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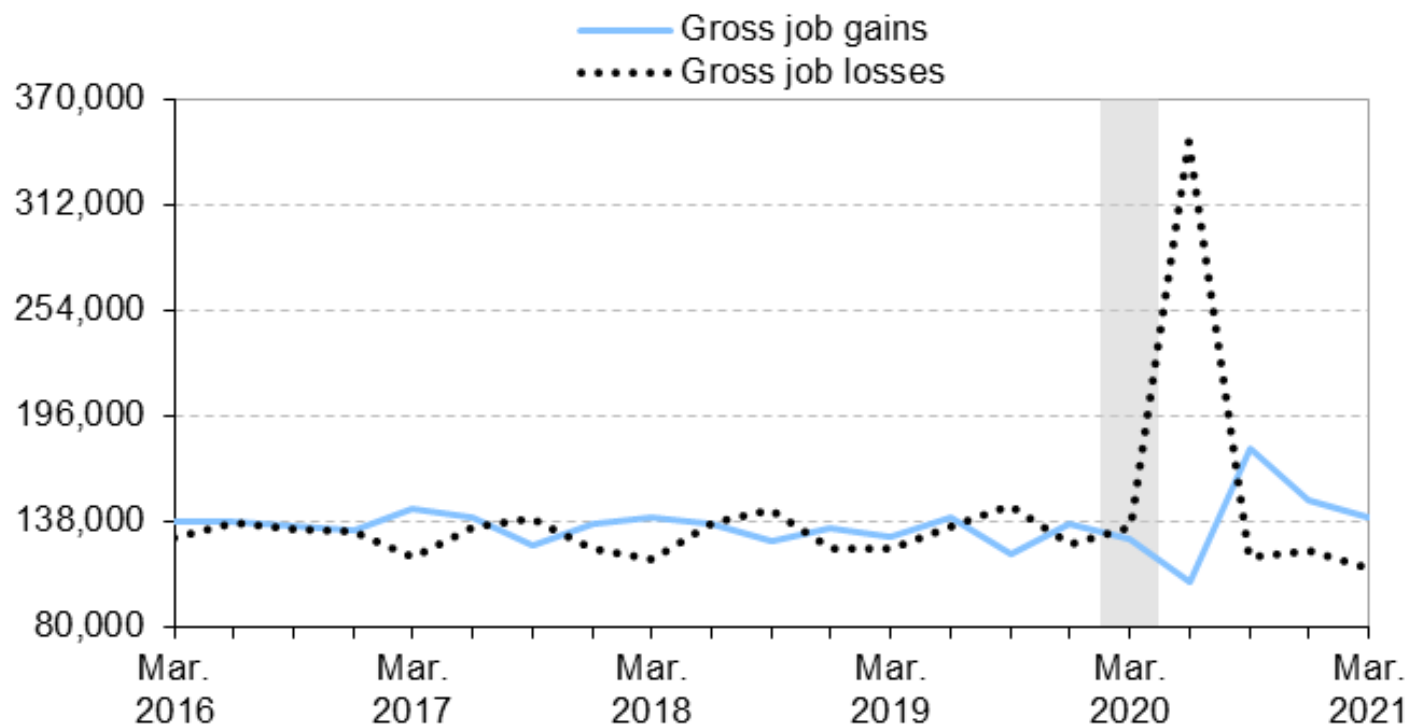
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Business Employment Dynamics in Wisconsin — First Quarter 2021

From December 2020 to March 2021, **gross job gains** from opening and expanding private-sector establishments in Wisconsin were 140,399, while **gross job losses** from closing and contracting private-sector establishments were 112,350, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Jason Palmer noted that the difference between the number of gross job gains and the number of gross job losses yielded a **net employment gain** of 28,049 jobs in the private sector during the first quarter of 2021. During the previous quarter, gross job gains exceeded gross job losses by 27,272. (See [chart 1.](#))

Chart 1. Private-sector gross job gains and losses in Wisconsin, March 2016–March 2021, seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

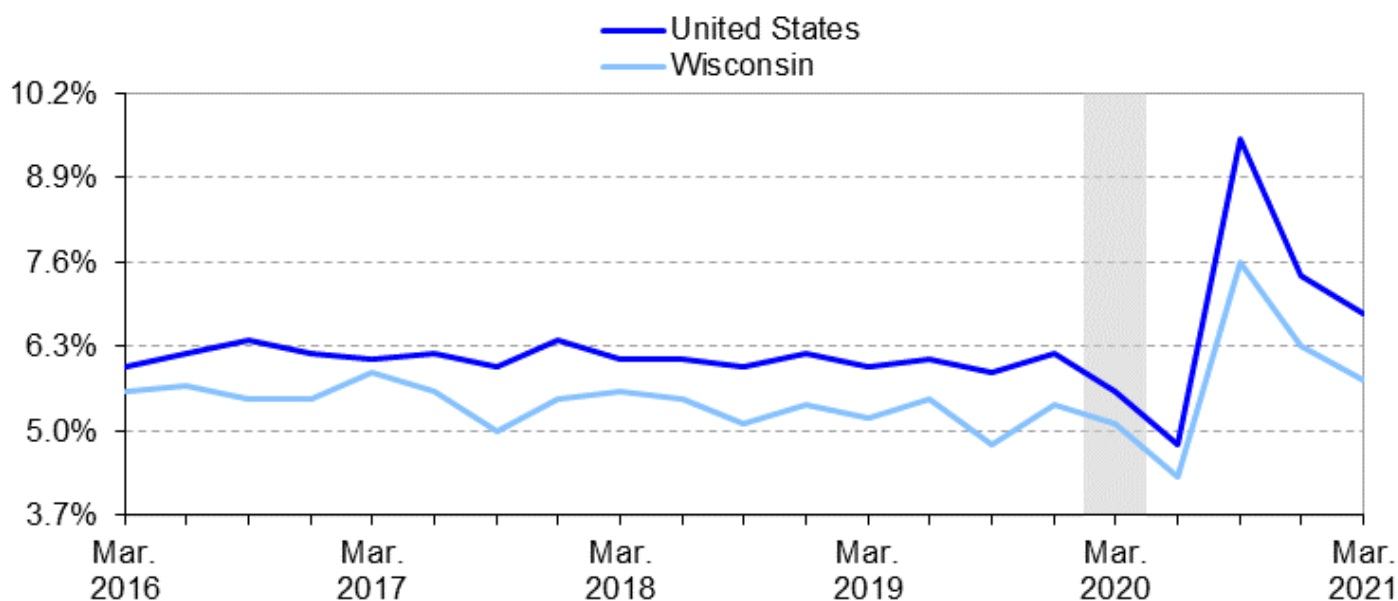
Note: Shaded area represents National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) defined recession period.

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 first quarter of 2021, gross job gains represented 5.8 percent of private-sector employment in Wisconsin; nationally, gross job gains accounted for 6.8 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 Wisconsin, gross job gains at **expanding** establishments totaled 120,784 in the first quarter of 2021, a decrease of 6,147 jobs compared to the previous quarter. (See [table 1](#).) **Opening** establishments accounted for 19,615 jobs gained in the first quarter of 2021, a decrease of 2,506 jobs from the previous quarter.

Chart 2. Private-sector gross job gains as a percent of employment, United States and Wisconsin, March 2016–March 2021, seasonally adjusted



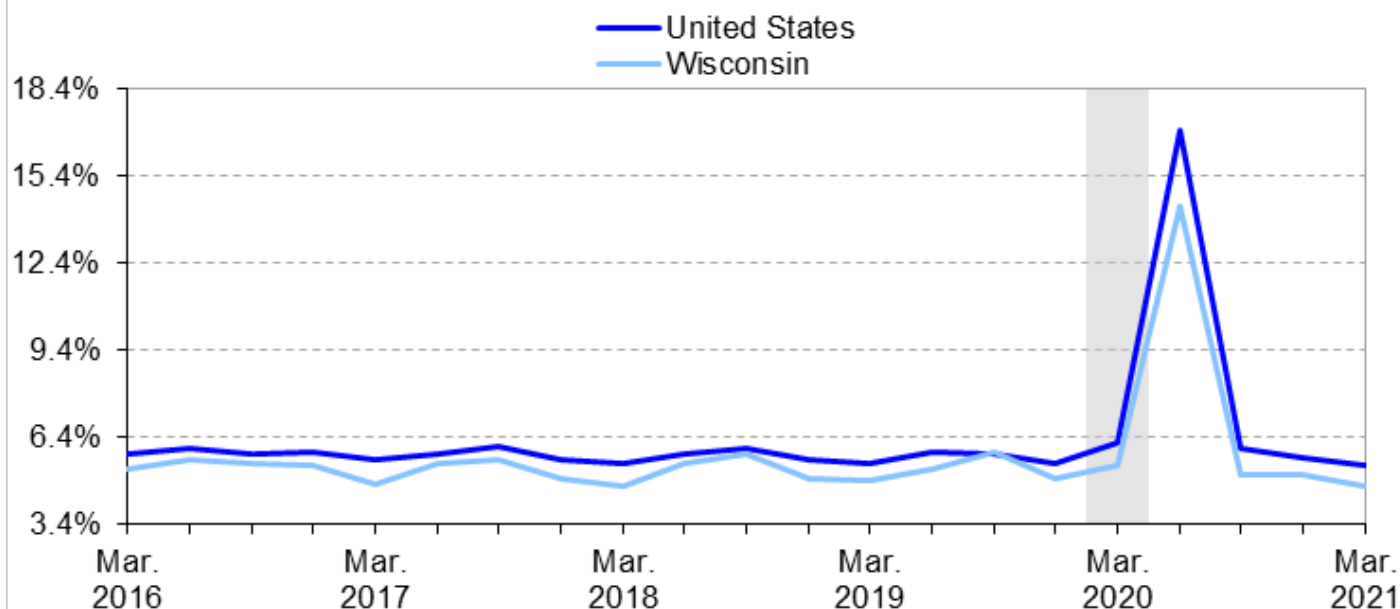
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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

Gross job losses

In the first quarter of 2021, gross job losses represented 4.7 percent of private-sector employment in Wisconsin; nationally, gross job losses accounted for 5.4 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 Wisconsin, **contracting** establishments lost 97,974 jobs in the first quarter of 2021, a decrease of 6,272 jobs from the prior quarter. **Closing** establishments lost 14,376 jobs, a decrease of 3,158 jobs from the previous quarter.

Chart 3. Private-sector gross job losses as a percent of employment, United States and Wisconsin, March 2016–March 2021, 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 8 of the 10 industry sectors in Wisconsin in the first quarter of 2021. Leisure and hospitality had the largest over-the-quarter net job increase, with a gain of 14,491 jobs. This was the result of 32,094 gross job gains and 17,603 gross job losses. The retail trade industry had a net gain of 3,154 jobs. Transportation and warehousing showed a net loss of 324 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 Second Quarter 2021 are scheduled to be released on Wednesday, January 26, 2022.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Effect on First Quarter 2021 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, Wisconsin, 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)				
	Mar. 2020	June 2020	Sept 2020	Dec. 2020	Mar. 2021	Mar. 2020	June 2020	Sept 2020	Dec. 2020	Mar. 2021
Total private ⁽¹⁾										
Gross job gains	127,826	104,444	177,928	149,052	140,399	5.1	4.3	7.6	6.3	5.8
At expanding establishments	109,157	86,830	150,281	126,931	120,784	4.4	3.6	6.4	5.4	5.0
At opening establishments	18,669	17,614	27,647	22,121	19,615	0.7	0.7	1.2	0.9	0.8
Gross job losses	134,817	346,821	117,841	121,780	112,350	5.4	14.4	5.1	5.1	4.7
At contracting establishments	116,636	304,075	102,131	104,246	97,974	4.7	12.6	4.4	4.4	4.1
At closing establishments	18,181	42,746	15,710	17,534	14,376	0.7	1.8	0.7	0.7	0.6
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-6,991	-242,377	60,087	27,272	28,049	-0.3	-10.1	2.5	1.2	1.1
Construction										
Gross job gains	11,888	10,022	10,783	12,470	11,203	9.2	7.9	8.9	10.2	8.8
At expanding establishments	10,457	8,482	8,917	10,911	9,415	8.1	6.7	7.4	8.9	7.4
At opening establishments	1,431	1,540	1,866	1,559	1,788	1.1	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.4
Gross job losses	10,089	15,800	11,679	9,420	11,473	7.8	12.5	9.6	7.6	9.0
At contracting establishments	8,415	13,765	10,219	8,023	9,855	6.5	10.9	8.4	6.5	7.7
At closing establishments	1,674	2,035	1,460	1,397	1,618	1.3	1.6	1.2	1.1	1.3
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	1,799	-5,778	-896	3,050	-270	1.4	-4.6	-0.7	2.6	-0.2
Manufacturing										
Gross job gains	12,113	8,675	19,842	18,293	14,117	2.5	1.9	4.4	4.0	3.1
At expanding establishments	11,612	8,155	19,122	17,722	13,770	2.4	1.8	4.2	3.9	3.0
At opening establishments	501	520	720	571	347	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Gross job losses	14,093	43,438	15,112	10,765	12,033	3.0	9.4	3.3	2.3	2.6
At contracting establishments	13,294	41,734	14,472	10,283	11,083	2.8	9.0	3.2	2.2	2.4
At closing establishments	799	1,704	640	482	950	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-1,980	-34,763	4,730	7,528	2,084	-0.5	-7.5	1.1	1.7	0.5
Wholesale trade										
Gross job gains	4,768	3,584	6,128	5,524	4,985	3.9	3.0	5.2	4.6	4.2
At expanding establishments	4,297	2,913	5,035	4,942	4,409	3.5	2.4	4.3	4.1	3.7
At opening establishments	471	671	1,093	582	576	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.5
Gross job losses	4,497	10,680	4,694	4,107	4,073	3.6	8.9	3.9	3.4	3.4
At contracting establishments	3,589	9,507	3,830	3,272	3,516	2.9	7.9	3.2	2.7	2.9
At closing establishments	908	1,173	864	835	557	0.7	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.5
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	271	-7,096	1,434	1,417	912	0.3	-5.9	1.3	1.2	0.8
Retail trade										
Gross job gains	18,476	18,749	22,681	14,926	16,151	6.2	6.3	7.8	5.1	5.5
At expanding establishments	17,668	17,484	20,994	14,082	15,257	5.9	5.9	7.2	4.8	5.2
At opening establishments	808	1,265	1,687	844	894	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.3
Gross job losses	13,745	39,249	16,380	15,008	12,997	4.6	13.3	5.7	5.2	4.5
At contracting establishments	12,231	35,846	15,320	13,935	11,946	4.1	12.1	5.3	4.8	4.1
At closing establishments	1,514	3,403	1,060	1,073	1,051	0.5	1.2	0.4	0.4	0.4
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	4,731	-20,500	6,301	-82	3,154	1.6	-7.0	2.1	-0.1	1.0
Transportation and warehousing										
Gross job gains	4,722	7,362	8,131	12,005	6,822	4.5	7.2	8.0	11.4	6.3
At expanding establishments	4,010	6,870	6,977	8,514	5,857	3.8	6.7	6.9	8.1	5.4
At opening establishments	712	492	1,154	3,491	965	0.7	0.5	1.1	3.3	0.9
Gross job losses	7,026	12,476	4,742	5,611	7,146	6.7	12.2	4.7	5.3	6.6
At contracting establishments	6,529	11,315	4,240	5,036	6,598	6.2	11.1	4.2	4.8	6.1
At closing establishments	497	1,161	502	575	548	0.5	1.1	0.5	0.5	0.5
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-2,304	-5,114	3,389	6,394	-324	-2.2	-5.0	3.3	6.1	-0.3
Financial activities										
Gross job gains	4,744	4,831	5,890	5,827	5,334	3.2	3.2	4.0	3.9	3.5
At expanding establishments	4,138	3,797	4,775	4,910	4,543	2.8	2.5	3.2	3.3	3.0
At opening establishments	606	1,034	1,115	917	791	0.4	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.5
Gross job losses	4,943	8,567	5,247	5,216	4,777	3.3	5.8	3.5	3.5	3.2

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses by industry, Wisconsin, 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)				
	Mar. 2020	June 2020	Sept 2020	Dec. 2020	Mar. 2021	Mar. 2020	June 2020	Sept 2020	Dec. 2020	Mar. 2021
At contracting establishments	4,088	7,418	4,489	4,356	3,769	2.7	5.0	3.0	2.9	2.5
At closing establishments	855	1,149	758	860	1,008	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.7
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-199	-3,736	643	611	557	-0.1	-2.6	0.5	0.4	0.3
Professional and business services										
Gross job gains	17,505	16,218	26,589	25,524	19,773	5.4	5.2	8.7	8.2	6.3
At expanding establishments	14,565	12,752	21,916	21,933	17,000	4.5	4.1	7.2	7.0	5.4
At opening establishments	2,940	3,466	4,673	3,591	2,773	0.9	1.1	1.5	1.2	0.9
Gross job losses	20,609	44,014	18,223	17,153	17,784	6.4	14.2	6.0	5.5	5.6
At contracting establishments	17,643	39,418	15,297	14,024	14,924	5.5	12.7	5.0	4.5	4.7
At closing establishments	2,966	4,596	2,926	3,129	2,860	0.9	1.5	1.0	1.0	0.9
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-3,104	-27,796	8,366	8,371	1,989	-1.0	-9.0	2.7	2.7	0.7
Education and health services										
Gross job gains	16,219	11,368	24,306	18,741	16,380	3.7	2.6	5.7	4.4	3.8
At expanding establishments	12,861	8,198	20,467	15,499	13,272	2.9	1.9	4.8	3.6	3.1
At opening establishments	3,358	3,170	3,839	3,242	3,108	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.7
Gross job losses	15,730	37,660	13,986	18,294	14,671	3.6	8.8	3.3	4.2	3.4
At contracting establishments	13,181	32,978	11,364	13,878	12,859	3.0	7.7	2.7	3.2	3.0
At closing establishments	2,549	4,682	2,622	4,416	1,812	0.6	1.1	0.6	1.0	0.4
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	489	-26,292	10,320	447	1,709	0.1	-6.2	2.4	0.2	0.4
Leisure and hospitality										
Gross job gains	24,725	15,889	40,307	24,015	32,094	8.7	6.4	18.2	10.5	13.9
At expanding establishments	20,706	11,940	31,616	20,484	28,200	7.3	4.8	14.3	9.0	12.2
At opening establishments	4,019	3,949	8,691	3,531	3,894	1.4	1.6	3.9	1.5	1.7
Gross job losses	33,663	108,553	18,454	26,262	17,603	11.7	43.9	8.4	11.5	7.7
At contracting establishments	28,952	90,679	15,006	22,581	15,165	10.1	36.7	6.8	9.9	6.6
At closing establishments	4,711	17,874	3,448	3,681	2,438	1.6	7.2	1.6	1.6	1.1
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-8,938	-92,664	21,853	-2,247	14,491	-3.0	-37.5	9.8	-1.0	6.2
Other services ⁽³⁾										
Gross job gains	5,330	3,614	7,642	4,591	4,852	6.7	4.9	10.9	6.5	6.9
At expanding establishments	4,364	2,749	6,377	3,845	4,146	5.5	3.7	9.1	5.4	5.9
At opening establishments	966	865	1,265	746	706	1.2	1.2	1.8	1.1	1.0
Gross job losses	5,667	14,968	4,568	5,048	4,662	7.2	20.3	6.6	7.2	6.6
At contracting establishments	4,660	13,105	3,834	4,364	3,896	5.9	17.8	5.5	6.2	5.5
At closing establishments	1,007	1,863	734	684	766	1.3	2.5	1.1	1.0	1.1
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-337	-11,354	3,074	-457	190	-0.5	-15.4	4.3	-0.7	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. 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.