



# Federal Performance Measurement

How do we know if a federal program is:

- Making progress and
- Achieving results

?

# GPRA Drives the Federal Process

- *Government Performance and Results Act of 1993*
  - Holds federal agencies accountable for achieving program results
  - Requires setting goals and public reporting
  - Seeks to reduce waste and inefficiency

# Why Was GPRA Enacted?

- Waste and inefficiency had undermined taxpayer confidence and reduced the government's ability to meet public needs
- Inadequate goals and performance data impeded managers' efforts to make programs work
- Congress needed performance information

# GPRA Requirements

All federal agencies must

- Prepare:
  - *Strategic Plans*: Major long-term goals and objectives
  - *Performance Plans*: Annual program strategies and targets
  - *Performance Reports*: Annual performance and accountability reports
- Make program information available to the public

# The Department of Education's Mission

To ensure equal access to education and  
to promote educational excellence  
throughout the nation

# The Department of Education's Strategic Plan

- Has six major goals
- Postsecondary Education Goal:  
Enhance the quality of, and access to,  
postsecondary and adult education

# Postsecondary Education Objectives

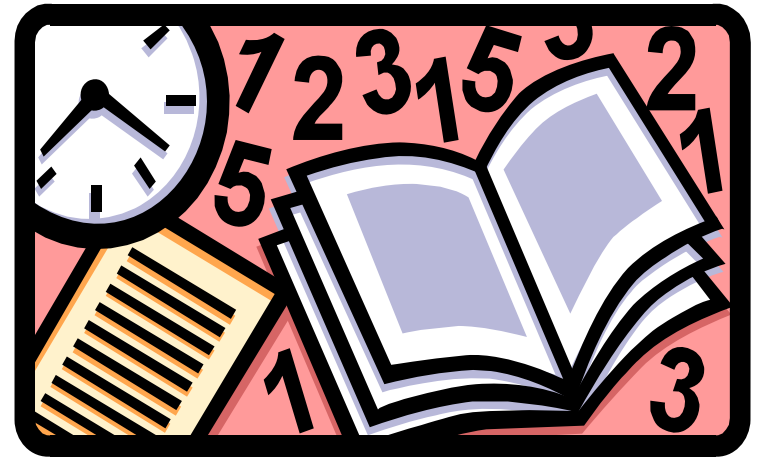
- Reduce gaps in college access and completion among different student populations while increasing educational attainment
- Strengthen accountability of postsecondary education institutions
- Strengthen minority-serving institutions
- Establish effective funding mechanisms
- Enhance literacy and employment skills of U.S. adults
- Increase the capacity of institutions to teach world languages, area studies, and international issues

# GPRA's Impact Over Time

- Over the past 10 years, GPRA results show steady, but uneven, progress
- 4 years ago, OMB developed the Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) to systematically assess programs across federal agencies



# What Is the PART?



The Program Assessment Rating Tool evaluates program performance in four main areas:

1. Program Purpose and Design
2. Strategic Planning
3. Program Management
4. Program Results and Accountability

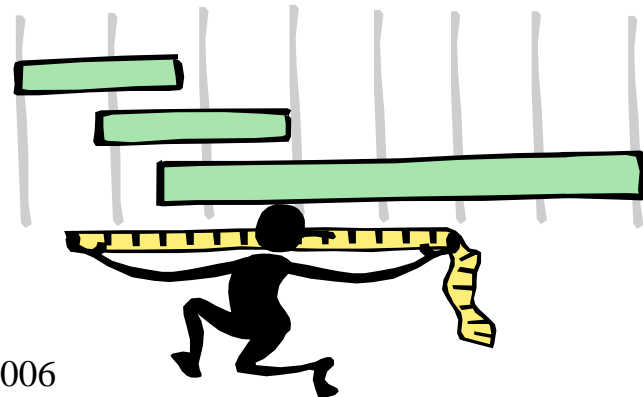
# PART Goals

- Increase focus on effectiveness (outcomes) and efficiency
- Make program assessment evidence-based
- Provide consistent measurement and evaluation across programs
- Rate program performance
- Improve public information

# How Does the PART Evaluate Performance?

The PART is heavily weighted to focus on quantitative results (50% of score)

- Outcome measures
- Efficiency measures
- Evidence-based program evaluation



# In Other Words ...

- How well is the program doing what it is intended to do?
- What is it costing to achieve the program's purpose?
- Do independent evaluations show that the program is effective and efficient?

# Why Does PART Include a Cost Measure?

- Assess a program's ability to achieve *results relative to resources*
- Demonstrate the ability of a program to use resources (e.g., time, effort, money) effectively

# How Are PART Scores Used?

- Identify program strengths and weaknesses
- Promote program improvement and administrative changes
- Inform Congress, the public, and other stakeholders
- Make performance-based budgeting decisions



# What is Performance-Based Budgeting?

- Performance results inform resource allocation
- The integration of a performance *plan* with a proposed budget
- Basically, how dollars are expected to turn into results--For example, program dollars that fund day-to-day activities (counseling and tutoring) produce results (student graduation)

# Overview of PART Scores

	Federal	Education	Postsecondary Education
Programs assessed	793	64	23
Effective	15%	3%	0%
Moderately effective	29%	8%	9%
Adequate	28%	31%	30%
Ineffective	4%	9%	9%
RND	24%	64%	52%

# Why a *Results Not Demonstrated* Rating?

- New program measures were set last year
- Targets were set for the new measures
- Waiting for additional data to be collected, analyzed, and compared to targets
- Waiting for results of independent evaluation

# What are the Measures?

Performance outcome measures:

- Undergraduate and graduate school enrollment
- Postsecondary persistence
- Completion rate
- Cost per (undergraduate and graduate) degree

# What Will Improve the PART Score?

- Performance data must be
  - made publicly available
  - used to assess institutions' effectiveness and set targets
  - used to make program improvements
- Independent evaluation results



# Study of the Strengthening Institutions Programs

- Systematic study: Financial Health of Title III and Title V Postsecondary Institutions:
  - Is financial health improving?
  - Do enrollment, persistence, graduation rates affect financial health?
  - Is there a discernible impact of OPE programs on financial health?
- Findings due in late 2007

# How Can HBCUs Help?

- Provide accurate, reliable, and on-time data reporting to *IPEDS*
- Submit complete, accurate, reliable, and on-time *annual and final performance reports*
- Assess the results of your use of program funds
- Provide feedback to federal managers

# ED's Next Steps

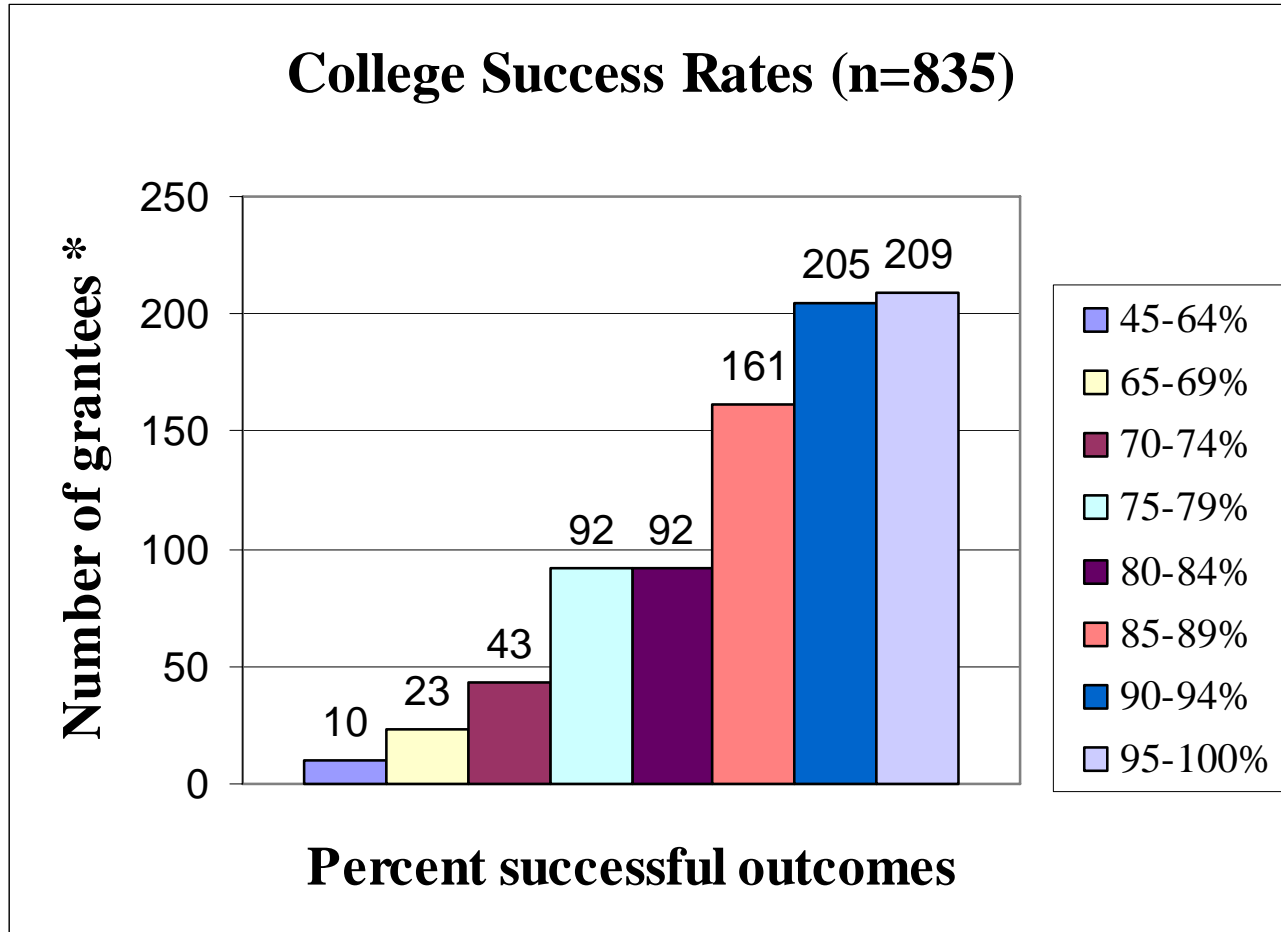
- Use program-wide assessments of individual grantees to help identify:
  - exemplary practices
  - cost efficient projects
  - opportunities for training and technical assistance
- Improve the quality and completeness of data reported by grantees

# Expanding HBCU Performance Analyses to Improve Feedback

- Analyze data from multiple sources
- Analyze multiple measures of grantee performance together
- Provide grantees with results



# Analyzing A Single Measure at the Institutional Level



# Analyzing Data from Multiple Sources

## Public 4-Year Institutions

