The State of State Postsecondary Data Systems

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The United States of Awesome

What Does Your State Do Well?
2017 Legislative Partisan Composition

(Partisan control in March 2017)

Source: National Conference of State Legislatures
Presentation Goals

• The Postsecondary Data Environment

• What State-Level Postsecondary Systems Collect and How they are Used

• Conditions for effective use of State-Level Postsecondary Data

• State Examples
POSTSECONDARY STUDENT UNIT RECORD SYSTEMS
THE STATE OF STATE POSTSECONDARY DATA SYSTEMS

STRONG FOUNDATIONS 2016

JOHN ARMSTRONG
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Process of Survey and Iterations

- SHEEO member agencies responded to a survey instrument in late 2015.
- Agencies were asked about the structure of their data systems, sectors covered, data elements collected, ensuring privacy and use cases.
- SHEEO released *The State of State Postsecondary Data Systems* in summer of 2016.
- Previous *Strong Foundations* reports were released in 2010 and 2012
SLDS Grant Awards

TEXAS
- 2015: $6,972,522
- 2009-ARRA: $18,195,078
- 2009: $7,879,785
Workforce data elements - 2010

Figure 15: Twenty-four SURs in 23 states with access to labor elements from labor agency
Workforce data elements - 2016

Figure 2 — 47 agencies in 42 states currently link or plan to link postsecondary to workforce data.
FIGURE 4 — 29 STATES’ POSTSECONDARY AGENCIES CURRENTLY HAVE ACCESS TO K-12 AND WORKFORCE DATA

WA DETAIL:
OFM - Has access
SBCTC - Has access
WSAC - No Access

MN DETAIL:
MOHE - Has access
MNSCU - Workforce only

NY DETAIL:
CUNY - Has access
SUNY - K-12 only
NYSED - No access

CA DETAIL:
CCC - Has access
CSU - No access
UC - Has access

FL DETAIL:
BOG - K-12 only
DOE - Has access
Remedial Data Access - 2010

Figure 9: Twenty-nine SURs in 25 states with course-level data on remedial courses
Remedial Data Access - 2016

FIGURE 7 — 41 AGENCIES IN 35 STATES HAVE REMEDIAL OR DEVELOPMENTAL COURSE INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THEIR UNIT RECORD SYSTEM
What’s the Value?

- **Efficiency gains**
  According to South Dakota, unified collection of unit record data leads to efficiency gains at the campus level and higher internal and external confidence in analyses.

- **Student Success**
  Research on student outcomes sets policy decisions, including setting test scores for college readiness, increasing completions, and analyzing workforce outcomes.

- **Policy Development**
  From anecdotal decision-making, to data-driven decision making.
Conditions for Effective Use of State Data Systems

• Ensure Privacy and Security

• Address perceived barriers

• Promote Sustainability

• Stakeholder Engagement
Examples of Use – White Paper Series

• **Performance funding data – TENNESSEE**
  TN collects demographic data and awards premiums to completions for sub-populations, including adult students, low-income students and remedial students

• **Workforce Outcome of Graduates – TEXAS**
  See [www.utsystem.edu/seekut](http://www.utsystem.edu/seekut)

• **Teacher Preparation— NORTH CAROLINA**
  North Carolina reports regional trends in educator preparation and has an interactive dashboard with a variety of indicators on teacher quality.
More Examples of Effective Use

• South Dakota Board of Regents

• [www.sdbor.edu/dashboards](http://www.sdbor.edu/dashboards)

• Protecting Student Privacy – Arkansas Research Center
Findings of paper

- PSURS are adaptive, flexible state-level systems that respond to the unique policy needs of the state.
- New topics of import to many states include performance funding, improving remediation, counting all completers and workforce outcomes.
- Linkages between postsecondary and K-12 / Workforce unit record systems have expanded dramatically.
- Examples of PSURS best practices
State Recommendations

- Invest in Postsecondary Student Unit Record Systems (PSURS) and improve them by adopting best practices
- Tie PSURS to strategic planning and involve leadership from multiple constituencies, including IR!
- Expand usage of the systems
- Address privacy concerns
Federal Recommendations

• Greater focus on outcomes for SLDS and WDQI

• Improved matching to federal datasets

• Presenting state context at the federal level

• Involve states in a federal unit record system, if developed
DISCUSSION

• What flows from the institutions to the state?

• What flows from the state to the institutions?

• Do you use your state data system? For what purpose?

• What would improve the interaction between institutions and the state?
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