

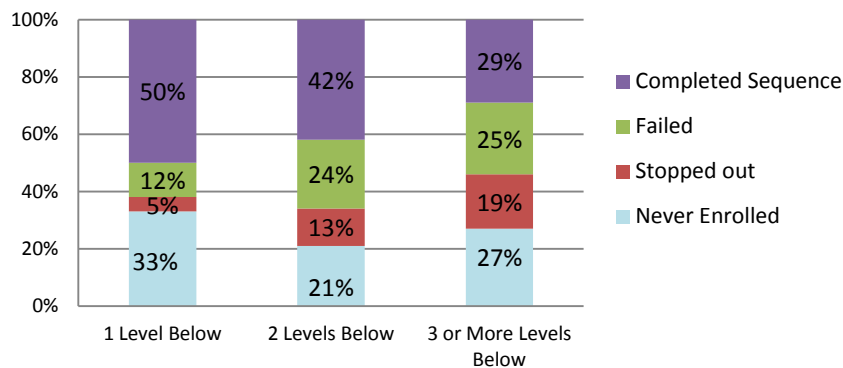
This issue's topic: Starting Levels and Completion Rates of Basic Skills Students

Overview: The following report summarizes data on the enrollment and progress of students placed in basic skills courses in community colleges participating in the Achieving the Dream project. The goal of the project is to increase the success of community college students, especially students of color and low-income students. The project has state policy teams in 15 states (not including California) and 200 participating colleges, including some California community colleges.

Summary of Findings:

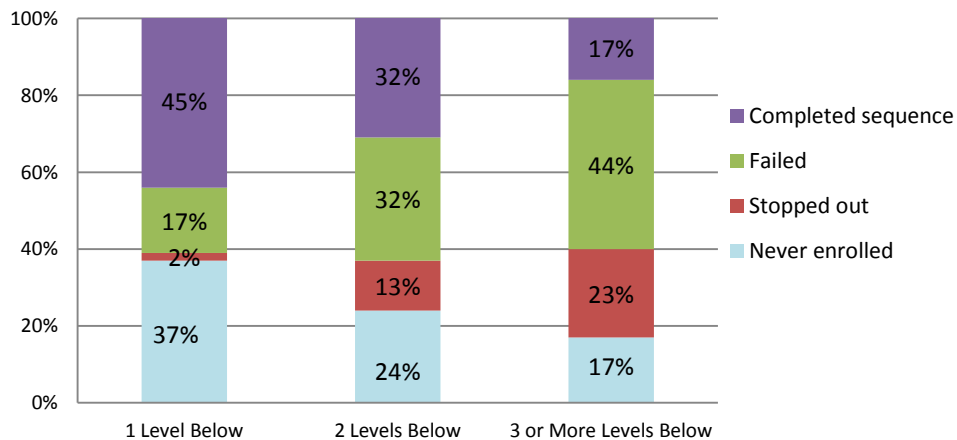
- Students who place two (37%) or three (44%) levels below college reading are much more likely to stop out or fail before completing their basic skills coursework than are students who place one level (17%) below college reading.¹

Basic Skills Reading Students' Progress



- Students who place two (45%) or three (67%) levels below college math are much more likely to stop out or fail than students who place one (19%) level below college math.¹

Basic Skills Math Students' Progress



¹ Bailey, T., Jeong, D. W., & Cho, S. W. (2009). Referral, enrollment, and completion in developmental education sequences in community colleges. Working paper, Community College Research Center, Teachers College, Columbia University.