

# Spotlight

Case Study: EDEN and EDFacts

## Supplying EDEN Data Files Using a Statewide Data Warehouse: A Case Study of Two States

Historically, various program offices in the US Department of Education required state education agencies (SEAs) and local districts (LEAs) to submit data and reports. Often these involved assembling the same or similar data for separate offices. This resulted in a time consuming process of submitting redundant, often inaccurate, data.

In 2004, the US Department of Education began collecting these data through the Education Data Exchange Network (EDEN), a centralized portal through which SEAs could submit their data to the US Department of Education. The data would be submitted once and then be made available to all K-12 program offices through EDFacts. This system centralizes performance data supplied by SEAs with other data assets, such as financial grant information, within the Department to enable better analysis and use in policy development, planning and management.

### eScholar and EDEN

By this time, several states had turned to eScholar as their statewide data warehouse to help meet the data needs required for No Child Left Behind. eScholar understood the need for states to be able to provide EDEN data from the data warehouse and began mapping the EDEN data specifications to its data model. In some cases, the data model was enhanced to accommodate data required for EDEN.

Working closely with a number of states, eScholar has developed processes for compiling EDEN-required data from the comprehensive and granular data collected and stored in the eScholar Complete Data Warehouse® solution (CDW). Data residing in the CDW is extracted, aggregated as necessary, and loaded into EDEN staging tables (the EDEN Data Mart) for easy review by State Education Agency Program Offices. In some cases, states are also able to load data from other sources not in the CDW directly into the EDEN Data Mart. Once the data is

reviewed, eScholar EDEN processes apply the final EDEN formatting rules and file naming conventions and create files that can be successfully submitted to USED.

### New Mexico

New Mexico was one of the first states to use the CDW to generate its EDEN data files. In 2005, the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) issued a request for proposals for the implementation of Student Teacher Accountability Reporting System (STARS.) The Department was seeking a commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) solution with minimal customization, capable of scaling to state implementation levels. The eScholar CDW solution was selected with Deloitte as the prime contractor. Not long into the project, NMPED recognized the need for a more robust student ID system and purchased eScholar Uniq-ID® for Students. As STARS began to populate additional domains of data into the data warehouse, NMPED realized that it contained much of the data that would be needed to calculate Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and Highly Qualified Teachers (HQT) data, as well as the EDEN files. The data warehouse now includes state, district, and school information, student demographics, assessments, groups and program participation, and general ledger data.

Prior to implementing CDW as part of STARS, NMPED averaged about 1 week per file to generate 50 files. The STARS implementation of the CDW continues to grow. There are still some requirements for EDEN files for which the data have not been loaded. For example, data for discipline, violence, and vandalism are still stored in an Access database. Currently there are approximately 30 out of the 85 files required for EDEN that are built from the CDW. As the STARS data warehouse continues to grow, it will be able to provide even more files.

## New York

While New York was the second state to implement the CDW statewide, it is easily the largest implementation with data for over 3 million students. The implementation of the CDW in the state, as well as the way the New York State Education Department (NYSED) generates its EDEN files, further points to the flexibility of the CDW.

In 2000, the twelve Regional Information Centers (RICs) in New York purchased licenses to provide CDW to their constituent districts. Among the goals of the project was to support and enable teachers and administrators to make good, data-driven instructional decisions, as well as to meet state and federal reporting requirements.

For some time, NYSED had wanted to build a statewide student information system. In 2004, it made the decision to leverage the success of the RIC project into a statewide data warehouse, called Student Information Repository System (SIRS). The data warehouses from each of the RICs and cities of New York, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, and Yonkers were merged into a single data warehouse, hosted at the Western New York RIC (WNYRIC) for NYSED.

Currently, the data used to generate the EDEN files from NYSED reside in several source systems, including the data warehouse. WNYRIC extracts data that reside in the data warehouse, uses the eScholar EDEN process to generate any aggregated data, and loads them into the EDEN data mart. Some data are collected by NYSED in aggregate form. These data are then loaded directly into the EDEN data mart. WNYRIC generates the EDEN files and provides them to NYSED for verification and ultimately, submission to USED.

The implementations in New Mexico and New York continue to point to the flexibility of the CDW to generate the EDEN files. As each state continues to load more domains of data into their data warehouse, they will be able to generate more and more of the EDEN files. Ultimately, the process will be automated to the point of seamless generation of the files from the data warehouse.

## Highlights:

- eScholar has developed processes for compiling EDEN-required data from the comprehensive and granular data collected and stored in an eScholar Complete Data Warehouse® solution.
- The flexibility of the eScholar EDEN solution enables states to use data stored in an eScholar data warehouse as well as data from other sources to load files into the eScholar EDEN data mart where it is available for analysis and final processing.
- As states load more domains of data into the eScholar Complete Data Warehouse® solution, they can expand on the number of EDEN files they generate and save a great deal of time and effort.

### About eScholar

eScholar is the nation's leading educational data system company. eScholar clients have achieved phenomenal success using our data management and analysis solutions to track and improve pre-K through postsecondary student achievement. Relied on by over 3,400 school districts across the country, eScholar transforms the way educators use and understand the data collected through a myriad of sources. For more information about eScholar, visit [www.escholar.com](http://www.escholar.com).



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