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**IPEDS Access Database for the 2020-21 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data (IPEDS) Collection, Final Release Version**

The 2020-21 IPEDS Access Database contains data that were collected in the 2020-21 IPEDS data collection. The IPEDS data collection consisted of 3 collection modules:

**Fall 2020:** Institutional Characteristics 2020-21, 12-Month Enrollment 2019-20 and Completions 2019-20

**Winter 2020-21:** Graduation Rates 2020, Outcome Measures 2020, Student Financial Aid 2019-20 and Admissions 2020-21.

**Spring 2021:** Fall Enrollment 2020, Finance fiscal year 2020, Human Resources 2020-21, and Academic Libraries, fiscal year 2020.

Several survey components included in the 2020-21 Access Database contains substantive changes compared to the previous year. Within the Completions component there were 3 notable changes. First, the less-than-1-year certificate award level was divided into two award level categories. Second, the 2020 version of the Classification of Instructional Programs was required when reporting the program of study associated with an award. Finally, the distance education classification for each program was expanded to collect more detail. Within the 12-Month Enrollment component, institutions were required to disaggregate undergraduate students by enrollment and degree-seeking status, similar to the Fall Enrollment component, and were also required to report distance education data for both undergraduate and graduate students enrolled. Within the Academic Libraries component, new data were collected that specify the number of full-time equivalent staff employed by the library. In the Finance component, there were 3 notable changes. First, a new part was added to collect financial health measures from degree-granting institutions. Second, the Scholarships and Fellowships part of the component was expanded to collect the amount of discounts and allowances attributed to several detail categories. Finally, some new measures were added to the part of the component focused on endowments to further detail the changes to endowment value.

The data in the 2020-21 IPEDS Access Database are **Final Revised 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 2021-22 collection, institutions were allowed to submit revisions to their 2020-21 submission through the 2020-21 Prior Year Revision System. The 2020-21 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 2021 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 IPEDS202021TablesDoc.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 2020-21 IPEDS Database (IPEDS\_2020-21\_Final.zip):

IPEDS202021.MDB (562mb) – This is the Microsoft Access database that contains the data tables and metadata tables.

IPEDS202021TablesDoc.xlsx – Excel workbook containing the following spreadsheets.

Metadata Tables:

Tables20 – 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.

Vartable20 – This variable table lists each variable in the data table by survey component. It includes variable names, descriptions, source, data types and formats. Also, vartable20 identifies variables that were subject to revisions.

Valuesets20 – This table lists the value labels of each categorical variable in the database.

NewVariables20 – This table lists all new variables that were added during the 2020-21 data collection.

NewValueSets20 – This table lists variables that have new code values and labels in the IPEDS data base for 2020-21. Not included in this list are the 2020 CIP codes used to classify programs on the completions data table. For Information on the CIP classification taxonomy, including a crosswalk between CIP 2010 and 2020 is available at <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/resources.aspx?y=56> .

MetaDataDefinitions – This table describes each variable found in the metadata tables (i.e., Tables20, vartable20, valuesets20, NewVariables20 and NewValueSets20).