

Key Data about Massachusetts Public Higher Education

December 2011

1. Enrollment

Fall 2011 enrollment are the highest ever -- approximately 195,876 undergraduates and 26,905 graduate students. Undergraduate enrollment represents a 2 percent increase from the previous year and a 23 percent increase from Fall 2001. **The system is today serving approximately 222,781 students.** Counting 1.5 parents per student, students and their parents represent 8.5% of the Massachusetts population, enough to swing many elections.

<http://www.mass.edu/downloads/documents/2011-12-06CommitteeandBoardMaterials.pdf>

2. State Appropriations

a) Between FY2001 and FY2010, **state support per full-time equivalent student fell from \$8,748 to \$6,006** in inflation-adjusted dollars, representing a 31% reduction over nine years. Enrollment has continued to increase and state support continued to fall since then.

http://www.sheeo.org/finance/shef/SHEF_FY10.pdf Table 5

b) In FY 09, per capita appropriations for public higher education operating expenses was \$196 in Massachusetts, 45th in the country. The national average was \$291. Massachusetts was **33% below the national average.**

http://www.sheeo.org/finance/shef/SHEF_FY10.pdf Table 10

c) State Appropriations adjusted for inflation, expressed in FY 2012 dollars:

	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2010</u>	<u>FY 2011</u>	<u>FY 2012</u>	<u>3 Year Cut</u>	<u>% cut</u>
Community Colleges	252,976,366	250,551,672	230,153,557	210,366,728	42,609,638	16.8%
State Universities	230,417,754	228,209,278	209,606,853	195,008,769	35,408,985	15.4%
UMass	520,527,931	515,538,844	470,149,968	434,319,082	86,208,849	16.6%
TOTAL	1,003,922,051	994,299,794	909,910,378	839,694,579	164,227,472	16.4%

http://www.massbudget.org/documentsearch/findDocument?doc_id=799&dse_id=1654

d) Prior to FY 2009, Massachusetts appropriations for public higher education operating expenses increased - but only by 6.5% from FY 99 to FY 09. The national average increase during this time was 48.5%. **Only South Carolina's increase was lower.** The range was 6.2% to 124.5%.

http://www.grapevine.ilstu.edu/fifty_state_summary.htm

e) In FY 2008, 3.8% of Massachusetts revenues went to public higher education; the national average was 6.6% with **only 4 states spend a smaller percentage than Massachusetts**.

http://www.sheeo.org/finance/shef/SHEF_FY10.pdf Table 10

f) In FY 2001, the state spent about 25% more on higher education than on prisons (including probation and parole). In FY 2012, it was the reverse – spending on incarceration is about 25% more than on higher education.

<http://browser.massbudget.org/CompareCurrentYear.aspx?typ=PastCurrent>

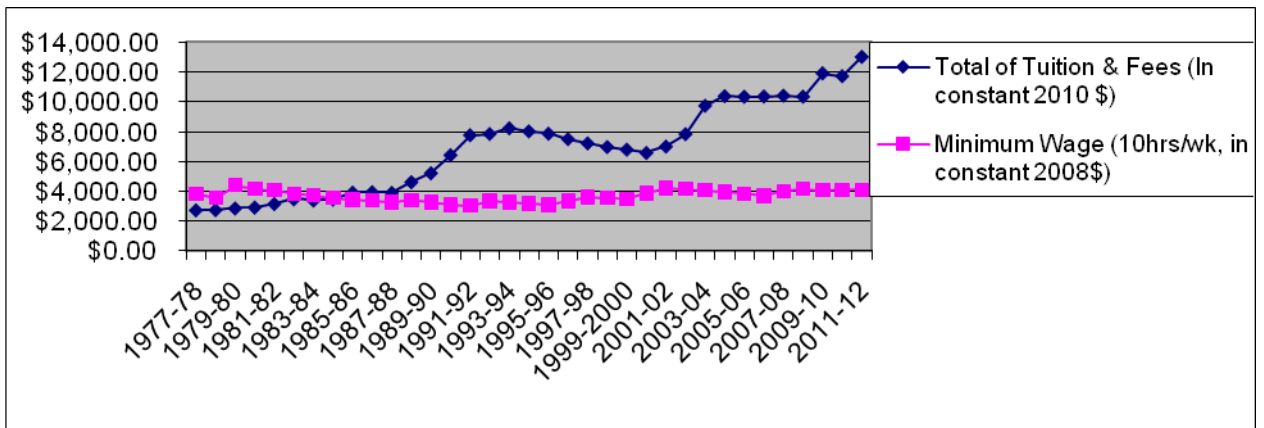
3. Tuition, Fees and Financial Aid

a) Average tuition and fees at public 4-year institutions was \$8,201, **30% above the national average** of \$6,319 (FY 2010). Average tuition and fees at public 2-year institutions was \$3,255, **52% above the national average** of \$2,137 (FY 2010).

<http://chronicle.com/article/Massachusetts-Almanac-2010/124037/>

b) UMass Amherst tuition and fees compared to income earned from working a minimum wage job 10 hours per week, in constant 2010 dollars. [2011-12 is projected]

Unpublished report, Benjamin Taylor, 2011



c) Massachusetts ranks 35th among the states in grant aid provided per FTE student, even though the cost of attending our public campuses is comparatively high (15th) in relation to median family income. In FY 2012 dollars, the amount of state scholarship aid decreased from \$100.3 million in FY 2009 to \$87.6 million in FY 2012, a decrease of 14.5%. Since 1988, the contribution of the average MASSGrant to covering the cost of tuition and fees at public institutions has declined from 80 percent to about 8 percent. In the 2007-08 academic year, the total unmet need for students in our public institutions who completed a FAFSA and were eligible to receive financial aid was approximately \$180 million.

http://www.massbudget.org/documentsearch/findDocument?doc_id=799&dse_id=1654

<http://www.mass.edu/downloads/documents/2011-12-06CommitteeandBoardMaterials.pdf>

4. Impact on Economic Activity

a) The value of the increased earnings of college graduates over their lifetime was 9.4 times greater than the cost to the state of their education.

State Colleges in the Massachusetts Economy from the Executive Office of the State College Presidents, 2008, quoted in *Massachusetts Department of Higher Education, FY 2010 Budget Request*

<http://www.mass.edu/aboutus/documents/faap09-11.pdf>

b) \$1 in direct state investment in UMass generates more than \$8 in economic activity. For every 100 UMass jobs, over 90 additional private sector jobs are created in the 5 UMass regions. Total impact is \$4.3 billion and 29,000 jobs.

UMass: A Strategic Investment, September 2006

http://media.umassp.edu/massedu/econdev/umass_economic_impact.pdf

c) The current percentage of Massachusetts adults (ages 25-64) with a college degree is 49.6%. By 2018, the percentage of all jobs in the state which will require some postsecondary training beyond high school is 68%.

<http://www.mass.edu/downloads/documents/2011-12-06CommitteeandBoardMaterials.pdf>

d) In Massachusetts, an associate's degree on average adds \$7,700 (or almost ¼) to the earnings of someone who only has a high school diploma. A bachelor's degree adds over \$30,000, almost doubling the earnings of the high school graduate. The person with a bachelor's degree pays \$3,176 more each year in taxes.

Economic Impact of Investment in Public Higher Education in Massachusetts: Short-Run Employment Stimulus, Long-Run Public Returns, by Prof. Michael Ash, UMass Amherst (to be released in 2012)

e) 85% of Massachusetts public higher education students stay in Massachusetts, work here and pay taxes after graduating. Only 55% of students at independent colleges and universities in Massachusetts are residents of the Commonwealth.

http://www.mass.gov/legis/reports/public_higher_ed_taskforce_report.htm

Nellie Mae, "Higher Ed Matters," October 25, 2005.