



PANDEMIC RECOVERY OFFICE

Rhode Island College Cybersecurity Institute Final Report

Submitted by State of Rhode Island Pandemic Recovery Office

Paul L. Dion, Ph.D., Director

Brianna Ruggiero, Chief of Staff

Nicholas R. Fanuele, Project Lead

Ross Lancaster, Data Analyst III

Derek Gomes, Chief Public Affairs Officer

<https://pandemicrecovery.ri.gov>

This project was supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number SLFRP0136 awarded to the State of Rhode Island by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

Rhode Island College Cybersecurity Institute

Project Identification Number: 10074

Pandemic Recovery Office Approval Date: March 27, 2024

Project Completion Date: October 3, 2025

Funded Amount: \$2,000,000

Expended Amount: \$2,000,000

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1 Revenue Replacement: Provision of Government Services

Project Overview: The funds provided the resources needed to establish the Rhode Island College (RIC) Institute for Cybersecurity and Emerging Technologies (Institute), which has expanded RIC's ability to deliver education and workforce training. The Institute is helping make Rhode Island a regional leader in developing highly skilled cybersecurity professionals and teaching students about emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence.

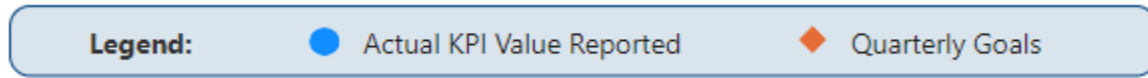
RIC's cybersecurity major is the first business-oriented, undergraduate, cyber degree offered in Rhode Island. The Institute is providing students with the knowledge, skills, and tools to protect and secure sensitive information from cyberthreats or attacks. It is also creating opportunity pathways for Rhode Island students while putting the State at the forefront of advancing workforce development and research in cybersecurity.

In September 2025, the Institute completed construction of a new cyber range, which is a "unique environment [that] gives students simulated experiences of real-world cyberattacks and teaches them how to respond to them," according to RIC. The range features four workstations, with six computers per station. The cyber range makes it possible for students to participate in 40 simulations, including malware, phishing, and ransomware attacks.

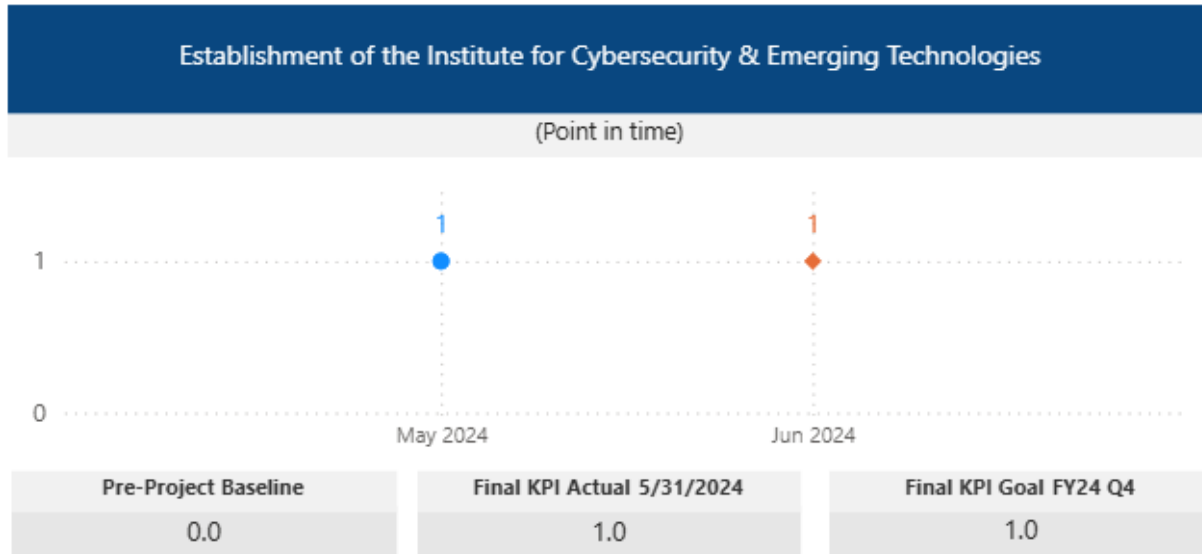
Financial Overview: All program payments can be found on the [Pandemic Recovery Office's website](#) by filtering the "Project" box for "Rhode Island College Cybersecurity Institute." The table below shows planned expenditures by fiscal quarter and actual expenditures by fiscal quarter:

Fiscal Year Quarter	Planned Expenditures	Actual Expenditures
FY 2024 Q4	\$781,152	\$404,678
FY 2025 Q1	\$1,218,848	-
FY 2025 Q2	-	\$608,732
FY 2025 Q3	-	\$283,642
FY 2025 Q4	-	\$227,866
FY 2026 Q1	-	\$131,613
FY 2026 Q2	-	\$343,469
Total	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
<i>Note: A single audit fee applies to all State Fiscal Recovery Fund projects and accounts for \$600 of the \$2,000,000 in actual expenditures in the above table.</i>		

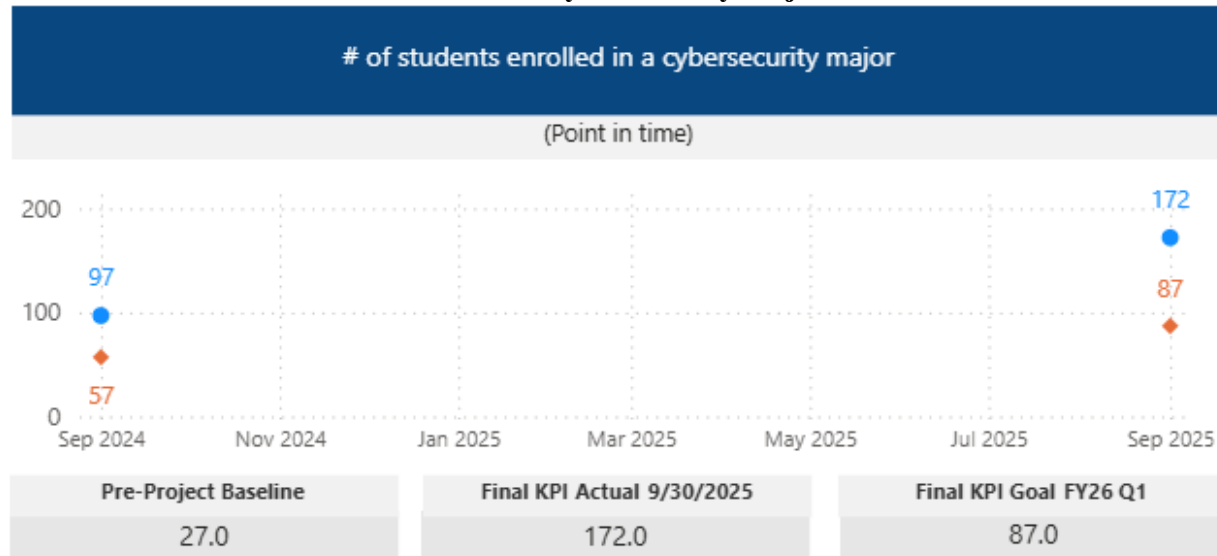
Key Performance Indicators: The following are the key performance indicators based on quarterly goals and monthly data collections.



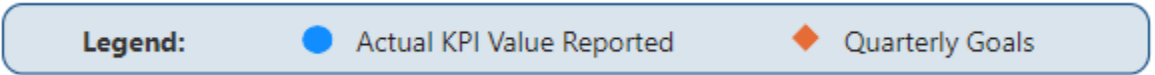
1. Establishment of the Institute for Cybersecurity & Emerging Technologies¹



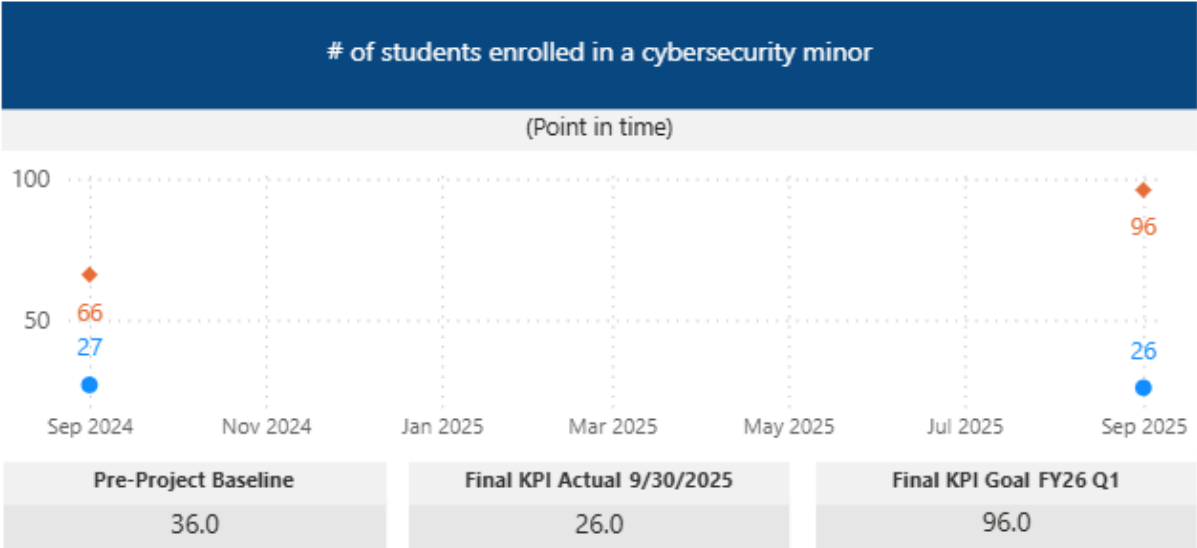
2. Number of students enrolled in a cybersecurity major



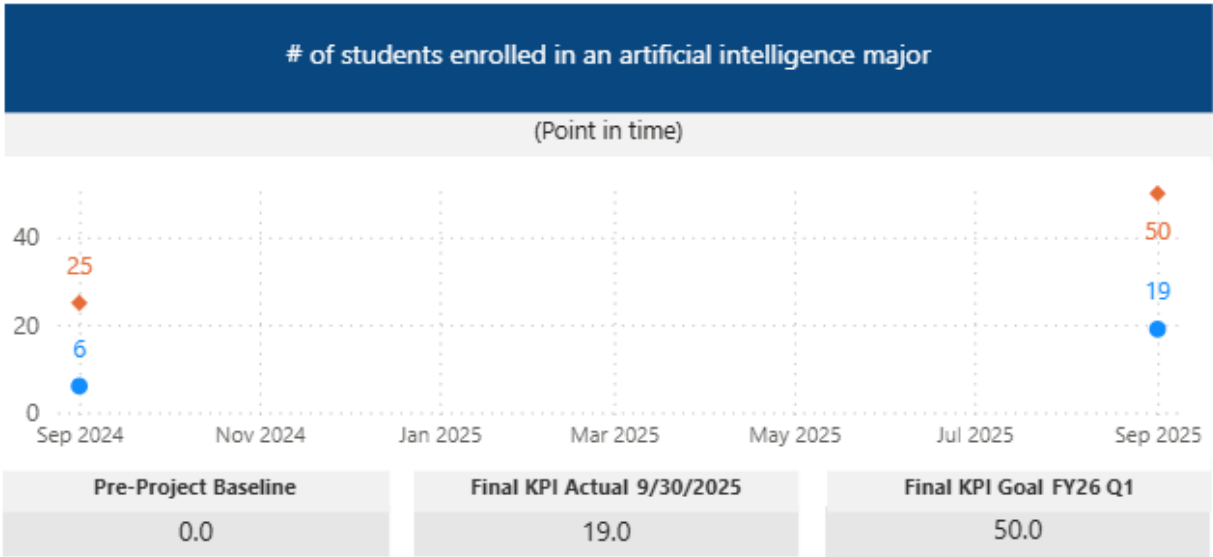
¹ This is a yes/no binary indicator: 0 meaning 'no', 1 meaning 'yes'.



3. Number of students enrolled in a cybersecurity minor



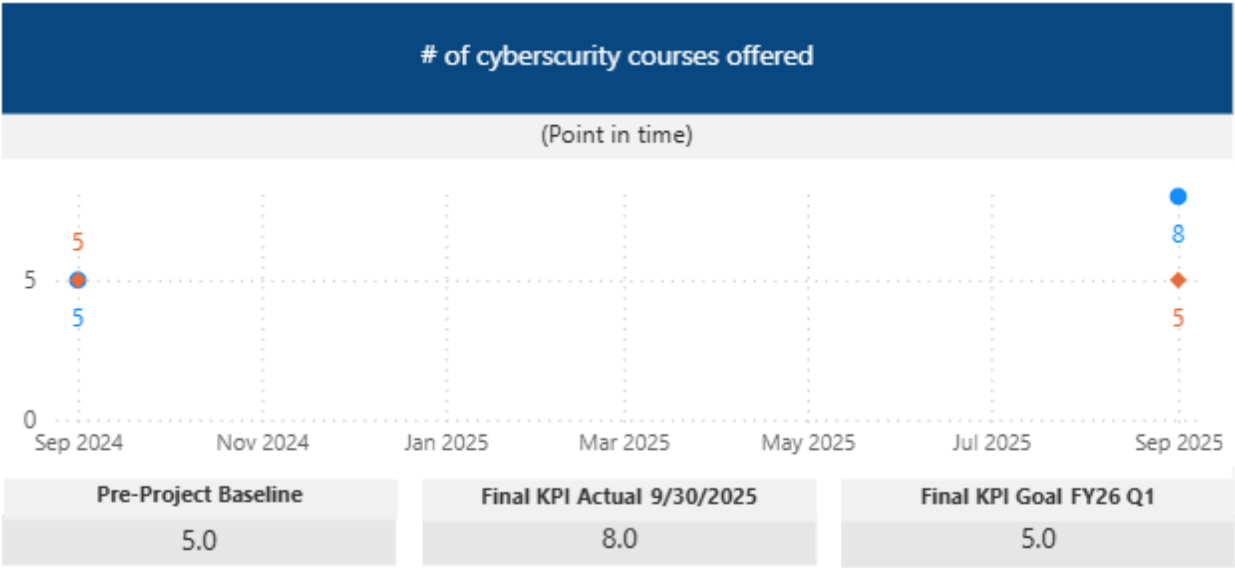
4. Number of students enrolled in an artificial intelligence major



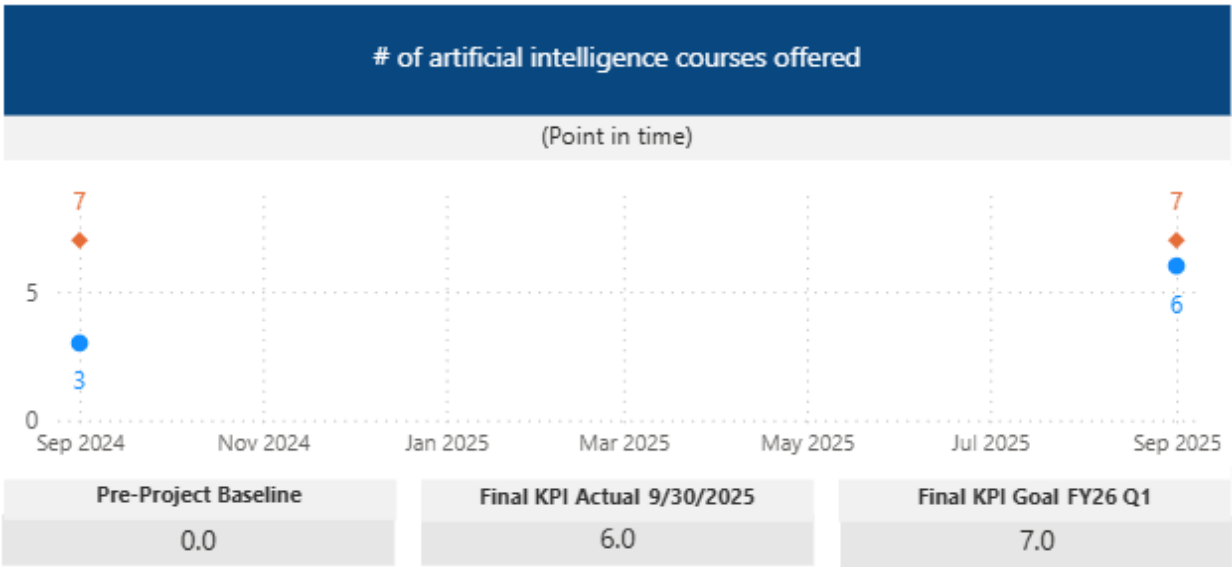
Legend:

- Actual KPI Value Reported
- Quarterly Goals

5. Number of cybersecurity courses offered



6. Number of artificial intelligence courses offered



Demographics: The table below shows the racial and ethnic demographics of cybersecurity and artificial intelligence majors compared to the overall RIC undergraduate population.

Race/Ethnicity	Cybersecurity Majors	Artificial Intelligence Majors	RIC Undergraduate Population
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1%	-	<1%
Asian	5%	11%	4%
Black or African American	17%	21%	11%
Hispanic/Latino	33%	21%	31%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	-	-	<1%
Preferred not to Answer/Unknown	6%	11%	3%
Two or More Races	4%	-	4%
White	34%	37%	48%