High School Graduation Gains Equal Economic Success

In many states and across the nation, high school graduation rates are rising and economies are seeing the benefits. Ohio’s graduation rate increased by 2.1 percentage points from the Class of 2011 to the Class of 2012. These additional 3,100 graduates represent gains of as much as $764 million in increased lifetime earnings and $3.1 million in annual state and local tax revenues.

If Ohio increased its overall graduation rate to 90 percent, the economic benefits from these 20,000 additional graduates would likely include as much as:
- $244 million in increased annual earnings and $20 million in annual state and local tax revenues;
- 2,300 new jobs and a $332 million increase in the gross state product; and
- $442 million in increased home sales and $23 million in increased auto sales.

Progress Has Been Made, But Graduation Gaps Remain

Despite Gains, Not All Students Are Graduating from High School at the Same Rates …

High School Graduation Rates by Race (Class of 2011)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All Students</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>American Indian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OH</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nation</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Due to data limitations for two-year institutions, particularly as they relate to students who transfer from their first institution, two-year college graduation rates have been omitted.

$3.1 million

Math 71%

Asian 49%

Math 71%

85%

Reading

Hispanic

Advanced

82

Black

64%

Science

White

30%

87%

Basic

2,300

58%

12

Same Rates …

Progress Has Been Made, But Graduation Gaps Remain

• From these

Ohio's Eighth-Grade Proficiency as Measured by State Test vs. the Nation's Report Card (NAEP) for SY 2011–12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Math</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAEP</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nationwide, the average gaps between state- and NAEP-reported reading and math scores are 40 percentage points and 32 percentage points, respectively.

States Are Strengthening Standards to Improve Preparedness

Ohio, along with 45 states and the District of Columbia, has adopted a common, state-created set of world-class standards for college and career readiness in English language arts and math. The four remaining states have their own college- and career-ready standards.

More Accurate Measures of Student Proficiency Are Needed

Ohio's Eighth-Grade Proficiency as Measured by State Test vs. the Nation's Report Card

Better Preparation Is Key for Success in College and a Career

Literacy Is an Underlying Problem for Many Students

School Year (SY) 2010–11 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Reading Scores for Ohio Eighth Graders*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All Students</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>American Indian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nation</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OH</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Due to data limitations for two-year institutions, particularly as they relate to students who transfer from their first institution, two-year college graduation rates have been omitted.

Insufficient or no data was reported for other subgroups.

States Are Working to Create New and Better Assessments

Fifty-two states participate in one of two consortia to develop Common Core State Standards-aligned next-generation assessments, which are scheduled to be administered during SY 2014–15. Ohio participates in the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC).

Excellent Teacher Training Is Critical to Increased Student Achievement

To promote higher levels of student achievement, 27 states have committed to educating and preparing better teachers and administrators through teacher licensing, program accreditation, and effective data use policies. Ohio has not joined this coalition of states focusing on educator preparation and entry into the profession.

Connecting Technology to Schools and Students

Having access to a broadband network—connectivity—is crucial to taking advantage of the world of technology and what it offers in the classroom. Ohio does have a statewide broadband network for its schools.

The use of technology lends flexibility to schools and classrooms. Ohio does allow additional flexibility by permitting schools to use funding for instructional materials on digital resources.

The Next Frontier: Deepen and Personalize Learning

Today’s modern economy requires more than basic content knowledge. Leading states are building an engaging and personalized education process to achieve deeper learning outcomes of core content knowledge, creative and critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

The following schools in Ohio are part of a deeper learning network and represent new approaches to prepare students, particularly those historically underserved, for college and a career: New Tech at East Tech and New Tech West High School (Cleveland), Shelby High School.

To foster such learning, school districts like Colorado’s Adams County School District 50, and even entire states, like New Hampshire and Oregon, permit students to advance their grade level based on mastery of content rather than on amount of time spent in the classroom.