

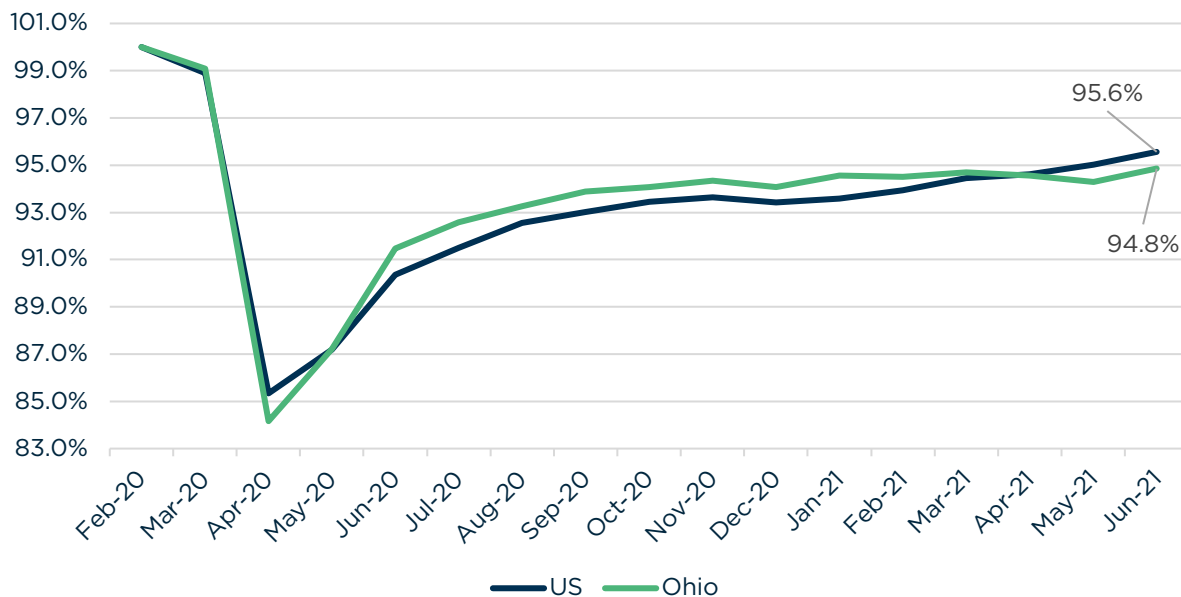
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Ohio adds jobs in June Early numbers show pick up from slump

The numbers: Seasonally adjusted data released today by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) show Ohio employers added 31,300 jobs over the month, from an upwardly revised 5,289,500 in May to 5,320,800 in June. While preliminary numbers are subject to revision, if June’s numbers hold, they could mark a restart to Ohio’s job recovery, which has stalled since November. Ohio has 289,100 fewer jobs than it did, pre-COVID in February 2020.

Over the longer term, Ohio’s recovery is on a similar pace with the U.S. Ohio now has 94.8% of the jobs it did in February 2020, compared to the nation’s 95.6%.

JobWatch June 2021
Share of Ohio and US jobs compared with February 2020



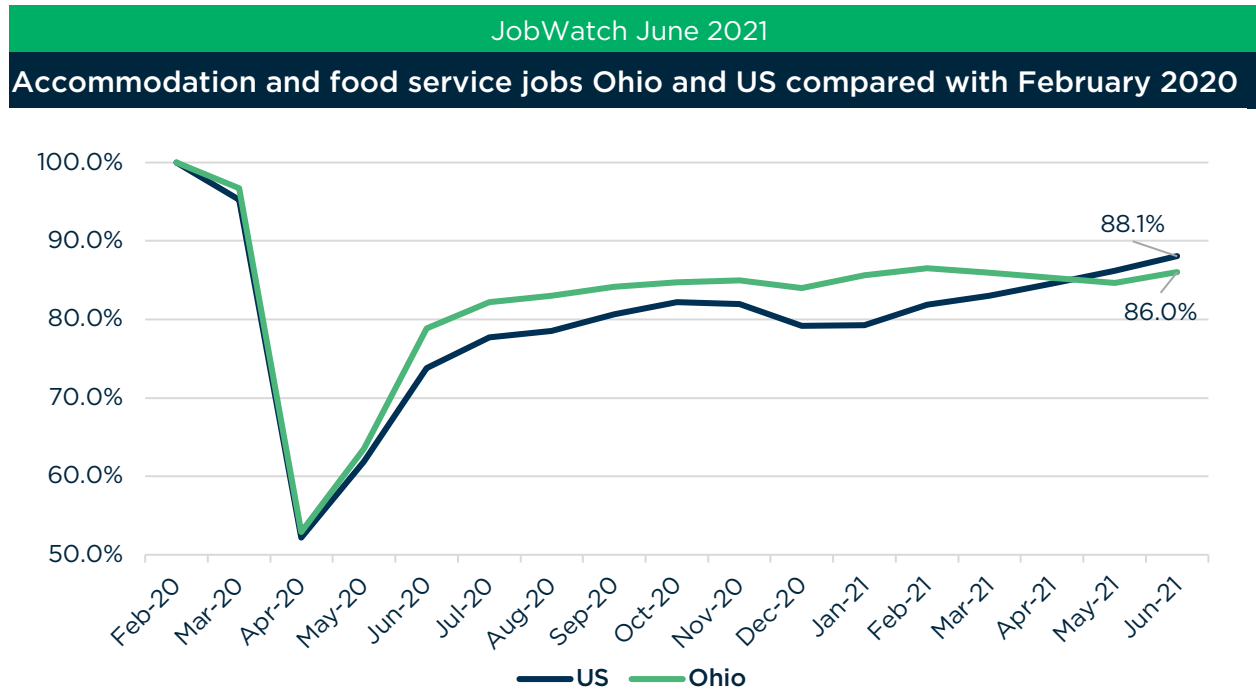
Source Policy Matters Ohio from Current Employment Statistics, seasonally adjusted, Ohio Labor Market Information https://ohiolmi.com/Home/DS_Results_CES and Bureau of Labor Statistics <https://www.bls.gov/ces/data/>.

“A single month of good news does not make a trend, but June’s numbers are a welcome sign that after six months without jobs growth, more working Ohioans are getting back on their feet,” said Policy Matters Ohio researcher Michael Shields.

The accommodation and food services industry remains the hardest hit by COVID-19; there, Ohio has 68,300 (14.0%) fewer jobs than it did in February 2020. Accommodation and food

service jobs are recovering slightly more slowly in Ohio than in the nation, which is 11.9% short of its pre-COVID level.

Shields said “The restaurant industry celebrated Gov. DeWine’s decision to prematurely end \$300-per-week federal unemployment benefits to Ohioans whose jobs were destroyed by COVID-19. But Ohio’s restaurant jobs recovery is on a similar path with the nation’s. Ohio shows no evidence of a job search or acceptance response to terminating benefits prematurely, and [early research](#) suggests that any incentive effect on workers would be overwhelmed by the growth-chilling revenue loss from foregoing these funds. DeWine’s decision will cost Ohio \$1 billion. It’s time to end this cruel experiment and restore unemployed Ohioans with the full benefits they are entitled to.”



Source Policy Matters Ohio from Current Employment Statistics, seasonally adjusted, Ohio Labor Market Information https://ohiolmi.com/Home/DS_Results_CES and Bureau of Labor Statistics <https://www.bls.gov/ces/data/>.

The household survey

According to the separate survey of households, Ohio’s unemployment rate rose from 5.0% in May to 5.2% in June.

The increase was due to a larger number of Ohioans reentering the workforce (29,000), than finding employment (17,000). June’s household survey indicated 5,580,000 Ohioans are now in the workforce, as either workers or job-seekers, and 5,289,000 have jobs. Labor force participation rose slightly to 60.2%.

Shields said, “While both surveys show positive signs for June, they also show a lot of work left to do. Unprecedented federal stimulus has helped this recovery to move [five times as fast](#) as the austerity-burdened recovery from the Great Recession. Smart federal policy seems to be prevailing over recent missteps by some state policymakers: while Ohio is behind the nation, it is on the same path. State and local policymakers will now receive nearly \$11 billion in American Rescue Plan dollars. Now is the time to invest that money in ways that will [drive an equitable recovery](#) that [centers working people](#).”