**About the Office of Institutional Research**

Website: <https://www.ir.txstate.edu/>

Mission: The Office of Institutional Research serves Texas State University and The Texas State University System by providing the information and analyses needed to make informed, data-driven decisions. Our office supports data governance at Texas State University, promoting the integrity of university data and reports. We work to advance the university mission by collecting, analyzing, and disseminating information through ad hoc and standard reports, conducting original research, supporting survey management policies and processes, and providing data for administrative assessment and planning.

**Texas State University Data**

Multiple Systems (Banner, SAP, TRACS, department specific data sets, etc.)

Currently there is no single “source” of data

**Terminology**

The same term can have multiple definitions depending on context.

EXAMPLE: **Student-to-faculty ratio for a department:** Which students are included (Majors? Minors? Enrolled students? Full-time or part-time?) Which faculty are included (full-time and/or part-time)? Often use full-time equivalents based on student SCH and Faculty FTE, but different surveys/reports might request actual headcounts of Majors to Full-Time Faculty (or maybe just tenure/tenure-track faculty).

**Some definitions to keep in mind**

**Retention:** Percent of first-time, full-time cohorts returning after given time frame (most often 1st to 2nd Fall)

**Persistence:** Percent of students returning one period to next

**Graduation Rate:** Percent of First-Time, full-time cohort graduation in “x” Years

**Graduation Ratio:** Percent of students who graduated in given period

**Graduation Percentage:** Percent of students in a given term that graduated within “x” years of when they started at Texas State

**Sources for Definitions**

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)

<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/1316.PDF>

Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)

<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/glossary/>

Office of Institutional Research Glossary of IR Terms (COMING SOON)

<https://www.ir.txstate.edu/resources/data-literacy.html>

**Comparing Texas State to other universities in Texas**

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)

<http://www.txhighereddata.org/>

THECB Accountability System

http://www.txhigheredaccountability.org/acctpublic/

**Comparing Texas State to other US institutions**

Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System Data Center

<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/datacenter/>

**Texas State Data: Administrative Survey Results**

<https://www.ir.txstate.edu/surveys/surveys_results.html>

Results of Administrative Surveys conducted by Texas State to collect information for planning, decision-making, and helping to identify opportunities for improvements to programs and services.

**Texas State Data: Highlights**

<https://www.ir.txstate.edu/highlights.html>

**Facts and Highlights**

General enrollment, application, and student success numbers, updated in the Fall semester of each year

**Texas State Data: Reports**

<https://www.ir.txstate.edu/reports.html>

**Common Data Set**

General information, admissions data, degrees offered, student life, expenses, financial aid, etc.

**Board of Regents Fact Sheet**

General overview of student population, faculty and staff, finances, and facilities; includes some peer comparisons

**Texas State Data: Student Data**

<https://www.ir.txstate.edu/student.html>

**General Enrollment**

Enrollment information for each semester including student demographics, headcounts, and SCH

**Applications and Admissions**

General information on student applications and admissions

**Retention, Persistence, and Graduation**

First-year retention rates, cohort graduation rates, degrees awarded, and more!

**Committee and Special Reports**

Academic Program Review, Course Grades and comparisons, Committee reports related to students

**Texas State Data: Employee Data**

<https://www.ir.txstate.edu/employee.html>

**General Employee Data**

General information on employees at Texas State based on reported Fall numbers

**Employee Hiring and Retention**

Information on employee hiring and retention by division and EEOC

**Specialized and Committee Reports**

Reports prepared by committee or administrative request

**CatStats**

<https://catstats.txstate.edu>

Many reports available from other pages on our website reside within CatStats

Requires a connection to Texas State network (on-campus or via VPN)

Access is restricted to Faculty and Staff

Some data is FERPA sensitive, so be aware!

**Additional Resources**

<https://www.ir.txstate.edu/resources.html>

Data Literacy and Training

Peer Institutions

Survey Design Resources