

WEPC @ AEFEP 2026

Featured WEPC Presentations

Spotlight Policy Dialogue: Sharing the Load or Carrying the Costs? Exploring the Interaction and Impact of State and Federal Policies in Higher Education Finance (4.01)

Panelists: Michael Dannenberg, Jessica Taketa, Eyob Villamoges, Jerry Whitmore; Moderator: Joshua Goodman

Examining Wage Growth in Early Care and Education Programs: Evidence from Massachusetts (4.11 424)

Presenter: Pia Caronongan

Exploring Individualized Education Program (IEP) Present Levels of Performance at Scale (6.09 631)

Author: Christopher Cleveland

School Enrollment Shifts Five Years After the Pandemic (11.03 15)

Author: Joshua Goodman

Click Briefs to Read more

WEPC
Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development
Research & Knowledge Center

Early Returns: Reversing Enrollment Declines in Massachusetts Community Colleges through MassReconnect

Shari Daugherty, Meghan Fleming, Bethel Gaudin, Francis Ho

OVERVIEW
When Massachusetts launched its MassReconnect program in August 2021, it made a bold bet that reversing three of the steepest enrollment declines in the state would be the best way to address the higher education enrollment gap. This brief examines the program's early impact on enrollment, particularly for students aged 25 and older, and explores the role of the program in reversing the decline in enrollment among students aged 25 and older. The brief also examines the program's impact on enrollment among students aged 18-24, and explores the role of the program in reversing the decline in enrollment among students aged 18-24. The brief also examines the program's impact on enrollment among students aged 18-24, and explores the role of the program in reversing the decline in enrollment among students aged 18-24.

KEY FINDINGS

- Enrollment in enrollment has for the total target population (20-24) as well as overall.
- There is a notable increase in enrollment for students aged 25 and older, particularly for students aged 25 and older.
- Enrollment in enrollment has for the total target population (20-24) as well as overall.
- There is a notable increase in enrollment for students aged 25 and older, particularly for students aged 25 and older.
- Enrollment in enrollment has for the total target population (20-24) as well as overall.
- There is a notable increase in enrollment for students aged 25 and older, particularly for students aged 25 and older.

WEPC
Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development
Research & Knowledge Center

Early Educator Wage Growth Under Massachusetts' C3 Program

Pia Caronongan, Katherine Ryan

OVERVIEW
Early education is essential to delivering high-quality early care and education (ECE) and they are among the lowest paid and most in-demand jobs in the state. This brief examines the impact of the C3 program on early educator wages, and explores the role of the program in reversing the decline in enrollment among students aged 18-24. The brief also examines the program's impact on enrollment among students aged 18-24, and explores the role of the program in reversing the decline in enrollment among students aged 18-24.

STUDY DATA & FINDINGS

This brief examines the impact of the C3 program on early educator wages, and explores the role of the program in reversing the decline in enrollment among students aged 18-24. The brief also examines the program's impact on enrollment among students aged 18-24, and explores the role of the program in reversing the decline in enrollment among students aged 18-24.

WEPC
Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development
Research & Knowledge Center

School Enrollment Shifts Five Years After the Pandemic

Joshua Goodman, Daniel Gaudin

KEY FINDINGS

- Enrollment in enrollment has for the total target population (20-24) as well as overall.
- There is a notable increase in enrollment for students aged 25 and older, particularly for students aged 25 and older.
- Enrollment in enrollment has for the total target population (20-24) as well as overall.
- There is a notable increase in enrollment for students aged 25 and older, particularly for students aged 25 and older.
- Enrollment in enrollment has for the total target population (20-24) as well as overall.
- There is a notable increase in enrollment for students aged 25 and older, particularly for students aged 25 and older.

STUDY DATA & FINDINGS

This brief examines the impact of the C3 program on early educator wages, and explores the role of the program in reversing the decline in enrollment among students aged 18-24. The brief also examines the program's impact on enrollment among students aged 18-24, and explores the role of the program in reversing the decline in enrollment among students aged 18-24.

Full Slate of WEPC Presentations & Panels Below

Thursday, March 19th

Spotlight Policy Dialogue: Sharing the Load or Carrying the Costs? Exploring the Interaction and Impact of State and Federal Policies in Higher Education Finance | WEPC Moderator: **Joshua Goodman** | [4.01](#)

Professional Development Session: Want to Work in an SEA/LEA/CMO? | WEPC Moderator: **Meagan Comb** | [4.03](#)

Examining Wage Growth in Early Care and Education Programs: Evidence from Massachusetts | **Pia Caronongan** | [4.11 424](#)

Principals with Special Education Experience and Special Education Teacher Retention | Roddy Theobald, **Liz Bettini**, Alli Gilmour, Anna McDonald, LaRon Scott | [1.02 351](#)

Understanding Financial Management and Accountability in Massachusetts Charter Schools | **Josefina Senese, Christopher Cleveland** | [2.14 698](#)

Influence of Probation on the Academic and Behavioral Outcomes of Justice-Involved Youth | **Jo R. King**, Jane A. Lincove | [4.10 449](#)

Bold = BU/WEPC Affiliated



Friday, March 20th

Who Teaches Our Youngest Learners? Workforce Roles from Infant Care to School Leadership | WEPC Moderator: **Pia Caronongan** | [6.11](#)

School Discipline | WEPC Moderator: **Jo R. King** | [6.12](#)

The Calculus Project and Diversifying the STEM Pipeline | **Josh Goodman, Hanyun Cui** | [6.07 111](#)

Exploring Individualized Education Program (IEP) Present Levels of Performance at Scale | **Christopher Cleveland**, Joshua Almes, Sarah A. Caroleo | [6.09 631](#)

Quantifying Special Education Service Hour Variation: Evidence from a Statewide Set of IEPs | **Christopher Cleveland**, Lindsey Kaler, Sarah A. Caroleo | [6.09 556](#)

Sleep Tight, Act Right? The Effect of Clock Time Policy on Student Behavior Outcomes | Berta Bartoli, **Jo R. King** | [5.10 552](#)

Building and Sustaining a Strong Special Education Workforce Through Policy-Relevant Research | **Liz Bettini**, Allison Gilmour, Loretta Mason-Williams, Roddy Theobald | [Conversation Group](#)

Bold = BU/WEPC Affiliated



Saturday, March 21st

Policy Efforts to Support Special Education | WEPC Moderator: **Christopher Cleveland** | [10.12](#)

School Enrollment Shifts Five Years After the Pandemic | Abigail Francis, **Joshua Goodman** | [11.03 15](#)

Variability in Special Educators Working Conditions Based on Service Delivery Model and Student Disability Category | **Liz Bettini** | [9.02 438](#)

Using Large Language Models to Analyze Beginning Teacher Challenge Narratives and Career Outcomes | **Mingyan Ma** | [10.06 47](#)

Pollution and Learning | **Joshua Goodman**, Parker Goyer, A. Patrick Behrer, R. Jisung Park | [11.10 117](#)

Bold = BU/WEPC Affiliated

