

**PY 2014 Performance Report: Minnesota Workforce Information Grant
Executive Summary and Signature Page**

The attached report summarizes grant goals, accomplishments, partnerships, customer consultations, and recommendations for changes to the deliverables under the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration's (ETA) Workforce Information Grant. Minnesota's grant for PY 2014 was \$607,750.

The **goal** of the Workforce Information Grant is to provide information to support increased employment and sustainable economic growth in Minnesota. **Strategies** include the following:

- Contribute to workforce investment system strategic planning, service delivery, and transformational efforts.
- Provide accurate and comparable data, information services, and resources to staff in the workforce investment system, businesses, and job seekers to facilitate informed decisions on services, training, and career paths that lead to good jobs.
- Provide actionable information, research, analyses, and interpretive studies to state and local policy makers to support the development of data-driven policies and service delivery strategies.

Major PY2014 Accomplishments: All grant deliverables were met on time. Brief summary of key deliverables:

- *NEW* Developed and deployed Career Profile, a one-stop career information tool for job seekers, career explorers and job counselors, including WIOA certified education program flags.
- Analyzed real-time job posting data and incorporated jobs feed into Career Profile.
- Provided customer service through consultation and collaboration with WIBs, employer groups, education planners, legislators and others, the LMI website, LMI Helpline, presentations and trainings, and email notifications.
- Produced short-term employment forecasts and long-term regional 2012-2022 employment projections.
- Produced regional labor market data including job vacancy estimates, occupational wage and employment estimates and occupations in demand.
- Produced LMI publications Minnesota Employment Review (monthly) and Minnesota Economic Trends (quarterly) including an Minnesota's annual economic state of the state issue (Trends, June 2015).
- Populated the Workforce Information Database which is used to populate LMI data tools.

Aggregate expenditures for the WIG the activities listed above exceeded the Workforce Information Grant by approximately \$500,000. LMI was able to obtain funding of \$250,000 from the Job Skills Partnership Program Board and another \$250,000 in state of Minnesota appropriations last program year toward these activities.

Customer Consultations

LMI used website usability testing results to design the newest data tool, Career Profile. LMI conducted an email survey of Regional Analyst team customers. LMI consulted with a wide range of customers including WIBs, Workforce Development, Vocational Rehabilitation, MnSCU Program Planning Office, MN Office of Higher Education and UI staff. Feedback is being using toward continuous improvement of LMI products and services.

According to the Workforce Services survey, 91% of respondents would **definitely recommend** and another 7 percent would **probably recommend** an LMI regional analyst to a colleague who needed specific information about labor market data or statistics.

Recommendations for Improvements or Changes to the Deliverables

We have identified two recommendations for ETA including supporting an Employee Benefits Survey to enhance understanding of Affordable Care Act impact and supporting further workforce alignment research activities.

Katie Clark Sieba

State Workforce Agency Administrator

Gaura Beeth

State Workforce Investment Board Chair

Sept. 29, 2015

Date

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Date

Department of Employment and Economic Development

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