

March 3, 2016

### *Siena Fast Facts*

In the next few weeks, our *Fast Facts* will take a look at how Siena compares to our peer and aspirant institutions on a number of measures of student success and institutional performance. The data are based on the IPEDS Data Feedback Reports, which are produced annually by the National Center for Education Statistics. Today's *Fast Facts* will provide some boring background (sorry!), then we'll hopefully have some more interesting and informative data in the next few weeks.

By way of background, virtually all institutions of higher education in the United States are required to submit a set of data reports to the federal government. These data reports are referred to as IPEDS reports (an acronym for the *Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System*). All data submitted to IPEDS is publically available, so we can compare Siena College to any other college or university on hundreds of data points available in the IPEDS system.

Every year the National Center for Education Statistics (a division of the federal Department of Education which coordinates the IPEDS data collection process) produces a "Data Feedback Report" for all institutions which submit data to IPEDS. These Data Feedback Reports compare the target institution to a pre-determined set of peer institutions on a number of key variables.

However, it is also possible to produce a customized Data Feedback Report for any group of peer institutions, which is what Siena does on an annual basis. In fact, we typically look at four different comparison groups:

- Private competitors: these are private institutions which attract students who apply to Siena but do not attend here (e.g. Marist College). Note that this group is a moving target, which reflects application trends for a given year.
- Public competitors: these are public institutions which attract students who apply to Siena but do not attend here (e.g. SUNY Albany). Once again, this group is a moving target.
- Peer institutions: these are institutions which are similar to Siena College on a number of key institutional measures, but typically are not competitor institutions (e.g. Stonehill College).
- Tier II aspirants: these are institutions which are somewhat more selective and higher rated than Siena College, but close enough to present attainable goals (e.g. Skidmore College).

A list of individual schools in these four groups is provided at the end of today's *Fast Facts*, by way of an appendix of sorts.

The variables included in the Data Feedback Reports are grouped into the following categories:

- Admissions
- Student Enrollment
- Charges and Net Price
- Student Financial Aid
- Retention and Graduation Rates
- Financial Indicators
- Faculty and Staff

Stay tuned next week as we begin to look at some actual data comparisons.

As always, if you have any ideas for future *Fast Facts*, please let us know.

Appendix: Comparison Groups for Siena College, used in IPEDS Data Feedback Reports

Private Cross-Admits	Public Cross-Admits
Bryant University (Smithfield, RI)	Pennsylvania State University (University Park, PA)
Fairfield University (Fairfield, CT)	SUNY New Paltz (New Paltz, NY)
Fordham University (Bronx, NY)	SUNY Stony Brook (Stony Brook, NY)
Hofstra University (Hempstead, NY)	SUNY at Albany (Albany, NY)
Iona College (New Rochelle, NY)	SUNY at Binghamton (Vestal, NY)
Ithaca College (Ithaca, NY)	SUNY College at Brockport (Brockport, NY)
Le Moyne College (Syracuse, NY)	SUNY College at Cortland (Cortland, NY)
Loyola University Maryland (Baltimore, MD)	SUNY College at Geneseo (Geneseo, NY)
Manhattan College (Riverdale, NY)	SUNY College at Oswego (Oswego, NY)
Marist College (Poughkeepsie, NY)	SUNY College at Plattsburgh (Plattsburgh, NY)
Providence College (Providence, RI)	SUNY Oneonta (Oneonta, NY)
Quinnipiac University (Hamden, CT)	SUNY Buffalo (Buffalo, NY)
Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, NY)	University of Connecticut (Storrs, CT)
Sacred Heart University (Fairfield, CT)	University of Massachusetts (Amherst, MA)
Saint John Fisher College (Rochester, NY)	University of New Hampshire (Durham, NH)
St John's University-New York (Queens, NY)	University of Rhode Island (Kingston, RI)
Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)	University of Vermont (Burlington, VT)
Union College (Schenectady, NY)	
University of Scranton (Scranton, PA)	

Peer Institutions	Tier II Aspirants
Allegheny College (Meadville, PA)	Barnard College (New York, NY)
Cedarville University (Cedarville, OH)	Beloit College (Beloit, WI)
Champlain College (Burlington, VT)	Bucknell University (Lewisburg, PA)
College of Saint Benedict (Saint Joseph, MN)	Centre College (Danville, KY)
Concordia College at Moorhead (Moorhead, MN)	Davidson College (Davidson, NC)
Cornell College (Mount Vernon, IA)	Denison University (Granville, OH)
Gordon College (Wenham, MA)	DePauw University (Greencastle, IN)
Hartwick College (Oneonta, NY)	Dickinson College (Carlisle, PA)
Hope College (Holland, MI)	Furman University (Greenville, SC)
Juniata College (Huntingdon, PA)	Grinnell College (Grinnell, IA)
Messiah College (Mechanicsburg, PA)	Kalamazoo College (Kalamazoo, MI)
Oglethorpe University (Atlanta, GA)	Macalester College (Saint Paul, MN)
Saint Michael's College (Colchester, VT)	Rhodes College (Memphis, TN)
Stonehill College (Easton, MA)	Saint John's University (Collegeville, MN)
Susquehanna University (Selinsgrove, PA)	Skidmore College (Saratoga Springs, NY)
Transylvania University (Lexington, KY)	The College of Wooster (Wooster, OH)
Wentworth Institute of Technology (Boston, MA)	
William Jewell College (Liberty, MO)	
Wofford College (Spartanburg, SC)	