

**FY 2021-2022 Virginia Beach Budget
Response to Council Questions**

Question Number: 20

Question: Page 45 what average weekly wage is this? Is the weekly wage data from the VEC quarterly report? There are no footnotes for the sources of the data. Is the average private sector weekly wage of folks employed in Virginia Beach independent of where they live? Is it the 52-week average for 2020? This is case where the median should also be provided as the median will reveal how a minority of workers making higher weekly wages skew the average to the right. The average masks the large number of much lower paying jobs. The budget is the place for showing all our cards faceup and not glossing over the underlying reality.

Date Requested: 3/28/21

Requested By: Councilmember Moss

Department: Budget

Response: The average weekly wage provided on page 45 of the Executive Summary is a preliminary figure provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This figure is the average weekly wage across all industries and all sectors (federal, state, local, and private) in the City of Virginia Beach. The preliminary figures have since been updated and the current, preliminary average weekly wage in the City of Virginia Beach for the first, second, and third quarter of 2020 is \$898.33 per week. This updated figure will be included in the publication of the FY 2021-22 Adopted Budget.

Below is the table provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

**Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages
Original Data Value**

Series Id: ENU5181040010
Series Title: Average Weekly Wage in Total Covered Total, all industries for All establishment sizes in Virginia Beach City, Virginia, NSA
State: Virginia
Area: Virginia Beach City, Virginia
Industry: Total, all industries
Owner: Total Covered
Size: All establishment sizes
Type: Average Weekly Wage
Years: 2020 to 2020

Year	Qtr1	Qtr2	Qtr3	Qtr4	Annual
2020	868	925	902		