



*BLS
data*

**Bureau of Labor Statistics
Office of the Commissioner
Facsimile Cover Sheet**

**Room 4040, Postal Square Building
2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20212**

To: Mary Smith

Organization:

Phone: 202-456-5571

Fax: 202-456-7431

From: Bill Parks

Title:

Office Phone: 202-606-7807

Office Fax: 202-606-7797

Date: 03/03/99

**Pages including this
cover page: 17**

Comments:

U.S. Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics
2 Massachusetts Ave. N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20212



MAR 3 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mary Smith
Deputy Policy Council

FROM : Bill Parks *BP*
Special Assistant to the
Commissioner of Labor Statistics

SUBJECT : BLS data

This brief memo and the attached material are in response to your request for basic information about data and programs from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

In general, BLS gathers data from employers and from households. In virtually every case the respondents are voluntarily contributing information to the Bureau. The Bureau, in turn, pledges to maintain the confidentiality of all survey responses and of the identity of survey respondents.

The household-based surveys are the principal source of data on earnings by demographic variables such as sex or race. Our employer-based surveys do not gather wage data on a demographic basis. In general, voluntary employer-based surveys are not thought to be useful vehicles for obtaining demographic information.

On the attached pages copied from our customer service guide I have marked our programs that gather data on employment and/or earnings (this seemed a quick way to provide you with information, so please pardon the informality). Brief descriptions of the programs, the types of data they gather, and their publication schedules are included in each section.

As you know, we soon will be issuing a report on women's earnings in greater detail than we previously have done. The data will be culled from the Current Population Survey

03/03/99 10:13 FAX 202 806 7797
Memorandum for Mary Smith--2

MAR 3 1999

(our major household survey described in the attached pages). We intend to publish figures on women's earnings by various characteristics, such as full- and part-time status, union status, occupation, educational attainment, marital status, whether they are minimum-wage earners, etc. This compendium of tables will be accompanied by a brief analytical text.

As a general matter, it can be a very complex undertaking to add additional data to existing surveys or to expand the surveys' sample sizes. There are issues regarding cost and design that have to be taken into account, all the while balancing the desire for new data with an attempt to maintain survey response rates and not add to respondent burden.

As was mentioned at the meeting, we have been exploring options for some time concerning sharing data with other Federal statistical agencies, in order to increase efficiency in our data-collection operations and hopefully to bolster research. We do not allow matching of our data with the data gathered from enforcement or regulatory agencies, owing to the clear differences in our respective missions. The Census Bureau and BLS do have research programs that allow approved researchers, under carefully structured conditions, to gain access to "microdata" (the basic responses provided by survey respondents) in order to produce new research on relevant economic or social issues (the data contained in such research still would be aggregated in such a manner to prevent respondent identification).

I hope this information is useful. Let me know if I can answer any questions you might have.

Attachment

Employment and Unemployment

Employment, Hours, and Earnings by Industry

National: <http://stats.bls.gov/ceshome.htm>
State and area: <http://stats.bls.gov/790home.htm>

The Current Employment Statistics program surveys payroll records of over 390,000 businesses on a monthly basis and provides detailed industry data on employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls for the Nation, all States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and over 270 metropolitan areas.

National data	Staff (below)	(202) 606-6555
E-mail requests	Staff	cesinfo@bls.gov
Government data	Laura Kelter	606-6555
Private industry data		
Construction	Jackie Warnke	606-6555
Finance, insurance, and real estate	Ryan Allen	606-6555
Manufacturing	Ron Hetrick	606-6555
	Francisco Moris	606-6555
	Pat Ryle	606-6555
Mining	Jackie Warnke	606-6555
Wholesale and retail trade	Harold Brown	606-6555
	Keith Keel	606-6555
	John Mullins	606-6555
Services	Bill Goodman	606-6555
	Cynthia Engel	606-6555
	Fatemeh Hajiha	606-6555
Transportation and public utilities	Dominic Toto	606-6555
Benchmarks	Michael Roosma	606-6541
Seasonal adjustment	Michael Roosma	606-6541
State and area data	Staff	606-6559
E-mail requests	Staff	data_sa@bls.gov

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National Labor Force Statistics

<http://stats.bls.gov/cps/home.htm>

The Current Population Survey is a monthly survey of about 50,000 households conducted by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It provides a comprehensive body of data on the labor force, employment, unemployment, and persons not in the labor force. Studies based on the Current Population Survey cover a broad range of topics, including the nation's overall labor market situation, as well as those of special worker groups such as minorities, women, school-age youth, older workers, disabled veterans, persons living in poverty, contingent workers, and displaced workers.

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National labor force data		(202) 606-6378
Concepts and definitions	Staff	606-6373
E-mail requests	Staff	cpsinfo@bls.gov
Employment and unemployment trends	Staff	606-6378
Machine-readable data and diskettes	Gloria P. Green	606-6373, x255
Microdata tapes and CD-ROMs	Rowena Johnson	606-6345
Special topics		
Absences from work	Staff	606-6378
Contingent workers	Sharon Cohany	606-6378
Discouraged workers	Staff	606-6378
Displaced workers	Steve Hipple	606-6378
Educational attainment	Staff	606-6378
Flexitime and shift work	Staff	606-6378
Home-based work	Bill Deming	606-6378
Job tenure	Jay Meisenheimer	606-6378
Longitudinal data/gross flows	Francis Horvath	606-6345
Marital and family characteristics	Howard Hayghe	606-6378
Minimum wage data	Steven Haugen	606-6378
Minority workers	Staff	606-6378
Multiple jobholders	John Stinson	606-6373, x263
Occupational data	Staff	606-6378
Occupational mobility	Staff	606-6378
Older workers	Diane Herz	606-6378
Part-time workers	Staff	606-6378
Seasonal adjustment methodology	Robert McIntire	606-6345
Union membership	Staff	606-6378
Veterans	Sharon Cohany	606-6378
Weekly and annual earnings	Staff	606-6378
Women in the labor force	Howard Hayghe	606-6378
Work experience	Staff	606-6378
Working poor	Thomas Hale	606-6378
Youth, students, and dropouts	Staff	606-6378

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Data available:

Employment status (employed, unemployed, not in the labor force) of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years and older by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, marital status, and Vietnam-era veteran status

Employed persons by occupation (as defined in the 1990 Census Classification of Occupations), industry (private major industry divisions and government as defined in the 1990 Census Classification of Industries), class of worker (agriculture vs. nonagricultural industries, wage and salary workers, self-employed workers, unpaid family workers), hours of work, full- or part-time status, and reasons for working part-time

Multiple jobholders by occupation, industry, number of jobs held, and full- or part-time status of multiple jobs

Unemployed persons by occupation, industry, class of worker of last job, duration of unemployment (in weeks), reason for unemployment (job losers, including persons who completed temporary jobs; job leavers; reentrants; and new entrants), and methods used to find employment

Discouraged workers and other persons not in the labor force

Weekly and hourly earnings by demographic group and full- and part-time employment status

Publications:**News releases**

College Enrollment and Work Activity of High School Graduates
Contingent and Alternative Work Arrangements
Displaced Workers
Employment and Unemployment Among Youth
Employment Characteristics of Families
Employment Situation of Vietnam-era Veterans
The Employment Situation
Job Tenure
Union Members
Usual Weekly Earnings of Wage and Salary Workers
Work Experience of the Population

Periodicity:

Annual
Biennial
Biennial
Annual
Annual
Biennial
Monthly
Biennial
Annual
Quarterly
Annual

Periodicals

Employment and Earnings

Monthly

Other

Microdata files on tape, diskette, and CD-ROM

Monthly

source
for
data
in
our
updating
report

State and Metropolitan Area Labor Force Statistics

<http://stats.bls.gov/lauhome.htm>

The Local Area Unemployment Statistics program provides monthly labor force, employment, and unemployment data for some 6,700 areas, including all States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico; metropolitan areas; counties; cities of 25,000 population or more; and all cities and towns in New England, regardless of population. Annual averages of employment status for regions, States, and metropolitan areas are available by demographic groups, occupation, industry, and full- or part-time status.

State and area labor force data	Staff	(202) 606-6392
Data diskettes and tapes	Yvonne Terwilliger	606-6392
Demographic characteristics	Edna Biederman	606-6392
E-mail requests	Staff	lausinfo@bls.gov

Data available:

Monthly:

Labor force, employment, and unemployment for States, metropolitan areas, counties, and cities of 25,000 population or more

Annual averages, regions and states:

Employment status (labor force, employment, unemployment, unemployment rate) of the civilian noninstitutional population by sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin

Employed and unemployed by full- and part-time (including part-time for economic reasons and part-time for noneconomic reasons) status, sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin

Employment status of the experienced civilian labor force (people with previous work experience) by occupation and industry

Percent distribution of employed persons by occupation, industry, sex, race, and Hispanic origin

Percent distribution of unemployed persons by sex, age, race, Hispanic origin, reason for unemployment (job losers, including persons who completed temporary jobs; job leavers; reentrants; and new entrants), and duration of unemployment (in weeks)

Persons at work (hours of work) by sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin

Persons at work 1 to 34 hours by sex, race, reason for working less than 35 hours, and usual status (full- or part-time)

Employed persons with a job but not at work by reason

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Annual averages, metropolitan areas and cities:

Civilian labor force participation rates, employment-population ratios, and unemployment rates by sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin

Percent distribution of employed persons by sex, race, Hispanic origin, occupation, and industry

Unemployment rates by occupation and industry

Publications:

News releases

Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment

State and Regional Employment and Unemployment

State and Regional Unemployment

Periodicity:

Monthly

Monthly

Annual

Periodicals

Employment and Earnings

Monthly

Bulletins

Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment

Annual

Microfiche

Unemployment in States and Local Areas

Monthly

Longitudinal Research

<http://stats.bls.gov/nlshome.htm>

The Bureau of Labor Statistics conducts and sponsors the collection and production of data from the National Longitudinal Survey (NLS). Each survey gathers information at multiple points in time on the labor market experiences of five groups of American men and women. The individuals in the sample are representative of the larger population of like Americans born during a given time period. Sample selection procedures insure that the labor market situation of minorities, youth, and women, could be examined. Each of the NLS survey groups consists of several thousand members, some of whom have been surveyed for decades. These data offer researchers the opportunity to study large panels of American men and women over significant segments of their lives. A new cohort of youth was interviewed for the first time in 1997. Data from this interview will be released in the summer of 1998. NLS survey data are available on CD-ROM.

Director and media contact

NLS publications

NLS program and data

Working Papers

E-mail requests

Michael Horrigan

Rita Jain

Julie Yates

James Spletzer

(202) 606-7386

606-7405

606-7388

606-7393

nls_info@bls.gov

Covered Employment and Wages

<http://stats.bls.gov/cewhome.htm>

no demographics

This program, commonly referred to as ES-202, produces a comprehensive series of employment and wage data for workers covered by State unemployment insurance laws and is a virtual census of payroll employment. The program produces data on the number of establishments, monthly employment, and quarterly wages by industry, county, and ownership.

Current and historical data	Staff	(202) 606-6567
E-mail requests	Staff	202_info@bls.gov
Multiple Worksite Report	Michael Searson	606-6469
Standard Industrial Classification &	John Murphy	606-6475
North American Industry Classification	Mary Anne Phillips	606-6473

Data available:

Monthly employment, total quarterly wages, and number of establishments by 4-digit Standard Industrial Classification for the nation, all States, all counties, and all metropolitan statistical areas

Publications:

News releases
Average Annual Pay Levels in Metropolitan Areas
Average Annual Pay by State and Industry

Periodicity:

Annual
Annual

Bulletins

Employment and Wages, Annual Averages

Annual

Occupational Employment Statistics

<http://stats.bls.gov/oeshome.htm>

no demographics

This survey collects data on occupational employment and wages of wage and salary workers by industry in nonfarm establishments. National data by occupation and industry are collected for approximately 750 occupations and 400 nonfarm industries.

Current and historical data	Staff	(202) 606-6569
E-mail requests	Staff	oesinfo@bls.gov
Standard Occupational Classification System	Staff	606-6569

Data available:

Employment and wage levels of 750 occupations and 400 industries for the Nation

Publications:

Periodicity:

Bulletins

Occupational Employment Statistics

Annual

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Compensation and Working Conditions

National Compensation Survey

<http://stats.bls.gov/comhome.htm>

no demographics

The Office of Compensation and Working Conditions is designing, organizing, and implementing the National Compensation Survey (NCS), a compensation program that integrates data from three existing BLS programs—the Employment Cost Index (ECI), the Occupational Compensation Survey program (OCS), and the Employee Benefits Survey (EBS)—by the end of the decade.

The new program will continue to produce national employment cost indexes, employment cost levels, and employee benefit incidence data while adding these data for large metropolitan areas. Data on wages will be produced for occupations and work levels within occupations. Occupations will be selected by probability techniques within each establishment; generic factors will be used to determine work levels.

After completing six pilot surveys in early 1996, BLS began collection of the regular wage portion of the NCS in fall 1996. This first sample replaced the OCS sample in 1997. Data for 16 survey areas now are available; data for another 55 areas are scheduled to be available in early 1998. Collection of employee benefits data will begin in 1999 and all products will be available in 2000.

National Compensation Survey

General information

Fax requests

E-mail requests

Staff

Staff

Staff

(202) 606-6220

606-6647

ocltinfo@bls.gov

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Employment Cost Trends

<http://stats.bls.gov/ecthome.htm>

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The Employment Cost Trends program produces two ongoing surveys: the Employment Cost Index (ECI) and Employer Costs for Employee Compensation (cost levels). The Employment Cost Index measures the change over time in the cost of labor, including the cost of wages and salaries and employee benefits. Cost levels data provide average costs per hour worked for wages and salaries and specific benefits.

Employer Costs for Employee Compensation

Current and historical data	Staff	(202) 606-6199
Fax requests	Staff	606-6647
E-mail requests	Staff	oectinfo@bls.gov
Employment Cost Index		
Current and historical data	Staff	606-6199
Fax requests	Staff	606-6647
E-mail requests	Staff	oectinfo@bls.gov

Data available:

Quarterly and annual percent changes in the employers' costs for compensation, including wages and salaries and benefits, by industry (major industry division) and occupation (blue-collar, white-collar, and service occupations) for private industry and state and local government

Quarterly and annual percent changes in employers' costs for compensation, including wages and salaries and benefits, by bargaining status (union vs. nonunion by broad industry and occupation), region (4 Census-defined regions), and area size (metropolitan vs. nonmetropolitan)

Employer costs per hour worked (in dollar amounts) for wages and salaries and individual benefits or benefit categories by industry, occupation, bargaining status, region, and area size

Publications:

News releases

Employer Costs for Employee Compensation
Employment Cost Index

Periodicity:

Annual
Quarterly

Bulletins

Employment Cost Indexes
Employer Costs for Employee Compensation

Annual
Annual

Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

<http://stats.bls.gov/oshhome.htm>

The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses presents summary data on the number and rate of injuries and illnesses by industry, as well as demographic data with additional details on the worker injured and case information such as the nature of the disabling condition, the event or exposure leading to the condition, and source producing that condition for cases involving one or more days away from work.

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) provides information about workers who have been fatally injured on the job and the events leading to the fatality. More than 28 separate data elements including information on the worker, the fatal incident, and the machinery or equipment involved are reported.

Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

Data diskettes or tapes

Rates by industry

Characteristics by industry

E-mail requests

*Occupational Injuries and Illnesses
Classification Manual*

Janice Devine (202) 606-6167

Staff 606-6179

Staff 606-6180

Linda Garris 606-6170

Staff oshstaff@bls.gov

<http://stats.bls.gov/oshoi>

Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

Data diskettes

E-mail requests

Guy Toscano 606-6165

Guy Toscano 606-6165

Staff cfoistaff@bls.gov

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Data available:

Incidence rates and number of occupational injuries and illnesses, including estimates of nonfatal cases, total recorded cases, lost workday cases, and nonfatal cases without lost workdays in private industry by establishment size

Number and percent distributions of workers with lost workdays from occupational injuries and illnesses by industry, occupation, age, sex, race, and length of service

Number, incidence, and percent distributions of occupational injuries and illnesses by nature of the injury/illness, part of the body affected, source of the injury/illness, and the event or exposure leading to the injury/illness

Number of fatal occupational injuries and percent distributions by industry, occupation, age, gender, race, and event

Publications:**Periodicity:****News releases**

Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

Annual

Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

Annual

Occupational Injuries and Illnesses by Selected Characteristics

Annual

Bulletins

Occupational Injuries and Illnesses:

Counts, Rates, and Characteristics

Annual

Summaries

Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (rates and number) Annual

Fatal Workplace Injuries: A Collection of Data and Analysis Annual

Employee Benefits Survey

<http://stats.bls.gov/ebshome.htm>

no demographics

This survey provides comprehensive data on the incidence and detailed provisions of selected employee benefit plans in small private establishments, medium and large private establishments, and State and local governments. The data are presented as the percent of employees who have access to or participate in certain benefits, or as average benefit provisions (for example, the average number of paid holidays provided to employees each year). Estimates are published by broad occupational groups, full- and part-time status of employees, union and nonunion workers, and by broad geographic regions and industry sectors.

Employee Benefits Survey

Current and historical data

Fax requests

E-mail requests

Staff (202) 606-6222

Staff 606-6647

Staff ocltinfo@bls.gov

Data available:

Incidence and detailed characteristics of the following employee benefits: Work schedules; paid holidays, vacations, and personal, funeral, jury duty, military, family, and sick leave; unpaid family leave; short- and long-term disability, health, and life insurance; retirement plans, including defined benefit and defined contribution plans; and flexible benefits plans and reimbursement accounts

Incidence data for educational assistance, wellness programs, employee assistance programs, nonproduction bonuses, severance pay, subsidized child care, adoption assistance, supplemental unemployment benefits, travel accident insurance, long-term care insurance, subsidized commuting, flexible work place, and fitness center benefits

Publications:

News releases

Employee Benefits in—

Small Private Establishments

Medium and Large Private Establishments

State and Local Governments

Periodicity:

Biennial

Biennial

Biennial

Bulletins

Employee Benefits in—

Small Private Establishments

Medium and Large Private Establishments

State and Local Governments

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Employment Projections

<http://stats.bls.gov/emphome.htm>

The Office of Employment Projections develops and publishes estimates on the economy and labor market 10 years into the future. Included are projections of the labor force by sex, race, and age; gross domestic product; industrial output; and employment by industry and occupation. The projections are based upon extensive analysis of current and past economic and employment relationships. The Employment Projections program also analyzes the implications of the projections for special groups in the labor force, such as youth, college graduates, and the disadvantaged. The projections and analytical information are developed for use in career counseling, education training and planning, and policy making and planning in both government and private industry.

Labor force	Howard Fullerton	(202) 606-5711
Industry information		
Industry employment and output	James Franklin	606-5709
Industry final demand		
Consumer spending	Janet Pfleeger	606-5721
Exports and imports	Betty Su	606-5729
Federal Government	Art Andreassen	606-5689
State and local government	Allison Thomson	606-5733
Investment	Jay Berman	606-5692
Input-output relationships	Art Andreassen	606-5689
National industry-occupation matrix	Delores Turner	606-5730
Occupational information		
Education and training	Darrel Patrick Wash	606-5732
Employment projections	Staff	606-5700
Mobility and tenure	Alan Eck	606-5705
National industry-occupation matrix	Delores Turner	606-5730
Replacement and separation rates	Alan Eck	606-5705
Special topics		
Economic outlook	Thomas Boustead	606-5718
College graduate job outlook	Mark Mittelhauser	606-5707
	Kristina Shelley	606-5726
Defense-related employment	Allison Thomson	606-5733
Employment requirements tables	Art Andreassen	606-5689
Career information for students (K-12)	http://stats.bls.gov/k12/html/edu_over.htm	
Publications		
<i>Career Guide to Industries</i>	Douglas Braddock	606-5695
<i>Occupational Outlook Handbook</i> (http://stats.bls.gov/ocohome.htm)	Chester Levine	606-5715
<i>Occupational Outlook Quarterly</i>	Kathleen Green	606-5717
<i>Occupational Projections and Training Data</i>	Jon Sargent	606-5722

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Labor force by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin for current and projected years

Projections of gross domestic product (GDP) and the major demand and income distribution of GDP, and aggregate projections of the employment required to produce that GDP

Historical and projected output, value added, employment, and labor productivity for 185 industry groups as well as commodity output and final demand (demand by consumers, government, businesses, and foreign economies)

Input-output data including interindustry employment requirements, current and projected

Employment for 510 occupations in 260 industries for wage and salary workers, current and projected year

Occupational employment by class of worker (wage and salary, self employed, and unpaid family), current and projected year

Occupational employment by 11 education and training categories, current and projected year

Job openings due to growth and replacement by occupation for projected period

Replacement rates for 510 detailed occupations

The *Occupational Outlook Handbook* provides the following information for 250 occupations: Nature of the work, working conditions, employment, job outlook and earnings, related occupations, sources of additional information, and training, other qualifications, and advancement

Publications:

News releases

BLS Releases New Employment Projections

Periodicals

Occupational Outlook Quarterly

Bulletins

Occupational Outlook Handbook

Occupational Projections and Training Data

Career Guide to Industries

Periodicity:

Biennial

Quarterly

Biennial

Biennial

Biennial