

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from the [Center for Applied Research in Postsecondary Education \(CARPE\)](#) at the [American Institutes for Research](#)® (AIR®). It's finally summertime! We hope you are enjoying the warmer weather and that you will be taking time for some much-needed rest this summer. Learn more about our postsecondary-related events, publications, and projects below.

[New Blog Post: Exploring Postsecondary Education Research With the U.S. Department of Education](#)

AIR was invited by the U.S. Department of Education to be the guest research speaker at its convening on Secretary Cardona's [postsecondary education priority](#). Speaking to more than 400 senior U.S. Department of Education leaders, AIR's [Irma Perez-Johnson](#) used evidence generated through [CARPE](#) to highlight four key messages about institutionalizing and scaling evidence-based strategies to improve postsecondary education for today's students.

[New Report: National Center for Education Statistics Condition of Education 2022](#)

The National Center for Education Statistics released the latest version of the Conditions of Education report in May 2022, and this effort was strongly supported by an AIR team under researcher Ke Wang. The many postsecondary indicators describe the continuing [declines in undergraduate enrollment](#) and other important trends in student finances, degrees, completion rates, and institutional finances. This edition features a spotlight on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on [postsecondary education plans](#) based on the U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey.

[Featured Commentary: The Edge: Two Shifts That Could Bolster Enrollment](#)

A recent commentary in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* features remarks from AIR senior researcher Kelle Parsons on enrollment resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic among competency-based education programs. Learn more about our work on competency-based education and the [National Survey of Postsecondary Competency-Based Education](#).

[New Report and Webinar: Defense Research Capacity at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Other Minority-Serving Institutions](#)

An AIR team overseen by senior researcher [Montrisha Essoka](#) supported the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in the development of a newly released consensus study [report](#) that examines the status of Department of Defense research at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other Minority Serving Institutions. Learn more in a companion [webinar video](#).

[New Project: Ascendium Rural Research Support Partner](#)

In 2022, [Ascendium Education Group](#) will launch an open request for proposals (RFP) aimed at addressing gaps in evidence for strategies that support rural learners from low-income backgrounds in earning degrees and credentials with labor market value. Through this RFP, Ascendium has [committed funding](#) for research projects that respond to one or more overarching research question themes. [Dan Frederking](#) and [Courtney Tanenbaum](#) will lead the AIR team that will support Ascendium in designing this initiative and will synthesize insights across grantees.

[Event: Creating a More Equitable Workforce System at Scale: A Roundtable Discussion](#)

AIR's [Promoting Resilience, Opportunity, and Mobility in Support of Equity \(PROMISE\) Center](#), which is part of [AIR's Equity Initiative](#), will hold its launch event on June 30 from 3 to 4 p.m. Eastern Time. This webinar will provide insights on the challenges and opportunities faced by the workforce system today and will feature a roundtable discussion with representatives from national leaders in sector-based workforce development, including City Colleges of Chicago, Per Scholas, and Year Up. [Register here](#).

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- Forward this newsletter to your partners and colleagues.
- Check out and share our website and its many resources on postsecondary research and practice: [carpe.air.org](#).
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Sincerely,
Alexandria



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American Institutes for Research

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