### Wichita State University Performance Report AY 2021

**Contact Person:**
Shirley Lefever

**Phone:** 316-978-5761

**email:** Shirley.lefever@wichita.edu

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foresight Goal</th>
<th>3 yr. History</th>
<th>Reporting AY 2020 (SU19, FA19, SP20)</th>
<th>Reporting AY 2021 (SU20, FA20, SP21)</th>
<th>Reporting AY 2022 (SU21, FA21, SP22)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Institution Result</td>
<td>Baseline Comparison</td>
<td>Institution Result</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1 Increase number of certificates and degrees awarded | 1 | 2013: 2,999  
AY 2014: 3,036  
AY 2015: 2,975  
Baseline: 3,003 | 3,222 | ↑ | 3,435 | ↑ |
| 2 Increase the percent of STEM degrees conferred | 2 | 2013: 991/2,999 = 33.0%  
AY 2014: 1,057/3,036 = 34.8%  
AY 2015: 1,144/2,975 = 38.5%  
Baseline: 3,192/9,010 = 35.4% | 1,114/3,222 = 34.6% | ↓ | 1,129/3,435 = 32.9% | ↓ |
| 3 Maintain National Science Foundation ranking in aeronautical engineering research and development expenditures from industry | 3 | 2013: $25,306,000 ranking: 1  
AY 2014: $28,797,000 ranking: 1  
AY 2015: $29,146,000 ranking: 1  
Baseline: $27,750,000 ranking: 1 | $74,551,000 Ranking: 1 | ↑ | $74,329,000 Ranking: 1 | ↑ |
| 4 Increase the number of undergraduate certificates and degrees awarded to underrepresented minorities | 1 | 2013: 269  
AY 2014: 301  
AY 2015: 302  
Baseline: 291 | 425 | ↑ | 475 | ↑ |
| 5 Increase the first to second year retention rate of first-time, full-time freshmen | 1 | Fall 2012 Cohort: 954/1,280 = 74.5%  
Fall 2013 Cohort: 909/1,218 = 74.6%  
Fall 2014 Cohort: 996/1,384 = 72.0%  
Baseline: 2,859/3,882 = 73.6% | 1,213/1,602 = 75.7% | ↑ | 1,075/1,496 = 71.9% | ↓ |
| 6 Increase the number of undergraduate certificates and degrees awarded to first-generation students | 1 | 2016: 825  
AY 2017: 860  
AY 2018: 890  
Baseline: 858 | 987 | ↑ | 1,091 | ↑ |
Indicator 1: Increase number of certificates and degrees awarded

*Description:* Wichita State uses a campus-wide, multi-pronged, collaborative approach (includes a student success course [first-year seminar], intrusive advising tools, supplemental instruction, tutoring services, and an early alert system [SEAS – Student Early Alert System]) aimed at increasing retention and graduation rates and increasing the number of degrees awarded. This work is overseen and monitored by the Office of Student Success, which includes a student success coach assigned to each college. Results will be based on the number of certificates and degrees awarded by academic year (summer, fall, and spring) as reported in the Kansas Postsecondary Database.

*Result:* MET - The number of certificates and degrees totaled 432 above the baseline. This increase is the result of continued retention efforts across the entire campus community. The campus Strategic Enrollment Management Committee continues to focus on retention strategies and support to encourage completion.

Indicator 2: Increase the percent of STEM degrees conferred

*Description:* Several initiatives are underway to increase the number of STEM discipline graduates. WSU is the recipient of funding from the State University Engineering Act to increase engineering graduates 60 percent by 2021. This funding has allowed the College of Engineering to hire additional faculty and support staff to allow increases in enrollment. Once students matriculate into engineering programs, the Engineering Student Success Center (ESSC) supports students towards their completion of an undergraduate degree. The Fairmount College Science and Math Education Center oversees and operates initiatives to encourage enrollment in the natural sciences. This measure will be based on the number of STEM degrees awarded (by academic year: summer, fall, and spring) in STEM disciplines and reported as a percent of all undergraduate degrees awarded as reported in the Kansas Postsecondary Database.

*Result:* NOT-MET - STEM degrees were just under one-third of all earned degrees and 2.5% below the baseline. The number of STEM degrees awarded and the total number of UG degrees are higher than at baseline, having increased in both AY 2020 and AY 2021, but the proportion of STEM degrees has declined slightly due to non-STEM degrees increasing at a higher rate. All academic programs continue to foster integration into both the academic and social aspects of the college experience. Efforts to increase applied learning and research experiences have been implemented. Tutoring and academic support services continue and, in some cases, have been enhanced. The new focus on digital transformation and the accompanying academic programs should increase the proportion of STEM degrees awarded.

Indicator 3: Maintain National Science Foundation ranking in aeronautical engineering research and development expenditures from industry

*Description:* Enhancing industry-based research is one of the focuses of WSU’s strategic plan. According to the National Science Foundation (NSF), WSU again ranked No. 4 in the nation with $105 million, a $48 million increase from 2018, including both industry and federally funded programs. Additionally, Wichita State has held its position as the top university in the country for industry-funded aeronautical Research & Development (R&D) with a total of $74 million (according to NSF’s National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics). Our current and planned research initiatives focused in this area (industry supported research in engineering and the National Institute for Aviation Research – NIAR) are aimed at increasing industry-related research capacity and to maintain a top 10 ranking. For this indicator data reported will be the latest ranking and available academic year of industry R&D expenditures in aeronautical engineering research from industry.

*Result:* MET - The latest data available indicate retention of WSU’s first-place ranking. WSU expended $74,329,000 in research and development this year, $46,579,000 more than the baseline. Access to the new crash dynamics lab has yielded new research opportunities for the National Institute for Aviation Research. The Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School continues to work on enhancing faculty research productivity using new supports and expectations.

Indicator 4: Increase the number of undergraduate certificates and degrees awarded to under-represented minorities (URMs)

*Description:* WSU is the most diverse public university in the state. Our goals are to recruit and retain a student body that is reflective of the community we serve, and work towards a higher degree completion rate among underrepresented minority (URM) graduates. To that end, WSU will: 1) Provide special outreach to
groups where under-represented minorities are represented such as AVID, TRIO, GEAR UP, 2) Host recruitment events, group visits and attending cultural, community and college fairs designated for under-represented minority groups, 3) Offer bilingual services and oversight recruitment of ethnic minorities, with an emphasis on under-represented minorities, 4) Deploy Admissions Office recruitment representatives to schools in highly diverse Kansas communities, 5) Provide academic, cultural, social and outreach services to cultivate and sustain an inclusive campus that strives for academic success, and 6) Provide scholarships, including full-ride, 4 year scholarships to those who achieve national Hispanic Recognition Scholar and a recruitment and retention scholarship program for incoming freshmen who are mostly ethnic minorities and/or first generation students. Data collected for this purpose will include the number of undergraduate under-represented minority students (African American, Hispanic, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander) receiving certificates and undergraduate degrees by academic year.

**Result:** MET - WSU awarded 184 more certificates and degrees to URM students over the baseline of 291. Recruitment along the I-35 corridor continues to result in growth in the diversity of the student body. Outreach programs such as TRIO/ GEAR UP, Passage 2 Success, Passage Scholars, the Fuse, and a new partnership with Wichita Public Schools that supports high achieving Black and Hispanic male students continue to encourage students to attend and be successful in college. Continued refinement of high impact practices, including applied learning efforts that are paid opportunities to earn-while-you-learn, and scholarships that focus on need are helping improve college access and affordability.

**Indicator 5: Increase the First to Second Year Retention Rate of First-Time/Full-Time Freshmen**

**Description:** Wichita State University has a strategic enrollment management plan and campus-wide multi-pronged collaborative initiative (includes a student success course [first-year seminar], intrusive advising tools, supplemental instruction, tutoring services, and an early alert system [SEAS – Student Early Alert System]) aimed at supporting retention and graduation rates. Data collection will be based on Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) definition of first-time/full-time freshmen where an undergraduate new student (> 12 hours) persists to the following fall semester and reported as a percent of the cohort of all IPEDS-based first-time/full-time freshmen. For AY 2020 the 2019 cohort will be measured and for AY 2021 the 2020 cohort.

**Result:** NOT-MET - WSU’s first to second year retention rate for this reporting cycle is 1.7% below the baseline of 73.6%. The number of students retained and the total number of students reflect growth over baseline, but this cycle, compared to the last cycle, reflects the lower number of First-Time/Full Time freshman during the Covid year of enrollment. Success coaches in each of the academic colleges provide individualized support to students and academic advisors use data-driven software to intervene with at-risk students. WSU continues to focus on improvements in connecting students to academic support, campus connections, mental health and psycho-social supports, and financial resources. Academic and student life leaders continue to plan and implement programs that provide wholistic approaches to retention and success of students. These initiatives saw much success in the last reporting cycle and we expect to see retention rates increase again in the coming year.

**Indicator 6: Increase number of certificates and degrees awarded to First-Generation students**

**Description:** Wichita State University continues to experience an increase in the enrolled number of first-generation college students. The most recent data shows a difference in completion rates for first-generation population (38.9%) and continuing generation students (46.6%). Over the last year WSU has increased efforts to serve this student population in an effort to increase the graduation rates. A First Generation Coordinating Council was created to inform our work and the (FGCC) was integrated into the university’s Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) plan. The committee has already made recommendations to scale much needed and used services, increased awareness of the population with faculty and staff, and made policy recommendations to support retention and completion. Data collected for this purpose will include the number of first-generation students (as identified by students at the time of application, that their parents or legal guardians have not been awarded a post-secondary degree) receiving certificates and undergraduate degrees by academic year.

**Result:** MET - WSU awarded 233 more certificates/degrees to first-generation students over the baseline of 858. This number continues to grow because of recruitment efforts to engage this population and university service expansion to support retention and graduation. Several offices and functional areas are involved in efforts to proactively meet the needs of first generation students and strengthen support services for first generation students. The newly formed First Generation Coordinating Council provides coordination of campus-wide efforts.