



Introduction to the Postsecondary Education Transcript Studies (PETS)

Objectives

- Introduce the Postsecondary Education Transcript Studies (PETS)
- Describe potential uses and research questions
- Explain the data collections and coding
- Describe the sources of data, data files, and sample variables
- Provide examples of data sources/files
- Explain data analysis appropriate for PETS

Postsecondary Education Transcript Studies (PETS)

- Transcript data are an important analytic resource that offer the opportunity to study
 - Course-taking patterns
 - Credit transfer
 - Student momentum and attrition
 - Connection among course and major courses, occupations, and wages
- Users who are interested in analyzing PETS data are encouraged to follow the steps outlined in this module to ensure that the best approach is used

PETS – Potential Uses and Research Questions

- Secondary Studies
 - Pathways to a credential, from secondary through postsecondary education
 - Alignment between high school and postsecondary curricula
- Secondary and Postsecondary Studies
 - Persistence in postsecondary education
 - Attainment of postsecondary education
 - Timing of completion
 - Relationships between course content and major
 - Relationships between course content and workforce outcomes (particularly in STEM fields)
- Transcript data can also provide context to information from the student interviews
- Appropriate uses of PETS data depend on the purpose and scope of the study

PETS - Data Collections

Data Source	Year of Transcript Collection
National Longitudinal Study of 1972 (NLS-72)	1984
High School and Beyond (HS&B:80)	1993
Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study (B&B:93/94)	1994
National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988 (NELS:88)	2000
Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS:04/09)	2010
Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study (B&B:08/09)	2010
Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 (ELS:2002)	2014
High School Longitudinal Study of 2009 (HSL:09)	2018
Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS:12/17)	2018

PETS – Data Collection and Response Rates

- The detail available varies among these studies
 - Some have extensive information from course, term, and institution records
 - Some were only used to verify data from student interviews
 - Some have only partial data
- This module provides detailed information about transcript collections after 2010
- Researchers interested in older data should refer to the documentation for those studies, as their methods may not align with what is presented here.

PETS – Data Collection and Response Rates

- Transcripts collected from postsecondary institutions and coded by trained staff
- Response rates for transcripts are typically higher than those from student interviews, for example
 - BPS:04/09
 - Collected transcripts from about 87% of institutions with 87% of students having transcripts from all known institutions attended
 - Includes records for approximately 17,000 students
 - B&B:08/09
 - Collected transcripts from about 93% of institutions with 94% of students having transcripts from all known institutions attended
 - Includes records for approximately 17,400 students (only from the institution granting the bachelor's degree)
 - ELS:2002
 - Collected transcripts from about 92% of institutions with 79% of students having transcripts from all known institutions attended
 - Includes records for approximately 11,600 students

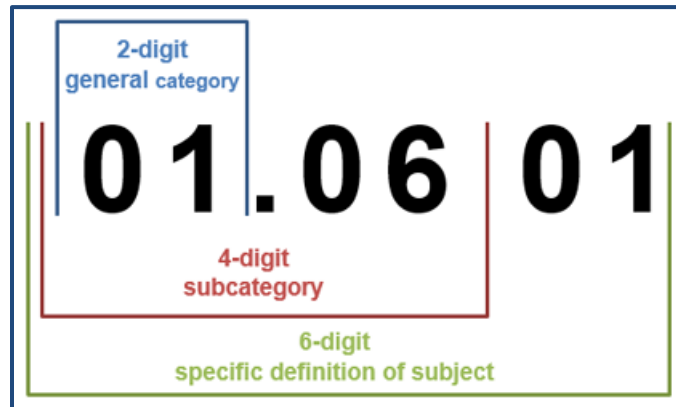
PETS – Transcript Collection and Coding Steps

Five-step process to ensure transcript data are efficiently and accurately coded

1. Develop definitions and coding rules (see [The College Course Map \(CCM:2010\)](#))
2. Train staff
3. Collect transcripts from institutions
4. Convert transcripts to electronic format
5. Institute quality control procedures and spot checks

PETS – Transcript Collection and Coding (Continued)

- The College Course Map (CCM) is a taxonomy system for coding postsecondary education courses in NCES research studies
- Faculty review groups developed coding recommendations based on course catalogs and NCES transcript data
- The 2010 CCM update integrated selected courses into the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP), using this code structure



PETS – Transcript Collection and Coding (Continued)

- To create a comprehensive course coder for PETS, CCM content was merged with CIP:2010
- Additional course codes added during each study to accommodate new technological developments

01) Agriculture, agriculture operations, and related sciences.

- 01.06) Applied Horticulture and Horticultural Business Services.
- 01.0601) Applied Horticulture/Horticulture Operations, General.
- 01.0603) Ornamental Horticulture.
- 01.0604) Greenhouse Operations and Management.
- 01.0605) Landscaping and Groundskeeping.
- 01.0606) Plant Nursery Operations and Management.
- 01.0607) Turf and Turfgrass Management.
- 01.0608) Floriculture/Floristry Operations and Management.
- 01.0698) House Plants, Indoor Plants and/or Herbaceous Ornamental Plants.**
- 01.0699) Applied Horticulture/Horticultural Business Services, Other.

A program that focuses on the general production and processing of domesticated plants, shrubs, flowers, foliage, trees, groundcovers, and related plant materials; the management of technical and business operations connected with horticultural services; and the basic scientific principles needed to understand plants and their management and care. Also organic gardening and/or arboriculture.

Any applied horticulture and horticultural business services course that deals with topics of house plants, indoor plants, and/or herbaceous ornamental plants

PETS – Transcript Collection and Coding (Continued)

College Course Map (CCM) Codes

- 01 Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, And Related Services
- 03 Natural Resources and Conservation
- 04 Architecture and Related Services
- 05 Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies
- 09 Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs
- 10 Communications Technologies/Technicians and Support Services
- 11 Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services
- 12 Personal and Culinary Services
- 13 Education
- 14 Engineering
- 15 Engineering Technologies and Engineering-Related Fields
- 16 Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics
- 19 Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences
- 22 Legal Professions and Studies
- 23 English Language and Literature/Letters
- 24 Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities
- 25 Library Science
- 26 Biological and Biomedical Sciences
- 27 Mathematics and Statistics
- 28 Military Science, Leadership and Operational Art.
- 29 Military Technologies and Applied Sciences
- 30 Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies
- 31 Parks, Recreation and Leisure Studies
- 32 Basic Skills and Developmental/Remedial Education
- 33 Citizenship Activities
- 34 Health-Related Knowledge and Skills
- 35 Interpersonal and Social Skills
- 36 Leisure and Recreational Activities
- 37 Personal Awareness and Self-Improvement
- 38 Philosophy and Religious Studies
- 39 Theology and Religious Vocations
- 40 Physical Sciences
- 41 Science and Technologies/Technicians
- 42 Psychology
- 43 Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Firefighting and Related Protective Services
- 44 Public Administration and Social Service Professions
- 45 Social Sciences
- 46 Construction Trades
- 47 Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians
- 48 Precision Production
- 49 Transportation and Materials Moving
- 50 Visual and Performing Arts
- 51 Health Professions and Related Programs
- 52 Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services
- 53 High School/Secondary Diplomas and Certificates
- 54 History
- 60 Residency Programs
- 90 Other Courses

PETS – Transcript Collection and Coding

To evaluate consistency in the coding process

- Inter-rater reliability measures were reviewed daily
- Typically, 10% of transcripts were randomly selected for recoding and expert evaluation
 - As an example, in one joint collection of transcripts in two studies, this procedure resulted in the expert evaluation of coding for 47,428 courses
- Expert evaluation of coding occurred for 47,428 courses
- All un-codeable or courses listed as “other” were re-reviewed by expert coders from the field of study

PETS – Transcript Collection and Coding (Continued)

Remedial Courses can be identified using CCM codes

- English (CCM 2-digit code 23)
 - 23.9987 – Remedial Speech, Basic Speech, Basic Oral Communication, and/or Listening Skills
- Multidisciplinary Studies (CCM 2-digit code 30)
 - 30.9997 – Basic Science and/or Remedial Science

PETS – Transcript Collection and Coding (Continued)

All remedial courses flagged in the derived variables of the dataset exclude

- Audited courses or courses dropped before withdrawal date
- Transfer
- Advanced Placement

PETS – Transcript Collection and Coding (Continued)

All course units were standardized to semester credits

- Institutions using clock hours
 - Clock hours were divided by 37.5
- For semester, Advanced Placement (AP) credit, College Level Examination Program (CLEP) credit, study abroad credit, and International Baccalaureate (IB) credit
 - Credit values were carried over unchanged
- For quarter credit hours
 - Quarter credits were multiplied by two-thirds

PETS – Transcript Collection and Coding (Continued)

Course grades were standardized to a 4-point scale

Letter Grade	Number Grade	__NGRAD	Letter Grade	Number Grade	__NGRAD
A+ or A	93 – 100	4.00	CD or DC		1.50
A-	90 – 93	3.70	D+	67 – 70	1.30
AB or BA		3.50	D	63 – 67	1.00
B+	87 – 90	3.30	D-	60 – 63	0.70
B	83 – 87	3.00	F, E, WU, WF, & withdraws with failing	Less than 60	0.00
B-	80 – 83	2.70	P/S/F/U (in pass/ fail courses), NC, NP, NCR, U, W, WP, WN, WD, IP, TR, I, AP, or grades with unclear		Reserve Code
BC or CB		2.50			
C+	77 – 80	2.30			
C	73 – 77	2.00			
C-	70 – 73	1.70			

PETS – Sources of Data and Data Files

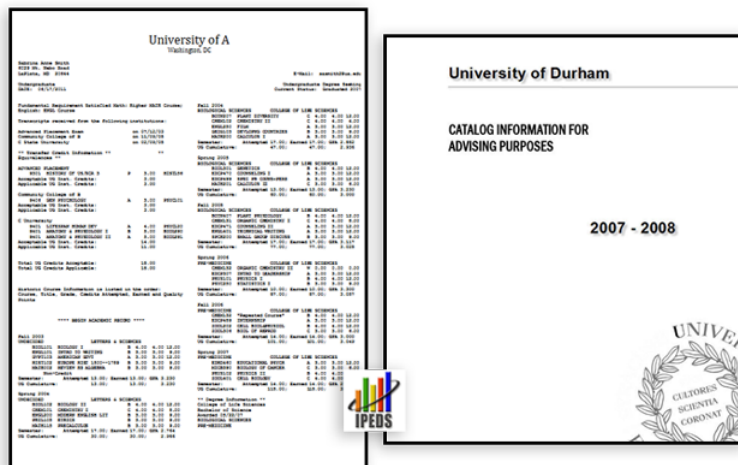
- Institution
- Transcript (select studies only)
- Terms
- Courses
- Degree/Major
- Student-Institution
- Transfer (select studies only)
- Derived
- Weights

PETS – Sample Variables

- Postsecondary career credits earned
- Credits earned by [sector](#) of institution
- Credit attempted/ earned by course subject
- Total months enrolled
- Length of [stop-outs](#)
- 1st transfer variables
- Elapsed time to award
- Number of undergraduate courses
- Credit earned by year
- Grade point average (GPA) by year

PETS – Transcript Collection and Coding (Continued)

University Course Catalog



PETS – Data Sources/Files: Institution (Continued)

For Institution Data

- All institutions from which complete data are collected
 - Title IV eligibility (eligible for federal financial aid)
 - Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)
 - Course catalog
 - Transcripts
- Cases without complete information in the dataset
 - Institutions outside the U.S.
 - Non-Title IV Institutions
 - Un-codeable institutions (districts or system offices)
 - Unknown institutions

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Institution (Continued)

Institution Variables include

- [Sector](#)
- [Level \(of institution\)](#)
- [Control \(of institution\)](#)
- [Grading system](#)
- [Calendar system](#)
- [Clock vs. Credit hours](#)
- [Accreditation \(national\)](#)

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Institution (Continued)

Institution Variables

- To assist researchers in selecting institution variables for analysis, this module will provide basic information about some variables in each dataset
- Variables labeled with a red “X” are not meant to be used for analysis as is and require edits, computation, or need to be combined with other variables
- Variables labeled with a checkmark have undergone the quality review needed to be used for analysis

	Variable Name	Variable Label
✓	__INSTID	Institution Identification Number
✗	__STATE	Institution State

✓ = This variable has gone through a more extensive review for quality

✗ = Caution should be used when selecting this variable

See [Appendix](#) for information about these variables

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Transcript

The image displays two documents side-by-side. On the left is a transcript from the University of A, showing course details for Fall 2007 and Spring 2008. On the right is a catalog page from the University of Durham for the 2007-2008 academic year. Overlaid on the transcript is a white box containing the following information: Undergraduate DATE: 06/17/2011, Undergraduate Degree Seeking Current Status: Graduated 2007, Semester: Attempted 14.00; Earned 14.00; GPA 2.714, and UG Cumulative: 115.00; 115.00; 3.008.

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Transcript (Continued)

- Cases included in the dataset
 - Transcript records
- Cases excluded from the dataset
 - Transcripts not provided by the institution

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Transcript (Continued)

- Within the dataset for Transcript data, rows represent student-transcript records
- Variables include
 - Institution ID
 - High school graduation date
 - Cumulative clock hours/credits
 - Cumulative grade points
 - Cumulative GPA

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Institution (Continued)

Transcript Variables

- Most data in this dataset will need to be standardized before being analyzed

	Variable Name	Variable Label
✗	__CLOK	Cumulative clock hours
✗	__CMENCR	Cumulative credit hours
✗	__CMQUPT	Cumulative grade points
✗	__CUMGPA	Cumulative grade point average

✓ = This variable has gone through a more extensive review for quality

✗ = Caution should be used when selecting this variable

See [Appendix](#) for information about these variables

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Terms

University of Alberta

Spring 2007

PRE-MEDICINE COLLEGE OF LIFE SCIENCES

EDHD460	EDUCATIONAL PSYCH	A	3.00	3.00	12.00
MICB390	BIOLOGY OF CANCER	C	3.00	3.00	6.00
PHYS102	PHYSICS II	B	4.00	4.00	12.00
ZOO401	CELL BIOLOGY	C	4.00	4.00	8.00

Semester: Attempted 14.00; Earned 14.00; GPA 2.714
UG Cumulative: 115.00; 115.00; 3.008

University of Durham

CATALOG INFORMATION FOR ADVISING PURPOSES

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Terms (Continued)

For Transcript Data

- Rows represent student-transcript records
- Cases included in the dataset
 - Transcripts/students with term records (most likely credit-hour institutions)
- Cases excluded from the dataset
 - Transcripts/students without term records (most likely from clock hour institutions)

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Terms (Continued)

Variables include

- Term start date
- Term end date
- Enrollment intensity
- Number of courses taken
- Credits attempted
- Credits earned
- Term GPA
- Academic actions (e.g. Dean's list, probation)

PETS – Transcript Collection and Coding (Continued)

Terms Variables

- Supplemental information, but not consistently reported by all institutions
- Researchers should review the study documentation to ensure they are selecting the correct variable that are reliable for use

	Variable Name	Variable Label
✗	__ACDI	Academic Dismissal
✗	__ACPR	Academic Probation
✗	__CHLI	Chancellor's List
✗	__DELI	Dean's List
✗	__ and other academic actions
✓	__ATT	Number of credits attempted during the term
✓	__ERN	Number of credits earned during the term
✓	__GPA	Grade point average (GPA) for the term
✓	__NUM	Number of courses taken during the term

✓ = This variable has gone through a more extensive review for quality

✗ = Caution should be used when selecting this variable

See [Appendix](#) for information about these variables

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Courses

University of A
Washington, DC

University of Durham
CATALOG INFORMATION FOR ADVISING PURPOSES

Spring 2007
PRE-MEDICINE COLLEGE OF LIFE SCIENCES

EDHD460	EDUCATIONAL PSYCH	A	3.00	3.00	12.00
MICB390	BIOLOGY OF CANCER	C	3.00	3.00	6.00
PHYS102	PHYSICS II	B	4.00	4.00	12.00
ZOOL401	CELL BIOLOGY	C	4.00	4.00	8.00

Semester: Attempted 14.00; Earned 14.00; GPA 2.714
UG Cumulative: 115.00; 115.00; 3.008

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Courses (Continued)

- Rows represent student-course records
- Cases included in the dataset
 - All known course records taken at each institution and/or transferred
- Cases excluded from the dataset
 - Standardized test scores (AP, IB), although credits and bulk transfer credits will appear
- Bulk credit is when an institution listed transfer credit in one lump amount instead of itemizing the credit on a course level
- Bulk credit was broken into the appropriate courses when possible to provide more detail for analysis

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Courses (Continued)

For Courses Data

- Course may be duplicated due to student transfer
- Variables include
 - Course name
 - Course number
 - PETS/CCM code for the course
 - Earned credit/clock hours
 - Standardized credit/clock hours
 - Earned grade
 - Standardized grade
 - Course attributes and flags
- Newer PETS studies include blank course records for records that are missing due to known transcripts that were not submitted by an institution

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Courses (Continued)

- Courses Variables are generally not standardized and should not be used in analysis until they are standardized across institutions
 - Credits
 - Clock hours
 - Earned credits
 - Grade
- Some standardized variables are included to allow for the derivation of variables in other datasets
- Some course variables have two versions: a raw variable copied directly off the transcript and a computed variable
 - Raw: CRSTRIN (transfer course credit)
 - Derived: TRNSFR (transfer flag for course)

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Courses (Continued)

Courses Variables

	Variable Name	Variable Label
✗	__CRDCT	Credits count toward GPA
✗	__HRSERN	Earned clock hours
✗	__CRDERN	Earned credits
✓	__NORMCR	Standardized credits received for course
✗	__GRADE	Grade
✓	__NGRAD	Standardized grade received for course
✗	__GRDPT	Grade points
✓	__NORMQP	Standardized quality points received for course
✓	__POTCR	Potential credit for the course
✗	__CRSTRN	Transfer course credit
✓	__TRNSFR	Transfer flag for course
✗	__CRSREM	Remedial course attribute
✗	__CRSCH	Research course attribute
✗	__CRSSEM	Seminar course attribute
✗	__CRSSAB	Study abroad course attribute
✗	__...	...all other course attributes
✓	__PETGEN/C	PETS code for course

✓ = This variable has gone through a more extensive review for quality

✗ = Caution should be used when selecting this variable

See [Appendix](#) for information about these variables

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Degree/Major

The collage consists of three overlapping documents:

- University of A Transcript:** A detailed transcript from the University of A, Washington, DC, showing course information, grades, and cumulative GPA. It includes sections for Fall 2006, Spring 2007, and Fall 2007.
- University of Durham Catalog:** A catalog page titled "CATALOG INFORMATION FOR ADVISING PURPOSES" for the year 2007 - 2008, listing various academic programs.
- Degree Information Certificate:** A certificate that reads:
 - *** Degree Information ***
 - College of Life Sciences
 - Bachelor of Science
 - Awarded 05/22/07
 - BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
 - PRE-MEDICINE

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Degree/Major (Continued)

- Rows represent student-degree/major records
- Cases included in the dataset
 - Students with degrees or certificates (duplicate records possible)
- Cases excluded from the dataset
 - Students without a degree or certificate and missing major information

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Degree/Major (Continued)

Degree/Major Data Variables include

- Degree program
- Date of degree
- Units required for degree
- Major
- Second major
- Minor
- Second minor
- Concentrations
- Notations and honors

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Student Institution

The image displays three overlapping documents related to student institutions:

- University of A Transcript:** A detailed transcript from the University of A, Washington, DC, showing course information for Fall 2002 and Spring 2004. It lists various courses such as ENGLISH 101, ENGLISH 102, ENGLISH 103, ENGLISH 104, ENGLISH 105, ENGLISH 106, ENGLISH 107, ENGLISH 108, ENGLISH 109, ENGLISH 110, ENGLISH 111, ENGLISH 112, ENGLISH 113, ENGLISH 114, ENGLISH 115, ENGLISH 116, ENGLISH 117, ENGLISH 118, ENGLISH 119, ENGLISH 120, ENGLISH 121, ENGLISH 122, ENGLISH 123, ENGLISH 124, ENGLISH 125, ENGLISH 126, ENGLISH 127, ENGLISH 128, ENGLISH 129, ENGLISH 130, ENGLISH 131, ENGLISH 132, ENGLISH 133, ENGLISH 134, ENGLISH 135, ENGLISH 136, ENGLISH 137, ENGLISH 138, ENGLISH 139, ENGLISH 140, ENGLISH 141, ENGLISH 142, ENGLISH 143, ENGLISH 144, ENGLISH 145, ENGLISH 146, ENGLISH 147, ENGLISH 148, ENGLISH 149, ENGLISH 150, ENGLISH 151, ENGLISH 152, ENGLISH 153, ENGLISH 154, ENGLISH 155, ENGLISH 156, ENGLISH 157, ENGLISH 158, ENGLISH 159, ENGLISH 160, ENGLISH 161, ENGLISH 162, ENGLISH 163, ENGLISH 164, ENGLISH 165, ENGLISH 166, ENGLISH 167, ENGLISH 168, ENGLISH 169, ENGLISH 170, ENGLISH 171, ENGLISH 172, ENGLISH 173, ENGLISH 174, ENGLISH 175, ENGLISH 176, ENGLISH 177, ENGLISH 178, ENGLISH 179, ENGLISH 180, ENGLISH 181, ENGLISH 182, ENGLISH 183, ENGLISH 184, ENGLISH 185, ENGLISH 186, ENGLISH 187, ENGLISH 188, ENGLISH 189, ENGLISH 190, ENGLISH 191, ENGLISH 192, ENGLISH 193, ENGLISH 194, ENGLISH 195, ENGLISH 196, ENGLISH 197, ENGLISH 198, ENGLISH 199, ENGLISH 200.
- University of Durham Catalog:** A catalog page titled "University of Durham" and "CATALOG INFORMATION FOR ADVISING PURPOSES" for the years "2007 - 2008".
- Transcripts received from the following institutions:** A list of institutions and their transcript receipt dates:
 - Advanced Placement Exam on 07/12/03
 - Community College of B on 11/09/05
 - C State University on 02/09/05

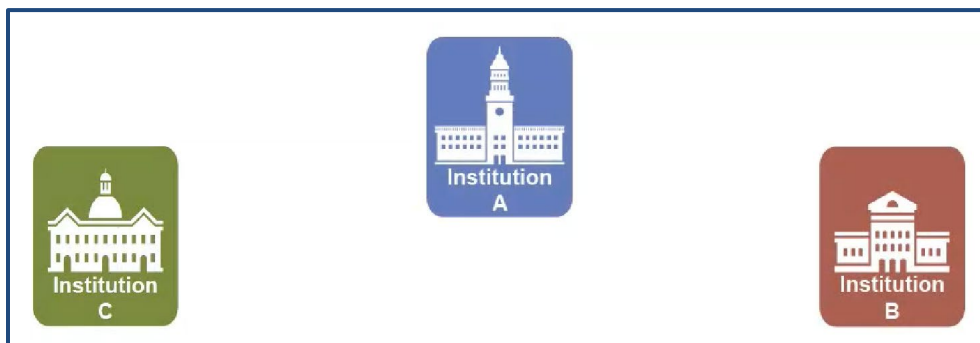
PETS – Data Sources/Files: Student Institution (Continued)

- Rows represent student institution records
- Cases included in the dataset
 - All student/institution pairs
 - Unknown and missing institutions are included in the dataset but with missing data

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Student Institution (Continued)

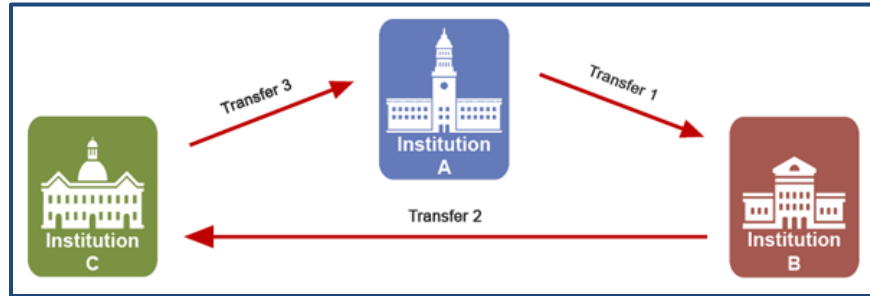
For Student Institution Data

- Students who transfer out, then return to a target institution have one record



PETS – Data Sources/Files: Student Institution (Continued)

Record Number	Institution Name	Begin Date	End Date	Order based on First Date	Order based on Last Date
1	College A	092004	052009	1	3
2	College B	062005	082005	2	1
3	College C	012007	052007	3	2



PETS – Data Sources/Files: Student Institution (Continued)

Student Institution Variables include

- Ratio of credits earned to credits attempted
- Number of terms enrolled
- Number of terms enrolled full-time
- Transfer credit attempted
- Transfer credit accepted

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Student Institution (Continued)

Student Institution Variables

	Variable Name	Variable Label
✓	__CR*	Credits earned variables (by course subjects)
✓	__GPA*	Grade point average variables (by course subjects)
✗	__CATT	Transfer credits attempted
✗	__CACC	Transfer credits accepted
✗	__FRGPA	Transfer credits for GPA
✗	__CCNRM	Standardized transfer credits accepted
✓	__FAMY/LAMY	First attended and last attended month/year variables
✓	__SCHOF/LA	Attendance order variables
✓	__TOTCR	Credit hours earned at institution
✓	__TRNFR	First transfer from NPSAS institution

✓ = This variable has gone through a more extensive review for quality

✗ = Caution should be used when selecting this variable

See [Appendix](#) for information about these variables

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Transfer

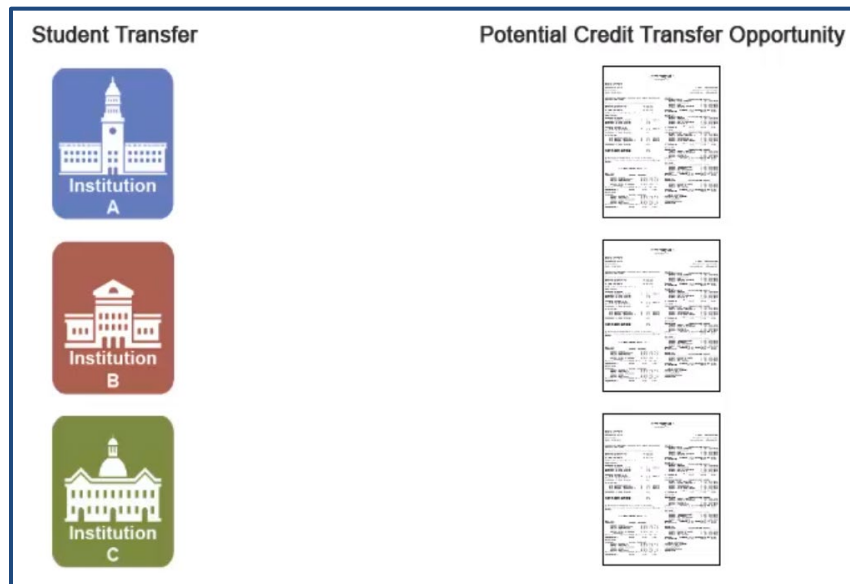
The collage shows three documents related to transfer credit information:

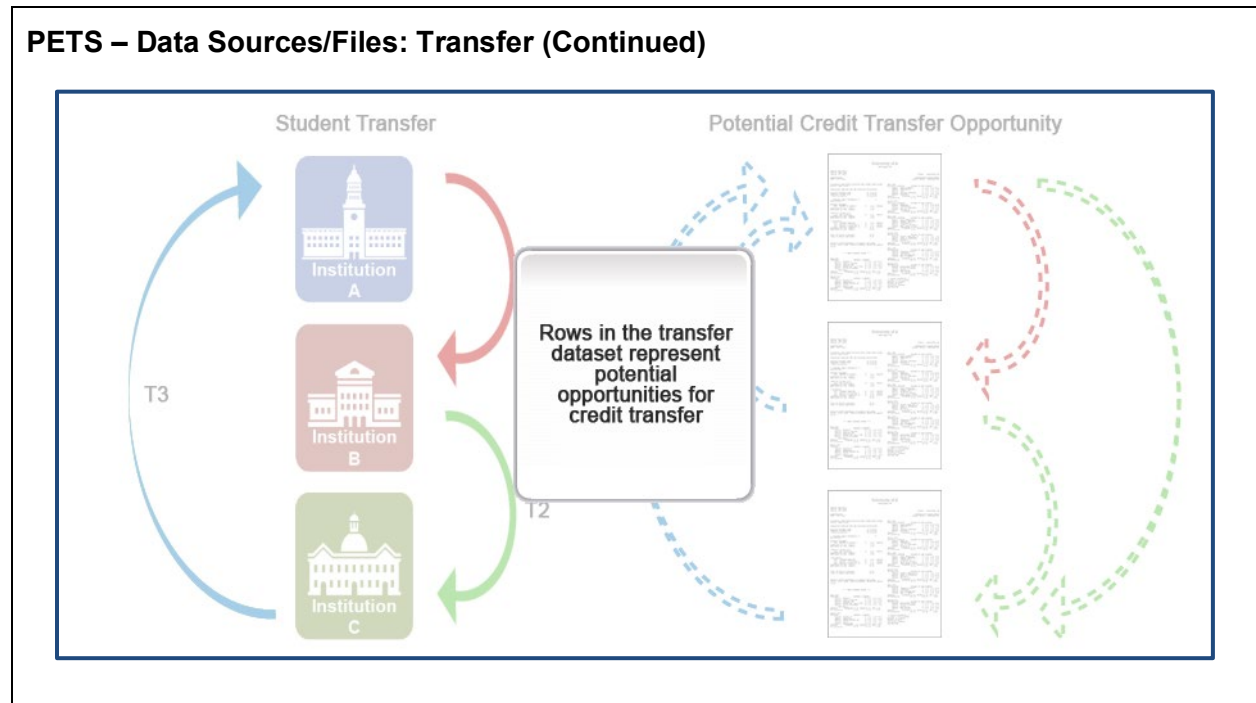
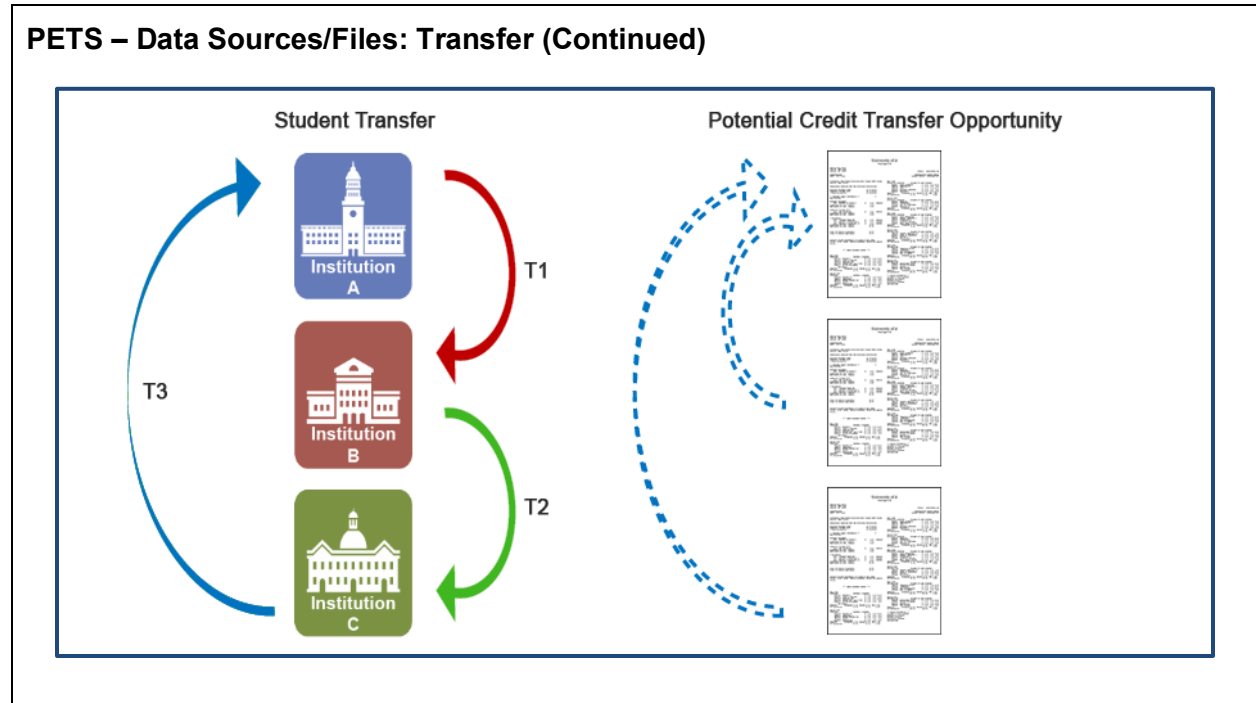
- University of Washington Transcript:** A transcript from the University of Washington, Washington, DC, showing course information for Fall 2004 and Spring 2005. It lists courses like HIST 156 and PSYC 101 with credit hours and grades.
- University of Durham Catalog:** A catalog page titled "CATALOG INFORMATION FOR ADVISING PURPOSES" for the year 2007-2008. It lists courses such as 9301 HISTORY OF US/SCR 3 and 9401 ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY I with their respective credit values.
- Transfer Credit Information Summary Table:** A table summarizing transfer credit information. It lists "Equivalences" and "ADVANCED PLACEMENT" for various courses. For example, 9301 HISTORY OF US/SCR 3 is equivalent to HIST156 (3.00 credits). The table also lists "Community College of B" and "C University" courses and their credit values. At the bottom, it shows "Total UG Credits Acceptable: 18.00" and "Total UG Credits Applicable: 18.00".

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Transfer (Continued)

- Rows represent student-origin institution-destination, institution records
- Cases included in the dataset
 - Opportunities for credit transfer
- Cases excluded from the dataset
 - Transfer opportunities with missing beginning and/or end dates
- Newer studies will include reserve codes in the Transfer dataset, using the definition of a credit transfer opportunity

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Transfer (Continued)





PETS – Data Sources/Files: Transfer (Continued)

Transfer Data Variables include

- Beginning and end dates
- First transfer flag
- Total credits taken at original institution
- Total credits accepted at destination institution
- Percentage of credits transferred
- Sector relationship
- Accreditation relationship
- Degree program change flag

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Transfer (Continued)

Table X. Transfer Variables

	Variable Name	Variable Label
✓	__INCTRF	Incidental transfer indicator
✓	__ACCREL	Accreditation relationship
✓	__CTLCHG	Control relationship
✓	__LVLCHG	Level relationship
✓	__SELREL	Selectivity relationship
✗	__MAJCHG	Major change during transfer indicator
✓	__PR*	Program change variables
✓	__SEC*	Sector change variables
✓	__TCRSS	Course credit taken at origin institution
✗	__CRSUCC	Transfer credits listed in bulk on the transcript
✗	__CRRS	Course credits transferred to destination institution
✓	__BTCRRS	Overall credits transferred to destination institution

✓ = This variable has gone through a more extensive review for quality

✗ = Caution should be used when selecting this variable

See [Appendix](#) for information about these variables

PETS – Data Sources/Files: Derived (Continued)

Derived Variables

	Variable Name	Variable Label
✓	__*	First transfer variables from the Transfer dataset
✗	__MAJ*	Major change variables from Transfer dataset
✓	__TRPTMS	Total missing transcripts
✓	__PSEERN	Postsecondary career credits earned
✓	__ENROLL	72 month enrollment indicator string
	__NUM	Summed or computed variables from the Courses or Student Schools datasets (Number of courses taken, credits attempted/earned by course subject, credits earned by year, ratio of credits earned to attempted etc.)
	__ATT	
✓	__ERN	
	__#_STM	
	__####ERN	
✗	__RAT	Credit transfer indicator for first transfer
	__TRSANY	

✓ = This variable has gone through a more extensive review for quality

✗ = Caution should be used when selecting this variable

See [Appendix](#) for information about these variables

PETS – Data Analysis

- PETS data are appropriate for research questions about
 - Course-taking patterns
 - Credit transfer
 - Student momentum and attrition
 - Connection among course and major choices, occupations, and wages
- Analysis of PETS data requires either
 - Specific dataset access through a [Restricted-use license](#) and the use of weights and design variables
 - [Analyzing NCES Complex Survey Data](#)
 - [Statistical Analysis of NCES Datasets Employing a Complex Sample Design](#)
 - [PowerStats](#) (public- or restricted-use datasets)

PETS – Dataset Selection

- Institution
- Transcript
- Terms
- Courses
- Degrees
- Student Schools
- Transfer
- **Derived**
- Weights

For a given research question, try the Derived file through PowerStats first

PETS – Dataset Selection (Continued)

- Institution
- Transcript
- Terms
- Courses
- Degrees
- **Student Schools**
- **Transfer**
- Derived
- Weights

If the Derived dataset cannot answer the research question, use these files

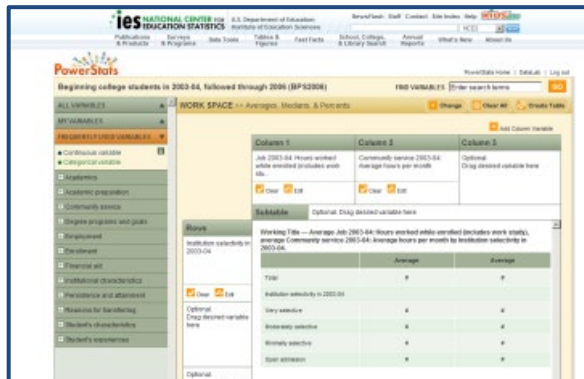
PETS – Dataset Selection (Continued)

- Institution
- Transcript
- Terms
- Courses
- Degrees
- Student Schools
- Transfer
- Derived
- Weights

If Derived, Student Schools, Weights, and Transfer files cannot answer the research question, use these files

PETS – Derived Data and [PowerStats](#)

- Variables from the Derived files are available on PowerStats
- PowerStats does much of the work for the researcher
- No statistics software or Restricted-use license needed



Module Summary

- Introduced the Postsecondary Education Transcript Studies (PETS)
- Described potential uses and research questions
- Explained the data collections and coding
- Described the sources of data, data files, and sample variables
- Provided examples of data sources/files
- Explained data analysis appropriate for PETS

Module Resources

- [Postsecondary Education Transcript Studies \(PETS\)](#)
- [National Longitudinal Study of 1972 \(NLS-72\)](#)
- [High School and Beyond \(HS&B:80\)](#)
- [Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study \(B&B\)](#)
- [National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988 \(NELS:88\)](#)
- [Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study \(BPS\)](#)
- [Education Longitudinal Study of 2002\(ELS:2002\)](#)
- [High School Longitudinal Study of 2009 \(HSL:09\)](#)
- [The College Course Map \(CCM:2010\)](#)
- [PETS Appendix](#)
- [Restricted-use license](#)
- [Analyzing NCES Complex Survey Data](#)
- [Statistical Analysis of NCES Datasets Employing a Complex Sample Design](#)
- [PowerStats](#)