

To: Instructional Deans

From: Mallory Newell

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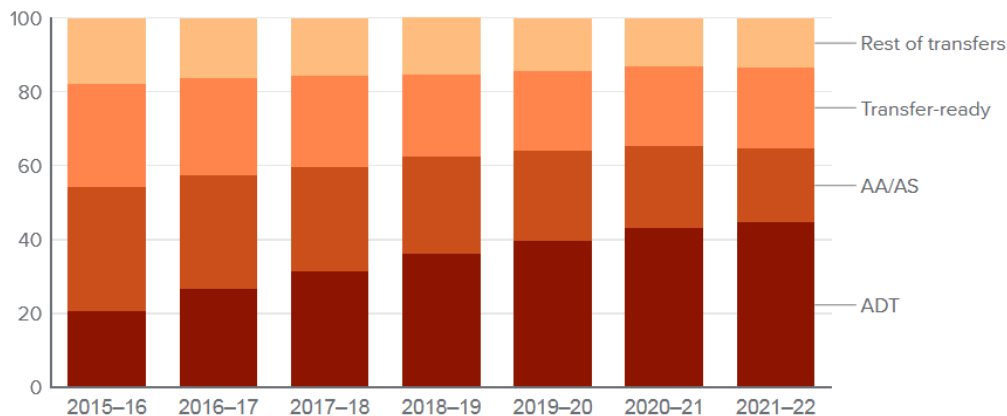
Re: De Anza's Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs)

The Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) released a [report](#) titled: Strengthening California's Transfer Pathway. The report finds an increase in the number of associate degrees for Transfer (ADTs) has been increasing across the California community college system and students who receive and ADT are more likely to transfer. They found that **almost seven out of ten associate-earning students who successfully transferred earned an ADT.**

Figure 12 below is from the study and shows that **a larger share of transfer students are earning a degree before transferring** (65% in 2021-22), up 11 percentage points from 2015-16. There has also been a large shift from AA/AS degrees to ADTs.

Figure 12

More students are transferring with an ADT



Gains in ADT Completion Across All Racial Groups

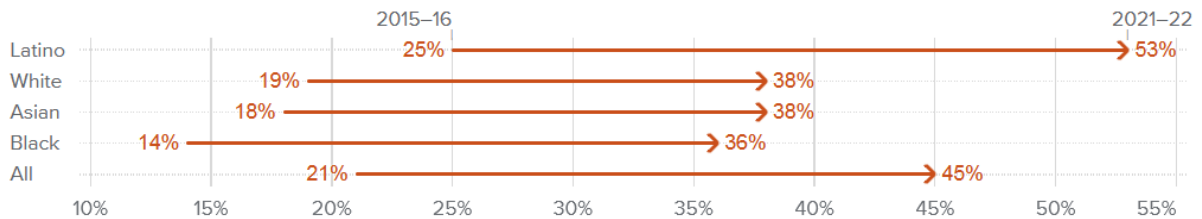
The PPIC study found that the **percentage of successful transfer students who earned an ADT before transferring doubled for all racial groups** when comparing those who transferred in 2021-22 to those who transferred in 2015-16, as displayed in Figure 13 below.

- The increase was particularly **significant among Latino students**, with the percentage of successful transfers with an ADT **rising from 25 to 53 percent**.
- For **Black students**, the percentage of successful transfers with an ADT **increased from 14 to 36 percent** (Figure 13 below).

Figure 13

The growth in ADT attainment has been particularly large among Latino students

Share of successful transfer students earning an ADT before transferring



Benefits of an ADT

An additional [study](#) showed that **students who earn an ADT before transferring are about 10 percentage points more likely to earn a bachelor's degree** than students who transfer with no degree or transfer with a traditional AA/AS.

Further, students who enter a CSU with an ADT are also **more efficient in terms of the number of semesters needed to graduate** and the number of upper-division CSU units earned at graduation.

The study notes numerous benefits to earning an ADT over earning a traditional AA/AS:

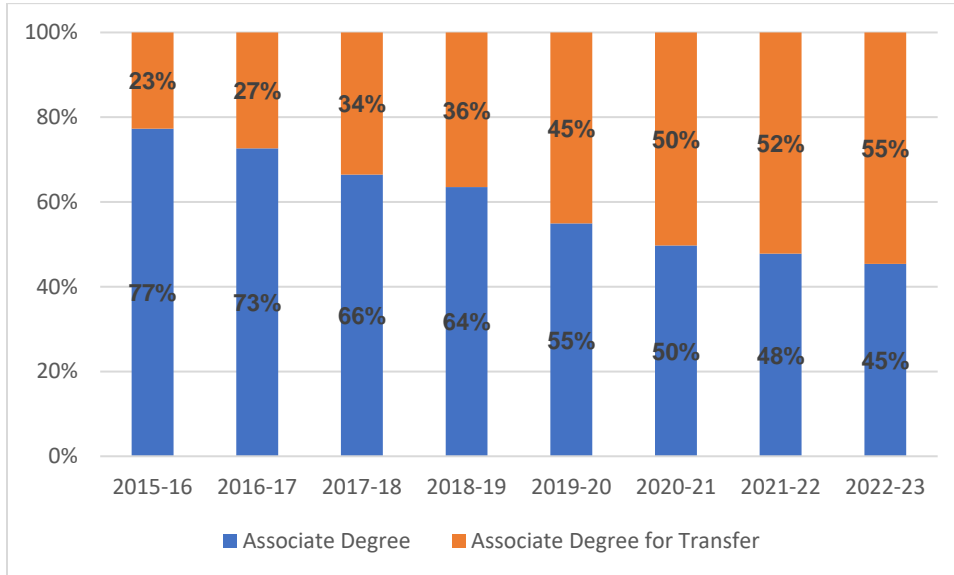
- The curricula for ADTs are similar across all community colleges.
- An ADT fulfills the lower-division requirements at all CSU campuses that accept it.
- ADT earners are guaranteed admission to at least one CSU campus with junior standing.
- ADT earners receive a GPA bump in the admissions process.
- Students who earn an ADT and enter a CSU in their ADT major are guaranteed that they will need no more than 60 additional units at the CSU to earn a bachelor's degree in that field.

ADT Trends at De Anza

ADTs awarded at De Anza have been steadily replacing associate degrees, like statewide trends.

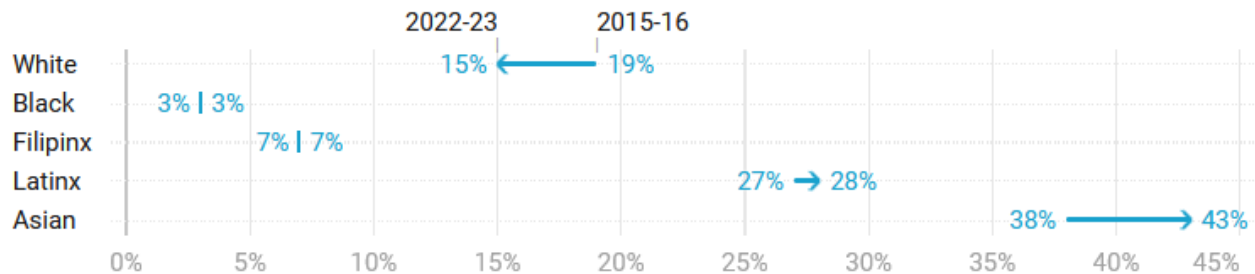
- **ADTs comprised 23% of total degrees awards in 2015-16 and now comprise 55% of total associate degrees awarded**, as De Anza has added additional ADT pathways.
- In 2022-23, De Anza conferred a total of 1,088 ADTs and 904 A.A. degrees, though down from 1,161 ADTs and 1,064 A.A. degrees the year prior (Graph 1 below).

Graph 1. De Anza Associate and ADT Degrees, 2015-16 to 2022-23



The **proportion of ADTs awarded across all ethnic groups** increased the greatest for students who identify as **Asian by 5 percentage points**, followed by **Latinx which increased by 1 percentage point**. Filipinox and Black remained unchanged, while students who identify as White decreased the greatest from 19% to 15% of total ADTs awarded (Graph 2 below).

Graph 2. Proportion of ADTs awarded between 2015-16 and 2022-23



ADT Options at De Anza

The top ADTs awarded in 2022-23 to 50 or more students include: Business Administration (201 degrees awarded), Psychology (188), Computer Science (127), Mathematics (67), Communication Studies (60), Economics (66), Administration of Justice (41).

The number of **ADT pathways statewide now includes 40 different majors**; however, **De Anza currently offers only half of the pathways available**, at 22 total majors (Table 1 below).

Table 1. Approved ADTs Statewide (De Anza ADTs in Bold)

Administration of Justice	Economics	Law, Public Policy, and Society	Social Justice: Asian American Studies
Agricultural Business, Sales and Service	Educational Aide (Teacher Assistant)	Law: General	Social Justice: Chicano Studies
Animal Science	English	Liberal Studies	Social Justice: Ethnic Studies
Anthropology	Environmental Science	Mathematics	Social Justice: Gender Studies
Art	Fine Arts	Music	Social Justice: General
Biology	Geology	Nutrition, Foods, and Culinary Arts	Social Justice: LGBTQ Studies
Business Administration	Health Occupations	Philosophy	Social Justice: Native American Studies
Business Administration 2.0	History	Physics	Social Science, General
Chemistry	Hospitality	Physics for UC Transfer	Social Work and Human Services
Chemistry for UC Transfer	Hospitality Management	Plant Science	Sociology
Child and Adolescent Development	Human Services	Political Science	Spanish
Child Development/ECE	International Studies	Psychology	Speech Communication
Computer Science	Journalism	Public Health	Studio Arts
Dramatic Art	Kinesiology	Social Justice: African American Studies	Television (TV/Film/Video)

Resources:

Baker, R., Friedmann, E., Kurlander, M. (January 2023). Improving the Community College Transfer Pathway to the Baccalaureate: The Effect of California’s Associate Degree for Transfer. Journal of Policy Analysis and Management. Retrieved from: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/pam.22462>

C-ID Finalized Transfer Model Curriculum: <https://c-id.net/tmc>

Cuellar Mejia, M., Johnson, H., Alesia Perez, C. & Jackson, J. (August 2023). Strengthening California’s Transfer Pathway. Public Policy Institute of California. Retrieved from: https://www.ppic.org/publication/strengthening-californias-transfer-pathway/?utm_source=ppic&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=epub.

Template for approved transfer model curriculum: <https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Educational-Services-and-Support/What-we-do/Curriculum-and-Instruction-Unit/Templates-For-Approved-Transfer-Model-Curriculum>