### National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
Organization within the U.S. Department of Education that is focused on collecting and analyzing education data
[www.nces.ed.gov](http://www.nces.ed.gov)

### Fast Facts
Compilation of statistical answers to education FAQs
[nces.ed.gov/fastfacts](http://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts)

### Digest of Education Statistics
Annual compilation of national education statistics covering prekindergarten to graduate school
[nces.ed.gov/digest](http://nces.ed.gov/digest)

### Condition of Education
Integrated collection of indicators about trends in enrollment, student progress, student achievement and other outcomes, and student and institution characteristics
[nces.ed.gov/programs/coe](http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe)

### Surveys and Studies

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Baccalaureate and Beyond (B&amp;B)</td>
<td>Longitudinal tracking of college seniors <a href="http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/b&amp;b">nces.ed.gov/surveys/b&amp;b</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS)</td>
<td>Longitudinal tracking of college freshmen <a href="http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/bps">nces.ed.gov/surveys/bps</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career/Technical Education Statistics (CTES)</td>
<td>Collection of statistics relating to career and technical education <a href="http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/ctes">nces.ed.gov/surveys/ctes</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School and Beyond (HS&amp;B)</td>
<td>Longitudinal tracking of high school seniors and sophomores <a href="http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/hsb">nces.ed.gov/surveys/hsb</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)</td>
<td>Annual data collection from postsecondary institutions <a href="http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds">nces.ed.gov/ipeds</a> and <a href="http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/datacenter">nces.ed.gov/ipeds/datacenter</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS)</td>
<td>Quadrennial study of how undergraduate, graduate and professional students paid for postsecondary education <a href="http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/npsas">nces.ed.gov/surveys/npsas</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Education Data Profiles</td>
<td><a href="http://nces.ed.gov/programs/stateprofiles">nces.ed.gov/programs/stateprofiles</a></td>
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### NCES Data Tools

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Data Analysis System (DAS)</td>
<td>Tool for generating custom analyses of education statistics <a href="http://nces.ed.gov/das">nces.ed.gov/das</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PowerStats and QuickStats</td>
<td>Simplified visual interfaces for analyzing education statistics <a href="http://nces.ed.gov/datalab">nces.ed.gov/datalab</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quick Tables &amp; Figures</td>
<td>Tool for finding NCES tables, figures and charts <a href="http://nces.ed.gov/quicktables">nces.ed.gov/quicktables</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Navigator</td>
<td>College search tool based on IPEDS data <a href="http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator">nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tips on Using the NCES Data Analysis System
Advice on avoiding common problems in crafting the right data queries and correctly interpreting the results
[www.finaid.org/educators/ncesdastips.html](http://www.finaid.org/educators/ncesdastips.html)

### Excellent Resources on FinAid.org

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Cohort Default Rates (CDR)</td>
<td>Compilation of resources about student loan default rates <a href="http://www.finaid.org/cdr">www.finaid.org/cdr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAFSA Application Statistics</td>
<td>Analysis of U.S. Department of Education statistics about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) <a href="http://www.finaid.org/faf%D8%B3%D8%A7%D8%B3">www.finaid.org/fafساس</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Financial Aid Calculators</td>
<td><a href="http://www.finaid.org/calculators">www.finaid.org/calculators</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Loan Debt Clock</td>
<td><a href="http://www.finaid.org/studentdebtclock">www.finaid.org/studentdebtclock</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
U.S. Department of Education
 Federal Student Aid Data Center (FSA Data Center)
 Links to federal student aid statistics, including FAFSA application statistics, cohort default rates, loan volume
 www.fsadatacenter.ed.gov

Annual Plans and Reports
 http://www2.ed.gov/about/reports/annual/index.html

Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE)
 http://www2.ed.gov/finaid/prof/resources/data/ope.html

U.S. Census Bureau
 Educational Attainment
 www.census.gov/hhes/socdemo/education
 Enrollment
 www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/school.html
 Postsecondary Students, Costs and Financial Aid
 www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/sch_cost.html
 Statistical Abstract of the United States
 www.census.gov/compendia/statab

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
 Earnings by Education
 www.bls.gov/cps/earnings.htm#education
 Employment and Unemployment by Educational Attainment
 www.bls.gov/cps/demographics.htm#education
 School Enrollment
 www.bls.gov/cps/demographics.htm#enroll

Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
 President’s Budget
 Key data in education appendix and supplemental materials
 www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget
 www2.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/index.html

U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)
 Electronic Data-Gathering, Analysis and Retrieval (EDGAR)
 Securitization prospectuses and quarterly/annual reports for student loans and education lenders
 www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
 IRS Tax Statistics

Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance
 ACSFA was established by Congress to advise it on student aid policy. Periodically publishes statistical and policy analyses.
 www.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/acsfa/edlite-index.html

American Council on Education (ACE)
 The American Council on Education (ACE) represents the chief executives of all U.S. accredited, degree-granting institutions

Center for Policy Analysis
 www.acenet.edu/AM/Template.cfm?Section=CPA

American Institutes for Research (AIR)
 www.air.org/focus-area/education

Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)
 www.ashe.ws

Business-Higher Education Forum (BHEF)
 Coalition of business, higher education and foundation leaders that proposes solutions to the nation’s education challenges

Center for Higher Education Policy Analysis (CHEPA)
 Goals focused on improving postsecondary education (including outreach, access, retention and student aid)
 www.usc.edu/dept/chepa

Center for the Study of Higher Education (CSHE)
 Postsecondary education policy research center at Pennsylvania State University
 www.ed.psu.edu/educ/cshe

Chronicle of Higher Education
 Almanac Issue (Published Last Friday in August)
 Annual compilation of education statistics
 www.chronicle.com – Click on “Facts & Figures”
Student Financial Aid Statistics
Quick Reference Guide

College Board
Trends in Student Aid
trends.collegeboard.org/student_aid
Trends in College Pricing
trends.collegeboard.org/college_pricing
Education Pays
trends.collegeboard.org/education_pays
Advocacy & Policy Center
advocacy.collegeboard.org

College Savings Plan Network (CSPN)
529 Plan Data
www.collegesavings.org/529PlanData.aspx
Committee for Education Funding
www.cef.org

Education Policy Institute (EPI)
Independent research and public policy organization with a special emphasis on student access and persistence
www.educationalpolicy.org
www.studentretention.org (Student Retention Microsite)
www.educationalpolicy.org/epss (Student Success Microsite)

Education Sector
Independent think tank focused on education policy, using data and analysis to improve student opportunities and outcomes
www.educationsector.org/issues/higher-education

Education Trust
Organization focused on improving education access, achievement and attainment and on closing gaps for low-income and minority students
www.edtrust.org
www.collegeresults.org (College graduation rates)

Grapevine
Compilation of data about state support of higher education
www.grapevine.ilstu.edu

Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP)
Non-profit public policy and research institute focused on access and success in postsecondary education
www.ihep.org

Lumina Foundation for Education
Independent foundation focused on expanding access and success in postsecondary education www.luminafoundation.org

National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs (NASSGAP)
Annual Survey Reports
Annual surveys of state grant and scholarship programs

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)
National professional membership organization for college student financial aid personnel

Journal of Student Financial Aid
Peer-reviewed publication of original research and policy analysis concerning postsecondary student financial aid
www.nasfaa.org

Research Projects and Quick Scan Surveys
www.nasfaa.org/Advocacy/Research/Reports/Research.aspx

National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS)
Info. Center for State Higher Ed. Policymaking and Analysis Collection of state-level higher education data and information, with an emphasis on higher education policy analysis www.higheredinfo.org

National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education
Independent policy-research institute regarding opportunity, affordability and achievement in higher education
www.highereducation.org

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
Comparisons of international education statistics
www.oecd.org and stats.oecd.org

Pathways to College Network
Alliance of organizations working on improving college access and success for underserved students
www.pathwaystocollege.net

Postsecondary Connection
State data linking high school preparation with college success
www.postsecconnect.org (from achieve.org)
**Postsecondary Education OPPORTUNITY**

Newsletter and web site containing public policy data and analysis concerning educational opportunity in higher education  
[www.postsecondary.org](http://www.postsecondary.org) (subscription required)

**Public Agenda**

*Their Whole Lives Ahead of Them*  
Some of the reasons why students drop out of college  
[www.publicagenda.org/theirwholelivesaheadofthem](http://www.publicagenda.org/theirwholelivesaheadofthem)

**Education Category**  
[www.publicagenda.org/category/tags/-education](http://www.publicagenda.org/category/tags/-education)

**Sallie Mae (SLM)**

How America Pays for College  
[www.salliemae.com/howamericapays](http://www.salliemae.com/howamericapays)

How America Saves for College  
[www.salliemae.com/howamericasaves](http://www.salliemae.com/howamericasaves)

**Nellie Mae Credit Card Studies**  

**State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO)**

State Quick Facts  
[www.sheeo.org/sqf/sqf.htm](http://www.sheeo.org/sqf/sqf.htm)

State Higher Education Finance (SHEF) – Annual Report  
[www.sheeo.org/finance/shef-home.htm](http://www.sheeo.org/finance/shef-home.htm)

State Postsecondary Data Systems  
[www.sheeo.org/sspds/default.htm](http://www.sheeo.org/sspds/default.htm)

SOAR: SHEEO Online Access to Resources  
[www.sheeo.org/SOAR2/soar.asp](http://www.sheeo.org/SOAR2/soar.asp)

Survey of State Tuition, Fees and Financial Assistance Policies for Public Colleges and Universities  
[www.sheeo.org/finance/tuitsurv-home.htm](http://www.sheeo.org/finance/tuitsurv-home.htm)

**Student Lending Analytics**

Independent research and advisory firm focused on education lending with frequent blog posts about education loans  
[www.studentlendinganalytics.com/index.html](http://www.studentlendinganalytics.com/index.html)  
[www.studentlendinganalytics.typepad.com](http://www.studentlendinganalytics.typepad.com) (blog)

**The Institute for College Access and Success (TICAS)**

Project on Student Debt  
State and campus-level student debt data  
[www.projectonstudentdebt.org](http://www.projectonstudentdebt.org)

College InSight (formerly EconomicDiversity.org)  
Data about affordability, diversity and student success  
[www.college-insight.org](http://www.college-insight.org)

**UCLA Higher Education Research Institute (HERI)**

Your First College Year Survey  
[www.heri.ucla.edu/yfcyoverview.php](http://www.heri.ucla.edu/yfcyoverview.php)

College Senior Survey  
[www.heri.ucla.edu/cssoverview.php](http://www.heri.ucla.edu/cssoverview.php)

**USA Funds**

Research and White Papers  
[www.usafunds.org/community/Pages/Resources.aspx](http://www.usafunds.org/community/Pages/Resources.aspx)

**Washington Higher Education Board**

Annual survey of tuition rates for public institutions by state  
[www.hecb.wa.gov/research/issues/tuition.asp](http://www.hecb.wa.gov/research/issues/tuition.asp)

**Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education**

State Policy Inventory Database Online (SPIDO)  
[www.wiche.edu/node/8690](http://www.wiche.edu/node/8690)

**WICHE Policy and Data Resources**  
[www.wiche.edu/resources/policy/297](http://www.wiche.edu/resources/policy/297)

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**Tips for Using the NCES Data Analysis System**

The data analysis system (DAS) is an easy-to-use web-based tool for writing and executing data queries. The trick is in crafting the right query and in correctly interpreting the results. Be careful about hidden assumptions in the variables.

Get more information and tips on FinAid.org  
[http://www.finaid.org/educators/ncesdastips.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/educators/ncesdastips.phtml)