COMMUNITY SURVEY: Identifying Growing and Prevalent Industry Sectors

Purpose:

To research and identify the top five industry sectors in your community. Identifying and understanding the industries in your area helps you understand the career pathways and training needs in your area. This information also helps you understand your local employment landscape in relation to the state and national level, which supports your work with job seekers, as well as with local employers.

For your fieldwork, you are going to answer the following questions:

1. What are the top five industries in your area? What do you know about them?
2. What are the businesses within the identified industry sectors in your area? Do you or your agency already have existing relationships/connections with these businesses, or do you need to develop connections?
3. What is the range of jobs within these sectors?

Directions:

In this exercise, you will explore, research, and identify the top five industries in your community. Please note that you can define community as it best relates to you and your work. For some, it will be the city or county they work in. For others, it may be a portion of the state, or even statewide if that is the nature of the sector they identify.

Research for this project can include (but is NOT limited to): online LMI investigation, visiting with your internal and external economic development partners, and your interactions and conversations with business and industry partners. Feel free to discuss this exercise with others (from your office, personal and professional networks) to gather additional ideas.

The top five industries that you identify may include those that are well-established and critical to your community, but they may also include industries that are up and coming, and that you feel are important to be aware of for future employment opportunities and connections.

Note: industry sector trends change over time in relation to the economic landscape. It is important to review and update your research periodically.

The Program on Innovative Rehabilitation Training on Employer Engagement is a project of ExploreVR at the Institute for Community Inclusion, UMass Boston. ExploreVR offers VR agencies easy and convenient access to a range of VR research, related data, training and tools for planning, evaluation, and decision-making. Funding for this project is provided by the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Grant #H263C190012.

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INDUSTRY SECTOR	BUSINESSES WITHIN THE INDUSTRY (if possible, list specific businesses)	TYPES OF OCCUPATIONS IDENTIFIED WITHIN THE INDUSTRY	ADDITIONAL INFO (i.e. certifications, licensing, existing training programs, hiring protocols)

Additional observations and/or questions to research: