

## Introduction

Of 3,117 students who had either an Academic Degree Plan (ADP) or Early Degree Plan (EDP) between June 2018 and October 2018, 2,188 (70%) completed at least one credit or clock hour course, in academic group (credit type) 01, 02, 03, 05, or 14, in the fall 2018 term.<sup>1</sup> Of these, 1,750 (80%) returned to complete at least one course in spring 2019. Of 22,453 (unduplicated) students with neither an ADP or EDP who completed at least one credit or clock hour course, in academic group (credit type) 01, 02, 03, 05, or 14, in the fall 2018 term, 66.3% returned to complete at least one course in spring 2019. As shown in **Table 1**, a chi-square contingency table test strongly rejected the null hypothesis of independence between Academic Plan Status (ADP, EDP, None) and Spring 2019 term retention as based upon course completion ( $\chi^2 = 170.26$ , 2df;  $p < .0001$ ). This provides evidence of statistically significant differences in fall-to-spring retention (as measured by the actual enrollment and completion of one or more courses in both terms) between students *with* a degree plan and those *without* a degree plan. Further proportion testing revealed the retention percentage differences (80% for degree plan students vs. 66% for non-degree plan students) to be statistically significant ( $p < .00001$ ) as shown in **Table 2**.

**Table 1.** Fall 2018 to Spring 2019 Retention Comparison by Academic Degree Plan Status

Academic Plan Status		Completed Course Spring 2019		
		No Course	Completed Course	Total
ADP	Observed	129	546	675
	Expected	219	456	675
	% of $\chi^2$	21.8%	10.5%	32.3%
	<b>% of row</b>	<b>19.1%</b>	<b>80.9%</b>	100.0%
	% of column	1.6%	3.3%	2.7%
EDP	Observed	309	1,204	1,513
	Expected	491	1,022	1,513
	% of $\chi^2$	39.7%	19.1%	58.9%
	<b>% of row</b>	<b>20.4%</b>	<b>79.6%</b>	100.0%
	% of column	3.9%	7.2%	6.1%
None	Observed	7,564	14,889	22,453
	Expected	7,291	15,162	22,453
	% of $\chi^2$	6.0%	2.9%	8.9%
	<b>% of row</b>	<b>33.7%</b>	<b>66.3%</b>	100.0%
	% of column	94.5%	89.5%	91.1%
Total	Observed	8,002	16,639	24,641
	% of $\chi^2$	67.5%	32.5%	100.0%
	% of row	32.5%	67.5%	100.0%
	% of total	32.5%	67.5%	100.0%

Notes: Based on 24,641 unduplicated students who completed at least one credit or clock hour course (with a grade of A, B, C, D, F, FN, or W) in academic group (credit type) 01, 02, 03, 05, or 14 in the fall 2018 academic term. Students with academic plans (ADP or EDP) as created between June 1, 2018 and October 31, 2018. Retention is based registration and completion of a course in the applicable academic term.

**Table 2.** Hypothesis for Two Independent Proportions

ADP or EDP	No Plan	$p_c$	
0.7998	0.6631	0.6753	p (as decimal)
1750/2188	14889/22453	16639/24641	p (as fraction)
1750.	14889.	16639.	X
2188	22453	24641	n
	0.1367		difference
	0.		hypothesized difference
	0.0105		std. error
	13.03		z
	0.00E+00		p-value (two-tailed)

<sup>1</sup> A corrected version of QM\_FSC\_ADP\_EDP\_STUDENTS was used to identify the unduplicated list of ADP/EDP students. Enrollments/Completions by term were obtained using DGAD queries for the applicable terms. Contact FSCJ Institutional Analytics & Research.