

Front Range Community College Office of Institutional Research
RESEARCH BRIEF – MARCH 2017

“Collecting, analyzing, interpreting, and delivering institutional information.”

WHO ARE THESE STUDENTS CO-ENROLLED AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS?

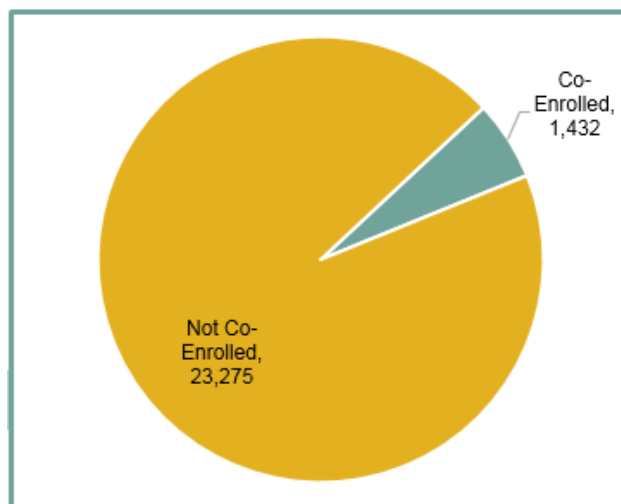
The Office of Institutional Research (IR) requests a report from the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) every fall and spring semester to determine how many of our enrolled students are co-enrolled at another two- or four-year institution.

After repeating this for the last several years, a pattern has emerged where we can predict around 5% of our students are attending some other 2- or 4-year institution in each term.

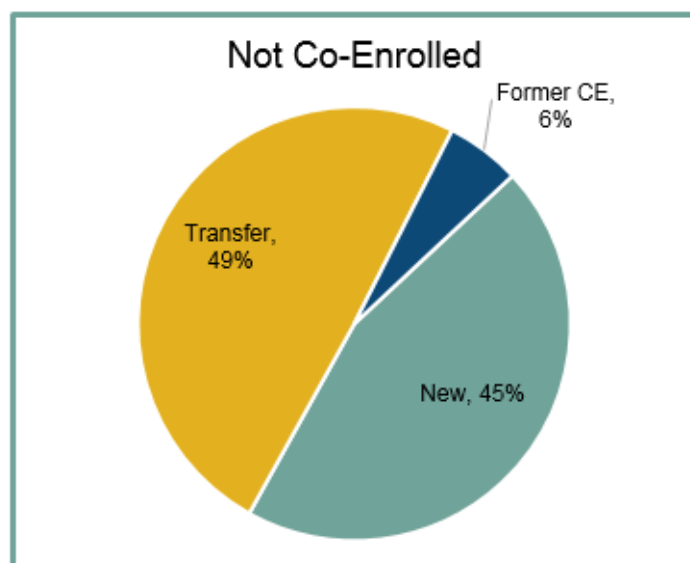
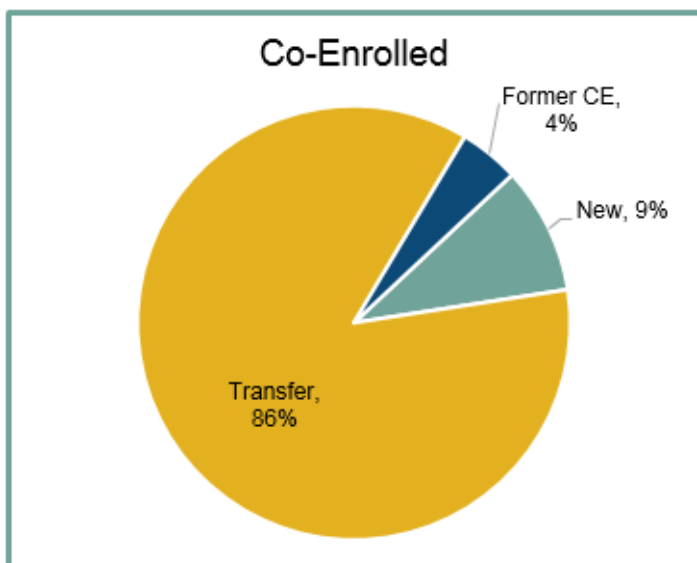
CSU, CU Denver, CU Boulder, Aims, UNC, RRCC, and Metro are consistently the top schools co-enrolled.

In many cases, NSC also provides the program of study at our students’ other college. While the most common programs are unknown or multi-disciplinary, Nursing, Business, and Psychology are the top programs with specialized focus.

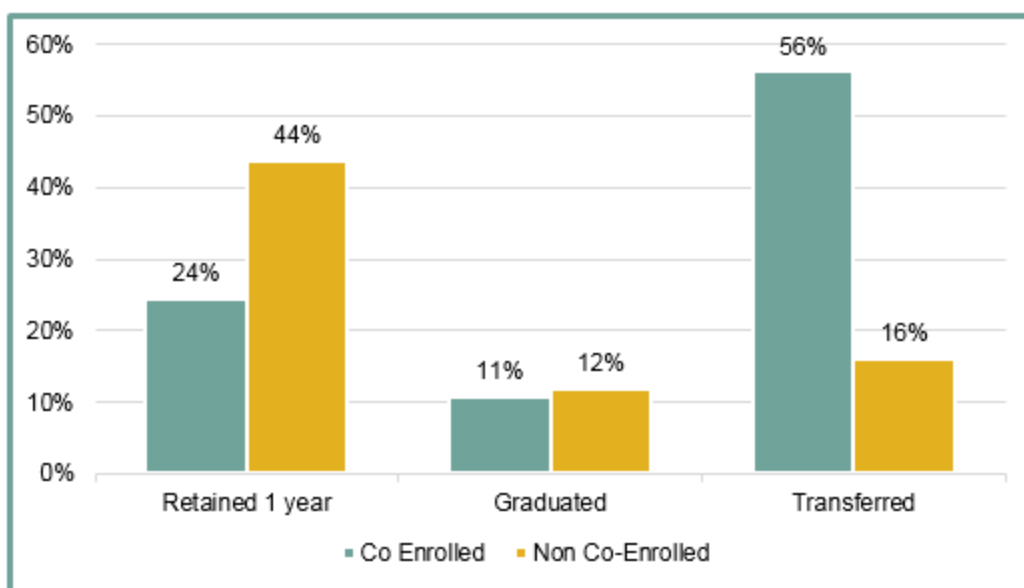
This year IR explored co-enrolled students deeper to see who these students are, specifically if they have a stronger commitment to FRCC or to their co-enrolled institution. This research brief compares the behavior of degree-seeking students in their first term at FRCC between AY14 through AY16. This is not a large population, less than 6% of degree-seeking students in their first term at FRCC were co-enrolled.



52% of these degree-seeking students were Transfer-in, 43% were New anywhere, with a small proportion (6%) of former College Now who returned after high school graduation. However, 86% of Co-enrolled were transfer-in, compared to 49% for non-Co-enrolled, a striking difference.



The retention, graduation, and transfer behaviors of these two groups were compared to see if they act differently once they start at FRCC. The new students who were co-enrolled had much lower retention rates, very similar graduation rates, and much higher transfer rates.



What this research brief has uncovered is that most of the co-enrolled students who we label as transfer-in are more accurately described as “guest students”. This population includes only students who have declared a degree, but they may have no plans to earn that degree at FRCC. They appear to be taking a few classes at FRCC while their main educational focus is at their original, and primary, institution to whence they return.

Additional, more detailed, analyses about co-enrolled students are available upon request. Please contact Kim Wallace by phone at 303-404-5316 or by e-mail at kim.wallace@frontrange.edu to request such an analysis.