

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Bureau of Labor Statistics Technical Advisory Committee

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Labor

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Bureau of Labor Statistics Technical
Advisory Committee

3b. GSA

Committee No.

76520

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

10/04/2022 10/04/2024

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

13. Effective Date

10/07/2010

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Scientific Technical Program
Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for
this Fiscal Year

17a.

Open

0

17b. Closed

0

17c. Partially Closed

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total

0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

Current Next
FY FY

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Bureau of Labor Statistics Technical Advisory Committee (BLSTAC) functions solely as an advisory body to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) on topics selected by the BLS. The Committee presents advice and makes recommendations to the BLS on technical aspects of the collection of data and formulation of economic measures and makes recommendations on areas of research. The Committee provides advice in response to formal presentations from BLS staff regarding current issues being addressed by the agency. BLSTAC provides this advice during Committee meetings.

20b. How does the Committee balance its

membership?

Membership balance is based on technical and subject matter expertise. Members are experts in economics, statistics, data science, and survey design. They are prominent experts in their fields and recognized for their professional achievements and objectivity. Members' experience is directly relevant to the functions and tasks performed by the BLS.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Committee will normally meet twice annually to discuss technical questions posed in presentations prepared by BLS staff. The BLS Commissioner and Associate Commissioners are involved substantially in the formulation of meeting agendas and the preparation of presentations addressing current issues faced by the agency. In FY 2023, the committee met on November 17, 2022 and May 19, 2023. The November agenda included sessions on Current Population Survey Work Schedules and Work at Home Supplement, Improved Methods to Increase Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries Publishability, and Improved Hedonic Methods for Televisions and Wireless Phone Service Using Blended Survey and Non-Survey Data. The May meeting included sessions on Imputation Methods for Asset and Liabilities Data in the Consumer Expenditure Interview Survey, Data Collection During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic, Progress on Standardizing the Task Data in Occupational Requirements Survey, and New Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey Measures Using Existing Data.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Committee presents advice to the BLS on technical aspects of data collection and formulation of economic measures and makes recommendations on areas of research. The Bureau often faces highly technical issues while developing and maintaining the accuracy and relevancy of its data on employment and unemployment, prices, productivity, and compensation and working conditions. These issues range from how to develop new measures to how to make sure that existing measures account for the ever changing economy. The BLS draws on the expertise of Committee members representing specialized fields within the academic disciplines of economics, statistics and data science, and survey design.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

N/A.

21. Remarks

None.

Designated Federal Officer

Jay Stewart Senior Research Economist, Office of Productivity and Technology

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Andridge, Rebecca	04/28/2023	04/28/2026	Statistician	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Atalay, Englin	04/13/2022	04/13/2025	Economist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Cavallo, Alberto	04/12/2019	04/14/2027	Economist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Chatterjee, Snigdhasu	04/14/2024	04/14/2027	Statistician	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Corrado, Carol	04/12/2019	04/14/2027	Economist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Haltiwanger, John	04/27/2020	04/28/2026	Economist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hobijn, Bart	04/27/2020	04/28/2026	Economist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Houseman, Susan	03/15/2012	04/13/2025	Economist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Kreuter, Frauke	04/13/2021	04/13/2024	Data Scientist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Monroe-White, Thema	04/13/2021	04/13/2024	Data Scientist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Murray, Jared	04/28/2023	04/28/2026	Statistician	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Olson, Kristen	04/13/2022	04/13/2025	Behavioral Scientist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Reinsdorf, Marshall	04/27/2020	04/28/2026	Economist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Sahin, Aysegul	04/12/2019	04/13/2025	Economist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Silge, Julia	04/12/2019	04/13/2025	Data Scientist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
West, Brady	04/12/2016	04/13/2025	Behavioral Scientist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Williams, Aaron	04/14/2024	04/14/2027	Data Scientist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Williams, Matthew	04/28/2023	04/28/2026	Statistician	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 18

Narrative Description

BLSTAC provides advice on the collection and analysis of BLS data, thereby assisting BLS in fulfilling its mission as the principal Federal agency responsible for measuring labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy. Advice offered by BLSTAC also helps BLS fulfill its strategic plan goals to produce objective data and analysis that are timely, accurate, and relevant and continue to improve these data products.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

Identification of new data products fills gaps in BLS statistics and improvement of existing products.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>

\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
Over \$10,000,000
Cost Savings Other

☐
☐
☐
☐

Cost Savings Comments

The benefits are difficult to quantify, because they accrue to BLS customers in the form of more accurate and more relevant data.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

25

Number of Recommendations Comments

The recommendations referenced in this comment section are for FY 2023: (23) During a session on Current Population Survey (CPS) Work Schedules and Work at Home Supplement there was a recommendation to conduct research to determine the feasibility of collecting information about worker and job characteristics, such as the characteristics of work at home arrangements, collaboration tools, and the amount of control workers have over their schedule, assignments, and their usual tasks. (24) During a session on Improved Methods to Increase CFOI Publishability there was a recommendation to conduct research on increasing the number of data cells that are published by using a small amount of noise for sensitive cells, while keeping the aggregate totals accurate. (25) During a session on Improved Hedonic Methods Using Blended Survey and Non-Survey Data there was a recommendation to Continue research on using blended survey and non-survey data with hedonic methods and consider issues such as chain drift, using Tornqvist weights instead of Paasch weights and pooling equivalent products when creating weights.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

28%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Recommendation 16 has been fully implemented. The method has been fully implemented with the November 2023 release of quarterly labor productivity. Recommendation 24 has also been fully implemented. Based on BLS research, the program office determined that the recommended approach is a poor fit for CFOI disclosure avoidance and will not meet data user's needs since even small amounts of

noise added to CFI, which is a small census, could miscommunicate a substantially higher or lower degree of occupational injury risk.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

40%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Recommendation 23 has been partially implemented. The CPS program office is working with the Office of Survey Methods Research (OSMR) to conduct cognitive testing of a questionnaire that includes characteristics of work at home arrangements and worker schedules and control.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

The agency updates the committee on the status of recommendations made during committee meetings. These updates are made at later meetings or via e-mail communication.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Evaluate and, in some cases, incorporate committee advice regarding technical issues related to the collection and analysis of BLS data.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

N/A.

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

N/A.