Update on Early Academic Momentum Trends at Ohio Community Colleges

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Metrics for Improvement: Momentum as Leading Indicator

Early Academic Momentum

- Gateway Course Momentum
  - Completed college math/English in year 1
- Persistence and Course Completion
  - Course completion rate in year 1

Credit Momentum

- Completed 24+ college credits in year 1

Persistence and Course Completion

- Fall-Spring Persistence

Concentration into program areas

- Accumulating credits in a subject area

 Longer-Term Outcomes

- Early Program Momentum
  - Concentration into program areas

Metrics for Improvement: Momentum as Leading Indicator

As community colleges across the country implement large-scale reforms to improve student success, they understand and actively seek to determine why changes in student behaviors and outcomes are occurring in their institutions. One approach that colleges use to characterize student progress is to measure how well two or more measures of students’ progress in their first year predict student outcomes in subsequent years. We also found that key metrics in completion rates, as well as equity gaps between programs, are key drivers of early momentum.

First-Year Indicators of Longer-Term Success

Through cohort analysis, two-year and four-year colleges are recognizing that to “steer the needle,” an institution should measure its success in improving student outcomes for programs, policies, and practices on a regular basis. College administrators can use a metric as a “leading indicator” of future outcomes. A leading indicator is a key metric that helps predict outcomes that are likely to occur in the future.

Based on analysis in three states, we find that measures of student progress in the first year predict student completion in subsequent years.
Key Takeaways

1. Most colleges have made improvements on the EMMs in the past 5 years

2. Many colleges have also improved on EMMs specifically for Black, Hispanic, and adult students, but **equity gaps remain large and widespread**
Early Momentum Trends, Ohio Community Colleges

Credit Momentum: College-level Credits Earned
- 6+ in term 1
- 12+ in term 1
- 15+ in year 1
- 24+ in year 1
- 30+ in year 1

Gateway Course Momentum in Year 1
- Completed College English
- Completed College Math
- Completed Both
The following charts show changes in colleges’ early momentum metrics, comparing the EMM rates for the fall 2014 or fall 2016 FTEIC cohorts to the fall 2019 FTEIC cohorts. Changes over time are reported in percentage point differences.

Show change in past 3- or 5-years
- Since 2014 (Syr change)
- Since 2016 (Syr change)

Former Dual Enrollment / CCP Students
- Exclude from cohorts
- Include in cohorts

College Improvement Overall by Metric
- Earned 6+ college credits in 1st term
- Earned 12+ college credits in 1st term
- Earned 15+ college credits in year 1
- Earned 24+ college credits in year 1
- Earned 30+ college credits in year 1
- Attempted college English in year 1
- Attempted college Math in year 1
- Attempted both college Math and English in year 1
- Completed college English in year 1
- Completed college Math in year 1
- Completed both college Math and English in year 1
- College-level course completion rate in year 1
- Persisted from term 1 to term 2

Highlight Your College
- College 1
- College 2
- College 3
- College 4
- College 5
- College 6
- College 7
- College 8
- College 9
- College 10
- College 11
- College 12
- College 13
- College 14
- College 15
- College 16
- College 17
- College 18
- OACC Colleges

Most OACC Colleges have made gains on the Early Momentum Metrics

OACC Early Momentum Dashboard: https://tabsoft.co/3a0Meay
Gains in Early Momentum vary by college and across student subgroups
Overall Early Momentum Gains & Change in Equity Gaps

Change Since 2016 (3yr change), Gap: White-Black

Overall gains are accompanied by both closing and widening of equity gaps.
Onboarding for Dual Enrollment Students
College Credit Plus (CCP) at Edison State Community College
CCP is a priority enrollment pipeline at Edison State

- CCP students choose a Career Pathway as an entry requirement
- Dedicated full time staff partner with each high school on a custom basis
- Dedicated Edison State website resources for CCP
- Custom Career Pathways guidance materials created for high school partner
CCP history

Partner High Schools

Headcount

Credit Hours
Communication components for CCP students

Edison State sends weekly reports customized for each partner high school

- Number and status of students in application pipeline
- Individual report for each enrollment student that includes
  - Career Pathway designation
  - Current course enrollment
  - Current course grades
  - Status of progress toward AA or AS degree
  - Accumulated credits
  - Other student information as needed by partner high school
Onboarding for Adult Students

Lessons from Three Tennessee Community Colleges
Where and how we learned about adult students

- MOTLOW STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
  - Smyrna Campus
  - Smyrna, TN

- PELLISIPPI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
  - Hardin Valley Campus
  - Knoxville, TN

- NASHVILLE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
  - White Bridge Campus
  - Nashville, TN

- MOTLOW STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
  - Moore County Campus
  - Tullahoma, TN
Why adult students benefit from targeted support during onboarding

- Varying amounts of time out of education
- Varying prior college experience
- Different life experience
- Difference career experience
- No clear institutionalized supports for college planning
How onboarding can be designed differently for adults

Recruitment
Enrollment
Program Selection
Education Planning
Confidence Building
CCRC Resources


Thank you!

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