

# Acknowledgments

The Report on the Youth Labor Force was revised in November 2000.

This *Report on the Youth Labor Force* provides a detailed, overall look at youth labor in the United States, including regulations on child labor, current work experience of youths and how it has changed over time, and the outcomes of this experience. It draws on a variety of Department of Labor data sources in developing this picture.

The report was prepared under the overall direction of Marilyn Manser, an associate commissioner with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), who also was responsible for the introduction. The second chapter describes the history of child labor in the United States, and details the current Federal and State regulations covering child labor. It was written by Art Kerschner, Jr., leader, Child Labor and Special Employment Team, with the Labor Department's Employment Standards Administration. The third chapter, contributed by Donna Rothstein, a research economist at BLS, and Diane Herz, an economist also at BLS, provides a detailed current look at the work experiences of youth aged 15 and under. The fourth chapter examines the current employment and unemployment status of youths aged 15 to 17, and looks at how this youth employment and unemployment has changed over the past 20 years. It was pre-

pared by Diane Herz and Karen Kosanovich, also an economist with BLS. The appendix to chapter 4, which compares results from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth and the Current Population Survey, was written by Donna Rothstein and Diane Herz. The fifth chapter takes a separate look at youth employment in agriculture, a sector in which young workers have characteristics that are, on average, different from those of their counterparts in other industries and face different regulations. It was prepared by Ruth Samardick, survey statistician with the Labor Department's Assistant Secretary for Policy; Susan M. Gabbard, a senior associate with Aguirre International; and Melissa A. Lewis, a research associate also with Aguirre International. The sixth chapter, written by Anthony Barkume, research economist with BLS, addresses the health and safety of young workers. The final chapter, contributed by Donna Rothstein and Marilyn Manser, provides data on the relationship between work intensity at ages 16 and 17 and later college attendance and the amount of work experience from age 18 through 30. It also reviews the extensive research literature on the effect of working while young on later educational and labor market outcomes.