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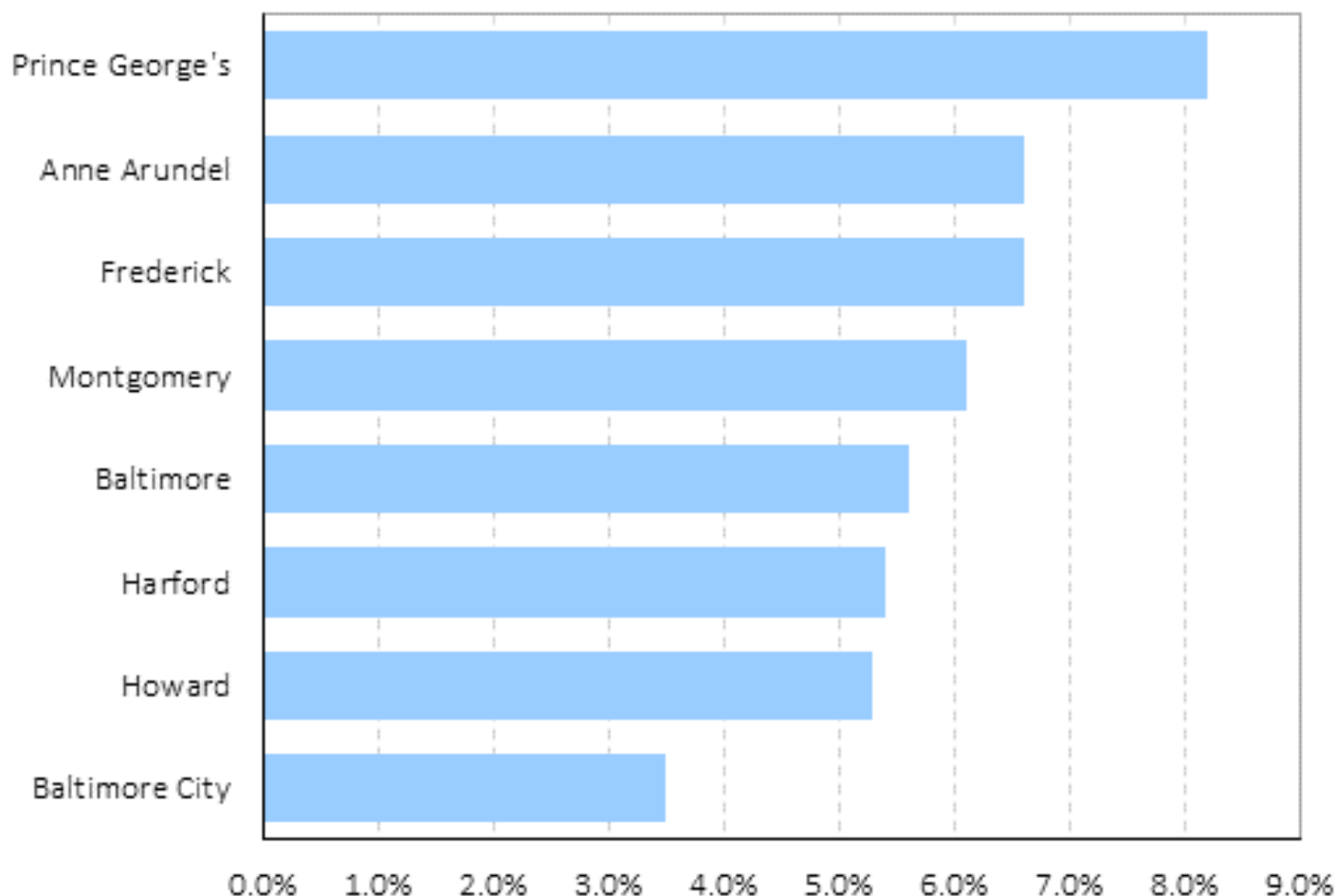
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County Employment and Wages in Maryland — Second Quarter 2021

Employment rose in all eight of the largest counties in Maryland from June 2020 to June 2021.

Employment rose in all eight of the largest counties in Maryland from June 2020 to June 2021, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (Large counties are those with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2020.) Regional Commissioner Alexandra Hall Bovee noted that Prince George's County had the largest over-the-year increase in employment at 8.2 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in covered employment among the largest counties in Maryland, June 2021



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

National employment increased 6.7 percent over the year, with 339 of the 343 largest U.S. counties reporting gains. Atlantic, NJ, had the largest over-the-year increase in employment with a gain of 36.8 percent. Calcasieu, LA, had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease in employment with a loss of 0.9 percent.

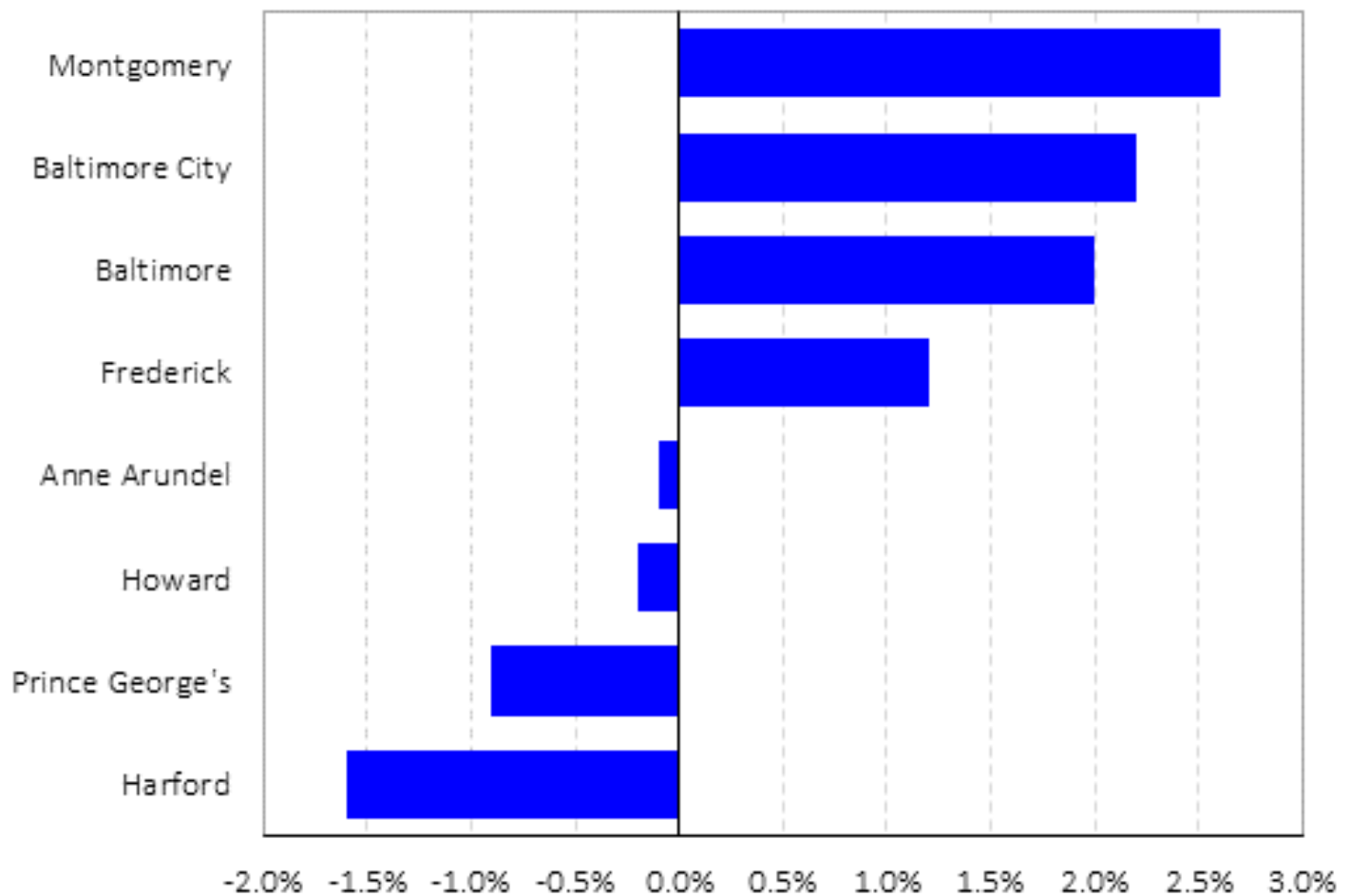
Among the eight largest counties in Maryland, employment was highest in Montgomery County (448,950) in June 2021. Within Montgomery County's private industry, professional and technical services accounted for the largest employment. Together, the eight largest Maryland counties accounted for 79.3 percent of total employment within the state. Nationwide, the 343 largest counties made up 72.2 percent of total U.S. employment.

Employment and wage levels (but not over-the-year changes) are also available for the 16 counties in Maryland with employment below 75,000. Wage levels in 15 of the 16 smaller counties were below the national average of \$1,241 in the second quarter of 2021. (See [table 2](#).)

Large county wage changes

Of the eight largest Maryland counties, four reported average weekly wage gains from the second quarter of 2020 to the second quarter of 2021. (See [chart 2](#).) No counties had a wage gain rate that was above the national rate of 4.5 percent. Montgomery County has the largest gain (+2.6 percent), followed by Baltimore City (+2.2 percent) and Baltimore County (+2.0 percent). Over-the-year wage changes among Maryland's other five large counties ranged from 1.2 percent to -1.6 percent.

Chart 2. Over-the-year percent change in covered average weekly wages among the largest counties in Maryland, second quarter 2021



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Among the 343 largest counties in the United States, 302 had over-the-year wage increases. San Francisco, CA, had the largest percentage wage increase (+29.7 percent). Atlantic, NJ, had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease (-7.4 percent).

Large county average weekly wages

Weekly wages in 5 of the 8 largest counties in Maryland were above the national average of \$1,241 in the second quarter of 2021. Average weekly wages in two of these counties ranked among the top 10 percent nationwide: Montgomery County (\$1,624, 17th) and Howard County (\$1,486, 30th).

Among the largest U.S. counties, 90 reported average weekly wages above the U.S. average in the second quarter of 2021. Santa Clara, CA, had the highest average weekly wage at \$3,516. Average weekly wages were at or below the national average in the remaining 253 counties. At \$728 a week, Hidalgo, TX, had the lowest average weekly wage.

Average weekly wages in Maryland's smaller counties

Among the 16 smaller counties in Maryland—those with employment below 75,000—only St. Mary's County (\$1,481) reported an average weekly wage above the national average. Worcester County (\$724) reported the lowest average weekly wage in the state.

When all 24 counties in Maryland were considered, 5 reported average weekly wages of less than \$899, 7 registered wages from \$900 to \$999, 3 had wages from \$1,000 to \$1,099, and 9 had average weekly wages of \$1,100 or higher. (See [table 2](#).)

Additional statistics and other information

QCEW data for states have been included in this release in [table 3](#). For additional information about quarterly employment and wages data, please read the [Technical Note](#) or visit www.bls.gov/cew.

Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2019 edition of this publication was published in September 2020. Tables and additional content from the 2019 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* are available at www.bls.gov/cew/publications/employment-and-wages-annual-averages/2019/home.htm. The 2020 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* will be available in September 2021.

The County Employment and Wages release for third quarter 2021 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, February 23, 2022. The County Employment and Wages full data update for third quarter 2021 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, March 9, 2022.

Technical Note

Average weekly wage data by county are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from summaries of employment and total pay of workers covered by state and federal unemployment insurance (UI) legislation and provided by State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). The average weekly wage values are calculated by dividing quarterly total wages by the average of the three monthly employment levels of those covered by UI programs. The result is then divided by 13, the number of weeks in a quarter. It is to be noted, therefore, that over-the-year wage changes for geographic areas may reflect shifts in the composition of employment by industry, occupation, and such other factors as hours of work. Thus, wages may vary among counties, metropolitan areas, or states for reasons other than changes in the average wage level. Data for all states, Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), counties, and the nation are available on the BLS web site at www.bls.gov/cew. However, data in QCEW press releases have been revised and may not match the data contained on the Bureau's web site.

QCEW data are not designed as a time series. QCEW data are simply the sums of individual establishment records reflecting the number of establishments that exist in a county or industry at a point in time. Establishments can move in or out of a county or industry for a number of reasons—some reflecting economic events, others reflecting administrative changes.

The preliminary QCEW data presented in this release may differ from data released by the individual states as well as from the data presented on the BLS web site. These potential differences result from the states' continuing receipt, review and editing of UI data over time. On the other hand, differences between data in this release and the data found on the BLS web site are the result of adjustments made to improve over-the-year comparisons. Specifically, these adjustments account for administrative (noneconomic) changes such as a correction to a previously reported location or industry classification. Adjusting for these administrative

changes allows users to more accurately assess changes of an economic nature (such as a firm moving from one county to another or changing its primary economic activity) over a 12-month period. Currently, adjusted data are available only from BLS press releases.

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. Covered establishments, employment, and wages in the United States and the eight largest counties in Maryland, second quarter 2021

| Area | Establishments, second quarter (thousands) | Employment | | | Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾ | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | June 2021 (thousands) | Percent change, June 2020–21 ⁽²⁾ | National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾ | Second quarter 2021 | National ranking by level ⁽³⁾ | Percent change, second quarter 2020–21 ⁽²⁾ | National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾ |
| United States ⁽⁴⁾ | 10,863.2 | 144,044.8 | 6.7 | -- | \$1,241 | -- | 4.5 | -- |
| Maryland..... | 175.6 | 2,599.7 | 6.8 | -- | 1,319 | 9 | 1.0 | 44 |
| Anne Arundel..... | 15.5 | 261.2 | 6.6 | 129 | 1,308 | 66 | -0.1 | 305 |
| Baltimore..... | 21.1 | 361.2 | 5.6 | 184 | 1,219 | 99 | 2.0 | 230 |
| Frederick..... | 6.6 | 100.3 | 6.6 | 129 | 1,123 | 165 | 1.2 | 268 |
| Harford..... | 5.8 | 92.2 | 5.4 | 200 | 1,146 | 150 | -1.6 | 329 |
| Howard..... | 10.2 | 163.2 | 5.3 | 208 | 1,486 | 30 | -0.2 | 308 |
| Montgomery..... | 32.8 | 449.0 | 6.1 | 162 | 1,624 | 17 | 2.6 | 201 |
| Prince George's..... | 16.3 | 304.2 | 8.2 | 70 | 1,263 | 78 | -0.9 | 318 |
| Baltimore City..... | 13.5 | 331.3 | 3.5 | 298 | 1,372 | 51 | 2.2 | 219 |

Footnotes:

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Percent changes were computed from employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications.

(3) Ranking does not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

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

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Table 2. Covered establishments, employment, and wages in the United States and all counties in Maryland, second quarter 2021

| Area | Establishments | Employment June 2021 | Average weekly wage (1) |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| United States (2) | 10,863,217 | 144,044,799 | \$1,241 |
| Maryland | 175,607 | 2,599,672 | 1,319 |
| Allegany | 1,502 | 26,703 | 848 |
| Anne Arundel | 15,497 | 261,208 | 1,308 |
| Baltimore County | 21,092 | 361,188 | 1,219 |
| Calvert | 1,848 | 21,905 | 1,005 |
| Caroline | 675 | 10,099 | 925 |
| Carroll | 4,479 | 55,880 | 959 |
| Cecil | 1,890 | 38,216 | 926 |
| Charles | 2,907 | 39,539 | 1,015 |
| Dorchester | 732 | 12,200 | 898 |
| Frederick | 6,614 | 100,274 | 1,123 |
| Garrett | 973 | 12,125 | 733 |
| Harford | 5,838 | 92,238 | 1,146 |
| Howard | 10,163 | 163,167 | 1,486 |
| Kent | 712 | 7,406 | 862 |
| Montgomery | 32,835 | 448,950 | 1,624 |
| Prince George's | 16,256 | 304,218 | 1,263 |
| Queen Anne's | 1,473 | 15,489 | 923 |
| St. Mary's | 2,180 | 46,685 | 1,481 |
| Somerset | 459 | 6,230 | 1,003 |
| Talbot | 1,525 | 16,762 | 912 |
| Washington | 3,429 | 62,700 | 945 |
| Wicomico | 2,557 | 44,546 | 995 |
| Worcester | 2,199 | 28,202 | 724 |
| Baltimore City | 13,488 | 331,329 | 1,372 |

Footnotes:

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

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

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Table 3. Covered establishments, employment, and wages by state, second quarter 2021

| State | Establishments, second quarter (thousands) | Employment | | Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾ | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| | | June 2021 (thousands) | Percent change, June 2020–21 | Second quarter 2021 | National ranking by level | Percent change, second quarter 2020–21 | National ranking by percent change |
| United States ⁽²⁾ | 10,863.2 | 144,044.8 | 6.7 | \$1,241 | -- | 4.5 | -- |
| Alabama | 137.8 | 1,952.0 | 4.4 | 1,010 | 35 | 4.8 | 15 |
| Alaska | 23.7 | 315.5 | 6.7 | 1,181 | 17 | -1.2 | 51 |
| Arizona | 180.2 | 2,857.8 | 5.3 | 1,154 | 20 | 5.9 | 6 |
| Arkansas | 96.1 | 1,205.3 | 4.4 | 974 | 45 | 5.2 | 12 |
| California | 1,662.9 | 16,992.1 | 7.0 | 1,579 | 3 | 7.5 | 5 |
| Colorado | 228.9 | 2,723.9 | 7.1 | 1,283 | 10 | 4.4 | 19 |
| Connecticut | 130.1 | 1,604.1 | 7.9 | 1,411 | 6 | 0.6 | 47 |
| Delaware | 35.1 | 440.1 | 5.1 | 1,165 | 19 | 1.7 | 41 |
| District of Columbia | 44.0 | 724.6 | 3.3 | 2,096 | 1 | 5.4 | 8 |
| Florida | 782.5 | 8,654.0 | 6.7 | 1,113 | 24 | 7.7 | 3 |
| Georgia | 337.0 | 4,453.5 | 6.5 | 1,139 | 22 | 5.9 | 6 |
| Hawaii | 48.7 | 590.5 | 12.7 | 1,117 | 23 | 0.7 | 46 |
| Idaho | 76.4 | 801.8 | 7.3 | 930 | 50 | 5.3 | 10 |
| Illinois | 394.6 | 5,743.5 | 6.5 | 1,260 | 11 | 3.5 | 25 |
| Indiana | 178.2 | 3,011.8 | 5.2 | 1,013 | 34 | 5.4 | 8 |
| Iowa | 106.1 | 1,528.0 | 4.8 | 999 | 38 | 2.1 | 38 |
| Kansas | 90.5 | 1,356.0 | 4.0 | 995 | 41 | 2.7 | 30 |
| Kentucky | 132.4 | 1,851.2 | 5.6 | 999 | 38 | 2.9 | 28 |
| Louisiana | 142.7 | 1,806.6 | 5.4 | 1,005 | 36 | 2.0 | 39 |
| Maine | 57.0 | 623.0 | 8.7 | 1,005 | 36 | 2.4 | 33 |
| Maryland | 175.6 | 2,599.7 | 6.8 | 1,319 | 9 | 1.0 | 44 |
| Massachusetts | 277.4 | 3,497.0 | 10.1 | 1,591 | 2 | 1.1 | 43 |
| Michigan | 270.2 | 4,175.6 | 8.4 | 1,143 | 21 | 2.5 | 32 |
| Minnesota | 192.8 | 2,814.5 | 6.4 | 1,240 | 13 | 3.3 | 26 |
| Mississippi | 75.7 | 1,107.1 | 4.1 | 843 | 51 | 3.8 | 22 |
| Missouri | 221.6 | 2,759.3 | 5.3 | 1,052 | 32 | 3.6 | 23 |
| Montana | 55.1 | 490.7 | 7.0 | 959 | 47 | 4.5 | 18 |
| Nebraska | 74.4 | 976.6 | 4.8 | 997 | 40 | 3.9 | 21 |
| Nevada | 93.9 | 1,353.9 | 14.0 | 1,106 | 25 | 5.3 | 10 |
| New Hampshire | 58.5 | 657.4 | 8.7 | 1,345 | 8 | 10.6 | 1 |
| New Jersey | 300.4 | 3,993.8 | 12.0 | 1,387 | 7 | 0.8 | 45 |
| New Mexico | 63.0 | 790.6 | 4.3 | 987 | 42 | 2.9 | 28 |
| New York | 667.9 | 8,885.4 | 9.2 | 1,540 | 5 | 1.3 | 42 |
| North Carolina | 311.1 | 4,511.3 | 7.2 | 1,092 | 27 | 5.1 | 14 |
| North Dakota | 32.6 | 407.4 | 4.3 | 1,067 | 29 | 0.6 | 47 |
| Ohio | 312.4 | 5,266.7 | 4.3 | 1,068 | 28 | 3.6 | 23 |
| Oklahoma | 114.6 | 1,568.7 | 3.1 | 963 | 46 | 2.4 | 33 |
| Oregon | 169.2 | 1,899.6 | 5.6 | 1,196 | 15 | 4.8 | 15 |
| Pennsylvania | 370.9 | 5,674.7 | 6.9 | 1,193 | 16 | 2.0 | 39 |
| Rhode Island | 42.1 | 472.2 | 10.0 | 1,168 | 18 | -0.3 | 50 |
| South Carolina | 150.1 | 2,091.9 | 4.9 | 977 | 44 | 5.2 | 12 |
| South Dakota | 36.3 | 442.3 | 6.4 | 936 | 49 | 2.6 | 31 |
| Tennessee | 182.3 | 3,012.4 | 5.9 | 1,094 | 26 | 7.6 | 4 |
| Texas | 758.0 | 12,466.7 | 5.7 | 1,210 | 14 | 4.7 | 17 |
| Utah | 119.9 | 1,586.0 | 7.6 | 1,060 | 30 | 4.2 | 20 |
| Vermont | 27.8 | 292.4 | 7.5 | 1,053 | 31 | -0.2 | 49 |
| Virginia | 293.6 | 3,854.3 | 6.1 | 1,257 | 12 | 3.2 | 27 |
| Washington | 263.6 | 3,376.7 | 5.7 | 1,547 | 4 | 8.3 | 2 |
| West Virginia | 52.7 | 663.8 | 4.8 | 955 | 48 | 2.2 | 37 |
| Wisconsin | 186.5 | 2,845.7 | 5.7 | 1,037 | 33 | 2.3 | 35 |
| Wyoming | 28.2 | 275.1 | 5.6 | 987 | 42 | 2.3 | 35 |
| Puerto Rico | 47.6 | 867.2 | 8.6 | 567 | (3) | 2.0 | (3) |

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered establishments, employment, and wages by state, second quarter 2021 - Continued

| State | Establishments, second quarter (thousands) | Employment | | Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾ | | | |
|----------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| | | June 2021 (thousands) | Percent change, June 2020–21 | Second quarter 2021 | National ranking by level | Percent change, second quarter 2020–21 | National ranking by percent change |
| Virgin Islands | 3.5 | 35.7 | 0.0 | 923 | (3) | -8.4 | (3) |

Footnotes:

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

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

(3) Data not included in the national ranking.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.