Pennsylvania
Department of Labor & Industry
Center for Workforce Information & Analysis

Research & Historical Data Access Guide

A guide to accessing and customizing data reports

Updated: November 4, 2026

Guide Purpose & Overview

This guide provides instructions for accessing, navigating, and using the Research & Historical Data (RHD) website. It covers how to find, customize, and download workforce data using the available datasets and tools.

Using this Guide:

Use the Table of Contents to navigate directly to a specific topic. The guide progresses from accessing RHD and selecting datasets to customizing reports, downloading data, and using additional tools.

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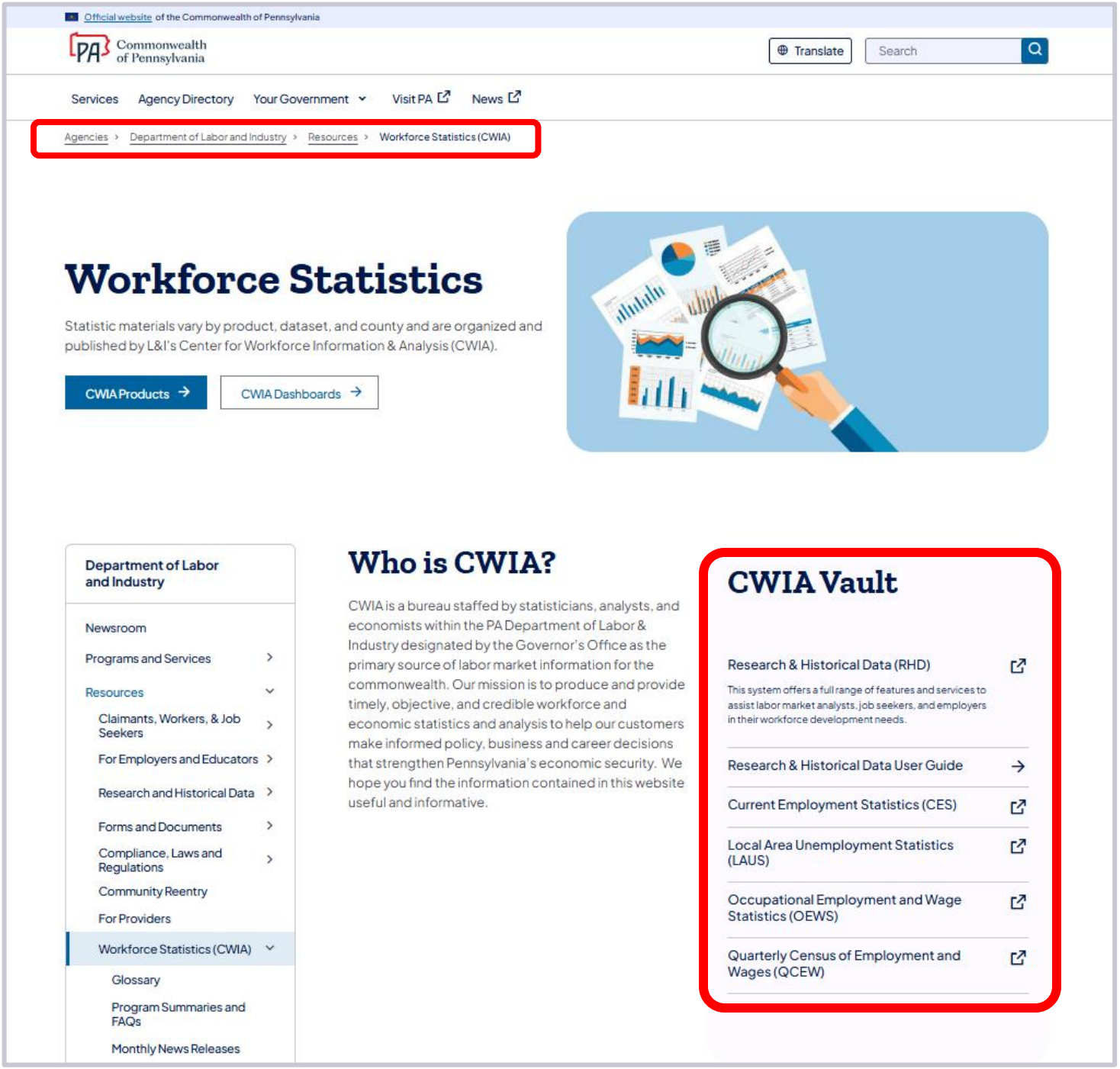
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Glossary

Click here to view the full CWIA Glossary

Term	Description
Labor Market Information (LMI)	Data and analysis related to employment, workers, wages, occupations, and the workforce.
Center for Workforce Information & Analysis (CWIA)	The Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry center responsible for producing and providing labor market information and analysis.
Research & Historical Data (RHD)	The portion of the CWIA website that provides access to historical labor market data through reports and related tools.
Industry	A group of establishments that produce similar products or provide similar services.
North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)	A six-digit coding system used to classify businesses and economic activity by industry.
Occupation	A set of activities or tasks that employees receive wages to perform.
Standard Occupational Classification (SOC)	A standardized system used to classify occupations based on the type of work performed and the skills, knowledge, and abilities required.
Seasonal Adjustment	A method of removing predictable seasonal changes in employment, such as those caused by holidays or weather, to better show underlying employment trends.
Preliminary Data	An initial estimate that may be revised as additional information becomes available. The meaning and timing of preliminary data vary by dataset.
Workforce Development Area (WDA)	A geographic area, generally consisting of one or more counties, where workforce development and employment services are coordinated under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).
Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)	A geographic area defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget that consists of a population center and nearby communities with strong economic and social connections.



Accessing CWIA's Research & Historical Data

Method 1:

Go directly to:
https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dli/resources/statistic-materials

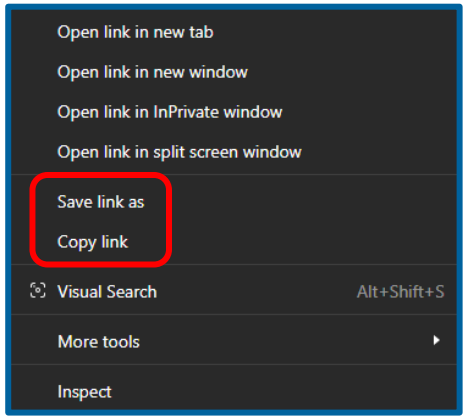
Method 2:

Navigate through www.pa.gov:

1. Commonwealth of PA
2. Agency Directory
3. Department of Labor & Industry
4. Resources
5. Workforce Statistics (CWIA)

Final Step:

Under CWIA Resources, select Research & Historical Data



Note:

Use *Copy link* or *Save link* on any of the five CWIA Resources links for future access. Links saved directly from the address bar may expire.



Selecting Your Data Set

Choose one of four categories to access historical trends, local statistics, and industry-specific reports

LAUS

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Provides monthly estimates of household counts of the labor force, employment, and unemployment for specific local areas.

CES

Current Employment Statistics

Provides monthly estimates of employer counts by industry.

QCEW

Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages

Provides a comprehensive count of employment and wage information for workers covered by PA's unemployment compensation. This is higher detailed employer-based data than CES but less timely.

OEWS

Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics

Provides employer-based annual estimates of occupational employment and wage rates.

Click a title to open the dataset or a subtitle to view program information
Click here to view Frequently Asked Questions

Choosing the Right Dataset

Use the examples below to identify which dataset best fits your research question

Research Question	LAUS	CES	QCEW	OEWS
What has the unemployment rate been in my local area over the past 10 years, and how does it compare with Pennsylvania?	✓			
CWIA's Monthly News Releases provides current employment data for my area. Where can I find historical nonfarm employment data?		✓		
What is the average wage for my occupation in my local area?				✓
How do wages for my occupation compare between my county and a neighboring county?				✓
Are the wages I offer competitive with those for similar occupations in my area?				✓
How many establishments operate in a particular industry in my local area?			✓	
What is the quarterly employment level for a particular industry in my local area?			✓	

Using the Report Tool

1. Filter
Shows or hides the filter menu used to refine report data
(See next slide for more details)

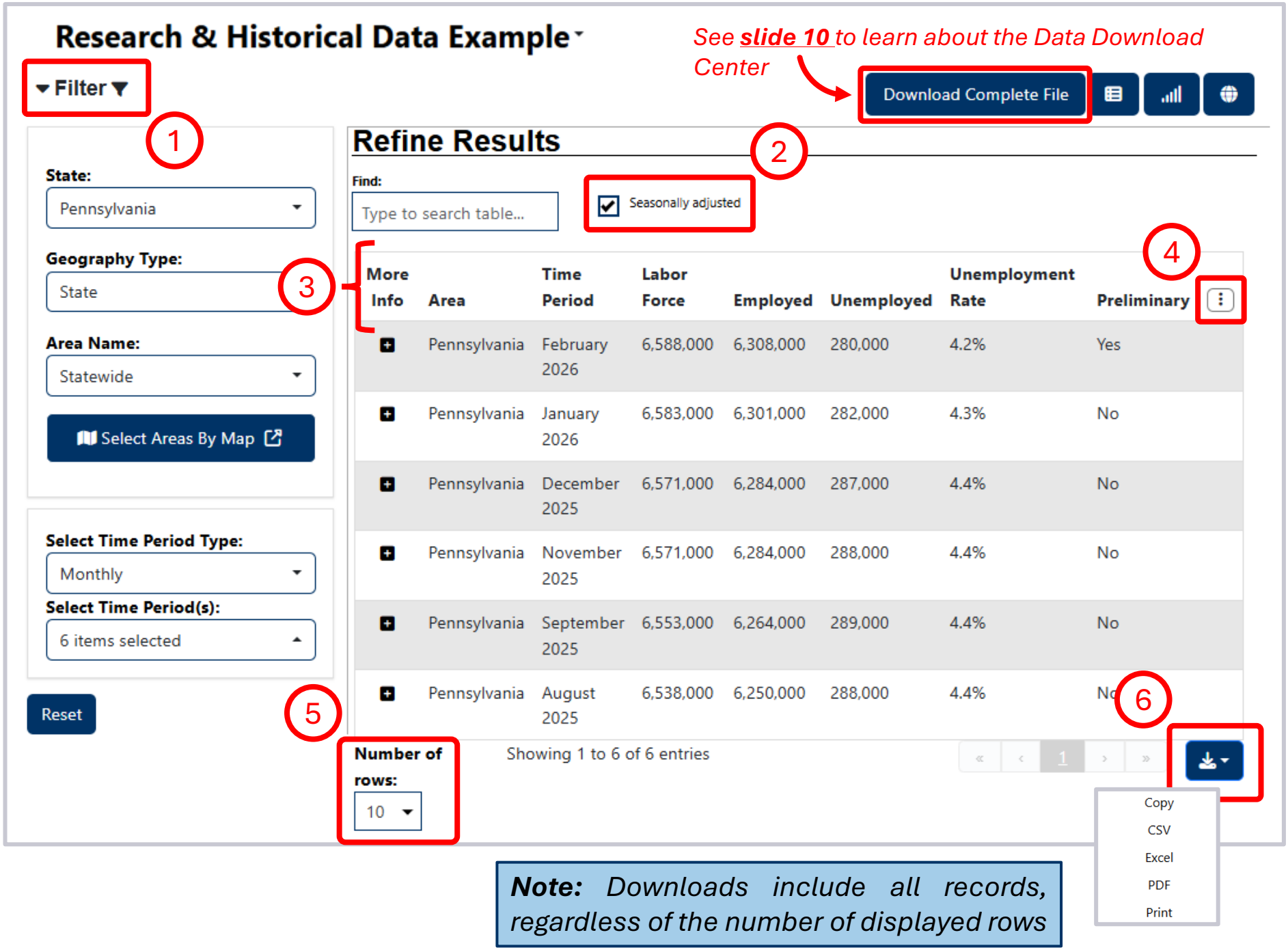
2. Seasonally Adjusted
Adjusts data to remove normal seasonal employment changes
(Not available for all datasets; See glossary on slide 3)

3. Header Sorting
Sort report data by selecting a column header

4. Display Columns
Choose which data columns appear in the report table

5. Row Display
Choose how many rows appear on screen

6. Download
Export the full report to a file



Note: *Downloads include all records, regardless of the number of displayed rows*

Filter Availability & Description

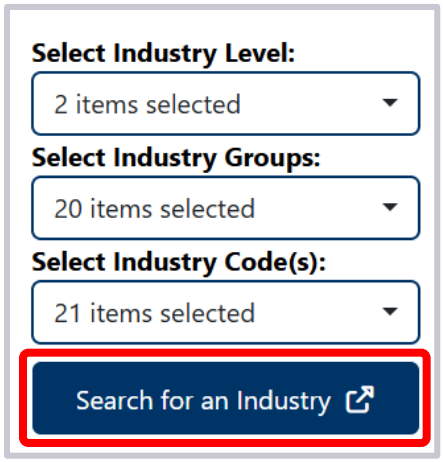
Click here to view the LMI Data Reference Guide

Filter	Description	LAUS	CES	QCEW	OEWS
State	Available states & countries (varies by dataset)	US/PA	PA	PA	PA
Geography Type	Geographic Level (State, County, WDA, MSA)	✓	✓[1]	✓	✓
Area Name	Specific area within selected geography type	✓	✓	✓	✓
Occupation Level	SOC hierarchy (major groups to detailed occupations)				✓
Occupation Family	2-digit SOC occupation groups				✓
Occupation(s)	Specific SOC codes within selected level				✓
Industry Level	NAICS hierarchical level (digits)		✓	✓	
Industry Groups	2-digit NAICS sectors		✓	✓	
Industry Code(s)	Specific NAICS codes within selected level		✓	✓	
Time Period Type	Available reporting frequencies	M A	M A	Q A	A
Time Period(s)	Specific periods within selected type	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ownership	Ownership type (Private, Government, Total)			✓	

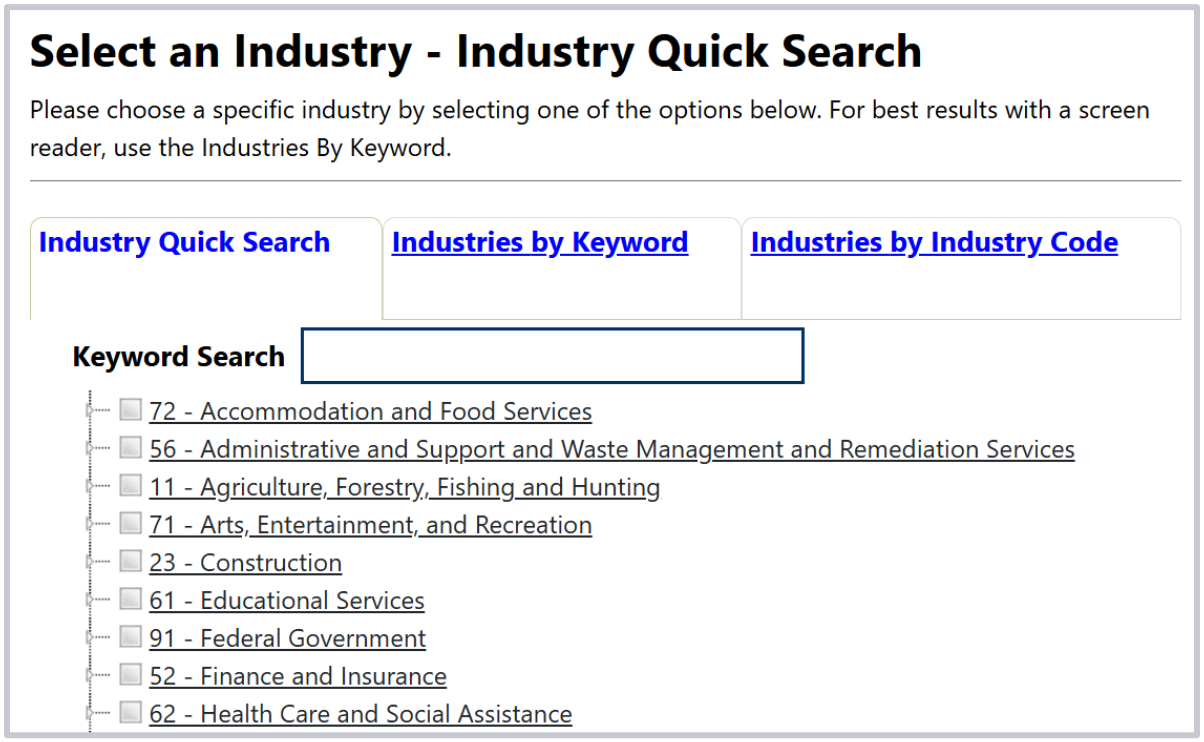
[1] State and MSA only

Frequency Legend: M = Monthly · Q = Quarterly · A = Annual

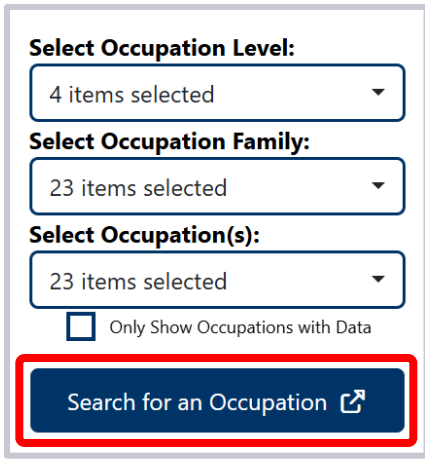
Selecting an Industry



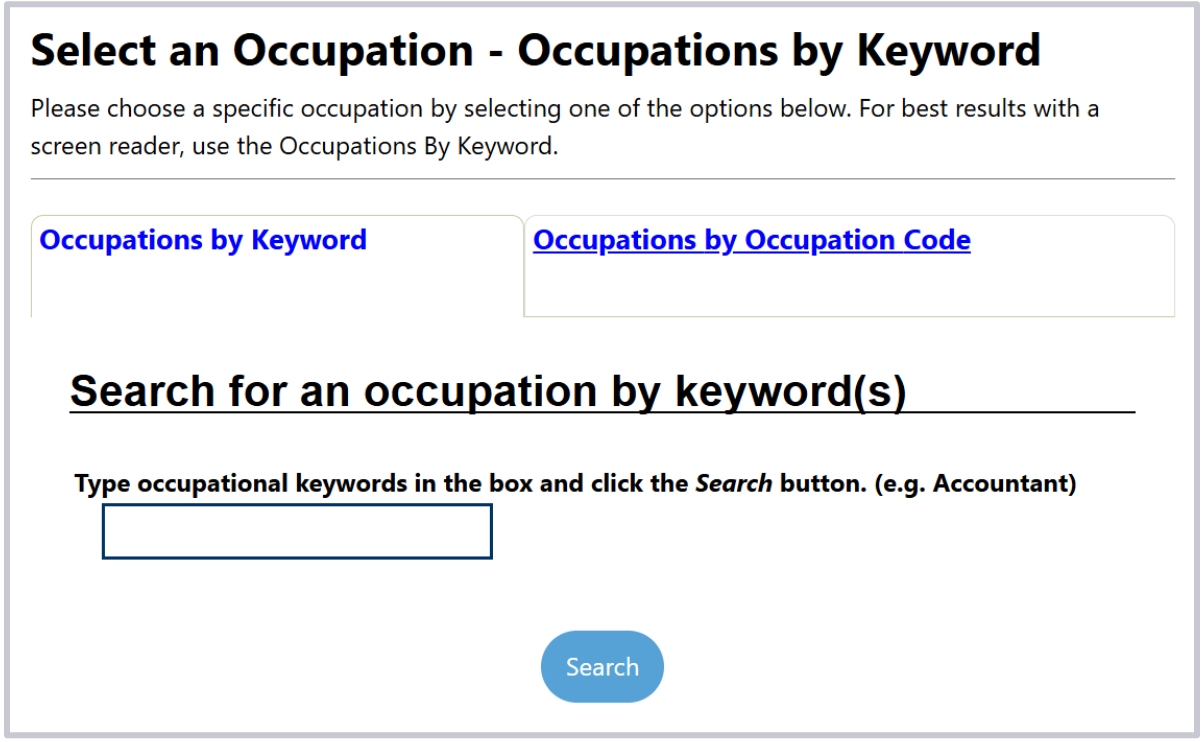
- Under **QCEW**, select **Search for an Industry** to open the Industry Quick Search tool
- Deselect all filters before using the search tool
- Search by **keyword** or **NAICS** code
- NAICS codes are available on the BLS Industry Classification website



Selecting an Occupation



- Under **OEWS**, select **Search for an Occupation** to open the Occupation Search tool
- Deselect all filters before using the search tool
- Search by **keyword** or **SOC** code
- SOC codes are available through O*NET Online website



Data Download Center

The Data Download Center provides an alternative method for downloading RHD datasets

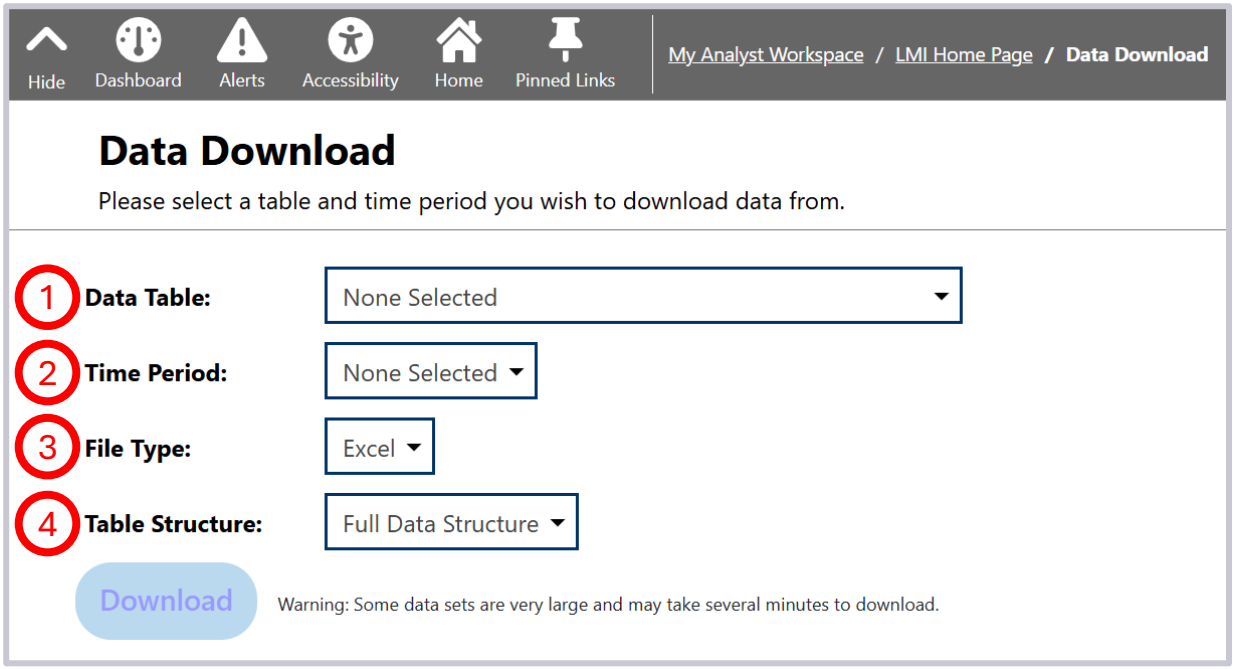
About the Data Download Center:

- Returns all available records for the selected time period
- Industry & occupation datasets include all available categories
- Designed for downloading large amounts of data at once
- Data availability varies by dataset and time period. Contact CWIA or refer to other data sources if the requested data are unavailable.

Access Path:

- RHD Homepage → Additional LMI Tools → Data Download Center





1. Data Table

Choose which dataset to download

2. Time Period

Select the year of data to include

3. File Type

Choose the file format for the download

4. Table Structure

Choose the format and structure of the downloaded data

(Layman format provides a simplified output, while Full Data Structure preserves the original layout)

Employer Profile Tool

The Employer Profile Tool provides employer information, including business addresses, employee size ranges, NAICS codes, and contact information. Because exact QCEW employment counts are confidential, this tool is often used to provide an estimated **employee size range** instead.

Access the tool by selecting **Employer Profile** from the **Research & Historical Data (RHD)** home page.

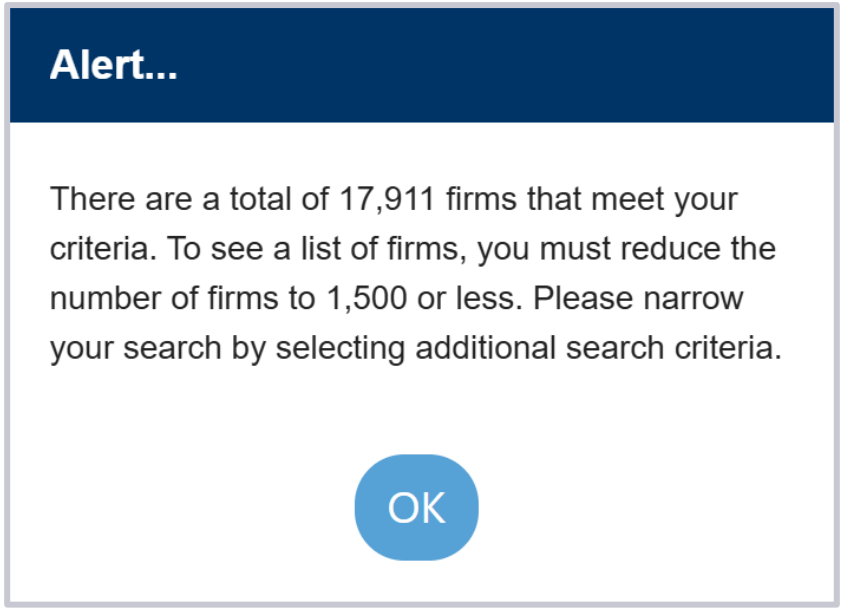


Keep in Mind

- Employer data is provided by the third-party vendor Data Axle® and may differ from data published by CWIA or the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
- Information is collected voluntarily from employers through telephone surveys
- Some records may be incomplete, inaccurate, or outdated. Information should be verified using additional sources when able

Result Limit

Employer searches are limited to **1,500 records**. Searches exceeding this limit will display the warning shown below. Narrow your results by selecting a more specific industry or applying additional search filters.



Using the Employer Profile Search Tool

1. Quick Search
Search for employers using a keyword or industry

2. Advanced Search
Access additional search criteria to refine employer search results

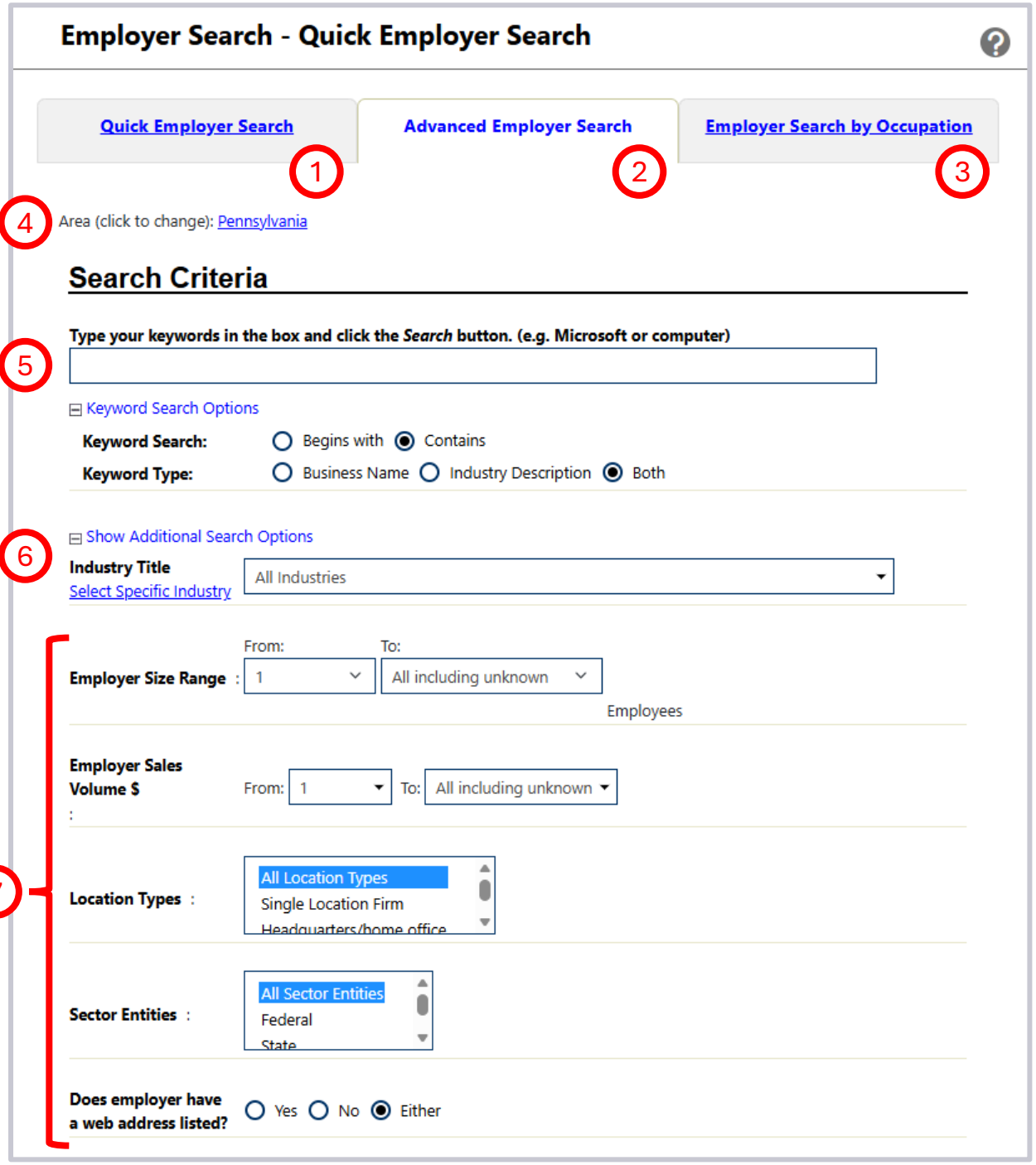
3. Search by Occupation
Search for employers by occupations they employ
See slide 6 on "Selecting an Occupation"

4. Area Selection
Select the geographic area to search
The default area is Pennsylvania

5. Keyword Search
Enter a keyword to search by employer name or industry description

6. Industry Search
Search for employers based on their NAICS industry
See slide 6 on "Selecting an Industry"

7. Advanced Search Filters
Additional filters, such as employer size, sales volume, and sector are available from the **Advanced Employer Search** tab



Employer Profile Result Views

Search Results - Employers (Summary View)

Here are the 67 employers selected in Demo County, Pennsylvania. Click a company's name in the list below to see details about that company, including a map of its location (if available).

Search

Show Display Options

Company Name	Partial Address	City	State	Key Match	Select
Example Company	Example St	Sample City	PA	5	☐
Sample Company	S Example St	Sample City	PA	5	☐
Demo Company	W Sample Ave	Sample City	PA	5	☐

- Search results are displayed in **Summary** view by default
- Select **Show Display Options** and change **Result View** to **Detailed**
- **Detailed** view includes employer size range and other additional employer information
- Select the employer's name to open the full **Employer Profile**

Search (Detailed View)

Hide Display Options

Display Option
Result View: Detailed

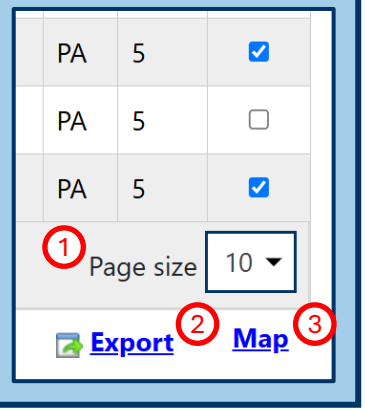
Company Information		Key Match	Select
Company Name:	Example Company	5	☐
Physical Address:	123 Example Street Sample City, PA 00000		
Telephone:	555-555-1234		
Email Address:	example@example.com		
Business Description:	Example business description		
Employee Size Range:	1 to 4		
NAICS Code:	99999999		

Export & Map

1. Controls how many rows are displayed and exported

2. Exports the displayed results to Excel, Word, or PDF

3. Displays checked employers on the map



***Note:** Search results can be exported. Individual employer profiles cannot.*

Labor Market Services – Employer Profile

Here is a summary of the information found for Example Company in Demo County, Pennsylvania

Example Company

Employer Information

Physical Address: 123 Example Street, Sample City, PA 00000-0000 (Map Address)
Website: example.com
LinkedIn Company Profile: Search LinkedIn for Example Company

Other Information

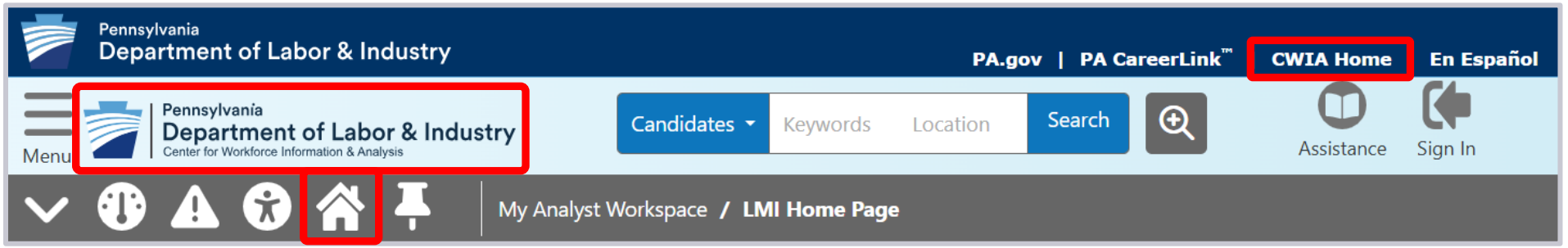
Business Description: Example business description
Employee Size Range: A
NAICS Code(s): 999999 - Unclassified
Location Type: Single Location Firm
Sector Entity: Private
Employer's Last Update: 2026/07

Contact Information

Contact: John Sample
Title: Owner
Telephone: (555) 555-1234

Returning to the Home Pages

Use these navigation links to move between the Research & Historical Data website and the CWIA Workforce Statistics homepage.



Availability: *The dark blue navigation bar is only available while you are on the RHD Home page.*

Navigation: *The Department of Labor & Industry logo and Home button both return to the RHD Home page.*

RHD Homepage



CWIA Homepage

