Post-Secondary Outcomes Among Texas Students in Project Lead The Way Courses

Study Details

Do PLTW Biomedical Science and PLTW Engineering students in Texas experience more positive post-secondary outcomes compared to students taking similar, non-PLTW courses?

To create comparable groups for this study, PLTW and non-PLTW students were matched based on key characteristics such as gender, state test scores, and grade level.

PLTW Students

- Completed at least one PLTW Biomedical Science or PLTW Engineering course
- Did not complete any similar non-PLTW courses

Non-PLTW Students

- Completed at least one non-PLTW biomedical science or engineering course
- Did not complete any similar PLTW courses

PLTW Biomedical Science Students

Compared to similar students who completed non-PLTW biomedical science courses, **PLTW students who completed at least one PLTW Biomedical Science course were:**

49% more likely to enroll in college

32% more likely to major in STEM in college

32% more likely to graduate with a bachelors degree

PLTW Engineering Students

Compared to similar students who completed non-PLTW engineering courses, **PLTW students who completed at least one PLTW Engineering course were:**

16% more likely to enroll in college

14% more likely to major in STEM in college

8% more likely to graduate with a bachelors degree

This study was conducted by Dr. James P. Van Overschelde (Texas State University) and Dr. Sarah Guthery (University of Oklahoma) at the Texas State University Research for EDucator Equity and Excellence (REDEE) Center. The study used student-level data from the 2011-12 to 2021-22 academic years.

Questions or comments? Contact the PLTW Research Team at research@pltw.org
View the AERA presentation here.

Formal publications by the authors are in progress.