

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

WORKFORCE INFORMATION GRANT

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

PROGRAM YEAR 2017

September 2018

**Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development
Department of Unemployment Assistance
Massachusetts Workforce Information Grant**

Program Year 2017 Annual Performance Report

Statewide Workforce Information System Overview

Massachusetts' Workforce Development system is overseen by the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (EOLWD). Workforce Information products and services are developed and disseminated primarily by EOLWD's Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) and Department of Career Services (DCS), in coordination with EOLWD.

EOLWD assures that products and services provided with these grant funds are consistent with the Governor's Strategic Plan and Goals, with the vision of the Massachusetts Workforce Development Board (MWDB) and with the grant requirements. Labor market and workforce information resources provide the Commonwealth with information on jobs, wages, labor force, and occupations that support education and economic development efforts, workforce partners' job development, reemployment services, performance management and business planning, and customer needs at the state and local levels.

The products and services are designed to meet customer needs and to offer the flexibility for adjustments with changes in the Commonwealth's economic climate and labor force, the strategic plan and new tools and electronic delivery systems.

Focusing on real time information for individuals unemployed and seeking work, jobs, staffing patterns, demand occupations, occupational supply, wage information and labor force trends Statewide and for each MassHire Local Workforce Development Area. Data and information products produced with the Workforce Information funding provide the Governor and other state and local policy makers with the tools to assist them in planning and meeting the state's strategic workforce, education and economic development goals.

Workforce Information Grant funds support subscriptions to the Conference Board's Help Wanted On-Line (HWOL) Analytics through mid- January 2018 for each MassHire Career Center (CC), Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) and workforce partner agency. In mid- January 2018, the MassHire Department of Career Services transitioned the on-line job Quest to Burning Glass' for daily job postings. Workforce Information Grant funds were used to purchase Burning Glass Labor Insight analytics each Mass Hire Workforce Development Area. These tools allow users to develop customer driven products on job openings, key skills for each specific job posting and related information to assist in formulating customer services to enhance reemployment, determine those in need of training and new programs. Labor Insight provides data coded to SOC, O'NET and a customer friendly common use job title

EOLWD has the responsibility of ensuring the appropriate development and dissemination of workforce information and labor market information, including economic, career, and occupational data to all state and local workforce development partners and the public. Its key focus is identifying and serving the needs of local workforce boards, One-Stop Career Centers and their partnering organizations, as well as educators and job seekers, employers, students and parents served by local workforce providers.

Labor market and workforce information are available via the Internet and through customized information based on request. Direct assistance is provided to all individuals in person, by phone, or through email.

PRODUCTS, SERVICES and PUBLICATIONS:

EOLWD's Department of Unemployment Assistance, Economic Research Department provides workforce information products and services in the following core areas as defined in the Workforce Information grant. All grant-funded products, reports and workforce information are available on www.mass.gov/lmi in a manner accessible to the public and comply with Rehabilitation Act Section 508 requirements.

Workforce Information Database (WIDb):

The Workforce Information Database (WID 2.7) is current and populated with the most current labor market and workforce information for all data and information products developed through this grant and the BLS LMI Cooperative Agreement. The data tools and the web pages they support were converted to use the new data tables from the WID 2.7 databases. The mass.gov lmi website pages were modified to reflect the new style of the site. DUA is currently developing new web pages for updated mass.gov look and feel and migrating the LMI databases and website to the cloud. WID 2.7 database, stored procedures and webpages to display WDA and NECTA data for the OES data using the IOWAGE table in the database. Were completed.

Industry and Occupational Projections:

Web pages were built and published for the State and WDA 2017-2019 short term and 2016–2016 long term projections which display the projections using the separations methodology, entry level education and mean annual OES wages and industry staffing patterns produced using LEWIS. Files were provided timely to the projections Managing Partnership in the manner they specified. Projections, short term were published on the internet in February 2018 and long term published on the internet in July 2018, allow customers to select occupational projections by most job openings, fastest growing occupations and all occupations. Along with separate table for STEM occupations. Custom area tables for projections were provided for special studies. All of the data are available at the time of release through the Commonwealth's web site at [Projections](#).

At the request of the MassHire LWDAs occupational employment and wage estimates and staffing patterns for each area are produced annually. Request from other agencies for custom geographic areas and or industry clusters were provided. These high demand data can only be developed and published with Workforce Information grant funds and the EDS software system [Staffing Patterns](#).

Annual Economic Analysis Report:

The Annual Economic Analysis Report provides information on economic trends in Massachusetts and highlights for each of the LWDAs. The report notes the growth in the labor force, increased labor force participation rates and provides demographic information on the changes in the prime working age cohorts participating in the labor force, high level of educational attainment for residents age 25 plus and the increases in labor force participation for residents with High School Diploma and those with less than High School diploma. State's performance in job creation, slightly lower unemployment rates and tightness between employer demands for labor and supplies of unemployed job seekers. [MA 2017 Workforce and Labor Area Review.pdf](#)

Providing Special information for Workforce Partners:

Census' Local Employment Dynamics Quarterly Workforce Indicators and On-Map data for the Commonwealth were published. The tools provide customized unique information on the labor force and work force not available through other data programs. The On the Map in and out migration flows show commuting patterns for each area. These data provide customers with enhanced understanding of the Local WDAs and improve the delivery of WIOA services.

Transitioning to the new mass.gov worksite look and feel to provide more direct access to the information on the site and the cloud will be completed in PY2018.. Customers have asked for revised consolidated tables and enhanced tools to access data and visualizations. Customers can see at a glance the latest information on jobs, the labor force, the unemployment rate, wages by industry and occupation, long and short term projections, staffing patterns and get access to all information in downloadable formats.

The Monthly Claimant Profiles and Unemployment Rates by WDA visualization products have been successful with request for additional products. The Monthly Claimant Profiles provide demographic characteristics of residents claiming unemployment insurance published at the time of the statewide total unemployment rate release. Unemployment Rates by WDA provide page at a glance maps for the monthly local unemployment rates. [UI Claimant Profiles](#)

Information sessions were conducted on the new short term and long term industry and occupation projections and uses with other WI products to identify jobs in demand.

Introductory training sessions were provide by in state staff and Burning Glass on the Labor Insight tool with emphasis on accessing custom geographic areas and products to help in developing annual plans and programs for their araes and customers.

Partnering and Consulting with Workforce Development Boards:

In addition to the products and services previously noted, progress was made in developing new products to identify jobs and occupations in demand statewide and for each WDA.

State staff in conjunction with a dissemination expert from the U.S. Census conducted several refresher training sessions on the use of both Quarterly Workforce Indicators and On-the-Map.. Working with the state Board a quarterly dashboard was implemented for tracking key indicators.

