# 2022 PROGRESS REPORT



# Progress Toward Kentucky's Statewide Strategic Agenda Goals

An Annual Report of the Council on Postsecondary Education



### **About the Council on Postsecondary Education**

The Council on Postsecondary Education is Kentucky's higher education coordinating agency committed to strengthening our workforce, economy and quality of life. We do this by guiding the continuous improvement and efficient operation of a high-quality, diverse and accessible system of postsecondary education.

Key responsibilities include:

- developing and implementing a strategic agenda for postsecondary education that includes measures of progress.
- producing and submitting a biennial budget request for adequate public funding of postsecondary education.
- determining tuition rates and admission criteria at public postsecondary institutions.
- collecting and distributing data about postsecondary education performance.
- ensuring the coordination and connectivity of technology among public institutions.
- licensing non-public postsecondary institutions to operate in the Commonwealth.



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### Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I'm delighted to present the first progress report associated with the new statewide strategic agenda, "Higher Education Matters: 2022-2030." This report provides a snapshot of postsecondary progress toward negotiated performance targets, with the overarching goal of raising Kentucky's educational attainment level from 49.4% to 60% by the year 2030.

Like the strategic agenda, this report is organized around six strategic priorities: college affordability, transitions to postsecondary education, student success, talent development, increasing higher education's value proposition, and diversity, equity and inclusion (a cross-cutting issue). For each priority, a limited number of key performance indicators (KPIs) are identified and tracked at the state-level, campus-level or both.



At the start of each section, major initiatives led by CPE to advance each strategic agenda priority are highlighted. This report also includes a final scorecard for the metrics associated with the previous strategic agenda, "Stronger by Degrees," which concluded in 2020-21.

I am confident Kentucky higher education has the right framework in place to drive unprecedented improvements in student success, educational equity and workforce productivity. The resilience and ingenuity demonstrated by our institutions during the COVID pandemic, as well as historic state budget increases for higher education, have strengthened our capacity to meet the existing and emerging challenges over the next decade. Increasing the education and skill levels of our workforce is a prerequisite to overcoming systemic poverty, low rates of workforce participation and persistent inequities along racial, ethnic and gender lines.

I'd like to thank our educational partners, executive and legislative leadership, the business and workforce community, my board and my dedicated staff for their contributions to this strategic agenda framework. Together, we are creating a more prosperous, equitable and competitive Commonwealth that equips all citizens with the knowledge and skills needed to unlock their highest potential.

Dr. Aaron Thompson, President

Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education





# STRATEGIC PRIORITY: AFFORDABILITY

Kentucky will ensure postsecondary education is affordable for all Kentuckians.

College affordability has become a serious concern for many Kentucky families, as the burden of college costs gradually shifted from the state to students and their families over the last few decades. Last year, CPE worked with its partners on initiatives to increase college access.

- CPE collaborated with campuses, the Governor's Office and members of the General Assembly to achieve historic increases in higher education funding during the 2022 legislative session that will strengthen programs and mitigate costs to students and families.
- Funding increases to colleges and universities included \$80 million in new funding for the Postsecondary Education Performance Fund in each year (\$97.3 million in total when added to the current \$17.3 million base); \$683.5 million for asset preservation pools (bond funded, with half of the funding available in the first year and half in the second, with a required institutional match of 30% for research institutions and 15% for all others); and \$811.9 million for new construction or renovation projects on postsecondary campuses.
- CPE worked with partner organizations to successfully advocate for increases in state need-based financial aid for lower income students during the 2022 session. The General Assembly funded a significant increase in state student aid programs, increasing the maximum CAP grant award for financially needy students to \$5,300 (up from \$2,900) at four-year institutions and \$2,500 (up from \$2,200) at two-year institutions. Additionally, funding increases were provided for early childhood scholarships, dual credit scholarships and a new innovative scholarship pilot project for refugee students, to be developed in partnership with CPE.
- CPE developed and negotiated tuition setting for academic years 2021-22 and 2022-23, holding increases to near historic lows while also helping campuses replenish revenue losses due to the pandemic. Additionally, 2021's tuition-setting process included multiple year tuition rates to help students and families better prepare and plan for college costs.
- CPE developed and launched the Kentucky Students' Right to Know web portal in partnership with KYSTATS. This first-of-its-kind, comprehensive, interactive digital tool helps students understand college costs and average debt levels for all academic programs.

- CPE produced analyses and policy recommendations on topics related to higher education costs, debt and student aid to help shape statewide policy and programs.
- CPE negotiated a new key performance indicator in the state accountability system to help monitor unmet need after after grants, scholarships and expected family contributions are factored in.
- CPE launched Affordable Learning Kentucky (ALKY), a collaboration of Kentucky campuses focusing on expanding the availability and use of low- and no-cost, high-quality educational resources. ALKY has led to Kentucky's participation in Open Education Week, AAC&U's inaugural Institute on Open Educational Resources, and the Open Education Network, with the goal of providing more high-quality, low-cost educational resources to college students.
- In partnership with KHEAA and other state agencies, CPE hosted GO!vember and promoted FAFSA February, campaigns designed to inform Kentucky high school students and their families about the financial aid application process and how to pay for college. The Go!vember campaign resulted in the creation of a student resource hub that will continue to serve as a one-stop shop for guidance on completing the FAFSA, applying for scholarships, enrolling in dual credit programs and more.
- GEAR UP Kentucky, a unit of CPE, provided targeted FAFSA support and outreach to thousands of participating high school seniors across the state. While Kentucky (like many other states) saw a drop in FAFSA completion in 2020-21, Kentucky is currently running even with the national FAFSA completion rate of 44% of all high school seniors for 2021-22, ranking us 19th in the nation.
- Kentucky's campuses continued to implement innovative strategies to lower costs and student debt, including tuition guarantees, last-dollar scholarships, debt forgiveness programs, micro-loans and grants, reallocation of merit aid to need-based aid, among others.

### **Unmet Financial Need**

Unmet financial need is the average amount of money students must pay out-of-pocket each year after all financial aid and expected family contributions are considered. The population includes FAFSA filers only, which is nearly 90% of all students enrolled. The metric is calculated by taking the cost of attendance and subtracting the sum of expected famly contributions and all federal, state and local government and institutionally funded scholarships or grants. Campuses did not set targets for this indicator, but the statewide 2023-24 target is \$9,702 for public universities and \$5,559 for KCTCS, which represents a 5% decrease from the 2020-21 baseline.

INSTITUTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 Baseline
Eastern Kentucky University						
Overall	\$9,149	\$9,006	\$9,533	\$9,787	\$9,461	\$9,320
URM*	\$11,100	\$11,074	\$11,666	\$12,097	\$11,767	\$11,476
Low-Income	\$11,657	\$11,679	\$12,378	\$12,484	\$12,441	\$12,437
Kentucky State University						
Overall	\$10,963	\$5,860	\$14,198	\$11,980	\$11,505	\$13,266
URM	\$11,945	\$5,886	\$14,968	\$12,266	\$11,774	\$13,604
Low-Income	\$12,788	\$5,554	\$15,610	\$12,768	\$11,943	\$13,964
Morehead State University						
Overall	\$8,249	\$9,018	\$9,726	\$9,312	\$8,931	\$8,902
URM	\$9,965	\$11,276	\$11,846	\$11,204	\$10,791	\$10,672
Low-Income	\$10,316	\$11,376	\$12,060	\$11,449	\$11,256	\$11,445
Murray State University						
Overall	\$8,584	\$7,935	\$8,273	\$9,637	\$9,812	\$9,419
URM	\$10,234	\$9,929	\$10,368	\$12,530	\$12,955	\$12,852
Low-Income	\$11,989	\$12,024	\$12,549	\$14,195	\$14,759	\$14,704
Northern Kentucky University						
Overall	\$9,821	\$10,058	\$10,282	\$10,192	\$10,652	\$10,883
URM	\$11,382	\$12,192	\$12,472	\$12,517	\$13,214	\$13,583
Low-Income	\$13,917	\$14,288	\$14,713	\$14,679	\$15,666	\$16,194
University of Kentucky						
Overall	\$11,365	\$12,154	\$12,679	\$11,909	\$12,012	\$11,219
URM	\$12,582	\$13,896	\$15,101	\$14,731	\$14,579	\$13,852
Low-Income	\$16,416	\$17,830	\$18,648	\$17,925	\$18,550	\$18,541
University of Louisville						
Overall	\$8,192	\$9,596	\$9,715	\$10,471	\$10,609	\$10,889
URM	\$9,167	\$10,782	\$11,005	\$12,249	\$12,456	\$12,770
Low-Income	\$11,618	\$13,540	\$13,485	\$14,607	\$15,091	\$15,345
Western Kentucky University						
Overall	\$8,352	\$8,778	\$9,445	\$9,200	\$8,926	\$9,054
URM	\$10,511	\$11,348	\$12,170	\$11,790	\$11,649	\$11,567
Low-Income	\$11,947	\$12,742	\$13,816	\$13,729	\$13,660	\$14,244

<sup>\*</sup>Underrepresented minoritized students (URM) include Black, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Hispanic or Latinx, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and two or more races. Low-income students are Pell grant recipients during their year of entry.

### **Unmet Financial Need, Continued**

INSTITUTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 Baseline
кстсѕ						
Overall	\$6,370	\$6,455	\$6,264	\$6,290	\$5,952	\$5,852
URM	\$7,229	\$7,330	\$7,216	\$7,243	\$6,871	\$6,683
Low-Income	\$7,268	\$7,461	\$7,267	\$7,303	\$7,001	\$6,967
Statewide (Public Universities)						
Overall	\$9,314	\$9,683	\$10,291	\$10,287	\$10,309	\$10,212
URM	\$9,248	\$9,620	\$10,314	\$10,321	\$10,216	\$10,430
Low-Income	\$9,723	\$10,145	\$10,516	\$10,536	\$10,509	\$10,732

Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS)

### Time to Degree

Students can save thousands of dollars by completing a degree on time, since extra semesters mean extra cost. This indicator measures the average total number of academic years students are enrolled prior to undergraduate degree completion. In general, the goal is to complete a bachelor's degree in four years and an associate degree in two years. Students seeking diplomas and certificates are not included in this measure. Targets were not established for URM and low-income populations, but progress is monitored.

INSTITUTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 Baseline	2023-24 Target
Eastern Kentucky University							
Overall	4.50	4.48	4.43	4.34	4.25	4.17	4.00
URM*	4.60	4.58	4.47	4.48	4.47	4.39	No Goal
Low-Income	4.63	4.67	4.58	4.48	4.41	4.31	NO Goal
Kentucky State University							
Overall	5.00	4.88	4.61	4.73	4.61	4.33	NA
URM	5.05	4.95	4.76	4.81	4.73	4.36	No Cool
Low-Income	5.06	5.00	4.75	4.84	4.71	4.42	No Goal
Morehead State University							
Overall	4.48	4.40	4.39	4.27	4.25	4.16	4.0
URM	4.50	4.34	4.60	4.45	4.52	4.30	No Goal
Low-Income	4.73	4.57	4.62	4.42	4.46	4.27	NO Goal
Murray State University							
Overall	4.36	4.38	4.30	4.30	4.19	4.13	4.0
URM	4.76	4.69	4.59	4.60	4.53	4.44	No Goal
Low-Income	4.63	4.66	4.51	4.60	4.41	4.23	NO GOAI

<sup>\*</sup>Underrepresented minoritized students (URM) include Black, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Hispanic or Latinx, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and two or more races. Low-income students are Pell grant recipients during their year of entry.

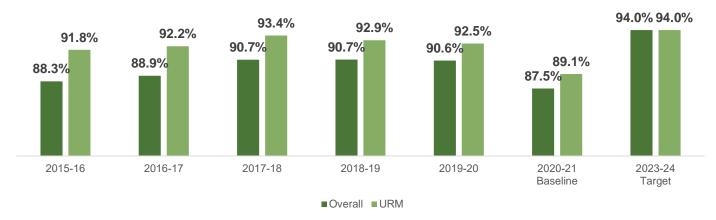
### **Time to Degree, Continued**

INSTITUTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 Baseline	2023-24 Target
Northern Kentucky University							
Overall	4.77	4.66	4.54	4.50	4.38	4.36	4.20
URM	4.62	4.60	4.57	4.46	4.43	4.47	No Goal
Low-Income	5.14	4.96	4.85	4.84	4.57	4.55	NO GOAI
University of Kentucky							
Overall	4.30	4.24	4.20	4.16	4.14	4.13	4.10
URM	4.35	4.28	4.29	4.27	4.23	4.23	No Goal
Low-Income	4.43	4.36	4.35	4.31	4.32	4.86	NO GOal
University of Louisville							
Overall	4.49	4.46	4.40	4.33	4.31	4.30	4.20
URM	4.55	4.53	4.51	4.39	4.39	4.34	No Goal
Low-Income	4.73	4.65	4.59	4.52	4.49	4.49	NO GOAI
Western Kentucky University							
Overall	4.52	4.45	4.37	4.24	4.19	4.14	4.10
URM	4.80	4.78	4.64	4.48	4.38	4.39	No Ocal
Low-Income	4.86	4.76	4.66	4.47	4.32	4.33	No Goal
кстсѕ							
Overall	3.32	3.32	3.29	3.20	2.99	2.92	2.70
URM	3.53	3.37	3.43	3.40	3.14	3.13	N. O. I
Low-Income	3.36	3.32	3.28	3.25	3.03	3.01	No Goal
Statewide (Public Universities)							
Overall	4.46	4.42	4.35	4.28	4.23	4.19	4.10
URM	4.59	4.53	4.48	4.41	4.36	4.33	No Cool
Low-Income	4.72	4.65	4.588	4.50	4.42	4.41	No Goal

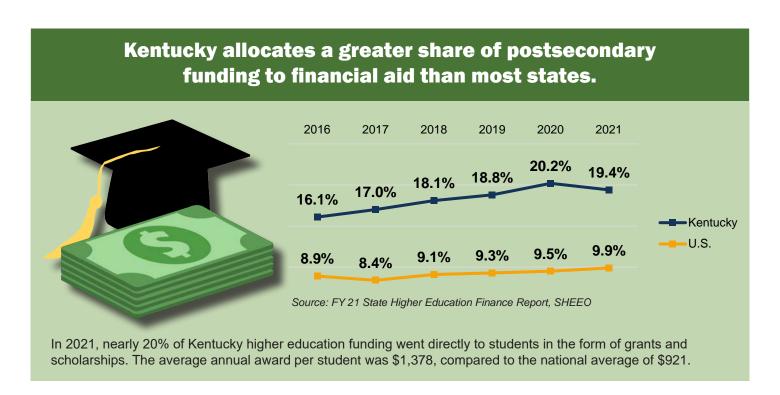
Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS)

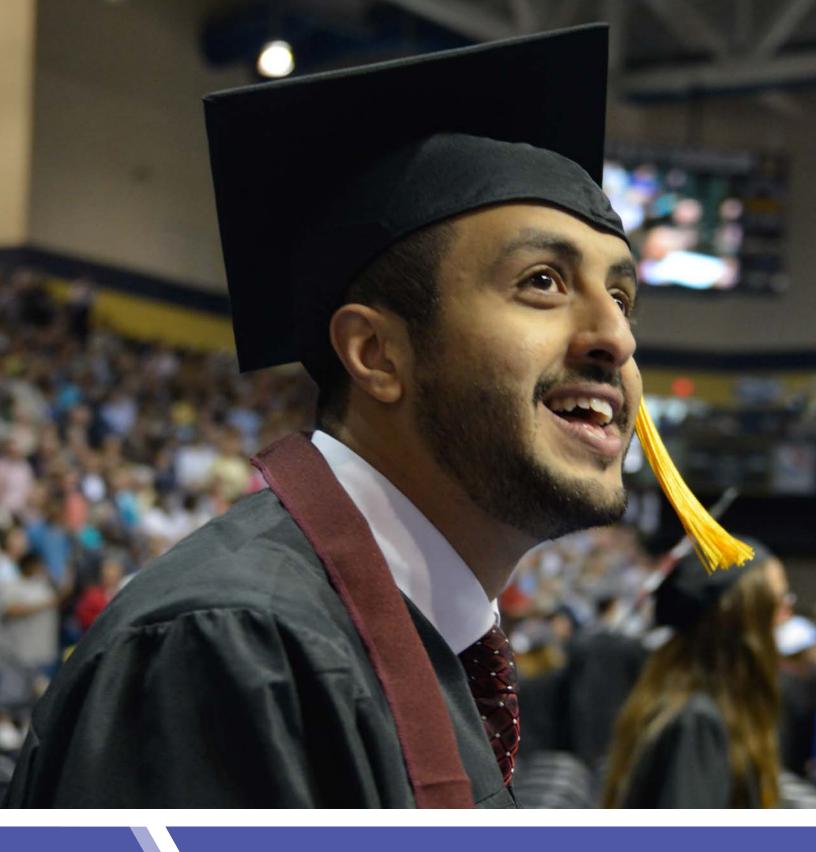
### **FAFSA Completion**

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the form students fill out annually, beginning as high school seniors through their senior year of college, to determine eligibility for federal Pell Grants and other forms of financial assistance, like work-study and student loans. Because many states, colleges and some private financial aid providers use the FAFSA to determine eligibility for their own scholarships and awards, it is recommended that all college-goers submit it, regardless of family income. Completing the FAFSA is the best way to unlock available aid and ensure no federal dollars are left on the table. Kentucky hopes to increase its FAFSA completion rate to 94% of all recent high school graduates who enroll at an in-state public college or university, up from the current rate of 87.5% overall and 89.1% for underrepresented minoritized students.



Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS). Underrepresented minoritized students (URM) include Black, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Hispanic or Latinx, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and two or more races.







# **STRATEGIC PRIORITY: TRANSITIONS**

Kentucky will ensure more students transition to college prepared to succeed.

In the aftermath of COVID and with college-going rates on the decline, CPE is working with its partners to help more high school students apply to college and make a successful postsecondary transition.

- CPE initiated and co-led, with the Lt. Governor and Commissioner of Education, the Commonwealth Education Continuum (CEC), a P-20 initiative to begin statewide conversations and actions with P-12, higher education and workforce leaders to strengthen Kentucky's education pipeline. The CEC has engaged over 200 Kentucky citizens in creating recommendations and actions to improve outcomes for students by focusing on early postsecondary opportunities, successful transitions to postsecondary education and P-12 educator preparation, training and diversity.
- As a result of CEC findings and recommendations, CPE, in partnership with KDE, piloted a notification that outlined important postsecondary transition steps to high school seniors meeting minimum admission criteria for public postsecondary institutions.
- CPE secured \$5 million dollars in federal COVID relief funding to award and administer summer bridge program grants to Kentucky campuses to provide academic, social and emotional support for incoming freshmen and sophomores. These grants provided funding to 21 Kentucky colleges and universities during the summer and fall of 2021.
- CPE secured \$4 million dollars in federal funding to launch the Kentucky Advising Academy (KAA), which will increase the capacity of high school staff and communities to effectively provide college and career advising and support to students through their transition to college or work. KAA soon will provide free comprehensive professional learning and resources centered on postsecondary advising for school counselors, Family Resource/Youth Service Center (FRYSC) coordinators and professional school staff.
- In partnership with KYSTATS and KDE, CPE began the development of a one-stop Kentucky web portal to provide college and career navigation tools, guidance and resources. The portal will launch in 2023.
- CPE created and led the Academic Readiness Workgroup, which developed statewide indicators for academic readiness to be implemented in fall 2022.

- CPE awarded Commonwealth Educator Diversity Program (CEDP) grants to three universities to support programs designed to expand the number of P-12 teachers in Kentucky from underrepresented populations.
- GEAR UP Kentucky provided 41,657 hours of college readiness and transition services and support to 6,396 students in grades 7, 8, and 12, as well as in the first year of college. GUK also provided 768 family members with 227 hours of advising and support, and 33 school administrators/teachers with 286 hours of GUK-hosted or funded professional development.
- Through the work of GEAR UP KY, 50% of participating high schools improved their high school graduation rate, and 75% of GUK high schools improved their college application rates in 2020-21.
- Work with GUK students and families has led to the development of an online postsecondary transition readiness course for GUK high school students aligned to state standards.
- CPE collaborated with the Prichard Committee's Kentucky Student Voice Team to conduct a statewide survey about the impact of COVID on students' college planning and experiences.
- CPE released the second report in a dual credit research series that showed students who took dual credit courses before enrolling at KCTCS were more likely to earn higher grades and complete credentials.
- With EMSI, CPE released a study highlighting the growing teacher workforce shortage. The findings indicate that Kentucky needs to increase diversity in the education workforce to better reflect the state's minoritized populations.
- While undergraduate enrollment has fallen over the last two years due to challenges related to the pandemic, decreases were well below the national average.

### **Undergraduate Enrollment**

Undergraduate enrollment captures the total unduplicated number of students who enroll in an undergraduate program offered by one of Kentucky's public colleges or universities in an academic year, either full-time or part-time. Enrollment is a leading indicator, meaning that it provides an early indication of future degree production and educational attainment levels. Enrollment fell significantly with the onset of COVID-19, so Kentucky will be working to return to pre-COVID enrollment levels in the years ahead. Enrollment goals for URM students are established as a percentage of the overall student population and not as a numeric value (see pages 36-37, DEI metrics).

INSTITUTION	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020 Baseline	Fall 2023 Target
Eastern Kentucky University							
Overall	14,327	14,293	14,143	13,399	12,662	12,070	12,250
URM*	1,555	1,584	1,638	1,595	1,590	1,683	No Goal
Low-Income	5,794	5,494	5,529	5,168	4,817	4,533	NO Goal
Kentucky State University							
Overall	1,433	1,568	1,757	1,666	2,029	2,148	NA
URM	831	814	942	879	1,156	1,429	No Goal
Low-Income	824	819	833	801	876	990	NO Goal
Morehead State University							
Overall	9,783	9,754	9,666	9,400	8,964	8,621	8,700
URM	672	749	664	729	716	700	No Goal
Low-Income	3,451	3,118	3,132	3,024	2,832	2,802	NO Goal
Murray State University							
Overall	9,268	8,886	8,636	8,142	8,215	7,939	8,047
URM	1,035	971	916	881	935	909	No Goal
Low-Income	2,869	2,689	2,605	2,522	2,514	2,435	NO GOAI
Northern Kentucky University							
Overall	12,806	12,643	12,572	12,158	12,058	11,672	11,854
URM	1,580	1,593	1,620	1,580	1,613	1,632	No Goal
Low-Income	4,017	3,800	3,770	3,414	3,239	2,907	NO GOAI
Western Kentucky University							
Overall	17,315	17,601	17,666	17,035	15,907	15,287	15,746
URM	2,586	2,672	2,739	2,640	2,534	2,621	No Goal
Low-Income	5,630	5,381	5,412	4,973	4,645	4,524	INO GOAL

<sup>\*</sup>Underrepresented minoritized students (URM) include Black, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Hispanic or Latinx, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and two or more races. Low-income students are Pell grant recipients during their year of entry.

### **Undergraduate Enrollment, Continued**

INSTITUTION	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020 Baseline	Fall 2023 Target
University of Kentucky							
Overall	22,761	22,674	22,477	22,188	22,276	22,246	23,000
URM	3,492	3,648	3,725	3,655	3,682	3,752	No Goal
Low-Income	5,278	5,220	5,345	5,154	5,068	4,750	No Goal
University of Louisville							
Overall	15,985	16,029	15,738	15,834	16,074	16,118	16,500
URM	3,108	3,259	3,420	3,644	3,772	4,065	No Goal
Low-Income	4,474	4,277	4,468	4,599	4,594	4,426	NO GOAI
KCTCS							
Overall	80,071	79,567	77,679	77,809	78,484	70,233	74,517
URM	11,656	11,746	11,932	12,329	13,126	12,371	No Cool
Low-Income	35,677	33,287	31,873	30,413	29,700	26,532	No Goal
Statewide (Public Universities)							
Overall	183,749	183,015	180,334	177,631	176,669	166,334	204,498
URM	26,515	27,036	27,596	27,932	29,124	29,162	Na Casl
Low-Income	67,994	64,085	62,967	60,068	58,285	49,149	No Goal

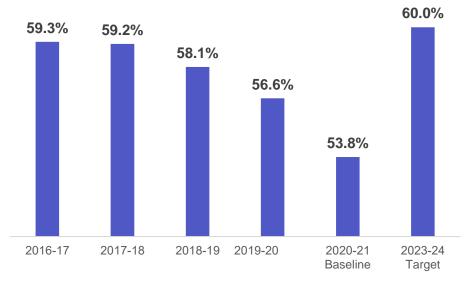
Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS)

### **Highlights**

- Nationally, total postsecondary enrollment (undergraduate and graduate) decreased about 3% from 2020 to 2021; Kentucky fared slightly better with a 2% decline. Recent enrollment declines can be attributed in large part to the COVID-19 pandemic and increased economic instability. If the nation enters another recession, this trend may reverse, as changes in enrollment are often counter-cyclical to economic downturns. In Kentucky, net FTE enrollment increased 11.9% from 2008 through 2012 due to the Great Recession and has since declined 13.6% as the economy recovered.
- Fall undergraduate enrollment in 2021 decreased 10.5% at KCTCS and 5.8% at public universities over the previous year. However, URM enrollment at public universities actually increased slightly.
- Over the last five years, undegraduate enrollment at public universities fell 9.5% overall, but URM enrollment actually increased 10% during that same time period.
- At KCTCS, undergraduate enrollment decreased 12.3% over the last five years, but URM enrollment increased 6.1% over that same period.

### **College-Going Rate**

The college-going rate is the percent of recent Kentucky high school graduates who attend any in-state or out-of-state postsecondary institution in the summer, fall or spring following high school graduation. The year corresponds to the first year of postsecondary enrollment (i.e., 53.8% of students who graduated high school in 2020 were enrolled in college the following academic year, 2020-21). Access to National State Clearinghouse Data has enabled Kentucky to track students going to out-of-state institutions in select states; previously, Kentucky could only track students who enrolled at in-state colleges and universities. The in-state college-going rate is substantially lower (47.9%). Nationally, the immediate college-going rate is around 66%.



Source: Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS)

# Cource: Kentucky High School Feedback Report, Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS) Overall, 53.8% of Kentucky's high school class of 2020 went directly to college, but access varied by race, ethnicity, gender and income. Male Free/Reduced Lunch 44.5% Source: Kentucky High School Feedback Report, Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS)





# **STRATEGIC PRIORITY: SUCCESS**

Kentucky will ensure more students earn high-quality degrees and credentials.

Kentucky's future prosperity depends on more people advancing through our postsecondary system and graduating in less time. The following are just a few of the activities underway to improve student success, close achievement gaps and enhance academic quality.

- With funding from the James Graham Brown Foundation, CPE launched the Kentucky Student Success Collaborative (KYSSC), the first center in the country that works with both two- and four-year institutions to connect them with business leaders and policy makers to support and develop strategies that enhance student success. Since its launch, the KYSSC has received \$675,000 in technical assistance funding to launch three significant initiatives: a Jobs for the Future Network Demonstration Project (a 1-year initiative with 9 participating campuses); Complete College America's Purpose First initiative (a 2-year project with 9 participating campuses); and Student Basic Needs Continuous Improvement Cycle (a 6-month initiative with 6 participating campuses). KYSCC also launched Impact exChange, an online knowledge and resource hub to increase collaboration across institutions and improve access to best practice resources, toolkits and advice from colleagues across the state.
- CPE etablished the Kentucky Adult Learner Attainment Academy, a year-long effort to understand the biggest challenges facing adult learners in Kentucky and provide a roadmap to improve their educational outcomes. The first deliverable is an audit of state financial aid programs, assessing whether their structure and administration present roadblocks for adult learners. CPE also concluded KY's participation over the past 18 months with Degrees When Due, a national initiative focused on helping campuses support adult learners.
- CPE implemented a statewide mental health initiative, which includes mental health first aid training for faculty, staff and students. The initiative provided access to TAO Connect, an online self-help platform, for all Kentucky students. This initiative provided training for over 2,000 faculty, staff and students, and has supported student engagement in over 10,000 guided sessions and mindfulness exercises.
- CPE is advancing the Kentucky Graduate Profile, a set of career-focused learning outcomes ensuring every graduate receives a high-quality, relevant and equitable degree necessary for success in life and work. All eight public universities and four KCTCS campuses are participating in the Graduate Profile Academy, where they

identified the presence and influence of the ten essential skills at their institutions. Each campus team is designing an "impact project" to determine strategies to accomplish the mission of the Kentucky Graduate Profile.

- CPE awarded and managed Quality Matters (QM) certification grants to several campuses. QM certification demonstrates a commitment to quality course design and continuous improvement.
- CPE launched the upgraded Kentucky transfer portal (KnowHow2Transfer) to allow students to input college credit from multiple institutions and learn how those credits apply to their desired degree plan or major. The transfer portal also allows students to identify career fields aligned with their goals, which are simultaneously aligned with programs at Kentucky public institutions.
- CPE managed the evaluation of annual Diversity, Equity and Inclusion reports of all public universities and KCTCS colleges, as well as hosting the third cohort of the Academic Leadership Development Institute (ALDI), with 17 faculty and staff participants from diverse backgrounds.
- CPE launched the Cultural Competency Credential Certification process to review and certify programs offered by Kentucky colleges and universities that develop well-defined cultural competencies and seek to remedy both personal and organizational biases. The first certification was awarded to Western Kentucky University's Inclusive Teaching Academy.
- CPE continued to present a strong line-up of speakers and programming through the Higher EDquity Webinar Series and hosted the 2021 virtual EDquity Symposium.
- CPE joined the national "The Power of Systems" initiative coordinated by the National Association of System Heads, which calls for higher education systems to collaborate on ways to improve student success and reduce inequities.
- Over 370 people attended CPE's Student Success Summit in March 2022 to learn from nationally recognized speakers and participate in hands-on workshops focused on connecting, charting and completing pathways to success.

### **Undergraduate Degrees & Credentials**

Degrees and credentials awarded is the key indicator most directly tied to Kentucky's 2030 educational attainment goal. For KCTCS institutions, the measure captures the total number of diplomas, certificates and associate degrees awarded in an academic year. If a student received more than one credential in an academic year, all awards are counted. For public universities, the measure primarily includes bachelor's degrees (again, if a student earned multiple degrees, all are counted). Degree production has remained fairly stable, despite enrollment declines, which indicates institutions are moving students through the educational pipeline more efficiently. Targets for KSU are delayed due to the presidential transition and other factors.

INSTITUTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 Baseline	2023-24 Target
Eastern Kentucky University							
Overall	2,559	2,573	2,648	2,690	2,634	2,406	2,500
URM*	207	213	271	249	284	262	275
Low-Income	1,378	1,399	1,345	1,327	1,360	1,249	1,300
Kentucky State University							
Overall	276	315	222	212	137	154	TBD
URM	160	182	136	157	105	124	TBD
Low-Income	211	237	164	158	103	111	TBD
Morehead State University							
Overall	1,306	1,291	1,308	1,260	1,139	1,153	1,200
URM	69	105	79	101	73	70	73
Low-Income	779	742	765	708	634	669	696
Murray State University							
Overall	1,696	1,699	1,678	1,577	1,659	1,614	1,675
URM	151	174	159	144	183	146	151
Low-Income	747	775	725	680	753	737	763
Northern Kentucky University							
Overall	2,196	2,238	2,218	2,134	2,222	2,223	2,300
URM	209	246	237	256	253	304	315
Low-Income	1,038	1,040	1,005	954	947	986	1,021
Western Kentucky University							
Overall	2,817	2,851	3,038	2,984	3,042	2,843	3,000
URM	315	310	347	383	386	388	414
Low-Income	1,353	1,276	1,361	1,298	1,339	1,270	1,341

<sup>\*</sup>Underrepresented minoritized students (URM) include Black, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Hispanic or Latinx, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and two or more races. Low-income students are Pell grant recipients during their year of entry.

### **Undergraduate Degrees & Credentials, continued**

INSTITUTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 Baseline	2023-24 Target
University of Kentucky							
Overall	4,540	4,642	4,956	5,105	5,202	5,011	5,406
URM	536	594	661	740	777	734	792
Low-Income	1,422	1,494	1,457	1,501	1,499	1,452	1,581
University of Louisville							
Overall	2,705	3,010	3,041	3,049	3,112	2,991	3,200
URM	484	577	557	553	646	644	689
Low-Income	1,137	1,203	1,184	1,200	1,232	1,204	1,288
кстсѕ							
Overall	30,765	34,502	35,418	37,128	39,291	39,458	41,600
URM	3,340	3,705	4,067	4,367	4,679	4,878	5,263
Low-Income	20,339	23,233	22,984	22,733	23,982	23,784	25,020
Statewide (Public Universities)							
Overall	18,095	18,619	19,109	19,011	19,147	18,395	19,477
URM	2,131	2,401	2,447	2,583	2,707	2,672	2,823
Low-Income	8,065	8,166	8,006	7,826	7,867	7,678	8,111

Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS)

## **Highlights**

- After several consecutive years of increases, undergraduate degrees awarded by public universities in 2020-21 fell 3.9% over the previous year. Degrees awarded to underrepresented minoritized (URM) students were down 1.3%, while degrees awarded to low-income students decreased 2.4%.
- Overall, credentials awarded by KCTCS were up slightly (0.4%). URM degrees increased 4.2%, while degrees awarded to low-income students declined by 0.8%.
- Five of the eight public universities faced degree production declines in 2020-21. EKU was down 8.6%, WKU was down 6.5%, UofL was down 3.9%, UK was down 3.7%, and Murray State was down 2.7%,
- Of the remaining three universities, KSU experienced the biggest increase in degrees awarded (12.4%), followed by Morehead State at 1.2%. NKU remained essentially flat.

### **Graduation Rate**

Three-year graduation rate is the indicator public community and technical colleges report to the United States Department of Education through the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). This measure reflects the percentage of first-time, full-time associate or credential-seeking students entering in the fall semester who graduate with an associate degree or credential within three years of entry, or 150% of the normal time frame. A six-year graduation rate is reported to IPEDS by public universities and reflects the percentage of first-time, full-time degree-seeking students who receive a bachelor's degree within six years of entry, or 150% of the normal time frame. As with the three-year rate, part-time and transfer students are excluded from the cohort, as are students who begin in the spring semester. Despite these limitations, graduation rates are a useful way to compare the success of public institutions across the country in fulfilling their core undergraduate mission - ensuring students complete a credential in a timely manner. Targets for KSU are delayed due to the presidential transition and other factors.

INSTITUTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 Baseline	2023-24 Target
Eastern Kentucky University							
Overall	45.0%	49.3%	50.9%	50.0%	52.3%	52.3%	56.0%
URM*	37.0%	32.9%	38.8%	34.0%	38.2%	38.3%	42.3%
Low-Income	36.3%	35.4%	41.9%	38.3%	43.4%	44.0%	48.0%
Kentucky State University							
Overall	20.6%	21.4%	16.3%	25.8%	30.3%	38.2%	TBD
URM	20.1%	21.8%	14.5%	24.2%	27.3%	41.1%	TBD
Low-Income	20.3%	19.2%	15.8%	21.5%	29.2%	37.3%	TBD
Morehead State University							
Overall	45.7%	41.7%	44.9%	45.9%	42.6%	44.7%	48.5%
URM	32.6%	30.2%	37.9%	43.4%	34.4%	33.1%	36.9%
Low-Income	34.1%	30.0%	38.6%	36.9%	32.9%	35.6%	39.4%
Murray State University							
Overall	48.6%	48.9%	55.4%	54.6%	53.1%	56.0%	60.0%
URM	37.6%	31.3%	41.6%	37.2%	33.3%	39.9%	44.9%
Low-Income	37.4%	35.6%	42.7%	38.6%	40.3%	41.3%	46.3%
Northern Kentucky University							
Overall	37.6%	39.4%	43.8%	47.7%	48.2%	49.7%	54.0%
URM	23.0%	27.4%	34.8%	38.0%	39.8%	41.1%	45.9%
Low-Income	30.3%	28.0%	32.7%	36.7%	36.4%	36.9%	41.7%
Western Kentucky University							
Overall	51.9%	50.7%	53.4%	51.6%	55.1%	57.4%	59.0%
URM	33.9%	30.7%	33.6%	34.7%	36.9%	40.7%	43.0%
Low-Income	41.0%	37.9%	39.9%	38.3%	41.5%	43.2%	45.0%

<sup>\*</sup>Underrepresented minoritized students (URM) include Black, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Hispanic or Latinx, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and two or more races. Low-income students are Pell grant recipients during their year of entry.

### **Graduation Rate, continued**

INSTITUTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 Baseline	2023-24 Target
University of Kentucky							
Overall	63.6%	64.6%	65.8%	66.1%	66.0%	67.9%	70.0%
URM	52.4%	51.9%	54.2%	56.0%	53.0%	58.2%	60.6%
Low-Income	51.5%	50.0%	53.0%	54.5%	52.9%	55.2%	58.3%
University of Louisville							
Overall	52.8%	54.4%	56.6%	58.6%	60.4%	61.6%	63.0%
URM	51.1%	47.7%	56.0%	54.3%	53.7%	53.9%	56.3%
Low-Income	45.1%	45.8%	47.1%	48.3%	50.3%	50.6%	53.1%
кстсѕ							
Overall	26.8%	27.1%	31.0%	33.9%	36.3%	40.4%	43.2%
URM	16.5%	17.2%	22.1%	22.7%	24.3%	28.7%	32.4%
Low-Income	23.4%	23.8%	28.1%	31.5%	32.7%	37.9%	40.9%
Statewide (Public Universities)							
Overall	50.6%	51.3%	54.5%	54.9%	56.4%	58.2%	60.0%
URM	38.8%	37.8%	42.7%	43.4%	44.0%	48.3%	51.7%
Low-Income	38.8%	37.1%	41.9%	41.5%	43.1%	44.9%	48.4%

Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS)

### **Highlights**

- Overall, public universities increased their six-year graduation rate by 1.8 percentage points, from 56.4% in 2019-20 to 58.2% in 2020-21. The six-year graduation rate for URM and low-income students rose 4.3 and 1.7 percentage points, respectively.
- KCTCS increased its three-year graduation rate by 4.1 percentage points, from 36.3% in 2019-20 to 40.4% in 2020-21. The three-year graduation rate for URM students increased 4.4 percentage points, while the rate for low-income students increased 5.2 percentage points.
- Every institution increased its graduation rate except EKU, which held steady at 52.3%. Increases ranged from a high of 7.9 percentage points at KSU to a low of 1.2 percentage points at UofL.

### **Retention Rate**

This indicator captures the percentage of first-time, degree- or credential-seeking students enrolled in the summer or fall of their first year who are still enrolled at the same institution the following fall, or, in the case of KCTCS students, have completed a credential. A high retention rate suggests that students are satisfied enough with their first-year experience to return for a second year. Student support services like advising, mentoring, and financial aid are factors that can positively influence a school's retention rate. Targets for KSU are delayed due to the presidential transition and other factors.

INSTITUTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 Baseline	2023-24 Target
Eastern Kentucky University							
Overall	74.0%	73.4%	73.0%	75.1%	79.5%	73.9%	77.0%
URM*	64.1%	62.8%	72.0%	65.5%	80.2%	70.3%	73.6%
Low-Income	69.9%	68.7%	67.0%	70.2%	76.7%	69.9%	73.2%
Kentucky State University							
Overall	59.2%	67.7%	56.0%	65.6%	78.5%	70.4%	TBD
URM	60.3%	74.6%	56.8%	67.0%	78.1%	70.7%	TBD
Low-Income	60.5%	72.7%	63.5%	69.5%	81.0%	73.5%	TBD
Morehead State University							
Overall	70.7%	72.3%	73.7%	73.2%	75.8%	69.8%	75.0%
URM	67.8%	63.2%	78.0%	68.5%	71.1%	63.0%	68.2%
Low-Income	67.3%	67.3%	69.5%	67.3%	73.1%	67.3%	72.5%
Murray State University							
Overall	74.2%	77.3%	79.3%	79.3%	81.1%	74.7%	81.0%
URM	69.1%	75.0%	73.6%	70.4%	75.3%	60.0%	67.3%
Low-Income	65.6%	72.0%	73.8%	73.6%	72.1%	67.1%	73.4%
Northern Kentucky University							
Overall	71.9%	72.5%	68.6%	72.1%	74.5%	70.0%	78.0%
URM	69.5%	72.4%	63.0%	69.1%	69.0%	60.2%	68.7%
Low-Income	64.4%	64.2%	61.2%	65.6%	69.1%	61.6%	70.1%
Western Kentucky University							
Overall	72.8%	69.9%	71.5%	72.9%	76.8%	72.8%	76.0%
URM	58.3%	57.8%	57.1%	59.5%	73.0%	65.9%	70.1%
Low-Income	63.7%	60.1%	62.7%	64.7%	69.9%	65.8%	70.0%

<sup>\*</sup>Underrepresented minoritized students (URM) include Black, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Hispanic or Latinx, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and two or more races. Low-income students are Pell grant recipients during their year of entry.

### Retention Rate, continued

INSTITUTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 Baseline	2023-24 Target
University of Kentucky							
Overall	81.7%	83.3%	84.5%	85.0%	85.9%	85.7%	87.0%
URM	77.2%	79.9%	77.5%	78.5%	82.2%	79.8%	81.7%
Low-Income	74.8%	76.0%	76.4%	77.7%	81.2%	78.1%	80.6%
University of Louisville							
Overall	79.7%	80.7%	80.3%	80.1%	80.9%	76.6%	83.0%
URM	78.0%	81.7%	77.9%	75.4%	79.2%	74.3%	81.3%
Low-Income	74.5%	76.3%	74.5%	75.1%	78.0%	71.6%	78.5%
KCTCS							
Overall	52.6%	54.3%	53.3%	55.5%	57.1%	55.5%	58.5%
URM	45.1%	47.5%	45.4%	49.5%	50.9%	47.9%	51.9%
Low-Income	50.5%	53.1%	52.1%	54.5%	55.8%	55.3%	58.5%
Statewide (Public Universities)							
Overall	76.3%	76.9%	76.9%	78.2%	80.7%	76.9%	80.0%
URM	71.0%	73.4%	70.7%	71.5%	77.9%	71.5%	76.6%
Low-Income	69.2%	69.4%	69.2%	71.1%	75.5%	69.9%	75.1%

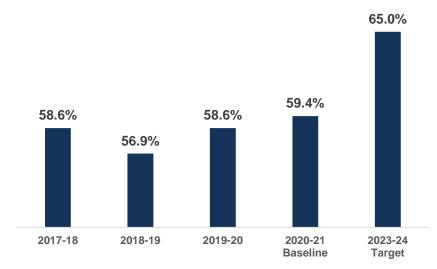
Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS)

## **Highlights**

- First-year to second-year retention at public universities was down 3.8 percentage points, from 80.7% in 2019-20 to 76.9% in 2020-21. Retention rates for URM and low-income students also fell by 6.5 and 5.6 points, respectively.
- At KCTCS, retention fell 1.6 percentage points, from 57.1% in 2019-20 to 55.5% in 2020-21. Retention rates for URM and low-income students decreased by 3 and 0.5 percentage points, respectively.
- Every public university experienced retention declines in 2020-21, ranging from a low of 0.2 of a percentage point at UK to a high of 8 percentage points at KSU.

### 2-Year to 4-Year Transfer

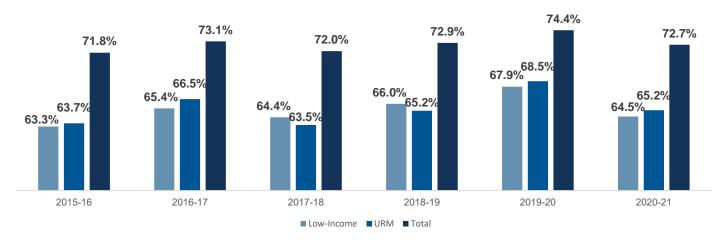
Part of KCTCS's core mission is providing general education requirements at an affordable price to students wishing to start at a community or technical college and transfer to a four-year program. This indicator measures the percentage of first-time, full-time credential-seeking students entering KCTCS in the fall semester who earn an AA or AS degree and transfer to any 4-year public or private institution within the next academic year.



Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS).

### **Persistence Rate**

Persistence rate is a statewide indicator that examines the percentage of first-time, credential-seeking students enrolled in a public or independent postsecondary institution in the summer or fall who are still enrolled the following fall at any in-state postsecondary institution, or, in the case of KCTCS students, have completed a credential. The persistence rate provides a more complete understanding of whether students are still enrolled in postsecondary education than the retention rate, which only examines whether students are still enrolled at their native institution. The 2023-24 statewide target is 75%.



Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS). Underrepresented minoritized students (URM) include Black, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Hispanic or Latinx, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and two or more races. Low-income students are Pell grant recipients during their year of entry.





# **STRATEGIC PRIORITY: TALENT**

Kentucky will increase talent and innovation to support our communities, employers and economy.

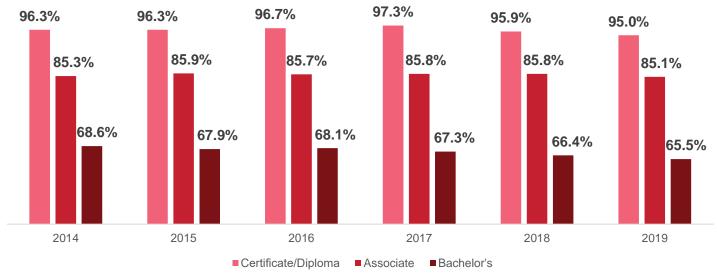
A primary purpose of postsecondary education is to produce adaptive, highly skilled workers to fuel the economy. Besides talent production, higher education drives economic development through basic and applied research and business services to communities. The following represent the primary activities underway at the state level to improve student success, close achievement gaps and enhance academic quality.

- For the first time since 2006-08, the General Assembly reinvested in postsecondary research through a \$40 million appropriation for Bucks for Brains (\$30 million for research institutions and \$10 million for comprehensive institutions). Additionally, the 2022-24 state budget included \$2.2 million in 2022-23 for the Workforce Development Trust Fund (KCTCS). CPE and public institutions were instrumental in proposing and advocating for public funds to support workforce and economic development initiatives on postsecondary campuses.
- CPE secured \$10 million for Kentucky's first Healthcare Workforce Initiative during the 2022 legislative session to improve the pipeline of nurses and other high-need healthcare providers. The CPE-managed program will launch in July 2022.
- CPE hired its first Associate Vice President for Workforce and Economic Development in July 2021 to strengthen partnerships between campuses and employers and facilitate sharing of best practices among campuses.
- CPE and KYSTATS launched the KY Students' Right to Know interactive tool which, in addition to providing information about program costs, allows students to research programs and view salaries of in-state program graduates before choosing a major.

- CPE received financial support from Lumina Foundation to conduct research on factors contributing to the workforce readiness of underrepresented Kentuckians. In partnership with EMSI and The Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL), CPE coordinated this research project evaluating the completion and employment program outcomes by demographic characteristics for URM and low-income status students in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. CPE identified the academic programs demonstrating equitable early career outcomes for low-income and URM graduates, as well as conducting qualitative research and analysis based on faculty and staff narratives from these high-achieving programs.
- CPE partnered with the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration to study the growth in short-term postsecondary certificates and their impact on job placement and salaries.
- CPE released a series of research briefs highlighting the impact of postecondary attainment on income, and exposing large wage gaps along racial and gender lines.
- In partnership with KYSTATS, CPE developed the Multi-State Postsecondary Report (MSPSR), one of the first efforts in the country to share workforce data from contiguous states on recent Kentucky college graduates.
- CPE created an employability audit tool (E-Scan) to help several campuses inventory career preparation practices and build faculty awareness of workforce needs.
- CPE partnered with KCTCS to raise the visibility and use of the Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship.

### **Graduates Working or Pursuing More Education**

This indicator reports the percentage of associate and bachelor's degree graduates working in Kentucky or pursuing additional education at the graduate-degree level one year after graduation. Working status is determined by Kentucky wage records. Percentages for reporting year 2019 represent the percent of 2019 college graduates who were employed or seeking advanced degrees in 2020. Data needed to calculate these percentages are not available until the spring of 2021, which accounts for the lag time in reporting.



Source: Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS)



### **Graduate & Professional Degrees**

Although graduate degree production does not assist Kentucky in meeting its educational attainment goal, it does prepare Kentuckians to work in high-demand occupations like engineering, medicine, law and business management, helping the state meet workforce demands in critical areas. Graduate and professional degrees include the following categories: Master's, Specialist, Doctoral - Research/Scholarship, Doctoral - Professional Practice, and Doctoral - Other. Targets were not established for URM and low-income populations, but progress is monitored.

INSTITUTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 Baseline	2023-24 Target
Eastern Kentucky University							
Overall	903	939	876	926	862	827	900
URM*	76	84	77	78	80	98	No Goal
Low-Income	166	162	185	209	164	168	NO GOAI
Kentucky State University							
Overall	45	40	63	51	30	29	NA
URM	20	20	19	17	9	13	No Goal
Low-Income	12	22	12	12	7	12	NO Goal
Morehead State University							
Overall	339	324	315	312	293	237	250
URM	23	25	22	19	35	23	No Goal
Low-Income	59	62	77	62	59	52	NO GOAI
Murray State University							
Overall	696	626	605	470	500	623	680
URM	38	53	44	32	41	53	No Goal
Low-Income	101	99	117	86	89	106	No Goai
Northern Kentucky University							
Overall	599	561	587	617	717	1,218	1,300
URM	55	55	77	72	105	151	No Goal
Low-Income	73	66	79	81	76	144	NO GOAL
Western Kentucky University							
Overall	881	879	930	834	868	796	825
URM	112	117	103	119	107	120	No Goal
Low-Income	172	151	155	195	178	145	NO GOAI

<sup>\*</sup>Underrepresented minoritized students (URM) include Black, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Hispanic or Latinx, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and two or more races. Low-income students are Pell grant recipients during their year of entry.

INSTITUTION	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 Baseline	2023-24 Target
University of Kentucky							
Overall	2,098	2,073	2,143	2,212	2,244	2,182	2,300
URM	174	182	183	220	237	277	No Goal
Low-Income	175	164	179	195	196	218	No Goai
University of Louisville							
Overall	1,937	1,944	1,970	1,992	1,945	2,077	2,150
URM	274	266	332	323	327	364	No Goal
Low-Income	179	176	180	199	175	204	NO Goal
Statewide (Public Universities)							
Overall	7,498	7,386	7,489	7,414	7,459	7,989	8,455
URM	772	802	857	880	941	1,099	No Cool
Low-Income	937	902	984	1,039	944	1,049	No Goal

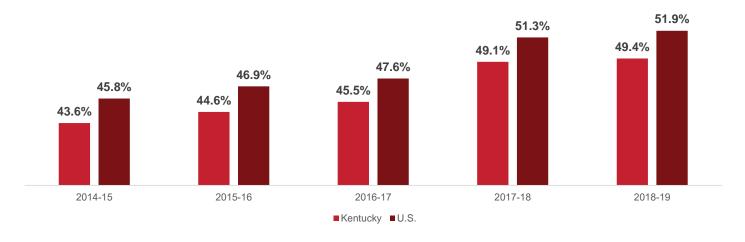
Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS)

## **Highlights**

- Public universities increased graduate degree production by 7.1%, from 7,459 in 2019-20 to 7,989 in 2020-21. Graduate degrees awarded to URM and low-income students also increased by 16.8% and 11.1%, respectively.
- Three of the eight public universities awarded more graduate degrees in 2020-21 than in the previous year: NKU (up 69.9%), Murray State (up 24.6%), and UofL (up 6.8%).
- Five public universities experienced declines in graduate degree production, ranging from a 2.8% decrease at UK to a 19.1 decrease at Morehead State University.

### Statewide Educational Attainment Rate

Once a leader in educational attainment beyond high school, the U.S. has fallen behind other industrialized nations in the percent of adults with a postsecondary credential. When Lumina Foundation established a national goal for 60% of Americans to have a certificate or degree by the year 2025, many states followed suit with their own attainment goal. Kentucky's goal is to increase postsecondary attainment among 25-64 year olds to 60% by the year 2030.



Source: Lumina Foundation, "A Stronger Nation: Kentucky's Progress Toward the Goal."

### Education Level of Adults, Ages 25-64, in 2019 Kentucky **United States** 7.2% 6.3% Less than 9th grade 9-12 grade, no diploma **16.3**% 22.0% H.S. graduate Some college, no credential 27.9% Certificate Associate 9.6% Bachelor's Graduate/Professional Degree 9.2% 13.3% 11.8%

Source: Lumina Foundation, "A Stronger Nation: Kentucky's Progress Toward the Goal."

In 2019, 27.9% of Kentuckians had a high school diploma or GED, 5.9 points higher than the national average. Kentucky also exceeded the nation in certificate and associate earners. However, Kentucky trails the national average in baccalaureate degree attainment by a considerable margin - 16.3% in Kentucky compared to 21.8% in the U.S.





# **STRATEGIC PRIORITY: VALUE**

Kentucky will improve public understanding that postsecondary education is key to greater opportunity and economic growth.

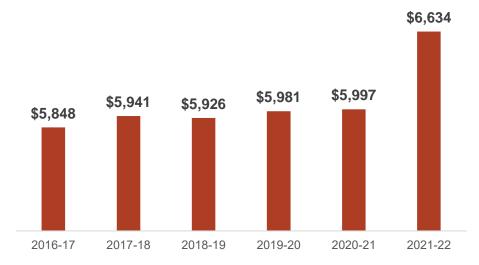
Increasingly, Kentuckians are questioning the value of higher education, despite numerous studies showing that college graduates earn higher salaries, enjoy better health, and are much less likely to be employed or on public assistance. CPE is committed to increasing higher education's value proposition through public awareness and education efforts and other statewide activities.

- CPE successfully advocated for increased public investment in postsecondary education with key legislators to strengthen programs and mitigate costs to students. CPE representatives testified multiple times before legislative committees, met regularly with Governor Beshear and developed productive working relationships with his administration.
- CPE released the second "Kentucky Postsecondary Return on Investment Report" tracking the progress and success of the Kentucky high school class of 2011. The report found that college completers in the cohort were earning significantly more than high school completers eight years after graduating from high school, and they were much less likely to be unemployed.
- CPE launched the new "Higher Education Matters" campaign, including a website to showcase alumni videos, student and ambassador resources, a marketing toolkit with campaign assets, and statewide radio and TV ads through the Kentucky Broadcasters' Association. We also overhauled the agency website with streamlined content, improved designed, and enhanced navigation and page elements to accommodate users with physical or visual disabilities.
- CPE increased the agency's strategic communications to amplify and promote the work of the agency and the impact of higher education in Kentucky, including:

- 12 editions of the Higher Education Matters newsletter distributed to approximately 3,000 subscribers.
- 31 infographics of the week distributed through Twitter, Facebook and in our daily distribution of news clips.
- 60 news releases and statements, an increase of 25% over the previous year.
- expanded streaming events and videos, which generated more than 6,000 views.
- President Thompson was interviewed by state and national media outlets 30 times, a 36% increase over 2020, and was invited to provide keynote or plenary presentations at numerous state and national conferences and events. Additionally, President Thompson was invited to serve on the boards of several national policy, foundation and service organizations to help advance the national college attainment agenda.
- CPE received the prestigious Government Partner of the Year award, part of the annual Isaac Murphy Legacy Awards recognizing individuals and organizations that advance diversity and have a positive impact on Kentucky's workforce, communities and quality of life.
- As part of the Higher Education Matters campaign, campuses and education partners developed action plans, promotions and events to amplify #KYHigherEDMatters messaging.
- As a result of the increased focus on strategic communications, CPE has gained more than 1,200 subscribers, for a total of 4,142 individuals receiving at least one CPE publication.

### Net General Fund Appropriations per Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Student

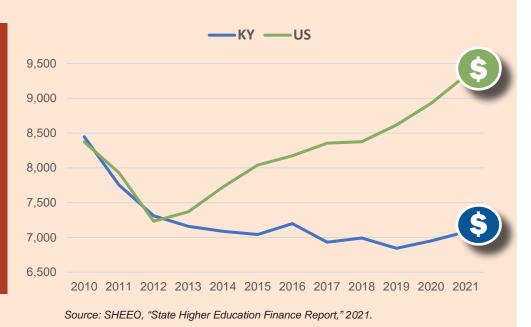
This indicator looks at funding for public in-state postsecondary institutions per full-time equivalent (FTE) student. Unlike the figure reported by SHEEO in its State Higher Education Finance Report, this calculation does not include state financial aid provided directly to students or state monies allocated for debt service. Net General Fund appropriations per FTE student increased 10.6% over the previous year.



Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS)

### **State Higher Education Funding Over Time**

Because colleges and universities can raise revenue by increasing tuition, higher education faces some of the steepest cuts when state budgets are tight. Higher education funding per fulltime equivalent student fell dramatically during the Great Recession of 2008, but by 2012, most states had begun reinvesting in higher education. However, Kentucky's funding per FTE continued to fall and has just started to rebound in the last couple of years.







# **STRATEGIC PRIORITY: EQUITY**

Kentucky will improve public understanding that postsecondary education is key to greater opportunity and economic growth.

The Council on Postsecondary Education has a rich history of promoting diversity, equity and inclusion at Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions. In 1982, the Commonwealth of Kentucky Higher Education Desegregation Plan was first developed in response to a U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) finding that Kentucky had "failed to eliminate the vestiges of its former de jure racially dual system of public higher education." For the next 25 plus years, CPE focused the desegregation plan and subsequent revisions on increasing the enrollment and success of African-American students, increasing the number of African-American employees on campus, and enhancing Kentucky State University, with later versions also focusing on improving campus climate. To provide oversight of plan implementation and to prioritize diversity initiatives, CPE created the Committee on Equal Opportunities (CEO).

In December of 2008, the OCR released Kentucky from the remedial planning process, but CPE continued its efforts to promote equity and close achievement gaps. A new diversity policy was adopted on September 23, 2016, called the Kentucky Public Postsecondary Education Policy for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. This statewide policy is grounded on the premise that to truly prepare students for life and work in an increasingly diverse society, public postsecondary institutions within the Commonwealth must embrace diversity and equity within constitutional and legal parameters, commit to improving the academic achievement of all students, create an inclusive campus environment, and produce culturally competent graduates for the workforce.

The policy directs campuses to develop diversity plans focused on:

- Undergraduate Enrollment. The percentage of total undergraduate enrollment that is African American or Black, Hispanic or Latinx, and part of an underrepresented minority propulation. URM students include American Indian or Alaskan natives, native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders, and students identifying as two or more races.
- **Graduate and Professional Enrollment.** The percentage of total graduate enrollment that is part of an underrepresented minority population. This metric does not apply to KCTCS.

- First-Year to Second-Year Retention. The percentage of first-time, underrepresented minority and low-income students seeking a credential or degree who are still enrolled at the same institution the following fall. Low-income students are defined as federal Pell grant recipients.
- **Graduation Rates.** The percentage of first-time, full-time underrepresented minority and low-income students seeking a credential or degree who obtain a degree from the same institution within 150% of the normal time frame (three years for associate degree programs and six years for bachelor's degree programs).
- **Degrees and Credentials.** The number of degrees and credentials awarded to underrepresented minority and low-income students.
- Faculty/Tenure Track Employees. The percentage of full-time faculty/tenure-track employees who are from an underrepresented minority group, including those who identify as two or more races. For KCTCS, this metric includes instructional staff.
- Management Occupations. The percentage of employees holding managerial or administrative positions who are from an underrepresented minority group, including those who identify as two or more races.

For an institution to remain eligible to offer new academic programs per KRS 164.020(19), it must demonstrate progress toward meeting goals and provide evidence that identified strategies are being implemented with fidelity. If institutions are not making satisfactory progress, they must submit a performance improvement plan. Once approved, an institution may request a waiver to offer a new academic program if the institution can provide sufficient assurance that offering the new program will not divert resources from improvement efforts. The request for a waiver is submitted to the CEO for review, and then to CPE for final approval. Approval must be granted before the institution can initiate the program approval process.

The following tables show minority enrollment as a percentage of total enrollment, as well as minoritized employees as a percent of total employees. Goal-setting for 2023-24 is currently in progress. The remaining diversity metrics are included on pages 18-23 of this report.

### **Undergraduate & Graduate Enrollment**

INSTITUTION	Fall 2015 Baseline	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2020 Target	Met Goal?	Fall 2023 Target
Eastern Kentucky University									
UG Black, Non-Hispanic Only	5.7%	5.5%	5.6%	5.6%	5.6%	5.8%	6.0%	No	6.0%
UG Hispanic or Latinx	2.4%	2.7%	2.8%	3.0%	4.6%	4.1%	2.8%	Yes	5.0%
UG URM	10.9%	11.1%	11.6%	11.9%	12.6%	13.9%	12.0%	Yes	15.0%
Graduate URM	9.9%	8.8%	10.4%	10.8%	11.3%	13.1%	10.4%	Yes	13.5%
кстсѕ									
UG Black, Non-Hispanic Only	8.5%	8.0%	7.9%	8.0%	8.2%	8.5%	9.2%	No	9.2%
UG Hispanic or Latinx	3.3%	3.7%	4.2%	4.4%	4.9%	5.3%	4.4%	Yes	6.0%
UG URM	14.6%	14.8%	15.4%	15.8%	16.7%	17.6%	16.3%	Yes	19.0%
Kentucky State University									
UG Black, Non-Hispanic Only	51.9%	46.8%	48.2%	46.3%	51.5%	59.8%	45.0%	Yes	TBD
UG Hispanic or Latinx	3.2%	2.2%	2.0%	2.9%	2.4%	3.2%	5.0%	No	TBD
UG URM	58.0%	51.9%	53.6%	52.8%	57.0%	66.5%	60.0%	Yes	TBD
Graduate URM	47.1%	42.9%	43.2%	42.6%	46.5%	50.0%	50.0%	Yes	TBD
Morehead State University									
UG Black, Non-Hispanic Only	3.4%	3.4%	3.1%	3.2%	3.0%	2.8%	3.8%	No	3.0%
UG Hispanic or Latinx	1.4%	1.9%	1.8%	2.1%	2.1%	2.4%	1.6%	Yes	2.8%
UG URM	6.9%	7.7%	6.9%	7.8%	8.0%	8.1%	7.6%	Yes	8.2%
Graduate URM	8.1%	6.5%	6.4%	9.5%	11.5%	11.5%	8.6%	Yes	11.6%
Murray State University									
UG Black, Non-Hispanic Only	6.8%	6.4%	5.8%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	6.4%	No	7.0%
UG Hispanic or Latino	2.0%	1.9%	1.9%	2.2%	2.3%	2.6%	2.1%	Yes	3.1%
UG URM	11.2%	10.9%	10.6%	10.8%	11.4%	11.5%	11.3%	Yes	11.5%
Graduate URM	8.8%	8.9%	8.9%	10.0%	9.6%	12.4%	8.9%	Yes	13.5%
Northern Kentucky University									
UG Black, Non-Hispanic Only	6.6%	6.7%	6.7%	6.5%	6.4%	6.5%	7.1%	No	6.7%
UG Hispanic or Latinx	2.9%	3.1%	3.2%	3.3%	3.6%	4.0%	3.9%	Yes	4.5%
UG URM	12.3%	12.6%	12.9%	13.0%	13.4%	14.0%	14.0%	Yes	14.5%
Graduate URM	10.0%	12.2%	12.8%	13.3%	15.3%	16.7%	15.0%	Yes	18.0%
University of Kentucky									
UG Black, Non-Hispanic Only	7.5%	7.8%	7.7%	7.4%	7.1%	7.1%	8.3%	No	7.7%
UG Hispanic or Latinx	4.2%	4.4%	4.8%	4.9%	5.2%	5.6%	4.9%	Yes	6.0%
UG URM	15.3%	16.1%	16.6%	16.5%	16.5%	16.9%	17.7%	No	17.7%
Graduate URM	8.5%	9.8%	8.9%	9.7%	10.4%	11.8%	9.9%	Yes	13.0%

### **Undergraduate and Graduate Enrollment, continued**

INSTITUTION	Fall 2015 Baseline	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2020 Target	Met Goal?	Fall 2023 Target
University of Louisville									
UG Black, Non-Hispanic Only	11.0%	11.1%	11.3%	11.7%	11.9%	12.9%	14.0%	No	14.5%
UG Hispanic or Latinx	4.0%	4.4%	4.8%	5.3%	5.3%	6.0%	6.0%	Yes	7.4%
UG URM	19.4%	20.3%	21.7%	23.0%	23.5%	25.2%	23.0%	Yes	26.5%
Graduate URM	13.8%	14.5%	15.3%	15.8%	17.2%	18.1%	15.5%	Yes	19.5%
Western Kentucky University									
UG Black, Non-Hispanic Only	8.9%	8.8%	8.5%	8.1%	8.0%	8.6%	10.0%	No	9.6%
UG Hispanic or Latinx	3.1%	3.1%	3.4%	3.7%	4.2%	4.5%	4.0%	Yes	5.5%
UG URM	14.9%	15.2%	15.5%	15.5%	15.9%	17.1%	15.8%	Yes	18.0%
Graduate URM	12.6%	11.5%	13.6%	15.1%	15.9%	17.3%	13.1%	Yes	18.3%

Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS)

### **Workforce Diversity**

INSTITUTION	2015-16 Baseline	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2020-21 Target	Met Goal?	2023-24 Target
Eastern Kentucky University									
Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty	8.3%	8.3%	7.3%	6.6%	6.5%	6.6%	8.7%	No	7.4%
Management Occupations	8.5%	12.0%	11.2%	9.8%	9.4%	9.2%	8.9%	Yes	10.0%
кстсѕ									
FTE Instructional Staff	6.0%	5.9%	6.0%	6.2%	6.4%	6.6%	9.3%	No	NG*
Management Occupations	12.8%	11.3%	13.2%	12.1%	14.0%	13.2%	16.2%	No	NG*
Kentucky State University									
Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty	33.7%	34.1%	40.4%	38.8%	44.9%	38%	45.0%	No	TBD
Management Occupations	69.4%	67.7%	70.7%	69.6%	70.7%	68.9%	70.0%	No	TBD
Morehead State University									
Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty	7.0%	7.5%	7.0%	6.5%	7.2%	7.2%	7.5%	No	7.5%
Management Occupations	6.9%	2.6%	4.4%	1.7%	3.3%	3.2%	8.4%	No	5.0%
Murray State University									
Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty	6.1%	5.8%	5.9%	6.7%	7.4%	7.5%	6.1%	Yes	9.0%
Management Occupations	10.1%	6.9%	8.3%	8.0%	7.7%	8.3%	10.1%	No	10.0%
Northern Kentucky University									
Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty	9.7%	9.1%	9.5%	8.9%	10.7%	10.2%	12.0%	No	11.0%
Management Occupations	10.5%	10.0%	9.0%	12.0%	13.6%	17.5%	12.5%	Yes	18.0%

<sup>\*</sup>No Goal (NG) was set for the KCTCS system office, since individual KCTCS campuses set individual goals.

### **Workforce Diversity**

INSTITUTION	2015-16 Baseline	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2020-21 Target	Met Goal?	2023-24 Target
University of Kentucky									
Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty	6.4%	6.5%	8.1%	8.0%	8.6%	9.2%	8.9%	Yes	11.0%
Management Occupations	5.2%	5.9%	6.4%	7.6%	8.1%	8.3%	9.3%	No	10.0%
University of Louisville									
Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty	10.7%	10.8%	10.9%	10.6%	10.4%	11.0%	11.5%	No	TBD
Management Occupations	11.5%	12.2%	10.9%	12.8%	12.7%	12.7%	12.5%	Yes	TBD
Western Kentucky University									
Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty	9.3%	9.4%	8.9%	9.6%	9.2%	9.7%	10.3%	No	10.7%
Management Occupations	14.8%	14.0%	14.6%	12.8%	12.0%	13.3%	15.8%	No	15.3%

Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS)

## **Progress of Kentucky URM Students: 5-Year Trend**



### **Degrees & Credentials**



**6-Yr Graduation Rate** 



URM	<b>14.1</b> %	<b>41.3</b> %	♠ 9.5 points
TOTAL	<b>♣</b> 6.9%	<b>17.8</b> %	↑ 7.6 points

From 2015-16 through 2020-21, the rate of progress for URM students exceeded the overall rate on several key indicators of performance. Enrollment and degrees/credentials include both two-year and four-year public institutions at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Graduation rate is for public universities only.





Stronger by Degrees Final Scorecard 2016-2021



# **Stronger by Degrees**

**Final Scorecard** 

	LICY AR						0000 04	
METRIC	2015-16 Baseline	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2020-21 Target	Goa
College Readiness of College Entrants								
KCTCS	60.7%	63.9%	63.9%	49.1%	33.8%	78.6%	49.1%	Ye
Public Universities	87.2%	88.8%	84.9%	84.5%	79.6%	81.8%	90%	N
In-State College-Going Rate	54.0%	53.5%	53.0%	51.7%	50.5%	47.9%	65%	N
KY Adults Enrolled in College	3.1%	3.0%	2.8%	2.6%	2.6%	2.2%*	4%	N
Average Net Price								
KCTCS	\$6,923	\$6,223	\$5,840	\$6,617	\$6,531	\$6,908	No goal	N.
Comprehensive Universities	\$10,298	\$11,246	\$12,110	\$11,415	\$11,429	\$10,879	No goal	N.
Research Universities	\$17,049	\$18,176	\$18,411	\$18,219	\$18,853	\$19,296	No goal	N
Net General Fund Appropriations per Student	\$6,369	\$6,010	\$5,941	\$5,925	\$5,977	\$6,634	No goal	N
Progress of Underprepared Students - KCTCS								
English	28.0%	22.9%	23.5%	35.7%	15.7%	47.2%	50%	N
Mathematics	21.4%	13.9%	16.3%	15.9%	30.1%	37.7%	40%	N
Progress of Underprepared Students (Public U	<b>Jniversities</b>	s)						
English	64.0%	63.1%	66.8%	69.1%	68.8%	77.1%	70%	Ye
Mathematics	32.9%	34.9%	34.5%	39.7%	53.9%	66%	60%	Ye
	POLICY A	AREA 2:	SUCCES	SS				
METRIC	2015-16 Baseline	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2020-21 Target	Mo
3-Year Graduation Rate (KCTCS)							3.	
Overall	26.8%	27.1%	31.0%	33.9%	36.3%	40.4%	34%**	Υe
Underrepresented Minority	16.5%	17.2%	22.1%	22.7%	24.3%	28.7%	22.5%**	Υe
Low-Income	23.4%	23.8%	28.1%	31.5%	32.7%	37.9%	28%**	Ye
6-Year Graduation Rate (Public Universities)								
Overall	49.8%	50.5%	53.2%	54.1%	54.0%	58.2%	60%	N
Underrepresented Minority	37.3%	36.8%	40.9%	46.6%	42.3%	48.3%	50%	N
Low-Income	38.8%	37.1%	41.9%	41.5%	43.2%	44.9%	50%	N
1st-Year to 2nd-Year Retention (KCTCS)								
Overall	52.6%	54.3%	53.3%	55.5%	57.1%	55.5%	54.4%**	Ye
Underrepresented Minority	45.1%	47.5%	45.4%	49.5%	50.9%	47.9%	46.8%**	Ye
Low-Income	50.5%	53.1%	52.1%	54.5%	55.8%	55.3%	53.7%**	Ye
Ist-Year to 2nd-Year Retention (Public Univers	sities)							
•	-	76.9%	76.9%	78.2%	80.7%	76.9%	81.8%	N
<b>1st-Year to 2nd-Year Retention (Public Univers</b> Overall Underrepresented Minority	76.3% 71.0%	76.9% 73.4%	76.9% 70.7%	78.2% 71.5%	80.7% 78%	76.9% 71.5%	81.8% 75.3%	N

<sup>\*5-</sup>year ACS estimates were used to calculate instead of 1-year estimates due to availability.
\*\*Indicates institution set new 2020-21 target.



# **Stronger by Degrees Final Scorecard**

METRIC	2015-16 Baseline	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2020-21 Target	Met
Statewide Completion Rate								
кстсѕ	40.0%	37.2%	42.0%	41.5%	41.9%	45.5%	45%	Yes
Public Universities	58.5%	59.5%	62.2%	62.6%	64.3%	66.5%	65%	Yes
KCTCS Transfers with an Associate Degree	37.9%	38.8%	38.9%	36.3%	38.9%	38.8%	42.4%	No
Average Credit Hours Earned at Graduation								
KCTCS	86.2	84.4	79.8	77.9	77.1	76.3	80.0	Yes
4-Year Colleges & Universities (public only)	139.0	139.5	138.9	137.6	137	136.9	134.0	No
	POLICY	'AREA 3	: IMPAC	Т				
Associate Degrees and Credentials (KCTCS	only)							
Overall	30,765	34,502	35,418	37,128	39,291	39,458	38,266**	Yes
Low-Income	20,516	23,233	22,984	22,733	23,982	23,784	22,139	Yes
Underrepresented Minority	3,340	3,705	4,067	4,367	4,679	4,878	3,793	Yes
STEM+H	10,687	11,903	12,552	13,155	13,787	13,988	13,488**	Yes
Bachelor's Degrees Awarded (Public Univers	ities)							
Overall	18,095	18,619	19,109	19,011	19,147	18,395	20,070	No
Low-Income	8,066	8,165	8,006	7,826	7,867	7,678	8,823	No
Underrepresented Minority	2,131	2,401	2,447	2,583	2,707	2,672	2,420	Yes
STEM+H	5,922	6,272	6,554	6,685	6,636	6,184	6,620	No
Graduate Degrees Awarded	7,498	7,386	7,489	7,414	7,459	7,989	7,855	Yes
KCTCS Non-Credit Workforce Training	18,617	17,160	16,329	16,847	16,378	11,777	No goal	NA
Educational Attainment in Kentucky	43.6%	44.6%	45.5%	49.1%	49.4%	NA	60% (2030)	NA
<b>Graduates Working or Pursuing More Educat</b>	ion							
Associate Degree	85.3%	85.9%	85.7%	85.8%	85.8%	86%	90%	No
Bachelor's Degree	68.6%	67.9%	68.1%	67.3%	66.4%	65.5%	70%	No
Research & Development Expenditures (UK &	& UofL only	<b>'</b> )						
With Institutional Funding	\$511.2M	\$532.2M	\$566M	\$570M	\$641M	NA	No goal	NA
Without Institutional Funding	\$340.1M	\$362M	\$378.7M	\$391M	\$440M	NA	No goal	NA

Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS)



# **AIKCU DATA**

### **Association of Independent KY Colleges & Universities**

The Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities serves as the voice of Kentucky's private, nonprofit, four-year colleges and universities. AIKCU's 18 member institutions serve more than 50,000 students and play a critical role in Kentucky's postsecondary education system, awarding nearly 15,000 degrees annually. AIKCU institutions are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on College and licensed by the Council on Postsecondary Education.

METRIC	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 Baseline	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Fall Total Headcount Enrollment										
Undergraduate	29,367	28,953	28,855	27,602	27,598	27,831	28,626	29,833	30,655	30,931
Graduate	6,863	7,245	7,340	7,600	8,320	10,491	15,532	22,346	25,222	26,336
Six-Year Graduation Rate										
Overall	50.4%	49.1%	49.1%	48.3%	47.4%	48.1%	49.0%	51.3%	50.8%	51.2%
URM	33.9%	33.9%	34.4%	32.5%	32.4%	32.9%	34.6%	39.2%	37.1%	39.6%
1st Year to 2nd Year Retention										
Overall	67.5%	68.7%	69.7%	70.8%	67.6%	68.4%	69.7%	69.7%	71.3%	64.5%
URM	62.9%	61.3%	57.9%	63%	63.5%	60.4%	65.6%	67.4%	67.2%	58.1%
Average Credits to Degree										
Overall	NA	136.2	135.5	135.4	135.7	138.6	133.1	133.6	133.1	132.1
Degrees Awarded										
Bachelor's - Total	4,620	4,595	4,538	4,573	4,704	4,570	4,557	4,716	4,718	5,028
Bachelor's - URM	491	509	482	523	577	519	546	570	633	701
Bachelor's - STEM	995	1,017	1,093	1,129	1,169	1,187	1,176	1,275	1,301	1,386
Graduate Degrees	2,562	2,857	2,718	2,714	2,864	3,253	4,150	5,891	8,348	7,739

Source: Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS)

### **AIKCU Member Institutions**

- Alice Lloyd College, Pippa Passes
- Asbury University, Wilmore
- Bellarmine University, Louisville
- Berea College, Berea
- Brescia University, Owensboro
- Campbellsville University, Campbellsville
- Centre College, Danville
- Georgetown College, Georgetown
- Kentucky Christian University, Grayson

- Kentucky Wesleyan College, Owensboro
- Lindsey Wilson College, Columbia
- Midway University, Midway
- Spalding University, Louisville
- Thomas More University, Crestview Hills
- Transylvania University, Lexington
- Union College, Barbourville
- University of Pikeville, Pikeville
- University of the Cumberlands, Williamsburg



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