

Alabama Commission on Higher Education

December 23, 2024

The Honorable Kay Ivey Governor of Alabama State Capitol, 600 Dexter Avenue Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Governor Ivey,

On behalf of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, I am pleased to submit a preliminary report on the development and implementation of the Student Horizon Database, as mandated by Act 2023-556. This initiative represents a transformative step in advancing our state's ability to support student success and workforce readiness through data-driven insights. The Student Horizon Database, also referred to as the Horizon, is poised to become an invaluable resource for policymakers, educators, and employers, enabling informed decisions that enhance educational outcomes and address workforce needs.

This initial report illustrates ACHE's progress of publishing the collected and aggregated data to achieve full implementation and operational capacity well before the October 31, 2024, deadline. After a full year of user access to the website and the release of Alabama's 2025 list of in-demand occupations, the Commission will be able to assess how our publicly funded colleges and universities align their programs with state workforce needs, focusing on addressing critical job demands. The findings can help inform future initiatives to better align educational programs with Alabama's changing workforce priorities.

We are grateful for your leadership and continued support of higher education. The Commission remains committed to collaborating with your office and other stakeholders to ensure the database serves as a robust tool for advancing Alabama's educational and economic goals. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

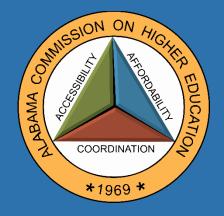
Sincerely,

Dr. Jim Purcell Executive Director

cc:

Senator Arthur Orr, Chair of the Senate Finance and Taxation Education Committee Representative Danny Garrett, Chair of the House Ways and Means Education Committee Director Othni Lathram, Legislative Services Agency Director Bill Poole, Finance and Senior Advisor Director Nick Moore, Education Policy Advisor and Coordinator, Governor's Office

of Education and Workforce Transformation



Alabama Commission on Higher Education

Student Horizon Database 2024 Preliminary Report

"The Commission shall issue an annual report to the Legislature outlining the effectiveness of colleges, universities, or any other postsecondary education institutions accepting public funding in aligning their curricula or programs with the state job market, including the degree to which they contribute to filling the most in-demand jobs in the state."

Alabama Act 2023-556 §7

Student Horizon Database by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education

The Students' Right to Know Act, enacted as Act 2023-556 during the 2023 legislative session, tasked the Alabama Commission on Higher Education with creating the Student Horizon Database. Ahead of the October 31, 2024, deadline, the Commission developed Horizon, an interactive online platform offering parents and students detailed financial and academic information to support informed decisions about education and career planning.

Horizon enables direct comparisons between Alabama's public community colleges, public universities, and private institutions, while also directing students to educational opportunities within the United States Armed Forces. The website serves as a valuable resource for exploring programs that align with individual career goals and workforce demands.

The 2024 Student Horizon Database Preliminary Report offers an overview of the initial data collected in compliance with Act 2023-556. It demonstrates how the mandated information is published on the website, providing users with accessible and comparable data. To ensure accuracy and relevance, Horizon data will be updated annually, keeping parents and students informed with the latest information.

After a year of Horizon website access and the release of Alabama's 2025 in-demand occupations list, the Alabama Commission on Higher Education will issue a 2025 report. This report will assess how publicly funded colleges and universities align their programs with state workforce needs, focusing on addressing critical job demands. The findings will guide future efforts to strengthen the connection between educational programs and Alabama's evolving workforce priorities.

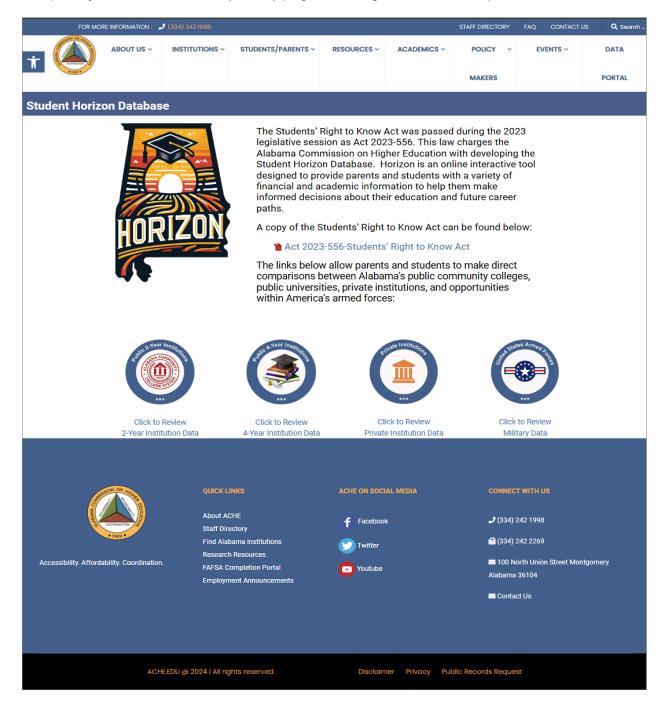
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Student Horizon Database

This preliminary report includes direct links embedded in the titles for Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions, Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions, Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions, and U.S. Armed Forces Military Data, guiding users to their corresponding sections on the Horizon website. The title of Academic Program Inventory also links to its location on the ACHE website. Additionally, on the Horizon website, each category – Admissions, College Costs, Enrollment, Graduation/Outcomes, and Wage Information – concludes with a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) page, offering references for parents and students.



Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions



Admissions

Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Admission Requirements

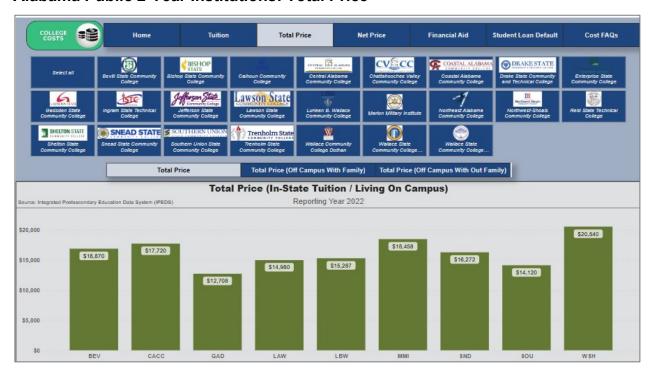


College Costs

Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Tuition



Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Total Price



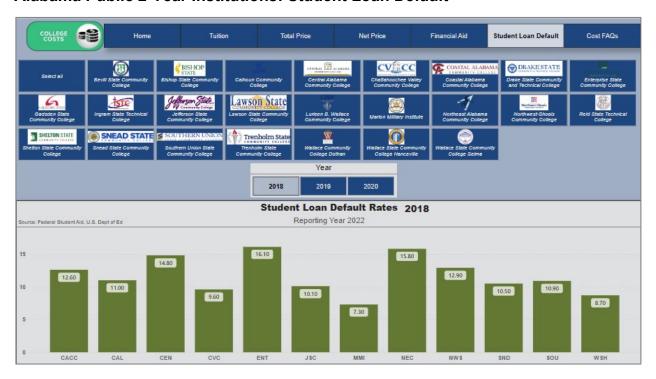
Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Net Price



Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Financial Aid

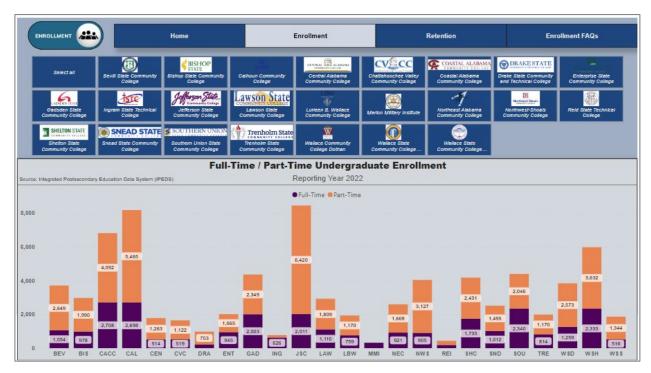


Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Student Loan Default

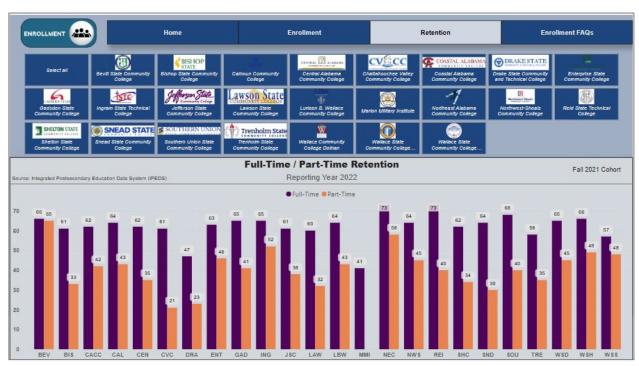


Enrollment

Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Enrollment



Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Retention



Graduation/Outcomes

Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Graduation Rate

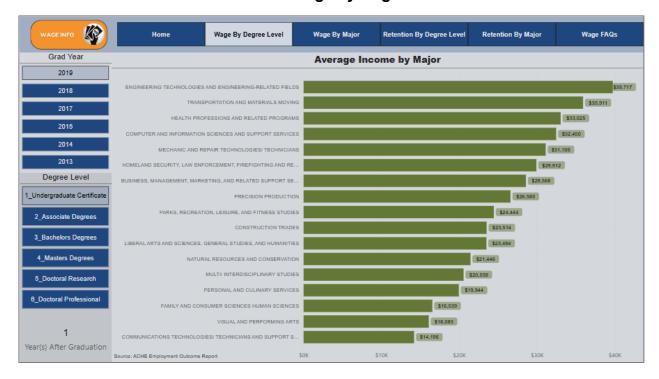


Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Transfer Rate



Wage Information

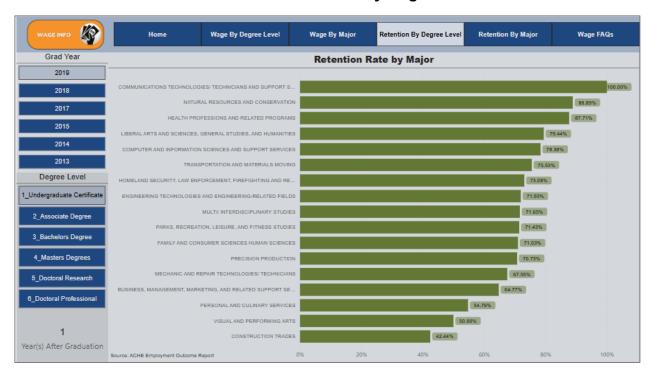
Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Wage by Degree Level



Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Wage by Major



Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Retention by Degree Level

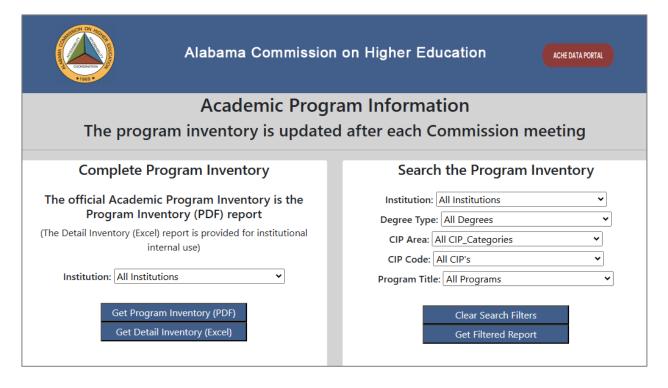


Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Retention by Major



Academic Program Inventory

Alabama Public 2-Year Institutions: Academic Program Inventory



Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions



Admissions

Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Admission Requirements

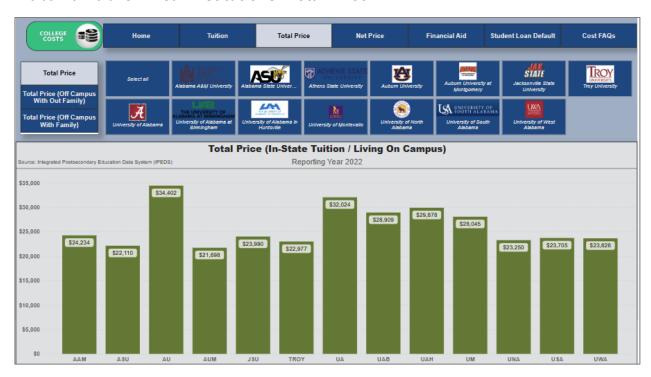


College Costs

Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Tuition



Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Total Price



Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Net Price



Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Financial Aid



Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Student Loan Default

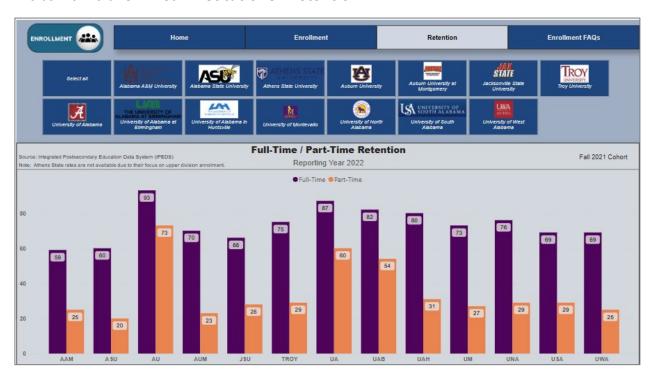


Enrollment

Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Enrollment



Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Retention



Graduation/Outcomes

Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Graduation Rate

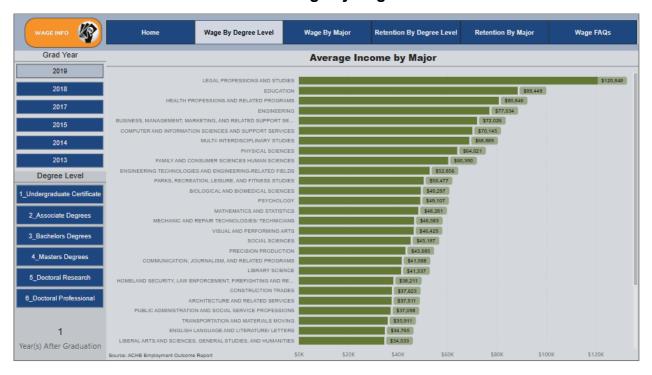


Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Transfer Rate



Wage Information

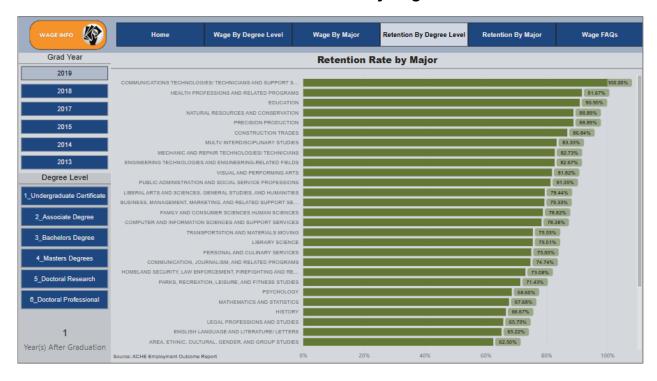
Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Wage by Degree Level



Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Wage by Major



Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Retention by Degree Level

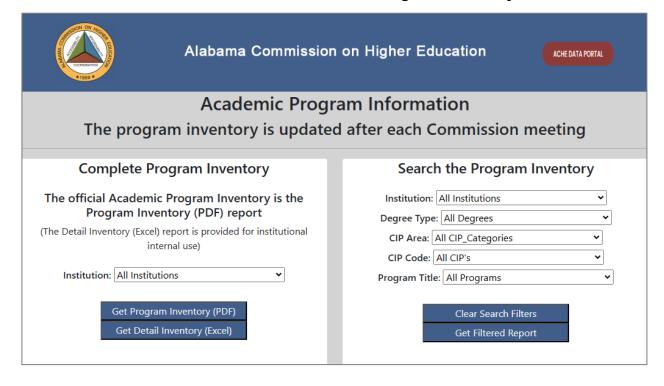


Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Retention by Major



Academic Program Inventory

Alabama Public 4-Year Institutions: Academic Program Inventory

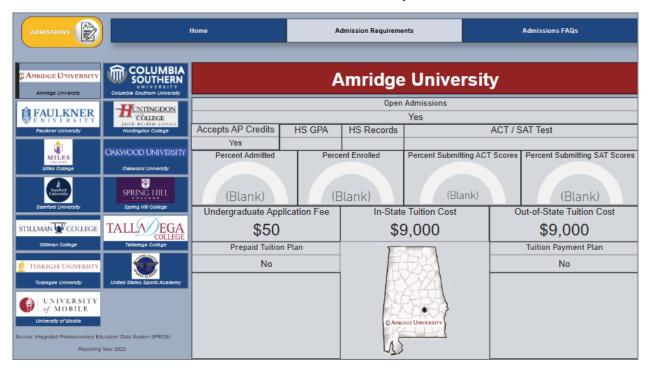


Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions



Admissions

Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Admission Requirements



College Costs

Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Tuition



Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Total Price



Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Net Price



Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Financial Aid

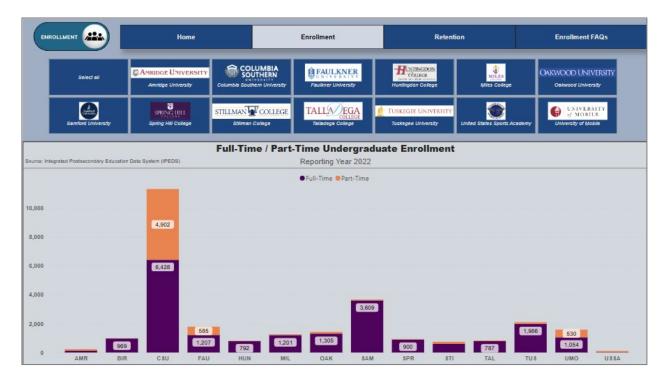


Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Student Loan Default



Enrollment

Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Enrollment



Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Retention

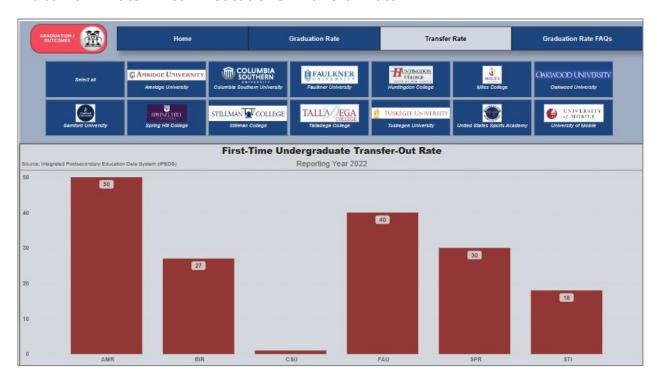


Graduation/Outcomes

Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Graduation Rate

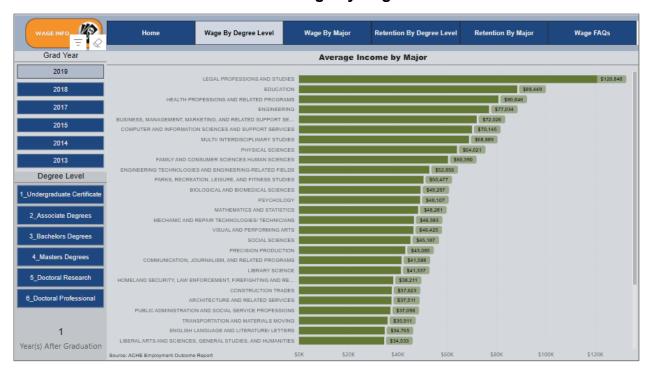


Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Transfer Rate



Wage Information

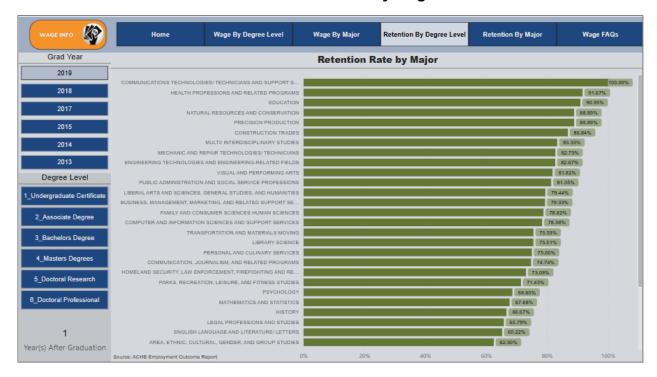
Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Wage by Degree Level



Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Wage by Major



Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Retention by Degree Level



Alabama Private 4-Year Institutions: Retention by Major



United States Armed Forces Military Data



U.S. Army https://www.army.mil/

U.S. Marine Corps https://www.marines.mil/

U.S. Navy https://www.navy.mil/

U.S. Air Force https://www.af.mil/

U.S. Space Force https://www.spaceforce.mil/

U.S. National Guard https://www.nationalguard.mil/

U.S. Coast Guard https://www.uscg.mil//