805	-1.2
Information	1.7	30.9	3.5	1,164	0.9
Financial activities	13.0	145.0	-4.4	1,238	-0.8
Professional and business services	22.6	306.8	-1.9	870	1.6
Education and health services	9.9	206.5	4.6	879	3.4
Leisure and hospitality	7.3	187.1	0.6	405	0.0
Other services	7.2	50.5	1.0	577	4.2
Government	0.7	224.5	2.8	880	3.0
Orange, CA	100.1	1,504.9	-1.1	1,019	1.2
Private industry	98.7	1,347.3	-1.4	1,001	0.9
Natural resources and mining	0.2	6.5	0.7	563	-0.2
Construction	7.0	94.5	-8.2	1,080	0.7
Manufacturing	5.3	174.2	-2.2	1,188	3.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	17.5	276.2	-0.4	918	-1.2
Information	1.4	29.7	-2.7	1,544	10.9
Financial activities	11.0	115.7	-13.6	1,722	([6])
Professional and business services	19.0	273.9	-1.7	1,124	3.7
Education and health services	9.9	146.8	4.2	863	3.0
Leisure and hospitality	7.1	175.1	3.5	397	0.3
Other services	15.3	47.9	1.7	560	0.4
Government	1.4	157.6	1.5	1,170	3.0
Dallas, TX	67.8	1,489.7	2.0	1,119	2.6
Private industry	67.3	1,322.2	1.9	1,145	2.5
Natural resources and mining	0.6	8.0	13.6	3,497	20.2
Construction	4.4	84.0	3.7	953	1.6
Manufacturing	3.1	135.4	-3.3	1,320	1.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	15.1	304.5	1.4	1,003	2.8
Information	1.7	49.6	0.3	1,694	5.2
Financial activities	8.8	144.1	([6])	1,869	2.2
Professional and business services	14.7	279.0	3.8	1,236	3.3
Education and health services	6.6	148.6	3.6	891	3.7
Leisure and hospitality	5.3	128.8	2.6	509	-2.9
Other services	6.5	38.9	1.7	625	3.1
Government	0.5	167.4	2.6	913	3.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 10 largest counties, first quarter 2008 [2]—Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage [3]	
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08 [4]	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08 [4]
San Diego, CA	97.8	1,327.6	0.0	$945	1.9
Private industry	96.5	1,098.1	-0.5	936	1.7
Natural resources and mining	0.8	11.3	0.7	534	4.3
Construction	7.1	78.0	-12.3	985	3.4
Manufacturing	3.2	103.1	-0.2	1,316	5.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.4	216.1	-1.7	772	3.8
Information	1.3	38.2	1.9	1,910	-4.8
Financial activities	9.7	76.4	-6.5	1,329	-2.4
Professional and business services	16.1	217.2	-0.2	1,170	3.5
Education and health services	8.1	135.2	4.1	840	3.1
Leisure and hospitality	6.9	160.4	2.0	422	1.7
Other services	24.3	55.9	1.4	482	0.6
Government	1.3	229.5	2.7	986	2.2
King, WA	76.8	1,186.2	2.7	1,125	4.2
Private industry	76.3	1,030.4	2.9	1,142	4.3
Natural resources and mining	0.4	3.1	0.4	1,621	-0.5
Construction	6.9	71.3	4.9	1,086	6.7
Manufacturing	2.5	112.5	1.4	1,443	4.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	15.1	220.2	2.1	958	1.9
Information	1.8	77.8	5.2	2,144	12.8
Financial activities	7.1	76.1	0.3	1,651	-1.8
Professional and business services	13.7	189.6	3.3	1,306	3.7
Education and health services	6.5	124.4	4.2	837	5.5
Leisure and hospitality	6.2	110.0	3.6	447	-1.1
Other services	16.2	45.4	0.6	599	7.7
Government	0.5	155.8	1.5	1,010	3.0
Miami-Dade, FL	88.2	1,029.9	-1.0	871	1.5
Private industry	87.8	876.6	-1.2	837	1.2
Natural resources and mining	0.5	10.8	-6.5	465	-1.5
Construction	6.5	50.9	-11.4	812	1.0
Manufacturing	2.7	46.0	-6.3	774	2.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	23.5	253.7	-0.2	777	1.0
Information	1.6	20.1	-3.6	1,354	-3.2
Financial activities	10.6	70.5	-3.0	1,483	4.0
Professional and business services	17.9	135.6	-4.1	992	0.7
Education and health services	9.4	141.7	3.9	796	3.2
Leisure and hospitality	5.9	107.0	0.1	506	1.8
Other services	7.6	37.2	2.5	526	1.3
Government	0.4	153.3	0.2	1,062	2.5

[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] Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.
[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. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, first quarter 2008 [2]

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage [4]	
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08 [5]	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08 [5]
United States [6]	9,112.7	134,761.1	0.4	$905	2.4
Jefferson, AL	19.0	359.3	-1.3	914	4.0
Anchorage Borough, AK	8.1	144.4	0.6	916	4.7
Maricopa, AZ	101.7	1,805.2	-1.4	867	1.3
Pulaski, AR	14.8	250.4	0.9	791	4.8
Los Angeles, CA	425.0	4,229.6	0.4	992	2.1
Denver, CO	25.7	445.9	1.6	1,166	4.2
Hartford, CT	25.5	503.7	1.2	1,188	0.3
New Castle, DE	18.4	279.9	-0.2	1,130	-0.2
Washington, DC	32.5	680.8	1.1	1,488	4.3
Miami-Dade, FL	88.2	1,029.9	-1.0	871	1.5
Fulton, GA	39.4	749.3	0.6	1,268	0.1
Honolulu, HI	24.6	452.8	0.0	800	3.6
Ada, ID	15.3	209.2	-0.5	746	-2.4
Cook, IL	138.2	2,490.4	-0.5	1,147	2.7
Marion, IN	24.2	575.0	0.3	953	2.5
Polk, IA	14.8	271.7	1.6	905	2.3
Johnson, KS	20.2	316.7	1.5	938	2.9
Jefferson, KY	22.7	426.6	0.3	849	0.7
East Baton Rouge, LA	14.1	265.1	1.4	814	4.9
Cumberland, ME	12.4	169.6	0.7	824	5.0
Montgomery, MD	33.0	455.7	-0.4	1,238	2.1
Middlesex, MA	47.5	814.4	1.3	1,285	3.0
Wayne, MI	32.1	724.6	-3.1	1,013	1.7
Hennepin, MN	42.9	837.2	0.4	1,188	5.2
Hinds, MS	6.4	127.3	-0.1	755	0.8
St. Louis, MO	32.8	600.2	-1.1	953	5.4
Yellowstone, MT	5.7	77.1	2.0	695	3.4
Douglas, NE	15.7	317.4	2.0	814	2.6
Clark, NV	50.2	917.5	-0.6	854	5.3
Hillsborough, NH	12.3	195.0	0.0	982	6.3
Bergen, NJ	35.1	447.7	0.1	1,150	4.0
Bernalillo, NM	17.6	331.4	-0.2	758	3.7
New York, NY	118.5	2,376.0	1.7	2,805	-1.0
Mecklenburg, NC	32.8	571.2	2.1	1,181	-3.4
Cass, ND	5.8	98.1	3.8	715	5.6
Cuyahoga, OH	37.8	725.6	-1.7	907	-0.4
Oklahoma, OK	23.8	424.9	1.3	788	5.2
Multnomah, OR	28.3	449.5	1.7	885	2.4
Allegheny, PA	35.4	677.2	0.3	952	0.5
Providence, RI	18.1	279.3	-2.2	896	4.2
Greenville, SC	12.5	240.6	0.9	733	2.9
Minnehaha, SD	6.3	114.6	2.5	736	4.5
Shelby, TN	20.2	502.6	-0.2	883	5.1
Harris, TX	96.6	2,046.5	3.4	1,172	3.8
Salt Lake, UT	38.2	587.6	1.9	811	3.0
Chittenden, VT	5.9	93.5	-0.5	896	6.0
Fairfax, VA	33.2	585.0	0.8	1,376	0.4
King, WA	76.8	1,186.2	2.7	1,125	4.2
Kanawha, WV	6.1	106.5	-1.2	765	3.7
Milwaukee, WI	21.0	494.8	0.9	893	2.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, first quarter 2008 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage [4]	
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08 [5]	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08 [5]
Laramie, WY	3.2	43.1	2.6	$704	4.5
San Juan, PR	13.5	284.1	-2.4	593	3.1
St. Thomas, VI	1.8	24.1	3.1	637	-2.5

[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] Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.
[5] Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.
[6] Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Table 4. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages by state, first quarter 2008 [2]

State	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage [3]	
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08
United States [4]	9,112.7	134,761.1	0.4	$905	2.4
Alabama	121.7	1,947.0	-0.2	740	3.2
Alaska	21.1	303.0	1.0	866	4.2
Arizona	162.7	2,639.7	-1.3	820	2.4
Arkansas	85.2	1,178.4	-0.1	667	4.1
California	1,345.1	15,561.5	0.1	1,008	2.1
Colorado	178.2	2,300.0	1.7	920	3.6
Connecticut	113.2	1,683.9	1.2	1,254	-0.6
Delaware	29.0	418.4	0.5	987	0.1
District of Columbia	32.5	680.8	1.1	1,488	4.3
Florida	631.0	7,918.6	-2.2	777	1.8
Georgia	276.4	4,060.9	0.1	847	1.3
Hawaii	39.0	628.1	0.2	773	3.5
Idaho	57.6	645.3	0.2	635	0.3
Illinois	365.0	5,796.1	0.1	980	2.6
Indiana	160.1	2,858.7	-0.7	757	2.4
Iowa	94.2	1,469.8	0.9	710	3.6
Kansas	86.0	1,363.2	1.0	737	2.4
Kentucky	112.9	1,794.0	0.1	714	2.4
Louisiana	121.7	1,887.3	1.3	765	4.8
Maine	50.8	584.1	0.5	701	3.5
Maryland	164.8	2,530.3	0.0	963	2.8
Massachusetts	212.7	3,203.1	0.9	1,143	3.3
Michigan	259.1	4,058.8	-1.8	857	0.9
Minnesota	173.5	2,644.8	0.6	908	4.0
Mississippi	71.0	1,138.2	0.8	634	3.3
Missouri	175.2	2,708.0	0.0	768	3.5
Montana	42.9	432.4	0.9	625	4.3
Nebraska	59.1	912.2	1.4	687	3.2
Nevada	76.7	1,266.3	-1.2	839	4.7
New Hampshire	48.9	621.2	0.3	863	3.4
New Jersey	276.3	3,939.9	0.5	1,133	3.3
New Mexico	54.5	823.8	0.6	717	4.7
New York	582.3	8,555.0	1.3	1,399	0.1
North Carolina	258.4	4,069.1	0.9	788	1.3
North Dakota	25.4	343.3	2.6	652	6.2
Ohio	294.4	5,189.1	-1.0	798	1.0
Oklahoma	100.4	1,560.0	1.6	707	4.7
Oregon	133.8	1,713.1	0.3	776	2.9
Pennsylvania	341.5	5,608.8	0.5	869	2.4
Rhode Island	35.9	464.8	-1.5	851	2.3
South Carolina	117.4	1,888.3	0.1	695	2.8
South Dakota	30.3	389.4	2.0	632	5.2
Tennessee	143.4	2,746.4	0.6	761	3.3
Texas	558.7	10,420.8	2.8	903	3.6
Utah	86.7	1,220.2	1.4	718	3.2
Vermont	24.8	300.8	-0.3	735	4.4
Virginia	229.2	3,653.5	0.2	918	2.0
Washington	218.9	2,928.6	2.1	899	3.7
West Virginia	48.8	700.3	0.3	679	4.0
Wisconsin	159.7	2,734.3	0.2	760	2.2

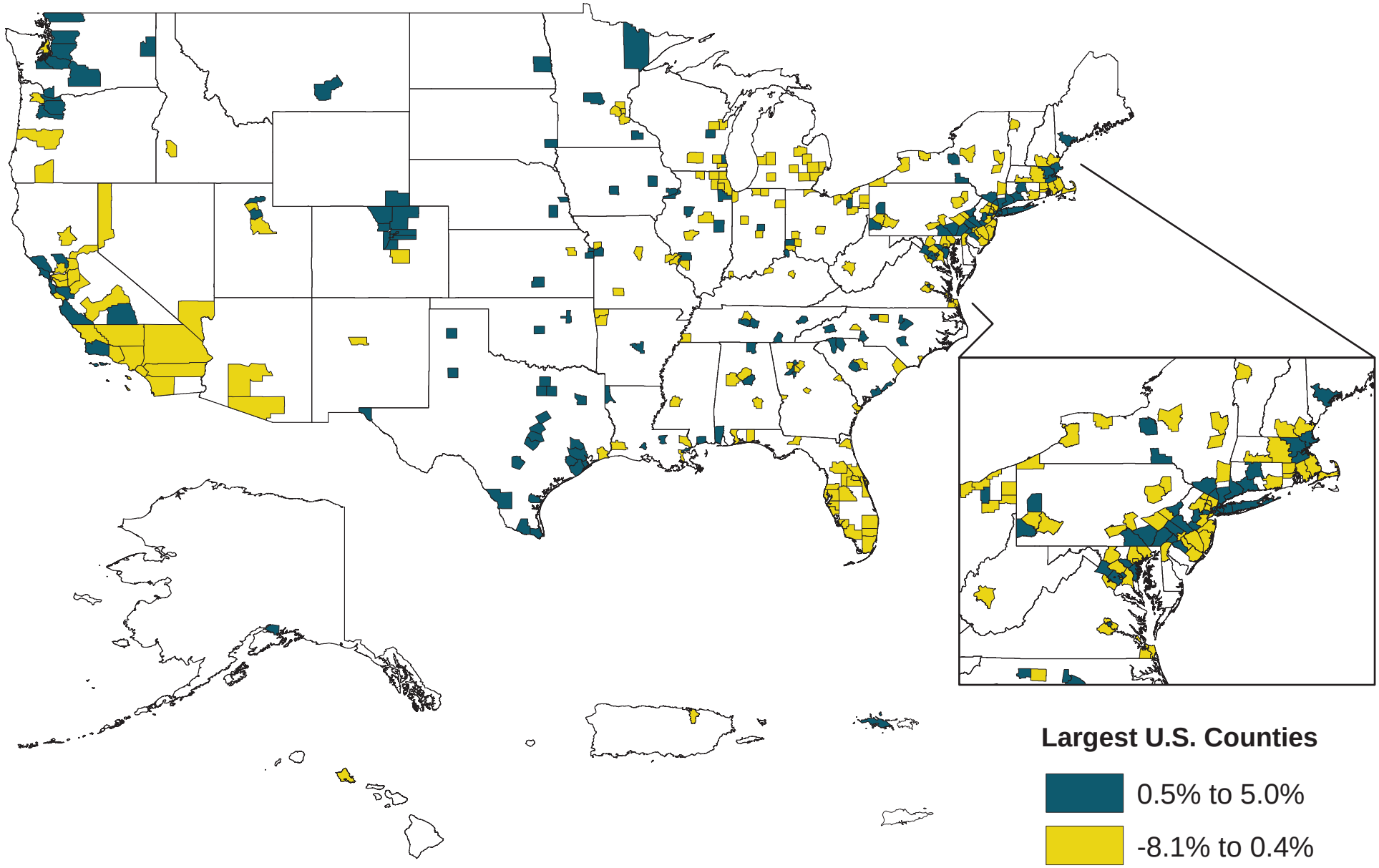
See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages by state, first quarter 2008 [2]—Continued

State	Establishments, first quarter 2008 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage [3]	
		March 2008 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2007-08	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2007-08
Wyoming	24.8	277.2	2.9	$779	6.7
Puerto Rico	57.1	1,004.5	-1.6	489	2.7
Virgin Islands	3.5	46.5	1.1	708	3.4

[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.

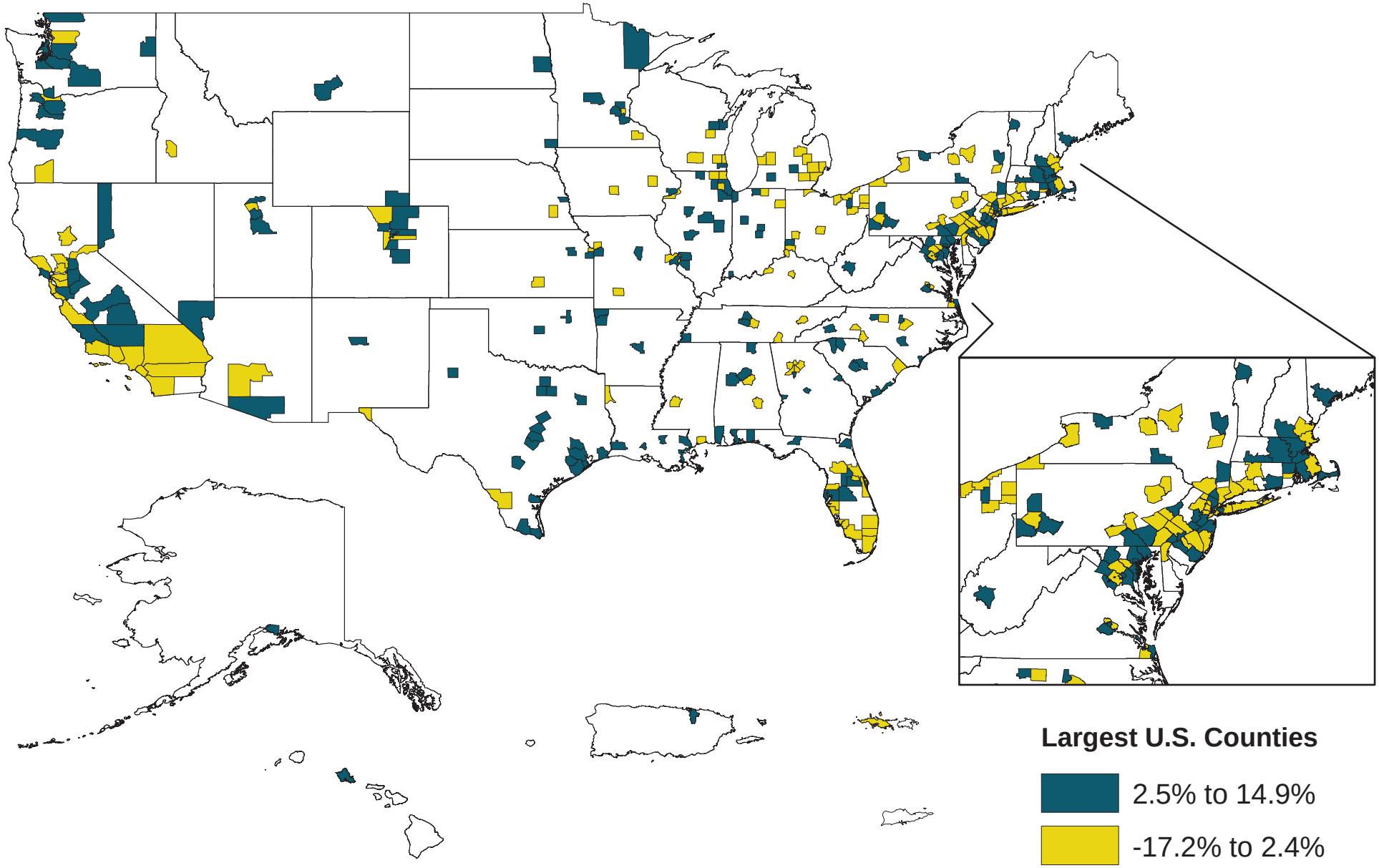
Chart 3. Percent change in employment in counties with 75,000 or more employees, March 2007-08 (U.S. average = 0.4 percent)



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
October 2008

Chart 4. Percent change in average weekly wage in counties with 75,000 or more employees, first quarter 2007-08 (U.S. average = 2.4 percent)



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Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
October 2008