

How is home based employment treated in LODES?

Currently the LEHD program does not have a good representation of workers whose worksite is also their home - whether they are teleworking or are self-employed. In the case of UI-covered workers who telework, we will allocate them to one of the establishments identified in the QCEW. Self-employed jobs are not currently in the LEHD frame of jobs.

If a person works two part-time jobs, are they counted twice in the LODES datasets?

All UI-covered jobs are captured within the LEHD data system. Therefore if a person has two covered jobs during the reference period for LODES, then both will appear in the "All Jobs" job type. Only one would appear in the "All Primary Jobs" job type. And appearance in the other job types would depend on the ownership type for each of the employers.

Are employees at religious institutions included in the LODES dataset?

If the jobs at the religious institutions are UI-covered, then those data will be available to be included in LEHD's public-use data products, including LODES. Specific differences exist in UI coverage among states.

What tool would be good when trying to determine the age demographics in specific counties

If the goal is to determine the age distribution of workers employed in a county, then QWI is a good data product to use. If the age distribution of the workforce residing in the county is needed, the LODES will give you a rough sense of distribution. You may also try ACS data for either of these questions.

Is the Census Business Builder also being integrated with OnTheMap?

Census Business Builder and OnTheMap are currently developed separately. In the future, there may be efforts to integrate functionality from both of these tools and from elsewhere into a common data access/exploration tool.

Industry information (for hospitality growth in the state of Georgia)

Industry information: 20 NAICS sectors in residence and workplace margins - RAC and WAC - and 3 industry groups in the Origin-Destination - OD - files are available in LODES.

Does the LODES WAC data represent the annual monthly average? How do you control/average the data by sector?

Employment in LODES is the "beginning-of-quarter" employment, meaning that we observe earnings between a business and a worker in both the reference quarter (Q2) and the prior quarter (Q1). So the employment count is the employment as estimated on the first day of Q2 (April 1). Earnings in LODES is the Q2 earnings from each job and then the count for that job is placed within an earnings bin for the reference period.

How is corporate company employee location assignment handled?

Data on firm structure (the QCEW) is reported to us by state. If a large firm has a headquarters in a state, then they should report the count of employees working at that headquarters and also report the number of employees working at any other establishments in the state. We check this against the UI-wage records which only include workers who are UI-covered in the state.

Does the data include self employment?

No.

Is there a parallel block level dataset that carries the count of businesses by CNSS?

LODES does not currently report count of establishments or firms.

What is the best way to work around "headquartering" for total employment data? I work with small geographies, typically downtowns and center cities, that sometimes have overrepresented figures in specific industries. What is the most effective way to work around this?

Independent local knowledge and data are the best way to identify and deal with "headquartering" issues in LODES. Examples of local datasets that may be available and may be useful are: land use datasets, office square footage datasets, and local commuting surveys from MPOs (Metropolitan Planning Organizations). The best method depends on your specific use case and may include rescaling suspected headquartering issues or redistributing the jobs at those locations.

Are the Jobs shown in OTM (Sparks demo) on block level and is the 'job' count data available tabularly with spatial relationships?

Jobs show in the demonstration for Sparks, NV appear as counts within census blocks (points on the map) or as "thermals"/job density distributions. OnTheMap can also aggregate jobs to supported legal and statistical geographies using the Area Comparison or Destination analysis types.

Any chance to expand earnings and age categories in LODES?

In the future we are hoping to harmonize the age categories in LODES with that categories currently used in QWI. We also hope to improve the way in which earnings are reported in LODES. You are welcome to submit specific suggestions for how to report earnings and any specific use cases to CES.OnTheMap.Feedback@census.gov

With regard to Primary Private Employment, the primary refers to the job which provides the worker the most income?

Yes. We use both "primary" and "dominant" to refer to the job during the reference period that earns each worker the most money.

So each dot represents a census block?

Yes, in the demonstration each dot is one census block.

Can you select multiple places for analysis?

Yes. Please see the "How to Use the OnTheMap Selection Tools" guide at https://lehd.ces.census.gov/applications/help/onthemap.html#!more_tutorials

Can you get down to the six digit NAICS level in an OnTheMap query?

No. The most industry detail that LODES/OnTheMap offers is the "2-digit" NAICS sector. QWI does offer 4-digit NAICS industry group at the county level.

Is the distance based on road network/travel or block centroid to block centroid?

The distance used in OnTheMap is the block-to-block, Great Circle distance. We calculate the distance using an "internal point" for each census block rather than a centroid. The internal point that we use for each census block can be found on the geography crosswalks that are distributed with the LODES files.

Documentation of those crosswalks is in the LODES Technical Document:

<https://lehd.ces.census.gov/data/lodes/LODES7/LODESTechDoc7.4.pdf>

Doing an analysis in our MPO area using OnTheMap, I noticed that jobs for school districts, for example, are all included within one address, which is typically the administration building. In reality, many employees are based at many different schools throughout the area. Does OnTheMap plan to address this at all in the future?

We are considering ways to address this issue with schools using public-use data from the National Center for Education Statistics' Common Core of Data.

Can we identify environmental concerns where people live and work

LODES and OnTheMap do not include environmental data. However, OnTheMap for Emergency Management (a separate application that we produce) includes information on Hurricanes/Tropical Storms, Wildfires, Flooding Areas, and Winter Storms. Further information can be found at

<https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/em/>

Just to confirm, the exclusion of 2016 & 2017 federal workers only affects OnTheMap only, right? Not all LEHD data.

LODES/OnTheMap is the only LEHD dataset that includes information on federal employment and so it is the only dataset that is currently affected by the exclusion of federal worker data in 2016 and 2017.

Any plans to integrate ACS Commuting information into OnTheMap?

There are no plans to integrate ACS Commuting data into OnTheMap right now. However, we are aware of the comparisons between the two and have produced two working papers on the subject. They can be found at <https://ideas.repec.org/p/cen/wpaper/14-38.html> and

<https://ideas.repec.org/p/cen/wpaper/17-34.html>

What is the accuracy of the place of work data?

There is no standard accuracy measure for place of work data in LODES at this time. Some sources of error on place of work information generally include: underreporting of establishments by firms; incorrect reporting of establishment employment by firms (which can affect the count of workers we assign to that location); reporting of incorrect or vague addresses for establishments; and geocoding errors with reported addresses. Additionally employment counts at each location will be affected by confidentiality protection measures.

If your region has a large number of college students residing out of state and working part-time will it show in the data as a large population living beyond 50 miles and working for low wages?

This depends on whether the students are working at UI-covered jobs and whether the federal administrative data we have on them (e.g. income tax filings) show them residing in a dorm or other near-campus location or at their parents' residence.

Is there data available for Puerto Rico?

Currently there is no data available for Puerto Rico.

Do you have any plans to expand the earnings categories, the current maximum range really limits the usefulness of that data point

We hope to improve the way in which earnings are reported in LODES. You are welcome to submit specific suggestions for how to report earnings and any specific use cases to CES.OnTheMap.Feedback@census.gov

I'm often interested in worker by income category. OnTheMap has been using the same income categories over the years. Due to inflation, years aren't really comparable. It also means the categories have waning usefulness, as fewer and fewer workers fall into the lower category. Might this method of categorizing change?

We hope to improve the way in which earnings are reported in LODES. You are welcome to submit specific suggestions for how to report earnings and any specific use cases to CES.OnTheMap.Feedback@census.gov

Does the OnTheMap data account for people who commute across international borders? For instance, in the Detroit area, there is a not insignificant number of workers who commute from Windsor, Ontario into Metro Detroit.

If the employment is in Ontario (in this case), then it will not be in the dataset because it is (likely) not UI-covered. If the employment location is in Detroit but the residence is in Ontario, then we will re-impute the residence into the United States.