

**COLORADO LABOR MARKET INFORMATION
PROGRESS REPORT FOR JULY 2010 – JUNE 2011
WORKFORCE INFORMATION CORE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES GRANT**

Statement of Work Deliverables

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

a) Accomplishments:

i) *Outcomes:*

LMI Gateway currently uses the software called Virtual LMI version 10.05. Version 10.05 is programmed to work with some objects of version 2.4 of the Workforce Information Database (WID). Version 11.05 of Virtual LMI will fully utilize WID version 2.4. Colorado LMI has implemented a test site with version 11.05, and is currently scheduling implementation of the production version. The new version will have enhanced security features, including Secure Socket Layers (SSL).

All core tables in version 2.4 of the database as defined by the Workforce Information Database Consortium are populated as per plan. The tables are regularly updated with the most current data available. Recently updated tables include Empdb, Industry, Indprj and Occprj, Labforce, CES, Oeswage, CPI, and Income.

Colorado LMI recently revised its internal data preparation software to adapt to new import formats for seasonally adjusted labor force data.

Colorado has populated the Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) tables in WID 2.4 using Local Employment Dynamics data.

ii) *Conformity to planned milestones:*

All milestones were met throughout the year.

iii) *Actual aggregate expenditure:*

Source of Funds for PY10 Activities:

PY09 Second Year = \$36,693; PY10 = \$66,986

Total Expenditures for PY10 Activities = \$103,679

b) Customer consultations: N/A

c) Partnerships and collaborations:

Colorado LMI continues to work with the U.S. Census Bureau in the development of the Local Employment Dynamics data tool. Colorado LMI is expanding the use of LED data in discussions and interaction with WIBs.

d) Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

2) Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections.

a) Long-Term Industry and Occupational Projections:

i) Accomplishments:

(1) Outcomes:

ETA requires LMI to produce one set of statewide, long-term industry and occupation employment projections every other year. Sub-state long-term projections are required in alternating years, but the number of sub-state areas is not specified.

In partnership with the Workforce Development Council (WDC), LMI goes beyond the ETA requirement by producing long-term projections for the state and all 7 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) annually.

The PY10 WICPS grant required LMI to complete 2008-2018 sub-state long-term projections. Since Colorado estimates a more current base year for long-term industry and occupational projections to better meet the needs of the Workforce System, the PY10 deliverable was produced in PY08. PY10 activities involved the production of 2010-2020 statewide and sub-state long-term industry and occupation employment projections, which were published on LMI Gateway June 30, 2011.

(2) Conformity to planned milestones:

All milestones were met throughout the year.

(3) Actual aggregate expenditure:

Source of Funds for PY10 Activities:

PY09 Second Year=\$35,851; PY10=\$65,449

Total Expenditures for PY10 Activities = \$101,300

ii) Customer consultations: N/A

iii) Partnerships and collaborations:

Colorado LMI continues to be an active leader and participant in the Projections Managing Partnership.

iv) Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

b) Short-Term Industry and Occupation Projections:

i) Accomplishments:

(1) Outcomes:

ETA requires LMI to produce one set of statewide, short-term industry and occupation employment projections each year.

In partnership with the WDC, LMI goes beyond the ETA requirement by producing short-term projections for the state and all 7 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) every 6 months.

The PY10 WICPS grant required LMI to complete 2010-2012 short-term projections. Since Colorado estimates a more current base year for short-term industry and occupational projections to better meet the needs of the Workforce System, the PY10 deliverable was produced in PY09. PY10 activities involved the production of 4th quarter 2010-2012, published on LMI Gateway December 31, 2010, and 2nd quarter 2011-2013, published on LMI Gateway June 30, 2011, statewide and sub-state short-term industry and occupation employment projections.

(2) *Conformity to planned milestones:*

All milestones were met throughout the year.

(3) *Actual aggregate expenditure:*

Source of Funds for PY09 Activities:

PY08 Second Year=\$35,851; PY09=\$65,448

Total Expenditures for PY09 Activities = \$101,299

ii) *Customer consultations:* N/A

iii) *Partnerships and collaborations:*

Colorado LMI continues to be an active leader and participant in the Projections Managing Partnership.

iv) *Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:*

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

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

a) **Accomplishments:**

i) **Outcomes:**

Due to the uncertain economic climate, the Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) reinstated the Governor's Revenue Forecast Advisory Committee in the fall of 2008. Since that time the LMI Director has served on this committee which advises OSPB on economic conditions and expectations. *Note: The Governor's Revenue Forecast Advisory Committee was originally formed by the Romer Administration during the economic difficulties of the 1980's.*

Colorado LMI also provided data and consultation pertinent to the production of the following reports which include analyses on the state of the Colorado economy:

Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting–Revenue Forecast

September 20, 2010
December 20, 2010
March 18, 2011
June 20, 2011

These forecasts can be found the web at:

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/OSPB/GOVR/1218709343298>

Legislative Council – Focus Colorado: Economic and Revenue Forecast

September 2010
December 2010
March 2011
June 2011

The forecasts for 2010 and 2011 can be found on the web at:

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CGA-LegislativeCouncil/CLC/1251573164950>

Health Care and Social Assistance: Colorado Leader in Job Creation is a comprehensive report on the health care and social assistance industry in Colorado. It contains 26 pages of analysis, including charts on important occupations in the industry, industry job growth, and top employers.

Analysis of Colorado's Creative Industries Cluster Employment and Occupations is a comprehensive report on the creative industries cluster in Colorado. It contains 22 pages of analysis, including charts on occupations and industry job growth in the cluster.

Interim Report on Green Jobs in the Colorado Economy presents results of a 2011 survey designed to estimate the number of green jobs in Colorado, and to obtain information on industry distribution, and the types and wages of these green jobs.

- ii) ***Conformity to planned milestones:***
All milestones were met throughout the year.

- iii) ***Actual aggregate expenditure:***
Source of Funds for PY10 Activities:
PY10=\$25,000
Total Expenditures for PY10 Activities = \$25,000

- b) **Customer consultations:**
Customers of these reports include the Governor's Office and the WDC.

- c) **Partnerships and collaborations:**
Colorado LMI continues to play a key role in the Governor's Revenue Forecast Advisory Committee.

- d) **Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:**
The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

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

a) Accomplishments:

i) **Outcomes:**

Colorado's LMI Gateway web site, which is based on Geographic Solutions' software product called Virtual LMI, is primarily designed to deliver data, charts, and maps using simple query forms. Users select the type of data that they need, the time period of the data, and the geographic area. These selections result in a display of data tables, color charts, and maps if they are pertinent (such as in a display of unemployment rates by county). All major labor market statistics, as well as other series such as the Consumer Price Index, are available for display.

LMI Gateway provides even simpler ways of querying the data than the method described above. The "Labor Market Facts" page in Gateway presents nineteen questions displayed as hyperlinks. Some examples of the questions are "What are the highest paying jobs in an area?" and "What are the largest employers in an area?" When the user clicks the question, they are taken to a page in which they select their geographic area of interest. After that selection is made, data which answers the question are displayed.

In addition to the direct data queries, LMI Gateway also provides access to more traditional forms of documents, such as Excel and PDF files. Many of these are found on the "Products" page in Gateway.

The LMI Gateway web site home page was redesigned to increase accessibility to labor market information. Click-by-Click for the Business Leader and Click-by-Click for the Job Seeker were also redesigned to maximize use of the web site data.

OES Wage Survey Report

The results of the May 2010 Occupational Employment Statistics Wage Survey were published in July 2011.

Industry Brochures

Background research on three new industry brochures targeted to people making career choices. Industries included are Finance, Manufacturing, and Health Care. Each brochure includes an industry description, list of jobs with educational requirements, state higher education programs in this industry, apprenticeship opportunities and short articles called "A Day in the Life Of ..."

Projections Brochures

Newly redesigned based on requested feedback from workforce centers and educators, these brochures identify jobs projected to grow and the education and on-the-job training requirements. The **Colorado Careers** brochures are designed to give job seekers a quick look at the top growing jobs in Colorado, and wage ranges paid. These brochures are produced for two types of jobs: jobs that require on-the-job training and jobs that require higher education. Two brochures are produced for ten different geographic areas and for the state as a whole.

Other products published regularly include:

Colorado Employment Situation Press Release: A monthly PDF document that describes the employment situation in Colorado.

Monthly Data Overview: A one-page summary of key monthly economic indicators including unemployment rate, initial and continued UI claims, average weekly wages, and the Consumer Price Index.

Advanced Technology Data: A monthly tabulation of employment data for seven industries classified as “advanced technology”.

The web address for Colorado LMI Gateway is:

<http://lmigateway.coworkforce.com/>

The web address for the LMI Gateway products page is:

<http://lmigateway.coworkforce.com/lmigateway/gsipub/index.asp?docid=282>

- ii) **Conformity to planned milestones:**
All milestones were met throughout the year.

- iii) **Actual aggregate expenditure:**
Source of Funds for PY10 Activities:
PY09 Second Year=\$7,996; PY10=\$73,772
Total Expenditures for PY10 Activities = \$81,768

- b) **Customer consultations:**
The LMI Gateway web site home page redesign incorporated workforce system staff feedback during the redesign process.

- c) **Partnerships and collaborations:** N/A

- d) **Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:**
The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

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

a) Accomplishments:

i) Outcomes:

Seventeen presentation/workshops and job fair services were delivered to more than 7,710 workforce center and partner agency staff and customers in support of Workforce Investment Board goals and objectives. By year-end, contacts/interactions included individuals in workforce regions across the state.

Training and Outreach staff produced, printed, and distributed 229,546 printed product pieces (brochures, training materials, literature) based on the most current Labor Market Information data available. All products are also available electronically.

Several LMI Staff participated in two Denver-area Job Fairs by distributing LMI printed products and demonstrating the LMI Gateway web site in support of Workforce Investment Board goals.

National and state economic information was produced for the Workforce Programs Annual Report covering the period July 2010 – June 2011.

The first six modules of LMI 101 Online were completed and published on e-Colorado during PY09. The series was completed with a seventh module, a game designed to use the information taught in modules 1 – 6, which was designed and published in PY10.

The Conference Board's Help Wanted Online (HWOL) job tool evaluation was completed. Licenses for LMI and all workforce regions in the state were purchased to expand the availability of the data set. The Conference Board provided several web-based training sessions for new users.

Redesigned ProjectionsCentral.com web site developed for use by a wide variety of workforce center staff, their customers, students and other members of the public.

Labor Market Information, in partnership with Workforce Programs has designed a "hot" button and a "landing page" for e-Colorado's home page to increase LMI training accessibility to workforce centers. E-Colorado is the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment's e-portal.

Presentations in support of Workforce Center and Workforce Investment Board goals were made to partner agencies and business customers across the state.

ii) Conformity to planned milestones:

All milestones were met throughout the year.

iii) Actual aggregate expenditure:

Source of Funds for PY09 Activities:

PY09 Second Year=\$4,381; Other State Funding=\$231,539

Total Expenditures for PY09 Activities = \$235,920

b) Customer consultations:

Workforce Center staff recommended new products and reviewed prototypes, providing recommendations for continuous improvement.

Responded to questions from workforce development professionals and educators regarding use of LMI data and provided instructions to customers on the use of the LMI Gateway web site to enhance services.

Consulted with workforce center staff on green industries and green occupations definitions.

Consulted with workforce programs staff on industry sector strategies for workforce regions across the state.

Established and successfully continues to meet an internal standard for customer service delivery by responding to all inquiries within 48 hours.

c) Partnerships and collaborations:

LMI staff worked in partnership with workforce center leadership to identify, design and develop new Labor Market Information products to address specific data needs from Workforce Investment Board members, Workforce Center staff and the customers served by those agencies.

d) Recommendations for improvements or changes to the deliverables:

The ETA should fully fund the activities under the Workforce Information Core Products and Services Grant.

Source of Funds for PY10 Activities Spending Summary

Total PY09 Second Year = \$116,314

Total PY10 = \$212,341

Total Other State Funding = \$320,301

Total Expenditures for PY10 Activities = \$648,956