

Minutes: January 11, 2007 LED Steering Committee Conference Call

Members Present: Karen Leahy, Cynthia Swain, George Putnam, Greg Weeks, Erika McEntarfer, Patti Becker, Becky Rust, Wande Reweta, Henry Jackson, John Dorrer

Agenda items and discussion:

1. Annual State Workshop 2007

Patti is finalizing the agenda. It will be posted on the Census Bureau LEHD website shortly. Each session will have a coordinator. The coordinator will organize the panels, get names, titles, bios, keep track of time limits, order the speakers, etc. The coordinator will moderate the session if it has a large number of speakers. During the session that Greg and Jeremy dialogue with the audience, Gary will facilitate.

On Jan 31st, the Steering Committee will finalize both the Marketing and Communications outline plan and the Business Development/Funding outline plan that were created during the Sep Marketing Planning meeting. These will be presented to the workshop audience on Feb 1st.

Erika mentioned that looking over the agenda for the last four workshops, there is a growing concentration on presenting LED applications.

2. Older Worker Release

Illinois was not able to replicate some data on the prototype of this second version of the Older Worker Report. Allan Ross, from Illinois, has contacted Matt Graham, from the Census Bureau, to resolve the questions.

Most of the Census Bureau approval process is complete for this report. It will show 2004 data. The development and publishing process will go quicker for other states, as soon as the process is complete for Iowa, the first state the Census Bureau is collaborating with.

3. Wage Record Edited Data - The Census Bureau will no longer send edited wage record data back to the states on DVD, due to security concerns. They may decide to FTP encrypted wage record edited data to the states.

4. State Only Webpage Password - In an email (dated 12/16/06, subject "LEDSC 06-16: Preliminary QWI Production Summary Report"), Jeremy requested the Committee's help to improve on data file delivery from member states. In email traffic, Wande asked for a quarterly report, so each regional representative on the Committee could follow up with their respective states that were submitting data late. Jeremy said that information was already available for each state's direct access in the State Only section, and would it be acceptable for a committee member to access the information for states in their regions? Since Jeremy was unable to attend this conference call, this issue was deferred until next month.

5. Analytic Consortia

Fabricated Metal Consortium – John reported that his group of states have agreed on a template. Each state is filling the template out with a description of the fabricated metals industry in their state. Lisa Martin, the Executive Director of the Maine Metal Products

Association, will contact her counterparts in this consortium's states to ask that they join with LMI shops to work on this study.

Disaster Assessment and Recovery Consortium – There are three groups within this consortium. Florida and Louisiana are working on hurricane disasters. North Carolina is working on flooding. New Jersey, Illinois, and Missouri have picked this scenario: a toxic cloud is moving across a city. They are assessing evacuation routes. Florida will also share their experience and approach to project the number of disaster claims. Work plans and timelines will be prepared within several weeks and shared within the consortium.

Marketing Brochure Consortium – Washington has the brochure template that Hawaii developed, which is the model they are using. No further progress has been made.

6. Sep Marketing Plan Meeting Followup – Jeremy could not make this conference call, so this item is deferred until next month.
7. LED Training – Scott Bailey and Chris Gonzalez, from Washington state, are writing a 1 day and a 2 day curriculum. QWI definitions and the flow of data through the Census Bureau will be addressed, among other things. Greg hopes these will be ready for the state workshop.
8. Steering Committee Membership – By the time of the state workshop, we would like to have a representative from each region ready to start a new term. James Moore (NJ) has volunteered to be the representative for the New Jersey/New York region. Virginia volunteered to take over for the Mid-Atlantic region, after Karen retires. South Carolina volunteered to take over the Southeast region from Becky. Greg will continue as the representative for the Western region and Wande will continue for Mountain-Plains. Henry plans to caucus his Midwest region at the workshop. Greg and Cynthia will work on surveying the New England and Southwest regions.
9. Technical Subcommittee – No progress this month.
10. Program Update - Jeremy submitted these 10 updates by email. The QWI Production Summary Report of Jan 4th is also attached.
 1. Due to LED moving from the Demographic Surveys Division to the Data Integration Division, the URL for the LED website will be changing from lehd.dsd.census.gov to lehd.did.census.gov. Beginning immediately, both names will be valid and take you to the same site. As we make gradual changes to the postings and literature, the old name will be phased out in the next 6 months or so.
 2. Georgia, Utah, and Mississippi became the 35th, 36th, and 37th state under regular production respectively during this quarter.
 3. A total of 21 states or 58% out of 36 states were on-time with their file delivery under regular quarterly production; 12 states (33%) were late with their file delivery; 3 states (8%) did not deliver the required data files.
 4. The Census Bureau skipped production for 5 states - 3 for no data and 2 for data quality issues. It was on-time for the production of 29 states or 94%. Two (2) states with late file delivery are still running at the end of the quarter.
 5. Backcoding of NAICS began successfully this quarter, and will continue for the next 2 production cycles. SIC-based QWI production will cease at the end of the second quarter in 2007.
 6. Geo vintage was updated to 2005, with CBSA implemented.

7. The move to the new Census Bureau building did not cause major disruptions to the production process. However, two of the CPUs of the production system failed on November 16 and disrupted production for about 4 days with the need to restart some jobs.
8. Computation of processing days starts with the receipt of files or the start of a cycle, whichever is most recent. It currently starts with the receipt of files.
9. California has sent in their 2005 data for processing.
10. Downtime has been scheduled for January 12-16 to introduce a 95TB storage device to supplement QWI production.

11. Other

Cynthia sent this group a list of Steering Committee accomplishments for 2006. People need to give her feedback. The list will be presented to member states at the workshop.

Henry wants the Technical Subcommittee to be discussed during the marketing meeting on the 31st.

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