

Texas A&M University - Commerce

2020 Student Achievement Report

An annual report of goals and outcomes used to document student success at Texas A&M University-Commerce as required by SACSCOC Core Requirement 8.1

2020 Student Achievement Report

The following report summarizes goals and outcomes for measures selected by Texas A&M University-Commerce to document student success, as required by SACSCOC Core Requirement 8.1.

Please note that data for all overall outcomes is taken from published Texas A&M System, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and IPEDS reporting sources, while data disaggregated by gender and ethnicity is taken from university certified data, as reported to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Summary Table of Student Achievement Measures and Current Status (Fall 2020)

Measure	Threshold of Acceptability Status	Goal Status
1-Year Retention Rate	Met	Not Met
4-Year Graduation Rate	Met	Not Met
6-Year Graduation Rate	Met	Not Met
6-Year Graduation Rate – Student Completion Indicator for SACSCOC	Not Met	Not Met
4-Year Non-First Time Entering (Transfer) Graduation Rate	Not Met	Not Met
6-Year Non-First Time Entering (Transfer) Graduation Rate	Not Met	Not Met
Completions by Economically Disadvantaged Students	Met	Not Met
Graduates Working or Enrolled	Met	Met
30 SCH Tuition and Fees	Met	Met

2020 Student Achievement Report

Measure: 1-Year Retention Rate

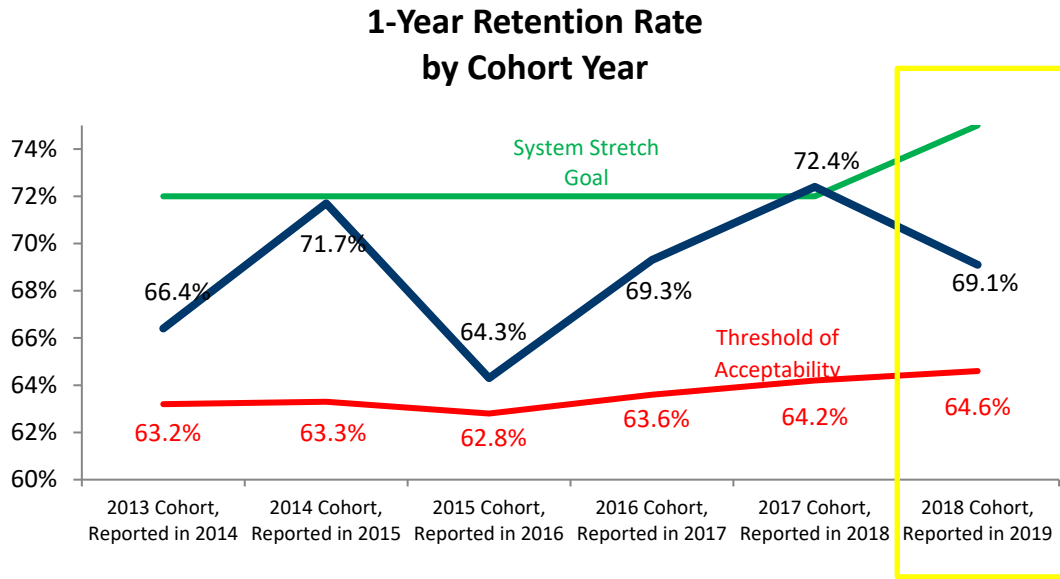
Definition: The percentage of first-time, full-time students seeking bachelor's degrees who returned to A&M-Commerce for their second year (fall-to-fall retention).

Source: EmpowerU

Threshold of Acceptability: the prior five years' average rate for the eight similar A&M System regional universities

Goal: Stretch Goal for A&M System

Status for Current Year: Above threshold of acceptability but below goal

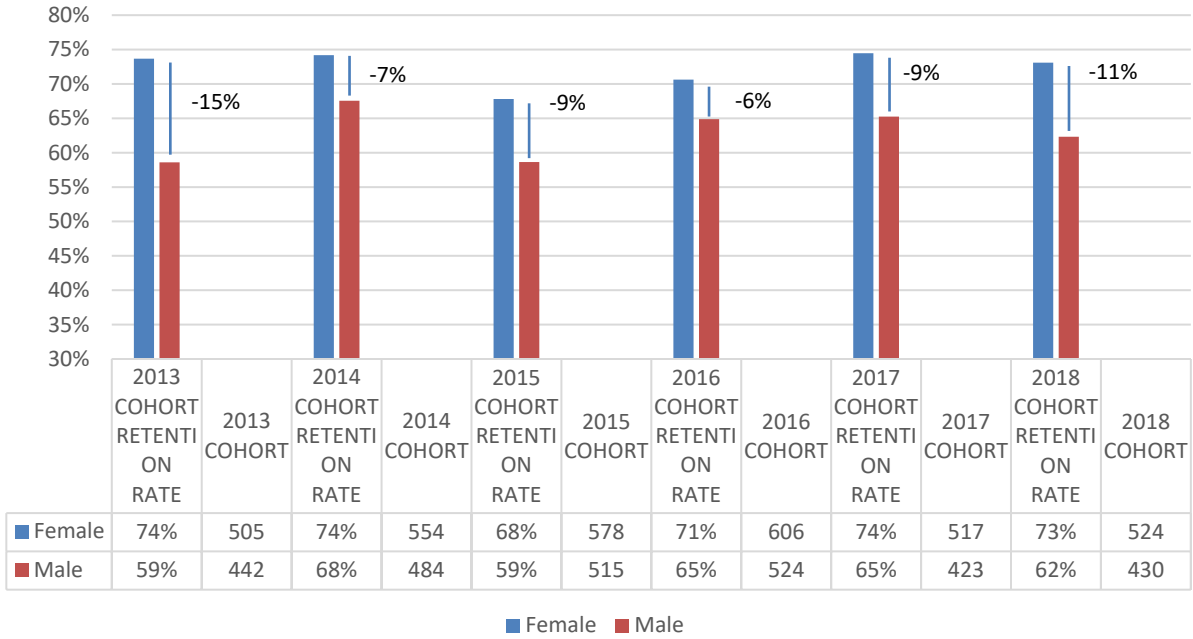


Source: EmpowerU

The university's retention rate met the A&M System stretch goal of 72% for the 2017 cohort before dipping slightly in the most recent year. The System Stretch goal has increased from 72% to 75%.

Overall, the female retention rate is consistently higher than the male retention rate.

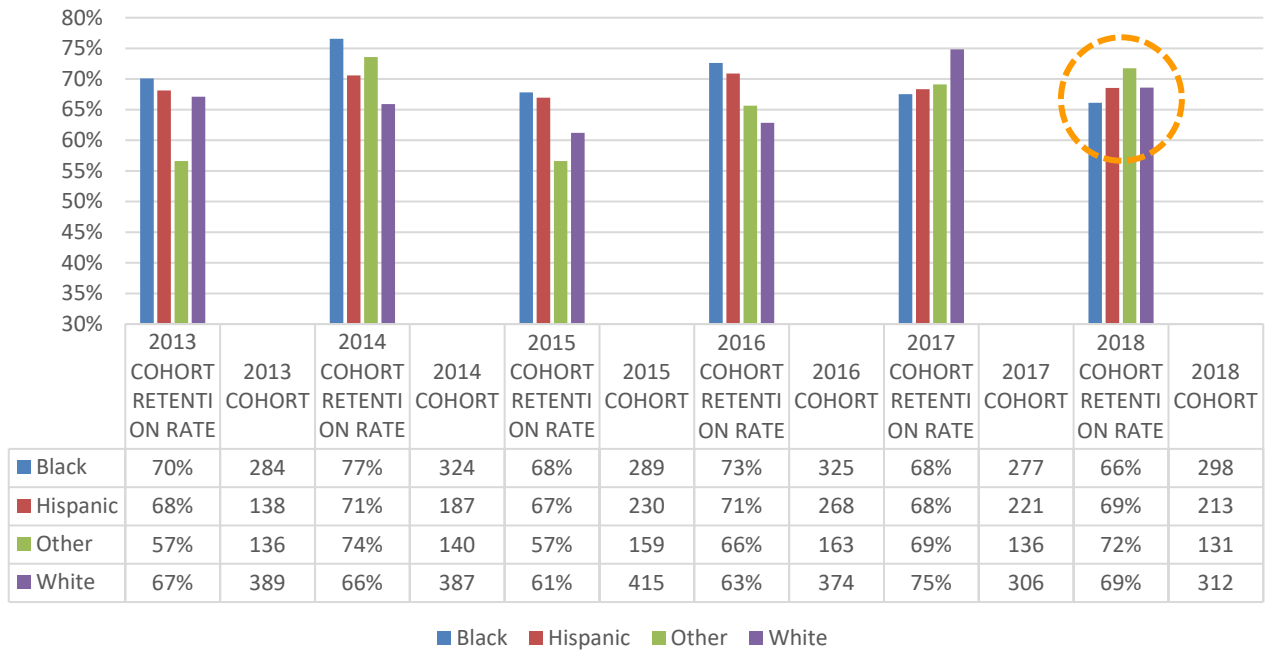
Retention Rate Comparison by Gender Cohort Years 2013-2018



Source: CBM001

Cohort years 2013-2016 show retention rates for white students consistently falling below those of Black and Hispanic students before increasing for the 2017 cohort. The most recent cohort (2018) shows more similarity in retention rates across ethnicities.

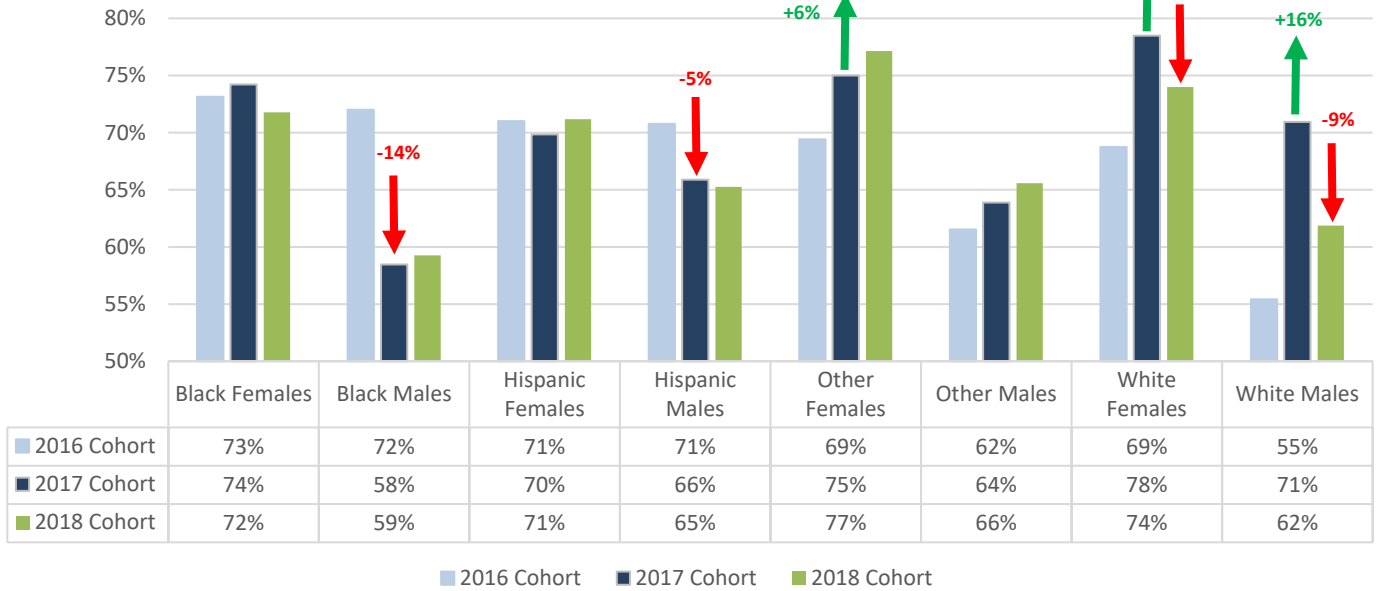
Retention Rate Comparison by Ethnicity Cohort Years 2013-2018



Source: CBM001

Specifically, between the 2016 and 2017 cohorts, decreased retention was noted for Black (-14%) and Hispanic males (-5%), relative to gains in retention for white males (+16%), white females (+10%), and other females (+6%), which largely drove the overall increase in the university's retention rate to meet the System goal of 72%. However, a drop again in retention rates for white females (-4%) and white males (-9%) for the 2018 cohort contributed to the overall decline for that year.

**Retention Rates Comparison by Gender and Ethnicity
Cohort Years 2016-2018**



Source: CBM001

Measure: 4-Year Graduation Rate

Definition: The percentage of first-time, full-time students seeking bachelor’s degrees who graduated from A&M-Commerce within 4 years.

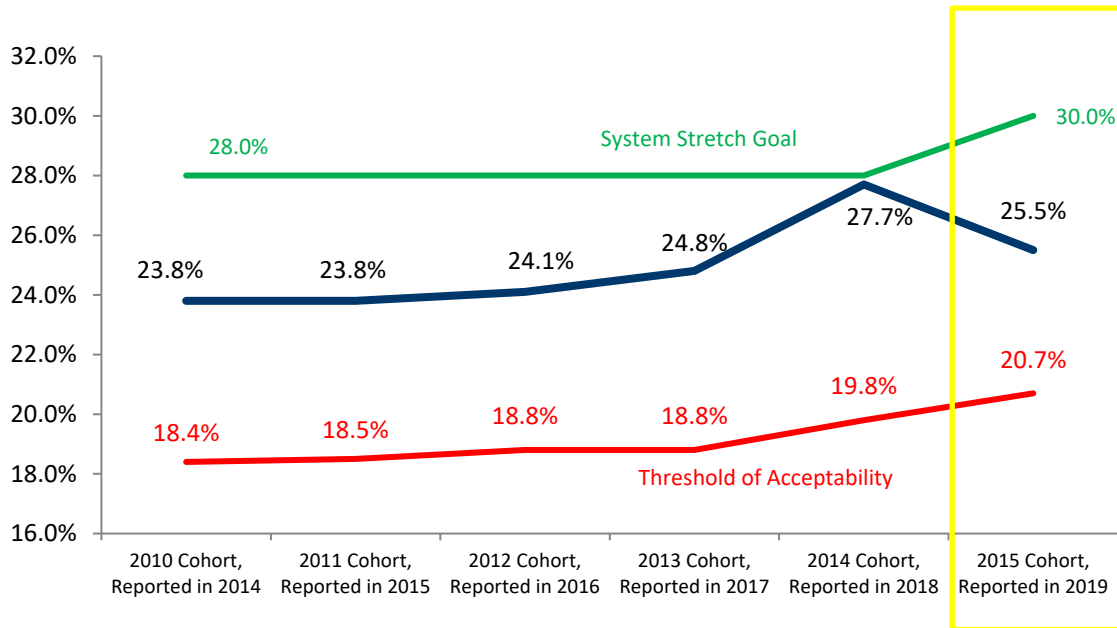
Source: EmpowerU

Threshold of Acceptability: the prior five years’ average rate for the eight similar A&M System regional universities

Goal: Stretch Goal for A&M System

Current Status: Above threshold of acceptability but below goal

4-Year Graduation Rate by Cohort Year



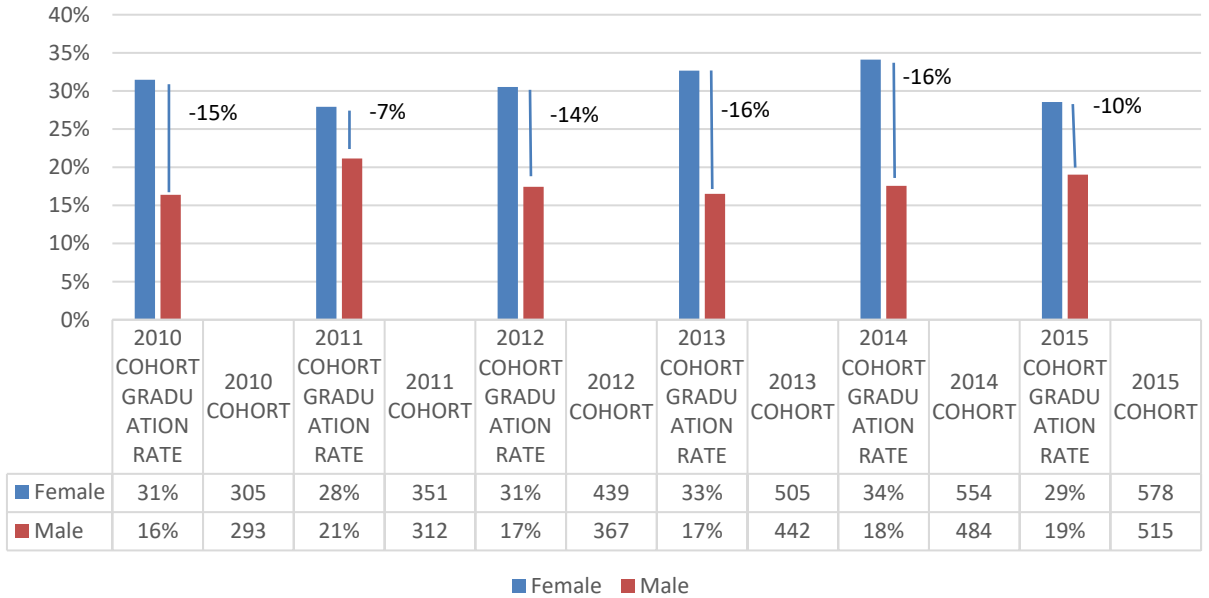
Source: EmpowerU

Four-year graduation rates held steady for the cohorts 2010-2013 before rising for the 2014 cohort to approach the A&M System stretch goal of 28%. The System stretch goal has now increased to 30%, while the graduation rate has fallen slightly for the most recent cohort, to 25.5%*.

*THECB reports the 2015 cohort 4-year graduation rate as 29.9%, with a 25.6% same institution graduation rate and a 4.3% other institution graduation rate.

Overall, the female 4-year graduation rate is consistently higher than the male graduation rate. This gap narrowed slightly for the 2015 cohort as compared to 2014, with rates declining for females and slightly increasing for males.

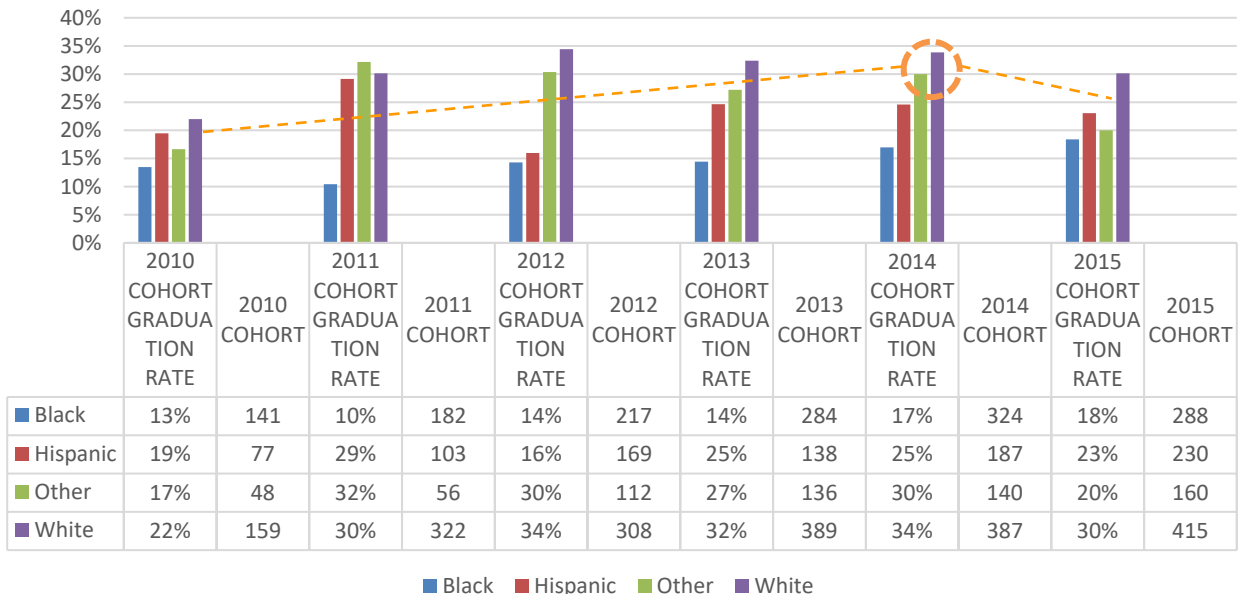
4-Year Graduation Rate Comparison by Gender Cohort Years 2010-2015



Source: CBM001

When comparing the 2010 and 2014 cohorts and looking at both genders combined, white students and students of other ethnicities experienced the greatest gains in graduation rates over this time period. However, graduation rates for both groups fell for the 2015 cohort, contributing to the overall decline in the most recent year.

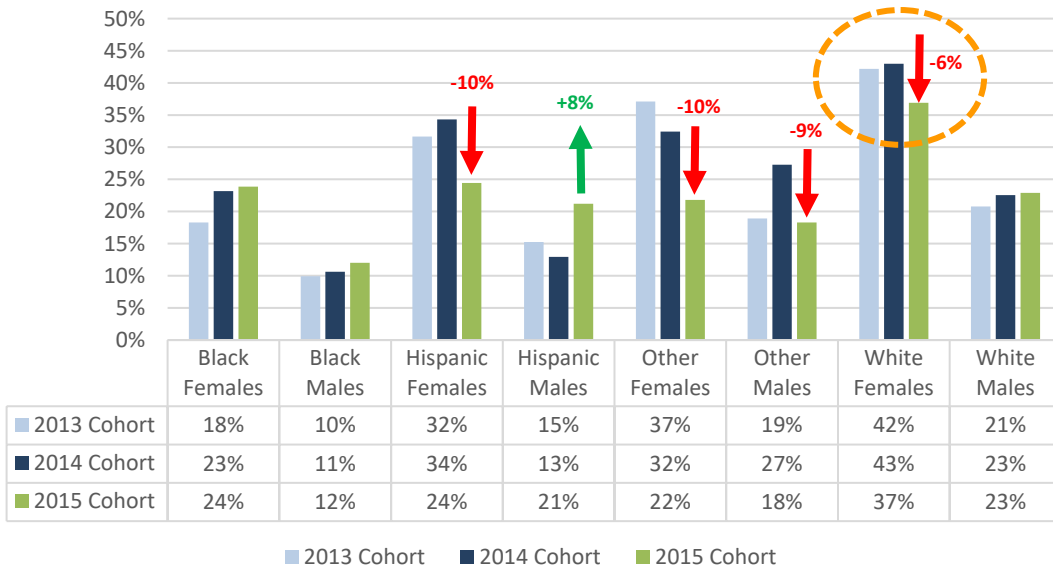
4-Year Graduation Rate Comparison by Ethnicity Cohort Years 2010-2015



Source: CBM001

Hispanic females (-10%), white females (-6%), and both males (-9%) and females (-10%) of other ethnicities experienced decreases in 4-year graduation rates between the 2014 and 2015 cohorts, while gains were noted for Hispanic males (+8%). Although declining for the most recent year, white females have the highest graduation rate of all groups.

4-Year Graduation Rate Comparison by Gender and Ethnicity Cohort Years 2013-2015



Source: CBM001

Measure: 6-Year Graduation Rate

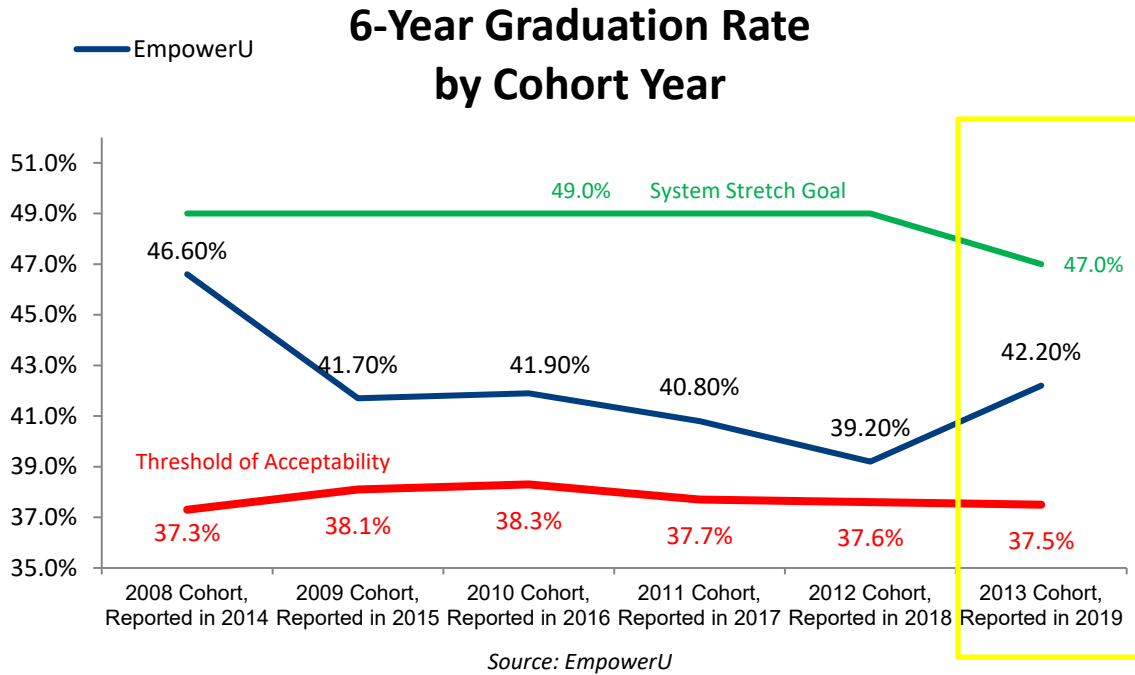
Definition: The percentage of first-time, full-time students seeking bachelor’s degrees who graduated from A&M-Commerce within six years.

Source: EmpowerU

Threshold of Acceptability: the prior five years’ average rate for the eight similar A&M System regional universities

Goal: Stretch Goal for A&M System

Current Status: Above threshold of acceptability but below goal

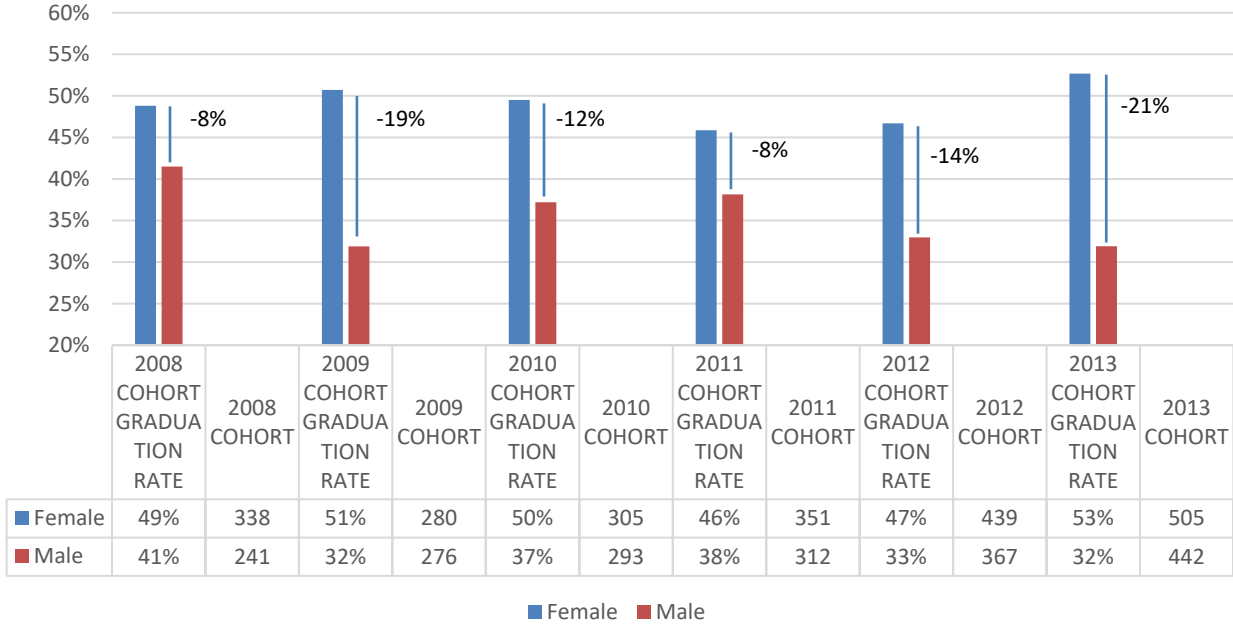


Over the 2008-2012 cohort years, the university’s 6-year graduation rate fell seven percent, from 46.6% to 39.2%, before rising for the 2013 cohort, to 42.2%*. It remains below the A&M System stretch goal, which has decreased from 49% to 47%.

*THECB reports the 2013 cohort 6-year graduation rate as 52.5%, with a 42.9% same institution graduation rate and a 9.6% other institution graduation rate.

The 6-year graduation rate has declined by 10% for males between the 2008 and 2013 cohorts, and the gap between males and females has widened.

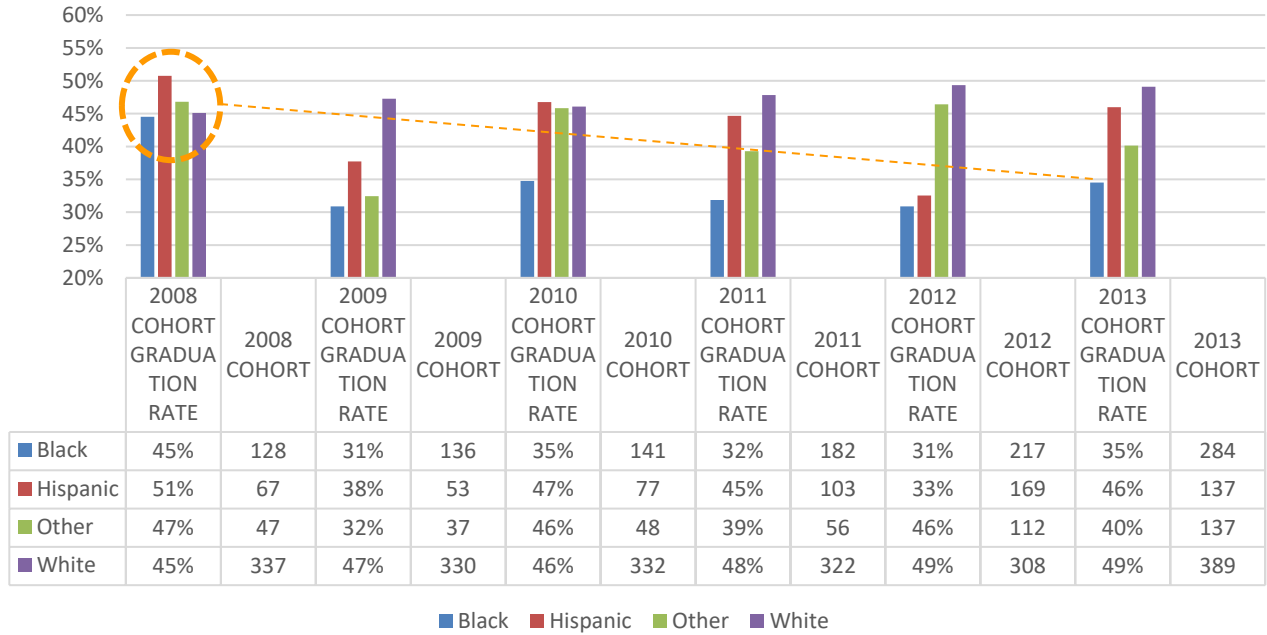
6-Year Graduation Rate Comparison by Gender Cohort Years 2008-2013



Source: CBM001

Over the same time period, graduation rates for Black, Hispanic, and other ethnicity students have declined (-10%, -5%, -7%, respectively) while rates for white students have increased slightly (+4%). Six-year graduation rates for Black students have seen the most consistent decline, before increasing slightly for the most recent cohort; rates for Hispanic students and students of other ethnicities have noted more variability across time. (see next page)

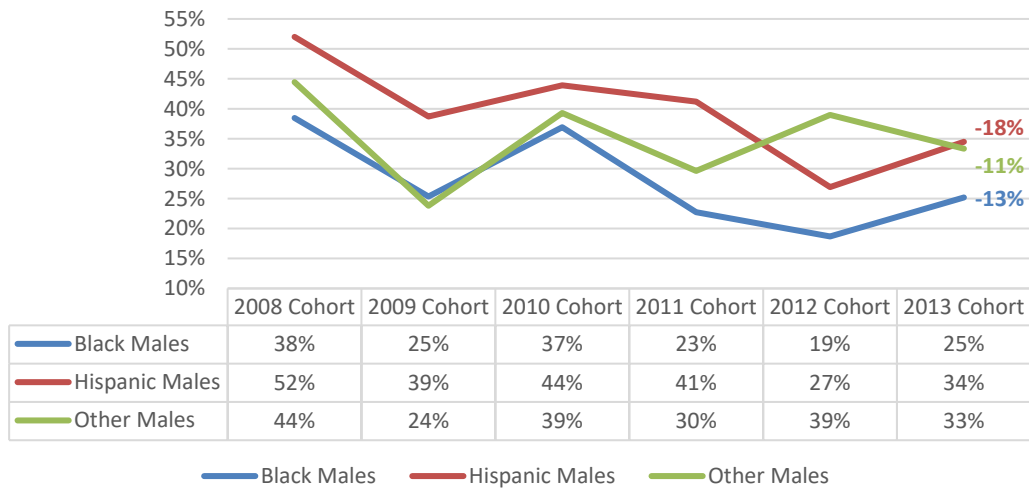
6-Year Graduation Rate Comparison by Ethnicity Cohort Years 2008-2012



Source: CBM001

Double-digit declines in graduation rates were noted specifically for Black males (-13%), Hispanic males (-18%), and males of other ethnicities (-11%) during this time, although rates for both Black and Hispanic males rose for the most recent cohort.

6-Year Graduation Rate Comparison - Black Males, Hispanic Males, and Males of Other Ethnicities Cohort Years 2008-2013



Source: CBM001

Measure: 6-Year Graduation Rate – Student Completion Indicator for SACSCOC

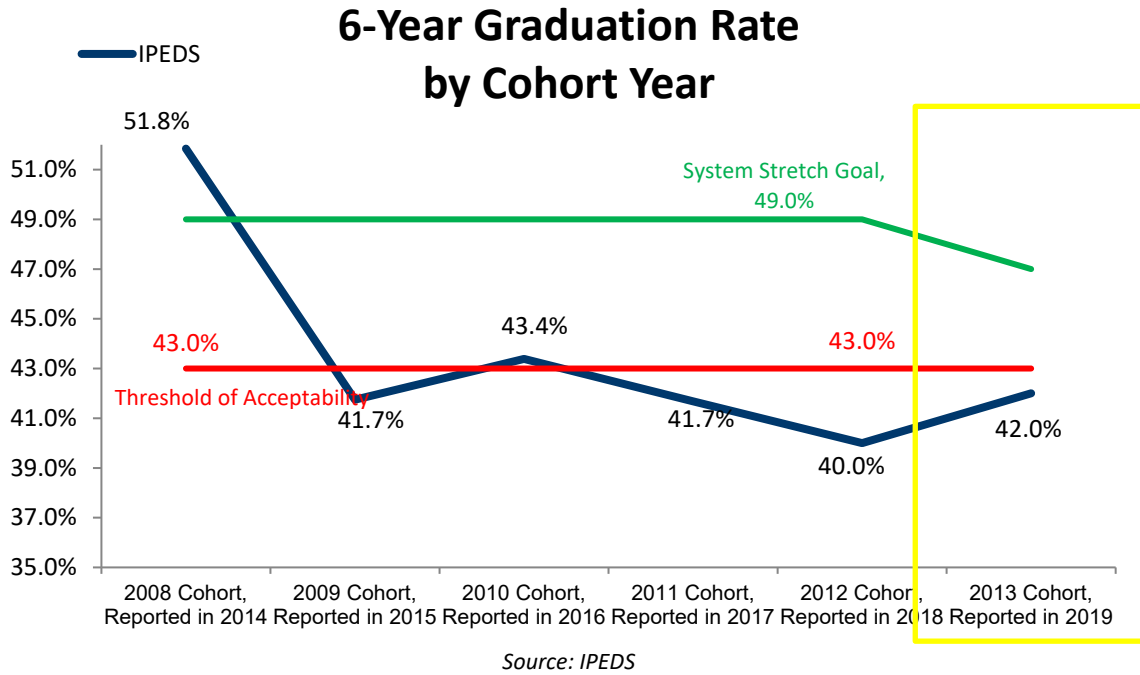
Definition: The percentage of first-time, full-time students seeking bachelor’s degrees who graduated from A&M-Commerce within six years.

Source: IPEDS

Threshold of Acceptability: the 2010 cohort baseline of 43%, as selected by SACSCOC

Goal: Stretch Goal for A&M System

Current Status: Below both threshold of acceptability and goal



The IPEDS 6 year graduation rate is A&M-Commerce’s identified Student Completion Indicator for SACSCOC and is tracked against a baseline of 43%. Outcomes for the latest cohort years have fallen below this baseline. For a discussion of outcomes by gender and ethnicity, see pages 8-9 above.

Measure: 4-Year Non-First Time Entering (Transfer) Graduation Rate

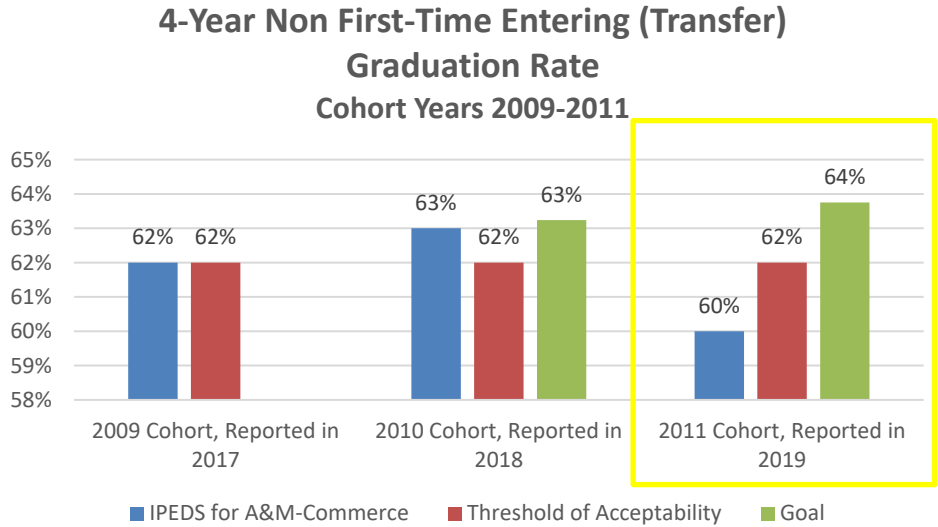
Definition: The percentage of full-time non-first-time-entering students by cohort year who pursued bachelor’s degrees and who graduated from A&M-Commerce within 4 years

Source: IPEDS

Threshold of Acceptability: the 2009 cohort rate as a baseline

Goal: 2% increase over the average of prior (up to five) years’ performance

Current Status: Below both threshold of acceptability and goal

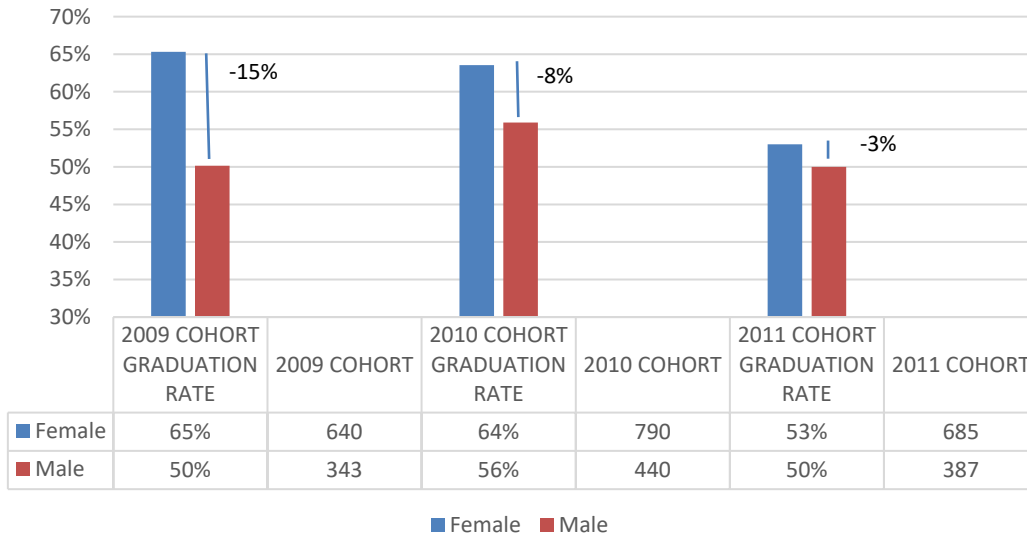


Source: IPEDS

The 2009 cohort is the first year for which IPEDS tracked and made publicly available the graduation rate for non-first-time entering (transfer) students. The 4-year graduation rate for transfer students rose slightly for the 2010 cohort, to meet the goal of 63% before falling to 60% for the 2011 cohort, below the established threshold of acceptability (62%).

Female transfer students exhibit a higher 4-year graduation rate than male students, similar to the university’s 4-year graduation rate for first-time, full-time students. However, this gap has decreased over time, with female graduation rates dropping nearer to male graduation rates for the most recent cohort. (see next page)

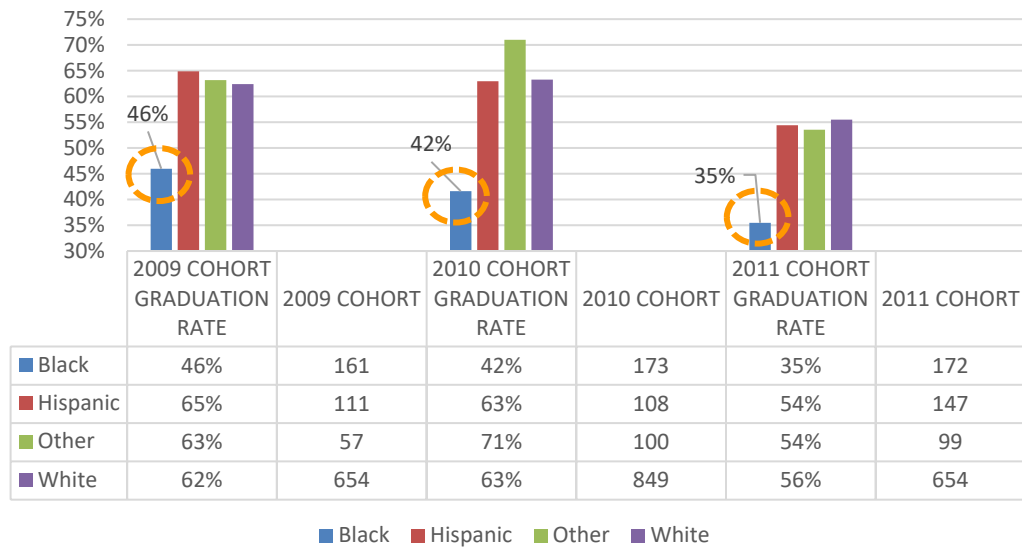
4-Year Non First-Time Entering (Transfer) Graduation Rate Comparison by Gender Cohort Years 2009-2011



Source: CBM001

The graduation rates of Black transfer students track significantly below those of other ethnic groups and have decreased between the 2009 and 2011 cohorts.

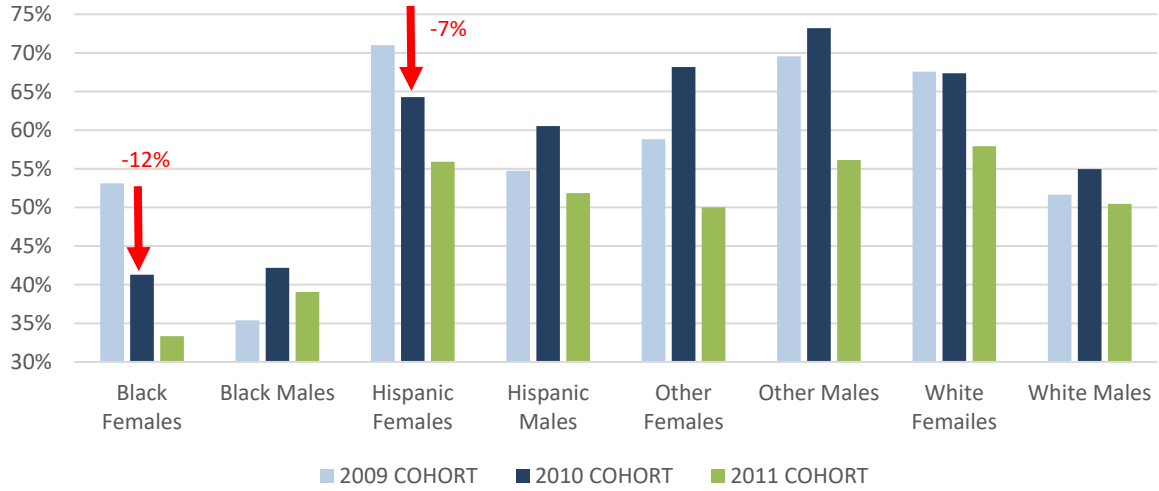
4-Year Non First-Time Entering (Transfer) Graduation Rate Comparison by Ethnicity Cohort Years 2009-2011



Source: CBM001

While the overall 4-year graduation rate for this population increased for the 2010 cohort, rates for Black (-12%) and Hispanic (-7%) females experienced a decline. Rates for all genders and ethnicities declined for the following 2011 cohort.

4-Year Non First-Time Entering (Transfer) Graduation Rate Comparison by Gender and Ethnicity Cohort Years 2009 & 2010



Source: CBM001

Measure: 6-Year Non-First Time Entering (Transfer) Graduation Rate

Definition: The percentage of full-time non-first-time-entering students by cohort year who pursued bachelor’s degrees and who graduated from A&M-Commerce within 6 years

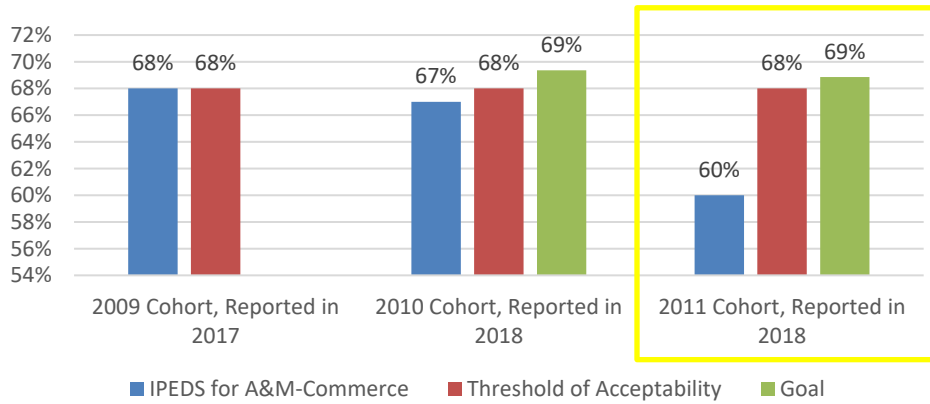
Source: IPEDS

Threshold of Acceptability: the 2009 cohort rate as a baseline

Goal: 2% increase over the average of prior (up to five) years’ performance

Current Status: Below both threshold of acceptability and goal

6-Year Non First-Time Entering (Transfer) Graduation Rate Cohort Years 2009-2011

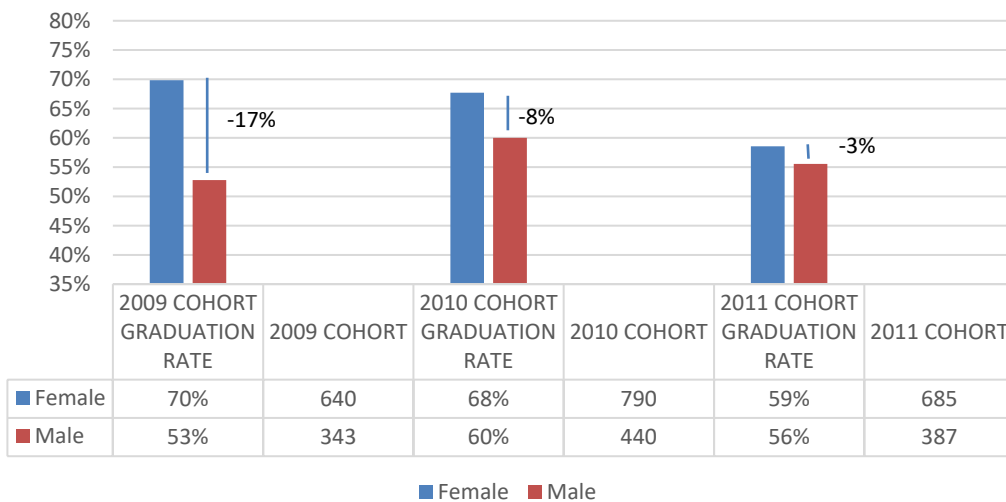


Source: IPEDS

The 2009 cohort is the first year for which IPEDS tracked and made publicly available the graduation rate for non-first-time entering (transfer) students. The 6-year graduation rate for transfer students declined for both the 2010 and 2011 cohorts and is currently below the established threshold of acceptability (68%).

Female transfer students exhibit a higher 6-year graduation rate than male students, similar to the university’s 4-year graduation rate for first-time, full-time students. However, this gap has decreased over time, with female graduation rates dropping nearer to male graduation rates for the most recent cohort.

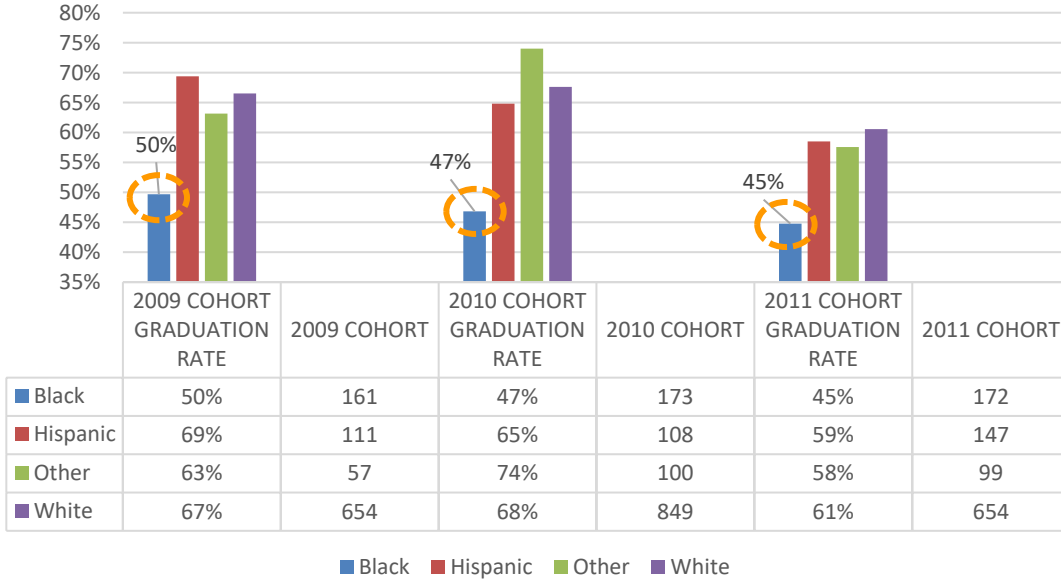
6-Year Non First Time Entering (Transfer) Graduation Rate Cohort Years 2009-2011



Source: CBM001

The graduation rates of Black transfer students track significantly below those of other ethnic groups.

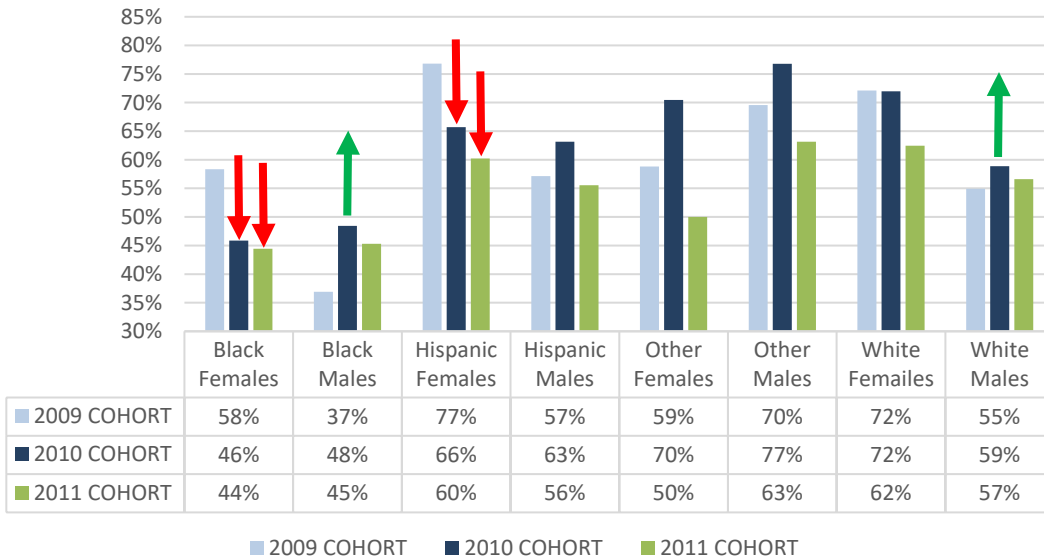
6-Year Non First-Time Entering (Transfer) Graduation Rate Cohort Years 2009-2011



Source: CBM001

With the overall 6-year graduation rate for this population declining for the 2011 cohort as compared to 2009, only Black (+8%) and white (+2%) males experienced a net increase, while Black (-14%) and Hispanic (-17%) females saw the greatest drop.

6-Year Non First-Time Entering (Transfer) Graduation Rates Comparison by Gender and Ethnicity Cohort Years 2009-2011



Source: CBM001

Measure: Completions by Economically Disadvantaged Students

Definition: The number of bachelor’s degrees awarded to economically disadvantaged students—those receiving Pell Grants at any time.

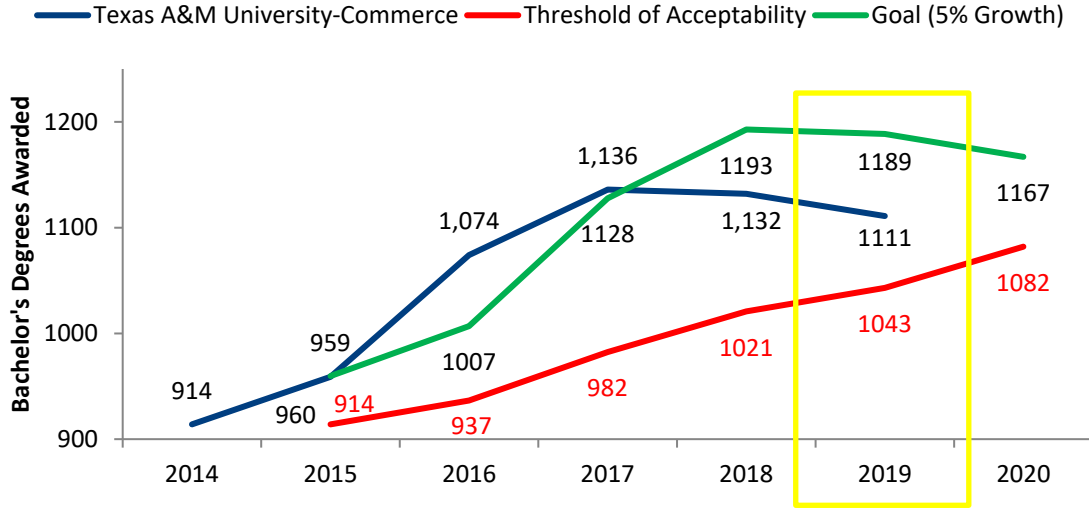
Source: THECB Accountability System

Threshold of Acceptability: the average number of completions from the prior five years

Goal: a target of five percent growth each year

Current Status: Above threshold of acceptability but below goal

Completions by Economically Disadvantaged Students



Source: Texas Higher Education Accountability System

Between the years of 2014-2017, the University increased completions for economically disadvantaged students by 24%, with the most significant growth occurring in 2016. In contrast, numbers of bachelor’s degrees awarded in 2017-2019 have been, for the most part, steady and remain above the threshold of acceptability.

Measure: Graduates Working or Enrolled

Definition: The percentage of students awarded a degree in a given year who are employed in the fourth quarter of the calendar year in which the program (fiscal year) ends or enrolled in a Texas public or private institution in the fall semester after receiving the award.

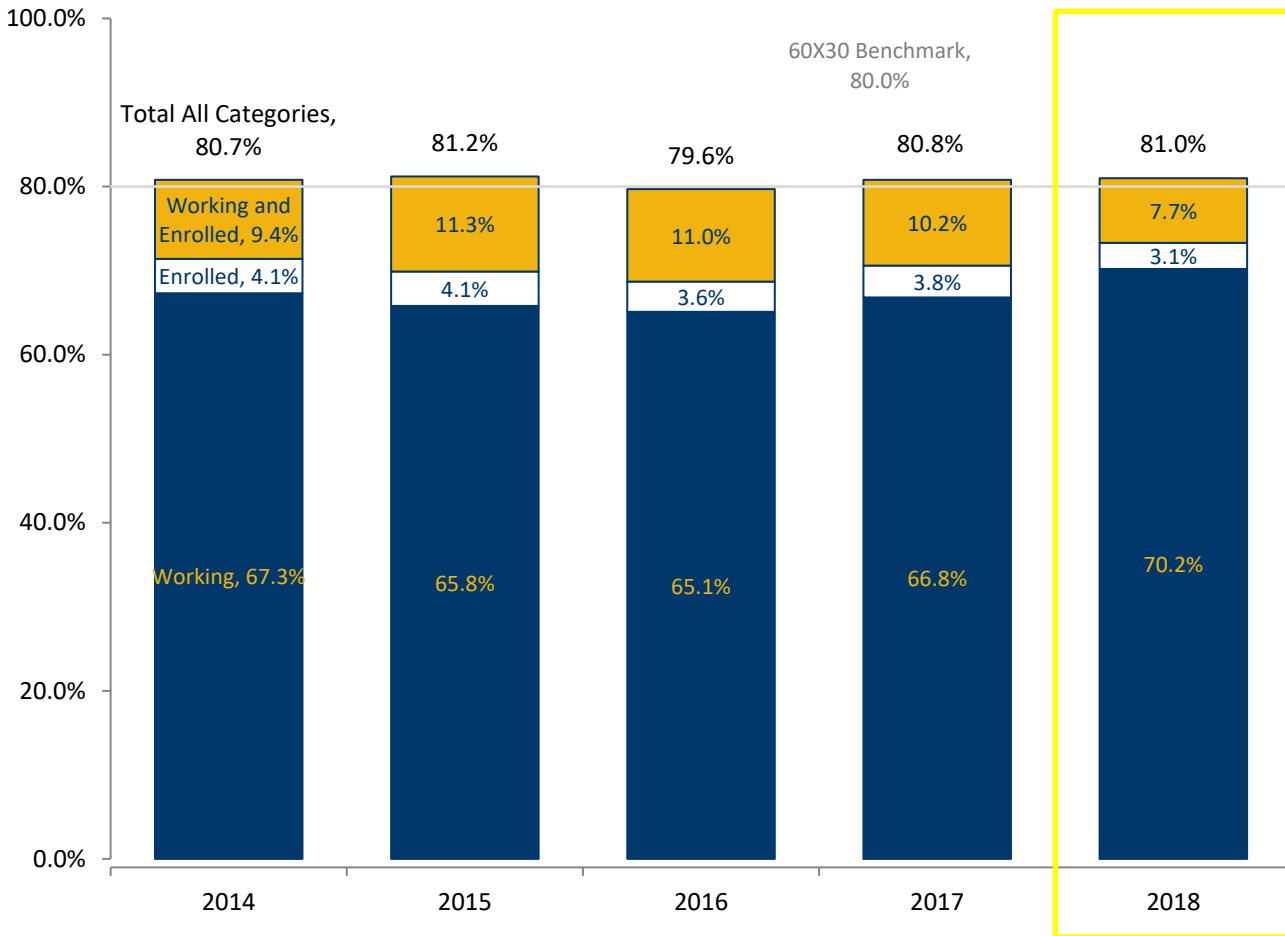
Source: THECB Accountability System

Threshold of Acceptability: the 80% benchmark set by the state of Texas as an achievement target for years 2020, 2025 and 2030

Goal: the 80% benchmark set by the state of Texas as an achievement target for years 2020, 2025 and 2030

Current Status: Meeting the goal

Graduates Working or Enrolled



Source: Texas Higher Education Accountability System

The “total all categories” line has slightly exceeded the goal for four of the past five years.

Measure: 30 SCH Tuition and Fees

Definition: The average cost of mandatory tuition and fees charged a student taking 30 semester credit hours.

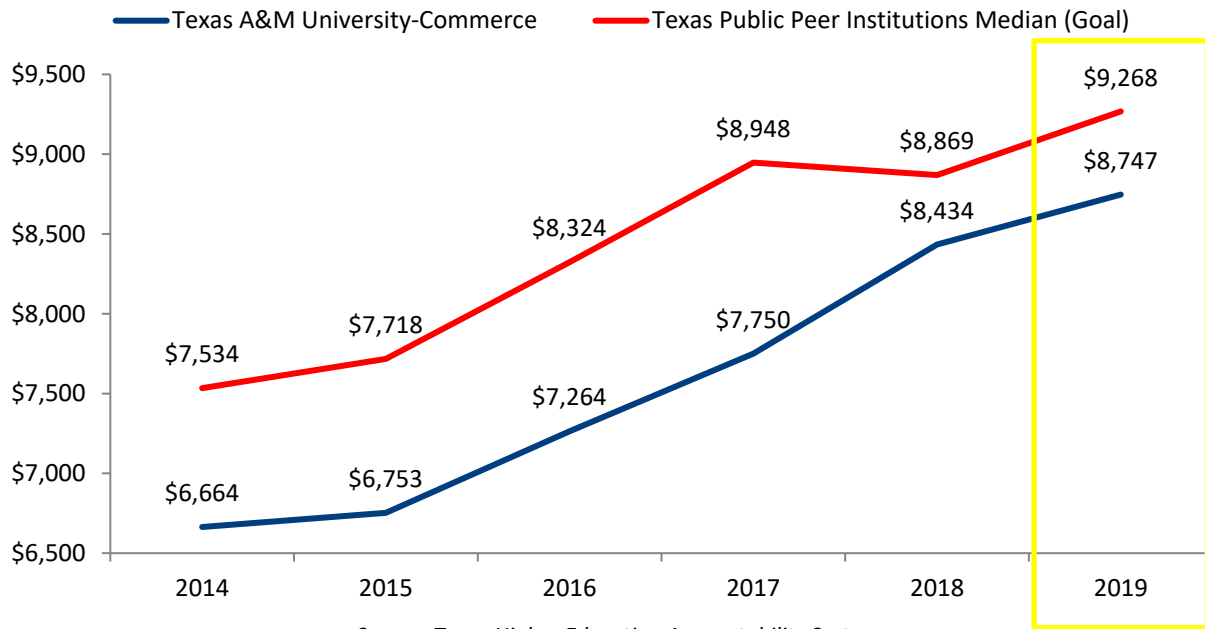
Source: THECB Accountability System

Threshold of Acceptability: Remain below the median undergraduate tuition and fees for A&M-Commerce’s public peer institutions

Goal: Remain below the median undergraduate tuition and fees for A&M-Commerce’s public peer institutions

Current Status: Meeting both the threshold of acceptability and the goal

30 SCH Tuition and Fees



A&M-Commerce began a series of gradual tuition increases which has only just now brought its tuition and fee costs more in line with the other regional institutions of the Texas A&M University System. However, those gradual increases still leave A&M-Commerce significantly below the median undergraduate tuition and fees for the University’s state public peer institutions, as defined by the THECB.