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 Employment and Training Administration

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## Labor Surplus Area

### Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Labor Surplus Areas

The Department of Labor (DOL) issues the LSA list on a fiscal year basis. The list becomes effective each October 1, and remains in effect through the following September 30. The reference period used in preparing the current list was January 2014 through December 2015. The national average unemployment rate (including Puerto Rico) during this period was rounded to 5.77 percent. Twenty percent higher than the national unemployment rate during this period is 6.93 percent. Therefore, areas included on the FY 2017 LSA list had a rounded unemployment rate for the reference period of 6.93 percent or higher. To ensure that all areas classified as labor surplus meet the requirements, when a city is part of a county and meets the unemployment qualifier as a LSA, that city is identified in the LSA list, the balance of county, not the entire county, will be identified as a LSA if the balance of county also meets the LSA unemployment criteria. The FY 2017 LSA list, statistical data on the current and some previous year's LSAs, and the list of LSAs in Puerto Rico are in the "Related Link" section. See the Federal Register Notice in the "Related Link" section for "Petition for Exceptional Circumstance Consideration" requirements and instructions.

This year, the LSA list is an Excel file with a filter that allows the user to filter the list by state (s) and/or area type(s). In order to use the filter, the LSA Excel file has to be downloaded and saved to your computer. The following link gives instructions on how to use the filter feature in an Excel file. <https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Filter-data-in-a-range-or-table-01832226-31b5-4568-8806-38c37d0c180e>

All inquiries concerning the LSA list should be directed to Samuel Wright, email [wright.samuel.e@dol.gov](mailto:wright.samuel.e@dol.gov) or telephone (202) 493-2870.

**Related Links**

- [FY 2017 Labor Surplus List Updated February 28, 2017](#)
- [2017 Labor Surplus Area Federal Register Notice](#)
- [Description of Labor Surplus Areas](#)
- [State Workforce Agencies](#)
- [Balance of County Definitions \(XLS\)](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [LSA Archives](#)

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