



# Noncredit to Credit Student Transition Study

Prior Noncredit Student Enrollment & Outcomes

Office of Institutional Research and Planning

March 2011

# Report Overview

---

## □ Purpose

- The purpose of this study is to provide information that will help facilitate the development of recruitment, retention and success strategies for noncredit students transitioning into college credit courses.

## □ Group of Interest & Comparison Group

- Prior Noncredit students are students who first started at Continuing Education and then enrolled at City, Mesa, or Miramar College.
- The General Credit students are all students who enrolled at City, Mesa, or Miramar College for the first time.

## □ Focus of Study

- The enrollment and course taking patterns of Prior Noncredit students were tracked to determine the rate at which students in Continuing Education noncredit courses migrate or transition into credit college courses and what their outcomes were.



# Section 1 Enrollment and Outcomes



2009/10

# Enrollment & Outcomes

---

- FTES of Prior Noncredit students increased overall by 2% from 2008/09 to 2009/10. The same pattern was true for the three colleges except for Miramar (-1.5%).
- The number of First-Time Prior Noncredit students decreased by 15% between 2008/09 to 2009/10.
- There was a higher percentage of African American and Asian/Pacific Islander First-Time Prior Noncredit students compared to the General Credit Population.

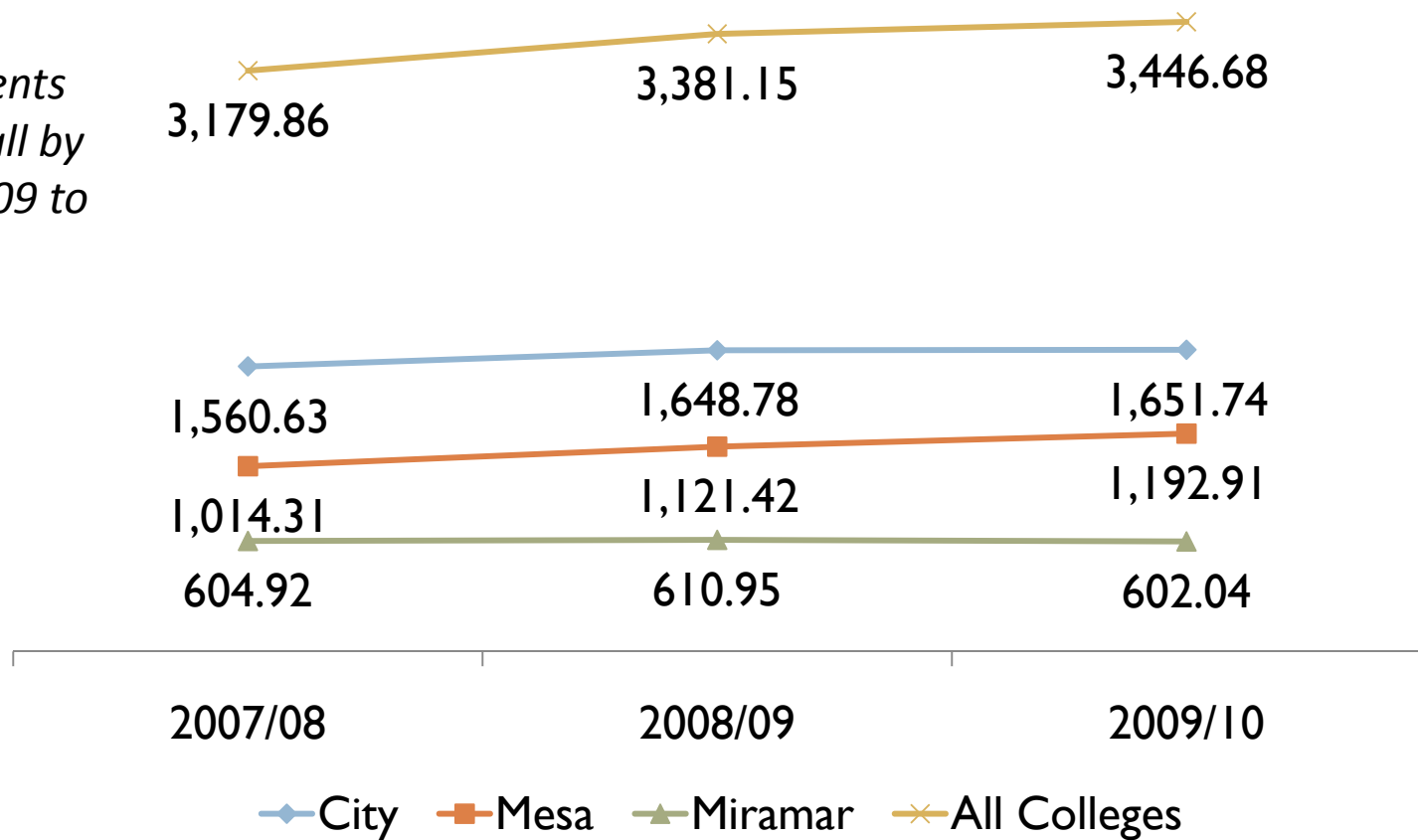
# Enrollment & Outcomes

---

- First-Time Prior Noncredit students had a lower success rate (62%) compared to the General Credit Population (68%) for all colleges.
- City and Mesa College First-Time Prior Noncredit students had lower success rates (58% & 58%) compared to the General Credit Population (65% & 68%).
- At Miramar College, First-Time Prior Noncredit students had higher success rates (76%) compared to the General Credit Population (72%).
- First-Time Prior Noncredit students had a lower retention rate (83%) compared to the General Credit Population (85%) for all colleges. City and Mesa College also followed this pattern of retention rates.
- At Miramar College First-Time Prior Noncredit students had higher retention rates (91%) compared to the General Credit Population (88%).

# FTES of All Prior Noncredit Students in College Credit Courses

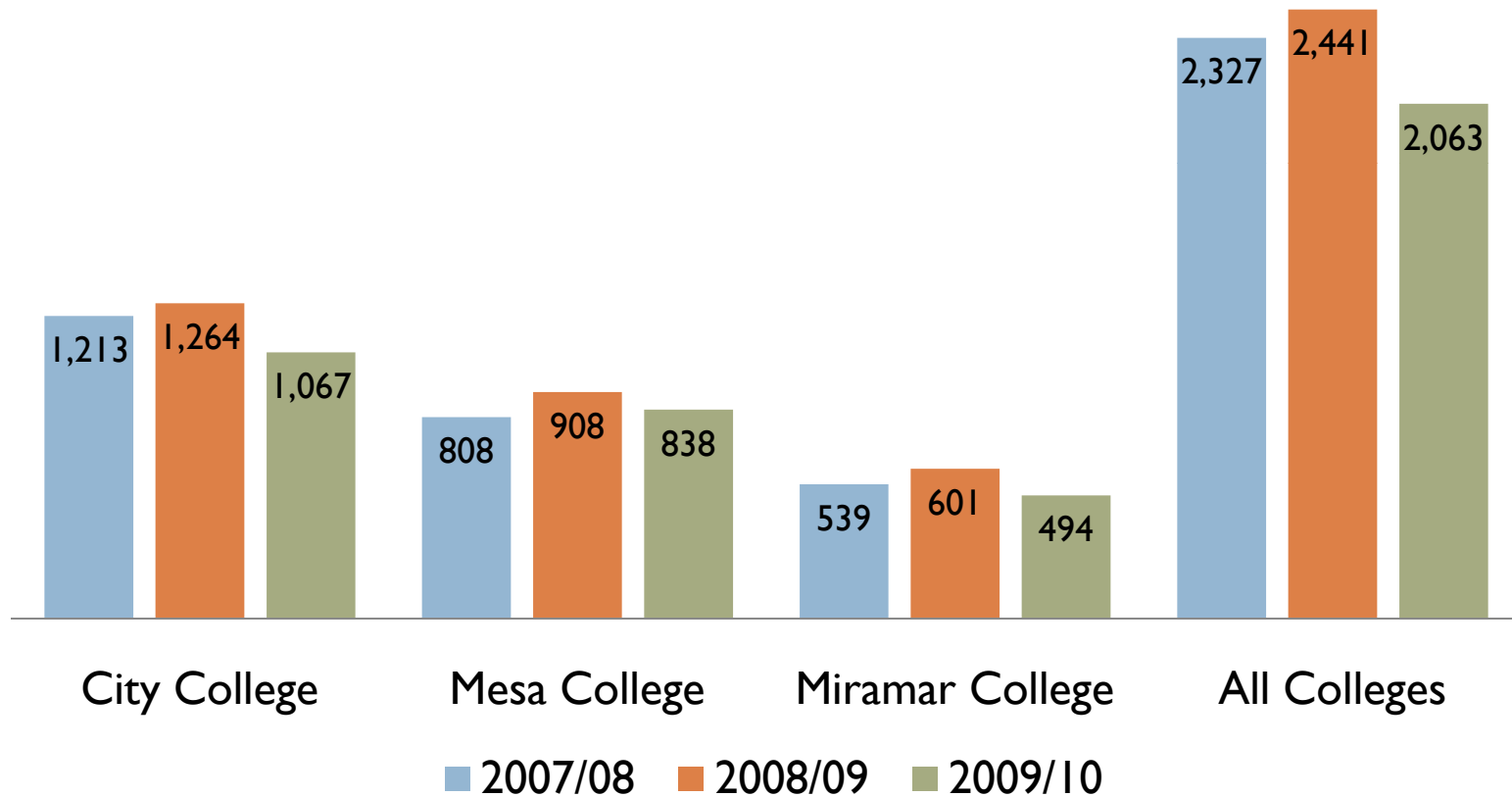
*FTES of Prior Noncredit students increased overall by 2% from 2008/09 to 2009/10.*



*Excludes non-residents.*

# Headcount of First-Time Prior Noncredit

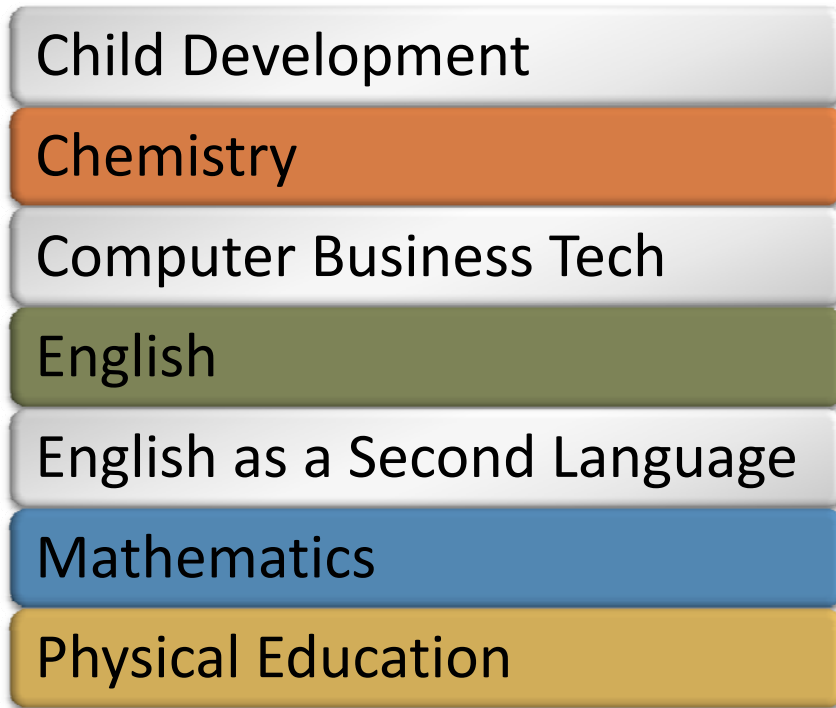
---



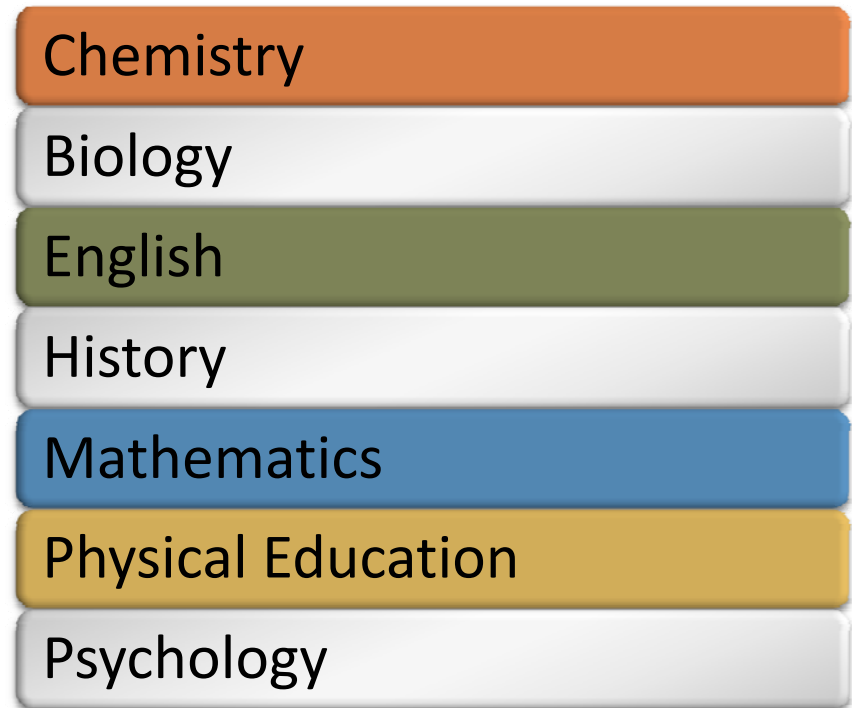
# Top Credit College Courses Taken 2009 / 10

---

## Prior Noncredit Students



## General Credit



*Mathematics was the top course at each college.*



# Placement – Fall 2009

---

- A greater percentage of Recent Noncredit students had transfer-level reading placements in their first term in credit than did General Credit students (74% and 72%, respectively). At City College the percentages were the same for both groups (70%).
- A greater percentage of Recent Noncredit students had transfer-level writing placements in their first term in credit than did General Credit students (54% and 51%, respectively). All Colleges followed the same pattern except for City College where the opposite was true.
- The majority of Recent Noncredit students and General Credit students had transfer-level Math placements (36% and 35%, respectively). All Colleges followed the same pattern except for City College where the opposite was true.
- The majority of Recent Noncredit students and General Credit students placed six levels below transfer for ESOL (50% and 47%, respectively). All Colleges followed the same pattern.
- On the whole, General Credit students tended to have higher ESOL placements than Recent Noncredit students.

# Unit Completion Rate in Credit Courses for Fall 2009

		0 Units	0.1 - 2.9 Units	3.0 - 5.9 Units	6.0 - 8.9 Units	9.0 - 11.9 Units	12.0 + Units
First-Time Prior Noncredit	0.1 - 2.9 Units	38%	62%				
	3.0 - 5.9 Units	29%	1%	70%			
	6.0 - 8.9 Units	22%	1%	12%	65%		
	9.0 - 11.9 Units	22%	3%	15%	15%	45%	
	12.0 + Units	14%	1%	10%	11%	13%	50%

General Credit	0.1 - 2.9 Units	23%	77%				
	3.0 - 5.9 Units	28%	1%	71%			
	6.0 - 8.9 Units	18%	2%	22%	58%		
	9.0 - 11.9 Units	14%	1%	14%	20%	51%	
	12.0 + Units	7%	1%	8%	13%	18%	53%

Overall, the unit completion rate of First-Time Prior Noncredit students (68%) was lower than the General Credit Population (72%). The opposite was true for Miramar College.

# Unit Completion Rate in Credit Courses for Fall 2009

		0 Units	0.1 - 2.9 Units	3.0 - 5.9 Units	6.0 - 8.9 Units	9.0 - 11.9 Units	12.0 + Units
City College	0.1 - 2.9 Units	39%	61%				
	3.0 - 5.9 Units	32%	2%	65%			
	6.0 - 8.9 Units	21%	1%	15%	64%		
	9.0 - 11.9 Units	22%	3%	19%	17%	39%	
	12.0 + Units	14%	1%	13%	15%	12%	45%
Mesa College	0.1 - 2.9 Units	38%	62%				
	3.0 - 5.9 Units	30%	1%	70%			
	6.0 - 8.9 Units	25%	0%	27%	49%		
	9.0 - 11.9 Units	25%	6%	3%	13%	53%	
	12.0 + Units	21%	2%	10%	10%	21%	36%
Miramar College	0.1 - 2.9 Units	37%	63%				
	3.0 - 5.9 Units	24%	0%	76%			
	6.0 - 8.9 Units	16%	0%	6%	78%		
	9.0 - 11.9 Units	5%	0%	16%	16%	63%	
	12.0 + Units	3%	0%	5%	3%	10%	80%

## Section 2

# Noncredit to Credit Student Tracking

2003/04 to 2006/07

# Research Design

---

## Comparison Groups

- ❑ *Recent Noncredit* students in credit are students who attended 8 or more hours in Continuing Ed courses within the immediate 2 years prior to enrolling at City, Mesa, or Miramar College for the first time. Four cohort years are studied: 2003/04 – 2006/07.
- ❑ The *General Credit* students are all students who enrolled at City, Mesa, or Miramar College for the first time. Four cohort years are studied: 2003/04 – 2006/07.

# Headcount and Enrollment

## 2003/04 – 2006/07 combined

---

### Headcount

- ❑ Between 2003/04 and 2006/07, per year, an average of 1,046 Recent Noncredit students enrolled in their first credit year (City=544; Mesa=385; Miramar=218).
- ❑ On average, 27,334 General Credit students enrolled for the first time during the same period of time (City=10,861; Mesa=15,306; Miramar=7,359).

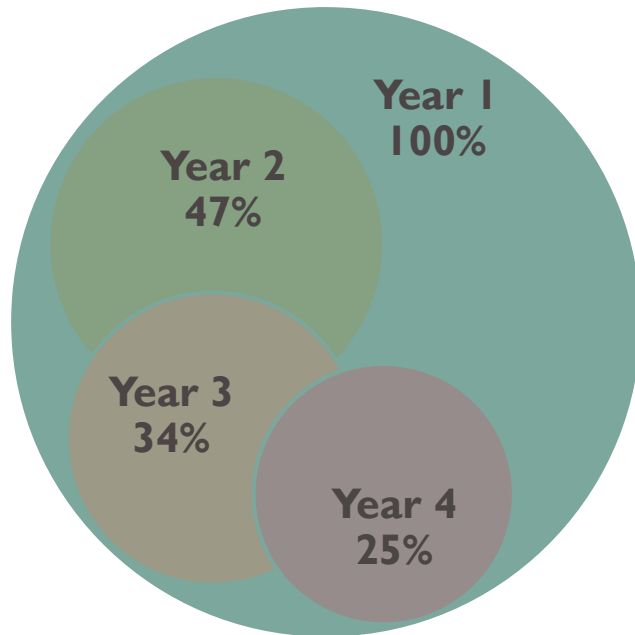
### Enrollment

- ❑ Between 2003/04 and 2006/07, per year, the average number of enrollments by Recent Noncredit students enrolled in their first credit year was 3,986 (City=1,994; Mesa=1,304; Miramar=688).
- ❑ The average number of enrollments by General Credit students in their first year was 97,238 during the same period of time (City=32,803; Mesa=52,132; Miramar=20,166).

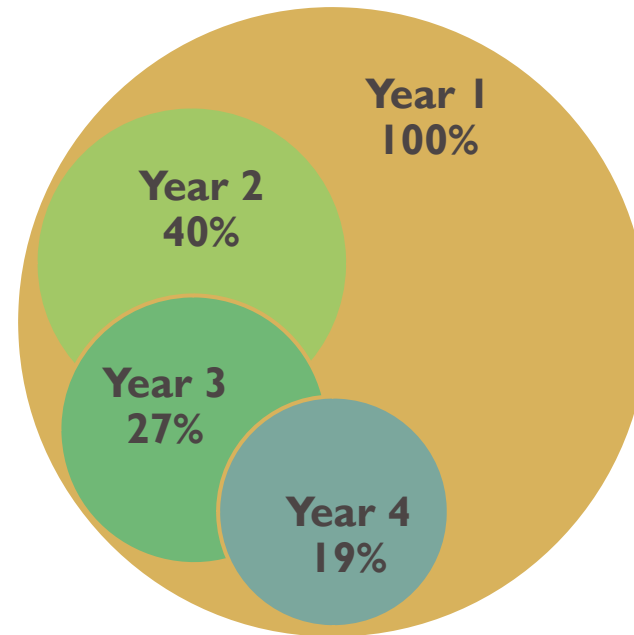
# Enrollment Tracking

2003/04 – 2006/07 combined

Recent Noncredit Students in Credit



General Credit Students



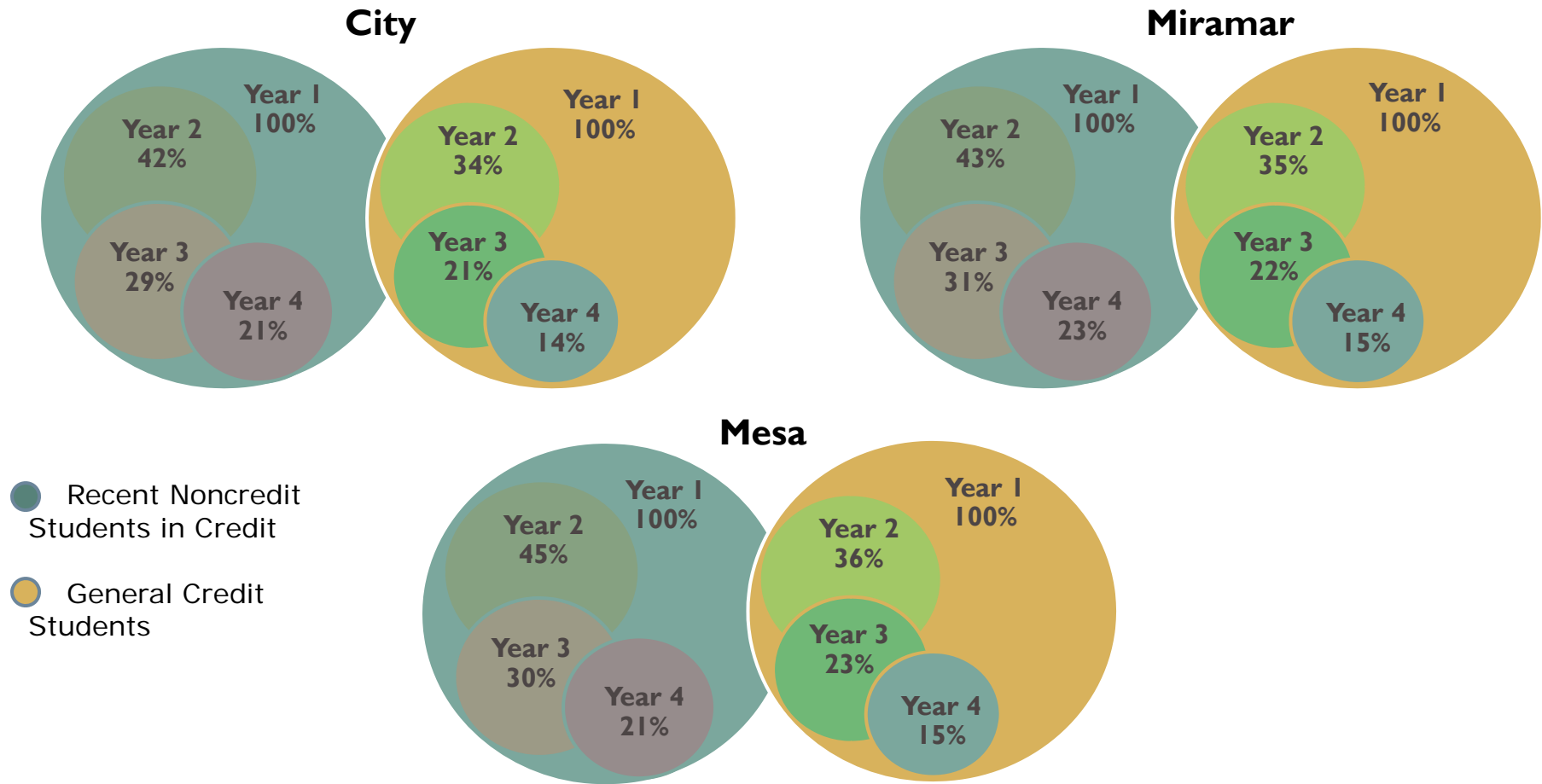
First-year student enrollments are tracked up to 4 years. A greater percentage of Recent Noncredit students re-enrolled after their first credit year than General Credit students.

Almost half of the Recent Noncredit students enrolled a second year and one-quarter were enrolled 4 years after their first term in credit courses.

*Note that 7% of Recent Noncredit students in credit and General Credit students stopped out in years 2 or 3, and re-enrolled in year four.*

# Enrollment Tracking

2003/04 – 2006/07 combined



*At each of the colleges a greater percentage of Recent Noncredit students re-enrolled than General Credit students.*



# Enrollment Tracking

## 2003/04 – 2006/07 by Cohort Year

---

- ❑ Overall, with the exception of their first year in credit, Recent Noncredit students completed a greater percentage of the units they attempted (66%-68%) than General Credit students (63% each year).
  - City and Mesa college students displayed a similar trend.
  - Recent Noncredit students at Miramar completed a greater percentage of the units they attempted than General Credit students in each of the four years tracked.
  
- ❑ Overall, the unit completion rate for Recent Noncredit students was lowest in their first year in credit (63%), while the unit completion rate for General Credit students was highest in their first year in credit (65%).
  - The unit completion rate of Recent Noncredit students at City College increase with each year.
  - There was no clear upward or downward trend in the unit completion rate of Recent Noncredit students at Mesa and Miramar colleges.

# Retention

2003/04 – 2006/07 combined

---

- ❑ Overall, the rate of student retention in their courses through the end of the term was higher for Recent Noncredit students (84%-87%) than for General Credit students (83%-84%). Student retention among both groups remained consistent over the 4 years studied.
  - This trend is consistent for Recent Noncredit students at each of the three colleges.
  
- ❑ On average, Asian American and African American Recent Noncredit students had the highest and lowest overall classroom retention (89% and 80%, respectively) in the 4 years studied. American Indian Recent Noncredit students had the lowest overall classroom retention (76%) in the 4 years studied. The pattern was similar among General Credit students. White, Filipino, and Latino Recent Noncredit student retention ranged between 84% and 86%.

# Success

2003/04 – 2006/07 combined

---

- ❑ Overall, among Recent Noncredit students and General Credit students who were tracked over 4 years from their first enrollment in credit, success rates were lowest in their first year in credit (65% and 66%, respectively), and subsequently maintained an increased, consistent range in ensuing years (71-72% and 68-69%, respectively).
  - The trend for Recent Noncredit students is similar at City and Mesa Colleges.
  - At Miramar College, Recent Noncredit student success rates increased in their second and third years, and subsequently decreased in their fourth year after entry to the credit college.
  
- ❑ On average, Asian American, African American, and American Indian Recent Noncredit students had the highest and lowest overall success (79%, 55%, and 52%, respectively) in the 4 years studied. The pattern was similar among General Credit students. White, Filipino, and Latino Recent Noncredit student success ranged between 65% and 72%.

# Degrees and Certificates Conferred 2003/04 – 2006/07 combined

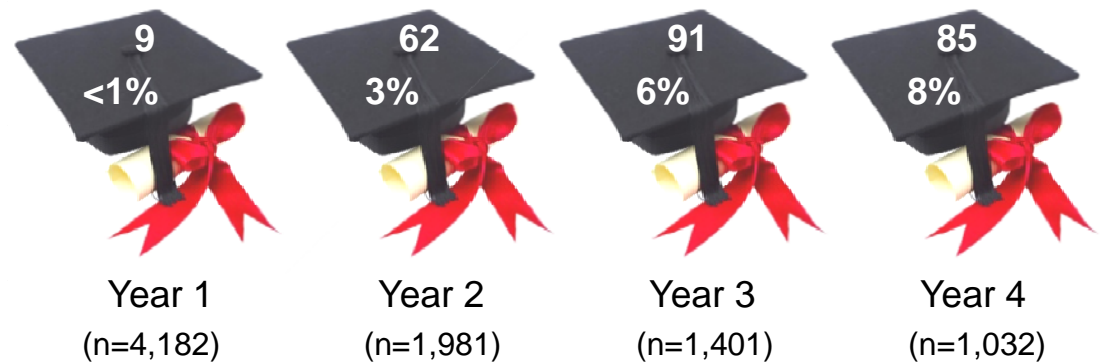
Year 1 constitutes the student's first year in credit courses. Overall, among Recent Noncredit student who continued to re-enroll, the 4<sup>th</sup> year produced the highest award rate (8%). This is consistent at each of the three colleges.

**Overall, after 4 years, 6% of the Recent Noncredit students received an award. The college award rates varied from 4-6%.**

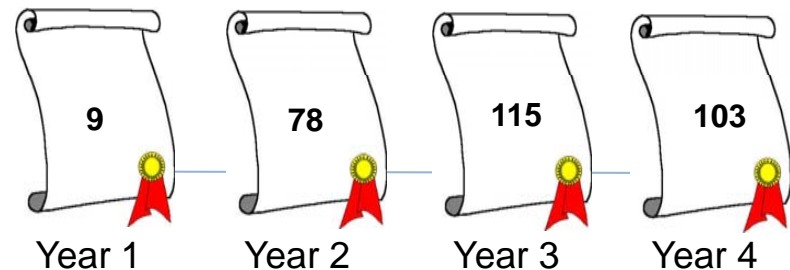
**Overall, after 4 years, 5% of the General Credit students received an award. The college award rates varied from 3-4%.**

*Note that the cohort does not necessarily reflect students with an intent to complete an award.*

## Students Receiving Awards - Recent Noncredit Students



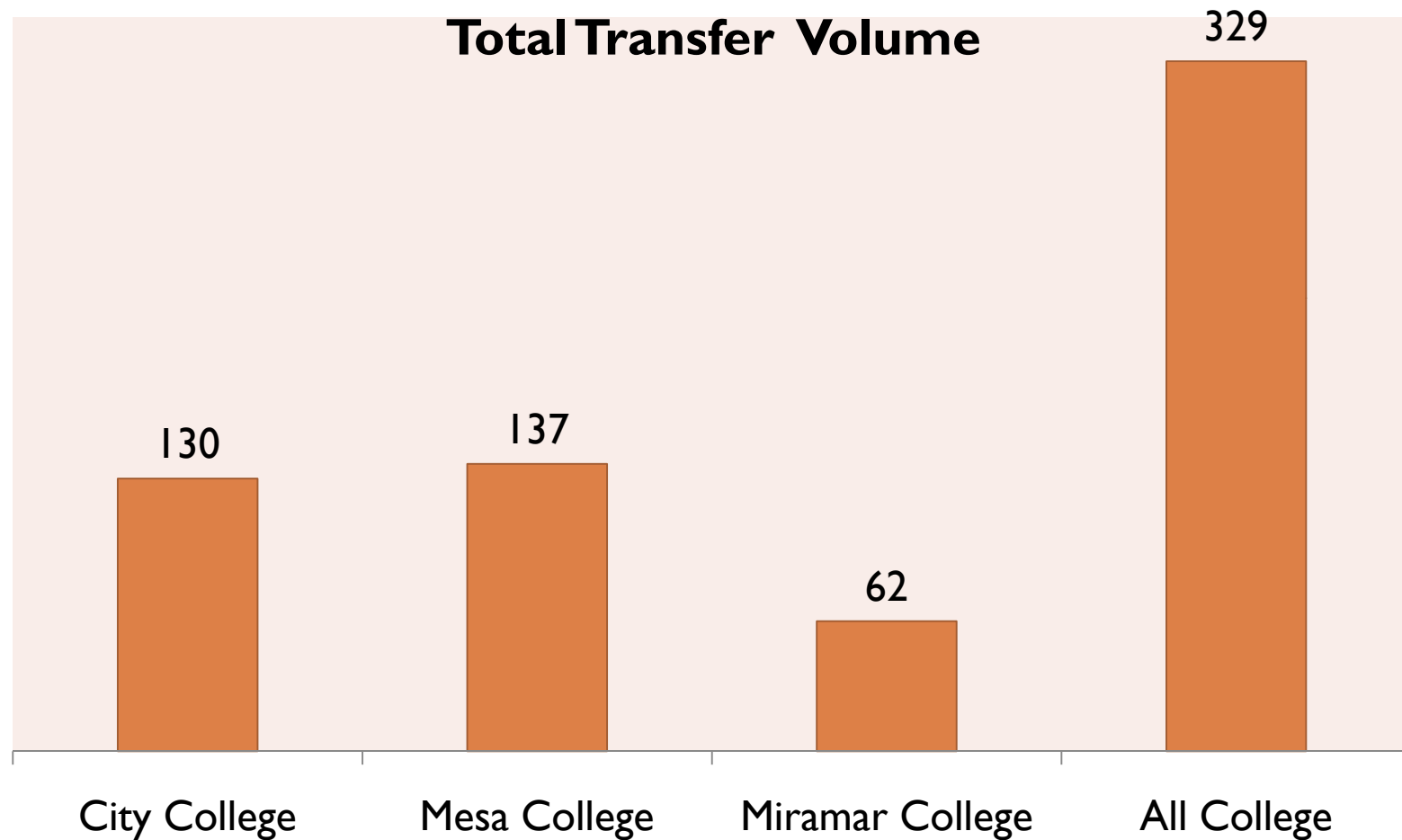
## Awards Conferred - Recent Noncredit Students



# Student Transfer

## 2004/05 – 2003/04 Combined Cohorts

---



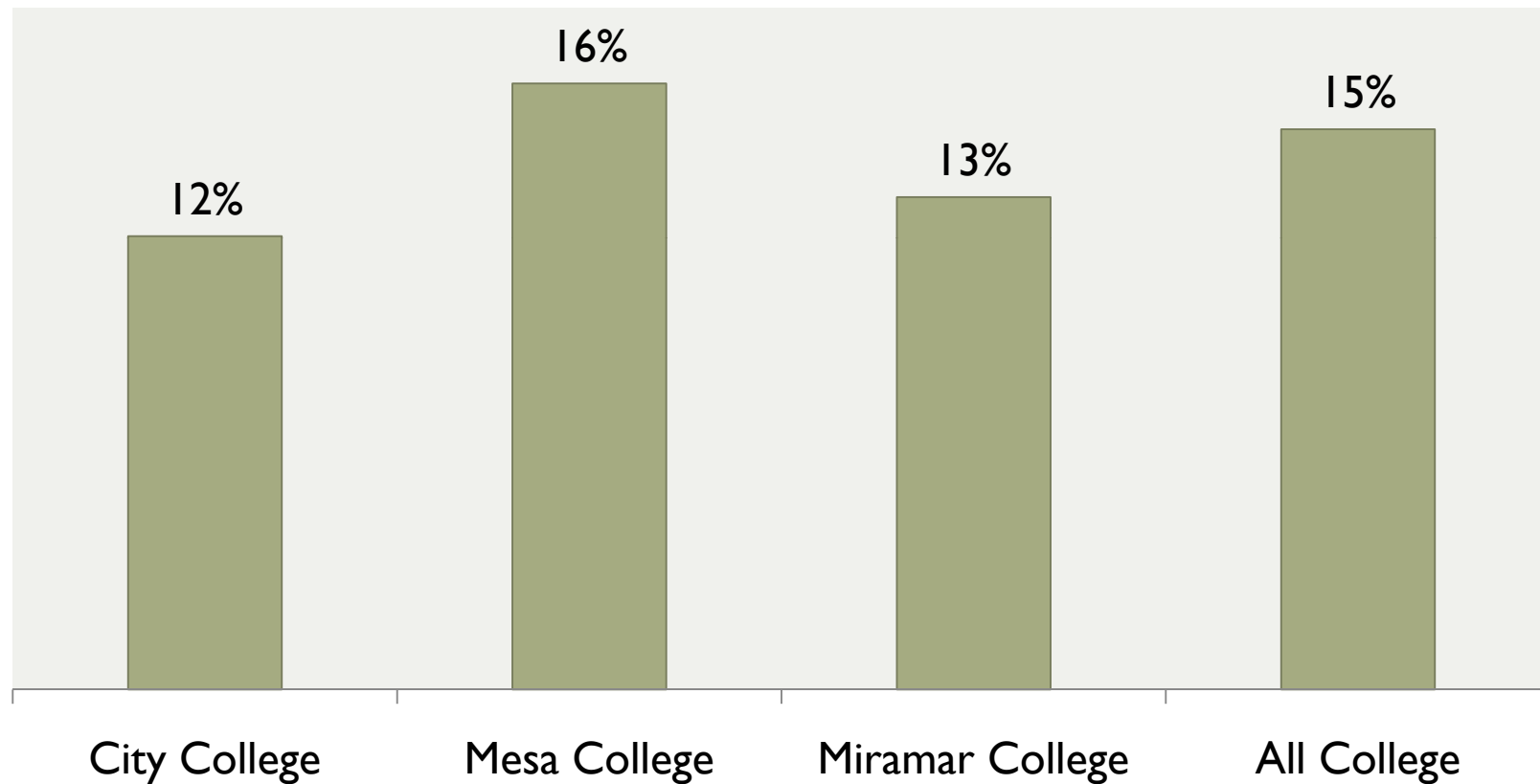
*\*Note that the total counts are for the two cohorts over a six year period.*

---

# Student Transfer 2004/05 – 2003/04 Combined Cohorts

---

## Average Transfer Rates



*\*Note that the rate of transfer are averages of the two cohorts measured transfer over a six year period.*

---

# Student Transfer

## 2003/04 – 2006/07 by Cohort Year

### Recent Noncredit Students in Credit

First Year in Credit	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6		4-Year	6-Year
	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	Count	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total
2006/07 (n=965)	21	2%	29	3%	35	4%	34	4%	-	-	-	-	12%	-
2005/06 (n=993)	17	2%	19	2%	18	2%	35	4%	30	3%	-	-	9%	-
2004/05 (n=1,049)	14	1%	18	2%	25	2%	29	3%	29	3%	23	2%	8%	13%
2003/04 (n=1,175)	29	2%	34	3%	29	2%	39	3%	37	3%	23	2%	11%	16%
<b>Total Count and Rate of Transfer*</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>15%</b>

The rates of Recent Noncredit students who transferred within 4 or 6 years of first entry into credit (10% and 15%, respectively) are lower than the rates of General Credit students who transferred within 4 or 6 years of first entry into credit (34% and 40%, respectively). However, the student groups do not necessarily reflect students with an intent to transfer.

*\*Note that the total count and rate of transfer from Year 1 to Year 4 is measured among four combined student groups: 2003/04-2006/07. Year 5 is measured among three combined groups: 2003/04 -2005/06. Year 6 is measured among two combined groups: 2003/04 -2004/05.*



End

SDCCD Office of Institutional Research and Planning