



2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16)

What You Need to Know Prior to the
Technical Review Panel Meeting
August 6–7, 2014

What Will This Presentation Cover?

Overview of studies conducted by NCES' Longitudinal Studies Division

- **Who** is studied and **how often**?
- **When** are the studies conducted and **how** are they interrelated?
- **What** topics do these studies investigate?
- **What** findings do these studies generate?
- **What** data sources do these studies use?

NCES Postsecondary Sample Studies

- National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS)
- Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study (BPS)
- Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study (B&B)

Who Is Studied and How Often?

Study	Group of interest	Type/frequency
NPSAS	Undergraduate and graduate students	Cross-sectional (Every 4 years)
B&B	Graduating college seniors	Longitudinal (New cohort every 8 years)
BPS	First-time beginning postsecondary students	Longitudinal (New cohort every 8 years)

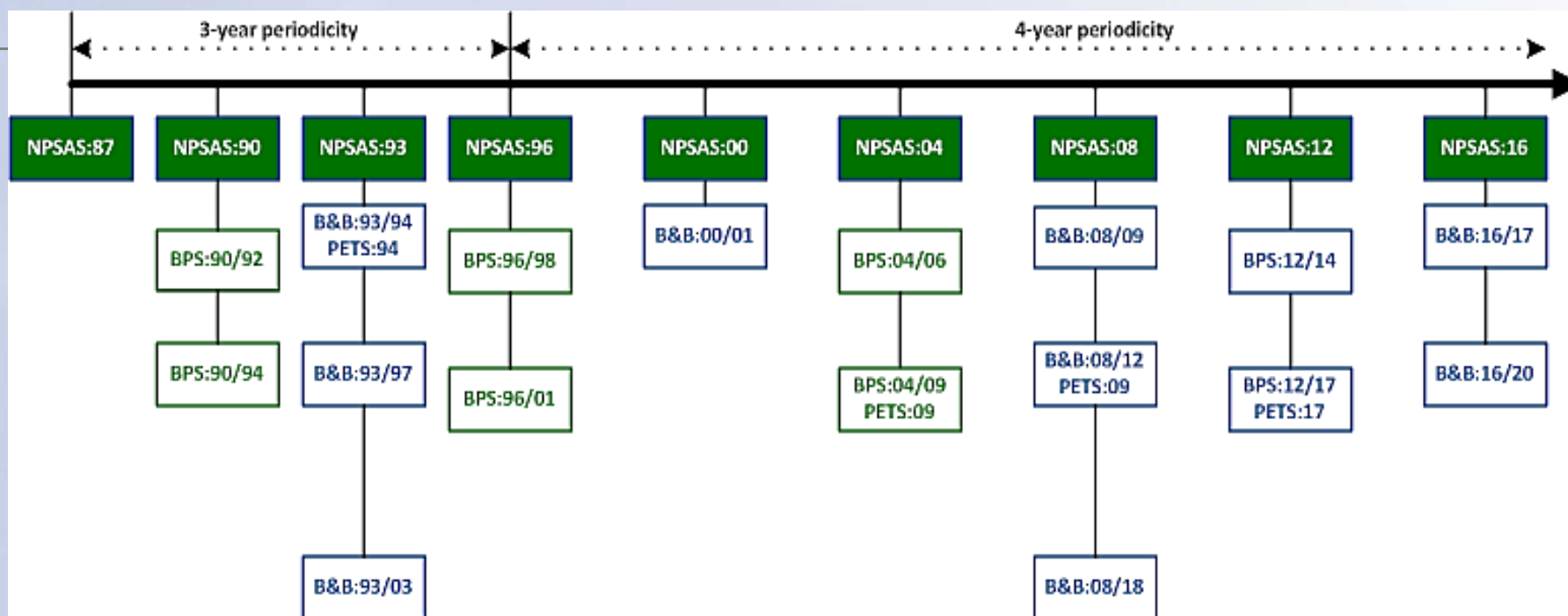
When Are the Studies Conducted and How Are They Interrelated?

NPSAS

National Postsecondary Student Aid Study
All undergraduate and graduate students
Cross-sectional 1 year

B&B

Baccalaureate and Beyond
Graduating College Seniors
Longitudinal follow-ups



BPS

Beginning Postsecondary Students
College Freshmen
Longitudinal follow-ups

PETS

Postsecondary Education Transcript Study
Transcript collection for the longitudinal studies



What Topics Does NPSAS Investigate?

- Demographics of student, spouse, parents
- Enrollment, degree program, and major field of study
- Tuition, total and net prices of attendance
- Financial aid by type and source
- Financial need
- Debt by class level
- Employment while enrolled
- Institutional characteristics

What Topics Does B&B Investigate?

- Employment after bachelor's degree
- Transition to graduate education
- Time to bachelor's degree
- K-12 teaching experiences
- Student loan repayment and debt burden
- Undergraduate enrollment history
- Family formation
- College credits (from transcripts)

What Topics Does BPS Investigate?

- First-year experiences
- Persistence, transfer, and graduation rates
- Undergraduate enrollment history
- Student loan debt over time
- Time to associate's degree and certificate
- Employment after subbaccalaureate award
- College credits (from transcripts)

What Kinds of Findings Can NPSAS Generate?

NPSAS:12 results

- 39% of undergraduates had parents with no college degree
- 38% of undergraduates attended college full time for the full academic year
- 26% of undergraduates worked 35 or more hours per week
- 71% of undergraduates received financial aid
- 42% of undergraduates took out a student loan
- 14% of graduate students received employer support

NOTE: PRELIMINARY RESULTS FROM NPSAS:12. NOT FOR RELEASE OR DISTRIBUTION.

SOURCE: Radwin, D., Wine, J., Siegel, P., and Bryan, M. (2013). *2011–12 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:12): Student Financial Aid Estimates for 2011–12* (NCES 2013-165), table 1.

Skomsvold, P. (2014, forthcoming). *Web Tables—Profile of Undergraduate Students: 2011–12* (NCES 2014-167), tables 1.5, 3.11, 5.1.

Woo, J., and Skomsvold, P. (2014, forthcoming). *Web Tables—Profile and Financial Aid Estimates of Graduate Students: 2011–12* (NCES 2014-168), table 3.4.

What Kinds of Findings Can B&B Generate?

B&B:08/12 results

- For the class of 2008, the median time to attain a bachelor's degree was 52 months.
- Four years after graduation, 6 percent of college graduates were enrolled in postsecondary education, 69 percent were employed, and 11 percent were both enrolled and employed.
- The median salary for a full-time employee 4 years after earning a bachelor's degree was \$46,000 overall and ranged from \$37,000 for education majors to \$67,600 for engineering majors.

SOURCE: Cataldi, E.F., Green, C., Henke, R., Lew, T., Woo, J., Shepherd, B., and Siegel, P. (2011). *2008–09 Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study (B&B:08/09)* (NCES 2011-236), table 3.

Cataldi, E.F., Siegel, P., Shepherd, B., and Cooney, J. (2014). *Baccalaureate and Beyond: A First Look at the Employment Experiences and Lives of College Graduates, 4 Years On (B&B:08/12)* (NCES 2014-141), tables 2, 6.

What Kinds of Findings Can BPS Generate?

BPS:04/09 results

- After 6 years, 64 percent of first-time students who started at a 4-year college and 34 percent of those who started at a 2-year public college had earned a certificate or degree.
- Among students whose first award was an associate's degree, the median time to degree was 33 months and the median full-time salary 6 years after initially enrolling was \$29,000.
- Among students whose first award was a certificate, the median time to completion was 13 months and the median full-time salary 6 years after initially enrolling was \$28,500.

SOURCE: Green, C., and Radwin, D. (2012). *Web Tables—Characteristics of Associate's Degree Attainers and Time to Associate's Degree* (NCES 2012-271), table 3a.

Ifill, N., and Radford, A. (2012). *Web Tables—Beginning Subbaccalaureate Students' Labor Market Experiences: Six Years Later in 2009* (NCES 2012-273), table 12.3.

Radford, A.W., Berkner, L., Wheeless, S.C., and Shepherd, B. (2010). *Persistence and Attainment of 2003–04 Beginning Postsecondary Students: After 6 Years* (NCES 2011-151), tables 2, 3.

What Data Sources Do These Studies Use?

Data from institutions

- Student records
- Transcripts

Student interview data

- Phone or online survey

Other administrative data

- Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) from ED's Central Processing System (CPS)
- Federal Pell Grant and Loan Files from ED's National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS)
- Enrollment Records (National Student Clearinghouse)
- National Standardized Tests (SAT/ACT)

Focus of TRP Meeting

- Discuss and make recommendations for the content of the NPSAS:16 field test interview, including base-year content for the B&B longitudinal study.
 - New issues to capture?
 - Items requiring revision or update?
 - Old topics to drop?

For More Information

- <http://nces.ed.gov/npsas/>
- <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/b&b/>
- <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/bps/>
- <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pets/>