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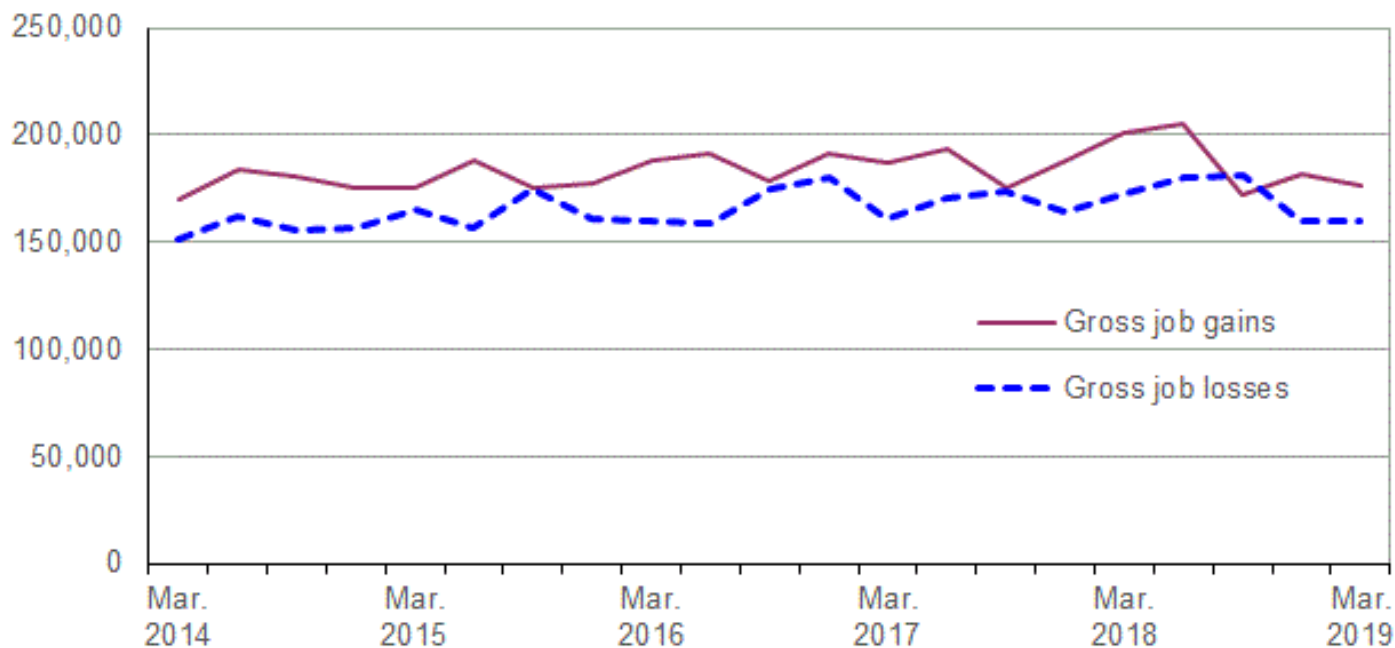
Technical information: (415) 625-2270 BLSinfoSF@bls.gov [www.bls.gov/regions/west](http://www.bls.gov/regions/west)

Media contact: (415) 625-2270

### Business Employment Dynamics in Washington – First Quarter 2019

From December 2018 to March 2019, gross job gains from opening and expanding private-sector establishments in Washington totaled 176,059, while gross job losses from closing and contracting private-sector establishments numbered 160,092, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Richard Holden, the Bureau's Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations, noted that the difference between the number of gross job gains and the number of gross job losses yielded a net employment gain of 15,967. During the previous quarter, gross job gains exceeded gross job losses by 22,274.

**Chart 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses in Washington, March 2014–March 2019, seasonally adjusted**

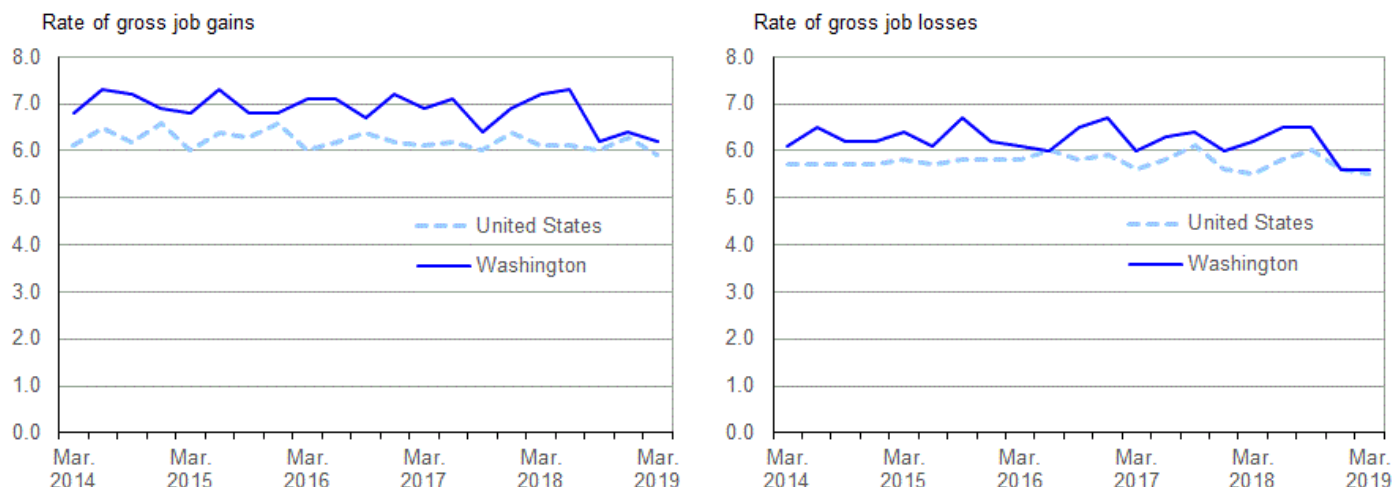


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The change in the number of jobs over time is the net result of increases and decreases in employment that occur at all businesses in the economy. Business Employment Dynamics (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. The difference between the number of gross job gains and the number of gross job losses is the net change in employment. (See the [Technical Note](#) for more information.)

Washington’s number of gross job gains decreased by 6,235 during the first quarter of 2019, following an increase of 9,650 in the previous quarter. Gross job losses rose by 72 in the first quarter of 2019, after decreasing by 21,167 in the previous quarter. (See [chart 1.](#))

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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Gross job gains represented 6.2 percent of private-sector employment in Washington in the first quarter of 2019, while gross job losses accounted for 5.6 percent of private-sector employment. Nationally, gross job gains and gross job losses accounted for 5.9 and 5.5 percent of private-sector employment, respectively. (See [chart 2.](#)) The rates of both gross job gains and job losses in Washington have been at or above the U.S. rate each quarter since data became available in 1992.

During the first quarter of 2019, gross job gains exceeded gross job losses in 10 of the 11 industry sectors in Washington. For example, within education and health services, gross job gains exceeded gross job losses by 4,238. While 19,823 jobs were gained in opening and expanding establishments in the industry, 15,585 jobs were lost by closing and contracting establishments in the first quarter of 2019. In retail trade, 19,588 jobs were created in opening and expanding establishments, while 16,113 jobs were lost in closing and contracting establishments. (See [table 1.](#))

In contrast, the transportation and warehousing industry sector had a net employment loss, with gross job losses exceeding gross job gains by 281.

#### **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/](http://www.bls.gov/bdm/).

**The Business Employment Dynamics for the Second Quarter 2019 are scheduled to be released on Wednesday, January 29, 2020.**

## Changes to Business Employment Dynamics (BED) Data

Data in this release incorporate annual revisions to the BED series. Annual revisions are published each year with the release of first quarter data. These revisions cover the last four quarters of not seasonally adjusted data and five years of seasonally adjusted data

### 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), or the ES-202 program. 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 quarterly 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 establishments and jobs lost at closing and contracting establishments.

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 establishments 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 establishments 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 establishments with positive third month employment in the previous quarter, with no employment or zero employment reported in the current quarter.

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

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, Washington, 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. 2018	June 2018	Sept 2018	Dec. 2018	Mar. 2019	Mar. 2018	June 2018	Sept 2018	Dec. 2018	Mar. 2019
<b>Total private <sup>(1)</sup></b>										
Gross job gains .....	201,233	204,847	172,644	182,294	176,059	7.2	7.3	6.2	6.4	6.2
At expanding establishments .....	173,336	162,388	145,887	159,042	156,538	6.2	5.8	5.2	5.6	5.5
At opening establishments .....	27,897	42,459	26,757	23,252	19,521	1.0	1.5	1.0	0.8	0.7
Gross job losses .....	172,808	180,137	181,187	160,020	160,092	6.2	6.5	6.5	5.6	5.6
At contracting establishments .....	139,977	159,065	159,430	141,757	143,348	5.0	5.7	5.7	5.0	5.0
At closing establishments .....	32,831	21,072	21,757	18,263	16,744	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6
Net employment change <sup>(2)</sup> .....	28,425	24,710	-8,543	22,274	15,967	1.0	0.8	-0.3	0.8	0.6
<b>Construction</b>										
Gross job gains .....	21,322	20,122	17,576	20,492	18,610	10.8	10.1	8.9	10.2	8.9
At expanding establishments .....	18,232	16,552	14,941	17,965	16,425	9.2	8.3	7.6	8.9	7.9
At opening establishments .....	3,090	3,570	2,635	2,527	2,185	1.6	1.8	1.3	1.3	1.0
Gross job losses .....	16,310	17,480	18,451	14,683	17,712	8.2	8.7	9.3	7.3	8.5
At contracting establishments .....	13,654	15,054	16,247	13,230	15,836	6.9	7.5	8.2	6.6	7.6
At closing establishments .....	2,656	2,426	2,204	1,453	1,876	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.7	0.9
Net employment change <sup>(2)</sup> .....	5,012	2,642	-875	5,809	898	2.6	1.4	-0.4	2.9	0.4
<b>Manufacturing</b>										
Gross job gains .....	11,480	10,166	10,971	11,872	9,967	4.0	3.5	3.9	4.2	3.5
At expanding establishments .....	10,827	9,477	9,573	11,388	9,518	3.8	3.3	3.4	4.0	3.3
At opening establishments .....	653	689	1,398	484	449	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.2
Gross job losses .....	8,572	9,291	9,252	8,143	8,180	3.1	3.3	3.3	2.8	2.8
At contracting establishments .....	7,768	8,238	8,724	7,522	7,784	2.8	2.9	3.1	2.6	2.7
At closing establishments .....	804	1,053	528	621	396	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1
Net employment change <sup>(2)</sup> .....	2,908	875	1,719	3,729	1,787	0.9	0.2	0.6	1.4	0.7
<b>Wholesale trade</b>										
Gross job gains .....	6,976	7,113	6,280	6,821	6,200	5.3	5.4	4.7	5.1	4.7
At expanding establishments .....	5,802	5,568	5,440	6,051	5,303	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.5	4.0
At opening establishments .....	1,174	1,545	840	770	897	0.9	1.2	0.6	0.6	0.7
Gross job losses .....	5,992	6,673	6,295	5,749	5,575	4.5	5.0	4.7	4.3	4.2
At contracting establishments .....	5,036	5,759	5,356	4,906	4,958	3.8	4.3	4.0	3.7	3.7
At closing establishments .....	956	914	939	843	617	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5
Net employment change <sup>(2)</sup> .....	984	440	-15	1,072	625	0.8	0.4	0.0	0.8	0.5
<b>Retail trade</b>										
Gross job gains .....	20,350	21,080	20,196	16,066	19,588	5.4	5.5	5.3	4.2	5.2
At expanding establishments .....	18,372	18,302	17,117	14,754	18,217	4.9	4.8	4.5	3.9	4.8
At opening establishments .....	1,978	2,778	3,079	1,312	1,371	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.3	0.4
Gross job losses .....	16,432	19,890	19,036	19,414	16,113	4.4	5.2	5.0	5.1	4.2
At contracting establishments .....	14,628	17,974	17,283	17,458	14,589	3.9	4.7	4.5	4.6	3.8
At closing establishments .....	1,804	1,916	1,753	1,956	1,524	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
Net employment change <sup>(2)</sup> .....	3,918	1,190	1,160	-3,348	3,475	1.0	0.3	0.3	-0.9	1.0
<b>Transportation and warehousing</b>										
Gross job gains .....	5,512	6,415	5,306	7,560	5,649	5.3	6.2	5.1	7.3	5.4
At expanding establishments .....	4,929	5,040	4,756	6,855	4,902	4.7	4.9	4.6	6.6	4.7
At opening establishments .....	583	1,375	550	705	747	0.6	1.3	0.5	0.7	0.7
Gross job losses .....	7,295	5,601	6,696	5,791	5,930	7.0	5.4	6.5	5.6	5.6
At contracting establishments .....	6,367	5,118	5,799	5,503	5,574	6.1	4.9	5.6	5.3	5.3
At closing establishments .....	928	483	897	288	356	0.9	0.5	0.9	0.3	0.3
Net employment change <sup>(2)</sup> .....	-1,783	814	-1,390	1,769	-281	-1.7	0.8	-1.4	1.7	-0.2
<b>Information</b>										
Gross job gains .....	5,095	7,251	5,854	4,555	6,839	3.9	5.5	4.4	3.3	4.9
At expanding establishments .....	4,397	6,242	5,106	4,107	6,356	3.4	4.7	3.8	3.0	4.6
At opening establishments .....	698	1,009	748	448	483	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.3
Gross job losses .....	3,492	3,098	3,639	4,461	3,498	2.8	2.4	2.7	3.3	2.5

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses by industry, Washington, 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. 2018	June 2018	Sept 2018	Dec. 2018	Mar. 2019	Mar. 2018	June 2018	Sept 2018	Dec. 2018	Mar. 2019
At contracting establishments .....	2,774	2,451	3,245	3,803	2,317	2.2	1.9	2.4	2.8	1.7
At closing establishments .....	718	647	394	658	1,181	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.8
Net employment change <sup>(2)</sup> .....	1,603	4,153	2,215	94	3,341	1.1	3.1	1.7	0.0	2.4
<b>Financial activities</b>										
Gross job gains .....	7,374	8,456	7,065	6,795	7,315	5.0	5.8	4.8	4.6	4.9
At expanding establishments .....	6,322	6,435	5,895	5,609	6,516	4.3	4.4	4.0	3.8	4.4
At opening establishments .....	1,052	2,021	1,170	1,186	799	0.7	1.4	0.8	0.8	0.5
Gross job losses .....	6,175	6,940	7,417	7,361	5,842	4.2	4.7	5.0	5.0	3.9
At contracting establishments .....	5,088	5,963	6,227	6,235	5,110	3.5	4.0	4.2	4.2	3.4
At closing establishments .....	1,087	977	1,190	1,126	732	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.5
Net employment change <sup>(2)</sup> .....	1,199	1,516	-352	-566	1,473	0.8	1.1	-0.2	-0.4	1.0
<b>Professional and business services</b>										
Gross job gains .....	28,609	28,208	25,476	25,491	25,559	7.0	6.8	6.2	6.1	6.1
At expanding establishments .....	24,417	22,969	21,466	21,260	21,712	6.0	5.5	5.2	5.1	5.2
At opening establishments .....	4,192	5,239	4,010	4,231	3,847	1.0	1.3	1.0	1.0	0.9
Gross job losses .....	22,389	24,342	24,398	23,608	22,674	5.5	5.9	5.9	5.6	5.4
At contracting establishments .....	18,333	20,551	21,073	20,529	19,894	4.5	5.0	5.1	4.9	4.7
At closing establishments .....	4,056	3,791	3,325	3,079	2,780	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7
Net employment change <sup>(2)</sup> .....	6,220	3,866	1,078	1,883	2,885	1.5	0.9	0.3	0.5	0.7
<b>Education and health services</b>										
Gross job gains .....	28,720	30,311	19,568	19,953	19,823	6.2	6.6	4.1	4.2	4.2
At expanding establishments .....	21,806	15,225	15,157	17,122	16,738	4.7	3.3	3.2	3.6	3.5
At opening establishments .....	6,914	15,086	4,411	2,831	3,085	1.5	3.3	0.9	0.6	0.7
Gross job losses .....	24,590	28,561	17,198	15,378	15,585	5.3	6.1	3.7	3.2	3.3
At contracting establishments .....	13,334	26,990	13,890	12,851	13,719	2.9	5.8	3.0	2.7	2.9
At closing establishments .....	11,256	1,571	3,308	2,527	1,866	2.4	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.4
Net employment change <sup>(2)</sup> .....	4,130	1,750	2,370	4,575	4,238	0.9	0.5	0.4	1.0	0.9
<b>Leisure and hospitality</b>										
Gross job gains .....	29,228	29,709	25,810	31,343	27,064	8.8	8.9	7.7	9.3	7.9
At expanding establishments .....	24,265	24,394	20,717	25,636	22,988	7.3	7.3	6.2	7.6	6.7
At opening establishments .....	4,963	5,315	5,093	5,707	4,076	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.2
Gross job losses .....	26,030	26,052	29,151	24,867	26,174	7.8	7.8	8.7	7.4	7.6
At contracting establishments .....	22,275	22,717	26,224	21,246	23,729	6.7	6.8	7.8	6.3	6.9
At closing establishments .....	3,755	3,335	2,927	3,621	2,445	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.7
Net employment change <sup>(2)</sup> .....	3,198	3,657	-3,341	6,476	890	1.0	1.1	-1.0	1.9	0.3
<b>Other services <sup>(3)</sup></b>										
Gross job gains .....	6,116	6,896	5,888	5,813	8,711	6.7	7.5	6.4	6.3	9.3
At expanding establishments .....	5,115	5,706	5,192	5,083	8,093	5.6	6.2	5.6	5.5	8.6
At opening establishments .....	1,001	1,190	696	730	618	1.1	1.3	0.8	0.8	0.7
Gross job losses .....	5,814	5,542	6,057	6,048	5,305	6.4	6.0	6.5	6.5	5.6
At contracting establishments .....	4,776	4,778	5,371	5,280	4,646	5.3	5.2	5.8	5.7	4.9
At closing establishments .....	1,038	764	686	768	659	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7
Net employment change <sup>(2)</sup> .....	302	1,354	-169	-235	3,406	0.3	1.5	-0.1	-0.2	3.7

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)				
	Mar. 2018	June 2018	Sept. 2018	Dec. 2018	Mar. 2019	Mar. 2018	June 2018	Sept. 2018	Dec. 2018	Mar. 2019
United States <sup>(1)</sup> .....	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.3	5.9	5.5	5.8	6.0	5.6	5.5
Alabama .....	6.1	5.8	6.0	6.3	6.0	5.4	5.7	5.9	5.3	5.5
Alaska .....	10.1	10.9	8.9	11.0	10.0	8.9	10.7	10.7	9.8	9.0
Arizona .....	6.0	6.0	6.6	6.2	5.6	5.3	5.9	5.1	5.1	5.5
Arkansas .....	5.4	5.0	6.1	5.9	5.2	5.2	5.7	5.6	5.0	5.1
California .....	6.4	6.7	6.5	6.9	6.3	6.0	6.4	6.2	5.9	6.2
Colorado .....	6.8	6.8	6.6	6.8	6.6	6.0	6.1	6.8	6.0	6.3
Connecticut .....	5.1	5.8	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.1	5.7	4.9	5.7
Delaware .....	7.1	6.4	5.7	6.6	6.4	5.9	6.0	6.5	5.6	5.5
District of Columbia .....	6.0	5.6	5.3	5.6	5.4	4.9	5.6	5.5	5.1	4.9
Florida .....	6.2	6.4	6.8	6.4	6.1	5.5	6.1	5.8	6.1	5.6
Georgia .....	6.5	6.3	6.7	6.3	6.8	5.7	6.4	6.1	5.8	5.7
Hawaii .....	5.1	5.3	5.1	5.8	5.4	4.7	5.4	5.4	5.1	5.9
Idaho .....	7.9	7.3	6.8	7.4	7.5	6.1	6.8	6.9	6.3	6.1
Illinois .....	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.6	5.8	5.6	5.1
Indiana .....	5.7	5.5	5.2	5.6	5.9	5.1	5.5	5.4	5.0	4.8
Iowa .....	5.6	5.7	5.3	5.8	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.7	5.3	5.4
Kansas .....	5.3	5.7	5.9	6.1	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.4	5.7
Kentucky .....	6.2	5.9	5.8	6.1	5.8	5.9	5.7	6.0	5.4	5.5
Louisiana .....	6.7	6.2	6.3	6.2	5.9	5.9	6.5	6.3	5.8	5.9
Maine .....	7.0	8.0	6.1	7.3	7.2	7.0	7.1	7.5	6.7	6.4
Maryland .....	6.3	6.1	6.3	6.8	6.4	5.8	5.8	6.6	6.4	5.7
Massachusetts .....	5.7	6.1	5.6	5.8	5.7	5.2	5.5	6.1	5.3	5.2
Michigan .....	5.6	5.5	5.0	5.6	5.1	4.6	5.2	6.2	5.2	4.6
Minnesota .....	5.4	5.8	5.5	5.7	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.7	5.4	5.1
Mississippi .....	5.5	5.7	5.9	6.5	5.7	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.3	6.2
Missouri .....	5.5	5.7	5.9	5.8	5.4	5.2	5.7	6.0	5.4	5.3
Montana .....	7.9	8.0	7.2	8.9	7.6	7.1	7.8	7.9	7.2	8.0
Nebraska .....	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.8	5.9	5.7	5.6
Nevada .....	6.5	6.1	6.7	6.6	6.0	5.5	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.4
New Hampshire .....	6.1	6.7	5.7	6.6	6.3	6.0	6.2	6.8	5.7	5.7
New Jersey .....	5.7	6.5	6.0	6.4	5.7	6.1	5.8	6.4	5.7	5.6
New Mexico .....	6.5	6.7	6.4	6.8	6.4	5.7	6.2	6.4	6.1	5.8
New York .....	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.3	6.0	5.6	5.8	6.4	5.7	5.3
North Carolina .....	6.2	6.1	5.7	6.7	6.3	5.3	5.7	6.4	5.3	5.1
North Dakota .....	7.1	6.7	6.6	6.8	7.1	6.3	6.2	6.6	6.2	6.4
Ohio .....	5.6	5.6	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.1	5.4	5.8	5.3	5.1
Oklahoma .....	6.2	6.4	6.7	6.5	5.8	5.7	6.3	6.1	6.1	5.8
Oregon .....	8.0	6.2	6.2	6.7	6.3	5.8	6.3	6.3	6.0	5.8
Pennsylvania .....	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.1	4.9	5.1	5.2	4.8	4.8
Rhode Island .....	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.4	5.8	6.1	6.1	6.4	5.7	5.6
South Carolina .....	6.3	7.5	5.8	7.4	6.4	5.1	6.7	6.5	5.4	6.0
South Dakota .....	6.4	6.1	6.0	6.3	5.7	5.9	6.1	5.7	5.8	6.4
Tennessee .....	5.1	5.5	5.8	5.8	5.4	4.9	5.3	5.3	4.9	4.8
Texas .....	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.2	5.5	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.2	5.2
Utah .....	7.5	6.9	7.3	6.9	7.3	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.2
Vermont .....	6.5	7.2	6.9	7.4	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.6	6.8	6.3
Virginia .....	6.0	6.2	5.7	6.3	6.4	5.4	5.8	6.3	5.6	5.5
Washington .....	7.2	7.3	6.2	6.4	6.2	6.2	6.5	6.5	5.6	5.6
West Virginia .....	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.3	6.0	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.6
Wisconsin .....	5.6	5.5	5.1	5.4	5.1	4.7	5.5	5.9	5.0	4.8
Wyoming .....	8.6	8.4	8.3	10.0	8.6	8.0	8.4	8.4	7.8	7.8
Puerto Rico .....	8.5	7.9	7.2	6.0	7.1	6.9	6.2	5.8	6.8	5.1
Virgin Islands .....	13.3	13.2	12.8	7.9	11.9	18.6	7.0	5.9	7.1	7.4

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.