

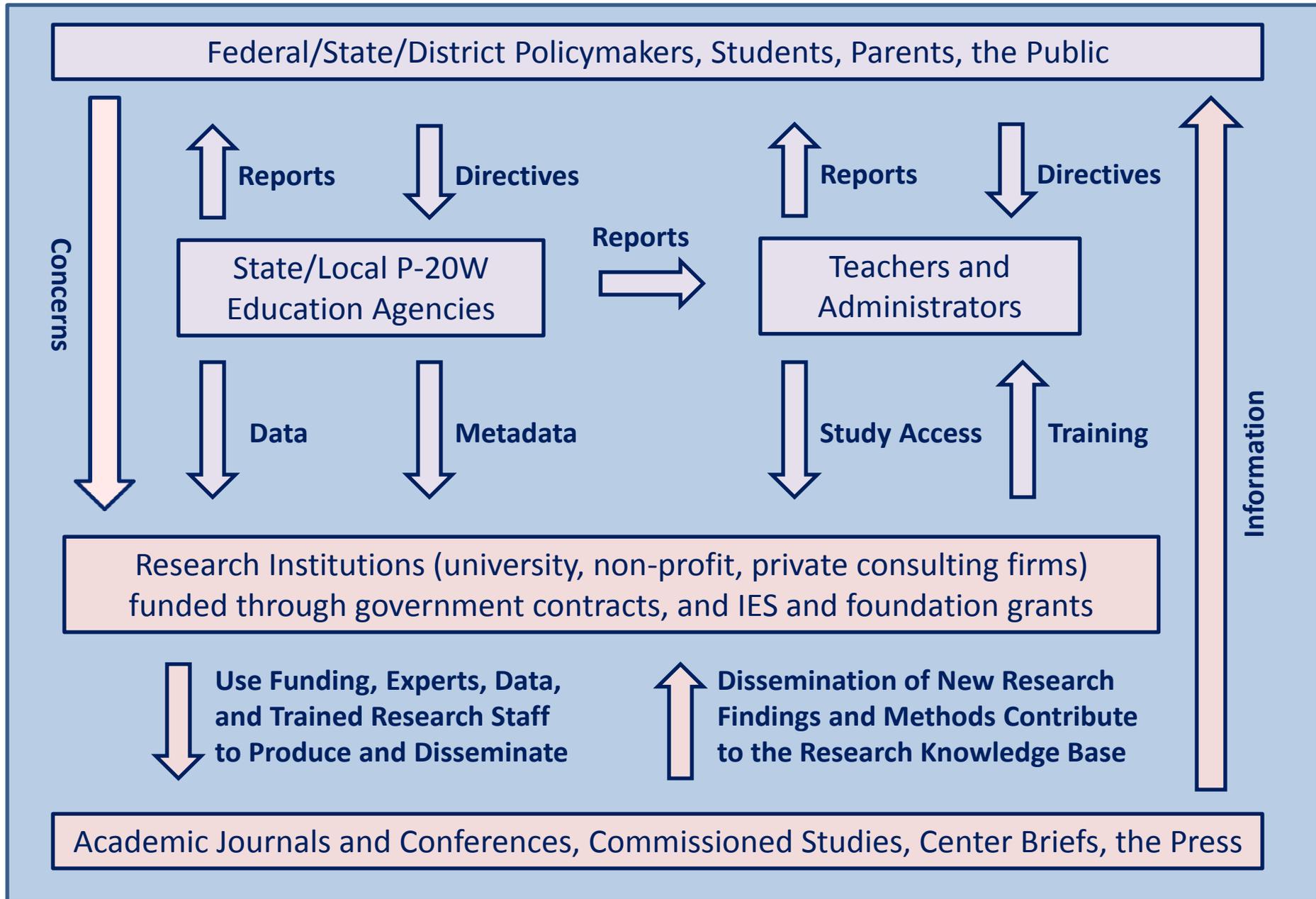
NCES Support for Increasingly Demand-Driven Research Data Use

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Forum NESAC Winter Meeting 2013

Common Approach to Applied Education Research



Newer Approach to Applied Education Research

Federal/State/District Policymakers, Students, Parents, the Public

Research Partnerships

Centers

Consortia

Co-PI Grants

Communities of Practice

State/Local P-20W
Education Agencies

Teachers and
Administrators

Research Institutions (university, non-profit, private consulting firms)
funded through government contracts, and IES and foundation grants

Newer Types of Powerful Analysis Are Possible with Administrative Data

Simple Descriptive Reports

- Enrollment Counts
- Course Rosters
- Subgroup Proficiencies

“Black and Hispanic students drop out at higher rates than white and Asian students.”

Less information, but fewer assumptions about the data.

Primarily conducted by those who know the data best.

Descriptive Analysis

- Correlations or Patterns
- Conditional Probabilities
- Data Visualizations/Stories

“Controlling for 3rd grade math and reading scores, black and Hispanic rates are lower.”

“Controlling for scores, absenteeism, and the school they attend, low-income and highly-mobile students are more likely to drop out and learning disabled students are less likely to drop out.”

“Grade retention leading to .3SDs of growth is correlated with a reduction in the probability of dropping out.”

Complex or Causal Research

- Random Control Trials
- Quasi Experimental Designs
- Hierarchical Linear Models

“Controlling for all else, program X reduces dropout rates by ##.##%.”

More information, but more assumptions about the data.

Primarily conducted by those who know the data the least.

CONCLUSION

Resources for Research Data Use Technical Assistance

- Technical issue briefs and webinars on researcher data use that compliment (the more in-depth) Forum publications
- Best practices and sample documents (RFPs, MOUs, etc.) available through LDS Share and PDC on our website
- Common Education Data Standards (CEDs) assistance with elements mapping and research/policy questions tool
- Dissemination of best practices on privacy and disclosure avoidance from NCES Statistical Standards and PTAC
- New working group on technical assistance collaboration across the RELs, Comp Centers, and other ED TA initiatives
- New Data Analysis Technical Assistance (DATA) Community of Practice to support education agency in-house analysts