 ACCESS. INNOVATION. EXCELLENCE.

# Freshmen Remediation Rates 

## October 2023

Creative Commons
Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International
© 2022 North Dakota University System

Jennifer Weber, PhD
NDUS Institutional Research

## Background

The remediation rate of first-time college freshmen is an often-cited data point used to indicate the percentage of students who begin college not fully academically prepared to enroll in college level coursework. In the NDUS, remediation rates are also referred to as developmental course enrollment rates.

Remediation rates are presented in three parts, including an overall rate that considers whether a student is enrolled in any type of developmental course, as well as rates for Mathematics courses, and English Language Arts (reading, writing, and communication) courses.

## Scope of this Report

The research for this report was conducted at NDUS System Office by Institutional Research staff. The intent of this report is to address current questions surrounding enrollment of NDUS students in developmental courses, also known as remedial coursework. For this report, the cohort group(s) under study include the first-time freshmen attending a NDUS institution during fall terms 2015 through 2023. Data used in this report comes from census course enrollments as reported from the NDUS Campus Solutions student reporting system.

## Use of this Data for Generalizing to North Dakota Population

It is critical to note that these NDUS cohort data are not limited to students who graduated from high school in North Dakota, and as such, the remediation rate data cannot be generalized to the North Dakota K-12 system. Remediation rates specific to North Dakota high school students are available via the state K-12 educational dashboards available at insights.nd.gov.

## Definitions

Remediation Rate - The percentage of first-time freshmen who enroll in either Mathematics or English language Arts developmental coursework during their first college semester.

Developmental Courses - college coursework that is designed to prepare students to complete postsecondary academic degree credit courses. Developmental courses do carry credit; however, they do not count toward degree requirements.

First time freshmen - any student attending NDUS whose entry status is "first year", and grade level is "freshman". This includes students from North Dakota as well as those attending NDUS institutions from out of state.

Table 1
Freshmen Remediation Rates by NDUS Institution - Percentage of Students Enrollment in ANY Developmental Coursework

|  | Fall 2015 | Fall 2016 | Fall 2017 | Fall 2018 | Fall 2019 | Fall 2020 | Fall 2021 | Fall 2022 | Fall 2023 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BSC | 34.0\% | 33.5\% | 36.5\% | 40.1\% | 37.6\% | 39.5\% | 31.4\% | 31.8\% | 23.4\% |
| DCB | 67.2\% | 60.1\% | 55.9\% | 68.2\% | 60.3\% | 57.8\% | 52.4\% | 50.9\% | 55.4\% |
| LRSC | 38.6\% | 46.1\% | 50.8\% | 50.0\% | 49.7\% | 41.3\% | 37.1\% | 39.2\% | 37.4\% |
| NDSCS | 37.5\% | 28.8\% | 44.1\% | 51.5\% | 48.8\% | 48.2\% | 44.6\% | 45.1\% | 30.3\% |
| WSC | 49.1\% | 48.1\% | 46.6\% | 45.7\% | 48.5\% | 46.0\% | 38.2\% | 35.1\% | 30.2\% |
| DSU | 42.7\% | 34.5\% | 36.3\% | 36.5\% | 31.5\% | 24.9\% | 29.4\% | 27.9\% | 26.5\% |
| MASU | 55.7\% | 48.3\% | 40.0\% | 46.8\% | 49.1\% | 50.7\% | 39.1\% | 33.0\% | 39.6\% |
| MISU | 24.3\% | 30.3\% | 22.9\% | 13.6\% | 14.1\% | 16.4\% | 12.3\% | 14.3\% | 12.5\% |
| VCSU | 49.1\% | 43.4\% | 41.6\% | 44.2\% | 36.4\% | 42.0\% | 40.9\% | 34.6\% | 16.6\% |
| NDSU | 20.0\% | 19.0\% | 13.5\% | 11.8\% | 11.8\% | 11.5\% | 11.7\% | 10.7\% | 15.1\% |
| UND | 12.5\% | 10.7\% | 7.8\% | 7.5\% | 12.5\% | 12.2\% | 10.5\% | 10.6\% | 12.1\% |
| Community Colleges | 39.8\% | 36.4\% | 43.1\% | 40.1\% | 45.5\% | 44.5\% | 38.5\% | 38.9\% | 29.9\% |
| Regional Universities | 38.7\% | 36.6\% | 32.0\% | 29.3\% | 27.3\% | 28.7\% | 27.0\% | 24.3\% | 19.9\% |
| Research Universities | 16.9\% | 15.5\% | 11.1\% | 9.9\% | 12.1\% | 11.8\% | 11.2\% | 10.7\% | 13.8\% |
| NDUS Overall | 27.4\% | 25.3\% | 24.8\% | 23.7\% | 24.2\% | 23.5\% | 20.6\% | 19.5\% | 19.3\% |

## Table 2

Freshmen Mathematics Remediation Rates

|  | Fall 2015 | Fall 2016 | Fall 2017 | Fall 2018 | Fall 2019 | Fall 2020 | Fall 2021 | Fall 2022 | Fall 2023 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| BSC | $24.1 \%$ | $23.8 \%$ | $26.9 \%$ | $30.9 \%$ | $26.2 \%$ | $28.6 \%$ | $22.2 \%$ | $23.5 \%$ | $16.7 \%$ |
| DCB | $53.3 \%$ | $53.4 \%$ | $45.1 \%$ | $54.8 \%$ | $49.3 \%$ | $43.1 \%$ | $32.4 \%$ | $34.0 \%$ | $42.6 \%$ |
| LRSC | $30.3 \%$ | $33.9 \%$ | $37.2 \%$ | $37.6 \%$ | $35.2 \%$ | $23.3 \%$ | $24.0 \%$ | $20.6 \%$ | $22.7 \%$ |
| NDSCS | $23.2 \%$ | $17.5 \%$ | $21.9 \%$ | $26.2 \%$ | $22.9 \%$ | $18.8 \%$ | $18.1 \%$ | $19.4 \%$ | $15.2 \%$ |
| WSC | $42.5 \%$ | $42.2 \%$ | $37.6 \%$ | $39.9 \%$ | $38.1 \%$ | $39.2 \%$ | $37.0 \%$ | $32.3 \%$ | $25.1 \%$ |
| DSU | $36.6 \%$ | $28.2 \%$ | $28.9 \%$ | $31.5 \%$ | $24.5 \%$ | $19.5 \%$ | $18.5 \%$ | $17.9 \%$ | $12.8 \%$ |
| MASU | $30.9 \%$ | $37.6 \%$ | $26.4 \%$ | $28.8 \%$ | $34.3 \%$ | $19.0 \%$ | $19.0 \%$ | $13.4 \%$ | $13.2 \%$ |
| MISU | $31.8 \%$ | $26.8 \%$ | $20.4 \%$ | $6.6 \%$ | $7.1 \%$ | $8.4 \%$ | $7.1 \%$ | $7.4 \%$ | $7.5 \%$ |
| VCSU | $14.5 \%$ | $31.8 \%$ | $25.7 \%$ | $27.3 \%$ | $18.9 \%$ | $18.7 \%$ | $18.8 \%$ | $15.6 \%$ | $10.4 \%$ |
| NDSU | $12.5 \%$ | $13.5 \%$ | $13.3 \%$ | $11.2 \%$ | $11.6 \%$ | $11.1 \%$ | $11.7 \%$ | $10.7 \%$ | $15.1 \%$ |
| UND |  |  | $7.8 \%$ | $7.5 \%$ | $12.5 \%$ | $12.2 \%$ | $10.5 \%$ | $10.6 \%$ | $12.1 \%$ |
|  | $28.6 \%$ | $26.5 \%$ | $28.7 \%$ | $33.5 \%$ | $29.5 \%$ | $27.2 \%$ | $23.6 \%$ | $23.4 \%$ | $19.4 \%$ |
| Community Colleges | $20.5 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Regional Universities | $30.4 \%$ | $29.7 \%$ | $24.1 \%$ | $19.1 \%$ | $16.8 \%$ | $14.8 \%$ | $14.5 \%$ | $12.6 \%$ | $10.1 \%$ |
| Research Universities | $13.7 \%$ | $12.3 \%$ | $11.0 \%$ | $9.6 \%$ | $12.0 \%$ | $11.5 \%$ | $11.2 \%$ | $10.7 \%$ | $13.8 \%$ |
| NDUS Overall | $\mathbf{2 0 . 8 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 9 . 4 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 8 . 7 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 8 . 0 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 7 . 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 6 . 5 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 4 . 9 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 4 . 1 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 5 . 0 \%}$ |

Table 3
Freshmen English Language Arts Remediation Rates

|  | Fall 2015 | Fall 2016 | Fall 2017 | Fall 2018 | Fall 2019 | Fall 2020 | Fall 2021 | Fall 2022 | Fall 2023 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| BSC | $21.1 \%$ | $21.9 \%$ | $22.1 \%$ | $23.5 \%$ | $26.6 \%$ | $26.9 \%$ | $22.2 \%$ | $22.1 \%$ | $14.7 \%$ |
| DCB | $48.7 \%$ | $44.6 \%$ | $41.0 \%$ | $54.2 \%$ | $52.7 \%$ | $45.0 \%$ | $48.6 \%$ | $39.6 \%$ | $42.6 \%$ |
| LRSC | $25.0 \%$ | $30.9 \%$ | $33.9 \%$ | $34.3 \%$ | $33.7 \%$ | $32.6 \%$ | $30.5 \%$ | $30.9 \%$ | $25.6 \%$ |
| NDSCS | $28.2 \%$ | $21.8 \%$ | $34.4 \%$ | $44.9 \%$ | $44.8 \%$ | $44.3 \%$ | $41.0 \%$ | $40.5 \%$ | $23.7 \%$ |
| WSC | $24.7 \%$ | $28.9 \%$ | $27.0 \%$ | $23.8 \%$ | $33.2 \%$ | $34.2 \%$ | $9.5 \%$ | $11.7 \%$ | $13.7 \%$ |
| DSU | $9.9 \%$ | $12.7 \%$ | $14.7 \%$ | $11.1 \%$ | $17.0 \%$ | $7.5 \%$ | $17.7 \%$ | $15.1 \%$ | $17.7 \%$ |
| MASU | $38.9 \%$ | $30.2 \%$ | $28.6 \%$ | $28.8 \%$ | $34.3 \%$ | $40.1 \%$ | $31.8 \%$ | $28.6 \%$ | $27.5 \%$ |
| MISU | $7.0 \%$ | $9.7 \%$ | $4.8 \%$ | $7.8 \%$ | $8.6 \%$ | $10.0 \%$ | $5.7 \%$ | $7.9 \%$ | $7.0 \%$ |
| VCSU | $24.3 \%$ | $24.7 \%$ | $23.8 \%$ | $28.5 \%$ | $21.7 \%$ | $28.0 \%$ | $27.4 \%$ | $23.2 \%$ | $8.8 \%$ |
| NDSU | $8.9 \%$ | $8.8 \%$ | $0.4 \%$ | $0.7 \%$ | $0.5 \%$ | $0.6 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ |
| UND | $0.1 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.1 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Community Colleges | $26.3 \%$ | $25.0 \%$ | $29.5 \%$ | $33.0 \%$ | $35.8 \%$ | $35.2 \%$ | $29.0 \%$ | $29.4 \%$ | $20.2 \%$ |
| Regional Universities | $16.3 \%$ | $16.5 \%$ | $14.2 \%$ | $15.7 \%$ | $16.5 \%$ | $17.4 \%$ | $17.7 \%$ | $15.4 \%$ | $12.3 \%$ |
| Research Universities | $5.2 \%$ | $5.0 \%$ | $0.2 \%$ | $0.4 \%$ | $0.3 \%$ | $0.4 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ |
| NDUS Overall | $\mathbf{1 3 . 8 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 3 . 3 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 2 . 0 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 2 . 2 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 3 . 1 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 2 . 7 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 . 1 \%}$ | $\mathbf{9 . 4 \%}$ | $7.5 \%$ |

## Chart 1

NDUS Overall Rates for Mathematics (Math), English Language Arts (ELA), and Overall (Any Subject)


## Chart 2

Enrollment in Any Remedial Courses, by Tier

## ANY DEVELOPMENTAL



