

Northland Community and Technical College

Student Right-To-Know Graduation and Transfer-Out Rates

What is Student Right-To-Know?

Student Right-To-Know is a federal law that requires all colleges and universities to disclose certain information to students. This handout provides the information that a college must provide to students on graduation rates and transfer-out rates for full-time students seeking degrees at Northland Community and Technical College.

What is a graduation rate and what is a transfer-out rate?

Federal regulations specify how to calculate the graduation and transfer rates. The rates come from a study of Northland students who started at the college in the fall of 2015. The study includes all first-time students who enrolled full-time that fall and were seeking to earn a degree, diploma or certificate at the college. The **graduation rate** is the percentage of these students who graduated from Northland within three years. The **transfer-out rate** is the percentage of these students who did not graduate from Northland, but instead transferred to another college or university within three years.

What do I need to know about these rates?

These rates do not report on all students at Northland. The 329 first-time, full-time students in the study were about 9 percent of all students enrolled in fall of 2015.

What are the graduation and transfer-out rates for Northland students and how do they compare to rates for other colleges?

- The **graduation rate** for Northland was 42 percent.
- The **transfer-out rate** for Northland was 17 percent.
- The combination of the graduation rate and the transfer-out rate for Northland was 59 percent. The national average combined rate for similar colleges was 45 percent.

Why don't more Northland students graduate or transfer in three years?

- Since Northland has an “open door” mission, many new students need to take “developmental” courses to improve their reading, writing or math skills before taking other college courses;
- Students who switch from full-time to part-time enrollment or “stop out” for one or more semesters are more likely to take more than three years to graduate;
- Some students take jobs before they graduate;
- Other students delay their education for personal, family or financial reasons.

| Disaggregated Student Right-to-Know Graduation and Transfer-out Rates | | | |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Northland Community and Technical College | Graduation Rate | Transfer-out Rate | Combined Rate |
| Total Cohort | 42% | 17% | 59% |
| Race Ethnicity | | | |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | * | * | * |
| Asian | * | * | * |
| Black or African American | 22% | 31% | 53% |
| Hispanic of any race | 37% | 30% | 67% |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | * | * | * |
| Nonresident Alien | * | * | * |
| Two or more races | 27% | 40% | 67% |
| Unknown race and ethnicity | * | * | * |
| White | 46% | 13% | 59% |
| Gender | | | |
| Female | 40% | 27% | 68% |
| Male | 43% | 13% | 56% |
| Financial Aid | | | |
| Pell Grant Recipient | 38% | 18% | 56% |
| Received neither Pell nor Subsidized Stafford Loans | 42% | 20% | 62% |
| Received Subsidized Stafford Loans, but no Pell | 52% | 12% | 64% |

* Suppressed to protect student privacy.

Due to rounding, percentages may not always appear to add up.