



Session 44: Verification Analysis: Understanding the Reports Generated by the ISIR Analysis Tool

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Goals for this session

- Learn how to read the reports produced by the ISIR Analysis Tool
- Learn how to structure the analysis of your own data

Overview of this session

- ❑ Placing analysis in context
- ❑ Understanding ISIR Analysis Tool reports
- ❑ Structuring your own analysis



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Placing Analysis in Context

Why Analyze?

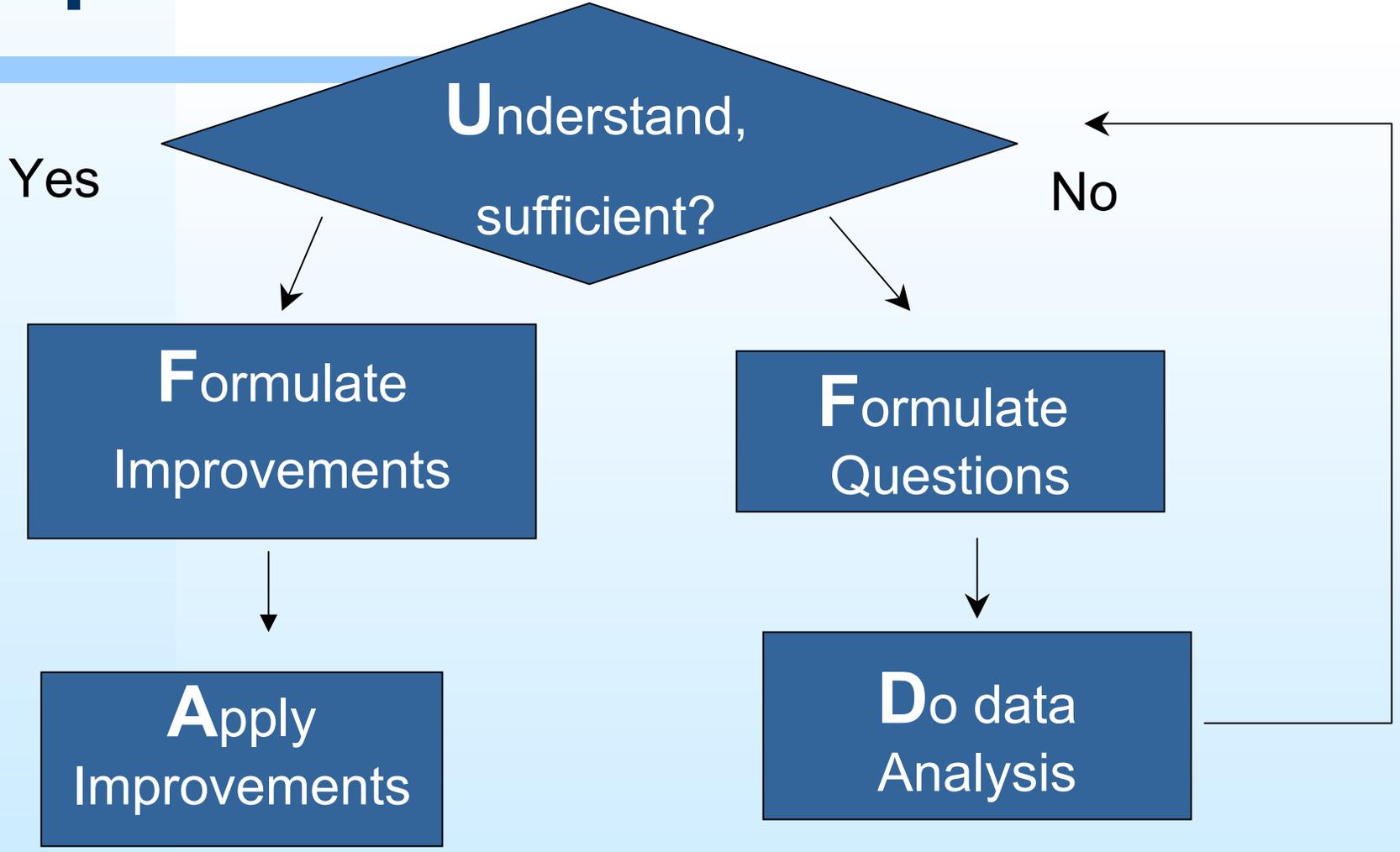
- Disprove theories and advance science
- Understand the past
- Predict the future
- Improve



ISIR Analysis Tool Seeks to Improve

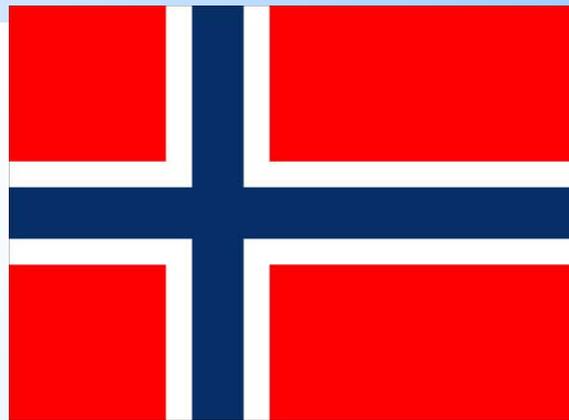
- Verification
- FAFSA instructions and guidance
- Accuracy of need-based aid awards

Flowchart of Analysis When Seeking Improvement



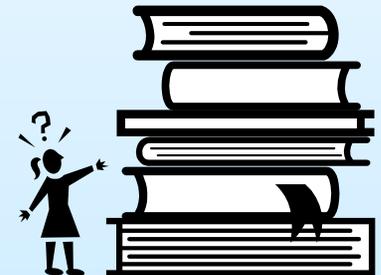
UFFDA!

- Understand
- Formulate improvements
- Formulate questions
- Do data analysis
- Apply improvements



Avoid uttering “Uffda”

- ❑ Keep the goal of improving verification, FAFSA instruction, and accuracy of aid awards in mind
- ❑ Focus analysis on questions that enhance *useful* understanding
- ❑ Avoid perpetual analysis





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Understanding ISIR Analysis Tool Reports

ISIR Analysis Tool Reports

- ❑ Overviews
 - Sample Summary Report
 - Verification Summary Report
- ❑ Comparisons of changes in ISIR information
 - Field Change Report
 - Field Increment Report
 - Pell Eligibility by Dependency Report
- ❑ Information on individual students
 - Student Listing Report
 - Student Detail Report

Overviews

Sample Summary

- What students are in my database?
- What was the aggregate impact of change on eligibility?

Verification Summary

- Which records were selected for CPS verification?
- Which records were selected for discretionary verification?
- Which verified records experienced an increase or decrease to EFC?
- Which non-verified records experienced an increase or decrease to EFC?

Overviews – Example Dashboard Results



Field Change Report

- Which ISIR fields were most likely to be corrected?
- Which corrections were most likely to be associated with a change to aid eligibility?
- Which corrections were most likely to be selected by school and CPS verification criteria?

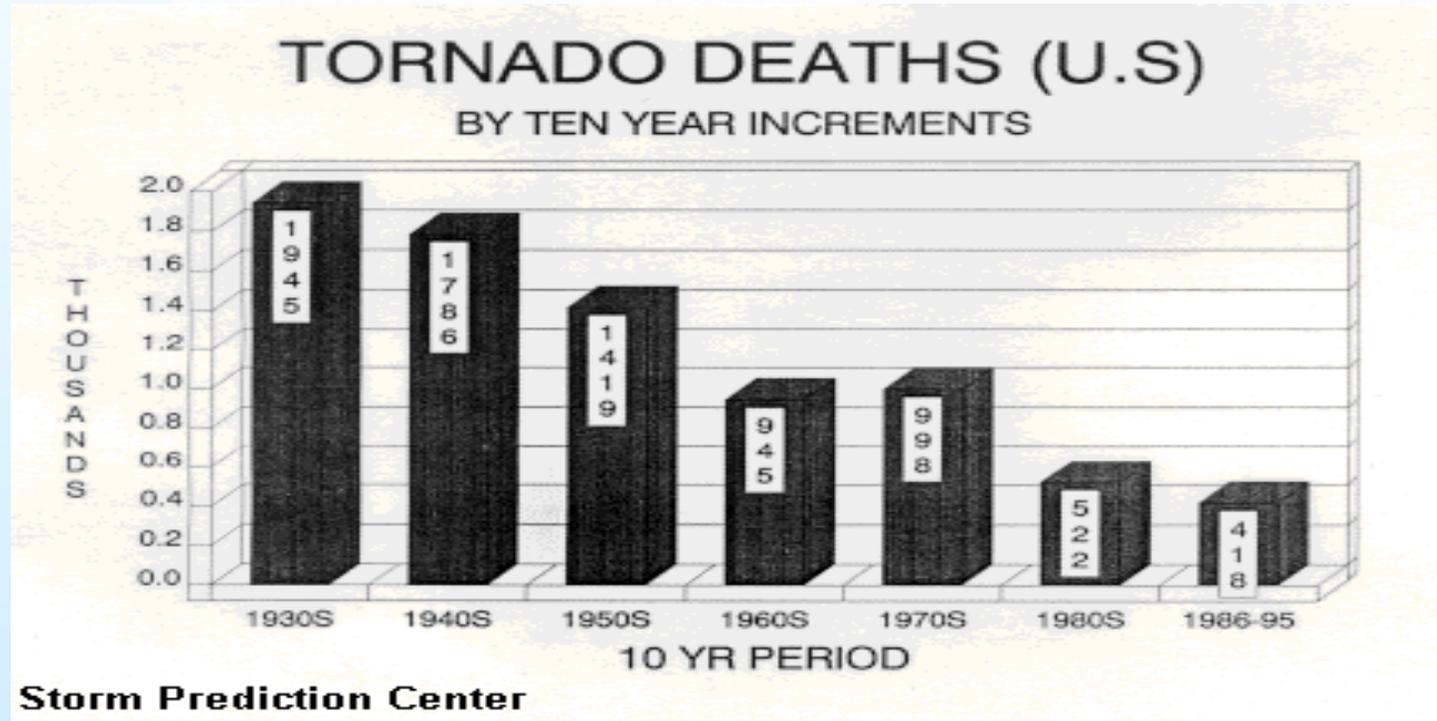
Example Field Change Report



Field Increment Report

- Are changes to a particular field concentrated within a particular value range of that or some other field?
- Are corrections to a particular field that matter concentrated within a particular value range of that or some other field?

Example Field Increment Report



Pell Eligibility by Dependency Report

- Are changes to the selected field related to Pell eligibility and dependency status?
- What percentage of students with changes to the selected field are verified by CPS or discretionary criteria?

Example Pell Eligibility by Dependency Report



Student Listing Report

- Which records experienced a change to aid eligibility and were NOT selected by either the CPS or school (discretionary) verification?
- Which records were selected for school (discretionary) verification and did not experience a change in aid eligibility?

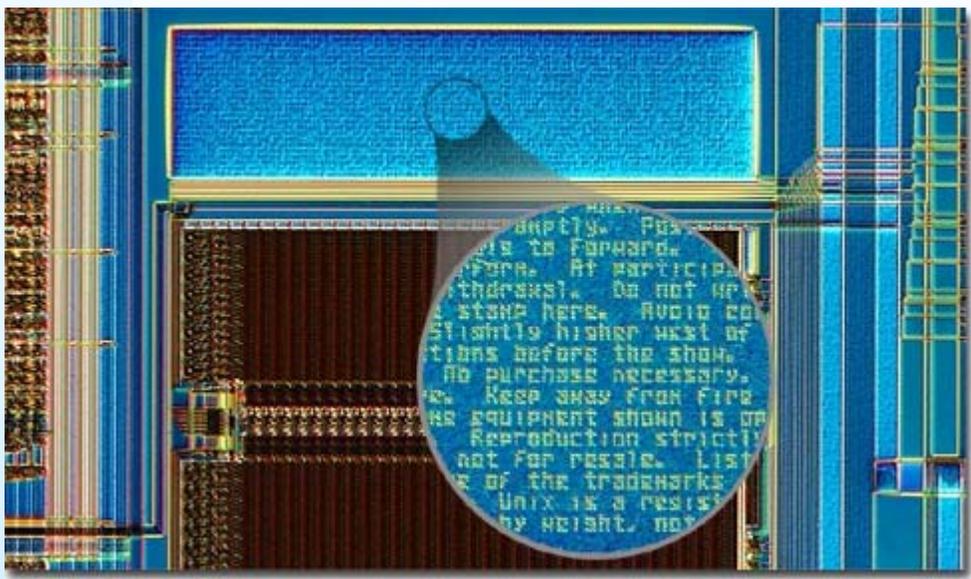
Example: Student Listing Report



Student Detail Report

- What was the impact on this student's EFC?
- What ISIR information changed after the initial application?
- What was the primary reason for observed changes to EFC?

Example Student Detail Report



Ad-Hoc Reports

- ❑ *WebFOCUS Report Assistant* allows users to create custom reports
- ❑ Answers other questions users may have

Example Ad Hoc Report





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Structuring Your Own Analysis

Important Questions to Answer **BEFORE** Structuring Your Analysis

- What ISIR information does your school verify?
- Which ISIR records have confirmed information?
- Analyze corrections NOT changes

Structuring your own analysis

- ❑ Step #1: Define goal
- ❑ Step #2: Determine relevant records
- ❑ Step #3: Decide which reports to run
- ❑ Step #4: Run those reports
- ❑ Step #5: Apply improvements

Step #1: What is the goal of your analysis?

- What do you want to improve?
- What is in your power to change?
- You may use the Tool to help identify possible areas for improvement, but meaningful analysis cannot begin until you identify an area for improvement

Possible improvement-based goals

- ❑ Identify the most problematic ISIR fields to address with educational outreach efforts
- ❑ Target federal verification at the 30 percent of applicants most likely to experience an increase in EFC (loss of eligibility)
- ❑ Reduce the scope of discretionary verification to exclude records that do not experience a change in eligibility
- ❑ Expand the scope of discretionary verification to include records that experience changes in eligibility

Step #2: Determine “relevant” records

- ❑ Not all records may be relevant to your improvement
- ❑ Ways to focus reports
 - Before uploading ISIR records into the Tool
 - Filters
 - Drill down

Step #3: Decide which reports to run

- What do you need to know?
- What questions do you need to ask?
- Select the reports that provide answers

Step #4: Run Those Reports

- Review results
- Run additional reports ONLY if understanding is not sufficient
- Keep analysis as simple and focused as possible

Step #5: Apply Improvements

- Make improvements in light of results
- Implement during 2005-06 or 2006-07 award year
- Monitor impact of improvement with future versions of the ISIR Analysis Tool

Analytical Recipes

- Improve educational outreach
- Expand discretionary verification
- Reduce discretionary verification

More about the ISIR Analysis Tool

- Session #2: Hands On Session
- PC Lab
- Web-based training on using the Ad Hoc Report will be offered this Spring

Questions?

Technical Assistance

We would appreciate your feedback and comments on this session and are available to answer questions you may have in the future. We can be reached at:

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