

ITEMS OF NOTE -- March 2009

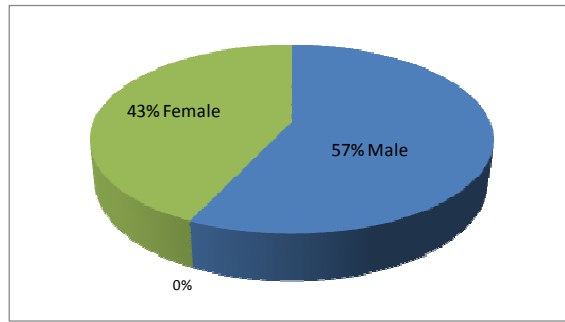
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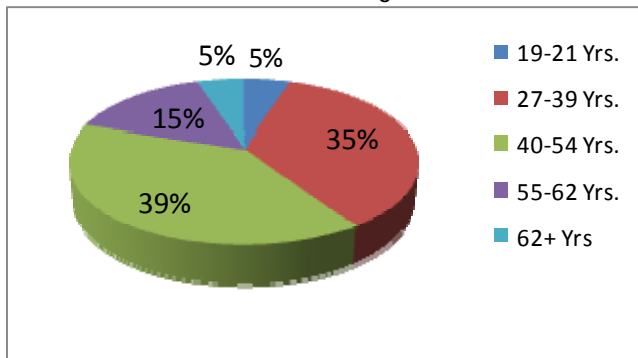
FACTS & FIGURES

Who are Maricopa Workforce Connections' Job Seeking Customers? — The following depict data collected at the MWC Gilbert One-Stop Career Center earlier this year.

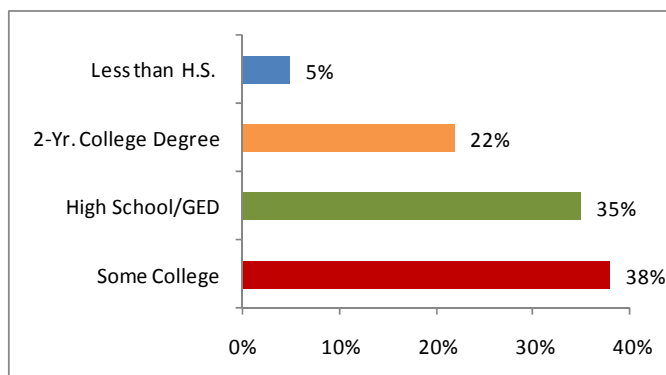
Customer Gender



Customer Age



Customer Education



(more)

www.maricopaworkforceconnection.com

Submitted by:

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On behalf of:

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Center for Workforce Development
Maricopa Community Colleges



MISSION STATEMENT

Maricopa Workforce Connection's mission is to promote and facilitate strategic alliances among public and private stakeholders within the Maricopa County area to ensure workforce excellence and contribute to the economic vitality for area employers, incumbent workers and future workers. Funding for MWC services to local businesses and job seekers is primarily from WIA federal pass through dollars.

PARTNER ITEMS

Nearly 800 Veterans Served During 2009 Arizona Standdown — Maricopa Workforce Connections, in its continued effort to reach out to veterans, participated in the 2009 Arizona Standdown held at the Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Phoenix the weekend of February 6, 2009. The low estimate of homeless veterans in Maricopa County is 2,700 on any given night, the Arizona Standdown Coalition was able to assist 743 veterans or 28% of this estimated population in a single weekend!

MWC provided information and literature to veterans regarding its employment and training services. Other Standdown participant groups provided assistance with VA benefits, medical services, housing, clothing, meals, showers, haircuts, mental health services, legal aid, substance abuse counseling and referrals, Social Security information, DES employment & benefits assistance, MVD ID & drivers licenses, women specific services, and VIA tax services. Approximately 40 veterans were placed in housing as a result of the Standdown and the list is expected to grow.



NEWS & MEDIA

KAET-TV *Horizon*: Highlights Local Workforce Situation — Assistant Director for Maricopa County Human Services, Workforce Development Division, Patrick Burkhart, and two Maricopa Workforce Connections job seeking customers were featured during a February 26 broadcast on KAET's *Horizon* program. The detailed segment highlighted services provided to job seekers and the availability of increased funding for training assistance resulting from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Patrick Harrington, Assistant Director, DES Employment and Rehabilitation Services was also a guest, discussing Arizona Unemployment Insurance situation and Arizona Department of Commerce Economist Dennis Doby put today's unemployment figures into perspective. This segment is available for viewing online at <http://www.azpbs.org/horizon/transcript06.asp?ID=1104> (select Arizona Jobs Report).



MCCCD CWD Staff Assists Residents with Career Counseling — The economic downturn has led many valley residents to reevaluate their careers and seek new employment opportunities or job training. To assist such persons, the Maricopa County Community College District Center for Workforce Development funds two full-time career services advisors and several part-time advisors to work at the valley's four comprehensive One-Stop Career Centers. These advisors assist clients on a one-on-one basis, and offer workshops for dislocated, unemployed and employed persons looking to change careers. Workshops include Career Pathways which educates customers on the high demand, high skill, high wage industry areas in Greater Phoenix and Financial Aid Information which explains the variety of ways to pay for college including grants, loans and scholarships. More information on this and other efforts of the MCCCD are available online



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 735 N. Gilbert Road, Ste. 134
 Gilbert, AZ 85234
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 TTY: 480/632-1910

West Valley Career Center
 1840 N. 95th Ave., Ste. 160
 Phoenix, AZ 85037
 Tel: 602/372-4200
 TTY: 602/372-4261

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Come See Us in Action — Please call to schedule a visit of our Career Centers to engage with local job seekers and businesses, or join the MWC advisory board during a regularly scheduled bi-monthly meeting. Contact Patrick Burkhart, Assistant Director, Maricopa County Human Services Department (Phone: 602-506-4146 or e-mail: burkhartp@mail.maricopa.gov) to schedule an appointment or tour.

Upcoming Workforce Development events in Maricopa County include:

- March 16—Monster/*East Valley Tribune* Healthcare Career Fair
- March 20—Community Workforce Forum (MWC West Valley Career Center, 6:30-8:30 p.m.)
- March 25 — Arizona Workforce Connection Career Expo *MWC provides resume instruction and review services during this event*
- March 27— Community Workforce Forum (MWC Gilbert Career Center, 6:30-8:30 p.m.)
- April 16 — Jobing.com Healthcare Job Fair

Please visit the valley's 2 MWC Career Centers. We'd enjoy showing you what we do!