

**Mississippi
Annual Performance Report
ETA One Stop LMI Grant
PY 2007 (7/1/07 – 6/30/08)**

Accomplishments

(1) Continue to populate the Workforce Information Database with state and local data

Mississippi has continued to update the Workforce Information database with required data sets as established by the Analyst Resource Center. The database is available on the Labor Market Information section of the MDES agency website. We are using the most current version of the database to ensure consistency with other states and constantly work to update the system with current information or revised data as it becomes available.

(2) Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections

Long-term occupational projections for 2006 –2016 have been created and sent to the Projections Managing Partnership for their review and comparison to National projections. The results will be analyzed when returned and any necessary adjustments or revisions will be incorporated. Long-term occupational projections will be published for the State of Mississippi, four Metropolitan Statistical Areas, four Workforce Investment areas, and thirteen Community College Districts. We feel that the additional areas provide greater flexibility and more local data for users for special projects and initiatives.

Industry occupational projections for 2006 –2016 will also be published after review and approval of our current projections. Industry projections will be published for the State of Mississippi, four Metropolitan Statistical Areas, four Workforce Investment areas, and thirteen Community College Districts, and will be available on the agency's website.

Short-term occupational projections were created and provided to the national consortia as required and have been published on their site. In addition we are currently in the process of adding the short-term occupational series to the MDES website.

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

We are currently creating the annual report and will provide copies to the Office of the Governor and the State Workforce Investment Board when complete. As directed in the planning guidance data from outside sources will be incorporated in this report.

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

All publications produced by the Labor Market Information Department are available on the MDES website with the exception of one tri-fold publications. Due to the design of the publication we feel that it is best to continue to create and mail or to provide this publication through exhibits where agency personnel are present.

(5) Partner and consult on a continuing basis with workforce investment boards

We have continued to produce occupational projections, industry employment projections, labor force statistics, and occupational wage estimates for each of the workforce investment areas within Mississippi and will continue to provide requested information for inclusion in the annual plans for the state and local boards. During the upcoming year we will explore opportunities to expand our capabilities in this area.

(6) Conduct special studies and economic analyses

In addition to the wide variety of publications that the Labor Market Information Department is required to publish, the following items were produced during PY 2007.

During PY 07 the Labor Market Information Department partnered with another department within MDES to help produce a “Directions” publication that was provided to all school districts within Mississippi and also provided to all local WIN Job Centers in the state. The goal of this publication was to assist individuals and students with career choices in a user-friendly format. The LMI Department provided occupational projections and average wages along with funding to create the publication.

Partnered with a local publishing company to provide an annual career and educational guide magazine to all 10th through 12th grade students in Mississippi. The LMI Department provided funding along with industry specific data and the top jobs in the state based on average wages paid and projected annual openings. This publication is geared toward students and provides a wide range of data related to career and education planning.

Created an annual “Occupations in Demand” publication series that has been provided to all WIN Job Centers and School Districts within the State and is also available on the agency’s website. The publication is intended to highlight the high growth/high demand occupations in a geographic area. In addition occupations are analyzed by educational requirements where the top jobs are provided based on the average wages paid and the projected annual openings in the area. The Occupation in Demand series is updated annually for the State and each of the Workforce Investment Areas in Mississippi.

Created area specific occupational wages and staffing patterns along with labor force statistics and industry employment amounts to support either general economic development and research efforts or for individual employers interested in locating in a certain area. The wage estimates for smaller geographic areas were produced using the Estimates Delivery System by combining contiguous surrounding counties in order to produce as many occupations as possible while maintaining confidentiality standards associated with the data.

Produced information relating to a high growth/high demand study for the Mississippi State Department of Education. This analysis provided the top twenty-five high growth/high demand occupations for specific geographic areas along with projected annual openings; entry, experienced and average wages; and the general educational requirements associated with each of the occupations. This analysis was performed for thirteen areas, which cover the entire State.

Customer Consultation

During PY 2007 the Labor Market Information Department continued tracking the various requests for data. An electronic log is maintained to document the various customer types that request data, what was requested, and how it was resolved. This has proven to be a valuable

resource to assist us in identifying areas where communication or outreach needs to be improved. It also has proven to be useful in documenting the wide variety of customers and the frequency of the requests. In addition we have met directly with several customers requesting data and have identified areas where data can be consolidated to provide better reports and information that will be more useful to various groups.

We have continued to monitor usage of website publications. For PY 2007 Labor Market Information publications received approximately 193,000 hits on the MDES website.

Recommendations for Improvements or Changes to the Deliverables

The Mississippi Labor Market Information Department has no recommendations at this time.