

# Commonwealth of Kentucky Workforce and Labor Market Information Grant (WIG) Core Products and Services Annual Report for PY 2019

Education and Workforce Development Cabinet  
Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS)  
Workforce Intelligence Branch

Kentucky is pleased to present the PY 2019 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 Workforce Development Cabinet, to meet its objectives for PY 2019. 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 growth and stability. These objectives are especially critical as the Commonwealth works to evaluate, and ultimately recover from, the 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 Kentucky's 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, initiated in 2017, 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). It also reflects Kentucky's commitment to provide quality information to all customers of the workforce information system, and has uniquely positioned KYSTATS to respond on multiple fronts regarding the disruptions to both workforce and education communities caused by the recent pandemic.

In PY 2019, 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) Workforce and Labor Market Information Grant (WIG).

## I. Workforce Information Database (WID)

During PY 2019, 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.

Kentucky upgraded to WID Version 2.8 in PY 2019, and will continue to maintain the most recent version of the WID in PY 2020.

Kentucky updated its licensing data for the LICAUTH, LICENSE, and LIXCOCC tables in the WID at the end of PY 2019. 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. The next revisions are due in PY 2021.

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



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Another key component in the WID is the Infogroup Employer Database. During PY 2019, Kentucky incorporated the 2020 First 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, is accessible at <https://kystats.ky.gov/KYLMl> and allows users to search for employers by industry, keyword, county, size range, and other select criteria.

Task	Task Focus	Milestone Date	Principal Customers	Status
Perform routine updates of designated 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
Implement WID Version 2.8	Data Structure Update	June 2020	Same	Ongoing
Incorporate InfoGroup Employer Database updates into the WID semi-annually	Data Update	As available	Same	Ongoing
Maintain and update Find Employers search module on the KYLMl webpage on KYSTATS website	Data Update	Ongoing	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. Industry and occupational employment projections

In PY 2018, Kentucky developed sub-state, long-term projections using 2016 as a base year, and implementing the BLS Separations Methodology. To improve the quality of these sub-state projections, Kentucky consulted with partner agencies, including state and local economic development offices, local Chambers of Commerce, and Local Workforce Areas (LWAs), to solicit feedback on preliminary, unpublished industry projections. Kentucky also developed an in-house Tableau dashboard, which was shared with these internal partners, to facilitate review. The insight provided by workforce professionals, each with specific knowledge of local, contemporary events (including new business locations, groundbreakings, and closings) allowed Kentucky to incorporate an additional, meaningful layer to the review process, and enhance not only the final industry-level projections, but also the subsequent occupational projections.

In early PY 2019, Kentucky finalized these long-term projections for sub-state areas and submitted them to the Projections Management Partnership (PMP). Sub-state, long-term occupational and industry projections (2016-2026) were incorporated into the WID in July 2019.

Finalized occupational projections were also made available on the KYSTATS website utilizing a new, interactive version of the Occupational Outlook. This dynamic, Tableau-based report, which replaced the traditional Outlook publication, incorporated both state and sub-state level projections for 2016-2026, as well as educational attainment and wage data. The dashboard was developed during PY 2018, and launched in July 2019 to coincide with the release of the LWA occupational projections. The Occupational Outlook Dashboard is located at [https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/OOD\\_2019](https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/OOD_2019).

In PY 2019, Kentucky updated the industry employment time series to include 2018 employment data. This updated time series was used to develop statewide, short-term (two year) industry and occupational

projections for 2019-2021 using 2019 as a base year. These short-term projections were submitted to the PMP in March 2020 and incorporated into Kentucky's WID.

In PY 2019, Kentucky also developed statewide, long-term industry and occupational projections for 2018-2028. In accordance with the extension granted by ETA, Kentucky submitted these statewide, long-term projections to the PMP on August 18, 2020. These data were made available on the KYSTATS website and incorporated into the WID.

Additionally, in order to implement a five-year projection methodology similar to the one currently being considered for ETA approval, and to update the Occupational Outlook with state and sub-state estimates for a uniform time period, Kentucky developed long-term sub-state projections for 2018-2028. These projections, not due until late PY 2020, were developed for each of the state's LWAs and will be utilized, along with the statewide projections, to do a complete update of the Occupational Outlook dashboard.

Finally, in PY 2019, Kentucky LMI staff collaborated with the KYSTATS research team to update the five-year occupational projections (at both the state and sub-state level) utilized in the Kentucky Future Skills Report (KFSR), Kentucky's first labor supply/demand report. The updated KFSR is located at <https://kystats.ky.gov/Latest/KFSR>.

Task	Task Focus	Milestone Date	Principal Customers	Status
Develop preliminary, sub-state, industry projections review partnership, including development of internal industry projections review dashboard, and consult with local workforce professionals to capture current regional events not depicted in historical time series data	Data Quality	May 2019	Local Workforce Area boards, employers, educators, students, career counselors, economic developers, policymakers, job seekers, and government agencies	Completed
Finalize, submit to PMP, and publish sub-state, long-term projections (2016-2026)	Data Update	July 2019	Same	Completed - Developed June 2019 Finalized July 2019
Develop and launch interactive, Tableau-based Occupational Outlook Dashboard	Product Development/ Dynamic LMI Report and Publications	July 2019	Same	Completed - Developed June 2019 Launched July 2019
Update NAICS time-series to include 2018 employment data	Data Update	December 2019	Same	Completed
Develop statewide, short-term projections (2019-2021) using 2019 as a base year and submit to the PMP	Data Update	March 2020	Same	Completed
Develop statewide, long-term occupational and industry projections (2018-2028) using Projections Suite and implementing the BLS Separations methodology, and submit estimates to the PMP	Data Update	August 18, 2020	Same	Completed

Task	Task Focus	Milestone Date	Principal Customers	Status
Develop sub-state, long-term occupational and industry projections (2018-2028) using Projections Suite and implementing the BLS Separations methodology, and submit estimates to the PMP	Data Update	June 2021	Same	Completed
Update interactive Tableau-based Outlook Dashboard with current cycle projections data for state and sub-state areas	Data Delivery	As new projections estimates become available	Same	Ongoing
Populate WID with current cycle projections data	Data Delivery	As new projections estimates become available	Same	Completed
Explore options for producing five-year ETA projections at the state and sub-state levels	Product Development	Ongoing	LMI Staff	Ongoing

### 3. Employee development and LMI training for service delivery

Customer training, including LMI training for service delivery, was a focus during PY 2019. Kentucky LMI staff provided technical 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, Kentucky Skills U staff, Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services personnel, as well as LWA professionals and board members.

In September 2019, KYSTATS held its Data Use Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. The two-day event, geared toward education and workforce policymakers, practitioners, and data users, provided information on the wide array of data and products available through KYSTATS; and included guidance on how to utilize these tools for both educational and local planning purposes ensuring a successful workforce and enabling communities to identify, develop, and maintain sustainable regional economies. The conference included panelists from the state legislature as well as education and workforce leaders throughout the Commonwealth. The conference also hosted 13 different breakout sessions tailored to the needs of different customer groups, including three sessions dedicated to the use of LMI. Approximately 170 education, workforce, and economic development professionals were in attendance for the event.

Additional trainings to multiple audiences were provided after the launch of new tools, including the Career Explorer and Occupational Outlook dashboard. To reach target groups outside of the professional workforce and education community, KYSTATS set up a booth at the Kentucky State Fair to promote the tools to job seekers, students, parents, and others in the general public.

A breakout of LMI training to various customer groups in PY 2019 is below.

Date	Location	Presentation Subject	Audience	Number of Attendees
July 9, 2019	Washington, DC	Work Ready Communities Dashboard	Association of Public Data Users Annual Conference Attendees	50
July 26, 2019	Louisville, KY	LMI Website Demo/ LMI Data Collection Methods	KWIB, Joint Employer & Education Committee (comprised of KY Chamber of Commerce, KY Department of Education, and private sector)	15
August 16, 2019	Louisville, KY	Career Explorer	Kentucky State Fair Attendees	30

Date	Location	Presentation Subject	Audience	Number of Attendees
August 27, 2019	Frankfort, KY	Occupational Outlook Dashboard	KYSTATS Board and representatives from US Department of Education	10
August 30, 2019	Maysville, KY	Career Explorer/ LMI Website	Maysville Community and Technical College Staff, TENCO LWA staff	14
September 4-5, 2019	Louisville, KY	KYSTATS 2019 Data Use Conference	Education and Workforce Practitioners, Policymakers, Data Users, and Economic Development Partners	170
September 21, 2019	Prestonsburg, KY	Career Explorer	Pritchard Committee Meeting Attendees (K-12 education staff, parents)	20
October 1, 2019	Versailles, KY	Career Explorer/ LMI Website	Skills U Staff (Adult Education)	125
October 2, 2019	Online (Zoom)	Career Explorer/ LMI Website/ KFSR	Area Development District, KWIB, KY Cabinet for Health and Family Services, KY Skills U, KY Cabinet for Economic Development, and Kentucky Department for Workforce Investment Staff	60
October 24, 2019	Richmond, KY	LMI Website/ Occupational Outlook Dashboard/ Career Explorer	Madison County Work Ethic Certification Proposal Meeting Attendees (public school staff and private industry representatives)	30
February 19, 2020	Lexington, KY	LMI Website and Training	WIOA Field Staff and Managers	30

In addition, the Branch 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.

Later in the program year, as the COVID-19 pandemic evolved, Kentucky actively engaged in virtual meetings with these stakeholders to determine the need for new product development in light of the unique challenges presented by the outbreak. 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, to develop new products to meet these needs.

The Branch continued consultation with state and local 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 information demand. Regular exchanges of ideas between users and suppliers of workforce information occurred through numerous meetings, demonstrations, focus groups, and 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.

Kentucky was also proactive in its exchanges with LWAs and other customer groups. Rather than waiting for customer requests for information, Kentucky continued to push out new products as they became available. This “product push” provided customers with much needed information, and informed them of the wide range of data and analysis available from the LMI shop.

To further increase visibility, Kentucky actively marketed LMI products and services. Working in collaboration with KYSTATS communications staff, Kentucky issued press releases, conducted presentations and workshops, and provided users with “one-pager” summaries of new LMI 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.

In PY 2019, Kentucky also completed production of an informational video to educate customers on the information available to them through the Kentucky LMI shop. The whiteboard style video outlines the available data (and example use cases) from Kentucky’s QCEW, CES, LAUS, OES and ETA projections programs. The video is located on the KYSTATS homepage at [www.kystats.ky.gov](http://www.kystats.ky.gov) and available at <https://youtu.be/7ONdSFKKV7A>.

Kentucky was also committed to employee development in PY 2019. Branch personnel attended several U.S. Department of Labor and other state-sponsored statistical program trainings. In addition, LMI staff participated in training provided by the Projections Management Partnership (PMP); attended and presented at national conferences, such as the Association of Public Data Users’ (APDU) Conference and the annual C2ER/LMI Conference; and received training in Tableau software to allow for the development of online, interactive tools that enable customers to easily customize reports, maps, and graphs based on user defined criteria.

As COVID-19 limited in-person travel in the latter half of the program year, Kentucky transitioned to remote and online trainings. LMI staff participated in virtual trainings on analytic and data visualization software (including Tableau and RStudio) to enhance LMI product design and delivery, and attended web-based technical trainings offered by the BLS, the PMP, and the Coleridge Initiative. 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 2019. KYSTATS researchers consulted with LMI projections staff on projections models and methodologies. In turn, LMI analysts were trained by the KYSTATS research team in programs and tools (including Tableau software and R programming) utilized in data reporting. Development staff continued to learn about WID content, maintenance, and structure, and educated LMI staff on new reporting tools including Microsoft SQL Server Reporting Services (SSRS). 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 2019, 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 conferences, presentations, and workshops on LMI products and services to state workforce agency personnel, local workforce development area 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	Product Development	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Continue proactive marketing strategy to increase visibility of LMI and expand customer base	Marketing	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Develop and launch LMI explainer web-video to inform customers on the data available through the Kentucky LMI shop	Marketing	October 2019	Same	Completed
Maintain "product push" to provide customers with LMI products and services as they become available	Information Delivery	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Attend program specific technical trainings as well as analytic and data visualization software trainings, and participate 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 accordance with the requirements of Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 5-19, the Branch prepared a comprehensive statewide economic analysis for PY 2019 to support the planning and decision-making efforts of Kentucky's policymakers, as well as the state and local workforce development boards. This report 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 2019 was submitted to the ETA regional office.

Kentucky also prepared detailed analysis for the U.S. Department of Labor in accordance with the provisions of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, Employment and Training Administration regulations, and the procedures described in the Employment Service Program Letter 9-91

for the Rural Industrialization Loan and Grant Program. The Branch provided detailed labor market, workforce, and economic information, and assessment related to an application for a rural loan on related local industry to evaluate potential impacts to competitors. This analysis was submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor in June 2020, and was also provided to the ETA Regional Office in Atlanta.

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, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). In PY 2019, the Branch received numerous requests for information. In response, Kentucky utilized existing products and programs, and sought other avenues and sources of data in an effort to provide the best information to meet the needs of each customer.

In PY 2019, 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.

In addition, KYSTATS served as part of a multi-agency partnership in the development of Kentucky's WIOA Combined State Strategic Plan. The Branch conducted analysis, and provided data including employment, industry, labor force, demographic, and occupational demand metrics to assist the Commonwealth in drafting the framework for its updated plan.

KYSTATS continued its collaboration 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. KYSTATS participates in stakeholder meetings on the impending redesign, and 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/KYLMI/UIClaimTables>.

Kentucky renewed 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 2019, 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 cooperation and participation in the U.S. Census Bureau Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) project, providing quarterly data used by the program to produce detailed statistics on employment, earning, and job flows for different industries, geographies, and demographics 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.

This alignment has also uniquely positioned KYSTATS to respond to inquiries on multiple fronts regarding the disruptions to both the workforce and education communities caused by the COVID-19 outbreak. Since the beginning of the pandemic, KYSTATS has been at the forefront, providing policymakers and data users with information, analyses, and new tools to evaluate the impacts to 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 Report. 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 Report was published on the KYSTATS website in May 2020, is updated weekly, and is available at [https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/CUU\\_2020](https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/CUU_2020).

Another piece of analysis, the Career Explorer, was also launched during the program year. Developed in PY 2018 and completed in July of PY 2019, this tool replaces the traditional Career Profiles publication, and incorporates publicly available data from KYSTATS, BLS, and O\*Net, including 5-year projections, job descriptions, career videos, skills, abilities, occupational wage estimates, and education and training data. Using this unique platform, job seekers and students can explore career options based on self-assessed Knowledge, Skills & Abilities, Desired Salary, Major or Certification, and Desired Occupation. Upon completion of the assessment, users are provided with a list of careers that best match their interest, skills, or other selected criteria. The tool also provides information on in-state training providers offering educational programs and credentials for the returned occupations. Typical education and training requirements, projected openings, estimated wages, suggested knowledge, skills, and abilities, job descriptions, and videos detailing individual occupations are also provided. The KYSTATS Career Explorer is located at <https://kystats.ky.gov/CareerExplorer>.

The Branch also collaborated extensively with the local areas to produce a current, concise, regional analysis of the workforce and labor market conditions for each area. In PY 2019, Kentucky worked with LWA stakeholders to identify the necessary workforce metrics and desired format for the regional publication. The resulting draft product, the Workforce Overview Report for Kentucky Regions (WORKR), incorporates current data and trends in employment, unemployment, UI claims, employment levels and share by industry, average weekly wages, projections, and occupational wages.

Initially conceived as a series of static PDF publications, the draft WORKR was reimagined in PY 2019 as an interactive, Tableau based report for users. This redesigned, dynamic version of the WORKR is in development and slated for launch on the KYSTATS website in PY 2020.

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. Subjects explored in PY 2019 included:

- Job Openings and Labor Turnover (JOLTS)
- Unemployment in Depth and Alternate Measures of Labor Underutilization
- Effects of Automation on Kentucky Occupations
- KYSTATS Career Explorer Tool
- Labor Force Participation Rate
- Economic Diversity and Specialization by Kentucky County
- Overview of the Transportation Sector in Kentucky
- Teacher Employment After Exiting the Classroom
- Overview of Kentucky Commuting Patterns
- Occupations at Greatest Risk from Coronavirus

- Comparison of Wages to Combined Unemployment Benefits and CARES Act Compensation
- Exploring Initial Unemployment Claims in Detail
- Small Business Pulse Survey Impacts of COVID-19
- Job Retention and the Paycheck Protection Program (CARES Act)

Past and current issues of the *Kentucky Labor Force Update* are available on the KYSTATS website at <https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Reports>.

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 November 2019 with the most current supply, outcomes, and future demand data (2019-2023). The full version of the updated KFSR is available at <https://kystats.ky.gov/Latest/KFSR>. The KFSR will be maintained and updated in PY 2020.

Analysis was also provided to customers via the interactive Kentucky Industry Profiler. The Industry Profiler utilizes monthly, quarterly, and annual employment and wage data to provide detailed, industry level information by geographical area. This dynamic dashboard allows users to view current industry data, analyze historical trends over time, and make comparisons across broad and detailed industry groups, geographies, and ownerships. The Industry Profiler was updated throughout PY 2019 and is available at [https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/Industry\\_Profiler\\_2018](https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/Industry_Profiler_2018).

In PY 2019, Kentucky sought to enhance the industry level data available to users through the Industry Profiler and initiated development of a new industry-based tool. The Economic Activity Report (EAR), will incorporate the QCEW data used in the Industry Profiler, and also integrate estimates from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Business Employment Dynamics (BED) program and the Job Opening and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS). Development of the expanded industry tool began in PY 2019 and will be completed in PY 2020.

Kentucky also pursued new avenues to provide users with BLS civilian labor force estimates. Leveraging resources and staff from the KYSTATS development team, collaboration began on an SSRS based reporting tool. The Master LAUS Report, which will allow users to easily query and download multiple datasets from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics program, was developed in PY 2019 and is the final stages of review. It is scheduled for launch in early PY 2020.

Finally, at the beginning of PY 2019 Kentucky launched its interactive version of the Occupational Outlook. The Tableau based dashboard, which replaced the traditional static Outlook publication, incorporates both state and sub-state long-term projections, as well as educational attainment and wage data. The dashboard is updated as new rounds of projections estimates become available and is located at [https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/OOD\\_2019](https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/OOD_2019).

Several existing tools were also updated during the program year.

Developed in direct response to the needs of the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board (KWIB) and the Office of Employment and Training, the Kentucky Workforce Dashboard serves as a barometer 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 dashboard is updated quarterly following the KWIB meeting schedule and is located at [https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/KWD\\_2020](https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/KWD_2020). The Civilian Labor Force Report (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 monthly and is located at [https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/CLFR\\_2019](https://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Tableau/CLFR_2019).



The LMI Area Profile, a dynamic report providing a snapshot of key economic metrics by area and industry sector, was updated routinely in PY 2019 to provide the most recent civilian labor force estimates as well as occupational and industry sector employment and wages. The LMI Area Profile can be found at [https://kcewsreports.ky.gov/t/KCEWS/views/LMIAreaProfile/FullSize?:embed=y&showShareOptions=true&:display\\_count=no&showVizHome=no](https://kcewsreports.ky.gov/t/KCEWS/views/LMIAreaProfile/FullSize?:embed=y&showShareOptions=true&:display_count=no&showVizHome=no).

The Find Employers tool was updated to include the 2020 First Edition of the Employer Database and is located at [https://kcewsreports.ky.gov/t/KCEWS/views/empdb/FinalDisplay?iframeSizedToWindow=true&embed=y&:showAppBanner=false&:display\\_count=no&showVizHome=no](https://kcewsreports.ky.gov/t/KCEWS/views/empdb/FinalDisplay?iframeSizedToWindow=true&embed=y&:showAppBanner=false&:display_count=no&showVizHome=no).

For researchers and others seeking to download large amounts of data, Excel tables for current and historical data sets are available. The QCEW tables published on the website were redesigned in PY 2018 to allow for greater publication detail at both industry and geographic level. QCEW data is available back to 1990, and is updated quarterly. Annual occupational employment and wage estimate files for the state and sub-state areas are updated each program year, and Excel files, containing LAUS estimates, including labor force participation rates, are updated monthly.

Static tables, including monthly CES tables and monthly UI Performance Measures, are provided. Standard LMI publications, including maps, press releases, 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>. On this page, Kentucky maintains links to the Kentucky Career Center and other state government sites, StatsAmerica, QWI Explorer, Census LED OnTheMap, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics, and the U.S. Census Bureau.

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.

In PY 2019, Kentucky continued work on the redesign of the LMI Report Library to match the streamlined and more user-friendly platform of the KYSTATS main page, which itself was redesigned in PY 2018. Kentucky met with stakeholders and data users to identify needs and guide the development of this new design, with the overarching goal of creating a more intuitive site for visitors. The resulting KYSTATS website continues to provide users with an array of dynamic reports, data, and analysis, but allows users to access the information they need with minimal navigation (fewer clicks) and promotes the sharing of interactive tools and reports through truncated web links. These design principles will be implemented on the LMI Report Library page to create a seamless interface for users.

Visits and downloads to the website are tracked using Google Analytics. In PY 2019, the Labor Market Information Report Library had 72,582 page views, while the KYSTATS website overall had 156,797 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
Provide analysis and detailed labor market, workforce, and economic information for the U.S. Department of Labor for the Rural Industrialization Loan and Grant Program	Economic Analysis/ Information Delivery	June 2020	U.S. Department of Labor, Employment & Training Administration	Completed

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, 2020	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
Serve as part of multi-agency partnership in the development of the Kentucky WIOA Strategic Plan	Workforce Planning Support/ Analysis	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Increase and cultivate relationships with the education community to identify areas needing analysis	Outreach/ Product Development	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing
Work in collaboration 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
Continue cooperation and participation in the U.S. Census LED 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 new product utilizing both KYSTATS and BLS/ETA data	Product Development	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing

Task	Task Focus	Milestone Date	Principal Customers	Status
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"> <li>Publish and maintain dynamic, Tableau-based Occupational Outlooks utilizing most recent statewide and sub-state long-term projections data</li> </ul>	Product Development/ Information Delivery	July 2019	Same	Launched July 2019 Updated as new projections cycle become available
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish interactive Career Explorer tool utilizing skills, job descriptions, demand, and wage data</li> </ul>	Product Development/ Information Delivery	July 2019	Same	Complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain, publish and update the KFSR on an annual basis</li> </ul>	Product Development/ Information Delivery	November 2019	Same	Updated Annually
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and maintain Kentucky County Unemployment Report with UI claims data</li> </ul>	Product Development/ Information Delivery	May 2020	Same	Launched May 2020 Updated Weekly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update and maintain Workforce Dashboard measures needed for the WIOA, the KWIB, and state workforce partners</li> </ul>	Product Maintenance/ Dynamic LMI Reports	August 2019	Same	Launched August 2019 Updated Quarterly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and publish LAUS Master Report utilizing SSRS</li> </ul>	Product Development/ Information Delivery	October 2020	Same	In Final Review
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and publish Economic Activity Report (EAR) utilizing QCEW, BED, and JOLTS data</li> </ul>	Product Development/ Information Delivery	December 2020	Same	In Review
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and publish interactive WORKER incorporating metrics requested by local workforce partners</li> </ul>	Product Development/ Information Delivery	December 2020	Same	In Review
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update Industry Profiler on a quarterly basis</li> </ul>	Product Maintenance/ Dynamic LMI Reports	Ongoing	Same	Updated Quarterly
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update LMI Area Profiles on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis</li> </ul>	Product Maintenance/ Dynamic LMI Reports	Ongoing	Same	Ongoing

Task	Task Focus	Milestone Date	Principal Customers	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update and maintain interactive Civilian Labor Force Report (CLFR) monthly</li> </ul>	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 WIGS 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 2020.

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 continued involvement from ETA regarding state UI system modernization efforts.

## 6. Conclusion

PY 2019 was a year highlighted by collaborations, partnerships, and new product development 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.

PY 2019 was also a year that provided a unique opportunity to serve, as KYSTATS rose to meet the unexpected challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, and worked collaboratively to identify the information and analyses crucial for stakeholders, customers, and communities to evaluate the impacts and economic disruption caused by the outbreak, and to lay the groundwork for future recovery.

