



Governance Focus Area

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March 2022

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Use Case Summary: Education and Workforce (Greg F. & Shawn D.)

Focus Area Discussion

A review of current and evolving approaches to **accessing, linking, and analyzing education and workforce data across federal, state, and local levels**. Specifically, the case study will explore the following:

- The value of education and workforce data access, linking, and analysis for evidence building for data providers and users
- Potential data sources
- Barriers to accessing, linking, and analyzing state, federal, and other data sources and possible ways to overcome these challenges
- The privacy/quality tradeoff
- What data governance frameworks are currently in place or could be adopted to facilitate access to and linking of education and workforce data

The primary models of focus for the use case will be the **Department of Education Ability to Benefit (ATB) program** and the **Regional Midwest Collaborative (MWC)**.

Use Case Summary: Health Statistics (Brian M. & Kimberly M.)

Focus Area Discussion

A review of current and evolving approaches to **accessing, linking, and analyzing health data across the federal, state, and local levels**. Specifically, the case study will explore the following:

- The value of health data access, linking, and analysis for evidence building and how this can be enhanced through better two-way communication and collaboration among the federal, state, and local levels
- The importance of data standards, consistency, and interoperability between federal, state, and local governments to support the value proposition
- The impact of the interpersonal side of the collaborative process, including the role of communities of practice, training, and resource sharing
- What data governance frameworks are currently in place or could be adopted to facilitate access to and linking of health data

The primary model of focus for the use case will be the **National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) modernization efforts**.

Use Case Summary: Labor Market Activity (Julia L. & Christina Y.)

Focus Area Discussion

A review of current and evolving approaches to accessing, linking, and analyzing labor market activity data with an emphasis on (1) **improving local labor market statistics**, (2) **leveraging unemployment insurance (UI) data for better evaluation/research/continuous improvement**, and (3) **producing new national statistics**. Specifically, the case study will explore the following:

- The value of labor market activity data access, linking, and analysis for evidence building for data providers and users
- The status quo in producing data and possible quality improvements for: state and local measures, the use of federal surveys, the use of state administrative data by both programmatic and statistical agencies, the use of private sector data, and the potential role of the academic community
- Barriers (including legislative restrictions) to accessing, linking, and analyzing state, federal, and other data sources and possible ways to overcome these challenges
- How data governance, and particularly privacy, is institutionalized and operationalized and what role an NSDS might play to facilitate or enhance the disclosure and linking of labor market data

The primary models of focus for the use case will be the **U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Unemployment Insurance (UI) Equity Data Partnerships** and the **Coleridge Initiative's regional state collaboratives**.

Overarching Findings

Focus Area Discussion

- **Articulating the Value Proposition for Key Stakeholders is Foundational.** The NSDS should be charged with working with key stakeholders to articulate the value proposition, which should extend beyond state and federal institutions to also include people and organizations.
- **The NSDS Must Itself Provide Products and Offer Services of Value.** The NSDS should be charged with offering best-in-class services to facilitate the use of data for evidence building. This includes data linkage, privacy enhancing techniques, communication strategies, and a facilitation service to enable rapid reproduction and replication of successful products.
- **Navigating the Landscape of Federal- and State-level Laws, Regulations, and Policies is a Challenge.** The NSDS should be charged with identifying legal, regulatory, and policy requirements at both the federal and state level and providing a service that meets all associated requirements necessary to ensure the collection and use of data for evidence building.

Overarching Findings

Focus Area Discussion

- **Efficiency and innovation is Critical for the Success of the NSDS.** The NSDS should be charged with providing an efficient avenue for accessing data for evidence building and must not overlay an overly bureaucratic process on top of an already excessively bureaucratic system. Indeed, one of the most valuable services the NSDS must offer is a set of clearly defined standards, legal frameworks, and a streamlined process for accessing data for evidence building.
- **Privacy is Paramount.** The NSDS should be charged with offering a diverse array of privacy protecting services for access and linkage while itself epitomizing an organization with utmost reverence for the privacy of individuals. This includes compliance with CIPSEA for covered data and comparable privacy protections for federal, state, and local administrative data.
- **The NSDS must be a Public-Private Partnership.** Offering best-in-class services will require a significant investment in technological resources and highly skilled personnel – and these are at a premium. A Federally owned, but privately managed entity will help ensure that the NSDS has both the technological resources as well as the ability to attract, hire, and retain world-class talent.