

REL-NEI

Data Catalog Tool for College Readiness

Presentation at the NCES Forum
July 28, 2014



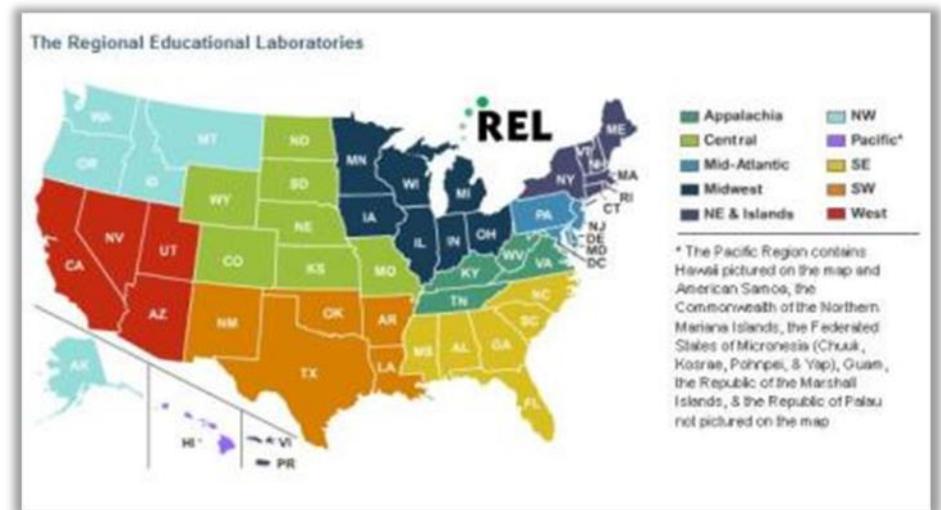
Regional Educational
Laboratory at EDC
relnei.org



REL-NEI Overview

The Regional Educational Laboratory program

- Network of 10 RELs across the country
- Help states and districts use research and data to inform policy and practice with the goal of improving student outcomes
- Funded by USED Institute of Education Sciences



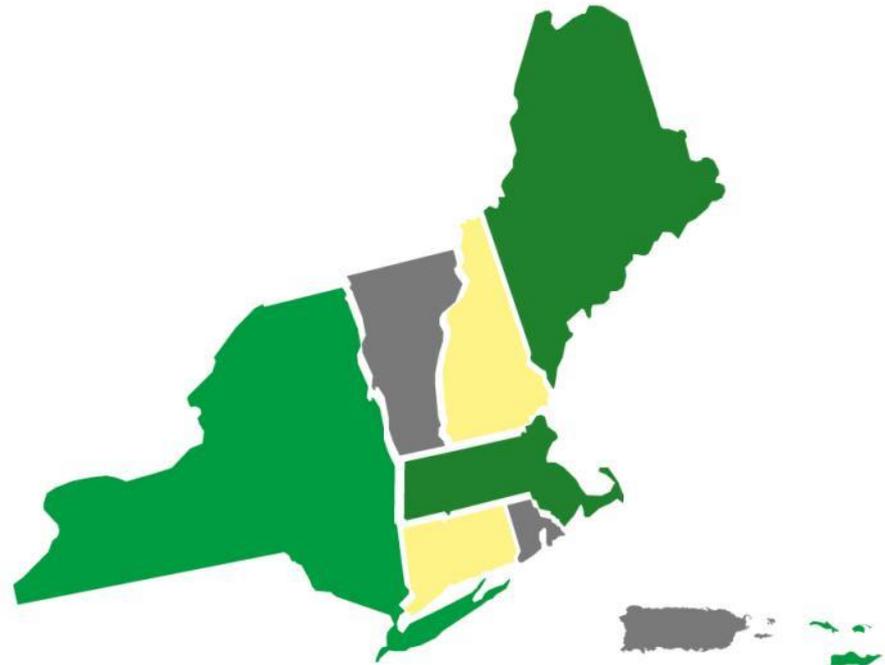
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REL-NEI Overview

REL-NEI States and Territories

- Connecticut
- Maine
- Massachusetts
- New Hampshire
- New York
- Puerto Rico
- Rhode Island
- US Virgin Islands
- Vermont



REL-NEI Research Alliances

Identifying and Retaining Effective Teachers and Principals

- Northeast Educator Effectiveness Research Alliance

Improving Low-Performing Schools and Districts

- Northeast Rural Districts Research Alliance
- Urban School Improvement Alliance

Ensuring Educational Equity and Supporting Special Populations

- Early Childhood Education Research Alliance
- Quality Education to Meet the Diverse Needs of ELLs Research Alliance

Increasing College and Career Readiness, Access, and Completion

- Northeast College and Career Readiness Research Alliance
- Puerto Rico Research Alliance for Dropout Prevention
- US Virgin Islands College and Career Readiness Research Alliance



Background

- USVI Alliance question:
What are the strongest indicators of college readiness in USVI?
- REL-NEI created a “data catalog” tool to determine availability and reliability of data elements in USVI to address this question.
- Data catalog tool can be used by other jurisdictions to address the same question.



The Data Catalog Tool...

- Provides a systematic process to:
 - assess the presence of college readiness indicators
 - identify gaps that may present challenges in developing indicator systems
 - determine the feasibility of college readiness-related studies using administrative data
 - provide a tool for data stewards to track college readiness indicators



Organization of the Data Catalog

- Flexible-use Excel workbook that:
 - provides a shell for organizing and tracking student data relevant for measuring college readiness.
 - organizes available data at three levels:
 - constructs,
 - Indicators, and
 - data elements



Constructs, Indicators, & Data Elements

- Each construct may contain one or more indicators.
- Indicators provide greater specificity than constructs.
 - each indicator contains one or more data elements.
- Characteristics about data elements can be documented
 - years of available data
 - information about linking
 - response categories
 - missing data
 - changes to data elements across years



Snapshot of the Tool

 REL Regional Educational Laboratory at EDC 					
1					
2	Research Question:	What extant data are readily available to measure students' college readiness?			
3	Construct	Indicator	Data Elements	Can Data Element be linked?	Changes to Data Elements
28		Suspensions/Behavioral infractions	<Insert data element>		
29			<Insert data element>		
30		High school credential	<Insert data element>		
31			<Insert data element>		
32		Performance on aligned assessments of HS core content (PARCC), College Placement Tests	<Insert data element>		
33			<Insert data element>		
34		Participation in Accelerated learning programs and/or college ready courses of study	<Insert data element>		
35			<Insert data element>		
36		Postsecondary Credit Accumulation and Recovery, per discipline; College credit earned prior to Post-secondary enrollment	<Insert data element>		
37			<Insert data element>		
38		Responses on social/emotional learning surveys	<Insert data element>		
39			<Insert data element>		
40			<Insert data element>		
41			<Insert data element>		
42			<Insert data element>		
43			<Insert data element>		
44			<Insert data element>		
45			<Insert data element>		
46	Postsecondary Access and Enrollment				
47		FAFSA application completion	<Insert data element>		
48			<Insert data element>		
49		Postsecondary applications completion	<Insert data element>		
50			<Insert data element>		
51		Postsecondary program enrollment (getting in and committing to attending a particular program)	<Insert data element>		
52			<Insert data element>		
53			<Insert data element>		
54			<Insert data element>		
55			<Insert data element>		
56			<Insert data element>		
57	Attainment & Authentication: Postsecondary Certification and Success				
58		Postsecondary enrollment	<Insert data element>		
59			<Insert data element>		
60		Postsecondary course performance	<Insert data element>		
61			<Insert data element>		
62			<Insert data element>		
63			<Insert data element>		
64			<Insert data element>		

EXAMPLES OF CONSTRUCTS & INDICATORS



High School Academic Performance & Engagement

- Enrollment status
- Demographic data
- Grade Point Average
- Performance on high school end of course or exit exams
- SAT/ACT scores & state assessments
- Attendance
- Suspensions/behavioral data
- Participation in accelerated learning programs and/or college courses
- Postsecondary credit accumulation and recovery,
- College credit earned prior to post-secondary enrollment
- Responses on social/emotional learning surveys



WHAT OTHER INDICATORS COULD BE USED FOR THIS CONSTRUCT?



Postsecondary Access and Enrollment

- Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completion
- Postsecondary applications completion
- Postsecondary program enrollment



WHAT OTHER INDICATORS COULD BE USED FOR THIS CONSTRUCT?



Postsecondary Certification & Success

- Postsecondary enrollment
- Postsecondary course performance
- Postsecondary degree(s)



WHAT OTHER INDICATORS COULD BE USED FOR THIS CONSTRUCT?



OTHER CONSTRUCTS RELATED TO COLLEGE READINESS?



Data Catalog Tool Summary Report

- REL-NEI created a summary report template to accompany the data catalog tool.
 - described the background and intent of that data catalog
 - identified gaps in the data, and discussed recommendations for study feasibility and limitations to consider.
 - may also be useful for briefing others within and outside the entity of the status of data elements



Thank you!

- For more information about this project or REL-NEI, contact:
- Julie Riordan
- Director of Research, REL-NEI
- jriordan@edc.org

