



THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

# **Stopout and Time for Work**

## **An Analysis of Degree Trajectories for Community College Students**

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# Outline

Motivation

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# Motivation

- Wages while enrolled (Austin, 1994; Canabal, 1998; Hames & Haller, 1983)
- Modeling attainment and time (DesJardins, Ahlburg, & McCall, 2006)
- Previous work in the CC sector (Jepson et al., 2010)

## **Research Question**

What are the factors that, over time, contribute to bachelor degree attainment for community college students who intend to complete a four-year degree, with a particular focus on wages earned while concurrently enrolled?

# Context

Over 50% of first-time undergraduates are enrolled in a community college

Only 14% of students beginning at a CC in Texas obtain a bachelor's degree within 6 years

Texas is 2<sup>nd</sup> in terms of CC enrollment

50 CC districts (735,000 students)

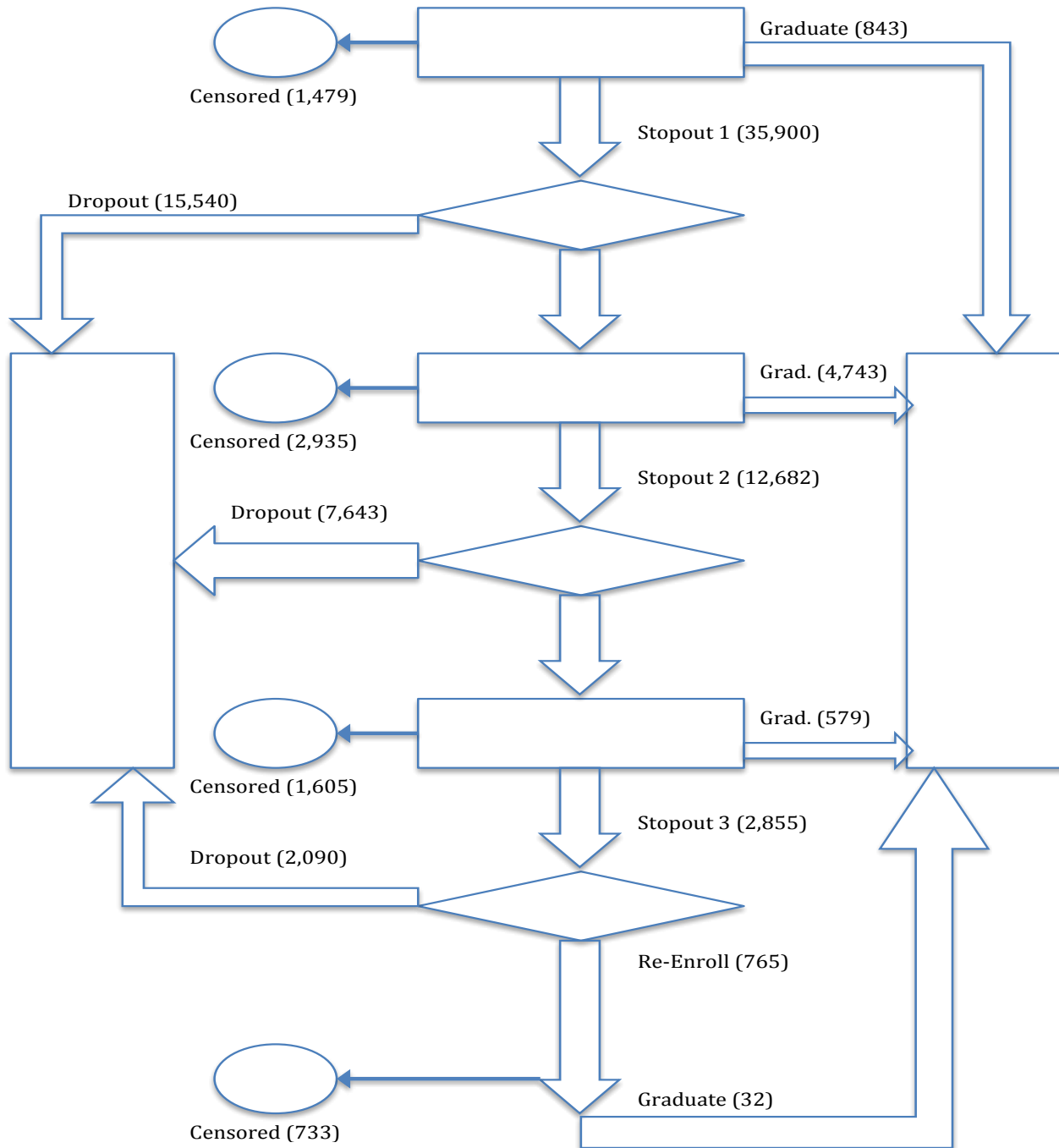
25% Hispanic; 10% Black; 2.5% Asian

# Data

## Texas Schools Micro Panel dataset Cohort of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in 2000

Data include information about race, sex, LEP status, economic disadvantage, high school curriculum, statewide exam scores, high school context (pupil to teacher ratio, enrollment, percent minority, urbanicity), distance to postsecondary education, postsecondary enrollment, postsecondary context, tenure, and individual wage data





# **Empirical Approach**

Event History Analysis

Discrete Time

Competing Risks

Multiple Spells



# Findings

Differences across racial groups

Importance of pre-college factors

Importance of transfer

Higher wages inhibit overall student success

Influence of prior enrollment behavior

# Discussion

# Questions?

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