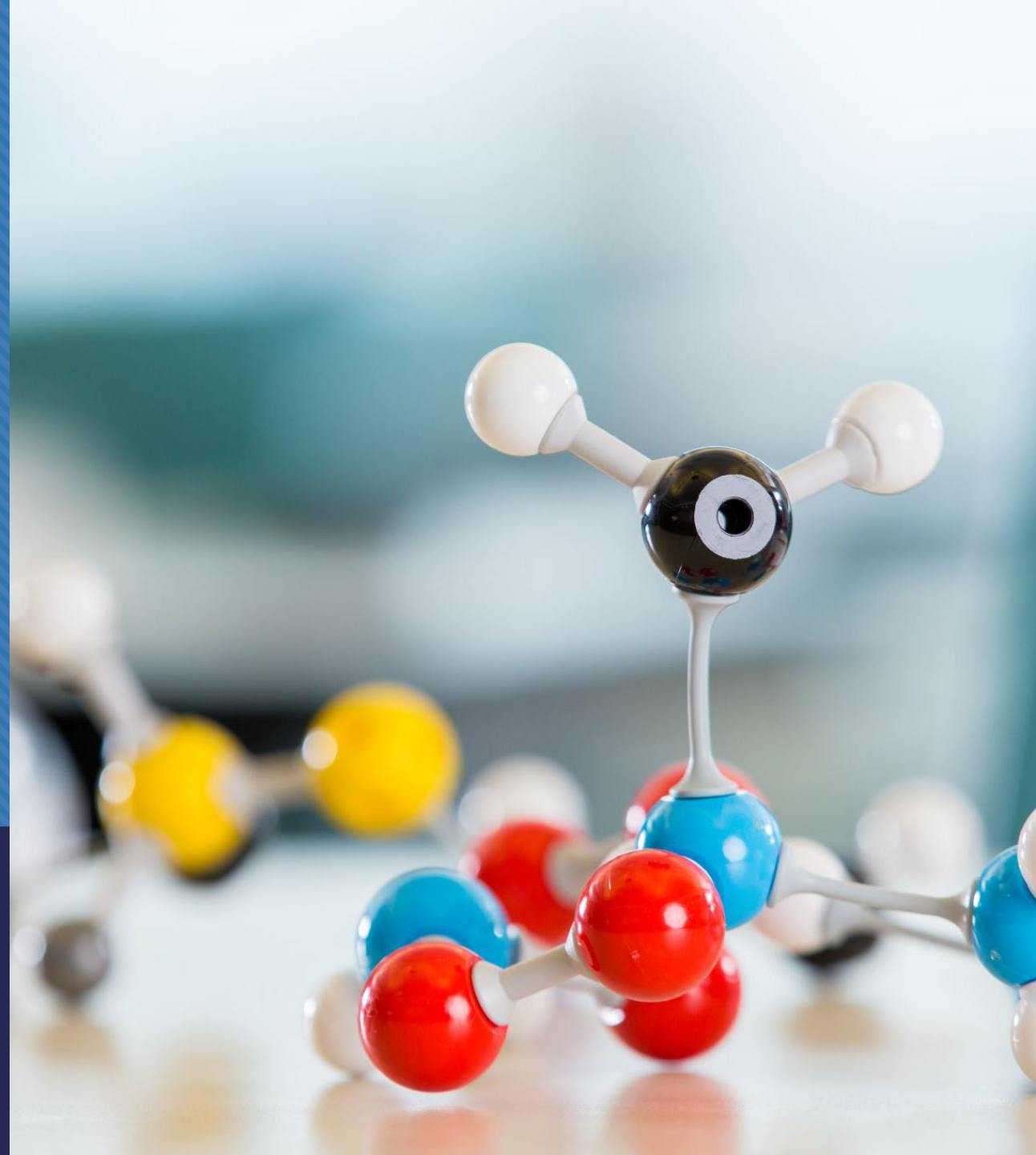# Prior Learning Assessments and Credit for Prior Learning

Where do our students learn?

# Beyond the Classroom

Experiential Learning

Life Experience

Work Experience

Professional Training

Military Training

Advanced Placement Exams

# Learning happens everywhere

Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) refers to the granting of credit for subject matter mastery that has been accumulated from outside the degree granting institution.

Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) is a process the subject matter experts use to evaluate competencies.

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Why CPL?

- Recognizes the validity of a variety of prior learning experiences
- Recognizes the inherent mobility of students geographically and among postsecondary educational institutions
- Accelerates the achievement of educational goals while maintaining the integrity of the technical college institutions
- Provides flexibility for students by offering multiple ways of gaining credentials needed to move ahead in their careers
- Leverages prior learning experiences to lessen the cost of duplicative postsecondary education to students, parents, and taxpayers; and
- Responds to local economic needs to validate and expedite the training of skilled workers in a variety of technical fields.

# WTCS Approach

Board Policy & Procedures

Presidents MOU

System- wide Prior Learning Assessments

Community of Practice

Focus on Data and Priorities

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# CPL's Effect on Graduation

**Cohort Year**
(Multiple values) ▼

**Graduation Year Selector**
Graduation within 4 years ▼

**Program Aid Code**
(Multiple values) ▼

**Program**
(Multiple values) ▼

**Highest Credential at Enroll...**
(Multiple values) ▼

**G...**
▼

**Economically Disadvantaged**
(Multiple values) ▼

## Graduation for Students with and without CPL Across WTCS

Graduation rate for students with CPL (blue) and without CPL (orange) across WI Technical Colleges.
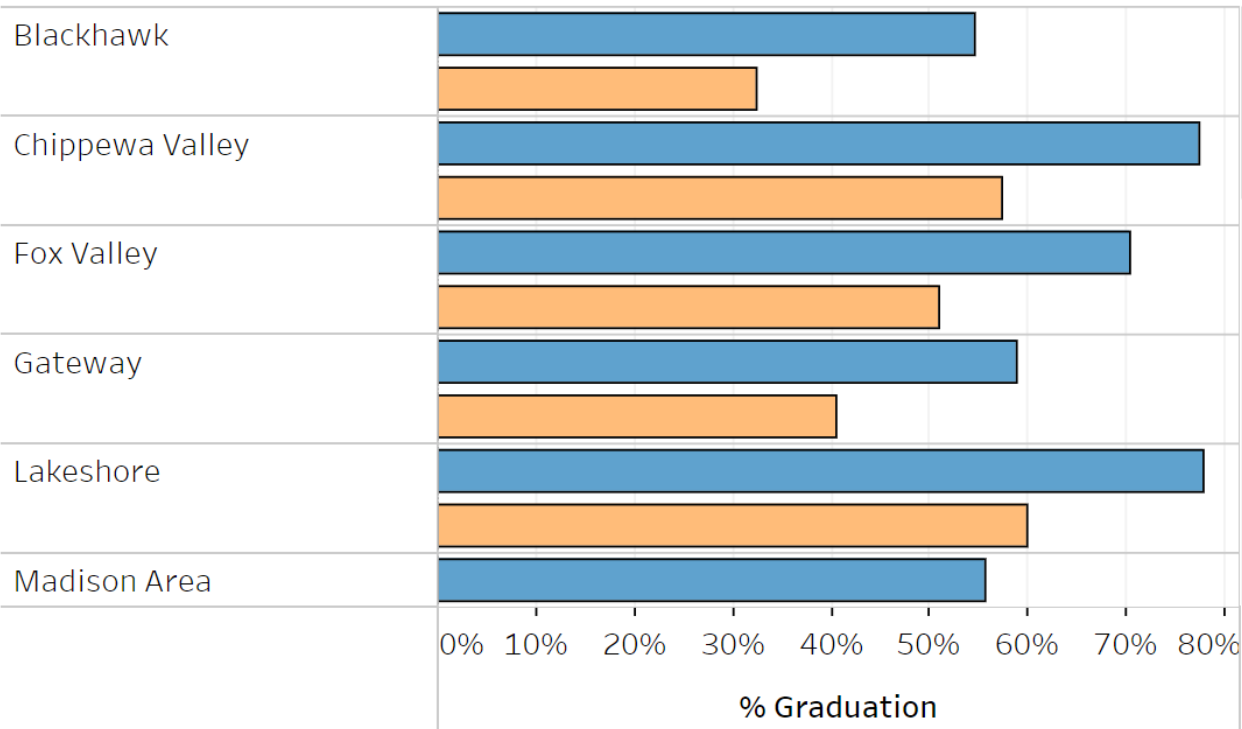


## Trends in Graduation for Students with and without CPL

Changes in graduation rate over time for students with CPL (blue) and without CPL (orange).
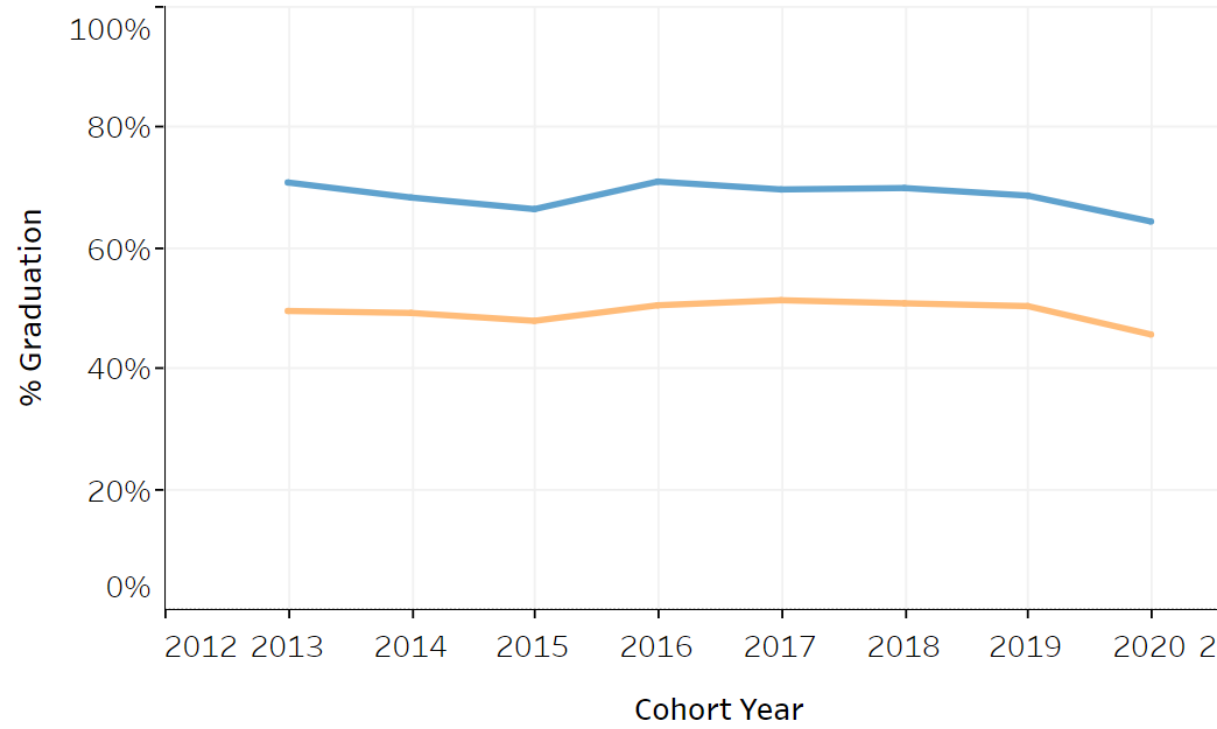
# CPL's Effect on Graduation

**Cohort Year**

(Multiple values) ▼

**Graduation Year Select...**

Graduation within 4 years ▼

**Program Aid Code**

(Multiple values) ▼

**Program**

(Multiple va

## Graduation for Students with and without CPL Across WTCS

Graduation rate for students with CPL (blue) and without CPL (orange) across WI Technical Colleges.



Bar chart showing % Graduation. Categories: Blackhawk, Chippewa Valley, Fox Valley, Gateway. Horizontal axis: 0% to 80%.
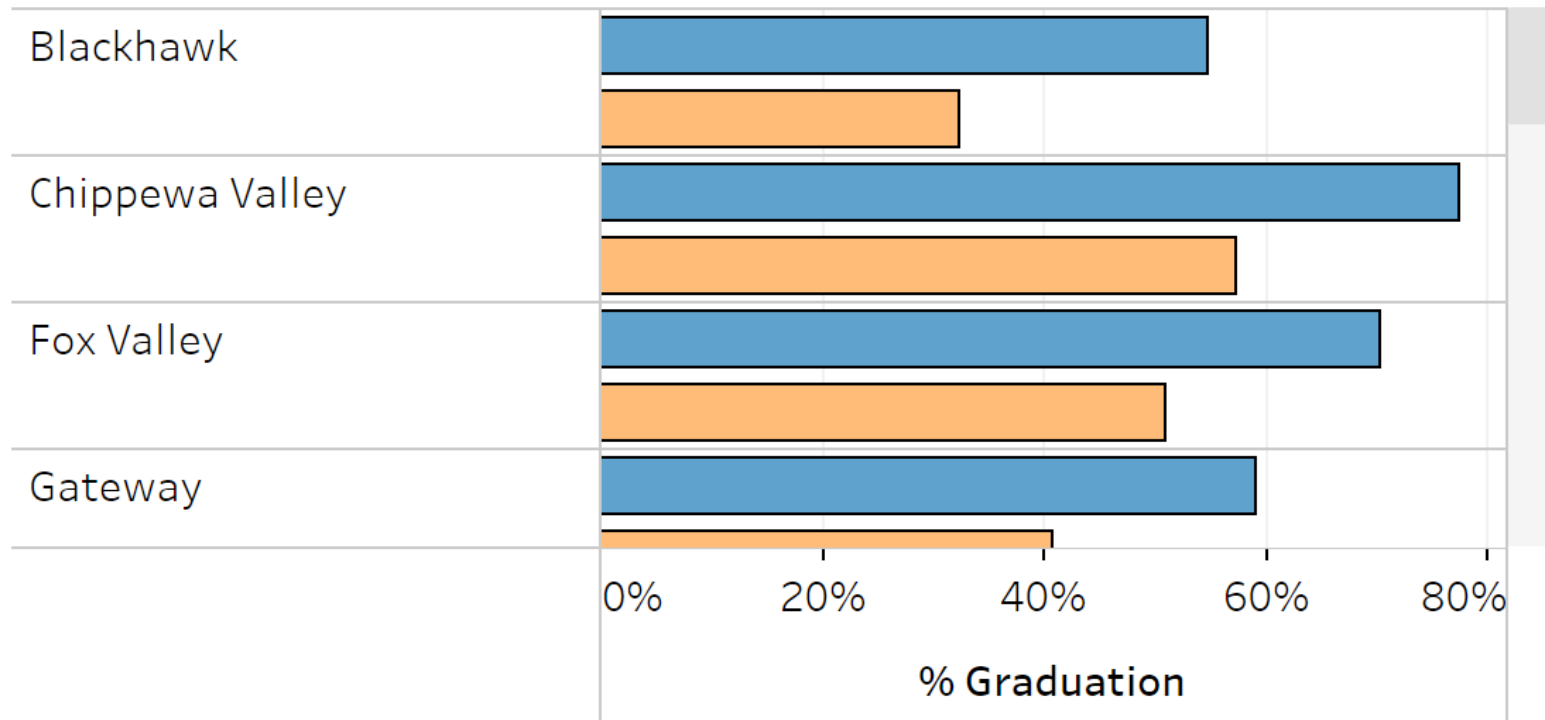
Trends in Graduation for Students with and without CPL

Changes in graduation rate over time for students with CPL (blue) and without CPL (orange).

# Trends in Graduation for Students with CPL

Graduation rates over time for students with CPL, shown for each type of CPL (see legend for details).
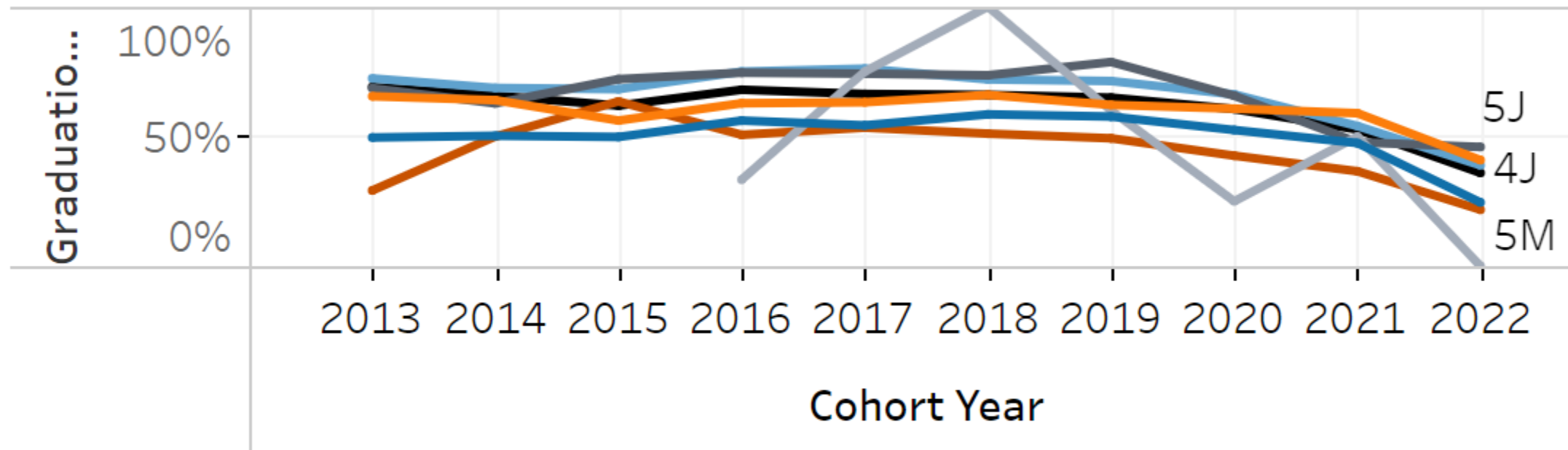


**Course Recognized Credit Code Description**

- Advanced Pl...
- Exam-Distri...
- Exam-Natio...
- Exam-Natio...
- Experiential ...
- Experiential ...

## Student Headcount by Age

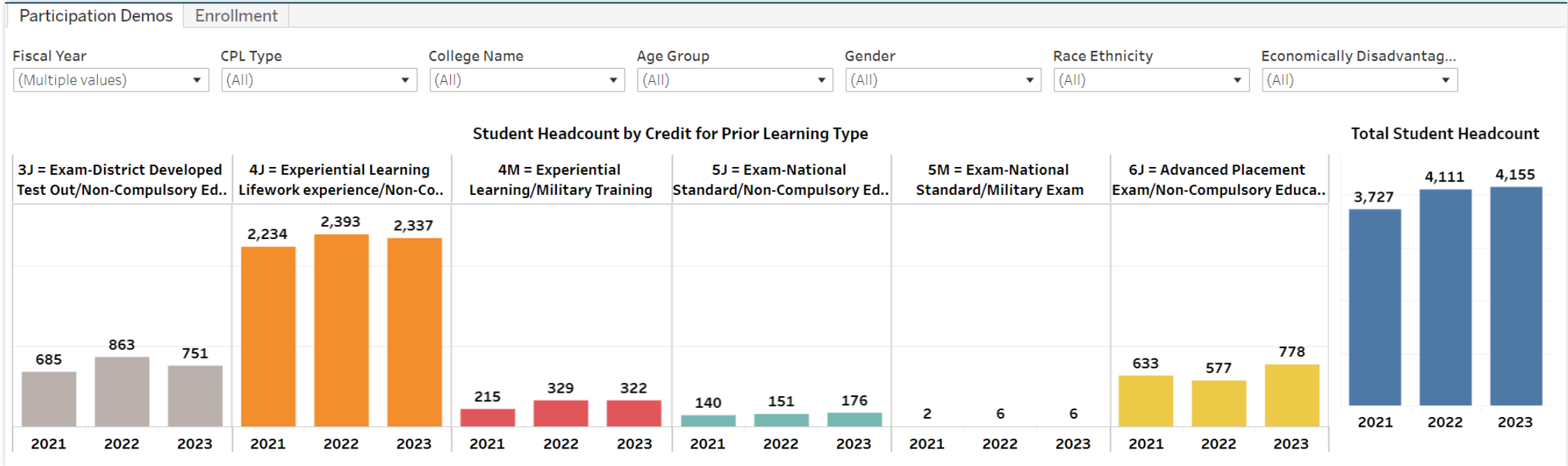| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|
| < 18 | 7.7% / 286 | 8.5% / 349 | 9.7% / 401 |
| 18-24 | 39.0% / 1,455 | 40.2% / 1,654 | 42.5% / 1,767 |
| 25-29 | 16.2% / 602 | 15.2% / 625 | 13.0% / 540 |
| 30-34 | 12.1% / 451 | 11.3% / 465 | 11.1% / 463 |
| 35-44 | 15.1% / 561 | 15.5% / 638 | 14.2% / 588 |
| 45-54 | 7.7% / 286 | 6.8% / 279 | 7.2% / 300 |
| 55-61 | 1.8% / 68 | 1.8% / 75 | 1.6% / 66 |
| 62 and Older | 0.4% / 16 | 0.6% / 23 | 0.6% / 26 |
| Unknown Age | 0.1% / 2 | 0.1% / 3 | 0.1% / 4 |

## Student Headcount by Race & Ethnicity

| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|
| American Indian/Alaskan Na.. | 0.8% / 28 | 0.6% / 25 | 0.8% / 32 |
| Asian | 3.5% / 131 | 2.8% / 115 | 2.8% / 118 |
| Black | 5.5% / 204 | 6.8% / 278 | 6.4% / 266 |
| Hispanic | 9.1% / 340 | 10.3% / 424 | 9.9% / 412 |
| Multiple | 2.5% / 93 | 2.9% / 120 | 2.8% / 116 |
| Pacific Islander | 0.1% / 3 | 0.1% / 4 | 0.1% / 4 |
| Unknown | 4.4% / 163 | 3.8% / 158 | 2.6% / 110 |
| White | 74.2% / 2,765 | 72.7% / 2,987 | 74.5% / 3,097 |

## Student Headcount by Gender

| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|
| F | 55.9% / 2,082 | 53.4% / 2,197 | 51.7% / 2,148 |
| M | 41.7% / 1,555 | 45.5% / 1,870 | 47.4% / 1,968 |
| U | 2.4% / 90 | 1.1% / 44 | 0.9% / 39 |

## Student Headcount by Economically Disadvantaged Status

| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Client Refused to Provide | 31.7% / 1,183 | 33.6% / 1,382 | 33.5% / 1,394 |
| No | 37.9% / 1,412 | 37.8% / 1,553 | 40.8% / 1,696 |
| Yes | 30.4% / 1,132 | 28.6% / 1,176 | 25.6% / 1,065 |

**Enrollment by Credit for Prior Learning Type**

| 3J = Exam-District Developed Test Out/Non-Compulsory Ed.. | 4J = Experiential Learning Lifework experience/Non-Co.. | 4M = Experiential Learning/Military Training | 5J = Exam-National Standard/Non-Compulsory Ed.. | 5M = Exam-National Standard/Military Exam | 6J = Advanced Placement Exam/Non-Compulsory Educa.. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1,006 / 1,301 / 1,137 | 5,040 / 5,039 / 5,118 | 544 / 733 / 661 | 182 / 186 / 239 | 2 / 6 / 9 | 1,104 / 980 / 1,368 |
| 2021 / 2022 / 2023 | 2021 / 2022 / 2023 | 2021 / 2022 / 2023 | 2021 / 2022 / 2023 | 2021 / 2022 / 2023 | 2021 / 2022 / 2023 |

**Total Enrollment**

| 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|
| 7,878 | 8,245 | 8,532 |

# Enrollment by Career Cluster

| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 01 - Agriculture, Food and .. | 72 | 81 | 62 |
| 02 - Architecture and Cons.. | 108 | 77 | 90 |
| 03 - Arts, AudioVisual Tec.. | 28 | 37 | 33 |
| 04 - Business Managemen.. | 451 | 488 | 351 |
| 05 - Education and Training | 20 | 109 | 246 |
| 06 - Finance | 10 | 54 | 166 |
| 08 - Health Sciences | 1,588 | 1,536 | 1,786 |
| 09 - Hospitality and Touris.. | 41 | 50 | 78 |
| 10 - Human Services | 204 | 197 | 79 |
| 11 - Information Technolo.. | 275 | 298 | 285 |
| 12 - Law, Public Safety, Co.. | 1,139 | 1,365 | 1,091 |
| 13 - Manufacturing | 474 | 103 | 224 |
| 14 - Marketing | 164 | 244 | 193 |
| 15 - Science, Technology, .. | 126 | 211 | 86 |
| 16 - Transportation, Distri.. | 147 | 133 | 258 |
| 17 - Not Otherwise Assign.. | 2,992 | 3,262 | 3,504 |
| Unknown | 39 | | |

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## Enrollment by Instructional Area

| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 543 - Nursing | 1,414 | 1,356 | 1,548 |
| 890 - General Studies | 733 | 828 | 769 |
| 809 - Social Science | 703 | 623 | 730 |
| 801 - Communication Skills | 534 | 592 | 615 |
| 531 - Emergency Medical .. | 625 | 667 | 513 |
| 804 - Mathematics | 357 | 390 | 408 |
| 807 - Physical Education | 113 | 242 | 342 |
| 504 - Criminal Justice | 323 | 433 | 337 |
| 503 - Fire Technology | | | |

## Enrollment by Course

| | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10-890-155 Gateway to Success | 441 | 468 | 494 |
| 10-809-198 INTRO TO PSYCHOLOGY | 270 | 218 | 265 |
| 30-543-300 NURSING ASSISTANT | 209 | 199 | 124 |
| 20-807-266 WELLNESS TODAY | 202 | 67 | 4 |
| 10-801-136 ENGLISH COMPOSITION 1 | 175 | 152 | 148 |
| 10-890-100 College Success: On Course | 174 | 212 | 161 |
| 10-104-128 Professionalism and Success | 165 | 206 | 116 |
| 10-114-121 Personal Money Management an.. | 146 | 8 | |
| 20-801-201 ENGLISH 1 | 141 | 121 | 135 |

# Panel Discussion

Rob Ecker, Associate Dean, Northwood Technical College

Diane Treis-Rusk, Director of Academic Programs and Student Learning Assessment, UW System

Rosland Briggs-Grossman, Director of Academic Excellence Programs, Alverno College