

Dated: July 27, 1998.

Robert B. Briggs,

*Department Clearance Officer, U.S.
Department of Justice.*

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Federal-State Unemployment Compensation Program: Availability of Benefit Accuracy Measurement Program Results

AGENCY: Employment and Training
Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the
Unemployment Insurance Benefit
Accuracy Measurement Program Data
for Calendar Year (CY) 1997.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to announce the availability of the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Benefit Accuracy Measurement (BAM) Program Data for CY 1997, which contains the results of each State's BAM program, and information on how copies may be obtained. The BAM Annual Report data are published as part of a UI PERFORMS report, which also includes data from the Benefit Timeliness and Quality and Tax Performance System programs. UI PERFORMS is the Department's management system for promoting continuous improvement in UI performance.

DATES: The Report will be available after August 31, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Report may be obtained by writing to Ms. Grace A. Kilbane, Director, Unemployment Insurance Service, U. S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room S-4231, Washington, DC 20210. The Report and this notice contain a list of names and addresses of persons in each State who will provide additional information and clarifications regarding the individual State reports upon request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Spisak, Division of Performance Review, Data Analysis and Data Validation Team, 202-219-5223, extension 157. (This is not a toll free number.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Each week, staff in each State's Employment Security Agency investigate random samples of UI benefit payments and record information based on interviews with claimants, employers, and third

parties to determine whether State law, policy, and procedure were followed correctly in processing the sampled payment.

The Department of Labor is publishing results from the investigations in a digest which includes information on the 52 jurisdictions participating in the UI BAM program. Five items are reported for each State: The amount of UI benefits paid to the population of claimants, the size of the BAM samples, and the percentages of proper payments, overpayments, and underpayments in the population estimated from the BAM investigations. Ninety-five percent confidence intervals are presented for each of the three percentages as measures of the precision of the estimates. States have been encouraged to provide narratives to further clarify the meaning of the data based on their specific situations.

Since States' laws, policies, and procedures vary considerably, the data cannot be used to draw comparisons among States.

Effective with the release of calendar year 1995 data, States were no longer required to publish their BAM program data; however, persons wanting clarification or additional information concerning a specific State's report are encouraged to contact the individual identified in the following mailing list.

Signed at Washington, DC, on July 28, 1998.

Raymond J. Uhalde,

*Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for
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Unemployment Insurance Benefit Accuracy Measurement State Contacts

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. ICR-98-31]

Electrical Standards for Construction; Information Collection Requirements

ACTION: Notice, Opportunity for public
comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as
part of its continuing effort to reduce
paperwork and respondent burden,
conducts a preclearance consultation
program to provide the general public
and Federal agencies with an
opportunity to comment on proposed
and/or continuing collections of
information in accordance with the
Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995
(PRA-95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This
program helps to ensure that requested