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COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

First Quarter 2012

From March 2011 to March 2012, **employment** increased in 293 of the 328 largest U.S. counties, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Gregg, Texas, posted the largest increase, with a gain of 6.0 percent over the year, compared with national job growth of 1.8 percent. Within Gregg, the largest employment increase occurred in construction, which gained 1,948 jobs over the year (28.7 percent). Benton, Wash., experienced the largest over-the-year decrease in employment among the largest counties in the U.S. with a loss of 3.9 percent.

The U.S. **average weekly wage** increased over the year by 5.4 percent to $984 in the first quarter of 2012. Williamson, Texas, had the largest over-the-year increase in average weekly wages with a gain of 27.4 percent. Within Williamson, a total wage gain of $298.1 million (49.5 percent) in the trade, transportation, and utilities industry had the largest impact on the county's increase in average weekly wages. New York, N.Y., experienced the largest decrease in average weekly wages with a loss of 6.3 percent over the year. County employment and wage data are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program.

Chart 1. Large counties ranked by percent increase in employment, March 2011-12 (U.S. average = 1.8 percent)

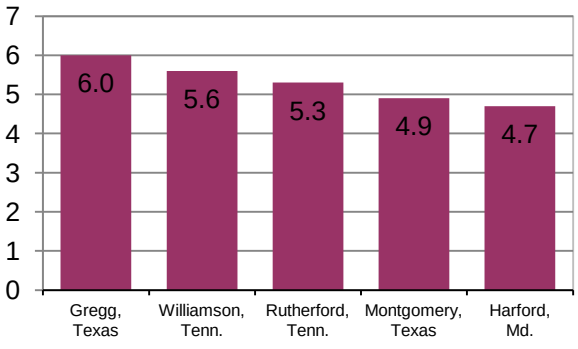


Chart 2. Large counties ranked by percent increase in average weekly wages, first quarter 2011-12 (U.S. average = 5.4 percent)

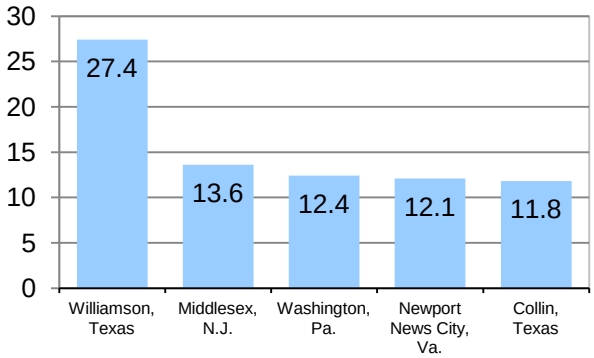


Table A. Large counties ranked by March 2012 employment, March 2011-12 employment increase, and March 2011-12 percent increase in employment

Employment in large counties					
March 2012 employment (thousands)		Increase in employment, March 2011-12 (thousands)		Percent increase in employment, March 2011-12	
United States	130,175.4	United States	2,338.1	United States	1.8
Los Angeles, Calif.	3,925.0	Harris, Texas	70.4	Gregg, Texas	6.0
Cook, Ill.	2,373.7	New York, N.Y.	53.0	Williamson, Tenn.	5.6
New York, N.Y.	2,360.9	Los Angeles, Calif.	52.9	Rutherford, Tenn.	5.3
Harris, Texas	2,085.3	Maricopa, Ariz.	41.4	Montgomery, Texas	4.9
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,665.1	Cook, Ill.	35.8	Harford, Md.	4.7
Dallas, Texas	1,446.5	Dallas, Texas	34.6	Kent, Mich.	4.6
Orange, Calif.	1,386.8	King, Wash.	33.6	Delaware, Ohio	4.6
San Diego, Calif.	1,253.4	Santa Clara, Calif.	30.2	Fort Bend, Texas	4.6
King, Wash.	1,144.4	Hennepin, Minn.	27.1	Kern, Calif.	4.4
Miami-Dade, Fla.	989.5	Orange, Calif.	24.1	Douglas, Colo.	4.2
				Manatee, Fla.	4.2
				Ottawa, Mich.	4.2
				Washington, Pa.	4.2
				Denton, Texas	4.2
				Davis, Utah	4.2
				Utah, Utah	4.2

Large County Employment

In March 2012, **national employment**, as measured by the QCEW program, was 130.2 million, up by 1.8 percent or 2.3 million jobs, from March 2011. The 328 U.S. counties with 75,000 or more jobs accounted for 71.1 percent of total U.S. employment and 77.5 percent of total wages. These 328 counties had a net job growth of 1.6 million over the year, accounting for 70.2 percent of the overall U.S. employment increase. (See chart 3.)

Gregg, Texas, had the largest percentage increase in employment (6.0 percent) among the largest U.S. counties. The five counties with the largest increases in employment level were Harris, Texas; New York, N.Y.; Los Angeles, Calif.; Maricopa, Ariz.; and Cook, Ill. These counties had a combined over-the-year gain of 253,500, or 10.8 percent of the overall employment increase for the U.S. (See table A.)

Employment declined in 32 of the large counties from March 2011 to March 2012. Benton, Wash., had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease in employment (-3.9 percent). Within Benton, professional and business services was the largest contributor to the decrease in employment with a loss of 3,103 jobs (-13.3 percent). Madison, Ill., had the second largest percent decrease in employment, followed by Arlington, Va. Two counties, St. Clair, Ill., and Jefferson, La., tied for the fourth largest employment decrease. (See table 1.)

Table B. Large counties ranked by first quarter 2012 average weekly wages, first quarter 2011-12 increase in average weekly wages, and first quarter 2011-12 percent increase in average weekly wages

Average weekly wage in large counties					
Average weekly wage, first quarter 2012		Increase in average weekly wage, first quarter 2011-12		Percent increase in average weekly wage, first quarter 2011-12	
United States	$984	United States	$50	United States	5.4
New York, N.Y.	$2,464	Williamson, Texas	$261	Williamson, Texas	27.4
Santa Clara, Calif.	1,957	Middlesex, N.J.	160	Middlesex, N.J.	13.6
Fairfield, Conn.	1,942	Morris, N.J.	138	Washington, Pa.	12.4
Somerset, N.J.	1,881	Lake, Ill.	126	Newport News City, Va.	12.1
San Francisco, Calif.	1,791	Collin, Texas	126	Collin, Texas	11.8
Suffolk, Mass.	1,708	San Mateo, Calif.	112	Tulsa, Okla.	11.3
San Mateo, Calif.	1,622	Washington, Pa.	110	Gregg, Texas	10.9
Arlington, Va.	1,617	Santa Clara, Calif.	103	Lake, Ill.	10.3
Washington, D.C.	1,602	Durham, N.C.	103	Peoria, Ill.	10.3
Morris, N.J.	1,595	Newport News City, Va.	100	Santa Cruz, Calif.	10.0

Large County Average Weekly Wages

Average weekly wages for the nation increased by 5.4 percent during the year ending in the first quarter of 2012. Among the 328 largest counties, 323 had over-the-year increases in average weekly wages. (See chart 4.) Williamson, Texas, had the largest wage gain among the largest U.S. counties (27.4 percent).

Of the 328 largest counties, 4 experienced over-the-year declines in average weekly wages. New York, N.Y., had the largest average weekly wage decrease with a loss of 6.3 percent. Smaller first quarter bonus payments in 2012 contributed to this decrease in the average weekly wage. Within New York County, total wages in financial activities decreased by $5.3 billion (-13.4 percent) over the year. Somerset, N.J., had the second largest decline in average weekly wages, followed by Hudson, N.J., and Douglas, Colo. Clayton, Ga., had the smallest over-the-year increase in average weekly wages (0.1 percent). (See table 1.)

Ten Largest U.S. Counties

All of the 10 largest counties experienced over-the-year percentage increases in **employment** in March 2012. Harris, Texas, experienced the largest gain (3.5 percent). Within Harris, professional and business services had the largest over-the-year level increase among all private industry groups with a gain of 19,800 jobs (6.0 percent). San Diego, Calif., had the smallest percent increase in employment (1.1 percent) among the 10 largest counties. (See table 2.)

Nine of the 10 largest U.S. counties had an over-the-year increase in **average weekly wages**. San Diego, Calif., experienced the largest increase in average weekly wages (7.5 percent), largely due to substantial total wage gains over the year in professional and business services ($291.1 million or 7.6 percent). New York, N.Y., had the only average weekly wage decline (-6.3 percent) among the 10 largest counties.

For More Information

The tables and charts included in this release contain data for the nation and for the 328 U.S. counties with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2011. March 2012 employment and 2012 first quarter average weekly wages for all states are provided in table 3 of this release.

The employment and wage data by county are compiled under the 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 9.2 million employer reports cover 130.2 million full- and part-time workers. For additional information about the quarterly employment and wages data, please read the Technical Note. Data for the first quarter of 2012 will be available later at http://www.bls.gov/cew/. Additional information about the QCEW data may be obtained by calling (202) 691-6567.

Several BLS regional offices are issuing QCEW news releases targeted to local data users. For links to these releases, see http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewregional.htm.

The County Employment and Wages release for second quarter 2012 is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, January 8, 2013.

County Changes for the 2012 County Employment and Wages News Releases

Counties with annual average employment of 75,000 or more in 2011 are included in this release and will be included in future 2012 releases. Seven counties have been added to the publication tables: Okaloosa, Fla.; Tippecanoe, Ind.; Johnson, Iowa; St. Tammany, La.; Saratoga, N.Y.; Delaware, Ohio; and Gregg, Texas. One county, Jackson, Ore., will be excluded.

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 2012 North American Industry Classification System. Data for 2012 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 329 counties presented in this release were derived using 2011 preliminary annual averages of employment. For 2012 data, seven counties have been added to the publication tables: Okaloosa, Fla.; Tippecanoe, Ind.; Johnson, Iowa; St. Tammany, La.; Saratoga, N.Y.; Delaware, Ohio; and Gregg, Texas. These counties will be included in all 2012 quarterly releases. One county, Jackson, Ore., which was published in the 2011 releases, will be excluded from this and future 2012 releases because their 2011 annual average employment levels were less than 75,000.

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

	QCEW	BED	CES
Source	· Count of UI administrative records submitted by 9.2 million establishments in first quarter of 2012	· Count of longitudinally-linked UI administrative records submitted by 6.7 million private-sector employers	· Sample survey: 486,000 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 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 of UI data over time and ongoing review and editing. The individual states determine their data release timetables.

Differences between QCEW, BED, and CES employment measures

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

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

Coverage

Employment and wage data for workers covered by state UI laws are compiled from quarterly contribution reports submitted to the SWAs by employers. For federal civilian workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program, employment and wage data are compiled from quarterly reports submitted by four major federal payroll processing centers on behalf of all federal agencies, with the exception of a few agencies which still report directly to the individual SWA. In addition to the quarterly contribution reports, employers who operate multiple establishments within a state complete a questionnaire, called the "Multiple Worksite Report," which provides detailed information on the location and industry of each of their establishments. QCEW employment and wage data are derived from microdata summaries of 9.1 million employer reports of employment and wages submitted by states to the BLS in 2011. These reports are based on place of employment rather than place of residence.

UI and UCFE coverage is broad and has been basically comparable from state to state since 1978, when the 1976 amendments to the Federal Unemployment Tax Act became effective, expanding coverage to include most State and local government employees. In 2011, UI and UCFE programs covered workers in 129.4 million jobs. The estimated 124.8 million workers in these jobs (after adjustment for multiple jobholders) represented 95.7 percent of civilian wage and salary employment. Covered workers received $6.217 trillion in pay, representing 93.3 percent of the wage and salary component of personal income and 41.2 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 2011 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 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

Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2010 edition of this publication, which was published in November 2011, contains selected data produced by Business Employment Dynamics (BED) on job gains and losses, as well as selected data from the first quarter 2011 version of this news release. Tables and additional content from *Employment and Wages Annual Averages 2010* are now available online at http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn10.htm. The 2011 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* will be available later in 2012.

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 329 largest counties, first quarter 2012 [2]

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change	First quarter 2012	Percent change, first quarter 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change
United States [6]	9,211.8	130,175.4	1.8	–	$984	5.4	–
Jefferson, AL	17.6	335.0	1.6	151	978	6.4	100
Madison, AL	8.8	176.9	0.3	276	1,024	4.6	241
Mobile, AL	9.7	163.8	-0.5	315	790	6.3	110
Montgomery, AL	6.3	126.4	0.0	294	809	6.3	110
Tuscaloosa, AL	4.2	83.9	1.1	203	806	3.7	291
Anchorage Borough, AK	8.4	150.3	2.0	121	1,022	7.2	65
Maricopa, AZ	95.6	1,665.1	2.6	78	945	5.8	149
Pima, AZ	19.0	348.1	1.5	159	804	5.0	211
Benton, AR	5.5	96.1	3.1	45	1,166	5.2	194
Pulaski, AR	14.3	241.5	1.0	217	861	5.6	162
Washington, AR	5.5	90.9	2.9	54	746	2.9	312
Alameda, CA	57.9	646.5	2.5	86	1,276	7.2	65
Contra Costa, CA	30.7	317.2	0.9	228	1,256	4.0	276
Fresno, CA	31.8	325.8	1.4	175	736	3.7	291
Kern, CA	18.4	272.4	4.4	9	853	8.1	31
Los Angeles, CA	448.8	3,925.0	1.4	175	1,090	4.2	265
Marin, CA	12.0	103.7	2.8	63	1,128	2.5	317
Monterey, CA	13.2	153.0	3.1	45	834	3.2	306
Orange, CA	106.0	1,386.8	1.8	137	1,095	5.2	194
Placer, CA	11.1	128.9	1.7	142	934	6.1	129
Riverside, CA	52.1	565.6	1.1	203	777	4.3	260
Sacramento, CA	55.3	580.1	0.8	238	1,081	6.0	139
San Bernardino, CA	53.0	602.4	1.0	217	790	5.2	194
San Diego, CA	102.3	1,253.4	1.1	203	1,076	7.5	44
San Francisco, CA	57.2	573.0	4.1	17	1,791	3.6	295
San Joaquin, CA	18.1	199.1	1.0	217	785	4.8	224
San Luis Obispo, CA	9.8	102.6	2.8	63	775	4.3	260
San Mateo, CA	25.1	334.0	2.8	63	1,622	7.4	51
Santa Barbara, CA	14.8	179.0	2.9	54	924	6.5	93
Santa Clara, CA	64.9	884.7	3.5	28	1,957	5.6	162
Santa Cruz, CA	9.3	86.9	0.9	228	902	10.0	10
Solano, CA	10.4	119.0	2.5	86	990	6.6	84
Sonoma, CA	19.4	172.2	0.6	250	867	3.1	310
Stanislaus, CA	15.3	158.7	1.3	184	803	7.4	51
Tulare, CA	9.6	137.8	2.9	54	649	4.0	276
Ventura, CA	24.5	305.4	2.2	107	1,034	7.0	69
Yolo, CA	6.3	87.7	0.6	250	1,010	([7])	–
Adams, CO	8.9	155.6	1.9	126	848	5.0	211
Arapahoe, CO	18.8	279.0	2.7	72	1,198	5.9	145
Boulder, CO	12.9	158.6	3.1	45	1,126	6.6	84
Denver, CO	25.6	425.2	2.9	54	1,270	4.3	260
Douglas, CO	9.5	92.1	4.2	10	1,077	-0.3	324
El Paso, CO	16.7	233.8	0.7	242	857	5.5	166
Jefferson, CO	17.8	208.5	3.0	49	970	7.1	68
Larimer, CO	10.0	128.3	3.0	49	826	3.6	295
Weld, CO	5.8	83.2	3.4	33	819	6.0	139
Fairfield, CT	32.6	402.3	1.8	137	1,942	2.9	312
Hartford, CT	25.5	485.7	1.4	175	1,320	4.4	256
New Haven, CT	22.3	350.9	1.6	151	1,003	5.4	179
New London, CT	6.9	121.4	-0.8	322	987	2.7	315

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 329 largest counties, first quarter 2012 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change	First quarter 2012	Percent change, first quarter 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change
New Castle, DE	16.7	263.7	0.6	250	$1,244	3.8	284
Washington, DC	35.3	712.1	1.3	184	1,602	4.0	276
Alachua, FL	6.5	116.3	0.4	269	761	4.4	256
Brevard, FL	14.5	187.7	-0.4	312	853	6.4	100
Broward, FL	63.1	699.6	2.3	99	877	5.7	158
Collier, FL	11.8	124.6	3.2	40	813	6.8	74
Duval, FL	26.9	437.3	-0.1	297	947	6.3	110
Escambia, FL	7.9	119.4	-0.4	312	725	5.4	179
Hillsborough, FL	37.9	589.2	2.1	115	920	4.7	233
Lake, FL	7.2	81.8	1.3	184	620	6.2	122
Lee, FL	18.7	206.9	2.6	78	739	4.1	270
Leon, FL	8.2	137.5	-0.5	315	750	3.7	291
Manatee, FL	9.4	106.3	4.2	10	706	5.5	166
Marion, FL	7.9	89.7	-0.1	297	643	5.2	194
Miami-Dade, FL	88.6	989.5	2.2	107	909	4.1	270
Okaloosa, FL	6.0	76.4	0.9	228	767	8.0	34
Orange, FL	36.0	676.5	3.0	49	846	5.0	211
Palm Beach, FL	49.5	509.4	2.5	86	934	5.2	194
Pasco, FL	10.0	99.8	0.9	228	624	4.7	233
Pinellas, FL	30.6	382.2	1.0	217	829	7.9	37
Polk, FL	12.4	191.9	-0.1	297	700	4.5	250
Sarasota, FL	14.4	139.4	2.8	63	755	4.6	241
Seminole, FL	13.7	157.8	2.1	115	774	5.6	162
Volusia, FL	13.4	152.4	0.6	250	659	4.8	224
Bibb, GA	4.6	79.9	1.4	175	732	4.4	256
Chatham, GA	7.6	132.0	2.3	99	801	6.2	122
Clayton, GA	4.3	111.1	-0.8	322	981	0.1	323
Cobb, GA	21.3	301.9	2.6	78	1,057	3.9	280
De Kalb, GA	17.8	276.1	0.2	283	1,034	3.5	299
Fulton, GA	41.1	711.7	2.2	107	1,406	5.1	205
Gwinnett, GA	24.0	306.3	1.7	142	940	6.3	110
Muscogee, GA	4.7	92.9	-0.5	315	781	4.6	241
Richmond, GA	4.7	99.0	-0.7	318	791	6.3	110
Honolulu, HI	24.5	440.6	0.8	238	870	6.1	129
Ada, ID	13.7	195.1	2.9	54	810	4.5	250
Champaign, IL	4.2	86.9	0.4	269	795	6.1	129
Cook, IL	147.8	2,373.7	1.5	159	1,195	4.7	233
Du Page, IL	37.0	559.8	1.9	126	1,161	6.2	122
Kane, IL	13.3	190.3	2.8	63	815	4.2	265
Lake, IL	22.0	313.4	1.3	184	1,344	10.3	8
McHenry, IL	8.6	91.4	1.8	137	769	6.2	122
McLean, IL	3.8	85.2	0.3	276	949	5.0	211
Madison, IL	6.0	93.5	-1.5	327	775	5.2	194
Peoria, IL	4.7	102.1	1.7	142	1,039	10.3	8
St. Clair, IL	5.6	93.1	-0.9	324	753	6.1	129
Sangamon, IL	5.3	127.8	0.1	291	946	3.4	301
Will, IL	15.1	198.6	2.2	107	830	5.3	186
Winnebago, IL	6.8	123.2	0.3	276	818	6.6	84
Allen, IN	9.0	173.3	1.4	175	810	8.0	34
Elkhart, IN	4.9	106.9	4.1	17	750	7.3	59

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 329 largest counties, first quarter 2012 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change	First quarter 2012	Percent change, first quarter 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change
Hamilton, IN	8.6	112.1	3.2	40	$952	3.3	305
Lake, IN	10.4	186.0	2.0	121	852	8.4	26
Marion, IN	24.1	555.7	2.8	63	1,029	4.1	270
St. Joseph, IN	6.1	114.5	-0.3	306	760	5.6	162
Tippecanoe, IN	3.3	77.4	3.3	38	829	6.6	84
Vanderburgh, IN	4.9	105.8	1.2	197	766	5.7	158
Johnson, IA	3.6	76.9	1.8	137	836	6.2	122
Linn, IA	6.3	125.2	1.5	159	905	6.7	77
Polk, IA	15.0	266.8	2.8	63	992	5.4	179
Scott, IA	5.2	86.3	1.6	151	765	5.8	149
Johnson, KS	22.0	306.9	3.7	25	1,016	6.4	100
Sedgwick, KS	12.6	238.7	0.9	228	880	7.6	42
Shawnee, KS	4.9	94.5	0.5	262	795	6.7	77
Wyandotte, KS	3.3	82.8	4.0	19	893	8.2	29
Fayette, KY	9.4	174.8	1.9	126	849	5.2	194
Jefferson, KY	22.0	418.4	2.4	95	955	8.6	22
Caddo, LA	7.5	120.2	-0.3	306	769	4.8	224
Calcasieu, LA	4.9	82.8	0.3	276	826	7.4	51
East Baton Rouge, LA	14.8	256.6	1.1	203	877	5.7	158
Jefferson, LA	13.9	190.1	-0.9	324	868	5.1	205
Lafayette, LA	9.1	137.0	3.9	22	918	7.4	51
Orleans, LA	11.3	177.4	3.2	40	979	1.2	319
St. Tammany, LA	7.5	78.8	2.7	72	817	6.4	100
Cumberland, ME	12.6	165.1	0.6	250	868	3.8	284
Anne Arundel, MD	14.5	234.4	3.6	27	1,042	9.3	17
Baltimore, MD	21.1	361.0	1.3	184	977	6.1	129
Frederick, MD	6.1	91.6	-0.1	297	958	4.6	241
Harford, MD	5.6	86.1	4.7	5	895	5.5	166
Howard, MD	9.1	155.6	2.8	63	1,202	4.6	241
Montgomery, MD	32.8	447.6	1.1	203	1,355	3.4	301
Prince Georges, MD	15.5	298.8	0.5	262	984	5.0	211
Baltimore City, MD	13.8	327.7	-0.3	306	1,173	8.5	23
Barnstable, MA	9.2	80.1	2.0	121	808	6.6	84
Bristol, MA	16.5	207.6	0.9	228	844	6.7	77
Essex, MA	22.3	298.0	1.5	159	1,006	4.7	233
Hampden, MA	15.6	194.3	1.2	197	858	5.5	166
Middlesex, MA	50.8	811.5	1.7	142	1,459	6.3	110
Norfolk, MA	24.2	314.4	1.5	159	1,133	6.5	93
Plymouth, MA	14.5	171.0	1.9	126	858	5.3	186
Suffolk, MA	24.2	589.7	2.2	107	1,708	4.5	250
Worcester, MA	22.0	313.8	1.3	184	947	4.5	250
Genesee, MI	7.1	128.5	1.9	126	794	6.6	84
Ingham, MI	6.2	152.8	0.2	283	916	5.4	179
Kalamazoo, MI	5.2	108.9	1.1	203	874	7.5	44
Kent, MI	13.6	325.7	4.6	6	847	7.2	65
Macomb, MI	16.6	285.4	2.4	95	982	4.4	256
Oakland, MI	36.6	643.2	3.3	38	1,081	6.0	139
Ottawa, MI	5.4	105.3	4.2	10	747	4.6	241
Saginaw, MI	4.1	81.9	2.0	121	760	0.7	321
Washtenaw, MI	7.8	191.3	1.9	126	974	5.8	149
Wayne, MI	30.5	677.0	1.9	126	1,070	4.9	218

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 329 largest counties, first quarter 2012 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change	First quarter 2012	Percent change, first quarter 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change
Anoka, MN	7.2	107.6	2.6	78	$870	4.8	224
Dakota, MN	9.9	168.3	0.7	242	954	7.4	51
Hennepin, MN	43.3	833.2	3.4	33	1,274	6.3	110
Olmsted, MN	3.5	88.5	2.9	54	1,001	3.8	284
Ramsey, MN	14.0	312.1	1.0	217	1,116	3.0	311
St. Louis, MN	5.6	90.9	0.0	294	781	8.0	34
Stearns, MN	4.4	79.6	2.7	72	736	5.1	205
Harrison, MS	4.4	81.9	-0.3	306	702	5.1	205
Hinds, MS	6.0	121.5	0.3	276	802	3.4	301
Boone, MO	4.5	85.5	3.9	22	724	4.5	250
Clay, MO	5.0	88.6	0.8	238	884	4.9	218
Greene, MO	8.0	152.3	3.9	22	707	7.3	59
Jackson, MO	18.4	342.4	0.4	269	960	6.5	93
St. Charles, MO	8.2	124.1	2.5	86	784	5.2	194
St. Louis, MO	31.8	561.0	0.2	283	1,023	5.7	158
St. Louis City, MO	9.1	217.0	1.3	184	1,155	9.4	14
Yellowstone, MT	6.0	76.2	2.2	107	769	6.5	93
Douglas, NE	17.1	311.5	1.5	159	898	5.3	186
Lancaster, NE	9.1	155.8	2.9	54	749	5.3	186
Clark, NV	47.9	807.9	1.5	159	836	5.8	149
Washoe, NV	13.5	180.3	0.6	250	828	4.9	218
Hillsborough, NH	11.8	186.2	0.6	250	1,031	5.3	186
Rockingham, NH	10.5	131.5	1.5	159	891	4.2	265
Atlantic, NJ	6.7	130.8	1.9	126	801	3.8	284
Bergen, NJ	33.3	423.1	1.7	142	1,207	4.9	218
Burlington, NJ	11.0	191.5	1.1	203	1,008	5.1	205
Camden, NJ	12.2	191.1	0.5	262	955	5.8	149
Essex, NJ	20.6	338.1	0.7	242	1,320	7.7	38
Gloucester, NJ	6.2	96.3	0.1	291	810	5.3	186
Hudson, NJ	13.9	232.0	1.0	217	1,514	-0.4	325
Mercer, NJ	11.0	228.3	1.3	184	1,391	7.5	44
Middlesex, NJ	21.8	380.2	2.3	99	1,338	13.6	2
Monmouth, NJ	20.0	237.5	-0.4	312	967	2.7	315
Morris, NJ	17.4	269.2	1.6	151	1,595	9.5	13
Ocean, NJ	12.2	143.6	2.3	99	769	3.8	284
Passaic, NJ	12.3	169.6	0.7	242	956	5.5	166
Somerset, NJ	10.1	169.3	1.5	159	1,881	-1.6	326
Union, NJ	14.5	217.5	1.0	217	1,265	5.4	179
Bernalillo, NM	17.6	306.5	-0.3	306	825	5.5	166
Albany, NY	10.0	216.7	0.2	283	973	3.8	284
Bronx, NY	17.1	234.1	-0.1	297	851	4.0	276
Broome, NY	4.6	89.6	-0.2	303	728	3.4	301
Dutchess, NY	8.2	110.0	0.7	242	958	4.6	241
Erie, NY	23.8	449.4	1.1	203	842	6.0	139
Kings, NY	52.6	518.1	2.8	63	754	4.1	270
Monroe, NY	18.2	370.7	1.4	175	892	5.1	205
Nassau, NY	52.8	587.1	2.4	95	1,058	4.1	270
New York, NY	122.8	2,360.9	2.3	99	2,464	-6.3	327
Oneida, NY	5.3	103.8	-0.7	318	739	4.2	265
Onondaga, NY	12.9	238.4	0.5	262	874	5.3	186
Orange, NY	9.9	129.2	0.5	262	789	4.9	218

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 329 largest counties, first quarter 2012 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change	First quarter 2012	Percent change, first quarter 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change
Queens, NY	46.9	513.9	2.9	54	$877	3.7	291
Richmond, NY	9.0	91.3	0.6	250	778	2.8	314
Rockland, NY	10.0	113.1	0.9	228	1,055	6.2	122
Saratoga, NY	5.5	75.5	3.2	40	836	7.0	69
Suffolk, NY	50.8	608.6	1.6	151	1,046	7.7	38
Westchester, NY	36.2	401.0	0.7	242	1,399	4.7	233
Buncombe, NC	8.0	111.9	1.5	159	714	5.8	149
Catawba, NC	4.4	78.3	0.2	283	705	1.9	318
Cumberland, NC	6.3	119.1	0.3	276	729	5.0	211
Durham, NC	7.3	182.8	2.5	86	1,381	8.1	31
Forsyth, NC	9.0	173.5	2.4	95	945	5.5	166
Guilford, NC	14.1	261.7	1.1	203	854	6.8	74
Mecklenburg, NC	32.9	563.6	2.9	54	1,274	3.2	306
New Hanover, NC	7.4	95.8	1.4	175	749	3.2	306
Wake, NC	29.6	448.3	2.7	72	960	4.7	233
Cass, ND	6.1	103.8	3.7	25	829	8.4	26
Butler, OH	7.4	137.5	1.1	203	831	6.3	110
Cuyahoga, OH	35.6	689.2	1.9	126	1,003	5.4	179
Delaware, OH	4.3	76.8	4.6	6	1,073	7.6	42
Franklin, OH	29.6	659.6	2.6	78	972	5.5	166
Hamilton, OH	23.1	484.2	1.7	142	1,092	9.7	11
Lake, OH	6.4	92.1	1.5	159	802	3.8	284
Lorain, OH	6.0	93.6	2.3	99	796	6.1	129
Lucas, OH	10.1	198.5	2.2	107	837	5.3	186
Mahoning, OH	5.9	95.7	1.6	151	671	7.0	69
Montgomery, OH	12.1	241.5	1.1	203	831	6.3	110
Stark, OH	8.8	151.6	1.9	126	745	6.0	139
Summit, OH	14.3	252.8	2.0	121	897	6.7	77
Oklahoma, OK	24.7	424.7	2.6	78	912	9.4	14
Tulsa, OK	20.4	330.3	1.3	184	914	11.3	6
Clackamas, OR	12.7	136.6	1.5	159	840	5.5	166
Lane, OR	10.8	135.4	0.8	238	710	5.8	149
Marion, OR	9.4	127.5	-0.3	306	728	4.1	270
Multnomah, OR	29.6	437.4	2.7	72	979	6.8	74
Washington, OR	16.4	245.6	2.1	115	1,205	7.3	59
Allegheny, PA	35.8	675.9	1.4	175	1,067	7.7	38
Berks, PA	9.0	162.8	1.3	184	832	6.7	77
Bucks, PA	19.8	245.0	0.2	283	894	5.2	194
Butler, PA	4.9	82.2	2.3	99	861	6.7	77
Chester, PA	15.2	234.1	0.5	262	1,255	8.5	23
Cumberland, PA	6.1	121.7	0.4	269	873	7.4	51
Dauphin, PA	7.5	173.9	0.6	250	966	8.8	21
Delaware, PA	13.9	209.4	1.0	217	1,082	6.5	93
Erie, PA	7.7	123.6	1.2	197	746	7.3	59
Lackawanna, PA	5.9	96.0	-0.1	297	719	7.0	69
Lancaster, PA	12.7	216.5	1.0	217	775	5.9	145
Lehigh, PA	8.7	173.6	1.5	159	950	8.1	31
Luzerne, PA	7.8	136.9	0.2	283	743	8.9	19
Montgomery, PA	27.5	460.7	0.6	250	1,294	7.4	51
Northampton, PA	6.6	101.7	2.3	99	840	6.3	110
Philadelphia, PA	36.0	626.7	0.0	294	1,148	6.3	110

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 329 largest counties, first quarter 2012 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change	First quarter 2012	Percent change, first quarter 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change
Washington, PA	5.7	84.3	4.2	10	$995	12.4	3
Westmoreland, PA	9.5	131.4	1.7	142	761	6.1	129
York, PA	9.1	170.3	0.9	228	826	4.8	224
Providence, RI	17.2	267.1	1.2	197	970	8.5	23
Charleston, SC	11.8	213.9	3.4	33	834	7.5	44
Greenville, SC	12.0	232.9	2.6	78	820	6.6	84
Horry, SC	7.6	104.7	2.5	86	559	4.9	218
Lexington, SC	5.6	95.2	1.6	151	683	6.1	129
Richland, SC	9.0	204.6	1.3	184	832	4.7	233
Spartanburg, SC	5.8	114.9	3.2	40	802	5.4	179
Minnehaha, SD	6.5	113.8	1.8	137	798	6.5	93
Davidson, TN	18.3	424.4	2.7	72	1,013	9.0	18
Hamilton, TN	8.4	183.8	2.6	78	843	7.4	51
Knox, TN	10.9	218.0	1.2	197	804	7.3	59
Rutherford, TN	4.4	101.5	5.3	3	821	5.9	145
Shelby, TN	19.1	466.8	2.1	115	970	6.0	139
Williamson, TN	6.2	96.2	5.6	2	1,125	5.9	145
Bell, TX	4.9	107.2	0.2	283	773	5.0	211
Bexar, TX	35.0	743.0	1.5	159	886	5.5	166
Brazoria, TX	5.0	91.8	3.4	33	943	3.2	306
Brazos, TX	3.9	86.2	-0.7	318	701	6.4	100
Cameron, TX	6.4	129.5	1.7	142	570	5.2	194
Collin, TX	19.1	302.8	3.4	33	1,197	11.8	5
Dallas, TX	69.0	1,446.5	2.5	86	1,213	5.5	166
Denton, TX	11.5	182.6	4.2	10	833	6.4	100
El Paso, TX	14.1	275.0	0.5	262	669	6.9	73
Fort Bend, TX	9.7	140.7	4.6	6	1,025	4.6	241
Galveston, TX	5.4	95.5	0.4	269	867	4.8	224
Gregg, TX	4.2	78.9	6.0	1	883	10.9	7
Harris, TX	102.9	2,085.3	3.5	28	1,340	6.4	100
Hidalgo, TX	11.4	230.1	1.3	184	579	4.7	233
Jefferson, TX	5.9	122.7	1.2	197	988	7.5	44
Lubbock, TX	7.1	123.9	-0.7	318	700	7.5	44
McLennan, TX	4.9	100.3	0.6	250	766	5.8	149
Montgomery, TX	9.1	138.3	4.9	4	968	8.3	28
Nueces, TX	7.9	154.6	2.2	107	821	9.6	12
Smith, TX	5.7	92.7	0.4	269	766	3.9	280
Tarrant, TX	38.5	771.7	2.5	86	954	6.6	84
Travis, TX	31.9	595.9	3.1	45	1,063	6.1	129
Webb, TX	4.9	90.7	3.5	28	624	5.8	149
Williamson, TX	7.9	131.7	2.5	86	1,213	27.4	1
Davis, UT	7.2	105.0	4.2	10	763	8.2	29
Salt Lake, UT	37.0	578.7	3.5	28	911	6.4	100
Utah, UT	12.7	171.4	4.2	10	724	6.5	93
Weber, UT	5.4	89.8	2.1	115	682	6.2	122
Chittenden, VT	6.1	95.9	3.0	49	915	4.6	241
Arlington, VA	8.5	164.9	-1.3	326	1,617	4.3	260
Chesterfield, VA	7.8	115.1	1.3	184	857	3.6	295
Fairfax, VA	35.1	585.1	2.1	115	1,562	5.5	166
Henrico, VA	10.2	175.4	1.6	151	1,031	1.1	320
Loudoun, VA	10.0	137.6	1.7	142	1,161	6.7	77
Prince William, VA	8.0	110.8	4.0	19	831	6.4	100

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 329 largest counties, first quarter 2012 [2]—Continued

County [3]	Establishments, first quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage [4]		
		March 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change	First quarter 2012	Percent change, first quarter 2011-12 [5]	Ranking by percent change
Alexandria City, VA	6.3	94.3	1.1	203	$1,286	4.8	224
Chesapeake City, VA	5.7	95.0	1.5	159	757	4.8	224
Newport News City, VA	3.8	96.8	1.5	159	926	12.1	4
Norfolk City, VA	5.7	137.9	0.4	269	927	7.5	44
Richmond City, VA	7.1	148.4	1.0	217	1,113	3.9	280
Virginia Beach City, VA	11.4	161.2	0.9	228	745	3.9	280
Benton, WA	5.7	77.4	-3.9	328	959	0.6	322
Clark, WA	13.6	127.2	1.9	126	848	6.3	110
King, WA	82.7	1,144.4	3.0	49	1,265	6.4	100
Kitsap, WA	6.7	79.6	-0.2	303	868	8.9	19
Pierce, WA	21.8	260.8	0.6	250	840	4.5	250
Snohomish, WA	19.3	252.8	4.0	19	1,061	9.4	14
Spokane, WA	15.9	195.5	0.7	242	806	7.3	59
Thurston, WA	7.5	96.3	-0.2	303	829	3.6	295
Whatcom, WA	6.9	80.2	3.5	28	796	6.6	84
Yakima, WA	8.8	95.2	0.9	228	632	4.3	260
Kanawha, WV	6.0	104.7	1.1	203	836	4.8	224
Brown, WI	6.5	144.3	1.1	203	836	4.2	265
Dane, WI	13.9	299.7	1.4	175	941	7.7	38
Milwaukee, WI	22.8	464.0	0.1	291	981	5.5	166
Outagamie, WI	5.0	100.2	1.0	217	793	5.2	194
Waukesha, WI	12.5	222.4	0.7	242	953	6.1	129
Winnebago, WI	3.6	88.0	0.3	276	869	3.5	299
San Juan, PR	11.3	265.0	1.7	([8])	618	3.7	([8])

[1] Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. These 328 large U.S. counties comprise 71.1 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 2012 [2]

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage [3]	
		March 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2011-12 [4]	First quarter 2012	Percent change, first quarter 2011-12 [4]
United States [5]	9,211.8	130,175.4	1.8	$984	5.4
Private industry	8,914.4	108,645.8	2.4	991	5.3
Natural resources and mining	129.5	1,847.8	8.6	1,197	7.5
Construction	752.9	5,282.2	2.8	972	6.0
Manufacturing	335.9	11,792.7	2.0	1,230	5.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,881.9	24,782.6	1.9	815	6.4
Information	143.9	2,668.0	-0.1	1,717	6.8
Financial activities	810.1	7,424.5	0.9	1,905	1.1
Professional and business services	1,582.7	17,536.7	3.5	1,292	6.5
Education and health services	923.9	19,362.2	2.0	841	6.2
Leisure and hospitality	765.0	13,295.4	3.5	384	5.8
Other services	1,358.3	4,418.2	1.5	582	5.4
Government	297.4	21,529.7	-1.1	949	5.2
Los Angeles, CA	448.8	3,925.0	1.4	1,090	4.2
Private industry	443.1	3,375.9	2.0	1,070	3.9
Natural resources and mining	0.4	10.0	1.4	1,660	0.2
Construction	12.0	105.7	3.0	1,042	4.1
Manufacturing	12.6	365.0	-0.6	1,218	6.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	50.3	742.9	1.6	853	5.8
Information	8.2	188.5	-2.2	2,092	4.3
Financial activities	21.6	208.1	0.6	1,987	3.9
Professional and business services	41.1	560.8	3.7	1,323	4.3
Education and health services	29.2	528.6	2.0	952	4.6
Leisure and hospitality	26.9	400.5	3.7	562	-2.1
Other services	213.8	243.3	0.0	452	2.5
Government	5.7	549.1	-2.1	1,212	6.1
Cook, IL	147.8	2,373.7	1.5	1,195	4.7
Private industry	146.4	2,074.4	1.9	1,204	4.4
Natural resources and mining	0.1	0.7	0.1	843	10.5
Construction	12.3	56.8	0.0	1,307	2.7
Manufacturing	6.6	192.3	-0.1	1,175	6.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	28.7	435.5	1.2	907	6.6
Information	2.6	53.5	1.3	1,894	3.4
Financial activities	15.5	183.3	-0.7	2,930	2.1
Professional and business services	31.2	412.1	3.7	1,510	6.3
Education and health services	15.5	409.6	1.7	865	3.5
Leisure and hospitality	13.0	231.4	4.2	458	8.5
Other services	16.3	95.7	1.4	797	6.8
Government	1.4	299.3	-0.9	1,134	6.7
New York, NY	122.8	2,360.9	2.3	2,464	-6.3
Private industry	122.5	1,924.1	2.9	2,771	-7.3
Natural resources and mining	0.0	0.1	9.7	2,784	-11.1
Construction	2.1	29.9	1.3	1,650	2.5
Manufacturing	2.4	26.7	0.2	1,663	4.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	20.8	244.7	3.9	1,321	5.6
Information	4.4	139.5	3.0	2,835	5.3
Financial activities	18.9	351.5	0.2	7,511	-13.7
Professional and business services	25.3	475.3	3.5	2,560	-0.9
Education and health services	9.2	309.5	0.8	1,128	6.7
Leisure and hospitality	12.9	248.2	5.9	793	4.2
Other services	18.9	90.6	3.4	1,045	6.3
Government	0.3	436.9	-0.5	1,112	1.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 10 largest counties, first quarter 2012 [2]—Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage [3]	
		March 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2011-12 [4]	First quarter 2012	Percent change, first quarter 2011-12 [4]
Harris, TX	102.9	2,085.3	3.5	$1,340	6.4
Private industry	102.4	1,829.7	4.5	1,388	6.5
Natural resources and mining	1.7	85.2	9.6	4,242	2.0
Construction	6.5	139.2	5.6	1,198	9.3
Manufacturing	4.5	185.3	7.0	1,686	5.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	23.1	433.0	3.4	1,263	8.6
Information	1.3	27.9	-0.5	1,456	5.1
Financial activities	10.6	112.2	0.7	1,929	4.8
Professional and business services	20.5	348.1	6.0	1,549	5.3
Education and health services	11.6	248.2	2.9	934	6.9
Leisure and hospitality	8.4	188.8	5.0	420	9.4
Other services	13.7	60.8	1.7	684	4.0
Government	0.6	255.6	-3.4	996	3.0
Maricopa, AZ	95.6	1,665.1	2.6	945	5.8
Private industry	94.9	1,456.7	3.0	953	6.0
Natural resources and mining	0.5	8.1	8.0	1,268	9.4
Construction	8.1	82.4	4.4	935	5.9
Manufacturing	3.2	111.8	2.3	1,519	5.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	21.9	338.7	2.5	895	5.8
Information	1.6	28.1	2.2	1,247	3.3
Financial activities	11.0	141.4	3.6	1,359	7.0
Professional and business services	22.6	269.0	2.3	1,005	8.8
Education and health services	10.6	246.0	3.7	898	3.9
Leisure and hospitality	7.2	182.2	3.2	429	5.1
Other services	6.6	46.8	0.2	610	5.5
Government	0.7	208.3	-0.7	884	3.6
Dallas, TX	69.0	1,446.5	2.5	1,213	5.5
Private industry	68.5	1,283.1	3.2	1,237	5.4
Natural resources and mining	0.6	9.5	14.5	4,827	8.4
Construction	4.0	67.1	1.1	1,007	4.8
Manufacturing	2.8	111.4	0.3	1,510	2.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.9	289.9	3.7	1,058	7.5
Information	1.6	45.9	0.7	2,179	4.6
Financial activities	8.6	141.0	2.7	1,896	1.8
Professional and business services	15.2	278.0	5.6	1,324	6.3
Education and health services	7.4	170.5	2.6	1,003	7.6
Leisure and hospitality	5.8	129.9	3.0	489	4.9
Other services	7.3	39.3	0.6	670	7.4
Government	0.5	163.4	-3.2	1,024	5.0
Orange, CA	106.0	1,386.8	1.8	1,095	5.2
Private industry	104.6	1,243.4	2.2	1,070	4.9
Natural resources and mining	0.2	3.5	-16.1	735	20.1
Construction	6.0	68.6	2.4	1,128	6.7
Manufacturing	4.8	156.8	1.8	1,368	6.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	15.8	241.5	0.6	981	6.1
Information	1.2	23.7	-0.9	1,668	-8.5
Financial activities	9.5	106.2	1.4	1,789	6.9
Professional and business services	18.4	246.5	1.9	1,253	4.5
Education and health services	10.4	162.5	2.6	920	4.0
Leisure and hospitality	7.2	176.8	4.4	431	5.9
Other services	22.4	49.8	([6])	534	4.3
Government	1.4	143.4	-1.8	1,310	7.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages in the 10 largest counties, first quarter 2012 [2]—Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, first quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage [3]	
		March 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2011-12 [4]	First quarter 2012	Percent change, first quarter 2011-12 [4]
San Diego, CA	102.3	1,253.4	1.1	$1,076	7.5
Private industry	100.9	1,035.8	1.7	1,052	6.7
Natural resources and mining	0.7	10.0	0.4	575	7.9
Construction	5.8	55.1	1.3	1,067	3.2
Manufacturing	2.9	93.1	-0.8	1,557	6.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	13.4	201.0	1.4	842	5.5
Information	1.1	24.3	-1.6	1,662	3.1
Financial activities	8.4	68.8	1.9	1,565	17.8
Professional and business services	15.8	210.9	2.0	1,505	5.8
Education and health services	8.6	154.6	2.3	922	4.9
Leisure and hospitality	7.1	154.2	2.4	430	12.0
Other services	29.5	57.1	-0.6	521	4.8
Government	1.4	217.6	-1.5	1,190	11.4
King, WA	82.7	1,144.4	3.0	1,265	6.4
Private industry	82.2	987.2	3.6	1,287	7.1
Natural resources and mining	0.3	2.7	8.7	1,430	-2.1
Construction	5.4	44.9	4.2	1,159	4.2
Manufacturing	2.2	101.1	4.9	1,715	7.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.5	208.1	3.3	1,082	5.9
Information	1.8	80.3	1.8	2,546	11.4
Financial activities	6.2	62.7	0.2	1,794	4.5
Professional and business services	13.9	185.2	4.3	1,540	7.3
Education and health services	7.3	138.8	3.6	945	7.0
Leisure and hospitality	6.5	110.2	4.6	443	5.5
Other services	24.0	53.2	3.3	612	4.4
Government	0.5	157.2	-0.1	1,127	1.8
Miami-Dade, FL	88.6	989.5	2.2	909	4.1
Private industry	88.3	851.2	3.2	895	4.8
Natural resources and mining	0.5	9.9	-4.0	484	16.9
Construction	5.0	29.0	-7.2	862	-0.8
Manufacturing	2.6	36.3	1.5	851	5.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	25.5	254.1	4.2	844	4.6
Information	1.5	17.2	0.1	1,438	5.9
Financial activities	9.0	66.6	4.9	1,567	-0.8
Professional and business services	18.4	124.8	0.8	1,108	9.1
Education and health services	9.9	157.2	2.0	875	6.1
Leisure and hospitality	6.7	119.0	7.1	518	8.6
Other services	7.9	35.1	4.1	540	4.4
Government	0.4	138.3	-3.6	988	0.7

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

[2] Data are preliminary. Counties selected are based on 2011 annual average employment.

[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 by state, first quarter 2012 [2]

State	Establishments, first quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage [3]	
		March 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2011-12	First quarter 2012	Percent change, first quarter 2011-12
United States [4]	9,211.8	130,175.4	1.8	$984	5.4
Alabama	116.1	1,822.8	0.8	808	5.6
Alaska	21.9	316.4	1.9	973	6.7
Arizona	146.4	2,437.2	2.1	887	5.7
Arkansas	85.2	1,151.5	1.5	747	4.6
California	1,422.7	14,670.6	2.0	1,125	5.5
Colorado	170.4	2,230.4	2.4	1,003	5.4
Connecticut	110.6	1,613.1	1.5	1,330	3.8
Delaware	27.4	398.8	0.8	1,071	4.2
District of Columbia	35.3	712.1	1.3	1,602	4.0
Florida	605.4	7,377.3	2.0	837	5.4
Georgia	268.3	3,815.5	1.3	931	5.2
Hawaii	38.4	600.3	0.9	834	5.7
Idaho	53.5	596.7	1.1	692	5.0
Illinois	388.7	5,557.5	1.5	1,061	5.9
Indiana	161.6	2,777.0	2.2	822	6.3
Iowa	95.0	1,448.3	1.9	784	6.4
Kansas	87.8	1,314.2	1.8	803	7.2
Kentucky	108.3	1,750.3	1.9	785	6.4
Louisiana	128.5	1,863.1	1.2	836	4.9
Maine	49.3	561.4	0.5	757	4.7
Maryland	165.1	2,492.4	1.7	1,071	6.0
Massachusetts	228.7	3,178.7	1.7	1,227	5.7
Michigan	241.6	3,865.8	2.6	920	5.5
Minnesota	169.9	2,586.3	2.1	989	6.1
Mississippi	69.1	1,083.5	0.8	687	5.9
Missouri	175.1	2,593.7	1.2	838	6.5
Montana	42.1	419.5	1.8	706	7.8
Nebraska	65.8	905.3	2.1	765	6.1
Nevada	72.0	1,118.4	1.4	846	5.5
New Hampshire	48.3	602.1	1.0	923	5.4
New Jersey	264.5	3,749.0	1.5	1,228	5.9
New Mexico	55.0	779.7	0.4	782	5.8
New York	603.0	8,479.4	1.7	1,357	-0.8
North Carolina	256.9	3,874.9	1.7	869	5.3
North Dakota	28.5	397.4	9.0	857	14.6
Ohio	287.0	4,967.8	2.0	873	6.6
Oklahoma	103.9	1,525.5	2.0	806	9.4
Oregon	132.9	1,613.0	1.4	864	6.4
Pennsylvania	354.1	5,531.1	1.2	960	7.1
Rhode Island	35.0	443.5	1.1	931	8.0
South Carolina	112.0	1,797.7	1.7	764	6.0
South Dakota	31.2	390.4	2.1	703	6.7
Tennessee	141.3	2,636.7	2.4	847	6.8
Texas	591.5	10,605.2	2.6	1,013	7.2
Utah	83.8	1,193.1	3.2	799	6.1
Vermont	24.5	296.6	1.5	774	4.6
Virginia	239.3	3,586.3	1.4	1,019	5.3
Washington	235.5	2,831.9	1.9	1,009	6.5
West Virginia	49.4	705.5	2.4	768	6.2
Wisconsin	158.9	2,639.0	1.1	827	6.2

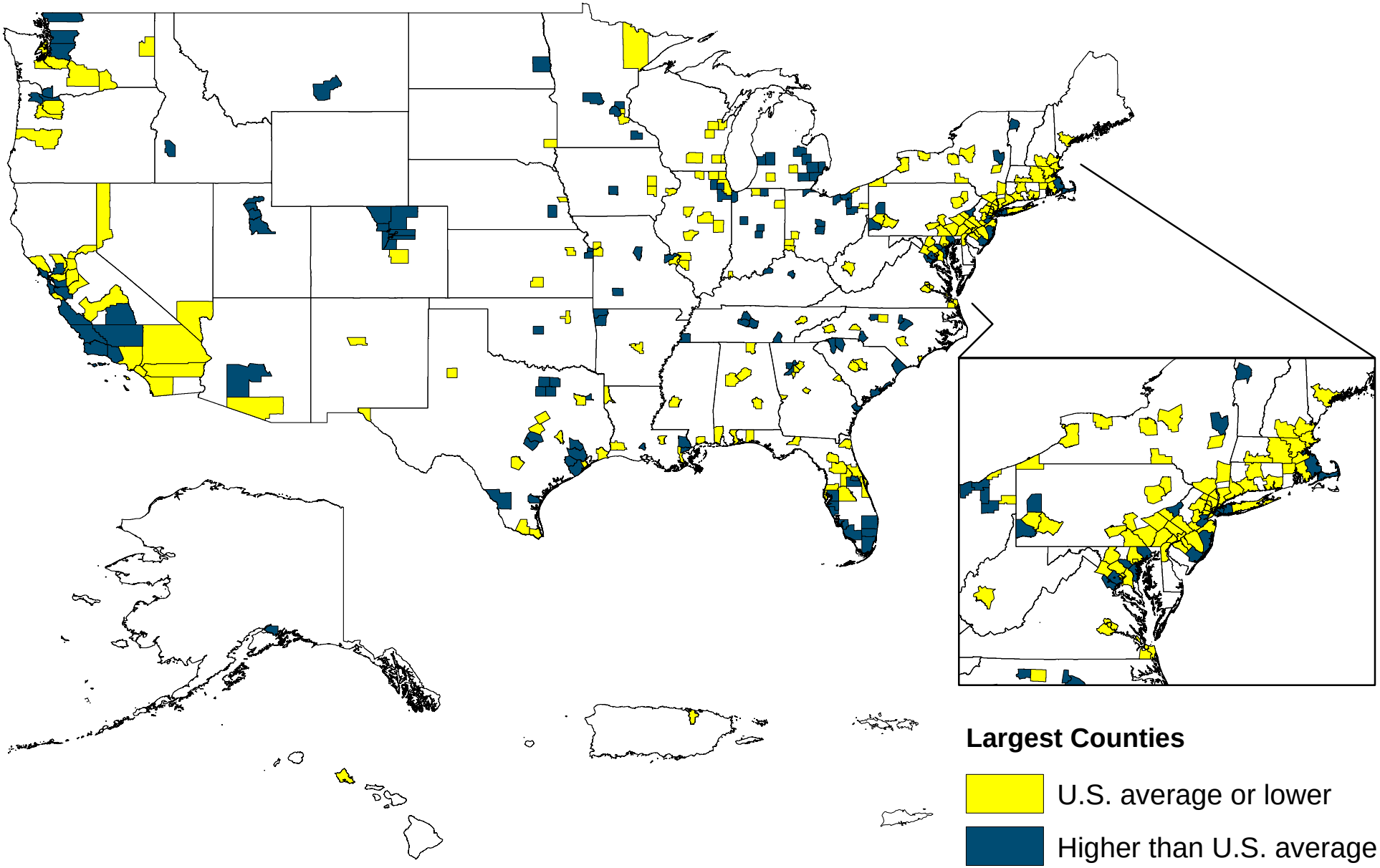
See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered [1] establishments, employment, and wages by state, first quarter 2012 [2]—Continued

State	Establishments, first quarter 2012 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage [3]	
		March 2012 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2011-12	First quarter 2012	Percent change, first quarter 2011-12
Wyoming	25.3	271.8	2.4	$850	5.2
Puerto Rico	48.8	931.3	0.6	521	4.6
Virgin Islands	3.4	42.7	-5.4	722	-2.0

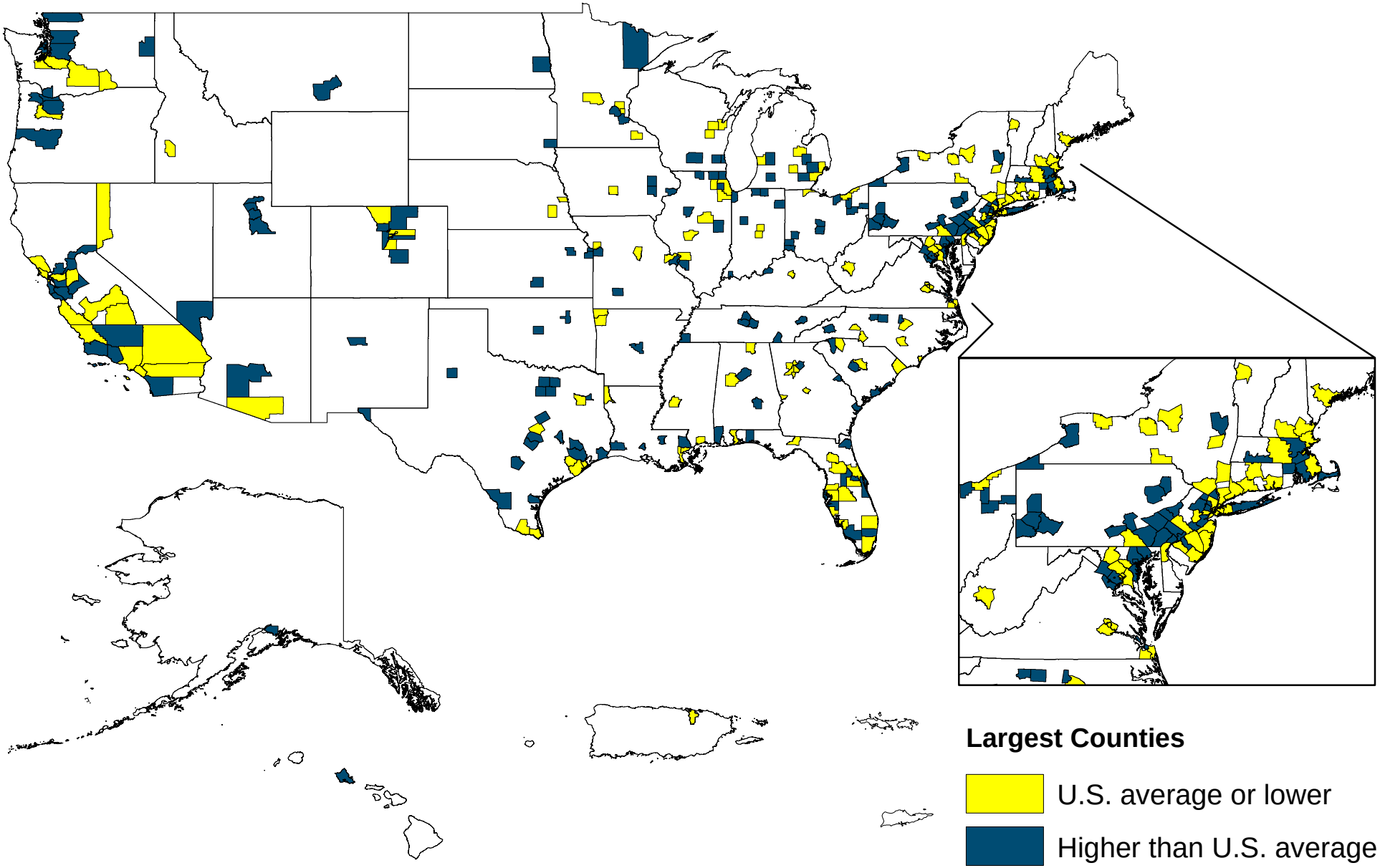
[1] Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.
[2] Data are preliminary.
[3] Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.
[4] Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin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

Chart 3. Percent change in employment in counties with 75,000 or more employees, March 2011-12 (U.S. average = 1.8 percent)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
September 2012

Chart 4. Percent change in average weekly wage in counties with 75,000 or more employees, first quarter 2011-12 (U.S. average = 5.4 percent)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
September 2012