

Glossary of Institutional Research Terminology

Variable	Source/Report	Definition
21st Century Scholar Student	http://www.in.gov/21stcenturyscholars/2440.htm	A middle school or high school student from Indiana that made a significant promise of good personal behavior and academic achievement in exchange for college tuition and support services provided by the State. Students are identified based on a 21st Century Scholarship award per Fincaill Aid.
Academic Year	Argos	The period of time that includes Fall semester, Spring semester, through the end of the Summer sessions. In Argos, the period is defined as yyyy05 (fall semester) through vvvv04 (summer sessions).
Admit Rate		A ratio that is calculated by dividing admitted students by total applicants for a specific entry term.
Academic Standing	Blue Reports - Data Warehouse Glossary	Identifies a student as being in good academic standing (cumulative GPA 2.0 or above), on academic probation, or academic dismissal.
Admitted Students		Student that meets admission requirements and is offered admission to the University for a specific semester. Not to be confused with an enrolled student.
Alumni		Former students who have graduated from Indiana State University.
CIP Code (Classification of Instructional Programs)		A standardized classification of instructional programs by the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES). It is a six-digit code in the form of xx.xxx that identifies instructional program specialities. All ISU majors are assigned to a CIP code.
Cohort	IPEDS Glossary	A specific group of students established for tracking purposes. Typically, Indiana State tracks first-time freshmen and new transfers.
Common Data Set (CDS)	Common Data Set	The Common Data Set (CDS) is a standard format used to collect information that is frequently requested by outside constituents from the higher education community. Data items and definitions used by the U.S. Department of Education in its higher education surveys often serve as a guide in the continued development of the CDS. The CDS is organized around the following topics: (A) general campus, (B) enrollment and persistence, (C) first-time, first-year (freshman) admissions, (D) transfer admissions, (E) academic offerings and policies, (F) student life, (G) annual expenses, (H) financial aid, (I) instructional faculty and class size, (J) degrees conferred, and (K) definitions.
Conditional Admit		A freshman student admitted to the university who has not met requirements for unconditional admission. These students are placed on academic probation their first semester and are expected to achieve at least a 2.0 GPA at the end of their first semester or be subject to academic dismissal.
Credit Hour	Common Data Set	A unit of measure representing an hour (50 minutes) of instruction over a 15-week period in a semester or trimester system or a 10-week period in a quarter system. It is applied toward the total number of hours needed for completing the requirements of a degree, diploma, certificate, or other formal award.
Degree Count		Number of degrees awarded by the university for a particular period of time (for example: semester(s), fiscal year(s), academic year(s)); generally broken down by degree type (for example: Associate, Bachelor's, Masters, PhD).
Degree Seeking Student	Common Data Set	Students enrolled in courses for credit who are recognized by the institution as seeking a degree or formal award.
DRDr		The percentage of students who earned a D, D- or F or a Dropped course in academic history; Wwithdrawals are not included.
Distance Learning	Common Data Set	An option for earning course credit at off-campus locations via cable television, internet, satellite classes, videotapes, correspondence courses, or other means.
Distance Student		A student who is enrolled in at least one course that is in a distance program (offered on-line).
Dual Credit	http://www.indstate.edu/challenge/courseOfferings.shtml	High school students earn high school and college credit hours simultaneously for successful completion of ISU approved high school classes throughout the State. ISU's dual credit program is called College Challenge.
End of Semester (EOS) Count	Argos/ORR	Count of students officially enrolled as of the final day of a semester.
Faculty Rank	http://www.indstate.edu/adminaff/docs/305%20FacultyAppPromotionTenurePolicies.pdf	The academic ranks for the regular faculty are Instructor, Assistant Professor/Librarian, Associate Professor/Librarian and Professor/Librarian.
Financial Need	College Board	This is the amount of a student's total cost of attendance that isn't covered by the expected family contribution or outside grants and scholarships. A student must demonstrate financial need to be eligible for need-based financial assistance programs. Financial need is sometimes referred to as "demonstrated need".
First Generation Student	ISU definition (derived from FAFSA submissions)	Students who have indicated on the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) that both of their parents highest education is middle or high school.
First-time Full-Time Student		A new freshmen student that has never attended college as a degree-seeking student previously, taking classes worth at least 12 hours of credit.
Fiscal Year	Argos	The fiscal year begins on July 1st and ends on the following June 30th. In Argos, the period is defined as yyyy04 (summer sessions) through yyyy01 (Spring semester).
Freshman Cohort Retention Rate		The number of freshman students from a cohort that return to college the following Fall semester divided by the original cohort population number.
FTFTBDS	Blue Reports - Data Warehouse Glossary	First-time, Full-time Bachelor's Degree-Seeking. Students who have not been enrolled as a degree-seeking student at any institution prior to enrolling at ISU; they are usually direct matriculants, but not necessarily.
Full-time Student (Graduate)		A student enrolled for at least 9 credit hours during the Fall or Spring semester.
Full-time Student (Undergraduate)		A student enrolled for at least 12 credit hours during the Fall or Spring semester.
Graduation Rate		The number of students from a particular cohort that graduated, divided by the original number of students in the cohort. Graduation rates are often reflected in terms of graduating within 4 years, 6 years and 8 years.
Honors Program	ISU Honors Program website	The University Honors Program is a core of classes and experiences taught by faculty specifically selected for their expertise and devotion to academic excellence and designed to enrich and maximize talented and motivated students efforts in a program of study that enhances her/his academic major and provides the best possible preparation for professional development.
Indebtedness		The level of student loan debt held by an individual student (or a group of students) at any given time (for example: after the first year of college; at graduation, etc)
In-State Tuition	Common Data Set	The tuition charged by institutions to those students who meet the state's or institution's residency requirements.
MapWorks	http://www.indstate.edu/studentsuccess/pdf/MapWorks%20Foundation%20Oct%202012%20.pdf	MAP-Works® is a web-enabled, comprehensive, integrated, student retention and success platform. It is used to help identify at-risk students early in the Fall term and evaluate the at-risk status of students on a continuous basis throughout the academic year.
Minority Student		A student that is not a non-resident alien (foreign student) and self-identifies as being Asian, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Black of African American, Hispanic or Latino, or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, or two or more races

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Need-Based Aid	https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/financial-aid-101/financial-aid-glossary-learn-the-lingo	Financial aid (grants, scholarships, loans and work-study opportunities) given to students because they and their families are not able to pay the full cost of attending a certain college. This is the most common type of financial aid.
Non-Resident Alien	IPEDS Glossary	A person who is not a citizen or national of the United States and who is in this country on a visa or temporary basis and does not have the right to remain indefinitely.
Official Census Date		The date on which the "official count" of all enrolled students takes place. Numbers from this count provide benchmarks for attendance, retention, graduation and a variety of student and operational metrics. The Official Census is performed at the end of the 5th day of classes following the beginning of the Fall and Spring semesters.
Official Counts	Argos/ORR	Numbers generated from the official census that occurs at the end of the 5th day of classes during the Fall and Spring semesters.
Out of State Tuition	http://www.indstate.edu/tuition/fall2014-2015-undergraduate/index.htm	Amount of tuition prescribed for students whose home residence is outside of Indiana. Out of State Tuition is also charged to international students.
Race/Ethnicity Designations	IPEDS Glossary	For US Citizens, resident aliens and other eligible non citizens: If Hispanic or Latino counted as Hispanic/Latino; otherwise designation is by race. Race categories include: American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, White. International students that are not resident aliens or other eligible non-citizens are designated as Non-Resident Alien.
Registration		The process of registering for college includes the opportunity to meet with your advisor, plan and select your courses for the coming semester.
Retention Rate	IPEDS Glossary	A measure of the rate at which students persist in their educational program at an institution, expressed as a percentage. For example, at a four-year institution the percentage of first-time bachelors (or equivalent) degree-seeking undergraduates from the previous fall who are again enrolled in the current fall is a one-year retention rate.
Staff Fulltime Equivilant (FTE)	IPEDS Glossary	In the IPEDS Human Resource Summary calculations, the full-time-equivalent (FTE) of staff is calculated by summing the total number of full-time staff and adding one-third of the total number of part-time staff.
STEM	US Department of Education	STEM is an acronym used for the academic disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.
Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM)		A strategic plan specifically for enrollment activities that intertwines with ISU's Strategic Plan: The Pathway to Success. The plan includes strategic initiatives, benchmarking and goals.
Student / Faculty Ratio <i>for Common Data Set (CDS) and reports/surveys using CDS data on the Institutional Research website</i>	Common Data Set	The ratio of full-time equivalent students (full-time plus 1/3 part time) to full-time equivalent instructional faculty (full time plus 1/3 part time). In the ratio calculations, exclude both faculty and students in stand-alone graduate or professional programs such as medicine, law, veterinary, dentistry, social work, business, or public health in which faculty teach virtually only graduate-level students. Do not count undergraduate or graduate student teaching assistants as faculty.
Student / Faculty Ratio <i>(for FTE, SCH & S/F Ratio report; appearing on Departmental Dashboards only)</i>	Internal calculation specific to Faculty FTE, Student Credit Hours (SCH) and Student FTE for Departmental Dashboard's FTE, SCH & S/F Ratio Report	The ratio of full-time equivalent students to full-time equivalent instructional faculty. For Faculty FTE: FT faculty FTE = 1.0, PT faculty FTE = per BANNER job record, Grad Assistant FTE = 0.25, Administrator and Other FTE = 0.0, Excluded: None. For SCH and Student FTE: SCH taught by department's faculty and graduate assistants plus SCH in department's courses taught by administrators and others. Fall Student FTE = (SCH in GR courses/12) + (SCH in UG courses/15).
Student Full-Time Equivilant (FTE)		The full-time equivalent (FTE) of students is a single value providing a meaningful combination of full-time and part-time students. The value is created by dividing the graduate credit hours by 12 and undergraduate credit hours by 15 for a semester.
Success Rate	Blue Reports - Data Warehouse Glossary	Percentage of students in a cohort who have either graduated or are still enrolled. This number is often expressed in terms of a Fall to Fall perspective.
Transfer Credit Hours	http://www.indstate.edu/transfer/guidelines.htm	Credit hours earned at regionally accredited colleges/universities in the United States and select foreign institutions that can be applied towards a degree program at ISU. Number of allowable transfer credit hours cannot exceed 90.
Transfer Student	IPEDS Glossary	A student entering the reporting institution for the first time but known to have previously attended a postsecondary institution at the same level (e.g., undergraduate, graduate). This includes new students enrolled in the fall term who transferred into the institution the prior summer term. The student may transfer with or without credit.
Transfer Student Retention Rate		The number of transfer students from a cohort that return to college the following Fall semester divided by the original transfer cohort population number.
Unconditional Admit		A freshman student admitted to the university that has achieved at least a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
Unduplicated Student Count	IPEDS Glossary	The sum of students enrolled for credit with each student counted only once during the reporting period, regardless of when the student enrolled.