

Section 5

Attainment and Retention at the First Institution

Table 5.1—Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students according to attainment and retention at the first institution as of spring 1994, by first institution attended, first degree working toward, and highest degree attained

	First degree attained at the first institution				Attainment and retention at the first institution			
	None	Certificate	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	No degree			
					Attained degree	Enrolled	Not enrolled	Trans- ferred
Total	63.1	8.2	9.9	18.8	36.9	6.4	27.9	28.8
Level and control of first institution								
4-year								
Public	58.2	0.6	2.4	38.8	41.8	11.6	18.9	27.7
Private, not-for-profit	42.3	0.8	1.5	55.3	57.7	2.3	11.2	28.8
Private, for-profit	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-year								
Public	77.8	5.0	17.2	†	22.2	6.4	38.7	32.7
Private, not-for-profit	58.7	12.2	29.1	†	41.3	0.3	16.3	42.2
Private, for-profit	58.8	18.4	22.8	†	41.2	0.5	35.3	23.0
Less-than-2-year								
Public	55.3	44.7	†	†	44.7	0	35.4	19.9
Private, not-for-profit	40.6	59.4	†	†	59.4	0	17.0	23.7
Private, for-profit	40.0	60.0	†	†	60.0	0	28.9	11.2
Level of first institution								
4-year	53.0	0.6	2.1	44.2	47.0	8.6	16.4	28.1
2-year	75.7	6.3	18.0	†	24.3	5.7	37.7	32.3
Less-than-2-year	43.3	56.7	†	†	56.7	0	29.8	13.5
Control of first institution								
Public	69.7	4.3	11.1	14.9	30.3	8.2	31.0	30.5
Private, not-for-profit	44.0	3.4	4.5	48.1	56.0	2.1	11.9	30.1
Private, for-profit	47.0	44.6	8.4	0	53.0	0.2	31.2	15.5
Degree working toward at first institution								
None	96.8	2.5	0	0.7	3.2	2.0	56.3	38.5
Certificate	53.0	43.6	2.8	0.6	47.0	1.8	36.9	14.3
Associate's degree	70.9	3.9	23.7	1.4	29.0	5.2	34.9	30.9
Bachelor's degree	57.2	0.6	5.2	37.0	42.8	9.2	16.8	31.2
Highest degree attained*								
None	100.0	†	†	†	†	12.8	55.7	31.5
Certificate	38.8	61.2	†	†	61.2	†	†	38.8
Associate's degree	28.2	1.9	69.9	†	71.8	†	†	28.2
Bachelor's degree	18.7	0.3	7.9	73.0	81.3	†	†	18.7

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.
†Not applicable.

*At any institution.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study—Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94), Data Analysis System.

Table 5.2—Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students according to attainment and retention at the first institution as of spring 1994, by attendance patterns through first degree attained (if any) or last enrollment

	First degree attained at the first institution				Attainment and retention at the first institution No degree			
	None	Certificate	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Attained degree	Enrolled	Not enrolled	Trans- ferred
Total	63.1	8.2	9.9	18.8	36.9	6.4	27.9	28.8
Number of months enrolled through first degree*								
Less than 12 months	79.5	19.8	0.7	0	20.5	0	66.3	13.2
12–24 months	67.7	11.8	19.4	1.1	32.3	3.4	27.4	36.8
25–36 months	56.5	1.7	19.8	22.0	43.5	4.6	16.9	35.0
37–48 months	46.9	0.6	5.7	46.8	53.1	12.3	5.1	29.5
More than 48 months	62.5	0.8	2.6	34.1	37.5	21.4	1.7	39.5
Intensity of enrollment through first degree*								
Exclusively part time	84.6	13.8	1.2	0.5	15.4	4.2	67.7	12.7
Mixed	64.4	2.4	12.2	21.0	35.6	9.1	13.9	41.4
Exclusively full time	51.1	11.9	11.6	25.4	48.9	4.5	23.9	22.6
Enrollment continuity through first degree*								
Continuously enrolled	54.7	10.6	11.6	23.0	45.3	4.4	31.4	18.9
Not continuously enrolled	83.0	2.5	5.8	8.7	17.0	11.3	19.5	52.3
Transfer status through first degree*								
Did not transfer	48.2	11.5	13.9	26.4	51.8	9.0	39.2	†
Transferred	100.0	†	†	†	†	†	†	100.0
Academic year of last enrollment								
1989–90	85.1	14.9	0	0	14.9	†	83.7	1.4
1990–91	63.9	27.4	8.7	0	36.1	†	44.2	19.7
1991–92	72.1	7.5	15.3	5.2	27.9	†	32.2	39.9
1992–93	32.6	2.3	10.6	54.6	67.4	†	10.4	22.2
1993–94	62.8	2.8	12.2	22.2	37.2	15.3	6.0	41.5
Transfer status and enrollment continuity through first degree*								
Did not transfer, continuously enrolled	44.2	13.1	14.3	28.4	55.8	5.4	38.8	†
Did not transfer, not continuously enrolled	64.4	5.2	12.1	18.3	35.6	23.6	40.8	†
Transferred, continuously enrolled	100.0	†	†	†	†	†	†	100.0
Transferred, not continuously enrolled	100.0	†	†	†	†	†	†	100.0

*Through first degree (if any) or last enrollment.

†Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study—Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94), Data Analysis System.

Table 5.3—Retention at the first institution of 1989–90 beginning 1994 students by race/ethnicity, sex, attainment and

	First degree attained at the first institution				Attainment and retention at the first institution			
	None	Certificate	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Attained degree	Enrolled	Not enrolled	Trans- ferred
Total	63.1	8.2	9.9	18.8	36.9	6.4	27.9	28.8
Gender								
Male	67.2	6.7	8.3	17.8	32.8	7.9	28.3	31.0
Female	59.5	9.5	11.3	19.7	40.5	5.1	27.5	26.8
Age when began at first institution								
18 years or younger	57.0	3.8	11.4	27.8	43.0	6.5	18.8	31.8
19 years	71.6	9.0	8.9	10.6	28.4	5.3	33.9	32.3
20–29 years	71.4	18.2	7.8	2.5	28.6	7.6	42.5	21.4
30 years or older	75.8	17.9	5.3	1.0	24.2	5.2	52.6	18.0
Socioeconomic status								
Lowest quartile	69.8	18.5	7.6	4.1	30.2	6.2	45.7	17.9
Middle quartiles	66.8	9.8	10.4	13.0	33.2	7.1	30.9	28.8
Highest quartile	56.3	2.6	10.1	30.9	43.7	5.6	17.9	32.8
Race-ethnicity of student								
American Indian/Alaskan Native	59.5	16.7	10.0	13.8	40.5	21.5	15.7	22.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	55.2	7.7	7.3	29.8	44.8	10.6	14.9	29.6
Black, non-Hispanic	70.9	10.3	6.2	12.6	29.1	7.3	33.1	30.5
Hispanic	71.4	6.0	11.4	11.2	28.6	11.8	25.5	34.0
White, non-Hispanic	61.7	8.1	10.3	19.9	38.3	5.4	28.3	28.0
Marital status when began at first institution								
Not married	61.2	6.6	10.4	21.9	38.8	6.6	23.8	30.8
Married	72.0	17.6	8.5	1.9	28.0	5.9	52.2	14.0
Separated	71.2	26.4	1.8	0.6	28.8	0.7	52.9	17.5
Parental education								
Less than high school diploma	70.2	16.4	7.0	6.4	29.8	4.9	41.8	23.5
High school diploma	66.8	10.8	11.2	11.2	33.2	5.9	33.6	27.3
Some postsecondary	60.2	7.6	12.0	20.2	39.8	7.1	25.5	27.6
Bachelor's or higher	57.3	2.5	9.1	31.0	42.7	7.2	16.0	34.1
Dependency status in 1989–90								
Dependent	59.9	4.7	11.0	24.4	40.1	6.6	21.5	31.9
Independent	72.2	18.4	6.6	2.8	27.8	6.0	46.5	19.8
Income and dependency status in 1989–90								
Dependent								
Less than \$20,000	66.5	7.3	11.3	14.9	33.5	7.8	29.0	29.6
\$20,000–39,999	63.5	4.9	11.9	19.8	36.5	5.7	23.6	34.2
\$40,000–59,999	55.3	4.4	12.8	27.5	44.7	7.6	18.9	28.8
\$60,000 or more	53.6	2.2	7.2	37.0	46.4	5.2	13.8	34.6
Independent								
Less than \$10,000	69.0	19.8	7.2	4.0	31.0	5.4	37.3	26.4
\$10,000–19,999	68.2	22.5	6.2	3.2	31.8	5.4	50.6	12.1
\$20,000 or more	79.8	13.0	6.1	1.0	20.1	7.4	55.1	17.4

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study—Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94), Data Analysis System.

Table 5.4—Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students according to attainment and retention at the first institution as of spring 1994, by persistence risk factors when they began at first institution

	First degree attained at the first institution				Attainment and retention at the first institution			
	None	Certificate	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Attained degree	Enrolled	Not enrolled	Trans- ferred
Total	63.1	8.2	9.9	18.8	36.9	6.4	27.9	28.8
Number of risk factors when began at first institution ¹								
None	52.7	3.8	11.6	32.0	47.3	7.1	15.0	30.5
One	64.1	4.6	11.6	19.7	35.9	4.7	25.6	33.8
Two	72.3	14.7	7.9	5.1	27.8	4.8	37.9	29.5
Three or more	75.8	16.2	6.3	1.6	24.2	7.4	47.5	20.9
High school diploma or equivalency status								
High school diploma	62.5	7.3	10.2	20.0	37.5	6.7	26.6	29.1
GED or high school equivalent ²	71.4	21.7	4.8	2.0	28.6	1.7	46.5	23.2
Delayed postsecondary enrollment								
Did not delay	58.0	4.0	11.4	26.6	42.0	6.5	19.5	32.0
Delayed	73.5	16.9	6.8	2.8	26.5	6.3	45.3	22.0
Attendance status when began at first institution								
Full time	55.6	7.8	11.4	25.1	44.4	6.3	20.1	29.2
Part time	83.0	7.4	7.6	2.0	17.0	8.1	45.4	29.4
Dependency status when began at first institution								
Dependent	56.5	4.4	11.3	27.8	43.5	6.0	18.8	31.7
Independent	73.3	14.6	7.6	4.5	26.6	7.3	41.7	24.3
Number of children when began at first institution								
None	61.5	6.0	10.4	22.0	38.5	6.8	24.3	30.4
One or more	71.9	20.4	6.4	1.3	28.1	4.9	48.2	18.8
Single parent status when began at first institution								
Not a single parent	62.1	7.1	10.4	20.4	37.9	6.7	26.5	28.9
Single parent	71.5	23.6	3.4	1.5	28.5	2.8	46.5	22.1
Worked full time while enrolled when began at first institution								
Did not work full time	59.4	8.7	10.6	21.4	40.6	6.2	23.1	30.1
Worked full time	71.4	7.5	8.1	12.9	28.6	7.5	39.2	24.7

¹Risk factors included delayed enrollment, being a GED recipient, being financially independent, having children, being a single parent, part time attendance, and working full time while enrolled.

²Passed tests of General Educational Development or high school equivalent, also includes a small number of cases with no high school diploma.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study—Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94), Data Analysis System.

Table 5.5—Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students according to attainment and retention at the first institution as of spring 1994, by social, academic, and work experiences and measure of satisfaction during the 1989–90 academic year

	First degree attained at the first institution				Attainment and retention at the first institution			
					No degree			
	None	Certificate	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Attained degree	Enrolled	Not enrolled	Trans- ferred
Total	63.1	8.2	9.9	18.8	36.9	6.4	27.9	28.8
Index of social integration in 1989–90								
Low	79.1	10.8	7.6	2.5	20.9	6.9	50.0	22.2
Moderate	65.9	8.4	10.9	14.8	34.0	6.8	28.7	30.5
High	52.3	6.6	9.2	31.9	47.7	5.6	17.5	29.2
Index of academic integration in 1989–90								
Low	79.9	9.4	6.7	4.0	20.1	6.5	45.6	27.8
Moderate	67.8	8.3	11.1	12.8	32.2	7.1	34.4	26.3
High	57.7	7.6	9.6	25.1	42.3	6.1	21.3	30.3
Local residence in 1989–90								
Campus housing	46.0	2.1	3.5	48.4	54.0	6.2	11.1	28.7
Off-campus	70.6	16.0	8.4	5.0	29.4	4.7	41.4	24.5
With parents	69.9	7.0	15.6	7.5	30.1	7.8	30.3	31.8
Educational aspirations in 1989–90								
Trade school	55.1	40.1	4.4	0.4	44.9	2.1	41.0	12.0
2-year degree	75.1	12.9	11.0	1.0	24.9	6.3	45.4	23.4
Bachelor's degree	69.0	4.5	12.7	13.8	31.0	7.8	27.0	34.2
Advanced degree	55.6	2.2	8.6	33.6	44.4	6.3	18.8	30.5
Satisfaction with first institution in 1989–90								
Low	71.4	18.3	4.9	5.3	28.6	2.5	21.6	47.3
Moderate	63.2	10.4	8.0	18.4	36.8	5.9	19.3	38.0
High	61.3	7.1	11.3	20.4	38.7	7.1	27.5	26.7
Average hours worked while enrolled in 1989–90								
Less than 5 hours	58.2	13.4	7.7	20.8	41.8	4.5	26.6	27.1
5–15 hours	52.0	4.2	11.5	32.3	48.0	7.2	13.7	31.2
16–25 hours	60.7	7.3	11.1	21.0	39.3	5.8	23.7	31.2
26–34 hours	63.8	6.9	14.3	15.0	36.2	8.8	23.2	31.8
More than 34 hours	72.0	7.1	8.2	12.7	28.0	6.8	39.0	26.2
Grade point average in 1989–90								
Less than C's	79.9	3.5	5.4	11.3	20.1	6.3	32.0	41.6
Mostly C's	69.9	4.0	9.8	16.3	30.1	8.1	29.1	32.7
B's and C's	59.7	4.0	10.0	26.4	40.3	8.5	20.3	30.8
Mostly B's	56.5	4.7	12.7	26.1	43.5	5.3	23.2	28.0
A's and B's	45.3	10.0	11.1	33.6	54.7	6.0	17.6	21.6
Mostly A's	53.7	14.8	12.9	18.6	46.3	7.4	28.9	17.4
Number of types of remedial instruction received in 1989–90								
None	61.5	8.6	10.0	19.9	38.5	6.1	27.2	28.1
One	67.0	6.4	12.5	14.1	33.0	6.5	28.2	32.3
Two or more	77.5	6.1	5.1	11.2	22.5	10.0	35.6	32.0

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study—Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94), Data Analysis System.

Table 5.6—Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students according to attainment and retention at the first institution as of spring 1994, by education financing during the 1989–90 academic year

	First degree attained at the first institution				Attainment and retention at the first institution No degree			
	None	Certificate	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Attained degree	Enrolled	Not enrolled	Trans- ferred
Total	63.1	8.2	9.9	18.8	36.9	6.4	27.9	28.8
Total costs in 1989–90								
Less than \$4,000	76.1	5.2	11.2	7.5	23.9	7.9	35.7	32.5
\$4,000–7,999	61.7	6.3	10.8	21.3	38.3	7.3	24.0	30.3
\$8,000–11,999	54.9	11.4	8.7	25.0	45.1	4.3	25.4	25.2
\$12,000 or more	39.4	16.7	6.0	37.9	60.6	2.9	16.5	19.9
Total aid amount in 1989–90								
None	70.2	5.5	10.7	13.6	29.8	8.0	30.2	32.0
Less than \$2,000	62.8	7.9	12.5	16.7	37.2	4.7	32.2	25.9
\$2,000–4,999	56.2	12.7	8.0	23.1	43.8	4.9	25.4	25.8
\$5,000–6,999	44.0	19.6	7.1	29.3	56.0	4.9	17.8	21.4
\$7,000 or more	38.3	8.4	3.9	49.5	61.8	2.2	13.2	22.9
Total federal aid amount in 1989–90								
None	66.2	5.3	10.8	17.6	33.8	7.3	28.5	30.5
Less than \$2,000	67.1	8.6	9.2	15.1	32.9	5.5	33.5	28.1
\$2,000–4,999	52.7	15.3	7.4	24.6	47.3	4.4	24.3	23.9
\$5,000–6,999	39.6	30.1	6.9	23.5	60.4	2.0	17.1	20.4
\$7,000 or more	33.1	22.3	6.9	37.6	66.9	1.3	12.6	19.2
Total loan amount in 1989–90								
None	66.1	6.3	10.7	16.9	33.9	7.2	29.1	29.8
Less than \$1,000	59.2	4.0	8.3	28.6	40.8	4.2	28.2	26.8
\$1,000–1,999	60.2	6.4	5.9	27.5	39.8	4.3	30.0	25.9
\$2,000–2,999	47.4	19.4	7.1	26.0	52.6	3.1	20.3	24.0
\$3,000 or more	43.9	24.5	5.8	25.9	56.1	1.8	18.3	23.8
Total grant amount in 1989–90								
None	67.9	6.7	10.5	14.9	32.1	7.2	29.4	31.2
Less than \$1,000	64.1	10.0	11.7	14.2	35.9	5.7	32.0	26.4
\$1,000–1,999	57.4	13.6	8.9	20.1	42.6	4.4	29.4	23.5
\$2,000–2,999	56.8	15.0	9.9	18.3	43.2	6.2	24.5	26.1
\$3,000 or more	42.5	4.8	5.1	47.5	57.5	4.3	15.0	23.3
Aid package at first institution in 1989–90								
No aid	70.3	5.4	10.7	13.6	29.7	8.0	30.1	32.1
Grants, no loans	55.1	6.3	12.0	26.6	44.9	5.8	25.5	23.9
Grants and loans	49.6	15.0	6.7	28.8	50.4	4.1	22.3	23.2
Loans, no grants	48.4	19.9	7.9	23.9	51.6	0.8	24.9	22.8
Other aid	64.6	8.8	8.3	18.3	35.4	5.6	31.8	27.1

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study—Second Follow-up (BPS:90/94), Data Analysis System.

