

Long-Term Industry Projections Methodology

Estimates of nonagricultural employment for Pennsylvania industries are projected for ten years and are revised every two years. Data supporting the industry projections were derived from a monthly survey of employers (Current Employment Statistics Program) and a quarterly tax report from employers (QCEW program). These programs are part of a cooperative effort between the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to measure employment. Long-term industry projections were produced by software designed by America's Labor Market Information System (ALMIS), now called Workforce Information Database (WID).

Data were produced at the four-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) level with the appropriate three-digit and Major Industry Division aggregations. Included within each data table are "Other" categories. These summary lines do not indicate which classifications are included. The Center for Workforce Information & Analysis (CWIA) attempts to provide the finest-level detail permitted under confidentiality guidelines. Therefore, the "Other" industry lines represent the sum of the four-digit and three-digit industries that cannot be disclosed as individual lines.

Industry employment projections are obtained through regression analysis using historical employment data, with consideration of economic and demographic factors. Specifically, key consideration is given to the area's projected population of persons age 16 and above (current and projected by the U.S. Census Bureau), labor force participation rate, unemployment rate, industry employment trends, and share of national employment.

The projections are estimates of employment levels and trends, not exact counts. They are most useful when used in conjunction with other economic data.

The data reflect the number of jobs in an industry, not the number of people, since no attempt is made to correct for multiple job-holding. Jobs include both full-time and part-time.

For questions or more information on this methodology, please e-mail us at workforceinfo@state.pa.us.