

Early Momentum Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): New Metrics for the Voluntary Framework of Accountability

Green River College

The Voluntary Framework of Accountability (VFA) is building on the work of the American Association of Community Colleges Pathways Project (AACC Pathways) reform work to improve the value of the VFA to participating colleges. College-wide reforms, like AACC Pathways, are complex endeavors that take many years to implement fully. That means that colleges will not see expected improvements in student completion rates for several years after the implementation of such reforms. Colleges need indicators in the near-term that they can examine to see if their reform efforts are having a positive effect and are likely to improve student success over a longer term. The AACC Pathways KPIs can fulfill this need.

The calculation of the KPIs is included in the process of calculating metrics for data submitted through the VFA data system. These metrics were chosen for community colleges because they can be measured over a single year and yet research suggests that they are the leading indications of increased student completion over a longer term*. In addition to the value of these one-year measures as early indicators of progress toward longer term student success goals, tracking year-over-year change in these KPIs can motivate colleges to implement practices that can effectively create the initial conditions required for subsequent success.

^{*}For a review, see Jenkins, D., & Bailey, T. (2017). Early momentum metrics: Why they matter for college improvement. New York, NY: Columbia University, Teachers College, Community College Research Center. Retrieved from https://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/media/k2/attachments/early-momentum-metrics-college-improvement.pdf

Colleges will not see major improvements in student completion rates until several years after the implementation of reforms. Therefore, colleges can use KPIs in the short-term so they are able to examine if their reform efforts are having a positive effect and are likely to improve student success over a longer term.

The AACC Pathways KPIs (listed below) are presented in the subsequent tables. Trend data are presented for the main cohort in the fall of each given year, followed by disaggregated data for the most recent year reported.

- 1) Credit momentum KPIs:
 - a) Earned 6+ college credits in 1st term
 - b) Earned 12+ college credits in 1st term
 - c) Earned 15+ college credits in year 1
 - d) Earned 24+ college credits in year 1
 - e) Earned 30+ college credits in year 1
- 2) Gateway math and English completion KPIs:
 - a) Completed college math in year 1
 - b) Completed college English in year 1
 - c) Completed both college math and English in year 1
- 3) Persistence KPIs:
 - a) Fall to next term retention
- 4) College course completion KPI:
 - a) College-level course success rate in students' first academic year

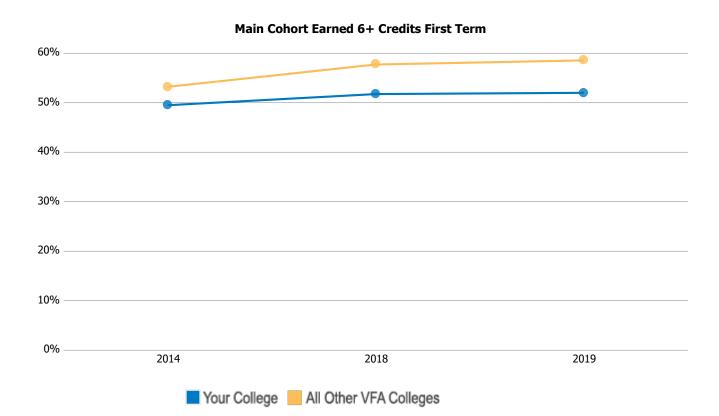
The cohorts tracked here include both full-time and part-time students but exclude students who are current high school dual enrollment students. The VFA has disaggregated these KPIs by race/ethnicity, age and other factors, which will enable colleges to see if there are gaps in progression among different student groups.

Demographics for Main Cohort in College Students

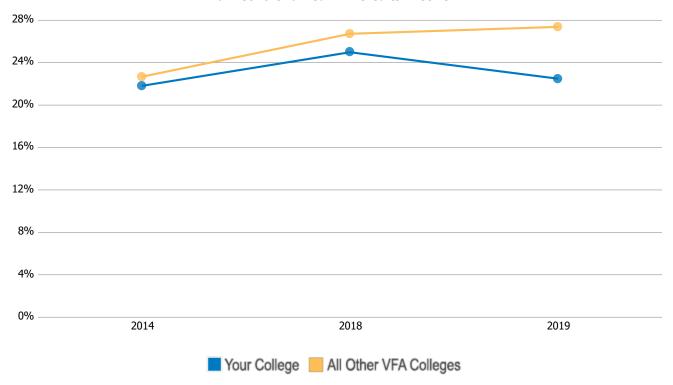
	Fall	2014	Fall	2018	Fall 2019		
All Students	100.0%	1,398	100.0%	1,569	100.0%	1,494	
Black	6.9%	97	9.0%	141	8.3%	124	
Am. Indian / Alaskan	0.9%	13	1.3%	21	1.2%	18	
Asian	7.7%	107	9.9%	156	12.7%	189	
Hispanic	2.6%	36	1.6%	25	2.7%	41	
White	54.5%	762	45.6%	715	43.8%	654	
Unknown	8.7%	121	11.6%	182	9.6%	143	
HI / Pac. Isl.	1.2%	17	1.1%	17	1.2%	18	
2+ Races	17.5%	245	19.9%	312	20.5%	307	
	•						
< 20 Yrs.	53.9%	753	50.2%	787	52.6%	786	
20-24 Yrs.	21.7%	304	23.2%	364	23.6%	353	
25-29 Yrs.	7.9%	111	10.0%	157	9.2%	137	
30-39 Yrs.	8.6%	120	10.1%	158	9.2%	138	
40-49 Yrs.	4.9%	68	3.9%	61	3.7%	55	
50 or Older	3.0%	42	2.7%	42	1.7%	25	
	•						
Full-time	64.0%	895	60.8%	954	58.4%	872	
Part-time	36.0%	503	39.2%	615	41.6%	622	
College-ready	39.1%	546	59.2%	929	66.3%	991	
Developmental need in 1	43.3%	606	33.8%	530	29.7%	444	
Developmental need in 2	13.1%	183	5.0%	79	2.9%	43	
Developmental need in 3	4.5%	63	2.0%	31	1.1%	16	
Male	48.4%	677	50.9%	798	48.3%	721	
Female	51.6%	721	49.0%	769	51.7%	772	
Unknown / Other	N/A	N/A	0.1%	2	0.1%	1	
Awarded Pell	37.1%	518	37.3%	586	37.1%	555	
Not Awarded Pell	62.9%	880	62.7%	983	62.9%	939	

Institution Count: 136

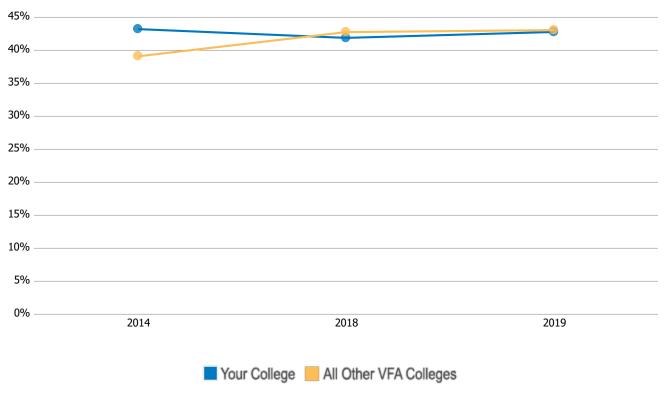
Credit Momentum KPIs for Green River College											
Cohort Year	Earned 6+ credits first term		Earned 12+ credits first term		Earned 15+ credits first year		Earned 24+ credits first year		Earned 30+ credits first year		Total main cohort students
2014	49.5%	692	21.8%	305	43.2%	604	22.2%	311	11.8%	165	1,398
2018	51.8%	812	25.0%	392	41.9%	657	22.9%	360	13.4%	210	1,569
2019	52.0%	777	22.5%	336	42.8%	639	23.8%	355	15.3%	228	1,494



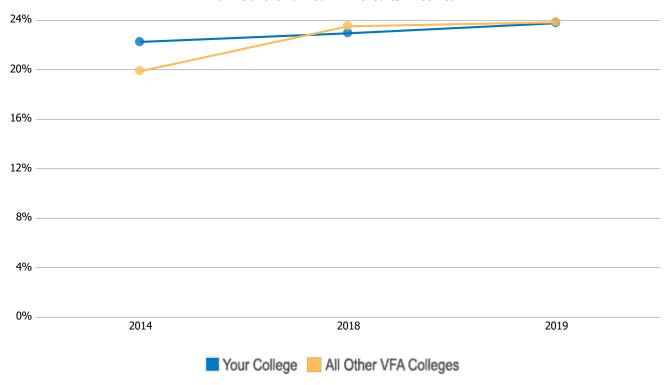
Main Cohort Earned 12+ Credits First Term



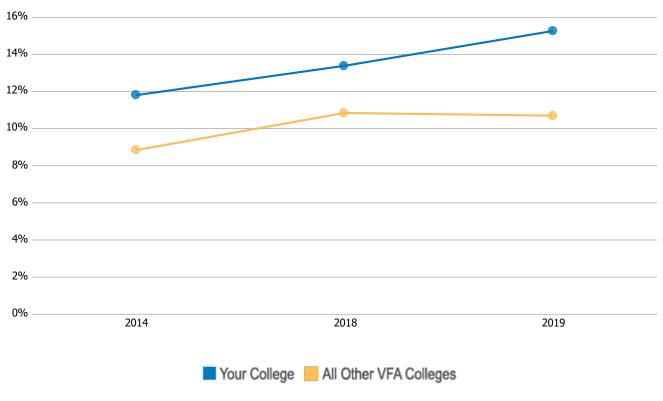






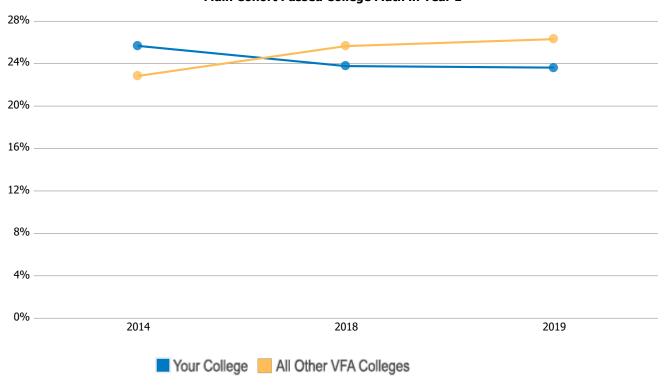


Main Cohort Earned 30+ Credits First Year

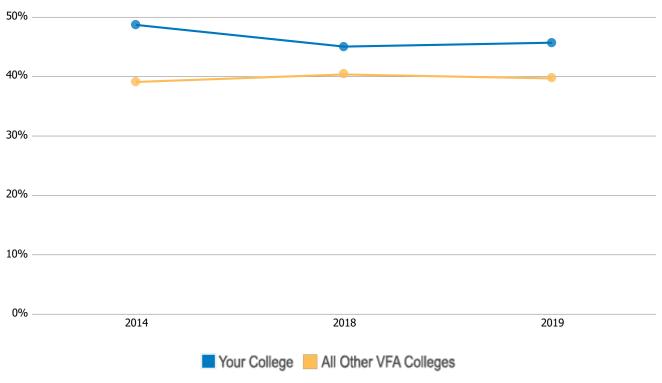


Gateway C	Gateway Completion, Persistence, and College Course Completion KPIs										
Cohort Year	Passed math in		Passed of English 1	_	Passed Englis math in	sh &	Fall to term re		Total college credits attempted	Total college credits successfully completed	Credit success rate
2014	25.7%	359	48.7%	681	17.2%	240	77.0%	1,076	25,436	19,657	77.3%
2018	23.8%	373	45.1%	707	15.4%	241	75.0%	1,176	30,250	21,862	72.3%
2019	23.6%	353	45.7%	683	14.2%	212	79.2%	1,183	29,080	21,179	72.8%

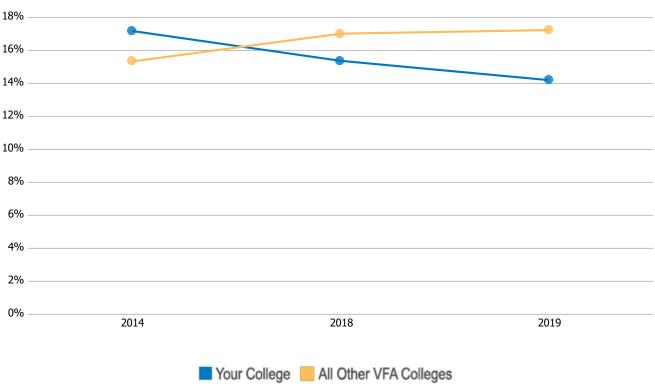
Main Cohort Passed College Math in Year 1



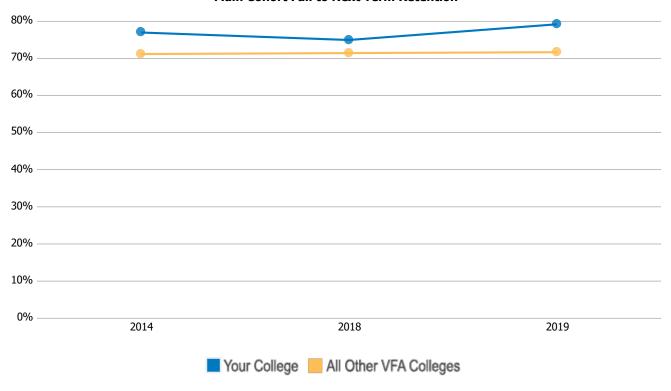




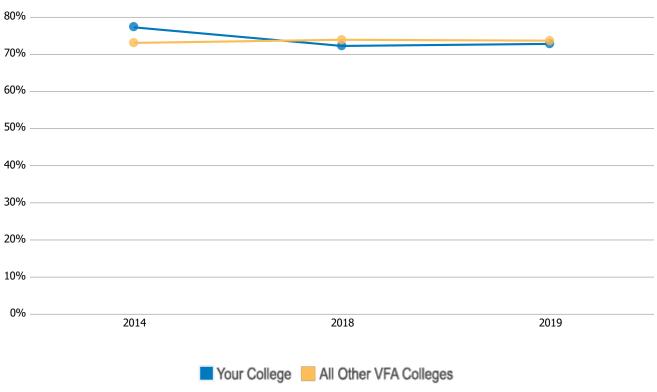




Main Cohort Fall to Next Term Retention

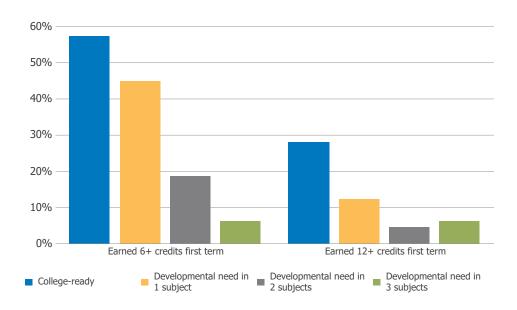




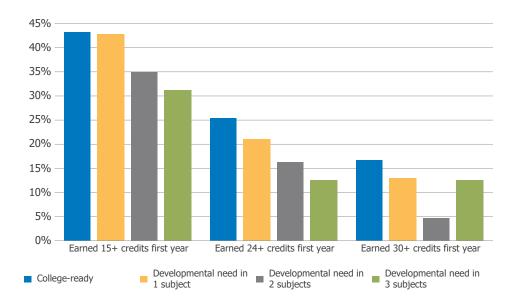


College Readiness Status Disaggregation - Fall 2019 Main Cohort

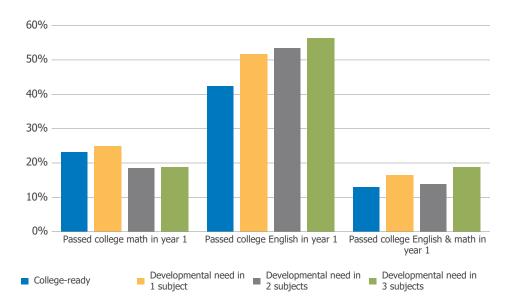
First Term Credit Success Rate by College Readiness



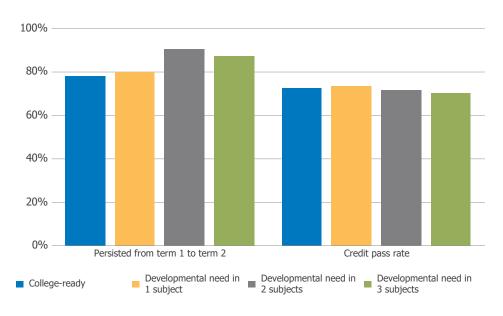
Year 1 Credit Success Rate by College Readiness Status



College Course Success Rate by College Readiness Status

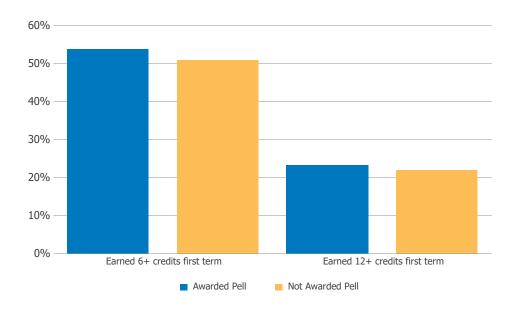


Retention and Credit Success Rate by College Readiness Status

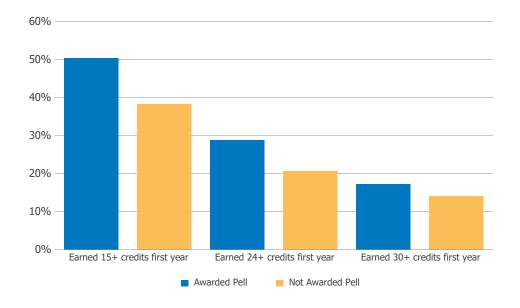


Pell Status Disaggregation - Fall 2019 Main Cohort

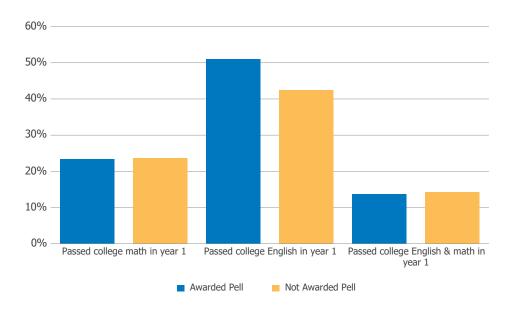
First Term Credit Success Rate by Pell Status



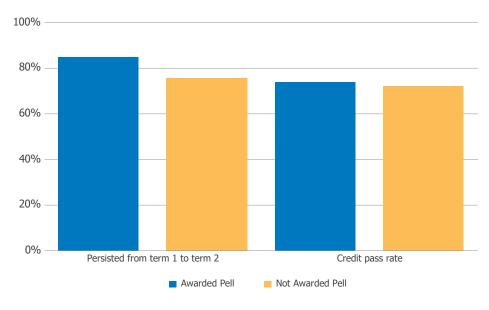
Year 1 Credit Success Rate by Pell Status



College Course Success Rate by Pell Status

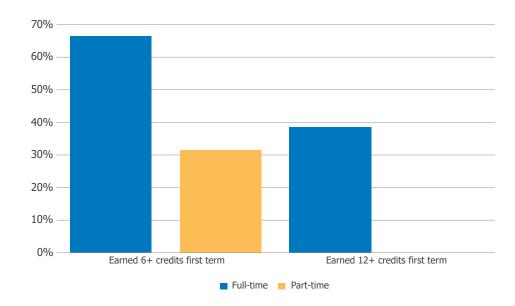


Retention and Credit Success Rate by Pell Status

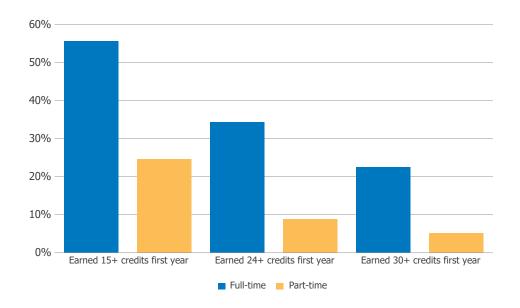


First-term Attendance Status Disaggregation - Fall 2019 Main Cohort

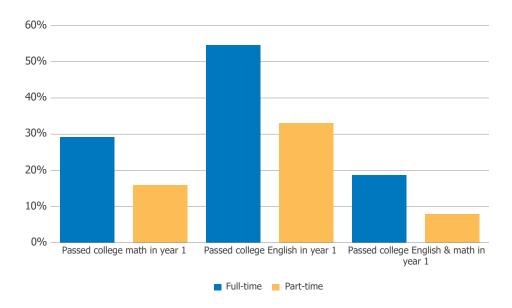
First Term Credit Success Rate by First-term Attendance Status



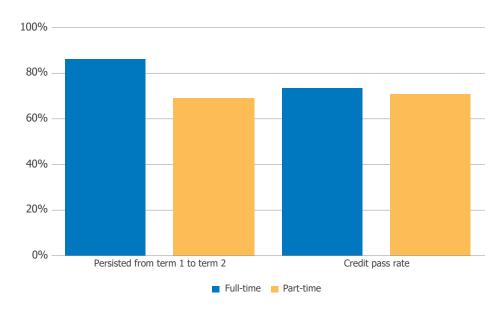
Year 1 Credit Success Rate by First-term Attendance Status



College Course Success Rate by First-term Attendance Status

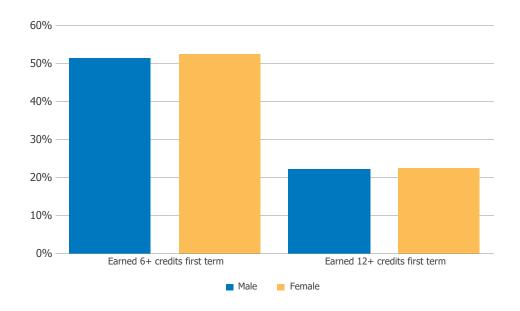


Retention and Credit Success Rate by First-term Attendance Status

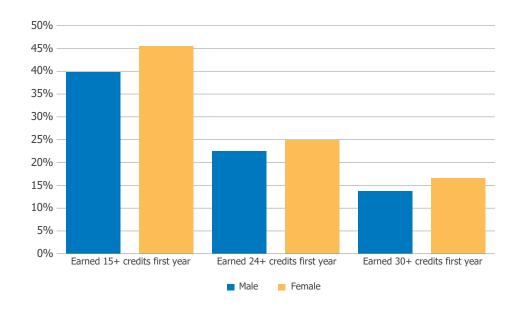


Gender Disaggregation - Fall 2019 Main Cohort

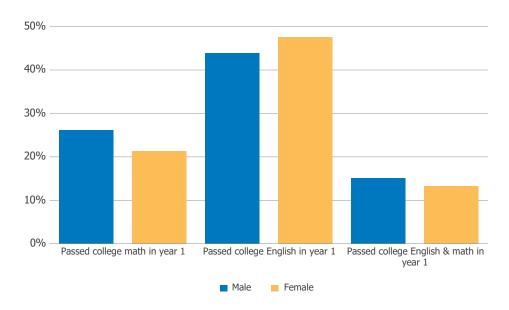
First Term Credit Success Rate by Gender



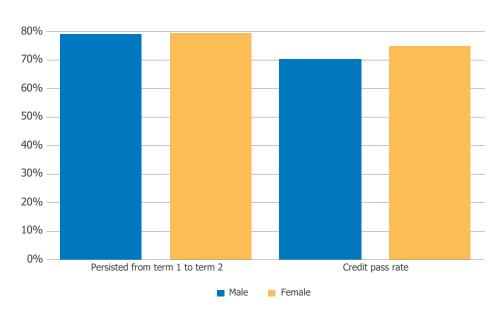
Year 1 Credit Success Rate by Gender



College Course Success Rate by Gender

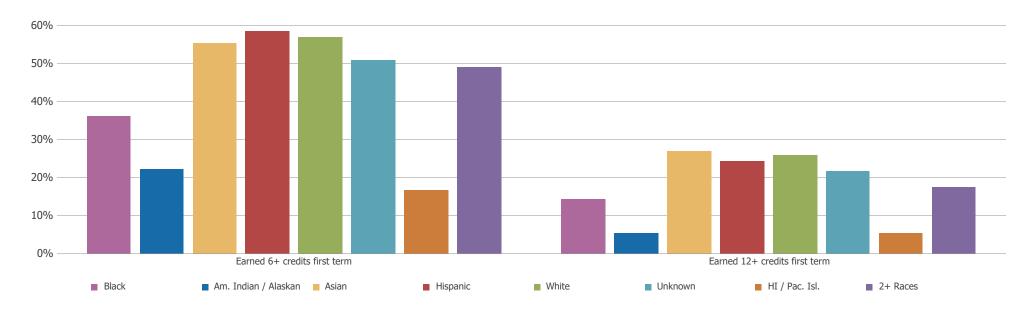


Retention and Credit Success Rate by Gender

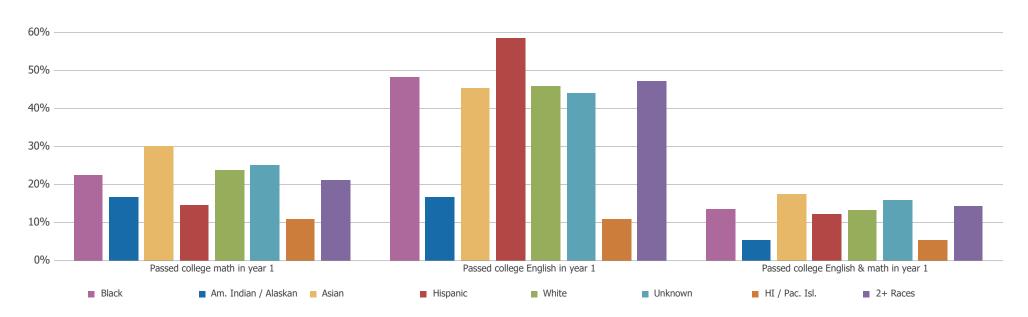


Race/Ethnicity Disaggregation - Fall 2019 Main Cohort

First Term Credit Success Rate by Race/Ethnicity

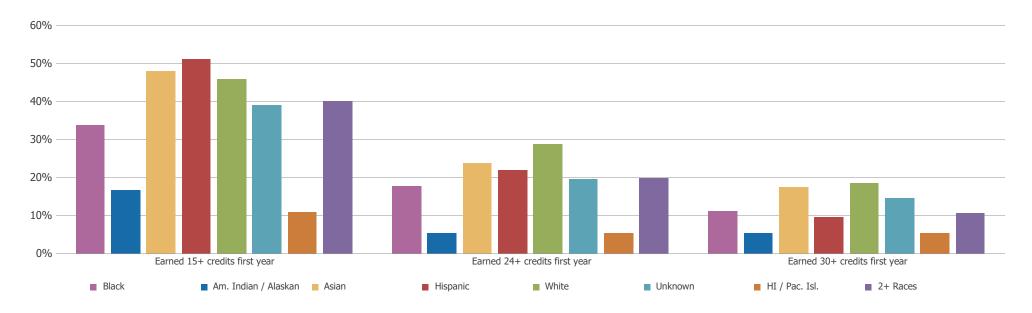


College Course Success Rate by Race/Ethnicity

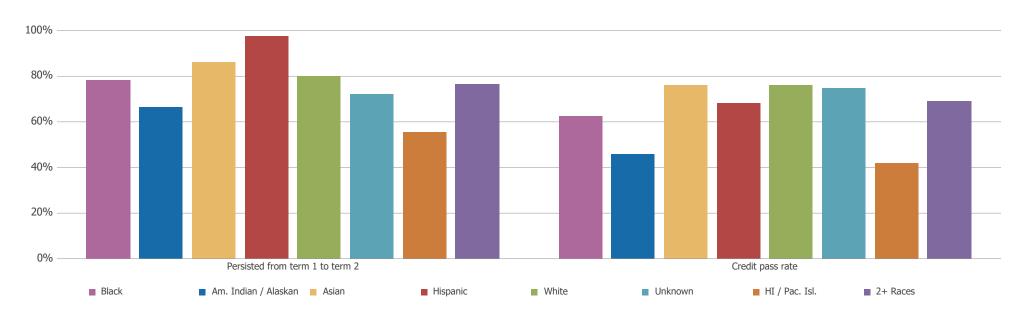


Race/Ethnicity Disaggregation - Fall 2019 Main Cohort

Year 1 Credit Success Rate by Race/Ethnicity



Retention and Credit Success Rate by Race/Ethnicity



Definitions

Cohort	Definition
Main Cohort students	All students who entered the institution for the first time post high school completion and are enrolled in credit or developmental education classes in the fall term. Includes the following: Full-time and part-time enrollment, degree and non-degree seeking students, and transfer-in, and first-time in college students.

KPI	Definition
Earned 6+ college credits in 1st term	Number and % of fall cohort students who successfully completed 6 or more college-level (i.e., non-developmental) credits (with grade A-C- or P) in first term
Earned 12+ college credits in 1st term	Number and % of fall cohort students who successfully completed 12 or more college-level (i.e., non-developmental) credits (with grade A-C- or P) in first term
Earned 15+ college credits in year 1	Number and % of fall cohort students who successfully completed 15 or more college-level (i.e., non-developmental) credits (with grade A-C- or P) in the first academic year
Earned 24+ college credits in year 1	Number and % of fall cohort students who successfully completed 24 or more college-level (i.e., non-developmental) credits (with grade A-C- or P) in the first academic year
Earned 30+ college credits in year 1	Number and % of fall cohort students who successfully completed 30 or more college-level (i.e., non-developmental) credits (with grade A-C- or P) in the first academic year
Completed college Math in year 1	Number and % of fall cohort students who attempted and successfully completed at least one college level (i.e., non-developmental) Math course (with grade A-C- or P) in the first academic year. Withdrawals are counted as attempting but not passing the course.
Completed college English in year 1	Number and % of fall cohort students who attempted and successfully completed at least one college level (i.e., non-developmental) English course (with grade A-C- or P) in the first academic year. Withdrawals are counted as attempting but not passing the course.
Completed college math and English in year 1	Number and % of fall cohort students who attempted and successfully completed at least one college level (i.e., non-developmental) course (with grade A-C- or P) in both Math and English in the first academic year. Withdrawals are counted as attempting but not passing the course.
Fall to next term retention	Number and % of fall cohort students who enrolled in at least one credit course (including developmental) in term 2 (spring term) or earned a formal award in the fall term.
Credit success rate	Number of college-level (i.e., non-remedial) credits successfully completed (with grade A-C- or P) by fall cohort students in their first full academic year divided by the total number of college-level credits attempted by students in the fall cohort within their first full academic year.