

Annual Performance Report ETA Deliverables PY2014

There are five deliverables identified by ETA:

1. Populate the Workforce Information Database (WIDb) with state and local data;
2. Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections;
3. Conduct and publish relevant economic analyses, special workforce information, and/or economic studies determined to be of benefit to the governor, state and local Workforce Investment Boards;
4. Post products, information, and reports on the internet; and
5. Partner and consult on a continuing basis with workforce investment boards and other key workforce and economic development partners and stakeholders.

The Bureau of Workforce Information and Technical Support (WITS), consisting of two sections, Labor Market Information Section and the Office of Economic Advisors, is charged with the responsibility of meeting these deliverables. WITS met the deliverables during this past program year (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015), on time and of excellent quality.

Accomplishments

1. Continue to populate the ALMIS database.

During this last year, several modifications were incorporated into the Workforce Information Database (WIDb) and the timely delivery of updates and products was much improved. Specific improvements included:

- Made several small improvements to the WIDb data loading process
- Improved the data display of the OES occupation and wage estimates removing zeroes where no values should be displayed
- Increased the number of geographically based LEWIS (EDS) estimates for download and improved the spreadsheet design to make filtering and sorting of the occupation based data easier to do by the user
- Upgraded the WIDb structure from version 2.4 to 2.5
- Populated the WID with LMI program data according to BLS mandated deadlines and published the non-confidential data to the WORKnet web site
- Updated and published non-confidential county occupation and wages estimates
- Populated several additional items in the WIDb
- Posted long-term projections to the WIDb
- Posted short-term projections to the WIDb
- Integrated refinements to the latest version of LEWIS (formerly EDS) to assist in the preparation of local employment and wage estimate
- Revised and updated the Skill Explorer program tables residing in the WIDb.
- Made available to the Job Center of Wisconsin web site, LMI wage and occupational data from the WIDb for Job Seekers and Employers.

2. Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections.

Long-term Projections: Long-term WDA projections were produced and disseminated, We are attempting to generate long-term projections for the state and the WDAs in the same

calendar year as customer feedback is interested in having the same 'vintage' to compare state with regional outlooks. Simultaneous delivery will also allow the WIOA strategic state and regional economic/workforce development plans be consistent

Long-term projections are a key input into many internal and external planning activities. Having both sets of long-term projections available allows partners (WDAs, technical colleges, economic development organizations, state programs, etc) to better align cross-partnership initiatives.

All projections are available on our website and available for format customization through request.

Short-Term Projections: During the program year, WITS produced statewide industry and occupational projections, making them available upon request. The Department continues to seek input from customers concerning short-term projections.

3. Provide occupational and career informational products for public use.

Numerous products and services containing occupational and career information have been developed and distributed throughout the state for public use. The following list identifies some of the major products and services that were developed, enhanced, or continued by DET over the last year.

WITS data and information continues to be used for career planning, workforce development programs, college course offerings and curriculum, and public query and use. For example, Skill Explorer is now being used in secondary grades to allow students to investigate career choices and envision overlapping career paths based upon skill sets.

Unemployed and incumbent workers are also using the tool inside and outside of our Job Centers to explore jobs with related skill sets that may not have been considered before.

LMI data is one of the inputs into Wisconsin Fast Forward and Blueprint for Prosperity workforce training initiatives criteria that determines which grant applications will be awarded.

LMI data is also used to identify high school course offerings that qualify for Act 59 funds. The funds are awarded to school districts that develop courses that will begin the training for "in-demand" jobs.

DET and WITS are undergoing a revamp of our website and public offerings. After a customer meeting in January 2015 and focus group evaluations, WITS is redesigning its website and making data access more customized and efficient. For example, data dashboards of frequently asked for data will be displayed on the website. Yet in design is our "MyLMI". Each LMI customer can construct their individual data template.

The project is underway and is receiving positive responses from customers in its early phases. More systems work is yet required, but the look and feel of the WITS offerings will be visually integrated with overall department look.

Other more familiar WITS activities in the last year are comprised of:

- Provided analytical and technical support for the Wisconsin 2014 RN Workforce Report
- Data for career posters was updated. One-Stop Centers, technical schools, middle and high schools, and other locations throughout the state can electronically download and print the posters
- Work with the Department of Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development to help them in their efforts to revitalize an area in urban Milwaukee
- Publication of "Hot Jobs" brochure for statewide distributions
- WITS staff were active in providing training on WORKnet, industry and occupational information, and other elements of labor market information to help both job seekers and businesses
- Staff presented WORKnet to the state conference of career counselors for local one stop centers and the local Workforce Investment Boards (in Wisconsin, the local Boards are known as Workforce Development Boards –WDBs)
- Staff attended meetings with community and technical college staffs, business groups, and others, to assist in the development of educational curricula and business tool
- Staff conducted over 100 presentations to various audiences across the state
- Provided training to State Vocational Rehabilitation leadership and counseling staff.
- Conducted business surveys to ascertain employers skills needs and hiring difficulties
- Staff manned booths at state and various regional meetings, distributing and assisting customers on a walk-by basis.

4. Ensure that workforce information and support required by state and local workforce investment boards are provided.

WITS staff routinely works with WDAs for economic and workforce development analysis and initiative development. WITS staff support of WDAs has helped to prepare WDAs for WIOA compliance.

WITS conducted a conference on bureau capabilities, expanding WDAs' knowledge of available division resources. Conference feedback is being incorporated into future design of WITS products and services.

Routine support activities include:

- The LMI Director met with state board of Workforce Development Areas to better understand their issues and needs, and to help maintain and build a strong relationship between DWD and WDBs across the state
- Acted as information liaisons, analysts, consultants, and advisors to the WDBs, conducting special research on a variety of topics such as: industry-focused partnerships for regional economic development activities, in-demand occupations, demographic studies, industry and occupational growth, wages and other demand-related issues
- Provided information by Workforce Development Area (WDA) about specific in-demand occupations in support with educational and workforce training partners
- Served on special employer and education/training committees within the WDBs covered by the local labor market analysts
- Staffed CWI and responded to analytical questions about the state's economy and workforce – past, present, and future
- Acted as field staff for the department on conveying workforce, economic development, business activity, and program feedback

5. Maintain and enhance state workforce information delivery systems.

As part of our normal activities, WITS determines WIA fund allocations to WDAs

Enhancements to the webpages during PY13 include:

- Developing a means to share data within the Bureau to expedite research and the development of products
- Updated maps for the state, Micropolitan and Metropolitan Statistical Areas and others as needed;
- Using InfoGroup’s employer database to make data available concerning businesses in
- Continued the process of mapping the information on WORKnet to see if there is a more efficient means to publish the data to our customers;
- Development and enhance use of bureau dedicated electronic workspace to facilitate intra-bureau team research activities
- Streamlined all-states economic and workforce data ranking reports
- Conducted the initial research to develop a means of determining degree of similarity
- Updated population and demographic data;

Visitors to Labor Market Information webpages from July 2014 – June 2015

	WORKnet
Total Visits	444,045
Total Page views	16,720,716
Average Visits Per Day	1217
Bounce Rate	55.4%
Average Visit Length	00:21:43