

# RESEARCH BRIEF

## INSTITUTIONAL AND PROGRAM PLANNING

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### OPENING FALL CREDIT STUDENT ENROLLMENT

The purpose of this *Research Brief* is to describe the student population (headcount and distribution by course type) enrolled in degree credit courses and attending classes at St. Petersburg Junior College at the end of the first week of classes (FTE date) during the Fall Session 1995. Table 1 describes the Fall '95 credit student profile by home campus and compares this year's Collegewide profile with the same timeframe in Fall '94. Recall that students are asked to identify one of three locations as a home campus when they apply for admission--St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus, Clearwater Campus, or Tarpon Springs Center--although they may take their courses at any site.

**TABLE 1**  
**PROFILE BY HOME CAMPUS OF CREDIT/AUDIT STUDENT ENROLLMENT**  
**FTE DATE SESSION I, 1995-96**

	<u>CLEARWATER</u>		<u>ST. PETERSBURG</u>		<u>TARPON CENTER</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>FTE Fall 1994-95 TOTAL</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<b>PROGRAM</b>										
Adv. & Prof.	5,099	69.48%	6,521	70.47%	1,950	74.60%	13,570	70.65%	14,358	73.02%
Post. Voc.	1,147	15.63%	1,492	16.12%	361	13.81%	3,000	15.62%	3,183	16.19%
Other Pers. Obj.	1,093	14.89%	1,241	13.41%	303	11.59%	2,637	13.73%	2,121	10.79%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,339</b>		<b>9,254</b>		<b>2,614</b>		<b>19,207</b>		<b>19,662</b>	
<b>TYPE OF ATTENDANCE</b>										
Full-time	1,982	27.01%	2,412	26.06%	676	25.86%	5,070	26.40%	5,249	26.70%
Part-time	5,357	72.99%	6,842	73.94%	1,938	74.14%	14,137	73.60%	14,413	73.30%
<b>GENDER</b>										
Male	3,086	42.05%	3,556	38.43%	967	36.99%	7,609	39.62%	7,670	39.01%
Female	4,253	57.95%	5,698	61.57%	1,647	63.01%	11,598	60.38%	11,992	60.99%
<b>RACE</b>										
White	6,392	87.10%	7,367	79.61%	2,431	93.00%	16,190	84.29%	16,835	85.62%
African-American	320	4.36%	1,001	10.82%	41	1.57%	1,362	7.09%	1,319	6.71%
American Indian	72	0.98%	111	1.20%	25	0.96%	208	1.08%	185	0.94%
Asian	236	3.22%	394	4.26%	38	1.45%	668	3.48%	605	3.08%
Hispanic	319	4.35%	381	4.12%	79	3.02%	779	4.06%	716	3.64%
Not Known	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	2	0.01%
<b>AGE</b>										
15-19	1,706	23.25%	1,999	21.60%	734	28.08%	4,439	23.11%	4,384	22.30%
20-24	2,143	29.20%	2,495	26.96%	718	27.47%	5,356	27.89%	5,663	28.80%
25-29	1,129	15.38%	1,489	16.09%	333	12.74%	2,951	15.36%	3,068	15.60%
30-34	868	11.83%	1,178	12.73%	262	10.02%	2,308	12.02%	2,387	12.14%
35-39	607	8.27%	876	9.47%	218	8.34%	1,701	8.86%	1,794	9.12%
40-44	409	5.57%	591	6.39%	161	6.16%	1,161	6.04%	1,143	5.81%
45-49	240	3.27%	319	3.45%	100	3.83%	659	3.43%	675	3.43%
50-54	113	1.54%	156	1.69%	43	1.64%	312	1.62%	326	1.66%
55-59	43	0.59%	62	0.67%	21	0.80%	126	0.66%	115	0.58%
60 and over	80	1.09%	84	0.91%	23	0.88%	187	0.97%	95	0.48%
Not known	1	0.01%	5	0.05%	1	0.04%	7	0.04%	12	0.06%

Significant details about the student headcount population are:

### 1. Program

Overall credit headcount enrollment decreased slightly over the previous Fall. There was a decrease in the percentage of students enrolled in the college transfer A. A. degree program. This reverses a four year trend wherein enrollment in this program category has increased. On the other hand, the percentage of students enrolled in credit courses, but not enrolled in degree programs, increased from 10.8% in Fall '94 to 13.7% in Fall '95. The percentage of students enrolled in A. S. degree/Vocational Certificate programs, also, decreased slightly over last Fall from 16.2% to 15.6%.

### 2. Type of Attendance

The distribution of students based on matriculated credit hours, with full-time enrollment equal to 12 or more hours, showed that the percentage of students enrolled full-time decreased slightly from 26.7% (Fall '94) to 26.4% (Fall '95).

### 3. Gender

There is a slight increase in the percentage of males attending in Fall '95 over Fall '94, however, Collegewide there are more females (60.4%) than males (39.6%). This same pattern is followed on each of the campuses and is consistent with the Fall '94 profile.

### 4. Age

Collegewide slightly more than one-half of our students continue to be between 15 and 24 years of age (51.0%). However, there is an emerging pattern wherein the percentage of students in this age bracket has been decreasing (Fall '94, 51.1%, Fall '93, 51.7%, Fall '92, 52.9%). At the same time, there has been slight increases in the percentage of students in all ages between 30 and 59 years of age over the four opening Fall sessions (Fall '92, 30.85%; Fall '93, 31.98%; Fall '94, 32.74%; Fall '95, 33.28%). The average age of SPJC students is 27.6 years (A.A., 25.1; A.S., 31.5; Other Personal Objectives, 34.4).

### 5. Ethnicity

On a Collegewide basis, 84.3% of the students are white; 7.1% are African-American; 4.1% are Hispanic; 3.5% are Asian; 1.1% are American Indian. As has been the trend for the past few years, the percentage of ethnic minorities continues to increase, with African American enrollment the fastest growing minority (Fall '95, 7.1%; Fall '94, 6.7%; Fall '93, 6.3%; Fall '92, 5.7%).

Although the number and profile of the student body is important to the faculty and administration, the distribution of students across the various types of courses has equal importance, especially for college program planning. Table 2 shows the distribution of Fall 95 FTE date enrollment by credit/audit students collegewide compared to the previous two years. It is important to remember that SPJC receives funds from the state based on its FTE count. Collegewide, 64.4% of generated FTE's are in Advanced and Professional courses. 26.7% are in Postsecondary Vocational courses, and 9.0% are in College Preparatory courses. The Fall '94, Fall '93 and Fall '92 enrollments and percentages are shown for comparison. Compared to the previous three Fall sessions at the end of the drop/add period, there is a decrease overall in the number of FTE. By type of course, there is a slight increase in the percentage enrollments in all but college preparatory classes.

**TABLE 2**  
**DISTRIBUTION OF FTE ENROLLMENT ACROSS COURSES TAKEN**  
**BY CREDIT/AUDIT STUDENTS**  
**FALL 1993 COMPARED TO FALL 1994 THROUGH FALL 1992**

	Collegewide		Collegewide		Collegewide		Collegewide	
	'95 FTE	%	'94 FTE	%	'93 FTE	%	'92 FTE	%
Advanced & Professional	2,621.5	64.35%	2,730.3	63.73%	2,813.8	62.89%	2,783.6	64.65%
Postsecondary Vocational	1,087.9	26.70%	1,129.5	26.37%	1,227.4	27.44%	1,149.3	26.69%
College Preparatory	364.4	8.95%	424.3	9.90%	432.6	9.67%	372.7	8.66%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,073.8</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>4,284.1</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>4,473.8</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>4,305.6</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Percent of Increase</b>	<b>(5.16%)</b>		<b>(4.43%)</b>		<b>3.91%</b>			
<b>(Decrease)</b>								

In summary, there have been some slight changes in the headcount enrollment pattern. More minority and older students are enrolling. While the changes are small, trends are becoming apparent. At the same time, overall FTE have decreased in the last two years. In Fall '95, the enrollment in college preparatory classes decreased reversing an increasing trend in remedial courses.