

DoDEA Seniors' Postsecondary Plans and Scholarships



2010

Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA)

Research and Evaluation
Sandra Embler, PhD

Table of Contents

Postsecondary Plans	2
Scholarships and Financial Aid	4
Graduation Rates	9
References	10

List of Tables

Table 1. DoDEA Seniors' Postsecondary Plans by Ethnicity and Race.....	4
Table 2. Scholarship Monies Offered and Accepted by Area	7
Table 3. Percentage of Seniors Offered at Least One Scholarship and Average Monies per Recipient	8

List of Figures

Figure 1. Postsecondary Plans of DoDEA Seniors (2006-2010).....	2
Figure 2. DoDEA 2010 Graduates' Postsecondary Plans by Area	3
Figure 3. DoDEA Seniors' Postsecondary Plans by Gender	4
Figure 4. Scholarships Offered to DoDEA Seniors Based on Total Dollars	5
Figure 5. Scholarships Offered to DoDEA Seniors Based on Number of Scholarships	5
Figure 6. Scholarships Accepted by DoDEA Seniors Based on Total Dollars	6
Figure 7. Scholarships Accepted by DoDEA Seniors Based on Number of Scholarships.....	6
Figure 8. Average Scholarship Monies Offered per Recipient by Race/Ethnicity (2008-2010).....	8
Figure 9. Average Scholarship Monies Offered Per Recipient by Gender (2008-2010).....	9

Postsecondary Plans and Scholarships

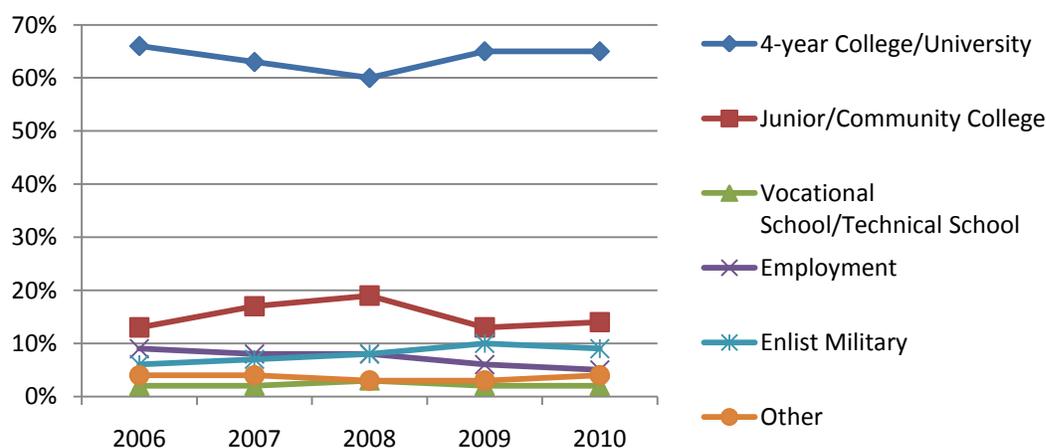
During their senior year students in the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools develop a postsecondary plan. This plan outlines what students intend to do after graduating from high school; whether they are planning to attend a 4-year college/university, junior/community college, or vocational/technical school; seek employment or an apprenticeship/on the job training; enlist in the military; or join Job Corps. During this time students also report the scholarships, financial aid, and grant monies they have been offered as well as which of those monies offered they have accepted or are planning to accept. This report summarizes the postsecondary intentions and scholarship monies reported by students who graduated from a DoDEA high school in the 2009-10 school year (SY).

It should be noted that all analyses in this report are based on those seniors (N=3,074) who were enrolled in a DoDEA high school as of April 2010. Therefore, findings do not include seniors who may have withdrawn prior to or entered after this date. Postsecondary plans and scholarship data are self-reported by students and may not represent the absolute postsecondary status of DoDEA graduates or the totality of scholarship monies offered and accepted by students. In interpreting data contained in this report, readers are cautioned to rely on the results of statistical tests to measure differences between groups rather than on the apparent magnitude of these differences. Some differences may appear to be large but are not statistically different.

Postsecondary Plans

Of the 3,074 seniors enrolled in a DoDEA high school in SY 2009-2010, 92% had a documented postsecondary plan.¹ The overwhelming majority (65%) of these students planned to attend a 4-year college/university after graduation, followed by junior/community college (14%) or enlistment in the military (9%) (Figure 1). These results mirror those reported by seniors in 2009 with changes equal to or less than 1% in any single area. These numbers have remained relatively stable over the past five years, except for a slight increase over time in the percentage of students who plan to enlist in the military.

Figure 1. Postsecondary Plans of DoDEA Seniors (2006-2010)

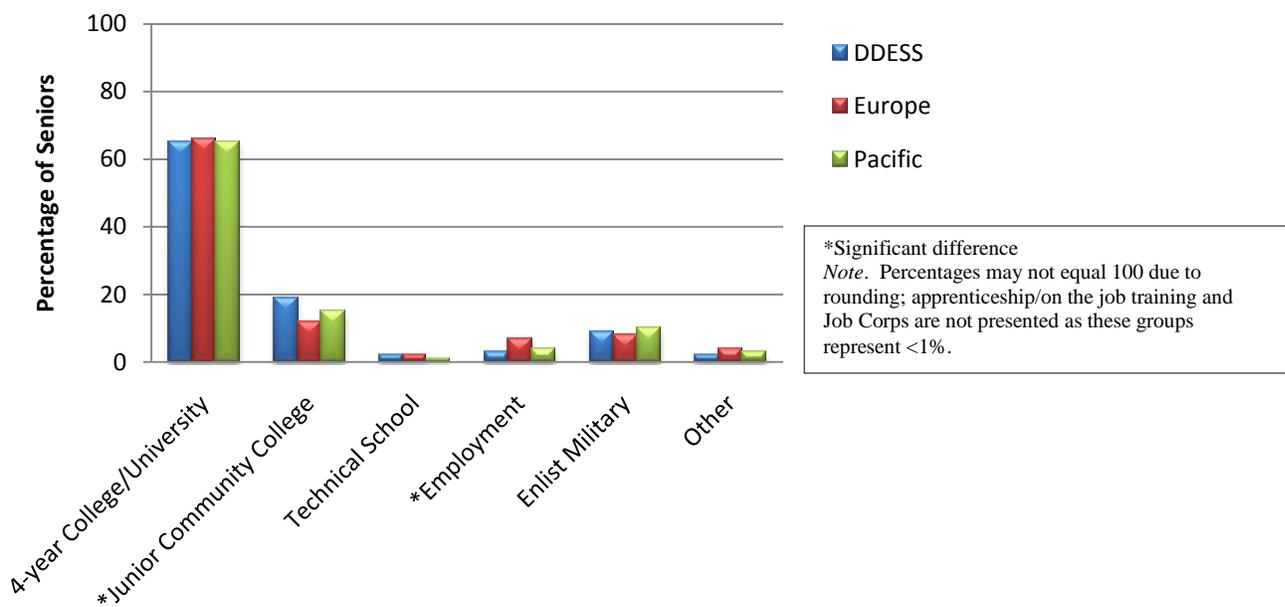


¹ 236 students were missing postsecondary plan data.

The percentage of DoDEA seniors who plan to attend a 4-year college/university is 20%-25% higher than that reported in states such as North Carolina (45.9%),² Virginia (45.7%),³ and South Carolina (40.1%)⁴ and higher than the national average (39.5%).⁵ The percentage of DoDEA's seniors who planned to enlist in the military (10%) is also higher than that reported by these states which averaged 3%-4%.

Among the three DoDEA Areas the percentages of students planning to attend a 4-year college/university or junior/community college is proportionate with all three reporting at least 60% of seniors choosing this postsecondary route (Figure 2). However, a larger percentage of students in DoDEA's stateside schools (DDESS) planned to attend a junior/community college while a larger percentage of seniors in Europe planned to seek employment.

Figure 2. DoDEA 2010 Graduates' Postsecondary Plans by Area



There are no significant differences in the postsecondary plans of seniors based upon their race/ethnicity (Table 1). Although the percentages of Black/African American and Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders who planned to attend a 4-year college/university are 3%-12% lower than those for White students, these differences are not significant (Table 1).

² Public Schools of NC, State Board of Education (2009-10)

³ Virginia Department of Education, High School Graduates and Completer Reports 2009.

⁴ South Carolina State Department of Education (2008)

⁵ U.S. Department of Education, Schools and Staffing Survey (2008)

Table 1. DoDEA Seniors' Postsecondary Plans by Ethnicity and Race

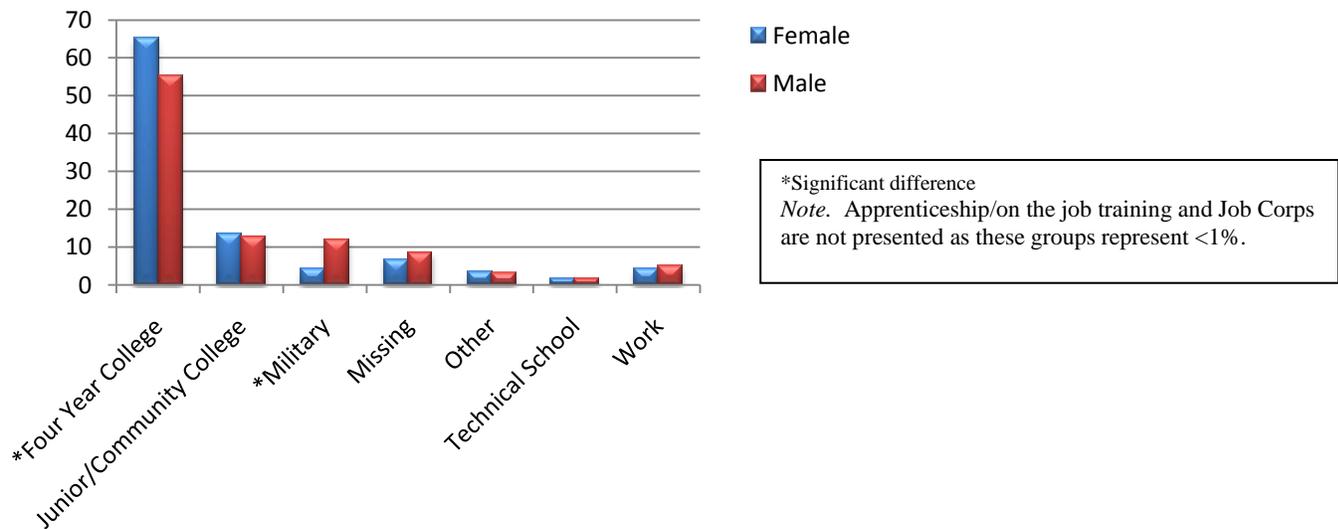
	N	4-year College University	Junior Community College	Technical School	Employ- ment	Enlist Military	Other
American Indian	9	67%	0%	0%	22%	0%	0%
Asian	276	66%	13%	1%	3%	9%	4%
Black/African-American	453	58%	11%	2%	5%	11%	2%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	52	54%	15%	2%	6%	13%	8%
Hispanic or Latino	467	60%	16%	3%	4%	8%	1%
Multiracial	345	62%	14%	1%	6%	7%	3%
White	1,376	61%	13%	2%	5%	8%	4%

*Significant difference

Note. Percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding; does not include 96 students who were missing race/ethnicity; apprenticeship/on the job training and Job Corps are not presented as these groups represent <1%; Hispanic/Latino students are not included in their respective racial category.

Males and females differed in the percentages planning to attend a 4-year college/university and enlist in the military. While 65% of females planned to attend a 4-year college/university, only 55% of males planned to do so. In contrast, three times as many males as females planned to enlist in the military (Figure 3).

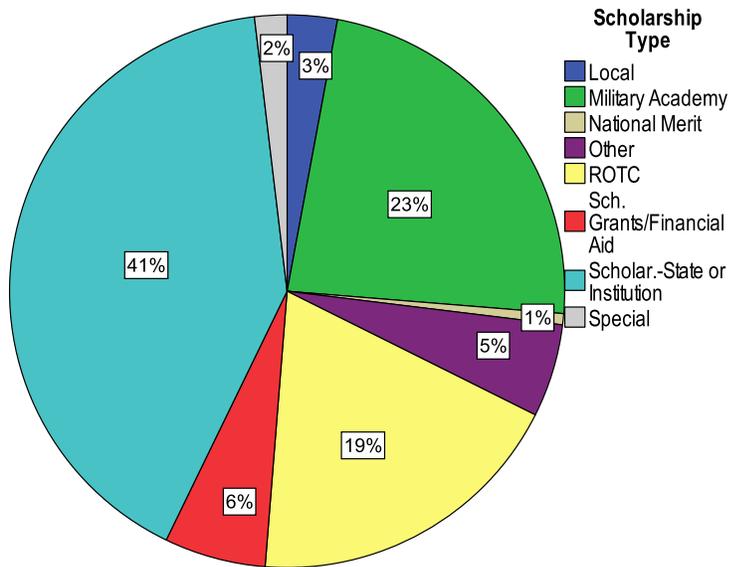
Figure 3. DoDEA Seniors' Postsecondary Plans by Gender



Scholarships and Financial Aid

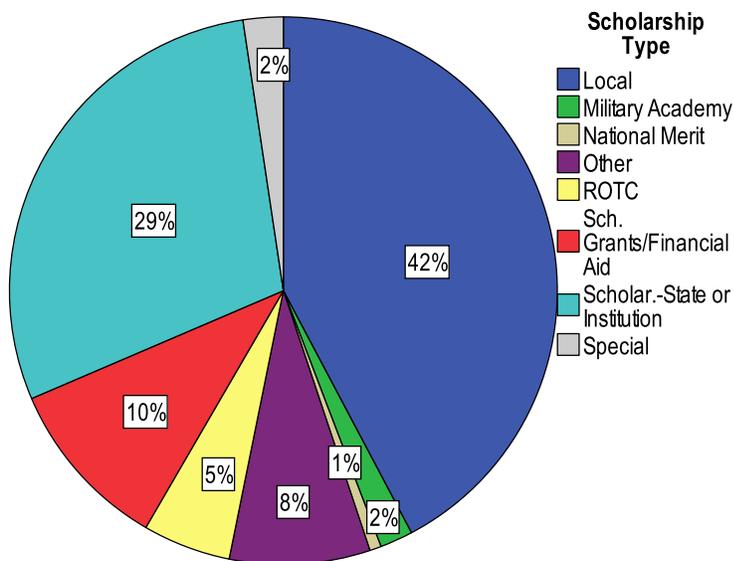
Seniors in DoDEA were offered a total of 44.9 million dollars in scholarships and financial aid in SY 2009-10, a decrease of approximately 2.5 million dollars from that reported by seniors in 2009. As illustrated in Figure 4 state or institution scholarships provided the largest source of scholarship monies (41%), followed by military academies (23%), and ROTC (19%).

Figure 4. Scholarships Offered to DoDEA Seniors Based on Total Dollars



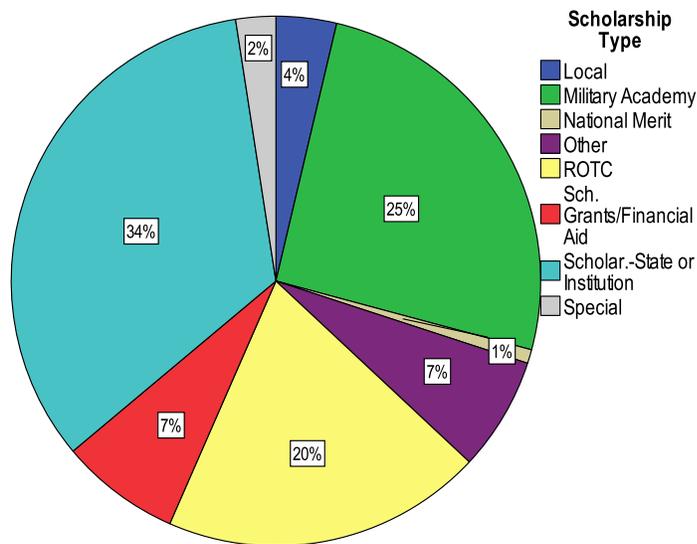
The average monies attached to each type of scholarship differ. For example, local scholarships averaged \$1,600 compared to military academy scholarships which averaged \$283,589. Therefore, the contribution of each scholarship type depends on whether one is considering the total number of scholarships or the sum of scholarship monies. State and institutional scholarships were the largest source of overall scholarship funds, yet they account for only 29% of the number of scholarships (Figure 5). In contrast, local scholarships (offered by organizations such as the Officer and Enlisted Spouses' Clubs, fraternities and sororities) account for only 3% of the total scholarship monies but represent 42% of the total number of scholarships offered to students (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Scholarships Offered to DoDEA Seniors Based on Number of Scholarships



Students are frequently offered multiple scholarships but able to accept only a portion of those that are offered. For example, students can be offered military academy as well as state or institution scholarships or can be offered scholarships from several different states. Therefore, the amount of scholarship monies offered is generally higher than the amount of monies accepted. Of the 44.9 million dollars in scholarships, financial aid, and grant monies offered, DoDEA seniors accepted approximately 34.6 million dollars (Figure 6). The proportions of accepted scholarship monies follows the same pattern as scholarships offered with the largest amount of monies coming from state or institution scholarships (34%) and military academies (25%).

Figure 6. Scholarships Accepted by DoDEA Seniors Based on Total Dollars



The number of scholarships accepted by source also follows the trend of those offered (Figure 7) with local scholarships representing the largest number of scholarships accepted (47%), followed by state or institution scholarships (24%).

Figure 7. Scholarships Accepted by DoDEA Seniors Based on Number of Scholarships

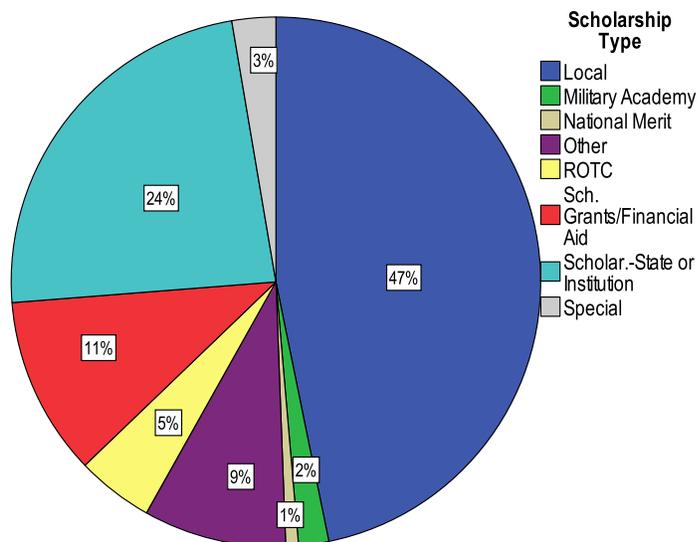


Table 5 shows the breakdown in average monies offered and accepted by seniors in each of the three DoDEA Areas. While the largest source of funding for seniors in DDESS and Europe was state or institution scholarships, military academies provided the largest source of funds for seniors in the Pacific. However, caution should be used when comparing the total monies offered and accepted among the three Areas due to differences in the number of students. Seniors in DDESS were offered approximately nine million dollars less than students in Europe, yet there were almost three times as many seniors in Europe than DDESS.

Table 2. Scholarship Monies Offered and Accepted by Area

	DDESS		Europe		Pacific	
	Offered	Accepted	Offered	Accepted	Offered	Accepted
Local	\$209,110	\$209,110	\$658,855	\$634,205	\$439,813	\$435,313
Military Academy	\$1,769,000	\$1,769,000	\$3,793,802	\$3,379,802	\$4,930,000	\$3,680,000
National Merit	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$281,700	\$281,700	\$8,000	\$8,000
Other	\$81,725	\$62,225	\$1,770,054	\$1,762,754	\$589,245	\$579,245
ROTC	\$1,341,160	\$1,261,160	\$3,704,077	\$3,424,077	\$3,428,000	\$2,105,500
Grants, Financial Aid	\$735,010	\$723,010	\$1,006,123	\$965,769	\$910,810	\$852,163
Scholarship-State/Institution	\$7,090,031	\$2,620,111	\$8,525,733	\$6,681,738	\$2,760,338	\$2,356,838
Special	--	--	\$583,917	\$583,917	\$261,000	\$261,000
Total	\$11,228,536	\$6,647,116	\$20,326,261	\$17,713,962	\$13,333,206	\$10,278,059

Note: Totals do not include approximately 10,000 in monies with not associated scholarship type.

Table 3 shows the percentage of seniors offered at least one scholarship and the average amount per scholarship recipient broken down by the three Areas, race/ethnicity, and gender. Overall, approximately one-third (n=1,010) of DoDEA's seniors were offered at least one scholarship.⁶ While the percentage of seniors receiving at least one scholarship offer does not differ among the three Areas, the average amount of scholarship monies offered to each recipient was higher in DDESS than in Europe and the Pacific. Equal percentages of students across all racial/ethnic groups were offered at least one scholarship, but the average amount of monies offered to Black/African American students was almost \$30,000 less than that received by White students.

When examined by gender not only were a larger percentage of males offered at least one scholarship, but males averaged approximately \$18,000 more in scholarship monies than females. Differences in the total monies between males and females are partially due to the types of scholarships offered to males and females. Twenty-five males were offered military academy scholarships compared to 12 females, and 70 males were offered an ROTC scholarship compared to 30 females.

⁶ Approximately 15% of students were offered two or more scholarships.

Table 3. Percentage of Seniors Offered at Least One Scholarship and Average Monies per Recipient

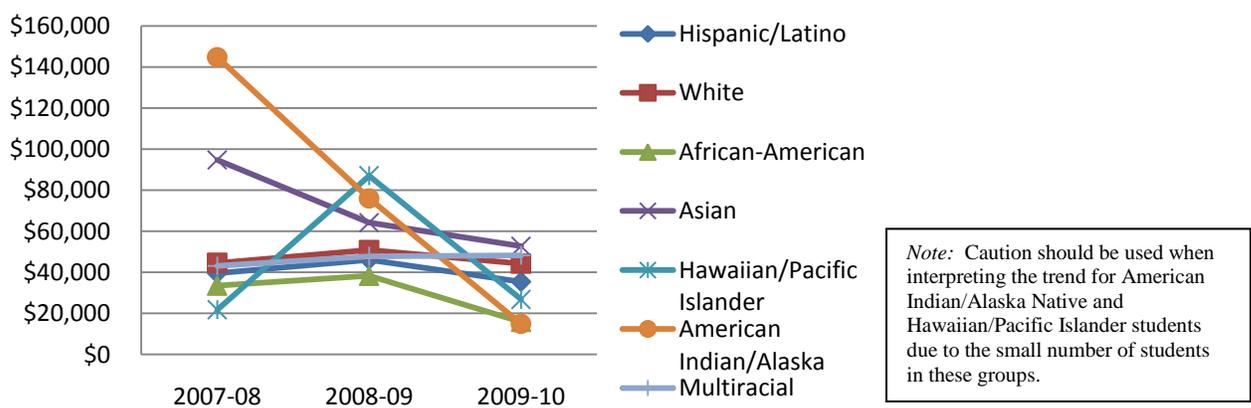
Area	Total Seniors in April 2009	Percentage Offered at Least One Scholarship	Average Monies Per Scholarship Recipient
Area			
DDESS	432	32%	*\$82,563
Europe	1671	36%	\$33,709
Pacific	971	40%	\$34,722
Race/ethnicity			
Hispanic/Latino	467	33%	\$35,409
White	1,376	38%	\$44,273
Black/African-American	453	37%	*\$15,951
Asian	276	40%	*\$52,713
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	52	21%	\$26,805
American Indian/Alaska Native	9	44%	\$14,988
Multiracial	345	40%	\$48,255
Gender			
Male	1,593	*32%	\$54,690
Female	1,479	41%	\$36,785
DoDEA TOTAL	3,074	32.9%	\$44,444

*Significant difference

Note. Does not include 96 students with no reported ethnicity or race; Hispanic/Latino students are reported as Hispanic and are not included in their respective racial category.

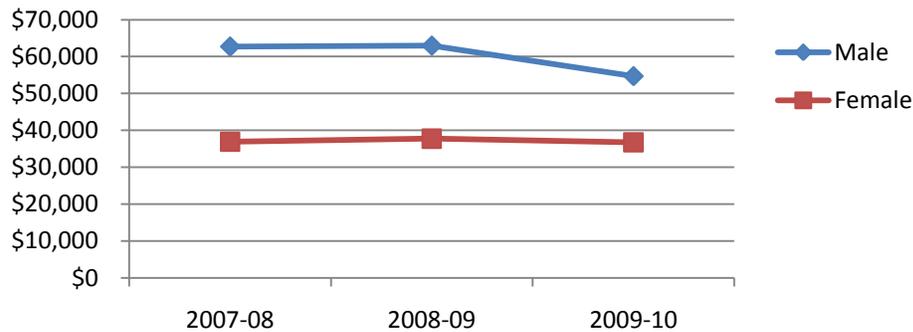
Figure 8 shows the average scholarship monies offered to DoDEA seniors for three years broken down by race/ethnicity. Asian students have consistently been offered the highest average scholarship monies while Black/African American students have uniformly been offered the lowest average amount.

Figure 8. Average Scholarship Monies Offered per Recipient by Race/Ethnicity (2008-2010)



Gaps between males and females have also remained consistent over the past three years with males being offered more scholarship monies on average than females. Although the gap between males and females decreased slightly in 2010, this decrease was due to a decline in the average monies by males and not by an increase in the average monies offered to females.

Figure 9. Average Scholarship Monies Offered Per Recipient by Gender (2008-2010)



Graduation Rates

Ninety-seven percent of DoDEA’s seniors graduated in SY2009-10, a rate higher than all other states including California (79.6%), North Carolina (72.8%), and Virginia (80%) and the highest state, New Jersey (95.9%).⁷ However, direct comparisons should not be made between DoDEA’s graduation rate and that reported by states due to possible differences in the calculation methods. When disaggregated by race/ethnicity and gender, unlike most state and national trends, equal numbers of males and females graduated and there were no differences between White and minority students in DoDEA.

⁷ EdFacts State Profiles (2010)

References

National Center for Education Statistics. (2008). *Schools and Staffing Survey*. Retrieved from http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/sass/tables/sass0708_2009321_sls04.asp

Public Schools of North Carolina State Board of Education. (2010). *Facts and Figures, 2009-10*. Retrieved from <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/fbs/resources/data/factsfigures/2009-10figures.pdf>

South Carolina State Department of Education. (2008). *Summary of all 2007-08 South Carolina High School completers Enrolled in 2008-09 College Freshmen Classes in South Carolina and Other States*. Retrieved from <http://ed.sc.gov/agency/Accountability/Data-Management-andAnalysis/old/research/CollegeFreshmenReport.html>

The Governor's Office of Student Achievement. (2009). *2008-2009 Report Card State of Georgia*. Retrieved from [http://reportcard2009.gaosa.org/\(S\(eumslqa5xdpy4uuk2hrug245\)\)/k12/Indicators.aspx?ID=ALL:ALL&TestKey=GradRate&TestType=indicators](http://reportcard2009.gaosa.org/(S(eumslqa5xdpy4uuk2hrug245))/k12/Indicators.aspx?ID=ALL:ALL&TestKey=GradRate&TestType=indicators)

US Department of Education.(2010). *Summer 2010, ED Facts State Profiles*. Retrieved from <http://www.2ed.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/edfacts/state-profiles/>

Virginia Department of Education. (2009). *High School Graduates and Completer Reports*. Retrieved from http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/graduation_completion/grads_completers/2008-2009/totals_schools.pdf