

PERFORMANCE MEASURES & ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE UPDATE TO WDC BOARD

August 12, 2021

The Performance Measures & Accountability Committee met on August 3, 2021.

RESEARCH ON STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE: EFFECTS OF RECEIVING TRAINING SERVICES ON EMPLOYMENT AND DETERMINANTS OF SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES FOR PARTICIPANTS IN WIOA TITLE 1 AND TITLE III PROGRAMS FOR 2018-2020

Employment Analyst Bonhee Chung presented to the Committee his research on the impact of training services and successful outcomes for participants enrolled in the WIOA adult, dislocated workers and youth programs, as well as receiving career services at the American Job Centers.

Using the WIOA data from 2018 to 2020 and statistical models, this preliminary study examined the associations between performance outcomes and participants' characteristics. There was a total of 7,641 participants under the Title I (Adult and Dislocated Worker) and Title III (Wagner Peyser) programs. About 96% of the participants (7,346) received career services and only 4% (295) received training services. Participants who received training services were 2.7 times more likely to be employed in the second quarter after exit (6 months) than participants who received career services. Asian and Native Hawaiian were 1.3 times more likely to be employed than other minority groups. Those who had post-secondary or higher degrees were about 1.4 times more likely to be employed than those who had less than a high school diploma. The odds of being employed were 24% lower if a participant was an individual with disability, 44% lower if unemployed at program entry, 18% lower if a low-income individual, 25% lower if an older individual, and 58% lower if an English learner.

In addition, the study examined the effects of receiving training services on employment outcomes. Employing non-experiment methods, the outcomes of participants who received training services were compared against those of matched groups of individuals who were observationally equivalent across a range of demographic characteristics and socioeconomic status, but who did not receive training services. The findings of the analysis indicate that if a participant receives training services, his or her chance of being employed in the second quarter (6 months) after exit is about 27% points higher, relative to an individual who receives career services. This study, however, has some limitations in that the true estimate remains uncertain. More data would be necessary to accurately evaluate the magnitude of program effects. Nevertheless, the results are consistent with findings of prior studies that the overall net impacts were estimated to be positive in almost all states.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF STATEWIDE AND LOCAL AREA ANNUAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The Committee members reviewed the preliminary Program Year 2020 performance measures and compared it to the statewide negotiated performance goals for WIOA Title I adult, dislocated workers and youth programs. Program year 2020 began July 1, 2020 and ended June 30, 2021. The data shows that the statewide goals were met and/or exceeded in the categories of employment rate after exiting the program at 6 months and then at 12 months, median earnings, credential rate and measurable skill gains. However, meeting the statewide goals fell short in the category of credential rate for the adult, dislocated worker and youth programs by between 15-20%. There was also a 20% shortfall in measurable skill gains in the youth program. An interesting observation of the data shows the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in the adult and dislocated worker of short- and long-term employment of the year over year change, the short term or 6-month rate increased by one-third and it decreased by one-third for the 12-month period for adults. For dislocated workers, the short term or 6-month employment increased year over year by 43.2% but it decreased 11.5% in the long term or 12-month employment mark. This would suggest that those adults and dislocated workers may have found employment but then experienced layoffs, reduction in hours and termination as an impact of the pandemic.

In Program Year 2019, statewide goals were met in all categories with the exception of credential rate in the youth program by 17%.

PROJECT UPDATES:

STATEWIDE EVALUATION OF ELIGIBLE TRAINING PROVIDERS

STATEWIDE EVALUATION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS

The Committee's projects for statewide evaluation of eligible training providers and service providers at the American Job Centers for WIOA Title I adult, dislocated workers and youth programs are underway and on track. SMS Research developed a survey and checklist of criteria and have been meeting on site with service providers on each island. To date, SMS Research has evaluated two service providers and have six more providers to engage. SMS Research has until October 7 to complete the evaluation. Educational Data Systems, Inc. (EDSI) has conducted evaluation of three eligible training providers out of the 21. The contractors are working directly with the local area staff to coordinate meetings with the providers. EDSI's contract ends on September 22, 2021.

NEXT MEETING: VIRTUAL VISIT WITH LOCAL AREA

The committee is looking forward to combining its next committee meeting virtually with either the Hawaii County or Maui County Workforce Development Board to meet with and share information with our counterparts at the local area.