



## **POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT SUMMARY REPORT: CLASSES OF 2002-2004**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

This report describes the rate of postsecondary enrollment by Austin ISD high school graduates from the classes of 2002-2004. Aggregate data collected from three separate sources indicate little overall change in the percentages of Austin ISD graduates from the classes of 2002-2004 who enrolled in postsecondary institutions in either the fall or spring semester following their high school graduation. Results are displayed according to data source, enrollment semester, and whether the institution was in Texas. Disaggregated results by school, gender, and race/ethnicity are presented only for the fall semester following graduation. The results presented here may serve as a baseline for evaluating ongoing efforts to increase the percentage of Austin ISD graduates who enter college or other postsecondary institutions.

### **BACKGROUND**

In recent years the leadership for the Austin Independent School District has intensified its commitment to prepare the district's high school students for college. AISD's Board of Trustees and superintendent believe that beyond serving as a means to a diploma, high schools have a duty to encourage and to enable their students to obtain postsecondary education. As stated in the Board Governance Results Policy regarding College and Career (R-3), students should "demonstrate and understand the skills and knowledge to successfully enroll in postsecondary education..." Programs such as the College Readiness Initiative, GEAR UP, and the Austin ISD-ACC College Connection reflect this commitment. These programs emphasize the benefits of attending college, teach advanced study habits, and guide students through the various steps of the application and enrollment process (e.g., taking necessary tests, earning Advanced Placement credit, making college visits, obtaining financial aid). This report does not seek to evaluate the direct effects of these or any other individual programs, but rather to provide a baseline from which to evaluate the overall success of AISD's ongoing efforts to help students advance to postsecondary educational institutions. While previous Board policy monitoring reports have included information regarding the district's progress on certain indicators such as college acceptance rates, final transcript requests, and student self-reported postsecondary intentions, this report serves to supplement those data with information concerning verifiable records of postsecondary enrollment of AISD graduates.

Specifically, the report details the rates at which AISD high school graduates from the classes of 2002 to 2004 enrolled in postsecondary educational institutions during the fall or

spring semester after their high school graduation. For this report, postsecondary institutions include all public and private colleges and universities, as well as trade and technical schools. The report also presents enrollment of AISD graduates at Austin Community College and postsecondary enrollment rates in fall semesters for each graduating class by school, gender, and race/ethnicity.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The data used to calculate postsecondary enrollment rates came from three sources: the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC), and the National Center for Educational Accountability (NCEA). The THECB provided the most comprehensive data regarding fall college enrollment in Texas schools. These data included aggregate counts of students who graduated from Texas public high schools and enrolled in Texas colleges (public or private) in the fall semester after their high school graduation. THECB also provided fall enrollment counts in Texas schools by gender and race/ethnicity for each AISD high school. The in-state enrollees captured by THECB data represented a majority of all AISD graduates who enrolled within a year of graduation.

While THECB data were used to obtain in-state postsecondary enrollment counts for each fall semester, other data were used to supplement these figures with information regarding in-state trade and technical schools, in-state spring enrollment, and out-of-state postsecondary enrollment. The NCEA provided aggregate data regarding first-time enrollment from the classes of 2002 and 2003 in the spring semester of the school year after high school graduation. No such data for the class of 2004 were available from the NCEA as of February 2006. Therefore, the spring 2005 in-state initial enrollment count was determined with NSC data, which does not include a few Texas schools such as the University of Texas at Austin and the University of North Texas. As a result, the postsecondary enrollment rate for the class of 2004 may be greater than that reported by approximately one percentage point, assuming previous spring and summer enrollment counts at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of North Texas remained somewhat constant.

Despite the lack of enrollment information from these universities, the NSC provided student-level data for specific students from each high school graduation class, using enrollment records from over 90% of all U.S. postsecondary institutions. Thus, the NSC data were used to supplement the previously mentioned in-state enrollment counts obtained from THECB and NCEA with estimates for all trade and technical school enrollment, fall out-of-state enrollment, spring in-state private college enrollment for the classes of 2002 and 2003, and spring in-state public and private school enrollment for the class of 2004.

The determination of postsecondary enrollment rates for Austin ISD students involved two steps. First, students were classified based on whether and where (“within Texas” or “out-of-state”) they were enrolled in the fall semester following their high school graduation using NSC and THECB data. Next, NCEA data for Texas public schools and NSC data for out-of-state and Texas private schools were used to determine the additional students who were enrolled for the first time in the following spring semester. Thus, the enrollment counts indicated below represent the sum of each student who has a record of attending a postsecondary institution in either the fall or spring semester after graduating from high school.

Enrollment rates by high school, gender, and race/ethnicity are presented only for the fall semesters because disaggregated data for spring semesters were not available from the NCEA at the time of the report. Thus, the overall AISD enrollment rates by gender and race/ethnicity for each graduating class are slightly lower than those reported for both fall and spring semesters, combined.

## **TABLES & RESULTS**

Overall counts of fall and spring enrollment in postsecondary institutions as determined by each data source are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. In-State and Out-of-State Postsecondary Enrollment  
 By Semester and Data Source**

	National Student Clearinghouse	Texas Higher Educ. Coord. Board	Natl. Center for Educational Accountability	Total Enrollment
<b>Class of 2002 (3,705)</b>				
<i>In-State</i>				
Fall 2002	9	1,609	-	1,618
Spring 2003 (Initial)	9	-	196	205
<i>Out-of-State</i>				
Fall 2002	209	-	-	209
Spring 2003 (Initial)	7	-	-	7
<b>Total</b>				<b>2,039</b>
<b>Class of 2003 (3,861)</b>				
<i>In-State</i>				
Fall 2003	24	1,696	-	1,720
Spring 2004 (Initial)	12	-	169	181
<i>Out-of-State</i>				0
Fall 2003	234	-	-	234
Spring 2004 (Initial)	12	-	-	12
<b>Total</b>				<b>2,147</b>
<b>Class of 2004 (3,733)</b>				
<i>In-State</i>				
Fall 2004	16	1,678	-	1,694
Spring 2005 (Initial)	154	-	-	154
<i>Out-of-State</i>				0
Fall 2004	234	-	-	234
Spring 2005 (Initial)	4	-	-	4
<b>Total</b>				<b>2,086</b>

Sources: National Student Clearinghouse, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the National Center for Educational Accountability, August 2005, prepared by the Department of Program Evaluation.

Note: NSC data were used to determine out-of-state enrollment and to provide other enrollment data not captured by THECB or NCEA, such as technical/trade schools and specific spring enrollment. All spring enrollment counts are marked as "Initial" since they only represent students who were not enrolled the previous fall and therefore are considered to have begun in the spring.

The numbers of in-state/out-of-state enrollees during the fall and spring were summed for each graduating class to determine total postsecondary enrollment, and then divided by the

number of Austin ISD graduates for each school year to calculate the postsecondary enrollment rate (Table 2).

**Table 2. Number and Percent of Graduates Enrolled In-State and Out-of-State by Semester (Spring or Fall semester)**

	Enrolled In-State		Enrolled Out-of-State		Total Enrolled	Percent of AISD Grads
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
<b>Class of 2002 (3,705)</b>						
Fall 2002	1,618	43.7%	209	5.6%	1,827	49.3%
Spring 2003 (Initial)	205	5.5%	7	0.2%	212	5.7%
<b>Total</b>	1,823	49.2%	216	5.8%	2,039	<b>55.0%</b>
<b>Class of 2003 (3,861)</b>						
Fall 2003	1,720	44.5%	234	6.1%	1,954	50.6%
Spring 2004 (Initial)	181	4.7%	12	0.3%	193	5.0%
<b>Total</b>	1,901	49.2%	246	6.4%	2,147	<b>55.6%</b>
<b>Class of 2004 (3,733)</b>						
Fall 2004	1,694	45.4%	234	6.3%	1,928	51.6%
Spring 2005 (Initial)*	154	4.1%	4	0.1%	158	4.2%
<b>Total</b>	1,848	49.5%	238	6.4%	2,086	<b>55.9%</b>

Sources: National Student Clearinghouse, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the National Center for Educational Accountability, August 2005, prepared by the Department of Program Evaluation.

\*Spring 2005 initial enrollment at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of North Texas were not available at the time of this report.

Table 3 (below) provides a disaggregation of postsecondary enrollment rates during the fall semester after graduation for the classes of 2002-2004, by high school and gender. Fall postsecondary enrollment rates for 2002-2004 are also presented in Figure 1 below for each high school.

**Table 3. Rates of Postsecondary Enrollment in Fall Semester After Graduation for the Classes of 2002-2004, by High School and Gender**

	Percent of All Graduates			Percent of Females			Percent of Males		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
<b>Akins</b>	*	41	46	*	46	52	*	37	40
<b>Anderson</b>	63	67	68	66	73	74	61	62	61
<b>Austin</b>	61	63	64	65	60	68	57	65	61
<b>Bowie</b>	68	68	71	76	73	74	59	64	67
<b>Crockett</b>	39	45	44	45	48	49	33	41	39
<b>Garza</b>	26	32	29	27	30	29	24	34	29
<b>LBJ</b>	54	59	61	61	60	57	48	59	65
<b>Johnston</b>	43	27	32	50	33	34	37	19	29
<b>Lanier</b>	34	30	32	39	30	35	29	29	29
<b>McCallum</b>	58	60	55	62	62	58	52	57	52
<b>Reagan</b>	21	33	36	24	34	37	17	32	36
<b>Travis</b>	25	25	23	30	25	29	19	24	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>49</b>

Sources: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board special data request, February 2006; National Student Clearinghouse data files

\*Cell sizes of fewer than 10 students are masked for confidentiality.

Note: Out-of-State data were obtained from National Student Clearinghouse files and also include students enrolled in ITT Tech and DeVry in Texas because those students are not captured in data from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Totals may differ slightly from totals reported elsewhere due to masking of aggregate data provided by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

**Figure 1. Rates of Postsecondary Enrollment in Fall Semester After Graduation for the Classes of 2002-2004**

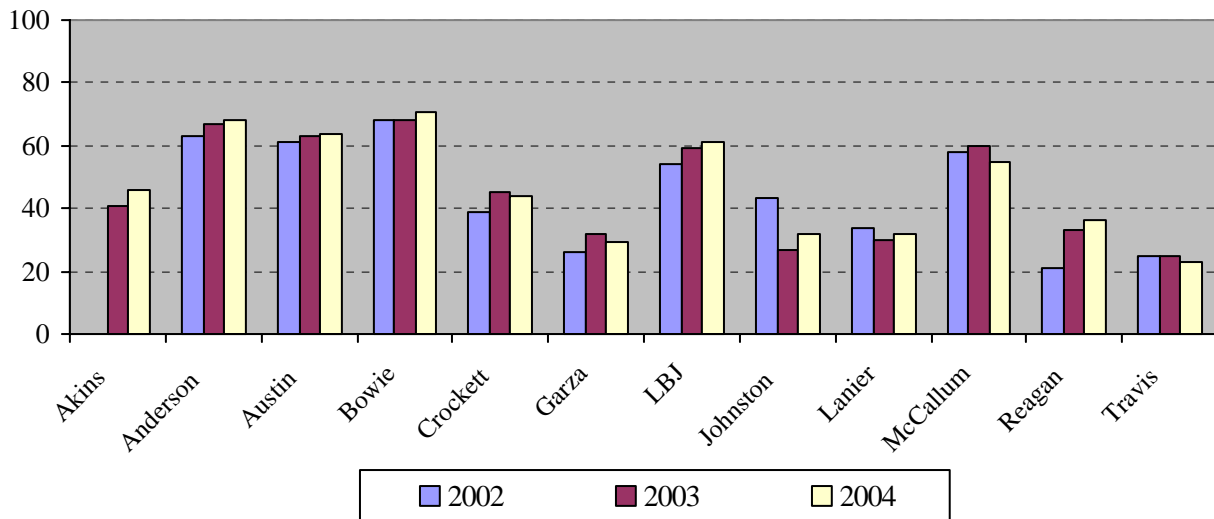


Table 4 (below) provides a disaggregation of postsecondary enrollment rates for the fall semester after graduation for the classes of 2002-2004, by high school and race/ethnicity.

**Table 4. Rates of Postsecondary Enrollment in Fall Semester After Graduation for the Classes of 2002-2004, by High School and Race/Ethnicity**

	% of African Americans			% of Asian/Pacific Islanders			% of Hispanics			% of Whites		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
<b>Akins</b>	*	*	38	*	*	*	*	33	45	*	47	53
<b>Anderson</b>	*	*	*	*	65	*	32	52	48	70	72	73
<b>Austin</b>	*	*	*	*	*	*	31	37	45	72	74	74
<b>Bowie</b>	75	61	67	*	*	*	56	72	60	71	68	74
<b>Crockett</b>	*	*	45	*	*	*	34	38	32	46	51	56
<b>Garza</b>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	28	18	36	36	35
<b>LBJ</b>	43	43	54	76	*	75	39	47	40	67	77	79
<b>Johnston</b>	38	52	*	*	*	*	31	18	27	82	*	*
<b>Lanier</b>	45	42	49	54	*	*	22	20	17	40	34	57
<b>McCallum</b>	44	*	*	*	*	*	41	33	31	67	67	67
<b>Reagan</b>	28	37	51	*	*	*	13	28	21	*	*	*
<b>Travis</b>	*	*	*	*	*	*	25	25	18	*	*	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>67</b>

Sources: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board special data request, February 2006;  
 National Student Clearinghouse data files

\*Cell sizes of fewer than 10 students are masked for confidentiality.

Note: Out-of-State data were obtained from National Student Clearinghouse files and also include students enrolled in ITT Tech and DeVry in Texas because those students are not captured in data from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Totals may differ slightly from totals reported elsewhere due to masking of aggregate data provided by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Approximately 20% of Austin ISD graduates from each class enrolled at Austin Community College in the fall or spring semester after graduating from high school. Table 5 presents the number of students in each class who enrolled at ACC, the percentage of each class that enrolled at ACC, and the percentage of ACC enrollees out of all postsecondary-bound AISD graduates.

**Table 5. Number and Percent of AISD Graduates Enrolled at ACC vs. Other Postsecondary Institutions (Spring or Fall semester)**

<b>AISD Graduating Class</b>	<b>Class Size</b>	<b>Number Enrolled at ACC</b>	<b>Percent of Class Enrolled at ACC</b>	<b>Num. Enrolled at Post-secondary Institution</b>	<b>Percent of Postsecondary Enrollees at ACC</b>
<b>2002</b>	3,705	752	20.3%	2,039	36.9%
<b>2003</b>	3,861	783	20.3%	2,147	36.5%
<b>2004</b>	3,733	733	19.6%	2,086	35.1%

Source: National Student Clearinghouse, August 2005.

Note: ACC enrollment is not exclusive of other enrollment. Some of the ACC students accounted for in this table were enrolled concurrently at schools such as the University of Texas at Austin.

## DISCUSSION

Based on all available data, the overall postsecondary enrollment rate for AISD high school graduates increased by 0.9 percentage points from 2002 to 2004. In 2002, 55.0% of graduates enrolled in college. That percentage increased to 55.6% for the class of 2003, then again for the class of 2004 to 55.9%. If the full set of in-state enrollment data for the class of 2004 were available, including all spring 2005 enrollment, the class of 2004 initial enrollment rate likely would be closer to 57% than the currently reported 55.9%.

The year-to-year enrollment rates were similar within the categories of out-of-state, in-state, and semester enrollment. Across all three years, approximately 45% of AISD graduates enrolled in Texas colleges in the fall semester after their graduation. Approximately 5% of AISD graduates skipped the fall and enrolled in college in the spring, and about 6% of 2002-2004 graduates attended out-of-state schools.

While the overall percentage of AISD graduates enrolled in postsecondary institutions by the following fall semester has increased slightly, female students enrolled at much higher rates than did male students over the last three years (Table 3). Male enrollment, however, increased more over the three-year period than did female enrollment, narrowing the gap from nine percentage points in 2002 (54% of females vs. 45% of males) to six in 2004 (55% vs. 49%). Female postsecondary enrollment experienced a slight decline from 2002 to 2003 before rebounding in 2004.

The percentage of African American students enrolled has increased over the three-year period at a faster rate than that of any other group, and stood at 47% for fall 2004 enrollees. Hispanic postsecondary enrollment declined for almost every campus from 2003 to 2004, but remains slightly higher across the district than it was in 2002 (33% as of 2004). White student postsecondary enrollment rates have increased slightly over the three-year period and stood at



67% as of fall 2004. Asian/Pacific Islander enrollment rates have fluctuated more than have the rates for other groups from year to year, which is likely a reflection of the relatively smaller Asian/Pacific Islander graduating class sizes (from 97 to 116 students).

Finally, Austin ISD graduates enrolled most commonly in Austin Community College. The rate of student enrollment at ACC, like that of postsecondary enrollment overall, changed little from 2002 to 2004. The percentage of AISD graduates enrolled in ACC was 20.3% for the classes of 2002 and 2003, and 19.6% for the class of 2004. Expressed as a percentage of all AISD postsecondary enrollees from each class, the enrollment rate at ACC decreased slightly from 36.9% for the class of 2002 to 36.5% for the class of 2003, and then to 35.1% for the class of 2004.

## **SUMMARY**

Aggregate data collected from three separate sources show small, yet positive, overall changes in the percentages of Austin ISD graduates from the classes of 2002-2004 who enrolled in postsecondary institutions in the first year after high school. Results are displayed according to data source, enrollment semester, and whether the institution was in Texas. The overall rate of postsecondary enrollment increased slightly from 55.0% for the class of 2002 to 55.6% for the class of 2003, then to 55.9% for the class of 2004. The 2004 rate may be understated due to a currently unavailable subset of data.

Female graduates enrolled at higher rates than did male graduates in all three fall semesters from 2002 to 2004. Approximately two-thirds of all White and Asian/Pacific Islander graduates enrolled in postsecondary institutions, compared to just under half of all African American graduates and one-third of Hispanic graduates. The results presented in this report may serve as a baseline for evaluating ongoing efforts to increase the percentages of Austin ISD graduates who enter college or other postsecondary institutions. The Department of Program Evaluation will continue to monitor and report postsecondary enrollment of AISD graduates annually.

## **SOURCES**

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