



Tennessee Board of Regents

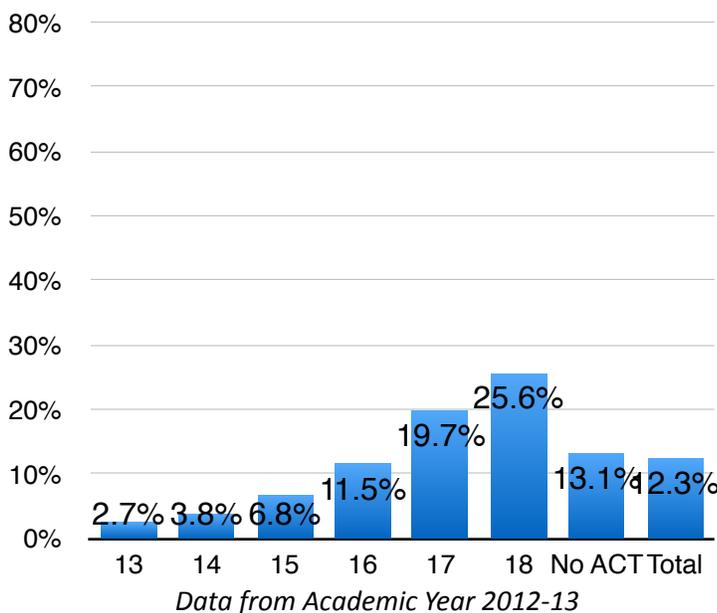
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Co-requisite Remediation Pilot Study — Fall 2014 and Spring 2015

In 2007, as part of a system-wide redesign project funded by the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) and the National Center for Academic Transformation, Austin Peay State University pioneered an approach to remediation for incoming students who arrive with developmental needs in mathematics, reading and/or writing. This co-requisite model transformed their previous success rate of fewer than 10% of students completing a credit-bearing math class over several semesters to more than 70% completing a credit-bearing math class in a single semester. This work has been recognized by the Dana Center, Complete College America, Education Commission of the States, and Jobs for the Future as a national model for success in developmental education.

Based on this initial work the Tennessee Board of Regents began a study of the effectiveness of its system-wide approach to developmental education in community college, when success was viewed from

Historical Percentages of Community College students completing a credit-bearing Math class in an academic year



the perspective of students completing a credit-bearing math, writing or reading-intensive class within an academic year. To understand more clearly how the preparedness of students would affect their potential success in these course completions we chose to disaggregate the data by ACT sub-score. Since system-wide, more than 60% of TBR students begin college with need for remediation in math, reading and/or writing the results of the analysis were startling. Overall only 12.3%

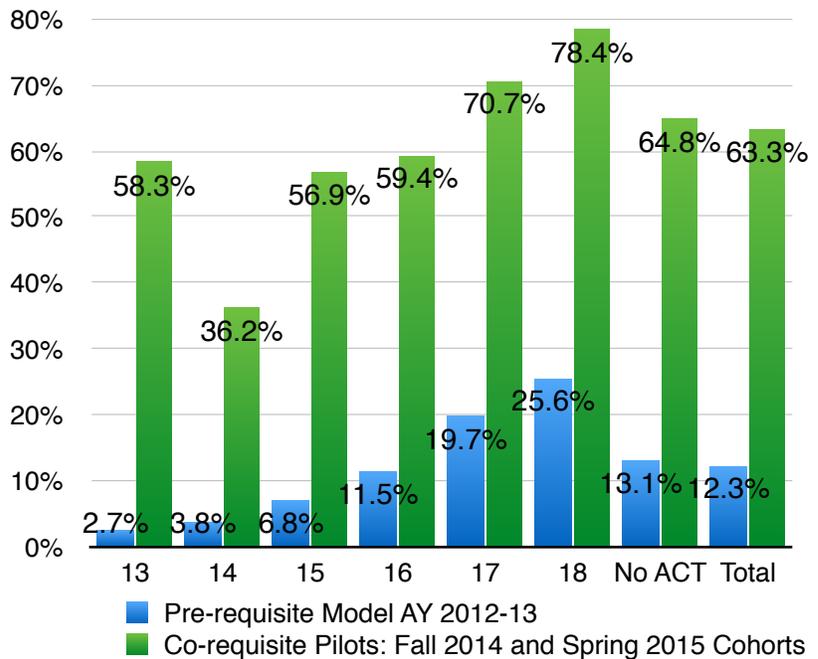
of the students who began in a remediation course completed a credit-bearing mathematics class, and only 30.9% completed a credit-bearing writing class.

In Fall 2014 and Spring 2015, we carried out a substantial pilot of the co-requisite model of instruction in the community college setting. In mathematics, 1,019 students across 9 campuses were enrolled directly into an Introductory Statistics class, and were required to also attend a supplementary instruction experience. Similarly, 957 students at 7 community colleges were enrolled into a credit-bearing freshman writing class

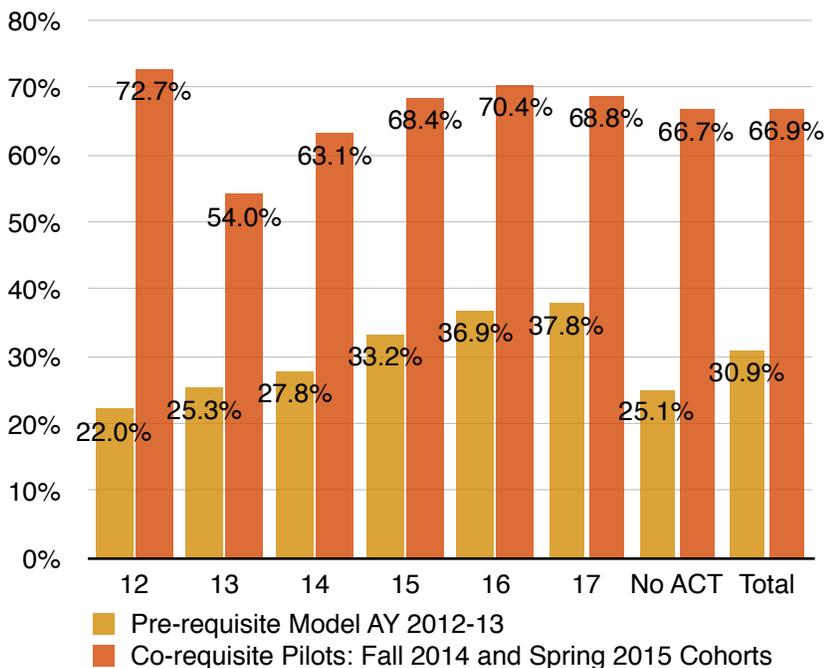
with required co-requisite support. We disaggregated the data by ACT score, so that we would be able to gauge the effectiveness of this approach for students with various levels of preparation.

The results of the pilot were extremely encouraging. In mathematics, of the the 1019 enrolled students, 63.3% received a passing grade in the class

Results of TBR Co-requisite Mathematics Pilot



Results of TBR Co-requisite Writing Pilot

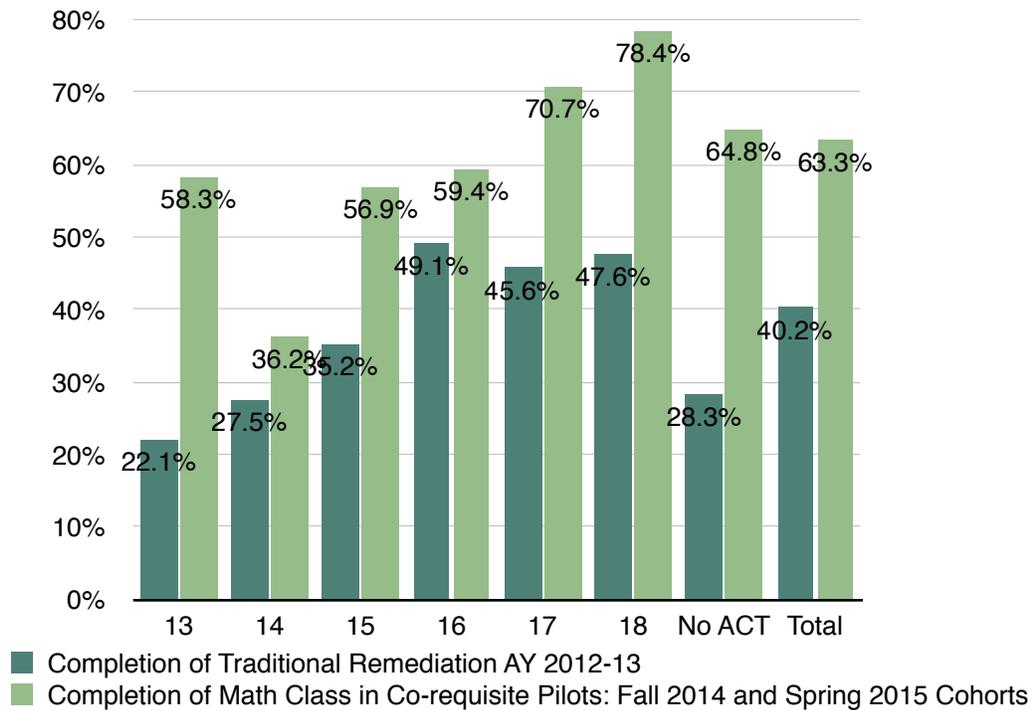


(compared to 12.3% under the old model). Not only did we see this 50 percentage point increase overall, but we saw strikingly higher success rates for students at every ACT mathematics sub-score. These successes were not limited to mathematics. Of the 957 students enrolled in the writing pilot, 66.9% received a passing grade in the class. Once again this compares extremely favorably with

the historical success rate of 30.9%, and once again we saw gains for students at every ACT writing sub-score. Further desegregation by race, and by age, show that these learning gains were achieved across the full spectrum of the student population at every ACT-level. For minority students the success rate in mathematics rose more than six-fold from its historical 6.7% to 41.8%. In writing the achievement gap was all but closed with success rate increases from a historic 18.6% to 63.5% in the pilot.

Recent discussion concerning the affective and non-cognitive aspects surrounding the college remediation experience recognizes the profound impact of students questioning whether they belong. We compared the success rates for students enrolled directly into the credit-bearing classes with the historical rates of students successfully completing the remediation designed to prepare them for that class. We have shown the results for mathematics here, but the results for writing are similar. Once again significantly larger proportions of students at every ACT sub-score level completed the credit-bearing class in a single semester than

Comparison of TBR Co-Requisite Mathematics with Completion of Traditional Remediation



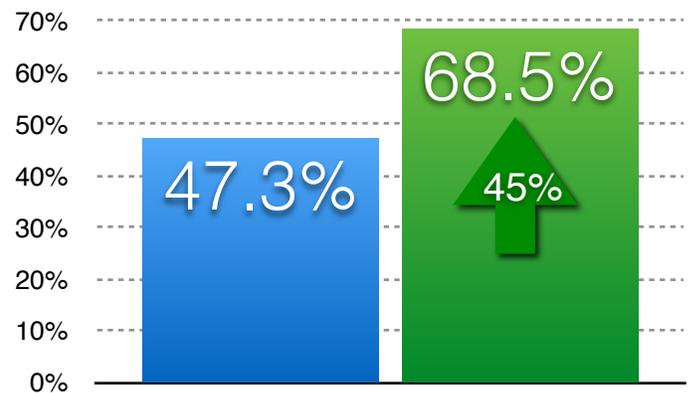
traditionally have completed their remediation in a full academic year. These results add significant credence to their being more than academic effects involved remediation success.

In response, the TBR System organized three co-requisite academies in March 2015, inviting faculty from all 19 institutions to present results from their pilot models and develop plans to take their pilots to institutional scale. All TBR universities and community colleges are now fully implementing the co-requisite mathematics, reading and writing models for all students.

It is now more than a year since the Fall 2014 students began in their pilots, and so there is an opportunity to also analyze the data more longitudinally. Once again the early analysis is very

encouraging. The students who took part in the Mathematics went through the co-requisite experience had a much increased fall-to-fall retention rate compared with their colleagues who went through standard learning-support. The retention rate for these students was 57.4% compared with 43.3% of the more than 38,000 who were not part of the pilot. There was increase in retention no-matter whether the student passed their credit-bearing math class in the fall, but the increase was most pronounced for the students who successfully passed the class compared with their colleagues who completed their remediation. There the increase was from 47.3% to 68.5%.

Comparison of TBR Co-Requisite Mathematics with Completion of Traditional Remediation



Fall-to Fall Retention

- Completion of Traditional Remediation AY 2014-15
- Completion of Math Class in Co-requisite Pilots: Fall 2014 Cohort

The students who were part of the co-requisite pilots were also more successful across all their first classes, earning an average of 20.83 credit hours compared with 17.16 credit hours earned by those students not in the pilot. Not surprisingly, students who successfully completed their mathematics class in the pilot did even better, earning 21.38 hours, but students who did not pass their mathematics in the fall earned an average of 19.07 credit hours which is essentially identical to the 19.09 credit hours earned by those students who successfully completed their remediation in the traditional model.

For further information concerning this study or other student success initiatives in the Tennessee Board Regents contact Dr. Tristan Denley, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, tristan.denley@tbr.edu