

Illinois Community College Board Frequently Asked Questions

HOW MANY REMEDIAL STUDENTS ADVANCE TO COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSEWORK?

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

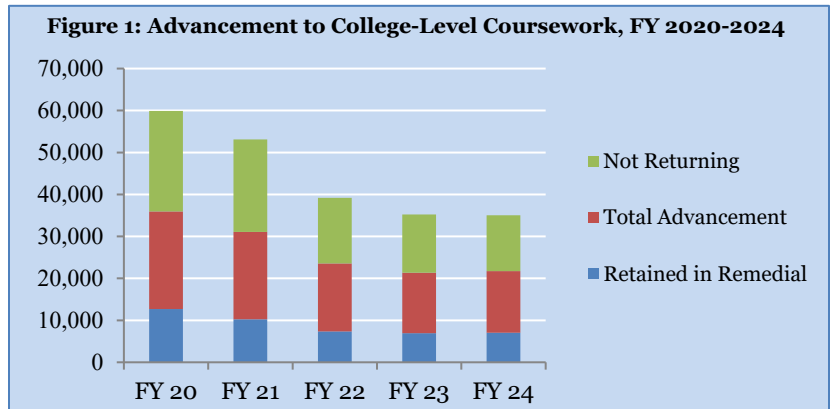
	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Base	59,916	53,094	39,210	35,236	35,018
Retained in Remedial	12,695 21.2%	10,249 19.3%	7,351 18.7%	6,916 19.6%	7,041 20.1%
Advanced to College-Level	23,257 38.8%	20,834 39.2%	16,207 41.3%	14,443 41.0%	14,677 41.9%
Retained or Advanced	35,952 60.0%	31,083 58.5%	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.

According to the [National Center for Education Statistics](#), 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](#), or [Data and Characteristics of the Illinois Public Community College System](#).



Visit the ICCB website to [locate a Community College near you](#) or for a [map of district boundaries](#).

Collaborating with the System to Inform Statewide Community College Issues

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