Most workers will be covered by Biden's vaccine mandate

September 10, 2021

President Joe Biden on Sept. 9 laid out a plan to regulate Covid-19 vaccines in the workplace, requiring workers at companies with at least 100 employees to either get vaccinated or face regular testing. The plan also covers those who work for the federal government or federal contractors, and those who work for health care organizations that receive Medicare or Medicaid funding.

While a majority of U.S. companies have fewer than 100 employees, most workers are employed by companies that hit or exceed the 100-employee floor, a POLITICO analysis of 2018 Census Bureau data found. The analysis was based on the Bureau's Statistics of U.S. Businesses data on "firms," which are single businesses, or groups of businesses owned by the same entity in the same industry and geographic area. Almost three–quarters of workers in health care and social assistance, the country's largest industry by total employment, work at large firms. Less than half of workers in Montana work at large firms, the lowest of any state. Seventy-one percent of workers in Tennessee work at large firms, the most of any state.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 SUSB Annual Data Tables by Establishment Industry

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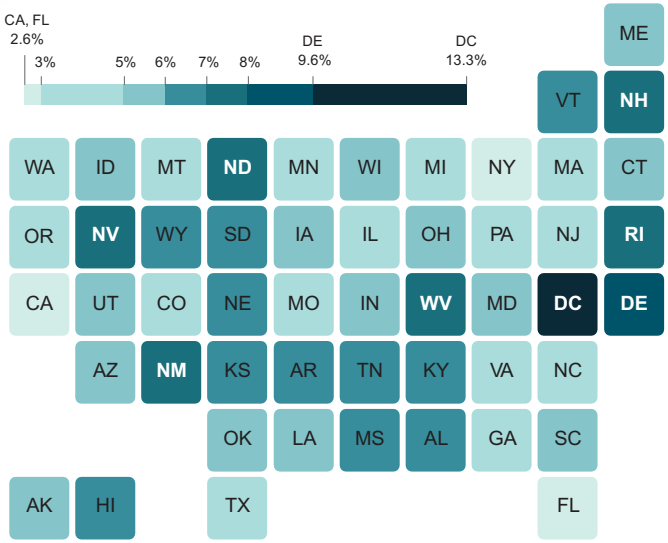
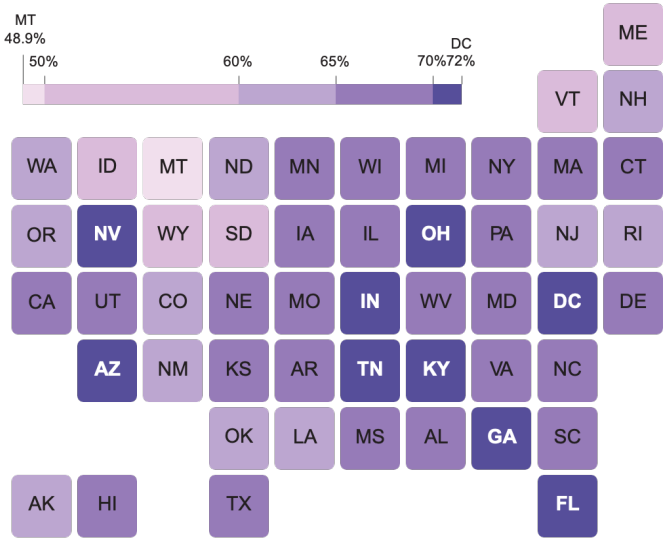
Large firms account for lowest shares in California, Florida

PERCENTAGE OF FIRMS IN STATE WITH AT LEAST 100 EMPLOYEES



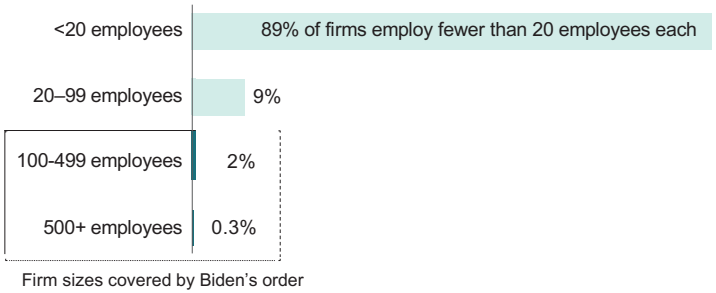
Less than half of employees in Montana work at large firms

PERCENTAGE OF EMPLOYEES WORKING FOR FIRMS WITH AT LEAST 100 EMPLOYEES



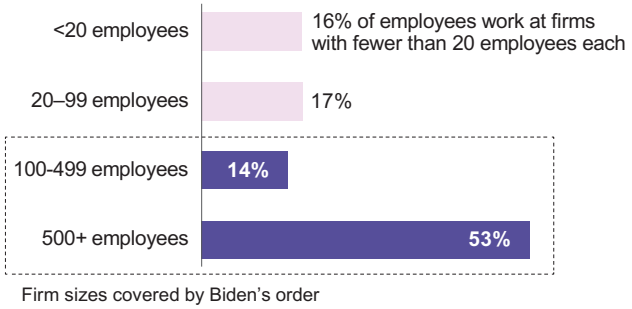
Most firms have fewer than 100 employees ...

SHARE OF FIRMS BY NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES



... But most employees work at large firms

SHARE OF U.S. EMPLOYEES BY FIRM SIZE



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 SUSB Annual Data Tables by Establishment Industry

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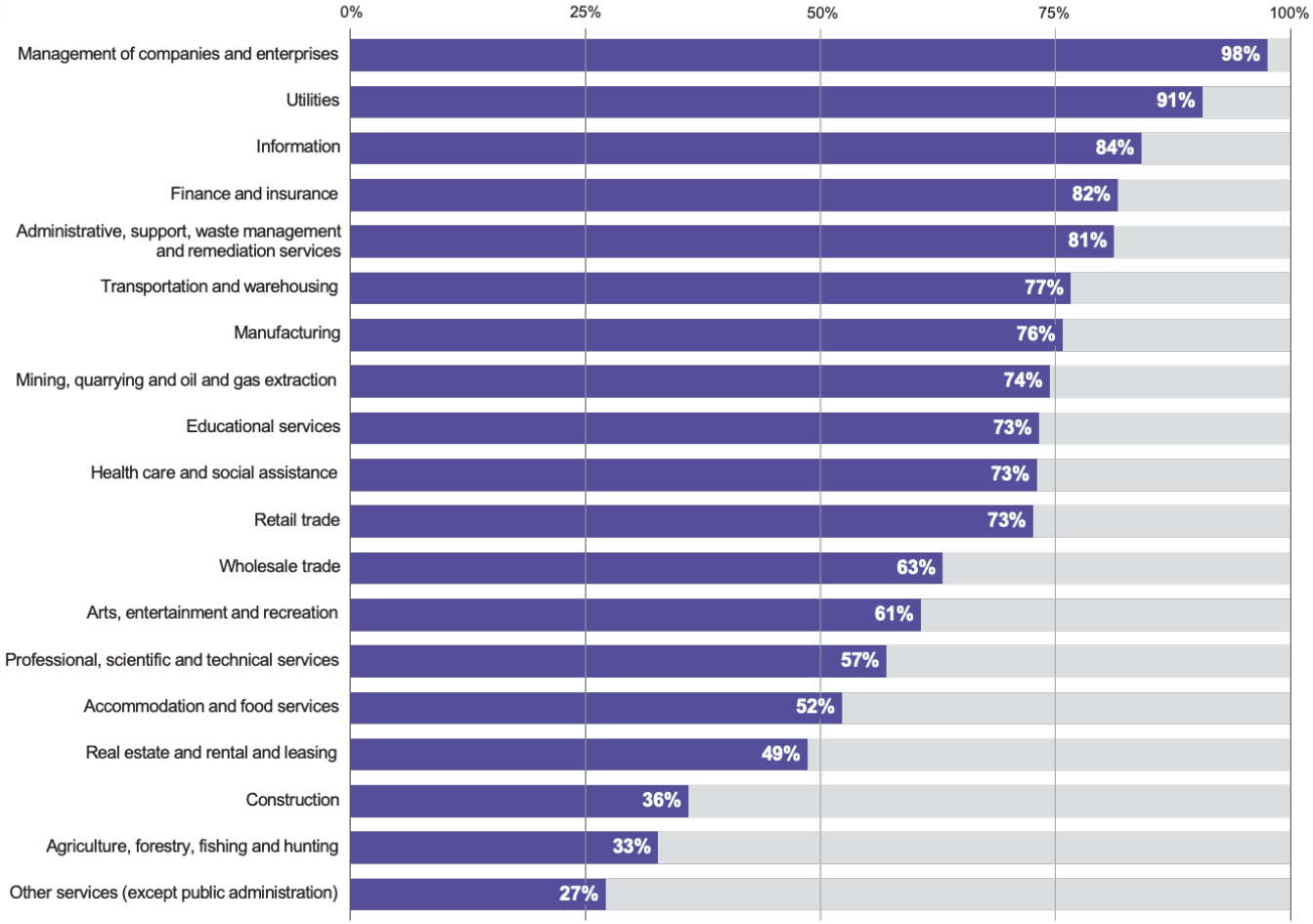
Management industry workers are most likely to work at large firms

SHARE OF WORKERS IN INDUSTRY WHO WORK AT FIRMS WITH AT LEAST 100 EMPLOYEES



Notes: Each of the industries shown above corresponds to a NAICS two-digit industry code, except for the following: Manufacturing represents NAICS industries 31-33; retail trade represents industries 44-45; and transportation and warehousing represents industries 48-49

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 SUSB Annual Data Tables by Establishment Industry

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