

# Letter to Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer: We Urge the Department of Labor to Improve and Prioritize the Collection of High Quality and Timely Labor Data Monitoring AI's Impact

September 9, 2025

The Honorable Lori Chavez-DeRemer  
Secretary of Labor  
U.S. Department of Labor  
Frances Perkins Building  
200 Constitution Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20210

**Subject: We Urge the Department of Labor to Make Collecting and Providing High-Quality and Timely Data for Monitoring AI's Impact on Labor Markets a Top Priority**

Dear Secretary Chavez-DeRemer,

We are a coalition of economists and other economic policy experts representing a diverse range of perspectives. While we have differing views on the impacts AI will have on labor markets, the role of government, and what the appropriate policy response should be, we are united in the belief that we should ensure American workers are not left behind and instead empowered by the rise of AI. Core to achieving that mission is the collection of high-quality economic data that will inform policy to address the workforce issues AI creates.

We are concerned the government is not adequately prepared for this challenge and strongly want to emphasize the importance of high-quality data that is granular and timely to rapidly analyze and react to the often unpredictable changes AI brings to the workforce. The American Economic Association's [Committee on Economic Statistics](#) and the National Academy [report](#) on AI and the future of work have highlighted the importance of high-quality data in addressing the workforce challenges AI brings. We believe you are in a unique position to lead on this critical issue.

The intersection of AI and labor markets is a thriving area of economic research. Recent

economic papers have analyzed issues like labor market exposure to AI and how AI impacts worker productivity. These studies often rely on critical datasets provided by the Department of Labor. For example, the O\*Net database is a critical resource for researchers in identifying the different tasks that make up a job to help analyze how exposed these jobs are to AI. The Current Population Survey provides researchers with data for analyzing changes to labor markets near real time to identify emerging trends that might be caused by AI.

We urge the DOL to invest in and improve on these datasets to help policymakers and researchers better evaluate how AI is reshaping labor markets. These datasets can be improved to help answer critical questions. For example, a major concern many have is about the impact AI will have on entry-level jobs. Entry-level jobs enable people early in their career to develop first-hand real-world skills that are critical for career advancement and higher pay. The CPS survey can be used to help identify the impact on these jobs across different industries, but the survey has seen a significant [decline](#) in response rates over the last decade and the sample size was last increased from 50,000 to 60,000 in 2001. Given the potential for unprecedented disruption from AI and the need for a rapid policy response, addressing challenges with response rates and increasing the sample size of CPS can greatly improve our ability to identify trends quickly with high statistical confidence. Further, creating a CPS supplement survey focused on AI that includes questions about entry-level work and training can further provide insights into labor market trends.

High-quality, granular, and timely data has two major benefits policymakers should welcome. First, closing data gaps will give policymakers and researchers considerable visibility into AI's impact on labor markets allowing us to quickly identify, analyze, and react to sudden changes. If AI unexpectedly leads to a surge in demand for AI-literate workers in a healthcare setting, it can signal to government and private sector entities to quickly tailor their workforce training programs to fill this surge in demand to create new jobs. If AI leads to massive job loss for workers over the age of fifty in retail, it can indicate to policymakers modernizing social safety net programs tailored to these workers should be a priority.

Second, high-quality, granular, and timely data can also enable more advanced scenario planning exercises. Many have raised questions about what will happen to manufacturing workers if the combination of AI and robots rapidly advances in the next several years. Scenario planning exercises can look at different possibilities, then evaluate how workers across different regions, income levels, and levels of educational attainment could be affected. This can give policymakers time to strategize in advance about what they might do in such a scenario to avoid policymaking on the fly in an economic crisis.

As AI integrates across the economy, promoting high-quality and timely data to monitor and plan for AI's impact on labor markets will be a key to addressing workforce challenges. We believe your legacy as Secretary of Labor will be determined in large part by how you address the challenges AI brings. We urge you to make investing in high-quality data and filling data gaps a top priority and would welcome the opportunity to elaborate more in-depth on this critical matter.

Sincerely,

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