



COLORADO COMMUNITY
COLLEGE SYSTEM

Colorado Community College System

**TRANSFER REPORT
FALL 2008 TO FALL 2009**

JANUARY, 2013



Introduction

Each year, the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE) reports on the numbers of students who transfer from two-year colleges to public four-year colleges. The data is limited to Colorado public colleges. Additionally, students who transfer to four-year colleges are determined based on the transfer status of those students provided by the transfer college, so many students who transfer may be missed. The reported result from CDHE for Colorado Community College System (CCCS) students transferring in 2008-09 was 4,573 students, with most students transferring to Metropolitan State University of Denver. The CDHE report is available online at http://highered.colorado.gov/Publications/Reports/Enrollment/FY2009/2009_Transfer_Summary_rel051710.pdf

Because CCCS wanted information on all of the colleges to which students transfer, both public and private, and information regarding the status and intent of students who transferred, the CCCS Research Office matched students with the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) to get more comprehensive information. Based on NSC data, 11,092 students were found to be attending or transferred to another college in Fall 2009. This is a much larger number of students than CDHE was able to find because it includes private colleges as well as out-of-state colleges.

Academic Year 2008 Transfers

NSC reported that 11,092 students attending a CCCS college in Fall 2008 transferred to another institution of higher education in Fall 2009. This amounts to 15.5 percent of the 71,339 student records submitted to NSC.¹ Of the transfers, 1,378 were attending a CCCS college at the same time. A student is counted as a transfer if he or she enrolls in a

¹ This number is somewhat less than the Fall 2008 headcount because some student records are excluded from the data submission. For example, records without a date of birth are not sent to NSC.

different institution of higher education in the subsequent fall, regardless of whether the student completed at a CCCS college.

Table 1. CCCS Fall Students Transferred to Other Institutions in Following Fall

	Fall 2008 to Fall 2009		Fall 2007 to Fall 2008	
	Headcount	Percent of Cohort	Headcount	Percent of Cohort
Original Cohort*	71,339	100.0%	68,980	100.0%
Transfers**	11,092	15.5%	10,407	15.1%
Concurrent Transfers***	1,378	1.9%	1,244	1.8%

*The original cohort includes all countable undergraduates selected from the Fall 2008 Demographic file in the Student Tracking System, duplicated across CCCS colleges.

**Transfers are students who attended or graduated from another institution in Fall 2009, according to the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC). Transfers do not include those who withdrew from the transfer institution that term. A student's enrollment status before or after that term is not included in the analysis. NSC matching was performed on student name and date of birth, and resulted in a 97.4% match rate. Not all institutions participate in NSC.

*** Concurrent transfers are those who were attending a CCCS college as well as another institution in Fall 2009. They are included in the transfer headcount and percentage.

The majority of transfer students, 92.1 percent, attended a four-year institution (Table 2) with 86.0 percent of the students attending a public institution (Table 3). Of those at public colleges, 90.8 percent were at a public, four-year college.

Table 2. Two-Year and Four-Year Transfer Colleges Compared to Public and Private Transfer Colleges

	Total	Public	Private	All
Four-Year	92.1%	8,670	1,541	10,211
Two-Year	7.9%	874	7	881
Total	100.0%	9,544	1,548	11,092

Table 3. Type of Transfer Institution

	Colorado	All
Public	73.8%	86.0%
Private	7.6%	14.0%
Total	81.4%	100.0%



In Fall 2008, 64.8 percent of those who transferred were attending part-time (Table 4). This is very similar to the percentage of part-time students in the overall Fall 2008 population for CCCS, 67.0 percent. Similarly, 55.4 percent had attended college before, compared to 56.5 percent of the overall population. About 15 percent of students who transferred in Fall 2009 were new to college in Fall 2008 compared to 23 percent of the overall population being new to college.

Table 4. Enrollment Status in Fall 2008

	Transfers	All Students
Part-Time	64.8%	67.0%
Full-Time	35.2%	33.0%
Continuing Student	55.4%	56.5%
New First Time Anywhere	14.8%	23.0%
Transfer Student	14.0%	10.5%
Unknown/Other ¹	8.8%	2.1%
Readmit	4.2%	6.3%
High School Student	2.9%	1.7%

¹ “Unknown/Other” includes primarily CCD Consortium Students; a small number of Continuing Education students are also included.

Table 5 displays the student’s intended credential before transferring, represented here by the degree or certificate program declared in Fall 2008. About one-third of all students who transferred had declared they wanted an AA or AS degree. Another one-third identified themselves as non-degree seeking or undeclared before transferring a year later. This suggests these students planned on attending another institution after they attended a CCCS college. Although they planned on transferring, they elected to take some classes at CCCS rather than pursue a full associate’s degree program.

Table 5. Student Intent Prior To Transfer

AA/AS Degree	33.4%
Non-Degree Seeking	17.3%
Undeclared	20.5%
AAS Degree	12.8%
AGS Degree	11.0%
Certificate	4.8%
Unknown	0.1%

Just over five percent of transfers obtained a credential at CCCS the fall term before transferring. The majority of these, over 53 percent, were AA and AS degrees. Approximately one quarter of completers obtained a certificate instead (Table 6).

Table 6. Transfers Who Completed Credential at CCCS Institution in Fall 2008

AA/AS Degree	53.1%	306
Certificate	24.7%	142
AAS Degree	10.1%	58
AGS Degree	12.2%	70
	100.0%	576

The most common transfer destination overall was Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver), claiming 25.7 percent of all transfers. Colorado State University (CSU) drew the next largest number, at 10.4 percent. All of the top five destinations were public institutions (Table 7). The top private institution was Regis University, drawing 5.0 percent of transfer students.

Table 7. Top Five Transfer Destinations

MSU Denver	2,851	25.7%
CSU	1,154	10.4%
UCD	855	7.7%
UCCS	680	6.1%
UCB	616	5.6%

Table 8 identifies, for each CCCS college, the number of transfers and their top destinations. CCD had the highest percentage of transfers (25.3 percent), followed by FRCC (17.9 percent) and CNCC (17.3 percent). Colorado State University, including CSU’s Pueblo campus, was the top destination for four of the thirteen community colleges. Metropolitan State University of Denver also was the top destination for four.

Table 8. Transfers by Originating College

Originating College	Transfer to 2 yr	Transfer to 4 yr	Total	Transfers As Percent of Total Students	Top Transfer Destination
ACC	66	849	915	13.0%	MSU Denver
CCA	37	655	692	12.8%	MSU Denver
CCD	76	2,013	2,089	25.3%	MSU Denver
CNCC	45	202	247	17.3%	Colorado Mesa Univ
FRCC	236	2,551	2,787	17.9%	CSU
LCC	18	170	188	16.5%	Adams State
MCC	32	248	280	16.0%	UNC
NJC	32	318	350	13.1%	CSU
OJC	17	170	187	12.1%	CSU Pueblo
PCC	51	506	557	10.4%	CSU Pueblo
PPCC	172	1,286	1,458	12.3%	UCCS
RRCC	81	1,024	1,105	14.5%	MSU Denver
TSJC	18	219	237	13.9%	Adams State
Total	881	10,211	11,092	15.5%	MSU Denver

In Colorado, the following institutions with enrollment of 1,000 or more do not participate in the National Student Clearinghouse:²

- Colorado Technical University
- Westwood College
- U.S. Air Force Academy
- The Art Institute of Colorado
- Everest College
- Colorado College
- Lincoln College of Technology.

² The schools listed are estimates based on data from prior years’ reports, NSC, and other websites.



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