



Spotlight on BLS

You might know that the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) publishes lots of data on lots of topics. But you might not know how to find interesting data on a specific theme or event. For some of these, BLS has done the work for you.

Spotlight on Statistics is an online series of theme- or event-based pages that present data from multiple BLS programs. Recent themes include women, college, and travel. Other archived topics cover Thanksgiving, health care, and sports and exercise.

Each *Spotlight* has introductory text that describes the subject of focus. BLS programs that have data related to the subject contribute charts and an explanatory paragraph or two. For example, the November 2010 “Food for Thought” *Spotlight* showcases seven different BLS programs. Links to each program’s home page and the source data in the chart are also provided. An embedded audio file—along with a transcript—summarizes each *Spotlight*.

To see current and archived *Spotlight* topics online, visit www.bls.gov/spotlight; for more information, write to the BLS Division of Information and Marketing Services, 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE., Suite 2850, Washington, D.C. 20212; or call (202) 691-5200.



Resources for teaching genetics

As many high school biology teachers know, there are vast resources available for a genetics curriculum. The volume of materials sometimes makes it difficult to choose instructional materials. Fortunately, the American Society of Human Genetics can help with those decisions.

The society’s Geneticist-Educator Network of Alliances Project formed a committee to review the content of readily available classroom resources about genetics-related topics. The committee identified more than a dozen “exemplary curriculum resources,” which it identifies on the society’s Web site by title, publisher, and intended grade level. For example, a unit on human genetic variation for grades 9–12 authored by the National Institutes of Health (National Human Genome Research Institute in the Office of Science Education) includes activities to cover human genetic disorders, the role of the environment, and other content.

The resources are available for free or at low cost, and most may be downloaded from links on the society’s Web site. The education resources page also links to other genetics-related books and videos, as well as additional sites that offer free teaching aids, online educational materials, reference guides and fact sheets, and more.

Find the genetics education resources page online at www.ashg.org/education/resources.shtml. Or, write to the American Society of Human Genetics, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20814; call (301) 634-7300 or toll-free 1 (866) HUM-GENE (486-4363); or email society@ashg.org.



Education projections to 2018

Through 2018, bachelor's degrees will outnumber all other degrees awarded, doctoral degrees will have the fastest rate of growth, and more degrees will be awarded to women than to men. These are just some of the education projections in a report from the National Center for Education Statistics.

The report, "Projections of Education Statistics to 2018," includes data on enrollment, graduates, teachers, and expenditures in elementary and secondary schools and degree-granting institutions. Projections of degree awards were developed at each level: associate, bachelor's, master's, doctoral, and first-professional. Following are some highlights of the projections:

- Women are projected to earn more than half of the degrees at every level in academic year 2018–19, including about 65 percent of associate degrees (593,000 of 913,000 total).
- Men are expected to earn nearly as many master's degrees (293,000) as associate degrees (319,000) in 2018–19.
- The 1.8 million bachelor's degrees projected to be conferred in 2018–19 is the largest number for degrees at any level.
- The number of doctoral degrees awarded is expected to grow 49 percent between academic years 2006–07 and 2018–19, the fastest projected growth rate of all degree levels. But the 90,400 doctoral degrees expected to be

conferred in 2018–19 is projected to remain the smallest number of all levels.

More projections data about degree awards are available in the report. Read the report online at www.nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/2009062.pdf. Or, request report NCES 2009062 by writing to the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 K Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20006, or by calling (202) 502–7300.



Scholarship for smarts and service

Attention, educators: Do you know high-achieving, community service-minded students who could use some money for college? Request a Carson Scholars Fund application, and encourage your principal to nominate the best candidate to compete for a \$1,000 award.

The Carson Scholars Fund was founded by pediatric neurosurgeon Benjamin Carson and his wife, Candy. Every year, scholarships are awarded to students in grades 4 through 11 who excel academically and show dedication to serving their communities. Each \$1,000 prize is invested for the winner's college education until high school graduation and is paid directly to the accredited 4-year institution he or she chooses to attend. Winners may reapply for recognition annually.

To be nominated for a scholarship, a student must have at least a 3.75 grade-point average and demonstrate commitment to others through community service that goes beyond the school's requirement. Only educators may request an application, which is then sent directly to the school, and only one student may be nominated by his or her school to compete. Scholarships are awarded without regard to financial need.

Application requests for the 2012 scholarship cycle are now being accepted. For information or to request an application for your school, visit online at www.carsonscholars.org/content/programs/what-we-do; email rebekah@carsonscholars.org; write to the Carson Scholars Fund, 305 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 310, Towson, Maryland 21204; or call (410) 828–1005.