

Enhanced Research Disk FAQ

Q. How do we analyze the research disk using Excel?

A. Rebecca Raybould put together a PDF called How to Analyze the Research Disk with Excel located at

<http://www.ames-slc.org/Faculty/Raybould/SIS.htm>

Q. Regarding the columns AYP_MASTERY and STUDENT_MASTERY. Under what circumstances would these two values be different for a student?

A. Originally these two values are equal. The AYP_MASTERY could be different than STUDENT_MASTERY for non-uaa tests that are modified or given out of level.

Q. Regarding DATA_SOURCE. If PS is Paper State and U is UAA, where is Computer Based?

A. In years prior to the 2005-06 school year, the datasource reflected more accurately the test medium. In the 2005-06 year, the only codes that we received were 'PS' and 'U'. Starting in 2007-08 school year, the computer based tests will be identified with 'O'.

Q. What rules apply concerning IN_UPASS_SUMMARY and IN_AYP_SUMMARY? If the value is YES, does it mean the score was used in figuring Status, Participation, or both? Under what circumstances would these two values differ for a student?

A. The IN_UPASS_SUMMARY field is originally set to 'Y' for all tests. It is then set to 'N' for all tests that have a non-participation code of 1,2,3,5,8, or 9

Q. Why are there a lot of ethnicities missing from my Student table?

A. The ethnicity column in the student table is normally populated from the all student and/or the pre-print file. There was a bug in the code that was written to copy the demographic information in the all student file from one testing session to another. To help districts with this, the ethnicity information as submitted in the clearinghouse has been added to the research file in the new student master table.

Q. I have heard about the "Super" enhanced research file. What exactly is that and what data will be contained in it?

A. This acronym stands for State Education Research File. It is intended to replace the Enhanced Research Disk, and its layout mirrors the state's database. The SERF is a longitudinal view of the students who were enrolled in your district during the school year. It includes all the information we

have for these students in the current year, and previous year. This is a dump from the USOE Data Warehouse, and will have the same table structure as the tables that are in the warehouse.

Q. How do I tell if my UAA students are proficient?

A. You would look in the Student table. The student's who took the UAA have a 'U' in the data_source column. Then for those students you would look at the student_mastery column. If there is a 3 or a 4 in that column it indicates that the student was proficient.

Q. What does the record status code of DP mean. It isn't defined in the record status table.

A. The DP is used to indicate that the test is a duplicate because the student took the test in a prior year. This was mistakenly omitted from the record status table in the first 2008 version of the research disk, but will be in any subsequent releases.