



**Academic Performance Profile  
Fall 2008**

**El Camino College  
and  
Peer Institutions**

**Institutional Research  
El Camino College  
November 2009**

## Introduction

The following report profiles El Camino College on several academic performance measures compared with 5 other California community colleges that are similar in size, composition, and regional setting. These institutions are:

- Cerritos College (Cerritos)
- Long Beach City College (LBCC)
- Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC)
- Pasadena City College (PCC)
- Santa Monica College (SMC)

These colleges are all large, urban/suburban, ethnically diverse, and in single-college districts. They represent our core peer group in Southern California.

The academic performance measures provided in this report include the following:

- Course Retention and Success
- One Year Persistence
- Completions (degrees or transfer-preparedness)
- Transfers to UC/CSUs
- Degrees Conferred at UC/CSUs

The report begins with enrollment trend information to serve as a backdrop for the academic measures. El Camino College is highlighted in blue in each table and represents the magenta squares in each chart. The sources of data are the federal Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) and the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC).

## Executive Summary

The academic performance of El Camino College students compared with those of its closest peers is fairly consistent and central. On most measures, ECC students tended to perform better than Long Beach City College and Cerritos College and not as well as the other three. Exceptions to this general observation include **one year persistence**, where ECC consistently rates towards the top and degree/transfer “**completion rate**,” where ECC ranks third (above Santa Monica). ECC also ranks fourth in the rate of UC transfers, closely behind Mt. SAC. The area where ECC performs the lowest is under course success—ECC success and retention rates are second from the bottom.

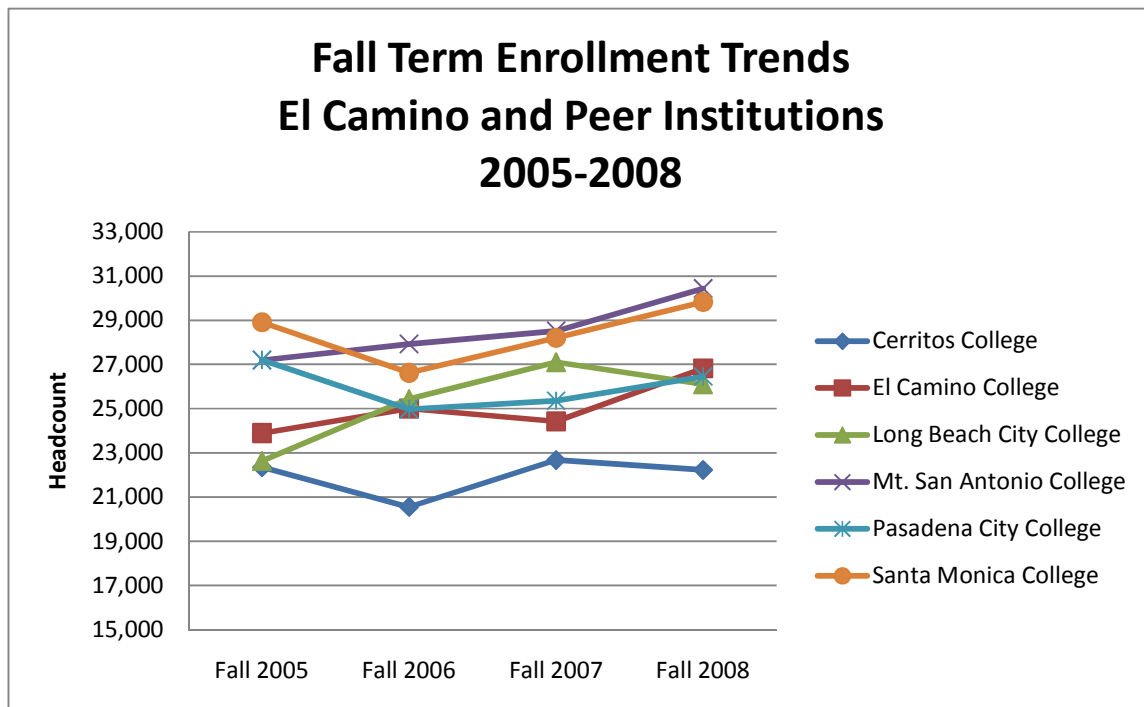
## Enrollment Profile

Most colleges in our group have experienced an increase in headcount enrollment since Fall 2005, with the exception of Pasadena and Cerritos. El Camino College enrollments tended to fall in the middle of the core group throughout the past 5 years.

### Enrollment Trends (Headcount) Fall 2005 to Fall 2008

| Institution              | FA05          | FA06          | FA07          | FA08          |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Cerritos College         | 22,349        | 20,550        | 22,674        | 22,228        |
| <i>El Camino College</i> | <i>23,895</i> | <i>25,000</i> | <i>24,427</i> | <i>26,825</i> |
| Long Beach City College  | 22,641        | 25,437        | 27,100        | 26,097        |
| Mt San Antonio College   | 24,195        | 27,927        | 28,520        | 30,439        |
| Pasadena City College    | 27,199        | 24,981        | 25,357        | 26,453        |
| Santa Monica College     | 28,908        | 26,619        | 28,201        | 29,827        |

Source: IPEDS.



## Retention & Success in Courses

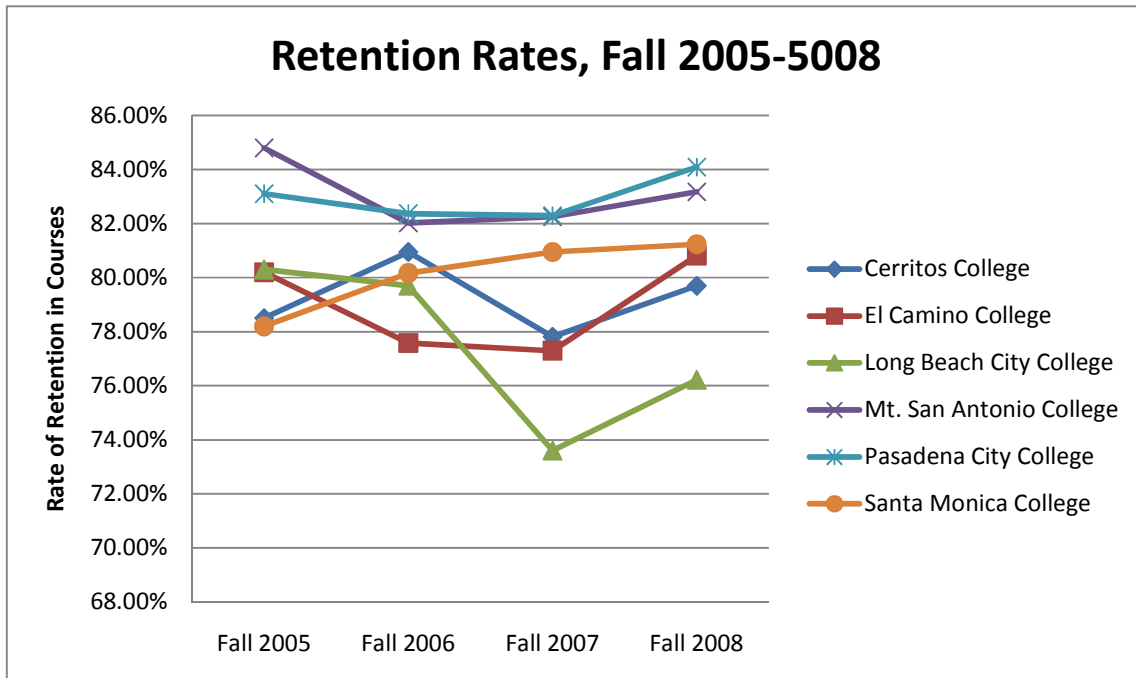
Retention and Success are common indicators of general academic success in courses. Retention is defined as the percentage of students enrolled in courses at census who complete the course without withdrawing (includes all grades and non-W incompletes). Success, as defined by the California Community College Chancellor's Office is the percentage of students who receive a grade of A, B, C or CR/P (Pass) out of all students enrolled at census.

Rates over the past 5 years show that most of the group dipped in *retention* (including ECC) in 2006 and 2007 but climbed back up in 2008. *Success* rates increased with the exception of El Camino and Santa Monica whose rate has remained the same in the past 5 years.

### Course Retention Rates Fall 2005 to Fall 2008

| Institution              | FA05         | FA06          | FA07         | FA08          |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| Cerritos College         | 78.5%        | 80.95%        | 77.81%       | 79.7%         |
| <i>El Camino College</i> | <i>80.2%</i> | <i>77.58%</i> | <i>77.3%</i> | <i>80.82%</i> |
| Long Beach City College  | 80.3%        | 79.7%         | 73.61%       | 76.22%        |
| Mt. San Antonio College  | 84.8%        | 82.02%        | 82.25%       | 83.17%        |
| Pasadena City College    | 83.1%        | 82.37%        | 82.3%        | 84.09%        |
| Santa Monica College     | 78.2%        | 80.17%        | 80.95%       | 81.24%        |

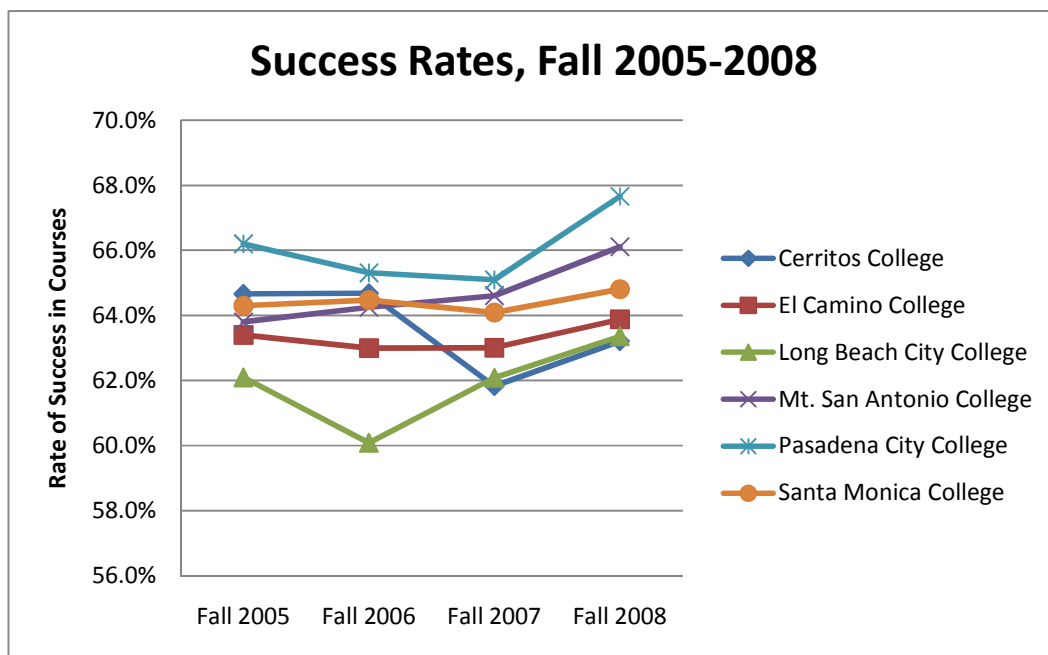
Source: CCC Chancellor's Office.



**Course Success Rates  
Fall 2005 to Fall 2008**

| Institution              | FA05         | FA06         | FA07         | FA08         |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Cerritos College         | 64.7%        | 64.7%        | 61.8%        | 63.2%        |
| <i>El Camino College</i> | <i>63.4%</i> | <i>63.0%</i> | <i>63.0%</i> | <i>63.9%</i> |
| Long Beach City College  | 62.1%        | 60.1%        | 62.1%        | 63.4%        |
| Mt. San Antonio College  | 63.8%        | 64.3%        | 64.6%        | 66.1%        |
| Pasadena City College    | 66.2%        | 65.3%        | 65.1%        | 67.7%        |
| Santa Monica College     | 64.3%        | 64.5%        | 64.1%        | 64.8%        |

Source: CCC Chancellor's Office.



**One Year Persistence**

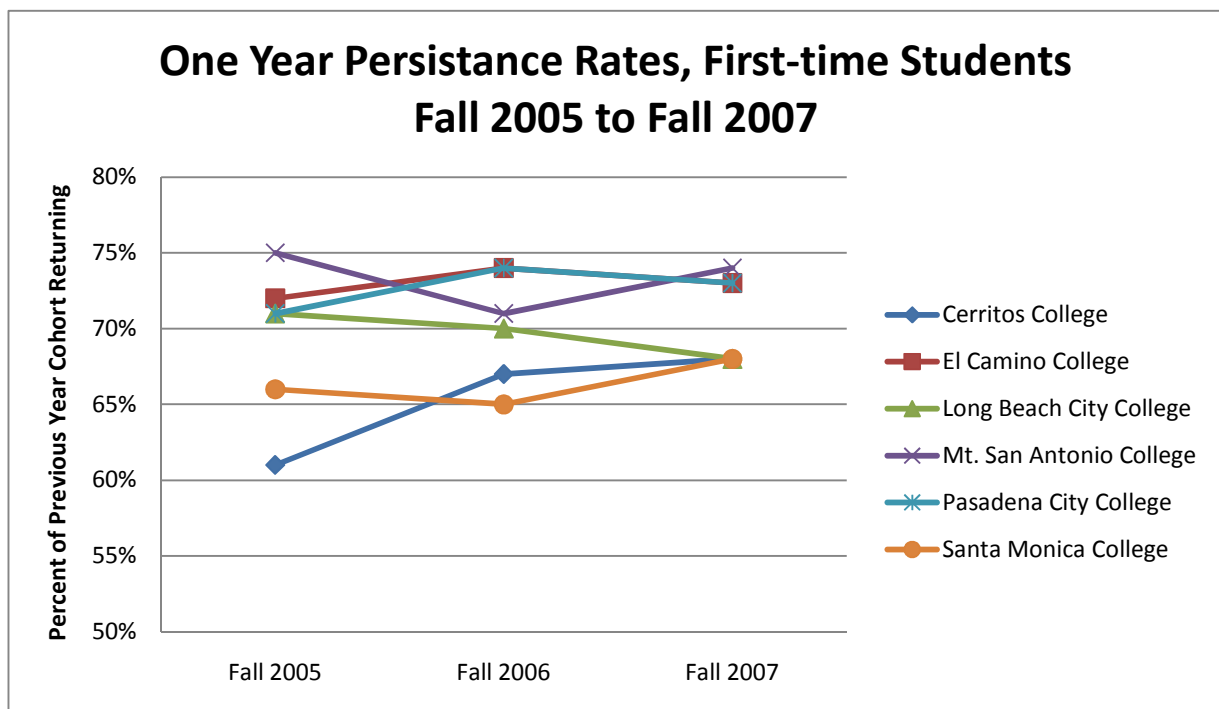
The one year persistence rate is the percentage of fall term first-time, full-time degree, certificate or transfer-oriented students who enroll in classes the subsequent fall term. Data from IPEDS is available for only 3 years of our study.

El Camino College and Pasadena College ranks second behind Mt. San Antonio College in one year persistence rate in 2007. Cerritos, Long Beach City, and Santa Monica colleges all have a 68% persistence rate in 2007.

**One Year Persistence Rates  
First time, Full-time Students  
Fall 2005 to Fall 2007**

| Institution              | FA05       | FA06       | FA07       |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Cerritos College         | 61%        | 67%        | 68%        |
| <i>El Camino College</i> | <i>72%</i> | <i>74%</i> | <i>73%</i> |
| Long Beach City College  | 71%        | 70%        | 68%        |
| Mt San Antonio College   | 75%        | 71%        | 74%        |
| Pasadena City College    | 71%        | 74%        | 73%        |
| Santa Monica College     | 66%        | 65%        | 68%        |

Source: IPEDS.



**Completions and Transfers Out**

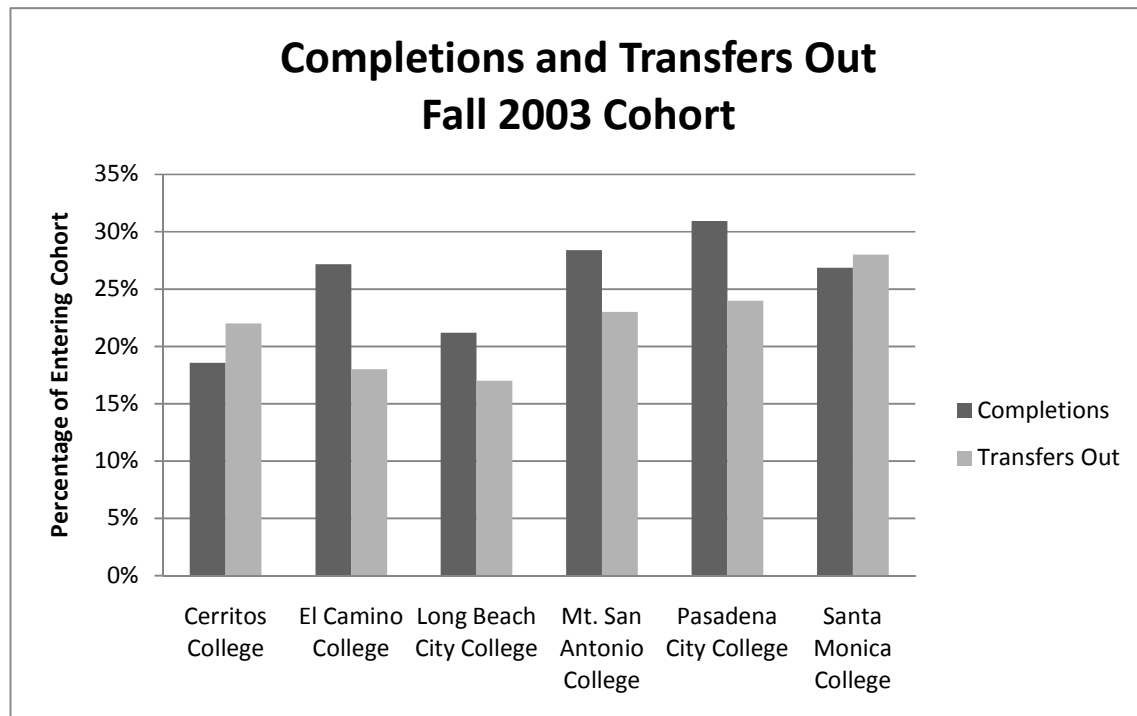
A “completer” is a student who entered college on full-time status with a goal to receive a degree, certificate or transfer to a 4-year institution *and* who met this goal within 3 years of initial enrollment. A student who “transfers out” is one who transferred to another college or university before meeting their goal. While a high percentage of *completers* is desirable for students, a low percentage of *transfers out* is preferable.

The table below calculates the completion rate based on the size of the Fall 2003 cohort and the number of these students who met their goal by spring 2007. El Camino College ranks third in completion rate and second in transfers out behind Long Beach.

**Completions and Transfers Out (by 2007)  
Fall 2003 First-time, Full-Time Students**

| Institution Name         | Entering Cohort (N) | Completers |              |          | Transfers Out |            |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|----------|---------------|------------|
|                          |                     | N          | %            | Rank     | N             | %          |
| Cerritos College         | 1363                | 253        | 18.6%        | 6        | 300           | 22%        |
| <i>El Camino College</i> | <i>1550</i>         | <i>421</i> | <i>27.2%</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>279</i>    | <i>18%</i> |
| Long Beach City College  | 1246                | 264        | 21.2%        | 5        | 212           | 17%        |
| Mt San Antonio College   | 1546                | 439        | 28.4%        | 2        | 356           | 23%        |
| Pasadena City College    | 1748                | 541        | 30.9%        | 1        | 420           | 24%        |
| Santa Monica College     | 2461                | 661        | 26.9%        | 4        | 689           | 28%        |

Source: IPEDS.



**Transfer Destinations**

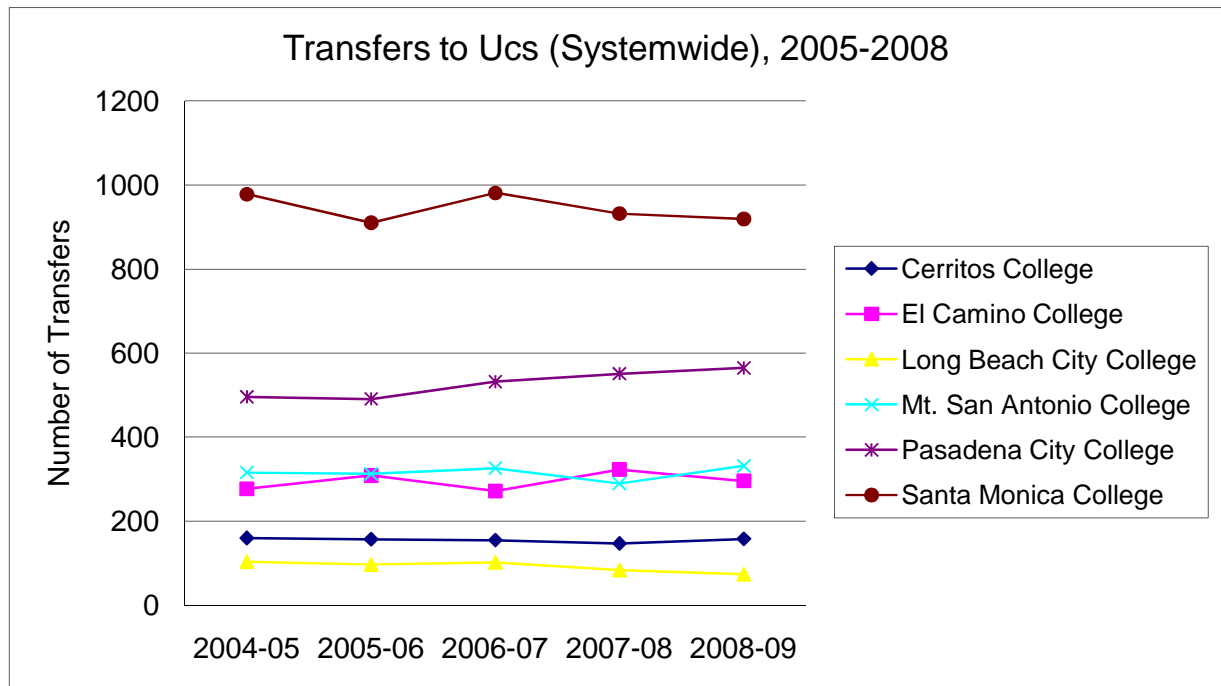
Transfer destinations are tracked where possible by the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC). This section lists the transfer numbers to both the UC and CSU systems. Specific universities are provided in the Degrees section of this report. Private university destinations were not yet reliably available from CPEC.

El Camino College ranked variably third or fourth in numbers of transfers to UCs and fourth in transfers to CSUs. CPEC data provides counts only so it is difficult to judge the *rate* of transfer (transfers as a percentage of a beginning cohort). ECC tends to transfer a higher percentage of students compared with peer colleges than the raw numbers suggest (see “Degrees” below).

**Transfers to All UCs (Systemwide)  
2004-2005 to 2008-2009**

| Source Institution       | 2004-05    | 2005-06    | 2006-07    | 2007-08    | 2008-09    |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Cerritos College         | 160        | 157        | 155        | 147        | 158        |
| <i>El Camino College</i> | <i>277</i> | <i>309</i> | <i>272</i> | <i>323</i> | <i>296</i> |
| Long Beach City College  | 104        | 97         | 102        | 84         | 74         |
| Mt. San Antonio College  | 316        | 313        | 326        | 290        | 332        |
| Pasadena City College    | 496        | 491        | 532        | 551        | 565        |
| Santa Monica College     | 978        | 910        | 981        | 932        | 919        |

Source: CPEC.

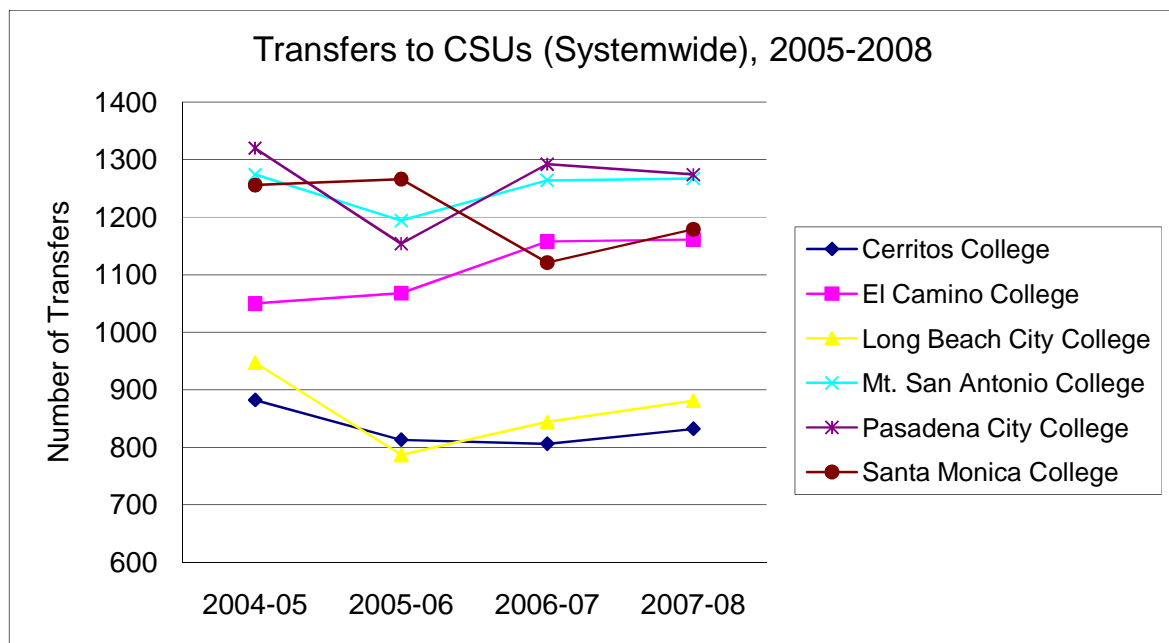


**Transfers to All CSUs (Systemwide)  
2004-05 to 2008-09**

| Source Institution       | 2004-05      | 2005-06     | 2006-07     | 2007-08     | 2008-09 |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| Cerritos College         | 882          | 813         | 806         | 832         |         |
| <i>El Camino College</i> | <i>1,050</i> | <i>1068</i> | <i>1158</i> | <i>1161</i> |         |
| Long Beach City College  | 947          | 787         | 844         | 881         |         |
| Mt. San Antonio College  | 1,274        | 1194        | 1264        | 1267        |         |
| Pasadena City College    | 1,320        | 1154        | 1292        | 1274        |         |
| Santa Monica College     | 1,256        | 1266        | 1121        | 1179        |         |

Source: CPEC.





#### Four-Year Degree Completion

CPEC also provides information on degrees received based on source college and destination university. The first table below provides a count of degrees for all UCs. The second table lists only CSUs in Los Angeles and surrounding regions for simplicity. Each table contains the 4-year degree completion rate based on a hypothetical entering cohort of Fall 2003 (assuming a 5-year graduate rate). Degrees may actually be from a number of college starting classes.

Again, El Camino College is in the middle in terms of UC degrees received. The largest count by far for all the peer group colleges is UCLA, followed by Irvine.

The top receiving CSU for the peer group is Long Beach State followed by Dominguez Hills, Fullerton, and Los Angeles. In 2005, both Dominguez Hills and Long Beach graduated the same number of El Camino College students.

#### Degrees Received at University of California (UC) Institutions—Statewide Students Transferring from Peer Group Community Colleges Degrees conferred: 2008

| Source Institution       | Brkly     | Davis     | Irvine    | LA         | Rvrsd     | SD        | SB        | SC       | Total      | % FA |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|------|
| Cerritos College         | 16        | 1         | 53        | 43         | 11        | 11        | 8         | 1        | 144        |      |
| <i>El Camino College</i> | <i>20</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>35</i> | <i>145</i> | <i>13</i> | <i>16</i> | <i>27</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>270</i> |      |
| Long Beach City College  | 19        | 2         | 23        | 40         | 3         | 2         | 11        | 2        | 102        |      |
| Mt. San Antonio College  | 33        | 3         | 64        | 127        | 42        | 39        | 12        | 8        | 328        |      |
| Pasadena City College    | 57        | 11        | 73        | 225        | 42        | 62        | 28        | 13       | 511        |      |
| Santa Monica College     | 99        | 12        | 78        | 562        | 9         | 60        | 63        | 20       | 913        |      |

Source: CPEC.

**Degrees Received at California State University (CSU) Institutions  
Students Transferring from Los Angeles Area Peer Group Community Colleges  
Degrees conferred: 2008**

| Source Institution       | DH         | Full      | LA        | LB         | CSUN      | Pom       | SLO      | Total      | % FA |
|--------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|------|
| Cerritos College         | 111        | 143       | 67        | 248        | 12        | 36        | N/A      | 617        |      |
| <i>El Camino College</i> | <i>269</i> | <i>50</i> | <i>47</i> | <i>350</i> | <i>40</i> | <i>24</i> | <i>5</i> | <i>785</i> |      |
| Long Beach City College  | 100        | 62        | 17        | 410        | 4         | 15        | 2        | 610        |      |
| Mt. San Antonio College  | 8          | 312       | 83        | 52         | 22        | 337       | 2        | 816        |      |
| Pasadena City College    | 9          | 61        | 314       | 83         | 169       | 211       | N/A      | 847        |      |
| Santa Monica College     | 52         | 8         | 98        | 158        | 507       | 39        | 7        | 869        |      |

Source: CPEC.

## Data Sources

The data sources used for this report are web-accessible and available to the public. Compiled by the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES), IPEDS data contains a variety of demographic, enrollment, performance and staffing data on US institutions of higher education. With the Peer Analysis System (PAS), users can create a peer group of institutions and produce data on any data element for each member of the group. A password is required to use PAS—contain Institutional Research for more information. Alternatively, another version of PAS is available without a password called Executive Peer Tool. For a quick profile of any college or university, IPEDS now has COOL (College Opportunities Online Locator), useful for getting a quick overview of an institution and comparison across schools.

The CPEC website also has a wealth of information on high school graduates, and college and university destinations. Automatic as well as customizable data downloads and reports are available.

Links for all of these features are below:

IPEDS Main Page

<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/>

IPEDS PAS

<http://nces.ed.gov/ipedspas/>

IPEDS Executive Peer Tool

<http://nces.ed.gov/ipedspas/Expt/>

IPEDS COOL

<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool/>

CPEC On-line Data

<http://www.cpec.ca.gov/SecondPages/Data.asp>