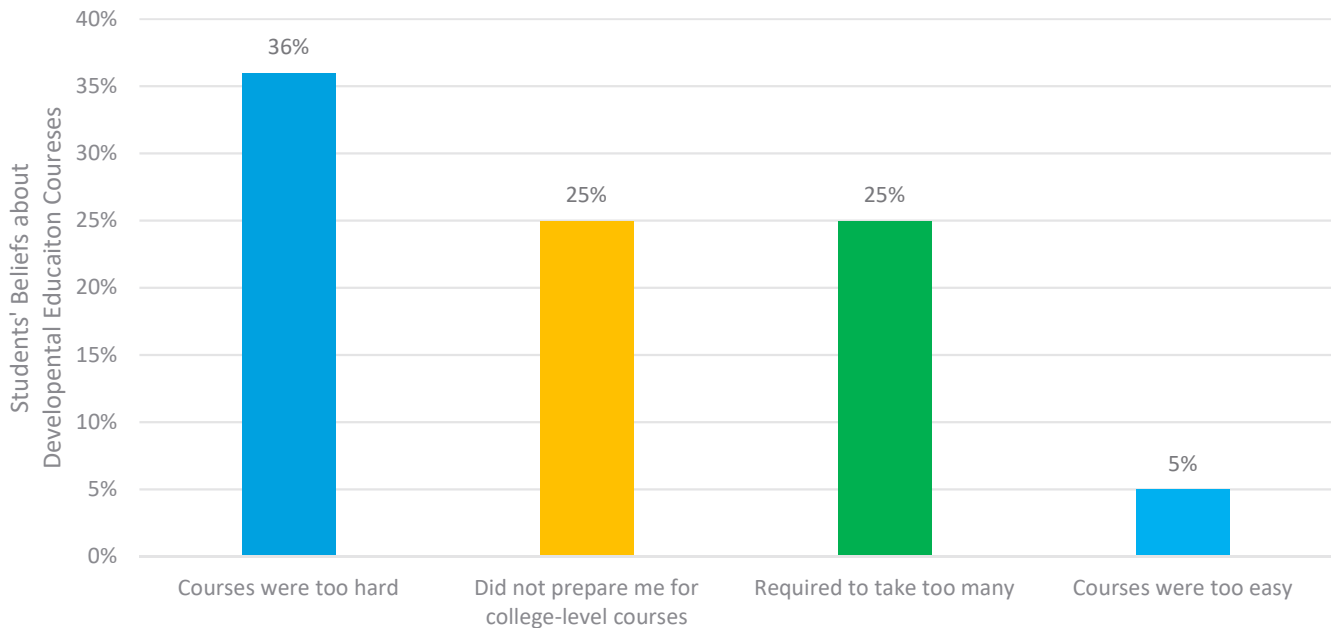


The Challenges of Developmental Education

From the Community College Student's Perspective



Source: Porter, Stephen R. and Umbach, Paul D. (2019). *What challenges to success do community college students face?* Raleigh, NC: Percontor, LLC.

Note: Graph adapted from Table 3.2 from page 9 in the report.

Understanding the experiences of students who attend community college is key to supporting their success. A report from the Revealing Institutional Strengths and Challenges (RISC) Survey completed at ten community colleges presents data on the experiences that learners (n= 50,097) have at these institutions. The survey addressed several areas that students identified as course-related obstacles to success including faculty, health and disability, doing college-level work, registering for courses, and developmental courses.

The graph above features the results from students who identified developmental courses as an obstacle. Of the 1,033 students surveyed, 25% stated that these classes did not prepare them for college-level courses. These outcomes highlight the need to go beyond providing developmental education for students who are not deemed "college-ready". This Points of Interest highlights one of the difficulties students face when they are placed into developmental education: lack of preparation for college-level coursework.

For more information, contact the author of the study or Maxine T. Roberts at mroberts@strongstart.org.

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