

MEASURING UP 2008

THE STATE REPORT CARD
ON HIGHER EDUCATION



What is Measuring Up?

The purpose of a state report card is to provide the general public and policymakers with information they can use to assess and improve postsecondary education in each state. *Measuring Up 2008* is the fifth in a series of biennial report cards.

The report card grades states in six overall performance categories: **Preparation:** How adequately does the state prepare students for education and training beyond high school? **Participation:** Do state residents have sufficient opportunities to enroll in education and training beyond high school? **Affordability:** How affordable is higher education for students and their families? **Completion:** Do students make progress toward and complete their certificates or degrees in a timely manner? **Benefits:** What benefits does the state receive from having a highly educated population? **Learning:** What is known about student learning as a result of education and training beyond high school?

Grades compare the current performance of each state with the best-performing states, but do not compare with past performance. Key indicators (back page) allow states to compare current performance with past performance.

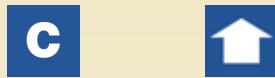


THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR
PUBLIC POLICY AND
HIGHER EDUCATION

Idaho



PREPARATION

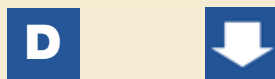


2008 Grade Change Over Time

Idaho's fairly low performance in educating its young population could limit the state's access to a competitive workforce and weaken its economy.

- Eighth graders perform well in math and science, but their scores are only fair in reading and low in writing.
- Only 73% of Hispanics have a high school credential, compared with 91% of whites.

PARTICIPATION

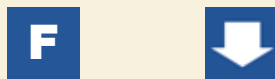


2008 Grade Change Over Time

College opportunities for young and working-age adults are poor.

- The likelihood of enrolling in college by age 19 is low—and has dropped by 9% since the early 1990s.
- Twenty-three percent of Hispanic young adults are enrolled in college, compared with 34% of whites.

AFFORDABILITY

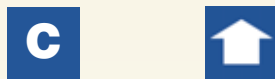


2008 Grade Change Over Time

Higher education has become less affordable for students and their families.

- Poor and working-class families must devote 34% of their income, even after aid, to pay for costs at public four-year colleges.
- Financial aid to low-income students is low. For every dollar in Pell Grant aid to students, the state spends only five cents.

COMPLETION



2008 Grade Change Over Time

Idaho performs well in awarding certificates and degrees relative to the number of students enrolled, but few students attain a bachelor's degree in a timely manner.

- Forty-three percent of college students complete a bachelor's degree within six years.
- Thirty-one percent of Hispanics graduate within six years, compared with 45% of whites.

REPORT CARD

Preparation	C
Participation	D
Affordability	F
Completion	C
Benefits	C-
Learning	I

WHAT DO THE ARROWS MEAN?



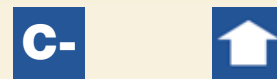
State has increased or remained stable on the key indicator in the category.



State has declined on the key indicator in the category.

See back page for key indicator by category.

BENEFITS



2008 Grade Change Over Time

A small proportion of residents have a bachelor's degree, and this weakens the state economy.

- Nine percent of Hispanics have a bachelor's degree, compared with 26% of whites.
- If all racial/ethnic groups had the same educational attainment and earnings as whites, total annual personal income in the state would be about \$1 billion higher.

LEARNING



2008 Grade

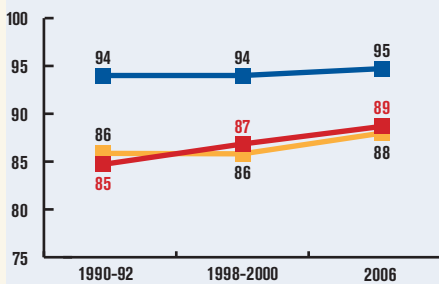
Like all states, Idaho receives an "Incomplete" in Learning because there is not sufficient data to allow meaningful state-by-state comparisons.

This page reflects Idaho's performance and progress since the early 1990s on several key indicators.

PREPARATION

The percentage of young adults in Idaho who earn a high school diploma has increased since the early 1990s. High school completion is slightly above the U.S. average but below the top-performing states.

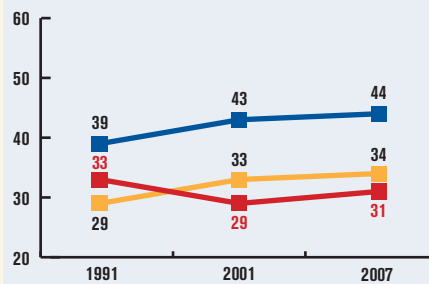
Percentage of 18-24 Year-Olds with a High School Credential*



PARTICIPATION

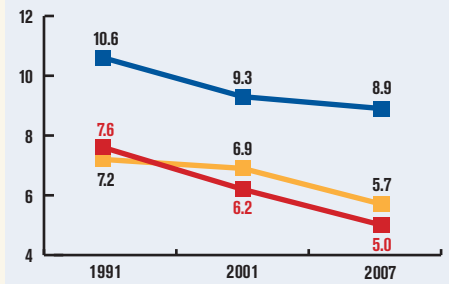
College enrollment of young adults in Idaho has declined slightly since the early 1990s. Compared with the national average and the top states, considerably fewer young adults are enrolled in Idaho (in percentages).

Percentage of 18-24 Year-Olds Enrolled in College*



The enrollment of working-age adults, relative to the number of residents without a bachelor's degree, has declined in Idaho—as it has nationally and in the best-performing states. The percentage attending college in Idaho is below the U.S. average and well below the top states.

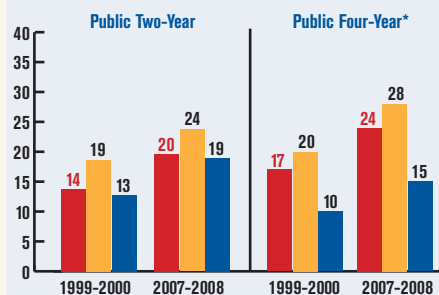
Percentage of 25-49 Year-Olds Without a Bachelor's Degree Enrolled in College



AFFORDABILITY

The share of family income, even after financial aid, needed to pay for college has risen substantially. To attend public two- and four-year colleges in Idaho, students and families pay less than the U.S. average but more than those in the best-performing states.

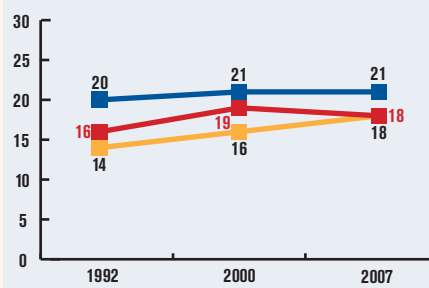
Percentage of Income Needed to Pay for Public Two- and Four-Year Colleges



COMPLETION

The number of undergraduate credentials and degrees awarded in Idaho, relative to the number of students enrolled, has increased since the early 1990s. Idaho performs at the U.S. average but below the top states on this measure.

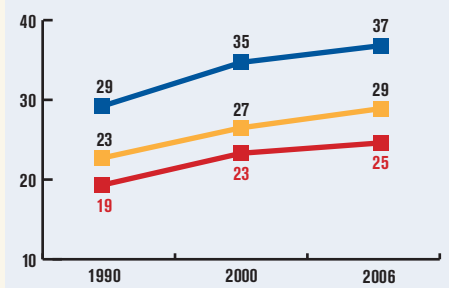
All Degree Completions per 100 Students*



BENEFITS

The percentage of residents who have a bachelor's degree has increased in Idaho, but is below the U.S. average and well below the top states.

Percentage of 25-64 Year-Olds with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher*



*Key indicator for the category.

LEGEND:

- & ■ = Idaho
- & ■ = United States
- & ■ = Median of Top Five States



152 North Third Street, Suite 705
 San Jose, California 95112
Telephone: 408.271.2699
Fax: 408.271.2697
center@highereducation.org
www.highereducation.org