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COMPARISON OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSES IN FALL 1995 TO STUDENTS ENROLLED IN ALL COLLEGE COURSES

INTRODUCTION

The Office of Institutional Research conducted a study of college preparatory students enrolled in any remedial class during Fall 1995 to determine their age and ethnicity, residency, and success rate (grades) and compared them to students enrolled in college credit courses. Residency was defined as the address the student had on the application for admission to the College. The data were analyzed by course within subject area. Since all enrollments were counted and a student could be enrolled simultaneously in remedial courses in reading, writing and mathematics, the resulting collegewide enrollment in these courses is a duplicated headcount while the enrollment in each subject area is unduplicated since a student can enroll in only one college preparatory course in each area. The table on the other side provides summary data for each course.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The majority of students enrolled in college preparatory classes in Fall 1995 were 24 years of age or younger. This varied from a low of 62.2% in MAT 0024 to a high of 77.9% in REA 0002. On the other hand, collegewide less than half (48.0%) of all student enrollments were by students in this age bracket. Thus, it appears that more college age students are in need of remediation than older students.

Residency did not appear to influence enrollment in remedial courses. More than 80% of the enrollments were by residents of Pinellas County; this was consistent with the percentage of Pinellas County residents collegewide.

The majority of students enrolled in a college preparatory course in reading (REA 0001, 68.2%; REA 002, 64.0%) and English (ENC 0002, 64.4%; ENC 0010, 67.4%) passed the course with a grade of C or better. The percentage passing preparatory courses in mathematics was lower. Still, about one-half of the enrolled students either earned a passing grade of D or better or were making satisfactory progress (grade = X) at the end of the semester in mathematics classes (MAT 0002 and MAT 0024). In contrast, in all cases, the percentage of students earning C or better in courses collegewide was 71.8%. The number of semesters a student takes to complete a mathematics preparatory course was not part of this study, but the data indicate that longer than a semester may be necessary for some students to complete the requirements. Age did not appear to significantly affect passing.

When percentages of enrollments by ethnicity in college preparatory classes were compared to percentages in the collegewide enrollment in credit courses, the percentage of white students was lower (84.4% collegewide compared to a low of 60.8% in ENC 0002 and a high of 82.0% in MAT 0024) and the percentage of black students greater (7.1% collegewide compared to a low of 9.8% in MAT 0024 and a high of 41.7% in REA 0001) for all remedial courses. The percentage of Hispanic students enrolled in college preparatory courses was higher (from 5.2% to 10.0%) than their percentage in the collegewide population (4.0%) for all courses except ENC 0002 (3.5%). The percentage of Asian students enrolled in preparatory courses was lower than their percentage in the collegewide population (3.4%) for all mathematics courses (MAT 0002, 2.2%; MAT 0024, 2.3%) and for the beginning level reading (1.7%) courses, but higher for the second reading (6.8%) and both English courses (ENC 0002, 7.5%; ENC 0010, 3.5%).

A copy of the complete report of Students Enrolled in College Preparatory Courses in Fall 1995 is available at each campus library. If you have any additional questions or comments, please contact Dr. Susanne Fischer via fischers@email.spjc.cc.fl.us or call 341-3374.

TABLE
ENROLLMENT IN COLLEGE PREPARATORY CLASSES vs.
UNDUPLICATED COLLEGEWIDE CREDIT STUDENTS
FALL 1995

College Preparatory Class Enrollment Collegewide End-of-Fall

	<u>Mathematics</u>		<u>Reading</u>		<u>English</u>		<u>Collegewide</u> <u>Headcount</u>
	MAT 0002	MAT 0024	REA 0001	REA 0002	ENC 0002	ENC 0010	All Students
A. Age							
Less than 20	765	1049	35	345	121	493	4438
	50.6%	43.5%	58.2%	63.5%	59.9%	63.2%	20.4%
20-24	203	453	10	78	29	99	5997
	13.4%	18.7%	16.7%	14.4%	14.4%	12.8%	27.6%
25-30	191	385	9	55	20	94	3356*
	12.7%	16.0%	15.0%	10.1%	9.9%	12.0%	15.4%
31 and over	351	527	6	65	32	94	7950
	23.3%	21.8%	10.1%	12.0%	15.8%	12.0%	36.6%
B. Ethnicity							
White	1151	1980	25	335	123	563	18357
	76.2	82.0%	41.7%	61.7%	60.8%	72.1%	84.4%
Black	222	236	25	136	55	123	1550
	14.7%	9.8%	41.7%	25.0%	27.2%	15.9%	7.1%
Hispanic	79	112	6	29	7	52	875
	5.2%	4.6%	10.0%	5.4%	3.5%	6.6%	4.0%
Asian	33	53	1	37	15	27	731
	2.2%	2.3%	1.7%	6.8%	7.5%	3.5%	3.4%
Am. Indian	25	33	3	6	2	15	236
	1.7%	1.3%	4.9%	1.1%	1.0%	1.9%	1.1%
C. Residency							
Pinellas	1315	2108	52	458	178	682	18148
	87.1%	87.4%	86.6%	84.4%	88.1%	87.4%	83.5%
Other Florida	169	260	6	60	16	81	2945
	11.1%	10.7%	10.1%	11.0%	7.9%	10.4%	13.5%
Out-of-State	10	25	0	9	1	10	
	0.7%	1.0%	0.0%	1.7%	0.5%	1.3%	3.0%
Not U. S.	16	21	2	16	7	7	656**
	1.1%	0.9%	3.3%	2.9%	3.5%	0.9%	
D. Grades							
A	252	260	5	51	34	91	16096
	16.6%	10.8%	8.4%	9.3%	16.8%	11.7%	30.9%
B	281	357	19	159	41	217	13490
	18.6%	14.8%	31.5%	29.2%	20.3%	27.8%	25.9%
C	211	311	17	139	55	218	7797
	14.0%	12.9%	28.3%	25.5%	27.3%	27.9%	15.0%
D	20	43	2	40	15	24	2025
	1.3%	1.8%	3.4%	7.5%	7.4%	3.1%	3.9%
F	205	436	5	32	12	82	2953
	13.6%	18.1%	8.4%	5.9%	5.9%	10.5%	5.7%
W	336	659	12	77	41	138	7579
	22.3%	27.3%	20.0%	14.3%	20.3%	17.7%	14.6%
S	0	0	0	29	0	0	349
	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%
I	6	15	0	0	2	3	835
	0.5%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.4%	1.6%
X	199	333	0	16	2	7	945
	13.1%	13.7%	0.0%	2.9%	1.0%	0.9%	1.8%

* SPJC FactBook shows this category as 25-29; and the next as 30 and over.

** Includes both out-of-state and not U.S.