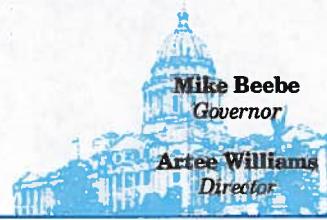




State of Arkansas
Department of
WORKFORCE SERVICES

www.dws.arkansas.gov



Post Office Box 2981 • Little Rock, AR 72203-2981

October 9, 2013

Senator Bill Sample, Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council
Arkansas Senate
State Capitol Room 320
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Representative John Charles Edwards, Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council
Arkansas House of Representatives
State Capitol Room 350
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Senator Sample and Representative Edwards:

Arkansas Code Annotated 15-4-2206 states that the Arkansas Workforce Investment Board shall present a report quarterly to the Legislative Council concerning the progress, performance and compliance with the Federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, and the Arkansas Workforce Investment Act of 1999. On behalf of the Arkansas Workforce Investment Board, I submit the attached progress report for the quarter April 1 – June 30, 2013.

If you have questions, or need additional information, please contact Cindy Varner, Assistant Director for Employment Assistance, at 501-371-1028 or by email at cindy.varner@arkansas.gov.

Sincerely,

Artee Williams

Enclosure

ARKANSAS



WORKFORCE RESULTS

**April 1 – June 30, 2013
Fourth Quarter, Program Year 2012**

WORKFORCE RESULTS

The Department of Workforce Services provides this overview of performance for the period ending June 30th, 2013. The programs highlighted herein reinforce the Arkansas Workforce Investment Board's and DWS' commitment to helping people find jobs and to connect employers to workers. The goal of the workforce investment system is to improve the quality of the workforce and to strengthen the state's competitiveness in the 21st century global economy.

In general, this overview presents program outcomes and results for the most recent quarter compared to the prior year(s) results. A glossary of performance measures is included in this overview.

Submitted By:

Ms. Diane Hilburn, Chair
Arkansas Workforce Investment Board

Mr. Tom Anderson, Vice-Chair
Arkansas Workforce Investment Board

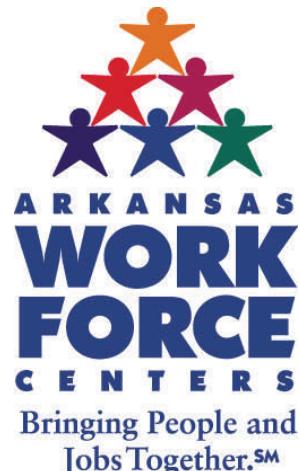
Mr. Artee Williams, Director
Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

Ms. Cindy Varner, Assistant Director for Employment Assistance
Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

Prepared By:

Ms. Tammy Dragon, DWS Program Monitor
Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

Ms. Stephanie Robinson, WIA Program Monitor
Arkansas Department of Workforce Services



WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA) - ADULT PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Adult services encompass workforce investment programs and initiatives that help thousands of adult workers receive workforce preparation assistance. These programs also help employers find the workers they need. They promote and facilitate an integrated public workforce system, offering a full array of workforce education, training and information services. Adult programs serve the broadest range of individuals, including Unemployment Insurance claimants, veterans, people with disabilities, dislocated workers, migrant and seasonal farm workers, Indian and Native Americans, workers 55 or older and incumbent workers.

PERFORMANCE

The actual rate is listed in the blue bar and the goal is listed in the white bar.

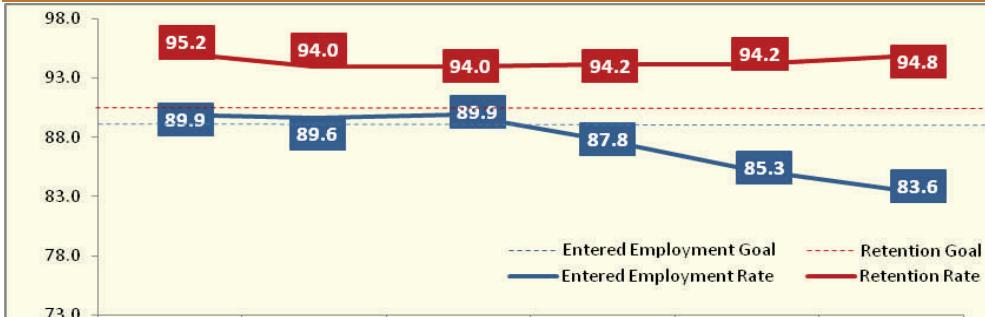
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	PY10	PY11	PY12 Q1	PY12 Q2	PY12 Q3	PY12 Q4
Entered Employment Rate	89.9	89.6	89.9	87.8	85.3	83.6
Entered Employment Goal	91.0	91.0	91.0	91.0	91.0	91.0
Retention Rate	95.2	94.0	94.0	94.2	94.2	94.8
Retention Goal	92.0	92.0	92.0	92.0	92.0	92.0
Average Earnings	\$12,583	\$13,079	\$13,168	\$13,508	\$13,406	\$13,726
Average Earnings Goal	\$12,530	\$12,530	\$12,530	\$12,530	\$12,530	\$12,530

* DOL considers the state as having met the goal if 80% of the negotiated level is met, these are indicated in green.

** Of those adult participants who are employed in the first, second, and third quarters after the exit quarter: average 6 month earnings, for 2nd and 3rd quarters after exit.

NOTE: Detailed information on formula for performance measures is in the glossary of this report.

PERFORMANCE PROGRESS



ANALYSIS

The program continues to perform above the negotiated goal in the Retention Rate and Average Earnings measures.

The current quarter earnings outcome of \$13,726 surpassed the goal and increased from the previous quarter outcome of \$13,406.

The PY12 fourth quarter Entered Employment Rate (EER) 83.6% is below the goal of 91.0%. However, the EER is still within the 80% Department of Labor requirement to be considered as having met the goal.

HIGHLIGHTS/INNOVATIONS

A Spring Career Fair was held on May 2nd at the Crawford County Adult Education Center in Van Buren. The main focus for the Career Fair was to reach out to students – both youth and adults, as well as to the community. In addition to the WIA Program Provider (WAEDA), 27 vendors that include local employers, state agencies and educational entities were in attendance. The day was a huge success thanks to the generous of help from the community—Arvest Bank cooked hamburgers and also helped serve lunch to everyone in attendance. There were several donations that made the event possible and free to the community. Designer Barber and Stylist School even provided free haircuts all day to show off the talents of their staff and students.

TOP OCCUPATIONS AFTER EXIT

Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations

- Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
- Registered Nurses
- Nursing Aides, Orderlies and Attendants

Transportation and Material Moving Occupations

- Truck Drivers, Heavy Tractor Trailer

Education

- Teacher Assistants
- Pre-school Teachers, Except Special Education
- Elementary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA) - DISLOCATED WORKER

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Dislocated Worker Program aims to quickly reemploy laid-off workers and to enhance their employability and earnings by increasing occupational skills. Arkansas' Dislocated Worker Program emphasizes informed customer choice, system performance, and continuous improvement. Arkansas Workforce Centers provide access to core, intensive, and training services to individuals and groups of dislocated workers so that they may obtain and retain employment at a self-sufficient level.

PERFORMANCE

The actual rate is listed in the blue bar, and the goal is listed in the white bar.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	PY10	PY11	PY12 Q1	PY12 Q2	PY12 Q3	PY12 Q4
Entered Employment Rate	94.5	96.0	93.1	91.6	88.6	86.7
Entered Employment Goal	93.5	93.5	93.5	94.0	94.0	94.0
Retention Rate	97.1	97.2	96.3	95.6	94.8	95.4
Retention Goal	95.5	95.5	95.5	96.0	96.0	96.0
Average Earnings	\$13,651	\$14,030	\$14,210	\$14,397	\$14,237	\$13,989
Average Earnings Goal	\$13,200	\$13,200	\$13,200	\$13,500	\$13,500	\$13,500

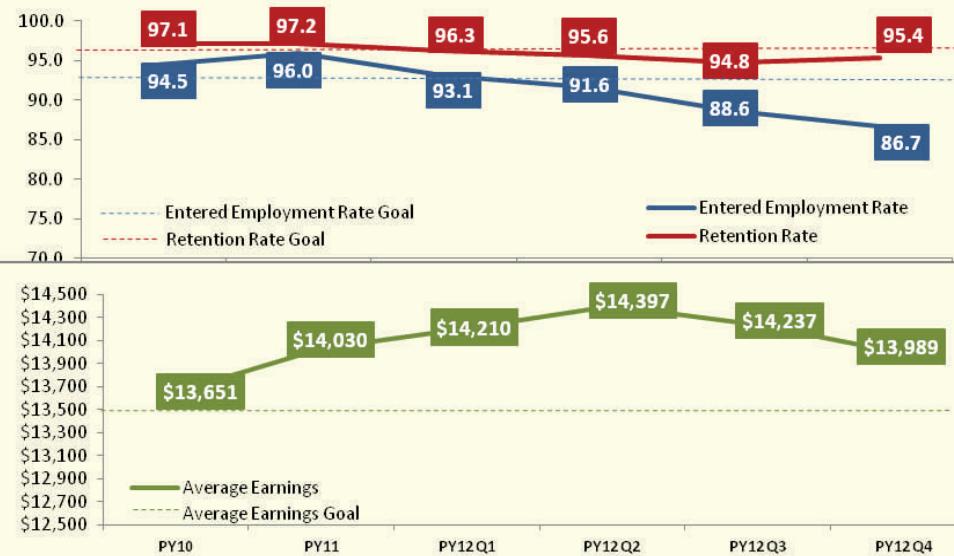
* DOL considers the state as having met the goal if 80% of the negotiated level is met, these are indicated in green.

** Of those participants who are employed in the first, second, and third quarters after the exit quarter: average 6 month earnings, for 2nd and 3rd quarters after exit.

NOTE: Detailed information on formula for performance measures is in the glossary of this report.

PERFORMANCE PROGRESS

ANALYSIS



The Workforce Investment Act Dislocated Worker program assisted 392 participants with training in the fourth quarter of PY 12.

The current quarter earnings outcome of \$13,989 surpassed the goal but decreased from the previous quarter outcome of \$14,237.

The PY12 fourth quarter Entered Employment Rate (EER) 86.7% is below the goal of 94.0%. However, the EER is still within the 80% Department of Labor requirement to be considered as having met the goal. The Retention Rate of 95.4% is below the goal of 96.0%.

HIGHLIGHTS/INNOVATIONS

A petition request was filed with the U.S. Department of Labor on behalf of Hewlett Packard, in Conway, Arkansas, for Trade Adjustment Assistance, which was subsequently approved. Trade Adjustment Assistance workshops have been scheduled to provide services to the 500 Hewlett Packard workers in filing for assistance for retraining through the trade program.

TOP OCCUPATIONS AFTER EXIT

Transportation and Material Moving Occupations

- Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor Trailer

Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations

- Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
- Occupational Therapy Assistants

Office and Administrative Support Occupations

- Office Clerks, General
- Cashiers

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA) - YOUTH 14-21 PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The WIA Youth program provides employment and education services to eligible low-income youth, ages 14-21, who face barriers to employment. The program serves youth with disabilities and low literacy rates as well as others who may require additional assistance to complete an educational program or obtain a job.

PERFORMANCE

The actual rate is listed in the blue bar, and the goal is listed in the white bar.

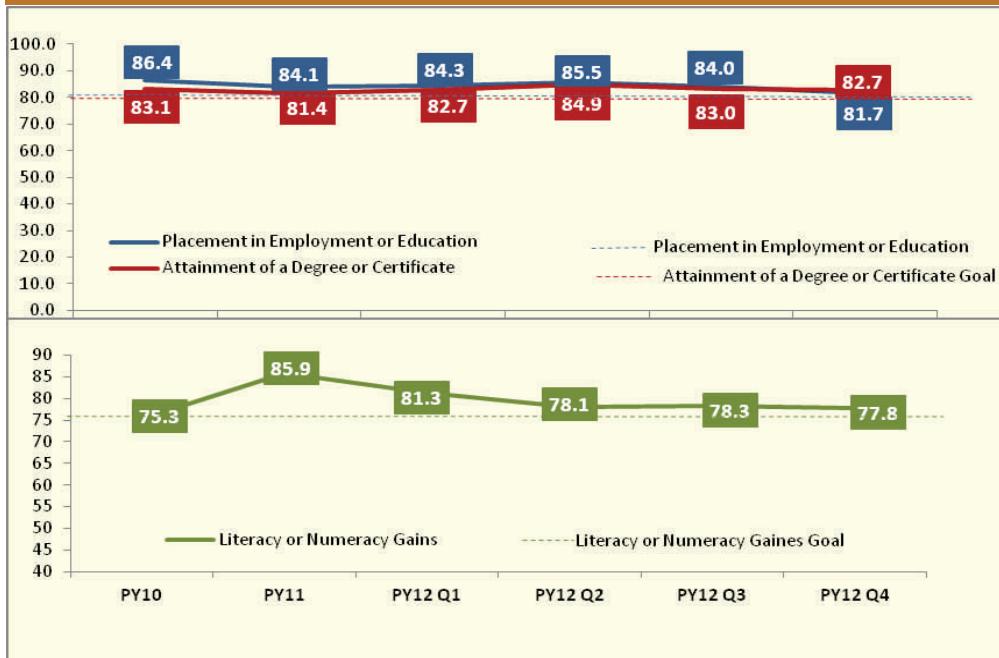
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	PY10	PY11	PY12 Q1	PY12 Q2	PY12 Q3	PY12 Q4
Placement in Employment or Education	86.4	84.1	84.3	85.5	84.0	81.7
Placement in Employment or Education Goal	79.7	79.7	79.7	81.0	81.0	81.0
Attainment of a Degree or Certificate	83.1	81.4	82.7	84.9	83.0	82.7
Attainment of a Degree or Certificate Goal	76.9	76.9	76.9	81.0	81.0	81.0
Literacy or Numeracy Gains	75.3	85.9	81.3	78.1	78.3	77.8
Literacy/Numeracy Gains Goal	48	48	48	75.5	75.5	75.5

* DOL considers the state as having met the goal if 80% of the negotiated level is met, these are indicated in green.

NOTE: Detailed information on formula for performance measures is in the glossary of this report.

PERFORMANCE PROGRESS

ANALYSIS



HIGHLIGHTS/INNOVATIONS

In a rural community such as Jasper, there are no summer activities for elementary age youth and even fewer employment opportunities for youth. A group of local agencies saw the need; the city council, public school, county extension agent, county resource council and the hometown health coalition partnered with the WIA Summer Youth Program to sponsor a five week summer camp. After receiving training in CPR and First Aid the nine youth counselors were assigned a group of campers for which to be responsible. The camp featured a weekly themed educational components consisting of Arts and Drama, Fitness and Nutrition, Community Service and Patriotism, Science and Technology and Agriculture. Serving as camp counselors for 57 youth, the WIA participants learned valuable skills such as teamwork and leadership that will benefit them throughout their life.

TOP OCCUPATIONS AFTER EXIT

Sales and Related Occupations

- Cashiers
- Retail Salespersons

Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations

- Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers
- Counter attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession & Coffee Shop

Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations

- Nursing Assistants

Office and Administrative Support Occupations

- Stock Clerks, Sales Floor
- Office Clerks, General

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA) - NATIONAL EMERGENCY GRANT PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

National Emergency Grants (NEGs) are intended to temporarily expand the service capacity of WIA training and employment programs at the state and local levels by providing funding assistance in response to large, unexpected economic events which cause significant job losses. Such events include business closures, mass layoffs, realignment and closure of military installations and certain natural disasters declared eligible for public assistance by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) provided additional resources for services to dislocated workers through NEGs.

PERFORMANCE

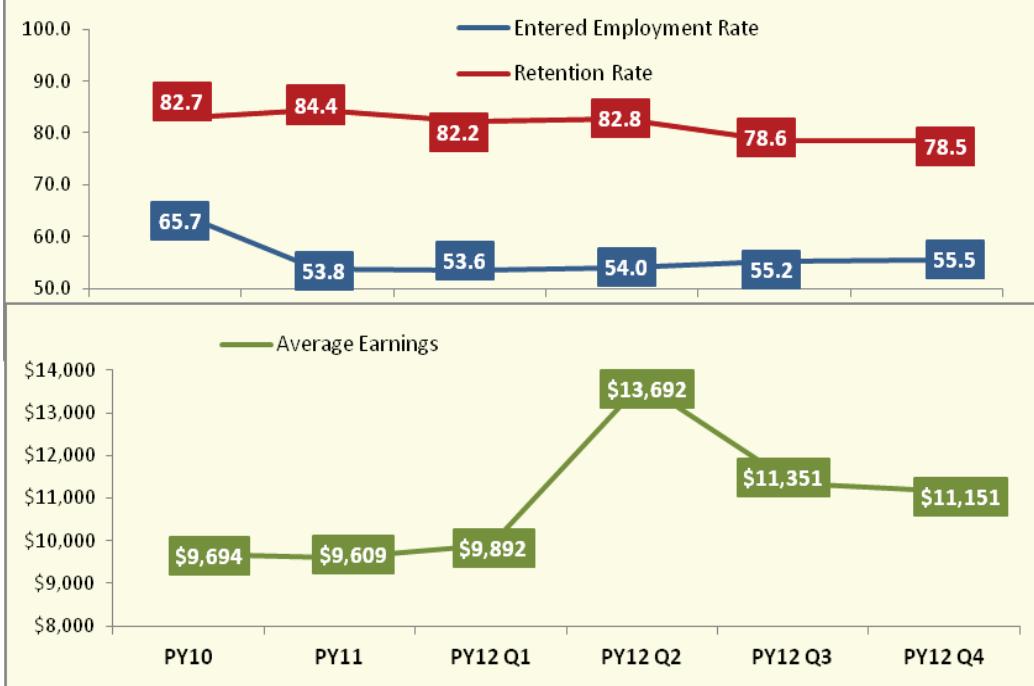
The actual rate is listed in the blue bar, and the goal is listed in the white bar.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	PY10	PY11	PY12 Q1	PY12 Q2	PY12 Q3	PY12 Q4
Entered Employment Rate	65.7	53.8	53.6	54.0	55.2	55.5
Entered Employment Goal	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Retention Rate	82.7	84.4	82.2	82.8	78.6	78.5
Retention Goal	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Average Earnings	\$9,694	\$9,609	\$9,892	\$13,692	\$11,351	\$11,151
Average Earnings Goal	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Of those participants who are employed in the first, second, and third quarters after the exit quarter: average 6 month earnings, for 2nd and 3rd quarters after exit.

NOTE: Detailed information on formula for performance measures is in the glossary of this report.

PERFORMANCE PROGRESS



ANALYSIS

Due to a severe winter storm that occurred in Arkansas on December 25 & 26, 2012, a disaster was declared on January 29, 2013 by the president for the counties of Clark; Garland; Grant; Hot Spring; Lonoke; Perry; Pulaski; and Saline. After surveying the local workforce investment areas, Central and the City of Little Rock requested assistance.

This NEG only addresses the temporary job creation component. The only allowable activities are *Employed in Temporary Disaster Relief Assistance and Receiving Supportive Services*.

HIGHLIGHTS/INNOVATIONS

The State was awarded a new disaster NEG in April, NEG AR-20 (assisting in disaster response from Severe Winter Storms in December 2012) in the amount of \$391,539.00. The grant will serve 61 participants in Saline, Lonoke and Pulaski County counties. The grant period is from January 29, 2013 through December 31, 2013. The President declared a disaster for Arkansas on June 25, 2013 due to severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding which took place during the period of May 30 to June 3, 2013. There were 11 counties affected by the storms.

OCCUPATIONS AFTER EXIT

Arkansas has only received disaster National Emergency Grants. Temporary workers are hired to work for county offices providing assistance with clean-up efforts. Those that have acquired permanent employment are employed by the counties.

Temporary workers are only employed for up to six months or 1,040 hours.

COMMON PERFORMANCE MEASURES

(Used by Workforce Investment Act, Wagner-Peyser, Trade Adjustment Assistance, Senior Community Service Employment Program, Prisoner Reentry Initiative, and National Farmworker Jobs Program)

ADULT MEASURES	
<i>Entered Employment</i>	Of those who are not employed at the date of participation: the number of adult participants who are employed in the first quarter after the exit quarter divided by the number of adult participants who exit during the quarter.
<i>Employment Retention</i>	Of those who are employed in the first quarter after the exit quarter: the number of adult participants who are employed in both the second and third quarters after the exit quarter divided by the number of adult participants who exit during the quarter.
<i>Average Earnings</i>	Of those adult participants who are employed in the first, second, and third quarters after the exit quarter: total earnings in the second quarter plus the total earnings in the third quarter after the exit quarter divided by the number of adult participants who exit during the quarter.
YOUTH MEASURES	
<i>Attainment of a Degree or Certificate</i>	Of those enrolled in education (at the date of participation or at any point during the program): the number of youth participants who attain a diploma, GED, or certificate by the end of the third quarter after the exit quarter divided by the number of youth participants who exit during the quarter.
<i>Literacy and Numeracy Gains</i>	Of those out-of-school youth who are basic skills deficient: the number of youth participants who increase one or more educational functioning levels divided by the number of youth participants who have completed a year in the program (i.e., one year from the date of first youth program service) plus the number of youth participants who exit before completing a year in the program.
<i>Placement in Employment or Education</i>	Of those who are not in postsecondary education or employment (including the military) at the date of participation: the number of youth participants who are in employment (including the military) or enrolled in postsecondary education and/or advanced training/occupational skills training in the first quarter after the exit quarter divided by the number of youth participants who exit during the quarter.