

TABLE 3-1 

Major sources of data on the U.S. labor force

(Data sources and information)

Data source	Data collection agency	Data years	Major topics	Respondent	Coverage
Occupational Employment Statistics (OES), https://www.bls.gov/oes/	Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics	Through 2016	Worker occupation, salary, industry, employer location (national, state, metropolitan statistical area)	Employing organizations	All full-time and part-time wage and salary workers in nonfarm industries; does not cover self-employed, owners and partners in unincorporated firms, household workers, or unpaid family workers
National Survey of College Graduates (NSCG), https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvygrads/ ; see sidebar NSF/NCSES's Data on Scientists and Engineers	National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics	Through 2015	Employment status, occupation, job characteristics (work activities, technical expertise), salary, detailed educational history, demographic characteristics	Individuals	Individuals with a bachelor's degree or higher in any field, including an oversample of individuals with a bachelor's degree or higher in an S&E or S&E-related field or with non-S&E degrees but working in an S&E or S&E-related occupation
Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR), https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctoratework/ ; see sidebar NSF/NCSES's Data on Scientists and Engineers	National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics	Through 2015	Employment status, occupation, job characteristics (work activities, technical expertise), salary, detailed educational history, demographic characteristics	Individuals	Individuals with U.S.-awarded research doctorates (includes both U.S. and non-U.S. residents)
American Community Survey (ACS), https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/	Department of Commerce, Census Bureau	Through 2015	Employment status, occupation, educational attainment, demographic characteristics	Households	U.S. population
Current Population Survey (CPS), https://www.census.gov/cps/	Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics	Through 2015	Employment status, occupation	Households	Civilian noninstitutional population ages 16 or over