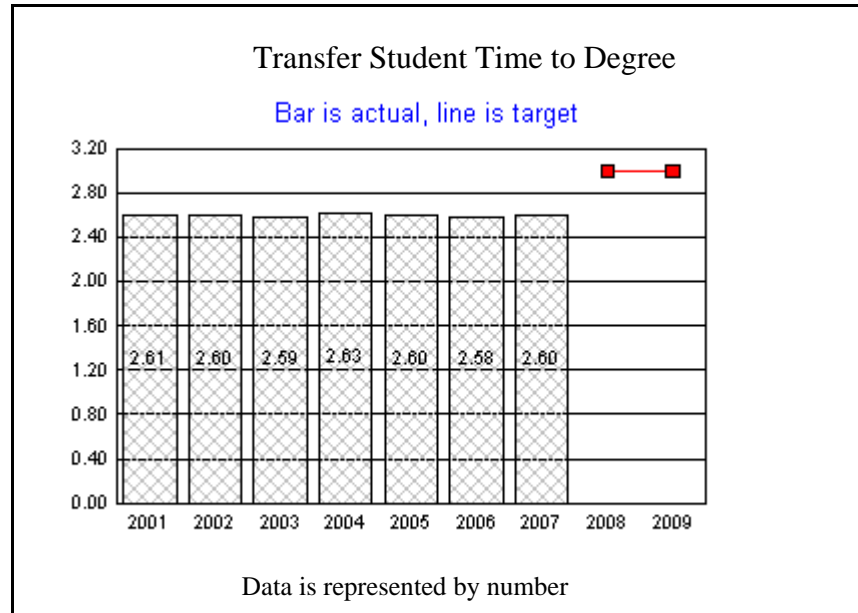


<b>KPM #26</b>	TRANSFER STUDENT TIME TO DEGREE - Average time to degree for community college transfers (years).	2005
<b>Goal</b>	Quality: Increase quality of undergraduate program - student success	
<b>Oregon Context</b>	OBM26 - College completion	
<b>Data Source</b>	OUS Institutional Research Services	
<b>Owner</b>	OUS Strategic Programs and Planning, Charles Triplett (503) 725-5717	



**1. OUR STRATEGY**

Maintain and strengthen an array of programs and policies to support timely academic progress for all student populations.

**2. ABOUT THE TARGETS**

A decrease in the average time to complete a bachelor's degree reflects a positive trend. This measure was refined to provide a better understanding of transfer students' progress toward degrees. To allow comparative analysis with the traditional first-time freshman cohort, transfer students in this measure are defined as students transferring to OUS with 90-134 credits, or the equivalent of junior standing. Because the performance data were recalculated, previously-established targets are no longer valid.

### 3. HOW WE ARE DOING

Following their enrollment in an Oregon public university with 90-134 credits, transfer students took an estimated two years and two terms (2.60 years) on average, to complete their degrees in 2007, returning to the average seen in 2005.

### 4. HOW WE COMPARE

There are no national norms for this measure.

### 5. FACTORS AFFECTING RESULTS

Although *institution* variables such as course availability and credit alignment can affect time to degree, *student* variables such as financial ability to pay, personal motivation and commitment, and family and employment obligations often have a greater effect on transfer students. To minimize the effect of institution variables on transfers, OUS continues to focus on academic alignment of Oregon's public postsecondary sectors and coordinated enrollment processes, as well as renewing their attention to student support services.

### 6. WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

OUS and Oregon community colleges continue their work to streamline general education requirements and eliminate policy and process barriers to college completion. Placing this measure as a priority in 2007 the Board dedicated funds to award campuses meeting performance targets in this area as well as student retention and completion. The following statewide alignment and academic preparation efforts have been undertaken to ease transition for students moving between and among Oregon's educational sectors:

- a. In fall 2008, an agreement on the course criteria and outcomes for an outcome-based general education will be proposed for adoption by the Joint Boards of Education and the Board of Higher Education;
- b. System leaders are re-examining the purpose and structure of the Associate of Arts/Oregon Transfer Degree (AA/OT) to maximize effectiveness;

- c. The Oregon Transfer Module enables students to complete first-year general education courses at any public college or university and transfer without loss of credit;
- d. ATLAS (Articulated Transfer Linked Audit System) allows students to monitor academic progress toward their undergraduate degree;
- e. Degree Partnership Programs between OUS institutions and Oregon community colleges allow for simultaneous enrollment, flexibility, and student support (including tutors, financial aid, and library services).

As students become more mobile and attendance patterns more varied and complex, it is increasingly important to understand those enrollment patterns in order to identify and address barriers to transfer and subsequent academic achievement. In addition to participation in the National Student Clearinghouse, OUS continues to work with CCWD to ensure accurate and complete data on transfer students.

#### 7. ABOUT THE DATA

The average time to degree for transfer students is an estimate of the length of time that college transfer students take to complete an undergraduate degree among students entering with 90-134 transfer credit and completing their degree within four years. Data reported for 2007 reflect the progress of transfer students entering OUS in 2003-04, consistent with the cohort reported in KPM #11.