**Measuring Your College’s Effectiveness Serving Transfer Students**

Texas Success Center, Aspen Institute, Community College Research Center, and Public Agenda

The tables and definitions below detail a basic set of metrics your college can compute using Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board data to measure the outcomes of your students who seek to transfer to a four-year institution. Table 1 presents overall measures of your college’s transfer outcomes in comparison to national averages and top colleges. Table 2 shows how your transfer students fare at your college’s top five transfer destinations.

**Table 1.** *Tracking Transfer* Measures

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Transfer-out Rate1 | Transfer Core Complete2 | Transfer with Award Rate3 | Transfer-out Bachelor’s Completion Rate4 |
| National Average\* | 33% | N/A | 29% | 42% |
| Top Urban CC Nationally\* | 77% | N/A | 61% | 64% |
| Top Rural CC Nationally\* | 64% | N/A | 69% | 66% |
| Texas Community Colleges | 22% | 39% | 44% | 13% |
| Your Institution: | % | % | % | % |

**Cohort & tracking period:** Entering FTEIC community college students in a fall term, excluding current and prior high school dual enrollment students, tracked for six calendar years.

**Transfer definition**: Students who entered college for the first time at a two-year institution and are not concurrently enrolled at a four-year institution, and then transferred for the first time to a four-year institution.

**Outcome Definitions**

1Percentof students who entered college for the first time at a two-year institution and were not concurrently enrolled at a four-year institution, and then transferred for the first time to a four-year institution. Go to [http://www.txhigheredaccountabili ty.org/acctpublic/#goal2](http://www.txhigheredaccountability.org/acctpublic/#goal2) From the top left corner of the webpage, select “Public Two-Year Colleges” and then “Community Colleges.” From the 60x30 goals, select “Completion.” Select your college from the dropdown box at the left. Scroll down to C17C “Transfers to Senior Institution.” Use the most current year (2016 Cohort) percent of “All Transfers.”

2The number of transfer students who started at your community college and completed the core curriculum prior to their earliest enrollment at a four-year institution, divided by the number of transfer students in your college’s entering cohort. (Statewide data includes Texas community and technical colleges) Go to <http://www.txhighereddata.org/reports/performance/ctctransfer/> “Academic Performance of 2-Year College Transfer Students at Texas Public Universities” – “Report by 2-Year Institutions.” From the dropdown menus select your institution and the most current report (2015). Then select “View PDF.” Scroll to the second spreadsheet for Core Curriculum Completer Transfer data. Divide the Institutional Total Core Curriculum Completers (*CCC*, bottom of column B) by the Total Transfers Fall 2015 (bottom of column A)

3The number of transfer students who started at your community college and earned a certificate or associate degree from your college prior to their earliest enrollment at a four-year institution, divided by the number of transfer students in your college’s entering cohort. (Statewide data includes Texas community and technical colleges.) From the same PDF from above at <http://www.txhighereddata.org/reports/performance/ctctransfer/>, scroll to the third and fourth spreadsheets for Associate Degree and Certificate Transfer data. Add the Institutional Total number of Earned Academic Associate (*Acad*, bottom of column B), Earned Technical Associates (*Tech*, bottom of column E), and Earned Certificates (*Certs*, bottom of column B of next spreadsheet.) Divide that total number of transfer students who earned an associate’s degree or certificate by the number of Total Transfers, Fall 2015 (bottom of all columns A)

4**National Data Definition:**The number of transfer students who started at the community college and earned a bachelor’s degree from any four-year institution within six years of community college entry, divided by the number of transfer students in the community college’s entering cohort. **Texas Definition**: First-time, full-time entering degree-seeking students who enrolled in a minimum of 12 SCH their first fall semester who graduated with a baccalaureate degree from a Texas public or independent institution. Go to <http://www.txhigheredaccountability.org/acctpublic/#goal2> From the top left corner, select “Public Two-Year Colleges” and then “Community Colleges.” From the 60x30 goals, select “Completion.” Select your college from the dropdown box at the left. Scroll down to C03C “Graduation Rates.” Use the most current year (2016 Cohort) 6-year graduation rates for baccalaureate of above.

**\*National Data Source:** Davis Jenkins and John Fink, [*Tracking Transfer: New Measures of Institutional and State Effectiveness in Helping Community College Students Attain Bachelor’s Degrees*](http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/media/k2/attachments/tracking-transfer-institutional-state-effectiveness.pdf), Community College Research Center, Teachers College Columbia University, Aspen Institute and National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, January 2016. (Includes multiple states’ institutional data)

**Table 2.** *Major Transfer Partner* Measures

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Top 3-5 largest four-year transfer destinations1 | Number of transfers to this university1 | Percentage of transfers to this university that were core complete before transferring1 | Percent of transfers to this university who earned an associate’s degree or certificate before transferring1 | Bachelor’s degree completion rate among students who transferred to this university2 |
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1 These university specific transfer data points can be found at <http://www.txhighereddata.org/reports/performance/ctctransfer/> Go to “Academic Performance of 2-Year College Transfer Students at Texas Public Universities” – “Report by 2-Year Institutions.” Select your institution and the most current report (2015). Then select “View PDF.” Based on the number of Total Transfers, Fall 2015 (column A), note the universities that the largest numbers of your transfer students attend. For each university, record the number of transfer students (column A), percent that were core completers (second spreadsheet, column B), and percent who had earned a credential prior to transfer (third spreadsheet, columns B and E; plus fourth spreadsheet, column B).

2 The university specific bachelor’s degree data can be found at <http://www.txhighereddata.org/reports/performance/ctctransfer/> Go to “Graduation of 2-Year College Transfer Students” (in the middle of the page) – “Report by 2-Year Institutions.” Select your institution and the most current report (2012). Then select “View PDF.” For each university, record the percent graduated (column B).