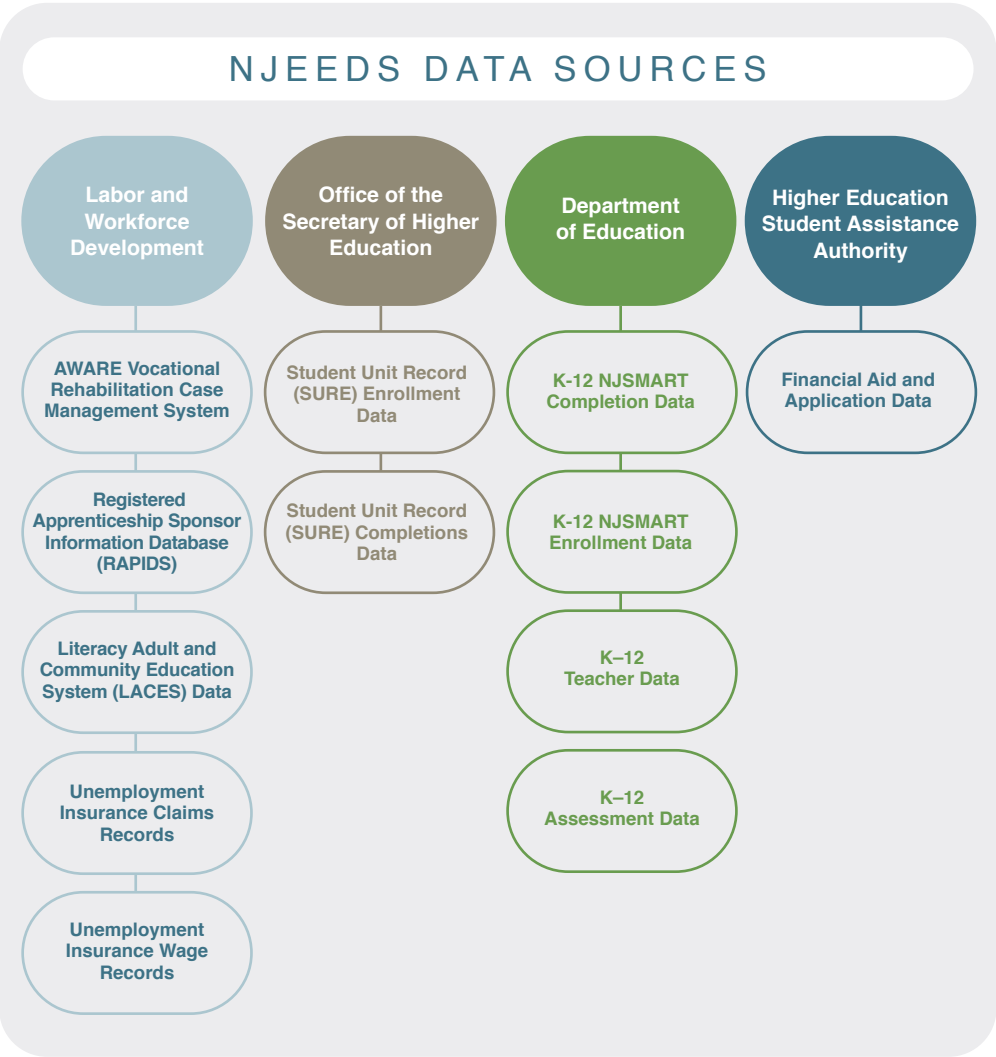The New Jersey Education to Earnings Data System (NJEEDS) is the State of New Jersey's centralized longitudinal data system for education and workforce data. Its mission is to safely use the state's existing administrative data for evidence-based policymaking. Developed in 2012 through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, NJEEDS creates a single place where state education, postsecondary education, employment, and workforce longitudinal data are securely stored to help stakeholders make data-informed decisions to improve student learning and labor market outcomes. The data system is owned by the State of New Jersey and operated by the John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

NJEEDS is a collaboration between four New Jersey state agencies, each sharing individual-level data.

NJEEDS DATA SOURCES

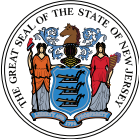| Labor and Workforce Development	Office of the Secretary of Higher Education	Department of Education	Higher Education Student Assistance Authority
AWARE Vocational Rehabilitation Case Management System	Student Unit Record (SURE) Enrollment Data	K-12 NJSMART Completion Data	Financial Aid and Application Data
Registered Apprenticeship Sponsor Information Database (RAPIDS)	Student Unit Record (SURE) Completions Data	K-12 NJSMART Enrollment Data	
Literacy Adult and Community Education System (LACES) Data		K–12 Teacher Data	
Unemployment Insurance Claims Records		K–12 Assessment Data	
Unemployment Insurance Wage Records			

Additional data from training providers and the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development's case management system will be included in the future.

Contact us for more information about the New Jersey Education to Earnings Data System.
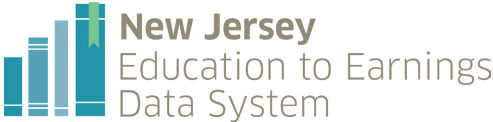
New Jersey Education to Earnings Data System
John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
30 Livingston Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

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New Jersey's Education to Earnings Data System

2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

New Jersey Department of Education
New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development
New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority
New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education

RUTGERS
Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy
JOHN J. HELDRICH CENTER FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

New Jersey Education to Earnings Data System

Applied Data Analytics Training

NJEEDS hosted its own Applied Data Analytics training course for a second year. The class was developed with the support of the Coleridge Initiative and is designed to introduce the data, data science concepts, and research design process using a team-based approach to apply the learned concepts. With 23 participants in 2022, NJEEDS plans to continue to offer this training annually for new state employees, academic researchers, and students interested in learning how to leverage data science tools to analyze administrative data.

Eastern States Longitudinal Data Collaborative

Comprised of eastern U.S. states and Washington, D.C., the Eastern States Longitudinal Data Collaborative (ESLDC) continued to grow and formalize data collaboratives in 2022. This past fall, members collaborated on a research project funded by the Coleridge Initiative's Democratizing Our Data: A Challenge to Invest in Data and Evidence-based Policy. Additionally, ESLDC now has an interim executive board chair and administrative support from the National Association of State Workforce Agencies.

NJEEDS Data Advisory Committees

After a charter approval in 2021, NJEEDS and its counterpart system for early childhood education, the New Jersey Enterprise Analysis System for Early Learning (NJ-EASEL), established the New Jersey Longitudinal Data Systems Advisory Committee (LDAC) in 2022. LDAC's purpose is to coordinate activities across all New Jersey state data systems and reduce any duplication of effort. The committee held its first meeting and appointed a chair in October 2022.

Additionally, the NJEEDS Data Advisory Council (DAC) was reinstated in 2022 to serve as an advisory committee to NJEEDS. DAC members, who meet on a quarterly basis, will receive updates on the status of NJEEDS and public access, as well as opportunities to guide the research agenda and outreach activities.

NJEEDS De-identified Data System and State Agency Access

Public availability of the NJEEDS De-identified Data System, hosted at the Coleridge Initiative's Administrative Data Research Facility, commenced in early 2022. Along with safe access to the data, users, consisting of state agencies and select researchers, also have a suite of data tools available for use. A pilot program was held this past summer with state agency staff and researchers who were part of the NJEEDS Internship and Research Grant programs.

NJEEDS continues to expand access to data while protecting the privacy and confidentiality of the individuals whose records are in the system. To ensure the highest levels of data security, NJEEDS is built on a multi-level system that uses a combination of information technology best practices, de-identification, ethical data use, authorization, and training for all users.

Upcoming NJEEDS Reports

The following products are currently in development and scheduled for release on the NJEEDS website in 2023:

- **Benefits of Education in New Jersey:** A presentation of the differences in financial outcomes by educational level. The outcomes from this report demonstrate how higher levels of education have a positive return on investment to the individual, the State of New Jersey, and society.

- **Early Signs of Wage Scarring:** An assessment of initial indicators of wage scarring for those who graduated from institutions of higher education during the COVID-19 pandemic, compared to tested measures of wage scarring for 2007-09 Great Recession college graduates.

- **Educational Opportunity Fund/New Jersey Governor's Industry Vocations Scholarship for Women and Minorities Program Evaluation:** Analyses that will provide a long-term review of two critical programs for New Jersey postsecondary students, showing how these programs affect students' postsecondary retention and graduation and their eventual employment outcomes.

- **New Jersey Tuition Aid Grant:** A study that compares graduation rates of recipients to the graduation rates for all students by institution to learn more about student outcomes.

- **Postsecondary Graduate and Workforce Migration:** A report that resolves to what extent students who move to New Jersey for college stay in the state following graduation, a question that is missing from the postsecondary migration debate regarding how much New Jersey benefits from the talent, education, and skills coming into the state from postsecondary students who move to and stay in the state.

- **Revised Higher Education Outcomes Dashboard:** An update to the existing higher education outcomes dashboard with workforce assessments of postsecondary graduates from 2013 to 2020 up to three years post-graduation. This updated report will include additional outcomes by student characteristics at the institution level.

- **Some College, No Degree:** A presentation of the indicators of success for postsecondary students with any stop-out experience who ultimately return to complete their degrees to those who stopped out and have not yet returned.

- **Unemployment Insurance Claims:** A presentation of descriptive characteristics of those who received Unemployment Insurance benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic, comparing their length of benefit receipt and post-claim employment outcomes by several demographic characteristics.

For more information about NJEEDS and NJEEDS initiatives, visit **www.njeeds.org**

Research Grants

With funding support from the U.S. Department of Education's Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems grant, NJEEDS initiated a small grant program that allowed approved researchers to use NJEEDS data to explore de-identified NJEEDS data through a secure data access process. Two projects were selected — Stackable Credentials in New Jersey: Mapping the Current Landscape and Employment Outcomes by Pathway to Credential. Both projects are expected to be completed in 2023 and will be available on the NJEEDS website.

Internship Program

This past summer, five graduate students from multiple New Jersey higher education institutions completed the inaugural NJEEDS summer internship program. Participants were placed within NJEEDS partner agencies and worked with de-identified NJEEDS data to complete research projects.

Due to the success of both programs, grants and internships will again be offered in 2023.

NJEEDS funding and operating expenses have varied year over year, but recent efforts have been made to accurately project and stabilize funding. The system is primarily supported through partner agency contributions and federal grants such as the U.S. Department of Education's Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems grant. Currently, operating expenses are estimated to be around $1.5 million annually. The NJEEDS budget is split into two main categories: base costs (administration, governance, database operations) and agency research activities (reports, new data sources, training). Base costs are approximately $891,000 per year, while research activities are $620,000 per year. Current projections assume a maintenance of staffing levels and governance support along with the release of several annual research products.

NJEEDS OPERATING EXPENSES

- 43% Data Operations
- 30% Research Activities
- 16% Governance
- 6% Training and Outreach
- 5% Enhancements