

THIRD QUARTER 1999 COVERED EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

The average quarterly employment for Louisiana during third quarter 1999 decreased by 9,671 or 0.5%. Employment increased by 1,962, or 0.1%, from the same period a year ago. The following table shows the average quarterly employment data for third quarter 1999, second quarter 1999 and third quarter 1998 and the percent change for the major industry divisions.

	QTR 993	QTR 992	QTR 983	% CHG FROM PREV QTR	% CHG FROM PREV YR
TOTAL	1,841,126	1,850,797	1,839,164	-0.5%	0.1%
Agriculture Forestry & Fishing	19,312	17,131	18,091	12.7%	6.7%
Mining	45,701	46,361	57,950	-1.4%	-21.1%
Contract Construction	134,337	138,270	138,381	-2.8%	-2.9%
Manufacturing	187,611	188,709	191,816	-0.6%	-2.2%
Transp. and Public Utilities	129,661	129,096	132,030	0.4%	-1.8%
Wholesale Trade	96,697	97,014	98,877	-0.3%	-2.2%
Retail Trade	349,508	347,806	343,771	0.5%	1.7%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	83,923	83,291	84,994	0.8%	-1.3%
Services	690,252	701,577	672,322	-1.6%	2.7%
Public Administration	99,853	98,947	98,215	0.9%	1.7%

The number of reporting units for third quarter 1999 increased by 1,759 units, or 1.5%, from the previous quarter and increased 2,850 units, or 2.5%, from a year ago. The following table shows the average number of units for third quarter 1999, second quarter 1999 and third quarter 1998 and the percent change for the major industry divisions.

	QTR 993	QTR 992	QTR 983	% CHG FROM PREV QTR	% CHG FROM PREV YR
TOTAL	117,715	115,956	114,865	1.5%	2.5%
Agriculture Forestry & Fishing	2,370	2,356	2,284	0.6%	3.8%
Mining	1,972	1,943	1,976	1.5%	-0.2%
Contract Construction	10,274	10,172	9,931	1.0%	3.5%
Manufacturing	4,917	4,833	4,755	1.7%	3.4%
Transp. and Public Utilities	7,314	7,190	7,097	1.7%	3.1%
Wholesale Trade	9,781	9,700	9,754	0.8%	0.3%
Retail Trade	23,469	23,315	23,310	0.7%	0.7%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	11,318	10,981	10,723	3.1%	5.5%
Services	41,437	40,868	40,413	1.4%	2.5%
Public Administration	3,599	3,515	3,482	2.4%	3.4%

Total wages for third quarter 1999 increased by 0.04% from second quarter 1999 and increased 1.6% from the same period a year ago. The average weekly wage for third quarter 1999 was \$512.64, an increase of 0.4% from the second quarter 1999 figure of \$510.39. Table 1 includes average weekly wage data for all parishes within each industry division, by Regional Labor Market Area.