

MAKING BETTER WORK

Happy New Year! 🐱

We're so looking forward to seeing you this month for face-to-face sharing about all things workforce data!

- **February 6, 2019:** Mini WDQI convening during the *NSC Skills Summit*
- **February 14, 2019** (we ❤️ you, too!): *WDQI Pre-Convening Webinar*
- **February 27-28:** The *Annual WDQI Convening* in Crystal City, VA (Yay! Registration deadline is February 6!)

Here are some treasures we thought you might like in the meantime.

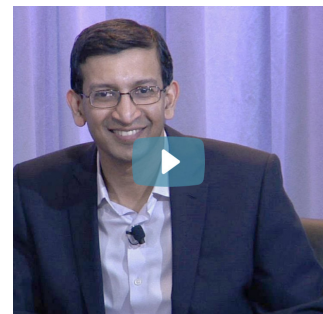
Yours in data,

Kristin & Maureen

Have a Look

Raj Chetty: "Visualizing the American Dream"

"The fundamental advance we've been able to make with the types of data I've been showing you today is that we're able to look at things *longitudinally*." (This gem is about 37 mins in, but trust us, you'll want to watch the whole thing.) Have a look at the original reports and graphics at [OpportunityInsights.org](https://www.opportunityinsights.org).



 [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)



Saying Yes: New Case Study Emphasizes the Importance of Collaboration in Building Better Data Systems

Our friends at the National Skills Coalition offer sage advice for agencies looking to make better use of their data. *Saying Yes to State Longitudinal Data Systems* shares lessons and insights from Kentucky and Virginia – both longtime leaders in the education and workforce data space.

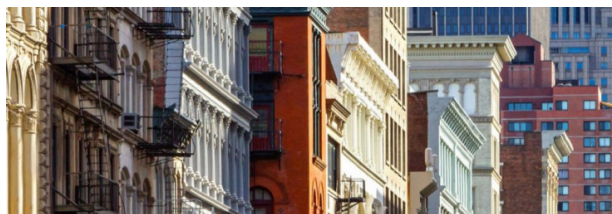


 nationalskillscoa...



Does College Pay Off?

Everyone wants to know! *The Institute for College Access and Success* tackles this question in its new report, and speaks specifically to the role of state longitudinal data systems in answering this important question.



JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.



UNDERSTANDING YOUR COMMUNITY:
LABOR MARKET AND
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
SYSTEM DATA TOOLKIT
JANUARY 2019

New Data Toolkit for Workforce and Community Leaders

Corporation for a Skilled Workforce and JP Morgan Chase & Co. just released this handy guide for communities seeking to use data to better understand their labor markets. It's chock-full of resources and examples, and features a nice list of questions your own communities might ask.



2018

The Earnings Premium of Washington Higher Education

Gender Deficit in Earnings among
Washington College Graduates



Gender Pay Gap Persists

Authored by our own WDQI subject-matter expert Greg Weeks, who will be joining us for our February convening, this paper is part of an *EDRC* series exploring the different returns experienced by men and women over time.

 download

 download


Automation and Artificial Intelligence: How machines are affecting people and places

Mark Muro, Robert Maxim, and Jacob Whiton roll up their sleeves and dig deep into workforce data, to reveal how automation and AI will affect the people, places, and jobs over the next few decades. The authors also point to policy and program responses that will be needed going forward. Finally! A report that does more than admire or problematize the #FutureofWork.


 brookings.edu


Arnold Ventures Signals Continued Support for Data and Evidence-based Policy

The Laura and John Arnold Foundation has been a key proponent of evidence-based policy for nearly a decade, emphasizing data's role in creating opportunity and promoting justice. This work will continue under the newly launched Arnold Ventures, which aims to speed the application and use of high-quality data in solving our most vexing social problems. President and CEO Kelli Rhee explains the new structure.


 arnoldventures.org

Have a Listen



New PBS Series: The Future of Work



Who doesn't appreciate a good podcast?

As automation spreads through the American economy, its impacts will likely be uneven, but most of us will have to learn new skills as jobs evolve or give way to different ones. Will education and job training be able to keep pace?



 pbs.org

Here's an episode of [Data & Society](#) that we particularly liked, featuring Sarah Kessler, author of *Gigged: The End of the Job and the Future of Work*, and Data & Society's own Alex Rosenblat, researcher and author of *Uberland: How Algorithms are Rewriting the Rules of Work*. As non-traditional work (in a myriad of forms) becomes a more common feature of our labor market, understanding its size, reach, and nature matters more than ever.



 listen.datasociety.net

Speaking of Podcasts...

Soon we'll have our own! That's right, *Making Better Work* isn't just the name of our newsletter...

We hope these new communication channels will help bring work that often gets done in server rooms or on GitHub into the public domain so that kindred spirits in different parts of the growing public data ecosystem can find each other. It's a big job but somebody's got to do it. Why not the WDQI community?



Information Wants to Be Shared

This is a beta version of our WDQI newsletter.

We'd love your help in making it great (and your generosity of spirit when we don't quite get there). Our interviews and conversations with you over the past few months, together with our observations and encounters with the field, have led us to three themes we plan to emphasize as we launch:

- **Impact** (Products, legislation, key policy decisions and more – what difference is WDQI making in your state, community?)
- **Governance** (In the words of one of our subject matter experts, "It's *everything*.")

- **Ecosystem** (How do we better align public data efforts and work with nonprofit, foundation, university, and other partners more effectively to address critical workforce and education issues? How do we do this consistently, ethically, and responsibly?)

We'll start there and can't wait to hear from you about what you like (and don't like).

You know where to find us, but just in case you've received this from a friend or colleague, we've provided our contact information below.

Kristin Wolff (Editor): Kristin_Wolff@spra.com

Maureen Sarver (Chief WDQI TA Architect): Maureen_Sarver@spra.com

The views expressed are those of the authors and should not be attributed to the US Department of Labor or other public agencies (state, federal, or local) participating in the Workforce Data Quality Initiative. Mentions of trade names, commercial products or organizations does not imply endorsement of same by the US Government or representatives. Click for information about [WDQI](#).

Created in  publicate