

TIP SHEET: COMMON TYPES OF SCHOOL DATA

DATA ABOUT SCHOOLS OR DISTRICTS

Often available on public websites in the aggregate. This data cannot be tied to individual students.

Student Demographics (aggregate): Race/ethnicity, Special program participation, and gender are available by school or district from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).¹ Districts may also collect data on students' living arrangements and home languages, but do not always report these.

Attendance (aggregate): Average daily attendance and/or early warning-type data are often reported by districts. Unexcused absence rates are available from OSPI.

Performance (aggregate): State assessment data (MSP/HSPE/EOC Exams) is available from OSPI. Growth measures (e.g. “% making typical growth”) are sometimes available).

Discipline (aggregate): District-level discipline data is available from OSPI.

Teacher/Staffing Information: Number of teachers, years of experience, education, demographics, and “highly qualified” designation available at the school and district level through OSPI.

Climate/Culture Information: Student, staff, and/or parent survey results are sometimes available from district or school websites.

Graduation/Postsecondary Enrollment (aggregate): 4- and 5-year cohort graduation rates are available through OSPI; College enrollment information is available through ERDC.²

DATA ABOUT STUDENTS

Sometimes available from school districts with a Data Sharing Agreement in place

Student Demographics (individual): Race/ethnicity, Special program participation (usually *not* Free and Reduced-Price Lunch eligibility), Home language, and living arrangements.

Attendance (individual): A log of absences from classes, or from full days (with reasons), is often available from schools relatively quickly, with summary data available at the end of term. Attendance data is not necessarily consistent between schools and districts.

Performance (individual): State assessment data (grades 3-12) available from districts; other district assessment results are sometimes available. Grades (current, interim, and/or final) are often available. Growth measures (e.g. “growth percentile”) are sometimes available.

Discipline (individual): Disciplinary incidents and actions taken may be available from districts.

Coursework: Courses in which students are enrolled and their completion/performance status may be available from districts.

NOTE: The data types above are the ones that are routinely captured and stored in district data systems; other data may be available from teachers or through student/parent portals (e.g. The Source in Seattle).

¹ Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, <http://www.k12.wa.us/>

² Education Research and Data Center, <https://erdc.wa.gov/>