

# Illinois Community College Board

## Complete College America

### Outcome Metric 2: Graduation Rates for Associate Degrees

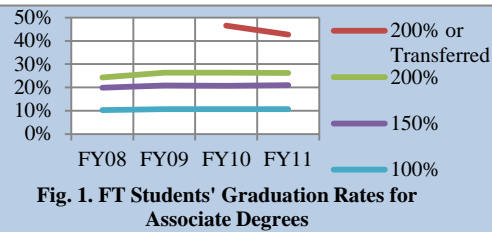
Complete College America (CCA), established in 2009, is a national nonprofit that aims to increase the graduation number and rate of college students. Illinois was in the first group of states to join the initiative and be part of the CCA Alliance of States (<http://www.completecollege.org/>). To advance 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 2, Graduation Rates**, measures the number and percentage of entering undergraduate students who graduate from a degree or certificate program within 100%, 150%, and 200% of program time. The Associate Degree numerator is the number of students in the cohort (denominator) who earn an award in 2 years for 100% time, in 3 years for 150% time, and in 4 years for 200% time (reported separately). CCA began collecting the count of students graduating within 200% program time or transferring to a 4-year institution in 2015, with the Fall 2009 cohort (FY2010).

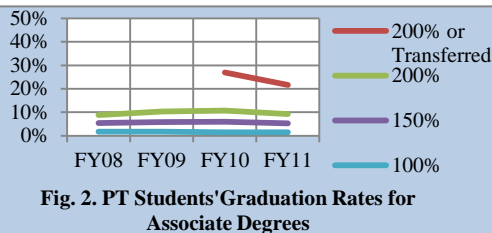
One in ten first-time/full-time (FT) degree seeking students in Fall 2010 graduated within 100% of program time (N=2,978, or 10.7 percent) compared to 1.5 percent of first-time/part-time (PT) degree seeking students (N=174). One in five first-time/FT degree seeking students in Fall 2010 graduated within 150% of program time (N=5,836, or 21.0 percent) compared to 5.3 percent of first-time/PT degree seeking students (N=625). One out of every four first-time/FT degree seeking students in Fall 2010 graduated within 200% of program time (N=7,271, or 26.2 percent) compared to one out of every ten first-time/PT degree seeking students (N=1,084, or 9.3 percent). Two in five first-time/FT degree seeking students in Fall 2010 graduated within 200% of program time or transferred to a 4-year institution (N= 11,875, or 42.7 percent) compared to one in five first-time/PT degree seeking students (N=2,536, or 21.7 percent).

Compared with the Fall 2009 cohort, the Fall 2010 first-time degree-seeking student cohort increased 2.8 percent (+761) for FT students and 15.3 percent (+1,556) for PT students. The number of FT students completing in 100% of program length increased 3.2 percent (+93), and the number of PT students increased 16.0 percent (+24); the number of FT students completing in 150% of program length increased 4.2 percent (+235), and the number of PT students increased 2.1 percent (+13); the number of FT students completing in 200% of program length increased 2.1 percent (+149), while the number of PT students decreased 0.8 percent (-9); and the number of FT students completing in 200% of program length or transferred to a 4-year institution decreased 5.7 percent (-724), while the number of PT students decreased 7.5 percent (-206).

	Fall 2007 FY 08	Fall 2008 FY 09	Fall 2009 FY 10	Fall 2010 FY 11
<b>Full-Time/First-Time Entry Students</b>	23,656	23,843	27,032	27,793
<b>Students (Number &amp; Percent) Earning Associate Degree Within:</b>				
100% of the Expected Program Length	2,448 10.3%	2,560 10.7%	2,885 10.7%	2,978 10.7%
150% of the Expected Program Length	4,701 19.9%	4,964 20.8%	5,601 20.7%	5,836 21.0%
200% of the Expected Program Length	5,742 <b>24.3%</b>	6,293 <b>26.4%</b>	7,122 <b>26.3%</b>	7,271 <b>26.2%</b>
200% of the Expected Program Length <u>OR</u> Transferred to 4-Year	NA	NA	12,599 <b>46.6%</b>	11,875 <b>42.7%</b>
<b>Part-Time/First-Time Entry Students</b>	9,059	9,418	10,154	11,710
<b>Students (Number &amp; Percent) Earning Associate Degree Within:</b>				
100% of the Expected Program Length	153 1.7%	156 1.7%	150 1.5%	174 1.5%
150% of the Expected Program Length	485 5.4%	542 5.8%	612 6.0%	625 5.3%
200% of the Expected Program Length	809 <b>8.9%</b>	972 <b>10.3%</b>	1,093 <b>10.8%</b>	1,084 <b>9.3%</b>
200% of the Expected Program Length <u>OR</u> Transferred to 4-Year	NA	NA	2,742 <b>27.0%</b>	2,536 <b>21.7%</b>
<b>SOURCE OF DATA:</b> ICCB Annual Enrollment and Completion (A1) and National Student Clearinghouse				



Compared with the Fall 2009 cohort, the ratio of Fall 2010 FT students completing in 100% of program length was unchanged; in 150% of program length increased by 0.3 percent; in 200% of program length decreased by 0.2 percent; and in 200% of program length or transferred to a 4-year institution decreased by 3.9 percent. The ratio of Fall 2010 PT students completing in 100% of program length was unchanged; in 150% of program length decreased by 0.7 percent; in 200% of program length decreased by 1.5 percent; and in 200% of program length or transferred to a 4-year institution decreased 5.3 percent.



Nationally, among first-time/FT students seeking associate degrees at public 2-year institutions (cohort year 2007) of CCA participating states, on average 7.6 percent completed their program within 100 percent of catalog time; 15.5 percent completed within 150 percent of catalog time; and 21.1 percent completed within 200 percent of catalog time, while among first-time/PT students 1.2 percent completed their programs within 100 percent of catalog time; 3.9 percent completed within 150 percent of catalog time; and 7.1 percent completed within 200 percent of catalog time (Average median values were calculated from [Game Changer State Data](#), 2013).

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](#).

