

# RESEARCH BRIEF

## OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

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### STATEWIDE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

The purpose of this brief is to provide a summary of the Statewide Accountability Measures passed by the 1991 Florida Legislature using the statewide 2001-2002 data and to compare SPC's performance on each measure with the statewide performance. Section 240.324, F.S. directs that a management and accountability process be implemented that will provide for the "...ongoing improvement and assessment of the improvement of the quality and efficiency of the State Community College System." The areas to be addressed were specified in law. There are five statewide measures of accountability, some with more than one part. The measures are:

- enrollment of students entering the college in relation to the previous year's high school graduates, retention of students (graduated or still enrolled), and student success (graduated, still enrolled, or left in good standing);
- performance of A. A. degree transfers in the State University System;
- passing rates of students who completed vocational programs on state licensure tests and placement in related occupations;
- the success of students who are required to take college preparatory courses (completion of prep courses, retention and success in college credit programs); and
- performance of students on the College Level Academic Skills Test (CLAST) after they have completed 60 credit hours at the college.

The accountability outcome measures, the statewide benchmarks, SPC's target, SPC's current performance, and the current statewide performance are described below.

### INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE

#### Outcome Measure 1:

#### Enrollment/Retention/Success

##### a. Enrollment

**Measure**--This measure addresses the percentage of high school graduates in one year from the college service area (Pinellas County) who enroll in the college (SPC) the following year by ethnic category.

**State Benchmark**--To increase the percentage of previous year high school graduate minority student enrollments until such enrollments equal the previous years' high school graduates for each category.

**SPC Target**--Increase black enrollment as a percent of prior year high school graduates to 35%.

**SPC Performance**-- Table 1 shows a two-year comparison of SPC's first-time-in-college students to Pinellas County graduates and for all community college's compared to all county public high graduates from the previous year by ethnicity. For white, Hispanic, Asian and Indian students the percentage of enrollees was higher than the prior year's high school graduates. SPC's black student enrollment of 24.1% was below the college's 35% target. However, the percent of total college enrollees to prior year graduates was greater for SPC (32.2%) than the statewide average (28.6%) for all categories.

Table 1  
PRIOR YEAR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ENROLLMENT

	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian		Indian		Total	
	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total
<b>Reporting year 1998-99</b>												
St. Petersburg College												
Number of High School Graduates	3,630	80.10	594	13.11	135	2.98	162	3.57	4	0.09	4,532	4.73
Number of First-Time-In College	1,131	78.87	171	11.92	64	4.46	56	3.91	12	0.84	1,434	5.28
Percent Pool		31.16		28.79		47.41		34.57		100.00		31.64
<b>State-Wide</b>												
Number of High School Graduates	58,972	61.57	19,969	20.85	13,749	14.35	2,718	2.84	191	0.20	95,786	
Number of First-Time-In College	16,044	59.07	4,720	17.38	5,384	19.82	814	3.00	116	0.43	27,163	
Percent Pool		27.21		23.64		39.16		29.95		60.73		28.36
<b>Reporting year 1999-00</b>												
St. Petersburg College												
Number of High School Graduates	3,833	80.44	564	11.84	153	3.21	190	3.99	12	0.25	4,765	4.83
Number of First-Time-In College	1,262	82.21	136	8.86	66	4.30	63	4.10	7	0.46	1,535	5.44
Percent Pool		32.92		24.11		43.14		33.16		58.33		32.21
<b>State-Wide</b>												
Number of High School Graduates	60,563	61.41	20,191	20.47	14,521	14.72	2,824	2.86	232	0.24	98,625	
Number of First-Time-In College	16,680	59.09	4,792	16.98	5,578	19.76	862	3.05	108	0.38	28,226	
Percent Pool		27.54		23.73		38.41		30.52		46.55		28.62

##### b. Retention

**Measure**--Described are the number and percentage of students, by ethnicity and full-time/part-time status, seeking A.A./A.S. degrees or Postsecondary Vocational Certificates (PSVC) who have graduated or who are enrolled after four years from the date of initial enrollment (definition of retention). Initial enrollment is defined as 18 college credit hours earned toward a degree or 9 hours earned toward a certificate.

**State Benchmark**--To retain or graduate at least 50% of the part-time students four years after the date of initial enrollment. To retain or graduate at least 70% of the full-time students four years after the date of initial enrollment.

**SPC Target**--To retain or graduate 65% of the full-time A.A. and A.S. students 4 years after initial enrollment

**SPC Performance**--State generated data shows 70.2% (1,035 AA/AS/PSVC students) of the Fall 1997 -- Spring 2001 cohort were "retained" (graduated or still enrolled) at SPC. Systemwide the retention rate for this cohort was 60.6% (15,645 AA/AS/PSVC students). The Retention graph provides a 2-year comparison of percentages of SPC students who graduated or who are enrolled after four years from the initial enrollment to the Statewide comparable data.

### c. Success

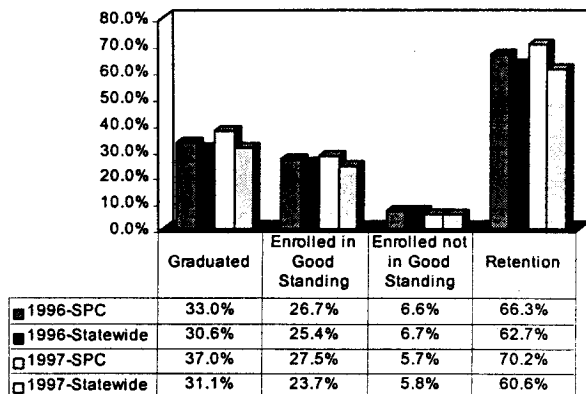
**Measure**--Addressed are the number and percentage of students, by ethnicity, seeking A.A./A.S. degrees or PSVC who have graduated, are enrolled in good standing, or who left in good standing after four years from the initial enrollment.

**State Benchmark**--Eighty percent (80%) of students will have graduated, been retained in good standing or left in good standing four years after the date of initial enrollment.

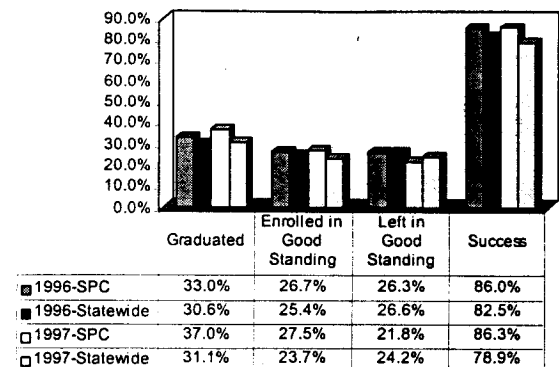
**SPC Target**--Ninety percent (90%) of A.A./A.S. degree and PSV Certificate students will have graduated, been retained in good standing or will have left in good standing four years after initial enrollment.

**SPC Performance**-- SPC's success rate of 86.3% for A.A./A.S. degree and PSV Certificate students was higher than the statewide average of 78.9%. The Success graph compares the percentage of SPC students who graduated, are enrolled in good standing, or who left in good standing after four years from the initial enrollment to the analogous statewide data.

**Retention**



**Success**



### Outcome Measure 2:

#### A. A. Degree Transfer Performance

**Measure**--Computed is the grade point average (GPA) of A. A. degree students, who transfer to a State University in Florida, segmented by university, college preparatory status and ethnic category.

**State Benchmark**--At least 70% of the A. A. degree students transferring to a state university will perform at a GPA of 2.5 or higher.

**SPC Target**--At least 70% of the A.A. degree students who have transferred to the State University System will perform at a GPA  $\geq 2.5$  or higher.

**SPC Performance**--For the previous six years, SPC's A.A. degree transfer students with GPA's greater or equal to 2.5 increased. This year, however, the percentage decreased to 70.5%. Still the College met its target of 70%, which is equal to the statewide benchmark as well. There was variation by remediation status, a GPA  $\geq 2.5$  was earned by 75.2% of SPC students not remediated and 66.4% of those who were remediated. Table 2 compares the percentage of SPC students transferring to the state universities in 1998-99, who earned a GPA of 2.5 or more to the statewide community college average by ethnic category.

**Table 2  
ASSOCIATE IN ARTS DEGREE TRANSFER PERFORMANCE**

	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Indian	Total
<b>Reporting year 1998-99</b>						
<b>St. Petersburg College</b>						
Number of Graduates in SUS	701	36	29	36	4	806
Mean GPA	2.91	2.72	2.62	2.69	2.98	2.88
Number with GPA's $\geq 2.5$	502	24	17	22	3	568
Percent with GPA's $\geq 2.5$	71.61	66.67	58.62	61.11	75.00	70.47
<b>State-Wide</b>						
Number of Graduates in SUS	6,960	1,009	1,747	478	44	10,251
Mean GPA	2.96	2.66	2.79	2.74	2.69	2.89
Number with GPA's $\geq 2.5$	5,235	628	1,174	317	25	7,387
Percent with GPA's $\geq 2.5$	75.22	62.24	67.20	66.32	56.82	72.06

### Outcome Measure 3:

#### State Licensure Passing Rates/ Vocational Program Placements

##### a. State Licensure Passing Rates

**Measure**--For those vocational programs that prepare students to sit for state licensure exams required for students to enter the profession, the number of students tested and the percent passing the examination are computed.

**State Benchmark**--At least 90% of all students sitting for a licensure exam will pass.

**SPC Target**--Overall 85% of SPC students who sit for licensure exams will pass.

**SPC Performance**--No statewide data are available, however, institutional data shows SPC students perform well on state licensure examinations. The overall pass rate for 1999-00 was 88.6% (over the 85% target) and the pass rate for each exam was 82% or higher. Below Table 3 provides a two-year comparison for SPC passing rates.

**Table 3**  
**Licensure Passing Rates**

	Dental Hygiene	Funeral Services	EMT	Paramedic	Physical Therapy	Radiography	Respiratory	Nursing	Veterinary
<b>Reporting year 1998-99</b> St. Petersburg College	84.8%	92.6%	100.0%	73.9%	84.2%	95.2%	73.3%	80.7%	NA
<b>Reporting year 1999-00</b> St. Petersburg College	100.0%	100.0%	98.7%	100.0%	96.8%	100.0%	100.0%	82.7%	89.2%

**b. Placement Rates**

**Measure**--This measure describes the number and percentage of students who complete an A.S. degree or PSV Certificate program or who leave the program and are employed in a job related to their instruction. Students are considered "placed" if they are found the following year to be: (1) continuing their education in a Florida community college or state university, (2) working a field related to their education, or (3) in the military. Placement rate was chosen only for programs with five or more completers in the placement pool.

**State Benchmark**--At least 90% of all students who complete a vocational program will be placed.

**SPC Target**--At least 90% of all students who complete an SPC vocational program will be placed.

**SPC Performance**--Data shows that 92.7% of 958 SPC students (who were found) were placed. This compare statewide to 94.3% who completed the same programs as offered by SPC. Statewide, in all programs offered at community colleges, the placement rate for completers was 92.4%.

**Outcome Measure 4:**

**College Preparatory Success**

**a. College Prep Course Success**

**Measure**--This measure addresses the number and percentage of students who tested into college preparatory courses, by subject area, based on scores on the entrance exam. Of these students, the report shows how many enrolled in a college preparatory course (for the area needed) and those who passed the highest level college preparatory course (for that area) within two years to meet the standards for admission into college level courses.

**State Benchmark**--To have students in need of remediation pass the highest-level college preparatory course at the following rates: reading-65%, writing-68% and math-50%.

**SPC Target**--To have students in need of remediation pass the highest-level college preparatory course at the following rates: reading-70%, writing-70% and math-50%.

**SPC Performance**--SPC's success rate for students who tested into college preparatory courses, and who passed the highest level requirement by subject area within two years, was higher than the statewide average in reading (76.2% vs. 65.8%) and writing (70.4% vs. 61.2%). Although the SPC mathematics pass rate has increased each year for the last six years (beginning at 34.8% in 1967-97 and reaching 48.0% this year), it failed to reach statewide average pass rate of 49.9%. While the College met the statewide benchmark and the SPC target in reading and writing, neither goal was achieved in mathematics. The statewide average met the statewide benchmark in reading but not in writing or mathematics. The Table compares the percentage of SPC students completing remedial course requirements to the statewide average by subject area for the Fall 1997-98 cohort tracked through Summer 1999-2000.

**Table 4**  
**College Preparatory Success Rates**

	Reading	Writing	Math
<b>Fall 1997 through Summer 1999</b>			
St. Petersburg College	72.4%	70.2%	47.8%
Statewide	68.1%	65.3%	50.8%
<b>Fall 1998 through Summer 2000</b>			
St. Petersburg College	76.2%	70.4%	48.0%
Statewide	65.8%	61.2%	49.9%

**b. Retention Rate of College Prep Students**

**Measure**--Described is the status of degree students who have completed their college preparatory requirements and who have graduated, are enrolled in good standing, or enrolled not in good standing four years after initial enrollment. Initial enrollment is defined as having completed 18 college credits towards an A.A. or A.S. degree.

**State Benchmark**--To retain or graduate at least 50% of the part-time students four years after the date of initial enrollment in college level courses. To retain or graduate at least 70% of the full-time students four years after the date of initial enrollment. Full-time students are those who attended full-time during their first college semester and at least one other semester.

**SPC Target**--To retain or to graduate at least 70% of the full-time students four years after the date of initial enrollment.

**SPC Performance**--Based on the Fall 1997 cohort, 73.0% of SPC students were graduated or enrolled compared to 64.0% of statewide degree students. The Retention graph compares the percentage of SPC students who graduated or who are enrolled after four years from the initial enrollment to the statewide comparable data. In addition, as shown in the graph the SPC retention rate for the last two years increased significantly by 7.4%

**c. Success Rate of College Prep Student**

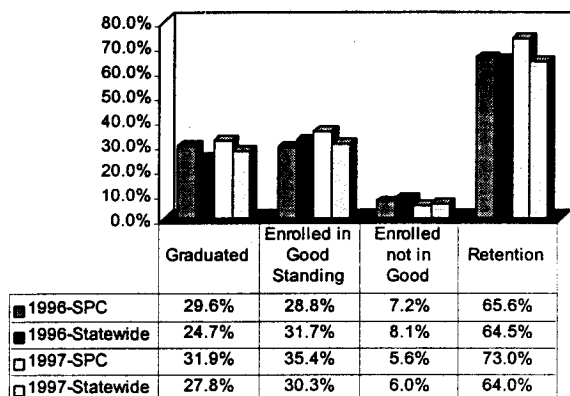
**Measure**--This measure addresses the number and percentage of students who have completed their college preparatory requirements and who have graduated, or are enrolled or left in good standing four years after initial enrollment. Initial enrollment is defined as having completed 18 college credits toward the degree.

**State Benchmark**--To graduate, retain in good standing or to have left in good standing at least 75% of the students four years after the date of initial enrollment in college level courses.

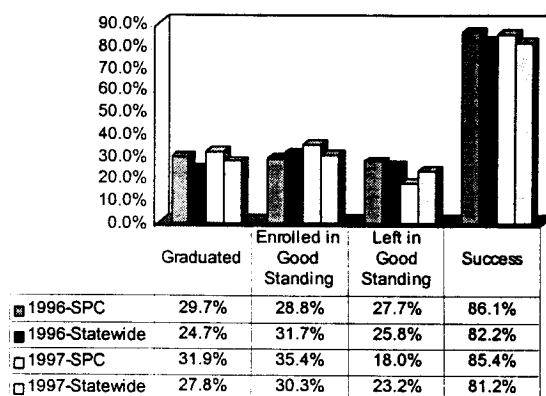
**SPC Target**--To graduate, to have enrolled or left in good standing at least 80% of the degree students four years after the date of initial enrollment.

**SPC Performance**--Based on the Fall 1997 cohort, 85.4% of SPC students were graduated, enrolled or left in good standing compared to 81.2% of statewide students. The graph compares the percentage of SPC students who graduated, are enrolled in good standing, or who left in good standing to the statewide comparable data.

**Retention**



**Success**



### Outcome Measure 5: CLAST Performance

**Measure**--Described are the number and percentage of students who have passed CLAST after they have completed 60 or more college credit hours, segmented by ethnicity and participation in college preparatory courses.

**State Benchmark**--To have at least 80% of all students who have completed 60 credit hours pass all parts of CLAST (overall), including 68% for college prep students and 90% for non-college prep students.

**SPC Target**--To have at least 75% of all students who have completed 60 credit hours pass all parts of CLAST, including 80% for college prep students and 80% for non-college prep students. Scores and goals have been decreased to reflect the exemptions given to higher achieving students.

**SPC Performance**--SPC's overall passing rate for all four tests was 93.8%, including 90.8% of students with college prep work and 98.4% of students with no college prep work. This compares favorably to the statewide overall pass rate of 89.3%, including 84.1% of students with college prep work and 95.2% of students with no college prep work. The table below compares SPC's rates to the statewide percentages by subject area for both 1998-99 and 1999-00.

**Table 5  
CLAST Performance**

	Reading	English	Math	Essay
<b>1998-99</b>				
St. Petersburg J. C.	97.39%	96.43%	92.93%	97.81%
Statewide	93.99%	93.91%	87.40%	96.05%
<b>1999-00</b>				
St. Petersburg J. C.	98.97%	98.23%	95.57%	98.85%
Statewide	97.18%	96.87%	92.27%	97.91%

### Summary

SPC's performance meets or exceeds the statewide performance for all measures where statewide data were available except for students passing the highest level mathematics college preparatory score within two years and for the percentage of SPC's A.A. degree transfers with GPA's greater or equal to 2.5 in upper division work in the next year.