

## CCCS Year-End Enrollment Demographic Report: Academic Year 2014-15

The Colorado Community College System (CCCS) is the largest system of higher education in the state. In academic year 2014-15, it served 126,963 students who were enrolled in courses awarding credit toward a degree or other formal award. Thus, in addition to students enrolled in programs that award an associate degree, this count includes students enrolled in courses that are part of a vocational or occupational program, students enrolled in developmental education courses, and high school students taking college-level courses for credit. CCCS predominantly serves Colorado residents: 90 percent of CCCS students live in Colorado.

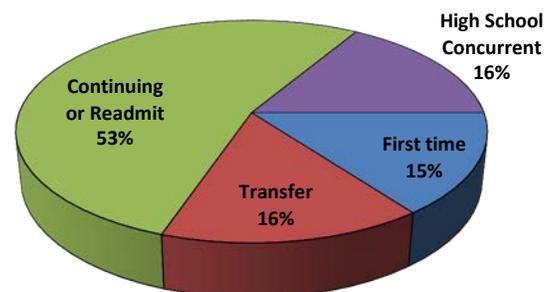
Thirteen colleges comprise the CCCS. Front Range Community College is the largest, with 22 percent of the system's enrollment (27,925 students), followed by Pikes Peak Community College, with 15.7 percent of enrollment (19,939 students). Lamar Community College is the smallest, with 1,040 students.

The 126,963 students in 2014-15 is a decrease of 5.5 percent from last year's count of 134,324, as students returned to work with an improving economy. The return-to-work phenomenon is illustrated in the change in the age of students enrolled in CCCS colleges (Figure 1). Enrollment of

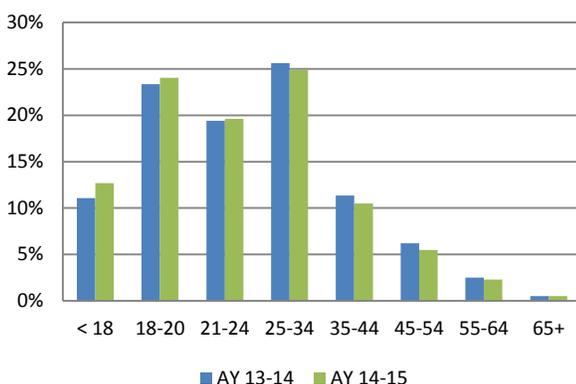
enrollment of students in age ranges associated with the job market declined. The median age of students dropped from 24 to 23, while the average age dropped seven months. Although the enrollment of older students declined somewhat over the last year, the range of student ages is notable: 56.3 percent of all students were 24 years of age or less, while 43.7 percent were over 24 years of age.

Statistics on the type of students enrolled in CCCS colleges and the degrees that enrollees are seeking may also provide evidence that students have moved on to jobs. Students who are continuing at a CCCS college accounted for the largest proportion of students by enrollment type; however, the proportion of these students declined 3.4 percentage points from last year. Conversely, the proportion of high school, first time, and

**Figure 2. Students by Enrollment Type**



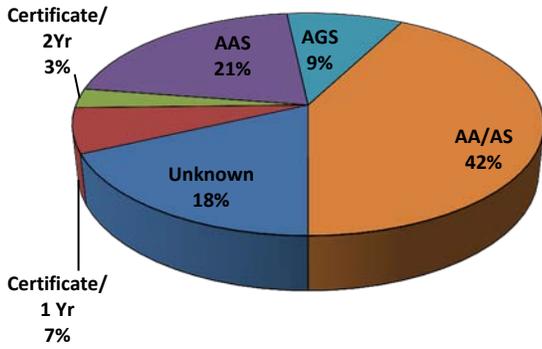
**Figure 1. Proportion of Students by Age Group: AY 13-14 v. AY 14-15**



high school students and students in the traditional college-age range remained strong, while

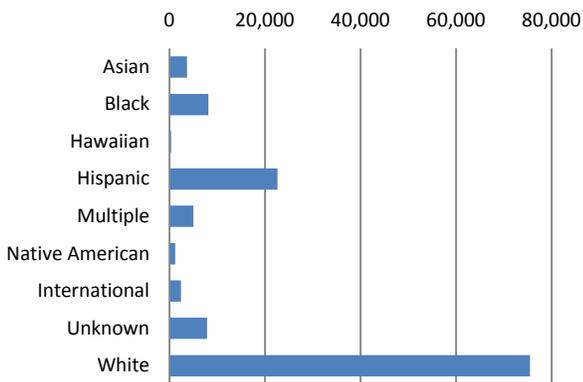
transfer students increased. In terms of the type of degree sought, 42.3 percent of students indicated an associate of arts (AA) or associate of science (AS) degree was their goal, an increase of two percentage points over a year ago. The AA/AS category of credentials, which is generally considered a transfer degree, was the only award category to experience an increase in the proportion of students seeking an award. Other, career-oriented categories of credential saw decreases. Figure 2 shows the proportion of students by enrollment type for 2014-15, while Figure 3 shows the proportion by degree sought.

**Figure 3. Enrollment by Degree Sought**



In addition to diversity of age ranges, CCCS colleges serve students with a wide range of cultural backgrounds. In 2014-15, 34.5 percent of students reported as being a racial or ethnic minority (the same percentage as in 2013-14), and an additional 2.1 percent of students were international students.<sup>1</sup> Hispanic students comprised the largest group of minority students, at 55 percent of total minority students, while African-American students followed with 19.8 percent of minority students. Figure 4 depicts the number of students enrolled in 2014-15 by race/ethnicity.

**Figure 4. Number of Students by Race/Ethnicity**



The proportion of female students increased somewhat (0.7 percentage point) over last year: female students accounted for 55.2 percent of total students in 2014-15. By race/ethnicity, female students of Asian, Hispanic, and multiple-race backgrounds were disproportionately represented relative to the overall proportion of female students. Males were more likely to be

<sup>1</sup> Percentages are based on students who report race/ethnicity. About 6 percent of students do not report.

international students or did not provide race/ethnicity information.

Fifty-six percent of students who provided information on the level of their parents' education indicated that neither of their parents earned a four-year college degree. At the other end of the spectrum, 20 percent reported that both parents had a four-year degree (Figure 5).

**Figure 5. Parents Who Earned a Four-Year Degree**

■ Neither ■ Both ■ Father ■ Mother



Figure 6 summarizes the number of students by college for 2013-14 and 2014-15. With a 2 percent increase in the number of students, Colorado Northwestern Community College was the only college to record an increase in its headcount. Arapahoe Community College experienced the largest decrease, at 12 percent.

**Figure 6. Comparison of AY 2013-14 and AY 2014-15 Unique Students by College**

College	AY 13-14	AY 14-15	# Change	% Change
ACC	19,775	17,403	-2,372	-12.0%
CCA	11,935	11,355	-580	-4.9%
CCD	15,669	14,988	-681	-4.3%
CNCC	1,751	1,786	35	2.0%
FRCC	29,044	27,925	-1,119	-3.9%
LCC	1,109	1,040	-69	-6.2%
MCC	2,520	2,402	-118	-4.7%
NJC	2,806	2,668	-138	-4.9%
OJC	2,121	2,043	-78	-3.7%
PCC	10,331	9,960	-371	-3.6%
PPCC	20,962	19,939	-1,023	-4.9%
RRCC	13,787	12,964	-823	-6.0%
TSJC	2,514	2,490	-24	-1.0%
<b>CCCS</b>	<b>134,324</b>	<b>126,963</b>	<b>-7,361</b>	<b>-5.5%</b>

Source: SURDS college enrollment files for 2014-15 and Banner for parental education.