Factor Analysis README
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Office of Employment Projections, Employment Outlook: 2019-2029
Employment Factor Analysis for Projected 2019-2029

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Introduction

To assist users of Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) employment projections in evaluating and understanding the sources of growth and decline for individual industries or occupations, a detailed analysis of the factors entering the projection process has been carried out and is presented in the factor analysis tables discussed below.

The BLS provides industry employment factor analysis for the period 2019-2029 covering wage and salary and self-employed jobs. In addition, two occupational tables are provided for 2019-2029, covering only wage and salary jobs.

How to Access Factor Analysis Files

The data tables are presented in Excel (xlsx) and are formatted to be printed in landscape mode.

The file called FA_DESCRIPTION is presented in a portable document format (PDF).

What These Files Contain

The rows of the data tables have the name of the industry or occupation contained within them. The columns correspond to the demand factors as described in the FA_DESCRIPTION file.

The FA_DESCRIPTION file explains the derivation and uses of factor analysis using the occupational analysis as the example.

All of the data tables contain employment percent changes caused by substituting a factor for the later year in place of the earlier year factor including residual interactions among factors. In other words, each individual column answers the question "How much would employment have changed if only this one factor had changed over the period under examination?"

In addition to the industry and occupation tables, the tables which include "major" in the name contain data for the major industry sectors or occupational groups for the particular year range named.