

INFORMATIONAL BRIEF #7

SPOTLIGHT ON SELECTED STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES' SELF-EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES: PYs 2020, 2021 and 2022.

The data for this brief was taken from information submitted by each State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency to the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) program years (PY) 2020, 2021 and 2022. PY 2020 for this report covers the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021; PY 2021 covers the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; PY 2022 covers the period July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. VR state agencies operate as (1) Blind VR agencies that serve individuals who are blind or have visual impairments, (2) General VR agencies that serve individuals with all disabilities with all other types of disabilities, and (3) Combined VR agencies that serve individuals with all types of disabilities, including those who are blind or have visual impairments. This Info Brief combines the data for groups General VR agencies and Combined VR agencies ("General/Combined VR Agencies"). The Federal/State VR System in the United States covers the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the four U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Marianas, and the Virgin Islands.

In PY 2020, VR agencies closed 92,300 individuals in competitive integrated employment (CIE). Of this number, 2,066 exited in self-employment. In PY 2021, there were 103,567 CIE closures, with 2,261 individuals exiting in self-employment. In PY 2022, there were 101,174 CIE closure, with 2,262 individuals exiting in self-employment. The percentage of VR employment outcomes for all three years in self-employment was around 2% (PY 2020 = 2.2%; PY 2021 = 2.1%; PY 2022 = 2.2%) of the total exiting in CIE for all VR agencies (General/Combined and Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies).

This information brief includes the following:

- The State VR agencies with the highest percentage of self-employment outcomes among all individuals exiting in CIE.
- The State VR agencies with the highest hourly and weekly wages for VR recipients exiting in self-employment.

STATES WITH THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF SELF-EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

In PY 2020, 2.07% of all CIE outcomes for the General/Combined VR agencies were in self-employment; in PY 2021 the self-employment outcomes were 12.06%, in PY 2022 the self-employment outcomes were 2.06%. In PY 2020, approximately 31 (55.3%) of the 56 General/Combined VR agencies had employment outcomes in self-employment at less than 1.5%; the corresponding figure in PY 2019 was 42 (75%).

General-Combined Agencies: Table 1 presents the 10 States with the highest percentage of self-employment closures in PY 2020. It provides the percent and the number of self-employment outcomes for each state. The four General/Combined VR agencies with the highest percentage of self-employment closures are Texas (11.46%; n of 213), Mississippi (15.28%; n of 294), South Carolina (12.54%; n of 223), and Michigan (5.54%; n of 103).

Table 2 presents the same information for PY 2021. The six General/Combined VR agencies with the highest percentage of self-employment closures are Texas (14.57%; n of 300), South Carolina (11.41%; n of 235), Mississippi (10.98%; n of 226), Michigan (9.62%; n of 198), Colorado (5.78%; n of 119) and Puerto Rico (5.05%; n of 104). Table 3 presents the same information for PY 2022. The six General/Combined VR agencies with the highest percentage of self-employment closures are Mississippi (17.62%; n of 357), Texas (12.14%; n of 246), Michigan (10.22%; n of 207), and Colorado (5.54%; n of 103).

TABLE 1*PY 2020: VR Agencies (General/Combined) with Highest % of Closures in Self-Employment*

State VR Agency: General/Combined Only	PY 2020 Percentage of Closures in Self- Employment	PY 2020 Number of Closures in Self- Employment
Texas	11.46%	213
Mississippi	15.82%	294
South Carolina	12.54%	233
Michigan	5.54%	103
Colorado	4.52%	84
Puerto Rico	4.31%	80
Arkansas	2.69%	50
Kentucky	2.58%	48
Missouri	2.53%	47
Iowa	2.53%	47
National Summary	1.78%	1,858

TABLE 2*PY 2021: VR Agencies (General/Combined) with Highest % of Closures in Self-Employment*

State VR Agency: General/Combined Only	PY 2021 Percentage of Closures in Self- Employment	PY 2021 Number of Closures in Self- Employment
Texas	14.57%	300
South Carolina	11.41%	235
Mississippi	10.98%	226
Michigan	9.62%	198
Colorado	5.78%	119
Puerto Rico	5.05%	104
Missouri	3.25%	67
Iowa	2.91%	60
Utah	2.72%	56
Pennsylvania	2.04%	42
National Summary	1.75%	2,059

TABLE 3*PY 2022: VR Agencies (General/Combined) with Highest % of Closures in Self-Employment*

State VR Agency: General/Combined Only	PY 2022 Percentage of Closures in Self- Employment	PY 2022 Number of Closures in Self- Employment
Mississippi	17.62%	357
Texas	12.14%	246
Michigan	10.22%	207
Colorado	5.43%	110
Puerto Rico	3.01%	61
Missouri	2.86%	58
Iowa	2.52%	51
Utah	2.42%	49
Pennsylvania	2.32%	47
California	1.73%	35
National Summary	1.76%	2,026

Weekly Earnings of General/Combined VR Agencies with the Highest Percentages of Participation in Self-Employment for PY 2020, PY 2021 and PY 2022: Table 4 presents the average earnings per week at closure in self-employment for the 10 General/Combined VR Agencies identified in Table 1 for PY 2020. With the exception of Mississippi, South Carolina, Puerto Rico, and Kentucky, the average weekly earnings at closure were higher for participants exiting in self-employment than all VR recipients exiting in CIE. Table 4 presents the average earnings per week at closure in self-employment for the 10

General/Combined VR Agencies for PY 2020. Table 5 complements Table 2, which presented information on the 10 state General/Combined VR agencies with the highest outcomes in self-employment for PY 2021. The states Texas, Mississippi, Michigan, Missouri, Iowa, and Utah had higher wages for those closed in self-employment. The other three states plus Puerto Rico had higher wages for those exiting in CIE than VR recipients exiting in self-employment. Table 6 complements Table 3, which presented information on the 10 state General/Combined VR agencies for PY 2022. Michigan, Colorado, Puerto Rico, Iowa, Utah, and California had higher wages for those closed in self-employment. The other state, Mississippi, Texas, Missouri, Pennsylvania, had higher wages for those exiting in CIE than VR recipients exiting in self-employment.

TABLE 4

Comparison of Weekly Earnings per Week for Cases Closed in Self-Employment to all VR recipients exiting in CIE PY 2020

General/Combined State VR Agency	Average Earnings at Closure per Week in Self-Employment	Average Earnings per Week for All VR Recipients Exiting in CIE
Texas	\$596.18	\$552.01
Mississippi	\$557.12	\$561.88
South Carolina	\$438.05	\$542.08
Michigan	\$677.85	\$596.11
Colorado	\$534.99	\$510.69
Puerto Rico	\$346.44	\$376.75
Arkansas	\$525.01	\$518.85
Kentucky	\$494.11	\$603.75

General/Combined State VR Agency	Average Earnings at Closure per Week in Self-Employment	Average Earnings per Week for All VR Recipients Exiting in CIE
Missouri	\$441.41	\$415.74
Iowa	\$527.98	\$455.77

TABLE 5

PY2021 Comparison of Earnings per Week for Cases Closed in Self-Employment to All VR Recipients Exiting in CIE (VR Agencies (General/Combined Only))

State VR Agency: General/Combined Only	Average Earnings at Closure per Week in Self-Employment	Average Earnings per Week for All VR Recipients Exiting in CIE
Texas	\$604.08	\$590.05
South Carolina	\$535.34	\$581.08
Mississippi	\$620.62	\$604.25
Michigan	\$871.00	\$675.34
Colorado	\$496.80	\$511.79
Puerto Rico	\$407.74	\$411.86
Missouri	\$496.14	\$449.15
Iowa	\$461.31	\$448.06
Utah	\$559.08	\$476.70
Pennsylvania	\$492.98	\$519.67

TABLE 6

PY2022 Comparison of Earnings per Week for Cases Closed in Self-Employment to All VR Recipients Exiting in CIE (VR Agencies (General/Combined Only))

State VR Agency: General/Combined Only	Average Earnings at Closure per Week in Self- Employment	Average Earnings per Week for All VR Recipients Exiting in CIE
Mississippi	\$616.88	\$646.27
Texas	\$619.87	\$643.81
Michigan	\$1,019.01	\$768.22
Colorado	\$570.35	\$548.53
Puerto Rico	\$458.08	\$436.58
Missouri	\$452.82	\$485.98
Iowa	\$663.93	\$493.54
Utah	\$518.26	\$515.34
Pennsylvania	\$542.70	\$560.61
California	\$852.54	\$696.53

VR Agencies for the Blind/Visually Impaired: Tables 7, 8, and 9 present the 10 States with the highest percentage of self-employment closures in PYs 2020, 2021 and 2022 for VR agencies for the Blind/Visually Impaired. The Tables provide the percent of self-employment outcomes and also the number of self-employment outcomes for each of the 10 states. For PY 2020, 8.61% of the employment outcomes for VR Agencies for the Blind/Visually Impaired were in self-employment. The five VR Agencies for the

Blind/Visually Impaired with the highest percentage of self-employment closures in PY 2020 as presented in Table 7 were: Florida (11.12%; n of 99), Missouri (8.17%; n of 17), North Carolina (6.73%; n of 14), Arkansas (4.33%; n of 9) and Oregon (4.33%, n of 9). For PY 2020, 7.75% of the employment outcomes for VR Agencies for the Blind/Visually Impaired were in self-employment. The five VR Agencies for the Blind/Visually

Impaired with the highest percentage of self-employment closures in PY 2021 as presented in Table 8 were Missouri (12.68%; n of 26), Florida (10.40%; n of 98), North Carolina (4.39%; n of 15), Oregon (4.39%; n of 9), and Washington (2.93%: n of 6). For PY 2022, 2.6% of the employment outcomes for VR Agencies for the Blind/Visually Impaired were in self-employment. The five VR agencies for the Blind/Visually Impaired with the highest percentage of Self-Employment Closures in PY 2022 as presented in Table 9 were Florida (11.18%; n of 103), North Carolina (12.13%, n of 29), Missouri (10.46%, n of 25), New York (4.18% , n of 10), and Washing (3.35%, n of 8).

TABLE 7
Ten VR Agencies (Blind Only) with Highest % of Closures in Self-employment in PY 2020

State VR Agency: General/Combined Only	PY 2020: % of Closures in Self-Employment	PY 2020 # of Closures in Self-Employment
Florida	11.12%	99
Missouri	8.17%	17
North Carolina	6.73%	14
Arkansas	4.33%	9
Oregon	4.33%	9
South Dakota	3.37%	7

State VR Agency: General/Combined Only	PY 2020: % of Closures in Self-Employment	PY 2020 # of Closures in Self-Employment
Minnesota	3.37%	7
South Carolina	2.40%	5
Vermont	2.40%	5
Virginia	2.40%	5
National Summary*	7.67%	208

TABLE 8

Ten VR Agencies (Blind Only) with Highest % of Closures in Self-Employment in PY 2021

State VR Agency: Blind/Visually Impaired Only	PY 2021: % of Closures in Self-Employment	PY 2021: # of Closures in Self-Employment
Missouri	12.68%	26
Florida	10.40%	98
North Carolina	7.32%	15
Oregon	4.39%	9
Washington	2.93%	6
Arkansas	2.44%	5
New York	2.44%	5
South Carolina	1.95%	4
Vermont	1.95%	4
South Dakota	1.46%	3
National Summary*	6.92%	205

TABLE 9*Ten VR Agencies (Blind Only) with Highest % of Closures in Self-Employment in PY 2022*

State VR Agency: Blind/Visually Impaired Only	PY 2022: % of Closures in Self-Employment	PY 2022: # of Closures in Self-Employment
Florida	11.18%	103
North Carolina	12.13%	29
Missouri	10.46%	25
New York	4.18%	10
Washington	3.35%	8
Vermont	2.93%	7
Massachusetts	2.93%	7
Arkansas	2.51%	6
Maine	2.51%	6
South Dakota	1.67%	4
National Summary*	7.68%	239

Average Weekly Earnings for Recipients Exiting the Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies with the Highest Percentages of Participation in Self-Employment: Table 10 complements the information on the 10 state VR agencies for the Blind/Visually Impaired with the highest participation outcomes in self-employment in PY 2020. Also presented in this table are the average earnings per week at closure in self-employment for the 10 VR Agencies identified in Table 7. With the exception of Florida, North Carolina, Oregon, South Dakota, Minnesota, South Carolina, Vermont, and Virginia, the average weekly earnings at closure for participants exiting in CIE were higher than those exiting in self-employment. Table 11 complements Table 8, which presents information on the 10 state VR agencies for the

Blind/Visually Impaired with the highest participation outcomes in self-employment for PY 2021. The VR participants closed in self-employment in the states of South Carolina, Vermont, and South Dakota had higher average weekly earnings compared to all VR participants closed in employment in those states. Table 12 complements Table 9, which presents information on the 10 state VR agencies for the Blind/Visually Impaired with the highest participation outcomes in self-employment for PY 2022. The VR participants closed in self-employment in the states of Missouri, Vermont, and Arkansas had higher average weekly earnings compared to all VR participants closed in employment in those states.

TABLE 10

PY2020 Comparison of Average Earnings per Week for Cases Closed in Self-Employment to All VR Recipients Exiting in CIE: VR Agencies (Blind/Visually Impaired only)

State VR Agency: Blind/Visually Impaired only	Average Earnings per Week at Closure in Self- Employment	Average Earnings per Week for All VR Recipi- ents Exiting in CIE
Florida	\$477.89	\$531.08
Missouri	\$653.75	\$587.15
North Carolina	\$348.77	\$470.85
Arkansas	\$655.72	\$571.58
Oregon	\$421.47	\$583.20
South Dakota	\$290.62	\$468.19
Minnesota	\$420.83	\$621.87
South Carolina	\$318.48	\$488.60
Vermont	\$450.66	\$543.48
Virginia	\$369.52	\$675.27

TABLE 11

PY2021 Comparison of Average Earnings per Week for Cases Closed in Self-Employment to All VR Recipients Exiting in CIE: VR Agencies (Blind/Visually Impaired only)

State VR Agency: Blind/Visually Impaired only	Average Earnings per Week at Closure in Self- Employment	Average Earnings per Week for All VR Recipi- ents Exiting in CIE
Missouri	\$649.55	\$654.86
Florida	\$536.17	\$551.36
North Carolina	\$364.04	\$482.19
Oregon	\$494.19	\$590.17
Washington	\$595.81	\$847.98
Arkansas	\$588.67	\$649.81
New York	\$732.12	\$795.45
South Carolina	\$919.01	\$603.38
Vermont	\$2,149.05	\$876.06
South Dakota	\$1,033.33	\$476.47

TABLE 12

PY2022 Comparison of Average Earnings per Week for Cases Closed in Self-Employment to All VR Recipients Exiting in CIE: VR Agencies (Blind/Visually Impaired only)

State VR Agency: Blind/Visually Impaired only	Average Earnings per Week at Closure in Self- Employment	Average Earnings per Week for All VR Recipi- ents Exiting in CIE
Florida	\$565.39	\$591.62
North Carolina	\$284.07	\$466.66
Missouri	\$743.23	\$679.29

State VR Agency: Blind/Visually Impaired only	Average Earnings per Week at Closure in Self- Employment	Average Earnings per Week for All VR Recipi- ents Exiting in CIE
New York	\$561.73	\$840.84
Washington	\$939.14	\$1,007.26
Vermont	\$871.19	\$850.10
Massachusetts	\$677.63	\$914.25
Arkansas	\$795.43	\$716.66
Maine	\$559.88	\$654.96
South Dakota	\$214.48	\$564.42

General/Combined VR Agencies with Highest Weekly Earnings in Self-Employment: The national average weekly wage for VR participants closed in self-employment in PY 2020 was \$538.15. Table 13 presents the 10 General/Combined Agencies with the highest weekly wages for VR participants with self-employment outcomes closed in PY 2020. The average weekly wage at closure for all VR outcomes was lower than the wages earned in self-employment for all ten of states. Table 13 also presents the percent and number of participants closed in self-employment and the average wage at closure for all VR employment outcomes. The five General/Combined VR Agencies with the highest weekly wages at closure and the average self-employment weekly wage in PY 2020 were: Connecticut (\$1,106.75), Maine (\$996.03), California (\$973.62), Vermont (\$905.32) and Oklahoma (\$868.53).

TABLE 13

Ten VR Agencies (General/Combined Only) with Highest Average Earnings for PY 2020 Closures in Self-Employment

State VR Agency: General/Combined Only	Average weekly wage self-employment	Average weekly wage all CIE closures	% Closed in self-employment	# Closed in self-employment
Connecticut	\$1,106.75	\$888.20	3.81%	30
Maine	\$996.03	\$550.85	5.15%	23
California	\$973.62	\$582.85	0.44%	28
Vermont	\$905.32	\$563.82	4.27%	19
Oklahoma	\$868.53	\$488.40	2.09%	20
Kansas	\$830.00	\$350.21	0.32%	3
Alabama	\$701.56	\$454.27	0.48%	18
Michigan	\$677.85	\$596.11	2.29%	103
New Hampshire	\$640.00	\$444.34	3.11%	10
Washington	\$637.67	\$406.50	2.13%	21

Table 14 presents the 10 General/Combined Agencies with the highest weekly wages for VR participants with self-employment outcomes closed in PY 2021. It also presents for each of the 10 states the percent and number of participants closed in self-employment. The national average weekly wage for VR participants closed in self-employment in PY 2021 was \$723.82. The five General/Combined VR Agencies with the highest weekly wages at closure and the average self-employment weekly wage in PY 2021 were: Connecticut (\$1,0803.99), Georgia (\$891.34), Michigan (\$871.00), Ohio (\$857.46) and Idaho (\$808.61). The average weekly wage at closure for all VR outcomes was lower than the wages earned in self-employment for all ten of states.

TABLE 14

Ten VR Agencies (General/Combined) with Highest Average Earnings for PY 2021 Closures in Self-Employment

State VR Agency: General/Combined Only	Average weekly wage self- employment	Average weekly wage all CIE closures	% Closed in Self- Employment	# Closed in Self- Employment
Connecticut	\$1,080.99	\$877.03	2.80%	27
Georgia	\$891.34	\$400.30	0.33%	4
Michigan	\$871.00	\$675.34	3.45%	198
Ohio	\$857.46	\$411.45	0.66%	37
Idaho	\$808.61	\$506.43	3.23%	25
California	\$804.50	\$625.29	0.42%	33
Hawaii	\$770.34	\$483.62	11.36%	5
Nebraska	\$756.40	\$420.05	0.46%	3
Vermont	\$691.17	\$599.40	5.98%	26
Oregon	\$665.42	\$447.31	1.91%	37

Table 15 presents the 10 General/Combined Agencies with the highest weekly wages for VR participants with self-employment outcomes closed in PY 2022. It also presents for each of the 10 states the percent and number of participants closed in self-employment. The national average weekly wage for VR participants closed in self-employment in PY 2022 was \$642.95. The five General/Combined VR Agencies with the highest weekly wages at closure and the average self-employment weekly wage in PY 2022 were: Kansas (\$1,612.50), Alaska (\$1,440.75), Connecticut (\$1,078.17), Maryland (\$1,007.40) and

Michigan (\$1,019.01). The average weekly wage at closure for all VR outcomes was lower than the wages earned in self-employment for all ten of states.

TABLE 15

10 VR Agencies (General/Combined Only) with Highest Average Earnings for PY 2022 Closures in Self-Employment

State VR Agency: General/Combined Only	Average weekly wage self-employment	Average weekly wage all CIE closures	% Closed in Self-Employment	# Closed in Self-Employment
Kansas	\$1,612.50	\$447.18	0.66%	6
Alaska	\$1,440.75	\$611.43	4.11%	12
Connecticut	\$1,078.17	\$892.88	3.62%	32
Maryland	\$1,007.40	\$483.77	0.50%	5
Michigan	\$1,019.01	\$768.22	3.64%	207
Nevada	\$986.80	\$545.63	0.19%	1
Alabama	\$753.19	\$507.33	0.64%	25
Idaho	\$871.28	\$538.55	1.88%	13
Delaware	\$807.60	\$496.51	0.13%	1
Indiana	\$793.48	\$408.85	1.44%	21

VR Agencies for the Blind/Visually Impaired with Highest Weekly Earnings in Self-Employment Close in 2020: Table 16 presents the 10 Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies with the 1) highest weekly wages for VR participants with self-employment outcomes, and 2) the percent and number of participants closed in self-

employment, 3) the average wage at closure for all VR employment outcomes. The five agencies with the highest weekly wages at closure and the average self-employment weekly wage were: Connecticut (\$1,103.20), Iowa (\$1,121.50), Maine (\$731.25), Nebraska (\$744.15) and Massachusetts (\$573.99). The states of Massachusetts, Washington, Florida, and New Jersey had average earnings at closure lower in self-employment than for those exiting in CIE. The percentages of self-employment outcomes for six of the ten highest wage-earning states in PY 2020 were below the national percentage of 7.67%.

Connecticut, with 5.36% of its employment outcomes in self-employment and average earnings per week of \$1,103.20, had self-employment wage higher than any of the other 21 Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies in PY 2020.

TABLE 16

10 VR Agencies (Blind Agency Only) with Highest Earnings for Closures in Self-Employment: PY 2020

State VR Agency: Blind Agency Only	Earnings at Closure per Week in Self Employment	Earnings at Closure per Week for All Closures in CIE	% Closed in Self- Employment	# Closed in Self- Employment
Connecticut	\$1,103.20	\$768.47	5.36%	3
Iowa	\$1,121.50	\$775.95	5.00%	2
Maine	\$731.25	\$492.05	16.00%	4
Nebraska	\$744.15	\$577.77	13.04%	3
Arkansas	\$655.72	\$571.58	6.47%	9

State VR Agency: Blind Agency Only	Earnings at Closure per Week in Self Employment	Earnings at Closure per Week for All Closures in CIE	% Closed in Self- Employment	# Closed in Self- Employment
Missouri	\$653.75	\$587.15	9.60%	17
Massachusetts	\$573.99	\$801.20	2.53%	4
Washington	\$521.05	\$751.34	6.90%	4
Florida	\$477.89	\$531.08	11.12%	99
New Jersey	\$496.20	\$668.19	1.60%	2

Table 17 presents the 10 Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies with the highest average weekly wages for VR participants with self-employment outcomes closed in PY 2021. Also presented are the percent and number of participants closed in self-employment and the average wage at closure for all VR employment outcomes. The five VR Agencies for the Blind/Visually Impaired with the highest weekly wages at closure and the average self-employment weekly wage in PY 2021 were Connecticut (\$2,270.39), Vermont (\$2,149.05), Minnesota (\$1,993.37), Maine (\$1,117.20) and South Dakota (\$1,033.33). The states of New York and Missouri had lower average earnings at closure in self-employment than for all closures in CIE. The percentages of self-employment outcomes for seven of the ten highest wage-earning states in PY 2021 were below the national percentage of 6.92% for self-employment outcomes among overall VR employment outcomes.

TABLE 17

The 10 VR Agencies (Blind Agency Only) in PY 2021 with Highest Earnings for Closures in Self-Employment

State VR Agency: Blind Agency Only	Earnings at Closure per Week in Self- Employment	Earnings at Closure per Week for All Closures	% Closed in Self- Employment	# Closed in Self- Employment
Connecticut	\$2,270.39	\$739.69	4.23%	3
Vermont	\$2,149.05	\$876.06	22.22%	4
Minnesota	\$1,993.47	\$652.14	3.66%	3
Maine	\$1,117.20	\$854.62	14.28%	3
South Dakota	\$1,033.33	\$476.47	4.76%	3
South Carolina	\$919.01	\$603.38	3.08%	4
Virginia	\$802.57	\$724.02	2.59%	3
Idaho	\$800.00	\$586.35	3.13%	1
New York	\$732.12	\$795.45	1.52%	5
Missouri	\$649.55	\$654.86	14.36%	26

Table 18 presents the 10 Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies with the highest average weekly wages for VR participants with self-employment outcomes closed in PY 2022. Also presented are the percent and number of participants closed in self-employment and the average wage at closure for all VR employment outcomes. The five VR Agencies for the Blind/Visually Impaired with the highest weekly wages at closure and the average self-employment weekly wage in PY 2022 were Nebraska

(\$1,553.33), Iowa (\$1,527.47), New Mexico (\$1,203.60), Washington (\$939.14) and Vermont (\$871.19). The states of Massachusetts had lower average earnings at closure in self-employment than for all closures in CIE. The percentages of self-employment outcomes for eight of the ten highest wage-earning states in PY 2022 were below the national percentage of 7.68% for self-employment outcomes among overall VR employment outcomes.

TABLE 18

The 10 VR Agencies (Blind Agency Only) in PY 2022 with Highest Earnings for Closures in Self-Employment

State VR Agency: Blind Agency Only	Earnings at Closure per Week in Self- Employment	Earnings at Closure per Week for All Closures	% Closed in Self- Employment	# Closed in Self- Employment
Nebraska	\$1,553.33	\$679.67	0.56%	3
Iowa	\$1,527.47	\$548.33	6.67%	3
New Mexico	\$1,203.60	\$745.36	3.70%	1
Washington	\$939.14	\$1,007.26	7.55%	8
Vermont	\$871.19	\$850.10	31.82%	7
Michigan	\$845.85	\$748.41	2.53%	2
Arkansas	\$795.43	\$716.86	4.05%	6
Minnesota	\$768.40	\$664.08	2.63%	2
Missouri	\$743.23	\$679.29	13.66%	25
Massachusetts	\$677.63	\$914.25	4.76%	7

Hourly Earnings and Hours Worked per Week in Self-Employment for States with the Highest Weekly Earnings in Self Employment: Tables 19, 20 and 21 provide information on average earnings per hour and hours worked per week with the # closed in self-employment for General/Combined VR agencies only. In PY 2020 (Table 19), average hourly wages for the 10 states ranged from \$39.17 for Kansas to \$20.41 for Alabama. Hours worked per week ranged from a high of 35.43 in Maine to 21.20 in New Hampshire. In PY 2021 (Table 20), hourly wages for those 10 states ranged from \$35.97 for Connecticut to \$16.56 for Nebraska. Hours worked per week ranged from a high of 40 for Nebraska to 29.85 for Connecticut. In PY 2022 (Table 21), hourly wages for those 10 states ranged from \$52.33 for Indiana to \$20.19 for Delaware. Hours worked per week ranged from a higher of 40 for Nebraska to 21 for Indiana.

TABLE 19

PY 2020 Comparison of Earnings per Hour / per Week for Cases Closed in Self- Employment-VR Agencies (General/Combined Only) with Highest Weekly Earnings

States General/Combined Only	# Closed in Self-Employment	Average Earnings per Hour at Closure in Self-Employment	Average Hours Worked per Week at Closure in Self-Employment
Connecticut	30	\$30.83	32.27
Maine	23	\$26.86	35.43
California	28	\$33.35	27.18
Vermont	19	\$37.20	28.53
Oklahoma	20	\$23.00	34.90
Kansas	3	\$39.17	30.33
Alabama	18	\$20.41	31.78

States General/Combined Only	# Closed in Self-Employment	Average Earnings per Hour at Closure in Self-Employment	Average Hours Worked per Week at Closure in Self-Employment
Michigan	103	\$20.92	31.07
New Hampshire	10	\$36.88	21.20
Washington	21	\$29.64	21.52

TABLE 20

PY 2021 Earnings per Hour and Hours Worked per Week for Cases Closed in Self-Employment-VR Agencies (General/Combined Only) with Highest Weekly Earnings

State VR Agency: General/Combined Only	# Closed in Self-Employment	Earnings at Closure per Hour in Self-Employment	Hours Worked per Week at Closure in Self-Employment
Connecticut	27	\$35.97	29.85
Georgia	4	\$23.99	31.75
Michigan	198	\$27.10	31.13
Ohio	37	\$22.40	37.38
Idaho	25	\$28.35	24.84
California	33	\$27.21	30.06
Hawaii	5	\$21.72	36.80
Nebraska	3	\$16.56	40.00
Vermont	26	\$28.65	28.00
Oregon	37	\$21.94	27.38

TABLE 21

PY 2022 Earnings per Hour and Hours Worked per Week for Cases Closed in Self- Employment-VR Agencies (General/Combined Only) with Highest Weekly Earnings

State VR Agency: General/Combined Only	# Closed in Self- Employment	Earnings at Closure per Hour in Self- Employment	Hours Worked per Week at Closure inSelf-Employment
Kansas	6	\$41.80	31.50
Alaska	12	\$21.21	31.00
Connecticut	32	\$36.86	30.41
Maryland	5	\$44.72	21.80
Michigan	207	\$30.07	33.16
Nevada	1	\$24.67	40.00
Alabama	25	\$23.91	30.12
Idaho	13	\$22.48	36.54
Delaware	1	\$20.19	40.00
Indiana	21	\$52.33	21.00

Tables 22, 23 and 24 present information on average earnings per hour and hours worked per week along with the # closed in self-employment for the Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies only. This information is presented for the 10 states with the highest hourly weekly earning. In PY 2020 (Table 22), average hourly wages for those 10 states ranged from \$36.05 in Iowa to \$18.36 in Washington. Hours worked per week ranged from a high of 38.33 hours in Connecticut to 17.50 hours in New Jersey.

In PY 2021 (Table 23), average hourly wages for those 10 states ranged from \$62.42 in Vermont to \$20.00 in Idaho. Hours worked per week ranged from a high of 46.67 in South Dakota to 17.00 in Virginia. In PY 2022 (Table 24), average hourly wage for those 10 states ranged from \$65.01 in Massachusetts to \$19.21 in Minnesota. Hours worked per week ranged from a high of 46.67 in Iowa to 22.14 in Massachusetts.

TABLE 22

PY 2020 Comparison of Earnings per Hour and Hours Worked per Week for Cases Closed in Self-Employment (Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies with Highest Weekly Earnings in Self-Employment)

State VR Agency: Blind Agency Only	# Closed in Self- Employment	Earnings at Closure per Hour in Self- Employment	Hours Worked per Week at Closure in Self-Employment
Connecticut	3	\$28.35	38.33
Iowa	2	\$36.05	35.00
Maine	4	\$22.50	28.75
Nebraska	3	\$24.61	31.67
Arkansas	9	\$18.61	32.22
Missouri	17	\$23.90	27.41
Massachusetts	4	\$21.81	28.50
Washington	4	\$18.36	26.75
Florida	99	\$18.53	26.62
New Jersey	2	\$27.31	17.50

TABLE 23

*PY 2021 Earnings per Hour and Hours Worked per Week for Cases Closed in Self-Employment
(Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies with Highest Weekly Earning in Self-Employment)*

Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies	# Closed in Self-Employment	Earnings at Closure per Hour in Self-Employment	Hours Worked per Week at Closure in Self Employment
Connecticut	3	\$61.77	30.67
Vermont	4	\$62.42	35.00
Minnesota	3	\$55.67	37.67
Maine	3	\$29.01	40.00
South Dakota	3	\$23.33	46.67
South Carolina	4	\$35.19	27.75
Virginia	3	\$41.21	17.00
Idaho	1	\$20.00	40.00
New York	5	\$26.82	22.80
Missouri	26	\$26.28	23.88

TABLE 24

*PY 2022 Earnings per Hour and Hours Worked per Week for Cases Closed in Self-Employment
(Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies with Highest Weekly Earning in Self-Employment)*

Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies	# Closed in Self-Employment	Earnings at Closure per Hour in Self-Employment	Hours Worked per Week at Closure in Self Employment
Nebraska	3	\$58.33	23.00
Iowa	3	\$32.35	46.67
New Mexico	1	\$40.12	30.00

Blind/Visually Impaired Agencies	# Closed in Self-Employment	Earnings at Closure per Hour in Self-Employment	Hours Worked per Week at Closure in Self Employment
Washington	8	\$26.52	30.88
Vermont	7	\$40.52	22.71
Michigan	2	\$22.47	35.00
Arkansas	6	\$23.17	35.00
Minnesota	2	\$19.21	40.00
Missouri	25	\$35.98	26.20
Massachusetts	7	\$65.01	22.14

SUMMARY

This information brief provides a snapshot of VR recipients who exited services in PY 2020, PY 2021, and PY 2022 for the states reporting the highest outcomes in self-employment. The brief is intended to provide a baseline that can be used in subsequent years to compare progress in self-employment as well as to design future research activities. The brief does not provide insight into why these states have higher outcomes when compared to the national outcomes for all VR agencies or other state VR agencies. Future research needs to be conducted to compare the states' policies and procedures as well as other variables that may be impacting the outcomes achieved by individuals exiting services in self-employment.

The contents of this information brief were funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration (Grant #H263E200005). The ideas, opinions, and conclusions expressed do not represent recommendations, endorsements, or policies of the U.S. Department of Education. VCU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution providing access to education and employment without regard to age, race, national origin, gender, religion, sexual



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