FAFSA and DESE

MEFA October 6, 2022
Today’s Objectives

- Review of Massachusetts College Going Data
- What is FAFSA
- Review of Massachusetts FAFSA Data
- Review of the Edwin FAFSA tool
Immediate Enrollment in College Matters

Immediate enrollees earn more in their early 30s than students who do not enroll immediately (when comparing similar students from the same school).

Source: Papay, et al. 2021
College Enrollment by graduating class (immediate fall enrollment)

4,333 fewer high school graduates enrolled in college in fall 2021 than fall 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Group</th>
<th>Change in # of HS Grads 2019 to 2021</th>
<th>Change in # College Enrollment 2019 to 2021</th>
<th>% Enroll in College 2021</th>
<th>% point change from 2019-2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American/Black</td>
<td>+51</td>
<td>-501</td>
<td>52.5</td>
<td>-8.5</td>
</tr>
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<td>+51</td>
<td>-501</td>
<td>52.5</td>
<td>-8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>+223</td>
<td>-15</td>
<td>75.3</td>
<td>-3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>+1539</td>
<td>-619</td>
<td>36.2</td>
<td>-10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-race, non-Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>+190</td>
<td>-52</td>
<td>56.5</td>
<td>-8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>-1252</td>
<td>-3129</td>
<td>67.3</td>
<td>-5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>+744</td>
<td>-4333</td>
<td>60.4</td>
<td>-7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% of Mass. HS grads attending College (Race/ethnicity) Immediate Fall Enrollment
### College Enrollment by graduating class

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Group</th>
<th>Change in # of HS Grads 2019 to 2021</th>
<th>Change in # College Enrollment 2019 to 2021</th>
<th>% Enroll in College 2021</th>
<th>% point change from 2019-2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>+321</td>
<td>-1989</td>
<td>67.5</td>
<td>-6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>+360</td>
<td>-2367</td>
<td>53.4</td>
<td>-7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>+744</td>
<td>-4333</td>
<td>60.4</td>
<td>-7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
College Enrollment by gender and race ethnicity
Class of 2021

Immediate College Enrollment by Race and Gender Fall 2021

- Hispanic or Latino male: 28.5%
- Hispanic or Latino female: 44%
- African American/Black male: 45.3%
- Male: 53.4%
- African American/Black female: 59.5%
- White male: 59.7%
- ALL: 60.4%
- Female: 67.5%
- Asian male: 74.7%
- White female: 75.1%
- Asian female: 75.9%
Income has a strong effect on immediate college enrollment.

Less than 1 in 4 Latino low-income male graduates enroll in college (22.6%)
Immediate College Enrollment Disparities by District Low Income Percentage are Substantial

When districts are broken into quartiles by concentration of low-income students, a clear pattern emerges with respect to college going.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low Income Quartiles by District</th>
<th>#HS Grads</th>
<th>#Attend College</th>
<th>% Attend College</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Quartile (poorest)</td>
<td>22,194</td>
<td>10,353</td>
<td>46.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Quartile</td>
<td>13,595</td>
<td>7,725</td>
<td>56.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Quartile</td>
<td>13,017</td>
<td>9,026</td>
<td>69.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Quartile</td>
<td>19,797</td>
<td>15,985</td>
<td>80.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MA DESE, 2022
Over the past 5 years, college attendance has dipped, and gaps between lower income and higher income districts have widened.

Since 2016, college attendance rates have dipped the most in districts with higher concentrations of poverty.

Source: MA DESE, 2022
Summary

• Immediate enrollment in college is correlated with improved future earnings.

• Immediate enrollment in college is a declining trend, both in Massachusetts and across the United States.

• Disparities in immediate enrollment in college exist between student groups (race/ethnicity, gender, income, MCAS performance bands), which lead to inequitable opportunities.
What is FAFSA

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid, known as the FAFSA, is the financial aid form for accessing grants, federal student loans and work-study funds.
- Cost continues to be a barrier to accessing post secondary education, particularly for first generation college going students.
- Filling out the FAFSA is one of the most important steps students and their families can take to pay for college.
Massachusetts seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. **Make college more accessible and affordable** for all Massachusetts residents
2. **Close gaps** in student opportunity and achievement
3. **Improve** college completion rates

- **What must happen:**
  - Address the substantial unmet financial need, especially for Students of Color
  - Improve communications of State Financial Aid programs for clarity and increased awareness to promote opportunities
Overview and Process

- FAFSA is the unique application for all Massachusetts State financial aid programs
- Annually, an average of 325,000 Massachusetts students will complete a FAFSA
- May 1st is the priority deadline for the Commonwealth’s primary need-based grant program, the MASSGrant
- State Financial Aid processed through MASSAid, an online financial aid system accessible by students and institutions
- Students can upload documents to MASSAid system to complete their application; and to view eligibility and awards
- More state and federal aid than ever before is available to Massachusetts public high school students
Annual appropriation for State Financial Aid program has seen significant increases over the past three years

- FY23 – highest appropriation in three decades for the General Scholarship Program
- FY23 grew from $130 million in the General Scholarship account to $175,150,000

Governor's budget level funds other financial aid programs

- 7066-0016 Foster Child Grant program $1,485,000
- 7066-0021 DCF Foster & Adopted Fee $7,294,911
- 7070-0066 High Demand Scholarship $2,000,000
Goal is to provide financial aid for all public higher education students to meet the cost of tuition and fees

MASSGrant and MASSGrant Plus are two programs targeted to assure that all Pell eligible students receive assistance for the direct costs of tuition and mandatory fees

MASSGrant Plus first introduced at public community colleges as a pilot during the 2018-19 academic year

MASSGrant Plus expanded to State University students in 2020-21

Program will be expanded to UMASS students in 2022-23
FAFSA Completion Summary 2019- June 2022

Overall: 59.6% 56.3% 58.1% 52.8%
Higher-Income: 66.0% 64.3% 65.2% 63.5%
Low-Income: 42.7% 37.6% 41.4% 37.6%

Low Income = Economically disadvantaged
A Quick Look at FAFSA Completion by Gender, Race/Ethnicity and Income

FAFSA as of June, 2022
Mass DESE partners with Mass DHE

Webinars and outreach with our school counselors’ assn. MASCA, MEFA, Gear-UP and others.

Partnership with uASPIRE and high schools

Data training and use of our Edwin data warehouse
Many Students and their families have already completed FAFSA.

The Edwin FAFSA Tool should start to update the third week in October.
What is the Edwin FAFSA tool

Two FAFSA reports are now available for districts and high schools in EDWIN Analytics: FAFSA Completion Report Summary CR307 and FAFSA Completion Report Detail CR607.

The reports are compiled from FAFSA data from the US Department of Education via the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education matched to data submitted by districts, such as Student Information Management System (SIMS) and other sources. The information is dynamic and updated multiple times weekly;

https://www.doe.mass.edu/ccte/CCR/ewis/fafsa-tool.docx
Finding the FAFSA tool in Edwin. Search for FAFSA in the search bar or...
FAFSA in Edwin

• 2 reports
  o District/school view (CR307 FAFSA Completion Report Summary)
  o Student level (CR607 FAFSA Completion Report Detail)

• FAFSA data updated regularly
  o Generally updated 2 to 3 times a week, with about a week lag time
  o When choosing the “award year, it will be 2023-24 for current seniors (the year they are receiving the award)

• Student identified as Submitted or Not Found
  o Submitted are complete or incomplete (no signature, missing information, SSN and/or Name mismatch)
For this year’s seniors the award year will be 2023-24

**CR307: District/School View FAFSA Report**

**CR307 FAFSA Completion Report Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th># of students (12th grade &amp; SP)</th>
<th>Submitted</th>
<th>Complete</th>
<th>Incomplete</th>
<th>Not Found</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>State</strong></td>
<td>75,371</td>
<td>41,958</td>
<td>41,203</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>33,413</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>District</strong></td>
<td>94</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17</td>
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Disclaimers: Data in these reports are compiled from SASS and other sources and matched with FAFSA data provided from the US Department of Education. Various matching techniques have been applied to maximize identification of students. Despite these matching techniques, the report will have students listed as ‘not found’ who may have completed a FAFSA but are not recorded here due to those matches not being complete.

The information is dynamic; FAFSA information is updated several times a week, and number of students reflects current enrollment and is updated daily. As a result, representations may be different than those in an earlier reporting period.

Number of students reflects current enrollment of 12th grade students and SP students (or, students in Special Education beyond 12th grade).

Data suppressed if total number of students is 10 or less.
# CR607: Student Level FAFSA Report

## 2022-23 CR607 FAFSA Completion Report Detail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District Name</th>
<th>High School Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>SSN</th>
<th>DIB</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>ELL</th>
<th>SPED</th>
<th>High Needs</th>
<th>FAFSA Completion Date</th>
<th>Submitted FAFSA</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>FAFSA Detail</th>
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Report Date: 11/19/2021

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
“Hey, Alex said they did FAFSA” and other quick tips

- Alex may have, it may have just been done or it may have not been matched correctly, unmatched students are still in the file, they are just at the end (page down all the way) in the html version. You will also find some students who put your high school down as their high school, those student may have been long past graduates.

- Consider if you are really trying to track down kids, downloading the excel file from Edwin, all the seniors that are in the unmatched will be in there as well. This way it may be easier to work together with your in school and out of school partners on college access.