

NEWS RELEASE

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

U. S. D E P A R T M E N T O F L A B O R



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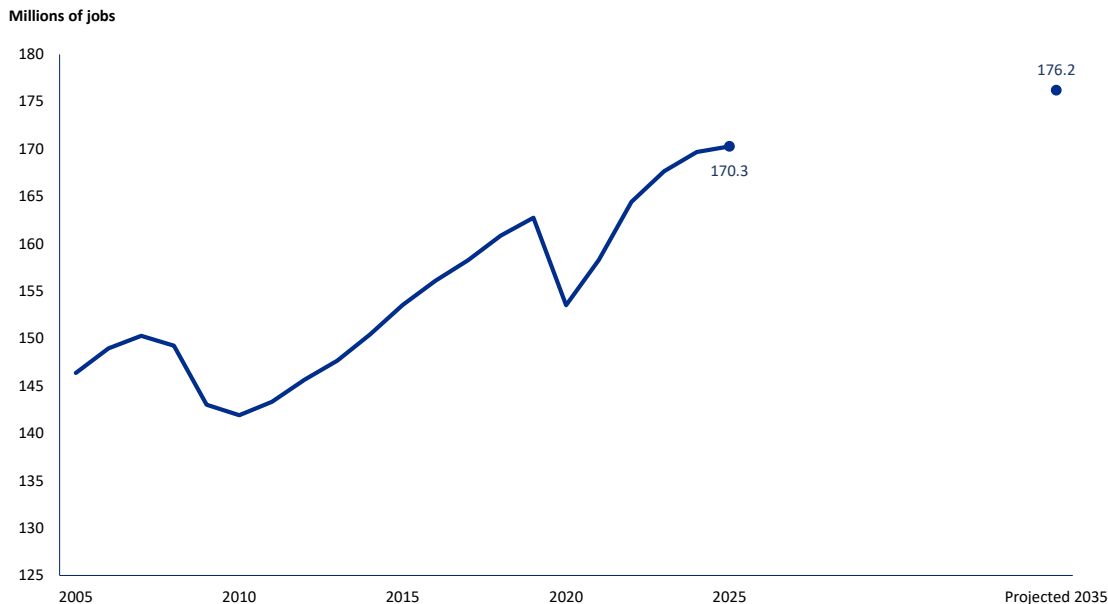
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EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS — 2025–2035

The U.S. economy is projected to add 5.9 million jobs from 2025 to 2035, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Total employment is projected to increase from 170.3 million to 176.2 million and grow 3.5 percent, which is slower than the 10.9 percent growth recorded over the 2015–25 decade. (See chart 1.)

Chart 1. Total employment, 2005–2025 and projected 2035

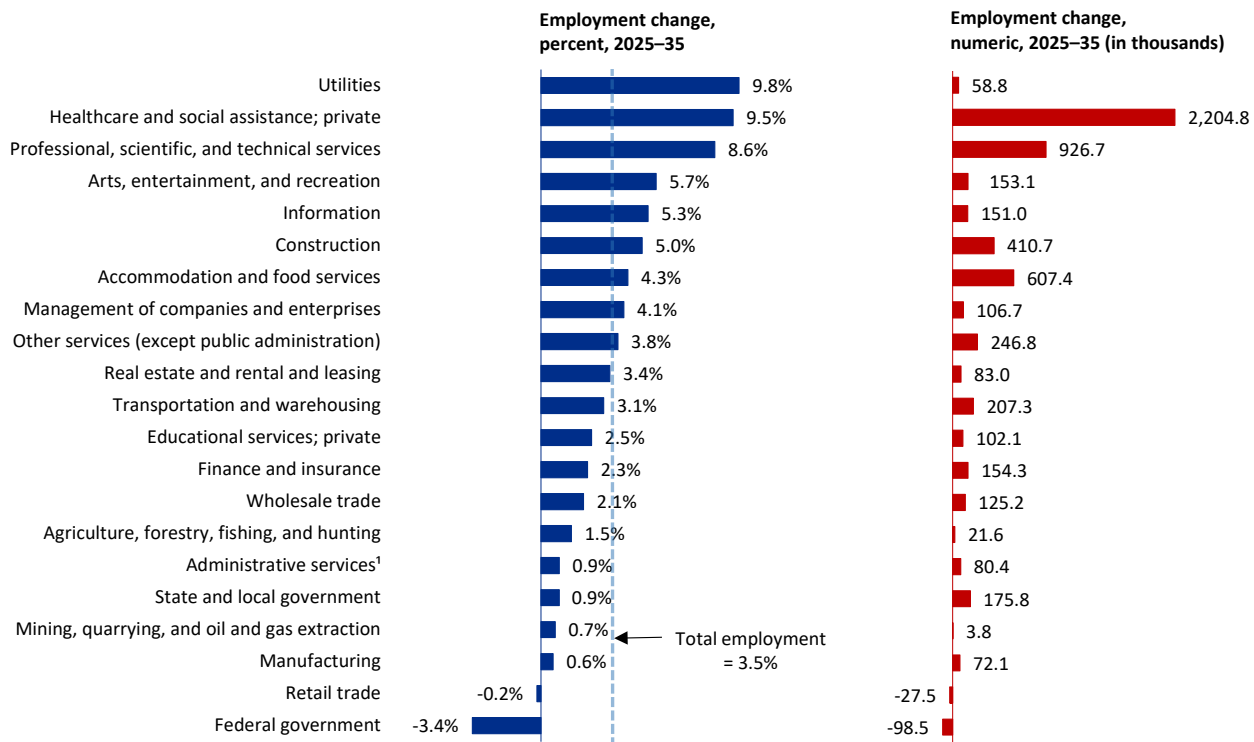


Note: Total employment refers to wage and salary employment and self-employment. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics does not project interim years 2026–2034.

New Artificial Intelligence Exposure Categories

Alongside the 2025–35 projections, BLS is introducing a new data product that provides information about how occupations compare to one another based on their theoretical and observed exposure to artificial intelligence (AI). More information about the AI exposure categories can be found on release day at www.bls.gov/emp/publications/ai-exposure-categories.htm.

Chart 2. Employment change by major industry sector, projected 2025–2035



¹Administrative services includes administrative and support and waste management and remediation services.

Note: Major industry sector employment refers to wage and salary employment. Total employment refers to wage and salary employment and self-employment.

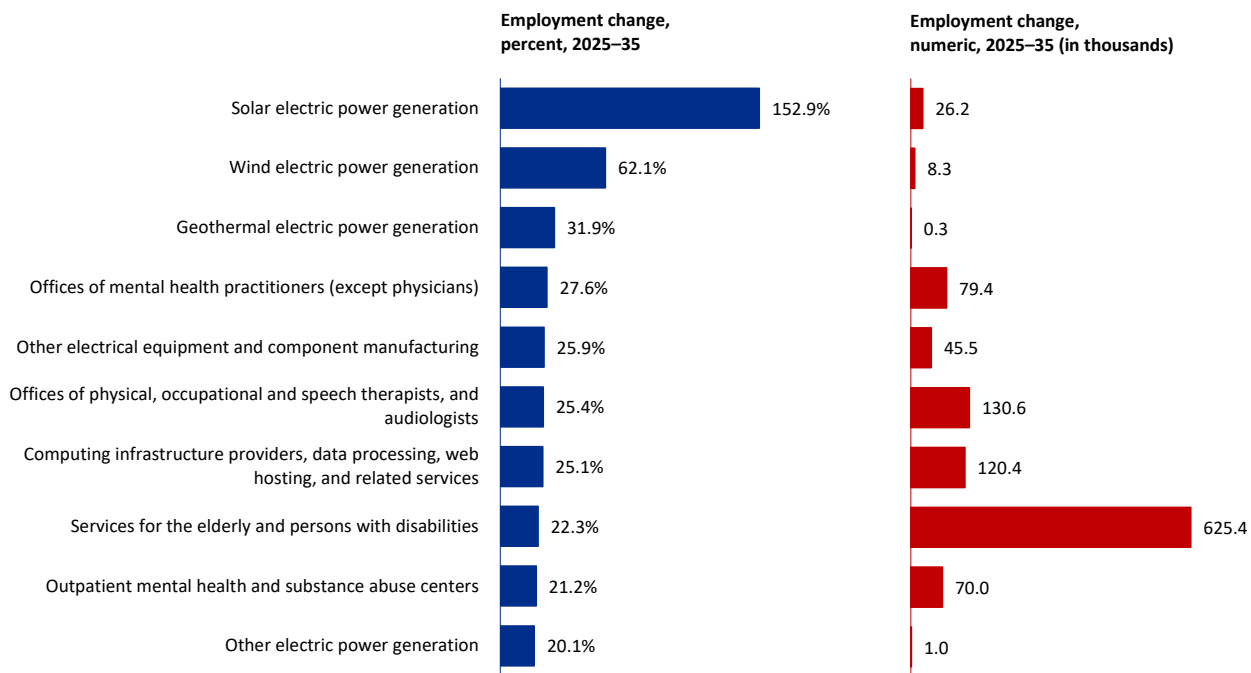
Major Industry Sector Employment

Utilities is projected to have the fastest job growth (+9.8 percent) of all major industry sectors over the 2025–35 decade. However, this fast growth is projected to account for an increase of only 58,800 new jobs because of the sector’s relatively small employment size. (See chart 2.) Nearly all the job growth is expected from electric power generation, transmission, and distribution due to increasing demand for electricity, including artificial intelligence (AI) power demands.

The private healthcare and social assistance (+9.5 percent) major industry sector is projected to add the most jobs of any sector, over 2.2 million over the projections period, and is projected to be the second fastest growing major industry sector. This strong growth is expected to account for about 37.0 percent of all new jobs projected to be added through 2035. Strong employment growth is expected to stem from both the aging population and the increasing prevalence of chronic health conditions, such as heart disease, cancer, and diabetes.

Demand for AI-based systems, research and development, and associated consulting services is expected to drive the need for workers in professional, scientific, and technical services. This major industry sector is projected to be the third fastest growing sector (+8.6 percent) over the projections period. This fast growth is projected to result in 926,700 new jobs, the second largest job growth of any sector.

Chart 3. Ten fastest growing industries, projected 2025–2035



Note: Industry employment refers to wage and salary employment.

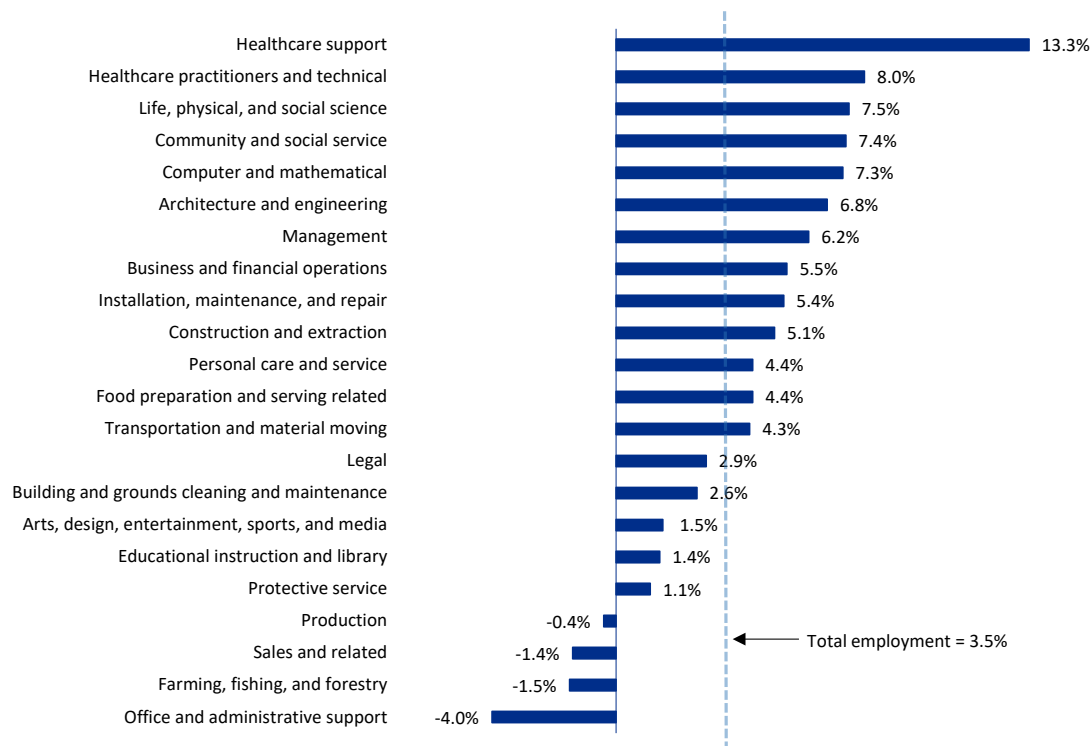
Employment in federal government (-3.4 percent) and retail trade (-0.2 percent) is projected to decline from 2025 to 2035. Retail trade is projected to lose about 27,500 jobs over the projections period, as e-commerce is expected to continue limiting employment in retail outlets. However, the growing volume of online purchases and therefore increasing volume of shipments and deliveries are expected to support employment growth in transportation and warehousing (+3.1 percent).

Fastest Growing Employment in Detailed Industries

The overall demand for electricity is expected to increase over the projections period due in large part to AI adoption and demand for related infrastructure, such as data centers. Consequently, projected employment growth in 4 out of the 10 fastest growing industries is expected to be driven, in large part, by demand for electricity. The solar, wind, and geothermal electric power generation industries are projected to be the fastest growing detailed industries. (See chart 3.) However, because of their relatively small employment size, these industries, when combined with the other electric power generation industry, are projected to add only about 35,800 jobs over the projections period.

Accelerated AI adoption is also expected to support employment growth in the computing infrastructure providers, data processing, web hosting, and related services industry. As a result, this industry is projected to grow 25.1 percent and add 120,400 new jobs over the projections period.

Chart 4. Percent change in total employment, by occupational group, projected 2025–2035



Note: Total employment refers to wage and salary employment and self-employment.

Other electrical equipment and component manufacturing, which includes production of batteries used for energy storage and in electric vehicles, is projected to grow 25.9 percent from 2025 to 2035. Rising demand for fiber optic cables, used for the transmission of data across AI infrastructure and in telecommunications infrastructure, is also expected to contribute to strong employment growth in this industry.

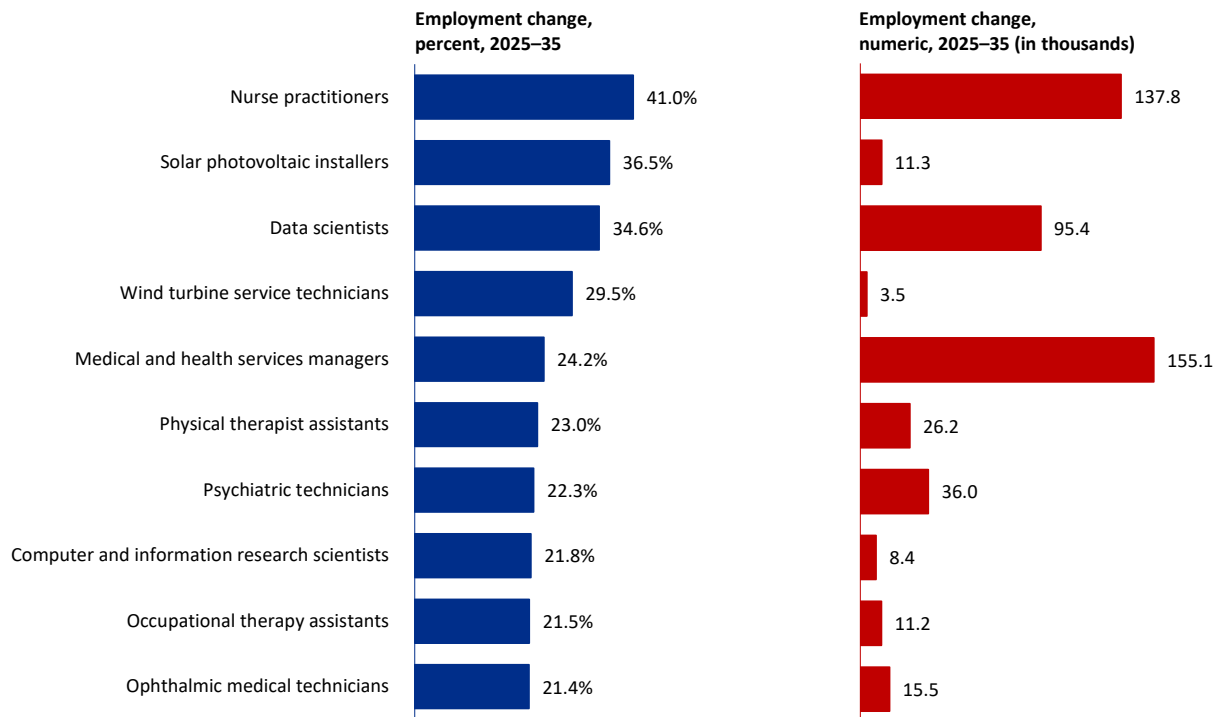
Four of the 10 industries where employment is projected to grow the fastest over the 2025–35 projections period are related to the private healthcare and social assistance major industry sector. Among these, services for the elderly and persons with disabilities is projected to add 625,400 new jobs from 2025 to 2035, the most of any detailed industry. Increased demand for home-based care is expected to contribute to this growth.

Occupational Employment

In line with the fast job growth expected in the private healthcare and social assistance major industry sector, three related occupational groups are projected to experience strong employment growth over the 2025–35 decade. These are the healthcare support, healthcare practitioners and technical, and community and social service occupational groups, all of which are projected to be among the five fastest growing groups in the economy from 2025 to 2035. (See chart 4.)

Of all 22 major occupational groups, the healthcare support and healthcare practitioners and technical groups are projected to grow the fastest, with employment growing 13.3 percent and 8.0 percent, respectively, over the projections decade. These two healthcare groups combined are expected to account for almost one-third of all new jobs created through 2035.

Chart 5. Ten fastest growing occupations, projected 2025–2035



Note: Occupational employment refers to total employment, which includes wage and salary employment and self-employment.

Because the likelihood of experiencing health complications increases with age, the aging population is expected to boost demand for a wide variety of healthcare and social services, including home health and personal care services. Moreover, given the high prevalence of chronic diseases and behavioral health disorders in the general population, the demand to diagnose, treat, and manage these conditions is expected to grow through 2035.

As a result, strong job growth is expected in the occupations that provide or help provide these services, including physical therapist assistants, occupational therapy assistants, psychiatric technicians, and ophthalmic medical technicians, all of which rank among the 10 fastest growing detailed occupations from 2025 to 2035. (See chart 5.) This demand is also expected to result in an increased need for community and social service occupations, which are projected to be the fourth fastest occupational group (+7.4 percent). Notably, nurse practitioners is projected to experience the fastest employment growth of all detailed occupations (+41.0 percent), reflecting the central role this occupation plays in providing care under collaborative, team-based models of care.

Life, physical, and social science occupations are projected to experience the third-fastest job growth of any major occupational group (+7.5 percent), growing more than twice as fast as the all-occupation average (+3.5 percent). The growing demand for scientific research and development in a wide range of fields, most notably in biotechnology, manufacturing, and AI, is the main factor expected to drive strong employment demand in this group.

Computer and mathematical occupations are projected to be the fifth fastest growing major occupational group (+7.3 percent). Fast job growth in these occupations is expected to largely stem from the continued proliferation of digital tools and AI solutions across the economy. Ranking among the top 10

fastest growing detailed occupations are data scientists (+34.6 percent) and computer and information research scientists (+21.8 percent), which will be in demand to develop, improve, and leverage these technologies to enhance business operations and aid decision making.

Electricity demand is expected to grow significantly over the projections decade, leading to strong employment growth for solar photovoltaic installers (+36.5 percent) and wind turbine service technicians (+29.5 percent), both of which rank among the five fastest growing occupations from 2025 to 2035. Despite their fast projected growth, the two occupations combined are projected to add fewer than 15,000 new jobs by 2035. As solar and wind power generation continues to expand, strong demand is expected for solar photovoltaic installers and wind turbine service technicians to install solar panels and to repair and maintain wind turbines, respectively.

Although the growing adoption of AI is expected to support demand for some occupations, associated productivity gains may dampen employment demand for others. The use of generative AI software, which can be leveraged to automate repetitive tasks and speed up certain processes, may limit demand for some jobs in the arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupational group. Similarly, the continued integration of automation tools, including those powered by AI, into workflows is likely to reduce demand for several office and administrative support occupations. This occupational group is projected to decline at the fastest pace (-4.0 percent) and to shed 752,100 jobs over the 2025–35 decade, the most of any major occupational group. Additionally, further growth of e-commerce and incorporation of AI tools into the sales process are expected to continue contributing to job loss in the sales and related occupational group (-1.4 percent). Lastly, the continued deployment of automated machinery and processes in manufacturing operations is expected to reduce labor needs across production occupations (-0.4 percent).

Interpreting the Employment Projections

The Employment Projections (EP) program estimates specific values for projected employment levels and employment changes. However, this precision in the data does not account for the inherent uncertainty of predicting long-term changes in the labor market. Focusing on the direction and relative size of projected changes, rather than on the precise value estimates, may yield similar insights into employment trends and themes across occupations and industries.

The EP program also conducts research on factors that are expected to affect employment, which may not be reflected in historical data, such as emerging technologies and new legislation. Adjustments based on this research are generally applied conservatively, such as when there is convincing evidence for a long-term structural change.

More Information

- Detailed information on the 2025–35 industry and occupational employment projections will appear in a separate *Monthly Labor Review* article, to be published later in 2026.

- The *Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)* includes information on about 600 detailed occupations in over 300 occupational profiles, covering about 4 out of 5 jobs in the economy. Each occupational profile features the 2025–35 projections, along with assessments of the job outlook, work activities, wages, education and training requirements, and more.
- The *OOH* is available online at www.bls.gov/ooh.
- Field of degree pages are available online at www.bls.gov/ooh/field-of-degree/home.htm.
- Information about the importance of various skills by occupation can be found at www.bls.gov/emp/data/skills-data.htm.
- Descriptions of the classification systems and projections methods used can be found on the Employments Projections Methods Overview page at www.bls.gov/emp/methods-overview.htm.
- Tables with detailed, comprehensive projections data are available online at www.bls.gov/emp/tables.htm.
- Definitions for terms used in this news release are available in the BLS Glossary at www.bls.gov/bls/glossary.htm.

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Technical Note

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) publishes projections for the labor force, the macroeconomy, industry output and employment, and occupational employment. More information is available online:

- Labor force:
www.bls.gov/emp/data/labor-force.htm
- Aggregate economy:
www.bls.gov/emp/data/aggregate-economy.htm
- Industry output and employment:
www.bls.gov/emp/data/industry-out-and-emp.htm
- Occupational employment:
www.bls.gov/emp/data/occupational-data.htm

The projections data provide a potential scenario for changes in the economy over a decade. The projections focus on long-term structural trends of the economy and do not try to anticipate future business cycle activity. To meet this objective, specific assumptions are made about the labor force, macroeconomy, industry output and employment, and occupational employment. The projections are not intended to be a forecast of what the future will be but instead are a description of what would be expected to happen under these specific assumptions and circumstances. When these assumptions are not realized, actual values will differ from projections.

Labor supply and demand assumptions

BLS projects the labor force (labor supply) as an input into the macroeconomic projections. BLS also assumes that the economy will be at full employment in the projected year, with the labor market at equilibrium. That is, employment in the

projected year will be roughly equivalent to the projected labor force minus a level of frictional unemployment. (The relationship is not exact because labor force is a count of people, while employment is a count of jobs, and individual people can hold more than one job.) BLS does not project an overall labor shortage or surplus because, in the BLS projections data framework, labor supply (the labor force) and labor demand (employment) are linked; a projected increase in labor supply results in an increase in employment.

Technological progress assumptions

As with many variables, BLS assumes that labor productivity and technological progress will be in line with the historical experience. That is, productivity will increase and technology will progress, but because the BLS method involves analyzing historical relationships in the data and projecting them forward, the future is assumed to behave comparably to the past. (For previous sets of projections data, visit the Projections Archive page online at www.bls.gov/emp/data/projections-archive.htm.) In a future state where technology advances much more rapidly than it has historically, it is unlikely that historical relationships would hold, and therefore BLS projection methods are unlikely to yield reasonable results.

Recent developments in artificial intelligence (AI) have raised the prospect that the future rate of technological progress could be higher than in the past. BLS projection methods could reflect this in a faster rate of labor productivity growth. This would in turn result in a higher level of gross domestic product (GDP) growth (maintaining the BLS full employment assumption). If this higher rate of

productivity growth is uniform across all industries, there is no impact on BLS employment projections; output is higher, productivity is higher, and employment is the same. However, a higher aggregate level of productivity growth could also be reflected differentially in industry productivity. BLS methods could capture this, but BLS has no data on which to base these differential productivity impacts. BLS therefore chooses to present a scenario with technological progress in line with historical patterns, which allows the projections to be grounded by historical data relationships rather than introducing adjustments that would be highly speculative.

BLS does conduct research on factors that are expected to impact employment, particularly those which may not be reflected in historical data, such as new technologies. However, BLS generally applies adjustments based on this research conservatively, where there is convincing evidence for a change. Developments in AI are proceeding rapidly, and the uncertainty about potential impacts remains very high. Projections are always uncertain, and the exact impact of developments, such as new technologies on the labor market, 10 years in the future is impossible to predict with precision. As a result, BLS releases new projections annually to incorporate new data, research, and analysis. For more details on how BLS assesses and incorporates AI's potential labor market impacts on its employment projections, illustrated via case studies from the 2023–33 projections cycle, see Christine Machovec, Michael J. Rieley, and Emily Rolan, "Incorporating AI impacts in BLS employment projections: occupational case studies," *Monthly Labor Review*, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, February 2025.

The historical record shows that technology impacts occupations, but that these changes tend to be gradual, not sudden. Occupations involve complex combinations of tasks, and even when technology advances rapidly, it can take time for employers and workers to figure out how to incorporate new technology into business practices. New technologies may change the composition or weighting of tasks performed by an occupation even if they do not impact overall demand for an occupation. For more details on the historical record, see Michael J. Handel, "Growth trends for selected occupations considered at risk from automation," *Monthly Labor Review*, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, July 2022.

For more information, visit the Employment Projections Handbook of Methods page online at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/emp/home.htm.

Frequently asked questions about the employment projections are online at www.bls.gov/emp/frequently-asked-questions.htm.

Users and uses

The BLS projections are used by high school and college students, their teachers and parents, jobseekers, career counselors, and guidance specialists to determine jobs in demand. The projections also are used by state workforce agencies to prepare state and area projections that, together with the national projections, are widely used by policymakers to make decisions about education and training, funding allocations, and program offerings. These projections of jobs in demand help improve the alignment between education and training and the hiring needs of employers. In addition, other federal agencies, researchers, and academics

use the projections to understand trends in the economy and labor market.

Projections of industry and occupational employment at the state level are prepared by each state, using input from the BLS national projections. State projections data are available on the Projections Central page at <https://projectionscentral.org>.