In fiscal year 2024, 14,677 remedial students advanced to college-level coursework (41.9 percent). An additional one-fifth of the students (N = 7,041) returned the subsequent year and continued to address their basic academic skill deficiencies. Hence, 62.0 percent (N = 21,718) of the students in fiscal year 2024 were either retained or advanced to college-level work. Table 1 below contains comparative data for the last five years.

Table 1

**Summary Comparison of Advancement to College-Level Coursework for Remedial Students in Illinois Public Community Colleges, Fiscal Years 2020-2024**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **FY 2020** | **FY 2021** | **FY 2022** | **FY 2023** | **FY 2024** |
| **Base** | **59,916** | **53,094** | **39,210** | **35,236** | **35,018** |
| **Retained in Remedial** | 12,695  21.2% | 10,249  19.3% | 7,351  18.7% | 6,916  19.6% | 7,041  20.1% |
| **Advanced to College-Level** | 23,257  38.8% | 20,834  39.2% | 16,207  41.3% | 14,443  41.0% | 14,677  41.9% |
| **Retained or Advanced** | **35,952**  **60.0%** | **31,083**  **58.5%** | **23,558**  **60.1%** | **21,359**  **60.6%** | **21,718**  **62.0%** |
| **Not Returning** | 23,964  40.0% | 22,011  41.5% | 15,652  39.9% | 13,877  39.4% | 13,300  38.0% |

Source of Data: ICCB Centralized Data System—Annual Enrollment and Completion (A1)

Looking at the trends over time, the number of remedial students who advanced to college-level coursework increased 1.6 percent over fiscal year 2023 (+234) and decreased 36.9 percent over fiscal year 2020 (-8,580). The number of students retained in remedial coursework also had a short-term increase (1.8 percent; +125) and a long-term decrease (-44.5 percent; -5,654). The number of students *not* returning decreased short-term (-4.2 percent; -577) and long-term (-44.5 percent; -10,664).

**As depicted in Figure 1, two-fifths of remedial students advanced from remedial coursework to college-level instruction in fiscal years 2020 through 2024.** About six in ten remedial students were either retained in remedial coursework or advanced to college-level instruction.

**Figure 1: Advancement to College-Level Coursework, FY 2020-2024**

According to the [National Center for Education Statistics](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d22/tables/dt22_311.40.asp), 20.0 percent of first-year students at public two-year institutions took a remedial course during their first year (FY 2020).

For more information, see the annual report, [Student Enrollments and Completions in the Illinois Community College System](http://www2.iccb.org/data/annual-reports/), or [Data and Characteristics of the Illinois Public Community College System](http://www2.iccb.org/data/data-characteristics/).



Visit the ICCB website to [locate a Community College near you](http://www2.iccb.org/students/your-college-plan/finding-a-college/) or for a [map of district boundaries](https://www.iccb.org/system-information/college-district-maps/?_gl=1*mu8p9f*_ga*MzI5MDY1MTMzLjE2OTQ3ODUwNjM.*_ga_YZBJNV1M3C*MTcwMzA4NTQ5OS45MS4wLjE3MDMwODU0OTkuMC4wLjA.&_ga=2.235481218.2025099600.1702915360-329065133.1694785063).