

NEWS



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Occupations
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U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics ✓

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FIRST COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION SOON TO GET UNDERWAY

About 50,000 manufacturing plants will be asked to participate in the first comprehensive survey of employment by occupation in the United States. The survey will be conducted this summer and fall by the U.S. Department of Labor.

This survey is the first phase of a new occupational employment statistics program designed to meet the need for current data on employment by occupation within various industries. The limited occupational data available have been considered inadequate by business and labor researchers, economists, manpower analysts, educational planners, and others.

The survey is expected to yield employment information for over 1,000 occupations in manufacturing. A special questionnaire is being mailed to plants in each industry.

The new occupational employment statistics program is expected to (1) provide accurate profiles of the nation's worker-skill resources by industry and trends in the numbers of workers employed by occupation; (2) identify States and metropolitan areas in which worker-skills are located; (3) permit national, State, and local projections of future worker-skill requirements by industry; and (4) identify emerging and disappearing occupations.

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This information will help government officials at all levels plan educational and training programs. It will also help public and private educators evaluate their vocational and other educational curricula and the relevancy of their vocational guidance programs.

The program is also expected to help business firms and labor organizations keep abreast of changes occurring in the occupational patterns of their industries; private employers will be able to compare their company patterns with those of the industry in general. Information on the geographical location of specific occupational skills should also be of interest to both management and labor.

This year manufacturing industries will be surveyed, and in 1972 a survey will be conducted in other nonagricultural industries.

The new program is a Federal-State cooperative undertaking, involving State employment security agencies as well as the Department of Labor's Manpower Administration and Bureau of Labor Statistics, which are directing the program. This year, fifteen State employment security agencies are participating: Alaska, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, Nevada, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. The Colorado, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, and North Carolina State employment security agencies will join the program next year. It is hoped that all States will eventually participate.

Cooperating State employment security agencies will send the information to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and will also compile estimates for their States. Plants in States not yet participating will send their reports directly to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. All data obtained by means of the survey will be held in strict confidence and will be published only in summary form.

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