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USDL 06-1859

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For release: 10:00 A.M. EDT  
Thursday, October 26, 2006

## **COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES: FIRST QUARTER 2006**

In March 2006, Collin County, Texas, 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. Collin County, a Dallas suburb, experienced an over-the-year employment gain of 7.8 percent compared with national job growth of 2.2 percent. Orleans County (New Orleans), La., had the largest over-the-year gain in average weekly wages in the first quarter of 2006, with an increase of 33.3 percent. The high average weekly wage growth rate for Orleans County was related to the disproportionate job and pay losses in lower-paid industries due to the impact of Hurricane Katrina. The U.S. average weekly wage increased by 8.1 percent over the same time span.

Of the 325 largest counties in the United States, as measured by 2005 annual average employment, 133 had over-the-year percentage growth in employment above the national average in March 2006, and 184 experienced changes below the national average. (See chart 1.) Average weekly wages grew faster than the national average in 127 of the largest U.S. counties, while the percent change in average weekly wages was below the national average in 193 counties. (See chart 2.)

The employment and average weekly wage data by county are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from reports submitted by every employer subject to unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The 8.8 million employer reports cover 132.6 million full- and part-time workers. The attached tables and charts contain data for the nation and for the 325 U.S. counties with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2005. March 2006 employment and 2006 first-quarter average weekly wages for all states are provided in table 4 of this release. Data for all states, metropolitan statistical areas, counties, and the nation through the fourth quarter of 2005 are available on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/>. Preliminary data for first quarter 2006 and final data for 2005 will be available later in October on the BLS Web site.

### **County Changes for the 2006 County Employment and Wages News Releases: Four Counties Added and One County Dropped**

Counties with employment of 75,000 or more are included in this release. For 2006 data, four counties have been added to the publication tables: Douglas, Colo., Weld, Colo., Boone, Ky., and Butler, Pa. One county, Potter, Texas, which had data for 2005 published in the 2005 releases, will be excluded from this and future 2006 releases because it no longer has an employment level of 75,000 or more.

**Table A. Top 10 large counties ranked by March 2006 employment, March 2005-06 employment growth, and March 2005-06 percent growth in employment**

Employment in large counties					
March 2006 employment (thousands)		Growth in employment, March 2005-06 ( thousands)		Percent growth in employment, March 2005-06	
U.S.	132,613.1	U.S.	2,852.5	U.S.	2.2
Los Angeles, Calif.	4,179.3	Los Angeles, Calif.	107.7	Collin, Texas	7.8
Cook, Ill.	2,502.0	Maricopa, Ariz.	102.1	Lee, Fla.	7.7
New York, N.Y.	2,271.0	Harris, Texas	83.0	Brazoria, Texas	7.5
Harris, Texas	1,924.0	Clark, Nev.	60.9	Manatee, Fla.	7.2
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,791.4	Dallas, Texas	44.3	Clark, Nev.	7.2
Orange, Calif.	1,512.1	New York, N.Y.	40.9	Lake, Fla.	7.0
Dallas, Texas	1,439.9	Orange, Calif.	36.2	Pasco, Fla.	6.9
San Diego, Calif.	1,313.3	King, Wash.	34.7	Seminole, Fla.	6.6
King, Wash.	1,126.8	Riverside, Calif.	30.9	Collier, Fla.	6.4
Miami-Dade, Fla.	1,014.5	Cook, Ill.	28.0	Will, Ill.	6.4
				Hamilton, Ind.	6.4

### Large County Employment

In March 2006, national employment, as measured by the QCEW program, was 132.6 million, up by 2.2 percent from March 2005. The 325 U.S. counties with 75,000 or more employees accounted for 70.9 percent of total U.S. covered employment and 77.7 percent of total covered wages. These 325 counties had a net job gain of 1,864,798 over the year, accounting for 65.4 percent of the U.S. employment increase. Employment increased in 289 of the large counties from March 2005 to March 2006. Collin, Texas, had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment (7.8 percent). Lee, Fla., had the next largest increase, 7.7 percent, followed by the counties of Brazoria, Texas (7.5 percent), and Manatee, Fla., and Clark, Nev. (7.2 percent each). (See table 1.)

Employment declined in 32 counties from March 2005 to March 2006. The largest percentage decline in employment was in Orleans County, La. (-38.7 percent), followed by the counties of Harrison, Miss. (-18.8 percent), and Jefferson, La. (-11.7 percent). Employment losses in these three Gulf Coast counties reflected the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. Monterey, Calif., had the next largest employment decline (-3.6 percent), followed by Boone, Ky. (-3.3 percent).

The largest gains in employment from March 2005 to March 2006 were recorded in the counties of Los Angeles, Calif. (107,700), Maricopa, Ariz. (102,100), Harris, Texas (83,000), Clark, Nev. (60,900), and Dallas, Texas (44,300). (See table A.)

The largest declines in employment occurred in the Katrina-affected counties of Orleans, La. (-93,500), Jefferson, La. (-25,000), and Harrison, Miss. (-17,100), followed by the counties of Oakland, Mich. (-14,200), and Wayne, Mich. (-12,600).

### Large County Average Weekly Wages

The national average weekly wage in the first quarter of 2006 was \$838. Average weekly wages were higher than the national average in 101 of the largest 325 U.S. counties. New York County, N.Y., held the

**Table B. Top 10 large counties ranked by first quarter 2006 average weekly wages, first quarter 2005-06 growth in average weekly wages, and first quarter 2005-06 percent growth in average weekly wages**

Average weekly wage in large counties					
Average weekly wage, first quarter 2006		Growth in average weekly wage, first quarter 2005-06		Percent growth in average weekly wage, first quarter 2005-06	
U.S.	\$838	U.S.	\$63	U.S.	8.1
New York, N.Y.	\$2,223	Orleans, La.	\$244	Orleans, La.	33.3
Fairfield, Conn.	1,836	Fairfield, Conn.	224	McLean, Ill.	20.5
Santa Clara, Calif.	1,584	Santa Clara, Calif.	213	Jefferson, La.	19.0
Somerset, N.J.	1,522	New York, N.Y.	195	Harrison, Miss.	18.0
San Francisco, Calif.	1,519	Somerset, N.J.	158	Montgomery, Texas	17.0
Suffolk, Mass.	1,494	Norfolk, Mass.	153	Norfolk, Mass.	16.7
Arlington, Va.	1,402	McLean, Ill.	146	Santa Clara, Calif.	15.5
Washington, D.C.	1,371	San Francisco, Calif.	144	Oklahoma, Okla.	15.3
San Mateo, Calif.	1,338	Arapahoe, Colo.	143	Arapahoe, Colo.	15.2
Hudson, N.J.	1,316	Fairfax, Va.	133	Sarasota, Fla.	14.1

top position among the highest-paid large counties with an average weekly wage of \$2,223. Fairfield, Conn., was second with an average weekly wage of \$1,836, followed by Santa Clara, Calif. (\$1,584), Somerset, N.J. (\$1,522), and San Francisco, Calif. (\$1,519). (See table B.)

There were 222 counties with an average weekly wage below the national average in the first quarter of 2006. The lowest average weekly wages were reported in Cameron County, Texas (\$477), followed by the counties of Hidalgo, Texas (\$490), Horry, S.C. (\$524), Webb, Texas (\$527), and Yakima, Wash. (\$550). (See table 1.)

Over the year, the national average weekly wage rose by 8.1 percent. Among the largest counties, Orleans, La., led the nation in growth in average weekly wages, with an increase of 33.3 percent from the first quarter of 2005. McLean, Ill., was second with growth of 20.5 percent, followed by the counties of Jefferson, La. (19.0 percent), Harrison, Miss. (18.0 percent), and Montgomery, Texas (17.0 percent). The high average weekly wage growth rates for Orleans, Harrison, and Jefferson Counties were related to the disproportionate job and pay losses in lower-paid industries due to the impact of Hurricane Katrina.

Two counties experienced over-the-year declines in average weekly wages. Cumberland County, Pa., had the largest decrease, -3.7 percent, followed by Trumbull, Ohio (-0.4 percent). The lowest over-the-year increases in average weekly wages were in Clayton, Ga. (1.3 percent), Kalamazoo, Mich. (1.9 percent), and Benton, Ark. (2.2 percent).

#### Ten Largest U.S. Counties

Of the 10 largest U.S. counties (based on 2005 annual average employment levels), all reported increases in employment from March 2005 to March 2006. Maricopa County, Ariz., experienced the fastest growth in employment among the largest counties, with a 6.0 percent increase. Within Maricopa County, employment rose in every industry group except two—natural resources and mining, and information. The largest gains were in construction (13.8 percent) and education and health services (7.3 percent). Harris,

Texas, had the next largest increase in employment, 4.5 percent, followed by Dallas, Texas, and King, Wash. (3.2 percent each). The smallest employment gains occurred in Cook County, Ill., (1.1 percent), followed by San Diego, Calif. (1.6 percent), and New York, N.Y. (1.8 percent). (See table 2.)

All of the 10 largest U.S. counties saw over-the-year increases in average weekly wages. Miami-Dade, Fla., had the fastest growth in wages among the 10 largest counties, increasing by 11.0 percent. Within Miami-Dade County, average weekly wages increased the most in natural resources and mining (20.3 percent). San Diego, Calif., was second in wage growth, increasing by 10.8 percent, followed by Maricopa, Ariz. (10.5 percent). The smallest wage gains among the 10 largest counties occurred in Cook, Ill. (6.5 percent), followed by Orange, Calif. (8.2 percent), and Dallas, Texas (8.4 percent).

### Largest County by State

Table 3 shows March 2006 employment and the 2006 first quarter average weekly wage in the largest county in each state, which is based on 2005 annual average employment levels. (This table includes two counties—Yellowstone, Mont., and Laramie, Wyo.—that have employment levels below 75,000.) The employment levels in these counties in March 2006 ranged from approximately 4.2 million in Los Angeles County, Calif., to 41,000 in Laramie County, Wyo. The highest average weekly wage of these counties was in New York, N.Y. (\$2,223), while the lowest average weekly wage was in Laramie, Wyo. (\$633). Due to substantial job losses related to Hurricane Katrina, Orleans County was replaced by East Baton Rouge as the largest county in Louisiana in 2005.

### 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 e-mailing [QCEWinfo@bls.gov](mailto:QCEWinfo@bls.gov) or 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>.

### **Hurricane Katrina**

The measures of employment and wages reported in this news release reflect the impact of Hurricane Katrina and ongoing labor market trends. The effects of Hurricane Katrina, which hit the Gulf Coast on August 29, 2005, were first reflected in the September QCEW employment counts and the wage totals for the third quarter of 2005. The impact of this catastrophic storm in parts of Louisiana and Mississippi continue to be reflected in monthly employment and quarterly wage totals in the first quarter of 2006. For more information, see the QCEW section of the Katrina coverage on the BLS Web site (<http://www.bls.gov/katrina/qcewquestions.htm>).

# 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. Data for 2006 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 326 counties presented in this release were derived using 2005 preliminary annual averages of employment. For 2006 data, four counties have been added to the publication tables: Douglas, Colo., Weld, Colo., Boone, Ky., and Butler, Pa. These counties will be included in all 2006 quarterly releases. One county, Potter, Texas, which was published in the 2005 releases, no longer has an employment level of 75,000 or more and will be excluded in the 2006 releases. The counties in table 2 are selected and sorted each year based on the annual average employment from the preceding year.

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

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

	<b>QCEW</b>	<b>BED</b>	<b>CES</b>
<b>Source</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Count of UI administrative records submitted by 8.8 million establishments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Count of longitudinally-linked UI administrative records submitted by 6.8 million private-sector employers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sample survey: 400,000 establishments</li> </ul>
<b>Coverage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UI and UCFE coverage, including all employers subject to state and federal UI laws</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UI coverage, excluding government, private households, and establishments with zero employment</li> </ul>	Nonfarm wage and salary jobs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>
<b>Publication frequency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly</li> <li>- 7 months after the end of each quarter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly</li> <li>- 8 months after the end of each quarter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly</li> <li>- Usually first Friday of following month</li> </ul>
<b>Use of UI file</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Directly summarizes and publishes each new quarter of UI data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Links each new UI quarter to longitudinal database and directly summarizes gross job gains and losses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses UI file as a sampling frame and annually realigns (benchmarks) sample estimates to first quarter UI levels</li> </ul>
<b>Principal products</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides a quarterly and annual universe count of establishments, employment, and wages at the county, MSA, state, and national levels by detailed industry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides quarterly employer dynamics data on establishment openings, closings, expansions, and contractions at the national level by NAICS supersectors and by size of firm</li> <li>Future expansions will include data at the county, MSA, and state level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides current monthly estimates of employment, hours, and earnings at the MSA, state, and national level by industry</li> </ul>
<b>Principal uses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major uses include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed locality data</li> <li>Periodic universe counts for benchmarking sample survey estimates</li> <li>Sample frame for BLS establishment surveys</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major uses include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business cycle analysis</li> <li>Analysis of employer dynamics underlying economic expansions and contractions</li> <li>An analysis of employment expansion and contraction by size of firm</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major uses include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principal national economic indicator</li> <li>Official time series for employment change measures</li> <li>Input into other major economic indicators</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Program Web sites</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.bls.gov/cew/">www.bls.gov/cew/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.bls.gov/bdm/">www.bls.gov/bdm/</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://www.bls.gov/ces/">www.bls.gov/ces/</a></li> </ul>

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 on the previous page.) Additional information on each program can be obtained from the program Web sites shown in the table on the previous page.

### **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 that are sent to the appropriate SWA by the specific federal agency. 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 nearly 9 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 2005, UI and UCFE programs covered workers in 131.6 million jobs. The estimated 126.7 million workers in these jobs (after adjustment for multiple jobholders) represented 96.6 percent of civilian wage and salary employment. Covered workers received \$5.352 trillion in pay, representing 94.5 percent of the wage and salary component of personal income and 43.0 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 3-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 2005 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. The adjusted data do not 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 2005 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 fourth quarter 2005 version of this news release. This edition will also be the first to include the data on a CD for enhanced access and usability. As a result of this change, the printed booklet will contain only selected graphic representations of QCEW data; the data tables themselves will be published exclusively in electronic formats as PDF and fixed-width text files. *Employment and Wages Annual Averages, 2005* will be available for sale in late 2006 from the United States Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250, telephone 866-512-1800, outside of Washington, D.C. Within Washington, D.C., the telephone number is 202-512-1800. The fax number is 202-512-2104. Also, the 2005 bulletin will be available in a portable document format (PDF) on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn05.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](mailto: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<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 326 largest counties, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup>**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
United States <sup>6</sup> .....	8,770.7	132,613.1	2.2	-	\$838	8.1	-
Jefferson, AL .....	18.6	371.4	1.1	208	845	7.2	181
Madison, AL .....	8.2	170.6	2.7	103	866	8.4	105
Mobile, AL .....	9.8	170.7	3.2	77	659	9.7	54
Montgomery, AL .....	6.6	136.7	3.3	72	683	8.6	97
Tuscaloosa, AL .....	4.3	84.1	5.0	28	669	6.9	201
Anchorage Borough, AK ....	8.0	142.1	1.8	157	836	5.4	284
Maricopa, AZ .....	89.1	1,791.4	6.0	15	822	10.5	32
Pima, AZ .....	19.3	366.7	4.2	46	704	9.0	79
Benton, AR .....	5.1	92.9	5.4	19	792	2.2	319
Pulaski, AR .....	14.0	247.3	2.5	120	728	6.6	219
Washington, AR .....	5.6	92.4	5.0	28	627	7.5	160
Alameda, CA .....	49.4	683.9	1.1	208	1,099	9.9	47
Contra Costa, CA .....	28.3	342.3	0.3	274	1,073	5.1	288
Fresno, CA .....	29.6	333.7	2.8	100	637	6.5	227
Kern, CA .....	17.2	262.5	5.1	26	692	6.0	259
Los Angeles, CA .....	392.0	4,179.3	2.6	111	944	9.3	65
Marin, CA .....	11.8	107.2	0.7	244	1,010	7.6	155
Monterey, CA .....	12.2	152.1	-3.6	319	767	10.4	35
Orange, CA .....	95.5	1,512.1	2.5	120	967	8.2	123
Placer, CA .....	10.4	136.7	2.7	103	793	8.0	131
Riverside, CA .....	42.8	632.8	5.1	26	707	8.4	105
Sacramento, CA .....	50.1	639.6	2.9	94	911	7.1	189
San Bernardino, CA .....	46.0	654.7	3.8	60	700	7.7	145
San Diego, CA .....	92.2	1,313.3	1.6	172	904	10.8	28
San Francisco, CA .....	44.6	533.0	2.9	94	1,519	10.5	32
San Joaquin, CA .....	16.9	217.8	0.2	279	682	7.1	189
San Luis Obispo, CA .....	9.0	104.3	1.6	172	666	7.4	164
San Mateo, CA .....	23.3	333.8	2.1	139	1,338	10.0	44
Santa Barbara, CA .....	13.6	184.0	2.7	103	786	7.1	189
Santa Clara, CA .....	55.4	871.7	3.0	91	1,584	15.5	7
Santa Cruz, CA .....	8.7	93.0	1.6	172	819	12.3	16
Solano, CA .....	10.0	129.6	1.6	172	780	7.7	145
Sonoma, CA .....	17.8	188.3	0.8	234	784	6.8	207
Stanislaus, CA .....	13.9	171.5	1.4	189	677	6.6	219
Tulare, CA .....	8.8	137.7	1.4	189	575	9.1	73
Ventura, CA .....	21.8	321.0	1.8	157	891	4.5	298
Yolo, CA .....	5.4	97.4	1.8	157	765	9.1	73
Adams, CO .....	9.1	150.9	4.1	48	762	8.1	128
Arapahoe, CO .....	19.4	272.0	1.8	157	1,081	15.2	9
Boulder, CO .....	12.3	154.2	1.6	172	987	7.2	181
Denver, CO .....	25.0	424.7	1.6	172	1,065	8.8	88
Douglas, CO .....	8.6	84.0	5.3	22	853	9.5	62
El Paso, CO .....	17.0	242.5	3.0	91	739	6.6	219
Jefferson, CO .....	18.6	204.3	0.5	262	849	6.8	207
Larimer, CO .....	9.9	124.0	1.8	157	719	7.2	181
Weld, CO .....	5.8	78.3	4.0	53	672	10.7	29
Fairfield, CT .....	32.5	409.3	1.1	208	1,836	13.9	11
Hartford, CT .....	24.8	487.3	1.6	172	1,112	6.6	219
New Haven, CT .....	22.2	362.4	1.3	195	872	6.9	201
New London, CT .....	6.8	128.0	-0.2	295	847	8.3	113

See footnotes at end of table.



**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 326 largest counties, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
New Castle, DE .....	19.6	280.2	0.7	244	\$1,113	10.3	37
Washington, DC .....	31.4	664.9	0.3	274	1,371	7.3	175
Alachua, FL .....	6.4	126.1	2.1	139	614	4.8	293
Brevard, FL .....	14.4	209.4	2.6	111	746	6.6	219
Broward, FL .....	63.3	753.5	3.3	72	791	(7)	-
Collier, FL .....	12.3	140.6	6.4	9	729	3.6	310
Duval, FL .....	25.5	460.2	3.3	72	841	9.9	47
Escambia, FL .....	7.9	130.4	3.2	77	642	8.6	97
Hillsborough, FL .....	35.9	644.1	4.2	46	782	8.3	113
Lake, FL .....	6.8	84.8	7.0	6	587	9.5	62
Lee, FL .....	18.5	227.4	7.7	2	708	9.6	56
Leon, FL .....	7.9	147.9	1.8	157	648	4.0	307
Manatee, FL .....	8.8	129.9	7.2	4	636	9.8	53
Marion, FL .....	7.8	103.0	4.4	40	587	7.7	145
Miami-Dade, FL .....	85.9	1,014.5	2.2	134	826	11.0	25
Okaloosa, FL .....	6.1	83.2	4.7	34	648	9.3	65
Orange, FL .....	34.1	674.6	3.6	63	757	6.9	201
Palm Beach, FL .....	48.8	568.9	3.5	64	806	4.4	301
Pasco, FL .....	9.2	100.5	6.9	7	563	8.9	84
Pinellas, FL .....	31.2	450.1	3.2	77	710	8.2	123
Polk, FL .....	12.3	212.3	4.1	48	624	7.2	181
Sarasota, FL .....	14.7	161.3	4.9	30	729	14.1	10
Seminole, FL .....	14.2	176.9	6.6	8	709	4.4	301
Volusia, FL .....	13.7	169.6	4.3	45	574	5.7	269
Bibb, GA .....	4.7	85.2	-0.4	302	697	10.5	32
Chatham, GA .....	7.3	134.2	2.9	94	687	9.6	56
Clayton, GA .....	4.4	108.2	0.3	274	754	1.3	321
Cobb, GA .....	20.2	315.6	3.1	87	895	7.4	164
De Kalb, GA .....	16.8	293.4	1.6	172	907	7.7	145
Fulton, GA .....	38.2	748.3	1.9	150	1,164	7.7	145
Gwinnett, GA .....	22.4	315.7	3.5	64	898	11.4	22
Muscogee, GA .....	4.8	98.3	1.3	195	655	8.1	128
Richmond, GA .....	4.8	107.3	2.8	100	670	7.4	164
Honolulu, HI .....	24.0	448.2	2.6	111	742	7.1	189
Ada, ID .....	14.3	204.6	6.2	12	730	9.3	65
Champaign, IL .....	4.0	90.1	1.2	202	657	6.3	242
Cook, IL .....	132.7	2,502.0	1.1	208	1,047	6.5	227
Du Page, IL .....	34.1	581.6	1.4	189	1,006	9.2	70
Kane, IL .....	11.9	203.2	1.8	157	740	7.7	145
Lake, IL .....	19.9	319.1	0.8	234	1,065	10.9	27
McHenry, IL .....	8.0	97.9	3.9	56	689	7.0	197
McLean, IL .....	3.5	83.8	2.7	103	858	20.5	2
Madison, IL .....	5.8	93.2	-0.1	291	673	6.0	259
Peoria, IL .....	4.7	100.6	1.6	172	829	8.1	128
Rock Island, IL .....	3.4	75.3	1.3	195	838	13.4	12
St. Clair, IL .....	5.3	93.1	0.5	262	636	7.4	164
Sangamon, IL .....	5.2	129.3	0.1	284	776	2.8	318
Will, IL .....	12.2	174.0	6.4	9	719	4.7	296
Winnebago, IL .....	6.8	134.4	0.0	290	704	7.6	155
Allen, IN .....	8.9	181.7	2.5	120	700	6.2	250

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 326 largest counties, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Elkhart, IN .....	4.8	128.8	3.9	56	\$702	10.4	35
Hamilton, IN .....	7.0	98.4	6.4	9	830	6.4	234
Lake, IN .....	10.0	192.4	0.7	244	718	6.7	214
Marion, IN .....	23.6	572.9	0.2	279	900	10.0	44
St. Joseph, IN .....	6.0	123.3	-0.7	307	676	6.3	242
Vanderburgh, IN .....	4.8	108.4	1.1	208	693	7.8	141
Linn, IA .....	6.1	118.9	1.4	189	774	6.9	201
Polk, IA .....	14.3	264.4	2.4	125	859	8.3	113
Scott, IA .....	5.2	87.2	1.1	208	660	9.1	73
Johnson, KS .....	19.8	299.4	0.7	244	883	8.5	101
Sedgwick, KS .....	12.1	246.8	3.4	68	796	12.7	14
Shawnee, KS .....	4.8	92.1	-1.4	312	694	10.2	42
Wyandotte, KS .....	3.2	77.0	2.0	145	779	7.4	164
Boone, KY .....	3.3	73.7	-3.3	318	722	3.0	316
Fayette, KY .....	9.0	169.3	0.9	229	725	6.3	242
Jefferson, KY .....	22.3	424.0	1.9	150	799	7.4	164
Caddo, LA .....	7.3	126.1	3.3	72	647	8.7	93
Calcasieu, LA .....	4.8	84.4	2.2	134	698	9.2	70
East Baton Rouge, LA .....	13.6	260.3	6.2	12	709	7.9	136
Jefferson, LA .....	14.4	188.0	-11.7	320	752	19.0	3
Lafayette, LA .....	8.1	127.4	5.8	17	723	12.6	15
Orleans, LA .....	12.1	148.1	-38.7	322	977	33.3	1
Cumberland, ME .....	11.9	166.7	1.1	208	751	6.1	255
Anne Arundel, MD .....	14.2	222.2	2.3	130	863	8.0	131
Baltimore, MD .....	21.5	374.5	2.3	130	851	6.5	227
Frederick, MD .....	5.8	91.9	2.1	139	788	9.0	79
Harford, MD .....	5.5	81.5	3.2	77	775	10.7	29
Howard, MD .....	8.4	141.9	3.1	87	948	9.1	73
Montgomery, MD .....	32.6	462.3	2.4	125	1,133	8.8	88
Prince Georges, MD .....	15.4	311.5	0.7	244	865	8.5	101
Baltimore City, MD .....	14.0	348.0	-0.5	304	951	6.4	234
Barnstable, MA .....	9.1	83.3	0.8	234	696	6.6	219
Bristol, MA .....	15.3	217.5	0.7	244	704	6.0	259
Essex, MA .....	20.3	291.2	1.0	223	880	9.7	54
Hampden, MA .....	14.0	196.5	0.5	262	766	5.4	284
Middlesex, MA .....	46.5	791.3	1.9	150	1,177	7.2	181
Norfolk, MA .....	21.3	315.3	0.6	257	1,069	16.7	6
Plymouth, MA .....	13.6	172.7	1.1	208	742	5.5	278
Suffolk, MA .....	21.3	563.5	1.2	202	1,494	7.3	175
Worcester, MA .....	20.2	314.8	0.8	234	820	9.0	79
Genesee, MI .....	8.3	145.6	-1.0	310	745	5.1	288
Ingham, MI .....	7.0	160.8	-1.2	311	778	5.6	275
Kalamazoo, MI .....	5.5	116.2	0.3	274	733	1.9	320
Kent, MI .....	14.5	338.8	1.0	223	728	5.7	269
Macomb, MI .....	18.1	323.6	-0.6	305	856	3.4	312
Oakland, MI .....	40.3	694.0	-2.0	315	977	5.4	284
Ottawa, MI .....	5.8	109.4	-0.2	295	704	4.6	297
Saginaw, MI .....	4.5	85.8	-2.9	317	719	5.4	284
Washtenaw, MI .....	8.2	195.0	-0.2	295	911	6.4	234
Wayne, MI .....	33.7	772.6	-1.6	314	923	3.1	315

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 326 largest counties, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Anoka, MN .....	8.3	113.5	2.0	145	\$755	4.9	292
Dakota, MN .....	10.9	170.9	2.6	111	811	7.6	155
Hennepin, MN .....	43.9	831.4	1.8	157	1,047	4.8	293
Olmsted, MN .....	3.7	88.8	2.9	94	892	3.8	309
Ramsey, MN .....	16.2	327.4	1.6	172	928	6.3	242
St. Louis, MN .....	6.1	93.6	2.1	139	653	5.7	269
Stearns, MN .....	4.6	78.2	3.2	77	635	10.1	43
Harrison, MS .....	4.4	73.5	-18.8	321	663	18.0	4
Hinds, MS .....	6.5	128.7	0.9	229	715	8.8	88
Boone, MO .....	4.4	81.9	3.4	68	615	7.1	189
Clay, MO .....	5.1	88.0	2.7	103	728	5.1	288
Greene, MO .....	8.1	152.4	3.3	72	613	6.4	234
Jackson, MO .....	18.8	364.7	0.8	234	844	8.9	84
St. Charles, MO .....	7.8	119.8	3.1	87	695	6.3	242
St. Louis, MO .....	33.9	616.3	0.7	244	900	9.9	47
St. Louis City, MO .....	8.0	219.5	0.1	284	981	7.4	164
Douglas, NE .....	15.4	308.1	1.0	223	778	9.9	47
Lancaster, NE .....	7.9	151.8	0.5	262	644	5.7	269
Clark, NV .....	44.2	905.4	7.2	4	769	6.8	207
Washoe, NV .....	13.7	214.8	4.0	53	734	4.0	307
Hillsborough, NH .....	12.4	195.0	1.3	195	886	7.3	175
Rockingham, NH .....	10.9	134.0	1.7	169	816	6.7	214
Atlantic, NJ .....	6.8	143.8	0.6	257	731	8.3	113
Bergen, NJ .....	34.6	443.4	0.4	269	1,061	7.9	136
Burlington, NJ .....	11.5	202.6	1.9	150	853	7.2	181
Camden, NJ .....	13.6	209.5	1.5	185	824	8.0	131
Essex, NJ .....	21.6	360.5	1.4	189	1,121	6.7	214
Gloucester, NJ .....	6.4	104.0	3.9	56	742	9.1	73
Hudson, NJ .....	14.1	235.5	0.1	284	1,316	6.2	250
Mercer, NJ .....	11.1	227.3	2.6	111	1,068	7.4	164
Middlesex, NJ .....	21.2	395.0	0.9	229	1,083	5.6	275
Monmouth, NJ .....	20.6	253.2	1.6	172	885	5.5	278
Morris, NJ .....	18.1	284.3	1.0	223	1,286	8.3	113
Ocean, NJ .....	11.9	144.7	1.9	150	701	8.7	93
Passaic, NJ .....	12.7	179.1	2.2	134	864	7.5	160
Somerset, NJ .....	10.2	172.4	3.5	64	1,522	11.6	20
Union, NJ .....	15.0	228.3	0.3	274	1,106	9.6	56
Bernalillo, NM .....	16.9	328.0	4.4	40	705	7.3	175
Albany, NY .....	9.7	226.0	-0.1	291	820	5.5	278
Bronx, NY .....	15.7	221.9	1.2	202	745	5.8	265
Broome, NY .....	4.5	94.3	1.1	208	641	6.3	242
Dutchess, NY .....	8.2	116.9	0.1	284	835	4.4	301
Erie, NY .....	23.3	449.5	-0.1	291	715	6.4	234
Kings, NY .....	43.3	458.5	1.6	172	705	7.3	175
Monroe, NY .....	17.7	378.3	-0.1	291	806	8.2	123
Nassau, NY .....	51.8	590.4	0.5	262	909	5.7	269
New York, NY .....	115.3	2,271.0	1.8	157	2,223	9.6	56
Oneida, NY .....	5.3	107.7	0.4	269	614	5.0	291
Onondaga, NY .....	12.7	245.5	0.7	244	753	7.7	145
Orange, NY .....	9.7	128.3	1.8	157	689	6.8	207

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 326 largest counties, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Queens, NY .....	41.1	477.6	1.1	208	\$801	6.0	259
Richmond, NY .....	8.3	88.7	0.6	257	703	6.2	250
Rockland, NY .....	9.5	111.4	0.6	257	877	8.8	88
Suffolk, NY .....	49.0	599.8	0.6	257	848	7.8	141
Westchester, NY .....	36.1	407.6	0.5	262	1,193	8.0	131
Buncombe, NC .....	7.2	109.9	1.3	195	614	7.2	181
Catawba, NC .....	4.4	87.3	1.2	202	642	11.5	21
Cumberland, NC .....	5.8	116.4	0.8	234	595	6.8	207
Durham, NC .....	6.4	173.0	2.4	125	1,137	10.3	37
Forsyth, NC .....	8.6	181.3	2.0	145	761	4.5	298
Guilford, NC .....	13.9	273.8	1.3	195	726	6.5	227
Mecklenburg, NC .....	28.3	530.6	3.2	77	1,167	8.4	105
New Hanover, NC .....	6.8	97.8	4.5	37	663	9.0	79
Wake, NC .....	24.7	416.8	4.8	33	829	8.5	101
Cass, ND .....	5.8	92.1	4.1	48	649	6.6	219
Butler, OH .....	7.3	141.5	1.7	169	725	5.8	265
Cuyahoga, OH .....	38.3	745.0	0.1	284	865	6.5	227
Franklin, OH .....	29.4	675.5	1.4	189	837	7.9	136
Hamilton, OH .....	24.2	523.4	0.7	244	909	6.7	214
Lake, OH .....	6.9	98.9	-0.2	295	690	3.4	312
Lorain, OH .....	6.3	100.1	0.2	279	690	5.5	278
Lucas, OH .....	11.0	224.2	1.1	208	749	6.1	255
Mahoning, OH .....	6.4	102.4	1.5	185	595	8.0	131
Montgomery, OH .....	13.1	275.0	-0.2	295	758	4.4	301
Stark, OH .....	9.2	160.2	-0.7	307	644	8.8	88
Summit, OH .....	15.0	268.6	1.1	208	756	6.5	227
Trumbull, OH .....	4.9	84.3	-1.4	312	701	-0.4	322
Oklahoma, OK .....	22.7	420.0	2.6	111	755	15.3	8
Tulsa, OK .....	18.9	339.5	4.4	40	774	13.0	13
Clackamas, OR .....	12.3	145.3	2.8	100	741	6.0	259
Jackson, OR .....	6.6	81.6	0.8	234	597	6.2	250
Lane, OR .....	10.7	146.9	2.6	111	622	6.3	242
Marion, OR .....	9.0	133.6	1.7	169	629	6.1	255
Multnomah, OR .....	26.5	432.1	2.6	111	839	7.7	145
Washington, OR .....	15.5	242.9	4.9	30	965	8.3	113
Allegheny, PA .....	35.0	674.7	0.9	229	871	7.1	189
Berks, PA .....	9.1	165.7	2.3	130	725	8.5	101
Bucks, PA .....	19.7	259.9	2.2	134	793	9.2	70
Butler, PA .....	4.7	75.1	0.9	229	671	7.2	181
Chester, PA .....	15.0	231.1	1.8	157	1,083	9.9	47
Cumberland, PA .....	5.8	124.7	1.1	208	757	-3.7	323
Dauphin, PA .....	7.1	178.7	2.4	125	789	3.4	312
Delaware, PA .....	13.6	206.4	0.4	269	895	11.9	18
Erie, PA .....	7.2	126.1	0.5	262	632	8.4	105
Lackawanna, PA .....	5.7	100.3	1.9	150	615	7.0	197
Lancaster, PA .....	11.9	224.2	0.4	269	691	8.3	113
Lehigh, PA .....	8.3	174.1	3.0	91	815	7.1	189
Luzerne, PA .....	7.9	141.6	0.8	234	639	8.3	113
Montgomery, PA .....	27.9	482.2	1.5	185	1,118	10.6	31
Northampton, PA .....	6.3	96.8	2.0	145	714	6.4	234

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 326 largest counties, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Philadelphia, PA .....	29.2	632.0	0.4	269	\$979	9.3	65
Washington, PA .....	5.4	76.7	2.5	120	695	9.3	65
Westmoreland, PA .....	9.5	135.9	0.2	279	639	9.0	79
York, PA .....	8.8	173.5	2.1	139	709	6.0	259
Kent, RI .....	5.7	80.5	0.7	244	734	7.5	160
Providence, RI .....	18.2	282.0	0.1	284	802	4.8	293
Charleston, SC .....	12.8	197.3	1.8	157	681	8.6	97
Greenville, SC .....	12.8	228.1	2.3	130	695	5.6	275
Horry, SC .....	8.7	109.4	5.3	22	524	9.6	56
Lexington, SC .....	6.0	89.9	2.2	134	614	8.3	113
Richland, SC .....	9.9	211.1	3.4	68	700	8.9	84
Spartanburg, SC .....	6.5	115.5	0.2	279	742	8.6	97
Minnehaha, SD .....	6.1	110.7	2.6	111	683	7.6	155
Davidson, TN .....	18.0	442.1	3.1	87	812	5.7	269
Hamilton, TN .....	8.5	190.4	(7)	-	699	(7)	-
Knox, TN .....	10.6	219.3	2.4	125	682	6.7	214
Rutherford, TN .....	4.0	97.8	4.4	40	710	7.9	136
Shelby, TN .....	20.0	502.4	1.5	185	813	7.3	175
Bell, TX .....	4.3	94.7	1.2	202	610	9.1	73
Bexar, TX .....	30.7	693.2	3.9	56	738	7.4	164
Brazoria, TX .....	4.4	83.7	7.5	3	822	9.9	47
Brazos, TX .....	3.7	84.0	6.0	15	564	4.1	306
Cameron, TX .....	6.3	120.5	4.0	53	477	4.4	301
Collin, TX .....	14.9	258.4	7.8	1	990	7.5	160
Dallas, TX .....	66.5	1,439.9	3.2	77	1,033	8.4	105
Denton, TX .....	9.5	155.4	(7)	-	679	6.3	242
El Paso, TX .....	13.0	262.6	3.2	77	568	7.4	164
Fort Bend, TX .....	7.4	113.1	4.5	37	883	7.8	141
Galveston, TX .....	5.0	91.3	3.7	61	755	12.0	17
Harris, TX .....	91.8	1,924.0	4.5	37	1,033	8.7	93
Hidalgo, TX .....	9.9	207.2	4.6	36	490	5.8	265
Jefferson, TX .....	5.8	123.0	4.9	30	761	6.4	234
Lubbock, TX .....	6.5	119.9	1.2	202	609	10.3	37
McLennan, TX .....	4.8	101.4	-0.2	295	637	5.5	278
Montgomery, TX .....	7.2	107.7	6.1	14	785	17.0	5
Nueces, TX .....	8.0	150.2	2.7	103	685	11.7	19
Smith, TX .....	5.1	90.9	1.3	195	669	6.5	227
Tarrant, TX .....	35.1	730.5	2.9	94	839	8.4	105
Travis, TX .....	26.0	541.2	4.1	48	934	7.7	145
Webb, TX .....	4.5	83.7	5.4	19	527	7.8	141
Williamson, TX .....	6.1	104.9	4.7	34	838	4.5	298
Davis, UT .....	7.0	97.7	5.2	25	635	6.9	201
Salt Lake, UT .....	37.7	553.3	4.4	40	744	9.4	64
Utah, UT .....	12.3	161.3	5.6	18	589	6.9	201
Weber, UT .....	5.7	89.7	2.0	145	579	7.6	155
Chittenden, VT .....	5.7	93.1	-0.6	305	847	11.0	25
Arlington, VA .....	7.3	157.0	1.6	172	1,402	8.2	123
Chesterfield, VA .....	7.0	117.0	3.2	77	738	7.0	197
Fairfax, VA .....	31.6	568.4	2.5	120	1,314	11.3	24
Henrico, VA .....	8.7	172.9	1.0	223	919	2.9	317

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the 326 largest counties, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>		
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Ranking by percent change
Loudoun, VA .....	7.4	123.9	4.1	48	\$1,114	11.4	22
Prince William, VA .....	6.5	102.7	5.4	19	717	9.6	56
Alexandria City, VA .....	5.9	93.0	1.0	223	1,054	8.9	84
Chesapeake City, VA .....	5.3	99.0	(7)	-	631	8.2	123
Newport News City, VA .....	3.9	98.4	0.8	234	711	6.8	207
Norfolk City, VA .....	5.6	141.1	-2.0	315	768	6.1	255
Richmond City, VA .....	7.0	161.4	2.7	103	987	8.7	93
Virginia Beach City, VA .....	11.2	175.8	1.1	208	630	8.4	105
Clark, WA .....	10.8	127.6	3.7	61	722	6.6	219
King, WA .....	74.1	1,126.8	3.2	77	1,041	10.3	37
Kitsap, WA .....	6.3	83.5	2.9	94	698	6.2	250
Pierce, WA .....	19.3	262.0	3.5	64	737	7.4	164
Snohomish, WA .....	16.4	228.7	5.3	22	839	10.0	44
Spokane, WA .....	14.3	201.4	3.4	68	651	6.4	234
Thurston, WA .....	6.3	95.2	2.7	103	715	5.8	265
Whatcom, WA .....	6.5	78.6	2.1	139	625	7.9	136
Yakima, WA .....	7.4	92.0	1.9	150	550	7.0	197
Kanawha, WV .....	6.1	107.3	0.8	234	706	7.1	189
Brown, WI .....	6.8	145.5	0.7	244	744	8.3	113
Dane, WI .....	14.1	294.5	0.7	244	812	10.3	37
Milwaukee, WI .....	21.8	486.6	-0.3	301	843	8.4	105
Outagamie, WI .....	5.0	100.0	-0.4	302	705	5.5	278
Racine, WI .....	4.3	74.3	-0.8	309	722	6.8	207
Waukesha, WI .....	13.5	229.1	0.7	244	823	7.7	145
Winnebago, WI .....	3.9	86.8	1.1	208	777	3.5	311
San Juan, PR .....	14.7	306.0	-2.4	( <sup>8</sup> )	531	3.1	( <sup>8</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. These 325 U.S. counties comprise 70.9 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> Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.

<sup>5</sup> Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

<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.

**Table 2. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup>**

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>	
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06 <sup>3</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06 <sup>3</sup>
United States <sup>5</sup> .....	8,770.7	132,613.1	2.2	\$838	8.1
Private industry .....	8,492.7	111,080.5	2.5	843	8.5
Natural resources and mining .....	123.5	1,634.5	2.7	882	13.2
Construction .....	867.6	7,296.6	7.3	823	9.9
Manufacturing .....	365.3	14,104.7	-0.4	1,022	8.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	1,890.9	25,624.0	1.8	708	7.8
Information .....	144.0	3,041.5	-0.1	1,374	10.4
Financial activities .....	840.5	8,101.5	2.3	1,629	9.9
Professional and business services .....	1,413.1	17,153.3	4.2	1,020	8.7
Education and health services .....	790.1	16,830.1	2.8	714	7.5
Leisure and hospitality .....	703.7	12,626.1	2.4	338	8.0
Other services .....	1,127.3	4,320.5	0.8	508	7.2
Government .....	277.9	21,532.5	0.8	808	5.3
Los Angeles, CA .....	392.0	4,179.3	2.6	944	9.3
Private industry .....	388.2	3,591.9	3.0	927	9.4
Natural resources and mining .....	0.5	10.8	-4.8	1,067	-6.7
Construction .....	14.0	154.1	8.0	883	8.5
Manufacturing .....	16.1	469.5	-0.8	1,002	11.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	55.3	803.3	2.4	768	8.3
Information .....	9.0	214.5	4.9	1,649	4.7
Financial activities .....	24.7	248.0	2.5	1,680	8.5
Professional and business services .....	42.6	593.1	4.3	1,103	13.2
Education and health services .....	28.1	471.1	2.7	804	10.9
Leisure and hospitality .....	27.1	383.9	3.3	503	11.3
Other services .....	170.4	242.9	6.4	403	2.8
Government .....	3.8	587.4	0.3	1,046	8.5
Cook, IL .....	132.7	2,502.0	1.1	1,047	6.5
Private industry .....	131.5	2,186.2	1.4	1,061	7.1
Natural resources and mining .....	0.1	1.3	8.0	1,032	6.6
Construction .....	11.4	89.2	4.8	1,182	5.0
Manufacturing .....	7.3	245.7	-3.3	987	3.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	27.2	471.5	0.3	803	8.1
Information .....	2.5	59.4	-2.5	1,628	9.2
Financial activities .....	14.9	216.8	0.7	2,411	12.2
Professional and business services .....	27.3	423.4	3.8	1,286	3.9
Education and health services .....	13.1	361.0	2.2	765	7.1
Leisure and hospitality .....	11.1	219.2	3.1	388	9.0
Other services .....	13.2	93.7	-0.3	668	6.4
Government .....	1.2	315.8	-0.6	953	2.6
New York, NY .....	115.3	2,271.0	1.8	2,223	9.6
Private industry .....	115.0	1,824.7	2.2	2,524	9.5
Natural resources and mining .....	0.0	0.1	1.0	2,606	53.7
Construction .....	2.1	29.7	3.7	1,387	4.7
Manufacturing .....	3.1	39.2	-8.5	1,349	11.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	21.4	237.9	2.1	1,139	6.5
Information .....	4.2	129.6	0.4	2,445	9.2
Financial activities .....	17.5	361.5	2.5	6,879	11.3
Professional and business services .....	23.1	454.2	2.7	2,067	6.9
Education and health services .....	8.1	281.5	1.5	929	5.8
Leisure and hospitality .....	10.5	195.2	1.9	734	9.7
Other services .....	16.7	84.0	0.8	912	7.2
Government .....	0.2	446.2	0.3	998	8.6

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>	
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06 <sup>3</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06 <sup>3</sup>
Harris, TX .....	91.8	1,924.0	4.5	\$1,033	8.7
Private industry .....	91.4	1,673.1	4.9	1,067	9.1
Natural resources and mining .....	1.4	70.8	9.3	3,120	3.4
Construction .....	6.3	141.5	7.6	948	13.4
Manufacturing .....	4.6	171.9	4.8	1,398	10.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	21.3	402.7	4.2	953	9.8
Information .....	1.3	31.5	-1.3	1,311	12.1
Financial activities .....	10.0	116.6	2.1	1,464	10.4
Professional and business services .....	17.9	313.1	6.9	1,106	8.2
Education and health services .....	9.5	199.1	3.2	767	6.5
Leisure and hospitality .....	7.0	166.6	4.0	367	8.9
Other services .....	10.7	56.0	2.2	566	9.3
Government .....	0.4	250.9	1.8	809	5.3
Maricopa, AZ .....	89.1	1,791.4	6.0	822	10.5
Private industry .....	88.5	1,579.3	6.7	822	10.3
Natural resources and mining .....	0.5	8.9	-0.8	741	17.1
Construction .....	9.0	175.7	13.8	856	18.4
Manufacturing .....	3.4	136.2	4.1	1,184	6.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	19.0	361.1	5.0	777	8.7
Information .....	1.5	32.1	-2.0	1,078	11.7
Financial activities .....	10.8	148.2	5.8	1,213	12.6
Professional and business services .....	18.9	301.0	6.3	787	9.6
Education and health services .....	8.5	183.5	7.3	810	9.9
Leisure and hospitality .....	6.2	176.4	5.1	381	10.8
Other services .....	6.2	46.8	1.7	552	12.2
Government .....	0.6	212.1	1.2	820	11.4
Orange, CA .....	95.5	1,512.1	2.5	967	8.2
Private industry .....	94.1	1,361.3	2.8	955	8.3
Natural resources and mining .....	0.2	7.0	-4.7	538	-0.6
Construction .....	7.0	106.2	10.9	1,008	10.2
Manufacturing .....	5.7	183.4	0.5	1,143	11.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	17.9	270.8	2.0	884	8.3
Information .....	1.4	32.0	-0.9	1,414	11.9
Financial activities .....	11.3	140.9	1.3	1,599	3.4
Professional and business services .....	19.0	271.4	4.2	997	10.5
Education and health services .....	9.8	135.4	2.9	818	6.6
Leisure and hospitality .....	7.0	166.3	2.9	369	7.3
Other services .....	14.7	47.8	0.3	540	6.3
Government .....	1.4	150.7	-0.9	1,075	7.6
Dallas, TX .....	66.5	1,439.9	3.2	1,033	8.4
Private industry .....	66.0	1,279.9	3.5	1,057	8.9
Natural resources and mining .....	0.5	7.3	7.1	3,020	16.5
Construction .....	4.3	78.6	6.0	884	5.0
Manufacturing .....	3.2	147.1	3.4	1,261	7.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	14.9	300.4	2.2	944	9.4
Information .....	1.7	52.6	-2.5	1,526	12.4
Financial activities .....	8.4	138.7	3.8	1,644	10.2
Professional and business services .....	14.0	255.4	7.1	1,109	7.3
Education and health services .....	6.3	135.2	3.9	841	5.3
Leisure and hospitality .....	5.1	122.4	0.1	489	15.3
Other services .....	6.5	39.8	-1.3	613	8.1
Government .....	0.4	160.0	0.8	843	4.1

See footnotes at end of table.



**Table 2. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>4</sup>	
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06 <sup>3</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06 <sup>3</sup>
San Diego, CA .....	92.2	1,313.3	1.6	\$904	10.8
Private industry .....	90.8	1,092.2	1.9	901	11.8
Natural resources and mining .....	0.8	11.4	-2.5	511	12.8
Construction .....	7.3	92.9	4.9	937	15.3
Manufacturing .....	3.4	104.1	-1.5	1,207	10.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	14.6	217.0	2.0	729	7.8
Information .....	1.3	36.7	-2.1	2,349	39.9
Financial activities .....	9.9	86.0	4.0	1,294	5.9
Professional and business services .....	16.2	215.4	1.8	1,056	10.8
Education and health services .....	8.0	123.9	1.3	779	10.3
Leisure and hospitality .....	6.8	150.0	3.6	392	10.1
Other services .....	22.4	54.7	0.7	464	7.7
Government .....	1.4	221.2	0.2	917	6.1
King, WA .....	74.1	1,126.8	3.2	1,041	10.3
Private industry .....	73.6	974.4	3.8	1,056	10.8
Natural resources and mining .....	0.4	3.3	1.7	1,325	1.6
Construction .....	6.4	62.8	12.8	961	8.3
Manufacturing .....	2.5	109.6	4.6	1,413	16.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	14.7	215.3	1.8	916	9.8
Information .....	1.7	69.7	1.2	1,817	9.2
Financial activities .....	6.7	75.7	2.3	1,534	11.8
Professional and business services .....	12.3	174.5	7.3	1,200	9.9
Education and health services .....	6.2	116.0	2.5	781	10.8
Leisure and hospitality .....	5.7	103.1	2.6	447	4.9
Other services .....	16.9	44.5	-0.6	527	8.0
Government .....	0.5	152.4	-0.4	942	5.5
Miami-Dade, FL .....	85.9	1,014.5	2.2	826	11.0
Private industry .....	85.6	861.6	2.6	801	10.9
Natural resources and mining .....	0.5	11.1	4.0	445	20.3
Construction .....	5.7	49.6	13.4	851	13.0
Manufacturing .....	2.7	48.3	-1.1	756	9.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	23.8	247.4	2.3	744	9.6
Information .....	1.7	22.3	-3.1	1,269	11.5
Financial activities .....	10.0	71.1	3.9	1,334	11.4
Professional and business services .....	17.1	140.0	-2.0	932	13.0
Education and health services .....	8.6	131.5	4.9	749	6.7
Leisure and hospitality .....	5.8	102.1	1.9	505	( <sup>6</sup> )
Other services .....	7.7	34.5	2.3	481	8.6
Government .....	0.3	152.9	-0.4	965	12.2

<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> Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.

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

<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<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup>**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>	
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>
United States <sup>6</sup> .....	8,770.7	132,613.1	2.2	\$838	8.1
Jefferson, AL .....	18.6	371.4	1.1	845	7.2
Anchorage Borough, AK .....	8.0	142.1	1.8	836	5.4
Maricopa, AZ .....	89.1	1,791.4	6.0	822	10.5
Pulaski, AR .....	14.0	247.3	2.5	728	6.6
Los Angeles, CA .....	392.0	4,179.3	2.6	944	9.3
Denver, CO .....	25.0	424.7	1.6	1,065	8.8
Hartford, CT .....	24.8	487.3	1.6	1,112	6.6
New Castle, DE .....	19.6	280.2	0.7	1,113	10.3
Washington, DC .....	31.4	664.9	0.3	1,371	7.3
Miami-Dade, FL .....	85.9	1,014.5	2.2	826	11.0
Fulton, GA .....	38.2	748.3	1.9	1,164	7.7
Honolulu, HI .....	24.0	448.2	2.6	742	7.1
Ada, ID .....	14.3	204.6	6.2	730	9.3
Cook, IL .....	132.7	2,502.0	1.1	1,047	6.5
Marion, IN .....	23.6	572.9	0.2	900	10.0
Polk, IA .....	14.3	264.4	2.4	859	8.3
Johnson, KS .....	19.8	299.4	0.7	883	8.5
Jefferson, KY .....	22.3	424.0	1.9	799	7.4
East Baton Rouge, LA .....	13.6	260.3	6.2	709	7.9
Cumberland, ME .....	11.9	166.7	1.1	751	6.1
Montgomery, MD .....	32.6	462.3	2.4	1,133	8.8
Middlesex, MA .....	46.5	791.3	1.9	1,177	7.2
Wayne, MI .....	33.7	772.6	-1.6	923	3.1
Hennepin, MN .....	43.9	831.4	1.8	1,047	4.8
Hinds, MS .....	6.5	128.7	0.9	715	8.8
St. Louis, MO .....	33.9	616.3	0.7	900	9.9
Yellowstone, MT .....	5.4	72.9	2.3	635	6.7
Douglas, NE .....	15.4	308.1	1.0	778	9.9
Clark, NV .....	44.2	905.4	7.2	769	6.8
Hillsborough, NH .....	12.4	195.0	1.3	886	7.3
Bergen, NJ .....	34.6	443.4	0.4	1,061	7.9
Bernalillo, NM .....	16.9	328.0	4.4	705	7.3
New York, NY .....	115.3	2,271.0	1.8	2,223	9.6
Mecklenburg, NC .....	28.3	530.6	3.2	1,167	8.4
Cass, ND .....	5.8	92.1	4.1	649	6.6
Cuyahoga, OH .....	38.3	745.0	0.1	865	6.5
Oklahoma, OK .....	22.7	420.0	2.6	755	15.3
Multnomah, OR .....	26.5	432.1	2.6	839	7.7
Allegheny, PA .....	35.0	674.7	0.9	871	7.1
Providence, RI .....	18.2	282.0	0.1	802	4.8
Greenville, SC .....	12.8	228.1	2.3	695	5.6
Minnehaha, SD .....	6.1	110.7	2.6	683	7.6
Shelby, TN .....	20.0	502.4	1.5	813	7.3
Harris, TX .....	91.8	1,924.0	4.5	1,033	8.7
Salt Lake, UT .....	37.7	553.3	4.4	744	9.4
Chittenden, VT .....	5.7	93.1	-0.6	847	11.0
Fairfax, VA .....	31.6	568.4	2.5	1,314	11.3
King, WA .....	74.1	1,126.8	3.2	1,041	10.3
Kanawha, WV .....	6.1	107.3	0.8	706	7.1
Milwaukee, WI .....	21.8	486.6	-0.3	843	8.4

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 3. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

County <sup>3</sup>	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>5</sup>	
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06 <sup>4</sup>
Laramie, WY .....	3.1	40.9	3.6	\$633	5.3
San Juan, PR .....	14.7	306.0	-2.4	531	3.1
St. Thomas, VI .....	1.8	23.3	0.6	616	5.5

<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> Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.

<sup>5</sup> Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

<sup>6</sup> Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

**Table 4. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages by state, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup>**

State	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>3</sup>	
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06
United States <sup>4</sup> .....	8,770.7	132,613.1	2.2	\$838	8.1
Alabama .....	116.1	1,923.6	2.6	690	7.6
Alaska .....	20.6	296.3	2.0	791	6.5
Arizona .....	145.1	2,613.3	6.0	767	10.2
Arkansas .....	80.5	1,171.6	2.5	621	7.1
California .....	1,279.8	15,422.5	2.7	952	9.2
Colorado .....	172.2	2,211.3	2.5	858	9.2
Connecticut .....	111.2	1,640.1	1.1	1,191	10.0
Delaware .....	30.1	415.0	1.7	965	9.8
District of Columbia .....	31.4	664.9	0.3	1,371	7.3
Florida .....	587.0	8,014.1	3.7	735	8.2
Georgia .....	260.2	3,989.2	2.8	799	7.7
Hawaii .....	37.1	615.1	2.7	719	7.5
Idaho .....	53.4	623.3	5.0	609	8.6
Illinois .....	344.4	5,733.7	1.6	913	7.7
Indiana .....	155.2	2,870.4	1.1	717	7.5
Iowa .....	92.2	1,445.7	1.8	662	7.5
Kansas .....	84.7	1,317.1	1.7	686	8.7
Kentucky .....	108.8	1,769.9	1.8	671	6.8
Louisiana .....	121.6	1,793.1	-4.1	697	12.6
Maine .....	48.9	577.5	0.9	652	6.2
Maryland .....	161.6	2,511.2	2.1	897	7.9
Massachusetts .....	205.8	3,136.3	1.3	1,045	8.4
Michigan .....	257.3	4,207.8	-0.6	816	4.7
Minnesota .....	173.0	2,633.0	2.7	827	5.8
Mississippi .....	68.6	1,112.1	0.0	597	9.3
Missouri .....	172.2	2,680.5	1.6	724	7.7
Montana .....	40.6	416.8	3.3	572	7.3
Nebraska .....	57.6	888.4	1.0	648	8.0
Nevada .....	70.0	1,260.0	6.2	764	6.7
New Hampshire .....	48.0	617.1	1.7	800	7.5
New Jersey .....	278.6	3,933.9	1.8	1,037	7.6
New Mexico .....	51.8	795.5	4.0	647	8.6
New York .....	566.9	8,329.2	1.0	1,193	8.8
North Carolina .....	238.4	3,905.5	2.4	744	7.8
North Dakota .....	25.2	328.8	2.8	586	6.9
Ohio .....	293.3	5,267.2	0.8	751	6.5
Oklahoma .....	95.9	1,505.6	3.5	660	11.9
Oregon .....	126.8	1,669.7	2.9	734	7.3
Pennsylvania .....	334.3	5,551.7	1.6	807	8.0
Rhode Island .....	35.9	468.2	0.4	777	5.6
South Carolina .....	122.5	1,834.1	1.9	661	8.2
South Dakota .....	29.4	373.2	2.2	581	6.6
Tennessee .....	135.1	2,717.7	2.3	705	6.8
Texas .....	530.4	9,850.2	4.0	824	8.6
Utah .....	84.4	1,147.2	5.0	660	8.9
Vermont .....	24.5	300.5	0.9	688	7.7
Virginia .....	218.2	3,613.3	2.5	862	8.6
Washington .....	208.1	2,784.0	3.1	833	8.7
West Virginia .....	48.2	697.7	2.0	625	7.2
Wisconsin .....	164.1	2,712.2	0.8	716	7.5

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 4. Covered<sup>1</sup> establishments, employment, and wages by state, first quarter 2006<sup>2</sup> — Continued**

State	Establishments, first quarter 2006 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage <sup>3</sup>	
		March 2006 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2005-06	Average weekly wage	Percent change, first quarter 2005-06
Wyoming .....	23.5	256.8	5.0	\$667	9.3
Puerto Rico .....	59.6	1,048.1	0.2	450	3.9
Virgin Islands .....	3.4	45.6	2.8	664	2.3

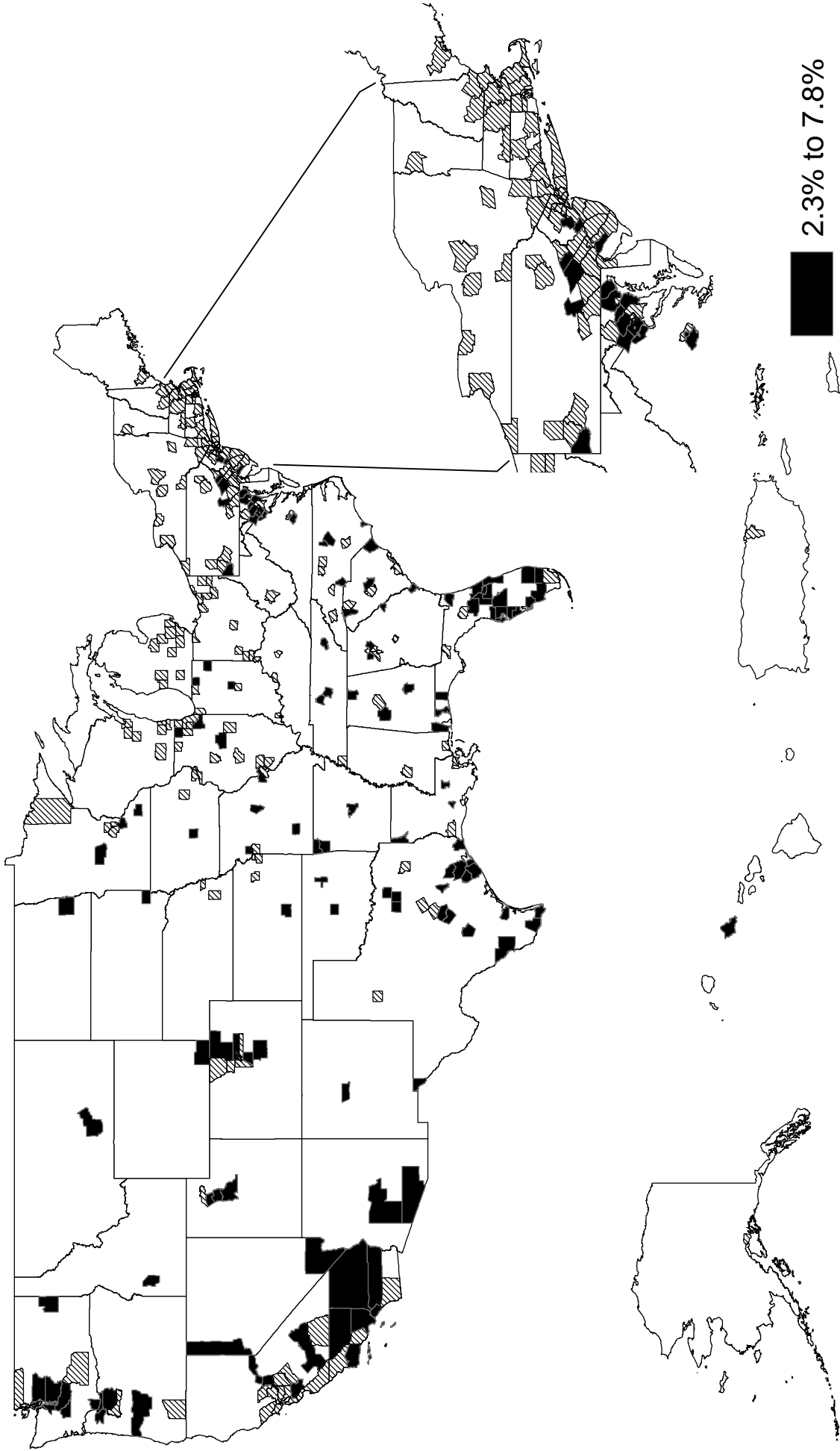
<sup>1</sup> Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

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

<sup>3</sup> Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

<sup>4</sup> Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

**Chart 1. Percent change in employment in counties with 75,000 employees or more, March 2005–06 (U.S. Average = 2.2%)**

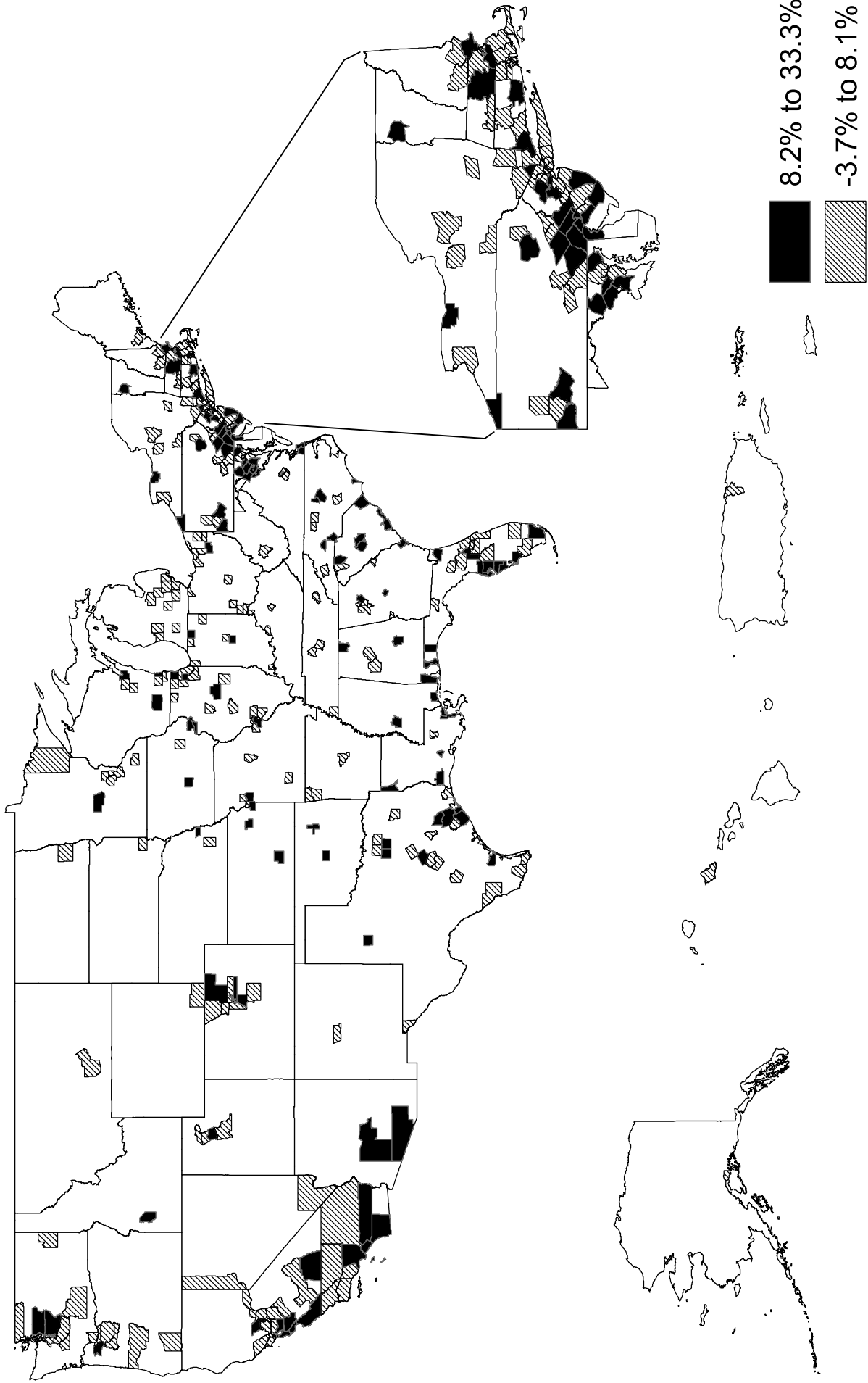


2.3% to 7.8%  
 -38.7% to 2.2%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics  
 October 2006

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

**Chart 2. Percent change in average weekly wage in counties with 75,000 employees or more, first quarter 2005–06 (U.S. Average = 8.1%)**



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

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics  
October 2006