



The Boston Opportunity Agenda

Eighth Annual Report Card

May 2019

A Historic Partnership

Convening Partners and Investors

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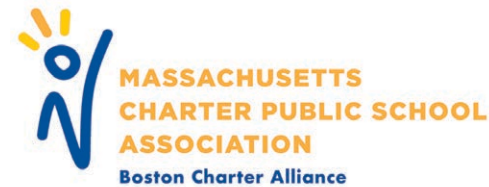


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Introduction

Since its inception, the Boston Opportunity Agenda has been focused on building a strong and seamless pipeline to help Boston's residents prepare for jobs in our city's highly competitive economy and take an active part in our civic life.

Dear Friends,

We are honored to share with you our Eighth Annual Report Card which tracks progress on Boston's goals for educating learners of all ages. Since its inception, the Boston Opportunity Agenda has been focused on building a strong and seamless pipeline to help Boston's residents prepare for jobs in our city's highly competitive economy and take an active part in our civic life. Over the last 10 years, it has become clear that in order to achieve our ambitious goals for high school graduation and college completion, we need to rethink constantly the ways we engage students and prepare them for life and work in the 21st century.

As our work has continued to grow and evolve so too has this report. This year we are launching a new goal and baseline for college, career and life readiness. Ultimately, we want each and every student in Boston to graduate from high school fully prepared to continue their education and achieve success. Establishing this goal will help us to chart our progress. Pages 14 and 15 of this report, lay out our current metrics, the baseline that we have established for the future and the progress we hope to make over the course of the next five years.

Today, slightly less than 50 percent of those who graduate from Boston's district, charter and Catholic schools are prepared to pursue a postsecondary path, a goal that is increasingly important to success in work and in life. Our goal for 2025 will increase that percentage to

66 percent or two-thirds of all high school graduates. Reaching this ambitious goal will increase the actual number of graduates who are prepared for higher education by more than 50 percent. We know this is ambitious but we believe that school leaders, teachers and our many community partners – from colleges and universities to businesses and nonprofits – are committed to providing Boston's students with the world class opportunities they need to succeed.

As Boston transitions to new superintendents at the Archdiocese and the Boston Public Schools, it is more important than ever to highlight the progress being made and the gaps that need to be addressed. The ultimate vision of the Boston Opportunity Agenda and our partners is to prepare all students to participate fully in our world class city and economy – regardless of race, ethnicity or socioeconomic status.

We thank you for the work you do every day to make this vision a reality.



Mike Durkin
Chair



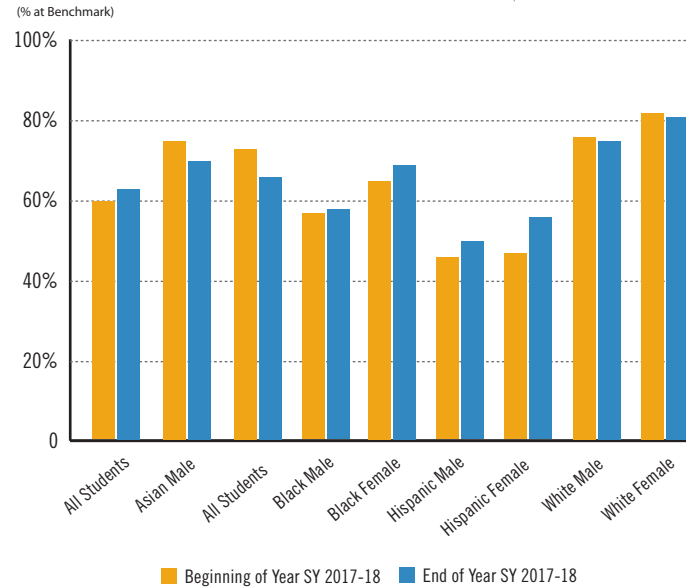
Kristin McSwain
Executive Director



A Strong Educational Foundation

Early Literacy: Percentage of Kindergarteners Achieving the DIBELS* Benchmark

What's Under the Hood: DIBELS NEXT* in Kindergarten
Boston Public Schools Students Only



How is the Boston Public Schools doing?

The DIBELS NEXT assessment is given when children enter kindergarten and when they leave. In 2017-2018, 59% of incoming kindergarteners were assessed as having the necessary early learning skills. This is a decrease of 2% from 2016/2017.

A strong kindergarten experience is helping our youngest learners prepare for the demands of elementary school, but more must be done in the birth to age eight period in order to improve school readiness and success.

How are Boston Catholic and Charter schools doing?

Individual Catholic and charter elementary schools in the city of Boston measure kindergarten readiness, but no one assessment is used across all of them. Instead, schools utilize a variety of early literacy instruments, including DIBELS NEXT, the Bracken School Readiness Assessment and the Strategic Evaluation of Progress (STEP).

How is Boston promoting readiness?

In order to build a strong foundation for all children, Boston is expanding its nationally recognized approach to pre-kindergarten through partnerships with community-based agencies (a mixed delivery system). The expansion will create quality universal pre-kindergarten in Boston by 2024. Simultaneously, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts



*The Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) are a set of procedures and measures for assessing the acquisition of early literacy skills from kindergarten through 6th grade.

“Why does it Matter” source: Strategies for Children, “A Report on the Cost of Universal, High Quality Early Education in Massachusetts.”

Percentage of Entering Kindergarteners Achieving the DIBELS* Benchmark

	Base 2013 / 2014	Current 2017/2018	Number of Students	Annual Change
Boston Public Schools	62%	59%	3125	↓

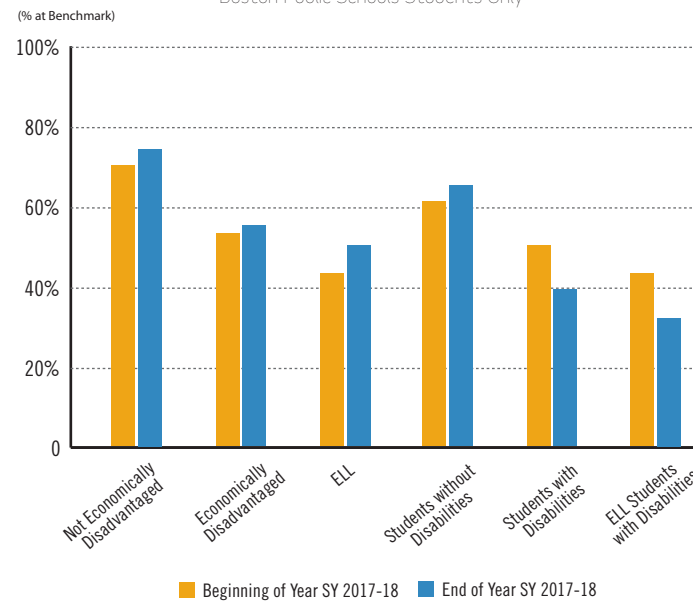
is requiring all licensed childcare providers to use the Ages and Stages screening tool, which assesses children in five domains that are necessary for a healthy start: communication; gross motor skills; fine motor skills; problem solving; and personal and social skills. Using the same tool and reporting on results will allow programs to identify children who are not developmentally on track and ensure that they receive appropriate follow up. Together these changes in the early childhood system will increase the number of students who enter kindergarten ready to succeed.

Why does it matter?

A child's brain develops more during the first five years of life than at any other time. Infants and preschoolers experience enormous social, emotional, physical and cognitive growth during this period. This is also the time when a child's ability to self-regulate begins to emerge. A high-quality early education program provides preschoolers with the opportunities they need to grow and thrive, and those who participate in these programs are 40% less likely to repeat a grade, 30% more likely to graduate from high school and all are more than twice as likely to go to college. They develop better language skills, score higher on school readiness tests and have fewer behavioral problems once they enter school. Finally, as adults, they have higher annual earnings and are more likely to be homeowners.

Other Drivers

Boston Public Schools Students Only



Boston is expanding its nationally recognized approach to pre-kindergarten through partnerships with community-based agencies...

A Strong Educational Foundation

3rd-Grade Reading Proficiency

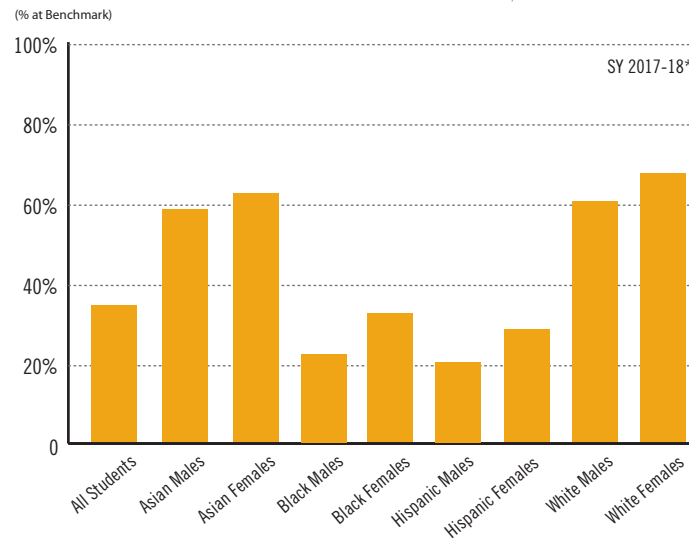
How is the Boston Public Schools doing?

During the 2017-2018 school year, public schools across Massachusetts administered Next Generation MCAS for the second time. This year, the percentage of students scoring Exceeding or Meeting Expectations rose four percentage points to 34%. The charts below and far right show how this aggregate breaks down across different BPS populations. The scores range from a low of 8% for ELLs with Disabilities, a three percentage point increase over last year, to 67% for white females, a six percentage point increase.



What's Under the Hood:

Meeting or Exceeding Expectations For Next Gen MCAS
Boston Public Schools Students Only



*data from BPS

Over the past six years, BPS has been developing and implementing an aligned reading curriculum from K1 to 2nd-grade. This work will be at scale in 2020. Over the period of implementation, there have been three different statewide literacy assessments, which has made it difficult to measure the real impact of these changes. Now that the Commonwealth has moved permanently to Next Generation MCAS we will be able to consistently track student progress and the impact of the aligned curriculum. Based on independent evaluations of the BPS Focus on K1, K2, 1st- and 2nd-grade programs, we expect to see continued annual improvement in reading proficiency.

*The Next Generation MCAS scores fall into four categories: Exceeding Expectations, Meeting Expectations, Partially Meeting Expectations and Not Meeting Expectations. In general the new standards for Meeting Expectations are more rigorous than the standards for reaching the proficient level on the legacy MCAS. Our proficiency baseline includes students Meeting and Exceeding Expectations on the 3rd-Grade English Language Arts Next Gen MCAS.

How are Boston Catholic schools doing?

Boston Catholic schools are in the fourth year of administering the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress Growth Assessment (MAP Growth) in Reading. This national assessment measures student progress and growth for each individual. Based on the spring 2018 MAP Growth administration, 67% of 3rd-graders scored at or above their grade level in reading. This is a drop of four percentage points from last year.

Percentage of 3rd-Graders Reading Proficiently

	Base 2016/2017	Current 2017/2018	Number of Students	Annual Change
Boston Public Schools (Next Gen MCAS)	30%	34%	1394	↑
Boston Catholic schools (MAP Growth)	73%	67%	355	↓
Boston Charter public schools (Next Gen MCAS)	41%	46%	286	↑

Data from Archdiocese of Boston and DESE and the Boston Public Schools

It is important to note that a new linking study by NWEA compares MAP Growth scores and Next Generation scores (see NWEA.org).

How are Boston Charter public schools doing?

Some 46% of Boston Charter public school 3rd-grade students scored Exceeding or Meeting Expectations on the Next Generation MCAS in 2017/2018. This is an increase of five percentage points. The aggregate figure reported here includes data from all of Boston's Charter public schools with a 3rd grade: Boston Renaissance, Bridge Boston, Brooke Charter School, Codman Academy, Conservatory Lab, KIPP Academy Boston, MATCH Community Day and Neighborhood House.

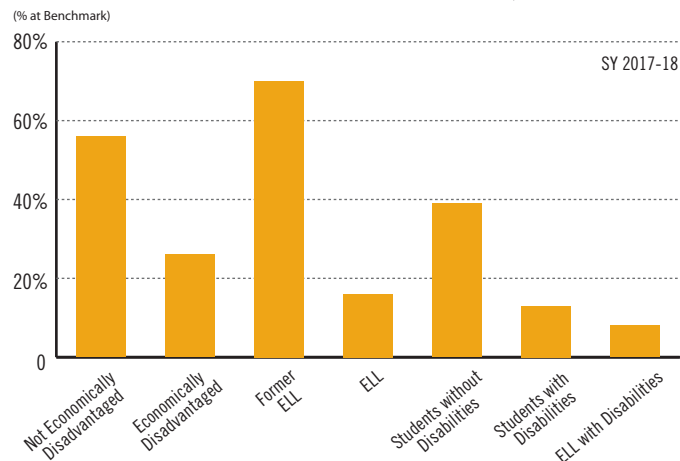
Why does it matter?

In the first three grades, students are learning to read and from 4th grade on they must be able to read to learn. In grades one through three, pupils are building skills, including all-important reading skills—and the habits they develop become deeply ingrained.

Success in 3rd-grade reading provides a foundation that has an impact throughout students' entire educational experience, even affecting graduation from high school.

Other Drivers

Boston Public Schools Students Only



Now that the Commonwealth has moved permanently to Next Generation MCAS we will be able to consistently track student progress...

On Track for High School Graduation

6th-Grade Mathematics Proficiency

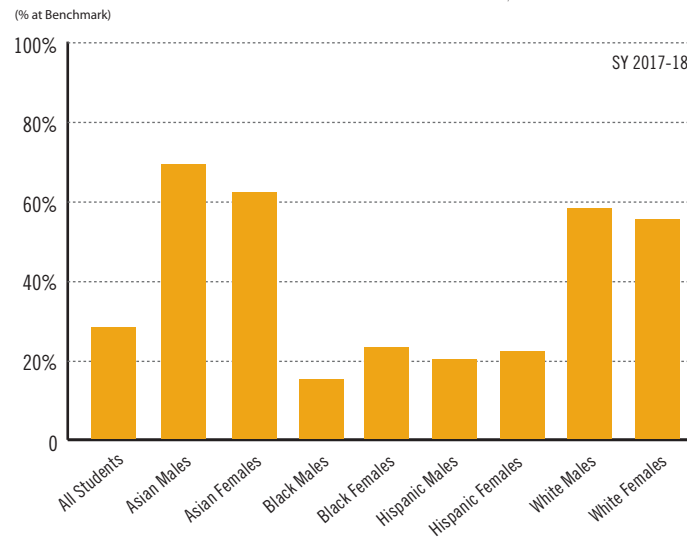
How is the Boston Public Schools doing?

Public school 6th graders in Boston also took the Next Generation MCAS this year for the second time. Some 28% of 6th graders were proficient on the 2017/2018 Mathematics MCAS, a drop of two percentage points from last year. The charts below and far right show how different subpopulations performed. The scores range from a low of 2% for ELLs with Disabilities to 69% for Asian males.



What's Under the Hood:

Meeting or Exceeding Expectations For Next Gen MCAS
Boston Public Schools Students Only



Similar to ELA, Mathematics scores are reported in four categories: Exceeding Expectations, Meeting Expectations, Partially Meeting Expectations and Not Meeting Expectations. In general the new standards for Meeting Expectations are more rigorous than the standards for reaching the proficient level on the legacy MCAS. Our proficiency baseline includes students Meeting and Exceeding Expectations on the 6th Grade Mathematics MCAS.

How are Boston Catholic schools doing?

Boston Catholic schools administer the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress Growth Assessment (MAP Growth) in Mathematics. A total of 53% of 6th-grade students performed at or above their grade level in spring 2018. This is a four percentage point decrease from 2017.

How are Boston Charter public schools doing?

Sixth-grade Math scores in the aggregate were 42% Meeting or Exceeding Expectations for Boston's Charter public schools. This is a four percentage point decrease from 2017/2018. The aggregate figure reported here includes data from all of Boston's Charter public schools with grade 6: Academy of the Pacific Rim, Boston Collegiate, Boston Preparatory, Boston Renaissance, Bridge Boston, Brooke, Codman Academy, Conservatory Lab, Excel Academy, Helen Y. Davis Leadership Academy, KIPP Academy Boston, MATCH Community Day, Neighborhood House and Roxbury Preparatory.

Percentage of 6th-Graders Proficient in Math

	Base 2016/2017	Current 2017/2018	Number of Students	Annual Change
Boston Public Schools (Next Gen MCAS)	30%	28%	916	↓
Boston Catholic schools (MAP Growth)	57%	53%	350	↓
Boston Charter public schools (Next Gen MCAS)	46%	42%	556	↓

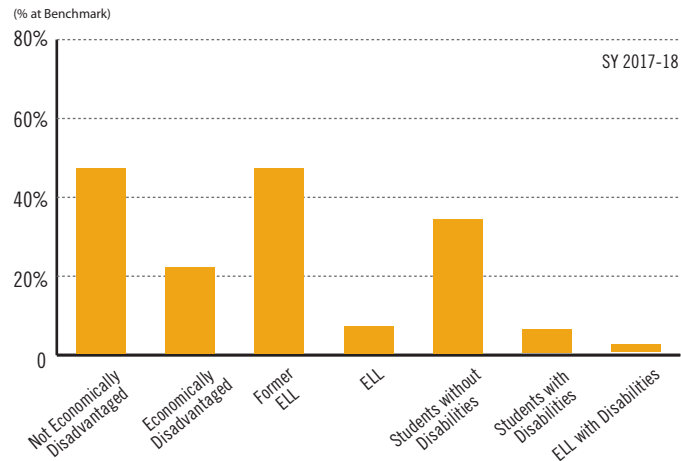
Data from Archdiocese of Boston and DESE and the Boston Public Schools

Why does it matter?

Proficiency in middle grade math is just one of the leading indicators for high school and postsecondary success. Successful completion of middle school math requirements puts students on track to access and complete advanced math courses in high school. As such, 6th-grade math proficiency has been included in the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's College and Career Readiness Early Warning Indicator System. Finally, middle grade math is a metric that all three education systems are paying attention to as they look to improve rigor for every student in Boston.

Other Drivers

Boston Public Schools Students Only



Public school
6th-graders in
Boston also took
the Next Generation
MCAS this year for
the second time.

High School Graduation

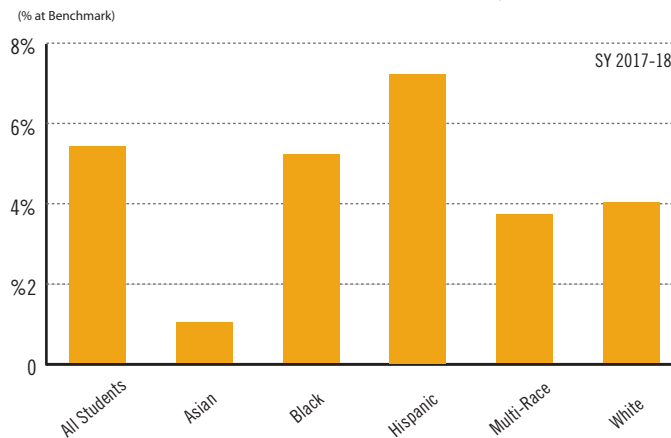
Annual Dropout Rate



How is the Boston Public Schools doing?

The dropout rate in Boston Public Schools increased in 2017-2018 by a percentage point to 5.4%. This increase continues a cycle of up and down variation in dropout rates over the last five years between a high of 5.5% and a low of 4.4%. At the school level, dropout rates vary substantially from a low of zero to a high of 33%. This year, two schools had no dropouts: Quincy Upper and Horace Mann School for the Deaf. Five other schools had dropout rates of less than 1% or only one student: Boston Latin Academy, Boston Latin School, Carter School, New Mission and John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science.

What's Under the Hood: Annual Dropout Rate Boston Public Schools Students Only



At the student level, the percentage of dropouts varies widely by both racial/ethnic group and gender. Overall more males than females dropped out. The gap between Asian youth who drop out at a rate of 1% is drastically lower than those of Hispanic students who drop out at a rate of 7.2%.

How are Boston Catholic schools doing?

Although it is not possible to quantify dropout rates for parochial schools, it is low. When students leave a Catholic school, they often return to a public school or another private school. The Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Boston continues to work on a solution to this issue as well and is helping us identify district and charter students who may have entered Catholic schools but are captured as dropouts in the public data.

How are Boston Charter public schools doing?

Boston Charter public schools have an incredibly low dropout rate. In 2017-2018, only 1% of students dropped out of a Charter school. Academy of the Pacific Rim, Boston Collegiate and Brooke had no dropouts in 2017-2018. Other schools included in the data are Boston Preparatory, City on A Hill Circuit Street, City on A Hill Dudley, Codman Academy, Excel Academy, MATCH High School, Neighborhood House and Roxbury Preparatory.

Annual Dropout Rate

	Base 2012/2013	Current 2017/2018	Number of Students	Annual Change
Boston Public Schools	4.5%	5.4%	849	↑
Boston Catholic schools	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Boston Charter public schools	2.0%	1.0%	28	↔

Data from Archdiocese of Boston and DESE

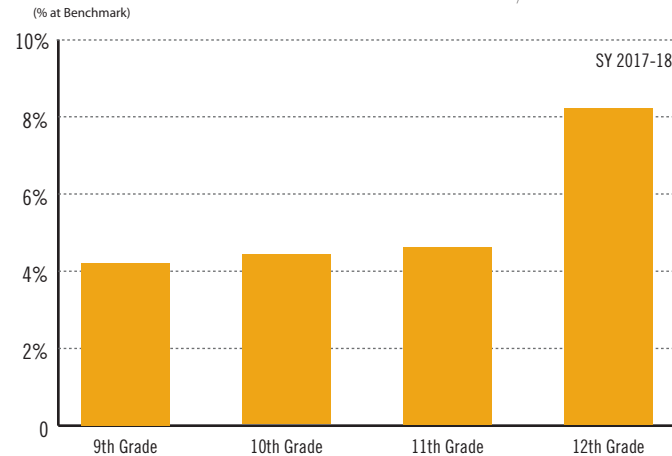
*Please note that there is a large annual fluctuation due to small sample size.

Why does it matter?

Lost lifetime earnings for Massachusetts Class of 2010 dropouts alone will total nearly \$3.7 billion, according to the Alliance for Excellent Education. If all students who graduate were ready for college, as much as \$57.1 million could be saved each year in remediation costs and lost earnings. If the state's male graduation rate grew by just 5%, the Massachusetts economy would see crime-related savings and additional revenue of about \$115 million each year. Further reductions in the number of dropouts each year would multiply these savings.

Other Drivers

Boston Public Schools Students Only



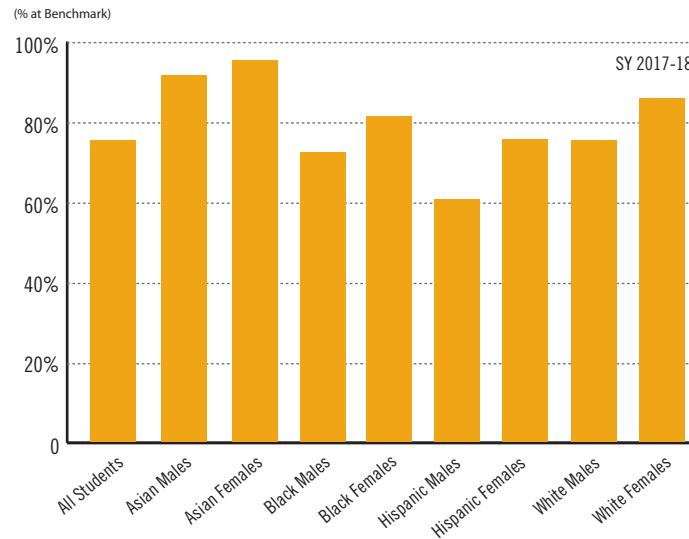
In 2017-2018,
only 1% of
students dropped
out of a
Boston Charter
school.

“Why does it matter?” source: U.S. Chamber of Commerce, “The Ugly Truth: A State-by-State Snapshot of Education in America.”

High School Graduation

Who's Graduating?

What's Under the Hood: 4-Year Completion Rates Boston Public Schools Students Only



How is the Boston Public Schools doing?

Boston continues to have one of the highest urban 4-year graduation rates in the nation, at 75.1%. This year the rate increased 2.4 percentage points. This growth continues a 10-year upward trend. While this suggests strong improvement, deep gaps exist across race, ethnicity and gender. As seen in the chart on the left, the gap between black males and females as well as Hispanic males and females is 9 percentage points. While the gap between the highest performing group of students, Asian females, and the lowest, Hispanic males, is 27 percentage points.

Seven schools met or exceeded the 90% goal of the Every Student Succeeds Act. They are Another Course to College, Boston Latin Academy, Boston Latin School, Fenway High School, Lyon Upper, John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science and New Mission High.

How are Boston Catholic schools doing?

For the graduating class of 2014, 97% of those who enrolled as freshmen graduated in four years from Catholic secondary schools in the city of Boston. The other 3% reverted back to the Boston Public Schools, Boston's Charter public schools or chose another private school.

4-Year Graduation Rate

	Base 2012/2013	Current 2017/2018	Number of Students	Annual Change
Boston Public Schools	65.9%	75%	3138	↑
Boston Catholic schools	84%	97%	625	↔
Boston Charter public schools	74.0%	80%	287	↑

Data from Archdiocese of Boston and DESE

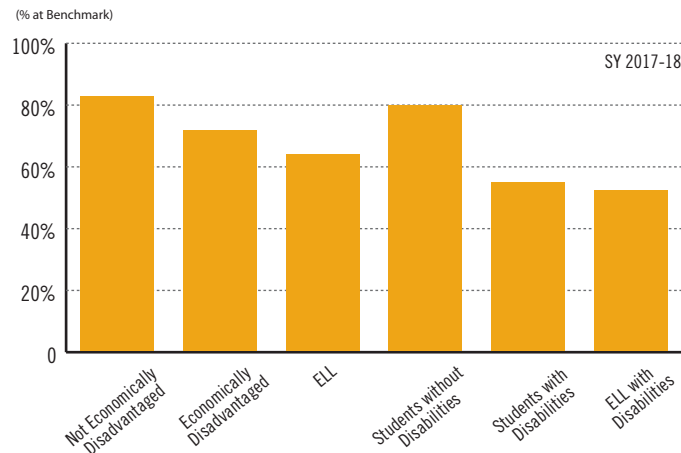
How are Boston Charter public schools doing?

Six Boston Charter public schools have been serving high-school students long enough to have a 4-year cohort graduation rate. This year their combined graduation rate rose to 80%. Currently the schools include Academy of the Pacific Rim, Boston Collegiate, Boston Preparatory, City on a Hill, Codman Academy and MATCH High School. As other schools grow their cohort of students, their completion rates will be added to this group.

Academy of the Pacific Rim and Boston Collegiate both exceeded the state four-year cohort graduation target of 85% as well as the 90% goal of the Every Student Succeeds Act with graduation rates of 97.3%.

Other Drivers

Boston Public Schools Students Only



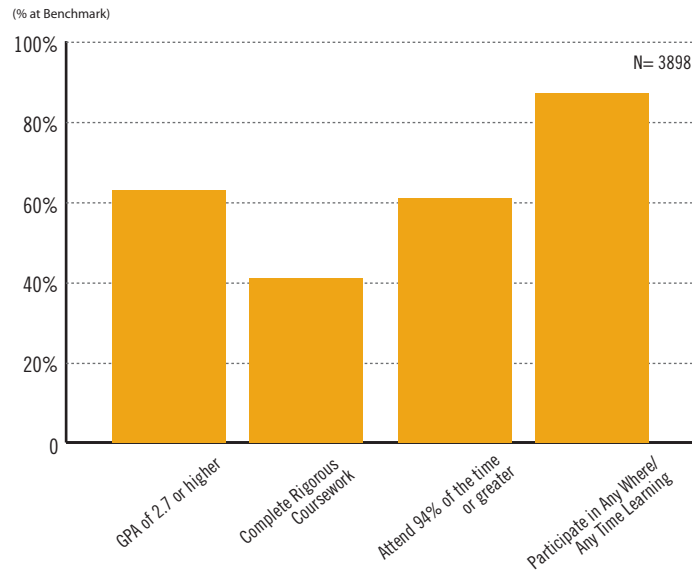
Boston continues to have one of the highest urban 4-year graduation rates in the nation, at 75%.

On Track for College, Career and Life

12th Graders Who Graduate Ready

What's Under the Hood:

12th Graders who Graduate Ready
All Catholic, Charter and BPS graduates



Measuring Boston Students' Readiness

The Boston Opportunity Agenda's goal is for each and every student in Boston to graduate from high school fully prepared to further their education and achieve success as they define it. We will know that students are on a pathway to success when graduates are able to set a vision for their lives, chart a course to that vision, build competence, work with others – and change course as necessary.

This report card establishes a baseline and five-year goal for the College, Career and Life Readiness of each student who graduates in Boston from a Catholic, Charter public or district school.

How will we know if students are prepared?

We chose indicators of readiness from a national literature review and tested them against available Boston data. Our readiness baseline includes students who have achieved at least two of the first three indicators below as well as the fourth. The fifth metric is new and was chosen as part of the implementation of this effort. We will report on it as data becomes available.

Students will be ready if they:

- Achieve and maintain a GPA of 2.7 or higher on a 4.0 cumulative scale, which is an average report card of Bs and Cs throughout high school;
- Attend 94% of school days or more;
- Complete rigorous courses, defined as Mass Core plus an Advanced Placement, Dual Enrollment or International Baccalaureate experience;
- Participate in anywhere and anytime learning such as volunteering, internships, workplace learning, credential badging or credits earned outside of the classroom; and
- Complete and begin to implement an individual student learning plan beginning in the 9th grade.

12th Graders Who Graduate Ready

	Base Class of 2017	Current 2016/2017	Number of Students	Annual Change	Goal 2025
Boston Graduates	48%	48%	1581	set baseline	66%

Includes BPS and Boston Charter schools

How are Boston's students doing?

For the class of 2017, 48% of the students who graduated achieved our readiness standard. Along with partners around the city, we are working to raise this to 66%, or two-thirds of all students, over the next five years. We anticipate a growth of approximately 3-5% a year. Achieving this goal will require systemic, holistic changes on the part of all schools, including increasing opportunities for learning outside of the classroom, updating graduation requirements, expanding AP and dual enrollment opportunities and more.

Currently all of our school partners are able to report on the first four metrics and have agreed to track the implementation of individual student learning plans. In the bar chart on the left, we report on each individual metric for all of Boston's high school graduates.

Adapting for future analysis

Our ability to track and report on these metrics will grow over time, which will lead to continuous improvement and refinement. Therefore, these metrics are our initial set of indicators but additional measures may be added as we learn more during the implementation process over the coming years and as the body of research on college and career readiness expands.

The number of high schools in Boston is growing. Over the next several years, three high schools will graduate their first cohort of students. As they do, the students will be added to our reporting. The schools currently included in our data set are: Academy of the Pacific Rim, Boston Public Schools High Schools, Boston College High School, Boston Collegiate, Boston Preparatory, Cathedral High School, Catholic Memorial, City on A Hill, City on A Hill Dudley, Codman Academy, Cristo Rey High School Boston, MATCH High School, Roxbury Preparatory and St. Joseph Preparatory.

Why does it matter?

The Boston Opportunity Agenda has, since its inception, been focused on building a strong and seamless pipeline that will prepare students to participate in Boston's highly competitive economy and active civic life. Over the past 10 years it has become clear that in order to achieve our ambitious goals for high school graduation, college completion and connection to Boston's workforce, we need to rethink the ways in which we engage students and prepare them for life and work in the 21st century. This will ensure that students do not get lost in developmental (remedial) classes in college or fail to connect to work or college immediately following high school.

Currently students are considered ready if they achieve three of the four metrics.

Postsecondary Attainment

College Enrollment

How is the Boston Public Schools doing?

The Boston Public Schools sent 70% of the class of 2016 on to postsecondary education. This figure is unchanged from 2015 and reflects those students who enroll in a postsecondary institution within 16 months of graduating from high school. The college-going rate for BPS increases if you look at enrollment beyond the first 16 months following graduation. However, we know from higher education research that one predictor of college completion is enrollment immediately following graduation. We also know that the majority of careers in the 21st century will require some form of postsecondary education. Our economy demands that larger numbers of BPS graduates enroll in postsecondary institutions. With the launch of our College, Career and Life Readiness metric and a strong city-wide focus on the importance of a postsecondary plan, we hope this metric will dramatically increase over the next several years.

“What is College Today?” source: College Board, “How College Shapes Lives: Understanding the Issues.”

How are Boston Catholic schools doing?

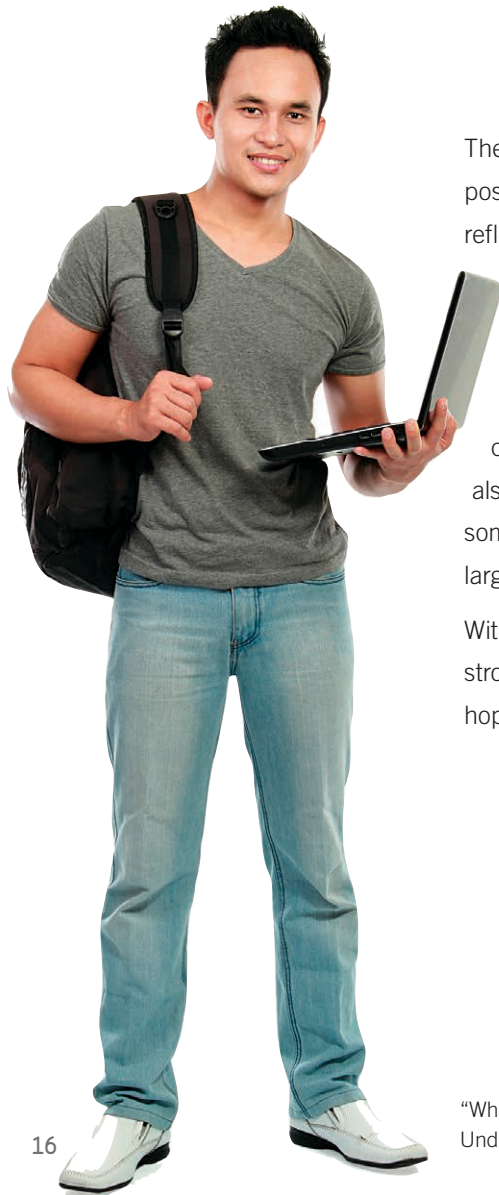
Graduates of Boston’s Catholic schools have an extremely robust college-going culture and enroll in college at a rate of 97%. This is an increase of 1 percentage point over last year and is an extremely high rate.

How are Boston Charter public schools doing?

Boston Charter public schools graduates also have a strong college going culture and enroll in college immediately following high school at a rate of 90%. This is an increase of 1 percentage point and a return to the baseline set by the class of 2013. Additionally, 80% of those who enroll enter four-year higher education institutions. Six Boston Charter public schools have graduates enrolling in college from the class of 2016. They include Academy of the Pacific Rim, Boston Collegiate, Boston Preparatory, City on A Hill, Codman Academy and MATCH High School.

What is College Today?

Over the past 30 years, the composition of the postsecondary student population in the United States has fundamentally changed. In 1970, 73% of all students were enrolled in public and private nonprofit four-year colleges and universities. By 2010 that number had fallen to 56%. Today in the U.S., “going to college” includes a wide variety of student experiences ranging from residential living at four-year colleges and universities to commuting from home to a nearby community college or for-profit institution.



College Enrollment* Rates for High School Graduates

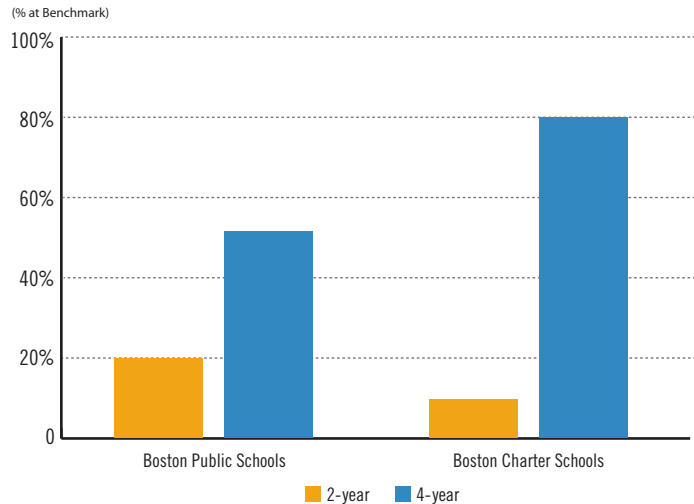
	Base Class of 2013	Current Class of 2016	Number of Students	Annual Change
Boston Public Schools	71%	70%	2368	↔
Boston Catholic schools	96%	97%	610	↑
Boston Charter public schools	90%	90%	254	↑

Data from Archdiocese of Boston and DESE

*Enrolling within 16 months of high school graduation

What's Under the Hood:

Class of 2016 2-year and 4-year College Enrollment Rate



The reality is that 43% of undergraduate students are enrolled in two-year institutions or institutions that do not grant Bachelor's degrees. The students enrolled at these types of institutions are working toward postsecondary certificates or Associate degrees, which comprised 44% of the credentials awarded in 2010-11.

Graduates of Boston's Catholic schools have an extremely robust college-going culture and enroll in college at a rate of 97%.

Data from Mass Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Postsecondary Attainment

College Completion



How is the Boston Public Schools doing?

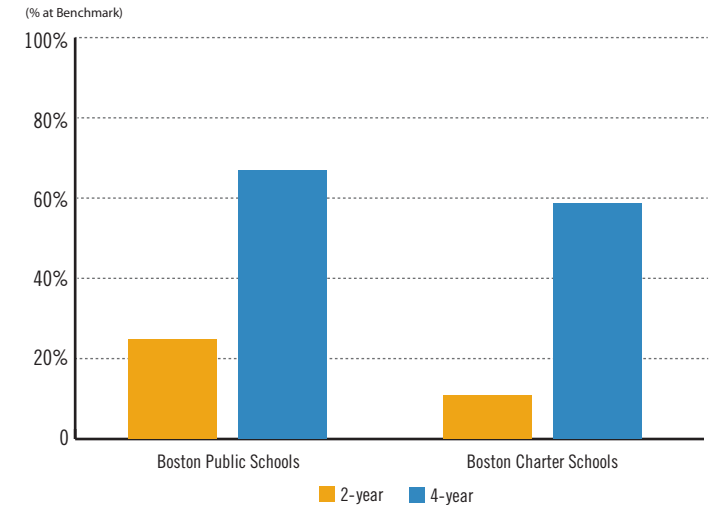
The percentage of BPS students who graduate from high school, enroll in and complete a postsecondary credential within six years of high-school graduation increased to 52% for the class of 2011. This reflects a steady trend over the last several years of a rising completion rate in the high 40s or low 50s. BPS is hoping that a renewed emphasis on all students graduating ready for postsecondary pursuits will increase the percentage of students who complete their credentials. Additionally, Success Boston's work through the Lumina Talent Hub, described in the next section of this report will no doubt improve the completion rates for BPS students.

How are Boston Catholic schools doing?

Boston Catholic schools have completed a data agreement with the National Student Clearing House. This agreement will allow them to track Catholic school graduates to and through college. We anticipate being able to establish a baseline for this metric in the near future.

What's Under the Hood:

Class of 2011 2-year and 4-year College Completion Rate



Data from EDWIN

College Completion Rates for High School Graduates Who Enrolled in College

	Base 2012/2013	Current 2017	Number of Students	Annual Change
Boston Public Schools	50% (Class of 2006)	52% (Class of 2011)	1169	↑
Boston Catholic schools	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Boston Charter public schools	42% (Class of 2006)	53% (Class of 2011)	76	↓

*data from EDWIN

How are Boston Charter public schools doing?

Graduates of Boston’s Charter public schools who enroll in college are completing a postsecondary credential at a rate of 53% within six years of graduation from high school. This is a decrease of 20 percentage-points from last year. It should be noted that the 10-year span from entrance into high school and potential graduation from a postsecondary institution—coupled with the relatively short time that Charter public schools have been in operation—means that the total number of students who have completed high school and are six years from graduation is quite small. As a result, increases or decreases in college completion of as few as five or six students can have a significant impact on completion percentages. The figures above include students who graduated from Academy of the Pacific Rim, Boston Collegiate, Boston Preparatory, City on A Hill, Codman Academy and MATCH High School.

Why does it matter?

A postsecondary degree is essential for success in Greater Boston’s knowledge economy, where more than half of all job vacancies require at least an Associate’s degree—a percentage that is expected only to grow. In addition, a typical Bachelor’s degree holder will earn \$1 million more than a high-school dropout over the course of a lifetime.

The percentage of BPS students who graduate from high school, enroll in and complete a postsecondary credential within six years of high-school graduation increased to 52%...

“Why does it Matter” source: Center on Education and the Workforce, Georgetown University, “The College Payoff.”

Adult Learners

Credentialed for Success



How are we doing?

The Boston Opportunity Agenda reports on the percentage of 25- to 64-year olds with postsecondary credentials because this demographic best represents the city's workforce. This year the percentage remained constant at 57%. The proportion of degrees has changed with a slight decrease in Bachelor's degrees and an increase in graduate or professional degrees. This puts us well within reach of our goal of 60% by 2025. These credentials consist of an Associate's or Bachelor's degree or an industry-recognized certification that allows individuals to secure higher-paying jobs.

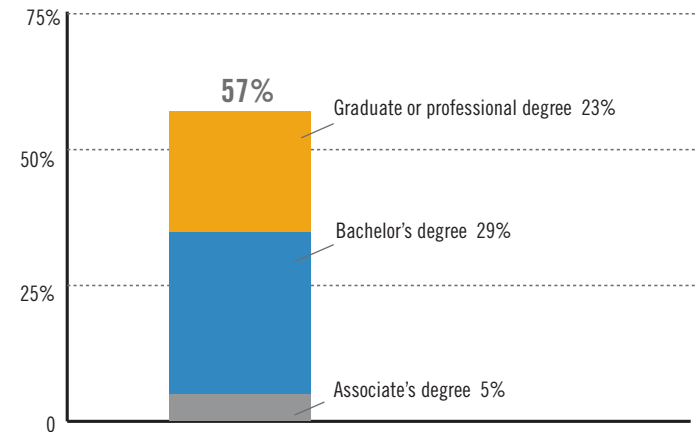
We are learning more about how to move this metric in meaningful ways that will meet the demands of our regional economy and support every individual's ability to thrive but we still have a long way to go. A great deal of interesting and potentially game-changing work is taking place in a variety of locations throughout Boston that will ultimately have an impact on the adult population and adult-serving organizations. While each initiative is at a different stage of implementation, all are connected to national or statewide networks that include other cities and communities. These networks, detailed below, will allow Boston to share our challenges, learn from other cities and celebrate our successes.

Aspen Forum for Community Solutions

Described more fully later in this report card, the Boston Opportunity Youth (OY) Collaborative is comprised of 80 different partners, including local community-based organizations, the Boston Public

What's Under the Hood:

25 to 64 years old with College Credentials



Schools, philanthropy, city and state agencies and postsecondary institutions. While the Collaborative is focused on building pathways for young people between the ages of 16 and 24 to postsecondary education and a career, it impacts the number of credentialed adults in two ways. First, young people who are connected to postsecondary courses of study will ultimately increase the percentage of Boston adults with a credential. Second, the OY Collaborative is working closely with Bunker Hill and Roxbury Community Colleges as well as the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology so that the lessons learned from building pathways to market-based careers can have a powerful impact on the larger community college landscape.

Percentage of 25- to 64-Year-Olds with Postsecondary Credentials

Base 2011	Current 2017	Annual Change	Goal 2025
51%	57%	↔	60%

Data from the American Community Survey

Lumina Talent Hub

In 2017, the Lumina Foundation designated Boston one of 17 Talent Hub communities across the country. Boston earned this designation through the combined efforts of Success Boston by meeting rigorous standards for creating environments that attract, retain and cultivate talent, particularly among students of color, the first in their families to go to college, or those from low-income households.

Boston's Talent Hub focuses on developing meta majors so that recent high school graduates, primarily 18- to 22-year olds, shorten their time to college completion and complete at higher rates. Like the other Talent Hub cities across the nation, Boston is committed to eliminating deep disparities in educational outcomes among African Americans and Hispanics, who fare poorly in contrast with white and Asian students.

SkillWorks

SkillWorks is a workforce funder collaborative comprised of local and national philanthropy that invests in sector-based training and placement strategies for low-skill, low- and moderate-income job seekers and employers who need to find and retain skilled employees. SkillWorks focuses its support in sectors where job seekers have greater access to entry level employment and opportunities for advancement through short-term skills training

and certification. These sectors have traditionally included health care, construction and hospitality. Recently, SkillWorks expanded its sector-driven portfolio into the IT/Tech industry, where demand is heightened from a cross section of the region's employers.

As a first step toward expanding access for both job seekers and employers, SkillWorks is partnering with the Boston Private Industry Council to convene a new employer-led industry consortium of CIO leaders from a cross section of employers with high demand IT/Tech jobs to broker new career pathways for so-called nontraditional talent into IT occupations.

Why does it matter?

Our rapidly evolving, complex economy is causing a surge in demand for skilled employees. Two-thirds of all jobs created in this decade will require some form of postsecondary education, according to the Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce. Today, only some 40% of adults in the U.S. have achieved that level of education. Americans with a high school diploma or less accounted for four out every five jobs lost in the recent recession.

"Why does it matter?" source: Luminafoundation.org Goal 2025, *Why is the Goal so Urgent?*

SkillWorks is a workforce funder collaborative comprised of local and national philanthropy that invests in sector-based training and placement strategies...

Birth to Eight Collaborative

A Strong Educational Foundation

The Birth to Eight Collaborative includes parents and more than 200 representatives of early education organizations.

Convened by the Boston Opportunity Agenda, the Birth to Eight Collaborative includes parents and more than 200 representatives from early education centers, family day-care, nonprofit organizations, schools, public health, philanthropy and medical institutions. Together we have identified three core outcomes that drive our work:

OUTCOME 1: All children ages birth to three experience a healthy start and healthy development.

OUTCOME 2: Early education and care providers build curious, confident and involved three- to five-year-old learners.

OUTCOME 3: Students ages five to eight are ready for sustained success.

The Collaborative has four committees working to align current resources and activities as well as to identify new ideas for increasing the rate and pace of change in early childhood. The committees are focusing on family engagement, data, quality education birth to five, and maximizing the health and well-being of kids and families by coordinating health-care institutions and educational institutions.

Family Engagement: The family engagement committee has identified four metrics for tracking the depth, breadth and impact of family engagement activities for children and caregivers. Its members are currently curating a tool kit of research-based instruments that capture the agreed-upon metrics. Once the tool kit is complete, the committee will begin to implement the tracking and measurement of a new approach to family engagement.

Data: The data committee is working with the Boston Opportunity Agenda and the City of Boston's data analytics office to gather data on the number of children in Boston by age, the number of early childhood seats, public health information and more. The anticipated release of a "State of Early Childhood in Boston" report by the end of the calendar year will track the progress of our collective early childhood efforts across the early education and care spectrum as well as health care sectors.

Quality Education Birth to Five: This committee is working to identify ways to increase the number and quality of early education and care seats available for our community's most marginalized young people. Members have begun by cataloging programs available for infants and toddlers with a particular focus on identifying those that can grow in scale. In addition, a grant from Pritzker is being invested in piloting a prenatal parenting program.

Maximizing Health: The members of this committee are focused on identifying ways that community health centers, hospitals and early education and care providers can partner at a systems level to improve outcomes for low-income families. They are currently developing surveys and focus groups for pediatricians, providers and families to identify areas of common interest and gaps in services or information.

In addition to the activities outlined above, each committee is working to identify new pilot programs that could be implemented by the Collaborative to expedite movement on the goals they have articulated and—when applied at the system level—will increase positive outcomes for all young children.

Community Partners

Abt Associates • Action for Boston Community Development • American Academy of Pediatrics • Archdiocese of Boston • Barr Foundation • Black Philanthropy Fund at the Boston Foundation • Boston Children's Hospital • Boston Children's Museum • Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center • Boston Community Capital • The Boston Foundation • Boston Medical Center • Boston Public Health Commission • Boston Public Library • Boston Public Schools • Boston Renaissance • Boston University • Boston's Higher Ground • Boys and Girls Clubs of Dorchester • Boys and Girls of Greater Boston's Brazelton Center • Bridge Boston • Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition • Catholic Charities • Center for the Study of Social Policy • Center on the Developing Child at Harvard • Charlestown Nursery School • Children's HealthWatch • City of Boston • City of Cambridge Dept. of Human Service Program • CitySprouts • Countdown to Kindergarten • Cradles to Crayons • Crispus-Attucks Children Center • Department of Public Health • Department of Early Education and Care • East Boston Social Center • Efficacy Institute • Epiphany School • Families First • Family Nurturing Center of Massachusetts • Financial Empowerment Center-Dudley • First Teacher • Generations Incorporated • Girl Scouts • Head Start ABCD • Health Resources in Action • Hestia Fund • Horizons • Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción • Jumpstart for Young Children • Kennedy Center • KeySteps • Mass Department of Public Health • NAMI Massachusetts • Neighborhood Villages • New Profit • Nurture • Paige Academy • Phenomenal Moms • PPAL • Raising A Reader MA • ReadBoston • Room to Grow • Ropes



& Gray • School Effectiveness and Inequality Initiative • Smarter Give • Smart From the Start (Smart) • Social Venture Partners Boston • South Boston Neighborhood House • South End Settlements • Sportsmen's Tennis and Enrichment Center • Strategies for Children • Tartt's Day Care Center • The Harold Whitworth Pierce Charitable Trust • The Home for Little Wanderers • Tufts Medical Center • Union Capital Boston • United South End Settlements • United Way Of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley • University of Massachusetts Boston • Vital Villages • Wellesley Center for Women and Children • West End House • Young People's Project and YMCA of Greater Boston.

Each committee is working to identify new pilot programs ...to expedite movement on the goals they have articulated and... increase positive outcomes for all young children.



Summer Learning Academies

On Track for High School Graduation

Summer Learning Academies

In 2018 the Boston Public Schools and nonprofit partner Boston After School & Beyond expanded their flagship summer learning offering, the Boston Summer Learning Academies, to impact 5,485 high need Boston students in grades K-12. This expansion, fueled by a historic \$3.1 million in funding support from the Boston Public Schools (BPS), marks substantial growth from serving 2,307 students in summer 2017. Supported by the Boston Opportunity Agenda, the Summer Learning Academies (SLAs) aim to: reverse summer learning loss; improve the skills associated with school, college and career success; and deepen school-community partnerships.

An evidence-based approach launched in 2010 and now embedded in public policy, this summer learning model integrates rigorous academics with engaging enrichment activities, mobilizing partnerships between schools and community organizations and leveraging the natural, cultural and historic resources of Boston. Across SLA sites, certified academic teachers and enrichment staff co-develop and co-deliver academic and enrichment programming to prepare students for success in the next grade level. This integrated approach enables students to apply their academic learning in hands-on, experiential ways, and develop the social and emotional skills needed to succeed in school, work and life. SLAs use a common platform to measure student skill development over the summer, which is shared among a broad network of summer programs in Boston. Together, SLAs and the broader summer learning community – now known as the 5th Quarter of Learning – impacted 12,552

students in the summer of 2018. Representatives from each program site convene regularly to share best practices based on data around program quality and student skill development, and identify ways to improve their programs the following summer. This data-driven approach is at the forefront of innovation in youth development and summer learning nationally.

Summer Learning Partners

ACEDONE • Achieve • Alliance for Inclusion and Prevention • BELL (Building Educated Leaders for Life) • Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology • Berklee College of Music • Bethel A.M.E. Church • Bird Street Community Center • Boston Area Health Education Center • Boston Arts Academy • The Boston Foundation • Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center • Boston Day and Evening Academy • Boston Private Industry Council • Boston Public Schools • Boston Scores • Boston University • Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Boston • Boston Plan for Excellence (BPE) • Breakthrough Greater Boston • Brigham and Women's Hospital • Burke High School • Calculus Project • Camp Harbor View • Community Music Center of Boston • Courageous Sailing • Crossroads Dearborn STEM Academy • DotHouse Health • Empow Studios • Freedom House • Generation Teach • Hale Reservation • Harlem Lacrosse • Harvard-Kent School • Haynes Early Education Center • Health Resources in Action • The LEAH Project • Horizons at Dedham Country Day School • Imagine That • Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción (IBA) • Josiah Quincy Elementary School • Josiah Quincy Upper School • Leahy Holloran Community Center • Mass Audubon's Boston Nature Center • MassArt • Artward Bound

- Neighborhood Network Center Inc. • North Bennet Street School • Northeastern University • Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation • Phillips Brooks House Association • Sociedad Latina • Sportsmen’s Tennis and Enrichment Center • The Steppingstone Foundation • St. Stephen’s Youth Programs • Thompson Island Outward Bound • Tierney Learning Center • University of Massachusetts Boston • UMass Boston Institute for Learning and Teaching • VietAid • Wentworth Institute of Technology • Wheelock College • World Ocean School • YMCA of Greater Boston and Zoo New England.

2018 Summer Results

Impact on Student Skill Development: Boston’s summer learning network continues to make real progress in improving critical skills essential for college and career success. In the summer of 2018, teachers rated students as significantly improved in math and English Language Arts, and reported that students made gains in all six social-emotional skills measured: critical thinking, communication, perseverance, relationships with adults, relationships with peers and self-regulation.

High Quality Programs: Summer learning programs are observed and rated by peers who are trained in the Assessment of Program Practices Tool (APT) tool. In the summer of 2018, programs on average exceeded the research-based benchmark on 14 of 15 domains, falling just short of reaching benchmark in Nature of Activity (though this domain did see a small improvement compared to results from the summer of 2017). Student attendance also

continued a positive trend, with programs reporting average 86.2% daily attendance rates in the summer of 2018, compared to 83% in the summer of 2017. This data was encouraging, as attendance plays a critical role in students’ academic gains and skill development over the course of the summer.

Local and National Impact

Boston’s summer programs were part of the largest, most rigorous national study to date on summer learning, commissioned by the Wallace Foundation and researched by the RAND Corporation. The fall 2016 report, *Learning from Summer*, showed that students who attend summer learning programs at high rates outperform control groups in math, reading and social-emotional skills, and these significant advantages persist over the course of the entire school year. These findings were a driving factor in the BPS’s decision to substantially increase its financial investment in the SLA model over the past few years. In November of 2018, BPS released a call for proposals for the 5th Quarter Opportunity Portfolio to identify sites for 2019 Summer Learning Academies. This Request for Proposals yielded 116 applicants, of which 74 programs were accepted into the Portfolio and are expected to serve over 7,500 students in the summer of 2019. In July of 2018, Governor Charlie Baker and the state legislature included a \$500,000 line item in the FY19 budget to expand Boston’s proven summer learning model across the Commonwealth. This commitment marks a critical victory for the summer learning field, enabling more than 1,000 students across the state to access rigorous and engaging summer learning opportunities.

The Boston Summer Learning Academies impacts 5,485 high-need Boston students in grades K-12.

Boston Opportunity Youth Collaborative

Building Pathways for Opportunity Youth

Boston's
opportunity youth
include
the 7,000
young people in
Boston who are
16-24 years old
and are
not in school
or working

Convened by the Boston Opportunity Agenda and the Boston Private Industry Council, the Opportunity Youth Collaborative (OYC) is a group of more than 80 stakeholders who have been working together for the last six years to expand and better connect education and employment pathways available to Boston's opportunity youth or the 7,000 young people in Boston who are 16-24 years old and are not in school or working. During that time, the OYC has conducted research, shared data and mapped programs and pathways designed to support youth in their education and careers. Currently, the Collaborative is focused on ensuring that lessons learned through our initiatives, focus groups and research over the past five years become part of the larger systems that touch Opportunity Youth (OY).

In November of 2018, the OYC released a report summarizing our experiences and the lessons learned over the Collaborative's first six years, and providing recommendations for policy and practice going forward. The report is grounded in the considerable knowledge of our program partners, who helped us to lift up actionable, promising practices to guide this work. The recommendations are primarily focused on the alignment of resources, metrics and curriculum across systems, and urge a more holistic strategy for youth development that combines traditional education, career exposure, and social-emotional learning.

For older OY with a high school credential, the OYC launched the Connection Center, run by X-Cel Education through December of 2017. A one-stop resource center, the project was designed to reach out to young people, assess their career needs, and make

informed, supported referrals to postsecondary education, job training and employment supports. During its three-year pilot phase, the Connection Center screened over 500 young people and connected more than 200 with education and training programs. Though the OYC elected not to continue the Connection Center as a stand-alone facility, the outreach, assessment and referral activities are being continued through Launch, a state Department of Housing and Community Development-funded initiative to serve opportunity youth living in public housing and through the Boston Re-Engagement Center.

The OYC works with the district on improving student engagement. This work takes place in the context of the Attendance Advisory Committee, which is working to reduce chronic absenteeism and efforts to realign the alternative education options to better meet the needs of off-track students. Taken together, these initiatives are focused on increasing student attendance and engagement with the ultimate goal of increasing the number and percentage of students who graduate.

The Youth Voice Project (YVP), a pillar of the OYC and a national model for youth voice, continued to represent Boston's young people in the Collaborative's work by engaging critically with questions of policy and practice. This year, the Youth Voice Project took on an expanded role, and has become something of an institution in Boston's youth development scene. The YVP supported data collection and analysis for the Rennie Center's new report on career pathways for opportunity youth. It also took on an advisory role to inform program design for a new implementation project designed

to reconnect young people to career pathways, in addition to its continued work supporting the OYC's collective impact goals locally, and representing Boston's youth development community on the national stage.

The Collaborative will continue to engage and elevate the profile of Opportunity Youth of Boston and scale pathways through data collection, convening activities and research.

Community Partners: Action for Boston Community Development

• Allston Brighton Community Development Corporation • American Student Assistance • America's Promise Alliance • Angell Foundation • Asian American Civic Association • The Lloyd G. Balfour Foundation • Barr Foundation • Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology • Boston Asian Youth Essential Service • Bunker Hill Community College • Bird Street Community Center • Black Ministerial Alliance • Boston After School and Beyond • Boston Link • Boston Cares • Boston Centers for Youth and Families • Boston Day and Evening • The Boston Foundation • Boston Mayor's Office • Boston Public Schools • Boston STRIVE • Boston Youth Service Network • B-PEACE for Jorge • Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston • Bridge over Troubled Waters • Brigham & Women's Hospital • City of Boston • City Year • College Bound Dorchester • College & Career Readiness Massachusetts • Committee for Public Counsel Services • Commonwealth Corporation • Community Work Services • Community Call • Diamond Educators Mentoring Inc. • Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation • Dorchester Youth Collaborative • Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative • East

Boston Neighborhood Health Center • ESAC-GED Plus • Executive Office of Health and Human Services • Freedom House • Future Chefs • Health Resources in Action • Higher Ground • Hull Lifesaving Museum • The Hyams Foundation • Hyde Square Task Force • Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción • Innercity Weightlifting • Justice Resource Institute • Jewish Vocational Service (JVS) • JFYNetWorks • KeySteps • Liberty Mutual Foundation • Madison Park Development Corporation • Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education • Massachusetts Communities Action Network (MCAN) • Massachusetts Department of Youth Services • Mayor's Office of Workforce Development • More Than Words • Multicultural Dropout Outreach Collaborative • New England Center for Arts and Technology (NECAT) • New England Community Services • New Horizons Boston CLC • New Profit • Northeastern University • NorthStar Learning Centers • Notre Dame Education Center • OneGoal Massachusetts • Ostiguy High School • Partnerships Advancing Communities Together (PACT) • Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps • Roca Inc. • Roxbury Community College • Roxbury Youthworks • RoxMAPP • SkillWorks • Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation • Sociedad Latina • State Street Corporation • Teen Empowerment • Trinity Boston Foundation • United Way of Massachusetts Bay & Merrimack Valley • Urban College of Boston • Whole Foods • X-Cel Education • Year Up • Youth Hub • Youth Options Unlimited • Youth on Board • Youth Voice Project • YouthBuild Boston • YouthBuild Just A Start and Youth Options Unlimited Boston.



Success Boston: Boston's Citywide College Completion Initiative

Getting Ready, Getting In, Getting Through, Getting Connected

Success Boston is a citywide college completion initiative. Its goal is to dramatically increase the rate of postsecondary completion for Boston Public Schools (BPS) graduates.

Launched in 2008 in response to a longitudinal study by Northeastern University's Center for Labor Market Studies, which found that only 35% of BPS graduates who enrolled in college completed an Associate's or Bachelor's degree by age 25, Success Boston is a citywide college completion initiative. Its goal is to dramatically increase the rate of postsecondary completion for Boston Public Schools (BPS) graduates. Convened by the Mayor, Success Boston seeks to double the number of graduates who achieve a postsecondary degree. The specific goal has been a 70% college completion rate within six years of high school graduation for the BPS Class of 2011. Success Boston works across systems and sectors and its partner organizations are implementing a four-part strategy to ensure that students are *Getting Ready, Getting In, Getting Through and Getting Connected*.

Getting Ready

The BPS is the lead partner for the Getting Ready goal and is working to strengthen student readiness for success by increasing the academic rigor of high school, strengthening college advising, and partnering with Boston Afterschool & Beyond to strengthen the social-emotional skills and abilities that will help students succeed in their postsecondary pursuits. Since 2008, core readiness activities have included expanding access to Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and dual enrollment courses that will prepare students to meet the demands of college. In 2017, BPS adopted a College, Career and Life Readiness Definition and Framework, which has been guiding its work since then.

Getting In

Convened by the Boston Foundation, nonprofit partners bridge the high school to college experience by providing financial aid advising and "transition coaching." Launched with the class of 2009, nine nonprofits work with students, typically beginning in their senior year of high school, to help them make the transition from high school to college. Coaches meet with students—individually and in groups, on the college campus and in the community—and maintain regular contact through texting, emails and phone calls. In 2014, Success Boston received a Social Innovation Fund grant that scaled coaching from approximately 300 students per graduating class to 1,000 per graduating class, beginning with the high school class of 2015. Every community college student who attended a Boston high school is eligible for coaching, and in 2017 Success Boston partnered with the Mayor's Tuition Free Community College program to ensure that students had access to a coach. Coaching partners include Bottom Line, Boston Private Industry Council, College Bound Dorchester, Freedom House, Hyde Square Task Force, Match Beyond, Sociedad Latina, Steppingstone and West End House Boys & Girls Club. These organizations work directly with students and in partnership with student support services at area colleges to integrate the system of transition supports for all students. The nonprofit uAspire provides financial aid advising for students, as well as training and support for nonprofits. Early data suggests students who receive coaching are more likely to re-enroll and persist in their first and second years of college.

Getting Through

Convened by University of Massachusetts Boston and Bunker Hill Community College, 37 local postsecondary institutions have committed to support Boston’s students through to completion of their postsecondary credential. Campuses track student data and provide “just in time” supports for students who need it. Campuses have built partnerships on other campuses, and in 2017, joined together to participate in a pilot effort to identify students who had “stopped out” of their higher education journey. Individual campuses developed plans to reach out to students to encourage them to re-enroll and shared best practices. In 2018, Success Boston received a grant from StriveTogether to complete a data segmentation analysis of stop outs. This research, conducted by Success Boston partners, will inform the implementation of practices designed to stem stop outs based on a wide variety of stop out profiles.

In addition, campuses have built strong partnerships with nonprofit partners, in some instances “embedding” coaches—from their own student support staff and from nonprofit partners—on site as part of campus support offerings. In 2017, Success Boston was awarded a Talent Hub grant from the Lumina Foundation, which currently supports the creation of clear, structured pathways for students. This work is piloted at Bunker Hill Community College and UMass Boston, and aims to help students understand program and transfer requirements. Bunker Hill and UMass Boston are two of the most common destinations for students from the BPS.

Getting Connected

Convened by the Boston Private Industry Council (PIC), the Getting Connected goal focuses on building career advising and awareness with students in high school and college, and encourages employers to provide internships and part-time jobs that not only help students pay for their education but also expose them to potential career pathways. The PIC connects high school and college students to summer jobs, and is currently working to build career advising capacity in partnership with high schools and colleges.

Results

College enrollment rates for BPS graduates have steadily increased, as have college completion rates. Overall, 52% of students from the BPS Class of 2011 who enrolled in college in the first year after high school completed a degree within six years. Lower than the ambitious goal of 70% set at Success Boston’s launch, this completion rate is nonetheless the highest on record for BPS graduates. In addition, for the [revised] baseline Class of 2000, 735 students earned a college degree within seven years. By comparison, for the Class of 2011, 1,304 students earned a college credential within six years—up 77% from the baseline class. Success Boston partners believe that the cross-sector partnerships contribute to this growth by improving academic readiness and providing large numbers of students with transition coaching and on-campus supports.





About Us

The Boston Opportunity Agenda (BOA) is a public/private partnership that works to increase dramatically the pace and scale of change in education for all children in Boston. Our focus is on students who experience the least access to successful pathways and to the education necessary for upward economic mobility, civic engagement and lifelong learning for themselves and their families.

Our vision: All of Boston's children and youth are prepared to succeed in college, career and life. We fervently believe that by combining our resources, expertise and influence around a single agenda, we will have a greater impact on Boston's cradle-to-career educational pipeline.

While Boston has many excellent programs and organizations that focus on providing opportunities for individuals, the Boston Opportunity Agenda is a long-term partnership focused on achieving systemic change that will ultimately affect all Boston residents.

The partnership, which is entering its ninth year, is governed by the CEOs of each member organization. Together, they identify strategic issues facing our education pipeline in whole or in part, formulate the Boston Opportunity Agenda priorities and strategies, and provide a call to action for community stakeholders.

Our Strategies for Driving Change

Data and Public Accountability: Accurate and timely data is both a call to action and an accountability mechanism. We are committed to regularly reporting progress on key metrics and encouraging the use of common definitions, metrics and benchmarks across the pipeline to track Boston as it works toward achieving its education goals.

Collective Action: We convene diverse stakeholders to establish and tackle big goals, forming networks that share data and best practices and engage in continuous improvement. We also source and invest in catalytic solutions to increase the pace and scale of change.

We have created multiple ways for others to join us:

- **Investing Partners** contribute financial and human resources to our priority initiatives.
- **Philanthropic Partners** align their education investments to support our priority initiatives or advance our goals, sharing common data collection, tools and analysis.
- **Community Partners** join one of the priority investment networks and align one or more of their education programs in support of our goals. They share common data collection tools and analysis as well as participate in continuous improvement work.

Our current partners are identified in the programmatic updates section of the report card. To learn more about becoming a Boston Opportunity Agenda partner at any level please contact Kristin McSwain at Kristin.McSwain@bostonopportunityagenda.org.

These generous investors have made the Boston Opportunity Agenda's accomplishments possible

Annie E. Casey Foundation
Aspen Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund
Paul & Edith Babson Foundation
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This report card is dedicated to Reverend Ray Hammond who has served as Chair of the Boston Opportunity Agenda since its founding. The CEOs and all of the participants associated with the Boston Opportunity Agenda are deeply grateful for your eight years of service and numerous contributions to this ambitious and important work. Thank you for your leadership and for your profound commitment to improving educational opportunities for learners of all ages across our great city.



www.bostonopportunityagenda.org