

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

Collecting, analyzing, interpreting, and delivering institutional information.

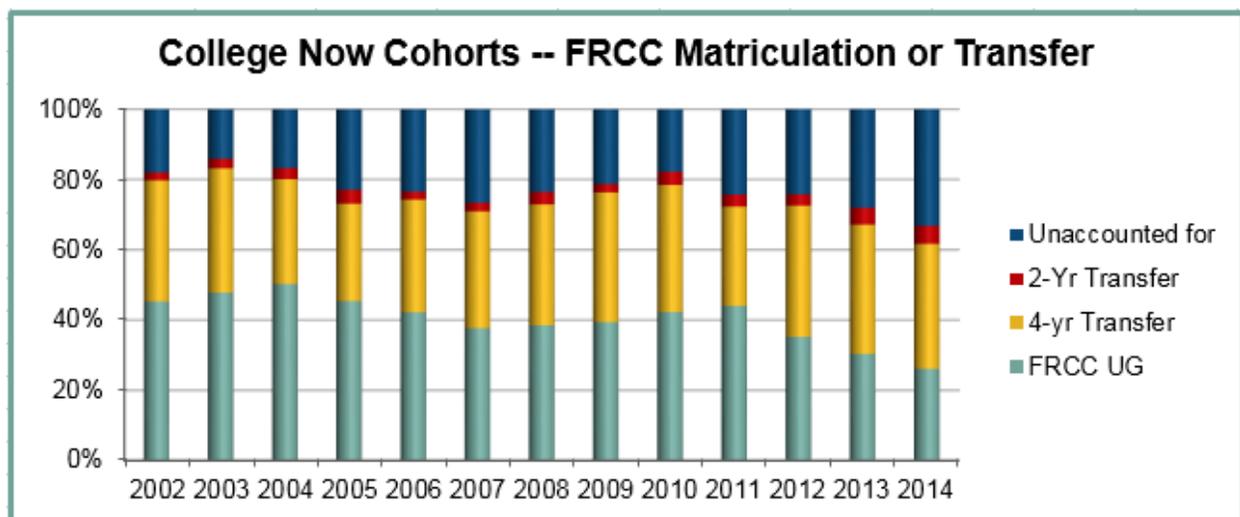
**Do FRCC Students in the College Now Program Continue their Post-Secondary education --either at FRCC or Transfer to a Four-Year Institution?
And,
How do College Now Students Compare to Other First Term Students in One-Year Success Measures?**

The Front Range Community College dual enrollment program, which provides high school students the opportunity to take courses for college credit, is called “College Now”. The college classes may be held at the student’s high school, or the student may take classes at an FRCC campus alongside our regular college students. With the Concurrent Enrollment legislation and the Accelerating Students Through Concurrent Enrollment (ASCENT) legislation, it is possible for a high school student to earn both an associate’s degree and high school diploma at the same time without accruing any tuition costs. The legislation authorizing dual enrollment has shifted over the years but the overarching concept of earning college credit while in high school has remained the same.

The Office of Institutional Research tracked College Now students to answer two questions:
1) How many enroll at FRCC as an undergraduate student or transfer to a four-year institution;
2) How do their rates of graduating, transferring, or retaining compare to the new, first-time undergraduate cohort.

ENROLL AS UNDERGRADUATE AT FRCC OR TRANSFER TO A 4-YEAR INSTITUTION

IR created cohorts of all students during their first term as a College Now student at FRCC. They were tracked forward to see if they continued post-secondary education, either at FRCC or at another institution. Those who neither enrolled at FRCC nor transferred are “unaccounted for”.



The chart may appear to indicate that later College Now cohorts do not enroll or transfer as often as earlier cohorts. This is due to the later cohorts not yet having enough time to

- 1) finish their College Now courses,
- 2) enroll as an FRCC undergraduate, and/or,
- 3) transfer to some other institution.

Since some of these unaccounted for students may still enroll at FRCC or elsewhere at a later date, the percentages of transfer or FRCC undergraduates will continue to rise as we persist in our efforts to track these students.

32% of College Now students enroll at FRCC as undergraduates, 34% enroll at a four-year institution, and 4% at another two-year college. Over the years, about 29% of College Now students have been “unaccounted for” after their high school graduation, neither enrolling at FRCC nor at any other institution.

First Term as College Now	# in Cohort	Matriculated at FRCC	Never Enrolled at FRCC as UG		
			Transferred to Two-Year	Transferred to Four-Year	Unaccounted For
2002	488	45%	2%	34%	18%
2003	184	48%	3%	35%	14%
2004	191	50%	3%	30%	17%
2005	227	45%	4%	28%	23%
2006	268	42%	2%	32%	24%
2007	409	38%	2%	33%	27%
2008	421	38%	4%	34%	24%
2009	414	39%	2%	37%	21%
2010	483	42%	4%	36%	18%
2011	942	44%	3%	28%	24%
2012	1323	35%	3%	37%	24%
2013	1774	30%	5%	37%	28%
2014	1919	26%	5%	36%	33%
2015	2288	18%	5%	33%	44%
2016	2971				
2017	3439				
2002-2015 Average:	11,331	32.1%	4.1%	34.4%	29%

We are unable to track ex-students as they enter the workforce, though that would be considered a successful outcome for “unaccounted for” students if they qualified for jobs with skills and certifications they acquired at FRCC. Between 2002 and 2015, 9% of the “unaccounted for” students earned an award at FRCC while still in College Now. The number of students receiving certificates is rising with the increased practice of auto-conferring certificates.

Over the years, the most popular four-year institutions College Now students transferred into were Colorado State University, University of Colorado at Boulder, University of Colorado at Denver, and University of Northern Colorado.

Colorado State University	822
University Of Colorado At Boulder	590
University Of Colorado At Denver Health Sciences	554
University Of Northern Colorado	439
Metropolitan State College Of Denver	339
Colorado School Of Mines	129
Mesa State College	117
University Of Colorado At Colorado Springs	116
University Of Wyoming	100
University Of Denver - Colorado	89

COMPARE ONE-YEAR SUCCESS RATES BETWEEN COLLEGE NOW AND NON-COLLEGE NOW

Students were placed in cohorts based on their first term at FRCC. Those who were College Now students were compared to non-College Now students to see their rates of graduation, transferring, or retention at FRCC one year later.

First Term	College Now Status	# in Cohort	Graduated		Transferred		Retained		Overall Success		% Difference
			#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Fall 2001	College Now	281	13	5%	81	29%	83	30%	177	63%	27%
	Not College Now	5,168	138	3%	733	14%	1,702	33%	2,573	50%	
Fall 2002	College Now	118	0	0%	30	25%	35	30%	65	55%	9%
	Not College Now	5,557	141	3%	734	13%	1,933	35%	2,808	51%	
Fall 2003	College Now	112	1	1%	18	16%	48	43%	67	60%	12%
	Not College Now	5,165	149	3%	755	15%	1,862	36%	2,766	54%	
Fall 2004	College Now	161	20	12%	21	13%	61	38%	102	63%	17%
	Not College Now	5,115	237	5%	774	15%	1,753	34%	2,764	54%	
Fall 2005	College Now	145	0	0%	36	25%	44	30%	80	55%	1%
	Not College Now	4,677	251	5%	687	15%	1,629	35%	2,567	55%	
Fall 2006	College Now	169	4	2%	51	30%	49	29%	104	62%	6%
	Not College Now	4,805	192	4%	741	15%	1,857	39%	2,790	58%	
Fall 2007	College Now	258	6	2%	86	33%	76	29%	168	65%	11%
	Not College Now	5,005	224	4%	807	16%	1,895	38%	2,926	58%	
Fall 2008	College Now	313	9	3%	112	36%	114	36%	235	75%	20%
	Not College Now	5,011	204	4%	874	17%	2,050	41%	3,128	62%	
Fall 2009	College Now	351	10	3%	100	28%	137	39%	247	70%	15%
	Not College Now	6,274	301	5%	952	15%	2,596	41%	3,849	61%	
Fall 2010	College Now	688	18	3%	151	22%	229	33%	398	58%	-5%
	Not College Now	5,690	202	4%	833	15%	2,423	43%	3,458	61%	
Fall 2011	College Now	734	20	3%	178	24%	235	32%	433	59%	-1%
	Not College Now	5,612	188	3%	830	15%	2,322	41%	3,340	60%	
Fall 2012	College Now	1,228	33	3%	311	25%	407	33%	751	61%	5%
	Not College Now	5,185	203	4%	781	15%	2,044	39%	3,028	58%	
Fall 2013	College Now	1,263	45	4%	290	23%	411	33%	746	59%	1%
	Not College Now	4,845	157	3%	737	15%	1,952	40%	2,846	59%	
Fall 2014	College Now	1,375	44	3%	402	29%	374	27%	820	60%	2%
	Not College Now	4,410	141	3%	637	14%	1,794	41%	2,572	58%	
Fall 2015	College Now	1,816	61	3%	587	32%	559	31%	1,207	66%	15%
	Not College Now	4,544	186	4%	608	13%	1,833	40%	2,627	58%	
Fall 2016	College Now	2,270									
	Not College Now	4,546									
Totals	College Now	9,012	284	3%	2,454	27%	2,862	32%	5,600	62%	9%
	Not College Now	77,063	2,914	4%	11,483	15%	29,645	38%	44,042	57%	

The average of the one-year success rates for cohorts between Fall 2001 and Fall 2015 were 9% higher in the College Now group (a difference of five percentage points.) “Success rates” include a combination of graduating from FRCC, transferring elsewhere, or re-enrolling at FRCC by the following fall term. However, the source of this disparity was due to the increased likelihood of College Now students to transfer in their first year than the non-College Now cohort, 27% vs 15%. Fewer than 5% of either group graduated within one year (almost always earning a certificate) while College Now students had lower fall-to-fall retention rates (32% vs. 38%).

Please contact Kim Wallace at Kim.Wallace@FrontRange.edu for any questions.