



**OCEAN
DISCOVERY
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COLLEGE FIT WORKSHOP

Christina Contreras | September 20, 2023

GOALS

- Students will define and apply concepts of college fit.
- Students will define and apply concept of “Safety-Match-Reach”
- Students will be equipped to critically determine eligibility for college selections.

AGENDA

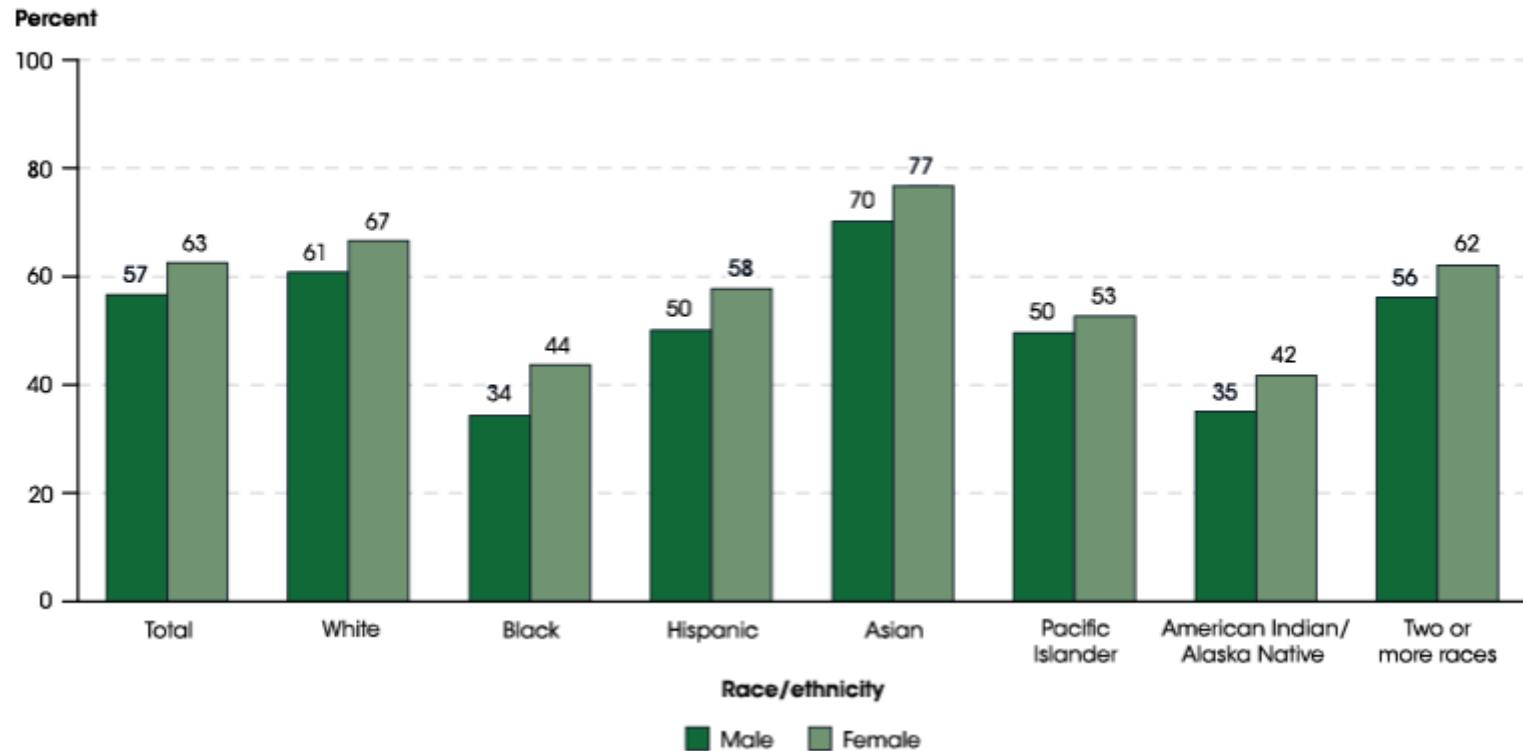
- Understanding College Fit
- Researching Colleges
- Next Steps

UNDERSTANDING COLLEGE FIT

Academic | Social | Financial

DISCUSSION

Figure 23.2. Graduation rate within 6 years (150 percent of normal time) for degree completion from first institution attended for first-time, full-time bachelor's degree-seeking students at 4-year postsecondary institutions, by race/ethnicity and sex: Cohort entry year 2010



Source: National Center for Education Statistics, February 2019

WHAT IS COLLEGE FIT?

College fit = academic, social, financial

ACADEMIC

- Student Support Services
 - Learning communities; first-year interest groups; mentoring; basic skills development; faculty involvement; study skills courses; test-taking clinics; career advising; TRIO programs
- Career Services
 - Internship program

SOCIAL

- Consider campus size, distance from home, school setting, etc.
- Retention Programs
 - Summer bridge; dorm life; first-year orientation; mentoring; residence halls; TRIO programs
- Diverse student body AND faculty
 - Ethnic Studies programs; accountable and relatable academic advisors/mentors
- Clubs/organizations

FINANCIAL

- Cost/ Financial Aid/ Debt
 - Work study

SAFETY, MATCH, REACH

As you find the colleges that are a fit for you, put them into different categories of SAFETY, MATCH, REACH.

- **Safety:** Your GPA and SAT/ACT scores are above the school's range for the average freshman. You should apply to at least 2 safety schools.
- **Match:** Your GPA and SAT/ACT scores fall within (or even exceed) the school's range for the average freshman. The majority of schools to which you apply should be match schools.
- **Reach:** Your GPA and SAT/ACT scores fall below the school's range for the average freshman. Reach schools are long shots. You should apply to 2 reach schools.

RESEARCHING COLLEGES

TAKE ACTION!

- Investigate colleges using concepts of COLLEGE FIT and SAFETY-MATCH-REACH
 - Use the “Narrowing Your College Search” worksheet for guidance.
- Challenge by Choice: Contact the admissions office of your dream school!



RECOMMENDED COLLEGE SEARCH WEBSITES

<https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>

<http://www.collegedata.com/>

- Safety-Match-Reach

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>

- College criteria
- Scholarships

<https://www.cappex.com/greenlight/landing>

- Fly-in programs
- Need-blind admissions
- Scholarships

REFLECTION

& Evaluation

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY?

What does “college fit” mean?

What indicators communicate that a school is an *academic fit* for you?

What indicators communicate that a school is a *social fit* for you?

What indicators communicate that a school is a *financial fit* for you?

How do you know if a school is a “safety” for you?

How do you know if a school is a “match” for you?

How do you know if a school is “reach” for you?

How many safety schools is recommended that you apply to? Match? Reach?

NEXT STEPS

- Continue to research schools!
 - College fairs
 - Check the CAMP newsletter for upcoming college fairs
 - Campus visits
 - Request Southwest voucher **by Oct 1.**
- Create your UC and CSU application accounts
 - UC application opened Aug 1
 - CSU application opens Oct 1
- Next Wednesday: Greenlight Match
 - Exploring difference colleges through a college match process
- Questions?



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THANK YOU.

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