NATIONAL
REPORTING SYSTEM
for Adult Education

2021
NRS PRODUCT SHOWCASE

An Overview of Selected NRS Products and Their Uses

AIR®

Advancing Evidence.
Improving Lives.

NRS Product Samples

DATA SYSTEM PLANNING TOOL

Click to explore a planning phase, or section of our sample data system specification.

INTRODUCTION   DEVELOPMENT PROCESS ▾   SPECIFICATION SAMPLE ▾
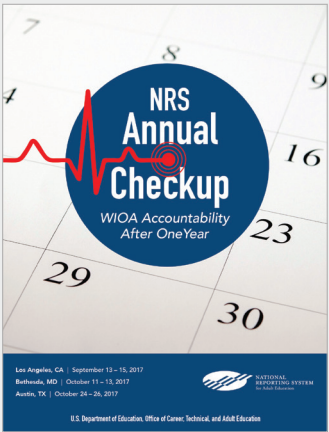
INTRODUCTION

Building a new data system can be a complex and multifaceted activity. A structured approach and clear specifications make it easier to understand the variety of needs and considerations that must be addressed to create a successful solution.

Working through the process with your team helps build greater commitment for the project and ultimately satisfaction with the result.

This simple tool walks you through the basics of developing a system, and provides the elements of a specification that you can use to jumpstart your development effort.
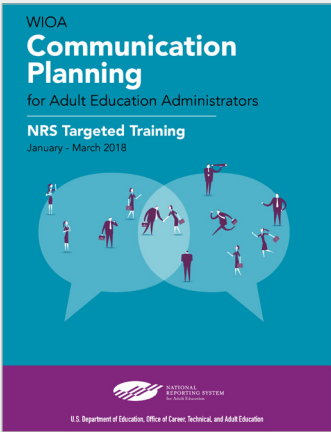
Ready to build your new data system?

NATIONAL REPORTING SYSTEM for Adult Education

Technical Assistance Guide

for Performance Accountability under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

DECEMBER 2017
Division of Adult Education and Literacy
Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education
U.S. Department of Education
Contract No. ED-VAE-15-O-5027

NRS History & Overview | Primary Indicators of Performance, Measures, & Data Collection | Data Collection Process | Quality Control & Reporting | List of Exhibits

---

NRS Annual Checkup

WIOA Accountability After One Year

Los Angeles, CA | September 13 – 15, 2017
Bethesda, MD | October 11 – 13, 2017
Austin, TX | October 24 – 26, 2017

NATIONAL REPORTING SYSTEM for Adult Education

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

---

WIOA
Communication Planning

for Adult Education Administrators

NRS Targeted Training
January – March 2018

NATIONAL REPORTING SYSTEM for Adult Education

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

---

NATIONAL REPORTING SYSTEM for Adult Education

HOME | ABOUT US ▾ | POLICY & DATA ▾ | TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ▾

CONTACT US

Welcome to the NRS!

The National Reporting System for Adult Education (NRS) is an outcome-based reporting system for the State-administered, federally funded adult education program.

LEARN MORE

ADULT EDUCATION FOR SUCCESS

The National Reporting System for Adult Education (NRS) is the accountability system for the Federally funded adult education program, authorized by Section 212 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The NRS includes the WIOA primary indicators of performance, measures that describe adult education students and their program participation, methodologies for collecting performance data, and program reporting procedures.

Learn more about the NRS, adult education data management, ways to use data to improve adult learning opportunities, and training and technical assistance that are available to states.

EXPLORE THE NRS SUPPORT PROJECT

Supporting Accountability in Adult Education: The National Reporting System Support Project Annual Report (October 2016–March 2018 OPDE 1.027(ii))   Download/Learn More ▸

TRAINING AND ONLINE MATERIALS

The NRS provides technical assistance and training to States in ways that best meet the needs of State and Local program providers to improve data quality, increase data use for program development, develop data systems, and more. Select one of the topic areas (listed below) to learn more.

FACE TO FACE   SELF-PACED   WEBINARS

FEATURED RESOURCES

Explore featured resources related to WIOA and the NRS including: state guidance, reporting resources, and internal WIOA resources.

NRS Technical Assistance CEU Guide
WIOA and NRS Resources
CLAP: NRS Training on WIOA 2016
WIOA Summary of Changes
WIOA Joint Participant Individual Record Layout (PIRL)?

Learn more ▸

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Test Benchmark Tables. The NRS Test Benchmark tables have been updated to include the new NRS descriptors for ABE... Learn more ▸

NRS TA Guide. The NRS Technical Assistance (TA) Guide is now available as an interactive e-book. In addition to being more attractive, the new format allows for easier navigation so you can quickly find the information you need. Learn more ▸

Data Systems Tool. The new Data Systems Planning Tool walks you through the basics of developing a system, and provides the elements of a specification that you can use to jumpstart your development effort. Learn more ▸

2017 Regional Training – NRS Annual Checkup. Materials and resources from the regional training are now available. Learn more ▸

NRS 2021 Virtual State Workshops

NEW HORIZONS

Virtual Learning & Service Delivery in Adult Education

LIVE VIRTUAL SESSIONS

Session 1	Session 2
July 12 – 14, 2021	July 19 – 21, 2021
12 – 4pm	10am – 2pm
Eastern Time	Eastern Time

NATIONAL REPORTING SYSTEM for Adult Education

U.S. Department of Education • Office of Career, Technical & Adult Education
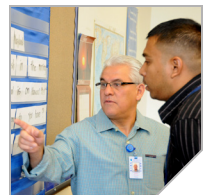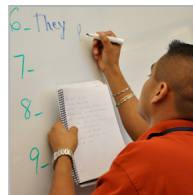
INTRODUCTION

The National Reporting System for Adult Education

The National Reporting System (NRS) is the accountability system for adult education programs. It meets the requirements of the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* (WIOA) for reporting indicators of performance to the U.S. Department of Education. NRS data describe adult education participants, including their characteristics; levels of participation in adult education programs; and performance on measurable skill gains, employment, earnings, and secondary and postsecondary credential attainment.

NRS Products

The following pages contain descriptions of the many products and services that the American Institutes for Research® (AIR)® has created to assist states in meeting the NRS and WIOA requirements. For example, you will find references to training materials on using data for program improvement, online courses to orient new staff to the NRS, an online database to help you choose an appropriate assessment to measure educational functional level gain, informational briefs that provide practical tips on a variety of adult education topics, and reports that analyze national and state data describing adult education students. To help you find what you are looking for, we organized the products and services into the following areas:

- **Policy guidance:** User-friendly publications and online courses to guide you through NRS policies and procedures
- **Data quality and data use:** Tools and training materials to help you better understand and use data
- **Monitoring:** Adaptable templates and guides to assist you in successfully monitoring local programs for compliance and performance

- **Assessment:** A searchable database and important information to help you select an appropriate assessment

- **Federal data reports:** Accessible reports that provide data and analyses to better understand the characteristics and performance of the adult education population at the state and national levels

- **Data systems for NRS:** Reports and guides that explain the characteristics of effective data systems, NRS requirements for data systems, and states' experiences in developing them

All these products may be accessed on *NRSWeb* (https://www.nrsweb.org) by clicking on the product title unless otherwise noted. Products not housed directly on the website are available upon request.

PRODUCTS BY TOPIC

Policy Guidance

States can request and receive guidance from the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) on implementing the national accountability system. Guidance on NRS policy and procedures comes in several user-friendly formats.

NRS Technical Assistance Guide

https://nrsweb.org/policy-data/nrs-ta-guide

The NRS Technical Assistance Guide for WIOA Accountability (NRS TA Guide) is the main resource for states on data collection, data matching, and quality control. It also describes the data flow process, provides definitions of WIOA indicators and other NRS measures, and describes NRS reporting requirements. The *NRS TA Guide* is available for download as a PDF. An interactive e-book version that allows for easier navigation is also available and both versions are on the *NRSWeb* site. In addition, supplemental documents and templates related to the NRS and the WIOA reporting requirements are available on the WIOA and NRS Resources (https://nrsweb.org/policy-data/wioa-and-nrs-resources) webpage.

Measuring Performance Under WIOA Online Course

https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/online-courses

This self-paced, online course provides a general understanding of NRS and specifically addresses the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* (WIOA) indicators and methods for NRS data collection. After completing this course, you should be able to understand the what, why, and how of the NRS.

State Assessment Policy Guidance

https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/AsmtPolicyGdlns081318-508.docx

All states must annually submit an assessment policy to OCTAE that meets NRS requirements. This guide for state staff, updated in August 2018, describes the key topics and information that must go into this policy.

Back to Basics: Foundations of the NRS
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/back-basics-foundations-nrs

This webinar complements the online course *Measuring Performance Under WIOA*. It covers WIOA performance indicators and introduced a professional development activity packet for use with local programs.

NRS Table Changes
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/nrs-table-changes

This webinar reviews changes to NRS Table 4 and Table 4c and explains how these changes expand reporting on measurable skill gains (MSG) types 3, 4, and 5 and what that means for data validation requirements. This webinar also highlights the addition of Table 99, a new table for reporting denominators and indicators of performance on state performance.

NRS Foundations Toolkit
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/ta-tools/NRS-foundations-toolkit

The toolkit is a comprehensive collection of resources created by the NRS Support Project over the course of its 23-year history to help state staff administer adult education programming and meet accountability requirements. The NRS Foundations Toolkit highlights select current resources about NRS requirements to give quick access to key materials and assist new state staff and staff who need to refresh their knowledge or find resources on specific topics. The toolkit covers six areas: OCTAE Policy, Nuts and Bolts of the NRS, Data Collection Strategies to Improve Data Quality, Data Systems, Presenting Data Effectively, and Using Data for Program Improvement. The toolkit uses question prompts, which lead to specific guides, tips, tools, webinars, activities, and online courses.

NRSTips: Reporting Measurable Skill Gains (MSG) Types 3, 4, and 5
https://nrsweb.org/policy-data/Resources-for-Reporting

Adult education programs can now report additional types of MSG for workplace literacy and integrated education and training (IET) participants in NRS Table 4 and Table 4c. An NRS tip sheet provides an overview of the MSG primary indicator of performance and reporting requirements, focusing on MSG types 3, 4, and 5. The tip sheet discusses the validation and documentation required and offers examples of the types of MSG outcomes that states can count.

The NRS Story: From Policy to Practice Podcast Episode 1: Past, Present, and Future

https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/podcasts

Larry Condelli, director of the NRS Support Project, talks about the history of the NRS and how it has evolved. He describes why and how the National Reporting System came into existence, and he calls out what needs the NRS serves today and discusses the future of the NRS.

Data Quality and Data Use

Data quality refers to the collection of relevant, accurate data that can help program staff answer questions about recruitment, retention, and the effectiveness of their programs and components. Data use refers to the understanding and application of data to make decisions on program management and improvement. This section includes examples of products and tools for state adult education staff and local providers to supplement their own knowledge of NRS data quality and data use.

NRSTips: Adult Education Participants in Distance Education

https://nrsweb.org/resources/adult-education-distance-education

This tip sheet summarizes the requirements from the NRS Technical Assistance Guide for defining, reporting, and testing distance education participants, including new allowances for virtual testing, recently announced by OCTAE.

NRSTips: Enhancing Intake to Improve Services: Collecting Data on Barriers to Employment

https://nrsweb.org/resources/enhancing-intake

This tip sheet explains the 11 Barriers to Employment as defined under WIOA and strategies for collecting these barriers which can help improve local program services.

Conquering Your Data Challenges
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/conquering-your-data-challenges

Under WIOA, state performance on indicators and other measures of effectiveness plays a vital role in developing quality programming. As states continue with WIOA implementation, local programs face challenges that affect state performance, NRS data collection, and reporting of WIOA indicators. This training helped state teams to identify local challenges that impact state performance, use data to understand the reasons for the challenges, identify strategies to address the challenges, and develop a draft action plan to replicate training to local programs.

Demonstrating Success: A Technical Assistance Guide for Collecting Postexit Indicators
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/ta-tools/data-collection-and-quality#Guides

Performance on the postexit indicators demonstrates the success of programs in preparing participants for success in employment and postsecondary education. However, collecting the data for the indicators is new to adult education and poses many challenges to states. This guide serves as a technical assistance resource for state and local staff to understand the postexit indicators and suggests ways to improve the quality of these data. It explains the indicators and how each one is collected and calculated, as well as provides guidance to help states and programs overcome the many challenges they face in collecting these data. It also offers approaches to enhance the completeness and quality of data in each step of the data collection process.

NRSTips: Increasing Posttesting to Improve Measurable Skill Gains
https://nrsweb.org/resources/nrs-tips-increasing-posttesting-improve-measurable-skill-gains

Although many factors affect an adult education program's MSG outcome, a critical one is a program's pretesting and posttesting rate. This *NRSTips* summarizes strategies that two states—Maine and Rhode Island—have used to successfully increase their posttesting rates.

NRSTips: Collecting Data for Postexit Indicators in Practice
https://nrsweb.org/resources/nrs-tips-collecting-data-post-exit-indicators-practice

Under WIOA, adult education programs must collect data on program participants after program exit for each performance indicator. This *NRSTips* provides examples of successful strategies from one local program and one state for collecting required data on two performance indicators—credential attainment and employment.

WIOA Communication Planning for Adult Education Administrators
https://www.nrsweb.org/training-ta/f2f-training/wioa-communications-planning

The WIOA has created the need for partnerships across state workforce and education agencies to enable a comprehensive approach toward adult education and job training. Adult education plays a key role in these partnerships. This collection of tools and training materials is designed to help states establish partnerships across their state workforce and education agencies by developing an actionable strategic communication plan that leverages NRS and other state program data.

NRSTips: Tracking Students Over Time
https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/Tracking-Students-508.pdf

Tracking student outcomes can take time and effort; however, it is important for local programs to obtain this information to support program management and improvement efforts. This *NRSTips* will help you better understand the WIOA requirements related to following up with students after they exit and tracking their successes. The tip sheet includes information about why it is important to track students and a table with guidelines for whom to track when, and it describes the primary methods for tracking students' outcomes: data matching and supplemental data collection.

NRS Annual Checkup: WIOA Accountability After One Year—Planning Tool
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/f2f-training/2017-regional-training

This tool and its associated training provide state leaders with a detailed look at their current state's data collection and monitoring processes, as well as the training of local programs. The goal of this tool and the training is to help states develop a plan for improving data quality through data collection, data monitoring, and training for local programs.

LEAP Into WIOA, Part I: Planning for Change
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/f2f-training/leap-part-i

This guide and its associated training focus on preparing states for changes related to WIOA. The goal of the guide and the training is to help state teams explore these changes and practice leadership strategies and approaches for communicating with state staff, local programs, and WIOA partners as they plan for adjustments in state reporting and data collection. Major topics include planning for data system changes, staff development, and communication.

LEAP Into WIOA, Part I: Planning for Change—Companion Toolkit
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/f2f-training/leap-part-i

This toolkit is a companion to *LEAP Into WIOA, Part I: Planning for Change.* It includes materials and handouts from the training, as well as supplemental handouts and resources for further reading and exploration. These materials are intended for state adult education staff to extend their learning and understanding of the topics and can be used as training materials for working with both state and local program staff. The toolkit exists in an electronic format to enable ease of sharing and printing.

LEAP Into WIOA, Part II: NRS Measures and Reporting
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/f2f-training/leap-part-ii

This guide and its related training provide state staff with a detailed look at the new NRS reporting requirements and revised tables as a result of WIOA implementation, which will help them develop a plan for meeting these necessary changes. The goal of the guide and the related training is for states to obtain a clear understanding of the NRS data requirements and changes needed in their state data collection and reporting systems, learn ways to implement the changes, and disseminate information to their local programs and state WIOA stakeholders.

LEAP Into WIOA, Part II: NRS Measures and Reporting—Companion Toolkit
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/f2f-training/leap-part-ii

This toolkit is a companion to *LEAP Into WIOA, Part II: NRS Measures and Reporting.* It includes materials and handouts from the training, as well as supplemental handouts and resources for further reading and exploration. These materials are intended for state adult education staff to extend their learning and understanding of the topics and can be used as training materials for working with both state and local program staff.

Defining Adult Education Under WIOA: Messaging With Infographics
This resource is available upon request.

This guide and its related training gives an overview of WIOA and focuses on the role of partnerships among adult education programs, the U.S. Department of Labor, the U.S. Department of Education, the Rehabilitative Services Administration, and other agencies identified within WIOA. The goal of the guide and the training is to help states define their adult education programs as valuable and central partners in implementing education and training through the WIOA framework.

The Power of Data Visualization: Advanced Presentations of NRS Data
https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/Data_Visualization_Guide_508.pdf

This guide and its related training bring NRS data into the world of data visualization. The training focuses on two popular and powerful visualization tools: data dashboards and infographics. The training promotes the use of these tools to convey more powerful and effective messages about state or local programs using NRS data.

NRS Data Dashboards Online Course
https://courses.nrsweb.org/course/view.php?id=7

This course reviews how to use data dashboards to summarize and present NRS data and other information that you need to make decisions, understand challenges, and highlight progress toward your organization's goals.

Data Quality Guide, Training, and Self-Assessment Checklist
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/f2f-training/2014-summer-training

A guide and training materials are available to help state and local programs clarify the data collection process and ensure the collection of quality data. We also offer an online course that helps users understand what goes on at each level of the NRS. The online course is available at https://courses.nrsweb.org/enrol/index.php?id=4.

Linking Data Quality With Action: Evaluating and Improving Local Program Performance
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/f2f-training/2014-summer-training

This guide and related training resources offer new approaches and tools for identifying and preventing data quality problems. The guide introduces a local quality checklist—modeled after OCTAE's state checklist—that states can use to understand and evaluate local data collection practices. The guide also brings together previously developed material on improving data quality into a single resource: a data quality toolkit to support ongoing state and local training related to data quality practices.

NRS Myth Busters: The Truth About Adult Education
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/f2f-training/2013-summer-training

This collection of tools enables state staff to use NRS data to address an evaluation or research topic that will inform practice and improve programs. This training promotes the quality and use of data collected under the National Reporting System for Adult Education.

NRS Myth Busters Online Course
https://courses.nrsweb.org/course/view.php?id=10

The *NRS Myth Busters* course is divided into five parts, providing a detailed model and approach to assist state and local adult education programs in using their NRS data to "bust" common myths and conduct research related to adult education students, teachers, or programs.

Diving Deep Into the Local NRS Pool: Attendance, Transition Outcomes, and Educational Gain

This resource is available upon request.

This collection of tools assists state and local program administrators to analyze the core NRS outcome measure of educational gain, the four follow-up transition measures, and student attendance. Materials support state and local planning for program improvement.

The Local Connection: Building a Data Use Learning Community

This resource is available upon request.

Learn about the characteristics and essential elements of data use learning communities at the state and local levels. Training materials include a companion guide for the training, learning community pre and post needs-assessment surveys, and other resources.

Building and Sustaining Quality in NRS Data: Strategies for Program Improvement

This resource is available upon request.

A guide, training materials, and useful tools create a four-step continuous program improvement process for building and sustaining change.

Learning to Be an NRS Data Detective Online Course

https://courses.nrsweb.org/course/view.php?id=6

Continue learning about data use and data searching by participating in this online course based on the topics and concepts found in the *Guide to Learning to Be an NRS Data Detective.*

NRS Data Detective Templates, Training, and Guide

This resource is available upon request.

Learn to be a data detective with materials from this training, which provide guidance on the policies and procedures for collecting and using data as well as tools that help state and local staff question and analyze data in three areas: assessment, setting goals, and achieving goals.

NRSTips: Reporting Race and Ethnicity
https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/RaceandEthnicity.pdf

The U.S. Department of Education released guidance on how educational institutions and other U.S. Department of Education–funded programs should collect and report data on race and ethnicity beginning July 1, 2010. This *NRSTips* describes changes to the way federally funded adult education programs will collect and report race and ethnicity data based on the U.S. Department of Education's guidance on the new standards and their implications.

Supporting the Use of Data Through Professional Development
This resource is available upon request.

This resource guide promotes professional development for local programs to support the use of accurate and reliable data for decision making and program improvement.

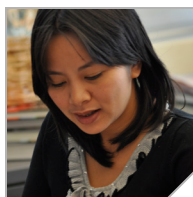## Demonstrating Results: Developing State and Local Report Cards for Adult Education
This resource is available upon request.

Report cards can be powerful and effective tools for accountability and program improvement. State and local programs can develop attractive, easy-to-understand report cards to evaluate quality, identify levels of performance, and provide information to people so that they can make informed choices.

NRS Developing Report Cards for Adult Education Online Course
https://courses.nrsweb.org/course/view.php?id=9

Learn to develop your own state or local report card in this four-part self-directed course based on the NRS guide *Demonstrating Results: Developing State and Local Report Cards for Adult Education.* This course provides an overview of how report cards are used in adult education and the five steps for developing a report card.

Guide to Learning to be an NRS Data Detective: The Five Sides of the NRS
This resource is available upon request.

This guide focuses on five sides to making NRS work: two foundational elements that must be in place to collect and use data (data collection policies and procedures and a state data system) and policies and procedures in three areas (assessment, goal setting, and follow-up measures) for collecting NRS core outcomes.

New Horizons: Virtual Learning and Service Delivery in Adult Education
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/new-horizons-virtual-learning

The 2021 regional training was designed to help states develop a vision for virtual learning and service delivery to help guide their planning, implementation, programming, and capacity building for success in the coming years. This collection of tools and related training materials is designed to support states in evaluating their approach to virtual learning and service delivery (VLSD).

Virtual Learning and Service Delivery in Adult Education Workbook
https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/NRS2021VirtLearnWB-Fill-508.pdf

This workbook is a companion toolkit for the New Horizons: Virtual Learning and Service Delivery in Adult Education regional training. It is designed to help states evaluate their approach to virtual learning and service delivery (VLSD). Using the workbook as a guide during the live workshop session, in combination with your pre-session preparation, Moodle activities, and the New Horizons for VLSD Critical Questions and Related Data Framework, your state team will develop a vision and features that will help guide the planning, implementation, programming, and capacity building of VLSD in adult education in the coming years—your new horizon.

NRS CommQuest Online Course
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/online-courses

NRS CommQuest is an interactive learning experience that presents the principles of communication planning. It provides an overview of basic communication concepts with definitions and examples as well as activity templates and additional resources to explore. It also includes a communication plan model that can be used to develop participants' own state communication plans.

Monitoring

State administrators are obligated to monitor local programs for performance and compliance with state and federal policies and procedures. NRS products for program monitoring help with performance data review to evaluate the effectiveness of programs and identify areas for improvement.

Using Logic Models for Program Planning and Evaluation
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/ta-tools/program-monitoring

Logic models provide an approach for program planning, management, monitoring, and evaluation. They present a concise, graphic depiction of what a process, project, program, or system comprises and what it is intended to do. At the state and local program levels, logic models can be useful in planning initiatives, monitoring performance and data management, and evaluating effectiveness. It illustrates which resources are needed to provide activities that will produce results that lead to desired outcomes. The Using Logic Models for Program Planning and Evaluation tool provides an overview of logic models, an explanation of its components, and an example of how it can be used to evaluate adult education program activities.

Evaluating Program Effectiveness
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/f2f-training/2018-regional-training

WIOA requires states to evaluate local programs and includes sanctioning provisions for low-performing states. This collection of tools and related training materials is designed to support states through the process of developing a systematic approach to evaluating local program effectiveness using NRS data, including WIOA performance indicators.

Evaluating Program Effectiveness: Planning Guide
https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/Planning-Guide-508.pdf

This planning guide is a companion toolkit for the *Evaluating Program Effectiveness* regional training. This guide provides a deeper understanding of how to develop or improve a system for evaluating local performance and implement a state evaluation system. In addition, the guide provides a description of each step in the process of developing or revising an evaluation system, offers examples, and provides a template for drafting an evaluation plan.

Desk Monitoring: Improving Program Performance
This resource is available upon request.

Using a quantitative desk monitoring tool reduces the burden on state staff and supplements qualitative information gathered through on-site monitoring visits. The guide and training explain the monitoring process and how a desk monitoring tool fits in the larger process. The monitoring tool is a template for state and local staff and is designed to determine what can be measured and how to evaluate programs using their data system.

NRSTips: Desk Monitoring
https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/NRS_Tips_Desk_Monitoring.pdf

Desk monitoring is an effective and efficient way to assist states in meeting their monitoring needs. This issue of *NRSTips* provides an approach to reviewing and tracking program performance by using quantitative data that serves as a supplement to on-site monitoring.

Assessment

Assessment provides a measure of student educational gain and is central to program accountability and improvement. The NRS has several products to help select and use the appropriate assessment.

Test Benchmarks for NRS Educational Functioning Levels
https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/NRSTestBnchmrks-082019-508.docx

This resource, updated August 2019, is a quick reference to current test benchmarks for educational functioning levels.

Data Analyses and Reports

The NRS is a repository of data collected by the U.S. Department of Education. NRS infographics highlight the national program performance data, including information on the characteristics of the adult education population and related topics.

NRS Infographics
https://nrsweb.org/policy-data/data-highlights

NRS infographics provide an "at-a-glance" overview of key findings from the NRS data, such as findings on student enrollment and demographics, teacher and provider characteristics, a summary of student outcomes in recent years, and more.

Data Systems for NRS

NRS Support Project staff have established guidance on developing data systems that meet WIOA and NRS requirements for reporting and using data for program improvement. The guidance provides tips for developing new database systems and evaluating and updating currently used systems.

21st Century Data Systems for the NRS: WIOA and Beyond
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/f2f-training/2017-nrs-targeted-training

This collection of tools and related training materials is designed to support state administrators as they think through, plan for, and communicate requirements for updating their current data systems to meet the accountability requirements of WIOA, which includes modifying the system to produce data reports to support program operations and improvements.

Data System Planning Tool
https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/ta-tools/dstool

This tool is an online, integrated version of resources related to data system development that states can use to jumpstart their efforts to develop a new data system.

NRS Data Systems Glossary

https://nrsweb.org/training-ta/ta-tools/data-systems-glossary

This glossary contains definitions of terms related to data systems.

NRS Data Flow and Planning Workbook

https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/NRS_Data_Flow_Workbook_508_0.pdf

This workbook will help you through the process of creating a graphical flowchart to document and communicate your state's needs and challenges for obtaining and using data. The workbook includes information about creating flowcharts and an accompanying data management workbook to guide you through a detailed look at the data you collect and manage. It uses a general model of the data collection process from intake until student exit to help you understand data flow in your state or adult education program.

NRS Data Systems Online Course

https://courses.nrsweb.org/course/view.php?id=8

This course presents the key steps for planning and implementing a data system that can be used for years to come. The course chronicles the process for identifying needs, recognizing key challenges, preparing for key elements of planning, implementing the system, and launching the data system process. Integrated planning worksheets help apply the course's content to your state's specific needs.

NRS Data Flow Online Course

https://courses.nrsweb.org/course/view.php?id=4

Learn who does what with NRS data, where data come from, where data go, and how data get there. After completing this course, you should be able to give a detailed account of what goes on at each level of the NRS data collection and reporting processes.

Going Longitudinal: Building an Adult Education Longitudinal Data System

This resource is available upon request.

This collection of tools has a twofold purpose: The tools (1) allow state and local program administrators to bring the adult education program into the world of state longitudinal data systems and (2) create a plan for developing an adult education longitudinal data system independently or in collaboration with existing systems.
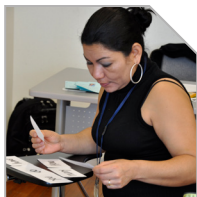
NRSTips: Creating a Longitudinal Data System
https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/NRS_Tips_Long_Data.pdf

This edition of *NRSTips* describes some benefits of and the elements necessary for creating a quality longitudinal data system.

NRSTips: Planning for a Successful Data System
https://nrsweb.org/sites/default/files/NRS_Tips_Data_Sys.pdf

Your data system can provide a trove of information to help identify opportunities to strengthen adult education in your state. Planning a new system offers an opportunity to reflect on current and future needs and then to identify tools to help address those needs. This edition of *NRSTips* outlines a process to plan and build a successful data system.

PRODUCTS FOUND AT *NRSWeb*

Training Guides

- *New Horizons: Virtual Learning and Service Delivery in Adult Education (2021)*

- *NRS Foundations Toolkit (2021)*

- *Conquering Your Data Challenges (2019)*

- *WIOA Communication Planning for Adult Education Administrators (2018)*

- *Evaluating Program Effectiveness (2018)*

- *NRS Annual Checkup: WIOA Accountability After One Year (2017)*

- *21st Century Data Systems for NRS: WIOA and Beyond (2017)*

- *LEAP Into WIOA, Part I: Planning for Change (2016)*

- *LEAP Into WIOA, Part II: NRS Measures and Reporting (2016)*

- *Defining Adult Education Under WIOA: Messaging With Infographics (2015)*

- *The Power of Data Visualization: Advanced Presentations of NRS Data (2014)*

- *NRS Linking Data Quality With Action: Evaluating and Improving Local Program Performance (2014)*

- *NRS Myth Busters Evaluation Research Guide (2013)*

- *NRS Guide to State Longitudinal Data Systems (2012)*

- *Evaluation Research Planning Model for the Evaluation Learning Community (2011)*

- *Diving Deep Into the Local NRS Pool: Attendance, Transition Outcomes, and Educational Gain (2010)*

- *The Local Connection: Building a Data Use Learning Community (2009)*

- *Building and Sustaining Quality in NRS Data: Strategies for Program Improvement (2008)*

- *Desk Monitoring: Improving Program Performance (2007)*

- *Demonstrating Results: Developing State and Local Report Cards for Adult Education (2007)*

- *Guide to Learning to Be an NRS Data Detective: The Five Sides of the NRS (2006)*

Webinars

- NRS Table Changes (2021)
- Back to Basics: Foundations of the NRS (2020)
- Barriers to Employment (2020)
- Distance Education Tips (2020)
- Statistical Adjustment Model (2020)
- Postexit Indicators: Data Collection for the Employment and Credential Indicators (2019)
- Increasing Posttesting to Improve Measurable Skill Gains (2019)
- Why Map Your Data Flow—We'll Count the Ways and Show You How (2018)
- Introduction to NRSOnline Courses (2018)
- Post-Exit Indicators: Tracking Students Over Time (2018)
- NRS Reporting Tables (2018)
- Rolling Out LEAP II to Local Providers (2016)
- Data Dashboards (2016)
- Infographics (2014)
- Promising Practices in Program Management and Data Use Series
- Report Cards (2015)
- Distance Learning (2015)
- Longitudinal Data Systems (2014)
- Data Use in the Classroom: A Teacher's Perspective (2014)
- Policies for Program Improvement (2014)
- Data Use in the Classroom (2013)
- Transition Planning: College and Career Readiness (2013)
- Managed Enrollment (2013)
- Evaluation Learning Community (ELC) (2013)

Online Courses

- Using NRS Data
- Myth Busters: The Truth About Adult Education
- Developing Report Cards for Adult Education
- NRS Data Systems
- NRS Data Dashboards
- Learning to Be an NRS Data Detective
- Data Use Guide Training Course
- NRS Data Flow
- Measuring Performance Under WIOA
- NRS CommQuest

NRSTips

- Reporting Measurable Skill Gains (MSG) Types 3, 4, and 5
- Adult Education Participants in Distance Education
- Enhancing Intake to Improve Services: Collecting Data on Barriers to Employment
- Increasing Posttesting to Improve Measurable Skill Gains
- Collecting Data for Post-Exit Indicators in Practice
- Tracking Students Over Time
- Employment Reporting
- Creating a Longitudinal Data System
- Reporting Race and Ethnicity
- Desk Monitoring
- Planning an NRS Data System

Other Resources

- *NRS Technical Assistance Guide*
- NRS and WIOA Resources
- NRS Policy on Reporting Distance Education Students
- State Assessment Policy Guidance
- NRS Test Benchmarks for Educational Functioning Levels
- NRS Infographics
- NRS Resource Guide to Data Systems
- State Snapshots
- *The NRS Story: From Policy to Practice Podcast*

For more information, please write to nrs@air.org.

◆AIR®

Advancing Evidence.
Improving Lives.

About AIR

Established in 1946, with headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, the American Institutes for Research® (AIR®) is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization that conducts behavioral and social science research and delivers technical assistance to solve some of the most urgent challenges in the U.S. and around the world. We advance evidence in the areas of education, health, the workforce, human services, and international development to create a better, more equitable world. The AIR family of organizations now includes IMPAQ, Maher & Maher, and Kimetrica. For more information, visit AIR.ORG.