



College & Career Readiness

Cimone Philpotts



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Delaware State University

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COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

Certain populations still face a number of challenges in obtaining equal pay, equal access to housing, health care and other basic necessities. Contributing factors, relevant statistics, and recommendations are included in the Pace of Progress 2020. Its goal is to shed light on the current conditions in Delaware's communities of color in areas such as housing, education, health, and employment.

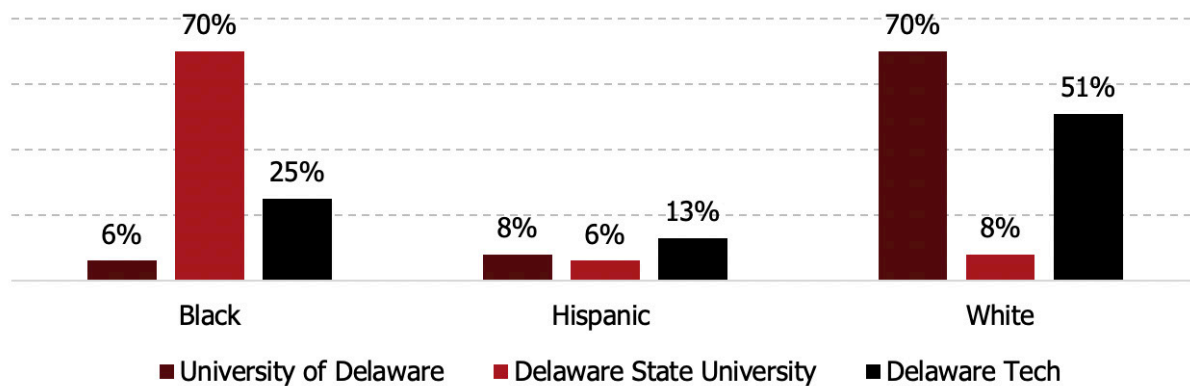
The College & Career Readiness section presented by Philpotts touches on the following:

- College Enrollment
- Degree Attainment
- Black Student Loan Debt

FAST FACTS

America's is increasingly becoming a knowledge-based economy, meaning college degrees are becoming more important and valuable. Education Trust estimates that since 1973, the share of American jobs that require at least some college education will have more than doubled, from 28% to 65%. Over the course of a lifetime, those with bachelor's degrees earn nearly \$1 million dollars than peers with high-school degrees only.

College Enrollment by Race in Delaware Public Institutions of Higher Education Fall 2018



DEGREE ATTAINMENT

There are gaps in the levels of educational attainment between whites and people of color. While 47.1% of White adults have earned some type of college degree, only 30.8% of Black adults 22% of Latinx adults have. Both of these numbers are less than White adults' degree attainment in 1990. These disparities are even more stark when comparing graduate degrees (Nichols & Schak, 2017; Schak & Nichols, 2017).

BLACK STUDENT LOAN DEBT

1. Business Insider offers 8 Startling Facts that Show just how Hard the Student Debt Crisis Hurts Black Americans:
2. "86.6% of Black students borrow federal loans to attend four-year colleges, compared to 59.9% of white students.
3. Even well-off Black students carry more student-loan debt than their similarly well-off peers.
4. An average Black graduate has \$7,400 more in student debt than his or her white peer.
5. Black student-loan borrowers default on their loans at five times the rate of white graduates.
6. Graduates of historically Black colleges and universities take on 32% more debt than their peers at other colleges.
7. Eliminating student-loan debt would narrow the racial wealth gap for young families.
8. White borrowers pay down their education debt at a rate of 10% a year, compared with 4% for Black borrowers.
9. Black graduates earn less money out of college making it harder to pay off their loans" (Akhtar & Hoffower, 2019).

Degree Attainment in Delaware

	Attainment Rate		Change in Attainment Since 2000	Degree Attainment Gap		
	% of Adults	Attainment		Black/White Gap	Gap Rank	Gap Change Since 2000
Black	21.3%	30.4%	9.3	14.0	16	-3.4
Hispanic	8.3%	21.2%	3.1	23.2	19	2.8



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Place Credentials, Careers and College Degrees within Reach For All
2. Reauthorize the Higher Education Act with emphasis on driving innovation, addressing student loans and student debt, accountability and supporting low-income and first-generation student access, attainment and completion
3. Reauthorize the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act
4. Invest in higher education to make community college free for any student, or the first two years for a low-income student at a Historically Black College or University (HBCU) or another Minority Serving Institution (MSI).
5. Reform the Pell Grant Program
6. State Department of Education and school districts should require better data collection and public reporting about resource equity, including human, financial, curricular, technological, out of school time and instructional resources.



You can find this and more information about the Building People Power Campaign at BuildingPeoplePower.com. Join the Movement! Eradicate Racial Disparities! Email info@mwul.org to join an issue based campaign today.

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