



Oregon
Kate Brown, Governor

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

Ben Cannon, Executive Director

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Co-Chair, Senator Rod Monroe
Co-Chair, Representative Betty Komp
Joint Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Education
State of Oregon
March 24, 2015

Dear Co-chairs Monroe and Komp,

Thank you for the opportunity to answer questions that arose during the March 23 Higher Education Coordinating Commission presentation to the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education.

Senator Roblan asked two follow-up questions pertaining to the chart in slide six, titled “Measuring Oregon Against 40-40-20”, including: 1) whether military service credentials are represented in the total of certificates in this slide, and 2) how many high school students in Oregon enter military service. HECC’s estimate of what percentage of working age Oregonians hold a certificate as their highest form of educational attainment is drawn from a 2012 report from Georgetown University’s Center on Education and the Workforce¹. This estimate (8.5% of Oregonians) does not include credentials that were achieved through military training and experience, although it may include credentials awarded by colleges and universities partly on the basis of credit for prior learning that includes military experience. The HECC does not collect information on the percent of Oregon high school graduates who enter branches of the U.S. military; we checked with the Oregon Department of Education, the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs, the Oregon Military Department² and online federal sources, but were not able to locate reports on the number of Oregon students entering all branches of the military. We will follow up with the U.S. Department of Defense to inquire further about possible reports which would include this figure.

Representative Taylor inquired about whether the completion data represented in slide six is available for each college or university. The data for the “some college, no completion” category is not available by each institution, since it is not calculated based on institutional data but based on U.S. Census totals for the Oregon population as a whole as represented in the American Community Survey. The completion rates are available for each institution and are included in the attachments. It is important to note that for the community colleges, this completion data is highly problematic since it is only reported on first-time, full-time freshmen, who are a very small fraction of the community college

¹ Certificates: Gateway to Gainful Employment and College Degrees, by Anthony P. Carnevale, Stephen J. Rose, and Andrew R. Hanson, Georgetown University, Center on Education and the Workforce, June 2012.

<https://cew.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Certificates.FullReport.061812.pdf>

² The Oregon Military Department does have totals for the Oregon National Guard (from October 2013-September 2014, approximately 53 people out of 500 enlisted were in high school). The Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs has data on the total number of veterans in Oregon (320,000), but not on recruitment.

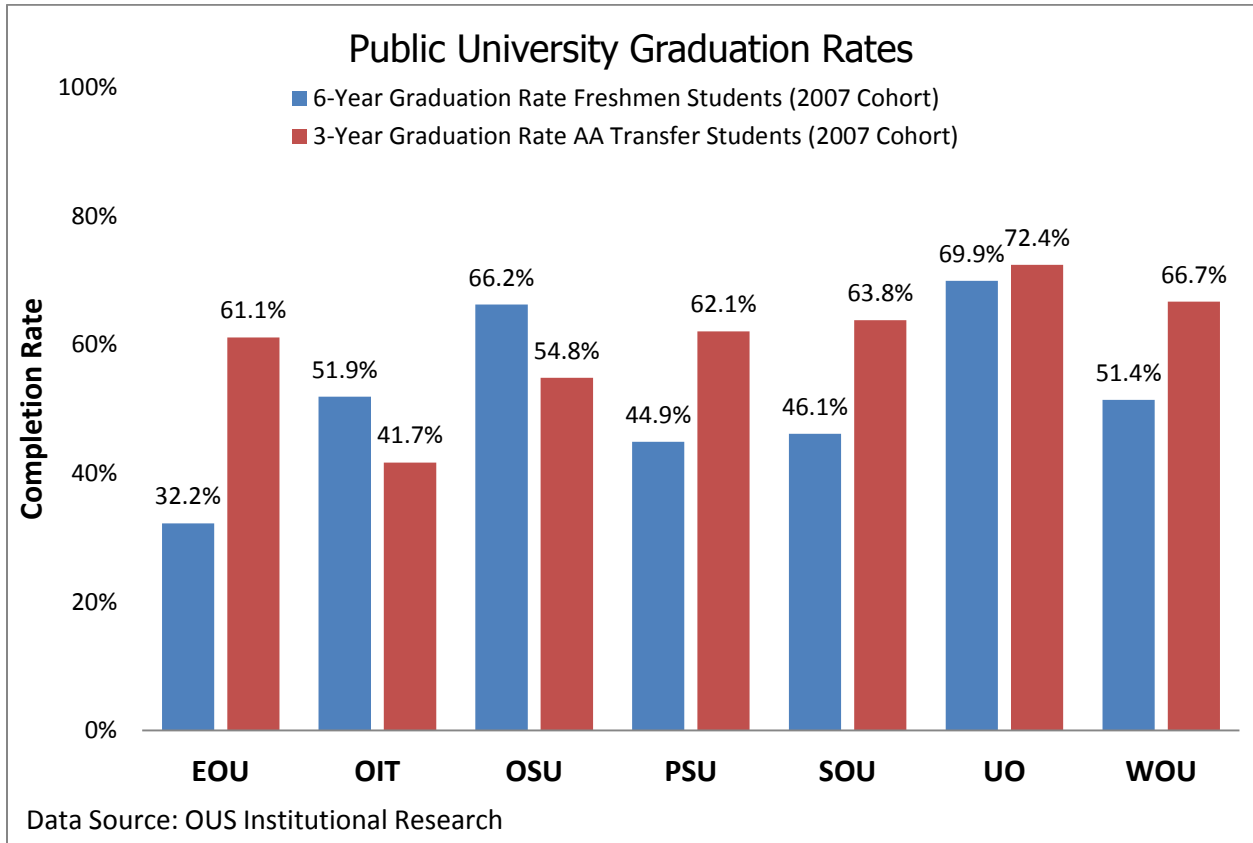
student enrollment. For the universities, completion data for each institution includes both 6-year freshmen cohort graduation rates and 3-year graduation rates for students who complete an Associate's Degree at an Oregon community college.

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our legislative director Dana Richardson at Dana.Richardson@state.or.us.

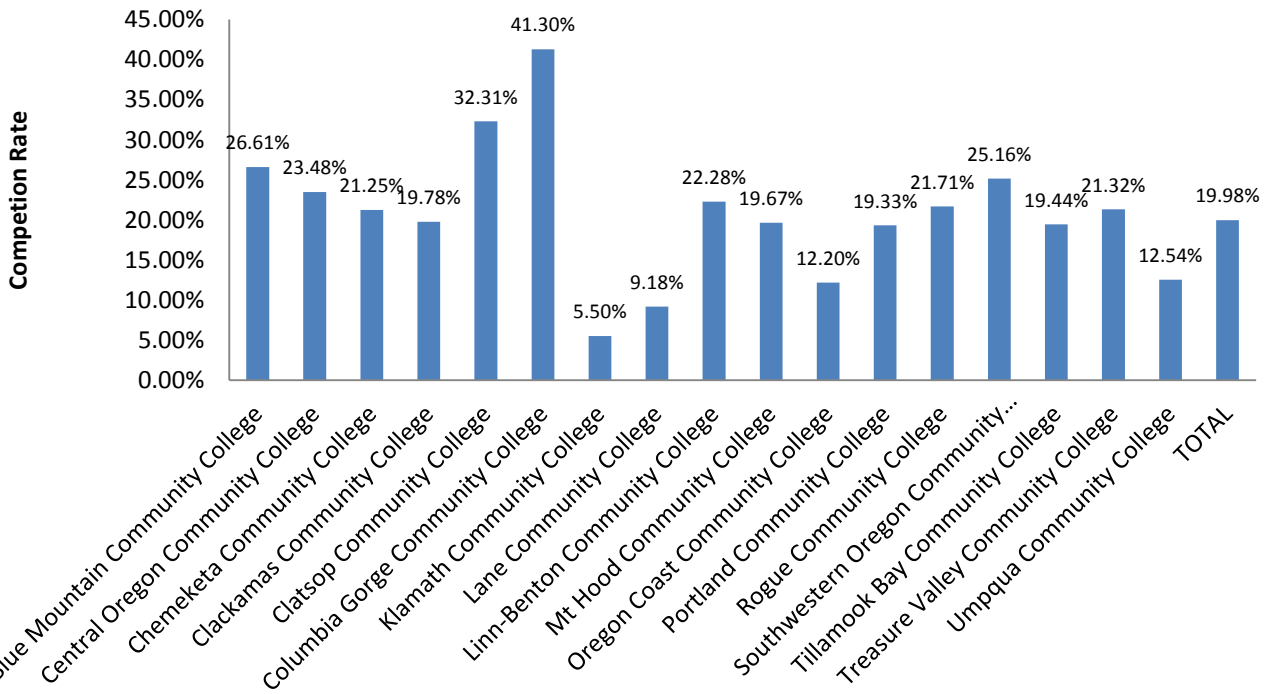
Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Cannon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Ben Cannon
Executive Director, HECC



Community College Completion Rates (2009 Cohort)



Data Source: CCWD

Institutions