Second Annual Release of the
Indicators of Higher Education Equity
in the United States:
2016 Historical Trend Report and the
Search for Solutions—Shared Dialogues

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Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Overview of *Indicators*
3. Discussion of dialogue questions
4. Report out
5. Next Steps
Purposes of Report and Dialogues

- Report on progress and provide tool for monitoring progress
- Identify policies and practices needed to improve equity
- Engage multiple stakeholders in shared dialogue

Article 13(2)(c) of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 1966 [Adopted and proclaimed by UN General Assembly resolution 217 A (iii)] provides—“Higher education shall be made equally accessible to all, on the basis of capacity, by every appropriate means, and in particular by the progressive introduction of free education.”
Shared-Solutions: 2016 Essays

• *Reducing the Stratification of College “Choice”*
  By Laura Perna and Roman Ruiz

• *Eight Proposals to Help Inform Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act with a Focus on Financial Aid*
  By Tom Mortenson

• *Is Higher Education a Human Right or a Competitive Investment Commodity?*
  By Margaret Cahalan, Khadish Franklin, and Mika Yamashita
The Equity Indicators

1. Who enrolls in postsecondary education?
2. What type of institution do students attend?
3. Does financial aid eliminate financial barriers?
4. How do students pay for college?
5. Does bachelor’s degree attainment vary by family characteristics?
6. How do attainment rates in U.S. compare with other nations?
Equity Indicator 1b: High School Graduates College Continuation Rates by family income quartile: 1970 to 2014
Equity Indicator 1d: High School Graduates College Continuation Rates by race/ethnicity: 1976 to 2014

- **Asian**: 84% (2014), 86% (2020)
- **Black**: 45% (1970), 71% (2020)
- **Hispanic, non-Hispanic**: 53% (1970), 65% (2020)
- **White non-Hispanic**: 49% (1970), 68% (2020)
Equity Indicator 1f: Percentage of young adults who reported no postsecondary enrollment within 8 or 10 years of expected high school graduation by parents' socioeconomic status (SES): high school longitudinal studies (HS&B: 1980/1992; NELS: 1988/2000; ELS: 2002/2012)
Equity Indicator 2a: Distribution of full-time, first-time degree-seeking undergraduate students who did and did not receive Federal Grants (Pell or other Federal Grants) by level of institutions attended: 2001, 2007, 2013

- **2013**
  - No Federal Grant: 75% 25%
  - Pell or Other Federal Grant: 56% 44%

- **2007**
  - No Federal Grant: 73% 27%
  - Pell or Other Federal Grant: 57% 43%

- **2001**
  - No Federal Grant: 70% 30%
  - Pell or Other Federal Grant: 57% 43%

Legend:
- 4-year
- 2-year
Equity Indicator 2e: Percent of full-time, first-time degree/certificate seeking undergraduate students receiving Pell or other Federal Grants by institutional selectivity: 2000 to 2013

- Private For-Profit (all levels), 74%
- 2yr or Less (public & private, non-profit), 61%
- Not Ranked 4yr (public & private, non-profit), 55%
- Less Competitive, 51%
- Competitive, 42%
- Very Competitive, 30%
- Highly Competitive, 19%
- Most Competitive, 15%
Equity Indicator 3a: Average undergraduate tuition and fees, and room and board rates charged for full-time students in degree-granting postsecondary institutions by level and control: 1974-75 to 2012-13 (in constant 2012 dollars)
Equity Indicator 3b (ii): Percent of average college cost covered by maximum Pell Grant: 1974-75 to 2012-13
Equity Indicator 4a: Distribution of higher education funding responsibilities: 1954 to 2014

- State/Local Expenditures, 1975, 58%
- Personal Consumption Expenditures, 2014, 51%
- Personal Consumption Expenditures, 1980, 33%
- State/Local Expenditures, 2014, 37%
- Federal Government Expenditures, 2014, 12%
- Federal Government Expenditures, 1974, 6%
Equity Indicator 4b (ii): Average Net Price as a percent of average family income by income quartile: 1990 to 2012
Equity Indicator 5a: Distribution by family income quartile of dependent family members age 18 to 24 who attained a bachelor’s degree by age 24: 1970 to 2014

Figure reads: of those dependent family members reporting attaining a bachelor's degree by age 24 in 2014, 54 percent were in the top quartile of family income and 10 percent were in the bottom quartile.
Indicator 5b: Percent of youth attaining a bachelor’s degree or higher within 8 or 10 years of expected high school graduation by socioeconomic status (SES) quartile: HS&B 1980 tenth graders, NELS 1988 eighth graders, and ELS 2002 tenth graders

- **Top SES Quartile**: ELS 60%, NELS 62%, HS&B 52%
- **Third SES Quartile**: ELS 37%, NELS 32%, HS&B 27%
- **Second SES Quartile**: ELS 22%, NELS 19%, HS&B 15%
- **Bottom SES Quartile**: ELS 15%, NELS 8%, HS&B 7%
Indicator 5d: Percentage distributions by race/ethnicity of bachelor’s degrees conferred by postsecondary institutions and of the civilian population: 1980 and 2013

**1980 Civilian Population**
- Black: 12%
- Hispanic: 6%
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 1%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 2%
- Two or more races*: 0%
- White non-Hispanic: 80%

**2013 Civilian Population**
- Black: 18%
- Hispanic: 13%
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 1%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 2%
- Two or more races*: 0%
- White non-Hispanic: 62%

**1980 Bachelor’s Degrees Conferred**
- Black: 2%
- Hispanic: 1%
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 2%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 1%
- Two or more races*: 0%
- White non-Hispanic: 89%

**2013 Bachelor’s Degrees Conferred**
- Black: 7%
- Hispanic: 11%
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 1%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 2%
- Two or more races*: 0%
- White non-Hispanic: 69%
Equity Indicator 6a: Percent of 25- to 34-year-olds with a Type A (bachelor’s or equivalent or above) tertiary degree: 2000 and 2014

- Russian Federation*: 58% (2000), 46% (2014)
- Lithuania**: 52% (2000), 16% (2014)
- Switzerland 45%, 16%
- Korea 44%, 17%
- Belgium 43%, 15%
- Luxembourg 42%, 15%
- Poland 43%, 15%
- Netherlands 41%, 21%
- United Kingdom 40%, 18%
- Finland 39%, 20%
- Ireland 39%
- Estonia 38%, 24%
- Australia 38%, 11%
- Denmark 38%, 21%
- Iceland 37%, 17%
- Greece 37%, 17%
- New Zealand 36%, 20%
- Sweden 35%, 30%
- United States 35%, 32%
- Norway* 35%, 30%
- Japan 35%, 24%
- Israel 35%
- Latvia 35%
- Canada 33%, 25%
- Slovenia 32%
- Portugal 31%, 11%
- Czech Republic 30%, 11%
- Slovak Republic 30%
- Hungary 29%, 15%
- Spain 28%, 24%
- Germany 28%, 14%
- Colombia 28%
- Spain 27%, 18%
- Saudi Arabia 26%
- Italy 24%, 12%
- Mexico 24%, 15%
- Austria 21%, 7%
- Costa Rica 19%, 19%
- Chile 19%
- Turkey 18%, 10%
- Brazil 15%
- Indonesia 10%
- South Africa 5%
Equity Indicator 6b: Percent of 25- to 34-year olds with a Type A (bachelor’s or equivalent) or Type B (Short Cycle) tertiary degree: 2000 and 2014
Table Dialogue Questions

1. What do you think are the top 3 changes needed to improve equity in higher education in the U.S.?

2. Why have we (as a nation) made so little progress in closing the gaps in higher education attainment? What are the biggest hurdles to creating change?

3. How do we best communicate information about equity in higher education? How can we encourage more attention among the higher education research and policy community to questions of poverty, equity, and mobility?

4. What should the next generation of equity research and evaluation look like? Lessons learned from past attempts?

5. What are the possibilities for practitioners, government, and academics to partner in achieving needed changes?
Next Steps

Continue the shared dialogue
  • Reflections on today’s discussion
Continue to track trends in higher education equity
  • Third edition of this publication
  • Focus of subsequent editions