

NEW YORK

FACTS: COLLEGE ACCESS AND SUCCESS IN NEW YORK

Percent of jobs that will require postsecondary education in 2018¹

63%

Percent of adults with a college degree in 2008²

44%

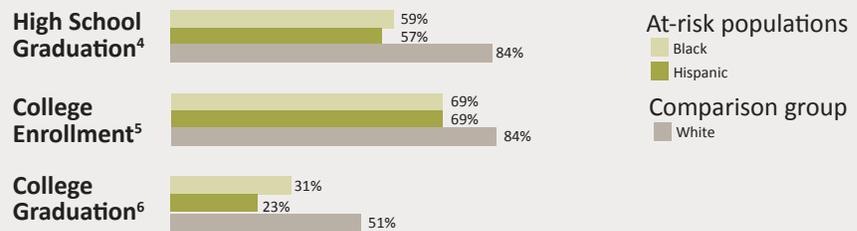
Percent of adults that have completed some college course work without earning a degree³

17%



SOCIAL ISSUE INDICATORS

The chart below shows short- and long-term indicators to assess progress in closing the college achievement gap in the state of New York. **High school graduation** refers to 9th graders who graduate high school in 4 years. **College enrollment** refers to public high school graduates entering 2- and 4-year postsecondary schools. **College graduation rate** refers to degree attainment rates among adults ages 25 to 64. This data is reported on by multiple entities. Because different calculations are used, rates differ depending on the source.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NEW YORK

STATEWIDE EDUCATION REFORM

In May 2010, NY passed legislation developing a new teacher and principal evaluation system, allocating \$20 million to implement longitudinal data system, raising the charter school cap from 200 to 460 (exceeding 10% of NY public schools), and authorizing Educational Partnership Organizations to manage lowest-performing schools. In July 2010, NY recalibrated the grading system for annual state tests and raised the passing score to ensure that testing accurately predicts college readiness.

- **Common Core Standards Initiative** – NY has joined 37 other states in adopting the common standards that specify math and English public curricula at each grade level. The Common Core standards were developed by a consortium of states and are designed to reflect the knowledge and skills that young people need to succeed in college and careers. The standards have been heavily promoted by the Obama administration, and their adoption has been linked to the \$4.3 billion Race to the Top (R2T) initiative.
- **Race to the Top (R2T)** – NY has been granted \$700 million in the second round of this federal competitive grant program seeking to advance state-level reforms in education
 - Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) – NY is a governing member of PARCC, a 26-state consortium that received \$170 million from R2T to develop new math and English assessments and performance standards based on college and career readiness.

MAYORAL CONTROL OF NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

In 2009, Mayor Bloomberg's control over city schools was renewed for an additional 6 years. Mayoral control was first granted in 2002 by the NY State Legislature to replace the city's previously decentralized governing body of the Board of Education and 32 local school boards.

- Mayor Bloomberg and Joel Klein, the former Chancellor of Education, have made significant changes in NYC public schools by mandating testing-based accountability, promoting charter schools, and taking new approaches, such as the 3-year pilot Conditional Cash Transfer Program which offered cash incentives to students and families for completing education-, health-, and workforce-focused activities.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COLLEGE ACCESS AND SUCCESS IN NEW YORK

- Over their lifetime, dropouts from the class of 2008 will cost New York almost \$22 billion in lost wages.⁷
- If New York's high schools graduated all of their students ready for college, the state would save over \$192.1 million a year in community college remediation costs and lost earnings.⁸

THE SOCIAL IMPACT RESEARCH PROCESS

SELECTING HIGH PERFORMING COLLEGE ACCESS AND SUCCESS ORGANIZATIONS IN NEW YORK CITY

Social Impact Research (SIR) aggregates, analyzes, and disseminates information to help social impact investors identify and support high-performing organizations working to solve particular social issues. To this end, SIR compiles three types of reports, designed to be read together. The social issue report provides investors with a broad overview of the social issue. The state report provides context about how the issue is being addressed in a particular state. The organization reports highlight high-performing nonprofits in metropolitan areas working on the issue.

SIR focused on the issue of college access and success because it represents a high-impact area of investment. Supporting high-performing college access programs in New York City will create educational opportunities for many at-risk students, resulting in number of positive outcomes for their families, government, and society as a whole. As discussed in the social issue report, these benefits include increased employment and productivity, breaking the cycle of poverty, and lower crime rates and related costs.

Through desk research SIR identified more than 150 nonprofit organizations in New York City working to improve college access and success through direct service, almost all of which focus on at-risk students. Through further analysis this list was narrowed to approximately 30 programs that incorporate the core components of the SIR high-impact approach – academic preparation and enrichment, college aspiration and knowledge, and financial aid and planning. These 30 organizations were invited to participate in SIR’s research. SIR then conducted interviews with participating organizations and administered a comprehensive survey in order to gain insight into the organization’s program performance, social impact activities, and overall health.

Each organization was analyzed using 35 discrete indicators within the following three categories:

- **Program Performance:** tutoring and study skills, coursework and test preparation, academic advising, building college aspirations, help with the college application process, financial aid awareness and planning, help with adapting to the college environment, and timing of intervention
- **Social and Economic Outcomes:** systemic change activities, community partnerships, strategies to replicate and/or scale and efforts to improve program quality
- **Organizational Health:** financial health and sustainability, board involvement, performance of the management team, and internal data collection process

During the analysis each organization was benchmarked by four analysts using SIR’s five point scale for each indicator. Based on this analysis, SIR selected 7 recommended organizations in New York City, listed below. Social impact investors interested in supporting these high-performing nonprofits should refer to the organization reports to select an organization in which to invest.

The list of recommended organizations below is not comprehensive and there may be other high-performing college access and success organizations in New York City that did not submit data and therefore could not be analyzed.

RECOMMENDED ORGANIZATIONS: EXAMPLES OF HIGH PERFORMERS

ORGANIZATION	LOCATION(S) SERVED	# SERVED IN 2009
Fiver Children’s Foundation	Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens	550
Harlem RBI	Manhattan	800
“I Have A Dream” Foundation - New York	Manhattan, Bronx, Queens	322
Legal Outreach	Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens	369
The Oliver Scholars Program	Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island	232
Sponsors for Educational Opportunity	Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens	370
StreetSquash	Manhattan	125

ENDNOTES

1. Lumina Foundation for Education, “A Stronger Nation Through Higher Education,” (February 2009):74, http://www.luminafoundation.org/publications/A_stronger_nation_through_higher_education.pdf.
2. Lumina Foundation for Education, “A Stronger Nation Through Higher Education,” (February 2009):7, http://www.luminafoundation.org/publications/A_stronger_nation_through_higher_education.pdf.
3. Ibid:73
4. New York State Education Department, “The New York State Report Card: Accountability and Overview Report 2008-09,” (November 2009): 13, <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/irs/reportcard/2009/2009statewideAOR.pdf>.
5. New York State Education Department, “Table 6: Distribution of 2008-2009 Public and Nonpublic High School Graduates by Racial/Ethnic Group, New York State,” <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/irs/statistics/hsgrads/home.html>.
6. Lumina Foundation for Education, “A Stronger Nation Through Higher Education,” (February 2009):74, http://www.luminafoundation.org/publications/A_stronger_nation_through_higher_education.pdf.
7. Alliance for Excellent Education, “Understanding High School Graduation Rates in NY,” July 2009, http://www.all4ed.org/files/NewYork_wc.pdf.
8. Alliance for Excellent Education, “New York: The Case to Adopt Common College- and Career-Ready Standards and Assessments,” April 2010, http://www.all4ed.org/files/NewYork_cs.pdf.