

Dakota County Technical 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 Dakota County Technical College (DCTC).

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 Dakota County Technical College students who started at the college in the fall of 2014. 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 DCTC within three years. The **transfer-out rate** is the percentage of these students who did not graduate from DCTC, 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 Dakota County Technical College. The 347 first-time, full-time students in the study were 12 percent of all students enrolled at DCTC in fall of 2014.

What are the graduation and transfer-out rates for Dakota County Technical College students and how do they compare to rates for other colleges?

- The **graduation rate** for DCTC was 36 percent.
- The **transfer-out rate** for DCTC was 18 percent.
- The combination of the graduation rate and the transfer-out rate for DCTC was 55 percent. The national average combined rate for similar colleges was 43 percent.

Why don't more Dakota County Technical College students graduate or transfer in three years?

- Some students take jobs before they graduate;
- 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;
- Other students delay their education for personal, family or financial reasons.

Disaggregated Student Right-to-Know Graduation and Transfer-out Rates			
Dakota County Technical College	Graduation Rate	Transfer-out Rate	Combined Rate
Total Cohort	36%	18%	55%
Race Ethnicity			
American Indian or Alaska Native	*	*	*
Asian	*	*	*
Black or African American	14%	36%	50%
Hispanic of any race	26%	21%	47%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	*	*	*
Nonresident Alien	50%	20%	70%
Two or more races	20%	30%	50%
Unknown race and ethnicity	*	*	*
White	41%	16%	57%
Gender			
Female	32%	32%	64%
Male	38%	14%	52%
Financial Aid			
Pell Grant Recipient	34%	22%	56%
Received neither Pell nor Subsidized Stafford Loans	36%	17%	54%
Received Subsidized Stafford Loans, but no Pell	41%	14%	55%

* Suppressed to protect student privacy.

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