

On the Road to Success—Some Intermediate Milestones

In order for students to reach the finish line – either transfer or earn an award – there must be progress to milestones along the way. Comprised of representatives from 12 states in the Achieving the Dream Initiative, the Cross State Data Work Group (CSDWG) is developing indicators for attainment of first-year, second-year, and third-year milestones. The CSDWG is examining results disaggregated by age, program type, race/ethnicity, full-time/part-time status, course taking patterns, under-represented population (URP) status, and Pell status.

Cohort Definition

Fall 2004, first-time-in-college (FTIC), program-placed students comprise the cohort. Students who began their coursework during the prior summer or who were formerly dual enrolled were also included in the cohort.

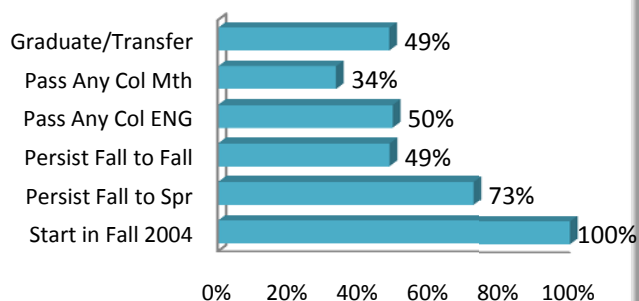
Highlights

- Three out of four students (73%) persist from fall to spring, which is consistent across the various disaggregations.
- While students complete college-level English courses at similar rates (47-52%), they complete college-level mathematics courses at very different rates—14% for students starting in the first levels of developmental mathematics to 25% for URPs to 34% for college-ready students.
- Just over half (50.2%) of the students complete 80% or more of all credits attempted in the first year.
- College-ready students are most likely to graduate or transfer within four years (49%) while URP and students beginning in lower levels of developmental mathematics are much less likely to graduate or transfer (28%, 23%).

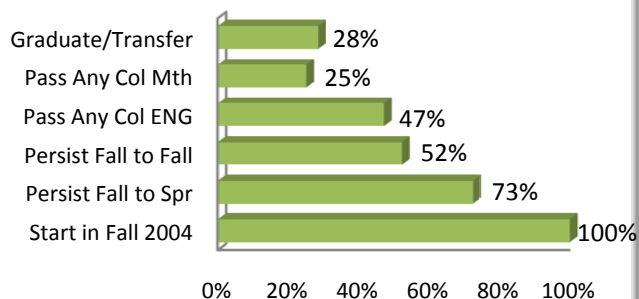
Reflections

Colleges are encouraged to explore achievement of intermediate milestones as a mechanism to enhance understanding of the steps involved in moving students from entry into college to graduation or transfer. By focusing efforts to have more students achieve these milestones, colleges will increase student success and help students attain their higher education goals.

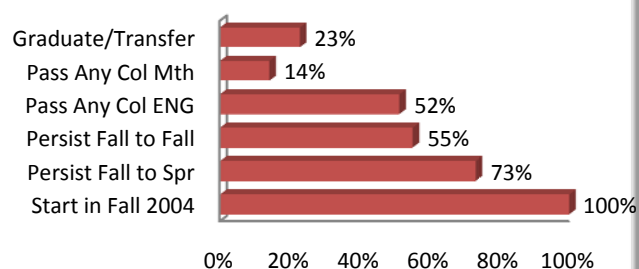
Four Year Progression-College Ready



Four-Year Progression-URP



Four-Year Progression-Began Lower Dev Mth



Selected Intermediate Milestones for Fall 2004 First-Time-in-College Cohort

| | N | Year 1 Measures | | | Year 2 Measures | | Year 3 Measures | |
|-------|-------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | Persist Fall to Spring | Pass 80%+ of Credits | Complete 24 Credits | Persist Fall to Fall | Complete 42+ Credits (FT) | Pass Any College English | Pass Any College Math |
| | | % | % | % | % | % | % | % |
| BRCC | 742 | 73.0 | 47.8 | 27.5 | 58.6 | 0.5 | 62.8 | 32.6 |
| CVCC | 727 | 71.8 | 49.0 | 26.1 | 44.7 | 2.8 | 46.9 | 34.3 |
| DLCC | 206 | 72.8 | 54.4 | 30.1 | 55.8 | 1.1 | 53.4 | 25.2 |
| DCC | 594 | 73.9 | 53.2 | 28.6 | 56.4 | 7.1 | 53.0 | 19.2 |
| ESCC | 162 | 76.5 | 47.5 | 26.5 | 48.1 | 2.2 | 48.8 | 20.4 |
| GCC | 1019 | 74.6 | 54.2 | 26.7 | 51.8 | 1.9 | 56.8 | 23.0 |
| JSRCC | 1581 | 73.4 | 49.1 | 23.1 | 50.6 | 1.4 | 54.7 | 24.6 |
| JTCC | 664 | 75.6 | 50.2 | 27.0 | 55.4 | 0.8 | 50.2 | 32.7 |
| LFCC | 919 | 71.7 | 50.2 | 24.0 | 48.9 | 3.3 | 62.5 | 41.9 |
| MECC | 486 | 75.9 | 52.7 | 30.2 | 50.4 | 4.1 | 41.2 | 17.9 |
| NRCC | 594 | 74.1 | 49.8 | 25.6 | 54.2 | 3.6 | 60.1 | 31.0 |
| NVCC | 6299 | 71.9 | 49.1 | 22.0 | 55.3 | 0.3 | 43.1 | 26.0 |
| PHCC | 622 | 74.0 | 51.8 | 27.3 | 49.8 | 8.3 | 51.3 | 27.3 |
| PDCC | 269 | 73.2 | 53.2 | 29.0 | 44.2 | 1.2 | 38.3 | 15.6 |
| PVCC | 635 | 72.3 | 50.1 | 24.3 | 55.9 | 2.3 | 59.4 | 30.6 |
| RCC | 382 | 74.1 | 53.4 | 23.6 | 54.7 | 1.3 | 63.1 | 29.8 |
| SsVCC | 607 | 75.0 | 49.9 | 27.3 | 43.0 | 4.4 | 45.8 | 26.7 |
| SwVCC | 677 | 75.6 | 50.1 | 24.2 | 51.3 | 3.1 | 49.8 | 29.2 |
| TNCC | 1570 | 72.2 | 50.3 | 23.8 | 48.5 | 1.6 | 53.6 | 24.3 |
| TCC | 3781 | 73.6 | 50.7 | 23.1 | 54.2 | 0.4 | 50.5 | 25.3 |
| VHCC | 405 | 74.6 | 49.9 | 28.6 | 55.8 | 2.9 | 55.8 | 36.3 |
| VWCC | 1040 | 73.7 | 49.6 | 26.3 | 52.2 | 1.8 | 56.0 | 31.3 |
| WCC | 384 | 75.3 | 51.0 | 25.3 | 52.1 | 13.6 | 62.5 | 32.3 |
| All* | 24365 | 73.2 | 50.2 | 24.4 | 52.8 | 2.1 | 50.8 | 27.2 |

* System total is unduplicated. If a student is shared between two colleges, s/he was assigned arbitrarily to one of them.

How Were Data Generated?

- VEE files were used to determine first time in college cohort and courses taken. Students with missing grades were eliminated from calculations.
- GPA and placement data were retrieved from SIS database.
- Financial aid files 2004-05 were used to determine Pell recipients.

For More Information

Visit <http://www.vccs.edu/studentssuccess> to learn more about student success. Additional data by college can be found on the student success website or by contacting the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness.