



**2013 LEGISLATIVE REPORT ON
THE POSTSECONDARY PROGRESS AND SUCCESS OF
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES**

April 16, 2013

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This report was prepared by The Colorado Department of Higher Education (DHE) and the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) pursuant to 23-1-113 C.R.S. For more information contact:

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INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to statute (23-1-113 [9] C.R.S), the Colorado Department of Higher Education is required to submit a report concerning the postsecondary academic progress and success of the preceding six high school graduating classes. Due to limitations on the availability of data, this report covers the high school graduating classes of 2009, 2010 and 2011. Future reports will include additional data as they are available to the Department. This report has been submitted to the Education Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives and to the State Board of Education.

This report, the second of its kind, consists of three parts:

1. Postsecondary enrollment trends, including information on in-state and out-of-state enrollment and institution type, disaggregated by ethnicity and gender.
2. Information on first-year college students in Colorado, including financial aid status, average grade point average, credit accumulation and degree level, disaggregated by ethnicity and gender.
3. First year retention rates.

Highlights

- Fifty seven percent (57%) of the 2011 high school graduating class enrolled in a postsecondary institution in Colorado or another state within 6 months of graduating.¹
- In 2011, more female high school graduates (61%) enrolled in college than male graduates (53.7%).
- Seventy-one percent of the 2011 cohort enrolled at a four-year institution (in or out of state) and 29 percent enrolled at a two-year college.
- Hispanic students are the most likely to enroll at a two-year college, while Asian students are the most likely to enroll at a four-year institution.
- Asian and white high school graduates had the highest college-going rates in 2011—69.3 percent and 63.4 percent, respectively—while Hispanic graduates had the lowest college-going rate at 41.5 percent.
- Of the 2011 graduates enrolling in college, nearly 79 percent elected to attend a Colorado college or university.
- About 37 percent of first-year college students received a Federal Pell Grant in 2011.
- At the end of the 2011-2012 academic year, the average cumulative grade point average (GPA) for first-year college students in Colorado was 2.68.

¹ Please note that last year's college matriculation rate of 67% was based upon an 18 month enrollment period versus a 6 month enrollment period. Please refer to the methodology section for more details.

- Of the 2011 high school graduates who enrolled in college immediately, approximately 75 percent had completed at least 18 credit hours by the end of their first year (spring 2012). About 25 percent had completed more than 34 credit hours.
- Sixty-three percent of high school graduates are pursuing a BA and 15 percent are pursuing an AA/AS.
- The first year retention rate for 2009 students was 88.5 percent at four-year institutions and 63.3 percent at two-year colleges. These retention rates are better than national retention rate averages.

PART I. POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT

Earning a postsecondary credential can open up doors to promising career opportunities that benefit not only individual families but also the statewide economy. It is estimated that by 2018, nearly 70 percent of Colorado’s jobs will require some form of postsecondary education.² The path to earning a postsecondary certificate or degree begins in the K-12 system. This report looks at what Colorado’s recent high school graduates did after finishing high school by asking questions such as: Who enrolled in college? In what type of college did those students enroll? How successful were students in their first year of college? By answering these questions, Colorado’s K-12 and higher education systems can better work together to ensure that all students are prepared for postsecondary and workforce success after high school.

Overview

The high school class of 2011 consisted of 52,246 individual graduates. Of those students, 29,974, or 57.4 percent, enrolled in a public postsecondary institution in Colorado or another state in the fall immediately following graduation. The 2011 average enrollment rate is down slightly from the 2009 and 2010 rates (58.8 percent and 57.9 percent, respectively).³ Of the 2011 high school graduates, 45.2 percent enrolled at a public Colorado college or university, while 12.2 percent went out-of-state to attend college.

College enrollment information for the top 10 and bottom 10 districts—as ranked by the overall college-going rate—is displayed in Tables 3 and 4. Lewis-Palmer School District has the highest college enrollment rate (76.5 percent) and Plateau Valley School District has the lowest rate (18.8 percent). College enrollment information for all school districts in the state can be found in Appendix A.

Table 1. Summary Statistics for High School Graduates

High School Graduation Year	Total High School Graduates	Total College Enrollment	% High School Graduates Enrolling in College
2011	52,246	29,974	57.4%
2010	51,702	29,937	57.9%
2009	50,184	29,525	58.8%

Table 2. In-State and Out-of-State Enrollment Summary

High School Graduation Year	% HS Graduates Enrolling at In-State College	% HS Graduates Enrolling at Out-of-State College	% HS Graduates Not Enrolled
2011	45.2%	12.2%	42.6%
2010	45.9%	12.0%	42.1%
2009	47.4%	11.4%	41.2%

² Carnevale, Anthony P.; Smith, N, Strohl, J. (2010). *Help Wanted: Projections of Jobs and Education Requirements Through 2018*. Washington D.C.: Georgetown Center for Education and the Workforce.

³ Please note the method for calculating college matriculation this year is different than last year’s report and should not be compared. Please see the methodology section for details.

Table 3. Enrollment by Top 10 Districts with Highest College-Going Rates⁴

District Name	Total # Graduates	Total Enrollment		% In-State		Total % In-State	% Out-of-State		Total % Out-of-State	Total % Not Enrolled
		#	%	2 Year	4 Year		2 Year	4 Year		
Lewis-Palmer 38	464	355	76.5%	17.7%	39.4%	57.1%	1.7%	17.7%	19.4%	23.5%
Cheyenne Mountain 12	344	262	76.2%	11.9%	43.6%	55.5%	1.5%	19.2%	20.6%	23.8%
Littleton 6	1307	954	73.0%	10.6%	40.8%	51.4%	1.1%	20.4%	21.6%	27.0%
Academy 20	1621	1170	72.2%	14.7%	35.8%	50.5%	1.9%	19.7%	21.7%	27.8%
Steamboat Springs RE-2	166	117	70.5%	15.1%	36.7%	51.8%	0.6%	18.1%	18.7%	29.5%
Boulder Valley RE 2	2173	1528	70.3%	9.2%	37.8%	47.0%	0.7%	22.6%	23.3%	29.7%
Alamosa RE-11J	146	102	69.9%	12.3%	53.4%	65.8%	0.7%	3.4%	4.1%	30.1%
Douglas County RE 1	3634	2522	69.4%	12.7%	37.3%	50.1%	1.6%	17.7%	19.3%	30.6%
Summit RE-1	199	137	68.8%	16.6%	35.2%	51.8%	1.0%	16.1%	17.1%	31.2%
Gunnison Watershed RE1J	117	80	68.4%	2.6%	48.7%	51.3%	2.6%	14.5%	17.1%	31.6%

Table 4. Enrollment by Bottom 10 Districts with Lowest College-Going Rates

District Name	Total # Graduates	Total Enrollment		% In-State		Total % In-State	% Out-of-State		Total % Out-of-State	Total % Not Enrolled
		#	%	2 Year	4 Year		2 Year	4 Year		
Plateau Valley 50	101	19	18.8%	17.7%	39.4%	57.1%	1.7%	17.7%	19.4%	23.5%
Adams County 14	387	100	25.8%	11.9%	43.6%	55.5%	1.5%	19.2%	20.6%	23.8%
Julesburg RE-1	115	35	30.4%	10.6%	40.8%	51.4%	1.1%	20.4%	21.6%	27.0%
Englewood 1	260	82	31.5%	14.7%	35.8%	50.5%	1.9%	19.7%	21.7%	27.8%
Mapleton 1	350	134	38.3%	15.1%	36.7%	51.8%	0.6%	18.1%	18.7%	29.5%
Keenesburg RE-3(J)	138	53	38.4%	9.2%	37.8%	47.0%	0.7%	22.6%	23.3%	29.7%
Westminister 50	458	179	39.1%	12.3%	53.4%	65.8%	0.7%	3.4%	4.1%	30.1%
Charter School Institute	432	169	39.1%	12.7%	37.3%	50.1%	1.6%	17.7%	19.3%	30.6%
Archuleta County 50 JT	104	41	39.4%	16.6%	35.2%	51.8%	1.0%	16.1%	17.1%	31.2%
Weld County S/D RE-8	152	60	39.5%	2.6%	48.7%	51.3%	2.6%	14.5%	17.1%	31.6%

Class Characteristics

Colorado's high school graduating class of 2011 was comprised of an almost even number of males and females (see Table 5). About 65 percent of graduates were white, 25 percent were Hispanic, 6 percent were African-American, 3.5 percent were Asian and 1 percent was American Indian or Alaskan Native. Almost one quarter of the 2011 graduating class was eligible for free or reduced price lunch.

⁴ Only districts with more than 100 graduates were included in the rankings for Table 4 and 5.

Looking only at the students from the high school class of 2011 who enrolled immediately in college, the group is slightly more female and white than the overall class of graduates. While Hispanic students made up one fourth of the high school graduating class, they account for less than one fifth of the students who went to college in the fall of 2011. In terms of financial aid status, about 37 percent of this group of first-year college students received a Federal Pell Grant.

Table 5. Class Characteristics:

High School Class of 2011		College-Going Students from 2011 Class	
	% of Students		% of Students
Female	50.2%	Female	53.4%
Male	49.8%	Male	46.6%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	1.1%	American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.8%
Asian	3.5%	Asian	4.22%
African-American	5.9%	African-American	5.54%
Hispanic	24.9%	Hispanic	18.0%
White (not Hispanic)	64.6%	White (not Hispanic)	71.4%
Free Reduced Price Lunch	24.6%	Pell Grant Recipient	36.8%

Enrollment Rates by Gender, Race/Ethnicity and Income

Figure 1 depicts college enrollment rates for 2009, 2010, and 2011 high school graduates by gender, race/ethnicity, and income (as represented by free and reduced price lunch eligibility in high school). In all three years shown, a higher percentage of female high school graduates enrolled in college than male graduates. In 2011, for example, 61 percent of female students attended college in the fall immediately following graduation, compared to 53.7 percent of male students.

Asian and white high school graduates had the highest college-going rates in 2011—69.3 percent and 63.4 percent, respectively—while Hispanic graduates had the lowest college-going rate (41.5 percent). When comparing just white and Hispanic graduates in 2011, there is a 22 percentage-point gap in college enrollment rates. High school graduates who received free and reduced price lunch also have lower than average college-going rates; 41.5 percent in 2011 and 46 percent in 2010.

Over the last three years, enrollment rates declined or stayed level for most ethnic populations, with a notable exception being Hispanic students, who enrolled at a higher rate in 2011 (41.5 percent) than in 2009 (39.8 percent). Free and reduced price lunch students saw the largest decline in enrollment rates—a 9.6 percent decrease—between 2009 and 2011.

Figure 1. Enrollment Rates by Gender, Race/Ethnicity and Income

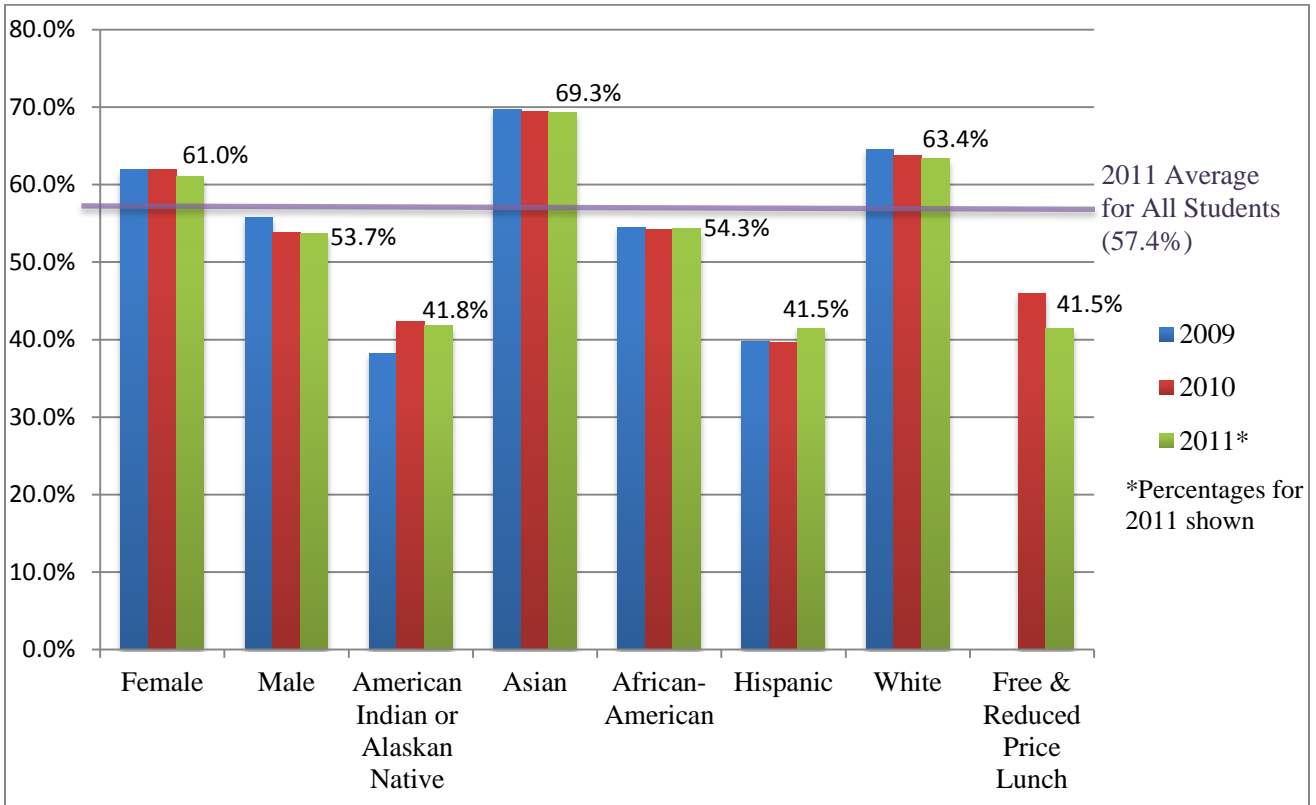
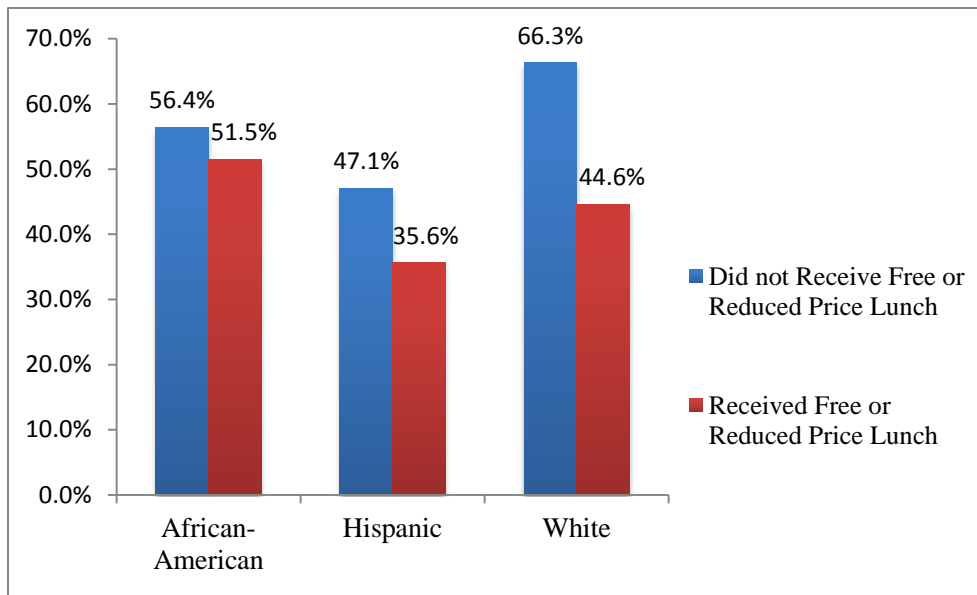


Table 6. College Enrollment Details by Gender, Race/Ethnicity and Income (2011)

	2011 Total # Graduates	2011 Total College Enrollment		2011 % HS Graduates Enrolling		% HS Graduates Not Enrolled
		#	%	In-State	Out-of-State	
Female	26,211	15,994	61.0%	47.2%	13.8%	39.0%
Male	26,035	13,980	53.7%	43.1%	10.6%	46.3%
American Indian / Alaskan Native	581	243	41.8%	35.8%	6.0%	58.2%
Asian	1,830	1,265	69.3%	57.4%	11.9%	30.7%
African-American	3,060	1,661	54.3%	42.8%	11.6%	45.7%
Hispanic	13,021	5,408	41.5%	36.9%	4.7%	58.5%
White (not Hispanic)	33,735	21,390	63.4%	48.1%	15.3%	36.6%
Free & Reduced Lunch	12,847	5,333	41.5%	36.8%	4.7%	58.5%

Figure 2 displays enrollment rates for the top three ethnic populations in the state by free and reduced price lunch status. Receiving free or reduced price lunch in high school reduces the college-going rate for all groups. African-American students see the smallest decline in college enrollment rates and white students see the largest decline. Hispanic students who are eligible for free and reduced price lunch have the lowest college-going rate at 35.6 percent. Hispanics students are also the most likely to received free and reduced price lunch. Nearly 52 percent of all Hispanic high school graduates in 2011 received free or reduced price lunch. This means that for over half of the Hispanic high school graduates in the class of 2011, only 35.6 percent enrolled in college in the fall following graduation.

Figure 2. Enrollment Rates, by Race/Ethnicity for Different Income Levels



Enrollment by Institution Type and Race/Ethnicity

The following section looks only at those high school students who did enroll in college within six months of graduation. Of the 2011 graduates enrolling in college, about 79 percent attended a Colorado college or university, while 21 percent attended out-of-state institutions (see Figure 6). As depicted in Figure 3, Hispanic students are the least likely ethnic population to leave the state to attend college (11.2 percent), while white students are the most likely to leave Colorado (24 percent). African-American students had the next highest percentage of out-of-state college attendance (21 percent). Figure 4 displays the breakdown of student enrollments by type of institution and gender. Female students were slightly more likely than male students to attend an out-of-state institution—and in particular, a four-year, out-of-state institution.

In terms of where in the country students go when they leave Colorado, Figure 5 shows the twenty most popular states for the high school graduating class of 2011. On the high end, 540 graduates went to a postsecondary institution in California, followed by 474 graduates who went

to a Wyoming institution and 411 who went to college in Arizona. On the lower end, 110 graduates attended college in Minnesota, and 107 went to a college in Indiana.

Only a small fraction of college-going students leave the state to attend a two-year college, about 3 percent, compared to 19 percent of college-going students who attend four-year institutions outside of Colorado. Within Colorado, a higher proportion of students attend a two-year college. Of the 2011 college-going graduates, 26 percent attended a two-year college and 53 percent attended a four-year institution in Colorado.

Considering only the type of college and not the location, about 71 percent of the 2011 cohort enrolled at a four-year institution and 29 percent enrolled at a two-year college (see Figure 7). Compared to other racial/ethnic groups, Asian graduates are the most likely to enroll at a four-year institution (79 percent), followed by white students (75 percent). Hispanic students are the most likely to enroll at a two-year college (44.5 percent), followed by African-American and American Indian/Alaskan native students (36.5 percent and 37 percent respectively).

Figure 3. College Enrollment, by Race/Ethnicity and Institution Type (2011)

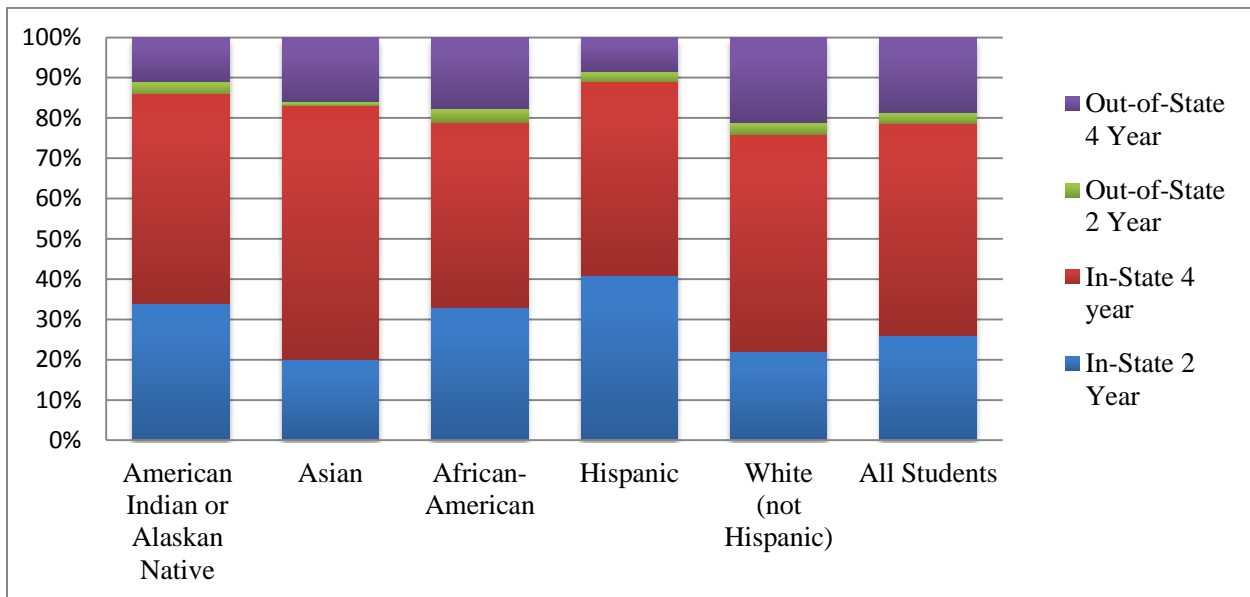


Figure 4. College Enrollment, by Gender and Institution Type (2011)

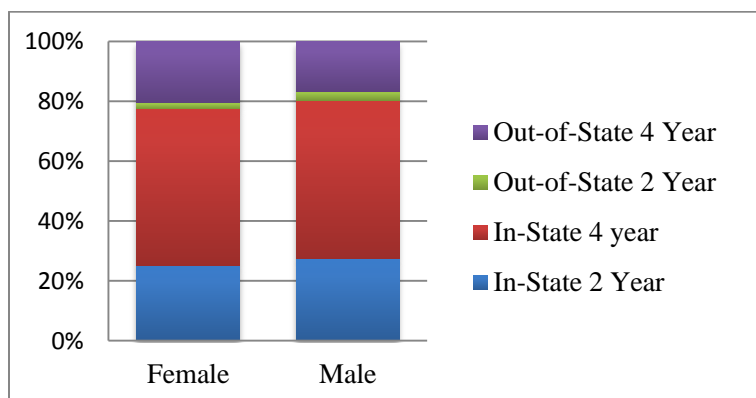


Figure 5. Top States Where 2011 High School Graduates Attended College Outside of Colorado

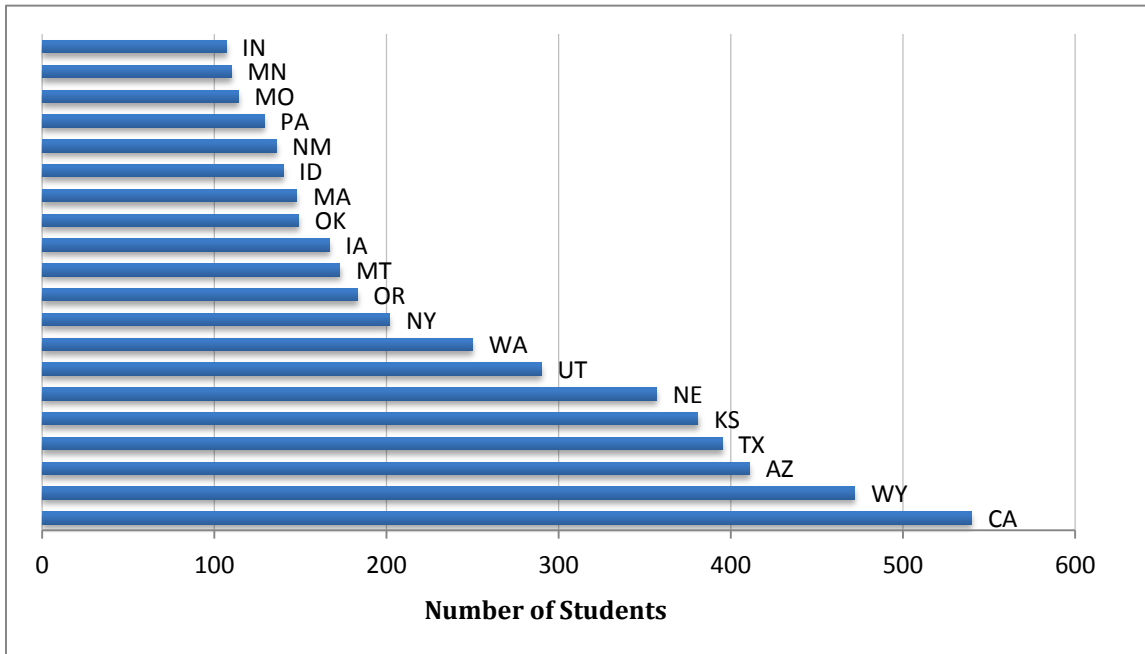


Figure 6. Enrollment In State and Out of State (2011)

■ In State ■ Out of State

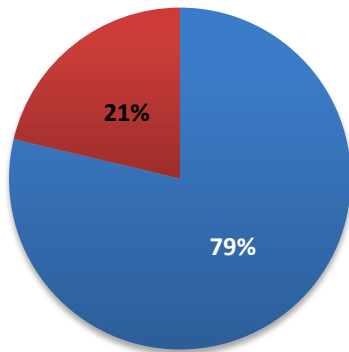
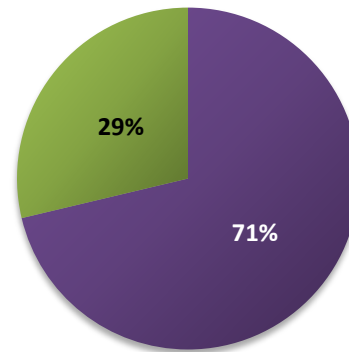


Figure 7. Enrollment 2 and 4 Year Institutions (2011)

■ 4 Year ■ 2 Year



Enrollment by Institution Name

To conclude the discussion of where Colorado high school graduates attend college, Table 7 provides several lists of the most attended institutions. Colorado State University tops the lists of the most attended institutions when looking at both two- and four-year institutions and when looking at only four-year institutions. Front Range Community College, Pikes Peak Community College and Community College of Denver are the most highly attended two-year institutions. Students leaving Colorado for college are most likely to attend the University of Wyoming, Brigham Young University and Arizona State University.

Table 7. Enrollment by Most Attended Institutions for High School Class of 2011

Top 10 Most Attended Institutions, 2 & 4 Years	# Students	% College Going Students
Colorado State University	3,181	10.6%
University of Colorado Boulder	2,791	9.3%
University of Northern Colorado	1,861	6.2%
Metro State University of Denver	1,597	5.3%
Front Range Community College	1,523	5.1%
Colorado Mesa University	1,407	4.7%
Pikes Peak Community College	1,094	3.7%
University of Colorado Colorado Springs	1,063	3.6%
Community College of Denver	865	2.9%
Colorado State University - Pueblo	751	2.5%
Top 10 Most Attended Institutions, 2 Years	# Students	% College Going Students
Front Range Community College	1,523	5.1%
Pikes Peak Community College	1,094	3.7%
Community College of Denver	865	2.9%
Red Rocks Community College	704	2.4%
Arapahoe Community College	702	2.3%
Aims Community College	483	1.6%
Pueblo Community College	464	1.6%
Community College of Aurora	442	1.5%
Northeastern Junior College	408	1.4%
Colorado Mountain College	385	1.3%
Top 10 Most Attended Institutions, 4 Years	# Students	% College Going Students
Colorado State University	3,181	10.6%
University of Colorado Boulder	2,791	9.3%
University of Northern Colorado	1,861	6.2%
Metro State University of Denver	1,597	5.3%
Colorado Mesa University	1,407	4.7%
University of Colorado Colorado Springs	1,063	3.6%
Colorado State University - Pueblo	751	2.5%
University of Colorado Denver	710	2.4%
Colorado School of Mines	470	1.6%
Fort Lewis College	401	1.3%
Top 10 Most Attended Institutions, Out of State, 2 & 4 Years	# Students	% College Going Students
University of Wyoming (WY)	295	1.0%
Brigham Young University (UT)	154	0.5%
Arizona State University (AZ)	136	0.5%
Montana State University – Bozeman (MT)	112	0.4%
Hastings College (NE)	86	0.3%
University of Kansas (KS)	86	0.3%
Northern Arizona University (AZ)	79	0.3%
Fort Hays State University (KS)	76	0.3%
University of Oregon (OR)	72	0.2%
Laramie County Community College (WY)	71	0.2%

PART II. FIRST-YEAR COLLEGE STUDENTS

In this section, information about first year college students, including financial aid status, GPA, credit accumulation and degree level, is provided. This level of detail is only available from the Colorado Department of Higher Education's Student Unit Record Data System (SURDS), which includes information from all public colleges and universities in the state and the University of Denver, Regis University, and Colorado Christian University. As of the 2012-2013 academic year, SURDS will include individual student records from an additional 50 private degree granting institutions. These data will be included in next year's report.

Financial Aid Recipients

As the tables below show, 36.8 percent of first-year college students received a Federal Pell Grant in 2011. Thirty-nine percent of females received a Pell grant, compared to 34 percent of males. Within racial/ethnic groups, 66.7 percent of African-American college students and 57.5 percent of Hispanic students received a Pell grant, compared to 28 percent of white students. The percentage of students receiving a Pell grant increased for all groups from 2009 to 2011. In 2011, the average amount of Pell grants received by college students in Colorado was \$3,835.86.

Table 8. Summary of Pell Recipients, by High School Graduation Year

High School Graduation Year	Number of College Students	Students Receiving Pell Grants		Students Not Receiving Pell Grants	
		#	%	#	%
2011	22,458	8,265	36.8%	14,193	63.2%
2010	22,972	7,955	34.6%	15,017	65.4%
2009	23,182	6634	28.6%	16,548	71.4%

Table 9. Pell Grant Recipients, by Gender and Race/Ethnicity (2011)

	2011 Number of Students	2011 Number Receiving Pell Grant	2011 Percentage Receiving Pell Grant	2009-2011 Percentage Change in Pell Recipients
Female	11,798	4626	39.2%	↑ 28.5%
Male	10,660	3639	34.1%	↑ 28.7%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	194	80	41.2%	↑ 3.1%
Asian	988	448	45.3%	↑ 9.5%
African-American	1,206	804	66.7%	↑ 17.0%
Hispanic	4,466	2,569	57.5%	↑ 18.1%
White	15,601	4,361	28.0%	↑ 27.9%

Grade Point Averages

At the end of the 2011-2012 academic year, the average cumulative grade point average (GPA) for first-year college students in Colorado was 2.67 (see tables below). Female students had a slightly higher average GPA (2.78) than male students (2.55). Across racial/ethnic groups, average GPA's ranged from 2.29 for African-American students to 2.75 for white students. When considering quartile ranges, most GPAs at the 25th percentile were below or just slightly above a 2.0, which is typically the minimum GPA needed to graduate from college. This means that approximately 25 percent of students are on—or close to being placed on—academic probation and are at risk of graduating.

Table 10. Summary of Grade Point Averages, by High School Graduation Year

High School Graduation Year	Number of College Students	First Year Average GPA	25 th Percentile	75 th Percentile
2011	22,458	2.67	2.10	3.40
2010	22,972	2.66	2.10	3.40
2009	23,182	2.66	2.10	3.30

Table 11. Grade Point Averages, by Gender and Race/Ethnicity (2011)

	2011 Number of Students	First Year Average GPA	25 th Percentile	75 th Percentile
Female	11,798	2.78	2.30	3.40
Male	10,660	2.55	2.00	3.20
American Indian or Alaskan Native	194	2.44	1.80	3.20
Asian	988	2.71	2.10	3.40
African-American	1,206	2.29	1.70	3.00
Hispanic	4,466	2.48	1.90	3.20
White (not Hispanic)	15,601	2.75	2.30	3.40

Credit Hour Accumulation

Research suggests that the number of credit hours earned in a student's first year of college influences the likelihood of completion. It has been noted that completing at least 20 credit hours in the first year increases the chances of degree attainment.⁵ As Table 12 shows, for

⁵ Adelman, C. (2006). *The toolbox revisited: Paths to degree completion from high school through college*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education. Particularly, Adelman (2006) found a 40 percentage point gap in

students who graduated from high school in 2011 and went on to immediately enroll in college, approximately 75 percent had completed at least 18 credit hours and 25 percent had completed more than 34 credit hours by the end of their first year (spring 2012). The credit hour accumulations may include concurrent enrollment credits earned.

The average number of credits completed for the 2011 first-year students was 28.3 credits. This is very comparable to the average number of completed credits by students from the high school graduating classes of 2010 and 2009 (see Table 13). In 2011, female students had a slightly higher credit accumulation average (29) than male students (27.5). Asian students had the highest average number of credits completed in their first year of college (31.4 credits). On average, Hispanic students completed almost 7 fewer credits in their first year than Asian students, and African-American students completed 9.5 fewer credits than Asian students.

Table 12. Summary of Credit Hour Accumulation, by High School Graduation Year

High School Graduation Year	Number of College Students	First Year Avg. # Completed Credits	25 th Percentile	75 th Percentile
2011	22,458	28.3	18.0	34.0
2010	22,972	27.9	18.0	34.0
2009	23,182	28.1	18.0	35.0

Table 13. Credit Hour Accumulation, by Gender and Race/Ethnicity (2011)

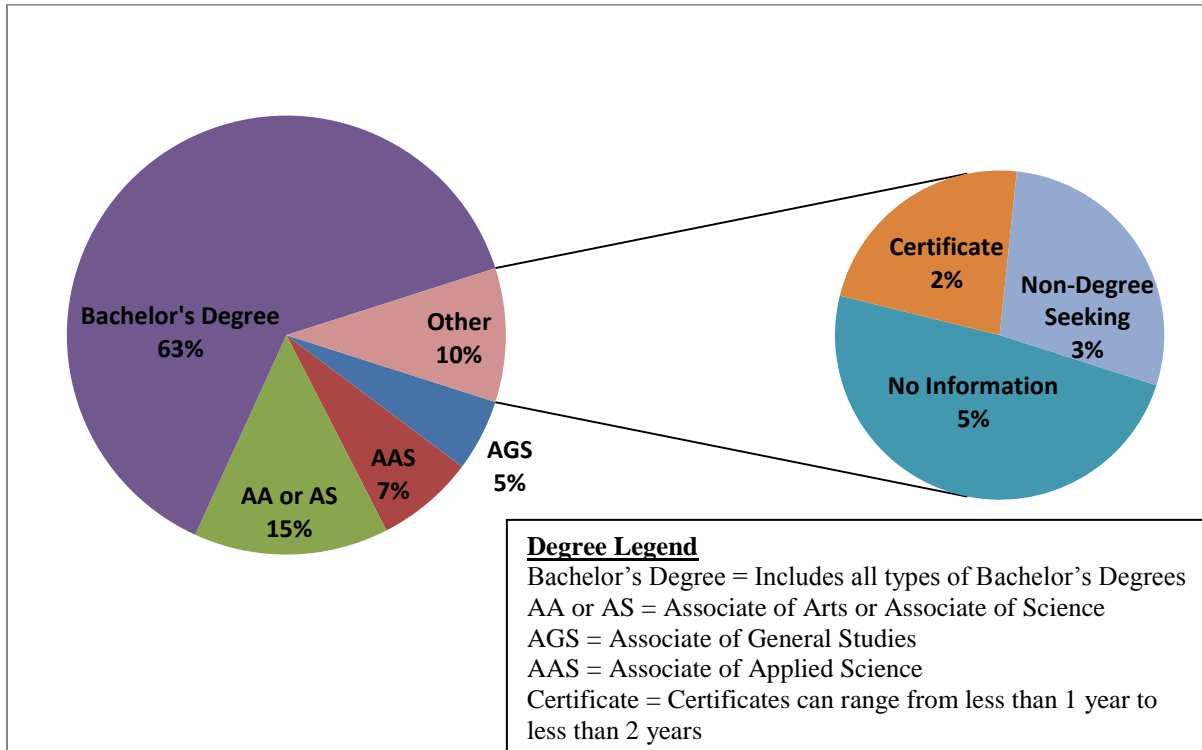
	2011 Number of Students	First Year Avg. # Completed Credits	25 th Percentile	75 th Percentile
Female	11,798	29.0	19.0	35.0
Male	10,660	27.5	17.0	34.0
American Indian or Alaskan Native	194	25.6	14.0	32.0
Asian	988	31.4	20.0	40.0
African-American	1,206	21.8	12.0	28.0
Hispanic	4,466	24.5	13.0	31.0
White (not Hispanic)	15,601	29.6	21.0	36.0

bachelor's degree attainment between students who had completed over 20 credits in their first year (77% degree completion) and those who had not (35% degree completion).

Degree Level

In their first year of college, students specify what level of degree they are pursuing. Of the 2011 high school graduates who enrolled in college, 63 percent are pursuing a Bachelor's degree and 15 percent are pursuing an Associate's degree. An Associate of Applied Science is the next most popular degree, with 7 percent of 2011 first-year college students pursuing this option.

Figure 8. Types of Degrees 2011 High School Graduates are Pursuing



PART III. RETENTION RATES

Unlike the previous section, part three is representative of all students. Using data from the National Student Clearinghouse, the Department of Higher Education is able to track retention rates for all students, whether they are enrolled in Colorado, out-of-state, at a public institution or a private one.

First year retention rates are important to consider because students are most likely to drop out of college during or after their first year. First year retention rates are available for both high school graduating classes of 2010 and 2009, and overall rates were around 81 percent for both cohorts.⁶ This means that for all students who graduated high school in spring 2010 and enrolled in college in fall 2010, 81.4 percent enrolled for a second year of college in fall 2011. When looking at Colorado's public higher education institutions (both two- and four-year), the retention rates are 76.9 percent for 2010 and 77.9 percent for 2009.

As Table 14 shows, the first year retention rate at four-year institutions was 88.3 percent for 2010 students. Comparatively, the retention rate at two-year colleges was 62.1 percent for the same cohort of high school graduates. These average retention rates are better than national figures. Nationally, the 2010 average first year retention rate for all four-year institutions was 77.1 percent. The national average for students at two-year institutions that same year was 54.3 percent.⁷

Retention rates for female students from the high school class of 2010 were about 5 percentage points higher than retentions rates for male students (see Table 15). Compared to other ethnic populations, Hispanic students had the lowest retention rates overall and at four-year institutions. American Indian/Alaskan Native students and African-American students had the lowest retentions rates at two-year institutions. The largest gap in overall retention rates among racial/ethnic groups is between Asian and Hispanic students (18 percentage points).

Table 14. Retention Rates, by High School Graduation Year

High School Graduation Year	First Year Retention Rate Overall	First Year Retention Rate 4 Year Institutions	First Year Retention Rate 2 Year Institutions	First Year Retention Rate In-State Public Institutions Only⁸
2010	80.7%	88.3%	62.1%	76.9%
2009	81.4%	88.5%	63.3%	77.9%

⁶ Retention rates are not yet available for students who were in their first year of college in the 2011-2012 academic year.

⁷ National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, www.higheredinfo.org.

⁸ Includes all SURDS institutions (2 and 4 year institutions)

Table 15. Retention Rates, by Gender and Race/Ethnicity (High School Class of 2010)

Race/Ethnicity	First Year Retention Rate Overall	First Year Retention Rate 4 Year Institutions	First Year Retention Rate 2 Year Institutions
Female	83.0%	90.2%	64.5%
Male	77.9%	85.9%	59.6%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	71.9%	83.0%	54.7%
Asian	88.2%	93.0%	69.8%
African-American	73.5%	84.9%	54.9%
Hispanic	70.2%	81.5%	57.7%
White (not Hispanic)	83.0%	89.2%	64.4%

CONCLUSION

This report is intended to summarize and identify trends in postsecondary education for three cohorts of Colorado high school graduates, with particular attention paid to the most recent cohort. The report tracks the 2009, 2010 and 2011 high school graduating classes and describes student enrollment and progress one year following graduation. The data are disaggregated by gender and race/ethnicity to further identify patterns. Future research from the Department of Higher Education will continue to follow these cohorts of students as they move through the higher education system. Information on postsecondary performance, retention, and degree attainment will be collected and reported on when available.

Overall, 57 percent of the 2011 high school graduating class enrolled in a postsecondary institution in the fall immediately following graduation. Of the college-going students, about 79 percent enrolled at an institution in Colorado, while 21 percent left the state to attend college. A majority of high school graduates attending college do so at a four-year institution (about 71 percent), with the remaining 29 percent enrolling at a two-year college.

Evident throughout the report are gaps in postsecondary access and success between white students and minority students. In particular, Hispanic students, who constitute Colorado's largest and fastest-growing minority population, significantly underperform white students on every measure. Over the last three years, about 40 percent of Hispanic graduates have attended college compared to 64 percent of white graduates. Hispanic students who did enroll in college in 2011 were 3.5 times more likely to have financial need than white students. In terms of postsecondary performance, Hispanic first-year college students have, on average, lower grade point averages and lower credit accumulation than white students.

While Colorado unquestionably has a robust, high-quality higher education system, it is essential that these disparities in access and success be reduced if the state is to remain competitive in today's global economy. As the Colorado Commission on Higher Education's 2012 Master Plan notes,

“Success in meeting the state's primary goal of increasing the college attainment rate to 66 percent of all citizens ages 25-34 hinges on improving underserved students' access to, progress in, and graduation from colleges and universities in the state.”⁹

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education's Master Plan has set the framework for performance contracts between higher education institutions and the state. Each institution has identified specific goals aimed at reducing achievement gaps. These goals include reducing disparities in graduation and retention rates between underserved and non-underserved students, and increasing the number of low-income, minority students who earn a science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) degree. Future versions of this report will include updates on how institutions are meeting these goals to close the achievement gaps.

⁹ Colorado Commission on Higher Education (2012). Colorado Competes: A Completion Agenda for Higher Education. Denver, CO: CCHE; p. 15.

APPENDIX A: DISTRICT-LEVEL STATISTICS

Postsecondary Enrollment by District

* is shown in place of counts 10 or less

District Name	Total # Graduates	Total Enrollment		In-State 2 Year		In-State 4 Year		Total % In-State	Out-of-State 2 Year		Out-of-State 4 Year		Total % Out-of-State	% Not Enrolled
		#	%	#	%	#	%		#	%	#	%		
ACADEMY 20	1621	1170	72.2%	238	14.7%	581	35.8%	50.5%	31	1.9%	320	19.7%	21.7%	27.8%
ADAMS COUNTY 14	387	100	25.8%	37	9.6%	55	14.2%	23.8%	2	0.5%	6	1.6%	2.1%	74.2%
ADAMS-ARAPAHOE 28J	1754	727	41.4%	271	15.5%	358	20.4%	35.9%	23	1.3%	75	4.3%	5.6%	58.6%
AGATE 300	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
AGUILAR REORGANIZED 6	12	6	50.0%	4	33.3%	0	0.0%	33.3%	2	16.7%	0	0.0%	16.7%	50.0%
AKRON R-1	32	23	71.9%	9	28.1%	4	12.5%	40.6%	3	9.4%	7	21.9%	31.3%	28.1%
ALAMOSA RE-11J	146	102	69.9%	18	12.3%	78	53.4%	65.8%	1	0.7%	5	3.4%	4.1%	30.1%
ARCHULETA COUNTY 50 JT	104	41	39.4%	11	10.6%	22	21.2%	31.7%	2	1.9%	6	5.8%	7.7%	60.6%
ARICKAREE R-2	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
ARRIBA-FLAGLER C-20	14	10	71.4%	2	14.3%	7	50.0%	64.3%	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	7.1%	28.6%
ASPEN 1	126	85	67.5%	4	3.2%	33	26.2%	29.4%	1	0.8%	47	37.3%	38.1%	32.5%
AULT-HIGHLAND RE-9	66	29	43.9%	14	21.2%	8	12.1%	33.3%	4	6.1%	3	4.5%	10.6%	56.1%
BAYFIELD 10 JT-R	99	49	49.5%	3	3.0%	32	32.3%	35.4%	5	5.1%	9	9.1%	14.1%	50.5%
BENNETT 29J	83	46	55.4%	17	20.5%	23	27.7%	48.2%	0	0.0%	6	7.2%	7.2%	44.6%
BETHUNE R-5	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
BIG SANDY 100J	25	14	56.0%	5	20.0%	8	32.0%	52.0%	1	4.0%	0	0.0%	4.0%	44.0%
BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	2173	1528	70.3%	200	9.2%	822	37.8%	47.0%	15	0.7%	491	22.6%	23.3%	29.7%
BRANSON REORGANIZED 82	50	20	40.0%	14	28.0%	3	6.0%	34.0%	2	4.0%	1	2.0%	6.0%	60.0%
BRIGGS DALE RE-10	10	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
BRIGHTON 27J	696	329	47.3%	139	20.0%	156	22.4%	42.4%	11	1.6%	23	3.3%	4.9%	52.7%
BRUSH RE-2(J)	116	68	58.6%	37	31.9%	17	14.7%	46.6%	4	3.4%	10	8.6%	12.1%	41.4%
BUENA VISTA R-31	81	45	55.6%	12	14.8%	26	32.1%	46.9%	1	1.2%	6	7.4%	8.6%	44.4%
BUFFALO RE-4	20	16	80.0%	11	55.0%	4	20.0%	75.0%	0	0.0%	1	5.0%	5.0%	20.0%
BURLINGTON RE-6J	54	32	59.3%	4	7.4%	12	22.2%	29.6%	4	7.4%	12	22.2%	29.6%	40.7%
BYERS 32J	25	13	52.0%	4	16.0%	5	20.0%	36.0%	0	0.0%	4	16.0%	16.0%	48.0%

District Name	Total # Graduates	Total Enrollment		In-State 2 Year		In-State 4 Year		Total % In-State	Out-of-State 2 Year		Out-of-State 4 Year		Total % Out-of-State	% Not Enrolled
		#	%	#	%	#	%		#	%	#	%		
CALHAN RJ-1	42	18	42.9%	5	11.9%	9	21.4%	33.3%	1	2.4%	3	7.1%	9.5%	57.1%
CAMPO RE-6	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
CANON CITY RE-1	242	123	50.8%	55	22.7%	55	22.7%	45.5%	3	1.2%	10	4.1%	5.4%	49.2%
CENTENNIAL R-1	33	22	66.7%	5	15.2%	16	48.5%	63.6%	1	3.0%	0	0.0%	3.0%	33.3%
CENTER 26 JT	42	15	35.7%	2	4.8%	12	28.6%	33.3%	0	0.0%	1	2.4%	2.4%	64.3%
CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE	432	169	39.1%	84	19.4%	66	15.3%	34.7%	4	0.9%	15	3.5%	4.4%	60.9%
CHERAW 31	12	6	50.0%	4	33.3%	1	8.3%	41.7%	0	0.0%	1	8.3%	8.3%	50.0%
CHERRY CREEK 5	3534	2296	65.0%	412	11.7%	1254	35.5%	47.1%	43	1.2%	587	16.6%	17.8%	35.0%
CHEYENNE COUNTY RE-5	19	14	73.7%	4	21.1%	6	31.6%	52.6%	0	0.0%	4	21.1%	21.1%	26.3%
CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN 12	344	262	76.2%	41	11.9%	150	43.6%	55.5%	5	1.5%	66	19.2%	20.6%	23.8%
CLEAR CREEK RE-1	59	35	59.3%	13	22.0%	17	28.8%	50.8%	0	0.0%	5	8.5%	8.5%	40.7%
COLORADO SPRINGS 11	1924	930	48.3%	296	15.4%	465	24.2%	39.6%	22	1.1%	147	7.6%	8.8%	51.7%
COTOPAXI RE-3	21	9	42.9%	6	28.6%	3	14.3%	42.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	57.1%
CREEDE CONSOLIDATED 1	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
CRIPPLE CREEK-VICTOR RE-1	35	12	34.3%	3	8.6%	5	14.3%	22.9%	0	0.0%	4	11.4%	11.4%	65.7%
CROWLEY COUNTY RE-1-J	35	19	54.3%	14	40.0%	3	8.6%	48.6%	0	0.0%	2	5.7%	5.7%	45.7%
CUSTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT C-1	36	20	55.6%	5	13.9%	14	38.9%	52.8%	0	0.0%	1	2.8%	2.8%	44.4%
DE BEQUE 49JT	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
DEER TRAIL 26J	16	11	68.8%	3	18.8%	5	31.3%	50.0%	2	12.5%	1	6.3%	18.8%	31.3%
DEL NORTE C-7	36	17	47.2%	2	5.6%	13	36.1%	41.7%	0	0.0%	2	5.6%	5.6%	52.8%
DELTA COUNTY 50(J)	376	153	40.7%	18	4.8%	108	28.7%	33.5%	8	2.1%	19	5.1%	7.2%	59.3%
DENVER COUNTY 1	3689	1792	48.6%	596	16.2%	867	23.5%	39.7%	32	0.9%	297	8.1%	8.9%	51.4%
DOLORES COUNTY RE NO.2	14	7	50.0%	1	7.1%	4	28.6%	35.7%	1	7.1%	1	7.1%	14.3%	50.0%
DOLORES RE-4A	35	21	60.0%	2	5.7%	13	37.1%	42.9%	2	5.7%	4	11.4%	17.1%	40.0%
DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	3634	2522	69.4%	462	12.7%	1357	37.3%	50.1%	58	1.6%	645	17.7%	19.3%	30.6%

District Name	Total # Graduates	Total Enrollment		In-State 2 Year		In-State 4 Year		Total % In-State	Out-of-State 2 Year		Out-of-State 4 Year		Total % Out-of-State	% Not Enrolled
		#	%	#	%	#	%		#	%	#	%		
DURANGO 9-R	329	205	62.3%	16	4.9%	126	38.3%	43.2%	11	3.3%	52	15.8%	19.1%	37.7%
EADS RE-1	13	9	69.2%	3	23.1%	4	30.8%	53.8%	1	7.7%	1	7.7%	15.4%	30.8%
EAGLE COUNTY RE 50	362	182	50.3%	56	15.5%	87	24.0%	39.5%	7	1.9%	32	8.8%	10.8%	49.7%
EAST GRAND 2	83	47	56.6%	2	2.4%	24	28.9%	31.3%	3	3.6%	18	21.7%	25.3%	43.4%
EAST OTERO R-1	96	51	53.1%	40	41.7%	6	6.3%	47.9%	3	3.1%	2	2.1%	5.2%	46.9%
EATON RE-2	116	76	65.5%	16	13.8%	42	36.2%	50.0%	4	3.4%	14	12.1%	15.5%	34.5%
EDISON 54 JT	35	22	62.9%	10	28.6%	9	25.7%	54.3%	1	2.9%	2	5.7%	8.6%	37.1%
ELBERT 200	14	6	42.9%	2	14.3%	3	21.4%	35.7%	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	7.1%	57.1%
ELIZABETH C-1	212	123	58.0%	34	16.0%	67	31.6%	47.6%	4	1.9%	18	8.5%	10.4%	42.0%
ELLICOTT 22	44	17	38.6%	5	11.4%	10	22.7%	34.1%	0	0.0%	2	4.5%	4.5%	61.4%
ENGLEWOOD 1	260	82	31.5%	32	12.3%	38	14.6%	26.9%	2	0.8%	10	3.8%	4.6%	68.5%
EXPEDITIONARY BOCES	21	14	66.7%	0	0.0%	12	57.1%	57.1%	0	0.0%	2	9.5%	9.5%	33.3%
FALCON 49	830	423	51.0%	158	19.0%	183	22.0%	41.1%	14	1.7%	68	8.2%	9.9%	49.0%
FLORENCE RE-2	116	54	46.6%	18	15.5%	23	19.8%	35.3%	5	4.3%	8	6.9%	11.2%	53.4%
FORT MORGAN RE-3	187	87	46.5%	57	30.5%	24	12.8%	43.3%	3	1.6%	3	1.6%	3.2%	53.5%
FOUNTAIN 8	341	188	55.1%	54	15.8%	89	26.1%	41.9%	12	3.5%	33	9.7%	13.2%	44.9%
FOWLER R-4J	36	20	55.6%	5	13.9%	10	27.8%	41.7%	0	0.0%	5	13.9%	13.9%	44.4%
FRENCHMAN RE-3	14	11	78.6%	4	28.6%	3	21.4%	50.0%	0	0.0%	4	28.6%	28.6%	21.4%
GARFIELD 16	68	34	50.0%	11	16.2%	15	22.1%	38.2%	0	0.0%	8	11.8%	11.8%	50.0%
GARFIELD RE-2	276	122	44.2%	51	18.5%	54	19.6%	38.0%	3	1.1%	14	5.1%	6.2%	55.8%
GENOA-HUGO C113	12	8	66.7%	3	25.0%	3	25.0%	50.0%	1	8.3%	1	8.3%	16.7%	33.3%
GILPIN COUNTY RE-1	14	9	64.3%	5	35.7%	4	28.6%	64.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	35.7%
GRANADA RE-1	12	5	41.7%	4	33.3%	1	8.3%	41.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	58.3%
GREELEY 6	1273	606	47.6%	246	19.3%	268	21.1%	40.4%	15	1.2%	77	6.0%	7.2%	52.4%
GUNNISON WATERSHED RE1J	117	80	68.4%	3	2.6%	57	48.7%	51.3%	3	2.6%	17	14.5%	17.1%	31.6%
HANOVER 28	12	6	50.0%	3	25.0%	2	16.7%	41.7%	0	0.0%	1	8.3%	8.3%	50.0%
HARRISON 2	481	200	41.6%	84	17.5%	88	18.3%	35.8%	4	0.8%	24	5.0%	5.8%	58.4%
HAXTUN RE-2J	23	16	69.6%	8	34.8%	2	8.7%	43.5%	6	26.1%	0	0.0%	26.1%	30.4%
HAYDEN RE-1	40	23	57.5%	2	5.0%	15	37.5%	42.5%	3	7.5%	3	7.5%	15.0%	42.5%
HINSDALE COUNTY RE 1	4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

District Name	Total # Graduates	Total Enrollment		In-State 2 Year		In-State 4 Year		Total % In-State	Out-of-State 2 Year		Out-of-State 4 Year		Total % Out-of-State	% Not Enrolled
		#	%	#	%	#	%		#	%	#	%		
HI-PLAINS R-23	13	7	53.8%	2	15.4%	3	23.1%	38.5%	1	7.7%	1	7.7%	15.4%	46.2%
HOEHNE REORGANIZED 3	21	19	90.5%	7	33.3%	9	42.9%	76.2%	1	4.8%	2	9.5%	14.3%	9.5%
HOLLY RE-3	21	15	71.4%	6	28.6%	4	19.0%	47.6%	3	14.3%	2	9.5%	23.8%	28.6%
HOLYOKE RE-1J	50	22	44.0%	9	18.0%	7	14.0%	32.0%	0	0.0%	6	12.0%	12.0%	56.0%
HUERFANO RE-1	39	16	41.0%	9	23.1%	4	10.3%	33.3%	2	5.1%	1	2.6%	7.7%	59.0%
IDALIA RJ-3	11	9	81.8%	2	18.2%	7	63.6%	81.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	18.2%
IGNACIO 11 JT	54	16	29.6%	4	7.4%	8	14.8%	22.2%	3	5.6%	1	1.9%	7.4%	70.4%
JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	5919	3837	64.8%	946	16.0%	2203	37.2%	53.2%	72	1.2%	615	10.4%	11.6%	35.2%
JOHNSTOWN-MILLIKEN RE-5J	153	82	53.6%	30	19.6%	37	24.2%	43.8%	5	3.3%	10	6.5%	9.8%	46.4%
JULESBURG RE-1	115	35	30.4%	15	13.0%	2	1.7%	14.8%	10	8.7%	8	7.0%	15.7%	69.6%
KARVAL RE-23	24	6	25.0%	4	16.7%	2	8.3%	25.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	75.0%
KEENESBURG RE-3(J)	138	53	38.4%	25	18.1%	23	16.7%	34.8%	2	1.4%	3	2.2%	3.6%	61.6%
KIM REORGANIZED 88	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
KIOWA C-2	15	10	66.7%	3	20.0%	3	20.0%	40.0%	0	0.0%	4	26.7%	26.7%	33.3%
KIT CARSON R-1	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
LA VETA RE-2	24	18	75.0%	4	16.7%	11	45.8%	62.5%	0	0.0%	3	12.5%	12.5%	25.0%
LAKE COUNTY R-1	76	32	42.1%	21	27.6%	11	14.5%	42.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	57.9%
LAMAR RE-2	102	62	60.8%	38	37.3%	20	19.6%	56.9%	0	0.0%	4	3.9%	3.9%	39.2%
LAS ANIMAS RE-1	36	19	52.8%	12	33.3%	5	13.9%	47.2%	1	2.8%	1	2.8%	5.6%	47.2%
LEWIS-PALMER 38	464	355	76.5%	82	17.7%	183	39.4%	57.1%	8	1.7%	82	17.7%	19.4%	23.5%
LIBERTY J-4	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
LIMON RE-4J	32	24	75.0%	7	21.9%	10	31.3%	53.1%	3	9.4%	4	12.5%	21.9%	25.0%
LITTLETON 6	1307	954	73.0%	139	10.6%	533	40.8%	51.4%	15	1.1%	267	20.4%	21.6%	27.0%
LONE STAR 101	10	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
MANCOS RE-6	30	17	56.7%	2	6.7%	9	30.0%	36.7%	2	6.7%	4	13.3%	20.0%	43.3%
MANITOU SPRINGS 14	126	82	65.1%	15	11.9%	54	42.9%	54.8%	2	1.6%	11	8.7%	10.3%	34.9%
MANZANOLA 3J	13	8	61.5%	2	15.4%	4	30.8%	46.2%	1	7.7%	1	7.7%	15.4%	38.5%
MAPLETON 1	350	134	38.3%	44	12.6%	81	23.1%	35.7%	3	0.9%	6	1.7%	2.6%	61.7%
MC CLAVE RE-2	16	10	62.5%	6	37.5%	2	12.5%	50.0%	0	0.0%	2	12.5%	12.5%	37.5%

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		#	%	#	%	#	%		#	%	#	%		
MEEKER RE1	37	21	56.8%	2	5.4%	8	21.6%	27.0%	1	2.7%	10	27.0%	29.7%	43.2%
MESA COUNTY VALLEY 51	1520	815	53.6%	32	2.1%	669	44.0%	46.1%	22	1.4%	92	6.1%	7.5%	46.4%
MIAMI/YODER 60 JT	27	11	40.7%	4	14.8%	7	25.9%	40.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	59.3%
MOFFAT 2	17	11	64.7%	2	11.8%	7	41.2%	52.9%	1	5.9%	1	5.9%	11.8%	35.3%
MOFFAT COUNTY RE:NO 1	140	69	49.3%	22	15.7%	19	13.6%	29.3%	11	7.9%	17	12.1%	20.0%	50.7%
MONTE VISTA C-8	98	42	42.9%	7	7.1%	31	31.6%	38.8%	0	0.0%	4	4.1%	4.1%	57.1%
MONTEZUMA-CORTEZ RE-1	183	97	53.0%	19	10.4%	50	27.3%	37.7%	6	3.3%	22	12.0%	15.3%	47.0%
MONTROSE COUNTY RE-1J	404	171	42.3%	9	2.2%	124	30.7%	32.9%	9	2.2%	29	7.2%	9.4%	57.7%
MOUNTAIN BOCES	56	6	10.7%	6	10.7%	0	0.0%	10.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	89.3%
MOUNTAIN VALLEY RE 1	10	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
NORTH CONEJOS RE-1J	100	45	45.0%	6	6.0%	32	32.0%	38.0%	0	0.0%	7	7.0%	7.0%	55.0%
NORTH PARK R-1	9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
NORTHGLENN-THORNTON (ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS)	2239	1140	50.9%	383	17.1%	602	26.9%	44.0%	23	1.0%	132	5.9%	6.9%	49.1%
NORWOOD R-2J	14	9	64.3%	1	7.1%	8	57.1%	64.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	35.7%
OTIS R-3	16	13	81.3%	3	18.8%	8	50.0%	68.8%	1	6.3%	1	6.3%	12.5%	18.8%
OURAY R-1	23	15	65.2%	0	0.0%	10	43.5%	43.5%	0	0.0%	5	21.7%	21.7%	34.8%
PARK (ESTES PARK) R-3	85	56	65.9%	8	9.4%	26	30.6%	40.0%	4	4.7%	18	21.2%	25.9%	34.1%
PARK COUNTY RE-2	34	24	70.6%	5	14.7%	14	41.2%	55.9%	4	11.8%	1	2.9%	14.7%	29.4%
PAWNEE RE-12	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
PEYTON 23 JT	58	32	55.2%	8	13.8%	22	37.9%	51.7%	2	3.4%	0	0.0%	3.4%	44.8%
PLAINVIEW RE-2	2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
PLATEAU RE-5	8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
PLATEAU VALLEY 50	101	19	18.8%	1	1.0%	13	12.9%	13.9%	2	2.0%	3	3.0%	5.0%	81.2%
PLATTE CANYON 1	115	72	62.6%	22	19.1%	42	36.5%	55.7%	1	0.9%	7	6.1%	7.0%	37.4%
PLATTE VALLEY RE-3	7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
PLATTE VALLEY RE-7	84	50	59.5%	21	25.0%	15	17.9%	42.9%	8	9.5%	6	7.1%	16.7%	40.5%

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		#	%	#	%	#	%		#	%	#	%		
POUDRE R-1	1866	1187	63.6%	300	16.1%	580	31.1%	47.2%	34	1.8%	273	14.6%	16.5%	36.4%
PRAIRIE RE-11	11	10	90.9%	4	36.4%	2	18.2%	54.5%	1	9.1%	3	27.3%	36.4%	9.1%
PRIMERO REORGANIZED 2	17	8	47.1%	3	17.6%	4	23.5%	41.2%	0	0.0%	1	5.9%	5.9%	52.9%
PRITCHETT RE-3	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
PUEBLO CITY 60	1085	619	57.1%	225	20.7%	365	33.6%	54.4%	5	0.5%	24	2.2%	2.7%	42.9%
PUEBLO COUNTY RURAL 70	541	337	62.3%	114	21.1%	193	35.7%	56.7%	5	0.9%	25	4.6%	5.5%	37.7%
RANGELY RE-4	37	20	54.1%	11	29.7%	5	13.5%	43.2%	2	5.4%	2	5.4%	10.8%	45.9%
RIDGWAY R-2	30	18	60.0%	3	10.0%	7	23.3%	33.3%	0	0.0%	8	26.7%	26.7%	40.0%
ROARING FORK RE-1	337	193	57.3%	65	19.3%	92	27.3%	46.6%	5	1.5%	31	9.2%	10.7%	42.7%
ROCKY FORD R-2	43	27	62.8%	18	41.9%	9	20.9%	62.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	37.2%
SALIDA R-32	88	52	59.1%	3	3.4%	39	44.3%	47.7%	4	4.5%	6	6.8%	11.4%	40.9%
SANFORD 6J	20	11	55.0%	1	5.0%	6	30.0%	35.0%	0	0.0%	4	20.0%	20.0%	45.0%
SANGRE DE CRISTO RE- 22J	16	12	75.0%	3	18.8%	8	50.0%	68.8%	0	0.0%	1	6.3%	6.3%	25.0%
SARGENT RE-33J	32	28	87.5%	5	15.6%	18	56.3%	71.9%	2	6.3%	3	9.4%	15.6%	12.5%
SHERIDAN 2	96	31	32.3%	19	19.8%	12	12.5%	32.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	67.7%
SIERRA GRANDE R-30	14	8	57.1%	1	7.1%	7	50.0%	57.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	42.9%
SOUTH CONEJOS RE-10	23	11	47.8%	1	4.3%	10	43.5%	47.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	52.2%
SOUTH ROUTT RE 3	30	15	50.0%	6	20.0%	8	26.7%	46.7%	1	3.3%	0	0.0%	3.3%	50.0%
SPRINGFIELD RE-4	18	7	38.9%	1	5.6%	2	11.1%	16.7%	0	0.0%	4	22.2%	22.2%	61.1%
ST VRAIN VALLEY RE 1J	1632	968	59.3%	225	13.8%	537	32.9%	46.7%	28	1.7%	178	10.9%	12.6%	40.7%
STEAMBOAT SPRINGS RE-2	166	117	70.5%	25	15.1%	61	36.7%	51.8%	1	0.6%	30	18.1%	18.7%	29.5%
STRASBURG 31J	75	47	62.7%	9	12.0%	24	32.0%	44.0%	2	2.7%	12	16.0%	18.7%	37.3%
STRATTON R-4	22	13	59.1%	2	9.1%	7	31.8%	40.9%	4	18.2%	0	0.0%	18.2%	40.9%
SUMMIT RE-1	199	137	68.8%	33	16.6%	70	35.2%	51.8%	2	1.0%	32	16.1%	17.1%	31.2%
SWINK 33	29	25	86.2%	15	51.7%	8	27.6%	79.3%	0	0.0%	2	6.9%	6.9%	13.8%
TELLURIDE R-1	35	20	57.1%	1	2.9%	7	20.0%	22.9%	0	0.0%	12	34.3%	34.3%	42.9%
THOMPSON R-2J	1101	614	55.8%	214	19.4%	266	24.2%	43.6%	27	2.5%	107	9.7%	12.2%	44.2%
TRINIDAD 1	98	52	53.1%	35	35.7%	10	10.2%	45.9%	2	2.0%	5	5.1%	7.1%	46.9%

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VALLEY RE-1	167	113	67.7%	72	43.1%	22	13.2%	56.3%	6	3.6%	13	7.8%	11.4%	32.3%
VILAS RE-5	53	11	20.8%	6	11.3%	2	3.8%	15.1%	2	3.8%	1	1.9%	5.7%	79.2%
WALSH RE-1	15	9	60.0%	1	6.7%	3	20.0%	26.7%	2	13.3%	3	20.0%	33.3%	40.0%
WELD COUNTY RE-1	136	65	47.8%	29	21.3%	30	22.1%	43.4%	1	0.7%	5	3.7%	4.4%	52.2%
WELD COUNTY S/D RE-8	152	60	39.5%	26	17.1%	23	15.1%	32.2%	4	2.6%	7	4.6%	7.2%	60.5%
WELDON VALLEY RE-20(J)	12	7	58.3%	3	25.0%	3	25.0%	50.0%	0	0.0%	1	8.3%	8.3%	41.7%
WEST END RE-2	20	4	20.0%	0	0.0%	4	20.0%	20.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	80.0%
WEST GRAND 1-JT.	24	17	70.8%	6	25.0%	9	37.5%	62.5%	2	8.3%	0	0.0%	8.3%	29.2%
WESTMINSTER 50	458	179	39.1%	63	13.8%	105	22.9%	36.7%	3	0.7%	8	1.7%	2.4%	60.9%
WIDFIELD 3	598	289	48.3%	105	17.6%	143	23.9%	41.5%	5	0.8%	36	6.0%	6.9%	51.7%
WIGGINS RE-50(J)	29	18	62.1%	5	17.2%	6	20.7%	37.9%	1	3.4%	6	20.7%	24.1%	37.9%
WILEY RE-13 JT	13	11	84.6%	8	61.5%	2	15.4%	76.9%	0	0.0%	1	7.7%	7.7%	15.4%
WINDSOR RE-4	235	157	66.8%	51	21.7%	70	29.8%	51.5%	8	3.4%	28	11.9%	15.3%	33.2%
WOODLAND PARK RE-2	210	110	52.4%	31	14.8%	61	29.0%	43.8%	1	0.5%	17	8.1%	8.6%	47.6%
WOODLIN R-104	7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
WRAY RD-2	48	26	54.2%	5	10.4%	10	20.8%	31.3%	3	6.3%	8	16.7%	22.9%	45.8%
YUMA 1	62	30	48.4%	11	17.7%	9	14.5%	32.3%	3	4.8%	7	11.3%	16.1%	51.6%

APPENDIX B: TECHNICAL INFORMATION

METHODOLOGY AND DATA

The nature of this report requires data from both the DHE and the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). Data between these two state agencies began to be connected with the introduction of the State Assigned Student ID (SASID). Because of this linkage requirement, data are currently available dating back to the 2009 high school graduating class. The academic years referred to in the report coincide with the following fall entry into college of the high school graduates. For example, the 2011 high school graduates tracked in this report enrolled in college in fall 2011. Please note last year's report calculated college matriculation by considering high school graduates who enrolled in college within 18 months of graduating. This year's report calculates college matriculation based upon those students who enrolled in college in the fall immediately following high school graduation. Therefore, the overall college matriculation rate from the 2011 Postsecondary Progress and Success of High School Graduates report cannot be compared to the 2012 report.

Numerous national organizations, such as the National Center for Higher Education Management Statistics, and several states, including Tennessee, Texas, and West Virginia, follow a 6 month reporting period to define college-going rates. The majority of students who attend college do so immediately following high school graduation. The college going-rate, therefore, can be seen as an indicator of both the accessibility of and the value of college. Upon high school graduation, students are confronted with several choices including attending college, entering the workforce, or joining the military. Measuring how many students choose to enroll immediately in college reflects how attending college ranks among other post-high school options. Further, looking at college-going rates for different ethnic/racial groups and for low-income students can provide insight into college access issues.

Data Collection: Data were collected through the DHE Student Unit Record Data System (SURDS), and SASIDs were obtained from CDE. Additionally, data from the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) were linked to provide out-of-state enrollment information, as well as information on private institutions in Colorado not included in SURDS.

- **Report Format:** The report presents information in three parts:
 1. Postsecondary enrollment trends, including information on in-state and out-of-state enrollment and institution type, disaggregated by ethnicity and gender.

2. Information on first-year college students in Colorado, including financial aid status, average grade point average, credit accumulation and degree level, disaggregated by ethnicity and gender.
 3. First year retention rates.
- **Data Limitations:** Data in part two of the report are limited to schools included in SURDS (i.e., all public Colorado colleges and universities, plus Colorado Christian University, Regis University, and the University of Denver). Future reports will be able to track college matriculation in Colorado into an additional 50 degree granting private institutions.