

# A Wiki Platform for Metadata: Statipedia

FedCASIC conference, March 23, 2011

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. . . with lots of advice from others, especially

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. . .not representing the agency, just the named author

[www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)



# Vision: share methodology information online

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Statipedia is a wiki for statistical staff across agencies

- An online workspace
  - With methodology source material
  - Not for the public (outside .gov)
  - Not for sensitive content (e.g. early data or PII)
  - Pilot project
- 
- Modeled on Wikipedia and Intellipedia at intel agencies
  - Suitable for metadata discussion and documentation

# Knowledge pooling

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We can

- Share definitions
- Copy one another's designs, procedures, software
- Develop materials together easily
- Enable new staff to figure more things out

➔ Development of science and technology goes faster with easily shared knowledge

Note: Cheap and robust to budget uncertainty  
Can help us get things done cheaply



## Main Page

# Welcome to Statipedia - A Platform for Collaboration Across Statistical Agencies

[edit]

**Most Recent Milestone:** Statipedia 100 days old 23/2011.

Getting Started	Wanted	New & Popular Pages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permissions (what various agencies require for engaging in inter-agency collaborations like Statipedia)</li> <li>Create your own personal page</li> <li>Rules of Behavior</li> <li>Consult the MediaWiki <a href="#">User's Guide</a> for information on using the wiki software.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>NEW</b> JSM Panel Abstract</li> <li>Wanted Pages</li> <li>Wanted Categories</li> <li>Agency-specific "Permissions" information</li> <li>Agency-specific requirements for use of Open Source Software</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access Requests</li> <li>Barn-Raising (our "kick-off" event)</li> <li>Wiki Statistics</li> <li>Guidelines for Statistical Practice</li> <li>In the News</li> </ul>
Wiki Matters	Upcoming Events	Useful External Links
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wiki Statistics</li> <li>Wiki Milestones</li> <li>Rules of Behavior</li> <li>Version (extension list, etc.)</li> <li>Sandbox</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FCSM, January ???, at ???</li> <li>Joint Statistical Meetings <a href="#">JSM</a>, July 30 - Aug 4, Miami, FL</li> <li>JSM Session on Statipedia</li> <li>FCSM Research Conference, November 2011, at ???</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">MAX</a>  (Max Federal Community)</li> <li><a href="#">OpenGOV</a>  (on Wikispaces)</li> <li><a href="http://colab.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl/">http://colab.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl/</a> "ColabWiki" Hosted by GSA Intergovernmental Solutions - Linking people. Sharing knowledge. Serving citizens</li> </ul>

## Barn-Raising - 1/25/2011!

[edit]

What transpired? Check out the following pages:

- [Frequently-Asked Questions](#) - questions raised during the event. Many will soon include answers and links to answer pages. **Please add your "how do I" questions to the list.**
- [Special:RecentChanges](#) - most changes on 1/25 were due to the event.
- Most of the content pages on [Special>ListUsers](#) were created at the event.
- Due to popular demand, new pages are being added under the category "At the agencies". **Edit the pages to tell us how things are done at YOUR agency.**
- [Wish List](#) added as a place for Statipeditors to tell what's missing / what they'd like to see added. **Let your wishes be known. Add them to the list.**
- Barn-Raising statistics, graphs, and photos at the bottom of the [Barn-Raising](#) page.

Category: Wiki

Looks like Wikipedia.

User can edit a page directly.

### navigation

- Main page
- Quick Tour
- Gardening
- Barn-Raising
- Frequently-Asked Questions
- Recent changes
- Random page
- Rules of Behavior
- Help

### search




### toolbox

- What links here
- Related changes
- Upload file
- Special pages
- Printable version
- Permanent link



A user can see the history of changes to a wiki page.

page discussion edit history move **unwatch**

## Revision history of "Main Page"

[View logs for this page](#)

Browse history

From year (and earlier):  From month (and earlier):

(Latest | Earliest) View (newer 100) (older 100) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)

Diff selection: mark the radio boxes of the revisions to compare and hit enter or the button at the bottom.  
Legend: **(cur)** = difference with latest revision, **(prev)** = difference with preceding revision, **m** = minor edit.

- (cur) (prev)  12:39, 8 February 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (4,199 bytes) *(added milestone)* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  16:07, 27 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (4,225 bytes) *(graphs no longer "coming soon". They're here.)* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  16:02, 27 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (4,262 bytes) *(corrected milestone)* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  16:01, 27 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (4,247 bytes) *(changed "Just Ended" to date)* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  14:19, 26 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (4,248 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  14:19, 26 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (4,291 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  14:07, 26 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (4,233 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  21:13, 25 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (4,313 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  19:14, 25 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (4,343 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  18:58, 25 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (4,286 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  18:58, 25 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (4,420 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  15:18, 25 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,415 bytes) *(new milestone)* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  15:04, 25 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,397 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  13:55, 25 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,424 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  20:31, 24 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,752 bytes) *(added milestone)* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  19:59, 24 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,726 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  17:46, 24 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,720 bytes) *(fixed link)* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  17:47, 20 January 2011 Petermeyer (Talk | contribs) (3,682 bytes) *(put main content at top for the moment)* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  03:17, 15 January 2011 Justinfisher (Talk | contribs) **m** (3,684 bytes) *(→Welcome to Statipedia! fix link)* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  20:49, 14 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,720 bytes) *(added ColabWiki link)* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  19:47, 14 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,470 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  18:14, 14 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,475 bytes) *(Marked BarnRaising date "tentative")* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  16:31, 14 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,370 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  16:12, 14 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,329 bytes) *(fixed a link)* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  13:40, 14 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,312 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  13:37, 14 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,288 bytes) (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  19:40, 11 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,190 bytes) *(added new milestone)* (undo)
- (cur) (prev)  21:48, 4 January 2011 Mmessner (Talk | contribs) (3,662 bytes) *(added link to JSM abstract)*

We can  
define  
common  
terms

[page](#) | [discussion](#) | [edit](#) | [history](#) | [move](#) | [unwatch](#)

## Industry value added

The phrase *industry value added* means the **value added output** by an industry in a certain time period, usually a year. "Industry value added" is synonymous with *industry value added*: "gross product by industry", "gross product originating by industry", and "gross product originating".<sup>[1]</sup>

An industry's value added output is the value of its **Gross output** minus the value of its **Intermediate inputs**. Gross output is the sum of sales or receipts and other operating income, commodity taxes paid, and net inventory growth. The value of intermediate inputs is the value of goods and services purchased from other industries or imported and used up or consumed.<sup>[2]</sup>

Industry value added is estimated for most industries from expenditure data not industry income, because expenditures data is thought to be more accurately estimated.<sup>[3]</sup>

### Future improvement

[\[edit\]](#)

- follow up the sources to the source cited here

### References

[\[edit\]](#)

1. ↑ "Box: Gross Product Originating: Definition and Relationship to Gross Domestic Product" [↗](#) from BEA web site
2. ↑ "Box: Gross Product Originating: Definition and Relationship to Gross Domestic Product" [↗](#) from BEA web site
3. ↑ "Box: Gross Product Originating: Definition and Relationship to Gross Domestic Product" [↗](#) from BEA web site

Categories: [BEA](#) | [NIPA](#)

# We can describe and search classification systems

## Occupation classifications

This page lists detailed occupational classification systems and any information on how to map information between them. If this were easy to do we could impute information about persons between data sets based on occupation.

### Occupational classifications table

[edit]

Category system(s)	Domain: who, where, and when	Number of categories	Notes
US occ1950 at IPUMS	U.S., 1880 to present	287	Full list is at <a href="http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/pwork/occ1950b.html">http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/pwork/occ1950b.html</a> . For more details, see <a href="#">US Census occupation category systems page</a>
US Census 2000, 1% sample	US only	510	Full list is at <a href="http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/00occup.html">http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/00occup.html</a> . For <a href="#">Census occupation category systems page</a>
US Census 2000, 5% sample	US only	476	Full list is at <a href="http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/00occup.html">http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/00occup.html</a> . For <a href="#">Census occupation category systems page</a>
US Census 1990	US 1990s	504	See <a href="#">US Census occupation category systems page</a> . The system described at <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/soic/">http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/soic/</a> and <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/soic/S">http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/soic/S</a> job descriptions into this system.
US Census 1980	U.S. 1980s	504	See <a href="#">US Census occupation category systems page</a>
US Census 1970	US 1970s	441	See <a href="#">US Census occupation category systems page</a>
US Census 1960	US 1960s	296	Full list is at <a href="http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/96occup.html">http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/96occup.html</a> . For <a href="#">Census occupation category systems page</a>
US Census 1950 / occ1950	US only	287	Same as <i>occ1950</i> . See <a href="#">US Census occupation category systems page</a>
US Census 1940	US only, 1939-1940s	228	Full list is at <a href="http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/94occup.html">http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/94occup.html</a> . For <a href="#">Census occupation category systems page</a>
US Census 1930			Full list is at <a href="http://usa.ipums.org/usa/volii/occ1930.shtml">http://usa.ipums.org/usa/volii/occ1930.shtml</a> . For more <a href="#">occupation category systems page</a>
US Census 1920	US only, 1919-1920	574	Full list is at <a href="http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/92occup.html">http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/92occup.html</a> . For <a href="#">Census occupation category systems page</a>
1910 US Census	US only, 1909-1910	432	Full list is at <a href="http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/91occup.html">http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/91occup.html</a> . For <a href="#">Census occupation category systems page</a>
1880 US Census	US only, 1879-1880	276	Applied to 1850-1880 samples by IPUMS.org. Full list is at <a href="http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/88occup.html">http://www.ipums.umn.edu/usa/volii/88occup.html</a> . For more details, see <a href="#">occupation category systems page</a>
HISCO	Canada, US, and several European countries circa 1880-1900.	1881, according to NAPP information	<a href="http://hisco.antenna.nl">http://hisco.antenna.nl</a>
ISCO-88	International, 1988	5179 job titles in 200	International standard classification of occupations from 1988. See <a href="http://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/stat/isco/isco88/major.htm">http://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/stat/isco/isco88/major.htm</a>

# Can share source code

## Stata program to apply US standard 2

```
/* remapjob.do, to apply occupations definition of Meyer and Osborne (2005)

Caller sets up these variables and scalar inputs:
- scalar 'CPSDATA' is zero if data's from Census, one if from CPS
  (data from NLS or PSID could also have this category system but I have
  no experience with them)
- variable or scalar input 'year' has a number between 1960 and 2010
  from this is created scalar 'Cencode' with 60, 70, 80, 90, or 100
- existing variable input 'ocsrc' has the input occ category
- variable output 'ocdest' created here has the standardized code
- variable 'empstat' is in the source data set. if 14 or 15, in 1990 the
  individual will be inferred to be in the armed forces. The 14 or 15
  can appear in the Census but not in the CPS.

This program is not designed to do a remapping of data with multiple
years in it. That would be trickier than this program is.
This program just detects a year and runs with it. --pbm

4/17/07 comment in occ 479 now properly closed per Matias Scaglione.
7/24/07 fixed missing () when mapping to 905
8/18/07 handled 1970s occs 659 and 999
8/20/07 handled 1970s occ 775 -- 659 and 775 aren't proper, they're bugs in the data
8/20/07 switched from 'empstatd' name to 'empstat'
8/21/07 in post 2002-CPS, code 984 means armed forces. added that.
12/15/08 replace 873 by 874, to match 1990 census cats.
*/

#delimit ; /* make ; the end-of-command delimiter for multiline commands */
gen int ocdest=.; /* occupation; proposed_standard classification */

/* date ranges for occupation/industry definitions in CPS */
scalar Cencode60=0;
scalar Cencode70=0;
scalar Cencode80=0;
scalar Cencode00=0;

if (CPSDATA)
{
  if (year >= 1968 & year < 1971)
    scalar Cencode60=1;
  if (year >= 1971 & year < 1983)
    scalar Cencode70=1;
  if (year >= 1983)
    scalar Cencode80=1;
  if (year >= 1991)
    scalar Cencode80=2; /* there were a few redefinitions */
  if (year >= 1995)
    scalar Cencode80=4; /* in these years */
  if (year >= 2003)
  {
    scalar Cencode00=1;
    scalar Cencode80=0;
  }
};

if (CENSUSDATA) /* if the input data is from Census */
{
  if (year==1960 | year==96)
    scalar Cencode60=1;
  if (year==1970 | year==97)
    scalar Cencode70=1;
  if (year==1980 | year == 98)
    scalar Cencode80=1;
  if (year==1990 | year == 99)
    scalar Cencode80=2;
  if (year==2000 | year == 100)
    scalar Cencode00=1;
};

/**** remap occupations ****/

/* Legislators */
replace ocdest=3 if
(Cencode80 & ocsrc==3) |
(Cencode00 & ocsrc==3);
```



Can add value to methodology documents

- searching
- links and footnotes that can be clicked through
- equations that can be copied

## Background

[edit]

The International Price Program (IPP) produces and disseminates data on the Nation's foreign trade. The IPP, as the primary source of data on price change in the foreign trade sector of the U.S. economy, publishes monthly indexes on import and export prices of U.S. merchandise and services.

In 1961, a report on Federal Price Statistics prepared by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) for Congress' Joint Economic Committee suggested that responsibility for compilation of import and export price indexes be assigned to a federal statistical agency "to obtain the attention and resources for these indexes that we believe are essential." A further study undertaken for NBER by Professors Irving Kravis and Robert Lipsey gave more impetus to the project. In their study, "Price Competitiveness in World Trade," Kravis and Lipsey<sup>[1]</sup> outlined the need for such measures and the feasibility of producing them. During this time, the Bureau's Division of Price and Index Number Research, largely because of its expertise in the development of other price measures, had also begun research on the feasibility of producing import and export price indexes. The International Price Program was a natural result of this research and was established in 1971.

The IPP produced its first annual international price indexes in 1973. Largely as a response to changing international economic conditions and the need on the part of both the Federal Government and the private sector to obtain these data on a more timely basis, collection and publication of international price indexes were begun on a quarterly basis in 1974. The IPP increased the commodity area coverage and detail of its indexes as more samples were initiated.

This expansion attempted to meet the needs of the user public while moving toward the goal of producing indexes that covered all goods. In early 1983, the IPP published its first general index for all imports for the quarter ended in December 1982. An index for all exports was published in early 1984 for the December quarter of 1983.

Once full coverage in the import and export goods categories was available, the Office of Management and Budget in 1982 placed the IPP indexes on its list of Principal Federal Economic Indicators together with the Consumer Price Index and Producer Price Index. The IPP continued to expand by introducing selected services indexes. Various transportation services indexes were added to the IPP in the late 1980s. Research is continuing on other international services as data and resources become available.

Beginning in 1989, BLS began producing a limited number of indexes on a monthly basis. This was done primarily to permit the Bureau of the Census to publish their monthly merchandise trade statistics on an inflation-adjusted basis. The Census Bureau discontinued publishing its unit value indexes in July 1989 and began publishing constant dollar merchandise trade values deflated for the most part by the IPP measures in March 1990. With the release of March 1992 data, IPP added import locality of origin indexes, and in January 1993 began monthly publication of the major merchandise indexes.

1. ↑ Kravis and Lipsey, 1971

## Concepts

[edit]

A central question in international economics is "how will trade affect the production of goods and services in the economy?"<sup>[2]</sup> This question leads immediately to the requirement that real or "inflation-adjusted" trade be measured. However, due to the variety and complexity of the goods and services involved in trading, it is not possible to measure the quantity of those goods and services in physical units. Instead, the quantities are approximated via deflation by dividing the aggregate export sales and import purchases by the export and import price indexes, respectively.

Subsequently, one can obtain a measure of real net exports (RNE) by subtracting the value of imports from the value of exports, after deflation to constant dollars. The current value of import flows ( $R_{m,t}$ ) is deflated by the current import price index ( $P_{m,t}$ ), and the current value of export flows ( $R_{x,t}$ ) is deflated by the current export price index ( $P_{x,t}$ )

$$RNE_t = \frac{R_{x,t}}{P_{x,t}} - \frac{R_{m,t}}{P_{m,t}} + 1$$

IPP import and export price indexes are produced primarily to deflate the various foreign trade statistics produced by the Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). As a result, IPP uses the Bureau of the Census concept of imports and exports which, with some minor adjustments, can also be used to deflate the foreign trade sector using Balance of Payments (BOP) or National Income and Product Accounts (NIPA) definitions. Export statistics measure the value of the total physical movement of products out of the United States. They include products exported from the U.S. customs territory, U.S. customs bonded warehouses, or U.S. foreign trade zones. Import statistics measure the value of products of foreign origin, goods of domestic origin returning to the United States unchanged, and goods assembled overseas with components originating in the United States. A good is considered a general import when it passes into a U.S. customs territory, a U.S. customs warehouse, or a U.S. foreign trade zone.

In addition to the price indexes for goods, IPP also constructs selected services indexes. These indexes include import and export services indexes, as well as international services indexes. Import and export services indexes conform to BOP definitions and measure the price trends for payments and receipts between the U.S. (including its territories such as the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico) and foreign residents for international services transactions. A U.S. resident includes corporations, businesses, and individuals, but does not require either specific U.S. ownership or citizenship. International services indexes measure price trends for international services transactions regardless of the residency of the service providers and purchasers.

1. ↑ Kravis and Lipsey, 1971

2. ↑ Note that even if there is no change in aggregate production, trade can affect the mix of goods and services

Hyperlinks  
can go to  
definitions,  
summaries of  
sources, and  
new  
bibliographies

## NBER Price Statistics Review Committee. 1961.

National Bureau of Economic Research, Price Statistics Review Committee. 1961. "Report on the Price Statistics of the Federal Government." New York.

This report for Congress's Joint Economic Committee suggested that responsibility for compilation of import and export price indexes be assigned to a federal statistical agency "to obtain the attention and resources for these indexes that we believe are essential."<sup>[1]</sup>

### References

[edit]

- <sup>↑</sup> [BLS Handbook of Methods chapter 15 on International Price Indexes](#)

Category: [International price indexes bibliography](#)

### Category:International price indexes bibliography

This bibliography lists wiki pages about source materials on international price indexes.

#### Pages in category "International price indexes bibliography"

The following 6 pages are in this category, out of 6 total.

#### B

- [BLS Handbook of Methods chapter 15 on International Price Indexes](#)
- [BLS, International Price Program Concepts, 1961](#)

#### F

- [Ferguson and Chiapponi, 1994](#)

#### K

- [Kravis and Lipsey, 1971](#)

#### L

- [Lang and Mah, 1993](#)

#### N

- [NBER Price Statistics Review Committee. 1961.](#)

Categories: [Bibliographies](#) | [Price indexes](#)



Navigation

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- Barn-Raising
- Frequently-Asked Questions
- Recent changes
- Random page
- Rules of Behavior
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Search




Upload

- Upload file
- Special pages

Special pages

## Categories

The following categories contain pages or media. Unused categories are not shown here. Also see wanted categories.

Categories

Display categories starting at:

(first | last) View (previous 100) (next 100) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)

- ASA (1 page)
- At the agencies (28 pages)
- At the agencies: Blogging (1 page)
- Award (1 page)
- BEA (34 pages)
- BJS (24 pages)
- BLS (75 pages)
- BTS (24 pages)
- Barn-Raising (17 pages)
- Bibliographies (1 page)
- CES (3 pages)
- CPI (1 page)
- CPS (3 pages)
- Censored (1 page)
- Census (34 pages)
- Classification system (1 page)
- Classification systems (2 pages)
- Compensation (1 page)
- Computer systems (9 pages)
- Conferences (4 pages)
- Critiques (4 pages)
- DOD (1 page)
- DVA (24 pages)
- Data (5 pages)
- Data by country (7 pages)
- Data from Argentina (1 page)
- Data from Australia (1 page)
- Data from France (2 pages)
- Data from Germany (2 pages)
- Data from Hungary (2 pages)
- Data from New Zealand (3 pages)
- Data from the Netherlands (1 page)
- Data sets of individuals (8 pages)
- Demography (1 page)
- Department of Commerce (1 page)
- Department of Education (1 page)
- Department of Energy (1 page)
- Department of Health and Human Services (1 page)
- Department of Justice (1 page)
- Department of Labor (1 page)
- Department of Transportation (1 page)
- Department of the Treasury (1 page)
- EIA (24 pages)
- EOP (1 page)
- EPA (30 pages)
- ERS (24 pages)
- Economics and Statistics Administration (2 pages)
- Establishment data (1 page)
- Events (1 page)
- Executive Branch (12 pages)
- Executive branch (1 page)
- FCSM (9 pages)
- FDA (25 pages)
- FDIC (24 pages)
- FedStats (3 pages)
- Forms (1 page)
- GAO (25 pages)
- GDP (1 page)
- Geography (3 pages)

# Can find pages by "category"



“BLS” is a category, with sub-categories

## Category:BLS

*This category is for pages related to the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#).*

### Subcategories

This category has the following 2 subcategories, out of 2 total.

#### B

- [Statipedians at BLS](#)

#### C

- [CPS](#)

### Pages in category "BLS"

The following 59 pages are in this category, out of 59 total.

#### 7

- [790 program](#)

#### A

- [ATUS](#)
- [American Time Use Survey](#)
- [At the agencies:Availability of journal archives](#)

#### B

- [Template:At the agencies](#)
- [Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee](#)
- [Office of Productivity and Technology](#)
- [BLS Handbook of Methods](#)
- [BLS Handbook of Methods chapter 15 on International Price Indexes](#)
- [At the agencies: Bayesian Statistics](#)
- [Benefit incidence](#)
- [At the agencies:Browsers](#)
- [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

#### C

- [C&S](#)

#### C cont.

- [Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries \(CFOI\)](#)
- [At the agencies:Cloud Computing](#)
- [Collective Bargaining Agreements \(statistical\)](#)
- [Commodities and Services Survey](#)
- [Compensation and Working Conditions](#)
- [Confidential Information Protection and Statistics Act \(CIPSEA\)](#)
- [At the agencies: Confidentiality and Data Dis](#)
- [Current Employment Statistics](#)


#### D

- [Diffusion index](#)
- [Discouraged workers](#)
- [Displaced workers](#)
- [Duration of unemployment](#)

#### E

- [At the agencies:Editing Wikipedia](#)
- [At the agencies:Email address structure](#)
- [Employed persons](#)
- [Employment Situation](#)

We can develop joint information on the international data institutions, methods, and findings



The screenshot shows the Statipedia website interface. At the top left is the Statipedia logo, which features a stylized 'S' with a globe and an upward-pointing arrow, with the word 'Statipedia' below it. To the right of the logo are navigation tabs: 'category' (highlighted), 'discussion', 'edit', 'history', and 'delete'. Below the logo is a 'navigation' menu with the following items: Main page, Quick Tour, Gardening, Barn-Raising, Frequently-Asked Questions, Recent changes, Random page, Rules of Behavior, and Help. Below the navigation menu is a 'search' box with a text input field and 'Go' and 'Search' buttons. The main content area displays the title 'Category:Data by country' and a list of subcategories under the heading 'Subcategories'. The text states: 'This category has the following 6 subcategories, out of 6 total.' The subcategories listed are: Data from Argentina, Data from Australia, Data from France, Data from Germany, Data from New Zealand, and Data from the Netherlands. At the bottom of the subcategories list is a box labeled 'Category: Data'.

# Can share info on seminars in DC area



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## Seminars around Washington DC

For more information on location, timing, presentation title, etc., click on the hyperlink for the location (e.g. "at FTG Seminars at BLS, BEA, FTC and Census/CES are likely to be economics-related. Seminars hosted by WSS are statistics related.

### Upcoming seminars

#### Upcoming seminars on statistics or economics

When	Where	Who	Topic and notes
Wed 2/16/2011 10:30 AM	BLS economics seminars	<a href="#">John Earle</a> (GMU)	FDI and Wages: Evidence from a Linked Employer-Employee Analysis From abstract: This paper analyzes the wage effects of foreign direct investment (FDI) in a linked employer-employee panel for Hungary. The data follow firms and workers from 1986 to 2005, the year after EU accession. The data contain more than 8000 ownership changes. We construct matched samples using pre-acquisition data and exploit especially acquisitions followed later by divestments. In wage regressions we use fixed effects for firms, detailed worker groups, and individuals (where workers can be linked inside firms). In a variety of panel matching approaches we find in all cases positive effects of FDI on wages of all worker types. A wage premium is especially associated with university education in foreign invested firms. Possible explanations for the wage premia include productivity, rent-sharing, selection, and measurement. Preliminary findings the foreign wage premium are associated with productivity differences.
Feb 22, 2011 4:00 -6:00	<a href="#">Georgetown/DC Area Econometrics Workshops</a>	Ivan Fernandez-Val (BU)	--
Feb 23 2011 10:30 AM	BLS economics seminars	Bruce Fallick (Federal Reserve)	Nonemployment Duration and the Consequences of Job Separations
March 1, 2011 4:00 -6:00	<a href="#">Georgetown/DC Area Econometrics Workshops</a> ICC 550	Christian Hansen (Chicago Booth)	--
Thu Mar 3 10:30	BLS economics seminars	David McKenzie (World Bank)	Business Training and Female Enterprise Start-up and Growth: Experimental evidence from Sri Lanka
Mar 8 4:00-5:45	<a href="#">Georgetown/DC Area Econometrics Workshops</a> ICC 550	Konrad Menzel	--
Thu Mar 24 10:30am	at <a href="#">Census/CES</a>	Wenjie Chen	--
Mar 29-31	NIST campus, Gaithersburg	<a href="#">Will Guthrie</a>	NIST Fundamentals of Uncertainty Analysis Short Course <a href="http://www.nist.gov/itl/sed/gsg/fundamentals_course.cfm">http://www.nist.gov/itl/sed/gsg/fundamentals_course.cfm</a>

## Conference submission due dates

### Upcoming conferences with Statipedians

Conference 	When 	Where 	Dates submissions due (yyyy-mm-dd for sorting purposes) 
<a href="#">2011 Joint Statistical Meetings</a> 	July 30 - August 4, 2011	Miami Beach Convention Center	2011-02-01
<a href="#">FedCASIC Workshop</a>	22-24 March 2011	Wash DC, at BLS	2011-02-01 (?) 50 word abstract Dan Gillman
<a href="#">Federal Forecasters Conference</a> 	21 April 2011	Wash DC, at BLS	2011-02-01
<a href="#">Social Science History Association conference 2011</a> 	17-21 Nov 2011	Boston	2011-02-15
<a href="#">International Symposium on Forecasting</a> 	June 26-29, 2011	Prague, The University of Economics	2011-03-04
<a href="#">Wikimania 2011</a> 	Aug 4-7 2011 (plus meetings Aug 2-4)	Haifa, Israel	2011-04-30 <a href="#">Call for participation</a>
<a href="#">Western Economics Association International 2012</a> 	June 29-July 3, 2011	San Diego	2011-02-01 for a session; 2010-12-31 for a paper <sup>[1]</sup>
<a href="#">ICES IV</a> 	11-14, June 2012	Montreal, Canada	2011-03-01 for invited sessions 2011-8-31 for topic-contributed paper, poster session submissions
<a href="#">SHOT (Society for the History of Technology) 2011</a> 	3-6 Nov 2011	Cleveland	2011-spring (not set at this time)
<a href="#">2012 Society of Labor Economists</a> 	4-5 May 2012	Hyatt Regency Chicago	2011-fall
<a href="#">ASSA Annual Meeting 2012 (economists)</a> 	6-8 Jan 2012	Chicago	2011-01-31? Not stated yet on website
<a href="#">Predictive Analytics World including workshops</a>	2011-03-13 (March 13-19 2011)	San Francisco	Didn't see how to submit an abstract

Track  
conferences  
on our  
topics

Can compare  
procedures  
across agencies

This is one of  
several “At the  
agencies” pages

## At the agencies:Editing Wikipedia

### The Issue [edit]

Statistical agency staff are ideal Wikipedians -- expert and capable of writing neutrally about a subject. Through Wikipedia we can potentially inform many of our customers and put our expertise to good use on their behalf. But statistical agency policies do not encourage/permit logging in to outside systems or speaking publicly.

Any such policy at an agency should be compatible with Wikipedia's [conflict-of-interest guidelines](#) [edit] on editing on behalf of an employer or other cause.

### Agency-Specific info [edit]

#### National Institutes of Health [edit]

NIH allows editing Wikipedia. NIH has a standard publicly stated policy on this: See [Guidelines for Participating in Wikipedia from NIH](#) [edit]. Quoting from it:

There is a real opportunity to strengthen this public resource. . . . We hope these guidelines will help you to become part of a unique opportunity in keeping with the NIH's history of making credible, vetted, authoritative information available to the public. The time spent can be minimal, but the impact could be great. Information you have already developed that might benefit scientists or the public worldwide could be put up in a few minutes

Policy (compressed and paraphrased):

- NIH scientists and health and science writers can contribute to Wikipedia within their own fields -- not other fields, on government time, though on personal time of course this okay.
- Claims should be sources/footnoted/cited, and it is good to seize opportunities to cite NIH work.
- Edits to the articles on NIH programs should be approved through the appropriate communication officer (not be edited ad hoc by anyone from NIH).
- Time spent on Wikipedia entries should be predetermined and approved by the immediate supervisor.
- NIH staff may only share information that is in the public domain and contribute factual information not opinion, and avoid discussions of policy.

Some NIHers were trained to edit Wikipedia in July, 2009.<sup>[1][2]</sup> From *Wired's* coverage:

To open-government advocates, NIH's move represents an important step toward recognizing how to reach people online. "NIH could have gone the typical route and warned the public against using unreliable sources for information, but they get it: That's not going to happen," wrote Matthew Burton at the Personal Democracy Forum.

"Wikipedia is going to stay popular, so its vital that it provides correct information."<sup>[3]</sup>

Another commentator criticized this move, saying it was a slippery slope and that government employee editing of Wikipedia articles on Guantanamo Bay and the Iraq War had been problematic in the past; there appeared to be conflicts of interest, evidence was removed, and the articles were changed to be misleading. No source for this example was cited.<sup>[4]</sup>

NIHers and others collaborate on Wikipedia pages through the [Wikipedia WikiProject NIH](#) [edit]. NIH also has a policy that NIH-funded research is made available freely to the public in PubMed a year after publication.<sup>[5]</sup>

#### Environmental Protection Agency [edit]

EPA's "Interim Guidance for EPA Employees who are Representing EPA Online Using Social Media," dated May, 2010, can be found on the EPA intranet at <http://r4intranet.epa.gov/news/4Front/2010/aug2010/pdfs/EPASocialMediaGuidance052010.pdf> [edit] and (on extranet?) at [http://yosemite.epa.gov/OEI/webguide.nsf/socialmedia/representing\\_epa\\_online](http://yosemite.epa.gov/OEI/webguide.nsf/socialmedia/representing_epa_online) [edit].

From the Guidance: *"Employees must obtain their supervisor's approval before representing EPA online, and must not opine on behalf of the Agency in areas that are outside their assigned duties. Any posting performed by Agency employees acting in their official capacity should be properly cited and fully supported."*

*The interim guidance does not apply to employees' online activities while not on official duty; however, employees are always bound by the Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch, the conflict of interest statutes, and the Hatch Act."*

The following steps apply to collaborations like "editing a non-EPA wiki (such as Wikipedia):"

1 Remember that your time is valuable. Discuss the following with your supervisor and obtain approval, whether



# Can share simple training materials in the wiki

## Tiny tutorial for Matlab

From a Unix shell one can just type 'matlab' as a command on any computer that has it, and start to type interactive statements such as those below. One could also put them in a file with the .m extension to run them from within matlab with 'run file.m' or from the shell with 'matlab < file.m' This tutorial covers very little but you can see something of the language.

```
% The percent sign begins comments.
% The statements below can be typed interactively one per line to get
% clear responses from Matlab. There's no need to type the comment part at the
% end of the lines. Make sure to use upper and lower case in the
% same way as in the statements shown.

A=[1 2;3 4]    % defines matrix A as a 2x2 with first line [1 2]
B=A'          % transpose
B=A+A        % sum, element by element
Ainv=inv(A)   % takes inverse of a matrix
A*Ainv       % calculates and prints the result of a matrix multiplication
B=[A;A]      % stacked so B has twice as many rows as A
B=[A A]      % the A's are side by side. B has twice as many columns as A.
B=A(1,1)     % B is a scalar now, the upper left element of A
B=A'*A       % matrix multiplication
B=A(:,1)     % B is set to first row of A
B=A.*A       % element by element multiplication
B=B./A       % element by element division
A=zeros(3,3) % special definition of a matrix of zeros
B=ones(3,1)  % defines a matrix of ones
A=eye(5)     % defines identity matrix
B=A(1:2,1:3) % takes part of matrix
more on     % may not be needed; prevents help screen from scrolling off
help *      % shows sample of the help available
```

Categories: [Software](#) | [Tutorials](#)

# And detailed training materials

## Notes on Seasonal Adjustment

### 1) PURPOSE OF SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT [\[edit\]](#)

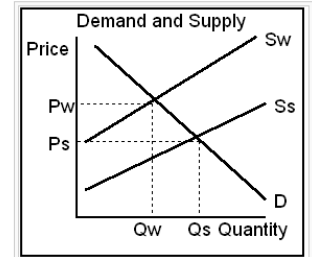
The purpose of seasonal adjustment is to remove the more or less regular within year patterns often found in economic time series data. This is done to highlight the underlying trend and short run effects of various economic phenomena on the series.

Users of seasonally adjusted data include government officials responsible for formulating economic policy; businesses concerned with economic trends within their industry; and economic researchers.

### 2) SEASONALITY AND ECONOMIC THEORY [\[edit\]](#)

Appropriate shifting of supply and demand curves can cause seasonal effects in a price series. Consider a market for an agricultural commodity, like the one in the graph. Typically, supply will be restricted at  $S_w$  during the winter season. However, the curve will shift to the right as more firms enter the industry during the late summer and fall harvest season. Thus prices will be characteristically high or low during different seasons of the year.

The demand curve could also shift for various reasons. Example - heating oil prices increase during the winter due to an increase in demand caused by lower temperatures.



### 3) THE X-11 SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT COMPUTER PACKAGE [\[edit\]](#)

- Developed by the U.S. Bureau of the Census in 1967 - Shiskin, Young and Musgrave.
- First seasonal adjustment software package. It made seasonal adjustment practical in a large scale data production environment.
- Monthly or quarterly data - usually need 8 to 10 years of continuous data.
- X-11 assumes the data is decomposable in one of two ways:

Additive decomposition:

$$X_t = T_t + S_t + I_t$$

$$SA_t = X_t - S_t = T_t + I_t$$

Multiplicative decomposition:

$$X_t = T_t * S_t * I_t$$

$$SA_t = \frac{X_t}{S_t} = T_t * I_t$$

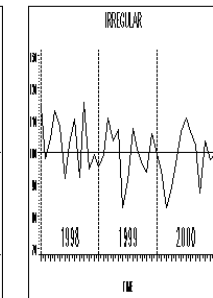
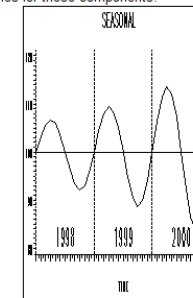
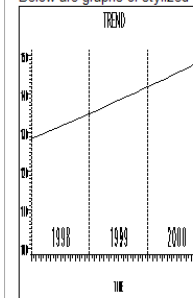
where:

- X = the original series
- T = trend-cycle component
- S = seasonal component
- I = irregular or random component
- SA = seasonally adjusted series

Note: These are statistical models. An econometric model of supply and demand would be too specialized and not manageable in large-scale data production.

As already discussed, the SEASONAL component models the within year pattern for the series. The TREND can be thought of as the long run or permanent component in the series. The IRREGULAR models the short run or transitory component in the series. A seasonally adjusted series is composed of the trend and irregular and has both the long run and short run effects.

Below are graphs of stylized series for these components:



# Recent changes to the wiki

## Recent changes

Track the most recent changes to the wiki on this page.

### Recent changes options

Show last 50 | **100** | 250 | 500 changes in last 1 | 3 | 7 | 14 | 30 days

[Hide](#) minor edits | [Show](#) bots | [Hide](#) anonymous users | [Hide](#) logged-in users | [Hide](#) my edits

Show new changes starting from 21:07, 14 February 2011

Namespace:   Invert selection

### 14 February 2011

- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Approved Access Requests](#); 18:11 .. (+31) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Approved Access Requests](#); 15:57 .. (+96) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(added new request)*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [At the agencies: Participation on Boards of Professional Societies](#); 15:08 .. (+367) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Open Government Initiative](#); 00:29 .. (+322) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(OMB directive, 2009)*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [N Open Government Initiative](#); 00:20 .. (+815) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(note discussion of this initiative, without quite having defined it yet)*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Federal Knowledge Management Working Group](#); 00:14 .. (+1,186) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(→Role of Chief Knowledge officer (CKO))*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Federal Knowledge Management Working Group](#); 00:10 .. (-18) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(show footnotes; tighten up text)*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Federal Knowledge Management Working Group](#); 00:03 .. (-2,542) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(reorg'd this text)*

### 13 February 2011

- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Federal Knowledge Management Working Group](#); 23:52 .. (+1,907) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(→History: proposals about CKO)*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [N Km.gov](#); 23:38 .. (+55) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(quickest redirect to use)*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [At the agencies:Email address structure](#); 23:37 .. (+7) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(also FAA)*

### 10 February 2011

- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [FISMA](#); 20:19 .. (+180) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [N FISMA](#); 20:02 .. (+881) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(my best understanding)*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [At the agencies:Editing Wikipedia](#); 19:42 .. (-22) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(→National Institutes of Health: compressed for demo)*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Wiki Problems and Issues](#); 18:58 .. (-195) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Seminars around Washington DC](#); 18:57 .. (-32) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(compressed more)*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [m Wiki Problems and Issues](#); 18:55 .. (+31) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Seminars around Washington DC](#); 18:55 .. (-220) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(compressed Earle abstract esp for SCOPE demo)*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [m Wiki Problems and Issues](#); 18:53 .. (+9) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Wiki Problems and Issues](#); 18:52 .. (+102) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Seminars around Washington DC](#); 18:50 .. (-23) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Wiki Problems and Issues](#); 18:45 .. (+38) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Uploading Data and Code](#); 18:42 .. (+85) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Seminars around Washington DC](#); 18:40 .. (+1,295) .. Petermeyer [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(→Upcoming seminars: Added paraphrased abstract for Earle seminar coming up)*
- [\(Upload log\)](#); 18:38 .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) uploaded a new version of "File:Toy data.xls"
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Uploading Data and Code](#); 18:38 .. (+22) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [m Uploading Data and Code](#); 18:37 .. (+8) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Uploading Data and Code](#); 18:36 .. (+209) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(Upload log\)](#); 18:35 .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) uploaded "File:Toy data.xls" *(Category:Wiki)*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Uploading Data and Code](#); 18:29 .. (+2,253) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [Uploading Data and Code](#); 18:18 .. (+723) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [N Uploading Data and Code](#); 17:59 .. (+543) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(Created page with '==<span style="color: #008080;">"Background"</span>== At our Barn-Raising event, someone asked how to upload "toy" data and code. This page will walk through the pr...)*
- [\(diff\)](#) [\(hist\)](#) .. [FAQs](#); 17:49 .. (+677) .. Mmessner [\(Talk | contribs\)](#) *(added a question and an added bulleted ethics points)*

# New issues

# → Quick technical discussion



#### Navigation

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## DSPL

**DSPL** stands for Google's **Dataset Publishing Language**.

These notes are from a presentation by John Lyman of Google at BLS on March 16, 2011. The DSPL project was recently [announced](#) and is public and stable. Lyman has a business-development role.

- DSPL is an XML-type specification to describe data sets with multiple tables incorporated and relations between them.
- Users, especially from officially recognized statistics producers, are invited to upload data in .csv files along with a DSPL file to google servers. The officially recognized producers are listed in a directory, and in a few cases a graphical answer will be shown immediately in response to a search question (like "Chinese population" or "French GDP") will be shown in the answer list.
- Then users can get a variety of chart formats from the data. Users cannot download the data.
- Advantage of doing this, for the statistics producers include: (1) users are more likely to discover and use the data this way, notably from a one-box answer from a google search; (2) users can apply the graphics tools at google; (3) google's servers handle all the load.
- Google's Public Data Explorer shows a [directory](#) of data that can be used. There are no ads shown there and Lyman doesn't foresee ads being put there.
- The data and DSPL files are hosted at google. One might post DSPL files and data on one's own site for other reasons, but google servers and tools won't use it. It must be uploaded, partly to get better performance.
- There's no client side set of tools to use the data which has been uploaded; the tools are on google's web servers only.
- There are only 3-4 full time engineers and a statistician on the DSPL project at Google.
- Several dimensions of the data can be shown using the online tools: the x-axis, y-axis, size-of-bubbles, and color.
- Relational operations within the data can sometimes be used but users can't mix data across the providers.
- An online tutorial shows the DSPL specification: [DSPL tutorial online](#)
- Hans Rosling now works for google. GapMinder was acquired by google and the GapMinder code incorporated into the Public Data Explorer it seems. Jurgen Schwartzter is a key programmer/statistician who apparently leads the project back at google.
- Compare DSPL to [NeedleBase](#), sometime.
- One commentator made this comparison: [SDMX](#) is much harder and encodes both data and its metadata in an XML format, whereas DSPL puts only metadata in XML and less elegantly leaves the data in [CSV](#) files and is therefore easier ; by being easier, it is possible to go halfway without a huge effort, and get partway to SDMX. But furthermore, google's behind DSPL and is offering services (graphing) built right on it and useful quickly, ergo DSPL is likely to take off.<sup>[1]</sup>

### References

[\[edit\]](#)

- ↑ Spencer, Sam. (I think.) [DSPL, SDMX and the future of Data](#). [blog](#): Kids Try This At Home. 22 Feb 2011.

Categories: [Software](#) | [Metadata](#)

Metadata:  
definition and  
interpretative  
discussion

Even “U.S states”  
is ambiguous;  
could share  
several defns  
(with DC, PR,  
Virgin Islands,  
Guam, &  
historical)

## Employment statistics definitional issues

**Employment statistics** are usually estimates of the numbers or percentages of people in a certain region and time period who have a certain kind of paid job; the overall statistics count people who have any job.

There are variations along many margins of who counts as employed and these can be statistically adjusted for. BLS's [International Labor Comparisons program](#) does such adjustments for some of the international differences.<sup>[1]</sup>

### Military [\[edit\]](#)

The U.S. calculates employment and unemployment figures usually from the *civilian* labor force. Some foreign countries (e.g. Japan, Germany, Italy) include the military or national defense force.<sup>[1]</sup>

### Lower and upper age limits [\[edit\]](#)

In U.S. statistics, only persons aged 16 and up can be counted as employed. In most European countries the lower limit is age 15. In the U.S. statistics, there is no upper age limit on persons counted as employed. Some European countries apply an upper age limit. BLS's [ILC program](#) often can adjust for these differences.

### Unpaid family workers [\[edit\]](#)

"Most foreign countries count all unpaid family workers as employed."<sup>[1]</sup> The U.S. counts them as employed only if they worked at least 15 hours per week.

### U.S. before 1940 [\[edit\]](#)

Before 1940 the U.S. did not have consistent long term measure of employment by any precise definition of employment.

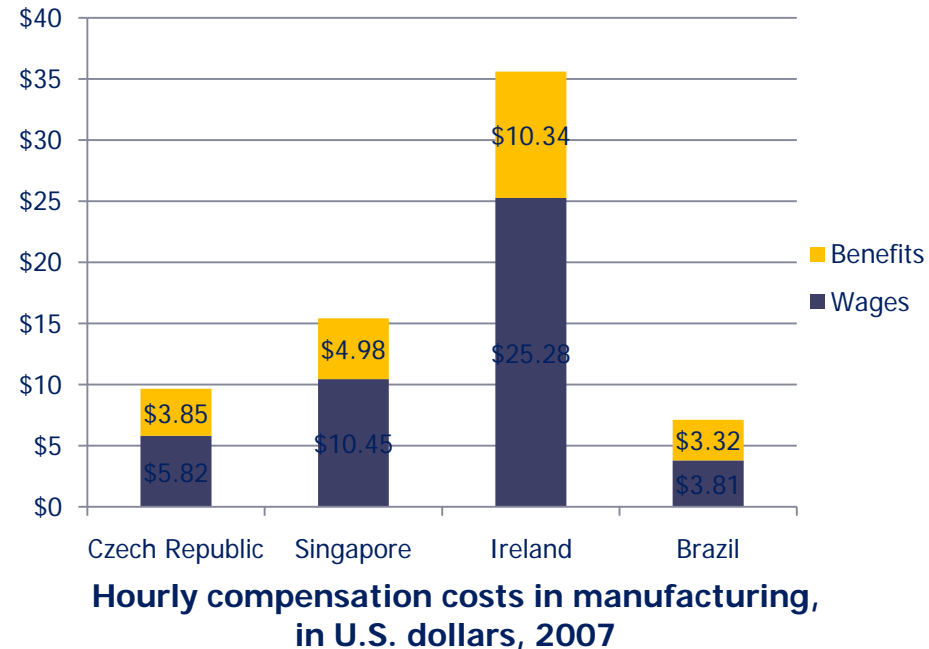
In historical comparisons, people sometimes use an analog which is the set of people who reported a *gainful occupation* to Census-takers.<sup>[2][3]</sup> This meant the person was reporting a characteristic job, not a current activity. The person might be in our current language unemployed or retired. And, especially in 1870-1900, women were often not recorded as having an occupation even if they did have a job. There were a spectrum of reasons for this, often related to an assumption that young working women were working only temporarily and would stop working after marriage and therefore their current work did not constitute a career occupation. In a spectacular case Carter and Sutch found that the national office of the Census recoded many women as having no occupation even when the field report said they did.<sup>[4][5]</sup>

### References [\[edit\]](#)

- [↑](#) [1.0 1.1 1.2 International Comparisons of Annual Labor Force Statistics, Adjusted to U.S. Concepts, 1970-2009](#), BLS/ILC program
- [↑](#) Anderson, Margo. *The American Census: a Social History* and other books
- [↑](#) Durand, John. 1948.
- [↑](#) Carter and Sutch, 1996, *Historical Methods*
- [↑](#) Bose, Christine. *American Women in 1900*

# More complex metadata issue: “compensation”

BLS/ILC adjusts international labor cost data to a common “U.S. compensation” concept



To enable cross country comparisons:

- Reported “labor cost,” “earnings,” or “wages” are converted to **compensation**, comprising wages and benefits paid to workers
- Weekly, monthly, or annual “earnings” are converted to an **hourly** basis
- Estimated hourly compensation costs in national currency are converted to **U.S. dollars**

➔ Metadata here includes many sources and necessary assumptions

# Discussion of critical perspectives

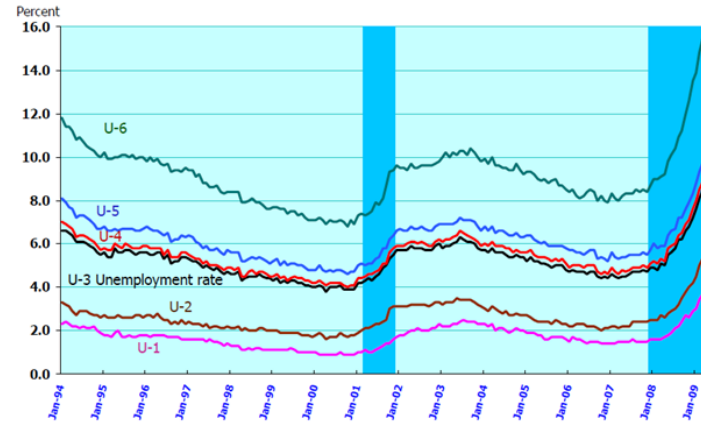
## "Real" unemployment rate

The headline measure of unemployment is a market measure, meaning that it counts as unemployed those people who are (a) not employed, (b) want to work, (c) are available to work, and (d) are actively looking for work; a *behavioral* criterion, defining who is *in the market* looking for a matching partner.

These are some common criticisms of this measure. People naturally want some measure that covers all those people who want to work and are not working including those who are not actively looking. This last group is called the *discouraged workers* sometimes.

BLS measures a variety of concepts of unemployment. A key fact in this discussion is that *they track very much in parallel*, so they tell the same business cycle story. For evidence see this graph and table from Haugen (2009)<sup>[1]</sup> which has a valuable discussion of the history and current set of measures.

### Alternative measures of labor underutilization, U-1 to U-6, 1994-2009



Note: Data are monthly, seasonally adjusted, and cover January 1994-March 2009. Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). NBER has not yet determined an endpoint for the recession that began in December 2007.  
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

### Alternative measures of labor underutilization (slightly rearranged from Table 2 in the original<sup>[1]</sup>)

Measure abbreviation	Definition	2008 average
U-1	Persons unemployed 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the <b>civilian labor force</b>	2.1%
U-2	Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force	3.1%
U-3	Total unemployed, as a percent of the civilian labor force ( <b>official unemployment rate</b> )	5.8%
U-4	Total unemployed plus discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus <b>discouraged workers</b>	6.1%
U-5	Total unemployed, plus discouraged workers, plus all other marginally attached workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all <b>marginally attached workers</b>	6.8%
U-6	Total unemployed, plus discouraged workers, plus all marginally attached workers, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers	10.5%

### References

- <sup>1.0</sup> <sup>1.1</sup> Haugen, Steven. 2009. *Measures of Labor Underutilization from the Current Population Survey* BLS Working paper 424.

Categories: BLS | Critiques

# Formal semantic information could be incorporated

Example: Wikipedia has "PersonData" in wiki-text

**Royal Meeker** [edit]

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Royal Meeker**, Ph.D. (February 23, 1873 – August 16, 1953<sup>[d]</sup>) was an American economist, born at Quaker Lake, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Iowa State College in 1898, then studied with E. R. Seligman at Columbia (Ph.D., 1906) and for a year at the University of Leipzig (1903-04). His dissertation was *History of Shipping Subsidies* (1905).

From 1906 to 1913, Meeker was a professor of history, economics, and political science at Ursinus College, Coltsville, Pennsylvania and a preceptor and professor of economics at Princeton. He knew Woodrow Wilson, then the president of Princeton, and they served together on New Jersey political boards. Both were associated with the Progressive movement for an active role for government.<sup>[c]</sup>

President Wilson appointed Meeker Commissioner of Labor Statistics in 1913. As the commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Meeker managed special economic studies during World War I and began its regular publication, the *Monthly Labor Review*, in 1915.<sup>[c]</sup> Meeker resigned from the administration in June 1920 to take up the opportunity to help organize the new International Labor Organization, where he was the Chief of the Scientific Division from 1920 to 1923.<sup>[c]</sup>

Meeker served as Pennsylvania Secretary of Labor and Industry from 1923-24, and later joined the faculty of Carleton College (1926-27) and Yale University (1930-36, perhaps longer). He was Director of Research of the Connecticut Department of Labor (1941-46).<sup>[c]</sup> He died in New Haven, Connecticut in 1953.

**References** [edit]

- ↑ *Descendants of Michael Hill (source for birth/death dates)*
- ↑ Goldberg, Joseph P., and William T. Moye. 1985. *First hundred years of the Bureau of Labor Statistics*. Bureau of Labor Statistics Bulletin 2235. U.S. Government Printing Office. ISBN 0-915043-01-2. pp. 81-83.
- ↑ Goldberg and Moye, p. 110.
- ↑ Goldberg and Moye, p. 113.
- ↑ Goldberg and Moye, p. 113.

Persondata	
Name	Meeker, Royal
Alternative names	
Short description	American economist and official
Date of birth	February 23, 1873
Place of birth	Quaker Lake, Pennsylvania, US
Date of death	August 16, 1953
Place of death	New Haven, Connecticut, US

Categories (4): Columbia University alumni () () () () | 1873 births () () () () | 1953 deaths () () () () | American economists () () () () | American historians () () () () | American statisticians () () () () | Princeton University faculty () () () () | Yale University faculty () () () () | Bureau of Labor Statistics () () () () | () () () ()

"Royal Meeker, Ph.D." (February 23, 1873 – August 16, 1953<ref>[http://www.rootsweb.com/~pasusque/hill.htm (source for birth/death dates)]</ref>) was an [[United states|American]] economist, born at [[Quaker Lake, Pennsylvania|Susquehanna County]], [[Pennsylvania]]. He graduated from [[Iowa State College]] in 1898, then studied with [[E. R. Seligman|University|Columbia]] (Ph.D., 1906) and for a year at the [[University of Leipzig]] (1903-04). His dissertation was "History of Shipping Subsidies" (1905).

From 1906 to 1913, Meeker was a professor of history, economics, and political science at [[Ursinus College]], [[Coltsville, Pennsylvania|Coltsville, Pennsylvania]] and a preceptor and professor of economics at [[Princeton University|Princeton]]. He knew [[Woodrow Wilson]], then the president of Princeton, and they served together on New Jersey political boards. Both were associated with the [[Progressivism|Progressive]] movement for an active role for government.<ref>Goldberg, Joseph P., and William T. Moye. 1985. "[http://www.bls.gov/opub/blsfirsthundredyears/Bureau%20of%20Labor%20Statistics]. Bureau of Labor Statistics Bulletin 2235. U.S. Government Printing Office. ISBN 0-915043-01-2.</ref>

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==References==  
 {{Reflist}}

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{{Persondata
<!-- Metadata: see [[Wikipedia:Persondata]]. -->
| NAME           = Meeker, Royal
| ALTERNATIVE NAMES =
| SHORT DESCRIPTION = American economist and official
| DATE OF BIRTH   = February 23, 1873
| PLACE OF BIRTH  = Quaker Lake, Pennsylvania, US
| DATE OF DEATH   = August 16, 1953
| PLACE OF DEATH  = New Haven, Connecticut, US
}}

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{{DEFAULTSORT:Meeker, Royal}}
[[Category:Columbia University alumni]]
[[Category:1873 births]]

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# Getting in to Statipedia

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- We welcome others interested in this mission
- One logs in through EPA's extranet portal
- To get on board, contact: [Meyer.Peter@bls.gov](mailto:Meyer.Peter@bls.gov)
- Or see OMB MAX page about Statipedia:

(all but EPA) To register and participate in laying the groundwork for the wiki, do the following:

1. Go to <http://portal.epa.gov> and click on "Request Access to the EPA Portal"
2. Fill out the form
3. Specify Michael Messner as your EPA Sponsor. Mike's email address is [messner.michael@epa.gov](mailto:messner.michael@epa.gov). Mik 564-5268
4. From the "Select the Community of Application for which you are requesting access," select "General"
5. Enter and confirm a password in the appropriate fields. (This will be your initial password once your a
6. Check the box for "I accept the EPA Privacy and Security Notice."
7. Click on Submit

You'll receive Email from EPA's "Portal" (usually within a day or two of making your request) announcing the Portal. At that point, you do not have access to Statipedia. Soon after receiving the "Portal" message (ust two), you will receive a "Welcome to Statipedia" message from Mike Messner or Cuc Schroeder, notifying y been established.

The URL for the statipedia wiki is <https://wiki.epa.gov/statipedia>. Go there and log in.

- Or leave email on signup here
- In the long run we want access more automatic

# User and administrative norms

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- **Scale up:** Benefits rise as communities of interest emerge
- **Meet open technical standards**
  - ▶ HTML, TEX, wiki-text links, hooks/extensions
  - ▶ Co-evolution: Today's community, technology, platform  
→ Tomorrow's community, technology, platform
- **Serve and empower staff; Invite voluntary participation**
- **Encourage users to:**
  - ▶ Anchor discussions to sources, evidence, theory
    - Enable drilling down to sources
  - ▶ Address broad/open audiences
    - not organization-specific

# Long run effects, anticipated – knowledge management

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- More **efficient scientific** communities
  - Sharing source material, more reference points
  - Mutual awareness and peer review
- **Less duplication** of effort; unlock value
- **Specialists** serve a larger audience
  - Users can find them
- Build up community **skills** with open-source tools
- Remain flexible/robust to org/budget uncertainty
- Prepare for turnover ; Ease training and integration
- Less email? more “discoverability” not “dissemination”

TOGETHER, the agencies have diverse subject-matter expertise, economies of scale and scope, capability. knowledge of data, and vast computer resources

# Future steps

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Statipedia is a wiki for statistical staff across agencies

- With methodology source material
- Not for the public – but could include non-.gov
- Not for sensitive content
- In future
  - Can develop metadata information there
    - And semantic extensions
  - Should share source code online better (not just wiki)
  - Want it quickly available (e.g. to new employees)

# Contact Information

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[www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)