
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PLANNING AND POLICY
MEMORANDUM

November 9, 2001

TO: UHM Deans and Directors

FROM: Colleen O. Sathre
Vice President for Planning and Policy

SUBJECT: AVERAGE TIME TO DEGREE AT UHM

There are two ways to analyze degree completion: (1) average years to graduate (typically referred to as graduation rates), and (2) time to degree. For a number of years, we have been preparing graduation rate reports for UHM. We would now like to share with you an analysis of: "average time to degree" by UHM college/school and program.

DEFINITIONS

"Average years to graduate" (graduation rate) is the average number of years within a designated period of time (usually a 6-year period) it takes an entering cohort to graduate. UHM graduation rates for 4-, 5-, and 6-year periods, and as compared with peer and benchmark institutions, are available on-line at: <http://www.hawaii.edu/iro/>.

"Time to degree" is the average years it takes a graduating class to receive their degree(s). This analysis tracks graduates backward from the time of graduation to the time of their first enrollment at the campus, calculates individual time to degree for each graduate, and computes the average time to degree. The population under analysis is the graduating class (in this case, Spring 2001 baccalaureate degree recipients.)

THE STUDY

The Institutional Research Office (IRO) has analyzed the UHM Spring 2001 graduating class to find time to degree for each undergraduate recipient. Students earning multiple degrees were included multiple times in the analysis, once for each degree earned. This analysis included first-time students and transfers. Note that including transfer students affects a college's average. If a college had many transfer students, this would tend to shorten the average time to degree, while colleges with fewer transfer students and more first-timers may have a longer time to degree average.

FINDINGS

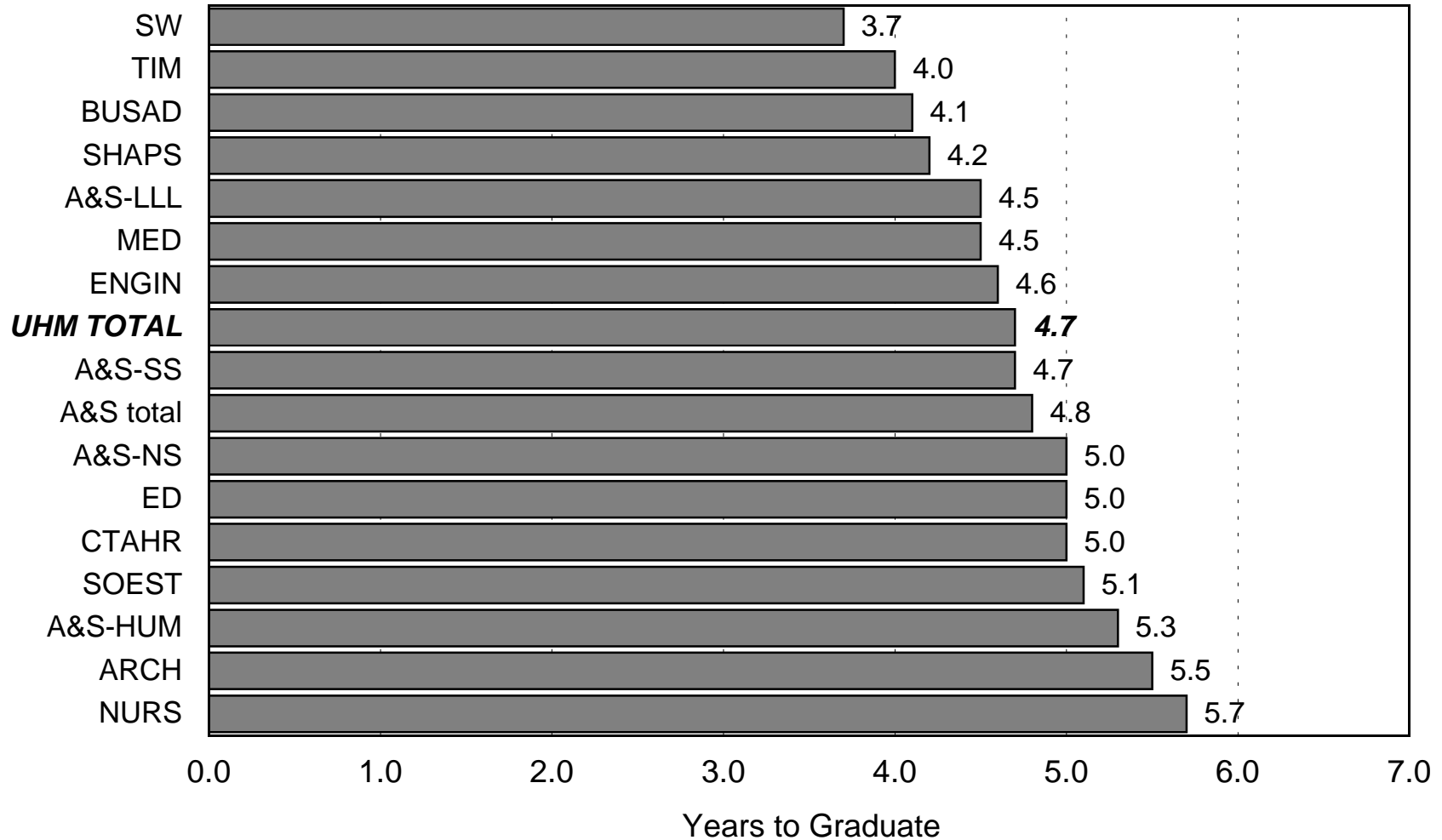
The average time to degree for undergraduate degree recipients in Spring 2001 was 4.7 years. The averages ranged from 3.7 years for the School of Social Work, to 5.7 years for the School of Nursing. Students in four colleges graduated, on average, within the traditional 4-year time period (i.e., average time to degree of less than 4.5 years): the School of Social Work (3.7 years), the School of Travel Industry Management (4.0 years), the College of Business Administration (4.1 years), and the School of Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Studies (4.2 years). See the enclosed graph and table for detailed college/school and program information.

I wish to thank Director Sharyn Nakamoto and the IRO staff for taking on this project despite being short staffed. As always, comments and suggestions are welcome and can be forwarded to me or directly to Sharyn at sharynn@hawaii.edu.

Enclosures

c: President Dobelle Deane Neubauer Sharyn Nakamoto Karl Kim Denise Konan Joanne Clark OVPPP managers

Average Time to Undergraduate Degree, by College
University of Hawai'i at Manoa
Spring 2001



**Average Time to Degree
Undergraduate Degrees, by Program
University of Hawai'i at Manoa
Spring 2001**

Major	Avg Time to Degree (years)	Number
Total	4.7	1060
A&S	4.8	478
A&S-HUM	5.3	70
AMST	4.8	4
ART	3.4	7
ARTF	6.5	15
DANCE	4.0	2
DANTH	12.0	1
HIST	4.2	15
MUS	7.6	4
MUSF	6.0	1
PHIL	4.8	3
REL	4.7	3
SPCH	5.4	10
THEA	5.0	5
A&S-LLL	4.5	70
CHNSE	4.6	5
ENG	4.6	35
FR	4.0	3
HAW	3.9	4
JPNSE	4.7	18
KOR	5.0	1
SPAN	3.4	4
A&S-NAT	5.0	93
BIOL	5.0	26
BIOLS	5.0	8
CHEM	5.0	2
CHEMS	4.0	2
CS	5.4	27
ICS	6.5	4
MATH	3.4	4
MATHS	4.0	5
MICRO	4.0	4
MICRS	5.0	1
PHYSS	4.8	2
ZOOL	4.6	7
ZOOLS	4.0	1
A&S-SOC	4.7	206
ANTH	4.1	7
COMUN	4.3	31
ECON	5.3	16
ES	4.4	7
GEOG	5.6	9
JOURN	5.8	20
POLSC	5.6	28
PSY	4.2	50

Major	Avg Time to Degree (years)	Number
SOC	4.3	38
A&S-OTH	4.4	39
SHAPS	4.2	14
ASIAN	3.3	5
HAWST	4.7	9
SOEST	5.1	7
GG	3.8	3
MET	6.0	4
ARCH	5.5	15
BUSAD	4.1	181
ACCT	3.9	37
FIN	3.8	40
HRM	3.8	6
IBUS	4.3	5
MGT	5.4	8
MIS	4.5	45
MKT	4.0	38
RE	4.0	2
STIM	4.0	29
ED	5.0	136
ELDAN	5.0	1
ELECH	4.8	6
ELEM	5.7	6
ELFMR	7.3	8
ELHAS	5.1	10
ELHFL	4.5	2
ELHIS	9.5	1
ELLAN	7.0	1
ELMAT	5.0	1
ELMUS	5.0	1
ELPSY	5.0	2
ELSCI	4.3	10
ELSPE	4.9	44
HLTH	4.6	7
REC4	3.5	2
SEBIO	5.0	1
SEENG	4.1	8
SEGSC	3.7	3
SEHAS	6.0	1
SEHAW	4.5	2
SEINA	6.0	3
SEMKT	6.0	1
SEMUS	5.3	4
SEPE	4.6	8
SEPHY	11.0	1
SEVHE	5.5	2

Major	Avg Time to Degree (years)	Number
ENG	4.6	37
CE	4.7	8
EE	4.3	15
ME	4.9	14
AG	5.0	77
AG	3.5	1
ANSC	4.3	2
BIOSY	4.0	1
FAMR	5.0	38
FDM	4.3	14
FSHN	5.7	20
HORTR	4.0	1
MEDI	4.5	14
MEDT	4.3	3
SPA	4.6	11
NURS	5.7	59
NURSP	2.0	1
NURSU	5.7	36
SW	3.7	13

Institutional Research Office, University of Hawai'i, November 2001