

SUMMARY TABLE. COMPARISONS OF 10 FEDERAL DATA COLLECTIONS

Name of survey program	Name of agency	STW relevance	STW gaps
American Community Survey (ACS)	Census	Includes education attainment, occupation, field of bachelor's degree, industry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missing questions on certifications, licenses, or training.
Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)	Census	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2012 wave had extensive series of questions on certifications, licenses, and certificates; nationally representative of general population (age 18 and older). • Provides good model of survey questions in a longitudinal survey. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only fielded once, more current data needed. • Need information on employer training and apprenticeships.
Current Population Survey (CPS)	Bureau of Labor Statistics	Starting in 2015, the CPS includes a short series of questions on certifications and licenses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No questions on certificates or apprenticeships. • Sample is too small for detailed occupational/industry estimates. • Using the data is problematic as standard errors cannot be calculated with the information currently provided by BLS.
O*NET	US Department of Labor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive detail on worker attributes and job characteristics for over 1,000 occupations including “new and emerging” occupations. • Useful resource for determining which occupations are skilled technical. 	Not designed to be used for measuring or analyzing the skilled technical workforce.
Adult Training and Education Survey (ATES)	National Center for Education Statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive series of questions on certifications, licenses, and certificates as well as work experience programs. • Survey questions are useful model of relevant STW questions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was a module of the National Household Education Surveys program. • Fielded only once in 2016, with no current plans to field it again. • The sample size is relatively small for detailed analysis.
National Assessment of Adult Literacy and Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (NALS)	National Center for Education Statistics	The survey asked a series of training and certification questions.	This survey has been superseded by the PIAAC (see next data source).
Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC)	National Center for Education Statistics	The survey asks an extensive series of training and certification questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relatively small sample • Lacks specific information on STEM-related certifications, licenses, and certificates. • Designed to be comparable to international surveys - not all concepts are comparable to U.S. surveys.

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Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 (ELS: 2002)	National Center for Education Statistics	The 2012 wave had a series of questions on certifications and licenses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These data provide minimal information on certifications and licenses, and relevant questions. • One wave only. • The sample is not the U.S. general population.
High School Longitudinal Study of 2009 (HSLF:09)	National Center for Education Statistics	The 2016 follow-up wave asked a short series of questions on certifications and licenses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These data provide minimal information on certifications and licenses, and relevant questions. • One wave only. • The sample is not the U.S. general population.
National Survey of College Graduates (NSCG)	National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics	Starting in 2017, the NSCG asked an extensive series of questions on certifications and licenses for individuals with a bachelor's and above.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sample is not the U.S. general population.