VitalStats and Data Quality

Michael Gordon August 2017



Council on Higher Education

Content



- Why VitalStats?
- VitalStats Sections
- The Process
- Data Quality
- Different Quality Sets
- Example & Publication

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Why VitalStats



- The name refers to the most vital data to the sector as a whole
- Allows own analysis
- Quick Access from your desk simple,
 161 graphs
- Taken from most frequent data requests over 4 to 5 years
- Improved through user/sector comments
- Based on primary performance indicators



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VitalStats Sections



- Section 1: Student Enrolment and Completion Data
- Section 2: Student Data by Qualification Type
- Section 3: Student Data by Field of Study
- Section 4: Student Data by Institutional Type
- Section 5: Staff Complement
- Section 6: Cohort Study
- Section 7: Financial Data
- Appendices



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The Process



- Student and Staff data: Sourced from HEMIS
- Period of 6 years (2010-2015)
- Cohort: Outsourced
- Financial Data: Sourced from University Budget reports, other funding reports
- Research Data: HEMIS, RO Reports
- Extraction into tables, then to graphs
- Some instances calculations are needed

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Data Quality



- BIG Thanks to the Hard-working People behind the scenes
- What is the quality of data output?
- 3 basic means to assess the quality of data
 - What the consumer learns?
 - What the consumer can do?
 - Effort and time needed?
- Data quality cannot be independently achieved from:
 - How the data is generated

The contexts in which data exist



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Different Quality Sets Accessibility Quality Transactional Quality Contextual Quality Representation Quality Council on Higher Education

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