Workforce Longitudinal Data System

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY | **WD WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

The Workforce Longitudinal Data System (WLDS) creates a connection between workforce data and Michigan's existing educational State Longitudinal Data System, enabling the state to effectively evaluate educational and workforce data.

What is the goal of WLDS?

WDLS was funded by three U.S. Department of Labor grants to link statewide educational and wage systems and expand data connections. The linkage of records allows analysis of the relationship between education and training programs, the provision of employment services, and employment outcomes. The aggregated results can be used to make informed decisions about training and education, policy and programming to improve our return on investment.

How does WLDS accomplish this?

Secondary and Postsecondary education records are attained from the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI). Wage records are provided from the Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA). The Department of Health and Human Services' Master Person Index system securely matches participants between both systems. Federal and State program participants can be found within this yearly match to create specialized outcome reports with the expertise of the Department of Technology, Management (DTMB) Michigan Center for Data and Analytics (MCDA).

This data is used to create products such as Pathfinder, a public website, and outcome data for reports on Michigan School Data and Michigan Training Connect (MiTC), the state's Eligible Training Provider List.

What are the primary features of WLDS?
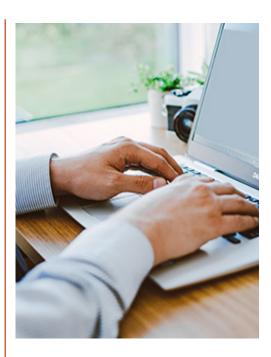
The linkage of database records allows for:
- Analysis of the relationship between education and training programs.
- Provision of employment services.
- Employment outcomes across the state.

The data from WLDS is used to create the following products:
- Pathfinder (*Pathfinder.MiTalent.org*)
- State of Michigan Eligible Training Provider list – MiTC (*MiTalent.org/MiTC*)
- Workforce reports (*MiSchoolData.org*)
- White papers by MCDA

Who are the WLDS's data partners?
- Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI)
- Department of State (DOS)
- Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB) Michigan Center for Data and Analytics (MCDA)
- Department of Education (MDE)
- Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA)
- Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

New WLDS data partnerships:
- Credential Engine
- Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
- Department of Education – Office of Educational Excellence
- Department of Health and Human Services – Bureau of Emergency Trauma and Preparedness

Where can you learn more about the Workforce Longitudinal Data System?

More information about the WLDS is available on the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity– Workforce Development website, *Michigan.gov/WLDS*.