

**Nevada  
Tyler Trevor**

**History**

1. When was the student unit-record (SUR) system established?  
The Nevada System of Higher Education's (NSHE) student unit-record database (student data warehouse) was developed in 2000.
2. By whom?  
The project was completed by System Administration in conjunction with System Computing Services.
3. For what purpose (e.g., resource allocation/funding formula, IPEDS, tracking student retention/ graduation, tracking students across institutions)?  
The primary purpose of the database is to support system wide institutional research efforts.

**Coverage**

1. What institutions are included in your SUR system?  
All institutions in the NSHE are included: University of Nevada – Las Vegas (UNLV), University of Nevada – Reno (UNR), Nevada State College (NSC), Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC), Community College of Southern Nevada (CCSN), Western Nevada Community College (WNCC), and Great Basin College (GBC).
2. Are any independent institutions included (number or percentage)? What about proprietary institutions? Are different kinds of data or different schedules for data collection used for any of these institutions?  
No.
3. Are there plans to expand the system's coverage in terms of institutions? Please explain.  
No.
4. When are data of which type collected (e.g. term/quarter/semester census date, annual, end of term, etc.)? Other reporting cycles?  
Mid-semester Census and End-of-Semester.
5. Are there plans to collect data more frequently or on a different cycle?  
No
6. Is non-credit enrollment or instructional activity covered (e.g. ABE, ESL, GED, other job-related continuing education activity, etc.)? If so, is this in a separate database and what data elements are captured?  
No.

## Data Management and Manipulation

1. Who has authority over changing data elements and definitions?  
System Administration and System Computing Services.
2. Are SSNs used as a key link? If they are not, what is used instead? Are there immediate or long-range plans to discontinue use of the SSN as a key link?  
Yes, however a warehouse person ID is also assigned to each record.
3. Can campuses access datasets (unit records) themselves -- access in what terms (results, unit record data after it has been cleaned, unit-record data value added). If yes, who has access and how is this managed?  
No.
4. How do you handle privacy and FERPA issues? Do you have an explicit privacy policy and/or policies governing the use of SUR data by third parties such as institutions and researchers?  
System attorneys have developed a position in which we follow.
5. Have any FERPA or privacy issues come up recently in your state? If so, how have they affected your ability to use student record information?  
No.
6. Do you link SUR data within your state to other databases?  
Currently we do not, however inter-local agreements have been developed with both K-12 and the state's labor department to establish links with both high school and UI wage records.
7. Have you cooperated with other state higher education agencies to share data? If so, please explain.  
No.

## Reporting and Use of Data

1. What kinds of statistics and reports are generated regularly using SUR data?  
The warehouse is used to produce a variety of reports including, enrollment distributions by student demographics, as well as student success measures.
2. If graduation and retention statistics are generated for institutions (or for the state or system as a whole), how are they calculated (e.g. IPEDS Graduation Rate Survey method, other methods)?  
We rely on IPEDS for our official retention and graduation rate data; however these measures can be replicated in the warehouse.

3. What kinds of research projects have recently been undertaken by the state or system using SUR data resources?  
Transfer study and graduation rates for Millennium Scholars.
4. What are the biggest challenges you face with respect to using SUR data resources for analysis and reporting?  
Data quality for some key variables, such as new student codes.

## Overview

1. Have there been any significant developments in regards to your SUR system since 2002?  
We are in the process of a system wide ERP. This will dramatically change not only the administrative software used throughout the System, but also nature of our warehouse. In general, this project will place a greater focus on the System's use of a data warehouse, increasing data administration and quality assurance.
2. Is there anything that you would like to add that we have not addressed?  
No.