



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.

Highlights

- ▶ Prior non-credit students provide the largest and most constant pipeline of students than any other segment in the population.
- ▶ A greater percentage of Recent Noncredit students had transfer-level reading and writing placements in their first term in credit than did General Credit students and the majority placed into transfer level math.
- ▶ A greater percentage of Recent Noncredit students re-enrolled after their first credit year than General Credit students.

Highlights

- ▶ 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.
- ▶ 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%).
- ▶ Overall, after 4 years, 6% of the Recent Noncredit students received an award compared to 5% for General Credit students.



Section 1 Enrollment and Outcomes



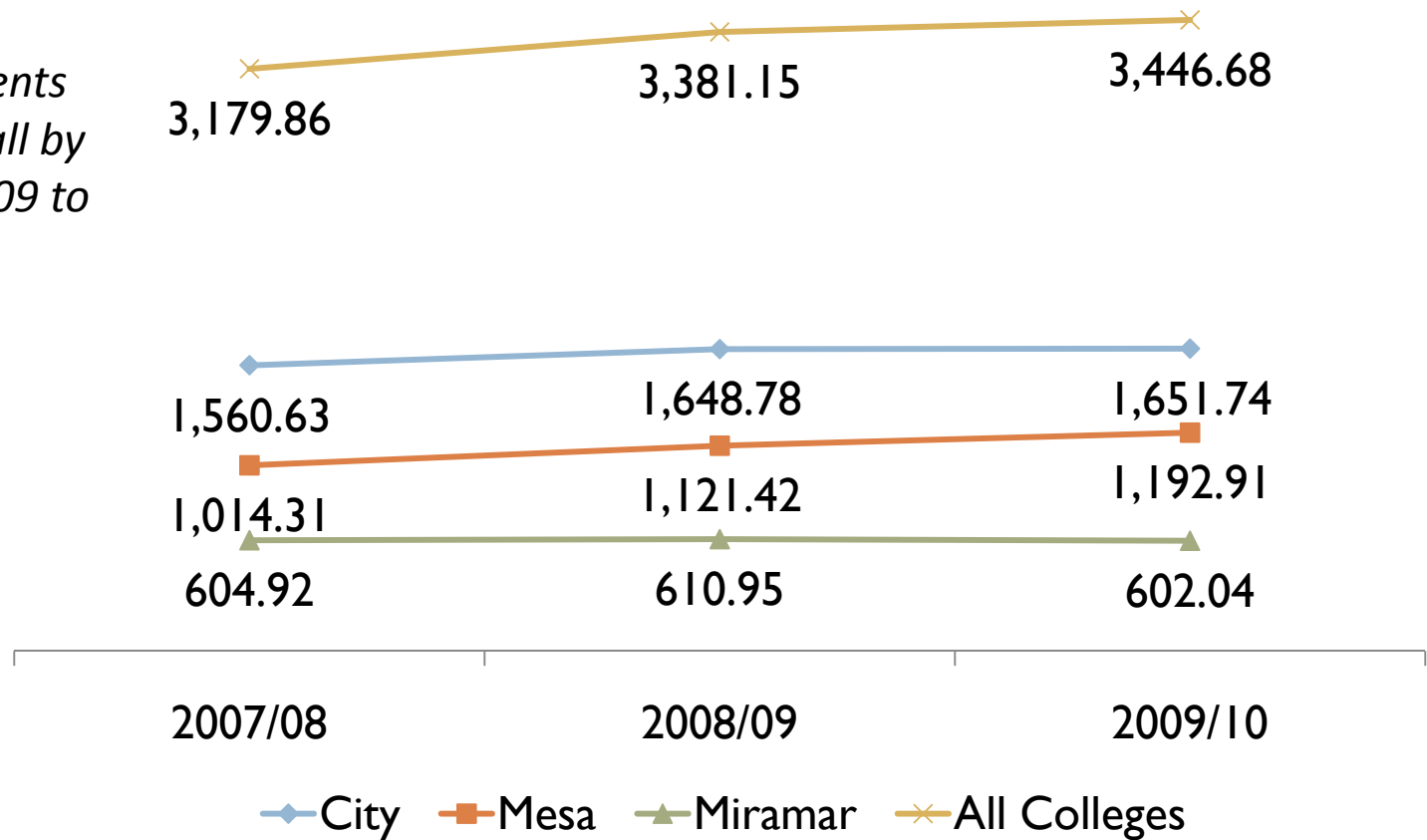
2009/10

Enrollment & Headcount

- 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%). However, the headcount of First-Time Prior Noncredit students decreased by 15% between 2008/09 to 2009/10 due to section reductions.
- There was a higher percentage of African American and Asian/Pacific Islander First-Time Prior Noncredit students compared to the General Credit Population.
- Between 2003/04 and 2006/07, per year, an average of 1,046 Recent Noncredit students who attended CE within the previous 2 years and earned 8 hours enrolled in their first credit year (City=544; Mesa=385; Miramar=218) and generated 3,986 enrollments (City=1,994; Mesa=1,304; Miramar=688) on average per year.

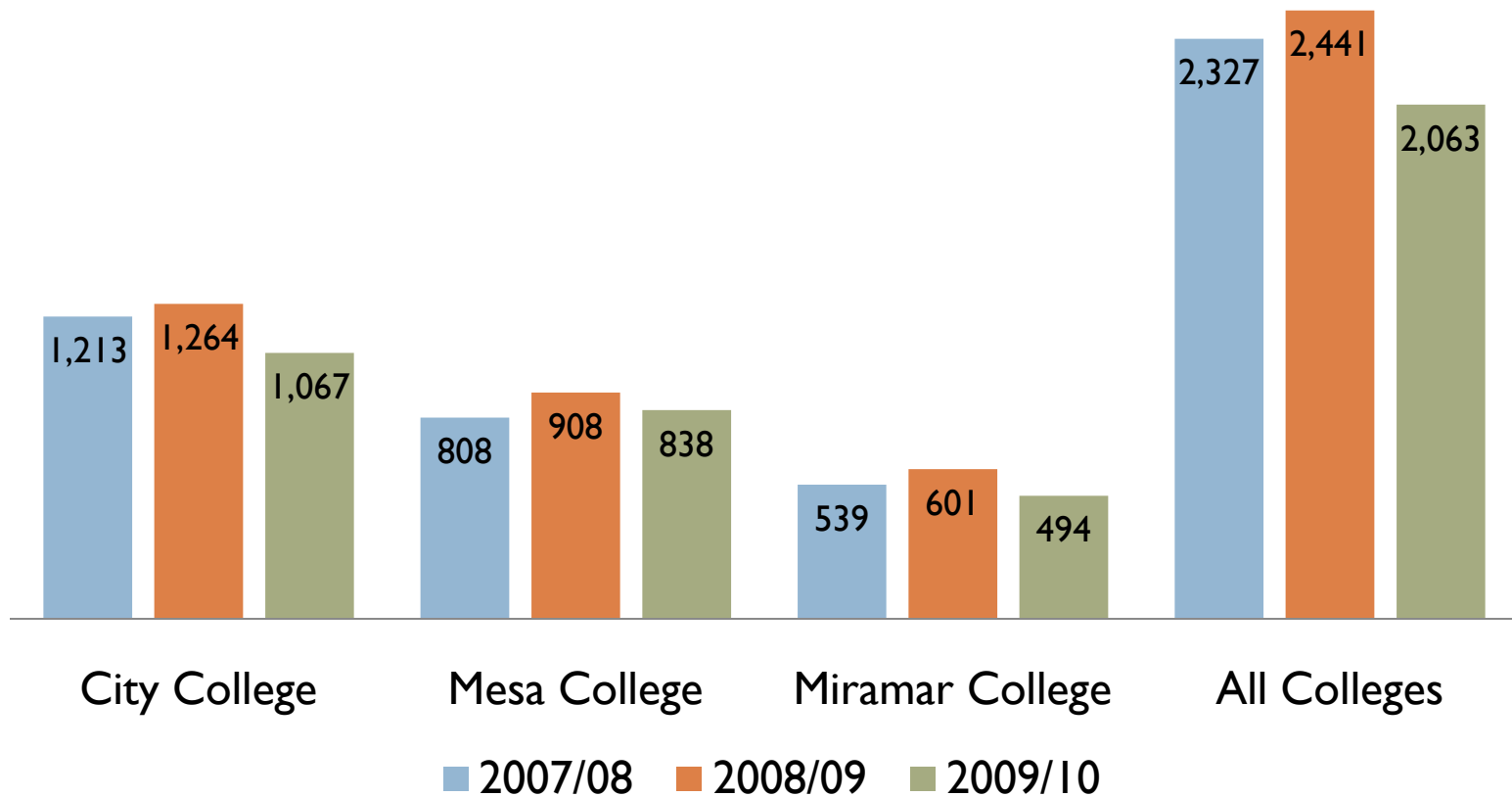
FTES of All Prior Noncredit Students in College Credit Courses

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

Child Development

Chemistry

Computer Business Tech

English

English as a Second Language

Mathematics

Physical Education

General Credit

Chemistry

Biology

English

History

Mathematics

Physical Education

Psychology

Mathematics was the top course at each college.

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.

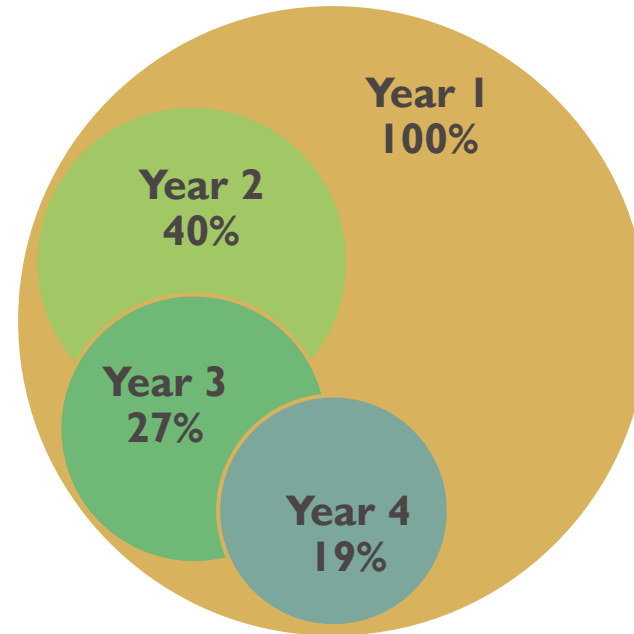
Enrollment Tracking

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.

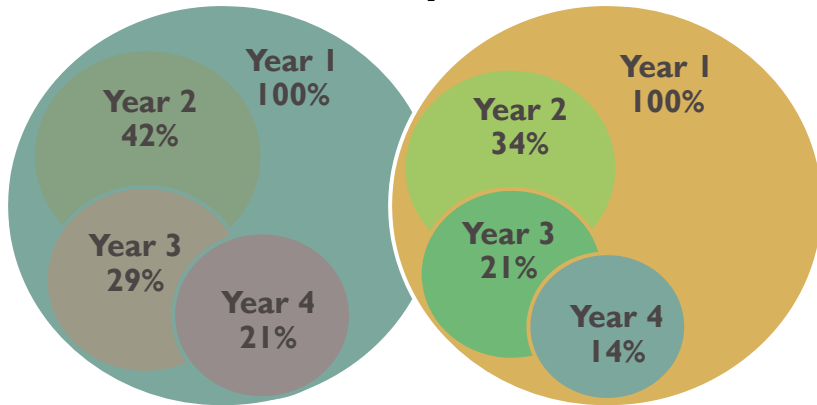
Almost half of the Recent Noncredit students enrolled a second year and one-quarter were enrolled 4 years after their first term in credit courses.

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

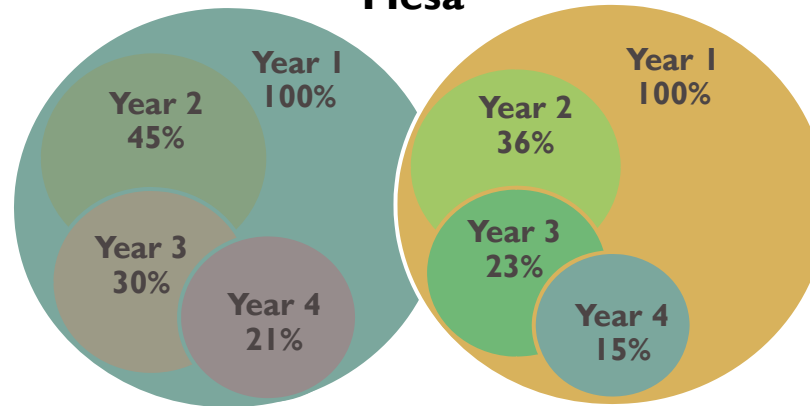
City



Miramar



Mesa



- Recent Noncredit Students in Credit
- General Credit Students

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

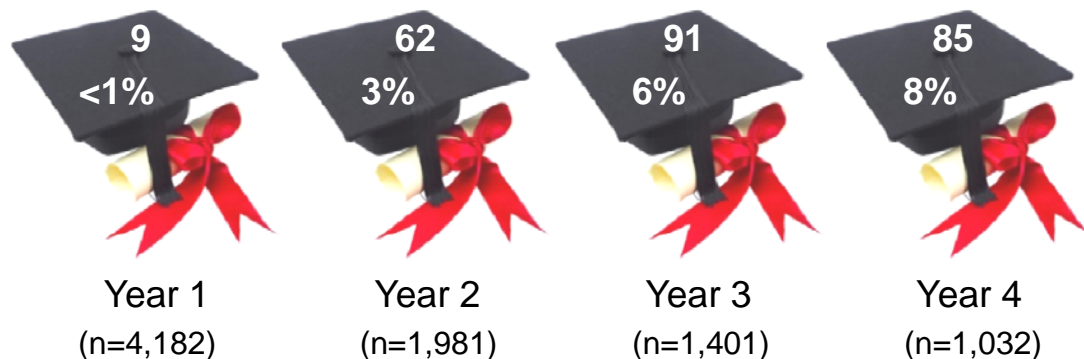
Year 1 constitutes the student's first year in credit courses. Overall, among Recent Noncredit student who continued to re-enroll, the 4th year produced the highest award rate (8%). This is consistent at each of the three colleges.

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

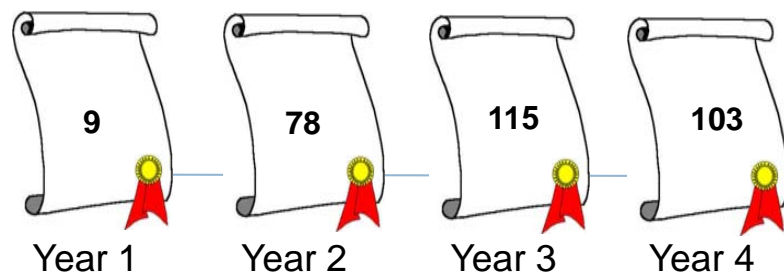
Overall, after 4 years, 5% of the General Credit students received an award. The college award rates varied from 3-4%.

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

Students Receiving Awards - Recent Noncredit Students

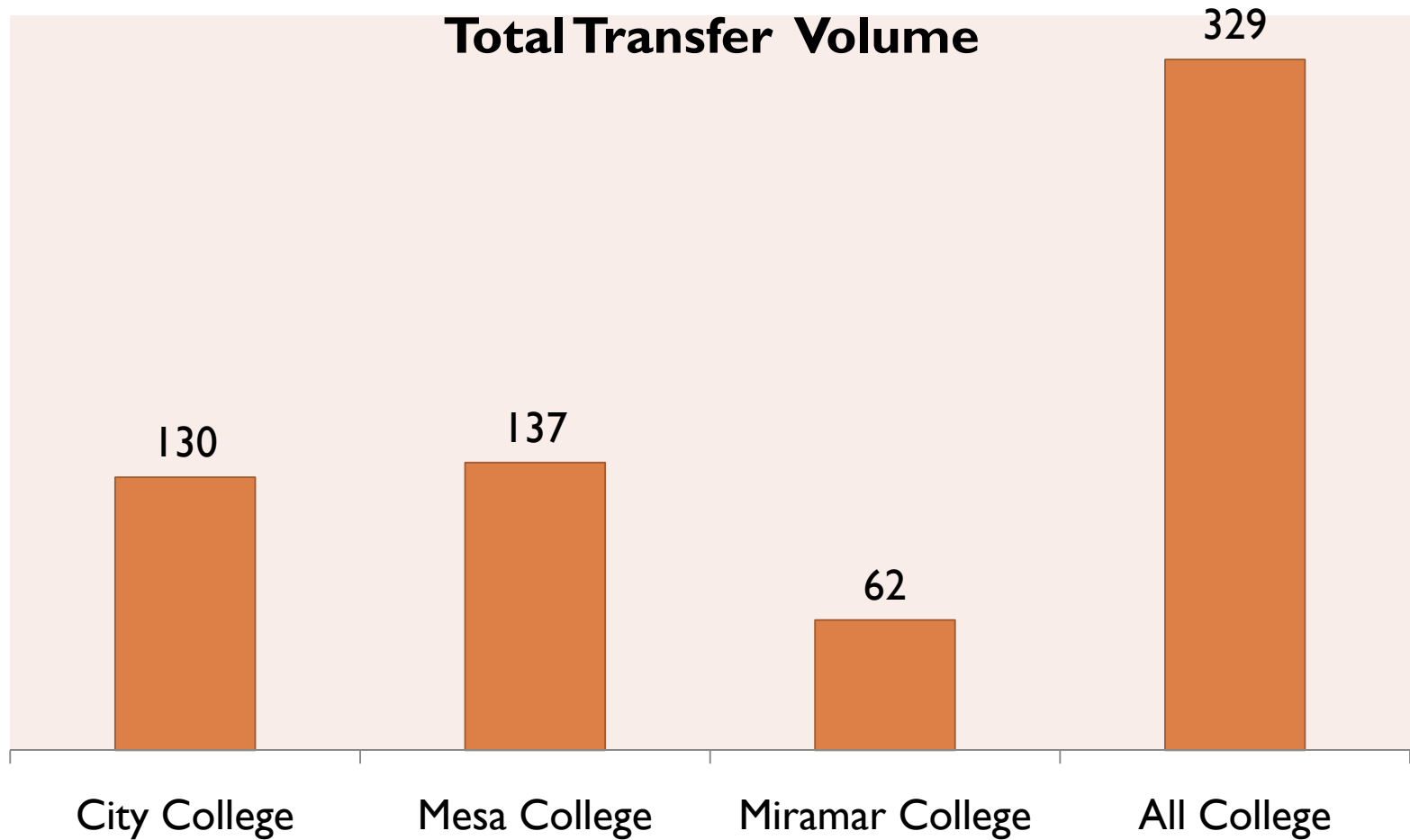


Awards Conferred - Recent Noncredit Students



Student Transfer

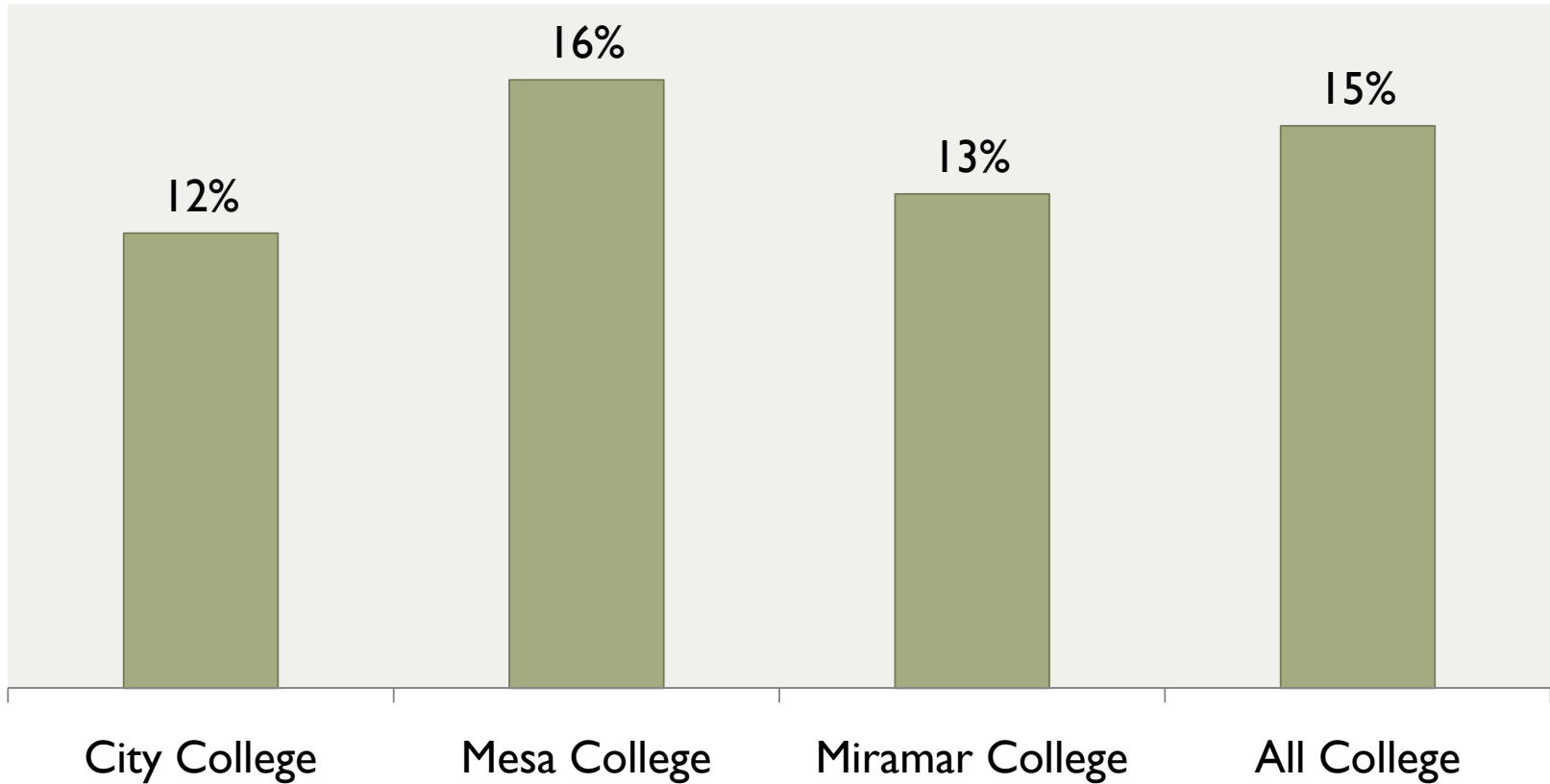
2004/05 – 2003/04 Combined Cohorts



**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.*



End

SDCCD Office of Institutional Research and Planning