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Bureau of Labor Statistics

Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

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Internet address: <http://www.bls.gov/ro3/home.htm>

INFORMATION: Gerald Perrins  
(215) 597-3282

PLS - 4018

FOR RELEASE:

MEDIA CONTACT: Sheila Watkins  
(215) 861-5600

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## AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGES IN NEW JERSEY, 2002

Annual wages in New Jersey averaged \$45,182 in 2002, increasing 1.9 percent over the year, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Sheila Watkins, regional commissioner of the Bureau in Philadelphia, noted that New Jersey's wage level was above both the national average (\$36,764) and that for the Middle Atlantic division<sup>1</sup> (\$42,793). (See table 1.) New Jersey ranked fourth highest among all the states and the District of Columbia in wage level and 38th in rate of increase.

Average wages in the Middle Atlantic division grew at a 0.6-percent pace in 2002 compared to 1.5 percent nationally. Two of the three states in the Middle Atlantic had annual wage increases surpassing the national average—Pennsylvania at 2.4 percent and New Jersey at 1.9 percent. New York, on the other hand, experienced a decline over the year, down 0.9 percent. Wage levels in New York and New Jersey continued to rank among the top five nationwide, while Pennsylvania's remained a bit below the national average.

Eight of the 15 areas in the U.S. where the average wage level surpassed the national average fell in a contiguous band along the east coast stretching from Massachusetts to Virginia. The five highest wage levels nationwide were in the District of Columbia (\$57,914), Connecticut (\$46,852), New York (\$46,328), New Jersey (\$45,182), and Massachusetts (\$44,954). (See chart A.) The five states with the lowest annual wages in 2002—Montana, South Dakota, North Dakota, Mississippi, and Arkansas—have posted the five lowest annual wage figures every year since 1988. Wages in those states ranged from \$26,001 to \$28,074. (See table 1.)

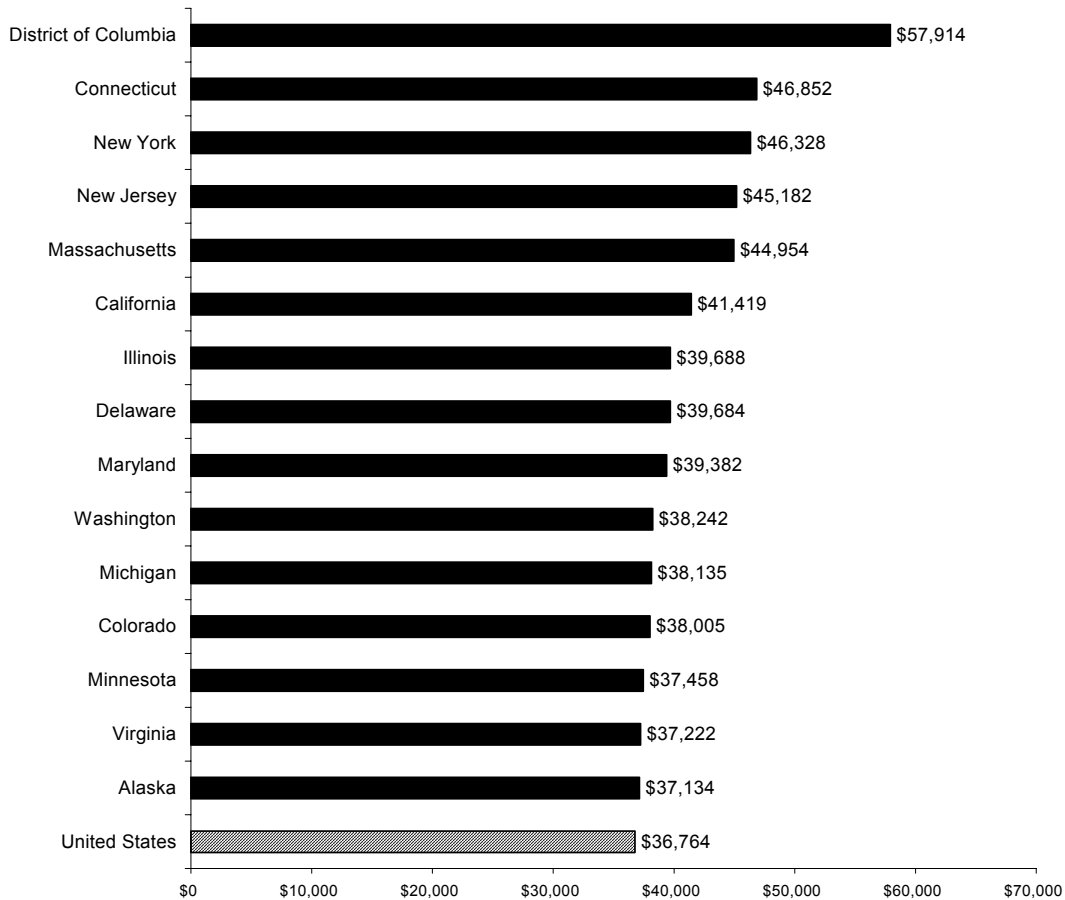
Four-fifths of the 50 states and the District of Columbia had percentage increases in annual wages that exceeded the 1.5-percent growth rate for the nation. Hawaii had the fastest rate of gain at 4.5 percent, followed by Nebraska (3.8 percent) and the District of Columbia and Rhode Island (3.6 percent each). Eleven other states had percentage increases of 3 percent or more. After a 5-year period without any state or jurisdiction experiencing a decline in average annual wages, two states, New York (-0.9 percent) and Connecticut (-0.3 percent), reported a decline in wages during 2002. Other states with low or no wage growth included Texas (0.6 percent), California, (0.2 percent), Colorado (0.1 percent), and Massachusetts (0.0 percent).

Annual wage data are compiled from reports submitted by employers subject to State and federal Unemployment Insurance (UI) laws which cover 128.2 million full- and part-time workers nationwide. Average annual wages is computed by dividing total annual payrolls of employees covered by UI programs by the average monthly number of these employees. (See Technical Note.) Wage differences among states reflect the varying composition of employment by occupation, industry, and hours of work, as well as other factors. Similarly, over-the-year wage changes may reflect shifts in these characteristics, as well as changes in the level of average wages.

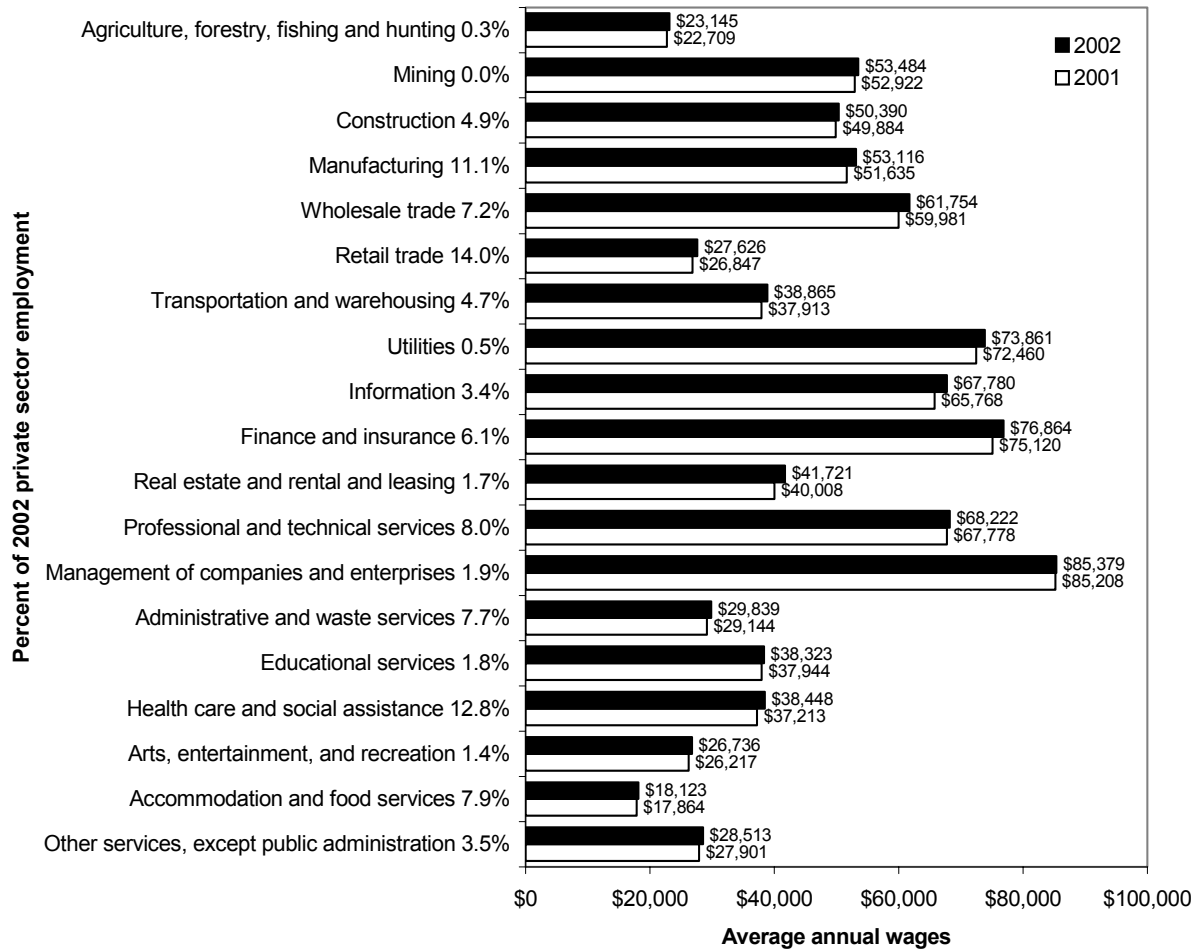
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<sup>1</sup> The Middle Atlantic division referenced in this release corresponds to the Census definition and is comprised of three states—New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

**Chart A. Average annual wages for the District of Columbia and states exceeding U.S. level in 2002**



Annual wages in New Jersey's private sector industries, which comprised 85 percent of the work force, averaged \$44,872 in 2002, increasing 1.6 percent over the year. (Private industry employment excludes government workers.) Retail trade was New Jersey's largest industry division, accounting for 14.0 percent of all private sector employment, followed by health care and social assistance with 12.8 percent. (See chart B.) All industry divisions had increases in average wages in 2002. Percentage gains in average wages for the published industry divisions ranged from a low of 0.2 percent in management of companies and enterprises to a high of 4.3 percent in real estate rental and leasing. (See table 2.) Management of companies and enterprises was the highest-paid industry, averaging \$85,379. Accommodation and food services, with a large percentage of part-time workers, was the lowest paid at \$18,123. Only one of the 19 private sector industries in the State—mining at \$53,484—had a lower wage level than in the United States as a whole. Overall, the private sector wage in New Jersey was over \$8,300 above the national level of \$36,539.

**Chart B. Percent of private sector employment in New Jersey by industry in 2002**

Four of New Jersey's nine metropolitan areas<sup>2</sup> ranked in the top ten nationwide for average annual wages. Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon led the State in wages, averaging \$50,457 in 2002, 5th highest among the 318 metropolitan areas nationwide. Jersey City, with a wage level of \$49,562, Newark at \$48,781, and Trenton at \$47,969 ranked 6th, 7th, and 9th, respectively. These four areas, along with Bergen-Passaic (\$45,185) and Philadelphia, Pa-N.J. (\$41,121), had wage levels above the national metropolitan average of \$38,423. In New Jersey's remaining three metropolitan areas, annual wages averaged \$37,710 in Monmouth-Ocean, \$33,625 in Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton, and \$32,201 in Atlantic-Cape May.

The rate of growth in wages from 2001 to 2002 varied among the State's metropolitan areas with only Bergen-Passaic (1.1 percent) and Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon (1.0 percent) falling below the nationwide average for all metropolitan areas (1.4 percent). Jersey City led the State in growth in average annual wages with an increase of 4.0 percent from 2001 to 2002, followed by Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton at 3.2 percent, and Atlantic-Cape May at 3.0 percent. The remaining four metropolitan areas had annual wage increases ranging from 2.4 percent in Trenton to 1.8 percent in Monmouth-Ocean.

<sup>2</sup> Nationwide there are 318 metropolitan areas. The general concept of a metropolitan area is that of a core area containing a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities that have a high degree of economic and social integration within that core. See Technical Note for criteria used in determining a metropolitan area.

Nationwide, San Jose, Calif., retained its position as the metropolitan area with the highest average annual wages (\$63,056), a position it has held since 1997. This area held this ranking despite experiencing the second-largest decline (-4.4 percent) in average annual wages among the 14 metropolitan areas with decreases in 2002. New York, N.Y., had the second highest wage level (\$57,708), followed by San Francisco, Calif. (\$56,602); New Haven-Bridgeport-Stamford-Waterbury-Danbury, Conn. (\$51,170); and Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon, N.J. (\$50,457). No other metropolitan area in the country had a wage level greater than \$50,000. Wage levels in these five areas ranged from 31 to 64 percent above the average for all metropolitan areas in the nation. Of the 318 metropolitan areas in the United States, only 38 reported wage levels above the national metropolitan average of \$38,423.

For the thirteenth straight year, Jacksonville, N.C., had the lowest average annual wages among metropolitan areas (\$22,269). The second lowest wage level occurred in Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito, Tex. (\$22,892), followed by McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, Tex. (\$23,179), Yuma, Ariz. (\$23,429), and Myrtle Beach, S.C. (\$24,672). While the order of rankings has differed in prior years, these five metropolitan areas have had the lowest average annual wages since 1996. From 2001 to 2002, 45 metropolitan areas experienced less than average wage growth (1.4 percent). Of these, 13 areas had increases of 1.0 to 1.3 percent, and 17 metropolitan areas experienced growth of less than 1 percent; one metropolitan area had no change. Fourteen areas reported declines in average annual wages. Seven metropolitan areas reported declines of 1 percent or less in average annual wages, six reported declines of more than 1 percent but less than 5 percent, and one area reported a decline of more than 5 percent.

Among New Jersey's 15 large counties (those counties and independent cities with employment of 75,000 or more), Somerset County led the Commonwealth in wages averaging \$57,613 in 2002, seventh highest in the country. Morris County had the second highest wage level (\$54,351), followed by Hudson County (\$49,562), Mercer County (\$47,969), Union County (\$47,771), and Middlesex County (\$47,752). Five other counties in New Jersey—Essex (\$47,745), Bergen (\$47,277), Monmouth (\$40,980), Burlington (\$39,713), and Camden (\$37,579)—had wage levels higher than the nationwide average of \$36,764. Only three counties in the state recorded wage levels lower than the nationwide county average—Gloucester (\$33,794), Atlantic (\$33,469), and Ocean (\$31,947). (See table 4.)

The rate of growth in wages from 2001 to 2002 varied among the State's 15 large counties with 11 counties matching or exceeding the nationwide average of 1.5 percent. Only Middlesex (0.1 percent), Bergen and Morris (1.0 percent each), and Monmouth (1.4 percent) fell below the national average for all counties. Hudson County led New Jersey in growth in average annual wages with an increase of 4.0 percent from 2001 to 2002. The remaining counties had increases ranging from 3.4 percent in Union County to 2.0 percent in Gloucester County.

Data are also available for the nation's 315 largest counties. New York County, N.Y., comprised entirely of the borough of Manhattan, retained the top position among the highest-paid large counties with average annual wages of \$72,454. Santa Clara County, Calif., was second with average annual wages of \$63,056, followed by Fairfield, Conn. with \$60,712, San Francisco, Calif. with \$58,510, and Suffolk, Mass. with \$58,253. There were 201 counties with wage levels below the national average. The lowest level of average annual wages was reported in Cameron County, Tex. (\$22,892), followed by the counties of Hidalgo, Tex. (\$23,179), Horry, S.C. (\$24,672), Yakima, Wash. (\$24,934), and Pasco, Fla. (\$25,602).

Manatee County, Fla., led the nation in growth in average annual wages with an increase of 7.3 percent from 2001 to 2002. Kitsap County, Wash., was second with 7.1-percent growth, followed by Alexandria City, Va. (5.4 percent), Elkhart County, Ind. (5.3 percent), Onondaga County, N.Y., (5.2 percent), and Madison County, Ala. (5.1 percent). No other large counties in the country had percentage increases of 5 percent or more. Twenty-two large counties showed declines in average annual wages from 2001 to 2002. Loudon County, Va., had the largest decrease, registering a 22.1-percent decline. Williamson County, Tex., was second with a 16.8 percent decline, followed by the counties of San Mateo, Calif. (-8.1 percent), Santa Clara, Calif. (-4.4 percent), and San Francisco, Calif. (-4.2 percent).

### **Quarterly Release of Covered Employment and Wages Totals by County**

On February 12, 2003, BLS began the quarterly release of county totals of employment and wages by issuing data for the second quarter of 2002 on the BLS Web site. News releases on quarterly employment and wage data are available upon request from the Division of Administrative Statistics and Labor Turnover, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC 20212; telephone 202-691-6567; (<http://www.bls.gov/cew/>); (e-mail: [CEWInfo@bls.gov](mailto:CEWInfo@bls.gov)).

Data for all states, MSAs, counties, and the nation through the second quarter of 2003 are available on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/>.

### **TECHNICAL NOTE**

#### Background

These data are the product of a federal-state cooperative program in which State Employment Security Agencies (SESAs) prepare summaries of employment and total wages of workers covered by Unemployment Insurance legislation. The summaries are a by-product of the administration of state unemployment insurance (UI) programs that require most employers to pay quarterly taxes based on the employment and wages of workers covered by UI.

#### Coverage

Employment and wage data for workers covered by state UI laws and for federal civilian workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program are compiled from quarterly contribution reports submitted to the SESAs by employers. 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. Average annual wages data are derived from summaries of employment and wages submitted by states to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. 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 2002, UI and UCFE programs covered workers in 128.2 million jobs. Covered workers received \$4.713 trillion in wages, representing 94.3 percent of the wage and salary component of personal income and 45.1 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.

## Concepts and methodology

Average annual wages were computed by dividing total annual wages of employees covered by UI programs by the average monthly number of these employees. In addition to salaries, average annual wages data include 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. Monthly employment is based on the number of workers who worked during or received wages 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 annual 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. When comparing average annual wage levels between industries and/or states, these factors should be taken into consideration. Annual wage data only approximate annual earnings because an individual may not be employed by the same employer all year or may work for more than one employer. Also, year-to-year changes in average annual wages can result from a change in the proportion of employment in high- and low-wage jobs, as well as from changes in the level of average annual wages.

In order to insure the highest possible quality of data, SESAs 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 the verification 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. For these reasons, some data, especially at more detailed industry levels, may not be strictly comparable with earlier years.

A few covered employers provided insufficient information on the nature of their businesses to enable the SESA to assign a specific NAICS code. The establishments of these employers therefore could not be classified by industry sector. The wages for these nonclassifiable establishments, along with data for the agricultural division, are not shown separately, but are included in the averages for state and national totals.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines metropolitan areas for use in federal statistical activities and updates these definitions as needed each summer—data in this release use criteria established in definitions issued June 30, 1999 (OMB Bulletin No. 99-04). The 318 metropolitan areas in the United States are a compilation of a set of areas classified as Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas (PMSAs) and Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (CMSAs). Generally speaking, an MSA consists of one or more counties and meets specified size criteria—either it contains a city of at least 50,000 inhabitants, or it contains an urbanized area of at least 50,000 inhabitants, and has a total population of at least 100,000 (75,000 in New England). A CMSA is a metropolitan area that has a population of at least 1 million and has been divided into two or more PMSAs. The CMSA comprises the same geographic area as its constituent PMSAs which are loosely defined as free-standing areas that have a population of at least 100,000.

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 areas designated as independent cities in some jurisdictions, and, in Alaska, those designated as census areas where counties have not been created.

### Additional statistics and other information

Additional average annual wage data is available on the BLS Internet site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/home.htm>. Also, beginning in October 2002, quarterly data are available for selected Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages series. Data can be accessed in several ways, including *Selective Access*, which allows quick access to particular items, and the special request FTP service, which allows access to extensive collection of flat text files. The Philadelphia Information Office can provide assistance accessing these files by calling (215) 597-3282.

This news release, along with other BLS statistics and information, is available via the Internet at the BLS World Wide Web site <http://www.bls.gov/ro3/home.htm>.

An annual bulletin, *Employment and Wages*, features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. *Employment and Wages Annual Averages, 2002* is available for sale from the Bureau of Labor Statistics Publications Sales Center, P.O. Box 2145, Chicago, Illinois 60690. Telephone orders using a credit card (MasterCard, VISA, Discover/NOVUS) or Government Printing Office Deposit Account are accepted at (312)353-1880 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. CT. The bulletin is now available in a portable document format (PDF) on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn02.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/>); (email: [BDMInfo@bls.gov](mailto:BDMInfo@bls.gov)).

**Table 1. State average annual wages for 2001 and 2002 and percent change in wages for all covered workers<sup>1</sup>**

	Average annual wages		Percent change, 2001-2002
	2001	2002	
UNITED STATES <sup>2</sup> .....	\$36,219	\$36,764	1.5
<b>Middle Atlantic Region<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>42,550</b>	<b>42,793</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Alabama .....	30,102	31,163	3.5
Alaska .....	36,170	37,134	2.7
Arizona .....	33,411	34,036	1.9
Arkansas .....	27,260	28,074	3.0
California .....	41,327	41,419	0.2
Colorado .....	37,952	38,005	0.1
Connecticut .....	46,993	46,852	-0.3
Delaware.....	38,427	39,684	3.3
District of Columbia.....	55,909	57,914	3.6
Florida .....	31,553	32,426	2.8
Georgia.....	35,136	35,734	1.7
Hawaii .....	31,253	32,671	4.5
Idaho .....	27,768	28,163	1.4
Illinois .....	39,083	39,688	1.5
Indiana .....	31,779	32,603	2.6
Iowa .....	28,837	29,668	2.9
Kansas .....	30,153	30,825	2.2
Kentucky .....	30,021	30,904	2.9
Louisiana	29,131	30,115	3.4
Maine .....	28,815	29,736	3.2
Maryland.....	38,253	39,382	3.0
Massachusetts .....	44,975	44,954	0.0
Michigan .....	37,391	38,135	2.0
Minnesota .....	36,587	37,458	2.4
Mississippi .....	25,923	26,665	2.9
Missouri .....	32,421	33,118	2.1
Montana .....	25,195	26,001	3.2
Nebraska .....	28,377	29,448	3.8
Nevada	33,121	33,993	2.6
New Hampshire .....	35,481	36,176	2.0
<b>New Jersey .....</b>	<b>44,320</b>	<b>45,182</b>	<b>1.9</b>
New Mexico .....	28,702	29,431	2.5
<b>New York .....</b>	<b>46,727</b>	<b>46,328</b>	<b>-0.9</b>
North Carolina.....	32,024	32,689	2.1
North Dakota .....	25,707	26,550	3.3
Ohio .....	33,283	34,214	2.8
Oklahoma .....	28,016	28,654	2.3
Oregon .....	33,204	33,684	1.4
<b>Pennsylvania.....</b>	<b>34,978</b>	<b>35,808</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Rhode Island .....	33,603	34,810	3.6
South Carolina.....	29,255	30,003	2.6
South Dakota .....	25,601	26,360	3.0
Tennessee .....	31,520	32,531	3.2
Texas .....	36,045	36,248	0.6
Utah .....	30,077	30,585	1.7
Vermont .....	30,238	31,041	2.7
Virginia.....	36,733	37,222	1.3
Washington .....	37,459	38,242	2.1
West Virginia.....	27,981	28,612	2.3
Wisconsin .....	31,540	32,464	2.9
Wyoming .....	28,043	28,975	3.3

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

<sup>2</sup> Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

<sup>3</sup> The three states comprising the Middle Atlantic division are in bold-face type.



**Table 2. State and industry average annual wages in the U.S. and New Jersey for 2001 and 2002 and percent change in wages for private industry workers<sup>1</sup>**

State and industry	Average annual wages <sup>2</sup>		Percent change, 2001-2002
	2001	2002	
<b>United States</b>			
Total Private <sup>3</sup> .....	\$36,157	\$36,539	1.1
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting.....	20,188	20,890	3.5
Mining .....	59,686	60,392	1.2
Construction .....	38,412	39,027	1.6
Manufacturing .....	42,969	44,097	2.6
Wholesale .....	48,791	49,241	0.9
Retail trade.....	22,667	23,232	2.5
Transportation and warehousing.....	36,189	36,823	1.8
Utilities.....	65,561	67,374	2.8
Information.....	57,288	56,103	-2.1
Finance and insurance.....	63,687	62,762	-1.5
Real estate and rental and leasing	32,871	33,924	3.2
Professional and technical services.	58,755	58,672	-0.1
Management of companies and enterprises.....	68,965	69,277	0.5
Administrative and waste services...	24,443	25,276	3.4
Educational services.....	32,066	33,163	3.4
Health care and social assistance.	32,813	34,043	3.7
Arts, entertainment, and recreation..	25,344	26,159	3.2
Accommodation and food services...	13,674	13,946	2.0
Other services, except public administration.....	23,220	23,784	2.4
<b>New Jersey</b>			
Total Private <sup>4</sup> .....	44,151	44,872	1.6
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting.....	22,709	23,145	1.9
Mining .....	52,922	53,484	1.1
Construction .....	49,884	50,390	1.0
Manufacturing .....	51,635	53,116	2.9
Wholesale trade.....	59,981	61,754	3.0
Retail trade.....	26,847	27,626	2.9
Transportation and warehousing.....	37,913	38,865	2.5
Utilities.....	72,460	73,861	1.9
Information.....	65,768	67,780	3.1
Finance and insurance.....	75,120	76,864	2.3
Real estate and rental and leasing	40,008	41,721	4.3
Professional and technical services.	67,778	68,222	0.7
Management of companies and enterprises.....	85,208	85,379	0.2
Administrative and waste services...	29,144	29,839	2.4
Educational services.....	37,944	38,323	1.0
Health care and social assistance.	37,213	38,448	3.3
Arts, entertainment, and recreation..	26,217	26,736	2.0
Accommodation and food services...	17,864	18,123	1.4
Other services, except public administration.....	27,901	28,513	2.2

<sup>1</sup> Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI). Private industry employment excludes government workers.

<sup>2</sup> Data reflect the movement of Indian Tribal Council establishments from private industry to the public sector. Effective with 2001, federally recognized Tribal Councils and their establishments were moved into local government. See Technical Note.

<sup>3</sup> Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

<sup>4</sup> Includes other industries, not shown separately.

**Table 3. Average annual wages for 2001 and 2002 for all covered workers<sup>1</sup> in New Jersey by metropolitan area**

Metropolitan areas <sup>2</sup>	Average annual wages			National ranking by level of annual average wages, 2002 <sup>3</sup>
	2001	2002	Percent change, 2001-2002	
All U.S. metropolitan areas .....	\$37,908	\$38,423	1.4	---
Atlantic-Cape May, NJ.....	31,268	32,201	3.0	135
Bergen-Passaic, NJ.....	44,701	45,185	1.1	13
Jersey City, NJ.....	47,638	49,562	4.0	6
Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon, NJ.....	49,950	50,457	1.0	5
Monmouth-Ocean, NJ.....	37,056	37,710	1.8	42
Newark, NJ.....	47,715	48,781	2.2	7
Philadelphia, PA-NJ.....	40,231	41,121	2.2	26
Trenton, NJ.....	46,831	47,969	2.4	9
Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton, NJ.....	32,571	33,625	3.2	102

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

<sup>2</sup> Includes data for Metropolitan Statistical Areas and Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas as of June 1999. See Technical Note.

<sup>3</sup> Rankings are based on a comparison of data for 318 metropolitan areas nationwide. Data for metropolitan areas in all 50 states are included in this release.

**Table 4. County rankings of employment and average annual wages for 2002 and 2001-2002 percent changes for all covered workers<sup>1</sup> in New Jersey by largest counties**

County <sup>2</sup>	Employment		Average annual wages		
	2002	Net change 2001-2002	2002	Ranked by 2002 level	Ranked by percent change 2001-2002 <sup>3</sup>
United States .....	130,376,000	-1,450,000	\$36,764	--	--
Atlantic.....	141,434	194	33,469	188	138
Bergen.....	448,917	-4,709	47,277	24	265
Burlington.....	191,431	4,033	39,713	70	162
Camden.....	200,850	981	37,579	102	124
Essex.....	359,768	-1,801	47,745	21	150
Gloucester.....	91,525	1,922	33,794	177	193
Hudson.....	238,635	1,382	49,562	13	37
Mercer.....	216,145	621	47,969	16	162
Middlesex.....	395,756	-3,576	47,752	20	292
Monmouth.....	243,355	2,598	40,980	60	248
Morris.....	277,978	325	54,351	10	265
Ocean.....	138,080	4,423	31,947	227	124
Passaic.....	173,899	-1,209	39,785	68	237
Somerset.....	170,293	-6,420	57,613	7	93
Union.....	232,734	-3,875	47,771	18	78

<sup>1</sup> Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance(UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. The 315 largest U.S. counties comprise 70.6 percent of the total covered workers in the nation. Counties in all 50 states are included.

<sup>2</sup> Includes areas not officially designated as counties. See Technical Note.

<sup>3</sup> Rankings for percent change in annual wages are based on the 315 counties that are comparable over the year.