

WDQI Monthly Resources: October

1. Data for the People

Paul Fain highlights Texas' initiative to create a comprehensive platform to assist residents in their career navigation, providing a one-stop shop for essential resources. Additionally, several states, including Texas, are utilizing a tool from the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, which maps out career trajectories and potential benefits cliffs for low-income workers. Fain also discusses recent developments in the implementation of artificial intelligence in the fields of education and employment.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

2. 2023 Price-to-Earnings Premium for Four-Year Colleges

Emily Rounds discusses the increasing importance of return on investment (ROI) for students and families when choosing a college due to rising tuition fees. Third Way's Price-to-Earnings Premium (PEP) provides a metric to assess the ROI of different colleges. PEP calculates how many years it will take for a student to recoup their educational investment based on a college's net price and the graduate's expected earnings premium. A low PEP indicates a quicker return on investment, while a high PEP suggests high tuition costs and/or low earning potential. The metric helps students and policymakers evaluate colleges based on financial benefits and can guide transparency and accountability efforts for institutions that fail to deliver successful outcomes.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

3. Gainful Employment Rule: What Students Should Know

The Biden Administration has introduced a new version of the gainful employment rule, aimed at holding certain postsecondary programs accountable for their graduates' outcomes. Under this rule, for-profit institutions, specific nondegree programs, and most graduate programs must demonstrate that graduates can afford their yearly debt payments and earn more than an adult in their state with a high school diploma. Programs that fail these tests for two consecutive years risk losing access to federal financial aid. The rule is designed to protect students from programs with predatory practices, but critics argue it lacks nuance and unfairly targets certain types of programs. Students pursuing alternative routes like trade schools and apprenticeships should be aware of this rule's implications.

Click [here](#) to register/join.

4. Education-to-Workforce Indicator Framework

The E-W Framework provides guidance on using data to achieve equitable outcomes and economic security for individuals. Developed with input from experts from various organizations, the framework emphasizes the importance of establishing connections between different educational and career systems to support students from early education to their professional careers.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

5. Amazon Web Services Launches Startup Accelerator for Ed Tech

Amazon Web Services (AWS) has announced a new program offering \$100,000 grants and free training to selected ed-tech startups focusing on cloud technology. The AWS Education Accelerator global competition aims to choose 15 applicants based on proposals addressing major challenges in Pre-K-12, higher education, and workforce education in the U.S. using artificial intelligence and data analytics. The grants, in the form of AWS computing credits, will be given to the selected startups, who will also participate in a 10-week training program involving coaching, mentorships, and collaboration opportunities. The program will run from early January through mid-March, with recipients gaining experience in the procurement process and visibility in the ed-tech market through a virtual event with OMNIA Partners, a government procurement company. The application deadline is November 17, and recipients will be notified by December 12.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

6. Do Employment-Related Outcomes Differ Depending on Which Data Source Is Used? Findings from the Portland Site of the National Evaluation of Welfare-to-Work Strategies

The report is a part of the Long-Term Employment Outcomes project, focusing on the NEWWS (National Evaluation of Welfare-to-Work Strategies) Portland site. It presents findings from three sets of analyses conducted over a 20-year period using different data sources. The report aims to identify the strengths and limitations of these various data sources, offering insights to researchers and the workforce field on which data sources to prioritize for future research related to employment interventions for individuals in poverty or near poverty.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

7. Data Privacy and Equity Educational Tool Prototype

There are challenges of publicly releasing data disaggregated by race or other demographic characteristics in terms of equity and privacy. People of color and vulnerable populations are at higher risk of reidentification due to underrepresentation in data, making them susceptible to discrimination, socioeconomic inequalities, and personal safety threats. Traditional privacy techniques often obscure these populations, excluding them from the benefits of publicly available data. To address this issue, Maddie Pickens created an educational prototype tool using Tableau, allowing organizations to explore trade-offs between equity and privacy when releasing data. The tool aims to help decision-makers make informed choices while considering the privacy and equity concerns of communities of color.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

8. How Red States and Blue States Are Shifting Dollars to What Works: Release of the 2023 Invest in What Works State Standard of Excellence

On November 15, 2023, join Results for America and the National Governors Association for the release of the 2023 Invest in What Works State Standard of Excellence.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

