

**New Mexico Highlands University**  
**Four-year graduation rates for ARMAS students**  
**Fall 2013 and fall 2014 cohorts**  
**Report date: January 4, 2019**

Background

This report provides a summary of academic outcomes (four-year graduation rate and cumulative GPA) for students using the ARMAS Center. Students were coded as ARMAS users based on tracking data at the ARMAS Center. Each student visit is coded in the tracking system. All visits coded during each of the following fall terms were included in this analysis: fall 2013 and fall 2014. A total of 15,565 visits were coded in the tracking system for these time periods.

However, the tracking system records student names but not student IDs. Therefore it was not possible to match all students from the tracking system to Banner records. There were 735 unique names among the 15,565 visits. Some of these names were ambiguous (i.e. more than one student had that name in the designated term), and some could not be matched to a Banner records. For this analysis, it was possible to match 645 students for an 87.8% match rate. These 645 students formed the basis for this analysis.

The tracking system identifies the reason for a student's visit to ARMAS, as well as the date and duration of the visit. It is therefore possible to perform fairly detailed analyses of student behavior with respect to ARMAS usage.

For purposes of this analysis, students who did not use ARMAS were used as controls, matched on the basis of student type (e.g. new students or transfer students).

This is a preliminary analysis which may lead to more detailed analyses as further questions emerge.

Summary of key findings

- For new freshmen, ARMAS users had a higher 4-year graduation rate and higher cumulative GPA. However, they also had a higher high school GPA, suggesting that they may have been academically stronger to begin with. The differences were especially pronounced for STEM students.
- For transfer students, ARMAS users had lower 4-year graduation rates and lower cumulative GPA. However, a different pattern was seen for STEM transfer students; ARMAS users had a higher 4-year graduation rate, although they still had a lower cumulative GPA.
- For continuing sophomores who matriculated as new freshmen, ARMAS users had a higher 4-year graduation rate. For sophomores, there were no significant differences in cumulative GPA or in high school GPA between ARMAS users and non-users.

Table 1: Outcomes for ARMAS vs non-ARMAS students

Outcomes for ARMAS vs non-ARMAS students				
Fall 2013 and fall 2014 cohorts				
	Count	% grad 4yr	CGPA	HS GPA
New freshmen				
ARMAS	162	19.8%	2.61	3.15
Non-ARMAS	462	13.4%	2.29	3.01
Transfer students				
ARMAS	74	39.2%	2.74	
Non-ARMAS	675	54.5%	3.06	
Sophomores				
ARMAS	112	53.6%	2.96	3.09
Non-ARMAS	202	45.5%	2.92	3.05

Table 2: Outcomes for ARMAS vs non-ARMAS users for students with a STEM major only

Outcomes for ARMAS vs non-ARMAS students (STEM only)				
Fall 2013 and fall 2014 cohorts				
	Count	% grad 4yr	CGPA	HS GPA
New freshmen				
ARMAS	55	21.8%	2.67	3.16
Non-ARMAS	79	7.6%	2.11	2.95
Transfer students				
ARMAS	26	53.8%	2.71	
Non-ARMAS	24	37.5%	2.87	
Sophomores				
ARMAS	50	54.0%	2.96	3.17
Non-ARMAS	36	36.1%	2.71	2.94

Notes:

- “New freshmen” refers to first-time, full-time, degree-seeking students
- “Transfer students” includes all incoming transfer students
- “Sophomores” refers to students with an stype of “Continuing”, a class code of “Sophomore”, and a matriculation stype of new freshmen
- “% grad 4yr” refers to the percentage of students who graduated within 4 years of matriculation
- “CGPA” refers to the students cumulative GPA at Highlands University
- “HS GPA” refers to the students’ high school GPA