

## **Wayne Community College Student Achievement Report – Academic Year: 2021-2022**

Wayne Community College (WCC) evaluates student achievement in a way consistent with its mission, institutional goals, and institutional learning outcomes. WCC utilizes four criteria for assessing student achievement in compliance with Core Requirements 8.1 of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). The four criteria are the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) six-year total completion rate, annual curriculum headcount, new, first-time-attending students at WCC fall-to-fall retention, and annual curriculum completers. The criteria used in this report have been approved by the Wayne Community College's Planning Council. The purpose of WCC's Planning Council is to provide direction, leadership, and oversight for the College's planning and institutional effectiveness process and to ensure continuing compliance with SACSCOC accreditation standards. One of the SACSCOC accreditation standards in which WCC's Planning Council ensures compliance is the core requirement of 8.1 – Student Achievement. SACSCOC Core Requirement 8.1 states, "The institution identifies, evaluates, and publishes goals and outcomes for student achievement appropriate to its mission, the nature of the students it serves, and the kinds of programs offered. The institution uses multiple measures to document student success."

### **Criterion 1: National Student Clearinghouse Six-Year Total Completion Rate (SACSCOC Key Student Completion Indicator)**

Criterion 1 aligns with WCC's institutional Goal 3 - Improve Student Success. The goal is to increase the number of students leaving with a job-ready credential that can lead to successful employment in a global economy and provide better skills, jobs, pay, and continued educational attainment. In addition, criterion 1 supports the College's mission by meeting the educational needs of the communities it serves.

WCC selected the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) six-year total completion rate as its SACSCOC Key Student Completion Indicator because the NSC data more accurately reflects WCC students than the Integrated Postsecondary Education System (IPEDS) Graduation Rate

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data. The NSC six-year total completion rate consists of the first-time, full-time degree-seeking students and the first-time, part-time degree-seeking students, excluding the concurrent high school students from the entering fall cohort. The IPEDS Graduation Rate consists of the first-time, full-time degree-seeking students, excluding the concurrent high school students from the entering fall cohort. WCC serves more part-time students than full-time students. The NSC total completion rate consists of the percentage of the first completion at the same institution, the first completion at different institutions: two-year, and the first completion at different institutions: four-year. The NSC six-year total completion rate is a lagging indicator for student achievement.

### **WCC's NSC Six-Year Completion Rate**

**Outcome:** WCC seeks to increase its NSC six-year completion rate for first-time fall degree-seeking students.

**Threshold of Acceptability:** 48.43%

**Rationale:** The Office of Institutional Effectiveness (IE) used the NSC StudentTracker Postsecondary Completion Institutional Benchmark reports to examine the six-year total graduation rate for the specific entering cohorts to establish acceptability thresholds. The Office of IE examined the following cohorts: fall 2008, fall 2009, and fall 2010. To establish the threshold of acceptability for this criterion, the Office of IE averaged fall 2008, fall 2019, and fall 2010 entering cohort six-year completion rate. The threshold of acceptability is not a moving three-year average. The threshold of acceptability will stay static over the next three years until the Office of IE, along with the Planning Council, reexamines this criterion. The static threshold of acceptability aligns with how WCC establishes its baselines, standards, and targets for Key Performance Indicators (KPI) in its 2019-2024 Strategic Plan for Institutional Effectiveness.

**Goal:** 50.43%

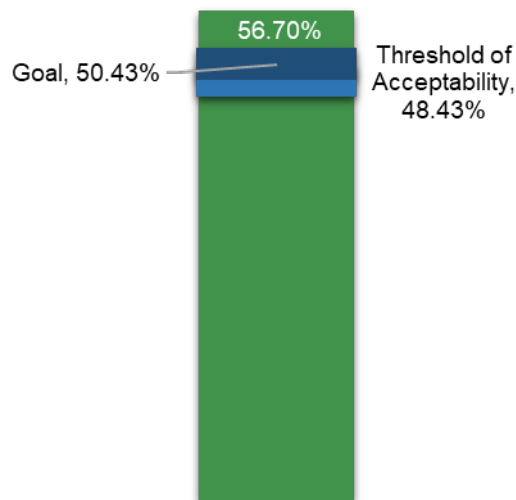
**Rationale:** The goal is to increase WCC's threshold of acceptability by 2% (48.43% + 2%)

**Table 1. WCC’s NSC Six-Year Completion Tate – Entering Cohort**

Criterion	Fall 2008 Entering Cohort	Fall 2009 Entering Cohort	Fall 2010 Entering Cohort	3-Year Mean	Fall 2015 Entering Cohort
Six-Year Total Graduation Rate	47.63%	47.25%	50.40%	48.43%	56.70%

Source: National Student Clearinghouse StudentTracker Postsecondary Completions Reports

**Figure 1. WCC’s NSC Six-Year Completion Rate – Entering Cohort**



**Evaluation of Data:** For first-time, degree-seeking students in the fall 2015 entering cohort (n = 402), the six-year total completion rate was 56.70% (n = 228). **WCC exceeded the threshold of acceptability by 8.27% and the goal by 6.27%.** After the six-year timeframe, 9.74% (n = 39) were still enrolled at any institution, and 33.56% (n = 135) were not enrolled.

**Strategies for Improvement:** The Vice President of Academic and Student Services created a home-grown stop-out initiative using Achievement Coaches to reconnect with stop-out students. During the conversations with the stop-out students, the Achievement Coaches were tasked with determining the barriers preventing students from continuing their academic studies. The

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Achievement Coaches offered assistance and encouraged students to reenroll for the next semester.

### NSC Six-Year Completion Rate – Benchmark Group

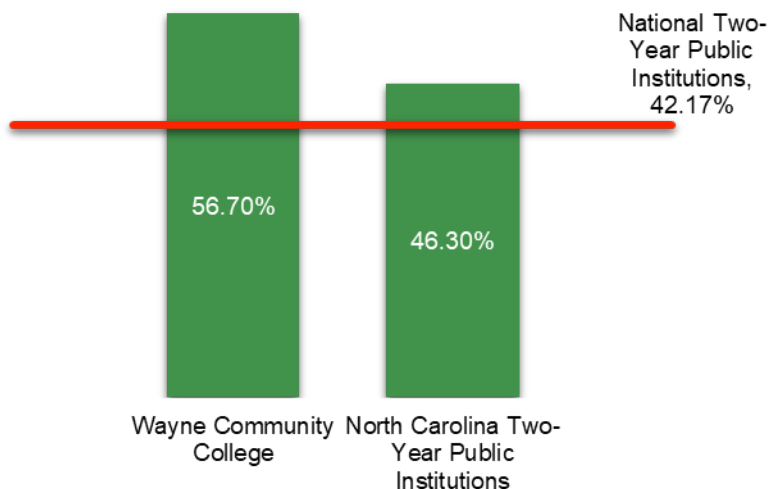
**Rationale:** WCC opted to establish and compare benchmarks with national and North Carolina two-year public institutions. WCC selected North Carolina two-year public institutions because it included all North Carolina Community Colleges. WCC selected national two-year public institutions due to the accessibility of the NSC Research Center, which provides the national numbers in WCC’s StudentTracker Postsecondary Completion Institutional Benchmark Reports.

**Table 2. NSC Six-Year Completion Rate – Benchmark Group**

Benchmark Group	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
Wayne Community College	402	56.70%	9.74%	33.56%
North Carolina Two-Year Public Institutions	26,233	46.30%	9.90%	43.80%
National Two-Year Public Institutions	744,101	42.17%	12.63%	45.20%

Sources: NSC StudentTracker Postsecondary Completion Institutional Benchmark Reports and NSC Research Center – Completing College National and State Reports with Six- and Eight-Year Completion Rates Dashboards

Figure 2. NSC Six-Year Completion Rate – Benchmark Group



Sources: NSC StudentTracker Postsecondary Completion Institutional Benchmark Report and NSC Research Center – Completion College National and State Reports with Six- and Eight-Year Completion Rates Dashboards

**Evaluation of Data:** WCC’s overall six-year completion rate (56.70%) was higher than the national benchmark for two-year public institutions (42.17%) by 14.53%. WCC’s overall six-year completion rate (56.70%) was higher than that of North Carolina public two-year institutions (46.30%) by 10.40%.

**Strategies for Improvement:** WCC will monitor its benchmark group to see if WCC is still outperforming the national and North Carolina two-year public institutions.

### WCC’s NSC Six-Year Completion Rate by Age at First Entry

**Rationale:** Disaggregated only by age at first entry will give WCC some insight into its six-year completion rate.

**Table 3. WCC’s NSC Six-Year Completion Rate by Age at First Entry**

Age at First Entry	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
Overall	402	56.70	9.74	33.56
20 and younger	325	57.21	9.58	33.21
21 - 24	30	53.42	16.65	29.93
Older than 24	47	55.33	6.38	38.29

Source: National Student Clearinghouse StudentTracker Postsecondary Completions Reports

Note: Students with missing date of birth data were excluded from the table. As a result, the total number of subgroups may not equal the overall number.

**Evaluation of Data:** The fall 2015 entering cohort had 402 students. The cohort consists of the following age categories: 20 and younger (81%, n = 325), 21 – 24 (7%, n = 30), and older than 24 (12%, n = 47).

***20 and Younger Age Category***

The 20 and younger category’s six-year completion rate was 57.21% (n = 186), with a stop-out rate of 33.21% (n = 108). The 20 and younger age category had 9.58% (n = 31) of students enrolled at any institution after the six-year timeframe. **The 20 and younger age category had the highest six-year completion rate out of all the age categories for the fall 2015 entering cohort.**

***21 – 24 Age Category***

The 21 – 24 age category’s six-year completion rate was 53.42% (n = 16), with a stop-out rate of 29.93% (n = 9). The 21 – 24 age category had 16.65% (n = 5) of students enrolled at any institution after the six-year timeframe.

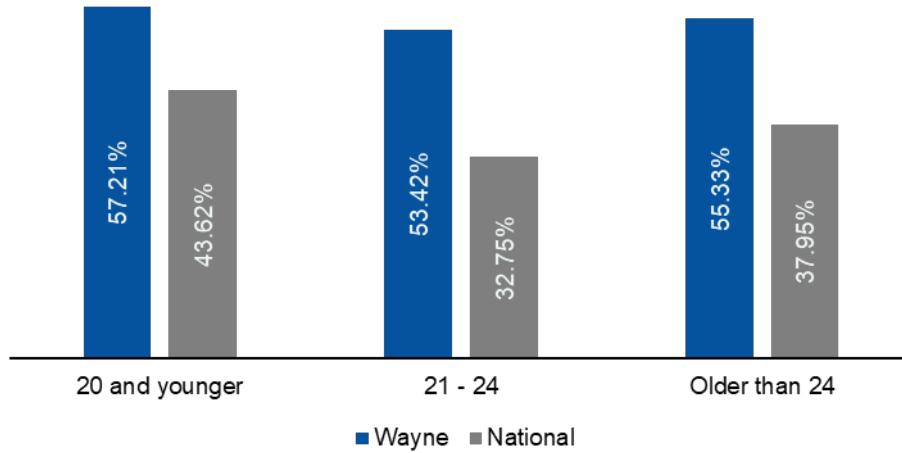
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### ***Older than 24 Age Category***

The older than 24 age category's six-year completion rate was 55.33% (n = 26), with a stop-out rate of 38.29% (n = 18). The older than 24 age category had 6.38% (n = 3) students enrolled at any institution after the six-year timeframe.

***National Public Two-Year Institutions Benchmark:*** WCC's 20 and younger age category's six-year completion rate (57.21%) was higher than the national public two-year institutions' 20 and younger category (43.62%) by 13.59%. WCC's 21 – 24 age category's six-year completion rate (53.42%) was higher than the national public two-year institutions' 21 -24 age category (32.75%) by 20.67%. WCC's older than 24 age category's six-year completion rate (55.33%) was higher than the national public two-year institutions' older than 24 age category (37.95%) by 17.38%.

Figure 3. NSC Six-Year Completion Rates by Age at First Entry – WCC vs. National Public Two-Year Institutions



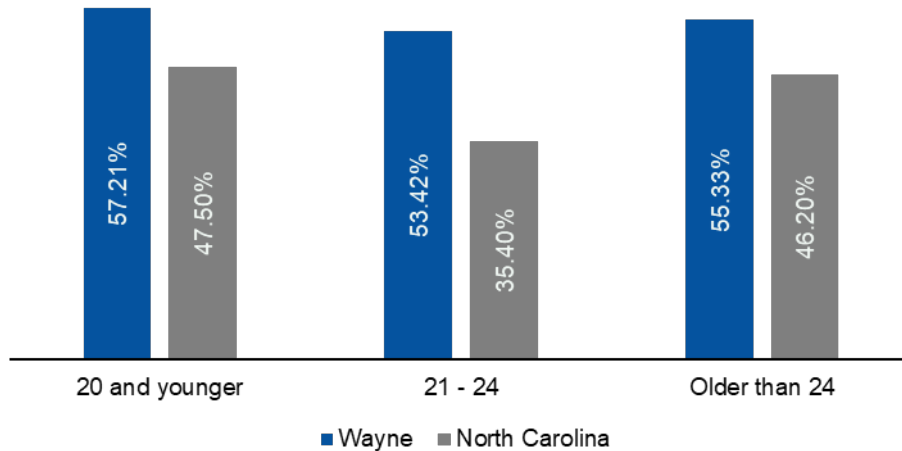
Source: NSC StudentTracker Postsecondary Completion Institutional Benchmark Report

**North Carolina Public Two-Year Institutions Benchmark:** WCC's 20 and younger age category's six-year completion rate (57.21%) was higher than the North Carolina public two-year institutions' 20 and younger category (47.50%) by 9.71%. WCC's 21 – 24 age category's six-year completion rate (53.42%) was higher than the North Carolina public two-year institution's 21 -24 age category (35.40%) by 18.02%. WCC's older than 24 age category's six-year completion rate (55.33%) was higher than the North Carolina public two-year institutions' older than 24 age category (46.20%) by 9.13%.



Figure 4. NSC Six-Year Completion Rates by Age at First Entry – WCC vs. North Carolina

Public Two-Year Institutions



Sources: NSC StudentTracker Postsecondary Completion Institutional Benchmark Report and NSC Research Center – Completion College National and State Reports with Six- and Eight-Year Completion Rates Dashboards

**Strategies for Improvement:** The Vice President of Academic and Student Services created a home-grown stop-out initiative using Achievement Coaches to reconnect with stop-out students. During the conversations with the stop-out students, the Achievement Coaches were tasked with determining the barriers preventing students from continuing their academic studies. The Achievement Coaches offered assistance and encouraged students to reenroll for the next semester.

**WCC’s NSC Six-Year Completion Rate by Enrollment Intensity**

**Rationale:** Disaggregated only by enrollment intensity will give WCC some insight into its six-year completion rate by enrollment intensity.

**Table 4. WCC’s NSC Six-Year Completion Rate by Enrollment Intensity**

Enrollment Intensity	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
Overall	402	56.70	9.74	33.56
Exclusively Full-Time	166	83.74	0.00	16.26
Exclusively Part-Time	17	17.66	5.88	76.46
Mixed Enrollment	219	39.27	17.41	43.32

Source: National Student Clearinghouse StudentTracker Postsecondary Completions Reports

Note: Completion outcomes include the first degree or certificate completion. The Mixed enrollment group includes part-time and full-time students during the study period.

**Evaluation of Data:** The fall 2015 entering cohort had 402 students. The intensity consists of exclusively full-time enrollment (41%, n = 166), exclusively part-time enrollment (4%, n = 17), and mixed enrollment (55%, n = 219).

***Exclusively Full-Time Enrollment***

Exclusively, full-time enrollment intensity’s six-year completion rate was 83.74% (n = 139), with a stop-out rate of 16.26% (n = 27). **The exclusively full-time students had the highest six-year completion rate of all enrollment intensities for the fall 2015 entering cohort.**

***Exclusively Part-Time Enrollment***

The six-year completion rate for exclusively part-time enrollment intensity was 17.66% (n = 3), with a stop-out rate of 76.46% (n = 13). 5.88% (n = 1) of exclusively part-time students remained enrolled after the six-year timeframe.

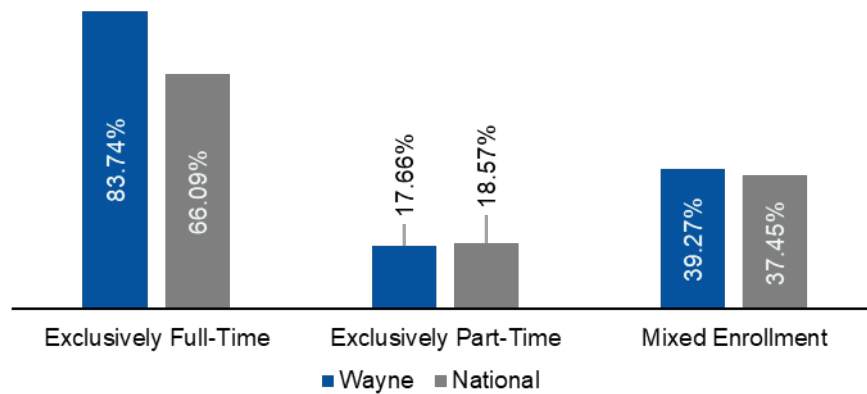
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### ***Mixed Enrollment***

The six-year completion rate of mixed enrollment intensity was 39.27% (n = 86), with a stop-out rate of 43.32% (n = 95). After the six-year timeframe, 17.41% (n = 38) of students remained enrolled.

***National Public Two-Year Institutions Benchmark:*** WCC's exclusively full-time students' six-year completion rate (83.74%) was higher than the national public two-year institutions' exclusively full-time students (60.09%) by 23.65%. WCC's exclusively part-time students' six-year completion rate (17.66%) was lower than the national public two-year institutions' exclusively part-time students (18.57%) by 0.91%. WCC's mixed enrollment students' six-year completion rate (39.27%) was higher than the national public two-year institutions' mixed enrollment students (37.45%) by 1.82%.

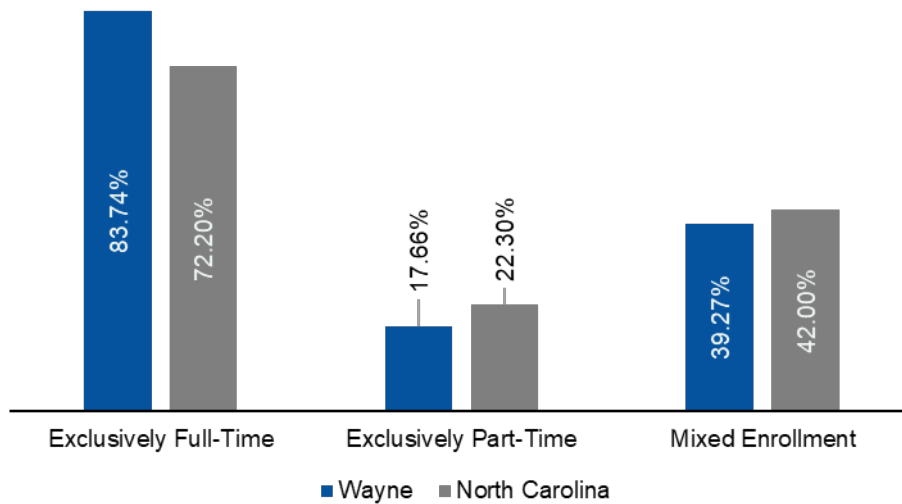
Figure 5. NSC Six-Year Completion Rates by Enrollment Intensity – WCC vs. National Public Two-Year Institutions



Source: NSC StudentTracker Postsecondary Completion Institutional Benchmark Report

**North Carolina Public Two-Year Institutions Benchmark:** WCC's exclusively full-time students' six-year completion rate (83.74%) was higher than the North Carolina public two-year institutions' exclusively full-time students (72.20%) by 11.54%. WCC's exclusively part-time students' six-year completion rate (17.66%) was lower than the North Carolina public two-year institutions' exclusively part-time students (22.30%) by 4.64%. WCC's mixed enrollment students' six-year completion rate (39.27%) was lower than the national public two-year institutions' mixed enrollment students (42.00%) by 2.73%.

Figure 6. NSC Six-Year Completion Rates by Enrollment Intensity – WCC vs. North Carolina Public Two-Year Institutions



Sources: NSC StudentTracker Postsecondary Completion Institutional Benchmark Report and NSC Research Center – Completion College National and State Reports with Six- and Eight-Year Completion Rates Dashboards

**Strategies for Improvement:** The Vice President of Academic and Student Services created a home-grown stop-out initiative using Achievement Coaches to reconnect with stop-out students. During the conversations with the stop-out students, the Achievement Coaches were tasked with determining the barriers preventing students from continuing their academic studies. The Achievement Coaches offered assistance and encouraged students to reenroll for the next semester.

#### WCC's NSC Six-Year Completion Rate by Gender

**Rationale:** Disaggregating only by gender will give WCC some insight into its six-year completion rate by gender.

**Table 5. WCC’s NSC Six-Year Completion Rate by Gender**

Gender	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
Overall	402	56.70	9.74	33.56
Female	177	54.83	14.16	31.02
Male	185	61.60	5.94	32.45

Source: National Student Clearinghouse StudentTracker Postsecondary Completions Reports

Note: Students with missing gender data were excluded from the table.

**Evaluation of Data:** The fall 2015 entering cohort had 402 students, 177 (n = 44%) female and 185 (n = 46%) male students. Of the 402 students, 40 (10%) were excluded from the table because the gender data in the WCC’s NSC enrollment data were missing.

***Female Population***

The female population’s six-year completion rate was 54.83% (n = 97), with a stop-out rate of 31.02% (n = 55). After the six-year timeframe, 14.16% (n = 25) of the female population remained enrolled.

***Male Population***

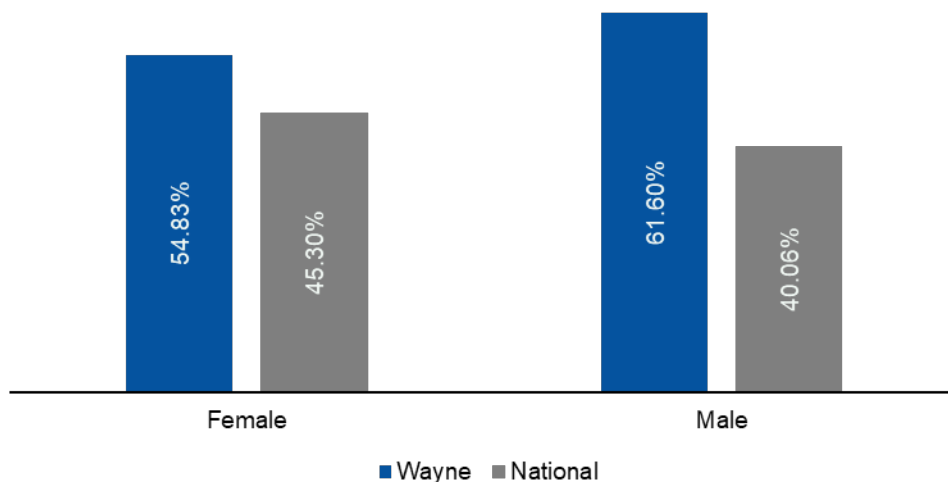
The male population’s six-year completion rate was 61.60% (n = 114), with a stop-out rate of 32.45% (n = 60). After the six-year timeframe, 5.94% (n = 11) of male students remained enrolled. **The male population had the highest six-year completion rate out of all the gender populations for the fall 2015 entering cohort.**

In the fall 2021 semester, the Office of Admissions & Records started submitting gender information (LSE.GENDER) on the NSC Enrollment report throughout the year.

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**National Public Two-Year Institutions Benchmark:** WCC's female population's six-year completion rate (54.83%) was higher than the national public two-year institutions' female population (45.30%) by 9.53%. WCC's male population's six-year completion rate (61.60%) was higher than the national public two-year institutions' male population (40.06%) by 21.54%.

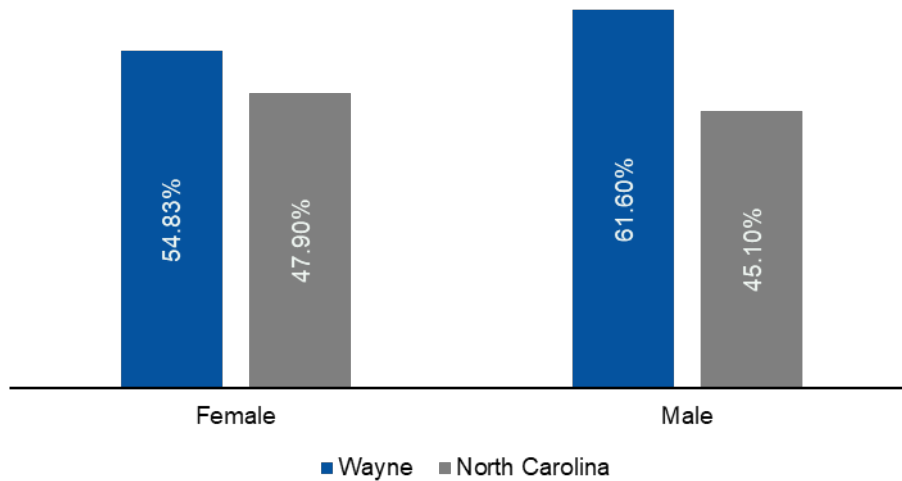
**Figure 7. NSC Six-Year Completion Rates by Gender – WCC vs. National Public Two-Year Institutions**



Source: NSC StudentTracker Postsecondary Completion Institutional Benchmark Report

**North Carolina Public Two-Year Institutions Benchmark:** WCC's female six-year completion rate (54.83%) was 6.93% higher than the North Carolina public two-year institutions' female population (47.90%). WCC's male six-year completion rate (61.60%) was 16.50% higher than the North Carolina public two-year institutions' male population (45.10%).

Figure 8. NSC Six-Year Completion Rates by Gender – WCC vs. North Carolina Public Two-Year Institutions



Sources: NSC StudentTracker Postsecondary Completion Institutional Benchmark Report and NSC Research Center – Completion College National and State Reports with Six- and Eight-Year Completion Rates Dashboards

**Strategies for Improvement:** The Vice President of Academic and Student Services created a home-grown stop-out initiative using Achievement Coaches to reconnect with stop-out students. During the conversations with the stop-out students, the Achievement Coaches were tasked with determining the barriers preventing students from continuing their academic studies. The Achievement Coaches offered assistance and encouraged students to reenroll for the next semester.

#### WCC's NSC Six-Year Completion Rate by Race/Ethnicity

**Rationale:** Disaggregating only by race/ethnicity will give WCC some insight into its six-year completion rate by race/ethnicity.



**Table 6. WCC’s NSC Six-Year Completion Rate by Race/Ethnicity**

Race/Ethnicity	Total Enrolled (#)	Total Completion Rate (%)	Still Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)	Not Enrolled (At Any Institution) (%)
Overall	402	56.70	9.74	35.56
African American	87	33.30	19.61	47.08
Asian	11	90.91	0.00	9.09
Caucasian	210	64.30	7.65	28.05
Hispanic	72	61.11	5.56	33.33
Other	6	50.00	0.00	50.00
Two or More Races	2	50.10	0.00	49.90
Race/Ethnicity Unknown or Missing	14	42.87	14.28	42.85

Source: National Student Clearinghouse StudentTracker Postsecondary Completions Reports

Note: The Other Races category includes Non-Resident Aliens, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Pacific Islanders, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders.

**Evaluation of Data:** The fall 2015 entering cohort had 402 students. The following breakdown of the race/ethnicity categories are the African American population (21%, n = 87), the Asian population (2%, n = 11), the Caucasian population (52%, n = 210), the Hispanic population (18%, n = 72), the Other population (2%, n = 6), the Two or More Races (1%, n = 2), and the Race/Ethnicity Unknown or Missing population (4%, n = 14).

***African American Population***

The African American population’s six-year completion rate was 33.30% (n = 29), with a stop-out rate of 47.08% (n = 41). After the six-year timeframe, 19.61% (n = 17) of students remained enrolled.

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### ***Asian Population***

The Asian population's six-year completion rate was 90.91% (n = 10), with a stop-out rate of 9.09% (n = 1). **The Asian population had the highest six-year rate out of all race/ethnicity populations for the fall 2015 entering cohort.**

### ***Caucasian Population***

The Caucasian population's six-year completion rate was 64.30% (n = 135), with a stop-out rate of 28.05% (n = 59). After the six-year timeframe, 7.65% (n = 16) of students remained enrolled.

### ***Hispanic Population***

The Hispanic population's six-year completion rate was 61.11% (n = 44), with a stop-out rate of 33.33% (n = 24). After the six-year timeframe, 5.56% (n = 4) of students remained enrolled.

### ***Other Population***

The Other population's six-year completion rate was 50.00% (n = 3). 50.00% (n = 3) remained enrolled after the six-year timeframe.

### ***Two or More Races Population***

The Two or More Races population's six-year completion rate was 50.10% (n = 1), with a stop-out rate of 49.90% (n = 1).

### ***Race/Ethnicity Unknown or Missing Population***

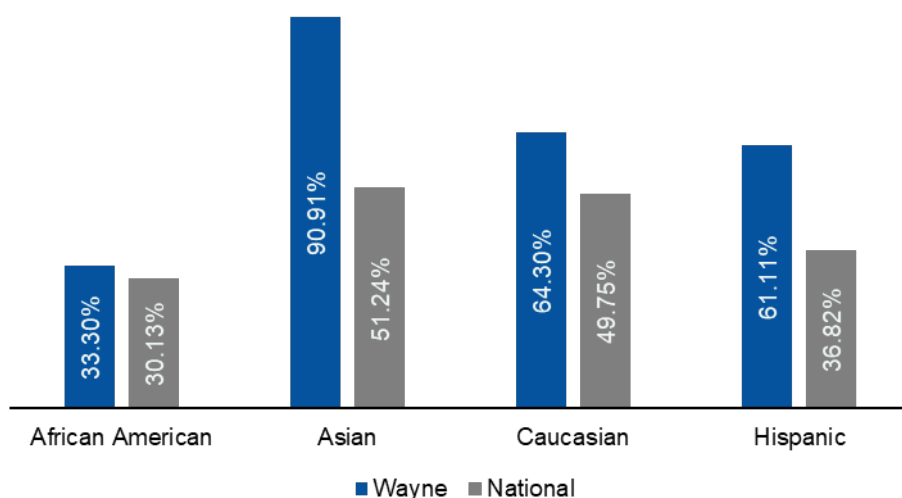
The Race/Ethnicity Unknown or Missing population's six-year completion rate was 42.87% (n = 6), with a stop-out rate of 42.85% (n = 6). The Race/Ethnicity Unknown or Missing population had 14.28% (n = 2) of students still enrolled after the six-year timeframe.

In the fall 2021 semester, the Office of Admissions & Records started submitting race/ethnicity information (LSE.ETHNICITY) on the NSC Enrollment report throughout the year.

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**National Public Two-Year Institutions Benchmark:** WCC's African American population's six-year completion rate (33.30%) was higher than the national public two-year institutions' African American population's six-year completion rate (30.13%) by 3.17%. WCC's Asian population's six-year completion rate (90.91%) was higher than the national public two-year institutions' Asian population's six-year completion rate (51.24%) by 39.67%. WCC's Caucasian population's six-year completion rate (64.30%) was higher than the national public two-year institutions' Caucasian population's six-year completion rate (49.75%) by 14.55%. WCC's Hispanic population's six-year completion rate (61.11%) was higher than the national public two-year institutions' Hispanic population's six-year completion rate (36.82%) by 24.29%.

**Figure 9. NSC Six-Year Completion Rates by Race/Ethnicity – WCC vs. National Public Two-Year Institutions**



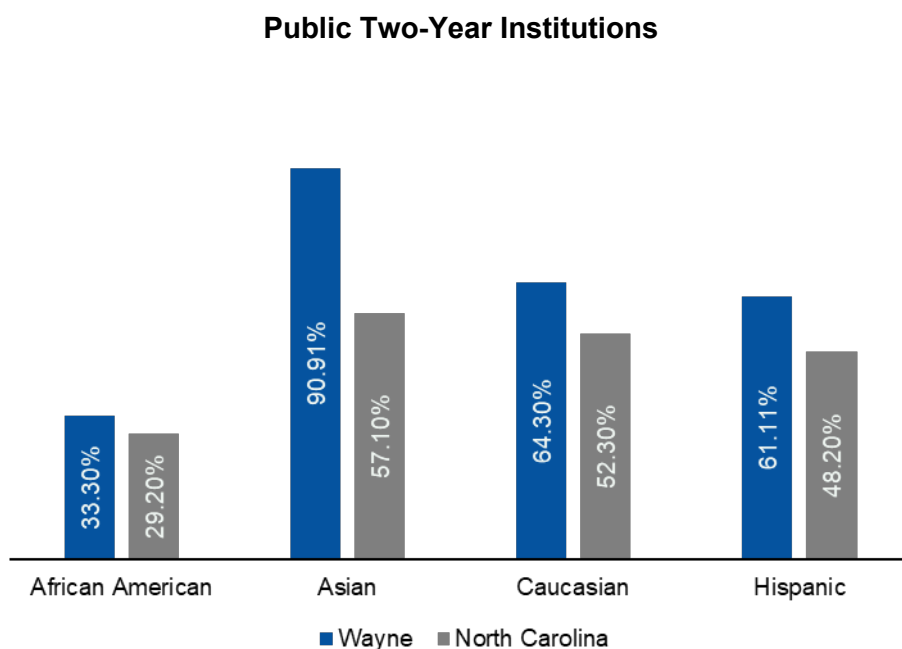
Source: NSC StudentTracker Postsecondary Completion Institutional Benchmark Report

**North Carolina Public Two-Year Institutions Benchmark:** WCC's African American population's six-year completion rate (33.30%) was higher than the North Carolina public two-year institutions' African American population's six-year completion rate (29.20%) by 4.10%. WCC's Asian population's six-year completion rate (90.91%) was higher than the North Carolina

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public two-year institutions' Asian population's six-year completion rate (57.10%) by 33.81%. WCC's Caucasian population's six-year completion rate (64.30%) was higher than the North Carolina public two-year institutions' Caucasian population's six-year completion rate (52.30%) by 12.00%. WCC's Hispanic population's six-year completion rate (61.11%) was higher than North Carolina public two-year institution's Hispanic population's six-year completion rate (48.20%) by 12.91%

**Figure 10. NSC Six-Year Completion Rates by Race/Ethnicity – WCC vs. North Carolina**



Sources: NSC StudentTracker Postsecondary Completion Institutional Benchmark Report and NSC Research Center – Completion College National and State Reports with Six- and Eight-Year Completion Rates Dashboards

**Strategies for Improvement:** The Vice President of Academic and Student Services created a home-grown stop-out initiative using Achievement Coaches to reconnect with stop-out students. During the conversations with the stop-out students, the Achievement Coaches were tasked with determining the barriers preventing students from continuing their academic studies. The

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Achievement Coaches offered assistance and encouraged students to reenroll for the next semester.

**Criterion 2: WCC’s Annual Curriculum Headcount**

Criterion 2 aligns with WCC’s institutional goal to develop policies and practices that provide increased opportunities for students to enter into, and successfully proceed through, post-secondary education and training programs. In addition, criterion 2 supports the mission of WCC by meeting the educational needs of the communities it serves.

For the criterion, the annual curriculum headcount is an unduplicated count based on the reporting year set by the North Carolina Community College System Office. A student is counted in WCC’s annual headcount if he or she is enrolled in at least one curriculum course during the reporting year. WCC’s annual curriculum headcount is a lagging indicator of student achievement.

**WCC’s Annual Curriculum Headcount**

**Outcome:** WCC seeks to increase its annual curriculum headcount for a specific reporting year.

**Threshold of Acceptability:** 4,425 students

**Rationale:** The Office of IE examined WCC’s annual curriculum headcount for the reporting years of 2015-2016, 2016-2017, and 2017-2018. To get the threshold of acceptability for this criterion, the Office of IE averaged the annual curriculum headcount for these reporting years. The threshold of acceptability is not a moving three-year average. The threshold of acceptability will stay static until the Office of IE reexamines this criterion and approves it through WCC’s Planning Council. The static threshold of acceptability aligns with how WCC establishes its KPI baselines, standards, and targets in its 2019-2024 Strategic Plan for Institutional Effectiveness.

**Goal:** 4,514 students

**Rationale:** The goal is to increase the WCC’s acceptability threshold by 2% for this criterion (4,425 \* 2%).

**Table 7. WCC’s Annual Curriculum Headcount**

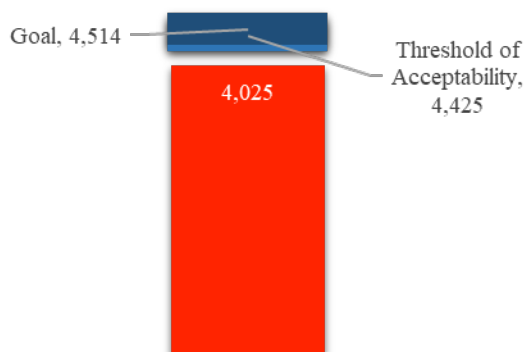
Criterion	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	3-Year Mean	2021-2022
Annual Curriculum Headcount	4,515	4,331	4,429	4,425	4,025

Source: WCC End of Term Semester Data Marts

Note: Reporting Year is Summer Semester, Fall Semester, and Spring Semester.

**Figure 11. WCC’s Annual Curriculum Headcount**

**WCC did not meet the threshold of acceptability by 400 students and the goal by 489 students.**



**Evaluation of Data:** The annual curriculum headcount for the reporting year of 2021-2022 is 4,025 students. For the reporting year of 2021-2022, **WCC did not meet its threshold of acceptability by 400 students and did not meet its goal of 489 students.**

**Strategies for Improvement:** WCC joined the SACSCOC Insight Data Equity Academy (IDEA) and created an ad hoc subcommittee to learn how to use the NSC Postsecondary Data Partnership (PDP) to make data-informed enrollment, retention, and completion decisions.

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### Criterion 3: New First-Time Students at Wayne Community College (WCC) Fall-to-Fall Retention

Criterion 3 aligns with two of WCC's institutional goals. The two institutional goals are goal 1 and goal 3. WCC's institutional goal 1 is to develop policies and practices that provide increased opportunities for students to enter into and successfully proceed through post-secondary education and training. WCC's institutional goal 3 is to increase the number of students leaving with a job-ready credential that can lead to successful employment in a global economy and provide better skills, better jobs, better pay, and continued educational attainment. In addition, criterion 3 supports the mission of WCC by meeting the educational needs of the communities it serves.

New first-time students at WCC refers to any student enrolled in WCC for the first time regardless of whether they previously attended another post-secondary college or university. It also refers to any dual enrollment or non-degreed students who enrolled in the fall semester. WCC does not include the previous summer's new first-time students in its fall cohort. The new first-time students at WCC will have a start term of the fall semester in the following field STA.START.TERM in Colleague. The fall-to-fall retention of new first-time students at WCC is a lagging indicator of student achievement.

#### WCC's New First-Time Students Fall-to-Fall Retention

**Outcome:** WCC seeks to increase the number of new first-time students at WCC fall-to-fall retention.

**Threshold of Acceptability:** 53.1%

**Rationale:** The Office of IE analyzed new first-time WCC students' fall-to-fall retention for the following fall semesters: fall 2015 to fall 2016, fall 2016 to fall 2017, and fall 2017 to fall 2018. To get the acceptable threshold for this criterion, the Office of IE averaged the new first-time



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students at WCC fall-to-fall retention for the following fall semesters: fall 2015 to fall 2016, fall 2016 to fall 2017, and fall 2017 to fall 2018. The threshold of acceptability is not a moving three-year average. The threshold of acceptability will stay static until the Office of IE reexamines this criterion and it is approved through WCC’s Planning Council. The static threshold of acceptability aligns with how WCC establishes its baselines, standards, and targets for the KPIs in its 2019-2024 Strategic Plan for Institutional Effectiveness.

**Goal:** 54.1%

**Rationale:** The goal is to increase WCC’s threshold of acceptability by 1% for this criterion (53.1% + 1%).

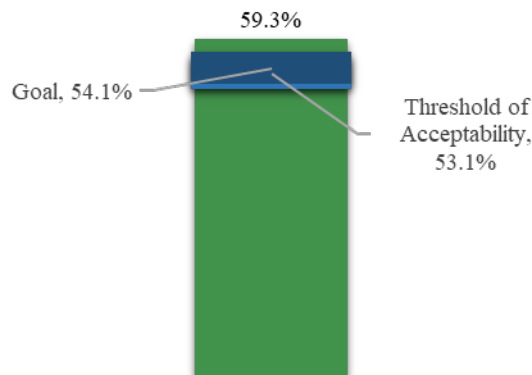
**Table 8. New First-Time Students at WCC Fall-to-Fall Retention**

Criterion	Fall 2015 to Fall 2016	Fall 2016 to Fall 2017	Fall 2017 to Fall 2018	3-Year Mean	Fall 2021 to Fall 2022
New First-Time at WCC Fall-to-Fall Retention	55.0%	51.8%	52.4%	53.1%	59.3%

Source: WCC End of the Term Semester Data Marts

**Figure 12. New First-Time Students at WCC Fall-to-Fall Retention**

**WCC exceeded the threshold of acceptability by 6.2% and the goal by 5.2%.**



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**Evaluation of Data:** For Fall 2021 to Fall 2022, **WCC exceeded its threshold of acceptability by 6.2% and goal by 5.2%**. For fall 2021, WCC had 919 new, first-time students. Five hundred forty-five new first-time students at WCC returned for the fall 2022 semester. Three hundred seventy-four new first-time students (40.7%) did not return for the fall 2022 semester.

**Strategies for Improvement:** WCC joined the SACSCOC Insight Data Equity Academy (IDEA) and created an ad hoc subcommittee to learn how to use the NSC Postsecondary Data Partnership (PDP) to make data-informed enrollment, retention, and completion decisions.

**Criterion 4: Annual Curriculum Completers**

Criterion 4 aligns with WCC’s institutional goal 3. WCC’s institutional goal 3 is to increase the number of students leaving with a job-ready credential that can lead to successful employment in a global economy and provide better skills, better jobs, better pay, and continued education attainment. In addition, this criterion supports the mission of WCC by meeting the educational and training needs of the communities it serves.

For this criterion, the annual curriculum completers are an unduplicated count of WCC’s graduates based on the graduation year set by the North Carolina Community College System Office. WCC decided to use its institutional data instead of data from the IPEDS Completions survey because of the timeframe required for the IPEDS Completions survey. The IPEDS completions survey timeframe (July – June) will overlap two graduation years that the North Carolina College System Office sets. The annual curriculum completion is a lagging indicator of student achievement.

**WCC’s Annual Curriculum Completers**

**Outcome:** WCC seeks to increase its annual completers for a specific graduation year.

**Threshold of Acceptability:** 855 completers

**Rationale:** The Office of IE examined WCC’s annual curriculum completers for the 2015-2016, 2016-2017, and 2017-2018 graduation years. To get the threshold of acceptability of this criterion, the Office of IE averaged the annual curriculum completers for the graduation years of 2015-2016, 2016-2017, and 2017-2018. The threshold of acceptability is not a moving three-year average. The threshold of acceptability will stay static until the Office of IE reexamines this criterion and any change is approved through WCC’s Planning Council. The static threshold of acceptability aligns with how WCC establishes its KPI baselines, standards, and targets in its 2019-2024 Strategic Plan for Institutional Effectiveness.

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**Goal:** 872 completers

**Rationale:** For this criterion, the goal is to increase WCC’s completers by 2% annually (855 \* 2%).

**Table 9. WCC’s Annual Curriculum Completers**

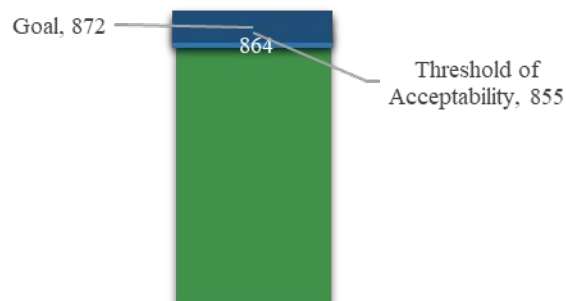
Criterion	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	3-Year Mean	2021-2022
Annual Curriculum Completers	843	821	901	855	864

Source: WCC Graduation Data Marts

Note: Graduation Year is Summer Semester, Fall Semester, and Spring Semester

**Figure 13. WCC’s Annual Curriculum Completers**

WCC **exceeded** the threshold of acceptability by **9** completers, but **did not meet** the goal by **8** completers.



**Evaluation of Data:** The annual curriculum completers for the graduation year of 2021-2022 was 864. For the 2021-2022 graduation year, **WCC exceeded its threshold of acceptability by nine completers and did not meet the goal by eight completers.**

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**Strategies for Improvement:** The Office of Admissions & Records started investigating using a tool created by Wake Tech Community College called Finish First NC (FFNC) to identify completers or near-completers.