

Research Report No. 08-3

Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

TRANSFER STUDENTS COLLEGE-LEVEL MOMENTUM POINTS

March 2008

A quarter of the 475,872 students enrolled in 2006-07 stated transfer as their goal for being at the college¹. This analysis examines the status of these 119,187 students as they started the year and at the end of the year in terms of the momentum points counted in the State Board's Student Achievement Initiative. Data are provided for the system as a whole with detail by college provided at the end of the report. For additional information on the Board's initiative to increase the level of educational attainment in Washington see http://www.sbctc.ctc.edu/college/e_studentachievement.aspx.

Key Findings:

- **Substantial room for momentum gain:** Half of all students enrolled with a transfer interest (49 percent) start 2006-07 without any prior college-level momentum.
- **Slightly more than half made some momentum gains:** Regardless of their prior momentum status, 57 percent with a transfer interest gained momentum during 2006-07. The typical transfer students gaining momentum earned 2 momentum points during the year.
 - **If gains were made, typically at least one point gain was at the college-level:** Most of the transfer students who gained momentum earned some college-level momentum points, though 9 percent of students making gains in 2006-07 did so only at the basic skills or pre-college-level.
- **Moving ahead in college-level math was rare for these students:** Less than 2 in 10 students (18 percent) with a transfer interest in 2006-07 gained momentum by completing a quantitative reasoning course.



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¹ Transfer to a four-year institutions was the student's stated purpose for attending as reported during the last quarter of enrollment in the 2006-07 year.

- **Most ended where they started, without gains in quantitative reasoning:**
Narrowing the consideration to those students with a transfer interest who started the year without having previously completed their quantitative reasoning course, 76 percent ended the year in the same manner – no gain in quantitative reasoning during 2006-07. Some in that group, however, gained pre-college math momentum points (18 percent of the no quantitative reasoning gain subgroup.)

Transfer Students’ Momentum Point Status at the Beginning of 2006-07

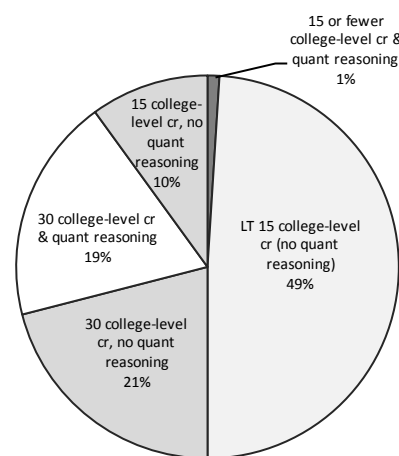
When last enrolled in the 2006-07 academic year 119,187 students indicated their college goal as preparation for transfer to a baccalaureate institution. As they started the year, half had no prior college-level momentum (49 percent). These students have substantial room to gain momentum points during the academic year.

Eighty (80) percent of transfer students had not yet completed their quantitative reasoning course as they started the 2006-07 year (93,882 students).

As the year began, nearly a third (31 percent) of transfer oriented students had already moved along on college-level momentum points (15 or 30 college-level credits earned) but had not achieved yet completed their quantitative reasoning course.

Some 19 percent already had previously earned 30 credits and quantitative reasoning or math momentum points. This group of students can only gain 1 more point before graduating.

**Status at Beginning of 2006-07
119,187 Transfer Students**



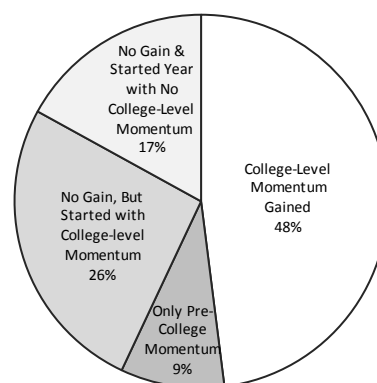
Momentum Gained During 2006-07 Status for All Transfer Students Regardless of Starting Status

During 2006-07, 67,335 out of 119,187 students enrolled with an interest in transfer gained 125,076 momentum points, for an average of 2 points for each student making gains, with 57 percent making at least a one point gain.

No Gains 51,852 Students	Pre-college Gains Only 10,411 students			College-level Gains – 56,924 students 14,307 of these students also made pre-college skills gains			
Category	Basic Skills	Pre-College English	Pre-College Math	15 College-level Cr	30 College-level Cr	Quantitative Reasoning	Tipping Point
Points gained ²	5,573	7,811	26,091	29,736	23,950	21,098	10,817

About half the transfer oriented students gained momentum at the college-level during 2006-07 (48 percent of students). Some of these students also made gains below the college-level in the same year. Another 9 percent of transfer oriented students made momentum gains only at the pre-college level. More than 4 out of 10 transfer students ended the year without making a momentum gain of any kind.

**Status at the End of 2006-07
119,187 Transfer Students**



Momentum Gained During the Year by Transfer Students Starting 2006-07 with No College-Level Momentum

Forty-nine (49) percent of transfer oriented students started the year with no college-level momentum points yet. For those 57,918 students the results at year end were quite modest – nearly half still had no college-level momentum at year end. Though math is often regarded as a foundational skill, just 18 percent of this group starting the year with no college-level momentum completed their quantitative reasoning course during 2006-07.

Starting with no college-level momentum	57,918	
No momentum gained at year end	20,922	36%
Gained momentum below college-level only	6,180	11%
Gained 15 college-level credits only	12,390	21%
Gained 30 college-level credits but no quantitative reasoning gain	7,710	13%
Gained quantitative reasoning	10,351	18%
Reached the tipping point or beyond	360	1%

² Students can gain points in more than one category and can gain more than one point a year in each pre-college category.

Math Related Momentum Gained During the Year by Transfer Students Starting 2006-07 with No Quantitative Reasoning

Of the 93,882 students (79 percent of the transfer students) who started the year with no prior quantitative reasoning course, three-quarters (76 percent) ended where they started—no quantitative reasoning momentum points were gained³(62 percent had no math related gains at any level and 14 percent gained at the pre-college math level only). Some 24 percent gained their college-level quantitative reasoning momentum. Some (4 percent) both completed quantitative reasoning and reached the tipping point in that year (counted in the 24 percent shown).

Started with no prior quantitative reasoning course	93,882	
Gained quantitative reasoning or tipping point	22,084	24%
No math related momentum gained	58,650	62%
Gained pre-college math momentum only	13,148	14%

Momentum Gained During the Year by Transfer Students Starting 2006-07 with 15 College-Level Credits but No Quantitative Reasoning

Of the 11,513 students who started the year with 15 college-level credits completed but without the quantitative reasoning class, most (72 percent) made college-level momentum gains though only a small portion completed a quantitative reasoning course—21 percent. A quarter made no additional gains at any level during 2006-07.

Starting with 15 college-level credits	11,513	
No momentum gained	2,730	24%
Gained momentum below college-level only	497	4%
Gained 30 college-level credits only	5,548	48%
Gained quantitative reasoning	2,473	21%
Reached the tipping point or beyond	265	2%

³ SBCTC does not have access to information about courses transferred in from outside the CTC system, thus it is possible that some of these student had previously completed a course that meets the quantitative reasoning requirement at a university in Washington or a college or university in another state.

Transfer Student's College-Level Momentum Status at the Start of 2006-07 by College

	< 15 College- level Credits Earned	15 College- level Credits Only	30 College- level Credits only	15 Crs & Quanti- tative Reasoning	30 Crs & Quanti- tative Reasoning	Quanti- tative Reasoning Only	Total	% Less Than 15 College- level Cr	% 15 or 30 Cr and no Quanti- tative Reasoning	% with Prior Quanti- tative Reasoning
Bates	16	2	13		6		37	43%	41%	16%
Bellevue	4,571	872	1,643	229	1,947	89	9,351	49%	27%	24%
Big Bend	600	125	239	23	366	4	1,357	44%	27%	29%
Cascadia	1,082	235	425	56	489	16	2,303	47%	29%	24%
Centralia	655	96	255	16	324	17	1,363	48%	26%	26%
Clark	2,886	678	1,097	180	1,559	58	6,458	45%	27%	28%
Clover Park	14	2	12		3		31	45%	45%	10%
Columbia Basin	5,148	513	1,032	85	1,226	19	8,023	64%	19%	17%
Edmonds	2,319	376	899	130	1,330	56	5,110	45%	25%	30%
Everett	2,991	572	910	146	972	77	5,668	53%	26%	21%
Grays Harbor	593	78	137	34	235	27	1,104	54%	19%	27%
Green River	2,695	576	1,168	82	1,295	15	5,831	46%	30%	24%
Highline	2,175	480	1,227	77	1,073	24	5,056	43%	34%	23%
Lake Washington	263	45	155	1	54		518	51%	39%	11%
Lower Columbia	827	140	258	24	369	7	1,625	51%	24%	25%
Olympic	2,322	396	677	108	931	28	4,462	52%	24%	24%
Peninsula	627	150	337	14	174	1	1,303	48%	37%	15%
Pierce Fort Steilacoom	4,032	897	1,774	166	937	64	7,870	51%	34%	15%
Pierce Puyallup	1,668	387	867	44	441	7	3,414	49%	37%	14%
Renton	297	37	110	7	41	3	495	60%	30%	10%
Seattle Central	2,494	518	1,274	103	914	34	5,337	47%	34%	20%
Seattle North	1,864	354	901	80	742	45	3,986	47%	31%	22%
Seattle South	1,323	281	712	45	433	25	2,819	47%	35%	18%
Seattle Voc Institute	3	1					4			
Shoreline	1,235	346	771	56	837	22	3,267	38%	34%	28%
Skagit Valley	1,758	328	644	40	511	15	3,296	53%	29%	17%
South Puget Sound	2,040	468	926	77	838	25	4,374	47%	32%	21%
Spokane	1,324	337	846	25	571	14	3,117	42%	38%	20%
Spokane Falls	3,155	621	1,687	61	1,008	24	6,556	48%	35%	17%
Tacoma	2,262	511	1,155	71	820	13	4,832	47%	34%	19%
Walla Walla	740	144	393	14	280	4	1,575	47%	34%	19%
Wenatchee Valley	1,177	224	403	51	523	5	2,383	49%	26%	24%
Whatcom	1,558	406	860	62	599	20	3,505	44%	36%	19%
Yakima Valley	1,204	317	644	37	545	10	2,757	44%	35%	21%
College Total	57,918	11,513	24,451	2,144	22,393	768	119,187	49%	30%	21%
% of Total	49%	10%	21%	2%	19%	1%				

Bellingham Technical College reported no students with a transfer purpose in their last quarter of enrollment.

Data are from the Student Achievement Database using the "CLVLEarnedPriorInd" data element providing a 3 digit summary of the student status in the CTC system prior to the current year as follows:

Byte 1= earned 15 or more college-level credits prior to year

Byte 2= earned 30 or more college-level credits prior to year

Byte 3 = earned 5 or more credits meeting the college-level math or the quantitative reasoning requirement (as defined at the college where the course was taken) prior to year

The codes used are:

For students where KIND_OF_STUDENT = T	CLVLEarnedPriorInd
Less than 15 college-level credits earned	000
15 college-level credits only	100
30 college-level credits only (also means 15 credits were previously earned)	110
15 credits and quantitative reasoning	101
30 credits and quantitative reasoning (also means 15 credits were previously earned)	111
Quantitative reasoning only (without also reaching 15 or 30 credits)	001

Number of Transfer Student by Type of Momentum Gained in 2006-07

	Total	Some College-Level Momentum	Pre-College Math or English or Basic Skills	No Momentum Gained	% Some College-Level Momentum	% Only Pre-College Momentum	% No Momentum
Bates	37	22	1	14	59%	3%	38%
Bellevue	9,351	4,441	536	4,374	47%	6%	47%
Big Bend	1,357	814	121	422	60%	9%	31%
Cascadia	2,303	1,282	165	856	56%	7%	37%
Centralia	1,363	825	149	389	61%	11%	29%
Clark	6,458	2,930	792	2,736	45%	12%	42%
Clover Park	31	12	8	11	39%	26%	35%
Columbia Basin	8,023	2,682	1,124	4,217	33%	14%	53%
Edmonds	5,110	2,501	544	2,065	49%	11%	40%
Everett	5,668	2,661	461	2,546	47%	8%	45%
Grays Harbor	1,104	615	54	435	56%	5%	39%
Green River	5,831	3,412	374	2,045	59%	6%	35%
Highline	5,056	2,542	122	2,392	50%	2%	47%
Lake Washington	518	229	76	213	44%	15%	41%
Lower Columbia	1,625	861	150	614	53%	9%	38%
Olympic	4,462	2,182	346	1,934	49%	8%	43%
Peninsula	1,303	613	117	573	47%	9%	44%
Pierce Fort Steilacoom	7,870	3,734	515	3,621	47%	7%	46%
Pierce Puyallup	3,414	1,646	259	1,509	48%	8%	44%
Renton	495	138	39	318	28%	8%	64%
Seattle Central	5,337	2,457	422	2,458	46%	8%	46%
Seattle North	3,986	1,719	188	2,079	43%	5%	52%
Seattle South	2,819	1,234	279	1,306	44%	10%	46%
Seattle Voc Institute	4	1		3	25%	0%	75%
Shoreline	3,267	1,521	239	1,507	47%	7%	46%
Skagit Valley	3,296	1,464	419	1,413	44%	13%	43%
South Puget Sound	4,374	1,932	395	2,047	44%	9%	47%
Spokane	3,117	1,566	336	1,215	50%	11%	39%
Spokane Falls	6,556	3,268	481	2,807	50%	7%	43%
Tacoma	4,832	2,229	559	2,044	46%	12%	42%
Walla Walla	1,575	821	160	594	52%	10%	38%
Wenatchee Valley	2,383	1,289	220	874	54%	9%	37%
Whatcom	3,505	1,914	419	1,172	55%	12%	33%
Yakima Valley	2,757	1,367	341	1,049	50%	12%	38%
College Total	119,187	56,924	10,411	51,852	48%	9%	44%

Data are from the Student Achievement Database for transfer students. Separate queries for each column as follows:

Pre College Math or English or Basic Skills	TippingPoint = null & QuantCourse_Point = null & 30 ClvlCr_Point = null & 15 ClvlCr_Point = null & (BasicSkillsGain_Points >0 OR CollegeReady Total_Points >0)
No Momentum	Total points = 0
Some College-Level Momentum	Calculated by remainder

Momentum Gained During the Year by Transfer Students Starting 2006-07 with No

	Start with No College- Level Momentum	Tipping Point or Beyond	Quanti- tative Reasoning	30 Credits Earned, No Math	15 Credits Earned, No Math	Pre- College Math or English	No Momentum Gained
Bates	16			8	3		5
Bellevue	4,571	21	1,076	524	906	284	1,760
Big Bend	600	11	119	104	172	65	129
Cascadia	1,082	6	306	135	258	88	289
Centralia	655	5	174	147	141	92	96
Clark	2,886	5	556	292	621	534	878
Clover Park	14		2	2	1	4	5
Columbia Basin	5,148	8	412	357	703	925	2,743
Edmonds	2,319	14	623	244	452	320	666
Everett	2,991	9	611	254	581	267	1,269
Grays Harbor	593	2	197	71	90	43	190
Green River	2,695	6	573	623	733	160	600
Highline	2,175	15	409	407	510	107	727
Lake Washington	263	1	35	40	51	45	91
Lower Columbia	827	4	136	175	208	97	207
Olympic	2,322	16	470	251	447	218	920
Peninsula	627	1	57	110	169	50	240
Pierce Fort Steilacoom	4,032	42	672	460	895	331	1,632
Pierce Puyallup	1,668	3	378	276	330	150	531
Renton	297	3	15	26	23	32	198
Seattle Central	2,494	28	419	331	578	233	905
Seattle North	1,864	31	424	132	359	135	783
Seattle South	1,323	13	243	139	244	167	517
Seattle Voc Institute	3						3
Shoreline	1,235	7	229	198	321	116	364
Skagit Valley	1,758	7	208	205	389	232	717
South Puget Sound	2,040	20	275	286	461	203	795
Spokane	1,324	11	191	285	353	122	362
Spokane Falls	3,155	13	410	618	734	202	1,178
Tacoma	2,262	8	319	303	511	340	781
Walla Walla	740	5	113	145	179	58	240
Wenatchee Valley	1,177	11	267	151	267	144	327
Whatcom	1,558	24	275	208	407	242	402
Yakima Valley	1,204	10	157	203	293	174	367
College Total	57,918	360	10,351	7,710	12,390	6,180	20,922
% of Total		1%	18%	13%	21%	11%	36%

Data are from the Student Achievement Database separate queries⁴ for each column as follows:

⁴ SBCTC plans to add an indicator data element to reduce this analysis to a single query.

For transfer students (Kind of Student = T) where CLVLEarnedPriorInd = 000 (first column)	
Tipping Point or Beyond	Tippingpoint = 1
Quantitative Reasoning	Tippingpoint = null & QuantCourse_Point = 1
30 College-level Credits Only	Tippingpoint = null & QuantCourse_Point = null & 30CLVLCR_Point = 1
15 College-level Credits Only	Tippingpoint = null & QuantCourse_Point = null & 30CLVLCR_Point = null & 15ClvICR_Point = 1
Pre College Math or English or Basic Skills	TippingPoint = null & QuantCourse_Point = null & 30ClvICr_Point = null & 15ClvICr_Point = null & (BasicSkillsGain_Points >0 OR CollegeReady Total_Points >0)
No Momentum	Calculated by remainder

Similar queries are used for the last two tables:

Math Related Momentum Gains for Transfer Students in 2006-07 Starting Without Having Completed A Quantitative Reasoning Course

- For transfer students (Kind of Student = T) where CLVLEarnedPriorInd = “??0”
- Pre-College Math Gain Only: QuantCourse_Point = null & CollegeReadyPreMath_Points >0
- No Math Related Momentum: QuantCourse_Point = null & CollegeReadyPreMath_Points = 0

Momentum Gained by Transfer Students starting with 15 College-level Credits and No Quantitative Reasoning Course

- For transfer students (Kind of Student = T) where CLVLEarnedPriorInd = 100 (first column)

**Math Related Momentum Gains for Transfer Students in 2006-07 Starting
Without Having Completed a Quantitative Reasoning Course**

	Start with No Prior Quantitative Reasoning Course	Tipping Point or Beyond	Quanti- tative Reasoning	Pre-College Math Gain Only	No Math Related Momentum
Bates	31	6	1	1	23
Bellevue	7,086	212	1,575	800	4,499
Big Bend	964	60	242	165	497
Cascadia	1,742	62	484	279	917
Centralia	1,006	61	283	237	425
Clark	4,661	174	940	982	2,565
Clover Park	28	2	2	7	17
Columbia Basin	6,693	158	776	613	5,146
Edmonds	3,594	112	1,027	616	1,839
Everett	4,473	135	929	556	2,853
Grays Harbor	808	33	254	28	493
Green River	4,439	129	1,085	660	2,565
Highline	3,882	194	747		2,941
Lake Washington	463	20	78	62	303
Lower Columbia	1,225	47	236	281	661
Olympic	3,395	143	722	503	2,027
Peninsula	1,114	49	112	180	773
Pierce Fort Steilacoom	6,703	243	1,273	578	4,609
Pierce Puyallup	2,922	99	599	320	1,904
Renton	444	26	26	3	389
Seattle Central	4,286	206	790	526	2,764
Seattle North	3,119	105	748	120	2,146
Seattle South	2,316	72	500	378	1,366
Seattle Voc Institute	4				4
Shoreline	2,352	98	442	389	1,423
Skagit Valley	2,730	99	397	601	1,633
South Puget Sound	3,434	167	501	553	2,213
Spokane	2,507	102	451	542	1,412
Spokane Falls	5,463	247	911	901	3,404
Tacoma	3,928	185	658	721	2,364
Walla Walla	1,277	101	194	266	716
Wenatchee Valley	1,804	96	401	262	1,045
Whatcom	2,824	187	619	579	1,439
Yakima Valley	2,165	129	322	439	1,275
College Total	93,882	3,759	18,325	13,148	58,650
% of Total		4%	20%	14%	62%

* 79% at the Tipping Point also completed a quantitative reasoning course in 2006-07.

**Momentum Gained by Transfer Students Starting with 15 College-Level Credits and
No Quantitative Reasoning Course**

	Start with 15 college-level credits	Tipping Point or Beyond	Quanti- tative Reasoning	30 Credits Earned, No Math	Pre-College Math or English or Basic Skills	No Momentum Gained
Bates	2	1		1		
Bellevue	872	20	154	423	21	254
Big Bend	125	3	43	59	8	12
Cascadia	235	7	64	105	13	46
Centralia	96	1	28	53	7	7
Clark	678	12	154	318	50	144
Clover Park	2			2		
Columbia Basin	513	6	110	258	20	119
Edmonds	376	8	124	153	17	74
Everett	572	7	136	226	31	172
Grays Harbor	78	4	22	32	1	19
Green River	576	9	145	308	16	98
Highline	480	14	91	255	2	118
Lake Washington	45		5	28	4	8
Lower Columbia	140	1	29	67	6	37
Olympic	396	11	102	184	23	76
Peninsula	150	6	15	92	5	32
Pierce Fort Steilacoom	897	28	197	423	37	212
Pierce Puyallup	387	5	77	148	22	135
Renton	37	3	5	14		15
Seattle Central	518	20	100	234	19	145
Seattle North	354	9	77	125	10	133
Seattle South	281	6	71	121	13	70
Seattle Voc Institute	1			1		
Shoreline	346	7	69	185	18	67
Skagit Valley	328	8	55	159	19	87
South Puget Sound	468	7	80	216	12	153
Spokane	337	6	68	186	20	57
Spokane Falls	621	13	116	340	19	133
Tacoma	511	13	113	242	21	122
Walla Walla	144	5	27	73	11	28
Wenatchee Valley	224	5	43	114	14	48
Whatcom	406	13	105	188	21	79
Yakima Valley	317	7	48	185	17	60
College Total	11,513	265	2,473	5,518	497	2,760
% of Total		2%	21%	48%	4%	24%