



Austin Independent School District

Department of Program Evaluation

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POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT SUMMARY REPORT: CLASSES OF 2002-2007

INTRODUCTION

This report is an update of the 2007 AISD report titled “Postsecondary Enrollment Summary Report: Classes of 2002-2006.” Student-level enrollment records from the National Student Clearinghouse were the primary data source used to analyze postsecondary enrollment of AISD graduates. These data were supplemented by individual-level enrollment counts at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of North Texas that were provided by the Ray Marshall Center. Enrollment rates were calculated for AISD by high school campus. These results can help district administrators understand how effectively the district is preparing its students for postsecondary education, and help them identify specific areas where additional support is needed.

METHODOLOGY

The data used to calculate postsecondary enrollment rates came from two sources: the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) and the Ray Marshall Center (RMC). The NSC is a non-profit organization that helps school districts evaluate postsecondary programs by providing verified postsecondary enrollment data of 91% of all U.S. college students enrolled in more than 3,100 colleges. Founded in 1970, the RMC is a public policy research institute that is a research arm of the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin.

Of the three data sources, the NSC is the most comprehensive. The NSC uses multiple components of a student’s record to locate the student (e.g., social security number, last name, first name, middle name, birth date), and tracks every semester of enrollment. However, the NSC data are limited by the fact that a few large institutions often attended by AISD graduates do not participate in their tracking system.

The RMC data are used to supplement the postsecondary enrollment data that the NSC is unable to provide. Specifically, these data include postsecondary enrollment for the University of Texas at Austin and the University of North Texas. The RMC data for the University of Texas at Austin substitutes the enrollment data that has, historically, been provided by the Texas Higher

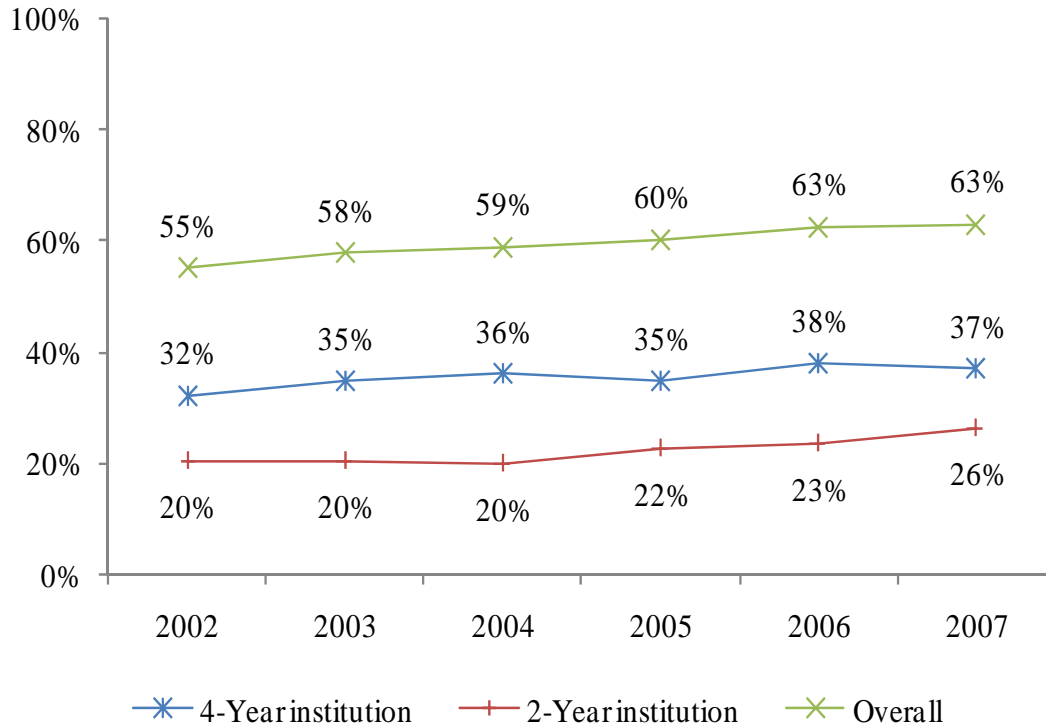
Education Coordinating Board (THECB). The THECB data, however, were somewhat incomplete because they included only those students who attended any Texas college during the fall semester and had valid social security numbers when they graduated from high school. The RMC and the NSC data resolve this omission by providing unique enrollment data for all students for both the fall and spring semesters. A more complete and detailed account of the data preparation process will be appended to the final report.

RESULTS

First, the districtwide postsecondary enrollment rates for each of the past five graduating classes were examined (Figure 1). In Figure 1, there is a trend line that indicates the steady increase in the overall postsecondary enrollment rate since the class of 2002, rising from 55.0% to 63% for the class of 2007. These rates include enrollment in any kind of postsecondary institution in either the fall or spring semester following graduation. Students who enrolled in more than one type of institution in that period are not double-counted (eg. students concurrently enrolled in a two-year and four-year institution are counted as enrolled in a four-year institution).

There also were changes in enrollment rates associated with the two most common postsecondary education choices of AISD graduates: four-year colleges and ACC. Enrollment in four-year colleges has increased considerably, rising from 32.2% for the class of 2002 to 37.0% for the class of 2007. The two-year enrollment rate increase from the class of 2006 to the class of 2007 was 3 percentage points, which is the largest one-year gain in the periods reported.

Figure 1. Postsecondary Enrollment Rates by Graduating Class



Sources. National Student Clearinghouse, the Ray Marshall Center, prepared by the Department of Program Evaluation, June 2008

Note. The enrollment rate calculations by institution type for the class of 2007 reflect unique, non-concurrent enrollments in a 2-year and 4-year institution. As opposed to previous years, the 2-year enrollment rate uses students enrolled uniquely in a 2-year institution in the numerator, as opposed to those concurrently enrolled in a 2-year and 4-year institution.

District enrollment counts and percentages for the past six years were disaggregated by semester and by in-state/out-of-state status (Table 1). Since 2002, fewer students have been waiting to enroll in the spring semester as compared to enrolling in the fall. However, this trend reversed in 2007. Additionally, there has been a slight increase in students attending college outside of Texas since 2002, from 5.8% in 2002 to 7.46% in 2007.

Table 1. Postsecondary Enrollment Counts and Percentages by Year, Semester, and In-State/Out-of-State Status, Classes 2002-2007

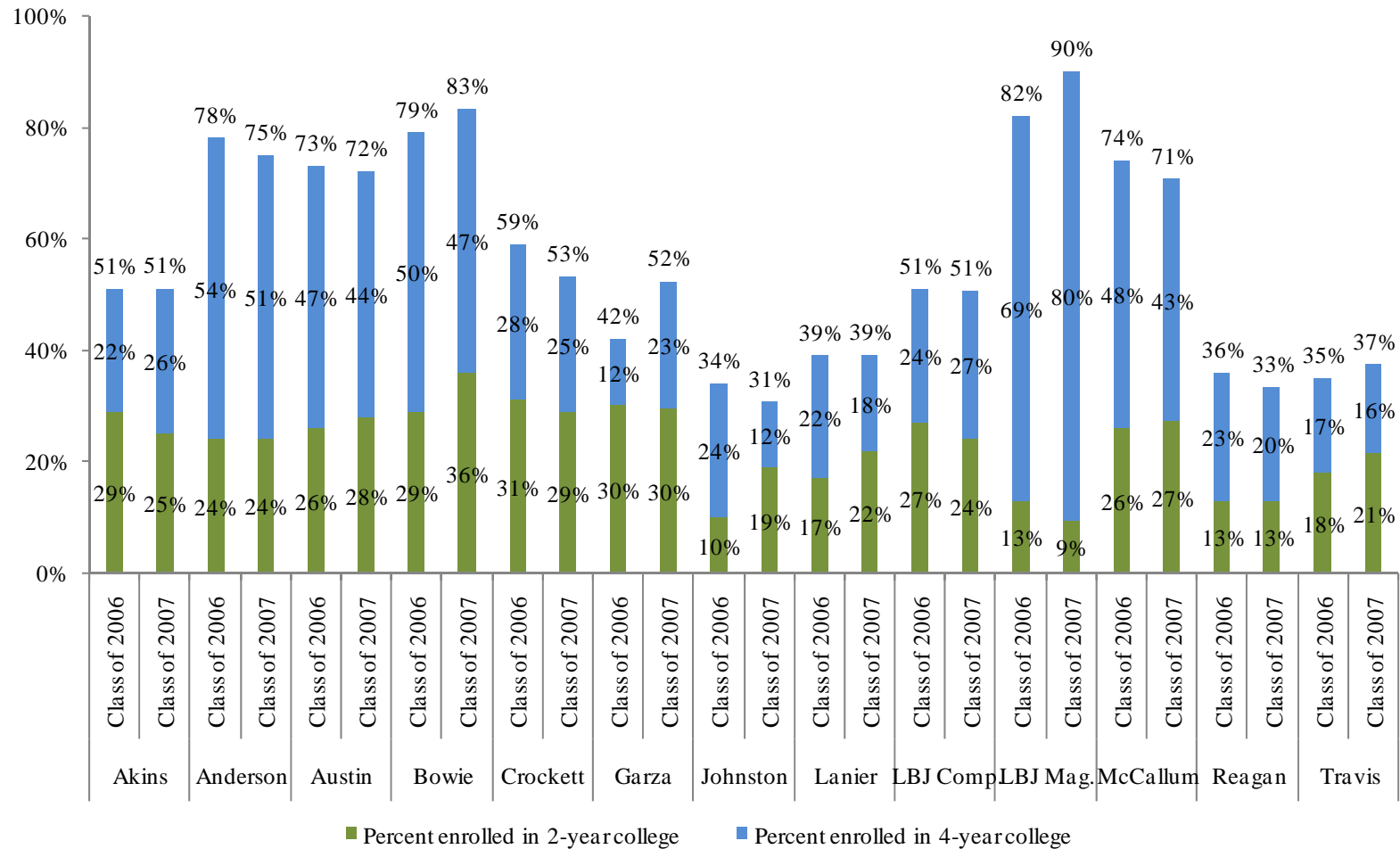
	Enrolled		Enrolled		Total Enrolled	Percent of AISD Grads
	In-State Number	Percent	Out-of-State Number	Percent		
Class of 2002 (3,705)						
Fall 2002	1,618	43.70%	209	5.60%	1,827	49.30%
Spring 2003 (initial)	205	5.50%	7	0.20%	212	5.70%
Total	1,823	49.20%	216	5.80%	2,039	55.00%
Class of 2003 (3,861)						
Fall 2003	1,799	45.80%	234	6.10%	2,033	51.90%
Spring 2004 (initial)	181	4.70%	12	0.30%	193	5.00%
Total	1,980	47.50%	246	6.40%	2,226	57.70%
Class of 2004 (3,733)						
Fall 2004	1,809	48.50%	234	6.30%	2,043	54.70%
Spring 2005 (initial)*	154	4.10%	4	0.10%	158	4.20%
Total	1,963	52.60%	238	6.40%	2,201	59.00%
Class of 2005 (3,744)						
Fall 2005	1,856	49.60%	249	6.70%	2,105	56.20%
Spring 2006 (initial)*	142	3.80%	7	0.20%	149	4.00%
Total	1,998	53.40%	256	6.80%	2,254	60.20%
Class of 2006 (3,862)						
Fall 2006	1,985	51.40%	293	7.60%	2,278	59.00%
Spring 2007 (initial)*	131	3.40%	9	0.20%	140	3.60%
Total	2,116	54.80%	302	7.80%	2,418	62.60%
Class of 2007 (3,595)						
Fall 2007	1,848	51.41%	263	7.32%	2,111	58.72%
Spring 2008 (initial)*	151	4.20%	5	0.14%	156	4.34%
Total	1,999	55.61%	268	7.46%	2,267	63.06%

Sources: National Student Clearinghouse, the Ray Marshall Center, June 2008, prepared by the Department of Program Evaluation

Notes. All spring enrollment counts represent “initial” enrollment in the spring semester. These account for enrollees who did not take courses in the fall semester.

District-wide postsecondary enrollment rates for the classes of 2006 and 2007 were disaggregated by high school campus for both four-year and two-year college enrollment (Figure 2). Consistent with the class of 2006, the schools with the lowest postsecondary enrollment rates had the highest percentages of economically disadvantaged students in their graduating class. Johnston, Reagan, Travis, and Lanier each had less than 40% of their students enrolled in a postsecondary institution, and at least 66% of their graduating classes were classified as economically disadvantaged. Alternatively, the schools with the highest percentages of college-bound students had the lowest percentages of economically disadvantaged students. Austin, Anderson, Bowie, McCallum, and LBJ-Magnet had between 5%-22% of their graduates classified as economically disadvantaged and at least 71% of their graduates enrolled in postsecondary institutions.

Figure 2. Postsecondary Enrollment Rates by High School for the Graduating Classes of 2006-2007

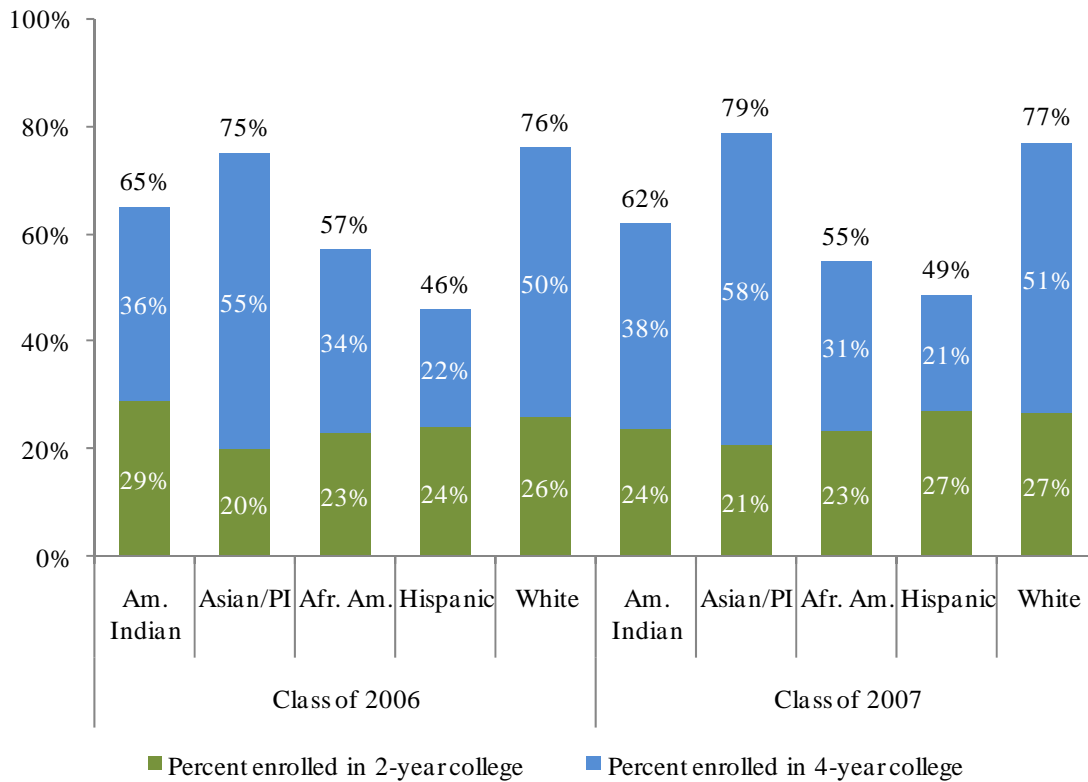


Sources. National Student Clearinghouse, the Ray Marshall Center prepared by the Department of Program Evaluation, June 2008

Note. Two-year and four-year college enrollment percentages may not sum to total column percentages due to rounding.

The postsecondary enrollment rates for the classes of 2006 and 2007 also are presented by race/ethnicity, economic disadvantage, and gender (Figures 3 and 4). The two student groups with the highest enrollment rates in 2007 were Asian/Pacific Islander (79%) and White (77%) students. Both groups experienced a modest increase in postsecondary enrollment rates from 2006 (4 percentage points and 1 percentage point, respectively).

Figure 3. Postsecondary Enrollment Rates by Race/Ethnicity, Classes of 2006 and 2007

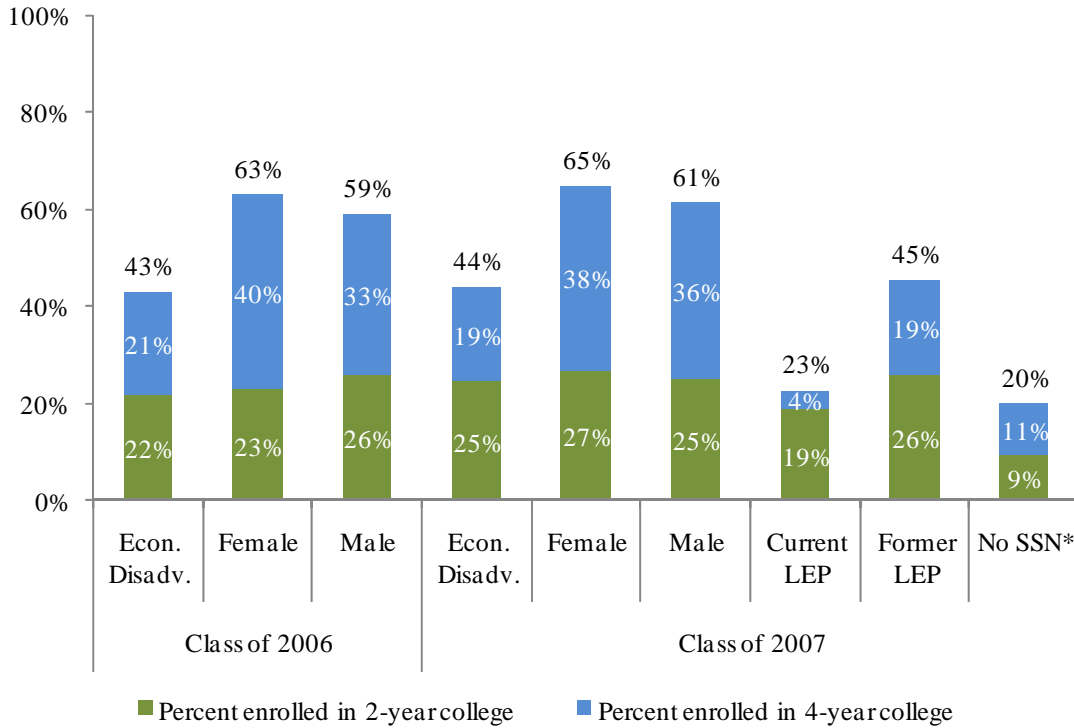


Sources. National Student Clearinghouse, the Ray Marshall Center, prepared by the Department of Program Evaluation, June 2008

Note. Students who were concurrently enrolled in a 2-year and 4-year college were classified only as 4-year college enrollees and do not count toward the "Percent enrolled in 2-year college" percentages.

Economically disadvantaged students' (Figure 4) postsecondary enrollment rates remained low compared to other groups despite the 1 percentage point increase from 2006. Females enrolled in postsecondary institutions at a slightly higher rate (65%) than did males (61%). This gap was present in the class of 2006, as well. The class of 2007 postsecondary enrollment rates are displayed for three additional student segments: current and former limited English proficiency students and Hispanic students without a reported social security number.

Figure 4. Postsecondary Enrollment Rates by Economic Disadvantage, Gender, and Limited English Proficiency (LEP), Class of 2006 and 2007



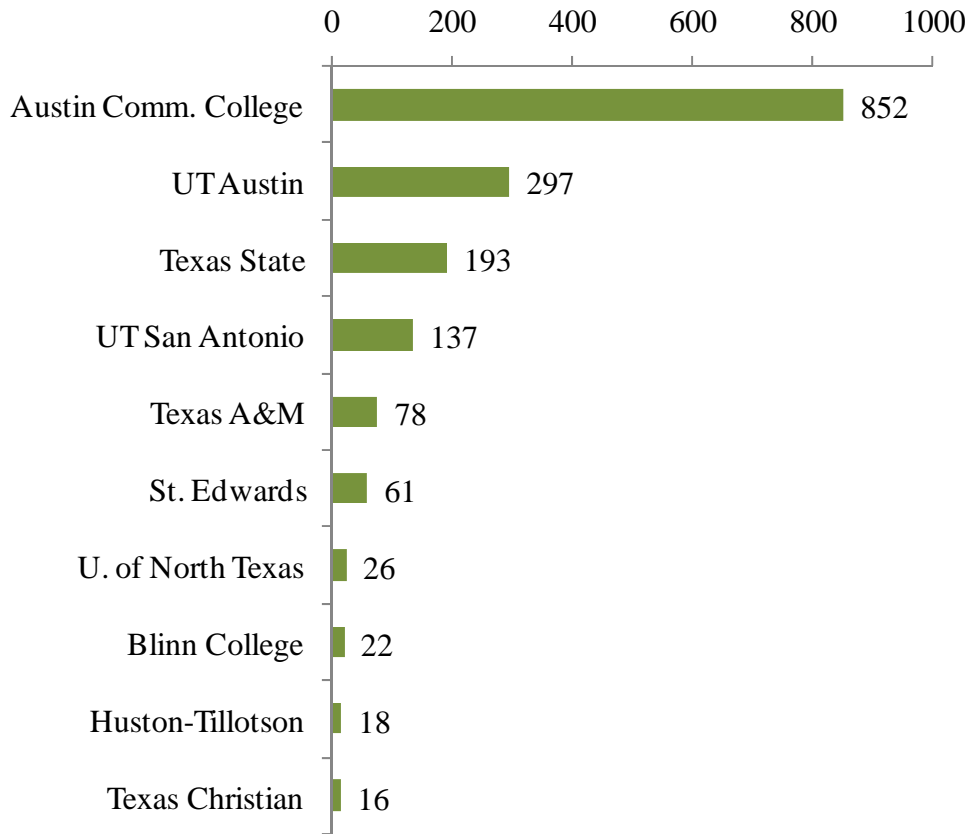
Sources. National Student Clearinghouse, the Ray Marshall Center, prepared by the Department of Program Evaluation, June 2008

Note. Students who were concurrently enrolled in a 2-year and 4-year college were classified only as 4-year college enrollees and do not count toward the "Percent enrolled in 2-year college" percentages.

* Denotes Hispanic student without reported Social Security Number.

To identify the most common postsecondary destinations for AISD graduates in 2007-2008, the top ten colleges with their enrollment counts are displayed (Figure 5). ACC, with 852 enrollees, had more students enrolled from the class of 2007 than the next ten most popular colleges combined. Approximately 59% of college enrollees remained in the Austin/San Marcos area and attended either ACC, the University of Texas at Austin, Texas State University, or St. Edward's University.

Figure 5. Ten Most Common Colleges Attended by Graduating Class of 2007



Sources. National Student Clearinghouse, the Ray Marshall Center, prepared by the Department of Program Evaluation, June 2008

Note. Enrollment counts are non-concurrent, unique institution enrollments.

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