The State of State Postsecondary Data Systems

Do Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems Measure Up?

New England Board of Higher Education
Weston, MA
October 16, 2014

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Vice President for Research and Information Resources
State Higher Education Executive Officers
Today’s Agenda

• Overview of the federal state longitudinal data systems (SLDS) program
• Strong Foundations – SHEEO’s look at the state of state postsecondary data systems
• Benefits – potential and realized
• Challenges and disappointments
• Conversation
Legislative Background

• Authorized in 2002 by the Education Sciences Reform Act and the Educational Technical Assistance Act

• The grants are cooperative agreements—more active federal government involvement than in typical grants

• Administered by the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) of the U.S. Department of Education
Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include the **state education agencies** of:

- 50 States
- District of Columbia
- Commonwealth of Puerto Rico
- U.S. Virgin Islands
- American Samoa
- Guam
- Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Goals of the Program

Enable grantees to design, develop, and implement SLDSs to efficiently and accurately manage, analyze, disaggregate, report, and use individual student P-20W (early childhood through workforce) data.

Long-term goals of the program are to:

1. identify what works to improve instruction
2. ensure grads are equipped for long-term success
3. simplify reporting and increase transparency
4. inform decisionmaking at all levels of education
5. permit creation and use of accurate, timely P-20W data
To date, 47 states, DC, PR, and VI have been awarded SLDS grants totaling $613M:

- **1st Round (FY06)**: Nov. 2005 – 14 grantees awarded over $52M
- **2nd Round (FY07)**: June 2007 – 13 grantees awarded over $62M
- **3rd Round (FY09)**: April 2009 – 27 grantees awarded over $150M
- **4th Round (FY09 ARRA)**: May 2010 – 20 states awarded $250M under American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA)
- **5th Round (FY12)**: May 2012 – 24 grantees awarded over $97M
SLDS Grants - Round 5

• Three priorities in FY 2012 (one only):
  – design, develop, and implement a statewide, longitudinal kindergarten through grade 12 (K-12) data system
  – develop and link early childhood data with the State’s K-12 data system
  – develop and link postsecondary and/or workforce data with the State’s K-12 data system.

• 3-year grants of no more than $5 million for Priority 1 and no more than $4 million for Priorities 2 and 3.

• FY2009 ARRA grantees not eligible for grants under this competition (20 states).

• Applications from SEAs only.
Grant Awards Status

Connecticut: 2009 $2,937,416  
              2006 $1,500,714

Maine: 2009 ARRA $7,315,000  
        2007 $3,227,231

Massachusetts: 2009 ARRA $12,972,730  
                2009 $5,993,464

New Hampshire: 2012 $4,989,391  
                2007 $3,176,272

Vermont: 2012 $4,947,261
Best Practices Resources

SLDS publications designed to meet state needs:

- stakeholder engagement
- alternative sources of support
- vendor engagement
- early warning systems
- regional service centers
- P-20W data modeling
- effective use of early childhood data
- statewide standardized course codes
  ...and more.

Best Practices Resources (continued)

Traveling Through Time:
The Forum Guide to LDSs (series)

- What is an LDS?
- Planning and Developing an LDS
- Effectively Managing LDS Data
- Advanced LDS Usage

For PDFs and free copies, visit: http://nces.ed.gov/forum/publications.asp.
Enables state staff to visit other education agencies to learn and share knowledge with colleagues across state lines.
State Support Team (SST)

Technical assistance is available to all states from a team of data systems experts.
State Support Team (SST)

**WISCONSIN**
SST members helped the state's Early Childhood cross-agency team conduct a data roundtable and supported the follow-up work groups with content development and expertise.

**MISSOURI**
SST members assisted the state with the planning for a pilot project engaging Head Start in the SLDS.

**VERMONT**
SST members helped staff from the VT Agency of Education to establish the SLDS LEA and SEA stakeholder advisory group.

**VIRGIN ISLANDS**
SST members are engaged in regular calls to assist with multi-agency stakeholder engagement and procurement management.

**RHODE ISLAND**
SST members helped create an implementation plan for K12 data governance.
Topical Workgroups

- States collaborate on areas of common interest.
- States convene to identify challenges & solutions, and share best practices.
- Publications for broader SLDS community often result.
- Workgroups have addressed:
  - early childhood project planning and management
  - instructional improvement systems
  - student growth
  - interoperability
  - e-transcripts
  - P-20W
Lessons Learned: Successful Strategies for SLDS Development

“It’s not just an IT project”

“Policy drives IT, not the other way around”

“State-managed, locally-operated”

“Know who your customers are”
Living in the Era of Big Data

TODAY THE ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCED A PROGRAM OF WAR, INCREASED SURVEILLANCE OF CITIZENS, MASSIVE DEFICITS, AND TAX CUTS.

MMM... TAX CUTS.

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The State of State Postsecondary Data Systems
State Postsecondary Unit Record Data Systems:

Where and What?

State postsecondary SUR data systems are found within:

– state boards of higher education (coordinating and governing boards)

– state boards of education

– state financial aid agencies/entities

– state budget agencies, and

– state labor/workforce agencies
## Age of Systems is Wide Ranging

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State/Region</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Age</th>
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<td>NY (NYSED)</td>
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<td>59</td>
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<td>PA (PDE)</td>
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<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>57</td>
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<tr>
<td>WY (UWYO)</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>56</td>
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<td>RI, TN</td>
<td>2004</td>
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<td>HI, KS, ND</td>
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<td>MT</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>CA (CPEC), MN (MNSCU)</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>46</td>
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<td>AK</td>
<td>1996</td>
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<td>MA, VT (UVM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NM</td>
<td>1994</td>
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<tr>
<td>OR (ODCC), SC</td>
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<td>SD</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS</td>
<td>1986</td>
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<td>CA (UCS), NJ</td>
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<td>22</td>
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<td>GA, WA (SBCTC)</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<td>MN (MOHE)</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td>CT</td>
<td>1982</td>
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<td>CA (CCC), NC (NCCCS), NC (UNC), WV</td>
<td>1980</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>IN, OR (OUS)</td>
<td>1979</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>NY (SUNY)</td>
<td>1978</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>KY, MD</td>
<td>1977</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>LA, OK, TX</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA (CSU), WI</td>
<td>1973</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>FL (BOG), WA (HECB)</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Multiple Reasons for Creating State SURs

- tracking student retention/graduation: 33
- tracking students across institutions: 33
- institutional resource allocation/funding: 29
- legislative mandate: 26
- IPEDS reporting: 23
- increasing student achievement: 16
- other reason: 13
- awarding financial aid: 12
- audit compliance: 9
- federal civil rights mandates: 8
- other federal mandates: 5
Institutional Coverage

- 3 others (5%)
- 5 2yr public IHEs only (9%)
- 12 4yr public IHEs only (20%)
- 20 2yr and 4yr public, and independent (nonprofit) IHEs (34%)
- 19 2yr and 4yr public IHEs only (32%)
2012 Update: Background and Scope

• Focus of the update was on data sharing activities

• 58 respondents from 44 states and the District of Columbia

• Includes 9 states with more than one state postsecondary agency/entity
Findings from the 2012 Update

End result:
State postsecondary entities are better positioned to follow students from cradle to career.
Findings from the 2012 Update

In at least 30 of 39 states with coordinated data sharing, the influence of SLDS grants cannot be understated in the creation of state P-20 data warehouses or federated data models.
Extent of postsecondary data sharing across the board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Postsecondary Agencies/Entities Engaged in Data Sharing with Other State Agencies/Entities</th>
<th>Number of States</th>
<th>Number of SURs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One or more agencies/entities within state</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State education agency (K-12)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State labor/workforce agency</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>State financial aid agency</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other agency/entity</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating/governing board of higher education</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-K/early childhood agency</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human services agency</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foster care agency</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motor vehicle division/department</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health agency</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile detention</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corrections</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child protective services agency</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>19</td>
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</table>
Data sharing with K-12, labor, or both

2009...that was then

2012...this is now
Data sharing *in progress* *(in 2012)* with K-12, labor, or both

2009...that was then

2012...this is now
States with access to elements from K-12

2009...that was then

2012...this is now

Access to K-12 agency data elements
AL, AK, CA(CCC), DC, FL(BOG,DOE), GA, HI, KS, KY, LA, MA, MO, NV, NM, NY(CUNY), NC(NCCEC), OR(ODCC, OUS), PA(PDE), SD, TX, UT, WA(OFM), WY(UWYO, WCCC)

Share data with K-12 agency, but no access to elements from agency
MD, ND, PA(PASSHE)

In the process of obtaining access to K-12 agency data elements
CT, IL, ME, MD, MT, NJ, OK, PA(PASSHE), SC
States with access to elements from labor

2009...that was then

2012...this is now

Access to labor agency data elements

AM, CA(CCC), FL(BOG,DOE), GA, IN, KS, KY, MD, MN(MNSCU), MO, MT, NV, NM, NC(NCCCS), OH, OK, OR(ODCC), RI, TX, UT, VA, WA(OFM,SBCTC), WV

Share data with labor agency, but no access to elements from agency

ME, MS, ND

In the process of obtaining access to labor agency data elements

AK, AR, CA(CCC,CSU,UCS), CO, FL(BOG,DOE), GA, HI, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MA, MN(MOHE,MNSCU), MS, MO, MT, NV, NM, NC(NCCCS), ND, OH, OK, OR(ODCC,OUS), RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA(OFM,SBCTC), WV, WY(WCCC)

CT, IL, ME, NJ, NY(NYSED), SC
Access to elements from both K-12 & labor

2009...that was then

2012...this is now
Access to K-12 elements by the numbers

<table>
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<tr>
<th># of elements accessed</th>
<th>States</th>
<th>via institutions of higher education (IHE) only</th>
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<td>14</td>
<td>HI, MO, WA(OFM), WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 to 13</td>
<td>DC, FL(DOE), GA, KS, KY, NY(NYSED), PA(PDE), UT</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 to 11</td>
<td>AL, CO, IN, MA, MN(OHE,MNSCU), MS, NY(CUNY), RI, VA, WA(WSAC), WY(UWYO)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 to 8</td>
<td>AK, AR, LA, NC(NCCCS), ND, NM, NV, OR(OUS), TN, TX, WA(SBCTC), WY(WCCC)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3 to 5</td>
<td>CA(CSU,UCS), FL(BOG), IL, MT, NY(SUNY), OK, OR(ODCC), PA(PASSHE), SC, SD, VT(VSC), WV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 2</td>
<td>AZ, CA(CCC), ME, MD, NC, NJ, OH</td>
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</table>

* via institutions of higher education (IHE) only
^ via K-12 agency and IHE
## Access to labor elements by the numbers

![Map showing access to labor elements across the United States.](image)

<table>
<thead>
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<th>States</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>AR, WA(OFM)</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>IN, WA(SBTC)</td>
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<td>9 to 11</td>
<td>FL(BOG,DOE), HI, KS, KY, MN(OHE,MNSCU), NM, NV, TN</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 to 8</td>
<td>CA(CSU, UCS), LA, MS, MO, MT, NC(NCCCS), ND, OH, OR(ODCC, OUS), RI, TX, UT, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 to 5</td>
<td>AK, CO, GA, MA, MD, OK, SD, WV, WY(WCCC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>CA(CCC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Roses and Thorns
Some examples using labor data
Average salaries of Arkansans 5 years after earning...

- a Technical Certificate: $29,543
- an Associate’s Degree: $31,043
- a Bachelor’s Degree: $39,968
- a Master’s Degree: $50,598
Utah’s Health Graduates by Four Digit CIP into Industry Sectors
Barriers to Linking

- FERPA concerns: 34
- Resources: 31
- Coordination with other state authorities/crosswalks: 28
- Incompatible systems: 21
- Data quality concerns: 13
- Legislation: 13
- Not applicable: 12
- Lack of interest from other agencies: 9
- Attorney general opinion/statement: 8
- Other barrier: 4
- Other barrier: 2
Conversation Time

2015 Update Underway
What would you find most useful?

Any questions, comments or feedback would be greatly appreciated!
Thank You

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