



For Release: Friday, September 17, 2021

21-1538-CHI

MIDWEST INFORMATION OFFICE: Chicago, Ill.

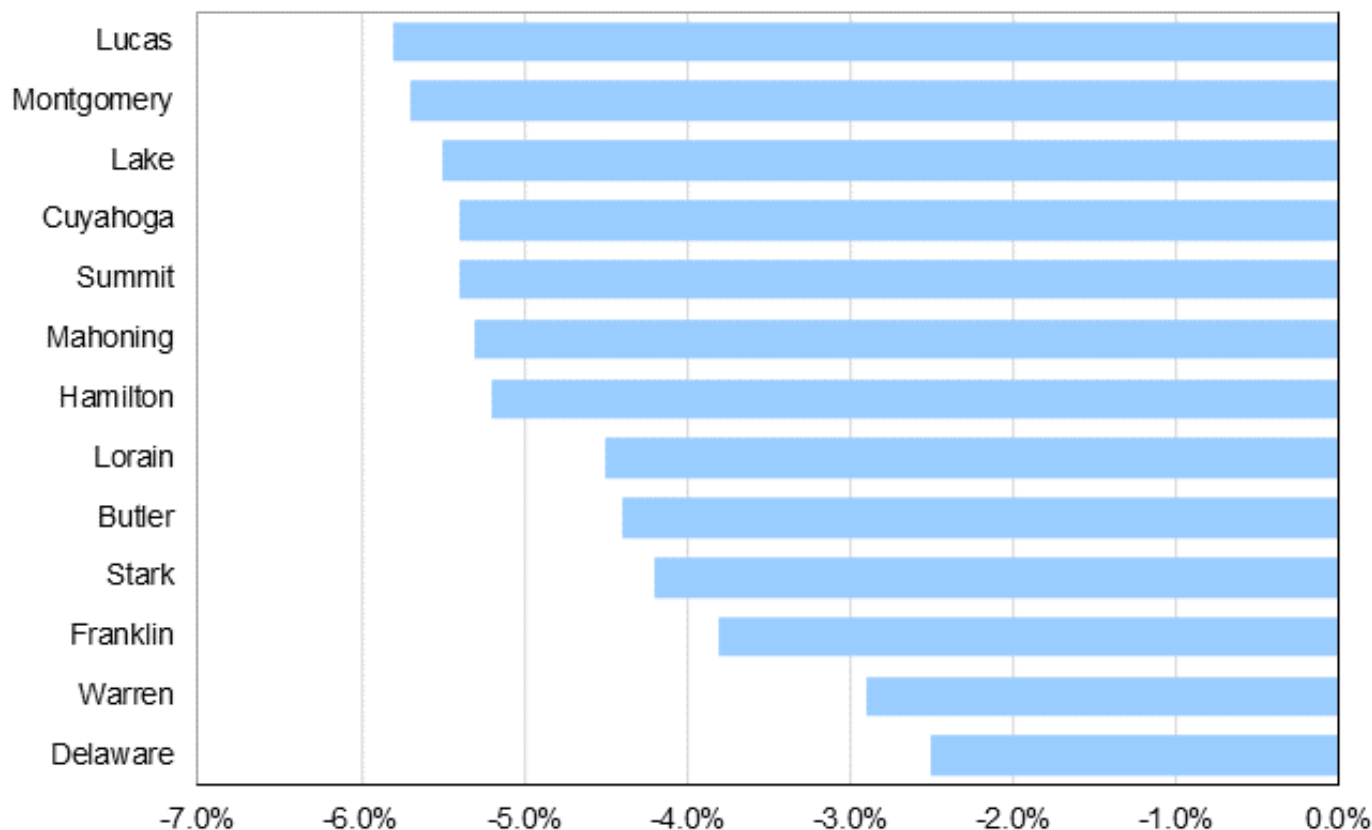
Technical information: (312) 353-1880 BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/midwest

Media contact: (312) 353-1138

County Employment and Wages in Ohio — First Quarter 2021

Employment fell in the 13 largest counties in Ohio from March 2020 to March 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 Jason Palmer noted that Lucas County and Montgomery County had the largest over-the-year decreases in employment at 5.8 percent and 5.7 percent, respectively. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1.](#))

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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

National employment decreased 4.5 percent over the year, with 324 of the 343 largest U.S. counties reporting declines. Calcasieu, LA, had the largest over-the-year decrease in employment with a loss of 14.9 percent. Utah, UT, experienced the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment with a gain of 6.1 percent.

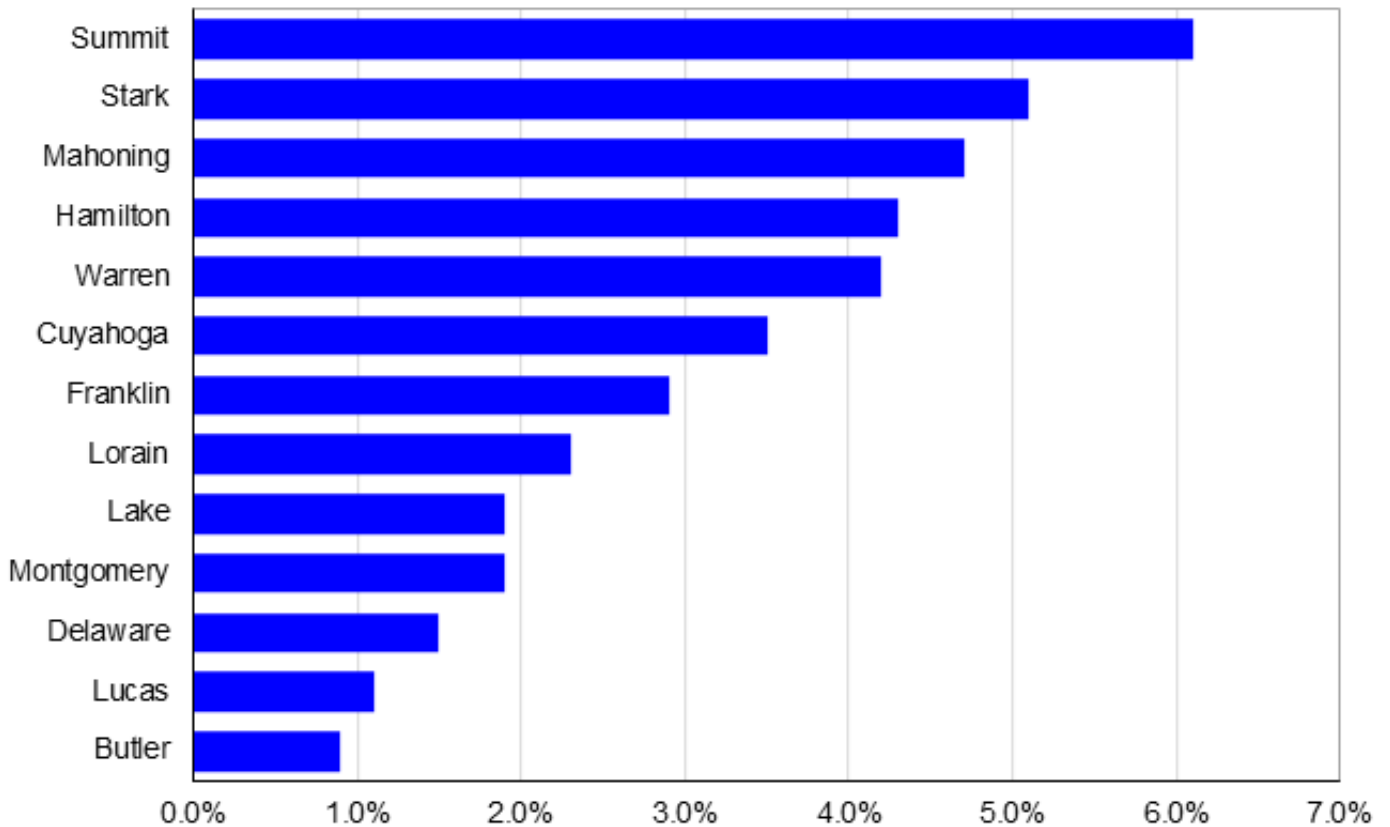
Among the 13 largest counties in Ohio, employment was highest in Franklin County (728,000) in March 2021. Within Franklin County’s private industry, health care and social assistance accounted for the largest employment. Together, the 13 largest Ohio counties accounted for 64.7 percent of total employment within the state. Nationwide, the 343 largest counties made up 72.3 percent of total U.S. employment.

Employment and wage levels (but not over-the-year changes) are also available for the 75 counties in Ohio with employment below 75,000. Wage levels in all 75 smaller counties were below the national average in the first quarter of 2021. (See [table 2](#).)

Large county wage changes

All 13 large Ohio counties reported average weekly wage gains from the first quarter of 2020 to the first quarter of 2021. (See [chart 2](#).) One county had a rate of wage gain that was above the national rate of 5.6 percent. Summit County had the largest gain (+6.1 percent), followed by Stark County (+5.1 percent) and Mahoning County (+4.7 percent). Over-the-year wage gains among Ohio’s other 10 large counties ranged from 4.3 percent to 0.9 percent.

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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Among the 343 largest counties in the United States, 312 had over-the-year wage increases. Nationally, across most industries, increases in average weekly wages reflect substantial employment declines combined with wage increases. The lowest paying industry, leisure and hospitality, had the largest employment loss, which resulted in higher average weekly wages for the industry and the nation. San Francisco, CA, had the largest percentage wage increase (+33.9 percent). Clayton, GA, had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease (-14.2 percent).

Large county average weekly wages

Weekly wages in 2 of the 13 largest counties in Ohio were above the national average of \$1,289 in the first quarter of 2021. Average weekly wages in four counties ranked among the top 100 nationwide: Hamilton (\$1,369, 63rd), Delaware (\$1,306, 81st), Cuyahoga (\$1,263, 92nd), and Franklin (\$1,256, 97th).

Among the largest U.S. counties, 84 reported average weekly wages above the U.S. average in the first quarter of 2021. New York, NY, had the highest average weekly wage at \$3,967. Average weekly wages were below the national average in the remaining 259 counties. At \$685 a week, Cameron, TX, had the lowest average weekly wage.

Average weekly wages in Ohio's smaller counties

Among the 75 smaller counties in Ohio—those with employment below 75,000—all reported an average weekly wage below the national average of \$1,289. Meigs County (\$632) reported the lowest average weekly wage in the state.

When all 88 counties in Ohio were considered, 28 reported average weekly wages of less than \$800, 32 registered wages from \$800 to \$899, 15 had wages from \$900 to \$999, and 13 registered average weekly wages of \$1,000 or higher. (See [chart 3](#).)

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. This publication is typically published in September of the following year of the reference period or shortly after the QCEW first quarter full data update. The *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* is available at www.bls.gov/cew/publications/employment-and-wages-annual-averages/.

The County Employment and Wages release for second quarter 2021 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. The County Employment and Wages full data update for second quarter 2021 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, December 1, 2021.

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 employment and wages in the United States and the 13 largest counties in Ohio, first quarter 2021

Area	Establishments, first quarter 2021 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
		March 2021 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2020–21 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾	First quarter 2021	National ranking by level ⁽³⁾	Percent change, first quarter 2020–21 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾
United States ⁽⁴⁾	10,755.4	140,455.8	-4.5	--	\$1,289	--	5.6	--
Ohio.....	310.1	5,136.8	-3.9	--	1,098	25	3.3	37
Butler.....	8.2	148.3	-4.4	151	1,062	195	0.9	300
Cuyahoga.....	37.2	678.0	-5.4	206	1,263	92	3.5	208
Delaware.....	6.1	85.8	-2.5	63	1,306	81	1.5	291
Franklin.....	35.5	728.0	-3.8	117	1,256	97	2.9	237
Hamilton.....	25.1	487.0	-5.2	193	1,369	63	4.3	165
Lake.....	6.4	89.5	-5.5	211	962	271	1.9	276
Lorain.....	6.4	91.4	-4.5	155	892	316	2.3	258
Lucas.....	10.4	192.2	-5.8	225	1,047	207	1.1	297
Mahoning.....	5.9	90.3	-5.3	198	820	332	4.7	141
Montgomery.....	12.4	237.8	-5.7	221	1,010	237	1.9	276
Stark.....	8.8	149.9	-4.2	141	890	318	5.1	120
Summit.....	14.9	249.9	-5.4	206	1,083	176	6.1	83
Warren.....	5.6	94.2	-2.9	78	1,148	143	4.2	167

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 employment and wages in the United States and all counties in Ohio, first quarter 2021

Area	Employment March 2021	Average weekly wage(1)
United States(2)	140,455,819	\$1,289
Ohio	5,136,826	1,098
Adams	5,882	803
Allen	48,226	917
Ashland	18,535	795
Ashtabula	28,284	772
Athens	19,735	843
Auglaize	20,408	881
Belmont	19,756	759
Brown	7,582	684
Butler	148,250	1,062
Carroll	5,582	756
Champaign	9,873	815
Clark	44,862	859
Clermont	57,195	939
Clinton	17,283	1,097
Columbiana	27,900	798
Coshocton	9,146	811
Crawford	12,351	806
Cuyahoga	677,971	1,263
Darke	17,466	845
Defiance	14,502	885
Delaware	85,841	1,306
Erie	32,353	833
Fairfield	42,222	807
Fayette	10,502	785
Franklin	728,001	1,256
Fulton	17,343	850
Gallia	10,635	786
Geauga	33,453	875
Greene	74,291	1,159
Guernsey	13,743	832
Hamilton	487,014	1,369
Hancock	44,014	1,216
Hardin	8,017	699
Harrison	3,255	913
Henry	9,921	863
Highland	10,696	742
Hocking	6,572	651
Holmes	19,643	837
Huron	19,868	820
Jackson	9,856	728
Jefferson	19,854	794
Knox	19,487	793
Lake	89,539	962
Lawrence	13,547	717
Licking	73,237	845
Logan	18,073	875
Lorain	91,387	892
Lucas	192,212	1,047
Madison	17,732	875
Mahoning	90,280	820
Marion	23,486	865
Medina	56,978	953
Meigs	3,439	632
Mercer	19,128	775
Miami	39,624	876

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in Ohio, first quarter 2021 - Continued

Area	Employment March 2021	Average weekly wage(1)
Monroe	2,966	921
Montgomery	237,751	1,010
Morgan	2,591	767
Morrow	5,132	706
Muskingum	32,450	856
Noble	2,879	797
Ottawa	11,925	947
Paulding	4,604	753
Perry	5,748	764
Pickaway	14,079	922
Pike	9,426	965
Portage	50,945	927
Preble	10,581	891
Putnam	11,521	774
Richland	46,738	814
Ross	28,539	921
Sandusky	24,614	840
Scioto	22,948	792
Seneca	18,523	782
Shelby	26,325	959
Stark	149,888	890
Summit	249,946	1,083
Trumbull	57,744	800
Tuscarawas	34,773	790
Union	32,360	1,211
Van Wert	10,939	794
Vinton	2,190	717
Warren	94,199	1,148
Washington	23,579	949
Wayne	45,589	919
Williams	16,521	827
Wood	65,698	980
Wyandot	9,186	857

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: Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. Data are preliminary.

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

State	Establishments, first quarter 2021 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
		March 2021 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2020–21	First quarter 2021	National ranking by level	Percent change, first quarter 2020–21	National ranking by percent change
United States ⁽²⁾	10,755.4	140,455.8	-4.5	\$1,289	--	5.6	--
Alabama.....	135.9	1,924.3	-3.0	996	37	2.5	40
Alaska.....	23.3	295.0	-5.5	1,125	23	-0.6	48
Arizona.....	176.5	2,894.2	-2.3	1,150	21	4.8	17
Arkansas.....	95.3	1,194.2	-2.0	957	43	3.7	30
California.....	1,651.4	16,507.7	-5.9	1,623	4	11.3	1
Colorado.....	224.7	2,634.7	-3.5	1,335	10	4.1	25
Connecticut.....	128.3	1,550.5	-5.4	1,575	5	4.7	19
Delaware.....	35.2	425.6	-4.1	1,264	13	1.6	44
District of Columbia.....	44.0	708.1	-9.0	2,166	1	8.7	4
Florida.....	780.8	8,701.9	-3.1	1,104	24	5.1	13
Georgia.....	329.2	4,393.8	-2.6	1,198	17	3.6	33
Hawaii.....	48.0	564.4	-14.1	1,091	26	5.7	9
Idaho.....	74.2	768.6	1.9	906	50	4.9	15
Illinois.....	390.0	5,559.6	-5.5	1,387	8	6.7	7
Indiana.....	176.2	2,956.4	-2.5	1,026	34	3.3	37
Iowa.....	105.1	1,473.6	-3.3	1,004	35	2.6	39
Kansas.....	90.4	1,335.4	-3.3	986	39	1.9	43
Kentucky.....	130.7	1,835.2	-2.5	965	41	2.3	42
Louisiana.....	141.5	1,787.6	-5.9	977	40	1.0	46
Maine.....	56.2	585.0	-2.8	1,000	36	4.7	19
Maryland.....	174.3	2,522.1	-5.0	1,386	9	8.5	5
Massachusetts.....	271.2	3,334.9	-6.6	1,732	3	7.8	6
Michigan.....	267.5	4,026.6	-5.9	1,155	20	4.8	17
Minnesota.....	189.7	2,695.4	-5.1	1,290	11	4.6	22
Mississippi.....	75.3	1,098.4	-2.5	811	51	1.1	45
Missouri.....	221.8	2,705.5	-3.0	1,055	30	3.7	30
Montana.....	53.2	465.2	0.1	915	48	5.4	10
Nebraska.....	73.4	944.7	-2.8	990	38	3.6	33
Nevada.....	92.8	1,291.5	-8.4	1,080	27	4.7	19
New Hampshire.....	56.8	631.8	-3.9	1,258	15	5.4	10
New Jersey.....	297.0	3,818.6	-5.5	1,533	7	5.3	12
New Mexico.....	65.2	774.5	-7.4	958	42	3.8	28
New York.....	664.6	8,587.8	-8.7	1,869	2	10.4	2
North Carolina.....	302.7	4,423.2	-1.7	1,137	22	4.1	25
North Dakota.....	32.3	388.7	-6.1	1,037	32	-0.9	51
Ohio.....	310.1	5,136.8	-3.9	1,098	25	3.3	37
Oklahoma.....	114.4	1,549.7	-3.7	939	46	-0.8	50
Oregon.....	169.4	1,841.9	-5.2	1,172	18	6.4	8
Pennsylvania.....	369.7	5,531.3	-5.4	1,226	16	4.3	23
Rhode Island.....	41.2	447.8	-5.6	1,171	19	3.4	35
South Carolina.....	150.1	2,056.2	-2.6	957	43	3.8	28
South Dakota.....	35.6	417.1	-0.9	932	47	3.4	35
Tennessee.....	180.2	2,968.7	-2.1	1,077	28	5.0	14
Texas.....	750.1	12,216.7	-3.4	1,261	14	2.4	41
Utah.....	117.3	1,548.8	1.5	1,065	29	3.7	30
Vermont.....	27.0	283.7	-6.9	1,028	33	4.9	15
Virginia.....	291.3	3,765.8	-3.9	1,285	12	4.2	24
Washington.....	261.2	3,252.0	-5.1	1,540	6	9.1	3
West Virginia.....	52.3	648.6	-3.8	911	49	0.8	47
Wisconsin.....	183.1	2,730.0	-3.7	1,047	31	3.9	27
Wyoming.....	27.8	255.9	-4.6	953	45	-0.6	48
Puerto Rico.....	47.1	856.5	-3.1	562	(3)	2.0	(3)
Virgin Islands.....	3.6	34.7	-14.0	961	(3)	-8.0	(3)

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

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.

