

**Illinois Community College Board
Complete College America
Outcome Metric 1: Degree Production**

Complete College America (CCA), established in 2009, is a national nonprofit that aims to increase the graduation number and rate of college students. Illinois was in the first group of states to join the initiative and be part of the CCA Alliance of States (<http://www.completecollege.org/>). To advance higher education graduation rates, CCA officials developed a series of metrics identified under three categories: **Progress (PM)**, **Outcomes (OM)**, and **Context (CM)**. Generally, each metric has subsets including full-time/part-time status, race/ethnicity, gender, age groups, remedial status at entry, and Pell recipient status. ICCB generates the entire set of metrics for the state and each community college using agency longitudinal data systems.

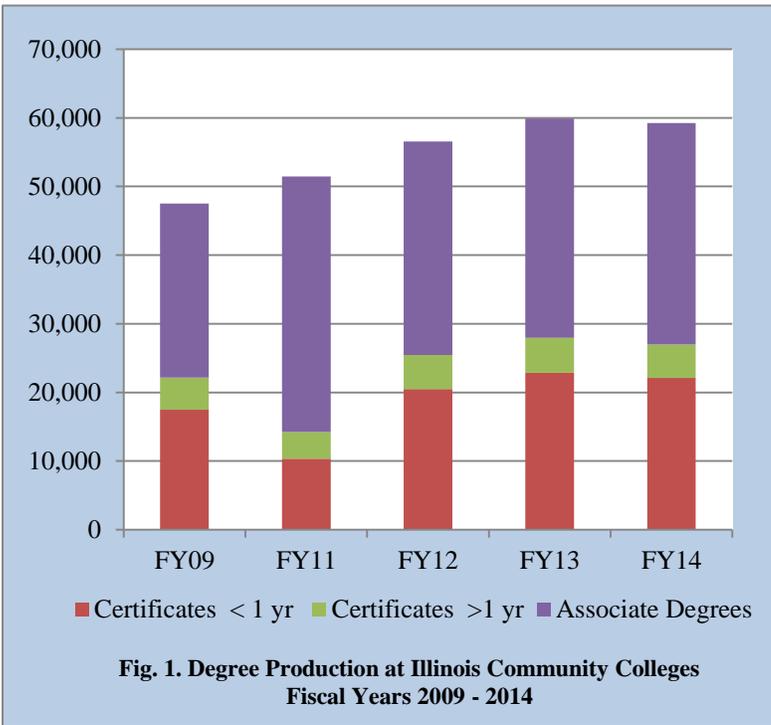
Outcome Metric 1, Degree Production, measures the annual number of certificates of one year or greater in length and associate degrees awarded; disaggregated by age group, gender, race/ethnicity, Pell status (at any time), remedial status (at any time), transfer/first-time students, and discipline.

Degrees and Certificates awarded do not include GED completers, Basic Skills, or Vocational Skills Certificates.

	FY09	FY10*	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
Total Degrees and Certificates	47,515	NA	51,445	56,554	59,896	59,251
Associate Degrees	25,371	NA	37,191	31,087	31,950	32,244
Certificates > 1 yr	4,651	NA	3,922	4,987	5,082	4,867
Certificates < 1 yr	17,493	NA	10,332	20,480	22,864	22,140

Unduplicated Count
*FY 10 was not required for the CCA data collection
SOURCE OF DATA: ICCB Annual Enrollment and Completion (A1) submission

In fiscal year 2014, 59,251 students were awarded degrees and certificates in the Illinois Community College System: 32,244 Associate degrees; 4,867 Certificates of one year or more; and 22,140 Certificates of less than one year.



Associate degrees accounted for just over half of the completions awarded in fiscal year 2014 (54.4 percent). Certificates of one year or more were 8.2 percent of the completions, while Certificates of less than one year were 37.4 percent of completions in fiscal year 2014.

Overall 24.7 percent more students were awarded degrees and certificates in fiscal year 2014 than in fiscal year 2009 (+11,736). The number of Associate degrees increased 27.1 percent (+6,873); the number of Certificates of one year or more increased 4.6 percent (+216); and the number of Certificates of less than one year increased 26.6 percent (+4,647).

In fiscal year 2014, two-year public institutions nationwide awarded 653,071 Associate degrees and 449,530 certificates. ([NCES, Table 301.10, Digest of Education Statistics, 2015](#)).

Detailed comparative data from participating states are available for select metrics through *Complete College America's Game Changer State Data webpage*. Out of 33 states that are currently part of CCA's alliance, Illinois is one of 28 states that provided data in 2013. For more information on the Illinois Community College System please see the [Research & Policy Studies section](#) of the ICCB [website](#).

