

Rethinking NCES Data on Education and Work

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Goal

NCES wants to collect and report better data on the role of education in preparing youth, young adults, and adults for work.

Adult and Career Education Program

- January 2010: NCES formed the Adult and Career Education (ACE) program in PACE
- Reflects view that *preparation for careers* is integral part of postsecondary education and adult education
- Maintains focus on role of secondary education in preparation for careers
- Expands the focus beyond traditional CTE to a broader notion of data on education and work

Developing Better Data: Concrete Steps

- Phase 1: Prioritize Measurement Needs
- Phase 2: Compare Needs to Existing Data
- Phase 3: Recommend Survey Additions and Revisions and Improve Reporting

May 5-6 Expert Panel Meeting

- Researchers, Practitioners, Associations, State Directors, Federal Agencies
- Elementary/Secondary and Postsecondary
- Education and its context
- How education affects workforce preparation:
 - Skills and Knowledge
 - Information
 - Preferences

Expert Panel Meeting: Topics

- Early labor market experiences (in and out of school/high school and postsecondary)
- Guidance/advising/mentoring
- Student intentionality and planfulness (includes but not limited to formal college/career plans at high school level)

Expert Panel Meeting: Topics—cont.

- Student information—where they get it, whether they trust it, how they use it
- Curriculum and instruction (occupational and academic—includes “dosage,” integration of basic skills instruction/remediation, access/offerings)
- Outcomes (credential attainment, “good job,” wages/salary/benefits, industry and occupation, initial job versus career)

Goals for NCES Data on Education and Work

- DESCRIBE
 - Basic descriptive statistics to help NCES monitor the condition of education
 - Most NCES tables/reports
- UNDERSTAND
 - More complex analyses and models focusing on reasons, relationships, and outcomes
 - Data for secondary analysis

Discussion

- Are we moving in the right direction?
- Are these the right topics for us to focus on?
- What do we need to know about each topic to:
 - *describe* the role of education in preparing for work?
 - *understand* the role of education in preparing for work?

Contact Information

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