

Final Report

2009, 2007 and 2005 Workforce Program Exit Cohorts



Executive Summary

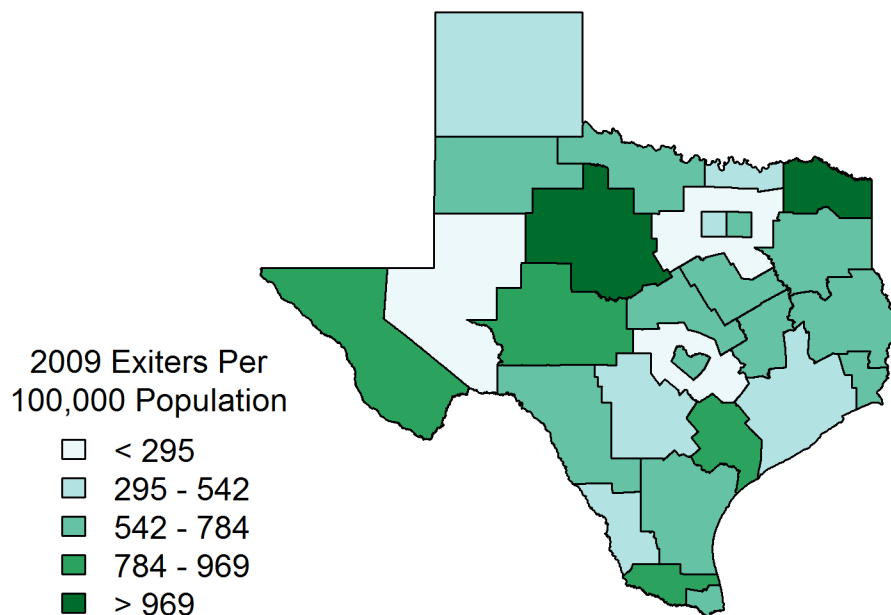
Texas Workforce Solutions continued to provide quality employment and training services to Texas workers and employers despite a difficult economy in 2009. In all, 138,566 customers exited Texas Workforce programs from 2008-2009 (“program exiters”). These programs were TWC Apprenticeship, Choices, Project RIO, the Skills Development and Self-sufficiency Funds (SDF/SSF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training (SNAP E&T), Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) and the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

The services these programs provided varied significantly. Job search assistance, transportation and child care were the most common services. Most customers received multiple services: the average number of services provided to each customer was about five, although some customers received as many as 16.

Geography

The map below shows which Local Workforce Development Areas (WDAs) had the most 2008-2009 program exiters in of the fourth quarter of 2009. West Central Texas (Abilene and surrounding counties) and North East (Texarkana and surrounding counties) WDAs, shown below in dark green, had the most exiters, with over 1,000 per 100,000 population.

2009 Exiters Per 100,000 Population by Local Workforce Development Area



Labor Market Outcomes

This report focuses primarily on labor market outcomes. Readers should note that this report covers a period of great economic difficulty, with TWC customers exiting programs and entering a labor market caught in the teeth of the most significant downturn since the Great Depression.

The Texas economy proved robust during much of this period, growing through most of 2008 and maintaining an unemployment rate 1-2 percent lower than the nation. Texas unemployment in Q42009 was 8.1 percent. The Texas median worker's 2009 quarterly earnings were \$6,663.

The graphic below displays outcomes across programs. For this 2010 report, we measured Q42009 employment and earnings of customers who exited workforce programs in 2005, 2007 and 2009. In this study, we would hope to see higher earnings and employment for the cohorts that exited the earliest as this shows outcomes trending up. This situation is clearest in terms of median earnings, with the best examples being Apprenticeship and the Self Sufficiency Fund. Of course, even the most robust workforce training program cannot overcome a sluggish labor market. Hence, these metrics *should not* be used in isolation to assess the efficacy of these programs. They *should* be used to understand trends in outcomes.

Outcomes by Exit Year and Program, 2009



Acknowledgements

This report was prepared using the Automated Student and Adult Learner Follow-up System (ASALFS), created by Texas Senate Bill 281 (2003). ASALFS, using linkages between program and Unemployment Insurance Wage Records, allows us to track labor market outcomes of TWC customers in an efficient, cost-effective and minimally disruptive manner.

The report was written by Jesse Sampson with data analysis also provided by Hiwot Berhane, both of TWC's Labor Market and Career Information Department (LMCI). LMCI's mission is to improve the way Texans make career and educational decisions by providing useful and reliable information about careers, educational training options and jobs.

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