

**COLORADO LABOR MARKET INFORMATION
PROGRESS REPORT FOR JULY 2011 – JUNE 2012
WORKFORCE INFORMATION GRANT**

Statement of Work Deliverables

1) Populate the Workforce Information Database (WIDb) with state and local data.

a) Accomplishments:

i) *Outcomes:*

LMI Gateway currently uses the software called Virtual LMI version 11.1. Version 11.1 is programmed to work completely with version 2.4 of the Workforce Information Database (WID). Colorado LMI transitioned to a vendor hosted database server and web server at Geographic Solutions in May 2012. The web-based data loader that is used on the vendor's database server allows LMI to schedule data imports for evening hours when web site usage is not as high.

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 Empdb, Industry, Indprj and Occprj, lomatrix, Labforce, CES, Oeswage, CPI, Income, and Lichist.

Colorado LMI updated the Lichist table in March 2012 to include year 2011 data for licensed occupations. LMI is currently updating the Licauth and License tables to reflect address changes and fee requirements for license authorities.

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

Changes in WID Version 2.5 required the re-engineering of our data manipulation and data migration processes for both test and production environments. Given the resource intensive process experience during the conversion to Version 2.4, additional conversion time was spent to carefully review the structure and implementation of Version 2.5.

During this time we were also going through a transition from local hosting to vendor hosted database server and web server at Geographic Solutions. We determined the best approach was to migrate our local hosting of Version 2.4 structure to the remote hosting of Version 2.4 structure, given the unknowns of the Version 2.5 structure.

Geographic Solutions is scheduled to migrate Colorado to WID Version 2.5 in the December 2012/January 2013 timeframe.

ii) *Conformity to planned milestones:*

All milestones were met throughout the year with the exception of the migration to WID Version 2.5.

iii) Actual aggregate expenditure:

Source of Funds for PY11 Activities:

PY10 Second Year = \$49,184; PY11 = \$51,809

Total Expenditures for PY11 Activities = \$100,993

b) Customer consultations: N/A

c) Partnerships and collaborations:

Colorado LMI continues to work with the U.S. Census Bureau in the development of the Local Employment Dynamics data tool. Colorado LMI is expanding the use of LED data in discussions and interaction with WIBs.

d) Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information 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 PY11 Workforce Information Grant required LMI to complete 2010-2020 statewide 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 PY11 deliverable was produced in PY10. PY11 activities involved the production of 2011-2021 statewide and sub-state long-term industry and occupation employment projections, which were published on LMI Gateway June 30, 2012.

(2) Conformity to planned milestones:

All milestones were met throughout the year.

(3) Actual aggregate expenditure:

Source of Funds for PY11 Activities:

PY10 Second Year = \$44,346; PY11 = \$46,713

Total Expenditures for PY11 Activities = \$91,059

ii) Customer consultations: N/A

iii) Partnerships and collaborations:

Colorado LMI continues to be an active leader and participant in the Projections Managing Partnership.

iv) Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information 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 PY11 Workforce Information Grant required LMI to complete 2011-2013 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 PY11 deliverable was produced in PY10. PY11 activities involved the production of 4th quarter 2011-2013, published on LMI Gateway December 31, 2011, and 2nd quarter 2012-2014 statewide and sub-state short-term industry and occupation employment projections, published on October 11, 2012 on LMI Gateway.

(2) *Conformity to planned milestones:*

All milestones were met throughout the year.

(3) *Actual aggregate expenditure:*

Source of Funds for PY11 Activities:

PY10 Second Year = \$44,345; PY11 = \$46,714

Total Expenditures for PY11 Activities = \$91,059

ii) *Customer consultations:* N/A

iii) *Partnerships and collaborations:*

Colorado LMI continues to be an active leader and participant in the Projections Managing Partnership.

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

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Grant.

3) **Conduct and publish relevant economic analyses, special workforce information, and/or economic studies determined to be of benefit to the governor and state and local WIBs.**

a) **Accomplishments:**

i) **Outcomes:**

Due to the uncertain economic climate, the Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) reinstated the Governor's Revenue Estimating 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 Estimating 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 20, 2011
December 20, 2011
March 19, 2012
June 20, 2012

These forecasts can be found the web at:

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

Legislative Council – Focus Colorado: Economic and Revenue Forecast

September 2011
December 2011
March 2012
June 2012

The forecasts for 2011 can be found on the web at:

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CGA-LegislativeCouncil/CLC/1251573164950>

The forecasts for 2012 can be found on the web at:

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CGA-LegislativeCouncil/CLC/1251617349088>

Interim Report on Green Jobs in the Colorado Economy presents results of a 2011 survey designed to estimate the number of green jobs in Colorado, and to obtain information on industry distribution, and the types and wages of these green jobs. A final report incorporating additional coding analysis will be issued in PY12.

Colorado Wildfire Analysis presents the results of the High Park and Waldo Canyon wildfires on businesses and employment in the fire evacuation areas.

ii) *Conformity to planned milestones:*

All milestones were met throughout the year.

iii) *Actual aggregate expenditure:*

Source of Funds for PY11 Activities:

PY11 = \$25,000

Total Expenditures for PY11 Activities = \$25,000

b) *Customer consultations:*

Customers of these reports include the Governor's Office and the WDC.

c) *Partnerships and collaborations:*

Colorado LMI continues to play a key role in the Governor's Revenue Estimating Advisory Committee.

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

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Grant.

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

a) Accomplishments:

i) **Outcomes:**

Colorado's LMI Gateway web site, which is based on Geographic Solutions' software product called Virtual LMI, is primarily designed to deliver data, charts, and maps using simple query forms. Users select the type of data that they need, the time period of the data, and the geographic area. These selections result in a display of data tables, color charts, and maps if they are pertinent (such as in a display of unemployment rates by county). All major labor market statistics, as well as other series such as the Consumer Price Index, are available for display.

LMI Gateway provides even simpler ways of querying the data than the method described above. The "Labor Market Facts" page in Gateway presents nineteen questions displayed as hyperlinks. Some examples of the questions are "What are the highest paying jobs in an area?" and "What are the largest employers in an area?" When the user clicks the question, they are taken to a page in which they select their geographic area of interest. After that selection is made, data which answers the question are displayed.

In addition to the direct data queries, LMI Gateway also provides access to more traditional forms of documents, such as Excel and PDF files. Many of these are found on the "Products" page in Gateway.

The LMI Gateway web site home page was is frequently reconfigured to point users to new products and data. New graphics and colors were added to the entire site in May 2012.

OES Wage Survey Report

The results of the May 2011 Occupational Employment Statistics Wage Survey were published in July 2012.

Industry Brochures

Background research on three new industry brochures targeted to people making career choices. Industries included are Retail Trade, Construction, and Tourism. Each brochure includes an industry description, list of jobs with educational requirements, state higher education programs in this industry, apprenticeship opportunities and short articles called "A Day in the Life Of ... "

Projections Brochures

The **Colorado Careers** brochures are designed to give job seekers a quick look at the top growing jobs in Colorado, and wage ranges paid. These brochures are produced for two types of jobs: jobs that require on-the-job training and jobs that require higher education. Two brochures are produced for eleven different geographic areas and for the state as a whole.

Other products published regularly include:

Colorado Employment Situation Press Release: A monthly PDF document that describes the employment situation in Colorado.

Monthly Data Overview: A one-page summary of key monthly economic indicators including unemployment rate, initial and continued UI claims, average weekly wages, and the Consumer Price Index.

Advanced Technology Data: A monthly tabulation of employment data for seven industries classified as “advanced technology”.

The web address for Colorado LMI Gateway is:

<http://www.colmigateway.com/>

The web address for the LMI Gateway products page is:

<http://www.colmigateway.com/gsipub/index.asp?docid=282>

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

- iii) ***Actual aggregate expenditure:***
Source of Funds for PY11 Activities:
PY10 Second Year = \$45,949; PY11 = \$48,403
Total Expenditures for PY11 Activities = \$94,352

- b) **Customer consultations:**
The LMI Gateway web site home page redesign incorporated workforce system staff feedback during the redesign process.

- c) **Partnerships and collaborations:** N/A

- d) **Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:**
The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Grant.

5) Partner and consult on a continuing basis with workforce investment boards and other key workforce and economic development partners and stakeholders.

a) Accomplishments:

i) Outcomes:

Twenty-nine presentation/workshops and job fair services were delivered to more than 1,154 workforce center and partner agency staff and customers in support of Workforce Investment Board goals and objectives. By year-end, contacts/interactions included individuals in workforce regions across the state.

Training and Outreach staff produced, printed, and distributed 226,207 printed product pieces (brochures, training materials, literature) based on the most current Labor Market Information data available. All products are also available electronically.

Continuing with the industry brochures series implemented last year, three new brochures were developed to provide information about Retail Trade, Tourism, and Construction industries.

National and state economic information was produced for the Workforce Programs Annual Report covering the period July 2011 – June 2012.

Labor Market Information, in partnership with Workforce Programs has added to LMI products and placed an interactive order form on e-Colorado's home page to increase accessibility to workforce centers.

Specific customized presentations were developed and delivered to several Workforce Investment Boards across the state to increase knowledge of Colorado's economy and labor market as well as provide training in the use of LMIGateway.

Presentations were made to an increasing number of partner agencies and business customers across the state.

Labor Market Information, in partnership with the Colorado Workforce Development Council, acquired access to and implemented licenses for two new data tools, The Conference Board's Help Wanted Online (HWOL) and Haver Analytics. The HWOL tool provides a means of measuring trends in job openings and Haver Analytics provides a ready means of accessing and updating periodic data sets from a large number of different sources.

ii) Conformity to planned milestones:

All milestones were met throughout the year.

iii) Actual aggregate expenditure:

Source of Funds for PY11 Activities:

PY10 Second Year = \$181,794; PY11 = \$166,764;

Other State Funding = \$355,785

Total Expenditures for PY11 Activities = \$704,343

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 the use of Help Wanted On-Line. Provided additional training support to program use.

Consulted with higher education career centers staff (University of Colorado, Denver; Colorado State University; and a professional association for career counselors in Colorado and Wyoming) on the basics of labor market information and current industry and occupation conditions across the state.

Successfully continues to meet an internal standard for customer service delivery by responding to all inquiries within 48 hours. Most responses are same-day.

c) Partnerships and collaborations:

LMI staff worked in partnership with workforce center leadership to identify, design and develop new Labor Market Information products to address specific data needs from Workforce Investment Board members, Workforce Center staff and the customers served by those agencies.

d) Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Grant.

Source of Funds for PY11 Activities Spending Summary

Total PY10 Second Year = \$365,618

Total PY11 = \$385,403

Total Other State Funding = \$355,785

Total Expenditures for PY11 Activities = \$1,106,806