

Ridgewater College

Student Right-To-Know Graduation and Transfer-Out Rates

What is Student Right-To-Know?

Student Right-To-Know is a federal law that requires all colleges and universities to disclose certain information to students. This handout provides the information that a college must provide to students on graduation rates and transfer-out rates for full-time students seeking degrees at Ridgewater College.

What is a graduation rate and what is a transfer-out rate?

Federal regulations specify how to calculate the graduation and transfer rates. The rates come from a study of Ridgewater students who started at the college in the fall of 2020. The study includes all first-time students who enrolled full-time that fall and were seeking to earn a degree, diploma or certificate at the college. The **graduation rate** is the percentage of these students who graduated from Ridgewater within three years. The **transfer-out rate** is the percentage of these students who did not graduate from Ridgewater, but instead transferred to another college or university within three years.

What do I need to know about these rates?

These rates do not report on all students at Ridgewater. The 383 first-time, full-time students in the study were 12 percent of all students enrolled at Ridgewater in fall of 2020.

What are the graduation and transfer-out rates for Ridgewater students and how do they compare to rates for other colleges?

- The **graduation rate** for Ridgewater was 45 percent.
- The **transfer-out rate** for Ridgewater was 10 percent.
- The combination of the graduation rate and the transfer-out rate for Ridgewater was 55 percent. The national average combined rate for similar colleges was 48 percent.

Why don't more Ridgewater students graduate or transfer in three years?

- Since Ridgewater has an “open door” mission, many new students need to take “developmental” courses to improve their reading, writing or math skills before taking other college courses;
- Students who switch from full-time to part-time enrollment or “stop out” for one or more semesters are more likely to take more than three years to graduate;
- Some students take jobs before they graduate;
- Other students delay their education for personal, family or financial reasons.

| Disaggregated Student Right-to-Know Graduation and Transfer-out Rates | | | |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Ridgewater College | Graduation Rate | Transfer-out Rate | Combined Rate |
| Total Cohort | 45% | 10% | 55% |
| Race Ethnicity | | | |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | * | * | * |
| Asian | * | * | * |
| Black or African American | * | * | * |
| Hispanic of any race | 29% | 13% | 42% |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | * | * | * |
| U.S. Nonresident | * | * | * |
| Two or more races | * | * | * |
| Unknown race and ethnicity | * | * | * |
| White | 49% | 10% | 60% |
| Gender | | | |
| Female | 48% | 10% | 58% |
| Male | 42% | 9% | 51% |
| Financial Aid | | | |
| Pell Grant Recipient | 37% | 9% | 46% |
| Received neither Pell nor Subsidized Stafford Loans | 54% | 9% | 63% |
| Received Subsidized Stafford Loans, but no Pell | 33% | 15% | 49% |

* Suppressed to protect student privacy.

Due to rounding, percentages may not always appear to add up.