



Monthly Report for October 2018

Submitted November 5, 2018

Personnel

Laia Tiderman, who has been serving for the last four years as the MLDS Center Data Management Coordinator and MSDE Liaison is leaving the Center to take on a new position within MSDE. Ms. Tiderman's contributions to the Center and its development have been numerous and her in-depth knowledge of K-12 data will be truly missed. We wish her best of luck in her new role. The recruitment for her replacement is underway.

Meetings and Conferences

National Governors Association

The National Governors Association held a *Policy Academy on Scaling Work-Based Learning* in Raleigh, North Carolina on October 4th and 5th. Ross Goldstein was invited to be a part of a panel discussion on Strategies for Linking K-12 and Workforce Data Systems. The panel also included a representative from New Jersey's Workforce Data Quality Initiative, and representatives from the Workforce Data Quality Campaign and the Data Quality Campaign. The session focused on strategies for linking data systems, recommendations for implementation, and steps states can take to improve or build upon their existing structure. Mr. Goldstein explained Maryland's governance structure and provided examples of how workforce data has been used by the MLDS Center.

Maryland Community College Research Group (MCCRG)

Ann Kellogg presented an overview of the *College Degrees to Career Pathways* project to MCCRG, the affinity group for community college institutional research staff. The presentation provided a forum for MCCRG to provide input on the population parameters, data elements, and metrics proposed for the pathway. Information collected from participants will be incorporated into the career and transfer pathways of community college students to be developed in early 2019.

Maryland Association for Institutional Research 2018 Fall Conference

Ann Kellogg was asked to join a panel on how data collected by Maryland colleges adds value to the state policy-making process. Kellogg discussed how the MLDS Center works with stakeholders to support data-driven decision-making through data requests, reports and research using data from the Center's agency partners. Other panelists included members of the Maryland Higher Education Commission, Maryland Independent College & University Association, Maryland Association of Community Colleges and Prince George's Community College.

Research and Policy Advisory Board Meeting

The Research and Policy Advisory Board (RPB) meeting was held on October 4th. The Center provided updates on the progress of Research and Output priorities for 2018-2019. The Research Branch presented an overview of the Bridge Program Analysis being completed by Dr. Jane Lincove and discussed applications for an American Educational Research Association (AERA) Research Grant and a Russell

Sage Foundation Grant. Ann Kellogg presented preliminary tables for the report required under the *Career Preparation Expansion Act* (Chapter 695, SB 978 of 2018) for discussion and input.

Center Output

Dual Enrollment Report and Dashboards

A draft of the *Annual Dual Enrollment Report* was completed and is under review by internal staff. The Center updated the existing state and county dual enrollment dashboards to include the most recent year of data. Both the state and county dashboards were expanded to include data on the college-going rates of dually enrolled students in the report.

Career Preparation Expansion Act (Chapter 695, SB978 of 2018)

A draft of The Career Preparation Expansion Act of 2017 (SB978) report has been completed. The report is under internal review by the MLDS Center staff and the Governor's Workforce Development Board (GWDB). The report is on schedule to be completed by December 1st when it is due to the Governor and General Assembly. Once the report is filed, dashboards will be developed that correspond to the report, including disaggregated data by county, race/ethnicity and gender.

High School Graduates - Initial College Enrollments

The Center added additional years of data to the series of dashboard that focus on initial college enrollment patterns for high school students. Fifteen dashboards were updated to include data through 2016-2017.

Research Branch

Research Grants

Three External Researcher and Grant Funded Project Applications were submitted during the month of October:

- *Long Term Effects of Poverty on Educational and Career Outcomes: Providing Evidence through Enhancements to Maryland's State Longitudinal Data System* (PI: Henneberger; Co-PI: Rose; Submitted to American Educational Research Association)
- *Long-term Effect of Teachers on Students' Academic and Non-Academic Skill Formation: Evidence from Longitudinal Education and Workforce Data in Maryland* (PI: Blazar; Submitted to American Educational Research Association)
- *What are the School and Neighborhood Risk Factors Associated with the Long-Term Effects of Poverty on College and Career Outcomes?* (PI: Henneberger; Co-PI: Rose; Postdoctoral Fellow: Mushonga; submitted to Spencer Foundation)

The Research Branch is also working on conceptualizing a Russell Sage Foundation application focused on the effects of growing student diversity in Maryland. The research questions have been framed, literature reviews have been started, and this work was presented to the MLDS Center Research and Policy Advisory Board.

Research Reports

The research report on the long-term outcomes associated with concentrated poverty is advancing in a number of ways. First, the researchers have been conducting analyses using standardized school racial/ethnic composition variables in order to aid in interpretation and producing data visualization options. Second, the researchers are working to provide results by local school system. Aggregated descriptive statistics about students and schools were calculated for each local school system.

Additionally, the Research Branch has had initial conversations with the MLDS Center data analysts and reporting teams about applying the idea of poverty duration to calculations for dashboards and Information Briefs. This work will continue in November.

A full draft of the report focused on the Educational Assistance (EA) grant has been circulated to MLDS Center staff. Once feedback is received, the research branch will update the report and submit for publication to the Center's website.

The research planning and analyses for the research report on the Bridge program (requested by MSDE) have proceeded this month. Dr. Jane Lincove is the head researcher on this project. She and her graduate student have conceptualized the research questions and the data analyses. Preliminary descriptive statistics have been run. This information was shared with MSDE and with the MLDS Center Research and Policy Advisory Board (RPB). Feedback will be incorporated into the next stage of analyses.

Research Meetings

Members of the research branch met with Baltimore City Public Schools to discuss the potential for linkage of MLDS data with earlier district data. This would enable the Center's Research Branch to immediately have data in the system that allows for analysis of a student from kindergarten to college and/or workforce.

Additionally, the Research Branch has coordinated meetings with MSDE to discuss the teacher pipeline research agenda. The meetings were productive and the Research Branch plans to help MSDE fulfill some of their unanswered research questions related to the teacher pipeline in the coming years.

Research Series

The first research series of the Fall semester was held on October 4, 2018. The presentation focused on the methodology of the longitudinal and historical poverty analysis and subsequent school-level and student subgroup analyses using data from Baltimore City Public Schools. The presentation generated good discussion on poverty measurement in the MLDS.

Dr. Henneberger and Dr. Mathew Uretsky worked on tailoring the research report on the student and high school level predictors of needing remedial coursework in Maryland community colleges for the November 1st research series. The slides were created, and discussion points were generated to help facilitate discussion at the seminar.

Conferences and Trainings

Dr. Henneberger attended the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD) conference on the use of secondary and open source data in developmental science in Tempe, Arizona. She presented two projects using MLDS data:

- Growing Up in Poverty: Leveraging Statewide Linked Administrative Data to Examine Long-Term College and Workforce Outcomes (Co-authors were Dr. Rose and Dr. Mushonga)
- Using Propensity Score Methods with Statewide Administrative Data to Inform Education and Workforce Policy in Maryland.

She attended several trainings including a workshop on measuring social class and had the opportunity to network with researchers doing similar work across the nation.

Drs. Rose and Mushonga presented MLDS work on the poverty project at the Ruth Young Research Day at the School of Social Work. The presentation was entitled “Disentangling Student and School Poverty: Examining Long Term Educational and Career Outcomes in Maryland.”

System Management

Tasks

The system management team:

1. Worked with DoIT to create Virtual Private Routing Network (VPRN) to 550 West Baltimore Street so MLDS users there can be part of direct access to MLDS Network;
2. Worked on implementing internal Intrusion Detection System for additional security;
3. Worked with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to perform the internal audit;
4. Upgraded all the Center desktops and Virtual Machines from Windows 7 to Windows 10.
5. Along with MSDE and DoIT, continued to evaluate different options for continuing the Center’s Oracle licensing;
6. Started work with MSDE to add two more servers to MLDS environment to increase performance;
7. Completed upgrading the VMware version for Center environment;
8. Updated the Dashboards for High School to Initial Postsecondary Enrollments to reflect all current years data;
9. Updated Dual Enrollment dashboards and added new dashboards for “College Enrollment Patterns” in dual enrollment dashboard series;
10. Completed PARCC source to target mapping document;
11. Continued to meet monthly to address security issues and complete actions to tighten the Center’s security profile, including creating Center internal monitoring report; and
12. Applied all required monthly desktop and server patches.

Data Loads

The system management team:

1. Completed loading 2017 Student-Course-Grade-Teacher (SCGT) file from MSDE;
2. Completed 2018 Quarter 2 DLLR files; and
3. Performed ongoing identity resolution for individuals who have multiple system ID’s for the same identifier.