U.S. Metro Economies

Types of Jobs Lost and Gained 2001-2005

Employment Outlook:
Special Report, June 2006

Prepared for:

The United States
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the New American City

Prepared by:

THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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INTRODUCTION

In November 2003, Global Insight and the U.S. Conference of Mayors published “Types of Jobs Lost and Gained 2001-2005,” which examined the quality of jobs lost and gained over this business cycle. The report highlighted a wage gap of almost 18% between the jobs lost from the beginning of the recession through mid-2003, and those that were forecasted to return over the following two years. The average annual wage of $43,629 in the sectors that lost jobs during the 2001–03 period, would not be matched by the average wage of $35,855 in those sectors adding jobs through 2005. Job gains would come in those sectors where wages average only 82% of those in the sectors hit hard by the recession. This gap reflected, in part, the higher-than-average wages paid in the declining manufacturing sectors. Many of those manufacturing jobs and others lost in the information sector, had been sent overseas due to outsourcing, or due to firm and plant closings because of oversupply as demand waned. During the 2001–03 period, annual wages lost in the declining sectors totaled $182 billion, $26 billion higher than the annual wages we projected would be earned in the advancing sectors.

THE WAGE GAP

The United States is another six months into its recovery. Our analysis of the current data indicates that over the 2000-2006 period, the wage gap remains practically the same between the jobs lost and jobs forecasted to return. Figure 1 below examines the composition of wages in the ten sectors that lost the most jobs during the downturn and the ten sectors that will lead the employment recovery. The number of jobs gained from 2004 to 2006 will exceed the number of jobs lost from 2000-03. The average wage of the jobs in the ten sectors with the greatest job gains, however, will be more than 15% lower than those of the jobs that were lost in the top ten losing sectors.

FIGURE 1: QUALITY VS. QUANTITY

Analysis of Top Ten Sectors	
Jobs Lost (2000 to 2003)	5,197,442
Average Wage of Jobs Lost	$45,020
Jobs Gained (2004 to 2006)	5,610,100
Average Wage of Jobs Gained	$38,100

The average annual wage in all sectors which lost jobs, $43,950, will not be matched by the average wage of jobs in the growing sectors between 2004 and 2006, $38,839. This wage gap of 12% implies that the long-awaited payroll expansion, while surely welcome, will bring income gains which average only 88% of incomes lost during the employment contraction. The wages lost due to this gap amount to $27 billion per year.

This 2001-2003 downturn was notable in its breadth, across sectors and occupations. Almost all regions, states, and metro areas suffered declines. Many high-wage technical and professional occupations were affected by job losses and layoffs in both the high tech and finance sectors. Figure 2 shows a breakdown of the ten sectors with the highest job losses from the fourth quarter of 2000 to the fourth quarter of 2003. As previously reported, the largest losses were in the manufacturing and technology sectors. All but two of the top ten sectors are also relatively high-paying. Prompted by the national recession, many of the losses in these metros were the result of outsourcing, mergers, and downsizing. Competition from cheaper goods made overseas forced manufacturers to cut costs, resulting in manufacturers shutting U.S. operations and either opening plants in foreign countries or contracting with foreign manufacturers to produce goods. Cost-cutting also induced mergers in the finance and communications sectors, resulting in layoffs.

FIGURE 2: TOP TEN JOBS LOST
(2000Q4 TO 2003Q4)

Employment Sector	Total Job Losses	Average Annual Wages
Durables Manufacturing	2,015,024	$46,856
Nondurables Manufacturing	887,264	$40,763
Information	585,526	$57,329
Retail Trade	411,555	$23,999
Administration & Support Services	352,092	$25,289
Professional, Scientific & Tech.	322,526	$62,839
Transportation & Warehouse	291,940	$38,504
Wholesale Trade	183,930	$50,407
Management of Companies	118,353	$69,937
Utilities	29,231	$68,373

The sectors in which most of the jobs are expected to return in the next three years, outlined in Figure 3, pay wages that are, on average, lower than those of the jobs that were lost. These new jobs have an average annual wage of just over $38,000, compared with the $45,000/year wage of the top losing sectors. Durable goods manufacturing is expected to recoup a portion of the jobs lost since 2000, but is not expected to return to pre-recession payroll levels. Nondurables manufacturing will continue to shed jobs through 2006, as more companies outsource production to foreign contractors to better compete. Overall, the job recovery will be broad-based, with the Sunbelt metropolitan areas leading the nation.

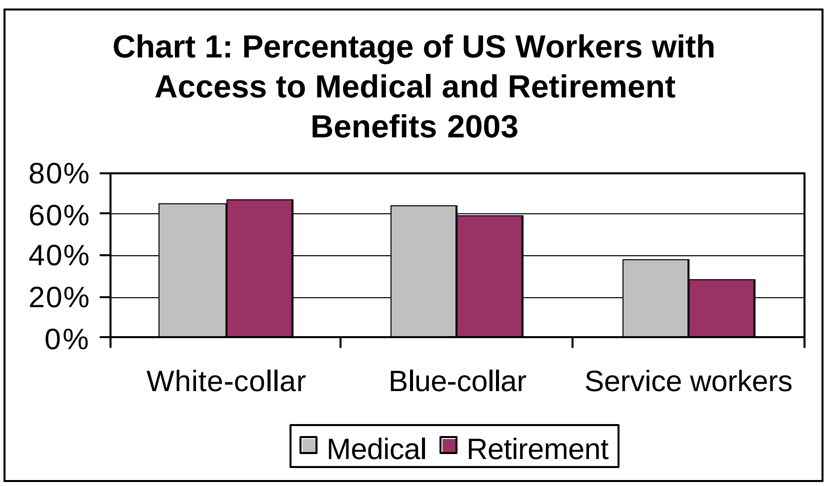
FIGURE 3: TOP TEN JOBS GAINED
(2003Q4 TO 2006Q4)

Employment Sector	Total Jobs Gained	Average Annual Wages
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,012,057	$34,701
Professional, Scientific, & Tech.	973,797	$62,839
Administration & Support Services	942,211	$25,289
Construction	549,791	$40,537
Accommodation & Food	512,715	$15,006
State Gov't.	476,926	$34,268
Transportation & Warehouse	349,352	$38,504
Retail Trade	320,447	$23,999
Durables Manufacturing	246,222	$46,856
Finance & Insurance	226,580	$64,466

JOB QUALITY AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The Metro Economies series has emphasized the importance of considering job quality, as well as job quantity, in gauging the relative health of the metro economies. Our focus has been on the wage and salary component of the employer-employee relationship. However, as our economy has advanced over the past century, nonwage benefits have come to play an increasingly important role in labor relations. Indeed, 'other labor income', which essentially measures the employer cost of providing nonwage benefits, is 22% of wage income. From the employer's perspective, the cost of health benefits represent 6.5% of employee compensation, or $1.88 per hour on average. In addition, retirement plan costs average $0.90 per hour. In this section, we analyze recent trends in benefit levels, particularly over the current business cycle. This decade, the growth in benefit costs has well exceeded that of wages, reaching double-digit rates in 2002 and 2003.

In 2003, 73% of full-time workers had access to medical care benefits[1] and 67% had access to a retirement plan. When employees are given access to nonwage benefits, it is up to each individual employee to choose to participate in the plans that are offered. The percentage of employees who participate in a benefits plan will be less than the number who have access to such plan. These are the two most common types of nonwage income, or benefits, received by the workforce. Each was far more common for white-collar occupations (65% with medical, 67% with retirement) than for service workers (38% and 28%, respectively), as illustrated in Chart 1. The percentage of blue-collar workers with medical and retirement benefits were closer to, albeit lower than, that of white-collar employees, with 64% given access to medical and 59% to retirement. By industry, goods-producing industries provided significantly more access than service-producing industries on average.



To compound the situation, the percentage of firms offering retiree health benefits has been falling. For large firms (200-plus employees), the percentage offering health benefits to retirees dropped from 46% in 1991 to 38% in 2003. At the same time, retiree contributions to health-care premiums increased by 20% in 2002 and 2003 for new retirees.

[1] Data in this section is primarily drawn from: US Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "National Compensation Survey: Employee Benefits in Private Industry in the United States, March 2003" April 2004.

There is also more to consider than the availability of employer-sponsored health insurance plans. In the face of steeply rising insurance premium charges, many employers have now required, or increased the size of, employee contributions to premiums. In 1993, 54% of full-time workers who participated in single coverage medical-care plans and 74% with family coverage were required to make premium payments. Ten years later, the requirements have grown such that 78% of those with single coverage and 90% of those with family coverage pay premiums. Similarly, the premium itself has increased, from an average of $34 per month for individuals and $131 for families, to $60 and $228, respectively.

FIGURE 4: EMPLOYEE PARTICIPATION IN EMPLOYER-SPONSORED HEALTH INSURANCE, PRIVATE SECTOR

	1990	1993	2000	2003
All Workers (part-time and full-time)	66%	63%	52%	45%
Full-time Workers	80%	73%	61%	56%

Employees who have access to employer-provided health benefits must also choose to participate in those plans. The culmination of the trends in availability, and in costs is that enrollment in employer-sponsored health insurance in private industry firms has fallen, as outlined in Figure 4 above. The provision of these benefits, while widespread, is not uniform across the sectors. In 2000, 69% of full-time professional and technical employees were enrolled in health plans, as opposed to 62% of clerical and sales employees and 57% of blue-collar and service employees. A similar disparity exists for retirement plan participation. Some 70% of professional workers, 59% of clerical workers, and 46% of blue-collar workers participated in an employer-sponsored retirement plan. It is these existing differences in coverage across occupations and industries that we will utilize in analyzing the state of the workforce, as regards benefits, over the current business cycle

In 2003, among all workers, including part-time, white-collar workers (50%) and blue-collar workers (51%) continued to far outstrip the participation in employer-provided health benefit plans of service workers (22%). Similarly, retirement plan participation by white-collar workers (59%) and blue-collar workers (50%) greatly exceeds that in service occupations (21%). To the extent that service occupations are growing faster than others, the overall rate of benefit coverage will decline in the economy.

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE JOBS RECOVERY

A Kaiser Family Foundation survey of employers offering health benefits, both public and private, reveals the disparities in health-care enrollment between industries. In this survey, while 68% of full-time workers participated in employer health benefits in 2003, there is substantial variability across industries[2]. Employers from state and local government and the manufacturing sector have rates of coverage just above 80%. That is, 80% of the workers in those firms have access to, and participate in, a health benefit plan. Meanwhile, the retail (45%) and services sectors (64%) are well below average. In addition, new employees typically are not covered by employer health plans for a period of time. In construction

[2] Kaiser Family Foundation and Health Research and Educational Trust, "Employer Health Benefits 2003 Annual Survey", "Trends and Indicators in the Changing Health Care Marketplace, 2004 Update"

and in wholesale and retail trade, the average wait was 2.5 months. The wait for state and local government employees was 1.3 months, and for finance employees, 1.4 months. The average wait for health coverage across all employees in 2003 was 1.7 months. However, this wait time has been lengthening; it was an average of 1.5 months in 1999.

FIGURE 5: HEALTH BENEFITS, 2000–2006

Employment Sector	Percent Covered	2000–03 Employment Change	2003–06 Employment Change
Construction	68	-10,200	+513,200
Manufacturing	81	-2,946,100	-60,000
Transportation, Comm, Utilities	77	-492,900	+323,400
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	73	+223,800	+285,100
Retail and WholesaleTrade	45	-136,600	+719,100
Services	64	+995,100	+3,112,600
Government	82	+712,200	+423,800
Average Benefit Coverage		**79.0%**	**64.5%**

Note: Due to differences in survey design and classification these Kaiser survey results do not reconcile exactly with the BLS statistics of the previous section.

Figure 5 above illustrates the quality issues employees face. The economy-wide trend toward lower benefits coverage and higher employee contributions will be exacerbated in the near term, as the composition of employment shifts towards industries that offer lower levels of coverage.

For the sectors that lost jobs over the 2000–03 period, employer health benefits covered, on average, 79% of employees. Most notable was the loss of almost 3 million manufacturing jobs, in which 81% of employees had health coverage. However, we estimate that the service sector will generate the greatest number of new jobs, more than 3 million, over the 2003–06 period. With an average health-care coverage of 64% in that sector, the overall benefit coverage of the new jobs in the national economy will be 64.5%. This is a quality "gap" in terms of health benefits of 14.5%. Therefore, due to the changing structure of the economy, though the lost jobs will be replaced by new ones, those new jobs will provide employer-provided health benefits to 14.5% fewer workers than were covered by the lost jobs.

METRO AREA EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS

In early 2004, the U.S. economy finally started to put the jobless recovery of 2002-03 behind it. In fact, the rapid expansion in gross domestic product during the second half of 2003 and into the first quarter of 2004 has resulted in a sharp improvement in the nation's employment situation. After losing 2.5 million jobs from March 2001 through December 2003, employment increased by 1.2 million during the first five months of 2004. With the national recovery expected to continue to strengthen through the rest of 2004 and well into 2005, the U.S. employment picture should continue to improve. By the end of 2004, Global Insight forecasts that payrolls in the metro areas should be growing by close to 2% on an annualized basis. Global Insight expects that by the early part of 2005, employment levels in metro areas should return to, and later surpass, the previous peak achieved in early 2001.

The resumption of broad-based employment growth in the metro areas is critical to the ongoing strength of the current national recovery. The non-metropolitan portion of the country provides only 16% of total employment; this small fraction cannot sustain a lasting recovery across the entire nation. Underscoring the importance of the metro areas to the nation, between the start of 2001 and the end of 2003, payroll losses in the metro areas accounted for 84% of all the nation's job losses. Conversely, in the first quarter of 2004, metro areas were responsible for 80% of new payroll jobs added to the economy. The robustness of the recovery in the metro areas is thus central to the future health of the U.S. economy.

Appendix Table 1 illustrates the year-end job changes that took place in the metro areas from 2001 to 2003 and between December 2003 and April 2004. A recovery appears to be taking hold, as 229 of 318 metro areas displayed job gains from December 2003 to April 2004.

Of the metros that gained jobs from December 2003 to April 2004, 14 gained more than 10,000 jobs and an additional 19 metros added 5,000 jobs. All but nine of the top 33 gainers are metros located in southern or western states. The southern and western states have exhibited the strongest gains so far in this recovery. These states have experienced robust population gains, as well as stronger growth in "new economy" industries such as high technology and communications. The southern states also tend to boast a lower cost of living, reducing labor costs for employers.

Some of the notable technology and manufacturing metros which lost numerous jobs in 2001–03—such as Detroit, Denver, Cincinnati, and St. Louis—have displayed gains this year. Others, like Boston, San Jose, Chicago, and Madison, lost additional jobs in the first four months of 2004. Boston's struggling technology, financial, and business services sectors have landed the metro on the bottom of the rankings in terms of numbers of jobs lost. Washington DC, at the top of the list, saw gains in all sectors but manufacturing in the first four months of 2004. The metro area has experienced a surge in professional and business services jobs during the recovery, while the government sector also made gains. The influx of jobs has also created a housing boom, resulting in substantial growth in construction employment.

The recession year of 2001 saw large employment declines in the older midwestern manufacturing centers, as well as in the new high-technology metropolitan clusters. In addition, Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, and Greensboro lost over 10,000 jobs each due primarily to cutbacks in the manufacturing sector. Seattle, San Jose, Boston, and San Francisco experienced similar declines, as the dot-com bubble burst. New York, tragically, lost the most jobs, largely due to the September 11 terrorist attack.

Although the technical end of the recession had occurred by early 2002, the employment picture darkened in some metros across the country. Twenty-one metros lost more than 10,000 jobs from December 2001 to December 2002, in many cases following job losses in 2001. Aerospace manufacturers saw an immediate reduction in orders after 9/11, and the layoffs took hold during 2002 in such places as Wichita and Seattle.

By the end of 2003, the labor market situation had not yet shown signs of revival for a number of metros. Indeed, 20 metros lost 10,000 or more jobs year –over-year in December 2003. Cities where employment declined the most from December 2002 to December 2003 were Detroit (60,000), New York (49,200), Boston (47,600), Los Angeles (40,800), and San Francisco (34,300). At the other end of the scale, however, nine metros, all of which are located in southern or western states where the rebound has been more evident, gained more than 10,000 jobs during that same period. The top five gainers through December 2003 were Las Vegas (35,300), Phoenix (31,200), Orlando (18,700), Washington DC (17,300), and Tampa (15,300).

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK FOR THE TOP 20 METROS

After a sluggish start to 2003, the national recovery picked up speed in the second half of the year. That trend continued into 2004, as the top 20 metros and the nation overall posted positive year-over-year growth through April 2004. However, though economic activity was rising, employment growth in the top 20 metros continued to lag the nation. Through April 2004, total employment in the top 20 metro areas—which accounts for 32% of national employment—increased by 0.2%, compared with 0.5% gains across the United States. It is apparent that these metro areas felt the brunt of the economic slowdown due to their relatively high concentrations of high-tech, manufacturing, and finance industries, which have struggled. Figure 6 below outlines the average annual employment for 2002 and 2003 and annual employment growth for 2003-06 for the top 20 metros.

FIGURE 6: TOP 20 METRO EMPLOYMENT FORECAST

	(Thousands)		(Percent Change)			
	2002	2003	2003	2004	2005	2006
Phoenix-Mesa, AZ	1,596	1,617	1.3	2.7	2.8	3.2
Atlanta, GA	2,169	2,159	-0.5	1.8	2.7	2.3
San Diego, CA	1,231	1,242	0.9	1.5	2.7	2.3
Washington, DC-MD-VA-WV	2,808	2,825	0.6	1.5	2.2	1.9
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA	1,353	1,339	-1.0	1.3	1.8	1.5
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI	1,721	1,722	0.1	1.2	2.0	1.9
Orange Co, CA	1,404	1,425	1.6	1.2	2.3	2.0
Newark, NJ	1,009	1,011	0.2	1.1	1.3	1.0
Nassau-Suffolk, NY	1,215	1,223	0.6	1.0	1.5	1.5
Baltimore, MD	1,250	1,247	-0.3	1.0	2.2	2.1
Los Angeles-L Beach, CA	4,027	3,990	-0.9	0.9	1.7	1.3
New York, NY	4,136	4,084	-1.3	0.8	1.5	1.5
Dallas, TX	1,930	1,902	-1.5	0.6	1.5	1.9
Houston, TX	2,112	2,096	-0.8	0.6	1.2	1.5
Oakland, CA	1,040	1,025	-1.5	0.6	2.4	2.0
Philadelphia, PA-NJ	2,409	2,408	-0.1	0.6	1.5	1.3
Chicago, IL	4,129	4,086	-1.1	0.3	1.5	1.7
San Francisco, CA	987	953	-3.5	-0.1	1.6	1.1
Boston, MA-NH	3,167	3,108	-1.9	-0.2	1.7	1.7
Detroit, MI	2,093	2,060	-1.6	-1.3	1.0	1.1
Top 20	**41,786**	**41,521**	**-0.6**	**0.8**	**1.8**	**1.7**

As we approach the middle of 2004, the nation is now in a broad-based jobs recovery, as demonstrated by the latest employment numbers from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. In May 2004, the nation's economy added 248,000 new jobs, with payroll gains registering across the board, including in the manufacturing sector. Mirroring the general improvement in the national economy, in April 2004, the top 20 metro areas saw employment increase by around 78,000, approximately 23% of total employment growth across the nation. As the recovery unfolds further, employment gains should be broad-based and should accelerate through the end of 2004 and into 2005. Nonetheless, the pattern of job growth across the top 20 metro areas will be diverse. Between the second half of 2004 and the end of 2006, Global Insight forecasts that the strongest payroll gains will come in the Sunbelt metros; San Diego, Phoenix and Atlanta will all experience payroll growth averaging over 2.5% during this period. Thanks to federal government spending, Baltimore and Washington DC will both see employment growth slightly more than 2.0%. Relatively high business costs and slow population gains will lead to slower employment growth in some of the major northeastern metro areas such as New York and Philadelphia. In addition, weighed down by a moderate recovery in the high-tech sector, Boston and San Francisco will experience a relatively slow jobs recovery, 1.6% and 1.1%, respectively, through 2006.

Employment growth in the top 20 metro areas will be led by a marked improvement in the professional and business services sector. Sparked by an upswing in corporate confidence and spending, employment in this sector is expected to increase 2.0% in 2004, 4.5% in 2005, and 3.7% in 2006. Metro areas such as Boston, Atlanta, and Baltimore will benefit in particular from the sharp improvement in this sector. Moreover, bolstered by improving global trade conditions brought about by a weakening dollar, the recent spate of job losses in the manufacturing sector should start to dwindle as 2004 progresses. Indeed, during 2005 and 2006, manufacturing employment in the top 20 metro areas is expected to post year-over-year growth for the first time since 1998, on the strength of durables manufacturing industries. In the financial services sector, gains will slow slightly in 2004, as the recent rise in interest rates has already moderated demand for mortgage refinancing, offsetting some of the growth in the broader financial services sector. Through 2006, however, employment growth in the financial services sector is expected to pick up speed and average 1.3% per year. Rising economic activity will also bolster employment growth in the transportation, warehousing, and utilities sectors of the economy. Nonetheless, rising oil prices do present a sizable risk to the already slow recovery in the nation's commercial airlines, which could hinder profitability and, ultimately, growth in this industry.

CONCLUSIONS

The economy has begun to add jobs at a rapid rate following the prolonged jobless recovery. But, relative to the jobs lost, new jobs will be disproportionately concentrated in lower paying sectors, resulting in an estimated wage gap of 12%. In addition, the advancing sectors also in general provide lower levels of benefits coverage. We have estimated a health benefits gap of over 14%.

As this structural change in the economy brings more Americans lower wages and reduced benefits, new policies are needed to fill these gaps to ensure that working Americans have access to affordable health care, child care, education, and retirement resources.

Table 1: Annual Change in the Number of Jobs (Thousands)

(Employment Change is December to December, except in 2004, which is December 03-April 04)

Rank	Metro Area	2001	2002	2003	2004
1	Washington, DC	-25.0	29.3	17.3	57.3
2	New York, NY	-168.8	-18.3	-49.2	24.1
3	Atlanta, GA	-36.6	7.7	-16.0	20.8
4	Los Angeles, CA	-65.4	-19.0	-40.8	20.1
5	St. Louis, MO-IL	-11.8	-11.1	-10.7	19.2
6	Houston, TX	3.0	-4.4	-15.7	16.6
7	Seattle, WA	-62.9	-25.3	-0.6	15.2
8	Baltimore, MD	-12.3	-9.4	-2.7	14.6
9	Riverside, CA	34.2	42.4	9.9	13.9
10	Phoenix, AZ	-24.6	25.9	31.2	13.0
11	Detroit, MI	-83.5	-26.6	-60.0	12.7
12	Minneapolis, MN-WI	-27.9	-12.4	8.3	11.3
13	Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN	-20.1	-7.4	7.5	10.9
14	Tampa, FL	-10.3	2.0	15.3	10.3
15	Denver, CO	-43.9	-14.6	-27.1	9.9
16	Las Vegas, NV-AZ	7.0	28.4	35.3	9.8
17	Fort Lauderdale, FL	2.0	13.6	9.4	9.7
18	San Francisco, CA	-88.4	-35.1	-34.3	8.8
19	San Diego, CA	8.8	16.9	4.4	8.5
20	Nassau, NY	-13.5	1.6	8.5	8.2
21	Kansas City, MO-KS	-23.5	-12.5	-8.9	8.1
22	Oklahoma City, OK	0.8	-7.0	-7.3	7.2
23	Oakland, CA	-22.3	1.1	-24.5	6.7
24	Miami, FL	-15.6	-10.5	2.3	6.6
25	Des Moines, IA	-1.9	-2.1	1.5	5.9
26	Honolulu, HI	-10.8	12.8	4.2	5.8
27	Portland, OR-WA	-38.2	-7.7	-11.2	5.7
28	Jacksonville, FL	-5.9	-3.9	12.1	5.4
29	West Palm Beach, FL	8.9	10.2	3.7	5.3
30	San Antonio, TX	-2.4	5.5	-3.0	5.3
31	Sacramento, CA	14.3	8.2	6.1	5.0
32	Charleston, SC	-5.9	7.2	-1.3	5.0
33	Nashville, TN	-11.0	8.4	6.6	5.0
34	Boise City, ID	-3.9	3.0	2.0	4.8
35	Indianapolis, IN	-2.2	1.9	-1.4	4.7
36	Wilmington, DE-MD	-7.6	-2.9	0.5	4.7
37	Milwaukee, WI	-24.9	-4.8	-9.0	4.6
38	Jersey City, NJ	0.2	-9.3	-4.9	4.4
39	Middlesex, NJ	-14.3	-11.0	-7.1	4.1
40	Raleigh, NC	-1.2	0.6	2.9	4.0
41	Dallas, TX	-61.4	-32.8	-11.8	3.9

Table 1: Annual Change in the Number of Jobs (Thousands)

(Employment Change is December to December, except in 2004, which is December 03-April 04)

Rank	Metro Area	2001	2002	2003	2004
42	Columbia, SC	-4.9	4.8	-13.7	3.8
43	Newark, NJ	-18.0	-3.2	7.1	3.8
44	Fort Myers, FL	6.3	6.5	4.7	3.7
45	Bergen, NJ	-15.5	2.1	-7.2	3.6
46	Greenville, SC	-23.6	-0.2	-6.5	3.6
47	Austin, TX	-23.8	-5.6	-4.1	3.5
48	Philadelphia, PA-NJ	-5.0	0.1	5.7	3.3
49	Reno, NV	0.9	0.8	5.3	3.3
50	Salt Lake City, UT	-13.6	-7.2	3.9	3.2
51	Orlando, FL	-22.9	20.1	18.7	3.1
52	Charlotte, NC-SC	-22.5	2.2	1.5	3.1
53	Appleton, WI	-1.6	0.4	-4.0	3.0
54	Melbourne, FL	-2.3	1.6	2.8	3.0
55	Lakeland, FL	1.4	-1.5	2.1	3.0
56	Lancaster, PA	0.3	0.7	-0.9	2.8
57	Spokane, WA	-1.8	0.2	1.6	2.7
58	Monmouth, NJ	2.6	8.2	4.8	2.7
59	Albuquerque, NM	-2.0	1.7	2.8	2.7
60	Grand Rapids, MI	-16.9	-2.7	-12.2	2.7
61	Ann Arbor, MI	4.7	-2.6	-0.7	2.6
62	Medford, OR	-1.9	2.3	-0.3	2.6
63	Tacoma, WA	-3.4	4.6	4.9	2.6
64	Daytona Beach, FL	4.0	4.5	4.1	2.6
65	New Orleans, LA	-8.0	-3.9	-3.9	2.5
66	Iowa City, IA	1.2	2.3	-4.0	2.5
67	Mobile, AL	-4.3	-3.9	-0.3	2.5
68	Fresno, CA	4.2	8.5	-0.2	2.4
69	Huntsville, AL	-1.0	0.2	2.8	2.3
70	Wilmington, NC	-0.2	0.1	1.5	2.3
71	El Paso, TX	-6.1	6.3	-2.9	2.3
72	Ventura, CA	1.2	2.3	-1.7	2.3
73	Wichita, KS	0.8	-9.4	-5.7	2.2
74	Richmond, VA	7.0	-4.4	-4.4	2.1
75	Memphis, TN-AR-MS	-12.2	7.1	1.2	2.0
76	Laredo, TX	2.3	2.9	1.5	2.0
77	South Bend, IN	-4.3	0.6	-1.1	2.0
78	Pittsburgh, PA	-6.3	-10.9	-11.6	1.9
79	Hickory, NC	-14.3	-7.6	-4.0	1.9
80	Bakersfield, CA	6.6	2.8	-0.6	1.9
81	Montgomery, AL	-0.4	-0.9	-0.5	1.9
82	Asheville, NC	-1.5	-0.5	0.2	1.8

Table 1: Annual Change in the Number of Jobs (Thousands)

(Employment Change is December to December, except in 2004, which is December 03-April 04)

Rank	Metro Area	2001	2002	2003	2004
83	Fayetteville, NC	-3.5	2.5	0.5	1.8
84	Knoxville, TN	0.6	13.4	3.7	1.7
85	Sheboygan, WI	-2.3	0.4	-0.2	1.7
86	Punta Gorda, FL	2.6	6.0	6.0	1.7
87	Pensacola, FL	1.0	0.0	3.4	1.7
88	Gainesville, FL	-2.3	0.7	3.0	1.6
89	Trenton, NJ	2.8	-1.8	4.5	1.6
90	Sioux Falls, SD	-0.2	2.2	0.1	1.5
91	Tulsa, OK	-3.1	-14.1	-12.9	1.5
92	Florence, SC	0.6	-1.4	2.6	1.5
93	Springfield, MO	-1.0	2.2	1.0	1.5
94	Tallahassee, FL	-3.8	1.3	1.6	1.5
95	Cleveland, OH	-39.0	-26.8	7.2	1.5
96	Bryan, TX	1.1	1.1	0.5	1.5
97	Richland, WA	2.7	2.4	1.2	1.4
98	York, PA	-3.7	-3.5	0.9	1.4
99	Gary, IN	1.6	-4.1	-0.1	1.3
100	New Haven, CT (N)	-15.7	-7.9	-9.4	1.3
101	Akron, OH	-3.0	-4.0	2.3	1.3
102	Benton Harbor, MI	-3.4	-2.3	0.9	1.3
103	Allentown, PA	-3.3	-0.9	-0.3	1.3
104	Eugene, OR	-4.0	2.8	-1.3	1.3
105	Greensboro, NC	-26.1	0.0	-14.0	1.3
106	Santa Barbara, CA	-1.5	-0.6	2.0	1.3
107	Eau Claire, WI	0.8	-0.1	0.4	1.3
108	Bloomington, IL	1.9	-0.3	-2.2	1.3
109	Fort Worth, TX	-15.3	-3.4	-5.2	1.3
110	Fort Walton Beach, FL	0.9	4.0	4.5	1.2
111	Columbia, MO	2.4	0.1	-0.3	1.2
112	Duluth, MN-WI	-1.6	0.3	-0.4	1.2
113	Baton Rouge, LA	-3.7	-2.9	5.5	1.1
114	La Crosse, WI-MN	1.4	-1.9	1.4	1.1
115	Rocky Mount, NC	-2.6	-0.4	-1.3	1.1
116	Greenville, NC	-1.1	0.4	-2.0	1.1
117	Jackson, MS	-2.5	1.5	4.2	1.1
118	Vallejo, CA	2.6	5.0	0.9	1.1
119	Lake Charles, LA	-2.2	0.4	-1.7	1.1
120	Lubbock, TX	1.4	-0.9	-1.0	1.1
121	Modesto, CA	2.8	2.3	0.1	1.0
122	Danville, VA	-4.2	2.4	-1.9	1.0
123	Provo, UT	-3.6	2.1	0.9	1.0

Table 1: Annual Change in the Number of Jobs (Thousands)

(Employment Change is December to December, except in 2004, which is December 03-April 04)

Rank	Metro Area	2001	2002	2003	2004
124	Tyler, TX	0.1	1.0	0.5	1.0
125	Yakima, WA	-2.8	2.4	-0.3	1.0
126	Flagstaff, AZ-UT	-0.6	-0.3	-0.5	1.0
127	Olympia, WA	0.3	1.9	2.3	1.0
128	Albany, NY	-1.1	-2.5	0.9	1.0
129	Green Bay, WI	-3.0	2.9	3.9	1.0
130	Roanoke, VA	0.9	-2.0	-3.5	0.9
131	Steubenville, OH-WV	-0.3	0.8	-1.8	0.9
132	Lincoln, NE	3.5	2.0	-3.6	0.9
133	Norfolk, VA	14.9	7.1	11.3	0.9
134	Hartford, CT (N)	-8.3	-12.4	-4.4	0.9
135	Stockton-Lodi, CA	2.4	7.4	-0.1	0.9
136	Sarasota, FL	-4.5	7.0	9.7	0.8
137	Utica, NY	-2.7	-1.1	-1.2	0.8
138	Sumter, SC	-2.7	-1.1	1.5	0.8
139	Bellingham, WA	0.7	2.7	0.5	0.8
140	Billings, MT	2.8	1.2	1.1	0.8
141	St. Cloud, MN	0.0	-1.4	0.2	0.8
142	Athens, GA	0.4	1.7	-1.6	0.8
143	Waco, TX	-0.9	0.3	0.2	0.8
144	Bremerton, WA	1.3	2.6	1.6	0.7
145	Colorado Springs, CO	-5.6	-2.2	-0.6	0.7
146	Yuma, AZ	2.5	-0.1	2.4	0.7
147	Jacksonville, NC	-0.8	-1.3	0.3	0.7
148	Dayton, OH	-17.6	-10.9	-5.7	0.7
149	Texarkana, AR-TX	-0.7	0.6	-0.1	0.7
150	Corvallis, OR	-0.8	0.0	1.2	0.7
151	Terre Haute, IN	-1.3	0.6	1.3	0.7
152	Salem, OR	-3.4	0.9	0.6	0.7
153	Dutchess County, NY	2.1	0.1	1.8	0.7
154	Joplin, MO	-1.8	0.7	1.0	0.7
155	Myrtle Beach, SC	-3.2	3.1	9.8	0.7
156	Newburgh, NY-PA	-1.5	4.7	1.9	0.7
157	Racine, WI	-2.7	-1.4	0.1	0.6
158	Waterloo, IA	-1.1	0.2	-0.1	0.6
159	Augusta, GA-SC	-3.1	1.5	0.8	0.6
160	Longview, TX	-1.6	0.6	0.8	0.6
161	Canton, OH	-2.9	-3.8	-4.6	0.6
162	Fort Collins, CO	-0.6	0.3	1.3	0.6
163	Naples, FL	5.8	3.9	5.2	0.6
164	Goldsboro, NC	-0.1	-0.3	-1.6	0.6

Table 1: Annual Change in the Number of Jobs (Thousands)

(Employment Change is December to December, except in 2004, which is December 03-April 04)

Rank	Metro Area	2001	2002	2003	2004
165	Casper, WY	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6
166	Dubuque, IA	-1.6	0.5	0.9	0.5
167	Chattanooga, TN-GA	-5.0	2.7	0.2	0.5
168	Burlington, VT (N)	-0.4	-1.4	1.1	0.5
169	Victoria, TX	-0.2	-0.2	-0.6	0.5
170	Greeley, CO	1.1	1.2	0.9	0.5
171	St. Joseph, MO	0.2	1.1	-0.2	0.5
172	Glens Falls, NY	-0.3	0.3	1.4	0.5
173	Reading, PA	-3.5	-3.2	-0.2	0.5
174	Peoria, IL	-3.1	-2.9	-1.5	0.5
175	McAllen, TX	4.9	6.4	7.5	0.4
176	Brazoria, TX	1.6	-0.3	-0.8	0.4
177	Tuscaloosa, AL	-1.2	1.0	-1.7	0.4
178	Abilene, TX	-0.3	1.5	0.3	0.4
179	Kenosha, WI	-1.9	1.5	-0.7	0.4
180	Pocatello, ID	-0.5	0.3	0.8	0.4
181	Sioux City, IA-NE	-1.5	0.0	-3.2	0.4
182	Dover, DE	-0.2	3.2	1.4	0.4
183	Lima, OH	-3.2	-1.2	0.8	0.4
184	Little Rock, AR	1.5	0.9	-1.8	0.4
185	Pueblo, CO	-1.8	0.0	0.5	0.4
186	Macon, GA	-0.1	-0.2	2.5	0.4
187	San Angelo, TX	0.2	-0.5	0.2	0.4
188	Fort Wayne, IN	-3.5	0.3	-6.4	0.3
189	Rapid City, SD	-0.2	0.8	0.1	0.3
190	Wichita Falls, TX	0.6	-1.5	-0.4	0.3
191	Syracuse, NY	-6.1	-0.8	0.3	0.3
192	Topeka, KS	2.6	-4.9	-1.9	0.3
193	Beaumont, TX	-4.5	-1.0	-0.2	0.3
194	Lawrence, KS	1.3	-1.5	-0.6	0.3
195	Birmingham, AL	-4.6	-6.4	0.6	0.3
196	Missoula, MT	2.4	1.2	0.7	0.3
197	Santa Rosa, CA	-0.5	-4.9	-5.1	0.3
198	Tucson, AZ	-7.9	2.2	2.1	0.2
199	Ocala, FL	-1.4	1.6	5.7	0.2
200	Kankakee, IL	-0.5	-0.8	-0.2	0.2
201	Binghamton, NY	-4.1	-1.3	-1.4	0.2
202	Youngstown, OH	-8.2	-5.9	-1.0	0.2
203	Lafayette, LA	1.8	-0.7	0.2	0.2
204	Great Falls, MT	-0.5	0.1	0.0	0.2
205	Rochester, MN	1.2	1.8	0.1	0.2

Table 1: Annual Change in the Number of Jobs (Thousands)

(Employment Change is December to December, except in 2004, which is December 03-April 04)

Rank	Metro Area	2001	2002	2003	2004
206	Erie, PA	-4.1	-0.4	-0.4	0.2
207	Springfield, IL	0.4	-2.0	-3.2	0.2
208	New London, CT (N)	4.2	-0.5	1.9	0.2
209	State College, PA	-0.1	0.5	0.1	0.2
210	Kalamazoo, MI	-8.2	3.3	-2.5	0.2
211	Grand Junction, CO	1.0	1.4	0.7	0.2
212	Enid, OK	-0.2	0.1	-0.6	0.2
213	Jonesboro, AR	-1.0	1.1	-0.3	0.2
214	Decatur, AL	-2.5	-1.7	-1.5	0.1
215	Pine Bluff, AR	-0.3	-0.8	0.7	0.1
216	Sharon, PA	0.5	-0.1	-1.2	0.1
217	Parkersburg, WV-OH	-2.0	0.9	-0.6	0.1
218	Gadsden, AL	-0.3	0.6	-1.4	0.1
219	Brownsville, TX	0.1	3.2	-0.6	0.1
220	Decatur, IL	-3.0	-0.6	-1.1	0.1
221	Jackson, TN	-3.8	-1.1	-0.5	0.1
222	Biloxi, MS	-4.8	-0.7	1.7	0.1
223	Panama City, FL	0.4	1.7	1.4	0.1
224	Santa Fe, NM	1.5	2.2	1.3	0.1
225	Wausau, WI	-0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1
226	Johnson City, TN-VA	-1.6	3.7	-0.1	0.1
227	Charleston, WV	-3.2	-0.2	-1.5	0.1
228	Monroe, LA	1.1	-0.3	-1.2	0.1
229	Harrisburg, PA	-1.0	4.6	-0.5	0.1
230	Dothan, AL	0.1	1.0	-0.9	0.0
231	Hattiesburg, MS	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.0
232	Auburn, AL	-1.8	1.5	0.0	0.0
233	Florence, AL	-2.8	-1.7	-1.0	0.0
234	Fort Pierce, FL	2.8	2.5	7.2	0.0
235	Toledo, OH	-7.0	-9.1	-9.0	0.0
236	Amarillo, TX	-2.4	2.4	1.3	0.0
237	Anniston, AL	-2.0	0.9	0.4	0.0
238	Muncie, IN	0.3	-1.5	-1.2	0.0
239	Providence, RI (N)	-5.2	4.3	4.8	-0.1
240	Cheyenne, WY	-0.1	1.5	0.7	-0.1
241	Pittsfield, MA (N)	-0.3	0.7	-0.5	-0.1
242	Clarksville, TN-KY	-2.1	1.8	-0.3	-0.1
243	Altoona, PA	0.6	0.7	0.1	-0.1
244	Evansville, IN-KY	2.5	1.2	-2.7	-0.1
245	Sherman, TX	-2.6	0.6	-0.2	-0.1
246	Davenport, IA-IL	-2.6	-2.3	-0.7	-0.1

Table 1: Annual Change in the Number of Jobs (Thousands)

(Employment Change is December to December, except in 2004, which is December 03-April 04)

Rank	Metro Area	2001	2002	2003	2004
247	Alexandria, LA	-0.6	0.6	0.2	-0.1
248	Odessa, TX	1.8	-1.0	2.3	-0.1
249	Mansfield, OH	-2.9	-1.9	-1.1	-0.1
250	Bangor, ME (N)	0.5	0.7	-0.9	-0.1
251	Louisville, KY-IN	-20.1	-5.4	-2.5	-0.2
252	Owensboro, KY	-0.7	-0.4	0.1	-0.2
253	Albany, GA	-1.8	0.6	0.8	-0.2
254	Lewiston, ME (N)	-0.5	1.3	-0.3	-0.2
255	Columbus, GA-AL	-1.4	-1.5	1.1	-0.2
256	Huntington, WV-KY-OH	-3.3	0.6	1.3	-0.2
257	Flint, MI	-1.3	-2.1	-5.3	-0.2
258	Barnstable, MA (N)	-0.3	2.5	0.8	-0.2
259	Fargo, ND-MN	0.1	1.6	0.9	-0.2
260	Charlottesville, VA	-2.2	0.7	-0.6	-0.2
261	Johnstown, PA	-2.2	0.6	0.2	-0.2
262	Scranton, PA	-5.8	-0.7	-1.4	-0.3
263	Chico, CA	-3.8	2.0	2.5	-0.3
264	Lawton, OK	-0.6	1.7	-0.7	-0.3
265	Las Cruces, NM	0.2	2.7	1.9	-0.3
266	Elmira, NY	-1.7	-0.2	-1.0	-0.3
267	Lafayette, IN	0.3	1.0	-2.8	-0.3
268	Hamilton, OH	-1.1	0.2	2.9	-0.3
269	Redding, CA	-1.6	3.9	4.5	-0.3
270	Lynchburg, VA	-2.6	-1.8	-0.6	-0.3
271	Wheeling, WV-OH	0.3	-0.5	-0.9	-0.3
272	Anchorage, AK	2.7	3.2	2.6	-0.4
273	Yolo, CA	-1.8	0.9	4.6	-0.4
274	San Luis Obispo, CA	-2.0	2.1	5.0	-0.4
275	Bismark, ND	0.1	0.6	1.1	-0.4
276	Yuba City, CA	-1.1	0.9	1.9	-0.4
277	Vineland, NJ	-0.4	0.2	1.3	-0.5
278	Santa Cruz, CA	-10.0	-1.4	6.1	-0.5
279	Elkhart, IN	-7.4	6.0	1.2	-0.5
280	Kokomo, IN	-0.1	-1.5	1.2	-0.5
281	Portland, ME (N)	-1.1	-0.7	2.0	-0.5
282	Williamsport, PA	-2.2	-0.4	0.5	-0.5
283	Killeen, TX	-0.6	1.7	-0.4	-0.5
284	Rockford, IL	-8.3	-1.6	-3.1	-0.6
285	Savannah, GA	-0.6	4.2	1.6	-0.6
286	Grand Forks, ND-MN	0.5	0.8	0.7	-0.6
287	Springfield, MA (N)	-4.5	-3.7	-2.6	-0.6

Table 1: Annual Change in the Number of Jobs (Thousands)

(Employment Change is December to December, except in 2004, which is December 03-April 04)

Rank	Metro Area	2001	2002	2003	2004
288	Houma, LA	0.8	4.4	0.4	-0.6
289	Fayetteville, AR	8.8	6.1	5.3	-0.7
290	Janesville, WI	-2.0	-0.3	0.2	-0.7
291	Galveston, TX	-2.1	2.4	0.2	-0.7
292	Bloomington, IN	0.8	-0.3	4.7	-0.7
293	Merced, CA	-2.0	2.3	5.1	-0.7
294	Fort Smith, AR-OK	-1.4	-1.1	0.3	-0.7
295	Champaign, IL	0.8	0.4	-0.3	-0.8
296	Orange County, CA	-6.1	17.4	12.5	-0.9
297	Corpus Christi, TX	-0.7	1.7	-0.7	-0.9
298	Jackson, MI	-1.9	-1.6	0.9	-0.9
299	Lexington, KY	-15.1	1.0	1.0	-1.0
300	Chicago, IL	-101.4	-40.8	-27.1	-1.0
301	Cedar Rapids, IA	-7.0	-1.3	-1.5	-1.0
302	Shreveport, LA	-4.4	-0.5	1.6	-1.0
303	Cumberland, MD-WV	1.0	-0.2	1.0	-1.1
304	Boulder, CO	-6.8	-5.1	-1.8	-1.1
305	Rochester, NY	-11.0	-7.2	-1.9	-1.2
306	Omaha, NE-IA	12.5	-1.4	-11.0	-1.3
307	Atlantic City, NJ	3.0	0.0	5.2	-1.3
308	Lansing, MI	3.7	-1.6	-2.9	-1.6
309	Columbus, OH	-9.6	-10.8	-5.2	-1.8
310	Visalia, CA	-4.9	5.7	8.4	-1.9
311	Jamestown, NY	-2.6	0.2	1.2	-1.9
312	Buffalo, NY	-15.3	6.3	-2.6	-2.1
313	San Jose, CA	-112.3	-73.3	-30.8	-2.4
314	Salinas, CA	0.7	-1.1	-1.5	-2.5
315	Madison, WI	2.6	3.7	2.4	-2.6
316	Hagerstown, MD	1.8	1.3	4.7	-3.3
317	Saginaw, MI	-5.1	-3.0	-3.3	-3.5
318	Boston, MA-NH (N)	-91.9	-56.4	-47.6	-5.8
	All Metros	-1,777.5	-165.1	-201.5	578.9

Rank based on employment change in 2004

Table 2: Employment Growth Is Improving In Most Metro Areas

Growth Rank		Avg. Annual Growth 2001-2002	2003-2004	2005-2006
1	Punta Gorda, FL	10.0	8.6	3.7
2	Naples, FL	4.5	3.3	3.7
3	Myrtle Beach, SC	0.1	5.6	3.6
4	Las Vegas, NV-AZ	2.3	4.5	3.5
5	Orlando, FL	-0.2	2.4	3.3
6	West Palm Beach-Boca Raton, FL	2.0	1.9	3.2
7	Phoenix-Mesa, AZ	0.2	2.2	3.2
8	Riverside-San Bernardino, CA	3.8	2.4	3.0
9	Fort Myers-Cape Coral, FL	3.6	3.1	2.9
10	Sarasota-Bradenton, FL	0.5	3.2	2.9
11	Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC	0.2	1.5	2.9
12	Yuma, AZ	3.4	2.0	2.9
13	Wilmington, NC	0.0	1.8	2.9
14	Pocatello, ID	0.0	2.8	2.8
15	Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	-0.3	2.1	2.8
16	Ocala, FL	-0.1	3.3	2.8
17	Yolo, CA	-0.2	2.4	2.8
18	Visalia-Tulare-Porterville, CA	0.2	2.1	2.8
19	Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC	-1.2	1.3	2.8
20	Sacramento, CA	1.8	1.9	2.7
21	Boise City, ID	-0.1	2.3	2.7
22	Fresno, CA	2.2	1.4	2.7
23	San Luis Obispo-Atascadero-Paso Robles, CA	0.4	1.6	2.7
24	Merced, CA	0.0	2.8	2.7
25	Stockton-Lodi, CA	2.6	1.0	2.7
26	Fort Pierce-Port St. Lucie, FL	2.3	3.1	2.6
27	Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AR	4.5	2.4	2.6
28	Missoula, MT	3.2	2.0	2.6
29	Fort Walton Beach, FL	3.1	4.0	2.5
30	Vallejo-Fairfield-Napa, CA	2.5	1.3	2.5
31	Atlanta, GA	-0.6	1.1	2.5
32	McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, TX	3.6	3.2	2.5
33	Jacksonville, FL	-0.9	2.5	2.5
34	Fort Lauderdale, FL	1.2	2.2	2.5
35	Springfield, MO	-0.1	1.6	2.5
36	Tucson, AZ	-0.7	1.2	2.5
37	Modesto, CA	1.9	1.4	2.5
38	Melbourne-Titusville-Palm Bay, FL	-0.2	2.4	2.4
39	Flagstaff, AZ-UT	-0.7	1.1	2.4

Table 2: Employment Growth Is Improving In Most Metro Areas

Growth Rank		Avg. Annual Growth		
		2001-2002	2003-2004	2005-2006
40	San Diego, CA	1.2	1.5	2.4
41	Austin-San Marcos, TX	-2.1	0.5	2.4
42	Clarksville-Hopkinsville, TN-KY	-0.1	0.9	2.4
43	Bakersfield, CA	2.3	1.6	2.3
44	Nashville, TN	-0.3	1.9	2.3
45	Lakeland-Winter Haven, FL	0.0	1.9	2.3
46	Ventura, CA	0.9	1.0	2.3
47	Las Cruces, NM	2.4	2.2	2.3
48	Yuba City, CA	0.3	1.1	2.3
49	Rochester, MN	1.6	1.4	2.3
50	Richland-Kennewick-Pasco, WA	2.8	2.0	2.2
51	Redding, CA	1.8	2.0	2.2
52	Daytona Beach, FL	2.5	2.7	2.2
53	Bloomington-Normal, IL	1.0	0.3	2.2
54	Columbia, MO	1.2	0.0	2.2
55	Fort Collins-Loveland, CO	0.3	0.0	2.2
56	Des Moines, IA	-0.8	1.4	2.2
57	Greenville, NC	-0.7	-0.4	2.2
58	Charleston-North Charleston, SC	0.4	1.0	2.2
59	Baltimore, MD	-0.6	0.9	2.2
60	Oakland, CA	-0.8	-0.1	2.1
61	Memphis, TN-AR-MS	-0.5	1.4	2.1
62	Colorado Springs, CO	-1.5	0.5	2.1
63	Columbia, SC	-0.1	-1.3	2.1
64	St. Cloud, MN	-0.4	1.4	2.1
65	Santa Cruz-Watsonville, CA	-3.2	1.1	2.1
66	Grand Rapids-Muskegon-Holland, MI	-1.6	-0.3	2.1
67	Orange County, CA	0.4	1.4	2.1
68	Chico-Paradise, CA	-0.9	1.3	2.1
69	Barnstable-Yarmouth, MA	1.3	0.9	2.1
70	Provo-Orem, UT	-0.5	1.4	2.1
71	Washington, DC-MD-VA-WV	0.2	1.4	2.1
72	Panama City, FL	1.6	0.8	2.1
73	Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito, TX	1.8	0.4	2.1
74	Reno, NV	0.4	3.6	2.1
75	Laredo, TX	3.9	2.2	2.0
76	Bellingham, WA	2.3	1.5	2.0
77	Oklahoma City, OK	-0.6	0.0	2.0
78	Miami, FL	-1.0	1.0	2.0

Table 2: Employment Growth Is Improving In Most Metro Areas

Growth Rank		Avg. Annual Growth		
		2001-2002	2003-2004	2005-2006
79	Billings, MT	2.9	2.1	2.0
80	Athens, GA	1.2	0.2	2.0
81	Greeley, CO	2.1	-0.1	2.0
82	Santa Rosa, CA	-1.2	-0.7	2.0
83	Asheville, NC	-0.9	1.3	2.0
84	Burlington, VT	-0.5	1.1	2.0
85	Greensboro--Winston-Salem--High Point, NC	-1.9	-0.4	2.0
86	Olympia, WA	1.6	2.1	2.0
87	Medford-Ashland, OR	-0.1	1.8	1.9
88	Savannah, GA	1.1	1.4	1.9
89	Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI	-1.1	1.0	1.9
90	Omaha, NE-IA	1.3	-0.6	1.9
91	Baton Rouge, LA	-0.8	2.2	1.9
92	Dallas, TX	-2.2	0.1	1.9
93	Denver, CO	-2.2	-0.7	1.9
94	Macon, GA	0.0	1.5	1.9
95	Kansas City, MO-KS	-2.0	0.7	1.9
96	Auburn-Opelika, AL	0.0	0.6	1.9
97	Tacoma, WA	0.3	2.0	1.9
98	Boulder-Longmont, CO	-3.2	-0.5	1.9
99	Newburgh, NY-PA	1.4	1.4	1.9
100	Knoxville, TN	1.9	1.9	1.9
101	Lafayette, LA	0.5	1.2	1.9
102	Louisville, KY-IN	-2.2	0.4	1.9
103	Lake Charles, LA	-1.2	0.0	1.9
104	Pensacola, FL	-0.1	2.2	1.9
105	Monmouth-Ocean, NJ	1.5	1.9	1.9
106	Santa Fe, NM	2.4	1.8	1.9
107	Lincoln, NE	1.8	-0.4	1.8
108	San Jose, CA	-8.6	-1.6	1.8
109	Huntsville, AL	-0.1	2.2	1.8
110	Augusta-Aiken, GA-SC	-0.4	1.3	1.8
111	Lexington, KY	-2.5	0.8	1.8
112	Monroe, LA	0.4	0.3	1.8
113	Portland-Vancouver, OR-WA	-2.2	0.0	1.8
114	Fargo-Moorhead, ND-MN	0.7	1.4	1.8
115	Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon, NJ	-1.7	0.6	1.8
116	Ann Arbor, MI	0.4	0.3	1.8
117	Salinas, CA	0.2	0.3	1.8

Table 2: Employment Growth Is Improving In Most Metro Areas

Growth Rank		Avg. Annual Growth 2001-2002	2003-2004	2005-2006
118	Greenville-Spartanburg-Anderson, SC	-2.4	0.2	1.8
119	Florence, SC	-0.3	2.2	1.8
120	Sioux Falls, SD	0.9	1.3	1.8
121	Jacksonville, NC	-2.6	1.4	1.8
122	Chattanooga, TN-GA	-0.6	1.1	1.8
123	Jackson, TN	-3.9	0.4	1.8
124	Wichita, KS	-1.6	-0.3	1.8
125	Bismarck, ND	0.9	1.8	1.8
126	Glens Falls, NY	-0.2	2.3	1.7
127	Hattiesburg, MS	0.9	1.3	1.7
128	Lawrence, KS	-0.1	0.9	1.7
129	San Antonio, TX	0.4	0.4	1.7
130	Houma, LA	3.4	1.2	1.7
131	Albuquerque, NM	-0.1	1.1	1.7
132	Madison, WI	1.1	0.9	1.7
133	Boston, MA	-2.1	-0.4	1.7
134	Iowa City, IA	2.0	-0.6	1.7
135	Gainesville, FL	-0.2	2.1	1.7
136	Rockford, IL	-2.9	-0.4	1.7
137	Shreveport-Bossier City, LA	-1.5	1.0	1.7
138	Salt Lake City-Ogden, UT	-1.3	0.8	1.7
139	Wilmington-Newark, DE-MD	-1.6	0.6	1.7
140	Portland, ME	-0.5	1.2	1.7
141	Owensboro, KY	-1.5	1.1	1.7
142	Killeen-Temple, TX	0.5	0.4	1.7
143	Chicago, IL	-1.6	0.0	1.7
144	Fayetteville, NC	-0.5	0.5	1.7
145	Spokane, WA	-0.5	1.6	1.6
146	Dover, DE	2.8	1.6	1.6
147	Columbus, OH	-1.0	-0.1	1.6
148	Jackson, MS	-0.2	1.8	1.6
149	Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY	-0.2	0.5	1.6
150	Cedar Rapids, IA	-3.1	-0.5	1.6
151	Sumter, SC	-4.3	1.9	1.6
152	Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA	-2.9	0.8	1.6
153	Anchorage, AK	2.4	1.6	1.6
154	Albany, GA	-1.2	1.4	1.6
155	Joplin, MO	-0.7	0.3	1.6
156	Salem, OR	-0.7	0.8	1.6

Table 2: Employment Growth Is Improving In Most Metro Areas

Growth Rank		Avg. Annual Growth		
		2001-2002	2003-2004	2005-2006
157	Mobile, AL	-1.8	1.2	1.6
158	Nassau-Suffolk, NY	-0.4	1.0	1.6
159	New York, NY	-2.1	0.1	1.6
160	Tallahassee, FL	-0.6	1.1	1.6
161	Grand Junction, CO	2.6	-0.6	1.6
162	Columbus, GA-AL	-1.3	1.2	1.5
163	Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN	-1.5	1.1	1.5
164	Bremerton, WA	3.2	1.7	1.5
165	Yakima, WA	-0.4	0.5	1.5
166	Reading, PA	-1.8	0.1	1.5
167	Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	-1.0	-0.1	1.5
168	Hagerstown, MD	2.5	0.9	1.5
169	Birmingham, AL	-1.1	0.8	1.5
170	Johnson City-Kingsport-Bristol, TN-VA	0.4	0.5	1.5
171	Houston, TX	0.2	0.2	1.5
172	Tulsa, OK	-2.0	-1.4	1.5
173	Casper, WY	2.0	2.2	1.5
174	Cheyenne, WY	1.9	1.3	1.5
175	St. Louis, MO-IL	-1.1	0.5	1.5
176	Lewiston-Auburn, ME	0.8	0.4	1.5
177	Alexandria, LA	-0.2	1.2	1.5
178	Rapid City, SD	0.8	0.7	1.5
179	Tyler, TX	0.5	0.9	1.5
180	Springfield, IL	-0.8	-0.6	1.5
181	Dubuque, IA	-1.0	2.1	1.5
182	Biloxi-Gulfport-Pascagoula, MS	-1.8	0.9	1.5
183	Great Falls, MT	-0.6	0.6	1.5
184	Brazoria, TX	1.1	-0.2	1.5
185	Syracuse, NY	-1.0	0.4	1.4
186	Indianapolis, IN	-0.1	0.7	1.4
187	Richmond-Petersburg, VA	0.4	0.4	1.4
188	Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport News, VA-NC	1.4	1.3	1.4
189	Huntington-Ashland, WV-KY-OH	-1.0	1.1	1.4
190	Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA	-0.5	0.5	1.4
191	Kankakee, IL	-1.5	0.5	1.4
192	Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA	-0.9	0.4	1.4
193	State College, PA	0.7	0.0	1.4
194	Peoria-Pekin, IL	-1.7	-0.2	1.4
195	Green Bay, WI	-0.1	2.4	1.4

Table 2: Employment Growth Is Improving In Most Metro Areas

Growth Rank		Avg. Annual Growth		
		2001-2002	2003-2004	2005-2006
196	Santa Barbara-Santa Maria-Lompoc, CA	-0.4	1.5	1.4
197	Eugene-Springfield, OR	-0.4	0.5	1.4
198	Harrisburg-Lebanon-Carlisle, PA	0.5	0.5	1.4
199	Lancaster, PA	0.3	0.5	1.4
200	York, PA	-1.9	0.7	1.4
201	Dutchess County, NY	1.3	0.8	1.4
202	Philadelphia, PA-NJ	0.1	0.5	1.4
203	Utica-Rome, NY	-1.4	0.0	1.4
204	Charlottesville, VA	-0.7	-0.3	1.4
205	New London-Norwich, CT	1.6	1.2	1.3
206	Jonesboro, AR	-0.5	0.6	1.3
207	Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	-1.4	0.3	1.3
208	Rochester, NY	-1.6	0.2	1.3
209	Wheeling, WV-OH	-0.1	-0.5	1.3
210	Sioux City, IA-NE	-1.0	-1.5	1.3
211	Bangor, ME	0.9	-0.3	1.3
212	Cumberland, MD-WV	1.1	-1.0	1.3
213	Providence-Warwick, RI	0.0	0.8	1.3
214	Kalamazoo-Battle Creek, MI	-1.0	-0.3	1.3
215	Lynchburg, VA	-2.0	-0.7	1.3
216	Goldsboro, NC	-0.6	-1.4	1.3
217	Bloomington, IN	0.3	3.4	1.3
218	Bryan-College Station, TX	1.5	1.1	1.3
219	Little Rock-North Little Rock, AR	0.2	0.4	1.3
220	Rocky Mount, NC	-2.0	-0.8	1.3
221	San Francisco, CA	-5.5	-1.0	1.3
222	Gadsden, AL	0.3	-1.8	1.3
223	Trenton, NJ	0.4	1.9	1.3
224	New Orleans, LA	-0.9	0.5	1.2
225	New Haven, CT	-1.3	0.1	1.2
226	Grand Forks, ND-MN	1.4	0.9	1.2
227	Fort Smith, AR-OK	-1.0	0.2	1.2
228	Amarillo, TX	-0.1	1.3	1.2
229	Fort Wayne, IN	-0.6	-0.9	1.2
230	Hickory-Morganton, NC	-5.7	-1.0	1.2
231	Pittsfield, MA	0.5	-0.4	1.2
232	Waterloo-Cedar Falls, IA	-0.8	0.9	1.2
233	Duluth-Superior, MN-WI	-0.5	0.6	1.2
234	Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah, WI	-0.4	-0.4	1.2

Table 2: Employment Growth Is Improving In Most Metro Areas

Growth Rank		Avg. Annual Growth 2001-2002	2003-2004	2005-2006
235	Springfield, MA	-1.3	0.0	1.2
236	Jamestown, NY	-2.2	-0.8	1.2
237	Detroit, MI	-2.6	-1.2	1.2
238	Jackson, MI	-2.4	0.5	1.2
239	Bergen-Passaic, NJ	-1.0	0.2	1.2
240	Kenosha, WI	-1.2	0.2	1.2
241	Eau Claire, WI	0.3	1.3	1.1
242	Wausau, WI	-0.2	0.6	1.1
243	Galveston-Texas City, TX	-0.1	0.6	1.1
244	Parkersburg-Marietta, WV-OH	-0.6	-0.2	1.1
245	Pittsburgh, PA	-0.6	-0.3	1.1
246	Waco, TX	-0.3	0.7	1.1
247	Evansville-Henderson, IN-KY	1.1	-0.4	1.1
248	Enid, OK	-0.1	-1.6	1.1
249	La Crosse, WI-MN	-0.5	1.7	1.1
250	Newark, NJ	-0.9	1.0	1.1
251	Honolulu, HI	0.2	1.6	1.1
252	Elkhart-Goshen, IN	-1.2	1.1	1.1
253	Hartford, CT	-1.5	0.0	1.1
254	Topeka, KS	-1.1	-0.1	1.1
255	Tuscaloosa, AL	0.1	-0.4	1.1
256	Steubenville-Weirton, OH-WV	0.4	-1.1	1.1
257	Akron, OH	-1.1	0.8	1.1
258	Champaign-Urbana, IL	0.4	0.3	1.1
259	Jersey City, NJ	-1.5	0.0	1.1
260	Dothan, AL	0.8	-0.5	1.1
261	Lansing-East Lansing, MI	0.4	-0.5	1.1
262	Sharon, PA	0.2	-0.8	1.1
263	Lafayette, IN	0.3	-0.9	1.1
264	Roanoke, VA	-0.4	-1.0	1.1
265	Decatur, AL	-3.5	-0.8	1.1
266	South Bend, IN	-1.5	0.8	1.1
267	Charleston, WV	-1.1	0.0	1.1
268	Buffalo-Niagara Falls, NY	-1.0	-0.2	1.1
269	Janesville-Beloit, WI	-1.6	0.2	1.1
270	Pueblo, CO	-1.2	-0.3	1.1
271	Scranton--Wilkes-Barre--Hazelton, PA	-1.1	0.0	1.0
272	Anniston, AL	-1.1	0.4	1.0
273	Corpus Christi, TX	0.5	-0.3	1.0

Table 2: Employment Growth Is Improving In Most Metro Areas

Growth Rank		Avg. Annual Growth 2001-2002	2003-2004	2005-2006
274	Saginaw-Bay City-Midland, MI	-2.1	-1.6	1.0
275	Sherman-Denison, TX	-2.1	-0.2	1.0
276	Erie, PA	-1.7	-0.2	1.0
277	Florence, AL	-4.1	-0.9	1.0
278	Lawton, OK	1.4	-1.3	1.0
279	Johnstown, PA	-1.1	0.4	1.0
280	Victoria, TX	-0.2	-0.1	1.0
281	Corvallis, OR	-0.6	1.5	1.0
282	Racine, WI	-2.0	0.0	1.0
283	Sheboygan, WI	-1.6	1.0	1.0
284	Benton Harbor, MI	-3.8	2.0	1.0
285	Atlantic-Cape May, NJ	-0.1	1.6	1.0
286	Montgomery, AL	-0.5	0.5	1.0
287	Binghamton, NY	-2.1	-0.6	1.0
288	Canton-Massillon, OH	-1.7	-0.7	0.9
289	Altoona, PA	0.9	0.5	0.9
290	Texarkana, AR-TX	-0.2	0.7	0.9
291	El Paso, TX	0.1	0.1	0.9
292	St. Joseph, MO	1.4	-1.2	0.9
293	Lima, OH	-2.8	0.6	0.9
294	Longview-Marshall, TX	-0.4	0.9	0.9
295	Abilene, TX	0.8	1.3	0.9
296	Elmira, NY	-2.3	-1.2	0.9
297	Hamilton-Middletown, OH	-0.3	1.2	0.8
298	Williamsport, PA	-2.2	0.5	0.8
299	Decatur, IL	-3.4	-0.4	0.8
300	Cleveland-Lorain-Elyria, OH	-2.8	0.3	0.8
301	San Angelo, TX	-0.2	0.5	0.8
302	Toledo, OH	-2.5	-1.4	0.8
303	Dayton-Springfield, OH	-2.8	-0.5	0.8
304	Milwaukee-Waukesha, WI	-1.8	-0.2	0.8
305	Mansfield, OH	-3.0	-0.5	0.8
306	Lubbock, TX	0.1	0.0	0.7
307	Beaumont-Port Arthur, TX	-1.7	-0.2	0.7
308	Muncie, IN	-1.1	-1.0	0.6
309	Danville, VA	-1.9	-1.6	0.6
310	Gary, IN	-0.6	0.3	0.6
311	Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton, NJ	-0.2	1.9	0.6
312	Kokomo, IN	-2.7	1.0	0.6

Table 2: Employment Growth Is Improving In Most Metro Areas

Growth Rank		Avg. Annual Growth		
		2001-2002	2003-2004	2005-2006
313	Youngstown-Warren, OH	-3.1	-0.1	0.6
314	Flint, MI	-1.1	-1.8	0.5
315	Wichita Falls, TX	-0.9	0.0	0.5
316	Odessa-Midland, TX	0.6	1.2	0.5
317	Terre Haute, IN	-0.6	1.7	0.4
318	Pine Bluff, AR	-1.4	1.1	0.2

Rank based on average annual employment growth 2005-2006