

they used to report their own wage survey. Further, they should report the wage distribution for each occupation rather than the average and median.

Their ability to do this depends on two factors: adequate funding to perform state-level analysis, and an adequate survey response from Hoosier employers to allow for the necessary disaggregations. This is not possible in 1998 because the one-year sample is too small, but as the three-year phase-in is completed, a

more detailed analysis will be possible. In fact, the LMIS staff expect to be "overwhelmed with data."

Data users have a great opportunity this year to cooperate with LMIS and their regional labor market analysts in designing a superior report for wages. If Indiana can implement a source of more detailed and accurate information, employers will be better able to determine a wage level that will ensure an adequate number of skilled and motivated workers.

## Census 2000 Update

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The clock is ticking for the 2000 Census and many activities crucial to Indiana are now under way. The Chicago Regional Census Center has opened in downtown Chicago and many new staff are being added to begin working with the three states in that office's region: Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

Currently, the geography staff of the Chicago office are working with Indiana's local governments to obtain updated maps. They are also sending out letters asking local officials about their interest in participating in the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) program. Many believe that the "master address file"—the mailing list for the Census, if you will—is the linchpin of a complete count effort. In 1999, communities will receive an address list to review. To help plan for this review, the Census Bureau, in cooperation with the State Data Center Program in each state, will provide training sessions beginning this year. In Indiana, the Indiana Business Research Center and the Indiana State Library will participate in this training effort. Both of these efforts are important because they provide the locality with an opportunity to ensure that the maps and addresses are right—and that census questionnaires will be delivered.

As with past censuses, one of the most important roles Indiana's local governments will play in Census 2000 is helping the Census Bureau develop an accurate and detailed address list and map of their areas (counties, cities, towns, and townships). If you are a local government official and don't recall receiving a letter recently asking for your participation, don't hesitate to call the Chicago Census office at 312-353-9605. There is also a toll-free number available to local government officials seeking information or explanation about these activities: 888-688-6948.

Other news of interest regarding the 2000 Census includes:

- Census director Martha F. Riche resigns; Jim Holmes named acting director while search begins for someone to tackle the job.

- The dress rehearsals in California, Wisconsin, and South Carolina are set to begin in March. The questionnaire is now available (contact us at the IBRC for a copy) and will likely be nearly identical to the one used in 2000.

- The final race question has been formulated and appears as follows in the Dress Rehearsal Questionnaire. Note that the question allows for multiple races to be selected. How this will ultimately translate for data use has yet to be determined.

### Question 6

**What is this person's race? Mark one  or more races** to indicate what this person considers himself/herself to be.

- White  
 Black, African Am., or Negro  
 American Indian or Alaska Native — *Print name of enrolled or principal tribe.*

\_\_\_\_\_

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Guamanian or Chamorro                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Filipino                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Samoan                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander — <i>Print race.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Korean                           |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese                       |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian — <i>Print race.</i> |  |

\_\_\_\_\_

- Some other race — *Print race.*

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