BEARFACTS 1992 – 2002
Kern , California [06029]

Kern is one of 58 counties in California. It is part of the Bakersfield, CA (MSA). Its 2002 population of 689,617 ranked 14th in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

In 2002 Kern had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $22,672. This PCPI ranked 46th in the state and was 69 percent of the state average, $32,870, and 74 percent of the national average, $30,838. The 2002 PCPI reflected an increase of 4.0 percent from 2001. The 2001-2002 state change was -0.1 percent and the national change was 0.8 percent. In 1992 the PCPI of Kern was $16,847 and ranked 42nd in the state. The 1992-2002 average annual growth rate of PCPI was 3.0 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 3.9 percent and for the nation was 4.0 percent.

TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

In 2002 Kern had a total personal income (TPI) of $15,635,283*. This TPI ranked 16th in the state and accounted for 1.4 percent of the state total. In 1992 the TPI of Kern was $9,937,758* and ranked 14th in the state. The 2002 TPI reflected an increase of 6.3 percent from 2001. The 2001-2002 state change was 1.1 percent and the national change was 1.8 percent. The 1992-2002 average annual growth rate of TPI was 4.6 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.1 percent and for the nation was 5.2 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 2002 net earnings accounted for 67.1 percent of TPI (compared with 67.9 in 1992); dividends, interest, and rent were 13.7 percent (compared with 14.5 in 1992); and personal current transfer receipts were 19.2 percent (compared with 17.5 in 1992). From 2001 to 2002 net earnings increased 8.0 percent; dividends, interest, and rent decreased 5.0 percent; and personal current transfer receipts increased 9.6 percent. From 1992 to 2002 net earnings increased on average 4.5 percent each year; dividends, interest, and rent increased on average 4.0 percent; and personal current transfer receipts increased on average 5.6 percent.

EARNINGS BY PLACE OF WORK

Earnings of persons employed in Kern increased from $10,983,299* in 2001 to $11,909,487* in 2002, an increase of 8.4 percent. The 2001-2002 state change was 1.6 percent and the national change was 2.1 percent. The average annual growth rate from the 1992 estimate of $7,730,442* to the 2002 estimate was 4.4 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.3 percent and for the nation was 5.4 percent.

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

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