

## INTRODUCTION

The Utah Department of Workforce Services compiles quarterly employment and wage data for nonagricultural employers in Utah. Data is maintained at the establishment level (e.g., store, plant, or other type of permanent worksite facility). Since these establishments are assigned an industry and county code, their employment and wage data can be aggregated into common industry and county groupings for analysis purposes.

Employment and wage data for Utah's nonagricultural employers are categorized in this publication by employment size for the month of March in each of the designated years. Grouping data by this criterion provides a useful tool to analyze the characteristics of Utah employers. For example, general trends of the size of Utah employers and employment concentrations by employer size class can be observed. Wage levels for large, medium, and small firms can also be evaluated.

In this publication, data is presented for both establishments and firms. The term "establishment" is generally defined as a specific physical worksite for an employer. For most employers, this is the actual street location at which business is conducted. For others, with no permanent worksite (such as salespeople, factory representatives, or distributors) it is the location from which they conduct their business (sometimes even residences).

For construction and some mining firms, it is the Utah headquarters or office location rather than the actual jobsite. Some employers conduct business at multiple establishments or worksites within the state. In this situation, data in the "establishment" tables are presented separately for each establishment or worksite.

In Utah, more than 2,200 firms are multiple worksite employers composed of more than 24,000 worksite establishments. The term "firm" is used to identify an employer's total statewide operations. In this situation, data for multiple establishment employers are aggregated to a statewide total for assignment to a size category in the firm tables.