

TENNESSEE

Tennessee Higher Education Commission

- Coordinating board
- Data collected from 2-year public, 4-year public, and independent (private, non-profit) institutions in the state
- The Tennessee Department of Education has received 1 NCES Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems grant (FY06), totaling over \$3.2 million.
- 1 of 3 state level postsecondary student unit record (SUR) systems
- Other postsecondary SURs in state (click on active link(s) to view profile):
Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development/Division of Adult Education (not included in study)
Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation (not included in study)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SUR NAME **Tennessee Higher Education Commission Student Record Database**

Year SUR Established **2004**

Last period of upgrade/modification **Since 2000**

Start up funds received **no**

Recurring funds received **no**

Reasons SUR was Established

- legislative compliance
- institutional resource allocation/funding formula
- tracking student retention/graduation
- tracking students across institutions
- other reason (*measure the effectiveness of the lottery scholarship program*)

Legal Authority to Collect Data

- state law creating coordinating or governing board
- state law requiring the collection of SUR data
- coordinating or governing board policy interpreting state law(s)

INSTITUTIONAL COVERAGE, TYPES OF DATA, AND METADATA

Institutional Coverage

- 2-year public
- 4-year public
- independent (private, non-profit)

IPEDS Roles

Verification

- coordinator

Reporting

- coordinator

Participation in IPEDS Surveys

- 12-month Enrollment (E12)
- Completions (C)
- Fall Enrollment (EF)
- Graduation Rate (GRS)

Types of Data Collected

- K-12 academic history (*high school, admissions test scores*)
- postsecondary academic history (*placement test scores, transfer*)
- demographic
- postsecondary enrollment
- financial aid
- completions
- non-credit instructional activity (*pre-college courses [remedial, developmental], continuing education courses*)
- academic program inventory

Authority to Change Data Elements/Definitions

- agency/entity staff

Internal Primary Key(s) to Build Longitudinal Records

- Social Security Number (*no plans to discontinue use as internal primary key*)
- internally generated student identifier

Metadata

business procedures

- data element dictionary

technical procedures

- unavailable

USES OF SUR DATA

Current Uses and Purposes

- decision-/policymaking
- generating reports and statistics (internal and external)
- research
- cross-sector collaboration (K-12, labor, etc.)

Types of Reports

- articulation
- completions (*independent institutions included*)
- distance education
- dual credit/dual enrollment (*independent institutions included*)
- enrollment (*independent institutions included*)
- financial aid
- high school feedback
- non-credit instructional activity
- performance measures
- remediation
- retention (*independent institutions included*)
- transfer

Audiences Receiving Some or All Reports

governor's office, legislature, coordinating or governing board, K-12 (agency, districts, and/or schools), general public

LINKING ARRANGEMENTS WITH AGENCIES, STATES, AND ORGANIZATIONS

State P-20 Data Warehouse no

Links to State Agencies/Entities no

- state education agency (K-12) (*under development*)
- labor/workforce (*under development*)

Links to Other States no

Links to External Organizations no

Legal Mechanisms Enabling Linking not applicable

Barriers to Linking

- lack of common identifiers/crosswalks
- FERPA concerns

MECHANISMS TO ENSURE DATA QUALITY

Responsibility for Entering Data

- office/division within agency/entity

Responsibility for Checking/Verifying Data

- office/division within agency/entity

Method of Informing IR Personnel of Data Submission Inconsistencies

- manual notification (e.g., email, phone call from agency/entity)
- automated notification (e.g., web-based, program-based method)

On-site Institutional Data Audits no

Professional Development for IR Professionals yes

Mandatory? no

Frequency twice a year

DATA ELEMENTS COLLECTED

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission was unable to participate in the detailed data element phase of data collection; therefore the number of data elements in its SUR system is artificially low.

Postsecondary Elements (36)

demographic

- student name
- date of birth
- gender
- race/ethnicity
- Social Security Number
- K-12 identification number
- Institutional identification number
- student identification number
- citizenship
- state residency status

postsecondary academic history

- admissions scores
- placement scores
- prior college(s) attended
- transfer credits

enrollment status

- degree seeking status
- attendance status (full-/part-time)
- 1st term of academic history
- program/major

financial aid

- dependency status
- family income
- federal financial aid
- state financial aid
- institutional financial aid
- other financial aid
- merit-based financial aid
- need-based financial aid
- FAFSA fields

academic activity

- course title
- course mode of instruction
- course grade
- term student credit hours (SCH) attempted
- term SCH earned

academic attainment

- degree awarded
- degree date
- cumulative SCH earned
- cumulative GPA

K-12 Elements (13)

demographic

- student free and reduced-price lunch eligibility
- language spoken at home
- disability status

high school background

- high school attended
- district/school code
- student resident county-district code

academic activity

- date student enrolled
- course type
- course title
- course grade

academic attainment

- high school GPA
- high school graduation date
- assessment scores

Labor/Workforce Elements (15)

- employer ID number
- employer size (# of employees monthly)
- employer county
- wages earned
- wage type code
- hours worked
- employment quarter code
- employment year
- date student/employee applied for Unemployment Insurance (UI)
- date student first received UI check
- other agencies providing services to student while student is receiving UI
- U.S. Census North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code
- U.S. Census NAICS title
- U.S. Department of Labor Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code
- U.S. Department of Labor SOC title