

Math 205 Success Rates by Math 402 Success (Spring 09)

Table 1: Math 205 Success Rates by Math 402 Success

Success402			Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
0	Valid	0	102	12.4	79.7	79.7
		1	26	3.2	20.3	100.0
	Total		128	15.6	100.0	
	Missing	System	692	84.4		
		Total		820	100.0	
1	Valid	0	218	26.0	51.3	51.3
		1	207	24.7	48.7	100.0
		Total		425	50.7	100.0
	Missing	System	414	49.3		
		Total		839	100.0	

Findings

This analysis has several flaws which may affect the results. Firstly, only Fall 00 and Fall 07 402 level students were selected for this sample. For ease of examination, students prior to these terms were not included. Also, some students, although the number is likely very small, might have taken the Math 402 level again and then passed the course and then took Math 205 class, thus being included in the study.

Of the total Fall 00-Fall 07 Math 402 sample ($n=1,652$), 820 (50.6%) passed. Of the sample, 553 (33.47%) subsequently took a 205 course. As the Table 1 above shows, of those who did not pass the Math 402 course, 79.7% did not pass Math 205. Of those who did pass Math 402 and took the corresponding Math 205 in the targeted terms, 48.7% passed the class. The overall success rate for these Math 205 courses is 46.8%. It appears there is a slight increased likelihood of success for those who successful complete Math 402.

As Table 2 below suggests, however, the grade a student achieves in Math 402 is predictive of future success in Math 205. To illustrate, the success rate for Math 205 drops from 73% to 56% for students who achieve an A-s to B+s respectively. And further, for students who receive B-s to Cs, the rate drops from 57% to 81%.

It appears evens student who pass with less than an A- may not be well prepared, obviously for many potential reasons, to pass the subsequent 205 course.

Table 2: Math 402 grade by Math 205 Success rates

		Success205		Total
		Non	Success	
Grade402	Count	2162	1946	4108
	% within Grade402	52.6%	47.4%	100.0%
A	Count	32	88	120
	% within Grade402	26.7%	73.3%	100.0%
A-	Count	12	30	42
	% within Grade402	28.6%	71.4%	100.0%
B	Count	50	40	90
	% within Grade402	55.6%	44.4%	100.0%
B-	Count	15	11	26
	% within Grade402	57.7%	42.3%	100.0%
B+	Count	13	10	23
	% within Grade402	56.5%	43.5%	100.0%
C	Count	72	17	89
	% within Grade402	80.9%	19.1%	100.0%
C+	Count	24	11	35
	% within Grade402	68.6%	31.4%	100.0%
D	Count	32	5	37
	% within Grade402	86.5%	13.5%	100.0%
F	Count	35	8	43
	% within Grade402	81.4%	18.6%	100.0%
IF	Count	1	0	1
	% within Grade402	100.0%	.0%	100.0%
RD	Count	0	1	1
	% within Grade402	.0%	100.0%	100.0%
W	Count	34	13	47
	% within Grade402	72.3%	27.7%	100.0%
Total	Count	2482	2180	4662
	% within Grade402	53.2%	46.8%	100.0%