

FY 2024

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

This page is intentionally left blank.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Appropriation Language	1
Explanation of Language Change	2
Amounts Available for Obligation.....	3
Summary of Changes	4
Summary Budget Authority by FTE and Activity	6
Budget Authority by Object Class	7
Authorizing Statutes.....	8
Appropriation History	9
Overview	10
Organization Chart.....	16
Cross-Cutting Measures.....	17
Budget Activities	19
Labor Force Statistics	19
Prices and Cost of Living.....	43
Compensation and Working Conditions	57
Productivity and Technology	71
Executive Direction and Staff Services	79
Headquarters Relocation	87

This page is intentionally left blank.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Bureau of Labor Statistics, including advances or reimbursements to State, Federal, and local agencies and their employees for services rendered, [\$629,952,000] \$690,370,000, together with not to exceed \$68,000,000 which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration account in the Unemployment Trust Fund: *Provided, That such amounts shall remain available through September 30, 2025. (Department of Labor Appropriations Act, 2023.)*

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

ANALYSIS OF APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

Language Provision

Additional language to be added at the end of the Bureau of Labor Statistics Salaries and Expenses text: "...: Provided, That such amounts shall remain available through September 30, 2025."

Explanation

The Department requests two-year availability to increase flexibility for program execution. The annual uncertainty in the appropriations timing results in delayed hiring and rushed execution of contracts. The multi-year availability would reduce the impact of short-term continuing resolutions at no cost to the annual appropriations bill. This change would also enhance staff oversight of the programs they are administering.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATION						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted		FY 2024 Request	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
A. Appropriation	1,949	\$619,952	2,023	\$629,952	2,094	\$690,370
<i>Subtotal Appropriation</i>	<i>1,949</i>	<i>\$619,952</i>	<i>2,023</i>	<i>\$629,952</i>	<i>2,094</i>	<i>\$690,370</i>
Unexpired Unobligated Balances Carried Forward from Prior Year	0	\$38,406	0	\$23,507	0	\$0
Offsetting Collections From:						
Reimbursements	170	\$43,208	169	\$43,134	169	\$44,573
Trust Funds	0	\$68,000	0	\$68,000	0	\$68,000
<i>Subtotal Offsetting Collections</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>\$111,208</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>\$111,134</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>\$112,573</i>
B. Gross Budget Authority	2,119	\$769,566	2,192	\$764,593	2,263	\$802,943
Unexpired Unobligated Balances Carried Forward from Prior Year	0	-\$38,406	0	-\$23,507	0	\$0
Offsetting Collections To:						
Reimbursements	-170	-\$43,208	-169	-\$43,134	-169	-\$44,573
<i>Subtotal Offsetting Collections</i>	<i>-170</i>	<i>-\$43,208</i>	<i>-169</i>	<i>-\$43,134</i>	<i>-169</i>	<i>-\$44,573</i>
C. Budget Authority Before Committee	1,949	\$687,952	2,023	\$697,952	2,094	\$758,370
Unexpired Unobligated Balances Carried Forward from Prior Year	0	\$38,406	0	\$23,507	0	\$0
Offsetting Collections From:						
Reimbursements	170	\$43,208	169	\$43,134	169	\$44,573
<i>Subtotal Offsetting Collections</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>\$43,208</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>\$43,134</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>\$44,573</i>
D. Total Budgetary Resources	2,119	\$769,566	2,192	\$764,593	2,263	\$802,943
Unexpired Unobligated Balance Carried Forward	0	-\$23,507	0	\$0	0	\$0
FTE Lapse and Unobligated Balance Expiring:	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Budget Authority Before Committee	2	-\$465	0	\$0	0	\$0
Reimbursements	-4	-\$7,915	0	\$0	0	\$0
<i>Subtotal FTE Lapse and Unobligated Balance Expiring</i>	<i>-2</i>	<i>-\$8,380</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$0</i>
E. Total, Estimated Obligations	2,117	\$737,679	2,192	\$764,593	2,263	\$802,943

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Net Change
Budget Authority			
General Funds	\$629,952	\$690,370	+\$60,418
Trust Funds	\$68,000	\$68,000	\$0
Total	\$697,952	\$758,370	+\$60,418
 Full Time Equivalents			
General Funds	2,023	2,094	71
Total	2,023	2,094	71

Explanation of Change	FY 2024 Change							
	FY 2023 Base		Trust Funds		General Funds		Total	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Increases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For:								
Costs of pay adjustments	2,023	\$228,780	0	\$0	0	\$12,486	0	\$12,486
Personnel benefits	0	\$82,713	0	\$0	0	\$4,560	0	\$4,560
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Benefits for former personnel	0	\$104	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Travel and transportation of persons	0	\$3,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Transportation of things	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Rental payments to GSA	0	\$18,788	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Rental payments to others	0	\$81	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0	\$3,144	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Printing and reproduction	0	\$1,224	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Advisory and assistance services	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0	\$11,378	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Working Capital Fund	0	\$45,329	0	\$0	0	\$2,738	0	\$2,738
Other Federal sources (Census Bureau)	0	\$64,228	0	\$0	0	\$3,535	0	\$3,535
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0	\$1,410	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0	\$43,246	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Research & Development Contracts	0	\$23,919	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0	\$69,292	0	\$0	0	\$1,063	0	\$1,063
Supplies and materials	0	\$325	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Equipment	0	\$19,227	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	\$81,455	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Explanation of Change	FY 2024 Change							
	FY 2023 Base		Trust Funds		General Funds		Total	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Insurance claims and indemnities	0	\$138	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Built-Ins Subtotal	2,023	+\$697,781	0	\$0	0	+\$24,382	0	+\$24,382
B. Programs:								
Improve Poverty Measurement	2,023	\$240,868	0	\$0	25	\$11,870	25	\$11,870
Expand Data on the Dynamics of the U.S. Labor Market and on the Supply of and Demand for Skills	520	\$316,560	0	\$0	27	\$9,600	27	\$9,600
Expand and Modernize Data Capacities	520	\$316,560	0	\$0	7	\$7,860	7	\$7,860
Ramp Up Necessary Activities to Produce the American Indian Population and Labor Force Report	520	\$316,560	0	\$0	7	\$2,750	7	\$2,750
Rebuilding Statistical Capacity at BLS	2,023	\$697,952	0	\$0	0	\$1,893	0	\$1,893
Restore Occupational Employment and Wage Data for Agricultural Industries	520	\$316,560	0	\$0	1	\$1,137	1	\$1,137
Improve the Timeliness of the C-CPI-U	969	\$240,868	0	\$0	4	\$1,000	4	\$1,000
Programs Subtotal			0	\$0	71	+\$36,110	71	+\$36,110
Total Increase	2,023	+\$697,781	0	\$0	71	+\$60,492	71	+\$60,492
Decreases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For: Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	0	\$171	0	\$0	0	-\$74	0	-\$74
Built-Ins Subtotal	0	+\$171	0	\$0	0	-\$74	0	-\$74
B. Programs:								
Total Decrease	0	+\$171	0	\$0	0	-\$74	0	-\$74
Total Change	2,023	+\$697,952	0	\$0	71	+\$60,418	71	+\$60,418

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

SUMMARY BUDGET AUTHORITY AND FTE BY ACTIVITY								
(Dollars in Thousands)								
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted		FY 2024 Request		Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Labor Force Statistics	497	296,537	520	316,560	562	346,649	42	30,089
General Funds	497	228,537	520	248,560	562	278,649	42	30,089
Unemployment Trust Funds	0	68,000	0	68,000	0	68,000	0	0
Prices and Cost of Living	943	228,906	969	240,868	998	264,782	29	23,914
General Funds	943	228,906	969	240,868	998	264,782	29	23,914
Compensation and Working Conditions	314	87,309	325	91,000	325	94,929	0	3,929
General Funds	314	87,309	325	91,000	325	94,929	0	3,929
Productivity and Technology	50	11,730	52	12,524	52	13,184	0	660
General Funds	50	11,730	52	12,524	52	13,184	0	660
Executive Direction and Staff Services	147	35,000	157	37,000	157	38,826	0	1,826
General Funds	147	35,000	157	37,000	157	38,826	0	1,826
Headquarters Relocation	0	28,470	0	0	0	0	0	0
General Funds	0	28,470	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,951	687,952	2,023	697,952	2,094	758,370	71	60,418
General Funds	1,951	619,952	2,023	629,952	2,094	690,370	71	60,418
Unemployment Trust Funds	0	68,000	0	68,000	0	68,000	0	0

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

BUDGET AUTHORITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
	Full-Time Equivalent				
	Full-time Permanent	1,722	1,797	1,868	71
	Other	227	226	226	0
	Reimbursable	170	169	169	0
	Total	2,119	2,192	2,263	71
	Average ES Salary	\$194,000	\$197,000	\$207,000	\$10,000
	Average GM/GS Grade	11/2	11/2	11/2	0
	Average GM/GS Salary	\$102,000	\$106,000	\$111,000	\$5,000
11.1	Full-time permanent	196,904	209,333	231,776	22,443
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	12,425	13,079	13,797	718
11.5	Other personnel compensation	6,131	6,368	6,892	524
11.9	Total personnel compensation	215,460	228,780	252,465	23,685
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	78,588	82,884	91,570	8,686
12.2	Military Personnel Benefits	0	0	0	0
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	100	104	104	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	1,000	3,000	3,048	48
22.0	Transportation of things	0	0	0	0
23.0	Rent, Communications, and Utilities	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	38,252	18,788	18,788	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	51	81	81	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	2,429	3,144	3,195	51
24.0	Printing and reproduction	1,050	1,224	1,236	12
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	11,369	11,378	13,726	2,348
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	179,431	154,213	171,196	16,983
25.5	Research and development contracts	12,760	23,919	23,919	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	54,633	69,292	76,812	7,520
26.0	Supplies and materials	500	325	368	43
31.0	Equipment	12,057	19,227	19,456	229
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	80,147	81,455	82,268	813
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	125	138	138	0
	Total	687,952	697,952	758,370	60,418
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	44,504	45,329	48,067	2,738
	DHS Services	4,962	1,410	1,410	0
	Census Services	99,470	64,228	78,473	14,245
	Services by Other Government Departments	30,495	43,246	43,246	0

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

AUTHORIZING STATUTES

Legislation	Statute No. / US Code	Expiration Date
An Act to Establish the Bureau of Labor, 1884 (amended by Act of 1913 to establish the Department of Labor)	29 U.S.C. 1 et. seq.	n/a
The Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933, as amended	29 U.S.C. 49 et. seq.	n/a
Veterans' Employment, Training, and Counseling Amendments of 1988	38 U.S.C. 4110A	n/a
Trade Act of 1974	19 U.S.C. 2393	n/a
Federal Employees Pay Comparability Act	5 U.S.C. 5301-5304	n/a
Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970	29 U.S.C. 673	n/a

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

APPROPRIATION HISTORY					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
	Budget Estimates to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriations	FTE
2014					
Base Appropriation	\$613,794			\$592,212	2,232
2015					
Base Appropriation	\$610,082			\$592,212	2,234
2016					
Base Appropriation	\$632,737	\$609,000	\$579,194	\$609,000	2,195
2017					
Base Appropriation	\$640,943		\$609,000	\$609,000	2,185
2018					
Base Appropriation	\$607,842	\$607,936	\$609,000	\$612,000	2,022
2019					
Base Appropriation	\$609,386	\$612,000	\$615,000	\$615,000	2,057
2020					
Base Appropriation...1/	\$655,000	\$675,800	\$615,000	\$655,000	1,961
2021					
Base Appropriation...1/	\$658,318	\$655,000	\$641,000	\$655,000	1,965
2022					
Base Appropriation...1/	\$700,653	\$700,653	\$685,183	\$687,952	1,949
2023					
Base Appropriation...2/	\$741,744	\$726,334	\$723,454	\$697,952	2,023
2024					
Base Appropriation	\$0				

1/ This bill was passed by the House. It was not taken up by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee or full Appropriations Committee.

2/ This bill was reported out of the House Committee and was not passed by the Full House. It was not taken up by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee or full Appropriations Committee.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

OVERVIEW

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) is the principal federal statistical agency responsible for measuring labor market activity, working conditions, price changes, and productivity in the United States economy to support public and private decision-making. The June 27, 1884 Act that established the BLS states, “The general design and duties of the Bureau of Labor Statistics shall be to acquire and diffuse among the people of the United States useful information on subjects connected with labor, in the most general and comprehensive sense of that word, and especially upon its relation to the capital, the hours of labor, social, intellectual, and moral prosperity.”

Like all federal statistical agencies, the BLS executes its mission with independence from partisan interests while protecting the confidentiality of its respondents and their data. The BLS serves the general public, the U.S. Congress, DOL and other federal agencies, state and local governments, and business and labor by providing gold-standard statistics and analyses, that are accurate, objective, relevant, timely, and accessible, as well as providing technical assistance and consulting services. Policies and decisions based on BLS data affect virtually all Americans, and the wide range of BLS data products is necessary to fulfill the needs of a diverse customer base. The BLS protects the confidentiality of its data providers and employs innovative methods to keep pace with the rapidly-changing economy.

The BLS conforms to the conceptual framework of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy’s “Guidelines for Reporting Performance by Statistical Agencies” and the Office of Management and Budget’s Statistical Policy Directives. BLS data are essential for evidence and supporting evaluation activities.

The BLS measures the timeliness, accuracy, and relevance of its Principal Federal Economic Indicators (PFEIs) and accessibility of and customer satisfaction with accessing its statistical products. These criteria are common among statistical agencies because they represent critical aspects of a statistical program’s performance. Using these common concepts as a basis for measuring and reporting on statistical agency outcomes helps to inform decision-makers more consistently about the performance of statistical agencies. As the BLS continues to improve the information that it makes available to decision-makers and a broad base of data users and customers, the BLS will reflect these changes in its performance measures and targets in budget submissions and other documents. Additionally, in support of the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018, the BLS Commissioner is the Designated Statistical Official advising on statistical policy, techniques, and procedures for DOL.

FY 2024 Request Summary

For FY 2024, the BLS requests \$758,370,000 which is \$60,418,000 above the FY 2023 Enacted level of \$697,952,000, and 2,094 FTE. The FY 2024 request includes \$24,308,000 for built-ins, including pay and benefit related built-ins for federal BLS staff, as well as pay-related increases for Census staff funded by Interagency Agreements. This request for mandatory built-ins is necessary to prevent erosion of staffing levels from having to absorb the costs of mandatory pay

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

raises and increased benefit costs. The request enables the BLS to continue to execute its mission and maintain the quantity and quality of its base programs.

The FY 2024 request includes the following proposals to transform how the BLS collects, analyzes, and delivers its data and meets the expanding needs of its diverse customer base.

- \$1,893,000 to rebuild statistical capacity across the agency, which is critical toward supporting scientific integrity, evidence-based policy making, and advancing equity by ensuring that the BLS can support the U.S. statistical and evidence-building infrastructure.
- \$7,860,000 to expand and modernize data capacities by addressing the necessary investment to the long-term relevance and sustainability of the Current Population Survey (CPS), including the capability to produce new or additional statistics on groups or workers currently not being captured. With the requested resources, the BLS will collaborate with the Census Bureau to research, test, and implement methods to modernize the CPS, maintain the current sample size, and improve the CPS data collection methods and response rates.
- \$2,750,000 to ramp up necessary activities to enable DOL to meet the statutory requirements to produce the *American Indian Population and Labor Force Report (AIPLFR)*. In FY 2022, the responsibility for producing the *AIPLFR* was transferred to the BLS. With the requested funding, the BLS will complete research, engage key stakeholders including tribal leadership, and begin the work necessary to collect and compile data on the Native American population in support of the requirements of Public Law 115-93.
- \$9,600,000 to improve the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS) data timeliness by producing earlier preliminary (first release) estimates; enhance relevance and reliability by expanding the sample by 20,000 establishments, or roughly doubling the current sample level; and add depth by allowing for a series of focused questions on labor market issues to enhance the understanding of openings, hires, and separations.
- \$1,137,000 to restore agricultural industries to the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program. Accurate data on employment and wages in the agriculture industries are needed to provide a complete and consistent picture of the labor market by industry, occupation, and area.
- \$1,000,000 to improve the timeliness of the final chained Consumer Price Index (C-CPI-U) by 3 months. The CPI is the nation's principal gauge of inflation, providing measures of consumer price change for all urban areas, and is one of the nation's most important federal economic indicators. For example, the C-CPI-U currently is used for indexation of federal income tax brackets and a timelier final C-CPI-U could make it a more viable alternative for other federal escalation and indexation purposes.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

- \$11,870,000 to produce production-quality thresholds to support the Census Bureau's Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM), to research the nature and construction of a consumption-based poverty measure, and to research a chained CPI for low-income households.

Key Uses of BLS Data

Several BLS series are used in the administration of federal programs. For example, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) ties changes in federal income tax brackets to changes in the chained Consumer Price Index (CPI). The IRS also uses the CPI to adjust income eligibility thresholds for the Earned Income Tax Credit. In addition, the Social Security Administration uses the CPI as an adjustment mechanism for payments to its beneficiaries. Select CPIs and Employment Cost Indexes also are used in updates to the Medicare Prospective Payment System, and Consumer Expenditure (CE) data are used to adjust the U.S. cost of living allowances for U.S. military locations. Changes in BLS data have direct effects on overall federal budget expenditures, including federal allocations to state and local jurisdictions. Local Area Unemployment Statistics data are used to allocate federal funds from assistance programs to states and local jurisdictions in such areas as employment, training, public works, and welfare assistance. Businesses use BLS data to make employee wage and benefit decisions, and private citizens make relocation decisions based on unemployment data for states, metro areas, and major cities.

New and Continuing Statistical Work

The BLS continues to transform how it collects, analyzes, and delivers its data by increasing its use of technology and identifying efficiencies to improve data accuracy, lower respondent burden, increase survey responses, and better reach its customers, while providing its diverse customer base high-quality data for decision making. The BLS will continue to be responsive to users' needs to understand changes in the economy while safeguarding respondent confidentiality and ensuring data are released appropriately.

Building upon lessons learned during a mandated telework posture for all staff as a result of the pandemic, the BLS is offering alternative response modes to reduce the burden and in-person interactions associated with collecting data from businesses and households, as well as to try to maintain response rates. Alternatives include collection over the telephone, videoconferencing, expanded electronic data interchange collection, as well as expanded use of corporate, administrative, and other large data sets from non-traditional sources that could complement and supplement directly collected data. The BLS plans to continue these innovations in tandem with in-person data collection. For example, in FY 2023, the CPI program is continuing to improve the collection of the CPI Housing Survey by providing new functionality that will increase the quality of the data collected and provide an incremental step towards respondent self-reporting, which may reduce respondent burden and improve response rates. In addition, in FY 2024, as one aspect of the effort to expand and modernize data capacities in key areas and make the Current Population Survey (CPS) more sustainable, the BLS will field test a web-based self-reporting tool for the survey. More information can be found on BLS-29. The BLS is adhering to all protocols to protect respondent identifiable information and is ensuring embargoed

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

economic data are released fairly, securely, and orderly. The BLS has successfully released economic data in a virtual environment on schedule through targeted website and server improvements.

The BLS also will strive to provide new data and focus on leveraging new technologies and non-traditional data sources, particularly for price change and productivity data. For example, in FY 2024, the International Price Program (IPP) will continue activities to integrate administrative trade data for homogeneous product areas into its news releases. In addition, the Employment Projections (EP) program will release the 2023-2033 economic and employment projections and incorporate these projections in the *Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)*, updating the occupation career information, including wage data, throughout the year and consider ways to make selected information available to those with limited English proficiency. Also, in FY 2024, the Occupational Safety and Health Statistics (OSHS) program expects to publish its first multiyear, all-industry, nationwide estimates for case circumstances and worker characteristics from cases resulting in days away from work, job transfer, or restriction.

Innovating for Equity

The BLS supports its partner agencies within DOL and throughout the government by providing high quality data used to inform decision making for advancing racial and gender equity and supporting underserved communities. In FY 2022, the BLS began publishing labor force estimates for American Indians and Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders, and People of Two or More Races on a more frequent basis, with key economic metrics, including the unemployment rate, employment-population ratio, and labor participation rate, now published on a monthly basis. In FY 2024, the BLS requests resources for continued evidence and evaluation to make data-driven decisions to empower workers and build a modern, inclusive workforce. For example, enhancements to JOLTS data will address critical gaps in the knowledge of labor market conditions for key sectors of the economy throughout the business cycle and will provide policy makers at the national, state, and local levels with timely invaluable data concerning the behavior of employers and employees before, during, and after disruptions to the labor market, enabling them to craft more effective policy to promote economic vitality and equity across all demographic groups. Moreover, by restoring coverage of the agricultural sector, OEWS data in this sector will be more relevant and helpful for studying racial inequities. Hispanic and Latino workers are overrepresented in the agricultural industry—for example, they make up 30 percent of workers in the crop production industry, but represent 18 percent of workers overall. Although OEWS does not collect demographic data, by supplementing with additional sources OEWS data could be a powerful tool in studying race and gender inequities.

The BLS recognizes that the need for expanded disaggregated data by race, gender, and other demographics is critical. The BLS is participating in a joint project between the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP) and OMB as part of their Equitable Data Work Group in support of the Administration's priorities. This includes work on identifying Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander data available from statistical agencies, and BLS efforts to expand available data. Also in FY 2024, the BLS will continue modernization of the CPS to improve upon the survey's ability to expand data collection for population groups currently not

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

collected by including questions on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). This work aligns with the proposed Executive Order on advancing LGBTQI+ Equality, which promotes inclusive and responsible federal data collection.

FY 2024 Agency Request by Budget Activity

In FY 2024, the request of \$758,370,000 and 2,094 FTE will enable the BLS to meet its responsibilities through its six budget activities:

(1) **Labor Force Statistics** – The request of \$346,649,000 and 562 FTE will provide funds to support the production, analysis, and publication of data on payroll employment and the civilian labor force, employment and unemployment, persons not in the labor force, labor demand and turnover, wages, hours, earnings, occupational employment, time use, and employment projections. The FY 2024 budget request includes \$316,000 to rebuild statistical capacity in the labor force surveys. The FY 2024 request also includes \$7,860,000 and 7 FTE to expand and modernize data capacities by addressing the necessary investment to the long-term relevance and sustainability of the CPS. This also includes improving upon the ability of the CPS to expand data collection for population groups currently not collected, found on BLS-29. The FY 2024 budget request includes \$2,750,000 and 7 FTE to ramp up necessary activities to enable DOL to meet the statutory requirements to produce the *AIPLFR*, found on BLS-30. Additionally in FY 2024, the budget request includes \$9,600,000 and 27 FTE to release JOLTS data earlier and expand the data, found on BLS-31. Lastly, in FY 2024, the request includes \$1,137,000 and 1 FTE to restore agricultural industries to the OEWS, found on BLS-30.

(2) **Prices and Cost of Living** – The request of \$264,782,000 and 998 FTE will provide funds to support the production, analysis, and publication of a wide variety of information on price changes in the U.S. economy, specifically the CPI, the Producer Price Index (PPI), the U.S. Import and Export Price Indexes from the IPP, and data from the CE program. In FY 2024, the budget request includes \$860,000 to rebuild statistical capacity in the price change and expenditure surveys, as well as \$1,000,000 and 4 FTE to enhance the CPI by improving the timeliness of the C-CPI-U by 3 months with the implementation of survey design changes, found on BLS-46. The budget request also includes \$11,870,000 and 25 FTE to produce production-quality thresholds to support the Census Bureau's Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM), to research the nature and construction of a consumption-based poverty measure, and to research a chained CPI for low-income households, found on BLS-46.

(3) **Compensation and Working Conditions** – The request of \$94,929,000 and 325 FTE will provide funds to support the production, analysis, and publication of a diverse set of measures of employee compensation; work stoppage statistics; and the compilation of data on work-related injuries, illnesses, and fatalities. In FY 2024, the budget request includes \$430,000 to rebuild statistical capacity in the compensation and working conditions surveys.

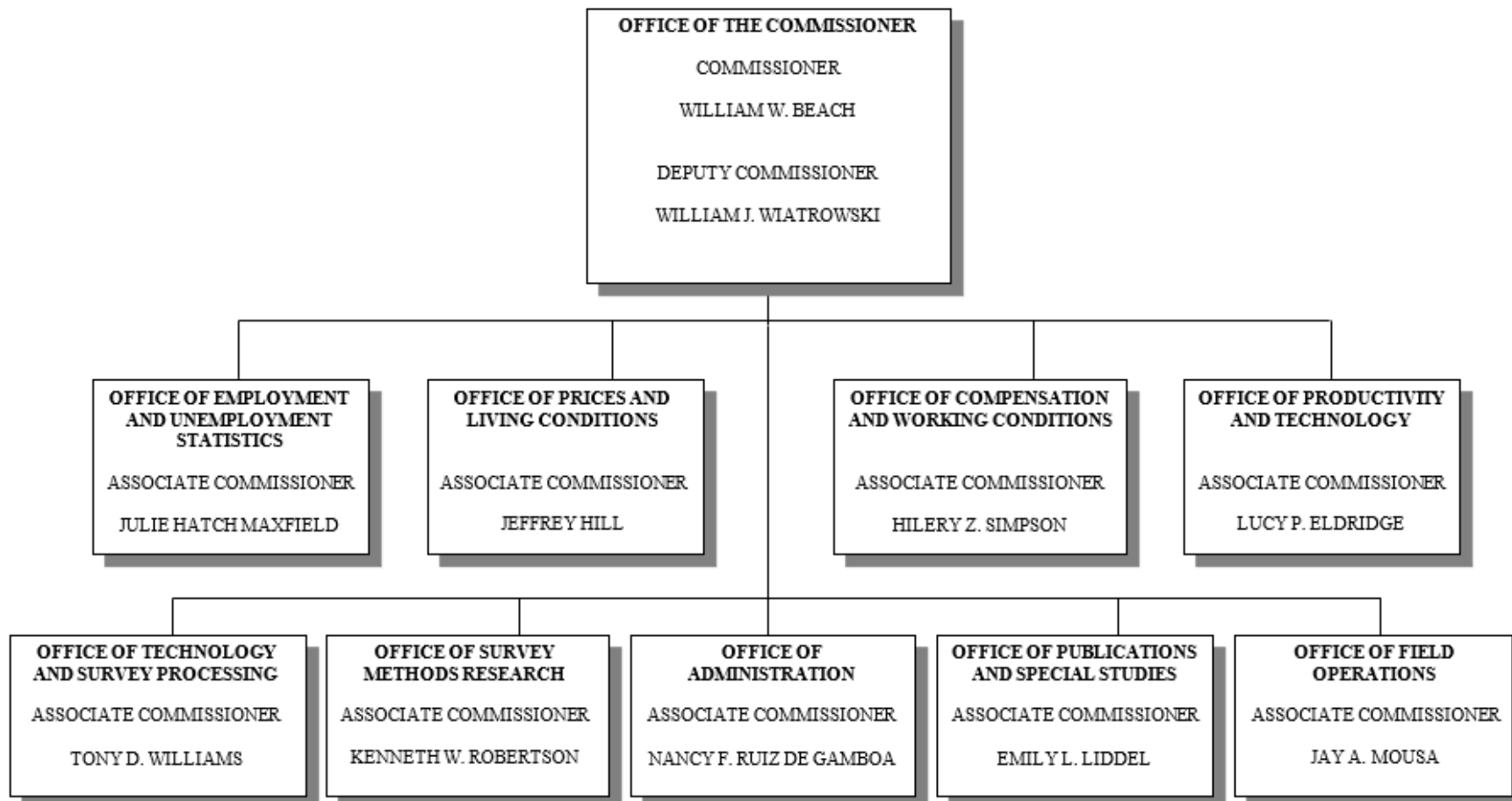
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

(4) **Productivity and Technology** – The request of \$13,184,000 and 52 FTE will provide funds to support the production, analysis, and publication of data on productivity trends in the U.S. economy, as well as in major sectors and individual industries; and the examination of the factors underlying productivity growth. In FY 2024, the budget request includes \$86,000 to rebuild statistical capacity in the measurement of productivity and technology.

(5) **Executive Direction and Staff Services** – The request of \$38,826,000 and 157 FTE supports agency-wide policy and management direction, and centralized program support activities, such as data dissemination, field operations, the Internet Data Collection Facility, and statistical methods research necessary to produce and release statistical and research output in a reliable, secure, timely, and effective manner. In FY 2024, the budget request includes \$201,000 to rebuild statistical capacity across all programs, including information technology, survey methodology research, and dissemination.

(6) **Headquarters Relocation** – Funds appropriated to date to relocate the BLS headquarters to the Suitland Federal Center are sufficient for the upfront costs identified at this time.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
ORGANIZATION CHART



BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

BLS CROSS-CUTTING MEASURES					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
BLS 1.4 CCM.01.T	Percentage of timeliness targets achieved for the Principal Federal Economic Indicators (PFEIs) 1/ 2/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 CCM.02.A	Percentage of accuracy targets achieved for the PFEIs 1/ 3/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 CCM.03.R	Percentage of relevance targets achieved for the PFEIs 1/ 4/	100%	71%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 CCM.04	Percentage of time the BLS public website is available for data dissemination	≥99.5%	100%	≥99.5%	≥99.5%
BLS 1.4 CCM.05	Customer satisfaction with the BLS website through the Verint Experience Index (VXI) (Mission Achievement) 5/	76	75	--	--

- 1/ PFEI programs are Current Employment Statistics (CES), Current Population Survey (CPS), Consumer Price Index (CPI), Producer Price Index (PPI), International Price Program (IPP), Employment Cost Index (ECI), and Major Sector Productivity (MSP).
- 2/ Measure reflects seven timeliness measures for the PFEI programs.
- 3/ Measure reflects 20 accuracy measures for the PFEI programs.
- 4/ Measure reflects seven relevance measures for the PFEI programs. In FY 2022, the BLS achieved five of the underlying PFEI relevance targets (71% or 5 out of 7 measures), and substantially achieved the targets of 25,000 for the CES National monthly and annual series (published and unpublished) maintained and 8,400 for the CPI Indexes published monthly measures.
- 5/ As of May 2022, the BLS no longer is using Verint to measure customer satisfaction. The BLS is exploring other options to measure customer satisfaction with the BLS website. Once a new award is made, the BLS will establish a full-year baseline result and set targets accordingly.

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	296,537	316,560	346,649	30,089
FTE	497	520	562	42

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 501.

Introduction

Labor Force Statistics programs produce, analyze, and publish data on payroll employment and the civilian labor force, employment and unemployment, persons not in the labor force, labor demand and turnover, wages, hours, earnings, occupational employment, time use, and employment projections. The programs prepare studies that cover a broad range of topics, including annual analyses of labor market developments, occupational analyses, characteristics of special worker groups, time-use patterns of workers and non-workers, and labor force experiences of displaced workers. In addition, these programs develop information about the labor market and project labor force trends 10 years into the future. They also make assessments of the effect on employment of specified changes in economic conditions and/or changes in federal programs and policies.

Labor Force Statistics programs are authorized by an Act dated July 7, 1930, which provides that the BLS shall prepare "...full and complete statistics of the volume of and changes in employment..." (29 U.S.C. 1 and 2). Programs in this area help fulfill many requirements of the Wagner-Peyser Act as amended by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014, including requirements that the Secretary of Labor "...develop and maintain the elements of the workforce and labor market information system ..." as well as develop and maintain national projections of employment opportunities by occupation and industry. This legislation requires the development of information on jobs in demand to support states' efforts to better train for the hiring needs of businesses.

- In FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$316,000 to rebuild statistical capacity within Labor Force Statistics, toward supporting scientific integrity, evidence-based policy making, and advancing equity by ensuring that the BLS can support the U.S. statistical and evidence-building infrastructure, including labor force measures and analyses of labor market developments. Also in FY 2024, the BLS request includes \$2,750,000 to ramp up necessary activities to enable DOL to meet the statutory requirements to produce the American Indian Population and Labor Force Report (*AIPLFR*), found on BLS-30.

Current Population Survey

The Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly household survey, provides a comprehensive body of information on the employment and unemployment experience of the nation's

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

population, classified by age, sex, race, Hispanic ethnicity, and a variety of other characteristics. The CPS also provides key inputs into the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) models for estimating employment and unemployment for states and selected local areas.

Labor force statistics from the CPS, together with data from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program, are among the earliest economic indicators available each month and represent the nation's most comprehensive measures of national employment and unemployment. The CPS is a primary source of data on employment status, characteristics of the labor force, and emerging trends and changes in the employment and unemployment status among various groups of workers. These BLS data serve as aids in: monitoring the performance of the job market, developing more complete data for labor force planning, determining the factors affecting changes in the labor force participation of different population groups, and evaluating earnings trends for specific demographic groups.

The BLS data available from this program include:

- Employment status of the working-age population by age, sex, race, Hispanic ethnicity, marital status, family relationship, educational attainment, professional certification or license attainment, disability status, veteran status, and nativity (i.e., foreign born or native born);
 - Employed persons by occupation, industry, class of worker, hours of work, full- and part-time status, and reason for working part time (i.e., economic or noneconomic);
 - Unemployed persons by occupation, industry, and class of worker; duration of unemployment; reasons for unemployment; and methods used to find employment;
 - Characteristics and job-seeking intentions of persons not in the labor force, including information on discouraged workers and others of significant public policy interest;
 - Special topics on particular sub-groups of the population, such as women maintaining families and working women with children, or on particular topics, such as work experience and status of high school graduates and dropouts; and
 - Information on weekly and hourly earnings by demographic group, full- and part-time employment status, occupation, and industry.
- In FY 2024, the BLS and the Census Bureau will continue to jointly sponsor and oversee the monthly sample survey, with the BLS supporting a sample of about 60,000 households. Households are contacted through in-person and telephone interviews. Data generally relate to the calendar week that includes the 12th day of the month. In FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$7,860,000 to expand existing data on underserved and marginalized workers and modernize data capacities by addressing critical CPS needs. More information can be found beginning on BLS-29.

Labor Market Information Cooperative Statistical Program

The BLS operates the CES, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS), and LAUS programs in cooperation with the states and territories. As noted within their respective descriptions, these programs compose the BLS Labor Market Information (LMI) Cooperative Statistical Program, which is conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Wagner-Peyser Act as amended by WIOA.

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

The BLS uses cooperative agreements to fund the states for these programs. BLS regional staff, under the direction of the Office of Field Operations in the national office, negotiate and monitor LMI cooperative agreements.

Current Employment Statistics

The CES program collects information on employment, hours, and earnings from the payroll records of employers. The BLS produces national, state, and metropolitan area data. These data are released in partnership with the State Workforce Agencies (SWAs), which provide additional state analysis and help disseminate the estimates. National data available from the CES program include: nonfarm employment for detailed industry classifications; all employee average weekly hours and average hourly and weekly earnings; production worker average weekly hours and average hourly and weekly earnings; manufacturing worker overtime hours; indexes of aggregate hours and payroll; and diffusion indexes of employment change for the nation. Diffusion indexes are a measure of the dispersion of employment change, indicating how widespread employment increases and decreases are across industries. The program also provides similar data for all states, metropolitan areas, and metropolitan divisions, but with less industry detail.

The payroll statistics from the CES program, along with data from the CPS, are among the earliest economic indicators available each month and measure the health of the U.S. economy in terms of job creation, average earnings, and average length of workweek. These data serve as direct inputs into other major U.S. economic indicators, including the Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the Index of Coincident Economic Indicators, the advance and preliminary Personal Income estimates produced by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the Industrial Production Index, and productivity measures. In addition to their critical use as economic indicators, the private sector uses these data in worksite location planning, wage negotiations, economic research and planning, regional analysis, and industry studies.

- In FY 2024, each month, the BLS will collect data from about 122,000 businesses and government agencies (composed of approximately 666,000 individual worksites) nationwide. The sample is stratified by state, industry, and the employment size of the business. Respondents provide data for the payroll period that includes the 12th day of the month.

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

The QCEW program provides national, state, metropolitan and micropolitan statistical area, and county data on monthly employment and quarterly total wages and the number of establishments, by 6-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code and size of establishment, with a five month lag after each quarter. These data originate largely from the administrative records of the Unemployment Insurance (UI) system in each state. The program includes all employees covered by state and federal UI laws, or about 97 percent of total nonfarm employment. The workers excluded from the UI files are railroad employees, members of the Armed Forces, self-employed persons, unpaid family workers, and some agricultural and private household employees.

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

The BLS uses these data to construct an up-to-date “universe” file, or sample frame, of the establishments reporting under the state and federal UI systems, from which it selects samples for its establishment-based surveys, such as the CES, OEWS, Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS), Employment Cost Index, Occupational Safety and Health Statistics (OSHS), and Producer Price Index. The QCEW program is responsible for maintaining the accuracy of each establishment’s industry code, county code, size class, physical location address, mailing address, and other information that directly affects the quality of the survey programs' samples.

In addition, the BLS uses data from this program as the annual employment benchmark by industry in the CES, OEWS, OSHS, and JOLTS programs. Total wages and salaries from the QCEW program compose about 47 percent of Personal Income, as measured by the BEA, for the nation, states, and counties. The QCEW wage data are the largest single input to the Personal Income component of the National Income and Product Accounts. QCEW data also underlie state UI actuarial systems (tax rates, employer contributions, and benefit levels). Other uses include state and local labor force information, industry trends, forecasting, transportation planning, local economic development planning, and allocation of \$547 billion in FY 2020 in federal funds under such programs as the State Children’s Health Insurance Program. Economic research, regional analysis, marketing studies by private industry, industry analysis, and worksite location studies are further uses of data from this program. The rich industry and geographic detail—all 6-digit NAICS industries by county—makes these among the most prized data for state and local implementation of the statutory requirements. QCEW also shares data with the BEA, Census Bureau, Employment and Training Administration (ETA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and other agencies to assist with their ongoing production and special studies. For example, each quarter, QCEW provides hundreds of thousands of industry codes to the Census Bureau for mostly new and small businesses, which improves data quality and decreases respondent burden and costs for the Census Bureau. QCEW data also are the basis for the BLS Business Employment Dynamics series. These series cover gross job gains and losses, data on establishment age and survival, and firm size. In addition, the series include data on establishment births, openings and expansions; and deaths, closings and contractions, by major industry and state. QCEW data also are used to prepare maps and tabulations of the economic impacts of natural disasters for state and federal officials, and are used on an ongoing basis to document recovery efforts in affected areas.

In addition, there is a wide array of uses at the state level. For example, decision-makers use QCEW data as an input into the state and local occupational employment projects and for revenue projections. Workforce information boards use QCEW data for job training. QCEW data also assist local economic developers in identifying occupational needs for attracting businesses. States also rely on QCEW data to conduct longitudinal analyses of firms, cluster analysis (e.g., biotech, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) jobs, healthcare, tourism, and high and low wage industries), and high growth business analyses; plan for local services and local transportation; determine wage rates; and define UI extended benefit triggers.

- In FY 2024, the SWAs, in cooperation with the BLS, will collect employment and wage data from an estimated 11.3 million establishments subject to UI laws. The UI data are supplemented with two BLS collections, the Multiple Worksite Report

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

(MWR) and Annual Refiling Survey (ARS), which are necessary to provide accurate industry and geographical measures at the local level. First, in the MWR, each quarter, over 148,000 multi-unit firms (representing more than 1.9 million worksites and about 42 percent of the employment) will report their employment and wages for each establishment, which improves the geographic and industrial accuracy of these key data. Second, in the ARS, the SWAs will contact approximately one-third of all establishments in the private sector with more than three employees (about 1,200,000 establishments) to maintain the accuracy of their industry coding under the NAICS and to update geographical information, such as addresses, which are integral to its use as a sample frame for other BLS business surveys. While the majority of establishments are contacted on a three-year cycle, some establishments in industries that exhibit lower rates of change are selected for a six-year cycle.

Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics

The OEWS program is the only comprehensive source of regularly produced occupational employment and wage rate information for the U.S. economy, as well as states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, metropolitan areas, and balance-of-state areas for each state. The OEWS program produces employment and wage estimates by nonfarm industry and occupation.

Uses of the data include evaluating employment and wages by industry, occupation, and geographic area; updating prevailing wages for foreign labor certification; projecting occupational employment for the nation, states, and areas; informing vocational planning; estimating social security receipts, as an input to calculating reimbursement rates for Medicare and Medicaid providers; identifying STEM related employment and wages for the National Science Foundation; calculating occupational injury rates; serving as an input to the Employment Cost Index and to the President's Pay Agent report; and improving sample efficiency in the O*NET and Occupational Requirements Survey (ORS) and industry skill and technology studies.

The OEWS information available on the BLS public website generates some of the highest levels of activity among all program areas. In addition, OEWS data are the foundation of the industry-occupation matrix used in the Employment Projections (EP) program to produce national occupational projections. These data are a critical input to the states' production of jobs in demand to support WIOA. OEWS employment and wage data are used throughout the *Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)* and related career publications, as well as in similar products produced by the SWAs for state and local areas.

- In FY 2024, the SWAs, in cooperation with the BLS, will collect employment and wage information from semi-annual sample panels of approximately 185,000 establishments, for a total of 370,000 for the year. Respondents provide data for a payroll period that includes the 12th day of the survey month. Also in FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$1,137,000 to restore agricultural industries to the OEWS. More information can be found beginning on BLS-30.

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

The LAUS program provides timely information on labor force and unemployment trends for states and local areas. The LAUS program issues monthly estimates for regions and states two weeks after the release of national estimates in *The Employment Situation*. Metropolitan area estimates, as well as all remaining sub-state area estimates, are issued about one-and-a-half weeks later. LAUS estimates serve as economic indicators and are a major source of information for labor market research, analysis, and planning. In addition to economic analysis, another important use of LAUS data is in the allocation of federal funds to states and local jurisdictions covered by 25 assistance programs across 9 Departments and independent agencies in areas such as employment, training, public works, and welfare assistance.

Using data from the CPS, CES, and state UI programs, the LAUS program uses time-series models to produce monthly estimates for all states, the District of Columbia, New York City, the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale metropolitan division, and the balances of New York and California. Time-series models also are used for the Chicago, Miami, and Seattle metropolitan divisions, the Cleveland and Detroit metropolitan areas, and the five respective balance-of-state areas. The LAUS program also seasonally adjusts the resultant model-based estimates for these areas. Estimates for counties in non-New England states and labor market areas in New England are produced through a building-block approach that also utilizes data from several sources, including the CES, QCEW, CPS, and state UI programs, as well as the American Community Survey (ACS) and Population Estimates Program of the Census Bureau, and are adjusted to statewide measures of employment and unemployment. The remainder of the sub-state area estimates are produced using a disaggregation technique.

Each month, the SWAs, in cooperation with the BLS, develop the labor force, employment, and unemployment estimates. The LAUS program runs the state model-based estimates. Also, the LAUS program is responsible for the concepts, definitions, and technical procedures that the SWAs use in the preparation of sub-state labor force and unemployment estimates. Both the SWAs and the BLS analyze and publish the LAUS state and sub-state estimates each month.

- In FY 2024, the BLS will publish monthly estimates of employment and unemployment for approximately 8,400 geographic areas, including all states, labor market areas, counties, cities with a population of 25,000 or more, and all cities and towns in New England. The BLS will continue to seasonally adjust estimates for non-modeled metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions.

National Longitudinal Surveys

The National Longitudinal Surveys (NLS) provide a set of data on the labor force experience (current labor force status, employment status, work history, and characteristics of current/last job), as well as significant life events, of two randomly sampled groups of the U.S. population. These data are essential to understanding changes in labor force behavior of groups over time and informing policymakers at all levels of government.

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

Cross-sectional data, such as those from the CPS, primarily provide snapshots of the labor market and are used to track changes in the labor force behavior of groups over time. The NLS focuses on capturing changes in individual labor force behavior by re-interviewing the same individuals multiple times over extended time periods. Economists, sociologists, and other researchers in government, the academic community, and private organizations use NLS data to examine and inform policymakers at all levels of government about a variety of issues such as:

- Employment and earnings of workers in the labor market;
- Educational experience, achievement, and the transition from school to work;
- The effects of training on future employment and wages;
- The ability to advance out of low-wage jobs;
- Relationships between work and various indicators of family well-being;
- The long-term effects of unemployment; and
- The retirement behavior of older workers and the problems of the elderly.

In 1979, a cohort was fielded to research the “baby boomer” generation, with a sample of over 12,000 young men and women who were 14-21 years of age as of December 31, 1978. It contained oversamples of Black and Hispanic civilians; economically disadvantaged, non-Black, non-Hispanic civilians; and members of the military. The latter two oversamples were dropped in 1991 and 1985, respectively, leaving a total sample of about 10,000 individuals. This survey, conducted every year through 1994, is known as the 1979 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY79). In 1994, the survey began operating on a biennial interview cycle.

In 1997, the BLS began the 1997 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY97), a survey consisting of 9,000 individuals aged 12-16 as of December 31, 1996. Like the NLSY79, this survey contains an oversample of Black and Hispanic individuals. The young age of this sample (when compared with past NLS cohorts) reflects the increased emphasis on early labor market activity and other aspects of youths’ lives that have an impact on their labor market successes and their general success in becoming productive adults. The long-term objectives of the study are to relate early development and influences to later-life outcomes. In 2011, the NLSY97 survey began operating on a biennial interview cycle.

- In FY 2024, the BLS will release data from round 20 and complete data collection of round 21 of the NLSY97. The BLS also will complete data collection of round 30 and begin data collection of round 31 of the NLSY79. Additionally, the BLS will continue activities necessary to field a new NLS cohort beginning in 2026.

Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey

The JOLTS program provides monthly national measures on labor demand by broad industry groups and by establishment size. These measures complement the unemployment rate, which measures labor supply. Data published include the levels and rates for job openings, hires, and total separations, as well as three breakouts of separations: quits, layoffs and discharges, and other separations. These data items also are provided at the total nonfarm level for four regions. JOLTS also publishes state data at the total nonfarm level for all states and the District of Columbia. Thus, policymakers and analysts have a better understanding of imbalances between

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

the demand for and the supply of labor, and improved tools for assessing the presence of labor shortages in the U.S. labor market. JOLTS data are used for labor market analysis, by the Federal Reserve in setting monetary policy, and by states in analyzing state labor market dynamics. These data also provide evidence of upward pressures on wage rates at the national and state levels.

- In FY 2024, each month, the BLS will collect data from a sample of approximately 21,000 businesses and derive estimates on levels and rates of job openings, hires, and separations (quits, layoffs and discharges, and other separations) at the national level for major industry groups. At the total nonfarm industry level, the BLS also will publish data at the regional level for total nonfarm employment, size-class estimates at the national level, and state data estimates for all 50 states and the District of Columbia. In FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$9,600,000 to release JOLTS data earlier and expand the data. More information can be found beginning on BLS-31.

American Time Use Survey

The American Time Use Survey (ATUS) provides nationally representative estimates of how Americans spend their time during an average day, both for weekdays and weekends. Data from the ATUS enable researchers to develop broader assessments of national well-being and national production than otherwise would be available. The ATUS is the only federal survey that provides data on the full range of nonmarket activities, from childcare to volunteering. ATUS data provide widely used information about how Americans balance work with family and community commitments.

Analysts use these data about time-use, combined with information about respondents' demographics, labor force status, and household composition, to examine how much time is being invested in childcare and eldercare in the United States; how time-use varies based on marital and employment status; and how much time people spend in education, among other questions. The availability of national time-use data also facilitates comparisons of time-use patterns in the United States with patterns in other countries, including alternative measures of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) that include measures of the value of non-market work. Depending on sponsor availability, modules periodically are added to the survey. Additional uses of ATUS data include supplying information to other BLS programs, including the EP program; federal agencies and forums, such as the BEA, and the Federal Interagency Forums on Aging-Related and Child and Family Statistics; and international organizations, such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the United Nations.

- In FY 2024, each month, the BLS and the Census Bureau will survey about 800 individuals, ages 15 and older, drawn from households that recently have completed the monthly CPS.

Employment Projections

The EP program produces long-term (10-year) projections for the labor force, the overall economy, and industry and occupational employment and job openings by occupation. National

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

employment projections from the BLS are used by each state to develop state and area projections, which are funded by the ETA. Projections are a critical component of workforce development systems and serve as the basis for determining jobs in demand. Determining jobs in demand helps align education and training programs with the hiring needs of businesses and is a key component of WIOA. Projections also are used for individual career decision purposes by students, parents, counselors, dislocated workers, jobseekers, and career changers. The program relies on a wide variety of data from the OEWS, CES, CPS, and QCEW programs, and from other federal agencies, such as the BEA and the Census Bureau.

Labor force and labor force participation rate projections for detailed demographic groups are produced using CPS data and Census Bureau population projections. These projections are used as an input to the preparation of the overall economic, industry, and occupational projections, and to further analyze the demographic characteristics of future workers and future training and education needs.

The overall economic projections include the GDP, the demand and income composition of the GDP, and the industrial structure of the U.S. economy. These projections are prepared under specific assumptions for government economic policies and for basic economic variables, such as exports and imports, unemployment, and productivity. Projections of industry final demand, output, and employment, as well as input-output tables, also are produced. These data are the basis for evaluating alternative policy options affecting the medium- and long-term outlook, developing estimates of occupational requirements by industry, and evaluating the future size and composition of the labor force.

Finally, a national industry-occupation employment matrix and the industry projections are used to project employment by occupation. EP staff analyze the occupational structure of detailed industries and evaluate the expected impact of changes in demographics, technology, product mix, business practices, and other factors on the demand for specific occupations. The matrix quantifies in detail the distribution of occupational employment by industry for both the current and projected years. The 2021-31 matrix, which was released in FY 2022, covered projections for 832 detailed occupations in 295 detailed industries. In addition to the projections of openings resulting from job growth, the EP program also estimates openings resulting from existing workers who separate from their occupation, either by transferring to a new occupation or exiting the labor force entirely.

The EP program also produces the *OOH*. This web-based publication, also available as a mobile application, provides information on the type of work; education, training, and other qualifications; employment; job outlook; wages; similar occupations; and sources of additional information for hundreds of occupations. The program also produces Career Outlook, a career information web-based publication that presents a wide variety of supplemental information on occupational employment prospects, educational requirements, and earnings. Guidance and career counselors across the country use the information in these publications to advise students and adults/jobseekers on job training and future employment opportunities. Individuals also use these publications for personal career planning and development. The most widely used BLS

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

website is the *OOH*, and the information in the *OOH* is presented in numerous private publications and websites on vocational guidance and career planning.

- In FY 2024, the BLS will develop and release the 2023-2033 economic and employment projections and incorporate these projections into the *OOH*. Beginning with the 2023-2033 projections, the BLS also will develop and release a skills-based analysis of the occupational projections. Throughout the year, the BLS will update occupational career information, including wage data, in the *OOH* and consider ways to make selected information available to those with limited English proficiency

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$276,000	499
2020	\$289,000	484
2021	\$296,261	499
2022	\$302,823	501
2023	\$311,952	520

Funding Mechanism

As previously discussed, the LMI Cooperative Statistical Program is operated in cooperation with the states and territories. Section 14 of the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 491-1) authorizes the Secretary of Labor to reimburse the states to provide data for national statistical programs. Since 1917, the BLS has entered into cooperative arrangements to fund and use employment statistics collected by the states and territories.

On an annual basis, the BLS contracts with the Census Bureau to conduct the CPS. Under the agreement of November 18, 1959, between the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Commerce, the BLS obtains budgetary support for this program and annually reimburses the Census Bureau for the collection and related support services associated with the monthly CPS and selected supplements. The authority for the Census Bureau to enter into this agreement is 13 U.S.C. 8(b). The authority for the BLS to enter into this agreement is 29 U.S.C. 2.

FY 2024

In FY 2024, the BLS will continue the production of core data series and will undertake the following new work in the areas of Labor Force Statistics:

The CPS program will publish results from a Contingent Worker Supplement and will field a redesigned Work Schedules Supplement and publish results in CY 2025. Contingent on ongoing funding from agency sponsors, CPS will publish results from the 2023 Veterans Supplement and field a Displaced Workers Supplement, a 2024 Veterans Supplement, and a redesigned Disability Supplement.

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

In FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$7,860,000 to expand and modernize data capacities by addressing the necessary investment to the long-term relevance and sustainability of the CPS, including the capability to produce new or additional statistics on groups or workers currently not being captured. With the requested resources, the BLS will collaborate with the Census Bureau to research, test, and implement methods to modernize the CPS, maintain the current sample size, and improve the CPS data collection methods and response rates. These requested resources also will allow the BLS to better keep pace with an ever-changing world, the aggregate and demographic data needs of stakeholders, and the flexibility needed by respondents to help maintain response rates that impact the overall quality of CPS data.

In more recent years, the demand on the CPS has increased demonstrably not just by stakeholders but by respondents alike. The need for additional and more data is especially true as labor market diversity has increased. Likewise, respondents whose information is vital to the relevance and quality of the survey are requesting modern, self-reporting options currently not available within the survey's infrastructure. In addition to the growing needs of stakeholders and respondents, the BLS must address operational challenges facing the CPS. The very features that make CPS unique and so valuable (high response rates and timely data) are the very same features that are proving problematic in the current environment. The extensive use of in-person field interviewers to collect data makes these two features possible. However, data collection costs are the most expensive component of the CPS program and are continuing to rise at an unsustainable pace. Mandatory pay and benefit increases for field representatives are outpacing appropriated funding and other costs (e.g., travel for personal visits) are increasing, while survey collection has become more challenging, requiring additional labor per case.

Changes to the CPS must be well thought out, transparent, communicated well in advance, and sustainable. The BLS works closely with the Census Bureau to study, for example, how changes to the demographic portion of the CPS would impact survey participation in general and labor market data in particular. Depending on the outcome of initial consultation activities on how to modernize the survey and return to a sustainable path, and considering the need for new or additional statistics on various population groups, the program will engage independent research groups after FY 2026 to gather advice on current scientific knowledge and best practices that will improve statistical methods and information upon which to base public policy. In addition, the program will continue outreach and planning activities which will inform future changes to the CPS methodology.

In addition to the expanding on the capability to produce new or additional statistics on groups or workers currently not being captured, this request also will allow the BLS to modernize data capacities by addressing critical CPS needs. To keep response rates and data quality high while striving to contain costs, the BLS and the Census Bureau have begun a multi-year effort to develop a self-response, web-based collection option. Because this is a joint BLS-Census project, both agencies will be required to fund this project which includes cognitive testing and development, rigorous usability testing of the web-based instrument, among other requirements to prepare for comprehensive field testing that will take place starting in FY 2025. This data capacity and modernization investment is critical because the BLS and the Census Bureau cannot implement these changes without a reduction in sample size, which would reduce the quality and quantity of the critical data used to inform federal, state, and local policies.

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

In FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$2,750,000 to ramp up necessary activities to enable DOL to meet the statutory requirements to produce the *American Indian Population and Labor Force Report (AIPLFR)*. In FY 2022, the responsibility for producing the *AIPLFR* was transferred to the BLS. With the requested funding, the BLS will complete research, engage key stakeholders including tribal leadership, and begin the work necessary to collect and compile data on the Native American population in support of the requirements of Public Law 115-93. Specifically, the BLS will contract with the Census Bureau to produce special tabulations on Native American populations from the American Community Survey (ACS). In addition, the BLS will continue to work with Census to identify other potential sources of data to help inform CPS estimates of smaller demographic groups.

The BLS also will start identifying a longer-term solution to produce a sustainable report that meets the spirit of the law, as feasible. The BLS will begin the planning of this new data collection initiative by convening a multidisciplinary team of experts to provide recommendations regarding the design of the *AIPLFR*.

The CES program will complete research on the potential benefits of the robust estimator, used to identify outliers within a dataset, for national estimates, and begin assessing implementation contingent on research outcomes. With the release of the 2023 state and area benchmark in March 2024, the CES program expects to implement new publication standards for states and areas.

The QCEW program will continue to compare industry codes that are different between the BLS and Census Bureau business registers in order to improve the consistency of BLS and Census products and thereby improve measures and other economic products at the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA).

The OEWS will continue to research improvements in methodology to use point wage rate data in the wage prediction model and will complete implementation of the collection and use of wage rate data for the sixth and last panel of survey data in estimation. The OEWS program will continue to prepare for the 2028 revision of the Standard Occupation Classification system.

In FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$1,137,000 to increase the OEWS sample by restoring agricultural industries that were eliminated due to sequestration in FY 2013 in order to publish new national, state, and metropolitan statistical area (MSA) level employment and wage data, thereby ensuring better coverage of the major agricultural sub-sectors.

The agriculture industries have changed since data were last published in 2012, and new data will improve both current labor market employment and wage data as well as provide a vital input for occupational projections produced by the EP program. Currently, the EP program uses data that predate the elimination of these data almost 10 years ago. With the additional resources, the BLS will add several agricultural industries to ensure better coverage of the major sub-sectors, including crop production, as well as animal production and aquaculture. The expanded scope will advance evidence-based policy and inform decision-making for policies supporting the agricultural workforce. In addition to providing better labor market information for researchers and decision makers, the restored data will improve projections for agricultural

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

industries and occupations and will improve the wage estimates that the BLS provides to the Employment and Training Administration's Foreign Labor Certification program. The OEWS will begin collecting the additional agricultural sample in late FY 2024.

The LAUS program will incorporate substantial geographic changes into its estimation using 2020-based metropolitan and micropolitan area delineations scheduled to be issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) by June 2023, for a target implementation effective the January 2025 reference month. The LAUS program also will work with the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program to develop an intercensal reconrol series for the 2010s, with the goal of incorporating the new civilian noninstitutional population series for states from April 2010 through March 2020 during the 2023 model revision cycle. Finally, the program will continue to research enhanced use of American Community Survey data in substate-area employment and unemployment estimation to determine the feasibility of implementing the technique for production.

The National Longitudinal Surveys (NLS) program will release data from round 20 and complete data collection of round 21 of the NLSY97. The NLS program also will complete collection of round 30 and begin collection of round 31 of the NLSY79. The NLS program also will continue development of the new cohort and work begun in earlier years to build systems for data collection design, data processing systems, and data dissemination.

In FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$9,600,000 to expand and improve the JOLTS program in three ways in order to better understand U.S. labor market dynamics and to elevate JOLTS as a Principal Federal Economic Indicator (PFEI):

1. Improve JOLTS data timeliness by producing earlier preliminary (first release) estimates. This will allow national JOLTS data for a given reference month to be published earlier than the current schedule, by releasing JOLTS data later in the same release month of *The Employment Situation*—which reports the total U.S. unemployment rate and nonfarm payroll job growth. In addition, the BLS will publish new sample-based state estimates about two weeks after the accelerated National JOLTS release. This will follow a similar schedule as other BLS state news releases. The accelerated news releases will provide more timely data needed to explain monthly movements in the labor market.
2. Enhance relevance and reliability by expanding the sample by 20,000 establishments, or roughly doubling the current sample level. The sample expansion will allow publication of JOLTS data at the 3-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) level for many industries for the Nation. Additionally, the BLS has improved estimation methods over the last several years and with this additional sample will be able to produce greater geographic detail, including at least four high-level industries for each State--total nonfarm, private goods-producing, private service-providing, and government. Also, the sample expansion will improve the reliability of the currently produced estimates, which means the error measures associated with monthly changes will be smaller, effectively leading to the identification of 30% more statistically significant changes in rates and levels.

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

3. Add depth by allowing for a series of focused questions on labor market issues to enhance the understanding of Openings, Hires, and Separations. Questions could cover topics such as:
 - Duration of vacancies (a sign of labor shortages),
 - Intensity of recruiting efforts (a sign of the strength of labor demand),
 - Occupations and/or wages of hires (signs of labor demand), and
 - Tenure, occupations, and/or demographics of workers involved in separations including quits, layoffs, and other types of separations such as retirements.

Complementing other labor market metrics, the JOLTS series currently is the only federal product that directly contributes information on current labor demand for the entire U.S. labor market in a transparent, representative manner. JOLTS data have a demonstrated ability to measure the high level of churn in the labor market and the movements that underlie monthly employment changes as measured by the CES program. Currently, the monthly JOLTS program publishes data on job openings, hires, quits, layoffs and discharges, and other separations at the national and regional levels with a 5- to 6-week lag. The enhancements will address critical gaps in the knowledge of labor market conditions for key sectors of the economy throughout the business cycle and will provide policy makers at the national, state, and local levels with timely invaluable data concerning the behavior of employers and employees before, during, and after disruptions to the labor market, enabling them to craft more effective policy to promote economic vitality. Data on these and other issues will fill gaps in our understanding of labor market conditions, skills of jobs created versus destroyed, and employer perception of opportunities.

In FY 2024, JOLTS will research the steps required to implement the change in the reference periods, modify questionnaires and interviewing procedures, and modify systems and data review procedures.

Contingent on ongoing funding from agency sponsors, the ATUS program will deliver 2023 data from an Eating and Health Module Supplement (EHM) to the sponsor and start fielding a 2024 Leave and Job Flexibilities Module.

The EP program will develop and release the 2023-2033 economic and employment projections and incorporate these projections into the *Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)*. As part of 2023-2033 projections, the BLS plans to develop and release a skills-based analysis of the occupational projections. Throughout the year, the BLS also will update occupational career information, including wage data, in the *OOH* and consider ways to make selected information available to those with limited English proficiency.

FY 2023

In FY 2023, the BLS is continuing the production of core data series and will undertake the following new work in the areas of Labor Force Statistics:

The CPS program will field a redesigned Contingent Worker Supplement in July 2023 and

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

develop the survey questionnaire for a new Work Schedules Supplement planned for fielding in FY 2024. Also, CPS will field a 2023 Veterans Supplement and will publish data from the 2022 UI Nonfiler Supplement and the 2022 Veterans Supplement. In addition, CPS will evaluate the feasibility of releasing quarterly or monthly labor force data for Asian American ethnic subgroups. Also in FY 2023, the CPS will coordinate with the Census Bureau to discuss potential research approaches to improve estimates about smaller population groups. The CPS program will begin to consult with its large community of stakeholders in government, academia, and the private sector, through relevant advisory committees and other outreach opportunities, to receive feedback on how to modernize the survey and return to a sustainable path.

In FY 2023, the BLS will continue initial research activities and outreach efforts, such as attending large, national conferences with tribal leaders and, when possible, leveraging engagement opportunities such as meetings between the Secretary and local tribal leaders, related to the *AIPLFR*. The goal of the research phase is to determine feasibility and scope out the requirements needed to produce the *AIPLFR* in future years, including identifying the full level of resources needed to accomplish the work in the outyears. Outreach in 2023 includes participation in the Bureau of Indian Affairs-led interagency Indian Country Data Working Group since multiple federal government agencies are tasked with producing data, reports, and/or allocating funds to Indigenous people. The BLS plans on leveraging potential outcomes of that workgroup to inform data collection decisions. In FY 2023, the BLS also will publish a report outlining the feasibility and full cost of producing the *AIPLFR* based on initial source data research and outreach with tribal groups, federal agencies, and other organizations.

The CES program will continue to evaluate potential methodological improvements to the model that tracks net business births and deaths. The CES program also will continue to research and evaluate the feasibility and potential benefits of employing the robust estimator, used to identify outliers within a dataset, for CES national estimates. With the release of the 2022 benchmarks in February (national) and March 2023 (state and area), the CES program will implement NAICS 2022 industry classification changes.

The QCEW program completed deployment of a new state data processing system. Additionally, the QCEW program will continue to compare industry codes that are different between the BLS and Census Bureau business registers in order to improve the consistency of BLS and Census products and thereby improve measures and other economic products at the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA).

The OEWS program will research improvements in methodology to use point wage rate data in the wage prediction model. In addition, program staff will begin research for revisions to the 2028 SOC system.

The LAUS program will prepare to incorporate substantial geographic changes into its estimation, pending availability of the 2020-based metropolitan and micropolitan area delineations from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), for a target implementation effective the January 2025 reference month. The LAUS program also will continue working to research the enhanced use of American Community Survey data in substate-area employment

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

and unemployment estimation to determine the scope of changes to its substate estimation methodologies for implementation later in the decade. Also in FY 2023, the LAUS program will add annual-average estimates for the American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN) population to the state employment status demographic table.

The NLS program will release data from round 29 of the NLSY79. The NLS program also completed collection of round 20 and will begin collection of round 21 of the NLSY97. In FY 2023, the NLS program will complete the content panels to plan the content of a new survey and continue developing the new cohort's data collection design, which includes work on data processing systems, dissemination systems, and materials needed to support these processes.

In FY 2023, the JOLTS program developed and began publishing improved annual estimates for job openings, hires, and separations. These improvements were implemented to make the estimates more helpful for data users and to be consistent with other BLS programs.

Based on results from an incentive study, the ATUS program began taking the necessary steps to implement an incentive plan. The ATUS also began collecting data for a 2023 Eating and Health Module Supplement (EHM) and deliver 2022 EHM data to the sponsor.

The EP program will develop and release the 2022-2032 economic and employment projections and incorporate these projections into the *OOH*. Throughout the year, the BLS also will update occupational career information, including wage data, in the *OOH*.

FY 2022

In FY 2022, the BLS continued the production of core data series and undertook the following new work in the areas of Labor Force Statistics:

The CPS published data from a Disability Supplement, a redesigned Veterans Supplement, and a Displaced Workers Supplement. The CPS developed the survey questionnaire for a new CWS, after considering recommendations from the consensus report of the Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) of the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. The CPS fielded a Displaced Workers Supplement, a UI Nonfiler Supplement, and a Veterans Supplement. The CPS began publishing monthly labor force estimates for American Indians and Alaska Natives in February 2022 and estimates for Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders and people categorized as being of two or more races in September 2022.

The Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2017 transferred responsibility for the biennial *AIPLFR* from the Department of the Interior to DOL. In 2022, the Secretary of Labor assigned responsibility for the report to the BLS. Starting in FY 2022, the BLS began initial research activities, such as participating in tribal consultation meetings, to inform the feasibility and full cost of producing the *AIPLFR* in future years. Outreach included involvement with ETA in a workshop session at National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference and engagement with the White House's Tribal Nations liaison.

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

The CES program researched and evaluated potential methodological improvements to the model that tracks net business births and deaths. The CES program also continued to research and evaluate the feasibility and potential benefits of employing the robust estimator, used to identify outliers within a dataset, for CES national estimates.

The QCEW program developed a new state data processing system and began deploying the system into production. Additionally, the QCEW program continued to compare industry codes that are different on the BLS and Census Bureau business registers, in order to improve the consistency of BLS and Census products and thereby improve measures at the BEA. The QCEW program began collecting data using the 2022 NAICS codes in January 2022 and released data for the first time using these new codes in August 2022.

The OEWS program completed the transition to the 2018 SOC and published data for most detailed occupations in the 2018 SOC. The OEWS implemented improvements to the OEWS estimation methods.

The LAUS program continued to work with state partners to review the estimates produced with the fifth generation time-series models and the sub-state methodology. The LAUS program also continued to research additional methodological enhancements and made improvements to its subnational estimation systems.

The NLS program released data from round 19 and continued data collection of round 20 of the NLSY97. The NLS program also completed data collection of round 29 of the NLSY79 and began collection of round 30 of the NLSY79. In addition, the NLS program continued to plan the content and design of a new NLSY cohort by conducting content panels, performing market research for contracts, and implementing other design activities (including sampling, survey, materials, and dissemination).

The JOLTS program continued to publish its first full year of official state estimates each month about two weeks after the national news release. This included the first annual state benchmark and annual estimates.

The ATUS program analyzed results of a study to determine if cash incentives reduce survey costs and increase response among 15- to 24-year-olds. ATUS worked with contractors to develop and test methods for collecting ATUS data online. ATUS also published data from a 2021 Well-being Module Supplement and began collecting a 2022 Eating and Health Module Supplement.

The EP program developed and released the 2021-2031 economic and employment projections and incorporated these projections into the *OOH*. Throughout the year, EP also continued to update occupational career information, including wage data, in the *OOH*. EP also continued to improve the *OOH* app to include user experience enhancements and to update the data. Additionally, EP continued to research alternate approaches to the current practices for estimating impacts of new technology on the workforce of the future, including potential use of new data from the BLS and other sources.

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Labor Force Statistics					
<u>Principal Federal Economic Indicators</u> 1/					
Current Population Survey					
BLS 1.4 CPS.01.P	Monthly series 2/ 3/ 4/	15,000	15,200	15,100	15,100
BLS 1.4 CPS.02.P	Other series published annually, quarterly, or irregularly 3/ 4/	20,900	20,905	20,800	20,800
BLS 1.4 CPS.03.T	Percentage of monthly releases on schedule (12 of 12) 2/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 CPS.04.A	Number of months that a change of at least 0.2 percentage points in the monthly national unemployment rate is statistically significant at the 90% confidence level (for an unemployment rate of 6%)	12	12	12	12
Current Employment Statistics					
BLS 1.4 CES.01.P	National monthly and annual series (published and unpublished) maintained 2/ 5/	25,000	24,511	23,900	23,400
BLS 1.4 CES.02.P	State and local area monthly and annual series maintained	23,800	23,874	23,800	23,800
BLS 1.4 CES.03.T	Percentage of national monthly releases on schedule (24 out of 24) 2/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 CES.04.T	Percentage of state and local area monthly releases on schedule (24 out of 24) 6/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 CES.05.A	Mean absolute benchmark revision of total nonfarm employment (averaged across five years)	<0.4%	0.1%	<0.4%	<0.4%
BLS 1.4 CES.06.A	Number of not seasonally adjusted 1st - 3rd closing revisions of total nonfarm employment > 0.1%	≤2	1	≤2	≤2
<u>Other Programs</u>					
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages					
BLS 1.4 QCEW.01.W	Covered employment and wages for states and counties at 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, and 6-digit NAICS industries published quarterly	3,600,000	3,600,000	3,600,000	3,600,000
BLS 1.4 QCEW.02.W	Establishment records (current and longitudinal) maintained by the Longitudinal Database System 7/	10,650,000	11,122,978	11,200,000	11,300,000
BLS 1.4 QCEW.03.P	Business Employment Dynamics (BED) series maintained on job creation and destruction levels and rates	83,700	83,726	83,700	83,700

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
BLS 1.4 QCEW.04.P	Quarterly press releases on <i>County Employment and Wages</i> ; and <i>Business Employment Dynamics</i>	8	8	8	8
	Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics				
BLS 1.4 OEWS.01.P	National annual series published 8 /	130,000	139,148	130,000	131,000
	Local Area Unemployment Statistics				
BLS 1.4 LAUS.01.P	Number of employment and unemployment estimates for states and local areas published monthly and annually 9/	109,400	109,400	109,500	109,500
BLS 1.4 LAUS.02.T	Percentage of monthly and annual releases on schedule (25 out of 25) 10/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 LAUS.03.A	Percentage of the month-to-month changes in seasonally adjusted state unemployment rates that are < 0.4 percentage points 11/	--	--	≥90%	≥90%
BLS 1.4 LAUS.04.A	Number of states with annual average unemployment rate revisions > 0.4 percentage points 12/	≤8	17	≤8	≤8
	National Longitudinal Surveys				
BLS 1.4 NLS.01.O	Number of journal articles published that examine NLS data 13/	150	148	125	125
	Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey				
BLS 1.4 JOLTS.01.P	Monthly and annual estimates 14/	2,398	2,857	2,857	2,857
	American Time Use Survey				
BLS 1.4 ATUS.01.P	Annual estimates 15/	7,100	7,143	11,300	9,125
	Employment Projections				
BLS 1.4 EP.01.W	Number of industries for which the BLS publishes economic and employment projections	194	194	194	194
BLS 1.4 EP.02.A	Percentage of total employment covered by projections	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 EP.03.P	Detailed occupations covered in the <i>Occupational Outlook Handbook</i> 16/	561	587	587	587
BLS 1.4 EP.04.A	Percentage of detailed occupations covered by projections	100%	100%	100%	100%

1/ The two PFEIs produced by the CPS and CES programs are The Employment Situation and Real Earnings.

2/ This measure only relates to PFEIs.

3/ The FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect a change due to annual and quarterly series that were converted to monthly series during FY 2022.

4/ The FY 2022 results reflect a change due to annual and quarterly series that were converted to monthly series during FY 2022.

5/ The FY 2022 results reflect a loss of series as series no longer meet minimum publication standards. The FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect a continued anticipated loss

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

- of series as series no longer meet minimum publication standards.
- 6/ This measure includes two monthly news releases: State Employment and Unemployment and Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment. Due to the schedule of the Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment release, the number of annual releases may fluctuate from the average of 24.
 - 7/ This measure is dependent on economic conditions. Targets are based on current economic trends.
 - 8/ The FY 2022 result reflects an increase in the number of occupations above the target due to utilizing data collected entirely under the 2018 Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) system rather than the previous data that were from both the 2010 and 2018 SOC and implementation of the MB3 estimation methodology. The FY 2023 target assumes that the number of series published will return to the previously expected level. The FY 2024 target reflects additional series published as a result of restoring agricultural industries to OEWS.
 - 9/ The number of estimates increases as cities that newly exceed the LAUS population threshold of 25,000 are added.
 - 10/The LAUS program publishes two monthly news releases, State Employment and Unemployment and Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment, and one annual release, Regional and State Unemployment. Due to the schedule of the Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment release, the number of releases issued annually may fluctuate from the average of 25.
 - 11/States also include Los Angeles County, New York City, and the District of Columbia. Due to the impact of COVID-19, this measure was suspended in FY 2021 and FY 2022, given the extreme changes in the input data for the LAUS models. The FY 2023 and 2024 targets reflect an expectation of returning to pre-FY 2020 levels.
 - 12/Due to estimation challenges from the pandemic's impact on the labor market, 17 areas (16 states and Los Angeles County) were flagged as having their official 2021 annual-average unemployment rates differ by 0.4 percentage points or more from their January-December 2021 production-year averages.
 - 13/The FY 2022 result and FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect an expected decrease in the number of research articles published due to fewer applications accessing geocoded NLS data.
 - 14/The FY 2022 result and FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect officially publishing 1,020 monthly State data series, 51 Unemployed to Job Openings (UE/JO) ratio monthly series, and 408 annual estimate series, bringing the total series count to 2,857 series.
 - 15/The FY 2022 result reflects the total number of estimates published, including estimates in the annual news release, Web tables, new series, and estimated standard errors via LABSTAT. The FY 2023 target reflects annual estimates produced with resuming publication of the 2022 data and eldercare news release estimates with 2021 – 2022 data. The FY 2024 target is reduced to reflect the exclusion of eldercare news release estimates.
 - 16/Content is updated on a continual or rolling basis throughout the year. The FY 2022 result and FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect changes in occupational breakouts under the 2018 SOC system.

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

Workload and Performance Narrative

The BLS continues to transform how it collects, analyzes, and delivers its data by increasing its use of technology and identifying efficiencies to improve data accuracy, lower respondent burden, increase survey responses, and better reach its customers, while providing its diverse customer base high-quality data for decision making. Additionally, the BLS supports its partner agencies throughout the DOL by providing high quality data used to inform decision making. Labor Force Statistics programs produce, analyze, and publish data on payroll employment and the civilian labor force, employment and unemployment, persons not in the labor force, labor demand and turnover, wages, hours, earnings, occupational employment, time use, and employment projections. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements that can be made by each Budget Activity. For example, in FY 2024, the EP program will develop and release the 2023-2033 employment projections and incorporate these projections in the *Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)*, updating the occupation career information, including wage data, throughout the year and consider ways to make selected information available to those with limited English proficiency. The FY 2024 request includes \$2,750,000 to ramp up necessary activities to enable DOL to meet the statutory requirements to produce the *American Indian Population and Labor Force Report (AIPLFR)*. More information can be found on BLS-30. In addition, the FY 2024 request includes \$7,860,000 to expand existing data on underserved and marginalized workers and modernize data capacities by addressing the necessary investment to the long-term relevance and sustainability of the CPS. More information can be found beginning on BLS-29. Also in FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$1,137,000 to restore agricultural industries to the OEWS program, found on BLS-30, and \$9,600,000 to begin efforts to release JOLTS data earlier and expand the data, found on BLS-30.

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	64,121	61,526	70,828	9,302
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	504	511	539	28
11.5	Other personnel compensation	1,802	1,936	2,157	221
11.9	Total personnel compensation	66,427	63,973	73,524	9,551
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	21,767	23,026	26,574	3,548
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	28	31	31	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	145	500	500	0
22.0	Transportation of things	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	8,905	4,374	4,374	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	10	28	28	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	1,261	2,066	2,101	35
24.0	Printing and reproduction	743	827	839	12
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	2,574	1,984	3,100	1,116
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	77,889	78,589	87,756	9,167
25.5	Research and development contracts	12,760	23,919	23,919	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	25,910	30,972	36,639	5,667
26.0	Supplies and materials	168	48	75	27
31.0	Equipment	5,356	12,365	12,518	153
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	72,594	73,849	74,662	813
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	0	9	9	0
	Total	296,537	316,560	346,649	30,089
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	11,102	11,302	11,985	683
	DHS Services	1,234	1,410	1,410	0
	Census Services	64,824	64,228	72,712	8,484
	Services by Other Government Departments	729	1,649	1,649	0

LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$3,483
Personnel benefits	1,271
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	683
Other Federal sources (Census Bureau)	2,238
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	751
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$8,426**

Net Program **\$21,663**

Direct FTE **42**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$324,986	520
Program Increase	\$21,663	42
Program Decrease	\$0	0

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	228,906	240,868	264,782	23,914
FTE	943	969	998	29

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 942.

Introduction

Prices and Cost of Living programs collect, compile, and disseminate a wide variety of information on price change in the U.S. economy, and conduct research and analysis to improve the economic statistics produced. The programs include Consumer Prices and Price Indexes (CPI), Producer Prices and Price Indexes (PPI), the International Price Program (IPP), and the Consumer Expenditure (CE) Survey. In addition to meeting general statutory responsibilities assigned to the BLS (29 U.S.C. 1 and 2), these programs produce data that form the basis for adjusting or setting payments, benefits, or other income as required by many laws and private sector contracts.

- In FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$860,000 to rebuild statistical capacity within Prices and Cost of Living, which is critical toward supporting scientific integrity, evidence-based policy making, and advancing equity by ensuring that the BLS can support the U.S. statistical and evidence-building infrastructure, including information on price change. Also in FY 2024, the BLS request includes \$11,870,000 to research the nature and construction of a consumption-based poverty measure. More information can be found beginning on BLS-46.

Consumer Prices and Price Indexes

The CPI program, the nation’s principal gauge of inflation, provides measures of price change for all urban areas, four Census regions, nine Census divisions, and 23 core-based- statistical-areas (CBSAs). Indexes are produced for two population groups: all urban consumers, and urban wage earners and clerical workers. For the population of all urban consumers, there are two indexes: the traditional index (CPI-U) and the superlative index, also known as the chained-CPI (C-CPI-U). The C-CPI-U reflects the effect of substitutions that consumers make across item categories in response to changes in relative prices. The indexes for all urban consumers cover over 90 percent of the U.S. population. The index for the urban wage-earner population group, the CPI-W, covers nearly 30 percent of the U.S. population. The CPI is based on a market basket representing all goods and services that consumers purchase for everyday living. Published measures include various monthly, bi-monthly, and semi-annual and annual average indexes; and monthly average retail prices for selected items.

The numerous uses of the CPI data include: primary measure of price change at the consumer level; indicator of inflationary or deflationary trends in the economy; measure of the purchasing

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

power of the consumer dollar; aid in formulation and evaluation of economic policy; adjustment mechanism for payments under many government programs, including payments to Social Security beneficiaries, retired military and federal civil service employees and survivors; adjustments to the official U.S. poverty thresholds, rental/lease agreements, and payments from trust funds and wills; deflator of earnings to provide a measure of real earnings; factor in collective bargaining and wage and pension adjustments; and adjustment factor for the income tax structure, including standard deductions, and brackets. These last adjustments are intended to prevent inflation from automatically generating tax rate increases.

Through personal visits, telephone interviews, and selected data accessed from the internet, the program collects prices for food, rent, utilities, and a few other items monthly in all areas, and most other commodities and services monthly in the three largest areas, and bi-monthly in other areas.

- In FY 2024, the BLS will collect approximately 105,000 commodity and service prices (monthly) and 142,500 Rent/Rental equivalence prices (annually). Also in FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$1,000,000 to improve the timeliness of the final C-CPI-U. More information can be found beginning on BLS-46.

Producer Prices and Price Indexes

The PPI program measures average changes in prices received by domestic producers for their output. It is an industry-based survey that provides monthly price indexes for virtually all agricultural, mining, and manufacturing industries, for selected construction industries, and for a number of service industries. Indexes are available for two different product classification systems. The commodity classification system organizes products by similarity of end use or material composition and features comprehensive intermediate demand and final demand indexes that are designed to facilitate the analysis of the transmission of inflation through the economy. The industry classification system organizes products by industry of origin.

Indexes from the PPI program are used extensively as: major indicators of inflationary trends in the economy; deflators of nominal dollar values over time; escalators of long-term contracts; market research tools; inventory valuation measures; and major inputs to the evaluation and formulation of economic policy. Net inputs to industry indexes, produced by PPI but also using import data from IPP, provide information on the average change in prices for domestic and imported inputs consumed by selected industries and industry groups.

- In FY 2024, the BLS will collect approximately 60,000 price quotations monthly.

International Price Program

The IPP produces the Import and Export Price Indexes (MXPI), which measure price change of merchandise goods in U.S. foreign trade classified by BEA end use, NAICS, and Harmonized classification systems. The MXPI also cover a limited number of international services, as well as goods-industry competitiveness measures that are country-specific, including U.S. import prices by locality of origin, U.S. export prices by locality of destination, and terms of trade.

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

Various uses of IPP data include: deflation of the Foreign Trade sector of the National Accounts; assessment of effects of import and export price changes on the U.S. economy; exchange rate analysis; analysis of price behavior in international markets, including assessing U.S. competitiveness, calculating changes in the volume of net exports; and analysis and formulation of economic policy.

- In FY 2024, the BLS will collect approximately 16,400 prices monthly from a probability sample of establishments and products.

Consumer Expenditure Survey

The CE program provides information on consumers' expenditures and income. Detailed data from this program are published as comprehensive, annual expenditure estimates for a large number of demographic characteristics, such as income, consumer unit size, and region.

These estimates are used for a variety of purposes, including revisions of weights and item samples of the CPI, economic policy analysis of segments of the population, market research, and economic research and analysis. As of FY 2019, the CE program also collects data on where consumers shop, which the CPI program uses to revise retail outlet samples for pricing.

The CE program is composed of two surveys: an interview and a diary. The quarterly Interview Survey is designed to collect data on major expenditures that respondents can recall for three months. The weekly Diary Survey is designed to obtain expenditure data on small, frequently-purchased items.

- In FY 2024, the Census Bureau will conduct the survey for the BLS in 91 geographic areas of the United States, collecting 12,500 weekly expenditure diaries and 20,000 quarterly interviews.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$210,000	994
2020	\$210,000	957
2021	\$216,208	953
2022	\$223,398	942
2023	\$246,000	969

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

FY 2024

In FY 2024, the BLS will continue the production of core data series and undertake the following new work in the areas of Prices and Cost of Living:

The CPI program will continue to research methodologies for constructing indexes for select demographic groups, leading to the monthly publication of a research index product representing the inflation experience of low-income households.

The FY 2024 President's Budget requests for \$1,000,000 to improve the timeliness of the final chained CPI by 3 months. The CPI is the nation's principal gauge of inflation, providing measures of consumer price change for all urban areas, and is one of the nation's most important federal economic indicators. However, the chained CPI is subject to several revisions due to the lag in obtaining current period expenditure weights from CE survey. Providing timely chained CPI data is important due to the impact CPI data have on other federal agencies and other data users. The C-CPI-U currently is used for indexation of federal income tax brackets and a timelier final C-CPI-U could make it a more viable alternative for other federal escalation and indexation purposes. The CE program will revise its systems to process data monthly instead of quarterly, which will allow CE to deliver data to CPI on a timelier basis.

The Industrial Price programs (IPP and PPI) will continue to modernize the shared IPS Initiation System and the PPI Sampling System, replacing legacy systems that run on obsolete and unsupported hardware and software. The FY 2024 iteration of the IPS Initiation System will introduce the ability to initiate survey units for the IPP survey.

The IPP will fully integrate Census Bureau administrative trade data in the monthly U.S. import and export price index news release and expand the number of published price indexes by replacing directly collected prices with administrative transaction prices from a third to half of the current IPP sample. The IPP Sampling System modernization effort will continue in FY 2024 by implementing needed adjustments for the integration of administrative trade data in the MXPI.

The CE program will implement the second phase of a streamlined Interview Survey questionnaire. CE also will begin implementation of a machine-learning based system for applying Diary Survey item codes (i.e., categorizing) to expenditures reported by respondents in the Diary Survey. The new system will apply item codes independently of assignments currently made at the Census Bureau's National Processing Center (NPC), allowing the CE program to discontinue coding work at the Census Bureau, and improve the accuracy of coded descriptions using the new machine-learning system.

In FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$11,870,000 to produce production-quality thresholds to support the Census Bureau's Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM), to research the nature and construction of a consumption-based poverty measure, and to research a chained CPI for low-income households (see below for more on each topic). Poverty is a critical indicator of how widely prosperity is shared in the economy and is a key benchmark for targeting

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

resources toward the disadvantaged. The current official U.S. poverty measure was developed in the 1960s and has not been substantially changed since then.

Support the Census Bureau's Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM)

In FY 2024, the CE program and the Division of Price and Index Number Research (DPINR) will begin work to develop, implement, and maintain production-quality thresholds to support the Census Bureau's SPM. The production-quality thresholds will replace the Research Experimental SPM thresholds used by the Census Bureau since 2011. The CE program will update and maintain the CE questionnaire to support SPM thresholds, including questions on topics such as school meals and subsidies for utilities. The program also will modify and maintain CE processing systems to accommodate questionnaire changes, produce SPM thresholds, and ensure regular annual release of CE publication tables to support the September release date of the Census income and poverty report. The CE program and DPINR will conduct research activities needed to continually make improvements to the SPM thresholds to keep pace with changes in the economy and to make use of additional data that become available.

Research the Nature and Construction of a Consumption-based Poverty Measure

Also in FY 2024, Prices and Cost of Living will begin research on the nature and construction of a consumption-based poverty measure. The first part of this research will focus on producing an overall measure of consumption. Prices and Cost of Living will review literature to identify how different consumption measures are defined and constructed and conduct research on data gaps and how to best fill them. These data gaps include the receipt and value of in-kind benefits, the value of stock of durables that provide consumption flows, consumption of home-produced goods and services, how to define thresholds, price indexes to update thresholds over time, accounting for geographic difference in prices across areas, and equivalence scales relevant for consumption. Prices and Cost of Living also will research and evaluate external data sources to match existing CE data for both private data, such as the National Automobile Dealers Association data on market values of used vehicles that could be used to determine vehicle service flows, and public data such as Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for Medicaid and Medicare data and other government sources to assess consumption values. In addition, the BLS will develop methods to incorporate external source data into the CE. These methods could include traditional statistical methods as well as newer methods based on machine learning.

Research a Chained CPI for Low-income Households

Also in FY 2024, Prices and Cost of Living will begin research on the nature and construction of the chained Consumer Price Index for low-income households, which will be used for adjusting the Official Poverty Measure in place of the CPI for all urban consumers (CPI-U) as per the recommendation from the Consumer Inflation Interagency Technical Working Groups (ITWG). In order to produce a CPI for low-income households that is of the same quality as the CPI-U, research will be needed to

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

examine differences between the spending patterns of low-income households and all urban consumers at large for a variety of factors, including: retail establishments patronized, specific goods and services purchased, and variances in price changes of actual transaction prices paid. Though the research will focus on a chained CPI for low-income households, when completed in four years, the results also will inform the requirements for indexes for other subpopulations, such as the elderly.

FY 2023

In FY 2023, the BLS is continuing the production of core data series and undertaking the following new work in the areas of Prices and Cost of Living:

The CPI program will continue work to improve the collection of the CPI Housing Survey by providing new functionality that will increase the quality of the data collected, as well as provide an incremental step towards respondent self-reporting, which may reduce respondent burden, thereby increasing response rates.

The CPI program will update its household expenditure data processing system to begin updating the aggregation weights used to calculate the headline CPI for all urban consumers (CPI-U) indexes on an annual basis, instead of on the biennial schedule, which has been in place since 2002. This update will improve the timeliness of the weights. This improvement also will be made to the CPI for urban wage earners and clerical workers (CPI-W) index, the CPI for Older Americans aged 62 and over (R-CPI-E), and the preliminary publication version of the Chained CPI-U.

The Industrial Price programs will continue to modernize the shared IPS Initiation System and the PPI Sampling System, replacing legacy systems that run on obsolete and unsupported hardware and software. In late FY 2023, the BLS expects to deploy functionality within the new IPS Initiation System to initiate survey units for the PPI survey, which will allow OPLC to retire the legacy PPI Collection system.

The PPI program plans to publish recalculated historical simulations from 2012 through 2021 of PPI data using a geometric Young formula at the elementary level. The revised research indexes will help prepare data users for the potential transition to the new formula.

As part of a continuous effort to provide the most accurate and timely data, the PPI expects to complete an update of all index weights in FY 2023. Currently, PPI index weights are based on 2012 Economic Census data. PPI will update its index weights based on 2017 Economic Census data, which incorporate product line classifications according to the new North American Product Classification System.

The IPP will launch activities to integrate administrative trade data for homogeneous product areas into news release production and establish priorities to expand MXPI service measures. The IPP will begin modernizing its Sampling System to update outdated legacy software and to accommodate changes in sampling in subsequent years that will replace directly collected data with administrative data from a third to half of the current IPP sample.

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

The CE program will implement the first phase of a streamlined Interview Survey questionnaire in spring 2023. The CE program also will complete development of a machine-learning based system for applying Diary Survey item codes (i.e., categorizing) to expenditures reported by respondents in the Diary Survey.

FY 2022

In FY 2022, the BLS continued the production of core data series and undertook the following new work in the areas of Prices and Cost of Living:

The CPI program completed work to introduce an updated geographic area sample based on the 2010 Decennial Census. The CPI introduced Housing samples and Commodities and Services (C&S) samples in the fourth and final wave of new primary sampling units (PSUs) into the index. Discontinued fourth wave PSUs were dropped from the sample in the first quarter of FY 2022.

The CPI program worked to improve the collection of the CPI Housing Survey by providing new functionality that will increase the quality of the data collected, as well as provide an incremental step towards respondent self-reporting, which may reduce respondent burden, thereby increasing response rates.

The Industrial Price programs continued to modernize the shared IPS Initiation System, which will replace two separate legacy systems that run on obsolete and unsupported hardware and software. The programs also completed a production pilot for functionality used by the Office of Field Operations. Additionally, the programs continued modernization of the PPI Sampling System, which will replace the legacy system that ran on obsolete and unsupported software.

The PPI program evaluated concerns of a potential upward bias in its index estimates and developed a plan for changing its estimation formula for elementary level indexes from a Laspeyres to a geometric Young formula, which would mitigate the observed upward bias when calculating price measures. The PPI program completed historical simulations of all PPI data recalculated using a geometric Young formula at the elementary level, and evaluated whether to make them publicly available in FY 2023 to prepare data users for the potential transition to the new formula.

The PPI program published index revisions for each month of its estimation revision period and increased precision to 3 decimal places.

The IPP leveraged methodology developed for the release of research unit value indexes calculated from export administrative trade data to create and evaluate a unit value index series (2012 - 2018) using administrative trade data for imports. IPP also prepared a plan to integrate the administrative data into news release production of the MXPI.

The CE program began to develop a machine-learning based system for applying Diary Survey item codes (i.e., categorizing) to expenditures reported by respondents in the Diary Survey. The CE program also continued the redesign of its surveys. Based on results from

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

the Large-Scale Feasibility (LSF) test and the need for a new self-administered mode of the diary survey, the program fully implemented the online diary into production in July 2022. The program also continued to fully develop the streamlined Interview Survey questionnaire.

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2022		FY 2023	FY 2024
		Revised Enacted		Revised Enacted	Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Prices and Cost of Living					
Principal Federal Economic Indicators					
Consumer Prices and Price Indexes					
BLS 1.4 CPI.01.W	Price quotations collected/processed monthly 1/	102,000	102,523	103,500	105,000
BLS 1.4 CPI.02.W	Rent/Rental equivalence price quotations for annual collection 1/ 2/	144,000	142,190	142,500	142,500
BLS 1.4 CPI.03.P	Indexes published monthly 3/	8,400	8,362	8,400	8,400
BLS 1.4 CPI.04.T	Percentage of monthly releases on schedule (12 out of 12)	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 CPI.05.A	Number of months that the standard error on the 12-month change in the U.S. City Average All Items CPI-U Index is < 0.25 percentage points	12	12	12	12
Producer Prices and Price Indexes					
BLS 1.4 PPI.01.W	Price quotations collected/processed monthly 4/	61,000	61,000	60,000	60,000
BLS 1.4 PPI.02.P	Indexes published monthly 5/	10,800	11,062	10,700	10,700
BLS 1.4 PPI.03.A	Percentage of industry product line indexes published monthly	78%	78%	78%	78%
BLS 1.4 PPI.04.T	Percentage of monthly releases on schedule (12 out of 12)	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 PPI.05.A	Percentage of domestic output, within the scope of the PPI, which the PPI covers:				
	Goods produced	98.1%	98.1%	98.1%	98.1%
BLS 1.4 PPI.06.A	Construction	30.8%	30.8%	30.8%	30.8%
BLS 1.4 PPI.07.A	Services produced 6/	72.1%	72.2%	72.2%	72.2%
BLS 1.4 PPI.08.A	Total production 6/	77.2%	77.3%	77.3%	77.3%
BLS 1.4 PPI.09.A	Number of revisions of the one-month percentage change between the first and final release of the Final Demand Index (not seasonally adjusted) > 0.4 percentage points	≤2	0	≤2	≤2
International Price Program					
BLS 1.4 IPP.01.W	Price quotations collected/processed monthly 7/	18,000	17,975	16,400	16,400
BLS 1.4 IPP.02.P	Indexes published monthly 8/	970	1,037	1,020	1,020
BLS 1.4 IPP.03.T	Percentage of monthly releases on schedule (12 out of 12)	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 IPP.04.A	Percentage of U.S. foreign trade imports covered by the IPP:				
	Goods in trade 9/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 IPP.05.A	Services in trade 9/ 10/	8%	8%	5%	5%
BLS 1.4 IPP.06.A	Total in trade 9/	83%	83%	84%	84%

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
BLS 1.4 IPP.07.A BLS 1.4 IPP.08.A BLS 1.4 IPP.09.A	Percentage of U.S. foreign trade exports covered by the IPP: Goods in trade 9/ Services in trade 9/ 10/ Total in trade 9/	100% 7% 68%	100% 7% 68%	100% 4% 68%	100% 4% 68%
BLS 1.4 IPP.10.A	Number of revisions of the one-month percentage change between the first and final release of the Import Price Index > 0.5 percentage points	≤2	0	≤2	≤2
BLS 1.4 IPP.11.A	Number of revisions of the one-month percentage change between the first and final release of the Export Price Index > 0.5 percentage points	≤2	1	≤2	≤2
Other Programs					
Consumer Expenditure Surveys					
BLS 1.4 CE.01.W	Complete Weekly Expenditure Diaries: Number collected from Consumer Units 11/	12,500	13,573	12,500	12,500
BLS 1.4 CE.02.W	Complete Quarterly Interviews: Number of Consumer Unit Interviews 11/	20,000	20,207	20,000	20,000

- 1/ The FY 2022 result and FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect the continued but lessening impact of COVID-19 on sample rotation for commodities and services.
- 2/ The FY 2022 result reflects the continued impact of COVID-19 on sample rotation for housing. The FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect CPI moving toward its original sample rotation schedule for housing under the assumption that COVID-19 effects decrease.
- 3/ The FY 2022 result reflects the natural variation in not publishing indexes where collection rates are not adequate for the specific item-area combination.
- 4/ The FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect anticipated continued effects of COVID-19 on data collection.
- 5/ The FY 2022 result exceeded its target due to the expansion of input to industry satellite indexes. The FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect the anticipation of a lower number of indexes published monthly due to both the implementation of the 2022 NAICS definitions and also the anticipated continued effects of COVID-19 on data collection.
- 6/ The FY 2022 result and FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect PPI's index addition for Pipeline Transportation of Natural Gas.
- 7/ The FY 2022 result and FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect the phased changes resulting from the sample reduction in FY 2018 due to resource constraints, which results in a permanent drop in the repricing of ongoing items.
- 8/ The FY 2022 result reflects a better than expected number of publishable price indexes during annual review. The FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect a loss of a dozen indexes upon annual review based on the FY 2022 results and also takes into account individual indexes that may be suppressed due to quality issues.
- 9/ The FY 2022 result reflects updated Census 2018 international trade measures. The FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect updated Census 2020 international trade measures.
- 10/ The FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets are based on 2020 data. Due to COVID-19, air freight and air passenger services reduced their passenger service to a fraction of its previous size.
- 11/ The FY 2022 result exceeded its target due in part to reduced field representative vacancies at CE's data collection vendor, allowing for more effective contact and gaining cooperation strategies. Additionally, respondent reluctance due to the COVID-19 pandemic lessened over the data collection period.

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

Workload and Performance Narrative

The BLS continues to transform how it collects, analyzes, and delivers its data by increasing its use of technology and identifying efficiencies to improve data accuracy, lower respondent burden, increase survey responses, and better reach its customers, while providing its diverse customer base high-quality data for decision making. Additionally, the BLS supports its partner agencies throughout the DOL by providing high quality data used to inform decision making. The Prices and Cost of Living programs collect, compile, and disseminate a wide variety of information on price change in the U.S. economy, and conduct research and analysis to improve the economic statistics produced. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements each Budget Activity can make. For example, in FY 2024, the IPP will continue activities to integrate administrative trade data in the monthly U.S. import and export price index news release and expand the number of published price indexes. Also in FY 2024, the request includes \$1,000,000 to improve the timeliness of the final chained Consumer Price Index (C-CPI-U), by reducing the current lag in the publication by 3 months. More information can be found beginning on BLS-46. Additionally, as part of the continued effort to improve Prices and Cost of Living data, the FY 2024 request includes \$11,870,000 to produce production-quality thresholds to support the Census Bureau's Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM), to research the nature and construction of a consumption-based poverty measure, and to research a chained CPI for low-income households. More information can be found beginning on BLS-46

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	75,163	85,172	94,354	9,182
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	11,462	12,247	12,919	672
11.5	Other personnel compensation	2,503	2,516	2,739	223
11.9	Total personnel compensation	89,128	99,935	110,012	10,077
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	34,463	36,327	40,052	3,725
12.2	Military Personnel Benefits	0	0	0	0
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	43	73	73	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	474	1,430	1,478	48
22.0	Transportation of things	0	0	0	0
23.0	Rent, Communications, and Utilities	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	17,007	8,353	8,353	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	9	20	20	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	466	267	283	16
24.0	Printing and reproduction	26	36	36	0
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	7,191	8,159	9,391	1,232
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	56,477	58,713	65,661	6,948
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	19,719	23,851	25,627	1,776
26.0	Supplies and materials	175	178	194	16
31.0	Equipment	3,726	3,510	3,586	76
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	2	16	16	0
	Total	228,906	240,868	264,782	23,914
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	19,275	19,647	20,834	1,187
	DHS Services	1,825	0	0	0
	Census Services	34,615	0	5,761	5,761
	Services by Other Government Departments	762	39,066	39,066	0

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$5,468
Personnel benefits	1,997
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	1,187
Other Federal sources (Census Bureau)	1,297
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	235
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$10,184**

Net Program **\$13,730**

Direct FTE **29**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$251,052	969
Program Increase	\$13,730	29
Program Decrease	\$0	0

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	87,309	91,000	94,929	3,929
FTE	314	325	325	0

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 312.

Introduction

Compensation and Working Conditions programs produce a diverse set of measures of employee compensation; compile work stoppages statistics; compile data on work-related injuries, illnesses, and fatalities; and conduct research to improve the measurement process. The programs fall into two major categories: Compensation Levels and Trends, and Occupational Safety and Health Statistics (OSHS).

- In FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$430,000 to rebuild statistical capacity within Compensation and Working Conditions, which is critical toward supporting scientific integrity, evidence-based policy making, and advancing equity by ensuring that the BLS can support the U.S. statistical and evidence-building infrastructure, including measures on working conditions.

COMPENSATION LEVELS AND TRENDS

Compensation Levels and Trends programs include the National Compensation Survey (NCS) and Work Stoppages Statistics (WSS). The NCS outputs include the Employment Cost Index (ECI) and Employee Benefits Survey (EBS). The ECI is a measure of wage-push inflation used by economists, businesses, and policymakers, and is published quarterly. The EBS provides the incidence, provisions, and features of employer-sponsored retirement, insurances (including health care), paid leave, wellness, and other benefits. EBS data frequently are used to establish benchmarks when considering changes to national benefits policies. Together, these program outputs along with information on work stoppages meet general statutory requirements assigned to the BLS (29 U.S.C. 1, 2, and 4) and specific legal requirements, including the requirements of the Federal Employees' Pay Comparability Act of 1990 (FEPCA) [5 U.S.C. 5301-5304].

NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY

The NCS provides comprehensive measures of occupational earnings (computed in conjunction with the OEWS program), compensation cost levels and trends, benefit incidence, and detailed benefit provisions. This includes the ECI and EBS. The NCS also produces the Occupational Requirements Survey (ORS), funded by the Social Security Administration (SSA). The ORS provides job-related information regarding physical demands, environmental conditions, education, training, and experience, as well as cognitive and mental requirements for jobs in the U.S. economy.

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

- In FY 2024, the BLS will collect data from a sample of about 16,450 private industry establishments and state and local governments providing both wage and benefit information. The BLS collects data from a sample of occupations within establishments in private industry and state and local governments through a combination of personal visits, mail, telephone, and electronic contacts.

Employment Cost Index

The ECI measures changes in total compensation (wages and salaries, and employer costs for employee benefits) for the civilian economy and is published quarterly. The ECI coverage includes private industry, and state and local government workers; and excludes federal government, agricultural sector, household, self-employed, and unpaid family workers. Indexes for compensation, wages and salaries, and benefit costs are available for selected industry and occupational groups and for workers in private industry by bargaining status and geographic area. In addition, the *Employer Costs for Employee Compensation (ECEC)* publication provides estimates of compensation costs per hour worked for those same categories as well as by establishment employment size, and full- and part-time employment status.

The ECI provides the estimate for the national pay adjustment for federal General Schedule (GS) workers in compliance with the FEPCA and information from the ECI is used in combination with data from the OEWS program to provide estimates of pay by area, occupation, and work level that are used to recommend the locality pay adjustments required under FEPCA. The ECI also provides the basis for pay adjustments for Congress, federal judges, and top government officials specified in the Ethics Reform Act, as well as the basis for pay adjustments for the military. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services uses the ECI to determine allowable increases in Medicare reimbursements for hospital and physician charges. In addition, the Wage and Hour Division uses the ECI to set benefit costs required by the Service Contract Act. Other uses of ECI data include: setting and evaluating monetary policy; macro-economic forecasting; collective bargaining and other pay determinations; estimating compensation in the National Income and Product Accounts; contract cost escalation; and studies on the structure of employee compensation.

- In FY 2024, the BLS will publish 278 indexes and 331 levels quarterly, using a sample of 16,450 establishments.

Employee Benefits Survey

The EBS provide comprehensive data on the incidence and provisions of employee benefit plans in private industry and state and local governments. The benefits measured evolve to keep pace with changes in labor market practices. Examples of benefits included are: vacation and sick leave; long-term disability; health and life insurance; retirement plans; and health savings accounts. Incidence measures include the percentage of workers with access to and participating in employer-provided benefit plans, as well as take-up rates (an estimate of the percentage of workers with access to a plan who participate in the plan).

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

The BLS provides data on benefit incidence and provisions by full- and part-time status of employees, bargaining status, wage intervals, goods-producing and service-producing industries, establishment employment size, and by Census area. The BLS also provides statistics on both the employee and employer contributions to medical plan premiums. The EBS provides data separately for occupational groups in private industry and state and local governments representing the civilian economy.

The varied uses of these data include: benefit administration and program development in public and private sectors; collective bargaining; conciliation and arbitration in the public and private sectors; and Congress and the President's consideration of legislation affecting the welfare of workers, including changes to retirement benefit plans, especially among small employers, and expanded sick leave policies. EBS data are used in studies that provide more details on health care services and limitations applicable to covered Americans. This information is essential to policymakers because employer-provided benefits are a primary source of health, disability, and retirement plans for American workers.

- In FY 2024, the BLS will collect data on benefit incidence and provisions from a sample of 16,450 establishments and will complete an analysis of benefit plans obtained from a sample of 4,950 private establishments.

WORK STOPPAGES STATISTICS

The BLS compiles data on Work Stoppages to meet general statutory requirements assigned to the BLS (29 U.S.C. 4) "to investigate the causes of, and facts relating to, all controversies and disputes between employers and employees." The program produces monthly and annual data on major strikes and lockouts. The BLS collects from secondary sources the number of work stoppages, workers involved, and days idle.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STATISTICS

OSHS assists employers and policymakers in focusing their safety and health efforts, and allows workers to be better informed about workplace hazards by providing relevant data on injuries, illnesses, and fatalities that affect America's workers. It includes the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII) and the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI). The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 673) requires the Secretary of Labor (who, in turn, authorizes the BLS) to compile statistics and to "promote, encourage, or directly engage in programs of studies, information, and communication concerning occupational safety and health statistics and make grants to states or political subdivisions thereof to assist them in developing and administering programs dealing with occupational safety and health statistics." The survey of non-fatal injuries and illnesses and the fatal injury census serve as the nation's primary public health surveillance system for job-related injuries and illnesses.

The BLS conducts the SOII to estimate the incidence rate and number of workplace injuries and illnesses and to gather information on the more seriously injured and ill workers and the circumstances of their injuries and illnesses. In 2022, the BLS expanded collection of these characteristics to include cases resulting in job transfer or restriction nationwide in addition to

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

the previously collected cases that require days away from work. The BLS also conducts an annual fatal injury census that compiles a complete roster of job-related fatal injuries and provides detailed information on fatally injured workers and the circumstances of the injuries leading to their deaths. These data include the events or exposures incurred by the worker, and the nature and source of the injury or illness.

OSHS produces a variety of articles and papers highlighting specific aspects of the safety and health of the nation's workplaces and workers. In recent years, these have included new insights concerning occupational injuries, illnesses, and fatalities to specific groups, in a specific industry, and details of selected types of injuries and illnesses. Other areas of research have focused on injuries and illnesses that have led to job transfer or restriction, and the expanded use of computer-assisted coding to review or assign codes for injury and illness circumstances.

Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

The SOII provides injury and illness information by industry, worker characteristics, and the circumstances of the injury or illness. The survey estimates injury and illness incidence rates by nature of injury and event, industry, occupation, gender, and age for the nation and participating states. These estimates cover private industry and state and local government workers.

Government agencies, and industry, insurance, academic, public health, labor union, and private researchers analyze trends in these data. They also study the detailed circumstances of the injuries and illnesses to assess the overall occupational safety and health of workers and to identify ways to reduce injuries and illnesses, including potential changes in safety and health regulations or programs. Individual establishments compare their rates to those of their industry to benchmark their worker safety and health performance. Other researchers analyze the data to identify particular risks by occupation or event.

- In FY 2024, the BLS will conduct the annual survey in a 50/50 cost-sharing partnership with 42 states, the District of Columbia, and 3 territories, and collect the injury and illness data in nonparticipating states through its regional offices to produce national data. The BLS will collect information, which is based on the records of job-related injuries and illnesses that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires many employers to keep and report to its employees annually, from a sample of approximately 228,000 establishments. Additionally, over two years, the survey will collect nationwide detailed information on case circumstances and worker characteristics for approximately 540,000 injury or illness cases that required days away from work, job transfer, or restriction to recuperate.

Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

The CFOI provides detailed information on fatally injured workers by industry and state, characteristics of workers, and the circumstances leading to their deaths. The program collects data from a wide variety of documents, such as death certificates, medical examiner records, media reports, and reports of fatalities submitted to federal and state workers' compensation and

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

regulatory agencies. These diverse data sources allow the BLS and its state partners to compile a complete roster of fatal occupational injuries to workers in private and public sector establishments and to the self-employed.

The program provides a comprehensive count of work-related fatal injuries at the national and state level, by industry, and by occupation, as well as detailed information about the fatal incident. The detailed data include information on the characteristics of the fatally injured workers (age, gender, race and ethnicity, and occupation), the nature and sources of the injury and the circumstances leading to the fatality. Providing these details allows the BLS and other researchers to produce special analyses on specific types of work-related fatal injuries, such as those associated with mine cave-ins, crane collapses, and explosions, and allows government, business, labor, and researchers to design strategies to reduce fatalities.

- In FY 2024, the BLS will conduct the fatal injury census in a 50/50 cost-sharing partnership with 46 states, the District of Columbia, 3 territories, and 1 city. The BLS will collect fatal injury reports for the nonparticipating states and publish data for the nation

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$83,500	328
2020	\$83,500	315
2021	\$84,031	308
2022	\$87,309	314
2023	\$91,000	325

FY 2024

In FY 2024, the BLS will continue the production of core data series and will undertake the following new work in the areas of Compensation and Working Conditions:

The NCS will publish detailed information on the provisions of health care plans provided to private sector workers. The NCS will continue evaluating the impact of the sample increase and redirection of collecting from non-responding units on published estimates.

With funding from the SSA, the ORS will publish the results from the final sample in the second wave. Collection of the first sample in the third wave will include new and modified survey concepts implemented in FY 2023.

The OSHS will complete work to fully implement the decennial update of the Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS) into CFOI and SOII production and publications.

The OSHS expects to publish its first multiyear, all-industry, nationwide estimates for case circumstances and worker characteristics from cases resulting in days away from work, job

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

transfer, or restriction in FY 2024. The OSHS will continue to publish industry estimates annually.

The OSHS will begin to execute an operational roadmap to integrate OSHA-Injury Tracking Application (ITA) administrative data with data collected by SOII to enhance SOII estimates.

FY 2023

In FY 2023, the BLS is continuing the production of core data series and will undertake the following new work in the areas of Compensation and Working Conditions:

The NCS will publish detailed information on the provisions of retirement plans provided to private sector workers. To mitigate response rate declines and allow the BLS to continue meeting publication standards for its existing series, the BLS will increase the NCS sample size and redirect efforts away from non-response by attempting to collect data from additional establishments.

With funding from the SSA, the ORS will continue its five-year collection cycle using a sampling methodology that is expected to maximize occupational-specific estimates. The ORS program will collect the final sample in the second wave and implement new and modified survey concepts for the start of the third wave in FY 2024.

The OSHS will continue work to implement the decennial update of the OIICS into CFOI and SOII production and publications.

The OSHS will continue the second of a two-year cycle for collecting detailed case characteristics for occupational injuries and illnesses that result in days away from work, job transfer, or restriction for all industries. The new case sampling methodology enabled this expansion without an increase in annual sample size.

The OSHS will develop an operational roadmap for integrating OSHA-Injury Tracking Application (ITA) administrative data with data collected by SOII to enhance SOII estimates.

FY 2022

In FY 2022, the BLS continued the production of core data series and undertook the following new work in the areas of Compensation and Working Conditions:

The NCS published area occupational wage estimates and incorporated the model-based estimation methodology implemented by the OEWS. In addition, the NCS published detailed information on the provisions of health plans provided to state and local government workers.

With funding from the SSA, the ORS continued its five-year collection cycle using a sampling methodology that maximized collection of occupational requirements. Due to the pandemic, survey response rates have declined and as a result the BLS has increased the ORS sample size to meet publication goals.

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

The OSHS continued updating and training its neural network auto-coder to accommodate the decennial update to the OIICS. The OSHS continued review and made updates to the OIICS manual for publication on its website in FY 2023.

The OSHS began a two-year cycle for collecting detailed case characteristics for occupational injuries and illnesses that result in days away from work, job transfer, or restriction for all industries.

The OSHS began research on integrating OSHA-ITA administrative data with data collected by SOII to enhance SOII estimates

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Compensation and Working Conditions					
	Principal Federal Economic Indicator				
	Employment Cost Index				
BLS 1.4 ECI.01.W	Number of establishments 1/	11,400	14,721	14,875	16,450
BLS 1.4 ECI.02.T	Percentage of quarterly releases on schedule (4 out of 4)	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 ECI.03.A	Number of quarters that the standard error for the percentage change in the 3-month civilian compensation less incentive paid occupations index is < 0.3	4	4	4	4
BLS 1.4 ECI.04.P	Number of indexes published quarterly (not seasonally adjusted)	278	278	278	278
BLS 1.4 ECI.05.P	Number of levels published quarterly	331	331	331	331
	Other Programs				
	Employee Benefits Survey				
BLS 1.4 EBS.01.W	Number of establishments (benefit incidence) 1/	11,400	14,721	14,875	16,450
BLS 1.4 EBS.02.P	Number of annual releases	3	3	3	3
BLS 1.4 EBS.03.W	Number of establishments (detailed provisions) 2/	1,596	1,596	3,350	4,950
	Work Stoppages Statistics				
BLS 1.4 WSS.01.P	Number of monthly and annual releases	13	13	13	13
	Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses 3/				
BLS 1.4 SOIL.01.W	Number of participating states, territories, and cities 4/	45	45	45	46
BLS 1.4 SOIL.02.W	Number of establishments surveyed 5/	230,372	230,372	228,591	228,000
BLS 1.4 SOIL.03.W	Cases for which case circumstances and worker characteristics are collected and coded (biennial) 6/	219,151	219,151	--	540,000
BLS 1.4 SOIL.04.P	Number of national industry estimates produced	21,642	21,642	21,824	21,000
BLS 1.4 SOIL.05.P	Number of national estimates produced on worker characteristics and injury or illness circumstances (biennial) 7/	1,962,875	1,962,875	--	4,000,000

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
BLS 1.4 SOII.06.A BLS 1.4 SOII.07.A	Percentage of employment for which national estimates are produced: Private Sector 8/ Public Sector	92% 86%	92% 86%	92% 86%	92% 86%
BLS 1.4 SOII.08.A	The margin of error on the annual estimate of the national incidence rate for total job-related injuries and illnesses at the 95% confidence level (calendar year data)	<+0.10	<+0.02	<+0.10	<+0.10
	Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 9/				
BLS 1.4 CFOI.01.W	Number of participating states, territories, and cities 10/	50	50	51	51
BLS 1.4 CFOI.02.W	Number of source documents per fatal injury	≥4.5	4.5	4.6	≥4.5
BLS 1.4 CFOI.03.A	Percentage of employment covered by fatal occupational injury statistics	100%	100%	100%	100%

- 1/ The FY 2022 result and the FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets reflect a revised data collection approach of redirecting non-response follow-up to collecting data from additional establishments to mitigate response rate declines and to allow the BLS to continue meeting publication standards for its existing series. The expanded sample size will continue as standard practice. Four private industry and one aircraft manufacturing samples are included in each year. An additional state and local government sample will be included in FY 2024. By keeping one additional update sample in collection, the BLS will return to using three private industry samples after FY 2025.
- 2/ The FY 2022 result reflects the state and local government sample instead of the private industry sample, reflected in other years. The FY 2023 and FY 2024 targets were revised to reflect the private industry sample.
- 3/ The BLS reported results for the 2020 SOII in FY 2022 and the 2021 SOII in FY 2023. The BLS will report results for the 2022 SOII in FY 2024. FY 2023 reflects results from the 2021 SOII released in first quarter 2023.
- 4/ The BLS collects data for those states not participating in the Federal/State Cooperative program to produce nationwide estimates of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses. The FY 2022 and FY 2023 figures reflect published estimates for 41 states, the District of Columbia, and 3 territories. The FY 2024 target reflects 42 states, the District of Columbia, and 3 territories.
- 5/ Beginning in FY 2023, the SOII total sample size reflects a decrease due to changes in state participation status and state requests to adjust their sample size.
- 6/ The SOII data collected in FYs 2022 and 2023 will be in support of the new biennial estimates to be published in FY 2024. The FY 2024 target is based on the biennial collection, an anticipated return to pre-pandemic case levels, and an increase in cases due to the new subsampling methodology.
- 7/ The FY 2022 result reflects the impact of COVID-19 on response rates. Starting in FY 2022, and continuing into FY 2023, the BLS is collecting data for detailed circumstances and worker characteristics for days of job transfer or restriction in addition to days away from work, as it transitions to a biennial format to collect and publish estimates and a new data series. The SOII will encompass nationwide biennial estimates of days of job transfer or restriction, days away from work, or combination of the two (days away from work, job restriction, or transfer). In the first quarter of FY 2024, the BLS will publish its first combined calendar year 2021-2022 biennial estimates on worker characteristics and injury or illness circumstances, which the BLS will continue to publish every other year. Previously, the SOII encompassed annual nationwide estimates of days away from work, and days of job transfer or restriction in select pilot industries only.
- 8/ The SOII does not collect data on several groups of private industry employees, including: self-employed nonagricultural workers; self-employed agricultural workers; wage and salary agricultural workers at establishments sized 10 or fewer; railroad workers; mine workers outside of oil and gas extraction; domestic workers; and unpaid family workers.

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

- 9/ The BLS reported results for the 2020 CFOI in FY 2022 and the 2021 CFOI in FY 2023. The BLS will report results for the 2022 CFOI in FY 2024. FY 2023 target reflects results from the 2021 CFOI released in first quarter 2023.
- 10/The BLS collects data for those states not participating in the Federal/State Cooperative program to produce nationwide counts of fatal work injuries. The FY 2022 figure reflects 45 states, District of Columbia, 3 territories, and 1 city. The FY 2023 through FY 2024 figures reflect 46 states, District of Columbia, 3 territories, and 1 city. In FY 2023, West Virginia is joining the sample.

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

Workload and Performance Narrative

The BLS continues to transform how it collects, analyzes, and delivers its data by increasing its use of technology and identifying efficiencies to improve data accuracy, lower respondent burden, increase survey responses, and better reach its customers, while providing its diverse customer base high-quality data for decision making. Additionally, the BLS supports its partner agencies throughout the DOL by providing high quality data used to inform decision making. The Compensation and Working Conditions programs produce a diverse set of measures of employee compensation and compile data on work stoppage statistics and work-related injuries, illnesses, and fatalities. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements each Budget Activity can make. In FY 2024, the OSHS program expects to publish its first multiyear, all-industry, nationwide estimates for case circumstances and worker characteristics from cases resulting in days away from work, job transfer, or restriction

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	34,286	36,300	38,604	2,304
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	255	190	201	11
11.5	Other personnel compensation	1,026	1,018	1,064	46
11.9	Total personnel compensation	35,567	37,508	39,869	2,361
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	13,199	13,640	14,506	866
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	17	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	316	829	829	0
22.0	Transportation of things	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	9,121	4,480	4,480	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	28	24	24	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	595	718	718	0
24.0	Printing and reproduction	271	348	348	0
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	724	861	861	0
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	12,362	12,601	13,264	663
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	5,465	10,684	10,723	39
26.0	Supplies and materials	84	31	31	0
31.0	Equipment	1,904	1,568	1,568	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	7,553	7,606	7,606	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	103	102	102	0
	Total	87,309	91,000	94,929	3,929
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	10,782	10,977	11,640	663
	DHS Services	1,237	0	0	0
	Census Services	31	0	0	0
	Services by Other Government Departments	312	1,624	1,624	0

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$2,048
Personnel benefits	749
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	663
Other Federal sources (Census Bureau)	0
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	39
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$3,499**

Net Program **\$430**

Direct FTE **0**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$94,499	325
Program Increase	\$430	0
Program Decrease	\$0	0

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	11,730	12,524	13,184	660
FTE	50	52	52	0

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 50.

Introduction

Productivity and Technology programs meet several major needs for economic statistics. Data from these programs measure productivity trends in the U.S. economy, as well as in major sectors, individual industries, and states. These programs also analyze trends in order to examine the factors underlying productivity change and growth in the economy. Data produced by the Productivity and Technology programs aid economic policymakers, business leaders, and researchers in analyzing current economic activity. In addition, these data are used as economic indicators; in studies of relationships between productivity, wages, prices, profits, and employment; and as an aid in understanding sources of economic growth. The productivity measurement programs are authorized by an act dated June 7, 1940 (29 U.S.C. 2b), which directs that the BLS “make continuing studies of productivity and labor costs in the manufacturing, mining, transportation, distribution, and other industries.” The BLS carries out its mandate to produce impartial and objective economic data for the nation in the area of productivity as described below for each program.

- In FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$86,000 to rebuild statistical capacity within Productivity and Technology, which is critical toward supporting scientific integrity, evidence-based policy making, and advancing equity by ensuring that the BLS can support the U.S. statistical and evidence-building infrastructure, including measures of productivity.

Major Sector Productivity

The BLS develops quarterly and annual measures of labor productivity for sectors of the economy: business, nonfarm business, manufacturing, and nonfinancial corporations. These data are used to analyze current economic activity; study the relationships between productivity, wages, prices, profits, and employment; and to aid in understanding sources of economic growth. Labor hours worked data from this program are used by the Congressional Budget Office to estimate economic growth for the nation. Data available include indexes and percentage changes for labor productivity, hours worked, unit labor costs, and real and current dollar hourly compensation.

In addition, the BLS develops annual indexes and percentage changes of total factor productivity, also known as multifactor productivity. These data measure output per combined inputs of capital and labor, for the private business and private nonfarm business sectors.

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

The BLS also develops annual total factor productivity measures for all subsectors of the economy that are constructed as output per combined inputs of labor, capital, energy, materials, and purchased services. The total factor productivity data help explain growth in output and labor productivity. These data also form a basis for research on the sources of economic advancement and identify the subsectors within the economy that contribute to growth. The total factor productivity data from the BLS continue to be used to set the payment schedule of physicians treating patients under the Medicare program. The BLS uses data from its own programs, and obtains data from the BEA, the Census Bureau, and other federal and private sources, to calculate productivity and related measures for all sectors of the U.S. economy.

Industry Productivity Studies

The BLS develops annual measures of labor productivity and total factor productivity for many detailed industries and annual measures of labor productivity by state. These productivity measures are used to compare trends in efficiency across industries and states, to analyze and compare trends in production costs, to examine the effects of technological improvements, and to understand the sources of aggregate productivity growth.

The BLS develops labor productivity measures for all 3- and 4-digit NAICS mining, manufacturing, trade, and food services industries and an extensive selection of other service-providing industries. The BLS also develops labor productivity measures for 50 states and the District of Columbia at the private nonfarm business sector level. Measures include productivity, unit labor costs, and related indexes; rates of change; and levels of employment, hours worked, value of production, and labor compensation.

The BLS develops total factor productivity measures relating output to the combined inputs of capital, labor, and intermediate purchases (energy, materials, and purchased services) for all 4-digit NAICS manufacturing industries, as well as for air transportation and the line-haul railroads industry.

The BLS uses data from its own programs, the Census Bureau, the BEA, and other sources to calculate productivity and related measures for detailed industries

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$10,500	50
2020	\$10,500	51
2021	\$10,500	50
2022	\$10,952	50
2023	\$12,000	52

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

FY 2024

In FY 2024, the BLS will continue the production of core data series and will undertake the following new work in the areas of Productivity and Technology:

The Office of Productivity and Technology (OPT) will production-test the new integrated estimation system for producing total factor productivity measures.

OPT will finalize methodology and develop an implementation plan for improving estimates of hours worked by self-employed workers.

FY 2023

In FY 2023, the BLS is continuing the production of core data series and is undertaking the following new work in the areas of Productivity and Technology:

Major Sector Productivity (MSP) will develop a software conversion plan for the legacy production systems.

Industry Productivity Studies (IPS) will improve measures of hours worked to incorporate all-employee hours data from the Current Employment Statistics (CES).

IPS will begin implementation of a multiyear plan for measuring the transformation of Retail Trade and Related Activities in response to the final report from the Consensus Panel Study.

Productivity Research and Program Development (PRPD) will develop an estimator to reduce the volatility in the measure of hours worked by self-employed workers.

FY 2022

In FY 2022, the BLS continued the production of core data series and undertook the following new work in the areas of Productivity and Technology:

Beginning with the *Total Factor Productivity Trends for Major Industries* release in November 2021, OPT replaced the term “multifactor productivity” with “total factor productivity” to improve visibility and accessibility. This is a change in terminology only and will not affect the data or methodology.

OPT created a single estimation system for industry and major sector total factor productivity data.

OPT completed a report that examines the feasibility of developing annual state productivity statistics at the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) level.

In conjunction with other offices across the BLS, OPT developed a plan, which included site visits, to better understand the impact of automation on the American workforce.

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

MSP conducted a feasibility study on regularly producing quarterly measures of productivity by industry.

IPS reviewed the panel findings in the Consensus Panel Study on Measuring the Transformation of Retail Trade and Related Activities and evaluated the feasibility, timing, and resources required for implementing the panel's recommendations.

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Productivity and Technology					
	<u>Principal Federal Economic Indicator</u>				
	Major Sector Productivity				
BLS 1.4 MSP.01.P	Series updated	44	44	44	44
BLS 1.4 MSP.02.T	Percentage of initial and revised quarterly Productivity and Costs releases on schedule (8 out of 8)	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 1.4 MSP.03.A	Percentage of business sector output covered by published quarterly labor productivity measures	100%	100%	100%	100%
	<u>Other Programs</u>				
	Industry Productivity Studies				
BLS 1.4 IPS.01.P	Series updated 1/ 2/ 3/	4,192	4,192	4,180	3,990
BLS 1.4 IPS.02.A	Percentage of industries covered by labor productivity measures 4/	64.4%	64.4%	64.4%	64.4%
	Other Output Measures				
BLS 1.4 OPT.01.P	Number of industries and sectors with total factor productivity measures	171	171	171	171
BLS 1.4 OPT.02.P	Major studies, articles, technical papers, and special reports	17	17	17	17
BLS 1.4 OPT.03.P	State and region productivity series updated	165	165	165	165

- 1/ The number of labor productivity series updated is based on coverage of NAICS 2-, 3-, 4-, and 5-digit industries, and not 6-digit NAICS industries, because the availability of source data at the 6-digit level is subject to frequent changes.
- 2/ Beginning in FY 2023, 12 series no longer will be maintained due to the collapse of the NAICS 32411 source data.
- 3/ Beginning in FY 2024, the number of series will be further reduced by 190 because 23 5-digit NAICS manufacturing industries no longer will be updated due to lack of source data from the Annual Survey of Manufacturers.
- 4/ The percentage of industries covered by labor productivity measures is based on the coverage of NAICS 4-digit industries.

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

Workload and Performance Narrative

The BLS continues to transform how it collects, analyzes, and delivers its data by increasing its use of technology and identifying efficiencies to improve data accuracy, lower respondent burden, increase survey responses, and better reach its customers, while providing its diverse customer base high-quality data for decision making. Additionally, the BLS supports its partner agencies throughout the DOL by providing high quality data used to inform decision making. The Productivity and Technology programs produce data on productivity trends in the U.S. economy, as well as in major sectors and individual industries, and examine the factors underlying productivity change. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements that can be made by each Budget Activity. For example, in FY 2024, the BLS will production-test the new integrated estimation system for producing total factor productivity measures.

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	5,434	6,709	7,140	431
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	166	182	191	9
11.9	Total personnel compensation	5,600	6,891	7,331	440
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	2,370	2,504	2,665	161
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	3	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	10	40	40	0
22.0	Transportation of things	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	1,055	518	518	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	11	4	4	0
24.0	Printing and reproduction	0	0	0	0
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	221	84	84	0
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	1,138	1,155	1,213	58
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	1,135	595	596	1
26.0	Supplies and materials	11	10	10	0
31.0	Equipment	176	723	723	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	0	0	0	0
	Total	11,730	12,524	13,184	660
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	948	962	1,020	58
	DHS Services	143	0	0	0
	Services by Other Government Departments	47	193	193	0

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$377
Personnel benefits	138
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	58
Other Federal sources (Census Bureau)	0
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	1
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$574**

Net Program **\$86**

Direct FTE **0**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$13,098	52
Program Increase	\$86	0
Program Decrease	\$0	0

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND STAFF SERVICES

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	35,000	37,000	38,826	1,826
FTE	147	157	157	0

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 142.

Introduction

Executive Direction and Staff Services provide agency-wide policy and management direction, and centralized program support activities. Major goals of these programs are the development and improvement of economic and statistical programs, efficient management of ongoing programs, and provision of the technical, administrative, information technology, dissemination, and publication services necessary to produce and release statistical and research output in a reliable, secure, timely, and effective manner.

- In FY 2024, the BLS is requesting \$201,000 to rebuild statistical capacity within Executive Direction and Staff Services, which is critical toward supporting scientific integrity, evidence-based policy making, and advancing equity by ensuring that the BLS can support the U.S. statistical and evidence-building infrastructure.

Office of the Commissioner

The Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner, in cooperation with program and support offices, plan, direct, and manage all the BLS activities. In support of the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018, the Commissioner is the designated statistical official for DOL. The Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner also represent the agency in both national and international forums, including those with the U.S. Congress, the Administration, and economic and statistical organizations.

Administration

The Administrative programs are responsible for planning, executing, and evaluating a broad and responsive management and administrative program that supports the programmatic and technical responsibilities of the BLS. Major functions of this program include budget formulation and execution, accounting and financial management, grants management, procurement liaison, organizational performance management and reporting, workforce management, emergency management, specialized training, space management, building and facility security operations, workforce equality compliance programs, administrative information applications, records management, Bureau-wide program and quality reviews, statistical confidentiality (Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (CIPSEA)) and security policy (Federal Information Security Modernization Act), and management control functions.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND STAFF SERVICES

Technology and Survey Processing

The Technology and Survey Processing program provides overall planning and execution of information technology (IT) activities integral to the production of accurate, objective, relevant, timely, and accessible economic data in accordance with CIPSEA and OMB Statistical Policy Directives. This includes the development, maintenance, and operation of systems that are used for sampling, data collection (including the Internet Data Collection Facility), estimation to produce the Principal Federal Economic Indicators (PFEIs) and other statistical measures, and dissemination of BLS data to the public. The program is responsible for maintaining and managing the BLS IT infrastructure and ensuring the security of BLS IT systems and data, as well as adherence to the Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) requirements, and Executive Order 14028 on *Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity*. The program researches and evaluates new IT tools, technologies, and software for use in the BLS IT infrastructure and ensures that IT activities in the BLS are conducted in accordance with the applicable statutes and regulations governing federal IT activities.

Publications

The Publications program provides overall direction and coordination of the entire range of publications, information dissemination, and communications activities of the BLS. Utilizing current technology to improve efficiency and customer service, this program makes the statistical materials and research findings of the agency available to the public and responds to inquiries from the public and the media on a timely basis. Information is available to the public 24 hours a day via the BLS website. Information specialists are available during business hours to answer requests submitted by e-mail, telephone, mail, fax, telecommunications devices for the deaf, or social media. Data and analyses are reviewed, edited, cleared, and made available online as news releases, periodicals, bulletins, reports, brochures, and flyers. Publications developed or coordinated within this program, including the *Monthly Labor Review*, *The Economics Daily*, the *BLS Handbook of Methods*, *Beyond the Numbers*, *Spotlight on Statistics*, and the *Customer Service Guide*, provide a general overview of the work of the BLS, technical information about its many programs, and comprehensive analyses across all programs.

Survey Methods Research

The Survey Methods Research program evaluates the effectiveness and soundness of the survey methods currently used by BLS programs, investigates alternative methods to determine their appropriateness for BLS programs, and develops new methods for improving the efficiency and quality of BLS programs. It also conducts research on cross-program issues, consults with program offices on an ongoing basis, and supports improvement activities for the major statistical programs.

The program consists of three parts: the Behavioral Science Research Center, the Mathematical Statistics Research Center, and the Data Science Research Center. Research conducted by the Behavioral Science Research Center concentrates on the measurement and reduction of non-sampling error through, for example, questionnaire design studies, investigations into

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND STAFF SERVICES

respondent-interviewer interactions, usability studies of computer-assisted data collection systems, the development of response-level data quality measures, analysis of survey nonresponse and paradata (data collected about the survey process, such as contact history or interview time), the use of focus groups, and surveys of key stakeholders for BLS statistical programs. The Mathematical Statistics Research Center focuses on estimating and increasing the efficiency of sample designs and estimators to improve BLS data and statistics, and on formal disclosure limitation methods to protect the confidentiality of BLS respondents. This includes the development of computationally-intensive methods for analyzing complex survey data, integrating alternative data sources, developing better seasonal adjustment methods, and handling missing data. The Data Science Research Center explores unstructured text fields, machine learning, and data visualization. The Survey Methods Research program also supports BLS programs through research activities that address the areas of human-computer interaction, information seeking and retrieval, knowledge management, data that describe other data (i.e., metadata), and a data science training program for staff.

Field Operations

The Field Operations program consists of a national office component and six regional offices. The national office provides overall operations planning and allocates workload and resources to regional offices. It monitors and evaluates national operation performance, provides technical direction and training, and provides collection expertise to other programs as they plan their survey approaches. The regional offices manage their workload and resources as assigned to complete various tasks, such as collecting survey data, providing and administering federal/state grants, monitoring and evaluating state work on BLS grants, disseminating region-specific data and information, and providing outreach to local and national audiences. These functions of the Field Operations program directly support survey response rates, which impact the quality of data received and produced by the BLS

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$35,000	186
2020	\$35,000	154
2021	\$35,000	155
2022	\$35,000	142
2023	\$37,000	157

FYs 2023 – 2024

In FYs 2023 - 2024, the Executive Direction and Staff Services programs will continue to provide agency-wide policy and management direction as described above, including all centralized support services in the administrative, publications, information technology, field operations, and statistical methods research areas.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND STAFF SERVICES

FY 2022

In FY 2022, the Executive Direction and Staff Services programs provided agency-wide policy and management direction as described above, including all centralized support services in the administrative, publications, information technology, field operations, and statistical methods research areas.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND STAFF SERVICES

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Executive Direction and Staff Services					
BLS 1.4 ED.01	Number of financial audit findings	≤3	<u>0</u>	≤3	≤3

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND STAFF SERVICES

Workload and Performance Narrative

The BLS continues to transform how it collects, analyzes, and delivers its data by increasing its use of technology and identifying efficiencies to improve data accuracy, lower respondent burden, increase survey responses, and better reach its customers, while providing its diverse customer base high-quality data for decision making. Additionally, the BLS supports its partner agencies throughout the DOL by providing high quality data used to inform decision making. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements each Budget Activity can make. For example, in FY 2024, the Office of Technology and Survey Processing, within Executive Direction and Staff Services, will continue to maximize the amount of time in which Local Area Network Infrastructure is available to support the production of economic labor statistics

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND STAFF SERVICES

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	17,900	19,626	20,850	1,224
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	204	131	138	7
11.5	Other personnel compensation	634	716	741	25
11.9	Total personnel compensation	18,738	20,473	21,729	1,256
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	6,789	7,387	7,773	386
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	9	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	55	201	201	0
22.0	Transportation of things	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	2,164	1,063	1,063	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	4	9	9	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	96	89	89	0
24.0	Printing and reproduction	10	13	13	0
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	659	290	290	0
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	3,095	3,155	3,302	147
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	2,404	3,190	3,227	37
26.0	Supplies and materials	62	58	58	0
31.0	Equipment	895	1,061	1,061	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	20	11	11	0
	Total	35,000	37,000	38,826	1,826
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	2,397	2,441	2,588	147
	DHS Services	523	0	0	0
	Services by Other Government Departments	175	714	714	0

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND STAFF SERVICES

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$1,110
Personnel benefits	405
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	-74
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	147
Other Federal sources (Census Bureau)	0
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	37
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$1,625**

Net Program **\$201**

Direct FTE **0**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$38,625	157
Program Increase	\$201	0
Program Decrease	\$0	0

HEADQUARTERS RELOCATION

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	28,470	0	0	0
FTE	0	0	0	0

Introduction

The Headquarters Relocation activity reflects the funding required for the BLS to relocate its National Office Headquarters to the Suitland Federal Center. The BLS received a total of \$68,470,000 in funding associated with its headquarters relocation activities: \$27,000,000 in FY 2020, \$13,000,000 in FY 2021 (to remain available until September 30, 2024), and \$28,470,000 in FY 2022 (to remain available until September 30, 2026).

The BLS National Office Headquarters provides workspace for approximately 1,800 federal staff and contractors. As detailed in the FY 2020 President’s Budget, the BLS began planning activities for the relocation in early 2019. The relocation of the BLS national office will utilize an approach that ensures any potential for mission disruption is minimized and leverages best practices. In addition, by maintaining a robust post-pandemic telework environment, the relocation will reduce the footprint of the BLS National Office Headquarters by about 50 percent compared to the Postal Square Building.

- In FY 2024, the BLS will continue to support activities to relocate the BLS headquarters to the Suitland Federal Center

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$0	0
2020	\$27,000	0
2021	\$13,000	0
2022	\$28,470	0
2023	\$0	0

FYs 2023 – 2024

In FYs 2023 – 2024, the BLS will continue to provide project management support, and activities necessary to move BLS staff and property to the new headquarters in Suitland Federal Center. For example, the BLS will continue procurement activities for its furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the new BLS Headquarters at the Suitland Federal Center. These procurements will support the agency’s information technology, audio-visual needs, and flexible workspaces in

HEADQUARTERS RELOCATION

the new hybrid work environment. In FY 2023, GSA awarded the design-build contract for construction of the new BLS National Office Headquarters at the Suitland Federal Center.

FY 2022

In FY 2022, the GSA project team finalized the design intent drawings to begin contracting activities, and the BLS began procurement of its furniture, fixtures, and equipment.

HEADQUARTERS RELOCATION

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	0	0	0	0
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	0	0	0	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	0	0	0	0
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	0	0	0	0
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	0	0	0	0
22.0	Transportation of things	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	0	0	0	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0	0	0	0
24.0	Printing and reproduction	0	0	0	0
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	0	0	0	0
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	28,470	0	0	0
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	0	0	0	0
26.0	Supplies and materials	0	0	0	0
31.0	Equipment	0	0	0	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
	Total	28,470	0	0	0
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Services by Other Government Departments	28,470	0	0	0

HEADQUARTERS RELOCATION

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$0
Personnel benefits	0
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	0
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	0
Other Federal sources (Census Bureau)	0
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$0**

Net Program **\$0**

Direct FTE **0**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$0	0
Program Increase	\$0	0
Program Decrease	\$0	0