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ABSTRACT

The data presented in this report supplements that contained in Report 6 of this series of reports on a longitudinal study of student progress in Hawaii community colleges. Among the findings reported in this study are: (1) continuation rates for new and transfer students at the fourth semester were 42% and 31% respectively with a higher rate among the males than females; (2) about three-fourths of new and over one-half of transfer students were full-time with a minimum load of 12 credits; (3) greater proportions of full-time students were found among vocational education majors than among liberal arts majors; (4) for both new and transfer students, credit-completion ratios were higher in their fourth semester than in their first; (5) females had higher graduation rates than males; (6) among the Hawaii campuses, Hawaii Community College had the highest graduation rate (22% for new and 31% for transfer students); (7) vocational education majors had higher graduation rates than their counterparts in liberal arts; and (8) overall, vocational education majors tended to have higher continuation, credit-completion, and graduation rates than liberal arts majors. Tables summarizing the data presented in the report are attached. (JDS)

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FALL 1974 ENTERING STUDENTS AT THE END OF THEIR FOURTH SEMESTER  
Fall 1974 Through Spring 1976: SECOND REPORT  
(A Supplement to Report 6, Student Flow Project)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
EDUCATION & WELFARE  
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Report No. 11

Student Flow Project

September 1976

Office of the Chancellor for Community Colleges  
Educational Services Division  
University of Hawaii

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## A. Introduction

In March 1976, Report 6 dealing with Fall 1974 entering students was released, based on a preliminary series of computer tables for the Student Flow Project. As a result of that analysis, computer tables have been revised in several ways:

1. Tables will be prepared at the beginning of each semester only (rather than at the beginning and end).
2. Continuation rates will be based on "potential registrants" each semester so as to delete graduates and reflect changes of majors (rather than on the Fall 1974 distribution of students).
3. Data on changes of majors will be by the six program clusters (business, education, health services, hotel/food services, public services, technology) as well as by vocational education as a group (rather than only for vocational education as a group).
4. An additional item will be data on credit-completion ratios.

This report is prepared as a supplement to Report 6 and will present data to show: (a) the effect of the above revisions and (b) the number of graduates who completed their work in Spring 1976. Findings will be briefly summarized and all tables are presented at the end of the report.

## B. Findings

### 1. Continuation Rates (Table 1)

Continuation rates, based on potential registrants each semester, are about one percent higher than those based on the distribution of entering students in Fall 1974. During Spring 1976, in the fourth semester, there were 2,912 new and 632 transfer students still continuing in the community colleges they entered in Fall 1974. This represents a continuation rate of 42 percent for new and 31 percent for transfer students. Other findings:

- a. Males had higher continuation rates than females, among new and transfer students, for each of the three semesters.
- b. New students, both males and females, had higher continuation rates than their counterparts among transfer students.
- c. Among new students, Hawaii, Kapiolani and Leeward had higher continuation rates in each of the three semesters than those of the other community colleges. Among transfer students, Hawaii, Honolulu and Leeward had higher rates than the others.

- d. Vocational education majors, among new and transfer students, had the highest continuation rates, compared to liberal arts majors and unclassified students. Especially high continuation rates were found among majors in business and technology.

## 2. Full-Time Rates (Table 2)

Since computer tables are now produced only at the beginning of each semester, full-time rates are based on credits attempted. Previous tables used "credits carried" in the computation of grade point ratios; this base is smaller than "credits attempted" since the former deletes credits for withdrawal grades, for incompletes and for credit/no credit courses. Table 2 presents data only for Spring 1976 since records of past semesters are based on "credits carried" rather than "credits attempted."

About 3/4 of new and over 1/2 of transfer students were full-time students with minimum credit loads of 12. Other details:

- a. Greater proportions of males than females were full-time students.
- b. In general, the campuses with high proportions of full-time students were Hawaii, Honolulu, Kapiolani and Maui.
- c. Greater proportions of full-time students were found among vocational education majors than liberal arts majors, for both new and transfer students.

There was quite a variation among vocational education programs; e.g., at least 80 percent of new students were full-time in education, hotel/food services and technology, while the full-time rate was 61 percent for public services majors.

## 3. Credit-Completion Ratios (Table 3)

These ratios are derived by dividing the number of credits earned by the number of credits attempted.

- a. For both new and transfer students, the credit-completion ratios (CCR) were higher in the fourth semester (.74) than those in the first semester of study (.68 and .70, respectively).
- b. Females, among new and transfer students, in each of the four semesters had higher CCRs than males. For example, among new students only, the rates for males were .66 in Fall 1974 and .72 in Spring 1976; for females, .69 and .76 for similar semesters.
- c. Among new students, higher CCRs were generally found at Hawaii and Maui Community Colleges; among transfer students at Hawaii and Honolulu. For both groups of students, Windward tended to have the lowest CCR in the four semesters under study.

- d. Among new and transfer students, vocational education majors, as a group, had higher CCRs than liberal arts majors and unclassified students. The highest rates were generally found among new and transfer students in health services and technology.

#### 4. Changes of Major (Table 4)

During the first four semesters, 876 changes of major were recorded with the following results:

	<u>Majors Out</u>	<u>Majors In</u>	<u>Net</u>
Liberal Arts	284	285	+ 1
Vocational Education	313	547	+234
Unclassified/Special	279	44	-235

Among new students, there are now more majors in business and technology. While 94 percent of liberal arts students who changed their majors selected vocational education programs, only 31 percent of vocational education students who made changes switched to liberal arts. Most changes by vocational education students were made to other programs in vocational education, sometimes in the same program cluster.

#### 5. Graduates (Table 5)

In Report 6, it was indicated that among new and transfer students, 121 and 112, respectively, had graduated by the end of the third semester (Fall 1975). Additional students completed their work in Spring 1976—416 new and 112 transfer students. The latest graduation rates, based on Fall 1974 entering students, are 8 percent for new and 11 percent for transfer students.\* Other findings:

- a. Females had higher graduation rates than males among new and transfer students.
- b. Hawaii Community College had the highest graduation rate among the campuses: 22 percent for new and 31 percent for transfer students. Maui Community College was next with rates of 15 and 13 percent, respectively. Both Leeward and Windward had relatively low graduation rates for new students.

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\*A recent California study indicated a graduation rate of 8 percent after three years of study in the community colleges (17 percent of full-time and 3 percent of part-time day and evening students). Source: California Postsecondary Education Commission, Through the Open Door; A Study of Patterns of Enrollment and Performance in California's Community Colleges (February 1976), p. 24.

- c. Vocational education majors had higher graduation rates than their counterparts in the liberal arts for both new and transfer students. Among new students, 3 and 19 percent, respectively, of liberal arts and vocational education majors, had graduated by the end of Spring 1976. Among transfer students, the rates were 7 and 26 percent, respectively. Health services majors had the highest graduation rate (51 percent for new and 49 percent for transfer students), followed by technology, 24 and 26 percent, respectively.

### C. Concluding Comments

Among Fall 1974 entering students in their fourth semester were found about 2/5 of new and 3/10 of transfer students. Some had graduated by the end of their fourth semester--8 percent of new and 11 percent of transfer students. Our next report will indicate progression (or lack of it) in the remaining two semesters of our study. Also planned is a study of continuation and graduation rates for the Community College System which will enable us to find out whether non-continuing students from one campus transferred to another community college and graduated.

What is noteworthy in this report are the differences between liberal arts majors and vocational education majors. The former group probably includes students with varying intensities of purpose. We find that vocational education majors generally tend to have higher continuation rates, higher credit-completion ratios, and higher graduation rates.

Also of interest are the differences among our seven campuses. Although part of the explanation may lie in the composition of their student majors, there may be other campus environmental factors affecting continuation rates, credit-completion ratios and graduation rates.

Campuses are encouraged to evaluate their data on student progression, to form hypotheses about their progression patterns and to plan for ways in which student progression might be improved.

TABLE I  
 CONTINUATION RATES, BY SEX, CAMPUS AND PROGRAM  
 FALL 1974 NEW AND TRANSFER STUDENTS  
 SPRING 1975, FALL 1975, SPRING 1976

Note: Continuation rates based on "potential registrants" each semester. This reflects graduations and changes of majors.

Characteristics	Spring 1975		Fall 1975		Spring 1976	
	New	Transfer	New	Transfer	New	Transfer
TOTAL	69%	60%	49%	40%	42%	31%
Male	71%	64%	52%	45%	45%	36%
Female	67%	56%	46%	34%	38%	26%
Hawaii CC	71%	73%	53%	47%	47%	42%
Honolulu CC	64%	62%	47%	45%	39%	37%
Kapiolani CC	72%	57%	50%	38%	43%	27%
Kauai CC	68%	54%	41%	35%	35%	32%
Leeward CC	72%	63%	52%	41%	44%	31%
Maui CC	64%	53%	45%	39%	41%	22%
Windward CC	66%	55%	42%	30%	32%	23%
Liberal Arts	75%	65%	54%	40%	45%	31%
Vocational Educ.	78%	78%	62%	59%	55%	49%
Business	(80%)	(74%)	(64%)	(55%)	(56%)	(43%)
Education	(66%)	(94%)	(45%)	(71%)	(42%)	(53%)
Health Svcs.	(70%)	(78%)	(38%)	(54%)	(36%)	(49%)
Hotel/Food Svcs.	(76%)	(75%)	(63%)	(50%)	(60%)	(37%)
Public Svcs.	(70%)	(79%)	(60%)	(59%)	(52%)	(51%)
Technology	(77%)	(82%)	(64%)	(64%)	(57%)	(57%)
Unclassified	39%	35%	18%	22%	13%	15%
Special	38%	32%	8%	9%	4%	2%

TABLE 2  
 FULL-TIME RATES, BY SEX, CAMPUS AND PROGRAM  
 FALL 1974 NEW AND TRANSFER STUDENTS  
 SPRING 1976

Characteristics	Spring 1976	
	New	Transfer
TOTAL	72%	55%
Male	74%	60%
Female	69%	47%
Hawaii CC	79%	69%
Honolulu CC	73%	60%
Kapiolani CC	72%	63%
Kauai CC	64%	35%
Leeward CC	69%	50%
Maui CC	75%	55%
Windward CC	66%	49%
Liberal Arts	72%	56%
Vocational Educ.	75%	62%
Business	(72%)	(53%)
Education	(85%)	(75%)
Health Svcs.	(76%)	(79%)
Hotel/Food Svcs.	(80%)	(50%)
Public Svcs.	(61%)	(45%)
Technology	(82%)	(69%)
Unclassified	25%	16%
Special	43%	50%

TABLE 3  
 CREDIT-COMPLETION RATIOS, BY SEX, CAMPUS AND PROGRAM  
 FALL 1974 NEW AND TRANSFER STUDENTS  
 FALL 1974, SPRING 1975, FALL 1975, SPRING 1976

Note: Ratios based on credits earned and credits attempted.

Characteristics	Fall 1974		Spring 1975		Fall 1975		Spring 1976	
	New	Transfer	New	Transfer	New	Transfer	New	Transfer
TOTAL	.68	.70	.71	.74	.73	.73	.74	.74
Male	.66	.67	.69	.72	.72	.71	.72	.70
Female	.69	.73	.73	.76	.75	.77	.76	.82
Hawaii CC	.74	.72	.76	.76	.82	.85	.77	.83
Honolulu CC	.66	.73	.72	.77	.71	.78	.71	.77
Kapiolani CC	.70	.69	.75	.76	.77	.76	.78	.81
Kauai CC	.67	.57	.75	.75	.79	.71	.78	.77
Leeward CC	.64	.71	.66	.71	.69	.69	.71	.69
Mau CC	.74	.75	.80	.74	.77	.76	.80	.73
Windward CC	.61	.60	.57	.65	.62	.56	.64	.67
Liberal Arts	.65	.67	.67	.68	.70	.69	.71	.69
Vocational. Educ.	.72	.74	.76	.80	.78	.78	.78	.79
Business Education	(.68)	(.71)	(.72)	(.76)	(.76)	(.75)	(.77)	(.74)
Health Svcs.	(.71)	(.74)	(.77)	(.73)	(.79)	(.78)	(.77)	(.60)
Hotel/Food Svcs.	(.85)	(.79)	(.84)	(.86)	(.82)	(.86)	(.90)	(.97)
Public Svcs.	(.81)	(.75)	(.83)	(.80)	(.76)	(.72)	(.67)	(.71)
Technology	(.63)	(.74)	(.68)	(.73)	(.70)	(.67)	(.68)	(.63)
Unclassified	(.73)	(.76)	(.80)	(.83)	(.80)	(.81)	(.81)	(.81)
Special	.62	.66	.68	.74	.66	.70	.67	.69
	.73	.82	.74	.65	.74	.34	.57	.67

TABLE 4  
 NATURE OF CHANGES OF MAJOR  
 FALL 1974 NEW STUDENTS ONLY  
 SPRING 1975, FALL 1975, SPRING 1976

From:	Liberal Arts			Vocational Education			Unclassified/Special			Total Classes						
	Total	Sp	Fall	Total	Sp	Fall	Total	Sp	Fall	Total	Sp	Fall				
	No.	1975	1975	No.	1975	1975	No.	1975	1975	No.	1975	1975				
To:																
TOTAL	284	1008	107	134	43	58	279	1008	151	100	23	876	1004	371	376	129
Liberal Arts																
Vocational Educ.	266	94	102	125	39	204	77	28	24	39	14	547	62	204	265	34
Business	(143)	(50)	(67)	(52)	(24)	(120)	(32)	(13)	(12)	(12)	3	(17)	(5)	(11)	(11)	(1)
Education	(5)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)		(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Health Svcs.	(18)	(6)	(7)	(11)	(4)	(6)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)		(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Hotel/Food Svcs.	(11)	(4)	(5)	(5)	(1)	(12)	(4)	(3)	(7)	(3)	(2)	(5)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Public Svcs.	(12)	(4)	(2)	(8)	(2)	(14)	(4)	(3)	(6)	(3)	(2)	(7)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Technology	(77)	(27)	(20)	(47)	(10)	(51)	(33)	(16)	(25)	(6)	(12)	(12)	(12)	(12)	(12)	(12)
Unclassified/Special	18	6	5	9	4	12	4	4	5	6	3	44	5	14	15	12

TABLE 5

GRADUATES, BY SEX, CAMPUS AND PROGRAMS  
FALL 1974 NEW AND TRANSFER STUDENTS  
FALL 1974, SPRING 1975, SUMMER 1975, FALL 1975, SPRING 1976

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Note: Details of graduates for Fall 1974, Spring 1975, Summer 1975 and Fall 1975 are found in Report 6 of the Student Flow Project (March 1976).

Characteristics	NEW				TRANSFER					
	Total Entering Students	Graduates		Total Entering Students	Graduates		Total			
		Fall 1974 thru Fall 1975	Spring 1976		Fall 1974 thru Fall 1975	Spring 1976		Fall 1974 thru Fall 1975		
<b>TOTAL</b>	7,046	121	416	537	88	2,125	112	111	244	12
Male	3,572	24	215	239	7	1,100	36	67	33	3
Female	3,472	97	201	298	9	1,925	78	36	171	13
No Data	2	0	0	0	0					
Hawaii CC	761	28	138	166	22	78	11	13	54	31
Honolulu CC	1,201	14	66	80	7	510	15	41	32	11
Kapiolani CC	1,461	58	58	116	8	411	32	21	43	13
Kauai CC	369	4	27	31	8	135	5	3	13	1
Leeward CC	2,223	9	43	52	2	702	35	21	33	1
Maui CC	511	8	70	78	15	144	13	3	13	3
Windward CC	520	0	14	14	3	145	3	1	3	3
Liberal Arts	3,261	10	103	113	3	843	33	33	31	7
Vocational Educ.	2,238	111	311	422	19	635	76	33	132	32
Business Education	(1,005)	(33)	(103)	(136)	(14)	(244)	(23)	(22)	(45)	(30)
Health Svcs.	(29)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(14)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(14)
Hotel/Food Svcs.	(148)	(48)	(27)	(75)	(51)	(81)	(26)	(14)	(47)	(49)
Public Svcs.	(141)	(3)	(20)	(23)	(16)	(26)	(7)	(3)	(5)	(12)
Technology	(167)	(5)	(5)	(10)	(6)	(63)	(3)	(3)	(15)	(34)
	(748)	(22)	(156)	(178)	(24)	(207)	(12)	(42)	(54)	(25)
Unclassified	870	0	2*	2*	<.5	463	1*	3	1*	<.5
Special	677	0	0	0	0	184	0	0	0	0

\*Coding.