Progression and Attainment: The Idaho State Board of Education tracks graduation rates by gender, but does not report retention rates. The most recent data come from 2003.

Further Employment, Education, and Life: Idaho does not publicly or systematically release accountability information on this measure.

Institutional Practices

Teaching and Engagement: The Idaho State Board of Education publishes average class size and student/faculty ratios. They also report faculty diversity by gender and race/ethnicity.
Efficiency and Financial Stewardship: The Idaho State Board of Education tracks expenditures on instruction, research, public service, academic support, student services, institutional support, operations and maintenance of the plant, depreciation, scholarships and fellowships, and auxiliary expenses. The most recent data come from 2003.

Equity, Access, and Affordability: The Idaho State Board of Education tracks student enrollment by age, race/ethnicity, and gender. It compares minority enrollment with the state’s minority population percentage. The state board tracks the number and percentage of students receiving loans and federal, state, and institutional grants. The most recent data come from 2003.

Alignment With Pre K–12 Education: Idaho does not publicly or systematically release accountability information on this measure.

Scholarship and Research: The Idaho State Board of Education tracks the number of invention disclosures, patents filed and issued, licenses executed, license revenue, average license revenue, startups per $10 million in research and development, and startup to license ratio. The data are tracked for the University of Idaho and compared against five peers and a national average. The most recent data come from 1999.

Economic and Community Development

Degree Production and Economic Impact: The Idaho State Board of Education tracks degrees awarded by level, academic discipline, gender, and race/ethnicity. The most recent data come from 2003.

Arts, Culture, and Service: Idaho does not publicly or systematically release accountability information on this measure.

Adult Education and Extension Services: Idaho does not publicly or systematically release accountability information on this measure.

Overall Quality of Information

The Idaho State Board of Education does not release much accountability information. What is released comes almost entirely from the 2004 Fact Book, which contains data from 2002 and 2003. Besides being out of date, it does not cover a broad range of areas. Of this (limited) data, there is a relatively high likelihood of it being disaggregated by race/ethnicity, gender, or being put in some other context.

State- and Systemwide Information

Idaho’s higher education accountability system is focused primarily on institution-level data.

Using Information

Simply making information available does not, in and of itself, constitute a well-functioning accountability system. Measurement is only step one; step two is making the information that comes from measurement meaningful. There are different ways to do this, but they’re all variations on a theme: injecting information about quality into existing processes that college decision-makers care about. These processes can be grouped into three areas: governance and strategic planning, funding, and transparency and markets.

Governance and Strategic Planning

The Idaho State Board of Education Strategic Plan 2009–13 contains some specific, numeric targets. It has three general goals—quality, access, and efficiency. Each goal has a couple objectives in K–12 and postsecondary education such as, “Increase student access to educational opportunities by reducing barriers to efficient transfer of credit and student status.” Each objective then has performance measures and benchmarks. For the objective above, the state will measure the average number of credit hours (as a percentage of the total requested) accepted for transfer by the receiving institution. The state aims for at least 90 percent of credits to be accepted.

The state appears to collect additional accountability information that may be used for internal purposes only. That information includes student applications, admissions and enrollment; a remediation report; student retention and graduation; off-campus credit hour delivery; and passage rates on professional certification exams. Several state documents indicate these data are collected, but they are not publicly available.

Funding

Idaho does not appear to link institutional performance with state funding levels.
Transparency and Markets

Idaho does not have a Web site devoted to informing prospective students of their postsecondary options. The “Higher Education in Idaho Booklet,” although published annually, contains only a small amount of basic information.

ACCOUNTABILITY DOCUMENTS

Idaho State Board of Education

- **Strategic Plan 2009–13**

- **Higher Education in Idaho 2009**

- **Fact Book December 2004**

- **Eight-Year Plan for Delivery of Academic Programs**

- **Benchmarking Report on IP Policies**

ENDNOTES
