

A DEEP DIVE INTO DFW RATES

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Many institutions track DFW rates and hold teachers accountable for improvement. This approach implies that teachers are responsible for students not passing or withdrawing. To more fully understand the reasons why students earned D's and F's and withdrew from my 100-level online courses, information from the Registrar, emails, discussion posts, E-Hive, and course data were collected. Assumptions and wrong conclusions are easily drawn when only looking at a reductive datapoint. To help students succeed and to improve retention, we need to consider the specific reasons that keep students from passing and staying in school.

