

February  
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## Message from Our Co-Chairs...

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) program and the LED Partnership, it is with great pleasure that we launch our first quarterly *LED Communique*. We are committed to fostering transparency in the LED partnership and providing information on both how LEHD data products are being used and planned enhancements to the data products.

To that end, we will keep you abreast of the latest data and product developments, current research, and LED Steering Committee meeting discussions.

On a quarterly basis, we will inform you about the latest developments in our partnership and steering committee.

Please contact us with comments and suggestions.

With warm regards,

**Leonard Preston,**

Co-chair LEHD Steering Committee, New Jersey State Data Center, New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development

**Kimberly Jones-Ruiz Ph.D.,**

Co-chair LEHD Steering Committee, Acting Assistant Center Chief, LEHD, Center for Economic Studies

# LED Communique

## 2017 LED Annual Workshop

The 2017 Local Employment Dynamics (LED) Partnership Workshop was held on September 11-12 at the U.S. Census Bureau in Suitland, Maryland. This annual workshop provides an opportunity for the Census Bureau, data users, and state partners to come together to discuss new statistical products and uses of data by state and local policy makers. This year there were more than 100 participants with sessions highlighting new enhancements to Census' Job-to-Job Flows (J2J) data and new uses of data made available through the LED partnership. Presentations from the workshop are available on the LEHD website.

Our keynote speaker was Rachel Meltzer, Assistant Professor of Urban Policy and Chair of the Public and Urban Policy at the Milano School of International Affairs, Management and Urban Policy. In her keynote address, Rachel highlighted her research using LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LODES) to examine the economic vulnerability of urban neighborhoods to natural disasters and whether gentrification improved job opportunities for local residents.

Several sessions highlighted use of J2J, LODES, and Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) by the LED partner agencies and data analysts. Feedback from participants indicated these sessions gave many analysts new ideas for using these data to provide economic information to their own constituents and policy makers.



Left to Right: Bill Anderson, Robert Sienkiewicz, Bruce DeMay, Len Preston. Photo by: Claudia Perez

The Innovations in Local Employment Dynamics award acknowledges important contributions to building and sustaining the LED partnership and this year was awarded to Bill Anderson from Nevada, Len Preston from New Jersey, and Bruce DeMay from New Hampshire.

## Current Approved Federal Statistical Research Data Center (FSRDC) Active Projects Using LEHD Data

- \*Effects on Labor Markets of Reservists and Military Spouses
- \*Corporate Restructuring and Human Capital
- \*The Antecedents and Consequences of Employee Entrepreneurship
- \*New Firm Formation, Innovation, and Entrepreneurial Firm Growth: The Role of Credit
- \*Firm Financial Constraints and Employment
- \*The Long-Run Effects of Positive Shocks to Prenatal Conditions in the United States
- \*The Economic Geography and Dynamics of Businesses on Indian Reservations: The Role of Space, Demographics, and Tribal Institutions
- \*Effects of the Family and Medical Leave Act on Firms and Workers: Evidence from the LEHD
- \*Dynamics of Employment, Trade and Investment at Multinational Firms
- \*Employee Risk Tolerance and Corporate Decisions
- \*Estimating the Effects of Bankruptcy Regimes on Firm Outcomes
- \*When Opportunity Moves to or Away from You: An Analysis of the Mechanisms Linking Geographic, Economic, Institutional, and Social Space with Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Business Performance

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## Education Pilot Project

Education plays a central role in preparing students for the labor market, yet students choosing colleges and majors have very little information on employment and earnings to inform their choices. Similarly, while education is widely understood to have important spillovers for local economic development, there is little data connecting colleges and universities to local labor supply chains. By linking college transcript data with longitudinal information on jobs, the LEHD program, jointly with the University of Texas system and the state of Colorado, is in the process of developing new statistical products on earnings and employment of college graduates by institution and degree.

Much like the early QWI, LODES, and J2J releases before them, these new statistical pilots fulfill a key goal of the LED partnership by providing new economic statistics through leveraging existing data in new ways. More information about the education pilot project was provided in a letter sent to state partners last summer and we will continue to provide updates on the status of the new pilots.

## State Spotlight

### California

The California Employment Development Department's (EDD) Labor Market Information Division (LMID) has a mission of providing the EDD's stakeholders with timely information on trends associated with the state's economy and its respective workforce.

One example of this mission in action is the research partnership established with the University of California-Davis in which EDD used in-house data sources (e.g., Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages) to uncover income trends related to the state's agricultural workforce. In addition, LMID has analyzed regional trends using LEHD data to gain insight into which areas of the state have provided the most job growth over time. In response to stakeholders' demands for information on workforce supply, LMID is in the process of creating a web-based interactive tool that allows for an enhanced view of workforce supply and demand by region.



\*Internal Resource Reallocation over the Business Cycle

\*Cross Sectional and Time Series Analysis of Production and Energy Efficiency in Manufacturing

\*Wage Rigidity and the Cross-Sectional Stock Returns

\*The Consequences of Firm-Level Wage Compression

\*The Effects of Social Insurance Financing on Firm Behavior

\*Labor Market Impacts of State and Local Minimum Wages

\*Common Ownership and Firm Dynamics: Measuring Employment, Wage, and Firm Performance Outcomes

\*The Impact of Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Benefits on Workers, and Assessing LEHD Successor-Predecessor Linkages with Researcher-Provided Data on Mass Layoffs

\*The Effect of Affirmative Action on Workers' Outcomes

\*Estimating Two-Sided Assignment Models Using LEHD Data

## Other Recent Uses of LED Data by Partners

**Tesla Corporation:** Nevada was contacted by Tesla Corporation to do a macro level review on their workforce, for which they intend to use public use LEHD data.

**State Factories:** Pennsylvania reported that the Governor conducted tours of State factories, which included an interview where the Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) data was used to illustrate the “graying” of manufacturing jobs.

**Evaluation of Family Medical Leave Act:** New Hampshire reported they would be using LEHD data to look at new hires data to support evaluation of new legislation on family medical leave.

## Steering Committee Updates

### Departures

- **Rob Sienkiewicz (Census)** – Rob became the new Chief of the Center for Disclosure Avoidance Research (CDAR) in December 2017. We thank Rob for his leadership as Assistant Center Chief of LEHD where he brought his enthusiasm and "can-do" spirit to every endeavor.
- **John Fattaleh (Census)**- John moved with Rob to CDAR as the new lead project manager. We are grateful for John's instrumental work in keeping LEHD projects moving forward.
- **Sachin Chintawar (Louisiana LMI)** - Sachin announced that he has taken on a new position and will no longer serve as a member on this committee. We thank Sachin for his dedication and contributions to the LED Steering Committee and partnership and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

### Arrivals and New Roles

- **Kimberly Jones (Census)** – Kimberly will be Acting Assistant Center Chief for LEHD. Kimberly brings seven years of experience with the LEHD program where she has worked with each of the state partners to ensure their needs are reflected in our Memoranda of Understanding. Kimberly is also a researcher whose work has focused on the intersection of educational intervention and labor market outcomes.
- **Rachel Maskowitz (New Mexico LMI)** – Rachel is the newest member of the LED Steering Committee. Ms. Moskowitz is the Bureau Chief for the Economic Research & Analysis Bureau at the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions. The Steering Committee voted and confirmed the appointment on January 11, 2018. We welcome Ms. Moskowitz and look forward to working with her on the Steering Committee.

## **Your Turn...How May We Serve Your Data Needs?**

We strive to enhance and meet the needs of our stakeholders. Please take a moment and let us know your thoughts. Send us an email at [ces.local.employment.dynamics@cen.sus.gov](mailto:ces.local.employment.dynamics@cen.sus.gov).

Let us know what improvements would be valuable to you or any comments you would like to share with the LED Leadership.

We are waiting to hear from you.

## **About Local Employment Dynamics:**

The Local Employment Dynamics (LED) Partnership is a voluntary federal-state partnership founded in 1999. Its main purpose is to leverage administrative and survey data in new ways to produce a new enhanced labor market statistics such as the Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI), LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Estimates (LODES), and Job-to-Job Flows (J2J), subject to strict protection of the identity and confidentiality of the individual respondents.

## **Suggestions from the Steering Committee**

We take the feedback and guidance of the LED Steering Committee seriously. As such, we are actively researching and addressing the comments from our Steering Committee meetings. We will provide updates in subsequent Communiques.

Some of the ideas under consideration are listed below.

1. Improve online marketing and promotions of LED Webinars and Workshops on the LEHD website.
2. Provide access and contributions from State Partners on “LED in Action” on the LEHD website.
3. Provide release schedule for LEHD data and data tools.
4. Provide QWI and J2J in Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED).
5. Develop capability to identify multiple job holders
6. Provide a special tabulation or report on temporary employment services.
7. Develop capability to create custom age groups.