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March 18, 2022

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RE: State Performance Measures for 2020-21 Academic Year

The attached report highlights the progress made at the California State University (CSU) to improve graduation rates for all students while also increasing access to more Californians.

Ongoing Graduation Initiative 2025 efforts to strengthen student success and improve graduation rates continue to gain momentum. More CSU students are earning their bachelor's degrees than ever before, with nearly 113,000 graduating in 2020-2021, which is 25,000 more completions than the year before Graduation Initiative 2025 was launched. To continue to build on this progress – and to increase access to the university while closing equity gaps – sustained, predictable and sufficient state investment in the CSU will be necessary.

As required by Education Code 89295, the CSU shall report, by March 15 of each year, on performance measures for the preceding academic year and goals for the three academic years

CSU Campuses
Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
Fullerton
Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

CSU Report: State Performance Measures for 2020-21 Academic Year

March 18, 2022

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immediately following, to inform budget and policy decisions and promote the effective and efficient use of available resources. Enclosed is the CSU's report highlighting progress in state performance measures and an appendix of the data tables for each of the required performance measures.

Should you have any questions about this report, please contact Eric Bakke, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor, Advocacy and State Relations at (916) 445-5983.

Sincerely,



Bradley Wells (Mar 18, 2022 14:22 PDT)

Steve Relyea
Executive Vice Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

SR:dr

Full report posted to <https://www.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/government/Advocacy-and-State-Relations/Pages/legislative-reports.aspx>

- c: Members, California State Legislature
- Members, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
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Progress in Performance Measures

Graduation Initiative 2025: A Focus on Access and Equity

1 Introduction

The last two years have been challenging for students and their families throughout California. Despite the disruptive nature of the pandemic, California State University (CSU) students, faculty and staff persevered and, as a result of their efforts, more students earned their CSU degrees last spring than in any other time in the university's history. However, opportunities remain for even greater student success.

The differential impact the pandemic has had among communities of color and modest-income families has placed a renewed focus and urgency at the CSU in addressing growing equity gaps between the most vulnerable of students and their peers. The university has asked campuses to amplify their efforts by pursuing five equity priorities to ensure that all students have access to a earn a CSU degree. Those priorities include: advancing student re-enrollment campaigns across all 23 campuses; expanding credit opportunities through summer session and intercession; providing every CSU student access to a digital degree planner; identifying and removing administrative barriers; and promoting equitable learning and addressing courses with high failure or withdrawal rates.

Ensuring increased access to the CSU, supporting student success and advancing equity, and preparing its students to meet future workforce needs are shared priorities of both the university and the state of California. The university remains focused on driving completion rates even higher, ensuring that all students have the opportunity to graduate in a timely manner and collaborating with intersegmental partners to better serve the educational needs of the Golden State's students. In doing so, the CSU will continue to fulfill its founding mission to produce the graduates needed to power California's future prosperity.

These goals are ambitious and will require sustained, predictable and sufficient state investment in the CSU. Governor Newsom's proposed multi-year compact could provide essential consistency in helping to fund key initiatives that support greater student success.

2 Graduation Rates Continue to Rise

Since 2008, California State University graduation rates have increased consistently. This section of the report demonstrates the continued upward trajectory of graduation rates for first-time, full-time freshmen and students transferring from California community colleges, as well as the growth in the overall number of degrees conferred each academic year.

In addition, projections are provided for the next three years. These projections are based on the linear trajectory necessary to meet the following Graduation Initiative 2025 goals:

- A 40 percent four-year freshman graduation rate
- A 70 percent six-year-or-less freshman graduation rate
- A 45 percent two-year transfer graduation rate
- An 85 percent four-year-or-less transfer graduation rate

These goals are predicated on eliminating equity gaps that exist by race/ethnicity and for students from low socio-economic backgrounds.

As campuses continue to implement their local Graduation Initiative 2025 plans and as systemwide efforts continue, the CSU's graduation rates should continue to rise. While actual increases may not be linear from year to year, campuses are expected to make progress toward their goals over the duration of the initiative and beyond. Maintaining this momentum will require continued state investment in the CSU's student success efforts.

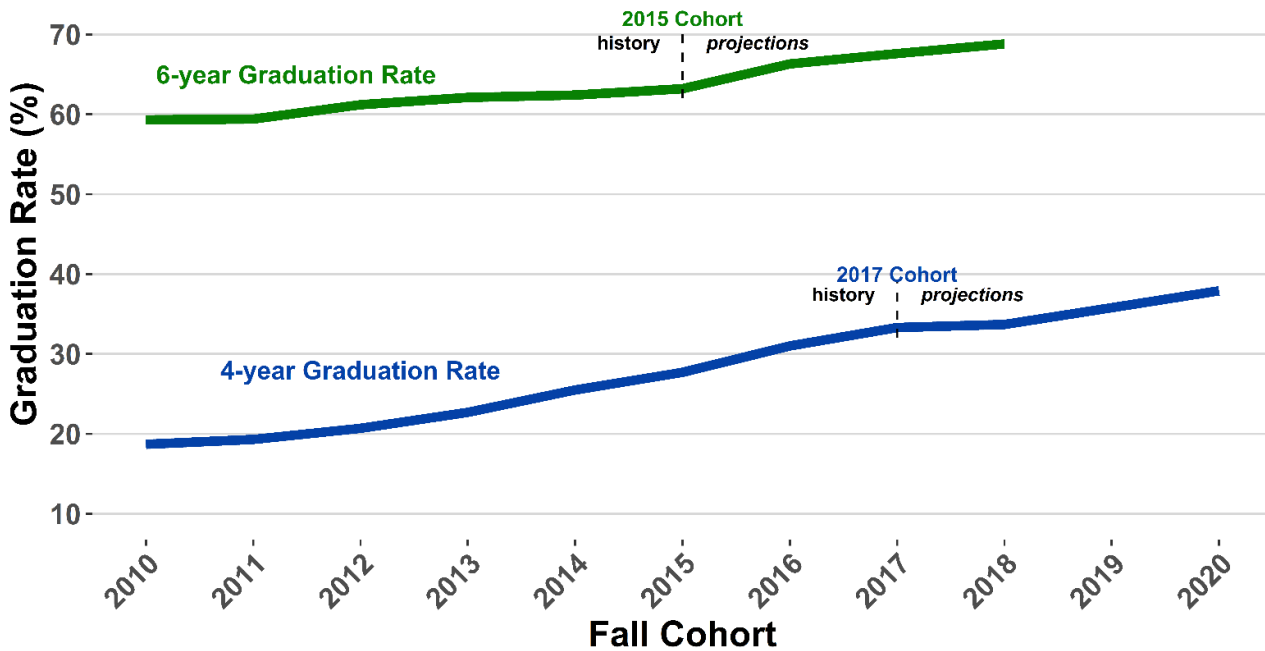
2.1 First-time, Full-time Freshmen

As demonstrated in the figure below (to the left of the dotted line), both the four-year and six-year graduation rates for first-time, full-time freshmen continue to increase. Four-year completion rates increased by more than five and a half percentage points for the most recent graduating cohorts. For the fall 2017 cohort, 33.3 percent of students graduated in four years, up from 31 percent for the fall 2016 cohort, and 27.7 for the fall 2015 cohort.

For the fall 2015 cohort, 63.2 percent of students graduated within six years, an increase from the 62.4 percent of students from the fall 2014 cohort.

This chart also shows the CSU’s projections for both the four-year and six-year graduation rates over the next three years (to the right of the dotted lines). Projections are based on the linear trajectory necessary to meet the Graduation Initiative 2025 goals for first-time, full-time freshmen; however, it is anticipated that annual progress will not always occur in a linear fashion.

Graduation Rates First-time Full-time Freshmen

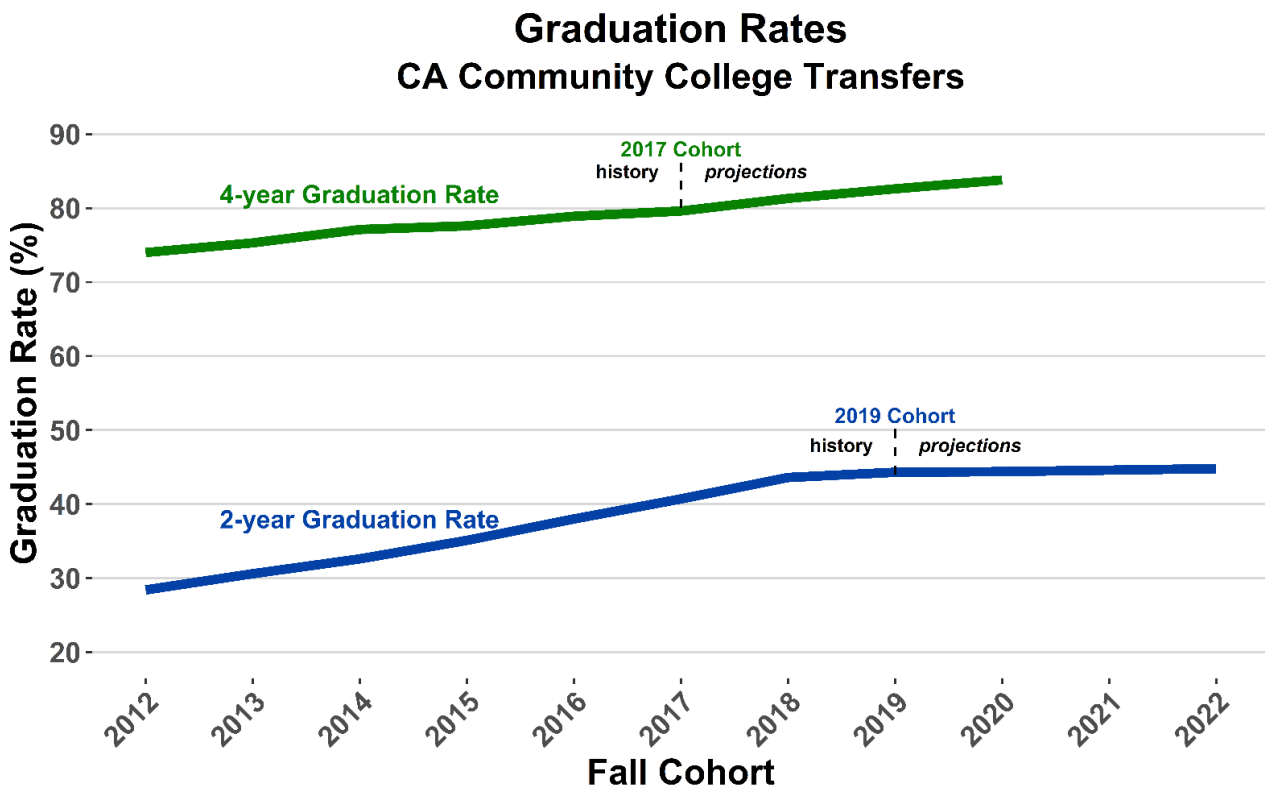


2.2 California Community College Transfers

As demonstrated in the figure below (to the left of the dotted line), both the two-year and four-year graduation rates for students transferring from a California community college continue to increase. Two-year completion rates for community college transfer graduates have increased most rapidly in recent years. For the fall 2019 cohort, 44.3 percent of transfer students graduated in two years, up from 43.6 for the fall 2018 cohort and 40.7 percent for the fall 2017 cohort.

For the fall 2017 cohort, 79.6 percent of transfer students graduated within four years, an increase from the 78.9 percent of transfer students who graduated within four years from the fall 2016 cohort. In all instances, the graduation rates increased for both Pell and non-Pell recipients.

This chart also shows the CSU's projections for both the two-year and four-year graduation rates over the next three years (to the right of the dotted lines). These projections are based on the linear trajectory necessary to meet the Graduation Initiative 2025 goals for students transferring from a California community college.

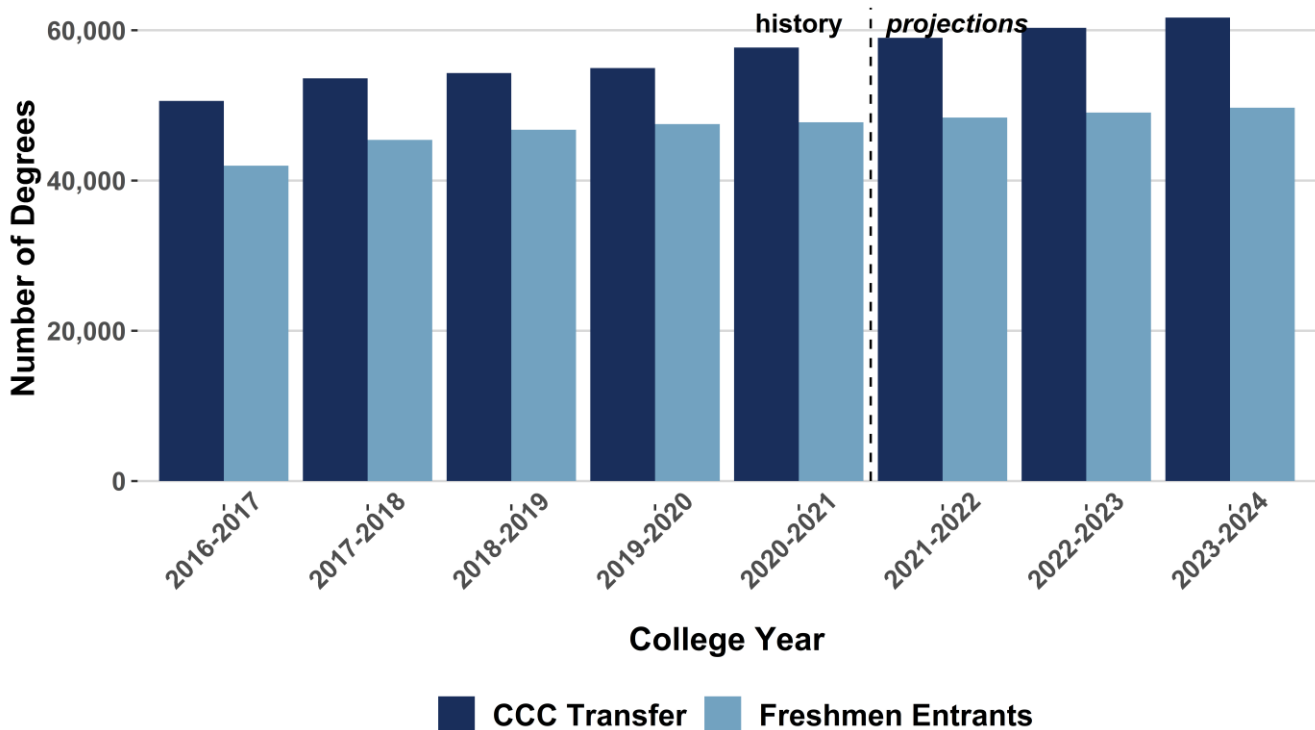


2.3 Annual Degree Completions

As demonstrated in the figure below (to the left of the dotted line), the total number of bachelor's degrees conferred at the CSU to freshmen entrants and students transferring from a California community college continues to increase. Since 2016-17, degree completions have increased by more than 11 percent. In 2020-21, 132,617 degrees were earned, a record high for the CSU. This includes more than 112,500 bachelor's degrees, an increase of 3,100 from 2019-20.

With continued additional investment, the CSU will be able to grow the number of new tenure-track faculty, hire additional advisors and add class sections to ensure students have access to the courses they need. With this investment, it is anticipated that the number of degree completions will continue to increase.

Bachelor's Degree Completions

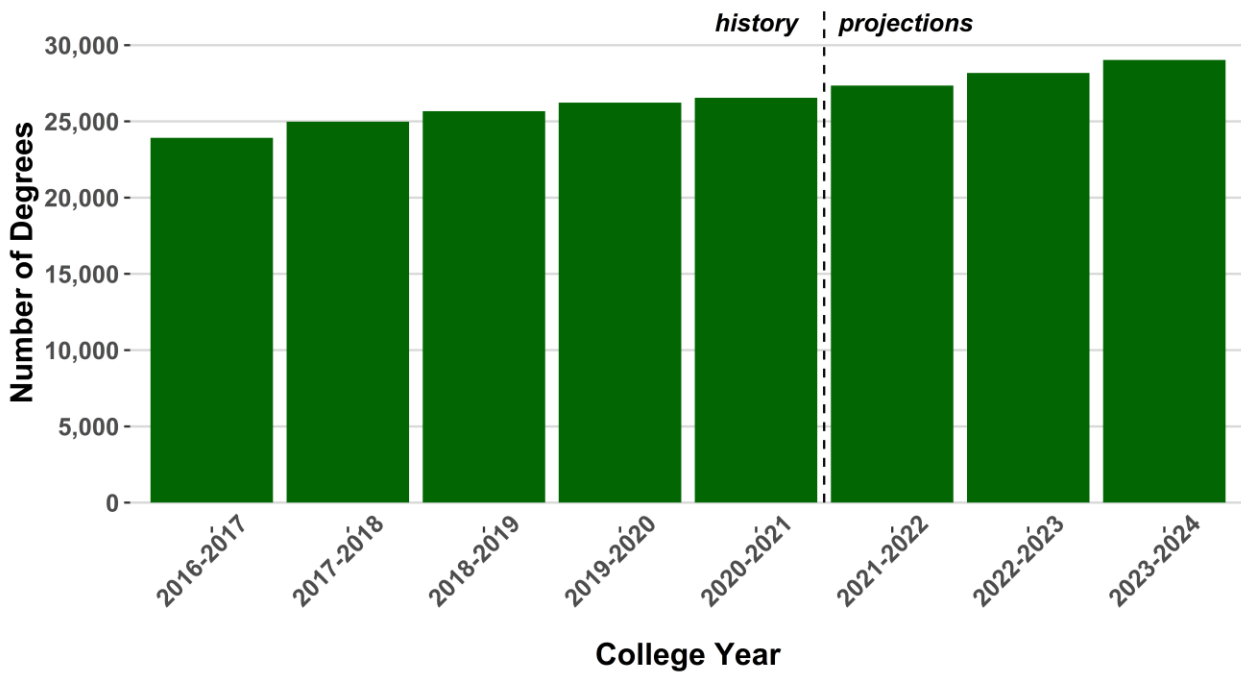


2.4 STEM Degrees Conferred at the CSU

There is significant demand in California and across the country for graduates with degrees in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Between 2016-17 and 2020-21, the number of undergraduate STEM degrees earned at the CSU increased by more than 3,700 or 20 percent, as demonstrated in the chart below (to the left of the dotted line).

The CSU continues to take steps to close equity gaps in STEM education by supporting underrepresented students pursuing STEM degrees. As a result, the projections (to the right of the dotted line) indicate expectations that the number of STEM degrees awarded will continue to increase.

STEM Degrees (Excluding Health Professions)



3 Supporting Student Success

According to the National Student Clearinghouse Research center, nearly one million fewer students have enrolled in higher education since the start of the pandemic. The report cites that undergraduate and graduate enrollment dropped by 2.7 percent in fall 2021 compared to the previous year, and 5.1 percent since spring 2020.

The CSU remains committed to ensuring that the necessary resources are in place to support the success of all students. Graduation Initiative 2025 has provided clear direction for the university systemwide through its six strategic pillars to degree completion: academic preparation; enrollment management; student engagement and well-being; financial support; data-informed decision making; and eliminating administrative barriers. Through the addition of the five equity priorities approved in late 2021, CSU faculty and staff are leveraging best practices and shared institutional knowledge to make data-informed decisions on how best to support students.

One key priority that is included in both Graduation Initiative 2025 and the university's systemwide equity priorities is addressing administrative barriers that can create unintended disruptions in a student's academic journey, particularly for students of color, first-generation students and students from modest-income families. Eliminating these barriers whenever possible can positively impact students' ability to graduate in a timely manner.

CSU campuses across the state are considering how to remove financial holds and, in some cases, waive fees and pay a portion of student debt to ensure students can remain enrolled or return to enroll after an absence over multiple semesters. At California State University, Sacramento a new program – the Hornet Debt Reset program – is helping to eliminate student debt for individuals who left short of graduation. California State University, Fullerton helped nearly 1,000 students in spring 2022 remain enrolled by helping to pay down student balances. After discovering that a portion of students mistakenly thought they had enrolled in spring 2022 courses, but did not, Cal Poly Pomona opened a second registration period for them and re-enrolled 600 students. Another 1,800 students had registration holds as a result of past-due balances removed temporarily, allowing them to successfully enroll for the spring semester.

As campuses continue to examine and revise administrative policies their efforts will impact both graduation rates and help in the university's collective efforts to eliminate student equity gaps systemwide.

4 Increasing Access Is a CSU Priority

Over the past five years, new undergraduate resident headcount enrollments increased by more than 10,300 students, with new resident transfer student enrollment increasing from more than 59,900 in 2016-17 to more than 71,300 in 2020-21. Per statute, the CSU is required to project enrollment figures for the next three academic years. While 2021-22 enrollment is not yet final, new resident undergraduate enrollment is expected to decrease by six to seven percent, while new California community college transfer enrollments for this year are expected to reach more than 65,000.

Consistent with national trends, factors resulting in reduced applications and enrollments at campuses across the CSU system were tied to the COVID-19 pandemic, with the largest declines among prospective first-time freshmen. The pandemic compelled many students to choose options other than enrolling in college, such as taking on additional work and family responsibilities. Additionally, the shift from in-person to virtual instruction and advising at high schools and community colleges, and the precipitous decline in community college enrollment during the pandemic, likely contributed to lower first-time and transfer student demand.

While the CSU remains committed to expanding access in current and future years, it is expected that these disruptions will contribute to turbulent enrollment for the system and other broad-access institutions in the near future. The CSU remains optimistic and focused on greater access for eligible Californians through sustained investments in enrollment growth and affirms its commitment to access and success for both first-time and transfer students.

5 Conclusion

The CSU's role in California's higher education framework has never been more important than it is today. In the current global economy, more students need a degree or credential beyond high school as the necessary pathway to a career. This shift coincides with the increase in the size and diversity of the state's college-going population. At the same time, California is facing a looming shortage of skilled, educated workers to drive its economy, spur innovation and lead its largest industries.

As demonstrated in this report, the CSU is making positive strides toward increasing graduation rates for freshmen and transfer students. Ongoing Graduation Initiative 2025 efforts promise to continue this momentum, to the benefit of students, their families and the state of California.

To maintain and build on this progress, sustained, predictable and sufficient state funding is necessary for the CSU's student success efforts. However, increasing graduation rates is only part of the equation. Meeting California's future workforce needs also requires investment to expand access to the CSU, providing the life-changing benefits of a college degree to more Californians.

With more than 100,000 Californians earning bachelor's degrees at the CSU every year – and with this figure poised to continue growing – there is no other investment that has the same potential to positively impact the future of the state.

Measure 1**Resident CCC Transfer Enrollment**

| Fall Term | Headcount | Percent of Total Undergraduates |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 2017 | 149,130 | 36.5% |
| 2018 | 146,825 | 36.1% |
| 2019 | 151,366 | 36.9% |
| 2020 | 161,012 | 38.9% |
| 2021 | 160,999 | 39.8% |
| 2022 | 162,609 | 39.8% |
| 2023 | 164,235 | 39.8% |
| 2024 | 165,877 | 39.8% |

*projection***Measure 2****New Resident CCC Transfer Enrollment**

| College Year | Headcount | Percent of Total New Undergraduates |
|--------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 2016-2017 | 59,904 | 48.4% |
| 2017-2018 | 59,059 | 46.8% |
| 2018-2019 | 59,619 | 46.4% |
| 2019-2020 | 65,320 | 49.4% |
| 2020-2021 | 71,370 | 53.2% |
| 2021-2022 | 65,081 | 52.0% |
| 2022-2023 | 68,856 | 52.0% |
| 2023-2024 | 69,545 | 52.0% |

*projection***Measure 3****Low-Income Student Enrollment**

| Fall Term | Headcount | Percent of Total Undergraduates |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 2016 | 205,757 | 48.5% |
| 2017 | 217,658 | 50.1% |
| 2018 | 213,578 | 49.3% |
| 2019 | 212,651 | 48.9% |
| 2020* | 208,947 | 47.7% |
| 2021 | 211,036 | 47.7% |
| 2022 | 213,147 | 47.7% |
| 2023 | 215,278 | 47.7% |

projection

* 2020 is the last Fall Term for which Pell data are available.

Measure 4**New Low-Income Student Enrollment**

| College Year | New Pell-Recipient Headcount | Percent of Total New Undergraduates |
|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2016-2017 | 66,463 | 50.1% |
| 2017-2018 | 69,987 | 51.7% |
| 2018-2019 | 70,080 | 51.0% |
| 2019-2020 | 72,328 | 51.4% |
| 2020-2021 | 71,547 | 50.1% |
| 2021-2022 | 72,262 | 50.1% |
| 2022-2023 | 72,985 | 50.1% |
| 2023-2024 | 73,715 | 50.1% |

projection

Measures 5 & 6
Graduation Rates
First-Time, Full-Time Freshmen

| Cohort | 4-Year | | | 6-Year | | |
|-----------|--------|---------|---------------|--------|---------|---------------|
| | All | No Pell | Received Pell | All | No Pell | Received Pell |
| Fall 2011 | 19.3% | 26.0% | 12.0% | 59.4% | 64.8% | 53.6% |
| Fall 2012 | 20.7% | 27.5% | 13.7% | 61.2% | 66.0% | 56.2% |
| Fall 2013 | 22.7% | 30.0% | 15.3% | 62.1% | 67.2% | 57.1% |
| Fall 2014 | 25.5% | 32.7% | 18.4% | 62.4% | 67.0% | 57.8% |
| Fall 2015 | 27.7% | 35.5% | 19.8% | 63.2% | 68.3% | 58.1% |
| Fall 2016 | 31.0% | 38.1% | 23.2% | 66.3% | 68.7% | 61.5% |
| Fall 2017 | 33.3% | 40.7% | 25.8% | 67.6% | 69.0% | 64.3% |
| Fall 2018 | 33.7% | 40.7% | 29.3% | 68.8% | 69.6% | 67.9% |
| Fall 2019 | 35.8% | 40.7% | 32.8% | | | |
| Fall 2020 | 37.9% | 40.7% | 36.3% | | | |

projection

Measures 7, 8, & 9
Graduation Rates
California Community College Transfers

| Cohort | 2-Year | | | 3-Year | | | 4-Year | | |
|-----------|--------|---------|---------------|--------|---------|---------------|--------|---------|---------------|
| | All | No Pell | Received Pell | All | No Pell | Received Pell | All | No Pell | Received Pell |
| Fall 2011 | 26.7% | 28.7% | 24.8% | 61.4% | 63.3% | 59.5% | 73.0% | 74.3% | 71.7% |
| Fall 2012 | 28.4% | 29.6% | 27.3% | 62.5% | 63.4% | 61.8% | 74.0% | 74.6% | 73.4% |
| Fall 2013 | 30.6% | 31.5% | 29.8% | 64.5% | 65.3% | 63.8% | 75.3% | 75.8% | 74.9% |
| Fall 2014 | 32.6% | 34.2% | 31.4% | 67.1% | 68.3% | 66.1% | 77.1% | 77.9% | 76.5% |
| Fall 2015 | 35.1% | 36.8% | 33.8% | 68.5% | 69.8% | 67.5% | 77.6% | 79.0% | 76.5% |
| Fall 2016 | 38.0% | 40.0% | 36.4% | 70.1% | 71.6% | 68.8% | 78.9% | 80.1% | 77.9% |
| Fall 2017 | 40.7% | 41.5% | 40.0% | 71.6% | 72.5% | 70.9% | 79.6% | 80.4% | 79.0% |
| Fall 2018 | 43.6% | 43.5% | 43.6% | 72.9% | 73.0% | 72.8% | 81.3% | 81.6% | 80.5% |
| Fall 2019 | 44.3% | 45.1% | 43.7% | 73.0% | 73.3% | 72.4% | 82.6% | 82.7% | 82.0% |
| Fall 2020 | 44.4% | 45.1% | 44.0% | 74.0% | 74.2% | 73.6% | 83.8% | 83.9% | 83.5% |
| Fall 2021 | 44.6% | 45.1% | 44.3% | 74.0% | 74.2% | 73.7% | | | |
| Fall 2022 | 44.8% | 45.1% | 44.7% | | | | | | |

projection

Measure 10
Annual Degree Completions

| College Year | Freshmen Entrants | CCC Transfer Students | Graduate Students | Total* | Low-Income Students |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------|---------------------|
| 2016-2017 | 41,970 | 50,597 | 20,503 | 119,365 | 57,935 |
| 2017-2018 | 45,403 | 53,609 | 20,489 | 125,920 | 61,590 |
| 2018-2019 | 46,760 | 54,304 | 20,081 | 127,400 | 63,020 |
| 2019-2020 | 47,506 | 54,969 | 19,475 | 128,925 | 64,772 |
| 2020-2021 | 47,745 | 57,695 | 20,051 | 132,617 | 65,935 |
| 2021-2022 | 48,387 | 58,994 | 20,394 | 134,901 | 67,116 |
| 2022-2023 | 49,037 | 60,322 | 20,743 | 137,228 | 68,318 |
| 2023-2024 | 49,696 | 61,680 | 21,098 | 139,600 | 69,542 |

projection

* Total includes all degree recipients, including those not reflected in the categories above (e.g. Non-California Community College transfers, etc.).

Measure 11
Freshmen Entrants with 30 or more Total Units at the start of Year 2

| Fall Enrollment | % of Students with 30 Units or More |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2016 | 53.4% |
| 2017 | 55.4% |
| 2018 | 60.5% |
| 2019 | 67.3% |
| 2020 | 69.6% |
| 2021 | 71.1% |
| 2022 | 72.6% |
| 2023 | 74.1% |

projection

Measure 12

CCC Transfers "on-track" to degree at the start of Year 2

To address Measure 12: The number of units taken by CCC transfers in their first year at the CSU is an unreliable proxy measure for that student being "on track" to graduate in 2 years. Most CCC transfer students have taken well over 60 transferrable units when they transfer to the CSU, and the CSU will accept up to 70 units. The determination of which of those 60-plus units will apply toward their bachelor's degree cannot be determined until a student applies for graduation, at which time a different set of transfer credits may be applied to the degree than was intended when the student first enrolled.

Measure 13

Revenue per Completion - All Students

| College Year | Completions | Total Funds Received | Dollars per Completion |
|--------------|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 2020-21 | 143,980 | \$5,921,882,000 | \$41,130 |
| 2021-22 est. | 146,746 | \$6,345,754,000 | \$43,243 |
| 2022-23 est. | 149,566 | \$6,695,250,000 | \$44,765 |
| 2023-24 est. | 152,441 | \$6,695,250,000 | \$43,920 |

projection

Measure 14

Revenue per Degree - Undergraduates Only

| College Year | Undergraduate Degrees | Estimated Funds Received from Undergraduates | Dollars per Undergraduate Degree |
|--------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 2020-21 | 112,566 | \$5,312,095,491 | \$47,191 |
| 2021-22 est. | 114,817 | \$5,692,320,653 | \$49,577 |
| 2022-23 est. | 117,114 | \$6,005,828,440 | \$51,282 |
| 2023-24 est. | 119,456 | \$6,005,828,440 | \$50,276 |

projection

Measure 15

Total Units Earned, per Bachelor's Degree

| College Year | All Undergraduate Students | | CCC Transfer Students | | Freshmen Entrants | |
|--------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| | CSU Units | Total Units | CSU Units | Total Units | CSU Units | Total Units |
| 2020-2021 | 89.1 | 137 | 62.9 | 137.3 | 123.9 | 135.6 |
| 2021-2022 | 88.1 | 136 | 61.9 | 136.3 | 122.9 | 134.6 |
| 2022-2023 | 88.1 | 136 | 61.9 | 136.3 | 122.9 | 134.6 |
| 2023-2024 | 88.1 | 136 | 61.9 | 136.3 | 122.9 | 134.6 |

projection

Measure 16a
STEM Degrees (excluding Health Professions)

| College Year | Undergraduate Students | Graduate Students | Total | Low-Income Students |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------------|--------|---------------------|
| 2016-2017 | 18,426 | 5,487 | 23,913 | 10,032 |
| 2017-2018 | 20,159 | 4,815 | 24,974 | 10,986 |
| 2018-2019 | 21,134 | 4,534 | 25,668 | 11,466 |
| 2019-2020 | 21,867 | 4,355 | 26,222 | 12,011 |
| 2020-2021 | 22,188 | 4,357 | 26,545 | 11,947 |
| 2021-2022 | 22,965 | 4,379 | 27,344 | 12,355 |
| 2022-2023 | 23,769 | 4,401 | 28,170 | 12,788 |
| 2023-2024 | 24,601 | 4,423 | 29,024 | 13,235 |

projection

Measure 16b
STEM Degrees (Health Professions* only)

| College Year | Undergraduate Students | Graduate Students | Total | Low-Income Students |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------------|--------|---------------------|
| 2016-2017 | 7,544 | 2,053 | 9,597 | 4,356 |
| 2017-2018 | 8,085 | 2,162 | 10,247 | 4,537 |
| 2018-2019 | 8,081 | 2,245 | 10,326 | 4,600 |
| 2019-2020 | 7,773 | 2,188 | 9,961 | 4,354 |
| 2020-2021 | 8,133 | 2,240 | 10,373 | 4,615 |
| 2021-2022 | 8,423 | 2,269 | 10,692 | 4,776 |
| 2022-2023 | 8,723 | 2,299 | 11,022 | 4,946 |
| 2023-2024 | 9,034 | 2,329 | 11,363 | 5,122 |

projection

* Health professions do not include all psychology or social work degrees.