



AB 705 Throughput Brief – 2020-21

This research brief examines throughput for English and math beginning with the Fall 2015 cohort. The students included in this analysis are the fall, first-time cohorts from each academic year. Throughput is defined as volume and percent of first-time students who complete transfer-level math and English in one year. Tables 1 and 2 show one-year throughput figures for English and math respectively, and Table 3 displays the one-year throughput for completion of both transfer-level English and math. Each of these tables are broken down by race and ethnicity.

Overall, English throughput increased from about 23% for the Fall 2015 cohort to about 43% for the Fall 2020 cohort, which is the second cohort to enter the college under full implementation of AB 705. Not only did the overall throughput rate increase by about 20 percentage points, but it increased for each of the subpopulations examined. For example, English throughput for Hispanic students was at 20% for the Fall 2015 cohort, which means one out of five students in the first-time cohort completed transfer-level English by the end of their first year. This rose to 40% for the Fall 2020.

Math throughput also increased from about 12% to about 23%, and all subpopulations increased their throughput rates. It is important to note that this math throughput measure, to be consistent with AB 705, requires completion of transfer-level math, not just degree-applicable math.

While throughput has increased substantially in both English and math, and gains have been made by all subpopulations, these tables reveal that gaps still exist for Hispanic and black students. For the Fall 2015 cohort black students had an English throughput rate of 15.3%, which is about seven percentage points below the overall rate of 22.7% for that cohort. For the 2020 cohort, black students had a throughput rate of 27.6%, which is about 15 percentage points below the overall rate. Similarly, black students increased their math throughput rates from 5.8% to 10.2%, but still lost ground relative to other students. As noted above, Hispanic students increased their English throughput rate, and also kept pace with others in the math throughput rate, but the gap was not narrowed.

Table 1. English One-year Throughput for First-time Students by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Fall 2015-16		Fall 2016-17		Fall 2017-18		Fall 2018-19		Fall 2019-20		Fall 2020-21	
	N	Throughput	N	Throughput	N	Throughput	N	Throughput	N	Throughput	N	Throughput
American Indian/Alaska Native	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Asian	158	34.8%	185	29.7%	193	35.8%	195	44.6%	173	57.2%	152	46.1%
Black/African American	190	15.3%	167	15.0%	210	12.9%	189	23.3%	164	29.3%	98	27.6%
Filipino	98	36.7%	85	35.3%	85	47.1%	103	57.3%	95	61.1%	80	53.8%
Hispanic	2,215	19.5%	2,227	20.6%	2,242	27.0%	2,469	31.6%	2,296	39.5%	1,771	39.6%
Pacific Islander	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
White	1,722	25.3%	1,713	27.7%	1,680	29.5%	1,656	37.8%	1,343	41.6%	1,252	47.7%
Multi Ethnic	269	25.3%	244	27.9%	257	35.0%	277	33.6%	274	47.8%	232	40.5%
Total	4,652	22.7%	4,621	23.9%	4,667	28.3%	4,889	34.3%	4,345	41.4%	3,620	42.6%

Note: Categories with N < 40 are suppressed.

Table 2. Math One-year Throughput for First-time Students by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Fall 2015-16		Fall 2016-17		Fall 2017-18		Fall 2018-19		Fall 2019-20		Fall 2020-21	
	N	Throughput	N	Throughput	N	Throughput	N	Throughput	N	Throughput	N	Throughput
American Indian/Alaska Native	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Asian	158	39.2%	185	31.4%	193	38.9%	195	31.3%	173	48.0%	152	40.8%
Black/African American	190	5.8%	167	5.4%	210	6.7%	189	3.7%	164	7.9%	98	10.2%
Filipino	98	23.5%	85	29.4%	85	30.6%	103	35.0%	95	36.8%	80	40.0%
Hispanic	2,215	8.5%	2,227	7.9%	2,242	12.9%	2,469	14.5%	2,296	16.0%	1,771	20.7%
Pacific Islander	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
White	1,722	13.4%	1,713	13.4%	1,680	16.3%	1,656	18.5%	1,343	23.2%	1,252	25.4%
Multi Ethnic	269	17.1%	244	15.2%	257	21.0%	277	20.6%	274	27.0%	232	21.6%
Total	4,652	12.0%	4,621	11.4%	4,667	15.5%	4,889	16.7%	4,345	20.4%	3,585	23.4%

Note: Categories with N < 40 are suppressed.

Table 3. English & Math One-year Throughput for First-time Students by Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Fall 2015-16		Fall 2016-17		Fall 2017-18		Fall 2018-19		Fall 2019-20		Fall 2020-21	
	N	Throughput	N	Throughput	N	Throughput	N	Throughput	N	Throughput	N	Throughput
American Indian/Alaska Native	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Asian	158	22.2%	185	20.5%	193	24.9%	195	24.6%	173	37.6%	152	25.0%
Black/African American	190	2.6%	167	4.8%	210	3.8%	189	2.6%	164	5.5%	98	4.1%
Filipino	98	17.3%	85	14.1%	85	25.9%	103	29.1%	95	32.6%	80	31.3%
Hispanic	2,215	4.7%	2,227	4.8%	2,242	9.5%	2,469	10.0%	2,296	12.9%	1,771	16.9%
Pacific Islander	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
White	1,722	8.1%	1,713	8.8%	1,680	11.6%	1,656	14.1%	1,343	17.9%	1,252	19.5%
Multi Ethnic	269	10.8%	244	8.6%	257	17.5%	277	14.8%	274	21.5%	232	15.5%
Total	4,652	7.1%	4,621	7.2%	4,667	11.3%	4,889	12.2%	4,345	16.2%	3,585	18.0%

Note: Categories with N < 40 are suppressed.