Make It Work:
Advancements in State & Federal Administrative Workforce Data

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WorkforceDQC.org
WDQC Mission

- Advocate for **inclusive, aligned and market-relevant** education and workforce data that can help our nation’s human capital policies meet the challenges of a changing economy.

- Promote federal and state reforms for data systems that provide useful information for **policymakers, students and workers, business leaders and educators.**
  - State Blueprint with 13 key features of a high-quality data infrastructure
  - Address federal legislation, funding and technical assistance
  - Policy agenda developed by broad coalition of national organizations, state leaders and technical experts across education/workforce spectrum
Drivers of demand for information:

- High unemployment
- Uncertainty about economy
- Rising costs of college
- 86% freshman cited “to be able to get a better job” as very important reason for attending college
State Efforts
- Data sharing agreements
- Legislative requirements

Federal Developments
- Gainful Employment rule
- College scorecard tools
- WIOA training provider reporting
- Higher Education Act
• Certifications = for specific occupation/skill, time limited, earned through exam, awarded by industry associations or employers

• Licenses = allows practice in specialized field, time limited, awarded by state agency

• Efforts underway to get better data on these credentials
Measuring Credential Attainment

State Efforts
- Certification Data Exchange Pilot
- Workforce Credentials Coalition
- License linkages, e.g. Ohio teacher study

Federal Developments
- WIOA “recognized postsecondary credential”
- New questions on Census surveys
  - Survey of Income & Program Participation (SIPP)
  - Current Population Survey

Post-Certification Exam Employment Outcomes

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certified</th>
<th>Not Certified</th>
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<td>$5,302</td>
<td>$3,603</td>
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Labor Market Information

Stakeholders want to understand regional labor markets
• Colleges – align programs with employer need
• Students – make career choices
• Counselors – offer good guidance

Three levels of labor market info
• Federal surveys
• On-line job ad data
• Local employer input
Lessons: Quick Recap

- Trust is essential for data sharing, and can take time to build

- Standardized and transparent processes, as well as being explicit about data limitations, can help with trust

- Legislation and administrative mandates can be a great tool, but implementation requires capacity and front-line staff agreement

- Develop comfort with new administrative data sources by showing how they may be complementary, not a substitute for existing info
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