



## Department of Children and Youth Affairs

### Inventory of Data Sources on Children's Lives

## A25 HEA Student Record System (SRS) (Course File, Programme File and Survey File)

<b>Data owner</b>	Higher Education Authority ( <a href="http://www.hea.ie">www.hea.ie</a> )
<b>Brief description</b>	Data collected on current students and graduates in third-level education (universities and institutes of technology).
<b>Primary function of data</b>	To inform education policy and allow for planning. Statistics are supplied to the Department of Education and Skills ( <a href="http://www.education.ie">www.education.ie</a> ) and are available to education providers and members of the public.
<b>Key classificatory variables</b>	ID Other. <i>HEA Survey File also includes:</i> PPSN; Sex; DOB; County; Occupation; Labour Force Status; Nationality
<b>Themes/domains</b>	Education
<b>Unit of observation</b>	Individual student who is registered with a third-level institute for that academic year (full and part time, undergraduate and postgraduate). Details are returned on a per student basis.
<b>Start date of data collection</b>	2003/2004 was the first collection through the HEA's Student Record System (SRS). Prior to this, data were collected via paper forms, with less detailed information available compared to the current computerised system.
<b>Frequency of data collection</b>	Annually. Data should be returned as of 1st March of that year; for example, enrolments data for 2012/2013 to be returned on 1st March 2013.
<b>Data format</b>	Data provided on an aggregated basis. Individual student records are not available.
<b>Method of data collection</b>	Computerised through the SRS run by the HEA. Each institute may load its own data into the system.
<b>Access/further information</b>	Higher Education Authority: <a href="http://www.hea.ie">www.hea.ie</a> Publications available at: <a href="http://www.hea.ie/en/publications">http://www.hea.ie/en/publications</a>

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### Notes

The Student Record System (SRS) creates a single record for each individual student. It is populated through three inputs, which together make up a composite record for each student. These are:

- » HEA Course File, which collects information on course undertaken by student;
- » HEA Programme File, which collects information on type of programme undertaken by student;
- » HEA Survey File, which includes demographic information on student.

Data are broken down by institution, field of study, gender, age and level of education.

At the early stage of compiling this HEA inventory, these three inputs were recorded as separate data sources.