

State of the State: A Deep Dive into Postsecondary Data Systems through Strong Foundations 2023

Sean Baser, Senior Policy Analyst
Jessica Colorado, Policy Analyst
Gus Gluek, State Policy Intern

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SHEEO

State Higher Education
Executive Officers Association

Agenda

- Overview and history of Strong Foundations
- Highlights from recent reports
- Dashboard demonstrations
- What's next for Strong Foundations
- Open discussion & questions

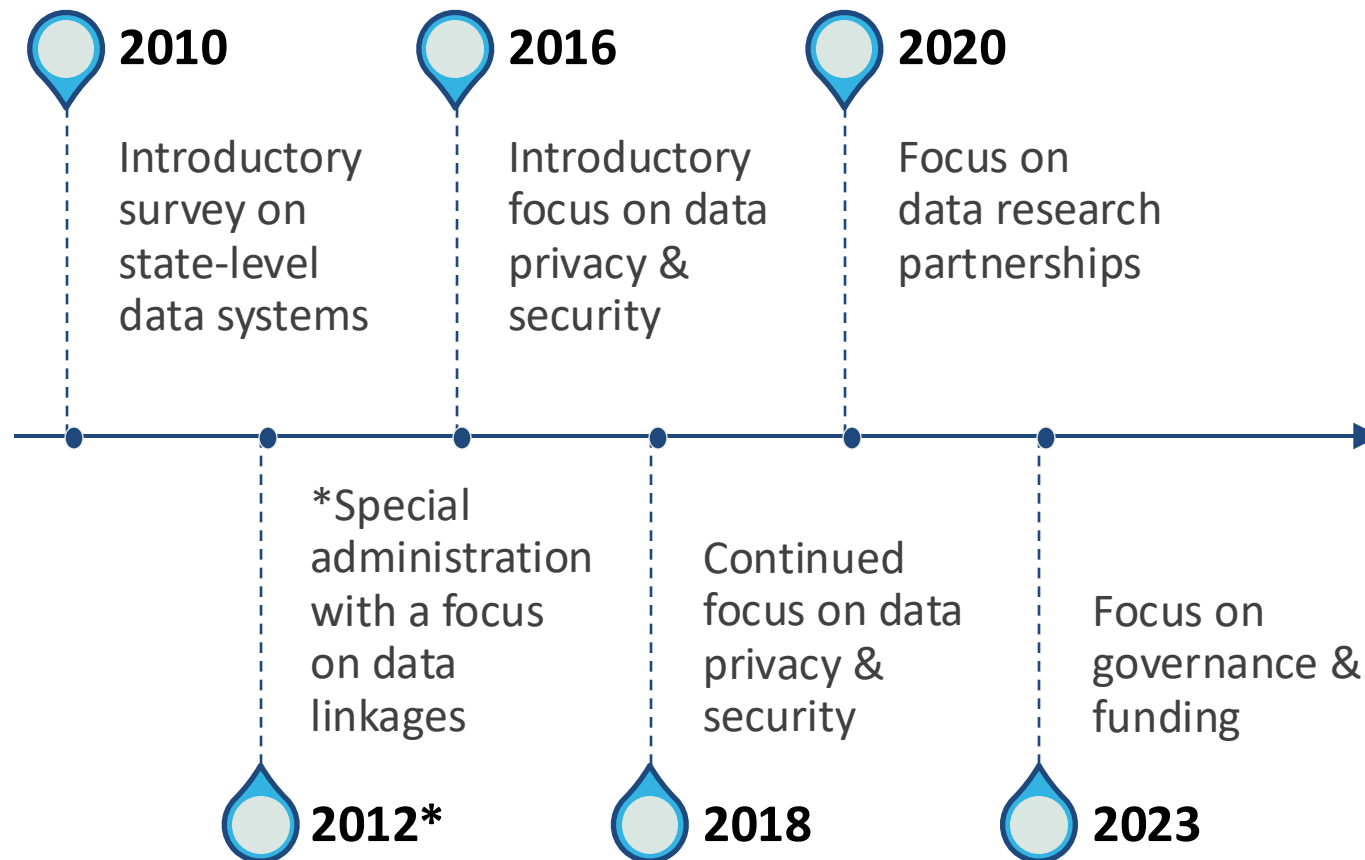
Overview of Strong Foundations



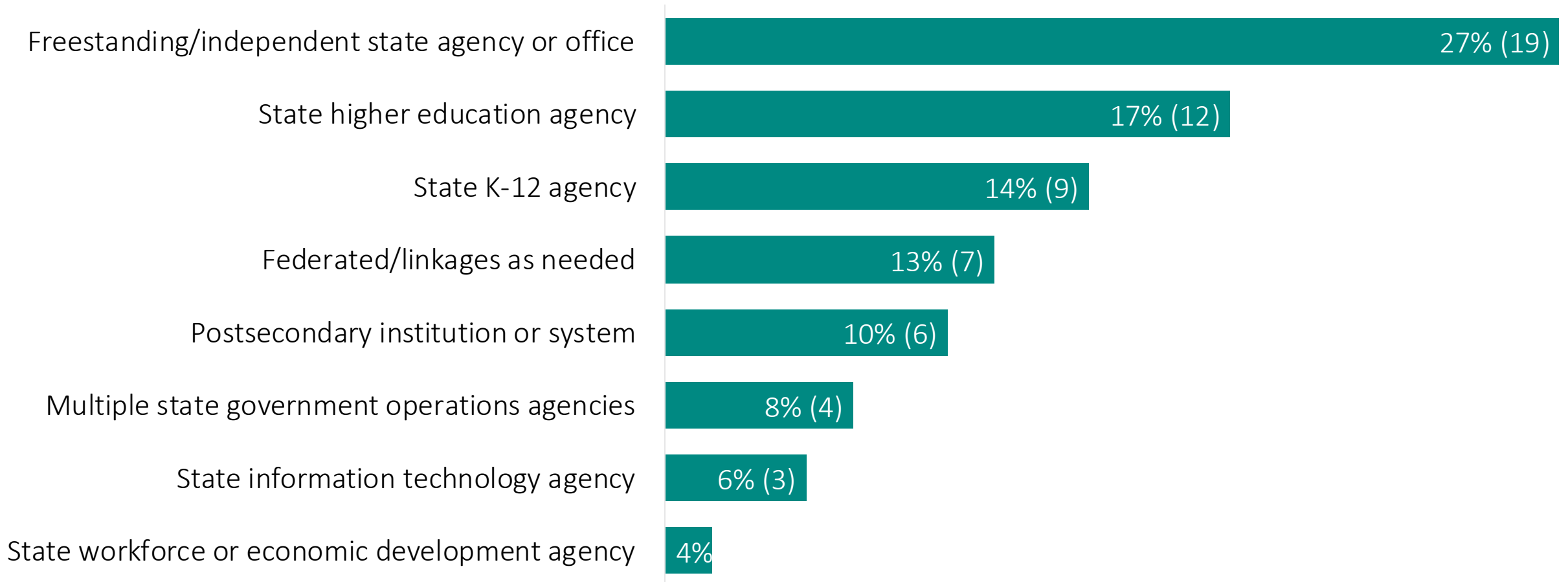
- Improves insight into the collection, value, and best practices associated with state **p**ostsecondary **s**tudent **u**nit **r**ecord **s**ystems (PSURs)
- Surveys developed in partnership with an advisory board of state data and research practitioners, third-party partner organizations, and field experts
- New interactive dashboards and web content available at postsecondarydata.sheeo.org
- SHEEO received philanthropic support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to administer survey & produce report findings

History of Strong Foundations

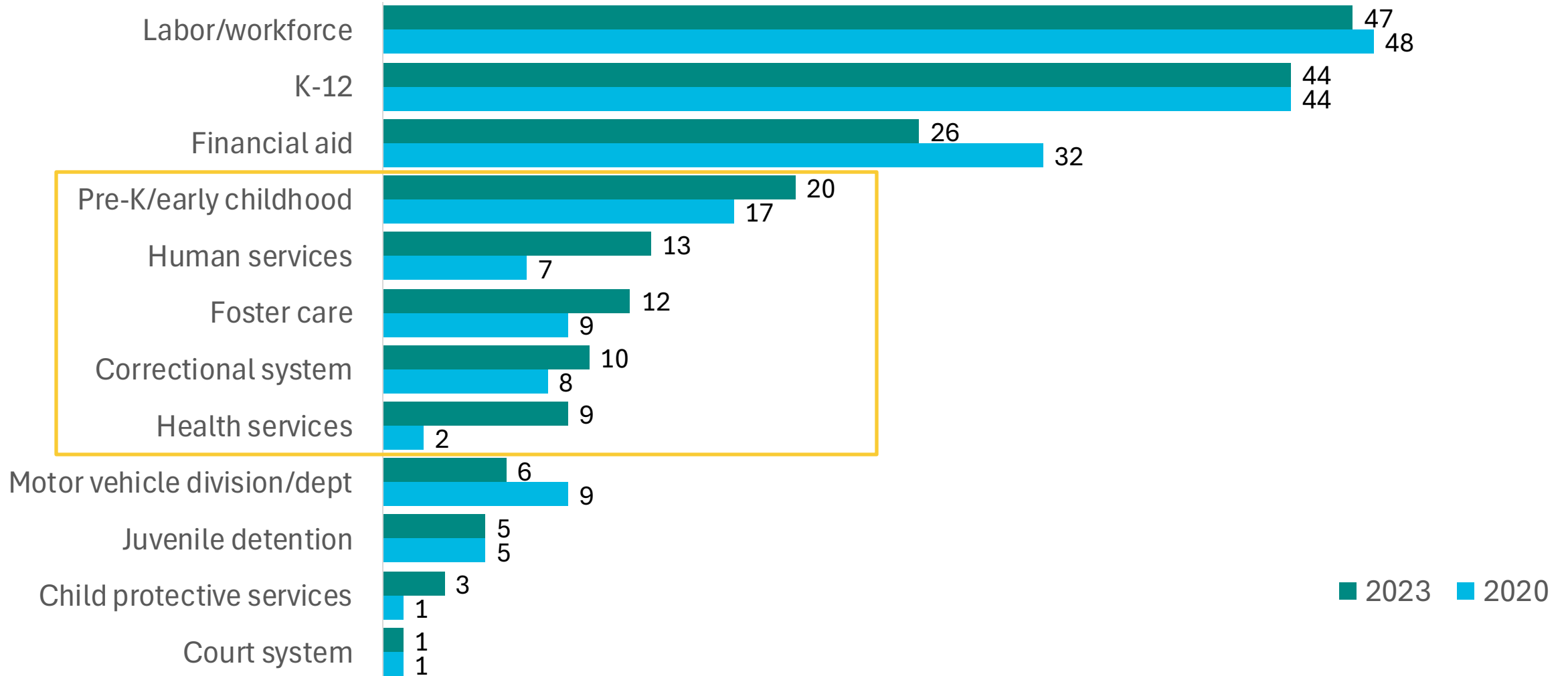
- Since 2010, six survey administrations and growing participation
 - In 2023, we collected data from 71 postsecondary agencies from 48 states and the District of Columbia
 - Our respondents include two-year public and four-year public (including technical college and community college system offices) and state longitudinal data systems (SLDS)



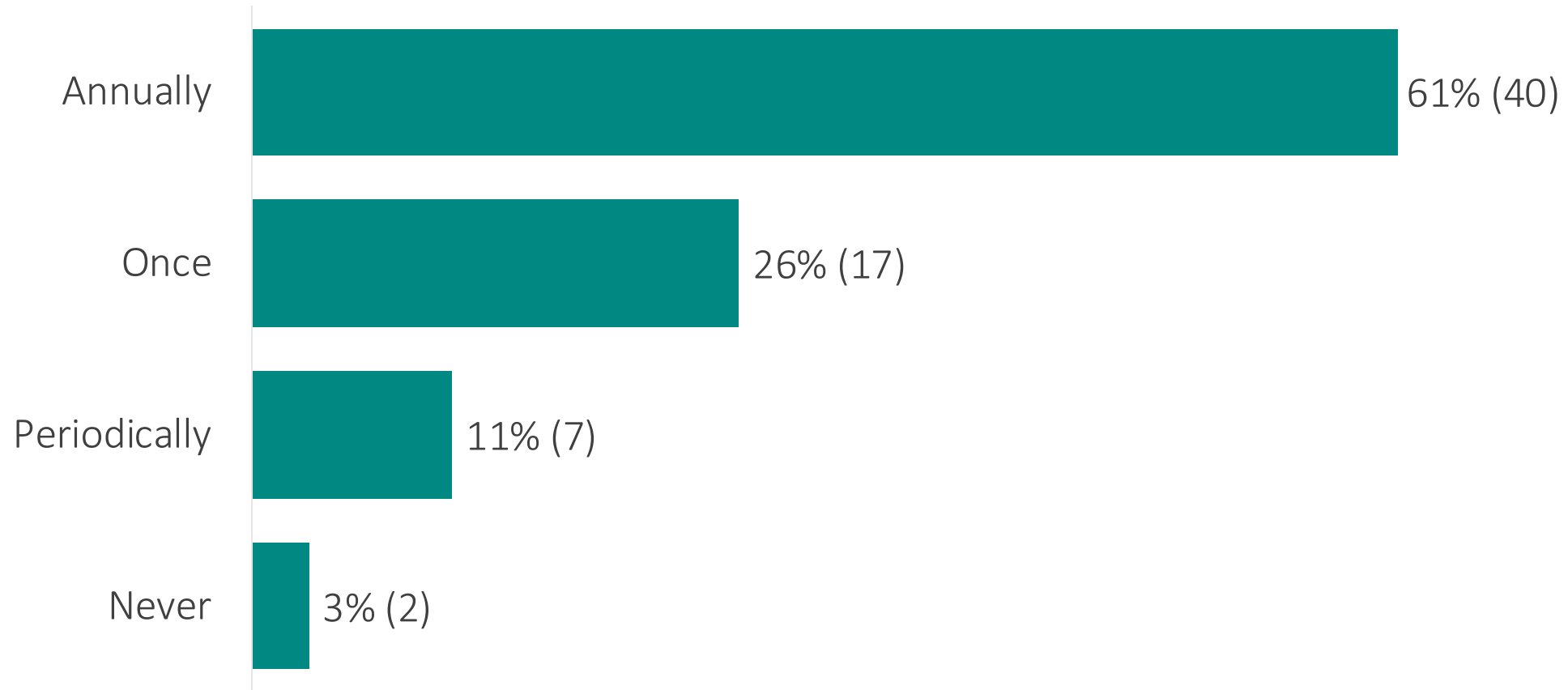
If your agency contributes to, participates in, or uses a P20W data system, where is it housed?



Which state agencies' unit record systems does your agency/PSUR system currently link to?



How often do employees in your agency receive formal training for ensuring privacy, security, and confidentiality of student-level data?



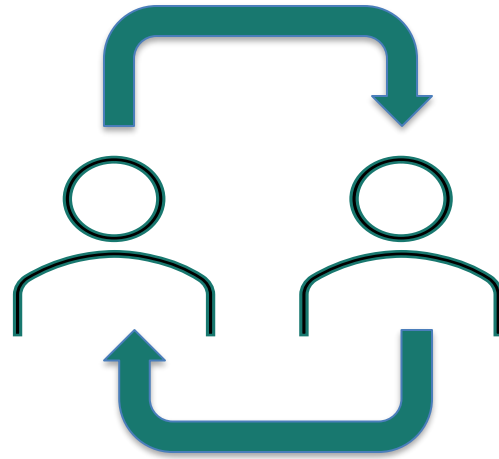
Strong Foundations 2023: Explicating the Value of PSURSs

- “Our PSURS is **fundamental** to understanding the state’s access and attainment goals.” - Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education **used its PSURS system data in concert with finance data** to create regional data roadshows, **leading to a 15% increase in funding** to support Pennsylvania higher education.

Practical Uses of Strong Foundations



**Understanding the
Landscape**



**Peer
Analysis**



**Planning & Policy
Advocacy**

Dashboard demonstration

Strong Foundations 2023: Data Elements Collected by PSURSs

Use the filters to sort through data elements by state, sector, category, or element name.

Filters: State (All), Sector (All), Category (All), Element (All)

Data Categories: Percentages Breakdown

Sector Legend: 2-year Public, 4-year Public, Independent, Proprietary, TCU's, No access

State	Agency Name	Academic Term	Admissions Scores	Age	Basic Need (e.g., food, housing)
Alabama	Alabama Commission on Higher Education	■ ■	■ ■	■ ■	■
Alaska	University of Alaska System	■	■	■	■
Arkansas	Arkansas Division of Higher Education	■ ■ ■	■	■ ■ ■	■
California	California Community College Chancellor's Office	■		■	■
	California State University System	■	■	■	
	California's Cradle to Career Data System	■ ■	■	■ ■	■

PSURS: Postsecondary Student Unit Record Systems; GPA: Grade Point Average; DACA: Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals; ESL: English as a Second Language; FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Strong Foundations 2023: Postsecondary Data Linkages to State Agencies

Use the filters to sort through linkages to state agencies by state.

Filters: State (All), Linked Agency (All)

Key: Linkage (Yes/No)

State	Agency Name	Workforce	K-12	Career & Technical Education	Financial Aid	Pre-K/Early Childhood	Human Services	Foster Care	Correctional System
Alaska	University of Alaska System	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Arkansas	Arkansas Division of Higher Education	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
California	California's Cradle to Career Data System	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	University of California Office of the President	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Colorado	Colorado Department of Higher Education	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Connecticut State College &...	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

postsecondarydata.sheeo.org/data

Strong Foundations: Data Elements Collected by PSURS Over Time

Build a powerful data analytics portfolio with these 5 essential chart types. [Get started](#) →

Strong Foundations Data Elements Accessed by [SHEEO](#)



Strong Foundations: Data Elements Collected by PSURs Over Time (2010-2023)

Use the filters to sort through data elements by state, agency, category, or element name.

Filters

State
(All) ▾

Agency
(All) ▾

Category
(All) ▾

Element
(All) ▾

ValueCategory (Response Type?)
(All) ▾

Year
(All) ▾

Legend



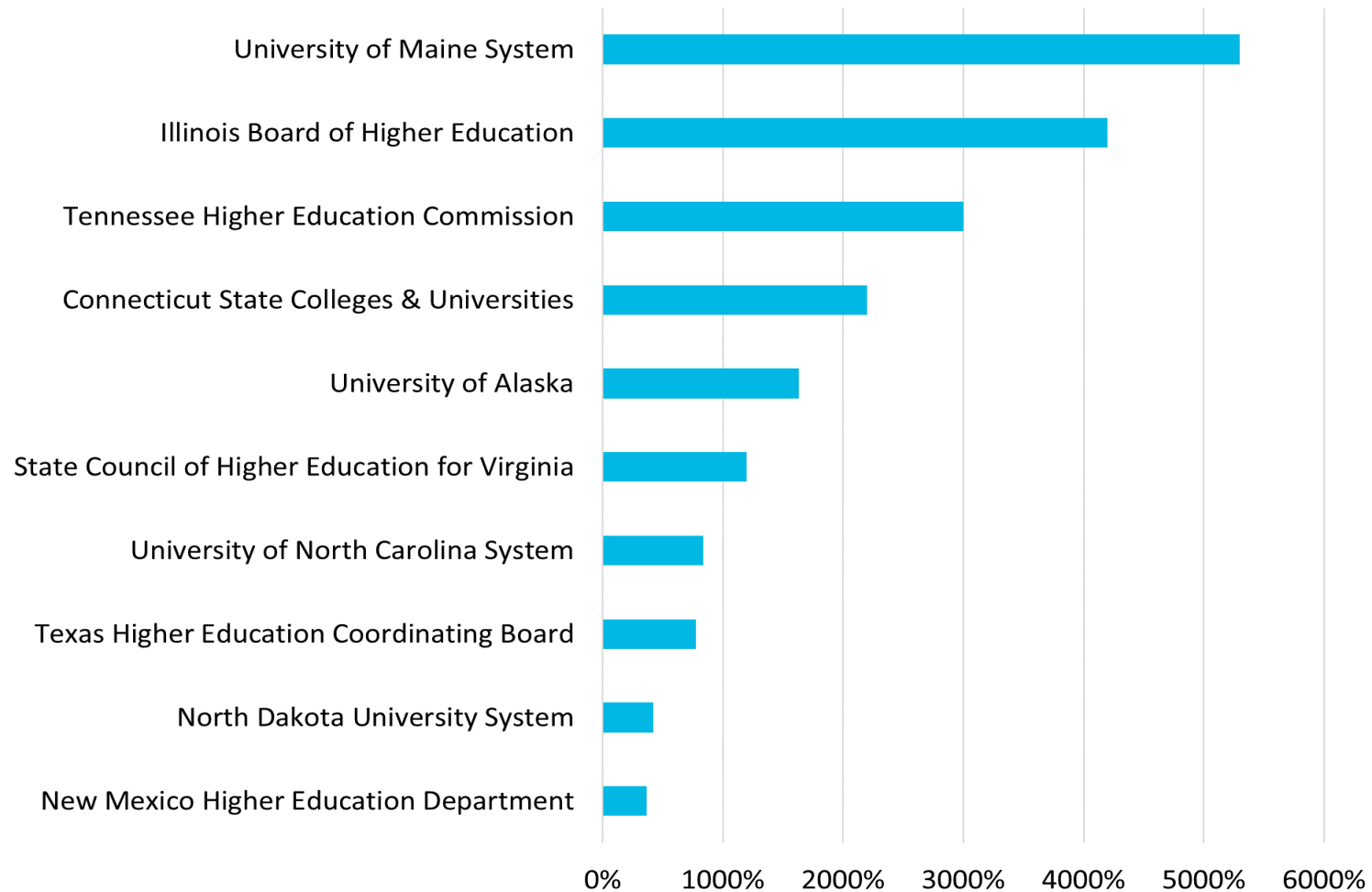
Other Dashboard Pages

[Data Elements Collected by Year](#) >>

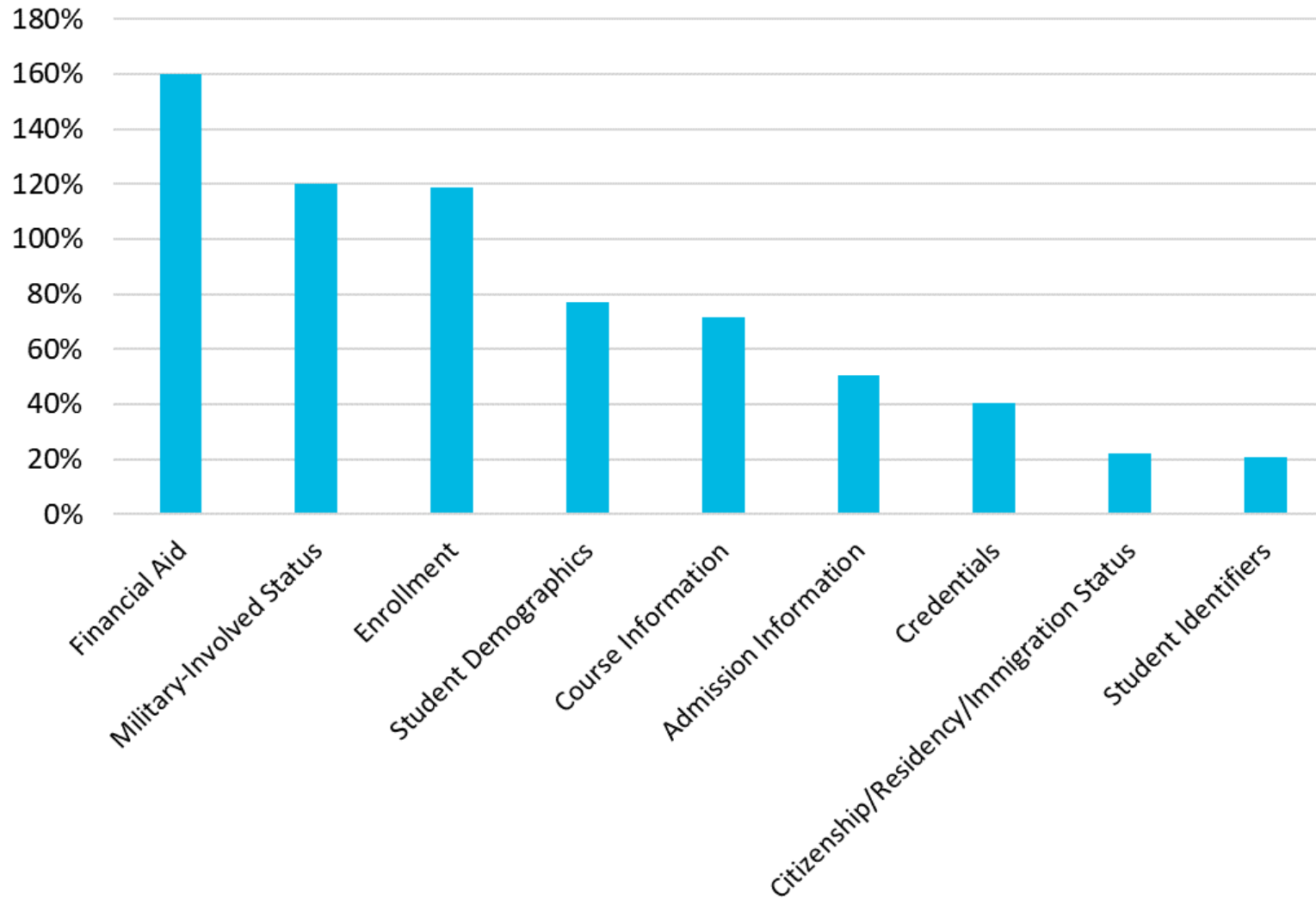
[SF Respondents by Year](#) >>

State	Agency	Academic term	Admissions scores	Age	Basic need (e.g., food)
Alabama	Alabama Commission on Higher Education	— ■■■■	× × × ■■	× ■ × ■■	— — — —
Alaska	University of Alaska	— × ■■■	× × ■■	× × × ■■	— — — —
Arizona	Arizona State System for Information on Student Transfer (AZTransfer)	— × ■ ○ ○	× × × ○ ○	× ■ ■ ○ ○	— — — —
Arkansas	Arkansas Division of Higher Education	— ■■■■	× × × × ×	× ■ ■ ■ ■	— — — —
	California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office	— × ■ ■ ■	× × ■ × ×	× ■ ■ ■ ■	— — — —
	California Cradle-to-Career Data System	— ○ ○ ○ ■	○ ○ ○ ○ ×	○ ○ ○ ○ ■	— — — —

Takeaway 1: *What's the percentage change in the number of data elements collected by SHEEO agencies?*



Takeaway 2: *What's the percentage change in the type of data elements collected by SHEEO agencies?*



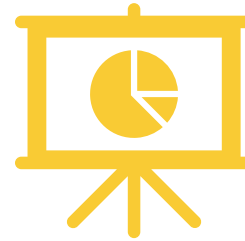
Implications & Recommendations



**Promote
Advocacy &
Investment**



**Enhance
Coordination
& Partnerships**



**Advance Data
Disaggregation**



**Strengthen
Data Privacy &
Standards**

What's Next?

Longitudinal Analysis

- Creation of one dataset with response data from 2010
- Data will show the changes over time for questions like:
 - With which of the following agencies within your state does your agency currently link?
 - Which K-12 data elements does your agency have access to?
 - Which labor/workforce data elements does your agency have access to?



What's Next?

Future Data Collection

- Strong Foundations 2025
 - Increase the scope of the survey to understand state postsecondary data nuances in various state contexts
 - SLDS within postsecondary agencies versus free-standing SLDS
 - Data sharing agreements and MOUs impact on collection
 - Continued privacy and security measurements

...and **expanded** data visualizations!

Discussion

- How is your state using state postsecondary data to improve policymaking?
- What questions about state postsecondary data systems do you still have?

Thank you!



Sean Baser
Senior Policy Analyst
sbaser@sheeo.org



Jessica Colorado
Policy Analyst
jcolorado@sheeo.org



Gus Gluek
State Policy Intern
lgluck@sheeo.org



Discussion

- How are you going about these PSURS data elements at your institution? How do you use the data and what do you find most effective?
- How could SHEEOs/state agencies support their institutions? What is your relationship with your SHEEO agency?