

## Montana College Pipeline Data Profile

### How Prepared are Montana Students for Postsecondary Success?

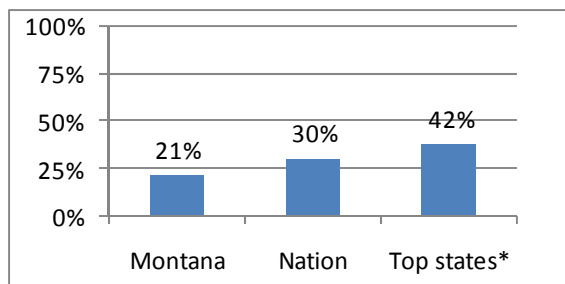
#### HIGH SCHOOL READINESS

National Assessment of Educational Progress performance and algebra-taking in the early years suggest how well prepared students will be for a rigorous high school curriculum.

**Table 1. Percent of 8<sup>th</sup> Graders Scoring at or Above “Proficient” on NAEP**

	Math 2007	Reading 2007	Science 2005
Montana	38	39	42
Nation	31	29	27

**Figure 1. 8th Graders Taking Algebra 1 (2007)**



#### THE PATH TO COLLEGE

**Table 2.1 Students’ Performance on College Entrance Exams (2007)**

	Average SAT			Average ACT			
	% Takers	Math	Verb	% Takers	Math	Eng	Sci
Montana	28	538	543	59	22	21	22
Nation	48	515	502	42	21	21	21

**Montana’s Progress in P-20 Alignment Policies**

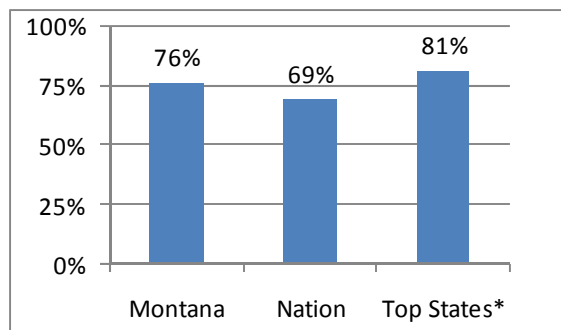
Alignment policy	Policy in Place
Align high school standards with college/career expectations	Plan - TBD
Align high school graduation requirements with college/career expectations	NR
Administer college readiness test to all students	NR
Develop P-20 longitudinal data system	NR
Use at least one measure to hold schools accountable for graduating students college/career ready	NR

**Table 2.2 ACT/AP Takers' HS Course-Taking Patterns (2007) (i)**

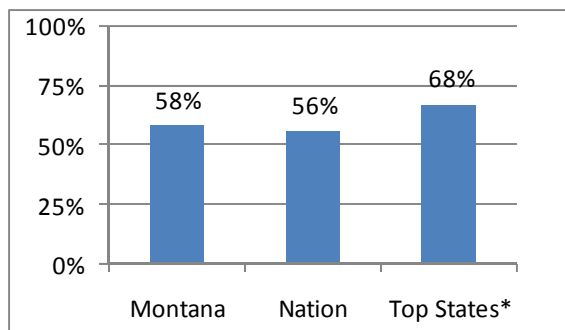
	% Taking min core courses			% Taking beyond min core courses			% Earning a 3 or higher on AP exam
	Math	Sci	Eng	Math	Sci	Eng	
Montana	15	28	48	56	27	21	7
Nation	17	31	59	54	29	19	8

#### COLLEGE GOING, PERSISTENCE AND GRADUATION

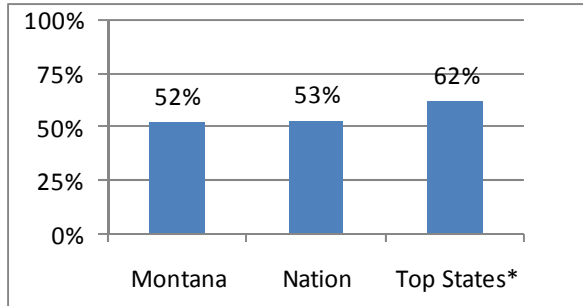
**Figure 2. High School Freshmen Graduating on Time (2005)**



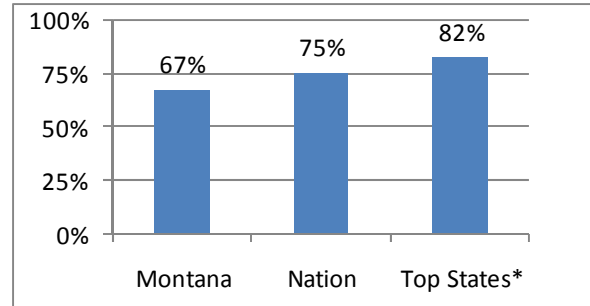
**Figure 3. High School Graduates Immediately Enrolling in College (2004)**



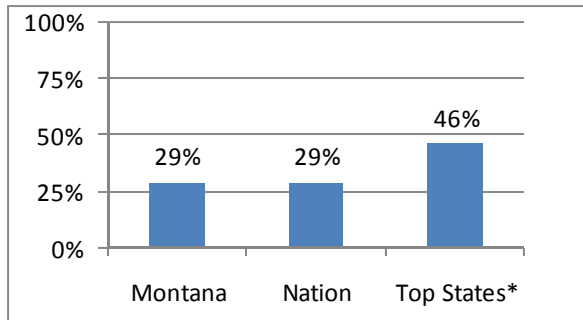
**Figure 4.1 Freshmen Returning for Second Year at Two-Year Colleges (2006)**



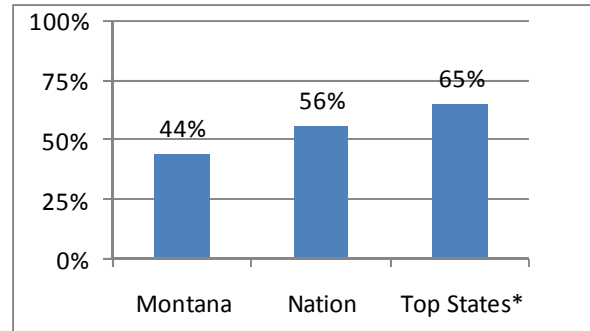
**Figure 4.2 Freshmen Returning for Second Year at Four-Year Colleges (2006)**



**Figure 5.1 Students at Two-Year Colleges Earning Degrees in Three Years (2006)**



**Figure 5.2 Students at Four-Year Colleges Earning Degrees in Six years (2006)**



**THE EDUCATION PIPELINE AND THE FUTURE OF Montana**

- Assuming existing patterns of high school completion and migration continue, the number of high school graduates in Montana will decrease by about 11% by 2015 (ii).
- Hispanic graduates from public schools in Montana are projected to increase by 60% between 2004-05 and 2015. Black non-Hispanic and Asian/Pacific Islander graduates are also expected to grow by 182 and 18%, respectively. Meanwhile, White non-Hispanic graduates are expected to see 7% declines and American Indian/Alaska Native graduates will fall slightly during the same time span (ii).
- By 2014, 78% of all job openings in the U.S. will require some college or training beyond high school.

Data Sources (In order of appearance):  
 Table 1 – Analysis of data from NCES, NAEP <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/nde/>  
 Figure 1 – Analysis of data from NCES, NAEP <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/nde/>  
 Table 2.1 & 2.2 – “College Bound Seniors 2007”, College Board, 2007; “2007 Average ACT Scores by State”, ACT, 2007; “4th Annual AP Report to the Nation”, College Board, 2008; “SAT score averages of college-bound seniors and percentage of graduates taking SAT, by state or jurisdiction: Selected years, 1987-88 through 2006-07”, NCES <http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d07/tables/xls/tabn137.xls>  
 Figure 2 – EPE Research Center  
 Progress in P-20 Alignment Policies – “Closing the Expectations Gap 2008”, Achieve, Inc, 2008  
 Figure 3 – “College-going rates of high school graduates – directly after high school”, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, 2004  
 Figure 4.1 & 4.2 – National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, *Measuring Up 2006*  
 Figure 5.1 & 5.2 – “Six Year Graduation Rates of Bachelor’s Students” and “3 Year Graduation Rates of Associate’s Students”, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, 2006  
 (i) ACT college ready minimum core curriculum: 3 years math (Alg 1, Alg 2, Geometry); 4 years English (grade 9-12); 3 years science (General, Chemistry, Biology). ACT advanced curriculum: minimum math course sequence plus advanced math course, minimum English course sequence plus other English course, minimum science course sequence plus Physics course. NOTE course-taking patterns below the minimum core not included.  
 (ii) “Knocking on the College Door: Projections of high school graduations by state and ethnicity, 1992-2022”, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, 2008  
 (iii) “America’s Forgotten Middle-Skill Jobs: Education and training requirements in the next decade & beyond”, Harry Holzer and Robert Lerman, November 2007  
 \* Top states refers to the median score of the top five scoring states