

Section 11

Persistence and Attainment During the Longest Spell
of Continuous Enrollment – Total

Table 11.1—Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students according to persistence and attainment during the longest spell of continuous enrollment, by institution attended, intensity of enrollment, degree working toward, and type of degree attained

	Attained degree at end of spell	Still enrolled in spring 1994	Spell ended with a transfer	Spell ended with a stopout	Left without return ¹ at end of spell
Total	36.8	7.3	17.4	11.9	26.6
Intensity of enrollment during longest spell					
Exclusively part time	8.0	5.3	16.2	22.0	48.6
Mixed	43.9	15.0	15.8	8.3	17.0
Exclusively full time	43.7	6.0	19.3	10.6	20.4
Level and control of longest institution					
4-year					
Public	42.9	14.2	16.1	10.3	16.5
Private, not-for-profit	57.5	4.7	17.4	8.8	11.6
Private, for-profit	—	—	—	—	—
2-year					
Public	19.7	5.4	21.3	17.3	36.3
Private, not-for-profit	39.0	1.3	31.4	9.3	19.0
Private, for-profit	45.5	1.0	7.4	5.1	41.0
Less-than-2-year					
Public	49.3	0.6	4.4	6.7	39.0
Private, not-for-profit	47.6	3.7	21.5	0	27.2
Private, for-profit	58.0	0.2	6.2	1.1	34.5
Level of longest institution					
4-year	47.1	11.4	16.5	9.8	15.2
2-year	22.4	4.9	20.5	16.0	36.1
Less-than-2-year	55.8	0.4	6.2	2.3	35.3
Control of longest institution					
Public	30.2	9.0	18.7	14.1	28.1
Private, not-for-profit	55.5	4.3	18.8	8.7	12.6
Private, for-profit	52.9	0.8	6.8	2.5	37.0
Degree working toward when began longest spell					
None	10.4	1.8	12.4	21.8	53.6
Certificate	44.8	2.2	8.1	7.6	37.4
Associate's degree	25.5	5.1	20.3	15.0	34.0
Bachelor's degree	43.9	10.9	19.8	11.4	14.0
First type of degree attained					
None	†	12.2	21.2	16.2	50.3
Certificate	61.1	3.9	21.4	7.3	6.4
Associate's degree	73.5	3.8	11.3	9.2	2.3
Bachelor's degree	81.0	0.9	10.3	6.9	0.9
Highest degree attained					
None	†	12.2	21.2	16.2	50.3
Certificate	62.0	3.8	20.4	7.6	6.3
Associate's degree	68.1	4.1	14.8	10.1	2.9
Bachelor's degree	81.9	1.1	9.6	6.5	0.9

—Too few cases for a reliable estimate.

†Not applicable.

¹Without return as of spring 1994.

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 11.2—Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students according to persistence and attainment during the longest spell of continuous enrollment, by demographic characteristics

	Attained degree at end of spell	Still enrolled in spring 1994	Spell ended with a transfer	Spell ended with a stopout	Left without return ¹ at end of spell
Total	36.8	7.3	17.4	11.9	26.6
Gender					
Male	32.0	8.0	19.7	13.9	26.5
Female	40.9	6.8	15.4	10.2	26.7
Age when began longest spell					
18 years or younger	44.9	4.4	20.9	12.2	17.6
19 years	34.6	6.6	19.2	13.7	25.9
20–29 years	27.2	15.0	12.2	10.7	34.9
30 years or older	24.4	3.2	10.7	10.7	51.0
Socioeconomic status					
Lowest quartile	29.5	6.0	9.5	10.6	44.5
Middle quartiles	32.8	7.5	17.5	13.7	28.5
Highest quartile	44.0	7.7	20.2	10.4	17.7
Race–ethnicity of student					
American Indian/Alaskan Native	41.8	11.0	8.9	11.2	27.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	45.1	9.3	19.3	12.3	14.0
Black, non-Hispanic	27.9	7.2	18.7	12.5	33.7
Hispanic	30.9	8.1	21.8	13.9	25.4
White, non-Hispanic	38.0	7.1	16.8	11.6	26.5
Marital status when began longest spell					
Not married	39.2	7.8	18.9	11.9	22.2
Married	26.0	4.6	7.3	14.0	48.1
Separated	26.1	0.8	12.9	5.8	54.4
Parental education					
Less than high school diploma	31.7	6.8	8.9	9.6	43.0
High school diploma	32.7	4.6	17.2	14.5	31.0
Some postsecondary	38.3	8.4	16.7	11.8	24.8
Bachelor's or higher	42.6	9.9	21.6	11.1	14.7
Dependency status in 1989–90					
Dependent	41.0	8.0	19.2	11.7	20.0
Independent	24.7	5.3	12.3	12.4	45.3
Income and dependency status in 1989–90					
Dependent					
Less than \$20,000	36.8	7.4	17.7	10.4	27.7
\$20,000–39,999	37.3	7.6	19.3	13.1	22.6
\$40,000–59,999	43.5	7.8	19.7	12.8	16.4
\$60,000 or more	47.7	9.7	19.9	9.6	13.0
Independent					
Less than \$10,000	26.2	7.6	15.1	9.8	41.3
\$10,000–19,999	28.9	2.6	10.0	15.7	42.8
\$20,000 or more	19.1	4.6	10.4	13.1	52.8

¹Without return as of spring 1994.

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 11.3—Percentage distribution of 1989–90 beginning postsecondary students according to persistence and attainment during the longest spell of continuous enrollment, by persistence risk factors when they began longest spell

	Attained degree at end of spell	Still enrolled in spring 1994	Spell ended with a transfer	Spell ended with a stopout	Left without return ¹ at end of spell
Total	36.8	7.3	17.4	11.9	26.6
Number of risk factors when began longest spell ²					
None	49.7	8.2	18.5	9.2	14.4
One	37.2	8.1	21.7	11.4	21.7
Two	25.1	7.3	16.7	13.6	37.4
Three or more	21.4	5.4	12.1	15.9	45.2
High school diploma or equivalency status					
High school diploma	37.5	7.7	17.6	11.8	25.4
GED or high school equivalent ³	25.7	2.8	14.7	13.0	43.8
Delayed postsecondary enrollment					
Did not delay	42.8	8.3	19.6	11.2	18.0
Delayed	24.2	5.4	12.8	13.4	44.2
Attendance status when began longest spell					
Full time	47.5	5.3	17.9	10.5	18.8
Part time	14.6	5.5	18.2	21.1	40.6
Dependency status when began longest spell					
Dependent	45.9	7.4	19.3	10.5	16.9
Independent	24.4	7.4	14.8	14.2	39.2
Number of children when began longest spell					
None	39.2	7.6	18.8	11.8	22.7
One or more	26.3	4.2	10.4	13.1	46.1
Single parent status when began longest spell					
Not a single parent	38.4	7.2	17.6	12.3	24.6
Single parent	26.8	4.5	13.2	10.7	44.8
Worked full time while enrolled when began longest spell					
Did not work full time	42.3	7.2	18.3	10.3	21.9
Worked full time	26.2	6.6	15.0	15.8	36.3

¹Without return as of spring 1994.

²Risk 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.

³Passed 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.