



May 16, 2011

To: LMI Directors  
Workforce Information Database Administrators

From: WID Structure Committee

Subject: Release of Workforce Information Database, Version 2.5

On behalf of the Analyst Resource Center (ARC), we are pleased to announce the release of Version 2.5 of the Workforce Information Database (WID). This release features a number of changes.

A major change in the Workforce Information Database, Version 2.5 is the addition of several lookup and crosswalk tables that will allow the use of updated classification systems. This includes the SOC, Census Industry, Census Occupation, and CIP classification systems, which have new series. New tables have been added for the previous classification series while the existing tables are meant to hold the most recent series. A new table has been added to allow users to identify industries and occupations that are in special categories such as Green Jobs. This table is meant to be flexible and allow users to add additional categories. The Mass Layoff Statistics tables have been changed to accommodate new code series and categories for the separation reasons. The CES table has been expanded to accommodate hours and earnings information for all workers in addition to the production workers.

There are also other field additions and some minor field changes. Some fields have been expanded to accommodate data or classification needs. Some numeric descriptions have been changed to make them more generic; that is, less dependent on a particular platform.

As with all database changes, this release may require minor modifications to existing applications. States should be aware as they begin to build and populate Version 2.5 that they may need to also maintain their current database structure until their existing applications can be modified.

The ARC Structure Committee has prepared two editions of the Data Dictionary for WID Version 2.5 – one that contains the structure in a standard format and the other an annotated edition that highlights the changes made from Version 2.4. These documents are available through the Analyst Resource Center at <http://www.workforceinfodb.org/>. ARC also plans to make additional resources available through their website.

Questions, suggestions and other comments regarding this release should be addressed to Bill Stambaugh at [bill.stambaugh@ncesc.gov](mailto:bill.stambaugh@ncesc.gov) or Dana Placzek at [dana.placzek@ct.gov](mailto:dana.placzek@ct.gov).

cc: ETA