



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Labor and Training

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Gina M. Raimondo  
Governor

Scott R. Jensen  
Director

September 28, 2015

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

*RICHARD  
AMANDA*

Dear Ms. O'Brien

Enclosed is Rhode Island's Annual Performance Report for Program Year 2014 Workforce Information Grant as required by Training and Employment Guidance Letter 39-14. The report outlines the products, services and activities for which grant funds were expended during Program Year 2014. An electronic copy of this report will also be submitted to the Boston Regional Office.

If there are any questions concerning this submittal, please contact Donna Murray, Assistant Director for Labor Market Information, at (401) 462-8751.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Jensen  
Director,  
RI Department of Labor and Training

*Constance A. Howes*

Constance A. Howes  
Chair,  
Governor's Workforce Board-RI

SRJ/dam  
Enclosures

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND TRAINING**  
**Division of Labor Market Information**

**Program Year 2014 State Workforce Information Grant**  
**Annual Performance Report**

**Workforce Plan Deliverables and Outcomes**

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

Rhode Island is currently using version 2.5 of the Workforce Information Database in its on-line web application (*EmployRI*) from Geographic Solutions Inc. All of the core tables have been populated with the latest available information in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Analyst Resource Center. Rhode Island will move to version 2.6 in the first quarter of 2016.

Licensing and certification information was collected in PY 2014. Data tables were updated and submitted to the National Crosswalk Service Center for inclusion in America's Career InfoNet website.

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

The primary activity for PY 2014 was production of statewide short-term industry and occupational projections. The 2014 to 2016 Projections were completed in February 2015 and used to populate our Workforce Information Database. An extract file was submitted via the Short Term Projections Submissions Portal and to the Boston Regional Office.

During PY 2013, RI completed the production of its 2012-2022 long-term industry and occupational projections. These were submitted to the Projections Managing Partnership at the end of July 2014. During PY2014 our projections website was updated with the latest projection data. Various publications and brochures which showcase this data were revised and update incorporating the latest projections data and wage data. These latest projections and publications can be found on our web site at:

<http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/proj.htm>

As in prior years and noted in our previous year application cover letters, RI does not produce sub-state projections due to the small size of the state. RI is one large labor market area where workers can commute to work throughout the state. As such, it makes little sense to expend resources to develop sub-state projections that would essentially mirror our statewide projections.

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

- LMI completed its annual *Rhode Island Employment Trends and Workforce Issues - 2014* in December 2014. This publication includes data on the labor force and job trends; industry employment; the impact of the recession; local employment dynamics; characteristics of the insured unemployed; UI claims; labor supply and demand trends from the Conference Board; industry and occupational projections; job training requirements; and information from the American Community Survey on educational attainment, workforce participation and median earnings by education level. An electronic copy is available on our web site at [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/pdf/trends.pdf](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/pdf/trends.pdf).
- RI continued to produce its *Quarterly Labor Supply and Demand* report implemented during the PY 2011. This report uses claims data and job openings data from our RI job board. This report continues to develop in response to feedback we receive from customers and Workforce Development staff. The report compares EmployRI job postings from our netWORKri job board with the availability of Unemployment Insurance claimants in those job areas. This quarterly can be found at: [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/supply&demand.htm](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/supply&demand.htm)
- LMI continued with its practice of completing a quarterly review of the monthly job numbers produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) using quarterly UI Tax data reported by employers to forecast expected revisions in the job numbers when annual benchmarking process is conducted. Implemented during the PY 2011, this review was in response to the divergence we were seeing in the official job numbers and the latest data reported by employers. The latest report for the first quarter of 2015 is on our web site at: [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/jobrevisions115.htm](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/jobrevisions115.htm). This review is conducted quarterly by LMI in order to provide the governor's office and state revenue estimators a more current view of the job trends in RI. These estimates were presented by the LMI director at the State Revenue & Caseload Estimating Conferences in November 2014 and May 2015, often published by local news outlets and are included in our *Rhode Island Employment Trends and Workforce Issues* report in place of the BLS estimates.
- Provided Targeted Employment Area (TEA) Designation materials throughout the program year for several employers interested in opening Regional Centers and TEA project designations under the EB-5 Visa program of the United States Center for Immigration Services. The TEA process encourages the creation of jobs through foreign investment at businesses in high unemployment areas.

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

All LMI and workforce information products and reports are posted to our Labor Market Information web site ([www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi)).

LMI also uses an e-mail notification system to alert registered users to new products as they are released.

Reports released in the last program year include:

- *Rhode Island Employment Trends and Workforce Issues* at [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/pdf/trends.pdf](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/pdf/trends.pdf). This report provides an overview of the current

employment situation in RI, the condition of our job market, labor force and unemployment levels, our expected future job growth and the effect that population trends and demographic changes may have on RI's ability to meet the new job demands.

- ***State of the State: A Statistical Profile of Rhode Island's Cities and Towns*** at [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/pdf/stateofstate.pdf](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/pdf/stateofstate.pdf)
- The RI 2013 occupational wage rates were posted on the LMI website at <http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/oes/statealpha.htm>. The ***2014 Rhode Island Occupational Wage Report*** and ***2014 Rhode Island Occupational Wage*** pamphlet have been updated and are available on our website at <http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/oes/wagereport.htm>. The 2014 data include three wage measures for each occupation (mean, median, experienced), estimated employment, and the typical educational level for each occupation. Included in the publication are wage statistics by major occupational group, national wage comparisons, and top paying occupations by education & training.
- Our ***Monthly Employment Bulletin*** is a monthly newsletter that provides information on Labor Market Information (LMI) and Department of Labor and Training (DLT) activities, the civilian labor force statistics, employment by industry, manufacturing hours and earnings, as well as various other economic data. The report can be found at: [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/bulletin.htm](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/bulletin.htm) .
- ***Rhode Island Quarterly Labor Supply and Demand Report*** - Unemployment insurance claimants represent an able and available **supply** of trained labor. On-line postings represent a current **demand** for labor. A comparison of these two datasets provides an indication of occupational groups for which labor supply is sufficient to meet employer's current needs and for which there may be a shortage of trained workers available to meet employer's current demands. The report can be found at: [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/supply&demand.htm](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/supply&demand.htm)
- ***Projected Revisions to Rhode Island Job Numbers*** – An analysis of RI jobs data using the latest Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) data to predict job levels since the last BLS benchmark which covered the period through September 2014. LMI revises the job estimates generated through the Current Employment Statistics program and replaces them with employment data generated through the QCEW program in a manner similar to the annual benchmark performed each January in cooperation with the BLS. The reports are written each quarter and published on our website. See: <http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/jobrevisions115.htm>
- ***Multiple Jobholders in the Ocean State – 2014*** data. Can be found at: [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/mjh.htm](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/mjh.htm).
- ***Women's Earnings in the Ocean State 1998-2012*** can be found at: <http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/womenearn.htm>
- ***Union Membership in Rhode Island 2014*** can be found at: <http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/union.htm>
- ***RI Commuting Patterns*** – provides journey-to-work statistics for Rhode Island cities and towns based on the 2006-2010 American Community Survey. Can be found at: <http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/commute.htm>
- ***Regional Economic Overview*** – this product provides an overview of RI's labor force statistics and jobs data as they compare to the nation and other New England states. Changes since the previous month, year, start of the year and recession are all

summarized on a monthly basis. Can be found at:

<http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/news/overview.htm>

- **Nonprofit Private Sector Employment** - this new publication was first published this program year and compares 2012 private nonprofit employment in Rhode Island to the rest of the country. Can be found at:

<http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/nonprofit.htm>

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

- LMI Director had accompanied the agency director to monthly meetings with the Governor, his senior staff and the Director of CommerceRI where the latest job and unemployment numbers are reviewed. The last monthly meeting was held in January 2015 at which the LMI Director provided the new governor and her administration with an overview of labor market data. Under the new administration, the meetings will be held on a as need basis.
- LMI Director testified at the State Revenue & Caseload Estimating Conferences in November 2013 and in May 2014. Testimony at the conferences includes a review of expected job number revisions based on an analysis of the quarterly UI Tax reports received from employers.
- The LMI Director and Administrator attended the Census LED Conference in September 2014.
- LMI staff attended meetings and provided extensive data for the Rhode Island Biennial Plan which was requested by and due to the state legislature on November 30, 2014. LMI staff did a presentation highlighting current economic conditions and the 2012-2022 projections; provided customized information on industry and occupational projections focusing on education, training and work experience requirements by occupation; current employment by detailed industry level; population data and demographics for individuals collecting benefits. LMI staff prepared several of the data tables that were included in the Biennial Plan Data Book
- LMI Director served on the “Council of Economic Advisors” formed under the previous administration. Meetings were held in October and November 2014.
- LMI provided statistics to our State Workforce Investment Office for WIA funding – included are unemployment rates, claims data and employment.
- LMI staff served as a members of the Advisory Group for the department’s Longitudinal Data Quality Initiative. LMI provided data and assisted in designing questions and stories that represent various populations in the state.
- LMI Administrator attended the Governor’s Workforce Board annual breakfast meeting.
- LMI updated annual publications for the Providence/Cranston and Greater RI WIA which includes data relating to employment, unemployment, demographics and unemployment insurance claimants for the area. They can be found at: <http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/pcwia.htm> and [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/pdf/recession.pdf](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/pdf/recession.pdf).
- LMI provided information on requested industry clusters for the Governor’s Workforce Board to assist in their selection of industry partners
- LMI staff members reviewed applications for the state’s new jobs program “Real Jobs Rhode Island”

- LMI provided statistics to ProvPlan focusing on occupational wage rates, industry employment, unemployment rates, and claims data to help create data stories used to better the RI understanding of the labor market.
- LMI staff attended the RI Health Consortium meeting and provided information to the members regarding the current composition of the health care industry in RI.
- LMI staff presented industry and occupational data related to professional and technical careers in RI to the Tech Collective.
- LMI provided extensive information for Real Job RI's relating to industry staffing and forecasts.
- LMI prepared a revised list of In-Demand Occupations for use by the Workforce Investment Office training service providers.
- LMI worked with the Department of Higher Education to create a definition for and list of high demand/ high wage jobs in Rhode Island.
- LMI sent a Principal Research Analyst to the the Census LED Conference in June 2015.
- LMI Staff attended meetings with "Real Jobs RI" staff and partners to provide information relating to industry employment, staffing and forecasts; and to assist in developing metrics to measure the success of the program.
- The LMI Division partnered with the SWIO to secure a SWEAPII Grant which will fund a new position in the LMI unit through December 2016.