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County Employment and Wages in Nevada – Third Quarter 2018

Employment increased in Nevada's two large counties from September 2017 to September 2018, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (Large counties are defined as those with 2017 annual average employment of 75,000 or more.) Clark County's employment rose 3.1 percent and Washoe County's employment rose 2.2 percent. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that the over-the-year employment increases in both counties exceeded the national increase of 1.6 percent.

Nationwide, employment advanced 1.6 percent from September 2017 to September 2018 as 295 of the 349 largest U.S. counties gained jobs. Midland, Texas, had the largest percentage increase in the country, up 11.9 percent over the year. New Hanover, N.C., had the largest over-the-year decrease in employment with a loss of 2.0 percent.

Employment in Clark County (1,001,200) and Washoe County (223,700) accounted for 88.6 percent of total employment within the state. Nationwide, the 349 largest counties made up 73.0 percent of total U.S. employment, which stood at 146.8 million in September 2018.

From the third quarter of 2017 to the third quarter of 2018, average weekly wages increased in both Washoe County (up 3.5 percent to \$967) and Clark County (up 1.7 percent to \$914). Nationally, the average weekly wage increased 3.3 percent over the year to \$1,055 in the third quarter of 2018. (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 \$1,763 to \$757 during the third quarter of 2018. (See [table 2.](#))

Large county wage changes

Washoe County's 3.5-percent gain in average weekly wages ranked 115th among the 349 large U.S. counties during the year ending in the third quarter of 2018. (See [table 1.](#)) The average weekly wage in Clark County increased 1.7 percent over the year, ranking 290th among the largest U.S. counties.

Nationally, 336 of the 349 largest counties registered over-the-year wage growth. Chatham, GA, had the largest increase, up 8.5 percent from the third quarter of 2018. King, WA, was second with a wage increase of 7.9 percent, followed by Santa Clara, CA and Stanislaus, CA each at 7.8 percent.

Among the largest U.S. counties, 11 experienced over-the-year decreases in average weekly wages. Elkhart, IN, had the largest percentage decrease in average weekly wages (-4.2 percent), followed by Union, NJ (-3.7 percent); Providence, RI (-3.4 percent); and Forsyth, NC (-3.0 percent).

Large county average weekly wages

Average weekly wages in both of Nevada's large counties were below the national average of \$1,055 per week. Washoe County's \$967 average weekly wage ranked 171st among the 349 large U.S. counties. At \$914 per week, Clark County's average weekly wage placed 217th.

Nationwide, average weekly wages were above the U.S. average (\$1,055) in 94 of the 349 largest counties in the third quarter of 2018. Santa Clara, CA, held the top position among the highest-paid large counties in the nation with an average weekly wage of \$2,460. San Mateo, CA, was second at \$2,363, followed by San Francisco, CA (\$2,097); New York, NY (\$1,997); and Washington, DC (\$1,807).

Among the largest U.S. counties, 255 had weekly wages below the national average in the third quarter of 2018. Cameron, TX (\$632), had the lowest wage, followed by the counties of Horry, SC (\$635); Hidalgo, TX (\$662); and Webb, TX (\$698).

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 \$1,763. Lincoln had the lowest average weekly wage in the state at \$757 in the third quarter of 2018. (See [table 2.](#))

When all 17 counties in Nevada were considered, 1 had wages below \$800. Two counties had average weekly wages ranging from \$800 to \$899, seven had wages from \$900 to \$999, and seven 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 2018 version of the national news release. Tables and additional content from *Employment and Wages Annual Averages 2017* are now available online at www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn17.htm.

The County Employment and Wages release for fourth quarter 2018 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, May 22, 2019. The County Employment and Wages full data update for fourth quarter 2018 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, June 5, 2019

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 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 2018

| Area | Employment | | | Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾ | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| | September 2018 (thousands) | Percent change, September 2017-18 ⁽²⁾ | National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾ | Average weekly wage | National ranking by level ⁽³⁾ | Percent change, third quarter 2017-18 ⁽²⁾ | National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾ |
| United States ⁽⁴⁾ | 146,824.1 | 1.6 | -- | 1055 | -- | 3.3 | -- |
| Nevada..... | 1,382.9 | 3.4 | -- | 936 | 28 | 2.4 | 42 |
| Clark, Nev..... | 1,001.2 | 3.1 | 43 | 914 | 217 | 1.7 | 290 |
| Washoe, Nev..... | 223.7 | 2.2 | 78 | 967 | 171 | 3.5 | 115 |

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 2018

| Area | Employment September 2018 | Average Weekly Wage(1) |
|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| United States(2) | 146,824,093 | \$1,055 |
| Nevada | 1,382,856 | 936 |
| Carson City | 30,046 | 963 |
| Churchill | 8,351 | 910 |
| Clark | 1,001,217 | 914 |
| Douglas | 19,890 | 904 |
| Elko | 22,642 | 957 |
| Esmeralda | 280 | 851 |
| Eureka | 4,563 | 1,763 |
| Humboldt | 7,659 | 1,063 |
| Lander | 3,465 | 1,438 |
| Lincoln | 1,275 | 757 |
| Lyon | 12,297 | 822 |
| Mineral | 1,593 | 951 |
| Nye | 12,190 | 1,015 |
| Pershing | 1,969 | 1,074 |
| Storey | 18,882 | 1,082 |
| Washoe | 223,668 | 967 |
| White Pine | 4,268 | 1,084 |

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 2018

| State | Employment | | Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾ | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | September 2018 (thousands) | Percent change, September 2017-18 | Average weekly wage | National ranking by level | Percent change, third quarter 2017-18 | National ranking by percent change |
| United States ⁽²⁾ | 146,824.1 | 1.6 | \$1,055 | -- | 3.3 | -- |
| Alabama | 1,966.0 | 1.2 | 885 | 38 | 3.1 | 25 |
| Alaska | 334.0 | -0.4 | 1,065 | 13 | 3.7 | 12 |
| Arizona | 2,838.6 | 2.8 | 974 | 23 | 2.9 | 31 |
| Arkansas | 1,222.1 | 0.7 | 811 | 49 | 2.9 | 31 |
| California | 17,457.5 | 1.8 | 1,260 | 5 | 3.8 | 9 |
| Colorado | 2,684.0 | 2.1 | 1,104 | 9 | 3.5 | 18 |
| Connecticut | 1,681.5 | 0.3 | 1,209 | 6 | 2.5 | 41 |
| Delaware | 447.8 | 0.6 | 1,046 | 15 | 2.4 | 42 |
| District of Columbia | 770.7 | 0.7 | 1,807 | 1 | 2.8 | 36 |
| Florida | 8,690.7 | 4.6 | 924 | 29 | 3.1 | 25 |
| Georgia..... | 4,448.8 | 2.3 | 993 | 20 | 3.3 | 21 |
| Hawaii..... | 654.7 | 0.0 | 975 | 22 | 2.4 | 42 |
| Idaho | 743.5 | 3.0 | 805 | 50 | 3.2 | 23 |
| Illinois | 6,029.2 | 0.8 | 1,087 | 10 | 3.0 | 28 |
| Indiana..... | 3,072.3 | 0.9 | 883 | 39 | 2.4 | 42 |
| Iowa | 1,555.0 | 0.6 | 887 | 37 | 3.7 | 12 |
| Kansas | 1,390.4 | 1.0 | 867 | 42 | 3.5 | 18 |
| Kentucky..... | 1,898.7 | 0.5 | 855 | 43 | 2.2 | 47 |
| Louisiana | 1,915.4 | 0.5 | 901 | 33 | 3.7 | 12 |
| Maine..... | 626.5 | 0.6 | 851 | 45 | 3.7 | 12 |
| Maryland..... | 2,683.9 | 0.7 | 1,130 | 8 | 2.4 | 42 |
| Massachusetts | 3,598.1 | 0.7 | 1,305 | 2 | 3.2 | 23 |
| Michigan | 4,366.5 | 0.8 | 991 | 21 | 2.8 | 36 |
| Minnesota..... | 2,904.3 | 0.8 | 1,074 | 12 | 4.2 | 5 |
| Mississippi..... | 1,133.7 | 0.2 | 754 | 51 | 3.4 | 20 |
| Missouri..... | 2,812.0 | 0.4 | 907 | 31 | 3.3 | 21 |
| Montana | 473.3 | 1.0 | 815 | 48 | 2.8 | 36 |
| Nebraska | 980.3 | 0.6 | 873 | 41 | 2.8 | 36 |
| Nevada | 1,382.9 | 3.4 | 936 | 28 | 2.4 | 42 |
| New Hampshire..... | 662.3 | 0.5 | 1,040 | 16 | 1.7 | 49 |
| New Jersey..... | 4,072.6 | 0.8 | 1,181 | 7 | 2.1 | 48 |
| New Mexico..... | 826.2 | 1.2 | 855 | 43 | 3.9 | 7 |
| New York | 9,467.5 | 1.4 | 1,272 | 4 | 4.2 | 5 |
| North Carolina | 4,398.0 | 1.1 | 938 | 26 | 3.8 | 9 |
| North Dakota | 424.3 | 1.1 | 995 | 19 | 4.4 | 3 |
| Ohio | 5,424.4 | 0.7 | 947 | 25 | 2.9 | 31 |
| Oklahoma | 1,616.8 | 1.2 | 874 | 40 | 3.6 | 16 |
| Oregon | 1,939.8 | 1.5 | 1,005 | 18 | 3.8 | 9 |
| Pennsylvania..... | 5,894.8 | 1.0 | 1,031 | 17 | 3.0 | 28 |
| Rhode Island | 489.4 | 1.0 | 963 | 24 | -1.3 | 51 |
| South Carolina..... | 2,088.2 | 2.8 | 834 | 46 | 0.8 | 50 |
| South Dakota..... | 431.5 | 1.3 | 827 | 47 | 3.0 | 28 |
| Tennessee..... | 3,005.6 | 1.7 | 938 | 26 | 3.9 | 7 |
| Texas | 12,327.0 | 2.6 | 1,064 | 14 | 3.1 | 25 |
| Utah | 1,494.4 | 3.4 | 911 | 30 | 3.6 | 16 |
| Vermont..... | 310.9 | 0.0 | 892 | 36 | 2.6 | 40 |
| Virginia..... | 3,889.6 | 1.1 | 1,082 | 11 | 2.9 | 31 |
| Washington..... | 3,425.6 | 2.4 | 1,280 | 3 | 6.2 | 2 |
| West Virginia | 706.0 | 1.7 | 894 | 35 | 8.1 | 1 |
| Wisconsin..... | 2,888.9 | 0.7 | 901 | 33 | 2.9 | 31 |
| Wyoming | 278.2 | 0.6 | 905 | 32 | 4.3 | 4 |
| Puerto Rico..... | 862.5 | 0.2 | 534 | (3) | 5.3 | (3) |
| Virgin Islands..... | 33.4 | -8.0 | 888 | (3) | 18.6 | (3) |

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Footnotes:

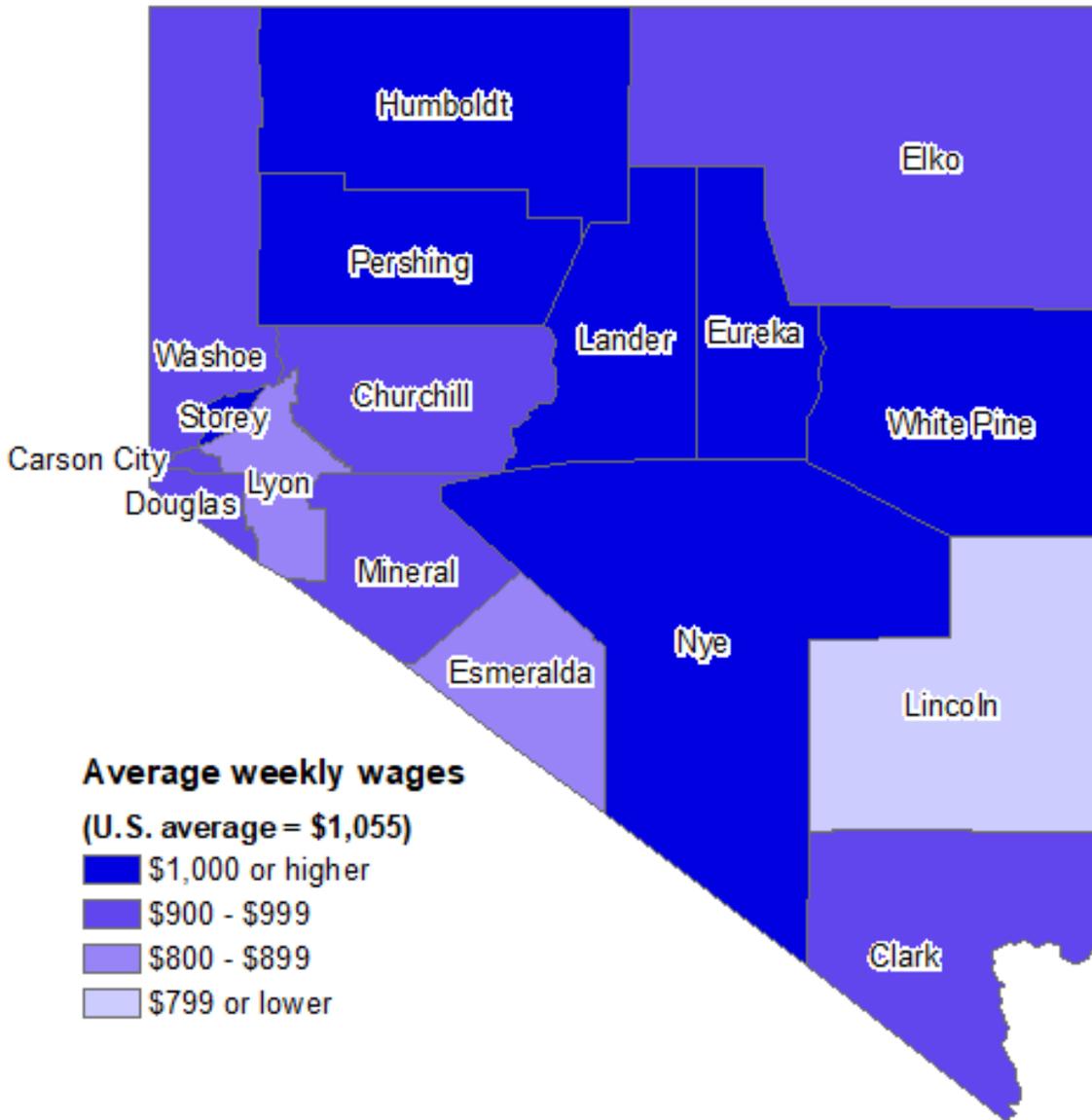
(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(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 2018



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.