State of Connecticut

WORKFORCE INFORMATION ANNUAL REPORT – PY2010

Glenn Marshall, Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Labor

Date

Connecticut Employment & Training Commission

Date
This report identifies the information products and services that the Connecticut Department of Labor's Office of Research developed and provided during program year 2010 to support the State's workforce investment system.

A. Accomplishments:

1. **Workforce Information Database (WIDb):** *Continue to populate the Workforce Information Database with state and local data.*

   - Maintained version 2.4 of the database
   - Updated and populated the core data tables and licensing files in accordance with guidelines issued by the Analyst Resource Center (ARC)
   - Contributed to the development, enhancement, and maintenance of the Workforce Information Database through the Analyst Resource Center
   Connecticut is actively involved in the work of the ARC with three active members. We are participating in the Database committee, the web development committee and the steering committee.

2. **Employment Projections:** *Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections.*

   - Produced and disseminated:
     
     - State-Wide, short-term industry and occupational employment projections to 2012 through the Labor Market Information Web site and the Workforce Information Database.

     - Short-term data was submitted for public dissemination following procedures established by the Projections Workgroup and the Projections Managing Partnership. The results were summarized and made available on our website in a variety of client driven forms.

     - Long—Term 2018 industry and occupational projections were completed at the sub state level and submitted following procedures established by the Projections Workgroup and the Projections Managing Partnership.

     - The Connecticut Office of Research has participated with the Projections Workgroup and the Projections Managing Partnership in the testing of the new short and long-term projections suite.

3. **Economic Analysis:** *Publish an annual economic analysis report.*

   The following economic analysis reports were produced:

   - The Connecticut Employment Outlook to 2012
- Reviews Connecticut's economy over the previous year including: economic expansion, employment and employment changes by major industry and labor market area.
- Includes employment forecasts and expected performance for 2012 and beyond.

- Report was lead article in June, 2011 issue of the Connecticut Economic Digest
  • The Ups and Downs of Recovering from a Balance Sheet Recession: Navigating the Crosscurrents

- Evaluation of the recent, and expected near future, performance of the U.S. and state economies, with an emphasis on the relationship between the behaviors of the U.S. labor market and its impact on Connecticut's job growth
- We also completed an analysis of historical, current, and forecasted behavior of critical economic indicators to determine the Connecticut economy's overall performance, and the stage of the economic cycle that most likely characterized the expected conditions affecting Connecticut's job growth over the forecast horizon.

The analyses were produced in consultation with economists from the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), the Connecticut Economic Resource Center (CERC), the University of Connecticut, Fairfield University, Perna Associates, Office of Research staff, and other secondary resources.

4. Internet Information Delivery: Post products, information, and reports on the Internet. Perhaps due to a partial recovery, CT LMI website traffic fell from 2009 levels, but still exceeded 2008 levels. However, because of this decline, we are undertaking a review and renovation of the website in 2011.

Electronic Products: CT LMI Web Site Traffic Summary & Trends: PY2010

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5. Workforce Investment Support: Partner and consult on a continuing basis with workforce investment boards and key talent development partners and stakeholders.

In PY2010, the Office of Research continued to produce workforce information reports, studies, and electronic and print products to support the state’s workforce system. All of these efforts helped to increase the scope and utility of workforce information to inform talent and economic development strategies and enhance career guidance by collaborating with economic development, education and workforce development partners to gather and analyze a wide variety of workforce and economic data to drive strategic planning, track economic conditions, benchmark competitiveness, and measure outcomes. These collaborations included:

- Participation on the CETC Planning and Performance Committee, including the preparation of employment outcomes for public employment Higher education and training program participants for the annual CETC employment and training report aka Legislative Report Card. However, due to a reinterpretation of the FERPA statute participation by some public higher education institutions was put on hold. We anticipate that the current rewriting of rules governing FERPA by the US Dept. of Education will return participation of Connecticut’s higher education institutions to 100%
- Continued discussions/meetings with the state’s Workforce Investment Board planning staff to help identify their information needs. The feedback was used and incorporated into the 2011 Information for Workforce Investment Planning (IWIP) publication. (scheduled for publication in Oct, 2011) This publication is a detailed labor market and economic profile of each WIB region and serves as the foundation for their planning. We have substantially upgraded the publications this year to include a workforce profile based on Census LED data.
- Assistance to local workforce investment boards, community colleges and others with information for grant applications
- Developing profiles of the economy and workforce for sub-state regions
- Labor Market Information Workshops:
  - In PY2010, the Office of Research conducted 34 LMI workshops and Presentations to more than 2,500 people throughout the state. The audiences included, but was not limited to, employees of the One-Stop system, business, postsecondary and secondary educators, networking groups, and faith-based service providers and job seekers.

6. Special Studies: Conduct special studies and economic analyses.

The Office of Research completes special state, local, or sub-state regional studies and economic analyses to provide information support for economic transition, workforce development initiatives, education program analysis and development, and responses to major layoffs or disasters.
• *The Geography of Connecticut Labor Market Dynamics.* Examines regional differences in Connecticut with respect to Job Creation and Destruction over the course of the recession and recovery to date.

• *The Face of the Long-Term Unemployed in Connecticut.* Ground breaking demographic and geographic analysis of those unemployed greater than six months. The study puts special emphasis on the 99ers – those who have exhausted all state and Federal UI benefit programs. Office of Research work in this area led to a half-day State-Wide seminar on the plight of the long-term unemployed and possible policy solutions.

• *2008 Higher Education: Building Connecticut’s Workforce.* A comprehensive report on employment outcomes for graduates of the public college system. Provides a summary of employment and earnings experience for students who graduated from one of Connecticut’s 18 public colleges in 2008, as well as more detailed information on these employed graduates by industry sector, college and degree program.

• *It’s not Easy Defining Green.* Examination of efforts to date to capture the “Green Economy”

• *Last but not Dead.* An examination of Connecticut’s pace of labor market recovery in contrast to past recessions and other parts of the country.