2018 State Performance Update
Supplement to Higher Education in Focus 2017
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About this Report

This supplement to Higher Education in Focus 2017 provides the latest data on a subset of indicators relevant to the goal of improving educational attainment in Indiana. Performance indicators are categorized within five areas: Preparation, Participation, Affordability, Completion, and Finance. Most indicators provide the national and MHEC regional values as well as the median of the top five states in the nation as possible benchmarks.

See MHEC.ORG/RESEARCH for the full report.

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Academic proficiency of 8th grade students by race and ethnicity. The percentage of students in grade 8 scoring at or above proficiency on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) provides a measure of whether students enter high school with foundational skills and knowledge in such areas as math, reading, and science. As indicated in Figure 1, except for Asian/Pacific Islanders in reading, less than half of 8th grade students in Indiana across all groups scored at or above the proficiency level in math, reading, or science. Proficiency in these subject areas was less common among Black and Hispanic students relative to White students.

Figure 1: Percentage of Students in Grade 8 Scoring at or Above Proficiency on the National Assessment of Educational Progress in Math, Reading, and Science by Race and Ethnicity, 2017

Source: National Center for Education Statistics. (2015, 2017). National assessment of educational progress. Estimates are unavailable for the American Indian and Asian/Pacific Islander (math and science only) groups in Indiana. Note: Estimates for math and reading proficiency were derived from the 2017 assessment; estimates for science proficiency were only available for 2015.

Proficiency in math, reading, and science was more common among White students relative to Black and Hispanic students.
**Preparation**

**Academic proficiency of 8th grade students by family income.**

As indicated in Figure 2, a much larger percentage of students from higher-income families were proficient in the subject areas than were students from low-income families.

**Figure 2: Percentage of Students in Grade 8 Scoring at or Above Proficiency on the National Assessment of Educational Progress in Math, Reading, and Science by Income, 2017**


Note: Estimates for math and reading proficiency were derived from the 2017 assessment; estimates for science proficiency were only available for 2015.

Proficiency rates among students from higher-income families were well above those of students from lower-income families.
College enrollment by race and ethnicity. The postsecondary enrollment of traditionally under-represented students has been a priority in states committed to promoting equal opportunity and economic growth, particularly as state populations become more racially and ethnically diverse.

Figures 3 and 4 provide a comparison of the demographic composition of state populations aged 18-24 to current postsecondary enrollment in public two- and four-year institutions, respectively.

Figure 3: Percentage of State Population Aged 18-24 and Percentage of First-Time, Full-Time, Degree-Seeking Students Enrolled in Indiana Public Two-Year Institutions by Race and Ethnicity, 2016

|---------------------------|------------|----------|---------------------------|------------|----------|-------|------------|----------|-----------------|------------|----------|-----------------------|------------|----------|----------|
| White                     | 74.5       | 70.6     | 19.1                      | 10.7       | 13.2     | 0.2   | 3.9        | 1.8      | 8.2             | 5.3        | 2018 State Performance Update - INDIANA
The figures show that under-represented students as a group enroll at higher rates at two-year institutions, though Hispanic students tend to enroll at higher rates at four-year institutions. For example, Figure 3 indicates that while Black residents aged 18-24 comprise 11 percent of the population in Indiana, they make up 13 percent of full-time undergraduate students (any age) at public two-year institutions, compared to 7 percent at public four-year institutions in Figure 4.

**Figure 4: Percentage of State Population Aged 18-24 and Percentage of First-Time, Full-Time, Degree-Seeking Students Enrolled in Indiana Public Four-Year Institutions by Race and Ethnicity, 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population Enrolled</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Underrepresented Minority</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>American Indian</th>
<th>Asian/ Pacific Islander</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>74.5%</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


*Under-represented students as a group enroll at lower rates at four-year institutions.*
Affordability

Ability to pay. College affordability is measured by the percentage of family income needed to pay the net price of full-time enrollment at public two- and four-year institutions. The average net price is calculated as the total cost of attendance (tuition and fees, books, supplies, and room and board) minus the average institutional, local, state, and federal grant aid. In order to assess the degree of affordability for students of different income levels, this indicator is presented for families with median income ($63,411 for Indiana in 2016) and families in the lowest income quintile (median of $20,152 for Indiana in 2016). State policymakers can influence affordability through such means as financial aid and institutional appropriations.

Figure 5 shows that the net price of college as a percentage of median family income recently decreased for public two- and four-year enrollment, and affordability at four-year colleges places Indiana among the top five states in the nation.

Figure 5. Percentage of Family Income Needed to Pay for Full-Time Enrollment at Public Two- and Four-Year Institutions: Families with Median Incomes ($63,411)


The affordability of public four-year enrollment in Indiana is better than the Midwest and national benchmarks.
A comparison of Figures 5 and 6 indicates that college affordability in Indiana is highly contingent on family income. Families with median incomes in Indiana would need to allocate 19 percent of their incomes to pay for enrollment at a four-year college. In contrast, four-year college attendance for low-income students requires 31 percent of family income. However, Indiana is the most affordable state in the country for low-income students attending public four-year institutions.

Figure 6. Percentage of Family Income Needed to Pay for Full-Time Enrollment at Public Two- and Four-Year Institutions: Families in the Lowest Income Quintile ($20,152)


The affordability of full-time enrollment is still highly contingent on family income, though Indiana ranks among the most affordable states for low-income students attending public four-year colleges.
**Completion**

**Transfer-adjusted completion.** Transfer-adjusted completion rates are defined by the proportion of first-time, certificate/degree-seeking students in the fall 2011 cohort who completed a certificate or degree within six years, while accounting for students who enroll part- or full-time and graduate from their first institution or elsewhere.

According to Figure 7, Indiana’s completion rate for part-time students who started at public four-year institutions is above the regional and national benchmarks. A comparison of Figures 7 and 8 demonstrates that completion rates are highest among students who enroll full-time.

**Figure 7. Part-Time Students: Transfer-Adjusted Percentage of First-Time, Certificate/Degree-Seeking Students in the Fall 2011 Cohort who Completed a Certificate or Degree within Six Years by Starting Institution**

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Indiana</th>
<th>MHEC Average</th>
<th>U.S.</th>
<th>Top 5 States Median</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-Year Public</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Year Public</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Year Private Not-for-Profit</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```


* Estimate was not available due to low historical coverage rate for sector in National Student Clearinghouse data.
Completion

Figure 8. Full-Time Students: Transfer-Adjusted Percentage of First-Time, Certificate/Degree-Seeking Students in the Fall 2011 Cohort who Completed a Certificate or Degree within Six Years by Starting Institution


* Estimate was not available due to low historical coverage rate for sector in National Student Clearinghouse data.

Completion rates are highest among full-time students.
Two-year college success rates. Timely success at two-year colleges is defined by the proportion of first-time, full-time certificate/degree-seeking students in the fall 2014 cohort who transferred or completed an associate degree or certificate at a public two-year college within three years.

According to Figure 9, success rates at public two-year colleges in Indiana are below the regional and national benchmark.

Figure 9. Percentage of First-Time, Full-Time Certificate/Degree-Seeking Students in the Fall 2014 Cohort who Completed a Certificate/Degree or Transferred within Three Years at Public Two-Year Colleges

Source. NCES IPEDS. (2017). Graduation rate. Top 5 States (includes ties), 2016-17: SD, WY, KS, UT, MN.

Three-year success rates at public two-year colleges are below the regional and national benchmarks.
Completion

Graduation rates by race and ethnicity. Graduation rates by race and ethnicity are defined by the proportion of first-time, full-time certificate/degree-seeking students in the fall 2010 cohort who transferred or completed an associate degree or certificate at a public two-year college within three years or completed a bachelor’s degree at a public four-year university within six years (without accounting for transfer to another institution).

According to Figure 10, graduation rates among under-represented students are below the graduation rates of White and Asian students.

Figure 10. Percentage of First-Time, Full-Time, Degree/Certificate-Seeking Students from Fall 2010 Cohort who Graduated within 150% Completion Time at Indiana Public Two-Year and Public Four-Year Institutions by Race and Ethnicity


Under-represented students graduate at lower rates than do White and Asian students.
Finance

Funding commitment. The relative share of the cost of higher education is represented by comparing educational appropriations and net tuition revenue as a percent of total educational revenue for public postsecondary institutions\(^1\), including four-year, two-year, and less-than two-year institutions. The state assumes a smaller share of the cost of enrollment compared to the student’s share, as net tuition revenue constitutes a relatively larger proportion of revenue among public colleges and universities (see Figure 11).

Figure 11. State and Local Educational Appropriations and Net Tuition Revenue as a Percentage of Total Educational Revenue for Public Postsecondary Institutions in Indiana (per FTE Student)

Source: SHEEO. (2018). State higher education finance: FY 17. Estimates have been adjusted for inflation (Consumer Price Index).

The state’s share of the cost of enrollment has decreased over time and is below the national benchmark.

\(^1\)State and local educational appropriations refer to “state and local support available for public higher education operating expenses, defined to exclude spending for research, agricultural extension, and medical education, as well as support for independent institutions or students attending them” (SHEEO, 2015, p. 11). State and local support refer to “state tax appropriations and local tax support plus additional nontax funds (e.g., lottery revenue) that support or benefit higher education, and funds appropriated to other state entities for specific higher education expenditures or benefit (e.g., employee fringe benefit disbursed by the state treasurer)” (SHEEO, p. 11).
Finance

Need-based aid. State funding for grant aid based on financial need is measured by (a) the amount of need-based grant aid per FTE student and (b) need-based aid as a percent of total grant aid allocations. The receipt of grant aid has been linked with higher rates of college enrollment and degree completion.

Figure 12 indicates that state need-based grant aid per FTE student in Indiana increased over the past decade and was well above the regional and national benchmarks in 2016-17. Indiana allocates 98 percent of its grant aid based on financial need, which places Indiana among the top five states in the nation.

Figure 12. State Need-based Grant Aid per FTE Undergraduate Student and Percent of Aid Defined as Need-Based


Need-based grant aid in Indiana ranks among the top five states in the nation.
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