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

(Originally composed by the 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 NSC 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, and Table 2 shows how your transfer students fare at your college’s top five transfer destinations.

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Transfer-out Rate1 | Transfer with Award Rate2 | Transfer-out Bachelor’s Completion Rate3 |
| National Average | **33%** | **29%** | **42%** |
| Top Urban CC Nationally | **77%** | **61%** | **64%** |
| Top Rural CC Nationally | **64%** | **69%** | **66%** |
| Your Community College |  |  |  |

**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 in the cohort who ever enrolled at a four-year institution for at least one term after their first term at the community college, within the six-year tracking period.

**Outcome Definitions**

1The percentage of students in an entering community college cohort who ever enrolled at a four-year institution for at least one term after their first term at the community college, within six years of first enrolling at the community college.

2The 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.

3The 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.

**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.

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Top 5 largest four-year transfer destinations | Number of transfers to this university | Percent of transfers to this university who earned a CC award before transferring | Bachelor’s degree completion rate among students who transferred to this university |
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