

Northeastern Junior College

Retention, Transfer and Graduation Rates



Summary

Each semester, Northeastern Junior College (NJC) is required to report enrollment data to the State of Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE) which then uses this information in a variety of ways. One of the many ways this information is used is to establish retention, transfer and graduation rates for all Colorado colleges including NJC.

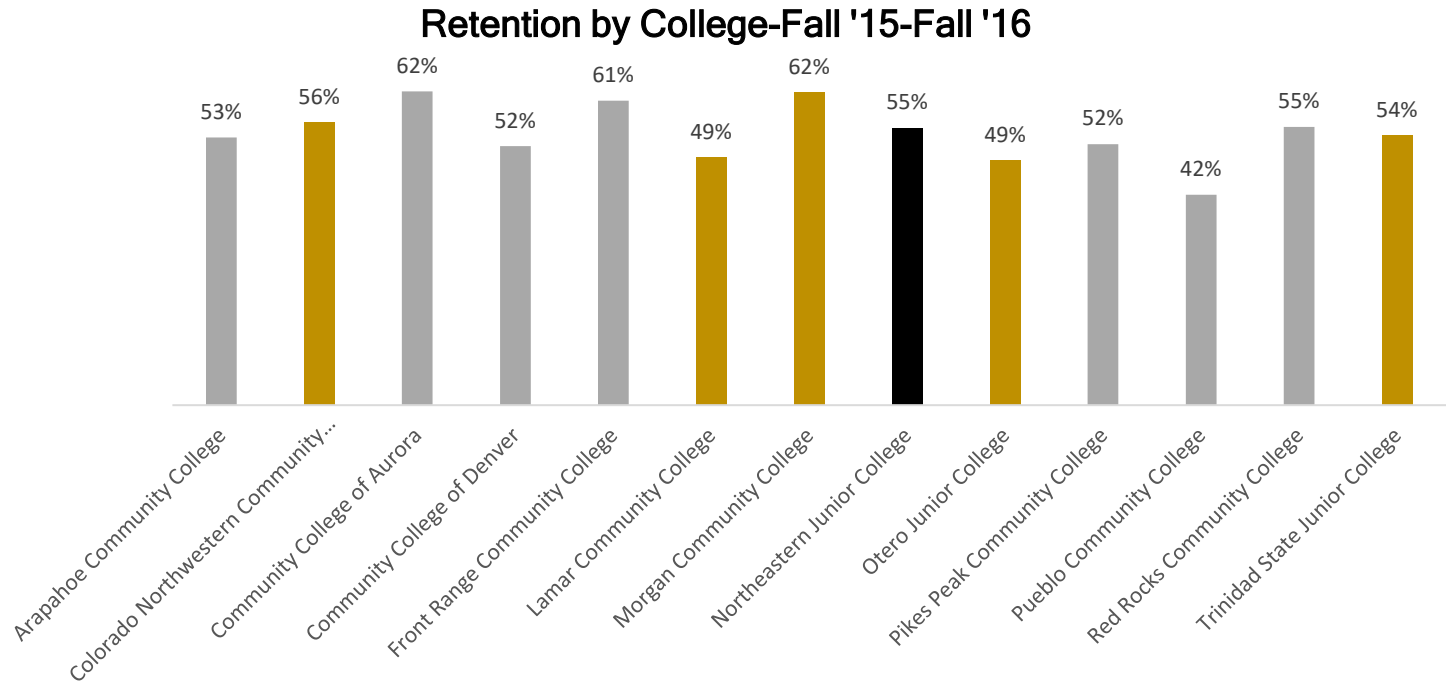
This report consists of a graphical representation of retention, transfer and graduation rates for NJC and compares these rates to the Colorado Community College System (CCCS) colleges throughout Colorado. This report also contains retention and graduation data regarding programs/departments at NJC.

- NJC retention rate is 55%;
- NJC transfer rate is 15.3%;
- NJC graduation rate is 40.3%

Retention and Graduation data (except program/department data) are sourced from the SURDS Enrollment files that are reported to CDHE; transfer data are sourced from IPEDS. The cohort used for retention data is First-Time Full-Time, Degree Seeking students that enrolled in Fall 2015 and were still enrolled the following Fall 2016. The cohort used for transfer and graduation rates is First-Time Full-Time Degree Seeking students who enrolled Fall 2013 and transferred or graduated any time between Fall 2013 and Summer 2016.

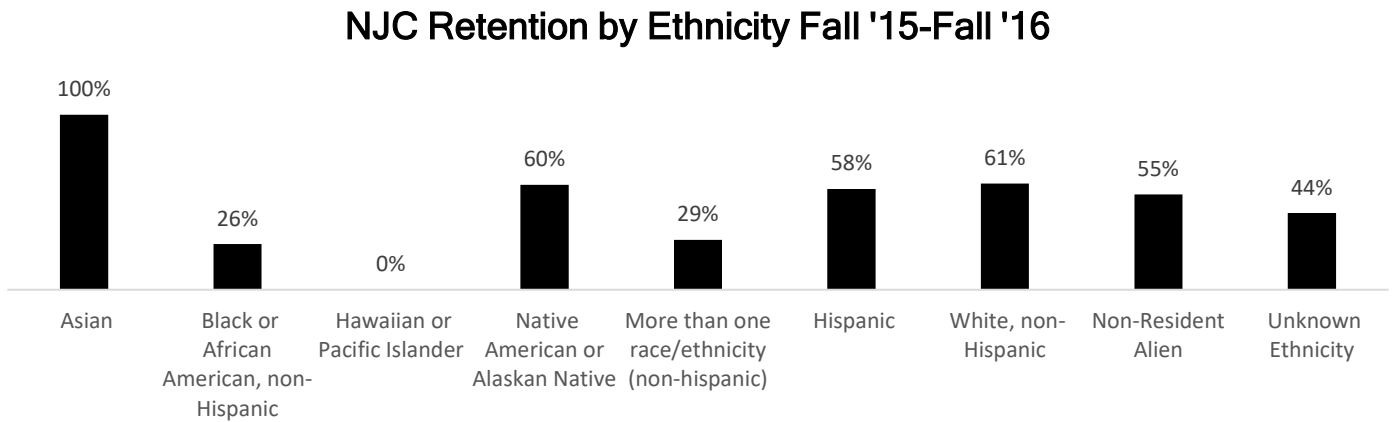
RETENTION

The following chart shows retention rates by percentage for all community colleges in Colorado. NJC ranks fifth out of the 13 community colleges; and ranks third among the rural colleges.

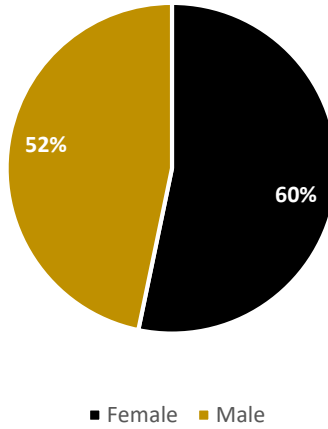


Rural colleges include: Colorado Northwestern, Lamar, Morgan, Northeastern, Otero and Trinidad.

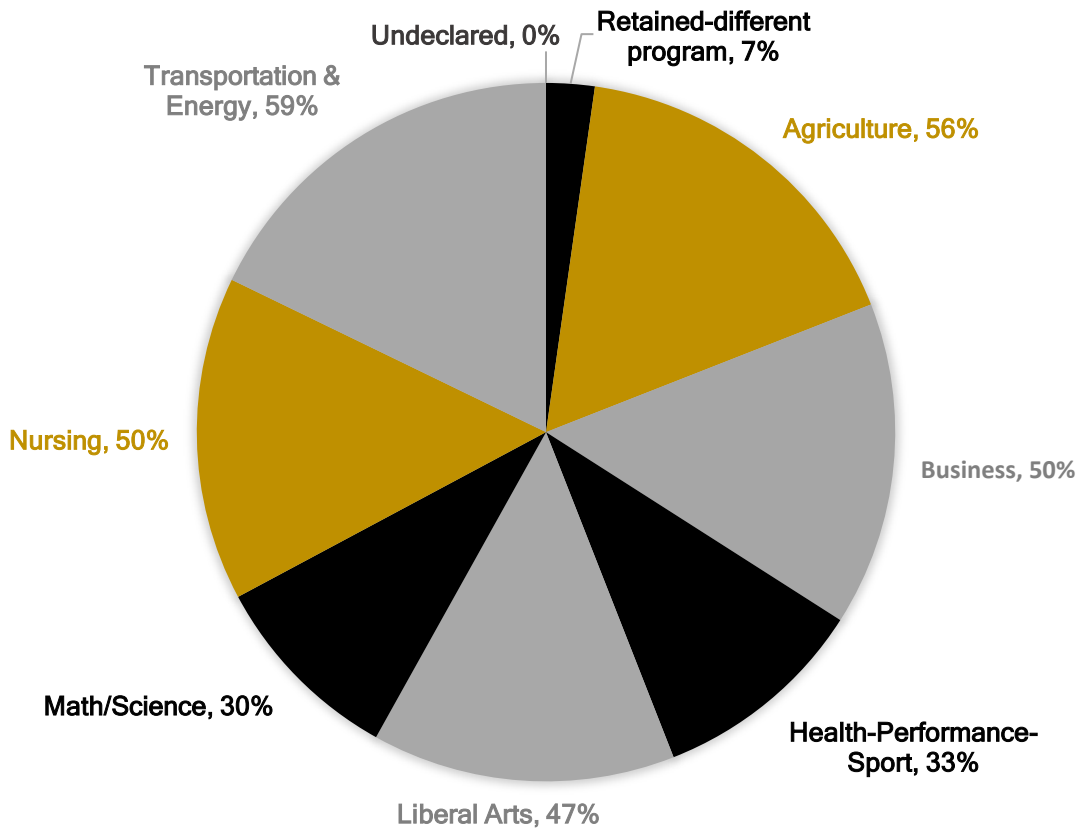
The next two graphs show NJC's retention by ethnicity and gender.



NJC Retention by Gender Fall '15-Fall '16



The following two charts show retention by department and program.



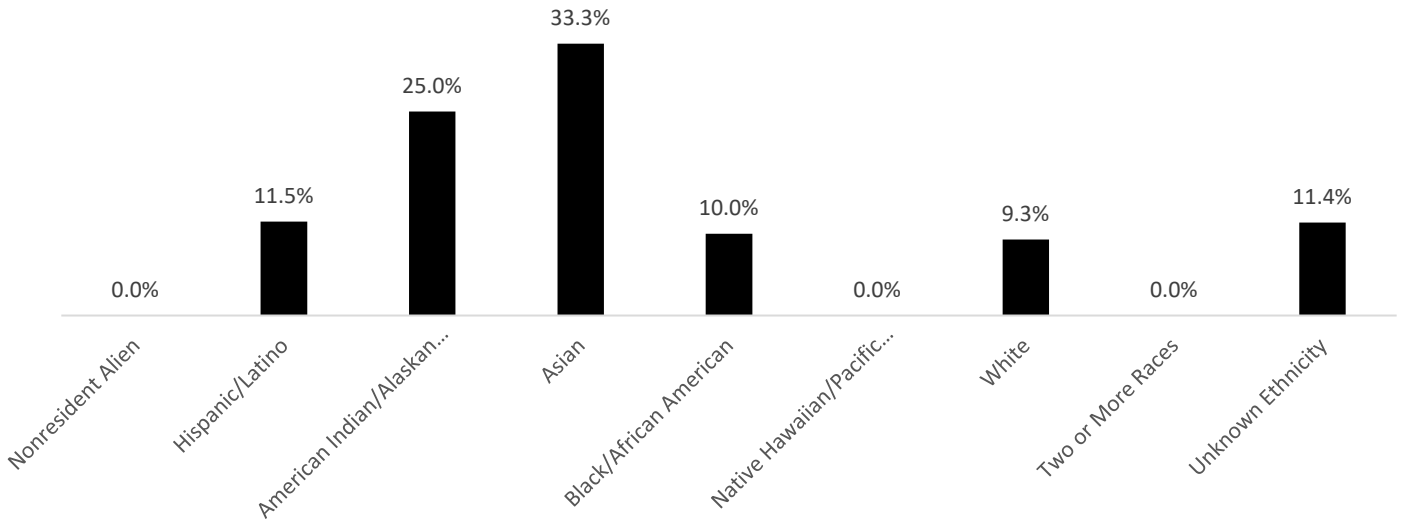
Fall 2015 Student Retention by Program



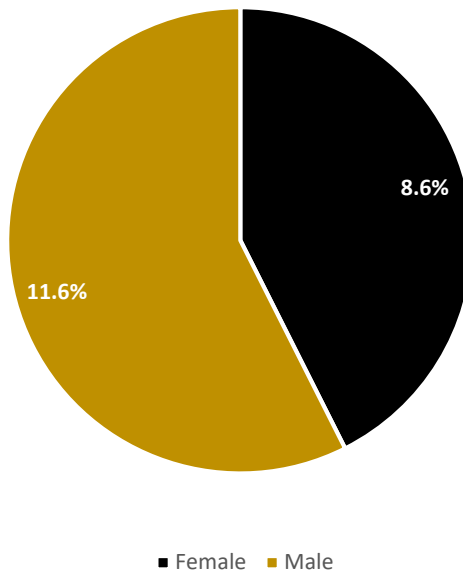
Transfers Out

The number of NJC Fall 2013 First-Time Full-Time students (cohort) that have transferred out to another institution is determined by submitting this list of students to National Student Clearinghouse which compiles data on 98% of all college enrollments across the United States. Only students who have transferred from NJC to a four-year college/university within a certain time frame and completed the term are counted as a transfer. The next two graphs show the Fall 2013 cohort by ethnicity and gender.

**NJC Transfers Out by Ethnicity
Fall 2013 FT-FT Cohort**



**NJC Fall 2013 FT-FT Cohort
Transfers Out by Gender**

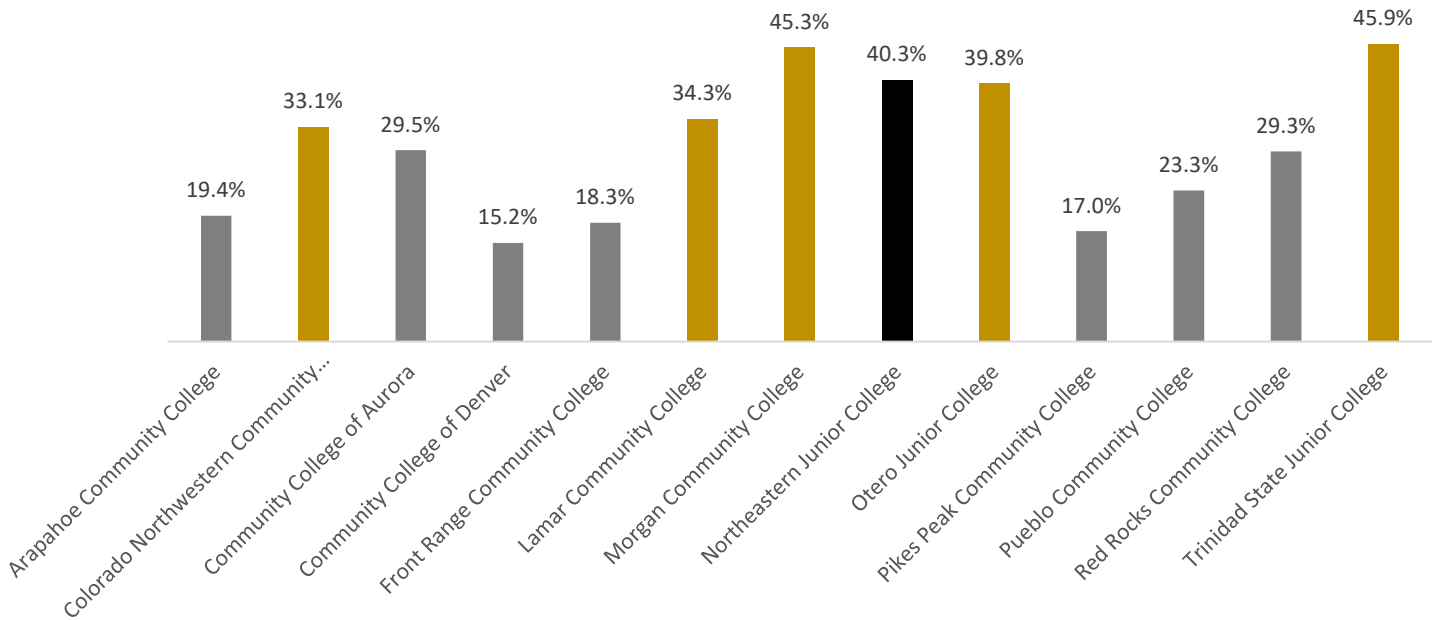


GRADUATION

The federal IPEDS methodology is used to track graduation rates. This spans a three-year time period (or 150%); so for the Fall 2013 cohort, if a student graduated anytime during Fall 2013 and Summer 2016, the student was counted.

The chart below shows graduation rates for the Fall 2013 First-Time Full-Time cohort compared to all CCCS colleges. NJC ranks third out of the 13 community colleges; and ranks third among rural colleges.

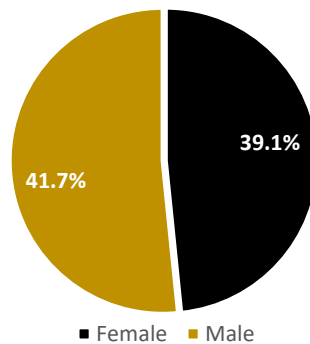
Graduation Rates by College-Fall '13 Cohort



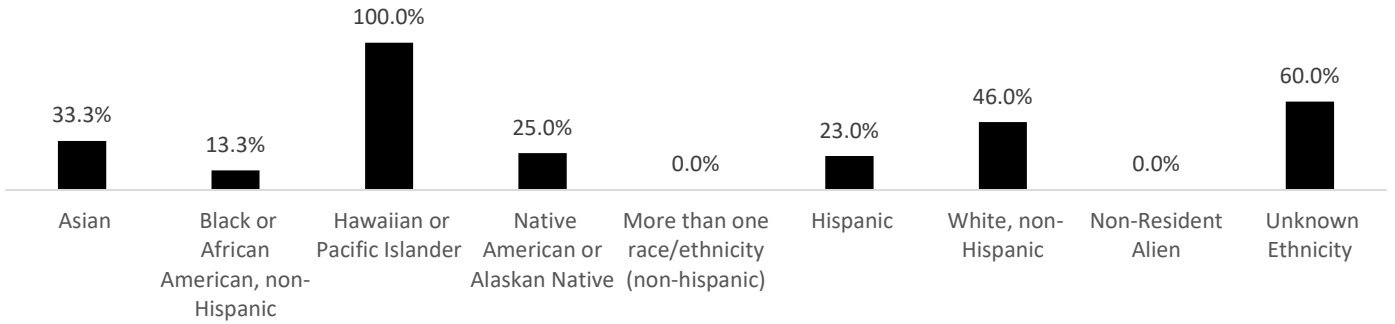
In Spring 2017, Institutional Research discovered that 195 students had been mistakenly left out of the official headcounts for Fall 2013 First-Time Full-Time, Degree Seeking students (cohort). This mistake was corrected on federal reports (IPEDS), CCCS reports, and for this report; however, it could not be corrected on the Colorado Department of Higher Education reports. Therefore, CDHE reports will reflect a different graduation rate.

The next two charts show NJC graduation rates by gender and ethnicity.

NJC Graduation Rates by Gender-Fall 2013 Cohort

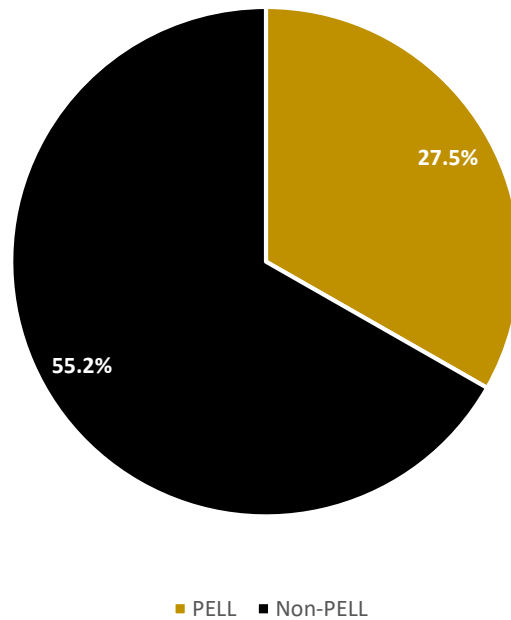


NJC Graduation Rates by Ethnicity-Fall 2013 Cohort



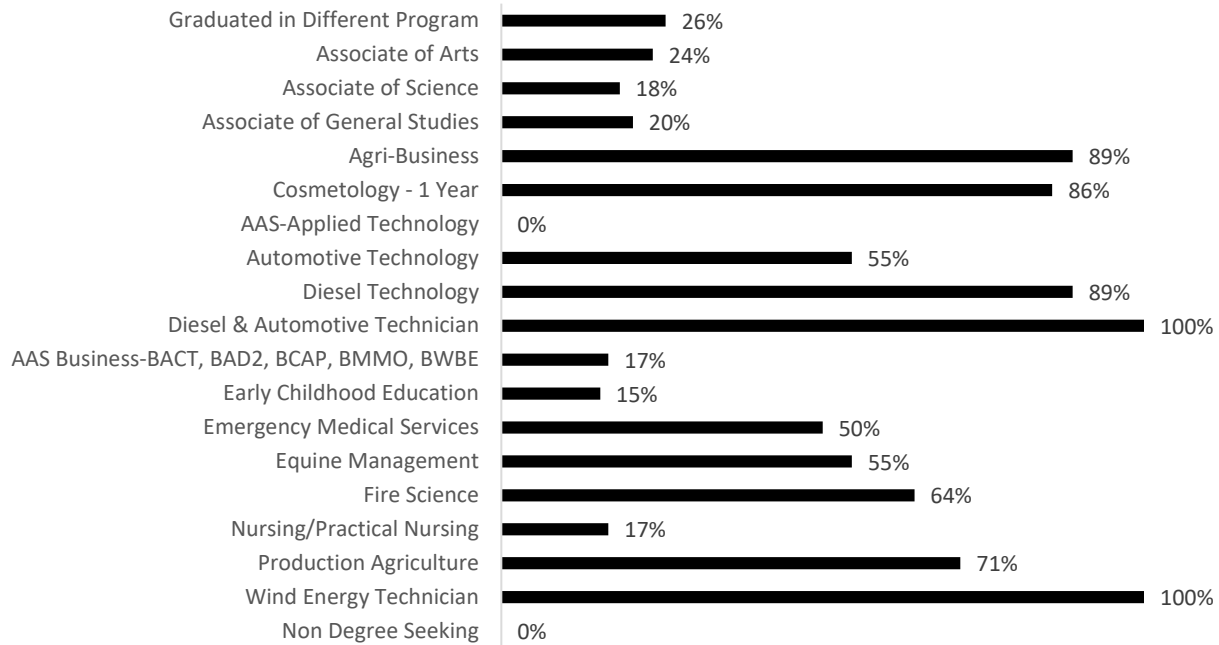
The federal government and the State of Colorado are beginning to track graduation rates according to the PELL status of the student. The PELL Grant Program provides need-based grants to low income students. A PELL Grant does not have to be repaid and the amount received depends on the financial need of the student, the cost to attend college, enrollment status and whether the students attends college for the full academic year. The following chart shows graduation rates at NJC for students who receive PELL grants.

NJC Graduation Rates by PELL Status-Fall 2013 Cohort

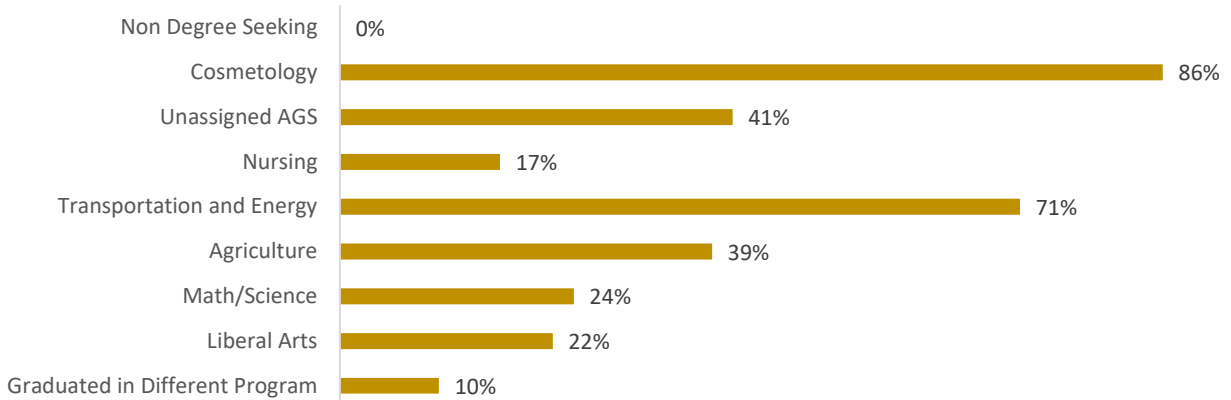


These final two charts show the percentage of graduates by program and department.

Fall 2013 Graduates by Program



Fall 2013 Graduates by Department



The methodology used to calculate retention in programs and departments was difficult due to changes in program by the student during their time at NJC. If the student changed their program, but stayed within the same department-it was counted as retained or graduated. If the student changed their program and the change was significant enough to result in a change of department then it was not counted as retained or graduated. Since the first concentration and minor were not taken into consideration as part of this methodology, some changes were difficult to place within one department or another. Further work may be needed in this area to develop a better methodology to more accurately show changes in program and the departments that are responsible for those programs.