There is a wealth of state and local employment and economic data – most of it free – from government and private sector sources. We have organized this information by topic to make it easier to find and use. All of the text in blue is an Internet link that you can click on to go directly to the source of information described. We have shown published data, but keep in mind that many government agencies have additional data available in unpublished tables. If you don’t find what you need, it’s almost always worthwhile to use the contact info (in column 4) to inquire about relevant unpublished data. State labor market information offices also may have additional state-specific data, and should be contacted as well (click on the link for more below).

- The links in the first column will take you directly to the principal source, in most cases the specific source for state and local data. The sponsoring organization and the abbreviation used for the source are shown after the title.
- Coverage: These two columns summarize the geographical level of detail available from the source. If the number of localities is limited, this means that only the largest localities are included.
- Frequently-asked questions, contact info, technical details, etc. These links will show you FAQ’s, the actual questions in the survey or data instrument, additional technical information, and contact information should you have further questions.
- Other selected publications: This column highlights some important additional publications and features which you may find useful.
- Notes: The last column provides miscellaneous useful information about the data source, including a brief explanation of what is available, how long after data collection the information is issued, and when the data series began.
- Where appropriate, notes are also shown in the section heading rows. If Internet links are included in these rows, the text is in boldface type.
- The section headings are listed in a manner that we believe will be more helpful than alphabetical order: first general sources; then the basic building blocks of workforce statistics such as employment/unemployment and compensation/benefits (with inflation sources listed immediately after this section); then a number of categories such as labor-management and safety and health statistics which will probably be of interest to more specialized users; then sources relevant to specific industries, occupations and other worker-specific subjects (such as age, race and ethnicity, disability status, etc.); and finally miscellaneous economic and population topics.

### General Tips

State and local data users desire comprehensive information that is as current and geographically detailed as possible. Since this ideal does not exist, compromises are necessary. It can be useful to draw information from more than one source, which can help minimize weaknesses in timeliness or geographical specificity. The individual listings below provide more detail on geographic detail and publication lags, but below are the best sources for those who wish to prioritize one or the other factor. **For more specific tips, see the box on the contents page.**

**Most geographically detailed sources:** Censuses (both the population census done every 10 years and the economic censuses done every 5 years) cover the entire population that is being surveyed (economic censuses only survey specific industries). Similarly, the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) includes all employees “covered” by Unemployment Insurance. However, most data sources only survey a sample of the entire population (many but not all are random samples, the ideal type). In general, larger sample sizes permit greater geographic detail. The most geographically detailed sources of labor market information other than censuses are the U.S. Census Bureau’s ( Census’) American Community Survey (ACS) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ (BLS) Current Employment Statistics (CES), Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), and Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) programs.

**Most up-to-date sources:** Except for the CES and LAUS (which publish data monthly with about a one to two month lag), information from the most geographically detailed sources is published with anywhere from 6 months to 2 or more years delay. The most current information derives from the CES and BLS products from the Current Population Survey (CPS), such as unemployment rates (UR) (and LAUS, which combines data from both sources). Much of this information is published only a few weeks after the survey. Similarly, the private sector Help Wanted Online is published with only a short delay.
To keep this guide manageable it primarily includes sources of labor market data, with a few exceptions. Data that measure inflation (such as the Consumer Price Index) are included because it is almost always desirable to adjust monetary trends (e.g., earnings) for inflation to obtain a more realistic perspective. The Commerce Department’s Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) state and local data are included because their statistics on personal income are dominated by earned income. Population data are included because employment and training programs (and many other Federal programs) base eligibility and funding decisions in part on population data.

The U.S. Census Bureau uses a variety of online tools that can be used to find, tabulate, organize, graph and/or map information. These are conveniently described at Data Access Tools. Reference contacts for specific sources are listed in the table below, but see Contact BLS or U.S. Census Bureau subject/topic contacts for general lists. The U.S. Census Bureau can also conduct special surveys at the request of a governmental unit, except during the period immediately before and after the decennial census, as part of its Special Census Program. For BLS methodological issues, the best single source is the BLS Handbook of Methods.

Key Definitions

General: The BLS Glossary is an excellent source for employment-related terms, which is supplemented by the more general U.S. Census Bureau glossary.

Geographical terms: A metropolitan area (of which there are three types) is made up of one or more counties and consists of a core area containing a substantial population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of economic and social integration with that core. Each metropolitan statistical area (MSA) must have at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more inhabitants, and micropolitan statistical areas include between 10,000 and 50,000 in population. Some MSAs have subdivisions called metropolitan divisions. Areas outside of MSAs are called non-metropolitan areas; given their smaller population size, there is much less data available for them (a good source is the American Community Survey shown in the first row below). For more information and definitions of less-frequently used terms, see the U.S. Census Bureau’s Geographic Terms and Definitions, Geographic Areas Reference Manual, Guide to State and Local Census Geography, and Urban and Rural Classification; and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDAs) Rural-Urban Continuum Codes. Note: to protect survey respondents’ confidentiality, some data for less populous states or localities are not published.

Survey terms: Information is collected directly from the labor force through what are referred to as household or demographic surveys (the decennial population census is the oldest household survey, and the Current Population Survey is the oldest regular monthly survey). Note that household surveys other than the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey usually cover the civilian non-institutional population and thus exclude the homeless, military personnel and those in prisons and mental health facilities. Information is collected from employers through what are referred to as establishment surveys (the Current Employment Statistics is the oldest establishment survey). An establishment is defined by BLS as “an economic unit which produces goods or services, such as a factory, mine or store. It is generally at a single location and engaged predominantly in one type of activity.” Thus a single business can be comprised of thousands of establishments. For more information, see the U.S. Census Bureau’s Guidance for Labor Force Statistics Data Users and Labor Force Fact Sheet on differences among different employment sources.

Workforce terms

Employment: Employment refers to the number of individuals at work. Employees mean only wage and salary workers, and excludes the self-employed. The labor force means individuals who are either working or not working but actively looking for work (the unemployed); BLS classifies the remainder of the population as out of the labor force. Note that the employment counts differ between establishment and household surveys (defined above), primarily because establishment surveys count the number of jobs, while household surveys count the number of workers. i.e., individuals who hold two jobs would be counted twice in an establishment survey (once for each job), but only be counted once in a household survey.

Compensation: Compensation means all monetary and in-kind benefits (including health insurance, sick leave, etc.) that a worker receives. Earnings mean all monetary compensation. Wages are monetary compensation paid by an employer (i.e., excluding self-employment earnings) and may exclude irregular pay such as bonuses. Benefits are non-monetary forms of compensation.

Industry and Occupation: For more information, see the U.S. Census Bureau’s Frequently Asked Questions on Industries and Occupations, contact the industry and occupation statistics branch, and Comparisons of ACS-CPS Data on Industry, Occupation, and Class of Worker.
**Tips on Using Workforce Statistics**

If you are unfamiliar with a particular source, we recommend that you follow these steps.

1. **Before using the data, read the background material, especially the overview and frequently asked questions (FAQ's).** If multiple sources exist for a specific type of information, read a reference that explains the differences among sources to ensure that you choose the most suitable source (we have usually listed such references in the first row of a section, to minimize repetition). It’s usually also worthwhile to read the exact survey question(s) and technical or methodological references.

2. **Pay particular attention to how such critical terms as employment and compensation are defined,** especially the reference time period and who is answering the questions (employers or employees). E.g., many government programs (but only some workforce statistical sources) reflect a count of every person served during an entire year. In contrast, most employment survey counts reflect an average at a specific point in time (such as a single week). Therefore, it may be inappropriate to use these two sets of information to calculate the percentage of the unemployed served (in addition to the problem caused by the fact that programs often serve those who are out of work but not technically classified as unemployed).

3. **Scan the complete list of tables, and identify all those pertinent to your inquiry.** Then examine the relevant full tables more closely to determine which best suit your needs. Table titles may not adequately capture the information in the table, and grabbing the first data one sees in the hope that it’s the most relevant data often causes mistakes and misinterpretations that can be avoided. If in doubt, use the appropriate “contact” link to check with an analyst.

The U.S. Census Bureau has an educational resources and training website called [Census Academy](#), which has a variety of tips for different users.

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Key sources which don't usually provide statistical data are highlighted. Within each section, we have identified: 1) the most recent, 2) provide the greatest geographical detail, and 3) include demographic information (e.g., gender, race, age, etc.). This information is shown in the first column, with the markings shown below on the abbreviation for the source. Sections with only one source are not marked for 1 and 2.

1. The **most recent** sources are identified.
2. The sources with the **greatest geographical detail** are noted.
3. Sources that include some **demographic information** are marked as well.
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<td><strong>KEY SOURCES and DATA PRODUCERS</strong></td>
<td>Two of the most useful general resource links are Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Topics A-Z and U.S. Census Bureau Topics A-Z (neither are restricted to sources of state and local data). See also the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Information Guide.</td>
<td></td>
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| Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Regional Offices, U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) | all | varies by region | See more information on BLS data sources and products below.  
- Economy at a Glance tables | About the BLS  
- BLS’ Beyond the Numbers Publications  
- Get the Facts on the BLS (There’s a Stat for That!) | BLS is the principal federal agency responsible for measuring labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy. It has eight regional information offices, each of whose Websites has a wealth of workforce and economic data. The type of information and level of detail varies by region, but includes employment, inflation, and workplace safety data. |
| State Labor Market Information (LMI) Offices | all | varies by state | See more information on Census data sources and products below.  
- Locate Your State LMI Unit and Its Products (CareerOneStop Directory)  
- State Labor Market Information Contact List (BLS)  
- LMI Training Institute State Membership Directory (includes links and contact information)  
- LMI Central – ETA’s LMI Community of Practice  
- The LMI Data Dissemination System  
- Guiding the Way | Guide to State LMI Products and Services  
- Putting America to Work: The Essential Role of Federal Labor Market Statistics (Brookings Institute)  
- Your State Labor Market Information Department  
- Important Data Producers  
- LMI Training Gateway  
- Projections Portal | State LMI units collect data for BLS and disseminate data products under a state-federal cooperative agreement with BLS. For ETA, state LMI units provide career information, including short-term projections, as well as deliverables submitted to the national Workforce Information Database (WID) run by the Analyst Research Center (ARC). ETA’s CareerOneStop website has a complete listing of all state labor market information websites, which provide a wealth of information on workforce statistics as well as employment programs. Individual states may have customized surveys on job vacancies, projected job openings or other topics. State LMI staff may also be able to assist users to interpret and package data for grant applications and other purposes. |
| Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) | all | varies by region | See more information on Census data sources and products below.  
- Narrative Profiles and Data Profiles by selected geography | Census Bureau – What We Do | The Census Bureau is the federal government’s largest statistical agency, and provides current facts and figures about America’s people, places, and economy. Census surveys provide periodic and comprehensive statistics about the nation. **This data is critical for government programs, policies, and decision-making.** |
| Federal Data and Statistics, USA.gov and Data.gov | all | all localities | See more information on data shared  
- Overview of Federal data and participating agencies  
- Data.gov Overview | Federal Mobile Data Apps  
- US DOL Mobile Apps (including BLS and ETA’s CareerOneStop)  
- America’s Economy, Census mobile app | These sites house data from multiple federal agencies collected by the Federal Interagency Council on Statistical Policy. (Formerly, this was housed under FedStats.gov.) |
| Economic Research Service (ERS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) | all | all localities | See more information on data shared  
- ERS/USDA Data Products  
- Rural Economy and Population Data  
- County Level Data (NASS) | Atlas of Rural and Small Town America  
- National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS), USDA | The ERS provides data on the agricultural industry, rural economies, markets and trade. |
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| Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) |                         |                   | • BEA Data  
• BEA Industry Facts  
• Personal Income Mapping | • We've Got Your Number guide  
• BEA consumer guide, called *Measuring the Nation's Economy* | BEA produces data on the *gross domestic product (GDP)*, personal income, compensation and employment. BEA also produces regional economic profiles, called BEARfacts. |
| National Crosswalk Service Center, Workforce Information Database (WID) - for Industry and Occupational Classification and Coding Systems (Taxonomies) | all | all localities | • NCSC home page  
• Industry and occupation data taxonomies (classification / coding systems) Workforce Information Database (WID) Center and WID structure  
• O*NET Online  
• O*Net Code Connector  
• O*NET Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)  
• Standard Occupational Coding (SOC) system (part of the O*NET taxonomy developed by US DOL)  
• North American Industry Classification Systems (U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau) | • O*NET information on crosswalks  
• O*NET Resource Center and Crosswalk Search  
• Analyst Resource Center (ARC) for labor market data producers  
• Military-Civilian occupational crosswalk resources  
• Classification of Instructional Programs (U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics)  
• CIP Crosswalk (NCES)  
• Career Cluster Crosswalks National Career Clusters Framework | Various industry and occupational data are collected and reported using a variety of classification systems. Those systems must frequently be made to relate to one another through specialized computer files called "crosswalks." ETA has identified a number of standardized crosswalk files used in America’s *CareerInfoNet* career kit, and has made those resources available through the WID’s *National Crosswalk Service Center*. The NCSC Legacy Crosswalks’ classifications page contains information about those coding system crosswalks, with links that allow you access to the various taxonomies used for different types of data collected. These crosswalks cover the current taxonomies for both industries (the *North American Industry Classification System*) and occupations (the *Standard Occupational Classification* system), as well as other coding systems. O*NET is also a resource for taxonomy crosswalks to compare different coding systems to the O*NET database’s classification system, called the *Standard Occupational Classification (SOC)* Manual and *SOC User Guide*. |
| GENERAL BLS SOURCES |                         |                   | • About the Data  
• National Economy Overview | • Census MSA Data Tables and Tools  
• States and Local Areas (Census) | BLS supplies a variety of workforce and inflation data for regions, states and metropolitan areas. Each state is listed separately, and under each state the MSAs are listed. BLS assembles this integrated data from various BLS surveys and programs. The tables cover the labor force, employment (by major industry), unemployment, and inflation. |
| Economy at a Glance, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) | all | by States and Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) | • Overview of BLS Statistics by Geography  
• BLS Geographic Guide  
• BLS Geographic Information by Region | • Census MSA Geographic Files and Maps | BLS’ newest geographic site, *Geographic Information*, allows users to choose a state from a map, and includes state “at a glance” tables, MSA tables, the most recently issued data, and a list of the most popular tables. The *BLS Geographic Guide* provides links to BLS data for geographic areas (from largest to smallest) covering regions, divisions, states, metropolitan areas, counties, and cities and towns for the following topics: 1) employment and unemployment; 2) pay and benefits; 3) inflation and consumer spending; 4) economic and employment projections; 5) workplace injuries; and 6) productivity. *BLS Statistics by Geography* is organized by BLS source rather than by topic, and complements the *Geographic Guide*. |
| BLS Geographic Information, BLS Geographic Guide and BLS Statistics by Geography | all | by selected localities — varies by topic | • Overview of BLS Statistics by Geography  
• BLS Geographic Guide  
• BLS Geographic Information by Region | • Census MSA Geographic Files and Maps | BLS’ newest geographic site, *Geographic Information*, allows users to choose a state from a map, and includes state “at a glance” tables, MSA tables, the most recently issued data, and a list of the most popular tables. The *BLS Geographic Guide* provides links to BLS data for geographic areas (from largest to smallest) covering regions, divisions, states, metropolitan areas, counties, and cities and towns for the following topics: 1) employment and unemployment; 2) pay and benefits; 3) inflation and consumer spending; 4) economic and employment projections; 5) workplace injuries; and 6) productivity. *BLS Statistics by Geography* is organized by BLS source rather than by topic, and complements the *Geographic Guide*. |
### General U.S. Census Bureau Sources

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<th>all localities</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Create Customized ACS Data Tables (using American FactFinder)</td>
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<td>- When to Use 1, 3, and 5-Year Estimates</td>
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<tr>
<td>- ACS Handbooks for various types of data users (general, state, business, researchers, etc.)</td>
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<td>- ACS questionnaires</td>
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<td>- ACS design and methodology</td>
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<td>- Glossary of ACS Terms</td>
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<td>- ACS online tutorial</td>
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<td>- Geographic terms in the ACS</td>
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<td>- 2010 ACS Content Test Evaluation Report Covering Wages</td>
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<td>- Commuting (Journey to Work)</td>
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<td>- Contact ACS</td>
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<td>- ACS Briefs grouped by year, including many on work-related topics (work and family, working hours, health coverage, etc.)</td>
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<td>- ACS Library of publications</td>
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<td>- Usual Hours Worked in the Past 12 Months for Workers 16 to 64 (2008 &amp; 2009)</td>
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<td>- Commuting in the United States (2009)</td>
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<td>- Public Transportation Usage Among U.S. Workers: 2008 and 2009 (ACS)</td>
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<td>- Request customized tabulations from ACS</td>
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ACS data, which first covered all counties in 2005, are the most comprehensive single source for detailed geographical statistics (the series began publication in 2000). The ACS replaced the “long form” of the decennial census. Data (generally an annual number) are published 9 or more months after the end of the reference year.

Data for areas above 65,000 in population are based on a single year’s survey. Data for areas between 20,000 to 65,000 in population are based on 3 years of data, and for smaller populations the data reflect a 5 year period.

Whenever possible, use the shortest reference period, which allows analyses of trends. Otherwise, the time periods overlap. For example, if 2009 and 2010 data are compared using 3-year estimates, two-thirds of the data will overlap (the actual comparison will be 2007-9 vs. 2008-10). Single-year estimates (above 65,000 in population) are sufficient to cover all congressional districts, approximately 800 counties, and 500 metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, among others.

The first 5-year estimates (for 2005-2009) became available in January 2011.

To get local data, use the American FactFinder. Note that single-year estimates are sometimes not the first choice.

### State and Metropolitan Area Data Book (2010), U.S. Census Bureau

| MSAs and counties within MSAs |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----|
| - Map of MSAs and micropolitan areas |
| - Map of combined statistical areas |
| - Map of New England city and town areas |
| - State and Metropolitan Area Data Book Earlier 2006 Edition |
| - Guide to State Statistical Abstracts and State Information |

The U.S. Census Bureau describes this publication as a Statistical Abstract Series for states and localities. It is published on an irregular basis, with seven editions issued since 1979. The 2010 edition has workforce data from 2008 or earlier. There are several tables presenting state workforce data, two tables for MSAs, and two tables covering the counties within MSAs.

The table for micropolitan areas has no employment data.

Note: the U.S. Census Bureau terminated updates to this program as of October 2011. Although the data are conveniently presented in one place, it is possible to obtain much more recent data from other sources in this Guide. The U.S. Census Bureau issues occasional electronic updates, but nevertheless other sources have more current data.
### County and City Data Book (2007), U.S. Census Bureau

<table>
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<th>Data Type</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geographic definitions are in Appendix C</td>
<td>Counties and cities with 25,000 or more people</td>
<td>The U.S. Census Bureau describes this publication as a local supplement to the <em>Statistical Abstract Series</em>. It has been issued 14 times since 1944, previously in 2000. It includes data for all U.S. states, counties, and cities with a population of 25,000 or more. It contains additional data for other jurisdictions with a population of 100,000 or more. Also included is a complete set of state maps showing all counties, places of 25,000 or more in population, and metropolitan areas. The latest employment data are for 2006. The state and county sections have 1 table each for private and public sector employment. More recent and comprehensive data are available from <em>USA Counties</em> (2011) data. The city section has 1 employment table, but there is no employment table for miscellaneous localities. <strong>Note:</strong> the U.S. Census Bureau terminated updates to this program as of October 2011.</td>
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### Annual Social and Economic Supplement of the Current Population Survey’s Table Creator (ASEC), U.S. Census Bureau

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<tr>
<th>Data Type</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Table Creator Help</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>This excellent site is in many ways an “American FactFinder” (see above) for states, using the <em>Current Population Survey</em>’s (CPS)’ annual supplement — the survey that produces the U.S. Census Bureau’s annual poverty and income data. It supplies state data unavailable from any other source (such as employer-provided health insurance coverage), and covers some topics (e.g., disability, Native Americans, nativity) for which other sources only provide meager coverage. This site supplies no pre-packaged tables, but the table-creation feature is much simpler to use than in other data websites, despite some quirks. Note that labor market variables appear in four different places in the selections: on the left hand side under “Define Your Table” and “Statistics” (after clicking on the latter, click the drop-down box under “Additional numeric variable statistics,” which is the only way to generate earnings data); and on the right hand side under “Full/Part-time” and “All Worker Status.” Note also that the “labor force” variables only pertain to the time of the survey itself, and are best avoided in favor of the “work experience” variables (“Work Experience-Detailed” provides the fullest picture). If you select “State” as a variable under “Define Your Table,” the resulting table will show all the states.</td>
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- Geographic definitions are in Appendix C
- County maps by state are in Appendix D
- State data tables
- County data tables
- City data tables
- Place data tables
- entire Data Book (2007)
- County and City Data Book Table of Contents
- 1990’s Census Top 25 County Rankings
- Table Creator Help
- Table Creator tool options
- ASEC Variables and Examples
- How to Use Table Creator to Reproduce the Alternative Measures of Income and Poverty (R&D) Series
- CPS methodology and technical documentation
- Contact CPS (not specific to Table Creator)
- Alternate Poverty Examples
- Poverty Thresholds
- ASEC Data Program homepage
- U.S. Census Bureau CPS homepage
- CPS Poverty Data Tables
- CPS Income Data Tables
| **USA Counties (2011), U.S. Census Bureau** | all counties | • overview of “USA Counties” (basic information and file format)  
• USA Counties File Layout | • Census 2000 Gateway  
• County-Metro Side-by-Side comparison | This U.S. Census Bureau site provides data through customized searches, and includes more than 6,300 data items from various sources for the U.S., states and counties. The data include all of the data published for counties in the latest editions of the *State and Metropolitan Area Data Book* and the *County and City Data Book* (plus much more). Topics covered include age, agriculture, ancestry, banking, building permits, business patterns, crime, *earnings*, education, elections, *employment*, government, health, households, housing, income, *labor force*, manufactures, population, *poverty*, retail trade, social programs, veterans, vital statistics, water use, and wholesale trade. |
| **State and County QuickFacts, U.S. Census Bureau** | counties and localities with more than 5,000 people | • FAQ’s about QuickFacts  
• QuickFacts Dashboard | • State Facts for Students dashboard  
• About datasets used in the QuickFacts table | QuickFacts are useful to get a general understanding of county population, poverty, and related demographic information. This site includes demographic, educational attainment, business, income, poverty, housing, and geographical data. The state and county data are much more recent than the city data. This source is extremely easy to use, but generally not as up to date as other sources. |
| **County Business Patterns (CBP) and ZIP Code Business Patterns (ZBP), U.S. Department of Commerce’s Census Bureau** | counties and zip codes | • CBP Data  
• County Business Patterns and Non-Employer Statistics (1986-2017)  
• Pre-1998 historical CBP data  
• CBP datasets over time  
• CBP 2015  
• CBP 2016  
• CBP 2017  
• Census Data API Discovery Tool  
• ZBP Data | • CBP overview  
• CBP FAQ’s  
• CBP Glossary  
• About ZBP data using Census application programming interface (API)  
• Statistics of US Businesses (SUSB)  
• Counts of business establishments (BLS)  
• Non-Employer Statistics (NES) | County Business Patterns (CBP) issues the only source of complete and consistent county-level data for business establishments with industry detail. The Census updates the data annually about 1.5 years after the end of the reference period, and the site has comparable historical data from 1998 (the series itself has data dating to 1946). CBP obtains data from census collections and administrative records for all establishments. Other sources covering the same industries are often based on sample surveys. Data include the number of employees, counts of establishments, and total payroll. ZIP Code Business Patterns data provide the number of establishments by employment-size classes for detailed industries. |
| **CenStats Databases, U.S. Census Bureau** | varies by topic | • Datasets (CenStats)  
• Building Permits Survey Data  
• Non-Employer Statistics (NES) | • Data Profiles - Detailed Occupation by Race, Spanish Origin, and Sex (2000 Census) | CenStats provide detailed housing, population, income, demographic and education information from the Census data. See also the Census Tract Sheet Locator. |
| **Census Atlas of the United States, U.S. Census Bureau** | varies by topic | • Work chapter  
• Education chapter  
• Income and Poverty chapter  
• Population Distribution chapter  
• Migration chapter | • Reference maps  
• Glossary of terms | Published in 2007, the *Census Atlas* is about 300 pages and contains almost 800 maps. Data from decennial censuses prior to 2000 have been used to create nearly 150 maps and figures, providing context and an historical perspective for many of the topics presented. Topics covered include a chapter on work. A majority of the maps present county level data, but data also include state, census tract (for the largest cities and metropolitan areas), and selected American Indian reservations. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Geographic Scope</th>
<th>Type of Data</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atlas of Rural and Small Town America, Economic Research Service (ERS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)</strong></td>
<td>none counties</td>
<td>List of data elements and definitions, Rural Economy and Population Data, Obtaining Atlas data via maps (note zoom feature on left side), Complete Atlas data in one spreadsheet (see &quot;variable name lookup&quot; for explanations of the heading titles)</td>
<td>This Atlas consolidates more than 60 statistical indicators on jobs, demography and agriculture for all U.S. counties. Employment data include 1) percentage change in employment; 2) the percent employed in agriculture, manufacturing, government, and service industries; and 3) the unemployment rate. It includes data on household income, poverty, and measures of educational attainment. Note that some of the data are not as current as can be obtained directly from the ACS (see above). Each county is also classified by various ERS categories (e.g., whether the county is dependent upon farming, has experienced persistent poverty, etc.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Joint Economic Committee (JEC), U.S. Congress</strong></td>
<td>all none</td>
<td>Annual Reports, The Federal Minimum Wage report</td>
<td>Click on the state map to access reports that include data on employment, unemployment, earnings, poverty, health insurance coverage, veterans, and housing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JOB VACANCY DATA and EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS</strong></td>
<td>4 regions only none</td>
<td>JOLTS overview, JOLTS FAQ’s, Create customized JOLTS tables, Miscellaneous JOLTS publications, Contact JOLTS</td>
<td>We have included this source, because it is the only government survey that tracks job openings, although because of its small sample size (about 16,000 business establishments) it only publishes data for 4 broad geographic regions (Northeast, South, Midwest, and West). BLS provides data by industry (broad industry groups), but not by occupation (and only at the national level). JOLTS collects data on total employment, job openings, hires, quits, layoffs and discharges, and other separations. BLS issues the data monthly, a little more than a month after the end of the reference period. The series began in December 2000.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Help Wanted OnLine (HWOL), The Conference Board</strong></td>
<td>all 52 MSAs</td>
<td>HWOL technical info, Contact HWOL (see bottom of screen)</td>
<td>Job ads data is referred to as &quot;real-time LMI&quot; sometimes, but not all job postings result in actual jobs filled. Job ads can indicate what kind of skills employers are seeking or surveying in the available labor pool. The HWOL job openings series is issued by a private sector organization called The Conference Board, which assembles the data from a wide variety of Internet job boards and newspaper online ads. Data are issued monthly, generally at the beginning of the month following the reference month. The series began in May 2005. The Conference Board provides data by occupation but not by industry: for 10 broad occupational groups at the state and MSA level, and for slightly more than 20 at the national level. The two Jobs for the Future (JFF) reports listed at the left are companion studies of &quot;real-time&quot; labor market data, and provide a useful background to HWOL and other providers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The two Jobs for the Future (JFF) reports listed at the left are companion studies of “real-time” labor market data, and provide a useful background to HWOL and other providers.
**National Employment Projections (EP), Bureau of Labor Statistics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Data Type</th>
<th>Source URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLS employment projections homepage</td>
<td>Employment Projections overview</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp">BLS Employment Projections</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLS employment projections FAQ’s</td>
<td>BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 13, Employment Projections overview</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/home.htm">BLS Handbook of Methods</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLS Industry Projections</td>
<td>BLS Employment Projections</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp">BLS Employment Projections</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Employment Projections</td>
<td>Contact BLS employment projections staff</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/emp">Contact BLS Employment Projections</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**UNEMPLOYMENT and EMPLOYMENT DATA**

For an explanation of the concepts of employment, unemployment, and not in the labor force, see [How the Government Measures Unemployment](https://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.nr0.htm).

**Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), BLS’ Unemployment Rate (UR) and related data program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rates for States – counts those job seekers actively seeking work</td>
<td>Local Area Unemployment (LAU) Databases</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/laus">LAUS Overview</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAUS FAQ’s</td>
<td>Employment Situation news release</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/laus/lausfaq.htm">LAUS FAQ’s</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Searchable LAUS database</td>
<td>Create customized maps</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.nr0.htm">Employment Situation news release</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schedule of news releases</td>
<td>LAUS technical documentation information</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/laus/search.htm">Searchable LAUS database</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact LAUS</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/home.htm">BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 4, Measurement of Unemployment in States and Local Areas</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**State Unemployment Data (LAUS), BLS**

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Area Unemployment (LAU) New Releases with state data</td>
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<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.nr0.htm">Archived State UR and Unemployment News</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archived State UR and Unemployment News</td>
<td>State unemployment rankings</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/laus/">Local Area Unemployment (LAU) New Releases</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other tables and maps (including state annual averages since 2000)</td>
<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.nr0.htm">Other tables and maps</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BLS produces national employment projections, issued every 2 years and covering a 10-year span (for example 2018-2028). State projections (first issued in the mid-1970s) are a collaborative effort among the states, BLS, and ETA. State and local projections can be obtained through 2 principal methods: ETA’s State and Local Employment Projections, or Projections Central for occupational projections only.

These sites offer alternative methods of obtaining state projections data, and one or both may best suit your needs. ETA requires that every two years the states produce, for both industries and occupations: 1) statewide and local 10-year long-term projections (under a federal-state collaborative with BLS) and 2) statewide 2-year short-term projections.

The [BLS Occupational Outlook Handbook](https://www.bls.gov/ooh) also offers excellent national occupational characteristics information.

State data goes back to 1976. The earliest local data series (for only a few localities) began in 1983. The monthly averages reflect employment status during a given reference week (the week including the 12th day of the month).

The [Regional and State Employment and Unemployment news release](https://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.nr0.htm) is generally issued about the third Friday of the month following the reference month. The [Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment news release](https://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.nr0.htm) is generally issued 12 days later (on the Wednesday before the first Friday of the following month).

Data for all sub-state areas are released with the metropolitan area data. Additional information from both the state and local series are provided in the next 2 rows.

**UNEMPLOYMENT and EMPLOYMENT DATA**

For an explanation of the concepts of employment, unemployment, and not in the labor force, see [How the Government Measures Unemployment](https://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.nr0.htm).

**Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), BLS’ Unemployment Rate (UR) and related data program**

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**State Unemployment Data (LAUS), BLS**

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<td><a href="https://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.nr0.htm">Other tables and maps</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State data is issued by BLS, usually on the third Friday of each month, showing monthly data for the prior month. Annual averages are available in February or March of the following year.
| Metropolitan Unemployment Data (LAUS), BLS | none | 372 | • Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) unemployment rankings (372 MSAs)  
• Map showing MSA unemployment (372 MSAs)  
• Other unemployment statistics tables and maps (including county and other local data)  
• MSA maps  
• MSA definition | Metropolitan unemployment data is issued by BLS, usually on the first Wednesday of each month, showing monthly data for two months prior to that. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment (GP), BLS’ Current Population Survey (CPS) | all | 50 MSAs and 17 central cities | • GP tables  
• GP Archives  
• GP technical info  
• Contact CPS  
• State and local detailed tables (some data go back as far as 1999)  
• Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey (CPS) | The Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment presents annual data on the employed and unemployed for states and census regions and divisions. The estimates include demographic characteristics, occupation, industry, class of worker, hours of work, duration of unemployment, and reason for unemployment.  
This BLS site presents annual averages from the Current Population Survey (CPS) for the employed and unemployed by selected demographic and economic characteristics.  
Note that CPS MSA and city estimates may differ from the estimates produced for the individual states through the LAUS program (the differences are explained in the CPS FAQ’s). |
| Discouraged Worker and Long-Term Unemployment Rates, BLS’ Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization for States (CPS) | all | none | • Persons not in the Labor Force and Multiple Jobholders  
• How the Government Measures Unemployment (see “Is there only one official definition of unemployment?”)  
• Labor Force Characteristics (CPS)  
• Contact LAUS  
• Contact CPS  
• Civilian Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) – counts those not actively seeking work or entry into the labor market, including discouraged workers  
• Labor force participation: what has happened since the peak? (BLS Monthly Labor Review) | Due to small sample sizes for some states, BLS issues this data for a 1-year period (the national data are issued monthly).  
BLS updates these data on a 4-quarter moving-average basis (i.e., the previous year).  
Historical trends are available since 2005. |
| Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS), BLS | all | selected | • MLS overview  
• FAQ’s for Mass Layoffs  
• Employer survey questions (in the middle of the article)  
• BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 6, Mass Layoff Statistics Program  
• Contact MLS  
• Latest monthly mass layoffs for all 50 states  
• Latest quarterly mass layoffs with demographic characteristics for all 50 states  
• Create customized quarterly state tables by industry or demographic characteristic  
• Featured MLS publications (including detailed annual reports) | This BLS survey covers establishments for which at least 50 unemployment insurance claims have been filed during any 5 week period. The data series began in 1995 and ended in 2013, when the program was eliminated due to funding constraints. BLS reported the data monthly (based on UI administrative records), quarterly (UI records plus employer survey), and annually. BLS reported the monthly data with a 1-month time lag, and quarterly data in the 2nd month following the end of a quarter. BLS issued the annual data with about a year and a half lag. In the quarterly news release, data were available for 10 major MSAs. In the annual release, data were published for the 50 MSAs with the most layoffs. County data are also available on request, but are unpublished.  
See also the JOLTS description in this guide — JOLTS reports layoffs using a broader definition than that used in the MLS survey. |
### Worker Displacement, BLS (CPS)

- **9 regions**
- **none**

- Latest Worker Displacement Supplement news release - (BLS)
- Dislocated Worker Survey Results Released (2015-2017), including a list of unpublished BLS tables available plus the questionnaire
- Persons not in the labor force and multiple jobholders
- [Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization](https://www.bls.gov/news.release/luu.t01.htm)
- Worker Displacement Technical Note

This BLS survey, first conducted in 1984, is the oldest continuing effort to track worker dislocation. The survey is conducted every 2 years (in January), and asks individuals about their dislocation experience during the previous 3 years — note that because of this, there is always a 1-year overlap in coverage from one survey to the next.

The BLS supplement on “Worker Displacement: 2015-2017” contains dislocated worker data, as do the two other primary dislocated worker surveys – MLS and [JOLTS](https://www.bls.gov/jolts/).

BLS publishes no state-level data, but has data for 9 regions in table 6 of its news release.

### Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims Data, Employment and Training Administration (ETA), DOL

- **all**
- **none**

- Main UI weekly claims Website (including latest news release)
- UI benefits data overview
- ETA Office of UI Website
- Unemployment Programs for Recipients of UI
- Trends in the Characteristics of UI Recipients
- Contacts for UI claims and participants data (see “email” near the top of the page)
- UI weekly claims data (national since 1967, state since 1987)
- Characteristics of UI claimants (some characteristics restricted to national data for the most recent time period)
- UI program data portal (includes other benefits and financial data)
- Repeat Use in the UI System
- The Cost of Layoffs in UI Employer Taxes
- Changes in Federal and State UI Legislation

Although only a minority of the unemployed qualify for, and receive, [Unemployment Insurance](https://www.bls.gov/ces/ces.htm) (UI) — partly because previous employment is an eligibility prerequisite — UI claims data are an important unemployment indicator, because they are the most frequently published and up-to-date unemployment data available. ETA publishes UI claims data weekly, only a few days after the end of a reference week (usually on Thursday) for national data, and a week later for state-level data.

Because weekly data often fluctuate considerably, ETA publishes, and many analysts use, a 4-week moving average.

Demographic and other characteristics are available by gender; for 8 age groups, for 20 industry groups; for 5 races (including American Indians); and by Hispanic origin.

### Labor Surplus Areas (LSAs), ETA

- **not applicable**
- **all applicable localities**

- Description of LSA classification rules
- FAQ’s for LSA’s
- Balance of County definitions
- LSA Archives
- Labor Surplus Areas Designated for Localities with High Unemployment Rates
- Criteria for LSA’s designated via special circumstances after the annual issuance
- Archive of LSA’s for prior years
- Empowerment Zones
- Enterprise Zones
- Opportunity Atlas
- Distressed Communities Index
- HHS and Census Poverty Guidelines and Thresholds
- The Lower Living Standard Income Level and Data on Economically Disadvantaged Persons

A labor surplus area (LSA) is a statutorily-defined locality that (with some exceptions) has experienced an unemployment rate that is 20% higher than the national average for 2 years. Some Federal, State and Local programs use LSA designations to determine eligibility.

**ETA** designates LSA’s annually (effective each October 1st), with periodic updates to designate additional LSA’s for areas that qualify under special circumstances. Note that this listing provides no statistics per se, but is included because it is based on a strict definition of unemployment and provides important information for localities and federal grantees.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business/Industry/Statistical Source</th>
<th>Localities/MSAs/Counties/States/Periods</th>
<th>Data Types/Related Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Business Employment Dynamics (BED)**, BLS’ Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)** | all | • BED data by firm size class  
• BED overview  
• BED size class data Q&A  
• BED FAQ’s  
• BED data by state  
• BED publications  
• Contact BED  
• Latest BED news release  
• Customized data tables and charts for states from 1992 forward (no industry detail available)  
• QCEW Data  
• Size of establishment related articles |
| **Business and Industry Concentration Ratios**, U.S. Census Bureau, Statistics of U.S. Businesses (SUSB)** | all | • SUSB Data  
• SUSB overview and SUSB’s methodology (including classification by size of enterprise)  
• SUSB technical notes  
• Contact SUSB (see lower right corner of the screen)  
• Annual SUSB Datasets by Establishment and Industry and Data Tables (state data from 1988, MSA data from 1997, and county data since 2007)  
• SUSB Employment Change Datasets |
| **Business Dynamics Statistics (BDS)**, U.S. Census Bureau Center for Economic Studies (CES)** | all | • BDS overview  
• BDS Data Tables  
• BDS glossary  
• BDS FAQs  
• BSD technical documentation  
• BDS methodology  
• BDS data tables (including 10 state tables)  
• Contact BDS (see lower left corner) |
| **Multiple Jobholding in States in 2015, BLS’ CPS** | all | • Multiple jobholding in states in 2010  
• Multiple Jobholding in States in 2011  
• Multiple Jobholding in 2014  
• Data over two decades |
| **2014 BED in Colorado** (a good example of how this data can be used)  
• Research Data on Business Employment Dynamics by Age and Size  
• Establishment, firm, or enterprise: does the unit of analysis matter? – BLS Monthly Labor Review  
• JOLTS firm size methodology  
• Characteristics of small business employees  
• Small business data – Small Business Administration (SBA)** | all | • Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy for state and local firm size data - about halfway down the screen, includes microporata from 2004  
• Small Business Profiles for the States and Territories (SBA)  
• Related small business data resources  
• Small Business Data Resources - various data sources, compiled by the U.S. Small Business Administration |
| The U.S. Census Bureau’s Statistics of U.S. Businesses (SUSB) Data Tables show the distribution of firms, establishments, employment and total payroll by the employment size of a business enterprise in 8 categories (less than 4 employees, 5-9, etc.). Although firm and establishment size data are available from several other sources (often from unpublished tables), this series (which began in 1988) is the only source of annual, complete, and consistent enterprise-level data for U.S. businesses. The data are issued several years after the reference period. Unfortunately, MSA data are alphabetized by MSA, so it is necessary to know the name of the MSA in advance. Historical data are available online from 1988, but not for all the years since then. |
| The Business Dynamics Statistics (BDS) series covers both firms and establishments, and includes measures of establishment openings and closings, firm startups, job creation and destruction by firm size, age, and industrial sector, and several other statistics on business dynamics. BDS, part of the Census CES program, provides annual statistics on gross job gains and losses for the entire economy and by industrial sector and state. The series is a longitudinal data basis covering the years 1976 and forward. Several types of employees are not covered (see the overview at left). |
| BLS defines multiple jobholders as wage or salary workers who hold 2 or more jobs, self-employed workers who also hold a wage or salary job, or unpaid family workers who also hold a wage or salary job. Individual state Current Population Survey (CPS) data on multiple jobholders from 1994 to the present is available upon request to BLS. | all | • Multiple jobholders by selected characteristics (no state info)  
• “Multiple jobholding during the 2000s” (BLS Monthly Labor Review article, with no state data)  
• Multiple jobholding in states in 2010  
• Multiple Jobholding in States in 2011  
• Multiple Jobholding in 2014  
• Data over two decades |
### EMPLOYMENT and COMPENSATION

See also the We've Got Your Number guide for the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the BEA consumer guide, called Measuring the Nation's Economy, to refer to data on personal income, compensation and employment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wages by Area and Occupation, BLS</th>
<th>all</th>
<th>MSAs and selected non-MSAs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• State and Area Employment (SAE) home page</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• SAE state and metro interactive charts</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• SAE tables and charts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• SAE overview</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SAE databases</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SAE news releases</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• SAE video</td>
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<tr>
<td>• CES home page</td>
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<tr>
<td>• CES FAQ’s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• CES questionnaire forms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 2, Employment, Hours, and Earnings from the Establishment Survey</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Contact CES and State Employment Security Administrations (in State Workforce Agencies)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• State and MSA employment, weekly &amp; hourly earnings, and weekly hours by major industry (latest annual and monthly data)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Customized state and MSA reports (including historical data beginning with 2000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SAE benchmarking</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• SAE seasonal adjustment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Occupational and industry employment resources</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Technical note on CES employment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Technical note on the CES establishment survey</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reliability of state and area estimates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This is an extremely useful site which explains what types of BLS compensation data are available for geographical areas.

In March 2010, BLS began a publication of earnings and hours for all employees (previously such data was available only for production and nonsupervisory employees) — the data cover from 2006 forward. Current Employment Statistics (CES) data (reported on the BLS Form 790) reflect monthly averages, and employment data pertain to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month.

For state and local data, BLS requires the states to publish 1) statewide data for all industry sectors for which the sample is sufficiently large; and 2) MSA-specific data for all private sector employees. Note: these data are frequently revised, so users should always check the most current release and not rely on older news releases and publications.

BLS often refers to this source as its “establishment survey,” and it’s based on a massive sample (randomly selected since 2003) of nearly half a million worksites which employ about one-third of the total nonfarm employees. One of the oldest BLS products, CES data began in 1915, and coverage was sufficient to produce national estimates by 1939. CES data are a major component of the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) system described in this guide.

### State and Metro Area Employment, Hours, and Earnings (SAE) in the Current Employment Statistics (CES), BLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>all</th>
<th>over 400 MSAs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• QCEW homepage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• QCEW overview</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• QCEW customized maps</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• State and county mapping and charting tool</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Latest QCEW news release</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• QCEW FAQ’s</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• QCEW databases</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 5, Employment and Wages Covered by Unemployment Insurance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Contact QCEW</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Location Quotient (LQ) details for determining comparative advantages of industries in regions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Customized data tables and charts for counties from 2001 forward showing employment plus annual and weekly wage by detailed industry and by private or government employees (at all 3 levels of government)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• QCEW publications (including annual averages)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Issues in Labor Statistics series using QCEW data</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BLS produces this data series from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program. Industry employment data are shown on a quarterly basis, and issued about 6–7 months after the end of a quarter. BLS issues annual data about 10 months after the end of a calendar year. Published tables show employment totals and average weekly wages. Employment data under the QCEW program represent the number of covered workers who worked during, or received pay for, the pay period including the 12th of the month. Wages represent total compensation paid during the calendar quarter, regardless of when during that quarter the individual worked. BLS issues full quarterly industry detail data at all geographic levels (including MSAs).

The QCEW covers 99.7% of all wage and salary civilian employment and includes all employees “covered” by Unemployment Insurance (UI). Therefore, it is often referred to as data on “Covered Employment.” Note: the time lag in issuance is due to the BLS’ processes (surveying follow up, data scrubbing and benchmarking) ensuring accuracy. The QCEW was formerly called the “ES-202” program after the BLS form used to collect the data.
| **Occupational Employment Statistics** and Occupational Wage Estimates (OES), BLS | State, MSAs and local Workforce Development Board (WDB) Areas (375 MSAs, 34 metro divisions, and 170+ non-metro areas) | • OES homepage  
• OES overview  
• OES FAQ’s  
• OES databases  
• List of areas covered, by state (MSAs and non-metropolitan areas)  
• BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 3, OES  
• OES technical documentation  
• OES charts  
• OES maps  
• OES news releases  
• OES publications  
• Topics and sources related to OES  
• Contact OES | • News releases on most recent local data in alphabetical order by locality  
• State data by occupation and industry  
• MSA and non-MSA data by occupation and industry  
• MSA and non-MSA data by county or town  
• BLS how-to advice on identifying occupations in states and localities used in conjunction with OES customized searches in the BLS Query System  
• Historical OES data tables (starting in 1999)  
• Other OES publications | The BLS Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program is the government’s most geographically-detailed source of information on detailed occupations (and the principal source for BLS employment projections).  
The OES collects data on employees in nonfarm establishments for about 800 occupations, and more than 450 industries (at the national level). For each occupation, data are shown for employment totals plus the mean annual and hourly wages, and the annual wages at the 10th, 25th, 50th (median), 75th, and 90th percentiles.  
Data are issued about a year after the reference period. Because the survey design incorporates data from a 3-year reference period, great care must be used in using OES data for historical analyses (to avoid overlapping years, only every 4th year can be chose for historical comparisons).  
The survey includes 1.2 million establishments. BLS initiated the OES in 1971, and data are available online for 1997 on. OES data before 1997 do not include state, metropolitan, or nonmetropolitan areas. |  |
| **Location Quotient Calculation,** Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), BLS | 300+ large counties with 75,000 employees (see info on MSAs at right) | • Location Quotient (LQ) details  
• QCEW Data Viewer  
• QCEW County High-Level Layouts  
• State and county mapping and charting tool  
• Contact QCEW | • BLS guidance on using location quotients with Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) (see above)  
• Using Location Quotients to Analyze Occupational Data - OES Highlights (to compare relative sizes in multiple geographic areas) | Location quotients (LQs) are ratios that allow an area’s distribution of employment by industry (and/or occupation), ownership, and size class to be compared to a reference or base area’s distribution. The reference area is usually the nation, and the reference or base industry usually includes all industries in the economy or region. The LQ allows you to analyze which industries (or occupations) have a higher concentration or comparative advantage economically. |  |
| **Characteristics of Minimum Wage Workers,** Labor Force Statistics in the Census Bureau’s Current Population Survey (CPS), BLS | none | • CPS earnings data  
• CPS overview  
• CPS FAQ’s  
• CPS news releases  
• CPS databases  
• CPS tables  
• CPS publications  
• BLS Handbook of Methods (see Chapter 1, p. 4 for the earnings section)  
• Contact CPS | Characteristics of minimum wage workers by year:  
• 2018  
• 2017  
• 2016  
• 2012 (national data only, with 1979-2011 historical table)  
• 2011 (national data only)  
• 2011 (chart of national data only) | BLS publishes these Labor Force Statistics data based on questions answered in the Census’ Current Population Survey (CPS), which is used to identify hourly-paid workers and their hourly wage rate. State data are available online from 2002 forward (table 3 in the annual release).  
BLS first began to collect hourly wage data in the CPS in 1973 - in May only, through 1978; and then from one quarter of the sample each month from 1979 onward. Data are published once annually, generally in February or March. |  |
| **Employment and Earnings for Workers Covered by Social Security,** Social Security Administration (SSA) | counties | • Publication, tables, highlights and contact info for SSA employment data (see right side of screen)  
• Publication on state and county employment and earnings (county data are in table 3 — by using the MS Excel icon you can get access to all the tables for a given state in a single file) | The U.S. Social Security Administration (SSA) publishes annual data for workers covered by Social Security and Medicare, based on complete administrative data. These are issued more than 2 years after the end of the reference period (usually in the spring). SSA has posted data online for 2000 and thereafter. Employment and earnings data are available by gender and — at the state level — by race, and by age group as well. |  |
### Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD), from the Local Employment Dynamics (LED) data program, Center for Economic Studies (CES), U.S. Census Bureau, including:
- Job to Job Flows (J2J),
- OnTheMap,
- OnTheMap for Emergency Management, and
- Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MSAs, counties and Workforce Investment Act program areas</th>
<th>50 (not all have data yet)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| COMPENSATION (no benefits) and INCOME | Please note that the sources below supply data on compensation only, which do not include employment or benefits data, or on personal income. Sources of wage (earnings) data follow in the next section. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment Cost Trends (ECT), Employment Cost Index (ECI), and Employer Costs for Employee Compensation (ECEC), National Compensation Survey (NCS), BLS</th>
<th>none</th>
<th>15 MSAs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- National Compensation Survey - Measures Overview
  - Employment Cost Trends data
  - ECT Tables
  - ECT Databases
  - ECT Publications
  - ECT FAQ’s
  - ECT Videos and Graphics
  - Contact ECT
  - ECI newest release
  - ECI Summary
  - ECI data releases

- Employer Costs for Employee Compensation (ECEC) for 15 major MSAs
  - Employer Costs for Employee Compensation Summary
  - Employment Cost Index (ECI) newest release
  - Employer Costs for Employee Compensation for the Regions
  - How to Use the Employment Cost Index (ECI) for Escalation

The U.S. Census Bureau’s Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) program is based upon a Federal-State Local Employment Dynamics (LED) partnership. LEHD links employee and employer records from an array of data sources — administrative records, demographic surveys and censuses. The U.S. Census Bureau receives Unemployment Insurance (UI) wage records and establishment records in the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) from each state participating in the LED program. The U.S. Census Bureau then uses these products to integrate demographic information about individuals (place of residence, sex, birth date, place of birth, race, and education) with information about employer establishments (place of work, industry, employment, and sales). LEHD’s principal product is its Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI), which include employment, job creation, monthly earnings, and worker turnover data by locale as well as by detailed industry, gender, and age of workers. Users can obtain the data directly by using the QWI Online tool. Datasets are released nine months after the end of the reference period, and some data series date back to 1990. The measurement period for earnings (monthly) is unusual: the more common reference periods are hourly, weekly or annual. The LEHD data do not cover either Federal employees or employees outside the UI system.

OnTheMap is a Web-based mapping and reporting tool that uses LEHD data to show where workers are employed and live (for 49 states). It also provides companion reports on age, earnings, industry distributions, and local workforce indicators. For most states, data are available for years since 2002. It allows users to easily select geographic areas from a map, rather than having to research and define the area.

BLS reports quarterly data on total compensation (wages plus benefits) for nine (9) U.S. Census Bureau regions and 15 MSAs, including both a compensation index (ECI) and the actual amount (ECEC). However, data on the actual amounts are only issued once a year. The Employer Costs for Employee Compensation (ECEC) was added to BLS reports starting with March 2010 data; however, some 2009 data are available in archives.

Note: the BLS Employee Benefits Survey, part of the National Compensation Survey, does not produce state or local data, but does issue data for the nine (9) U.S. Census Bureau regions.
| National Compensation Survey of Wages (NCS-W) and Relative Pay by Major MSA, National Compensation Survey (NCS), BLS | none/about 80 MSAs | • NCS-W homepage  
• NCS overview  
• NCS FAQ’s  
• Occupational Pay Comparison Statistics  
• NCS data collection methods and methodology  
• Archived National Compensation Surveys  
• NCS data requests  
• BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 8, National Compensation Measures  
• Contact NCS-W  
• Pay Relatives for Major Occupational Groups in Metropolitan Areas, National Compensation Survey  
• Relative Pay FAQ’s  
• Relative Pay NCS contact info | • Locality Pay Surveys (LPS) now available through the Occupational Employment Statistics  
• Relative pay for large MSAs by major occupational group (includes technical note with information on survey methodology)  
• Relative Pay Rates among Major Industry and Occupational Groups  
• Relative Pay, National Compensation Survey Table – July 2010  
• History of BLS Pay Surveys | The BLS National Compensation Survey of Wages (NCS-W) covers 800+ occupations (although data are not provided for individual occupations), and BLS publishes wage (earnings only) data annually (often within the same year as the reference period) for about 80 metropolitan areas. The tables include average earnings and weekly hours for such variables as: private sector vs. government employees; occupation; full- vs. part-time; union vs. non-union; goods-vs. service-producing industry; number of employees per establishment; wages at various percentiles; and other variables. Individual MSA reports are extremely detailed. The BLS Relative Pay by MSA covers 800+ occupations (although data are not provided for individual occupations), and BLS publishes this wage data annually (in the year after the reference period) for about 80 metropolitan areas. Note that these data are not actual wages, but are adjusted for MSA differences in occupational composition as well as establishment and occupational characteristics. Data are provided for nine (9) major occupational groups. |
| BENEFITS ONLY (no compensation) | • State and local data usually pertain to all health insurance coverage, and do not always distinguish between employer-provided and other sources of coverage (see exceptions in the first and last rows below). Note: the BLS Employee Benefits Survey does not produce state or local data, but does issue data for the nine (9) U.S. Census Bureau regions (but see the row above for BLS compensation data, which includes data on benefits, although it does not provide benefits data separately). See the comparison of health insurance info from different U.S. Census Bureau sources. 1) CPS ASEC: The Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey, 2) ACS: The American Community Survey, 3) SAHIE: The Small Area Health Insurance Estimates Program, and 4) SIPP: The Survey of Income and Program Participation. | • ACS health insurance definitions  
• Evaluation of health insurance in the ACS  
• ACS health insurance methodology (including survey questions)  
• Health insurance coverage data  
• Health insurance tables  
• Health insurance datasets  
• ACS health information survey technical documents  | • Health Insurance Coverage of Workers Aged 18 to 64, by Work Experience: 2008 and 2010 (includes state-specific employer-based health insurance coverage)  
• Health insurance data tools  
• Health insurance publications  
• American Community Survey (ACS)  
• AFF Health Insurance data products  | The ACS, described in more detail in this table, first added health insurance questions in the 2008 survey. Estimates for areas with populations between 20,000 and 65,000, and estimates for populations below 20,000 are released in different years. Survey respondents are asked specifically whether they obtained “insurance through a current or former employer or union.” However, only limited data are available from this question using the AmericanFactFinder customized tables (the best source is the published study in the column immediately to the left). If you perform a customized search using AmericanFactFinder, after selecting the dataset, go to “People” and select “Insurance Coverage.” Only one selection is possible. To obtain any available tables on employer-provided coverage, in the “Search for” box near the top, type in “employer-based.” |
| Health Insurance, America Community Survey (ACS), U.S. Census Bureau | all/all localities | • Overview of SAHIE  
• SAHIE FAQs  
• Contact SAHIE  
• State and county customized tables and maps  
• SAHIE Interactive Tool  | • Health Insurance on the ACS Survey  
• SAHIE reports, maps and visualizations  
• Uninsured Rates in Urban and Rural America  
• SAHIE Data and Tools  | Data are available for selected years starting with 2000, and are issued about 2.5 years after the reference year. The U.S. Census Bureau's Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) program provides estimates of health insurance coverage by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and income categories at the state level and by age, sex, and income categories at the county level. |
| Health Insurance, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates program (SAHIE), Census Bureau | all/all counties | • Overview of SAHIE  
• SAHIE FAQs  
• Contact SAHIE  
• State and county customized tables and maps  
• SAHIE Interactive Tool  | • Health Insurance on the ACS Survey  
• SAHIE reports, maps and visualizations  
• Uninsured Rates in Urban and Rural America  
• SAHIE Data and Tools  | Data are available for selected years starting with 2000, and are issued about 2.5 years after the reference year. The U.S. Census Bureau's Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) program provides estimates of health insurance coverage by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and income categories at the state level and by age, sex, and income categories at the county level. |
### Health Insurance
Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP),
U.S. Census Bureau

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>None</th>
<th>All</th>
<th>None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENDITURES</strong></td>
<td><strong>INFLATION and CONSUMER EXPENDITURES</strong></td>
<td><strong>Consumer Expenditure Survey (CE), BLS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Population Survey's Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC)</td>
<td>Consumer expenditure data for nearly 20 MSAs</td>
<td><strong>SIPP methodology</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>About SIPP</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>SIPP datasets and tools</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data tables on CPS health insurance data (including survey questions)</td>
<td>Current MSA tables in 3 electronic formats (near the bottom of the list)</td>
<td><strong>Survey of Program Dynamics</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Other SIPP Content</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Reengineered SIPP</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Data Tools | **Source of the Data and Accuracy of the Estimates for the 2018 ASEC Split-Panel Sample Microdata File**<br>**Supplement Table of Contents**<br>**ASEC Redesign**<br>**ASEC Research Files**<br>**Revised ASEC data – 2011** | **Contact CPS** (not specific to Table Creator)**CE overview**
**CE geographic data**
**CE publications**
**CE news releases**
**CE data tables**
**CE Labstat database**
**CE FAQ’s**
**CE glossary**
**BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 16, Consumer Expenditures and Income**
**CE methodology**
**Contact CE** |
| U.S. Census Bureau CPS homepage | Fact Sheet: Differences Between the American Community Survey (ACS) and the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS ASEC) | **CE data quality**
**CE survey forms** |
| **BPS methodology**<br>**About BPS**<br>**BPS datasets and tools** | | **Consumer Expenditure Survey (CE)** program supplies data on consumer purchases, but also collects income data. MSA data are not published until about a year after the end of the reference period. CE consists of two surveys: a quarterly Interview Survey and a Diary Survey. The data are collected by the U.S. Census Bureau. |
| **Survey of Program Dynamics**<br>**Other SIPP Content**<br>**Reengineered SIPP** | | **MSA** data are available since 1986: 26 MSAs from 1986 to 1995, 28 MSAs from 1996 to 2004, 24 MSAs in 2005, and 18 MSAs from 2006 onward. To ensure that the sample size for MSAs is sufficiently large, MSA data reflect 2 years’ information (therefore, the MSA tables are also included in CE’s biennial report). |

*NOTE:* When comparing monetary changes over time, it is usually advisable to adjust the amounts for inflation. For the purpose of workforce statistics, the most common means of adjusting for inflation are the BLS Consumer Price Index (CPI) or Employment Cost Index (ECI), or the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) price deflators. BEA issues no state or local price deflators, but see below for regional price parities. **NOTE:** The BLS Producer Price Index (PPI) is less commonly used, and does not include state or local data.
| Consumer Price Index (CPI), BLS | none (regional available) | almost 30 MSAs | • CPI overview  
• CPI FAQ’s  
• CPI latest numbers  
• CPI tables  
• BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, CPI  
• Chained Consumer Price Index For All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U)  
• Contact CPI staff | • CPI news releases issued  
• CPI factsheets  
• CPI videos  
• CPI resources  
• Customized CPI data tables for regions and MSAs (select the “one screen” option — data for 2000 on)  
The CPI is the most commonly used inflation index, with national data dating back to 1913. The CPI represents changes in prices of all goods and services purchased for consumption by urban households. There are actually 2 CPI’s — the CPI – All Urban Customers (CPI-U) covers a broader group of consumers and is the more widely used. BLS publishes the CPI for 3 MSAs monthly (New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles), every other month for another 11 MSAs, and semi-annually for another 13 MSAs (see the FAQ’s for the complete list). |
| Employment Cost Trends (ECT), National Compensation Survey (NCS), BLS | none (regional available) | 15 MSAs | • ECT overview  
• Latest ECT news release (local data are in the last table)  
• ECT FAQ’s  
• BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 8, National Compensation Measures (see specific references to the ECI)  
• ECT survey methodology  
• Contact NCS | • Historical MSA data  
• Experimental Estimates of Compensation Levels and Trends for Workers in the 15 Largest Metropolitan Areas, 2004-06  
• Archive of past ECT news releases (since 1976)  
• BLS Introduces New Employment Cost Indexes for 14 Metropolitan Areas  
The Employment Cost Index (ECI), which is used for the ECT, is a measure of the change in the cost of labor for employers, which holds constant employment changes among occupations and industries. BLS issues quarterly data for 15 MSAs, dating back as far as 2005 for some MSAs (plus experimental estimates for 2004). |
| Regional Price Parities, BEA | 50 | 360+ metropolitan areas | • Regional Price Parities for States and Metropolitan Areas (2006-10)  
• Regional Price Parities in spreadsheet form (click on the “Related Materials” tab  
• Survey of Current Business article title  
• Estimating the Price of Rents in Regional Price Parties  
| • GDP and Personal Income Mapping  
• Consistency of Price Parities for Regions of the U.S. (PowerPoint)  
• Notes on Estimating the Multi-Year Regional Price Parities by Expenditure Categories (2005-9)  
• Real Personal Income  
• Definitions  
BEA, rather than measuring changes over time (as do the above entries), measures price level differences among places for an identical time period. Percent differences in regional price levels are called “regional price parities.” In this index, the U.S. average is set to equal 100. This BEA data set combines both BLS data and Census (ACS) data. Data are shown for each year separately; for per capita personal income as well as income adjusted for price parities; and for price parities for nine (9) separate types of expenditures (housing, education, medical, etc.). |

### Educational Attainment, Achievement, Credentials and Skills

Note that data on employment-specific skills are only available at the national level, from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET), which includes the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC), and the new O*NET-based My Next Move tool. See also the education statistics and the Digest of Education Statistics for a wealth of data on education. The section below is organized by educational attainment data, assessment data, high school data (only available below the national level for public schools), and postsecondary data. Credentials attainment (or lack of attainment, in the case of dropouts) data are emphasized for the secondary and postsecondary schools sections.

See also the CareerOneStop (COS) Credentials Center and Competency Model Clearinghouse.

| Degree Completion Trends (Postsecondary Analytics LLC) | all | none | • Educational Attainment by State, Gender, and Age Group, 2006 – 2013  
• Educational Attainment by State, Race, and Age Group, 2006 – 2013  
• Justification for the issuance of the data  
• News article about the announcement of this data  
• The Condition of Education 2015 (NCES)  
• 2013 Digest of Education Statistics (NCES)  
• Digest of Education Statistics (NCES)  
A private researcher, Nate Johnson, has used preliminary U.S. National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) IPEDS data (see Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System - IPEDS) to post much timelier postsecondary education credentials data than are available from NCES. The data are available in a customized search tool that allows the user to select: the type of degree (from Associate’s degree through Doctorate/Professional degree); national or state data; and whether the degree emanates from a public, private for-profit, or private not-for-profit institution. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Attainment, the Census’ American Community Survey (ACS), BLS’ Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) in the Current Population Survey (CPS), and the Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)</th>
<th>all</th>
<th>all localities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Higher Education Datasets (Data.gov)</td>
<td>• Science and Engineering Degrees: 2009 (ACS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• U.S. Department of Education Data and Research</td>
<td>• College completers among 25-44 year-olds, by state and locality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Educational Attainment Tables – Census</td>
<td>• The Condition of Education 2015 (NCES)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Educational Attainment - 2019</td>
<td>• Measures of Education and Training – BLS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Educational Attainment for Workers – BLS</td>
<td>• Analysis of the 2009 Field of Degree Question in the ACS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Educational Attainment, 5 Year Estimates - Census</td>
<td>• Measurement of High School Equivalency Credentials in U.S. Census Bureau Surveys</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Customized tables on educational attainment from ACS</td>
<td>• Field test of computer and Internet use (ACS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Bachelor’s degree or higher, by state (ACS, 2006-10)</td>
<td>• Differences between educational attainment in the ACS and CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Educational attainment by state, 2009</td>
<td>• Comparison of ACS and CPS ASEC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Earnings by Educational Attainment – BLS</td>
<td>• Educational Attainment Factsheet – ACS and CPS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Field of Bachelor’s Degree</td>
<td>• 2013 Digest of Education Statistics (NCES)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Supplementary state table</td>
<td>Educational attainment data for localities are only available from the American Community Survey (ACS).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Educational Attainment - 2018 tables</td>
<td>ACS educational attainment data are available for localities by age, gender, poverty rate, and median annual earnings. It may be necessary to try different combinations of variables to obtain data as close as possible to your specific query.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State-level educational attainment data are available from both the Census’ ACS and BLS’ Current Population Survey (CPS) annual supplement. See the ACS and CPS data listed elsewhere in this table.

See also educational attainment in Disability Statistics from Cornell University, and the Digest of Education Statistics (NCES).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National and State Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL) and SAAL and State and County Estimates of Low Literacy, Institute of Education Sciences (IES), National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), U.S. Department of Education</th>
<th>all</th>
<th>counties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• National Assessment of Adult Literacy - NAAL overview, NAAL fact sheets, and state/county estimates overview</td>
<td>• Customized state and county literacy estimates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• NAAL FAQ’s (note that there are 3 categories of FAQ’s — see list at left of screen) and State and County Estimates of Low Literacy FAQ’s</td>
<td>• Customized comparisons of states or counties</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• NAAL glossary</td>
<td>• 2013 Digest of Education Statistics (NCES)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Sample NAAL questions</td>
<td>• Digest of Education Statistics (NCES)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• State/county estimation methodology and cautionary notes</td>
<td>• SAAL Sampling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Contact NAAL (e-mail) or contact NAAL staff (phone)</td>
<td>The State Assessment of Adult Literacy (SAAL) is conducted in conjunction with the National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL), and does not define literacy as the simple ability to read and write. Rather, it measures three types of literacy (prose, document, and quantitative) on a scale from low to high-level literacy.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The six states that participated in the 2003 assessment (2003) were Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, and Oklahoma (12 states participated in previous assessments).

However, the U.S. Education Department has used the national study to produce literacy estimates for all states and counties. The literacy assessments occur about once a decade, and the data releases do not begin until about two years after the survey period.
| National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), Institute of Education Sciences (IES), National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), U.S. Department of Education | all | almost 20 urban school districts | • NAEP overview — A Common Measure of Student Achievement  
• NAEP FAQ's  
• NAEP Questions Tool  
• NAEP glossary  
• NAEP Web Tools - Explore Assessment Data  
• NAEP state profiles (reading, writing, math, and science for grades 4 and 8)  
• NAEP state comparisons to the nation (customized tables for the same subjects and grades as above)  
• Contact NAEP | • Schedule of NAEP assessments  
• NAEP 12th grade reading state results (11 states only)  
• NAEP 12th grade math state results (11 states only)  
• NAEP urban school district profiles (cities with 250,000+ population — same subjects and grades as the first bullet above)  
• 2013 Digest of Education Statistics (NCES)  
• The Condition of Education 2015 (NCES) | The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) — also referred to as “the nation's report card” — tests students in grades 4, 8 and 12, but publishes only limited state results for 12th graders (see links at the left). In addition to the basic subjects, tests for 12th graders have included economics, history, civics, and geography. The state results for 12th graders also include tests in reading and math.  
See also the Digest of Education Statistics that NCES produces. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Graduation and Dropout Rates from Public High Schools Common Core of Data (CCD), Institute of Education Sciences (IES), National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), U.S. Department of Education, and Child Trends | all | 100 largest school districts | • Common Core of Data (CCD) for American Public Schools  
• CCD Data Tables  
• CCD overview  
• Dropouts, Completers and Graduation Rate Reports (state-level only)  
• Customized tables by state, CBSA, MSA, county, district or school (for various education statistics)  
• Contact CCD staff  
• Child Trends databank indicator on high school dropout rates | • Characteristics of the 100 Largest Public Elementary and Secondary School Districts in the United States (see the table titled “Number of high school completers, the grades 9-12 dropout rate...”)  
• Educational attrition rates (Intercultural Development Research Association and IDRA's OurSchool Portal  
• Digest of Education Statistics (NCES) | The Common Core of Data (CCD) is the Department of Education's primary database on public elementary and secondary education in the U.S. CCD is a comprehensive, annual, national database of all public elementary and secondary schools and school districts.  
The state-level graduation and dropout rate tables are about halfway down the screen. Data include breakouts by race and Hispanic origin as well as historical trends. For the 100 largest public school district reports, the relevant table is A-12.  
Note that there is a difference between measuring yearly dropout rates, and measuring attrition over time. For example, the Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA) published its research on both aspects of the Texas public education system for 2017-2018 in their study on Attrition and Dropout Rates in Texas. |
| Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System State Tables (IPEDS), DataLab, Institute of Education Sciences (IES), National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), U.S. Department of Education | all | none | • IPEDS homepage  
• IPEDS overview  
• IPEDS state data tables.  
• Data Analysis System (DAS)  
• DAS analysis reports  
• IPEDS glossary  
• IPEDS help desk  
• Contact IPEDS  
• DataLab (replacing DAS 12/31/20) | • Degrees conferred by Title IV institution  
• Certificates conferred by Title IV institution  
(For more recent data and more information, see DataLab.) | This source provides state-level data on degrees and certificates conferred by type of institution (e.g., private for-profit, public 2-year, etc.), gender, race (including Native Americans), and Hispanic origin. Certificates are classified by the length of time required to obtain them (less than 1 year, less than 2 years, 2-4 years, post-baccalaureate, post-masters, and first professional certificates). These data cover almost all education programs (e.g., almost all postsecondary schools that obtain Title IV assistance).  
NOTE: As of April 2020, the NCES Data Analysis System (DAS) and DAS Online Application will be retired on 12/31/2020. All datasets available in DAS will be migrated to DataLab, and will be available in the PowerStats application. Visit the DataLab site to learn more about the PowerStats, TrendStats and QuickStats online tools. |
| Career and Technical Education (CTE) Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences (IES), National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), U.S. Department of Education | all | none | - CTE Statistics overview 
- Postsecondary Taxonomy for career education 
- CTE postsecondary glossary 
- CTE publications 
- CTE data sources 
- State level tables on postsecondary CTE data (final section) 
- Contact CTE Statistics staff 
- Career Clusters and Programs of Study under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 | - Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Taxonomy 
- GIP User Site 
- Career Clusters (O*NET Online) 
- Career Clusters (National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium) 
- The Condition of Education 2015 (NCES) 
- Digest of Education Statistics (NCES) 
- Programs of Study – Perkins Collaborative Resource Network | State-level career/technical education statistics from this source are only provided for postsecondary schools and students. This source contains numerous tables, including state-level data on career education credentials and certificates by the length of time required to obtain it (less than one year, less than two years, associate’s degree, other sub-baccalaureate credentials, and bachelor’s degree).

The “fields of study” heading classifies credentials into 13 groups, such as health, marketing, etc. (including a breakout for sub-baccalaureate programs only). Data are presented both for the number of institutions that offer credentials as well as the number of credentials awarded. These statistics are restricted to career and technical education (CTE) programs only.

| Certificates, Center on Education and the Workforce (CEW), McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University | all | none | - CEW Publications - CEW full reports 
- Certificates: Gateway to Gainful Employment and College Degrees – CEW full report | U.S. Census Bureau data on certificates are in What’s it Worth data in the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) Data on Educational Attainment (see both the report and the detailed tables). | This June 2012 study (Certificates: Gateway to Gainful Employment and College Degrees) examines the prevalence of sub-baccalaureate certificates, and compares the earnings of certificate bearers vs. individuals with other types of educational credentials. State data are in Part 3 (pp. 31-7) and in Appendices F-J (pp. 55-61). Appendix A (pp. 38-9) explains their definition of certificates, and which data sources they use.

| Computer and Internet Use, U.S. Census Bureau | all | none | - Computer and Internet Use overview 
- Data Tools and Tables 
- Computer and Internet Use data tools 
- Contact U.S. Census Bureau | - 2010 data tables 
- 2011 publication 
- 2013-2017 data 
- Survey questions 
- BLS computer and Internet Use at Work data site (no survey since 2003) | The U.S. Census Bureau, as a result of periodic supplements to the Current Population Survey (CPS), reports state-specific data on Internet access (since 2001). Note that although many of the national-level tables include employment-related data, the state-specific tables do not.

| LABOR, STAFFING and MANAGEMENT | | | This type of data provides information on unionization, labor and human resource allocation functions of businesses. |

| Work Stoppages | all | all | - WSP data tables 
- WSP databases 
- WSP news releases 
- WSP FAQ’s 
- WSP definitions 
- Contact WSP | - Annual MSP news release 
- Monthly work stoppages tables 
- Detailed tables | This BLS series covers strikes or lockouts involving 1,000 or more workers (not necessarily union members), and is issued monthly and annually. Data issued includes: organization name, location, and union; beginning and ending dates of the stoppage; number of workers involved; and number of days lost as a result of the work stoppage.

- Union Membership news releases 
- Annual News Release 
- Union Members – 2019 
- CPS Labor Force Statistics | - Annual news release with state data 
- Customized state tables (with historical data from 2000 on) 
- Labor Union Statistics Data Sources – Cornell University 
- Unionstats.com | BLS issues state data from the CPS annually in January following the reference year. Data are limited to the number of union members and individuals represented by unions (a larger number), and the percentage of employees covered.

Data are from the Current Population Survey. For more detailed state and local data from the same source, see the Bloomberg Bureau of National Affairs (BNA) data table.
### Poverty Rates from the Current Population Survey (CPS), Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC), U.S. Census Bureau

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Union Membership and Earnings Data Book: Compilations from the CPS, Bloomberg’s Bureau of National Affairs (BNA)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>all</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unions of the States (Center for Economic and Policy Research, CEPR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>all</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staffing Patterns, Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) and Employment Projections (EP), BLS</td>
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#### POVERTY and LOW INCOME LEVELS

The current official poverty measure was developed in the mid 1960s by Mollie Orshansky, a staff economist at the Social Security Administration (SSA). Poverty thresholds were derived from the cost of a minimum food diet multiplied by three to account for other family expenses. See the poverty measure history. Note that data on the relationship between work and poverty are only available below the national level from the Census’ American Community Survey (ACS). For those who are interested, the links below can also be used to obtain income data from the U.S. Census Bureau: Bureau of Economic Analysis state and local income data are available from BEA Regional Accounts, and are more fully described at elsewhere in this Guide. The Bloomberg Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. (BNA), a private firm, annually published a 2 volume Union Membership and Earnings Data Book. They used CPS microdata to produce much more detailed state and local data than does BLS (which uses the same source). The DOL library usually has editions (see contact info at left). Almost all of the state and local data are in Volume 1, which present data for the most recent year, plus 5 and 10 years earlier. Data include the same state information as BLS union membership news releases plus weekly and hourly earnings for four separate groups: all employees, private sector employees, government employees, and manufacturing employees. The same level of detail is provided for the 100 largest MSAs.

This private sector research organization, CEPR, also uses CPS microdata to produce much more detailed state data than does BLS (which uses the same source). Because of the small sample size of the unionized workforce in many states, the Center pools data from the seven most recent years to permit more detailed analyses. State-level data include gender, race, Hispanic origin, educational attainment, immigrant status, manufacturing and government workers, the union wage premium, and health insurance and retirement plan coverage.

### The Unions of States

- The Unions of States
- Size and Characteristics of State’s Union Workforces

### Staffing Patterns, Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) and Employment Projections (EP), BLS

- Industry-Occupation Matrix (I/O Matrix) data, by industry – EP
- May 2019 National Industry-Specific Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates - OES
- OES FAQs
- BLS Statistics by Industry
- Staffing pattern (I/O matrix) concept – EP

Staffing patterns, represented in data formatted into an Industry-Occupation (I/O) matrix, are used to drill down from sectors into the occupations typically found in an industry.

Please see Dixie Summers,’ Assistant Commissioner for BLS, Understanding Industry Staffing Patterns: the Occupational Employment Statistics survey and the National Employment Matrix for more information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poverty Rates from the Current Population Survey (CPS), Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC), U.S. Census Bureau</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>all</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- CPS poverty tables
- Poverty glossary
- Historical poverty publications (since 1959)
- Number of poor and poverty rate by state
- Poverty rates by US county
- Poverty thresholds
- Poverty data / reports
- Poverty measures
- CPS income tables
- ASEC - income / poverty tables and tools
- Publications / visuals
- Contact CPS staff

- Census main poverty data table page (multiple survey sources)
- How the U.S. Census Bureau measures poverty (infographic)
- Factsheet on differences between Census survey poverty measures
- Consumer's guide to U.S. poverty measures
- Research on labor markets and poverty
- Kids COUNT Data Book – trends in poverty

- U.S. Census Bureau tables from the annual income supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS) include the poverty line and five additional levels between the poverty line and twice the poverty line (125%, 135%, 150%, 185%, and 200%), each available for various groups: all persons, ages 18-64, under 18, 5-17, 65 and older, plus two different types of households — all families, and female-headed families. Each table shows the rate (e.g., poverty rate) and the number of persons. The U.S. Census Bureau has issued poverty data for the 20 largest MSAs in 1980, and has published a table with state-level CPS poverty data from 1980 on.

For customized state poverty tables, see American Community Survey (ACS) poverty rates below.
### Poverty Rates from the American Community Survey (ACS), U.S. Census Bureau

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Source</th>
<th>Geographical Scope</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ACS poverty reports | all, all localities | - How poverty is calculated in the ACS
- ACS poverty data tables (state-specific data + 20 MSAs)
- Concentrated poverty areas - 2006-2010 (state-specific data)
- Income and poverty interactive data tool
- Poverty tables / tools
- ACS narrative profiles
- ACS income data tables
- Household Income Inequality Within U.S. Counties: 2006–2010
- What We Know about Differences between CPS and ACS Income and Poverty Estimates
- What Is the Supplemental Poverty Measure and How Does It Differ from the Official Measure?
- ACS income inequality
- Contact ACS staff |
| Q&A on sources of poverty data | - Main poverty data table page
- Supplemental Poverty Measure - BEA
- Geographic Adjustments of Supplemental Poverty Measure Thresholds
- ACS Content Test Evaluation Report Covering Public Assistance
- ACS Content Test Evaluation Report Covering Food Stamps/SNAP
| |
| The Census Bureau reports poverty data from several major household surveys and programs. See [Which Data Source to Use](#) for more information. |
| The Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) is described in more detail earlier in this table (also see the main topic links in the row above this one). |
| ACS includes numerous tables on poverty, including data on whether individuals worked full-time-year-round (or part-time or part-year), and how many workers were in the family. |
| The American Community Survey (ACS) poverty rate data offers customized state-specific poverty tables. Please see Estimates for more information. |
| Please see [how the Census Bureau measures income and poverty](#) for more information, including a variety of infographics. |
| Other poverty publications, working papers and visualizations are available in the [Census library](#). |
| The [ACS narrative profiles](#) are useful for a wide variety of demographic information, including poverty level and income. |

### Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), U.S. Census Bureau

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Source</th>
<th>Geographical Scope</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Overview of SAIPE | all, all counties and school districts | - SAIPE data
- SAIPE state and county data
- SAIPE interactive tool
- SAIPE videos, publications and visualizations
- SAIPE methodology
- SAIPE datasets
- SAIPE FAQs
- SAIPE model input data (IRS taxes, SNAP benefits and poverty data)
- Income and poverty – SAIPE and supplemental poverty measure
- Contact SAIPE |
| Main poverty data table page (with SIPP) | - ASEC, CPS, and SAIPE data guidance
- Poverty measure guidance
- How the Census Bureau measures poverty
- Census poverty data tables, tools and datasets
- National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NAS) Reports
- SAIPE Report - NAS
- Small-Area Estimates of School-Age Children in Poverty – NAS
- Poverty glossary |
<p>| The SAIPE program produces single-year estimates of median household income and poverty for all counties, as well as population and poverty estimates for school districts. SAIPE estimates combine American Community Survey (ACS) data with administrative and other data, and are released later than ACS. |
| Data are issued nearly a year after the reference period. County data are available for 1989, 1993, and 1995 forward. School district data are available for 1995, 1997, and 1999 forward. |
| Tables for localities cover median household income, the number of poor and the poverty rate for all persons and two age groups (under 18, and 5-17). Data for children under five are available at the state level only. Data are also available in the form of customized tables and maps for the state, county and school district levels. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), U.S. Census Bureau</th>
<th>all</th>
<th>all localities</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• SIPP poverty tables</td>
<td>• Main poverty data table page (with SIPP)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• About SIPP</td>
<td>• How the Census Bureau Measures Poverty</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SIPP content</td>
<td>• SIPP presentations, reports, and evaluations</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SIPP data and tutorials</td>
<td>• SIPP purpose and history</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SIPP FAQs</td>
<td>• Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SIPP datasets / tools</td>
<td>• Data user guidance</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SIPP news releases</td>
<td>• Family Participation Rates in Nutrition Assistance Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SIPP data searching</td>
<td>• Household Net Worth</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Poverty Rates by Selected Demographic Characteristics</td>
<td>• Dynamics of Economic Well-Being: 2009-2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SSA Supplement Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>• About the SSA supplement</td>
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<tr>
<td>• SIPP methodology</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Uses of SIPP</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Contact SIPP staff</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child Poverty Statistics, KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF)</th>
<th>all</th>
<th>all localities</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• State Profiles on Kids Well-Being</td>
<td>• Listing of data tables</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Trends in Overall Child Well-Being</td>
<td>• Data Book reports</td>
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<tr>
<td>• About the Data Book</td>
<td>• Characteristics of the Population Below the Poverty Level: 1980</td>
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<td>• Interactive Data Book</td>
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<td>• Current new release</td>
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<td>• AECF national and state news releases</td>
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<td>• AECF publications</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poverty Thresholds and Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM), U.S. Census Bureau</th>
<th>all</th>
<th>all localities</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Poverty threshold data tables</td>
<td>• How the Census Bureau Measures Poverty</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Poverty data tools and maps</td>
<td>• History of the Official Poverty Measure</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Poverty threshold datasets</td>
<td>• Family Food Plans and Food Costs – HHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Poverty-related tables</td>
<td>• Interactive Data Hub for Pandemic Response</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 2016 poverty thresholds</td>
<td>• America Counts: Supplemental Poverty Measures Stories</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Supplemental poverty measure visualizations</td>
<td>• Which Data Source?</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Supplemental poverty measure publications</td>
<td>• SPM Comparison, BEA</td>
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<tr>
<th>Experimental Supplemental Poverty Measures (SPM) Thresholds, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)</th>
<th>all</th>
<th>all localities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 2018 Experimental SPM Thresholds</td>
<td>• Modern Poverty Thresholds</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 2017 Threshold Changes</td>
<td>• Developing Thresholds using Expenditure Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Minimum Living’ Thresholds</td>
<td>• An Experimental CPI for the Poor</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Identifying the Poor: Poverty Measurement</td>
<td>• Creating a Consistent Poverty Measure</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Examining the Impact on Inequality and Poverty</td>
<td>• Developing a Supplemental Measure</td>
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<tr>
<td>• New Supplemental Poverty Measure</td>
<td>• Consistency in Poverty Measurement:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Supplemental Poverty Measure Project</td>
<td>• Alternative Poverty Measurement</td>
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While the ASEC supplement to the CPS is the source of official national poverty estimates, the ACS provides single and multi-year estimates for smaller areas, and the SAIPED program provides model-based poverty estimates for school districts, counties, and states, the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) provides longitudinal estimates.

SIPP's longitudinal features allow the analysis of selected dynamic characteristics of the population, such as changes in income, eligibility for and participation in transfer government programs, household and family composition, labor force behavior, and other associated events.

The copyrighted 30th edition of the Annie E. Casey Foundation's KIDS COUNT Data Book begins by exploring how America's child population — and the American childhood experience — has changed since 1990.

It covers 16 areas of child well-being tracked across four domains — health, education, family and community and economic well-being. The rest of the 2019 Data Book, including the latest national trends and state rankings, relies on a shorter review window: 2010 to 2017.

The Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. If a family's total income is less than the family's threshold, then that family and every individual in it is considered in poverty. The official poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated for inflation using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). The official poverty definition uses money income before taxes and does not include capital gains or noncash benefits (such as public housing, Medicaid, and food stamps). The Census is also developing a Supplemental Poverty Measure through research and collaboration with BLS.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has been conducting research on the development of experimental expenditure-based poverty thresholds known as the National Academy of Science (NAS) Thresholds. An Interagency Technical Working Group (ITWG) provided a framework for a second set of poverty thresholds as part of the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM). BLS produces the SPM thresholds using Consumer Expenditure (CE) survey interview data as an experimental research product. Research experimental SPM thresholds are based on consumer unit out-of-pocket expenditures for food, clothing, shelter, and utilities (FCSU), and a multiplier to account for the expenditures of other basic goods and services, like those for household supplies, personal care, and non-work related transportation. For each threshold year, five years of quarterly Consumer Expenditure interview survey data are used. Expenditures are updated to annual threshold dollars using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U).
The guidelines are a simplification of the poverty thresholds for use for administrative purposes — for instance, determining financial eligibility for certain federal programs. The poverty guidelines (unlike the poverty thresholds) are designated by the year in which they are issued. For instance, the guidelines issued in January 2019 are designated the 2019 poverty guidelines. However, the 2019 HHS poverty guidelines only reflect price changes through calendar year 2018; accordingly, they are approximately equal to the Census Bureau poverty thresholds for calendar year 2018. Please see also: How the poverty line was developed.

Note: The Census annual poverty thresholds are the original version of the federal poverty measure. The Census thresholds are used mainly for statistical purposes — for instance, preparing estimates of the number of Americans in poverty each year. In other words, all official poverty population figures and statistics are calculated using the poverty thresholds, not the guidelines. The HHS guidelines are used for public assistance program eligibility.

The Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) reflects cost of living increases for U.S. regions and major metro areas by calculating the percentage change in the most recent Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for an area then applying this calculation to each of the previous year's LLSIL figures. The LLSIL guidelines include income charts that are used by state and local workforce investment areas to determine income eligibility for the American Job Center (AJC) (one-stop workforce system) programs for youth and certain adult services, in addition to the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC).

Housing Vacancies and Homeownership: First Quarter 2020 — April 28 — The Housing Vacancies and Homeownership statistics provide current information on rental and homeowner vacancy rates and characteristics of units available for occupancy. These data are used extensively by public and private sector organizations to evaluate the need for new housing programs and initiatives. In addition, the rental vacancy rate is a component of the index of leading economic indicators and used by the federal government and economic forecasters to gauge the current economic climate. Rental and homeowner vacancy rates and homeownership rates are available for the United States, regions, states and the 75 largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). Data for all geographies are available both quarterly and annually.
| **Homelessness**  
(HUD, Annual Homeless Assessment Report, AHAR) | all | more than 400 localities | • **AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology** (see Appendix B, starting on pdf p.100)  
• **state-specific point-in-time homelessness estimates, 2008-2010** (Appendix pp. C: 10-13, starting on pdf p. 131)  
• **locality point-in-time homelessness estimates, 2006-2010** (Appendix pp. C: 14-38, starting on pdf p. 135)  
Despite the limited available data on employment and unemployment for the homeless, this entry is included because states and local areas should ideally describe how they will serve “homeless individuals” (among other targeted populations described elsewhere in this Guide) as part of their strategic and operational planning to serve special populations. The **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)** compiles a national count of homelessness using two types of estimates: 1) a point-in-time estimate (every 2 years) on one night during the last week of January (starting in 2011, these counts must include individuals who are outside of shelters); and 2) a cumulative annual estimate, which excludes persons living on the street or in places not meant for human habitation. The 2011 edition of the AHAR should be available in mid-2012 (usually June, see the HUD news release site) — but a private organization has already released 2011 estimates (see entry below). |
| **State of Homelessness in America** (National Alliance to End Homelessness, NAEH)* | all | 100 largest MSAs | • **data sources and methodology** (Appendix 2)  
• **state-specific point-in-time and chronic homelessness counts** (Chapter 1)  
• **homelessness counts for the top 100 MSAs** (Appendix 1)  
This private organization is a nonprofit, non-partisan, organization comprised of more than 10,000 providers and public agencies involved with the homeless. **National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH)** uses the same source of data as HUD (explained in the entry above), but issues its data in advance of HUD’s report. |
| **State of the Cities Data Systems** (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, SOCDS) | | | • **SOCDS Data**  
• **FBI Uniform Crime Reporting**  
• **Housing permits (SOCDS)**  
This data tool combines Census data (ACS and CBP), BLS data (CES), building permit, urban public funding, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) crime statistics, mortgage data and principal city reporting databases. |
| **Federal Development Zones, Internal Revenue Service (IRS)** | | | • **Designated Qualified Opportunity Zones** (QOZs) – IRS  
• **Opportunity Zone FAQs** – IRS  
• **Opportunity Zones – U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**  
• **Opportunity Zones data tool** – StatsAmerica  
• **Opportunity Zones mapping tool**  
• **Empowerment Zones (EZs) – HUD**  
• **Empowerment Zone Address Locator Tool** – Employment and Training Administration (ETA)  
• **Empowerment Zone map** – IRS  
• **Opportunity Zones – Economic Innovation Group (EIG)**  
• **Opportunity Zones – Economic Development Administration (EDA)**  
• **Q&A on Renewal Community (RC) and Empowerment Zones (EZ)** – HUD  
• **Continuation of Empowerment Zone Designations** – IRS  
• **DC Development Enterprise Zone (EDZ) Tool**  
• **HUBZone Program**  
• **8(a) Business Development Program**  
An **Opportunity Zone** is an economically-distressed community where private investments, under certain conditions, may be eligible for capital gain tax incentives. There are more than 8,760 designated **Qualified Opportunity Zones** located in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and five United States territories. Opportunity Zones were created to stimulate economic development and job creation, by incentivizing long-term investments in low-income neighborhoods.  
**Empowerment Zones (EZs)** are designated areas of high poverty and unemployment that benefit from tax incentives provided to businesses in the boundaries of the EZ. Businesses operating in EZs qualify for a variety of tax incentives, a **Work Opportunity Tax Credit** for hiring residents of the EZ, and other tax benefits.  
States may also have urban **Enterprise Zones (EZs)** designated at the state level for economic development investment. Labor market, economic and socioeconomic data are often profiled for development zones by various agencies. |
| Survey of Building Permits, U.S. Census Bureau | • | • | Final 2019 Annual estimates of housing units authorized by building permits for the U.S. and by Census Region, Census Division, state, metropolitan area, county, and permit-issuing place are available at <www.census.gov/construction/bps/>. |
| Survey of Construction U.S. Census Bureau | • | • | Characteristics of New Housing: 2019—Using data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau’s Survey of Construction, which is jointly funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, this report provides annual statistics on the characteristics of new privately owned residential structures by census region. The report includes characteristics such as the number of bedrooms and bathrooms, the location of the laundry, presence of homeowner’s association, the buyer’s source of financing, and the structure’s square footage. |
| Survey of Market Absorption of New Multifamily Units (SOMA), Census Bureau | • | • | The U.S. Census Bureau will be releasing its SOMA quarterly data on privately financed, nonsubsidized, unfurnished units in buildings with five or more units for those units constructed in the fourth quarter of 2019, and absorbed (Rented/Sold) in the first quarter of 2020. |
| **PRODUCTIVITY and ECONOMIC INDICATORS** | No published state or local productivity data exist. However, estimates might be constructed using the sources below, combined with data on working hours from BLS. See BLS Labor Productivity and Costs or Industry Productivity and Costs from Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED) for national data. |
| Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI), Census | • Census Business Builder with QWI data | • QWI Explorer | |
| Other economic indicators | • Census Business Builder | • | |
| Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by State and MSA (BEA) | all | 360+ MSAs | The U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) produces annual gross domestic product (GDP) by state and MSA by major industry categories. BEA produces both advance estimates and later revised estimates. Advance state and MSA GDP data are released about 6 and 9 months, respectively, after the end of the reference period. Data are available from 1997 in the customized tables for states, and from 2001 for MSAs. State GDP data based on the former Standard Industry Coding (SIC) rather than the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) are available from 1963 to 1997. For a fee, BEA will produce regional economic multipliers that can be used, for example, to calculate the economic impact of a mass layoff. |
| E-Commerce Statistics (E-Stats), Census Bureau | • 2018 Report | • | This report summarizes 2018 e-commerce statistics on shipments, sales and revenue from four sectors of the economy: manufacturing, wholesale, services and retail. These statistics are available for the nation from 1998. (Scheduled for release May 21.) |
| **Small Business Administration (SBA)** | **Annual Business Survey, Census Bureau** | The U.S. Census Bureau will release the first detailed data tables from the 2018 Annual Business Survey (ABS) covering reference year 2017. Data will include estimates on the number of firms, receipts, payroll, and employment by sex, ethnicity, race and veteran status. Tables show data on various owner and business characteristics at the national, state, MSA, county, and economic place geographic levels. Previously, first-look estimates were published via an infographic, available at census.gov. The ABS is conducted jointly by the U.S. Census Bureau and the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) within the National Science Foundation. Additional data on research and development and innovation will be released by NCSES in the coming month. (Tentatively scheduled for release May 19.) |
| **Small Business Pulse Survey, Census Bureau** |  | The experimental Small Business Pulse Survey is one of two new Census surveys aimed at gauging the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on businesses with between 1-499 employees and at least $1,000 in annual revenue. The survey includes questions on topics such as location closings, changes in employment, disruptions in the supply chain, the use of federal assistance programs, and expectations concerning future operations. Each week, over 100,000 small businesses will receive the Small Business Pulse Survey and will be asked to respond within one week. Over the course of nine weeks, nearly one million small businesses will receive an invitation to participate. |
| **Nonemployer Statistics, Census Bureau** |  | This annual series provides subnational economic data for businesses that have no paid employees and are subject to federal income tax. The data consist of the number of businesses and total receipts by industry. |
| **SAFETY, HEALTH and WELL-BEING** | **Household Pulse Survey, Census Bureau** | The experimental Household Pulse Survey is the result of an effort by the Census Bureau and other federal statistical agencies to document temporal trends in how individuals are experiencing business curtailment and closures, stay-at-home orders, school closures, changes in the availability of consumer goods and consumer patterns, and other abrupt and significant changes to American life. Census expects to produce and disseminate data on a weekly basis. The sample is designed to produce estimates for all 50 states and the District of Columbia, as well as for the 15 largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas. Initial results are scheduled for release the week of May 18, 2020. |
### Custodial Parents and Child Support, Census Bureau

- AG Child Support Data thru the national wage system

The U.S. Census Bureau is scheduled to release the report Custodial Mothers and Fathers and Their Child Support: 2017. The report includes demographic and income data about custodial parents and details child support income for custodial parents living below the poverty level. (Tentatively scheduled for release May 28.)

### Well-Being Supplement (WB), American Time Use Survey (ATUS), BLS

- Well-Being Module (or supplement) data dictionary and data files
- American Time Use Survey
- ATUS overview (health and safety)
- ATUS charts
- ATUS tables
- ATUS database
- ATUS news releases
- ATUS data files
- ATUS FAQs
- Contact ATUS

The American Time Use Survey (ATUS) measures the amount of time people spend doing various activities, such as paid work, childcare, volunteering, and socializing. The Well-Being Module or supplement contains information related to how people felt during selected activities, as well as general health information. The ATUS Well-Being (WB) Module was first fielded from January through December in 2010, 2012, and 2013. On May 5, 2020, BLS issued a Federal Register Notice (FRN) to reinstate the well-being supplement to the ATUS. The FRN noted, "Well-Being data in late 2020 and 2021 is of particular interest in light of current world events….Researchers are interested in measuring the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on workers' well-being."

### Employment-Related Illnesses, Injuries and Fatalities (CFOI) (BLS IIF)

- IIF FAQ’s
- IIF survey forms
- examples of uses of BLS occupational safety and health statistics
- IIF contacts in National and Regional Offices
- state data and contact info
- fatal occupational injuries (see state-specific chart)
- injuries and illnesses among state and local government workers (not state-specific)
- customized tables for states and selected major urban areas (for some data)
- Fatal occupational injuries by MSA

BLS reports annually on the number of workplace injuries, illnesses, and fatalities: 1) summary data on the number and rate of injuries and illnesses by industry; 2) case and demographic data which provides additional details on the worker injured, the nature of the disabling condition, and the event and source producing that condition for those cases that involve one or more days away from work; and 3) fatality data on 28 separate elements including information on the worker, the fatal incident, and the machinery or equipment involved.

OSHA MSHA

### Annual Survey of Public Pensions, Census Bureau

- 2019 — The Annual Survey of Public Pensions provides a comprehensive look at the financial activity of the nation’s state and locally administered defined benefit pension systems, including cash and investment holdings, receipts, payments, pension obligations and membership information. Statistics are available at the national level and for individual states. State and Locally Administered Defined Benefits data will also be released. (Tentatively scheduled for release late May/early June.)

### INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC SOURCES

Note: there is a tremendous amount of data available on specific industries from Guide sources other than those in this section — which is restricted to specific industries. Two types of industry-specific surveys are listed: 1) economic censuses, conducted every 5 years, and 2) sample surveys often done annually or more frequently. The censuses issue data anywhere from more than 1 year to 3.5 years after the end of the reference period. Although they are called censuses, in the case of businesses with less than 5 employees most economic censuses survey only a sample of them. Economic censuses began in 1810, and the current quinquennial (5 year) schedule began in the 1950s. The advantage of these sources is that they can be used to match employment data with a great deal of other economic data. To maintain the privacy of respondents, some local data are shown at a more general level of aggregation than is necessary for sample size limitations. The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is the government’s official taxonomy (coding system) for classifying industries.
The next three rows describe sources on agriculture and farmworkers. BLS provides national (but not state and local) data on this subject. There are no BLS or U.S. Census Bureau (Census) Web pages for farmworkers, so in order to locate this data, it is necessary to examine BLS/Census sources which include industry and occupational classifications, and then search for the terms “agriculture,” “farm,” and “farmworkers.”

| Census of Agriculture (U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, COA) | all counties, Congressional districts, and zip codes | • agriculture census overview  
• agriculture census FAQ’s  
• agriculture census contact info  
• Economics, Statistics and Market Information System (EIMS) | • hired farmworkers and payroll by state (Table 7, 2007)  
Table 7 of each county report has the same information on farmworkers and payroll  
• Tables 46-56 contain various farm operator characteristics by state (2007)  
• customized state and county data (select “survey” in the first column, then “labor” under “Group,” the third column in the top row)  
• historical agricultural census publications | The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) conducts the Census of Agriculture every five years (in years ending in 2 and 7). In addition to various questions about the farm operator (including gender, age, race, ethnicity, and income) the census also asks questions about the number of hired workers and the number that worked more or less than 150 days. Hired farmworker data are not available by zip code. Note that the census includes data other than employment counts only for farm operators. For hired farmworker demographic data, see NAWS below. See also the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) agricultural census data in the Atlas of Rural and Small Town America. |

| Farm Labor Survey (Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, FLS) | CA, FL, and HI (but see far right) | none | • overview of FLS  
• National Agricultural Statistics Service FAQ’s  
• 2012 farm labor report release schedule  
• comparison between FLS and NAWS sampling areas (see below for NAWS)  
• contact NASS farm labor specialist (under commodities, scroll down to “labor”)  
• Agriculture Resource Management Survey (ARMS) Data on Farm Financial and Crop Production Practices | • FLS news releases (technical info and definitions are at the end)  
• customized state and regional data (select “labor” under “Group,” the third column in the top row)  
• farm labor charts & maps (national only)  
• farm computer usage and ownership (has data for each state)  
• Profile of Hired Farmworkers: 2008 Update (most recent special occasional report)  
• special tabulations (see list of past tabulations, which you can then request)  
• Agricultural Resource Management Survey (see especially the farm “income” and “household economics” listings) | The U.S. Agriculture Department’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) oversees 2 employment-related surveys, on 1) Farm Labor Survey (FLS) dating to the 1930s, and 2) a technology-oriented report on computer use by farm owners, dating to 1997 (this report has no data on farm employees — i.e., hired farmworkers — only on farm owners). Although FLS state-specific data are available for only 3 states, 5 NASS regions are comprised of only 2 states, and another 7 are comprised of only 3 states. The FLS is conducted twice annually (but supplies quarterly data), issued about a month after the reference week, and includes self-employed, unpaid, and hired workers and their hours worked and wage rates for selected weeks; also hired worker numbers, hours worked, and wage rates for selected states. State-level annual wages are published in the November report. The computer usage survey is done every other year. The USDA, Economic Research Services (ERS) Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) is an integrated data collection system that includes farm business and household accounts. ARMS data provide a direct linkage between commodity production practices (including conservation) and the financial status of the farm and its operator's household (similar to the LEHD-LED entry above). |
### National Agricultural Workers Survey (U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, NAWS)

- **Training and Employment Notice on NAWS data**
- **NAWS questionnaire** (2010 version; 2012 version to be posted later this year)
- **NAWS methodology**
- **map of NAWS sampling regions**
- **contact NAWS staff** (scroll to the bottom of the screen)
- **regional farmworker profiles at the National Center for Farmworker Health** (which are now beginning to include NAWS as well as other data, see especially the SE region report)
- **Changing Characteristics of U.S. Farmworkers** (national data only)
- **NAWS public access data for fiscal years 1989-2009** (to download the actual data, which are in a zipped file, see the “Public Access Documentation” heading in the link at the far left)

The U.S. Department of Labor’s (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA) oversees the annual NAWS, which began in 1988. Data are available within about a year after the reference period. The survey asks an extensive array of employment and other questions, including hours worked; compensation and methods of payment; benefits; work history (including seasonal work); travel to work (including migrant labor); educational attainment and various types of training; union representation; and many other topics.

For data on program services, see also the ETA Services to Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers.

### ALL INDUSTRIES

- **overview of economic censuses**
- **economic census FAQ’s**
- **definitions of industries covered and geographic terms**
- **tips on using economic census data**
- **examples of how the data are used**
- **survey question topics, by industry**
- **questionnaires by economic census**
- **economic censuses and related economic surveys**
- **contact U.S. Census Bureau for specific industry censuses**
- **schedule of release dates for each industry report** (2007 censuses)
- **geographic detail for each census**
- **economic data by industry**
- **available economic statistical programs**
- **things to consider when reviewing historical data**
- **What’s new in the 2012 economic census**
- **Help Center**

The U.S. Census Bureau conducts separate economic censuses every five years (in years ending in 2 and 7) for each of these industries: mining; utilities; construction; manufacturing; wholesale trade; retail trade; transportation and warehousing; information; finance and insurance; real estate and rental and leasing; professional, scientific and technical services; management of companies and enterprises; administration and support, and waste management and remediation services; educational services; health care and social assistance; arts, entertainment and recreation; accommodation and food services; and other services (except public administration). Employment questions vary by industry, but common questions cover the total number of employees; production or construction employees; work hours; total payroll costs; wages; and fringe benefits (more information is in the links shown at the left).

### MANUFACTURING

- **ASM overview**
- **ASM FAQ’s**
- **ASM questionnaires**
- **definitions in the ASM**
- **ASM methodology**
- **contact ASM staff**
- **customized searches using AmericanFactFinder** (select “Topics,” then select “Dataset” at the bottom of the list, then scroll down to ASM)
- **historical ASM data**

ASM data are not issued until several years after the end of the reference period. They have considerable detail by manufacturing sub-industry category. Employment data cover the number of employees; annual payroll; and the number of production workers, their wages and their working hours.

### ENERGY AND GREEN SECTORS
### Green Careers (ETA), Green Goods and Services (BLS), and Green Technologies and Practices (BLS)

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<td>O*NET green occupations list</td>
<td>BLS Green Goods and Services news release (with state-specific data)</td>
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<td>12 green career industry sectors</td>
<td>BLS Green Goods and Services customized data</td>
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<td>Greening of the World of Work (O*NET study)</td>
<td>BLS Green Technologies and Practices news release</td>
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<td>Measuring Green Jobs (BLS, including a definition of green jobs)</td>
<td>BLS Green Technologies and Practices tables (no state data)</td>
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<td>BLS Green Goods and Services survey overview</td>
<td>Measurement and Analysis of Employment in the Green Economy (Workforce Information Council): includes summaries of states-specific green jobs studies</td>
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<td>BLS Green Goods and Services FAQ’s</td>
<td>Green Jobs Community of Practice (individuals must register for this ETA-sponsored Website, but at no charge)</td>
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<td>BLS Green Technologies and Practices overview</td>
<td>Measuring the Green Economy (Commerce Department)</td>
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<td>BLS Green Technologies and Practices FAQ’s</td>
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<td>BLS green career information</td>
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<td>Contact BLS green goods and services staff</td>
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<td>Contact BLS re measuring green jobs</td>
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<td>Contact BLS green technologies and practices staff</td>
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There is no universally accepted definition of green careers (also called green jobs), but for the most definitive source see the BLS link at left. In March 2012 BLS released results from the first of its three green jobs surveys (2010 data). BLS expects to release 2011 green goods and services survey data in January 2013. Results from a second type of green jobs survey, on the occupations and wages for employees who devote more than half their time to green technologies and practices, was released in June 2012 (reflecting an August 2011 survey — this survey will be repeated at least once more, in Fall 2012). BLS’ third type of green jobs survey, on occupational staffing patterns and wages for green goods and services employment, is scheduled to be released in September 2012.

DOL’s Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has identified about 200 green occupations through O*NET research, although nearly 50 of these are new occupations for which no BLS employment data yet exist. Each occupation can be searched individually by state, and — if available — data portray employment totals, employment projections, annual and hourly wages, and selected educational attainment statistics, plus considerable national-level info on skills, job tasks and activities, and the tools and technologies involved. These occupations have been categorized into 12 broad industry sectors.

The U. S. Department of Commerce (DOC) has used product and service statistics to attempt to define the green economy (see link at left).

In addition to these national efforts, several states have conducted their own green jobs studies (described in link at left).

### PUBLIC SECTOR

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<td>list of government censuses and surveys</td>
<td>customized tables by state, level of government, and government function</td>
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<td>government statistics FAQ’s (click on “Government Statistics,” about halfway down on the left side of the screen)</td>
<td>example of how the customized table function works</td>
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<td>overview of the census of governments</td>
<td>historical government employment and payroll data</td>
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<td>questionnaires for various government censuses and surveys</td>
<td>World Fact Book (CIA)</td>
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<td>contact info for government census and surveys</td>
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The U.S. Census Bureau has since 1957 conducted a government census every five years (in years ending in 2 and 7 covering government 1) organization, 2) employment and 3) finance. The census covers all 3 levels of government, except the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the National Security Agency (NSA), and the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). Under the first category (Government Employment and Payroll), choose the second option (“build-a-table”) for state-specific data. Although the options include such local data as county and municipal employees, these are reported for the entire state only.
| **Annual Survey of Government Employees** (U.S. Census Bureau, ASGE) | all | collected but not separately reported | • annual government survey overview  
• questionnaires for various government censuses and surveys  
• technical info about the annual survey  
• government survey glossary  
• government finance and employment classification manual  
• contact info for government census and surveys | • latest government employment and payroll data  
• historical government employment and payroll data | To supplement the government census, the **U.S. Census Bureau** conducts a sample Annual Survey of Government Employees, which collects data on full- and part-time employment, pay, and working hours. The U.S. Census Bureau collects local data but only reports it at the state level. Data are also reported by functional area (e.g., elementary and secondary education; higher education; police or fire protection; financial administration; judicial and legal; etc.). Data are available online for all years since 1992 (except for 1996, when the survey wasn’t conducted). Data are not issued until nearly a year following the end of the reference period. |
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| **Schools and Staffing Survey** for elementary and secondary staff (U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, **SASS**) | all | none | • SASS questionnaires  
• SASS methodologies and procedures  
• contact SASS staff | • Full-time equivalent staff for public schools (see tables 3 and 4)  
• SASS tables (options include both standard and customized tables)  
• Public Career and Technical Education High Schools, Principals, and Teachers (2008)  
• SASS publications | **SASS** is an extremely rich source for a wide variety of state-level data on teachers and principals. SASS also provides less-detailed state-level data for vice principals, instructional coordinators and supervisors, library staff, school counselors, nurses, psychologists, speech therapists, and professional support staff. As of mid 2012, the latest available data was for the 2010-11 school year, and state-level data are only available for public schools. The organization of the tables is random, so the user should examine the entire list. |
| **Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System State Tables** for postsecondary education employees (U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, DAS, **IPEDS**) | all | none | • IPEDS homepage  
• IPEDS overview  
• IPEDS glossary  
• contact IPEDS and IPEDS help desk | • postsecondary employees, faculty and graduate assistants | This source has postsecondary faculty by full-time and part-time and by tenure status, medical and non-medical employees, managerial staff, support service professionals, administrative support staff, service and maintenance staff, etc. (with breakouts for full-time and part-time staff for many categories of employees). As of early 2012, the latest available data were for 2006. |
| **FINANCE SECTOR** | --- | --- | --- | --- |
### MISCELLANEOUS

| Career Clusters (National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium) | all | none | • Career Clusters  
• Credentials  
• Common Career Technical Core  
• Career Cluster Resources | • Career Clusters and Programs of Study under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006  
• Career Clusters (O*NET Online) | Career cluster information on this site is collected for career and technical education (CTE) promotion by the Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **O*NET Online**  
Career Information (Occupational Information Network, ETA) | all | none | • O*NET career ladders and lattices  
• Bright outlook occupations  
• O*NET Online desk aid  
• O*NET data descriptors  
• O*NET FAQs  
• O*NET taxonomy | • O*NET career exploration tools and other products  
• O*NET code connector  
• Detailed work activity (DWA) search  
• Related task search | Considerable occupational information can also be found online through federal resources. The O*NET database provides an especially useful set of occupational characteristics, which can be found on, and downloaded from, the O*NET Online website. The database contains over 800 variables, including tasks and duties, and education or training requirements for each of 1,100 occupations. The O*NET also identifies the specific knowledge, skills, and abilities associated with an occupation, the fields of specialization within an occupation and the ratings on the level of importance and proficiency for skills required of workers in an occupation. |
| **CareerOneStop** and CareerInfoNet (ETA) | all | none | • CareerOneStop suite of products  
• America’s CareerInfoNet  
• Compare occupations  
• Licensed occupations  
• Salary and wage data  
• Career Toolkit  
• Occupational profiles | • Industry Competency Model Clearinghouse  
• Credentials Center  
• Training options exploration  
• Apprenticeship Finder  
• Military to civilian translator  
• Skills Profiler | The Employment and Training Administration (ETA), through its suite of Internet applications called CareerOn Stop, delivers a variety of occupational, career and training information. Federal initiatives have created large-scale “career clearinghouses” that can be used as an indicator of actual available job openings and potential worker supply, providing occupational descriptions as well. See also the U.S. Institute of Education Science’s (IES) Adult, Career, and Vocational Education (ACVE) Clearinghouse through Education Resources Information Center (ERIC). |
Guide to Data Collections by the U.S. Census Bureau, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) Guide to Data Access, and Other Special Topics Involving Government Surveys (various agencies)  

| PARTICIPATION and LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS and WORKER PARTICIPATION |
|----------------|---|----------------|
| **Labor Force Participation Rates and Work Status by Age: Younger and Older Workers**  
  (BLS and U.S. Census Bureau, ASEC and ACS) |  |  
| all |  |  
| 50 MSAs and 17 central cities (BLS)  
all localities (ACS) |  |  
| Geographic Profile Series (GPS) FAQ's (BLS)  
Geographic Profile Series (GPS) technical info (BLS)  
contact Geographic Profile Series (BLS)  
Labor force Participation Rate of People 65 Years and Older: 2006 (ACS)  
Labor Force Participation Rate for Selected Age Groups: 2008 and 2009 (ACS)  
Work Status of People 65 Years and Older (2008)  
Report on Youth in the Labor Force (BLS) |  |  
| state and local detailed tables (BLS)  
ACS customized tables by age (Customized state-level age range data are available (9 age brackets per table) from the CPS annual supplement, described in the second row of this table.  
BLS age data for the state and local level are available on an annual basis only, from the Geographic Profile Statistics which rely on the CPS (the Geographic Profile source has its own entry in this Guide in the "Unemployment and employment" section above). These include, at the state level, the age groups of 16-19, 20-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, and 65 and older — each age group has data for labor force, employment, and unemployment (numbers and percentages). The most recent data also include breakdowns by gender, and the final data (which are not as current) include additional data on race, Hispanic origin, and working hours. The most detailed state or local BLS age data tend to be available for the 16 to 19 age group.  
The U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS), also available only on an annual basis, has much more detailed data both by age and geography, but these are not always as current at the state level as BLS. ACS data provide much more detailed age data for older workers than does BLS for states and localities. Like BLS, ACS has data by age and gender for labor force, employment, and unemployment. For more on the ACS, see the first row of this table. See also the second row for customized U.S. Census Bureau state-level data from the CPS annual supplement, another excellent source which allows age to be cross-tabulated with many other variables.) |  |  

Note: there is a tremendous amount of data available on specific occupations, special populations, and types of workers from the other sources in this table. See especially the [Occupational Employment Statistics](https://www.bls.gov/oesh/) listing above. The listings under this section are the best sources for specific occupations (in addition to the OES) and the types of workers indicated. For background on occupations, see the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system and [2010 SOC](https://www.bls.gov/soc/) (written for a general audience). The entries below are listed in alphabetical order by topic. Some of the entries in the industry section above include extensive occupational data, especially the agriculture and education sources. See also the [National Crosswalk Service Center](https://www.bls.gov/csx/) for matching various classification systems.
### Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics and Work Status by Age: Older worker profiles (U.S. Census Bureau, LEHD and OWP)

| 30 | MSAs, counties, and Workforce Investment Act program areas | Contact LEHD at CES.Local.Employment.Dynamics@census.gov | |individual state profiles for older workers| detailed older worker tables for counties, MSAs, and WIA areas|

The U.S. Census Bureau’s Local Employment Dynamics (LED), in partnership with more than half the states, issues a series of individual state profiles of older workers. Despite the dates on the headings, the most recent data available for most states are for 2004. Older workers are presented in various age categories, beginning with those aged 45. Nearly 40 different tables are available, covering employment totals, employment by industry, job gains and losses over time, and earnings.

### Labor Force by Race, Ethnicity, Immigration, and Language (U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, ACS and ASEC)

| all | all localities |  • Race and Hispanic Ethnicity (BLS) | • Bachelor’s Degree or Higher by Race and Hispanic Origin (2006-10) |
|  |  | • Language Use (U.S. Census Bureau site) | • Foreign-Born Labor Force in the U.S.: 2007 with state data (ACS) |
|  |  | • Foreign Born (U.S. Census Bureau site) and Foreign-Born Workers (BLS) | • Newly Arrived Foreign-Born Population (2010) |
|  |  | • Ancestry (outdated U.S. Census Bureau site) | • Foreign Born From Latin America and the Caribbean (2010) |
|  |  | • FAQ’s on ancestry (U.S. Census Bureau) | • Place of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population: 2009 (ACS) |
|  |  | • 2010 ACS Content Test Evaluation Report Covering Parental Place of Birth | • Nativity Status and Citizenship in the U.S.: 2009 (ACS) |
|  |  | • comparison of ancestry data from various U.S. Census Bureau surveys | • Year of Entry of the Foreign-Born Population: 2009 (ACS) |
|  |  | • changes to the ACS and the potential effect on Hispanic origin, nativity, race, and language estimates | • People Who Spoke a Language Other Than English at Home by Hispanic Origin and Race: 2009 (ACS) |
|  |  | • comparison of citizenship data from ACS and CPS | • How Does Ability to Speak English Affect Earnings? (2005, based on 2000 census data — national data only) |

Data on race, ethnicity, ancestry, and immigrant-status are derived from different survey questions, and the user should not confuse these categories. For example, an individual can be of Hispanic origin (the most commonly-asked ethnicity question) and either white or black. Virtually all demographic surveys ask standard questions about race and Hispanic origin. This subject can be especially complex for data users, as the government has separate surveys and/or questions that query individuals on their ancestry, foreign birthplace, citizenship status, race, Hispanic origin, and language use. For more info, see the definitional links at left.

For customized state-level data from the CPS annual supplement see the second row of this table. This is an excellent source of data on race, Hispanic origin and nativity — which can be cross-tabulated with many other variables.

An excellent historical background on the subject of workforce data for minorities is included in the 2001 Report on the American Workforce (Chapter 1: Counting Minorities).

See the next row for the U.S. Census Bureau’s special Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) tabulations.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criminal Offenders and Ex-Offenders (BLS, ETA, NCES, BJS, DOJ, Urban Institute)</th>
<th>none</th>
<th>none</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACS prisoner questionnaire</strong> (see “group quarters”)</td>
<td>2010 ACS prisoner data</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NLS Annotated Bibliography</strong> and <strong>NLS overview</strong></td>
<td><strong>Returning to Work After Prison</strong> (2012)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ETA Research Publication Database</strong></td>
<td><strong>Educational Characteristics of Prisoners</strong> (2011, from ACS — see the 4th item under the “Related Papers and Presentations” heading for a report and a PowerPoint)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>U.S. Bureau of Justice (BJS) Statistics homepage</strong> (U.S. Department of Justice)</td>
<td><strong>Examining a New Model for Prisoner Re-Entry Services</strong> (2011)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Institute of Justice</strong> (U.S. Dept. of Justice)</td>
<td><strong>Preparation for Life Beyond Prison Walls: Literacy of Incarcerated Adults Near Release</strong> (2009)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Assessment of Adult Literacy prison literacy overview</strong> (2003)</td>
<td><strong>Literacy Behind Bars</strong> (2007)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>contact BJS</strong></td>
<td><strong>Education and Correctional Populations</strong> (2003)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>contact ACS</strong></td>
<td><strong>Urban Institute Justice Policy Center</strong> (see especially Corrections, Reentry &amp; Community Supervision project)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bureau of Justice Statistics (DOJ)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Preparing for Life Beyond Prison Walls: Literacy of Incarcerated Adults Near Release</strong> (2009)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Institute of Justice</strong> publications (DOJ)</td>
<td><strong>Transitional Jobs for Ex-Prisoners</strong> (2009)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are currently no routine state or local surveys that publish state or local employment-related data on criminal offenders or ex-offenders — although two surveys collect such information (and one publishes national data). The ACS sample (unlike almost all other surveys) includes the population in correctional institutions, including local jails. To obtain ACS data on prisoners directly from [American FactFinder](https://factfinder.census.gov), search for “Table S2601B” (see also the links at the left). The ACS sample — although larger than the BJS survey described below — is likely too small to produce state or local estimates. ACS data on prisoners are available for 2006 forward. (For more on the ACS, see the first row in this table.)

BLS’s [National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth (NLS)](https://www.nlsinfo.org/) (there are two cohorts: one began in 1979 and other in 1997) are one of the few regular surveys that include questions on criminal behavior — see the link at the left to search the NLS annotated bibliography (four good search terms are crime, delinquency/gang activity, incarceration/jail, and truancy, but be sure to choose the “or” option for multiple search terms). Periodic national literacy surveys have also included prisoner samples.

The [U.S. Labor Department’s Employment and Training (ETA) Administration](https://www.doleta.gov) also conducts periodic demonstrations and evaluations involving ex-offenders (recent studies shown at the left) — two good search terms for this database are “ex-offenders” and “prisoners.”

Similar to ETA, the [U.S. Department of Justice’s (DOJ’s) National Institute of Justice](https://www.ojp.gov) also conducts periodic research on employment of criminal offenders. The U.S. Department of Justice’s (DOJ) [Bureau of Justice Statistics](https://www.bjs.gov) periodically surveys the employment experiences of state and Federal prisoners. The latest survey was conducted in 2004 (see links at the left), and the next one will be in 2013. However, these are small surveys incapable of producing state or local estimates.

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**Uniform Crime Reports** (University of Virginia Research Library)

- [UVa Research Portal](https://research.virginia.edu)

This is a listing of agencies providing uniform crime reports and other statistical and/or historical data related to the prevalence and occurrence of crime.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All</th>
<th>All Localities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• disability defined in ACS and other government surveys (see table on pages 12-14)</td>
<td>• Disability Among the Working Age Population: 2008 and 2009 (ACS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ACS questionnaires</td>
<td>• customized data tables from the ACS (data after 2006)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• various disability surveys</td>
<td>• For customized state-level tables from the CPS annual supplement, see the second row of this table.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• links to other disability statistics</td>
<td>• Annual Disability Statistics Compendium (published by University of NH Institute of Disability), based on ACS and CPS data. Includes state-specific tables. See especially sections 2, 3, and 5, plus the glossary.*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Disability Data in National Surveys, Center for Studying Disability Policy (a compendium of sources, covering both employment and other topics)</td>
<td>• StateData.info (state data from 8 sources, but mostly program data)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Using Labor Market Data to Improve the Job Prospects of People with Disabilities (NTAR brief overview)</td>
<td>• Harris Interactive conducted 2 major disability surveys issued in 2010 (national data only: Survey of Employment of Americans with Disabilities and The ADA, 20 Years Later)*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS) currently has the most recent and most geographically-detailed data on disability. ACS issues data for all persons with disabilities plus several general types of disability (such as sensory, physical, mental, difficulty with self-care, difficulty going outside the home, and disability interfering with employment): for surveys beginning with 2008, the categorization differs. Employment information covers whether the individual is employed or not; worked full-time-year-round or not; median annual earnings; and poverty by labor force status. For more info on the ACS, see the first row in this table.

Additional disability info is available for veterans (see the veterans row below).

Customized state-level disability are available from the CPS annual supplement (see the second row of this table for more info), and can be cross-tabulated with many other variables. Work-related disability is broken out into 3 categories: severe, non-severe, and no work disability (as characterized by the interviewee).

BLS supplies only national disability data; a new disability supplement to the CPS is scheduled for May 2012. The National Center for Health Statistics also has national health data with employment info from the National Health Interview Survey. Cornell University’s Disability Statistics* also has a variety of tools to access national disability statistics, although the data are not as up-to-date as can be obtained from the primary sources like the ACS and CPS. See the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services site for U.S. Department of Education disability statistics. The U.S. Social Security Administration’s Research, Statistics and Policy Analysis site provides statistics on social security disability programs.
Native Americans (Division of Indian and Native American Programs, Office of Indian Education, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Education, U.S. Department of Education, Social Sciences Research Council, U.S. Census Bureau, ACS, Census and ASEC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Handbook for using the ACS for Native Americans (for geographic information see especially page 7 and Appendix 1)</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACS resources for the Native American population (includes contact information in the middle of the screen)</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for ACS questionnaires, etc. see the first row of this Guide</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 census product release schedule (see p. 2 near the bottom for 2 forthcoming Native American reports)</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maps of Native American areas from the U.S. Census Bureau (2010)</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>introduction to 2000 census products on Native Americans</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Indian and Native American Programs</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Department of Education, Office of Indian Education</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Education</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Census Bureau fact sheet on Native Americans (2011 national data)</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American earnings (2010 national data)</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Americans in concentrated poverty localities (see pp. 5, 7)</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 census Native American population (no employment data)</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 census data by tribe (including employment data — note that this is an extremely large report divided into 2 Internet links)</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>customized 2000 census tables for 539 tribes and 39 tribal groups (see especially the economic characteristics)</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian Population and Labor Force Report (U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs)</td>
<td>All all localities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As of early 2012, the latest report was for 2005, and includes state, tribal, and reservation data. Status and Trends in the Education of American Indians and Alaska Natives: 2008, including state-level data (National Assessment of Educational Progress, U.S. Department of Education) NAEP National Indian Education Study (2011 report includes data for 12 separate states; also, see the NAEP entry in the Educational Attainment category above for background)

The most current and geographically detailed source is the American Community Survey (ACS). See the first entry above in this table. In May 2012 the U.S. Census Bureau issued detailed employment and other characteristics for more than 350 tribal populations, based on combined data for the 2006-2010 period. The Native American community has raised questions about the sampling accuracy of this source.

The ACS calculates Native American ancestry (called in the survey “American Indian and Alaska Native”) in 2 ways: 1) those who indicate only such ancestry in the “race” question (which produces a minimal number of Native Americans), and 2) those who indicate both Native American and another race (which produces a maximum number). Most Native American geographic areas have populations of less than 20,000; and therefore, it’s necessary to combine 5 years of ACS data to produce estimates (see more on the ACS in the first row of this table). A little over a dozen areas have sufficient populations to produce 1-year estimates, and more than 20 others have sufficient populations to use 3-year estimates (see the ACS Handbook link at left, page 7).

Because many Native American geographic areas include non-Native American populations, the geographic designation must be used together with the Native American race variable to examine solely Native Americans (see ACS Handbook link at left, page 24).

Virtually all government demographic (also called household) surveys collect data on Native Americans, but due to small sample sizes and spotty coverage of reservations, these data are often not published even at the national level (e.g., BLS regularly publishes no data on Native Americans. See also the link at the left for Bureau of Indian Affairs labor force reports, which are available online for 1982 forward and include both state and local data.

For state-level data from the CPS annual supplement see the second row of this table, although this data should also be used cautiously given the small sample sizes for Native Americans in many states. These data can only be accessed by selecting “Race” under “Define Your Table” on the left side of the screen. See also the Survey of Business Owners entry below for additional Native American data.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Data is collected but not published</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science and Engineering Graduates (National Science Foundation, NSF)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF-EMPLOYMENT</td>
<td>The next 3 rows describe sources on self-employment and entrepreneurship. BLS self-employment provides national data on this subject.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kauffman Index of Entrepreneurial Activity</strong> <em>(Kauffman Foundation, KF)</em></td>
<td>all</td>
<td>largest 15 MSAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Survey of Business Owners and Building Permits</strong> <em>(U.S. Census Bureau, SBO, and BEA)</em></td>
<td>all</td>
<td>selected MSAs, micropolitan statistical areas, counties and places with 100 or more business owners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-employers</strong> <em>(U.S. Census Bureau, NE)</em></td>
<td>all</td>
<td>counties, MSAs, and micropolitan statistical areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Veterans (U.S. Census Bureau, ACS)

- **all**
- **all localities**

- veterans FAQ’s
- survey questions re veterans in ACS
- veterans terms
- history of veterans questions in U.S. Census Bureau surveys
- links to various sources of veterans statistics
- other veterans links
- 2010 ACS Content Test Evaluation Report Covering Veteran Status
- 2010 ACS Content Test Evaluation Report Covering Period of Military Service
- Comparison of ACS and ASEC Data on Veteran Status and Period of Military Service (2007)
- Evaluation of Service-Connected Disability
- contact U.S. Census Bureau re veterans statistics
- customized data tables from the ACS
- list of table titles for veterans in the ACS
- veterans data and data quality publications
- historical data on veterans
- U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics (includes national data only — for employment data see especially the National Survey of Veterans, 2010 — listed first — and the Employment Histories Report, 2008)
- Employment Situation of Veterans Summary (BLS)
- O*NET Military Occupation Crosswalk (MOC)

The **U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS)** is the only current source of veterans workforce data below the national level. For more information on the ACS, see the first row in this **Guide**. The type of employment-related data for veterans in the ACS is limited compared to other demographic groups: labor force (including employment) status by age; gender; disability and disability rating status; educational attainment; median income; poverty status; and period of military service.

**CareerOneStop’s My Next Move for Veterans** has an enhanced crosswalk to convert military to civilian occupations, which can also be used for statistical research on veterans. This crosswalk builds upon the **U.S. Department of Defense Occupational Database** (access requires a one-time registration, which is routinely approved for all .mil, .gov, and most .edu users).

See also the **Survey of Business Owners (SBO)** entry above for additional veterans data.

### Non-Traditional Workforce and Labor Force by Gender: Female (DOL, BLS and U.S. Census Bureau, ACS and ASEC)

- **all**
- **all localities**

- Men and Women’s Earnings for States and Metropolitan Statistical Areas: 2009 (ACS)
- For customized state-level tables from the CPS annual supplement, see the second row of this table.

Gender data collection is one of the most common elements in workforce surveys. See the **BLS overview on women’s workforce statistics**, and for primarily national data, see **BLS women’s workforce data from the CPS**. For state and local data from the **Current Population Survey**, see the **Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment** entry in the “Unemployment and employment” section above and the “Age” entry above in this section. **ACS** has a wealth of work-related data by gender. For more on the ACS, see the first row of this **Guide**. The **DOL Women’s Bureau** also issues statistics and other publications.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and BUSINESS DATA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Personal Income, Compensation and Employment</strong> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)</th>
<th>move personal income to compensation section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BEA Regional Fact Sheets (Bearfacts)</strong> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)</td>
<td>all MSAs and counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Business Formation Statistics</strong>, U.S. Census Bureau</td>
<td>all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Labor Productivity</strong>, BLS</td>
<td>all</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Overview of state and local personal income data**
- **BEA general glossary**
- **BEA regional glossary**
- **BEA economic areas (definitions and maps)**
- **State and local personal income and employment methodology**
- **National Income and Products Account Handbook**
- **Contact BEA regional staff by phone** (about ¾’s down the page) or **Contact BEA by e-mail**
- **Personal income** by state and local area
- **Real personal income** by state and MSA
- **GDP** and personal income with employment data

**Recent news releases by state and locality** (see “Regional” heading)
- **Recent state and local reports**
- **BEA state and local statistics**
- **News release schedule**
- **Quick links to BEA state and local data** (including GDP)
- **E-mail subscriptions to BEA news releases**
- **GDP and personal income mapping**
- **Regional Input-output Modeling System (RIMS II)**
- **Personal consumption expenditures by state**
- **Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) statistics on depository institutions**
- **Survey of Consumer Finances** (Federal Reserve System)

**BEA** issues preliminary state annual income data 3 months after the end of the year and more complete estimates 6 months later; quarterly estimates (dating to 1948) are issued 3 months after the end of the quarter. For localities, annual **MSA data** are issued 9 months after the end of the year, and more complete local area data are issued at 2 junctures, 12 months and 16 months after the year’s end.

Note that BEA’s definitions of the terms compensation and earnings differ from those used by BLS and the U.S. Census Bureau, with earnings reflecting a broader definition than compensation. Also, many BEA tables do not present averages per individual as in BLS and U.S. Census Bureau data, but rather **totals** for an entire geographic area, although BEA does issue average per capita income and average wage per job data.

**Issued by the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)**, the state series dates back to 1929 and the local series back to 1969. Data are available on both a quarterly (for states only) and an annual basis. Employment tables include 1) full-and part-time employment by major industry, and 2) wage and salary employment by industry. At both the state and local levels, income data include breakdowns of personal income plus earnings, wage and salary disbursements, and compensation by major industry. BEA issues preliminary state annual income data 3 months after the end of the year, and more complete estimates 6 months later; quarterly estimates (dating to 1948) are issued 3 months after the end of the quarter. For localities, annual **MSA data** are issued 9 months after the end of the year, and more complete local area data are issued at 2 junctures, 12 months and 16 months after the year’s end.

- **Issued by the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)**. Data cover gross domestic product (GDP) and personal income. This site is very easy to use, and making a simple selection with a map (plus a drop-down list for counties) produces a customized fact sheet. Background information about the sources is supplied in the row immediately above and in the productivity section.

This is a new product made in partnership with the Fed, U of MD, and Notre Dame that measures business creation at the national and state levels. It provides a graphic interface and also allows downloading data.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes experimental data on state-level labor productivity for the private nonfarm sector, including state-level output per hour, output, hours, unit labor costs, hourly compensation, and real hourly compensation data series. These annual data series, covering 2007–2017, provide insights into the variation in productivity across states.
**Business Employment Dynamics and Business Formation Statistics, BLS**

Business Employment Dynamics is a set of statistics generated from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages program. These quarterly data series consist of gross job gains and gross job losses statistics from 1992 forward. These data help to provide a picture of the dynamic state of the labor market.

The Business Formation Statistics (BFS) are an experimental data product of the U.S. Census Bureau developed in research collaboration with economists affiliated with Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, University of Maryland, and University of Notre Dame. The BFS provide timely and high frequency information on new business applications and formations in the United States. More information on Census Bureau Experimental Data products can be found [here](#).

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**American Time Use Survey (BLS ATUS)**

The ATUS (which began in 2003) provides data on how, where, and with whom Americans spend their time, and is the only Federal survey with data on the full range of nonmarket activities (including child care and volunteering). In addition, it collects information on work and work-related activities (such as traveling to work and looking for work) and educational activities (including homework and research).

BLS will make available any ATUS unpublished table upon request. State-level estimates are based on multi-year periods, because the small sample size does not permit single-year estimates.

**Metropolitan Policy Program (Brookings Institution)**

This private sector research organization produces a variety of reports and products on the top 100 metropolitan areas, including economic, labor market, income, poverty, population, immigration, housing and other data.

**Metro Trends (Urban Institute)**

This private sector research organization produces a variety of reports and products on all metropolitan areas (and in some cases just the most populous 100 areas), including unemployment, employment by industry, population, net migration, housing, crime and other data.

**Mapping County Data (National Association of Counties’ County Explorer)**

This site displays maps related to social issues at the county level, such as crime, transportation and health services.

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**POPULATION, DEMOGRAPHICS and SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS**

Employment and training programs (and many other social programs) base eligibility and funding decisions in part on population data.
Population and Housing Unit Estimates (U.S. Census Bureau, ACS and census)

- Overview of U.S. Census Bureau population estimates
- Schedule for most recent estimates and next update
- Population terms and definitions
- 2010 Census overview
- 2010 Census form
- Methodology for determining population estimates
- Related population websites
- Contact Population Division

Population estimates for states, counties and other localities
- 2010 Census data (see bottom of screen)
- Various population publications

U.S. Census Bureau population estimates can be obtained in three ways: 1) the Bureau’s population estimates site, 2) the American Community Survey (ACS), and 3) the decennial census. The Bureau’s population estimates (see link at the far left) use a variety of sources, including the decennial census, ACS, other U.S. Census Bureau sources, and administrative data (such as birth and death records). For more on the ACS, see the first row in this Guide. ACS population data can be obtained from American FactFinder.

State and Local Population Estimates (State Data Centers, U.S. Census Bureau)

- State Data Center population projections

The U.S. Census Bureau also has national population projections.


- Annual Current Population Table Package: 2019

The U.S. Census Bureau released new tables from the 2019 Current Population Survey. These tables include detailed social and economic statistics by sex for the Hispanic, black, Asian, older and foreign-born populations. The foreign-born table package highlights characteristics of the foreign-born population by world region of birth and generation.

AECF Kids Count Census (Annie E. Casey Foundation, HHS Administration for Children and Families)

- Children and youth data and reports (AECF, funded by ACF, HHS)
- Kids Count Data Center
- Kids Count state rankings

- Child Trends databank
- Kids Count Data Book 2013
- Kids Count data search by topic
- Community level information on kids (CLIKS)

This data covers a wide array of characteristics for youth and children, including foster youth, adoptions, youth development, crime and basic literacy deficiencies, economic well-being, education, health, safety and risky behavior, family and community, and overall demographics.

Veteran Employment Outcomes — May 5 — The U.S. Census Bureau released new experimental statistics on Army veterans’ outcomes in the civilian labor market. Veteran Employment Outcomes (VEO) provide annual earnings for veterans by military occupation, civilian industry, and veteran characteristics – one, five, and 10 years after leaving service. These data show a broad distribution of labor market outcomes for recent veterans, highlighting the role of industry, military occupation, and rank in determining post-military earnings.

Veterans

- Census Veterans Data
- About Veterans Data
- Veterans Data Tools
- Veterans in Our Community – Census webinar

- National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics

Veteran Employment Outcomes — May 5 — The U.S. Census Bureau released new experimental statistics on Army veterans’ outcomes in the civilian labor market. Veteran Employment Outcomes (VEO) provide annual earnings for veterans by military occupation, civilian industry, and veteran characteristics – one, five, and 10 years after leaving service. These data show a broad distribution of labor market outcomes for recent veterans, highlighting the role of industry, military occupation, and rank in determining post-military earnings.
Interactive Census Labor Market and Economic Tools

Current Population Survey (CPS) Table Creator — The CPS Table Creator gives you the ability to create customized tables from the Current Population Survey's Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC).

Job-to-Job Flows Explorer (Beta) — Analyze the Job-to-Job Flows (J2J) data through interactive charts, maps, and tables.

USA Trade Online — USA Trade Online is a free and dynamic online tool, where users can access current and historical U.S. export and import data.

Additional Guides to Data Sources and Tools:

- Public and Private Sources of Education and Workforce Data, LMI Institute (last updated October 2014)
- More Commonly Used Data Tools, U.S. Census Bureau (last updated May 2016; includes some tools no longer available, such as the American FactFinder, which the Census Bureau has decommissioned)

*Important Disclaimer*: This Guide and the other guides referenced here identify some organizations that collect and disseminate workforce and labor market information. The inclusion of private sector and .com Websites is for *informational purposes only*. The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) neither implies nor confers any endorsement on a company or on a specific product or service, including analysis, tools and guides. Readers and information users should exercise an appropriate level of care, and should be aware that the private-sector products and/or services may be copyrighted, may utilize already free available government data, may alter data from federal agencies, and may require a fee for service or a cost to access or use information products. This Guide is not intended to be an exhaustive list of private sector vendors or Websites, and DOL reserves the right to modify the list on an ongoing basis.
Appendix: Longitudinal Surveys

Because longitudinal surveys require a major financial investment, their relatively small sample sizes usually preclude state or local data, so those are generally not included in the preceding chart. However, there are several extremely important sources of workforce information, principally the Current Population Survey (supervised jointly by BLS and the U.S. Census Bureau), the U.S. Department of Education’s National Household Education Survey (NHES), and various longitudinal surveys sponsored by several entities. Longitudinal surveys repeatedly query the same individual, household, or business establishment over time. For your convenience, here are some essential links for such sources.

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

  - CPS A-Z Index
  - Labor Force Characteristics
- National Longitudinal Surveys (NLS) are a set of surveys designed to gather information at multiple points in time on the labor market activities and other significant life events of several groups of men and women. NLS data have served as an important tool for economists, sociologists, and other researchers for more than 50 years. NLS is comprised of 7 separate surveys. See also the NLS bibliography and NLS Annotated Bibliography. You may also sign up for an NLS subscription to receive a quarterly newsletter and news releases.
  - National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 NLS97 began in 1997 with about 9,000 12-16 year-olds (as of 12/31/96), who are re-interviewed annually.
  - National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 NLS79 began in 1979 with nearly 12,700 14-22 year-olds, who were re-interviewed annually until 1994 and biennially thereafter. The children born of the mothers in this survey became part of the NLS79 Children and Young Adults survey.
  - NLS Older and Young Men are two of the original four NLS surveys, both beginning in 1966. The youth survey began with about 5,200 14-24 year-olds who were last interviewed in 1981. The other survey was of about 5,000 men originally aged 45-59, also last interviewed in 1981 but with another follow-up in 1990 of living respondents or surviving family members.
  - NLS Mature and Young Women are the other two of the original four NLS surveys. The youth survey began in 1968 with nearly 5,200 14-24 year-olds, who were usually interviewed annually or biennially until the last interview in 2003. The other survey began in 1967 with nearly 5,100 women originally aged 20-44, who were also usually interviewed annually or biennially until the last interview in 2003.
  - Labor Market Activity, Education, and Partner Status among America's Young Adults at 33 is a supplement to the NLS that BLS posted in an update for the 1997 Round 18 cohort.
- Business Employment Dynamics tracks job gains and gross job losses statistics at the business establishment level.
- The Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) is the longest running longitudinal household survey in the world. The National Science Foundation’s Economics Program in the Directorate of Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE) study began in 1968 with a nationally representative sample of over 18,000 individuals living in 5,000 families in the United States. Information on these individuals and their descendants has been collected continuously, including data covering employment, income, wealth, expenditures, health, marriage, childbearing, child development, philanthropy, education, and numerous other topics. The PSID is directed by faculty at the University of Michigan, and the data are available on this website without cost to researchers and analysts. The data are used by researchers, policy analysts, and teachers around the globe. Over 6,000 peer-reviewed publications have been based on the PSID. Recognizing the importance of the data, numerous countries have created their own PsID-like studies that now facilitate cross-national comparative research.
U.S. Census Bureau

- Current Population Survey (CPS)
- Population and Household Economic Topics (many, but not all, references pertain to the CPS)
- Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) (began in 1984, and has included a number of panels which have lasted from 2.5 to 4 years duration.) See also SIPP publications.
- Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics links employee and employer records from an array of data sources — administrative records, demographic surveys and censuses.
- Business Dynamics Statistics tracks business establishment openings and closings, firm startups, job creation and destruction by firm size, age and industrial sector, and several other statistics on business dynamics (it has some similarity with BLS’s Business Employment Dynamics described above).

National Bureau of Economic Research

Lists and descriptions of CPS supplements to the regular monthly survey can be obtained from the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) CPS supplements.

U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Institute for Education Sciences

All of these studies track the employment experiences of students, both during their school years and after they’ve completed their education.

- National Household Education Survey (NHES) program
- National Household Education Survey (NHES) publications and products (The first link, Adult Education, is an excellent source for information on work-related education and training.)
- Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) grant program

Studies that began with elementary or secondary students (or younger) are:

- High School Longitudinal Study of 2009 (began with 9th graders, with a follow-up scheduled for 2012)
- High School and Beyond (began in 1980 with 2 cohorts, 10th and 12th graders, with follow-ups every two years through 1986, plus a 1992 survey of the sophomore cohort)
- National Longitudinal Study of 1972 (began with 12th graders; last survey year was 1986).

Studies that began with postsecondary students are:

- Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study (3 cohorts of graduating seniors, beginning in 1993; the most recent cohort began with 2008)
- Beginning Postsecondary Students (3 cohorts of newly enrolled postsecondary students, beginning in 1989, 1995 and 2003; the cohorts each begin at the end of the first postsecondary year, with follow-ups about 3 and 6 years later)
Panel Study of Income Dynamics

This was the first modern longitudinal survey, beginning in 1968. It is overseen by the University of Michigan, but has been funded by various Federal sponsors, including the U.S. Department of Labor.

- Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) homepage
- PSID bibliography

Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor

- The Workforce Data Quality Initiative (this grant program complements the SLDS program at the NCES)

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