

**Illinois Department of Employment Security
Economic Information and Analysis Division**

PY14 Workforce Information Grant Annual Performance Report

July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015

1. Populate the Workforce Information Database (WIDb) with State and Local Data.

The WID database provides a common structure for storing information in a single database in each state. Illinois continued to maintain its WID database at the required 2.5 version and populated all core tables and several non-core tables. During PY 2014, Illinois remained a part of the LMI Informer consortium of six states led by Montana. However, during the last three months of PY 2014 Illinois decided to return to the Geographic Solutions VLMI product in order to enhance the user experience for our customers.

2. Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections.

- Reviewed and posted statewide 2014 – 2016 short-term industry and occupational employment projections.
- Projections can be found here:
http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Employment_Projections.aspx
- Reviewed and posted substate (Local Workforce Investment Areas) 2012 – 2022 long-term industry and occupational employment projections.
- Distributed the final projections data to the Governor’s Council of Economic Advisors.
- Customer contact via email or phone for assistance with the analysis and interpretation of projections data continued to be the principal source of feedback on projections data.
- With funding from the Workforce Innovation Fund grant and in partnership with Utah software development staff, IDES analysts completed the beta testing of the Local Review Software. The software automates the external review and adjustment of local industry projections. Participants reviewed historical employment levels for industries in their local areas, as well as the preliminary projections. Reviewers then adjusted the preliminary projections if they thought it was necessary and documented their reasons for the change. The software transmits the proposed adjustment to the projections manager for consideration.
- The software was used to review and comment on the Local Workforce Investment Area 2012 – 2022 long-term industry projections. Selected customers from our statewide and 5 regional Manufacturing Learning Exchanges which are part of the Illinois WIF/Accelerated Training in Illinois Manufacturing (ATIM), were asked to use the software to make recommended changes to the industry employment projections for their sector.
- The software was presented to the Projections Managing Partnership for consideration to incorporate as a module in the Projections Suite software which is used nationally.

3. Conduct and publish relevant economic analyses, special workforce information, or economic studies of benefit to the governor and state and local WIB’s.

Based upon ongoing consultations with state and local workforce board and partner agency staff, education and workforce development partners under the auspices of the P-20 Council, and our

WDQI and WIF partner agencies and private sector partners, during PY14 Economic Information and Analysis staff leveraged resources to conduct workforce analyses to address several critical education, workforce and economic development strategies in Illinois.

- STEM Profiles – This year all nine of the STEM profiles were updated with statewide 2012 – 2022 occupational projections data and we also attach the most recent wage data. This product was first created at the request of the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO). Profiles are used in the Career Pathways project as well as the Illinois Shared Learning Exchange (ISLE). The manufacturing profile continues to be used in the Accelerated Training for Illinois Manufacturing project. The profiles can be found at: http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/STEM_Profiles.aspx
- Illinois continued to produce a quarterly publication of UI Claimant Data by Legislative District. The data includes the basic UI claimant demographic characteristics, industry and occupational data of the claimants as well as job orders and job applications through IllinoisJobLink, our official labor exchange website. The legislative district dashboard report remains unique in its ability to report UI claimant information by US legislative district as well as State Senate district. http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Legislative_District_Dashboard.aspx
- In PY2014, Illinois continued to use two real-time LMI tools, Help Wanted Online (HWOL) and TORQ. The Conference Board’s HWOL online job ads provide information on current demand for employment by occupation and industry. Occupational demand provides useful input for current and future job seekers. The HWOL data is available by detailed geography and Illinois analysts are often asked to depict the demand for various occupations within very small local areas. However, economic development officials, educators and job seekers are aware that the job market may be broader than a single county. Consequently, our monthly HWOL list of jobs in demand is compiled statewide and by Economic Development Region (EDR). There are 10 such regions in Illinois. Based on analysis of usage, we have revamped our publications to meet the needs of our customers. <http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/HWOL.aspx>
- Workforce Associates’ TORQ, which stands for Transferable Occupation Relationship Quotient, is a tool that can be used in Rapid Response, Economic Development and simply when job seekers are job hunting and need to shift gears in their occupational choices when demand for occupations change due to the economic environment. In PY2014, TORQ was used to help people assess how their current skills matched up with the skills needed for jobs that are available. This tool can also help assess how much training it would require to upgrade skills for new jobs.

Leveraging resources –

In an era of declining federal funds, the Economic Information and Analysis (EI&A) Division does its best to leverage resources from a variety of grants. The next two projects reflect grant funding from the Workforce Data Quality Initiative and the Workforce Innovation Fund, along with ETA technical assistance provided in the form of “resource help” for diving deeper into the use of Wanted Technologies software (IDES already had the licenses on hand).

Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI)

Over the course of the past year, senior EI&A staff continued to meet regularly with partner agencies as well as state education agencies to discuss how to best share educational longitudinal data in combination with workforce longitudinal data and to build an infrastructure to house the data. At the Illinois Department of Employment Security, we continue to work with our university partner (Illinois State University) and are continuing to build and refine the infrastructure to house UI Wage Records, Claimant Benefit data, IllinoisJoblink.com (job seeker data), and Employment Services data. These data sets will allow us to provide more robust information to IDES Operations staff to target employment services where they are most needed. Ultimately, UI claimants/job seekers will benefit by reducing their duration of collecting UI benefits.

This past year a dedicated website was created for public use to explain the initiative and each agencies involvement. The site is: <https://www2.illinoisworknet.com/WDQI> . In part, this website was constructed because the Illinois team was asked to present some of their early findings of the workforce outcomes project at the WDQI showcase in Washington D.C. in the spring of 2015.

The Showcase presentation was so well received that the Illinois team of George Putnam (IDES) and Patricia Schnoor (DCEO) were asked to present the materials at a live webinar which was recorded. <https://spra.adobeconnect.com/a148408/p4cdjwwy43i/?launcher=false&fcsContent=true&pbMode=normal>

Patricia Schnoor (DCEO) provided the data from DCEO's Program Exiter database to the IDES/ISU team analyzing the workforce outcomes of this group. The Illinois team created a new enhanced set of performance metrics which distinguish earnings from primary jobs relative to any other earnings not (necessarily) tied to workforce training programs. Consequently, the new methodology more accurately measures the benefits of the training programs where workforce outcomes (earnings) were previously understated. Moreover, the enhanced performance metrics can measure other workforce indicators such as job attachment and job hiring. In turn, these indicators allow the analyst to compare program exiters to the entire Illinois workforce using the Census-produced LED measures. The complete report will be provided to the DOL WDQI grant officer at the completion of the project in December 2015.

Real-Time LMI Technical Assistance Project

Illinois was invited to be a part of the ETA Real-Time LMI Technical Assistance Project. Illinois used the project to make enhancements to the HWOL data that were created for the ATIM project. Below is a summary report of the project.

I. Background Information

Real-Time LMI Tool Used under the Project:

- The Conference Board Help Wanted Online Hiring Demand Dashboard
- Wanted Analytics – specifically the Talent Requisition, Jobs, and Counts features

II. Project Participation Objectives and Key Activities

Key objectives for participating in the Education and Training Administration's Real-Time LMI project were to explore possible answers to questions centered on the ad age distribution for specific manufacturing occupations within a current ETA Office of Workforce Investment initiative: *Accelerated Training in Illinois Manufacturing Program* (ATIM – pronounced atom). Illinois noted

that certain manufacturing job-opening ads remained on the open job list for 90, 120, and 180 days while other manufacturing job opening ads were filled (or assumed to be filled as they were no longer listed as available in the real-time marketplace) in under 89 days. The Illinois LMI shop wanted to know if there were broader issues causing these job openings to become difficult to fill. We reviewed the job ad characteristics of these difficult-to-fill occupations and asked ourselves whether skills, wages, location or credentials were underlying reasons why the jobs were not being filled. The other alternative was that the jobs were undesirable.

Our focus was twofold: first, we wanted to get an overview of the job characteristics of the targeted ATIM manufacturing jobs: What skills, credentials and certifications were associated with each occupation? Were the wages offered consistent with industry and location standards? Were these high or low demand jobs? Secondly, we wanted to conduct research that would add value to the ATIM Program by providing ATIM users with information on possible reasons why some of the program's targeted manufacturing job openings were not being filled within the reasonable and customary 89 day timeframe.

We reviewed the ATIM occupations and selected 21 within the broader manufacturing arenas of Machining, Mechatronics, Welding, and Logistics/Inventory, hoping for a cross-section of the manufacturing industry. Using the filter and save features within the Hiring Demand Dashboard (HDD) we downloaded the files for what we nicknamed "the ATIM 21" and imported the data into Excel spreadsheets for ease of sorting and of generating pivot tables using the *Ad Age Distribution* feature focusing on refreshed ads 90-189 days from the date last seen. From the returned HDD results we exported the actual job ads into additional Excel spreadsheets and sorted by two categories 90-119 days and 120-179 days. With technical guidance from ETA and Maher & Maher staff, we created key word searches within each spreadsheet so that we could quickly search through sometimes cumbersome and wordy job descriptions. Key words included *certification, assembly, technical, welding, and operations*.

Once satisfied that we had a clearer understanding of the job ad requirements as set forth by the advertiser/employer, we used the Wanted Analytics (WA) side of the Wanted Technologies house. There we used the Talent Requisition feature to study the job title "Skills and Certifications" to get a real sense of what the job seeker would need to know in order to be the successful candidate who would get the job.

Due to time constraints and staff availability for this short-term project, we decided to leave the market salary/wage question as a separate research project, as it was a bit challenging to ascertain how Wanted Analytics derives its wage/salary data. We did discover that in most cases WA did not use Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment or O*Net data. Instead they used an algorithm exclusively created by and for their proprietary software. We also learned that in many cases, the salary was not listed in the job ad and was a possible contributing factor why the ad was seemingly difficult to fill.

Illinois did not explore the average posting period, as we found it irrelevant for this particular part of our research. Likewise, we did not include the top advertising employers as we currently run

and distribute a monthly listing of top advertising employers statewide and in our 10 economic development regions using the HDD tool. Positive feedback from customers suggests that we continue the current path. As time and resources permit, we plan further analysis using real-time LMI tools to determine why certain job ad openings seem difficult to fill.

III. Benefits and Challenges

Many labor market analysts, economists, and researchers, including Illinois analysts agree that using real-time labor market information strengthens and adds a much needed “now” perspective to the overall labor market landscape. For this collaborative project, Illinois also gained valuable technical tips and tricks specifically on the Wanted Analytics side of the Wanted Technologies tool, and was able to get clarification on several functionality issues on the Hiring Demand Dashboard side. The project leadership was extremely helpful in offering suggestions for enhancing current data runs conducted by the Illinois team as well as encouraging us to expand our use of real-time data utilizing the plethora of features available. We currently produce several monthly press releases using real-time data, and from the experience we gained while working on this project we will move forward to conduct studies and produce more research reports that will be useful to our Illinois data users and decision makers.

One of the challenges to using real-time labor market data is the sheer volume of data available, which can be a bit overwhelming. Illinois experienced the usual benefits and limitations that have been discussed in several environmental scans and reports centered on the use of real-time LMI such as grappling with the notion that every job ad posting does not necessarily report an actual job vacancy and how do data users know when an actual job opening has been filled. In some instances data users and analysts will need to use more traditional LMI tools to ascertain this information. The benefits more than outweighed the limitations as the data offered insights into the skills and certifications sought by our ATIM employers.

IV. Technical Assistance Needs

Illinois staff conferenced several times with project leaders Pam Hoberman, Ronnie Kauder, and Gretchen Sullivan and formulated an action plan and sequence of activities for pulling the RT LMI data necessary to address the ATIM job ad opening questions posed by Illinois. Additionally Illinois received clarification from The Conference Board and Wanted Analytics regarding the differences in the two platforms, as well as insight regarding the counting methodology of both products. For this project we did not compare the “counts” nor did we try to duplicate the outputs from one platform to the other. We used the two products for different outputs. And last, Pam Hoberman and Troy McMillan met several times via web meetings so that both were viewing the same data and working through several scenarios using shared screens.

V. Future Plans

As mentioned in Section II, Illinois intends to revisit in a separate project the job ad opening wage/salary aspect of online job ads and with technical assistance from The Conference Board and Wanted Analytics and, learn more about the algorithms used to record wages in the online ads.

Other Real Time LMI projects

Real Time LMI was a focus among Labor Market Information Directors across the country in PY2014. The Workforce Information Council (WIC) asked Region 5 LMI directors to prepare materials for the Annual Town Hall meeting in May 2015. The (majority of) Region 5 Directors (Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota) described how they used real time data by using such tools as The Conference Board's Help Wanted Online or Geographic Solutions data/tools. The Illinois LMI Director focused on her use of the summary Help Wanted Online data as a leading or current indicator of activity in determining the strength of state labor markets on a monthly basis. In addition, Illinois' presentation also focused on whether the occupational groupings measured by The Conference Board showed that these data correlated with our official industry and occupational employment projections. Based on rudimentary analysis, the monthly occupational data tended to be in line with official short term occupational projections produced by the Illinois employment projections team. In contrast, the Minnesota research revealed that the Help Wanted Online data did not measurably correlate with their well-established vacancy surveys that they undertake twice a year. Michigan and Indiana research showed that it is important to utilize the real time LMI information, but with caution. North Dakota reported on the use of indicators created by the ND staff by utilizing real time LMI data from Geographic Solutions (which is not identical to the Help Wanted Online series.) On the whole, LMI directors concluded that real time data – just like all other data – needs to be viewed cautiously. It can certainly be useful, but it is not a panacea to measure all occupational demand all the time. The Region 5 presentation was generally well received – with a note from the Town Hall Meeting moderator:

Dear Chicago 7,

It was such a pleasure to hear from all of you at the LMI Directors' Town Hall on the panel related to real-time LMI. I wanted to send you all a quick email to express my thanks. You clearly put a great deal of effort into your presentation, and split it up in a way that was both informative and engaging.

All best,

Ron

Ronald Kelly

Vice President, Technical Assistance and Training Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness

4. Posting products, information, and reports on the Internet.

To assist partners and local stakeholders to achieve the State Workforce Investment Plan's goals of economic self-sufficiency and business growth, IDES' online labor market and career information systems continue to provide access to tools and services that enable customers to make informed career and occupational decisions. In order to insure accessibility to all stakeholders in the Illinois Workforce Development System, IDES' web sites maintain their linkages to Illinois workNet and provide analysis of employment trends, educational, training and skill requirements, wages, career advancement opportunities, and labor market conditions with a demand-driven focus on major employing industries in the state.

Illinois Career Information System (CIS)

The Career Information System is Illinois' premier online career planning system that is free to all Illinois citizens. Illinois-specific labor market information is an important component of the Illinois

Career Information System. The two main sources of LMI data in CIS are long-term projections forecasts and occupational wage data. Statewide and sub-state data for both projections and wage data are included in tabular and narrative format. The tabular projections data displayed include base year employment, growth and annual openings. Additionally, narrative text is provided that indicates the relative size of the occupation and whether job openings are expected to increase, decrease, or remain steady. The tabular wage data include annual, monthly, and hourly data at the 25%, median and 75% levels. Each occupation also has an "At a Glance" section that displays annual wage data and comparative text describing employment, growth and job openings, with descriptors such as large, medium or small occupation, and slower, faster or steady 10 year growth.

http://www.ides.illinois.gov/Pages/Career_Information.aspx

Additionally, the Career Information System has several assessment instruments that allow the sorting of occupations by a variety of factors including job prospects and wages. The Reality Check assessments include regional economic data such as housing, utility, and food costs to help users understand the wages necessary to support their lifestyle choices.

IDES also partners with DCEO and allows them to incorporate the CIS occupational data into their workforce system via the use of web services. This allows us to further leverage our career and labor market information without the duplication of efforts.

- The updated 2014-2015 Career Information System (CIS) and CIS Junior were released to the Web as scheduled in September and December 2014. Number of unique visitors, CIS = 127,255; CIS Junior = 18,089.
- Labor Market Information home page is the primary point of access to labor market data for most customers. Number of unique visitors = 77,704.

There were a number of economic articles written by staff this year that helped agency partners, workforce professionals and many other of our varied customers to better understand and educate on a variety of topics. These articles can be found at:

http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Illinois_Labor_Market_Review.aspx

- **Key Historical Data for the U.S. and Illinois Reveal Current Economic Conditions**
This article compares Illinois to the nation by looking at a variety of economic indicators including: Current Employment Statistics, Employment, Gross Domestic Product, Gross State Product, Personal Consumption, Consumer Expenditures, Wealth and Income, and Export data.
<http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/ILMR/Data.pdf>
- **Global Energy-Related Topics and their Economic Impact on Illinois**
This article is about the different types of energy (coal, oil, natural gas, biofuels, wind, solar and nuclear) and the changing dynamics of each of these industries and its effect on the Illinois economy.
<http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/ILMR/Energy.pdf>

- **Important Changes to Illinois Statewide and Substate Labor Force Estimates: Implementing the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program 2015 Design**

This is an in-depth article about the 2015 Local Area Unemployment Statistics program redesign. Specifically, this article discusses the impact to state and local area unemployment rates.

<http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/ILMR/LAUS2015Redesign.pdf>

- **Changes to Illinois Metropolitan Statistical Area Delineations Following the 2010 Census**

This article describes the methodology used by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget to determine micropolitan and metropolitan statistical areas as well as the changes that occurred to these areas in Illinois as a result of the 2010 Census.

http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/ILMR/Changes_to_MSA.pdf

- **Introduction to the Illinois Career Information System**

This is a fairly brief article highlighting the different aspects of the Illinois Career Information System and recommendations on what type of customers each of the portals are designed for.

http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/ILMR/CIS_2015.pdf

- **Job Opportunities Online: The Changing Hiring Process**

This article highlights how the hiring process has changed over the years as well as our monthly publications of the Conference Board's Help Wanted On-Line job ads data by Economic Development Regions (EDR).

http://www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/ILMR/hwol_10-14.pdf

5. Collaborating and consulting on a continuing basis with WIBs and other key workforce and economic development partners and stakeholders to improve LMI products, tools, and information services to meet evolving customer needs.

- IDES continued to expand and enhance the incorporation of the Career Information System and the most frequently requested labor market information into Illinois workNet as part of our partnership with the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO).
- IDES has an agreement nearly in place with the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to help market the Career Information System. Through their outreach efforts, we will have two representatives in each education district in the state to help market the Career Information System at the high school level.
- Provided monthly Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Current Employment Statistics (CES), Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) summary reports and Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) data, in requested formats, by Economic Development Regions (EDRs) and Local Workforce Areas (LWAs) to Governor's Office, DCEO, IWIB, and to all Local Workforce Investment Boards.
- In the absence of BLS (and ETA) funding for Mass Layoff Statistics, Illinois continued to provide as much data as possible on mass layoff statistics in PY2014. Data counts are available, but we no longer interview employers for causes and duration of layoffs. Illinois believes it is important to produce this data because it benefits the rapid response teams at DCEO as well as IDES staff helping at mass layoff events.

During PY2014 some major changes occurred at IDES that affected our division as well. Most importantly a change in top administration reveals a more focused effort on outreach devoted to labor market and career information. Some changes that occurred in PY2013 had lasting impact in PY2014. For instance, in October 2013 the Workforce and Dissemination Unit manager Mitch Daniels passed away. Several staff members retired over the past eighteen months including two career information specialists and one out stationed economists.

In PY2013, Ron Payne, an out-stationed economist assumed many of the managing duties in addition to his duties as an economist for the central part of the state. During PY2014, Ron officially became the manager of the Workforce and Dissemination (WAD) Unit within the Economic Information and Analysis Division, but he continued his duties of a regional labor market economist until his position could be filled. With the new emphasis on outreach we began to create new marketing materials for the Career Information System (CIS) and have actively contacted new schools to use CIS as the program year was drawing to a close. On the plus side, one career information outreach specialist which was detailed to another unit for nearly two years, returned to the WAD unit at the final quarter of the program year. In addition, one additional career specialist was hired to fill one of the vacancies due to retirement.

Our new Agency administrator is very focused on LMI and is encouraging outreach efforts notwithstanding tight resources. Out-stationed economists have been contacting local economic development agencies, local governments and other entities to open new doors of communication. We are offering to give LMI presentations on new updates to our website as well as “refresher” types of presentations on how to use the data, and more importantly on where to go get the data. With increased Agency support for the outreach efforts, these can be more productive in PY2015 than in PY2014, though despite the reduced resources, were still exceptional.

Out stationed Local Labor Market Economists provided technical assistance to local and regional economic and workforce development partners and their constituents, as well as many other customers. Below are a variety of the requests as well as the varied customers we serve:

- Prepared data for site selection packages to support local business attraction efforts.
- Assisting local and regional Rapid Response teams in their efforts with workers affected by layoffs.
- Facilitated, with WIA partners, an interactive introduction to Job Club, Career Information System, and TORQ for 12 parolees at the Federal Courthouse in East St Louis. The US Probation Department hosts the event every year.
- Spoke to 710 inmates at the Southwestern Illinois Correctional Center in East St. Louis, a drug treatment state prison, about IDES Job Centers and Job Club in East St Louis and Belleville. The Job Centers will be available to help them prepare for re-entry upon their release.
- Presented labor market information to the United States District Court, Southern District’s Court Assisted Program, which supports offenders on supervised release.

- Attended quarterly workshops for spouses at Scott Air Force Base, presenting career information, labor market information and invitations to our job center for Job Club and WIA services.
- Presented the Career Information System to the Adult Education Department and the Area Planning Council at Southwestern Illinois College.
- Networked with members of our Latino Roundtable and continued to promote the Career Information system.
- Served on the Marketing Committee and helped choose “success stories” for the annual awards for LWIA-24. Also served as a member of the Youth Council LWIA-24, reviewed and voted on the youth providers for the upcoming year.
- Collaborated with LWIA-22, as a member of Youth Council, to facilitate the Career Fair at Collinsville Junior High, presented information on the Career Information System to council members and scored proposals from potential youth service providers.
- Provided the City Management Association of Southwestern Illinois with Help Wanted Online reports and “On the Map” products as well as other labor market information.
- Participated in the Job Fair at Frontier College in Fairfield. 46 students and jobseekers signed, took information, and spoke with IDES Representatives.
- Participated in IDES Veteran’s 2014 Fall Hiring Event in Mt. Vernon in which 20 employers were present.
- IDES economist attended DCEO “Illinois Sector Strategies Training” in Effingham and Springfield.
- Attended the Transition Youth Conference at Shawnee College. Spoke with teachers and students about Career Information system.
- Served on the LWA 3 Program Oversight and Service Providing Committees, which uses IDES Employment Projections and Wage Data, HWOL, and administrative data from workforce investment programs to approve local training programs for WIA participants.
- Provided support to the LWA 3 efforts to increase educational attainment, especially those community members who do not have a high school degree or GED. This committee uses US Census educational attainment data along with employment projections by educational requirement.
- Served on LWA 3 effort to focus community efforts helping local youth in career decisions and finding employment.
- Provided analysis each month to the Chicago Federal Reserve Board as part of their local survey on local economic conditions.
- As part of the LWA business services team, provided workforce information to their business customers and assist in their efforts to attract employers to job fairs and assist in layoff events.

In addition, other LMI staff also contributed the following:

- Participated in national High Tech Taxonomy Study Group conference calls. Reviewed materials for national high-tech sector meetings as necessary. Submitted

questions and comments and exchanged follow-up e-mails with Idaho representative (lead state on project) and other staff. (Bob Uhlenkott of Idaho was the lead in this group and expressed thanks to Illinois' LMI Director for allowing our staff person to participate as he was a strong asset to the group.)

- Participated in conference call with Illinois Science and Technology Coalition (ISTC) staff and EI&A Division Manager to discuss High-tech employment project. Provided summary data and links to relevant sites to Illinois Science and Technology Coalition (ISTC) and IDES staff prior to conference call.
- Produced Declining Industry reports that determine WIA allocations at the request of DCEO.
- Participated in IHS Financial Services Webcast on "The Regional Impact of the Great Oil Deflation".
- Provided ACS 2009-2013 Veteran Status data for Illinois counties to Leah Lockett of Dryhooch of America.
- Senior staff (including the LMI Director) participated on the WIC-sponsored UI Administrative Record Study Group. The results of the WIC group will be published later in 2015.
- George Putnam (IDES) promoted the use of the WDQI enhanced workforce outcome metrics at several venues over the past year including presentations at the Annual LED conference in Washington DC and at the Annual AJLA Conference in Chicago.