

Illinois Community College Board Complete College America Progress Metric 3: Success in Gateway (First-Year) College Courses

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.

Progress Metric 3, Success in Gateway (First-Year) College Courses, measures the number and percentage of entering first-time degree or certificate-seeking undergraduate students who complete entry college-level math and English courses within the first two consecutive academic years of enrollment. Breakouts are available for Math only, English only, and Both Math and English and are also available by enrollment status.

Half of first-time students entering in Fall 2012 (FY2013) completed at least one entry college-level **Math and/or English** course within two academic years (25,829/47,139 =54.8%). Within two academic years 7.1 percent of first-time students completed at least one entry college-level Math course (N=3,350), one-fourth of first-time students completed at least one entry college-level English course (N =12,177), and one-fifth of first-time students completed at least one entry college-level Math and English course (N=10,302).

	Fall 2007 FY 08	Fall 2008 FY 09*	Fall 2009 FY 10	Fall 2010 FY 11	Fall 2011 FY 12	Fall 2012 FY 13
First-time Entry Students	41,241	NA	48,848	48,976	46,947	47,139
Students Completing at Least One College-Level within 2 years of enrollment:						
Math Course (% of First-Time Entry Students)	1,559 3.8%	NA	1,865 3.8%	1,624 3.3%	2,369 5.0%	3,350 7.1%
English Course (% of First-Time Entry Students)	10,876 26.4%	NA	12,745 26.1%	13,303 27.2%	11,924 25.4%	12,177 25.8%
Math and English Course (% of First-Time Entry Students)	6,414 15.6%	NA	7,700 15.8%	7,339 15.0%	8,496 18.1%	10,302 21.9%
Math and/or English Course (% of First-Time Entry Students)	18,849 45.7%	NA	22,310 45.7%	22,266 45.5%	22,789 48.5%	25,829 54.8%
FY is the fiscal year of the entering cohort						
*FY 09 was not required for the CCA data collection						
SOURCE OF DATA: ICCB Annual Enrollment and Completion (A1) & Annual Course (AC) submissions						

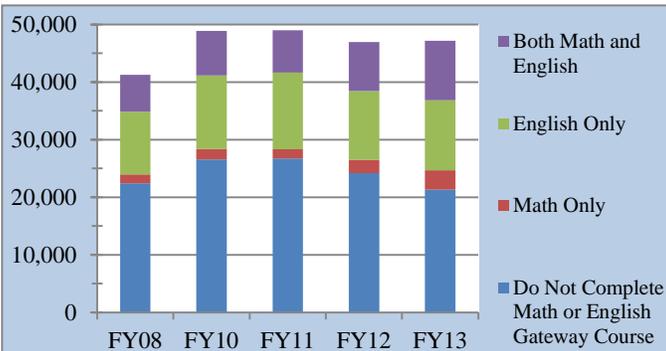


Fig. 1. Success in Gateway College Courses for First-time Students within Two Academic Years of Entry at Illinois Community Colleges, FY 2008, 2010-2013

From FY 2012 to FY 2013 the number of first-time entry students increased 0.4 percent (+192). The total number of students who completed at least one entry college-level Math and/or English course within two academic years increased 13.3 percent (+3,040), and the percentage of total students who completed at least one entry college-level Math and/or English course increased 6.3 percent. The number of first-time students who completed at least one entry college-level Math course within two academic years increased 41.4 percent (+981), and the percentage of students increased 2.1 percent. The number of first-time students who completed at least one entry college-level English course within two academic years increased 2.1 percent (+253), and the percentage of students increased 0.4 percent. The number of first-time students who completed at least one entry college-level Math and English course within two academic years increased 21.3 percent (+1,806), and the percentage of students increased 3.8 percent.

Comparative information with other participating states has not been made available for this metric by CCA.

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](#).

