

# MHEC: Higher Education Overview

## INDICATORS OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

### Indicators of Enrollment

Performance Measures	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Est.	2026 Est.
Headcount for-credit enrollment at community colleges and public four-year institutions	300,742	294,778	287,498	272,327	268,092	280,780	323,846
Full-time equivalent (FTE) for-credit enrollment at community colleges and public four-year institutions	214,946	207,731	205,075	192,762	192,290	220,118	230,114

### Indicators of Equity

Performance Measures	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Est.	2026 Est.
Percentage of bachelor's degrees awarded to racial/ethnic minorities	44.4%	44.8%	46.6%	47.1%	49.2%	46.4%	46.8%
Percentage of associate's degrees awarded to racial/ethnic minorities	44.1%	45.4%	47.3%	49.0%	50.4%	47.3%	47.9%
Six-Year Graduation Rate							
All Students	71.1%	70.5%	69.3%	67.9%	68.3%	69.4%	69.1%
African American	56.0%	56.1%	53.4%	51.5%	52.0%	53.8%	53.3%
White	78.7%	78.6%	78.3%	78.4%	78.1%	78.4%	78.4%
Hispanic/Latino	70.5%	67.9%	67.2%	68.0%	66.8%	68.1%	67.6%
Asian	84.3%	83.0%	85.5%	84.3%	85.5%	84.5%	84.6%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	50.0%	60.0%	64.7%	46.7%	50.0%	54.3%	55.1%
American Indian/Alaska Native	75.0%	73.1%	62.1%	42.1%	42.4%	58.9%	55.7%
Two or More Races	68.0%	64.7%	64.1%	65.1%	67.1%	65.8%	65.4%
Four-Year Transfer/Graduation Rates							
All Students	39.6%	38.8%	41.6%	39.9%	39.6%	39.9%	39.9%
African American	30.4%	29.7%	31.6%	31.2%	29.1%	30.4%	30.4%
White	45.5%	46.0%	48.4%	46.1%	46.7%	46.5%	46.7%
Hispanic/Latino	36.9%	33.1%	38.7%	36.1%	35.8%	36.1%	36.0%
Asian	50.6%	50.9%	56.8%	56.5%	57.7%	54.5%	55.3%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	55.6%	39.1%	43.5%	31.3%	28.6%	39.6%	36.4%
American Indian/Alaska Native	23.2%	32.7%	26.7%	42.4%	30.0%	31.0%	32.5%
Two or More Races	40.6%	30.9%	36.5%	34.8%	39.2%	36.4%	35.5%
Second year retention rate of students at historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs)	68.3%	72.5%	67.0%	68.8%	66.8%	68.7%	68.8%
Six-year graduation rate of students at HBCUs	43.9%	45.3%	42.2%	41.3%	38.9%	42.3%	42.0%

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## Indicators of Educational Outcomes

Performance Measures	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Est.	2026 Est.
1 Six-year graduation rate at four-year colleges and universities	71.1%	70.5%	69.3%	67.9%	68.3%	69.4%	69.1%
Degree attainment rate for Marylanders ages 25 to 64	49.5%	49.7%	49.6%	50.2%	50.9%	50.0%	50.1%
Number of community college students who transfer to a public four-year campus	9,672	9,049	9,252	8,681	8,262	8,983	8,845
Number of teacher candidates completing programs leading to licensure	1,817	1,749	1,960	1,696	1,729	1,790	1,785
Number of degree recipients in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) fields	18,780	18,783	19,563	19,824	20,828	19,556	19,711
Four-year successful persister rate at community colleges	70.8%	71.6%	71.3%	72.7%	71.8%	71.6%	71.8%
Four-year transfer and graduation rate at community colleges	39.6%	39.0%	41.6%	39.9%	39.6%	39.9%	40.0%
Number of students who graduate from Maryland nursing programs	3,814	3,945	3,997	3,963	3,947	3,933	3,957
Number of master's and doctoral degrees awarded by Maryland nursing programs	849	809	872	919	946	879	885
Four-year transfer and graduation rate of first-time community college students	51.4%	52.2%	52.6%	53.8%	52.4%	52.5%	52.7%

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## Indicators of Affordability and Financial Aid

Performance Measures	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Est.	2026 Est.
<sup>1</sup> Percentage of Maryland median household income (MHI) needed to cover tuition and fees at community colleges	5.5%	5.4%	5.3%	5.2%	5.1%	5.3%	5.3%
<sup>1</sup> Percentage of Maryland MHI needed to cover tuition and fees at public four-year colleges	11.4%	11.2%	10.9%	10.9%	10.8%	11.0%	11.0%
Percentage of students with household income at or below 40 percent of median household income (MHI) who have unmet need	93.1%	93.0%	90.0%	89.0%	91.4%	91.3%	90.9%
Number of Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) applications submitted on time by applicants 19 years of age or younger	48,611	40,908	42,477	57,548	77,934	105,542	112,929
Number of FAFSA applications submitted between October 1 and December 31	87,034	84,724	87,002	68,851	71,016	73,249	75,552
Number of Maryland State Financial Aid Applications (MSFAA) submitted between October 1 and March 1	336	695	713	866	1,190	1,635	2,247
Number of MSFAA filers that submitted an application between October 1 and December 31	57	192	240	225	510	1,156	2,620
Number of MSFAA filers that receive the Educational Assistance Grant	87	158	99	297	352	417	494
Number of Educational Assistance grant recipients	23,659	18,756	19,997	17,579	18,489	18,734	18,983
Educational Assistance grant recipients as a percent of on-time applicants	16.0%	13.4%	14.0%	10.4%	13.2%	16.4%	19.0%
Number of New Guaranteed Access Grant recipients	1,368	1,399	1,396	1,801	2,345	3,053	3,976
Percent of state residents that receive any state financial assistance award	15.9%	16.3%	16.3%	17.8%	18.2%	16.9%	17.1%

## Indicators of State Funding

Performance Measures	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Est.	2026 Est.
Percentage of funding guideline attained for public four-year institutions	71%	66%	64%	83%	78%	75%	79%
Percentage of full funding guideline attained for HBCUs	81%	82%	81%	92%	106%	93%	97%
Total dollars appropriated for State student financial assistance awards (millions)	\$138	\$138	\$128	\$166	\$171	\$208	\$181

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> 2024 data is estimated because it is reported on a calendar year basis.