

# *BLS Products and Opportunities*

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Commissioner

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American Statistical Association

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# BLS mission

- Principal Federal agency responsible for measuring
  - ▶ labor market activity
  - ▶ working conditions
  - ▶ price changes in the economy
- ... collect, analyze, and disseminate essential economic information
- ... support public and private decision making



# BLS...Census...BEA

<b>BLS</b> Est. 1884 2,405 employees	<b>Census</b> Est. 1902 13,849 employees	<b>BEA</b> Est. 1953 463 employees
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Employment</li><li>• Prices</li><li>• Wages</li><li>• Productivity</li><li>• Safety/health</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Population</li><li>• Demographics</li><li>• Poverty</li><li>• Industry revenue</li><li>• Housing</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gross Domestic Product (GDP)</li><li>• Input/output</li><li>• Balance of Payments</li></ul>

# Building blocks for BLS data



ccurate. . . Getting it right



bjective. . . Free from bias



relevant. . . Information you can use

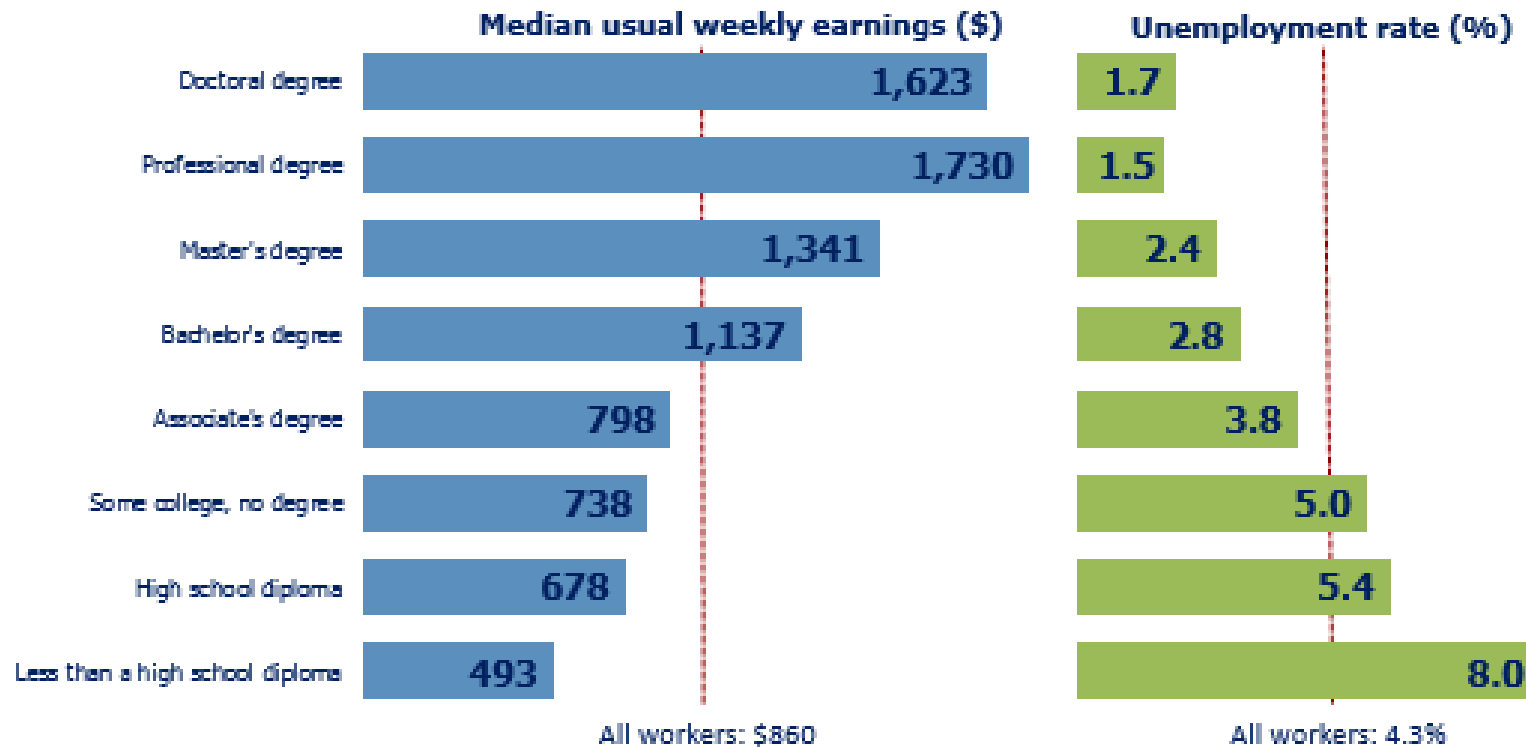


timely. . . Getting it out quickly



ccessible. . . Meeting you where you are

# Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment



Note: 2015 data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.

Source: BLS Current Population Survey



# BLS Employment Projections

- 10-year projections made every 2 years
- 2014-24 projections cover over 800 occupations and 300 industries
- Basis for *Occupational Outlook Handbook*
  - ▶ Pairs data with occupational descriptions
- BLS projections prepared at national level only
  - ▶ Input for state and local employment projections
  - ▶ Used for career preparation decisions



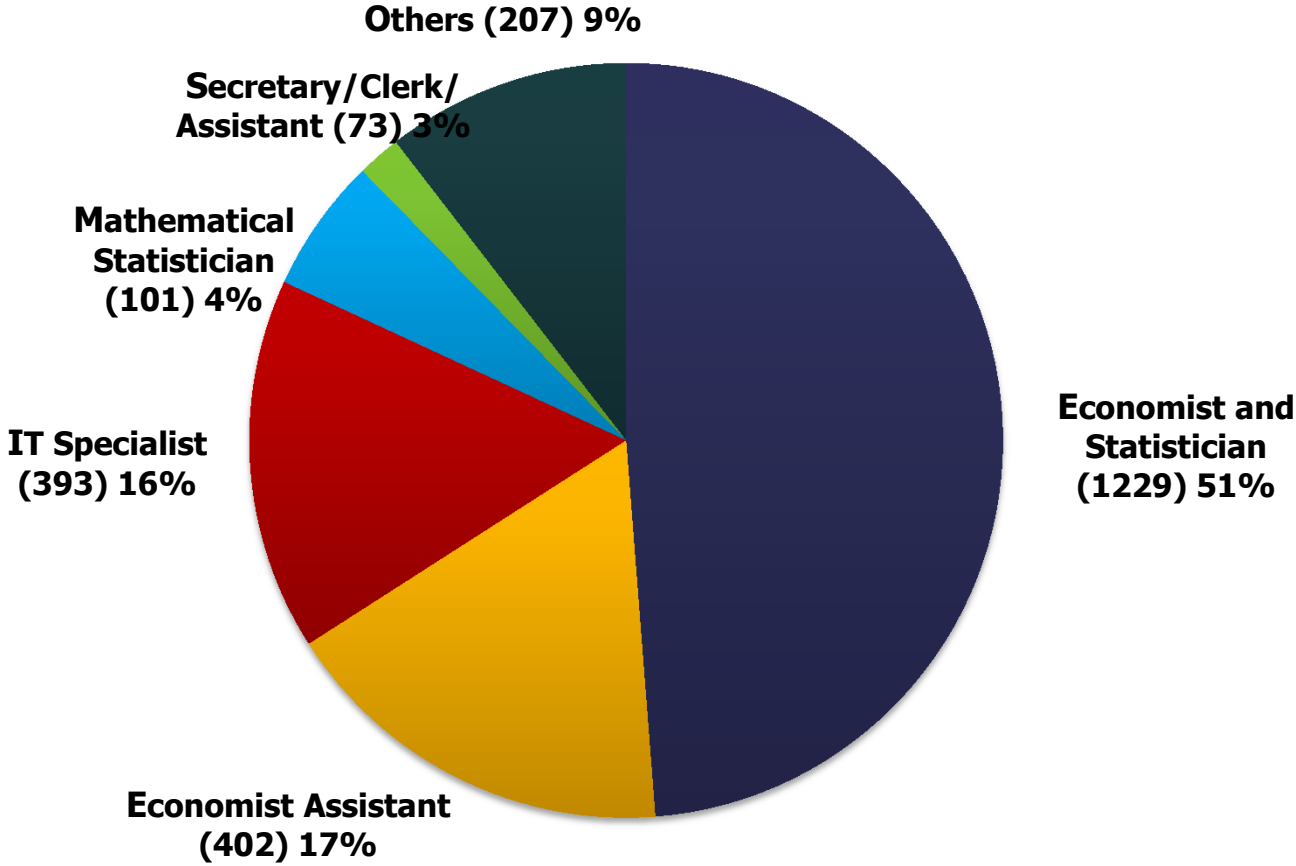
## Employment by detailed occupation, 2014 and projected 2024

2014 National Employment Matrix title	Employment				Typical educational degree needed for entry	Median annual wage, 2015
	Number, in thousands		Change, 2014-24			
	2014	2024	Number	Percent		
<b>Mathematicians</b>	3.5	4.2	0.7	21.4	Master's	\$111,110
<b>Economists</b>	21.5	22.7	1.2	5.7	Master's	\$99,180
<b>Actuaries</b>	24.6	29.0	4.4	18.1	Bachelor's	\$97,070
<b>Statisticians</b>	30.0	40.1	10.1	33.8	Master's	\$80,110
<b>Mathematical science teachers, postsecondary</b>	63.5	73.9	10.4	16.4	Doctoral or professional	\$67,170
<b>Survey researchers</b>	16.7	18.7	1.9	11.6	Master's	\$53,920

Source: BLS Employment Projections program



# BLS employment by occupation



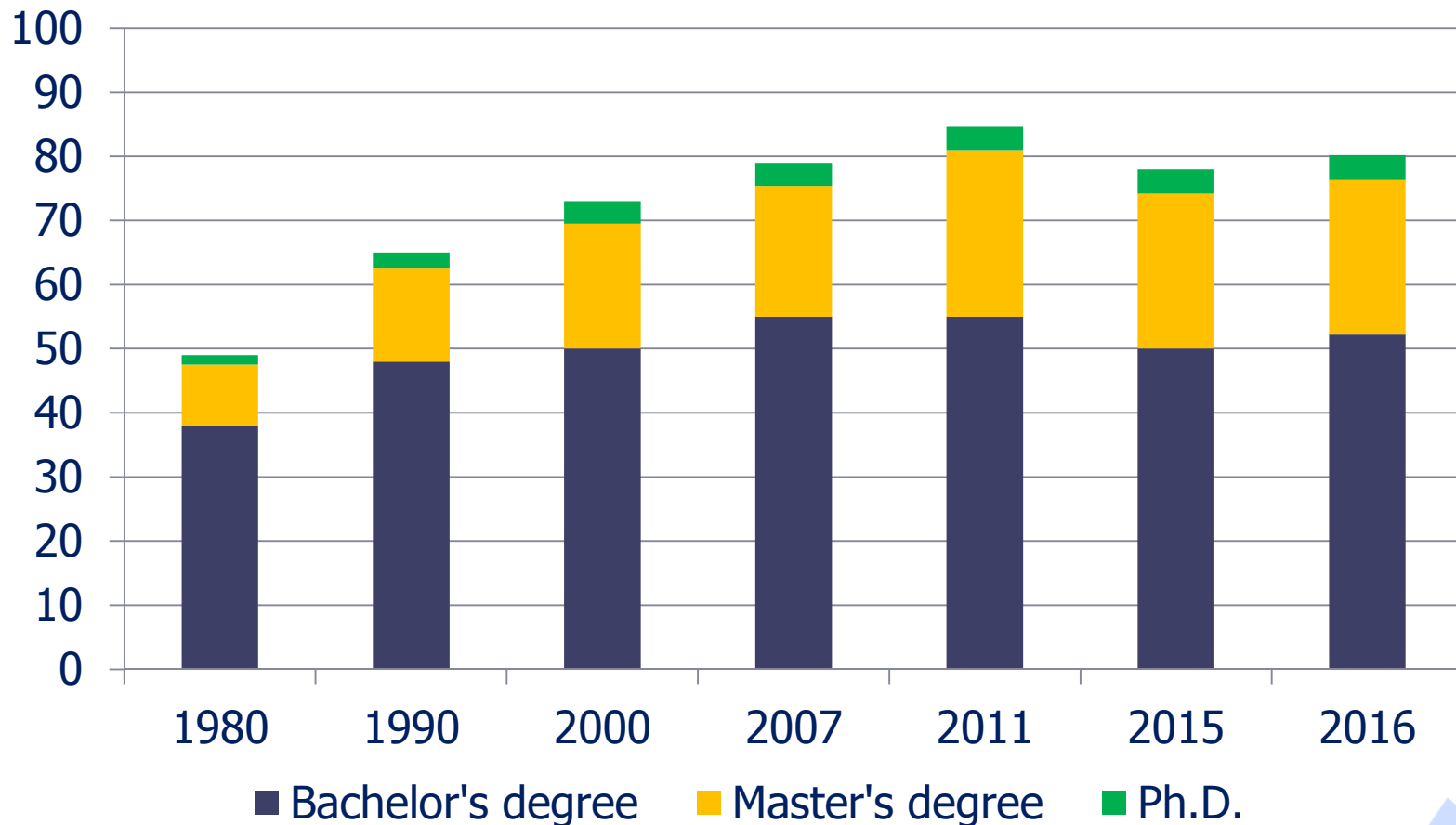
**Total Employees: 2,405**

*Note: Employment data include full-time (2004) and part-time (401) employees and represents employees on-board as of May 15, 2016.*

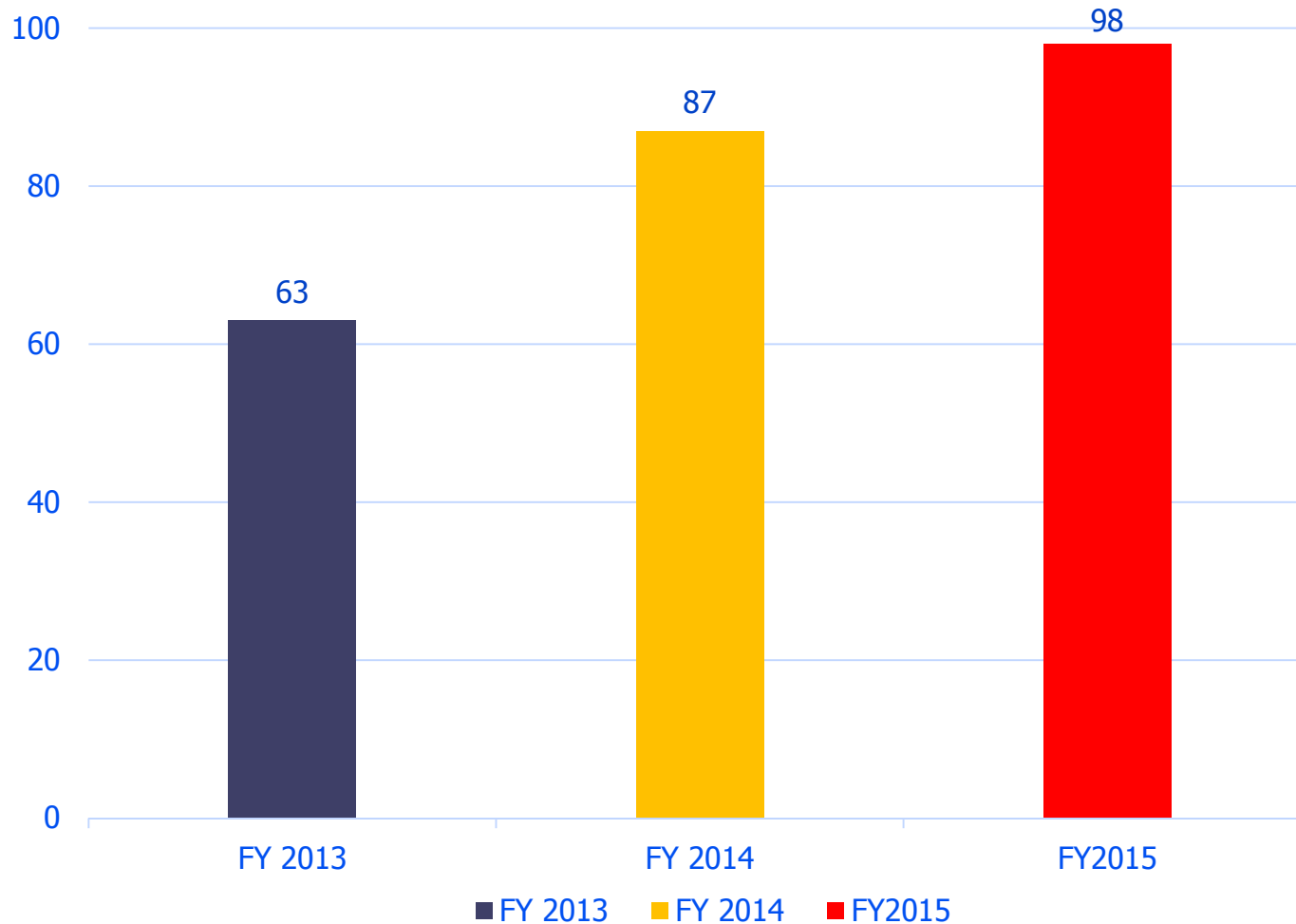




# BLS employment by college degree attainment, 1980 - 2016



# BLS new hires in mission-critical occupations\*



\* Economists, statisticians and math statisticians.



# Perks

- Make a mark doing innovative and important work
- Satisfaction of serving
- Work-life balance
- Opportunities to learn and grow



# Internships

## ■ Pathways

- ▶ Recent grads
- ▶ Summer interns
- ▶ Grad students

## ■ All paid positions

## ■ Training requirement

➤ [www.bls.gov/jobs](http://www.bls.gov/jobs)



# Resources for researchers

- Access public data
- Use confidential microdata



# Opportunities and challenges

- Harnessing “Big Data”
- More work with BEA, Census, and academic researchers
- Renewed attention to labor market issues
- Growth and diversity of users and dissemination modes
- Maintaining response rates and user trust



# Contact Information

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