

# LODES Data Note: Changes in 2015 Federal Employment Counts

## Overview

Beginning with the release of 2010 LODES data, Federal workers were included in the jobs frame via data sourced from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). OPM excludes some agencies from the data for security purposes.<sup>1</sup> As a result, jobs from these agencies are excluded from the overall job frame.

With the release of 2015 data, new occupation-level suppressions are appearing in LODES for the first time. Based on these suppressions, which are documented in OPM's Data Release Policy<sup>2</sup>, additional Federal jobs are exiting the overall job frame for LODES. This data note provides some summary information on the changes taking place in LODES between 2014 and 2015 data years. Most – but not all – changes in Federal employment counts in LODES between 2014 and 2015 are a consequence of these occupation-level suppressions.

## Comparisons

In LODES, the count of Federal beginning-of-quarter employment (All Federal Jobs)<sup>3</sup> changed from 1,241,084 in 2014 to 1,069,069 in 2015, a decrease of -172,015 jobs (about 14%). Below are tables describing these changes in terms of the industry to which the jobs were coded and the state of the jobs' duty stations.

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<sup>1</sup> See [https://www.fedscope.opm.gov/datadefn/aboutehri\\_sdm.asp#cpdf3](https://www.fedscope.opm.gov/datadefn/aboutehri_sdm.asp#cpdf3) and <https://www.fedscope.opm.gov/datadefn/#location> for more information on agency-specific data suppression.

<sup>2</sup> See <http://ia800608.us.archive.org/16/items/opm-federal-employment-data/docs/Data%20Release%20Policy%20January%202014.pdf> for more information on occupation-level data suppression.

<sup>3</sup> See <https://lehd.ces.census.gov/data/lodes/LODES7/LODESTechDoc7.2.pdf> for more information on LODES data.

<b>LODES Federal Employment (All Federal Jobs)</b>			
	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	2,226	2,280	2.4%
Utilities	3,898	3,819	-2.0%
Construction	1	0	-100.0%
Manufacturing	3,406	3,457	1.5%
Retail Trade	792	178	-77.5%
Transportation and Warehousing	8,633	7,869	-8.8%
Information	2,966	2,894	-2.4%
Finance and Insurance	14,176	14,519	2.4%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Service	12,365	11,238	-9.1%
Educational Services	2,500	1,908	-23.7%
Health Care and Social Assistance	301,498	310,203	2.9%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	23,538	21,917	-6.9%
Accommodation and Food Service	378	305	-19.3%
Other Services [except Public Administration]	1,596	1,558	-2.4%
Public Administration	863,111	686,924	-20.4%

As can be seen in the first table, the decrease in the Public Administration sector (176k) is actually larger than the overall decrease in Federal Employment (172k). The second table, below, shows that the decrease in LODES Federal employment is spread across most states<sup>4</sup>, with large absolute decreases appearing in Texas, California, New York, and Florida.

<b>LODES Federal Employment (All Federal Jobs)</b>			
	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>
Alabama	15,168	14,168	-6.6%
Alaska	6,872	5,891	-14.3%
Arizona	30,998	22,092	-28.7%
Arkansas	10,521	9,694	-7.9%
California	102,445	81,833	-20.1%
Colorado	27,358	24,504	-10.4%
Connecticut	6,395	5,476	-14.4%
Delaware	1,808	1,722	-4.8%
District of Columbia	128,694	134,805	4.7%
Florida	60,124	46,301	-23.0%
Georgia	41,986	36,641	-12.7%
Hawaii	6,077	4,154	-31.6%
Idaho	6,995	6,594	-5.7%
Illinois	34,204	28,593	-16.4%
Indiana	13,148	11,813	-10.2%
Iowa	7,666	6,812	-11.1%
Kansas	9,815	9,113	-7.2%
Kentucky	15,327	13,179	-14.0%
Louisiana	14,174	11,760	-17.0%
Maine	3,891	2,974	-23.6%
Maryland	88,790	86,124	-3.0%
Massachusetts	21,828	17,793	-18.5%
Michigan	20,717	16,557	-20.1%
Minnesota	15,747	13,434	-14.7%

<sup>4</sup> LODES employment data were not published in 2015 for Wyoming.

LODES Federal Employment (All Federal Jobs)			
	2014	2015	Change
Mississippi	10,175	9,248	-9.1%
Missouri	29,906	27,385	-8.4%
Montana	8,498	7,731	-9.0%
Nebraska	6,697	5,395	-19.4%
Nevada	9,759	8,113	-16.9%
New Hampshire	3,691	3,180	-13.8%
New Jersey	14,472	10,117	-30.1%
New Mexico	18,033	15,415	-14.5%
New York	55,385	41,314	-25.4%
North Carolina	23,334	21,139	-9.4%
North Dakota	4,571	3,818	-16.5%
Ohio	26,156	23,713	-9.3%
Oklahoma	15,385	13,940	-9.4%
Oregon	16,691	15,408	-7.7%
Pennsylvania	41,599	36,889	-11.3%
Rhode Island	2,920	2,552	-12.6%
South Carolina	11,226	9,859	-12.2%
South Dakota	6,984	6,724	-3.7%
Tennessee	21,785	19,697	-9.6%
Texas	92,523	65,408	-29.3%
Utah	14,563	13,253	-9.0%
Vermont	4,418	2,704	-38.8%
Virginia	51,698	45,622	-11.8%
Washington	27,380	22,986	-16.0%
West Virginia	14,452	13,053	-9.7%
Wisconsin	13,473	12,379	-8.1%
Wyoming	4,562	0	-100.0%

## Data Availability

LODES data are available to download directly in zipped comma-separated values (CSV) form at <https://lehd.ces.census.gov/data/#lodes>. The job types affected by this change to OPM sources are “All Jobs” (JT00), “Primary Jobs” (JT01), “All Federal Jobs” (JT04), and “Federal Primary Jobs” (JT05).

LODES data are also available in the OnTheMap application and the OnTheMap for Emergency Management application.<sup>5</sup> In OnTheMap this change affects the “All Jobs” and “Primary Jobs” job types. In OnTheMap for Emergency Management, this change affects the “All Workers” summaries (which are the same as the Primary Jobs job type).

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<sup>5</sup> These can be accessed at <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov> and <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/em>.