



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
54 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0054

Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

Jeanne S. Paquette
COMMISSIONER

September 27, 2012

Ms. Holly O'Brien
Regional Administrator
U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration
Room E-350 John F. Kennedy Building
Boston, MA 02203

Dear Ms. O'Brien:

The State of Maine is pleased to submit the required Review of Deliverables and Outcomes for the Program Year 2010 Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

Maine's small staff was prolific in the production of various publications and presentations. CWRI has posted all of these reports and presentations to Maine's website. The highlights include the new data reports on disabled workers, veterans, the manufacturing sector and new businesses as well as our presentations for the Healthcare Workforce Task Force and the Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission. CWRI has also made significant improvement to its website adding several new data visualization tools.

While Maine is stretching the resources secured through the Core Products and Services grant as much as possible, we continue to advocate for increased allocations and the identification of additional funding sources for workforce information such as the recent Workforce Data Quality grants. Specifically, having a quality source of job-demand data would considerably improve Maine's ability to target training to industries and occupations.

If you have questions or require additional information regarding this grant application, please contact Chris Boudreau, Director, Center for Workforce Research and Information (207) 621-5186.

Sincerely,

Jeanne S. Paquette
Commissioner

Fred Webber, Chair
Maine State Workforce Investment Board

Program Year 2011 State Workforce Information Grant
Work Plan Deliverables and Outcomes

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

The Maine Department of Labor populates the Workforce Information Database to the fullest extent possible beyond the core requirements in order to maximize usefulness for state/local information delivery. The Center for Workforce Research and Information (CWRI) continually updates the database in order to be as current as possible.

Staff will take full advantage of the available resources and training opportunities in order to ensure full utilization of this resource in meeting customer needs.

We are working toward eliminating the Maine Employment Info Guide based on the LMI delivery system provided by Geo-Sol. We are in the process of integrating data inside our site using tools such as Tableau to provide greater data visualization and customer accessibility.

Completion date: On-going

Outcome:

CWRI successfully transitioned many of the tables in the WID to online visualizations using Tableau cloud storage and data tools. Maine continues to maintain the WID as a data source used to populate the online visualizations. We have provided links to the various data tools under deliverable #4.

(2) Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections.

Industry and occupational employment projections for the 2010 to 2020 and 2011 to 2013 periods were produced and disseminated using the methodological guidelines and software tools developed by the Projections Consortium and the Projections Managing Partnership during PY 2011 on a statewide basis. Publications highlighting future trends and implications for the workforce will be published. CWRI is planning on populating the Workforce Information Database with the projections data and submitted them for public dissemination following procedures established by the Projections Consortium and the Projections Managing Partnership.

Planned Completion:

2010 to 2020 projections-

Industry employment projections completed April 30, 2012

Occupational employment projections completed June 30, 2012

Outcome:

Industry and occupational employment projections were completed and delivered to as specified by ETA and the Projections Managing Partnership. CWRI is developing a data visualization for the projections that will be deployed to Maine's website soon. We are drafting a publication to add context to the projections. That publication is for an October 2012 release.

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

An annual workforce report for PY 2011 will include an analysis of general economic conditions, demographic and labor force trends, industry employment trends and outlook, and occupational employment trends and outlook. CWRI plans to incorporate new, credible sources of economic, workforce, and labor market information to supplement the standard data sets.

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Completion date: September

Outcome:

An annual economic analysis brief was prepared and included in the 2010 Workforce Investment Act Annual Report: http://www.maine.gov/labor/mjc/2010_annual_report.pdf.

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

Maine provides electronic public access to the information in the ALMIS Database, which includes services specifically designed to meet the needs of job seekers, employers, analysts, and researchers. As mentioned above, we are working toward a new delivery platform that will make data more accessible to customers, with better visualization to provide greater context and understanding of workforce trends.

We will continue design improvements to our website seeking to make navigation more intuitive, data easier to find, and populate the site with more data and reports. We have enhanced and expanded the data, publications and features published on the site based on the interests and needs of our customers. Additional features and content will be added on an on-going basis.

Completion Date: On-going

Outcome:

CWRI made significant improvement to its website with the addition of several data visualizations. Also new to the site is the Maine Workforce Review that spotlights current workforce issues monthly. We published the following products to our website:

Data Visualizations:

- Employer Locator: <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/employers.html>
- Industry Employment and Wages: <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/qcew1.html>
- Labor Force and Unemployment: <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/laus1.html>
- Monthly Nonfarm Employment Estimates: <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/ces1.html>
- Occupational Employment and Wages: <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/oes1.html>

Publications

- Sample of Maine Workforce Review: <http://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/MEDOL-41d3ca>
- Maine Workers with Disabilities:
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/publications/Word/Snapshot2012MaineWorkersWithDisabilities.docx>
- Manufacturing Jobs Trends, Issues and Outlook:
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/publications/Word/ManufacturingJobsTrendsIssuesandOutlook.docx>
- Maine's Health Sector Workforce:
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/publications/ppt/MainesHealthSectorWorkforce.pps>
- Demand for Educated Maine Workers:
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/publications/Word/DemandForEducatedMaineWorkers.doc>
- Demographics of Employment and Unemployment in Maine:
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/data/cps/ppt/DemographicsEmploymentUnemploymentMaine.pps>
- Labor Market Activities of Maine Veterans:
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/publications/Word/MaineVeterans2011.doc>
- Labor Market Review: <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/publications/Word/2011LaborMarketReview.doc>
- Presentation to Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission:
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/publications/ppt/CEFC.pps>
- Tracking New Businesses Opened in 2009:
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/publications/Word/TrackingNewBusinessesOpenedIn2009.doc>

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- Maine's Livable Wage Report 2010:
<http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/data/Livable%20Wage/LivableWageReport2010.docx>

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

We will continue to work collaboratively with the State Workforce Investment Board and the four Local Workforce Investment Boards to supply their needs for workforce information and labor market research. CWRI assigned Senior Economic Research Analysts to each local workforce board so as to provide direct access to expertise with the most depth of understanding of regional and local labor market conditions. The Director of the Center for Workforce Research and Information serves as staff to the Executive Committee of the Maine Jobs Council to ensure continuity between strategy development and workforce and labor market related research.

Completion date: On-going

Outcome:

Maine has been regularly supplying the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) and Local Area Workforce Boards with data and analysis. We have started the development and vetting of a set of key workforce indicators. These indicators are along with contextual analysis reviewed with the SWIB to help assess current labor market conditions.

(6) Conduct special studies and economic analyses.

In PY 2011 we will begin development of a workforce longitudinal data system. This system—which is linked with the Maine Department of Education's Statewide Longitudinal Data System—will enable objective and quantitative evaluation of education and workforce programs. The initial phases of the project will link education records of Maine Community College graduates (2010 and 2011 classes) with corresponding wage and employment records. Reports highlighting the number of graduates that gained employment subsequent to graduation and mean wage by area of study will be prepared. Similar reports will be prepared for Maine's Career and Technical high schools and for the University of Maine System. CWRI also plans to link WIA, Registered Apprenticeship, Wagner Peysner, and Work Ready Program unit level records with their corresponding wage and employment records, available from state unemployment insurance records and WRIS and FEDES databases. CWRI is partnering with researchers from University of Southern Maine to conduct an analysis on the wage and employment outcomes of WIA program participants.

CWRI will continue to plan and carry out a series of special studies such as those focused on how Maine workers transition from one job to the next; reemployment and earnings of manufacturing workers displaced by mass layoffs; produce and continuously update county demographic and workforce profiles; consult with and provide labor supply analysis to economic development agencies; provide skills transferability analysis for career counselors to help displaced workers transition to new occupations; and analyze expected workforce supply by educational attainment in light of projected demand for jobs by educational requirement. The nature of this work will rely on matching administrative and wage records and a wide range of other employment, unemployment, and wage data. We will also publish our monthly *Maine Workforce Review* highlighting workforce issues and trends. We will continue to evaluate and use real-time LMI tools, including job posting scraping tools such as

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Wanted Analytics and Burning Glass to analyze current demand and reconcile it with occupational employment projections.

Outcome:

Maine's small staff was prolific in the production of various publications and presentations. CWRI has posted all of these reports and presentations to Maine's website and provided a complete listing in deliverable #4 above. The highlights include our reports on disabled workers, veterans, manufacturing and new businesses and our presentations to the Healthcare Workforce Task Force and the Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission.