

NATIONAL STUDENT CLEARINGHOUSE<sup>®</sup>  
RESEARCH CENTER<sup>™</sup>



# **StudentTracker Postsecondary Completions**

## **Institutional Benchmark Report (Pilot) Fall 2009 Entering Cohort**

**TACOMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
School and Branch Code: 003796-00

**NATIONAL STUDENT CLEARINGHOUSE RESEARCH CENTER**

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## About Your Pilot Completions Benchmark Report

The purpose of this report is to provide you with an institution-level view of student completion rates, benchmarked to the analyses published in our national [Signature Report on completions](#). The National Student Clearinghouse Research Center is offering this complimentary report to Clearinghouse institutions that participate in our DegreeVerify service and submitted enrollment and degree data for the time period covered in the report. This report is exclusively for your institution's use. The Clearinghouse will not publish or distribute your institution's results, except at your request and with your consent.

Because this report is a pilot, you should be aware that in some rare cases the completion rates shown may be higher or lower than what you expect for your institution. In these cases, we believe the report will help us identify any data reporting practices that may be preventing your institution from receiving the greatest possible value from your Clearinghouse services.

Our national degree completions report can be downloaded at:

<http://nscresearchcenter.org/signaturereport10/>

You may also compare your results to the State-level Supplement to our national report, available at:

<http://nscresearchcenter.org/signaturereport10-statesupplement/>

This report draws on the Clearinghouse's national coverage of enrollment and awarded education credentials to explore the six-year outcomes of a cohort of first-time-in-college degree-seeking students, who started in Fall 2009. It enhances the traditional graduation rate reporting in four key ways, listed below. The completion rates presented in this report differ significantly from IPEDS GRS results because this report includes:

1. Student completion anywhere: Beyond institutional boundaries, across state lines, and over time
2. Persistence anywhere, not just at the starting institution, for those who have not yet completed but are still pursuing a degree
3. Disaggregation by student age at first entry and enrollment intensity
4. Enrollment intensity categories based on the enrollment status in all terms of enrollment, not just the first term

Reports are being delivered only for each institution's main branch (branch code = 00). The FAQs section at the end addresses basic questions about the report's purpose and distribution. Brief notes on data definitions and methodology are on page 4. More detailed discussions of methodology are available in the introduction and appendix of the national [Signature Report on completions](#).

## Your Feedback is Welcome

Questions or feedback can be sent to [NSCResearch@studentclearinghouse.org](mailto:NSCResearch@studentclearinghouse.org)

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## Definitions and Methodology

The notes below provide a brief summary of data definitions and methodology used in this report. For a full discussion, please see the introduction and appendices of the Clearinghouse's national [Signature Report on completions](#).

### Data Source

The data for this report were drawn from the Enrollment Reporting and DegreeVerify services of the National Student Clearinghouse, which tracks 96 percent of college enrollments nationwide. Completions were identified using degree and certificate records submitted by institutions as part of their participation in DegreeVerify. For institutions that do not participate in DegreeVerify, completions were identified using enrollment records indicating the enrollment status of *graduated*.

### Institution Definition

An institution is defined in this report by the combination of its six-digit OPE-ID and two-digit branch code. Reports are only being generated, however, for the main branch of each institution (branch code = 00). In the outcomes tables, a student is considered to have completed at the starting institution if they completed at the same institution *and* branch where they started college.

### Cohort Definition

The cohort examined in this study is made up of first-time degree-seeking students, of any age, who began their postsecondary studies in Fall 2009. Showing intent to seek a degree or certificate was defined as follows:

1. For students who started at four-year institutions, enrolled at least one term with an intensity of half-time or higher, and
2. For students who started at two-year institutions, either:
  - a. Enrolled full time for at least one term before August 9, 2010, or
  - b. Enrolled at least half time for any two terms before December 31, 2010.

First-time status was established by confirming that a student (1) did not show any postsecondary enrollment record in the four years prior to the student's Fall 2009 enrollment (with the exception of dual enrollment while still in high school), and (2) did not receive a degree or certificate from any postsecondary institution prior to Fall 2009 (except in dual enrolled status), according to Clearinghouse data.

Throughout this report, we examine college completion rates for the Fall 2009 cohort. The study followed the cohort through May 31, 2015, and highlights six-year student outcomes, including degree and certificate completion as well as continuing enrollment (persistence).

### Coverage Weighting

In order to ensure the most accurate representation of student outcomes for the study cohort, the results in both the institution-level and national benchmark tables were weighted according to a formula that takes into account the Clearinghouse's state-by-state data coverage rates for each institutional sector. A complete description of the weighting procedure is provided in Appendix A of the national [Signature Report on completions](#).

**TACOMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**(School/Branch Code: 003796-00)**

**Table 1A. Six-Year Outcomes and First Completion for Students Who Started at Your Institution by Enrollment Intensity**

Enrollment Intensity	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	1st Completion at Same Institution (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Two-Year (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Four-Year (%)	Subsequent Completion at a Four-Year (%)	Total Four-Year Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
Overall	1,493	47.15	35.84	4.29	7.02	11.05	18.08	14.47	38.38
Exclusively Full-Time	403	64.06	55.78	2.54	5.75	22.56	28.31	5.24	30.70
Exclusively Part-Time	76	15.79	11.85	1.32	2.63	0.00	2.63	3.95	80.26
Mixed Enrollment	1,013	42.77	29.70	5.21	7.86	7.30	15.16	18.93	38.29

**Table 1B. National Benchmark: Six-Year Outcomes and First Completion for Students Who Started at Two-Year Public Institutions by Enrollment Intensity**

Enrollment Intensity	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	1st Completion at Same Institution (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Two-Year (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Four-Year (%)	Subsequent Completion at a Four-Year (%)	Total Four-Year Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
Overall	1,111,368	38.14	26.00	3.18	8.96	6.11	15.07	16.60	45.27
Exclusively Full-Time	260,578	54.59	41.82	2.62	10.15	14.52	24.68	3.60	41.81
Exclusively Part-Time	103,461	18.32	16.42	1.22	0.67	1.51	2.18	8.46	73.22
Mixed Enrollment	746,390	35.17	21.83	3.64	9.70	3.82	13.52	22.27	42.56

Note for tables 1A and 1B: Completion outcomes include the first degree or certificate completion. Mixed enrollment group includes students enrolled both part- and full-time during the study period. Because of coverage weighting, some rates may not appear in the data tables as whole numbers.

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**Table 2A. Six-Year Outcomes and First Completion for Students Who Started at Your Institution by Gender**

Gender	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	1st Completion at Same Institution (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Two-Year (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Four-Year (%)	Subsequent Completion at a Four-Year (%)	Total Four-Year Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
<b>Overall</b>	1,493	47.15	35.84	4.29	7.02	11.05	18.08	14.47	38.38
<b>Men</b>	566	43.42	32.36	3.59	7.48	12.38	19.86	14.61	41.97
<b>Women</b>	767	52.54	40.30	4.60	7.64	11.61	19.24	15.05	32.41

**Table 2B. National Benchmark: Six-Year Outcomes and First Completion for Students Who Started at Two-Year Public Institutions by Gender**

Gender	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	1st Completion at Same Institution (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Two-Year (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Four-Year (%)	Subsequent Completion at a Four-Year (%)	Total Four-Year Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
<b>Overall</b>	1,111,368	38.14	26.00	3.18	8.96	6.11	15.07	16.60	45.27
<b>Men</b>	473,567	35.63	24.66	2.60	8.37	5.31	13.68	16.19	48.17
<b>Women</b>	560,542	41.52	27.89	3.81	9.83	7.05	16.88	17.48	41.00

Note for tables 2A and 2B: Students with gender data missing were excluded from the tables. As a result, the total of the subgroup numbers may not equal that of the overall number. Because of coverage weighting, some rates may not appear in the data tables as whole numbers.

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**Table 3A. Six-Year Outcomes and First Completion for Students Who Started at Your Institution by Age at First Entry**

Age at First Entry	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	1st Completion at Same Institution (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Two-Year (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Four-Year (%)	Subsequent Completion at a Four-Year (%)	Total Four-Year Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
<b>Overall</b>	1,493	47.15	35.84	4.29	7.02	11.05	18.08	14.47	38.38
<b>20 and Younger</b>	931	48.17	35.11	4.08	8.98	14.39	23.37	16.86	34.96
<b>&gt;20 - 24</b>	116	34.55	26.62	6.21	1.72	4.29	6.01	19.28	46.17
<b>Older than 24</b>	445	48.32	39.77	4.23	4.33	5.84	10.17	8.20	43.47

**Table 3B. National Benchmark: Six-Year Outcomes and First Completion for Students Who Started at Two-Year Public Institutions by Age at First Entry**

Age at First Entry	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	1st Completion at Same Institution (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Two-Year (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Four-Year (%)	Subsequent Completion at a Four-Year (%)	Total Four-Year Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
<b>Overall</b>	1,111,368	38.14	26.00	3.18	8.96	6.11	15.07	16.60	45.27
<b>20 and Younger</b>	722,436	40.72	25.43	3.56	11.73	7.64	19.37	18.98	40.30
<b>&gt;20 - 24</b>	106,891	25.15	18.43	2.71	4.01	2.87	6.88	15.99	58.86
<b>Older than 24</b>	279,299	36.52	30.38	2.36	3.78	3.37	7.14	10.82	52.66

Note for tables 3A and 3B: Students with date of birth data missing were excluded from the above tables. As a result, the total of the subgroup numbers may not equal that of the overall number. Because of coverage weighting, some rates may not appear in the data tables as whole numbers.

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**Table 4A. Six-Year Outcomes and First Completion for Students Who Started at Your Institution by Age at First Entry and Enrollment Intensity**

Age at First Entry	Enrollment Intensity	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	1st Completion at Same Institution (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Two-Year (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Four-Year (%)	Subsequent Completion at a Four-Year (%)	Total Four-Year Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
20 and Younger	Exclusively Full-Time	216	71.39	60.58	2.88	7.93	34.68	42.61	5.09	23.52
20 and Younger	Exclusively Part-Time	41	4.88	2.44	2.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.32	87.80
20 and Younger	Mixed Enrollment	674	43.36	28.93	4.56	9.86	8.75	18.61	21.22	35.42
>20 - 24	Exclusively Full-Time	31	35.48	32.26	3.23	0.00	6.45	6.45	9.68	54.84
>20 - 24	Exclusively Part-Time	7	28.57	14.29	0.00	14.29	0.00	14.29	0.00	71.43
>20 - 24	Mixed Enrollment	78	34.71	25.49	7.95	1.27	3.82	5.10	24.80	40.49
Older than 24	Exclusively Full-Time	156	59.59	53.81	1.92	3.86	8.97	12.83	4.56	35.85
Older than 24	Exclusively Part-Time	28	28.60	25.02	0.00	3.57	0.00	3.57	0.00	71.40
Older than 24	Mixed Enrollment	261	43.70	32.95	6.06	4.69	4.60	9.28	11.26	45.04

Note for table 4A: Students with date of birth data missing were excluded from the above table. Because of coverage weighting, some rates may not appear in the data tables as whole numbers.



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**Table 4B. National Benchmark: Six-Year Outcomes and First Completion for Students Who Started at Two-Year Public Institutions by Age at First Entry and Enrollment Intensity**

Age at First Entry	Enrollment Intensity	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	1st Completion at Same Institution (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Two-Year (%)	1st Completion at Different Institution: Four-Year (%)	Subsequent Completion at a Four-Year (%)	Total Four-Year Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
20 and Younger	Exclusively Full-Time	167,424	59.78	42.81	3.05	13.92	19.26	33.19	4.04	36.18
20 and Younger	Exclusively Part-Time	40,889	12.07	10.41	1.23	0.43	1.58	2.01	9.76	78.17
20 and Younger	Mixed Enrollment	513,807	36.80	20.97	3.91	11.92	4.34	16.26	24.59	38.62
>20 - 24	Exclusively Full-Time	25,544	34.77	27.86	2.28	4.62	5.92	10.54	4.32	60.92
>20 - 24	Exclusively Part-Time	12,548	10.32	8.95	1.02	0.36	0.62	0.98	8.59	81.09
>20 - 24	Mixed Enrollment	68,661	24.32	16.69	3.18	4.45	2.15	6.60	21.70	53.98
Older than 24	Exclusively Full-Time	66,206	49.45	44.88	1.59	2.98	5.86	8.84	2.29	48.26
Older than 24	Exclusively Part-Time	49,694	25.49	23.26	1.27	0.95	1.69	2.64	7.42	67.10
Older than 24	Mixed Enrollment	162,922	34.71	26.74	3.01	4.96	2.87	7.84	15.33	49.96

Note for table 4B: Students with date of birth data missing were excluded from the above table. Because of coverage weighting, some rates may not appear in the data tables as whole numbers.

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Why did I receive this report?**

You received this report because you requested it in response to our email, which was sent to institutions that participate in DegreeVerify and reported enrollment and degree data to the Clearinghouse for the years covered in the report. Individuals in the following roles were invited to receive reports: president, chief academic officer, institutional research director, and StudentTracker executive.

### **What is the purpose of this report?**

This report provides you with an institution-level view of student completion rates, benchmarked to the analyses published in our national [Signature Report on completions](#). Because this report is a pilot, you should be aware that in some rare cases the completion rates shown may be higher or lower than what you expect for your institution. In these cases, we believe the report will help us identify any data reporting practices preventing your institution from receiving the greatest possible value from your Clearinghouse services.

### **What does this report cost?**

The report is free. We encourage you to share it with others at your institution that would benefit from the information. You assume no obligations in viewing the report or using the data.

### **Will other branches of my institution receive reports?**

No. The institution-level completion report is only being produced for the main branch (branch code = 00). This is because DegreeVerify data are generally reported under the 00 branch code.

### **How do the outcomes in this report differ from IPEDS?**

The completion rates presented in this report differ significantly from IPEDS GRS results because this report includes:

1. Student completion anywhere: Beyond institutional boundaries, across state lines, and over time
2. Student Persistence anywhere, not just at the starting institution, for those who have not yet completed but are still pursuing a degree
3. Disaggregation by student age at first entry and enrollment intensity
4. Students who start part-time. Enrollment intensity categories are based on the enrollment status in all terms of enrollment, not just the first term

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## **Frequently Asked Questions (continued)**

### **Can I see a list of the students included in this report?**

Unfortunately, we cannot provide you with student-level detail for this complimentary report. However, a student-level detail file is provided with all of our standard StudentTracker reports, which you may request for delivery via our secure FTP site.

### **Are you planning to send more reports on other topics?**

This is the fourth complimentary institutional-level report we have produced. The first, on concurrent enrollments, was delivered in Fall 2012. Subsequently, reports on student completions for the starting cohorts of Fall 2007 and Fall 2008 were delivered upon request only in 2014 and 2015, respectively. Other reports may follow based on feedback from institutions.

### **How can I provide feedback on this report?**

Questions or feedback can be sent to [NSCResearch@studentclearinghouse.org](mailto:NSCResearch@studentclearinghouse.org)

### **Is the Clearinghouse going to make my institution's results available to the public?**

No. This report was only sent to members of your institution and was done so upon request.

### **Is my institution free to make this report public if we choose?**

Yes. But, in order to protect student privacy, you should suppress the outcomes for any rows with small cell sizes.

### **How do I sign up for StudentTracker?**

To learn more, including how to sign up, visit: [www.studentclearinghouse.org/colleges/studenttracker/](http://www.studentclearinghouse.org/colleges/studenttracker/).