The NCSES Data System

Kimberly Noonan

March 29, 2012

National Science Foundation
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
www.nsf.gov/statistics/

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES)

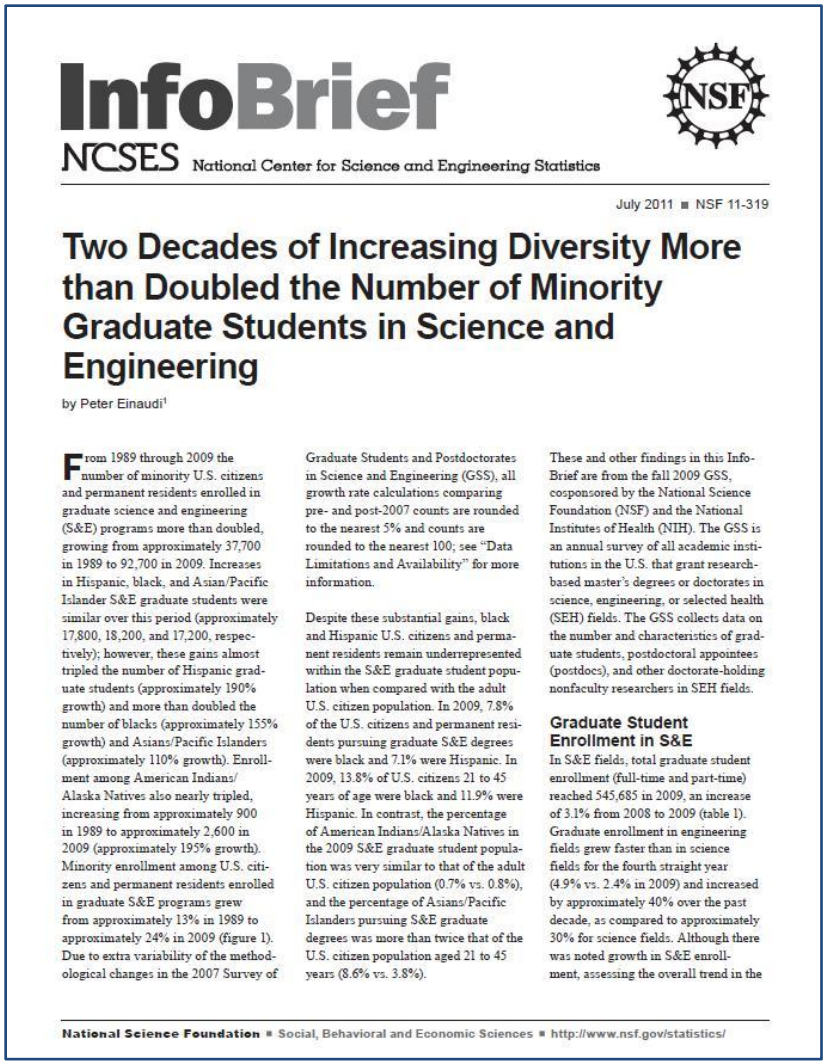
- A federal statistical agency within NSF
- Charged with the mission to provide a central clearinghouse for the collection, interpretation, and analysis of data on scientific and engineering resources
- 12 periodic data collections covering science and engineering
  - Research and Development
  - Education
  - Workforce
- Individual and establishment, surveys and censuses
- First data collection began in 1951
- Over 7 contracts for external support

NCSES Surveys

Select NCSES surveys:

- **GSS = Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering**
- **RDX = Survey of Research and Development Expenditures at Universities and Colleges**
- **FFS = Survey of Federal Funds for Research and Development**
- **FSS = Survey of Federal Science and Engineering Support to Universities, Colleges, and Nonprofit Institutions**
- **FAC = Survey of Science and Engineering Research Facilities**
- **SED = Survey of Earned Doctorates**
- **SDR = Survey of Doctorate Recipients**
- **NSRCG = National Survey of Recent College Graduates**
- **NSCG = National Survey of College Graduates**

InfoBrief



InfoBrief

NCSES National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

July 2011 ■ NSF 11-319

Two Decades of Increasing Diversity More than Doubled the Number of Minority Graduate Students in Science and Engineering

by Peter Einaudi[1]

From 1989 through 2009 the number of minority U.S. citizens and permanent residents enrolled in graduate science and engineering (S&E) programs more than doubled, growing from approximately 37,700 in 1989 to 92,700 in 2009. Increases in Hispanic, black, and Asian/Pacific Islander S&E graduate students were similar over this period (approximately 17,800, 18,200, and 17,200, respectively); however, these gains almost tripled the number of Hispanic graduate students (approximately 190% growth) and more than doubled the number of blacks (approximately 155% growth) and Asians/Pacific Islanders (approximately 110% growth). Enrollment among American Indians/Alaska Natives also nearly tripled, increasing from approximately 900 in 1989 to approximately 2,600 in 2009 (approximately 195% growth). Minority enrollment among U.S. citizens and permanent residents enrolled in graduate S&E programs grew from approximately 13% in 1989 to approximately 24% in 2009 (figure 1). Due to extra variability of the methodological changes in the 2007 Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering (GSS), all growth rate calculations comparing pre- and post-2007 counts are rounded to the nearest 5% and counts are rounded to the nearest 100; see "Data Limitations and Availability" for more information.

Despite these substantial gains, black and Hispanic U.S. citizens and permanent residents remain underrepresented within the S&E graduate student population when compared with the adult U.S. citizen population. In 2009, 7.8% of the U.S. citizens and permanent residents pursuing graduate S&E degrees were black and 7.1% were Hispanic. In 2009, 13.8% of U.S. citizens 21 to 45 years of age were black and 11.9% were Hispanic. In contrast, the percentage of American Indians/Alaska Natives in the 2009 S&E graduate student population was very similar to that of the adult U.S. citizen population (0.7% vs. 0.8%), and the percentage of Asians/Pacific Islanders pursuing S&E graduate degrees was more than twice that of the U.S. citizen population aged 21 to 45 years (8.6% vs. 3.8%).

These and other findings in this InfoBrief are from the fall 2009 GSS, cosponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The GSS is an annual survey of all academic institutions in the U.S. that grant research-based master's degrees or doctorates in science, engineering, or selected health (SEH) fields. The GSS collects data on the number and characteristics of graduate students, postdoctoral appointees (postdocs), and other doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers in SEH fields.

Graduate Student Enrollment in S&E

In S&E fields, total graduate student enrollment (full-time and part-time) reached 545,685 in 2009, an increase of 3.1% from 2008 to 2009 (table 1). Graduate enrollment in engineering fields grew faster than in science fields for the fourth straight year (4.9% vs. 2.4% in 2009) and increased by approximately 40% over the past decade, as compared to approximately 30% for science fields. Although there was noted growth in S&E enrollment, assessing the overall trend in the

National Science Foundation ■ Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences ■ http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/

Published Data Tables

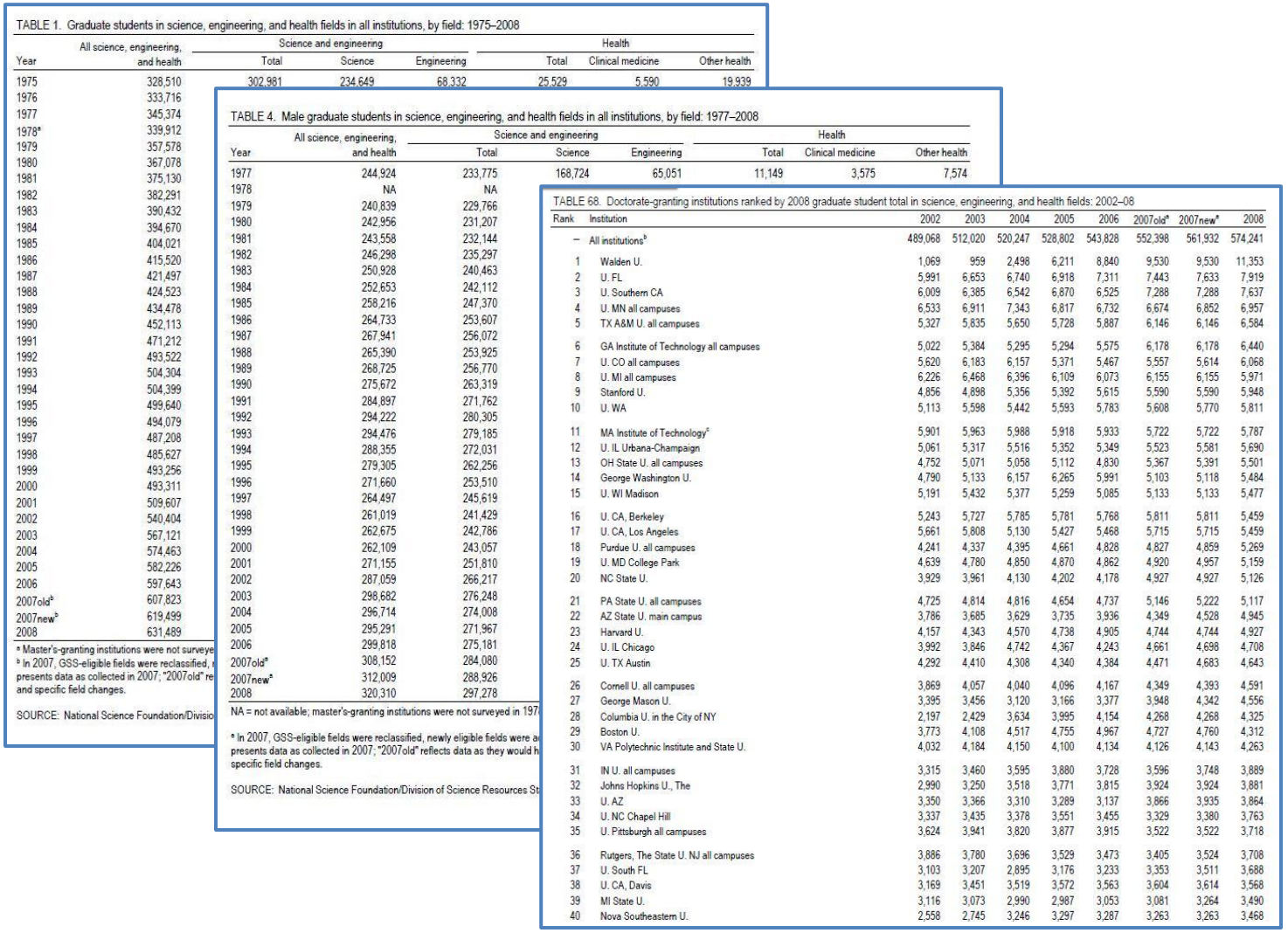


TABLE 1. Graduate students in science, engineering, and health fields in all institutions, by field: 1975–2008

Year	All science, engineering, and health	Science and engineering			Health		
		Total	Science	Engineering	Total	Clinical medicine	Other health
1975	328,510	302,981	234,649	68,332	25,529	5,590	19,939
1976	333,716						
1977	345,374						
1978[a]	339,912						
1979	357,578						
1980	367,078						
1981	375,130						
1982	382,291						
1983	390,432						
1984	394,670						
1985	404,021						
1986	415,520						
1987	421,497						
1988	424,523						
1989	434,478						
1990	452,113						
1991	471,212						
1992	493,522						
1993	504,304						
1994	504,399						
1995	499,640						
1996	494,079						
1997	487,208						
1998	485,627						
1999	493,256						
2000	493,311						
2001	509,607						
2002	540,404						
2003	567,121						
2004	574,463						
2005	582,226						
2006	597,643						
2007old[b]	607,823						
2007new[b]	619,499						
2008	631,489						

[a] Master's-granting institutions were not surveye
[b] In 2007, GSS-eligible fields were reclassified, presents data as collected in 2007; "2007old" re and specific field changes.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation/Divisio

TABLE 4. Male graduate students in science, engineering, and health fields in all institutions, by field: 1977–2008

Year	All science, engineering, and health	Science and engineering			Health		
		Total	Science	Engineering	Total	Clinical medicine	Other health
1977	244,924	233,775	168,724	65,051	11,149	3,575	7,574
1978	NA	NA					
1979	240,839	229,766					
1980	242,956	231,207					
1981	243,558	232,144					
1982	246,298	235,297					
1983	250,928	240,463					
1984	252,653	242,112					
1985	258,216	247,370					
1986	264,733	253,607					
1987	267,941	256,072					
1988	265,390	253,925					
1989	268,725	256,770					
1990	275,672	263,319					
1991	284,897	271,762					
1992	294,222	280,305					
1993	294,476	279,185					
1994	288,355	272,031					
1995	279,305	262,256					
1996	271,660	253,510					
1997	264,497	245,619					
1998	261,019	241,429					
1999	262,675	242,786					
2000	262,109	243,057					
2001	271,155	251,810					
2002	287,059	266,217					
2003	298,682	276,248					
2004	296,714	274,008					
2005	295,291	271,967					
2006	299,818	275,181					
2007old[a]	308,152	284,080					
2007new[a]	312,009	288,926					
2008	320,310	297,278					

NA = not available; master's-granting institutions were not surveyed in 197

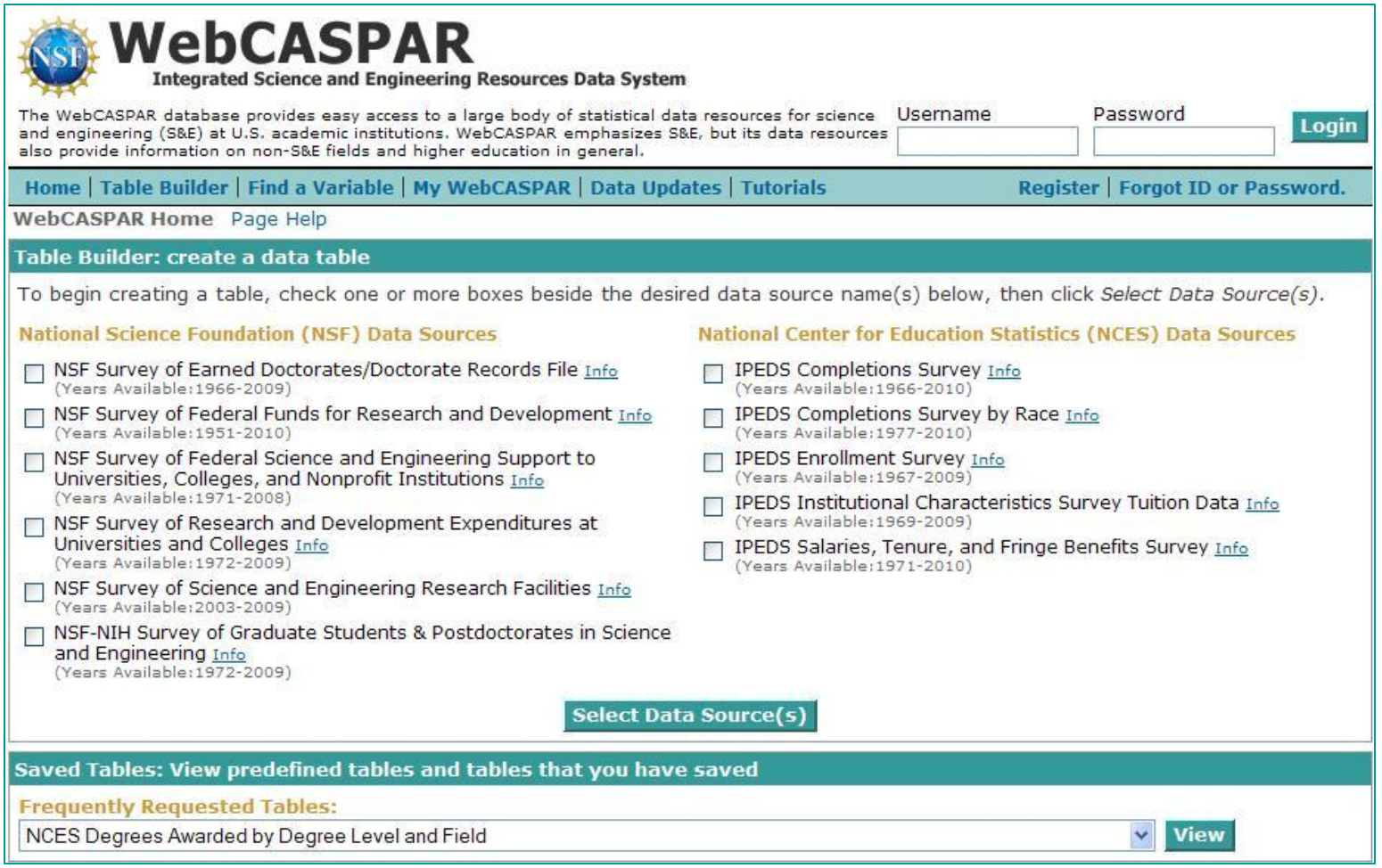
[a] In 2007, GSS-eligible fields were reclassified, newly eligible fields were a presents data as collected in 2007; "2007old" reflects data as they would h specific field changes.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources St

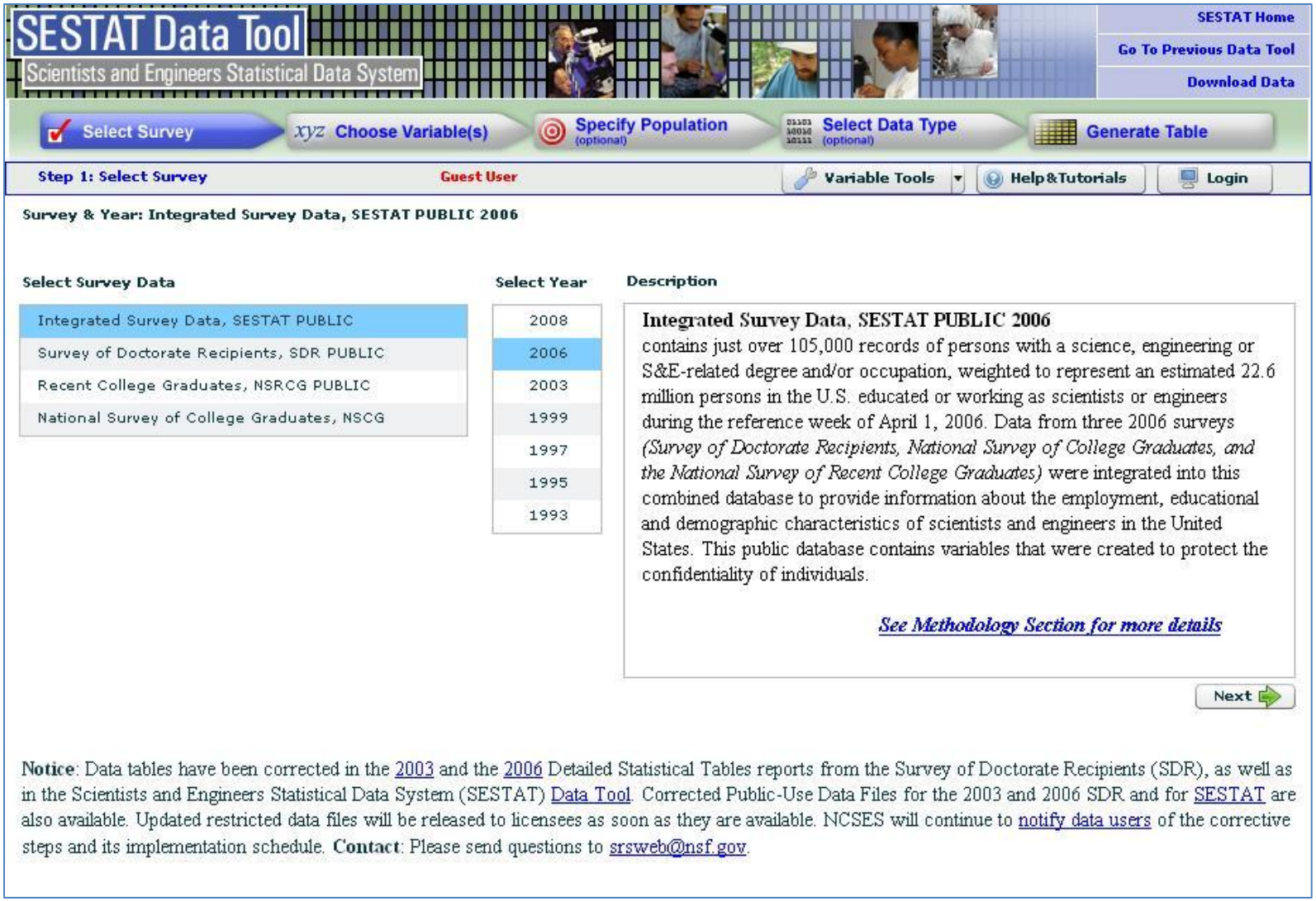
TABLE 68. Doctorate-granting institutions ranked by 2008 graduate student total in science, engineering, and health fields: 2002–08

Rank	Institution	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007old[a]	2007new[a]	2008
–	All institutions[b]	489,068	512,020	520,247	528,802	543,828	552,398	561,932	574,241
1	Walden U.	1,069	959	2,498	6,211	8,840	9,530	9,530	11,353
2	U. FL	5,991	6,653	6,740	6,918	7,311	7,443	7,633	7,919
3	U. Southern CA	6,009	6,385	6,542	6,870	6,525	7,288	7,288	7,637
4	U. MN all campuses	6,533	6,911	7,343	6,817	6,732	6,674	6,852	6,957
5	TX A&M U. all campuses	5,327	5,835	5,650	5,728	5,887	6,146	6,146	6,584
6	GA Institute of Technology all campuses	5,022	5,384	5,295	5,294	5,575	6,178	6,178	6,440
7	U. CO all campuses	5,620	6,183	6,157	5,371	5,467	5,557	5,614	6,068
8	U. MI all campuses	6,226	6,468	6,396	6,109	6,073	6,155	6,155	5,971
9	Stanford U.	4,856	4,898	5,356	5,392	5,615	5,590	5,590	5,948
10	U. WA	5,113	5,598	5,442	5,593	5,783	5,608	5,770	5,811
11	MA Institute of Technology[c]	5,901	5,963	5,988	5,918	5,933	5,722	5,722	5,787
12	U. IL Urbana-Champaign	5,061	5,317	5,516	5,352	5,349	5,523	5,581	5,690
13	OH State U. all campuses	4,752	5,071	5,058	5,112	4,830	5,367	5,391	5,501
14	George Washington U.	4,790	5,133	6,157	6,265	5,991	5,103	5,118	5,484
15	U. WI Madison	5,191	5,432	5,377	5,259	5,085	5,133	5,133	5,477
16	U. CA, Berkeley	5,243	5,727	5,785	5,781	5,768	5,811	5,811	5,459
17	U. CA, Los Angeles	5,661	5,808	5,130	5,427	5,468	5,715	5,715	5,459
18	Purdue U. all campuses	4,241	4,337	4,395	4,661	4,828	4,827	4,859	5,269
19	U. MD College Park	4,639	4,780	4,850	4,870	4,862	4,920	4,957	5,159
20	NC State U.	3,929	3,961	4,130	4,202	4,178	4,927	4,927	5,126
21	PA State U. all campuses	4,725	4,814	4,816	4,654	4,737	5,146	5,222	5,117
22	AZ State U. main campus	3,786	3,685	3,629	3,735	3,936	4,349	4,528	4,945
23	Harvard U.	4,157	4,343	4,570	4,738	4,905	4,744	4,744	4,927
24	U. IL Chicago	3,992	3,846	4,742	4,367	4,243	4,661	4,698	4,708
25	U. TX Austin	4,292	4,410	4,308	4,340	4,384	4,471	4,683	4,643
26	Cornell U. all campuses	3,869	4,057	4,040	4,096	4,167	4,349	4,393	4,591
27	George Mason U.	3,395	3,456	3,120	3,166	3,377	3,948	4,342	4,556
28	Columbia U. in the City of NY	2,197	2,429	3,634	3,995	4,154	4,268	4,268	4,325
29	Boston U.	3,773	4,108	4,517	4,755	4,967	4,727	4,760	4,312
30	VA Polytechnic Institute and State U.	4,032	4,184	4,150	4,100	4,134	4,126	4,143	4,263
31	IN U. all campuses	3,315	3,460	3,595	3,880	3,728	3,596	3,748	3,889
32	Johns Hopkins U., The	2,990	3,250	3,518	3,771	3,815	3,924	3,924	3,881
33	U. AZ	3,350	3,366	3,310	3,289	3,137	3,866	3,935	3,864
34	U. NC Chapel Hill	3,337	3,435	3,378	3,551	3,455	3,329	3,380	3,763
35	U. Pittsburgh all campuses	3,624	3,941	3,820	3,877	3,915	3,522	3,522	3,718
36	Rutgers, The State U. NJ all campuses	3,886	3,780	3,696	3,529	3,473	3,405	3,524	3,708
37	U. South FL	3,103	3,207	2,895	3,176	3,233	3,353	3,511	3,688
38	U. CA, Davis	3,169	3,451	3,519	3,572	3,563	3,604	3,614	3,568
39	MI State U.	3,116	3,073	2,990	2,987	3,053	3,081	3,264	3,490
40	Nova Southeastern U.	2,558	2,745	3,246	3,297	3,287	3,263	3,263	3,468

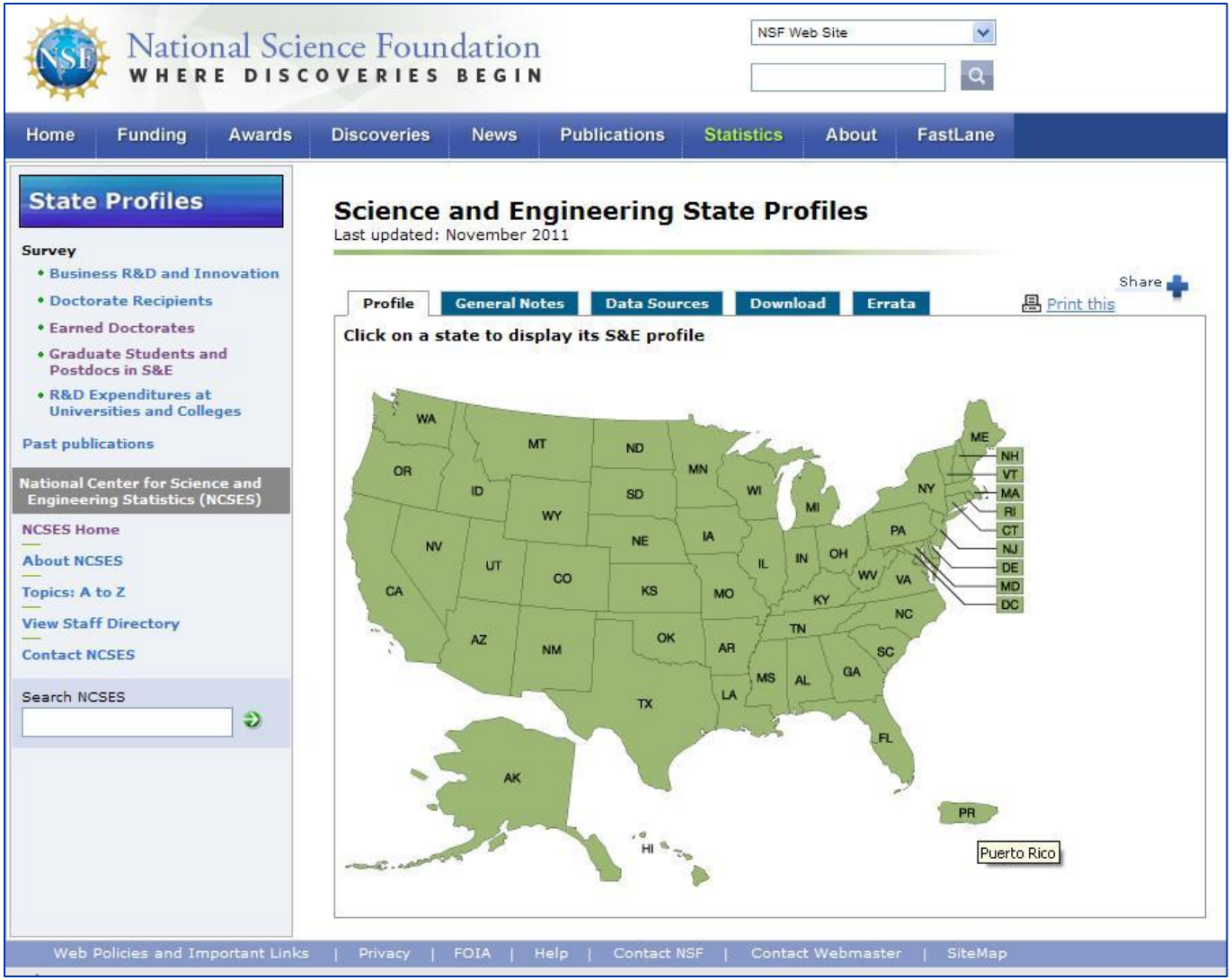
WebCASPAR


WebCASPAR
Integrated Science and Engineering Resources Data System
The WebCASPAR database provides easy access to a large body of statistical data resources for science and engineering (S&E) at U.S. academic institutions. WebCASPAR emphasizes S&E, but its data resources also provide information on non-S&E fields and higher education in general.
Username
Password
Login
Home | Table Builder | Find a Variable | My WebCASPAR | Data Updates | Tutorials
Register | Forgot ID or Password.
WebCASPAR Home Page Help
Table Builder: create a data table
To begin creating a table, check one or more boxes beside the desired data source name(s) below, then click Select Data Source(s).
National Science Foundation (NSF) Data Sources
NSF Survey of Earned Doctorates/Doctorate Records File Info
(Years Available:1966-2009)
NSF Survey of Federal Funds for Research and Development Info
(Years Available:1951-2010)
NSF Survey of Federal Science and Engineering Support to Universities, Colleges, and Nonprofit Institutions Info
(Years Available:1971-2008)
NSF Survey of Research and Development Expenditures at Universities and Colleges Info
(Years Available:1972-2009)
NSF Survey of Science and Engineering Research Facilities Info
(Years Available:2003-2009)
NSF-NIH Survey of Graduate Students & Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering Info
(Years Available:1972-2009)
National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Data Sources
IPEDS Completions Survey Info
(Years Available:1966-2010)
IPEDS Completions Survey by Race Info
(Years Available:1977-2010)
IPEDS Enrollment Survey Info
(Years Available:1967-2009)
IPEDS Institutional Characteristics Survey Tuition Data Info
(Years Available:1969-2009)
IPEDS Salaries, Tenure, and Fringe Benefits Survey Info
(Years Available:1971-2010)
Select Data Source(s)
Saved Tables: View predefined tables and tables that you have saved
Frequently Requested Tables:
NCES Degrees Awarded by Degree Level and Field
View

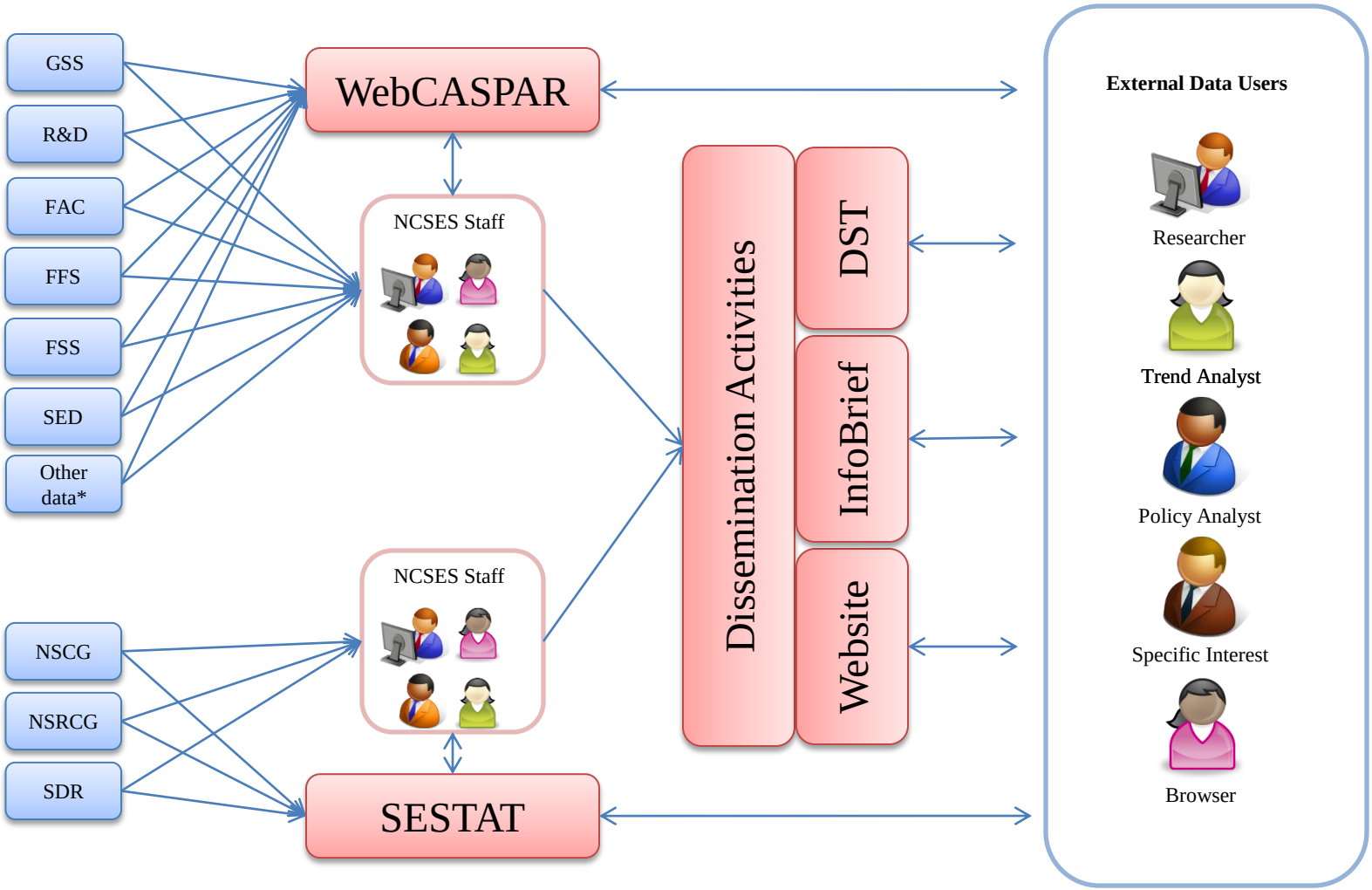
SESTAT


SESTAT Data Tool
Scientists and Engineers Statistical Data System
SESTAT Home
Go To Previous Data Tool
Download Data
Select Survey
Choose Variable(s)
Specify Population (optional)
Select Data Type (optional)
Generate Table
Step 1: Select Survey
Guest User
Variable Tools
Help&Tutorials
Login
Survey & Year: Integrated Survey Data, SESTAT PUBLIC 2006
Select Survey Data
Integrated Survey Data, SESTAT PUBLIC
Survey of Doctorate Recipients, SDR PUBLIC
Recent College Graduates, NSRCG PUBLIC
National Survey of College Graduates, NSCG
Select Year
2008
2006
2003
1999
1997
1995
1993
Description
Integrated Survey Data, SESTAT PUBLIC 2006
contains just over 105,000 records of persons with a science, engineering or S&E-related degree and/or occupation, weighted to represent an estimated 22.6 million persons in the U.S. educated or working as scientists or engineers during the reference week of April 1, 2006. Data from three 2006 surveys (Survey of Doctorate Recipients, National Survey of College Graduates, and the National Survey of Recent College Graduates) were integrated into this combined database to provide information about the employment, educational and demographic characteristics of scientists and engineers in the United States. This public database contains variables that were created to protect the confidentiality of individuals.
See Methodology Section for more details
Next
Notice: Data tables have been corrected in the 2003 and the 2006 Detailed Statistical Tables reports from the Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR), as well as in the Scientists and Engineers Statistical Data System (SESTAT) Data Tool. Corrected Public-Use Data Files for the 2003 and 2006 SDR and for SESTAT are also available. Updated restricted data files will be released to licensees as soon as they are available. NCSES will continue to notify data users of the corrective steps and its implementation schedule. Contact: Please send questions to srsweb@nsf.gov.

State Data Tool



Current Environment



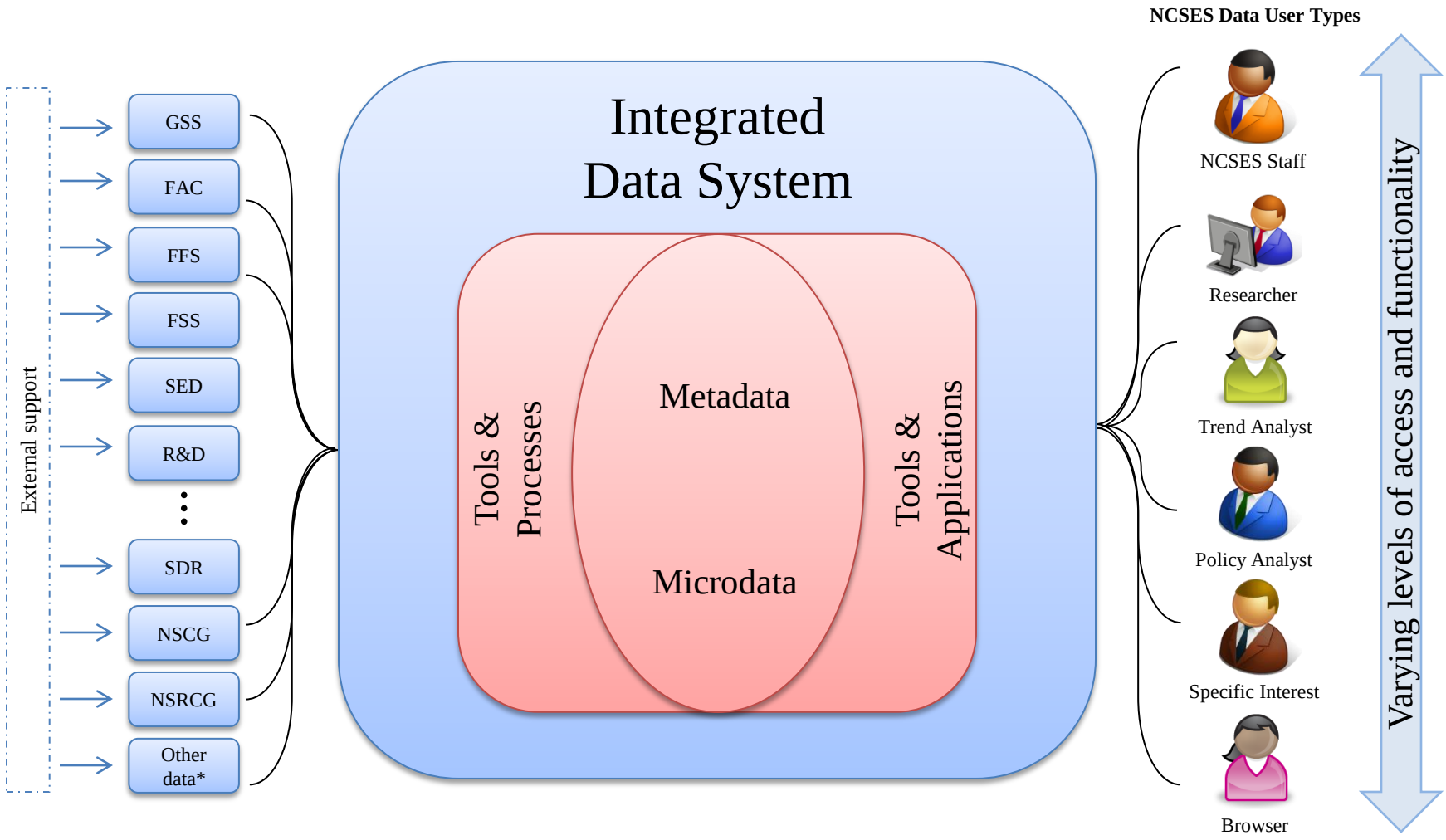
* Other data used regularly in NCSES publications

DST = Detailed Statistical Tables

Data System Vision

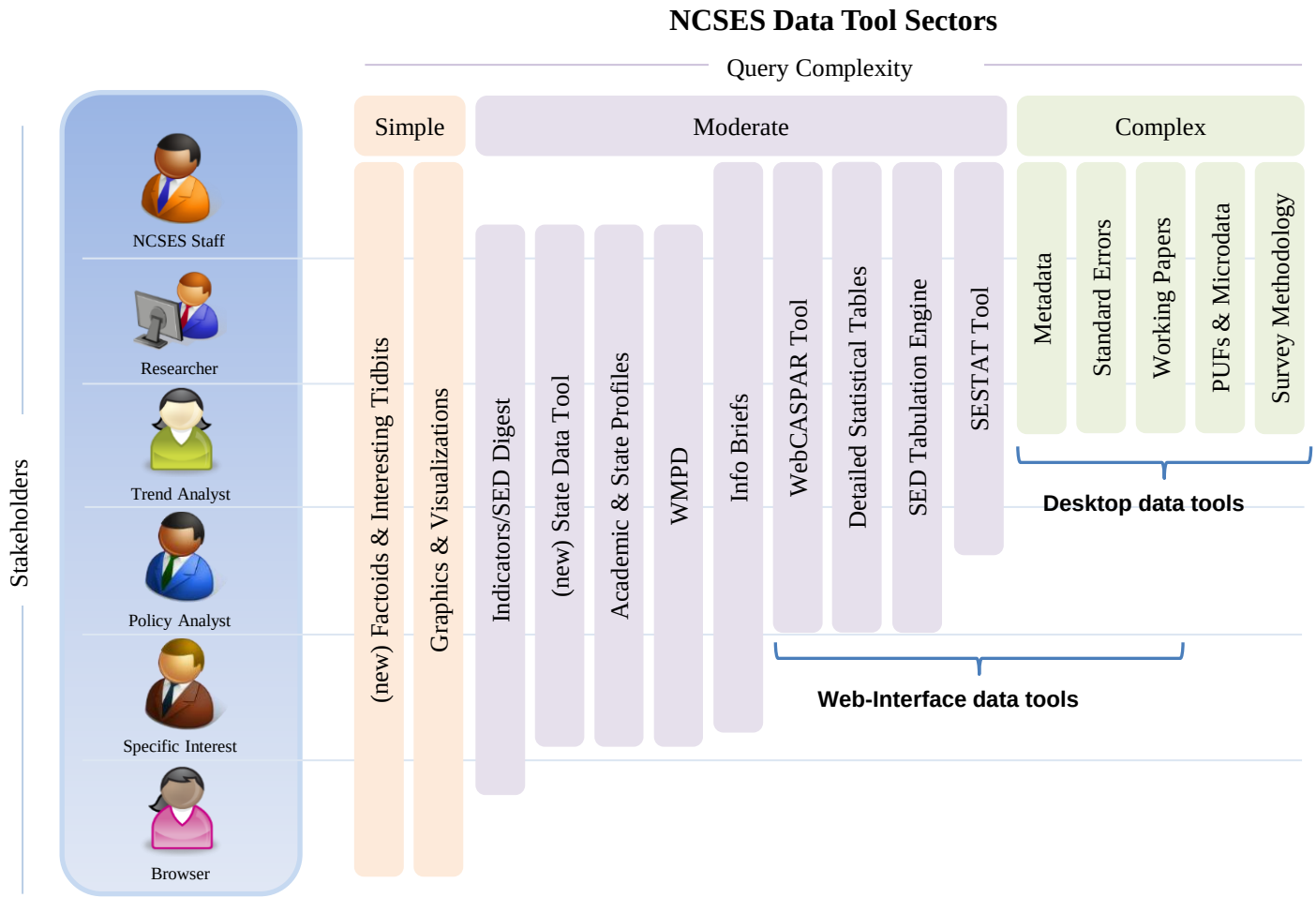
- **Objectives**
  - To meet transparency and reproducibility requirements of a federal statistical agency
  - To provide enhanced content and data management across multiple tiers of NCSES data
  - To enhance dissemination of these data to a broad audience
- **Main Goals**
  - To store and maintain NCSES survey data in one central warehouse
  - To integrate advanced data tools with the data management system
  - To deliver a broad range of content and analytical functionality via advanced data tools to a variety of users
- **Future process: integrated, dynamic, robust**

Data System Vision



* Other data used regularly in NCSES publications

User Needs and Requirements



Examples:

Staff:
- Info Briefs
- White Papers

Research:
- PhD Dissertations
- MS Theses
- Journal Articles

Policy/Trend Analyst:
- Lobbying Interests
- Policy Associations

Specific Interest:
- Quick Facts
- Specific Questions

Browser
- No Specific Interest
- See what's available

Simple:
- Point estimates
- Ranges
- Graphics

Example queries:
- Tables
- Trends
- Simple Comparisons

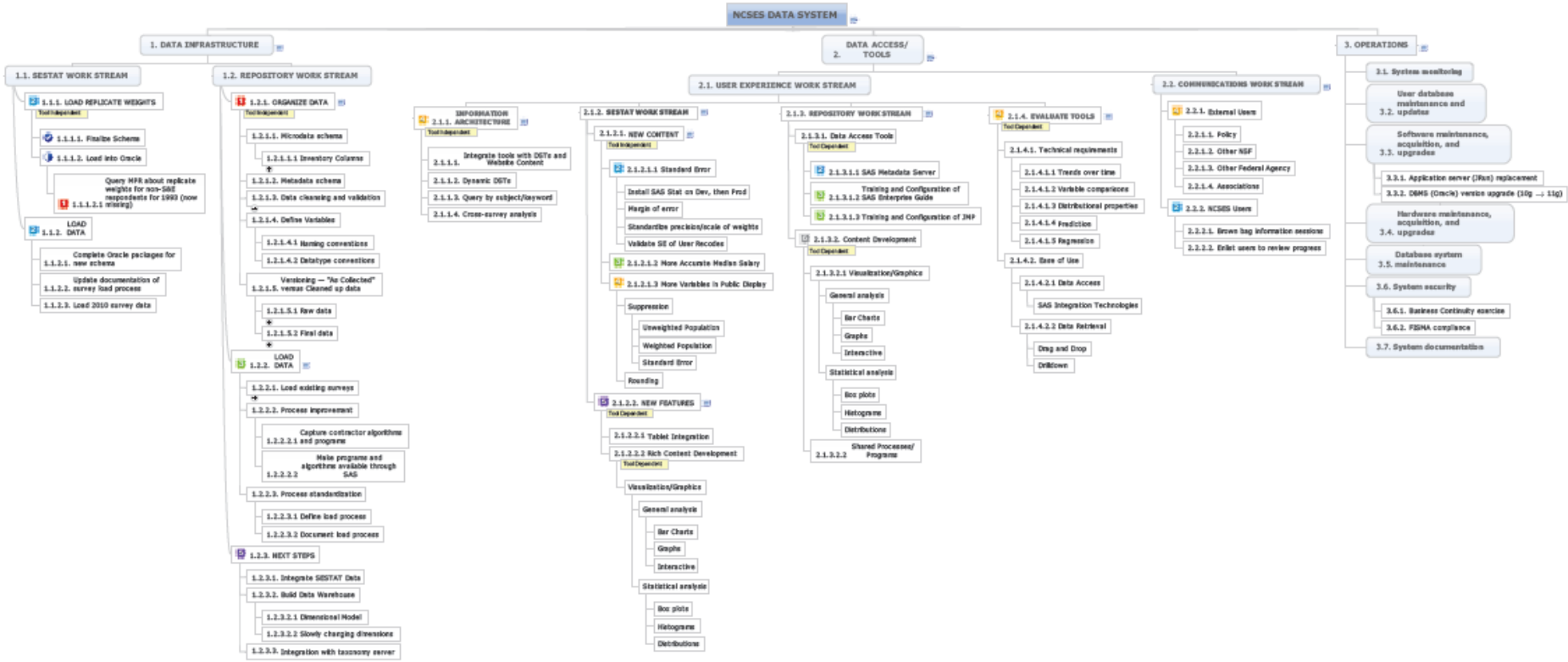
Complex:
- Regression
- ANOVA
- Data Mining
- Diagnostics

Data System Requirements

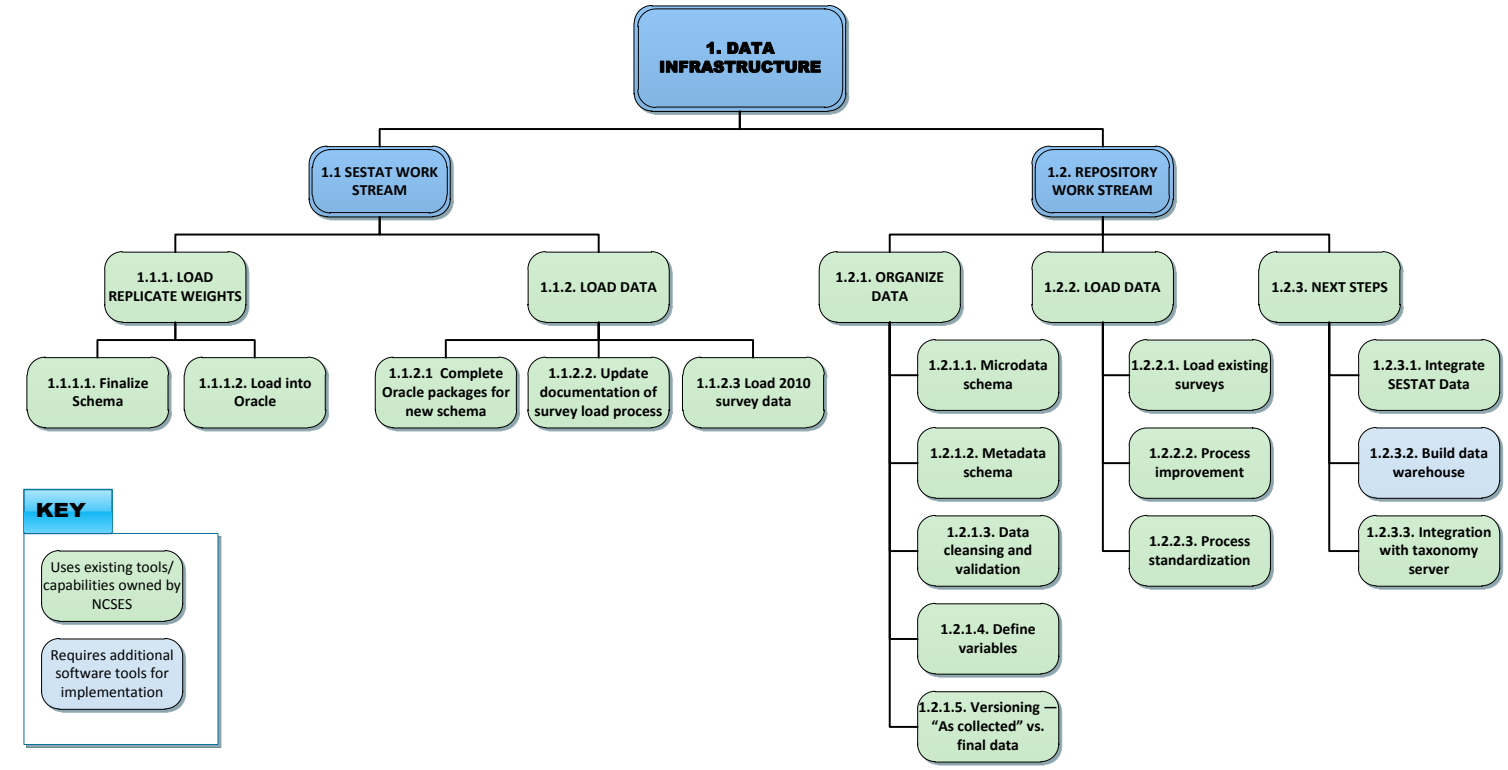
- Data
  - Provide consistent view of microdata across surveys
  - Provide consistent view of metadata across surveys
  - Real-time access to microdata and metadata

- Tools
  - Provide access to better tools
  - Enhanced capabilities include
    - Pre-generate tables (popular statistics)
    - Dynamic crosstabulations
    - Visualizations
    - Advanced statistical methods
    - Stored libraries and shared programs for internal staff

Overview of Work Streams



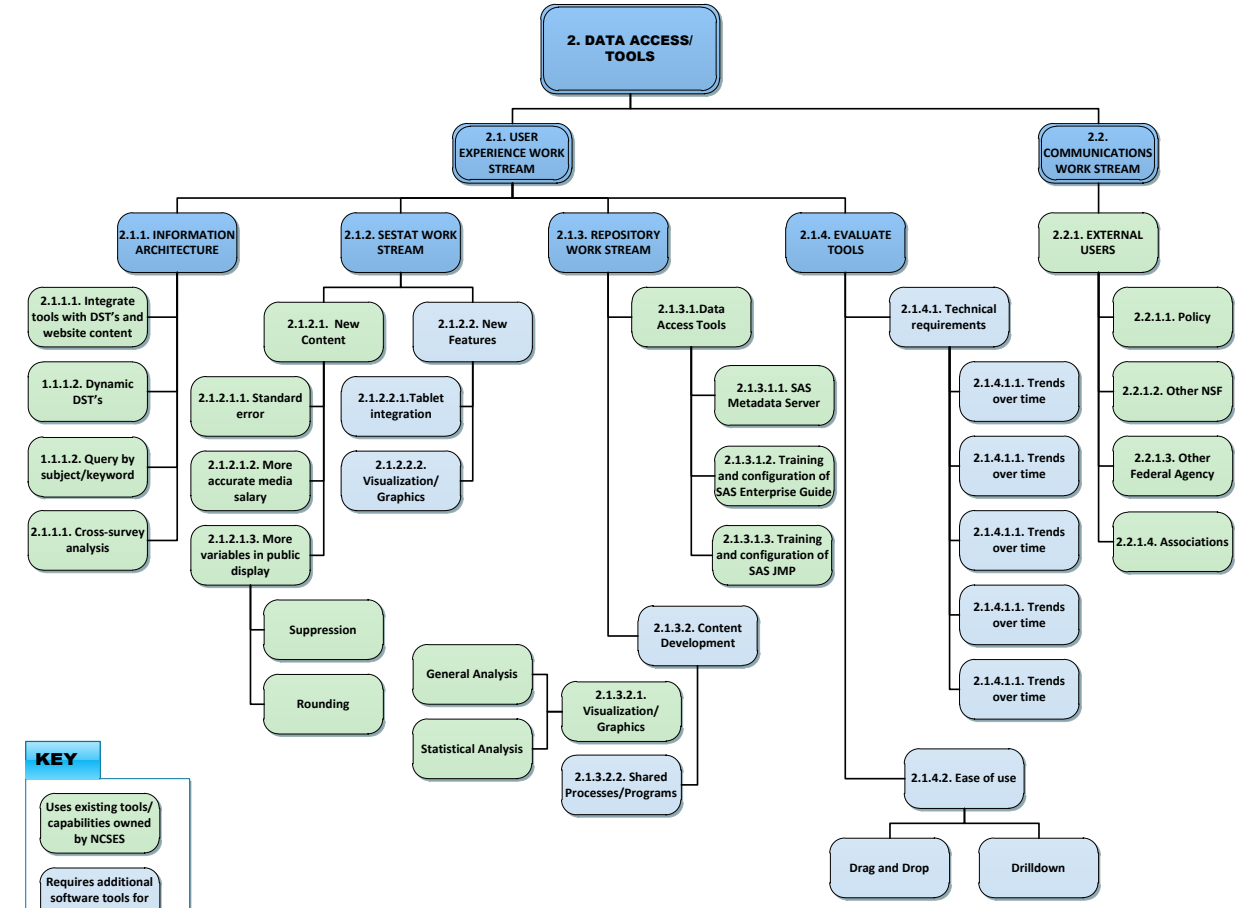
1. Data Infrastructure Work Stream



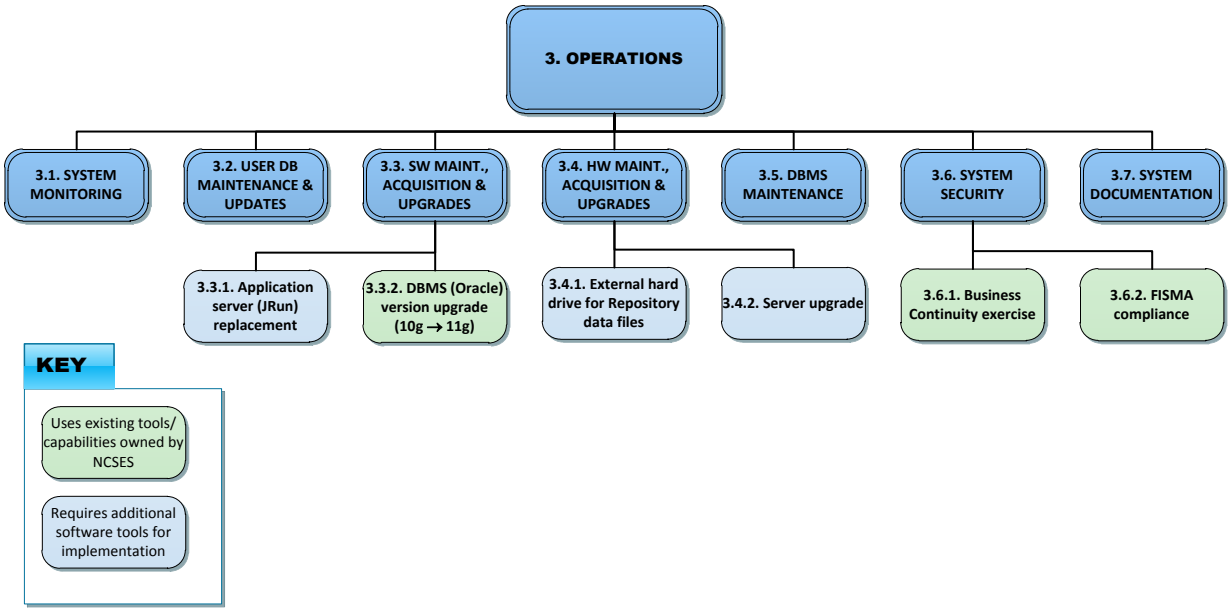
Maintain current functionality
Enhance transferrable functionality

Design and build new infrastructure

2. Data Access and Tools Work Stream

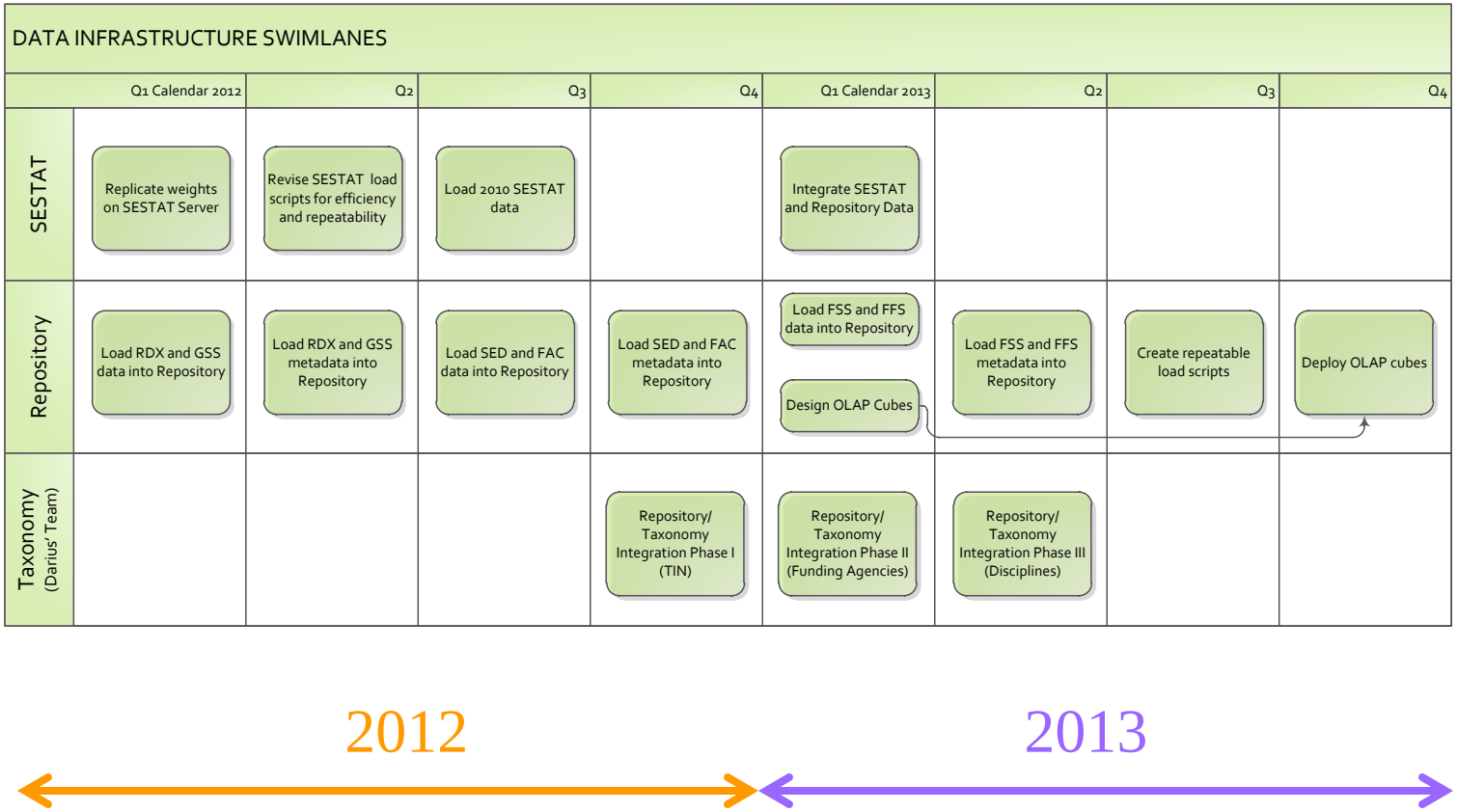


3. Operations Work Stream

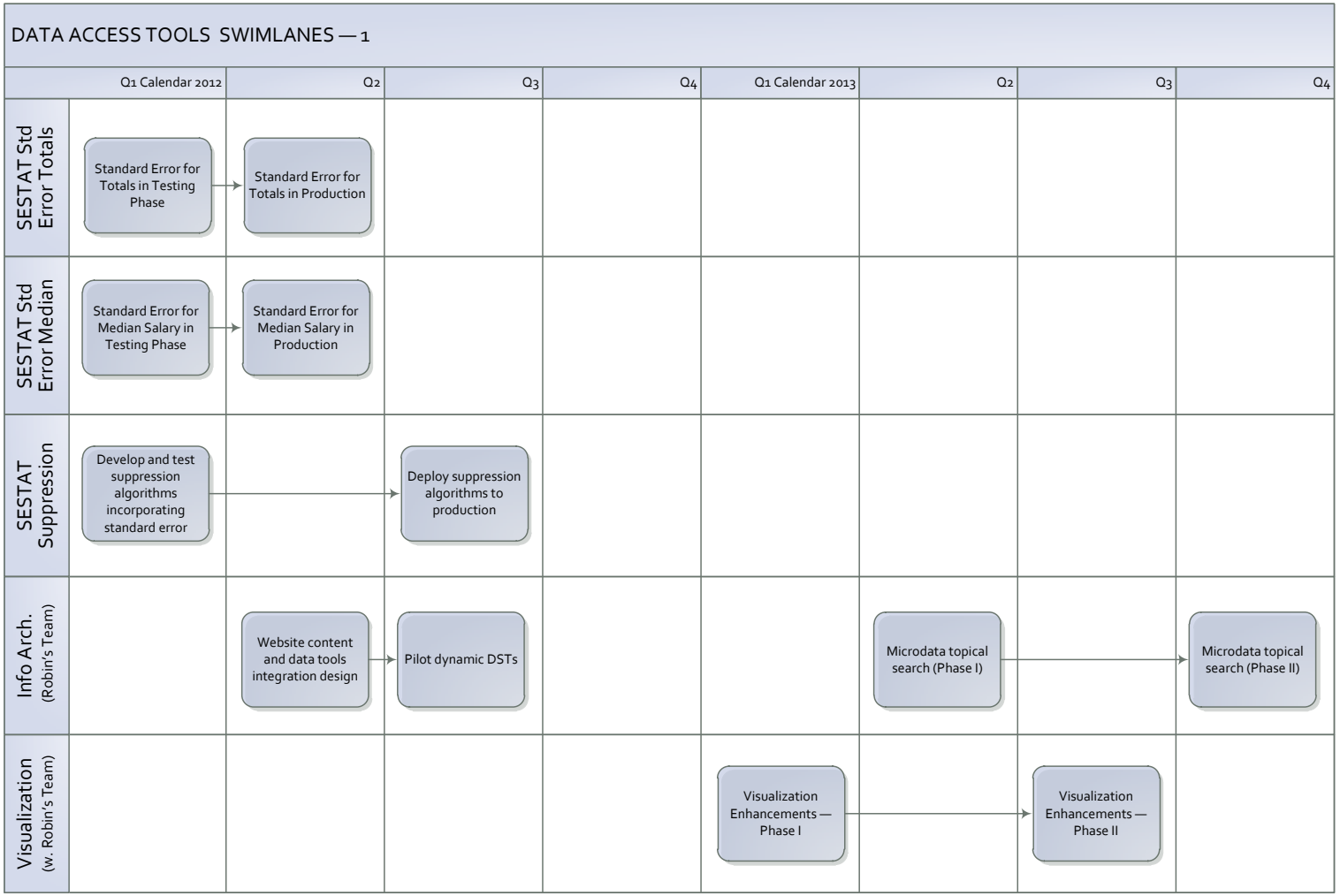


Keep servers running and portals active

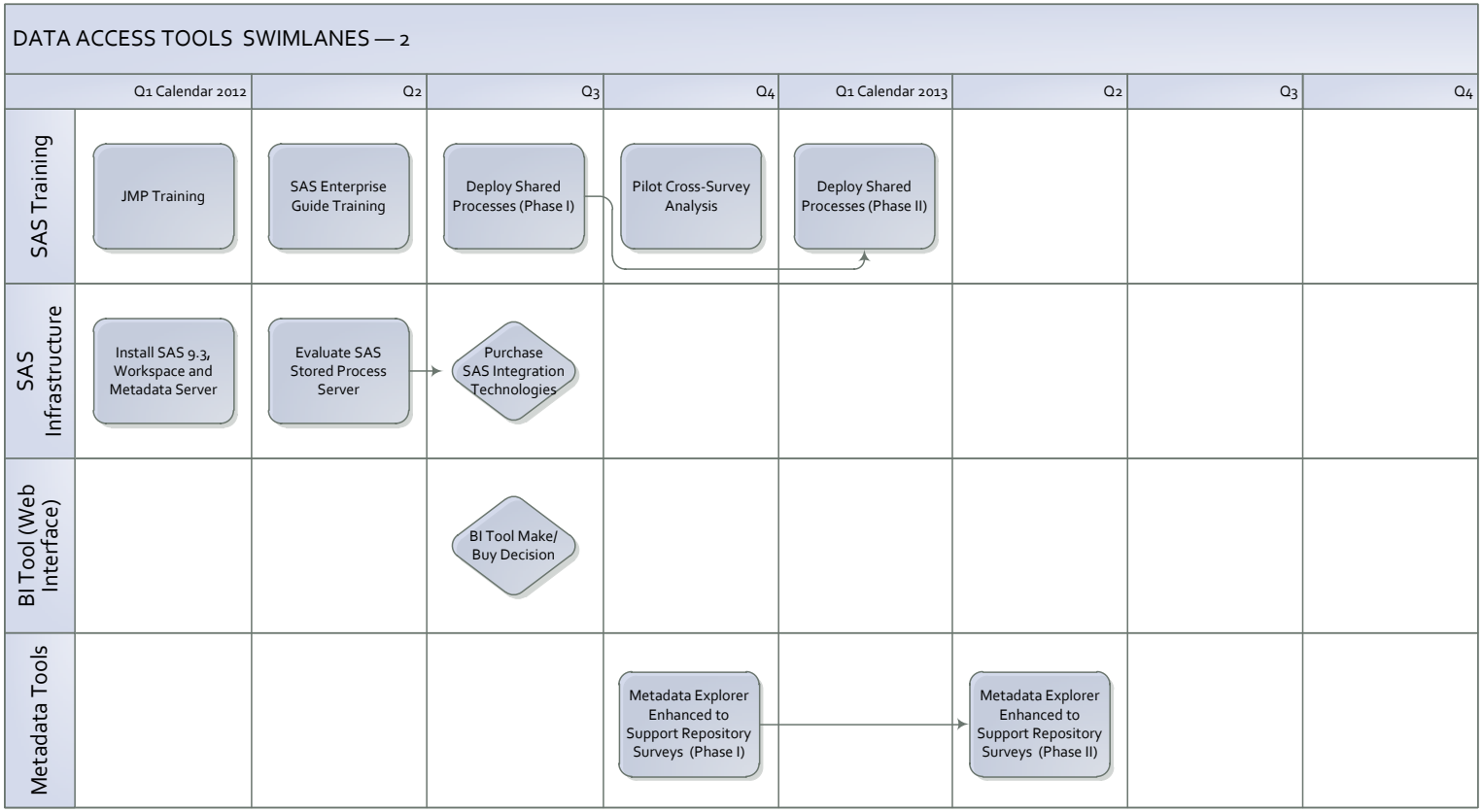
1. Data Infrastructure Timeline



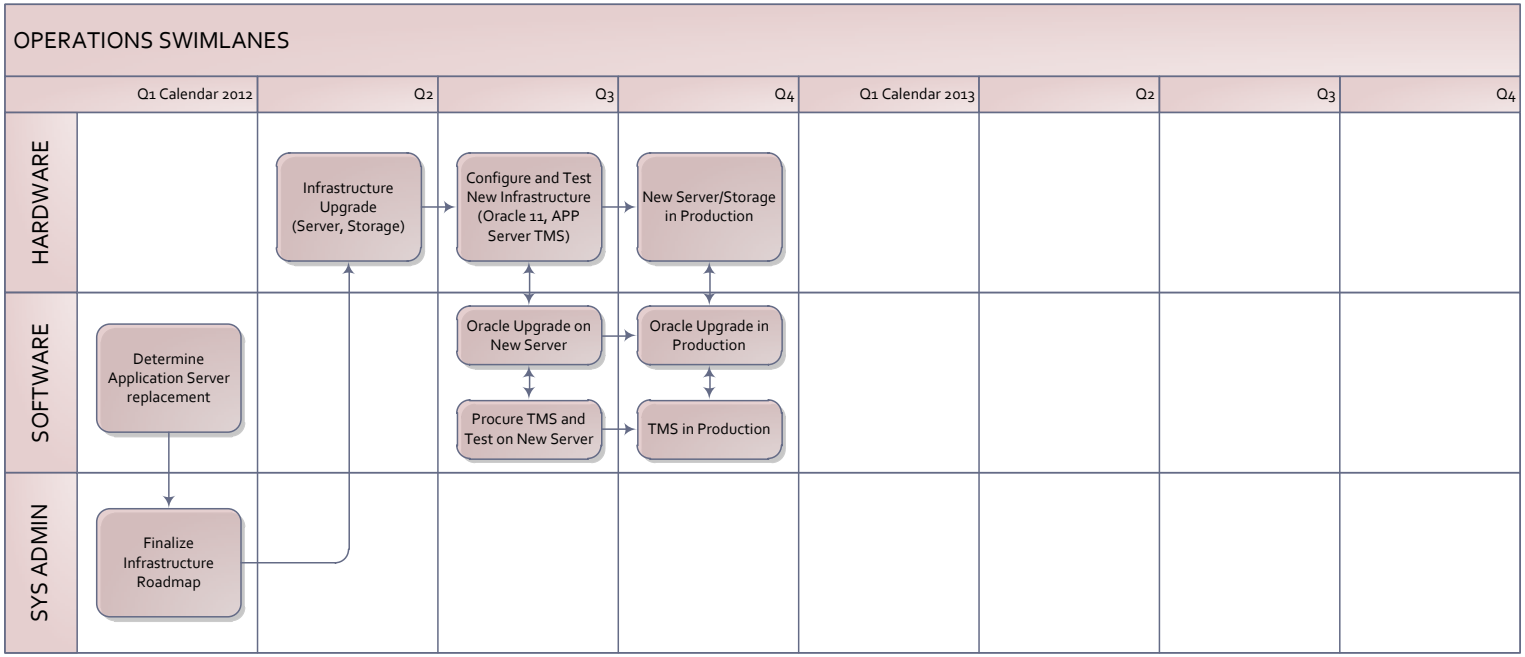
2. Data Access and Tools Timeline



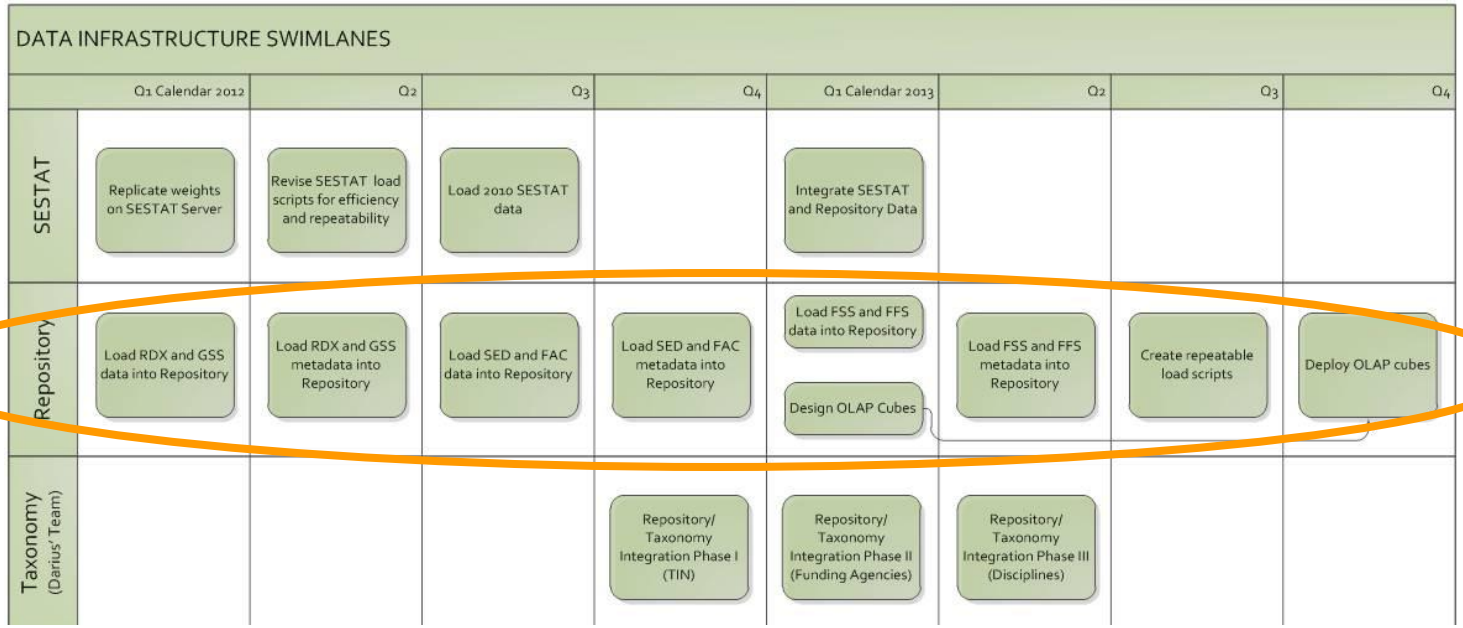
2. Data Access and Tools Timeline cont'd



3. Operations Timeline



Data Infrastructure: Repository



Data infrastructure to store, maintain, and disseminate all NCSES data collections

- Microdata and Metadata
- Define requirements and standards
- Define storage schema

Data Repository Delivery Requirements

Survey contractor:

- **Shall deliver the following to the NCSES data repository at the end of each survey cycle:**
  - **Microdata and Associated Files**
    - Microdata
    - Metadata
    - Computer Code
    - Documentation
  - **Product and Report Data and Associated Files**
- **According to specified requirements**

Data Repository Delivery Requirements

Metadata requirements

- **Comprehensive**
- **Standard formats**
- **Machine-readable**

VARIABLE_NAME	VARIABLE_LABEL	QUESTION_NBR	STATUS_PREV_CYCLE	RECODE_VARIABLE_FLAG	DERIVED_VARIABLE_FLAG	DESCRIPTION	QUESTION	CODE_NAME	DATA_TYPE	DATA_LENGTH	DATA_SCALE	DATA_CLASS	NOTES
institution_id	Institution ID	SYSTEM	UNCHANGED	0	0	ID number	System assignment based on order of addition to the universe.		NUM		0	NUMERIC	Cannot be missing.
PHDFY	PHDFY	DERIVED	UNCHANGED	0	1	Fiscal year of doctorate	Fiscal year derived from PHDMONTH and PHDCY	YEAR_CODE	NUM		0	NUMERICAL INTERVAL	Cannot be missing.
			UNCHANGED	0	0	Form type indicator	Version of the questionnaire used is indicated on the front cover by the graduation date ranges, in addition to the color of the questionnaire.	FORM_CODE	CHAR	2		CHARACTER CATEGORICAL	Cannot be missing (nonrespondents assigned value for the corresponding FY in which they were added to the DRF).
			UNCHANGED	1	0	Type of doctorate	Please complete: [Type of Research Doctoral Degree (e.g. Ph.D., Ed.D., etc.)]	DOC_CODE	CHAR	2		CHARACTER CATEGORICAL	
			UNCHANGED	0	0	Dissertation field	Using the list on page 7, choose the code that best describes the primary field of your dissertation research	FOS_CODE	NUM		0	NUMERIC CATEGORICAL	If numeric code not provided but verbatim field is, staff code the verbatim.
			UNCHANGED	0	0	Tuition remission - full or partial	If you received a full or partial tuition remission (waiver) for your doctoral studies, was it:1, I did not receive any tuition remission; 2, for less than 1/3 of tuition; 3, between 1/3 and 2/3 of tuition; 4, more than 2/3 of tuition, but less than full; 5, full tuition remission	TUITREMS_CODE	NUM		0	NUMERICAL ORDINAL	
			UNCHANGED	0	0	Fellowship, scholarship	Which of the following were sources of financial support during graduate school. Fellowship, scholarship?	YES_NO_CODE	NUM		0	NUMERIC CATEGORICAL	
			UNCHANGED	0	0	Grant					0	NUMERIC CATEGORICAL	
			UNCHANGED	0	0	Under					0	NUMERICAL ORDINAL	

CODE_NAME	CODE_VALUE	CODE_DESCRIPTION
YES_NO_CODE	1	Yes
YES_NO_CODE	2	No
YES_NO_CODE	3	Don't know
FORM_CODE	73	1st Brown (1973)
FORM_CODE	74	1st Blue (1974)
FORM_CODE	75	1st Green (1975)
FORM_CODE	76	2nd Green (1976)
FORM_CODE	77	1st Yellow (1977)
FORM_CODE	78	2nd Yellow (19781979)
FORM_CODE	80	2nd Brown (1980)
FORM_CODE	81	Blue (1981)
FORM_CODE	82	Grey/Purple (1982)
FORM_CODE	83	Cream/Black (1983)
FORM_CODE	84	Cream/Green (1984)

Data Dictionary Guide Tab

Variable Detail tab (e.g 'DRF' tab)

This tab should include one row for each variable in the data file. For each variable, please provide the following information in the corresponding columns.

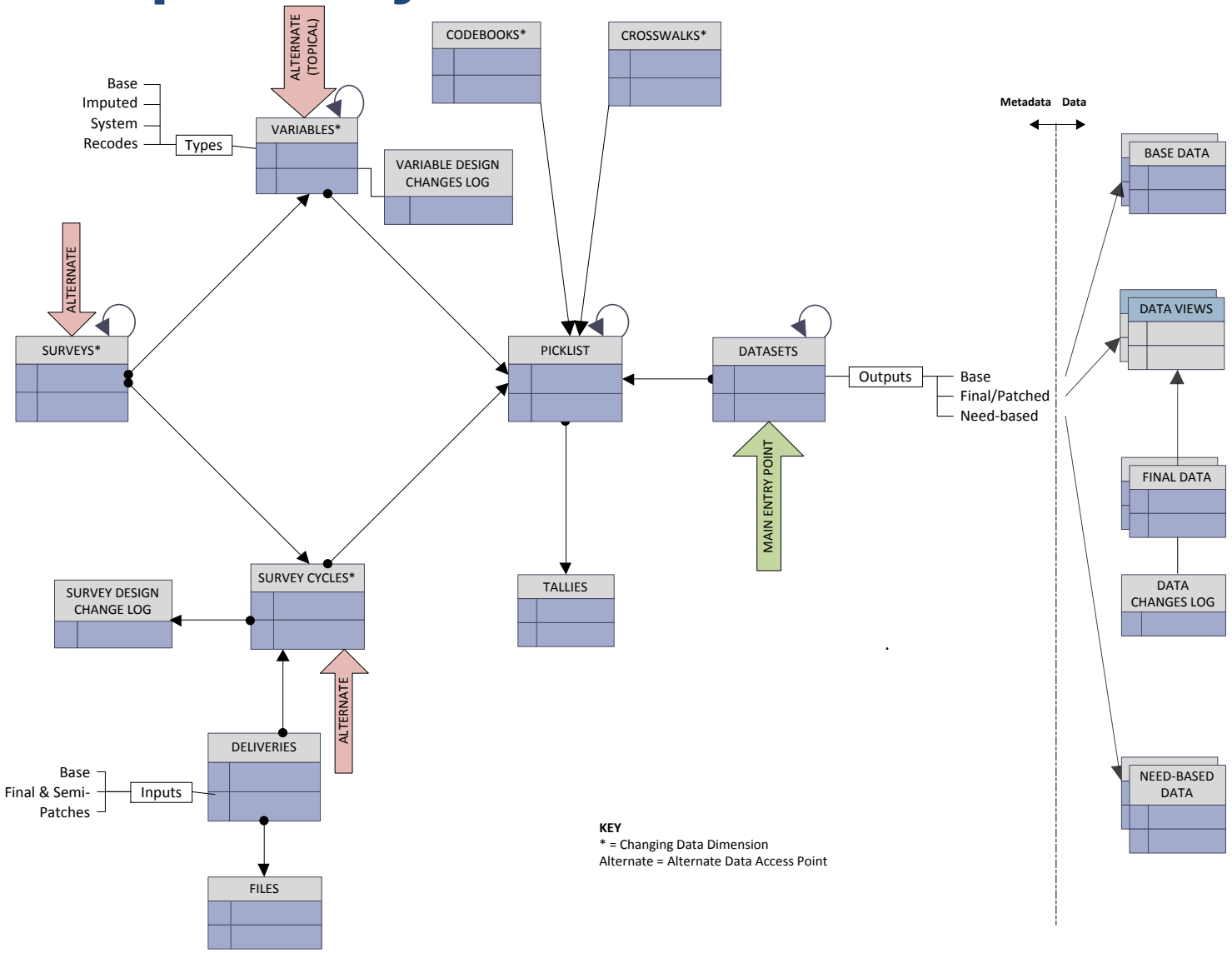
Column Name	Description	Valid Values
VARIABLE_NAME	Variable name	Character string including alphanumeric and underscore character (no spaces or special characters)
VARIABLE_LABEL	Variable label. This can be the same as the variable name.	Character string including alphanumeric and underscore character (no spaces or special characters)
QUESTION_NBR	The question number or processing code corresponding to variable	Alphanumeric representation of corresponding question number, eg: A5, Q3, B7.a SYSTEM = if variable is assigned by contractor during processing or by a reference table lookup, eg DRFID or Carnegie Classification RECODE: if response is recoded to a categorical or ordinal variable DERIVED: if variable is a new variable, derived from arithmetic expression of questionnaire response or other variables
STATUS_PREV_CYCLE	Status of variable as compared to previous survey cycle data collection/delivery	UNCHANGED NEW MODIFIED
RECODE_VARIABLE_FLAG	Boolean indicating whether variable is a recode variable	0 = not recode variable 1 = recode variable
DERIVED_VARIABLE_FLAG	Boolean indicating whether variable is a recode variable	0 = not derived variable 1 = derived variable
DESCRIPTION	Short description of variable	
QUESTION	Long description of variable	If directly from question: write the full text of question, including sub-part specific to variable If SYSTEM, list reference table or method used for assignment If RECODE, identify associated variable(s) and define recode method used If DERIVED, define formula used for derivation
CODE_NAME	Corresponding code name (if applicable)	Code must be listed in CODES tab with all relevant information, e.g. YES_NO_CODE, DISS_CODE
DATA_TYPE	Data type	CHAR or NUM
DATA_LENGTH	Variable length	Maximum length of variable (Character variable only)
DATA_SCALE	Variable precision	If data type is NUM, specify the number of decimal places
DATA_CLASS	Variable class	CHARACTER CATEGORICAL CHARACTER TEXT NUMERIC CONTINUOUS NUMERIC CATEGORICAL NUMERIC ORDINAL
NOTES	Any notes or comments about variable	Text

Variable Codes tab (e.g. 'CODES' tab)

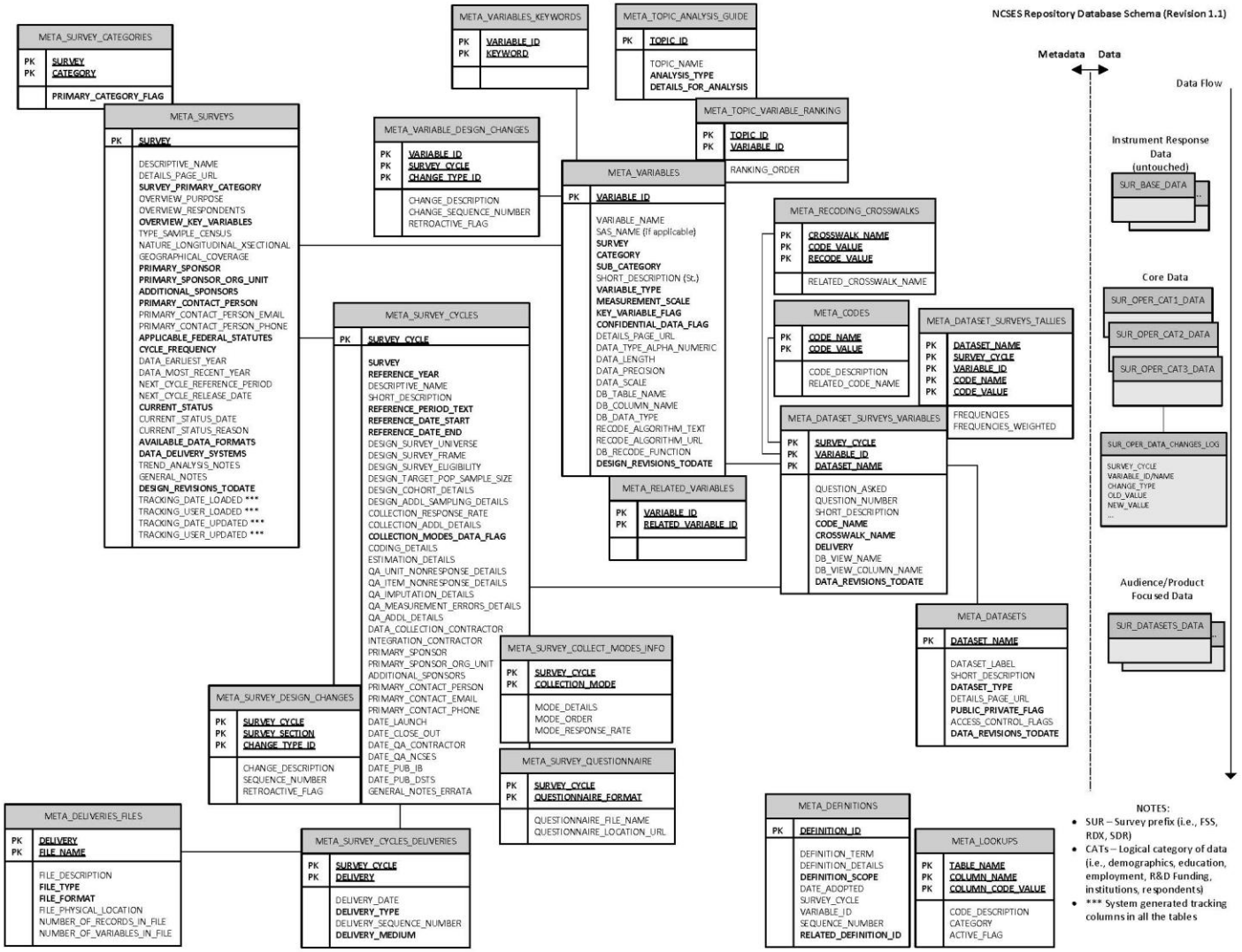
This tab should include all codes referenced in Variable Detail tab in the column 'CODE_NAME'. For each CODE_NAME, list the valid values with descriptions in separate rows.

Column Name	Description
CODE_NAME	The code name referenced in DRF tab
CODE_VALUE	Valid value, one per row
CODE_DESCRIPTION	Description of value
CODE_SUB_CATEGORY	Sub-category (if applicable)

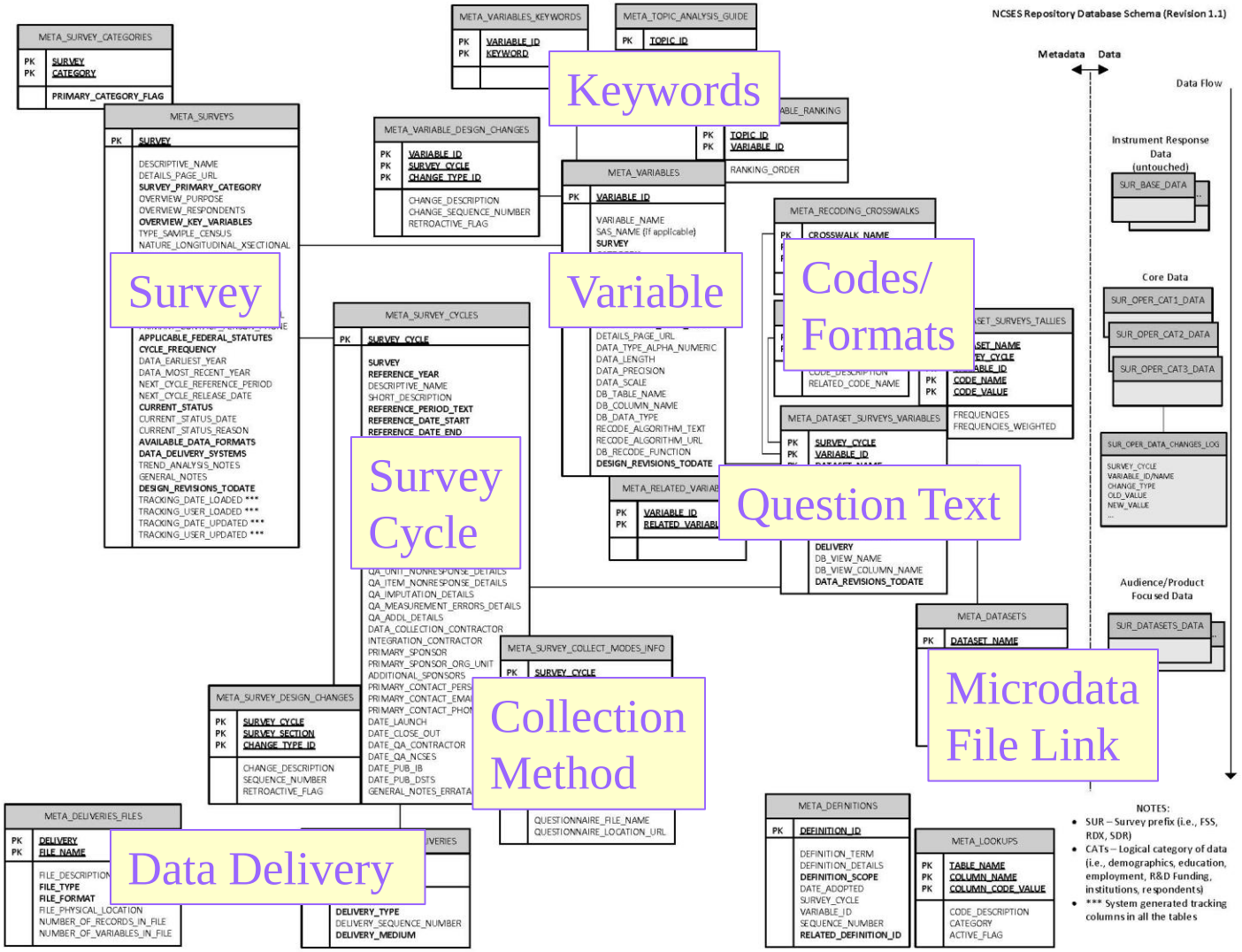
Data Repository Schema



Data Repository Metadata Design



Data Repository Metadata Design



Next Steps

Data Infrastructure

- **Load microdata**
- **Load metadata**

Data Tools and Access

- **Implement integration technologies**
- **Provide training for staff on existing data tools**
- **Pilot dynamic data tables**

Thank you!

Contact Information
Kimberly Noonan
knoonan@nsf.gov
703-292-5159