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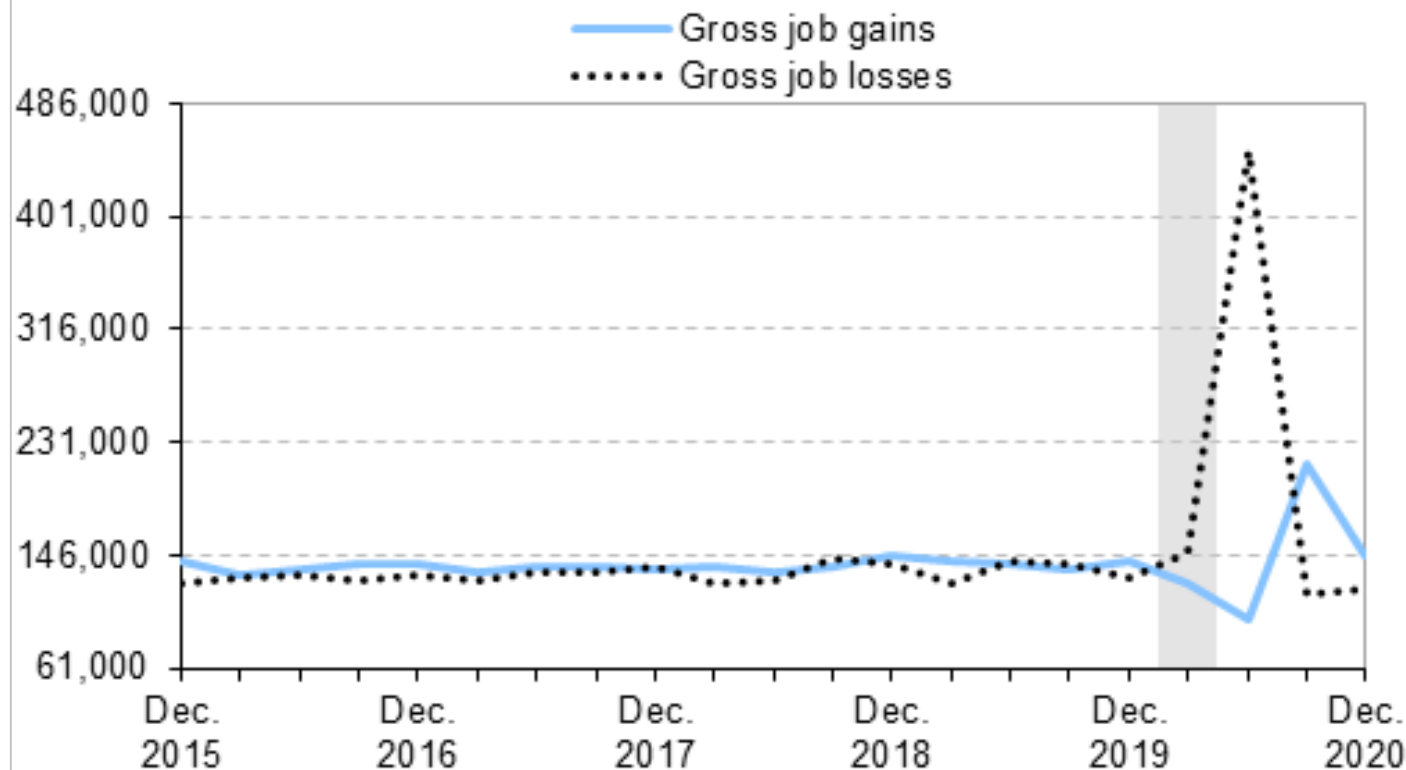
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Business Employment Dynamics in Maryland — Fourth Quarter 2020

From September 2020 to December 2020, **gross job gains** from opening and expanding private-sector establishments in Maryland were 145,664, while **gross job losses** from closing and contracting private-sector establishments were 120,506, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Alexandra Hall Bovee noted that the difference between the number of gross job gains and the number of gross job losses yielded a **net employment gain** of 25,158 jobs in the private sector during the fourth quarter of 2020. During the previous quarter, gross job gains exceeded gross job losses by 98,438. (See [chart 1.](#))

Chart 1. Private-sector gross job gains and losses in Maryland, December 2015–December 2020, seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

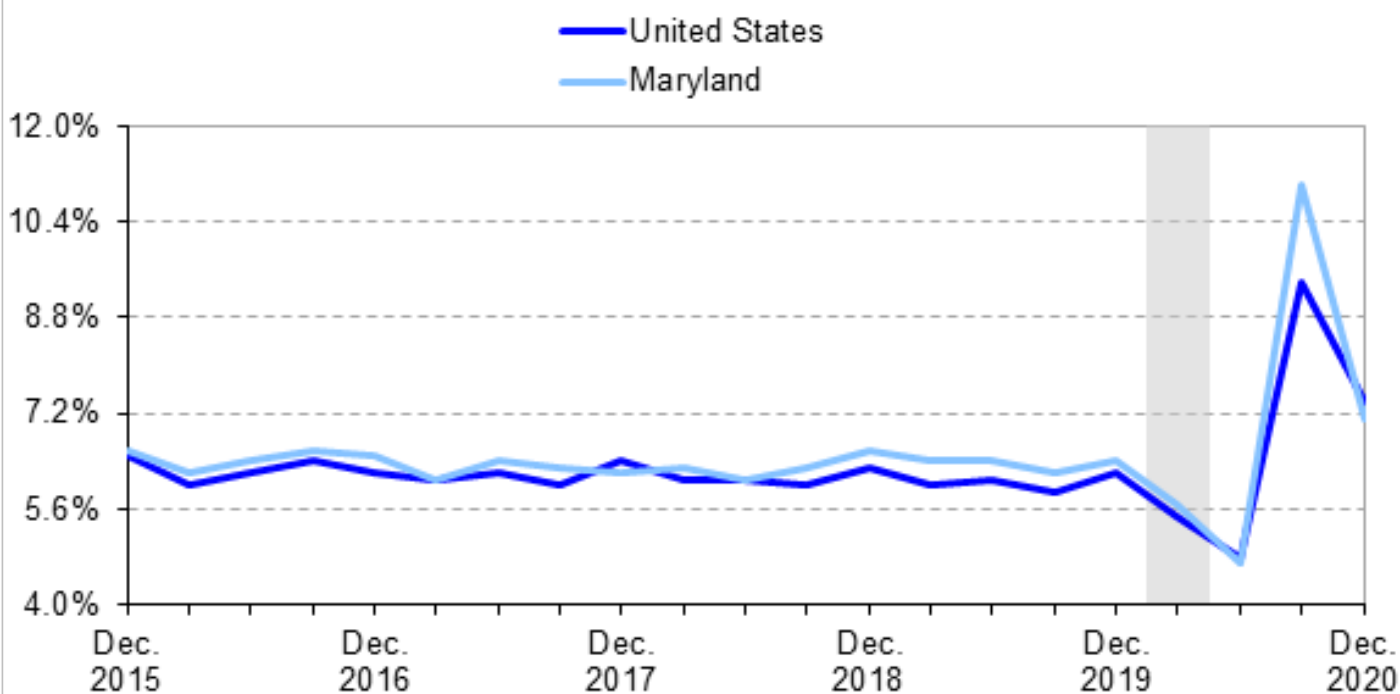
Note: Shaded area represents National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) defined recession period.

The change in the number of jobs over time is the net result of increases and decreases in employment that occur at all private businesses in the economy. Business Employment Dynamics (BED) statistics track these changes in employment at private-sector establishments from the third month of one quarter to the third month of the next. The difference between the number of gross job gains and the number of gross job losses is the net change in employment. (See [Technical Note](#).)

Gross job gains

In the fourth quarter of 2020, gross job gains represented 7.1 percent of private-sector employment in Maryland; nationally, gross job gains accounted for 7.4 percent of private-sector employment. (See [chart 2](#).) Gross job gains are the sum of increases in employment due to expansions at existing establishments and the addition of new jobs at opening establishments. In Maryland, gross job gains at **expanding** establishments totaled 122,984 in the fourth quarter of 2020, a decrease of 50,372 jobs compared to the previous quarter. **Opening** establishments accounted for 22,680 jobs gained in the fourth quarter of 2020, a decrease of 19,701 jobs from the previous quarter. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 2. Private-sector gross job gains as a percent of employment, United States and Maryland, December 2015–December 2020, seasonally adjusted



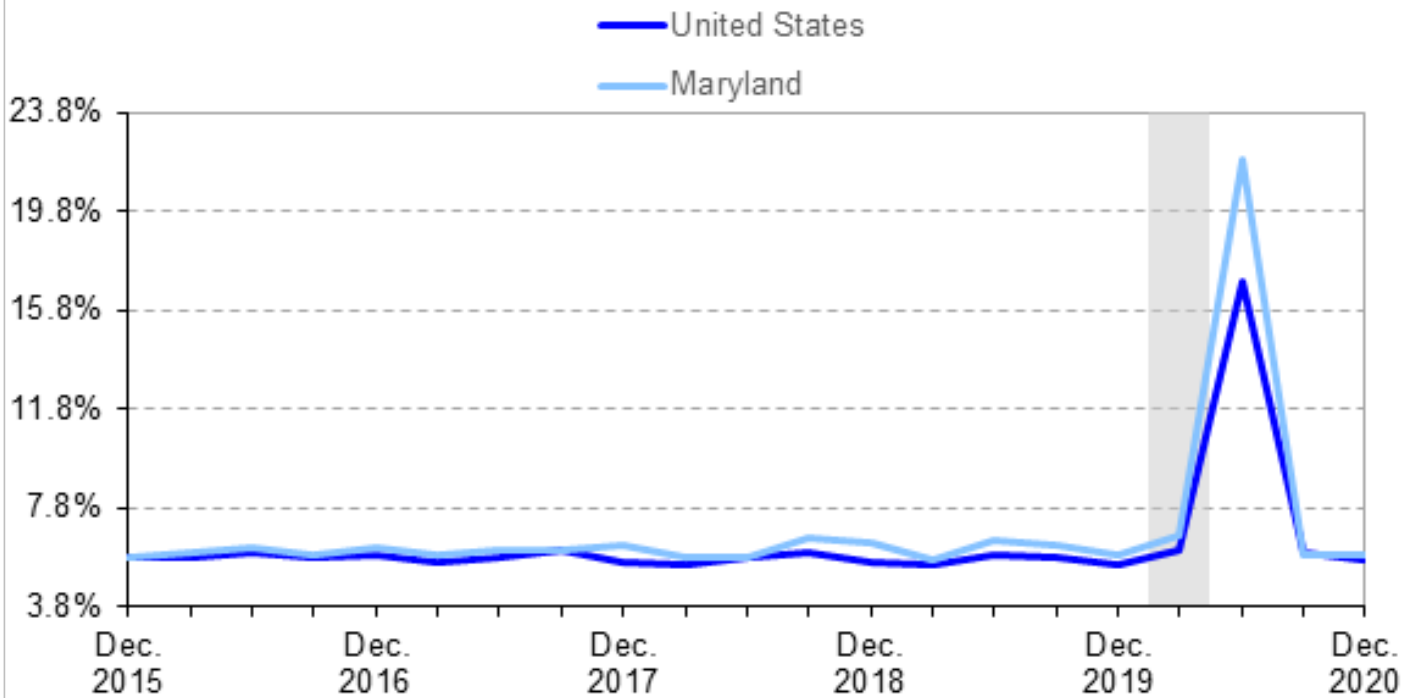
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Note: Shaded area represents National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) defined recession period.

Gross job losses

In the fourth quarter of 2020, gross job losses represented 5.9 percent of private-sector employment in Maryland; nationally, gross job losses accounted for 5.7 percent of private-sector employment. (See [chart 3](#).) Gross job losses are the result of contractions in employment at existing establishments and the loss of jobs at closing establishments. In Maryland, **contracting** establishments lost 94,056 jobs in the fourth quarter of 2020, an increase of 3,301 jobs from the prior quarter. **Closing** establishments lost 26,450 jobs, a decrease of 94 jobs from the previous quarter.

Chart 3. Private-sector gross job losses as a percent of employment, United States and Maryland, December 2015–December 2020, seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Note: Shaded area represents National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) defined recession period.

Industries

Gross job gains exceeded gross job losses in 10 of the 11 industry sectors in Maryland in the fourth quarter of 2020. Professional and business services had the largest over-the-quarter net job increase, with a gain of 8,482 jobs. This was the result of 34,963 gross job gains and 26,481 gross job losses. The transportation and warehousing industry had a net gain of 5,860 jobs. Maryland's information sector had a net loss of 446 jobs.

For more information

The BED data series include gross job gains and gross job losses by industry subsector, for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, as well as gross job gains and gross job losses at the firm level by employer size class. BED data for the states have been included in [table 2](#) of this release. Additional information is available online at www.bls.gov/bdm/.

The Business Employment Dynamics for First Quarter 2021 are scheduled to be released on Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. (ET).

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Effect on Fourth Quarter 2020 Business Employment Dynamics

Data collection and processing methods have been impacted because of the COVID-19 pandemic. More detail can be found at www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-business-employment-dynamics.htm.

Technical Note

The Business Employment Dynamics (BED) data are a product of a federal-state cooperative program known as Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW). The BED data are compiled by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) from existing QCEW records. Most employers in the U.S. are required to file quarterly reports on the employment and wages of workers covered by unemployment insurance (UI) laws, and to pay quarterly UI taxes. The QCEW is based largely on quarterly UI reports which are sent by businesses to the State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). These UI reports are supplemented by two additional BLS data collections to render administrative data into economic statistics. Together these data comprise the QCEW and form the basis of the Bureau's establishment universe sampling frame.

In the BED program, the QCEW records are linked across quarters to provide a longitudinal history for each establishment. The linkage process allows the tracking of net employment changes at the establishment level, which in turn allows the estimation of jobs gained at opening and expanding units and jobs lost at closing and contracting units.

The change in the number of jobs over time is the net result of increases and decreases in employment that occur at all businesses in the economy. BED statistics track these changes in employment at private business establishments from the third month of one quarter to the third month of the next. Gross job gains are the sum of increases in employment from expansions at existing establishments and the addition of new jobs at opening establishments. Gross job losses are the result of contractions in employment at existing establishments and the loss of jobs at closing establishments. The difference between the number of gross jobs gained and the number of gross jobs lost is the net change in employment.

Gross job gains and gross job losses are expressed as rates by dividing their levels by the average of employment in the current and previous quarters. The rates are calculated for the components of gross job gains and gross job losses and then summed to form their respective totals. These rates can be added and subtracted just as their levels can. For instance, the difference between the gross job gains rate and the gross job losses rate is the net growth rate.

The formal definitions of employment changes are as follows:

Openings. These are either units with positive third month employment for the first time in the current quarter, with no links to the prior quarter, or with positive third month employment in the current quarter following zero employment in the previous quarter.

Expansions. These are units with positive employment in the third month in both the previous and current quarters, with a net increase in employment over this period.

Closings. These are either units with positive third month employment in the previous quarter, with no employment or zero employment reported in the current quarter.

Contractions. These are units with positive employment in the third month in both the previous and current quarters, with a net decrease in employment over this period.

The full Technical Note for the Business Employment Dynamics program, which includes information on coverage, concepts, and methodology, can be found in the current quarterly news release online at www.bls.gov/news.release/cewbd.htm.

Information in this release will be made available to individuals with sensory impairments upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses by industry, Maryland, seasonally adjusted

Category	Gross job gains and job losses (3 months ended)					Gross job gains and job losses as a percent of employment (3 months ended)				
	Dec. 2019	Mar. 2020	June 2020	Sept 2020	Dec. 2020	Dec. 2019	Mar. 2020	June 2020	Sept 2020	Dec. 2020
Total private ⁽¹⁾										
Gross job gains	141,093	124,904	97,171	215,737	145,664	6.4	5.7	4.7	11.0	7.1
At expanding establishments	113,258	100,644	72,716	173,356	122,984	5.1	4.6	3.5	8.8	6.0
At opening establishments	27,835	24,260	24,455	42,381	22,680	1.3	1.1	1.2	2.2	1.1
Gross job losses	128,868	148,152	450,701	117,299	120,506	5.9	6.7	21.9	5.9	5.9
At contracting establishments	103,030	116,368	369,202	90,755	94,056	4.7	5.3	17.9	4.6	4.6
At closing establishments	25,838	31,784	81,499	26,544	26,450	1.2	1.4	4.0	1.3	1.3
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	12,225	-23,248	-353,530	98,438	25,158	0.5	-1.0	-17.2	5.1	1.2
Construction										
Gross job gains	11,440	11,711	8,712	11,839	11,200	6.9	7.0	5.3	7.5	7.0
At expanding establishments	9,180	9,560	6,609	9,566	9,322	5.5	5.7	4.0	6.1	5.8
At opening establishments	2,260	2,151	2,103	2,273	1,878	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.2
Gross job losses	11,163	11,883	18,114	12,029	10,038	6.7	7.0	11.1	7.7	6.2
At contracting establishments	8,724	9,286	14,680	8,763	7,752	5.2	5.5	9.0	5.6	4.8
At closing establishments	2,439	2,597	3,434	3,266	2,286	1.5	1.5	2.1	2.1	1.4
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	277	-172	-9,402	-190	1,162	0.2	0.0	-5.8	-0.2	0.8
Manufacturing										
Gross job gains	4,252	2,997	2,460	4,477	5,328	3.8	2.7	2.3	4.2	5.0
At expanding establishments	3,710	2,468	2,026	3,918	4,831	3.3	2.2	1.9	3.7	4.5
At opening establishments	542	529	434	559	497	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5
Gross job losses	3,462	4,237	8,508	3,580	3,460	3.1	3.7	7.8	3.4	3.2
At contracting establishments	3,170	3,427	7,216	2,856	3,036	2.8	3.0	6.6	2.7	2.8
At closing establishments	292	810	1,292	724	424	0.3	0.7	1.2	0.7	0.4
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	790	-1,240	-6,048	897	1,868	0.7	-1.0	-5.5	0.8	1.8
Wholesale trade										
Gross job gains	4,006	4,230	2,869	4,698	4,350	4.6	4.9	3.5	6.0	5.4
At expanding establishments	3,231	3,404	2,125	3,786	3,717	3.7	3.9	2.6	4.8	4.6
At opening establishments	775	826	744	912	633	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.2	0.8
Gross job losses	3,634	4,314	10,579	4,227	3,307	4.2	5.0	12.7	5.4	4.1
At contracting establishments	2,671	3,424	8,472	2,987	2,323	3.1	4.0	10.2	3.8	2.9
At closing establishments	963	890	2,107	1,240	984	1.1	1.0	2.5	1.6	1.2
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	372	-84	-7,710	471	1,043	0.4	-0.1	-9.2	0.6	1.3
Retail trade										
Gross job gains	17,079	18,660	14,202	36,082	16,641	6.2	6.7	5.5	14.5	6.4
At expanding establishments	14,674	17,188	12,080	30,927	14,851	5.3	6.2	4.7	12.4	5.7
At opening establishments	2,405	1,472	2,122	5,155	1,790	0.9	0.5	0.8	2.1	0.7
Gross job losses	17,403	16,944	62,817	14,668	15,073	6.3	6.2	24.4	5.8	5.8
At contracting establishments	14,953	14,807	53,327	12,304	12,227	5.4	5.4	20.7	4.9	4.7
At closing establishments	2,450	2,137	9,490	2,364	2,846	0.9	0.8	3.7	0.9	1.1
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-324	1,716	-48,615	21,414	1,568	-0.1	0.5	-18.9	8.7	0.6
Transportation and warehousing										
Gross job gains	10,126	4,262	11,564	8,224	14,575	10.8	4.5	12.2	8.6	14.3
At expanding establishments	8,837	3,436	10,805	7,437	13,206	9.4	3.6	11.4	7.8	13.0
At opening establishments	1,289	826	759	787	1,369	1.4	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.3
Gross job losses	4,730	8,379	16,240	5,845	8,715	5.1	8.7	17.1	6.1	8.6
At contracting establishments	4,006	7,346	13,742	4,992	7,276	4.3	7.6	14.5	5.2	7.2
At closing establishments	724	1,033	2,498	853	1,439	0.8	1.1	2.6	0.9	1.4
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	5,396	-4,117	-4,676	2,379	5,860	5.7	-4.2	-4.9	2.5	5.7
Information										
Gross job gains	1,785	1,402	1,380	2,044	1,644	5.0	4.0	4.1	6.4	5.1
At expanding establishments	1,397	1,064	847	1,370	1,198	3.9	3.0	2.5	4.3	3.7
At opening establishments	388	338	533	674	446	1.1	1.0	1.6	2.1	1.4
Gross job losses	1,631	1,850	5,510	1,573	2,090	4.6	5.2	16.4	4.9	6.5

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses by industry, Maryland, seasonally adjusted - Continued

Category	Gross job gains and job losses (3 months ended)					Gross job gains and job losses as a percent of employment (3 months ended)				
	Dec. 2019	Mar. 2020	June 2020	Sept 2020	Dec. 2020	Dec. 2019	Mar. 2020	June 2020	Sept 2020	Dec. 2020
At contracting establishments	1,308	1,281	3,830	1,271	1,406	3.7	3.6	11.4	4.0	4.4
At closing establishments	323	569	1,680	302	684	0.9	1.6	5.0	0.9	2.1
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	154	-448	-4,130	471	-446	0.4	-1.2	-12.3	1.5	-1.4
Financial activities										
Gross job gains	7,027	5,703	5,259	6,953	7,382	5.3	4.3	4.1	5.5	5.8
At expanding establishments	5,342	4,277	3,617	5,464	5,753	4.0	3.2	2.8	4.3	4.5
At opening establishments	1,685	1,426	1,642	1,489	1,629	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.3
Gross job losses	7,287	6,490	12,450	6,542	6,520	5.4	4.8	9.5	5.1	5.1
At contracting establishments	5,894	5,033	9,666	4,867	4,774	4.4	3.7	7.4	3.8	3.7
At closing establishments	1,393	1,457	2,784	1,675	1,746	1.0	1.1	2.1	1.3	1.4
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-260	-787	-7,191	411	862	-0.1	-0.5	-5.4	0.4	0.7
Professional and business services										
Gross job gains	33,333	29,762	24,302	38,515	34,963	7.1	6.5	5.4	8.9	7.8
At expanding establishments	26,183	23,415	17,507	28,731	29,485	5.6	5.1	3.9	6.6	6.6
At opening establishments	7,150	6,347	6,795	9,784	5,478	1.5	1.4	1.5	2.3	1.2
Gross job losses	32,430	31,900	58,859	30,353	26,481	6.9	6.9	13.3	7.0	5.9
At contracting establishments	24,821	24,944	45,955	23,480	20,152	5.3	5.4	10.4	5.4	4.5
At closing establishments	7,609	6,956	12,904	6,873	6,329	1.6	1.5	2.9	1.6	1.4
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	903	-2,138	-34,557	8,162	8,482	0.2	-0.4	-7.9	1.9	1.9
Education and health services										
Gross job gains	18,118	17,792	11,426	26,943	20,616	4.0	3.9	2.6	6.6	4.9
At expanding establishments	14,994	14,433	7,848	21,379	17,642	3.3	3.2	1.8	5.2	4.2
At opening establishments	3,124	3,359	3,578	5,564	2,974	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.4	0.7
Gross job losses	18,719	19,068	60,764	18,308	17,014	4.1	4.2	14.3	4.5	4.1
At contracting establishments	14,948	15,072	49,782	15,577	13,018	3.3	3.3	11.7	3.8	3.1
At closing establishments	3,771	3,996	10,982	2,731	3,996	0.8	0.9	2.6	0.7	1.0
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-601	-1,276	-49,338	8,635	3,602	-0.1	-0.3	-11.7	2.1	0.8
Leisure and hospitality										
Gross job gains	27,363	22,250	10,520	64,451	22,700	9.7	7.9	4.7	34.0	10.7
At expanding establishments	20,947	16,505	6,542	53,665	18,281	7.4	5.9	2.9	28.3	8.6
At opening establishments	6,416	5,745	3,978	10,786	4,419	2.3	2.0	1.8	5.7	2.1
Gross job losses	22,288	34,790	173,825	13,298	21,816	7.9	12.4	78.0	7.0	10.4
At contracting establishments	17,867	26,547	147,495	9,253	17,681	6.3	9.5	66.2	4.9	8.4
At closing establishments	4,421	8,243	26,330	4,045	4,135	1.6	2.9	11.8	2.1	2.0
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	5,075	-12,540	-163,305	51,153	884	1.8	-4.5	-73.3	27.0	0.3
Other services ⁽³⁾										
Gross job gains	5,561	4,745	3,452	10,470	5,380	6.6	5.6	4.6	15.3	7.5
At expanding establishments	4,075	3,702	1,955	6,343	3,993	4.8	4.4	2.6	9.3	5.6
At opening establishments	1,486	1,043	1,497	4,127	1,387	1.8	1.2	2.0	6.0	1.9
Gross job losses	5,158	7,541	21,798	5,783	4,931	6.2	9.0	29.4	8.4	6.9
At contracting establishments	3,849	4,639	13,923	3,561	3,453	4.6	5.5	18.8	5.2	4.8
At closing establishments	1,309	2,902	7,875	2,222	1,478	1.6	3.5	10.6	3.2	2.1
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	403	-2,796	-18,346	4,687	449	0.4	-3.4	-24.8	6.9	0.6

Footnotes:

(1) Includes unclassified sector not shown separately.

(2) The net employment change is the difference between total gross job gains and total gross job losses. See the Technical Note for further information.

(3) Except public administration.

Table 2. Private sector gross job gains and losses as a percent of total employment by state, seasonally adjusted

Category	Gross job gains as a percent of employment (3 months ended)					Gross job losses as a percent of employment (3 months ended)				
	Dec. 2019	Mar. 2020	June 2020	Sept. 2020	Dec. 2020	Dec. 2019	Mar. 2020	June 2020	Sept. 2020	Dec. 2020
United States ⁽¹⁾	6.2	5.5	4.8	9.4	7.4	5.5	6.1	17.0	6.0	5.7
Alabama	6.2	5.5	4.8	7.8	7.8	5.5	5.9	12.6	5.9	5.0
Alaska	10.3	9.2	6.9	12.2	13.4	10.2	9.5	24.5	9.9	7.7
Arizona	6.4	5.6	5.7	7.9	7.4	5.2	5.9	11.7	6.2	4.9
Arkansas	6.5	5.1	4.8	7.5	7.1	4.9	5.5	12.0	5.6	5.1
California	6.8	6.1	5.2	8.7	8.4	6.0	6.7	18.6	7.3	6.2
Colorado	6.7	6.3	5.8	10.0	7.5	6.2	7.0	14.9	6.3	7.2
Connecticut	5.5	5.2	4.3	11.2	6.5	5.6	5.9	19.7	5.1	5.8
Delaware	6.7	6.2	4.9	10.3	6.7	6.2	6.6	17.7	6.3	5.7
District of Columbia	5.4	5.2	3.3	8.3	5.2	4.7	5.3	22.4	5.8	5.5
Florida	6.6	5.4	6.1	9.5	7.6	5.9	6.2	13.9	6.8	5.6
Georgia	6.5	5.6	5.4	9.2	7.8	5.5	5.9	15.0	6.4	5.2
Hawaii	5.7	5.2	3.6	7.4	14.7	5.2	5.8	29.8	12.7	4.6
Idaho	7.7	7.6	6.4	8.4	8.7	6.3	6.1	11.2	6.5	6.1
Illinois	5.6	5.0	4.6	9.7	6.5	5.2	6.0	18.4	5.6	6.1
Indiana	6.0	4.9	4.7	8.3	6.9	5.1	6.0	13.7	5.4	5.0
Iowa	5.8	5.2	4.4	7.4	6.8	5.5	5.9	13.0	5.6	5.1
Kansas	6.3	5.4	5.0	7.9	7.0	5.7	6.0	13.3	6.0	6.0
Kentucky	6.2	5.3	4.6	8.8	6.8	5.6	6.1	15.3	5.0	5.4
Louisiana	5.9	5.3	4.5	8.8	8.7	5.7	6.3	16.9	7.2	5.5
Maine	7.3	6.4	5.4	12.0	8.5	6.9	7.0	21.7	6.0	6.3
Maryland	6.4	5.7	4.7	11.0	7.1	5.9	6.7	21.9	5.9	5.9
Massachusetts	5.8	5.2	3.7	12.5	7.0	5.6	6.0	24.2	5.6	5.6
Michigan	5.8	5.0	4.0	10.9	6.8	5.3	5.7	20.7	4.8	7.0
Minnesota	5.8	5.0	4.3	9.0	7.0	5.6	5.6	17.6	5.4	6.9
Mississippi	6.2	5.6	5.1	8.7	7.9	5.6	6.2	12.9	5.5	4.9
Missouri	6.2	5.2	4.7	8.5	7.2	5.3	5.7	14.3	5.7	5.3
Montana	8.6	7.7	6.8	9.9	9.3	7.2	7.7	13.8	7.2	6.8
Nebraska	6.2	5.8	4.9	8.1	6.8	5.8	6.1	12.1	5.9	5.6
Nevada	6.8	5.4	5.3	12.8	8.9	5.0	6.3	29.2	6.4	5.7
New Hampshire	6.6	6.0	4.5	11.9	7.4	6.0	6.4	18.8	5.1	6.5
New Jersey	6.5	5.7	4.6	15.7	8.1	5.8	6.3	28.1	5.8	5.9
New Mexico	7.0	6.1	4.5	8.3	7.1	6.3	6.5	17.6	6.0	7.6
New York	6.0	5.5	3.9	13.3	7.4	5.7	6.4	26.9	5.9	6.4
North Carolina	6.3	5.8	4.8	8.5	7.8	5.4	5.7	14.5	5.6	5.1
North Dakota	6.7	6.8	5.2	8.8	7.2	6.6	7.0	17.2	6.9	7.1
Ohio	5.7	5.1	4.5	7.7	6.6	5.3	5.6	14.4	5.3	5.2
Oklahoma	6.5	5.4	5.6	6.8	7.8	6.2	6.7	12.3	6.4	5.6
Oregon	6.7	6.2	5.0	9.0	7.4	5.8	6.5	18.4	6.2	6.5
Pennsylvania	5.4	4.9	3.6	10.3	6.2	4.9	5.6	18.2	5.0	5.3
Rhode Island	6.5	6.1	4.5	12.9	7.5	5.9	6.5	25.2	5.3	7.1
South Carolina	6.5	5.5	5.1	8.8	8.1	5.9	6.6	14.9	6.1	5.3
South Dakota	6.4	6.0	5.1	8.6	7.2	5.8	6.6	11.6	5.5	6.2
Tennessee	5.7	4.9	4.4	8.1	7.5	5.0	5.3	13.7	5.4	4.6
Texas	6.0	5.0	4.7	7.2	7.5	5.1	5.5	13.6	6.0	4.8
Utah	6.8	6.6	6.5	9.1	8.1	6.3	6.4	10.9	6.2	5.5
Vermont	6.9	5.8	4.6	12.3	7.6	6.4	7.6	18.5	5.7	7.9
Virginia	6.5	5.6	4.7	10.2	7.0	5.5	6.1	18.2	5.3	5.3
Washington	6.6	7.4	4.9	8.9	7.1	5.8	7.4	16.9	6.2	6.0
West Virginia	6.2	6.0	5.1	8.8	7.4	7.1	6.8	13.8	7.0	6.2
Wisconsin	5.4	5.0	4.4	7.6	6.3	5.0	5.3	14.4	5.2	5.1
Wyoming	9.4	8.6	6.4	10.7	10.0	8.7	9.3	18.1	7.7	7.6
Puerto Rico	5.4	5.0	4.0	11.0	6.6	4.9	5.2	16.9	5.1	4.9
Virgin Islands	10.3	7.2	5.3	8.4	8.9	7.3	8.3	19.8	12.3	5.4

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Footnotes

(1) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.