Where Do High School Students Go?

The Center for Public Education published an analysis last September entitled “The Path Least Taken” to shed light on those students who don’t go to college after high school. The report uses data from the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Educational Longitudinal Study (ELS, 2002) that followed a nationally representative sample of 15,000 high school sophomores from 750 high schools in 2002 through high school and into college and/or the workforce. The findings are enlightening, especially because they seem to contradict conventional thought about non-college goers. This AIR article provides highlights of the analysis. To read the full report, please go to http://www.centerforpubliceducation.org/pathleasttaken.

8 out of 10 students go to college!
The analysis revealed 8 out of every 10 students in the Class of 2004 went to college within eight years of graduating from high school, with 4 out of 5 enrolling immediately upon high school graduation.

What about the 12% non-college goers?
- Two-thirds of non-college enrollees began high school believing they would go to college
- They took fewer academic courses while in school than their college-going peers
- They took less rigorous courses than their college-going peers
- They spent less time on homework than their college-going peers
- They earned lower grades and performed poorer on math and reading assessments
- Among non-college enrollees, desire for college stayed steady in high school (63%) and 27% still expected to go to college at age 26
- Non-college goers tend to be male (57%)
- They come from the lower end of the socioeconomic scale (65%)
- They are as ethnically diverse as their college-going peers
- About half (46%) have parents whose highest level of education was a high school diploma
- Finances were the most cited reason for not attending college (23%)

Need data? Email AIR at SO-AIR@lonestar.edu
GCAIR

In May, Lone Star College will host the Gulf Coast Association of Institutional Research (GCAIR) meeting. Members from Alvin Community College, Brazosport College, College of the Mainland, Galveston College, Houston Community College, Lee College, San Jacinto College, and Wharton County Junior College will be in attendance. This coming together of gulf coast IR colleagues allows for idea sharing, discussion, and gives us the opportunity to further promote and position Lone Star College and Analytics and Institutional Reporting (AIR) as a leader in institutional research.

Lone Star College Reengagement 2015

This past February Lone Star College held a system-wide Completion Reengagement meeting to both celebrate and assess the impact of student success programs across the system. The meeting focused on campus engagement with data and discussing outcomes of key performance indicators.

Each campus was provided with a comprehensive set of trended data reports that aligned with the LSC Completion Plan and top system-wide initiatives like Texas Completes, QEP/Best Start, and the Texas Success Points initiative. The day-long workshop allowed campus representatives to come together and learn how system initiatives are interconnected with the LSC Completion Plan and understand how data are used to measure success and set goals. Wendell Williams, Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Success, "was excited to see the campus representatives go into the break-out groups and do a critical evaluation of their data."

After the break-out session, each campus presented on a measure where they excelled and talked about the best practices that contributed to their success.

The Reengagement process continues with Phase 2 in June.

- Key Performance Indicators
- FTIC Orientation
- FTIC Student Success Course
- Texas Success Initiative
- Core Completions
- Student Transfers
- Intrusive Advising/Case Management

- Updated KPIs from Phase 1
- Academic Plans
- Testing and High School Interventions
- Student Intent
- Workforce Student Success
- Early Alert
- Developmental Ed Mandatory Enrollment
- Program Review

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