

# What is Chabot College's transfer rate? (and why there is not one answer)

## What is a transfer rate?

A transfer rate is the percentage of community college students who transfer to four-year colleges.

*Sounds simple! But rates differ depending on:*

- How we count the students who transfer (the numerator)

*When did they start at Chabot?*

*How many years did they take to transfer?*

- How we define potential transfer students (the denominator)

*Almost half of Chabot students do not intend to transfer.*

*How do we identify those who intend to transfer? By words or actions?*

**A transfer rate needs a cohort, a definition of 'transfer-directed' students, and a transfer outcome.**

A **cohort** is a group of first-time college students who start at our college at the same time.

They could be first-time students in the Fall, or start at any time during that academic year.

**Transfer-directed** students are those who could potentially transfer.

They show their intent to transfer by their words (educational goal) and/or actions (units or courses).

**Transfer outcomes** could include actually transferring to a four-year college, or being **transfer-ready**.

**Transfer-ready** students have earned 60 transferable units and have completed College English & Math.

This is a transfer outcome that depends only on the community college rather than on the four-year colleges.

### How to calculate a transfer rate

- Choose a cohort - when did they start at Chabot?
- Define 'transfer-directed' - who in the cohort will be included in the denominator?
- Specify years to transfer - how many years will you give them to transfer?
- Decide who to count as transferred. Will you include only those who did transfer?  
Or will you also include those who are transfer-ready, or earned degrees or certificates?

### Chabot Transfer Rates: 3 definitions → 3 different results

These transfer/completion rates use different definitions of transfer-directed, transfer outcomes, and years to transfer. **The transfer rate** only counts transfers, and is an average of all transfer-directed students. **The transfer/completion\* rates** show that students who start at college-level English or Math and attend full-time are most likely to complete.

		Transfer rate	Transfer/completion* rates			
<b>Source:</b>	<i>Chancellor's Office</i>	<i>Chancellor's Office</i>	<i>Chancellor's Office</i>		<i>Chabot IR Office</i>	
<b>Name of Dataset:</b>	<i>Transfer Velocity</i>	<i>Transfer Velocity</i>	<i>Student Success Scorecard</i>		<i>Educational Goal Groups</i>	
<b>Cohort:</b>	<i>New students in one year</i>	<i>New students in one year</i>	<i>New students in one year</i>		<i>New students in one Fall</i>	
<b>Transfer-directed:</b>	<i>Complete 12 units, and attempt transfer-level English or Math</i>	<i>Complete 12 units, and attempt transfer-level English or Math</i>	<i>Complete 6 units, and attempt ANY English or Math</i>		<i>Have educational goal of transfer or degree, and attend full-time (Lasers)</i>	
<b>Transfer outcomes:</b>	<i>Transferred only</i>	<i>Transferred only</i>	<i>Transferred, degree, certificate, transfer-ready</i>		<i>Transferred, degree, or transfer-ready</i>	
<b>Years to transfer:</b>	<i>Six years</i>	<i>Six years</i>	<i>Six years</i>		<i>Four years</i>	
<b>First English/Math Level</b>	<i>Either</i>	<i>Either</i>	<i>Basic Skills</i>	<i>College</i>	<i>Basic Skills</i>	<i>College</i>
<b>Rate</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>57%</b>

**NOTES:** For more information about the differences between these transfer rates and how to find them, see next pages.

\*When degrees, certificates, and transfer-ready status are included, a transfer rate becomes a completion rate.

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Chabot Transfer Rates: Differences between the rates						
Type of rate*	Transfer rate	Transfer/completion* rates				
Name of Dataset	Transfer Velocity	Student Success Scorecard	Chabot Educational Goal Groups**			
<i>Source of data</i>	CCCCO's DataMart: Interactive web page	CCCCO's Student Success Scorecard website	Chabot IR Office			
<i>Cohort</i>	Full-year new student	Full-year new student	Fall new student			
<i>Transfer-directed definition</i>	Complete 12 units and attempt transfer-level Engl. or Math within 6 years	Complete 6 units and attempt any English or Math within 3 years	Educational goal of transfer or degree.			
<i>Transfer outcomes</i>	Transferred to any U.S. college	Transferred to any U.S. college OR earned AA/AS, certificate, or became transfer-ready.	Transferred to any U.S. college OR earned AA/AS or became transfer-ready.			
<i>Years to transfer</i>	Anytime from 2 to 9 years	Within 6 years	Within 3 or 4 years			
<i>Disaggregation possible by...</i>	Gender, Ethnicity, Age, Disability, Low Income only	Gender / Ethnicity / Age; Started at college-level English AND Math, vs. started in Basic Skills English or Math.	Any Chabot demographics or programs. Whether FT (Lasers) vs. PT (Seekers); Assessed into college-level Eng vs. into Basic Skills Eng.			
<i>Limitations</i>	Not available until 6 years after entering CC; no disaggregation by FT/PT or English/Math levels. Cannot connect to Chabot database.	Not available until 6 years after entering CC; narrow college-level definition; no disaggregation unless connected to Chabot database.	Cannot be compared to other colleges unless they also use Educational Goal Groups.			
<i>Benefits</i>	Focuses on transfer; can compare to peer colleges.	Gives credit for all completions; Can compare to peer colleges; Shows effects of starting at college-level vs. Basic Skills; Can connect to Chabot student database for more analysis.	Uses Chabot student database, and tracks all students from first fall. Shows which groups of students are reaching their educational goals over time.			
<i>How we use it</i>	Limited to equity tables. Shows transfer rate only for overall groups.	To compare completions and Basic Skills progress with other colleges. For Board presentations.	To show progress of any group of Chabot students towards completion, and the effects of initiatives.			
Type of rate*	Transfer rate	Completion rate*			Completion rate*	
<i>Latest cohort</i>	2010-11	2010-11			Fall 2013	
<i>Years to transfer:</i>	Six years	Six years			Four years	
<i>First English level</i>	All	All	Basic Skills	College	Basic Skills	College
<i>Chabot:</i>	37%	46%	41%	67%	FT: 38%	FT: 57%
<i>How do these rates compare to the average of Chabot's peer colleges***?</i>					PT: 10%	PT: 25%
<i>Chabot's peer colleges:</i>	40%	49%	43%	72%	FT: full-time; PT: part-time	

NOTES: \*When degrees, certificates, and/or transfer-ready status are included, a transfer rate becomes a completion rate.  
 \*\*For definitions of educational goal groups, see *Measuring Progress on the Strategic Plan* page of the IR website.  
 \*\*\*For info on Chabot's peer colleges, see *Peer Colleges* section of *Student Success and Outcomes* IR webpage.

## What is Chabot College's transfer rate? (and why there is not one answer)

Chabot Transfer Rates: Where to find them			
	Transfer rate	Transfer/completion* rates	
<i>Name of Analysis</i>	Transfer Velocity	Student Success Scorecard	Chabot Educational Goal Groups**
<b>Summaries on IR Website</b>	On <a href="#">Success and Outcomes</a> web page in <a href="#">Degrees and Transfer</a> section: <i>Transfer Rates to all U.S. Colleges: All Students, African Americans, Latinos; Transfer Rates to all U.S. Colleges by Major Race-Ethnicity Groups and Gender.</i>	On <a href="#">Success and Outcomes</a> web page in <a href="#">Student Success Scorecard</a> section: <i>Chabot Scorecard rates; Facts behind Chabot Scorecard rates; All Board presentations.</i>	On <a href="#">Strategic Plan Data</a> web page: <a href="#">Measuring Progress: Introduction to Educational Goal Groups</a> ; <a href="#">Research Bytes</a> descriptions; <a href="#">Summaries &amp; presentations</a> .
<b>Links on IR Website</b>	<a href="#">Link to IR page here</a>	<a href="#">Link to IR page here</a>	<a href="#">Link to IR page here</a>
<b>Link to source data</b>	<a href="#">Link to Chancellor's Office DataMart</a>	<a href="#">Link to Chancellor's Office Scorecard site</a>	<i>Ask Chabot IR staff for custom analysis</i>

Bonus section: How NOT to calculate a transfer rate		
<b>BEWARE!</b>	<b>NOT a transfer rate!</b>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Transfers in 2016-17:</i>	864	6%
<i>Spr 2016 Chabot students:</i>	13,624	100%
Why not? Transfers are not in same cohort! Wrong denominator!		
1) Students who transferred are a mix of many cohorts. 2) Their time from starting Chabot to transfer is not known. 3) Spr 16 students aren't transfer-directed; only 55% intend to transfer. 4) Few of Spr 2016 students were ready to transfer.		
<b>These numbers create a meaningless percentage.</b>		