



History of Wage and Information Fact Sheet

Types of Surveys

The law provides for two kinds of local wage surveys. A “full-scale” wage survey takes place at least every two years. During a full-scale wage survey, the DOD creates a list of private sector establishments within the scope of the wage survey and in the relevant wage area and sends teams of data collectors to collect wage data from those establishments that voluntarily agree to participate. A “wage-change” survey takes place each year that the DOD does not conduct a full-scale wage survey. During wage-change surveys, the DOD updates the findings from the previous full-scale wage survey (usually by telephone) and establishes a new wage schedule based on those findings.