

## **Comparative Frequency Report**

Purpose: The Comparative Frequency Report is a 5-year longitudinal analysis report produced at the college-level, after each successful load, for purposes of verifying the accuracy and completeness of the college's data. The Comparative Frequency Report provides a general overview at the data element level and identifies inconsistencies in data elements over time. The number of occurrences of data element values and the percent of the change in the number of occurrences for that value identify these data inconsistencies from year-to-year.

### Explanation:

#### **Section 1:** Comparison of Data Reported Across Five Years

Section 1 provides counts of data element values across a 5-year period. An average, minimum and maximum of these counts serve as data points for comparative analysis purposes, comparing current reporting year data to determine anomalies and possible discrepancies.

#### **Section 2:** Year-by-Year Comparison

Section 2 provides a year-to-year comparison, comparison to the average, percent difference from the average and percentage of data element value contributed to the overall total for the corresponding year.

#### **Section 3:** Summary of Warning Flags for Current Reporting Year Data

Section 3 provides a summary of the warning flags for data reported in the current year. The summary, which is located at the end of the report, sorts the warning levels from worst to best. Warning flags provide a magnitude of which data warrants immediate review and possibly action. These warning levels are meant to be an easy reference in identifying which data elements and values had noticeable changes in reporting between years.