DEFINITIONS AND SOURCES

ACADEMIC QUALITY INDICATORS

Average High School GPA of Freshmen. Cumulative GPA for college prep courses with additional weight to honor and AP courses, according to DHE admissions policy, reported on all first-year students.

Average SAT Scores of Freshmen. Average SAT Scores of freshmen are based on the Arithmetic Mean. The 25th and 75th percentiles are based on combined SAT scores of all first-year students. Peer data are from Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System or the Common Data Set.

Average GPA of Entering Transfer Students. Cumulative GPA for college level courses transferred to UMass Boston according to admissions policy.

Student Satisfaction with Educational Experience. Percent of seniors who responded “good” or “excellent” to the question, “How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this institution?” on the National Survey of Student Engagement administered in Spring 2014. Peer data are from NSSE.

Student-Faculty Ratio. The ratio of FTE students to FTE instructional faculty. Faculty and students in stand-alone graduate or professional programs such as medicine, law, veterinary, dentistry, social work, business, and public health in which faculty teach virtually only graduate-level students are excluded. Teaching assistants are not counted as faculty. Data and definition are from CDS.

Technology-Enhanced Classrooms. Classification of the campus’s total classroom capacity in terms of the level of technology-support. Categories of classification are campus-specific.

Number of Students Enrolled in For-Credit Internships/Co-Ops. Data are from the Office of the Registrar and the Office of Career Services and Internships. Totals are academic year enrollment totals. Data prior to AY 2011-12 used a different methodology and is not comparable more recent data.

Doctoral Degrees Awarded. Number of doctorates awarded for AY 2013-14, which includes August 2013, January 2014, and May 2014 award dates. These include both research/scholarship and professional practice doctorates. Peer comparison data are based on research/scholarship doctorates only.

Postdoctoral Appointees. The number of postdoctoral appointees as reported to NSF.

Total R&D Expenditures. R&D expenditures in all academic fields, from all sources (federal, state, local governments, industry, private and institutional) as reported to NSF. Note: NSF data collection methods changed significantly in FY 2010.

Total R&D Expenditures Ranking. Annual NSF ranking of Total R&D expenditures, for all postsecondary institutions with any federal R&D expenditures participating in the NSF HERD Survey. Source: NCES WebCaspar/NSF HERD data tables.


Total R&D Expenditures per Tenure System Faculty. R&D expenditures in all academic fields, from all sources (federal, state, local governments, industry, private and institutional) as reported to NSF, divided by total tenure system faculty as reported to IPEDS. Peer data are from NSF/IPEDS.

Sponsored Instruction and Outreach per Faculty. Restricted expenditures for instruction (e.g., training grants) and service per financial statements, divided by total tenure system faculty as reported to IPEDS.

Patent Applications. Number of U.S. Patent applications filed per year. Data source: Data reported by campuses to UMass President’s Office, Office of CVIP.

License Income. Amount of annual income from license agreements. Data source: Data reported by campuses to UMass President’s Office, Office of CVIP.

Percent Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty. Percent based on the ratio of Tenured/Tenured Faculty FTE to Total Faculty FTE.

New Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty Hired. The number of new tenured/tenured-track faculty members hired to start their new positions in the academic year. Such hires includes both replacement and ‘new’ positions.

New Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty Hired as Percent of All Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty. Definition of ‘New’ Hires per IPEDS Definitions. Number of ’Newly hired’ Tenured/Tenure-track faculty divided by Total
Tenured/Tenure-track Faculty of an IPEDS reporting cycle.

**Change in Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty.** The difference in the number of tenured/tenure-track faculty from one Fall semester to the next. Includes faculty members who are on paid leave. Does not include individuals whose primary responsibility is administrative. For the 2015 PMS report, the difference will be between the figure for Fall 2013 and Fall 2014.

**Change in Total Faculty Full Time Equivalent (FTE).** The difference in the total FTE, from one Fall semester to the next, for all full-time and part-time instructional faculty teaching state-supported courses. Includes faculty members who are on paid leave. Does not include individuals whose primary responsibility is administrative. Definition of faculty FTE is per the Common Data Set, and includes all faculty teaching credit courses, including non-state-supported courses.

**Percent Faculty-of-Color (based on Full-time Instructional Faculty).** The proportion of full-time instructional staff who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents and report their race/ethnicity to be one or more of the following: Hispanic/Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African-American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, or Two or More Races. Race/ethnicity definition is based on IPEDS.

**Percent Women Faculty (based on Full-time Instructional Faculty).** The proportion of full-time instructional staff who identify themselves as female.

**Faculty Awards.** Number of faculty with awards from a list of 24 prominent grant and fellowship programs in the arts, humanities, science, engineering, and health fields (e.g., Fulbright American Scholars, Guggenheim Fellows, MacArthur Foundation Fellows, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellows, NSF Career Awards, Sloan Research Fellows). Data are from The Top American Research Universities report.

**National Academy Members.** Data reported in The Top American Research Universities.

**ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY INDICATORS**

**Percent In-State Pell Grant Recipients.** Federal Pell grants are awarded to low-income undergraduates based on their expected family contribution. Data as reported by campuses to the UMass President’s Office in the Financial Aid Template.

**Percent of Need Met for In-State Students Awarded Need-Based Aid.** The average percentage of demonstrated financial need that is met by the institution’s award of need-based financial aid to in-state undergraduate students. Data as reported to the UMass President’s Office in the Financial Aid Template.

**Average Debt of Students for Graduating Class.** The Average Debt Load is based on the total debt borrowed by an Institution's graduating UG Class divided by the number of students of that graduating class that carried any amount of debt. It does not include those students with no debt load.

**Percent Graduating Class with Debt.** The total number of students in a graduating class that carried a debt load at the institution divided by the total number of graduating students in that institution.

**Percent Undergraduate Students from Massachusetts.** Percentage of total state-supported undergraduate students who are in-state based on tuition residency.

**Online Course Registrations.** Enrollments or course registrations for the academic year for online credit courses. Academic year includes Summer, Fall, intersession, and Spring. These do not include hybrid courses, but fully online only offered via UMassOnline.

**Annual Growth in Online Course Registrations.** Percentage rate of growth in enrollments or course registrations for the fiscal year for online credit courses. Fiscal year includes Summer, Fall, intersession, and Spring. These do not include hybrid courses, but fully online only offered via UMassOnline.

**STUDENT SUCCESS AND SATISFACTION INDICATORS**

**Percent Undergraduate who are Students of Color.** Undergraduates who are Cape Verdean, African-American/Black, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, Native American, and/or two or more races divided by total undergraduate U.S. citizens and permanent residents who report race. Fall 2011 marked a change in federal reporting rules for race and ethnicity. Due to these recent changes in IPEDS race and ethnicity classifications, trend data on students of color should be viewed with caution.

**Percent First-Time, Full-Time Undergraduates who are First Generation College Students.** First-generation college students are defined as those students with neither parent having obtained a bachelor’s degree. Fall 2011 and Fall 2012 data are from the Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement (BCSSE). In years when the BCSSE survey is not administered, a brief survey is administered at freshmen orientation that includes questions about parent education. Previous years’ data are from Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) Freshmen Survey.

**Percent Undergraduates Who Speak English as a Second Language.** Percentage of incoming students at freshmen
orientation who speak a language other than English at home or with family. In previous years, the percentage was of first-year and senior students combined who responded that they spoke another language at home or with family on the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE).

**Percent International Undergraduates.** Percentage of all undergraduates who are studying at the university on student visas.

**Total Number of Students Who Participated in a Study Abroad Program.** Data are numbers of students who participated in a credit bearing, study abroad program as reported on the Institute of International Education Open Doors survey for Fall 2013 through Summer 2014.

**Freshmen Four-Year Graduation Rate.** Percent of first-time, full-time, degree-seeking freshmen who entered in a given Fall and graduated from UMass Boston by the end of their fourth year.

**Freshmen One-Year Retention Rate.** Percent of first-time, full-time freshmen who entered in the previous Fall and were still enrolled as of the next Fall. Peer data are as reported to IPEDS or CDS.

**Freshmen Six-Year Graduation Rate.** Percent of first-time, full-time freshmen who entered in a given Fall and had graduated within six years. Peer data as reported to IPEDS or CDS.

**Transfer (Full-time) One-Year Retention Rate.** Percent of full-time transfer students at any level who entered in the prior Fall and were still enrolled or graduated as of the next Fall.

**Transfer (Upper-Division) Four-Year Graduation Rate.** Percent of full-time upper division transfers (60+ credits) who entered in a given Fall and had graduated within four years.

**Student Achievement Measure (SAM Data – Bachelor’s Seeking Module) Report on first-time, full-time freshmen cohort based on data sent to National Student Clearinghouse and reported to the Student Achievement Measure project.**

**Alumni Participation Rate.** The average percentage of undergraduate alumni of record who donated money to the university. Alumni of record are former full- or part-time students who received an undergraduate degree and for whom the university has a current address. The alumni giving rate is calculated by dividing the number of alumni donors during a given academic year by the number of alumni of record for that same year. These two separate alumni giving rates are then averaged for the last two academic years. Graduates who earned only a graduate degree are excluded. Undergraduate alumni donors are alumni with undergraduate degrees from an institution who made one or more gifts for either current operations or capital expenses during the specified academic year. The percentage of alumni giving serves as a proxy for how satisfied students are with the school. A higher average alumni giving rate percentage scores better in the ranking model than a lower average alumni giving rate. Data is from U.S. News and World Report.

**SERVICE TO THE COMMONWEALTH INDICATORS**

**Percent ofIncoming Class that are Transfers/Freshmen.** The percent of an incoming degree-seeking undergraduate class that is entering freshmen vs. transfers.

**Degree Completions.** The number of degrees (not including certificates) awarded in the previous academic year, by degree level. As reported to IPEDS.

**Percent Alumni Who Live in Massachusetts.** Percentage of total alumni who currently reside in Massachusetts based on alumni records.

**Enrollment in STEM Programs.** Total number of students enrolled in STEM programs in the College of Science and Math and the College of Management. Undergraduate enrollment count includes bachelor’s degree-seeking students. Graduate enrollment count includes master’s and doctoral degree-seeking students.

**Degrees Awarded in STEM Fields.** Number of undergraduate and graduate degrees awarded in STEM programs in the College of Science and Math and the College of Management. Certificates data also included separately. Certificates include undergraduate and graduate certificates awarded.

**Degrees Awarded in Healthcare Fields.** Healthcare designation as defined by Campus IR, and based on CIP classification. All of CIP 51, and specific 6-digit CIPs unique to each campus. Certificates data also included separately.

**MTEL Science & Math Test-Takers.** Total number of students who took the Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL) subject tests in science and math fields.

**FINANCIAL HEALTH INDICATORS**

**Endowment Assets and Annual Growth in Endowment.** Total Endowment and Annual growth in total UMass Boston endowment assets.

**Endowment per Annualized Student Full Time Equivalent (FTE).** Total UMass Boston endowment per annualized FTE student.
Private Funds Raised Annually. Private funds raised includes restricted and unrestricted revenues from individuals, foundations, corporations and other organizations. Includes private grant revenues but not private contract revenues. Totals for each year include pledges made in that year as well as the value of in-kind contributions.

Primary Reserve. Unrestricted net assets as a percentage of total operating expenditures. Peer data are from published financial statements.

Debt Service to Operations. Debt service as a percentage of total operating expenditures. Peer data are from published financial statements.

Deferred Maintenance per GSF. Deferred Maintenance includes deferred and other maintenance dollars needed to maintain the current function of the campus, calculated by the “Sightlines” Return on Physical Assets methodology (ROPA sm) and shown per square foot of space.

PEER INSTITUTIONS FOR UMASS BOSTON

Cleveland State University
University of Memphis
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Louisville
University of Nevada-Reno
University of Missouri-Kansas City
University of Maryland Baltimore County
University of Massachusetts Lowell

Please Note: Unless otherwise specified, all data are coordinated by the UMass Boston Office of Institutional Research and Policy Studies.