

FY 2027

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

No appropriations language is proposed with the Department of Labor.

Note.--This account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2026 (Division B of Public Law 119-75).

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATION

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Enacted		FY 2027 Request	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Budget Authority Before Committee	2,019	\$703,952	1,773	\$708,500	1,754	\$667,952
Unobligated Balances Brought Forward	0	\$1	0	\$0	0	\$0
Unobligated Balances Transferred between Expired/Unexpired accounts	0	\$388	0	\$0	0	\$0
Recoveries	0	\$148	0	\$0	0	\$0
Total Budgetary Resources	2,019	\$704,489	1,773	\$708,500	1,754	\$667,952

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SUMMARY OF CHANGES

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Net Change
Budget Authority			
General Funds	\$640,500	\$599,952	-\$40,548
Unemployment Trust Funds	\$68,000	\$68,000	\$0
Total	\$708,500	\$667,952	-\$40,548
Full Time Equivalents			
General Funds	1,773	1,754	-19
Total	1,773	1,754	-19

Explanation of Change

	FY 2026 Enacted		Trust Funds		Federal Funds		FY 2027 Total	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Increases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
Total personnel compensation	1,773	\$233,074	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Personnel benefits	0	\$85,488	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Benefits for former personnel	0	\$68	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Travel and transportation of persons	0	\$3,173	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Rental payments to GSA	0	\$21,397	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Rental payments to others	0	\$80	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Communications, utilities, and misc.	0	\$2,793	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Printing and reproduction	0	\$1,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0	\$9,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other goods and svcs. from Fed. sources	0	\$131,402	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Research and development contracts	0	\$24,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0

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Operation and maint. of equipment	0	\$61,701	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Supplies and materials	0	\$400	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Equipment	0	\$5,000	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	\$82,128	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0	\$45	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Federal Employees' Compensation Act	0	\$275	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Working Capital Fund	0	\$47,476	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Built-Ins Subtotal	+1,773	+\$708,500	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
B. Programs:								
Programs Subtotal			0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Total Increase	+1,773	+\$708,500	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Decreases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
Federal Employees' Compensation Act	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	-\$56	0	-\$56
Working Capital Fund	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	-\$4,863	0	-\$4,863
Built-Ins Subtotal	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	-\$4,919	0	-\$4,919
B. Programs:								
Savings from Staff Attrition and Statistical Agency Reorganization			0	\$0	-19	-\$21,129	-19	-\$21,129
Suspension of new NLS cohort			0	\$0	0	-\$14,500	0	-\$14,500
Programs Subtotal			0	\$0	-19	-\$35,629	-19	-\$35,629
Total Decrease	0	\$0	0	\$0	-19	-\$40,548	-19	-\$40,548
Total Change	+1,773	+\$708,500	0	\$0	-19	-\$40,548	-19	-\$40,548

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SUMMARY BUDGET AUTHORITY AND FTE BY ACTIVITY

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Enacted		FY 2027 Request		Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Employment and Unemployment Statistics	526	\$249,150	461	\$252,000	455	\$230,397	-6	-\$21,603
General Funds	526	\$249,150	461	\$252,000	455	\$230,397	-6	-\$21,603
Labor Market Information	0	\$68,000	0	\$68,000	0	\$68,000	0	\$0
Unemployment Trust Funds	0	\$68,000	0	\$68,000	0	\$68,000	0	\$0
Prices and Cost of Living	951	\$244,436	859	\$248,000	853	\$238,263	-6	-\$9,737
General Funds	951	\$244,436	859	\$248,000	853	\$238,263	-6	-\$9,737
Compensation and Working Conditions	336	\$92,354	282	\$91,500	279	\$86,822	-3	-\$4,678
General Funds	336	\$92,354	282	\$91,500	279	\$86,822	-3	-\$4,678
Productivity and Technology	50	\$12,360	42	\$12,000	41	\$10,650	-1	-\$1,350
General Funds	50	\$12,360	42	\$12,000	41	\$10,650	-1	-\$1,350
Executive Direction and Staff Services	156	\$37,652	129	\$37,000	126	\$33,820	-3	-\$3,180
General Funds	156	\$37,652	129	\$37,000	126	\$33,820	-3	-\$3,180
Total	2,019	\$703,952	1,773	\$708,500	1,754	\$667,952	-19	-\$40,548
General Funds	2,019	\$635,952	1,773	\$640,500	1,754	\$599,952	-19	-\$40,548
Unemployment Trust Funds	0	\$68,000	0	\$68,000	0	\$68,000	0	\$0

NOTE: FY 2025 reflects actual FTE.

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BUDGET AUTHORITY BY OBJECT CLASS

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
11.1 Full-time permanent	230,296	212,250	206,057	-6,193
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	13,672	13,746	13,746	0
11.5 Other personnel compensation	6,857	7,078	6,713	-365
12.1 Personnel Benefits	91,140	85,488	84,066	-1,422
12.1 FECA	155	275	219	-56
13.0 Benefits for former personnel	61	68	68	0
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons	2,600	3,173	3,173	0
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	22,831	21,397	21,397	0
23.2 Rental payments to others	84	80	80	0
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc.	1,865	2,793	2,793	0
24.0 Printing and reproduction	1,017	1,000	1,000	0
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	6,617	9,000	5,500	-3,500
25.3 Other goods and svcs. from Fed. sources	117,190	131,402	123,854	-7,548
25.3 WCF (Non-Add)	42,334	47,476	42,613	-4,863
25.5 Research and development contracts	25,324	24,000	12,000	-12,000
25.7 Operation and maint. of equipment	50,919	61,701	57,100	-4,601
26.0 Supplies and materials	250	400	400	0
31.0 Equipment	7,600	5,000	5,000	0
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	83,120	82,128	82,128	0
42.0 Insurance claims and indemnities	20	45	45	0
Total	703,952	708,500	667,952	-40,548

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

SIGNIFICANT ITEMS IN APPROPRIATION COMMITTEES' REPORTS

Survey on Employer Provided Training

House: The Committee directs BLS to include, as part of the fiscal year 2027 congressional justification, a cost estimate of a survey to better understand the incidence and nature of training provided to employees by employers.

Response: The BLS recognizes the importance of understanding the incidence and nature of training provided to employees by employers. In 2018, the BLS outlined design options in a report to Congress for a new Survey of Employer Provided Training (SEPT) that would capture stakeholder needs at that time. In FY 2027 terms, the cost to develop and annually field the surveys detailed in that report would be \$15 million per year.

However, the actual cost might vary due to a variety of factors. Given significant changes in the landscape since the previous surveys as well as since the report to Congress was prepared, the BLS would need to spend time and resources to study and plan the development and implementation of a new survey. For example, the BLS would convene a technical expert panel to involve stakeholders in the effort to determine the scope of any new survey effort, along with the level of detail desired. The results of the panel would be a series of recommendations that would inform the potential sample size of the survey, along with development and operational costs.

In addition to research and development of a new survey, the BLS would also need to consider how the survey design and development would be impacted by the proposed reorganization of the BLS, the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis at the Department of Commerce.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

AUTHORIZING STATUTES

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

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

APPROPRIATION HISTORY

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Budget Estimates to Congress	Appropriations	FTE
2017			
Base Appropriation	\$640,943	\$609,000	2,185
2018			
Base Appropriation	\$607,842	\$612,000	2,022
2019			
Base Appropriation	\$609,386	\$615,000	2,057
2020			
Base Appropriation	\$655,000	\$655,000	1,961
2021			
Base Appropriation	\$658,318	\$655,000	1,965
2022			
Base Appropriation	\$700,653	\$687,952	1,949
2023			
Base Appropriation	\$741,744	\$697,952	2,023
2024			
Base Appropriation	\$758,370	\$697,952	2,058
2025			
Base Appropriation	\$712,786	\$703,952	2,019
2026			
Base Appropriation	\$647,952	\$708,500	1,773
2027			
Base Appropriation	\$667,952	\$0	1,754

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

OVERVIEW

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

FY 2027 Request Summary

For FY 2027, the BLS requests \$667,952,000, which is \$40,548,000 below the FY 2026 Enacted level. The FY 2027 request is included in the Department’s budget materials, but the Budget carries forward the proposal to reorganize the BLS, the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis at the Department of Commerce. This reorganization proposal aims to leverage data collection and analysis synergies, increase cost-effectiveness, improve data quality, and reduce respondent burden.

The FY 2027 request reflects a savings of \$21,129,000 from the FY 2026 Enacted level from staff attrition and the statistical agency reorganization by making permanent recent staffing reductions and their associated impacts. Additionally, the FY 2027 request proposes to suspend activities tied to the new NLSY cohort, resulting in a savings of \$14,500,000 from the FY 2026 Enacted level to prevent further reductions to BLS’s other programs.

In FY 2027, the BLS will prioritize the most mission critical activities necessary for the production of the core data series, focusing efforts on producing data from statistical programs that are Principal Federal Economic Indicators (PFEIs), required by statute, or in use in current law.

Statistical Work and Uses of BLS Data

Like all federal statistical agencies, the BLS executes its mission with independence from partisan interests while protecting the trust of data providers by ensuring the confidentiality and exclusive statistical use of responses. The BLS serves the general public, the U.S. Congress, federal agencies, state and local governments, and business and labor by providing gold-standard statistics and analyses that are accurate, objective, relevant, timely, and accessible. Policies and decisions based on BLS data affect virtually all Americans, and the wide range of BLS data products provide policymakers and the public with a first look at economic activity each month, including measures of employment, unemployment, and inflation in a rapidly-changing economy.

The BLS conforms to the conceptual framework of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy’s “Guidelines for Reporting Performance by Statistical Agencies” and the Office of

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Management and Budget's Statistical Policy Directives. BLS data are essential for supporting evidence-based decision making and evaluation activities.

The BLS measures the timeliness, accuracy, and relevance of its PFEIs and accessibility of and customer satisfaction with its statistical products. These criteria are common among statistical agencies because they represent critical aspects of a statistical program's performance. Using these common concepts as a basis for measuring and reporting on statistical agency outcomes helps to inform decision-makers more consistently about the performance of statistical agencies. Additionally, in support of the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018 (also referred to as the Evidence Act), the BLS Commissioner currently is the Designated Statistical Official advising on statistical policy, techniques, and procedures for DOL.

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

The BLS continues to monitor and assess mission performance, striving to meet the needs of a varied set of customers and, where resources allow, employing innovative methods to keep pace with the rapidly changing economy. For example, in FY 2026, the CPS program will continue to consult with its large community of stakeholders in government, academia, and the private sector to receive feedback on how to modernize the survey by developing an internet self-reporting system. In FY 2027, the CPI program will begin a transition to the revised area structure, an updated geographic sample based on the 2020 Decennial Census. The CPI program also will continue planning for the revised item structure, which will include an updated market basket classification structure, the first major revision to the item structure since 1998. The BLS will continue to be responsive to users' needs to understand changes in the economy while safeguarding respondent confidentiality and strengthening public trust through equal access to timely data releases. The BLS is adhering to all protocols to protect respondent identifiable information and is ensuring embargoed economic data are released fairly, securely, and timely.

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FY 2027 Request by Budget Activity

For FY 2027, the request of \$667,952,000 and 1,754 FTE will enable the BLS to continue to advance the vision of an efficient, effective, and accountable government, as well as meet its responsibilities through its five budget activities:

(1) Labor Force Statistics (Employment and Unemployment Statistics and Labor Market Information) – The request of \$298,397,000 and 455 FTE will provide funds to support the refocused production, analysis, and publication of data on payroll employment and the civilian labor force, employment and unemployment, persons not in the labor force, labor demand and turnover, wages, hours, earnings, occupational employment, and employment projections.

(2) Prices and Cost of Living – The request of \$238,263,000 and 853 FTE will provide funds to support the refocused production, analysis, and publication of a wide variety of information on price changes in the U.S. economy, specifically the CPI, the Producer Price Index (PPI), the U.S. Import and Export Price Indexes from the International Price Program (IPP), and data from the CE program.

(3) Compensation and Working Conditions – The request of \$86,822,000 and 279 FTE will provide funds to support the refocused production, analysis, and publication of a varied set of measures of employee compensation; and the compilation of data on work-related injuries, illnesses, and fatalities.

(4) Productivity and Technology – The request of \$10,650,000 and 41 FTE will provide funds to support the refocused production, analysis, and publication of data on productivity trends in the U.S. economy, as well as in major sectors and individual industries; and the examination of the factors underlying productivity growth.

(5) Executive Direction and Staff Services – The request of \$33,820,000 and 126 FTE supports refocused agency-wide direction, and centralized program support activities, such as data dissemination, field operations, the Internet Data Collection Facility, and statistical methods and data science research necessary to produce and release statistical and research output in a reliable, secure, timely, and effective manner.

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BLS CROSS-CUTTING MEASURES					
		FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
BLS 3.4 CCM.01.T	Percentage of timeliness targets achieved for the Principal Federal Economic Indicators (PFEIs) 1/ 2/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 CCM.02.A	Percentage of accuracy targets achieved for the PFEIs 1/ 3/	100%	85%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 CCM.03.R	Percentage of relevance targets achieved for the PFEIs 1/ 4/	100%	99%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 CCM.04	Percentage of time the BLS public website is available for data dissemination	≥99.5%	100%	≥99.5%	≥99.5%
BLS 3.4 CCM.05	Customer satisfaction with the BLS website (Mission Achievement)	68%	68%	65%	65%

- 1/ PFEI programs are Current Employment Statistics (CES), Current Population Survey (CPS), Consumer Price Index (CPI), Producer Price Index (PPI), International Price Program (IPP), Employment Cost Index (ECI), and Major Sector Productivity (MSP).
- 2/ Measure reflects 7 timeliness measures for the PFEI programs.
- 3/ Measure reflects 20 accuracy measures for the PFEI programs. FY 2025 results were below target for three underlying PPI measures due to the elimination of selected industries (350 indexes) with the release of July data.
- 4/ Measure reflects 7 relevance measures for the PFEI programs. In FY 2025, the BLS substantially achieved its relevancy targets.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
Activity Appropriation	249,150	252,000	230,397	-21,603
FTE	526	461	455	-6

NOTE: FY 2025 reflects actual FTE.

Introduction

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

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

Current Population Survey

The Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly household survey, provides a comprehensive body of information on the employment and unemployment experience of the nation's population, classified by age, sex, race, ethnicity, and a variety of other characteristics. The CPS also provides key inputs into the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) models for estimating employment and unemployment for states and selected local areas.

Labor force statistics from the CPS, together with data from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program, are among the earliest economic indicators available each month and represent

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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, ethnicity, marital status, family relationship, educational attainment, professional certification or license attainment, disability status, veteran status, and nativity (i.e., foreign born or native born);
 - Employed persons by occupation, industry, class of worker, telework status, hours of work, full- and part- time status, and reason for working part time (i.e., economic or noneconomic);
 - Unemployed persons by occupation, industry, and class of worker; duration of unemployment; reasons for unemployment; and methods used to find employment;
 - Characteristics and job-seeking intentions of persons not in the labor force, including information on discouraged workers and others of significant public policy interest;
 - Special topics on particular sub-groups of the population, such as women maintaining families and working women with children, or on particular topics, such as work experience and status of high school graduates and dropouts; and
 - Information on weekly and hourly earnings by demographic group, full- and part-time employment status, occupation, and industry.
- The BLS and the Census Bureau jointly sponsor and oversee the monthly sample survey, with the BLS supporting a sample of about 60,000 households. Households are contacted through in-person and telephone interviews. Data generally relate to the calendar week that includes the 12th day of the month.

Labor Market Information Cooperative Statistical Program

The BLS operates the CES, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS), and LAUS programs in cooperation with the states and territories. As noted within their respective descriptions, these programs compose the BLS Labor Market Information (LMI) Cooperative Statistical Program, which is conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Wagner-Peyser Act as amended by WIOA. The BLS uses cooperative agreements to fund the states for these programs, with most of the funding for these cooperative agreements reflected in Labor Market Information. BLS regional staff, under the direction of the Office of Field Operations in the national office, negotiate and monitor LMI cooperative agreements.

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Current Employment Statistics

The CES program collects information on employment, hours, and earnings from the payroll records of employers. The BLS produces national, state, and metropolitan area data. These data are released in partnership with the State Workforce Agencies (SWAs), which provide additional state analysis and help disseminate the estimates. National data available from the CES program include: nonfarm employment for detailed industry classifications; all employee average weekly hours and average hourly and weekly earnings; production worker average weekly hours and average hourly and weekly earnings; manufacturing worker overtime hours; indexes of aggregate hours and payroll; and diffusion indexes of employment change for the nation. Diffusion indexes are a measure of the dispersion of employment change, indicating how widespread employment increases and decreases are across industries. The program also provides similar data for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and about 430 metropolitan areas and divisions.

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

- The BLS collects data each month from about 121,000 businesses and government agencies (composed of approximately 631,000 individual worksites) nationwide. The sample is stratified by state, industry, and the employment size of the business. Respondents provide data for the payroll period that includes the 12th day of the month.

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

The QCEW program provides national, state, metropolitan and micropolitan statistical area, and county data on monthly employment and quarterly total wages and the number of establishments, by 6-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code and size of establishment, with a five-month lag after each quarter. These data originate largely from the administrative records of the Unemployment Insurance (UI) system in each state. The program includes all employees covered by state and federal UI laws, or about 95 percent of total nonfarm employment. The workers excluded from the UI files are railroad employees, members of the Armed Forces, self-employed persons, unpaid family workers, and some agricultural and private household employees.

The BLS uses these data to construct an up-to-date “universe” file, or sample frame, of the establishments reporting under the state and federal UI systems, from which it selects samples for its establishment-based surveys, such as the CES, OEWS, Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS), Employment Cost Index, Occupational Safety and Health Statistics (OSHS),

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and Producer Price Index. The QCEW program is responsible for maintaining the accuracy of each establishment's industry code, county code, size class, physical location address, mailing address, and other information that directly affects the quality of the survey programs' samples.

In addition, the BLS uses data from this program as the annual employment benchmark by industry in the CES, OEWS, OSHS, and JOLTS programs. Total wages and salaries from the QCEW program compose about 48 percent of Personal Income, as measured by the BEA, for the nation, states, and counties. The QCEW wage data are the largest single input to the Personal Income component of the National Income and Product Accounts. QCEW data also underlie state UI actuarial systems (tax rates, employer contributions, and benefit levels). Other uses include state and local labor force information, industry trends, forecasting, transportation planning, local economic development planning, and allocation of \$692 billion in FY 2021 in federal funds under such programs as the State Children's Health Insurance Program. Economic research, regional analysis, marketing studies by private industry, industry analysis, and worksite location studies are further uses of data from this program. The rich industry and geographic detail—all 6-digit NAICS industries by county—makes these among the most prized data for state and local implementation of the statutory requirements. QCEW also shares data with the BEA, the Census Bureau, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and other agencies to assist with their ongoing production and special studies. For example, each quarter, QCEW provides hundreds of thousands of industry codes to the Census Bureau for mostly new and small businesses, which improves data quality and decreases respondent burden and costs for the Census Bureau. QCEW data also are the basis for the BLS Business Employment Dynamics series. These series cover gross job gains and losses, data on establishment age and survival, and firm size. In addition, the series include data on establishment births, openings and expansions; and deaths, closings and contractions, by major industry and state. QCEW data also are used to prepare maps and tabulations of the economic impacts of natural disasters for state and federal officials, and are used on an ongoing basis to document recovery efforts in affected areas.

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

- The SWAs, in cooperation with the BLS, collect employment and wage data from an estimated 12 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 149,000 multi-unit firms (representing more than 1.9 million worksites and about 42 percent of the employment) report their employment and wages for each establishment, which improves the geographic and industrial accuracy of these key data. Second, in the ARS, the SWAs

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contact approximately one-third of all establishments in the private sector with more than three employees (about 1.3 million establishments) to maintain the accuracy of their industry coding under the NAICS and to update geographical information, such as addresses, which are integral to its use as a sample frame for other BLS business surveys. While the majority of establishments are contacted on a three-year cycle, some establishments in industries that exhibit lower rates of change are selected for a six-year cycle.

Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics

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

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

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

- The SWAs, in cooperation with the BLS, collect employment and wage information from semi-annual sample panels of approximately 187,000 establishments, for a total of 374,000 for the year. Respondents provide data for a payroll period that includes the 12th day of the survey month.

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

The LAUS program provides timely information on labor force and unemployment trends for states and local areas. The LAUS program issues monthly estimates for regions and states two weeks after the release of national estimates in *The Employment Situation*. Metropolitan area estimates, as well as all remaining sub-state area estimates, are issued about one-and-a-half weeks later. LAUS estimates serve as economic indicators and are a major source of information for labor market research, analysis, and planning. In addition to economic analysis, another

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important use of LAUS data is in the allocation of federal funds to states and local jurisdictions covered by 27 assistance programs across 9 Departments and independent agencies in areas such as employment, training, public works, and welfare assistance.

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

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

- The BLS publishes monthly estimates of employment and unemployment for approximately 8,300 geographic areas, including all states, labor market areas, counties, and cities with a population of 25,000 or more. The BLS seasonally adjusts estimates for non-modeled metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions.

National Longitudinal Surveys

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

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

- Employment and earnings of workers in the labor market;
- Educational experience, achievement, and the transition from school to work;
- The effects of training on future employment and wages;
- The ability to advance out of low-wage jobs;

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- Relationships between work and various indicators of family well-being;
- The long-term effects of unemployment; and
- The retirement behavior of older workers and the problems of the elderly.

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

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

In 2023, the BLS began work on development activities for a new NLSY cohort. Work on this cohort will be suspended at the FY 2027 Request level.

- The BLS collects and publishes data for the NLSY79 and NLSY97 cohorts on a recurring basis.

Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey

The JOLTS program provides monthly national measures on labor demand by broad industry groups and by establishment size. These measures complement the unemployment rate, which measures labor supply. Data published include the levels and rates for job openings, hires, and total separations, as well as three breakouts of separations: quits, layoffs and discharges, and other separations. These data items also are provided at the total nonfarm level for four regions. JOLTS also publishes state data at the total nonfarm level for all states and the District of Columbia. Thus, policymakers and analysts have a better understanding of imbalances between the demand for and the supply of labor, and improved tools for assessing the presence of labor shortages in the U.S. labor market. JOLTS data are used for labor market analysis, by the Federal Reserve in setting monetary policy, and by states in analyzing state labor market dynamics. These data also provide evidence of upward pressures on wage rates at the national and state levels.

- The BLS collects data each month from a sample of approximately 21,000 businesses and derives estimates on levels and rates of job openings, hires, and separations (quits, layoffs and discharges, and other separations) at the national level for major industry groups. At the total nonfarm industry level, the BLS also publishes data at the regional level for total nonfarm employment, size-class estimates at the national level, and annually publishes state data estimates for all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

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American Time Use Survey

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

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

- The BLS and the Census Bureau survey about 600 individuals ages 15 and older each month, drawn from households that recently have completed the monthly CPS.

Employment Projections

The EP program produces long-term (10-year) projections for the labor force, the overall economy, and industry and occupational employment and job openings by occupation. National employment projections from the BLS are used by each state to develop state and area projections, which are funded by the ETA. Projections are a critical component of workforce development systems and serve as the basis for determining jobs in demand. Determining jobs in demand helps align education and training programs with the hiring needs of businesses and is a key component of WIOA. Projections also are used for individual career decision purposes by students, parents, counselors, dislocated workers, jobseekers, and career changers. The program relies on a wide variety of data from the OEWS, CES, CPS, and QCEW programs, and from other federal agencies, such as the BEA and the Census Bureau.

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

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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 final demand, industry output, and employment, as well as input-output tables, also are produced. These data are the basis for evaluating alternative policy options affecting the medium- and long-term outlook, developing estimates of occupational requirements by industry, and evaluating the future size and composition of the labor force.

Finally, a national industry-occupation employment matrix and the industry projections are used to project employment by occupation. EP staff analyze the occupational structure of detailed industries and evaluate the expected impact of changes in demographics, technology, product mix, business practices, and other factors on the demand for specific occupations. The matrix quantifies in detail the distribution of occupational employment by industry for both the current and projected years. The 2024-34 matrix, which was released in FY 2025, covered projections for 832 detailed occupations in 292 detailed industries. In addition to the projections of openings resulting from job growth, the EP program also estimates openings resulting from existing workers who separate from their occupation, either by transferring to a new occupation or exiting the labor force entirely.

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

- The BLS updates occupational career information, including wage data, in the *OOH* throughout the year.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2022	\$228,537	501
2023	\$248,560	520
2024	\$247,952	542
2025	\$249,150	526
2026	\$252,000	461

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Funding Mechanism

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

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

FY 2027

In FY 2027, the BLS will continue the production of core data series and will undertake the following new work in the areas of Labor Force Statistics:

Contingent on ongoing funding from agency sponsors, the CPS program will publish results from the 2026 Veterans Supplement and field the 2027 Veterans Supplement, as well as publish the results from the 2026 Contingent Worker Supplement. Within existing resources, the BLS will continue limited activities to coordinate with the Census Bureau to start data collection using a new CPS Internet Self Response Option.

The CES program will collaborate with its Statistical Methods Staff (SMS) to research imputation and nonresponse weighting methods aimed at reducing revisions from late and non-respondents. The CES program will also continue to work with SMS on developing new publication standards for states and areas, including working to refine and improve error measures.

The QCEW program will implement the 2027 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

The OEWS program, on behalf of OMB, will continue to lead the interagency revision of the Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) system updating the occupational classification system used in OMB Statistical Policy Directive (SPD) 10. This will include the drafting of the final recommendations to OMB on the revised 2028 SOC structure, occupation codes, and titles, which is anticipated to be finalized by OMB through a Federal Register Notice planned for 2027.

The LAUS program will continue to work with its state partners in evaluating the changes to its substate-area estimates attributable to the redesign activities of FY 2025. For its state models, the program will continue to monitor the effects on the primary household employed and unemployed inputs of the CPS sample redesign for the 2020 Decennial Census. For its

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inputs from the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program, the LAUS program also will continue to monitor effects of ongoing changes to the blended base for post-censal estimation in the 2020s on labor force data for states and substate areas.

The NLS program will release data from round 31 of the NLSY79 and begin collection for round 23 of the NLSY97. The FY 2027 request proposes to suspend activities tied to the new NLSY cohort, resulting in a savings of \$14,500,000 from the FY 2026 Enacted level, in order to avoid further reductions to other BLS programs.

The JOLTS program will continue to develop more detailed reliability and response information for posting on bls.gov.

The ATUS program will continue to research and develop optimal methods for a multi-mode ATUS diary that includes Internet Self Response and CATI-based collection. The ATUS program will work with the Census Bureau to transition the ATUS from the current Blaise CATI instrument to their new in-house software system and enterprise architecture as the Census Bureau moves to modernize all survey data collection.

The EP program will develop and release the 2026-2036 economic and employment projections and incorporate these projections into the *Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)*. Throughout the year, the BLS also will update occupational career information in the *OOH*.

FY 2026

In FY 2026, the BLS is continuing the production of core data series and is undertaking the following new work in the areas of Labor Force Statistics:

The CPS program will field a 2026 Contingent Work Supplement, with more complete revisions based on 2023 findings, and will publish the results from the 2025 Contingent Work Supplement. The CPS program also will publish results from the 2024 Work Schedules Supplement. Contingent on ongoing funding from agency sponsors, the CPS program will field a Displaced Workers Supplement, and Veterans Supplement, and will publish results from the 2025 Veterans Supplement and the 2026 Displaced Workers Supplement. The CPS program will continue to consult with its large community of stakeholders in government, academia, and the private sector to receive feedback on how to modernize the survey. The BLS will continue to coordinate with the Census Bureau to conduct limited field testing of a new CPS Internet Self Response Option.

The CES program will collaborate with SMS to develop improved capabilities for identifying time series breaks in national series that would require special reconstructions. This will include research on statistical methods and the development of an interactive application for use by CES benchmark analysts during annual processing. The CES program also will work with SMS to continue developing improved capabilities for predicting employment change from business births and deaths not captured by the CES survey. This includes refining existing research and conducting work necessary to be able to implement the new

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methodology. The CES program will work with SMS on developing new publication standards for states and areas, including working to refine and improve error measures.

The QCEW program will update data processing systems in anticipation of implementing the 2027 NAICS. The QCEW program will continue to participate in the Economic Classification Policy Committee and collaborate with Canada and Mexico on the development of the updated classification system.

The OEWS program will continue to lead, on behalf of OMB, the interagency effort to develop recommendations to OMB for revision of the SOC system updating the occupational classification system used in OMB SPD 10.

The LAUS program will work with its state partners to evaluate the changes to its substate-area estimates attributable to the redesign activities of FY 2025, including the new OMB geographical basis and the updating of inputs to reflect more recent data from the American Community Survey (ACS). For its state models, the LAUS program will monitor the effects on the primary household employed and unemployed inputs of the CPS sample redesign that is scheduled to be phased in from April 2025 through July 2026. For its inputs from the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program, the LAUS program also will monitor effects of ongoing changes to the blended base for post-censal estimation in the 2020s on labor force data for states and substate areas.

The NLS program will release data from round 21 and perform collection for round 22 of the NLSY97. In addition, the NLS program will conduct a pretest of the fielding of its new cohort.

The JOLTS program will continue to develop more detailed reliability and response information for posting on bls.gov. The JOLTS program will discontinue monthly production of State JOLTS data after the publication of the December 2025 news release in the second quarter of FY 2026. In late FY 2026, the JOLTS program will transition to an annual publication cycle for State JOLTS data.

The ATUS program completed fielding a 2025 Leave and Job Flexibilities Module and, contingent on funding from the agency sponsor, will publish the results from the 2024 and 2025 Leave and Job Flexibilities Module. Also contingent on funding, the ATUS program will resume research suspended in FY 2025 and develop optimal methods for a multi-mode ATUS diary that includes Internet Self Response and CATI-based collection.

The EP program will develop and release the 2025-2035 economic and employment projections and incorporate these projections into the *OOH*. Throughout the year, the BLS also will update occupational career information in the *OOH*.

FY 2025

In FY 2025, the BLS continued the production of core data series and completed the following work in the areas of Labor Force Statistics:

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The CPS program fielded a Contingent Worker Supplement with limited revisions based on 2023 findings. The CPS fielded a Veterans Supplement and published results from the 2024 Veterans Supplement. The BLS also published the results of the 2024 Disability Supplement in FY 2025. The CPS program continued to consult with its large community of stakeholders in government, academia, and the private sector to receive feedback on how to modernize the survey. The BLS coordinated with the Census Bureau to conduct limited field testing of a new CPS Internet Self Response Option.

The CES program published data for metropolitan areas using the OMB updated geographic delineations based on the 2020 Decennial Census. The implementation date was March 2025, with the release of January 2025 estimates.

The QCEW program developed a preliminary plan for the implementation of the 2027 NAICS.

The OEWS program led, on behalf of OMB, the interagency effort to develop recommendations for revision of the SOC system, working with other BLS programs and other federal statistical agencies. The OEWS program implemented metropolitan area and balance-of-state definitions using metropolitan statistical area (MSA) definitions based on the 2020 Decennial Census.

The LAUS program revised historical series and incorporated substantial geographic changes into its estimation for its labor market area geography on the basis of the 2020 Decennial Census-based statistical areas from OMB effective with the release of January 2025 estimates in March 2025. Also, in conjunction with these historical revisions, the program updated estimation inputs for substate areas that are sourced to the ACS. For its state models, the LAUS program implemented smoothed intercensal population controls that removed breaks around the beginnings of prior decades attributable to the error of closure. In addition, the program continued to research enhanced use of ACS data in substate-area employment and unemployment.

The NLS program released data from round 30 of the NLSY79. In addition, the NLS program completed questionnaire design for its new cohort and continued other development activities including preparing systems and staffing for pretest fielding, to be conducted in FY 2026.

The JOLTS program implemented a new microdata and estimate review application based on modern software architecture with improved security controls. The JOLTS program also developed more detailed reliability and response information for posting on bls.gov.

The ATUS program completed data collection for the 2024 Leave and Job Flexibilities Module and began fielding a 2025 Leave and Job Flexibilities Module, that was completed in FY 2026.

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The EP program developed the 2024-2034 economic and employment projections and released these projections on the EP website and through the *OOH*. Throughout the year, the BLS also updated occupational career information, including wage data, in the *OOH*.

The BLS explored and evaluated existing data sources for the development of the *AIPLFR*, built upon work in FY 2024 to evaluate data from the ACS. In addition, the BLS engaged with key stakeholders, including the Census Bureau and other federal agencies, to evaluate possible solutions for producing a report within existing resources.

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DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Labor Force Statistics					
<u>Principal Federal Economic Indicators</u> 1/					
Current Population Survey					
BLS 3.4 CPS.01.P	Number of monthly series 2/ 3/	19,900	19,950	18,200	19,900
BLS 3.4 CPS.02.P	Number of other series published annually, quarterly, or irregularly 2/ 4/	21,350	21,445	18,720	22,700
BLS 3.4 CPS.03.T	Percentage of monthly releases on schedule (12 of 12) 3/ 5/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 CPS.04.A	Number of months that a change of at least 0.2 percentage points in the monthly national unemployment rate is statistically significant at the 90% confidence level (for an unemployment rate of 6%) 6/	12	12	--	--
BLS 3.4 CPS.04.A	Number of months that a change of ≥ 0.3 percentage points in the monthly national unemployment rate is statistically significant at the 90% confidence level (for an unemployment rate of 6%) 6/	--	--	10	12
Current Employment Statistics					
BLS 3.4 CES.01.P	Number of national monthly and annual series published 3/ 7/ 8/	22,900	22,049	21,500	20,700
BLS 3.4 CES.02.P	Number of state and local area monthly and annual series published 8/	23,800	23,876	23,000	23,000
BLS 3.4 CES.03.T	Percentage of national monthly releases on schedule (24 out of 24) 3/ 5/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 CES.04.T	Percentage of state and local area monthly releases on schedule (24 out of 24) 5/ 9/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 CES.05.A	Mean absolute benchmark revision of total nonfarm employment (averaged across five years)	<0.4%	0.2%	<0.4%	<0.4%
BLS 3.4 CES.06.A	Number of not seasonally adjusted 1st - 3rd closing revisions of total nonfarm employment > 0.1%	≤ 2	1	≤ 2	≤ 2
<u>Other Programs</u>					
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages					
BLS 3.4 QCEW.01.P	Number of employment and wage data series for states and counties at 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, and 6-digit NAICS industries published quarterly 10/	3,600,000	3,650,808	3,000,000	3,000,000
BLS 3.4 QCEW.02.W	Number of establishment records (current and longitudinal) maintained by the Longitudinal Database System 11/	11,800,000	12,058,992	12,000,000	12,100,000
BLS 3.4 QCEW.03.P	Number of Business Employment Dynamics (BED) series maintained on job creation and destruction levels and rates 12/	83,700	83,726	30,000	30,000
BLS 3.4 QCEW.04.P	Number of quarterly press releases on <i>County Employment and Wages</i> ; and <i>Business Employment Dynamics</i>	8	8	8	8

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DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
	Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics				
BLS 3.4 OEWS.01.P	Number of national annual series published	140,000	142,380	140,000	140,000
	Local Area Unemployment Statistics				
BLS 3.4 LAUS.01.P	Number of employment and unemployment estimates for states and local areas published monthly and annually 2/ 13/	108,600	108,600	100,500	108,800
BLS 3.4 LAUS.02.T	Percentage of monthly and annual releases on schedule (25 out of 25) 5/ 14/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 LAUS.03.A	Percentage of the month-to-month changes in seasonally adjusted state unemployment rates that are < 0.4 percentage points 15/	≥90%	100%	≥90%	≥90%
BLS 3.4 LAUS.04.A	Number of states with annual average unemployment rate revisions ≥ 0.5 percentage points 2/ 15/	≤8	0	N/A	≤8
	National Longitudinal Surveys				
BLS 3.4 NLS.01.O	Number of journal articles published that examine NLS data	125	153	140	150
	Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey				
BLS 3.4 JOLTS.01.P	Number of monthly and annual estimates	2,878	2,878	2,878	2,878
	American Time Use Survey				
BLS 3.4 ATUS.01.P	Number of annual estimates 16/	11,100	11,877	9,300	11,100
	Employment Projections				
BLS 3.4 EP.02.A	Percentage of total employment covered by projections	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 EP.03.P	Number of detailed occupations covered in the <i>Occupational Outlook Handbook</i> 17/	600	603	603	605
BLS 3.4 EP.04.A	Percentage of detailed occupations covered by projections	100%	100%	100%	100%

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

2/ The FY 2026 target reflects impacts of the lapse in appropriations in early FY 2026.

3/ This measure only relates to PFEIs.

4/ In FY 2026, the CPS plans to add new series for Women's Earnings. The CPS also will be removing a small number of duplicate series due to telework. As FY 2026 is impacted by the lapse in appropriations, the full year impact of these changes is reflected in FY 2027.

5/ As a result of the FY 2026 lapse in appropriations, CPS will release a total of 11 monthly releases, CES will release 22 national monthly releases and 23 state and local area monthly releases, and LAUS will release 23 monthly and annual releases in FY 2026.

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- 6/ The CPS began phasing-in a redesigned sample in FY 2025. Based on new design requirements for the sample, a difference of 0.3 percentage points (instead of 0.2) over-the-month is statistically significant beginning in FY 2026. Due to the lapse in appropriations in early FY 2026, the October CPS was not collected. Therefore, there are no over-the-month changes in both October and November 2025.
- 7/ The FY 2025 result and FY 2026 through FY 2027 targets reflect an anticipated loss of series that no longer meet minimum publication standards.
- 8/ FY 2026 and FY 2027 targets reflect the impacts of reduced staffing.
- 9/ This measure includes two monthly news releases: State Employment and Unemployment and Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment. Due to the schedule of the Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment release, the number of annual releases may fluctuate from the average of 24.
- 10/Beginning with second quarter 2025 data released in FY 2026, the QCEW will only publish MSA employment and wages at the Total Covered level. In FY 2026, the QCEW will only publish MSA employment and wages at the Total Covered level.
- 11/This measure is a workload estimate.
- 12/The FY 2026 and FY 2027 targets reflect the redirection of resources to improving seasonal adjustment models of high value series.
- 13/The number of estimates typically increases over time as cities that newly exceed the LAUS population threshold of 25,000 are added annually.
- 14/The LAUS program publishes two monthly news releases, State Employment and Unemployment and Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment, and one annual release, Regional and State Unemployment. Due to the scheduling of the Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment release, the number of releases issued annually may fluctuate from the average of 25.
- 15/These measures also include Los Angeles County, New York City, and the District of Columbia.
- 16/The FY 2025 result and FY 2027 target reflect estimates from the biennial eldercare news release. The FY 2026 target also reflects an expected decrease as publication standards might require additional suppression if response rates fall.
- 17/Content is updated on a continual or rolling basis throughout the year. The target progression reflects long-term plans to increase coverage in the *OOH*.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Workload and Performance Narrative

The BLS seeks to transform how it collects, analyzes, and delivers its data by increasing its use of technology and identifying efficiencies to improve data accuracy, lower respondent burden, and increase survey responses, while providing policymakers and the public with a first look at economic activity each month. Labor Force Statistics programs produce, analyze, and publish data on payroll employment and the civilian labor force, employment and unemployment, persons not in the labor force, labor demand and turnover, wages, hours, earnings, occupational employment, and employment projections. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements that can be made by each Budget Activity. For example, in FY 2027, the OEWS program, on behalf of OMB, will continue to lead the interagency revision of the Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) system updating the occupational classification system used in OMB Statistical Policy Directive (SPD) 10. This will include the drafting of the final recommendations to OMB on the revised 2028 SOC structure, occupation codes and titles, which is anticipated to be finalized by OMB through a Federal Register Notice planned for 2027.

In FY 2027, the Budget carries forward the proposal to reorganize the BLS, the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis at the Department of Commerce. This reorganization proposal aims to leverage data collection and analysis synergies, increase cost-effectiveness, improve data quality, and reduce respondent burden. In addition, the FY 2027 request proposes to suspend activities tied to the new NLSY cohort, resulting in a savings of \$14,500,000 from the FY 2026 Enacted level to prevent further reductions to BLS's other programs.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
11.1 Full-time permanent	68,392	62,287	60,935	-1,352
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	444	282	282	0
11.5 Other personnel compensation	2,081	2,073	1,941	-132
12.1 Personnel Benefits	25,725	23,725	23,477	-248
13.0 Benefits for former personnel	55	20	20	0
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons	535	500	500	0
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	5,332	5,163	5,163	0
23.2 Rental payments to others	43	40	40	0
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc.	1,243	1,861	1,861	0
24.0 Printing and reproduction	717	705	705	0
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	2,240	1,288	1,288	0
25.3 Other goods and svcs. from Fed. sources	71,550	79,376	75,094	-4,282
25.3 WCF (Non-Add)	10,368	10,628	9,539	-1,089
25.5 Research and development contracts	25,324	24,000	12,000	-12,000
25.7 Operation and maint. of equipment	24,947	31,740	29,240	-2,500
26.0 Supplies and materials	71	114	114	0
31.0 Equipment	2,769	1,871	1,871	0
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	7,311	6,320	6,320	0
42.0 Insurance claims and indemnities	3	7	7	0
Total	249,150	252,000	230,397	-21,603

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

CHANGES IN FY 2027

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-Ins

Total personnel compensation	\$0	
Working Capital Fund	-\$1,089	
Built-Ins Subtotal	-\$1,089	

Base	\$252,000	461
Program Decreases	-\$20,514	-6
Net Program Subtotal	-\$20,514	-6
Total Activity Appropriation	\$230,397	455

	Amount	FTE
Base	\$252,000	461
Program Increases	\$0	0
Program Decreases	-\$20,514	-6

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
Activity Appropriation	68,000	68,000	68,000	0
FTE	0	0	0	0

NOTE: FY 2025 reflects actual FTE.

The Labor Market Information programs receiving funding from the Unemployment Trust Fund are described under Employment and Unemployment Statistics heading.

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	68,000	68,000	68,000	0
Total	68,000	68,000	68,000	0

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

CHANGES IN FY 2027

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-Ins

Built-Ins Subtotal	\$0	
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Base	\$68,000	0
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Net Program Subtotal	\$0	0
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Total Activity Appropriation	\$68,000	0
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	Amount	FTE
Base	\$68,000	0
Program Increases	\$0	0
Program Decreases	\$0	0

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
Activity Appropriation	244,436	248,000	238,263	-9,737
FTE	951	859	853	-6

NOTE: FY 2025 reflects actual FTE.

Introduction

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

Consumer Prices and Price Indexes

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

The numerous uses of the CPI data include: primary measure of price change at the consumer level; indicator of inflationary or deflationary trends in the economy; measure of the purchasing power of the consumer dollar; aid in formulation and evaluation of economic policy; adjustment mechanism for payments under many government programs, including payments to Social Security beneficiaries, retired military and federal civil service employees and survivors; adjustments to the official U.S. poverty thresholds, rental/lease agreements, and payments from trust funds and wills; deflator of earnings to provide a measure of real earnings; factor in

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

collective bargaining and wage and pension adjustments; and adjustment factor for the income tax structure, including standard deductions and brackets. These last adjustments are intended to prevent inflation from automatically generating tax rate increases.

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

- The BLS collects approximately 80,000 commodity and service prices (monthly) and 111,000 Rent/Rental equivalence prices (annually).

Producer Prices and Price Indexes

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

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

- The BLS collects approximately 52,000 price quotations monthly.

International Price Program

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

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

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

- The BLS collects approximately 9,200 survey-collected prices monthly.

Consumer Expenditure Survey

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

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

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

- The Census Bureau collects for the BLS 12,100 weekly expenditure diaries and 17,900 quarterly interviews in 91 geographic areas of the United States.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2022	\$228,906	942
2023	\$240,868	969
2024	\$241,000	981
2025	\$244,436	954
2026	\$248,000	859

FY 2027

In FY 2027, the BLS will continue the production of core data series and undertake the following new work in the areas of Prices and Cost of Living:

The CPI program will begin executing its plan to transition to the revised area structure, an updated geographic sample based on the 2020 Decennial Census. The CPI program will continue planning for the revised item structure, which will include an updated market basket classification structure, the first major revision to the item structure since 1998. In FY 2027, the program will continue development work on the systems modifications required to support the revisions. New samples in Housing and Commodities and Services (C&S) for Wave 1 primary sampling units (PSUs) may be initiated, contingent on budget and hiring restrictions. Definition of the revised item-area structure for use in calculation will also continue.

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

The PPI program will work towards updating its value weights to more accurately reflect recent production and marketing patterns. The updated weights will be constructed using the 2022 value of shipments and revenue data from the Economic Census. Since January 2023, PPI weights have been based on 2017 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) shipment and revenue values. All PPIs will be affected by this weight update, including industry net output indexes, commodity indexes, Final Demand-Intermediate Demand (FD-ID) indexes, and inputs to industry indexes.

The PPI program will deploy to production a new PPI Sampling System in FY 2027, replacing a legacy system that runs on obsolete and unsupported software. This modernized sampling system will provide essential functionality for PPI users to load and refine sample frames, set up sampling parameters, and select samples.

The IPP Sampling Systems will continue conversion of Import and Export Price Index (MXPI) sample production jobs in SAS to a long-term supported software package.

The CE program will finalize requirements to implement the second and final phase of a new geographic sample design based on the 2020 Decennial Census. To reflect the latest geographic shifts in the U.S. population, every ten years the CE and CPI programs update their sample of PSUs based on the latest Decennial Census.

FY 2026

In FY 2026, the BLS is continuing the production of core data series and is undertaking the following new work in the areas of Prices and Cost of Living:

The CPI program will continue transition planning to revise its item-area structure, which will include an updated market basket classification structure, the first major revision to the item structure since 1998, and an updated geographic sample based on the 2020 Decennial Census. In FY 2026, the CPI program will select Housing and C&S samples for the first wave of new PSUs to rotate in, and will continue development work on systems modifications required to support the item structure revision.

The PPI program will update the weight allocations used to calculate its FD-ID indexes. PPI weights are based on values from the 2017 Economic Census. To more accurately reflect recent sales patterns, the PPI will update the proportion of these weights allocated to the various FD-ID categories to base them on data published in the 2017 Input-Output (I-O) Accounts from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). This update will affect all portions of the PPI FD-ID system: final demand, intermediate demand by commodity type, and intermediate demand by production flow indexes.

The PPI program will integrate non-traditionally collected data into index calculations as part of a continuous process to increase data quality while reducing costs and respondent burden. The PPI program will augment or replace directly collected survey data with secondary source or administrative data for at least one industry and will continue efforts to identify additional alternative data sources and evaluate their fitness for use. The PPI program will increase

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

collaboration and information sharing with international statistical organizations by presenting the newly developed indexes for post-secondary education (calculated solely with administrative data) to the Voorburg Group on Services Statistics.

The Industrial Price programs (IPP and PPI) will update the IPS Initiation System to replace legacy systems for the IPP that run on obsolete and unsupported software. The FY 2026 iteration of the IPS Initiation System will implement all IPP-related functionality to initiate MXPI survey respondents and will retire obsolete software.

The IPP Sampling Systems will develop new functionality to address the new sample strategy based on the administrative data to improve efficiency of sampling procedures and to move MXPI sample production jobs in SAS to a long-term supported software package.

The CE program will advise the development of new Census data collection instruments for the CE surveys. In support of new Interview and Diary survey data collection instruments being developed for the BLS by the Census Bureau as part of its Data Ingest & Collection for the Enterprise (DICE) project, CE staff will develop requirements for all datasets, evaluate system specifications and prototypes, extensively test the instrument, and provide feedback during all stages of development.

FY 2025

In FY 2025, the BLS continued the production of core data series and completed the following work in the areas of Prices and Cost of Living:

The CPI program continued transition planning to revise its item-area structure, which includes an updated market basket classification structure, the first major revision to the item structure since 1998, and an updated geographic sample based on the 2020 Decennial Census. In support of the structure revisions, in FY 2025, the program completed improvements to the Expenditure Weights Pre-Processor System and integration with Sampling and Estimation systems to accommodate changes in the definition of items, areas, population, and time periods underlying weight products.

The CPI program continued to update systems to support the program goal of expanding alternative types and sources of data in indexes. The CPI program incorporated purchased medical claims data to supplement the traditionally collected sample for physician services and outpatient hospital services. In addition, the CPI program incorporated purchased data for leased vehicles and wireless telephone services. The CPI program deferred consolidating pre-existing alternative sources into the MERCURY system; hosting and managing data processing scripts; and managing quote-level data. The program initiated development on analysis and research tools.

The CPI program completed final development and testing activities and transitioned the Housing Collection web application to Operations in August.

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

The PPI program completed a data user survey to solicit feedback from academia, government agencies, businesses, and public users to determine the PPI information they find most useful and to gather input on suggested improvements or additions to existing data.

Based on results from a data collection pilot, the PPI program implemented standardized procedures for the collection of large datasets from a limited number of corporate respondents. Collection of large price datasets is an option that the PPI utilizes in certain circumstances to reduce respondent burden and increase the number of sampled products included in the PPI survey. This method of data collection targets retail trade industries to better represent surveyed units that provide retailing services for a wide variety of different products.

The PPI program continued the development of a new PPI Sampling System, replacing a legacy system that runs on obsolete and unsupported software. The FY 2025 iteration of the PPI Sampling System included test versions of frame and sample refinement.

The Industrial Price programs continued to develop the shared IPS Initiation System to replace legacy systems that run on obsolete and unsupported software. The FY 2025 iteration of the IPS Initiation System completed the beta test and began building the candidate release to initiate survey units for the MXPI survey.

The IPP Sampling Systems implemented changes to account for the inclusion of Census Bureau administrative trade data in lieu of directly-collected data for one third of the sample, and will continue to develop functionality to improve efficiency of sampling procedures.

The IPP finalized the test processing and beginning in March 2025, the IPP integrated Census Bureau administrative trade data in the monthly U.S. import and export price index news release. This innovation expanded the number of published price indexes and replaced directly collected prices with administrative transaction prices for one third of the current MXPI sample. This major change in data source eliminated the backlog of survey units that accumulated in the field due to COVID, and is expected to improve the turnover rate of fielded survey units, which ultimately improves index quality. The administrative trade data source simultaneously increased the number of price indexes for homogeneous product areas by 500 and, by addressing the historic imbalance in field collection, maintain the number of prices in heterogeneous product areas.

The CE program finalized requirements to implement a new geographic sample design based on the 2020 Decennial Census. To reflect the latest geographic shifts in the U.S. population, every ten years the CE and CPI programs update their sample of PSUs based on the latest Decennial Census.

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Prices and Cost of Living					
Principal Federal Economic Indicators					
Consumer Prices and Price Indexes					
BLS 3.4 CPI.01.W	Number of price quotations collected/processed monthly 1/ 2/	100,000	83,136	70,000	80,000
BLS 3.4 CPI.02.W	Number of rent/Rental equivalence price quotations for annual collection 1/ 2/	125,500	116,371	97,000	111,000
BLS 3.4 CPI.03.P	Number of indexes published monthly 1/ 3/	8,400	8,068	7,400	7,900
BLS 3.4 CPI.04.T	Percentage of monthly releases on schedule (12 out of 12) 4/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 CPI.05.A	Number of months that the standard error on the 12-month change in the U.S. City Average All Items CPI-U Index is < 0.25 percentage points	12	12	12	12
Producer Prices and Price Indexes					
BLS 3.4 PPI.01.W	Number of price quotations collected/processed monthly 5/	52,000	56,500	52,000	52,000
BLS 3.4 PPI.02.P	Number of indexes published monthly 5/ 6/	10,500	10,652	10,200	10,200
BLS 3.4 PPI.03.A	Percentage of industry product line indexes published monthly 5/	78%	79%	78%	78%
BLS 3.4 PPI.04.T	Percentage of monthly releases on schedule (12 out of 12) 4/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 PPI.05.A	Percentage of domestic output, within the scope of the PPI, which the PPI covers:				
BLS 3.4 PPI.06.A	Goods produced 6/	98.2%	97.0%	97.0%	97.0%
BLS 3.4 PPI.07.A	Construction	16.9%	16.9%	16.9%	16.9%
BLS 3.4 PPI.08.A	Services produced 6/	68.8%	68.4%	68.4%	68.4%
BLS 3.4 PPI.09.A	Total production 6/	72.5%	72.0%	72.0%	72.0%
BLS 3.4 PPI.09.A	Number of revisions of the one-month percentage change between the first and final release of the Final Demand Index (not seasonally adjusted) > 0.4 percentage points	≤2	1	≤2	≤2
International Price Program					
BLS 3.4 IPP.01.W	Number of price quotations collected/processed monthly 7/ 8/	9,900	12,256	9,200	9,200
BLS 3.4 IPP.02.P	Number of indexes published monthly 1/ 7/	1,390	1,390	1,525	1,525
BLS 3.4 IPP.03.T	Percentage of monthly releases on schedule (12 out of 12) 4/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 IPP.04.A	Percentage of U.S. foreign trade imports covered by the IPP:				
BLS 3.4 IPP.05.A	Goods in trade 9/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 IPP.05.A	Services in trade 9/	8%	8%	10%	10%
BLS 4.1 IPP.06.A	Total in trade 9/	84%	84%	82%	82%

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
BLS 4.1 IPP.07.A	Percentage of U.S. foreign trade exports covered by the IPP: Goods in trade 9/	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 4.1 IPP.08.A	Services in trade 9/	6%	6%	5%	5%
BLS 4.1 IPP.09.A	Total in trade 9/	71%	71%	66%	66%
BLS 4.1 IPP.10.A	Number of revisions of the one-month percentage change between the first and final release of the Import Price Index > 0.5 percentage points	≤2	0	≤2	≤2
BLS 4.1 IPP.11.A	Number of revisions of the one-month percentage change between the first and final release of the Export Price Index > 0.5 percentage points	≤2	1	≤2	≤2
	Other Programs				
	Consumer Expenditure Surveys				
BLS 4.1 CE.01.W	Complete Weekly Expenditure Diaries: Number collected from Consumer Units 1/	11,400	12,543	9,400	12,100
BLS 4.1 CE.02.W	Complete Quarterly Interviews: Number of Consumer Unit Interviews 1/	16,900	17,953	14,100	17,900

- 1/ The FY 2026 target reflects impacts of the lapse in appropriations in early FY 2026.
- 2/ The FY 2025 result and outyear targets reflect suspended data collection in Lincoln, NE, Provo, UT and Buffalo, NY.
- 3/ The FY 2025 result and the FY 2026 and FY 2027 targets reflect the reduction in electricity and natural gas series that occurred in January 2025.
- 4/ As a result of the FY 2026 lapse in appropriations, CPI, PPI, and IPP will release a total of 11 monthly releases in FY 2026.
- 5/ The FY 2026 and FY 2027 targets reflect expected decline due to data collection issues and continued difficulties in gaining and maintaining respondent cooperation.
- 6/ With the July 2025 PPI release, the BLS ended calculation and publication of approximately 350 indexes. As a result, 34 industries were eliminated, which impacted the scope of the PPI.
- 7/ The changes in targets beginning in FY 2025 reflect the expanded use of alternatively-sourced price quotations from Census administrative trade data, which decreases the number of price quotations directly collected and processed from the survey but increases the number of indexes published starting with the February 2025 published indexes.
- 8/ The FY 2025 result reflects better than expected retention of respondents.
- 9/ The FY 2025 results are based on official international trade measures for 2022. The FY 2026 and FY 2027 targets are based on 2023 measures. The service areas covered did not change, but their share of total trade may fluctuate due to economic trade patterns.

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

Workload and Performance Narrative

The BLS seeks to transform how it collects, analyzes, and delivers its data by increasing its use of technology and identifying efficiencies to improve data accuracy, lower respondent burden, and increase survey responses, while providing policymakers and the public with a first look at economic activity each month. The Prices and Cost of Living programs collect, compile, and disseminate a wide variety of information on price change in the U.S. economy, and conduct research and analysis to improve the economic statistics produced. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements that can be made by each Budget Activity. For example, in FY 2027, the CPI program will begin a transition to the revised area structure, an updated geographic sample based on the 2020 Decennial Census. The CPI program also will continue planning for the revised item structure, which will include an updated market basket classification structure, the first major revision to the item structure since 1998.

In FY 2027, the Budget carries forward the proposal to reorganize the BLS, the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis at the Department of Commerce. This reorganization proposal aims to leverage data collection and analysis synergies, increase cost-effectiveness, improve data quality, and reduce respondent burden.

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
11.1 Full-time permanent	91,994	85,401	83,704	-1,697
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	13,074	13,412	13,412	0
11.5 Other personnel compensation	2,643	2,755	2,692	-63
12.1 Personnel Benefits	39,274	37,485	37,084	-401
13.0 Benefits for former personnel	6	45	45	0
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons	1,621	2,270	2,270	0
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	9,576	8,809	8,809	0
23.2 Rental payments to others	20	19	19	0
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc.	278	417	417	0
24.0 Printing and reproduction	37	37	37	0
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	3,637	5,910	3,410	-2,500
25.3 Other goods and svcs. from Fed. sources	43,002	46,521	44,814	-1,707
25.3 WCF (Non-Add)	19,073	22,141	19,873	-2,268
25.7 Operation and maint. of equipment	17,238	20,821	19,720	-1,101
26.0 Supplies and materials	97	156	156	0
31.0 Equipment	2,864	1,797	1,797	0
42.0 Insurance claims and indemnities	2	4	4	0
Total	244,436	248,000	238,263	-9,737

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

CHANGES IN FY 2027

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-Ins

Total personnel compensation	\$0	
Working Capital Fund	-\$2,268	
Built-Ins Subtotal	-\$2,268	

Base	\$248,000	859
Program Decreases	-\$7,469	-6
Net Program Subtotal	-\$7,469	-6
Total Activity Appropriation	\$238,263	853

	Amount	FTE
Base	\$248,000	859
Program Increases	\$0	0
Program Decreases	-\$7,469	-6

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
Activity Appropriation	92,354	91,500	86,822	-4,678
FTE	336	282	279	-3

NOTE: FY 2025 reflects actual FTE.

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 LEVELS AND TRENDS

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

The program also produces the Occupational Requirements Survey (ORS), funded by the Social Security Administration (SSA). The ORS provides job-related information regarding physical demands; environmental conditions; education, training, and experience; as well as cognitive and mental requirements in the U.S. economy.

NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY

The NCS provides comprehensive measures of occupational earnings (computed in conjunction with the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program), compensation cost levels and trends, and benefit incidence and provisions. The NCS coverage includes private

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

industry, and state and local government workers; and excludes the federal government, agricultural sector, as well as household, self-employed, and unpaid family workers.

- The BLS collects data from a sample of about 17,200 private industry and state and local government establishments, providing both wage and benefit information. The BLS collects data from a sample of occupations within establishments through a combination of personal visits, mail, telephone, and electronic contacts.

Employment Cost Index

The ECI measures changes in total compensation (wages and salaries, and employer costs for employee benefits) for the civilian economy and is published quarterly. Indexes for compensation, wages and salaries, and benefit costs are available for selected industry and occupational groups and for workers in private industry by bargaining status and geographic area. In addition, the *ECEC* publication provides estimates of compensation costs per hour worked for those same categories as well as by establishment employment size, and full- and part-time employment status.

The ECI provides the estimate for the national pay adjustment for federal General Schedule (GS) workers in compliance with the FEPCA and information from the NCS is used in combination with data from the OEWS program to provide estimates of pay by area, occupational groups, and work level that are used to recommend the locality pay adjustments required under FEPCA. The ECI also provides the basis for pay adjustments for Congress, federal judges, and top government officials specified in the Ethics Reform Act, as well as the basis for pay adjustments for the military. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services uses the ECI to determine allowable increases in Medicare reimbursements for hospital and physician charges. In addition, the Wage and Hour Division uses the *ECEC* 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; minimum wage escalation; and studies on the structure of employee compensation.

- The BLS publishes 278 indexes and 331 levels quarterly from a sample of approximately 17,200 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 evolve to keep pace with changes in labor market practices. Examples of benefits included are: vacation and sick leave; long-term disability; health and life insurance; and retirement plans. 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 also participate in the plan).

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The BLS provides data on benefit incidence and provisions by work status (full- and part-time), bargaining status (union and nonunion), wage intervals, goods-producing and service-producing industries, establishment employment size, and by Census regions and divisions. The BLS also provides statistics on both the employee and employer contributions to medical plan premiums. Benefits data are published separately for occupational groups in private industry and state and local governments representing the civilian economy.

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

- The BLS collects data on benefit incidence and provisions from a sample of approximately 17,200 establishments.

WORK STOPPAGES STATISTICS

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

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STATISTICS

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

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

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annual fatal injury census that compiles a complete roster of job-related fatal injuries and provides detailed information on fatally injured workers and the circumstances of the injuries leading to their deaths. These data include the events or exposures incurred by the worker, and the nature and source of the injury or illness.

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

Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

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

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

- The BLS conducts the annual survey in a 50/50 cost-sharing partnership with 42 states, the District of Columbia, and 3 territories, and collects the injury and illness data in nonparticipating states through its regional offices to produce national data. The BLS collects information, which is based on the records of job-related injuries and illnesses that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires many employers to keep and report to its employees annually, from a sample of approximately 228,000 establishments. Additionally, the survey collects nationwide detailed information on case circumstances and worker characteristics for approximately 562,000 injury or illness cases over a two year period that required days away from work, job transfer, or restriction to recuperate.

Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

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

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complete roster of fatal occupational injuries to workers in private and public sector establishments and to the self-employed.

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

- The BLS conducts the fatal injury census in a 50/50 cost-sharing partnership with 46 states, the District of Columbia, 3 territories, and 1 city. The BLS collects fatal injury reports for the nonparticipating states and publishes data for the nation.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2022	\$87,309	314
2023	\$91,000	325
2024	\$91,000	326
2025	\$92,354	328
2026	\$91,500	282

FY 2027

In FY 2027, the BLS will continue the production of core data series and will undertake the following new work in the areas of Compensation and Working Conditions:

The NCS will reweight the ECI to incorporate occupational employment weighted based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 2022 and current area redefinitions post-COVID-19. The March 2027 Employee Benefits in the United States publication will incorporate the streamlined collection, review, and estimation of employer-sponsored benefits changes implemented in FY 2026.

With funding from the SSA, the ORS will publish the results from the third sample in the third wave. Collection of the fourth sample in the third wave, will start in the last quarter of FY 2026, and will continue through FY 2027.

The OSHA will publish SOII industry estimates data that reflect the 2022 NAICS Revision.

FY 2026

In FY 2026, the BLS is continuing the production of core data series and will undertake the

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following new work in the areas of Compensation and Working Conditions:

The NCS will streamline the collection, review, and estimation of employer-sponsored benefits. These changes will be reflected with the December 2026 ECI/ECEC and March 2027 Employee Benefits in the United States publications. The NCS will publish findings from research on non-response.

With funding from the SSA, the ORS published the results from the second sample in the third wave. Collection of the third sample in the third wave, started in the last quarter of FY 2025, will continue through FY 2026.

The OSHS published biennial nationwide estimates for case circumstances and worker characteristics from cases resulting in days away from work, job transfer, or restriction that reflects the new Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS).

FY 2025

In FY 2025, the BLS continued the production of core data series and completed the following work in the areas of Compensation and Working Conditions:

The NCS published detailed information on the provisions of health care plans provided to private sector workers. The NCS continues to evaluate the impact of non-response on published estimates.

With funding from the SSA, the ORS validated the results from the second sample in the third wave. Results include new and modified job requirements. Collection of the third sample in the third wave, started in the last quarter of FY 2025.

The OSHS published Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries data that reflects the new Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS) and the 2022 NAICS revision.

The OSHS evaluated options for integrating OSHA-Injury Tracking Application (ITA) administrative case data in SOII data collection.

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Compensation and Working Conditions					
	Principal Federal Economic Indicator				
	Employment Cost Index				
BLS 3.4 ECI.01.W	Number of establishments 1/	14,800	14,800	16,400	17,200
BLS 3.4 ECI.02.T	Percentage of quarterly releases on schedule (4 out of 4)	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 ECI.03.A	Number of quarters that the standard error for the percentage change in the 3-month civilian compensation less incentive paid occupations index is ≤ 0.3	4	4	4	4
BLS 3.4 ECI.04.P	Number of indexes published quarterly (not seasonally adjusted)	278	278	278	278
BLS 3.4 ECI.05.P	Number of levels published quarterly	331	331	331	331
	Other Programs				
	Employee Benefits Survey				
BLS 3.4 EBS.01.W	Number of establishments (benefit incidence) 1/	14,800	14,800	16,400	17,200
BLS 3.4 EBS.02.P	Number of annual releases 2/	3	3	1	1
BLS 3.4 EBS.03.W	Number of establishments (detailed provisions) 3/	4,917	4,917	--	--
	Work Stoppages Statistics				
BLS 3.4 WSS.01.P	Number of monthly and annual releases	13	13	13	13
	Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses 4/				
BLS 3.4 SOII.01.W	Number of participating states, territories, and cities 5/	46	46	46	46
BLS 3.4 SOII.02.W	Number of establishments surveyed 6/	228,191	228,191	228,000	226,000
BLS 3.4 SOII.03.W	Number of cases for which case circumstances and worker characteristics are collected and coded (biennial)	--	--	562,000	--
BLS 3.4 SOII.04.P	Number of national industry estimates produced	21,684	21,684	21,600	21,600
BLS 3.4 SOII.05.P	Number of national estimates produced on worker characteristics and injury or illness circumstances (biennial)	--	--	6,200,000	--

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
BLS 3.4 SOII.06.A	Percentage of employment for which national estimates are produced:				
BLS 3.4 SOII.07.A	Private Sector 7/	93%	93%	93%	93%
	Public Sector	87%	87%	87%	87%
BLS 3.4 SOII.08.A	Margin of error on the annual estimate of the national incidence rate for total job-related injuries and illnesses at the 95% confidence level (calendar year data)	<±0.10	0.02	<±0.10	<±0.10
	Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 8/				
BLS 3.4 CFOI.01.W	Number of participating states, territories, and cities 9/	51	51	51	51
BLS 3.4 CFOI.02.W	Number of source documents per fatal injury	≥4.5	4.7	≥4.5	≥4.5
BLS 3.4 CFOI.03.A	Percentage of employment covered by fatal occupational injury statistics	100%	100%	100%	100%

- 1/ The FY 2026 and FY 2027 targets reflect the increased private industry sample size used to mitigate the impact of declining response rates. The FY 2027 target includes aircraft manufacturing and government sample.
- 2/ Beginning in FY 2026, the BLS will not publish a detailed provisions publication, and the Employee Benefits in the United States News Release and supplemental tables will be considered as one release.
- 3/ Beginning FY 2026, detailed provisions for health or retirement benefit plans will not be published.
- 4/ The BLS reported results for the 2023 SOII in FY 2025. The BLS will report results for the 2024 SOII in FY 2026 and the 2025 SOII in FY 2027.
- 5/ The BLS collects data for states not participating in the Federal/State Cooperative program to produce nationwide estimates of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses. The FY 2025 through FY 2027 targets reflect 42 states, the District of Columbia, and 3 territories.
- 6/ The FY 2027 target reflects an optimized sample for non-participating states, resulting in a lower total sample size.
- 7/ The SOII does not collect data on several groups of private industry employees, including self-employed nonagricultural workers; self-employed agricultural workers; wage and salary agricultural workers at establishments with 10 or fewer employees; railroad workers; mine workers outside of oil and gas extraction; domestic workers; and unpaid family workers.
- 8/ The BLS reported results for the 2023 CFOI in FY 2025. The BLS will report results for the 2024 CFOI in FY 2026 and the 2025 CFOI in FY 2027.
- 9/ The BLS collects data for states not participating in the Federal/State Cooperative program to produce nationwide counts of fatal work injuries. The FY 2025 through FY 2027 figures reflect 46 states, the District of Columbia, 3 territories, and 1 city.

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Workload and Performance Narrative

The BLS seeks to transform how it collects, analyzes, and delivers its data by increasing its use of technology and identifying efficiencies to improve data accuracy, lower respondent burden, and increase survey responses, while providing policymakers and the public with a first look at economic activity each month. The Compensation and Working Conditions programs produce a diverse set of measures of employee compensation and compile data on work-related injuries, illnesses, and fatalities. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements that can be made by each Budget Activity. For example, in FY 2027, the OSHA will publish Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII) industry estimates data that reflect the 2022 NAICS Revision.

In FY 2027, the Budget carries forward the proposal to reorganize the BLS, the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis at the Department of Commerce. This reorganization proposal aims to leverage data collection and analysis synergies, increase cost-effectiveness, improve data quality, and reduce respondent burden.

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
11.1 Full-time permanent	41,113	39,329	36,997	-2,332
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	72	52	52	0
11.5 Other personnel compensation	1,115	1,196	1,078	-118
12.1 Personnel Benefits	15,349	14,714	14,100	-614
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons	200	271	271	0
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	6,200	5,811	5,811	0
23.2 Rental payments to others	5	5	5	0
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc.	280	420	420	0
24.0 Printing and reproduction	254	249	249	0
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	342	317	317	0
25.3 Other goods and svcs. from Fed. sources	1,932	3,465	2,965	-500
25.3 WCF (Non-Add)	9,697	10,875	9,761	-1,114
25.7 Operation and maint. of equipment	6,610	6,009	6,009	0
26.0 Supplies and materials	29	46	46	0
31.0 Equipment	1,333	901	901	0
41.0 Grants, subsidies, and contributions	7,809	7,808	7,808	0
42.0 Insurance claims and indemnities	14	32	32	0
Total	92,354	91,500	86,822	-4,678

COMPENSATION AND WORKING CONDITIONS

CHANGES IN FY 2027

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-Ins

Total personnel compensation	\$0	
Working Capital Fund	-\$1,114	
Built-Ins Subtotal	-\$1,114	

Base	\$91,500	282
Program Decreases	-\$3,564	-3
Net Program Subtotal	-\$3,564	-3
Total Activity Appropriation	\$86,822	279

	Amount	FTE
Base	\$91,500	282
Program Increases	\$0	0
Program Decreases	-\$3,564	-3

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
Activity Appropriation	12,360	12,000	10,650	-1,350
FTE	50	42	41	-1

NOTE: FY 2025 reflects actual FTE.

Introduction

Productivity and Technology programs meet several major needs for economic statistics. Data from these programs measure productivity trends in the U.S. economy, as well as in major sectors, individual industries, and states. These programs also analyze trends in order to examine the factors underlying productivity change and growth in the economy. Data produced by the Productivity and Technology programs aid economic policymakers, business leaders, and researchers in analyzing current economic activity. In addition, these data are used as economic indicators; in studies of relationships between productivity, wages, capital, prices, profits, and employment; and as an aid in understanding sources of economic growth. The productivity measurement programs are authorized by an act dated June 7, 1940 (29 U.S.C. 2b), which directs that the BLS “make continuing studies of productivity and labor costs in the manufacturing, mining, transportation, distribution, and other industries.” In addition, the productivity measurement program supports the original directive of BLS (29 U.S.C 1) to “acquire and diffuse[...] useful information on subjects connected with labor[...] and especially upon its relation to capital, the hours of labor, the earnings of laboring men and women.” The BLS carries out its mandate to produce impartial and objective economic data for the nation in the area of productivity as described below for each program.

Major Sector Productivity

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

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

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

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

Industry Productivity Studies

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

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

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

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

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2022	\$11,730	50
2023	\$12,524	52
2024	\$12,500	50
2025	\$12,360	52
2026	\$12,000	42

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

FY 2027

In FY 2027, 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 parallel test the new Python production system and implement the system when it successfully updates all quarters.

Industry Productivity Studies (IPS) will develop an implementation plan for converting productivity measures to the 2022 NAICS classification system.

FY 2026

In FY 2026, the BLS is continuing the production of core data series and will undertake the following new work in the areas of Productivity and Technology:

MSP is continuing to implement its software conversion plan by production testing the new Python production system.

IPS is incorporating detailed data from the 2022 Economic Census into measures of labor productivity and total factor productivity.

FY 2025

In FY 2025, the BLS continued the production of core data series and is undertaking the following new work in the areas of Productivity and Technology:

MSP continued to implement its software conversion plan converting legacy labor productivity sub-systems.

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Productivity and Technology					
	<u>Principal Federal Economic Indicator</u>				
	Major Sector Productivity				
BLS 3.4 MSP.01.P	Number of series updated	44	44	44	44
BLS 3.4 MSP.02.T	Percentage of initial and revised quarterly Productivity and Costs releases on schedule (8 out of 8)	100%	100%	100%	100%
BLS 3.4 MSP.03.A	Percentage of business sector output covered by published quarterly labor productivity measures	100%	100%	100%	100%
	<u>Other Programs</u>				
	Industry Productivity Studies				
BLS 3.4 IPS.01.P	Number of series updated 1/ 2/	3,972	3,972	3,876	3,876
BLS 3.4 IPS.02.A	Percentage of industries covered by labor productivity measures 2/ 3/	64.4%	64.4%	61.6%	61.6%
	Other Output Measures				
BLS 3.4 OPT.01.P	Number of industries and sectors with total factor productivity measures 4/	171	171	164	164
BLS 3.4 OPT.02.P	Number of major studies, articles, technical papers, and special reports 5/	17	17	14	14
BLS 3.4 OPT.03.P	Number of state and region productivity series updated	165	165	165	165

1/ The number of labor productivity series updated is based on coverage of NAICS 2-, 3-, 4-, and 5-digit industries, and not 6-digit NAICS industries, because the availability of source data at the 6-digit level is subject to frequent changes.

2/ In FY 2026, the number of series is reduced by 96 due to the discontinuation of source data for manufacturing and impacts of eliminated PPI indexes beginning in July 2025, which also impacts the percentage of industries covered by labor productivity measures.

3/ The percentage of industries covered by labor productivity measures is based on the coverage of NAICS 4-digit industries.

4/ In FY 2026, the reduced target reflects the impact of eliminated PPI indexes beginning in July 2025.

5/ In FY 2026, the reduced target reflects the impacts of reduced staffing.

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

Workload and Performance Narrative

The BLS seeks to transform how it collects, analyzes, and delivers its data by increasing its use of technology and identifying efficiencies to improve data accuracy, lower respondent burden, and increase survey responses, while providing policymakers and the public with a first look at economic activity each month. The Productivity and Technology programs produce data on productivity trends in the U.S. economy, as well as in major sectors and individual industries, and examine the factors underlying productivity change. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements that can be made by each Budget Activity. For example, in FY 2027, Major Sector productivity (MSP) will parallel test the new Python production system and implement the system when it successfully updates all quarters.

In FY 2027, the Budget carries forward the proposal to reorganize the BLS, the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis at the Department of Commerce. This reorganization proposal aims to leverage data collection and analysis synergies, increase cost-effectiveness, improve data quality, and reduce respondent burden.

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
11.1 Full-time permanent	7,042	5,774	5,635	-139
11.5 Other personnel compensation	202	202	188	-14
12.1 Personnel Benefits	2,628	2,184	2,159	-25
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons	26	30	30	0
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	525	492	492	0
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc.	5	7	7	0
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	44	569	69	-500
25.3 Other goods and svcs. from Fed. sources	161	327	302	-25
25.3 WCF (Non-Add)	1,285	1,441	1,294	-147
25.7 Operation and maint. of equipment	311	879	379	-500
26.0 Supplies and materials	8	12	12	0
31.0 Equipment	123	83	83	0
Total	12,360	12,000	10,650	-1,350

PRODUCTIVITY AND TECHNOLOGY

CHANGES IN FY 2027

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-Ins

Total personnel compensation	\$0
Working Capital Fund	-\$147
Built-Ins Subtotal	-\$147

Base	\$12,000	42
Program Decreases	-\$1,203	-1
Net Program Subtotal	-\$1,203	-1
Total Activity Appropriation	\$10,650	41

	Amount	FTE
Base	\$12,000	42
Program Increases	\$0	0
Program Decreases	-\$1,203	-1

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND STAFF SERVICES

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
Activity Appropriation	37,652	37,000	33,820	-3,180
FTE	156	129	126	-3

NOTE: FY 2025 reflects actual FTE.

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.

Office of the Commissioner

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

Administration

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

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Technology and Survey Processing

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

Publications

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

Survey Methods Research

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

The program consists of three parts: the Behavioral Science Research Center, the Mathematical Statistics Research Center, and the Data Science Research Center. Research conducted by the Behavioral Science Research Center concentrates on the measurement and reduction of non-sampling error through, for example, questionnaire design studies, investigations into respondent-interviewer interactions, usability studies of computer-assisted data collection systems, the development of response-level data quality measures, analysis of survey

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

Field Operations

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

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2022	\$35,000	142
2023	\$37,000	157
2024	\$37,500	159
2025	\$37,652	159
2026	\$37,000	129

FY 2026-2027

In FYs 2026 - 2027, the Executive Direction and Staff Services programs will continue to provide agency-wide policy and management direction as described above, including all centralized support services in the administrative, publications, information technology, field operations, survey and statistical methods, and data science research areas.

FY 2025

In FY 2025, the Executive Direction and Staff Services programs provided agency-wide policy

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and management direction as described above, including all centralized support services in the administrative, publications, information technology, field operations, survey and statistical methods, and data science research areas.

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DETAILED WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE					
		FY 2025 Enacted		FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Executive Direction and Staff Services					
BLS 3.4 ED.01	Number of financial audit findings	≤3	0	≤3	≤3

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Workload and Performance Narrative

The BLS seeks to transform how it collects, analyzes, and delivers its data by increasing its use of technology and identifying efficiencies to improve data accuracy, lower respondent burden, and increase survey responses, while providing policymakers and the public with a first look at economic activity each month. On an annual basis, the BLS identifies individual improvements each Budget Activity can make. For example, in FY 2027, the Office of Technology and Survey Processing, within Executive Direction and Staff Services, will continue to maximize the amount of time in which Local Area Network Infrastructure is available to support the production of economic labor statistics

In FY 2027, the Budget carries forward the proposal to reorganize the BLS, the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis at the Department of Commerce. This reorganization proposal aims to leverage data collection and analysis synergies, increase cost-effectiveness, improve data quality, and reduce respondent burden.

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BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request	Diff. FY 2027 Request / FY 2026 Enacted
11.1 Full-time permanent	21,755	19,459	18,786	-673
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	82	0	0	0
11.5 Other personnel compensation	816	852	814	-38
12.1 Personnel Benefits	8,164	7,380	7,246	-134
12.1 FECA	155	275	219	-56
13.0 Benefits for former personnel	0	3	3	0
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons	218	102	102	0
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	1,198	1,122	1,122	0
23.2 Rental payments to others	16	16	16	0
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc.	59	88	88	0
24.0 Printing and reproduction	9	9	9	0
25.2 Other services from non-Federal sources	354	916	416	-500
25.3 Other goods and svcs. from Fed. sources	545	1,713	679	-1,034
25.3 WCF (Non-Add)	1,911	2,391	2,146	-245
25.7 Operation and maint. of equipment	1,813	2,252	1,752	-500
26.0 Supplies and materials	45	72	72	0
31.0 Equipment	511	348	348	0
42.0 Insurance claims and indemnities	1	2	2	0
Total	37,652	37,000	33,820	-3,180

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CHANGES IN FY 2027

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-Ins

Total personnel compensation	\$0	
Federal Employees' Compensation Act	-\$56	
Working Capital Fund	-\$245	
Built-Ins Subtotal	-\$301	

Base	\$37,000	129
Program Decreases	-\$2,879	-3
Net Program Subtotal	-\$2,879	-3
Total Activity Appropriation	\$33,820	126

	Amount	FTE
Base	\$37,000	129
Program Increases	\$0	0
Program Decreases	-\$2,879	-3