

# Frequently Asked Questions about the Reissued MMCWV Reports

## Introduction

After the results of Wave V of the Mentor Michigan Census (MMC) were released, Mentor Michigan learned that one of the 136 programs that responded to the MMC inadvertently made an error in reporting their data. Because accuracy is a critical component of integrity, we immediately asked Kahle Research Solutions to recalculate the MMC results. In doing so we were also able to add four mentoring organization's information that came in after the initial MMC deadline. In the revised version of Wave V of the Mentor Michigan Census, 140 mentoring organizations in Michigan responded.

In April 2008, four new reports were issued: an Executive Summary; The Scope and Nature of Mentoring in Michigan; Mentoring by Geographic Area in the State of Michigan; and Mentoring in Michigan: Capacity Change.

The purpose of this document is to address frequently asked questions regarding the data change and the resulting reports.

### ***Why were the reports reissued?***

During the process of conducting a secondary analysis of the MMCWV data, one of the state's larger mentoring organizations discovered that they had misreported data in the online census, specifically the number of mentors and youth served. This discovery came after all of the MMCWV reports were issued in November 2007.

Once this error was discovered, Mentor Michigan immediately decided to have Kahle Research Solutions revise the data and reissue the reports. Accuracy of the MMC data is essential to measuring the growth of mentoring in Michigan. If one year's data is incorrect, it impacts future Waves of the MMC.

### ***What data has changed?***

The most significant changes to the data occurred in the numbers of mentors, youth served, and mentoring matches throughout the state. Additional changes in mentor demographics, mentoring inquiries, and mentor applications can be found in the newly issued reports.

While the Wave V totals for these categories have changed, the most significant changes in these numbers can be seen in the Grand Rapids / Muskegon area (see "**Mentoring by Geographic Area in the State of Michigan**"). Some changes can also be found in the Tri-County and Southeast Michigan geographic areas.

Data for mentoring capacity and mentoring program budgets in the **Mentoring in Michigan: Capacity Change** report also changed significantly.

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For additional information about the changes, please review the Noteworthy Changes Report.

### ***How can we prevent data reporting errors?***

1. Use Mentor Pro. MentorPRO is an online data tracking and analysis system designed for mentoring programs to better manage their programs, manage mentoring relationships and evaluate outcomes. MentorPRO provides mentoring programs with standardized measures and a common system for collecting, tracking, and analyzing data.
2. Maintain your own monthly database of mentoring data.
3. Review the Funnel Measures questions as they appear on previous wave questionnaires as preparation to answer the Wave VI Census in September/October of 2008.

Periodically reviewing data for anything out of the ordinary can help you find problems before data is reported to Mentor Michigan via the Census.

### ***What other assistance is available to mentoring organizations who want to improve data collection techniques?***

Contact Mentor Michigan or Robert W. Kahle (see contact info below).

### ***What do we do if we have used the incorrect data from the November reports as support for grant applications or other documentation?***

If the changes in the data are significant and relevant to the grant application, inform the reviewer of the changes and attach updated reports as documentation.

### ***When is the next Mentor Michigan Census?***

Wave VI of the Mentor Michigan Census is scheduled to go online in Fall 2008. Data will be collected during September and October 2008, with reporting to follow.

### ***Who do we contact if we have additional questions?***

At Mentor Michigan, contact Amber Reiss: [ReissA@michigan.gov](mailto:ReissA@michigan.gov)

**OR**

Contact Robert W. Kahle: [RWKahle@KahleResearchSolutions.com](mailto:RWKahle@KahleResearchSolutions.com), 269-469-1001