

Commonwealth of Kentucky Workforce and Labor Market Information Grant Core Products and Services Annual Report for PY 2021

Education and Labor Cabinet
Kentucky Center for Statistics
Workforce Intelligence Branch

Kentucky is pleased to present the PY 2021 Annual Report on the Workforce and Labor Information Grant (WIG) core products and services. Continuing cooperation and consultation with both customers and partner agencies enabled the Workforce Intelligence Branch, within the Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet (KELC), to meet its objectives for PY 2021. The fulfillment of the deliverables outlined below provided the means for the Commonwealth to identify, develop, and maintain sustainable and competitive regional economies and support planning for long-term economic stability. These objectives are especially critical as the Commonwealth works to fully recover and evaluate the lingering economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Workforce Intelligence Branch (Branch) is housed within the Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS), the state agency charged with collecting and linking data to evaluate education and workforce efforts in the Commonwealth so that policymakers, practitioners, and the general public can make informed decisions. KYSTATS also maintains the Kentucky Longitudinal Data System (KLDS), a statewide longitudinal data system that facilitates integration of data from multiple education, workforce, and other government sources.

This strategic alignment continues to afford the Branch opportunities to expand both the scope and quality of the services and products traditionally provided through Labor Market Information (LMI); and reflects Kentucky's commitment to provide quality information to all customers of the workforce information system. It has also uniquely positioned KYSTATS to respond to inquiries on multiple fronts regarding the disruptions to the workforce and educational communities resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

In PY 2021, a wide range of products and services were generated through collaboration with the KLDS research team; and as always, through the Branch's Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) cooperative programs and the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) WIG.

1. Workforce Information Database (WID)

During PY 2021, Kentucky continued to populate and maintain all of the designated core tables in the WID. Kentucky development staff also continued to streamline the process of formatting, revising, and loading data to the WID.

Although Kentucky had planned to update to WID Version 3.0 during PY 2021, the update was not made available during the program year. Kentucky continues to maintain WID Version 2.8, the most recent version of the WID.

In PY 2021, Kentucky updated its LICAUTH, LICENSE, and LICXOCC tables in the WID. This updated licensing data was also submitted to the Analyst Resource Center (ARC) for inclusion in the ARC database. The ARC periodically shares this database with CareerOneStop for use in their License Finder tool. Per the requirements of ARC, Kentucky updates these core tables every two years.

Other information housed in the WID includes: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Current Employment Statistics (CES), Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) data, Consumer



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Price Index (CPI), income data, occupational employment and wage estimates, industry and occupational projections, and population data.

Another key component in the WID is the Data Axle Employer Database. During PY 2021, Kentucky incorporated the 2022 Second Edition of the database into the WID. Kentucky also updated the Find Employers Dashboard allowing users to access the most recent version of the Employer Database. The dashboard, developed in Tableau, allows users to search for employers by industry, keyword, county, size range, and other select criteria; and is available at https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/KYLM_I_EMPDB.

Task	Task Focus	Milestone Date	Principal Customers	Status
Perform routine updates of core tables, including current cycle projections data	Data Update	Ongoing	Local Workforce Area boards, employers, educators, students, career counselors, economic developers, policymakers, job seekers, and government agencies	Ongoing
Maintain the most recent version of the WID and implement WID Version 3.0	Data Structure Update	By required ETA deadline	Same	On hold - WID Version 3.0 not yet released
Update LICAUTH, LICENSE, and LICXOCC tables in the WID and submit for inclusion in the ARC database	Data Update	June 2022	Same	Completed
Incorporate Data Axle EMPDB updates into the WID semi-annually	Data Update	As available	Same	Ongoing
Maintain and update Find Employers search module on the KYLMI webpage on KYSTATS website	Data Update	As available	Same	Ongoing
Streamline processing of data uploads and revisions/updates, and expand staff training on WID requirements and processes	Capacity Building/ Training	Ongoing	LMI Staff	Ongoing

2. State and local industry and occupational employment projections

In early PY 2021, Kentucky produced supplemental 2019-2029 long-term occupational projections at both the state and sub-state levels. Later in the program year, Kentucky developed statewide, long-term industry and occupational projections for the period of 2020-2030 as required by ETA. These required projections were submitted to the Projections Managing Partnership (PMP) by the July 8, 2022 ETA deadline. Both sub-state and statewide projections data files were made available on the KYSTATS website and incorporated into the WID.

In PY 2021, finalized Kentucky long-term occupational projections were also made available on the KYSTATS website utilizing the interactive Occupational Outlook. This dynamic, Tableau-based report replaced the traditional Outlook publication in PY 2018 and incorporates both state and sub-state level projections, as well as educational attainment, and wage data. The Occupational Outlook Dashboard is located at https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/2022_OCC.

In addition, in PY 2021, Kentucky updated the industry employment time series to include 2021 employment data. This updated time series was used to develop statewide, short-term (two-year) industry, and occupational projections for 2021-2023 using 2021 as the base year. These short-term projections were submitted to the PMP in March 2022 and incorporated into Kentucky's WID.

Finally, in 2021, Kentucky produced mid-term, five-year projections for the period of 2020-2025 at the state and sub-state level. After years of exploring methods to produce five-year projections utilizing Projections Suite and alternate models to produce mid-term estimates, Kentucky is pursuing the option to publish these five-year projections in lieu of the short-term, two-year if permitted by ETA. The five-year occupational projections currently produced by Kentucky are utilized in the Kentucky Future Skills Report (KFSR), Kentucky's first labor supply/demand report. The updated KFSR contains projections for the period of 2020-2025 and is located at <https://kystats.ky.gov/Latest/KFSR>.

Task	Task Focus	Milestone Date	Principal Customers	Status
Complete and publish supplemental statewide and sub-state level projections for the period of 2019-2029	Data Update	September 2021	Local Workforce Area boards, employers, educators, students, career counselors, economic developers, policymakers, job seekers, and government agencies	Completed - August 2021
Incorporate statewide and sub-state long-term projections into the interactive Occupational Outlook dashboard	Data Update	As new projections become available	Same	Ongoing
Update NAICS time-series to include 2021 employment data	Data Update	December 2021	Same	Completed
Develop statewide, short-term projections (2021-2023) using 2021 as a base year	Data Update	March 2022	Same	Completed
Develop statewide, long-term occupational and industry projections (2020-2030) using Projections Suite and implementing the BLS separations methodology, and submit estimates to the PMP	Data Update	July 8, 2022	Same	Completed
Populate WID with current cycle projections data and publish estimates on labor market information webpage	Data Delivery	As new projections become available	Same	Ongoing
Develop mid-term, five-year state and substate occupational and industry projections for 2020-2025, and pursue option of publishing in lieu of short-term projections if permitted by ETA	Data Update	November 2021	Same	Completed

3. Employee development and LMI training for service delivery

Kentucky continued to experience restrictions on travel and in-person meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To continue to work effectively within these constraints, KYSTATS sought additional avenues to provide customer training in PY 2021, including training for LMI service delivery.

In PY 2021, Kentucky utilized electronic and virtual platforms to provide training on labor market data, concepts, tools, and utilization of the KYSTATS website to improve the skills and service delivery to all customers of the workforce system. Training was provided to state education and workforce agency personnel, career center staff, as well as Local Workforce Area (LWA) professionals, and board members.

For local career centers, the Branch provided a series of LMI website trainings during early 2022 to educate personnel on the uses of LMI data to supplement the job search training they provide to career center clients.

Kentucky also worked extensively with the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB) and local workforce area professionals on the development of the 2022 Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA) State Plan. KYSTATS provided not only analyses that were incorporated into the plan, but also training and demonstrations of online analytical tools that were referenced in the final document, including the Kentucky Workforce Dashboard, the WORKR, the Family Resource Simulator, and the Career Explorer. In addition, Kentucky continued consultation with WIOA professionals and board members regarding workforce information issues; and conferred with various national, state, and local agencies, and other organizations involved in policy making regarding current and projected workforce demand. Regular exchanges of ideas between users and suppliers of workforce information occurred through virtual meetings, demonstrations, focus groups, and online conferences. This exchange of ideas between users and suppliers of workforce information was a priority as Kentucky sought out opportunities to provide information, as well as training, to local workforce policymakers, career center staff, employers, jobseekers, and others.

A breakout of LMI training to various customer groups during PY 2021 is below.

Date	Location	Presentation Subject	Audience	Number of Attendees
September 7, 2021	Virtual	Students' Right to Know, Kentucky Workforce Dashboard	KYSTATS Board Members	N/A
September 16, 2021	Virtual	Kentucky Workforce Dashboard	Northern KY LWA, KWIB 2022 State Plan Partners	55
September 21, 2021	Virtual	Kentucky Workforce Dashboard	KWIB Education Attainment and Employer Engagement Committee	40
September 23, 2021	Virtual	Career and Technical Education (CTE) Feedback Report, Commuting Patterns, Career Explorer, Students' Right to Know, Kentucky Future Skills Report (KFSR), CTE Employer Connector	High School Counselors, Postsecondary Readiness Coaches, CTE Aps Meeting	15
September 29, 2021	Virtual	Family Resource Simulator	KWIB	20
September 30, 2021	Virtual	Family Resource Simulator	Kentuckiana Works ITA	6
October 12, 2021	Virtual	Kentucky Workforce Dashboard	TENCO	50
October 19, 2021	Virtual	Youth and Young Adults (YYA), WORKR, Family Resource Simulator	Youth Committee Members	20

Date	Location	Presentation Subject	Audience	Number of Attendees
October 21, 2021	Virtual	Kentucky Workforce Dashboard, WORKR, Family Resource Simulator	Green River LWA, KWIB 2022 State Plan Partners	40
October 25, 2021	Virtual	Informing Stakeholders Through the Pandemic - County Unemployment Update, WORKR, Students' Right to Know, Spring Credential Earners	SLDS Conference Participants	150
October 28, 2021	Virtual	Kentucky Workforce Dashboard, WORKR, Family Resource Simulator	Bluegrass LWA, KWIB 2022 State Plan Partners	40
November 4, 2021	Virtual	Kentucky Workforce Dashboard, WORKR, Family Resource Simulator	Lincoln Trail LWA, KWIB 2022 State Plan Partners	30
November 5, 2021	Virtual	Kentucky Workforce Dashboard, WORKR, Family Resource Simulator	EKCEP LWA, KWIB 2022 State Plan Partners	35
November 9, 2021	Virtual	Kentucky Workforce Dashboard, WORKR, Family Resource Simulator	KWIB Workforce Participation and Sustainability Committee Members	100
November 9, 2021	Virtual	Kentucky Workforce Dashboard, WORKR, Family Resource Simulator	West Kentucky LWA, KWIB 2022 State Plan Partners	30
November 10, 2021	Virtual	Kentucky Workforce Dashboard, WORKR, Family Resource Simulator	KWIB Board Members and Stakeholders	100
November 17, 2021	Virtual	Kentucky Workforce Dashboard, WORKR, Family Resource Simulator	Cumberlands LWA, KWIB 2022 State Plan Partners	30
November 17, 2021	Virtual	Occupational Projections	KWIB Educational Attainment & Employer Engagement Committee Members	8
November 21, 2021	Virtual	Career Outcomes	KY Council on Postsecondary Education	8
December 14, 2021	Virtual	College & Career Advising Platform, Family Resource Simulator, JOLTS Estimates (quits in KY)	KYSTATS Board Members	N/A
January 5, 2022	Virtual	KFSR, CTE Employer Connector	KY Office of Employer & Apprenticeship Services, Kentucky Skilled Trades Workgroup	100
January 10, 2022	Virtual	Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS)	KWIB Executive Committee Members	10
January 11, 2022	Virtual	WIOA State Plan	KY 2022 WIOA State Plan Partners	15

Date	Location	Presentation Subject	Audience	Number of Attendees
January 13, 2022	Virtual	OEWS	KWIB Sector Strategies Committee Members	30
February 1, 2022	Virtual	LMI Website Training	Kentucky Career Center, Morehead Staff and Partners	N/A
February 2, 2022	Virtual	LMI Website Training	Kentucky Career Center, Ashland Staff and Partners	N/A
February 9, 2022	Virtual	LMI Website Training	Kentucky Career Center, Mt. Sterling Staff and Partners	N/A
February 14, 2022	Virtual	LMI Website Training	Kentucky Career Center, Maysville Staff and Partners	N/A
February 17, 2022	Virtual	Kentucky Workforce Dash, KFSR, WORKR	KWIB Board Members	N/A
March 29, 2022	Virtual	KFSR, Multi-State Postsecondary Report, Early Childhood Profile	KYSTATS Board Members	N/A
April 19, 2022	Virtual	LMI Website Training	Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Staff	10
June 14, 2022	Virtual	Students' Right To Know, COVID Reporting	KYSTATS Board Members	N/A
June 28, 2022	Virtual	Kentucky Five-Year Projections, KFSR	ETA Region 3 LMI Directors Meeting Attendees	N/A

Throughout the program year, Kentucky continued to consult with state and LWA professionals and confer with other organizations involved in policymaking regarding workforce information issues and customer needs. Stakeholder meetings and focus groups allowed Kentucky to garner feedback from customers on a continual basis.

Kentucky actively engaged in virtual meetings with these stakeholders to determine the need for new product development. This customer input has been essential for Kentucky to identify the information and analysis necessary to evaluate the impacts and economic disruption caused by the pandemic, and to develop new products to meet these needs.

Kentucky also continued its communications and outreach plan with the LWAs despite the limitations imposed by COVID restrictions. Kentucky aggressively utilized electronic and virtual platforms to maintain regular interaction and outreach with this key user group. This emphasis on continued communications was critical to effectively market LMI data and products; and to drive the development of new reports and analyses.

Kentucky continued its proactive marketing approach in PY 2021. Rather than waiting for customer requests for information, Kentucky continued to push out and promote new products as they became available. This “product push” continues to provide customers with much needed information and informs them of the wide range of data and analysis available from the LMI shop. To further increase visibility, Kentucky issues press releases and conducts virtual presentations on new products and tools as they become available.

The wide-ranging partnerships that KYSTATS has established throughout the state, has afforded the LMI shop opportunities for marketing and outreach, raising the profile of LMI products and

services. This increased visibility has fostered the interaction between LMI and its core user groups, ultimately driving product improvement in the LMI shop.

Kentucky was also committed to employee development in PY 2021. As COVID-19 limited most in-person travel throughout the program year, Kentucky utilized remote and online trainings. Branch personnel attended several U.S. Department of Labor and other state-sponsored statistical program trainings. Staff also participated in online state and national conferences, workshops, and collaboratives to share best practices and learn from other workforce, education, and labor market information professionals.

All of these afforded Kentucky’s staff the opportunity to learn about a variety of labor market projects and initiatives, new and changing program requirements, and software applications. The trainings also allowed participants the chance to interact with colleagues from other states and agencies who are employed in similar positions and work with comparable workforce information products and services.

Finally, cross-training between the LMI, research, and development teams at KYSTATS continued in PY 2021. KYSTATS researchers continue consultation with LMI projections staff on projections models and methodologies. LMI also worked extensively with the KYSTATS development team to develop and complete a projections analysis table. This table, created in response to the release of 2018 SOC and the various hybrid occupational classification systems used by different statistical programs, provides for a consistent crosswalk across the multiple SOC versions currently in use; and is used to update the many KYSTATS reports that utilize projections data.

LMI analysts were trained by the KYSTATS research team in programs and tools (including Tableau software and R programming) utilized in data reporting; while development staff continued to learn about WID content, maintenance, and structure. Cross-training will continue as LMI and KYSTATS explore ways to best utilize staff and seek methods in which to incorporate the data and analyses provided by each into new and dynamic products for customers.

Finally, in PY 2021, Kentucky continued its detailed process documentation method for existing and future staff. This documentation process will continue throughout the upcoming program year and will be utilized in the training of new employees, as well as the cross-training of existing staff; and will ensure adherence to program methods and procedures, and continuity of service delivery to customers.

Task	Task Focus	Milestone Date	Principal Customers	Status
Provide education and training, through virtual conferences, presentations, and workshops on LMI products and services to state workforce agency personnel, LWA professionals, job center staff, and other key user groups	Training/ Outreach	Ongoing	Local Workforce Area boards, employers, educators, students, career counselors, economic developers, policymakers, job seekers, and government agencies	Ongoing
Continue consultation with LWAs and organizations through meetings, focus groups, and other methods to determine customer needs, with a focus on challenges presented with regard to the impact of, and recovery from, the COVID-19 pandemic	Product Development	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Continue proactive marketing strategy to increase visibility of LMI	Marketing	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing



Task	Task Focus	Milestone Date	Principal Customers	Status
Maintain “product push” to provide customers with LMI products and services as they become available	Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Attend web-based program specific technical trainings, and participate virtually in workshops and conferences at the state, local, and national level	Capacity Building/ Training	Ongoing	LMI Staff	Ongoing
Continue development of detailed process documentation for existing and future staff to maintain adherence to program procedures and ensure service delivery	Capacity Building/ Training	Ongoing	LMI Staff	Ongoing

4. Annual economic analysis and other reports

In PY 2021, Kentucky conducted state, local and regional studies, and economic analyses of value to the governor, the Kentucky General Assembly, and state and local workforce development boards to provide information and support for education and workforce development initiatives, including support for WIOA, and in response to major layoffs or disasters. Analyses also included metrics and information on COVID-19 impacts and recovery efforts to inform policymakers and support economic and labor market recovery. Analyses were made available electronically and through dynamic reports accessible through the KYSTATS website.

One such report, prepared in accordance with the requirements of Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 2-20, was the comprehensive statewide economic analysis for PY 2021. This report, designed to support the planning and decision-making efforts of Kentucky’s policymakers, as well as the state and local workforce development boards, provides a detailed analysis of Kentucky’s economy and workforce at both the statewide and regional (LWA) level. Included in the analysis is an in-depth review of Kentucky’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP), personal income, population, demographics, educational attainment, civilian labor force (including participation rates, employment, and unemployment), unemployment insurance claims, occupational and industry employment and wages, and projections. The statewide economic analysis for PY 2021 was submitted to the ETA regional office.

Another report, the Kentucky Legislative Dashboard (KLD), is a dynamic tool that allows users to explore a variety of metrics for Kentucky’s state legislative Senate and House Districts. The KLD provides economic, education, health, and housing metrics and is available at https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/LD_2022.

The Kentucky Students’ Right to Know Dashboard was also updated in PY 2021. Mandated by the Kentucky General Assembly in House Bill (HB) 419, and published in PY 2020, this interactive, Tableau report links college majors to the most in-demand jobs in the Commonwealth, along with typical education requirements, wages, and institutions offering these majors. The Kentucky Students’ Right to Know is located at <https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/KSRTK>.

Throughout the program year, Kentucky routinely provided analysis of local economic conditions, including local area occupational projections, industry, occupation, employment, unemployment, and wage data, as requested by WIOA professionals and other customers, including state and local economic development agencies, schools, and chambers of commerce.

Kentucky also prepared special state, local, and regional studies to provide information to communities undergoing economic transition, those implementing state and sub-state workforce development initiatives, or experiencing major layoffs or disasters, including the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and to support implementation, and reporting on WIOA. In PY 2021, the Branch received numerous requests for information. In response, Kentucky utilized existing products and programs, and sought other avenues and sources of data as necessary to provide the best information to meet the needs of each customer.

In PY 2021, the Branch partnered with the Kentucky Office of Employment and Training (OET) to provide data and support for the annual WIOA formula allotments for the agency. The Branch also routinely provided data elements and analyses used in reporting metrics for the WIOA Combined State Plan.

KYSTATS continued its efforts to collaborate with the Kentucky Office of Unemployment Insurance (UI) on the upcoming UI system redesign in Kentucky. As a significant user of UI data, both in the BLS labor market statistical programs and through the KLDS, KYSTATS has a vested interest in the success of Kentucky's UI modernization efforts. As a critical stakeholder in impending redesign, KYSTATS will continue to provide detailed documentation on LMI and KLDS requirements (including mainframe job requirements and extract file structures) as the process moves forward.

KYSTATS also continued to collaborate with the Kentucky UI Office to enhance, and aggregate for LWAs, the Monthly Performance Measures developed by the UI Quality Control Branch and published by Workforce Intelligence. The resulting tables are updated monthly and published on the KYSTATS website at <https://kystats.ky.gov/KYLM/UILClaimTables>.

Kentucky continued its partnership with the University of Kentucky's Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) to enhance the economic analyses provided on the state's workforce and labor market data. In PY 2021, CBER monitored employment trends across the state, prepared press releases, and conducted an updated analysis of the state's labor force participation rates across demographic groups and geographic areas. CBER continues to analyze employment and unemployment impacts as the COVID-19 pandemic unfolds.

Kentucky also continued its agreement with the U.S. Census Bureau's Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) project, providing quarterly data used by the program to produce detailed statistics on employment, earnings, and job flows for different industries, geographies, and demographic groups.

In addition to the partnerships listed above, Kentucky also relied upon collaboration and consultation with customer groups to develop new products and analyses. Kentucky routinely consulted with stakeholders and data users, including state agency partners, educators, economic developers, workforce professionals, career center staff, and others, to identify data needs and guide product development and enhancement. Further, the alignment between KYSTATS and the Branch, has allowed for leveraging of additional data and resources to develop new tools and analyses that utilize both KYSTATS and BLS/ETA data.

The leveraging of these resources enabled KYSTATS to take a lead role in providing policymakers and data users with information, analyses, and new tools to evaluate the COVID-19 impacts on the labor market and educational communities in the Commonwealth.

One such report, developed in direct response to customer needs as the COVID-19 pandemic emerged in Kentucky, is the Kentucky County Unemployment Update. This interactive report, utilizing unemployment claims data from the BLS Program for Measuring Insured Unemployment Statistics (PROMIS) system, allows users to view key UI initial claims indicators at the county level, including weekly initial claims, percent of overall claims by county, claims by industry, and trends by select demographic indicators. The Kentucky County Unemployment Update was published on the

KYSTATS website in May 2020 and updated monthly throughout PY 2021. It is available at https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/CUU_2020.

Another report launched in PY 2020 is the Workforce Overview Report for Kentucky Regions (WORKR). This dynamic, Tableau dashboard incorporates information and data on occupations, industries, projections, labor force, wages, and unemployment insurance (UI) claims, as well as demographics. Analysis is available at the statewide, Workforce Planning Region (WPR), and LWA levels. The WORKR also allows for comparisons of key metrics between Kentucky and surrounding states. Initially conceived as a static, quarterly report geared for each individual LWA, Kentucky worked with LWAs directly to identify the elements needed by these key stakeholders. The result was a redesigned, interactive WORKR that better met the needs of the target audience. The WORKR was updated throughout PY 2021. It is available at <https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/WORKR>.

Kentucky also provided recurring analysis, including timely analysis relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, in the form of its monthly LMI newsletter, the *Kentucky Labor Force Update*. Each issue of the *Kentucky Labor Force Update* examines a different workforce or labor market topic, including most recently, an exploration of employment outcomes during the initial months of the pandemic. Other subjects explored in PY 2021 include:

- Fluctuations in Labor Supply and Demand During Throughout the Pandemic
- Employment Outcomes During the Pandemic
- Racial and Ethnic Employment and Wage Inequalities During the Coronavirus Pandemic
- Updates from the Labor Market Information Branch
- Estimates of Kentucky's Quits and their Context (JOLTS)
- Looking Toward the Future: Occupational Outlook to 2029
- Age Adjusted Labor Force Participation
- Understanding Telework in Kentucky (Household Pulse Survey and Business Research Survey)
- Two Years Later - Employment Changes in Kentucky Industries
- Employment Recovery in Local Workforce Areas
- State Labor Productivity Statistics
- Building a Workforce Pipeline for Kentucky's Economy

Past issues of the *Kentucky Labor Force Update* are available on the KYSTATS website at https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/ShowReports?ReportId=WP-LF_2018&publishDate=20220727.

Another key piece of analysis was made available to customers through the Kentucky Future Skills Report (KFSR). The KFSR is an online, interactive report utilizing historic workforce supply, current employment outcomes, and future workforce demand to assist policymakers, practitioners, and the public in making education and workforce decisions. The KFSR was updated in February 2022 with the most current supply, outcomes, and future demand data (2020-2025). The full version of the updated KFSR is available at <https://kystats.ky.gov/Latest/KFSR>.

In PY 2021, Kentucky continued to update the industry-based tool, the Economic Activity Report (EAR). The EAR incorporates monthly, quarterly, and annual employment and wage data from the QCEW program to provide detailed, industry-level information by geographic area. As was the case with the Industry Profiler, users can still view current industry data, analyze historical trends over time, and make comparisons across broad and detailed industry groups, geographies and ownerships. However, the EAR also integrates estimates from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Business Employment Dynamics (BED) program as well as data from the Job Opening and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS). The EAR is updated quarterly and is available at <https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/EAR>.

Kentucky also continued to provide users with BLS civilian labor force estimates via the Current and Historical Civilian Labor Force Report. The report provides users with annual and monthly

BLS Civilian Labor Force (CLF) estimates for the U.S., state, counties, and other sub-state areas utilizing SQL Server Reporting Service (SSRS), enhancing functionality for researchers and others seeking the ability to extract data sets with ease. This SSRS tool supplements the Tableau-based, visualization tool, the Civilian Labor Force Report (CLFR). The Current and Historical LAUS Report is located at https://kystats.ky.gov/Srs/Index/Master_LAUS_Report and is updated with each new release of civilian labor force data. The CLFR is also updated routinely and is located at <https://kystats.ky.gov/Latest/CLFR>.

A similar SSRS based-tool, this one utilizing occupational employment and wage estimates from KYSTATS and the BLS OEWS program, is in development. Work on that tool will resume in PY 2022.

Several other existing tools were also updated during the program year.

Developed in direct response to the needs of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB) and the Office of Employment and Training, the Kentucky Workforce Dashboard (KWD) serves as a summary for Kentucky's workforce ecosystem. It provides, in a single location, an overview for each LWA of labor market health, workforce funding distribution, and service outcomes for employers, customers, UI, and Adult Education. The metrics utilized in the dashboard reflect the workforce and technical education priorities of WIOA, the KWIB's strategic plan, and the Commonwealth's workforce partners. The KWD is located at <https://kystats.ky.gov/Latest/KWD>.

The interactive version of the Occupational Outlook was updated with 2019-2029 statewide and sub-state, long-term projections, as well as education attainment and wage data in PY 2021. The dashboard is located at https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/2022_OCC.

The CLFR is a Tableau-based report that allows users to explore current and historical labor force estimates, including civilian labor force, employment, unemployment, and unemployment rate. The measures provided in this dashboard allow users to return results by county, LWA, and Area Development District (ADD) and to compare estimates across multiple geography types. The CLFR is updated routinely and is located at <https://kystats.ky.gov/Latest/CLFR>.

The Find Employers tool was updated to include the 2022 Second Edition of the Employer Database and is located at https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/KYLMI_EMPDB.

For researchers and others seeking to download large amounts of data, Excel tables for current and historical data sets are also available. The QCEW tables published on the website provide data at both industry and geographic levels. QCEW data are available for the state, counties, and aggregated to LWAs back to 1990, and are updated quarterly. Annual occupational employment and wage estimate files for the state and LWAs are updated each program year, and Excel files, containing the latest round of long-term projections are also updated as new data becomes available. Static tables detailing monthly UI Performance Measures are provided.

Standard LMI publications, including maps, press releases and associated tables, and other economic analysis are also available. These tables and LMI publications are housed within the Kentucky Labor Market Information Library located at <https://kystats.ky.gov/KYLMI>.

Informational products and services are primarily delivered to customers through the KYSTATS website at <https://kystats.ky.gov>, and are available on both the Reports page and the LMI Report Library. Both the LMI page, located at <https://kystats.ky.gov/KYLMI>, and the KYSTATS website utilize Tableau software to provide customers the ability to define and generate reports based on user-selected data and geography. Users can create and view customized reports and maps, download files, and produce printable reports.

The KYSTATS development team also continued development of a Content Management System (CMS) and provided training to LMI staff on the tool. Partially deployed in PY 2021, the CMS allows LMI staff to directly update site content. In PY 2022, the functionality of the CMS tool will be expanded.

Visits and downloads to the website are tracked using Google Analytics. In PY 2021, the KYSTATS website had more than 162,000 views.

The website also facilitates customer contact. The Contact KYSTATS page allows users to provide feedback, and the Data Request Form allows users to easily request data and other information from the website. Users can also sign up to join the KYSTATS listserv.

Task	Task Focus	Milestone Date	Principal Customers	Status
Prepare and submit to ETA a detailed, statewide economic analysis for the program year	Economic Analysis	October 1, 2022	Local Workforce Area boards, employers, educators, students, career counselors, economic developers, policymakers, job seekers, and government agencies	Completed
Conduct state, local, and regional studies and analyses to produce detailed economic and workforce analyses, reports, and tools tailored to customer needs	Economic Analysis/ Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Expand outreach and interaction with LWAs, the business community, economic development, and other workforce agencies to identify areas needing analysis	Outreach/ Product Development	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Support WIOA planning and implementation by providing data for annual funding allotments and for WIOA reporting metrics	Data Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Increase and cultivate relationships with the education community to identify areas needing analysis	Outreach/ Product Development	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Continue efforts to collaborate with the Kentucky Office of Unemployment Insurance on system modernization efforts	UI System Redesign	Ongoing	All users of the Kentucky UI System	Ongoing
Work in collaboration with CBER to develop, conduct, and publish various economic analyses	Information Delivery	Ongoing	Local Workforce Area boards, employers, educators, students, career counselors, economic developers, policymakers, job seekers, and government agencies	Ongoing

Task	Task Focus	Milestone Date	Principal Customers	Status
Continue cooperation and participation in the U.S. Census LEHD project	Data Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Maintain and enhance labor market information delivery system	Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Leverage additional data and resources available through alignment with KYSTATS to develop a new product utilizing both KYSTATS and BLS/ETA data	Product Development	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Develop, publish, and maintain dynamic LMI reports based on needs determined by stakeholders and data users, including:	Product Development/ Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish and maintain dynamic, Tableau-based Occupational Outlooks utilizing most recent statewide and sub-state long-term projections data 	Product Development/ Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Updated as new projections become available
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain Career Explorer tool utilizing skills, job descriptions, demand, and wage data 	Product Development/ Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain, publish, and update the KFSR on an annual basis 	Product Development/ Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Updated Annually
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and publish the Kentucky Students' Right to Know dashboard online 	Product Development/ Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Updated Annually
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and publish the WORKR online 	Product Development/ Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Updated Quarterly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update and maintain Kentucky County Unemployment Report with UI claims data 	Product Development/ Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Updated Monthly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revamp, update, and maintain Workforce Dashboard measures needed for the WIOA, the KWIB, and state workforce partners 	Product Maintenance/ Dynamic LMI Reports	Ongoing	Same	Updated Semi-Annually
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and publish Current and Historical LAUS Report utilizing SSRS 	Product Development/ Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Updated Semi-Monthly as new data are release

Task	Task Focus	Milestone Date	Principal Customers	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and publish occupational employment and wage report utilizing SSRS 	Product Development/ Information Delivery	January 2022	Same	Delayed - In development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and publish Economic Activity Report (EAR) utilizing QCEW, BED, and JOLTS data 	Product Development/ Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Updated Quarterly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update and maintain interactive Civilian Labor Force Report (CLFR) monthly 	Product Maintenance/ Dynamic LMI Reports	Ongoing	Same	Updated Monthly
Publish historical tables for various datasets in easily downloadable Excel format for researchers and other data users	Data Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Produce and publish static maps, tables, press releases, workforce profiles, and economic analyses	Product/Data Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Develop new, recurring analyses for incorporation into the monthly LMI newsletter (<i>Kentucky Labor Force Update</i>)	Economic Analysis/ Product Development	Ongoing	Same	Published Monthly
Work in collaboration with the Kentucky Office of Unemployment Insurance to enhance, aggregate, and publish UI's Monthly Performance Measures	Product/Data Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Updated Monthly
Evaluate, develop, and refine website content and design based on user feedback and site visit metrics	Product Development/ Evaluation	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Continue development of a Content Management System (CMS) to allow LMI staff to directly update site content and provide training to LMI shop personnel	Capacity Building/ Training	Ongoing	LMI Staff	Ongoing

5. Recommendations to ETA for changes and improvements to WIG requirements

Funding from the Workforce and Labor Market Information Grant (WIG) is used to provide essential workforce information to Kentuckians. The Program enables the Branch to publish a wide array of print and electronic products that benefit numerous customer groups. Assessing and responding to the changing needs of these customers will continue in PY 2022.

One of our most in-demand products, widely used throughout the education and workforce planning communities in the state, are the five-year occupational projections we produced annually. The methodology used to generate these mid-term projections pre-dates the PMP approved methodology but produces similar results which adhere to the same conceptual framework. Kentucky would like

to see ETA allow for five-year projections to be produced in lieu of two-year even if the methodology used is not specified by the PMP.

Because of the reliance on UI systems for much of the data produced through BLS statistical programs, (particularly QCEW and LAUS), and for data utilized by the KLDS system, and the Census LEHD program, Kentucky would like to see increased involvement from ETA regarding state UI system modernization efforts.

6. Conclusion and Statement on COVID-19

PY 2021 was a year highlighted by collaborations and partnerships for the Workforce Intelligence Branch. As part of KYSTATS, the Branch continued to expand the scope of its customer base, advance the development of new products, and maintain an emphasis on stakeholder involvement in LMI service delivery.

With the lingering impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, it was also a year that placed continued demands on the workforce and education system. Throughout the program year, KYSTATS provided policymakers and data users with information and analyses to assess the impacts to the labor market and education systems throughout the Commonwealth.

As the impacts of COVID continued to evolve, the demand to understand how the economy was responding in real-time also continued. KYSTATS responded by working collaboratively to identify the information and develop the analyses that was crucial for stakeholders, customers, and communities to evaluate the shifting impacts and economic disruptions.

KYSTATS responded to numerous requests from customers seeking data, information, and other tools to assess the effects of the pandemic. Articles in the monthly *Kentucky Labor Force Update* also routinely provided analyses of COVID-19 impacts in the economy including, employment outcomes during the pandemic, racial and ethnic employment and wage inequalities, employment recovery in local workforce areas, an analysis of quits in the state, and understanding telework.

Finally, Kentucky continued to maintain the County Unemployment Update (CUU), an interactive dashboard displaying initial unemployment insurance claims data from the Program for Measuring Insured Unemployment Statistics (PROMIS). Updated throughout PY 2021, the CUU allows for initial claims data to be examined by industry, race, and age for all 120 counties in the Commonwealth.

This commitment to serve all users of the workforce and labor market information system, including policymakers, employers, LWAs, trainers, educators, students, career counselors, economic developers, job seekers, and government agencies, will continue in PY 2022. As the pandemic continues, KYSTATS will continue to provide customers with the data and analyses necessary to evaluate the shifting economic landscape and to lay the groundwork for future recovery.