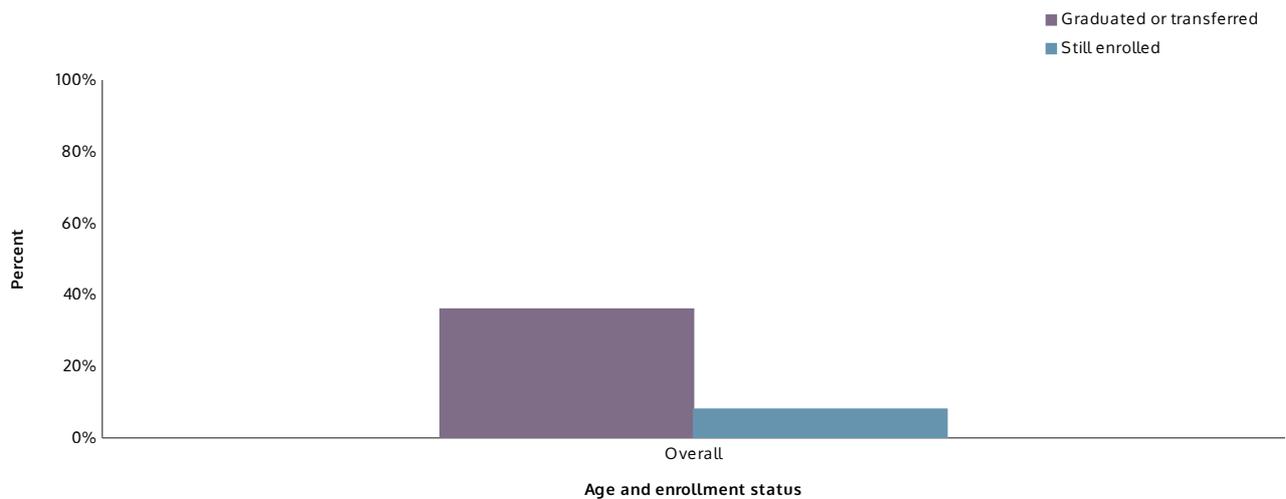


TRANSFER AND COMPLETION

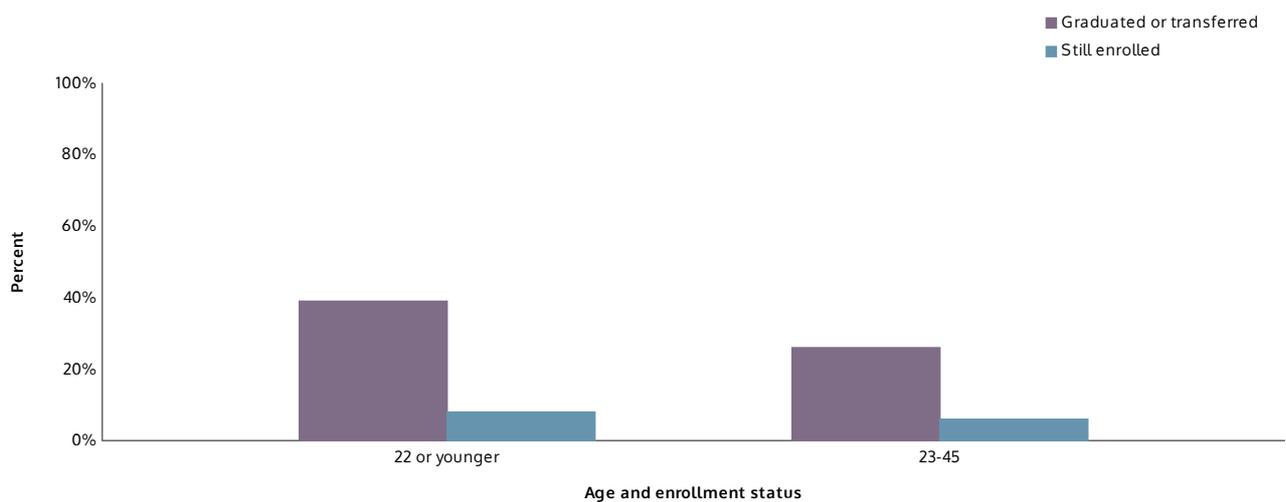
SIX-YEAR PERSISTENCE RATES: FLORIDA

Percentage of first-time degree-seeking Florida Community College students entering in 2000 who persisted, by age and enrollment status

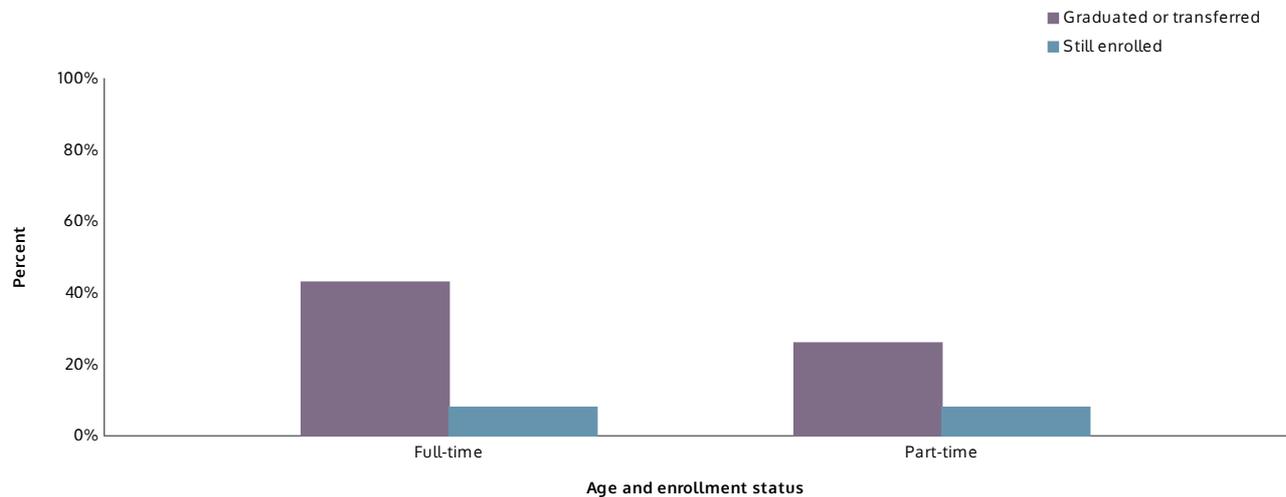
CURRENT ENROLLMENT STATUS



AGE



ENROLLMENT STATUS



What Is Measured?

Percentage of students still enrolled without a degree who have earned 30 or more credits

Who Is Counted?

First-time degree-seeking students who entered Florida Community Colleges in 2000

What It Tells Us

Among first-time degree-seeking students enrolled in Florida Community Colleges in 2000, about 8 percent had not attained a degree but were still enrolled six years later. By comparison, over one-third of students (36 percent) had earned a certificate, associate degree, or transferred.

Why It's Important

Traditionally, students must study full time for two years in community college to earn an associate degree or complete a lower-division curriculum for transfer to a four-year college (and usually less than one year to earn a certificate). But less than half of community college students enroll full time in their first term (Offenstein & Shulock, 2009), and even fewer enroll full time for two consecutive years (Clery, 2010). Because many part-time students enroll less than half time, and most must take at least one developmental education course that does not count toward a degree or transfer, some have argued that even six years is not sufficiently long for community students to meet their educational goals (Moltz, 2011). This measure represents the proportion of community college students who were not able to complete or transfer within six years but still may do so.

ABOUT THE DATA

Still enrolled students: include students enrolled in the fall, spring, or summer semester and who had earned at least 30 credits.

Degree-seeking students: include students who selected a certificate, diploma, or associate degree program of study during their initial registration or enrollment process.

Full-time students: include students taking at least four-fifths of a full course load in their first term, equivalent to at least 12 out of 15 units.

Part-time students: include students who did not meet the criteria for full-time enrollment.

Estimates are based on data collected during the initial registration enrollment process. Certificate program lengths vary, but all approved certificate programs are included. Students who did not identify their program of study are excluded.

DATA SOURCE

Jobs for the Future. (2008). *Test drive: Six states pilot better ways to measure and compare community college performance.*