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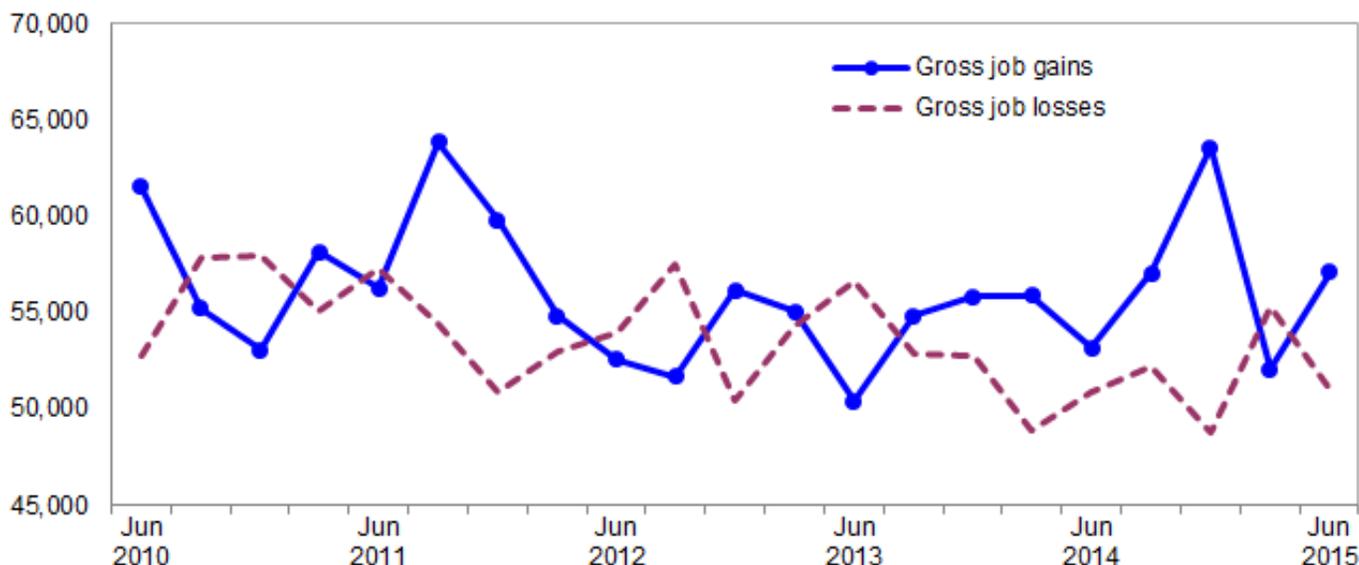
Technical information: (972) 850-4800 BLSInfoDallas@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/southwest

Media contact: (972) 850-4800

Business Employment Dynamics in Arkansas – Second Quarter 2015

From March 2015 to June 2015 gross job gains in private sector establishments in Arkansas totaled 57,124, while gross job losses numbered 51,031, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that gross job gains exceeded gross job losses by 6,093, contrasting with the previous quarter in which gross job losses exceeded gross job gains by 3,244. (See [chart 1](#).)

Chart 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses of employment in Arkansas, June 2010–June 2015 by quarter, seasonally adjusted



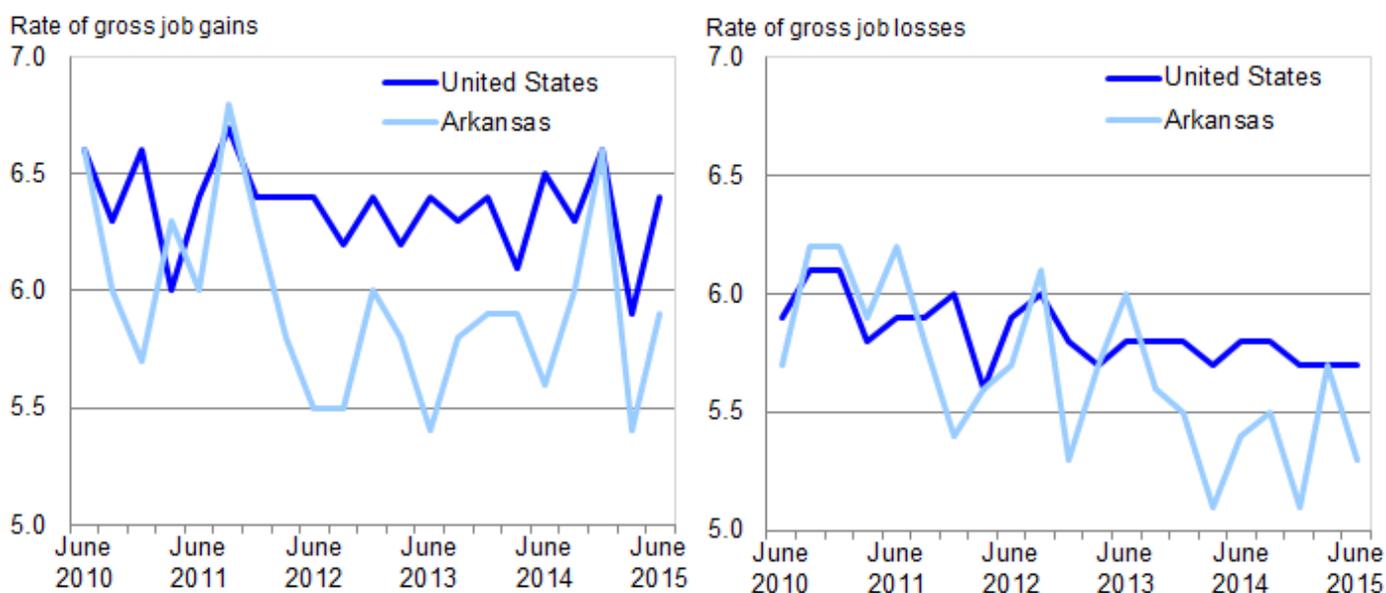
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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. 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 job gains and the number of gross job losses is the net change in employment. (See the [Technical Note](#) for more information.)

Arkansas's June 2015 gross job gain was below the December 2014 gain of more than 63,000 jobs, but was above the job gains in 12 of the previous 14 quarters. Gross job gains in the state have exceeded 52,000 in each quarter since the series low of 50,401 in June 2013. Gross job losses fell 4,287 in the three months ended in June 2015, after rising by more than 6,500 in the previous quarter. The December 2014 loss of 48,759 was the third-lowest level since the series inception in 1992. (See [chart 1.](#))

Gross job gains represented 5.9 percent of private sector employment in Arkansas in the quarter ended June 2015, while nationally gross job gains accounted for 6.4 percent of private employment. (See [chart 2.](#)) With the exception of December 2014, the rate of gross job gains has remained below the U.S. rate in each quarter since September 2011. Similarly, Arkansas's 5.3 percent rate of gross job loss was also lower than the national rate of 5.7 percent in June 2015. From June 2010 to June 2013, the state's rate of gross job losses generally tracked the national rate, although with greater variability. However, since September 2013 Arkansas's rate of gross job losses has remained below the U.S. rate in seven of the last eight quarters. Gross job losses fell to a series low in both March 2014 and December 2014, at 5.1 percent, respectively.

Chart 2. Private sector gross job gains and losses as a percent of employment, United States and Arkansas, June 2010–June 2015, seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

During the second quarter 2015, Arkansas gross job gains exceeded gross job losses in 8 of the 10 industry sectors. For example, more than 8,700 jobs were created by opening and expanding establishments in retail trade during the period, though about 6,000 jobs were lost at closing and contracting establishments. The resulting net gain of 2,762 jobs was the largest of any sector in the second quarter 2015. Within leisure and hospitality, approximately 9,500 jobs were created at opening and expanding establishments, exceeding jobs lost at closing and contracting establishments by about 1,700. Education and health services created more than 1,200 jobs, with over 7,100 gross job gains in opening and expanding establishments and nearly 5,900 job losses in closing and contracting establishments.

In contrast, gross job losses exceeded gross job gains in manufacturing by 991 jobs and in professional and business services by 461 in the second quarter 2015. (See [table 1.](#))

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 for Third Quarter 2015 are scheduled to be released on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

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 from existing QCEW records. The QCEW reports are sent by the State Employment Security Agencies (SESAs) to BLS and form the basis of the Bureau's QCEW program and establishment universe sampling frame. These reports are also used to produce the QCEW data on total employment and wages. Other important Bureau uses of the QCEW reports are in the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. The CES program produces monthly estimates of employment, net changes, and earnings by detailed industry.

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 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, Arkansas, 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)				
	June 2014	Sept. 2014	Dec. 2014	Mar. 2015	June 2015	June 2014	Sept. 2014	Dec. 2014	Mar. 2015	June 2015
Total private ⁽¹⁾										
Gross job gains	53,160	57,019	63,560	52,074	57,124	5.6	6.0	6.6	5.4	5.9
At expanding establishments	43,892	47,764	51,994	42,466	48,156	4.6	5.0	5.4	4.4	5.0
At opening establishments	9,268	9,255	11,566	9,608	8,968	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.0	0.9
Gross job losses	50,927	52,229	48,759	55,318	51,031	5.4	5.5	5.1	5.7	5.3
At contracting establishments	43,433	42,996	39,320	47,349	43,442	4.6	4.5	4.1	4.9	4.5
At closing establishments	7,494	9,233	9,439	7,969	7,589	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	2,233	4,790	14,801	-3,244	6,093	0.2	0.5	1.5	-0.3	0.6
Construction										
Gross job gains	4,664	5,169	5,709	4,417	5,531	10.3	11.2	12.1	9.2	11.5
At expanding establishments	3,820	4,279	4,305	3,597	4,580	8.4	9.3	9.1	7.5	9.5
At opening establishments	844	890	1,404	820	951	1.9	1.9	3.0	1.7	2.0
Gross job losses	3,831	4,362	3,710	5,258	4,492	8.4	9.5	7.8	11.0	9.3
At contracting establishments	2,993	3,518	3,000	4,123	3,461	6.6	7.7	6.3	8.6	7.2
At closing establishments	838	844	710	1,135	1,031	1.8	1.8	1.5	2.4	2.1
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	833	807	1,999	-841	1,039	1.9	1.7	4.3	-1.8	2.2
Manufacturing										
Gross job gains	4,245	4,648	5,293	4,242	3,934	2.8	3.0	3.4	2.7	2.6
At expanding establishments	4,100	4,276	5,105	4,081	3,678	2.7	2.8	3.3	2.6	2.4
At opening establishments	145	372	188	161	256	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Gross job losses	3,354	3,923	4,665	4,630	4,925	2.1	2.5	3.0	2.9	3.1
At contracting establishments	3,126	3,595	3,830	4,431	4,694	2.0	2.3	2.5	2.8	3.0
At closing establishments	228	328	835	199	231	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.1
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	891	725	628	-388	-991	0.7	0.5	0.4	-0.2	-0.5
Wholesale trade										
Gross job gains	2,405	2,519	2,665	2,590	2,442	5.2	5.4	5.7	5.5	5.2
At expanding establishments	1,901	2,107	2,146	2,179	1,927	4.1	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.1
At opening establishments	504	412	519	411	515	1.1	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.1
Gross job losses	2,172	2,072	2,257	2,385	2,400	4.7	4.4	4.8	5.1	5.1
At contracting establishments	1,717	1,685	1,771	1,913	1,994	3.7	3.6	3.8	4.1	4.2
At closing establishments	455	387	486	472	406	1.0	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.9
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	233	447	408	205	42	0.5	1.0	0.9	0.4	0.1
Retail trade										
Gross job gains	7,813	7,969	8,429	8,359	8,765	5.7	5.8	6.2	6.0	6.2
At expanding establishments	6,537	6,445	7,376	6,507	7,909	4.8	4.7	5.4	4.7	5.6
At opening establishments	1,276	1,524	1,053	1,852	856	0.9	1.1	0.8	1.3	0.6
Gross job losses	6,478	7,876	6,687	7,792	6,003	4.8	5.8	4.9	5.6	4.3
At contracting establishments	5,808	6,823	5,599	6,891	5,200	4.3	5.0	4.1	5.0	3.7
At closing establishments	670	1,053	1,088	901	803	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	1,335	93	1,742	567	2,762	0.9	0.0	1.3	0.4	1.9
Transportation and warehousing										
Gross job gains	2,530	2,850	3,089	2,457	2,869	5.1	5.6	6.0	4.7	5.4
At expanding establishments	2,200	2,523	2,683	2,130	2,504	4.4	5.0	5.2	4.1	4.7
At opening establishments	330	327	406	327	365	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7
Gross job losses	2,082	2,073	1,943	2,510	2,000	4.2	4.1	3.7	4.7	3.7
At contracting establishments	1,748	1,662	1,675	2,224	1,660	3.5	3.3	3.2	4.2	3.1
At closing establishments	334	411	268	286	340	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.6
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	448	777	1,146	-53	869	0.9	1.5	2.3	0.0	1.7
Financial activities										
Gross job gains	2,098	2,425	2,444	2,513	2,420	4.4	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.0
At expanding establishments	1,542	2,018	1,818	2,082	1,929	3.2	4.2	3.8	4.4	4.0
At opening establishments	556	407	626	431	491	1.2	0.9	1.3	0.9	1.0
Gross job losses	2,024	2,585	2,393	2,161	2,383	4.3	5.4	5.1	4.6	5.0

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Private sector gross job gains and losses by industry, Arkansas, 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)				
	June 2014	Sept. 2014	Dec. 2014	Mar. 2015	June 2015	June 2014	Sept. 2014	Dec. 2014	Mar. 2015	June 2015
At contracting establishments	1,568	1,818	1,844	1,703	1,821	3.3	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.8
At closing establishments	456	767	549	458	562	1.0	1.6	1.2	1.0	1.2
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	74	-160	51	352	37	0.1	-0.3	0.0	0.7	0.0
Professional and business services										
Gross job gains	9,051	10,981	13,036	8,481	10,196	6.8	8.3	9.6	6.1	7.5
At expanding establishments	7,524	9,704	10,495	7,044	8,309	5.7	7.3	7.7	5.1	6.1
At opening establishments	1,527	1,277	2,541	1,437	1,887	1.1	1.0	1.9	1.0	1.4
Gross job losses	12,079	8,972	7,999	10,197	10,657	9.1	6.8	5.9	7.4	7.9
At contracting establishments	10,744	7,230	6,231	8,702	9,217	8.1	5.5	4.6	6.3	6.8
At closing establishments	1,335	1,742	1,768	1,495	1,440	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.1
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	-3,028	2,009	5,037	-1,716	-461	-2.3	1.5	3.7	-1.3	-0.4
Education and health services										
Gross job gains	6,621	6,550	7,902	6,697	7,123	3.9	3.9	4.7	4.0	4.2
At expanding establishments	5,414	5,519	6,376	5,392	5,997	3.2	3.3	3.8	3.2	3.5
At opening establishments	1,207	1,031	1,526	1,305	1,126	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.7
Gross job losses	6,458	6,548	6,670	7,213	5,879	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.2	3.4
At contracting establishments	5,262	5,309	4,709	6,029	4,816	3.1	3.1	2.8	3.5	2.8
At closing establishments	1,196	1,239	1,961	1,184	1,063	0.7	0.7	1.2	0.7	0.6
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	163	2	1,232	-516	1,244	0.1	0.1	0.7	-0.2	0.8
Leisure and hospitality										
Gross job gains	9,217	9,846	10,176	8,177	9,552	8.6	9.1	9.3	7.4	8.7
At expanding establishments	7,195	7,601	8,071	6,062	7,815	6.7	7.0	7.4	5.5	7.1
At opening establishments	2,022	2,245	2,105	2,115	1,737	1.9	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.6
Gross job losses	7,951	9,473	8,005	8,392	7,848	7.4	8.8	7.3	7.6	7.1
At contracting establishments	6,791	7,988	6,997	7,514	6,931	6.3	7.4	6.4	6.8	6.3
At closing establishments	1,160	1,485	1,008	878	917	1.1	1.4	0.9	0.8	0.8
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	1,266	373	2,171	-215	1,704	1.2	0.3	2.0	-0.2	1.6
Other services ⁽³⁾										
Gross job gains	2,041	1,867	1,869	1,609	1,815	8.8	8.0	8.0	7.1	7.9
At expanding establishments	1,593	1,456	1,345	1,278	1,473	6.9	6.2	5.8	5.6	6.4
At opening establishments	448	411	524	331	342	1.9	1.8	2.2	1.5	1.5
Gross job losses	1,663	1,846	2,065	1,673	1,531	7.2	7.9	8.9	7.3	6.7
At contracting establishments	1,300	1,314	1,674	1,275	1,134	5.6	5.6	7.2	5.6	5.0
At closing establishments	363	532	391	398	397	1.6	2.3	1.7	1.7	1.7
Net employment change ⁽²⁾	378	21	-196	-64.0	284	1.6	0.1	-0.9	-0.2	1.2

(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

State	Gross job gains as a percent of employment (3 months ended)					Gross job losses as a percent of employment (3 months ended)				
	June 2014	Sept. 2014	Dec. 2014	Mar. 2015	June 2015	June 2014	Sept. 2014	Dec. 2014	Mar. 2015	June 2015
United States ⁽¹⁾	6.5	6.3	6.6	5.9	6.4	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7
Alabama	5.9	5.9	6.0	5.6	5.9	5.5	5.5	5.2	5.4	5.3
Alaska	10.8	9.5	10.6	10.4	10.6	11.0	10.4	10.4	9.2	10.8
Arizona	6.0	6.4	7.0	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.5	5.3	5.7	5.7
Arkansas	5.6	6.0	6.6	5.4	5.9	5.4	5.5	5.1	5.7	5.3
California	7.0	7.1	7.4	6.8	6.8	6.5	6.2	6.4	6.2	6.5
Colorado	7.2	7.3	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.4
Connecticut	5.7	5.2	5.4	4.8	5.8	4.9	5.3	5.2	5.1	4.8
Delaware	6.6	6.3	7.0	5.7	7.6	5.2	6.2	5.4	7.3	5.6
District of Columbia	6.3	5.7	5.5	5.5	6.2	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.4
Florida	7.2	7.3	7.1	6.3	6.9	6.2	6.1	6.0	5.6	5.9
Georgia.....	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.2	6.7	6.0	5.9	5.5	5.6	5.7
Hawaii.....	5.0	5.3	5.2	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.5	4.4	4.8	5.0
Idaho	7.7	7.5	8.0	9.1	7.5	7.9	7.3	7.0	7.0	7.1
Illinois	6.2	5.7	6.2	5.8	6.2	5.5	5.8	5.5	5.7	5.2
Indiana.....	5.9	5.4	6.3	5.3	5.7	5.0	5.3	5.0	5.3	5.1
Iowa	6.1	5.8	6.1	5.9	6.1	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.4	5.9
Kansas	6.1	5.7	6.2	5.7	6.0	5.6	5.8	5.4	5.8	5.8
Kentucky.....	6.2	6.2	6.6	5.5	6.4	5.6	5.5	5.3	6.0	5.5
Louisiana	6.6	6.8	6.8	6.1	6.3	6.5	5.9	5.8	6.7	6.8
Maine.....	7.8	6.7	7.2	6.5	8.0	6.5	7.0	7.2	7.0	6.4
Maryland.....	6.6	6.5	6.7	5.9	7.0	5.8	6.3	6.2	6.2	5.9
Massachusetts	6.3	5.7	6.0	5.1	6.3	5.3	5.5	5.2	5.4	5.0
Michigan	6.4	5.4	6.2	5.2	6.1	5.4	5.7	5.2	5.1	5.2
Minnesota.....	6.5	5.6	5.8	5.6	6.1	5.1	5.7	5.4	5.2	5.2
Mississippi	6.2	6.2	6.9	5.5	6.3	6.6	6.0	5.4	6.4	5.9
Missouri	6.0	5.7	6.3	5.6	6.0	5.3	5.7	5.1	5.4	5.2
Montana	8.2	8.1	8.5	9.1	8.0	7.7	8.1	8.0	7.2	8.4
Nebraska	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.7
Nevada	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.3	6.2	5.7	5.7	5.3	5.3	5.7
New Hampshire.....	6.9	5.9	6.9	5.7	6.8	6.1	6.3	6.0	5.7	5.9
New Jersey.....	7.0	6.3	6.9	5.8	7.1	5.9	6.4	6.2	6.0	5.9
New Mexico.....	6.8	6.6	7.2	6.4	6.7	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.5	6.8
New York	6.7	6.4	6.6	5.9	6.7	5.8	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.8
North Carolina	6.4	6.2	6.5	5.9	6.4	5.6	5.7	5.4	5.7	5.4
North Dakota	7.6	8.2	8.7	7.1	6.7	7.0	6.9	6.7	8.7	11.3
Ohio.....	6.1	5.5	6.1	5.4	6.0	5.2	5.5	5.1	5.6	5.3
Oklahoma	6.3	6.2	6.7	5.7	6.0	6.0	5.6	5.5	6.1	6.5
Oregon	6.9	7.0	7.1	6.9	6.9	6.4	6.2	6.3	5.7	6.1
Pennsylvania.....	5.6	5.2	5.6	4.9	5.6	4.8	5.1	4.9	5.2	4.9
Rhode Island	6.5	5.9	6.4	5.3	6.6	5.5	5.8	5.6	5.8	5.8
South Carolina.....	6.4	6.0	6.8	5.7	6.5	5.8	5.8	5.0	5.5	5.6
South Dakota.....	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.9
Tennessee	5.7	5.7	6.2	5.2	5.9	5.1	5.0	4.8	5.2	4.8
Texas	6.0	6.1	6.4	5.8	6.0	4.9	5.1	5.0	5.7	5.5
Utah.....	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.3	6.9	6.7	6.0	5.8	5.9	6.1
Vermont.....	7.3	6.9	7.5	6.8	7.3	6.9	7.3	6.7	6.8	7.0
Virginia.....	6.2	5.6	5.8	6.0	6.4	5.7	5.8	5.5	5.6	5.4
Washington.....	7.4	7.1	6.9	6.7	7.2	6.4	6.2	6.1	5.6	5.8
West Virginia	6.6	6.2	6.6	6.0	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.0	6.7	6.6
Wisconsin.....	5.8	5.5	5.8	5.4	5.7	5.0	5.6	5.2	5.1	5.2
Wyoming	8.7	8.3	9.3	8.9	7.8	8.3	8.5	8.0	8.9	10.9
Puerto Rico.....	5.5	5.6	6.4	5.3	5.8	6.3	6.0	4.9	6.4	6.8

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Private sector gross job gains and losses as a percent of total employment by state, seasonally adjusted - Continued

State	Gross job gains as a percent of employment (3 months ended)					Gross job losses as a percent of employment (3 months ended)				
	June 2014	Sept. 2014	Dec. 2014	Mar. 2015	June 2015	June 2014	Sept. 2014	Dec. 2014	Mar. 2015	June 2015
Virgin Islands.....	6.2	6.6	6.2	5.5	6.3	6.3	5.6	5.6	5.9	6.7

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