

2004-2005 STATEWIDE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES A RESEARCH BRIEF

Research Briefs

The dissemination of relevant information is a critical component of the performance improvement process. Research briefs are one mechanism used by St. Petersburg College (SPC) for this purpose. Research Briefs are short publications prepared by the Department of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (IRE) that are intended to provide relevant important information regarding a variety of College-related topics. These topics include, but are not limited to, student achievement, state accountability measures, institutional survey results, student enrollment, and faculty/adjunct compensation.

Introduction

This brief summarizes the performance of SPC and the Community College System on the Statewide Accountability Measures. In addition, the performance on each Statewide Accountability Measure compared to the state benchmark and SPC target using 2004-2005 data and compares to the college's performance on each measure with the statewide performance. There are five statewide areas of accountability, summarized below:

- 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;
- 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.

Results

Outcome Measure 1: Enrollment/Retention/Success

a. Enrollment

This measure reports the proportion of prior year high school graduates from the college service area (Pinellas County) who enroll at the college (SPC) the following year. The state benchmark is to increase the percentage of First-Time-In-College (FTIC) minority student enrollments until they are equal to the previous years high school graduates and SPC's target is to raise the percentage of black enrollments to 35% of prior year high school graduates. 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 (30.6%) was below the college's 35% target. However, the percent of enrollees to prior year graduates was greater

for SPC (33.6%) than the statewide average (31.3%) for all categories. Table 1 includes a two-year comparison.

Table 1
PRIOR YEAR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ENROLLMENT (COLLEGE SERVICE AREA)

	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian		Indian		Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Reporting Year 2002-03														
St. Petersburg														
Number of High School Graduates	4,147	80.40	592	11.48	180	3.49	204	3.96	12	0.23	23	0.45	5,158	4.43
Number of First-Time-In-College	1,433	82.55	160	9.22	65	3.74	70	4.03	2	0.12	6	0.35	1,736	4.72
Percent Pool		34.56		27.03		36.11		34.31		16.67		26.09		33.66
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	790	0.68	116,354	
Number of First-Time-In-College	21,316	58.01	6,491	17.66	7,657	20.84	976	2.66	81	0.22	227	0.62	36,748	
Percent Pool		30.93		27.91		38.71		29.50		27.55		28.73		31.58
Reporting Year 2003-04														
St. Petersburg														
Number of High School Graduates	4,462	80.15	641	11.51	218	3.92	207	3.72	14	0.25	25	0.45	5,567	4.66
Number of First-Time-In-College	1,509	80.61	196	10.47	79	4.22	70	3.74	11	0.59	7	0.37	1,872	5.00
Percent Pool		33.82		30.58		36.24		33.82		78.57		28.00		33.63
State-wide														
Number of High School Graduates	71,600	59.93	22,608	18.92	20,680	17.31	3,282	2.75	342	0.29	961	0.80	119,473	
Number of First-Time-In-College	22,314	59.59	6,233	16.64	7,512	20.06	989	2.64	111	0.30	288	0.77	37,447	
Percent Pool		31.16		27.57		36.32		30.13		32.46		29.97		31.34

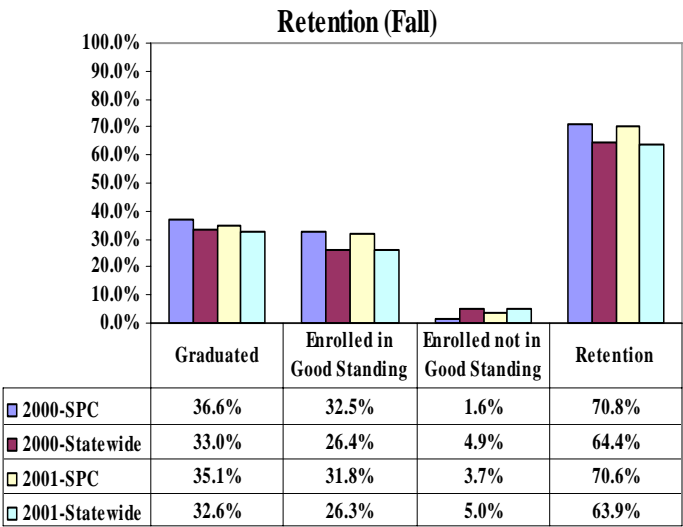
b. Retention

This measure reports the status after four years of FTIC who earned at least 18 college credit hours toward a degree or 9 hours toward a certificate. Retention is the number of students that graduated or are still enrolled divided by the initial cohort. Both the state benchmark and SPC target are at least 70% of the full-time degree or certificate students will be “retained.” The retention rate for SPC was 70.6% compared to 63.9% systemwide. Graph 1 includes a two-year comparison.

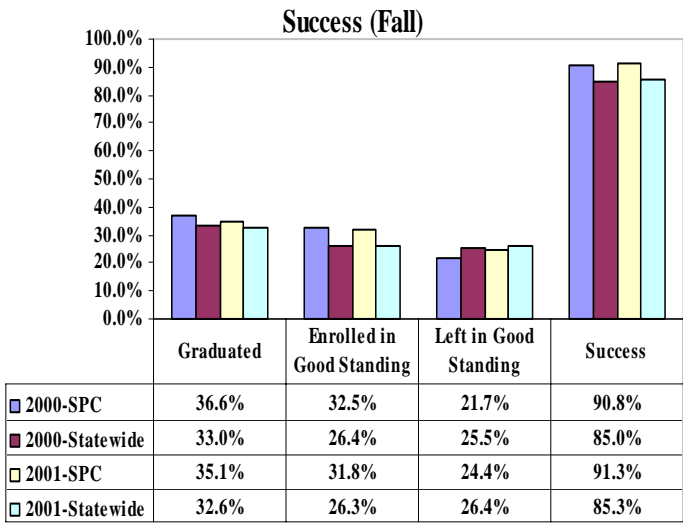
c. Success

This measure reports the status after four years of FTIC who earned at least 18 college credit hours toward a degree or 9 hours toward a certificate. Success is the number of students that graduated, enrolled in good standing, or left in good standing divided by the initial cohort. The state benchmark is eighty percent (80%) while SPC’s target is ninety percent (90%). SPC’s success rate of 91.3% for A.A./A.S. degree, PSV Certificate, and ATD students was higher than the statewide average of 85.3%. Graph 2 includes a two-year comparison.

Graph 1



Graph 2



Outcome Measure 2: A. A. Degree Transfer Performance

This measure reports the performance of “native” A. A. degree students who transfer to a State University in Florida the following year. Native students received their complete education from one institution. Both the state benchmark and SPC’s target are at least 70% of the students transferring to the State University System (SUS) will perform at a GPA of 2.5 or higher. SPC’s mean GPA of students in the SUS of 2.91 was slightly lower than the statewide GPA of 2.92. Statewide 74.7% of the A.A. degree transfer earned GPA’s >=2.5, while 73.2% of SPC students met that standard.

Table 2
ASSOCIATE IN ARTS DEGREE TRANSFER PERFORMANCE

	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Indian	Total
<u>Reporting year 2002-03</u>						
St. Petersburg College						
Number of Graduates in SUS	511	33	27	42	6	619
Mean GPA	2.93	2.24	2.82	2.70	2.70	2.87
Number with GPA's >=2.5	388	14	20	27	4	449
Percent with GPA's>=2.5	75.93	42.42	74.07	64.29	66.67	73.18
State-Wide						
Number of Graduates in SUS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	11,843
Mean GPA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.92
Number with GPA's >=2.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8,844
Percent with GPA's>=2.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	74.68

Outcome Measure 3: State Licensure Passing Rates/Vocational Program Placements

a. State Licensure Passing Rates

This measure reports licensure passing rates for students in vocational programs that require state licensure exams to enter the profession. The state benchmark is at least 90% of all students sitting for a licensure exam will pass while SPC’s target is 85%. No statewide data are available; however, institutional data shows SPC students perform well on state licensure examinations. The pass rate for each exam was 86.6% or higher. Below Table 3 provides a two-year comparison for SPC passing rates. Although there were graduates in the EMT and Paramedic programs, state licensure pass rate data was unavailable.

Table 3
Licensure Passing Rates

	Corrections	Dental Hygiene	EMT	Fire Academy	Funeral Services	Law Enforcement	Nursing	Paramedic	Physical Therapy	Radiography	Respiratory	Veterinary
Reporting year 2002-03 St. Petersburg College	90.0%	100.0%	NA	95.0%	100.0%	96.0%	81.1%	NA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	95.5%
Reporting year 2003-04 St. Petersburg College	99.0%	100.0%	NA	95.0%	100.0%	95.8%	86.7%	NA	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

b. Placement Rates

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. Both the state benchmark and SPC’s target are at least 90% of all students who complete a vocational program will be placed. Data shows that 80.7% of 1,275 SPC students (who were found) were placed. Statewide, in all programs offered at community colleges, the placement rate for completers was 90.7%.

Outcome Measure 4: College Preparatory Success

a. College Prep Course Success

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. The state benchmark is 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% while SPC’s target is slightly higher for reading-70% and writing-70% and the same for math-50%. For Fall 2002, the 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 higher for reading and writing and lower for mathematics. The reading pass rate for SPC students of 79.5% 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 72.4%

compared favorably to the statewide average of 65.8%. Table 4 includes a two-year comparison.

Table 4
College Preparatory Success Rates

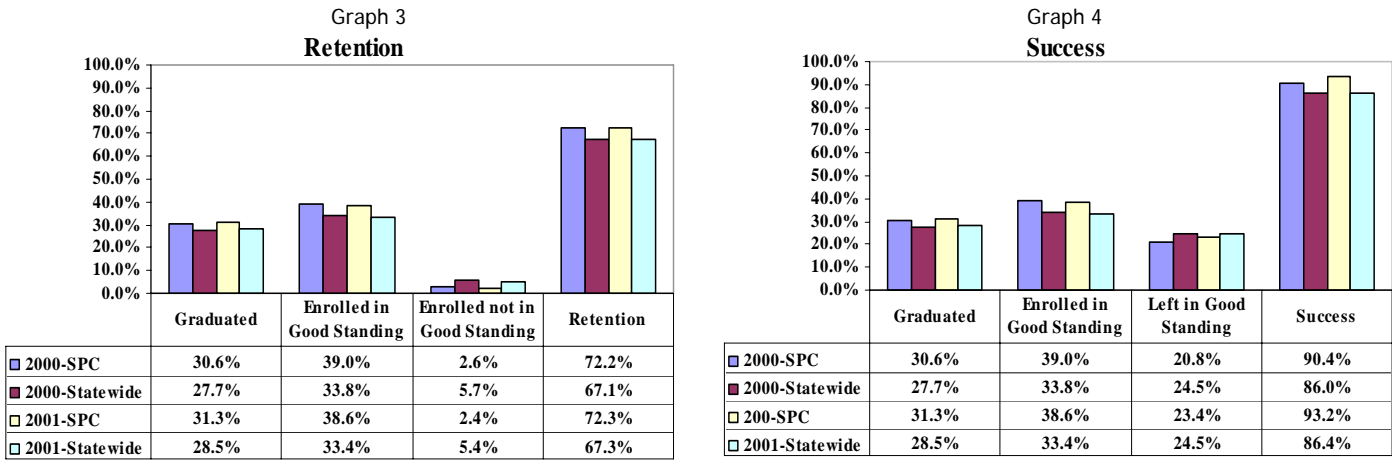
	Reading	Writing	Math
<u>Fall 2001 through Summer 2004</u>			
St. Petersburg College	81.1%	75.3%	46.9%
Statewide	71.4%	64.5%	54.3%
<u>Fall 2002 through Summer 2005</u>			
St. Petersburg College	79.5%	72.4%	45.6%
Statewide	71.4%	65.8%	52.1%

b. Retention Rate of College Prep Students

This measure reports the status of degree students who have completed their college preparatory requirements and who have graduated or enrolled four years after initial enrollment. Initial enrollment is defined as having completed 18 college credits towards an A.A. or A.S. degree. Both the state benchmark and SPC target are at least 70% of the full-time degree or certificate students will be “retained.” The SPC’s retention rate was 72.2% compared to the statewide average of 67.3%. The SPC graduation rate for students who completed the highest level preparatory requirement was 31.3% compared to the statewide average of 28.5%. Graph 3 includes a two-year comparison.

c. Success Rate of College Prep Student

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. The state benchmark is 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 course while SPC’s target is 80%. Based on the Fall 2001 cohort, 93.2% of SPC students were graduated, enrolled or left in good standing compared to 86.4% of statewide students. SPC met its target for this group of students. Graph 4 compares the percentage of SPC students who graduated, are enrolled in good standing, or who left in good standing to the statewide comparable data.



Outcome Measure 5: CLAST Performance

This measure reports the number and percentage of students who have passed CLAST after they have completed 60 or more college credit hours. The state benchmark is at least 80% of all students who have completed 60 credit hours will pass all parts of CLAST (overall), including 68% for college prep students and 90% for non-college prep students. SPC’s target is at least 75% of all students who have completed 60 credit hours will pass all parts of CLAST, including 70% for college prep students and 90% for non-college prep students. Scores and goals have been decreased to reflect the exemptions given to higher achieving students. SPC’s overall passing rate for all four tests was 95.2%, including 92.5% 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 93.7%, including 90.7% of students with college prep work and 97.0% of students with no college prep work. The table below compares SPC’s rates to the statewide percentages by subject area for both 2002-2003 and 2003-2004.

Table 5
CLAST Performance

	Reading	English	Math	Essay
<u>2002-03</u>				
St. Petersburg College	98.1%	97.4%	95.8%	98.9%
Statewide	97.9%	97.5%	95.0%	98.4%
<u>2003-04</u>				
St. Petersburg College	98.9%	98.5%	96.9%	99.1%
Statewide	98.3%	97.9%	95.7%	98.6%

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 73.2% v. statewide 74.7%), program placement rates of A.S. degree and Vocational Certificate Program completers (SPC 80.7% v. 90.7% statewide) and college preparatory success rates for math (SPC 45.6% v. statewide 52.1%).