

KYSTATS Data Request FAQs

- What type of data can I request through KYSTATS?** KYSTATS can provide de-identified aggregate-level P-20 education and workforce data, or de-identified individual-level P-20 education data. For individual-level requests, we have compiled a data dictionary that lists the available data elements. All data shared by KYSTATS will adhere to our [Data Access and Use Policy](#) and [Acceptable Use Guidelines](#). All research utilizing individual-level data is also subject to [FERPA requirements](#).
- What is aggregate-level data?** Aggregate data is basically a summary. Aggregate data cannot provide the type of detailed information that individual level data can. No data sharing agreement is needed for this data request.

Example: (this is sample **aggregate-level data**)

Race/Ethnicity	High School Graduates of 2020-21			High School Graduates of 2021-22		
	Number of Graduates	Number Attending College In-State	In-State College Going Rate	Number of Graduates	Number Attending College In-State	In-State College Going Rate
Black, Non-Hispanic	4,782	1,851	38.7%	4,875	1,935	39.7%
Hispanic or Latino, regardless of race	3,591	1496	41.7%	3,834	1666	43.5%
White, Non-Hispanic Only	34,452	15,978	46.4%	34,054	16,349	48.0%
Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Lunch	23,007	8,198	35.6%	23,289	8,832	37.9%
Not Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Lunch	22,509	12,612	56.0%	22,319	12,747	57.1%
Total	45,516	20,810	45.7%	45,608	21,579	47.3%

- What is individual-level data?** Individual-level data *does not include personally identifiable information (PII)*, but it still contains data based on an individual, not a grouping. You would not receive the person's name, but you would receive information about where they attended college and which programs they participated in, for example. To receive individual-level data, you must sign a data sharing agreement (MOU). KYSTATS staff will initiate the MOU process after the data request form is completed.

Example: (this is sample **individual-level data**)

KYSTATS_ID	Gender	Postsecondary Institution	Degree Year	Degree Semester	Degree Level	Major CIP Code	Major	Credit Hours Earned
KYSTATS40971	Male	Western Kentucky University	2006	Spring	Associate	131101	Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse Training	60
KYSTATS40971	Male	Western Kentucky University	2008	Spring	Bachelor's	380101	Philosophy	144
KYSTATS61123	Female	University of Louisville	2008	Fall	Master's	500702	Electrical and Electronics Engineering	161
KYSTATS51121	Female	Bluegrass Community & Technical College	2012	Spring	Certificate	131203	Executive Assistant/Executive Secretary	30
KYSTATS51121	Female	Bluegrass Community & Technical College	2012	Spring	Diploma	520101	Medical Administrative/Executive Assistant and Medical Secretary	51
KYSTATS90442	Female	Berea College	2013	Fall	Bachelor's	511613	Fine/Studio Arts, General	120

4. **What does the MOU process entail?** All individual-level data requests must be approved by all agencies providing data for the request. KYSTATS serves as the data steward between the requesting parties and Kentucky data providers and will coordinate the MOU process. Generally, KYSTATS will set up a meeting to discuss the data request, then draft the MOU using our standard template before gathering signatures from the requesting parties and data providers.
5. **Can KYSTATS match outside data with data in the KLDS?** Most likely, yes, KYSTATS can match external data with data in the KLDS to measure program outcomes or help answer other research questions. We cannot provide individual-level data to researchers for matched data requests, however. KYSTATS can provide aggregate data or can analyze the matched data in-house and share the results. After the data request form is completed, someone from KYSTATS will contact the requesting parties and set up a meeting to discuss these options.
6. **Are there costs associated with my data request?** It depends. KYSTATS operates on a cost-recovery model and has developed a reasonable fee schedule for services provided (KRS 151B.133). Requests for aggregate-level data are typically not subject to fees unless matching data with data in the KLDS is required, although this varies by request. Fees apply for statistical analyses, such as running a regression analysis for a data requestor, rather than just simple descriptive statistics for aggregated data requests.
7. **How long will it take to fulfill my request?** This depends on KYSTATS' workload at the time of the request and whether the request is for aggregate-level or individual-level data as well as the complexity of the request. Aggregate requests may take several weeks or more to fulfill since KYSTATS is required to provide up to ten business days for our partner agencies to review requests that use their data. Individual-level requests are likely to take four to six months due to the MOU process, which requires approval from all agencies providing data for the request.
8. **What are the restrictions on sharing data obtained from a data request?** Before any data provided by KYSTATS are shared with *any person not listed on the MOU*, KYSTATS requires ten business days for KYSTATS and the data providers to review the data for adherence with our disclosure avoidance policy and to ensure accurate interpretation of the data elements. This requirement is included in the MOU for individual-level data requests, and applies to data shared in academic journals, conference presentations, white-papers, etc.