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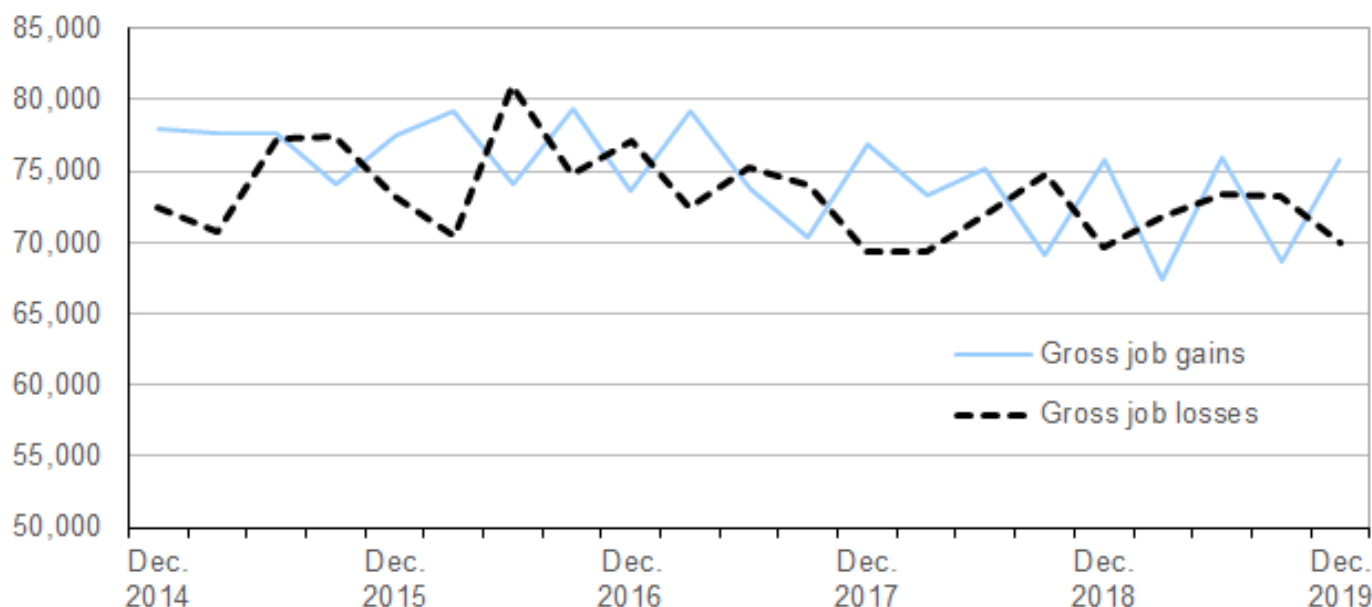
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Business Employment Dynamics in Iowa — Fourth Quarter 2019

From September 2019 to December 2019, **gross job gains** from opening and expanding private-sector establishments in Iowa were 75,734, while **gross job losses** from closing and contracting private-sector establishments were 69,937, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Acting Regional Commissioner Bryan Droste noted that the difference between the number of gross job gains and the number of gross job losses yielded a **net employment gain** of 5,797 jobs in the private sector during the fourth quarter of 2019. During the previous quarter, gross job losses exceeded gross job gains by 4,566. (See [chart 1.](#))

Chart 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses in Iowa, December 2014–December 2019, seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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.](#))

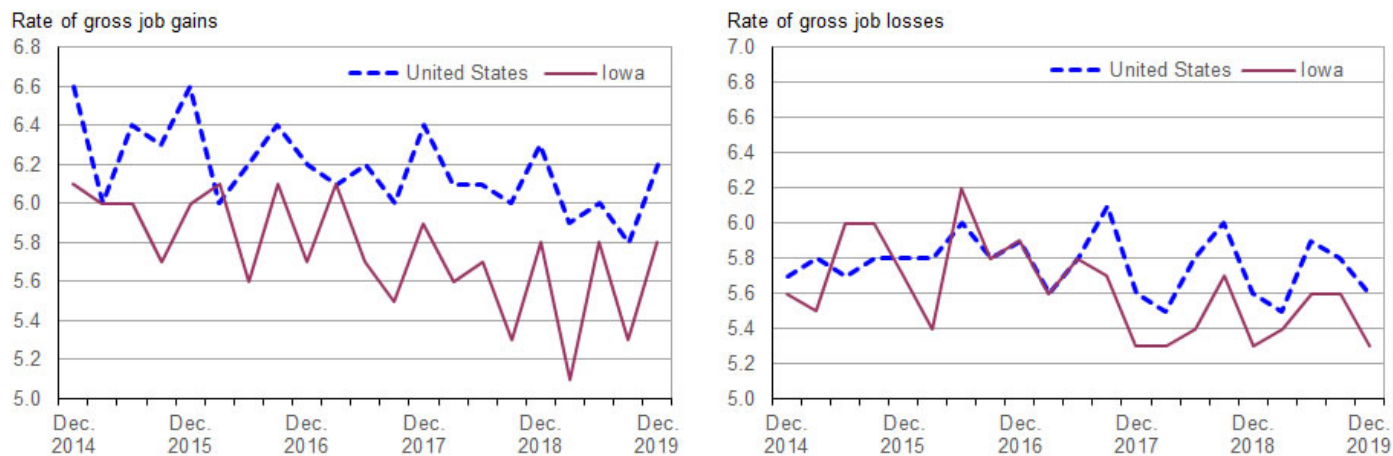
Gross job gains

In the fourth quarter of 2019, gross job gains represented 5.8 percent of private-sector employment in Iowa; nationally, gross job gains accounted for 6.2 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 Iowa, gross job gains at **expanding** establishments totaled 63,707 in the fourth quarter of 2019, an increase of 6,525 jobs compared to the previous quarter. (See [table 1.](#)) **Opening** establishments accounted for 12,027 jobs gained in the fourth quarter of 2019, an increase of 513 jobs from the previous quarter.

Gross job losses

In the fourth quarter of 2019, gross job losses represented 5.3 percent of private-sector employment in Iowa; nationally, gross job losses accounted for 5.6 percent of private-sector employment. (See [chart 2.](#)) Gross job losses are the result of contractions in employment at existing establishments and the loss of jobs at closing establishments. In Iowa, **contracting** establishments lost 58,872 jobs in the fourth quarter of 2019, a decrease of 4,284 jobs from the prior quarter. **Closing** establishments lost 11,065 jobs, an increase of 959 jobs from the previous quarter.

Chart 2. Private sector gross job gains and losses as a percent of employment, United States and Iowa, December 2014–December 2019, seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Industries

Gross job gains exceeded gross job losses in 8 of the 10 industry sectors in Iowa in the fourth quarter of 2019. Leisure and hospitality had an over-the-quarter net job increase, with a gain of 1,999 jobs. This was the result of 14,278 gross job gains and 12,279 gross job losses. The transportation and warehousing sector had a net gain of 1,766 jobs. Professional and business services (-1,808) and construction (-618) were the only two sectors to record net job losses over-the-quarter in the state.

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/.

Additional statistics and other information

BED data for the states have been included in [table 2](#) of this release. For more information on the Business Employment Dynamics data, visit the BED web site at www.bls.gov/bdm/.

The Business Employment Dynamics release for first quarter 2020 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, October 28, 2020.

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 <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/cewbd.htm>.

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

Table 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses by industry, Iowa, 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. 2018	Mar. 2019	June 2019	Sept 2019	Dec. 2019	Dec. 2018	Mar. 2019	June 2019	Sept 2019	Dec. 2019
Total private ⁽¹⁾										
Gross job gains	75,879	67,346	75,896	68,696	75,734	5.8	5.1	5.8	5.3	5.8
At expanding establishments	64,051	56,349	63,153	57,182	63,707	4.9	4.3	4.8	4.4	4.9
At opening establishments	11,828	10,997	12,743	11,514	12,027	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9
Gross job losses	69,658	71,892	73,362	73,262	69,937	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.3
At contracting establishments	58,788	62,080	62,324	63,156	58,872	4.5	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.5
At closing establishments	10,870	9,812	11,038	10,106	11,065	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	6,221	-4,546	2,534	-4,566	5,797	0.5	-0.3	0.2	-0.3	0.5
Construction										
Gross job gains	7,696	7,494	9,552	8,280	8,120	10.0	9.6	12.3	10.7	10.4
At expanding establishments	6,153	6,082	7,822	6,789	6,402	8.0	7.8	10.1	8.8	8.2
At opening establishments	1,543	1,412	1,730	1,491	1,718	2.0	1.8	2.2	1.9	2.2
Gross job losses	8,702	9,172	7,326	8,061	8,738	11.2	11.8	9.4	10.4	11.2
At contracting establishments	6,888	7,730	5,910	6,589	6,943	8.9	9.9	7.6	8.5	8.9
At closing establishments	1,814	1,442	1,416	1,472	1,795	2.3	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.3
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-1,006	-1,678	2,226	219	-618	-1.2	-2.2	2.9	0.3	-0.8
Manufacturing										
Gross job gains	7,339	6,018	6,307	5,145	6,255	3.3	2.7	2.8	2.3	2.7
At expanding establishments	6,980	5,879	5,884	4,876	5,940	3.1	2.6	2.6	2.2	2.6
At opening establishments	359	139	423	269	315	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Gross job losses	4,812	5,722	5,429	6,766	5,491	2.1	2.5	2.4	3.0	2.5
At contracting establishments	4,505	5,264	5,047	6,575	5,098	2.0	2.3	2.2	2.9	2.3
At closing establishments	307	458	382	191	393	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	2,527	296	878	-1,621	764	1.2	0.2	0.4	-0.7	0.2
Wholesale trade										
Gross job gains	3,372	2,969	3,236	2,348	3,328	5.1	4.5	4.9	3.6	5.0
At expanding establishments	2,931	2,657	2,929	1,904	2,968	4.4	4.0	4.4	2.9	4.5
At opening establishments	441	312	307	444	360	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.5
Gross job losses	2,416	3,215	2,871	3,225	2,267	3.6	4.9	4.3	4.9	3.4
At contracting establishments	1,997	2,766	2,548	2,847	1,845	3.0	4.2	3.8	4.3	2.8
At closing establishments	419	449	323	378	422	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	956	-246	365	-877	1,061	1.5	-0.4	0.6	-1.3	1.6
Retail trade										
Gross job gains	9,224	8,996	9,062	8,935	9,417	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.4
At expanding establishments	8,331	7,986	7,899	8,020	8,532	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.9
At opening establishments	893	1,010	1,163	915	885	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.5
Gross job losses	9,729	9,142	11,505	9,706	8,949	5.5	5.1	6.5	5.6	5.2
At contracting establishments	8,589	8,373	9,890	8,678	7,977	4.9	4.7	5.6	5.0	4.6
At closing establishments	1,140	769	1,615	1,028	972	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.6	0.6
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-505	-146	-2,443	-771	468	-0.3	0.0	-1.3	-0.5	0.2
Transportation and warehousing										
Gross job gains	3,973	2,479	2,956	3,139	4,459	6.7	4.1	4.9	5.2	7.2
At expanding establishments	3,540	2,043	2,481	2,756	4,067	6.0	3.4	4.1	4.6	6.6
At opening establishments	433	436	475	383	392	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.6
Gross job losses	2,062	3,236	2,755	3,076	2,693	3.5	5.4	4.6	5.1	4.4
At contracting establishments	1,757	2,944	2,362	2,408	2,335	3.0	4.9	3.9	4.0	3.8
At closing establishments	305	292	393	668	358	0.5	0.5	0.7	1.1	0.6
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	1,911	-757	201	63	1,766	3.2	-1.3	0.3	0.1	2.8
Financial activities										
Gross job gains	3,527	3,166	4,454	3,765	3,908	3.3	2.9	4.0	3.4	3.6
At expanding establishments	2,809	2,666	3,538	3,105	3,177	2.6	2.4	3.2	2.8	2.9
At opening establishments	718	500	916	660	731	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.7
Gross job losses	3,371	3,338	4,202	3,752	3,722	3.1	3.0	3.8	3.4	3.4

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses by industry, Iowa, 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. 2018	Mar. 2019	June 2019	Sept 2019	Dec. 2019	Dec. 2018	Mar. 2019	June 2019	Sept 2019	Dec. 2019
At contracting establishments	2,767	2,763	3,601	3,287	3,099	2.5	2.5	3.3	3.0	2.8
At closing establishments	604	575	601	465	623	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	156	-172	252	13	186	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2
Professional and business services										
Gross job gains	9,863	9,296	11,211	9,669	9,073	7.0	6.7	8.1	6.9	6.5
At expanding establishments	7,437	7,608	9,090	7,111	6,853	5.3	5.5	6.6	5.1	4.9
At opening establishments	2,426	1,688	2,121	2,558	2,220	1.7	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.6
Gross job losses	11,644	9,596	9,642	10,151	10,881	8.3	6.9	6.9	7.3	7.8
At contracting establishments	9,307	7,760	7,675	8,488	8,488	6.6	5.6	5.5	6.1	6.1
At closing establishments	2,337	1,836	1,967	1,663	2,393	1.7	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.7
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-1,781	-300	1,569	-482	-1,808	-1.3	-0.2	1.2	-0.4	-1.3
Education and health services										
Gross job gains	10,390	8,608	8,911	8,711	9,993	4.7	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.6
At expanding establishments	9,001	7,085	7,427	7,682	8,696	4.1	3.2	3.4	3.5	4.0
At opening establishments	1,389	1,523	1,484	1,029	1,297	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.6
Gross job losses	8,752	9,673	9,554	8,413	8,429	4.0	4.4	4.4	3.8	3.8
At contracting establishments	7,668	8,605	8,506	7,459	7,274	3.5	3.9	3.9	3.4	3.3
At closing establishments	1,084	1,068	1,048	954	1,155	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	1,638	-1,065	-643	298	1,564	0.7	-0.5	-0.3	0.2	0.8
Leisure and hospitality										
Gross job gains	14,358	12,604	13,817	12,401	14,278	10.1	8.7	9.6	8.7	9.9
At expanding establishments	11,783	9,803	10,805	9,730	11,408	8.3	6.8	7.5	6.8	7.9
At opening establishments	2,575	2,801	3,012	2,671	2,870	1.8	1.9	2.1	1.9	2.0
Gross job losses	12,028	12,546	14,053	14,025	12,279	8.4	8.7	9.7	9.8	8.5
At contracting establishments	10,027	10,672	11,863	11,747	10,395	7.0	7.4	8.2	8.2	7.2
At closing establishments	2,001	1,874	2,190	2,278	1,884	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.3
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	2,330	58	-236	-1,624	1,999	1.7	0.0	-0.1	-1.1	1.4
Other services ⁽³⁾										
Gross job gains	2,902	2,632	3,333	3,150	3,058	7.4	6.8	8.5	7.9	7.6
At expanding establishments	2,480	2,132	2,703	2,625	2,624	6.3	5.5	6.9	6.6	6.5
At opening establishments	422	500	630	525	434	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.3	1.1
Gross job losses	2,615	2,654	2,388	2,721	2,920	6.7	6.8	6.1	6.9	7.3
At contracting establishments	2,117	2,224	1,994	2,300	2,121	5.4	5.7	5.1	5.8	5.3
At closing establishments	498	430	394	421	799	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.1	2.0
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	287	-22	945	429	138	0.7	0.0	2.4	1.0	0.3

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. 2018	Mar. 2019	June 2019	Sept. 2019	Dec. 2019	Dec. 2018	Mar. 2019	June 2019	Sept. 2019	Dec. 2019
United States ⁽¹⁾	6.3	5.9	6.0	5.8	6.2	5.6	5.5	5.9	5.8	5.6
Alabama	6.3	6.0	5.8	5.9	6.3	5.3	5.5	6.0	5.9	5.7
Alaska	11.0	10.0	10.8	9.5	10.2	9.8	9.0	10.2	10.1	10.2
Arizona	6.2	5.6	5.7	6.4	6.4	5.1	5.5	5.7	4.8	5.2
Arkansas	5.9	5.2	5.0	5.5	6.4	5.0	5.1	5.7	5.5	4.8
California	6.9	6.3	6.6	6.3	6.7	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.1	5.9
Colorado	6.8	6.6	7.0	6.6	6.7	6.0	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.2
Connecticut	5.3	5.2	5.8	5.5	5.5	4.9	5.7	5.9	5.8	5.5
Delaware	6.6	6.4	6.0	6.1	6.5	5.6	5.5	6.3	6.2	6.2
District of Columbia	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.1	4.9	5.5	5.4	4.7
Florida	6.4	6.1	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.1	5.6	6.3	5.7	5.9
Georgia	6.3	6.8	6.2	6.2	6.5	5.8	5.7	6.4	6.1	5.6
Hawaii	5.8	5.4	4.7	5.5	5.6	5.1	5.9	6.1	5.3	5.4
Idaho	7.4	7.5	7.1	6.9	7.7	6.3	6.1	6.7	6.8	6.3
Illinois	5.5	5.2	5.6	4.9	5.6	5.6	5.1	5.3	5.6	5.2
Indiana	5.6	5.9	5.2	5.4	6.0	5.0	4.8	5.8	5.7	5.1
Iowa	5.8	5.1	5.8	5.3	5.8	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.3
Kansas	6.1	5.4	5.7	5.7	6.3	5.4	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.7
Kentucky	6.1	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.1	5.4	5.5	5.9	5.7	5.8
Louisiana	6.2	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.9	6.5	6.1	5.8
Maine	7.3	7.2	7.5	6.4	7.4	6.7	6.4	7.5	7.2	7.0
Maryland	6.8	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.5	6.4	5.7	6.4	6.6	5.8
Massachusetts	5.8	5.7	6.0	5.3	5.8	5.3	5.2	5.7	5.9	5.5
Michigan	5.6	5.1	5.5	5.1	5.8	5.2	4.6	5.8	6.0	5.3
Minnesota	5.7	5.2	5.8	5.2	5.8	5.4	5.1	5.5	5.8	5.6
Mississippi	6.5	5.7	5.8	5.5	6.2	5.3	6.2	6.0	5.8	5.5
Missouri	5.8	5.4	5.6	5.8	6.1	5.4	5.3	5.8	5.8	5.2
Montana	8.9	7.6	8.0	7.3	8.6	7.2	8.0	7.7	7.7	7.2
Nebraska	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.6	6.2	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.8
Nevada	6.6	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.8	5.5	5.4	6.0	5.7	5.0
New Hampshire	6.6	6.3	6.4	5.8	6.6	5.7	5.7	6.3	6.6	5.9
New Jersey	6.4	5.7	6.2	6.0	6.5	5.7	5.6	5.8	6.1	5.8
New Mexico	6.8	6.4	6.3	6.7	6.7	6.1	5.8	6.3	6.1	6.2
New York	6.3	6.0	6.0	5.8	6.0	5.7	5.3	5.9	5.9	5.7
North Carolina	6.7	6.3	6.1	5.7	6.2	5.3	5.1	5.7	5.9	5.3
North Dakota	6.8	7.1	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.2	6.4	6.7	7.1	6.7
Ohio	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.3	5.7	5.3	5.1	5.7	5.8	5.3
Oklahoma	6.5	5.8	5.9	6.3	6.4	6.1	5.8	6.2	6.1	6.2
Oregon	6.7	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.7	6.0	5.8	6.1	6.2	5.8
Pennsylvania	5.3	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.4	4.8	4.8	5.3	5.2	4.9
Rhode Island	6.4	5.8	6.4	5.8	6.5	5.7	5.6	6.7	6.2	5.9
South Carolina	7.4	6.4	6.3	6.0	6.5	5.4	6.0	6.2	5.7	5.9
South Dakota	6.3	5.7	6.2	5.8	6.4	5.8	6.4	6.0	6.0	5.7
Tennessee	5.8	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.6	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.1	5.0
Texas	6.2	5.5	5.7	5.8	6.0	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.1
Utah	6.9	7.3	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.2	6.2	6.5	6.2	6.3
Vermont	7.4	6.7	6.9	6.3	6.9	6.8	6.3	7.1	7.6	6.4
Virginia	6.3	6.4	6.1	5.2	6.6	5.6	5.5	5.9	6.0	5.5
Washington	6.4	6.2	6.6	6.0	6.6	5.6	5.6	5.7	6.0	5.7
West Virginia	6.3	6.0	6.2	5.8	6.2	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.7	7.1
Wisconsin	5.4	5.1	5.5	4.8	5.5	5.0	4.8	5.3	5.8	5.0
Wyoming	10.0	8.6	8.5	8.5	9.3	7.8	7.8	9.6	8.7	8.6
Puerto Rico	6.0	7.1	6.4	6.1	5.4	6.8	5.1	5.8	5.4	4.9
Virgin Islands	7.9	11.9	8.8	11.2	10.2	7.1	7.4	6.1	6.6	7.1

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.