

National Experimental Evaluation of Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs: Study Highlights



The U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration sponsored a rigorous, national evaluation of job training and individualized staff assistance under the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs. The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs Gold Standard Evaluation was conducted by Mathematica Policy Research and its partners Social Policy Research Associates, MDRC, and the Corporation for a Skilled Workforce.

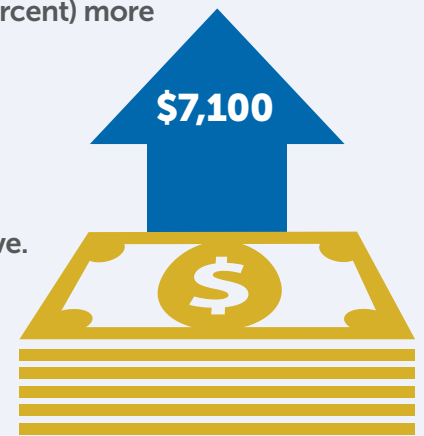
KEY FINDINGS

Job seekers offered individualized staff assistance—known as intensive services—through the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs earned about \$7,100 (or 20 percent) more over the 30 months after they were found eligible for the services.

Taxpayers also benefitted because the increased taxes paid on the higher earnings offset the cost of the intensive services.

The evidence on training was inconclusive but suggests it was not effective.

Many of the changes made by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) added flexibility for local areas to continue offering services in ways they were already heading.



ABOUT THE STUDY



28 local workforce investment areas with over

200 American Job Centers and

over **34,000**

customers randomly assigned to

3 research groups



The study team collected follow-up data from customers after **15 months** and **30 months**, plus detailed information on program implementation from all participating local workforce investment areas through two site visits.

To learn more about the *WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs Gold Standard Evaluation* and access Mathematica's research on federal job training programs, visit our website: <https://www.mathematica-mpr.com/our-publications-and-findings/projects/wia-gold-standard-evaluation>.

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