

Using Guidance Assessment to Improve Student Outcomes

ESI

Improving Interventions and Outcomes through Student Self Reports, Group Profiles, and Customized Messaging

The Career and Postsecondary Encouragement Network

Universal Encouragement Program

The CAPE Network Universal Encouragement Program

***A free* online guidance assessment, reporting, and communications system for schools and education support programs, the Universal Encouragement Program targets students in grades 6-12.**

Created by Encouragement Services, Inc. (ESI), a
nonprofit corporation dedicated to college access
and career development services

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Executive Director
Encouragement Services, Inc.

- A tour of the Universal Encouragement Program
- Exploration of data products
- Getting registered
- Implementation issues
- Application in program assessment and evaluation

Topics for today

Simply put...

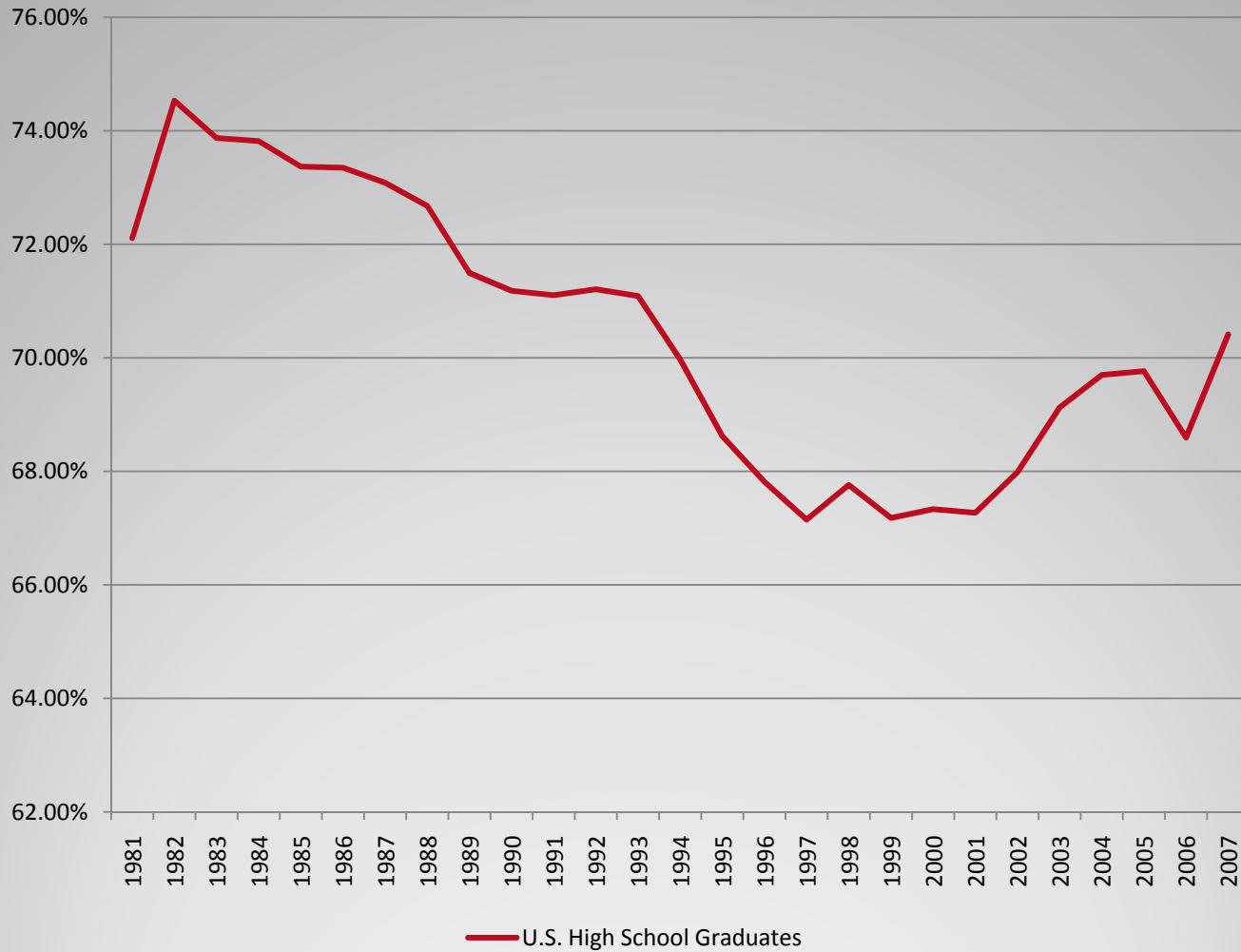
We want more students to graduate from high school prepared for postsecondary education, and equipped to be successful in postsecondary education.

And

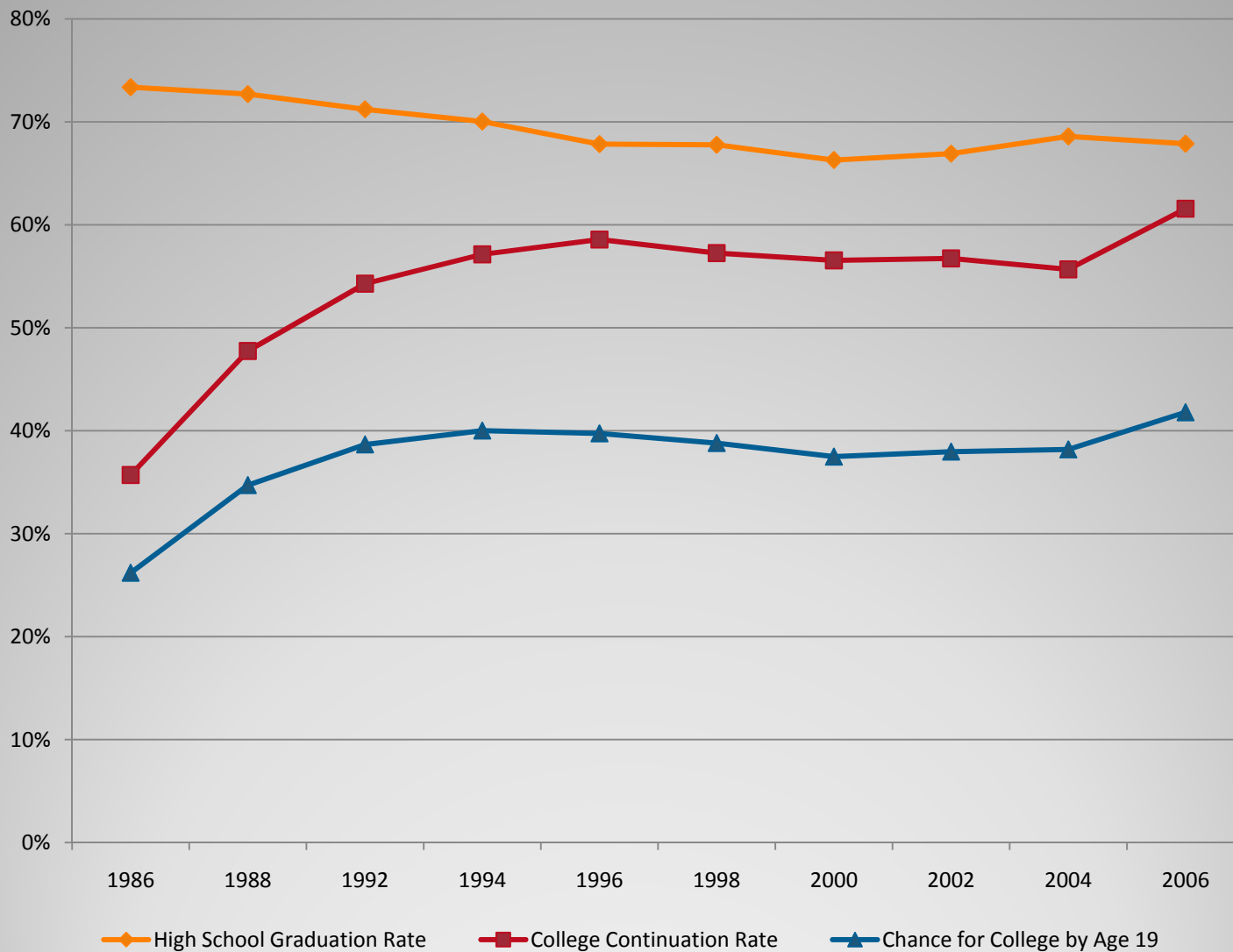
In the U.S., the student-to-counselor ratio is **476:1**

The WHYS of guidance assessment

U.S. High School Graduates 1981 - 2007



Source: Tom Mortenson and Nicole Brunt. *Postsecondary Education OPPORTUNITY*, 2009.



U.S. High School Graduation, College Continuation, and Chance for College 1986-2006
 Source: Tom Mortenson and Nicole Brunt. *Postsecondary Education OPPORTUNITY*, 2009.

- Identify specific academic issues
- Identify specific career and education planning needs
- Elicit personal and social concerns that affect school performance
- Report items that affect high school graduation and postsecondary participation

Assessment to improve student outcomes

Many of the data points appear as early as

6th Grade

Assessment to improve student outcomes

In regard to improving student outcomes

- Do we know what students need in academic and career guidance and support?
- Do we know what students want?
- Do we know what students have done or would be willing to do?
- Do we know what works?

What do we know?

- Attendance data
- Grades
- Test scores
- IEP data
- Course enrollments
- School registration documents

Many data sources in many different places...

Do we really need another source of data?

Much of what we could know remains hidden....

What do we know?

Much of what we could know remains hidden...or known only to the keepers of the data. With respect to guidance needs, we have limited data on student

- Aspirations and intentions
- Desires for interventions and services
- What steps student have taken
- What steps they haven't taken
- Risk factors that affect achievement and attainment

What do we know?

Much of what we could know remains hidden...or known only to the keepers of the data. So, with respect to guidance needs, we have limited data on

- The big picture
- The non-cognitive factors related to student success
- Differences among and within student groups
- How guidance needs change over time
- Which of our interventions have made a difference

What do we know?

- And it didn't take much time
- Or cost anything
- And it was all in one place
- And you could efficiently respond to common needs

What if we could know much more—at a very concrete and precise level?

- Help students connect the present with the future
- Stimulate thinking about specific issues related to education and work
- Establish a baseline of where students are
- Convey the steps, processes, and issues that make a difference in future planning

A few of the whys of guidance assessment

- Collect data about the person and the group to better understand guidance and support needs, interests, and experiences.
- Online assessment is quick (10-20 minutes) and easy enough for middle school students to complete.
- Reports are instantaneous to counselors, education support professionals, and parent/guardians.

The Universal Encouragement Program: A guidance assessment, reporting, and communications system for your students/clients and their parents and guardians

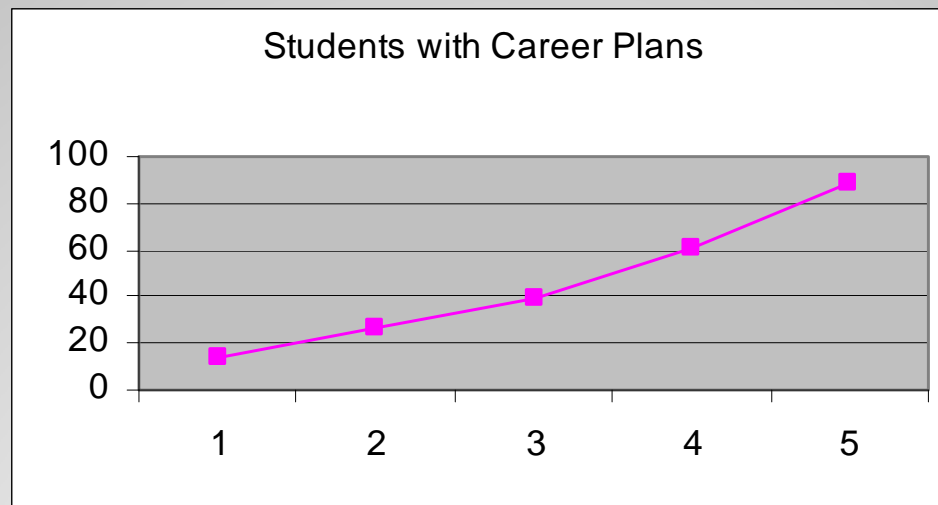
- Using the data
 - Get to know your students/clients at a deeper level
 - Find out what your students/clients need.
 - See what services and activities your students/clients actually *want*
 - Provide targeted information in response to specific needs
 - Assess and track student progress
 - Measure the effect of information and services
 - Provide systematic early warning

The Universal Encouragement Program: A guidance assessment, reporting, and communications system for your students/clients and their parents and guardians

- Inform the development of the guidance program and services
 - Facilitate the identification of needs and areas of significant demand for services
 - Facilitate prioritization of program goals and efforts
 - Assist in effort deployment and resource allocation
 - Bring who needs which interventions into focus

The Universal Encouragement Program: A guidance assessment, reporting, and communications system for your students/clients and their parents and guardians

- Measure the effectiveness of guidance efforts
 - Understand differential audience response to programmatic efforts
 - View trends – are we moving in the right direction?



The Universal Encouragement Program: A guidance assessment, reporting, and communications system for your students/clients and their parents and guardians

- Lobbying/Advocacy
 - Provide a compelling depiction of student needs to funding sources and administrators
 - Assert the need for resources, support, or change with *evidence*

The Universal Encouragement Program: A guidance assessment, reporting, and communications system for your students/clients and their parents and guardians

- Form 1 for students in grades 6-8
- Form 2 for students in grades 9-12
- Form 3 for graduates and former students
- Free to schools and education support programs

Three assessment forms available at no cost

- Student forms are available in English and Spanish
- Reports to counselors are in English
- Reports to parents are in the language primarily spoken at home

Disponible en Inglés y Español

- Form 1 for students in grades 6-8
 - Six parts: personal and family demographics, education, planning experiences, career interests, future plans, activities and services
 - 15-20 minutes for students to complete online
- Form 2 for students in grades 9-12
 - Six parts: personal and family demographics, education, planning experiences, career interests, future plans, activities and services
 - 15-25 minutes for students to complete online

Three assessment forms available

- Form 3 for Graduates and Former Student
Eight parts: personal and family demographics, Education and Training, Career and Employment, Future Plans, Involvement, High School Experience, Non-graduates, Military Service
- Form 3 – all electronic system uses email addresses collected through Form 2
- Form 3 – 15-20 minutes to complete

Three assessment forms available

- Individual reports
- Group reports
- Group comparison reports
- Risk reports
- Preference reports
- Custom factor-based reports

Guidance assessment reports

- List students by the number of factors associated with each student
- List factors in order of frequency of associations (most to least)
- Enable email communication to group of students associated with any factor
- Likewise, enable email communication to parents of students associated with any factor

Guidance assessment reports: Factor-based reports

- Time - press of day-to-day
- Time in the computer lab
- Fear of looking bad
- Too much data
- Privacy concerns
- Resistance to additional “assessment”
- Students don’t know parent information, especially email addresses and level of education
- Schools only assess a subset of students
- Snapshot versus continual assessment

Implementation issues

How to Register Your School or Program

1. Go to <http://www.capenetwork.org>
2. In the registration menu, select Register Your School or Register Your Program and follow on-screen directions
3. Check your email for the School or Program Authorization Code, the password you created, and a convenient hyperlink that puts your school or program authorization automatically into the form that your students use.

How to register

To do an actual assessment and retrieve actual reports of “guests”) Note: your assessment data will be **visible** to other users of the guest account.

1. Go to www.capenetwork.org
2. Select Form 1 or Form 2 from the **Student Entry Pages**
3. For School authorization code, use “guest” (no quotes, all lower-case)
4. To retrieve your results and to generate reports, go to www.capenetwork.org/reportingtools.aspx
Enter guest in the authorization code box
Enter guest1 in the password box

How to use the guest account

Using the Assessment in an Urban College Readiness Program

- Five agencies serving urban youth
- Enable data-driven services
- Enable progress indication
- View crosswalk

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- Assessment system at <http://www.capenetwork.org>
- Previews and sample reports at <http://www.capenetwork.org/docs.htm>
- Presentation online
<http://www.capenetwork.org/slideshow.pdf>
- Contact Scott Gillie
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More Information