

**The Big Three Federal Data Sources**

**U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)** [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov) Unit of the United States Department of Labor. It is the principal fact-finding agency for the U.S. government in the broad field of labor economics and statistics and serves as a principal agency of the U.S. Federal Statistical System.

Data	Description	Link
Standard Occupation Classification (SOC)	Classifies workers into occupational categories for data collection and interpretation	<a href="http://www.bls.gov/soc">www.bls.gov/soc</a>
Occupational Employment Statistics (OES)	Produces employment and wage estimates annually for over 800 occupations	<a href="http://www.bls.gov/oes">www.bls.gov/oes</a>
Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)	Monthly survey measuring household employment. Determines size of labor force and unemployment rate. County level since 1991	<a href="http://www.bls.gov/lau">www.bls.gov/lau</a>
Current Employment Statistics (CES)	Current Employment Statistics-details kind of employment, hours and earning on nonfarm payrolls	<a href="http://www.bls.gov/CES">www.bls.gov/CES</a>
Location Quotients	A column in each table using the QCEW data viewer tables	<a href="https://data.bls.gov/cew/apps/data_views/data_views.htm#tab=Tables">https://data.bls.gov/cew/apps/data_views/data_views.htm#tab=Tables</a>

**U.S. Census Bureau (Census)** [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov) Housed under the Department of Commerce, Census is the principal agency of the U.S. Federal Statistics System, responsible for producing data about the American people and economy

Data	Description	Link
American Community Survey (ACS)	Provides descriptive data on community demographic changes	<a href="https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs">https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs</a>
Population Estimates	Program that estimates population on national, state, county, and city levels	<a href="http://www.census.gov/popest">www.census.gov/popest</a>
Population	Provides projections of population growth	<a href="https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popproj.html">https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popproj.html</a>
Census data (originally Factfinder)	Search engine for agglomeration of researched data from Census	<a href="http://www.data.census.gov">www.data.census.gov</a>
NAICS code system	Standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments	<a href="http://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics">www.census.gov/eos/www/naics</a>
County Business Patterns	Business counts by industry	<a href="https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp.html">https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp.html</a>
Minority Business Info	Economic Census	<a href="https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census/year.html">https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census/year.html</a>

**U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)** [www.bea.gov](http://www.bea.gov) part of the U.S. Department of Commerce, BEA produces economic accounts statistics that enable government and business decision-makers, researchers, and the American public to follow and understand the performance of the Nation's economy

Data	Description	Link
Personal Income Statistics	Measures the amount and sources of income in an area. Accessible via county back to 1969	<a href="https://www.bea.gov/data/income-saving">https://www.bea.gov/data/income-saving</a>
Gross Domestic Product	Measure of the value of goods and services in a geographic area. Restated annually – redownload each year	<a href="https://www.bea.gov/data/gdp">https://www.bea.gov/data/gdp</a>

<b>Additional Federal Data Sources</b>		
<b>Data</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Link</b>
U.S. Energy Information Administration	Collects, analyzes, and disseminates independent and impartial energy information to promote sound policymaking, efficient markets, and public understanding of energy and its interaction with the economy and the environment.	<a href="http://www.eia.gov">www.eia.gov</a>
National Center for Educational Statistics	Primary federal entity for collecting and analyzing data related to education in the U.S. and other nations	<a href="https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/Home/UseTheData">https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/Home/UseTheData</a> <a href="http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/">http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/</a>
Small Business Administration	Independent federal agency designed to aid and assist the interests of small business across the country.	<a href="http://www.sba.gov">www.sba.gov</a>
Bureau of Transportation Statistics	Data covering all manner of statistics encompassing freight, airline, and infrastructure information	<a href="http://www.transtats.bts.gov">www.transtats.bts.gov</a>
United States Department of Agriculture	Data over animal products, crops, farm economy and more	<a href="http://www.ers.usda.gov">www.ers.usda.gov</a> <a href="http://www.nass.usda.gov">www.nass.usda.gov</a>
Foreign Trade Statistics	Census: Information on trade balance with foreign countries, import-exports from states, etc...  International Trade Administration: Trade Statistics by Metro  Brookings Institution Metro Export Monitor	<a href="http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/statistics/state/http://tse.export.gov/tse/tsehome.aspx">http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/statistics/state/http://tse.export.gov/tse/tsehome.aspx</a>  <a href="https://www.trade.gov/mas/ian/metroreport/index.asp">https://www.trade.gov/mas/ian/metroreport/index.asp</a>  <a href="https://www.brookings.edu/research/export-monitor-2018/">https://www.brookings.edu/research/export-monitor-2018/</a>
Internal Revenue Service	Migration data for the United States based on year-to-year address changes reported on individual income tax returns filed with the IRS	<a href="http://www.irs.gov/uac/SOI-Tax-Stats-Migration-Data">http://www.irs.gov/uac/SOI-Tax-Stats-Migration-Data</a>
IPUMS (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series)	IPUMS USA collects, preserves and harmonizes U.S. census microdata and provides easy access to this data with enhanced documentation.	<a href="https://usa.ipums.org/usa/">https://usa.ipums.org/usa/</a>

<b>Miscellaneous – Data Aggregators</b>		
<b>Data</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Link</b>
States Perform	Comparative data across states provided by Council of State Governments	<a href="http://www.stateperform.org">www.stateperform.org</a>
Federal Reserve Economic Data	Economic analysis data	<a href="https://fres.stlouisfed.org">https://fres.stlouisfed.org</a>
Living Wage Calculator	Comparative data on living wage standards by state	<a href="http://livingwage.mit.edu">http://livingwage.mit.edu</a>
City, County and State Data	Community Overviews	<a href="http://www.data.io">www.data.io</a>
StatsAmerica	Region & radius tool analysis	<a href="http://www.statsamerica.org">www.statsamerica.org</a>
U.S. Cluster Mapping	Compare area economic clusters	<a href="http://www.clustermapping.us/region">www.clustermapping.us/region</a>
Economic Profile System		<a href="http://headwaterseconomics.org/tools/economic-profile-system">http://headwaterseconomics.org/tools/economic-profile-system</a>

<b>Proprietary Data Sources/ Tools</b>	
<b>Description</b>	<b>Link</b>
Demographics data	<a href="http://www.appliedgeographic.com">www.appliedgeographic.com</a>
Analysis of economic indicators	<a href="http://www.economy.com">www.economy.com</a>
Geographic Information System (GIS) Applications	<a href="http://www.decisiondata.net">www.decisiondata.net</a>
Demographics and marketing data	<a href="http://www.geolytics.com">www.geolytics.com</a>
Time series data/economic analysis	<a href="http://www.haver.com">www.haver.com</a>
Labor market data	<a href="http://www.economicmodeling.com">www.economicmodeling.com</a>
Regional economic data	<a href="http://www.implan.com">www.implan.com</a>
Regional policy analysis	<a href="http://www.remi.com">www.remi.com</a>
Economic models/labor market data	<a href="http://www.chmuraecon.com">www.chmuraecon.com</a>
Global commercial database	<a href="http://www.dnb.com">www.dnb.com</a>
Data visualization	<a href="http://www.fivethirtyeight.com/economics/">www.fivethirtyeight.com/economics/</a>
Data visualization	<a href="http://www.storytellingwithdata.com">www.storytellingwithdata.com</a>
Cost of Living Index	<a href="http://www.coli.org">www.coli.org</a>
State Business Incentives Database	<a href="http://www.stateincentives.org">www.stateincentives.org</a>
State Business Expenditures Database	<a href="http://www.stateexpenditures.org">www.stateexpenditures.org</a>