

# BLS Data Dissemination

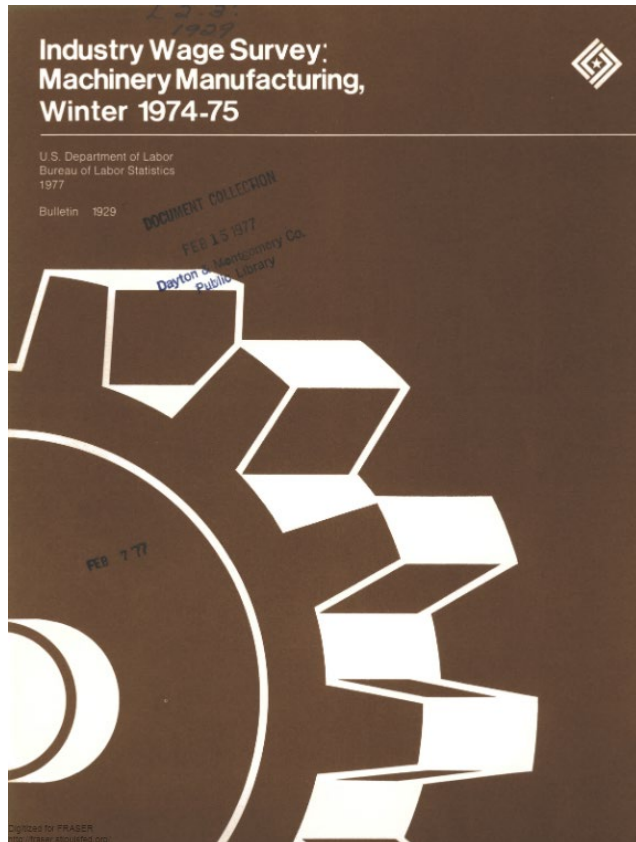
Emily Liddel


FESAC

8 December 2023



# Paging through history: Compendiums

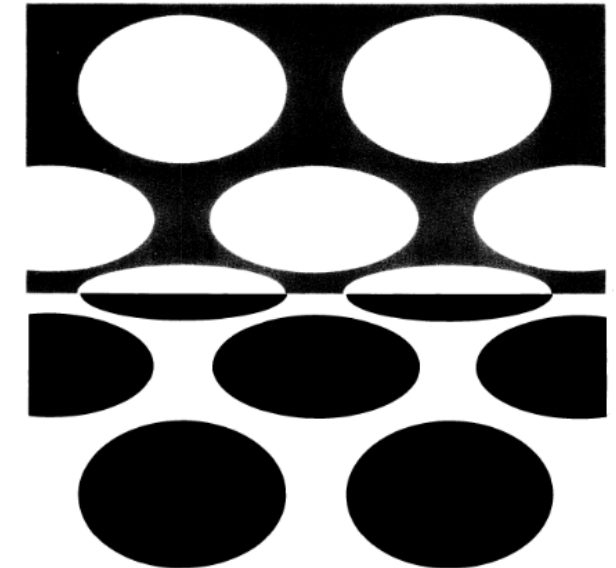


	<h2>Employment and Earnings</h2> <p>SEPTEMBER 1954</p> <p>VOL. 1 NO. 3</p>																																																						
Seasonally-adjusted indexes of employment....	<b>CONTENTS</b>																																																						
Two new tables showing seasonally-adjusted indexes of current employment have been added to the Employment Trends section. Indexes are shown for total employment in each industry division as well as for the production workers in manufacturing, by major indus- try group. 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## Producer Prices and Price Indexes Data for March 1978

Formerly Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes

U.S. Department of Labor  
Bureau of Labor Statistics



# 1995: public use databases



# Our data store and toolkit has grown



67 databases



Multiple  
access tools



Mapping apps

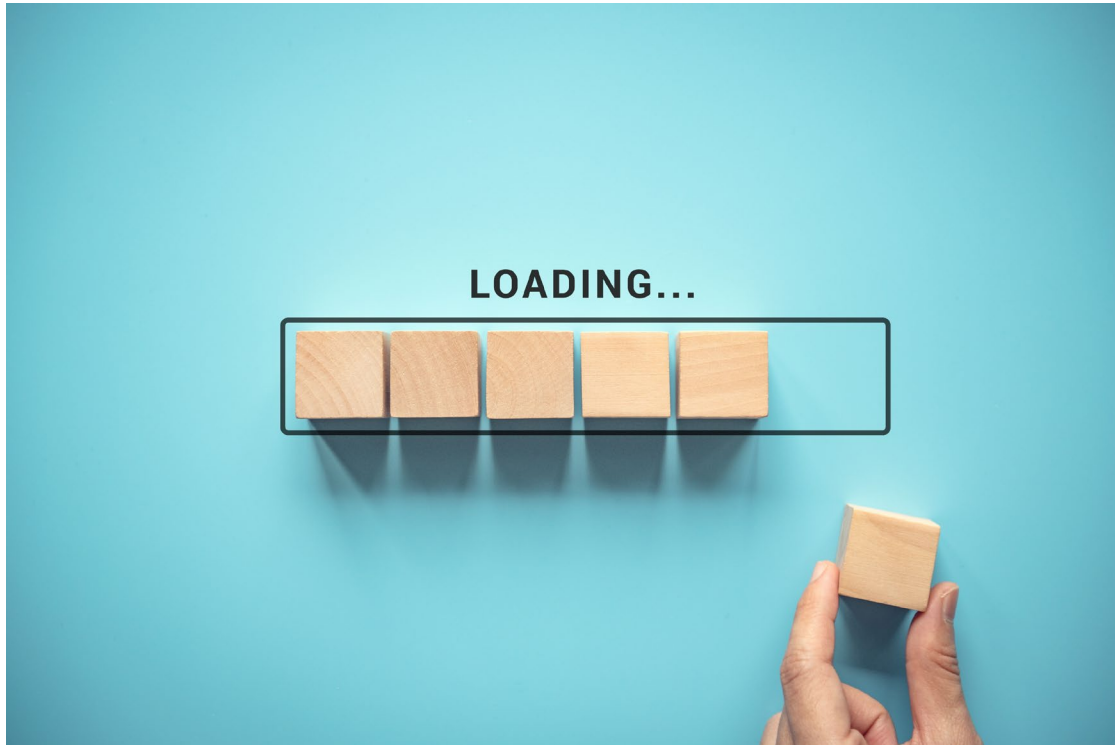


CPI calculator



API

# Some of our challenges



- Not everything is in a database
- 67 SEPARATE databases
- Cross-sectional data vs. time series data

# Despite modernizing...





# One database to rule them all (circa 2012)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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## BLS Data Finder [Start over](#)

**Topics**

- [Area](#) (6105)
- [Demographics](#) **Selected** [Remove](#) (40303)
- [Industry](#) (40033)
- [Occupation](#) (40033)

**Measures**

- [Employment](#) (22630)
- [Labor Force](#) (6740)
- [Unemployment](#) (4904)
- [Unemployment Rate](#) (2681)
- [Wages](#) (3348)

**Attributes**

- ▶ [Seasonality](#)
- ▶ [Survey](#)

**Demographics**

▼ **Gender**

- ▶ [Both Sexes](#) (21212)
- ▶ [Female](#) (1576)
- ▶ [Male](#) (1576)
- ▶ [Men](#) (7497)
- ▶ [Women](#) (8442)

▶ **Race**

▶ **Education**

**Search Time Series:**

[Sort By: Relevance](#)

Showing Results 1 - 10 of 40303 [Show: 10 per page](#)

Topic: [Demographics](#)

[\(Seas\)- Median usual weekly earnings \(second quartile\), Employed full time, Wage and salary workers](#)

☐

Series ID: LES1252881500  
Measure: Wages  
Survey Name: Weekly and hourly earnings data from the Current Population Survey  
Seasonality: Seasonally Adjusted  
Age: 16 years and over  
Gender: Both Sexes  
Race: All Races

[\(Seas\)- Constant \(1982-84\) dollar adjusted to CPI-U- an usual weekly earnings, Employed full time, Wage salary workers](#)

☐

Series ID: LES1252881600  
Measure: Wages  
Survey Name: Weekly and hourly earnings data from the Current Population Survey  
Seasonality: Seasonally Adjusted  
Age: 16 years and over  
Gender: Both Sexes  
Race: All Races

[\(Seas\)- Median usual weekly earnings \(second quartile\), Employed full time, Wage and salary workers, Men](#)



# The data retrieval journey





# Data access limitations

- Must have prior knowledge of BLS offerings
- Not built for exploration
- Hard to get data from multiple program areas at once
- Getting a little vs. download it all



# What would have the biggest impact?

- Cleaner metadata
- Better interface tools
- Customized table builders
- Prioritizing database completeness
- Better display/download options
- Something else?



# Contact Information

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