

Response Rates for the 2017 Census of Governments: Employment

The preliminary tabulation data for the Census of Governments: Employment were released on September 28, 2018. U.S. Census Bureau's standards require that the Unit Response Rate (URR) for a survey or census be 60 percent or higher. The Census Bureau also measures Total Quantity Response Rates (TQRR), which are measures of the portion of specific variables of interest for a survey or census that are accounted for by responses. The standards require that the TQRR for these variables of interest be 70 percent or higher.

For example, the URR for the number of reporting units in a state must be above 60 percent. This means that the Census Bureau should strive to ensure that at least 60 percent of the total number of units eligible for collection for that state actually respond to the survey or census. As for TQRR, the number of total March full-time and part-time employment, and total March payroll (in whole dollars) in a state are the main variables of interest for which TQRR is measured in this collection. Therefore, their TQRR must be above 70 percent. That is, the Census Bureau must strive to ensure that at least 70 percent of the tabulated total number of employees and total March payroll comes from responses.

The URR's and TQRR's for 2017 were usually above the standard with some notable exceptions. See tables below.

For future survey years, more extensive non-response follow-up efforts will be taken prior to release of the survey's estimates, to try to obtain data from the non-respondents identified as critical. Further research will be conducted on state and local governments to identify governmental units contributing to the low TQRRs in those non-compliant states.

2017 Census of Governments: Employment
 Unit Response Rate (URR) and Total Quantity Response Rates (TQRR) By
 State: Local Governments

* Indicates states where at least one of the TQRR is below the 70 percent acceptable range and/or the Unit Response Rate (URR) is below the 60 percent acceptable range. Additional information for TQRR's may be found within the technical documentation.

State		Employment		Payroll
		URR	TQRR	TQRR
United States Total		73.1%	74.4%	76.0%
Alabama	*	72.8%	68.5%	69.7%
Alaska		71.0%	85.0%	85.8%
Arizona	*	75.6%	71.0%	68.9%
Arkansas	*	69.5%	49.3%	48.6%
California		77.5%	77.8%	80.3%
Colorado	*	71.3%	58.2%	59.1%
Connecticut	*	69.2%	57.4%	60.2%
Delaware		94.1%	96.5%	96.9%
D.C.		75.0%	75.5%	74.6%
Florida		73.7%	88.0%	86.5%
Georgia		81.7%	75.3%	75.9%
Hawaii		76.2%	86.4%	84.0%
Idaho		76.8%	75.2%	75.0%
Illinois		73.7%	80.2%	82.5%
Indiana	*	73.9%	65.7%	65.1%
Iowa		81.6%	79.0%	79.6%
Kansas		66.2%	76.0%	77.1%
Kentucky		76.1%	78.5%	79.8%
Louisiana	*	63.2%	62.9%	62.0%
Maine		76.4%	72.5%	74.3%
Maryland		81.7%	73.9%	75.2%
Massachusetts	*	60.2%	57.0%	60.0%
Michigan	*	75.5%	65.5%	66.5%
Minnesota	*	72.9%	62.9%	60.7%
Mississippi	*	64.0%	56.5%	56.8%
Missouri	*	74.8%	65.8%	66.5%
Montana	*	68.9%	62.1%	63.6%
Nebraska		64.8%	71.5%	73.7%
Nevada		80.9%	94.7%	93.7%
New Hampshire	*	68.0%	63.8%	65.7%
New Jersey	*	66.4%	60.2%	61.6%
New Mexico	*	49.2%	60.4%	57.7%
New York		78.0%	81.4%	83.8%
North Carolina		84.3%	90.1%	91.0%
North Dakota		64.5%	85.9%	94.6%
Ohio		73.6%	70.1%	70.9%
Oklahoma		75.0%	72.8%	75.2%
Oregon		80.9%	81.3%	82.7%
Pennsylvania	*	74.0%	64.8%	65.5%
Rhode Island	*	59.1%	74.4%	76.6%
South Carolina	*	74.4%	68.3%	66.5%
South Dakota	*	64.0%	60.2%	59.8%
Tennessee		75.6%	71.0%	74.5%
Texas		68.9%	75.9%	78.2%
Utah		82.5%	81.5%	81.8%
Vermont	*	60.0%	54.6%	56.9%
Virginia		79.3%	78.4%	78.3%
Washington		82.8%	92.2%	92.4%
West Virginia		71.2%	78.7%	79.2%
Wisconsin		80.2%	71.7%	70.7%
Wyoming		83.6%	85.1%	86.1%

2017 Census of Governments: Employment
 Unit Response Rate (URR) and Total Quantity Response Rates (TQRR) By
 State: State Governments

* Indicates states where at least one of the TQRR is below the 70 percent acceptable range and/or the Unit Response Rate (URR) is below the 60 percent acceptable range. Additional information for TQRR's may be found within the technical documentation.

State	Employment		Payroll
	URR	TQRR	TQRR
United States Total	86.8%	85.1%	85.1%
Alabama	84.9%	85.8%	85.8%
Alaska	91.7%	70.7%	77.0%
Arizona	90.9%	99.8%	99.8%
Arkansas	87.7%	80.2%	75.3%
California	89.4%	99.6%	99.8%
Colorado	86.7%	97.5%	96.9%
Connecticut	78.4%	89.0%	83.0%
Delaware	88.4%	72.6%	71.5%
Florida	93.4%	85.2%	86.2%
Georgia	79.5%	76.8%	81.0%
Hawaii	96.8%	99.7%	99.9%
Idaho	94.2%	92.2%	92.5%
Illinois	82.2%	89.9%	86.6%
Indiana	90.5%	92.8%	91.5%
Iowa	91.2%	99.1%	98.9%
Kansas	88.8%	92.9%	76.5%
Kentucky	90.1%	82.6%	80.7%
Louisiana	84.4%	84.9%	86.2%
Maine	73.9%	91.8%	86.7%
Maryland	*	99.0%	68.1%
Massachusetts		87.6%	87.5%
Michigan		92.6%	92.5%
Minnesota	*	79.1%	48.9%
Mississippi		84.9%	93.4%
Missouri		97.1%	98.0%
Montana		97.1%	100.0%
Nebraska	*	77.2%	23.5%
Nevada	*	95.6%	53.6%
New Hampshire		60.2%	92.2%
New Jersey	*	80.0%	56.5%
New Mexico		95.1%	97.9%
New York		88.8%	88.9%
North Carolina		95.3%	96.3%
North Dakota		91.0%	89.3%
Ohio		84.1%	70.1%
Oklahoma		88.4%	88.1%
Oregon		96.1%	99.1%
Pennsylvania		86.1%	85.7%
Rhode Island		79.1%	84.6%
South Carolina		85.0%	78.8%
South Dakota		100.0%	100.0%
Tennessee	*	16.7%	46.0%
Texas	*	84.7%	72.6%
Utah		77.4%	99.5%
Vermont		96.9%	75.5%
Virginia	*	90.0%	65.5%
Washington		98.0%	100.0%
West Virginia		91.3%	95.3%
Wisconsin		98.6%	100.0%
Wyoming		92.3%	97.9%

2017 Census of Governments: Employment
 Unit Response Rate (URR) and Total Quantity Response Rates (TQRR) By
 State: State and Local Governments

* Indicates states where at least one of the TQRR is below the 70 percent acceptable range and/or the Unit Response Rate (URR) is below the 60 percent acceptable range. Additional information for TQRR's may be found within the technical documentation.

State	URR	Employment		Payroll
		TQRR	TQRR	TQRR
United States Total	74.0%	77.4%	78.6%	
Alabama	74.4%	74.6%	75.7%	
Alaska	76.2%	78.5%	81.5%	
Arizona	78.1%	79.1%	77.3%	
Arkansas	*	71.5%	61.0%	59.8%
California		78.0%	83.0%	85.1%
Colorado		71.7%	70.3%	71.1%
Connecticut	*	70.4%	67.9%	68.2%
Delaware		92.9%	83.6%	83.9%
D.C.		75.0%	75.5%	74.6%
Florida		74.6%	87.4%	86.4%
Georgia		81.5%	75.7%	77.3%
Hawaii		91.7%	96.9%	95.9%
Idaho		78.0%	80.2%	81.3%
Illinois		73.9%	82.2%	83.4%
Indiana		74.8%	73.9%	73.2%
Iowa		82.0%	84.8%	86.2%
Kansas		66.8%	80.6%	76.9%
Kentucky		77.7%	79.9%	80.1%
Louisiana	*	68.8%	69.4%	70.3%
Maine		76.2%	78.3%	78.2%
Maryland		85.2%	72.4%	72.5%
Massachusetts	*	63.7%	66.5%	69.2%
Michigan		75.8%	74.9%	76.7%
Minnesota	*	73.1%	59.0%	58.9%
Mississippi	*	66.4%	67.9%	68.7%
Missouri		75.2%	74.8%	74.6%
Montana		70.4%	76.3%	78.0%
Nebraska	*	65.2%	59.4%	61.9%
Nevada		88.1%	83.7%	86.3%
New Hampshire		66.7%	72.1%	73.8%
New Jersey	*	67.1%	59.1%	59.2%
New Mexico	*	54.9%	74.7%	74.4%
New York		78.8%	82.9%	85.2%
North Carolina		85.3%	91.7%	92.9%
North Dakota		65.7%	87.2%	92.9%
Ohio		73.9%	70.1%	71.2%
Oklahoma		76.2%	78.0%	79.7%
Oregon		82.1%	87.6%	89.2%
Pennsylvania		74.3%	71.2%	73.6%
Rhode Island		66.3%	78.7%	81.5%
South Carolina	*	76.0%	71.6%	69.3%
South Dakota		65.0%	72.1%	74.2%
Tennessee	*	70.3%	64.5%	66.0%
Texas		69.4%	75.2%	76.1%
Utah		81.8%	88.4%	89.8%
Vermont	*	62.8%	61.6%	64.7%
Virginia		81.6%	74.4%	73.6%
Washington		83.8%	94.9%	94.8%
West Virginia		74.4%	85.4%	85.8%
Wisconsin		80.6%	79.8%	78.8%
Wyoming		84.4%	88.4%	88.9%