

## **Southwest Minnesota State University Student Right-To-Know Graduation and Transfer-Out Rates**

### **What is Student Right-To-Know?**

Student Right-To-Know is a federal law that requires all colleges and universities to disclose certain information to students. This handout provides the information that a university must provide to students on graduation rates and transfer-out rates for full-time students seeking degrees at Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU).

### **What is a graduation rate and what is a transfer-out rate?**

Federal regulations specify how to calculate the graduation and transfer rates. The rates come from a study of SMSU students who started at the university in the fall of 2018. The study includes all first-time students who enrolled full-time that fall and were seeking to earn a degree at the university. The **graduation rate** is the percentage of these students who graduated from SMSU within six years. The **transfer-out rate** is the percentage of these students who did not graduate from SMSU, but instead transferred to another college or university within six years.

### **What do I need to know about these rates?**

These rates do not report on all students at Southwest Minnesota State University. The 337 first-time, full-time students in the study were 5 percent of all undergraduate students enrolled in fall of 2018.

### **What are the graduation and transfer-out rates for Southwest Minnesota State University students and how do they compare to rates for other universities?**

- The **graduation rate** for SMSU was 45 percent.
- The **transfer-out rate** for SMSU was 36 percent.
- The combination of the graduation rate and the transfer-out rate was 82 percent. The national average combined rate for similar universities was 73 percent.

### **Why don't more Southwest Minnesota State University students graduate or transfer in six years?**

- Some students take jobs before they graduate;
- Students who switch from full-time to part-time enrollment or “stop out” for one or more semesters are more likely to take more than six years to graduate;
- Other students delay their education for personal, family or financial reasons.

Disaggregated Student Right-to-Know Graduation and Transfer-out Rates			
Southwest Minnesota State University	Graduation Rate	Transfer-out Rate	Combined Rate
Total Cohort	45%	36%	82%
<b>Race Ethnicity</b>			
American Indian or Alaska Native	*	*	*
Asian	*	*	*
Black or African American	24%	61%	85%
Hispanic of any race	25%	46%	71%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	*	*	*
Two or more races	29%	52%	81%
U.S. Nonresident	*	*	*
Unknown race and ethnicity	*	*	*
White	54%	30%	84%
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	51%	33%	84%
Male	38%	41%	78%
<b>Financial Aid</b>			
Pell Grant Recipient	35%	44%	80%
Received neither Pell nor Subsidized Stafford Loans	61%	25%	86%
Received Subsidized Stafford Loans, but no Pell	42%	38%	80%

\* Suppressed to protect student privacy.

Due to rounding, percentages may not always appear to add up.