

Understanding This Time Lag Thing

Oct. - Dec. 2000	Jan. - March 2001	April - June 2001	July - Sept. 2001	Oct. - Dec. 2001
Exit Quarter	21 Post-Exit Entered Employment Quarter	22 Post-Exit	23 Post-Exit Retention Quarter	24 Post-Exit

We want to know what's happening in the calendar quarter where some type of measurement or "snapshot" is taking place. Here, we want to know the number of individuals (e.g., adults) who entered employment in 21 Post-Exit. Therefore, in this example, we're interested in UI wage record information for the calendar quarter January 2001 through March 2001.

Employers have 30 days after the end of the calendar quarter to submit the required reports to their respective State Employment Security Agency. (This would mean the end of April 2001 in our example and in the best case scenario.)

After employer reports are received by the State, the reports have to be processed. In general, this takes about 60 days.

If nothing further happened... then data would be available after 90 days (30 + 60). That is: 90 days after the end of the quarter in which we're interested. In our example, this translates into the end of June 2001.

However, once the data is "processed," in order for it to have any meaning for performance, the state has to "match" the social security numbers it receives from local areas with the social security numbers that appear in the employer wage records. This matching begins to take place in 23 Post-Exit. If individuals do not show up in wage records, however (i.e., no match was found), that's when "Supplemental Data" comes into play.

