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Meeting Summary

Following is a summary of issues discussed at the DLLR Stat, held on January 26, 2011. Analysis is provided by StateStat and the Governor's Delivery Unit (GDU).

General Observations

- Follow-up Items
- Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning (DWDAL) Issues
- Unemployment Insurance
- Unemployment Insurance Appeals
- Financial Regulation
- Labor and Industry Items

Follow Up Items

- On January 13th and 14th, the Dislocated Services Unit (DSU) held Rapid Response and Trade sessions for employees of Severstal Sparrows Point. Information on One-Stop services, unemployment insurance, and support resources was provided, and employees had the opportunity to talk one-on-one with DSU personnel and representatives from various service providers.
- Additionally, the DSU, in conjunction with workforce development partners, is providing bilingual Rapid Response services to Custom Pak, an automated tomato packing and storage facility on the Lower Shore which will close its doors in early February. Of the one hundred three employees to be terminated, eighty-five speak Spanish with limited English. A dislocated workers service guide in Spanish and English was distributed to the employees; additionally, ESL (English as a Second Language) training information is being made available.

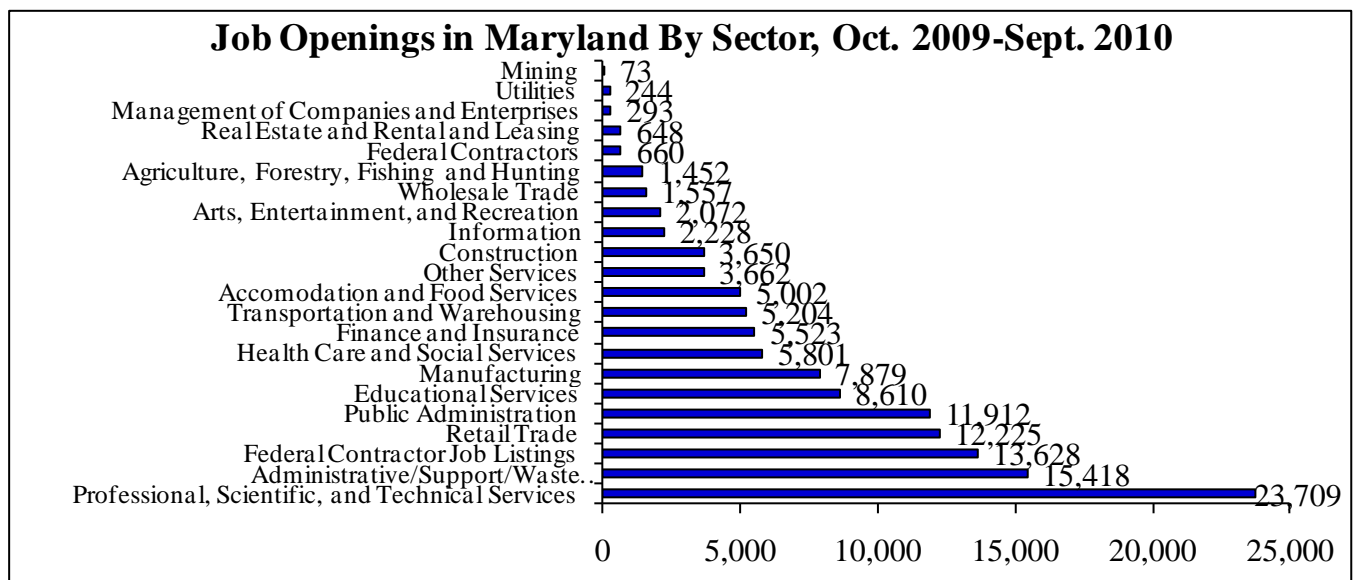
Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning (DWDAL)

- **Training Plans.** The Local Workforce Investment Areas are required to address six methods of providing training in their approved local plans, including Individual Training Accounts (ITAs), customized training, on the job training, contracts with institutions of higher education and other WIA eligible training providers, and contracts with community-based organizations for the provision of training and registered apprenticeships. Each local area is allowed flexibility in establishing ITAs as long as they follow the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) regulations. Baltimore City's ITA Procedures Manual, which DLLR submitted to

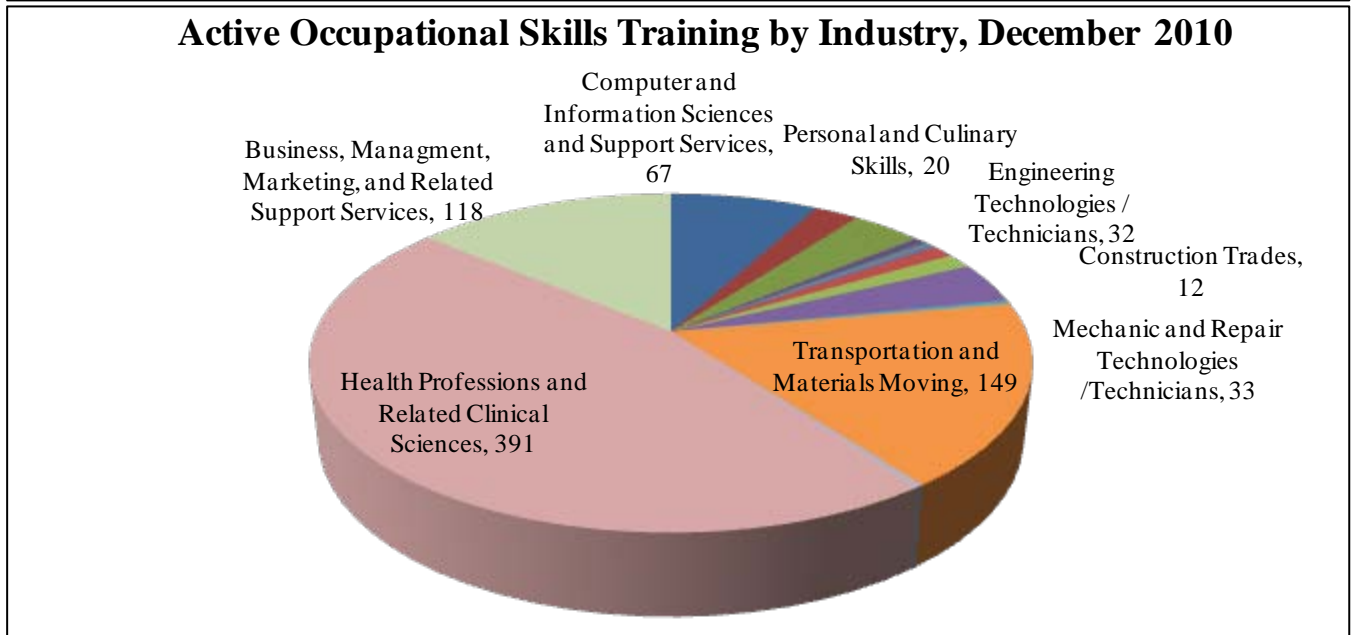
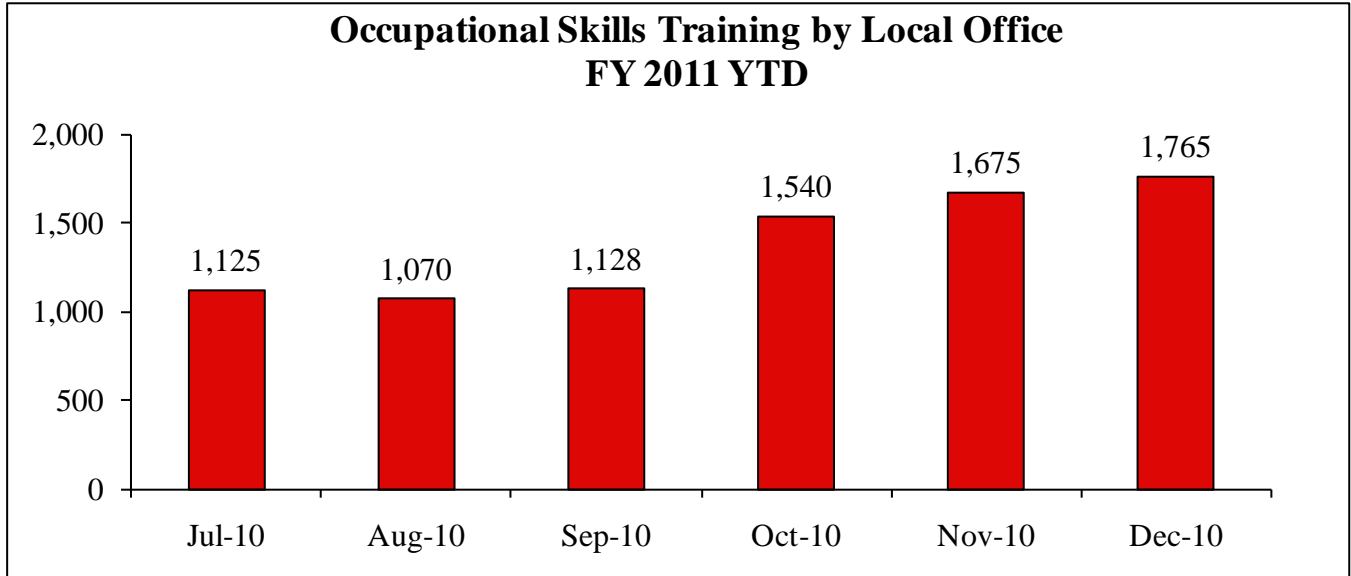


StateStat, reads “Current labor market information is a key factor in the ITA process, and training can only be provided in occupations that are in demand in the Baltimore metropolitan area, and in the five (5) industrial areas defined by the Baltimore Workforce Investment Board.”

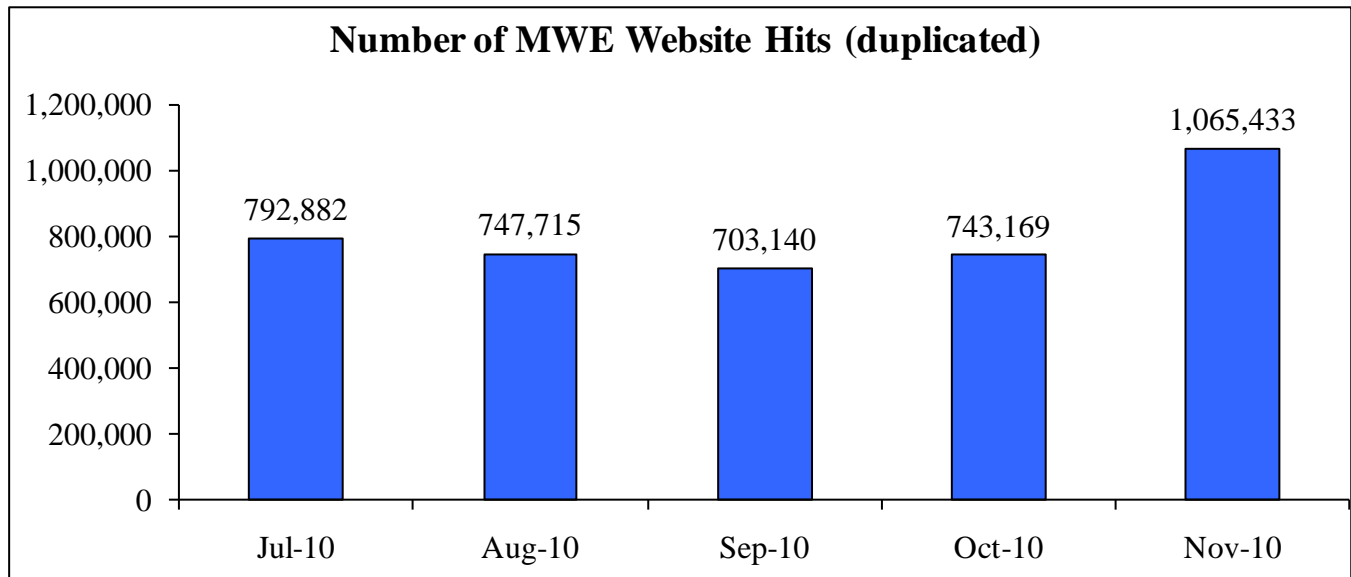
- Job Openings by Industry Sector (GDU Goal #3: Increase Number of Marylanders Who Receive Skills Training by 20% by End 2012).** Following the last DLLR Stat meeting, State Stat/GDU asked DLLR to provide a breakdown of job openings in the Maryland Workforce Exchange (MWE) by industry sector. That data is shown in the chart below. Of the 117,162 job openings reported from October 2009 to September 2010, the majority (23,709) were in the “Professional, Scientific and Technical Services” sector. The second highest was in federal contractor job listings.



- Occupational Skills Training by Industry Sector (GDU Goal #3: Increase Number of Marylanders Who Receive Skills Training by 20% by End 2012).** Following the last DLLR Stat meeting, State Stat/GDU asked DLLR to provide a breakdown of occupational skills training by industry sector. Presently, industry titles are only available for “ITA Occupational Skills Training,” one of 11 occupational skills training categories. The new MWE system will attach industry titles to the other 10 service codes.
- The number of Marylanders active in all training categories of Occupational Skills Training rose dramatically in October. In December, 1,765 individuals received Occupational Skills Training. Of the December total, 848 individuals received Occupational Skills Training with an associated industry code. The majority of the trainees (391) were in the Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences sector, as shown in the second chart below. The fewest individuals were trained in basic skills, followed by visual and performing arts, and legal professions and studies.



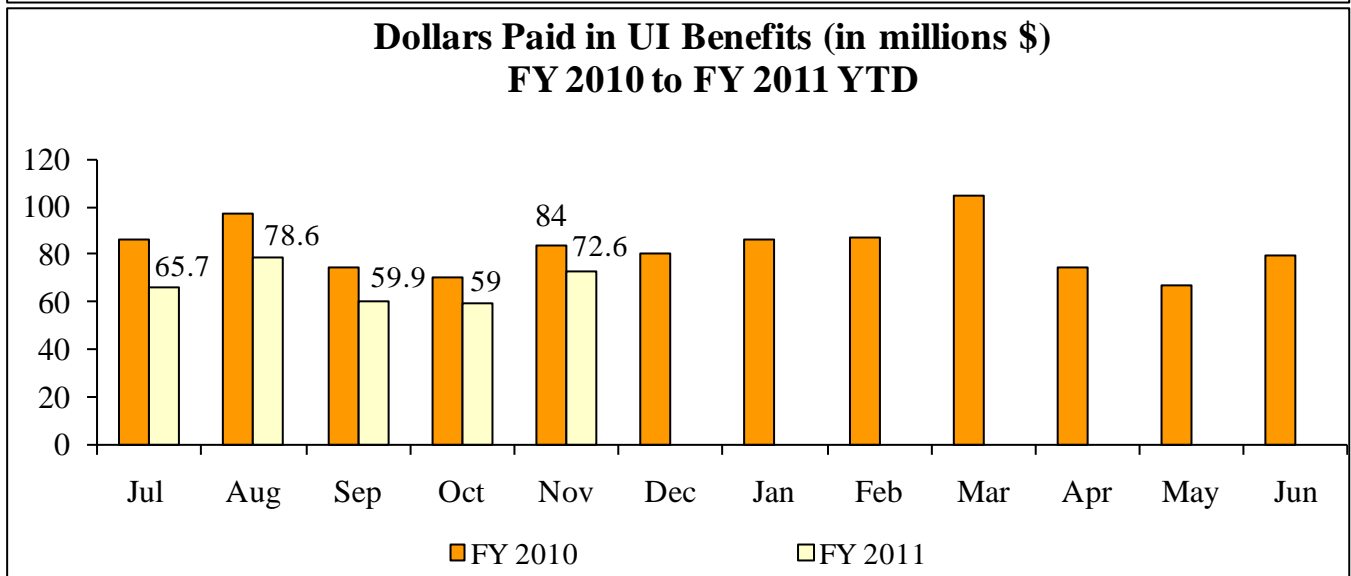
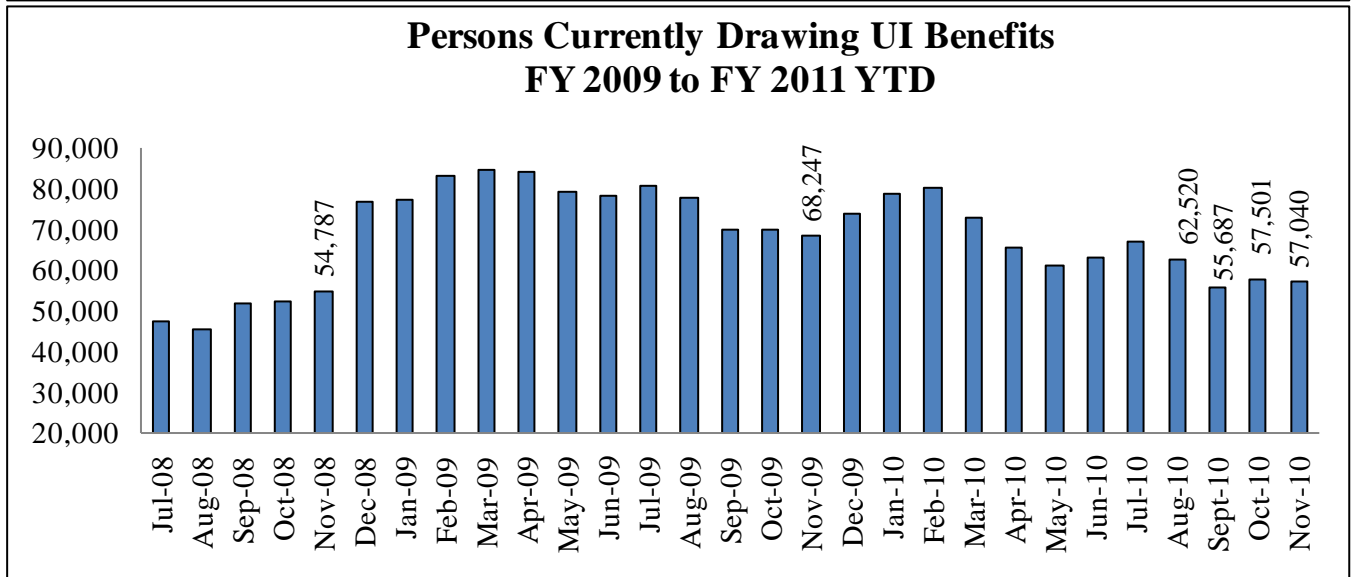
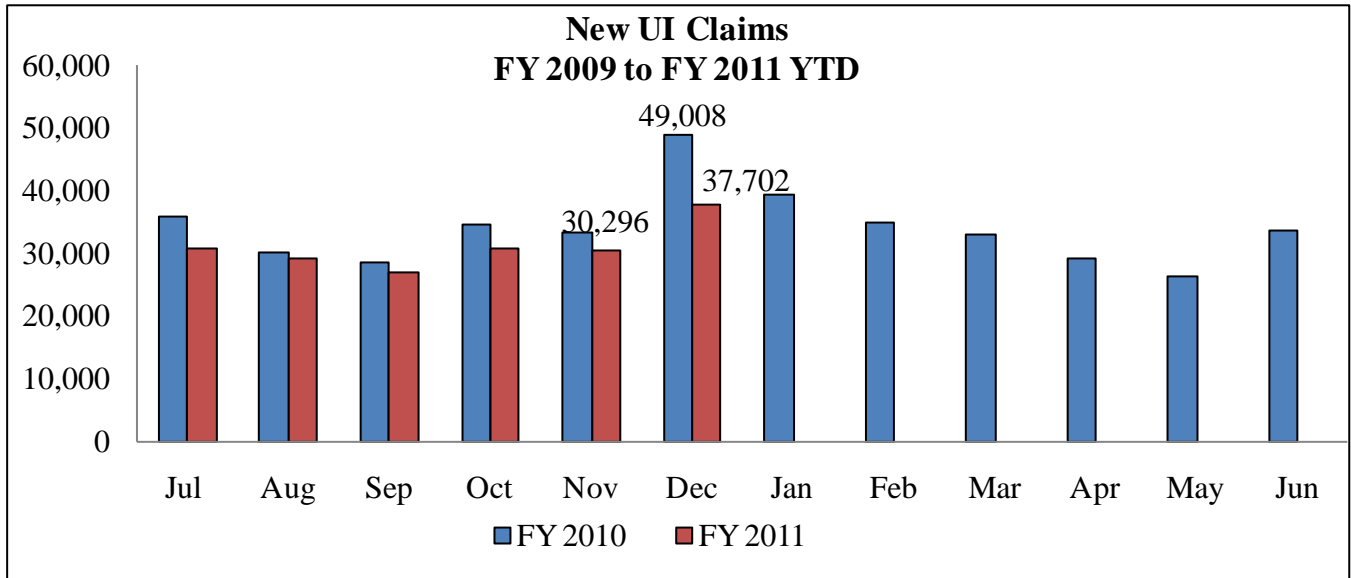
- Maryland Workforce Exchange (GDU Goal 1: Create, Save or Place Maryland Residents into 250,000 Jobs by the End of 2012).** The following chart shows the number of website hits on the Maryland Workforce Exchange. The Department indicated that the increase in hits in November may be due in part to increased confidence in the site.

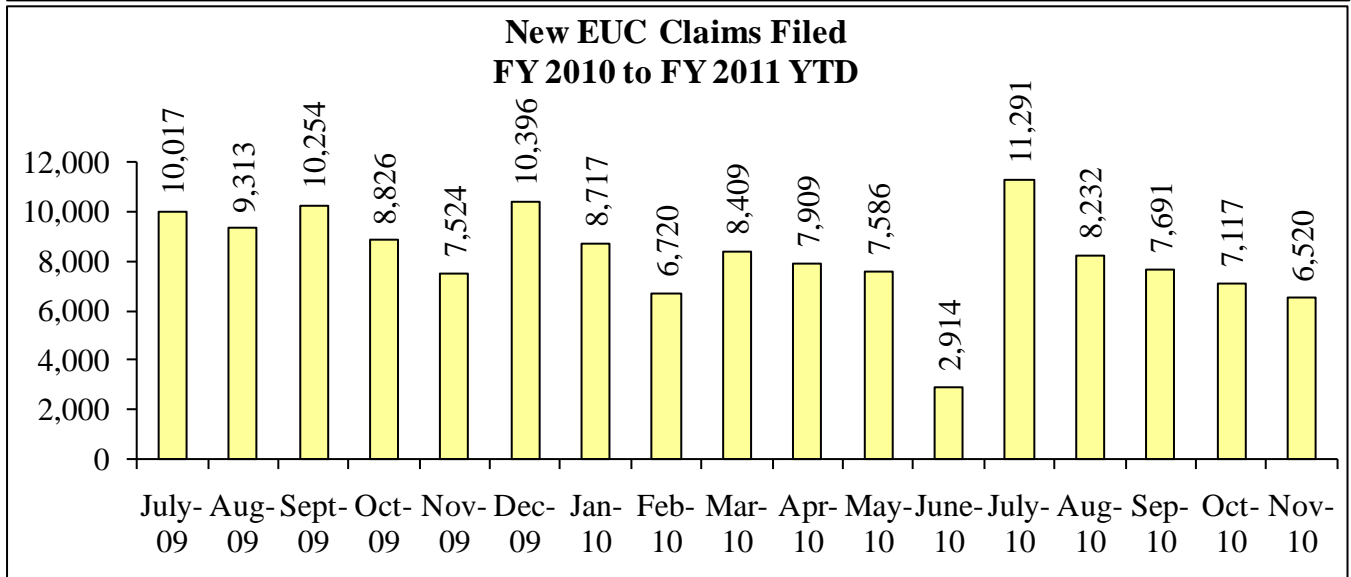
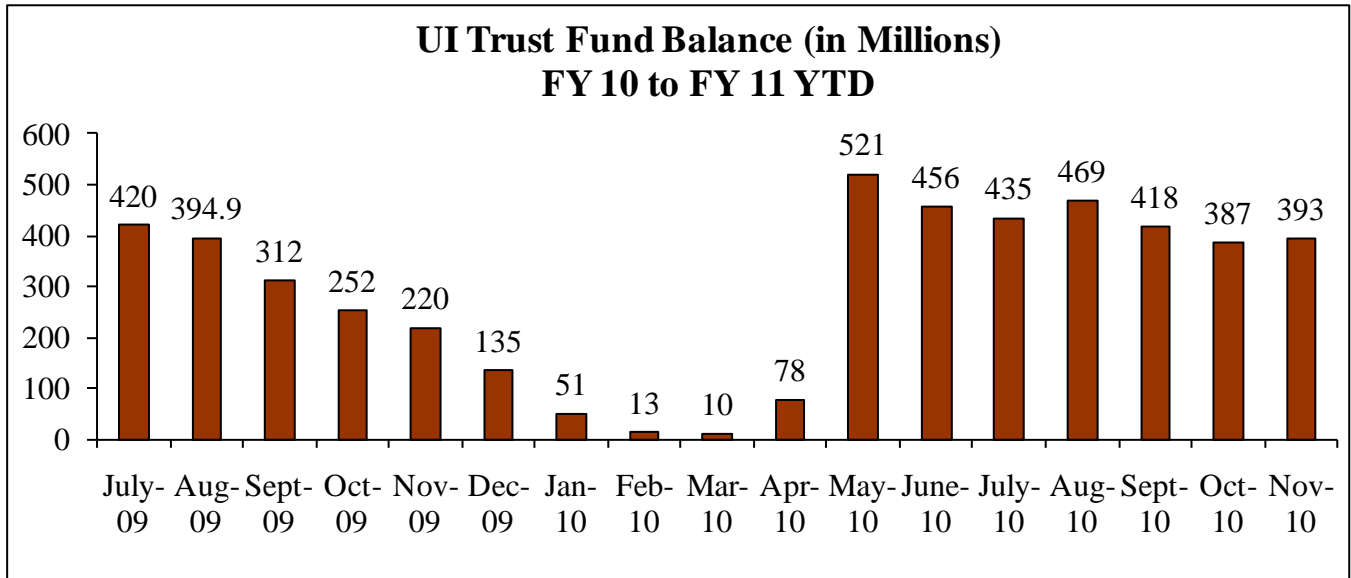


- **Workforce Development and Adult Learning (GDU Goal #3: Increase Number of Marylanders Who Receive Skills Training by 20% by End 2012).** Adult Education and Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIBs) recently entered into MOU's to plan for integration of services in order to serve their common customers more effectively. The MOU's reflect an analysis of local adult education and workforce performance data and are aligned with the strategic plan for each respective local workforce area.

Unemployment Insurance

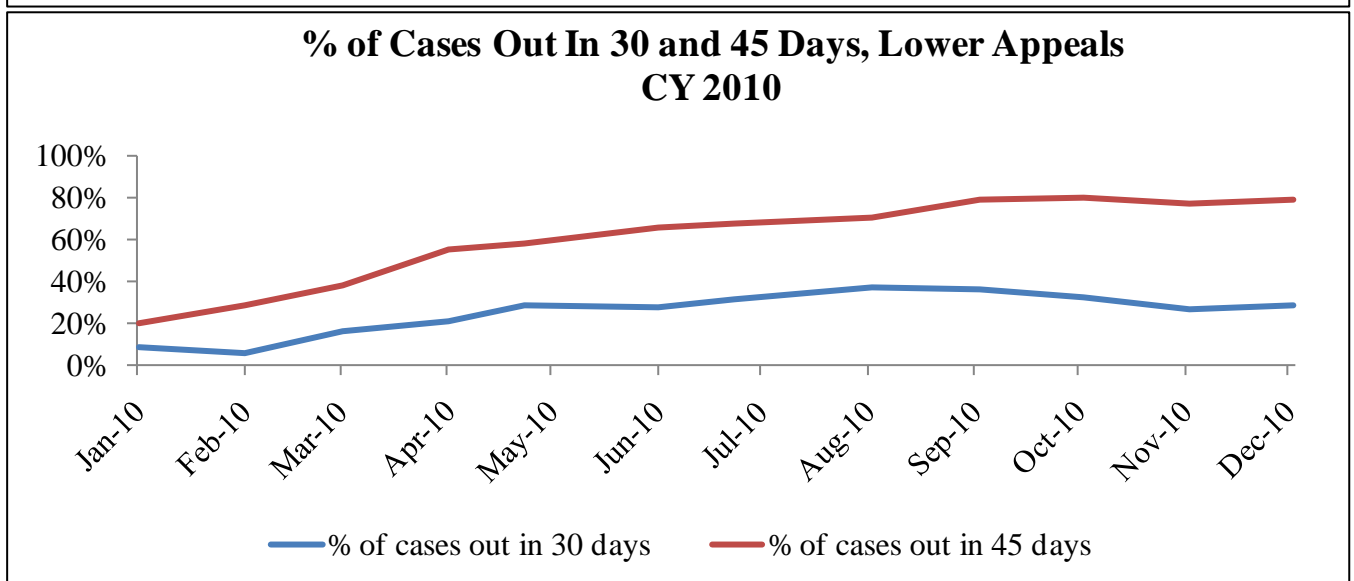
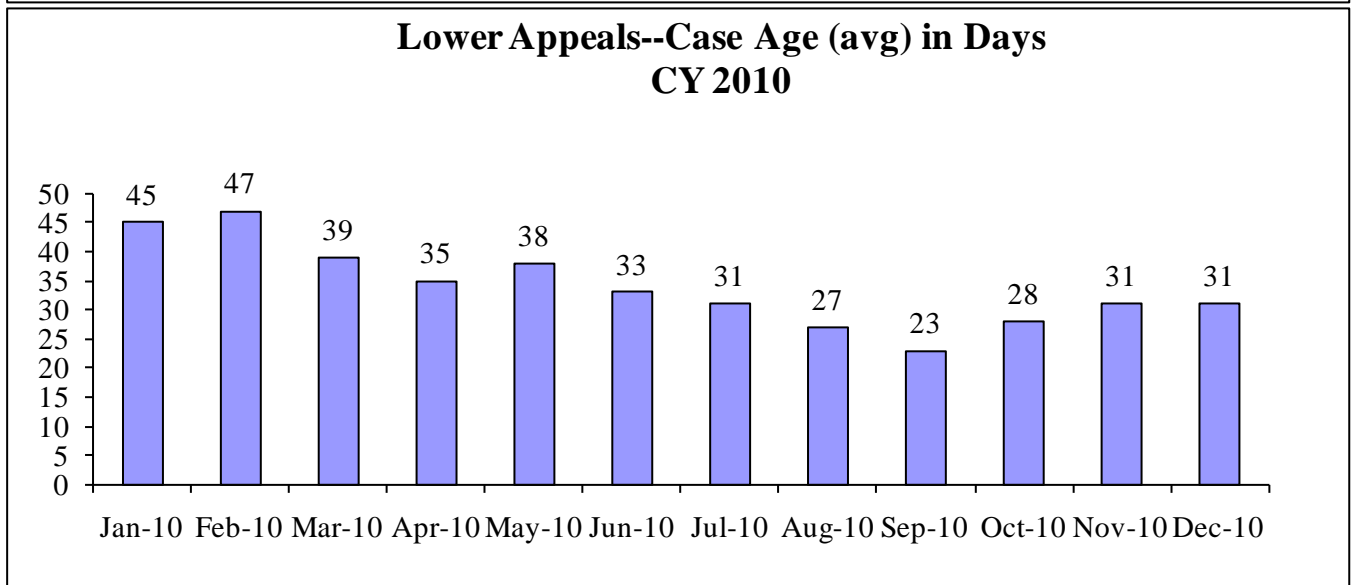
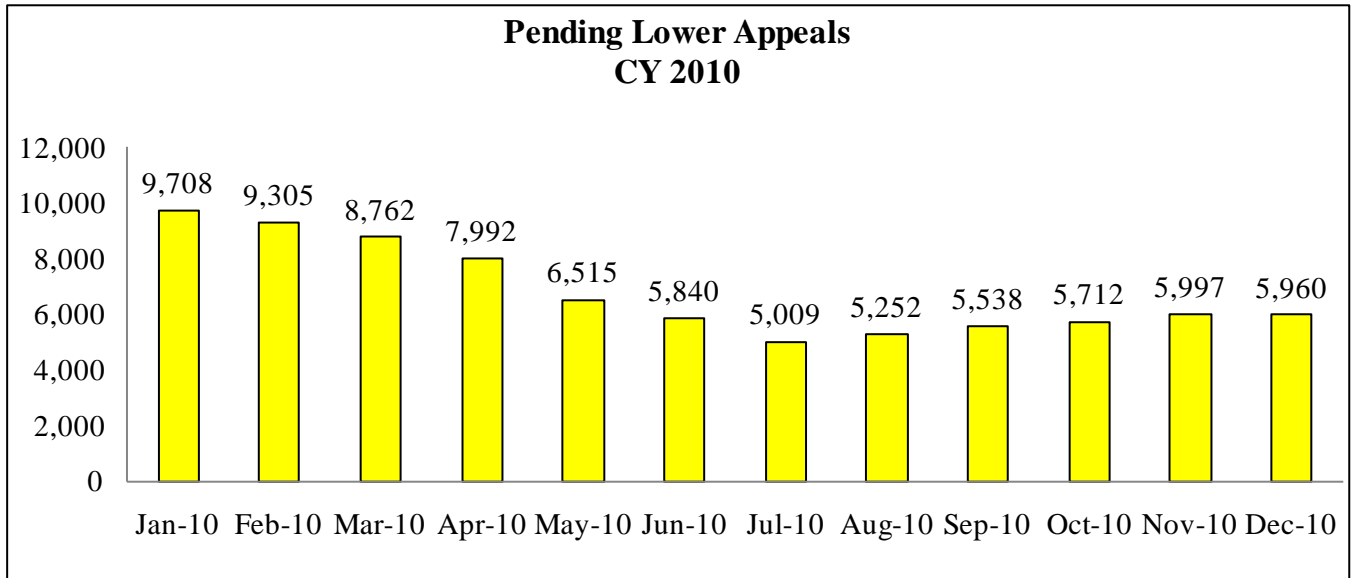
- **End-of-Year Data.** In 2010, the Division of Unemployment Insurance paid out a total of \$1,895,276,454 in unemployment insurance benefits from all programs, the highest one-year total in the history of the agency. Of the total amount, \$929,212,893 was paid through the State's regular unemployment insurance program, and \$824,987,577 was paid through the Federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program. In 2010, 273,816 individuals received an unemployment insurance benefit through the State of Maryland.
- **Key Metrics.** In December, new claims for Unemployment Insurance (UI) increased to 37,702 following a dip in November. The December increase is predictable. Despite the increase, new claims in December 2010 are 23 percent lower than in December 2009, a potential sign of recovery. Meanwhile, the number of persons currently drawing unemployment benefits decreased in November 2010. Dollars paid in UI benefits increased slightly over the month in November 2010 but remained 13.5 percent lower than dollars paid in November 2009. The UI trust fund balance increased in November for the first time since August 2010. New EUC claims decreased for the fourth consecutive month in November, presumably as eligibility for EUC drops off.



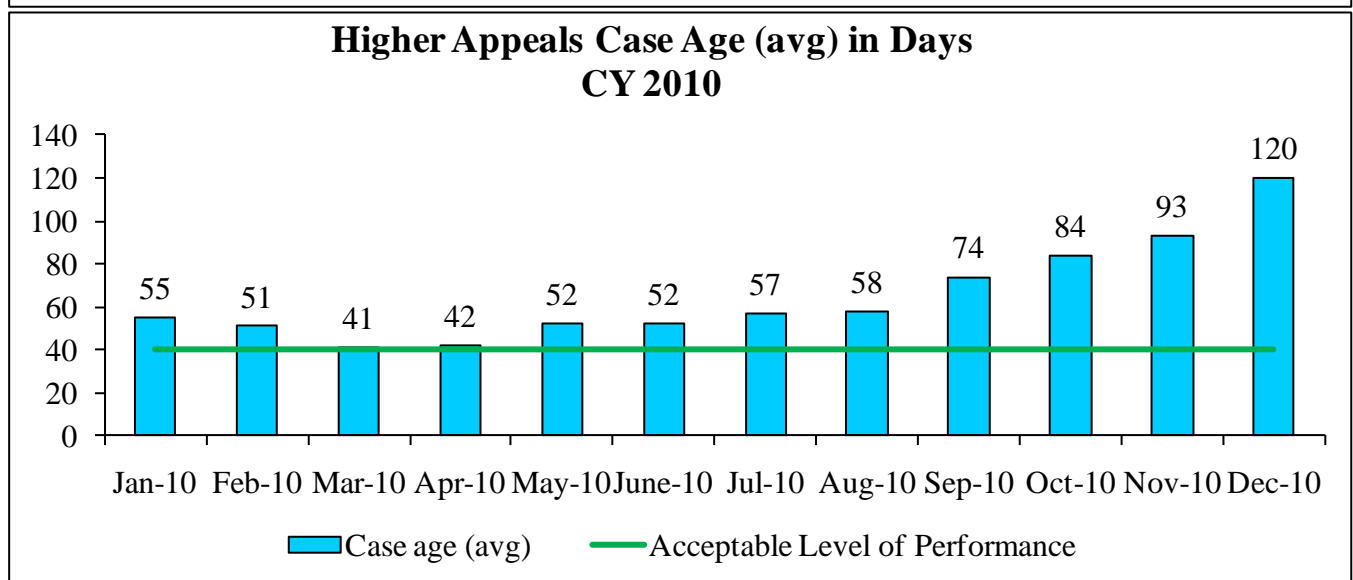
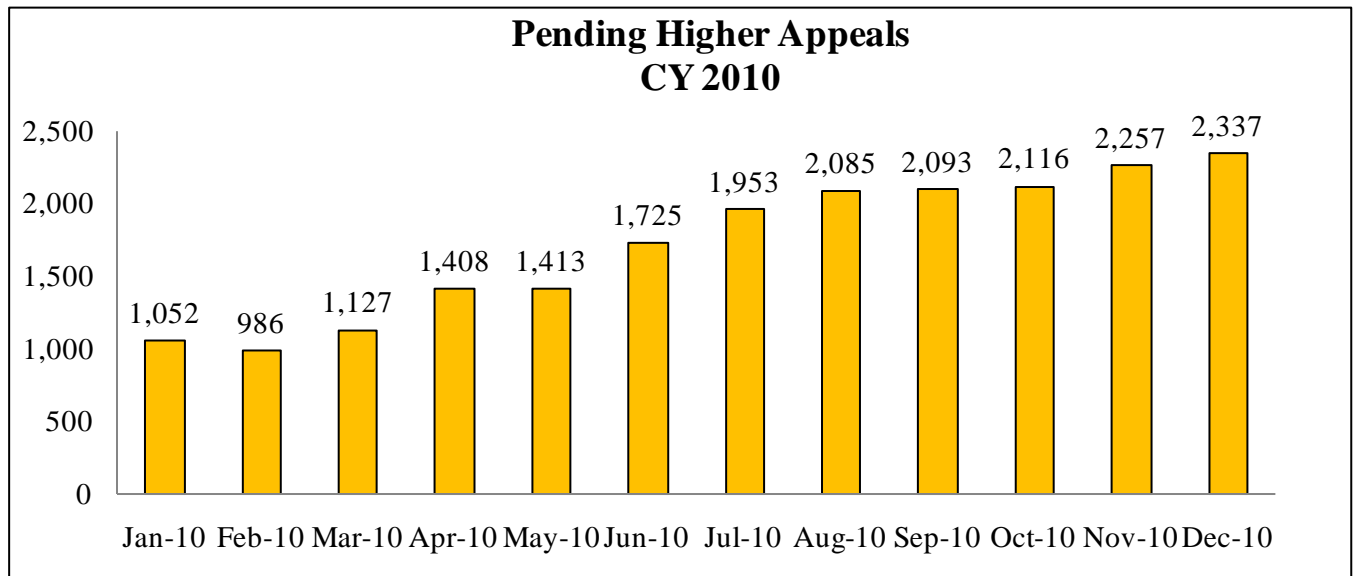


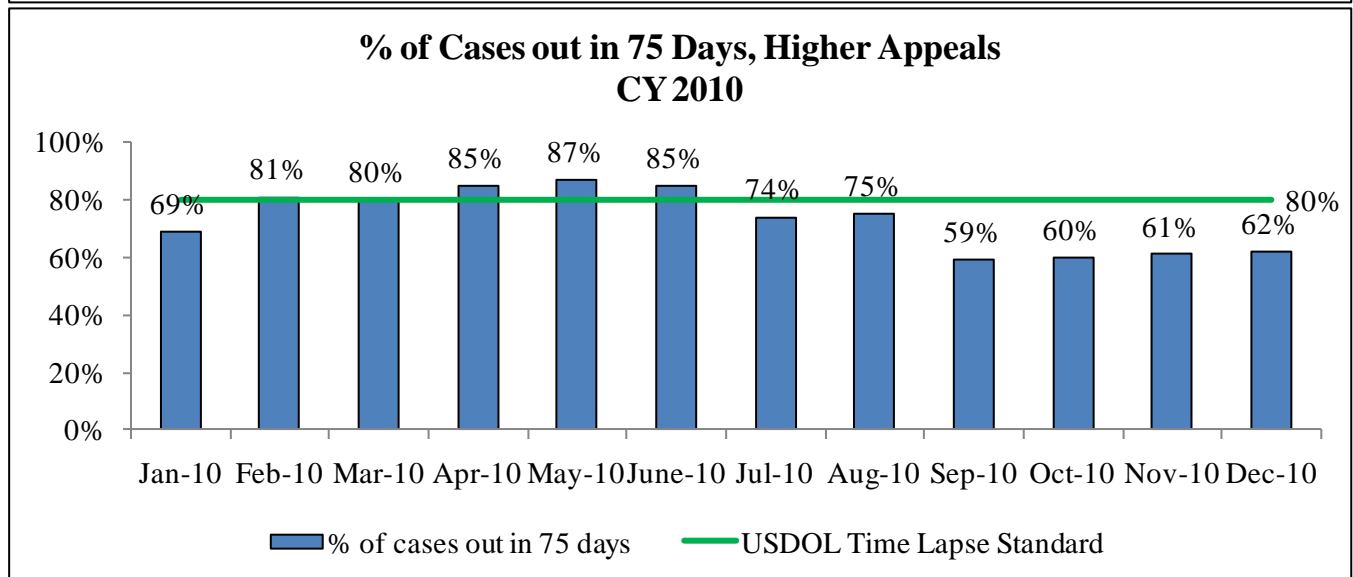
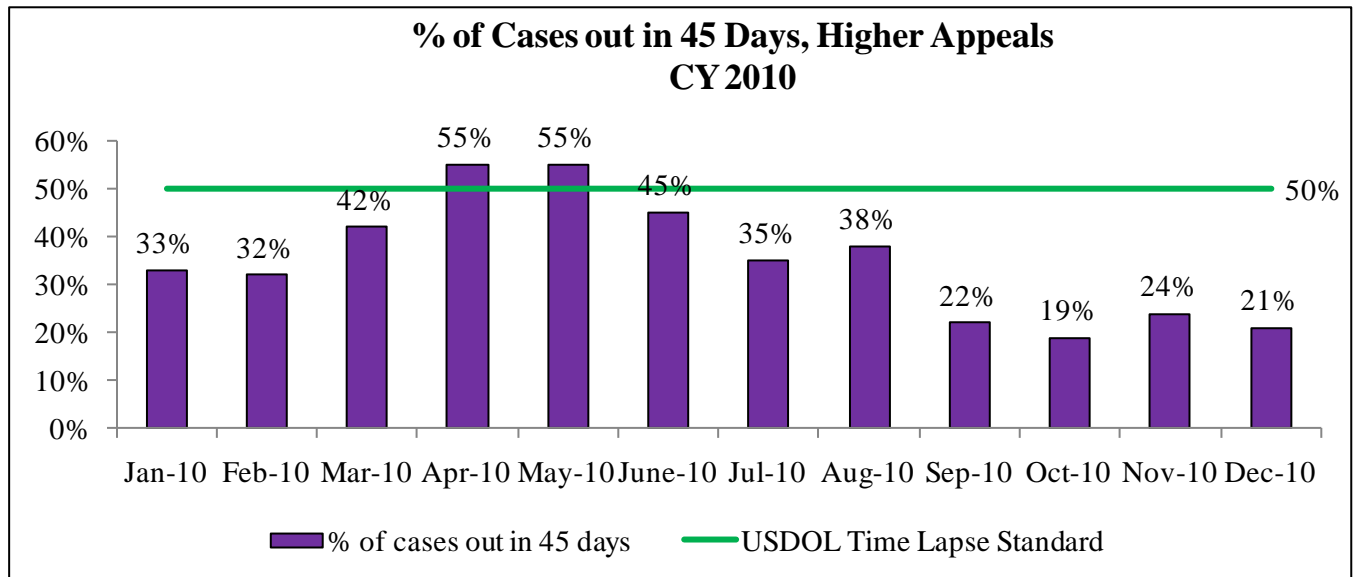
Unemployment Insurance Appeals

- UI Lower Appeals.** The number of pending lower appeals decreased in December. Meanwhile, the average number of days of each case remained steady at 31 days in December. The Department reported that the large caseload is the main reason for the backlog.



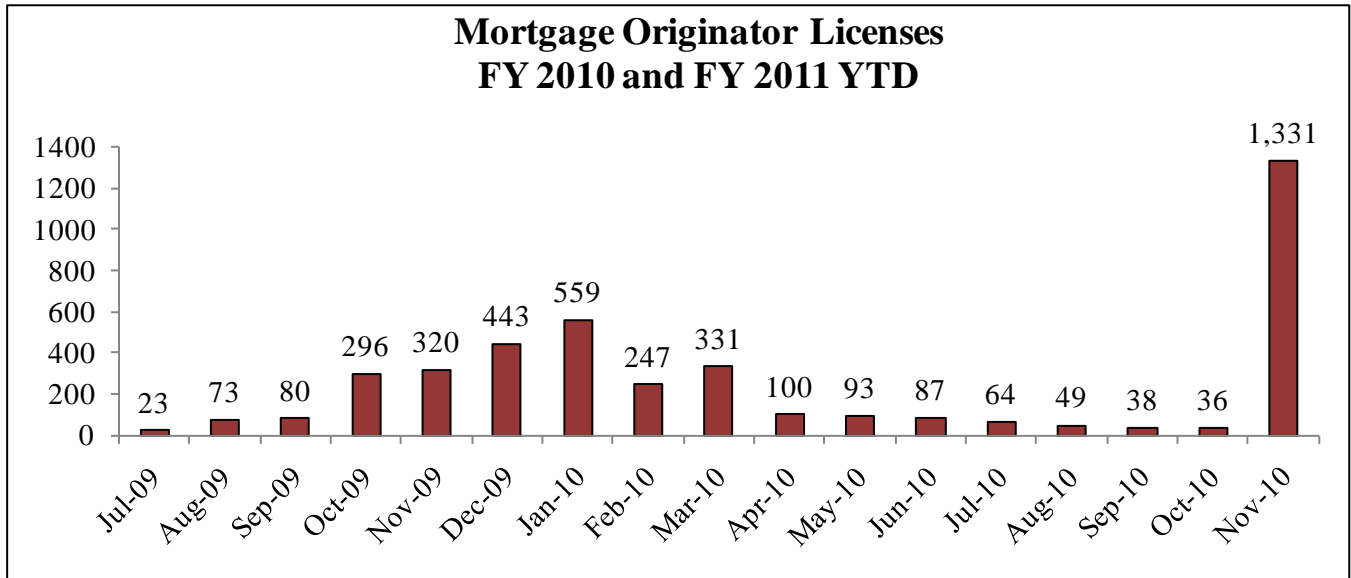
- Higher Appeals.** The number of pending higher appeals has been increasing since June 2010, and the average case age of higher appeals has been increasing since July 2010. The percent of cases out in 45 days is below the USDOL standard of 50 percent, falling to 21 percent in December. The percent of cases out in 75 days is below the USDOL standard of 80 percent, although it rose slightly in December to 62 percent. The agency reported that the factor that most affects the Board's work is the backlog. The board has gone from a norm of 3,000 cases per year to over 7,000 per year. The agency also mentioned that the Divisions of Higher and Lower Appeals are in the process of re-writing and updating the appeals computer program. At the previous DLLR Stat, the agency mentioned that they hired four special examiners in November to reduce the backlog.





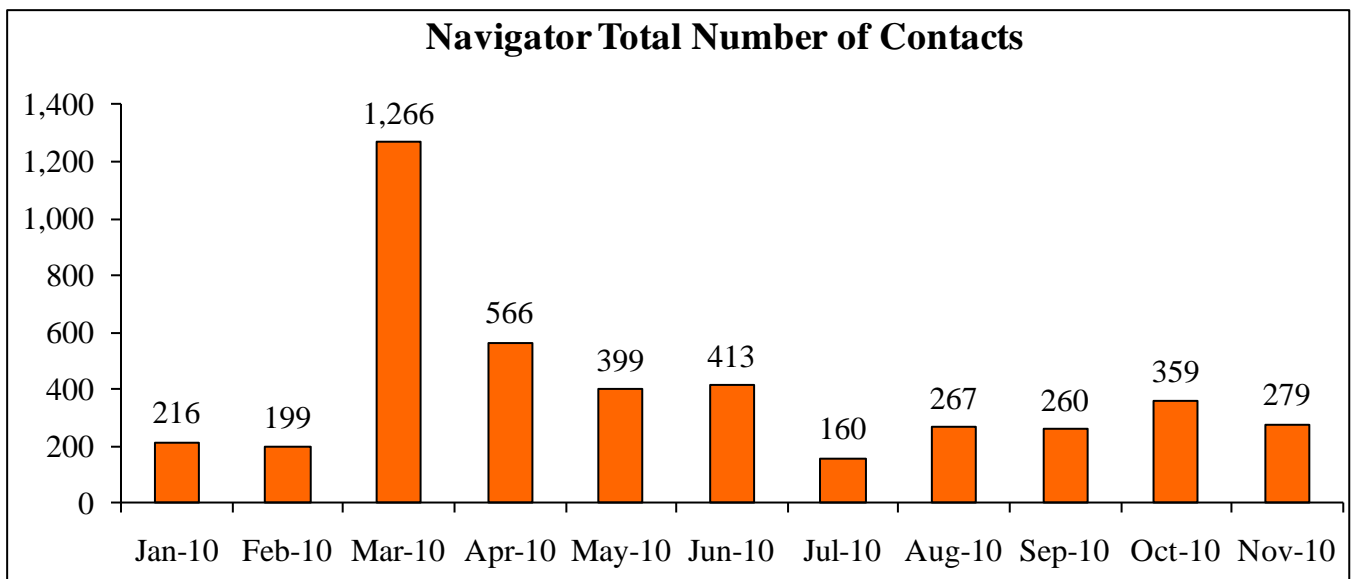
Financial Regulation

- In November, the financial regulation division recovered \$43,680 in fines due to licensing issues. The majority (\$41,580) was collected from Waterstone Mortgage, a business that was found to be conducting business without a license. The Department reported that other states will automatically be notified of this through NMLS.
- There were 1,331 new mortgage originator licenses reported in November 2010. Of those, 1,323 were applicants who renewed on the NMLS system for the 2011 licensing period. The renewal period was extended through January for mortgage loan originators who have completed the Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 (SAFE) requirements by December 31, 2010 and all mortgage lender licensees.



Labor and Industry

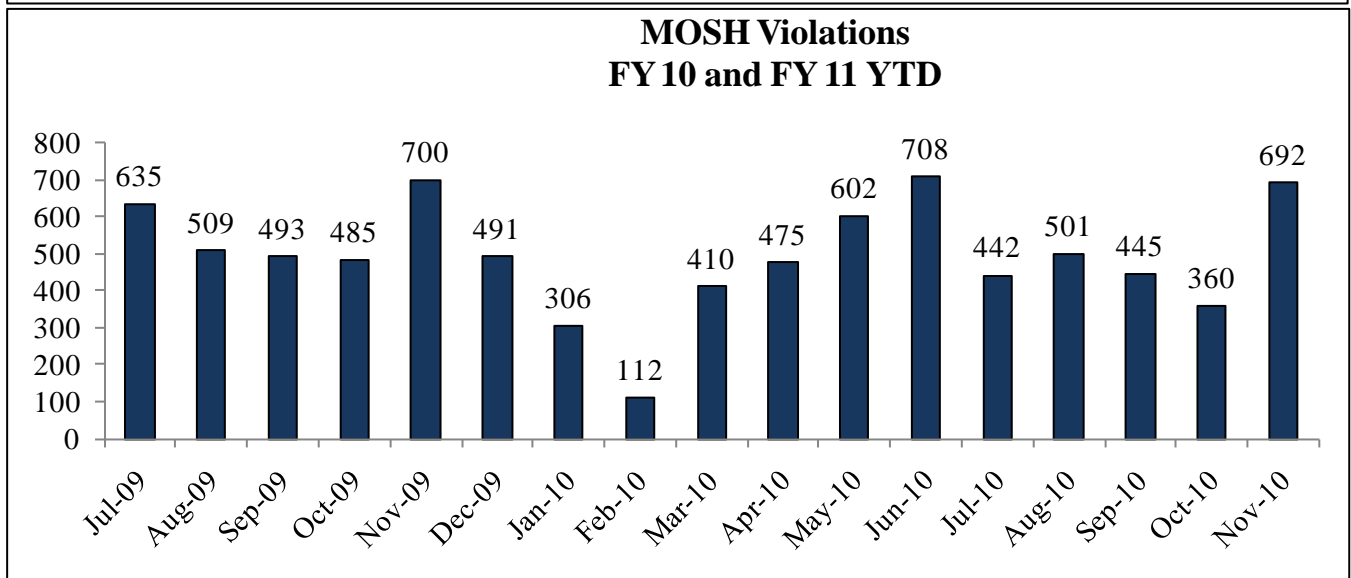
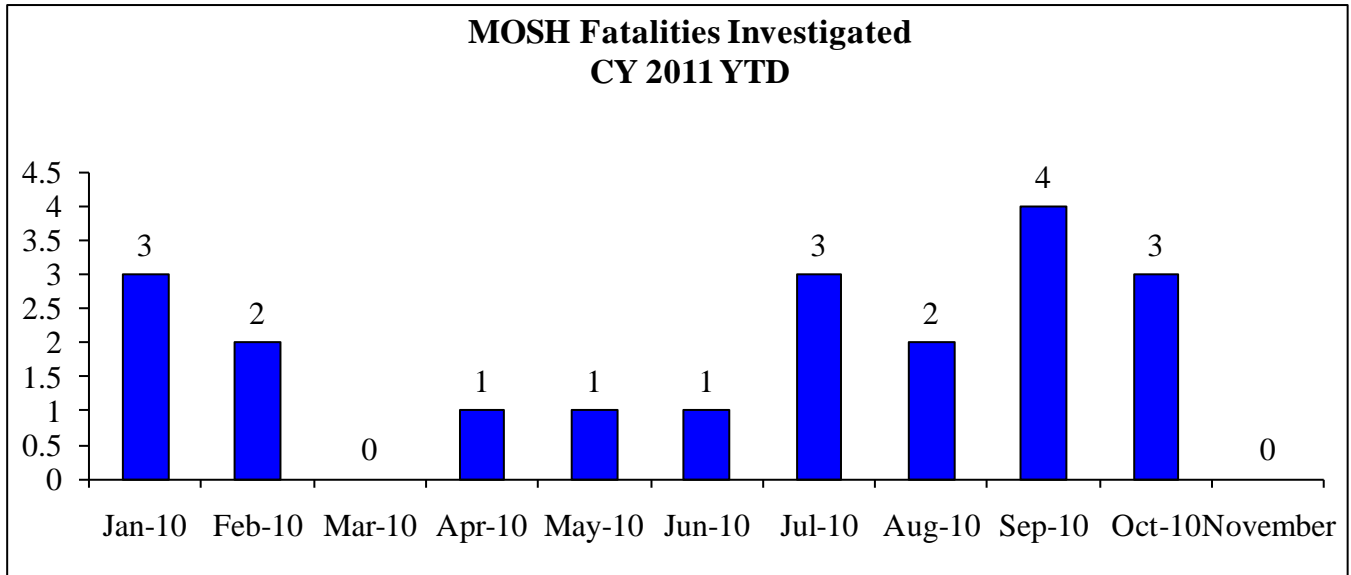
- Apprenticeship Navigators-Measurement of Activity (GDU Goal #3: Increase Number of Marylanders Who Receive Skills Training by 20% by End 2012).** Jeff Beeson, director of the Maryland Apprenticeship Training Program (MATP), reports that the biggest priority for his office, in light of the lagging economy, is to build for future growth. Navigators are spending much of their time getting to know WIA staff. They are also working with potential sponsor employers to create new apprenticeship opportunities. While the number of Navigator contacts has declined in the most recent month of data, Jeff reports that the measurement of number of Navigator contacts may not best represent the quality of their time.



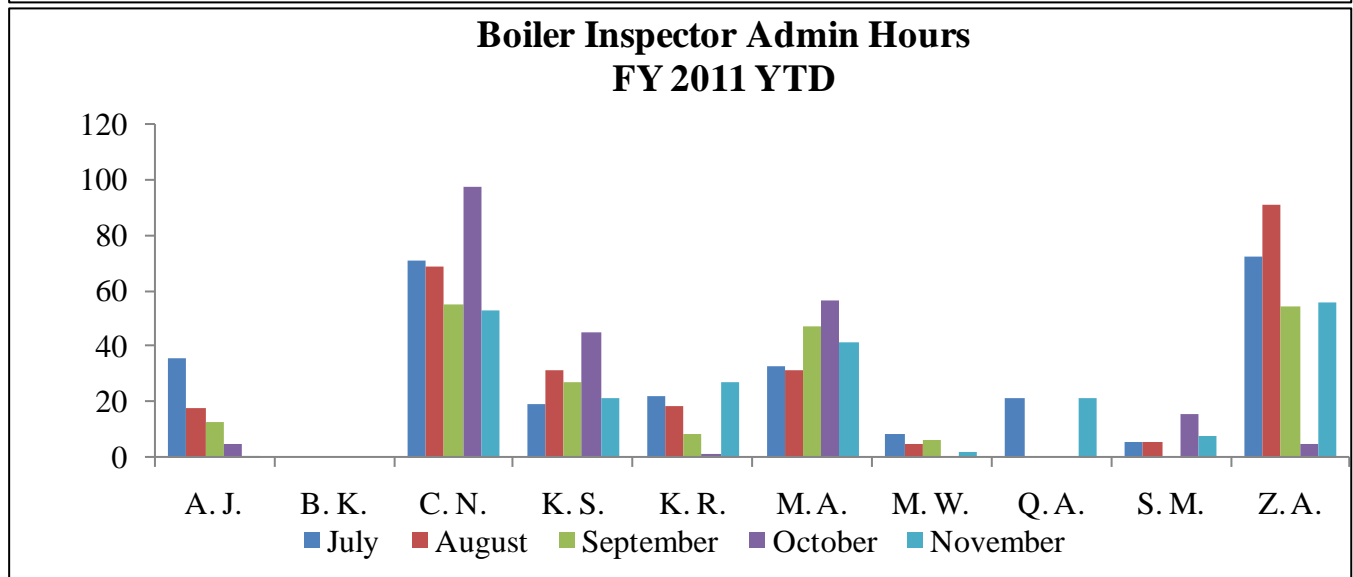
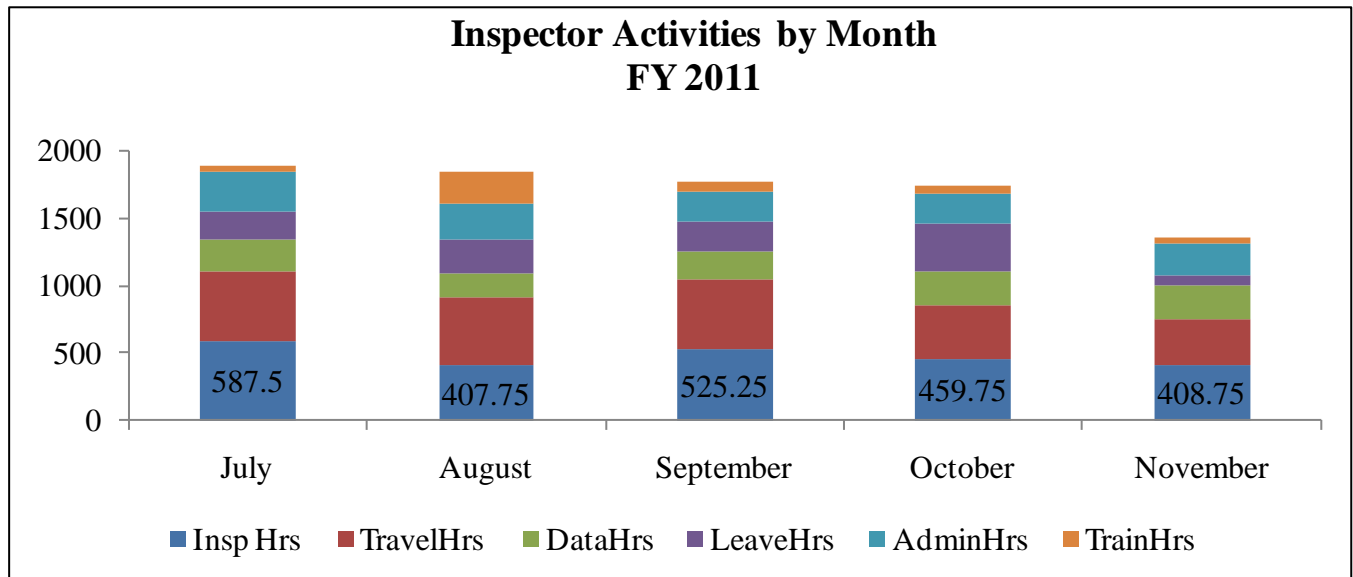
- Apprenticeship Maryland Regional Action Summits (GDU Goal #3: Increase Number of Marylanders Who Receive Skills Training by 20% by End 2012).** To strengthen relationships at the local level, the MATP will officially host 4 “Apprenticeship Maryland Regional Action Summits” modeled after a recent federal initiative and the Governor’s Forum

on Skills & Education. The summits will convene stakeholders from apprenticeship, workforce, economic development, businesses, higher education, and K-12 education to discuss and make formal recommendations on how apprenticeship can be used to support workforce from a regional perspective.

- MOSH.** There have been a relatively high number of fatalities investigated in recent months. In addition, the number of MOSH violations spiked in November, rising to the highest point since June 2010. The panel may wish to ask the agency to comment on this data.



- Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspector Hours.** As shown in the first chart below, boiler inspector hours in November reached the lowest point since August 2010. Inspection hours comprise the highest use of inspector time, followed closely by travel hours. Since August, the travel time of one inspector has consistently been above average as shown in the second chart below. Further, the time spent on administrative hours is not consistent from month to month and from inspector to inspector.



- Boiler and Pressure Vessel (BPV) Inspections.** The total number of BPV past due inspections decreased in November for the fourth consecutive month. BPV State inspections also decreased in November. The average number of inspections per inspector decreased sharply, from 165 in October to 84 in November.

