

## WORKFORCE OUTCOMES FOR GRADUATES OF THE RI NURSES INSTITUTE MIDDLE COLLEGE

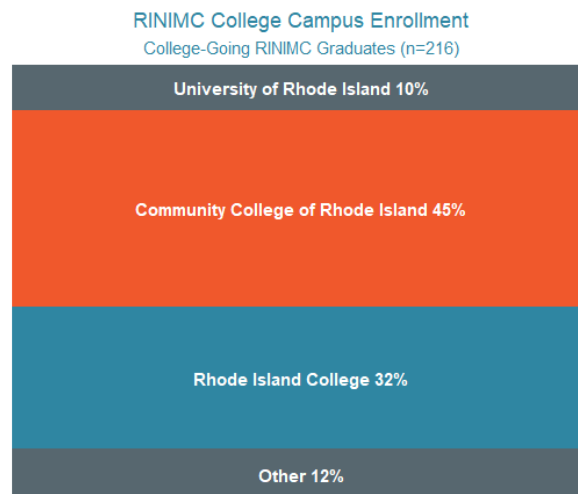
DataSpark partnered with the Rhode Island Nursing Institute Middle College (RINIMC) to assist in analyzing postsecondary and workforce outcomes for their high school graduates. With a unique dual enrollment model focused on training students for nursing and other healthcare occupations, the charter high school has graduated approximately 300 students since its establishment in 2011. However, no information was previously available to indicate whether students had been adequately prepared for college and career.

With support from the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training's (DLT) Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) grant, DataSpark used the RI DataHUB to link individual-level RINIMC high school records to postsecondary education (OPC & National Student Clearinghouse) outcomes, professional certifications (Department of Health) and apprenticeships, and wage and employment outcomes. DataSpark used this linked dataset to provide aggregate information on student outcomes by cohort, beginning with the first graduating class of 2014.

DataSpark provided RINIMC with data visualizations to help better understand the growth, persistence and success of their students. The following are a subset of findings and visualizations provided to RINIMC along with aggregate data for to assist with reporting. We presented RINIMC with the educational and employment outcomes of 292 students who successfully graduated from RINIMC between 2014-2019. With these data, school leaders were able to share concrete information about its graduates' readiness for college and career (<https://rinimc.org/our-graduates/>). Presented below are the major findings of the project.

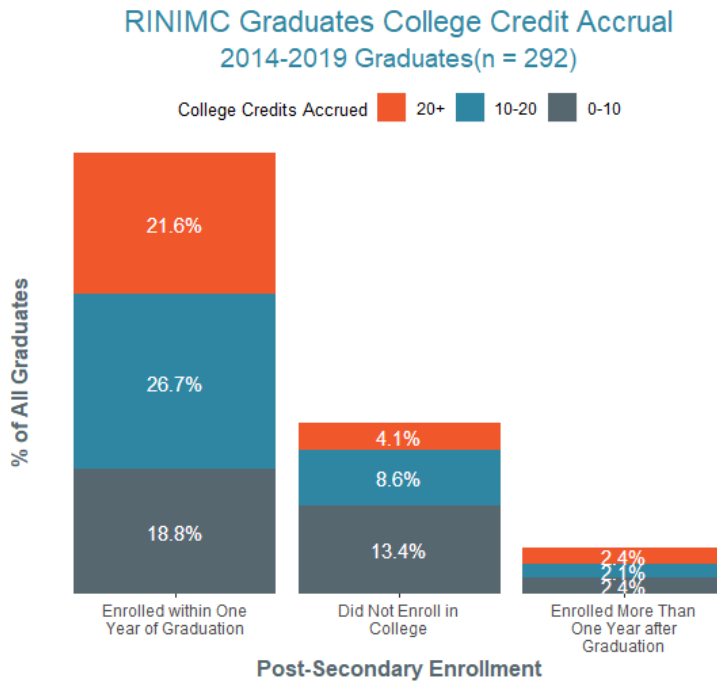
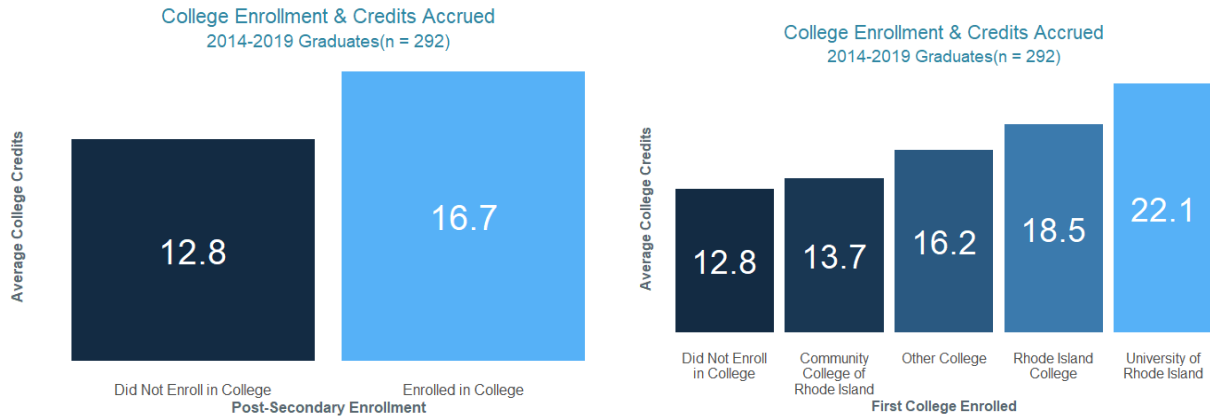
### 1. THREE QUARTERS OF RINIMC GRADUATES ENROLLED IN COLLEGE AFTER GRADUATING

74% of RINIMC's graduates enrolled in college within one year of graduating. Furthermore, 86% of these enrolled in an institution of higher education (IHE) in Rhode Island. The figure below shows the breakdown of enrollment across public IHEs. The plurality of graduates enrolled at CCRI (45%).



## 2. GRADUATES ENROLLED IN COLLEGE WITH AN AVERAGE OF 16.7 COLLEGE CREDITS ACCRUED

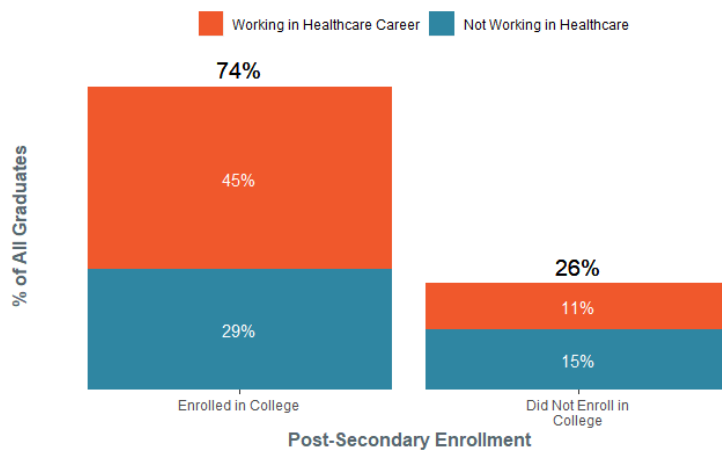
Utilizing data from the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, DataSpark found that RINIMC graduates who enrolled in college within 1 year had accrued an average of 16.7 college credits during their time at the charter high school. Students who enrolled at University of Rhode Island had accrued the most credits, an average of 22.1 college credits. Even those students who did not enroll in college immediately had still accrued an average of 12.8 credits that could still be applied to their program of study if they chose to enroll later.



### 3. 56% OF RINIMC GRADUATES WERE WORKING IN RI HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY IN 2019

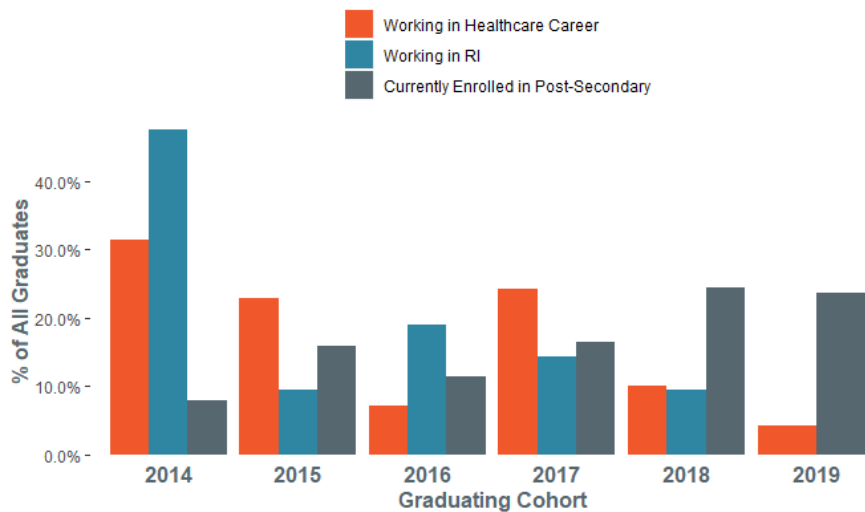
Using wage record data that DLT contributes to the DataHUB, DataSpark found that 56% of graduates were working in the Healthcare industry in the state of Rhode Island within one year of graduating. This is denoted by the orange segments of the bar chart below. An unknown percentage were working outside of the state. A total of 45% percent of graduates both enrolled in college and were working in Healthcare in the State of Rhode Island in 2019, as denoted by the bar on the left. It may be the case that postsecondary enrollment enables paid work opportunities such as apprenticeships or internships. In any case, these findings were welcome to RINIMC leadership because they indicate that graduates are prepared for college and career.

College Enrollment & Healthcare Careers: 1 Year After Graduation  
2014-2019 Graduates(n = 292)



The below bar chart indicates that more graduates become employed, both in Healthcare and in other industries in Rhode Island, as more years post-high school elapse. Although it may not be indicative of a trend, the first cohort of graduates (2014) were more likely to be employed in non-Healthcare sectors.

RINIMC Graduates in 2019  
2014-2019 Graduates(n = 292)

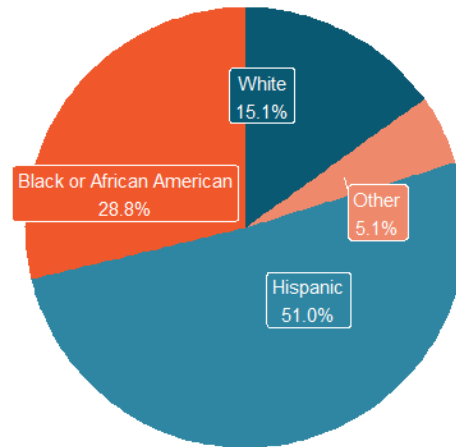


#### 4. DATASPARK PROVIDED RINIMC WITH ASSISTANCE IN ADDRESSING DATA QUALITY ISSUES IN THEIR STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

DataSpark was also able to provide data technical assistance to RINIMC, and to help address certain gaps in data collection that had accrued in the early years of the school's establishment. Most significant was a lack of reliable race/ethnicity data.

DataSpark utilized historic RIDE student enrollment data to report an accurate picture of RINIMC student characteristics. The RI DataHUB was used to pull historic student enrollment records, generally from schools that students attended prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade. We identified students who later graduated from RINIMC by school code and graduation code. Historic student enrollment data was used to identify race/ethnicity (mode, or most frequently reported race/ethnicity) reported by other schools in which students had enrolled. This allowed RINIMC to get a more accurate picture of the racial and ethnic makeup of their graduates who were found to be majority Hispanic (51%).

RINIMC Graduates by Race  
2014-2019 Graduates(n = 292)



Race: Determined by Individual's Most Commonly Reported Race 7 (Middle & High School)

#### 5. CONCLUSION

The WDQI grant allowed DataSpark to use K-12, postsecondary, licensure, and wage records to identify pathways taken by graduates of this unique "middle college" program. This project also demonstrated the potential of the DataHUB in helping identify outcomes for many different student subpopulations. DataSpark will continue to work with its agency partners to identify subgroups that it may serve with this more granular approach.