

FISCAL YEAR 2021

# POSTSECONDARY PERFORMANCE REPORT



ARIZONA BOARD OF  
**REGENTS**

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## ABOUT THIS REPORT

The Arizona Board of Regents Postsecondary Performance Report is an annual report examining the performance of the previous year's Arizona high school graduates during their first year at Arizona's public universities. The performance of Arizona high school graduates is detailed in aggregate by first term grade-point average, continuation into the spring semester, enrollment, course level, and grades in English and mathematics courses. Additionally, the demographic composition and percentage of students admitted without an academic deficiency are presented.

ABOR Policy 2-121 specifies 16 core courses required for admission to an Arizona public university. A student's failure to take these courses in high school prior to enrolling in the university is defined as an academic deficiency. Universities may enroll a student with one deficiency in English or mathematics and two deficiencies in the other required courses.

The ABOR Postsecondary Performance Report is required by Arizona Revised Statute §15-1822. In addition to the comprehensive university summaries included in the report, individual reports for each Arizona high school are provided to the Arizona Department of Education.

### ABOUT THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS

The Arizona Board of Regents is committed to ensuring access for qualified residents of Arizona to undergraduate and graduate institutions; promoting the discovery, application and dissemination of new knowledge; extending the benefits of university activities to Arizona's citizens outside the university; and maximizing the benefits derived from the state's investment in education.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Students who graduated from an Arizona high school in 2020 and were admitted to an Arizona public university in fall 2020 were slightly less academically prepared than graduates from prior cohorts. Across the universities, 13% of the 2020-21 class was admitted with at least one academic deficiency, compared with only 10% in 2019-20 and 12% in 2018-19. The modest uptick in admissions with deficiencies may be a corollary of COVID-19 disruptions to education.

College preparedness is a strong predictor of student success at Arizona's public universities. Longitudinal data shows that students who enter college with the 16 required high school core courses completed typically fare better academically and are more likely to persist with their education than those admitted without the full complement of courses.

For the fall 2020 class, students admitted with no academic deficiencies achieved a first-term average GPA of 3.2, whereas those admitted with at least one deficiency averaged 2.7. These numbers are similar to prior years. Students admitted with no academic deficiencies were also retained from fall to spring terms at a higher rate (93%) than those admitted with academic deficiencies (84%).

Across the universities, 90% of Arizona high school graduates passed freshman English with a C grade or higher (down slightly from 94% in fall 2019), while 89% of Arizona high school graduates passed college algebra with a C grade or higher (down from 90% in fall 2019).

## ARIZONA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

### WRAP UP

Summary of 2019-2020 High School Graduates

#### Summary Characteristics

Number of High School Students Enrolled at the University	15,240		With Academic Deficiency	Without Academic Deficiency	Total	
<i>Percent Who Are</i>		<i>First Term Avg. GPA</i>				
American Indian	2%					
Asian American	7%					
African American	4%					
Hispanic	36%					
Pacific Islander	0%		All Arizona H.S	2.7	3.2	3.2
Two or More Races	5%					
Female	59%					
<i>Admitted Without Academic Deficiency</i>		<i>Fall Enrollment Continuing in Spring</i>				
All Arizona H.S.	87%	All Arizona H.S.	84%	93%	92%	

First English Course	FE	AE	OE	First Math Course	CA	C	OM
<i>Number Enrolling</i>				<i>Number Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	6,634	1,922	1,268	All Arizona H.S.	4,117	3,226	2,885
<i>Percent Enrolling</i>				<i>Percent Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	44%	13%	8%	All Arizona H.S.	27%	21%	19%
<i>Average Grade</i>				<i>Average Grade</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	3.3	3.6	3.1	All Arizona H.S.	2.9	2.9	3.1
<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>				<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	90%	94%	88%	All Arizona H.S.	89%	88%	89%

FE = Freshman English  
 AE = Advanced English  
 OE = Other Lower Division English

CA = College Algebra  
 C = Calculus  
 OM = Other Lower Division Math

NOTE: Blank boxes indicate that the data are not applicable.

## ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

### WRAP UP

Summary of 2019-2020 High School Graduates

#### Summary Characteristics

Number of High School Students Enrolled at the University	7,964		With Academic Deficiency	Without Academic Deficiency	Total	
<i>Percent Who Are</i>		<i>First Term Avg. GPA</i>				
American Indian	1%					
Asian American	10%					
African American	4%					
Hispanic	36%					
Pacific Islander	0%		All Arizona H.S	2.9	3.3	3.2
Two or More Races	5%					
Female	55%					
<i>Admitted Without Academic Deficiency</i>		<i>Fall Enrollment Continuing in Spring</i>				
All Arizona H.S.	88%	All Arizona H.S.	87%	93%	93%	

First English Course	FE	AE	OE	First Math Course	CA	C	OM
<i>Number Enrolling</i>				<i>Number Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	2,828	1,281	1,066	All Arizona H.S.	2,838	2,050	1,212
<i>Percent Enrolling</i>				<i>Percent Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	36%	16%	13%	All Arizona H.S.	36%	26%	15%
<i>Average Grade</i>				<i>Average Grade</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	3.4	3.5	3.1	All Arizona H.S.	3.0	3.0	3.2
<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>				<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	92%	93%	88%	All Arizona H.S.	92%	89%	89%

FE = Freshman English  
 AE = Advanced English  
 OE = Other Lower Division English

CA = College Algebra  
 C = Calculus  
 OM = Other Lower Division Math

NOTE: Blank boxes indicate that the data are not applicable.

## NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

### WRAP UP

Summary of 2019-2020 High School Graduates

#### Summary Characteristics

Number of High School Students Enrolled at the University	3,080		With Academic Deficiency	Without Academic Deficiency	Total	
<i>Percent Who Are</i>		<i>First Term Avg. GPA</i>				
American Indian	3%					
Asian American	2%					
African American	3%					
Hispanic	28%					
Pacific Islander	0%		All Arizona H.S	2.4	3.2	3.1
Two or More Races	5%					
Female	66%					
<i>Admitted Without Academic Deficiency</i>		<i>Fall Enrollment Continuing in Spring</i>				
All Arizona H.S.	88%	All Arizona H.S.	85%	94%	93%	

First English Course	FE	AE	OE	First Math Course	CA	C	OM
<i>Number Enrolling</i>				<i>Number Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	1,537	166	168	All Arizona H.S.	559	285	1,429
<i>Percent Enrolling</i>				<i>Percent Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	50%	5%	5%	All Arizona H.S.	18%	9%	46%
<i>Average Grade</i>				<i>Average Grade</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	3.4	3.5	3.0	All Arizona H.S.	2.7	2.7	3.0
<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>				<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	93%	95%	88%	All Arizona H.S.	81%	87%	90%

FE = Freshman English  
 AE = Advanced English  
 OE = Other Lower Division English

CA = College Algebra  
 C = Calculus  
 OM = Other Lower Division Math

NOTE: Blank boxes indicate that the data are not applicable.

## UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

### WRAP UP

Summary of 2019-2020 High School Graduates

#### Summary Characteristics

Number of High School Students Enrolled at the University	4,196		With Academic Deficiency	Without Academic Deficiency	Total	
<i>Percent Who Are</i>		<i>First Term Avg. GPA</i>				
American Indian	1%					
Asian American	6%					
African American	4%					
Hispanic	40%					
Pacific Islander	0%		All Arizona H.S	2.6	3.2	3.1
Two or More Races	5%					
Female	63%					
<i>Admitted Without Academic Deficiency</i>		<i>Fall Enrollment Continuing in Spring</i>				
All Arizona H.S.	85%	All Arizona H.S.	77%	90%	88%	

First English Course	FE	AE	OE	First Math Course	CA	C	OM
<i>Number Enrolling</i>				<i>Number Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	2,269	475	34	All Arizona H.S.	720	891	244
<i>Percent Enrolling</i>				<i>Percent Enrolling</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	54%	11%	1%	All Arizona H.S.	17%	21%	6%
<i>Average Grade</i>				<i>Average Grade</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	3.1	3.7	3.7	All Arizona H.S.	2.8	2.7	3.1
<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>				<i>Percent "C" or Higher</i>			
All Arizona H.S.	84%	96%	97%	All Arizona H.S.	87%	85%	87%

FE = Freshman English  
 AE = Advanced English  
 OE = Other Lower Division English

CA = College Algebra  
 C = Calculus  
 OM = Other Lower Division Math

NOTE: Blank boxes indicate that the data are not applicable.

