



A+
Colorado
SHARPENING
PUBLIC
EDUCATION

A SEAT AT THE TABLE

COLORADO STUDENTS' ACCESS TO TOP COLLEGES

REISSUED
JANUARY 2019

AN ORANGE PAPER BY A+ COLORADO

Letter to the Reader

A+ Colorado is pleased to reissue A Seat at the Table: Colorado Students' Access to Top Colleges. Originally released in December 2017, A+ rescinded the report after discovering a significant problem, raised by Cheyenne Mountain Superintendent Dr. Walt Cooper, with the underlying data that tracked Colorado high school students' matriculation to 300 of the nation's selective colleges and universities.

Due to underlying data provided by the Colorado Department of Higher Education not including data from the full list of these colleges and universities, there was a significant discrepancy in the reported and actual matriculation data. A+ Colorado and Colorado Department of Higher Education partnered to identify, and correct the mistake. This reissued report, to the best of our knowledge, corrects this information.

At A+ Colorado we consider it our great privilege to analyze and provide accurate education data to the public, and it is not one we take lightly. We hope this reissued report underscores our commitment to ensuring families, students, educators, and stakeholders are well informed with valid, transparent data.

We look forward to the conversations this report sparks regarding which Colorado students are accessing our most selective colleges and universities. We hope Colorado can build upon this information and become the nation's leader in providing public information about student access to quality postsecondary pathways.

Thank you,

Van Schoales

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Acknowledgments

A+ Colorado would like to thank the Colorado Department of Higher Education -- and in particular, former and current employees: Dr. Beth Bean, Luke Banaszak, Michael Vente, and Maggie Yang for their support in collecting, validating and providing the data that were foundational to this report.

We also extend our deep gratitude to Dr. Walt Cooper, Superintendent in Cheyenne Mountain, for his attentiveness to the data, and his commitment to ensuring communities have accurate information about quality college access.

The Importance of College

Whether students are set up to access and succeed in postsecondary programs is a critical measure of the value of a student's high school education. Given this, A+ Colorado put out a report in 2014, "Missing the Bus" which took a look at which Colorado high schools sent students to our nation's most selective colleges. We thought it was time to fine tune this inquiry, and dig deeper into the data for a broader group of students, focusing on students from different family economic backgrounds, and students of different races and ethnicities.

The centerpiece of the American Dream is upward mobility, but over the past 50 years in the United States we have seen economic inequality increase, and economic mobility decline to one of the lowest mobility rates amongst major industrialized economies.¹ Improving access to college and other postsecondary pathways is key to making the American Dream a reality.²

While college may not be the best path for every student, a college degree is one of the most important factors in determining a person's lifetime economic opportunities. All students should be given the opportunity to attend college, not just our country's upper class, for whom access to higher education has been concentrated. It should be a choice for every student, not one made for them by a school system that sorts students by race, income and geography.³ Regardless of their family's economic position, students who attend college are significantly more likely to earn more money than their parents or students without a college degree.⁴ Of course, there are other postsecondary paths that provide excellent economic opportunities for

students such as enlisting in the military or earning a postsecondary trade certificate. This report, however, focuses on a college degree as a powerful engine for upward mobility.

College graduates' median income is twice the median income of high school graduates. The median lifetime earnings of people with a bachelor's degree is 74%, or nearly \$1 million, more than those who hold just a high school diploma.⁵ The most recent unemployment rates for people with bachelor's degrees is 2.5% while the rate for high school graduates is 5.3%.⁶ This gap grows dramatically during economic downturns.

However, particular colleges and degree programs vary enormously in their quality and return on investment. Not all colleges support all students to graduate and not all degrees are created equal.⁷ Some colleges provide students with a \$1 million return on investment over 20 years. On the other hand, some for-profit and online colleges end up delivering a net loss to students.⁸ Research shows that earnings for students at any given college do not vary widely for students from low- and high-income family backgrounds.⁹ This means it is critical for students to be prepared for college, and it is equally critical that students are prepared to choose a college that will serve them well.

About 57% of all Colorado graduates from the class of 2015 enrolled in a postsecondary institution the year after they graduated. While an uptick from the class of 2014, it is still below the peak when 59% of 2009 Colorado graduates matriculated to a postsecondary institution.¹⁰ Figure 1 shows that statewide matriculation rates have

not changed significantly over time and that there remain massive gaps in college matriculation in Colorado along lines of income and ethnicity.

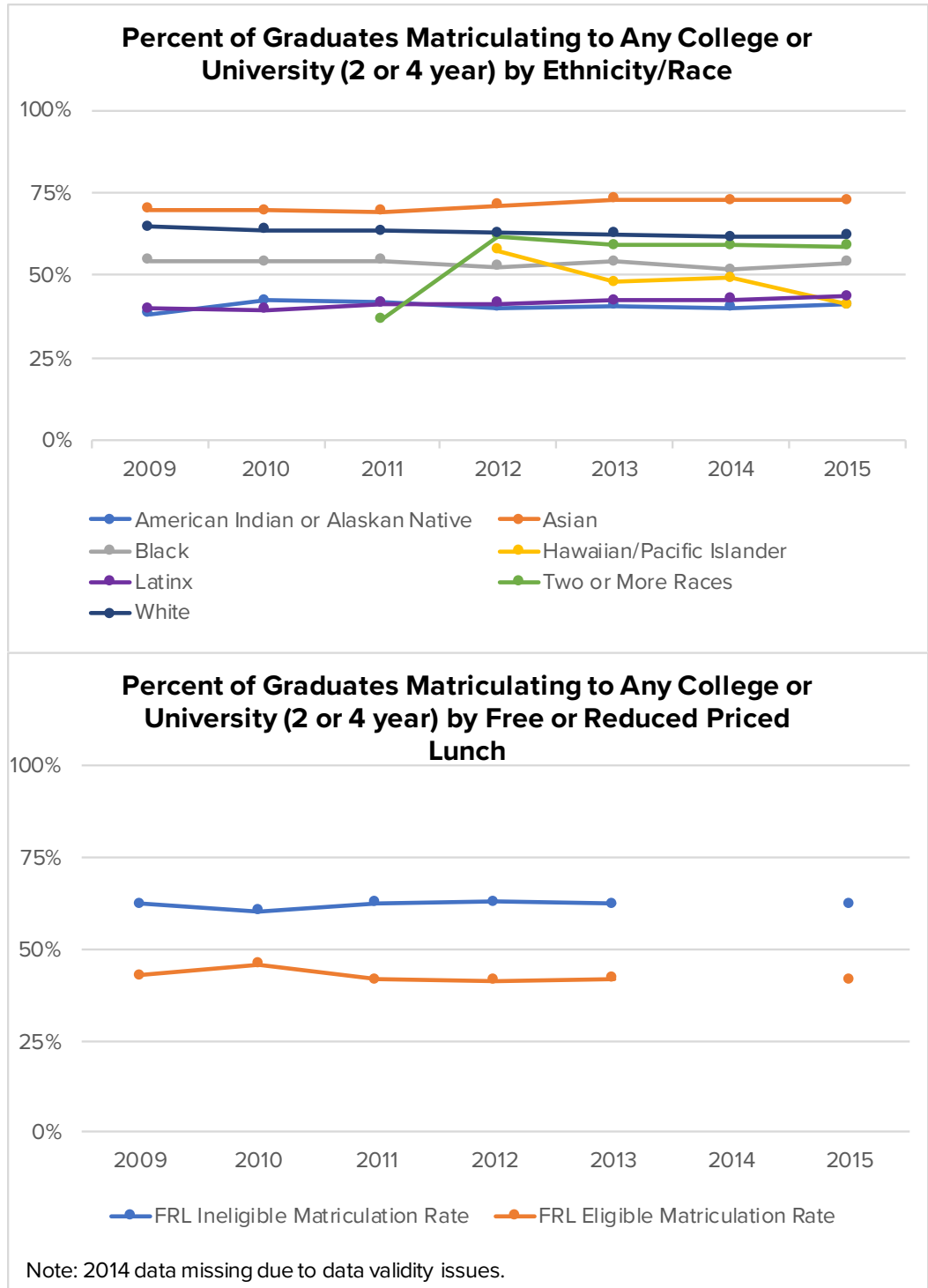
Further, when looking at matriculation to top postsecondary programs (see Methodology on page 8 for how top programs are defined in this report), access is similarly unequal by race and socioeconomic background. Figure 2 shows that with the exception of Asian students, access to top schools stayed fairly constant for students across racial and ethnic groups and socioeconomic backgrounds from 2009 to 2015.

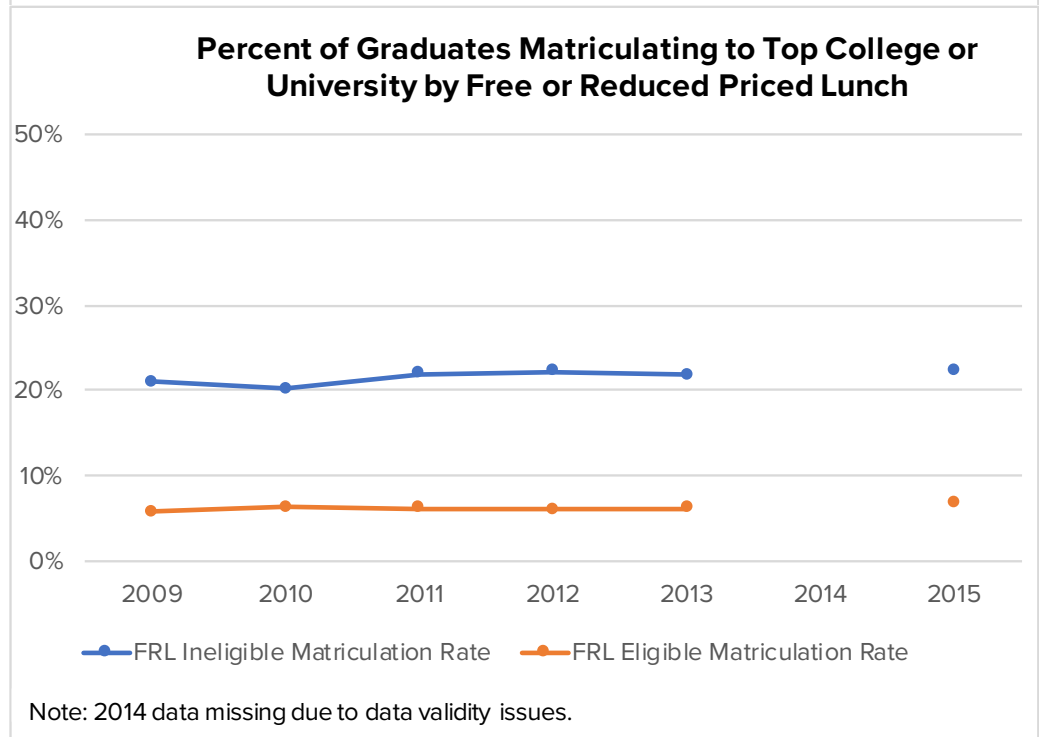
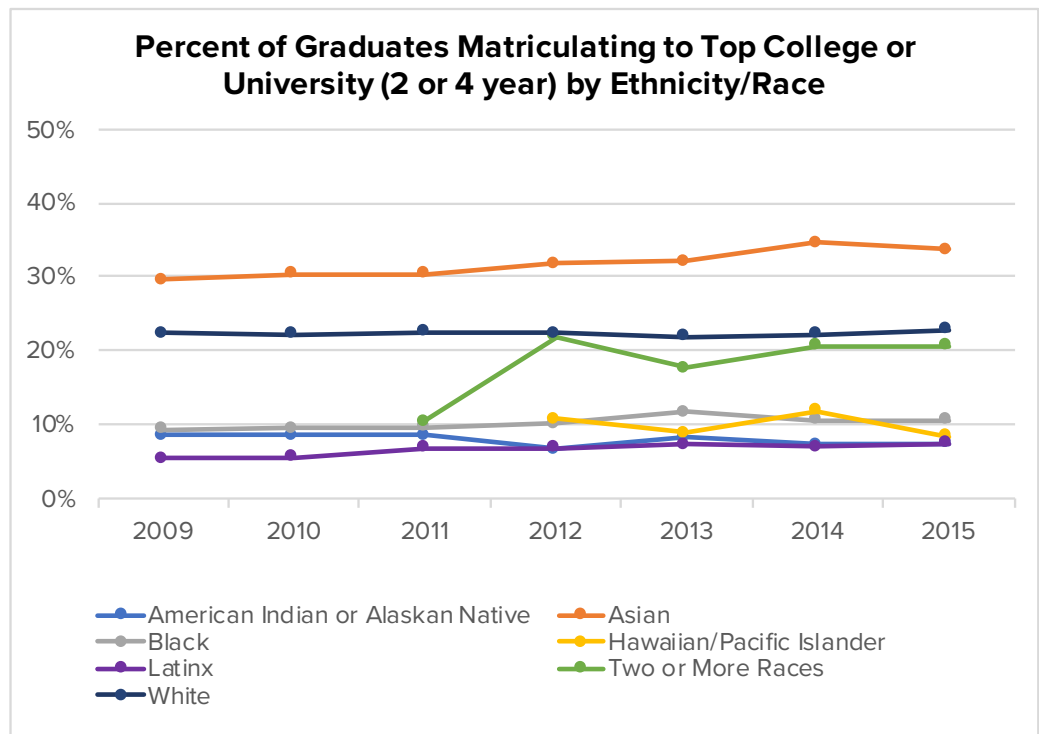
An analysis in the New York Times showed that, despite affirmative action policies and increases in the number of black and Latinx students enrolled in college, those students have become increasingly underrepresented at elite colleges compared to their share of the college-age population.¹¹ While there is a critical role for elite higher education institutions to play to broaden access, much of the underrepresentation of students of color and low-income students in elite postsecondary institutions stems from inequities these groups face earlier in the education system that leave them unprepared to access these institutions.¹²

The linchpin for college success is the high school. High schools, like colleges, vary enormously in quality. There are approximately 540 high schools in Colorado. Some prepare most students for college and career, while others fail

to equip students with the essential knowledge and skills to navigate life after graduation. Most high schools are reflective of the demographics of their communities and often do little to prepare students to access programs that would improve their economic opportunities. A high quality high school education is one that can dramatically change a person's lifetime earnings and trajectory.

In this follow up to "Missing the Bus", A+ Colorado takes a look at where Colorado high school students attend college over seven years, since the state started collecting the data from the National Student Clearinghouse in 2009. Few states collect disaggregated college matriculation data that includes public and private institutions across the country. We are fortunate to have this data in Colorado, but even here this information is not widely distributed. Indeed we have little information about the types of programs that students are attending beyond two-versus four-year programs. The data in this report are one look at access to quality programming. There are other ways to examine the data to investigate student access and success in postsecondary programs, and there is an opportunity for Colorado to be a leader in providing transparent information about student access to quality options.





Data & Methodology

The Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE) tracks Colorado high school graduates' matriculation to any postsecondary institution (two- and four-year degree programs), using its own data system to track in-state matriculation, and partnering with the National Student Clearinghouse to track matriculation to private and out-of-state programs.

CDHE provided A+ school-level disaggregated matriculation data by family income, and by race/ethnicity for the classes of 2009-2015. CDHE first started partnering with the National Student Clearinghouse to track this data in 2009. Due to data validity issues, data from the class of 2014, disaggregated by family income, is not included in the analysis.

Per A+ Colorado's request, CDHE provided the matriculation data by "top schools" and any program. The list of "top schools" includes the 150 highest ranked national universities and 150 highest ranked colleges by U.S. News and World Report in 2016, which we used as a proxy for high quality postsecondary options. While no list of the "top colleges" is perfect, this collection of 300 schools represents a diverse group of institutions, with an average acceptance rate of 54%,

weighted by school size. In Colorado, it includes University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University, United States Air Force Academy, and Colorado College. The list also includes schools that are part of the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE), where Colorado students are eligible for a reduced tuition rate, including University of Arizona, Arizona State University, University of Utah, and Washington State University. A list of included schools can be found on the A+ Colorado website at apluscolorado.org.

To be included in A+'s list of top 20 high schools that were best supporting students to access top colleges, high schools must have had at least 16 graduates in the cohort of interest across the seven years of included data, and have sent at least 4 graduates to a top-tier school. This is in accordance with current reporting practices used by the Colorado Department of Education to protect personally identifiable information.

To the best of our knowledge the data included in this report is accurate and reliable. It is worth underscoring that the included data is linked across multiple data systems and agencies.

Findings

We wanted to know which high schools are sending which students to top colleges. Here is what we found:

Colorado high school diplomas are not equal. Between 2009 and 2015, 23% of high schools had no graduates who matriculated to a top school. Yet it is not just access to top colleges that is low in many schools across the state. Just half of all high schools in Colorado send a majority of their graduates to any postsecondary program. That means there is incredible variability amongst Colorado high schools.

Slow progress in helping students access top colleges. There has been a slight increase in the number of Colorado high schools where students can access pipelines for selective colleges. In 2009-2011, 232 schools (51% of all high schools) sent at least 5% of their graduates to top schools. In 2013-2015, 243 schools (53% of all high schools) did so.

There are significant disparities in access to top schools for different student groups. There are 205 (38%) high schools that sent at least 10% of their graduates who were not eligible for free or reduced price lunch to a top college or university; however, only 74 (14%) high schools sent at least 10% of their graduates who were eligible for free or reduced price lunch to a top college or university. Gaps by race and ethnicity are vast. 209 (39%) high schools sent at least 10% of their white graduates to a top school after graduation, only 52 (13%) sent the same proportion of black graduates, and 80 (15%) sent the same proportion of Latinx graduates to a top school.

Income matters but is not destiny. Many of the schools that are most successful at helping students access top colleges are located within wealthy communities. Yet there are school communities that serve primarily low-income students that are successful in supporting those students to access top colleges. For example, DSST: Green Valley Ranch, Denver Center for International Studies, and KIPP Denver Collegiate High School serve student bodies that are majority low-income and are amongst the top 20 schools in the state at sending those same students to top colleges. These schools can compete with schools in wealthier communities in terms of getting low-income students to top postsecondary options.

Rural high schools are as varied as suburban or urban in supporting students to access postsecondary options, though few rural schools get students into selective colleges. There are small rural high schools that support most students to go to college yet there are also large parts of Colorado where few or no students matriculate to any of the nation's best colleges.

High test scores (ACT or SAT) matter, but so do other aspects of high school. In general, schools whose students had higher ACT scores on average than students with similar backgrounds tended to have higher matriculation rates at top colleges for those students. However, there are also schools where students have some of the highest ACT scores for different student groups and are not amongst the high schools sending higher proportions of those students to top colleges. This raises questions about why more students from those schools— who are arguably more prepared for college— are not accessing opportunities at top schools.

Recommendations

The following recommendations rely on strong partnerships between state agencies like the Colorado Department of Higher Education, the Colorado Department of Education, the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, and the Colorado Office of Economic Development; between school districts and state agencies; between districts, schools, and students and their families. Collaboration between these groups is critical to better support Colorado's current students and future graduates.

1. Expand measurement and information sharing about matriculation. Colorado should differentiate the current annual reporting on high school to college matriculation to include postsecondary quality, certificate programs, apprenticeship programs, and the military so that students, families, educators, and policymakers have a full picture of Colorado's education pipelines. While matriculation is the first step for students to access the opportunities that tend to follow a college degree, it is critical to track continued persistence and graduation information for these students who matriculated to better understand the success of Colorado high schools at preparing students for college, and which colleges are better serving students.

2. Improve reporting systems that focus on quality of postsecondary options. The Colorado Department of Higher Education

should better collaborate with the Colorado Department of Education to measure and communicate the quality of postsecondary options to high school students and their families. Colorado should work across agencies to understand how postsecondary programs support students during their time at the institution and into their career. Any effort locally should prioritize connecting to national efforts to understand and communicate college quality.

3. Improve Students' Access to Information. Schools, school districts and the state of Colorado should provide high school to college matriculation information that includes different types of higher education institutions, certificate and military programs so that students and families can access postsecondary opportunities that best meet the aspirations of students. Additionally, college matriculation information, particularly that differentiates the quality of postsecondary options that graduates access, should be included with other student achievement and graduation data to best understand the quality of any Colorado high school.

4. Expand High Quality Secondary Schools. Colorado and school districts need to support the development of more high schools that provide all students access to college and selective college pipelines, and these need to be distributed throughout the state.

Results

The following tables look at the 20 high schools in Colorado that best support students from different backgrounds to access top postsecondary programs. The results explore access by the largest racial and ethnic groups in the state (black, Latinx, and white students), and by family income as measured by free or reduced price lunch eligibility. Other tables show access in more remote communities, and where there have been changes over time. The full results for all high schools are available on the A+ Colorado website at apluscolorado.org.

These results are intended to be one source to look at which high schools are preparing students to be college ready.

For families looking to use this data to help select a high school for their children, we strongly encourage that they also investigate details about a school's culture, programs, course offerings, and teacher quality, as well as make a visit before deciding upon whether a school is an ideal match for a particular student. We believe these data about which schools send which students to which colleges are critical but not sufficient information for making a decision about the right high school for a particular family. A+ Colorado would urge readers to use these lists and other sources to gain a more comprehensive understanding of a high school's quality.

Matriculation Results By Student Group:

Table 1: *Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Priced Lunch: Matriculation to Top Tier Schools, Classes of 2009 - 2015*

Table 2: *Students Ineligible for Free or Reduced Priced Lunch: Matriculation to Top Tier Schools, Classes of 2009 - 2015*

Table 3: *Black Students: Matriculation to Top Tier Schools, Classes of 2009 - 2015*

Table 4: *Latinx Students: Matriculation to Top Tier Schools, Classes of 2009 - 2015*

Table 5: *White Students: Matriculation to Top Tier Schools, Classes of 2009 - 2015*

Table 6: *Rural or Small Town Students: Matriculation to Top Tier Schools, Classes of 2009 - 2015*

Table 7: *Schools With the Biggest Improvement in Top College Matriculation Rates 2009 - 2011 to 2013 - 2015*

**Table 1: Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Priced Lunch:
Matriculation to Top Tier Schools, Classes of 2009 - 2015**

	School District	High School	Total Graduates	% Enrolled - Top School	% Enrolled - Any Postsecondary Program
1	DENVER COUNTY 1	DSST: GREEN VALLEY RANCH HIGH SCHOOL	59	56%	85%
2	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	PEAK TO PEAK CHARTER SCHOOL	54	41%	74%
3	POUDRE R-1	RIDGEVIEW CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS	23	39%	74%
4	DENVER COUNTY 1	DSST: STAPLETON HIGH SCHOOL	202	34%	86%
5	DENVER COUNTY 1	DENVER SCHOOL OF THE ARTS	83	34%	75%
6	ST VRAIN VALLEY RE 1J	LYONS MIDDLE/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	33	30%	61%
7	TELLURIDE R-1	TELLURIDE HIGH SCHOOL	30	30%	47%
8	GUNNISON WATERSHED RE1J	CRESTED BUTTE SECONDARY SCHOOL	18	28%	50%
9	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	EVERGREEN HIGH SCHOOL	121	26%	70%
10	CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN 12	CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL	121	26%	68%
11	IDALIA RJ-3	IDALIA JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	24	25%	67%
12	DENVER COUNTY 1	DENVER CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES	153	25%	74%
13	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	FAIRVIEW HIGH SCHOOL	180	24%	57%
14	CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE	THE VANGUARD SCHOOL (HIGH)	22	23%	73%
15	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	ROCK CANYON HIGH SCHOOL	36	22%	78%
16	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	NEW VISTA HIGH SCHOOL	57	21%	46%
17	MAPLETON 1	FRONT RANGE EARLY COLLEGE	29	21%	34%
18	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	JEFFERSON ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL	44	20%	75%
19	LEWIS-PALMER 38	LEWIS-PALMER HIGH SCHOOL	79	20%	54%
20	DENVER COUNTY 1	KIPP DENVER COLLEGIATE HIGH SCHOOL	119	20%	82%

Table 2: Students Ineligible for Free or Reduced Priced Lunch: Matriculation to Top Tier Schools, Classes of 2009 - 2015

	School District	High School	Total Graduates	% Enrolled - Top School	% Enrolled - Any Postsecondary Program
1	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	FAIRVIEW HIGH SCHOOL	2641	59%	82%
2	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	PEAK TO PEAK CHARTER SCHOOL	717	52%	85%
3	POUDRE R-1	LIBERTY COMMON CHARTER SCHOOL	65	51%	82%
4	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	MONARCH HIGH SCHOOL	2081	50%	81%
5	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	BOULDER HIGH SCHOOL	2192	49%	75%
6	CHERRY CREEK 5	CHERRY CREEK HIGH SCHOOL	4695	49%	81%
7	ST VRAIN VALLEY RE 1J	NIWOT HIGH SCHOOL	1583	49%	81%
8	ASPEN 1	ASPEN HIGH SCHOOL	761	47%	75%
9	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	EVERGREEN HIGH SCHOOL	1326	46%	84%
10	POUDRE R-1	RIDGEVIEW CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS	235	46%	75%
11	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	ROCK CANYON HIGH SCHOOL	2129	46%	84%
12	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	D'EVELYN JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	825	44%	84%
13	DENVER COUNTY 1	EAST HIGH SCHOOL	2218	44%	77%
14	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	STEM MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL	21	43%	62%
15	DENVER COUNTY 1	DSST: STAPLETON HIGH SCHOOL	313	42%	82%
16	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	MOUNTAIN VISTA HIGH SCHOOL	2755	41%	80%
17	DENVER COUNTY 1	GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL	1030	41%	70%
18	POUDRE R-1	FOSSIL RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	2270	38%	79%
19	CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN 12	CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL	1875	38%	77%
20	LITTLETON 6	ARAPAHOE HIGH SCHOOL	3038	37%	78%

**Table 3: Black Students: Matriculation to Top Tier Schools,
Classes of 2009 - 2015**

	School District	High School	Total Graduates	% Enrolled - Top School	% Enrolled - Any Postsecondary Program
1	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	MOUNTAIN VISTA HIGH SCHOOL	51	47%	75%
2	DENVER COUNTY 1	DSST: GREEN VALLEY RANCH HIGH SCHOOL	20	45%	80%
3	DENVER COUNTY 1	DENVER CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES	35	43%	74%
4	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	ROCK CANYON HIGH SCHOOL	35	43%	94%
5	ACADEMY 20	DISCOVERY CANYON CAMPUS HIGH SCHOOL	19	42%	74%
6	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	THUNDERRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	31	35%	84%
7	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	FAIRVIEW HIGH SCHOOL	24	33%	71%
8	DENVER COUNTY 1	DSST: STAPLETON HIGH SCHOOL	166	33%	89%
9	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	LEGEND HIGH SCHOOL	17	29%	65%
10	ST VRAIN VALLEY RE 1J	ERIE HIGH SCHOOL	18	28%	50%
11	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	BROOMFIELD HIGH SCHOOL	34	26%	71%
12	LITTLETON 6	LITTLETON HIGH SCHOOL	66	24%	67%
13	ST VRAIN VALLEY RE 1J	LONGMONT HIGH SCHOOL	21	24%	71%
14	CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN 12	CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL	52	23%	71%
15	POUDRE R-1	FORT COLLINS HIGH SCHOOL	49	22%	61%
16	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	POMONA HIGH SCHOOL	45	22%	64%
17	POUDRE R-1	POUDRE HIGH SCHOOL	45	22%	64%
18	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	HIGHLANDS RANCH HIGH SCHOOL	82	22%	73%
19	DENVER COUNTY 1	DENVER SCHOOL OF THE ARTS	92	22%	72%
20	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	BOULDER HIGH SCHOOL	51	22%	67%

Table 4: Latinx Students: Matriculation to Top Tier Schools, Classes of 2009 - 2015

	School District	High School	Total Graduates	% Enrolled - Top School	% Enrolled - Any Postsecondary Program
1	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	ROCK CANYON HIGH SCHOOL	166	40%	83%
2	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	PEAK TO PEAK CHARTER SCHOOL	74	38%	85%
3	DENVER COUNTY 1	DSST: GREEN VALLEY RANCH HIGH SCHOOL	37	38%	78%
4	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	D'EVELYN JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	89	37%	91%
5	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	FAIRVIEW HIGH SCHOOL	213	35%	60%
6	POUDRE R-1	RIDGEVIEW CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS	20	35%	70%
7	POUDRE R-1	FOSSIL RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	211	31%	70%
8	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	MONARCH HIGH SCHOOL	187	30%	66%
9	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	RALSTON VALLEY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	244	29%	74%
10	ACADEMY 20	DISCOVERY CANYON CAMPUS HIGH SCHOOL	105	29%	69%
11	DENVER COUNTY 1	DSST: STAPLETON HIGH SCHOOL	191	27%	80%
12	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	EVERGREEN HIGH SCHOOL	71	27%	76%
13	ST VRAIN VALLEY RE 1J	LYONS MIDDLE/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	30	27%	67%
14	CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN 12	CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL	258	26%	74%
15	CHERRY CREEK 5	CHERRY CREEK HIGH SCHOOL	441	24%	56%
16	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	THUNDERRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	304	23%	71%
17	ACADEMY 20	AIR ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL	196	23%	69%
18	LEWIS-PALMER 38	PALMER RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	108	22%	70%
19	LITTLETON 6	ARAPAHOE HIGH SCHOOL	253	22%	66%
20	ACADEMY 20	PINE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL	226	22%	69%

Table 5: White Students: Matriculation to Top Tier Schools, Classes of 2009 - 2015

	School District	High School	Total Graduates	% Enrolled - Top School	% Enrolled - Any Postsecondary Program
1	DENVER COUNTY 1	GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL	621	59%	78%
2	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	FAIRVIEW HIGH SCHOOL	2687	56%	81%
3	DENVER COUNTY 1	EAST HIGH SCHOOL	1612	56%	82%
4	DENVER COUNTY 1	DSST: STAPLETON HIGH SCHOOL	201	51%	85%
5	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	BOULDER HIGH SCHOOL	2309	51%	76%
6	CHERRY CREEK 5	CHERRY CREEK HIGH SCHOOL	4655	50%	81%
7	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	MONARCH HIGH SCHOOL	2158	50%	80%
8	ST VRAIN VALLEY RE 1J	NIWOT HIGH SCHOOL	1596	50%	83%
9	ASPEN 1	ASPEN HIGH SCHOOL	829	50%	75%
10	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	PEAK TO PEAK CHARTER SCHOOL	717	49%	84%
11	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	ROCK CANYON HIGH SCHOOL	2212	46%	84%
12	POUDRE R-1	RIDGEVIEW CLASSICAL CHARTER SCHOOLS	235	46%	76%
13	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	EVERGREEN HIGH SCHOOL	1528	45%	83%
14	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	D'EVELYN JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	835	45%	84%
15	EAGLE COUNTY RE 50	BATTLE MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL	615	45%	78%
16	POUDRE R-1	LIBERTY COMMON CHARTER SCHOOL	83	43%	77%
17	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	STEM MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL	21	43%	62%
18	DENVER COUNTY 1	DENVER CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES	108	43%	73%
19	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	MOUNTAIN VISTA HIGH SCHOOL	2740	42%	81%
20	TELLURIDE R-1	TELLURIDE HIGH SCHOOL	287	41%	72%

Table 6: Rural or Small Town*: Matriculation to Top Tier Schools, Classes of 2009 - 2015

	School District	High School	Total Graduates	% Enrolled - Top School	% Enrolled - Any Postsecondary Program
1	ASPEN 1	ASPEN HIGH SCHOOL	941	46%	73%
2	GUNNISON WATERSHED RE1J	CRESTED BUTTE SECONDARY SCHOOL	208	38%	70%
3	TELLURIDE R-1	TELLURIDE HIGH SCHOOL	339	37%	67%
4	SUMMIT RE-1	SUMMIT HIGH SCHOOL	1279	27%	70%
5	ESTES PARK R-3	ESTES PARK HIGH SCHOOL	580	25%	64%
6	HINSDALE COUNTY RE 1	LAKE CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL	20	25%	75%
7	CREEDE SCHOOL DISTRICT	CREEDE SCHOOL	52	21%	67%
8	IDALIA RJ-3	IDALIA JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	63	21%	78%
9	RIDGWAY R-2	RIDGWAY HIGH SCHOOL	175	21%	65%
10	ARICKAREE R-2	ARICKAREE UNDIVIDED HIGH SCHOOL	36	19%	78%
11	KIT CARSON R-1	KIT CARSON JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	43	19%	63%
12	OURAY R-1	OURAY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	130	18%	58%
13	EAST GRAND 2	MIDDLE PARK HIGH SCHOOL	625	18%	54%
14	WINDSOR RE-4	WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL	1737	17%	62%
15	ELIZABETH C-1	ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL	1226	17%	60%
16	LIBERTY J-4	LIBERTY JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	42	17%	79%
17	GUNNISON WATERSHED RE1J	GUNNISON HIGH SCHOOL	518	16%	67%
18	STRATTON R-4	STRATTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	93	15%	60%
19	KIOWA C-2	KIOWA HIGH SCHOOL	187	15%	59%
20	PLATTE CANYON 1	PLATTE CANYON HIGH SCHOOL	587	15%	59%

*Remote or Outlying Town Setting defined by CDE

Table 7: Biggest Improvements in Top College Matriculation Rates 2009 - 2011 to 2013 - 2015

	School District	High School	Percentage Point Change in Top School Matriculation
1	LIBERTY J-4	LIBERTY JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	17%
2	GUNNISON WATERSHED RE1J	CRESTED BUTTE SECONDARY SCHOOL	13%
3	GREELEY 6	FRONTIER CHARTER ACADEMY	12%
4	FRENCHMAN RE-3	FLEMING HIGH SCHOOL	10%
5	BUFFALO RE-4J	MERINO JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	10%
6	SALIDA R-32	SALIDA HIGH SCHOOL	10%
7	MANCOS RE-6	MANCOS HIGH SCHOOL	9%
8	TELLURIDE R-1	TELLURIDE HIGH SCHOOL	9%
9	EDISON 54 JT	EDISON JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	8%
10	ELBERT 200	ELBERT JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	7%
11	ASPEN 1	ASPEN HIGH SCHOOL	6%
12	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	JEFFERSON COUNTY OPEN SECONDARY	6%
13	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	COLLEGIATE ACADEMY OF COLORADO	6%
14	JEFFERSON COUNTY R-1	D'EVELYN JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	5%
15	DOUGLAS COUNTY RE 1	MOUNTAIN VISTA HIGH SCHOOL	5%
16	ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS	LEGACY HIGH SCHOOL	5%
17	SOUTH ROUTT RE 3	SOROCO HIGH SCHOOL	5%
18	MOFFAT 2	MOFFAT PREK-12 SCHOOL	5%
19	ST VRAIN VALLEY RE 1J	ERIE HIGH SCHOOL	5%
20	BOULDER VALLEY RE 2	CENTAURUS HIGH SCHOOL	5%

*Only includes schools with graduating classes in all years.

Endnotes

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