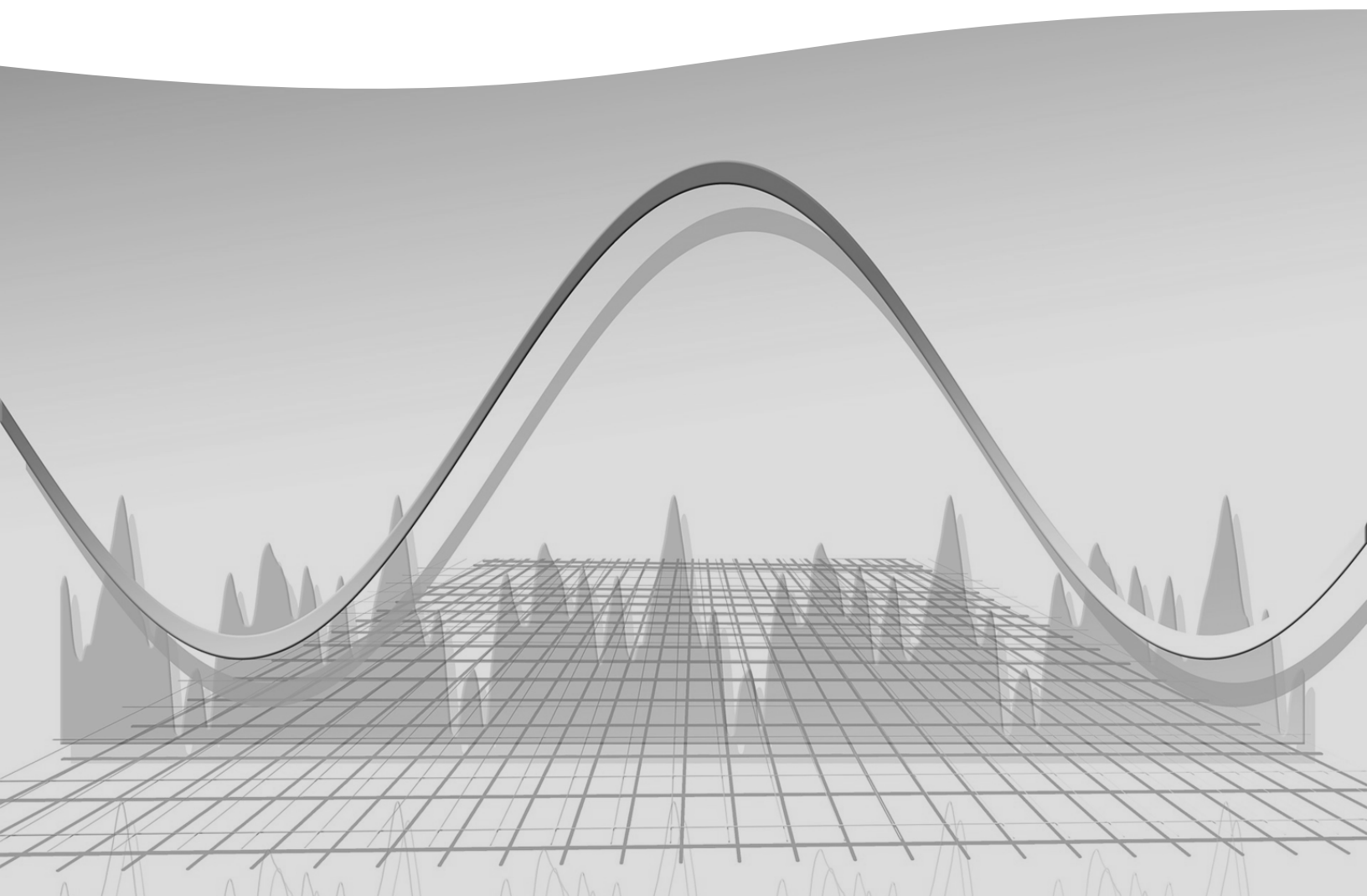


# Data Sources for Learning and Practice

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# National Center for Education Statistics

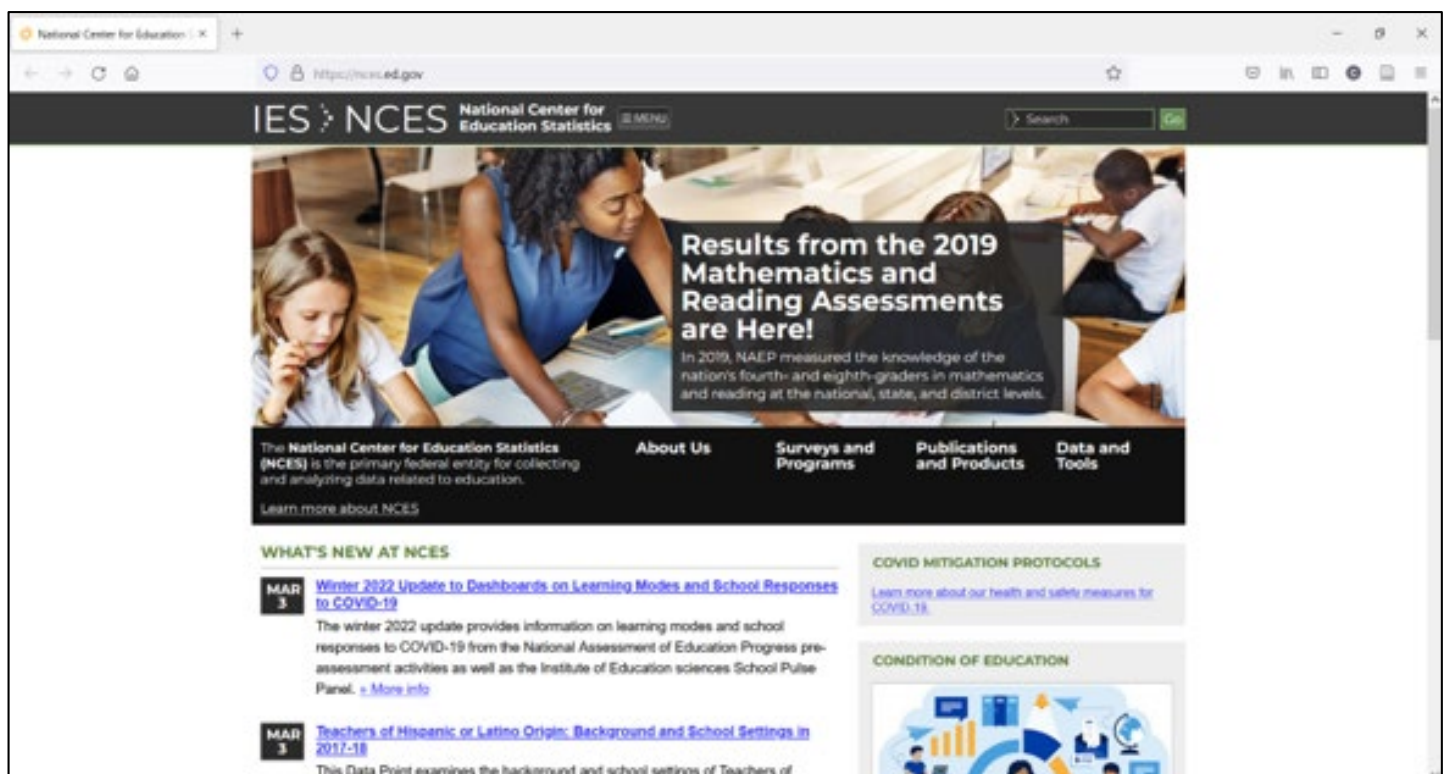
The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is the official data resource of the U.S. Department of Education (USED) and its Institute of Education Sciences (IES). The primary role of the NCES is to help the USED fulfil its congressional mandates for data collection, analysis, and reporting.

NCES is a useful resources for those looking to better understand schooling in the United States. Here are a few things you will find available on the NCES website:

- Annual reports that summarize vital statistics about public and private education.
- Data collected from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).
- Data collected from the International Activities Program (IAP).
- Information about public schools collected from the Common Core of Data (CCD), Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, National Household Education Survey, Secondary Longitudinal Studies Program, Educational Demographic and Geographic Estimates, and the National Teacher and Principal Survey.
- Information about the state of libraries in the United States.
- A wide range of post-secondary data.
- National datasets from the Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems Grant Program.

One of the best things about NCES is that, in addition to the raw data files, its website features a wide range of built-in data analysis tools. You can create customized tables and even run basic statistical tests right from your browser. A real time saver!

The National Center for Education Statistics It is accessible at: <https://nces.ed.gov/>



The screenshot shows the NCES website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the IES and NCES logos, the text "National Center for Education Statistics", a search bar, and a menu icon. Below the navigation bar is a large banner image showing a teacher and students in a classroom. The banner text reads: "Results from the 2019 Mathematics and Reading Assessments are Here! In 2019, NAEP measured the knowledge of the nation's fourth- and eighth-graders in mathematics and reading at the national, state, and district levels." Below the banner is a navigation menu with links for "About Us", "Surveys and Programs", "Publications and Products", and "Data and Tools". Below the navigation menu is a section titled "WHAT'S NEW AT NCES" with two news items: "Winter 2022 Update to Dashboards on Learning Modes and School Responses to COVID-19" and "Teachers of Hispanic or Latino Origin: Background and School Settings in 2017-18". To the right of the news items is a section titled "COVID MITIGATION PROTOCOLS" with a link to "Learn more about our health and safety measures for COVID-19". Below the news items is a section titled "CONDITION OF EDUCATION" with a graphic showing various educational metrics.

# Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System

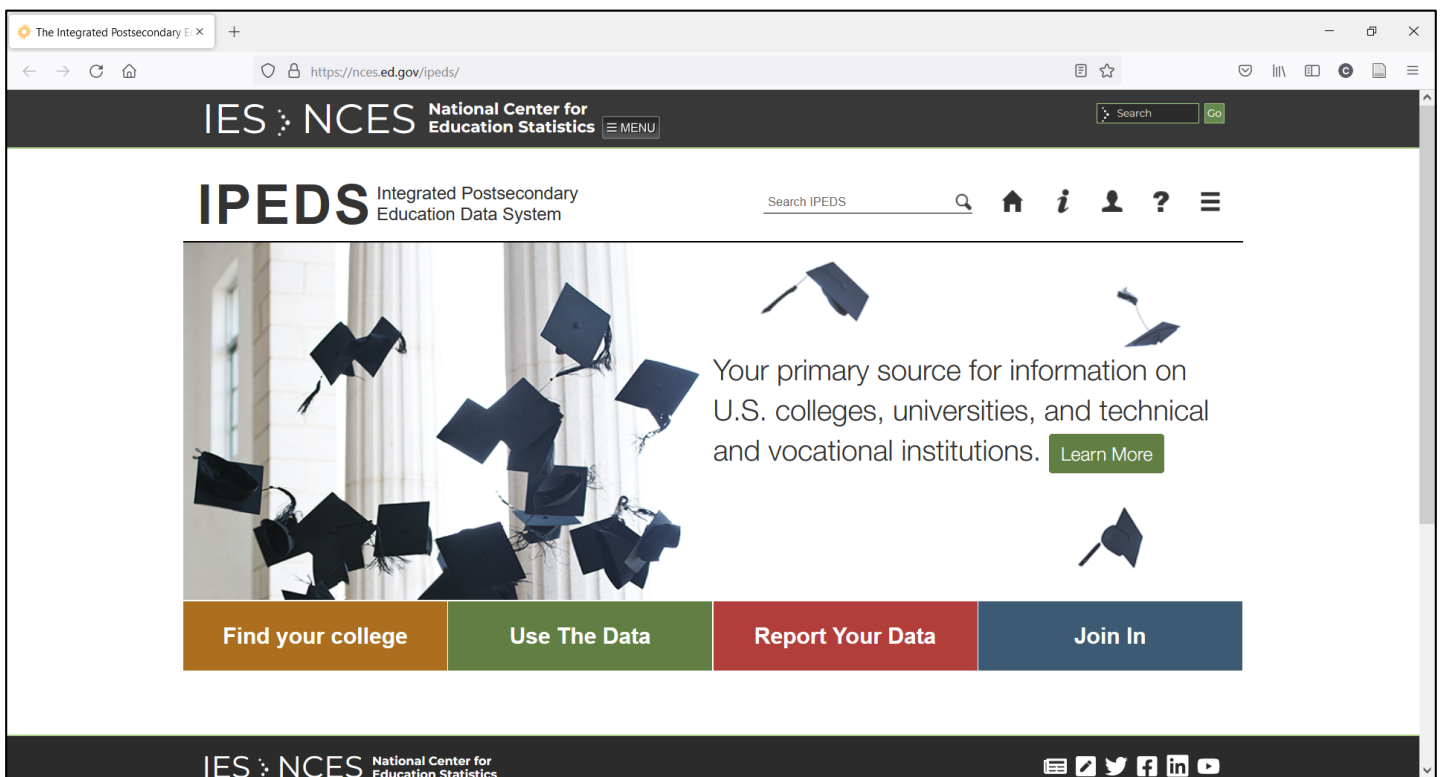
The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) contains data on all the colleges and universities. It is a good place to grab data if you want to learn more about higher education. It is part of the NCES discussed earlier but is robust enough to warrant its own discussion here.

Three times each year, the IPEDS solicits information from higher education institutions across the United States. From these data collections, you can access data related to:

- Enrollment
- Library Services
- Admissions
- Completion Rates
- Finances
- Graduation Rates
- Human Resources
- Institutional Characteristics
- Student Outcomes
- Financial Aid

In addition to the raw data files, you can also view detailed information about higher education institutions and even compare institutions.

The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System is accessible at: <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/>



The screenshot shows the IPEDS website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the IES and NCES logos, the text "National Center for Education Statistics", and a search bar. Below this is the main header with "IPEDS Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System" and a search bar. The main content area features a large image of graduation caps falling, with the text "Your primary source for information on U.S. colleges, universities, and technical and vocational institutions." and a "Learn More" button. Below this are four colored buttons: "Find your college" (orange), "Use The Data" (green), "Report Your Data" (red), and "Join In" (blue). At the bottom, there is a footer with the IES and NCES logos and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

# ED Data Express

Want to compare schools across the country? ED Data Express houses all the data collected by the US Department of Education on every school in the nation and presents it in a user-friendly format.

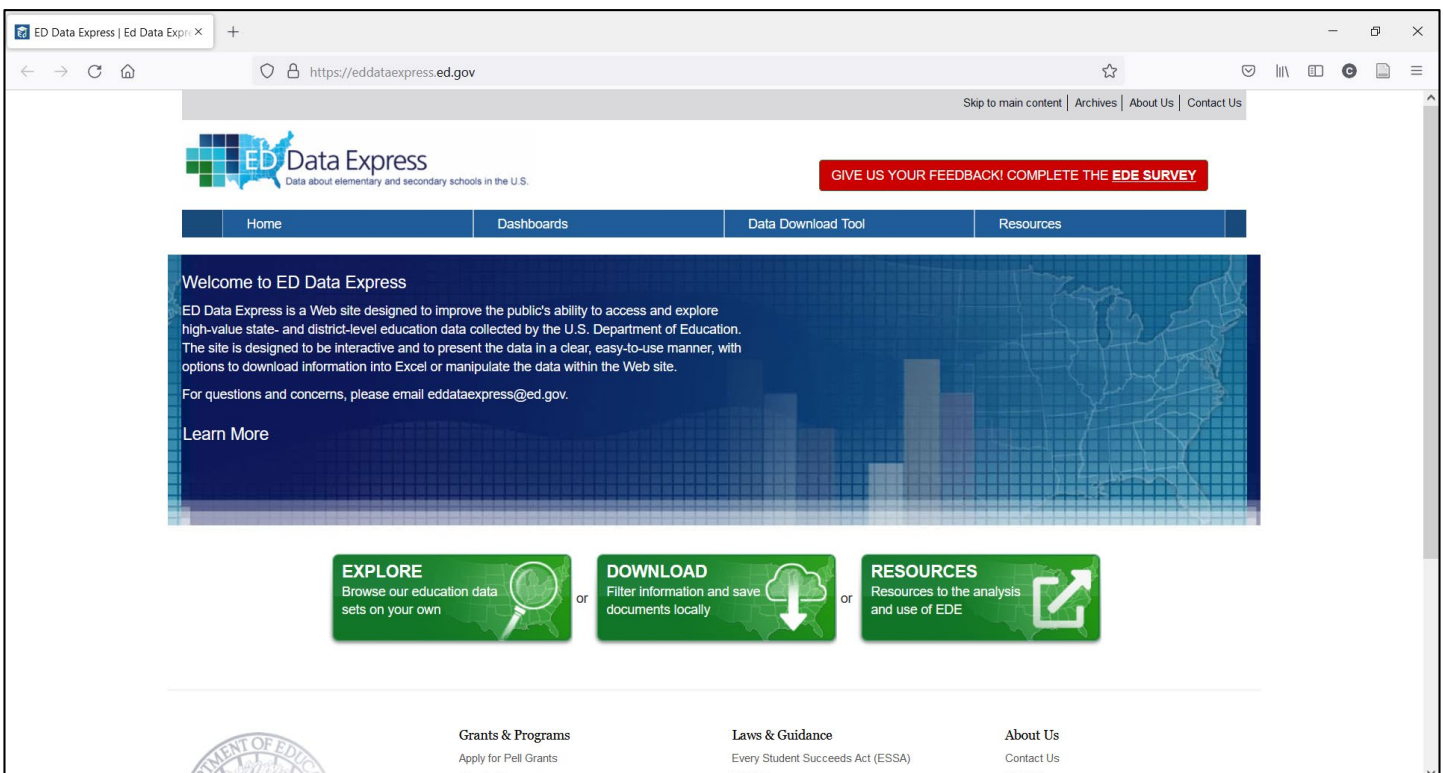
The goal of ED Data Express is to increase data transparency and support the public in reviewing education data. ED Data Express presents data all the way down to the school level. You can download data files related to a wide variety of topics, including participation, performance, and status.

The datasets also allow you to disaggregate data by race/ethnicity, disability status, English Learner status, migratory status, and homeless status. This is really useful if you are interested in studying questions related to educational equity.

Another great feature of ED Data Express are the dashboard tools. By applying filters, you can view interactive maps, graphs, and charts that help you better understand the raw data. Dashboards are available for the following programs: Title I Part A, Title I Part C, Title I Part D, Title III, and McKinney-Vento. You can also filter by school year and toggle between states with ease.

Finally, ED Data Express offers some great resources to help the public understand the datasets through pre-populated reports.

ED Data Express is available at: <https://eddataexpress.ed.gov/>



# Data.gov

If you are interested in looking at data beyond the education realm, you should visit Data.gov. This is the official data repository for the various programs run by United States government agencies. There are over 300,000 datasets available for download!

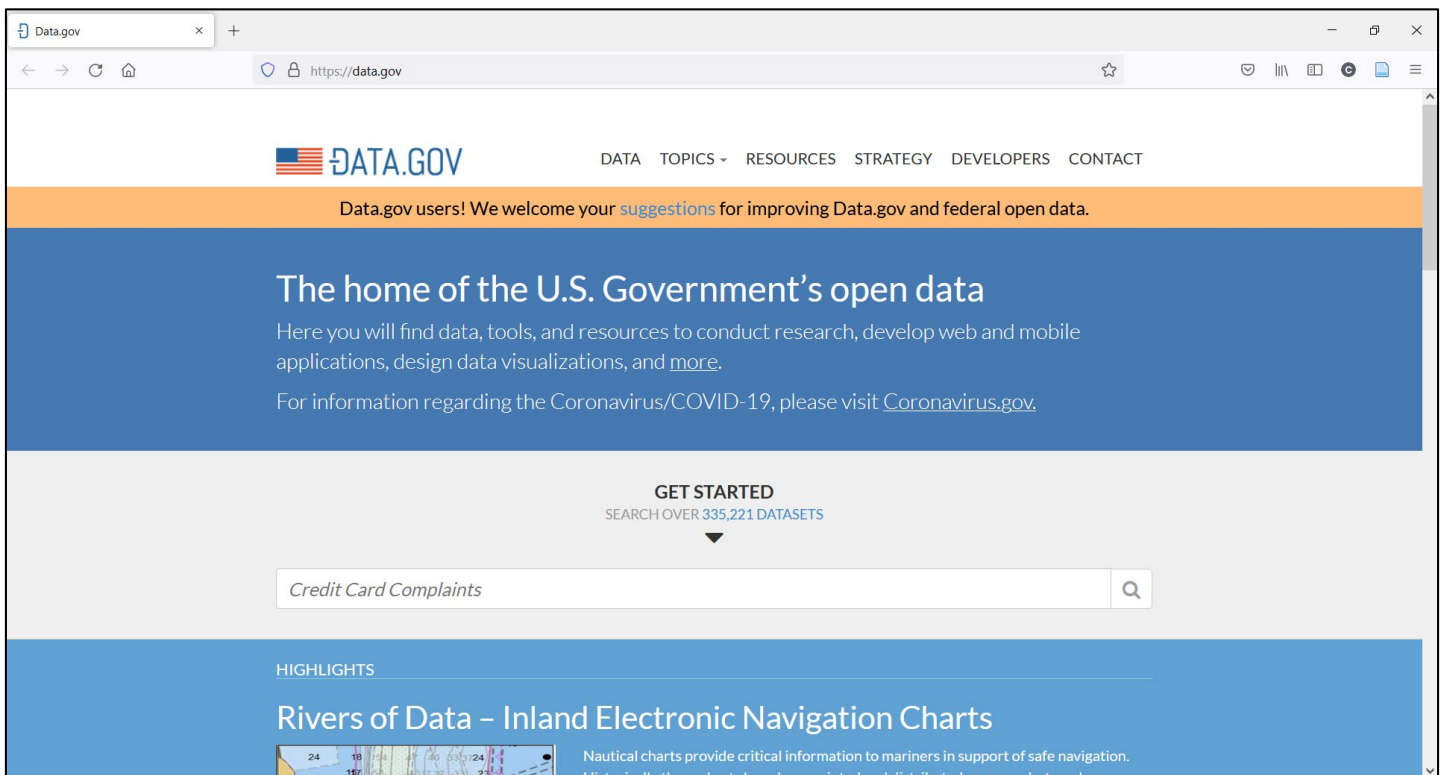
Data.gov compiles information related to agriculture, climate, energy, local government, maritime, ocean, health, and most recently, coronavirus.

In addition to the raw data files, Data.gov does a good job of providing additional resources to help out-of-field analysts understand the various terms and measures included in the data sets. It also includes guidance on quality data management and governance techniques, tools to help you analyze data more quickly, and skill development webinars and handbooks.

One thing that I like about data.gov is that they have a program called Data Incubator. This is a space where the government solicits help from the public on various data analysis questions. They run competitions and offer opportunities for data analysts to come work on projects through public-private partnerships.

Additionally, Data.gov is a great place if you're looking for case studies and examples of data use in other areas. Their resources page includes articles, use cases, and reflections from data practitioners working in government agencies.

Data.gov is accessible at: <https://www.data.gov/>



# Civil Rights Data Collection

Are you interested in educational equity? Then you should check out the Civil Rights Data Collection available from the US Department of Education (USED).

The Civil Rights Data Collection is an annual data collection required by the federal government. State Education Agencies (SEA), like your state's Department of Education, collect data throughout the year and submit it to the government for archive on this page. The collection is designed to promote equity and ensure compliance with federal civil rights laws. SEAs are required to report information related to:

- Student and teacher demographics,
- Student participation in various courses,
- Graduation rates,
- Student behavior incidents,
- Drug and alcohol use on school campuses,
- Staffing levels,
- Special education and related services, and
- Access to additional services, like mental or physical health.

In addition to the raw data files, the Civil Rights Data Collection website includes school and district profiles, detailed data tables, built-in analysis tools, and detailed reports. These tools make for great practice because you can easily double-check your work as you learn.

The Civil Rights Data Collection is available at: <https://ocrdata.ed.gov/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Civil Rights Data Collection website. The browser address bar displays <https://ocrdata.ed.gov>. The page features a navigation menu on the left with links to Home, School & District Search, Detailed Data Tables, Data Analysis Tools, Special Reports, State and National Estimations, 2017-18 CRDC Reports and File, Additional Resources, FAQ / User Guide, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), and Looking for the 2017-18 CRDC?. The main content area includes a 'Quick Search' section with input fields for 'School Name' and 'State (Choose 1 or more)', and buttons for 'Find School(s)', 'Find District(s)', and 'Search'. Below this are three featured sections: 'School and District Search' (with a house icon), 'Detailed Data Tables' (with a magnifying glass icon), and 'Data Analysis Tools' (with a bar chart icon). A right-hand sidebar titled 'Did You Know?' lists data categories such as Enrollment Demographics, Preschool, Math & Science Courses, and School Expenditures. A note at the bottom of the sidebar states that 2017-18 CRDC data are now available at <https://crdc.ed.gov>.

# US Census Bureau

If you are interested in economic and societal indicators, check out the data sets from the US Census Bureau. Most people know about the Census Bureau's 10-year national data collection, but did you know they provide a wide range of data collection services throughout the interim? You can access this information and use it to better understand the local conditions of the schools with which you work.

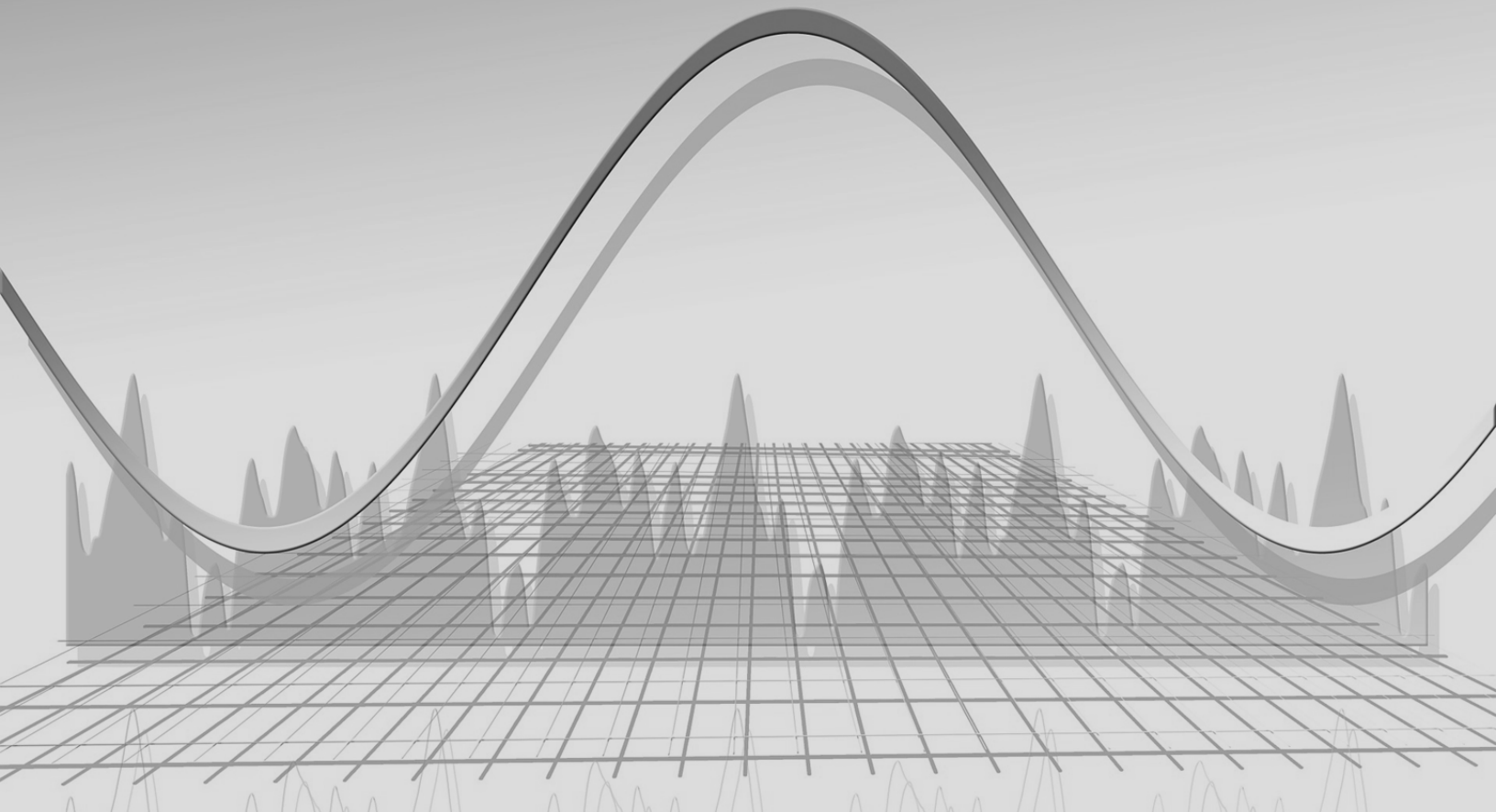
On the Census Bureau's website, you can download raw data files or use built-in analysis tools to understand data related to:

- Age and sex,
- Business and Economy,
- Education,
- Emergency Management,
- Employment,
- Families and Living Arrangements,
- Geography,
- Health,
- Housing,
- Income and Property,
- International Trade,
- Population,
- And much much more!

US Census Bureau data is available at: <https://www.census.gov/>

The screenshot shows the US Census Bureau website homepage. The browser address bar displays <https://www.census.gov>. The page features a dark blue header with the "United States Census Bureau" logo and a search bar. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: "BROWSE BY TOPIC", "EXPLORE DATA", "LIBRARY", "SURVEYS/ PROGRAMS", "INFORMATION FOR...", "FIND A CODE", and "ABOUT US". A light blue banner below the navigation menu states: "The 2016-2020 ACS 5-year data products will be available in data.census.gov starting March 17, 2022. Learn More." The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column features a large graphic with a bar chart and the headline "Census Bureau Releases Estimates of Undercount and Overcount in the 2020 Census", with a "Read More" button. Below the headline is a sub-headline: "The U.S. Census Bureau released results today from two analyses about the quality of the 2020 Census counts." The right column contains a "POPULATION CLOCK" widget showing the USA population as 332,557,028 and the World population as 7,883,020,021 as of March 12, 2022. Below this is a "U.S. CENSUS BUREAU ECONOMIC INDICATORS" section with three items: "Selected Services Revenue" (\$4,789.7 B, up 2.8%), "Business Formation Statistics" (419,518 Applications, down 2.1%), and "Monthly Wholesale Inventories" (\$799.9 B, up). A "Is this page helpful?" survey is visible in the bottom right corner.





For more information about how you can use  
data and research to drive continuous improvement  
in your school or district, please visit:

[www.matthewbcourtney.com](http://www.matthewbcourtney.com)