Higher Education in Florida: Trends and Key Issues

1990-2014

The LeRoy Collins Institute

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Key Observations

Florida universities are more accessible than those in many other states
On attainment state scores more poorly
Funding falls short
Possible impacts
Similar trends in state college system
Percent Black and Hispanic in Population and in SUS

The percent black enrolled in SUS institutions is currently less than the population, while Hispanic enrollment has recently caught up with the population.

% black and Hispanic in FL population and enrolled in state university system, 1990-2013

Sources: Florida Board of Governors Fall Headcount Enrollment Interactive Database; US Census State Population Estimates
6-Year FTIC Graduation Rates Over Time
System wide 6-year graduation rates have increased by 10% since the 1990-1996 cohort.

Note: First time in college metric is based on the percentage of first-time-in-college (FTIC) students who started in the Fall (or summer continuing to Fall) term and graduated from the same institution within six years. The System rates are based on graduates from anywhere in the system.
Source: State University System of Florida Factbook 56 and Florida Board of Governors Historical Accountability Reports
Graduation rates vary widely within the Florida State University System, from FAMU at 39% to UF at 87%, with a system average of 71%.
Average Debt of Graduates in Large Southern States, 2011
Florida schools graduate students with less debt than other states.

Source: The Institute for College Access & Success, College InSight
More than half of Florida fall enrollment received Pell Grants, a higher percentage than other southern states and nationally.

% of fall enrollment receiving Pell Grants, 2011

- North Carolina: 39%
- Texas: 47%
- Georgia: 49%
- Florida: 54%
- State Average: 38%

Source: The Institute for College Access & Success, College InSight
Florida's Educational Attainment Compared to the Other States

Florida’s attainment rate (bachelor’s degree or higher) lags behind the national average, ranked as the 37th nationally.

% of Adults (Age 25 – 64) with Bachelor’s Degree or higher, 2013

Source: Postsecondary Analytics using American Community Survey 1-year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS), http://www.postsecondaryanalytics.com/edattain_tool/
## Educational Attainment National Rankings

Florida’s attainment rates fall below the national average at all degree levels (adults aged 25-64).

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Some College or Higher</td>
<td>59.7%</td>
<td>61.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate or Higher</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
<td>39.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s or Higher</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Degree</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
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Source: Florida’s attainment rate and ranking was from Postsecondary Analytics using American Community Survey 1-year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS), [http://www.postsecondaryanalytics.com/edattain_tool/](http://www.postsecondaryanalytics.com/edattain_tool/)
State Revenue per Full-Time Equivalent Student, 1990-2013
Revenue decreased by about $4000 per FTE from 2006 until 2012, but increased by $1500 per FTE in 2013.

Source: Florida Board of Governors School Factbooks
Note: Full-time equivalent student is full-time students plus one-third of part-time students.
State Appropriations Compared to Student Tuition, Over Time

In 1990, for every $1 a student paid in tuition, the state appropriated $4.50. In 2013 it’s about $1 to $1.

Source: Florida Board of Governors Schools Factbooks
In-State Tuition and Fees SUS, Over Time

Average tuition and fees (adjusted for inflation) for undergraduates taking 30 credit hours have increased by about $4000 since 1990.

Source: Florida Board of Governors Schools Factbooks
Out-of-State Students in Large Southern States’ Universities

Florida universities have far fewer out-of-states students than those in Georgia and North Carolina.

Note: Georgia combined out-of-state enrollment with alien non-residents, while North Carolina and Florida made no mention of that category.

Sources: The University of North Carolina Data Dashboard; The University System of Georgia Enrollment Report; Florida Board of Governors Interactive Enrollment Data
Percent Out-of-State Enrollment by University

% out-of-state enrollment by university, 2011

Source: Florida Board of Governors Enrollment Data
Faculty to Non-Instructional Employees Ratio, Over Time

Since 2006, the number of faculty members for every administrator has decreased steadily for State University System institutions.

Source: Florida Board of Governors Accountability Reports
Student-Faculty Ratios for 4-Year Public Universities

Florida 4-Year institutions have more students per faculty member than other large southern states, as well as the average of all states.

Ratio of FTE students to FTE faculty in 4-Year public universities in large southern states, 2011

Source: National Center for Education Statistics
Student-Faculty Ratios of Public Colleges
Florida Colleges also have a higher student-faculty ratio than other large southern states and nationally.

Sources: NCES IPEDS Fall Headcount Enrollment & US Census July Estimates
Minority Enrollment in Florida Colleges Compared to Population

Black and Hispanic students are overrepresented in Florida Public Colleges compared to the Florida Population.

Aggregate Minority Enrollment as a Percent of Total Enrollment

Sources: NCES IPEDS Fall Headcount Enrollment & US Census July Estimates
The number of bachelor’s degrees awarded by state colleges increased each year for each school. In 2013, St. Petersburg College awarded the highest number of bachelor’s degrees.

Source: SREB State Data Exchange and NCES IPEDS Completions
Note: Data matched between the two sources except as to 2011, where the SREB listed 952 degrees awarded by St. John's and 18 degrees by St. Petersburg as opposed to by St. Petersburg and Santa Fe, respectively. The NCES data was consistent with trends in the data and appeared more likely to be correct.
Higher Education and the Collins Institute: Lots to Do