Enrollment Patterns: What is “Traditional” Anymore?

Evidence from the Illinois Public High School Class of 2002

David Smalley
Illinois Education Research Council
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The Study

• Who is included in the cohort
  - This study applies to a cohort of 113,168 “traditional” students who took the Prairie State Achievement Exam in the Spring of 2001.

• Who is not included in this cohort
  - Private high school graduates
  - Out-of-State high school graduates that migrated to higher education institutions in Illinois
  - Non-traditional/older students
  - Dual enrolled/credit students
The Study

- Higher Education Enrollment Tracked
  - National Student Clearinghouse data matched to cohort which includes out of state enrollment and graduation data.
  - ICCB and Illinois Shared Enrollment and Graduation (ISEG) data are also matched to students.
  - Enrollment and graduation information matched over 6 year period 2002-2008.
- This study is broader than institutional studies since it encompasses all institutions in the NSC.
- IPEDS data is focused on traditional retention and graduation therefore it is lacking in its ability to track transfers.
Who Went in 2002?

- Not Enrolled: 37%
- Enrolled in Higher Ed.: 63%
  - IL Public 2-Year: 41%
  - IL Public 4-Year: 27%
  - Out of State: 17%
  - Private NFP: 13%
  - Private For-Profit: 1%
Illinois administers the ACT to all public high school students, since 2001.

Readiness is a combination of high school GPA and ACT.

Index is modeled on the work of Berkner and Chavez (1997)

Roughly a third (37.3%) of the Class of 2002 are not/least ready for college, third (28.4%) are partially (minimally/somewhat) ready, and third (34.3%) are college (more/most) ready.

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**High School GPA (self-reported)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>&lt;= 2.4</th>
<th>2.5 - 2.9</th>
<th>3.0 - 3.4</th>
<th>3.5 - 4.0</th>
<th>Missing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;20</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-22</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-25</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26+</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The higher the college readiness, the higher the enrollment.
- 87% expected to receive a bachelor’s.
- 79% Enrolled once in the 6 years.
- How will college readiness relate to enrollment patterns?

Note: The College Readiness Index will be collapsed to three categories for analysis in this presentation.
## Enrollment Patterns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 02 Status</th>
<th>Enrollment Pattern</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>03</th>
<th>04</th>
<th>05</th>
<th>06</th>
<th>07</th>
<th>08</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not Enrolled</td>
<td>Not Enrolled</td>
<td>24511</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled 2 yr</td>
<td>2Yr Only</td>
<td>27799</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled 2 yr</td>
<td>Traditional Transfer 2-4</td>
<td>12204</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New FT Freshman 4YR</td>
<td>New FT Freshman - Bacc. Completer (No Transfer)</td>
<td>19768</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New FT Freshman 4YR</td>
<td>New FT Freshman - Bacc. Completer (Transfer)</td>
<td>2144</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Grad</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Freshman 4Yr (Including No FT Info)</td>
<td>4Yr Only (Bacc. degrees)</td>
<td>4681</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Grad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Freshman 4Yr (Including No FT Info)</td>
<td>4Yr Only</td>
<td>3769</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Freshman 4Yr (Including No FT Info)</td>
<td>Reverse Transfer</td>
<td>6177</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Freshman 4Yr (Including No FT Info)</td>
<td>4 Yr With Stopout</td>
<td>5805</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled 2Yr/4Yr OR Not Enrolled</td>
<td>Swirler</td>
<td>2787</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Enrolled</td>
<td>Delayed Entry (after 4 years)</td>
<td>3337</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enrollment Patterns

- Class of 2002 patterns
  - 21% never entered higher education.
  - Around 12% attended higher education for the first time after their first year.
  - Only 17% of the cohort took the Traditional New FT Freshman track to completion in 6 yrs.
  - 25% were only enrolled at the 2 Yr level.
  - Only 4 of 10 patterns lead to Baccalaureate completion in 6 yrs (30%)
Traditional Enrollment Pattern for Baccalaureate Completion

• Start at 2-Yr and Transfer to 4-Yr.
• New FT Freshman at 4-Yr Institutions
• New FT FR at 4-Yr Institutions.
Traditional Enrollment Patterns

Traditional 2-Yr to 4-Yr Transfer

- 11% of the cohort, 17% of fall 02 college-going students, took this path (N=12,204).
- Half of the students in this path transferred and completed a bachelor's degree in 6 years.
- Readiness similar to overall class, but more fall into the minimally/somewhat ready category.

![Readiness of Traditional 2-4 yr Transfer]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>% of Pattern</th>
<th>% of College Going Student Group</th>
<th>% Of Class 2002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More/Most Ready</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimally/Somewhat Ready</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not/Least Ready</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Traditional Enrollment Patterns

New FT Freshman – 6 Yr Completion

- 19% of the cohort, 31% of fall 02 college going students, took this path (N=21,912).
- 10% (2,144) of this group transferred to another 4-Yr.
- 17% of the cohort, 28% of fall 02 college going students, completed at same institution they started. (N=19,768).
- 4-Yr Institutions are measured on this pathway which is 28% of college-going students.
- More than 77% of these students are More/Most Ready.

![Graph showing readiness of new FT freshman completers](chart.png)

**Readiness of New FT Freshman - Completers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Student Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77%</td>
<td>More/Most Ready</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29%</td>
<td>Minimally/Some what Ready</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28%</td>
<td>Not/Least Ready</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Not/Least Ready</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Traditional Enrollment Patterns

New Freshman 4-YR Only – 6 Yr Completion

- 4% of the cohort, 7% of fall 02 college going students, took this path (N=4,681).
- These may start PT or FT/PT status is missing.
- 21% of these students transferred to another 4-Yr Institution.
- More than 75% of these students are More/Most Ready.

Readiness of New Freshman 4-Yr Only - Completers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>% of Pattern</th>
<th>% of College Going</th>
<th>% Of Class 2002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More/Most Ready</td>
<td>Minimally/Some what Ready</td>
<td>Not/Least Ready</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enrollment that can lead to certificates or associates degrees, with no transfer to 4-Yr. Includes non-degree seeking students.

• 2-Yr Only Enrollment
Two-Year Enrollment Patterns

2-Yr Only

- 25% of the cohort, 39% of fall 02 college-going students, took this path (N=27,799).
- 18% in pattern received a certificate or degree in 6 years.
- Over half of these students were Not/Least Ready.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Readiness of 2-Yr Only</th>
<th>% of Pattern</th>
<th>% of College Going Student Group</th>
<th>% Of Class2002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More/Most Ready</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimally/Somewhat Ready</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not/Least Ready</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Non-Traditional Enrollment Patterns

All other enrollment patterns.

- New 4-Yr Only – Non Completer
- 4Yr With Stopout
- Reverse Transfer (4 to 2)
- Swirler (Serial Transfer)
- Delayed Entry (3+ Years)
New 4-Yr Only – Non-Completer/4Yr With Stopout

- 8% of the cohort, 13% of fall 02 college-going students, took this path (N=9,574).
- At least 27% transferred to another 4-yr institution.
- Generally higher readiness compared to college going students.
Other Enrollment Patterns

Reverse Transfer 4Yr to 2 Yr

- 5% of the cohort, 9% of fall 02 college-going students, took this path (N=6,177).
- Around 9% returned to 4-Yr and completed a bachelor’s in 6 years.
- 18% obtained a certificate or associates degree, not including those that completed bachelors.
- More minimally/somewhat readiness than overall college-going.

Readiness of Reverse Transfer

- More/Most Ready: 45%, 44%, 37%
- Minimally/Some what Ready: 35%, 29%, 28%
- Not/Least Ready: 20%, 27%, 34%
Other Enrollment Patterns

Swirler (Serial Transfer)

- 2% of the cohort, 5% of fall 02 college-going students, took this path (N=2,787).
- No discernable pattern to enrollment. Multiple transfers which can include stopouts. Limitation of this analysis is what the student is trying to achieve. For some May be way to complete faster.
- Around 44% completed a bachelor’s in 6 years.
- More minimally/somewhat readiness than overall college-going.

Readiness of Swirlers

- More/Most Ready: 45%, 44%, 37%
- Minimally/Somewhat Ready: 35%, 29%, 28%
- Not/Least Ready: 20%, 27%, 34%

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Delayed Entry (3+ Years)

- 3% of the cohort, 5% of fall 02 college-going students, took this path (N=3,337).
- Delayed entry may be people in the military, workforce retraining, or improving their skills for promotion. A limitation is that NSC does not have all higher education institutions.
- Over half Not/Least Ready.

**Graph: Readiness of Delayed Entry**

- More/Most Ready: 22%
- Minimally/Some Ready: 44%
- Not/Least Ready: 37%
- 51% of Pattern
- 27% of College Going Student Group
- 29% of % Of Class 2002
- 28% of % Of Class 2002
- 34% of % Of Class 2002
Continuing Analysis

- Report on Class of 2002: Participation Rates and Completion Patterns Six Years after High School, will be released this summer.
- IERC will continue to analyze enrollment patterns look for future reports.
- Planning for additional cohorts.
- Illinois Longitudinal Data System will be available in coming years, but structure has not been finalized as of this moment.
- Please advise IERC of research you would like to see regarding transfer issues.
Contact

David Smalley
Assistant Director of Research
Illinois Education Research Council
ierc.siue.edu
1-618-650-2840