INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE

Our goal at GRCC is to increase student success through the accomplishment of the Completion Agenda. This agenda includes a slate of specific college action projects (outlined in our Strategic Plan) as well as department-level projects directly and indirectly aimed at improving student success. Where the College is pursuing projects with indirect impact on the completion agenda, it is building infrastructure and capacity for future projects with more direct impact. We will measure the success of our efforts by monitoring student performance in three specific areas: Persistence (Retention), Completion, and Transfer.

In this report you will find data regarding the percent of students who earn a certificate or degree at GRCC within three years of first attending GRCC. Four years of results are provided for total group. In addition, the results are disaggregated by gender and ethnicity and comparable benchmark data is provided where available.

Table 1: 3-Year Graduation Rates for GRCC Students with Comparable Benchmarks for Fall 2005 to Fall 2008 Cohorts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First-time, full-time in Fall 2005</th>
<th>CSRDE Comparison Groups</th>
<th>IPEDS Comparison Group</th>
<th>NCCBP</th>
<th>GRCC Percent Completed Within 3 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-time, full-time in Fall 2006</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-time, full-time in Fall 2007</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-time, full-time in Fall 2008</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>20.20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend: CSRDE – Consortium for Student Retention Data Exchange, 75 “Very Large Institutions” (5 year average)
IPEDS – Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, 27 large, public, 2-year colleges in Midwestern states
NCCBP – National Community College Benchmarking Project, 261 nationally participating community colleges (All levels of colleges)

Table 1 shows that GRCC graduation rates are higher than those in the CSRDE and IPEDS comparison groups.
Table 2: 3-Year Graduation Rates for Fall 2008 First-time, Full-time Students for Gender and Ethnicity Subgroups

Table 2 shows that female students are more likely to graduate than males. In addition, both white and hispanic students outperform the other minority groups.

**STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVEMENT:**

The following College Action Projects (CAPs) from the GRCC Strategic Plan (2011-2014) are currently being implemented to directly address this indicator:

1.1.1 – Implement strategies to increase the number of students who graduate

6.2.2 – Develop new certificate programs that meet industry needs

In addition, the following CAPs are designed to build our infrastructure and capacity to impact completion rates.

1.1.2 – Promote faculty leadership in academic advising

4.1.1 – Implement a student portfolio system

5.3.2 – Develop a new model for program review including the assessment of program learning outcomes

5.3.3 – Establish an assessment process for institutional learning outcomes

5.3.4 – Implement a data warehouse

6.2.1 – Develop a Career Pathways system

**TIMELINES:** This indicator will be updated each March. Each individual CAP project has also established specific timelines for milestone accomplishment.