
Idaho Workforce Information

Annual Progress Report

Reference Period ~ July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012

Idaho completed all core deliverables in Program Year 2011 as outlined in the Workforce Information Plan abstract. Adjustments, additions and enhancements were made to accommodate customer inquiries and needs and to make Idaho's workforce information system more effective and sustainable. Idaho's economic volatility over the last several years has put immense pressure on LMI staff to closely monitor Idaho's economy and publish insight on directional changes and shifts in an economy that in 2010 and 2011 experienced the worst performance on record in Idaho. The economic climate during this period made it imperative that the staff listen to department customers and provide the data that suit their needs as Idaho navigates through a deep economic recession and attempts to expand.

To meet customer needs, the Idaho Department of Labor and the Workforce Development Council are fully engaged in planning and implementing the Workforce Information Plan. The department works directly with the council to identify the labor market information needs of communities and regions throughout the state. The department also presents current research at council meetings and always uses member feedback to make changes to the current plan to better serve local customers and stakeholders. Other than Web metrics, for workforce information alone feedback is mostly in a non-statistical anecdotal format. However an agency-wide comprehensive customer satisfaction research effort was conducted in 2011 that assisted the workforce information team in the development of our products. We have used these findings to assess our web delivery mechanism as well as the research products and data as whole. Adjustments to our workforce information infrastructure are made based on this feedback. This has prompted a formal customer satisfaction component to be imbedded in our Labor Market Information (LMI) website and our workforce information network that is planned for PY2012.

The workforce information team, working in collaboration with the newly developed web team and the career information systems, are developing a formalized customer satisfaction feedback tool that will provide more useful quantifiable data in order to inform strategies and decision making in regards to workforce information and its dissemination.

Collaboration with local officials is integral to the effectiveness of planning, developing and implementing workforce information research that meets the needs of the state and local workforce investment systems.

Idaho's six out-stationed regional economists regularly meet with various associations, colleagues, economic developers and other business customers about the needs for workforce information within all industries, occupations and business sectors. Requests are immediately answered when possible or forwarded to central office staff for disposition or consideration as future workforce information research projects under the Workforce Information Plan or other leveraged workforce information funding.

The regional economists are the primary messengers and disseminators of local workforce information and the major conduit to local political, civic, academic, business and labor leaders. They monitor the needs and requests of all local stakeholders, either acting immediately on questions, concerns and feedback or relaying them to those who can respond. More detailed, though unplanned, requests are also designated as projects, and all requests are reviewed monthly by planning and evaluation staff for possible inclusion in the annual deliverable outlined in the abstract submitted for the next Workforce Information Plan.

#1. Continue to populate the Workforce Information Database (WID) with state and local data

Idaho continues to fully follow the Workforce Information Database protocols as outlined by the Employment and Training Administration. The department seeks areas within its Web infrastructure where it can continue to imbed the database and further use the data in data delivery tools. While feedback indicates customers value local community data more than statewide, regional or national data, there are occasions when state comparisons are necessary and vital. These data need to be standardized for comparison purposes. Federal Employment and Training Administration funding ensures data platforms are uniform, allowing comparability across state lines. The Workforce Information Database allows valid state-to-state comparison of data. Idaho’s database is updated weekly, monthly and annually as soon as the data are available so that the customers may access the most current information available. The database continues to meet all of the Workforce Information Database guidelines pursuant to the PY2011 Workforce Information Plan and federal protocols.

The availability of the data on the Internet at lmi.idaho.gov gives customers access to information outside regular business hours and without direct workforce information staff assistance. It is imperative that the department consolidate census, economic and labor market information databases in order to improve efficiency of data storage, data population and data dissemination.

Idaho strives to update weekly, monthly, quarterly and annually the core tables as set forth in the LMI grant.

A new data mining tool was developed and posted on the LMI website. This has made it easier to access the various labor market information components – wage, projections, schools and training, census and geographical data.



The department spent an estimated \$45,420 in personnel on work associated with the workforce information database. This amount is planned to be increased in future grant years due to the importance and value of the WID to our future web delivery projects. We are also evaluating new Web delivery tools that will solely use the WID as its primary data source.

The Workforce Information Database will continue to play a big part in LMI dissemination as the department continues pursuing a Web infrastructure that will consolidate all databases into one that will push supporting data to the Web delivery system. The Communication & Research Division has created a Web Delivery unit. This group has been tasked with improving speed and accuracy, enhancing distribution of workforce information to those customers and stakeholders needing it, and incorporating a new more functional Web design. They are also working to align and coordinate products on the LMI and CIS sites to avoid overlap and duplication where it is unnecessary. At this point the database does not include the properties required to push a single source database to multiple sites. Idaho recommends that the database be more flexible and adaptable to allow for a more comprehensive database that will include economic data from other existing platforms.

#2. Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections

Idaho continues to produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections. These projections and wage data are the most sought after and impactful data provided to department customers. Financial, business and other economic decisions require this indispensable workforce information. The list below outlines the products associated with the projections deliverable and the dates published and the locations where they are currently found. Idaho goes beyond and exceeds the formal projection deliverables required in the Workforce Information Grant.

Last fiscal year the LMI workshop leveraged green grant dollars to more easily update the LMI website with the most current short- and long-term projections. The new tool was called Workforce at a Glance. The tool allows 180 static reports to be loaded online from the Workforce Information Database, creating interactive reports. Customers can choose short- or long-term projections and then occupation or industry projections. A number of reports will be available for each of the six regions and the state. This tool has been a great asset to the LMI website and allows the data to be updated easily.

The short-term industry projections are produced twice a year to provide the Idaho Legislature with data that are current and updated for the state fiscal year in time for the legislative session in January. The earlier release of the state-level 2011-2013 short-term industry projections is vital to the state legislative revenue and budget committees. These projections are available internally but not posted on the LMI website.

Using methodology, software and guidelines from the Projections Workgroup and Projections Managing Partnership, Idaho will produce, disseminate and submit:

- Substate long-term 2010-2020 biennial industry and occupation projections, which were completed in June 2012 and will be posted in the LMI website in September 2012.
- State-level long-term biennial industry and occupation projections, which were completed in June 2012 and will be posted on the LMI website in September 2012.
- The official 2011-2013 short-term industry and occupation projections, which were completed in June 2011 and posted on the LMI website in September 2012.

The Workforce at a Glance on the LMI website includes the following tables for statewide short-term projections and long-term projections for the state and six labor market regions.

- Occupation & Industry Projections
- Hot Jobs & Hot Industries
- Fastest Growing Occupations & Industries
- Highest Employment Occupations & Industries
- High Demand Occupations & Industries
- Declining Occupations & Industries
- Occupations by Education
- Occupations by Training Level
- Occupational Supply & Demand Matrix

The 2012 Education & Training Pay poster was posted on the LMI website in June 2012 and printed copies distributed to the schools and Department of Labor local offices.

All data were loaded to the Workforce Information Database.

Projections data and publications can be found at www.LMI.Idaho.gov under the occupations or Regional Labor Market tabs.

The department spent an estimated \$57,725 in personnel on work associated with development of the short and long-term projections.

This amount is planned to be decreased in future grant years due to the merging of the projections required in the workforce information deliverable with the projections provided by the Economic Outlook and Revenue Assessment Committee mentioned later in this document. Currently the department publishes short-term projections twice a year. We are convening a team to analyze how to merge the two efforts in order to cut costs and improve the efficiency, speed and accuracy of the projections.

With final 2001 Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages data reported we have officially closed the books on the 2009-2011 short-term projections. We are proud to report we underestimated growth by a mere .023 percent, or 140 jobs lower than the 2011 official figure.

#3. Conduct and publish relevant economic analyses, special workforce information and economic studies determined to benefit the governor and the state and local Workforce Investment Boards.

- **Economic Multiplier Application – Economic Modeling Specialists Inc.** ~ The Idaho Department of Labor will continue to purchase and use the Economic Modeling Specialists Inc., or EMSI, application that integrates census and labor data along with input/output models specifically designed for Idaho and its substate regions. This new product allows staff almost in real time to research and answer questions concerning the impact on occupations, industry and other economic factors from forecasted economic expansions and contractions. The strength of the EMSI product is that it uses data from federal sources to estimate confidential cells allowing more data to be available to the public.

The department once again collaborated with EMSI on power and energy business scans that compared the concentration of power and energy industries and occupations in each of the 50 states. The purpose

of the power and energy study was to develop a better knowledge of the extent of this industry in Idaho and the six regions and how we compared to the other 50 states and the nation.

- **Projections Data Dissemination** ~ Idaho developed and disseminated data that synthesize occupational employment data with long-term projections data. This product will display the fastest growing and most abundant occupations by educational/training category. Idaho will have its annual hot Jobs publication, which combines the fastest growing, most abundant and highest-paying jobs. Idaho will maintain the Workforce at a Glance tool that will assist in the automation of these highly sought-after occupational projections rankings. Projections in their entirety are published via Idaho's Workforce Information Database and projections Web page for labor market information. The data were completed in June 2012 and posted on the LMI website in September 2012.
- **Occupational Employment Statistics Wage Publication** ~ Idaho continues to maintain and publish occupational employment statistics, the department's top requested product that includes both wages and employment estimates at the state and substate levels. The publication is accessible via Idaho's Workforce Information Database website and assimilated in a host of other research projects and publications. The new Web Delivery team will be working towards a fully automated dissemination tool during the next fiscal year.
- **Education & Training Pay** ~ The "Education & Training Pay!" product is a great example of the synthesis of Bureau of Labor Statistics data with occupational projections data provided through this grant. Idaho's annual Education & Training Pay publication combines occupational and employment statistics with education codes developed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Current Population Survey. The poster displays the hourly mean wage and hour entry wage for each education level based on the Occupational Employment Statistics Wage data published in 2012. The poster is available on the LMI website.
- **Employer Database** ~ Idaho will continue to use the Infogroup Directory sponsored by the Employment and Training Administration.
- **Idaho Business Directory and Business Lists** ~ Idaho will leverage funds with other support to develop and maintain the Idaho Business Directory and associated business lists. Idaho is currently developing a protocol and business plan for customers and stakeholders seeking business lists that will serve workforce or economic development purposes, furthering the department's mission to partner with businesses as their career and workforce resource. This partnership furthers the department's commitment to generating quality jobs and maintaining an educated, skilled workforce that serves as the foundation of strong communities with vibrant, diversified and expanding economies. Idaho provides two employer databases to customers – maintaining and expanding Idaho's Business Directory as well as InfoGroup. Via the workforce information Web portal and the Career Information System interface, the employer databases are more widely available. They are also integrated into ancillary systems that complement LMI and CIS. The department produces a directory file to fit its Internet platform needs. A special effort to improve the size and currency is under way. Currently Idaho only has releases for 16,000 of the 50,500 private employers in Idaho. To date the department has consent release forms from 94 of the top 116 employers – those with more than 600 employees – both public and private, and 37 of the top 50 private firms. The effort will continue in PY2012 along with research on alternative lists to provide the information to stakeholders, policy makers and planners who can put this information to work to expand the economy.

- **Fringe Benefit Survey (Biennial)** ~ Idaho used the revamped survey instrument that allows for direct comparisons with Washington and Oregon. The survey began in the spring of 2011 and culminated with the final publication posted on the LMI website in February 2012.
- **Underemployment Metric** ~ The underemployment report was updated to include regional data for the first time for 2009 – 2011. The regional data and an updating for the county data for 2003-2009 were completed in June 2012 and posted to the website in July 2012. The research group uses this innovative approach that automates the department jobseeker data to produce annual county underemployment rates when the annual labor force data are benchmarked in March. The table on the website compares the unemployment rate and the underemployment rate for the counties, regions and state.
- **Final Economic Report** ~ The comprehensive compilation of the department's economic research efforts for 2011 were compiled and presented to the 2012 Legislature in January 2012. The annual Idaho Economic Outlook included workforce information derived from the BLS cooperative agreement, unemployment insurance program and most importantly industry and occupational projections data developed from the annual workforce information grant. Each year the Legislature invites department officials to present Idaho's Economic Outlook along with other finance and economic experts. This effort is designed to provide customers and stakeholders with an unbiased analysis and the best statistically valid information on Idaho's workforce and economy as a whole. The workforce information team's short- and long-term projections are front and center in this effort every year. This research effort is presented for the Joint Economic Outlook and Revenue Assessment Committee during the first week of January. The 2010-2012 short-term projections provide the bases for the economic report for the Legislature. It is an advantage of Idaho's approach of producing short-term projections in a bi-annual fashion. Quick and volatile changes in the business cycle can be determined and measured earlier than ever before. This extra effort to provide current, accurate information is vital to businesses and other customers and stakeholders as they weather the economic realities caused by the recession. A copy of this report is available at http://labor.idaho.gov/publications/2012_EORAC_Present.pdf.
- **Ad Hoc Research Projects** ~ The research team leveraged LMI grant dollars with other resources to conduct four business scans. These scans will be discussed in section #5. They are available on the LMI website under the Research tab.

Members of the Communication & Research Division provided economic analysis and data during PY2011. There were three specific presentations to the Workforce Development Council, which included data, talking points and PowerPoints. It was vital that the council be kept abreast of Idaho's economic climate as it made decisions that effected programs and dollars. These are only a few of the economic status presentations that are made throughout the state on a weekly basis by the chief research officer, regional economists and research staff.

The department spent an estimated \$55,125 on implementing economic analysis and other workforce information research to benefit the governor, state and workforce development council. This figure is small because the department leverages funding from other state and federal sources as well as partnering with other institutions in the development and dissemination of the information.

As federal, state and local funding sources continue to shrink the value of leveraging dollars through partnerships and collaborations become more necessary for sustainability going forward.

#4 Post Products, Information and Reports on the Internet

The Idaho Department of Labor continues to use a DotNetNuke framework for the workforce information website. All updates including data and content are controlled in-house. The benefits for the department include reducing the time to upload content, increasing control of the design, making it easy to adapt to trends and changes in user needs, reducing potential downtime, curbing programming time when adding inexpensive features, improving Web statistics of downloads and most popular pages, and most importantly, reducing security risks. Our delivery system is not only secure but allows customers access 24/7.

Idaho began in the prior fiscal year to redesign the LMI website. However, the project was put in a holding pattern due to the redesign of the Idaho Department of Labor’s website. The Department began with the home page and business portal. The new site was released in September 2012. A new Web Delivery team has been organized and is in the process of hiring a Web design specialist. Once the team has everyone on board, the redesign of the LMI website will begin. The upgrading of servers has also made it necessary to redesign the website.

The new website will also upgrade the program that collects statistics on hits to the website. The general statistics measured by web Matrix indicate that in 2011 there were an average of 5,142 visitors that viewed 49,807 pages each month. The average number of visitors has nearly tripled from 2010 when there were only 1,732.

LMI.IDAHO.GOV	
Average Monthly Page Views	
2011	49,807

LMI Home and Wages by Occupation pages have consistently been the most requested by our customers throughout the years. The table below displays the top 26 page rankings by average usage for lmi.idaho.gov.

LMI.IDAHO.GOV Top 26 Pages	
Page Ranked by Average Usage	
1.	LMI Home - 129,006
2.	Wages by Occupation - 25,898
3.	Population/Census - 19,004
4.	Economic Indicators- 14,899
5.	LMI Release Calendar - 11,085
6.	Unemployment Insurance Reports - 10,116
7.	Business Employment Dynamics - 9,985
8.	Civilian Labor Force (LAUS) - 9,933
9.	Occupational Employment & Wage Survey 2011 - 9,796
10.	Current Employment Statistics - 8,817
11.	Income - 8,572
12.	Davis-Bacon Act - 7,899
13.	Long-Term Projections - 7,875

14. Covered Wages (QCEW) - 7,399
15. Regional Labor Markets - 7,140
16. Consumer Price Index - 6,929
17. Business Listings - 6,594
18. Occupational Employment & Wage Survey 2010 - 6,220
19. Short-Term Projections - 6,073
20. Research Projects - 5,900
21. Farm Labor - 5,690
22. LED Program - 5,562
23. Underemployment - 5,458
24. Search Results- 5,360
25. Prevailing Wage / Alien Labor Certification - 5,054
26. Idaho Jobs Forecast - 5,021

The department continues to publish a monthly newsletter that provides local area labor market information for the six workforce regions. A hard copy is also available online at Idaho’s Workforce Information Database website <http://labor.idaho.gov/dnn/Default.aspx?tabid=696>. This effort is designed to cull data from the programs and applications previously mentioned and deliver regional labor market information specific to the needs of local partners and customers. Funds from this grant directly support this compilation of complex Bureau of Labor Statistics data into a form that is understandable and has utility to customers and stakeholders.

The department spent an estimated \$68,127 on disseminating products via the internet, and on the necessary web development and programming necessary to maintain our workforce information web delivery system. The Web has become the primary outreach and dissemination tool for our workforce information products. Keeping the system updated and current to new and emerging internet standards will ensure we leverage this technology to its maximum potential, allowing us to stay relevant to our customers and stakeholder’s needs.

#5. Partner and consult on a continuing basis with the Workforce Development Council and key talent development partners and stakeholders

The workforce information team continues to work closely with the state Workforce Development Council as it guides research to best serve customers and stakeholders. The team shares research findings at each Workforce Development Council meeting and seeks feedback on the direction of future research so it will have the greatest impact on the state and its local communities. Deliverables, deadlines and scope are tweaked in order to meet these needs.

The Career Information System is now part of the Communication and Research Division, giving the workforce information team a closer tie with the CIS staff. The new Web Delivery team includes personnel from research, communication and the Career Information System. We continued to provide the core data products but have expanded the collaborative partnership to include printed materials and website access. This partnership will be strengthened and enhanced with the Web Delivery team activities.

Two business scans were conducted during the past year. The purpose of each scan was to define the industry at the six-digit NAICS level and bring all relevant statistical data for each industry together. The results of the Advanced Manufacturing Business Scan were posted on the website in May. The findings of the Power & Energy Business Scan were posted on the website by October 2011. Findings of the business scans are posted on the research project website at <http://lmi.idaho.gov/ResearchProjects.aspx>.

LMI funds were leveraged with other sources to conduct other research projects. The research group partnered with the Idaho Department of Commerce to develop tourism data for the state and the six regions. The purpose of the report was to develop valid process to estimate the economic impact of tourism on Idaho's economy for the period 2004-2010. It is a notable example of collaboration with another agency that produced a product that has been a great value to both agencies.

The Health Resources and Services Administration grant provided us the opportunity to collect data on several health occupations that will be shared with the public and health professionals. The data were compiled into five white papers – one each for dentists, dental hygienists, physician assistants, physicians (family medicine, internal medicine, ob/gyns, pediatricians and psychiatrists) and mental health professionals (counselors, social workers, marriage and family therapists).

The workforce information team will continue to work closely with our Workforce Development Council and other partners, fulfilling the statistical, data and research needs of the projects. Some of the research conducted in PY2011 will be referenced later.

The Communications and Research Division continues to promote the use of the **Local Employment Dynamics** program and **the Economic Modeling Specialists Inc.** economic impact tool along with our existing data and research provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics programs and Idaho's unemployment insurance program in responding to requests for labor, economic and demographic data at the community level. Without workforce information funding, these analytical tools would not be available to LMI staff as they assist customers in localized economic research.

Customer feedback demands that the department continue to pursue data and research that measure the workforce and economy at the most granular levels – county, city and in some cases census blocks. Getting down to this detail is significantly more expensive than the federal funding the department currently receives.

Idaho has also provided research on the seven communities in Idaho chosen by the governor for his **Capital for a Day** visits during PY2011. The research provided perspective on the communities' current and historical economic landscape. They are packed with business, economic and unemployment insurance data to assist stakeholders as they assess the past and look to the future.

Over 200 workforce information presentations and research briefs are disseminated to thousands of customers and stakeholders each year by Idaho's six out-stationed regional labor economists. They are the local link to these vital LMI data for local chambers, business associations, policy makers, planners and a host of other customers and stakeholders. Their credibility adds significant relevance and weight to the department's efforts to disseminate localized economic information to regions throughout the state. Below are examples of the training, research projects and presentations during PY2011:

Presentations

- Director's listening sessions
- General LMI/How-to/where to find presentations to several of the local offices
- General state of the economy presentation to the city of Boise
- Healthcare presentation for the health chairs group
- Boise City – Nampa MSA & State of Idaho economic presentation
- Regional economists activities to postsecondary economic classes
- Manager's meetings
- Presentation to local officials and economic developers on individual county economic and labor force issues
- Workshops for economic developers on useful economic concepts and the use of industrial clusters as a focus of economic development activity
- Workshops for grant writers and other data users on labor market and Census statistics
- The Economy of the 10 Northern Counties of Idaho – Inland Northwest Partners (economic developers in eastern Washington and northern Idaho)
- Factors Affecting the Long-Term Outlook for American Jobs for the human resource managers of the Quad Cities
- Unleashing the Potential: A Glimpse at the Past & the Future of Clearwater County's Economy
- The Economy of Idaho and Lewis County – IdaLew Economic Development Council
- Assessing Economic Benefits of Rails to Trails - economic development committee of the chamber of commerce
- Demographics of Riggins – mobility meeting
- Demographic Factors and the Latah County Labor Force – Latah Economic Development Council
- Attracting Large Retailers – Port of Clarkston
- The Community of Lapwai – Nez Perce Tribe Economic Development Bureau
- Job Search in the Lewis-Clark Valley – Circles
- Issues Affecting Skills Assessment – Clearwater Economic Development Association workforce committee
- Businesses in North Central Idaho – North Central Idaho Small Business Development Board
- Tourism Employment – North Central Idaho Travel Council
- Multipliers – collaborative of economic developers in nine counties of southeastern Washington and north central Idaho
- Economy of North Central Idaho in 2012 – Lewis-Clark State College economics class
- Manufacturing Renaissance in North Central Idaho – Northwest Intermountain Manufacturing Association
- Nez Perce County 2011 in Review – Downtown Business Association
- Economic Engines of the Palouse – Palouse Knowledge Corridor (education/economic development)
- The Great Recession and Recovery in Latah County – University of Idaho Sustainability Center staff
- North Central Idaho Green Jobs Potential – Clearwater Economic Development Association green jobs committee
- Helping an Economic Development Organization with Recruitment – staff of Idaho Department of Labor
- Bingham Economic Development Corporation
- Entoy Elementary School Science and Math Day
- Virginia Transformer Employee Training Seminar
- Bannock Development as part of several business recruitment meetings
- ISU College of Technology Careers Class

- Idaho Department of Commerce Economic Advisory Council
- Pocatello Chamber of Commerce - Local Issues Group
- Business Services Lean Manufacturing Seminar (Pocatello Office)
- Pocatello Gate City Rotary Club
- Spokane-Kootenai Annual Real Estate Forum
- North Idaho College (College Night, Center for New Directions, and a Career Development and Life Planning Class)
- Sandpoint Leadership
- River City (Post Falls) Leadership
- Leadership Coeur d'Alene
- Workforce Development Task Force
- Employer Workshops (Post Falls and Sandpoint)
- Region 1 Listening Session (held in Post Falls)
- Kitchen Connect (audience: food banks, Department of Health & Welfare, University of Idaho, community gardens, homeless shelters)
- Kootenai County Young Professionals
- Economic Advisory Council
- Ponderay Economic Development Council
- Blue Lakes Rotary Club
- Buhl City Council
- Idaho Industrial Commission
- Twin Falls Chamber Economic Forum
- IDOL Area Managers Meeting
- Jefferson County Preparedness Fair
- Rexburg Kiwanis Club
- Rigby Rotary Club
- Gate City Rotary Club
- Teton County Rotary Club
- Center for New Directions Board Presentation
- Eastern Idaho Technical College Executive Staff Presentation
- Teton Valley Business Development Center
- Teton Regional Public Transportation
- Grow Idaho Falls Board of Directors
- Rexburg Prospectus Magazine
- Idaho Falls Prospectus Magazine
- KID 590 AM and 92.1 FM Radio Show – Idaho Falls
- KBYI Radio – Rexburg
- River Country 96.1 FM and 102.1 FM Radio – Idaho Falls
- Service Core of Retired Executives
- Eastern Idaho Small Business Development Center
- Eastern Idaho Development Company
- Presentation via webinar to the U.S. Department of Energy – Northwest area grant recipients of ARRA grants for energy efficiency

Research

- Green job openings in 2011
- Southwestern Idaho Job Vacancies
- Housing sector performance for Idaho and the Boise MSA
- Compared our most recent recession to past recessions in terms of GDP, employment and income
- A look at the Healthcare industry's employment in Idaho regionally during the recession
- Demographics of FSE exhausters
- Various available workforce reports in the Boise metro area
- Mimicked methodology from California to produce 'Food Chain' employment totals for a local research effort
- Postsecondary education data analyses
- A few occupation analyses for local city government using department's 'fastest growing' methodology
- Sector-based data research request for local economic developers focusing on recruiting (back office/shared services, manufacturing and high-tech)
- Future Workforce Needs in Idaho's Region 2 – Workforce Investment Act planning, Idaho Department of Labor
- Future Workforce Needs in Idaho's Region 1 – Workforce Investment Act planning, Idaho Department of Labor. Results will be shared with the Rural Outreach Partnership in Grangeville
- Helped Nez Perce Tribe prepare for Lapwai Community Review by doing several short reports on workforce and economic trends in Lapwai area and participated in the Community Review
- Availability of both labor and housing in the Weippe area for the Idaho National Guard's Youth Challenge project
- Analysis of long-term labor availability for manufacturing workers in Idaho and Lewis counties for Ida-Lew Economic Development
- Economic impact analyses of potential businesses, Hecla closure, mining industry (mining employers), tourism (Silverwood and bike trails), Idaho Transportation Department.
- Helped the Transportation Department with supporting data for its statewide plan
- Helped local transportation organizations and communities with employment data for long range plans
- Provided data and articles to the Spokane-Kootenai Real Estate Research Committee (quarterly)
- Monthly research articles for the North Idaho Business Journal
- Pension/compensation comparison for government
- Aerospace Data compilation for the GE Symposium and Idaho Aerospace Alliance
- North Idaho College:
 - Analysis of the school's Professional Technical Programs (where they're at and where they're going) and demand for other programs
 - Compiled data for C3T aerospace grant
 - Analysis of prospective programs for NIC's Workforce Training Center
 - Fulfilled student requests on occupational outlook
 - Provided supporting data for current health care programs
 - Veterans data
- Fulfilled all media requests ranging from quick responses to a full on research project
- Helped numerous grant writers compile data on poverty, demographics, economic indicators and such
- Compiled data for several elected officials to help make informed decisions
- Compiled data and wrote the economic base for the Job Corps proposal site in Shoshone County
- Provided data to all economic development professionals in northern Idaho and assisted in recruiting processes by presenting economic data
- Compiled data for local employers for presentations, wage escalations, relocations, expansions

- Supported local tribes for grant funding opportunities, public forums
- Provided Kootenai County Indicators with data and validating data sources to form its website: www.kootenaiindicators.org
- List of employers
- Blaine County workforce
- Idaho Regatta Economic Impact
- SIEDO historic population – cities
- Wage research – city of Twin Falls
- Chobani – impact on agriculture and dairy
- Gathered data for the State Department of Transportation for TIGER grant.

Training

- Local office training
- Regional business specialist training
- A 16-segment training regimen via email on labor market, economics and computer programs for the consultants in north central Idaho
- Regional economist Friday forums

Idaho continues to use portions of LMI 215 to leverage and partner with other state funding sources to conduct a wide range of workforce information research as described in the list below.

- Results from Idaho’s job vacancy survey were compiled and the data posted to the LMI website in November 2011. The results of the survey indicated that a greater percentage of vacancies in 2011 were for newly created jobs rather than for replacements, a sign the economy is beginning to expand. One in five was linked to economic growth. Based on a survey of over 3,400 businesses during April and May, there were only 10,100 job openings across Idaho, which had a total of 590,000 nonfarm jobs last spring. That is a statewide vacancy rate of 1.7 percent.
- The research team completed its biennial fringe benefit survey in July 2011. Idaho uses the same survey instrument as Oregon and Washington to facilitate direct comparisons between the three states. The survey results were available and posted to the LMI website in February 2012.
- The research team is working with the Idaho Board of Nursing on its annual education survey and the Idaho nurse leaders association in support of its data needs.

The department spent an estimated \$108,785 on personnel partnering and consulting with the Workforce Development Council and key talent development partners and stakeholders in the development of economic and workforce information research and outreach. Our network of six regional economists spread throughout state are vital to the dissemination of workforce information as well as the feedback conduit for improving the products that focus on the local and community level data they demand. From the comprehensive list above it is evident that stakeholders and partners cover a broad swath of customers that seek and use this valuable conduit to workforce information and research.

Director, Idaho Department of Labor
Roger B. Madsen

Chair, State Workforce Development Council
Tim Komberec