

Bureau of Labor Market Information: Program and Data Guide

The Ohio Bureau of Labor Market Information

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

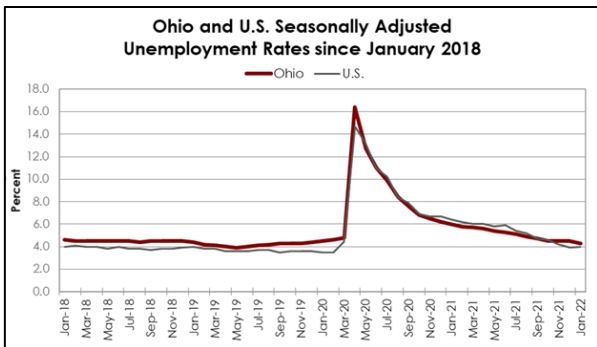
The BLMI operates under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and receives funding from a federal Workforce Labor Market Information Grant provided by the DOL Employment and Training Administration (ETA). The BLMI is required to provide the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



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

ohiolmi.com/_docs/ces/lmr.pdf

ohiolmi.com/Home/EconomicProfiles



Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

The QCEW program collects industry employment and wage information on approximately 300,000 business establishments covered by Ohio and federal unemployment insurance (UI) laws. These establishments employ approximately 5.2 million people, including private industry employees, as well as federal, state and local government workers. Data for counties are collected at the six-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) level and can be aggregated to various industry levels (NAICS industry groups, sectors and supersectors) and geographic levels (national, state and metropolitan statistical areas). Quarterly, annual and trend data are available for Ohio and the counties. To expand coverage and to capture employment and wage data, as well as changes in business location and primary activity, information from the ODJFS Office of Unemployment Insurance Operations (OUIO) is supplemented with data collected via four surveys administered to business establishments.

BLMI staff perform the following activities for the QCEW program:

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

The following QCEW information for Ohio is available at ohiolmi.com:

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

Uses and Users of QCEW Data:

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

Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS)

The OEWS program collects data on wage and salary workers from a sample of nonfarm business establishments to produce employment and wage estimates for approximately 800 occupations. Estimates are derived from a voluntary survey of business worksites. The BLS provides the methodology and technical support, draws the sample, and produces the survey forms. The BLMI is responsible for producing additional solicitation materials, verifying employer information, collecting the data, and analyzing and processing employer responses by applying Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) codes for each employee. Ohio has the sixth largest sample in the nation. It consists of approximately 13,500 businesses per year, totaling more than 950,000 employees. To be statistically valid, BLMI must meet a 75 percent response rate of sampled business establishments for 18 substate areas and 65 percent of sampled statewide employment, or information on approximately 10,125 business establishments and 617,500 employees.

BLMI staff perform the following activities for the OEWS program:


- Mail or email the survey and conduct extensive follow-up and verification via telephone with employers throughout the collection period. Employers can also respond via secure email or BLS website.
- Prior to each survey, contact businesses and update addresses if necessary.
- Report each week to the BLS on the collection/response rate status.

The following OEWS information for Ohio is available at ohiolmi.com:

- **Occupational Wage Estimates:** ohiolmi.com/Home/oeshome – Users can review and/or download occupational wage estimates for MSAs, the six JobsOhio economic development regions or the state as a whole, based on data from the six most recent survey panels (i.e., three years).

Uses and Users of OEWS data:

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



The screenshot shows the Ohio Labor Market Information website. The main heading is "Occupational Employment and Wages by State and Area 2019". Below this is a table with columns for Area, Occupation, SOC Code, Estimated Employment, Average Wage, Entry Wage, 25% Wage, Median Wage, and 75% Wage. The table lists various occupations such as Accountants and Auditors, Actuaries, and Architects and Engineers, along with their respective employment and wage data for Ohio.

Area	Occupation	SOC Code	Estimated Employment	Average Wage	Entry Wage	25% Wage	Median Wage	75% Wage
Ohio	Accountants and Auditors	13000	47,340	\$36.35	\$20.21	\$25.14	\$31.68	\$41.26
Ohio	Actuaries	23000	500	\$17.42	\$6.99	\$9.24	\$11.90	\$25.61
Ohio	Architects and Engineers, Except Draft, All Other	23000	1,880	\$49.75	\$29.12	\$33.50	\$40.48	\$51.82
Ohio	Architectural Drafting, Mapping, Copying, and Related	23000	570	\$41.28	\$20.52	\$30.71	\$39.17	\$50.02
Ohio	Administrative Law Judges, Hearing Officers, and Hearers	23000	360	\$26.92	\$12.22	\$19.74	\$26.07	\$33.01
Ohio	Administrative Services Managers	13000	770	\$40.02	\$23.22	\$30.73	\$31.64	\$41.78
Ohio	Adult, Elder, and Secondary Education and Training	23000	11,980	\$40.02	\$23.22	\$30.73	\$31.64	\$41.78
Ohio	Advertising and Promotions Managers	13000	300	\$24.10	\$17.21	\$19.95	\$23.42	\$29.77
Ohio	Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	13000	3,410	\$20.40	\$11.49	\$12.90	\$14.90	\$17.92
Ohio	Aerospace Engineering and Operations Technicians	17000	360	\$20.40	\$11.49	\$12.90	\$14.90	\$17.92

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

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

BLMI staff perform the following activities for the LAUS program:

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

The following LAUS information for Ohio is available at ohiolmi.com:

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

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the Ohio Labor Market Information website. The page title is "Ohio Labor Market Information" and the header includes "Ohio Department of Job and Family Services". The main content area is titled "Employment and Unemployment Statistics - LAUS". Below the title is a table with columns for State, Area, Year, Period, Population, Employment, Labor Force, Unemployed, and Unemployment Rate. The table lists data for various Ohio counties and MSAs, including Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, and others, for the years 2020 and 2021. The unemployment rates range from approximately 4.1% to 13.0%.

Uses and Users of LAUS:

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

Current Employment Statistics (CES)

The CES program produces monthly estimates of industry employment, hours and earnings for Ohio and its 12 MSAs. Estimates are derived from a voluntary survey, also known as the business establishment survey, of more than 25,300 worksites throughout Ohio. Employers provide data for the pay period that includes the 12th of the month. Payroll and hours data are collected for private-sector production, construction and non-supervisory workers. Each month, BLS summarizes the estimates by industry for Ohio and the MSAs.

BLMI staff perform the following activities for the CES program:

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

The following CES information for Ohio is available at ohiolmi.com:

- **Overview and Links to Data:** ohiolmi.com/Home/ceshome – Under Employment/Unemployment and Current Employment Statistics. Includes links to Employment by Sector, Ohio Seasonally Adjusted Nonagricultural Employment Table, and the Labor Market Review.
- **Data Search Tool:** ohiolmi.com/DataSearch – Users can search and download current and historical data on employment by industry for Ohio and its 12 MSAs. Where available, hours and earnings are provided.
- **Labor Market Review:** ohiolmi.com/portals/206/CES/LMR.pdf – This monthly publication contains the following information for Ohio and its 12 MSAs:

- Current and historical data on employment by industry.
- Hours and earnings for production, construction and non-supervisory workers.
- Civilian labor force estimates of employment and unemployment.
- Select UI data.

Uses and Users of CES data:

- State administrators, economic developers, researchers and economists use CES data for a variety of things:
 - To evaluate the economic health of the labor market.
 - To guide fiscal and monetary policy decisions.
 - To forecast tax revenues.
 - To guide decisions on plant location, sales and purchases.
 - To compare employment, hours and earnings across industries or the economy as a whole.
 - To determine the employment base of states and areas for bond ratings.
 - To analyze phases of the business cycle.



Workforce Research

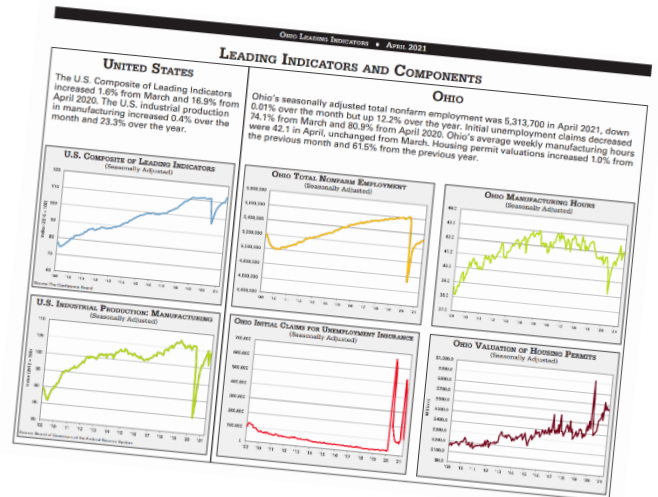
The BLMI Workforce Research section is responsible for producing and disseminating all the products and activities required by the federal Workforce and Labor Market Information Grant, including industry and occupation projections. The section also educates others about labor market information through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

BLMI Workforce Research staff conduct the following activities:

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

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

- **Employment Projections:** [ohiolmi.com/Home/Projections](#) – Includes links to *Occupational Trends*, a pamphlet of Ohio occupations with favorable job prospects, and *Industry Snapshot*, which lists the top jobs in the industry clusters that align with JobsOhio targeted sectors.
- **Data Search Tool:** [ohiolmi.com/DataSearch](#) – Users can obtain industry and occupational employment projections for Ohio, the eight largest MSAs and the six JobsOhio regions.
- **Publications:** [ohiolmi.com/home/publications](#) – Includes links to special publications.
- **Webinars and Self-Guided Trainings:** [ohiolmi.com/Home/elearning](#) – Workforce professionals across Ohio can learn how to better use labor market information and [OhioMeansJobs.com](#) to support their daily work and special projects.



How do employment estimates differ by program?

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

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