

DATA USER INSIGHTS ACADEMY COHORT II ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Over the course of the Data User Insights Academy, participating state teams strengthened partnerships between labor market information (LMI) producers and data users to improve the accessibility, interpretation, and application of workforce and education data. Through collaborative planning, stakeholder engagement, and user-centered innovation, states developed practical strategies to enhance workforce decision-making and data-informed policy.

Key accomplishments include:

Hawaii



- **Strengthened collaboration among workforce, education, and economic development partners**, including DBEDT, University of Hawai'i Community Colleges (UHCC), DLIR, and other stakeholders.
- **Advanced efforts to collect enhanced wage record data**, including identifying legislative champions, conveners, and key stakeholders for broader engagement.
- **Developed a Curriculum Review tool** to improve linkage between UHCC and LMI.
- **Developed an Auto Coder Dashboard** to make linking job titles to SOC codes easier.
- **Explored how AI tools can improve the accessibility and interpretation** of labor market information for broader audiences.

Louisiana



- **Developed plans for the "LMI On the Geaux" virtual learning sessions and office hours program** to provide statewide training, technical assistance, and engagement opportunities for students, workforce boards, counselors, nonprofits, educators, and economic developers.
- **Expanded access to user-friendly workforce tools** through development of Career Clusters and Occupational Licenses dashboards, along with plain-language screencasts and tutorials designed to improve accessibility for non-technical users.
- **Strengthened partnerships with workforce, education, and regional stakeholders** to support student-centered design, regional equity, rapid response planning, and broader awareness of workforce data resources across Louisiana communities.

New Jersey



- **Formalized collaboration among community colleges**, the New Jersey Council of County Colleges, and the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development to improve use of longitudinal data.
- **Developed a data-informed memorandum of understanding (MOU)** to support standardized statewide outcomes reporting across community colleges.
- **Advanced efforts to provide timely, accessible, and interpretable labor market outcomes data** to support institutional planning and decision-making.
- **Established a framework for improving post-completion workforce outcomes tracking** for community college students.
- **Created plans for training college leaders and staff** on effective use of longitudinal workforce and education data.

South Carolina



- **Strengthened collaboration** among the South Carolina Department of Employment & Workforce, South Carolina Technical College System, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, and South Carolina Department of Education.
- **Improved understanding of the state office of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs (RFA)** data requests and data-sharing processes across agencies.
- **Advanced the Non-Degree Credential (NDC) Investigative Project** by identifying project stages, stakeholder groups, and statewide coordination strategies, building off existing work done by the South Carolina Coordinating Council for Workforce Development (CCWD).
- **Expanded institutional knowledge related to labor market information**, SOC coding initiatives, non-credit data, and longitudinal workforce outcomes research.
- **Developed plans for an ongoing statewide Data Insights group** to support continued collaboration, data sharing, and coordinated research efforts.

Washington



- **Conducted a statewide survey that generated more than 240 responses** to better understand the labor market information needs of community and technical colleges.
- **Identified major LMI use cases** for advisors, institutional researchers, faculty, grant writers, and other stakeholders across the student journey.
- **Developed user personas and student journey frameworks** to guide more accessible, human-centered LMI tools and services.
- **Established a plan for continuous engagement and collaboration** between the Employment Security Department and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges.
- **Prioritized future LMI enhancement opportunities** focused on accessibility, usability, executive engagement, and stakeholder-centered design.

These accomplishments demonstrate how state workforce, education, and labor market information partners are working together to create more accessible, collaborative, and user-centered data systems. Through stronger partnerships and deliberate engagement with data users, states are transforming workforce data into actionable tools that improve decision-making, workforce alignment, and economic opportunity.

The Data User Insights Academy was coordinated by the Labor Market Information (LMI) Institute and partners with support from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (ETA).