

2021 LED Workshop - April 30, 2021

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Video begins at 00:00:24

Keith Bailey: Good morning and welcome to the 2021 Local Employment Dynamics or LED Partnership Workshop. Today's proceedings are being recorded and a transcript will be published at a later date. Also all presentations will be published to the LEHD Web site late next week.

Do not include any sensitive or confidential information in the chat. A friendly reminder to please mute your audio unless you are speaking. In order to maximize your experience with us today we strongly recommend that you set the WebEx layout view to grid. Also make sure that the option to quote, "show participants without video" does not have a checkmark. If there is a checkmark click on the option which will remove the checkmark.

Joining me this morning to welcome you are Lucia Foster, Chief Economist and Chief of the Center for Economic Studies within the US Census Bureau and Jeff Drake, Labor Market Information Director for the state of Missouri and Co-chair of the LED Steering Committee. At this time I invite Lucia Foster to officially open the 2021 LED Partnership Workshop.

Lucia Foster: Thank you very much Keith, this is very exciting. Thank you and thank you for the opportunity to provide some short welcoming remarks. It's very nice to see you all here today. Kim Jones tells me that we have 37 states represented and more than 160 participants and I can we've got - we're up to 155 right now as of today.

We last met two years ago and that marked the 20th Anniversary of the LED Partnership and the LEHD Program. We took the time two years ago to celebrate our path, learn more about our present and to think about our future. Keith tells me that today is our 20th workshop meeting so I'd like to take a moment to celebrate that important milestone.

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I would like to thank the CES staff and our LED partners, those who have been with us since the beginning and those who are first-timers, for this amazing partnership. With you we have undertaken research and created many new products that have greatly increased our understanding of the US economy and the population. We should all be very proud of what we've achieved together.

This workshop gives us the opportunity to learn more about how our products are being used and to discuss the directions for the future. It looks like we have an incredibly full day ahead of us and we have two sessions on LED uses, discussions about LED products and also about Census Bureau data products more generally including those introduced during the pandemic to help us to understand its impact on the population and economy.

We have a lunch chat featuring the assistant commissioner from our sister agency Bureau of Labor Statistics, a keynote speech from a professor at UCLA, updates from the LEHD program, a feedback session for partner stakeholders needs and future directions which is really important and we end with a virtual reception.

So I wanted to make sure that again to reiterate my thanks to everybody, thank you to everyone who worked so hard to put together this interesting program, thank you for all who are coming to it today and a special thanks for all those who put in so much work behind the scenes.

Kim Jones for overall coordination of conference logistics and being the primary point of contact for the speakers, Claudia Perez for coordination with Census IT and conference services and secondary point of contact for speakers, Earlene Dowell for facilitating the question and answer sessions and being our resident WebEx platform expert, Greg Pewett for behind the scenes

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WebEx support and being responsible for coordinating WebEx transitions for all speakers -- and I'll say as a person who's not super IT savvy I really appreciate all these IT people especially today -- and then the planning committee comprised of Rachel Moskowitz, Tim Kestner, Jeff Drake, Carol Aristone, Jeff McHugh, Alyson Smola, Earlene Dowell, Erika McEntarfer, Jim Spletzer, Kim Jones, Kristin Sandusky, Claudia Perez and of course Keith Bailey.

So again I'm really excited about the day that's coming up. It's really great to see so many people here. I see we're now at 177 so that's just amazing to watch it go up. And I just wanted to take a moment to say how grateful I am that we can all be together at least virtually.

It's been a very hard year and it's good to see new and old friends all sharing a commitment to this incredible partnership. So thank you very much for the opportunity to provide opening remarks and I look forward to the rest of the day, thank you.

Keith: On behalf of the entire LEHD research team I welcome you to the 2021 LED Partnership Workshop. As some of you know my connections to LEHD go back to its inception in the late 1990s when I was a labor analyst with the Pennsylvania Department of Labor Industry. I have witnessed LEHD's growth through a state labor market information lens, a higher education researcher lens and now a Census lens.

It is an honor to serve as the Assistant Center Chief for LEHD research and I wish to thank Lucia Foster for her leadership and the entire LEHD team for their guidance and support. LEHD would not exist without the data and inspiration of our LED partners. I thank the partners for their commitment to

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and support of the LED partnership. If we were gathered together I would ask all LED staff and partners to stand and be recognized.

LEHD continues to fill a niche in the workforce and economic development fields through its unique foundational partnership with state and territory labor departments. At present 47 states, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico compose the voluntary LED partnership. I invite any state that is not presently a partner to consider the advantages of having access to workforce dynamics information that includes worker demographics and establishment characteristics.

What began as a research concept to align individual worker, establishment and demographic data has become a robust suite of data which provides 32 quarterly workforce indicators covering employment, employment change and earnings, job to job flows, residence and workplace connections and national data on employment and earnings of post-secondary higher education graduates and army discharges.

I opine that LEHD stands out as one of the most comprehensive public source of workforce dynamics information. Our interest and efforts to improve and expand LEHD are persistent. Today's workshop will show you how consumers and researchers are utilizing LEHD to examine real world workforce and economic issues. We will also solicit from you what you need from LEHD and how we may inspire each other to get the most out of the data and applications.

The COVID-19 pandemic elicited an insatiable desire for detailed and granular data on workers and businesses. Regrettably the lag in LEHD data did not permit real-time examination on the early impacts however with LEHD data available for 2020 Quarter 2 and soon 2020 Quarter 3 we can all

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take a deep dive into the empirical data to discover and document the effects and hopefully use this data to drive decisions and develop appropriate courses of action.

I look forward to hearing from our diverse presenters and workshop attendees. I see a bright new horizon for LEHD and we will chart the course together, thank you.

Jeff Drake: Thank you Keith, I have little to add before we begin today's presentations. Missouri finds that the time and effort used to supply the data we submit every quarter to LED to be very well worth it. The return on our investment has exceeded our expectations. LED has opened new areas for research and the presentations today will highlight some of those. I look forward to today's sessions and trust that even more ideas will come from today's workshop, thank you very much for your time.

Keith: Thank you to Lucia and Jeff for your warm welcome and remarks. My role is now one of the emcee for our workshop today. We have a full program today. Out of respect for all participants we will strive to adhere to the timeframes outlined in the agenda. We thank you in advance for your understanding should we experience any unforeseen technical challenges.

We are using a single login for the entire workshop, if you need to disconnect and rejoin throughout the day the login information remains the same. Many of our sessions include a question-and-answer period following the presentations. We will have both the chat feature and the phone lines opened for questions however we prefer the use of the chat feature.

Please accept our sincere apologies if time does not allow us to get to your questions via the chat or phone lines. Know that the post-conference materials

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will capture all chat questions and provide responses. For chat questions to the panelists please select “all panelists” in the chat dropdown window. If you select just a particular panelist’s name we will not see your question.

To send a question for everyone in the webinar to see, audience and panelists please choose “everyone” in the dropdown box. Do not send a chat to all attendees as that will exclude the panelists. Please do not enter any sensitive personal or business information in the chat. Our operator will provide instructions for asking questions via telephone before each question-and-answer period.

Thank you for your cooperation. I look forward to our workshop. And just a reminder to those who are presenting, when you are finished - when you are about to present please enable your webcam, when you are finished presenting please turn off your webcam. With that we are prepared to move into our first session.