

MEDIA ALERT
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New Web Site Provides Comparative Data on College and University Costs, Diversity and Graduation Rates

Today the Institute for College Access & Success launched a unique new web site for higher education data and research. [College InSight](http://www.college-insight.org) (www.college-insight.org) is a crucial resource for anyone interested in college affordability, student debt, economic and racial diversity, student success, and other characteristics of U.S. undergraduate students and the colleges they attend.

The site provides user-friendly profiles with detailed information for almost 5,000 U.S. colleges and universities. It lets users compare individual colleges, types of institutions, states and more, with over 150 variables for most academic years since 2000-01. College InSight also aggregates the data and provides totals and averages for states, types of schools, and other groupings. The site replaces and improves upon the Institute's previous campus-level data project, EconomicDiversity.org.

College InSight provides data on important issues such as:

- **Affordability:** tuition and the total cost of attendance; how students cover costs through federal, state, and college grant aid, as well as student loans; average student debt levels; colleges' use of need- and merit-based aid.
- **Diversity:** data on the racial and ethnic diversity of both students and faculty; indicators of student economic diversity, such as the percentage of undergraduates who received federal Pell Grants and the income distribution of students who applied for financial aid.
- **Student success:** graduation rates and the number of degrees and certificates awarded.

There are three ways to examine and compare colleges using College InSight:

- **Spotlight:** Choose a college, state, or type of school and view a snapshot of important data with a relevant comparison. For example, compare a local college to others like it in your state or compare any two colleges.
- **Topics:** Start with a topic such as economic diversity, student debt, or cost of attendance, and see how specific colleges, states, or school types compare. Meaningful groupings of variables are already provided, so the user just chooses which schools and years to compare.
- **Explore all data:** Build your own table with any combination of colleges, states, or types of colleges, variables, and years in the College InSight database.

College InSight's goal is to promote effective research and reporting about higher education in the U.S by making information easier to access and analyze.

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