

## Data Sources for Higher Education

### **AGB Benchmarking Service** [www.agb.org/content/fsbis.cfm](http://www.agb.org/content/fsbis.cfm)

AGB's online service, available to members only, provides access to several years of IPEDS and other data. Institutions can select peers from existing groups of institutions or create their own peer group. Data can be presented in customized reports.

### **Common Data Set Initiative (CDS)**

[www.highered.org/cdsx](http://www.highered.org/cdsx)

The Common Data Set Initiative is a collaboration of four publishers of higher education statistics (the College Board, Peterson's, U.S. News & World Report, and Wintergreen/Orchard House) and the Association of Institutional Research (AIR). CDS is a well-defined set of standard data items which, through collaboration, have improved the quality and accuracy of the data collection by the publishers. The Common Data Set Exchange (CDSX) seeks to develop peer comparisons for the data items collected.

### **Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (HEDS)**

<https://www.hedsconsortium.org/>

The Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (HEDS) is an independent not-for-profit corporation that was formed in 1983 and is now located at the Center of Inquiry at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana. HEDS is a community of colleges and universities committed to sharing data, knowledge, and expertise to advance undergraduate liberal arts education, inclusive excellence, and student success.

### **IPEDS Peer Analysis System**

<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/>

The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) established as the core postsecondary education data collection program for the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), is a system of surveys designed to collect data from all primary providers of postsecondary education. The IPEDS system is built around a series of interrelated surveys to collect institution-level data in such areas as enrollments, program completions, faculty, staff and finances. A Peer Analysis System enables users to compare a Linchpin institution of the user's choosing to a group of peer institutions, by generating reports using selected IPEDS variables of interest. The Executive Peer Tool is a simplified version of the Peer Analysis System with a series of predetermined indicators.

### **NACUBO Endowment Study (NES)**

[www.nacubo.org/x169.html](http://www.nacubo.org/x169.html)

Annually, NACUBO collects data and information from member institutions with endowments greater than \$1 million. The NES is national in scope and includes data from all major sectors of the higher education community. It is the primary source of college and university endowment management and performance data in the United States. Aggregate data is available to the public while participating institutions have access to institutional level data. Participating institutions receive the CD-ROM of study results and the Executive Summary book free of charge.

### **NACUBO Tuition Discounting Survey**

<https://www.nacubo.org/Research/2021/NACUBO-Tuition-Discounting-Study>

NACUBO annually collects information from independent nonprofit colleges on the level of institutional student aid, percent of students receiving institutional grants, net revenues and other related information. Aggregate data is available and participating institutions receive the CD-ROM of study results free of charge.

## **National Science Foundation (NSF)**

[www.caspar.nsf.gov](http://www.caspar.nsf.gov)

The WebCASPAR database provides access to statistical data resources for U.S. academic institutions. The database focuses on science and engineering (S&E) but also provides information on other fields in higher education. From the website, the user can create a data table from the following data sources:

### **NSF Survey Data:**

NSF Survey of Earned Doctorates/Doctorate Records, Survey of Federal Funds for Research and Development,

Survey of Federal S&E Support to Universities, Colleges & Nonprofit Institutions, Survey of R&D Expenditures at Universities & Colleges, and NSF-NIH Survey of Graduate Students & Postdoctorates in S&E

### **IPEDS Survey Data:**

IPEDS Completions Survey data, Enrollment Survey Data, Institutional Characteristics (tuition) data, and Salaries, Tenure, and Fringe Benefits Survey data.

## *Finance Data*

### **Delaware Study of Costs & Productivity**

[www.udel.edu](http://www.udel.edu)

Participation in the cost study gives institutions access to analyses of data on teaching loads by faculty category, direct costs of instruction by academic area, and externally funded research and service productivity. Institutions can access comparative data with national benchmarks by either Carnegie classification or a peer group chosen by the institution. Over 300 institutions participate in the study.

### **Moody's Municipal Financial Ratio Analysis**

**(MFRA)** [www.moody.com](http://www.moody.com)

Moody's Median's is a subscription service that provides access to Moody's comprehensive database of financial and operating credit statistics in the Higher Education sector and the tools to create custom queries. MFRA includes Pre-set Medians – key financial and operating statistics on a pre-determined grouping of entities.

## *Salary Data*

### **College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA)**

[www.cupahr.org](http://www.cupahr.org)

CUPA conducts four annual salary surveys: Administrative Compensation Survey, Mid-Level Administrative and Professional Salary Survey, National Faculty Salary survey for Four-Year Institutions, and Community College Faculty Salary survey.

### **American Association of University Professors**

**(AAUP)** [www.aaup.org/research/salary/salpart.htm](http://www.aaup.org/research/salary/salpart.htm)

AAUP conducts an annual salary survey which includes data on tenure track and benefits and administrative compensation for selected senior executive positions.

## *Facilities Data*

## **The Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers (APPA)**

[www.appa.org](http://www.appa.org)

Over the past year, NACUBO worked with APPA to develop several modules of APPA's new Facilities Core Data Survey. Over 200 institutions participated in the fiscal year 2003-04 data collection process. Results of the survey are now available, published in a book and CD format and are divided into three main reports: Operating Costs, Building & Space, and Personnel Data and Costs.

## **Society for College and University Planning (SCUP) Campus Facility Inventory**

[www.scup.org/knowledge/cfi/](http://www.scup.org/knowledge/cfi/)

SCUP's newly created survey collects higher education facilities information, which has not been collected nationally since 1974. Data collection will be available for participant access only in October 2005.

## **Space Productivity And Cost Evaluation (SPACE) Data Consortium <http://www.clemson.edu/oir/>**

Clemson University's Office of Institutional Research & Planning "hosts" the SPACE Consortium. Participating institutions can compare resource allocations for academic facilities by discipline with other institutions.

### *Gifts to Education Data*

## **Council for Aid to Education (CAE) [http://www.cae.org/content/pro\\_data\\_faq.htm](http://www.cae.org/content/pro_data_faq.htm)**

CAE's "Voluntary Support of Education" collects data about charitable support, including the source of gifts, the purposes for which they are earmarked and the size of the largest gifts. Participating institutions can access a data mining tool to benchmark their giving against peer institutions.

### *Institutional Rankings*

## **U.S. News and World Report**

[http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/college/rankings/rankindex\\_brief.php](http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/college/rankings/rankindex_brief.php)

Annually, US News and World Report produces rankings of the Colleges and Universities across the country. Schools are first categorized by mission and, in some cases, by region. Data from each college is gathered for up to 15 indicators of academic quality (indicators include: peer institution assessment, retention rate, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance, and alumni giving rate). Each factor is assigned a weight and then the colleges in each category are ranked against their peers, based on their composite weighted score. The premium online edition is available to institutions that fill out the survey, and is available to others for a nominal fee.