

Connecticut's P-20 Council

Postsecondary Readiness and Success of Connecticut High School Graduates October 2010

Who is graduating from Connecticut's public high schools and where did they go?

- A total of 38,354 students graduated from Connecticut public high schools in 2008.¹ An additional 5,889² students graduated from a private high school, for a total of 44,243 high school graduates.
- Of Connecticut's public and private high school graduates from the class of 2008, 74% continued their education in either a less-than 2-year program³, 2-year or a 4-year public or private higher education institution.⁴
- Of the Connecticut high school graduates (public and private) participating directly after high school: ⁴
 - 56% attended a 4-year institution
 - 16% attended a 2-year institution
 - 3% attended a less-than 2-year program ³
 - 26% did not attend a postsecondary program

Are Connecticut high school graduates completing college as expected? ⁴

Based on students entering postsecondary institutions in the fall of 2002:

- The percentage of students continuing their education directly after high school who graduated with a credential within 150% of program time from the college or university at which they initially enrolled is just over half (54%).
- The percentage of students graduating with a degree within six years from the 4-year institution at which they initially enrolled is 62%.
- The percentage of students graduating with a degree within 150% of program time from the 2-year institution in which they initially enrolled is 12%.

Are our high school graduates ready for college?

- In 2009, 10,707 Connecticut public high school graduates attended either a Connecticut Community College or a Connecticut State University the fall after graduating. (28% of public high school graduates)⁵
- Of the 2009 public high school students who attend a community college the fall after graduating from high school, approximately 7 out of 10 (72%) were assessed as needing to take either a developmental course in math or English or both. ^{5 6 7}

- Of the 2009 public high school students who attended a Connecticut State University the fall after graduating from high school, 65⁰% were enrolled in either a remedial or developmental math or English course or both.^{5 6 7}

¹ CSDE graduation data from CEDaR

² Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE); 2002 figures are from the Private School Universe Survey (NCES); 2008 figures are projected by WICHE.

³ Less than 2-year (below associate's) institutions include institutions such as cosmetology schools, automotive trade schools, some technical schools, and some religious schools that offer postsecondary certificates but not associate's degrees.

⁴ IPEDS Fall Enrollment of first-time students entering directly from high school with Connecticut as state of student origin

⁵ Data from Connecticut Community Colleges and CSUS system offices regarding enrollments.

⁶ Students need to complete these developmental courses before they can enroll in college level math or English courses.

⁷ Students are placed into a given level of coursework based upon their SAT scores, their score on a placement exam called Accuplacer or other admission information.