

TURNING STATE DATA INTO SHARED IMPACT



The Multistate Data Collaborative (MSDC), housed at NASWA, is a national, state-driven network of cross-sector agencies working together to harness administrative data for better policy and stronger public programs.



WHAT STATES GET



Peer Network & Knowledge Sharing: Learn from and collaborate with peers across states and sectors to share strategies, challenges, and solutions.



Shared Data Products: Collaboratively built dashboards and tools designed from the start to replicate across states.



Training & Working Groups: Access training opportunities and working groups organized around your state's priority topics.



Research & Funding Partnerships: Connect to applied researchers and funders through coordinated RFI process and national partnerships.

WORKING GROUPS

In 2025, the MSDC launched four active working groups – two focused on policy priorities and two on technical skills. Across 14 sessions, state agency staff learned from peers tackling the same challenges and grew a network of practice that spans agencies, sectors, and state lines.

DATA LINKAGES

Members explored record linkage methods, cross-agency data integration, DMV record access, and building longitudinal systems that connect people across programs.

EMERGING INDUSTRIES & OCCUPATIONS

Members learned about methodologies for identifying emerging occupations, how federal investments shape regional labor markets, and using job posting data to track labor demand in real time.

GENAI USE CASES

Members heard presentations on building secure GenAI environments, state use cases, and developing AI-enabled tools that connect people to registered apprenticeships and career pathways.

REENTRY INSIGHTS

Members heard updates on initiatives and opportunities such as Reentry 2030 and Fair Chance to Advance as well as state-specific initiatives.



YOUR PRIORITIES, OUR PROGRESS

WHAT IS THE MSDC LEARNING AGENDA?

The learning agenda outlines priority policy areas and technical and methodological topics that matter most to member states and agencies. Updated annually, it is the foundation for every working group, research partnership, and data product the network produces. The table below tracks how the MSDC has engaged around the topics prioritized by state leaders.

PRIORITY PROJECTS

Category	Activities	Learning Agenda Topics
Dashboards & Data Tools	The Multistate Postsecondary Report , active in KY, IN, NJ, OH, RI and TN; expanded via Democratizing our Data Challenge to include workforce credentials and post-secondary non-completers	Multistate Post-Secondary Report
	The Multistate Teacher Workforce Report , a collaboration between RI and NJ, launched this year, providing insights for workforce planning and policy decisions.	K-12 Education
Research & Analytic Partnerships	Request for Information (RFI) project, Industries of Ideas , developing new measures of the workforce and economic impact of research investments in emerging industries in AR, NJ and OH, in partnership with the University of Michigan, The Ohio State University, New York University, MDRC, NASWA, the Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness and the Education Commission of the States.	Emerging Technologies/ Industries/ Occupations
	Relaunched state engagement in the MWC Request for Information (RFI) project, Increasing College Completion in High-Value Career and Technical Fields with the Strada Institute for the Future of Work.	High-Wage, High-Skill, High-Demand Jobs/Quality Jobs Credentials of Value
	MSDC RFI Projects pending approval (expected April, 2026): Credentials of Value and Prison Education Workforce Outcomes .	Credentials of Value Recidivism/Reentry
Learn & Share Sessions	Sessions included the following topics: data considerations for changes to Medicaid and SNAP under H.R. 1 ; approaches to identifying and measuring the outcomes of High-Value Career and Technical Education Fields ; and Utilizing AI to Improve Reentry Outcomes .	TANF and SNAP High-Wage, High-Skill, High-Demand Jobs/Quality Jobs Credentials of Value Recidivism/Reentry

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

The MSDC launched its **Request for Information (RFI)** process in September 2025 to connect state agencies with funded research opportunities to develop new data projects and products using state administrative data. To support this effort, the MSDC hosted an RFI meet-up where **9 organizations presented on 11 research opportunities**.

The RFI process has resulted into **two projects** currently under review.