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County Employment and Wages in Nevada – Third Quarter 2017

Employment increased in Nevada's two large counties from September 2016 to September 2017, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (Large counties are defined as those with 2016 annual average employment of 75,000 or more.) Clark County's employment rose 2.4 percent and Washoe County's employment rose 2.1 percent. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that the over-the-year employment increases in both counties exceeded the national increase of 1.0 percent.

Nationwide, employment advanced in 283 of the 346 largest U.S. counties gained jobs. Midland, Texas, had the largest percentage increase in the country, up 10.4 percent over the year. Collier, Fla., had the largest over-the-year decrease in employment with a loss of 5.2 percent.

Employment in Clark County (970,200) and Washoe County (218,800) accounted for 88.9 percent of total employment within the state. Nationwide, the 346 largest counties made up 72.7 percent of total U.S. employment, which stood at 144.5 million in September 2017.

From the third quarter of 2016 to the third quarter of 2017, average weekly wages decreased 5.3 percent in Clark County to \$898. In Washoe County average weekly wages increased 0.1 percent to \$933. Nationally, the average weekly wage decreased 0.6 percent over the year to \$1,021 in the third quarter of 2017. (See [table 1](#).)

Employment and wage levels (but not over-the-year changes) are also available for the 15 counties in Nevada with employment below 75,000. Average weekly wages in these counties ranged from \$1,762 to \$753 during the third quarter of 2017. (See [table 2](#).)

Large county wage changes

Clark County's 5.3-percent decline in average weekly wages ranked 344th among the 346 large U.S. counties during the year ending in the third quarter of 2017. (See [table 1](#).) The average weekly wage in Washoe County increased 0.1 percent over the year, ranking 64th among the largest U.S. counties.

Nationwide, 265 of the 346 largest counties had over-the-year wage decreases. Mercer, N.J., had the largest wage decline, down 8.8 percent, from the third quarter of 2016. Wyandotte, Kan., was second with a wage decrease of 6.0 percent, followed by Clark, Nev. (-5.3 percent); Somerset, N.J. (-5.0 percent); and Clay, Mo. (-4.8 percent).

Among the largest U.S. counties, 71 experienced over-the-year increases in average weekly wages. Midland, Texas, had the largest percentage increase in average weekly wages (8.4 percent), followed by Union, N.J. (8.2 percent); Elkhart, Ind. (6.5 percent); Forsyth, N.C. (5.3 percent); and Maui + Kalawao, Hawaii (4.6 percent).

Large county average weekly wages

Average weekly wages in both of Nevada's large counties were below the national average of \$1,021 per week. Washoe County's \$933 average weekly wage ranked 178th among the 346 large U.S. counties. At \$898 per week, Clark County's average weekly wage placed 205th.

Average weekly wages were above the U.S. average in 96 of the 346 largest U.S. counties in the third quarter of 2017. Santa Clara, Calif., held the top position among the highest-paid large counties with an average weekly wage of \$2,320. San Mateo, Calif., was second at \$2,123 followed by San Francisco, Calif. (\$1,954), New York, N.Y. (\$1,889), and Washington, D.C. (\$1,759).

Among the largest U.S. counties, 250 had weekly wages below the national average in the third quarter of 2017. Cameron, Texas (\$612), had the lowest wage, followed by the counties of Horry, S.C. (\$633); Hidalgo, Texas (\$649); and Webb, Texas (\$672).

Average weekly wages in Nevada's smaller counties

Of the 15 counties in Nevada with employment below 75,000, Eureka had the highest average weekly wage at \$1,762. Lincoln had the lowest average weekly wage in the state at \$753 in the third quarter of 2017. (See [table 2.](#))

When all 17 counties in Nevada were considered, 2 had wages below \$800. Four counties had average weekly wages ranging from \$800 to \$899, five had wages from \$900 to \$999, and six had wages at or above \$1,000. (See [chart 1.](#))

Additional statistics and other information

QCEW data for states have been included in this release in [table 3.](#) For additional information about quarterly employment and wages data, please read the [Technical Note](#) or visit www.bls.gov/cew.

Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2017 edition of this publication contains selected data produced by Business Employment Dynamics (BED) on job gains and losses, as well as selected data from the first quarter 2017 version of the national news release. Tables and additional content from *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* are now available at www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn16.htm. The 2017 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* will be available in September 2018.

The County Employment and Wages release for fourth quarter 2017 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, May 23, 2018.

QCEW Publication Acceleration and Conversion to Two Data Releases

The QCEW publication process is accelerating for a more timely release. Beginning with the fourth quarter 2017 release, QCEW data will be published in two parts. The current County Employment and Wages news release and associated data will be accelerated and published first. The full QCEW data release will occur two weeks later, accompanied by a data release notice.

Technical Note

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 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 9.9 million employer reports cover 144.5 million full- and part-time workers. The average weekly wage values are calculated by dividing quarterly total wages by the average of the three monthly employment levels of those covered by UI programs. The result is then divided by 13, the number of weeks in a quarter. It is to be noted, therefore, that over-the-year wage changes for geographic areas may reflect shifts in the composition of employment by industry, occupation, and such other factors as hours of work. Thus, wages may vary among counties, metropolitan areas, or states for reasons other than changes in the average wage level. Data for all states, Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), counties, and the nation are available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/cew; however, data in QCEW press releases have been revised and may not match the data contained on the Bureau's Web site.

QCEW data are not designed as a time series. QCEW data are simply the sums of individual establishment records reflecting 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.

The preliminary QCEW data presented in this release may differ from data released by the individual states as well as from the data presented on the BLS Web site. These potential differences result from the states' continuing receipt, review and editing of UI data over time. On the other hand, differences between data in this release and the data found on the BLS Web site are the result of adjustments made to improve over-the-year comparisons. Specifically, these adjustments account for administrative (noneconomic) changes such as a correction to a previously reported location or industry classification. Adjusting for these administrative changes allows users to more accurately assess changes of an economic nature (such as a firm moving from one county to another or changing its primary economic activity) over a 12-month period. Currently, adjusted data are available only from BLS press releases.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Covered employment and wages in the United States and the 2 largest counties in Nevada, third quarter 2017

Area	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
	September 2017 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2016-17 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾	Average weekly wage	National ranking by level ⁽³⁾	Percent change, third quarter 2016-17 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾
United States ⁽⁴⁾	144,464.4	1.0	--	1021	--	-0.6	--
Nevada.....	1,337.7	2.9	--	914	26	-3.8	51
Clark, Nev.....	970.2	2.4	42	898	205	-5.3	344
Washoe, Nev.....	218.8	2.1	54	933	178	0.1	64

Footnotes:

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications.

(3) Ranking does not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(4) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in Nevada, third quarter 2017

Area	Employment September 2017	Average Weekly Wage(1)
United States(2)	144,464,425	\$1,021
Nevada	1,337,681	914
Carson City	30,238	930
Churchill	7,949	875
Clark	970,224	898
Douglas	19,548	840
Elko	22,222	905
Esmeralda	339	904
Eureka	4,494	1,762
Humboldt	7,669	1,045
Lander	3,450	1,387
Lincoln	1,238	753
Lyon	11,823	791
Mineral	1,657	884
Nye	11,501	949
Pershing	2,001	1,024
Storey	12,574	1,100
Washoe	218,832	933
White Pine	4,159	1,066

Footnotes

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

NOTE: Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. Data are preliminary.

Table 3. Covered employment and wages by state, third quarter 2017

State	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
	September 2017 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2016-17	Average weekly wage	National ranking by level	Percent change, third quarter 2016-17	National ranking by percent change
United States ⁽²⁾	144,464.4	1.0	\$1,021	--	-0.6	--
Alabama	1,941.1	0.8	859	37	-1.3	38
Alaska	335.4	-0.7	1,025	15	-2.8	50
Arizona	2,760.1	2.4	948	24	-0.2	10
Arkansas	1,213.0	0.6	788	49	-0.6	19
California	17,153.4	1.7	1,215	4	0.5	4
Colorado	2,625.9	1.9	1,067	9	0.5	4
Connecticut	1,676.3	0.1	1,179	6	-2.2	47
Delaware	443.0	0.4	1,026	14	0.4	6
District of Columbia	764.7	0.7	1,759	1	1.3	2
Florida	8,305.8	-0.2	896	29	-1.1	31
Georgia.....	4,343.5	1.3	961	21	-0.9	27
Hawaii.....	652.5	0.4	953	22	-0.3	13
Idaho	722.3	2.7	778	50	-0.5	16
Illinois	5,969.6	0.5	1,057	10	-0.3	13
Indiana.....	3,044.0	0.6	861	36	-0.6	19
Iowa	1,546.1	-0.2	855	38	-2.2	47
Kansas	1,376.4	-0.1	839	41	-2.1	46
Kentucky.....	1,890.4	0.5	837	42	-2.4	49
Louisiana	1,904.3	-0.1	869	33	-1.7	42
Maine.....	621.9	0.7	821	46	-0.5	16
Maryland.....	2,661.8	0.5	1,105	8	-1.7	42
Massachusetts	3,568.0	0.9	1,265	2	-0.9	27
Michigan	4,334.3	0.9	964	20	-1.1	31
Minnesota.....	2,883.0	1.1	1,030	13	-2.0	45
Mississippi	1,129.1	-0.1	729	51	-1.4	39
Missouri.....	2,805.8	0.9	878	31	-1.2	34
Montana	468.6	0.9	793	48	0.1	8
Nebraska	973.3	-0.2	850	39	-0.8	23
Nevada	1,337.7	2.9	914	26	-3.8	51
New Hampshire.....	659.1	0.6	1,022	16	-0.4	15
New Jersey.....	4,043.6	1.1	1,156	7	-1.5	41
New Mexico	816.0	0.3	823	45	-0.8	23
New York	9,329.8	1.2	1,219	3	-0.2	10
North Carolina	4,348.0	1.3	904	27	-0.7	21
North Dakota	419.2	-1.0	953	22	-1.2	34
Ohio	5,383.6	0.6	920	25	-0.8	23
Oklahoma	1,593.3	0.7	843	40	-1.2	34
Oregon	1,905.3	1.8	969	19	-0.1	9
Pennsylvania.....	5,836.5	1.0	1,002	17	-1.1	31
Rhode Island	484.5	0.8	973	18	-1.8	44
South Carolina.....	2,027.2	0.8	828	43	-0.5	16
South Dakota.....	426.2	0.4	803	47	-0.7	21
Tennessee.....	2,953.3	1.1	903	28	-1.2	34
Texas	12,008.9	1.4	1,032	12	-1.0	29
Utah	1,444.1	2.6	879	30	-0.2	10
Vermont.....	310.3	0.1	869	33	-1.4	39
Virginia.....	3,843.6	1.0	1,053	11	-0.8	23
Washington.....	3,343.4	2.0	1,208	5	1.7	1
West Virginia	694.0	0.2	826	44	1.1	3
Wisconsin.....	2,866.9	0.5	876	32	-1.0	29
Wyoming	276.2	0.3	868	35	0.3	7
Puerto Rico.....	862.8	-3.1	509	(3)	-2.7	(3)
Virgin Islands.....	36.9	-1.1	763	(3)	-1.9	(3)

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Footnotes:

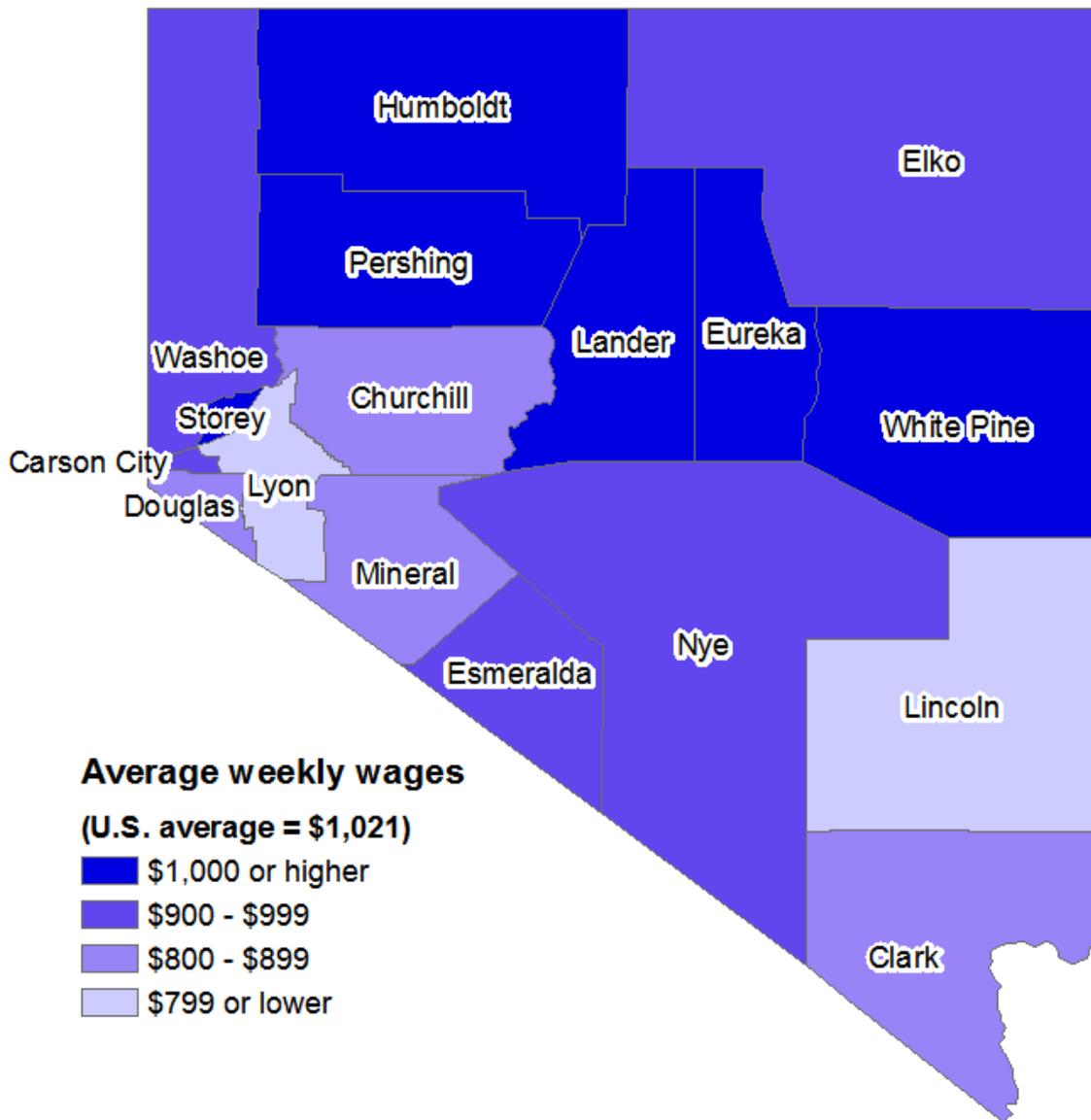
(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(3) Data not included in the national ranking.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Chart 1. Average weekly wages by county in Nevada, third quarter 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.