



Batch Webinar Overview

The purpose of the webinar was to listen to concerns raised by the SEVIS users who use third-party software to upload data to SEVIS.

Date of Webinar: March 7, 2014

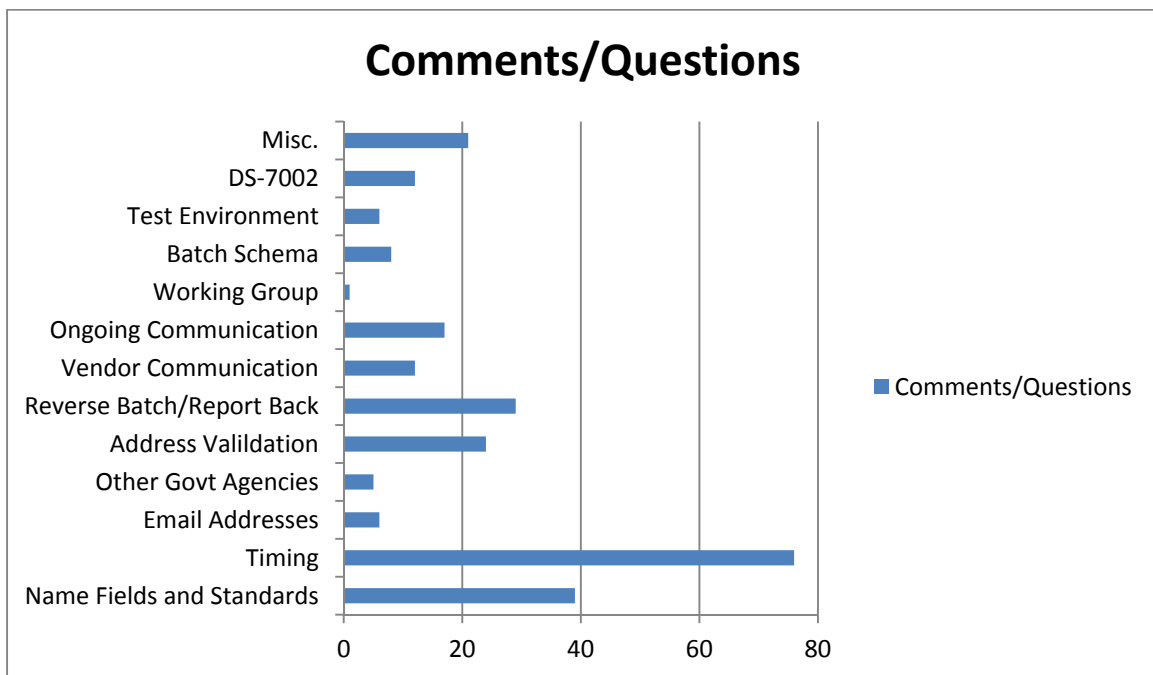
The 295 participants represented the following groups:

- PDSOs and DSO from academic schools
- ROs and AROs from program sponsors
- IT managers and specialists at schools and program sponsors
- Batch Vendors

Session Duration: 1 hour 34 minutes

Total Number of Comments/Questions Submitted: 256

Questions/Comments Submitted by Type



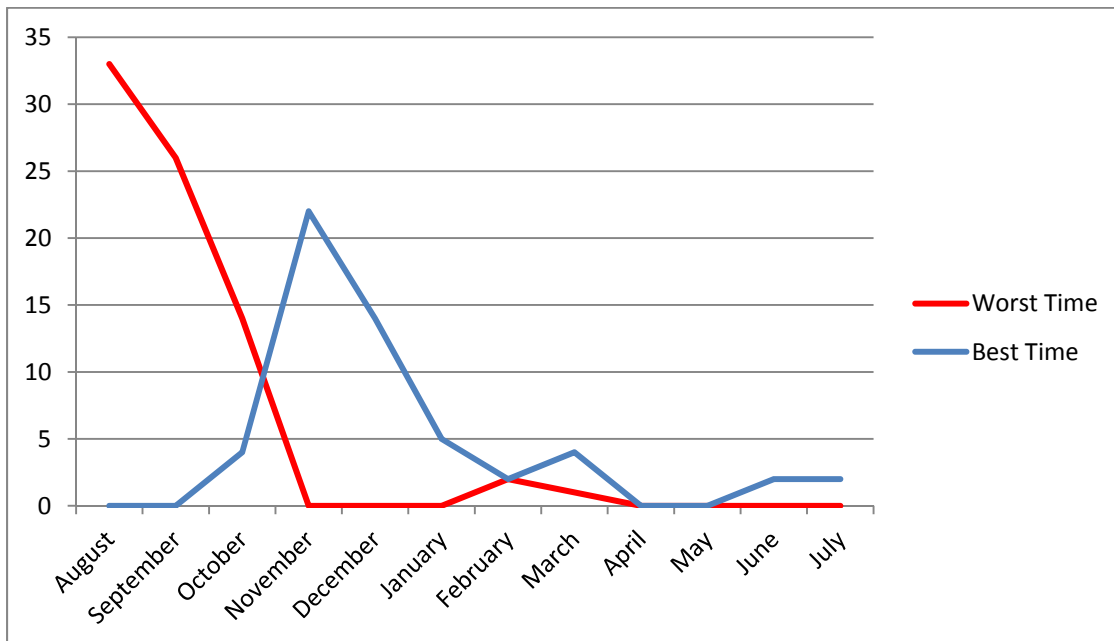


TOPIC	NUMBER OF COMMENTS/QUESTIONS
Timing	76
Name Fields and Standards	39
Reverse Batch/Report Back	29
Address Validation	24
Misc.	21
Ongoing Communication	17
Vendor Communication	12
DS-7002	12
Batch Schema	8
Email Addresses	6
Test Environment	6
Consistency with other Govt Agencies	5
Working Group	1
Total	256

Participant Observations on Timing

The charts below are unscientific and based on a quick tally of timeframes referenced in the questions contained in the appendix. Only those questions that specified a month or a time frame were included. Several other questions contained sweeping statements about bad/good timeframes and/or lead times.

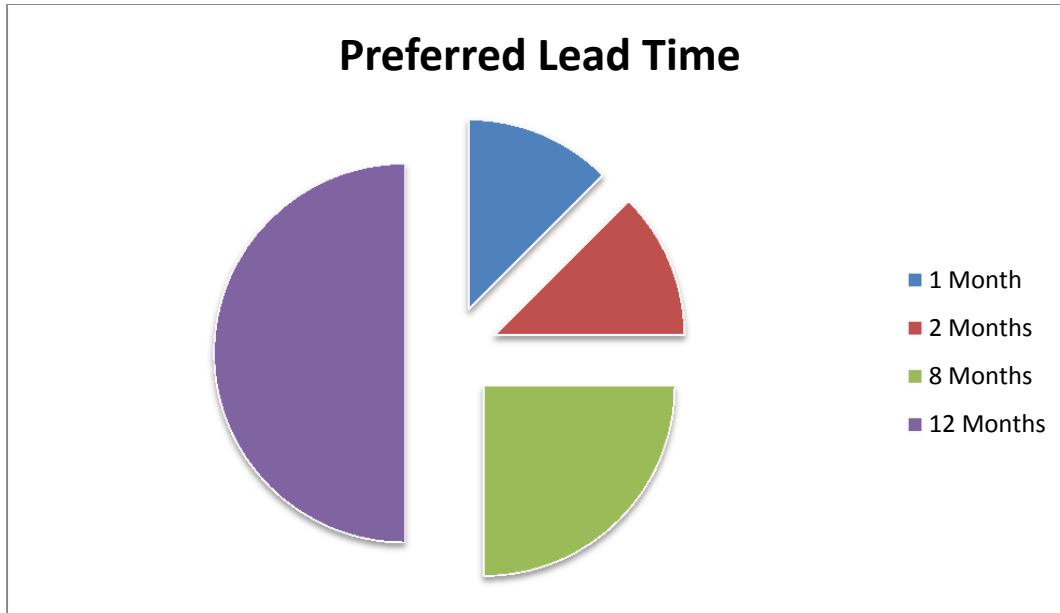
Timing of Testing





Lead Time

The chart below represents the general feeling of the participants – the more lead-time the better. Most participants represented users of the third-party software, as opposed to the vendors of that software. Many felt that without specifics, it is difficult to estimate realistically how much lead-time is needed. Vendors need time to develop and test their product before releasing it to their clients. The end-user clients need additional time to test on their end, before everything can go live.



Proposed Actions

The following actions are proposed:

- Meet regularly with Vendors to discuss release content and schedule
- Create e-mail distribution list for Batch vendors, IT managers/specialists
- Establish Batch User Working Group
- Research better method for communication and posting information – perhaps through HSIN’s Communities of Interest
- Poll all batch users for:
 - Software used to upload data via batch
 - Who is their technical IT contact
 - Which PDSO/DSO/RO/ARO should be POC for their institution
 - Best testing times over a 12-month timeframe
 - Worst testing times over a 12-month time frame