MATH50 Success Rates Investigation

Purpose: This study looks at those students who enrolled in MATH50 from Fall 2005 to Fall 2006 for the first time and completed the course with a valid grade (A, B, C, D, F, CR, NC, I, W). Based on how these students met the prerequisite requirements to be eligible for this course, this study compares the success rates in MATH50 between two groups of students: those who met the requirement through a placement test score only and those who completed LERN49 to move on to MATH50 only. Some students who have both qualifications, or were placed into a higher course but decided to take a lower level one, or petitioned through multiple measures were excluded.

MATH50 Completer Count	First Time MATH50 Students				
Group Identifier	Fall 2005	Spring 2006	Summer 2006	Fall 2006	Total
Passed LERN49	**347**	**413**	**157**	**332**	**1249**
By TEST SCORE PLACEMENT	**709**	**476**	**176**	**711**	**2072**
OTHER	85	64	29	48	226
Total First Time Completers	1141	953	362	1091	3547
Total Course Completers	1444	1230	475	1364	4513

Summer 2006 MATH50 success rates are higher than other terms and are much closer between the "Via LERN49" and the "Via Placement Test" groups. The overall success rate of the Via Placement Test group is higher than the Via LERN49 group (65.4% vs. 56.0%).

MATH50 Success Rates	Via LERN49			Via Placement Test			Total		
TERM	Completed	Passed	Success Rate	Completed	Passed	Success Rate	Completed	Passed	Success Rate
Fall 2005	347	178	51.3%	709	464	65.4%	1056	642	60.8%
Spring 2006	413	197	47.7%	476	287	60.3%	889	484	54.4%
Summer 2006	157	128	81.5%	176	145	82.4%	333	273	82.0%
Fall 2006	332	196	59.0%	711	459	64.6%	1043	655	62.8%
Grand Total	1249	699	56.0%	2072	1355	65.4%	3321	2054	61.8%

			SUCCESS		Total
Prerequisite Identifier VS. Success Crosstabulation			Not Passed	Passed	
Prerequisite Identifier	Via LERN49	Count	550	699	1249
		% within All Flags	44.0%	56.0%	100.0%
	Via Placement Test	Count	717	1355	2072
		% within All Flags	34.6%	65.4%	100.0%
Total		Count	1267	2054	3321
		% within All Flags	38.2%	61.8%	100.0%

A Chi-Square test shows the success difference between these two groups is significant (X = 29.374, p < .001).