BEARFACTS 1996 – 2006
Kern , California [06029]

Kern is one of 58 counties in California. It is part of the Bakersfield, CA (MSA). Its 2006 population of 772,666 ranked 12th in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

In 2006 Kern had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $25,938. This PCPI ranked 45th in the state and was 65 percent of the state average, $39,626, and 71 percent of the national average, $36,714. The 2006 PCPI reflected an increase of 3.5 percent from 2005. The 2005-2006 state change was 5.8 percent and the national change was 5.6 percent. In 1996 the PCPI of Kern was $18,484 and ranked 44th in the state. The 1996-2006 average annual growth rate of PCPI was 3.4 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 4.6 percent and for the nation was 4.3 percent.

TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

In 2006 Kern had a total personal income (TPI) of $20,041,661*. This TPI ranked 15th in the state and accounted for 1.4 percent of the state total. In 1996 the TPI of Kern was $11,584,301* and ranked 15th in the state. The 2006 TPI reflected an increase of 6.6 percent from 2005. The 2005-2006 state change was 6.5 percent and the national change was 6.7 percent. The 1996-2006 average annual growth rate of TPI was 5.6 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.9 percent and for the nation was 5.4 percent.

COMPONENTS OF TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

Total personal income includes net earnings by place of residence; dividends, interest, and rent; and personal current transfer receipts received by the residents of Kern. In 2006 net earnings accounted for 69.2 percent of TPI (compared with 66.5 in 1996); dividends, interest, and rent were 11.8 percent (compared with 15.2 in 1996); and personal current transfer receipts were 19.0 percent (compared with 18.3 in 1996). From 2005 to 2006 net earnings increased 6.3 percent; dividends, interest, and rent increased 5.1 percent; and personal current transfer receipts increased 8.4 percent. From 1996 to 2006 net earnings increased on average 6.1 percent each year; dividends, interest, and rent increased on average 3.0 percent; and personal current transfer receipts increased on average 6.0 percent.

EARNINGS BY PLACE OF WORK

Earnings of persons employed in Kern increased from $14,859,215* in 2005 to $15,844,146* in 2006, an increase of 6.6 percent. The 2005-2006 state change was 5.6 percent and the national change was 5.7 percent. The average annual growth rate from the 1996 estimate of $8,733,776* to the 2006 estimate was 6.1 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 6.2 percent and for the nation was 5.5 percent.

**Note: All income estimates with the exception of PCPI are in thousands of dollars, not adjusted for inflation.*

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