



Overview

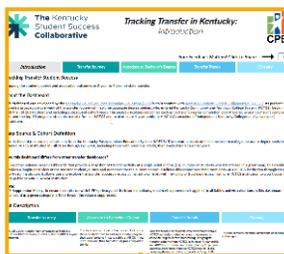
The Tracking Transfer in Kentucky dashboard presents a longitudinal view of the transfer journey for first-time in college students enrolled in a Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) institution, starting from Fall 2014 and subsequent cohorts. The dashboard displays outcomes such as 6-year graduation rate, transfer to 4-Year rate, transfer trends from a KCTCS institution to a public 4-Year or Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities (AIKCU) university, and top transferred to and from programs.

The data presented are sourced from the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS), maintained by the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE). KPEDS is populated based on data that are collected from the postsecondary institutions in Kentucky during the yearly collection process. For additional details on submission timelines and requirements, refer to the [CPE Comprehensive Data Guidelines](#).

The dashboard is divided into sections, starting with the Introduction and ending with a Glossary. The sections can be found by using the available navigation bar located at the top of each section right under the header.



Also located at the top and right above the navigation bar is the feedback link. Users can provide feedback by clicking the blue mail icon.



Introduction
The Introduction section provides context, methodology, and additional information as it relates to transfer and this dashboard.

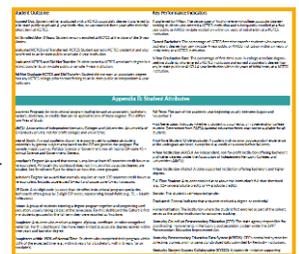
The section tracks the transfer journey and outcomes for the KCTCS students.

Transfer Journey



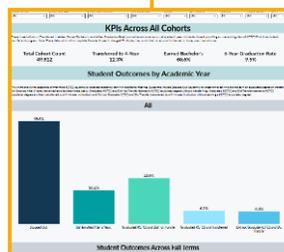
This tab shows transfer patterns from KCTCS to in-state public and AIKCU four-year institutions, including the top 10 programs transferred from and to (by 6-digit CIP code).

Transfer Trends

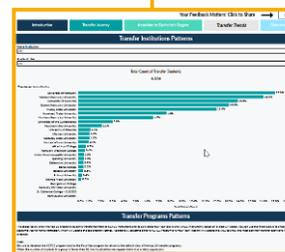


This tab contains technical definitions of all terms used in the report.

Glossary



Associate to Bachelor's Degree
This tab focuses on a subset of cohorts—students who earned an associate degree and then transferred to an in-state public or AIKCU four-year institution. It tracks their bachelor's degree completion trends. Use the filter above to dynamically explore these graduation trends.





Filters

The Tracking Transfer in Kentucky dashboard aggregated data can be filtered by the following options depending on the section of the dashboard, not all filters are available on all sections:

Home and Transfer to Institution Filters

Home Institution
(All)

Home Institution: Filters the dataset to include students who first enrolled at the selected Kentucky Community and Technical College(s). Multiple colleges may be selected, or all 16 may be included.

Transferred To
(All)

Transferred To: Filters students who transferred from a Kentucky Community and Technical College to selected in-state public or private four-year institution(s). Multiple destinations may be selected.

Student Demographic and Enrollment Filters

Academic Year
(All)

Academic Year: Filters by the fall term in which KCTCS students entered their initial cohort, or *All*.

Enrollment Type
(All)

Enrollment Type: Filters by the student’s associate degree pathway — *AA/AS* (Associate of Arts or Associate of Science, CIP 24.01), *AAS* (Associate of Applied Science, all other associate-level CIPs), or *All*.

Enrollment Intensity
(All)

Enrollment Intensity: Filters by the student’s overall enrollment pattern — *Full-time only*, *Part-time only*, *Hybrid*, or *All*.

First Generation
(All)

First Generation: Filters by first-generation status — *No* (at least one parent attended), *Yes* (neither parent attended college), or *All*.

Gender
(All)

Gender: Filters by *Female*, *Male*, *Unknown*, or *All*.

Low Income
(All)

Low Income: Filters by income status: *No*, *Yes*, or *All*.

Modality
(All)

Modality: Filters by course-taking pattern: *Online only*, *In-person only*, *Hybrid*, *Unknown* or *All*.

Military Status
(All)

Military Status: Filters by military relationship: *Active*, *Veteran*, *Unknown*, or *All*.

URM
(All)

URM: Filters by *No* (the student is not identified as an underrepresented minority), *Yes* (the student is identified as an underrepresented minority), or *All*.



Transfer Journey

The Transfer Journey section provides a comprehensive overview of student transfer and degree completion outcomes for first-time Kentucky Community and Technical College students. It tracks how students' progress from initial enrollment at KCTCS through enrollment to if they earned an associate's degree before transferring or if they transferred before to eventual bachelor's degree attainment at in-state public or private four-year institutions.

Data Visualizations

Visualizations 1: Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Key Performance Indicator <i>Across All Cohorts</i>			
<small>These three indicators (Transferred to 4-Year, Earned Bachelor's, and 6-Year Graduation Rate) summarize outcomes across all academic years in the dashboard, providing an overarching view of KCTCS First time students transfer and progress. Note: These data points will not update if academic year is changed. To display the counts that correspond to the metric, hover over the outcome.</small>			
Total Cohort Count 49,812	Transferred to 4-Year 12.3%	Earned Bachelor's 60.6%	6-Year Graduation Rate 9.5%

These three indicators, *Transferred to 4-Year*, *Earned Bachelor's*, and *6-Year Graduation Rate*, summarize outcomes across all academic years, providing an overarching view of the transfer and degree attainment pathways for KCTCS first-time students. These KPIs are static and will not change when the academic year filter is adjusted. To view the specific counts behind each KPI, hover over the metric within the dashboard.

Transferred to 4-Year

- Definition:** The percentage of first-time, associate degree-seeking students who initially enrolled at a KCTCS institution and subsequently transferred to a Kentucky in-state four-year public or private institution within three years of their initial enrollment.
- Calculation:**

$$\text{Transferred to 4-Year} = \frac{\text{Count of students who transferred to a 4-year institution}}{\text{Total cohort population}}$$

Earned Bachelor's

- Definition:** The percentage of students within the Transferred to 4-Year group who earned a bachelor's degree from any Kentucky in-state four-year public or private institution within six years of their initial enrollment at a Kentucky Community and Technical College. This indicator is a subset of the Transferred to 4-Year KPI.
- Calculation:**

$$\text{Earned Bachelor's} = \frac{\text{Count of transfer students who earned a bachelor's degree}}{\text{Count of transfer students}}$$

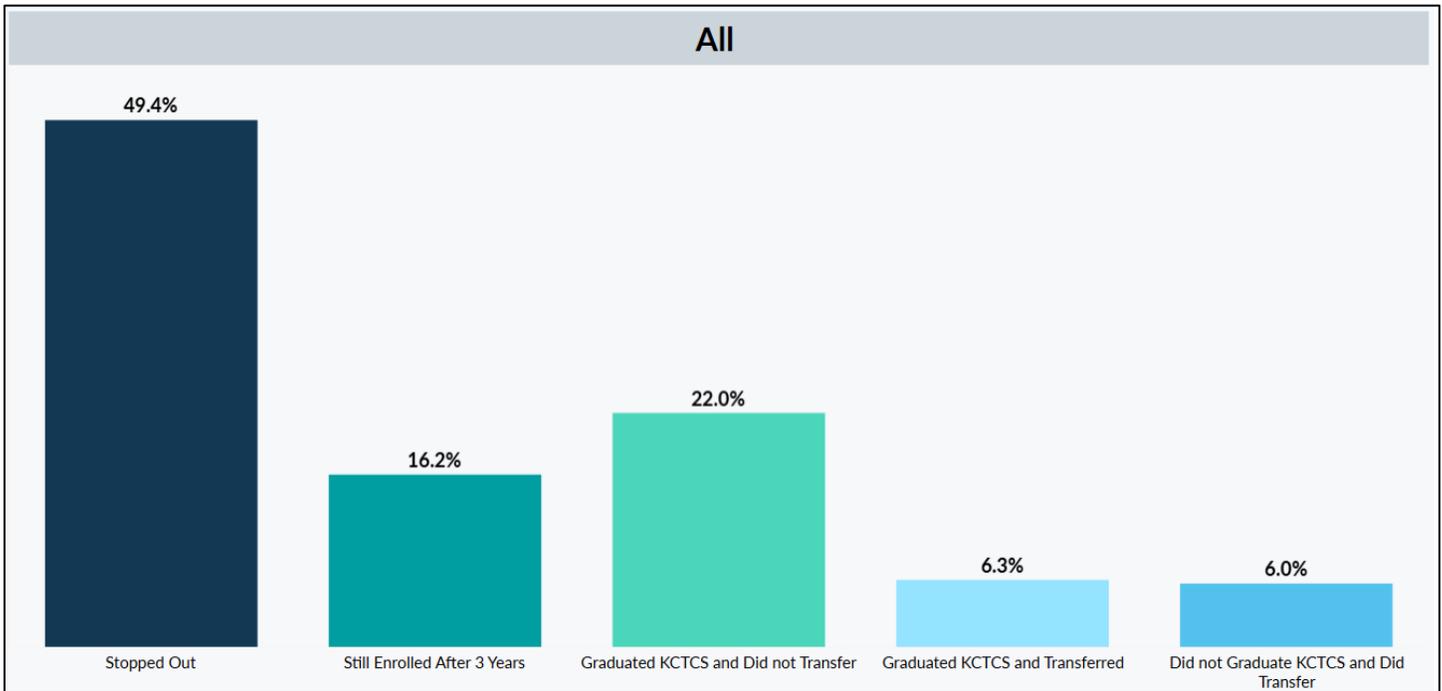
6-Year Graduation Rate

- Definition:** The percentage of first-time, associate degree-seeking KCTCS students who earned a bachelor's degree from any Kentucky in-state four-year public or private institution within six years of initial enrollment at a Kentucky Community and Technical College.
- Calculation:**

$$\text{6-Year Graduation Rate} = \frac{\text{Count of students who earned a bachelor's degree}}{\text{Total cohort population}}$$



Visualizations 2: Student Outcomes by Academic Year



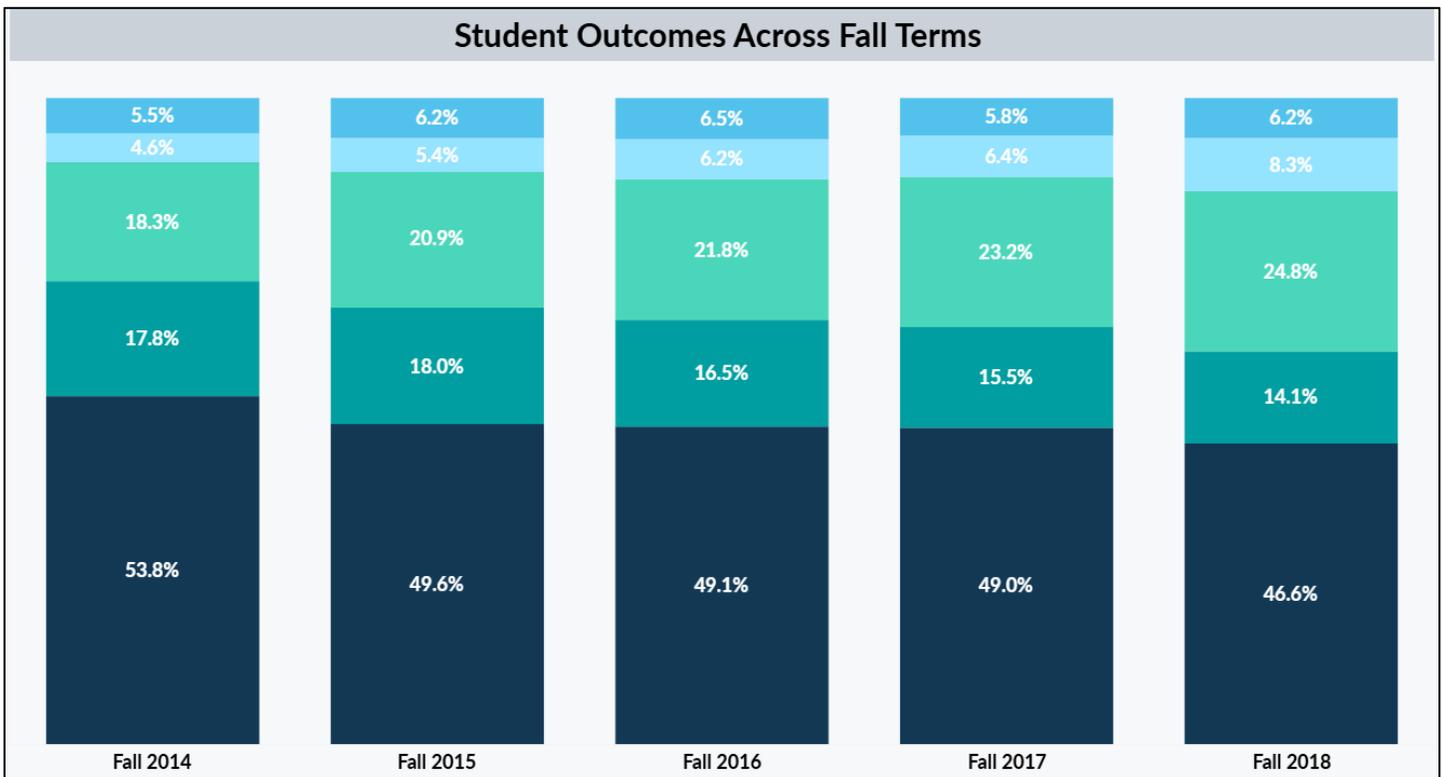
This chart displays the enrollment, completion, and transfer outcomes of KCTCS students, showing the percentage distribution across five categories:

- **Stopped Out:** The student neither earned an associate degree from Kentucky Community and Technical Colleges, transferred to an in-state public or private four-year institution, nor was enrolled three years after their fall cohort term at Kentucky Community and Technical Colleges.
- **Still Enrolled After 3 Years:** The student remained enrolled at Kentucky Community and Technical Colleges at the close of the three-year observation window.
- **Graduated KCTCS and Did Not Transfer:** The student earned an associate degree from Kentucky Community and Technical Colleges but did not transfer to an in-state public or private four-year institution.
- **Graduated KCTCS and Transferred:** The student earned a KCTCS credential and subsequently transferred to an in-state public or private 4-year institution.
- **Did Not Graduate KCTCS and Did Transfer:** The student did not earn an associate degree from any Kentucky Community and Technical College prior to transferring to an in-state public or private four-year institution.

The percentages represent each group's share of all students in the selected cohort.



Visualizations 2: Student Outcomes Across Fall Terms



This stacked bar chart displays student outcomes across fall entry cohorts, illustrating the percentage distribution students by outcome category. Each bar represents a single fall cohort, with stacked segments showing the proportion of students who stopped out, remained enrolled after three years, graduated KCTCS and did not transfer, graduated KCTCS and transferred, or did not graduate KCTCS and did transfer. The percentages within each bar sum to 100%, representing the full cohort for that fall term. This visualization highlights shifts in enrollment, completion, and transfer patterns over time.

This chart uses the same color scheme as the “Student Outcomes by Academic Year” visualization. While no legend is displayed, hovering over each segment reveals the outcome category name and its corresponding percentage within the fall cohort.



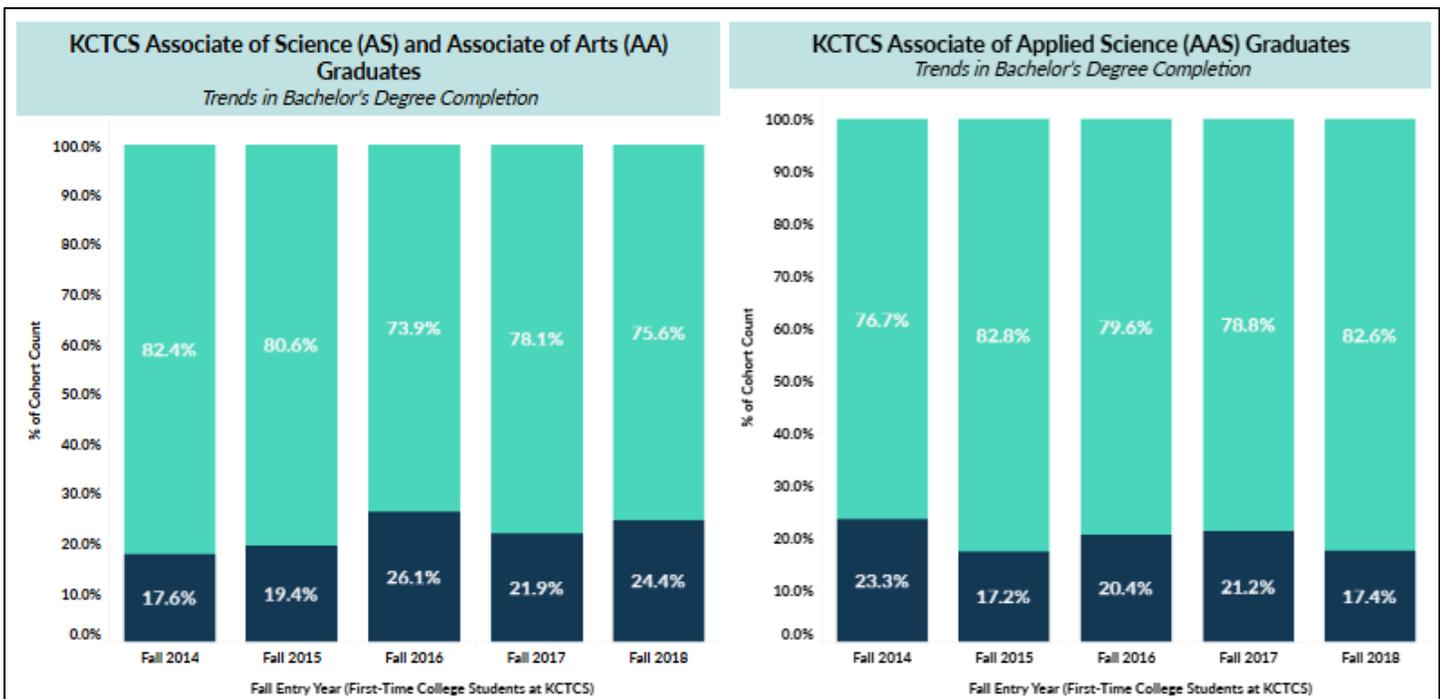
Associate to Bachelor's Degree

This section focuses on Kentucky Community and Technical College (KCTCS) students who earned an associate degree before transferring to an in-state four-year institution.

The data are disaggregated by the type of associate degree earned and indicate the percentage of those students who subsequently earned a bachelor's degree within six years of their initial enrollment at KCTCS.

Data Visualizations

Visualizations 1 & 2: KCTCS Associate Degree Graduates

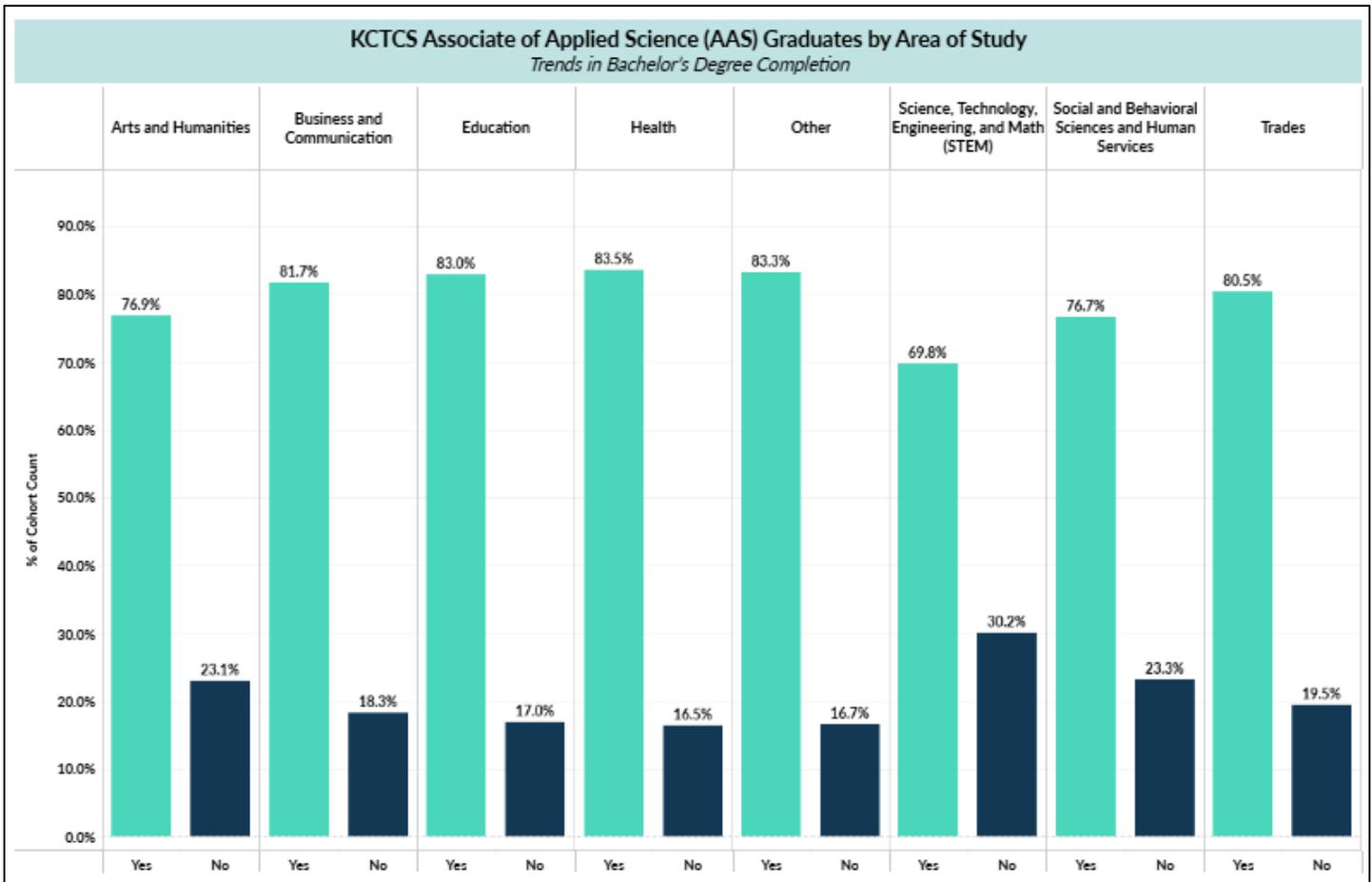


These stacked bar charts display bachelor's degree completion outcomes for KCTCS Associate of Arts (AA) and Associate of Science (AS) or Associate of Applied Science graduates who transferred to a four-year institution. Each bar represents a fall term that student was reported as first-time at KCTCS with stacked segments showing the percentage of students who earned a bachelor's degree within six years of initial KCTCS enrollment. The percentages within each bar sum to 100%, representing the total cohort of associate graduates.

These visualizations highlights trends in bachelor's degree completion over time among students who began at KCTCS, earned their associates and then transferred to an in-state four-year institution.



Visualizations 3: AAS Graduates Bachelor’s Degree Completion Trends by Area of Study



This stacked bar chart shows bachelor’s degree completion outcomes for KCTCS Associate of Applied Science (AAS) graduates who transferred to a four-year institution, grouped by area of study (See APPENDIX B for Area of Study breakdown). Each bar represents one broad academic discipline based on the two-digit Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code associated with the student’s KCTCS program at the time of transfer.

Within each bar, segments indicate the proportion of students who earned a bachelor’s degree within six years of their initial KCTCS enrollment versus those who did not. Percentages sum to 100% within each area of study, allowing direct comparison of bachelor’s completion outcomes across fields.

This visualization highlights variation in transfer success among applied programs, helping identify which academic pathways lead most frequently to bachelor’s degree attainment. Hovering over a segment displays the area of study, outcome category, and corresponding percentage of students in that group.



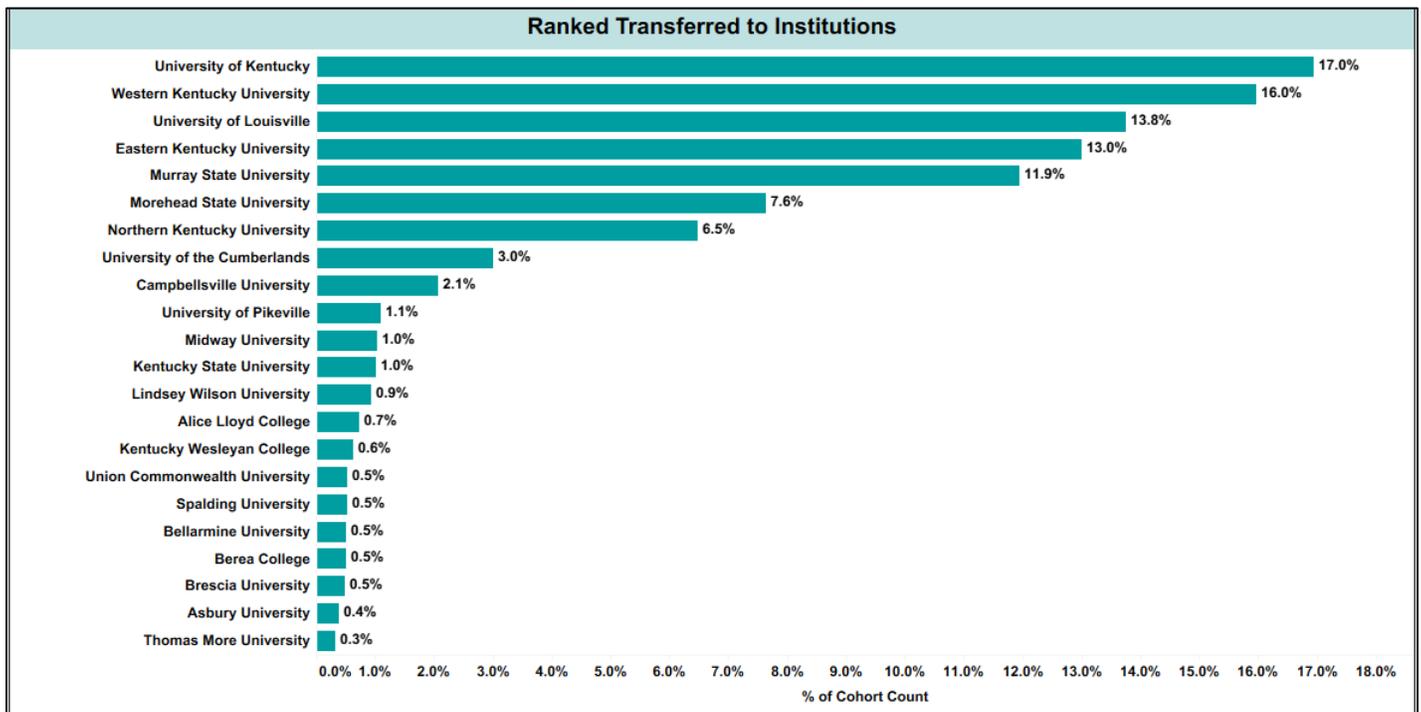
Transfer Trends

This section examines student transfer activity from Kentucky’s community and technical colleges (KCTCS) to in-state four-year public and private (AIKCU) institutions. It includes students who transferred with or without earning an associate degree.

Additional views illustrate where KCTCS graduates transfer and which programs they pursue, identifying the most common receiving institutions and program-to-program transfer patterns across Kentucky’s higher education system. Together, these insights provide a clear picture of transfer outcomes and help inform strategies to strengthen degree pathways and support bachelor’s completion among KCTCS transfer students.

Data Visualizations

Visualizations 1: Transfer Institutions Patterns



This ranked horizontal bar chart displays the distribution of KCTCS transfer students across four-year institutions for the selected home institution and academic year. Each bar represents the percentage share of all transfer students who enrolled at a specific receiving institution, with bars ordered from highest to lowest percentage. The total number of transfer students in the selected cohort is shown at the top of the visualization.

Hovering over an institution bar displays the exact count of transfer students associated with that program.



Visualizations 2: Transfer Program Patterns

Top 10 KCTCS Programs <i>Count of Transfer Students</i>		Top 10 Transferred to Programs <i>Count of Transfer Students</i>	
KCTCS Program of Study		Transferred To Program of Study	
Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies	4,327	Elementary Education and Teaching	452
Business Administration and Management, General	357	Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	397
Educational/Instructional Media Design	227	Not Designated/Undecided/Undeclared	300
Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement Administration	216	Psychology, General	290
Computer and Information Sciences, General	180	Biology/Biological Sciences, General	264
Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	173	General Studies	230
Health Services/Allied Health/Health Sciences, General	122	Business/Commerce, General	194
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies, Other	45	Business Administration and Management, General	163
Child Care Provider/Assistant	45	Accounting	148
Industrial Mechanics and Maintenance Technology/Technician.	25	Marketing/Marketing Management, General	102

This view displays the top 10 KCTCS programs from which students transfer (left table) alongside the top 10 programs they transfer into at four-year institutions (right table). Each list is ranked by the number of transfer students within the selected academic year(s) and/or home institution(s).

The visualization is interactive, allowing users to explore program-level transfer pathways:

- Selecting a KCTCS program in the left table updates the right table to show the top 10 four-year programs that students from that specific KCTCS program most commonly transfer into.
- Selecting a Transferred To program in the right table updates the left table to display the top 10 KCTCS programs feeding into that program at four-year institutions.

When no program is selected, both tables default to displaying the overall top 10 programs—highlighting the most common origins and destinations for transfer students across all KCTCS institutions.

This visualization helps identify the most frequent transfer program pairings and supports analysis of academic pathways between two-year and four-year programs.



Appendices

APPENDIX A: Derived Student Outcomes

Student Outcome

Stopped Out: The student neither earned an associate degree from Kentucky Community and Technical Colleges, transferred to an in-state public or private four-year institution, nor was enrolled three years after their fall cohort term at Kentucky Community and Technical Colleges.

Still Enrolled After 3 Years: The student remained enrolled at Kentucky Community and Technical Colleges at the close of the three-year observation window.

Graduated KCTCS and Transferred: The student earned a credential from Kentucky Community and Technical Colleges and subsequently transferred to an in-state public or private four-year institution.

Graduated KCTCS and Did Not Transfer: The student earned an associate degree from Kentucky Community and Technical Colleges but did not transfer to an in-state public or private four-year institution.

Did Not Graduate KCTCS and Did Transfer: The student did not earn an associate degree from any Kentucky Community and Technical College prior to transferring to an in-state public or private four-year institution.

Key Performance Indicators

Transferred to 4-Year: The percentage of first-time, associate degree-seeking students who initially enrolled at a Kentucky Community and Technical College and subsequently transferred to an in-state four-year public or private institution within six years of initial enrollment.

Earned Bachelor's: The percentage of students within the Transferred to 4-Year population who earned a bachelor's degree from any in-state four-year public or private institution within six years of their initial enrollment at a Kentucky Community and Technical College. This indicator is a subset of the Transferred to 4-Year KPI.

6-Year Graduation Rate: The percentage of first-time, associate degree-seeking students who initially enrolled at a Kentucky Community and Technical College and earned a bachelor's degree from any in-state four-year public or private institution within six years of their initial enrollment.



APPENDIX B: Student Attributes

Academic Program

An instructional program leading toward an associate's, bachelor's, master's, doctorate, or credits that can be applied to one of these degrees. This differs from Area of Study.

Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities (AIKCU)

Represents Kentucky's 18 nonprofit, non-tax-supported, four-year colleges and universities accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

Area of Study

Area of Study refers to a standardized grouping of academic disciplines that categorizes instructional programs based on the two-digit Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code. Each area of study represents a set of related fields or occupational focuses that share similar subject matter, learning outcomes, or workforce objectives. This grouping enables consistent analysis and reporting across institutions by aggregating detailed CIP codes into broader categories:

- *Arts and Humanities*: Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies (05); Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics (16); English Language and Literature/Letters (23); Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies, and Humanities (24); Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies (30); Philosophy and Religious Studies (38); Theology and Religious Vocations (39); Visual and Performing Arts (50); History (54).
- *Business and Communication*: Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs (09); Communications Technologies/Technicians and Support Services (10); Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services (52).
- *Education*: Education (13).
- *Health*: Health Professions and Related Programs (51).
- *Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)*: Architecture and Related Services (04); Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services (11); Engineering (14); Engineering Technologies and Engineering-Related Fields (15); Biological and Biomedical Sciences (26); Mathematics and Statistics (27); Military Science, Leadership, and Operational Art (28); Physical Sciences (40); Science Technologies/Technicians (41).
- *Social and Behavioral Sciences and Human Services*: Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences (19); Legal Professions and Studies (22); Library Science (25); Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies (31); Psychology (42); Public Administration and Social Service Professions (44); Social Sciences (45).
- *Trades*: Personal and Culinary Services (12); Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Related Protective Services (43); Construction Trades (46); Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians (47); Precision Production (48); Transportation and Materials Moving (49).
- *Other*: Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences (01); Natural Resources and Conservation (03); Technology Education/Industrial Arts (21); Military Technologies and Applied Sciences (29); Basic Skills and Developmental/Remedial Education (32); Citizenship Activities (33); Health-Related Knowledge and Skills (34); Interpersonal and Social Skills (35); Leisure and Recreational Activities (36); Personal Awareness and Self-Improvement (37); High School/Secondary Diplomas and Certificates (53); Residency Programs (60).



Associate's Degree

An award that normally requires at least 60 semester credit hours or the equivalent. Although this dashboard does not limit on what associate degrees are included, See Enrollment Type for details on how they were grouped.

Bachelor's Degree

An award that normally requires at least 120 semester credit hours or the equivalent. Includes accelerated (3-year) and cooperative (5-year) programs.

CIP Code (Classification of Instructional Programs)

A standardized taxonomy developed by the U.S. Department of Education for classifying academic programs. The dashboard groups programs by 2-digit CIP codes, representing broad fields of study (e.g., 51 – Health Professions).

Cohort

A group of students entering a degree program together and progressing until graduation, usually taking classes at the same pace. For this dashboard the Cohort is first time students grouped by the fall term they were reported as first time.

Completer

A student who receives a degree, diploma, certificate, or other recognized credentials. For this dashboard, they have been limited to associate degrees earned within three years and bachelor degree. This dashboard defines completers as students earning an associate degree within three years or a bachelor's degree within six years. Completers within 150% of Normal Time: Students who completed their program within 150% of the expected time (e.g., within 6 years for a bachelor's, within 3 years for an associate's).

Course Modality

The method by which a course is delivered (e.g., online, in-person, hybrid).

Enrollment Intensity

The student's course load pattern across terms: Full-time only, Part-time only, Hybrid (mix of both), or Unknown.

Enrollment Type

Categorizes students into broad associate degree pathways: AA_AS (Associate of Arts/Science, CIP 24.01) or AAS (Associate of Applied Science, all other associate-level CIPs).

Fall Term

The part of the academic year beginning usually between August and November 1.

First Generation

Indicates whether a student is classified as a first-generation college student. Determined from FAFSA parental education fields; may not be available for all students.



First-Time Student

Students who are enrolled at the postsecondary level for the first time.

- **First-Time Undergraduate Student:** A student entering postsecondary education for the first time after high school. Includes students who previously only took dual credit courses. Categories: first-time freshman (01), sophomore (02), junior (03), or undergraduate non-degree (05).
- **First-Time Graduate Student:** A student newly enrolled in a graduate program. Categories include: master's (06), specialist (07), doctoral – research (08), doctoral – professional practice (12), doctoral – other (35), or graduate non-degree (16).

Institution

An accredited postsecondary entity (e.g., college or university) that reports enrollment and degree data to CPE.

Full-Time Student

A student enrolled at or above the institution's full-time threshold (e.g., 12+ undergraduate credits or 9+ graduate credits).

Graduated

General indicator that a student received a degree or credential.

Home Institution

The institution where the student first enrolled as part of the cohort; serves as the anchor institution for outcomes tracking.

Military Status

The student's Military Relationship using one of the following codes:

- **Active military:** Student currently serves in the S. National Guard, is in the Reserve unit of any branch of the U.S. military, or is on Active Duty in any branch of the U.S. military.)
- **Military veteran:** Student formerly served in the U.S. National Guard, in the Reserve unit of any branch of the S. military, or on Active Duty in any branch of the U.S. military and was released under conditions other than dishonorable.
- **Military Connected:** student's spouse, parent or guardian serves in the U.S. National Guard, is in the Reserve unit of any branch of the U.S. military, is on Active Duty in any branch of the S. military or student is otherwise eligible for any military education benefits via the spouse, parent or guardian.
- **Not military-affiliated / Unknown:** Student does not have any current or prior military service, is not a spouse, parent, or dependent of a service member, and is not otherwise eligible for military education benefits. This status may also be used when a student's military status is was not reported, cannot be determined, or is unknown.

Modality

The student's overall course-taking pattern: Online only, In-person only, Hybrid, Unknown.

Normal Time to Completion

The catalog-listed length of time to complete a program (e.g., 4 years for bachelor's, 2 years for associate's).



Program

A field of study in which a student is actively enrolled based on the major or program at the institutions. This is different from Area of study.

Transfer Student

A student who enrolls at an institution after previously attending another postsecondary institution. For this dashboard, these are students that started at any of the KCTCS schools and then transferred to one of the four year institutions in the state.

Transferred To

The institution to which a student transferred after leaving the home institution.

Undergraduate Student

A student pursuing coursework at or below the bachelor's level.

Underrepresented Minority (URM)

Refers to students identifying as Black or African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Hispanic/Latino, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, or Two or more races.



APPENDIX C: Institutions

Four-Year Private (Independent) AIKCU (Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities)

This education sector includes all Kentucky 4-Year Independent Institutions: Alice Lloyd College, Asbury University, Bellarmine University, Berea College, Brescia University, Campbellsville University, Centre College, Georgetown College, Kentucky Christian University, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Lindsey Wilson College, Midway University, University of Pikeville, Spalding University, Thomas More College, Transylvania University, Union College, and University of the Cumberlands.

Two-Year Public KCTCS (Kentucky Community and Technical College System)

This education sector includes all Kentucky 2-Year Public Institutions: Ashland Community & Technical College, Big Sandy Community & Technical College, Bluegrass Community & Technical College, Elizabethtown Community & Technical College, Gateway Community & Technical College, Hazard Community & Technical College, Henderson Community College, Hopkinsville Community College, Jefferson Community & Technical College, Maysville Community & Technical College, Madisonville Community College, Owensboro Community & Technical College, Somerset Community College, Southeast Kentucky Community & Technical College, and West Kentucky Community & Technical College.

4-Year Public

This education sector includes all Kentucky four-year public Comprehensive Institutions: Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky State University, Morehead State University, Murray State University, Northern Kentucky University, and Western Kentucky University. Four-Year Public Research Institutions: University of Kentucky and University of Louisville.



Appendix D: Suppression and Redaction Rules

CPE Data Access and Security Policy

To safeguard student privacy and comply with federal regulations such as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) follows strict suppression and redaction guidelines for public reporting.

Suppression refers to the intentional withholding of data values from publication when there is a risk of identifying individuals, particularly in small groups. This includes:

- Primary suppression of small counts (10 or fewer students),
- Complementary suppression of related values to prevent reverse engineering of redacted information,
- Percentage suppression when results are 0% or 100% for any demographic group.

FERPA defines confidential personally identifiable information as “information that, alone or in combination, is linked to a specific student and would allow a reasonable person in the school community—without personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances—to identify the student with reasonable certainty.” Accordingly, CPE suppresses results for any group of fewer than 10 students when data are broken out by demographic or programmatic characteristics that could lead to identification.

In such cases, a placeholder (e.g., “–”, “*”, or “NA”) must be used along with a note explaining that the value was suppressed to protect confidentiality.

CPE Dashboards may have any of the following applied:

To ensure alignment with CPE's privacy standards, the following logic is applied throughout all tables and visualizations in this dashboard:

- **Small Cell Suppression:** If the sum of records in a given category is 10 or fewer, the value is suppressed and displayed as null or a placeholder.
- **Complementary Suppression:** For mutually exclusive and exhaustive categories (e.g., Male and Female), if either group contains 10 or fewer students, both groups are suppressed to prevent deduction through subtraction.
- **Consistent Application:** Suppression is applied uniformly across all report elements. If a value is redacted in a data table, it is also redacted in any corresponding charts or graphs.
- **Exception Handling:** On rare occasions, exceptions may be granted for reporting groups of fewer than 10 when it is determined that disclosure risk is minimal. Such exceptions require approval and must include a clear justification.