

## Bureau of Labor Market Information: Program and Data Guide

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### The Ohio Bureau of Labor Market Information

The Ohio Bureau of Labor Market Information (BLMI) is the primary source for measures of labor market activity in Ohio and its substate areas. The BLMI collects, analyzes, and publishes data and information regarding the Ohio labor force, industries, and occupations. It also provides technical assistance and training to the Ohio workforce development communities and partners.


The BLMI operates under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and receives funding from a federal Workforce Labor Market Information Grant provided by the DOL Employment and Training Administration (ETA). The BLMI is required to provide the BLS and ETA with certain products using approved software, tools, and processes. The BLMI works with the BLS on the following programs: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS), Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), and Current Employment Statistics (CES). The BLMI Workforce Research section manages the products and activities required by the Workforce Labor Market Information Grant.



[ohiolmi.com](http://ohiolmi.com)

The BLMI produces county economic profiles, a monthly press release on the Ohio and U.S. employment situation, a monthly briefing on the labor market for the Governor’s office, and many other ad hoc reports.

# Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)



**Department of  
Job & Family  
Services**

Mike DeWine, Governor    Jan Husted, Lt. Governor    Matt Damschroder, Director

[jfs.ohio.gov](http://jfs.ohio.gov)

**Quarterly Census of  
Employment  
& Wages**

Second Quarter 2023

**Summary** - Employment covered under the Ohio Unemployment Compensation Law totaled 5,408 million in the second quarter of 2023 - up 1.7 percent from one year ago. Fifteen industrial sectors experienced employment increases in the second quarter. Increases ranged from 6.7 percent in Mining to 0.9 percent in Manufacturing.

Four industrial sectors experienced employment declines. Declines ranged from 3.6 percent in Administrative & Waste Services to 0.3 percent in Retail Trade. State and Local Government employment increased 1.4 percent and Federal Government employment increased 3.8 percent compared to the previous year.

The second quarter 2023 payroll of \$81.0 billion was an increase of 4.9 percent from its same calendar point in 2022. All nineteen industrial sectors experienced payroll increases in the second quarter. Increases ranged from 9.4 percent in Accommodation & Food Services to 0.4 percent in Retail Trade. During this same period, State and Local Government wages increased 3.4 percent. Federal Government employees showed a 3.3 percent decrease in wages compared to the previous year.

Industrial Sector	Average	Wages	Percent Change	
	Employment	(in thousands)	to	Wages
	Second Quarter	Second Quarter	Second Quarter	Second Quarter
	2023	2023	2022	2022
Total Covered under Ohio UI Law	5,408,481	91,891,209	1.7	4.9
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	10,243	211,526	3.0	0.5
Mining	9,240	185,314	6.7	0.0
Utilities	18,054	486,421	2.1	7.4
Construction	240,719	4,233,027	1.2	0.8
Manufacturing	1,028,543	12,058,256	0.9	0.8
Wholesale Trade	241,657	5,009,887	2.2	4.8
Retail Trade	542,150	4,881,079	-0.3	0.4
Transportation & Warehousing	242,064	3,800,378	-1.5	4.0
Information	88,200	1,532,913	-1.8	2.1
Finance and Insurance	238,030	6,330,711	1.6	5.6
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	69,381	1,023,709	4.8	7.8
Professional and Technical Services	291,070	6,034,861	2.5	7.8
Management of Companies & Enterprises	143,374	4,205,087	2.9	4.3
Administrative & Waste Services	311,893	3,725,460	-2.6	0.9
Educational Services	91,064	1,055,305	3.8	6.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	812,204	11,824,987	3.7	0.0
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	92,002	895,062	0.2	6.7
Accommodation & Food Services	485,838	2,712,890	4.3	9.4
Other Services (except Public Administration)	107,702	1,070,908	-2.5	-1.1
State and Local Government	540,100	9,677,307	1.4	3.4
Federal Government	92,377	1,704,702	-3.8	-3.3

The QCEW program collects industry employment and wage information on approximately 340,000 business establishments covered by Ohio and federal unemployment insurance (UI) laws. These establishments employ approximately 5.4 million people, including private industry employees, as well as federal, state, and local government workers. Data for counties are collected at the six-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) level and can be aggregated to various industry levels (NAICS industry groups, sectors, and super sectors) and geographic levels (national, state, and metropolitan statistical areas). To expand coverage and to capture employment and wage data, as well as changes in business location and primary activity, information from the ODJFS Office of Unemployment Insurance Operations (OUIO) is supplemented with data collected via four reports/surveys administered to business establishments.

## BLMI staff perform the following activities for the QCEW program:

- Produce the Enhanced Quarterly Unemployment Insurance Report. This is a comprehensive accounting of Ohio's employment and payroll data, by firm, obtained from the UI tax files, the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, and Multiple Worksite Report. The BLMI distributes approximately 24,000 Multiple Worksite Reports annually.
- Process data collected from the Annual Refiling Survey. Each year, approximately 50,000 business establishments are surveyed to verify and/or update information, including their industry, county, mailing and physical addresses, phone number, and multiple worksite status.
- Assign industry codes monthly to about 2,000 new and re-established employers for the OUIO. The OUIO uses industry codes to help determine companies' contribution rates. BLMI staff also review rate and code appeals for OUIO.
- Establish predecessor/successor relationships for BLS purposes so that data are not duplicated or lost when information transfers from one business owner to the next.
- Create and publish 22 unique reports annually.
- Calculate the maximum weekly earnings for all workers covered by Ohio's UI law for the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation annually, as required by state law.

## QCEW information for Ohio is available at OhioLMI.com:

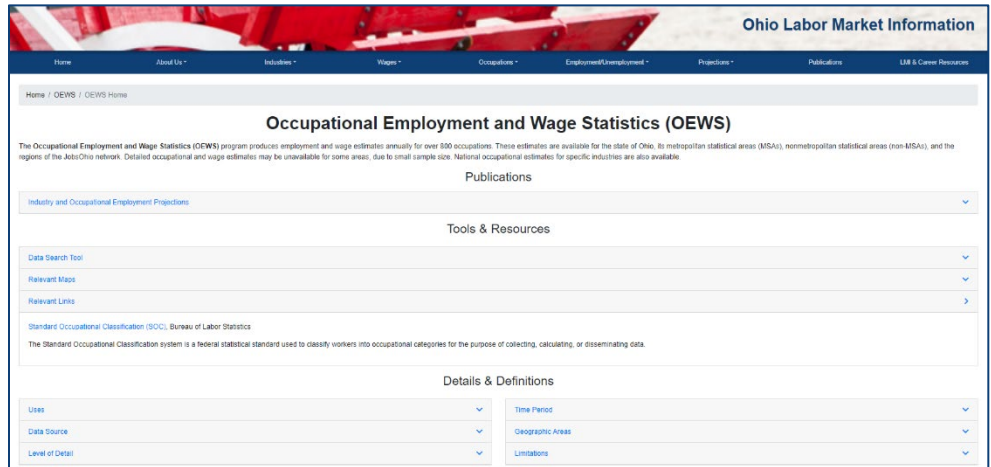
- **Overview and Links to Data:** [ohiolmi.com/Home/QCEW/QCEWpubs](http://ohiolmi.com/Home/QCEW/QCEWpubs) - Users can review and/or download up to 22 unique reports showing Ohio and county employment by industry and business size for various time periods.
- **Data Search Tool:** [ohiolmi.com/DataSearch](http://ohiolmi.com/DataSearch) - Users can search the number of private business establishments, employees, total wages paid, and average annual wage by industry for a particular Ohio county, workforce area, metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or the state as a whole, from 2001 to the present.

## Uses and users of QCEW data:

- Many individuals and organizations use QCEW data for economic analysis, forecasting, sampling, and projections including state budget forecasters, local economic planning and development groups, private sector and university researchers, the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the BLS.

# Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS)

The OEWS program collects data on wage and salary workers from a sample of nonfarm business establishments to produce employment and wage estimates for approximately 800 occupations. Estimates are derived from surveys of business worksites. The BLS provides the methodology and technical support, draws the sample, and produces the survey forms. The BLMI is responsible for producing



additional solicitation materials, verifying employer information, collecting the data, and analyzing and processing employer responses by applying Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) codes for each employee. Ohio has the sixth largest sample in the nation. It consists of approximately 13,500 businesses per year, totaling more than 950,000 employees. To be statistically valid, BLMI must meet a 75 percent response rate of sampled business establishments for 18 substate areas and 65 percent of sampled statewide employment, or information on approximately 10,125 business establishments and 617,500 employees.

## BLMI staff perform the following activities for the OEWS program:

- Mail or email the survey and conduct extensive follow-up and verification via telephone with employers.
- Receive and process employer data submitted by mail, email, phone, fax, or online at [idcfoews.bls.gov](http://idcfoews.bls.gov).
- Contact businesses to update addresses and contact information.
- Report each week to the BLS on the collection/response rate status.
- Participate in reviews of model-based estimation.

## The following OEWS information for Ohio is available at [ohiolmi.com](http://ohiolmi.com):

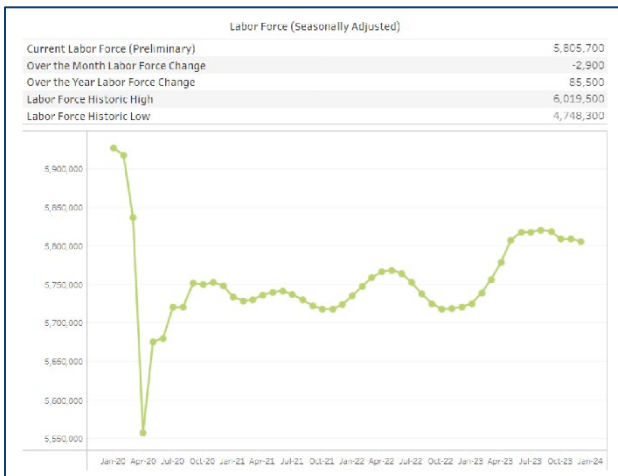
- **Overview and Links to Data:** [ohiolmi.com/Home/OEWS/OEWShome](http://ohiolmi.com/Home/OEWS/OEWShome)

Users can review and/or download occupational wage estimates for MSAs, the six JobsOhio economic development regions, or the state, based on data from the six most recent survey panels (i.e., three years).

## Uses and users of OEWS data:

- State and local workforce development boards and professionals use the information to determine the need for local employment and training services.
- Researchers use the data to study trends in the labor market and industries to understand labor costs for new markets.
- Students and career counselors use the information for career planning by comparing employment and wages for different occupations, industries, and areas.
- Compensation specialists use the data to determine equitable and competitive pay and to develop recruiting packages.
- The DOL and the Ohio Department of Commerce use the wage data to set official prevailing wage rates.
- The BLS and the BLMI use OEWS to project short-term and long-term employment.

## Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)



The LAUS program produces monthly and annual average estimates of the number of people in the labor force, the number of people employed, the number of people unemployed, and the unemployment rate in Ohio's MSAs, counties, cities with populations of 25,000 or more, and the state. LAUS uses the same concepts and definitions as the Current Population Survey, the monthly household survey that the U.S. Census Bureau conducts for the BLS. The program is also used to estimate employment-population ratios and labor force participation rates for the state. LAUS estimates are key indicators of economic conditions.

### BLMI staff perform the following activities for the LAUS program:

- Publish the official preliminary, revised, and benchmarked LAUS estimates by area.
- Provide data inputs in accordance with BLS standards.
- Review proposed changes to methodology and provide detailed written assessments to the BLS.
- Participate in reviews of model-based estimation.
- Produce data for Areas of Substantial Unemployment, which the BLS defines as a contiguous area(s) of populations of at least 10,000 and unemployment rates of at least 6.5 percent.
- Publish a list of Ohio cities and counties that meet the DOL definition of Labor Surplus Area of having an average unemployment rate at least 20 percent higher than the national average during a specific two-year period. Employers in Labor Surplus Areas may be given preference in bidding on federal procurement contracts.

### The following LAUS information for Ohio is available at [ohiolmi.com](http://ohiolmi.com):

- **Overview and Links to Data:** [ohiolmi.com/Home/LAUS/LAUSHome](http://ohiolmi.com/Home/LAUS/LAUSHome)  
Under Employment/Unemployment and Local Area Unemployment Statistics, includes links to the Ranking Report, Civilian Labor Force Estimates by County and City, Ohio and U.S. Employment Situation, Rate Map, and Unemployment Rate Methodology.
- **Data Search Tool:** [ohiolmi.com/Data Search](http://ohiolmi.com/Data Search)  
Users can search, review, and download current and historical data for Ohio's counties, MSAs, cities with populations of 25,000 or more, JobsOhio regions and workforce development areas, as well as the state and nation.

### Uses and users of LAUS data:

- The federal government uses the data to determine state and local funding allocations and eligibility for assistance.
- States use the data to determine funding allocations to local areas.
- State and local governments use the data for planning and budgetary purposes and to determine the need for local employment and training services.
- Private employers, researchers, the media, and others use the data to assess local labor market developments and make comparisons across areas and over time.
- Businesses and individuals use the data for worksite and residence location decisions.

# Current Employment Statistics (CES)

The CES program produces monthly estimates of industry employment, hours, and earnings for Ohio and its 12 MSAs. Estimates are derived from a voluntary survey, also known as the business establishment survey, of more than 23,000 worksites throughout Ohio. Employers provide data for the pay period that includes the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month. Payroll and hours data are collected for private-sector production, construction, and non-supervisory workers. Each month, the BLS summarizes the estimates by industry for Ohio and MSAs.

## BLMI staff perform the following activities for the CES program:

- Evaluate estimates and recommend adjustments based on unusual behavior or local events (for example, labor-management disputes).
- Collect employment data for state government employers.
- Collect data for workers not covered by Ohio's UI law, such as railroad workers, clergy, some insurance agents, student workers, and elected officials.
- Publish statewide and MSA data reports typically the third Friday of each month and The Labor Market Review the following week.

## The following CES information for Ohio is available at [ohiolmi.com](http://ohiolmi.com):

- **Overview and Links to Data:** [ohiolmi.com/Home/CES/CEShome](http://ohiolmi.com/Home/CES/CEShome)  
Under Employment/Unemployment and Current Employment Statistics. Includes links to Employment by Sector, Ohio Seasonally Adjusted Nonagricultural Employment Table, and the Labor Market Review.
- **Data Search Tool:** [ohiolmi.com/DataSearch](http://ohiolmi.com/DataSearch)  
Users can search and download current and historical data on employment by industry for Ohio and its 12 MSAs. Where available, hours and earnings are provided.
- **Labor Market Review:** [ohiolmi.com/docs/CES/LMR.pdf](http://ohiolmi.com/docs/CES/LMR.pdf)

This monthly publication contains the following information for Ohio and its 12 MSAs:

- Current and historical data on employment by industry.
- Hours and earnings for production, construction, and non-supervisory workers.
- Civilian labor force estimates of employment and unemployment.
- Select UI data.
- Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey Data (JOLTS).

## Uses and users of CES data:

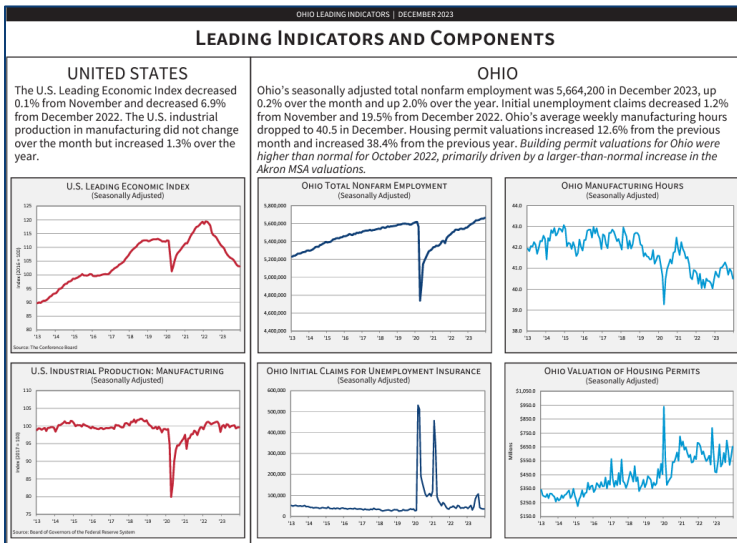
State administrators, economic developers, researchers, and economists use CES data for a variety of things:

- To evaluate the economic health of the labor market.
- To guide fiscal and monetary policy decisions.
- To forecast tax revenues.
- To guide decisions on location planning, sales, and purchases.
- To compare employment, hours, and earnings across industries or the economy.
- To determine the employment base of states and areas for bond ratings.
- To analyze phases of the business cycle.



[ohiolmi.com/docs/ces/lmr.pdf](http://ohiolmi.com/docs/ces/lmr.pdf)

# Workforce Research



The BLMI Workforce Research section is responsible for producing and disseminating all the products and activities required by the federal Workforce and Labor Market Information Grant, including industry and occupation projections. The section also educates others about labor market information through face-to-face presentations and interactive webcasts and provides labor market analyses and assistance for internal and external customers.

<https://ohiolmi.com/docs/LeadingIndicators/LI.pdf>

## BLMI Workforce Research staff conduct the following activities:

- Produce annual short-term (two-year) industry and occupational employment projections at the statewide level and long-term (10-year) industry and occupational employment projections for the state, the eight largest MSAs, and the JobsOhio regions. This process produces industry staffing patterns and occupational employment profiles. In addition, the data are used to help identify the Ohio's Top Jobs List highlighted on OhioMeansJobs.com.
- Produce an annual economic analysis and special reports analyses.
- Develop new products for users.
- Produce an Ohio Leading Indicators report that uses annualized growth rates to forecast six-month employment growth for Ohio and its eight largest MSAs.
- Populate the Workforce Information Database, which contains employment statistics, labor market information, state licensure information, business listings, and related economic and demographic data. The database is maintained by the Analyst Resource Center.
- Develop and facilitate interactive, live web-based trainings and self-guided tutorials on LMI products for workforce development professionals, businesses, and researchers.

## The following resources are available at [ohiolmi.com](https://ohiolmi.com):

- **Employment Projections:** [ohiolmi.com/Home/Projections/ProjectionsHome](https://ohiolmi.com/Home/Projections/ProjectionsHome)  
Includes links to Occupational Trends, a pamphlet of Ohio occupations with favorable job prospects.
- **Data Search Tool:** [ohiolmi.com/DataSearch](https://ohiolmi.com/DataSearch)  
Users can obtain industry and occupational employment projections for Ohio, the eight largest MSAs, and the six JobsOhio regions.
- **Publications:** [ohiolmi.com/home/publications](https://ohiolmi.com/home/publications)  
Includes links to special publications.
- **Webinars and self-guided training:** [ohiolmi.com/Home/elearning](https://ohiolmi.com/Home/elearning)  
Workforce professionals across Ohio can learn how to better use labor market information and OhioMeansJobs.com to support their daily work and special projects.

# Job Posting Analytics

Online Job Posting Reports are created with “real-time” online job ad information and are an auxiliary product of [OhioMeansJobs.com](http://OhioMeansJobs.com). The reports reflect one aspect of the overall labor market picture in an area and are used in conjunction with other local labor market information. Snapshot information reflects a snapshot in time and may not represent long-term trends.

Four types of reports are generated monthly: A Snapshot of Job Ads, Internship Ads, Occupations by Ad Demand, and Regional Talent Reports. These monthly report series are generated to help describe labor demand during a specific time frame utilizing TalentNeuron™’s electronic job posting data. TalentNeuron™ is a global research and advisory company that collects job posting data from global sources daily and in real-time.

## BLMI staff conduct the following activities:

- Produce monthly reports generated for JobsOhio Network Areas and the state of Ohio.

## The following resources are available at [ohiolmi.com](http://ohiolmi.com):

- **Overview and Links to Data:** [ohiolmi.com/Home/JobPostings](http://ohiolmi.com/Home/JobPostings)

- **Snapshot of Job Ads:**

Includes the monthly total of job openings posted online at OhioMeansJobs.com. Includes a Salary Range, Education Range, Top Certifications, Top Skills, Top Employers with the Most Job Ads, and Top Occupations with the Most Job Ads.

- **Internship Ads:**

Includes the monthly total of internship ads posted online at OhioMeansJobs.com. Includes a Salary Range, Education Range, Top Certifications for Internship Ads, Top Skills for Internship Ads, Top Employers with the Most Area Internship Ads, and Top Occupations with the Most Area Internship Ads.

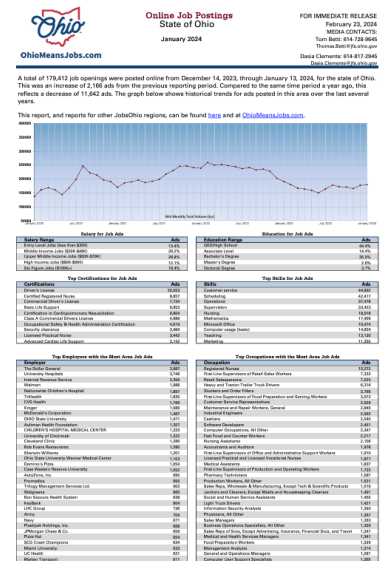
- **Occupations by Ad Demand:**

Includes a breakdown of job ads by occupational focus.

- Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations
- Sales and Related Occupations
- Transportation and Material Moving Occupations
- Management Occupations
- Computer and Mathematical Occupations
- Office and Administrative Support Occupations
- Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations
- Business and Financial Operations Occupations
- Architecture and Engineering Occupations
- Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations

- **Regional Talent Reports:**

Includes a report on the talent in Ohio for the top 12 in-demand jobs listed, including the number of resumes posted by specified skills and education level.



## How Employment Information Differs by Program

This chart shows the differences between the QCEW, CES, and LAUS programs, which provide data commonly used to analyze the labor market. If you're looking for employment data, start with these sources.

	QCEW	CES	LAUS
<b>Industry</b>	Data are published by <b>INDUSTRY</b> (sector and subsector)	Data are published by <b>INDUSTRY</b> (some sectors and some aggregates of sectors)	Data are published in <b>TOTAL</b> , not by industry
<b>Geography</b>	Data are published by <b>STATE, MSA, REGION, and COUNTY</b>	Data are published by <b>STATE and MSA</b>	Data are published by <b>STATE, MSA, REGION, and CITY</b> (population of 25,000 or more)
<b>Period of Availability</b>	<b>Beginning in 1975</b> for total employment by state and county <b>and 1990</b> for all geographies and industries	<b>Beginning in 1939</b> for aggregate industry and most major sector data <b>and 1990</b> for most data series	<b>Beginning in 1976</b> for statewide data and 1990 for substate data
<b>Jobs v. People</b>	Counts <b>JOB</b> s (those holding multiple jobs could be counted more than once)	Counts <b>JOB</b> s (those holding multiple jobs could be counted more than once)	Counts <b>PEOPLE</b> (those holding multiple jobs are counted only once)
<b>Collection Process</b>	Is a <b>CENSUS</b> (count) of jobs and is not based on a survey (Data are based on workplace location)	Utilizes an <b>ESTABLISHMENT SURVEY</b> (Data are based on workplace location)	Utilizes a <b>HOUSEHOLD SURVEY</b> (Current Population Survey; data are based on residence location)
<b>Frequency of Publication</b>	Data are published <b>QUARTERLY</b> , six months after the end of each quarter	Data are published <b>MONTHLY</b>	Data are published <b>MONTHLY</b>
<b>Data Reference Week</b>	Reference week is the <b>PAY PERIOD</b> that includes the 12 <sup>th</sup> of the month	Reference week is the <b>PAY PERIOD</b> that includes the 12 <sup>th</sup> of the month	Reference week is the <b>CALENDAR WEEK</b> that includes the 12 <sup>th</sup> of the month
<b>Seasonal Adjustment</b>	Because data represents a census, data are <b>NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED</b>	<b>SEASONALLY ADJUSTED</b> data are available for total nonfarm employment (all areas) and for supersectors (state only)	<b>SEASONALLY ADJUSTED</b> data are available for the state and MSAs, but not the counties or cities
<b>Workers on Unpaid Leave</b>	A job held by a person on unpaid leave during the reference week <b>IS NOT COUNTED</b>	A job held by a person on unpaid leave during the reference week <b>IS NOT COUNTED</b>	A person on unpaid leave <b>IS COUNTED</b> as employed because they will return to their job
<b>Self-Employed Workers</b>	<b>DOES NOT COUNT</b> self-employed workers	<b>DOES NOT COUNT</b> self-employed workers	<b>DOES COUNT</b> self-employed workers
<b>Agricultural Workers</b>	<b>INCLUDES SOME</b> agricultural workers, but excludes most on small farms	<b>DOES NOT INCLUDE</b> agricultural workers	<b>INCLUDES</b> both agricultural and non-agricultural workers
<b>Unpaid Family Workers</b>	<b>DOES NOT COUNT</b> unpaid family workers	<b>DOES NOT COUNT</b> unpaid family workers	<b>COUNTS</b> unpaid family workers if they worked 15+ hours for a family business or farm
<b>Workers on Strike</b>	Workers on strike during the reference period <b>ARE NOT COUNTED</b>	Workers on strike during the entire reference period <b>ARE NOT COUNTED</b>	Workers on strike during the reference week <b>ARE COUNTED</b> as employed
<b>Members of the Armed Forces</b>	<b>DOES NOT COUNT</b> members of the armed forces	<b>DOES NOT COUNT</b> members of the armed forces	<b>DOES NOT COUNT</b> members of the armed forces
<b>Domestic Workers</b>	<b>COUNTS SOME</b> domestic workers but only those earning a certain amount	<b>DOES NOT COUNT</b> domestic workers	<b>DOES COUNT</b> domestic workers