



# Noncredit to Credit Student Transition Study

September 2015



**Office of Institutional Research and Planning**

# Overview

# 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.

## **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.

# Enrollment

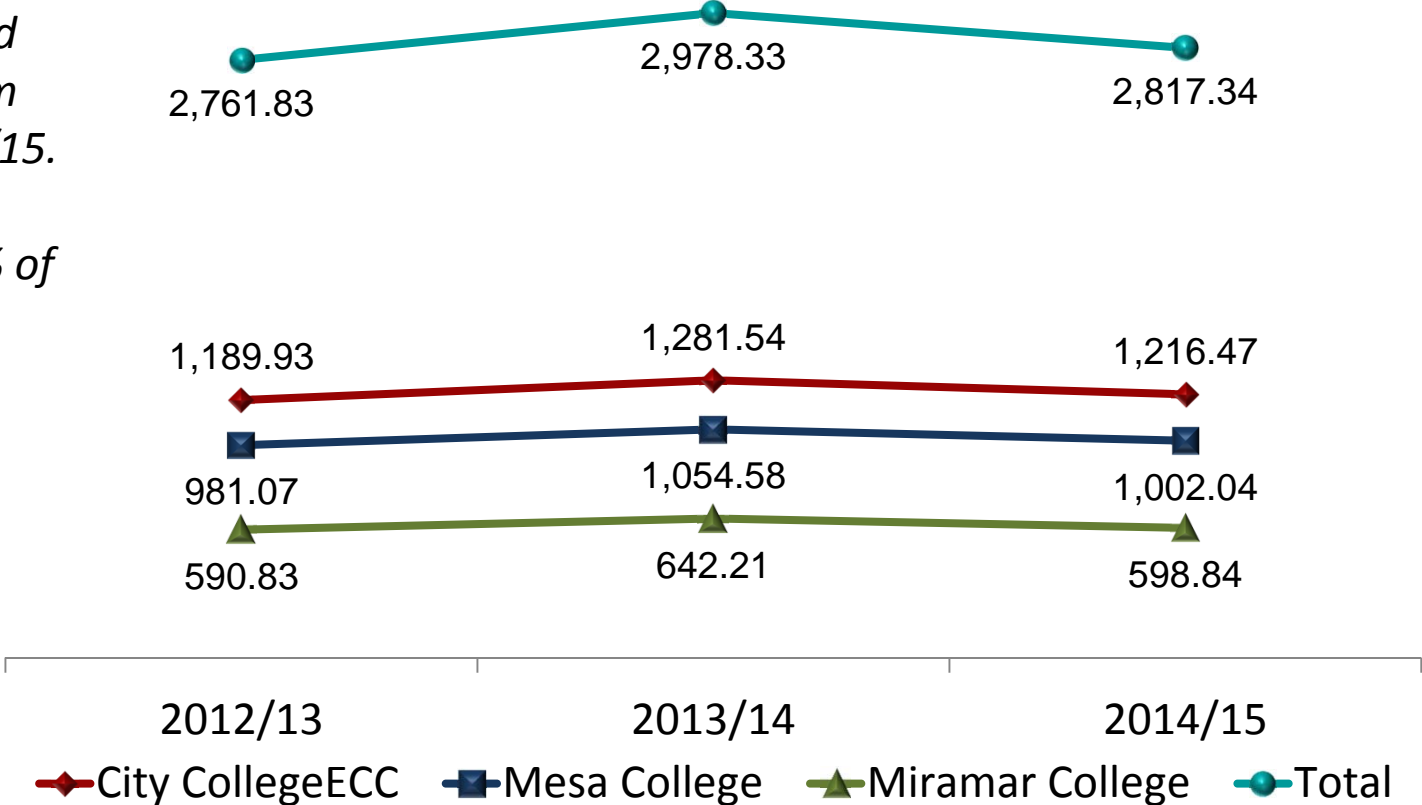
## 2014/15

# Enrollment

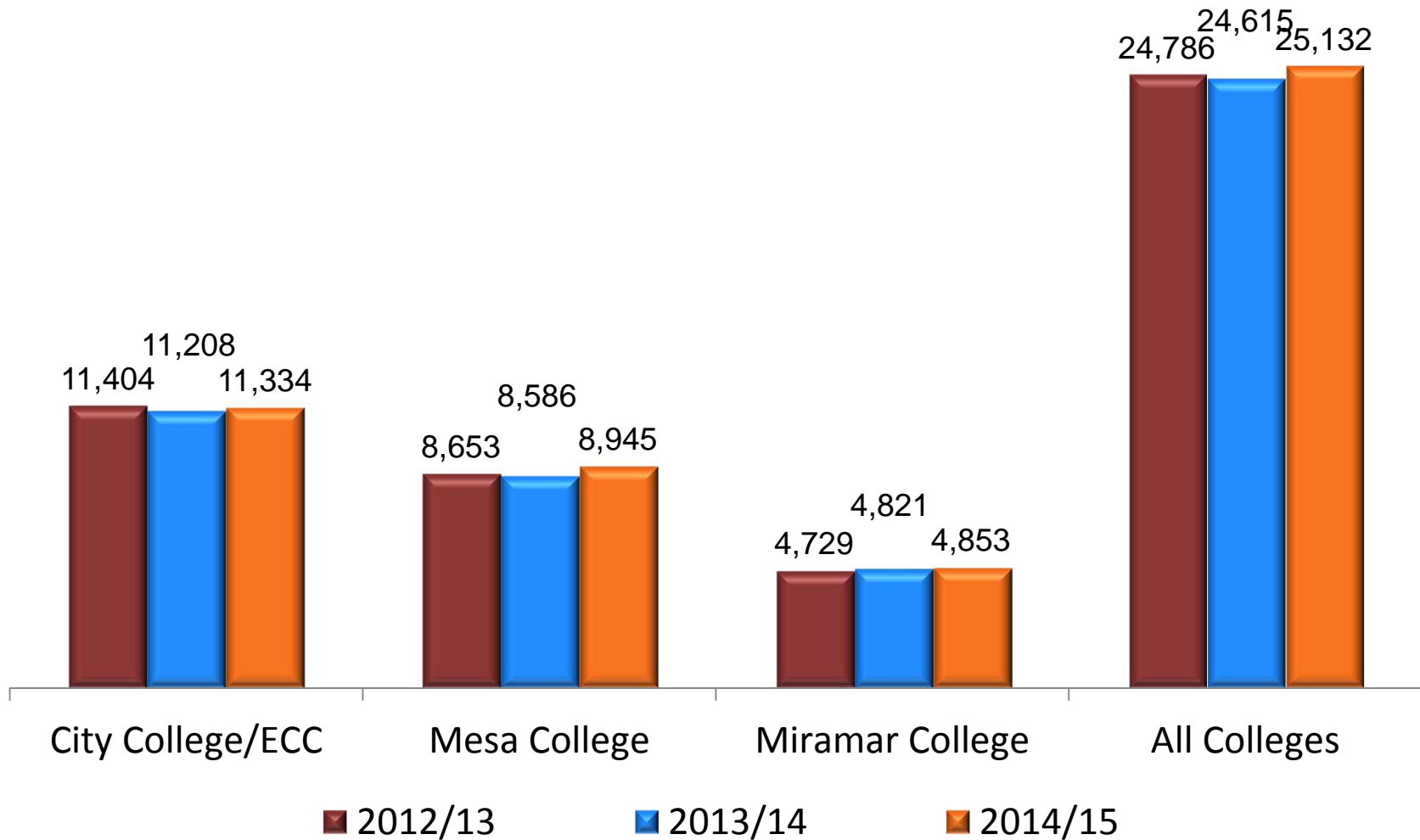
- FTES of all Prior Noncredit students increased overall by 2% from 2012/13 to 2014/15. This increase was consistent with the FTES increase at each of the credit colleges from 2012/13 to 2014/15 (City College/ECC 9%; Mesa College 5%; Miramar College 14%).
- The number of First-Time to SDCCD Prior Noncredit students increased by 1% between 2013/14 to 2014/15.
- The percentage of African Americans is still higher among First-Time Prior Noncredit students than among First-Time students (15% and 6%, respectively).

# FTES of All Prior Noncredit Students in College Credit Courses

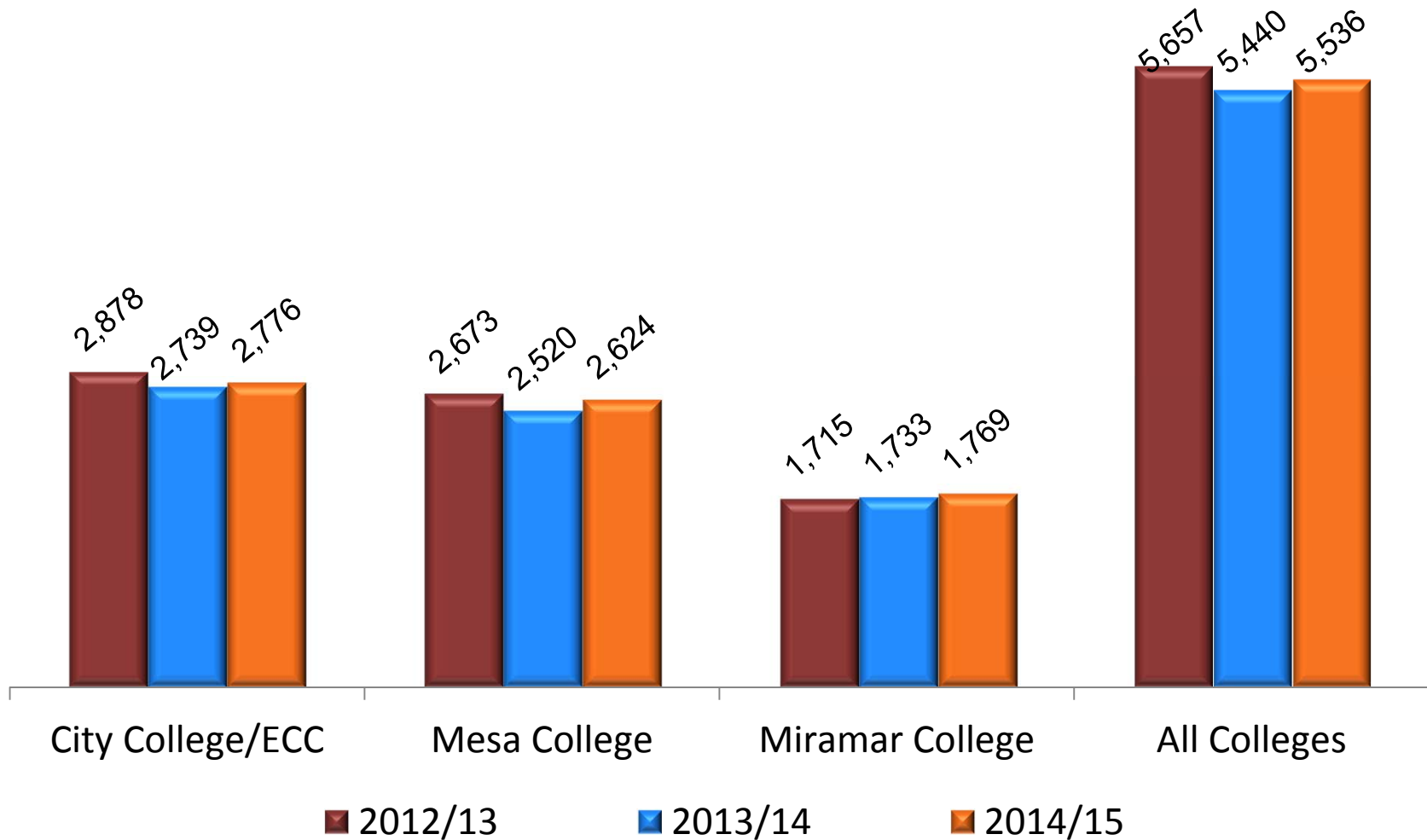
*FTES of Prior Noncredit students increased overall by 2% from 2012/13 to 2014/15. This contributes approximately 7% of the total FTES.*



# Enrollment of All Prior Noncredit Students



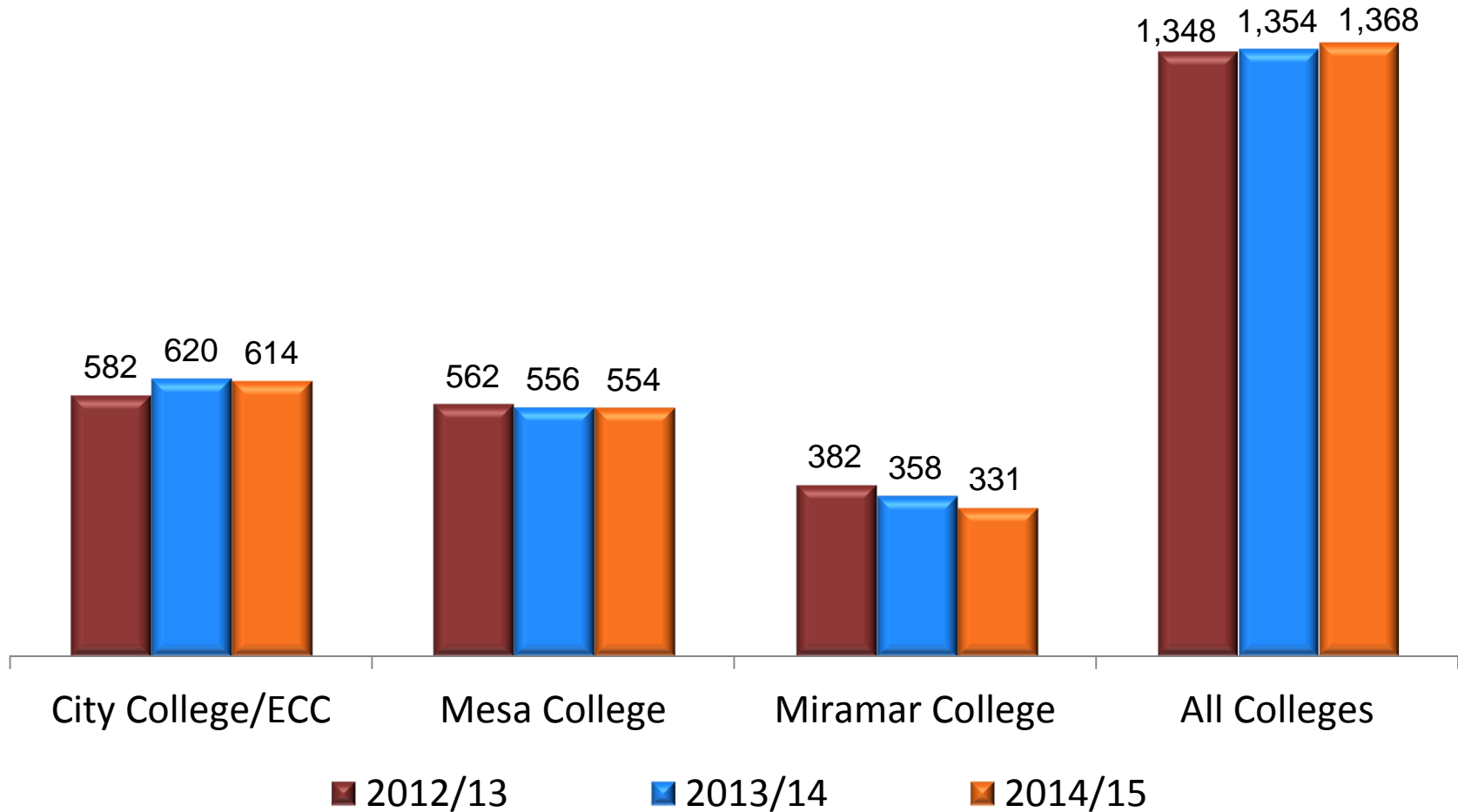
# Headcount of All Prior Noncredit Students





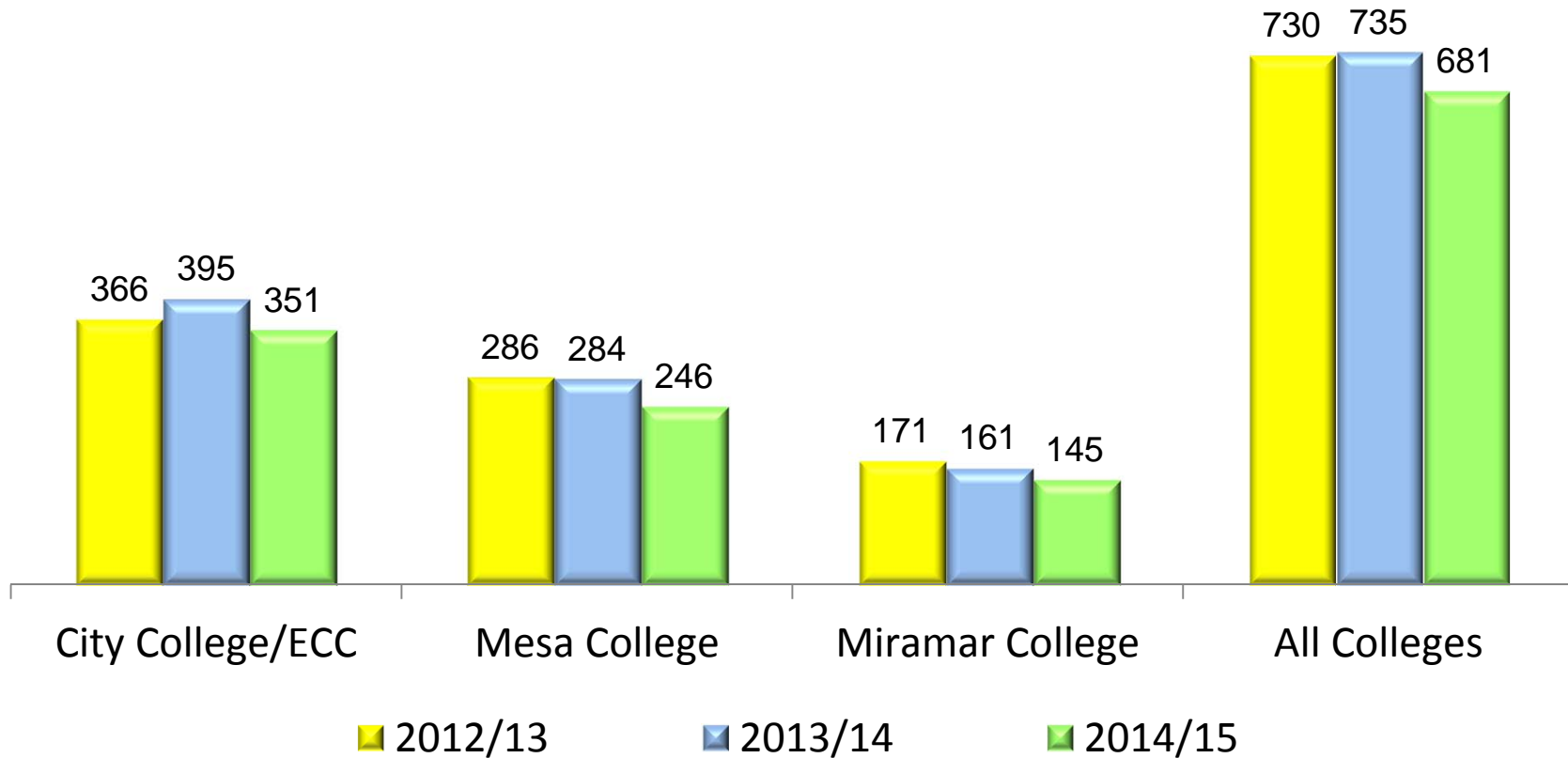
# Headcount of First-Time to SDCCCD Prior Noncredit Students

Includes Degree Holders and First-Time Transfers



# Headcount of First-Time to College Prior Noncredit Students

Excludes Degree Holders and Transfers



# Top Credit College Courses Taken

## 2014/15

### All Prior Noncredit Students

Administration of Justice

Child Development

English

English as a Second Language

Exercise Science

Mathematics

Psychology

### All Credit Students

Biology

Chemistry

English

Exercise Science

History

Mathematics

Psychology

*Note. Mathematics was the top course at each college.*

# Placement

## 2014/15

### Reading Placement

- First-time to SDCCD Prior Noncredit students had fewer transfer-level reading placements in their first term compared to First-Time students (38% and 54%, respectively).
- All three Colleges followed the same pattern for transfer-level reading placements.

### Writing Placement

- Prior Noncredit students had a lower percentage of transfer-level writing placements in their first term in credit compared to First-Time students in their first term (13% and 27%, respectively).
- The three colleges followed the same pattern for writing placements.

# Placement

## 2014/15

### Math Placement

- Prior Noncredit students had fewer transfer-level math placements in their first term in credit compared to First-Time students (13% and 23%, respectively).
- Each college followed the same pattern.

### ESOL Placement

- Prior Noncredit students had a smaller percentage of ESOL placements that were three levels below transfer in their first term in credit than First-Time ESOL students in their first term (4% and 7%, respectively).
- This pattern was true for each of the colleges except Miramar College (6% and 5%, respectively).
- Prior Noncredit students had a lower percentage of ESOL placements that were six levels below transfer in their first term in credit than First-Time ESOL students in their first term (62% and 64%, respectively). This pattern was true for Mesa College, but not the other two colleges.

# Enrollment Tracking Cohort Parameters 2008 - 2015

## Comparison Groups

### Recent Noncredit Students

- Recent Noncredit students are students who attended eight or more hours in Continuing Ed courses within the immediate three years prior to enrolling at City/ECC, Mesa, or Miramar for the first time. Four cohort years in credit are studied: 2008/09 – 2011/12.
  - On average, between 2008/09 and 2011/12, 619 Recent Noncredit students enrolled in their first credit year (City/ECC =339; Mesa=218; Miramar=118), with an overall average of 2,414 enrollments (City/ECC =1,174; Mesa=787; Miramar=380).

### All First-Time to College Students

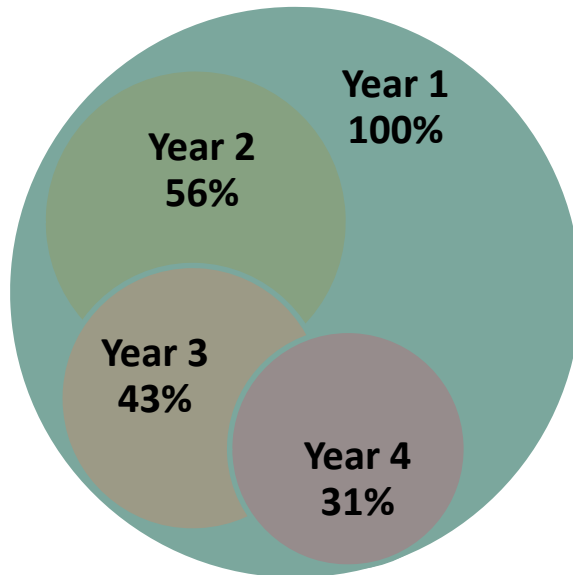
- The First-Time to College students are students who enrolled at City/ECC, Mesa, or Miramar for the first time. Four cohort years are studied: 2008/09 – 2011/12.
  - On average, between 2008/09 and 2011/12, 10,968 All First-Time to College students enrolled in their first credit year (City/ECC =4,208; Mesa=5,247; Miramar=2,503), with an overall average of 48,139 enrollments (City/ECC =16,058; Mesa=21,115; Miramar=9,378).

*Note. Both comparison groups exclude degree holders, transfer students, and students concurrently enrolled at a four-year university in their first term at SDCCD.*

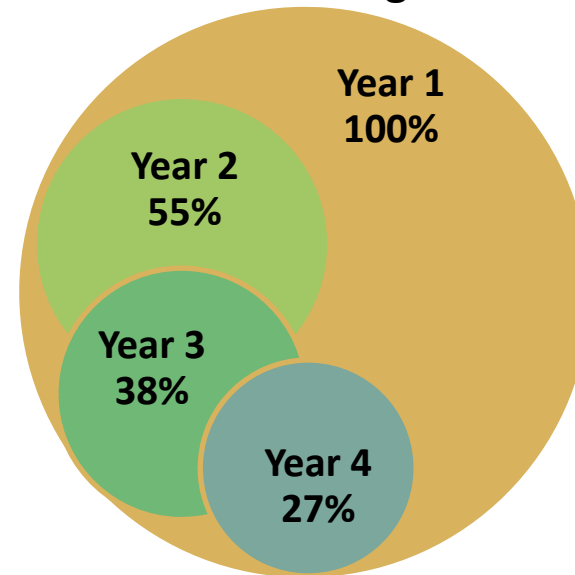
# Credit College Enrollment Tracking 2008-2015

## 2008/09-2011/12 Cohorts

Recent Noncredit Students



All First-Time to College Students



- First-year student enrollments are tracked up to four years. Nearly the same percentage of All First-Time to College students re-enrolled after their first credit year as did Recent Noncredit students.
- Approximately half of the Recent Noncredit students enrolled a second year and nearly one third were enrolled four years after their first term in credit courses.

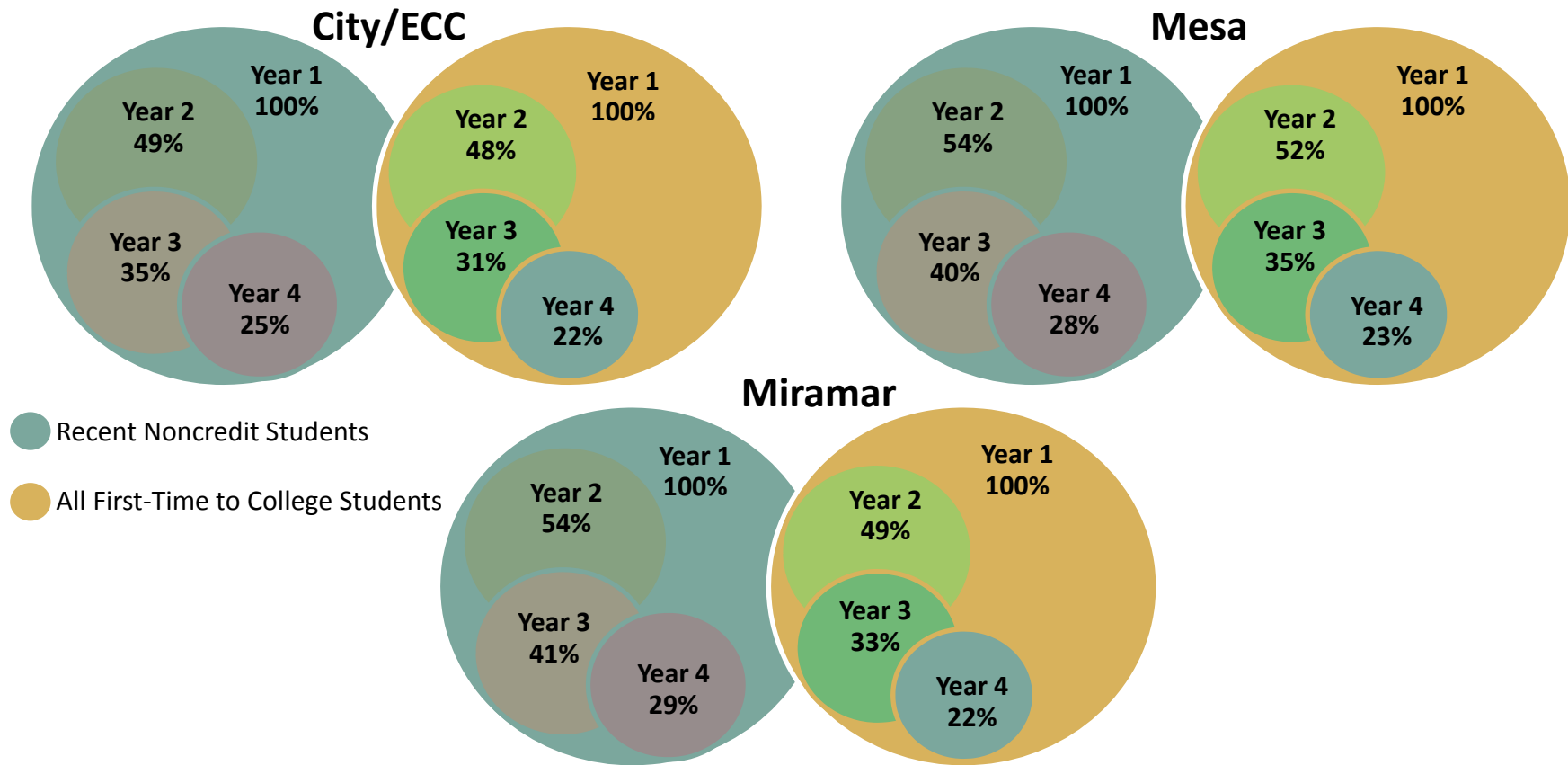
*Note 1. Both comparison groups exclude degree holders, transfer students, and students concurrently enrolled at a four-year university in their first term at SDCCD.*

*Note 2. Five percent of Recent Noncredit students and All First-Time to College students stopped out in years two or three, and re-enrolled in year four.*

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# Credit College Enrollment Tracking 2008-2015

## 2008/09-2011/12 Cohorts



At each of the colleges, a greater percentage of Recent Noncredit students re-enrolled than All First-Time to College students.

*Note. Both comparison groups exclude degree holders, transfer students, and students concurrently enrolled at a four-year university in their first term at SDCCD.*



# Credit College Enrollment Tracking 2008-2015

## 2008/09-2011/12 Cohorts

- Overall, Recent Noncredit students completed a greater percentage of the units they attempted (60%-65%) than All First-Time to College students (59%-60%) over the four years tracked.
- Overall, the unit completion rates for Recent Noncredit students were lowest in their first-year (60%), and then increased and remained steady throughout the next three years (65% each year), while the unit completion rate for All First-Time to College students were comparable throughout the four years.
  - The unit completion rates for Recent Noncredit students at City/ECC, Mesa, and Miramar were also lowest in the first year, and higher in the following three years.

*Note. Both comparison groups exclude degree holders, transfer students, and students concurrently enrolled at a four-year university in their first term at SDCCD.*

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# Outcomes

# Retention and Success Cohort Parameters 2008 - 2015

## Comparison Groups

### Recent Noncredit Students

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### All First-Time to College Students

- The First-Time to College students are students who enrolled at City/ECC, Mesa, or Miramar for the first time. Four cohort years are studied: 2008/09 – 2011/12.
  - On average, between 2008/09 and 2011/12, 10,968 All First-Time to College students enrolled in their first credit year (City/ECC =4,208; Mesa=5,247; Miramar=2,503), with an overall average of 48,139 enrollments (City/ECC =16,058; Mesa=21,115; Miramar=9,378).

*Note. Both comparison groups exclude degree holders, transfer students, and students concurrently enrolled at a four-year university in their first term at SDCCD.*

# Retention 2008-2015

## 2008/09-2011/12 Cohorts

- Overall over four years, the rates of student retention in their courses through the end of the term were comparable for Recent Noncredit students (84%-88%) and All First-Time to College students (85%-87%).
  - Recent Noncredit student retention at both City/ECC and Mesa were lowest in the first year and relatively steady in subsequent years.
  - Miramar Recent Noncredit student retention remained steady throughout the four years.
- On average over four years, Filipino (92%) and Asian/Pacific Islander (90%) Recent Noncredit students had the highest overall classroom retention, while African American students (82%) and students who reported 'Other' ethnicities (83%) had the lowest overall classroom retention. On average, among All First-Time to College students, Asian/Pacific Islander (89%), Filipino (89%), African American (82%), and American Indian (82%) students had the highest and lowest overall retention, respectively, over the four years. The overall average retention rates for Latino and White Recent Noncredit and All First-Time to College students ranged between 85% and 87%.

*Note. Both comparison groups exclude degree holders, transfer students, and students concurrently enrolled at a four-year university in their first term at SDCCD.*

# Success 2008-2015

## 2008/09-2011/12 Cohorts

- Overall, among Recent Noncredit students and All First-Time to College students who were tracked over four years, success rates were lowest in their first year in credit (64% and 65%, respectively), and were higher in ensuing years (ranges of 71%-75% and 68%-70%, respectively).
  - The trend for Recent Noncredit students at City/ECC and Miramar was consistent with overall trends.
  - Recent Noncredit student success at Mesa was at its lowest in students' first year and peaked in their third year.
- On average, Asian/Pacific Islander (83%), American Indian (64%), Latino (64%), and African American (59%) Recent Noncredit students had the highest and lowest overall success over the four years studied. White and Filipino Recent Noncredit student success rates were 72% and 73%, respectively. The pattern was similar among All First-Time to College students.

*Note. Both comparison groups exclude degree holders, transfer students, and students concurrently enrolled at a four-year university in their first term at SDCCD.*

# Student Completion Cohort Parameters

## 2007-2014

### Comparison Groups

#### Recent Noncredit Student Cohort

- The Recent Noncredit student cohort includes students who attended eight or more hours in Continuing Ed courses within the immediate three years prior to enrolling at City/ECC, Mesa, or Miramar for the first time, **AND who earned 6+ units and took a math or English course in their first three years.** Four cohort years in credit are studied: 2007/08 – 2010/11.

#### First-Time to College Student Cohort

- The First-Time to College student cohort includes students who enrolled at City/ECC, Mesa, or Miramar for the first time **AND who earned 6+ units and took a math or English course in their first three years.** Four cohort years are studied: 2007/08 – 2010/11.

*Note. Both comparison groups exclude degree holders, transfer students, and students concurrently enrolled at a four-year university in their first term at SDCCD.*

# 30+ Units 2007-2014

## 2007/08-2010/11 Cohorts

- Overall, 60% of the All Colleges 2007/08-2010/11 Recent Noncredit student cohort completed 30+ units within four years of entry, and a slightly higher percentage of the All Colleges 2007/08-2008/09 Recent Noncredit student cohort completed 30+ units within six years of entry (64%).
  - The percentage of the 2007/08-2010/11 Recent Noncredit student cohort who completed 30+ units within four years of entry was 51% among the City/ECC student cohort, 56% among the Mesa student cohort, and 60% among the Miramar student cohort.

Recent Noncredit Student Cohort	30+ Units w/in Four Years			30+ Units w/in Six Years		
	07/08-10/11 Cohort	Achieved Outcome	% of Cohort	07/08-08/09 Cohort	Achieved Outcome	% of Cohort
City College/ECC	610	314	51%	312	171	55%
Mesa College	378	212	56%	194	118	61%
Miramar College	196	118	60%	104	68	65%
All Colleges	1,217	725	60%	630	402	64%

*Note. Both comparison groups exclude degree holders, transfer students, and students concurrently enrolled at a four-year university in their first term at SDCCD.*

# 30+ Units 2007-2014

## 2007/08-2010/11 Cohorts

- Overall, 55% of the City/ECC 2007/08-2008/09 Recent Noncredit student cohort completed 30+ units within six years of entry (compared to 48% of the City/ECC First-Time to College student cohort).
- Overall, 61% of the Mesa 2007/08-2008/09 Recent Noncredit student cohort completed 30+ units within six years of entry (compared to 54% of the Mesa First-Time to College student cohort).
- Overall, 65% of the Miramar 2007/08-2008/09 Recent Noncredit student cohort completed 30+ units within six years of entry (compared to 56% of the Miramar First-Time to College student cohort).

	30+ Units w/in Four Years 2007/08-2010/11 Cohort		30+ Units w/in Six Years 2007/08-2008/09 Cohort	
	Recent Noncredit Cohort	First-Time to College Cohort	Recent Noncredit Cohort	First-Time to College Cohort
City College/ECC	51%	46%	55%	48%
Mesa College	56%	50%	61%	54%
Miramar College	60%	53%	65%	56%
All Colleges	60%	55%	64%	58%

*Note. Both comparison groups exclude degree holders, transfer students, and students concurrently enrolled at a four-year university in their first term at SDCCD.*



# Awards and Transfer 2007-2014

2007/08-2010/11 Cohorts

## Earned a Degree/Certificate

Recent Noncredit Student Cohort	Award w/in Four Years			Award w/in Six Years		
	07/08-10/11 Cohort	Award	% of Cohort	07/08-08/09 Cohort	Award	% of Cohort
City College/ECC	610	32	5%	312	36	12%
Mesa College	378	40	11%	194	47	24%
Miramar College	196	23	12%	104	26	25%
All Colleges	1,217	109	9%	630	128	20%

## Transferred to a Four-Year University

Recent Noncredit Student Cohort	Transfer w/in Four Years			Transfer w/in Six Years		
	07/08-10/11 Cohort	Transfer	% of Cohort	07/08-08/09 Cohort	Transfer	% of Cohort
City College/ECC	610	37	6%	312	48	15%
Mesa College	378	67	18%	194	51	26%
Miramar College	196	27	14%	104	30	29%
All Colleges	1,217	138	11%	630	135	21%

*Note. Both comparison groups exclude degree holders, transfer students, and students concurrently enrolled at a four-year university in their first term at SDCCD.*

# Awards and Transfer 2007-2014

## 2007/08-2010/11 Cohorts

### Earned a Degree/Certificate

	Award w/in Four Years 2007/08-2010/11 Cohort		Award w/in Six Years 2007/08-2008/09 Cohort	
	Recent Noncredit Cohort	First-Time to College Cohort	Recent Noncredit Cohort	First-Time to College Cohort
City College/ECC	5%	6%	12%	11%
Mesa College	11%	8%	24%	13%
Miramar College	12%	12%	25%	18%
All Colleges	9%	9%	20%	15%

### Transferred to a Four-Year University

	Transfer w/in Four Years 2007/08-2010/11 Cohort		Transfer w/in Six Years 2007/08-2008/09 Cohort	
	Recent Noncredit Cohort	First-Time to College Cohort	Recent Noncredit Cohort	First-Time to College Cohort
City College/ECC	6%	14%	15%	24%
Mesa College	18%	28%	26%	39%
Miramar College	14%	22%	29%	35%
All Colleges	11%	24%	21%	35%

*Note. Both comparison groups exclude degree holders, transfer students, and students concurrently enrolled at a four-year university in their first term at SDCCD.*

**IRP**

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