

EARLY COLLEGE PERFORMANCE IN MASSACHUSETTS

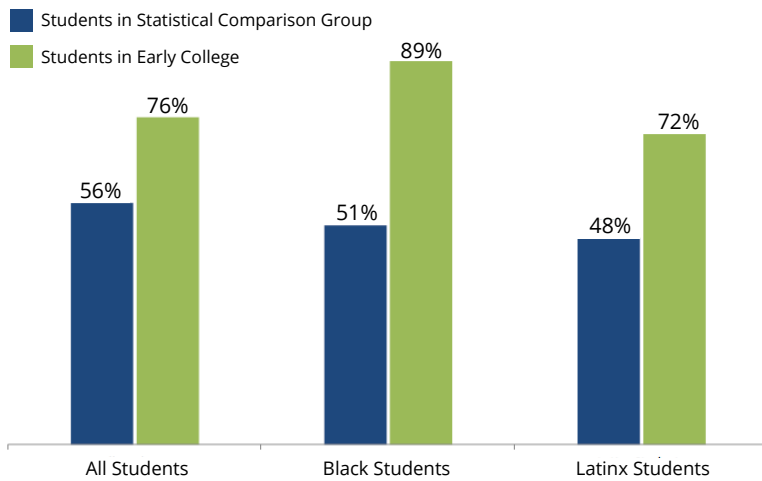
Massachusetts is closing equity gaps by growing Early College programs.

A recent study from Brown University found black and Latinx students in Massachusetts are approximately 20 percentage points less likely to complete college degrees than white students with the same MCAS scores. A similar post-secondary degree gap exists between low-income and non-low-income students with the same MCAS scores. Early College is a proven model to close these yawning equity gaps. Nearly half of students participating in the state's designated Early College programs are Latinx and close to one in five are black; 45% come from low-income families. Students are earning a growing number of post-secondary credits through Early College as more programs launch and existing programs mature. In FY 2021, 4,200 hundred students are projected to earn 25,000 credits, saving \$5.4 million in tuition and fees.

Massachusetts is scaling high-quality Early College programs



Massachusetts students in the first Early College cohort were dramatically more likely to enroll in higher education without interruption



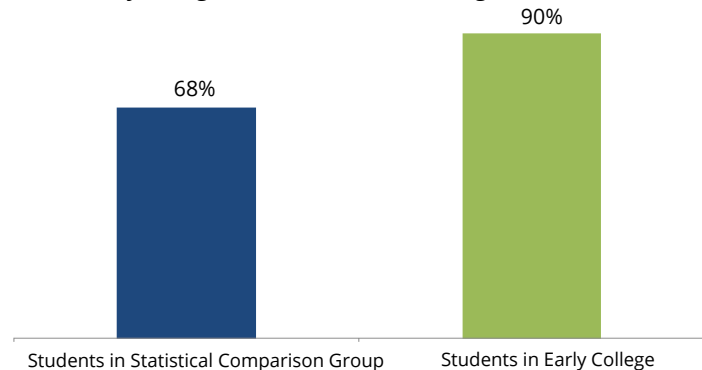
Students who participate in Early College are enrolling in college at dramatically higher rates.

Students in the first Early College cohort enrolled in college within 6 months of graduation at a 20 percentage point higher rate than students with similar educational profiles who did not participate in Early College. This is a sure sign that the model is working because students who continue to higher education without interruption are much more likely to complete a post-secondary degree.

Early College students are completing more rigorous courses in high school.

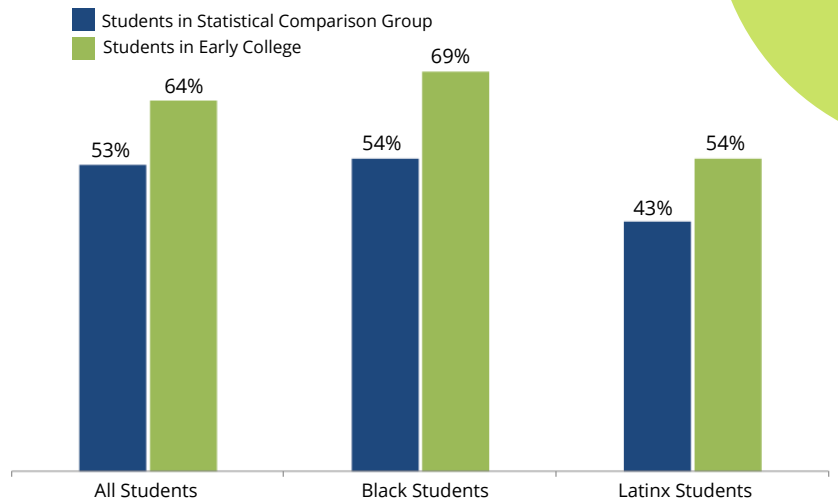
When provided with additional support preparing for college and the opportunity to earn free college credits, Early College students rise to the challenge. Compared to students with similar educational profiles, Early College students are 22 percentage points more likely to complete MassCore, the state's recommended curriculum for college-bound students.

Early College students tackle more rigorous classes



Early College is keeping students on track despite the challenges posed by the pandemic. FAFSA completion is a strong signal that high school graduates will move on to higher education in the fall. As of May 1st, nearly two-thirds of Early College students had completed their FAFSA forms. Early College students were 11 percentage points more likely than other Massachusetts students with similar educational profiles to submit their FAFSAs this spring.

FAFSA Completion rates show Early College students on track



New Survey data indicate Early College will be even more appealing to families in the recovery.

A poll of 1,500 Massachusetts parents conducted by the MassINC Polling Group in June 2020 found that those with high school students are most concerned about the educational impact of the crisis. Nearly one-quarter believe their child is now behind grade level, up from less than 10 percent pre-crisis. One-third of respondents are very worried about their student’s preparation for college, and about half say that college affordability is now a major concern.

Students are speaking out about Early College to help others succeed.

When discussing the Lawrence High School/NECC Early College program, student Joseph Trinidad says: *"Thanks to this environment, classes, and preparation, I feel ready to take on my journey and become a college student and future medical professional. It was an amazing experience that I would not trade for anything."*



District (High School)/ Charter School Partner(s)	Institutions of Higher Education Partner(s)	Designation Date
Boston Public Schools (Charlestown High)	Bunker Hill Community College	Apr. '18
Chelsea Public Schools (Chelsea High)	Bunker Hill Community College	Apr. '18
Holyoke Public Schools (Holyoke High)	Holyoke Community College	Apr. '18
New Heights Charter School of Brockton	Massasoit Community College	Apr. '18
Salem Public Schools (Salem High)	Salem State University	Apr. '18
Lawrence Public Schools (Lawrence High)	Merrimack College & Northern Essex CC	Aug. '18
Holyoke Public Schools (Holyoke High) Springfield Public Schools (HS of Commerce), Westfield Public Schools (Westfield High & Westfield Tech. Academy)	Westfield State University	Aug. '18
Worcester Public Schools (Burncoat Senior High, Claremont Academy, Doherty Memorial High, North High, South High Community, University Park Campus, Worcester Tech. High)	Worcester State University, Quinsigamond Community College	Aug. '18
Lowell Public Schools (Lowell High)	Middlesex Community College	Jan. '19
Nashoba Valley Technical High	Middlesex Community College	Jan. '19
Fitchburg High, Gardner High, Leominster Public Schools (Leominster High), Sizer School	Fitchburg State University & Mount Wachusett Community College	Apr. '19
<i>(*Program also draws students from Leominster Center for Excellence and Center Technical Education Institute)</i>		
Framingham High, Milford High	Framingham State University & Massachusetts Bay Community College	Apr. '19
Lynn Public Schools (Lynn Classical High, Lynn English High, Lynn Voc. Tec. Institute, Fecteau Leary Alternative High)	North Shore Community College	Apr. '19
Haverhill High	Northern Essex Community College	Apr. '19
Marlborough High	Quinsigamond Community College	Apr. '19
Boston (Madison Park Tec. Vocational High)	Bunker Hill Community College	Apr. '19
Somerville Public Schools (Somerville High)	Cambridge College	Jun. '20
Lynn Classical, Lynn English High	Salem State University	Jun. '20
Hadley Public Schools (Hopkins Academy)	Greenfield State College	Jun. '20
Fall River Public Schools (Durfee High)	Bristol CC & Bidgewater State University	Jun. '20