



2025

NSC Completion Rates Report Summary

Reports from the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) show that Alamance Community College's completion rates are consistently above the national average. The results show ACC's completion rate has remained steady (fluctuating only 1.2 percentage points) over the last three cohorts. The most recent 2017 cohort showed a total gain of 6.75 percentage points over the baseline completion rate of 41.90% established with the 2011 cohort.

Table 1: NSC Six-Year Total Completion Rate 2011-2017 Cohorts

Cohort	ACC	National Average
2011	41.90%	37.53%
2012	43.62%	39.22%
2013	45.33%	40.76%
2014	45.68%	40.28%
2015	49.85%	42.17%
2016	49.61%	43.08%
2017	48.65%	43.45%

“Minimum Acceptable” and “Target” Performance Levels

The College's Curriculum and Instruction Committee, consisting of a cross-section of faculty, reviews the College's appropriate minimum and target performance levels.

The **baseline completion rate is 42%**. This is based on the College's completion rate for the 2011 cohort. The 2011 cohort was the first cohort where the National Student Clearinghouse utilized its current definitions and methodology for its six-year completion rate benchmark. This definition includes first-time degree-seeking students, of any age, who began their postsecondary studies in the Fall term of the cohort year. This cohort definition does not include dual-enrolled students.

The **minimum acceptable completion rate is 48%**. The College expects performance on this measure, at a minimum, to meet or exceed this rate. This minimum acceptable rate was calculated by averaging the College's completion rate over the past four years (2014-2017). Using the average score as the minimum acceptable level allows the College to monitor whether its total completion rate continues to trend upward.

The **target completion rate is 50%**. This rate is one standard deviation above ACC's four-year average. This methodology is based on the North Carolina Community College System's method of identifying “excellence level” at one standard deviation above the mean.

The table below compares ACC's recent completion rate results with these performance levels. In this table, ACC's results are rounded to the nearest whole percent to be consistent with the format of the baseline, minimum, and target performance levels.

Table 2: NSC Six-Year Total Completion Rate (rounded) Compared to ACC Performance Levels

Cohort	ACC (rounded)	ACC Performance Levels
2014	46%	Below Minimum
2015	50%	At Target
2016	50%	At Target
2017	49%	Above Minimum, Below Target