



2018

HIGH SCHOOL REPORT CARD





ABOUT THIS REPORT

Arizona Revised Statute §15-1822 requires the universities to develop annual reports on the performance of the previous year's Arizona high school graduates during their first year at an Arizona public university. Aggregate data is provided by the Arizona Board of Regents' Academic Affairs and Educational Attainment Committee as part of the board's review of Arizona high school graduate preparedness for college-level coursework.

An individual report card is produced for each Arizona public high school. These report cards are designed for and distributed to Arizona's high schools through the Arizona Department of Education to help ensure that their graduates are ready for success in postsecondary education. Arizona community colleges produce similar reports for their students.

Student data captured in the High School Report Card is limited to Arizona resident undergraduate students who graduated from an Arizona high school the previous year. Each university aggregates the information in the report by using high school transcript data received when a student enrolls. Due to the manner in which the data is collected, the High School Report Card information is not directly correlated to any other ABOR reporting regarding university student preparedness and progress.

An academic deficiency is defined as a high school graduate admitted into the university without having previously taken one of the 16 core courses generally required for admission into an Arizona public university. For example, a high school graduate may be admitted without having completed two years of a foreign language or a fine arts course. If a student took remedial or other classes at a community college or other institution, this work is included in the report.

ABOUT THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS

The Arizona Board of Regents is committed to ensuring access for qualified residents of Arizona to undergraduate and graduate institutions; promoting the discovery, application, and dissemination of new knowledge; extending the benefits of university activities to Arizona's citizens outside the university; and maximizing the benefits derived from the state's investment in education.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2017-18 incoming freshmen at Arizona's public universities demonstrated stronger academic preparation and performance over the previous year's class. Trends during the past decade suggest students are beginning their college years better prepared for university rigor. Approximately 12 percent of freshmen were admitted in fall 2017 with deficiencies compared to 28 percent in 2009. Students' first-term grade-point averages also showed improvement at 3.1 in fall 2017, up from 3.0 GPA for the previous years' class and 2.8 in fall 2007.

Arizona high school graduates during their first semester at Arizona's public universities averaged a B- or 2.77 grade-point average for their first college math course and a B+ or 3.41 grade-point average in their first college English course.¹ Comparatively, in fall 2007, students who took college algebra had a GPA of 2.6 and students who took freshman English had an average GPA of 3.2.

College preparedness is a key indicator of student success at Arizona's public universities. An increasingly prepared freshman class is good news for Arizona where educational attainment rates lag the national average during a time when the state is transitioning to a skills-based economy with most jobs demanding some kind of education past high school. Without increased educational attainment in Arizona, the state's economy will underperform.

Higher education remains one of the most important investments that an individual can make in their future while more residents with an education past high school leads to greater prosperity for the state. Research shows that earning a college education provides higher wages for individuals – a million dollars more over the course of a career for those with a bachelor's degree compared to an individual who graduated from high school.² States benefit from an increasingly robust tax base and a workforce that is highly qualified and sought after from employers throughout the state.

Key takeaways:

1. The number of Arizona high school graduates enrolled in an Arizona public university with one or more academic deficiencies continues to decline. Approximately 12 percent of Arizona high school graduates enrolled in Arizona's public universities with one or more academic deficiencies – the lowest percentages of incoming Arizona high school graduates admitted with deficiencies in the past 10 years.
2. Average Arizona high school graduates' first-term college grade-point averages continue to improve. The 2017 average fall GPA was 3.1 up from 3.0 in 2016 and 2.9 in 2009.
3. Arizona high school graduates' performance in college English improved from last year to 3.4 GPA from 3.3. In addition, the participation rate in fall semester English classes is up by 0.2 percentage points from 2016. In first year English, the majority of students - 70.8 percent, up from 68.9 percent the previous year - enrolled in freshman English and had an average B grade or 3.4 GPA. Only 19.5 percent of students, however, enrolled in an advanced English course. This rate was down from the previous year's enrollment rate of 21.6 percent. Those who took advanced English received an average B+ grade of 3.6, which was unchanged from last year.
4. Arizona high school graduate performance in college math improved slightly from last year from 2.7 to 2.8 GPA. More students are enrolling in calculus over college algebra, but the overall participation

rate in calculus is down by 1.8 percentage points. Participation rates in first-semester math courses by Arizona high school graduates decreased by 7.4 percentage points from 2016. In their first semester, more Arizona high school graduates enrolled in calculus than college algebra. Of those students who enrolled in math, 69.3 percent of freshmen enrolled in college algebra or calculus. The remaining 30.7 percent of students enrolled in a remedial math course.

5. The average grade in calculus was a B- or 2.8 GPA, representing a slight improvement from the average 2.7 GPA the previous year. Students earned an average B- or 2.8 GPA for college algebra, another slight improvement from last year's average 2.7 GPA.

¹For information on converting letter grades to a 4.0 scale, go to <https://pages.collegeboard.org/how-to-convert-gpa-4.0-scale>

²Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, The College Payoff, Education, Occupations, Lifetime Earnings. <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/reg/hearulemaking/2011/collegepayoff.pdf>

ARIZONA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

WRAP UP

Summary of 2016-2017 High School Graduates

Summary Characteristics

Number of High School Students Enrolled at the University	15,075		With Academic Deficiency	Without Academic Deficiency	Total
<i>Percent Who Are</i> American Indian Asian American African American Hispanic Pacific Islander Two or More Races Female	2%	<i>First Term Avg. GPA</i> All Arizona H.S		2.6	3.2
	7%				
	3%				
	33%				
	0%				
	5%				
	58%				
<i>Admitted Without Academic Deficiency</i> All Arizona H.S.	88%	<i>Fall Enrollment Continuing in Spring</i> All Arizona H.S.	87%	94%	93%

First English Course	FE	AE	OE	First Math Course	CA	C	OM
<i>Number Enrolling</i>				<i>Number Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	6,750	1,859	932	All Arizona H.S.	3,318	3,572	3,060
<i>Percent Enrolling</i>				<i>Percent Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	45%	12%	6%	All Arizona H.S.	22%	24%	20%
<i>Average Grade</i>				<i>Average Grade</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	3.4	3.6	3.1	All Arizona H.S.	2.8	2.8	2.7
<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>				<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	94%	96%	92%	All Arizona H.S.	86%	85%	83%

FE = Freshman English
 AE = Advanced English
 OE = Other Lower Division English

CA = College Algebra
 C = Calculus
 OM = Other Lower Division Math

NOTE: Blank boxes indicate that the data are not applicable.

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

WRAP UP

Summary of 2016-2017 High School Graduates

Summary Characteristics

Number of High School Students Enrolled at the University	7,199		With Academic Deficiency	Without Academic Deficiency	Total
<i>Percent Who Are</i> American Indian Asian American African American Hispanic Pacific Islander Two or More Races Female	1%	<i>First Term Avg. GPA</i> All Arizona H.S	2.8	3.2	3.1
	10%				
	4%				
	33%				
	0%				
	5%				
	52%				
<i>Admitted Without Academic Deficiency</i> All Arizona H.S.	88%	<i>Fall Enrollment Continuing in Spring</i> All Arizona H.S.	89%	96%	95%

First English Course	FE	AE	OE	First Math Course	CA	C	OM
<i>Number Enrolling</i>				<i>Number Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	2,865	1,294	876	All Arizona H.S.	1,785	2,559	1,240
<i>Percent Enrolling</i>				<i>Percent Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	40%	18%	12%	All Arizona H.S.	25%	36%	17%
<i>Average Grade</i>				<i>Average Grade</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	3.4	3.6	3.1	All Arizona H.S.	3.0	2.8	3.0
<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>				<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	94%	95%	93%	All Arizona H.S.	91%	84%	90%

FE = Freshman English
 AE = Advanced English
 OE = Other Lower Division English

CA = College Algebra
 C = Calculus
 OM = Other Lower Division Math

NOTE: Blank boxes indicate that the data are not applicable.

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

WRAP UP

Summary of 2016-2017 High School Graduates

Summary Characteristics

Number of High School Students Enrolled at the University	3,618		With Academic Deficiency	Without Academic Deficiency	Total
<i>Percent Who Are</i> American Indian Asian American African American Hispanic Pacific Islander Two or More Races Female	2%	<i>First Term Avg. GPA</i> All Arizona H.S			
	2%				
	3%				
	28%				
	0%				
	6%				
	67%				
<i>Admitted Without Academic Deficiency</i> All Arizona H.S.	86%	<i>Fall Enrollment Continuing in Spring</i> All Arizona H.S.	83%	93%	91%

First English Course	FE	AE	OE	First Math Course	CA	C	OM
<i>Number Enrolling</i>				<i>Number Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	2,069	221	46	All Arizona H.S.	680	290	1,664
<i>Percent Enrolling</i>				<i>Percent Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	57%	6%	1%	All Arizona H.S.	19%	8%	46%
<i>Average Grade</i>				<i>Average Grade</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	3.5	3.6	2.3	All Arizona H.S.	2.7	2.8	2.4
<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>				<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	95%	95%	89%	All Arizona H.S.	87%	86%	77%

FE = Freshman English
 AE = Advanced English
 OE = Other Lower Division English

CA = College Algebra
 C = Calculus
 OM = Other Lower Division Math

NOTE: Blank boxes indicate that the data are not applicable.

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

WRAP UP

Summary of 2016-2017 High School Graduates

Summary Characteristics

Number of High School Students Enrolled at the University	4,258		With Academic Deficiency	Without Academic Deficiency	Total
<i>Percent Who Are</i> American Indian Asian American African American Hispanic Pacific Islander Two or More Races Female	1%	<i>First Term Avg. GPA</i> All Arizona H.S	2.5	3.1	3.0
	6%				
	4%				
	36%				
	0%				
	5%				
	59%				
<i>Admitted Without Academic Deficiency</i> All Arizona H.S.	88%	<i>Fall Enrollment Continuing in Spring</i> All Arizona H.S.	87%	93%	92%

First English Course	FE	AE	OE	First Math Course	CA	C	OM
<i>Number Enrolling</i>				<i>Number Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	1,816	344	10	All Arizona H.S.	853	723	156
<i>Percent Enrolling</i>				<i>Percent Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	43%	8%	0%	All Arizona H.S.	20%	17%	4%
<i>Average Grade</i>				<i>Average Grade</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	3.2	3.6	3.8	All Arizona H.S.	2.4	2.7	3.1
<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>				<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	93%	97%	100%	All Arizona H.S.	76%	85%	90%

FE = Freshman English
 AE = Advanced English
 OE = Other Lower Division English

CA = College Algebra
 C = Calculus
 OM = Other Lower Division Math

NOTE: Blank boxes indicate that the data are not applicable.