

State of Connecticut
WORKFORCE INFORMATION ANNUAL REPORT – PY2007

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Date

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Date

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This report identifies the information products and services that the Connecticut Department of Labor's Office of Research developed and provided during program year 2007 to support the State's workforce investment system.

A. Accomplishments:

1. **Workforce Information Database:** *Continue to populate the Workforce Information Database with state and local data.*

- Maintain core data tables and licensing files
 - Implemented version 2.4
 - Updated core data tables with state, regional data
 - License.dbf and licauth.dbf files were updated and submitted through the National Crosswalk Service Center (NCSC) for inclusion on America's Career InfoNet
- Participate in Analyst Resource Center's (ARC) Database Structure Committee
 - Contributed to the development and improvement of the Database as a member of the Analyst Resource Center workgroup

2. **Employment Projections:** *Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections.*

Produced and disseminated:

- Statewide, short-term industry and occupational employment forecast to 2009 – in Labor Market Information website and Economic Digest.
- Statewide, long-term industry and occupational employment projections to 2016.
- Early in the year, completed sub-state, long-term industry and occupational employment projections to 2014.

Disseminated these through the Labor Market Information website and the *Information for Workforce Investment Planning – 2007* publication. The employment projections were submitted according to procedures established by the Projections Workgroup and Projections Managing Partnership.

3. Economic Analysis Report: *Publish an annual economic analysis.*

The following economic analysis reports were produced:

- *Current Conditions and Outlook for the U.S. and Connecticut Economies: 2007 to 2009*
 - Analysis of critical economic indicators in the U.S. economy and their affect on Connecticut's job growth
 - Reviewed by a panel of Connecticut economists
 - Analysis serves as the basis for the short-term forecast of Connecticut's industry employment
- *The 2008 Economic Outlook*
 - Examines the State's economy in the year ahead
 - Analysis included in the Economic Digest
- *2007: Another Good Year for State Employment Growth*
 - Reviews Connecticut's economy over the previous year including: economic expansion, employment and employment changes by major industry and labor market area
 - Includes employment forecasts for 2008 and beyond
- *Turning Point: Connecticut Employment Outlook to 2009*
 - Analyzes the State's current conditions and the projected employment by industry to 2009
 - Analysis included in the Economic Digest

4. Internet Information Delivery: *Post products, information, and reports on the Internet.*

Internet Systems:

- *Connecticut Job & Career ConneCTion (JCC):*
139,783 visitor sessions
 - Updates:
 - o assessment tools
 - o occupational wages, employment projections, education requirements
 - o job search tools and resources
 - o business listings through the *Potential Employer Search*
 - o job listings through the *Connecticut JobCentral*
 - o ongoing site maintenance

- *Connecticut Education & Training ConneCTion (ETC):*
55,223 visitor sessions
 - Updates:
 - o program data (schedules, awards, WIA-certification)
 - o integrated with *WIA Training Program Management System*
 - o ongoing site maintenance

- *WIA Training Program Management System*
 - 28,437 visitor sessions
 - Technical assistance, site maintenance
 - Updates:
 - o program and provider content
 - o credential symbol “diploma” added to applicable programs
 - o integrated with *Connecticut Education & Training ConneCTion*

 - Improvements:
 - o simplified entry of training programs and display screens
 - o eliminated occurrence of duplicate program/provider programs)

- *Labor Market Information:*
593,980 visitor sessions
 - Updates of data as they become available
 - Re-designed Home page
 - New and expanded data offerings:
 - o *Current Numbers and Trends*
 - o *Economic Indicators Scorecard*
 - o *Regional Economic Information*
 - o *Employer Search feature – 5,446 visitor sessions*
 - o *Workforce Employment Dynamics*

- *Print Products:*
Distributed: 136,159
Downloads: 613,101
 - Business & Employment Changes in News Media
 - Business Employment Dynamics
 - Connecticut Career Paths 2007 - 2009
 - Connecticut Career Posters
 - Connecticut Careers – A Look at Connecticut’s Entry-Level Occupations
 - Connecticut Economic Digest
 - Connecticut Labor Market Information At-A-Glance
 - Connecticut Occupational Employment & Wages
 - Good Jobs Don't Always Require a College Degree
 - Your Job Search Guide

5. Support Workforce Investment Boards: *Provide workforce information and support to state and local workforce investment boards.*

- Consultation with and response to inquiries from state's Workforce Investment Boards including:
 - *business expansion, relocation, downsizing*
 - *labor market studies*

- *Information for Workforce Investment Planning 2007*
Published with new and expanded data items:
 - *Regional occupational forecast to 2014*
 - *Industry cluster analysis:*
 - employment
 - statewide, workforce investment area
 - *Housing:*
 - sales
 - median prices
 - inventory
 - fair market rents
 - *Charts and thematic maps*

- *Information for Workforce Investment Planning 2008*
 - Feedback received from the Workforce Investment Board planners to help identify new or expanded data needs, possible modifications to publication

- Labor Market Information training session
 - *Workforce Alliance...South Central's Workforce Investment Board*

- Regional Labor Market Information:
 - Occupation and industry data displayed through *Labor Market Information* site and grouped by workforce investment area

- Grant assistance:
 - *Connecticut Career Pathways Initiative for Career & Technical Education*
 - *Demonstration Project Targeting Dislocated Workers –Early Warning System*
 - *Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) Community-Based, High-Growth Job Training*

- UI Data Access
 - Assisted in establishing UI data sharing agreements with the local Boards
 - Instituted process to ensure WIBs are satisfying confidentiality requirements

6. Special Studies and Economic Analyses: *Conduct special state, local, or sub-state regional studies and analyses to support state and local workforce development initiatives*

More than forty special studies and economic analyses were conducted for various users. They included:

- A Look at Connecticut's Older Workers
- Connecticut Careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- Earnings Losses of Displaced Workers in Connecticut
- Effects of Mass Layoffs on Earnings of Connecticut's Older Workers
- Higher Education: Building Connecticut's Workforce
- Sustainable Dynamism: A Regional Economic Development Strategy of Continuous Reinvention

Items Included in PY2007 Annual Plan, But Not Completed

Work on these products is still progressing:

- Electronic:
 - Education & Training Planners' Resource – A Web-accessible resource to enable an assessment of the supply of graduates from education and training programs against the known demand for worker skills
- Print:
 - Soaring to New Heights...Connecticut's Job Outlook by Training Level, 2006 to 2016

B. Customer Consultations:

The Office of Research views customer consultation and satisfaction assessment as an ongoing process focused towards the continuous improvement of its products and services. We use a variety of methods to measure the value of our products and services such as website usage statistics, customer surveys, indicators of product demand (printed and downloaded copies), and direct contacts with information users on a daily basis through committee and ad hoc meetings; training sessions, presentations and other events; and telephone and email. Our websites offer means to *Contact Us* to report site problems or request assistance and to provide comments and suggestions through *Feedback* links. Training and other sponsored events are accompanied by exit surveys or evaluations. The comments and requests received are used to identify topics for future publications, to identify potential enhancements to existing products, and in some instances, to develop new print and electronic products.

Websites:

Visitor Sessions

Product	PY07
<i>Labor Market Information</i>	593,980
<i>Job & Career ConneCTion</i>	139,783
<i>Education & Training ConneCTion</i>	55,223
TOTAL	798,986

Publications:

Product	PY07
Print (# distributed)	136,159
Electronic (# downloaded)	613,101
TOTAL	749,260

Outreach:

Service	Events	Persons
LMI Requests (by telephone, email, etc.)	847	847
LMI Presentations/Training	52	2,435
TOTAL	899	3,282

Note: Not identified here are the many meetings, conferences, job fairs and other events sponsored and attended during the year from which direct and indirect feedback is received and new ideas generated.