CRDC UPDATE

New Information, Lessons Learned, and Questions
About the Civil Rights Data Collection

- Universe collection from school districts every 2 years.
- Longstanding and critical aspect of the enforcement and monitoring strategy used by the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) to ensure that recipients of ED’s federal financial assistance do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and disability.
- OCR relies on CRDC data as it
  - investigates complaints alleging discrimination,
  - determines whether the federal civil rights laws it enforces have been violated,
  - initiates proactive compliance reviews to focus on particularly acute or nationwide civil rights compliance problems,
  - provides policy guidance and technical assistance to educational institutions, parents, students, and others, and
  - provides data on key education issues.
New data: Even 4-year-olds get suspended

Education officials push for more equity with teacher quality

National Data Confirm Cases Of Restraint And Seclusion In Public Schools

Bleak picture for minority kids in public schools

Black Students Face More Discipline, Data Suggests

5 striking facts from new civil rights education data
Be empowered with data

“The power of the Civil Rights Data Collection is not only in the numbers themselves, but in the impact it can have when married with the courage and the will to change.

The undeniable truth is that the everyday educational experience for many students violates the principle of equity at the heart of the American promise.

It is our collective duty to change that.”

- Secretary Arne Duncan
Discussion Topics

Where we are today on 2013-14 CRDC
Lessons learned about the 2013-14 CRDC
Preparing for the 2015-16 CRDC
STATUS UPDATE

Current Collection Metrics, Tool Development, and Lessons Learned
What has happened so far?

April 30: Opened CRDC Submission System

May 7: Certification tools available to all LEAs

July 6: Summary Reports Released

August 7: CRDC Due Date
Current Status

- 60% of LEAs have started submitting data into the CRDC
- 15% of LEAs have certified their submissions

Small LEAs: 53% Started, 47% Not Started
- Small LEAs (1-3 schools) represent the vast majority of CRDC respondents (69%).

Medium LEAs: 67% Started, 33% Not Started

Large LEAs: 74% Started, 26% Not Started
- A higher percentage of large LEAs have started their CRDC data submission than small LEAs.
State Pre-Population Pilot

CRDC Completion Metrics, by SEA Pre-Population Status

- Started: 99% for LEAs in States Prepopulating Data; 56% for LEAs not in States PrePopulating Data
- Average % of Cells Filled: 74% for LEAs in States Prepopulating Data; 34% for LEAs not in States PrePopulating Data
- Certified: 15% for LEAs in States Prepopulating Data; 16% for LEAs not in States PrePopulating Data
Top Partner Support Center Questions

- Majority of tickets dealt with account confirmations to log-in to the CRDC site
- Increasing proportion of questions on errors or warnings
- Increasing trend on certification questions
NEW SUBMISSION SYSTEM

Technology
About the CRDC Submission System

Authentication

DB

Data Entry

Flat File

API

Quartz Scheduler

Quartz Scheduler

Log-In

Authentication DB

SignalR Server

Main Database Server: (Elements, transaction logs, etc.)

Version control for multiple users

Organizes requests to save data, validate data, certify, etc.
What Happened in April?

- Opened on April 16\textsuperscript{th}
  - First Opening Day
  - Planned trial of pre-certification and certification tools in 4 states
- April 17\textsuperscript{th}
  - Significant slow down in performance experienced by LEAs
- April 18\textsuperscript{th}
  - Site went offline, so we:
    - Increase Database size and memory
    - Corrected Database Index
    - Bundled validation jobs for data entry
- April 30\textsuperscript{th}
  - Site reopened
April 16th Opening Day

Quartz Job Queue

500 or more jobs queued for at least 105 minutes
LESSONS LEARNED

What worked, what needs improvement, and what to never do again.
ED’s Perspective on Lessons Learned for the 2013-14 CRDC Redesign

- What worked well
- What needs improvement
- What is still challenging
What Worked Well

- Process of Site Visits and Cognitive Interviews
- Design of Website to Improve Data Entry
  - Onscreen resources including clickable definitions
  - Errors and warnings visible as data is entered
  - Organization by topical module
- Improved Flat File Submission
  - Ability to submit smaller/flexible flat files
- Admin tool to add new users and manage permissions
- New Guidance and Materials on Grads 360
  - Improved short tip sheets and resources
ED’s Perspective: What Improved but Still Needs Work

- Errors and Warnings
- State Upload Portal
- Question Clarity
- Communications
Errors & Warnings

- Worked
  - Post-collection edits into system
  - Reason Codes
  - Values displayed
- Needs Improvement
  - Allowable Differences from Fall Enrollment
  - Still too many errors/warnings

State Pre-population

- Worked
  - Ability for SEAs to pre-populate data
  - State-wide error report
  - Ability for LEAs to “opt-out”
- Needs Improvement
  - Timing of uploads and permissions
Question Clarity

- Worked
  - Additional Information FAQs
  - Revised Instructions
- Needs Improvement
  - Precision and consistency of terms
  - Visibility for Flat File Submitters

Guidance & Communications

- Worked
  - Adding more contacts to the submission system
  - Regular outreach communications
  - Resources on using the tool
- Needs Improvement
  - Short videos about tool features
  - Outreach to SME’s
  - Defining the role of the PCP
ED’s Perspective: Biggest Challenges

• What is the ideal data submission window for the CRDC?

• How to improve data quality with minimal burden?
On the Horizon: 2015-16 CRDC

- The proposed survey questions for the 2015–16 CRDC are nearly identical to the 2015–16 CRDC previously approved by OMB in February 2014 (OMB control #1870-0504).

- OCR is proposing some minor changes and clarifications based on comments received and questions raised by LEAs during the administration of the 2013–14 CRDC.
  - Dropping the “students transferred to a regular school for disciplinary reasons”
  - Add new child count for children who are 2 years old at the fall snapshot but are served in a preschool (3 year old) program.
  - Expand high school equivalency to include programs beyond GED
  - Alter child count date for students served under IDEA to October 1
  - Modify the corporal punishment indicator
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