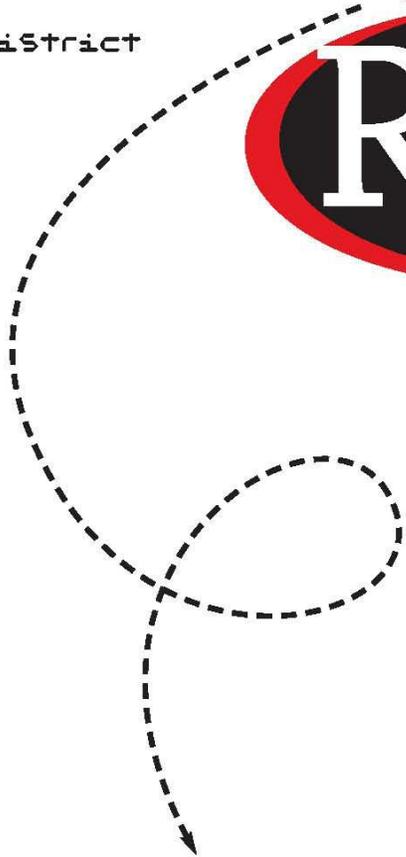


Rancho
Santiago
Community
College
District



**Pathways of Student Persistence
and Performance at
Santiago Canyon College**

June 2014



Pathways of Student Persistence and Performance at Santiago Canyon College

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Introduction

The RSCCD Research Department publishes this report annually which shows students' semester-to-semester persistence and course completion rates.

There were 2138 first-time freshmen enrolled in classes at Santiago Canyon College in Fall 2013. This includes all students who enrolled for the first time at SCC during the Fall 2013 semester (end of term). This group, or “cohort,” was tracked to subsequent semesters (active third week of class), resulting in a calculated persistence rate. Persistence rates are displayed by ethnicity and for those in the cohort who have declared that they intend to pursue a degree (AA or BA)—which represents 71% of the Fall 2013 first-time freshmen cohort.

The purpose of this report is to identify trends over time. Typically, there are relatively few significant changes. Observed changes are usually gradual and result from shifting composition of the student population, shifting economic conditions, and/or changing program offerings. The addition or expansion of programs can cause fluctuations in student demographics and educational goal distributions of the student population and, therefore, can also cause changes in persistence rates (proportion of students persisting to the next semester) and course success rates.

Summary

Persistence

- Second-semester persistence rates for the first-time freshmen Fall 2013 cohort remained constant at 72%, as did third- and fourth-semester rates; subsequent semester retention (5th thru 8th) rates fell slightly.
- Second-semester persistence rates for Latino students increased by two percentage points, while those for White and Asian student rates decreased slightly. The historically high variance in rates for African-American students is largely due to the very small cohort size.
- Degree-directed students (declaring goals of earning an AA degree and/or transferring to a four-year college) comprise nearly three-quarters of the first-time freshman cohort in Fall 2013 (71%)—continuing a steady upward trend over the last decade. Similarly, even at two percentage points below the 2012 rate, degree-directed student persistence has risen steadily over prior years' cohorts and significantly exceeds SCC first-time freshmen persistence at large (72%).

Course Success

Overall Course Success

- SCC course success rates, overall, remain constant at 69%.

Apprenticeships

- The proportion of enrollments in the Apprenticeship program (for the purposes of this report, apprenticeships are identified using **subject area**) has, historically, contributed significantly to the number of grades received at SCC (comprising one-quarter of total enrollments in Fall 2007). That proportion, however, has declined significantly since 2009; apprenticeships contributed eight percent of SCC Fall 2013 enrollments. (Chart 4).
- Students traditionally succeed in these subject areas at high rates (Table 4)—and the 2013 rate (97%) was no exception. Separating this non-traditional group from the total course success calculation results in a more accurate snapshot of course success for both apprenticeship and non-apprenticeship subgroups of SCC students.

Success in Non-Apprenticeships

- The Fall 2013 course success rate in non-Apprenticeship classes increased slightly to 67%, continuing a decade-long gradual upward trend.

Persistence

Overall Persistence

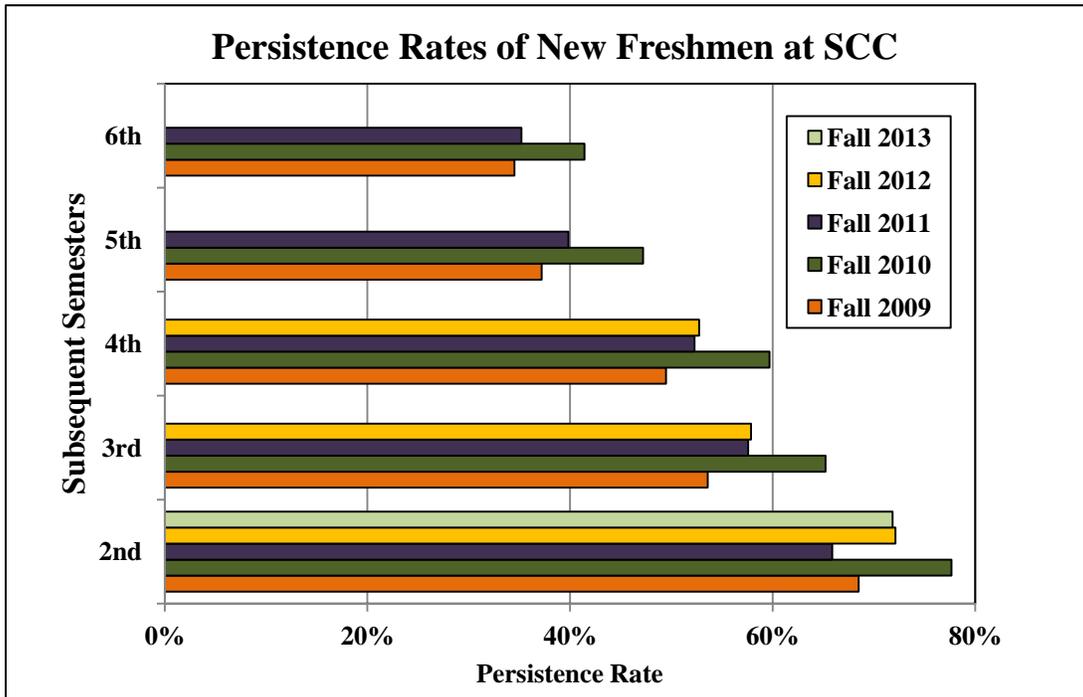
- Second-semester persistence rates for the first-time freshmen Fall 2013 cohort remained constant at 72%, as did third- and fourth-semester rates; subsequent semester retention (5th thru 8th) rates fell slightly.

Table 1

Santiago Canyon College								
Persistence Rates of New Freshmen at SCC								
New Freshman Cohort		Semesters After Initial Enrollment						
Cohort	# in Cohort	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Fall 2009	1892	68%	54%	49%	37%	35%	27%	22%
Fall 2010	1593	78%	65%	60%	47%	41%	28%	24%
Fall 2011	2096	66%	58%	52%	40%	35%		
Fall 2012	2167	72%	58%	53%				
Fall 2013	2138	72%						

source: Research Department Data Warehouse

Chart 1



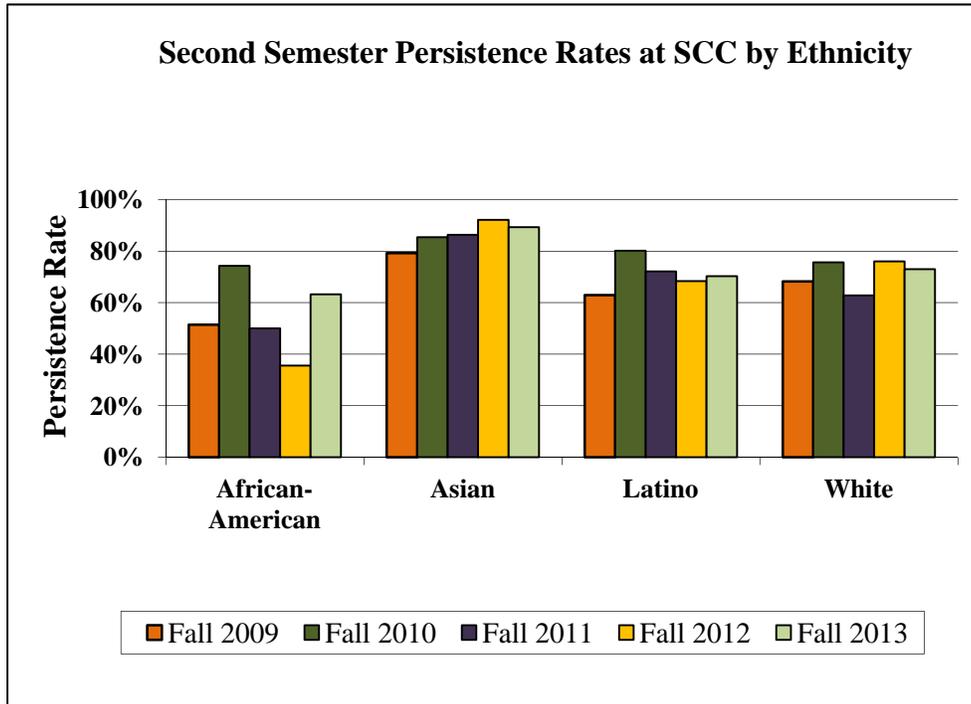
Persistence by Ethnicity

- Second-semester persistence rates for Latino students increased by two percentage points, while those for White and Asian student rates decreased slightly. The historically high variance in rates for African-American students is largely due to the very small cohort size.

Table 2

Santiago Canyon College							
2nd Semester Persistence Rates of New Freshmen at SCC by Ethnicity							
New Freshman Cohort		Semesters After Initial Enrollment					
Cohort	# in Cohort	African-American	Asian	Latino	White	Other	Total
Fall 2009	1892	51%	79%	63%	68%	64%	68%
Fall 2010	1593	74%	85%	80%	76%	76%	78%
Fall 2011	2096	50%	86%	72%	63%	52%	66%
Fall 2012	2167	36%	92%	68%	76%	74%	72%
Fall 2013	2138	63%	89%	70%	73%	63%	72%

Chart 2



Persistence by Educational Goal

- Degree-directed students (declaring goals of earning an AA degree and/or transferring to a four-year college) comprise nearly three-quarters of the first-time freshman cohort in Fall 2013 (71%)—continuing a steady upward trend over the last decade. Similarly, even at two percentage points below the 2012 rate, degree-directed student persistence has risen steadily over prior years’ cohorts and significantly exceeds SCC first-time freshmen persistence at large (72%).

Chart 3

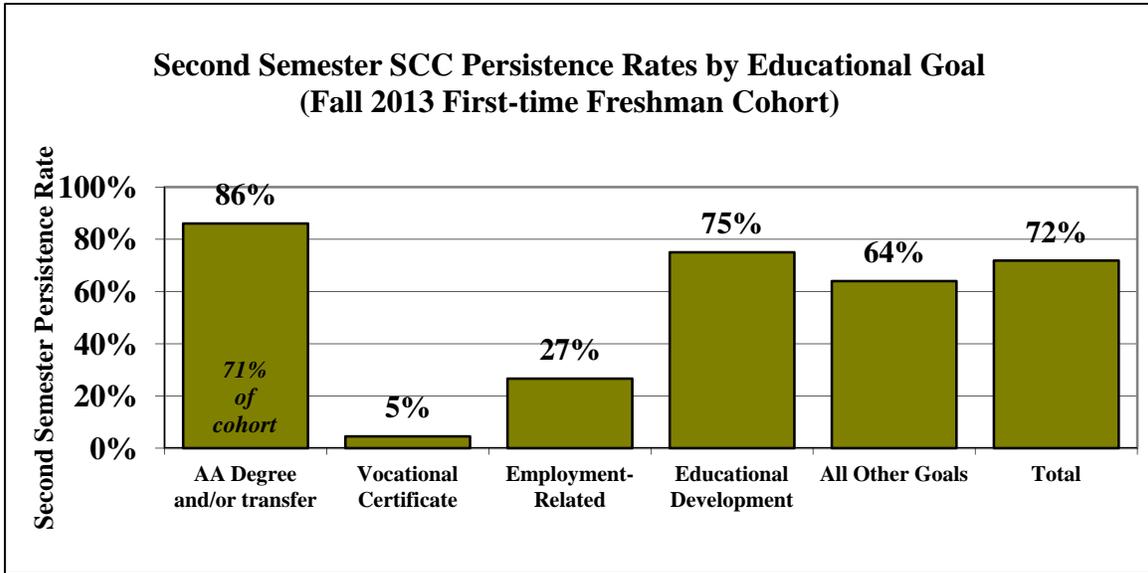


Table 3

Santiago Canyon College								
Persistence Rates of Degree-Seeking First-Time Freshmen								
Cohort	# in Cohort	Semesters After Initial Enrollment						
		2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Fall 2009	1192	82%	67%	62%	47%	44%	34%	28%
Fall 2010	1208	86%	74%	68%	54%	48%	33%	28%
Fall 2011	1350	85%	77%	69%	49%	43%	0%	0%
Fall 2012	1412	88%	74%	67%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Fall 2013	1508	86%						

source: Research Department Data Warehouse

Course Success

Success in Apprenticeship Subject Areas

- The proportion of enrollments in the Apprenticeship program (for the purposes of this report, apprenticeships are identified using subject area) has, historically, contributed significantly to the number of grades received at SCC (comprising one-quarter of total enrollments in Fall 2007). That proportion, however, has declined significantly in recent years; apprenticeships contribute eight percent of SCC Fall 2013 total enrollments. (Chart 4).
- Students traditionally succeed in these subject areas at high rates (Table 4)—and the 2013 rate (97%) was no exception. Separating this non-traditional group from the total course success calculation results in a more accurate snapshot of course success for both apprenticeship and non-apprenticeship subgroups of SCC students.

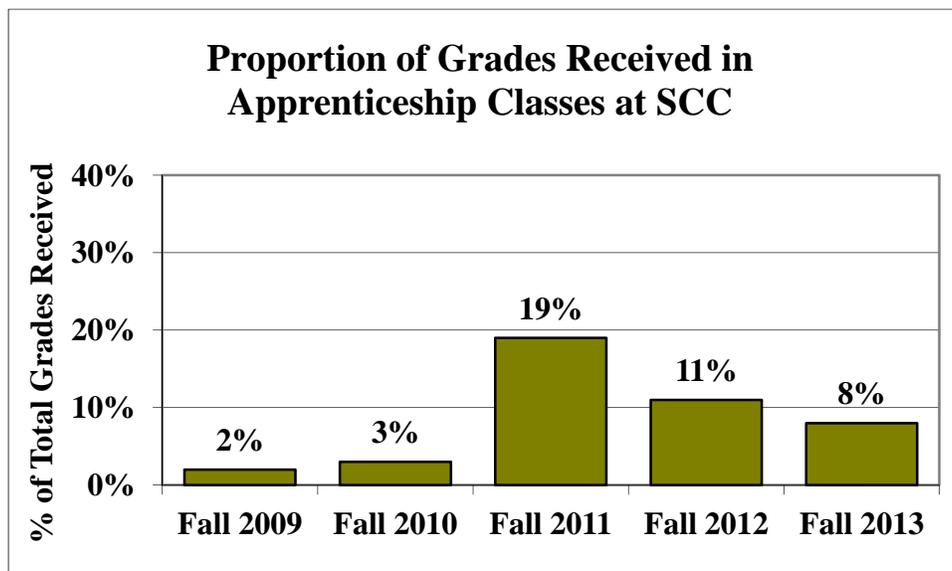
Success in Non-Apprenticeship Subject Areas

- The Fall 2013 course success rate in non-Apprenticeship classes increased slightly to 67%, continuing a decade-long gradual upward trend.

Table 4

Santiago Canyon College			
Course Success Rates (A,B,C,CR/P)			
Fall Cohort	apprenticeship	non-apprenticeship	all classes
2009	97%	63%	63%
2010	96%	65%	66%
2011	96%	66%	72%
2012	97%	66%	69%
2013	97%	67%	69%

Chart 4



SCC Course Success Rates by Subject, Fall 2013		
Subject Area	# grades rec'd	% A,B,C,P
SCC Total	27291	69%
Apprenticeship Total	2311	97%
Apprentice Carpentry	1590	100%
Apprentice Millwright	154	100%
Apprentice Operating Engineer	342	85%
Apprentice Pile Driver	58	97%
Apprentice Plastering	13	100%
Apprentice Power Lineman	127	97%
Apprentice Surveying	27	96%
Non-Apprenticeship Total	24980	67%
Accounting	310	63%
American College English	42	62%
Anthropology	466	60%
Apprentice Insulation	33	100%
Art	600	77%
Astronomy	563	70%
Biology	1528	63%
Business	632	72%
Chemistry	356	72%
Chicano Studies	38	68%
Communications	958	78%
Computer Info Systems	87	67%
Computer Science	448	67%
Counseling	675	75%
Criminal Justice	181	50%
Dance	97	91%
Earth Science	174	64%
Economics	416	58%
Education	60	78%
English	2238	71%
Environmental Studies	16	63%
Ethnic Studies	33	70%
French	64	77%
Gemology	56	64%
Geography	167	45%
Geology	340	60%
History	1328	58%
Human Development	309	66%
Interdisciplinary Studies	174	61%
Italian	34	68%
Kinesiology	965	72%
Library Studies	36	69%
Management	79	47%
Marketing	128	73%
Math	4286	54%

SCC Course Success Rates by Subject, Fall 2013		
Subject Area	# grades rec'd	% A,B,C,P
Music	702	79%
Nutrition	255	87%
Philosophy	768	70%
Physical Science	34	76%
Physics	203	76%
Political Science	962	65%
Psychology	981	65%
Public Works	167	89%
Reading	211	79%
Real Estate	268	66%
Sign Language	283	71%
Social Science	15	47%
Sociology	562	67%
Spanish	361	66%
Special Services	98	82%
Surveying	63	73%
Theatre Arts	154	86%
TV Video Communication	310	74%
Water Utilities	470	79%
Women's Studies	196	68%

Table 6

Santiago Canyon College Grade Distribution by Subject Area, Fall 2013												
Subject Area	# Grades Rec'd	Successful					Non-Successful				Non-Completers	
		A	B	C	P	Total	D	F	NP	Total	I	W
SCC Total	27291	25%	23%	17%	4%	69%	5%	8%	2%	15%	0%	15%
Apprenticeship Total	2311	52%	26%	9%	10%	97%	1%	1%	0%	2%		1%
Apprentice Carpentry	1590	60%	29%	9%	2%	100%		0%		0%		0%
Apprentice Millwright	154	71%	17%	12%		100%				0%		0%
Apprentice Operating Engineer	342	39%	32%	14%		85%	6%	6%		11%		4%
Apprentice Pile Driver	58				97%	97%			3%	3%		0%
Apprentice Plastering	13	31%	38%	31%		100%				0%		0%
Apprentice Power Lineman	127				97%	97%				0%		3%
Apprentice Surveying	27	11%	26%		59%	96%		4%		4%		0%
Non-Apprenticeship Total	24980	22%	23%	18%	3%	67%	6%	8%	2%	17%	0%	17%
Accounting	310	16%	23%	24%	0%	63%	3%	7%		11%		26%
American College English	42	5%	21%	24%	12%	62%	12%	7%	7%	26%		12%
Anthropology	466	20%	23%	17%	0%	60%	5%	17%		21%		19%
Apprentice Insulation	33	33%	52%	15%		100%				0%		0%
Art	600	41%	23%	13%	1%	77%	4%	6%		10%	0%	13%
Astronomy	563	17%	27%	26%		70%	9%	10%		20%		10%
Biology	1528	19%	24%	19%		63%	5%	8%		13%	0%	24%
Business	632	28%	31%	13%	0%	72%	3%	10%	0%	13%		15%
Chemistry	356	22%	30%	20%		72%	8%	4%		12%	1%	15%
Chicano Studies	38	66%		3%		68%	3%	8%		11%		21%
Communications	958	27%	32%	20%		78%	3%	5%		9%	0%	13%
Computer Info Systems	87	57%	6%	3%		67%	5%	13%		17%		16%
Computer Science	448	29%	19%	19%	0%	67%	5%	13%		18%		15%
Counseling	675	41%	22%	12%		75%	4%	7%		11%		14%
Criminal Justice	181	8%	23%	19%		50%	10%	17%		27%		23%
Dance	97	66%	18%	7%		91%		1%		1%		8%
Earth Science	174	8%	33%	22%		64%	10%	6%		16%		20%
Economics	416	14%	19%	26%		58%	7%	7%		15%		27%
Education	60	62%	15%	2%		78%	5%	5%		10%	2%	10%
English	2238	20%	30%	20%	1%	71%	6%	9%	0%	15%	0%	13%
Environmental Studies	16	13%	31%	19%		63%	25%	6%		31%		6%
Ethnic Studies	33	52%	6%	12%		70%	3%	9%		12%		18%

Santiago Canyon College Grade Distribution by Subject Area, Fall 2013

Subject Area	# Grades Rec'd	Successful					Non-Successful				Non-Completers	
		A	B	C	P	Total	D	F	NP	Total	I	W
French	64	61%	14%	2%		77%				0%		23%
Gemology	56	36%	21%	7%		64%	4%	2%		5%		30%
Geography	167	10%	13%	22%		45%	10%	14%		23%		32%
Geology	340	15%	22%	21%	1%	60%	11%	5%		16%		24%
History	1328	16%	25%	16%		58%	6%	13%		19%		23%
Human Development	309	30%	23%	13%		66%	3%	9%		12%		22%
Interdisciplinary Studies	174	12%	20%	29%	1%	61%	10%	9%		19%		20%
Italian	34	32%	21%	15%		68%	6%	3%		9%		24%
Kinesiology	965	37%	12%	7%	16%	72%	2%	4%	9%	14%	0%	14%
Library Studies	36	44%	14%	8%	3%	69%	3%	11%		14%		17%
Management	79	18%	18%	10%	1%	47%	9%	13%		22%		32%
Marketing	128	48%	15%	9%		73%	5%	7%		12%		16%
Math	4286	9%	16%	19%	10%	54%	8%	9%	10%	28%	0%	18%
Music	702	36%	28%	13%	2%	79%	3%	5%	0%	9%	0%	12%
Nutrition	255	60%	20%	7%		87%	4%	1%		5%		7%
Philosophy	768	13%	35%	21%		70%	6%	6%		12%		18%
Physical Science	34	6%	29%	41%		76%	6%	9%		15%		9%
Physics	203	38%	23%	15%		76%	3%	3%		7%		17%
Political Science	962	17%	25%	23%		65%	7%	9%		16%	0%	18%
Psychology	981	20%	23%	22%		65%	9%	12%		21%		13%
Public Works	167	13%	10%	4%	62%	89%	2%	4%		5%		5%
Reading	211	15%	34%	30%		79%	2%	6%		9%		13%
Real Estate	268	37%	17%	12%	0%	66%	4%	11%	0%	15%		19%
Sign Language	283	37%	18%	15%		71%	7%	11%		18%		11%
Social Science	15	13%	13%	20%		47%	20%	13%		33%		20%
Sociology	562	20%	27%	20%		67%	6%	13%		19%		14%
Spanish	361	25%	28%	13%	0%	66%	3%	5%		8%		25%
Special Services	98				82%	82%			13%	13%		5%
Surveying	63	44%	24%	5%		73%	2%	8%		10%		17%
Theatre Arts	154	57%	20%	8%		86%	2%	3%		5%		9%
TV Video Communication	310	21%	33%	19%		74%	7%	6%		13%		14%
Water Utilities	470	41%	21%	17%		79%	3%	7%		10%		10%
Women's Studies	196	15%	27%	27%		68%	11%	10%		21%		11%