

The background of the entire page is a light gray circuit board pattern. It features various electronic components like resistors, capacitors, and integrated circuits, connected by a network of lines representing circuit traces. The pattern is dense and covers the entire area.

Natcast



“Classroom to Cleanroom” Dashboard FAQ

Updated: June 2, 2025

1. **We are noticing discrepancies in data represented in dashboard compared with other sources of data we've reviewed. To help us better understand and ensure alignment, could you share additional information on the data source(s) used?**

To develop the “Cleanroom to Classroom” dashboard, Natcast relied on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), a standard federal data set operated by the National Center for Education Statistics. Higher education institutions receiving Title IV federal financial aid are required to submit a variety of data on their program offerings to IPEDS, which is then made available to support students, families, policymakers, researchers, and others navigating or operating in the postsecondary education space. To ensure consistency and comparability of the data included in the dashboard, we are unable to incorporate data from programs that have not been contributed to IPEDS.

2. **We've noticed that [insert university/campus] is not listed in the dashboard but significantly contributes to the talent pipeline. Could you clarify why?**

To develop the “Cleanroom to Classroom” dashboard, Natcast relied on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), a standard federal data set operated by the National Center for Education Statistics. Higher education institutions receiving Title IV federal financial aid are required to submit a variety of data on their program offerings to IPEDS, which is then made available to support students, families, policymakers, researchers, and others navigating or operating in the postsecondary education space. To ensure consistency and comparability of the data included in the dashboard, we are unable to incorporate data from programs that have not been contributed to IPEDS.

It is possible that a school is included under a varied spelling. For example, there are several schools associated with Texas A&M. Some are recorded in IPEDS as “Texas A & M” (with spaces) and others as “Texas A&M” (without spaces). Depending on the spelling searched, results may vary in alignment with IPEDS data.

3. **Do the “2022 completers” totals capture any non-Title IV pathways (e.g., industry-issued micro-credentials, DoD SkillBridge cohorts, intensive bootcamps) or are they drawn only from IPEDS-reported at Title IV institutions?**

Data on completers of non-academic credentials, such as industry-issued micro-credentials, are included to the degree that they are issued by a Title IV-participating institution and reported to IPEDS. Those issued by non-Title IV institutions are not included.

4. **From where is the placement data derived?**

The dashboard does not contain “placement data.” The industry attraction rate was created by looking at occupational data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. By comparing the number of people in a given occupation within the semiconductor industry to the total number of people in a given occupation across any industry,

Natcast can demonstrate the degree to which graduates of semiconductor relevant programs may be entering into semiconductor industry roles.

- 5. Are there future plans to use longitudinal method/linkage (e.g., LEHD) to see how completers move into, out of, and back into certain industry over time?**

Natcast envisions future exploration of linkages, such as through LEHD or other available datasets.

- 6. Does the Color Scale on the bottom left reflect raw completer counts ($\approx 270\text{--}52\text{ k}$)?**

Yes, the Color Scale reflects absolute numbers.

- 7. Re: Color Scale, any plan to add a normalized layer in the future?**

As a part of a future phase, Natcast plans to supplement the dashboard with alternate views that normalize the data relative to various populations.