

## RCSD Students and College: A Starting Point From: Rochester College Access Network

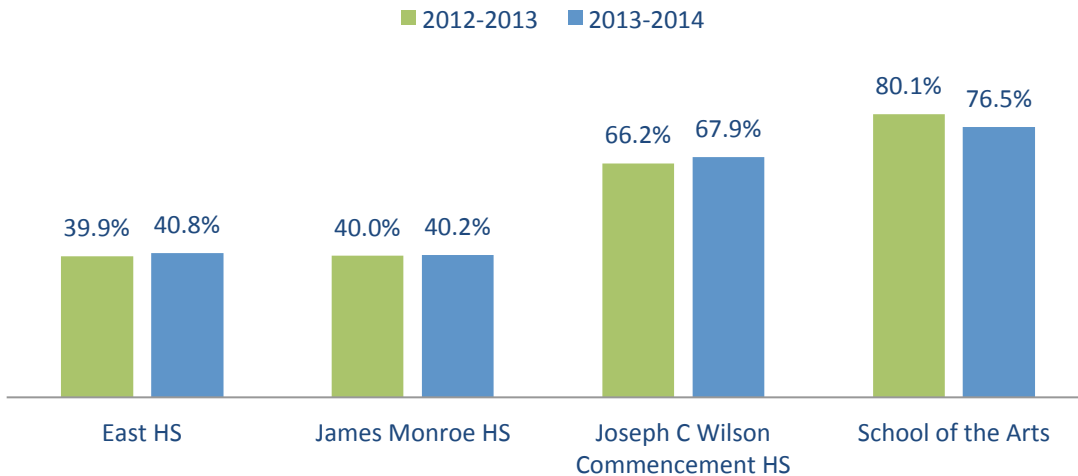
*A Program of Rochester Education Foundation - May 2014*

Recent releases from the Rochester City School District and the U.S. Department of Education have provided baseline data that Rochester College Access Network and the Rochester community can use to track our future efforts to support city student access and success in college.

The data here tracks key measures related to college access and success for city students. We will continue to offer updates on this information.

1. **Completion of financial aid applications.** Data from the US Department of Education indicates the number of students completing the free financial aid application (FAFSA) at individual high schools. Students who complete FAFSA forms in a satisfactory timeframe are eligible for federal, state, and institutional financial aid. Completion rates vary significantly by RCSD school. Overall, the rate of completion in RCSD was 43 percent in 2013-2014. FAFSA completion rates from a sampling of RCSD schools over two years is below:

### FAFSA completion rates of enrolled seniors at select RCSD high schools over two years



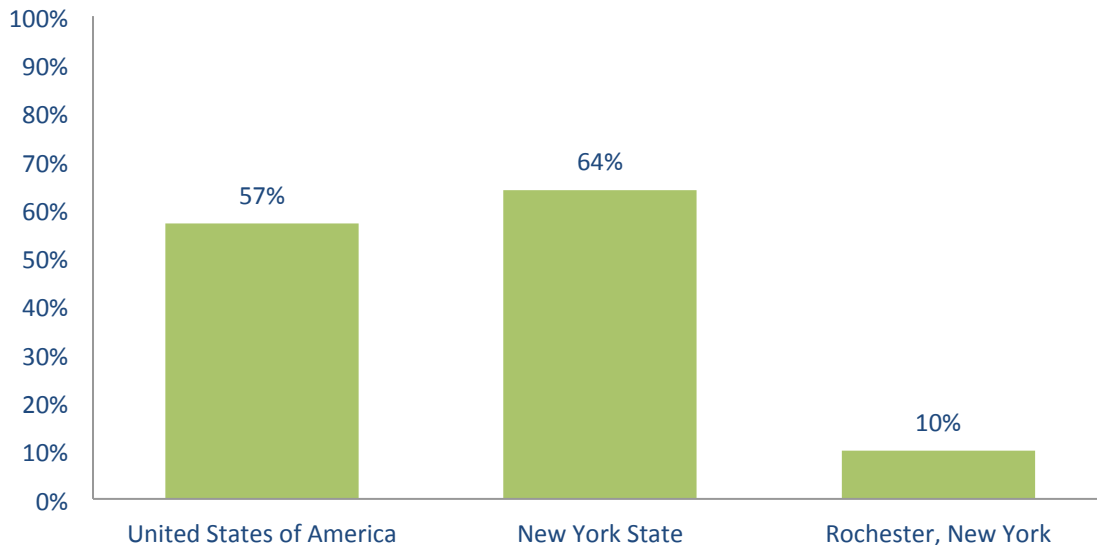
Source: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid office, New York State Education Department Report Cards

2. **Percent of students enrolling in two-year college during their first year after high school, 2012 cohort.** 49 % of students enrolled in a two-year college after graduating in 2012. (National Student Clearinghouse, released by RCSD).
3. **Percent of students enrolling in four-year college during their first year after high school, 2012 cohort.** A total of 15 % of students enrolled in a four-year

college after graduating in 2012. (National Student Clearinghouse, released by RCSD).

- 4. Percent of students graduating from two-year colleges, 2003-2007.** Since students who have graduated high school in the past few years may not be finished with their degree yet, we've compiled college graduation rates from 2003-2007, although students from these graduating classes may still be working on their degrees. Of all the RCSD graduates from 2003-2007 who enrolled in two-year colleges, 11% have completed their degree.
- 5. Percent of students graduating from four-year colleges, 2003-2007.** Of the students from graduating classes 2003-2007 who enrolled in four-year colleges, 17% of them have graduated.
- 6. Measuring up to state and national graduation rates.** The overall graduation rate of first-time college attendees at four-year institutions in America was 57% for students entering college in 2003 (National Center for Education Statistics). A total of 64% of students entering four-year colleges in 2003 graduated in New York State (New York State Education Department). Both figures are calculated over 150% time for completion (six years for four-year institutions, and three years for two-year institutions), meaning they graduated in 2007. In comparison, 10% of RCSD students graduated from a four-year college in 2007.

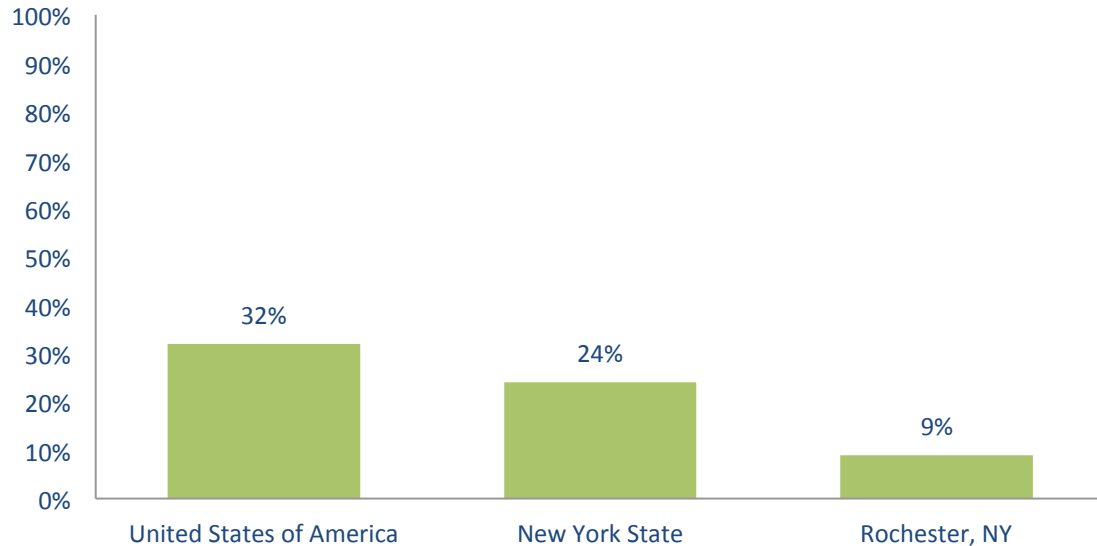
### Graduation rate at four-year colleges in 2007



For the cohort year of 2003, the national graduation rate at two-year institutions was 32% (NCES). In New York State, 24% of students from the same cohort graduated from two-year colleges (NYSED). As before, these are calculated within 150% completion time, meaning the students entering two-year programs in 2003

graduated in 2006. The two-year college graduation rate of RCSD students in 2006 was 9%.

### Graduation rate at two-year colleges in 2006



The data from the National Student Clearinghouse does not specify completion time for these graduates, and it may include transfer students, which the national and state data does not.

Rochester College Access Network supports college access and success through communication, coalition and advocacy for students in Rochester to enable students to meet their full potential.

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