

Degrees per Enrollment and Degrees per Instructional Spending at New Mexico Highlands University

A report prepared by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research, May 2015

In an attempt to better capture the productivity of the nation's higher education system several organizations are using a relatively new measure, degrees per enrollment. This measure reflects the number of undergraduate degrees awarded in a given year for every 100 undergraduate students enrolled that same year. Degrees per enrollment measures the productivity of the institution as a whole, as opposed to graduation rates, which measure just the success of a specific cohort of students. A related measure, degrees per \$10,000 in instructional expenditures, is an attempt to capture the institution's fiscal efficiency in degree production.

These measures indicate that Highlands has maintained a high level of productivity, both when compared to our peer institutions (a group of 11 institutions selected based upon their similarity to NMHU on a number of variables) and to the average of New Mexico's seven universities.

| Measure | Institution | 2009-2010 | 2010-2011 | 2011-2012 | 2012-2013 |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Total Degrees and Certificates per 100 Student FTE | Highlands | 25.0 | 23.6 | 25.7 | 28.3 |
| | Peer Average | 20.4 | 22.9 | 22.7 | 23.2 |
| | NM 4-yr Institution Avg. | 19.4 | 19.8 | 20.9 | 21.6 |
| Bachelor Degrees per 100 UG Student FTE | Highlands | 19.2 | 19.0 | 19.2 | 22.3 |
| | Peer Average | 15.6 | 16.5 | 16.9 | 17.7 |
| | NM 4-yr Institution Avg. | 14.4 | 14.4 | 14.6 | 15.6 |
| Graduate Degrees per 100 GR Student FTE | Highlands | 35.2 | 31.6 | 37.3 | 39.7 |
| | Peer Average | 33.9 | 38.9 | 34.6 | 35.3 |
| | NM 4-yr Institution Avg. | 32.1 | 31.8 | 36.2 | 37.7 |
| Total Degrees and Certificates per \$10,000 in Instructional Expenditures | Highlands | 0.35 | 0.34 | 0.37 | 0.42 |
| | Peer Average | 0.34 | 0.35 | 0.34 | 0.32 |
| | NM 4-yr Institution Avg. | 0.25 | 0.26 | 0.27 | 0.27 |