

The Benchmarking Project

Putting Data to Work

“How can we know if our job placement and retention results are as good as they could be? What is reasonable to expect?”

“How can we get ‘apples to apples’ comparisons of our outcomes with those of other organizations? What can we learn from those organizations?”

Has your organization signed up yet?

What is the purpose?

The Benchmarking Project aims to identify meaningful outcome benchmarks for the workforce development field, so that practitioners, funders and policymakers can be better informed about what constitutes “good” performance when working with diverse populations and service delivery strategies. The project has developed a tool that allows similar organizations to compare their job placement and retention outcomes. In an effort to boost performance in the field, the project is supporting a national learning community, using both the data collected and the experiences of participating organizations to discern effective program strategies.

What will we gain?

- Reports with anonymous comparisons of your outcomes to those of other similar programs across the country;
- Access to a variety of no-cost learning activities, including webinars and online discussions among Benchmarking organizations, as well as face-to-face workshops in a number of cities; and
- The opportunity to provide feedback that will help shape a critical tool that can greatly benefit the workforce development field.

Interested in participating?

To get involved with the project or to learn more, please email us at benchmarking@ppv.org or call Marty Miles at 212-822-2406.

Who is eligible?

Organizations that directly provide workforce development services and track job placement and retention outcomes. They also must:

- Have served individuals 18 or older, not including incumbent workers;
- Have enrolled a cohort of at least 25 participants (not counting carry-ins) during a recent one-year period;
- Provide complete aggregate outcome data for that cohort on job placement and retention (retention data at 6 and 12 months after placement is preferred; 3-month retention data will be accepted if longer-term data is not available); and
- Provide summary information on cohort demographics, type and length of program services, and program budget.



Public/Private Ventures (P/PV) is a national nonprofit organization that seeks to improve the effectiveness of social policies, programs and community initiatives. The Benchmarking Project is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation as well as other local funders.

