



ASPIRE Regional Data Sheet

ASPIRE, Inc. is the regional professional organization for the federal TRiO programs in the states of Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. The ASPIRE board of directors believes that it is important to collect and summarize the annual performance data that is submitted yearly to the United States Department of Education (ED).

Most states in the region publish a state fact book to demonstrate the work and progress at the state level. The ASPIRE board feels it is important to begin compiling data at the regional level. The data in this report is comprised of outcome data that is reported to ED each year. It is important to note that not all TRiO programs submitted their data for this report, but the data represents a significant proportion (66%) of the programs.

Snapshot of the TRiO Programs in the ASPIRE Region

	# Programs Nationally	# of Programs in Region	Students Served Yearly in Region	Regional Budget Allocation
Educational Opportunity Centers	124	7	13,151	\$2,973,685
McNair Scholars Program	185	7	200	\$1,773,253
Student Support Services	947	59	12,081	\$17,533,356
Classic Upward Bound	964	39	2,751	\$12,973,112
Math/Science Upward Bound	116	3	178	\$902,262
Veteran's Upward Bound	40	5	710	\$1,669,379
Educational Talent Search	466	19	15,775	\$ 5,998,346

The focus of the federal TRiO programs is to assist low income, first generation, and disabled students through the academic pipeline from middle school to postsecondary degree completion. The mission and services offered by TRiO programs varies between the programs, but the goal is the same, to help students enter and complete a program of post secondary education. In this analysis it is important to note that 74% of the participants are low income and first generation students and more than half of the participants in these programs are minorities.

College Continuation

Nationally the college continuation rate among high school graduates is 55.3%. In the ASPIRE region the college continuation rate is slightly better at 58%. This is for all students, regardless of income or academic ability. Below is a table that illustrates the college going rate of students participating in TRiO programs in the ASPIRE region.

Comparison of College Continuation Rates

	U.S. All Incomes	Region, All Incomes	Upward Bound Participants	Talent Search Participants	EOC Participants	MSUB Participants
College Continuation	55.3%	58%	72%	74%	65%	75%

Persistence

Upward Bound and Student Support Services (SSS) programs are required to track students through post secondary completion. Upward Bound projects are required to measure and report on first year to second year persistence, and SSS programs must measure yearly persistence for students served. The freshman to sophomore persistence rate for low income/first generation college students is 40%. The table below illustrates the persistence outcomes for TRiO participants.

Comparison of College Persistence Rates

	National 1 st to 2 nd Yr.	Upward Bound 1 st to 2 nd yr.	4 Year SSS Programs Yearly	2 Year SSS Programs Yearly	Math/Science UB 1 st to 2 nd yr
Persistence	40%	69%	71%	79%	75%

College Completion

College completion is another outcome that is measured. The McNair Scholars program tracks and reports on doctoral degree completion. Student Support Services and Upward Bound track and report on undergraduate degree completion. Nationally, only 10.2% of low income and first generation college students complete a bachelor degree in six years. In the region, 19% of UB and 20% of Math/Science UB student complete a bachelor degree in six years.

College Completion Rates of Upward Bound and Math/Science Upward Bound

2002 UB Grads	Math/Science UB Regional	Upward Bound Regional	National
# & (%) that Earned Postsecondary Degree	9 (26%)	87 (32%)	
# & (%) Still Enrolled	10 (29%)	51 (19%)	
# & (%) Not Enrolled	16 (45%)	133 (49%)	
Total # Students	35	271	
# & (%) Earned Bachelors	7 (20%)	51 (19%)	10.2%
# & (%) Earned Associates or certificate	2 (6%)	36 (13%)	14%

In the ASPIRE region, 53% of Student Support Services participants at four year colleges and universities are completing their undergraduate degrees and 52% of participants at two year colleges are either completing their program of study or transferring to four year colleges.

Student Support Services College Completion and/or Transfer Rates

Student Support Services	SSS Regional Data	National
Bachelor Graduation Rate in Six Years	53%	26.6%
Transfer to four year or graduate with associates in three years	52%	27.8%

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