

2026 Local Employment Dynamics (LED) Partnership Hybrid Workshop Agenda

Tuesday, May 12, 2026 (all times **EDT**)

12:00 – 12:20 pm Call to Order/Welcome/Opening Remarks

Barbara Downs, Acting Assistant Center Chief for Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Research, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau

Ron S. Jarmin, Deputy Director, U.S. Census Bureau

12:20 – 1:15 pm Transforming our Capabilities: LEHD Product Evolution

Andrew Foote, Lead Economist, LEHD Research, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau

Heath Hayward, Geographer/Applications Team Lead, LEHD Research, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau

Raza Lamb, Data Scientist, LEHD Research, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau

1:15 – 1:30 pm Break

1:30 – 2:45 pm Keynote Address – Fireside Chat: An Expert Perspective on Data, Decisions, and Everything In Between

Ellen Zentner, Chief Economic Strategist and Global Head of Thematic and Macro Investing, Morgan Stanley

Moderators: Barbara Downs, Acting Assistant Center Chief for Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Research, Center for Economic Studies, and Jeff McHugh, Economic Directorate's Team Lead for the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program, U.S. Census Bureau

2:45 – 3:00 pm Break

3:00 – 3:55 pm Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) Session: Transforming Regional Insight into Action

Moderator: Bryan Grady, Assistant Executive Director for Labor Market Information, South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce

Houston by the Numbers: Turning Employment Data into Regional Insight - Brenda Samman, Data Analyst, the Houston-Galveston Area Council

Transitioning from JOLTS to QWI: A Strategic Framework for State Labor Market Analysis -
Yifan Wang, Research Economist, the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce
Development

4:00 – 4:55 pm Job-to-Job Flows (J2J) Session: Guiding Workforce Decisions with J2JOD Intelligence

Moderator: Bryan Grady, Assistant Executive Director for Labor Market Information, South
Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce

Job-to-Job Flows in the Houston Metropolitan Area - Kaiyue Feng, Socioeconomic Modeler,
Houston-Galveston Area Council

North Carolina's Interstate Talent Flows: A J2JOD Dashboard - Dylan Craig, Jr. Economic
Research Analyst, Labor & Economic Analysis Division, North Carolina Department of
Commerce

5:00pm Close-out

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 (all times **EDT**)

12:00 – 12:10 pm Welcoming Remarks – Lucia Foster, Chief of Center for Economic Studies and Chief
Economist, U.S. Census Bureau

12:15 – 1:30 pm Managing Change Through Data Innovation: A Briefing on Census Product Upgrades

Moderator: Carol Aristone, Assistant Division Chief for Manufacturing, Corporate Profits and
Business Dynamics, Economic Indicators Division, U.S. Census Bureau

Gretchen Gooding, Branch Chief for the American Community Survey Office, U.S. Census Bureau

Nidaal Jubran, Branch Chief, Economic Management Division, U.S. Census Bureau

Tyson Weister, Survey Statistician, Dissemination Outreach Branch, Center for Enterprise
Dissemination, U.S. Census Bureau

1:35 – 2:30 pm PSEO/VEO: Pathways & Pressures: Understanding Veteran Careers and Student
Stability

Moderator: William Gil, Supervisory Analyst, New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of
Economic and Demographic Research

From Service to Schools: Using Veteran Employment Outcomes Data to Track Military-to-
Education Career Pathways - Nichelle Ruffin, Army Veteran and Educator

Consequences of Eviction for Parenting and Non-Parenting College Students - Dani Sandler,
Principal Economist, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau.

2:30 – 2:45 pm Break

2:45 – 3:45 pm Examining Commuting Patterns with OnTheMap/LODES

Moderator: Rachel Moskowitz, Bureau Chief, Economic Research and Analysis Bureau, New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions

North Carolina's Commuting Patterns Dashboard: Building from OnTheMap - Chi Wong, Economist, Labor and Economic Analysis Division, North Carolina Department of Commerce

Innovative Uses of OnTheMap Data for Transportation Planning - Kui Zhao, Member of the American Institute of Certified Planners

3:50 – 4:50 pm LODES: Managing Complex Transportation Decisions: Workforce Data, Accessibility Metrics, and Strategic Transit Expansion

Moderator: Rachel Moskowitz, Bureau Chief, Economic Research and Analysis Bureau, New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions

Using LODES Data to Localize Economic Development Investments - David Schmidt, Chief Economist for Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, and Steve Scheetz, Research Manager at the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development

Development Data-Driven Approach in Identifying Areas for Potential Public Transit Expansion in the San Diego Region - Paige Pagaduan, Data Science Intern, Tim Garrett, Associate Regional Planner, and Liang Tian, Principal Overseeing Data Science; Management and Analytics Work Program Areas, San Diego Association of Governments

4:55 – 5:00 pm Close-out

All workshop presentations and training sessions will be recorded and posted to the 2026 LED Partnership Hybrid Workshop website - lehd.ces.census.gov/workshops_webinars/workshop/2026.html.