

MASSACHUSETTS EDUCATION-TO-CAREER RESEARCH AND DATA HUB

INCREASING DATA ACCESS TO PROMOTE EQUITY

2025

ANNUAL REPORT





Building a **FRONT DOOR FOR DATA**

#1 in education, Massachusetts has over 20 years of longitudinal student data.

Valuable data and insights on educational programs and outcomes are discoverable across Massachusetts digital platforms. The [Education-to-Career Research and Data Hub](#) (E2C Hub) is making the data more **accessible**, **modernized**, and **integrated** to better inform decision-making and improve outcomes.

The E2C Hub launched in 2021 thanks to a federal grant awarded to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to improve access to actionable data and research across the Commonwealth. We work with other state agencies to link and share data from early education through K-12, college, and career.

In Fiscal Year 2025, the E2C Hub received the first installment of a planned three-year, \$12 million capital investment from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS) to create a seamless data experience for a broad range of stakeholders. Our work has focused on expanding data access to the general public while integrating and modernizing data systems to support state data use.

OUR VISION

Data and research from early education through career are easy to access, well understood, and used to inform equitable policy, practice, and individual education choices.



WHO WE SERVE

Students and Families

Making it easy to understand the evidence on programs, schools, or supports when making decisions that impact children and students at every stage.

Educators

Presenting data and tools to assess programs and performance and promote equitable student outcomes.

Policymakers

Ensuring data and research needed to inform policy priorities are available, findable, understandable, and actionable.

Researchers

Imparting a diverse community of researchers with the data and tools to produce relevant, actionable research to inform policy and practice.

Advocacy Groups

Improving access to data relevant to advocacy work with children, students, families, and workers across Massachusetts.

Agency Staff

Building a more efficient data system so education agency staff spend more time on insights and less time on finding or cleaning data.

“ I’ve been excited to see how the E2C Hub has helped advance Massachusetts’ cross-agency efforts to use data to inform policy. The participating state agencies are working to create strategic research agendas, more data is becoming available for public use, and [DESE has improved] the confidential data accessible to researchers in its accessibility and quality. ”

Christopher Cleveland
Annenberg Institute
Brown University

PUTTING DATA IN THE HANDS OF THE PUBLIC

This year, we doubled the number of datasets in the [E2C Hub Data Catalog](#), making nearly 70 datasets — many with more than a decade of data and a dozen student groups — available for public access and download. Explore new data in these categories:

Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12

- Enrollment by town, school type
- Class sizes
- Special education
- Student discipline
- Early College
- High school graduation
- Plans of high school graduates
- School and district spending
- Chapter 70 funding

Early Education and Care

- Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3)
- Educator workforce and wages

Higher Education

- Annual enrollment
- First year retention
- Awards and degrees conferred

“Your data is so clean and nicely structured that I’ve already updated the numbers in our paper.”

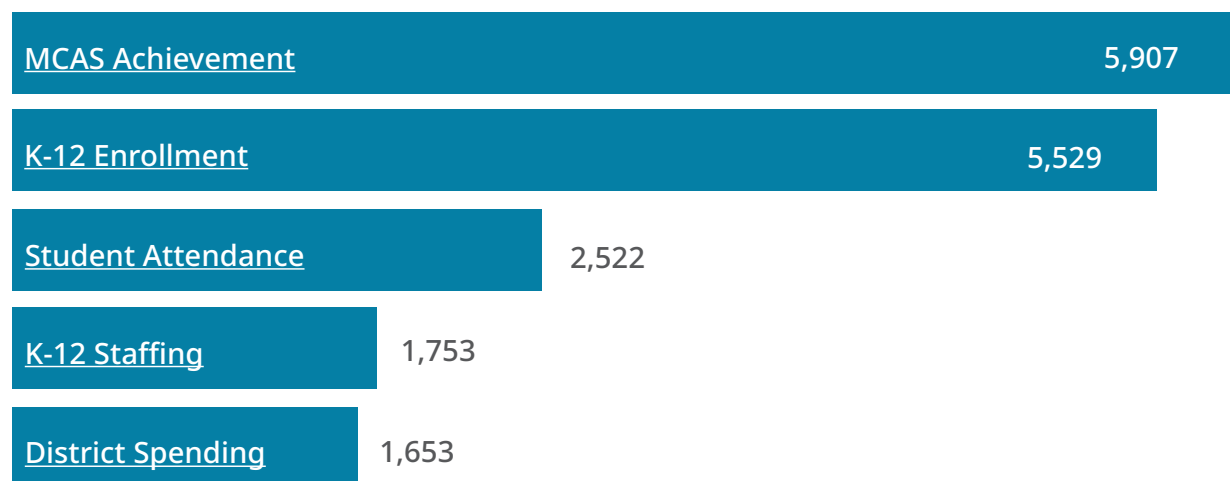
Joshua Goodman

*Wheelock Educational Policy Center
Boston University*



Top Viewed Datasets

Number of Views, Fiscal Year 2025



Note: Massachusetts’ Fiscal Year 2025 was July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025.

DATA STORIES TO INFORM POLICY & PRACTICE

[Data stories and trends](#) add context to policy and equity initiatives in Massachusetts with interactive charts, dashboards, and analysis of data and research. Here are three new stories published this year:

Early College

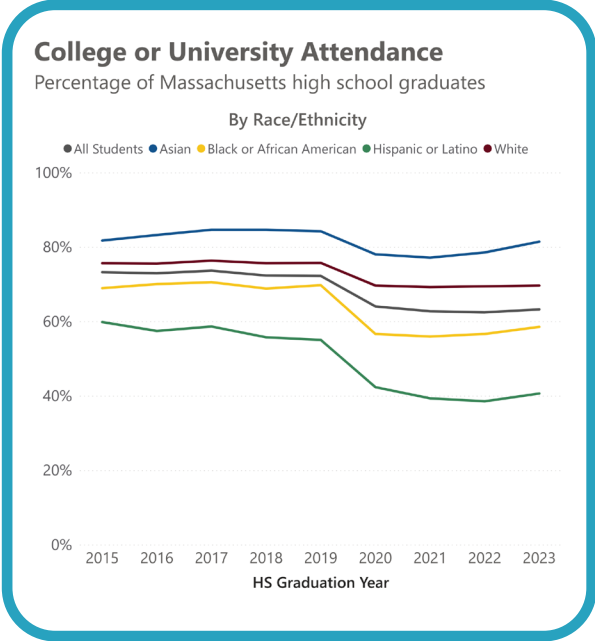
Highlighting insights from the Early College Data Dashboard, charting growth in participation and credits earned, featuring examples from two Early College partnerships.

MassReconnect

Examining the rebound in community college enrollment following the rollout of tuition- and fee-free community college to students aged 25 and over.

MassCore Data Trends

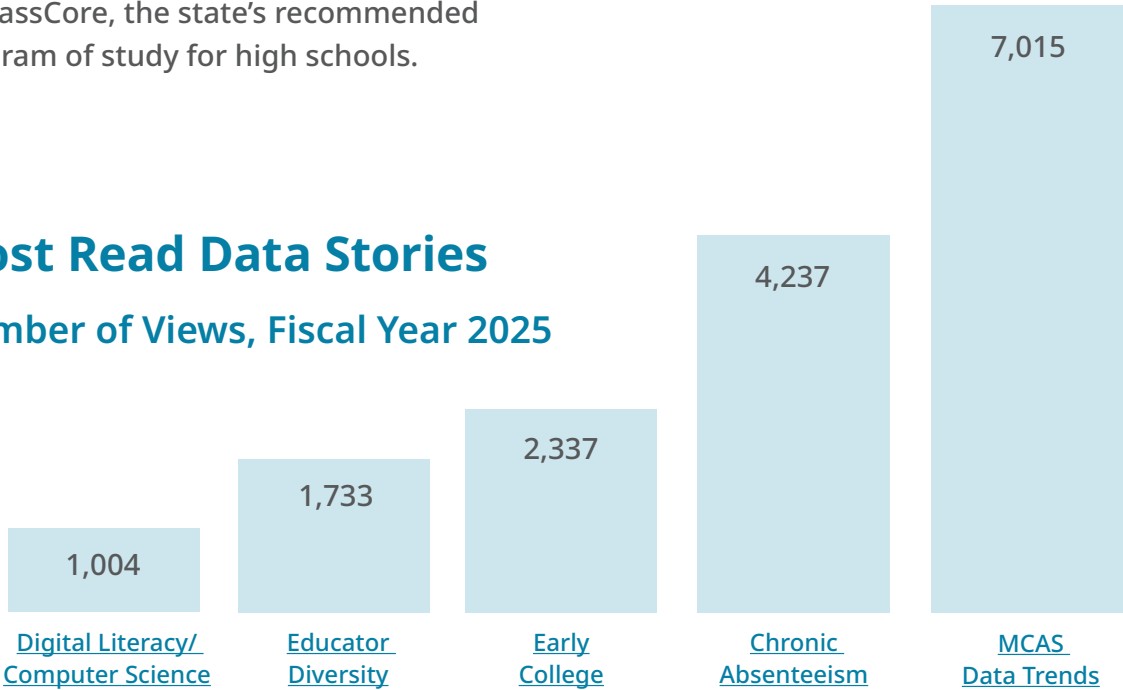
Exploring trends in student completion of MassCore, the state’s recommended program of study for high schools.



The [College and Career Outcomes Report](#) is updated annually in December. Popular data stories on [MCAS Data Trends](#) and [Reducing Chronic Absenteeism](#) also were updated in Fiscal Year 2025.

Most Read Data Stories

Number of Views, Fiscal Year 2025



Note: Massachusetts’ Fiscal Year 2025 was July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025.

MAKING DATA EASY TO FIND AND USE

Through stakeholder outreach and engagement, the E2C Hub is empowering more people to use publicly available data and resources for decision-making.

Workshops

Integral to the E2C Hub vision is helping more people use data to inform educational practices, policies, and individual choices. This year, the team presented at several conferences, delivered virtual trainings, and hosted a successful [Open Data Day](#) workshop.

Research Advisory Committee

Members of the Massachusetts research and advocacy communities meet three times a year to identify and advise on common needs and requests. This year, the group weighed in on [education research priorities](#), the research request process, and secure working environments.

District Data Leader Network

With enthusiastic response to a survey of interest, the E2C Hub launched a community of practice for school and district staff. More than 150 members joined in its first year.

Student and Family Voice Committee

This group of high school students, parents, and community organizers provides feedback on how data tools and resources are (or are not) meeting their needs. In Fiscal Year 2025, committee members contributed their ideas for new data reports and stories, previewed the AI data chatbot, and participated in listening sessions for DESE web and data projects.

“ While the resource itself is significant, it is the team’s commitment to community outreach and building data literacy that truly sets it apart. We are grateful to the E2C Hub for bringing data insights to a cross-sector audience each year through the Seamless Advising Summit. ”

LaVonia Montoute
Career Pathways
EdVestors



PRIORITIES AND PROJECTS

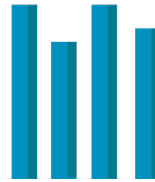
In Fiscal Year 2025, the E2C Hub continued work in four strategic priority areas:



Promote **shared ownership of cross-agency data and research** to inform policy



Grow the number of **high-quality research projects** using longitudinal data to answer policy questions



Put data and research in the **hands of students, families, educators, and community leaders**



Build on IT data modernization to **redesign processes and build staff capacity** with new tools



Successes in FY25

- Reached **112,000 views** by **20,000 users**, and nearly **1,000 newsletter subscribers**
- Won the **AI Game Changer award** for data chatbot prototype
- Published **research agendas** from each education agency
- Loaded **70% of public datasets** into the E2C Hub, including new data on school finance, special ed, and the early educator workforce
- Modernized the **DHE Data Center** and aligned with E2C Hub
- Launched **community of practice** for school and district data leaders
- Documented **data calculation rules** for K-12 and higher ed data



Challenges in FY25

- More cross-secretariat support needed to link K-12 grads to wage outcomes
- Improved and aligned data-sharing strategy needed across all levels of state government
- Launch of unified research request portal delayed into FY26 due to staff turnover

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Fiscal Year 2025 was the first year of a proposed three-year capital project to accelerate the work of the E2C Hub with an award of \$2.8 million. Prior to FY25, the E2C Hub was funded by a federal grant for state longitudinal data systems (SLDS) and a small contribution from DESE state funds, for a budget of roughly \$1 million per year.

Capital IT investments are used to **drive one-time improvement efforts**, with the aim of **building a future state** that offers greater functionality at lower annual operating cost. During this period of capital investment, the E2C Hub relies heavily on contractors and vendors.

Primary goals for FY25 included:

- **More efficient data work** via new data system architecture and processes for agencies
- Launch of an **AI data chatbot** to simplify access to public data
- Development of a **research request portal**
- Continued development of the **public-facing E2C Hub data catalog**

During FY25, the E2C Hub project underinvested in the priority areas of Shared Ownership and Research. The plan for FY26 includes added contractor roles and increased investment in these areas.

FY25 by the Numbers

Funding Source	FY25 Actuals	%
E2C Capital	\$2,800,000	75.6%
Other IT Capital	\$566,703	15.3%
State Operating	\$203,110	5.5%
Federal	\$132,370	3.6%
Grand Total	\$3,702,183	100.0%
Spending by Category	FY25 Actuals	%
Vendor	\$2,121,294	57.3%
Personnel	\$1,011,788	27.3%
Software	\$444,171	12.0%
Contracts	\$124,930	3.4%
Grand Total	\$3,702,183	100.0%
Spending by Priority	FY25 Actuals	%
Outreach (#3)	\$1,614,888	43.6%
Agency Capacity (#4)	\$1,503,285	40.6%
Project Management	\$335,357	9.1%
Shared Ownership (#1)	\$171,596	4.6%
Research (#2)	\$77,057	2.1%
Grand Total	\$3,702,183	\$100.0

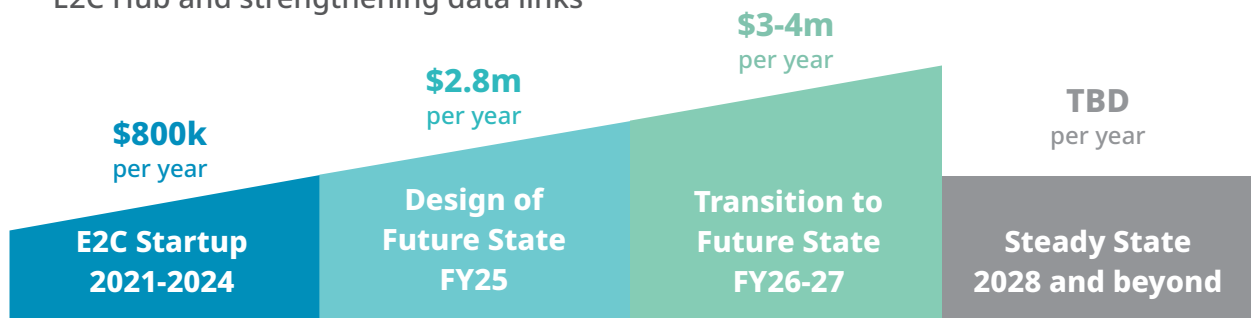


PLANNING FOR FY26-27 AND BEYOND



We continue to build out the E2C Hub’s platform and resources in alignment with our goals. Priorities in Fiscal Year 2026 include:

- Training **policy leaders to use data** in the E2C Hub
- Developing the **AI Data Chatbot** into a prototype product
- Launching a **unified research portal** to streamline cross-agency research projects
- Improving **integration with Labor and Workforce**, bringing new datasets into the E2C Hub and strengthening data links



With continued capital investment in FY26 and FY27, we are building toward a future operating model that sustains important functions at a lower ongoing cost. By June 30, 2027, we aim to have:

- A cross-secretariat **legal and technical framework to simplify data sharing**, with successful implementation linking high school graduates and earnings data
- A formalized **agreement on how agencies participate in the E2C Hub**, including commitments to provide data at regular intervals
- A **staffing plan that maintains key central functions** to complement agency data functions
- Continued **transparency on the impact of the E2C Hub** on data systems and research

Important decisions about this future state will be addressed over the next two years, including:

- What level of **staff and budget are needed** on an annual basis to continue the operation of the E2C Hub? How are the staff and budget allocated across participating agencies?
- How do the **functions of the E2C Hub complement agency data functions?** What is the responsibility of the E2C Hub and what is the responsibility of individual agencies?
- How does Massachusetts **formalize data integrations** so that important linkages remain resilient?
- How does the E2C Hub partner with EOTSS to ensure **strategic alignment?**

“Thank you for all you’re doing to make data more accessible for families, staff, and the Massachusetts community. Your leadership turns information into insight, helping to guide decisions that drive student success across our public schools.”

Katrina Delaney
Parent
School Committee Member



REQUEST A DATA WORKSHOP!

Learn how you can leverage public data and resources to advance Massachusetts’ educational agenda.

Email the team at
E2CHub@mass.gov

“The increased frequency of updates for EEC data in the E2C Hub, together with user-friendly filtering of the data, has been essential for direct access to information on funding to providers and the landscape of early education and care.”

Amaris Kinne
Neighborhood Villages



Acknowledgments

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To learn more about our work, visit www.mass.gov/e2c or email us at E2CHub@mass.gov.