

Custom Data Files

This data tool allows you to create and download a customized data file according to the specifications for any or all institutions in the IPEDS universe. Data can be downloaded in a variety of formats.

Step 1: Getting started

For all first time tasks within the Data Center, except Customize DFR, you will be asked to indicate the type of data you wish to access: Preliminary/Provisional Release Data or Final Release Data.

1.1 Use Preliminary/Provisional Release Data

This option allows you to access either Provisional Release Data or Preliminary Release Data (only available for most current collection year).

1.1.1 Preliminary Release Data

Preliminary Release Data are data that have completed an initial review and validation process. However, imputed data for non-responding institutions are not included. If Preliminary Release Data are available, it will be marked with a tilde (~) and automatically selected. Preliminary Release Data are only available for the most recent data year, and remain available until the Provisional Data are released. Due to the nature of the data release cycle, Preliminary Release Data are not always available. For reference, a list of the IPEDS data components with Preliminary Release Data available is displayed along with the relevant data year, as shown below:

1.1.2 Provisional Release Data

Provisional Release Data have undergone full NCES quality control procedures. These data have been imputed for nonresponding institutions but are still subject to additional revisions that may be submitted by institutions during the subsequent data collection year through the IPEDS Prior Year Revision (PYR) System. For reference, a list of the IPEDS survey components with Provisional Release Data available is displayed along with the relevant data year, as shown below:

1.2 Use final release data

This option allows you to access Final Release Data.

1.2.1 Final Release Data

Final (Revised) Release Data are data released the year following the initial collection, after institutions have been given an opportunity to revise their data if they believe it was inaccurately reported in the prior year through the IPEDS PYR System. Final release data can be used when the most up to date data are required; however, these data may not match the tables from the NCES First Look publication.

Once you have finished making selections, click Continue at the bottom of the screen, as shown below:

Available Data	Preliminary/Provisional release ⓘ	Final Release ⓘ
Institutional Characteristics (IC)	2017-18 ~	2008-09 to 2016-17
Pricing and Tuition (IC)	2017-18 ~	2008-09 to 2013-14
Admissions (ADM)	2016-17	2008-09 to 2015-16
Completions (C)	2016-17 ~	2005-06 to 2015-16
12-month Enrollment (E12)	2016-17 ~	2005-06 to 2015-16
Fall Enrollment (EF)	2016	2006 to 2015
Student Financial Aid (SFA)	2015-16	2005-06 to 2014-15
Graduation Rates (GR)	2016	2006 to 2015
Outcome Measures (OM)	2016	2015
Finance (F)	2015-16	2005-06 to 2014-15
Human Resources (HR)	2016-17	2006-07 to 2015-16
Academic Libraries (AL)	2015-16	2014-15

~ Preliminary Release ⓘ

For years that final data are available, select which release you would like to use:

Use provisional release data
 Use final release data

Step 2: Select Institutions

- Start by selecting the institution or institutions to include in the custom data files. As institutions are selected they will be added to the My Institutions list, as shown below.

When you have finished selecting institutions, [CONTINUE](#) to **Step 2 - Select Variables**.

My Institutions [MODIFY](#)

ID	Institution Name	City	State
134097	Florida State University	Tallahassee	FL
139755	Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus	Atlanta	GA
198419	Duke University	Durham	NC
217882	Clemson University	Clemson	SC
199120	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill	NC
199193	North Carolina State University at Raleigh	Raleigh	NC
199847	Wake Forest University	Winston Salem	NC
234076	University of Virginia-Main Campus	Charlottesville	VA

- This status bar is displayed at all times for reference. The View/Modify button can be selected at any time to make changes to the list of selected institutions.
- Selecting a Comparison Group (or an institution group) is a necessary process for selecting data to compare or evaluate. For detailed instructions, please refer to the Shortcuts section on how to Create, Save, or Upload Institutions.
- When finished selecting institutions, click Continue or the Select Variables tab to continue to the next step in creating the custom data file.

Step 3: Select Variables

- In order to get a custom data set, select data to include in your data set by first selecting a year, then browsing that year's tree for variables. You can select data from multiple years before clicking Continue. The list of Available Year(s) is present at the top of the variable tree, as shown below. For detailed instructions on browsing and searching for variables, please refer to Shortcuts section on how to Create, Save, or Upload Variables.

Download custom data files Provisional Release Data [\(Change\)](#)

1. Select Institutions
2. Select Variables
3. Output

My Comparison Institution - None Selected ADD

Select Institutions - You have selected 8 institution(s) VIEW/MODIFY

Select Variables - Total 0 variables selected ADD NEW VARIABLES VIEW/MODIFY

In order to get a custom data set, select data to include in your data set by first selecting a year, then browsing that year's tree for variables. You can select data from multiple years before clicking continue.

Continuous variable
 Alpha/String variable
 Discrete variable

Search

When you have finished selecting variables from the tree, click Continue
 Continue

Available Year(s)

2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985
1984	1980												

- Frequently used/Derived variables
- Institutional Characteristics
- Enrollments
- Completions
- Graduation Rates

- When finished selecting variables for the selected data year, you may choose additional years from Available Year(s) list at the top of the screen and continue selecting variables as desired. When finished selecting variables for the data file, click Continue.
- Any new variables that are selected for this report will be added to the My Variables list, and a count of selected variables will appear at the top of the screen.

Step 4: Download the Data Set

Depending on which variable(s) have been selected multiple data files may be produced for downloading. The IPEDS survey source for each is displayed in the Survey/Section column for reference.

- Click on the file extension to save the report in the desired format; or, click on the modify button to go back and change the chosen variables.



Year 2003			MODIFY	
Enrollments / Age category, gender, attendance status, and level of student: Fall 2003			CSV	SAS
			STATA	SPSS
Enrollment by age	Age category	Level of student		
Grand total	all values	all values		

- **CSV** – Select this option to download the data set in basic comma separated values format viewable in Microsoft Excel and most other spreadsheet applications.
 - **SAS** – Choose this option to download the data set in CSV format, specially configured for use in conjunction with the SAS statistical software package.
 - **STATA** – Select this option to download the data set in basic comma separated values format viewable in Microsoft Excel and most other spreadsheet applications.
 - **SPSS** – Choose this option to download the data set in CSV format, specially configured for use in conjunction with the SPSS statistical software package.
- You may also include imputation flags with the data, as desired. An Imputation Flag is an indicator on a data file that shows whether or not a value was imputed (e.g. a statistical estimate was substituted in place of missing data) for institutions that did not respond to a data item or survey.

Do you want to include imputation variables? Yes No

- Repeat this process for any additional files to download. When finished with this task, use the Main Menu to navigate to a different task in the Use the Data portal; or, click on Start Over from the navigation menu at the top of the screen to end the current session.