
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

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Carol Rowan, BLS Clearance Officer
Division of Management Systems
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 4080
2 Massachusetts Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20212

Submitted via email: rowan.carol@bls.gov and fax 202-691-5111

Dear Ms. Rowan,

I am pleased to provide comments on the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey information collection request (ICR) proposed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in the *Federal Register* on April 22, 2016.

As a research professor at the George Washington Institute of Public Policy, George Washington University, I focus on federal policies that promote U.S. economic competitiveness and job creation. I also serve on the Labor Secretary's [Workforce Information Advisory Council](#) and the BLS [Data Users Advisory Committee](#). From these perspectives, I find the OES to be essential for understanding the geographic distribution of employment by occupation and industry. Therefore, I fully support the BLS intention to submit an ICR for the OES.

I wish to request that BLS include the following information in the ICR Supporting Statement:

- A discussion of the role of the OES in fulfilling Secretary of Labor's mandate, per the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (29 USC 491-2), to construct the Workforce and Labor Market Information System (WLMIS)
- A comprehensive overview of the public and private uses of the OES
- Plans to improve the value of the OES through investment in information technology and new product development, including time series

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed OES and hope you find my thoughts helpful.

Sincerely,



Andrew Reamer
Research Professor