

Chabot College Leaver Study: Fall 1997 to Spring 1998

Why students leave college

The Chabot College Leaver Study surveyed a sample of new, continuing, and returning students who had enrolled at Chabot in Fall 1997 but did not return in Spring 1998, and asked them why they had left.

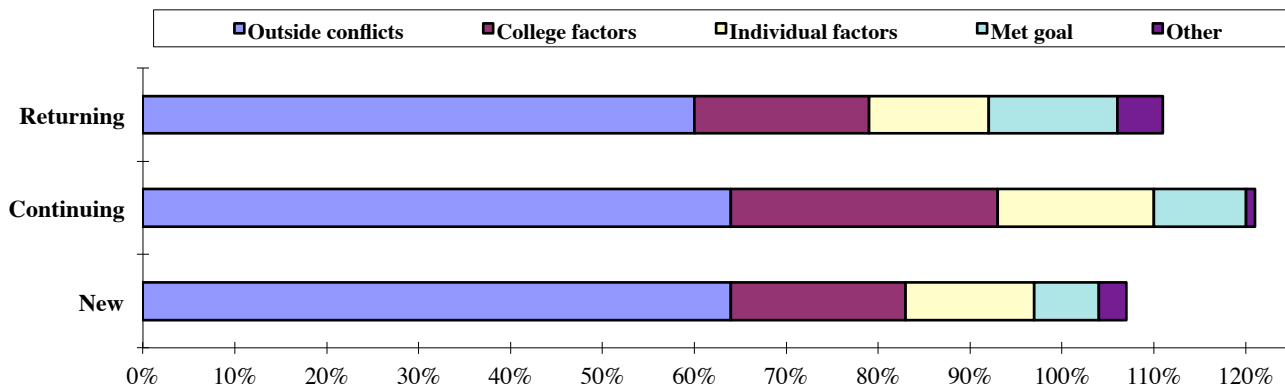
Outside conflicts were the major reasons for leaving—most students want to continue in college but outside survival issues, such as jobs, health, or family responsibilities interfere. About one quarter cited problems with Chabot, such as a course or training program not being available. About 15 percent left because they were not ready or prepared for college. Which of these factors can Chabot affect?

Major Reasons Why Students Leave

Types of reasons	Percentage choosing each reason		
	New	Continuing	Returning
Outside conflicts	64%	64%	60%
College factors	19%	29%	19%
Individual factors	14%	17%	13%
Met goal	7%	10%	14%
Other	3%	1%	5%
Total percent*:	107%	121%	111%
Sample size:	221	107	67

*Students could choose more than one reason, so percentages add to more than 100%

Major reasons for leaving, by student type



Top Detailed Reasons Why Students Leave

Selected detailed reasons	Percentage choosing each reason		
	New	Continuing	Returning
Outside conflicts			
Job conflicts	24%	35%	29%
Health/personal problems	12%	13%	3%
Family responsibilities	12%	11%	8%
Financial problems	9%	10%	8%
Overall time pressure	4%	15%	22%
College factors			
Course not available	7%	11%	10%
Found other training program	4%	6%	3%
Safety/climate	3%	1%	2%
Instructional methods	1%	5%	3%
Individual factors			
Taking a break/lost interest	5%	12%	4%
Late to register	4%	2%	2%
Low academic success/study skills	2%	4%	5%