



Labor Market Matters

Issue No. 7 | Winter 2026

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What Job Postings Can (and Can't) Tell You



If you're curious about how many job openings exist in different industries, one key resource is the [Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey](#) (JOLTS). This national survey provides valuable insights but has a few limitations. Data is available only at the state level, and industry breakdowns are available only at the national level.

For more localized insights, Ohio LMI offers data on online job postings. These postings are grouped by job function. This means they reflect similar types of work, even if they don't align perfectly with official industry categories.

You can explore this information in the [Online Job Posting Reports](#), which are updated monthly. Just keep in mind: Job postings aren't the same as job openings. Not every job opening is posted online, and not every posting represents an actual vacancy. Still, they offer a useful snapshot of the kinds of jobs employers are actively trying to fill.



Matt Damschroder, Director
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

Bellefontaine: Where Holiday Magic Meets Economic Energy

Did you know that in 2024, Mayor David Crissman signed a proclamation naming Bellefontaine Ohio's Christmas Capital? This historic and vibrant community comes alive during the holidays, with a festive atmosphere, charming shops, and welcoming streets that draw residents and visitors alike. While Bellefontaine shines bright during the holiday season, it's also a year-round destination.

Located in Logan County, Bellefontaine is home to [Ohio's Most Loveable Downtown](#), featuring a revitalized Main Street filled with homegrown businesses, local eateries, and seasonal attractions. Nearby Indian Lake adds to the region's appeal with outdoor recreation and scenic beauty.

But Bellefontaine's story isn't just about celebration. It's also about the people and industries that power the region. Here's a snapshot of data from OhioLMI's [County Data Hub](#):

Logan County Labor Market Snapshot

- **Population:** 45,667
- **Labor Force Participation Rate (2023):** 61.3%
- **Top Industry by Employment and Wage:** Manufacturing
- **Top 5 Projected Occupations by Growth (Central Ohio Area):**
 - Transportation and Material Moving
 - Healthcare Support
 - Food Preparation and Serving Related
 - Healthcare Practitioners and Technical
 - Home Health and Personal Care Aides
- **Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) 2024 Annual Data:**
 - **Business Establishments:** 1,030
 - **Average Employment:** 19,361
 - **Median Wage:** \$58,496

These figures reflect a diverse and resilient workforce that supports both the seasonal sparkle of Bellefontaine and the year-round vitality of Logan County.



Business Finder

Are you looking for a local business? Use our Data Search Tool – [Business Search](#) to explore employers in your area!

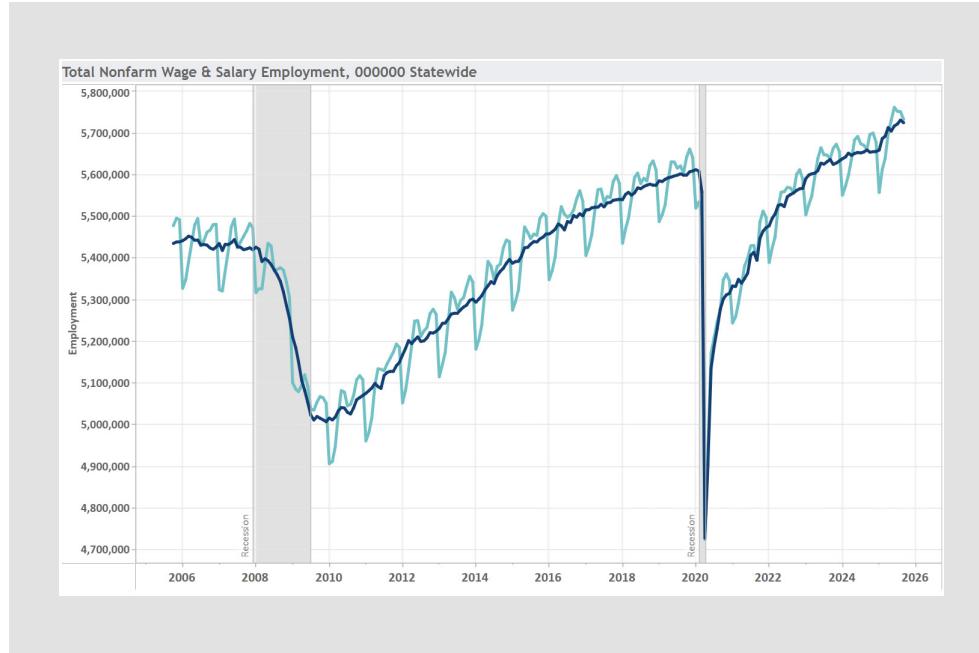
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Dashboard Spotlight – Industry Employment

The [Industry Employment Dashboard](#) from Ohio's Bureau of Labor Market Information provides an interactive view of monthly employment trends across industries in Ohio. This tool allows you to:

- Track job growth or decline by industry sector
- Compare statewide and regional employment trends
- View seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted data
- Download charts and data for easy sharing

Whether you're analyzing economic trends, preparing workforce reports, or supporting policy decisions, this dashboard offers timely insights into Ohio's labor market.



Hot Off the Dashboard: PY 25 Apprenticeship Stats

The [Apprenticeship Dashboard](#) has been updated with program year 2025 data. Explore the latest trends in apprenticeship programs across Ohio at ohiolmi.com.



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What is the LEHD Program?

The Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) program is part of the Center for Economic Studies at the U.S. Census Bureau. It helps us better understand how people and jobs are connected in local communities.

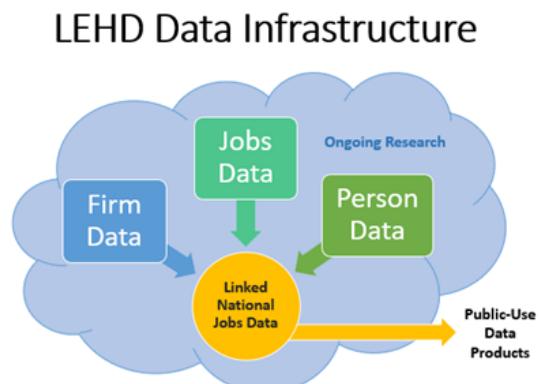
Through a partnership with states, the Census Bureau combines data from employers and workers—like wages and job locations—to create useful statistics. These stats show things like:

- Where people live and work
- How much they earn
- How jobs are changing over time
- How employment trends vary by industry, location, and demographics

This information helps local and state leaders make smart decisions about the economy, workforce, and community planning.

To make this possible, states share data from unemployment insurance records and the QCEW. The Census Bureau then blends that with other data sources to create detailed, privacy-protected insights.

Visit lehd.ces.census.gov to explore the LEHD program and try out free interactive tools that can help you understand your local labor market.



Data Request Spotlight: Travel Time to Work

Question:

I heard you have an online dashboard showing commuter data across county lines using LEHD data. How are travel times calculated for these data flows?

Answer:

Great question! While the commuter flow data itself comes from the LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LODES) dataset, travel time information is typically sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

The most relevant ACS table for travel times is Table B08303 – “Travel Time to Work,” which provides estimates based on self-reported commute durations. You can find it here: data.census.gov/table/ACSDT1Y2022.B08303.

For even more detailed commuting data, including individual-level records, you can explore [ACS Public Use Microdata Sample \(PUMS\)](#). Just note that PUMS data is more complex to work with and may require some statistical experience.

United States
Census
Bureau



Meet the Team: Gary Maras

Gary works as a labor market analyst 3 for the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program. In that role, he analyzes employment and wage data submitted by employers to ensure data accuracy.

Gary started his journey at the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services in 2012 as an unemployment compensation examiner 2, helping employers file quarterly tax reports. In 2017, he joined LMI as a labor market analyst 2, collecting and coding occupational and wage data for the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics program. In 2021, he joined the QCEW program in his current position.

Gary grew up in Warren, Ohio. He moved to Columbus in 1992, shortly after graduating from Kent State with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

In his spare time, Gary volunteers as a marshal in the prestigious PGA Memorial Tournament held each year at Muirfield Village Golf Club. In his free time, he enjoys golfing, bowling, walking, and watching the Ohio State Buckeyes and Cleveland Browns play (especially when they win)!

Fresh Topics, New Insights!

[LMI Learning Lab](#) sessions are now scheduled through June 2026!

These free, virtual sessions are designed to help you explore workforce trends and make sense of labor market data.

Check Out Our Dashboards!

Looking for workforce data? Check out the Ohio LMI dashboards at ohiolmi.com/DashboardsHomepage. You can find occupational employment projections, labor force statistics, and more!