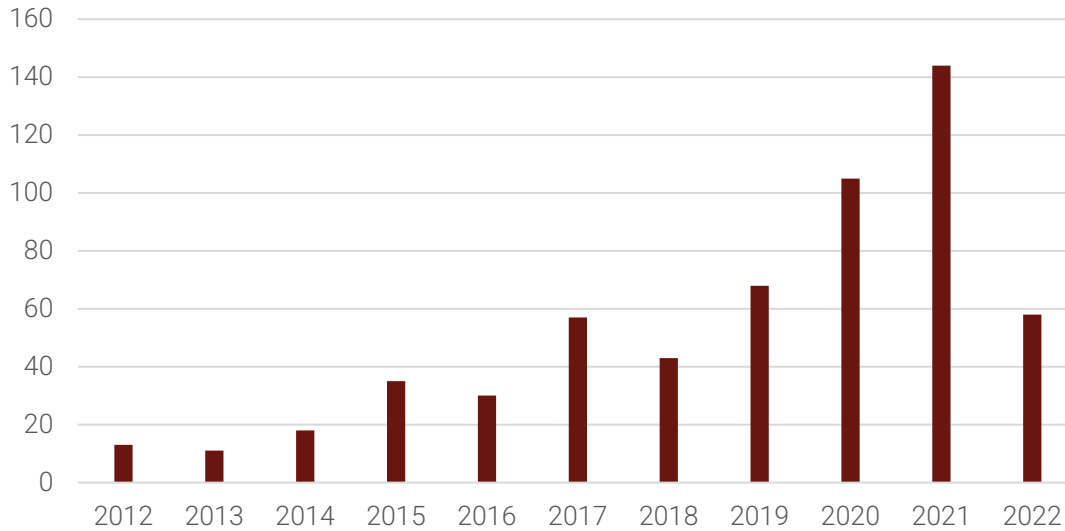


Workforce IT Insights

Workforce Technology Procurements A 10-Year Overview



The graph shows the total number of workforce-related IT procurements for state agencies for each year beginning in 2012. Data comes from Government Navigator, a procurement aggregator maintained by Government Technology.

Procurements are one way to understand trends in the workforce ecosystem. This can demonstrate priorities, uncover innovative practices, and highlight stages of modernization in workforce agencies. Analysis of data from the Workforce Information Technology Support Center (Workforce ITSC) Procurement Portal shows procurements are increasing over time. Importantly, the positive trend of these procurements holds across all programs. For example, most programs saw a noticeable increase in procurements during the first year of the pandemic, averaging 187% growth from 2019. In a demonstration of shifting priorities and disaster mitigation/recovery, Title I procurements saw a slight decrease though this was quickly reversed the following year with a level of procurements far surpassing any previous year, and matched only by UI procurements. Though most procurements occur in the second half of the year, all programs are on target to see more procurements in 2022 than any preceding year.

Along with these positive trends, other takeaways have been noted. For instance, although raw totals of procurements increase over time, the magnitude of this increase is going down. While looking at percent change can be problematic, it is worth noting that other contributing factors may be playing a role in decreased growth (agency budgets and priorities, COVID-19, initial needs of modernization and digital transformation). Furthermore, research/evaluation and database procurements (as classified by Workforce ITSC) have had an increasing share of total procurements published by state workforce agencies, highlighting a trend of data-driven practices over the last four years.

COVID-19

In the first 2 years of the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of IT-related workforce procurements published totaled more than the previous 5 years combined.

Unemployment in the Spotlight

Technology procurements related to unemployment insurance (UI) have seen the largest increase out of all WIOA titles and partner programs over the period examined.

Budgets and Funding

Initial analysis has shown that the estimated IT budget for state workforce agencies has only a small impact on the number of procurements introduced.

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