

**COLORADO LABOR MARKET INFORMATION
PROGRESS REPORT FOR JULY 2009 – JUNE 2010
WORKFORCE INFORMATION CORE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES GRANT**

Statement of Work Deliverables

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

a) Accomplishments:

i) *Outcomes:*

The most current release of Virtual LMI (version 10.05) is programmed to work with some objects of version 2.4 of the Workforce Information Database (WID). Version 10.1 of Virtual LMI will fully utilize WID version 2.4. Geographic Solutions, the vendor of Virtual LMI for Colorado, will begin scheduling states to upgrade to version 10.1 in March 2011.

All core tables in version 2.4 of the database as defined by the Workforce Information Database Consortium are populated as per plan. The tables are regularly updated with the most current data available. Recently updated tables include Industry, Indprj and Occprj, Labforce, CES, Oeswage, CPI, and Income.

Colorado has populated the Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) tables in WID 2.4 using Local Employment Dynamics data.

ii) *Conformity to planned milestones:*

All milestones were met throughout the year.

iii) *Actual aggregate expenditure:*

Source of Funds for PY09 Activities:

PY08 Second Year = \$15,125; PY09 = \$82,215

Total Expenditures for PY09 Activities = \$97,340

b) Customer consultations: N/A

c) Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

2) Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections.

a) Long-Term Industry and Occupational Projections:

i) Accomplishments:

(1) Outcomes:

ETA requires LMI to produce one set of statewide, long-term industry and occupation employment projections every other year. Sub-state long-term projections are required in alternating years, but the number of sub-state areas is not specified.

In partnership with the Workforce Development Council (WDC), LMI goes beyond the ETA requirement by producing long-term projections for the state and all 7 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) annually.

The PY09 WICPS grant required LMI to complete 2008-2018 sub-state long-term projections. Since Colorado estimates a more current base year for long-term industry and occupational projections to better meet the needs of the Workforce System, the PY09 deliverable was produced in PY08. PY09 activities involved the production of 2009-2019 statewide and sub-state long-term industry and occupation employment projections, which were published on LMI Gateway June 30, 2010.

(2) Conformity to planned milestones:

All milestones were met throughout the year.

(3) Actual aggregate expenditure:

Source of Funds for PY09 Activities:

PY08 Second Year=\$15,249; PY09=\$82,885

Total Expenditures for PY09 Activities = \$98,134

ii) Customer consultations: N/A

iii) Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

b) Short-Term Industry and Occupation Projections:

i) Accomplishments:

(1) Outcomes:

ETA requires LMI to produce one set of statewide, short-term industry and occupation employment projections each year.

In partnership with the WDC, LMI goes beyond the ETA requirement by producing short-term projections for the state and all 7 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) every 6 months.

The PY09 WICPS grant required LMI to complete 2009-2011 short-term projections. Since Colorado estimates a more current base year for short-term industry and occupational projections to better meet the needs of the Workforce System, the PY09 deliverable was produced in PY08. PY09 activities involved the production of 4th quarter 2009-2011, published on LMI Gateway December 31, 2009, and 2nd quarter 2010-2012, published on LMI Gateway June 30, 2010, statewide and sub-state short-term industry and occupation employment projections.

(2) *Conformity to planned milestones:*

All milestones were met throughout the year.

(3) *Actual aggregate expenditure:*

Source of Funds for PY09 Activities:

PY08 Second Year=\$15,248; PY09=\$82,886

Total Expenditures for PY09 Activities = \$98,134

ii) *Customer consultations:* N/A

iii) *Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:*

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

3) Publish an annual economic analysis report for the governor and the SWIB.

a) Accomplishments:

Outcomes:

In PY09, the Colorado Workforce Development Council funded an initiative to build on the previous year's report, [The State of Colorado's Talent Development: Competing in the 21st Century](#). The initiative created a partnership between leaders from the Colorado Workforce System and business/economic research teams from the University of Colorado at Boulder, the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, and Colorado State University. The resulting report provides a baseline understanding of industry and occupational intricacies; past, current, and projected employment levels; and other economic measures. Economic data and analysis for Colorado and each region (each region includes data and analysis for their respective counties) is presented. The information in the report provides workforce centers, economic developers, educators, and other public and private leaders with insight into their local economies. The full report and individual regional reports can be found online at:

http://leeds.colorado.edu/Centers_of_Excellence/interior.aspx?id=8038

Due to the uncertain economic climate, the Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) reinstated the Governor's Revenue Forecast Advisory Committee in the fall of 2008. Since that time the LMI Director has served on this committee which advises OSPB on economic conditions and expectations. *Note: The Governor's Revenue Forecast Advisory Committee was originally formed by the Romer Administration during the economic difficulties of the 1980's.*

Colorado LMI also provided data and consultation pertinent to the production of the following reports which include analyses on the state of the Colorado economy:

Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting–Revenue Forecast

September 21, 2009

December 18, 2009

March 19, 2010

June 21, 2010

These forecasts can be found online at:

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/OSPB/GOVR/1218709343298>

Legislative Council – Focus Colorado: Economic and Revenue Forecast

September 2009

December 2009

March 2010

June 2010

The forecasts for 2008 and 2009 can be found online at:
<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CGA-LegislativeCouncil/CLC/1209461748559>

The forecasts for 2010 and 2011 can be found online at:
<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CGA-LegislativeCouncil/CLC/1251573164950>

- i) **Conformity to planned milestones:**
All milestones were met throughout the year.

- ii) **Actual aggregate expenditure:**
Source of Funds for PY09 Activities:
PY09=\$10,000
Total Expenditures for PY09 Activities = \$10,000

- b) **Customer consultations:**
Customers of these reports include the Governor's Office, Jobs Cabinet and the WDC.

- c) **Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:**
The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

4) Post products, information and reports on the Internet.

a) Accomplishments:

i) **Outcomes:**

Colorado installed a new version of the Virtual LMI/LMI Gateway software in May of 2010. The new version contains a number of enhancements, e.g. a feature that allows selection of multiple geographic areas in most Labor Market Analysis modules, and a new "Quick Search" feature that allows selection of desired areas, time periods, and industries on one page. The biggest enhancements were the use of GSI map data presentations and multi-dimensional data graphing displays powered by Microsoft SilverLight.

All industry and occupation program data (Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Current Employment Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Occupation Employment Statistics, Local Employment Dynamics, Projections) were updated on the site per the frequency required for the individual programs (i.e. monthly, quarterly, annually).

Special project reports and presentations by LMI staff were posted on the site. Specifically, Colorado has added industry brochures and Colorado employee benefits reports in the past year. Newly added information was highlighted as "NEW" to improve user recognition.

Information and data prepared to meet the specific needs of the workforce system, including partners, researchers and other agencies were provided throughout the year utilizing a variety of media forms (primarily CDs, DVDs, electronic files and hard copy). Confidentiality agreements were executed as appropriate prior to the release of confidential information for use in statistical analyses.

Colorado has completed execution of a new contract with InfoUSA to allow continued use of employer data in the Gateway web site based on the WID 2.4 table structure, and distribution of customized data on CD to Workforce Centers.

Colorado LMI updated the look and feel of the Gateway web site to conform to an agency-wide design update that is taking place in the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE). The design change was implemented in May 2010.

ii) **Conformity to planned milestones:**

All milestones were met throughout the year.

iii) **Actual aggregate expenditure:**

Source of Funds for PY09 Activities:

PY08 Second Year=\$14,118; PY09=\$76,732

Total Expenditures for PY09 Activities = \$90,850

b) Customer consultations: N/A

- c) Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:**
The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

Colorado LMI should upgrade to Virtual LMI version 10.1 (which uses WID version 2.4) after March 2011.

5) Partner and consult on a continuing basis with Workforce Investment Boards.

a) Accomplishments:

i) *Outcomes:*

Twenty-seven presentations/workshops were delivered to more than 2,000 Workforce Center and partner agency staff in support of Workforce Investment Board goals and objectives. By year-end, contacts/interactions included individuals in workforce regions across the state.

LMI staff researched, designed, developed and distributed over 75,000 copies of each of four Youth Industry Brochures appropriate to high school students and young adults. An Educator Career Guide with suggested activities for use with the brochures in classroom or career development settings was also delivered as part of this project.

Focus group interviews were arranged and conducted with Workforce Center employers across Colorado to assess the use and effectiveness of Connecting Colorado, the state's labor-exchange web site. The goal of this effort was to provide direct feedback to assist in the re-design of Connecting Colorado to better meet business customer needs.

Training and Outreach staff produced, printed and distributed 408,617 product pieces (brochures, training materials, literature) based on the most current Labor Market Information data available. 300,000 of the product pieces were produced for a one-time project for Metro Denver WIRED.

ii) *Conformity to planned milestones:*

All milestones were met throughout the year.

iii) *Actual aggregate expenditure:*

Source of Funds for PY09 Activities:

PY08 Second Year=\$20,327; PY09=\$102,728; Other State Funding=\$45,951

Total Expenditures for PY09 Activities = \$169,006

b) Customer consultations:

Workforce Center staff recommended new products and reviewed prototypes, providing recommendations for continuous improvement.

Responded to questions from workforce development professionals and educators regarding use of LMI data and provided instructions to customers on the use of the LMI Gateway web site to enhance services.

Consulted with workforce center staff on green industries and green occupations definitions. Participated on national Bureau of Labor Statistics Committee to develop a standardized definition of "green" industries and jobs.

Consulted on industry sector strategies for workforce centers.

Established and successfully met an internal standard for customer service delivery by responding to all inquiries within 48 hours.

c) Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

Expand customized assistance:

Work directly with workforce centers' leadership to identify, design and develop new Labor Market Information products to address needs from Workforce Investment Board members, Workforce Center staff and the customers served by those agencies.

Individualized support for skill development in the use of LMI with expanding Workforce Investment Board and Workforce Center customer markets. As national Projections Managing Partnership updates and expands projections training for state economists, improve workforce center staff and Workforce Investment Board member access to timely projections.

6) Conduct special studies and economic analyses.

a) Accomplishments:

Outcomes:

The introductory training on Colorado Labor Market Information, LMI 101, was redesigned for electronic delivery to improve workforce center staff accessibility to and understanding of labor market information. An add-on to the training currently in development is an interactive activity designed to provide a practice exercise in the use of LMI on-line.

The development of an LMI E-Flash newsletter aimed at routine, periodic updates for our customers on product and training development activities underway in the Colorado LMI shop was completed. The first issue is targeted for early PY10.

Delivered a series of four brochures on energy, bioscience, aerospace and information technology industries to be used in high schools for local WIRED region. An educator guide for counselors and teachers was also delivered as a companion piece to the brochures. The series was expanded to include brochures on health care, finance and manufacturing industries. The focus of brochures was broadened through the incorporation of statewide data.

Continued participation with the US Census Bureau in the development of the Longitudinal Employer Household Dynamics data program.

A request to provide assistance to the Roaring Forks Business Resource Center (an area in northwestern Colorado) in their efforts to increase development of creative industries in the area will be further developed in early PY10.

i) *Conformity to planned milestones:*

All milestones were met throughout the year.

ii) *Actual aggregate expenditure:*

Source of Funds for PY09 Activities:

PY08 Second Year=\$5,861; PY09=\$29,622; Other State Funding=\$81,701

Total Expenditures for PY09 Activities = \$117,184

b) Customer consultations:

A majority of these activities originate as a direct result of customer requests.

c) Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

Source of Funds for PY09 Activities Spending Summary

Total PY08 Second Year = \$85,928

Total PY09 = \$467,068

Total Other State Funding = \$127,652

Total Expenditures for PY09 Activities = \$680,648