Local Employment Dynamics: Partnership for the Enhancement of Administrative Data

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Outline

- The LED Partnership
- Building and Maintaining Federal and State Collaborations
- Benefits, Challenges and Lessons Learned
The LED Partnership
Local Employment Dynamics Partnership

- **Then:**
  - Begun in late 1990s with a few states
  - Goal to generate new labor market statistics from existing records (UI and firm info)

- **Now:**
  - 53 partner states/territories
  - 3 data products
  - 4 web-based data tools
  - A culture of innovation and cost savings
LED Data Products

- Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI)
- LEHD Origin Destination Employment Statistics (LODES)
- Job-to-Job Flows (Beta)
Building on State Inputs

- We combine **state records** with other admin/census/survey data from the **Census Bureau and other Federal agencies**
- We can then create public statistics on:
  - Firms & Establishments
  - Jobs & Workers
  - By Firm and Person Characteristics
- Without new respondent burden
Admin. Records & LED Infrastructure

- Economic Survey Data
- Business Register
- QCEW*

Jobs Data
- UI* Wage Records
- OPM*
- Federal Records
- Demographic Census/Survey Data

Firm Data
- Linked National Jobs Data

Person Data

- Job data cover over 95% of private employment and most state, local, and federal jobs
- Data availability: 1990-2014, start year varies by state, rolling end date

QCEW = Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages
UI = Unemployment Insurance
OPM = Office of Personnel Management

Public-Use Data Products...

United States Census Bureau
U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov
Building and Maintaining
What’s In a Partnership?

- Sharing of costs (and data)
- Breadth of expertise
- Diversity of ideas and needs
- National scale and local knowledge
- But it requires commitment and maintenance...
Costs & Benefits, Risks & Rewards

- Universe-level data, but limited variables
- Less expensive than surveys, but less control
- More work cleaning the data, but if the data are being used elsewhere, then they are already pretty clean.
- Large frame micro-data linkages allow innovative data products
- Cutting-edge confidentiality protection is key
Benefits, Challenges and Lessons Learned
Partnership Benefits and Challenges

- **Benefits**
  - Universe-level data: all covered jobs/workers
  - Reduction in administrative cost
  - Local data experts
  - Customer base
  - Increase the user network
Partnership Benefits and Challenges

- Challenges
  - Relationship building: one state/one person at a time
  - State Legislative Concerns
  - Developing Intelligence
  - Data Challenges
  - Identifying the user base
Advice from an elder statesperson

- (Early) Develop a compelling vision that can be scaled up or down
- (Mid) Ensure staff continues to buy into the vision
- (Mature) Grow expertise
LED in Action

Baltimore EZ Commuting Analysis

Of the 214 thousand workers employed in Census blocks intersected by Baltimore’s Enterprise Zone Boundaries between 2002 and 2011, 28 thousand (13%) both lived and worked within prior or current EZ boundaries, and 43% of residents worked in the EZ.

NEW LABOR MARKET INFORMATION
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONS

- Panhandle
- Sandhills
- Grand Island MSA
- Northeast
- Omaha Consortium
- Mid Plains
- Central
- Lincoln MSA
- Southeast

Figure 3.21
Trends in Hires and Separations, 1995-2012

Proportion of workers earning below Self Sufficiency (%)
Thank You!

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Local Employment Dynamics
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Program Tools
- QWIExplorer.ces.census.gov
- LEDExtract.ces.census.gov
- OnTheMap.ces.census.gov
- OnTheMap.ces.census.gov/em.html