

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) is known as the universe file for establishments, employment, and wages.

🔊 QCEW data is comprised of employment and wages from unemployment insurance (UI) tax reports augmented by both BLS worksite reports and the Annual Refiling Survey (ARS), which surveys one quarter of all private-sector establishments each year.

🔊 QCEW data is available for nearly 1,200 industries across more than 3,100 U.S. counties and county equivalents.

🔊 QCEW data is used as the sample frame by BLS business surveys.

FIGURE 28 Uses of Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) data

QCEW data are used to generate outputs including:

- Employment and Wages Bulletin
- County employment and wages news releases
- Datafiles on BLS Web sites
- Location quotients

BLS Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

- Job creation/destruction trends
- Business survival rates
- Size class dynamics
- Geocoded establishments

BLS Business Employment Dynamics

- State and local employment and wages
- Top employer lists
- Datafiles on State Web sites
- Shift share analysis

State workforce agencies

QCEW data are used as a sampling frame or to improve:

- Current Employment Statistics (CES)
- Occupational Employment Statistics (OES)
- Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS)
- Injuries, Illnesses, and Fatalities (IIF)

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

- Personal income—U.S., State, and county
- State revenue forecasts
- Gross Domestic Product

Bureau of Economic Analysis

- Economic Census
- Current Population Survey (CPS)
- County business patterns
- Local employment dynamics
- Industry code sharing

Census Bureau