

New Hampshire Education-to-Workforce Alignment Project

ED# 2019-R1-I-0001



High-Leverage Problem

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many New Hampshire industries and businesses had to quickly adapt to meet social distancing guidelines or health and safety measures, including closing for periods of time, limiting services, and scaling back production. Some businesses pivoted to a work-from-home model. Other businesses deemed essential experienced greater strain, and industries unable to safely provide goods or services experienced losses. From February to October 2020, New Hampshire lost 62,000 jobs, or 9% of jobs in the state, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

New Hampshire wanted to understand the evolving labor market and the how COVID-19 pandemic impacted regions. The state aims to develop strategies and policies to strengthen alignment in the education-to-workforce pipeline in the post-COVID economy.



R1CC Approach

R1CC facilitated a cross-agency stakeholder group to identify and obtain data to analyze to understand this challenge. The group engaged in conversations and examined data to identify assets and opportunities by (a) facilitating conversations across cross-agency partners to update New Hampshire's Geographic Information System (GIS) map to understand current recovery efforts and identify additional data to include in the map; (b) redesigning the GIS map to integrate data dashboards to improve the usability of the maps; (c) updating the GIS map to allow for the data to be uploaded more frequently to reflect the evolving impacts from COVID-19; and (d) create communication collateral to support New Hampshire DOE outreach on what GIS is and how to use this tool to support COVID-19 recovery efforts.

Key Partner(s): New Hampshire Department of Education

● — ⊙ — ⊙ → Key Milestones

- Engaged cross-agency partners in virtual meetings to discuss essential questions, data availability, and stakeholder use cases.
- Developed a list of essential questions that the partners would like to explore in the GIS.
- Created wireframe and mock-ups for the GIS data dashboards, which will outline the format, organization, and key features and view of the GIS map.
- Piloted the GIS map to test data and gather feedback from cross-agency partners on the dashboard usability and information presentation.
- Develop outreach strategy for engaging stakeholders to explore the GIS map with input from the cross-agency partners.

? → Outputs

- List of essential questions for the GIS map
- Mock-up of the GIS data dashboards
- Action plan for stakeholder engagement using the GIS maps that include goals and outreach strategies

Outcomes

“It’s going to be a really relevant tool once it’s created. It definitely will help schools, educators, and CT centers be able to develop pathways, be able to see what’s in their region, their community, and really get down to some of that granular data they need to have quality programs.”