Where do the data used by ORIE come from?
The majority of data used by ORIE comes from data entered into the iStar system by personnel at the
campuses. ORIE does not do any data entry.
Sometimes data collected by a campus group, such as tutoring, are provided to ORIE. These data must
contain student IDs for ORIE to use the data in our reports.
Occasionally data are obtained from outside sources, such as the National Student Clearinghouse,
THECB (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board), IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data
System) or TEA (Texas Education Agency).

What is the difference between Headcount and Enrollment?
Headcount – Student is counted once at each campus.
Enrollment – Student is counted once for each course in which they are enrolled.
Example: A student is counted one time for attending LSC-Kingwood, and 3 times for the 3 courses in
which they are enrolled.

What is the difference between unduplicated and duplicated headcount?
Unduplicated – Student is counted once in the system no matter how many campuses he/she attends.
Duplicated – Student is counted for each campus attended. The system duplicated headcount is the total
of each campus’ unduplicated headcount.

Are continuing education students included in headcount and enrollment?
No, credit and continuing education reports are created separately of each other.

How are completion and success defined?
Completion – Final grade given (A, B, C, P, D, F, I, IP, NP) and student did not withdraw.
Success – Final grade of A, B, C or P
Success is calculated 2 ways:
Successful Completion - % of students who completed course
Success of Enrolled - % of students who enrolled in course

Who is considered an FTIC (First Time in College) Student?
This is a student with 0 credit hours at the start of the term.

Are persistence and retention the same thing?
Yes, but because of the meaning of retention in elementary and secondary school (a student is held back),
the state decided to change the term to persistence.

So what is persistence?
Fall to Fall persistence – Students enrolled in the fall term who return the following fall
Fall to Spring persistence – Students enrolled in the fall term who return the following spring

What are the differences between Dual Credit, Early College high school and Accelerated College?
Dual Credit – Dual credit is for high school juniors and seniors to earn college and high school credits
simultaneously.
Early College and Accelerated College - High school students have the opportunity to earn an Associate’s
degree and/or up to two years of transferable college credit by the time of their high school graduation.
These students may begin taking college level courses in their freshman year.

What is the meaning of FTE?
FTE means Full-time Equivalent.
Usually FTE is defined as the total credit hours divided by twelve.
Faculty FTE is the total of full-time + one-third part-time.
What is a cohort?
A cohort is defined as a group of students who share one or more particular statistical or demographic characteristics. A cohort is most often used at LSCS to follow students through their educational process. For example: A dean might want to follow a group of students who were FTIC in Fall 2010 in Developmental Studies and how many successfully continued on to college level courses.

Is there a difference between Academic Year and Fiscal Year?
No, these are the definitions of each according to the THECB.
Academic Year is defined as the 12-month period of time generally extending from September to August.
Fiscal Year is defined as the period of time beginning September 1 and ending on the following August 31, both dates inclusive, which coincides with the State of Texas’ fiscal year. It is sometimes called academic year.

When are Day 1 and Official Day?
Day 1 is the first day of classes in each term.
Official Day (sometimes referred to as Census Day) is the 12th day of class for fall and spring. For summer official day we use the date of one week into the second summer session so we can include both sessions in official day reports.
Data used for Day 1 and Official Day are as of end of day.

Does LSCS use the terms of freshman and sophomore?
The answer is not officially. Because many of our students are in developmental studies courses, they could accumulate 30 semester credit hours but not be considered a sophomore because not all of those credit hours are transferrable.
According to the THECB, a freshman is a student who has completed fewer than 30 semester credit hours in a 120 semester credit hour program. LSCS does not offer 120 semester credit hour programs.