



**It's All About the
BHAG!**

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Arizona Western College

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Mission Statement

*Transforming lives through
education and partnerships
to create thriving communities*

A College of the Community



Vision Statement

Cultivating generations who value knowledge, foster independence, eliminate poverty, and create vital, equitable and sustainable communities.

A College of the Community



Student Experience Statement

- *A connected community* within which students are encouraged, challenged and feel they *belong*;
- Programs developed and aligned with *employment* opportunities;
- A clear path to *success and completion*;
- Flexible, accessible *services and learning* approaches;
- Contemporary *technology* that supports and enhances the AWC experience

So....

**What is a
BHAG?**

A College of the Community



Beautiful

Yuma, Arizona



idk, google it



AWC Students

By The Numbers

- § Approximately 12,000 students
 - 76% Hispanic
 - 72% First-Gen
 - 55% Second Language Learners
 - 88% Awarded Financial Aid

§ High Rates of Poverty

§ 84% Attend Part-time

§ 78% Success Rate

§ Credentials awarded: 2021-22

55% Degrees 45% Certificates

100% Amazing!

A College of the Community

Bachelors Degree or Better

Arizona

2020 33%

2021 32.4%

La Paz County: 12.1%

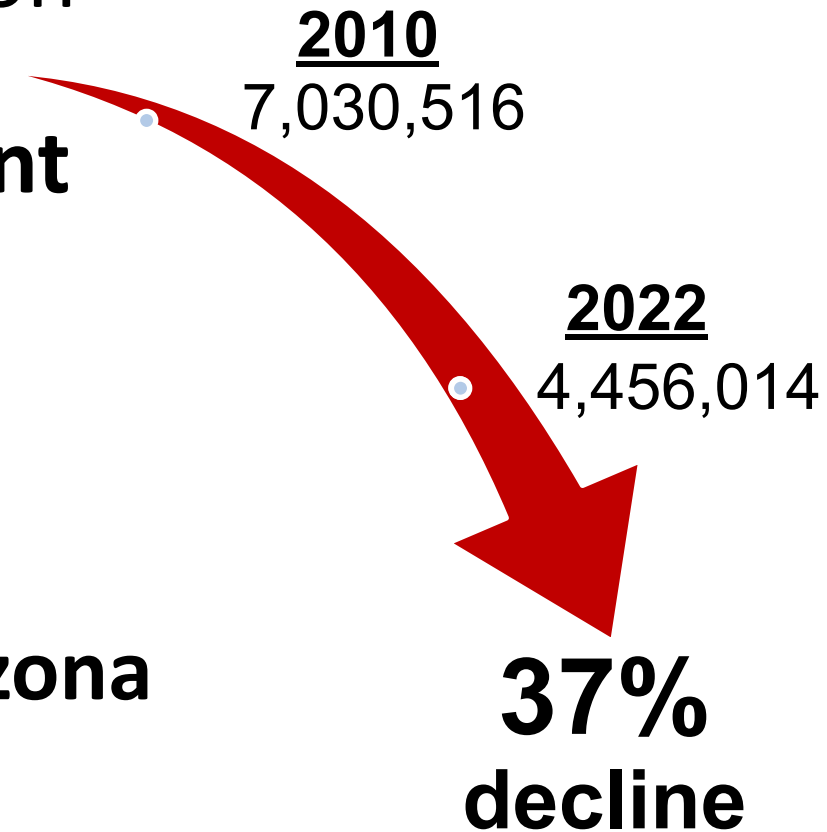
Yuma County: 16.2%



Trends Working Against AWC



- **Declining Confidence** in Higher Education
(Gallup, 2023)
- **Declining Community College Enrollment**
(Source: National Student Clearinghouse, 2022)
- **Declining Hispanic Enrollment** in Higher Education (Only **41.3%** of Hispanic grads enroll) (Education Forward Arizona, 2023)
- **Fewer University Degrees Awarded to Arizona Residents** (Arizona Board of Regents, 2023)



Defying the Odds- Enrollment

<u>College District</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>5 Year</u>	<u>%Change</u>
	<u>FTSE</u>	<u>FTSE</u>		<u>DIFF</u>	
Arizona Western	4,949	5,065	5,007	116	+2.34%
Cochise	6,258	5,999	6,129	-259	-4.14%
Yavapai	3,510	3,207	3,359	-303	-8.63%
Central Arizona	3,578	3,234	3,406	-344	-9.61%
Mohave	2,296	1,941	2,119	-355	-15.46%
Coconino	1,999	1,581	1,790	-418	-20.91%
Northland P.	1,772	1,375	1,574	-397	-22.40%
Pima	14,783	11,462	13,123	-3,321	-22.46%
Maricopa	70,344	52,588	61,466	-17,756	-25.24%
Eastern Arizona	3,125	1,994	2,560	-1,131	-36.19%
Total	112,614	88,446	100,530	-24,168	-21.46%

Fall 2023 Enrollment: Up 5% in FTSE and up 7% in Students compared to Fall 2022 (8.28.2023)



Defying the Odds – Dual Enrollment

<u>College District</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Change</u>
	Dual Enrollment	Dual Enrollment		
Arizona Western	57	409	352	617.54%
Pima	262	812	550	209.92%
Central Arizona	80	214	134	167.50%
Coconino	119	214	95	79.83%
Maricopa	4,708	6,081	1,373	29.16%
Cochise	60	64	4	6.67%
Yavapai	341	345	4	1.17%
Mohave	289	276	-13	-4.50%
Eastern Arizona	102	86	-16	-15.69%
Northland P.	365	250	-115	-31.51%
Total	6,383	8,751	2,368	37.10%

Source: Arizona Office of the Auditor General





Dual Enrollment

A New Approach to College-Going Culture

- \$25 Credit Hour (2017)
 - Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Waiver
 - Strong Coordination with High Schools; Embedded Faculty in the High Schools
- Dual-Enrollment Conference



AWC saw a **five-year % change increase of about 24%** of the total number of Baccalaureate degree recipients who entered as New Transfers **while there was a -0.6% change decrease statewide.**

Bottom Line – It is making a Difference



Building a College-Going Culture

- I'm Going to College (5th grade)
- FAFSA Completion
- American Dream Academy
- CAMP Program
- Intentional K-12/AWC Collaboration



The Payoff

- 2022 :
AWC has the
highest “high
school yield”
rate in Arizona!!



The AWC Advantage- University Partnerships





A New Approach to Placement Testing

- Eliminated Accuplacer
- Implemented Guided Self-Placement
- Dev. Ed enrollment down to 6%



- Created in 2018
- All AWC tuition/fees refunded
- Facilitate transfer to Yuma Universities
- College within reach!

Yuma
promise

La paz.
promise



Our BHAG

B.H.A.G.

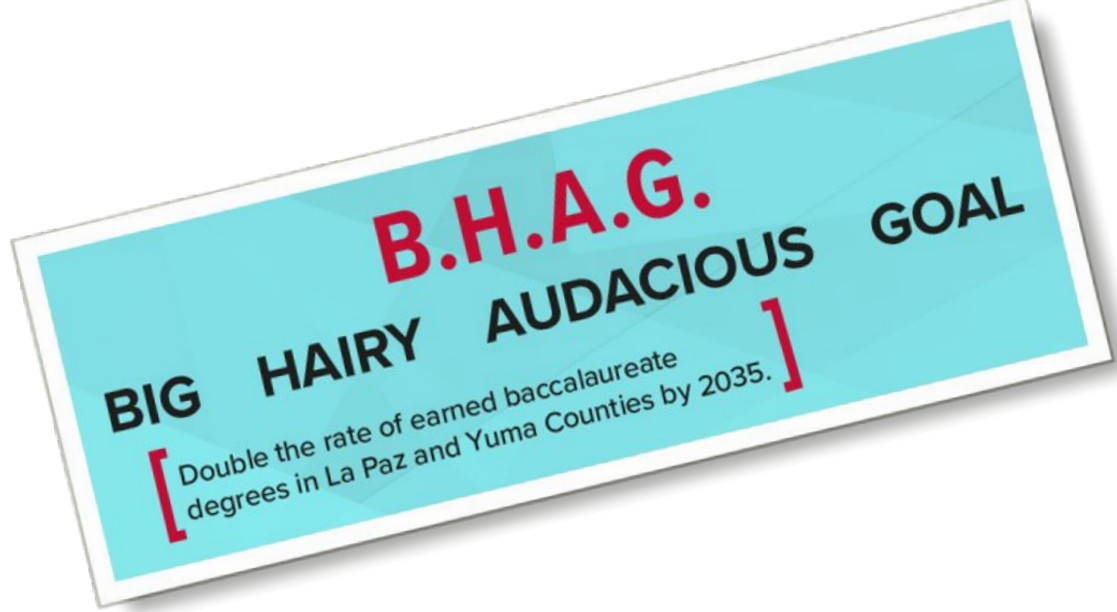
BIG HAIRY AUDACIOUS GOAL

[Double the rate of earned baccalaureate degrees in La Paz and Yuma Counties by 2035. **]**



Challenge Limitations

- BHAG partly symbolic
 - Helps rally college/community
- Migration of grads to Maricopa and Pima Co.
- Growth much faster in Yuma vs. La Paz Co.




The BHAG is Happening!!

- Enrollment Up #1 in AZ
- High School Yield Up #1 in AZ
- Dual Enrollment Up #1 in AZ
- Transfer Rates Up #1 in AZ

Record number of Bachelors Degrees awarded in 202



**IT'S A
GREAT DAY
TO BE A
MATADOR**



Thank you!

let's connect →

Questions or Ideas
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**ARIZONA
WESTERN
COLLEGE**

Thank you!

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