

General Facts about college-going

- Bachelor's degree holders earn approximately \$21,000 more annually than high school graduates. *Vincent Tinto, July 2004, Student Retention and Graduation: Facing the Truth, Living with the Consequences. Pell Institute, Occasional Paper No.1.*
- In today's dollars, bachelor's degree recipients can expect to earn about \$1 million more during their working careers than high school graduates. *Vincent Tinto, July 2004, Student Retention and Graduation: Facing the Truth, Living with the Consequences. Pell Institute, Occasional Paper No.1.*
- 29% of Whites, 17% of Blacks, and 11% of Hispanics over 25 years of age have a bachelor's degree. *Digest of Education Statistics, 2003, US Department of Education.*
- More than 90 percent of students from the top two income quartiles graduate from high school, compared to 65 percent of those from the bottom quartile. *AAC&U News, Facts and Figures, March 2004*
- Students from families in the lowest 20 percent of all incomes were five times as likely as their peers from families in the top 20 percent of the income distribution to drop out of high school (11 percent vs. 2 percent). *National Center for Education Statistics, Dropout Rates in the United States: 1999*
- In 2001, 15.9 million students were enrolled in higher education, compared to 11 million in 1975. *Digest of Education Statistics, 2003, US Department of Education*
- In 2000, 82 percent of high school graduates in the top income quartile enrolled in college, while only 57 percent of students from the bottom quartile did so. *AAC&U News, Facts and Figures, March 2004*
- Forty percent of low-income postsecondary education students attend a public two-year institution. *Choice of Institution: Changing Student Attendance Patterns in the 1990s, American Council on Education, Center for Policy Analysis, 2004*
- Students from the top income quartile take 74% of the slots at top-tier colleges, while students from the bottom income quartile take 3%. *Socioeconomic Status, Race/Ethnicity, and Selective College Admissions, Century Foundation, 2003*
- The median annual income in 2001 was \$35,000 for those with a high school degree, \$56,000 for those with a bachelor's degree, \$71,000 for those with a master's degree, and \$100,000 for those with a professional degree. *Digest of Education Statistics, 2003, US Department of Education*
- Approximately 30 percent of community college students ultimately transfer to a four-year institution. *The New Expeditions Project, 2000, American Association of Community Colleges*
- Approximately 39 percent of undergraduates in postsecondary education attend a two-year, degree-granting institution. *Digest of Education Statistics, 2003*
- Approximately 61 percent of undergraduates in postsecondary education attend a four-year, degree-granting institution. Of these students, 64% are enrolled in a public institution. *Digest of Education Statistics, 2003.*

Financial Aid and Resources

- Estimated annual costs for undergraduate tuition, room, and board were estimated to be \$8,556 at four-year public colleges and \$23,503 at four-year private colleges. *Digest of Education Statistics, 2003*
- A high-income student with a low GPA is more likely than a low-income student with a high GPA to go to college. *Kahlenberg (Ed.) (2004). America's Untapped Resource: Low-Income Students in Higher Education. The Century Foundation.*
- Low-income students are roughly 50 percent more likely to enroll in postsecondary education than three decades ago. *Digest of Education Statistics, 2003, US Department of Education*
- In the 2003-2004 school year, tuition increased 13% while inflation was only 3%. *Archibald, R.B. and Feldman, D.H. (October, 26, 2004). Making College Accessible. Washington Post.*
- 48 states are graded a "C-" or below in providing affordable college tuition rates. *Measuring Up: The National Report Card on Higher Education. Available online: www.highereducation.org. Retrieved October 30, 2004.*
- Students and parents substantially overestimate college costs, especially for public institutions. *U.S. Department of Education. National Center for Education Statistics, Youth Survey and Parent Survey of the 1999 National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES: 1999).*
- In 2003, the average Pell Grant covered 23 percent of the average costs at a public university, down from 35 percent in 1980. *The College Board, Trends in College Pricing 2004.*
- High-income students are six times as likely to graduate within five years with a bachelor's degree than low-income students. "College Admission and Student Success Still Tied to Income," *Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education, 2004.*
- More than 50 percent of high-income students receive a bachelor's degree in five years, compared to 6 percent of low-income students. *Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education, 2004.*
- The cost of attending a four-year university was about 60 percent of the annual family income for students from the lowest income quartile, and about 5 percent of the annual family income for students from the highest income quartile. *College Board, 2002.*
- State spending on higher education was 34 percent of the operating support for public colleges and universities in 2000, down from 46 percent in 1980. *American Council on Education, 2003.*
- For public colleges and universities, tuition as a source of revenue was 18 percent in 2000. *American Council on Education, 2003.*

Undocumented students

- College-ready undocumented students do not apply to college because it is economically inaccessible. *Schaiberg, L. (1995). College-bound: Undocumented students on uncertain path. Education Week, April 5th.*

- Each year 50,000-65,000 undocumented students graduate from U.S. high schools. *National Immigration Law Center*
- Undocumented students do not take advantage of state policies that would allow them to pay in-state tuition because they are not aware of them or still view college as financially inaccessible due their ineligibility for financial aid. *Fischer, K. (2004). Illegal immigrants rarely use hard-won tuition break. The Chronicle of Higher Education, 15.*

Foster Care

- 50% of foster youth in the U.S. graduate from high school compared to 85% of youth overall. *Hamm, D. (2004). Foster youth receive federal funding for college and vocational training. Youth Law News, xxv (1). Retrieved December 9, 2004 from: www.youthlaw.org.*
- There are about 29,000 foster youth, ages 14-18, in California's foster care system. *AmeriCorps Foster Youth Mentoring Project. Retrieved December 9, 2004 from: http://216.239.63.104/search?q=cache:wJ0ylnxOyYJ:www.cccco.edu/divisions/ss/ameriCorps/attachments/fact_sheet_fymp.pdf+foster+youth+and+college&hl=en*
- 45% emancipated foster youth in Los Angeles are homeless within one year. *Foster Youth Mentoring Project Retrieved December 9, 2004 from: http://www.cccco.edu/divisions/ss/ameriCorps/foster_youth_mentor.htm*
- Through the Chafee Grant program, current and former foster youth can receive up to \$5,000 a year to attend college or vocational training. *California Student Aid Commission, California Chafee Grant Program. Retrieved December 9, 2004 from: <http://www.chafee.csac.ca.gov/>.*

Homeless Youth

- In 2000, there were 1.37 million homeless youth in the US. *The Urban Institute. (2000). A New Look at Homelessness in America. Retrieved on February 1, 2005, from: www.urban.org.*
- In 2004, there were 15,000 homeless/runaway youth in Los Angeles. *Tepper, P. (2004). Homelessness in Los Angeles: A Summary of Recent Research. Institute for the Study of Homelessness & Poverty. Retrieved on October 3 2004, from: www.weingart.org/institute.*
- There are 8,350 homeless youth in the Los Angeles Unified School District. *Tepper, P. (2004). Homelessness in Los Angeles: A Summary of Recent Research. Institute for the Study of Homelessness & Poverty. Retrieved on October 3 2004, from: www.weingart.org/institute.*