Federal Data Collection Comment Opportunity for AEA Members

Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program
Bureau of Labor Statistics

Comments Due March 19, 2018

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) plans to ask OMB to approve a proposed revision to its Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Program. The process for developing residency-based employment and unemployment statistics is a cooperative Federal-State program that uses employment and unemployment inputs available in State agencies. Estimates are prepared monthly in the State agencies, transmitted to the BLS for validation and publication, and provided to user agencies.

BLS indicates: "Beginning in FY 2018, in response to persistent funding shortfalls, the majority of BLS programs were asked to reduce operating budgets. One change is a modification to the estimation framework that supports the city- and town-based geography of the New England states."

BLS also proposes to change LAUS seasonal adjustment methods in 2018.

AEA members are encouraged to:

- provide opinions on the value of LAUS for economic research;
- comment on the data collection instruments and methods; and
- suggest changes that would enhance data quality, value, and accessibility and lower respondent burden and federal cost.

Federal Register notice: January 16, 2018 (includes instructions for submitting comments)

- Draft LAUS Supporting Statement (attached) -- describes needs, uses, plans, methods, sample, and costs
- Memoranda describing proposed revisions (attached)
- Draft LAUS data collection instruments (attached)
- Due date for comments: March 19, 2018
- More information: Julie Hatch Maxfield, Assistant Commissioner for Current Employment Analysis, BLS Hatch.Julie@bls.gov

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Information on Information Collection Request (ICR) Process:

- By law, each data collection carried out by a federal agency must be cleared by OMB. Through this *Federal Register* notice, BLS is announcing that it intends to submit a request to OMB for clearance to conduct a revised LAUS Program and offers the public a 60-day opportunity to submit comments.
- After the close of the 60-day comment period, BLS will prepare and submit its request to OMB. That request will summarize and respond to each of the public comments it received.

Guidance to AEA Members on Preparing Comments:

- Can comment on any aspect of the proposed data collection. Possible topics, for instance, include needs, uses, methodology, design, cost, schedule, and consultation with data users.
- May frame comments on specific topics in any way, such as:
  - assessments – identifying what you do and do not like and support
  - suggestions – for how BLS might proceed in this or future collections
  - requests – for example, for a change in the design of the survey instrument, to be consulted in the future, to carry out research on an alternative approach
  - observations – for example, implications of the sample size for statistical reliability
- May propose that OMB incorporate a request in its "terms of clearance." For instance, you could suggest as a term of clearance that BLS research the efficacy of an alternative set of questions and report back to OMB in a year on the results.

Additional AEA Resources:

- [A Primer on How to Respond to Calls for Comment on Federal Data Collections](#)
- After reviewing materials, you may provide your observations, critiques, and requests to AEAStat staff Andrew Reamer at areamer@gwu.edu and he will organize them into a draft letter for your review. Prof. Reamer is experienced in crafting comment letters for impact.

Supporting Statement – Part A
Local Area Unemployment Statistics

A. **Justification**

1. Necessity of the Information Collection.

   The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has been charged by Congress [Congressional Act of July 7, 1930 (29 USC, Section 1 and 2)] with the responsibility of collecting and publishing monthly information on employment, the average wage received, and the hours worked by area and industry. The process for developing residency-based employment and unemployment statistics is a cooperative Federal-State program that uses employment and unemployment inputs available in State agencies.

   Estimates are prepared monthly in the State agencies, transmitted to the BLS for validation and publication, and provided to user agencies. These estimates are used for economic analysis and as a tool in the implementation of Federal policy in such areas as employment and economic development under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (that supplanted the Workforce Investment Act of 1998) and the Public Works and Economic Development Act, among others.

   The estimates are used in economic analysis by public agencies and private industry and for State and area allocations and eligibility determinations according to legal and administrative requirements. Implementation of policy and legislative prerogatives could not be accomplished as now written without collection of the data.

   The reports covered by the supporting statement are integral parts of the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program insofar as they ensure and measure the timeliness, quality, consistency, and adherence to program directions of the LAUS estimates and related research.

   LAUS 8: Reports used annually to transmit information on the geographic definition of the area and estimating methodology used for Areas of Substantial Unemployment (ASU).

   LAUS 15: Report prepared periodically to request and detail unusual treatment for estimation.

   LAUS 16: Reports used annually to transmit LAUS estimates for ASU submittals.

   LAUS 3040: LAUS Program Manual

2. Use of Information.

   The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 requires these data:

   a. to allocate funds under Title II (Adult Education and Literacy programs);

   b. to implement Title I, which establishes state workforce investment boards, state plans, and local workforce investment areas. The local workforce investment areas are to

support a one-stop delivery system that provides core employment-related services and other employment and training services;

c. to implement Title I, which provides that one of the standards for eligibility for services under the Act is that the ratio of participants being trained on the job in the public sector to participants in the private sector shall not exceed the ratio of civilian government employment to private sector employment in the area.

Other requirements include the use of these data:

a. to allocate funds to States to establish and maintain public employment offices as required by the Wagner-Peyser Act (29 USC 49 et seq.) and to require that public labor exchange activities be part of the one-stop system and integrated into the state workforce development plan;

b. to indicate economic distress in areas to identify political jurisdictions eligible for Federal assistance under the Urban Development Action Grant Program (Section 119 of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act (PL 93-383)). The standards include local unemployment as an indicator;

c. by the Employment and Training Administration to identify Labor Surplus Areas designated under Executive Orders 10582 and 12073 in the implementation of amendments to the Small Business Act (PL 96-302), which provides that Federal procurement contracts be set aside for businesses located in labor surplus areas;

d. to allocate Department of Commerce funds for certain programs to areas of high unemployment as required by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 USC 3121).

3. Use of Electronic Collection Methods.

Increased automation of estimating procedures and the submittal of estimates remains a program objective. The State Time Series Analysis and Review System (STARS), introduced in 1989, and LAUSToo, introduced in 1988 as the State Systems Project (SSP), are statistical software packages designed to assist in the production of employment and unemployment estimates for States and local areas. Both systems are revised and updated on a regular schedule.

BLS continues to explore alternative methods to collect data now submitted on the Designation of Potential ASU (LAUS 8) and the ASU Data Collection Form (LAUS 16). States now have the option to submit these data electronically.

4. Efforts to Identify Duplication.

No other estimate exists of total resident employment and total resident unemployment on a monthly basis at the required level of geographic detail.

5. <u>Impact on Small Businesses.</u>

Small businesses or other small entities are not respondents in any of the information collections.

6. <u>Consequences of Less Frequent Collection.</u>

29 USC Section 2 states, "The Bureau of Labor Statistics, under direction of the Secretary of Labor, shall collect, collate, and report at least once each year, or oftener if necessary, full and complete statistics on the conditions of labor and the products and distribution of the products of the same …" It also states "The Bureau of Labor Statistics shall also collect, collate, report, and publish at least once each month full and complete statistics on the volume of the changes in employment, as indicated by the number of persons employed …" If the data were developed less frequently than monthly, certain of the allocation programs and trigger mechanisms referred to in items 1 and 2 would not be completed properly.

7. <u>Special Circumstances.</u>

Monthly collection of information is necessary in connection with the process outlined in LAUS 3040. Other data series are not available that are conceptually consistent with monthly national labor force measures, comparable across relevant geographies, or timely enough to implement the assistance programs for which LAUS estimates are used.

The collection of information in LAUS 8 and LAUS 16 regarding Areas of Substantial Unemployment occurs on an annual basis.

The collection of information in LAUS 15 regarding requests for exceptions or atypical treatment within LAUS methodology only occurs on an occasional basis in response to unusual situations or isolated data deficiencies.

8. <u>Federal Register Notice and Consultation Outside the BLS.</u>

No comments were received as a result of the Federal Register Notice published in 83 FR 2217 on January 16, 2018.

> **Commented [EG1]:** To be filled in upon completion of the 60-day FRN

Over the years, the program has been discussed extensively with the Labor Market Information Committee of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies, the Workforce Information Council, the LAUS-MLS State Policy Council, the Bureau's Research Advisory Committees, and the Employment and Training Administration.

9. <u>Payment to Respondents.</u>

Data for the program are collected and assembled by State staff. BLS is unaware of any arrangements to provide payments or gifts to respondents.

10. <u>Assurance of Confidentiality.</u>

An assurance of confidentiality is not provided to respondents.

11. Justification for Sensitive Questions.

Questions of a sensitive nature are not asked.

12. Estimate of Respondent Burden.

The hour burden of the collection of information is detailed below.

	LAUS 3040	LAUS 8	LAUS 15	LAUS 16
Number of respondents	52 (with 6,962 reporting units)	52	6	52
Annual frequency of response	13	11	1	1
Annual responses	90,506	572	6	52
Estimated hours/response	1.5	1.0	2.0	1.0
Annual burden	135,759	572	12	52
Total annual responses	**91,136**			
Total annual burden hours	**136,395**			

Notes:
- LAUS 3040: The regular program submissions are monthly with an additional annual submission each year, making 13 submissions per State, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico (52 respondents) each year. The respondents provide monthly submissions for their jurisdiction as a whole and all of the labor market areas controlled by each of them. There are a total of 6,962 responses for the Nation as a whole. The 52 respondents – the 50 States plus DC and Puerto Rico – submit 6,962 responses per month plus an annual submittal for all the labor market areas identified for the program – 13 x 6,962 = 90,506 responses.

- LAUS 8: This is an annual activity, but some States need to submit more than one, and it averages to 11 submissions per State per year.

- LAUS 15: Not every State needs to submit a LAUS 15 each year. Based on past experience, about six States submit one during a given year.

- LAUS 16: This is an annual activity– each State submits one per year.

13. Estimate of Cost Burden.

The cost burden to respondents is borne by the Federal Government as defined within the cooperative Federal State program.

14. Cost to the Federal Government.

Estimates for FY 2018 are still pending.

Listed below are the estimated FY 2015 Federal government costs for the LAUS program.

Personnel	$ 6,000,000
Other	$ 4,000,000
State Workforce Agency Funding	$ 9,000,000
TOTAL	$19,000,000

15. Changes in Respondent Burden.

The current information collection request is considered a revision. The collection instruments themselves (LAUS 8, LAUS 15, and LAUS 16, and LAUS 3040) are unchanged or changed only slightly; however, the burden, costs, and instructions (the LAUS Technical Memoranda) have been updated. BLS's estimate of respondent burden was adjusted to reflect the decreased number of responses required due to the decrease in the number of geographic areas estimated from 7,403 to 6,962. Changes in the number of estimated geographic areas resulted from changes in population rendering fewer areas eligible for estimation for New England Minor Civil Divisions (LAUS Technical Memorandum S-17-20).

16. Plans for Publication.

See attached publication schedule.

17. Request to Not Display Expiration Date.

Not applicable.

18. Exceptions to the Certification Statement.

This request complies with 5 CFR 1320.9.

Supporting Statement – Part B
Local Area Unemployment Statistics

B. Collection of Information Employing Statistical Methods

Refer to the attached LAUS Program Manual for details.

Beginning in 2018, LAUS will be implementing improvements to the current 4th Generation of LAUS State Models. Improvements include: newly calculated generalized variance functions (GVFs), along with associated error measures, will be used in production of LAUS estimates; seasonal factors calculated from benchmarked not-seasonally adjusted estimates; and a switch to a Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS) filter for the calculation of smoothed seasonally adjusted estimates. These changes are addressed in LAUS Technical Memorandum S-17-19.

Beginning in FY 2018, in response to persistent funding shortfalls, the majority of BLS programs were asked to reduce operating budgets. One change is a modification to the estimation framework that supports the city- and town-based geography of the New England states. These changes are addressed in LAUS Technical Memorandum S-17-20.

Bureau of Labor Statistics
                              2 Massachusetts Ave., N.E.
                              Washington, D.C. 20212

Date   : August 8, 2017

LAUS Technical Memorandum No. S-17-19

MEMORANDUM FOR   : STATE WORKFORCE AGENCY ADMINISTRATORS
                        AND BLS REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS

FROM   : JAY A. MOUSA
                        Associate Commissioner
                        Office of Field Operations

SUBJECT   : Review of Improved Fourth Generation Local Area
                        Unemployment Statistics Models and Request for Feedback

Purpose: This memorandum provides states with information on proposed improvements to the fourth generation of Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) models. It details the plan for providing states with ongoing estimates incorporating these improvements for review, and requests state feedback on those estimates. The LAUS program office is strongly considering implementing these changes beginning with the next annual processing period.

Background: BLS continually researches potential improvements to its methodology. Following the implementation of the Current Population Survey (CPS) sample redesign in 2014, BLS researched improving the calculation of the generalized variance functions (GVFs) used in the LAUS model estimates and their associated error measures. These improved GVFs are now available to be implemented in the production of LAUS estimates. Furthermore, in response to state user feedback, BLS also conducted research into reducing volatility and distortions appearing in LAUS estimates. The Statistical Methods Staff (SMS) has developed improved seasonal adjustment and smoothed seasonal adjustment procedures to address those concerns.

Summary of Improvements to Fourth Generation Models: Improvements and changes to the LAUS employment and unemployment models are categorized into three groupings.

(1) Improvements to GVF calculation (impacts NSA and SSA estimates). The GVFs will now be calculated using a more flexible method that responds to monthly changes in some key parameters, such as CPS response rate. For employment, CPS standard errors are generally10 to 20 percent lower than those used in current production. Lower CPS standard errors indicate lower sampling error and higher reliability in the CPS. This results in the LAUS models placing increased weight on the survey data, making model estimates more responsive to changes in the CPS.

(2) <u>Improvements to Seasonal Factors</u>. LAUS models simultaneously estimate and benchmark the seasonally adjusted data. The combination of these steps leads to distortions in the seasonal factors. Rather than use these distorted factors, the model will instead apply a series of linear filters derived from X-11 to the benchmarked not seasonally adjusted LAUS estimates, reducing volatility and producing more stable estimates of seasonality. Application of these filters in such a manner eliminates the need to remove residual seasonality.

(3) <u>Improvements to Smoothing Filter</u> (impacts SSA estimates only). The Trend Cycle Cascade Filter (TCCF) currently used to smooth the benchmarked seasonally adjusted estimates is a long, multi-year filter, intended in part to remove any residual seasonality from the published estimates. Because of the improvements listed above in (2), the TCCF is no longer needed. LAUS will switch to the much stronger Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS) filter. This achieves a better balance of responsiveness to business cycles while mitigating variability due to distortions caused by benchmarking.

Data for State Review: With this memorandum, we are providing states with LAUS estimates from the improved fourth generation of LAUS models via EUSweb in the file "ST New 4th Gen Estimates.xlsx" (where "ST" is the state's two-character abbreviation). The tab "Historical" includes data from 1976 – 2016 that have been estimated using the forward-back-forward historical estimator. SSA estimates were smoothed using the 13-month RKHS historical symmetric filter. The tab "Concurrent" includes 2017 data as estimated by the current year concurrent estimator; SSA estimates utilize the 7-month concurrent RKHS asymmetrical filter. All estimates are directly comparable to data currently published by BLS and contained in STARS. Data are available for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, New York City and the balance of New York State, and Los Angeles and the balance of California. The remaining five substate modeled areas and their respective balance-of-state areas will not be included in the initial estimates for review. Their provision should be available soon, however.

Because of the effect changing state historical NSA estimates has on substate estimates, we are considering a partial implementation in 2018. Specifically, we may keep the current official historical data unchanged for all years except the most recent five. Later, in a year when we implement revised OMB substate areas, we would replace the entire series to reflect the methodology changes described above.

Attachment 1 contains the model specification tables for the improved models. Columns B-D contain the standard deviation of the model's Level, Slope and Seasonal components. Outlier designations are available in columns F-I. There have been no changes to outlier designations from the current fourth generation models, as detailed in attachment 2 to LAUS memo S-17-12. Finally, column E is the regressor coefficient (CoefXtrd) for the state-supplied inputs to the model (CES for employment, UI continued claims for unemployment). Attachment 2 describes the modifications made to the STARS tables thus far to reflect the output of the improved models.

Data Provision for 2017 Estimates (Dual Estimation): Throughout 2017, BLS will provide states with output from the improved models. The methodology updates do not require changes

to the STARS web interface, so there are no additional production steps required of states. The estimates and resulting draft STARS diagnostic tables will be produced by program office staff. Each month, BLS will provide these files to states via EUSweb no later than the Friday following the STARS due date.

Actions required: States should review the improved fourth generation data, including outlier designations as shown in Attachment 1. They should provide feedback or requests for changes to these by September 29, 2017. States should also review the concurrent 2017 estimates and diagnostic tables on an ongoing basis and provide comments to their regional office as they arise.

Effective Date: This memorandum is effective immediately.

Workload Impact: None; these activities are included in the Cooperative Agreement.

Inquiries: All inquiries should be directed to the appropriate BLS regional office.

Attachments:

Attachment 1- Revised Claims Model Specification

Attachment 2- Modifications to the Monthly STARS Tables

U.S. Department of Labor   Bureau of Labor Statistics
                                 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.E.
                                 Washington, D.C. 20212

DATE   : September 12, 2017

LAUS Technical Memorandum No. S-17-20

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE WORKFORCE AGENCY ADMINISTRATORS
                 AND BLS REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS

FROM   : JAY A. MOUSA
                          Associate Commissioner
                          Office of Field Operations

SUBJECT   : Changes in Geography and Methodology for the New England States

Purpose: This memorandum provides information on upcoming changes to substate geography and methodology in the New England states.

Background: Due to persistent, agency-wide funding shortfalls, the majority of BLS programs were asked to reduce their operating budgets for fiscal year (FY) 2018. One cost-saving measure that the LAUS program will be implementing in response to this need involves modifying the estimation framework that supports the unique city- and town-based geography of the New England states. Specifically, the LAUS program will be (1) adopting a population threshold for New England Minor Civil Divisions (MCDs) and (2) reverting to the disaggregation methodology for estimation at the MCD level.

Changes to BLS publication and funding of New England MCDs: In 2018, BLS will cease publication of New England MCDs with 2010 Census populations of less than 1,000. Overall, New England has 441 MCDs that fall below the new threshold. Of these, 36 currently are not published in Labstat, the BLS time-series database of record. Thus, BLS will be removing 405 additional MCDs from Labstat. In prior years, the 36 historically unpublished MCDs were treated as BLS areas and were counted for funding allocation purposes. Going forward, these 36 MCDs and an additional 404 of the other 405 MCDs below the new population threshold will be treated as state-specific areas in LAUSToo and will not be included in the LAUS funding allocation counts. (The remaining MCD with a population below 1,000 that will continue to be included in the funding allocation counts is an intrastate part of an interstate New England City and Town Area, or NECTA). Attachment 1 provides counts by state of the MCDs subject to removal from Labstat and the funding allocation counts based on the new population threshold.

Reduction in the number of Handbook areas: The total number of substate areas for which LAUS estimates must be created will not change. Instead, labor cost savings will be realized by reducing the number of areas for which Handbook estimates must be created and reviewed. In prior years, Handbook estimates were developed for all of New England's 1,605 MCDs. Going forward,

Handbook estimates will be produced for MCD-based Labor Market Areas (LMAs), intrastate parts of interstate LMAs, or NECTA Divisions that subdivide the Boston-Cambridge-Nashua, MA-NH Metropolitan NECTA. Where applicable, Expanded Estimating areas will continue to be used in lieu of LMAs. This will bring the geography of Handbook estimation into alignment with the geography of the place-of-work non-agricultural wage and salary employment (M01) and labor disputant (M02) inputs (areas that often are referred to as 'M01 areas') or the intrastate parts thereof. Existing unemployment insurance claims data in LAUSToo will be aggregated by BLS to generate claims counts (M03 through M12) for backfilling the database. During the 2017 annual processing cycle in early 2018, the change in methodology will be introduced and carried back to January 2010. Attachment 2 summarizes the changes at the Handbook area level.

Use of disaggregation procedure for MCDs: Six MCDs will continue as Handbook areas because they are single-MCD M01 areas or single-MCD intrastate parts of interstate M01 areas. One of the six had a 2010 Census population below 1,000, so the alias 'town' record will be dropped from Labstat and only the primary record for the intrastate LMA part will continue to be published by BLS. The remaining 1,599 MCDs, including the other 440 MCDs with populations below 1,000, will become disaggregated areas. BLS will produce the necessary disaggregation ratio inputs (R01, R02, and R03) to implement the population- and claims- based methodology (method 3 in LAUSToo) from January 2010 forward. Existing unemployment insurance claims data in LAUSToo will be summed by BLS to generate city claims counts (C07) for backfilling the database. Going forward, states will be required to submit C07 inputs only at the MCD level.

Estimation for counties: Counties will continue to be estimated by aggregating LAUS estimates across their component MCDs. Given this, estimates for the newly state-specific MCDs with 2010 Census populations below 1,000 will be required. Fully eliminating these MCDs from LAUSToo would require that the Handbook methodology be applied to the county parts of M01 areas instead of being applied to the intrastate parts of M01 areas. This would complicate matters and make data review and analysis more difficult. It also might require the population threshold for MCDs to be set at a higher level in order to accommodate the county parts of M01 areas that would need to be added to the database as unpublished BLS areas. Attachment 3 lists the numbers of counties in each state that have MCDs with 2010 Census populations below 1,000.

Actions required: None at this time. This is an informational memorandum. Actionable items per implementation of the upcoming changes described herein will be outlined as necessary in the 2017 annual processing and the 2018 LAUS estimation memoranda.

The general guidance to federal-state program offices from BLS management had included that the cost-saving measures selected should be reversible with relative ease, if a more favorable budget environment emerged in the near future. The LAUS program will continue to produce estimates for all New England MCDs. Although BLS will no longer publish those MCDs that fall below the new population threshold, states that publish data for all of their MCDs are encouraged to continue doing so as state-specific areas, with the hope that BLS funding for these MCDs eventually can be restored.

Workload impact: The earliest that changes to LAUS geography can be made is during annual processing. The transition period until annual processing will involve a temporary workload increase in light of the FY 2018 funding cuts that the New England states will experience. After annual processing, these changes will constitute a workload reduction commensurate with the funding reduction. States will not be required to edit estimates for MCDs below the population threshold. Furthermore, the burden of creating and editing estimates for the MCDs that remain BLS areas will be lower given the change from Handbook estimation to disaggregation.

Inquiries: All inquiries should be directed to the Boston regional office.

Effective date: This memorandum is effective immediately.

Attachments:

1. Summary of Publication and Funding Changes at the MCD Level
2. Summary of Changes at the Handbook Area Level
3. Summary of Counties with MCDs below 1,000 Population that will become State-Specific
4. List of MCDs with 2010 Census Populations below 1,000 Subject to Defunding

Summary of Publication and Funding Changes at the MCD Level

State	Total MCDs	MCDs with less than 1,000 population	Net change in BLS publication	Net change in count used for funding	Notes
CT	169	1	-1	-1	
ME	532	248	-236	-248	BLS currently does not publish 12
MA	351	29	-29	-29	
NH	259	73	-54	-73	BLS currently does not publish 19
RI	39	0	0	0	
VT	255	90	-85	-89	BLS currently does not publish 5; 1 of the other 85 will be retained as an intrastate part
Total	1,605	441	-405	-440	

Summary of Changes at the Handbook Area Level

State	Handbook areas in prior years (all MCDs)	Handbook areas going forward (M01 areas or intrastate parts)	Net change
CT	169	11	-158
ME	532	30	-502
MA	351	24	-327
NH	259	28	-231
RI	39	3	-36
VT	255	20	-235
Total	1,605	116	-1,489

Summary of Counties with MCDs below 1,000
Population that will become State-Specific

State	Total Counties	Counties with one or more MCDs below 1,000 population
CT	8	1
ME	16	15
MA	14	6
NH	10	7
RI	5	0
VT	14	13
Total	67	42

Bureau of Labor Statistics

U.S. Department of Labor

Designation of Potential Area of Substantial Unemployment (ASU)

Region ☐☐   Date _____

State ☐☐   ASU Name _____

Area Type (*Check one*): Labor Market Area ☐   County ☐   City ☐   Contiguous Census Tracts/ MCD's ☐   Other ☐

Precise Geographical Definition: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Preparation Method (*Check one*) : Independent Estimate ☐   Claims/Population ☐   Census-share ☐   Other (*specify*) _____

Card 1 Census Data:

Employment _____   Unemployment _____   Population _____
(10-17)   (19-26)   (28-36)

If ASU is census-shared, enter name and code of area from which ASU is derived.

Name _____   Area Code ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐
                                               (38-45)

Employment Ratio _____   Unemployment Ratio _____
(47-54)   (56-63)

BLS Use Only Below This Line

ASU Type ☐   State Code ☐☐   Card **1**

(65)   (67-68)   (80)

Card 2

ASU Code ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐   Prep Switch ☐

(1-8)   (16)

ASU Title _____

_____   Card **2**

(20-73)   (80)

LAUS-8

U.S. Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics
Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program
Request for Atypical or Exception Treatment

1. State

2. Area

3. Date

4. Nature of Request
☐ **Atypical**   ☐ **Exception**

5. Series Affected
☐ **Employment** ☐ **Unemployment**

6. Time Period Affected

7. Estimating Problem and Recommended Action (Attach additional sheets and corroborative material as necessary.)

Submitted by: _____ **Title:** _____

8. BLS Action

Type of Request

☐**Routine Requests**   ☐**Nonroutine**

Action

☐ **Regional Office Approved**

☐ **Regional Office Approved as Modified**

☐ **Regional Office Disapproved**

Name: _____ **Title** _____

☐ **National Office Reviewed and Approved**

☐ **National Office Reviewed and Disapproved**

Name: _____ **Title** _____

Comments _____
LAUS-15

U.S. Department of Labor

Region: _____   State
                            FIPS: [   ]   Date Submitted: _____
                                  (1-2)

ASU Code: [   ]   ASU Name: _____
          (4-12)

Check here if resubmitting data [   ]

Year/Month (20-24)		Civilian Labor Force (26-34)	Employment (36-44)	Unemployment (46-54)	Rate (to one decimal place) (56-64)
July 20	13-07				
Aug. 20	13-08				
Sept. 20	13-09				
Oct. 20	13-10				
Nov. 20	13-11				
Dec. 20	13-12				
Jan. 20	14-01				
Feb. 20	14-02				
March 20	14-03				
April 20	14-04				
May 20	14-05				
June 20	14-06				
12-mo. Average					

LAUS-16