

# RESEARCH NOTE

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## Four-Year Degree Completion Rates of NOVA Transfer Students Who Did Not Earn a NOVA Degree: Transfer Years 2008-09 through 2010-11

This Research Note presents data on the four-year completion rates at Virginia four-year institutions of NOVA students who transferred without a NOVA degree by the number of credits earned at NOVA prior to transfer.

According to these data from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), the probability of students attaining a four-year degree within four years of transfer increased with the number of credits they attained at NOVA prior to transfer. However, the total number of transfers decreased considerably as the number of earned credits increased.

The following table (below) and figure (next page) present data on students who transferred to a four-year Virginia institution without earning a NOVA degree.

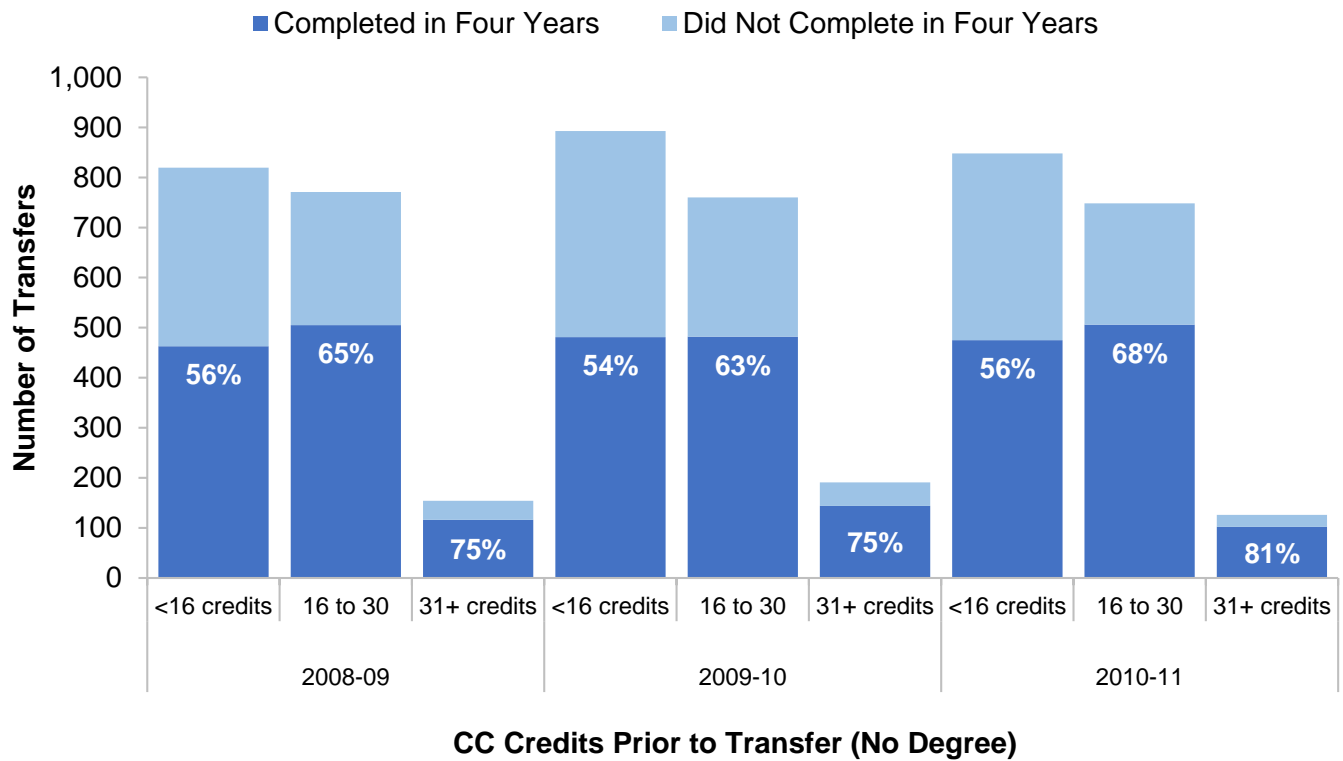
**Table 1. Four-Year Degree Completion Rates of NOVA Transfer Students Who Did Not Earn a NOVA Degree by Credits Attained Prior to Transfer: Transfer Years 2008-09 through 2010-11**

Number of CC Credits (No Degree)	2008-09			2009-10			2010-11		
	Total	Completed in 4 Years		Total	Completed in 4 Years		Total	Completed in 4 Years	
		#	%		#	%		#	%
<16 credits	820	463	56%	893	481	54%	848	475	56%
16 to 30	771	505	65%	760	482	63%	748	506	68%
31+ credits	154	116	75%	191	144	75%	126	102	81%

Source: SCHEV. Note: At Virginia 4-Year Institutions (public or private). Total = Total Transfers from NOVA into a Virginia 4-Year Institution in the designated academic year. Completed in 4 Years = Earned 4-year degree within 4 years of designated academic year.

- Among students who transferred with 15 or fewer credits during the 2010-11 academic year, 56 percent (475 students) attained a degree from the four-year institution within four years.
- Sixty-eight percent of students who transferred with 16 to 30 credits (506 students) in 2010-11 earned a degree within four-years of transfer.
- Among 2010-11 transfers, eighty-one percent of students who transferred with 31 credits or more and did not earn a degree at NOVA (102 students) attained a degree from the four-year institution within four years.
  - Students who transferred with 31 credits or more and did not earn a degree at NOVA comprised a small percentage of NOVA students who transferred without earning a degree.

**Figure 1. Four-Year Degree Completion Rates of NOVA Transfer Students Who Did Not Earn a NOVA Degree by Credits Attained Prior to Transfer: Transfer Years 2008-09 through 2010-11**



Source: SCHEV  
 Note: At Virginia 4-Year Institutions (public or private).