



January 2026

Mississippi SLDS Data Overview



Prepared by Mississippi State University's NSPARC

Mississippi SLDS Data Overview

January 2026

ABOUT MISSISSIPPI'S SLDS

Mississippi's Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) is one of the most comprehensive systems in the country and includes administrative records from more than 25 education, workforce, and human service agencies in the state. The SLDS allows for the alignment of multiple sources of de-identified administrative data over time to evaluate educational or workforce strategies in terms of real outcomes, such as entrance into employment, wages, and skill gains.

PREPARED BY MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY'S NSPARC

NSPARC, the National Strategic Planning & Analysis Research Center at Mississippi State University, is a trusted source for research addressing critical challenges faced by government, economic and workforce development professionals, educational institutions, nonprofits, and the private sector. Drawing on a team of sociologists, economists, data engineers, data analysts, and machine learning experts, NSPARC facilitates informed decision-making.

With over 20 years of experience, NSPARC excels at combining data from disparate sources to tackle complex issues. NSPARC scientists uncover trends and enable evidence-based research across areas ranging from workforce development, education, and economics to disaster resilience, and community development. NSPARC scientists' versatility allows them to easily translate knowledge from one domain to another and collaborate effectively with partners, ensuring research findings have real-world impact. This allows NSPARC to draw meaningful insights from data to address challenges faced by policymakers, employers, economic developers, and state agencies.

For more information, contact NSPARC at nsparc@nsparc.msstate.edu or 662-325-9242.

Copyright 2026 by Mississippi State University. All rights reserved. Produced by NSPARC.

MISSISSIPPI SLDS DATA OVERVIEW

Mississippi's Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) is one of the most comprehensive systems in the country and includes administrative records from more than 25 education, workforce, and human service agencies in the state. The SLDS allows for the alignment of multiple sources of de-identified administrative data over time to evaluate educational or workforce strategies in terms of real outcomes, such as entrance into employment, wages, and skill gains. The Mississippi SLDS has over 20 years of administrative records that contain over 500 unique data points derived from its contributors covering the following domains:

- **K-12 Education:** Longitudinal public school student records including academic performance, assessments, disability classifications, and detailed graduation/dropout/re-entry indicators.
- **Postsecondary Education:** Data from Mississippi's 15 community colleges and 8 public universities, tracking enrollment, majors, degree attainment, and financial aid status.
- **Workforce Development:** Participation in Career and Technical Education (CTE), Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) training, and professional certification.
- **Employment & Earnings:** Quarterly wage records, industry classifications (i.e., NAICS), and annualized earnings used to measure workforce outcomes of training and education programs, as well as determine the economic return on investments.
- **Human Services:** Records for public assistance receipt (i.e., SNAP/TANF) and vocational rehabilitation services for individuals with impairments.

Mississippi Community College Board (MCCB)

Administrative data pertaining to community college students are contributed to the SLDS by Mississippi's 15 community colleges and the Mississippi Community College Board (MCCB). MCCB and the state's 15 community colleges contribute comprehensive data on approximately 73,000 students each year, focusing on postsecondary enrollment, academic majors, and graduation outcomes. This data scope includes traditional credit-bearing courses, non-credit workforce training with over 42 distinct course classifications, and Adult Basic Education (ABE) tracks like English as a Second Language (ESL) and GED attainment. Additionally, MCCB provides records for workforce readiness certifications, such as the Career Readiness Certificate (CRC), and student financial status through Pell Grant receipt and transfer indicators between institutions.

Mississippi Department of Education (MDE)

Administrative data pertaining to Mississippi public schools are contributed to the SLDS by the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE). MDE serves as the primary provider of longitudinal K-12 data, contributing administrative records for approximately 442,000 students annually. This dataset enables tracking of student progress from early childhood through graduation, encompassing demographic information, and detailed academic performance metrics such as grade levels and course loads. Furthermore, MDE provides critical assessment data, including proficiency exam results for core subjects like Algebra I and English II, alongside program indicators for special education, gifted status, and barriers to completion like specific dropout and re-entry codes. In addition, MDE provides National Student

Clearinghouse (NSC) data for all graduates pertaining to student enrollment in out-of-state postsecondary institutions.

Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES)

MDES contributes employment and wage data collected from Mississippi employers in the state's covered employment system to measure workforce outcomes of training and education programs, as well as the economic return on investments. This dataset includes quarterly earnings, industry mapping via NAICS codes, and employer locations for over 43,000 registered companies. Additionally, real-time labor market insights can be derived from job announcements on the Mississippi Works state job board. MDES also provides records for workforce interventions under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), encompassing on-the-job training, customized services, and entrepreneurial supports.

Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS)

MDHS provides foundational data regarding public assistance to the SLDS, specifically the receipt of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits. Data includes monthly records for individuals and families receiving SNAP and/or TANF benefits.

Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC)

MDOC contributes administrative data on incarcerated and supervised offenders pertaining to terms of sentencing, incarceration, and/or supervision, release dates, and nature of offense, as well as offender enrollment and/or completion of pre-release educational, training, and rehabilitation programming.

Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services (MDRS)

MDRS contributes data on specialized support services designed to help individuals with disabilities overcome barriers to employment and independent living. These records include detailed impairment profiles classified by sensory, physical, and mental impairments, alongside tracking for over 20 unique service types such as vocational rehabilitation counseling and rehabilitation technology. Furthermore, the agency provides indicators for employment support, including job search and placement assistance, to measure the workforce outcomes of clients with disabilities.

Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL)

Administrative data on 4-year public university graduates are contributed to the SLDS by Mississippi's eight public universities and the Institutions for Higher Learning (IHL). Representing the state's eight public universities, IHL provides administrative records for approximately 81,000 students annually, capturing granular details from admission through degree completion. The dataset includes semester-by-semester GPA tracking, cumulative credits earned, and specific admission status codes for regular, high-risk, or developmental program participants. IHL records also track students by their Mississippi county of residence and state residency status, while documenting a wide range of degrees awarded classified by 6-Digit CIP code, from professional certificates to doctoral degrees.



SLDS

Statewide Longitudinal
Data System

Prepared by Mississippi State University's NSPARC



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLANNING
& ANALYSIS RESEARCH CENTER