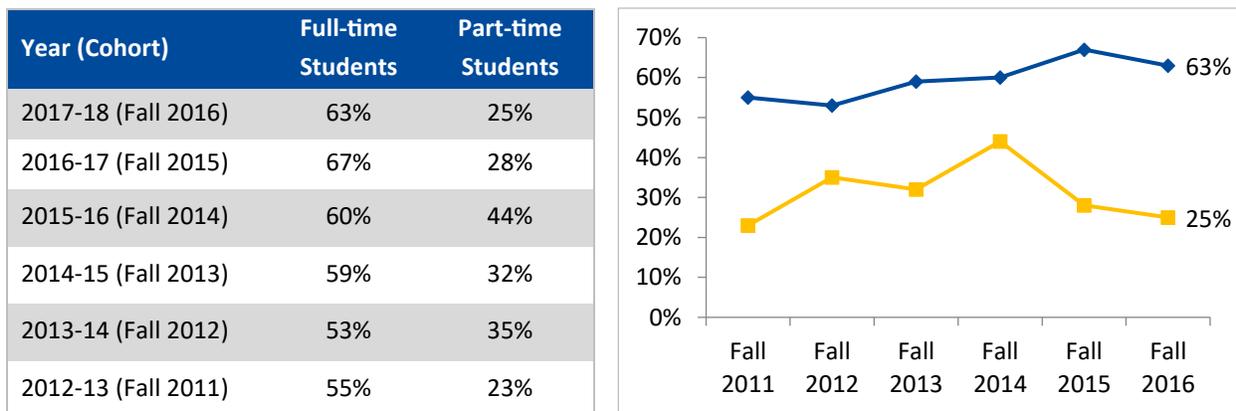# Student Success: Retention, Graduation, and Transfer-Out

Student Retention

For the purposes of this report, only first-time students are included in the retention cohorts. Students who transferred into our institution are not included. Illus. 6.1 shows first to second year retention for Mid-Plains Community College students initially enrolled in the Fall term indicated in the parenthesis, and re-enrolling in the following Fall term. Illus. 6.2 and 6.3 provide the same data for MPCC Cohort schools for the academic year 2015-16. 2017-18 data is provided for Mid-Plains Community College only.

Illustration 6.1: **First-to-Second Year Retention Rates**, *6-Year Trend, Mid-Plains Community College*

Year (Cohort)	Full-time Students	Part-time Students
2017-18 (Fall 2016)	63%	25%
2016-17 (Fall 2015)	67%	28%
2015-16 (Fall 2014)	60%	44%
2014-15 (Fall 2013)	59%	32%
2013-14 (Fall 2012)	53%	35%
2012-13 (Fall 2011)	55%	23%

Source: IPEDS College Navigator, Fall Enrollment, Retention Data, updated 02/06/2018.

Illustration 6.2: Fall 2016, Nebraska Community Colleges **First-to-Second Year Retention Rates**, *Full-Time Students & Part-Time Students*

(Percentage of students who began their studies in Fall 2015 & returned in Fall 2016)

Rank	Institution	Full-Time Students
1	Northeast	70%
2	Central	68%
3	*Mid-Plains*	*67%*
4	Southeast	63%
5	Western	53%
5	Metro	53%

Rank	Institution	Part-Time Students
1	Central	48%
2	Southeast	42%
3	Northeast	39%
4	Metro	33%
5	*Mid-Plains*	*29%*
6	*Western*	*21%*

Source: IPEDS College Navigator (2016-17 data), updated 02/06/2018.

*Illustration 6.3: Fall 2015-2016, MPCC Peer Institution First-to-Second Year Retention Rates
(Percentage of students who began their studies in Fall 2015 & returned in Fall 2016).*

Rank	Institution	Full-time Students
1	Mid-Plains Community College North Platte, NE	67%
2	Carl Albert State College Poteau, OK	64%
2	Iowa Lakes Community College Estherville, IA	64%
4	MN West Comm. & Tech. College Granite Falls, MN	63%
4	Cloud County Community College Concordia, KS	63%
6	Southern State Community College Hillsboro, OH	62%
7	Bay de Noc Community College Escanaba, MI	61%
7	Allen County Community College Iola, KS	61%
9	Southeastern Community College West Burlington, IA	60%
10	Carl Sandburg College Galesburg, IL	59%
11	Flathead Valley Community College Kalispell, MT	58%
12	Southwestern Michigan College Dowagiac, MI	57%
13	Coffeyville Community College Coffeyville, KS	56%
14	Eastern Oklahoma State College Wilburton, OK	55%
15	Western Nebraska Comm. College Scottsbluff, NE	53%
16	Mid-State Technical College Wisconsin Rapids, WI	46%

Rank	Institution	Part-time Students
1	Coffeyville Community College Coffeyville, KS	80%
2	Carl Albert State College Poteau, OK	65%
3	Cloud County Community College Concordia, KS	54%
4	Mid-State Technical College Wisconsin Rapids, WI	50%
5	MN West Comm. & Tech College Granite Falls, MN	45%
6	Southeastern Community College West Burlington, IA	44%
7	Bay de Noc Community College Escanaba, MI	42%
7	Southwestern Michigan College Dowagiac, MI	42%
9	Southern State Community College Hillsboro, OH	35%
10	Eastern Oklahoma State College Wilburton, OK	31%
11	Flathead Valley Community College Kalispell, MT	30%
12	Mid-Plains Community College North Platte, NE	29%
13	Carl Sandburg College Galesburg, IL	27%
14	Western Nebraska Comm. College Scottsbluff, NE	21%
14	Allen County Community College Iola, KS	21%
16	Iowa Lakes Community College Estherville, IA	13%

Source: IPEDS College Navigator (2016-17), updated 02/06/2018.

The mission of Mid-Plains Community College is transforming lives through exceptional learning opportunities for individual student success.
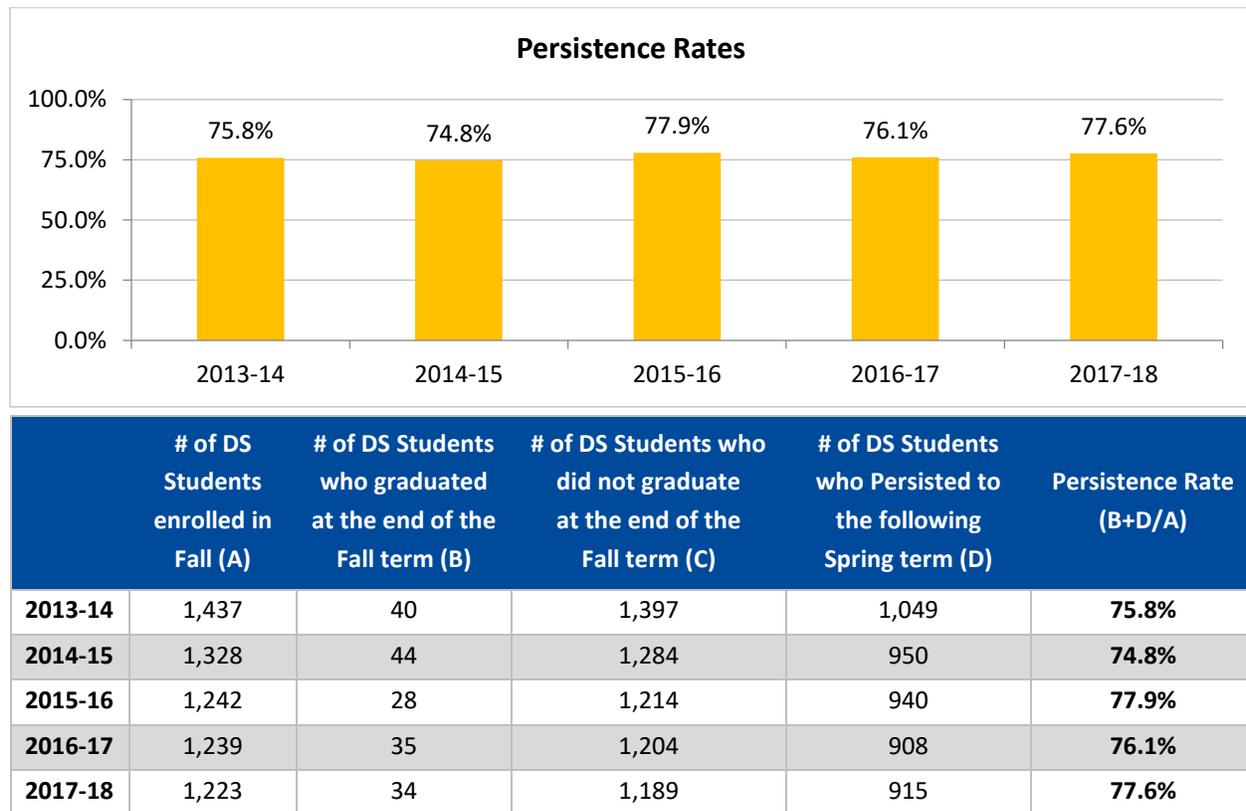
Retention is a key!

Student Retention

PERSISTENCE RATES

Illus. 6.4 provides persistence data on the total students enrolled for the fall term who are seeking an award (Associate Degree, Diploma, or Certificate). Persistence is defined as the percentage of students who enrolled in the fall; that, a) return the following spring semester or b) graduate in the fall term.

Illustration 6.4: 2013-14 to 2017-18 Degree Seeking Students Fall to Spring Persistence Rates

Persistence Rates chart: 2013-14: 75.8%, 2014-15: 74.8%, 2015-16: 77.9%, 2016-17: 76.1%, 2017-18: 77.6%

	# of DS Students enrolled in Fall (A)	# of DS Students who graduated at the end of the Fall term (B)	# of DS Students who did not graduate at the end of the Fall term (C)	# of DS Students who Persisted to the following Spring term (D)	Persistence Rate (B+D/A)
2013-14	1,437	40	1,397	1,049	75.8%
2014-15	1,328	44	1,284	950	74.8%
2015-16	1,242	28	1,214	940	77.9%
2016-17	1,239	35	1,204	908	76.1%
2017-18	1,223	34	1,189	915	77.6%

Source: Office of Institutional Research & Planning; Persistence Data Database (05/17/2018).

COURSE COMPLETION AND SUCCESS RATES

Illus. 6.5 provides a summary of course completion, success rates, and withdrawals for students enrolled in for-credit courses during the fall semesters of academic years 2013-14 through 2017-18. Illus. 6.6 is a summary of course completion, success rates, and withdrawals by division for the most recent fall term, 2017-18. The same information for developmental courses for the same academic years is shown in Illus. 6.7 and 6.8. For the purpose of these tables course completion rate is defined as courses complete

at the end of the term that include grades coded as A, A+, B, B+, C, C+, D, D+, F, I, P, or NP. Success rate represents students who enrolled in courses during the Fall term and completed the course with a grade of A, A+,B, B+, C, C+, or P. Nonsuccesses are those coded as D, D+, F, I, NP, or W. I=Incomplete, NP=Not Passing, P=Passing, and W=Withdrawal. Courses with no grade (labs) are not included in this analysis.

Illustration 6.5: 2013-14 to 2017-18 Fall Course Completion, Success Rates, and Withdrawals

	Fall Term				
	2013	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**
Total Enrollments	**9,691**	**10,653**	**7,533**	**7,617**	**6,917**
Success	7,786	8,753	5,999	6,309	5,655
	80%	82%	80%	83%	82%
Non-Success	1,905	1,900	1,534	1,308	1,262
	20%	18%	20%	17%	18%
Non-Success Breakout					
Grade "D, D+,F, I, NP"	1,049	1,230	866	732	732
	55%	65%	56%	56%	58%
Withdrew	856	670	668	576	530
	45%	35%	44%	44%	42%

Source: Office of Institutional Research & Planning; Term Course Completion Database (05/21/2018).

Division Codes are as follows: AT=Applied Technologies, BT=Business Technology, EDT=Economic Development and Training, HO=Health Occupations, HSS=Humanities, Human Services, and Social Sciences, and MS=Math and Science.

*Illustration 6.6: 2017-18 Fall **Course Completion**, Success Rates, and Withdrawals by Division*

	Fall 2017				
	AT	**BT**	**HO**	**HSS**	**MS**
Total Enrollments	**780**	**1,072**	**671**	**2,581**	**1,809**
Success	702	816	558	2,089	1,486
	90%	76%	83%	81%	82%
Non-Success	78	256	113	492	323
	10%	24%	17%	19%	18%
Non-Success Breakout					
Grade "D, D+,F, I, NP"	73	153	40	306	160
	94%	60%	35%	62%	50%
Withdrew	5	103	73	186	163
	6%	40%	65%	38%	50%

Source: Office of Institutional Research & Planning; Term Course Completion Database (05/21/2018).

Illustration 6.7: 2013-14 to 2017-18 Fall Term Developmental Course Completion, Success Rates, and Withdrawals

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total Enrollments	**499**	**412**	**396**	**360**	**318**
Success	318	252	264	303	250
	64%	61%	67%	84%	79%
Non-Success	181	160	132	57	68
	36%	39%	33%	16%	21%
Non-Success Breakout					
Grade "D, D+,F, I, NP"	100	97	76	57	68
	55%	61%	58%	100%	100%
Withdrew	81	63	56	0	0
	45%	39%	42%	0	0

Source: Office of Institutional Research & Planning; Student Course History Database (05/22/2018).

Illustration 6.8: 2017-18 Fall Term Developmental Course Completion, Success Rates, and Withdrawals by Division

Fall 2017		
	HSS	MS
Total Enrollments	141	219
Success	121	182
	86%	83%
Non-Success	20	37
	14%	17%

Fall 2017		
	HSS	MS
Non-Success Breakout		
Grade "D, D+,F, I, NP"	20	37
	100%	100%
Withdrew	0	0
	0%	0%

Source: Office of Institutional Research & Planning; Student Course History Database (05/22/2018).

ACADEMIC PROBATION AND SUSPENSION

A student will be placed on academic probation whenever the student's academic performance falls below MPCC's established minimum requirements. The minimum requirements during the 2017-18 academic year were: a 1.5 cumulative GPA through the first 15 GPA hours, a 1.75 for 16-30 GPA hours, and 2.0 for 31 GPA hours or more. Any student placed on academic probation who fails to meet the academic standards stated above by the end of that probationary semester will be placed on suspension. After a student has received academic suspension, the student may not re-enroll for a period of one academic year. Students who have extenuating circumstances may appeal suspensions by notifying the Area Vice President for Student Affairs in writing within five days after receipt of the suspension letter.

Illus. 6.9 provides a five-year look at academic probation and suspension at MPCC.

Illustration 6.9: 2013-14 to 2017-18 Percent of Students on Academic Probation and Suspension Compared to Annual Headcount

Academic Year	Annual Number of Students on Academic Probation or Suspension	Annual Headcount	Percent of Students on Academic Probation or Suspension
2013-14	445	**8,102**	5.5%
2014-15	466	**9,435**	4.9%
2015-16	335	**4,529**	7.4%
2016-17	312	**5,723**	5.5%
2017-18	260	**3,850**	6.8%

Source: Office of Institutional Research & Planning; Student Data Database (05/22/2018).

ACADEMIC HONORS

Students taking 12 or more credit hours included in GPA calculation and achieving a 3.5-3.89 GPA in a semester will be listed on the Dean's Honor Roll; those achieving at least a 3.9 GPA will be listed on the President's Honor Roll. Illus. 6.10 provides a five-year look at academic honors at MPCC.

Illustration 6.10: 2013-14 to 2017-18 Percent of Students with Honors, of Those Students with 12 or More, Credit Hours
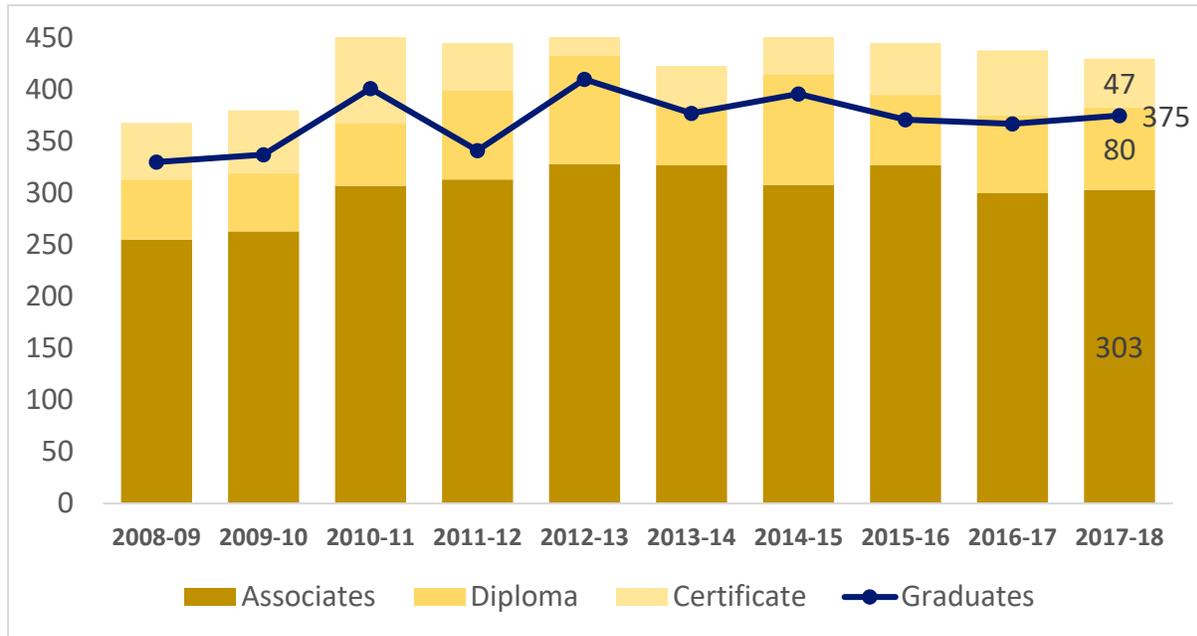
Academic Year	Headcount of Students with Academic Honors	Students Eligible for Honors (12+ hrs.)	Percent of Eligible Students with Academic Honors
2013-14	340	1,182	28.8%
2014-15	328	1,087	30.2%
2015-16	342	1,003	34.1%
2016-17	336	1,008	33.3%
2017-18	403	1,016	39.7%

Source: Office of Institutional Research & Planning; Student Data Database (05/22/2018).

MPCC Graduates and Awards Conferred

MPCC presented 430 awards (degrees, diplomas, & certificates) to 375 individual graduates during the 2017-18 academic year.

Illustration 6.11: 10-Year MPCC Graduate Headcount Trend

Source: Office of Institutional Research and Planning; Potential Graduates Database, Graduates by Date Conferred (07/17/2018).

Graduation & Transfer-Out Information

Illustration 6.12: 5-Yr Trend, Mid-Plains Community College Graduation and Transfer-Out Rates

Year(Cohort)	Cohort Size	Graduation Rate	Transfer-out Rate	CC Success Rate
2013-14 (Fall 2010)	401	34%	20%	54%
2014-15 (Fall 2011)	439	33%	21%	54%
2015-16 (Fall 2012)	424	35%	22%	57%
2016-17 (Fall 2013)	398	34%	25%	59%
2017-18 (Fall 2014)	354	35%	22%	57%

Source: IPEDS College Navigator (07/17/2018).

Illustration 6.13: Nebraska Community College Graduation and Transfer-Out Rates, ranked by CC Success Rate (for students who began their studies in 2014).

Institution	Graduation Rate	Transfer-out Rate	CC Success Rate
Northeast CC	55%	13%	68%
Mid-Plains CC	**35%**	**22%**	**57%**
Central CC	40%	17%	57%
Western NE CC	31%	21%	52%
Southeast CC	31%	17%	48%
Metropolitan CC	16%	20%	36%

Source: IPEDS College Navigator (2013 Cohort), updated (7/17/2018).

Note: Community College (CC) success rate is the percentage of full-time, first-time students who graduated or transferred out within 150% of "normal time" to completion for their program.

Illustration 6.14: MPCC Peer Institution Graduation and Transfer-Out Rates, ranked by CC Success Rate (for students who began their studies in 2014).

Institution	Graduation Rate	Transfer-out Rate	CC Success Rate
Cloud County CC	36%	53%	89%
Coffeyville CC	40%	28%	68%
Allen County CC	30%	33%	63%
MN West Comm. & Tech College	44%	14%	58%
Mid-Plains Community College	35%	22%	57%
Carl Sandburg College	31%	24%	55%
Iowa Lakes CC	55%	0%	55%
Bay De Noc CC	30%	25%	55%
Southwestern Michigan College	25%	27%	52%
Western Nebraska CC	31%	21%	52%
Southeastern Community College	37%	14%	51%
Carl Albert State College	42%	8%	50%
Southern State CC	23%	19%	42%
Mid-State Technical College	42%	0%	42%
Flathead Valley CC	24%	14%	38%
Eastern Oklahoma State College	24%	13%	37%
Source: IPEDS College Navigator (2017-18 data), updated 07/17/2018.			
Note: Community College (CC) success rate is the percentage of full-time, first-time students who graduated or transferred out within 150% of "normal time" to completion for their program.			

GRADUATION RATE BREAKOUT

Graduation Rate for federal reporting requirements, which is published on the NCES/IPEDS website "College Navigator" is calculated based upon the percentage of full-time, first-time in college, degree or certificate seeking cohort (group of students) from a given fall snapshot that earn an award within 150% of normal time (3 years for associate degree, 2 years for diploma, 1-1 ½ years for certificate).

- For students who began their studies in 2014, Mid-Plains Community College (MPCC) reported a 35% graduation rate which put us **second** in the state, behind Northeast.
- 35% ranked MPCC fifth among our 15 peer institutions which are also rural, multi-campus institutions with similar enrollment, from the Midwest.

TRANSFER-OUT RATE BREAKOUT

Transfer-out Rate is based upon the same cohort as the Graduation Rate and measures the percentage of that cohort that has transferred to another postsecondary institution within three years for schools that have transfer as part of their mission.

- Mid-Plains Community College (MPCC) reported a 22% transfer-out rate for the 2014 cohort.
- MPCC was **first** in the state of the six community colleges.
- MPCC ranked **seventh** among our peer institutions (22%). Cloud County CC was first with 53%.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE SUCCESS RATE

Combining those students whom either graduated or transferred-out in the course of three years, MPCC ranked second in the state and fifth among our IPEDS peer institutions with a success rate of 57%.

For a more complete look at MPCC graduates, please see the 2016-17 Graduates at Work Report, available through the MPCC Office of Institutional Research and Planning.