

Connecting Education and Training to Workforce Outcomes

Panel on Measuring Skills Acquisition Presentation to the Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee (FESAC)

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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



National Partners

Funders























Apollo Education Group

Bill & Melinda
Gates Foundation

Joyce Foundation

Laura & John Arnold Foundation

Lumina Foundation



Connecting Education/Training to Workforce Outcomes

Stakeholders want to know that education and training lead to the acquisition of skills that are aligned with labor market demand:

- Colleges
- Students
- Employers
- Policymakers





Measuring Alignment

We have two proxies for checking on alignment of skills with labor market demand:

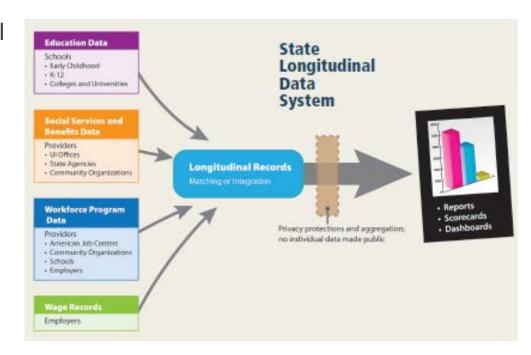
- Attainment of credentials valued by employers, i.e. "industry-recognized credentials"
- Employment outcomes of program graduates





Using Administrative Data

- Efforts increasing to encourage use of both federal and state level administrative data to track program performance
- Less time-consuming to design, run, fund, and re-run; in many cases already being collected
- Surveys still useful, and administrative data not without challenges of maintenance; sometimes less flexibility





Measuring Credential Attainment

- 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 administrative data on these credentials





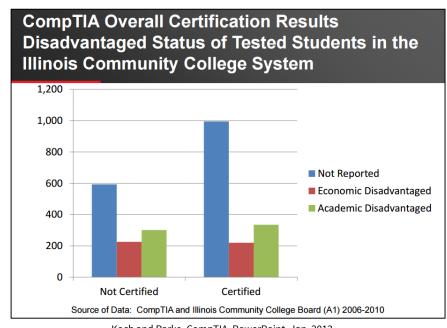
Measuring Credential Attainment

Federal Developments

- WIOA "recognized postsecondary credential"
- New questions on federal surveys

State Efforts

- Certification Data Exchange Pilot
- Workforce Credentials Coalition



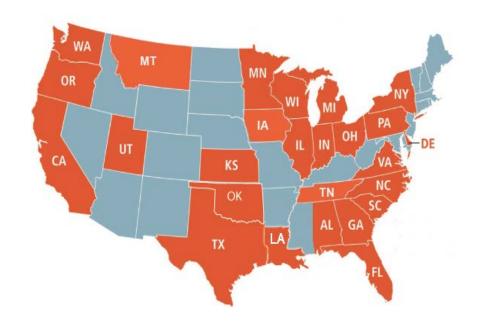
Koch and Parke, CompTIA, PowerPoint, Jan. 2013



Measuring Credential Attainment

Workforce Credentials Coalition

- Led by California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and Doing What Matters for Jobs and the Economy; and the North Carolina Community College System
- Goal: More easily share certification outcomes amongst community colleges across United States
 - Establish joint data standards
 - Solidify data sharing agreements
 - Form a single data repository
- Learn more: <u>www.workforcecredentialscoalition.org</u>





Assessing Employment Outcomes

UI Wage Records

- State
 - Each state collects <u>quarterly</u>
 - Housed at state workforce agency
- Multi-state exchange
 - WRIS/WRIS2
 - Regional models (e.g. WICHE)
- Federal
 - National Directory of New Hires (NDNH)
 - Census

Tax Data

- State
 - Has income tax, but little access
- Federal
 - Income tax forms collected by IRS
 - Annual, all workers
 - SSA & Census hold IRS records



Assessing Employment Outcomes

Federal Developments

- WIOA training provider eligibility
- College Scorecard
- HEA and Perkins reauthorization

State Efforts

- Data sharing agreements
- Legislation on wage record access
- Performance-based funding
- Tools for students/ families/workers



State Progress

WDQC released latest survey on its 13-point Blueprint on state workforce data.

SUMMARY OF STATE SURVEYS			
	Minimal Progress	In Progress	Achieved <
Capture Diverse Credentials	17	26	3
Know if Graduates Get Jobs	9	15	22



Final Frontier: Measuring Skills

- Beta Credentials Framework designed by CLASP and the Corporation for a Skilled Workforce; supported by Lumina
- Workforce Information Council's (WIC) "Skills Initiative"
- Texas Skills to Work initiative





Discussion Questions for FESAC

- How can we ensure that data systems at all levels of government include a wider range of relevant credentials with agreed upon definitions?
- For the purpose of informing policies to help students and workers obtain in-demand skills, what new types of linkages would be useful among already-collected data at various federal agencies?
- In order for LMI to capture most effectively skills that are in demand, is there more that should be done to systematize how different types of credentials signal the presence of certain skills?



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