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**IPEDS Access Database for the 2015-16 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data (IPEDS) Collection, Final Release Version**

The 2015-16 IPEDS Access Database contains data that were collected in the 2015-16 IPEDS data collection. The IPEDS data collection consisted of 3 collection modules:

**Fall 2015:** Institutional Characteristics 2015-16, 12-month Enrollment 2014-15 and Completions 2014-15.

**Winter 2015-16:** Admissions 2015-16, Graduation Rates 2015, Outcome Measures 2015 and Student Financial Aid 2014-15.

**Spring 2016:** Fall Enrollment 2015, Finance fiscal year 2015, Human Resources 2015-16, and Academic Libraries, 2014-15.

The data in the 2015-16 IPEDS Access Database are **Final Released Data**. The IPEDS Access Databases are released in two phases: provisional and final. Provisional data are released one year after collection closed and final data are released two years from when the original collection closed. During the 2016-17 collection, institutions were allowed to submit revisions to their 2015-16 submission through the 2015-16 Prior Year Revision System. The 2015-16 provisional data were then updated with these revisions for the final release. There are some data tables and variables that institutions are not allowed to revise. These data tables and variables are documented in this Database.

In addition to the survey component data, this database also includes all Frequently Used Variables (FUV) that were derived for display on College Navigator and used in the 2016 IPEDS Data Feedback Reports. The FUV tables are the same data that are accessible using the Survey Data’s ***Custom Data*** function found on “Use The Data” portal on the [IPEDS website](http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds) (http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds). The IPEDS data dictionary available for ***Complete Data File*** function on Use the Data is the same metadata tables in the IPEDS Access Database. Both the IPEDS data dictionary and metadata tables describe each data table, the variable titles, descriptions, variable types and code values for all categorical variables. Selected metadata tables are also included as an excel spreadsheet IPEDS201516TablesDoc.xlsx.

Because Microsoft Access has a variable limit for each table, the item imputation status flag variables are not included in this database. The item status flag variables are associated with all continuous variables in the database and indicate for each variable what values are reported, implied, or imputed and which variables may not be applicable for an institution. IPEDS is a mandatory survey for institutions participating in Title IV federal financial aid programs and response rates are nearly 100 percent, so most variables do not contain imputed values. Survey record response status variables are included in the database.

The following data files are included in 2015-16 IPEDS Database (IPEDS\_2015-16\_Final.zip):

IPEDS201516.MDB (519mb) – This is the Microsoft Access database that contains the data tables and metadata tables.

IPEDS201516TablesDoc.xlsx – Excel workbook containing the following spreadsheets.

Metadata Tables:

Tables15 – This table lists each data table in the database by survey component. It includes table name, table title, brief description, and data year covered. It also identifies the data release (i.e., final data that has revised the provisional data or provisional, which has yet to be revised) and the date the table was released in the IPEDS “Use the data” website.

vartable15 – This variable table lists each variable in the data table by survey component. It includes variable names, descriptions, source, data types and formats. Also, vartable15 identifies variables that were subject to revisions.

valuesets15 – This table lists the value labels of each categorical variable in the database.

MetaDataDefinitions – This table describes each variable found in the metadata tables (i.e., Tables15, vartable15, and valuesets15).