

RESEARCH BRIEF

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STATEWIDE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

The purpose of this brief is to summarize the status of the Statewide Accountability Measures passed by the 1991 Florida Legislature using the statewide 2003-2004 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 is intended to determine if the proportion of high school graduates in one year from the college service area (Pinellas County) is the same as FTIC students 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— The percentage of SPC enrollees for three ethnic groups was greater than the prior year's graduates (White, Hispanic and Asian). For black students, the percentage of SPC enrollees was less than prior year Pinellas County high school graduates. SPC's black student enrollment (27.0%) was below the college's 35% target. However, the percent of enrollees to prior year graduates was greater for SPC (34.0%) than the statewide average (31.6%) for all categories. Table 1 shows a two-year comparison of SPC's first-time-in-college students to Pinellas County graduates and for all community colleges compared to all county public high graduates from the previous year by ethnicity.

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
Reporting year 2001-02												
St. Petersburg College												
Number of High School Graduates	3,878	80.29	562	11.64	157	3.25	210	4.35	6	0.12	4,830	4.54
Number of First-Time-In College	1,331	81.76	170	10.44	50	3.07	70	4.30	2	0.12	1,628	4.70
Percent Pool		34.32		30.25		31.85		33.33		33.33		33.71
State-Wide												
Number of High School Graduates	63,380	59.60	21,688	20.39	17,398	16.36	3,031	2.85	276	0.26	106,351	5.20
Number of First-Time-In College	20,324	58.70	6,085	17.58	7,021	20.28	910	2.63	95	0.27	34,621	32.55
Percent Pool		32.07		28.06		40.36		30.02		34.42		
Reporting year 2002-03												
St. Petersburg College												
Number of High School Graduates	4,147	80.40	592	11.48	180	3.49	183	3.81	12	0.23	4,799	4.68
Number of First-Time-In College	1,433	82.55	160	9.22	65	3.74	59	3.58	2	0.12	1,649	5.20
Percent Pool		34.56		27.03		36.11		32.24		28.57		34.36
State-Wide												
Number of High School Graduates	68,926	59.24	23,255	19.99	19,780	17.00	3,309	2.84	294	0.25	116,354	31.58
Number of First-Time-In College	21,316	58.01	6,491	17.66	7,657	20.84	976	2.66	81	0.22	36,748	
Percent Pool		30.93		27.91		38.71		29.50		27.55		

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-- 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. State generated data shows 70.8% (1,086 AA/AS/PSVC/ATD students) of the Fall 2000 -- Spring 2004 cohort were "retained" (graduated or still enrolled) at SPC. Systemwide the retention rate for this cohort was 64.4% (16,929 AA/AS/PSVC/ATD students).

c. Success

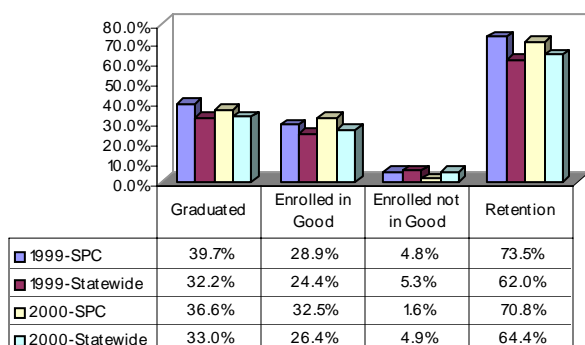
Measure--Addressed are the number and percentage of students, by ethnicity, seeking A.A./A.S. degrees or PSVC who have graduated, are enrolled in good standing, or who left in good standing after four years from the initial enrollment.

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.

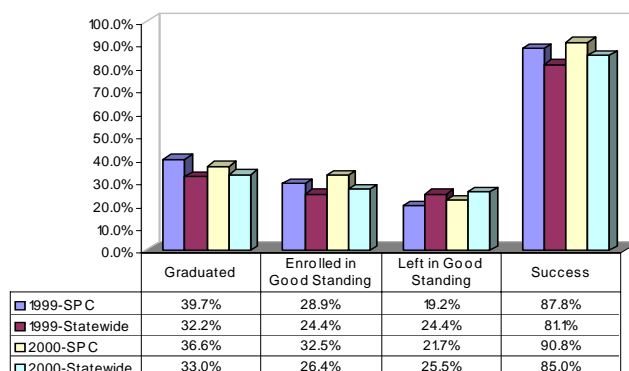
SPC Target--Ninety percent (90%) of A.A./A.S. degree and PSV Certificate students will have graduated, been retained in good standing or will have left in good standing four years after initial enrollment.

SPC Performance-- 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. SPC's success rate of 90.8% for A.A./A.S. degree, PSV Certificate, and ATD students was higher than the statewide average of 85.0%.

Retention (Fall)



Success (Fall)



Outcome Measure 2:

A. A. Degree Transfer Performance

Measure--Computed is the upper division 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-- Table 2 compares the percentage of SPC students transferring to the state universities in 2001-2002, who earned a GPA of 2.5 or more to the statewide community college average by ethnic category. SPC's mean GPA of students in the SUS of 2.91 was slightly lower than the statewide GPA of 2.92. Statewide 74.2% of the A.A. degree transfer earned GPA's \geq 2.5, while 73.9% of SPC student met that standard.

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

	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Indian	Total
Reporting year 2001-02						
St. Petersburg College						
Number of Graduates in SUS	562	33	39	41	0	675
Mean GPA	2.95	2.34	2.94	2.77	0	2.91
Number with GPA's \geq 2.5	423	14	32	16	0	485
Percent with GPA's \geq 2.5	75.27	42.42	82.05	73.17	0	73.93
State-Wide						
Number of Graduates in SUS	7,403	1,281	2,027	518	42	11,393
Mean GPA	3.0	2.63	2.84	2.83	3.0	2.92
Number with GPA's \geq 2.5	5,720	793	1,462	366	33	8,457
Percent with GPA's \geq 2.5	77.27	61.90	72.13	70.66	78.57	74.23

Outcome Measure 3:

State Licensure Passing Rates/ Vocational Program Placements

a. State Licensure Passing Rates

Measure--This measure compares licensure passing rates for students in those vocational programs that require state licensure exams to enter the profession.

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 pass rate for each exam was 81.1% or higher. Below Table 3 provides a two-year comparison for SPC passing rates.

Table 3
Licensure Passing Rates

	Corrections	Dental Hygiene	Fire Academy	Funeral Services	EMT	Law Enforcement	Paramedic	Physical Therapy	Radiography	Respiratory	Nursing	Veterinary
<u>Reporting year 2001-02</u> St. Petersburg College	99.0%	96.8%	NA	83.0%	84.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	93.0%	100.0%	81.1%	92.0%
<u>Reporting year 2002-03</u> St. Petersburg College	90.0%	100.0%	95.0%	100.0%	NA	96.0%	NA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	81.1%	95.5%

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 85.1% of 1,147 SPC students (who were found) were placed. This compare statewide to 91.9% who completed the same programs as offered by SPC. Statewide, in all programs offered at community colleges, the placement rate for completers was 93.0%.

Outcome Measure 4:

College Preparatory Success

a. College Prep Course Success

Measure--This measure shows 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--For Fall 2001 cohort success rate for students who tested in college preparatory courses and who passed the highest level requirement by subject area within two years was lower for SPC mathematics students 46.9% than the statewide average 54.3%, the reverse was true for reading and writing. The reading pass rate for SPC students of 81.1% was higher than the statewide average of 71.4%, the SPC target of 70% and the statewide goal of 65%. In writing the SPC pass rate of 75.3% compared favorably to the statewide average of 64.5%.

Table 4
College Preparatory Success Rates

	Reading	Writing	Math
<u>Fall 2000 through Summer 2002</u> St. Petersburg College	77.6%	76.4%	48.0%
Statewide	73.0%	67.9%	53.1%
<u>Fall 2001 through Summer 2003-2004</u> St. Petersburg College	81.1%	75.3%	46.9%
Statewide	71.4%	64.5%	54.3%

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--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. The College's retention rate was 72.6% compared to the statewide average of 67.1%. The SPC graduation rate for students who completed the highest level preparatory requirement was 30.6% compared to the statewide average of 27.7%.

c. Success Rate of College Prep Student

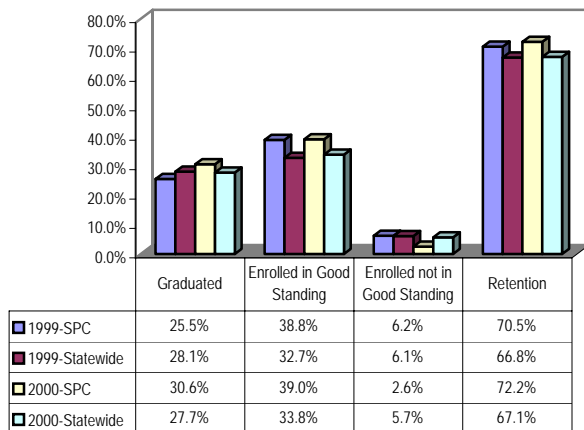
Measure--This measure addresses the number and percentage of students who have completed their college preparatory requirements and who have graduated, or are enrolled or left in good standing four years after initial enrollment. Initial enrollment is defined as having completed 18 college credits toward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

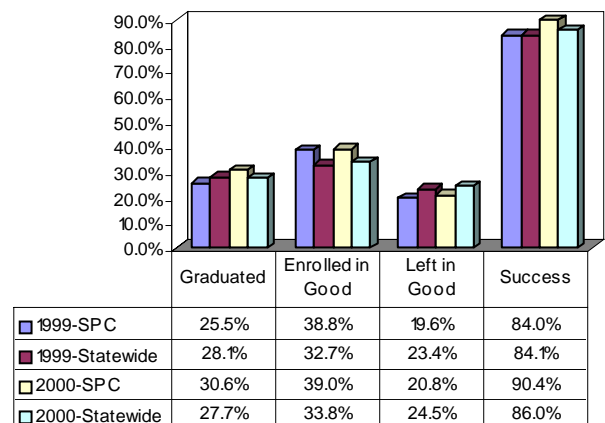
SPC Target--To graduate, to have enrolled or left in good standing at least 80% of the degree students four years after the date of initial enrollment.

SPC Performance--Based on the Fall 2000 cohort, 90.4% of SPC students were graduated, enrolled or left in good standing compared to 86.0% of statewide students. SPC met its target for this group of 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 93.2%, including 89.6% of students with college prep work and 96.7% of students with no college prep work. This compares favorably to the statewide overall pass rate of 92.6%, including 88.7% of students with college prep work and 96.5% of students with no college prep work. The table below compares SPC's rates to the statewide percentages by subject area for both 2001-2002 and 2002-2003.

Table 5
CLAST Performance

	Reading	English	Math	Essay
<u>2001-02</u>				
St. Petersburg College	98.90%	98.24%	96.44%	99.09%
Statewide	97.97%	97.65%	94.61%	98.37%
<u>2002-03</u>				
St. Petersburg College	98.12%	97.38%	95.79%	98.91%
Statewide	97.91%	97.53%	94.97%	98.37%

Summary

SPC's performance meets or exceeds the statewide performance for all measures (where statewide data were available) except for percentage of SPC's AA degree transfers with GPA's greater than 2.5 in upper division work in the next year (SPC 73.9% versus statewide 74.2%), program placement rates of A.S. degree and Vocational Certificate Program completers (SPC 85.1% versus 91.9% statewide) and college preparatory success rates for math (SPC 46.9% v. statewide 54.3%).