



## Getting Started with the HSLs:09 Data

### Module Objectives

- Introduce users to the data collected across the data collection rounds of the High School Longitudinal Study of 2009 (HSLs:09)
- Describe the process of downloading the available public-use HSLs:09 data
- Describe the resources available within the restricted-use DVD
- Describe the contents of the Base Year Data File and First Follow-up Data File
- Describe variable information and naming conventions
- Provide resources that are available to learn more about the study, the data, and the data files

### HSLs:09 Data Collection Components

HSLs:09 data are obtained directly from one or more respondents across multiple points in time in the study

| Respondents   | Data collections across the study   | Collection methods   |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students</li><li>• Parents</li><li>• Math Teachers*</li><li>• Science Teachers*</li><li>• School Counselors</li><li>• School Administrators</li><li>• Transcripts</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2009 (9<sup>th</sup> grade)</li><li>• 2012</li><li>• 2013</li><li>• 2016</li><li>• 2025</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Direct Assessment</li><li>• Web Survey</li><li>• Telephone Survey</li><li>• School Records</li></ul> |

\*Only for the 2009 round

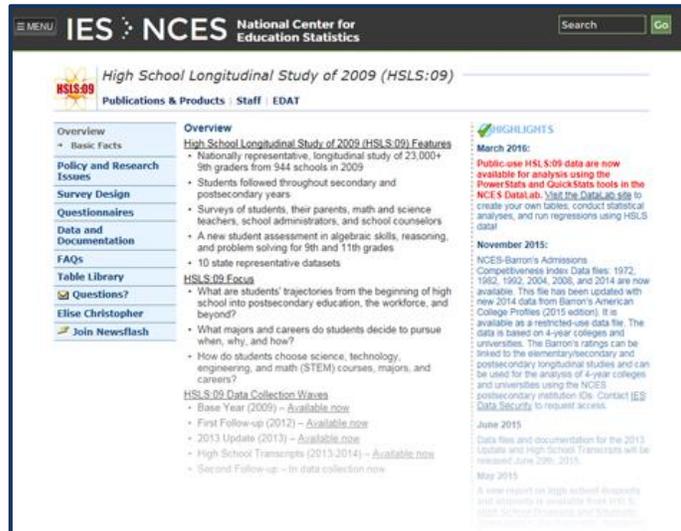
Consider: Most of the data collection instruments that were used to directly obtain data from one or more respondents in the study are available online via the [HSLs Questionnaires page](#)

### Data File Basics

- Data are available in both public- and restricted-use formats
- Public-use data provide data that most users will need for most analyses; they are available in three software-based formats (SPSS, SAS, and Stata)
- Restricted-use files for a given round of data collection contain more data and a wider range of data values than are included in the public-use files
- Researchers who are uncertain of which data file to use should first examine the corresponding public-use data file to ascertain whether it can be used to meet their specific analytical objectives

## Downloading Public-use HSLs:09 Data

- Go to the Education Data Analysis Tool ([eDAT](#))
  - Download the syntax file for the statistical software package of choice
- Go to the Data and Documentation page on the [HSLs:09 homepage](#)
  - Download the [Data File Documentation](#)



## Accessing the Restricted-use HSLs:09 Data

Restricted-use HSLs:09 data contains additional resources within the DVD

- README file
  - Most important resource on the DVD; always start with the README file
  - Information about DVD contents and structure
  - Installation information

**Accessing the Restricted-use HSLs:09 Data**

- Electronic Codebook (ECB)
- Reference materials
  - Source documents, etc.
- Reports
  - Methodological and/or analytical

**Contents of the Base Year Data File**

| <b>Student-level data file<br/>(all merged to the student)</b>  | <b>School-level data file<br/>(all merged to the school)</b>  |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Derived variables</li><li>• Student level analytic weights</li><li>• Student assessment</li><li>• Student questionnaire</li><li>• Parent questionnaire</li><li>• Math teacher questionnaire</li><li>• Science teacher questionnaire</li><li>• School counselor questionnaire</li><li>• School administrator questionnaire</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Derived variables</li><li>• School level analytic weights</li><li>• School counselor questionnaire</li><li>• School administrator questionnaire</li></ul> |

### **Contents of the First Follow-up Data File**

Student-level data file (all merged to the student)

- Derived variables
- Student-level analytic weights
- Student assessment
- Student questionnaire
- Parent questionnaire
- School counselor questionnaire
- School administrator questionnaire

### **Contents of the 2013 Update Data File**

- Derived variables
- Student-level analytic weights
- Student and parent questionnaires
- High school transcript school files
- High school transcript course files

### Variable Naming

| Character 1  | Character 2  | Characters 3-12                               |
|--|--|---|
| Component identifier:<br>Composite variables = X<br>Student = S<br>Parent = P<br>Math teacher = M<br>Science teacher = N<br>Administrator = A<br>Counselor = C<br>Weights = W<br>Transcripts = T | Round identifier (i.e., 1, 2, 3), in which all base year variables are "1" and subsequent rounds will follow sequentially (e.g., first follow-up is "2") | Indicates a descriptive name for the variable |

### Variable Labels

- Provide more description than the variable name
- For convenience, retain the first two characters of the variable name
- For example:
  - Variable name: P1JOBNOW1
  - Variable label: P1 C05 Parent 1 currently holds a job

### Variable Naming Conventions Examples

| Name         | Label  |
|--------------|--|
| X1SEX        | X1 Student's sex   |
| X1RACE       | X1 Student's race/ethnicity composite  |
| S1SUREHSGRAD | S1 F10 How sure the 9 <sup>th</sup> grader is that he/she will graduate from high school |
| P1HOMELANG   | P1 B21 Language other than English is regularly spoken in the home                       |
| M1TEACHING   | M1 B01A Math teachers in this school set high standards for teaching                     |
| N1TEACHING   | N1 C01A Science teachers in this school set high standards for teaching                  |
| A1ADA        | A1 A19 Average daily attendance percentage for high school students                      |
| C1FTCNLS     | C1 A01A Number of full-time high school counselors                                       |
| W1STUDENT    | W1 Base year student analytic weight   |
| T3SGPAO      | T3 Grade point average overall   |

### Composite/Derived Variables

- What are composite/derived variables?
  - Variables not directly collected as part of instruments
- Why use them?
  - Users may not have all data necessary to create similar variables
  - Convenience (time/effort)
- How were they created?
  - Check data file documentation

**Examples of Composite/Derived Variables**

## Algebra Assessment

| Name       | Label   |
|------------|---|
| X1TXMTH    | X1 Mathematics theta score  |
| X1TXMSEM   | X1 Mathematics standard error of measurement for raw theta score        |
| X1TXMSCR   | X1 Mathematics IRT-estimated number right score (of 72 base year items) |
| X1TXMTSCOR | X1 Mathematics standardized theta score                                 |
| X1TXMQUINT | X1 Mathematics quintile score   |
| X1TXMPROF1 | X1 Mathematics proficiency probability score: level 1                   |
| X1TXMPROF2 | X1 Mathematics proficiency probability score: level 2                   |
| X1TXMPROF3 | X1 Mathematics proficiency probability score: level 3                   |
| X1TXMPROF4 | X1 Mathematics proficiency probability score: level 4                   |
| X1TXMPROF5 | X1 Mathematics proficiency probability score: level 5                   |

**Examples of Composite/Derived Variables (Continued)**

## Family Characteristics

| Name         | Label  |
|--------------|--|
| X1P1RELATION | X1 Parent 1: relationship to 9 <sup>th</sup> grader                |
| X1PAR1EDU    | X1 Parent 1: highest level of education                            |
| X1PAR1EMP    | X1 Parent 1: employment status                                     |
| X1PAR1RACE   | X1 Parent 1: race/ethnicity  |
| X1P2RELATION | X1 Parent 2: spouse's relationship to 9 <sup>th</sup> grader       |
| X1PAR2EDU    | X1 Parent 2: highest level of education                            |
| X1PAR2EMP    | X1 Parent 2: employment status                                     |
| X1PAR2RACE   | X1 Parent 2: race/ethnicity  |
| X1PAREDU     | X1 Parents'/guardians' highest level of education                  |
| X1PARPATTERN | X1 P1-P2 relationship pattern                                      |
| X1MOMREL     | X1 Mother/female guardian's relationship to 9 <sup>th</sup> grader |
| X1MOMEDU     | X1 Mother/female guardian's highest level of education             |
| X1MOMEMP     | X1 Mother/female guardian's employment status                      |
| X1MOMRACE    | X1 Mother/female guardian's race/ethnicity                         |
| X1DADREL     | X1 Father/male guardian's relationship to 9 <sup>th</sup> grader   |
| X1DADEDU     | X1 Father/male guardian's highest level of education               |
| X1DADEMP     | X1 Father/male guardian's employment status                        |
| X1DADRACE    | X1 Father/male guardian's race/ethnicity                           |

### Resources Available From Other Sources

- To learn more about the study, the data, and the data file
  - Read [Base Year Data File Documentation](#)
  - Read [First Follow-up Data File Documentation](#)
  - Read [2013 Update and High School Transcripts Data File Documentation](#)
  - Review the [Questionnaires](#)
  - Read [HSLs:09: A First Look at Fall 2009 9th-Graders](#)
  - Read [HSLs:09: A First Look at Fall 2009 Ninth-Graders in 2012](#)
  - Read [HSLs:09: A First Look at Fall 2009 Ninth-Graders in 2013](#)
- Visit [HSLs:09](#) main study page for study overview, publications, and staff contact information

### Module Summary and Resources

#### Summary

- The data collected across HSLs:09
- The process of downloading the available public-use HSLs:09 data
- The resources available within the restricted-use DVD
- The contents of the Base Year Data File and First Follow-up Data File
- Variable information and naming conventions

#### Resources

- [HSLs:09 Homepage](#)
- [Public-use Data](#)
- [eDAT Homepage](#)
- [Base Year Data File Documentation](#)
- [First Follow-up Data File Documentation](#)
- [2013 Update and High School Transcripts Data File Documentation](#)
- [HSLs:09: A First Look at Fall 2009 9th-Graders](#)
- [HSLs:09: A First Look at Fall 2009 Ninth-Graders in 2012](#)
- [HSLs:09: A First Look at Fall 2009 Ninth-Graders in 2013](#)