



Bard

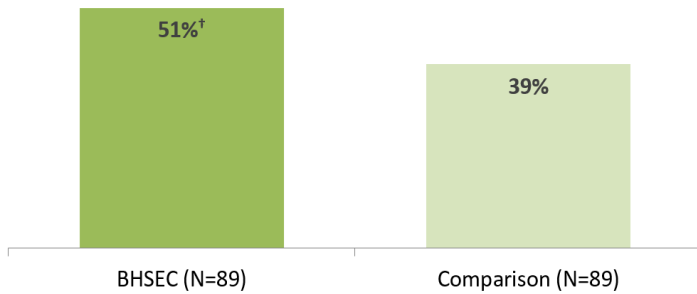
Early College, Lasting Success:

A summary of independent research on the BHSEC model

Mission: Bard High School Early Colleges (BHSECs)¹ are tuition-free, satellite campuses of Bard College operated through partnerships with public school systems. BHSECs empower high school students, particularly those at risk of not completing postsecondary education, to access, afford, and complete college prepared to contribute to civic life and a range of professional pathways. This document outlines key evidence of success found through independent evaluation of BHSEC schools.

After graduating high school, BHSEC students enroll in 4-year colleges at higher rates than similarly situated students in traditional public schools.

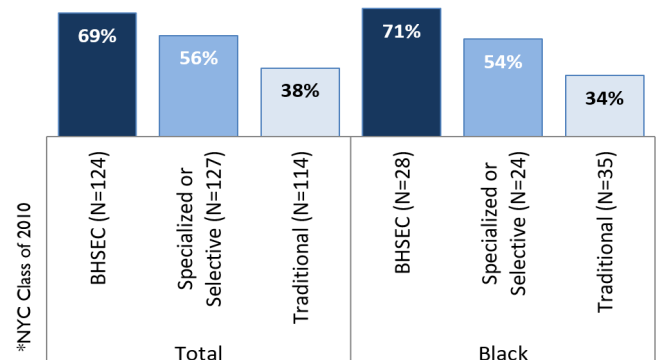
Enrollment in a 4-Year College, Newark BHSEC and Matched Comparison Group



† Practically important, effect size => 0.25

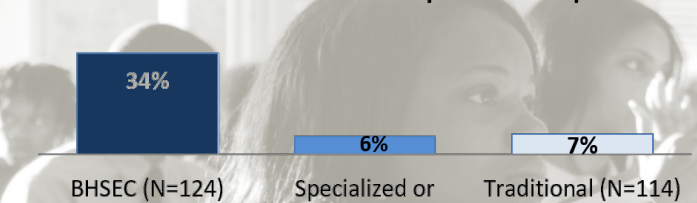
BHSEC students graduate from 4-Year Colleges at higher rates than similarly situated peers in traditional and selective high schools, an effect that is particularly strong for Black participants.

College Graduation Rates within 4 Years, NYC BHSEC and Matched Comparison Groups*



BHSEC students are more likely to graduate from four-year college early as compared to their peers in traditional and selective high schools.

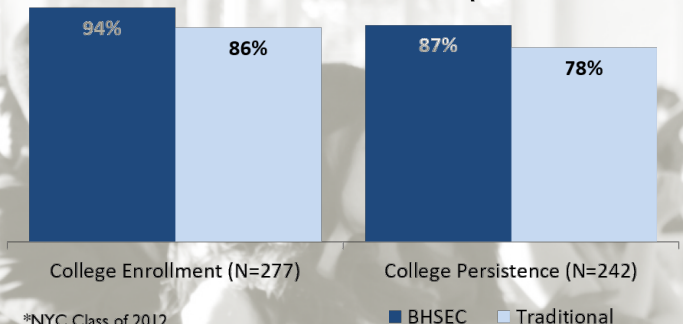
College Graduation Rates within 3 years, NYC BHSEC and Matched Comparison Groups*



*NYC Class of 2010

Low-income students at BHSEC are particularly likely to experience positive post-secondary outcomes as compared to their peers.

Post-Secondary Outcomes for Low-Income NYC BHSEC Students and their Matched Comparisons*



*NYC Class of 2012

"I cannot imagine going out into the world without the experience of BHSEC on my shoulders. BHSEC has taught me how to communicate with professors, peers, and primarily with myself. I have learned how to access my own ideas, formulate my own questions, and internalize the valuable opinions of others." —BHSEC Student

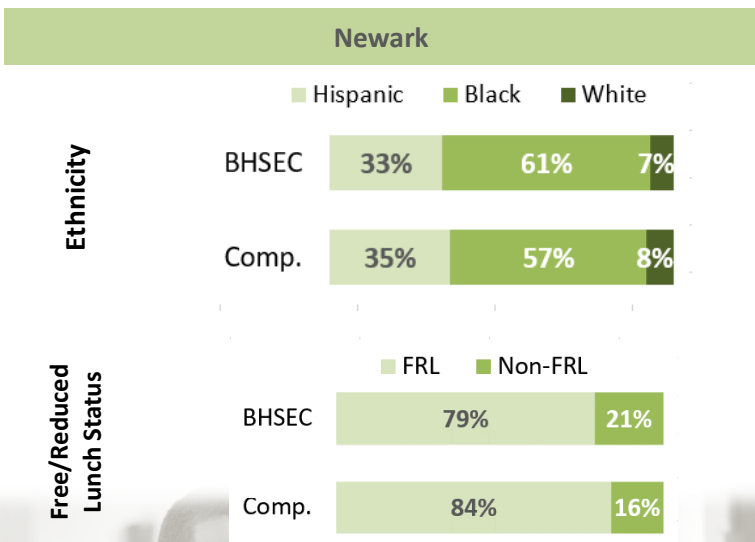
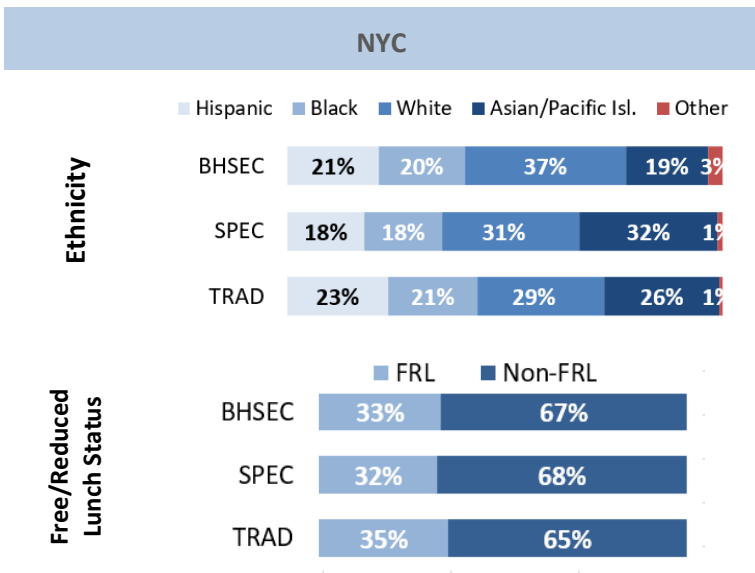
¹Bard operates BHSEC schools in partnership with public school systems in New York City (Queens and Manhattan), Newark, Cleveland, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C.



Study Methods

Metis Associates conducted two separate studies on the impact of Bard High School Early College (BHSEC) model on students' post-secondary academic success. Both studies compared students who attended BHSEC to students who attended other high schools within the same city with closely matched demographic and academic characteristics upon entering high school. The first study was conducted with Bard's two New York City schools: BHSEC Manhattan and BHSEC Queens. This study examined outcomes for students from three classes (Class of 2010, Class of 2012, and Class of 2013) in comparison to two matched groups: students who attended specialized or selective NYC high schools and students who attended traditional NYC high schools. The second study was conducted with BHSEC Newark's Classes of 2015 and 2016 and examined BHSEC students' academic outcomes in comparison to closely matched students from other Newark public high schools. This study also included qualitative activities to provide rich context for understanding the quantitative results.

Study Demographics and Details



Key Components of the BHSEC Model

The BHSEC model was founded on the belief that many high school age students are eager and ready for the intellectual challenges of a college education. The model has some key unique features that differentiate it from other successful early college programs:

- The BHSECs encompass a full two-year, college liberal arts and sciences degree program within four-year public high schools.
- Classes are taught in seminar-style by college level faculty, of whom 70% hold doctorates or terminal degrees in their field.
- Intellectual inquiry is respected and imagination and discipline are encouraged.
- BHSEC college students are required to take a four-semester sequence that is patterned after Bard College's First-Year Seminar.
- Students receive a full set of supports, including a formal advising program.

"BHSEC's curriculum, pace and goals are very different from other NYC high schools. Students learn for themselves, not to impress others. They gain this level of consciousness where they can develop their philosophies and perceptions, and can discuss them with fellow peers in thorough discussions."—BHSEC NYC Student

"My freshman year was a success because of Bard. I wasn't shy like my peers because I was accustomed to round table (seminar) discussions."—BHSEC Student

