



Department of
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Services

Labor Market Information



Labor Market Matters

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Numbers Are Not Data

Data are more than just a collection of numbers. They're pieces of a puzzle that must be looked at collectively, with other pieces, over time. This issue of Labor Market Matters is full of helpful information about the data that our Bureau of Labor Market Information gathers. For more information, please visit their website: Ohiolmi.com.

Matt Damschroder, Director

Unpacking the Power of Data: Household vs. Establishment Surveys

Household surveys and establishment surveys are two methods used to gather labor market information, and they serve different purposes.

Household Surveys collect data directly from individuals and households. They aim to gather information about the employment status, job search activities, and overall labor force participation of people. For example, the U.S. Current Population Survey is a household survey that provides data on unemployment rates, labor force participation, and demographic characteristics of the workforce.

Establishment Surveys collect data from businesses and organizations. They gather information about employment levels, wages, and job openings within companies. An example is the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS). JOLTS provides insights into hiring trends and job vacancies from the perspective of employers.

Essentially, household surveys focus on individual and household labor market experiences, while establishment surveys provide the perspective of employers.

Sample Size is Key

Data can vary between organizations due to factors like sample size. Sample size refers to the number of people or data points collected in a survey or study. Smaller samples can be more variable and unstable, while larger samples usually offer more reliable estimates.



Meet the Team: Dolores Little

Dolores began her career with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services' Bureau of Labor Market Information (OhioLMI) in 2006. Initially, she worked as an analyst for the Quarterly Census and Employment and Wages program. Later, she advanced to supervisor of both the Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs.

Originally from Mexico, Dolores immigrated in 2004 after earning a bachelor's and master's degree in economics from the Universidad de las Americas – Puebla. In Ohio, she continued her education, earning an MBA from Ohio University.

Outside of work, Dolores is devoted to her family, including her son, Kyle, and husband, Mike, who keep her busy attending various sports events. This winter, the family is excited to visit Okemo and Whistler ski resorts.

State-to-State Migration

The U.S. Census Bureau recently shared new state-level statistics for 2023 about where people move and where they were born. The new data include two important tables:

State-to-State Migration Flows: This table shows how many people moved between the 50 states, Washington D.C., and Puerto Rico in 2023. It also includes information about people coming to the U.S. from other countries. The latest version has a handy tool that lets users find specific migration numbers for each state.

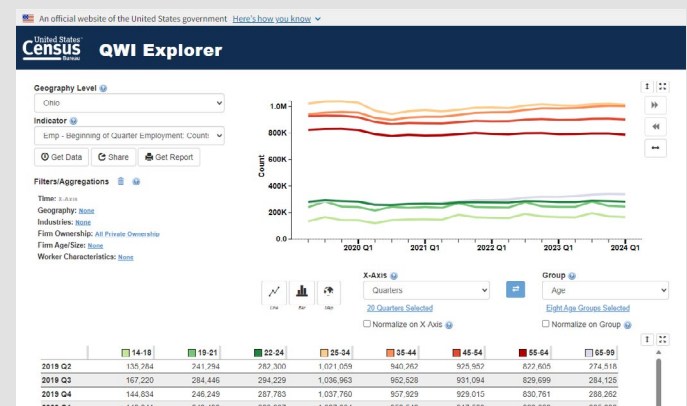
State of Residence by Place of Birth: This table shows how many people lived in each state, D.C., and Puerto Rico in 2023 and where they were born. These statistics are based on the 2023 American Community Survey one-year estimates.

Data Request Spotlight

Every day, OhioLMI answers questions about Ohio's labor market. Let's look at a recent request:

Question: I'm working on a project and need to break out age group and employment classification by county. I'm having trouble finding a data source for that type of data.

Response: The U.S. Census has a tool that allows us to extract the data: [QWI Explorer](#).



Survey Says!

We want to hear from YOU! Please take a few minutes to complete our survey at <https://ohiolmi.com/Home/Feedback>. Your feedback will help us improve features that matter most to you. Don't miss your chance to make an impact. We can't wait to hear from you!



How to Calculate the Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate measures the number of individuals unemployed as a percentage of the labor force.

Unemployment Rate =

$$\frac{\text{Unemployed* People}}{\text{Labor Force}} \times 100$$

Example = 4.3%

$$\frac{255,500}{5,888,400} \times 100$$

*For definitions of the unemployed and the labor force, visit bls.gov/cps/cps_htgm.htm#definitions

Updated QCEW Data

The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages has released data for the first quarter of 2024. To find the latest information, use our Data Search Tool at [OhioLMI.com/Home/DS_Results_QCEW](https://ohiolmi.com/Home/DS_Results_QCEW).

The screenshot shows the Ohio Labor Market Information Data Search tool. The main heading is "Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Data Search". Below the heading is a search interface with dropdown menus for State (Ohio), Area Type (State), Area (Ohio), Year (2024), Period Type (Quarter), Period (Q1), and Industry Level (All). Below the search interface is a table with the following columns: Area, Year, Period, Industry Code & Title, Ownership, # of Establishments, Average Employment, Month 1 Employment, Month 2 Employment, and Month 3 Employment. The table contains several rows of data, including "Total All Industries" for Ohio in 2024 Q1, showing 11,244 establishments and an average employment of 132,260.

Area	Year	Period	Industry Code & Title	Ownership	# of Establishments	Average Employment	Month 1 Employment	Month 2 Employment	Month 3 Employment
Ohio	2024	Q1	Total All Industries	Total Employment	11,244	132,260	132,260	132,260	132,260
Ohio	2024	Q1	Total All Industries	State Government	11,244	132,260	132,260	132,260	132,260
Ohio	2024	Q1	Total All Industries	Private	11,244	132,260	132,260	132,260	132,260
Ohio	2024	Q1	Total All Industries	Total Government	11,244	132,260	132,260	132,260	132,260
Ohio	2024	Q1	Total All Industries	Federal Government	3	5	5	5	5
Ohio	2024	Q1	Total All Industries	State Government	3	5	5	5	5
Ohio	2024	Q1	Total All Industries	Local Government	5	5	5	5	5
Ohio	2024	Q1	Total All Industries	Private	11,244	132,260	132,260	132,260	132,260
Ohio	2024	Q1	Total All Industries	Local Government	5	5	5	5	5

Be on the Lookout – Updates to MSAs!

With the release of May 2024 estimates in April 2025, the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics for metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) will reflect new boundaries based on the 2020 Census. Check out the new [MSAMap2020](#).