

Non-Charge for Q2, Q3, Q4 of 2020

The quarterly charges used to determine the 2021 contribution rates are the third and fourth quarters of 2019 and the first and second quarters of 2020.

Due to an executive order and Act 153 of 2021 (signed into law by Governor Hutchinson on February 25, 2021), Arkansas carried out a non-charge and removed all benefit charges for the second quarter of 2020. Similar action was taken for governmental entities and non-profit employers that reimburse the trust fund directly, rather than pay contributions at an assigned rate. The 2021 rate statement reflected the exclusion of these charges.

Regarding the 2022 rate calculations, the quarters used to determine these rates will be the third and fourth quarters of 2020 and the first and second quarters of 2021.

Act 153 of 2021, specifically §11-10-703(a)(7), gives the DWS Director the discretion to non-charge UI benefit payments that are the result of a disaster emergency. DWS has compiled the estimated charges for the third and fourth quarters of 2020 in order to proceed with the non-charge for these quarters, as allowed by Act 153 of 2021. The removal of these charges from the rating process for 2022 will lessen the effects of the pandemic on Arkansas employers. Rate statements will be mailed out to employers in mid-December 2021.

The non-charges may reduce the amounts collected from employers in future rate years resulting in a slight negative impact on the trust fund balance going forward. Charges for the first and second quarters of 2021 will not be removed and will be reflected in 2022 rates.

Reflected in
2021 Rates

Q2 2020

Charges removed due to an executive order and Act 153 of 2021. Exclusion of charges was reflected in 2021 rate statement.

Q3 2020

Non-charge of UI benefit payments that were the result of a disaster emergency as allowed by Act 153 of 2021.

Q4 2020

Non-charge of UI benefit payments that were the result of a disaster emergency as allowed by Act 153 of 2021.

Q1 2021

Charges will not be removed and will be reflected in 2022 rates.

Q2 2021

Charges will not be removed and will be reflected in 2022 rates.

Will be Reflected in 2022 Rates