

MHEC: Higher Education Overview

INDICATORS OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

Indicators of Enrollment

Performance Measures	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Act.	2026 Est.	2027 Est.
Headcount for-credit enrollment at community colleges and public four-year institutions	294,778	287,498	272,327	268,092	280,780	290,883	293,655
Full-time equivalent (FTE) for-credit enrollment at community colleges and public four-year institutions	207,731	205,075	192,762	192,290	201,490	230,114	206,463

Indicators of Equity

Performance Measures	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Act.	2026 Est.	2027 Est.
¹ Percentage of bachelor's degrees awarded to racial/ethnic minorities	44.8%	46.6%	47.1%	49.2%	50.6%	47.7%	48.2%
¹ Percentage of associate's degrees awarded to racial/ethnic minorities	45.4%	47.3%	49.0%	50.4%	50.2%	48.5%	49.1%
Six-Year Graduation Rate							
1, 2 All Students	70.5%	69.3%	67.9%	68.3%	70.0%	69.2%	68.9%
1, 2 African American	56.1%	53.4%	51.5%	52.0%	53.1%	53.2%	52.6%
1, 2 White	78.6%	78.3%	78.4%	78.1%	79.4%	78.6%	78.6%
1, 2 Hispanic/Latino	67.9%	67.2%	68.0%	66.8%	68.1%	67.6%	67.5%
1, 2 Asian	83.0%	85.5%	84.3%	85.5%	85.1%	84.7%	85.0%
1, 2 Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	60.0%	64.7%	46.7%	50.0%	83.3%	60.9%	61.1%
1, 2 American Indian/Alaska Native	73.1%	62.1%	42.1%	42.4%	48.5%	53.6%	49.7%
1, 2 Two or More Races	64.7%	64.1%	65.1%	67.1%	67.4%	65.7%	65.9%
Four-Year Transfer/Graduation Rates							
1, 2 All Students	38.8%	41.6%	39.9%	39.6%	43.5%	40.7%	41.0%
1, 2 African American	29.7%	31.6%	31.2%	29.1%	37.0%	31.7%	32.1%
1, 2 White	46.0%	48.4%	46.1%	46.7%	48.7%	47.2%	47.4%
1, 2 Hispanic/Latino	33.1%	38.7%	36.1%	35.8%	39.2%	36.6%	37.3%
1, 2 Asian	50.9%	56.8%	56.5%	57.7%	56.8%	55.7%	56.7%
1, 2 Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	39.1%	43.5%	31.3%	28.6%	52.9%	39.1%	39.1%
1, 2 American Indian/Alaska Native	32.7%	26.7%	42.4%	30.0%	42.3%	34.8%	35.2%
1, 2 Two or More Races	30.9%	36.5%	34.8%	39.2%	42.2%	36.7%	37.9%
1, 2 Second year retention rate of students at historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs)	72.5%	67.0%	68.8%	66.8%	64.5%	67.9%	67.0%
1, 2 Six-year graduation rate of students at HBCUs	45.3%	42.2%	41.3%	38.9%	39.5%	41.4%	40.7%

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Indicators of Educational Outcomes

Performance Measures	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Act.	2026 Est.	2027 Est.
Degree attainment rate for Marylanders ages 25 to 64	49.7%	49.6%	50.2%	50.9%	51.4%	51.9%	52.4%
¹ Number of community college students who transfer to a public four-year campus	9,049	9,252	8,681	8,262	8,913	8,831	8,788
¹ Number of teacher candidates completing programs leading to licensure	1,749	1,960	1,696	1,729	1,560	1,739	1,737
¹ Number of degree recipients in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) fields	18,783	19,563	19,824	20,828	21,305	20,061	20,316
¹ Four-year successful persistor rate at community colleges	71.6%	71.3%	72.7%	71.8%	72.4%	72.0%	72.0%
¹ Number of students who graduate from Maryland nursing programs	3,945	3,997	3,963	3,947	3,805	3,931	3,929
¹ Number of master's and doctoral degrees awarded by Maryland nursing programs	809	872	919	946	935	896	914
¹ Four-year transfer and graduation rate of first-time community college students	52.2%	52.6%	53.8%	52.4%	53.6%	52.9%	53.1%

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Indicators of Affordability and Financial Aid

Performance Measures	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Act.	2026 Est.	2027 Est.
¹ Percentage of Maryland median household income (MHI) needed to cover tuition and fees at community colleges	5.4%	5.3%	5.2%	5.1%	4.9%	5.2%	5.1%
¹ Percentage of Maryland MHI needed to cover tuition and fees at public four-year colleges	11.2%	10.9%	10.9%	10.6%	10.4%	10.8%	10.7%
¹ Percentage of students with household income at or below 40 percent of median household income (MHI) who have unmet need	93.0%	90.0%	89.0%	91.4%	93.2%	91.3%	91.0%
Number of Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) applications submitted on time by applicants 19 years of age or younger	40,908	42,477	57,548	77,934	224,021	303,442	303,442
Number of FAFSA applications submitted between October 1 and December 31	84,724	87,002	68,851	71,016	10,573	11,525	12,562
Number of Maryland State Financial Aid Applications (MSFAA) submitted between October 1 and March 1	695	713	866	1,190	422	460	501
Number of MSFAA filers that submitted an application between October 1 and December 31	192	240	225	510	151	165	180
Number of MSFAA filers that receive the Educational Assistance Grant	158	99	297	352	138	150	164
Number of Educational Assistance grant recipients	18,756	19,997	17,579	18,489	8,475	9,238	10,069
Educational Assistance grant recipients as a percent of on-time applicants	13.4%	14.0%	10.4%	13.2%	5.6%	6.0%	7.0%
Number of New Guaranteed Access Grant recipients	1,399	1,396	1,801	2,345	15,085	16,443	17,923
Percent of state residents that receive any state financial assistance award	16.3%	16.3%	17.8%	18.2%	18.6%	17.4%	17.7%

Indicators of State Funding

Performance Measures	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Act.	2026 Est.	2027 Est.
¹ Percentage of funding guideline attained for public four-year institutions	66%	64%	83%	78%	93%	85%	85%
¹ Percentage of full funding guideline attained for HBCUs	82%	81%	92%	106%	96%	91%	97%
¹ Total dollars appropriated for State student financial assistance awards (millions)	\$138	\$128	\$166	\$171	\$149	\$183	\$174

NOTES

¹ Estimated data is an average of the previous 5-year's data

² 2025 Actuals may not be directly comparable to previous years due to updates in the student ID matching process in 2025.