

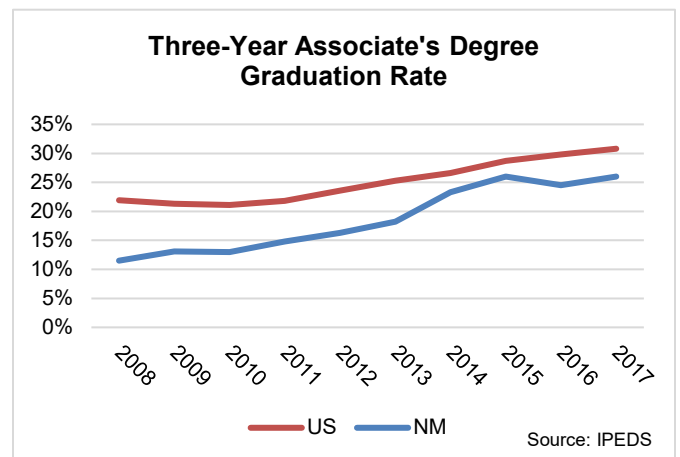
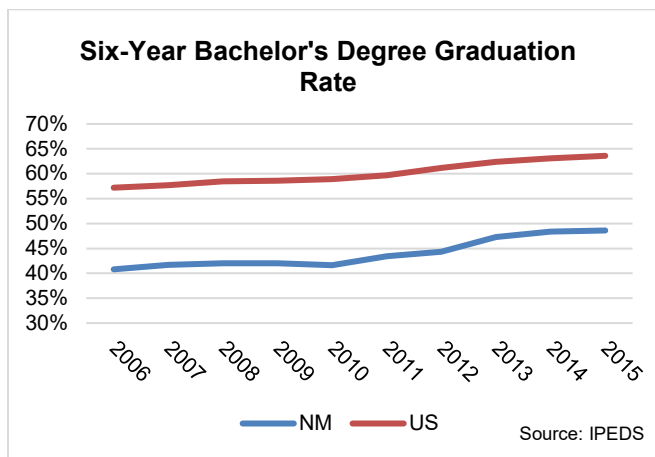
ACTION PLAN

Submitted by agency?	No
Timeline assigned?	No
Responsibility assigned?	No

Research found the lottery scholarship improved outcomes for academically prepared low income students but did not increase graduation rates for underprepared low income students.

New Mexico has made historic investments in higher education with the creation of the opportunity scholarship as well as other financial aid programs and targeted expansion funding. The opportunity scholarship expands on the tuition subsidy offered through the lottery scholarship to cover non-traditional students who are returning to higher education as well as covering certain fees and first semester costs of lottery scholarship students. The opportunity scholarship is likely responsible for the first statewide enrollment increase in the past decade.

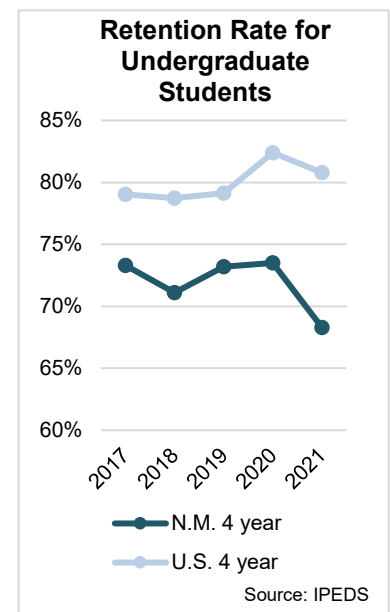
To ensure investment in the opportunity scholarship pays off, higher education institutions will be challenged to improve student retention so that college attendance ends with achievement of a degree or certificate.



New Mexico's graduation rate, 49 percent in 2021, has ranked 49th or 48th in the nation for the past 5 years. For New Mexico to reach the national graduation rate of 64 percent for 4-year institutions, HEIs would have needed to graduate 959 more students in 2021. To close this gap, New Mexico institutions must examine barriers to student success and develop strategies to increase year-over-year retention rates from enrollment to graduation. The University of New Mexico has taken the first step by conducting a statewide basic needs assessment.

The basic needs assessment looked at food and housing insecurity and homelessness. The survey found more than half of students are housing insecure and that 19 percent of 2-year students and 16 percent of 4-year students experienced homelessness in the past 12 months. The findings were based on a survey of over 15 thousand respondents at 27 institutions but had a response rate of 16 percent.

In addition to basic needs, test scores and remediation rates show many New Mexico students are academically under-prepared, a deficiency exacerbated by pandemic-related learning loss. Despite this, New Mexico reports the 2021 remediation rate of students entering New Mexico HEIs was 32.7 percent, a significant reduction from the 2017 rate of 44.2 percent.



Since 2016, New Mexico's freshman retention rate has ranked 50th in the nation.

Awards

Certificate and degree awards in New Mexico fell by 20 percent over the past 5 years. The majority of the reductions were in the 2-year sector which have seen degrees awarded fall by 28 percent, research universities reported an 11 percent decline and comprehensive universities experienced a 7.5 percent decline. At the same time, instruction and general (I&G) appropriations to HEIs increased by \$71.5 million, or 13 percent. The combination of falling award production and increasing appropriations resulted in a 40 percent cost per award increase between FY17 and FY22.

Cost Per Award
(dollars in thousands)

Institution	2016-17 Awards	FY17 I&G GF	Cost Per Award FY17	2021-22 Awards	FY22 I&G GF	Cost Per Award FY22	% Change Awards	% Change I&G
NMT	391	25,523.0	65	286	28,895.9	101.0	-26.9%	13.2%
NMSU	3,279	109,438.5	33.4	3,121	122,211.3	39.2	-4.8%	11.7%
UNM	5,617	175,823.2	31.3	4,849	197,843.0	40.8	-13.7%	12.5%
Research	9,287	310,784.7	33.5	8,256	348,950.2	42.3	-11.1%	12.3%
ENMU	1,322	25,603.1	19.4	1,277	30,722.0	24.1	-3.4%	20.0%
NMHU	989	26,046.1	26.3	794	29,035.8	36.6	-19.7%	11.5%
NNMC	148	9,706.9	65.6	224	10,363.8	46.3	51.4%	6.8%
WNMU	654	15,996.9	24.5	586	19,188.8	32.7	-10.4%	20.0%
Comprehensive	3,113	77,353.0	24.8	2,881	89,310.4	31.0	-7.5%	15.5%
ENMU-RO	499	10,985.7	22.0	433	11,995.6	27.7	-13.2%	9.2%
ENMU-RU	86	1,936.1	22.5	81	2,100.0	25.9	-5.8%	8.5%
NMSU-AL	112	7,036.2	62.8	101	7,257.6	71.9	-9.8%	3.1%
NMSU-DA	1,176	21,387.3	18.2	1,086	23,679.1	21.8	-7.7%	10.7%
NMSU-GR	88	3,320.1	37.7	75	3,557.6	47.4	-14.8%	7.2%
UNM-GA	251	8,407.1	33.5	251	8,848.7	35.3	0.0%	5.3%
UNM-LA	93	1,710.4	18.4	106	1,926.2	18.2	14.0%	12.6%
UNM-TA	120	3,274.1	27.3	136	3,864.7	28.4	13.3%	18.0%
UNM-VA	215	5,135.2	23.9	166	5,847.4	35.2	-22.8%	13.9%
CNM	8,036	52,815.8	6.6	4,720	61,808.6	13.1	-41.3%	17.0%
CCC	453	9,094.1	20.1	524	10,052.3	19.2	15.7%	10.5%
LCC	130	6,730.9	51.8	89	6,942.3	78.0	-31.5%	3.1%
MCC	114	3,864.2	33.9	309	4,183.2	13.5	171.1%	8.3%
NMJC	527	5,157.9	9.8	359	5,951.3	16.6	-31.9%	15.4%
SENMC	105	3,860.0	36.8	148	4,276.0	28.9	41.0%	10.8%
SJC	1,444	22,555.4	15.6	1,126	24,795.5	22.0	-22.0%	9.9%
SFCC	845	9,182.8	10.9	594	10,785.6	18.2	-29.7%	17.5%
2-Year	14,294	176,453.3	12.3	10,304.0	197,871.7	19.2	-27.9%	12.1%
Grand Total	26,694	564,591	21.2	21,441.0	636,132.3	29.7	-19.7%	12.7%