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ABSTRACT

This report resents tables of repeated course enrollment data in Florida community colleges for the fall 1993 cohort. Overall, the percent of repeats in college preparatory courses was greater than that of college credit courses. Within ICS codes, the highest percentage of credit repeat enrollments was in mathematics; the second highest was in letters. The four major ethnic groups--white, black, Hispanic, and "other"--are also compared. They were very similar in their patterns of repeating courses with no more than five percentage points difference in the percent of courses taken the first time. This same relationship held for college preparatory courses. Hispanics and "others" had an average of almost three more credit courses after three years than either whites or blacks. Based upon this analysis, the major ethnic groups among community college students are moving through the system with a fairly similar pattern of course repetition. Overall, about one in five college preparatory enrollments are course repeats. That proportion decreases to slightly over one in ten for credit enrollments. However, the pace of progression toward an award is basically half-time or less with the average number of courses per group ranging from 15.0 to 11.5 for the three-year tracking period. Most repeats are in the required areas of mathematics and English. (VWC)

FLORIDA STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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REPEATED COURSE ENROLLMENTS

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REPEATED COURSE ENROLLMENTS

Introduction

The Office of Educational Service and Research was asked by Dr. Teresa Klebacha, Legislative Research Director for the House Community College and Career Prep Committee, for the number and percent of course enrollments that were due to students repeating a course. The original request was for college preparatory courses with college credit courses requested afterwards.

Method

Since the Student Data Base does not include the full transcript history for all currently enrolled students, it was not possible to select a term and then determine if those enrollments were repeats. Instead, cohort tracking was used to obtain an estimate of the number of times a student repeated a course.

The Fall 1993 FTIC cohort was used for both parts of the request. This provided three years of data. This time frame had originally appeared to be sufficient for the college preparatory request. When the second request was received, it was decided to use the same cohort even though the follow-up period might be less than optimal for college credit courses.

Results

Tables 1 through 5 shows the results of the investigation. The results shared with the House were at the college preparatory or college credit level. The course enrollment records were so numerous it was necessary to extract the data in sections. These ICS code based groups allowed for finer comparisons to be shared within the system.

Overall, the percent of repeats in college prep was greater than that of college credit. As noted above, this relationship might shift if the tracking period for college credit were to be increased. The percent of second time course enrollments for college prep was 15.2. The percent for college credit was 9.2. First time enrollments for college prep were 80.7 percent, while college credit was 88.6 percent. The remaining enrollments were for more than two times.

Within ICS codes, the highest percentage of credit repeat enrollments was in mathematics (ICS - 11617) at 23.5. The second highest was in letters (ICS - 11315) at 13.5. This is not surprising since these two ICS codes cover the English and mathematics courses required by all colleges as part of the general education component of the AA degree.

The four major ethnic groups - white, black, Hispanic and "other", a combination of Asian and Indian - are compared in Tables 2 - 5. They were very similar in their patterns of repeating courses with no more than five percentage points difference in the percent of courses taken the first time. White students had the highest percent of first time credit enrollments at 90.3. "Other" students were second with 88.5 percent, followed by Hispanics at 85.7 and black at 85.3. This same relationship held for college preparatory courses. Whites had the highest percent of first time prep enrollments at 82.7, with "other" minorities at 81.5, followed by Hispanics at 79.7 and blacks at 77.3.

When the average number of courses taken is considered, the pattern is very different.

Hispanics lead the groups with an average of 15.0 courses per cohort member. These were distributed between the areas with an average of 2.0 courses in College Prep, 10.9 courses in A&P and 2.1 in PSV. Next were "other" minorities with an average of 14.4 courses. Their average distribution was 1.9 courses in College Prep, 10.2 in A&P, and 2.2 in PSV. Black students had an average of 11.9 course with 2.5 in College Prep, 7.7 in A&P and 1.8 in PSV. Whites had the lowest average number of courses at 11.5. One point two were in College Prep, 8.4 in A&P and 1.9 in PSV. Thus, Hispanics and "others" had an average of almost three more credit courses after three years than either whites or blacks. Blacks had the most prep courses with whites having the least.

Conclusions

Based upon this analysis, the major ethnic groups among community college students are moving through the system with a fairly similar pattern of course repetition. Overall, about 1 in 5 college preparatory enrollments are course repeats. That proportion decreases to slightly over 1 in 10 for credit enrollments. However, the pace of progression toward an award is basically half-time or less with the average number of courses per group ranging from 15.0 to 11.5 for the three year tracking period. Most repeats are in the required areas of mathematics and English. It must be remembered that the credit section of this analysis is based upon enrollments prior to the restriction on withdrawals and forgiveness that went into effect in Fall 1996. It is anticipated that the new policy will decrease even more the percent of enrollments due to courses being repeated.

Table 1
 Course Repeats by Type and ICS Code
 (Cohort N = 49,030)

ICS	First Time	Second Time	More	Total
13101-13102	61,537	11,616	3,089	76,242
Prep Percent	80.7	15.2	4.1	100.0
11101-11119	52,735	5,085	700	58,520
11210	23,119	2,124	1,101	26,344
11311	6,462	339	30	6,831
11315	95,250	11,881	3,030	110,161
11408	36,774	2,344	519	39,637
11505	1,781	114	13	1,908
11607	1,236	66	12	1,314
11617	49,319	11,261	3,867	64,447
11703	58	5	2	65
11720	36,910	3,526	541	40,977
11722	48,615	3,947	550	53,112
11806-11849	23,788	2,261	443	26,492
A&P Total	376,047	42,953	10,808	429,808
A&P Percent	87.5	10.0	2.5	100.0
12101	1,301	28	15	1,344
12201	4,932	264	33	5,229
12301	17,989	1,398	209	19,596
12401	3,526	160	21	3,707
12501	43,383	2,622	290	46,295
12601	9,140	333	78	9,551
12701	9,280	296	70	9,646
PSV Total	89,551	5,101	716	95,368
PSV Percent	93.9	5.3	0.8	100.0
Credit Total	465,598	48,054	11,524	525,176
Credit Percent	88.6	9.2	2.2	100.0

Table 2
 Course Repeats by Type and ICS Code
 (White N = 32,114)

ICS	First Time	Second Time	More	Total
13101-13102	31,982	5,260	1,440	38,682
Prep Percent	82.7	13.6	3.7	100.0
11101-11119	36,131	2,846	316	39,293
11210 - 11311	20,496	1,717	836	23,049
11315	55,074	5,779	1,344	62,197
11408, 11505, 11607	25,489	1,318	277	27,084
11617	33,055	6,835	2,226	42,116
11703, 11720	20,724	1,626	193	22,543
11722	34,154	2,345	259	36,758
11806-11849	15,564	1,106	165	16,835
A&P Total	240,687	23,572	5,616	269,875
A&P Percent	89.2	8.7	2.1	100.0
12101 - 12401	18,437	925	126	19,488
12501	28,194	1,423	131	29,748
12601-12701	12,427	387	118	12,932
PSV Total	59,058	2,735	375	62,168
PSV Percent	95.0	4.4	0.6	100.0
Credit Total	299,745	26,307	5,991	332,043
Credit Percent	90.3	7.9	1.8	100.0

Table 3
 Course Repeats by Type and ICS Code
 (Black N = 7,322)

ICS	First Time	Second Time	More	Total
13101-13102	13,952	3,234	864	18,050
Prep Percent	77.3	17.9	4.8	100.0
11101-11119	5,352	781	133	6,266
11210, 11311	3,044	303	109	3,456
11315	13,223	2,155	546	15,924
11408, 11505, 11607	6,115	553	144	6,812
11617	5,292	1,571	556	7,419
11703, 11720	5,685	759	143	6,587
11722	5,840	604	95	6,539
11806-11849	2,786	371	88	3,245
A&P Total	47,337	7,097	1,814	56,248
A&P Percent	84.2	12.6	3.2	100.0
12101- 12401	3,879	467	87	4,433
12501	5,640	523	65	6,228
12601- 12701	2,213	117	16	2,346
PSV Total	11,732	1,107	168	13,007
PSV Percent	90.2	8.5	1.3	100.0
Credit Total	59,069	8,204	1,982	69,255
Credit Percent	85.3	11.8	2.9	100.0

Table 4
 Course Repeats by Type and ICS Code
 (Hispanic N = 7,973)

ICS	First Time	Second Time	More	Total
13101-13102	13,046	2,658	670	16,374
Prep Percent	79.7	16.2	4.1	100.0
11101-11119	8,634	1,174	206	10,014
11210, 11311	4,976	376	167	5,519
11315	23,307	3,499	997	27,803
11408, 11505, 11607	6,886	571	103	7,560
11617	8,691	2,379	930	12,000
11703, 11720	9,564	1,062	194	10,820
11722	6,898	865	176	7,939
11806-11849	4,566	695	176	5,437
A&P Total	73,522	10,621	2,949	87,092
A&P Percent	84.4	12.2	3.4	100.0
12101- 12401	4,438	401	61	4,900
12501	7,693	546	75	8,314
12601-12701	3,236	107	11	3,354
PSV Total	15,367	1,054	147	16,568
PSV Percent	92.7	6.4	0.9	100.0
Credit Total	88,889	11,675	3,096	103,660
Credit Percent	85.7	11.3	3.0	100.0

Table 5
 Course Repeats by Type and ICS Code
 ("Other"* N = 1,621)

ICS	First Time	Second Time	More	Total
13101-13102	2,557	464	115	3,136
Prep Percent	81.5	14.8	3.7	100.0
11101-11119	2,618	284	45	2,947
11210, 11311	1,065	67	19	1,151
11315	3,646	448	143	4,237
11408, 11505, 11607	1,301	82	20	1,403
11617	2,281	476	155	2,912
11703, 11720	995	84	13	1,092
11722	1,723	133	20	1,876
11806-11849	872	89	14	975
A&P Total	14,501	1,663	429	16,593
A&P Percent	87.4	10.0	2.6	100.0
12101- 12401	993	58	4	1,055
12501	1,856	130	19	2,005
12601-12701	544	18	3	565
PSV Total	3,393	206	26	3,625
PSV Percent	93.6	5.7	0.7	100.0
Credit Total	17,894	1,869	455	20,218
Credit Percent	88.5	9.2	2.3	100.0

* The "Other" group is composed of both Asian and Indian.



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