

FAFSA Dashboard

Intro

FAFSA Data

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the key to unlocking college financial aid from federal, state (see Go Higher), and local sources. If a student is ineligible to qualify for federal aid, they may still be eligible for aid through the Massachusetts Application for State Financial Aid (MASFA), which can help students attend public institutions of higher education in Massachusetts. Applying for financial aid helps keep college an option for the fall but does not commit a student to enroll.
- To encourage FAFSA completion, the Department offers tools to track FAFSA completion throughout the school year. One set of tools are reports that exist in Edwin, DESE's secure system for schools and districts to access student, school and district level data. Another is a publicly facing dashboard updated twice monthly when data is available that is open to the public.

FAFSA Dashboard

Key Take aways:

- [Publicly available](#)
- Aggregate data only; suppressed for small student groups.
- Includes charts and visuals to enable easy comparison of completion rates across student groups and among schools and monitor progress (year-to-date charts, biggest mover tab)

Who is it for?

- Those in the public interested in tracking and increasing students attending postsecondary including community partners, families, and policymakers.

What is it used for? What does it include?

- Allow users to understand FAFSA completion rates for current year's 12th graders to support efforts to increase FAFSA completion, particularly for student groups with traditionally low college enrollment. Dashboard has various tabs of data and charts, allowing for easy comparisons across schools/districts/state and various student groups.

What students are included?

- 12th graders who were enrolled as of October 1, 2025. The number of grade 12 students included will remain constant. Data is suppressed when 6 or fewer students are in a group.

Why?

- Intent is to increase FAFSA completion particularly for student groups with traditionally low FAFSA completion/college enrollment (with the ACARE recommendation to Increase Exposure and Access to Higher Education for K-12 students) to have the opportunity to access higher education.
- Dashboard will provide frequent public updates around FAFSA completion across the Commonwealth by school, district and student group
- Works with the Joint FAFSA resolution of BHE and BESE to set completion goals, enhance tracking and leverage existing partnerships and heighten Interagency collaboration
- Used to target our communications and other resources where they are needed most

What?

- A DHE-DESE-EOE collaboration Uses same data source that we are using for our Edwin FAFSA reports available for Schools and Districts to track FAFSA completion in near real time (CR307 and CR 607)
- Available by state, school, district and selected student groups
- In the visualization this report is different in that it focuses on students who were enrolled as high school seniors in October of the school year while the Edwin reports are claimed SP and 12th graders
- Data is “matched” between federal data and DESE SIMS data.
- Updated twice a month and available to the general public

The Demo

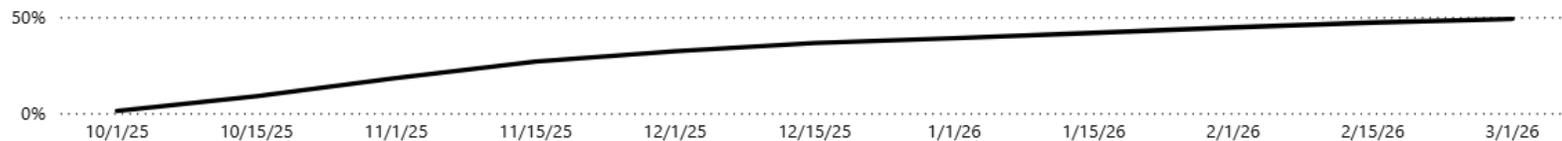


49.1% of Massachusetts 12th graders completed FAFSA (as of Mar 01, 2026)

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	#Grade 12 Students	Submitted FAFSAs	Submission Rate	Completed FAFSAs	Completion Rate	
All Students	70,385	34,806	49.5%	34,539	49.1%	
Low Income	26,174	9,047	34.6%	8,883	33.9%	
Non-Low Income	44,211	25,759	58.3%	25,656	58.0%	
Students with Disabilities	11,082	2,965	26.8%	2,942	26.5%	
Students without Disabilities	59,303	31,841	53.7%	31,597	53.3%	
English Learners	6,188	727	11.7%	670	10.8%	
Non-English Learners	64,197	34,079	53.1%	33,869	52.8%	
Male	35,662	15,065	42.2%	14,957	41.9%	
Female	34,429	19,648	57.1%	19,490	56.6%	
Nonbinary	294	93	31.6%	92	31.3%	
American Indian or Alaska Native	160	67	41.9%	67	41.9%	
Asian	5,467	3,754	68.7%	3,721	68.1%	
Black or African American	7,544	3,412	45.2%	3,340	44.3%	
Hispanic or Latino	17,378	5,422	31.2%	5,337	30.7%	
Multi-Race, Not Hispanic or Latino	2,721	1,399	51.4%	1,391	51.1%	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	66	25	37.9%	25	37.0%	

Massachusetts FAFSA Completion Rate Year-To-Date: All Students



Suppressed data is excluded from this table. Only districts with more than 6 students in the student group selected are shown. Click on student group in table above to change the student group in Year-to-Date Chart below. Click again to deselect.

Edwin FAFSA Tool

What is it used for? What does it include?

- Allows school and district staff to see their students FAFSA completion data at the aggregate and student level in near real-time to support targeted outreach and monitoring. Data can be viewed in html reports or downloaded into excel/csv files for further exploration.

What students are included?

- Currently enrolled 12th and SP students. Users can filter to just include grade 12 or SP. The number of students included changes throughout the school year to reflect current student enrollment.

What are the sources of the data?

- FAFSA data is from the US Department of Education via the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education matched to data submitted by districts.

How do I find it?

- In Edwin, via the Security Portal. Access to Edwin is determined on the school and district level by a directory administrator. District and/or School "Administrator Role", which allows for access to student level data, is necessary to view FAFSA Completion Report Detail and most helpful to fully use both reports. View this [Getting Access](#) guide for more help with Edwin