

LAUS Technical Memorandum No. S-09-04

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE WORKFORCE AGENCY ADMINISTRATORS
AND REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS

FROM : ROBERT A. GADDIE
Associate Commissioner
Office of Field Operations

SUBJECT : Instructions for Monthly Estimation and Transmission of
LAUS Data in 2009

Purpose: This memorandum contains instructions for monthly estimation of 2009 LAUS data, as well as the schedule for monthly production, transmittal, and release of those estimates.

References: LAUS Technical Memoranda Nos. S-07-08, *Mandatory Use of the LAUS Data Exchange System*, dated January 19, 2007; S-07-21, *Submittal of LAUS State System Plus (LSS Plus) State Databases*, dated April 24, 2007; S-07-22, *Approval Procedure for Request to Use Small Area Employment Estimates (SAEE) to Produce Employment Inputs for LAUS Estimation*, dated June 27, 2007; S-07-26, *Changes to EUSWeb to Improve Performance and Reliability*, dated September 14, 2007; and S-08-01, *Restoration of Monthly Revisions in the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program*, dated November 28, 2007.

Background: BLS is required to publish monthly LAUS estimates on a timely basis. In order to facilitate that goal, it is necessary to establish and follow a schedule of important monthly activities and delivery dates. This memorandum contains a comprehensive schedule of activities and related instructions.

Authorization: This report is authorized by law 29 U.S.C. Voluntary cooperation is needed to make the results of this survey comprehensive, accurate, and timely. We estimate that it will take an average of 1.5 hours to complete this report. O.M.B. 1220-0017 Approval expires xx/xx/xxxx.

Overview of 2009: Many aspects of production and publication will parallel those of 2008 and prior years, although there will be some changes from past years. Noteworthy changes for 2009 include the following:

- A new version of the LAUS State System software, LSS Plus version 2009.1.0, will be issued prior to annual processing and January 2009 estimation.
- Version 2009.1.0 of the Program for Measuring the Insured Unemployed Statistics (PROMIS) software will be issued prior to annual processing and January 2009 estimation to reflect geographic changes.
- A small number of those States with approved variances in 2008 may implement the population- and claims-based disaggregation estimation procedure at the city level in 2009.
- States will continue to transmit LSS Plus databases via EUSWeb following production of monthly estimates, as described in LAUS Technical Memorandum No. S-07-21. The due date in 2009 will be one day after the estimates are due. This is one day earlier than in prior years but matches the requirement in the Cooperative Agreement Work Statement.
- Additional emphasis is placed on States providing comments on data that pass the Questionable Data Edits (QDEs) overall, but fail both over-the month or both over-the-year tests by large margins.
- BLS release of small area (micropolitan area, county, city, etc.) data will be accelerated beginning with January 2009 estimates. Previously, these data were issued as part of a Labstat-only release about a week after the *Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment* news release. Beginning in early 2009, the small area data will be released at the same time as the *Metropolitan Area* news release.

Items of note that do not reflect changes from 2008 or earlier years include the following:

- Once again in 2009, monthly revisions will be required. For example, the State and substate area estimates for January 2009 that are due on February 19 and 27, respectively, will be considered preliminary. Revised State and substate area estimates for January will be submitted concurrently with preliminary February data on March 12 and 20, respectively.
- Changes to EUSWeb to improve performance and reliability, as described in LAUS Technical Memorandum No. S-07-26, will continue.
- States that wish to be approved for use of Small Area Employment Estimates (SAEE), as described in LAUS Technical Memorandum No. S-07-22, should submit requests according to the information in that memorandum.
- States will continue to be required to use the LAUS Data Exchange System (DES) for LSS Plus-generated files, as described in LAUS Technical Memorandum No. S-07-08.

- The schedule for availability of Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) claims data will continue to be one week later than in years prior to 2007, to allow time for more inclusive counts to be produced for the preliminary estimates. Additionally, the city/town of residence of RRB claimants in New England again will be determined by the minor civil division (MCD) module in the Residency Assignment System (RAS).
- The reference weeks for November and December are scheduled to be the normal weeks of the 12th in 2009. The Census Bureau has determined that moving the reference periods to a week earlier, as in some prior years, will not be necessary in 2009.
- Modeling estimates for the New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner, Louisiana Metropolitan Statistical Area will not resume in 2009 due to the continuing impact of Hurricane Katrina on Current Population Survey (CPS) estimates.

Instructions for monthly estimation:

1. Model-based estimation:

Estimates for all States, the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale Metropolitan Division, New York City, the Balance of California, the Balance of New York State, and the District of Columbia will continue to be produced using the “third-generation” models with real-time benchmarking to national CPS totals via Census division models. BLS will update the State Time-series Analysis and Review System (STARS) databases very shortly after 8:30 AM Eastern Time (ET) on the day of the *Employment Situation* release (see attachment 1), enabling States to view or develop simulated monthly model-based estimates.

The official model-based estimates will be developed using the CPS data, along with related State-entered inputs: (1) Current Employment Statistics (CES) total nonfarm wage and salary employment estimates, (2) counts of strikers, (3) Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims counts, and (4) Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employee (UCFE) claims counts. States should enter preliminary CES, striker, UI, and UCFE data for January 2009 estimation by February 19. In subsequent months, preliminary input data should be entered for the “current” month, and revised input data should be entered for revised LAUS estimates for the prior month. The revised CES inputs reflect more complete sample returns, and the revised UI and UCFE claims counts result from a later, more complete, claims extract. Because of the interdependence involved, a State’s official estimates will not be produced until all the States in its Census division have submitted their inputs and the national office has created the estimates.

Models will continue to be used for five additional substate areas (as noted, estimates for the New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner, Louisiana Metropolitan Statistical Area, which was affected by Hurricane Katrina, will not be model-based in 2009):

- Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, Illinois Metropolitan Division
- Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor, Ohio Metropolitan Statistical Area
- Detroit-Warren-Livonia, Michigan Metropolitan Statistical Area
- Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall, Florida Metropolitan Division
- Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, Washington Metropolitan Division

In conjunction with this, “balance-of-State” estimates will be produced for these five States. Unlike the statewide models and those for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale Metropolitan Division, New York City, and the respective State balances, these substate area estimates will be modeled using CPS data but not related series (CES, striker, UI, or UCFE data). Therefore, no inputs are required from the States to produce the estimates for these 10 areas, though the related inputs will be collected for research purposes.

For California and New York, the statewide estimates are derived by summing the substate area and balance-of-State model estimates. In contrast, data for the other five areas and their respective balances of State will be forced to sum to the separately calculated model-based estimates (including real-time benchmarking) for the State.

States are reminded that, for the production of both preliminary and revised model-based estimates, only the official CES employment data should be used, unless an atypical/exception has been granted from the LAUS program office. The national office compares the STARS inputs with the data transmitted to the CES program to ensure conformity. Any differences beyond those attributable to rounding are likely to delay the production of estimates for all States in the Census division.

2. Substate estimation:

- A. As with the statewide estimates, preliminary estimates will be produced for all months, and revised estimates will be produced for January-November. In making the revised estimates, States will incorporate revised CES employment inputs for all CES areas (primarily metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions) and more complete UI and RRB counts for all areas. Depending on the State’s method for developing small area nonfarm wage and salary employment inputs, monthly revisions may be made to those as well.
- B. On January 26, States and regional offices will have access to the new Title/Code File on EUSWeb, which lists all LAUS areas and codes for which estimates are to be transmitted in 2009. Since it will contain some changes from 2008, States are requested to review this file carefully to verify the accuracy and completeness of its contents. A small number of metropolitan area, micropolitan area, or other changes from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) are expected to be

implemented, and approximately 18 new cities will be added to the LAUS database. A separate memorandum on geographic changes, including the addition of new cities and city parts, will be issued no later than mid-January.

- C. Monthly and quarterly BLS-supplied substate inputs will be furnished according to the schedule in attachment 2. Of those, only the RRB claims will be revised each month. Those items are all discussed below. Inputs that are provided by BLS once each year for annual revisions and 2009 production will be discussed in separate memoranda.
- D. The latest version of the LSS Plus software should be used to develop substate estimates beginning with January 2009 preliminary data. LSS Plus runs on the Windows XP platform. Details on the use of LSS Plus can be found in the User's Guide.
- E. With the increase in the number and complexity of interstate areas as part of the Census 2000-based geography, combined with the use of Dynamic Residency Ratios (DRRs), the State-to-State exchange of data continues to be critical. The DES is intended to facilitate this exchange. Attachment 3 contains a schedule of dates for the exchange of various data items.
- F. The reference periods for the continued claims used in the models, Handbook estimation, and disaggregation, plus final payments data used in Handbook estimation, are provided in attachment 4. The reference periods for November and December will be the weeks of the 12th, as in other months. This differs from some years, when the reference week was one week earlier in at least one of these months to facilitate data collection for the CPS before the holidays.

3. Availability of BLS-supplied inputs:

- A. Monthly agricultural employment estimation factors:

BLS will make available to the States the monthly agricultural employment estimation factors on the day before statewide estimates are due—except in the case of (1) January estimates, when the inputs will be made available well before the statewide due date and (2) October estimates, due to the federal holiday for Veterans Day, as shown in column 3 of attachment 2.

States should use the agricultural employment estimation factors associated with their particular agricultural region to produce Handbook estimates. Chapter 7 of the *LAUS Program Manual* describes in detail the method for estimating agricultural employment.

BLS will provide the “current” month’s agricultural employment estimation factors for each estimating region in a single LSS Plus-formatted file via EUSWeb. The

file name is MOAGyymm.TXT, where yy is the last two digits of the reference year and mm is the two digits of the reference month.

B. Unemployed new entrants and reentrants:

BLS will provide files of statewide unemployed new entrant and reentrant estimates for States to use in Handbook estimation. These statewide estimates will be used in LSS Plus to produce labor market area new entrant and reentrant estimates following the methodology introduced in 2005 and modified in 2007. They will be available on the same days as the monthly agricultural employment estimation factors, shown in column 3 of attachment 2. BLS will provide the “current” month’s statewide entrant estimates by State in an LSS Plus-formatted file, available on EUSWeb. The file name is PENTstyyyymm.txt, where st is the State alpha abbreviation, yyyy is the four-digit reference year, and mm is the month.

C. Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) claims:

BLS will provide LSS Plus-formatted files of RRB claims data to States for use in Handbook estimation. These will include preliminary counts for the “current” month and revised counts for the prior month. The 2009 schedule for availability of these data is contained in column 4 of attachment 2. As noted above, these dates are one week later relative to 2006 and prior years in order to allow the RRB to produce more inclusive counts. States should obtain the RRB claims data according to this schedule and use them to prepare monthly LAUS substate estimates according to Chapter 7 of the *LAUS Program Manual*.

The LAUS RAS, used in improving geographic accuracy of UI and UCFE claims counts for States, will continue to be used to determine county of residence for RRB claimants in 2009. It also will be used to determine the minor civil division (MCD, or city and town) in New England.

Non-New England States should access LSS Plus-formatted RRB files via EUSWeb under the name RRBstyymm.TXT, where st represents the State alpha abbreviation, yy is the last two digits of the reference year, and mm is the numeric abbreviation for the reference month. For New England States, the file containing RRB data can be accessed via EUSWeb under the name RRB.REG1.TXT.

States that need a hard copy of the RRB claims listing should contact the appropriate regional office to request it.

D. All-other employment Step-3 ratios:

Step-3 ratios will be produced by BLS using the State’s official CES estimates. These ratios are for State use in estimating all-other employment (nonagricultural

self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers) on a monthly basis. Chapter 7 of the *LAUS Program Manual* describes in detail the method for estimating all-other employment.

Step-3 ratios will be developed using CES inputs from WinSTAMP in order to make them available as early as possible. The Step-3 ratios will be available the day following the CES correction due date for all reference months except December, when the ratios will be available a week later than usual. The schedule for the availability of Step-3 ratios for all months is shown in column 4 of attachment 2.

BLS will place the stratum-specific Step-3 ratios in an LSS Plus-formatted file on EUSWeb for use by States in Handbook estimation. The filename is MOS3yymm.TXT, where yy is the last two digits of the reference year and mm is the two digits of the reference month.

E. Survival rates for unemployed exhaustee estimation:

BLS will provide survival rates for the unemployed exhaustee component of Handbook estimation each quarter. Chapter 7 of the *LAUS Program Manual* describes in detail the method for estimating exhaustee unemployment. These survival rates will be available via EUSWeb on the dates shown in column 5 of attachment 2. The survival rates will be provided in table form and in an LSS Plus-formatted file. The file name is MOEXyymm.TXT, where yy is the last two digits of the reference year and mm is the two digits of the first month of the quarter.

4. State transmissions and due dates:

LAUS due dates for 2009 will be similar to those of recent years. The due dates for January statewide and substate estimates will be relatively later than for other months, due to the time required to perform annual processing. The due dates for February and later estimates will be based on the “regular” schedule, that is, the Thursday after the *Employment Situation* release for statewide estimates and the Friday two weeks after the *Employment Situation* release for substate estimates.

The January due date will pertain to only January preliminary data. (Revised data for the prior month, December 2008, will be included as part of annual processing.) Due dates for February through December will pertain to preliminary data for the “current” month and revised data for the prior month.

States are reminded that timely submittal of LAUS data is a deliverable in the Labor Market Information (LMI) Cooperative Agreement. Therefore, States are required to transmit their statewide inputs and area estimates by the due dates—and are encouraged to do so earlier whenever possible, as long as substate data are not

transmitted before the BLS substate area publication date for the prior month. However, inputs and estimates should not be transmitted early unless they have been thoroughly reviewed.

A. Model-based estimates:

States will use STARS to enter monthly model inputs no later than the dates specified in column 3 of attachment 1. The due dates for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale Metropolitan Division, New York City, the Balance of California, the Balance of New York, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico will be the same as those for statewide estimates. Estimates for Puerto Rico are developed from a household survey and not through STARS, although the Commonwealth will transmit estimates by entering them into STARS.

The due dates for LAUS model-based inputs will be the same as the due dates for regional office corrections to CES State and area estimates, with the exception of the December reference month, when the LAUS due date is one week later. These dates usually fall on a Thursday, between the 8th and 14th of the month, as indicated in column 3 of attachment 1. (The February 19, 2009, due date for January LAUS model inputs is an exception, in that it falls a little later.)

The deadline for entering model inputs via STARS is 4:45 PM ET on the due date. Because of the compressed publication schedule for statewide estimates, States are asked to make a concerted effort to complete entry of inputs by the 4:45 PM deadline. Given the interdependence of estimation within Census divisions, timely entry of model inputs is critical. States should be aware of the status of other States in their Census division. If all the other States have entered inputs, the last State in the division should try to enter inputs as soon as possible, even if before the due date.

The due dates for CES and UI inputs for the five modeled areas (all those other than New York City and the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale Metropolitan Division) and respective balance-of-State areas will be the same as the due dates for substate LAUS estimates, as shown in column 4 of attachment 1.

B. Substate estimates:

All States should transmit both their LAUS substate estimates and supporting input data (that is, Handbook line items and claims counts that are contained in the monthly transmit file) electronically through EUSWeb. All transmissions of LAUS and supplemental data, including verification files, are due by the dates indicated in column 4 of attachment 1. LSS Plus databases are due one workday later, though transmittal immediately after the estimates is encouraged.

For all reference months, substate estimates are due six workdays after the statewide estimates are due. Each of these due dates falls on a Friday.

Because of the 2000-based geographic definitions, the number of interstate areas increased as part of the LAUS Redesign in early 2005. Additionally, the use of DRRs has increased the need for data sharing. Thus, States will need to have effective communication with nearby States in order to ensure timely data transmittals to BLS. The schedule in attachment 3 should help in this regard, as should the automated e-mail notification in the DES. It should be noted that the dates in attachment 3 are generally the latest dates that will allow States to meet the BLS due date. States may want to share data items with neighboring States even earlier than those dates, especially if a State has an early publication schedule.

Beginning with January 2007 estimation, States were required to e-mail LSS Plus databases to the regional office following completion of estimation and any subsequent corrections. This procedure was modified later in 2007, via LAUS Technical Memorandum No. S-07-21, so that States now submit their databases via EUSWeb.

States will not be able to transmit estimates unless all the required LSS Plus edits have been run. Additionally, in response to QDE failures, comments continue to be required. As always, clear and meaningful comments should be provided regarding any potentially questionable data, not just those that fail the QDEs. In addition to overall failures, States should examine data values that fail both over-the-month or both over-the-year tests by large margins. These results, which are shown in yellow on the screen, may also indicate erroneous data. Edits are to be run on preliminary January data and both preliminary and revised data each month from February forward.

States should ensure that the LSS Plus database for 2009 contains the final set of benchmarked estimates for 2008 in order to ensure the proper over-the-year change calculation in these edits. In particular, States that transmit benchmark corrections for 2008 will need to load those corrected data into the 2009 database. Procedures for updating the data are described in the “Benchmarking” chapter of the LSS Plus User’s Guide.

C. Early or late transmission or corrections:

In the case of statewide estimates, States must notify their regional office if they believe that a correction is necessary. Because of the interdependence of estimation and the resulting impact on all other States in the Census division, a State must make a compelling case for a correction.

Regarding substate estimates, States should contact the regional office as early as possible if they know that they will be transmitting substate data either (1) more

than two days before the due date or (2) after the due date. Similarly, States should notify the regional office if they are transmitting corrected data. In all of these situations, States should notify the regional office upon completion of a successful transmission. Regional offices must notify the national office by e-mail in each of these situations.

States are reminded that they should retransmit their verification file and LSS Plus database each time they retransmit LAUS estimates.

States should not transmit substate data for a given month before BLS has released all the estimates for the prior month, as indicated in column 6 of attachment 1. This should be particularly noted for the February reference month, when there is only a one-day window between the release date for January and the due date for February.

BLS publication of LAUS data:

Publication dates for the first two reference months of the year will be relatively later than for other months due to the time required to complete the model-based portion of annual benchmarking and transition to the “regular” schedule of March-December.

Both monthly news releases—*Regional and State Employment and Unemployment* and *Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment*—will be made available via the BLS Internet (Labstat) site on the dates they are issued. (See columns 5 and 6 of attachment 1.) These dates have been approved by the Office of Publications and Special Studies and are final. The LAUS Intranet site contains links to the news releases and many of the supplemental items discussed below.

The *Regional and State* news releases will contain both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted estimates for Census regions and divisions, all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and seven substate modeled areas. The *Metropolitan Area* news releases will contain estimates for 377 areas—Metropolitan Areas outside of New England and Metropolitan New England City and Town Areas (NECTAs) in New England. In addition, the release will contain estimates for 34 Metropolitan and NECTA Divisions. Not seasonally adjusted estimates for all States, the District of Columbia, New York City, and Puerto Rico also will be included. BLS will incorporate OMB changes to federal statistical areas if, as expected, OMB issues its list of annual updates by mid-December.

The national office will update the time series database on the BLS Internet (Labstat) site with preliminary data for the current reference month, revised data for the prior month (except when December is the prior month), and any historical revisions or corrections on the dates listed in columns 5 and 6 of attachment 1. The issuance dates for all-area (also known as “small area”) data will coincide with those for the Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment news release.

Regional offices and States should access Labstat or the Query Builder application (QUBE) to obtain published BLS data. For security reasons, the computer job to load these files to Labstat is not initiated until 10:00 AM ET on the day of the release, so the time series database may not be available until approximately 10:30 AM ET. Once the time series database has been updated, the “At A Glance” and “Latest Numbers” pages on the BLS website are updated. QUBE is updated at approximately 12:00 noon on the day of the release.

The national office will update the BLS Internet (Labstat) site with monthly supplemental data tables and maps according to the schedule in columns 5 and 6 of attachment 1. These include tables of civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over, employment-population ratios, and labor force participation rates for States, the District of Columbia, the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale Metropolitan Division, and New York City, first issued in September 2007. They also include the 12-month average county and New England MCD maps, which were previously loaded shortly after the Labstat-only all-area release. The supplemental items are listed on the LAUS Internet homepage (www.bls.gov/lau) under “Tables and Maps Created by BLS.” The unemployment tables and maps will be updated shortly after the 10 AM release. The employment-population ratio and labor force participation rate tables generally will be loaded as part of the 11 AM web update.

The national office will update tables of model-based error measures and significance tests at <http://www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm> and <http://www.bls.gov/lau/rdscnp16.htm> at the appropriate time on the same date as other supplemental items. These will pertain to employment-population ratios and labor force participation rates, as well as employment, unemployment, and unemployment rates. The source data for each State come from STARS. These tables generally will be loaded as part of the 11 AM web update.

Regional office LAUS staff will be able to access published estimates under the “Released Estimates” menu option in the LAUS National System shortly after each of the two monthly Labstat updates.

To assist the national office, States are requested to provide their 2009 publication schedule through the regional offices. That schedule should indicate, for each month, the date on which LAUS estimates are to be released for (1) the State, (2) metropolitan areas, and (3) smaller areas. A calendar of actual dates should be provided if possible.

Actions required: States should generate and submit LAUS estimates, including monthly revisions, and supporting data and comments according to the instructions and schedules contained in this memorandum and the attachments. States are required to submit their LSS Plus databases via EUSWeb following estimation and any corrections.

States should transmit their publication calendar through the regional offices by December 31, 2008. If States change any of the dates in their release calendar after December 31, they should forward that information to regional offices as soon as it

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becomes available. Regional offices should then forward it to the national office by e-mail.

Workload impact: Neutral.

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

Effective date: These instructions are effective immediately.

Attachments

2009 LAUS Due Dates and Publication Dates

| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Reference Month | <i>Employment Situation</i> News Release (Friday) | Due Date for LAUS Estimates | | Regional & State News Release (Friday) | Metro Area News Release and All- Area Data Issuance (Wednesday) |
| | | Statewide ¹ (Thursday) | All Areas ² (Friday) | | |
| January | 2/6 | 2/19 | 2/27 | 3/11 (Wed.) | 3/19 (Thurs.) |
| February | 3/6 | 3/12 | 3/20 | 3/27 | 4/1 |
| March | 4/3 | 4/9 | 4/17 | 4/17 | 4/29 |
| April | 5/8 | 5/14 | 5/22 | 5/22 | 6/3 |
| May | 6/5 | 6/11 | 6/19 | 6/19 | 6/30 (Tues.) |
| June | 7/2 (Thurs.) | 7/9 | 7/17 | 7/17 | 7/29 |
| July | 8/7 | 8/13 | 8/21 | 8/21 | 9/1 (Tues.) |
| August | 9/4 | 9/10 | 9/18 | 9/18 | 9/30 |
| September | 10/2 | 10/8 | 10/16 | 10/21 (Wed.) | 10/28 |
| October | 11/6 | 11/12 | 11/20 | 11/20 | 12/2 |
| November | 12/4 | 12/10 | 12/18 | 12/18 | 1/5/2010 (Tues.) |
| December | 1/8/2010 | 1/14/2010 | 1/22/2010 | 1/22/2010 | 2/2/2010 (Tues.) |

¹ Model inputs for States, the District of Columbia, the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale Metropolitan Division, New York City, and the respective balances of state and estimates for Puerto Rico.

² Includes CES and UI inputs for five additional modeled substate areas and their respective balances of State.

NOTES: Release dates for January-February data do not follow the usual monthly schedule due to longer processing time required for annual benchmarking and the need to spread out LAUS releases. In other months, the dates may vary from the norm due to federal holidays or conflicts with other BLS releases. All nonstandard days of the week are noted.

2009 Availability of LAUS Inputs

| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
|--------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Reference Month | Employment Situation News Release (Friday) | Agricultural Employment Estimation Factors and Statewide Unemployed Entrant Estimates Available (Wednesday) | RRB Claims Data and Step-3 Ratios Available (Friday) | Quarterly Exhaustee Survival Rates Available (Thursday) |
| January | 2/6 | 2/11 | 2/20 | 1/8 |
| February | 3/6 | 3/11 | 3/13 | |
| March | 4/3 | 4/8 | 4/10 | |
| April | 5/8 | 5/13 | 5/15 | 4/9 |
| May | 6/5 | 6/10 | 6/12 | |
| June | 7/2 (Thurs.) | 7/8 | 7/10 | |
| July | 8/7 | 8/12 | 8/14 | 7/9 |
| August | 9/4 | 9/9 | 9/11 | |
| September | 10/2 | 10/7 | 10/9 | |
| October | 11/6 | 11/12 (Thurs.) | 11/13 | 10/8 |
| November | 12/4 | 12/9 | 12/11 | |
| December | 1/8/2010 | 1/13/2010 | 1/15/2010 | |

2009 Dates for State-to-State Exchange of LAUS Items

| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Reference Month | Substate Area Estimates Due Date | Commuter Claims | Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment | Interstate Area Claims | Interstate Area Handbook Estimates | Interstate Area LAUS Estimates | Combined Area Component LAUS Estimates |
| January | 2/27 | 2/18 | 2/23 | 2/23 | 2/24 | 2/25 | 2/26 |
| February | 3/20 | 3/11 | 3/16 | 3/16 | 3/17 | 3/18 | 3/19 |
| March | 4/17 | 4/8 | 4/13 | 4/13 | 4/14 | 4/15 | 4/16 |
| April | 5/22 | 5/13 | 5/18 | 5/18 | 5/19 | 5/20 | 5/21 |
| May | 6/19 | 6/10 | 6/15 | 6/15 | 6/16 | 6/17 | 6/18 |
| June | 7/17 | 7/8 | 7/13 | 7/13 | 7/14 | 7/15 | 7/16 |
| July | 8/21 | 8/12 | 8/17 | 8/17 | 8/18 | 8/19 | 8/20 |
| August | 9/18 | 9/9 | 9/14 | 9/14 | 9/15 | 9/16 | 9/17 |
| September | 10/16 | 10/7 | 10/12 | 10/12 | 10/13 | 10/14 | 10/15 |
| October | 11/20 | 11/11 | 11/16 | 11/16 | 11/17 | 11/18 | 11/19 |
| November | 12/18 | 12/9 | 12/14 | 12/14 | 12/15 | 12/16 | 12/17 |
| December | 1/22/2010 | 1/13/2010 | 1/18/2010 | 1/18/2010 | 1/19/2010 | 1/20/2010 | 1/21/2010 |

Note: Dates in **bold** are federal holidays.

2009 LAUS UI Claims Reference Periods

| Reference Month | Continued Claims Reference Week (Ending Date) | Final Payments Reference Period (Week Ending Dates) |
|------------------------|--|--|
| January | 1/17 | 12/13/08-1/10/09 (5 weeks) |
| February | 2/14 | 1/17-2/7 (4 weeks) |
| March | 3/14 | 2/14-3/7 (4 weeks) |
| April | 4/18 | 3/14-4/11 (5 weeks) |
| May | 5/16 | 4/18-5/9 (4 weeks) |
| June | 6/13 | 5/16-6/6 (4 weeks) |
| July | 7/18 | 6/13-7/11 (5 weeks) |
| August | 8/15 | 7/18-8/8 (4 weeks) |
| September | 9/12 | 8/15-9/5 (4 weeks) |
| October | 10/17 | 9/12-10/10 (5 weeks) |
| November | 11/14 | 10/17-11/7 (4 weeks) |
| December | 12/12 | 11/14-12/5 (4 weeks) |

Note: The November and December reference weeks will remain the weeks including the 12th in 2009, unlike in some earlier years when they were moved to a week earlier to avoid holiday conflicts.