



June 2001

Florida WIA Performance Excels

The second quarter Workforce Investment Act (WIA) performance statistics that were released in May 2001 by the United States Department of Labor (USDOL), show that Florida consistently performed above the Southeast regional and the national average.

Statistics, which cover the period of July 1, 2000, to December 31, 2000, compare the seven states in the Southeast region and the Southeastern states to the national average. There are 17 measures (refer to table on page 4) that evaluate the following WIA funding categories adult, dislocated worker, older youth (ages 19 – 18) and customer satisfaction. *(continued on page 4)*

Board Votes on Regional Funding and more

New Formula for TANF Funding Approved

The Workforce Florida Board of Directors approved the funding allocations for the 11 workforce boards at the May 24, 2001, Board of Directors meeting in Orlando. The regional workforce boards receive funding from Workforce Investment Act (WIA), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Food Stamp Employment and Training Program, Unemployment Compensation, Local Veterans Employment Representative Program and Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program.

The primary funding discussion was on the new philosophy for TANF funding which moves funding to a needs based formula using a combination of region specific cash assistance and food stamp allocations. The discussion began at the March board meeting. After much discussion among the Board members and testimony from several regional executive directors, the issue was

“If we moved all of the TANF funds from the historical funding formula some regions would have experienced over a 20 percent reduction in funding from the current fiscal year,” stated Chairman Jennings. “This dramatic swing could result in regions who have been successful in continuing to service these individuals with training and other initiatives that will be entirely self-sufficient, which is ultimately the goal.”

(continued on page 2)

This Issue

May Board Meeting Recap	1
WIA Performance	1
Finance Committee	3
Strategic Planning Committee	3
Legislative Recap	5
Workforce Marketing	5
	6

Next Issue

The next issue of Partners' Report will be published in August.

Board Meeting Recap

(Continued from page 1)

To minimize the drastic fluctuation in distribution amounts, a workgroup consisting of regional workforce board members, Workforce Florida (WFI), Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) and Department of Children and Families staff, was formed to recommend funding options for the Board of Directors to consider in May. The options ranged from a less than one-fifth of the TANF funds distributed under the new funding formula to a 75 percent shift of funds to the new formula.

Since TANF funds are an important funding stream for the regions, Chairman Jennings asked each Regional Workforce Board Chairman to attend the meeting. After WFI Board members spoke

on the funding formulas presented, the regional chairs were given the opportunity to address the board on the TANF needs of their regions.

After discussions, the board voted to approve a funding formula where one-third of the funds are distributed under the new formula and the remaining two-thirds are distributed under the historical formula.

The following table highlights the funding distribution. The region specific funding distribution can be viewed on the Workforce Florida website at workforceflorida.com/wages/wfi/bcs/meetings.html.

2001-2002 TANF Distribution Recap

Total TANF Funds Available	Funds Distributed by Historical Method	Funds Distributed by New Formula (caseload and food stamp)	Largest Regional Reduction in Funding	Largest Regional Increase in Funding

One-Stop Credentialing

The One-Stop Service Centers offer workforce resources and training directly to job seekers and employers. As a result, the one-stop centers and their staff are the front door for Florida workforce services. This positions the One-Stop Service Centers to be a major force in determining the success of workforce programs statewide.

Employers playing such a pivotal role in the workforce system, it is imperative there be quality standards for each Center and the standards be monitored and maintained. To develop these quality goals, the WFI Board began discussions on a credentialing process. One-Stop Service Centers would have to complete in order to be a certified One-Stop Service Center.

In March, Chairman Jennings asked each Board member to visit one or more One-Stop Service Centers and report on four main areas: visibility, access, signage that identifies the One-Stop Service Center as part of the workforce system,

customer service, and the functionality of the resource rooms. In addition, WFI staff have been completing site visits to all 24 regions. A pictorial recap of the completed visits was presented. The reports of the board members and photographs demonstrate that currently there are inconsistencies between One-Stop Service Centers in all four of the areas mentioned above.

Following the site visit discussion, Chairman Jennings directed Board member Senator George Kirkpatrick and AWI to establish a committee to develop recommendations on basic criteria for the credentialing process. The committee will report on their findings at the August meeting.

In addition, the Finance Committee is charged with developing recommendations for how regions can access grant funds to assist in meeting credentialing requirements set by the Board. The WFI Board will review and discuss the recommendations at the August meeting.

Finance and Strategic Planning Committees Established

Finance Committee

The State of Florida has entrusted WFI with significant fiduciary responsibilities and has tasked with the oversight of resources for the State's workforce system. To ensure fiscal accountability, the Workforce Florida Board Directors has established a finance committee. The finance committee, chaired by Sam Rashid, will primarily be responsible

- Oversight of Workforce Florida budget.
- Consent of WFI/AWI administrative contract.
- Consent of WFI/EFI administrative contract.
- Recommending RWB budget and contract
- Authorizing end-of-year transactions.
- Recommending actions for the Board regarding regions in sanction status, when directed by

The first assignment of the committee will develop recommendations on how funds for the One-Stop Service Centers will be applied for and distributed to the regional workforce boards.

Names of committee members and meeting dates and times are available on the workforce website at

Strategic Plan

In February 2001, Workforce Florida published a comprehensive strategic plan outlining the mission, and objectives of the state's new workforce system. In order to implement the plan, monitor progress and refine future up-plan, Chairman Jennings formed a Strategic Planning Committee chaired by Dorothy Weaver.

The committee will work with the First Jobs/First Wages, Better Jobs/Better Wages and High Skills/High Wages councils to identify partners and develop performance measures, assure future projects and initiatives tie back into long-strategic goals, ensure everyone st report back to the board on progress.

In addition to Council responsibilities, assignments will be made regarding implementing integrated goals and objectives for one-stop service delivery, marketing, and collaboration with partners.

"We have a large responsibility and all of us appointed to the effort understands the importance of our role," stated Strategic Planning Committee Chairman Dorothy Weaver.

The Workforce Florida Strategic Plan is available on the workforce website at www.workforceflorida.com. The website will also have postings for future

WWW.WORKFORCEFLORIDA.COM

Your Source for Workforce Information

For information on the activities of the workforce system, visit the Workforce Florida website at www.workforceflorida.com. The website has information for jobseekers, employers and partners, including the following:

- ◆ Names of WFI Board and council members
- ◆ Workforce Strategic Plan
- ◆ Meeting postings for Board, councils and committees
- ◆ Applications for IWT and QRT grants
- ◆ Regional contact names and phone numbers
- ◆ Links to jobsites
- ◆ Current request for proposals (RFPs)
- ◆ Links to workforce partners websites

WIA Performance Measures continued

(Continued from page 1)

Entered Employment Rate			
Employment and Credential			
Dislocated Worker			
Entered Employment Rate			
Employment and Credential			
Entered Employment Rate			
Employment and Credential			
Diploma or Equivalent Rate			
Skill Attainment Rate			
Customers Satisfaction			
Participant Satisfaction			
Employer Satisfaction			

Florida and the Southeast Region

WIA performance measures show that Florida ranks above the other 7 Southeastern states in 13 of 17 measures. Florida's performance was especially strong in the dislocated worker

The younger youth category is had the poorest showing. In this category, Florida ranked behind the region in the younger youth diploma or equivalent rate by 4.2 percent; skills attainment rate by 0.1 percent; and retention rate by 0.7 percent. Florida has noted definitional problems, data-source weaknesses, and unrealistic expectations regarding the measure expecting out-of-risk youth, aged 14 – diplomas at the national rate.

Florida and the Nation

Florida continues to perform well at the national level. In fact, Florida outperformed the national averages on 11 of the 17 measures. Again, demonstrated extremely high marks in the dislocated worker category. In the earnings change measure, Florida outperformed the national average by 61.6 percent.

The younger youth measures were again the weakest category for Florida. But, unlike the regional comparison, Florida had one younger youth measure, retention rate, that was ahead of the national average. In customer Florida had mixed results, with participant satisfaction being above the national average and employer satisfaction being below the national average.

For a complete breakdown of the regional and national comparisons, go to the Workforce Florida website at www.workforceflorida.com.

2001 Legislative Update

During this legislative session, a limited number of bills having direct impact on Florida's workforce found their way to the floor. The two bills that did affect the workforce services and programs which passed port to Economic Progress (CS/SB 1672) and Individual Development Accounts (SB 350). ng made and implementation plans are underway. Bill summaries

Passport to Economic Progress (CS/SB 1672) Sponsored by . The mainstay of this legislation was the creation of the Passport to Economic Progress which provides incentiv designed to assist individuals, who are current or former recipients of temporary cash assistance, to generate family income levels that help foster the achievement and maintenance of economic self-

Individual Development Accounts (SB 350) Sponsored by Senator Muriel "Mandy" Dawson further an individual or a family's opportunity to move from cash assistance to self-sufficiency. This bill directs the Department of Children and Families to amend the Temporary Cash As to allow funding for the purposes of establishing individual development accounts (IDAs) which will individuals or families moving from cash assistance to self-sufficiency. IDAs will provide opportunities for on of assets and a means to facilitate and mobilize savings as well as promote education, homeownership and micro enterprise dev

Complete bill text for the Passport to Economic Progress and Individual Development Accounts bills or any during the 2001 legislative session can be viewed on the MyFlorida website at : www.myflorida.com.

Regions Discuss Workforce Marketing

As the WFI Board of Directors begins developing a credentialing process for the One-Centers, representatives from the regions, Workforce Florida and the Agency for Workforce Innovation ng marketing of the workforce system and the One-Stop Service Centers. As with the inconsistencies identified in the One-Stop Centers, marketing of the workforce system has the possibility of becoming disjointed and inconsistent between regions.

Workforce Florida formed the group to meet three main goals: 1) develop a consistent statewide marketing message; 2) meet legislative and strategic plan goals concerning marketing of the workforce system; and 3) maximize resources between regions to provide all regions with marketing opportunities.

To accomplish these goals, members will begin working to meet the following initial obje

- Develop a workforce marketing best practices guide.
- Create a workforce marketing website where marketing pieces may be viewed and reprinted.
- Create statewide and regional board packets.
- Conduct media training for WFI Board members and regional board members.
- Create an e-users group for marketing group members to communicate.
- Develop a statewide media directory.

Calendar May – August 2001

JUNE 9–12, 2001
WORKFORCE SUMMIT
Tampa Marriott Waterside
Tampa, FL

June 13, 2001
EXECUTIVE TELECONFERENCE

JUNE 24–26
FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP
Hyatt Regency Westshore
Tampa, FL

JULY 11, 2001
EXECUTIVE TELECONFERENCE

AUGUST 8, 2001
PARTNERS' MEETING
Embassy Suites Hotel
Orlando, FL

AUGUST 9, 2001
FULL BOARD MEETING
Embassy Suites Hotel
Orlando, FL

NOVEMBER 7 & 8, 2001
PARTNERS' MEETING & FULL BOARD MEETING
Embassy Suites Hotel
Orlando, FL

Next Issue:

- ◆
- ◆ Year-End Recap
- ◆ Youth Summit

For updates and agendas, visit us at:
www.workforceflorida.com



325 John Knox Road
Building 200
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Workforce Vision: Florida will develop a globally competitive workforce.

An equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. All voice telephone numbers on this document may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711.