



# Summer Melt - Transition from High School to College

FOIL, November 15, 2017

# What is “summer melt”?

Harvard Strategic Data Project defines summer melt as “when seemingly college-intending students fail to enroll in the fall following high school graduation.”

# Reasons why students “melt”

- Summer tasks needed for matriculation including:
  - Registration for courses
  - Applying for financial aid
  - Preparing a budget for school
  - Completing placement tests and housing forms
  - Orientation and vaccinations

# How prevalent is the problem?

- Based on a Harvard study from 2012, rates of summer melt are between 10% and 40% nationally. Rates are also significantly higher among:
  - Low and moderate income students
  - “First in family” college students
  - Students enrolling in a 2-year college

# State Board Strategic Goal

- Goal 2: “Seamless Articulation and Maximum Access”
  - Metric: Postsecondary Continuation Rate – the percentage of high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary education
  - Target: 5% point increase by 2019-20

# How to determine summer melt in FL school districts

- Determine the number of students who graduated from high school
- Of those students, determine the number who:
  - Applied for financial aid (FAFSA) **AND**
  - Took acceleration courses in HS
  - Matriculated in the fall after graduation

# Summer Melt for 2014-15

School District	Summer Melt Percentage
ALACHUA	29.58%
BAKER	32.08%
BAY	31.50%
BRADFORD	31.67%
BREVARD	31.32%
BROWARD	29.92%
CALHOUN	28.40%
CHARLOTTE	35.48%
CITRUS	35.11%
CLAY	36.54%

# Summer Melt for 2014-15

School District	Summer Melt Percentage
COLLIER	39.30%
COLUMBIA	27.37%
DADE	32.20%
DESOTO	41.67%
DIXIE	60.00%
DUVAL	44.04%
ESCAMBIA	37.47%
FLAGLER	34.76%
FRANKLIN	38.10%
GADSDEN	34.78%

# Summer Melt for 2014-15

School District	Summer Melt Percentage
GILCHRIST	45.00%
GLADES	42.86%
GULF	41.94%
HAMILTON	51.06%
HARDEE	38.46%
HENDRY	30.32%
HERNANDO	31.33%
HIGHLANDS	31.41%
HILLSBOROUGH	36.04%
HOLMES	45.78%

# Summer Melt for 2014-15

School District	Summer Melt Percentage
INDIAN RIVER	32.53%
JACKSON	31.91%
JEFFERSON	25.00%
LAFAYETTE	40.00%
LAKE	37.90%
LEE	37.06%
LEON	28.37%
LEVY	38.06%
LIBERTY	39.66%
MADISON	14.00%

# Summer Melt for 2014-15

School District	Summer Melt Percentage
MANATEE	32.03%
MARION	40.68%
MARTIN	28.98%
MONROE	28.35%
NASSAU	40.50%
OKALOOSA	37.31%
OKEECHOBEE	29.82%
ORANGE	35.90%
OSCEOLA	35.63%
PALM BEACH	30.67%

# Summer Melt for 2014-15

School District	Summer Melt Percentage
PASCO	32.72%
PINELLAS	26.36%
POLK	42.85%
PUTNAM	46.48%
ST. JOHNS	33.17%
ST. LUCIE	31.02%
SANTA ROSA	38.23%
SARASOTA	36.87%
SEMINOLE	26.78%
SUMTER	34.51%

# Summer Melt for 2014-15

School District	Summer Melt Percentage
SUWANNEE	22.92%
TAYLOR	32.56%
UNION	28.07%
VOLUSIA	39.20%
WAKULLA	46.41%
WALTON	45.16%
WASHINGTON	37.86%
DEAF/BLIND	0.00%
FL VIRTUAL	41.82%
FAU LAB SCH	20.00%

# Summer Melt for 2014-15

School District	Summer Melt Percentage
FSU LAB SCH	18.95%
FAMU LAB SCH	20.00%
UF LAB SCH	26.67%

# Ideas to decrease summer melt

- Summer Guidance Counselors and Academic Advisors
- Social media outreach and reminders to graduating seniors
- Summer hotline to call for assistance or information
- Senior Year Spring Connections with College academic advisors and orientation personnel
- Fall follow-up to ensure that students have matriculated

# Additional Resources

- State Board Strategic Plan:
  - <http://fldoe.org/policy/state-board-of-edu/strategic-plan.shtml>
- Harvard University Project on Summer Melt
  - <https://sdp.cepr.harvard.edu/summer-melt-handbook>



Questions?

# Contact Information

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