

Outcomes-Based Formula Model Data Definitions

Revised 01-20-2015

Data	Definition
University and Community College	
Student Progression	<p>The number of full-time and part-time students whose cumulative credits earned at the beginning of a semester are less than the established credit hour threshold benchmarks of 24, 48, or 72 student credit hours for Universities or 12, 24, or 36 student credit hours for Community Colleges and whose cumulative credit hours earned at the end of the semester are equal to or greater than the credit hour threshold benchmarks during the academic year.</p> <p>For the academic years prior to Fall 2011, the outcomes are identified by adding a student's attempted semester credit hours (sum of hours by credit type) to the cumulative credits earned using THEC 14th Day Enrollment Files.</p> <p>Beginning with Fall 2011, outcomes are identified by subtracting a student's undergraduate term institution combined earned hours from their cumulative credits earned using the THEC End of Term Enrollment File.</p>
Transfers Out with 12 Hours	<p>The number of undergraduate students who transferred out to any in-state public – and some private – institution in an academic year who accumulated at least 12 earned student credit hours from the originating institution. The student must have been enrolled at the originating institution at any time one academic year prior to transferring (i.e. "continuously enrolled"). Students transferring to an institution in the fall after being enrolled at a separate institution the previous spring, but not the previous summer, are included in this outcome.</p>
Degrees and Certificates per 100 FTE	<p>The combined total of associate's and bachelor's degrees (associate's and long-term certificates for community colleges) conferred during an academic year for every 100 year-round, end-of-term undergraduate full-time enrollment (FTE) generated during the same academic year. Non-degree seeking students are included in undergraduate FTE. Full-time enrollment is 30 semester credit hours.</p>
University Only	
Bachelor's and Associate's	<p>The combined total of bachelor's and associate's degrees conferred to undergraduate students during an academic year. APSU and TSU are the only universities that grant associate's degrees. Students earning multiple degrees in an academic year have each earned degree count as a separate outcome. Double majors do not count as two outcomes. The intent is that this outcome will be based on award year, not completion year data.</p>
Master's / Ed Specialist Degrees	<p>The combined total of master's and education specialist's degrees and certificates conferred to students during an academic year. Students earning multiple degrees in an academic year will have each earned degree count as a separate outcome. Double majors with same degree (e.g., MA) do not count as two outcomes.</p>
Doctoral / Law Degrees	<p>The combined total of doctoral and Law degrees conferred to students during an academic year. Does not include medical or pharmacy degrees. Students earning multiple degrees in an academic year will have each earned degree count as a separate outcome. Double majors with same degree (e.g., Ph.D.) do not count as two outcomes.</p>
Research and Service	<p>Expenditures on activities eligible for indirect cost allocation, primarily but not exclusively externally generated funding for research, service or instruction. The data should exclude financial aid, capital funding, state appropriations, donations from foundations, and practice income.</p>
Six-Year Graduation Rate	<p>First-time, full-time, fall freshmen and summer first-time freshmen who continued in the fall, attempting 12 credit hours at the census date, who were awarded a bachelor's or associate's degree as of the summer semester following their sixth year. Prior to the 2013-14 formula, the graduation rate outcome did not include degrees awarded in the summer semester following the students' sixth year. Beginning in the 2013-14 formula cycle, the trailing summer began to be included in the two oldest years of data in the three-year rolling average. Prior to the 2015-16 funding cycle, THEC only tracked students who transferred from their host institution and graduated from any public Tennessee institution and some private Tennessee institutions (based on TELS information). Beginning in 2015-16, THEC began using National Student Clearinghouse data to include students who were awarded a bachelor's or associates degree from a non-TICUE Tennessee private institution or from out-of-state institutions.</p>

Data	Definition
Community College Only	
Dual Enrollment	The unduplicated headcount of high school students taking degree-credit courses in an academic year. Headcounts from the THEC 14th Day Enrollment Files used prior to Fall 2010. THEC End of Term Files used for headcount beginning with Fall 2010. This outcome includes -- but is not limited to -- the metric used by the TELS Dual Enrollment grant.
Associate's	The total associate's degrees conferred during an academic year. Students earning multiple degrees in an academic year will have each earned degree count as a separate outcome. The intent is that this outcome will be based on award year, not completion year data.
1 to 2 Year Certificates	The total number of certificates requiring 24 or more credit hours granted during an academic year. Students earning multiple certificates in an academic year will have each earned certificate count as a separate outcome. The intent is that this outcome will be based on award year, not completion year data. General education certificates are excluded from this metric.
Less Than 1 Year Certificates	The total number of certificates requiring less than 24 credit hours granted during a calendar year. Only certificates of less than 24 hours that represent the highest award earned at stopout will be counted.
Job Placements	The number of placeable graduates from the spring, summer, and fall terms within a calendar year who obtain employment in a related field through June 30 of the following year. This is the same definition that has been used, and is currently used, for Performance Funding: Quality Assurance.
Remedial & Developmental Success	The number of full-time and part-time students who were enrolled in any remedial or developmental course or instruction who then successfully completed a college level course in a subsequent semester within three academic years of their initial cohort year. Census date information is used instead of end-of-term data because THEC's inability to collect course level data makes it impossible to know if a student completed a R&D course they were enrolled in at the census date. For example, if a student is enrolled for 15 credit hours at the census date and finishes the semester with 12 credit hours, THEC is unable to determine which class the student dropped.
Workforce Training	The total number of contact hours from an academic year. Contact hours are defined as a minimum of 50 minutes of learning activity for courses or activities that provide individuals with soft skills or technical skill-sets for the workplace but carry no institutional credit applicable toward a degree, diploma, or certificate.
Sub-populations	
Adults	Students 25 years or older at the time the outcome is achieved. Used only for progression and undergraduate degrees and certificates. Age is calculated at the end of the month for each outcome (e.g., if commencement is in May, age would be determined based on age as of the last day in May).
Low-Income	Pell eligible students at any time during their college career. Used only for progression and undergraduate degrees and certificates.
Fixed Costs	
M&O	Maintenance and operations. Represented by a dollar rate per E&G square foot. Also includes lease costs less any non-state lease funding. Same as the now defunct enrollment based formula.
Utilities	A dollar rate per E&G square foot. Same as the now defunct enrollment based formula.
Equipment Replacement	Ten percent of current equipment inventory value. Same as the now defunct enrollment based formula.
E&G Space	Education and General space. Space used for academic support, institutional administration, instruction, physical plant operations, research, or student services.
Other	
Performance Funding: Quality Assurance	Previously known only as Performance Funding, the Performance Funding: Quality Assurance program allows for institutions to receive up to an additional 5.45 percent of their formula recommendation by meeting annual targets related to learning engagement, access, and success.
Academic Year	Summer, fall, and spring semesters. For example, summer 2009, fall 2009, and spring 2010 represent the 2009-10 academic year.
FTE	Full Time Equivalent student. The combined total undergraduate credit hours taken by all full-time and part-time students over an academic year divided by a full-time course load. Only undergraduate FTE is used in the funding formula. Beginning with fall 2010, this is the total end-of-term attempted credit hours divided by 30. The total census date credit hours divided by 30 was used prior to fall 2010.
Cumulative Credit Hours Earned	Hours from dual enrollment programs, AP courses, hours transferred in from other institutions, and all other sources from where hours can be tracked.
Earned Credit Hours	Credit hours received after completing a class with a passing grade.
Attempted Credit Hours	All end-of-term hours attempted by students. Does include failed courses.
Census Date Enrollment	Students enrolled at the fourteenth day of the semester.