

State of Ohio Annual Report
Workforce and Labor Market Information Grant Accomplishments
July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

This report is a summary of the state of Ohio’s accomplishments in meeting the requirements of the program year (PY) 2025 Workforce and Labor Market Information Grant.

Workforce Information Database (WID)

The Ohio Bureau of Labor Market Information (LMI) uses version 3.0 of the Workforce Information Database (WID). All core tables are populated according to established guidelines and updated on a monthly, quarterly, annual, or biennial basis as required. Ohio also uses the LMI Informer website platform, which pulls labor market data directly from the WID. In addition to the Informer platform, data is maintained on an internal SQL server. Staff draw from both the LMI Informer system and the SQL server to produce and distribute data products and reports to customers. This infrastructure is complemented by the interactive visualizations available on OhioLMI.com and through the OhioLMI mobile application, which feature many of our most frequently requested datasets, including state, metropolitan, and county labor force statistics and industry data. The mobile app is available on both Android and Apple phones and tablets.

Industry and Occupational Employment Projections

The employment projections are produced using the Projections Suite software provided by the Projections Managing Partnership.

1. The long-term (2024-2034) statewide industry and occupational employment projections were completed using the Projections Suite software. The industry employment projections can be found at ohiolmi.com/Home/DS_Results_INDPROJ. The occupational projections can be found at ohiolmi.com/Home/DS_Results_OCCPROJ.
 - LMI occupational projections are the basis for Ohio’s “Top Jobs” list, which is developed by the Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation. The purpose of the Top Jobs list is to provide workers and training institutions with a reliable, consistent method for identifying in-demand jobs and related career opportunities in Ohio. Ohio’s Top Jobs list may be found here: topjobs.ohio.gov/top-jobs-list/ohios-top-jobs-list.
2. LMI produced the statewide short-term employment outlook, 1st Quarter 2025 to 1st Quarter 2027, according to procedures established by the Projections Managing Partnership. The short-term occupation projections were completed in March 2026, using the Projections Suite and submitted to Projections Central. The short-term occupational projections are on LMI’s data search tool at ohiolmi.com/Home/DS_Results_OCCPROJ.

LMI Training for Service Delivery

Ohio LMI provides training and service delivery through two primary channels: LMI Learning Labs and our Targeted Training and Technical Assistance offerings for workforce partners. The Learning Labs deliver scheduled, topic-focused sessions open to a broad audience, while our targeted trainings offer customized support based on specific partner needs. In addition, LMI staff present annually at the International Association of Workforce Professionals Conference.

LMI Learning Labs

The LMI Learning Labs are virtually presented and include an audience of WIOA staff, Workforce Development Board staff, state and county agencies and partners, and OMJ staff. In PY25, the labs were well attended with more than 380 individuals participating throughout the year.

- July 9, 2025, *Mastering Workforce Data: A Live Demo of the Data Hub Dashboard*, 77 attendees, presented by Chris Dixon.
- August 12, 2025, *Unemployment Rate Essentials: Data for Workforce Development Experts*, 66 attendees, presented by Stephan Aidoo-Kokorah, Derek Ault, and Dolores Little.
- September 9, 2025, *Industries vs. Occupations: Unlocking the Power of Staffing Patterns*, 88 attendees, presented by Chris Dixon.
- October 14, 2025, *Location, Location, Location: Geographies in Labor Market Data*, 79 attendees, presented by Dolores Little and Jess Walton.
- November 4, 2025, *Workforce Trends: Exploring Employment Projections and Growing Industries*, 67 attendees, presented by Chris Dixon.
- December 9, 2025, *Job Ads Decoded: Unlocking the Secrets of Job Postings Data*, 82 attendees, presented by Chris Dixon.
- January 13, 2026, *Behind the Numbers: Understanding Job Openings and Labor Turnover*, 68 attendees, presented by Chris Dixon.
- February 10, 2026, *Data You Can Count On: Understanding Labor Market Benchmarking*, 72 attendees, presented by Derek Ault and Todd Celmar.
- March 10, 2026, *Where We Work (or Don't): Insights from LAUS*, 65 attendees, presented by Derek Ault and Stephan Aidoo-Kokorah.
- April 14, 2026, *The Employer Census: What QCEW Tells Us About Jobs and Wages*, 64 attendees, presented by Michele Milligan and Dolores Little.
- May 12, 2026, *OEWS in Focus: Jobs, Wages, and Workforce Planning*, 51 attendees, presented by Jess Walton and Dolores Little.
- June 9, 2026, *Monthly Pulse: CES and the Changing Labor Market*, 49 attendees, presented by Derek Ault and Todd Celmar.

Targeted Training and Technical Assistance for Workforce Partners

LMI presents in-person and virtual training and technical assistance to data users upon request. PY25 included the following presentations.

- October 6, 2025, Nick Wallace, LMI Bureau Chief, presented an introduction to LMI as part of the CFIS Conference Ohio Workforce Development Workforce Support session. The event was hosted by Sivic Solutions Group & Solix, Inc. at the Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center and there were approximately 50-60 attendees, including Job and Family Service County office staff and Local Workforce area staff.
- November 21, 2025, Nick Wallace, LMI Bureau Chief, presented an introduction to labor market information, including practical application for economic development professionals. This session was part of the Ohio Economic Development Institute's Workforce Development course, held at the Ohio University satellite campus in Dublin, Ohio and cosponsored by Aspyr. There were 60 attendees from a variety of local municipalities and regional economic development organizations.
- December 10, 2025, Chris Dixon virtually presented Workforce Insights at the Local Level: Leveraging Ohio's Labor Market Information to the Department of Behavioral Health for their team leaders of employment programs. There were 20 attendees.
- December 10, 2025, Lacey Hall and Richard Banks virtually presented their project for the Data Professional's Badge Program at the Ohio Workforce of Transformation Lab's Data Management and Analytics Community of Practice meeting. There were 36 attendees from ODJFS.
- January 6, 2026, Nick Wallace presented virtually at the Area 6 Workforce Development Board Meeting on the 2024 Profile of the Unemployed. Dolores Little attended the meeting. There were 30 attendees.
- March 12, 2026, Nick Wallace, Dolores Little, and Stephanie Pride attended the Athens County Workforce Professionals Roundtable. Nick provided an overview of LMI programs and demonstrated how to access local data resources. Attendees included representatives from the offices of Senator Husted and Bernie Moreno, Aspire, the Area 14 Workforce Development Board, and the Athens County Community Cares Resource Center.
- May 19, 2026, Nick Wallace and Chris Dixon from Labor Market Information gave a virtual presentation to OWD's Workforce Administration Bureau. They covered LMI data sources, American Community Survey demographics, and demonstrated the County Data Hub. There were 37 people in attendance.

OWA-IAWP Conference

The Ohio Workforce Association (OWA) and the International Association of Workforce Professionals (IAWP) host an annual conference, held in person at the Nationwide Hotel and Conference Center in Lewis Center, Ohio. In 2025, the overall theme of the event focused on youth employment.

- September 18, 2025, Exploring Ohio's In-Demand Occupations: A Guide to Building Occupation Profiles. In-person session presented by Jess Walton and Dolores Little; 50 attendees. This session provided an overview of how to use Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, Employment Projections, O*Net, CareerOneStop, Career Pathways, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and OhioMeansJobs.com to build an occupational profile.
- September 19, 2025, Preparing the Workforce: Data-Driven Insights. In-person session presented by Chris Dixon and Nick Wallace; 40 attendees. This presentation reviewed state and federal LMI tools, with a focus on individuals entering the workforce, including OhioLMI.com, Employment Projections, and national data sources such as the American Community Survey, Quarterly Workforce Indicators, Job-to-Job Flows, and the Current Population Survey.

Internal Data Requests

From the Office of Communication:

- Provided statewide counts of Ohioans employed in the construction industry for use in a Construction Appreciation Week video.
- Supplied manufacturing statistics for Manufacturing Day, including Ohio's national manufacturing rank, current job openings on OhioMeansJobs.com, average earnings, available career pathways, and common education requirements.
- Delivered county-level labor market data for the ODJFS Director ahead of site visits.
- Responded to media inquiries with data such as the number of unemployed federal workers in Ohio, projections for advanced manufacturing, and answering questions related to the labor market.
- Prepared talking points for the Governor's Office for the annual review and State of the State Address.
- Provided information on seasonal and holiday employment trends.
- Fulfilled data requests for the Governor's Office, including employment projections, job posting trends, occupational growth, industry insights, and wage data.
- Shared labor market information with a university student researching livable wages and competitive job markets.

From the Office of Workforce Development:

- Industry-Driven Skills Training Fund Grant: Assistance with data to request a grant with a focus on new and incumbent workers in high-growth and emerging industries that DOL has identified critical to American competitiveness. The data provided focused on occupations essential to the buildout of artificial intelligence and advanced manufacturing.

- Invitation to for OWD member to join JFF's Center for Justice and Economic Advancement for Convening. LMI shared data on long-term projections and new OEWS for careers in Architecture, Design, Engineering, and Construction fields.
- Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) - Projections data related to STEM occupations related to the Top Jobs list.
- ODEW and Ohio Career-Technical Education worked on updates and enhancement to their education provider application system and requested a refresh of the ODJFS data file for the most current Ohio's Top Jobs List.
- Office of Child Support reached in requesting labor market data needed as part of their four-year review of the statewide guidelines used to calculate child support orders.
- Ohio LMI provided detailed labor market data to OWD staff in support of completing grant applications and program delivery. This includes assistance with the QUEST-WAVE grant and the RESTART grant.
- Provided GRIT local data to identify local skills with a high number of people in their 50's-70's working where we need to plan for skills succession. Specifically, looking at Ohio's Appalachia counties.
- Submitted LMI's contribution for the annual WIOA Annual Narrative Report.
- LMI provided data analysis and technical assistance to the ODJFS Office of Workforce Development to help determine WIOA allocations to the local areas.
- Completed data requests for internal staff that serve employers and local workforce partners. Typical data requested ask for labor market data for local cities, counties, and workforce areas.
- LMI provided technical support to the ODJFS Office of Unemployment Insurance Operations by performing a statistical analysis of initial claims to help identify fraudulent claims and to provide a count of claims by industry and occupation to local areas. This is an internal document.

External Data Requests

- September 10, 2025- Dolores Little, Michele Milligan, Jess Walton, and Chris Dixon virtually met with a Green Jobs and Aggregation Coordinator from the City of Columbus. Columbus recently worked with Regionomics to conduct a study on green jobs, and the city would like guidance on how to effectively track progress toward their goal of filling green job openings in the Columbus MSA.
- April 2026, Lake Development Authority reached in requesting data that shows the need for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Business Management in "in-demand" sectors, specific to Northeast Ohio.
- LMI provided data and technical assistance to Workforce Development Boards seeking data for WIOA regional planning.

Publications

Ohio LMI works in partnership with the ODJFS Office of Communications to review and publish all publications, which are shared widely through email distribution lists with workforce partners, OhioMeansJobs centers, internal staff, and individuals who request to join the LMI mailing list. Ohio LMI produces a variety of publications, including the quarterly Labor Market Matters newsletter, which highlights key workforce trends, data tools, and insights from across the state. LMI also develops timely infographics that visually showcase industry trends, seasonal topics, and workforce themes, and publishes blogs that explain complex labor market concepts in a clear and accessible way. [Publications homepage](#).

Newsletters:

- **Labor Market Matters: Issue 5 (Summer)** – Highlighted Ohio’s latest regional employment projections, tools for accessing local labor market data, and workforce population trends. Included updates on economic indicators, new data releases, user-friendly dashboards, success stories, and opportunities to build data literacy through Learning Labs.
- **Labor Market Matters: Issue 6 (Fall)** – Featured Ohio’s long-term job outlook, a spotlight on a recent data request, key labor market dashboards, and ways to stay engaged with LMI offerings.
- **Labor Market Matters: Issue 7 (Winter)** – Highlighted updates to the Apprenticeship Dashboard, featured the Industry Employment Dashboard, explained the LEHD program, and summarized insights from a recent data request.
- **Labor Market Matters: Issue 8 (Spring)** – Provided guidance on analyzing local employment and wage data, navigating Ohio’s Labor Force Statistics dashboard, and noted key dates for upcoming 2026 labor market updates.
- **Labor Market Matters: Issue 9 (Summer)** – Featured articles on understanding poverty and its impact, occupational replacements vs. separations, Ohio’s union membership rate, the Inflow-Outflow dashboard, and labor force statistics.

Infographics:

- **Summer Fun:** *Spotlights the vibrant Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation industry in Ohio. From thrilling amusement parks to zoos and botanical gardens, there’s something for everyone to enjoy. Our infographic provides a look at these activities along with interesting statistics.*
- **Back to School:** *Showcasing some of the essential roles that keep schools thriving. From dedicated teachers to supportive staff, celebrating everyone who contributes to our students’ success!*

- **Construction:** *Recognizing the skilled workers building Ohio's future. In this Infographic, explore long-term employment projections for Ohio's construction industry.*
- **Truck Driver Appreciation:** *Honoring Ohio's Truck Drivers during Truck Driver Appreciation Week and focusing on employment trends for light and heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers.*
- **Ohio Manufacturing:** *Ohio celebrates National Manufacturing Day on October 3 by recognizing the industry's powerful impact on jobs, wages, and innovation across the state. This infographic highlights key stats that showcase Ohio's leadership in manufacturing.*
- **Halloween:** *A data-driven look at Ohio's labor market through the lens of the season, featuring insights into occupations inspiring popular costumes and employment trends within the state's confectionery industry.*
- **Small Business Saturday:** *In Ohio, small establishments comprise 95% of private sector sites and employ 42% of the private workforce!*
- **Happy Holidays:** *Ohio's Labor Market Information wishes you a joyful and safe holiday. Check out occupations that help to make the season bright.*
- **New Year, New Career:** *A fresh year often inspires a fresh perspective. For those considering a career change, explore our infographic featuring Ohio's fastest-growing occupations based on 2022–2032 employment projections.*
- **Ohio's Sweet Spots:** *Using QCEW data, this infographic highlights establishments across Ohio where individuals can find the perfect Valentine's treat.*
- **Ohio's Gold Medal Industries:** *To coincide with the Olympic spirit, this infographic shared Ohio's top industries by average annual employment.*
- **Ohio's Anniversary of Statehood:** *Ohio annually celebrates its Anniversary of Statehood on March 1. This infographic shares interesting facts about Ohio collected by the U.S. Census Bureau like the population, total establishments, median household income, the number of households, and more.*
- **Career Madness:** *Explore Ohio's sports-related Top Jobs that make game day possible.*
- **Skilled Trades:** *Build what you image. Explore Ohio's in-demand skilled trades and discover pathways to success.*
- **Ohio's Daily Commute:** *Explore Ohio's commuting patterns, including inbound and outbound commuters, the number of people who live and work in Ohio, and the average travel time to work.*

Blogs:

- **Other Measures of Unemployment in Ohio** - This blog breaks down different ways unemployment is measured in Ohio (U-3 and U-6), beyond the usual rate you hear in the news. The blog was published November 14, 2025.

- **Ohio's Young Adult Workforce** – This blog offers insight into Ohio's Young Adult Workforce, including the typical industries and common jobs for young workers with potential career paths.
- **Ohio's Occupations, Jobs, and Wages** – This blog offers insight into the latest Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics data, as well as the largest occupational groups by employment share.

Reports and Data Tools

LMI produces reports and data tools to support workforce efforts around the state.

- LMI produces the Labor Market Review each month. It includes current and historical data on employment by industry, hours, and earnings. It also includes civilian labor force estimates of employment and unemployment, selected unemployment compensation data, job openings and labor turnover ratios, and other information. The report can be found here: ohiolmi.com/docs/CES/LMR.pdf.
- Ohio publishes a monthly [Ohio Leading Indicators](#) report. The Ohio Leading Indicators report uses an annualized growth rate to forecast employment growth for Ohio and its eight largest Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) for the next six months.
- LMI produces annual county economic profiles. The profiles provide data on industries, employment and wage trends, industry turnover, online job postings and resumes, commuting data and more. The profiles can be found at: ohiolmi.com/Home/EconomicProfiles.
- LMI includes value-added products on its website to assist its customers. The following products are available through the [Data Search Tool](#):
 - The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages tool provides data including the number of business establishments, number of workers, total wages paid, and average annual wages for privately owned businesses. Annual and quarterly data are available for the state, major metropolitan areas, and counties. These data are available at: http://ohiolmi.com/Home/DS_Results_QCEW.
 - The Current Employment Statistics tool provides industry employment data for Ohio and 13 MSAs. These data are available here: ohiolmi.com/Home/CES/DS_Results_CES.
 - The Local Area Unemployment Statistics tool provides annual and monthly estimates including the labor force, number of employed and unemployed persons, and unemployment rate for the state, counties, the MSAs, JobsOhio regions, workforce investment areas, and cities with populations of 25,000 and larger. These data are available here: ohiolmi.com/Home/DS_Results_LAUS.
 - The Occupation Employment and Wage Statistics tool has annual occupational employment and wage estimates for Ohio, the MSAs, JobsOhio regions, the balance of state areas, and the 20 Workforce Areas. These data are available here:

ohiolmi.com/Home/DS_Results_OES.

- The industry and occupational employment projections tools have Ohio long- and short-term projections and long-term projections for the eight largest MSAs and JobsOhio regions. The 2024-2034 and 2025-2027 occupational projections can be found here: ohiolmi.com/Home/DS_Results_OCCPROJ.
- LMI completed several dashboard updates during this period, including:
 - [Apprenticeship Data](#) - revised with PY25 data. Released week of October 20, 2025.
 - [County Data Hub](#) – updated monthly with new data that is available by dataset.
 - [Ohio’s Industry Employment](#) - revised and shared October 17, 2025.
 - [Ohio’s Labor Force Statistics](#) - updated October/November 2025
 - [Inflow-Outflow Dashboard](#) – updated December 2025.
- The County Data Hub, originally launched in 2025, has been enhanced to offer greater flexibility. While it was initially designed to retrieve data for individual counties, the updated version, [The Data Hub](#), now includes search functionality by Metropolitan Statistical Areas and JobsOhio Regions, making the tool more customizable to user needs.

OhioLMI.com Google Analytics

- LMI responds to internal and external requests for data and assistance. Over PY 2025, **LMI responded to more than 128 internal and external requests** for data and assistance.
- OhioLMI.com received more than **241,894 page views in PY 2025, across 104,629 users**. The OhioLMI.com home page had the most page views, followed by the Apprenticeship Dashboard, the OhioMeansJobs Services Dashboard, Employment Projections, LMI Career Resources, and Unemployment Insurance Claims.

Collecting Feedback

LMI regularly gathered feedback from users who contacted the team by email by providing a survey form to help identify opportunities to improve services. LMI also collected input after each Learning Lab session through a post-session survey that invited participants to share suggestions, request future topics, or ask follow-up questions. In addition, a Customer Feedback form is available on OhioLMI.com for users to share their experiences anonymously.

Success Story

A Workforce Specialist in the Office of Workforce Development, reached into LMI requesting information on behalf of an economic developer assisting a manufacturer relocating within

the area. Specifically, the request was for job titles and occupational codes to ensure wages would be competitive.

After responding with the data, LMI received the following feedback:

Thank you so much for your help and for pulling together the labor market information so quickly—you all are rockstars!

The data you provided is incredibly helpful and will add real value as we work with local manufacturers to better understand hiring and wage dynamics. I also appreciate the additional context around the SOC's and the note on where data may be suppressed locally – so incredibly helpful.

Thanks again for being such a great partner.

Summary

The Ohio Bureau of Labor Market Information successfully completed all Workforce Information Grant deliverables for PY 2025. As required, Ohio maintained the WID, produced state and substate industry and occupational employment projections, and published an array of reports and data tools. The Bureau also posted information, consulted with key partners, and developed special reports and analyses tailored to customers' needs. LMI remains flexible in responding to stakeholders and continues working to better align labor market initiatives with broader workforce and economic development efforts.