Better Data for the Modern Economy

Creating a system that works for employers and workers in a rapidly changing economy requires better and more timely workforce data. Employers already share job and employment data in a variety of ways, but it is incomplete, inconsistent, and not always up to date. And the data that employers share with the government is costly to produce, report, and difficult to access and use.

The solution: the Jobs and Employment Data Exchange, or JEDx.

What is JEDx?

JEDx is a public-private, standards-based initiative to promote the consistent sharing and use of data on jobs and employment based on how employers now share data between their own HR systems and application providers.

- Data standards provide a data model and definitions as the basis for the consistent organization and specification of jobs and employment data.

- Technology standards provide the basis for improved data sharing, management, and protection while improving access and use.

Why Now?

Improving government data reporting and use is needed now because:

- Federal and state government agencies require employers to submit hundreds of separate reports, many of which require similar job and employment data but with different definitions and reporting systems that drive up reporting costs and reduce data quality.

- There is a growing need for high-quality and timely data on jobs and employment but there remains barriers in accessing and using the data now reported to federal and state government agencies.

- Recent advances in public-private data and technology standards as well as data management and sharing have the potential to greatly reduce costs and improve access and use while assuring data privacy and protection.

- JEDx has developed a promising public-private approach with a unique value proposition for employers, government, and other stakeholders to streamline and consolidate reporting, reduce costs, enhance data quality, and increase the timeliness and usability of the data while safeguarding information.

What Will JEDx Do?

JEDx promotes the development and use of data and technology standards for jobs and employment:

- Improve how employers report data to federal and state government agencies in ways that reduce cost and burden, starting with state Unemployment Insurance (UI) reporting, and how the data are accessed and used.

- Improve how job description data are shared and used in managing career pathways through education and training partnerships.

- Improve how job posting data are shared and used for enabling better job search.

- Provide better and more timely data for public and private workforce analytics and government program administration applications.

- Empower workers/learners to utilize their own Learning and Employment Records (LERs) in applying for jobs and government programs.

JEDx is starting with a project on improving government reporting to:

- Reduce federal and state reporting costs for employers and government agencies.

- Provide better and more timely data for public and private workforce analytics and government program administration applications.

- Ensure that employers and HR service providers take a consistent approach in sharing data for government reporting, sharing job description and posting data, and providing workers/learners with their own LERs.

JEDx

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation

JEDx Phases: What Has Been Done?

Planning Phase: April 2021 to June 2021

The U.S. Chamber Foundation combined the work of the Jobs Data Exchange (JDX)—an initiative to promote job data standards—with emerging work on data standards for employment records led by the T3 Innovation Network, to launch what is now called JEDx. This phase explored the need for a more public-private approach to data standardization and sharing, and a set of principles to guide the effort. It also included a roadmap for how to design and test JEDx starting with a project focused on improving government reporting.

Design Phase: November 2021 to October 2022

The JEDx Partnership was launched with national and state partners, including public and private organizations from Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Kentucky, New Jersey, and Texas. This phase included two technical workgroups focused on (1) data prioritization based on leading use cases, and (2) the system architecture needed to organize, collect, and share data on jobs and employment. This phase produced recommendations on pilot-testing. This phase also included the launch of the JEDx Research Enhancement Project (JEDx-REP) to identify the data needs of the research, statistics, and evaluation of professional communities and how to improve their access to and use of enhanced data.

Bridge Phase: November 2022 to March 2023

The U.S. Chamber Foundation explored how to engage public and private partners in communicating the JEDx value proposition and developed plans for demonstrating the JEDx value proposition during the next phase starting in 2024.

Learn More and Get Engaged

For more information, contact:

Jason A. Tyszko
Senior Vice President
U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation
jtyszko@uschamber.com

What Are the Next Steps?

The U.S. Chamber Foundation will launch the next phase of JEDx in 2024 by encouraging federal and state partners to participate in one or more of the following options that build on each other:

1 Benchmark & Standardize

Align with the JEDx data model and definitions for data standardization

- Use JEDx data model and dictionary to publish, benchmark, clarify, and compare current and proposed data elements and definitions
- Explore standardization for critical data elements such as occupation, wages, work hours, and work location

2 Data Tools

Implement JEDx data standards and adopt the JEDx open API and occupational autocoder for data sharing between employers and their HR technology partners and government

- Assist in developing API standards in cooperation with the HR Open Standards Consortium
- Provide input into a prototype open JEDx API that can be tested and implemented
- Provide input into the development of an improved occupational autocoding process and system that can be tested and implemented

3 Data Pipelines

Pilot-test JEDx data pipelines, including tools, and participate in developing and testing data applications including postsecondary education employment outcomes and LERs

- Stage 1: Testing the API/data collection system with simulated data with HR technology partners and showing potential applications
- Stage 2: Moving to expanded state testing with simulated data and applications
- Stage 3: Pushing real employer data with privacy protections using the JEDx API and sharing data to support existing collection processes and testing applications