

FY 2012

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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NOTE: FY 2010 Enacted and FY 2011 Full Year C.R. numbers will not match the numbers in the Appendix of the President’s Budget.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Federal Funds

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, \$577,894,000, together with not to exceed \$69,136,000, which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund, of which \$1,500,000 may be used to fund the mass layoff statistics program under section 15 of the Wagner-Peyser Act.

Note—A full-year 2011 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, this account is operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 111–242, as amended). The amounts included for 2011 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

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AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATION						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
	FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.		FY 2012 Request	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
A. Appropriation	2,393	\$533,183	2,334	\$544,009	2,456	\$577,894
Transfer to Employee Benefits Security Administration	0	-2,700	0	0	0	0
<i>Subtotal Appropriation</i>	<i>2,393</i>	<i>530,483</i>	<i>2,334</i>	<i>544,009</i>	<i>2,456</i>	<i>577,894</i>
Offsetting Collections From:						
Reimbursements	6	9,378	6	8,725	6	8,343
Trust Funds	0	78,264	0	67,438	0	69,136
<i>Subtotal Offsetting Collections</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>87,642</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>76,163</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>77,479</i>
B. Gross Budget Authority	2,399	\$618,125	2,340	\$620,172	2,462	\$655,373
Adjustment for Transfer to Employee Benefits Security Administration	0	2,700	0	0	0	0
Offsetting Collections To:						
Reimbursements	-6	-9,378	-6	-8,725	-6	-8,343
<i>Subtotal Offsetting Collections</i>	<i>-6</i>	<i>-9,378</i>	<i>-6</i>	<i>-8,725</i>	<i>-6</i>	<i>-8,343</i>
C. Budget Authority Before Committee	2,393	\$611,447	2,334	\$611,447	2,456	\$647,030
Transfer to Employee Benefits Security Administration	0	-2,700	0	0	0	0
<i>Subtotal Appropriation</i>	<i>2,393</i>	<i>608,747</i>	<i>2,334</i>	<i>611,447</i>	<i>2,456</i>	<i>647,030</i>
Offsetting Collections From:						
Reimbursements	6	9,378	6	8,725	6	8,343
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>9,378</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>8,725</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>8,343</i>
D. Total Budgetary Resources	2,399	\$618,125	2,340	\$620,172	2,462	\$655,373
Unobligated Balance Expiring:						
Budget Authority Before Committee	-52	-1,103	0	0	0	0
Reimbursements	0	0	0	0	0	0
E. Total, Estimated Obligations	2,347	\$617,022	2,340	\$620,172	2,462	\$655,373

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SUMMARY OF CHANGES

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request	Net Change
Budget Authority			
General Funds	\$544,009	\$577,894	+\$33,885
Trust Funds	67,438	69,136	\$1,698
Total	\$611,447	\$647,030	+\$35,583
Full Time Equivalents			
General Funds	2,334	2,456	122
Trust Funds	0	0	0
Total	2,334	2,456	122

Explanation of Change	FY 2011 Base		Trust Funds		FY 2012 Change General Funds		Total	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Increases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For:								
Rental payments to GSA	0	\$34,177	0	\$0	0	\$1,148	0	\$1,148
Other services	0	18,745	0	0	0	400	0	400
Other government accounts (Census Bureau)	0	94,521	0	0	0	304	0	304
Other government accounts (DHS Charges)	0	4,325	0	0	0	154	0	154
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0	57,996	0	0	0	1,684	0	1,684
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	74,129	0	1,698	0	114	0	1,812
Built-Ins Subtotal	0	+\$283,893	0	+\$1,698	0	+\$3,804	0	+\$5,502
B. Programs:								
Annual Current Population Survey Supplement	42	\$62,403	0	\$0	3	\$1,577	3	\$1,577
Establish a New National Longitudinal Surveys Youth Cohort	5	14,801	0	0	1	10,000	1	10,000
Measure Consumer Spending in the 21 st Century 1/	61	42,746	0	0	10	8,800	10	8,800
Improve the Frame of Retail Outlets in the CPI 1/	622	83,241	0	0	2	1,000	2	1,000
Increase the number of Price Quotes in the CPI 2/	622	83,241	0	0	113	13,000	113	13,000
Support a Supplemental Poverty Measure 1/	61	42,746	0	0	9	2,500	9	2,500

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Explanation of Change	FY 2011 Base		Trust Funds		FY 2012 Change General Funds		Total	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Funds for inflationary costs that were included in the FY 2011 President's Budget	2,334	611,447	0	0	0	1,161	0	1,161
Programs Subtotal	2,334	+\$611,447	0	+\$0	138	+\$38,038	138	+\$38,038
Total Increase	2,334	+\$611,447	0	+\$1,698	138	+\$41,842	138	+\$43,540
Decreases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
N/A	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Built-Ins Subtotal	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
B. Programs:								
Elongate the National Longitudinal Surveys Fielding Schedules	5	\$14,801	0	\$0	0	-\$6,000	0	-\$6,000
Eliminate the International Labor Comparisons Program 1/	16	1,957	0	0	-16	-1,957	-16	-1,957
Programs Subtotal	21	+\$16,758	0	\$0	-16	-\$7,957	-16	-\$7,957
Total Decrease	21	+\$16,758	0	\$0	-16	-\$7,957	-16	-\$7,957
Total Change	2,334	+\$611,447	0	+\$1,698	122	+\$33,885	122	+\$35,583

1/ Originally included in the FY 2011 President's Budget.

2/ Originally included in the FY 2011 President's Budget, but modified for the FY 2012 President's Budget.

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SUMMARY BUDGET AUTHORITY AND FTE BY ACTIVITY						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
	FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.		FY 2012 Request	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Labor Force Statistics	507	\$276,116	538	\$278,533	542	\$288,179
General Funds	507	197,852	538	211,095	542	219,043
Unemployment Trust Funds	0	78,264	0	67,438	0	69,136
Prices and Cost of Living	1,062	\$201,081	1,101	\$205,822	1,235	\$232,839
General Funds	1,062	201,081	1,101	205,822	1,235	232,839
Compensation and Working Conditions	485	\$88,553	406	\$80,579	406	\$81,197
General Funds	485	88,553	406	80,579	406	81,197
Productivity and Technology	80	\$11,904	78	\$12,102	62	\$10,201
General Funds	80	11,904	78	12,102	62	10,201
Executive Direction and Staff Services	207	\$33,793	211	\$34,411	211	\$34,614
General Funds	207	33,793	211	34,411	211	34,614
Total	2,341	\$611,447	2,334	\$611,447	2,456	\$647,030
General Funds	2,341	533,183	2,334	544,009	2,456	577,894
Unemployment Trust Funds	0	78,264	0	67,438	0	69,136

NOTE: FY 2010 does not reflect a transfer from the BLS to EBSA of \$2,700. FY 2010 reflects actual FTE.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

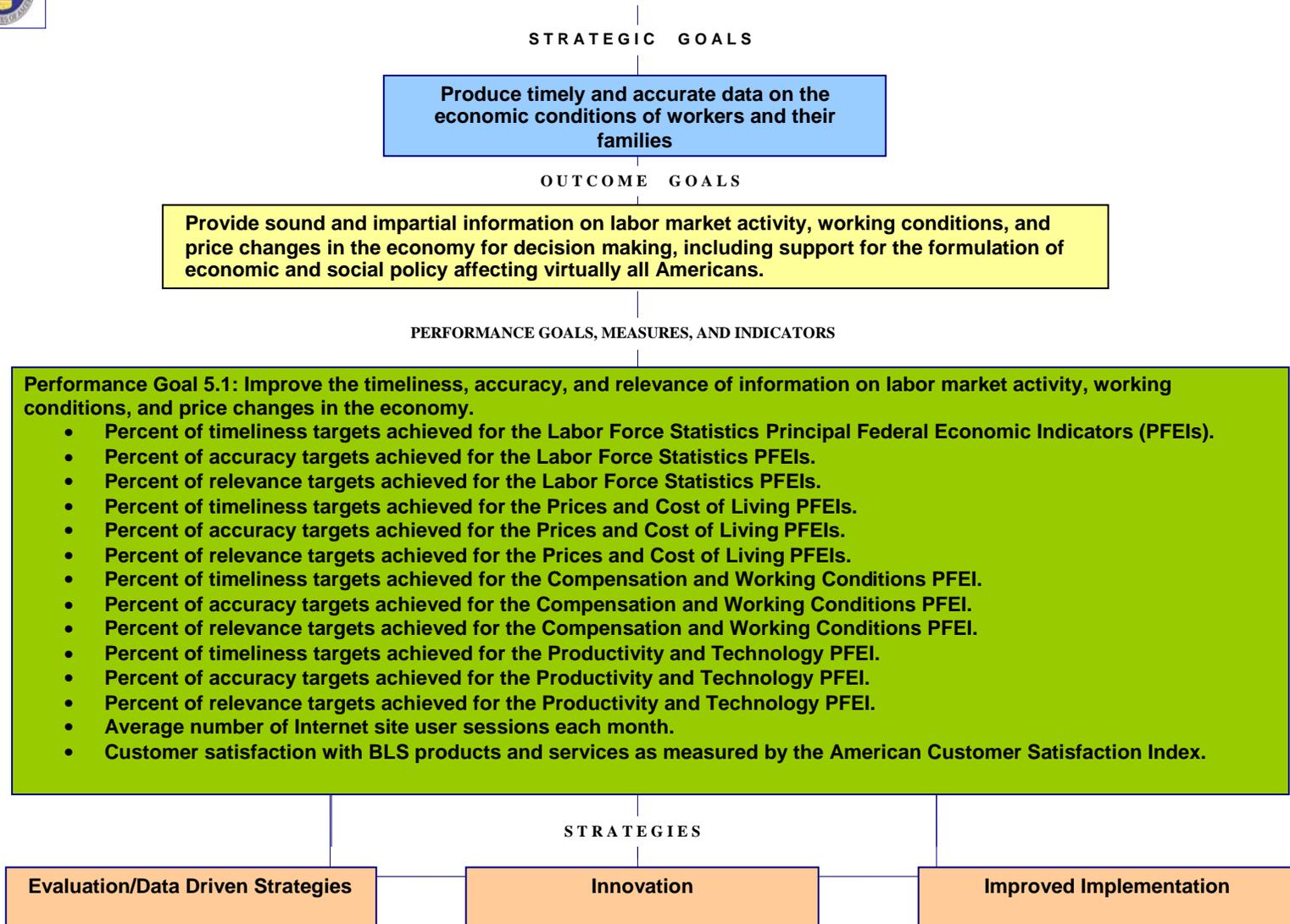
BUDGET AUTHORITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request	Change FY 12 Req. / FY 10 Enacted
	Full-Time Equivalent				
	Full-time Permanent	2,076	2,044	2,098	22
	Other	265	290	358	93
	Total	2,341	2,334	2,456	115
	Reimbursable	6	6	6	0
	Total Number of Full-Time Permanent Positions	2,117	2,070	2,124	7
	Average ES Salary	\$170,000	\$171,000	\$171,000	\$1,000
	Average GM/GS Grade	10.89	10.92	10.92	.03
	Average GM/GS Salary	\$82,000	\$83,000	\$83,000	\$1,000
11.1	Full-time permanent	\$188,628	\$190,467	\$195,689	\$7,061
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	12,640	12,426	15,765	3,125
11.5	Other personnel compensation	4,524	4,510	4,793	269
11.9	Total personnel compensation	205,792	207,403	216,247	10,455
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	55,387	57,408	59,946	4,559
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	56	56	56	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	7,158	6,914	7,863	705
22.0	Transportation of things	33	25	25	-8
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	31,411	34,177	35,676	4,265
23.2	Rental payments to others	111	111	111	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	6,396	5,926	5,990	-406
24.0	Printing and reproduction	2,493	3,656	3,654	1,161
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	84	84	84	0
25.2	Other services	19,916	18,745	20,196	280
25.3	Other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts 1/	120,709	122,642	132,085	11,376
25.5	Research and development contracts	13,371	13,343	17,138	3,767
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	51,500	57,996	62,282	10,782
26.0	Supplies and materials	1,464	1,444	1,616	152
31.0	Equipment	10,710	7,388	8,120	-2,590
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	84,856	74,129	75,941	-8,915
	Total	\$611,447	\$611,447	\$647,030	\$35,583
1/ Other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts					
	Working Capital Fund	\$21,852	\$22,221	\$22,123	\$271
	DHS Services	4,210	4,325	4,725	515
	Census Services	92,630	94,521	102,673	10,043

NOTE: FY 2010 does not reflect a transfer from the BLS to EBSA of \$2,700. FY 2010 reflects actual FTE.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS



Secretary's Vision: "Good Jobs for Everyone"



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TOTAL BUDGETARY RESOURCES												
FY 2010 - 2012												
(Dollars in Thousands)												
	FY 2010 Enacted				FY 2011 Full Year C.R.				FY 2012 Request			
	Activity Approp. 1/	Other Approp. 2/	Other Resrcs. 3/	Total	Activity Approp.	Other Approp. 2/	Other Resrcs. 3/	Total	Activity Approp.	Other Approp. 2/	Other Resrcs. 3/	Total
Bureau of Labor Statistics	608,747	0	9,378	618,125	611,447	0	8,725	620,172	647,030	0	8,343	655,373
Labor Force Statistics	274,416	15,673	8,402	298,491	278,533	16,042	7,889	302,464	288,179	15,783	7,507	311,469
Prices and Cost of Living	200,081	11,906	133	212,120	205,822	12,618	131	218,571	232,839	13,528	131	246,498
Compensation and Working Conditions	88,553	5,702	627	94,882	80,579	5,247	412	86,238	81,197	4,926	412	86,535
Productivity and Technology	11,904	512	216	12,632	12,102	504	293	12,899	10,201	377	293	10,871
Sub Total	574,954	33,793	9,378	618,125	577,036	34,411	8,725	620,172	612,416	34,614	8,343	655,373
Executive Direction and Staff Services	33,793	-33,793	0	0	34,411	-34,411	0	0	34,614	-34,614	0	0
Total	608,747	0	9,378	618,125	611,447	0	8,725	620,172	647,030	0	8,343	655,373

1/ Reflects transfer from the BLS to EBSA of \$2,700 and -0- FTE.

2/ "Other Appropriation" is comprised of resources appropriated elsewhere, but for which the benefits accrue toward the operation of the budget activities.
(Executive Direction and IT Crosscut)

3/ "Other Resources" include funds that are available for a budget activity, but not appropriated, such as reimbursements and fees.

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PERFORMANCE STRUCTURE

Strategic and Outcome Goals Supporting Secretary Solis' Vision of <i>Good Jobs for Everyone</i>	Supporting Budget Activities
Strategic Goal 1 – Prepare Workers for Good Jobs and Ensure Fair Compensation	
1.1 Increase workers' incomes and narrowing wage and income inequality.	
1.2 Assure skills and knowledge that prepare workers to succeed in a knowledge-based economy, including in high-growth and emerging industry sectors like “green” jobs.	
1.3 Help workers who are in low-wage jobs or out of the labor market find a path into middle class jobs.	
1.4 Help middle-class families remain in the middle class.	
1.5 Secure wages and overtime.	
1.6 Foster acceptable work conditions and respect for workers' rights in the global economy to provide workers with a fair share of productivity and protect vulnerable people.	
Strategic Goal 2 – Ensure Workplaces Are Safe and Healthy	
2.1 Secure safe and healthy workplaces, particularly in high-risk industries.	
Strategic Goal 3 – Assure Fair and High Quality Work-Life Environments	
3.1 Break down barriers to fair and diverse work places so that every worker's contribution is respected.	
3.2 Provide workplace flexibility for family and personal care-giving.	
3.3 Ensure worker voice in the workplace.	
Strategic Goal 4 – Secure Health Benefits and, for Those Not Working, Provide Income Security	
4.1 Facilitate return to work for workers experiencing workplace injuries or illnesses who are able to work.	
4.2 Ensure income support when work is impossible or unavailable.	
4.3 Improve health benefits and retirement security for all workers.	
Strategic Goal 5 – Produce Timely and Accurate Data on the Economic Conditions of Workers and their Families	
5.1 Provide sound and impartial information on labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy for decision making, including support for the formulation of economic and social policy affecting virtually all Americans.	All BLS Activities

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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
International Investment and Trade in Services Survey Act	22 U.S.C. 3101	n/a
The Social Security Act	42 U.S.C. 503(a)(6)	n/a
Veterans' Employment, Training, and Counseling Amendments of 1988	38 U.S.C. 4110A	n/a
An Act to amend title 13, United States Code, to provide for a mid-decade census of population and for other purposes	13 U.S.C. 182	n/a
An Act to revise, codify, and enact without substantive change certain general and permanent laws related to money and finance	31 U.S.C. 1535 - 1536	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

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APPROPRIATION HISTORY

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Budget Estimates to Congress		House Allowance		Senate Allowance		Appropriation		FTE
2002	\$476,000		\$477,108		\$476,000		\$474,613	1/ 2/	2,468
2003	511,092	3/ 4/	498,164	4/	498,164	4/	492,234	5/ 6/	2,479
2004	512,262	6/	512,262	6/	520,223	7/	518,496	7/ 8/	2,461
2005	533,518		533,518		533,518		529,004	9/ 10/	2,445
2006	542,523		542,523		542,523		537,098	11/	2,408
2007	563,288	12/	565,288		563,288		548,123		2,408
2008	574,443		576,118		560,000		544,251	13/	2,283
2009	592,806	14/	596,058	14/ 15/	598,306	14/	597,182	14/	2,376
2010	611,623		611,623		611,271	16/	611,447	17/	2,393
2011	645,351		611,447	18/	632,488	19/		20/	2,465
2012	647,030								2,456

- 1/ Reflects a reduction of \$991 pursuant to P.L. 107-116.
- 2/ Reflects a reduction of \$950 pursuant to P.L. 107-206.
- 3/ Includes a comparative transfer from BLS to Departmental Management – Management Crosscut of -\$132 and -0- FTE.
- 4/ Budget estimate to Congress includes \$12,928 for the full share of accruing employee pensions and health benefits (legislative proposal). The House and Senate allowances do not include this amount.
- 5/ Reflects a reduction of \$3,220 pursuant to P.L. 108-7.
- 6/ Reflects the first step in converting the financing for the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey.
- 7/ Reflects the final step in converting the financing for the OES survey.
- 8/ Reflects a reduction of \$3,702 pursuant to P.L. 108-199.
- 9/ Reflects a rescission of \$4,266 pursuant to P.L. 108-447.
- 10/ Reflects a rescission of \$248 pursuant to P.L. 108-447.
- 11/ Reflects a rescission of \$5,425 pursuant to P.L. 109-148.
- 12/ Includes a comparative transfer to the Working Capital Fund for centralized services of \$1,230 and -0- FTE.
- 13/ Reflects a rescission of \$9,677 pursuant to P.L. 110-161.
- 14/ Includes a comparative transfer from ODEP to BLS of \$550 and -0- FTE.
- 15/ This bill was reported out of the Subcommittee but was not passed by the Full House.
- 16/ This bill was reported out of the Subcommittee but was not passed by the Full Senate.
- 17/ Does not reflect a transfer from the BLS to EBSA of \$2,700 and -0- FTE.
- 18/ Reflects a full-year continuing resolution funding level passed by the Full House.
- 19/ This bill was reported out of the Committee but was not passed by the Full Senate.
- 20/ A full-year 2011 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

OVERVIEW

Introduction

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) produces some of the Nation's most sensitive and important economic data. The BLS is an independent national statistical agency within the Department of Labor responsible for measuring labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy. It collects, analyzes, and disseminates essential economic information to support public and private decision-making. These policies and decisions affect virtually all Americans. For FY 2012, the BLS requests \$647,030,000, an increase of \$35,583,000 or 6 percent over the FY 2011 Full Year C.R. level, and 2,456 FTE.

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."

Several BLS series are used in the administration of Federal programs. For example, the Internal Revenue Service ties changes in Federal income tax brackets and personal exemption amounts to annual changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Changes in BLS data have direct effects on overall Federal budget expenditures, including Federal allocations to State and local jurisdictions. In 2010, the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) were used in the allocation of over \$60 billion in Federal funds to States and local jurisdictions under assistance programs in such areas as employment, training, public works, and welfare assistance. LAUS estimates also are cited by numerous programs that are distributing an additional \$144 billion in funds covering FYs 2009 and 2010, under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. In addition, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) data were used to allocate approximately \$250 billion in Federal funds under such programs as the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

The Social Security Administration revises benefits annually based upon changes in the Consumer Price Index. In 2010, over 52 million Americans received \$703 billion in Social Security benefits.

The BLS directly contributes to Secretary Solis' Strategic Vision of *Good Jobs for Everyone*. In particular, the BLS supports the DOL Strategic Goal to *Produce timely and accurate data on the economic conditions of workers and their families*, and the Outcome Goal to *Provide sound and impartial information on labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy for decision making, including support for the formulation of economic and social policy affecting virtually all Americans*.

The BLS has identified seven high-level ongoing strategies to achieve its Outcome and Performance Goals:

- continuing to produce objective data and analyses that are timely, accurate, and relevant;
- improving the timeliness, accuracy, and relevance of its products and developing new

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- products that meet the needs of its broad customer base;
- informing current and potential customers about the availability and uses of its products and reaching out to its customers to understand their needs for economic information;
- maintaining high response rates in its surveys;
- making the data and other products and services on bls.gov accessible, understandable, and usable;
- recruiting, training, and retaining a talented and diverse group of individuals who are experts at the production and continuous improvement of its products and services and who are well-prepared to represent the agency and become its future leaders; and
- continuously evaluating and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of its programs and processes.

Each of the BLS strategies aligns with one or more of the three Departmental strategies. For example, the BLS employs *evaluation/data driven strategies* by reaching out to customers to better understand their needs for economic data; *innovation* strategies by developing new data collection methods that minimize respondent burden; and *improved implementation* strategies by analyzing business processes for efficiency and effectiveness and making ongoing improvements.

The BLS meets its responsibilities through five budget activities:

(1) **Labor Force Statistics** – The FY 2012 Request of \$288,179,000, an increase of \$9,646,000 over the FY 2011 Full Year C.R. level, and 542 FTE, will provide funds to support the production, analysis, and publication of data on the labor force, employment and unemployment, persons not in the labor force, labor demand and turnover, wages, hours, earnings, time use, and employment projections.

In 2012, the BLS is requesting resources to add one annual supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS). In odd years, the BLS will conduct the Contingent Work Supplement to capture data on contingent work and alternative work arrangements. In even years, the BLS will conduct other supplements relevant to the BLS mission, including topics that will provide more data on workplace flexibility and work-family balance.

In 2012, the BLS also is requesting resources to establish a new National Longitudinal Surveys (NLS) youth cohort to enhance the capability of the BLS to produce timely and relevant data on the U.S. labor market. This will ensure that information is available on the employment and socioeconomic conditions of youth, including differences by sex, race, and ethnicity, and subsequent labor market experiences as they progress through later stages of their lives.

The cost of the new cohort will be offset partially by elongating the fielding schedules of the 1979 and 1997 cohorts of the NLS of Youth. Each survey gathers information on the labor market experiences of groups of American men and women at multiple points in time. Decreased frequency of data collection and dissemination will lead to lower response rates and higher attrition over time, degrading data quality and usability.

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In 2012, in order to avoid other programmatic reductions, the BLS will eliminate the 2011 initiative to expand the sample in the Occupational Employment Statistics program, which would have enabled year-to-year comparisons. The initiative would have addressed the lack of reliable data available that support the identification of occupational trends in employment and wages over time.

(2) Prices and Cost of Living – The FY 2012 Request of \$232,839,000, an increase of \$27,017,000 over the FY 2011 Full Year C.R. level, and 1,235 FTE, will provide funds to support the production, analysis, and publication of a wide variety of information on price change in the U.S. economy, specifically the CPI, the Consumer Expenditure (CE) surveys, the Producer Price Index (PPI), and the U.S. Import/Export Price Indexes.

To partially offset the new NLS cohort, the BLS will reduce the 2011 initiative to increase the number of CPI price quotes. Curtailing this initiative will reduce the proposed 50 percent increase in C&S price quotes by 15 percent, resulting in a 43 percent increase in the number of price quotes. This reduction will limit the number of goods and services for which the quality of price-change estimates can be improved.

The 2012 Request also carries forward from the 2011 President's Budget the initiatives to improve the frame of retail outlets in the CPI, modernize the CE, and to support the Census Bureau in its development of a supplemental statistical poverty measure using CE data.

(3) Compensation and Working Conditions – The FY 2012 Request of \$81,197,000, an increase of \$618,000 from the FY 2011 Full Year C.R. level, and 406 FTE, will provide funds to support the production, analysis, and publication of a diverse set of measures of employee compensation; work stoppages statistics; and the compilation of data on work-related injuries, illnesses, and fatalities.

(4) Productivity and Technology – The FY 2012 Request of \$10,201,000, a decrease of \$1,901,000 from the FY 2011 Full Year C.R. level, and 62 FTE, will provide funds to support the production, analysis, and publication of data on productivity trends in the U.S. economy, as well as major sectors and individual industries; and the examination of the factors underlying productivity change.

The 2012 Request carries forward the proposal from the 2011 President's Budget to eliminate the International Labor Comparisons (ILC) program.

(5) Executive Direction and Staffing Services – The FY 2012 Request of \$34,614,000, an increase of \$203,000 over the FY 2011 Full Year C.R. level, and 211 FTE, will provide funds to support agency-wide policy and management direction, and centralized program support activities, such as data dissemination, the Internet Data Collection Facility (IDCF), and statistical methods research.

The American economy and labor market are evolving due to rapid technological changes, globalization of world markets, and demographic shifts. The BLS has been, and will continue to be, responsive to users' need to understand changes in the economy. For example, due to the growth of the service sector over the last two decades, decision-makers in the public and private

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sectors need comprehensive information on price trends for this sector. In response to this need, the PPI worked to expand its coverage of the service sector, increasing coverage to over 77 percent in FY 2007 from 39 percent in FY 1997. The CPS program continued to expand the set of time-series available online, published the first monthly estimates of labor force data for veterans and the foreign born in the February 2010 *Employment Situation*, and released the first annual estimates of labor force data for persons with disabilities in August 2010, after beginning to publish monthly estimates in FY 2009. In FY 2010, the QCEW, Occupational Employment Statistics (OES), and Employment Projections programs began work to survey industries where green jobs are expected to be found, and produce career information related to green jobs based on the identification of green industries, occupations, and processes. Also, the official published CPI incorporated the first of the new housing units in the estimation of the Rent and Owner's Equivalent Rent indexes late in FY 2010. The BLS continues to research ways to meet ad hoc demands from decision-makers for information on emerging topics.

The BLS is committed to continuous improvement. For example, in FY 2010, the BLS released official all-employee hours and earnings data, which provide more comprehensive information for the Bureau of Economic Analysis' (BEA) National Income Accounts and for analyzing economic trends. Also in FY 2010, the BLS began publishing, for the first time, national estimates of workplace injuries and illnesses incurred by State and local government workers. In FY 2011, the BLS CE program will complete a field test on measurement issues of the CE Interview survey and analyze the results of the test. Also in FY 2011, the BLS will add tables to the CPS program on Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and on veterans by educational attainment to the *Employment Situation of Veterans* news release.

Federal statistical programs meet the needs of a wide range of users by providing data that meet the highest quality standards. The BLS conforms to the conceptual framework of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy's (ICSP) Guidelines for Reporting Performance by Statistical Agencies and the "Strengthening Federal Statistics" chapter of the Analytical Perspectives volume in the President's Budget. The BLS measures accuracy, timeliness, relevance, dissemination, and mission achievement. In addition, the BLS reports the full cost to produce its data products. These six criteria are common among statistical agencies, because these are critical aspects of a statistical program's performance. Common concepts underlying the specifics of measuring and reporting on statistical agency performance help to inform decision-makers about the performance of statistical agencies. The BLS strategies are designed to support the specific performance criteria that are common among statistical agencies. As the BLS continues to improve the information that it makes available to decision-makers, the BLS will reflect these changes in its performance measures and targets in budget submissions and other documents relating to the Government Performance and Results Act.

Cost Model

The BLS requests a total of \$647,030,000, an increase of \$35,583,000 over the FY 2011 Full Year C.R. level. This level of funding will enable the BLS to meet its highest priority goals and objectives during 2012. Included in this request are:

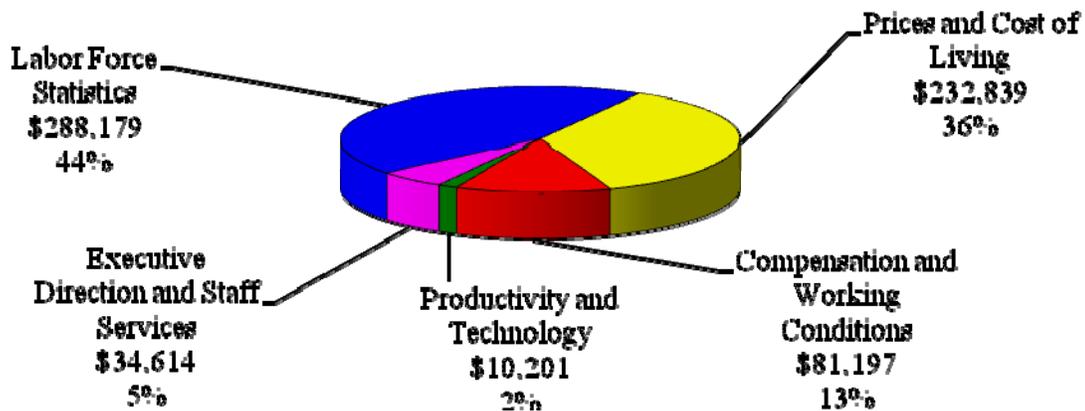
- A program increase of \$1,577,000 and 3 FTE for Labor Force Statistics to enhance the

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capability of the BLS to produce data on contingent work and alternative work arrangements, work schedules and other topics relating to workplace flexibility, along with other issues;

- A program increase of \$10,000,000 and 1 FTE for Labor Force Statistics to establish a new NLS youth cohort to enhance the capability of the BLS to produce timely and relevant data on the U.S. labor market;
- A program decrease of \$6,000,000 and 0 FTE from Labor Force Statistics that will elongate the fielding schedules of the 1979 and 1997 youth cohorts of the NLS;
- An increase of \$5,502,000 for inflationary costs for Census, State and contractor staff, and GSA space rent;
- A program increase of \$8,800,000 and 10 FTE for Prices and Cost of Living to modernize the CE Survey, originally included in the FY 2011 President's Budget;
- A program increase of \$1,000,000 and 2 FTE for Prices and Cost of Living to research how to improve or replace the current survey for identifying the sample of retail outlets used by CPI, originally included in the FY 2011 President's Budget;
- A program increase of \$13,000,000 and 113 FTE for Prices and Cost of Living to increase the number of CPI commodity and services price quotes collected by 43 percent, originally included in the FY 2011 President's Budget;
- A program increase of \$2,500,000 and 9 FTE for Prices and Cost of Living to modify the CE survey to support the Census Bureau in its development of a supplemental statistical poverty measure, originally included in the FY 2011 President's Budget;
- A program decrease of \$1,957,000 and 16 FTE from Productivity and Technology to eliminate the ILC program, originally included in the FY 2011 President's Budget; and
- An increase of \$1,161,000 for inflationary costs that originally were included in the FY 2011 President's Budget, adjusted for the Federal pay freeze.

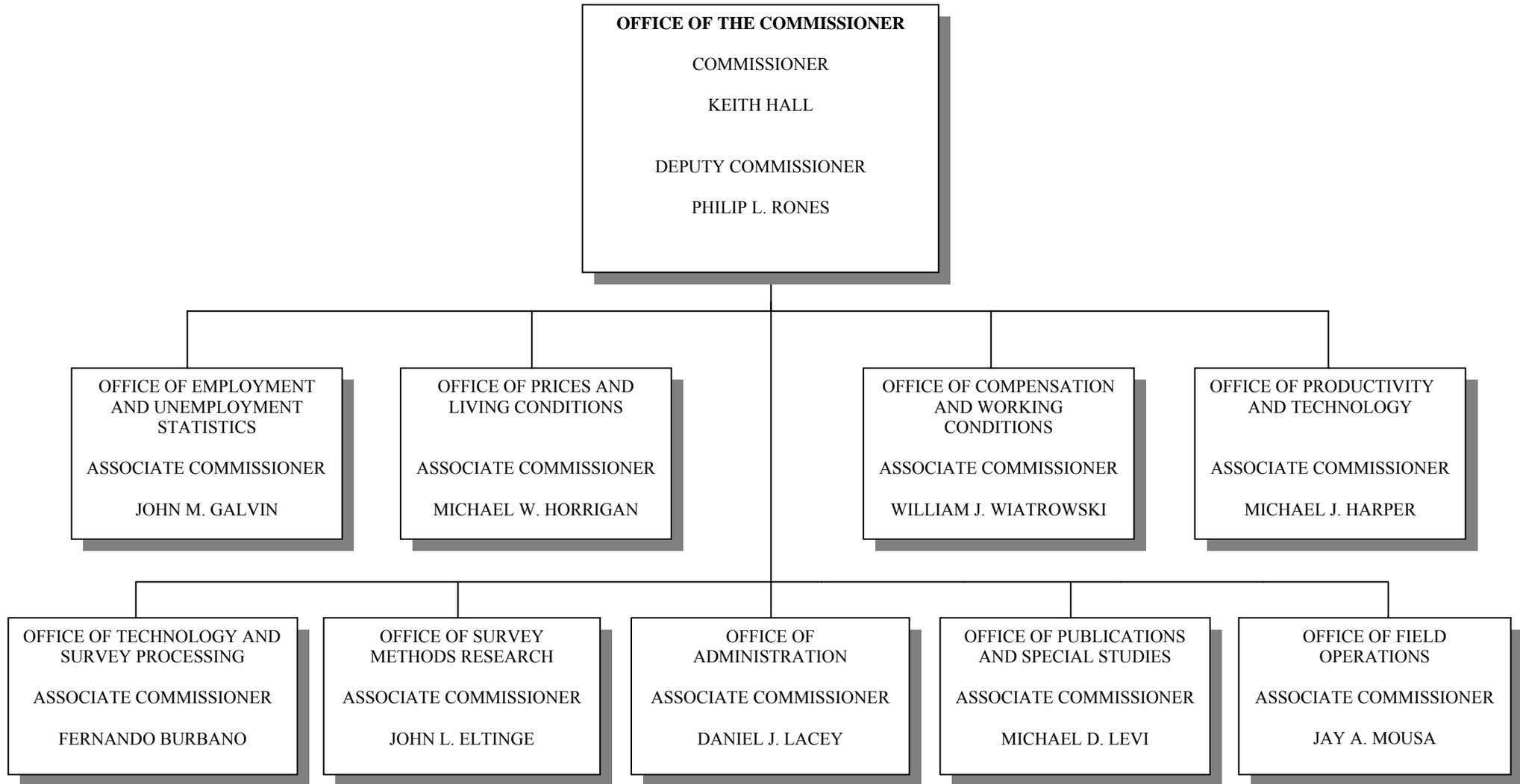
FY 2012 Budget Request by Budget Activity
Total BLS Budget Request \$647,030
(Dollars in Thousands)



NOTE: FY 2010 Enacted and FY 2011 Full Year C.R. numbers will not match the numbers in the Appendix of the President's Budget.

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ORGANIZATION CHART



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BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request	Diff. FY 12 Req. / FY 10 Enacted
Activity Appropriation	\$276,116	\$278,533	\$288,179	\$12,063
FTE	507	538	542	35

NOTE: FY 2010 does not reflect a transfer from the BLS to EBSA of \$1,700. FY 2010 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2010 was 501.

Introduction

Labor Force Statistics programs produce, analyze, and publish data on the labor force, employment and unemployment, persons not in the labor force, labor demand and turnover, wages, hours, and earnings. 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 nonworkers, and labor force experiences of displaced workers. In addition, these programs develop information about the labor market and 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 directly support Secretary Solis' Strategic Vision of *Good Jobs for Everyone*. Specifically, these programs support the DOL Strategic Goal to *Produce timely and accurate data on the economic conditions of workers and their families*, and the Outcome Goal to *Provide sound and impartial information on labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy for decision making, including support for the formulation of economic and social policy affecting virtually all Americans*. These programs provide support for the Secretary's vision by producing data for analysis and decision-making, as discussed in the program sections below.

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 Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998, including requirements that the Secretary of Labor "...oversee the development, maintenance, and continuous improvement of a nationwide employment statistics system..." as well as the development and maintenance of national projections of employment opportunities by occupation and industry. This Act requires the development of information on the outlook for jobs and research to improve the methods of projecting future labor demand and supply relationships.

Current Population Survey

The Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly household survey that the Census Bureau conducts for the BLS, provides a comprehensive body of information on the employment and unemployment experience of the Nation's population, classified by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and a variety of other characteristics. The CPS also provides key inputs into the Local

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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 origin, marital status, family relationship, educational 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 voluntary);
 - Unemployed persons by occupation, industry, and class of worker; status of last job; 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 displaced workers, women maintaining families, and working women with children, or on particular topics such as work experience, tenure with current employer, and status of school graduates and dropouts; and
 - Information on weekly and hourly earnings by demographic group, full- and part-time employment status, occupation, and industry.
-
- In 2012, the CPS program is requesting resources to add an annual supplement to the survey. In odd years, the BLS will conduct the Contingent Work Supplement to capture data on contingent work and alternative work arrangements. In even years, the BLS will conduct other supplements relevant to the BLS mission, including topics that will provide more data on workplace flexibility and work-family balance. Additional information can be found on page BLS-29. Also, the BLS and the Census Bureau will continue to jointly sponsor and oversee the monthly sample survey of about 60,000 households. Households are contacted through in-person and telephone interviews. Data relate to the calendar week that includes the 12th day of the month.

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LABOR MARKET INFORMATION COOPERATIVE STATISTICAL PROGRAM

The BLS operates the CES, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), Occupational Employment Statistics (OES), LAUS, and Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) 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 WIA. 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 major metropolitan area data, while the State Workforce Agencies (SWAs) analyze and 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, most metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), 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 input 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 plant location planning, wage negotiations, the adjustment of labor costs in the escalation of long-term purchase contracts, economic research and planning, regional analysis, and industry studies.

- In 2012, each month, the BLS will survey a sample of about 140,000 businesses (composed of approximately 410,000 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, MSA, and county data on monthly employment and quarterly total wages, employer contributions to the Unemployment Insurance (UI) fund, UI taxable wages, and the number of establishments, by 6-digit North American Industry

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Classification System (NAICS) code and size of establishment. These data come largely from the administrative records of the UI system in each State. The program includes all employees covered by State and Federal UI laws. 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.

Total wages and salaries from the QCEW program compose about 51 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 and benefit levels). In addition, the BLS uses data from this program as the annual employment benchmark by industry in the CES, OES, Occupational Safety and Health Statistics (OSHS), and Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS) programs. Other uses include State and local labor force information, industry trends, forecasting, transportation planning, local economic development planning, and allocating about \$250 billion 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 plant 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 WIA.

The BLS uses these data to construct an up-to-date "universe" file, or sample frame, of the establishments reporting under the State UI system, from which it selects samples for its establishment-based surveys, such as the CES, OES, JOLTS, Green Goods and Services (GGS) Survey, Employment Cost Index, OSHS, and Producer Price Index. The BLS 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.

QCEW data also are the basis for the BLS Business Employment Dynamics (BED) series. These series cover gross job gains and losses, including establishment births, openings and expansions; and deaths, closings and contractions, by major industry, State, as well as data on establishment age and survival, and firm size. Using existing longitudinally linked QCEW data, the BLS will continue to expand the range of detail of these data. In addition, QCEW data 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 2012, the SWAs, in cooperation with the BLS, will collect employment and wage data from approximately 9.2 million establishments subject to UI laws. The UI data are supplemented with two BLS collections, the Multiple Worksite Report (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 128,000 multi-unit firms (representing 1.4 million worksites and about 39 percent of the employment) report their employment and wages for each establishment, which vastly improves the geographic and industrial accuracy of these key data. Second, in the ARS, the SWAs will recontact one-fourth of all establishments in the private sector with three

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or more employees in order 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. Additionally, the BLS will collect and publish employment and wages data from approximately 120,000 establishments in industries defined as green for the Nation and States as part of the GGS survey.

Occupational Employment Statistics

The OES 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, all metropolitan areas and divisions, and balance-of-State areas for each State, for complete geographic coverage. The OES program produces employment and wage estimates by nonfarm industry for the full Standard Occupational Classification system, which includes about 800 detailed occupations.

Uses of the data include evaluating current and historical employment and wages by industry, occupation, and geographic area; foreign labor certification; projecting occupational demand for the Nation and States; vocational planning; and industry skill and technology studies.

The OES portions of the BLS public website generate the second highest level of activity among all program areas. In addition, OES data are the foundation of the industry-occupation matrix used in the Employment Projections (EP) program to produce national occupational projections. OES employment 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 2012, the SWAs, in cooperation with the BLS, will collect employment and wage information from semi-annual sample panels of 208,000 establishments, for a total of 416,000 for the year. The sample is stratified by metropolitan area and multiple balance-of-State non-metropolitan areas within each State, detailed industry, and the employment size of the unit. Respondents provide data for a payroll period that includes the 12th day of the survey month. Additionally, the BLS will collect and publish occupational employment and wage data using data collected from establishments identified through the GGS survey, as well as from 25,000 supplemental establishments *in* industries defined as green. The BLS also will collect and publish occupational employment and wage data from approximately 35,000 establishments related to the *use* of green production processes.

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

LAUS statistics provide timely and important information on current 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, are a

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major source of information for labor market research, analysis, and planning, and enable current analysis of State and area labor force characteristics. In addition to economic analysis, another important use of LAUS data is in the direct allocation of Federal funds (more than \$60 billion in FY 2010 plus an additional \$144 billion in funds covering FYs 2009 and 2010 under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) to States and local jurisdictions under Federal assistance programs 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 MSAs, and the five respective balance-of-State areas. LAUS also makes the resultant model-based estimates for these areas available in a seasonally adjusted format. Estimates for the remainder of sub-State areas are produced through a building-block approach that also utilizes data from several sources, including the CES, QCEW, CPS and State UI programs, and the decennial census, and are adjusted to statewide measures of employment and unemployment.

Each month, the SWAs, in cooperation with the BLS, develop the labor force, employment, and unemployment estimates. The LAUS program is responsible for the concepts, definitions, and technical procedures that States use in the preparation of State and local labor force and unemployment estimates. Both the SWAs and the BLS analyze and publish the LAUS estimates each month.

- In 2012, the BLS will generate monthly estimates of employment and unemployment for nearly 7,300 geographic areas, including all States, metropolitan and small labor market areas, counties, cities with a population of 25,000 or more, and all cities and towns in New England.

Mass Layoff Statistics

The MLS program provides current information that identifies, describes, and tracks the effects of major job cutbacks in the economy. In cooperation with SWAs, information is collected on the universe of all plant closings and mass layoff events that involve at least 50 people who initially file for UI over a five-week period. The economic characteristics of establishments and the demographic characteristics of claimants are obtained through administrative records. For events in private sector nonfarm industries only, employers are contacted to determine whether the event lasted more than 30 days and, if so, to obtain detailed information on the event, including the total number of separated workers, the reasons for the closing or layoff, pre-layoff employment, recall expectations, and job loss associated with domestic and overseas relocations when the reason for layoff is other than seasonal or vacation. The MLS program collects information on business functions involved in the layoff, which tell users whether the layoff took place in the management, operations, marketing, warehousing, or another functional area of a company. The data on movement of work are reported in the quarterly extended mass layoffs

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release on an ongoing basis. Administrative databases are used to track all MLS-identified claimants in the private nonfarm sector through their period of insured unemployment.

The BLS publishes monthly statistics on all large plant closings and layoffs by State and industry based on administrative data only. These data are the most timely information on actual job displacement collected by a Federal statistical agency. The BLS also publishes quarterly information on extended plant closings and layoffs—those lasting more than 30 days—reported by private sector nonfarm establishments. These data contain comprehensive and current information on the nature of the layoff activities. On an annual basis, the MLS program publishes a *Highlights Report* that contains detailed information on plant closings and layoffs by State and metropolitan area by location of the establishment and by residence of the claimant.

The MLS program provides the only source of current information on actual layoff events, including timely local area data, which is the focus of BLS State partners. It is the only comprehensive source of information on the reasons for layoff events—such as financial difficulty, contract cancellation, and natural and non-natural disasters. MLS data are key to identifying available labor supply and communities in need of special services, and are used in sub-State dislocated worker fund allocations. The MLS program is the only Federal source of current information on some job loss associated with the movement of work out of the country (offshoring).

- In 2012, the MLS program will continue to be funded partially by the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Dislocated Workers' National Reserve through a reimbursable agreement. In cooperation with the SWAs, the BLS will collect information on the universe of all plant closings and mass layoff events that involve at least 50 people who initially file for UI over a five-week period.

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) of two groups of the U.S. population. Each survey gathers information on the labor market experiences of these groups of American men and women at multiple points in time.

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 long-run changes in individual labor force behavior by interviewing the same individuals 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;

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- the long-term effects of unemployment; and
- the retirement behavior of older workers and the problems of the elderly.

The NLS began in the mid-1960s with four samples: young men who were 14-24 years old in 1966; young women who were 14-24 years old in 1968; older men who were 45-59 years old in 1966; and mature women who were 30-44 years old in 1967. Each sample originally had about 5,000 individuals with an over-representation of blacks. In the early 1980s, the surveys on young men and older men were discontinued. In 1995, the program combined the two surveys on women into one survey called the National Longitudinal Survey of Women. The Women's survey was discontinued after its administration in 2003.

In 1979, another cohort began 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 included oversamples of blacks, Hispanics, economically disadvantaged nonblacks/non-Hispanics, and youth in the military. The program discontinued the military oversample, which was funded by the Department of Defense, after the 1984 survey, and the economically disadvantaged nonblack/non-Hispanic oversample ceased after 1990. 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 2012, the survey will begin operating on a triennial 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. This survey contains an oversample of blacks and Hispanics. 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 on later-life outcomes. In 2012, the survey will change from an annual to a biennial interview cycle.

- In 2012, the BLS is requesting resources to establish a new youth cohort to enhance the capability of the BLS to produce timely and relevant data on the U.S. labor market. This will ensure that information is available on the employment and socioeconomic conditions of youth, including differences by sex, race, and ethnicity, and subsequent labor market experiences as they progress through later stages of their lives. Additional information can be found on page BLS-31. This initiative will be partially offset by elongating the fielding schedules of the two existing cohorts, the NLSY79 and NLSY97. Additional information can be found on page BLS-32. Also, the BLS will complete data collection of round 15 of the NLSY97 and begin data collection of round 25 of the NLSY79.

Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey

The JOLTS program provides monthly national measures on labor demand by broad industry groups. 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

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as three separations breakouts: quits, layoffs and discharges, and other separations. These data items also are provided at the total nonfarm level for four regions. Thus, policymakers and analysts have a better understanding of imbalances between the demand for and the supply of labor, and improved tools for assessing the presence of labor shortages in the U.S. labor market. These data also provide evidence of upward pressures on wage rates.

- In 2012, each month, the BLS will continue to collect data from a sample of 16,000 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 and for major industry groups and regional level.

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 the care of the young in U.S. society; how time-use varies between single people and married people; 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) developed by some countries that include measures of the value of non-market work. Depending on sponsor availability, modules periodically are added to the survey. For example, a Well-being module is being fielded for the first time in 2010, in which respondents are asked how happy, sad, tired, stressed, and in pain they were for selected activities, as well as how meaningful they considered the activities. Questions that identify eldercare providers and measure the time they spent providing eldercare also will be added in 2011. Additional uses of ATUS data include supplying information to other BLS programs, including the EP program; Federal agencies and forums, such as the BEA, the Economic Research Service, 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.

- In 2012, the BLS and the Census Bureau will survey monthly about 1,100 adults, 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. The

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program relies on a wide variety of data from the CES, CPS, OES, 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 every two years 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 class of worker—wage and salary, self-employed, and unpaid family—and by industry for both the current and projected years. The 2008-2018 matrix, which was released in 2010, covered projections for 750 detailed occupations in 276 detailed industries. In addition to the projections of job openings resulting from job growth, the EP program also estimates job openings needed to replace workers who leave occupations.

The EP program produces the *OOH* and *Career Guide to Industries (CGI)*. These biennial publications provide information on the nature of work; training, other qualifications, and advancement; employment; job outlook; wages; related occupations; and sources of additional information for hundreds of occupations and more than forty industry groupings. The program also produces the *Occupational Outlook Quarterly (OOQ)*, a career guidance magazine that presents a wide variety of information on occupational employment prospects, educational requirements, and earnings. Guidance and career counselors across the country use the information in the *OOH*, *CGI*, and *OOQ* to advise students and adults on job training and future employment opportunities. Individuals also use these publications for personal career planning and development. The most widely used BLS website is the *OOH*, and *OOH* information is presented in numerous private publications on vocational guidance.

- In 2012, the BLS will release the 2010-2020 economic and employment projections and the 2012-2013 editions of the *OOH and CGI*. The BLS also will publish four issues of the *OOQ*. The EP program will continue to produce and publish narratives on possible green careers.

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Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2007	\$246,789	505
2008	\$242,713	467
2009	\$266,470	487
2010	\$276,116	501
2011	\$0	0

NOTE: FY 2010 does not reflect a transfer from the BLS to EBSA of \$1,700. A full-year 2011 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared.

Funding Mechanism

As previously discussed, the Labor Market Information Cooperative Statistical Program is operated in cooperation with the States and territories. Section 14 of the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 49f(a)(3)(D)) 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 2012

In 2012, the BLS will continue the production of core data series and will undertake the following new work in the areas of Labor Force Statistics:

In 2012, the BLS proposes to add supplements to the CPS. While current collection allows the BLS to produce high quality estimates with high response rates, the BLS cannot provide information on particular important subgroups, such as contingent workers, without support for supplements. To fill in this data gap the BLS will conduct one CPS supplement annually, with a Contingent Work Supplement (CWS) every other year. During years without a CWS supplement, the BLS will conduct a supplement on another topic relevant to the BLS mission including information on workplace flexibility and work-family balance. Conducting such CPS supplements on a regular basis greatly enhances their value by providing insights into trends and the impact of the business cycle.

With the additional resources, the CPS will produce the CWS in odd years beginning in 2013, providing a reliable source of information on trends within this group. In addition, supplements relevant to the BLS mission will be conducted in even years, such as supplements on work schedules, job training, and Internet job search. For example, a work schedules supplement will

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provide additional information on workplace flexibility and work-family balance by capturing data on the availability of flexible work schedules, shift work, work at home, and other related topics to allow analysts to study flexible working arrangements by occupation, age, gender, and race. This work schedule data also will help analysts study the possible impact of flexible work arrangements on earnings. Moreover, the BLS will have resources to develop new supplements on emerging topics such as the availability and use of leave. This information will allow data users and decision-makers to develop a more fundamental understanding of developments in the labor market.

In 2012, the BLS will work with the Census Bureau to update specifications for the CWS and work schedules supplement. The BLS also will research possible new topics for supplements. In 2013, the BLS will work with the Census Bureau to conduct the CWS, continue updating of the work schedule supplement (last fielded in 2004), and continue development of possible new supplements. The work schedules supplement will be conducted in 2014, and the CWS will be re-administered in 2015. The BLS will publish results from each supplement about six months after the Census Bureau collects the data.

The BLS will continue implementing the proposal to restructure the way in which the CES program produces State and metropolitan area estimates at less cost and without adversely affecting the quality of the data produced. Specifically, in 2012, the CES program will begin implementing data collection enhancements to improve response rates, thereby reducing statistical error on the estimates.

The QCEW program will publish the first set of industry employment data on the green economy, as part of a 2010 initiative to measure green jobs.

To avoid other programmatic reductions, the BLS will eliminate the 2011 initiative to produce data that support the identification of occupational trends in employment and wages over time. Also, as part of a 2010 initiative to measure green jobs, the OES program will collect information and publish its first set of estimates on occupational staffing patterns and wages at establishments producing green goods and services. In addition, as part of this initiative, the OES program will publish results from a special employer survey to collect information on the occupations of workers involved in environmentally-friendly production processes from a sample of business establishments.

The LAUS program will continue the expansion of LAUSOne by incorporating State annual processing functionality. LAUSOne is a unified system for State and BLS use in producing, reviewing, and analyzing LAUS estimates, and preparing them for publication. LAUSOne replaces two older systems, eliminates duplication, and enhances functionality. Research on LAUS methodology improvements and geographic updates will continue including model-based, real-time benchmarking and the use of American Community Survey estimates as inputs in LAUS methodology.

The MLS program will continue to be funded partially by ETA through a reimbursable agreement. The MLS program will continue system redesign activities on the migration of the national system to Oracle and the State system redesign. The redesign will modernize and

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improve the MLS database capabilities, as well as assist States with collecting, managing, and reporting MLS data.

The BLS is requesting funding to enhance its NLS program through establishing a new NLS youth cohort. This will ensure that information is available on the employment and socioeconomic conditions of youth, including differences by sex, race, and ethnicity, and subsequent labor market experiences as they progress through later stages of their lives. Furthermore, a new NLS youth cohort would enable researchers and policymakers to better understand the factors that lead to both success and struggle as the next generation of young people enters the labor market.

In 2012, participants in the NLSY97—the youngest ongoing NLS sample—will be ages 27 to 32. While one of the main focuses of the NLS data users has been the transition of youth from school to work, the current 1997 panel is no longer useful for such analyses. Under this proposal, a comparison of data from a new cohort to the NLSY97 would provide valuable information on how the labor market for young adolescents has changed in the last 15 years. For example, policymakers will be able to use data collected through a new cohort to understand how this new generation of young workers is affected by the current economy and to help evaluate what policies and programs may be necessary to ensure adequate job creation, especially for adolescents and young adults.

The NLS program provides a long-run view of individual labor force outcomes by interviewing the same people repeatedly over extended periods of time. This longitudinal approach provides data to economists, sociologists, and other researchers in government, academia, and private organizations to answer such questions as how wages change over time, how schooling and training contribute to the development and maintenance of skills to obtain and keep good jobs over one's career, how individuals navigate work and family responsibilities, and how individuals plan for retirement as their careers come to an end. Over the years, thousands of academic journal articles and reports have examined NLS data to improve the understanding of the U.S. labor market and help policymakers develop programs to enhance the well-being of American workers. Other DOL agencies, such as the Employment and Training Administration and Employee Benefits Security Administration, also have expressed an interest in using NLS data to study youth labor market dynamics.

The new cohort will be composed of 8,700 youths between the ages 12 to 17, who will be interviewed periodically until at least age 70. Like previous NLS cohorts, the new cohort will include oversamples of Hispanic and African-American youths (and possibly Asian-American youths) to facilitate more in-depth analyses of these groups.

Once implemented, the new cohort will provide information, such as education, and family and social life, on more recent generations of youths, which is vital for understanding the determinants of success for adults in the labor market and other arenas. Furthermore, having an additional cohort in the NLS will add an important historical dimension by allowing analysts to compare across the cohorts to describe the evolution of the labor market over a greater period of time and allowing BLS customers to develop a more fundamental understanding of labor market dynamics.

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The cost of the new NLS youth cohort will be partially offset by elongating the fielding schedules of the two existing cohorts, the NLSY79 and NLSY97. Increasing the length of time between fieldings will have effects on the data quality of the NLS in two ways. First, retention rates for the sample will be expected to decrease as it becomes harder to track sample members, especially sample members with less employment or residential stability. Since the NLSY79 went from annual interviewing to biennial interviewing in 1994, non-response rates have risen from 11 percent to 19 percent. Additionally, since respondents with less employment or residential stability tend to be harder to track, this will likely introduce some sample bias into survey estimates.

Second, the longer spacing between interviews will make it more difficult for respondents to recall the details of their experiences. For example, when the BLS moved to longer interview spacing in the NLSY79, the BLS found that respondents failed to report almost one-third of their jobs that had both started and ended in the first year of the new two-year recall period. Also, reports of the timing of unemployment insurance and food stamp receipt and dates of separation and divorce were affected.

As highlighted above, previous experience with the NLSY79 demonstrated that moving the NLSY97 from annual to a biennial fielding will have an impact on data quality. This particular cohort has been used to track the labor market experience of gulf war veterans and will help us understand the recession experience of young workers. Also, the effects of moving the NLSY79 from biennial to triennial fielding are expected to be at least comparable to the move from annual to biennial fielding proved to be. This particular cohort will help us understand the labor market experience of the tail end of the baby boomer generation. However, the elongation of the two existing cohorts will allow the BLS to carry out the Administration priority of establishing a new cohort, as described above.

The NLS program will release the results of the round 24 data collection for the NLSY79 and the round 14 data collection for the NLSY97, complete data collection of round 15 of the NLSY97 and begin data collection of round 25 of the NLSY79.

The ATUS program will publish annual time-use estimates and public-use microdata files for 2011. The program will publish the first ATUS estimates on the subject of eldercare in 2012. The ATUS program, with sponsorship by the Women's Bureau, also plans to field a module and publish estimates on workers' access to leave, use of leave, and flexibility of work schedules.

The EP program will continue to produce and publish narratives on possible green careers, as part of a 2010 initiative to measure green jobs. Additionally, the EP program will release the 2010-2020 economic and employment projections, the 2012-13 editions of the *OOH* and *CGI*, supplementary projections materials to be available on the BLS website, and four issues of the *OOQ*. The EP program will begin working on the 2012-2022 economic and employment projections and the 2014-15 editions of the *OOH* and *CGI*.

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FY 2011

Figures shown for FY 2011 reflect the annualized Continuing Resolution level as a full-year appropriation has not been enacted at the time the budget was produced. Since this level is based on the FY 2010 enacted level, operations under a full-year Continuing Resolution would be consistent in the FY 2010 section, with the exception of the CES program. The BLS will implement the proposal to restructure the way in which the CES program produces State and metropolitan area estimates at less cost and without adversely affecting the quality of the data produced. This proposal centralizes the CES program's production of State and metropolitan area data estimates and will introduce data collection enhancements to improve the CES program's response rates for both preliminary and final estimates, thereby reducing the statistical error on the estimates.

FY 2010

In 2010, the BLS produced core data series and undertook the following new work in the areas of Labor Force Statistics:

The CPS program added tables on veterans, persons with disabilities, and the foreign born to the monthly *Employment Situation* news release. The program continued to expand the set of time-series available online and released the first news release with annual estimates of labor force data for persons with disabilities. A new table containing seasonally adjusted earnings data was added to the quarterly *Usual Weekly Earnings of Wage and Salary Workers* news release.

The CES program released official all employee hours and earnings data. Based on tests performed in 2009, the program developed and released seasonally adjusted data for each series that exhibited measurable seasonality.

The QCEW program, as part of its 2010 initiative, developed a definition of the industries that are in the green economy and developed measurement approaches to produce regular tabulations of aggregate employment and wages for businesses whose primary activities meet this. The QCEW program also continues research on a range of potential new BED series. During 2010, new BED series were published for 3 digit NAICS industries and new measures by the age of business establishment and their survival over time. In addition, the QCEW program participated in the OMB-sponsored Economic Classification Policy Committee (ECPC) including review and decisions on proposed changes for NAICS 2012.

As part of the effort to measure green jobs, the OES program continued to develop a methodology to expand its sample to collect information on occupational staffing patterns and wages at establishments producing green goods and services. The OES program also continued to develop a survey methodology and instrument to collect information on the occupations of workers involved in green production processes. The OES program began collecting occupational employment and wage information from employers using the 2010 SOC system.

The LAUS program began testing the LAUSOne system in the States. The initial version of LAUSOne will be limited to current estimation. Following research, the LAUS program

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developed seasonally adjusted estimates for approximately 260 metropolitan areas and provided them to the States in August 2010. Lastly, the LAUS program completed research and introduced an improved methodology for the current production of seasonally adjusted estimates for States and for the historical revision of these seasonally-adjusted estimates.

The MLS program began a system redesign that will modernize, centralize, and improve the MLS database capabilities, as well as assist States with collecting, managing, and reporting MLS data. The redesign consists of two projects, the migration of the national system to Oracle and the State system redesign. The program also began the regular issuance of data on business functions and processes involved in mass layoffs.

The NLS program released the results of the round 12 data collection for the NLSY97 and the results of the round 23 data collection for the NLSY79. The NLS program also began data collection of round 24 of the NLSY79, completed data collection of round 13 of the NLSY97, and began data collection of round 14 of the NLSY97.

The JOLTS program began collection of respondent data via the Web, providing an additional choice for reporting within the survey.

The ATUS program published the 2009 annual time-use estimates and public-use microdata files. In addition, the ATUS program developed questions to identify eldercare providers and collect information about the time they spent providing this care. Further, ATUS staff worked with the Women's Bureau to develop questions that measure workers' access to leave, use of leave, and flexibility of work schedules.

The EP program released the 2008-2018 economic and employment projections, the 2010-11 editions of the *OOH* and *CGI*, supplementary projections materials formerly published in the *OPTD*, and four issues of the *OOQ*. The EP program began working on the 2010-2020 economic and employment projections and the 2012-13 editions of the *OOH* and *CGI*. The EP program also published its initial green career information product on wind energy.

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DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Labor Force Statistics					
	Strategic Goal 5 - Produce timely and accurate data on the economic conditions of workers and their families.				
	Outcome Goal 5.1 - Provide sound and impartial information on labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy for decision making, including support for the formulation of economic and social policy affecting virtually all Americans.				
BLS 5.1 IND.01	Percent of <i>timeliness</i> targets achieved for the Labor Force Statistics Principal Federal Economic Indicators (PFEIs).	Baseline	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 IND.02	Percent of <i>accuracy</i> targets achieved for the Labor Force Statistics PFEIs.	Baseline	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 IND.03	Percent of <i>relevance</i> targets achieved for the Labor Force Statistics PFEIs.	Baseline	100%	100%	100%
	<u>Principal Federal Economic Indicators 1/</u>				
	<u>Current Population Survey</u>				
BLS 5.1 CPS.01.P	Monthly series 2/ 3/ 4/	10,692	10,878	10,887	10,887
BLS 5.1 CPS.02.P	Other series (annual, quarterly, or irregularly published) 3/ 5/	16,350	16,164	16,164	16,164
BLS 5.1 CPS.03.T	Percent of monthly releases on schedule (12 of 12) 2/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 CPS.04.A	Number of months that a change of at least 0.19 percentage point in the monthly national unemployment rate will be statistically significant at the 90-percent confidence level (for an unemployment rate of 6 percent)	12	12	12	12
	<u>Current Employment Statistics</u>				
BLS 5.1 CES.01.P	National monthly and annual series maintained 2/ 6/ 7/	16,103	23,295	22,900	22,900
BLS 5.1 CES.02.P	State and local area monthly and annual series (published and unpublished) maintained 6/ 7/	20,082	22,378	22,200	22,200
BLS 5.1 CES.03.T	Percent of national monthly releases on schedule (24 out of 24) 2/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 CES.04.T	Percent of State and local area monthly releases on schedule (24 out of 24) 8/	100%	100%	100%	100%

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		FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
BLS 5.1 CES.05.A	Mean absolute benchmark revision (averaged across five years)	<0.5%	0.3%	<0.4%	<0.4%
Other Programs					
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages					
BLS 5.1 QCEW.01.W	Employment and wages for States and counties at 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, and 6-digit NAICS industries (quarterly)	3,600,000	3,600,000	3,600,000	3,600,000
BLS 5.1 QCEW.02.W	Establishment records (current and longitudinal) maintained by the Longitudinal Data Base System 9/	9,200,000	9,049,000	9,150,000	9,200,000
BLS 5.1 QCEW.03.P	Business Employment Dynamics (BED) series maintained on job creation and destruction levels and rates 10/	8,472	13,118	13,118	13,118
BLS 5.1 QCEW.04.P	Quarterly press releases on County Employment and Wages; and Business Employment Dynamics 11/	8	8	8	9
BLS 5.1 QCEW.05.W	Number of establishments in targeted industries of green goods and services	New	New	120,000	120,000
BLS 5.1 QCEW.06.P	Number of green goods and services industry jobs series published 12/	New	New	New	Baseline
Occupational Employment Statistics					
BLS 5.1 OES.01.P	National annual series published 13/	82,000	91,257	85,000	85,000
BLS 5.1 OES.02.P	National and State green series published 12/	New	New	New	Baseline
Local Area Unemployment Statistics					
BLS 5.1 LAUS.01.P	Employment and unemployment estimates for States and local areas (monthly and annual) 14/	94,107	95,809	96,030	96,095
BLS 5.1 LAUS.02.T	Percent of monthly and annual releases on schedule (25 out of 25) 15/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 LAUS.03.A	Percent of the month-to-month changes in seasonally adjusted unemployment rates that are less than 0.5 percentage points	≥90%	97.6%	≥90%	≥90%
BLS 5.1 LAUS.04.A	Number of States with annual average unemployment rate revisions ≥ 0.4 percentage points	≤10	5	≤10	≤10

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		FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Mass Layoff Statistics					
BLS 5.1 MLS.01.P	National and State monthly and quarterly series	62,423	62,423	62,423	62,423
BLS 5.1 MLS.02.P	Monthly and quarterly releases	16	16	16	16
National Longitudinal Surveys					
BLS 5.1 NLS.01.O	Number of journal articles published that examine NLS data 16/	118	120	122	124
BLS 5.1 NLS.02.W	Number of interviews completed 16/	New	New	New	9,500
Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey					
BLS 5.1 JOLTS.01.P	Monthly and annual estimates	802	802	802	802
American Time Use Survey					
BLS 5.1 ATUS.01.P	Annual Estimates 17/	5,809	5,821	5,821	5,842
BLS 5.1 ATUS.02.E	Cost per estimate produced on how Americans spend their time 18/	\$4.65	\$3.82	\$3.81	\$3.80
Employment Projections					
BLS 5.1 EP.01.W	Number of industries for which the BLS publishes economic and employment projections (2-year cycle) 19/	203	203	n/a	195
BLS 5.1 EP.02.A	Percent of total employment covered by projections in the 2-year cycles	100%	100%	n/a	100%
BLS 5.1 EP.03.P	<i>Occupational Outlook Handbook</i> and <i>Career Guide to Industries</i> statements (2-year cycle)	332	332	n/a	332
BLS 5.1 EP.04.P	<i>Occupational Outlook Quarterly</i> (issues)	4	4	4	4
State Cooperative Agreements					
BLS 5.1 CA.01.W	Negotiated and monitored for Labor Market Information programs	54	54	54	54

- 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/ In 2010, 186 monthly series published in the Summer Youth news release were added to the LABSTAT database during the 4th quarter and are now counted in the monthly series (PFEI) measures. This caused CPS to exceed its Monthly Series target and miss its Other Series target.
- 4/ Beginning in 2011, the BLS will publish additional information on veterans and persons with disabilities.
- 5/ The 2012 CPS supplement initiative will not impact this measure until FY 2013.
- 6/ The target for 2010 was exceeded due to producing the All Employee Payroll estimates at a more detailed industry level than originally planned. The 2011 and 2012 targets reflect 240 national series and 120 State series being dropped in 2011.

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- 7/ CES national, State, and local area series counts fluctuate annually based on economic conditions. In particular, the BLS eliminates series that do not meet publication standards and risk compromising respondent confidentiality.
- 8/ This measure includes two monthly news releases: *Regional and State Employment and Unemployment* and *Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment*.
- 9/ The 2010 figure is based on second quarter 2010 results. In 2010, QCEW fell short of its target because a greater number of establishments went out of business and there were fewer new births. Targets for 2011 and 2012 are based on current economic trends.
- 10/ The increase in 2010 was due to new 3-digit industry series and new data on age and survival of establishments.
- 11/ In 2012, the BLS will publish the first set of industry employment data on the green economy.
- 12/ The completion of the first round of data collection in 2011 will determine the 2012 estimate.
- 13/ The 2010 target was exceeded because of the release of 10,063 new series on national occupation data by ownership. In 2011, the program expects a reduction in estimates because OES will be combining some occupation categories as part of its transition to the 2010 SOC system.
- 14/ The number of estimates increases each year as cities that newly exceed the LAUS population threshold of 25,000 are added.
- 15/ LAUS publishes two monthly news releases, *Regional and State Employment and Unemployment*, and *Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment*, and one annual release, *Regional and State Unemployment*.
- 16/ The 2012 initiative to add a new cohort will not affect the number of interviews completed until interviews for the NLSY14 is conducted in 2014 and will not affect the number of journal articles published until NLSY14 data are published in 2016.
- 17/ The annual estimates measure only includes published estimates.
- 18/ The cost per estimate includes published and unpublished estimates from the ATUS.
- 19/ The decrease in 2012 does not reflect a drop in coverage of domestic economic activity.

Workload Narrative

The BLS employs seven strategies to ensure that it achieves its outcome goal. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements that can be made by each Budget Activity and which tie to its ongoing strategies. For example, in 2012, in support of its strategy to produce objective data and analyses that are timely, accurate, and relevant, the BLS, through the QCEW program, will publish the first set of industry employment data on the green economy. In addition, in support of its strategy to continuously evaluate and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its programs and processes, the BLS will restructure the way in which the CES program produces State and metropolitan area estimates.

A broad overview of the strategies being used to achieve the BLS outcome goal is included in the Overview section on page BLS-13.

The BLS would expand the data produced in the Labor Force Statistics, as described on page BLS-29, through the development of new supplements to the CPS; and on page BLS-31, through the establishment of a new NLS Surveys of Youth cohort. These initiatives will not affect the above measures until after FY 2012. Also in FY 2012, to partially fund the new NLS cohort, the NLSY79 survey will begin operating on a triennial interview cycle and the NLSY97 survey will change from an annual to a biennial interview cycle, as described on page BLS-32.

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BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request	Change FY 12 Req. / FY 10 Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	\$46,089	\$51,463	\$51,846	\$5,757
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	1,042	1,168	1,180	138
11.9	Total personnel compensation	47,131	52,631	53,026	5,895
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	12,939	14,730	14,851	1,912
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	1,605	1,578	1,581	-24
22.0	Transportation of things	10	10	10	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	7,205	8,141	8,467	1,262
23.2	Rental payments to others	20	20	20	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	3,527	3,216	3,219	-308
24.0	Printing and reproduction	1,818	3,009	3,009	1,191
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services	10,369	12,351	12,831	2,462
25.3	Other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts 1/	64,607	65,486	66,489	1,882
25.5	Research and development contracts	13,371	13,343	17,138	3,767
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	31,081	33,233	35,035	3,954
26.0	Supplies and materials	441	498	502	61
31.0	Equipment	3,728	2,849	2,865	-863
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	78,264	67,438	69,136	-9,128
	Total	\$276,116	\$278,533	\$288,179	\$12,063
1/ Other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts					
	Working Capital Fund	\$5,721	\$5,818	\$5,818	\$97
	DHS Services	1,072	1,142	1,187	115
	Census Services	57,116	57,739	58,661	1,545

NOTE: FY 2010 does not reflect a transfer from the BLS to EBSA of \$1,700.

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CHANGES IN FY 2012

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Rental payments to GSA	\$274
Other services	310
Other government accounts (Census Bureau)	172
Other government accounts (DHS Charges)	38
Operation and maintenance of equipment	910
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	1,698

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$3,402**

Net Program **\$6,244**

Direct FTE **4**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$281,935	538
Program Increase	\$12,244	4
Program Decrease	-\$6,000	0

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request	Diff. FY 12 Req. / FY 10 Enacted
Activity Appropriation	\$201,081	\$205,822	\$232,839	\$31,758
FTE	1,062	1,101	1,235	173

NOTE: FY 2010 does not reflect a transfer from the BLS to EBSA of \$1,000. FY 2010 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2010 was 1,105.

Introduction

Prices and Cost of Living programs produce and disseminate a wide variety of information on price change in the U.S. economy, and conduct research to improve the measurement process. 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) surveys. In addition to meeting general statutory responsibilities assigned to the BLS (29 U.S.C. 1 and 2), data produced by the price programs form the basis for adjusting or setting payments, benefits, or other income as required by many laws and private sector contracts.

Prices and Cost of Living programs directly support Secretary Solis' Strategic Vision of *Good Jobs for Everyone*. Specifically, these programs support the DOL Strategic Goal to *Produce timely and accurate data on the economic conditions of workers and their families*, and the Outcome Goal to *Provide sound and impartial information on labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy for decision making, including support for the formulation of economic and social policy affecting virtually all Americans*. These programs provide support for the Secretary's vision by producing data for analysis and decision-making, as discussed in the program sections below.

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, three population size classes, and several local areas. 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 (C-CPI-U). The indexes for all urban consumers cover about 88 percent of the U.S. population. The index for the other population group, the CPI-W, covers urban wage earners and clerical workers, about 29 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 indexes; annual average indexes; and monthly average retail prices.

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

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recipients of transfer payments; index used to adjust the official U.S. poverty measure, in rental/lease agreements, and in 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 exemptions, standard deductions, and brackets. The Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 established these last adjustments to prevent inflation from automatically generating tax rate increases.

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 bimonthly in other areas. The BLS does most pricing by personal interview, but uses telephone interviews to collect prices for some items.

- In 2012, the BLS will collect approximately 101,700 commodity and service prices (monthly) and 80,000 Rent/Rental equivalence prices (annually), in 87 geographic areas.

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 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. The industry classification system organizes products by industry of origin. Both sets feature indexes for homogeneous product lines and for a series of increasingly inclusive aggregations of product lines. In addition, the commodity classification system features comprehensive "stage-of-processing" indexes that are designed to facilitate the analysis of the transmission of inflation through the economy.

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.

- In 2012, the BLS will collect prices from a probability sample of establishments using a monthly mail survey of approximately 28,500 sample units and 105,000 price quotations.

International Price Program

The IPP measures price change of commodities in U.S. foreign trade classified by end use, North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), and the Harmonized System. The IPP also publishes a limited number of price indexes of international services, as well as U.S. imports by locality of origin.

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

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U.S. competitiveness; calculating changes in the volume of net exports; and analysis and formulation of economic policy.

- In 2012, the BLS will collect data from a probability sample of establishments and products. Approximately 2,100 exporters and 3,300 importers will report approximately 22,000 prices monthly.

Consumer Expenditure Surveys

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, family size, and region.

Uses of the estimates from this program are: revising the weights and item samples of the CPI; economic policy analysis of particular segments of the population; market research; and economic research and analysis.

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

- In 2012, the Census Bureau will conduct the survey for the BLS in 91 geographic areas of the United States, collecting 14,100 weekly expenditure diaries and 35,300 quarterly interviews.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2007	\$177,847	1,091
2008	\$177,986	1,044
2009	\$198,464	1,105
2010	\$201,081	1,105
2011	\$0	0

NOTE: FY 2010 does not reflect a transfer from the BLS to EBSA of \$1,000. A full-year 2011 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared.

FY 2012

In 2012, the BLS will continue the production of core data series and will undertake the following new work in the areas of Prices and Cost of Living:

The CPI will work on its initiatives to increase the number of price quotes by 43 percent and to improve the frame of retail outlets. As part of its 2009 initiative, the CPI will begin the second phase of the transition to the new housing sample used for Rent and Owners' Equivalent Rent

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indexes. Specifically, the CPI will begin to systematically replace the original sample of housing units initiated during the 1997 CPI revision. At the conclusion of the second phase in 2016, no housing unit will have been in the sample for more than 6 years; currently, most housing units have been in the sample for over 12 years. Finally, the CPI will complete the biennial weight update with publication of the January 2012 index.

The PPI will continue publishing, on an experimental basis, new aggregation structures for indexes that reflect both goods and services in its stage of processing-type outputs as part of its ongoing discussions with primary stakeholders concerning the construction and uses of alternative PPI index aggregation structures. In addition, PPI will extend the new method for reporting pricing data via the Web, introduced in 2011, to more survey respondents. The PPI also will complete updating its weights based on 2007 Census Value of Shipments data with the publication of the January 2012 index.

The IPP and the PPI will continue developing a new joint initiation system that will allow field economists to initiate collection for establishments that are sampled in each program's survey. In addition, development work will continue for a new repricing system to process and review the monthly price data collected in the IPP.

The CE program will work on its initiatives to modernize the surveys and to support the Census Bureau in its development of a supplemental statistical poverty measure using CE data. Also, to keep the survey current with new products and to support CPI requirements, the CE program will develop questionnaire changes to be implemented in the Interview Survey in 2013. The CE program will continue work to increase the periodicity from annual to quarterly of the publication of the standard 13 integrated (Interview and Diary) tables. The CE program also will begin work to modify the data collection and processing systems at Census and BLS to support the next decennial sample redesign. In addition, the CE program will begin to transition to a new and more efficient database design to house the data used through multiple data processing systems.

FY 2011

Figures shown for FY 2011 reflect the annualized Continuing Resolution level as a full-year appropriation has not been enacted at the time the budget was produced. Since this level is based on the FY 2010 enacted level, operations under a full-year Continuing Resolution would be consistent with those described in the FY 2010 section.

FY 2010

In 2010, 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 introduced the first phase of the new housing units, and the official published index incorporated the first of these new units in the estimation of the Rent and Owners' Equivalent Rent indexes in August 2010. The CPI completed the 2010 biennial expenditure weight update with publication of the January 2010 index. Finally, in 2010, the CPI introduced the

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Modernization, Analysis, and Review System (MARS) into production. This new system provides significantly enhanced functionality for staff responsible for monthly review of prices collected for the CPI.

As part of the continuing effort to modernize the computing system for monthly processing of the PPI, the BLS completed the new repricing and estimation systems, marking the full implementation of the new integrated computing environment. The new systems are based on more secure, stable, and expandable computing platforms. In addition, the PPI continued to research and develop new aggregation structures for indexes that reflect both goods and services in its stage of processing-type outputs.

The CE program began a field test on measurement issues of the Interview survey, such as length, respondent burden, and the use of global questions. In addition, the CE program developed questionnaire changes for the Interview Survey in 2011, to keep the survey current with new products, such as digital book readers, and to support the CPI requirements. The CE program also continued improvements to its processing systems in order to release 2009 publication tables and microdata in October, one month (microdata) and five months (publication tables) earlier than in the prior year.

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DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Prices and Cost of Living					
		Strategic Goal 5 - Produce timely and accurate data on the economic conditions of workers and their families.			
		Outcome Goal 5.1 - Provide sound and impartial information on labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy for decision making, including support for the formulation of economic and social policy affecting virtually all Americans.			
BLS 5.1 IND.04	Percent of <i>timeliness</i> targets achieved for the Prices and Cost of Living Principal Federal Economic Indicators (PFEIs).	Baseline	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 IND.05	Percent of <i>accuracy</i> targets achieved for the Prices and Cost of Living PFEIs.	Baseline	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 IND.06	Percent of <i>relevance</i> targets achieved for the Prices and Cost of Living PFEIs.	Baseline	100%	100%	100%
	<u>Principal Federal Economic Indicators</u>				
	Consumer Prices and Price Indexes				
BLS 5.1 CPI.01.W	Price quotations collected/processed (monthly) 1/	94,000	94,000	94,000	94,000
BLS 5.1 CPI.02.W	Rent/Rental equivalence price quotations (annually) 2/	66,000	66,000	72,000	80,000
BLS 5.1 CPI.03.P	Indexes published (monthly)	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500
BLS 5.1 CPI.04.T	Percent of monthly releases on schedule (12 out of 12)	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 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 was 0.25 percentage points or less	12	12	12	12
BLS 5.1 CPI.06.I	Average Age of Housing Sample (years) 3/	13	13	12	11
BLS 5.1 CPI.07.E	Cost per Housing Unit Initiated	\$339	\$339	\$300	\$280
	Producer Prices and Price Indexes				
BLS 5.1 PPI.01.W	Price quotations collected/processed (monthly)	105,000	105,000	105,000	105,000
BLS 5.1 PPI.02.P	Indexes published (monthly) 4/ 5/	9,600	9,796	9,610	9,610

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		FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
BLS 5.1 PPI.03.A	Percent of industry indexes published (monthly) 6/	83%	83%	82%	82%
BLS 5.1 PPI.04.T	Percent of monthly releases on schedule (12 out of 12)	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Percent of domestic output, within the scope of the PPI, which the PPI covers:				
BLS 5.1 PPI.05.A	Goods produced 7/	92.5%	92.5%	90.0%	90.0%
BLS 5.1 PPI.06.A	Services produced 5/	77.4%	77.4%	78.2%	78.2%
BLS 5.1 PPI.07.A	Total production 5/ 7/	82.0%	82.0%	81.8%	81.8%
BLS 5.1 PPI.08.A	Average change in the one-month Finished Goods Index (not seasonally adjusted) between the first-published and final release is in the range of ± 0.2 percentage points 8/	$\pm 0.2\%$	0.1%	$\pm 0.2\%$	$\pm 0.2\%$
BLS 5.1 PPI.09.I	Percent of activities completed on the new PPI repricing system	100%	100%	Completed	Completed
BLS 5.1 PPI.10.I	Percent of activities completed on the new PPI estimation system	100%	100%	Completed	Completed
BLS 5.1 PPI.11.I	Percentage of PPI data providers offered Internet repricing	New	New	1%	10%
International Prices and Price Indexes					
BLS 5.1 IPP.01.W	Price quotations collected/processed (monthly) 9/	23,400	22,399	22,360	22,000
BLS 5.1 IPP.02.P	Indexes published (monthly)	789	789	789	789
BLS 5.1 IPP.03.T	Percent of monthly releases on schedule (12 out of 12)	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Percent of U.S. foreign trade imports covered by the IPP:				
BLS 5.1 IPP.04.A	Goods in trade	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 IPP.05.A	Services in trade	11%	11%	10%	10%
BLS 5.1 IPP.06.A	Total in trade	84%	84%	84%	84%
	Percent of U.S. foreign trade exports covered by the IPP:				
BLS 5.1 IPP.07.A	Goods in trade	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 IPP.08.A	Services in trade	7%	7%	7%	7%
BLS 5.1 IPP.09.A	Total in trade	72%	72%	72%	72%
BLS 5.1 IPP.10.A	Average change in the one-month Import Price Index between the first-published and final release is in the range of ± 0.4 percentage points 8/	$\pm 0.4\%$	0.3%	$\pm 0.4\%$	$\pm 0.4\%$
BLS 5.1 IPP.11.A	Average change in the one-month Export Price Index between the first-published and final release is in the range of ± 0.2 percentage points 8/	$\pm 0.2\%$	0.1%	$\pm 0.2\%$	$\pm 0.2\%$

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		FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
<u>Other Programs</u>					
Consumer Expenditure Surveys					
BLS 5.1 CE.01.W	Complete Weekly Expenditure Diaries: Collected from Consumer Units 10/	14,100	15,750	14,100	14,100
BLS 5.1 CE.02.W	Complete Quarterly Interviews: Number of Consumer Unit Interviews 10/	35,300	35,861	35,300	35,300

- 1/ This measure will not be impacted by the CPI initiative to increase price quotes by 43 percent until one year after funding is received.
- 2/ Beginning in 2011, the BLS will incorporate additional rent/rental equivalence price quotations in the published indexes as part of the 2009 CPI initiative to continuously update the housing and geographic samples.
- 3/ The average age of the housing sample is calculated at the end of the fiscal year. As part of the 2009 CPI initiative to continuously update the housing and geographic samples, the average age will continue to decrease until it is about three.
- 4/ In 2010, PPI exceeded its target due to increased commodity index detail. Through FY 2010, this has more than offset the decline in the number of industry indexes. PPI projects that these effects may level out in 2011.
- 5/ In 2011, PPI will add indexes for the Office of Dentists.
- 6/ The decline in 2011 reflects the decrease in industry detail being targeted in resampled industries primarily due to changes in the North American Industry Classification System.
- 7/ In 2011, the percentage will be lower than previously reported due to a change in calculation. For comparative purposes, the FY 2010 target would have been 90 percent for Goods produced and 81.2 percent for Total production.
- 8/ The average is calculated based on the absolute value of the month-to-month percent changes in the fiscal year.
- 9/ The IPP price quotations collected tend to be volatile from one month to the next and have been declining recently. This decline is due in part to the drop in U.S. trade.
- 10/ In 2010, CE exceeded the targets due to higher than anticipated response rates. This measure will not be impacted by the CE initiative to modernize the surveys until one year after funding is received.

Workload Narrative

The BLS employs seven strategies to ensure that it achieves its outcome goal. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements that can be made by each Budget Activity and which tie to its ongoing strategies. For example, in 2012, in support of its strategy to improve the accuracy, timeliness, and relevance of its products and develop new products that meet the needs of its broad customer base, the BLS will develop CE questionnaire changes to be implemented in the Interview Survey in 2013 to keep the survey current with new products and to support CPI requirements. In addition, in support of its strategy to continuously evaluate and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its programs and processes, the BLS will continue development work on a new repricing system to process and review the monthly price data collected in the IPP.

A broad overview of the strategies being used to achieve the BLS outcome goal is included in the Overview on page BLS-13.

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BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request	Change FY 12 Req. / FY 10 Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	\$71,079	\$73,999	\$80,306	\$9,227
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	12,208	12,281	15,620	3,412
11.5	Other personnel compensation	1,757	1,815	2,102	345
11.9	Total personnel compensation	85,044	88,095	98,028	12,984
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	23,076	24,460	27,270	4,194
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	3,926	3,926	4,878	952
22.0	Transportation of things	9	1	1	-8
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	14,407	15,496	16,319	1,912
23.2	Rental payments to others	24	24	24	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	1,190	1,139	1,211	21
24.0	Printing and reproduction	135	96	96	-39
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services	7,150	4,396	5,378	-1,772
25.3	Other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts 1/	46,443	47,777	56,163	9,720
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	15,107	17,121	19,265	4,158
26.0	Supplies and materials	556	569	755	199
31.0	Equipment	4,014	2,722	3,451	-563
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
	Total	\$201,081	\$205,822	\$232,839	\$31,758
1/ Other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts					
	Working Capital Fund	\$8,881	\$9,030	\$9,030	\$149
	DHS Services	1,537	1,559	1,860	323
	Census Services	35,474	36,742	43,972	8,498

NOTE: FY 2010 does not reflect a transfer from the BLS to EBSA of \$1,000.

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CHANGES IN FY 2012

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Rental payments to GSA	\$524
Other services	73
Other government accounts (Census Bureau)	132
Other government accounts (DHS Charges)	62
Operation and maintenance of equipment	563
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$1,354**

Net Program **\$25,663**

Direct FTE **134**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$207,176	1,101
Program Increase	\$25,663	134

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request	Diff. FY 12 Req. / FY 10 Enacted
Activity Appropriation	\$88,553	\$80,579	\$81,197	-\$7,356
FTE	485	406	406	-79

NOTE: FY 2010 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2010 was 494.

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).

Compensation and Working Conditions programs directly support Secretary Solis' Strategic Vision of *Good Jobs for Everyone*. Specifically, these programs support the DOL Strategic Goal to *Produce timely and accurate data on the economic conditions of workers and their families*, and the Outcome Goal to *Provide sound and impartial information on labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy for decision making, including support for the formulation of economic and social policy affecting virtually all Americans*. These programs provide support for the Secretary's vision by producing data for analysis and decision-making, as discussed in the program sections below.

COMPENSATION LEVELS AND TRENDS

Programs in this category provide information concerning employee compensation, including information on wages, salaries, and employer-provided benefits, and information on work stoppages. In addition to meeting general statutory requirements assigned to the BLS (29 U.S.C. 1, 2, and 4), these programs meet 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 National Compensation Survey (NCS) provides comprehensive measures of occupational earnings, compensation cost trends, benefit incidence, and detailed benefit provisions. This includes the Employment Cost Index (ECI) and Employee Benefits Survey (EBS).

- In 2012, the BLS will collect data from a sample of about 11,400 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.

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Employment Cost Index

The ECI measures quarterly changes in total compensation (wages and salaries, and employer costs for employee benefits) for the civilian economy. The ECI coverage includes all private industry, and State and local government workers; and excludes Federal government, farm, 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 region. In addition, the *Employer Costs for Employee Compensation (ECEC)* publication provides quarterly 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 Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) 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. As part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) of 2010, studies are underway on expanding the use of the ECI data for adjustments to Medicare reimbursements. 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 2012, the BLS will publish 219 indexes and 278 levels quarterly, using a sample of 11,400 establishments.

Employee Benefits Survey

The EBS provides comprehensive data on the incidence and provisions of employee benefit plans in private industry, and State and local governments. The benefits measured by the survey evolve constantly 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.

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 division. The BLS also provides statistics on both the employee and employer contributions to medical plan premiums. The EBS reports data

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separately for selected occupational groups in private industry and State and local governments representing virtually all of the total 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 were used in developing the general categories of essential health benefits included in the PPACA of 2010 and in studies that provide more details on health care services and limitations applicable to all 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 2012, the BLS will analyze 5,200 benefit plans out of a sample of 11,400 establishments.

Locality Pay Surveys

In 2011, the BLS will introduce an alternative to the LPS that uses data from two current BLS programs, the ECI and OES, to meet its Pay Agent requirements. Currently, the LPS provide information on average earnings for detailed occupations and levels of work. In addition to being designed to comply with the requirements of the FEPCA to provide data used in setting locality pay scales for Federal GS workers, data uses include: wage and salary administration in the public and private sectors; union contract negotiations, conciliation, and arbitration; business location planning; occupational counseling; analysis of wage differentials among occupations, industries, and areas; and labor cost estimates.

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 file provides 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

The OSHA programs include 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.

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The BLS conducts the SOII to estimate the incidence rate and number of work-related injuries and illnesses, and also gathers information on the more seriously injured and ill workers and the circumstances of their injuries and illnesses. In addition, the BLS conducts an annual fatal injury census that compiles a complete roster of job-related fatal injuries, and provides detailed information on the fatally injured workers and the events or exposures and nature and sources of the injuries leading to their deaths.

The OSHS programs produce 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 demographic groups (such as volunteers or foreign-born workers), in a specific industry (such as coal mining), and details of selected types of event (such as hand injuries). Other areas of research have focused on improving fatal injury rates and new rates of non-fatal injuries and illnesses by demographic group and occupation.

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 injuries and illnesses and incidence rates by industry, occupation, gender, and age for the Nation and participating States.

Government agencies, industry, insurance, academic, public health, labor union, and private researchers analyze these data, as well as 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 2012, the BLS will conduct the annual survey in a 50/50 cost-sharing partnership with 41 States, 3 territories, and 1 city participating in 2012, and collect the injury and illness data in nonparticipating States through its regional offices to produce national data. In 2012, the program will mail surveys, 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, to a sample of approximately 235,000 establishments to collect industry information as well as detailed information on approximately 255,000 injury or illness cases that require at least 1 full day away from work 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 events or exposures 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 regulatory agencies. These diverse data sources allow the BLS and its State

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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, occupation, type of incident, and worker characteristics. The detailed data include information on the characteristics of the fatally-injured workers (age, gender, race and ethnicity, and occupation), and the nature, sources, and events leading to the fatal injuries. The availability of this detail allows the BLS to produce special analyses on specific types of workplace fatalities that are in the news, such as fatalities associated with mine cave-ins, crane collapses, and explosions.

- In 2012, the BLS will conduct the fatalities census in a 50/50 cost-sharing partnership with 48 States, 3 territories, and 2 cities. The BLS will collect fatality 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>
2007	\$81,658	518
2008	\$82,251	499
2009	\$87,281	497
2010	\$88,553	494
2011	\$0	0

NOTE: A full-year 2011 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared.

FY 2012

In FY 2012, 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:

As proposed in the 2011 President's Budget, the BLS will continue to use data from two current BLS programs—the OES and the ECI—to meet its Pay Agent requirements and produce wage estimates by various characteristics (e.g., full- and part-time, work levels). This new approach also could be used to extend the estimation of pay gaps to areas that are not present in the LPS sample, allowing for additional high quality data at a lower cost. The BLS will continue implementation of a national sampling design in order to preserve the reliability of the ECI and EBS.

In 2012, the NCS will continue its transition to the 2010 version of the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system. In addition, the NCS will continue conversion to an Oracle database, which will allow NCS to be on a more stable database management system, and continue to investigate data collection and validation methods designed to increase operational efficiency and reduce respondent burden.

The SOII will continue its research into a potential undercount of injuries and illnesses, including matching of data from multiple sources and interviews with employers. As the results of this

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research become available, the BLS will evaluate whether and how it can improve the completeness of the SOII estimates. The SOII will continue its work with OSHA to collect workplace injury and illness data for the Federal Government. It will conduct a pilot test to collect detailed case circumstances and worker characteristics for injuries and illnesses that require only job transfer or restriction. The SOII also will continue moving its systems to Web-based applications to enhance usability for its State partners.

The CFOI will begin publishing more detailed data on the circumstances of fatal injuries and the characteristics of the fatally injured workers, due to the implementation of new confidentiality procedures. For the first time, the CFOI will collect information on whether fatally injured workers were contractors.

FY 2011

Figures shown for FY 2011 reflect the annualized Continuing Resolution level as a full-year appropriation has not been enacted at the time the budget was produced. Since this level is based on the FY 2010 enacted level, operations under a full-year Continuing Resolution would be consistent in the FY 2010 section, with the exception of the LPS program. The BLS will implement the proposal for an alternative to the LPS using data from two current BLS programs—the OES survey and the ECI. While still meeting the Pay Agent requirements, this new approach could be used to extend the estimation of pay gaps to areas that are not present in the LPS sample, allowing for additional high quality data at a lower cost.

FY 2010

In 2010, the BLS continued the production of core data series and began the following work in the areas of Compensation and Working Conditions:

The NCS continued to introduce its new area sample and continued to transition to using the 2010 version of the SOC system. In addition, the NCS designed new publication criteria subsystems to support several NCS products, continued conversion to an Oracle database, developed additional customer-focused outputs, such as brochures summarizing EBS data, and continued the development of customized publications that target the industry, jobs, and area of potential respondents. Also, the BLS published annual local area *ECEC* estimates.

The SOII continued efforts to research a potential undercount, including matching of data sources and data analysis from the multiple source pilot. The SOII released its first national estimates of workplace injuries and illnesses incurred by State and local government workers, including aggregate estimates of the number and incidence rate of these conditions. For injuries and illnesses with days away from work, these estimates included information on case circumstances and characteristics of the affected workers. The SOII and CFOI also continued to develop Web-based systems.

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Compensation and Working Conditions					
		Strategic Goal 5 - Produce timely and accurate data on the economic conditions of workers and their families.			
		Outcome Goal 5.1 - Provide sound and impartial information on labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy for decision making, including support for the formulation of economic and social policy affecting virtually all Americans.			
BLS 5.1 IND.07	Percent of <i>timeliness</i> targets achieved for the Compensation and Working Conditions Principal Federal Economic Indicators (PFEIs).	Baseline	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 IND.08	Percent of <i>accuracy</i> targets achieved for the Compensation and Working Conditions PFEIs.	Baseline	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 IND.09	Percent of <i>relevance</i> targets achieved for the Compensation and Working Conditions PFEIs. 1/	Baseline	0%	100%	100%
		<u>Principal Federal Economic Indicators</u>			
		<u>Employment Cost Index 2/</u>			
BLS 5.1 ECI.01.W	Number of establishments	15,400	15,400	11,400	11,400
BLS 5.1 ECI.02.W	Number of occupations 3/	74,900	74,900	--	--
BLS 5.1 ECI.03.T	Percent of quarterly releases on schedule (4 out of 4)	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 ECI.04.A	Number of quarters the change in the civilian compensation less incentive paid occupations index was within ± 0.5 percent at the 90-percent confidence level	4	4	4	4
BLS 5.1 ECI.05.P	Number of indexes published (quarterly) 1/ 4/	409	406	--	--
BLS 5.1 ECI.06.P	Number of indexes published (quarterly, non-seasonally adjusted) 4/	Baseline	278	219	219
BLS 5.1 ECI.07.P	Number of levels published (quarterly)	332	332	278	278
		<u>Other Programs</u>			
		<u>Employee Benefits Survey 2/</u>			
BLS 5.1 EBS.01.W	Number of establishments	15,400	15,400	11,400	11,400
BLS 5.1 EBS.02.P	Number of annual releases	2	2	2	2

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

		FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
BLS 5.1 EBS.03.W	Number of benefit plans analyzed 5/	7,100	7,325	5,200	5,200
Locality Pay Surveys 2/					
BLS 5.1 LPS.01.W	Number of establishments	31,700	31,700	0	0
BLS 5.1 LPS.02.P	Number of wage publications	141	162	0	0
Work Stoppages Statistics					
BLS 5.1 WSS.01.P	Number of releases of work stoppages statistics	13	13	13	13
Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses 6/					
BLS 5.1 SOIL.01.W	Number of participating States, territories, and cities 7/	45	45	44	45
BLS 5.1 SOIL.02.W	Number of establishments surveyed	235,000	243,744	235,000	235,000
BLS 5.1 SOIL.03.W	Cases for which case circumstances and worker characteristics are collected and coded 8/	300,000	298,407	290,000	255,000
BLS 5.1 SOIL.04.P	Number of national industry estimates produced 9/	25,900	25,942	25,900	24,500
BLS 5.1 SOIL.05.P	Number of national estimates produced on the characteristics of the worker and circumstances of the injury or illness 10/	1,132,000	1,165,883	1,132,000	1,800,000
BLS 5.1 SOIL.06.A	Percent of employment for which national estimates are produced: Private Sector	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 SOIL.07.A	Public Sector	Baseline	85%	85%	85%
BLS 5.1 SOIL.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-percent confidence level (calendar year data)	<+0.10	+0.02	<+0.10	<+0.10
Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 11/					
BLS 5.1 CFOI.01.W	Number of participating States, territories, and cities 12/	52	52	53	53
BLS 5.1 CFOI.02.W	Number of source documents 13/	20,000	17,062	15,000	15,000
BLS 5.1 CFOI.03.A	Percent of employment covered by fatal occupational injury statistics	Baseline	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 CFOI.04.A	Revisions of the annual count of fatal work-related injuries (as a percentage of the total fatalities- calendar year data)	<+4.0%	2.8%	<+4.0%	<+4.0%

1/ In 2010, the BLS missed an ECI target due to the annual seasonal revisions dropping four series that were determined not to be seasonal and adding one series that was determined to be seasonal.

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- 2/ In 2011, the BLS will introduce an alternative approach to the LPS that uses data from the OES and the ECI to meet its Pay Agent Requirements. This will affect the ECI and EBS.
- 3/ Beginning in 2011, the program is dropping this performance measure in favor of a refocused set of performance metrics.
- 4/ Beginning in 2011, the program is implementing a new methodology for reporting these data.
- 5/ In 2010 and continuing forward, the BLS returned to analysis of both health and retirement plans from the private sector, as done previously, and implemented a rotation in which all plans are analyzed at a lesser level of detail than in prior years with one type (defined benefit retirement, defined contribution retirement, or health) analyzed in detail each year.
- 6/ The BLS reported results for the 2008 SOII in 2010, and for the 2009 SOII in 2011. In 2012, the BLS will report results for the 2010 SOII.
- 7/ The BLS collects data for those States not participating in the Federal/State Cooperative program to produce nationwide estimates. Due to budget constraints, Massachusetts did not participate in the 2009 SOII (reported in 2011). Massachusetts is participating in the 2010 SOII (reported in 2012).
- 8/ In 2010, the BLS missed its target due to a combination of factors, including the continuing decline in the number of injuries and illnesses occurring in establishments, adjustments in the allocation process, and changes in the sub-sampling threshold. The 2012 target reflects a decrease due to the continuing decline in injuries and illnesses.
- 9/ The 2012 target reflects a decrease due to a combination of factors, including a continuing decline in injuries and illnesses occurring in establishments, and changes due to the conversion to NAICS 2007.
- 10/ The 2012 target reflects an increase due to additional counts and incidence rates for State and local government combined and State and local government plus private industry combined.
- 11/ In 2010, the BLS reported results for the 2009 CFOI. In 2011, the BLS will report results for the 2010 CFOI. In 2012, the BLS will report the results for the 2011 CFOI.
- 12/ The BLS collects data for those States not participating in the Federal/State Cooperative program to produce nationwide counts of fatal work injuries. Guam joined the CFOI program, collecting data for 2010, which will be published in 2011.
- 13/ In 2010, the BLS missed its target due to a large decrease in the number of reported fatal work injuries. The decrease in reported fatal injuries is due, in part, to economic factors. Fiscal constraints in the States impacted the availability of some source documents. Beginning in 2011, the program is decreasing its target due primarily to the continuing decline in available sources of fatal occupational injury documentation.

Workload Narrative

The BLS employs seven strategies to ensure that it achieves its outcome goal. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements that can be made by each Budget Activity and which tie to its ongoing strategies. For example, in 2012, in support of its strategy to evaluate and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its programs and processes, the BLS will continue its research into a potential undercount of injuries and illnesses, including matching of data sources and interviews with employers. As the results of this research become available, the BLS will evaluate whether and how the SOII can improve the completeness of its estimates. In addition, in support of its strategy to produce objective data and analyses that are timely, accurate, and relevant, the BLS will continue implementation of a national sampling design in order to preserve the reliability of the ECI and EBS.

A broad overview of the strategies being used to achieve the BLS outcome goal is included in the Overview section on page BLS-13.

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request	Change FY 12 Req. / FY 10 Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	\$44,015	\$37,476	\$37,476	-\$6,539
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	193	0	0	-193
11.5	Other personnel compensation	1,088	886	886	-202
11.9	Total personnel compensation	45,296	38,362	38,362	-6,934
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	12,237	10,643	10,643	-1,594
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	1,231	1,014	1,014	-217
22.0	Transportation of things	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	7,257	7,806	8,065	808
23.2	Rental payments to others	57	57	57	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	1,258	1,151	1,151	-107
24.0	Printing and reproduction	467	446	446	-21
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	33	33	33	0
25.2	Other services	1,603	1,236	1,249	-354
25.3	Other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts 1/	7,322	7,220	7,255	-67
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	2,785	4,398	4,595	1,810
26.0	Supplies and materials	305	216	216	-89
31.0	Equipment	2,110	1,306	1,306	-804
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	6,592	6,691	6,805	213
	Total	\$88,553	\$80,579	\$81,197	-\$7,356
1/ Other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts					
	Working Capital Fund	\$5,884	\$5,984	\$5,904	\$20
	DHS Services	1,041	1,056	1,091	50
	Census Services	40	40	40	0

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

CHANGES IN FY 2012

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Rental payments to GSA	\$259
Other services	13
Other government accounts (Census Bureau)	0
Other government accounts (DHS Charges)	35
Operation and maintenance of equipment	123
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	114

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$544**

Net Program **\$74**

Direct FTE **0**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$81,123	406
Program Increase	\$74	0

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request	Diff. FY 12 Req. / FY 10 Enacted
Activity Appropriation	\$11,904	\$12,102	\$10,201	-\$1,703
FTE	80	78	62	-18

NOTE: FY 2010 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2010 was 80.

Introduction

Productivity and Technology programs meet several major needs for economic statistics. In the domestic area, data from two of these programs measure productivity trends in the U.S. economy, as well as in major sectors and individual industries. These programs also analyze trends in order to examine the factors underlying productivity change. Another program currently provides comparable measures of productivity, labor force and unemployment, hourly compensation costs, consumer price indexes, and other economic indicators for the United States and other countries. 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 manufacturing, mining, transportation, distribution, and other industries." The BLS carries out its mandate to produce impartial and objective essential economic data for the Nation in the area of productivity as described below for each program.

Productivity and Technology programs directly support Secretary Solis' Strategic Vision of *Good Jobs for Everyone*. Specifically, these programs support the DOL Strategic Goal to *Produce timely and accurate data on the economic conditions of workers and their families*, and the Outcome Goal to *Provide sound and impartial information on labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy for decision making, including support for the formulation of economic and social policy affecting virtually all Americans*. These programs provide support for the Secretary's vision by producing data for analysis and decision-making, as discussed in the program sections below.

Major Sector Productivity

The BLS develops measures of labor productivity for broad sectors of the economy: business, nonfarm business, manufacturing, and nonfinancial corporations. Data available include quarterly and annual indexes, and percent changes, for output per hour of all persons and related measures, such as unit labor costs, real and current dollar compensation per hour, and unit nonlabor payments. Measures for business and nonfarm business begin with 1947. Measures for manufacturing begin with 1987, and measures for nonfinancial corporations begin with 1958.

In addition, this program develops annual indexes of multifactor productivity and output per unit of capital services, and annual measures of capital services and combined labor and capital inputs. Data from this program provide a comprehensive productivity measure that incorporates capital inputs in addition to labor inputs. The program publishes multifactor productivity measures for the major sectors annually. The program also develops and publishes annual

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

multifactor productivity measures for most manufacturing groups, along with the associated measures of output, hours, capital, energy, materials, and purchased services.

These data 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 multifactor data form a basis for research on the sources of productivity advancement and the identification of policy options that can affect the pace of productivity change. In addition, the multifactor data are used to help explain trends in output per hour of all workers.

The BLS uses data from its own programs, and obtains data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis and other sources, to calculate productivity and related measures for major sectors of the U.S. economy.

Industry Productivity Studies

The BLS develops annual measures of labor productivity for selected industries. Measures produced include annual indexes and percent changes for output per hour, output per employee, output, implicit price deflators for output, employment, hours of employees, labor compensation, and unit labor costs. Measures are available for 1987 and forward for most covered industries.

This program also develops annual measures of multifactor productivity relating output to the combined inputs of capital, labor, and intermediate purchases (energy, materials, and purchased services) for selected industries. Measures of multifactor productivity are available for 1987 and forward, for all 4-digit NAICS manufacturing industries, as well as for air transportation and the long-haul railroads industry. Industry productivity measures are used to compare trends in efficiency across industries, to analyze trends in production costs, to examine the effects of technological improvements, and to understand the sources of aggregate productivity growth.

The BLS uses data from its own programs, and obtains data from the Census Bureau and other sources, to calculate productivity and related measures for U.S. industries.

International Labor Comparisons

The BLS has proposed to eliminate the International Labor Comparisons (ILC) program in the 2011 President's Budget. Currently, the BLS develops international comparisons for key BLS domestic labor statistics, including employment and unemployment, compensation costs, productivity, and consumer price indexes. The BLS adjusts foreign data to a common framework of concepts, definitions, and classifications. Because the frameworks employed by foreign countries' statistical agencies vary a great deal, this program must make unique and often complex adjustments to each foreign country's data.

The BLS obtains data from U.S. and foreign national statistical agencies and international statistical agencies to calculate international comparisons of labor statistics.

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2007	\$11,063	81
2008	\$10,870	77
2009	\$11,706	78
2010	\$11,904	80
2011	\$0	0

NOTE: A full-year 2011 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared.

FY 2012

In 2012, the BLS will continue the production of core data series and will undertake the following new work in the areas of Productivity and Technology:

Major Sector Productivity (MSP) will develop a methodology that harmonizes capital services measures in a production accounts framework at the National Income and Product Account (NIPA) level of industry group detail. Industry Productivity Studies (IPS) will continue to explore data availability for developing productivity measures for additional industries. The ILC program is not included at the FY 2012 level.

FY 2011

Figures shown for FY 2011 reflect the annualized Continuing Resolution level as a full-year appropriation has not been enacted at the time the budget was produced. Since this level is based on the FY 2010 enacted level, operations under a full-year Continuing Resolution would be consistent with those described in the FY 2010 section.

FY 2010

In 2010, the BLS continued the production of core data series and undertook the following new work in the areas of Productivity and Technology:

MSP began regular publication of multifactor productivity (MFP) measures for nonmanufacturing industries at the NIPA level of industry group detail (approximately 2- and 3-digit NAICS). IPS developed productivity measures for one new industry (general freight trucking--local). ILC continued to explore data availability for other countries.

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Productivity and Technology					
		Strategic Goal 5 - Produce timely and accurate data on the economic conditions of workers and their families.			
		Outcome Goal 5.1 - Provide sound and impartial information on labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy for decision making, including support for the formulation of economic and social policy affecting virtually all Americans.			
BLS 5.1 IND.10	Percent of <i>timeliness</i> targets achieved for the Productivity and Technology Principal Federal Economic Indicators (PFEIs).	Baseline	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 IND.11	Percent of <i>accuracy</i> targets achieved for the Productivity and Technology PFEIs.	Baseline	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 IND.12	Percent of <i>relevance</i> targets achieved for the Productivity and Technology PFEIs.	Baseline	100%	100%	100%
	<u>Principal Federal Economic Indicators</u>				
	Major Sector Productivity				
BLS 5.1 MSP.01.P	Series updated	44	44	44	44
BLS 5.1 MSP.02.T	Percent of initial and revised quarterly Productivity and Costs releases on schedule (8 out of 8)	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 MSP.03.A	Percent of business sector output covered by published quarterly labor productivity measures	100%	100%	100%	100%
	<u>Other Programs</u>				
	Industry Productivity Studies				
BLS 5.1 IPS.01.P	Series updated 1/ 2/ 3/	3,100	3,200	3,200	2,800
BLS 5.1 IPS.02.A	Percent of industries covered by labor productivity measures 3/ 4/	60.8%	60.9%	61.0%	61.0%
BLS 5.1 IPS.03.I	Increase the coverage of industry labor productivity and unit labor cost measures 5/	1	1	--	--
	International Labor Comparisons				
BLS 5.1 ILC.01.P	Series Updated 6/	61	61	61	0

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

		FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Other Output Measures					
BLS 5.1 OPT.01.P	Number of industries and sectors with multifactor productivity measures	111	111	111	111
BLS 5.1 OPT.02.P	Major studies, articles, technical papers, and special reports 6/	29	29	29	21

- 1/ IPS exceeded its 2010 target by obtaining additional data from alternative sources.
- 2/ The number of labor productivity series updated is based on coverage of NAICS 2-, 3-, 4-, and 5-digit industries. Although IPS covers 6-digit NAICS industries, the availability of source data at the 6-digit level is subject to frequent changes. Therefore, these industries are omitted in computing coverage measures. The 2011 target reflects the production of labor input measures at the National Income and Product Account level of industry group detail, consistent with a production accounts framework. The 2012 target reflects the discontinuation of labor productivity and related series for a number of industries, due to the collapse of 5- and 6-digit industry detail in source data from the Current Employment Statistics program.
- 3/ The discontinuation of some labor productivity series in 2012 will result in a loss of industry detail, but not necessarily industry coverage.
- 4/ In 2010, IPS exceeded its target due to industry reclassifications.
- 5/ Beyond 2010, OPT will continue to explore data availability for constructing productivity measures for additional service industries.
- 6/ The decrease in output in 2012 reflects the elimination of the ILC program.

Workload Narrative

The BLS employs seven strategies to ensure that it achieves its outcome goal. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements that can be made by each Budget Activity and which tie to its ongoing strategies. For example, in 2012, in support of its strategy to improve the accuracy, timeliness, and relevance of its products and develop new products that meet the needs of its broad customer base, the BLS will develop a labor composition methodology that is harmonized with multifactor productivity measures in the manufacturing sector.

A broad overview of the strategies being used to achieve the BLS outcome goal is included in the Overview section on page BLS-13.

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request	Change FY 12 Req. / FY 10 Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	\$7,210	\$7,229	\$5,761	-\$1,449
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	95	0	0	-95
11.5	Other personnel compensation	164	165	149	-15
11.9	Total personnel compensation	7,469	7,394	5,910	-1,559
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	1,966	2,024	1,631	-335
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	58	58	52	-6
22.0	Transportation of things	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	832	895	925	93
23.2	Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	37	37	26	-11
24.0	Printing and reproduction	8	8	6	-2
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services	102	102	74	-28
25.3	Other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts 1/	763	759	763	0
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	487	680	700	213
26.0	Supplies and materials	39	39	21	-18
31.0	Equipment	143	106	93	-50
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
	Total	\$11,904	\$12,102	\$10,201	-\$1,703
1/ Other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts					
	Working Capital Fund	\$614	\$624	\$606	-\$8
	DHS Services	120	122	126	6
	Census Services	0	0	0	0

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

CHANGES IN FY 2012

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Rental payments to GSA	\$30
Other services	0
Other government accounts (Census Bureau)	0
Other government accounts (DHS Charges)	4
Operation and maintenance of equipment	15
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$49**

Net Program **-\$1,950**

Direct FTE **-16**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$12,151	78
Program Increase	\$7	0
Program Decrease	-\$1,957	-16

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND STAFF SERVICES

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request	Diff. FY 12 Req. / FY 10 Enacted
Activity Appropriation	\$33,793	\$34,411	\$34,614	\$821
FTE	207	211	211	4

NOTE: FY 2010 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2010 was 213.

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.

By supporting the statistical programs, Executive Direction and Staff Services enable the BLS to directly support the Secretary's Strategic Vision of *Good Jobs for Everyone*. Specifically, the BLS supports the DOL Strategic Goal to *Produce timely and accurate data on the economic conditions of workers and their families*, and the Outcome Goal to *Provide sound and impartial information on labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy for decision making, including support for the formulation of economic and social policy affecting virtually all Americans*.

Office of the Commissioner

The Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner, in cooperation with program and support offices, plan, direct, and manage all BLS activities. The Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner also represent the agency in both national and international forums, including 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; budget and performance integration; strategic planning; grants management; accounting and payment services; administrative and management information systems; human resources management; payroll and benefits services; workforce development and training; employee and labor management relations; Equal Employment Opportunity programs; facilities and property management; contracting and procurement; safety, health, and security; statistical confidentiality policy; management control and oversight; employee ethics; and legal guidance and legislative research.

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Technology and Survey Processing

The Technology and Survey Processing program provides overall planning and execution of information technology (IT) activities. This includes the development, management, and operation of systems that are used for collecting, editing, estimating, and tabulating survey data; systems for public access to BLS data; generalized statistical systems; and management information systems. The program is responsible for maintaining and managing the BLS IT infrastructure and ensuring the security of BLS IT systems and data. The program also 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 and information dissemination 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 Internet. Information specialists are available during business hours to answer requests submitted by mail, telephone, E-mail, telecommunications devices for the deaf (TDD), fax, or in person. Data and analyses are reviewed, edited, cleared, and made available in print or online as news releases, periodicals, bulletins, reports, brochures, and flyers. Publications developed within this program, including the *Monthly Labor Review*, the *BLS Handbook of Methods*, *The Editor's Desk*, *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 that cut across program lines. The Publications program publishes selected print materials in electronic format and provides original information to the public via the Internet.

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 ongoing improvement activities for the major statistical programs.

The program consists of two parts: the Behavioral Science Research Center and the Mathematical Statistics Research Center. Research conducted by the Behavioral Science Research Center concentrates on the measurement and reduction of nonsampling error through, for example, questionnaire design studies, investigations into respondent-interviewer interactions, usability studies of computer assisted data collection systems, the development of response-level data quality measures, and focus-group studies of various stakeholders for BLS statistical programs. Research conducted by the Mathematical Statistics Research Center concentrates on the measurement and reduction of sampling and nonsampling error through, for

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example, the development of more efficient sample designs, evaluations of alternative estimators, modeling time series for the purpose of seasonal adjustment, model-based estimation, and investigating alternative methods for handling missing data. In support of the BLS Internet site, dissemination-related research activities conducted by this program address the areas of human-computer interaction, information seeking and retrieval, disclosure limitation, knowledge management, and data that describe other data (i.e., metadata).

Field Operations

The Field Operations program consists of the national office 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, and disseminating region-specific data and information.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2007	\$30,766	213
2008	\$30,431	196
2009	\$33,261	209
2010	\$33,793	213
2011	\$0	0

NOTE: A full-year 2011 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared.

FY 2012

In 2012, the Executive Direction and Staff Services programs will continue to provide agency-wide policy, management direction, and administrative support services to all programs.

FY 2011

Figures shown for FY 2011 reflect the annualized Continuing Resolution level as a full-year appropriation has not been enacted at the time the budget was produced. Since this level is based on the FY 2010 enacted level, operations under a full-year Continuing Resolution would be consistent with those described in the FY 2010 section.

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FY 2010

In 2010, the Executive Direction and Staff Services programs provided agency-wide policy, management direction, and administrative support services to all programs.

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DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2010 Enacted		FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Executive Direction and Staff Services					
		Strategic Goal 5 - Produce timely and accurate data on the economic conditions of workers and their families.			
		Outcome Goal 5.1 - Provide sound and impartial information on labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy for decision making, including support for the formulation of economic and social policy affecting virtually all Americans.			
BLS 5.1 IND.13	Average number of Internet site user sessions each month (Dissemination).	6,100,000	6,972,577	6,900,000	6,900,000
BLS 5.1 IND.14	Measure customer satisfaction with the BLS website (Mission Achievement). 1/	Baseline	75	75	75
BLS 5.1 ED.01	Percent of timeliness of reporting new injuries 2/	97%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 5.1 ED.02	Percent of employees retained throughout entire career ladder	80%	85%	80%	80%
BLS 5.1 ED.03	Provide a current and reliable computing infrastructure for BLS programs / Maintain LAN reliability	≥99.00%	99.72%	≥99.00%	≥99.00%
BLS 5.1 ED.04	Cost per transaction of the Internet Data Collection Facility	\$0.55	\$0.49	\$0.48	\$0.47
BLS 5.1 ED.05	Maintain high quality financial records: Receive no more than three audit findings	≤3	3	≤3	≤3
BLS 5.1 ED.06	Measure customer satisfaction with the BLS <i>Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)</i> website 1/	82	83	--	--
BLS 5.1 ED.07	Number of outreach activities 3/	New	New	Baseline	TBD
BLS 5.1 ED.08	Number of people reached through outreach activities 3/	New	New	Baseline	TBD

- 1/ In 2010, the BLS measured customer satisfaction for the *OOH* website, and measured baseline data for the entire BLS website using the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI). Beginning in 2011, the BLS only will report customer satisfaction for the entire BLS website.
- 2/ To be considered on-time, a claim must be filed with the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs in the required 10 workdays (or 14 calendar days) from the date the claim is received from the employee.
- 3/ The target for 2012 will be established based on the 2011 result.

Workload Narrative

The BLS employs seven strategies to ensure that it achieves its outcome goal. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements that can be made by each Budget Activity and which tie to its ongoing strategies. For example, in FY 2012, in support of its strategy to inform

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current and potential customers about the availability and uses of its products and reach out to its customers to understand their needs for economic information, the BLS will continue tracking outreach efforts. The primary goal of BLS outreach efforts is to increase awareness of the BLS brand, to disseminate BLS products and services more effectively, to increase the usefulness of those products to current and new customers, and to maintain and improve response to BLS surveys.

A broad overview of the strategies being used to achieve the BLS outcome goal is included in the Overview section on page BLS-13.

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BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Full Year C.R.	FY 2012 Request	Change FY 12 Req. / FY 10 Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	\$20,235	\$20,300	\$20,300	\$65
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	144	145	145	1
11.5	Other personnel compensation	473	476	476	3
11.9	Total personnel compensation	20,852	20,921	20,921	69
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	5,169	5,551	5,551	382
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	56	56	56	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	338	338	338	0
22.0	Transportation of things	14	14	14	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	1,710	1,839	1,900	190
23.2	Rental payments to others	10	10	10	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	384	383	383	-1
24.0	Printing and reproduction	65	97	97	32
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	51	51	51	0
25.2	Other services	692	660	664	-28
25.3	Other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts	1,574	1,400	1,415	-159
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	2,040	2,564	2,687	647
26.0	Supplies and materials	123	122	122	-1
31.0	Equipment	715	405	405	-310
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
	Total	\$33,793	\$34,411	\$34,614	\$821
1/ Other purchases of goods and services from Government accounts					
	Working Capital Fund	\$752	\$765	\$765	\$13
	DHS Services	440	446	461	21
	Census Services	0	0	0	0

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CHANGES IN FY 2012

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Rental payments to GSA	61
Other services	4
Other government accounts (Census Bureau)	0
Other government accounts (DHS Charges)	15
Operation and maintenance of equipment	73
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$153**

Net Program **\$50**

Direct FTE **0**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$34,564	211
Program Increase	\$50	0