

# RESEARCH FINDINGS

May 2021

## Pasadena City College ADT Transfer Analysis

This study was designed to foster collaboration between community colleges and CSUs to help more students earn bachelor's degrees and secure living wage jobs. The summary below clarifies how results from a specific campus compared to results across the 16 community colleges and four CSUs that participated in the study. This study was conducted by WestEd and made available to PCC.

## **Summary of Findings**

Students who exited Pasadena College in 2017-18 earned credit awards at a rate that was comparable to community college students in the region. Pasadena College award earners completed associate degrees and earned multiple awards at higher rates and completed certificates at a lower rate. Like community colleges in the region, there was an increase in students earning ADTs at Pasadena College.

Compared to students in the region, Pasadena College award earners who exited in 2017-18 completed ADTs and associate degrees in similar academic fields. Post-transfer, Pasadena College ADT earners majored in academic fields that were similar to students in the region; higher shares of Pasadena College AA/AS earners majored in Business and STEM.

Pasadena College students who exited in 2015-16 transferred to a CSU4 at a rate that was comparable to community college exiters in the region overall, though transfer rates among ADT earners were higher than was average for ADT earners the region. Pasadena College ADT earners required the same time to transfer as ADT earners in the region; Pasadena College AA/AS earners required 1 year more than AA/AS earners in the region, on average. Like students in the region, most Pasadena College students who transferred to a CSU4 did so immediately. Pasadena College who earned ADTs had a higher CSU4 transfer rate than Pasadena College AA/AS earners.

Pasadena College CSU4 transfers had 2- and 3-year persistence and bachelor's degree attainment rates that were similar to CSU4 transfers overall. And like students in the region, Pasadena College ADT earners were more likely to earn a bachelor's degree within 3 years.

Compared to community colleges in the region, higher percentages of students within the Pasadena College sample identified as Black and Asian and a lower percentage identified as Latinx.

#### **Awards**

Among 15,091 Pasadena City College students who exited after the 2017-18 academic year

**Completion:** Similar to all community colleges in the study

16% had a credit award, compared to 15% overall in the study

## Type of Awards

Among 2,427 Pasadena City College students who exited after the 2017-18 academic year with a credit award

**Award Type**: More likely to earn AA/AS degrees than all CCCs in the study and less likely to earn a credit certificate than all CCCs in the study

- 43% of Pasadena City College students earned an ADT, compared to 40% overall in the study
- 47% of Pasadena City College students earned an AA/AS degree, compared to 37% overall in the study
- 11% of Pasadena City College students earned a credit certificate, compared to 23% overall in the study

**Multiple Awards**: More likely to earn multiple degrees than students from all community colleges in the study

52% of Pasadena City College students, compared to 29% overall in the study

#### **Growth in ADTs**

Among students who exited community college between 2015-16 and 2017-18

**Growth in Students Earning ADTs**: Similar to all community colleges in the study

- In 2015-16, 32% of Pasadena City College students earned an ADT, compared to 33% overall in the study
- In 2017-18, 43% of Pasadena City College students earned an ADT, compared to 40% overall in the study

## **Program of Study**

Among 4,018 awards earned by Pasadena City College students who exited after the 2017-18 academic year

Most Common Disciplines Before Transfer: Similar to all community colleges in the study

- ADTs
  - Pasadena City College students with an ADT were most likely to have earned their degree in Social Sciences (38%) and Business (20%)
  - Overall in the study, students with an ADT most commonly earned their degree in Social Sciences (47%) and Business (16%)
- AA/AS Degrees
  - Pasadena City College students with an AA/AS degree were most likely to have earned their degree in Interdisciplinary Studies (29%) and STEM (28%)
  - Overall in the study, students with an AA/AS most commonly earned their degree in Interdisciplinary Studies (38%) or STEM (24%)

Most Common Discipline After Transfer: Different from all community colleges in the study for AA/AS earners, but similar for ADT earners

- ADTs
  - Pasadena City College students who transferred to a CSU4 with an ADT were most likely to major in Social Sciences (35%) and Business (29%)
  - The most common ADT transfer student majors across the CSU4 were Social Science and Business
- AA/AS Degrees

- Pasadena City College students who transferred to a CSU4 with an AA/AS were most likely to major in Business (22%) and STEM (19%)
- The most common AA/AS transfer student majors across the CSU4 are Social Science and Business
- No Degree
  - Pasadena City College students who transferred to a CSU4 with no degree were most likely to major in Business (26%) and STEM (23%)
  - The most common no degree transfer student majors across the CCCs are Business and STEM

See the final two pages of this report to view the relationship between community college and post-transfer programs of study among Pasadena City College degree earners, broken out by students who earned AA/AS versus ADT degrees.

#### Transfer to CSU4

Among 14,578 students who exited Pasadena City College after the 2015-16 academic year

**Transfer to CSU4:** Similar to all community colleges in the study

• 6% of Pasadena City College students, compared to 5% overall in the study

**Transfer by Degree Type:** Similar to all community colleges in the study for AA/AS earners, but similar for ADT earners

- 42% of Pasadena City College students with an ADT transferred to CSU4, compared to 30% overall in the study
- 17% of Pasadena City College students with an AA/AS transferred to CSU4, compared to 16% overall in the study
- 4% of Pasadena City College students with no degree transferred to CSU4, compared to 3% overall in the study

Time from First Community College Enrollment to Transfer: Similar to all community colleges in the study

- 5 years for Pasadena City College students who earned an ADT or left with no degree, compared to 5 years overall in the study
- 5 years for Pasadena City College students who earned an AA/AS, compared to 6 years overall in the study

**Transfer Lag:** Similar to all community colleges in the study, the vast majority of students transferred immediately

• 93% of students who transferred to CSU4 did so immediately, compared to 93% overall in the study

**Benefit of ADTs for Transfer:** Similar to all community colleges in the study, students with an ADT have a higher transfer rate

• 42% of Pasadena City College students with an ADT transferred to the CSU4, compared to 17% with an AA/AS, and 4% with no degree

#### Post-Transfer Outcomes at a CSU4

Among 803 students who exited Pasadena City College after the 2015-16 academic year and enrolled directly in a CSU4

**Persistence at a CSU4:** Similar to all community colleges in the study

- 92% of students who transferred to CSU4 persisted to a second year, compared to 89% overall in the study
- 84% of students who transferred to CSU4 persisted to a third year, compared to 80% overall in the study

**Bachelor's Degree Completion:** Similar to all community colleges in the study

- 39% of Pasadena City College students earned a bachelor's degree within 2 years, compared to 36% overall in the study
- 72% of Pasadena City College students earned a bachelor's degree within 3 years, compared to 69% overall in the study

**Benefit of ADTs for Bachelor's Degree Completion:** Similar to all community colleges in the study, students with an ADT are more likely to earn a bachelor's degree within 2 years

- 48% of Pasadena City College students with an ADT earned a bachelor's degree within 2 years, compared to 33% with an AA/AS, and 37% with no degree
- 82% of Pasadena City College students with an ADT earned a bachelor's degree within 3 years, compared to 75% with an AA/AS, and 66% with no degree

### **Student Composition**

Among Pasadena City College students who exited community college in 2017-18

Comparison: More Black/African American and Asian students and fewer Hispanic/Latinx students than all community colleges in the study

Pasadena City College students were:

- 45% Latinx, compared to 50% overall in the study
- 17% White, compared to 19% overall in the study
- 44% Black/African American, compared to 8% overall in the study
- 25% Asian, compared to 11% overall in the study
- 59% Economically disadvantaged, compared to 56% overall in the study
- 54% Female, compared to 55% overall in the study
- 30% Aged 30 or older, compared to 31% overall in the study

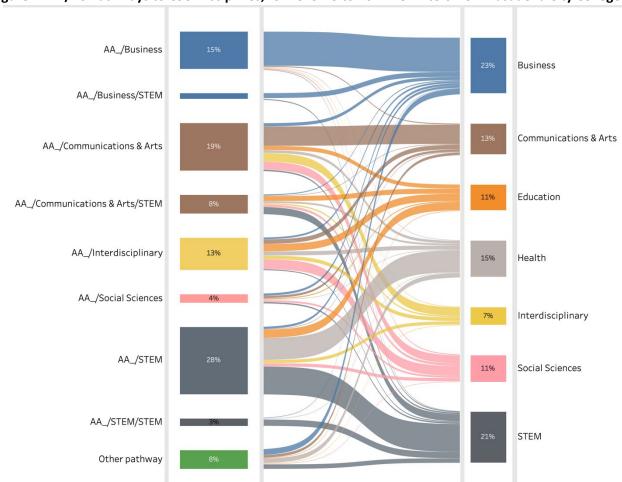


Figure 1: AA/AS Pathways to CSU Disciplines, for 2015-16 to 2017-18 Exiters from Pasadena City College

Source: Analysis of student data from the 16 participating community colleges.

Note: There were 541 students who exited Pasadena City College with at least an AA/AS and no ADT in 2015-16, 2016-17, or 2017-18 and transferred to the CSU4 by 2018-19. Degree combinations earned by fewer than 10 students were combined into the category Other. To streamline the list of combinations, the Interdisciplinary AA was not included in this figure as a combination unless it was the only AA/AS earned.

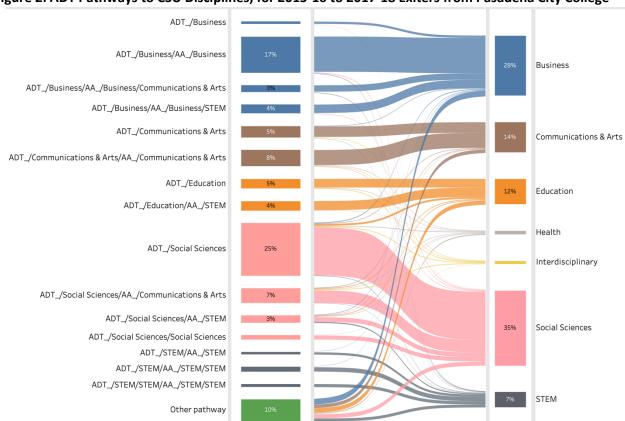


Figure 2: ADT Pathways to CSU Disciplines, for 2015-16 to 2017-18 Exiters from Pasadena City College

Source: Analysis of student data from the 16 participating community colleges.

Note: There were 1,030 students who exited Pasadena City College with at least an ADT in 2015-16, 2016-17, or 2017-18 and transferred to the CSU4 by 2018-19. Degree combinations earned by fewer than 10 students were combined into the category Other. To streamline the list of combinations, the Interdisciplinary AA was not included in this figure as a combination unless it was the only AA/AS earned.