

Annual Report on the College Going Rate of Public School Graduates

Academic Year 2017-18



Research & Analytics

December 1, 2018

Published by

Arkansas Department of Higher Education

423 Main Street, Little Rock, AR 72201

REPORT ON THE COLLEGE-GOING RATE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL GRADUATES

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Attachment 1-A | College-Going Rate by Institution |
| Attachment 1-B | College-Going Rate History |
| Attachment 1-C | NCES (National Center for Education Statistics) |
| Attachment 1-D | College-Going Rate by Race/Ethnicity and Gender |
| Attachment 1-E | College-Going Rate by County |
| Attachment 1-F | College-Going Rate by High School District |
| Attachment 1-G | Recently Graduated Public High School Students: Where They Attend College |

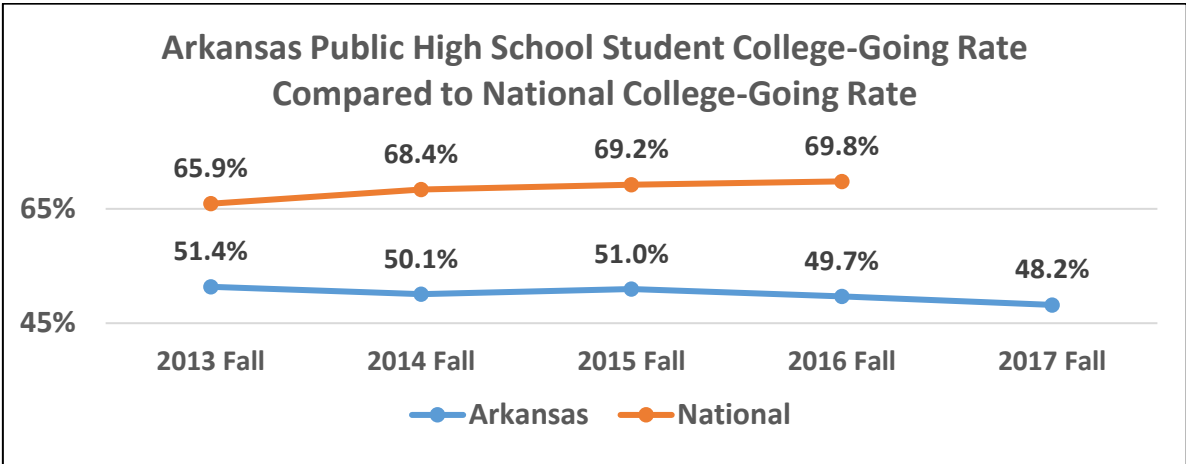
The college-going rate measures the proportion of students enrolling in postsecondary education in the fall semester after finishing high school, in most cases, immediately after high school. Since most students enrolling in postsecondary education do so immediately after completing high school, the college-going rate is an indicator of the total proportion that will or did enroll in postsecondary education. The percentage, therefore, reflects the accessibility of higher education as well as students' assessment of the value of attending college when compared to working, entering the military or following other pursuits.

This methodology began with the 2010 Fall College-Going Rate report. It focuses on students who (1) graduated from an Arkansas public school district in Academic Year 2016-17, (2) are first-time entering students in the 2017 Fall term, and (3) are Arkansas residents. This methodology more closely follows that used by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). However, there are three (3) differences:

- NCES filters by the age range of 16-24. ADHE ignores age but focuses on high school graduates from the previous year as most all high school graduates are between the ages of 16 and 24;
- NCES includes GED students as their report is based on a survey. ADHE does not have data on annual graduating classes of GED students, therefore, GED students are excluded; and
- Since the NCES report is a survey, it may include private high schools and home schooled students. ADHE has no data on annual graduating classes of private high schools or home schooled students.

ADHE obtains data on graduating classes of Arkansas public high schools from the Arkansas Department of Education. **Therefore, the College-Going Rate calculation is for Arkansas public high school graduates only.**

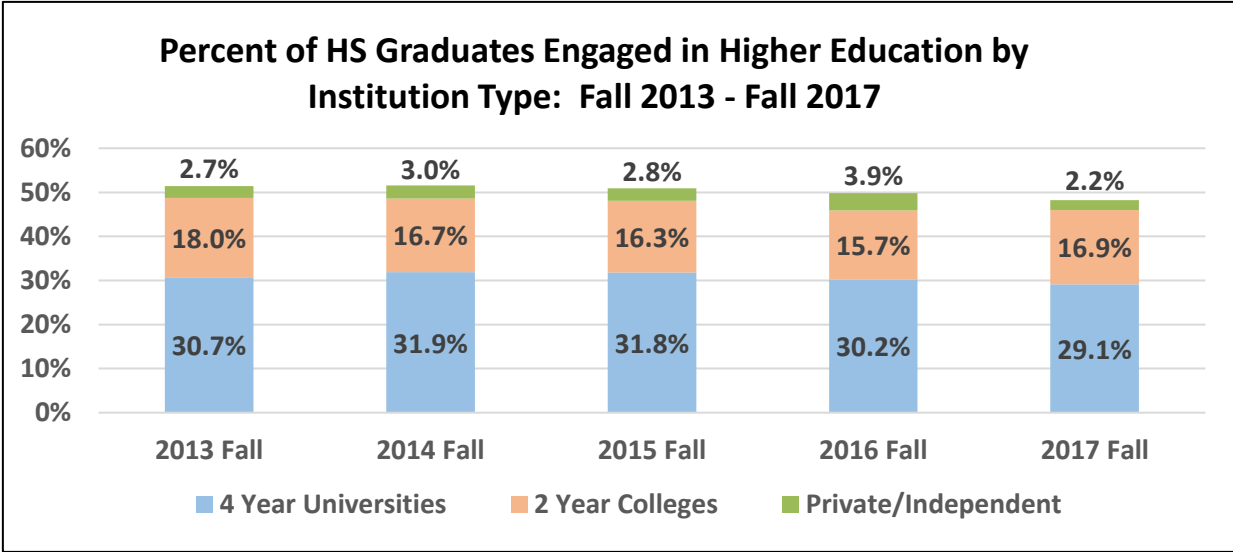
The public high school student college-going rate for all Arkansas **public and independent institutions** for the 2017 Fall term was **48.2 percent**. This represents a decrease of 1.5 percentage points from the previous fall term.



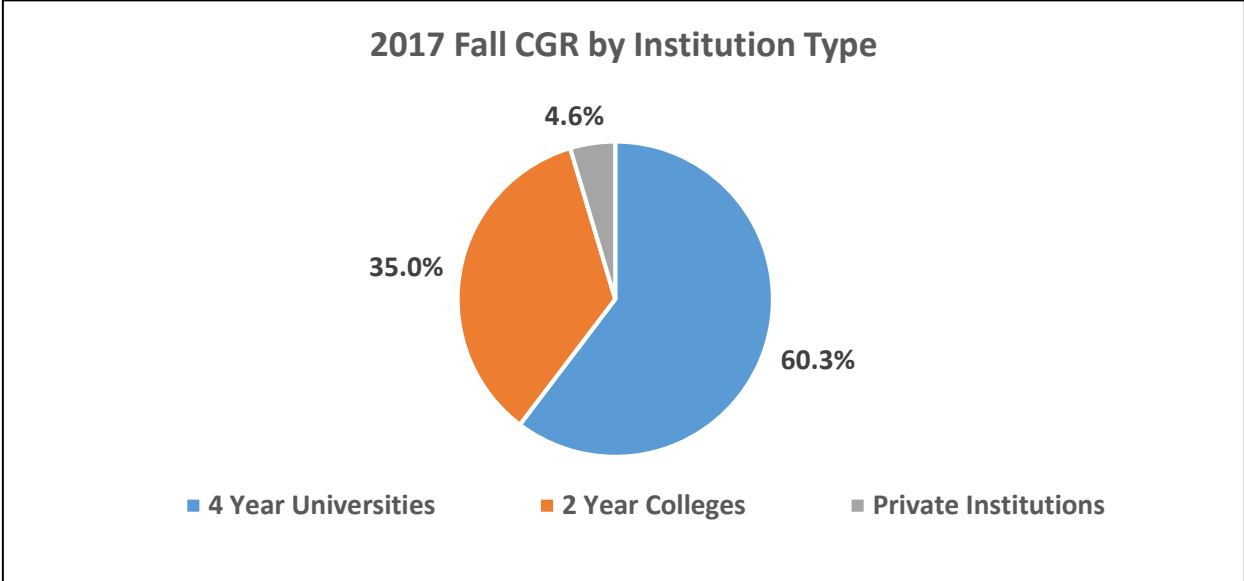
Arkansas experienced a 3.2% decrease (from 51.4% to 48.2%) in the College-Going Rate of public high school graduates over the past five years.

| Term | Public HS Graduates | Those Entering College | CGR |
|-----------|---------------------|------------------------|-------|
| 2013 Fall | 29,714 | 15,263 | 51.4% |
| 2014 Fall | 30,800 | 15,419 | 50.1% |
| 2015 Fall | 30,370 | 15,479 | 51.0% |
| 2016 Fall | 30,152 | 14,984 | 49.7% |
| 2017 Fall | 31,315 | 15,094 | 48.2% |

Over five years, the share of CGR students at 4-Year Universities decreased from 30.7 percent (2013) to 29.1 percent. The share of CGR students at 2-Year Colleges has decreased from 18.0 percent (2013) to 16.9 percent. The share of CGR students at Private/Independent Institutions has decreased from 2.7 percent to 2.2 percent.



Of all CGR students (2017 public high school graduates), the majority enrolled in public 4-Year Universities. These represent a decrease of 0.5% for 4-Year Universities, an increase of 3.4% for 2-Year Colleges, and a decrease of 3.2% for Private/Independent institutions from last year's CGR by Institution Type.



Gender: As shown below, females go to college at higher rates than males.

| Gender | 2016-17 HS Graduates | College Going Rate | |
|--------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|
| | | First-Time Students | Percent |
| Male | 15,555 | 6,577 | 42.3% |
| Female | 15,760 | 8,515 | 54.0% |

Race/Ethnicity: As shown below, White and Asian student populations have the highest college-going rates.

| Race/Ethnicity | 2016-17 HS Graduates | College Going Rate | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------|
| | | First-Time Students | Percent |
| Asian | 550 | 295 | 53.6% |
| Black/African American | 6,332 | 2,554 | 40.3% |
| Hispanic | 3,375 | 1,334 | 39.5% |
| Native American/Alaskan Native | 229 | 103 | 45.0% |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander | 146 | 16 | 11.0% |
| Two or More Races | 510 | 249 | 48.8% |
| White | 20,173 | 10,541 | 52.3% |

NOTE: This report does not include students attending college at out-of-state institutions that do not participate in the AHEIS/SISDB reporting system.

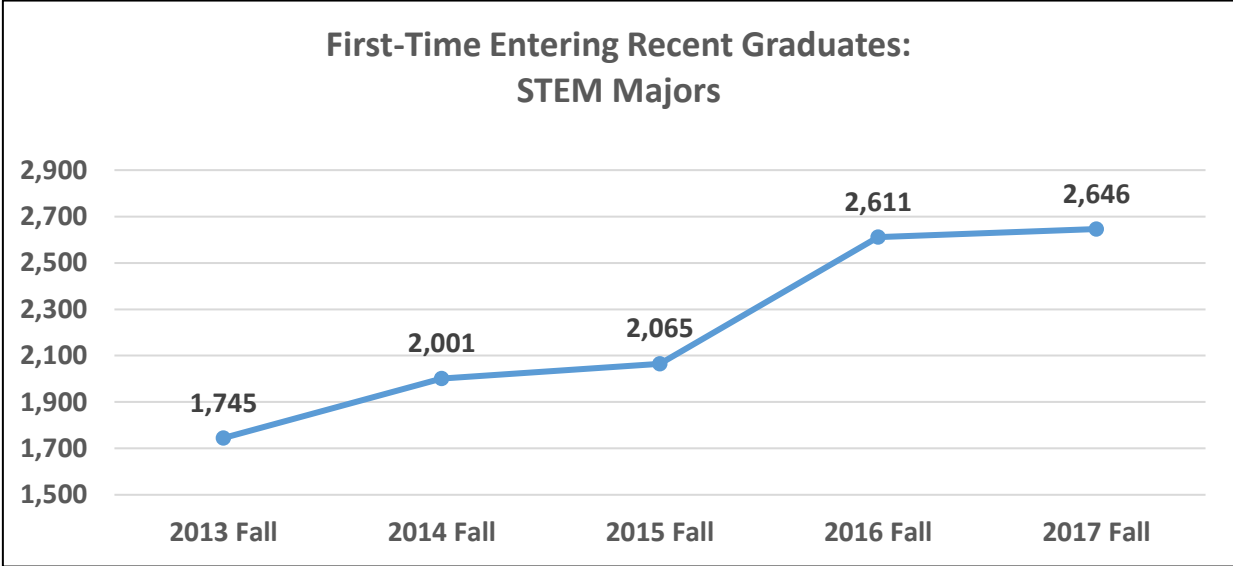
Per NCES¹, students from the low and middle income groups do not go to college at rates comparable to students from the higher income group.

| Income Group | 2016 |
|---------------|-------|
| Low Income | 65.4% |
| Middle Income | 65.0% |
| High Income | 82.5% |
| Total | 69.8% |

The below table shows the number of public high school graduates entering into their institution of choice for the 2017 Fall term. The top three 4-Year Universities were UAF, ATU, and UCA. The top three 2-Year Colleges were NWACC, PTC, and ASUB. The top three Private/Independent Institutions were OBU, HC, and LC.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| ASUJ | ATU | HSU | SAUM | UAF | UAFS | UALR | UAM | UAMS | UAPB | UCA |
| 1,062 | 1,413 | 457 | 584 | 1,999 | 817 | 550 | 443 | FERPA | 300 | 1,490 |
| ANC | ASUB | ASUMH | ASUMS | ASUN | BRTC | CCCUA | CotO | EACC | NAC | NPC |
| 153 | 628 | 142 | 116 | 278 | 199 | 208 | 99 | 93 | 319 | 304 |
| NWACC | OZC | PCCUA | SACC | SAUT | SEAC | UACCB | UACCH | UACCM | UACCRM | UAPTC |
| 851 | 99 | 127 | 108 | 150 | 131 | 197 | 174 | 358 | 66 | 493 |
| ABC | ACHE | CBC | CRC | EC | HC | HU | JBU | LC | OBU | PSC |
| FERPA | FERPA | 46 | 44 | FERPA | 152 | FERPA | 70 | 101 | 221 | FERPA |
| SC | UO | WBC | BHCLR | JSN | | | | | | |
| FERPA | 63 | FERPA | FERPA | FERPA | | | | | | |

The following graph illustrates the growth of first-time entering STEM majors who recently graduated from a public high school.



¹ National Center for Education Statistics, Digest of Education Statistics, 2016, Table 302.30: Percentage of recent high school completers enrolled in 2-year and 4-year colleges, by income level: 1975 through 2016.

While most institutions have students seeking STEM degrees, a few institutions attract the majority of STEM students. Shown below are the top six 4-Year Universities and 2-Year Colleges that attract the majority of new STEM students.

| STEM Majors at 4-Year Universities | | | | | STEM Majors at 2-Year Colleges | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| Inst. | Last 5 Years | | 2017 Fall | | Inst. | Last 5 Years | | 2017 Fall | |
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| ATU | 1939 | 18.7% | 418 | 18.5% | NWACC | 220 | 13.2% | 40 | 10.5% |
| UAF | 1723 | 16.6% | 375 | 16.6% | UAPTC | 215 | 12.9% | 77 | 20.3% |
| UCA | 1580 | 15.2% | 341 | 15.1% | UACCM | 211 | 12.7% | 22 | 5.8% |
| ASUJ | 1388 | 13.4% | 242 | 10.7% | SAUT | 155 | 9.3% | 28 | 7.4% |
| UAFS | 934 | 9.0% | 211 | 9.3% | ASUB | 142 | 8.5% | 32 | 8.4% |
| HSU | 736 | 7.1% | 126 | 5.6% | NAC | 120 | 7.2% | 30 | 7.9% |
| TOTAL | 10364 | 100.0% | 2263 | 100.0% | TOTAL | 1667 | 100.0% | 380 | 100.0% |

The following table shows that Arkansas is #11 out of 16 SREB states for the percentage of 18-24 year olds attending higher education institutions. Data for 2016 has yet to be published.

| Percentage of 18- to 24-year-olds enrolled in degree-granting postsecondary institutions: 2015 SREB States Only | | |
|---|-------------|-----------|
| State | Percent | Rank |
| United States | 42.5 | NA |
| Maryland | 47.5 | 1 |
| Delaware | 47.2 | 2 |
| Virginia | 43.6 | 3 |
| Florida | 42.1 | 4 |
| Alabama | 41.5 | 5 |
| West Virginia | 40.8 | 6 |
| Mississippi | 40.5 | 7 |
| West Virginia | 39.8 | 8 |
| South Carolina | 39.6 | 9 |
| Tennessee | 39.4 | 10 |
| Arkansas | 38.5 | 11 |
| Louisiana | 38.0 | 12 |
| Georgia | 37.7 | 13 |
| Kentucky | 37.7 | 14 |
| Texas | 37.1 | 15 |
| Oklahoma | 36.8 | 16 |
| Source: NCES, Digest of Education Statistics, Table 302.65.(12/16) | | |

ADHE Executive Staff recommends that the AHECB accept this report.