



**Academic Performance Profile  
2010**

**El Camino College  
and  
Peer Institutions**

**Institutional Research  
El Camino College  
February 2011**

## Introduction

The following report profiles El Camino College on several academic performance measures compared with five 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. Slightly fewer rates of women attend ECC compared to the average, while ECC serves many more in the younger ages among its full-time students.<sup>1</sup> ECC serves proportionately more under-represented minority students (African-American and Latino) than any other peer college.

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

- Course retention and success
- One year persistence
- Degree completion
- Transfers to UC/CSUs
- Bachelor's degrees conferred at UC/CSUs

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

## Executive Summary

The academic performance of El Camino College students compared with those of its 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). In 2009-10, ECC also ranks first in the *number* of CSU transfers and third in UC transfers, running parallel with Mt. SAC which serves a larger number of transfer-directed students. The area where ECC performs the lowest is under course success and retention, where ECC ranks at or near the bottom of the group.

A new category of transfer rate has been added to the peer group report this year using newly-available data from the Chancellor's Office. Tracking first-time, full-time transfer-directed students through six years, ECC's transfer rate hovered under 35% along with Cerritos and LBCC.

---

<sup>1</sup> Women show slightly higher success rates than men while younger students have lower rates of success than older ages. The former may also be a product of age, with more men typically found in the younger age groups. An age by gender analysis is not available for peer group institutions.

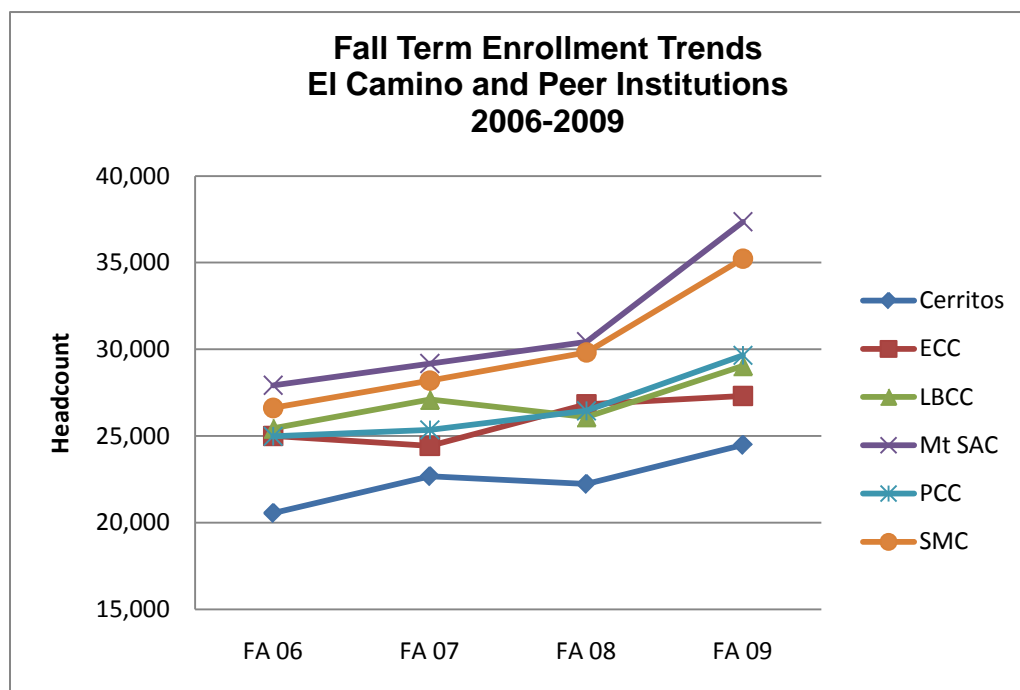
## Enrollment Profile

All of the colleges in our group experienced enrollment increases between Fall 2006 and Fall 2009. ECC fell in the lower half of the six-college core group in three of the past four years.

### Enrollment Trends (Headcount) Fall 2006 to Fall 2009

Institution	FA 06	FA 07	FA 08	FA 09
Cerritos College	20,550	22,674	22,228	24,478
<i>El Camino College</i>	<i>25,000</i>	<i>24,427</i>	<i>26,825</i>	<i>27,307</i>
Long Beach City College	25,437	27,100	26,097	29,040
Mt San Antonio College	27,927	29,183	30,439	37,362
Pasadena City College	24,981	25,357	26,453	29,657
Santa Monica College	26,619	28,201	29,827	35,229

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 P out of all students enrolled at census.

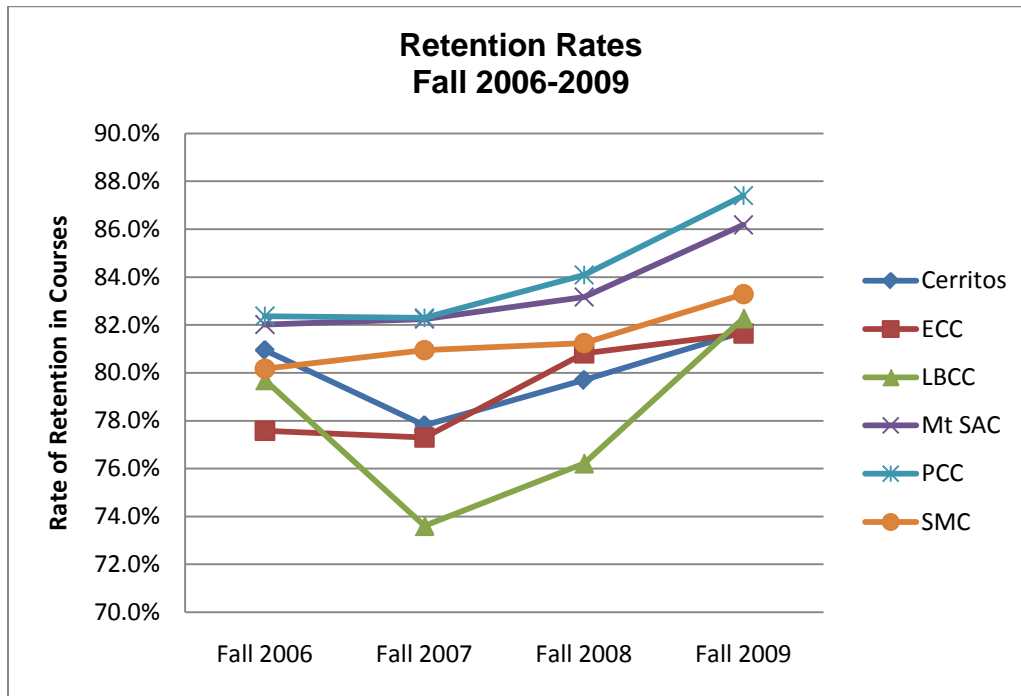
Rates over the past 4 years show that most of the group dipped in *retention* (including ECC) in 2007 but climbed back up in 2008 and increased in 2009. *Success* rates from 2006 to 2008 increased with the exception of ECC and SMC whose rate has remained the same over those 3

years. All of the schools increased their success rates considerably in 2009 with the exception of LBCC.

**Course Retention Rates  
Fall 2006 to Fall 2009**

Institution	FA06	FA07	FA08	FA09
Cerritos College	81.0%	77.8%	79.7%	81.7%
<i>El Camino College</i>	<i>77.6%</i>	<i>77.3%</i>	<i>80.8%</i>	<i>81.6%</i>
Long Beach City College	79.7%	73.6%	76.2%	82.3%
Mt. San Antonio College	82.0%	82.3%	83.2%	86.2%
Pasadena City College	82.4%	82.3%	84.0%	87.4%
Santa Monica College	80.2%	81.0%	81.2%	83.3%

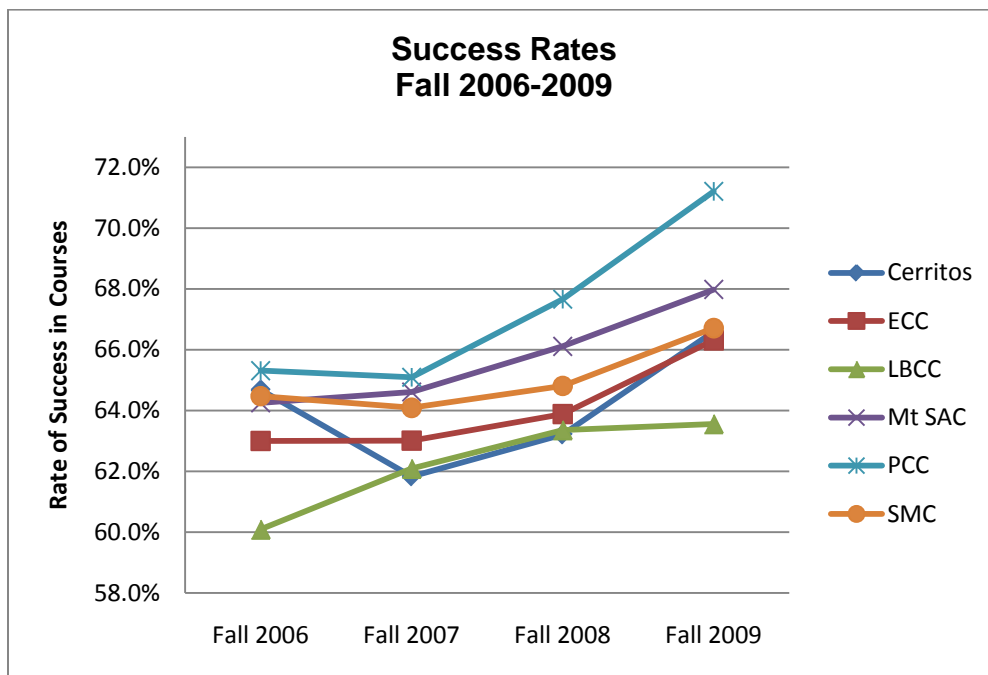
Source: CCC Chancellor's Office.



**Course Success Rates  
Fall 2006 to Fall 2009**

Institution	FA06	FA07	FA08	FA09
Cerritos College	64.7%	61.8%	63.2%	66.6%
<i>El Camino College</i>	<i>63.0%</i>	<i>63.0%</i>	<i>63.9%</i>	<i>66.3%</i>
Long Beach City College	60.1%	62.1%	63.4%	63.6%
Mt. San Antonio College	64.3%	64.6%	66.1%	68.0%
Pasadena City College	65.3%	65.1%	67.7%	71.2%
Santa Monica College	64.5%	64.1%	64.8%	66.7%

Source: CCC Chancellor's Office.



### One Year Persistence

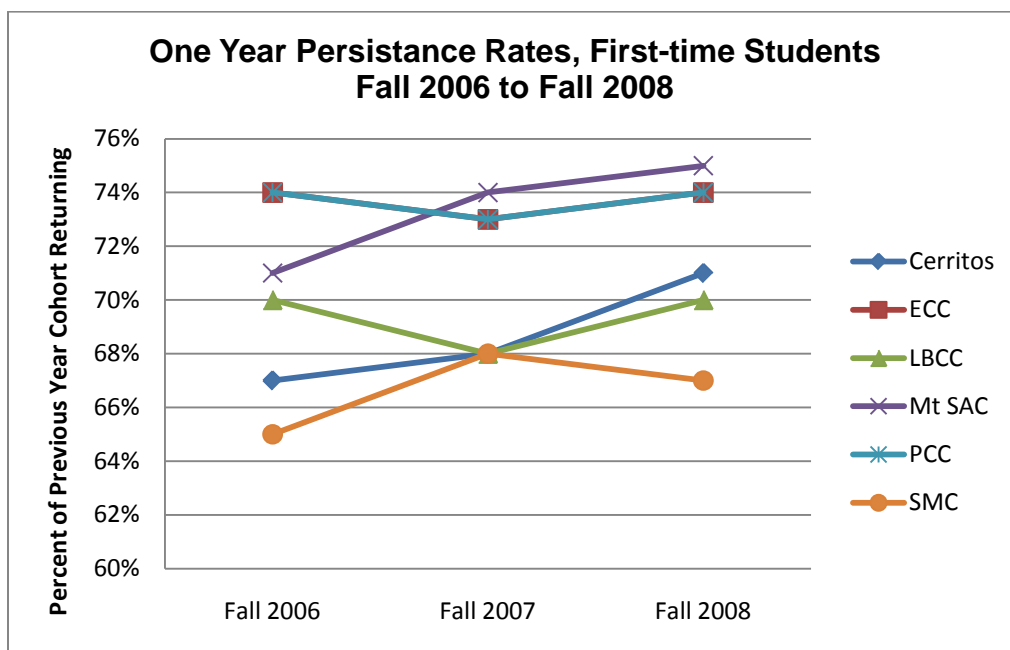
The one year persistence rate is the percentage of fall term first-time, full-time degree, certificate or transfer-oriented students who enroll in classes the subsequent fall term. Data from IPEDS is available for only 3 years of our study.

ECC and PCC rank just behind Mt. SAC in one year persistence rate in 2008 followed by Cerritos, LBCC and Santa Monica.

### One Year Persistence Rates First time, Full-time Students Fall 2006 to Fall 2008

Institution	FA06	FA07	FA08
Cerritos College	67%	68%	71%
<i>El Camino College</i>	<i>74%</i>	<i>73%</i>	<i>74%</i>
Long Beach City College	70%	68%	70%
Mt San Antonio College	71%	74%	75%
Pasadena City College	74%	73%	74%
Santa Monica College	65%	68%	67%

Source: IPEDS.



## Completions and Transfers Out

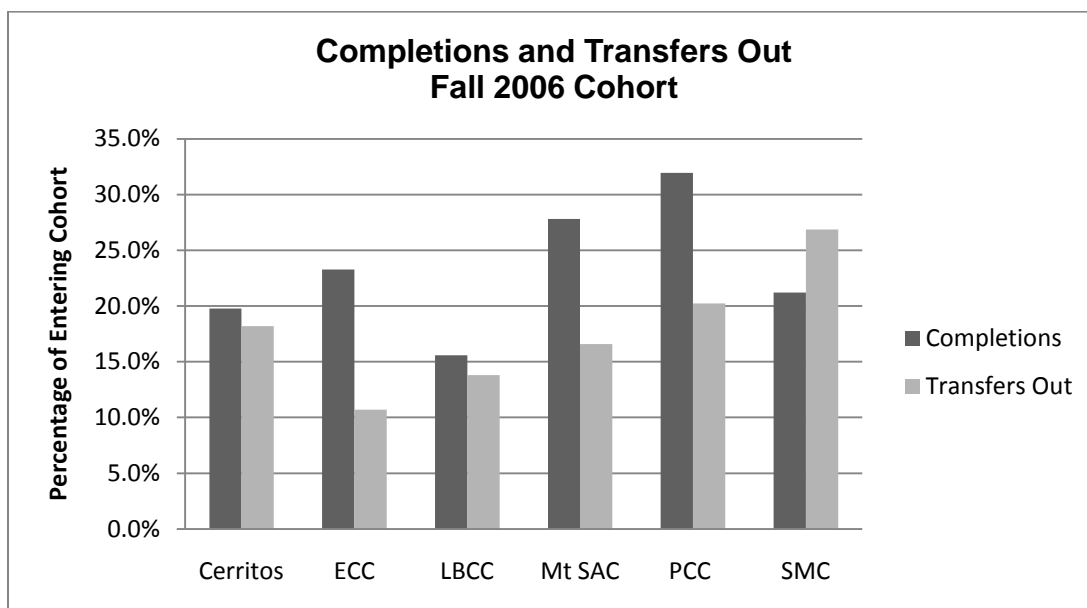
A “completer” is a student who entered college on full-time status with a goal to receive a degree or certificate *and* who met this goal within 3 years of initial enrollment. A student who “transfers out” is one who transferred to another college or university before meeting their goal at the starting institution.

The table below calculates the completion rate based on the size of the Fall 2006 cohort, or starting group, and the number of these students who met their goal by spring 2009. El Camino College ranks third in completion rate and last in transfers out.

### Completions and Transfers Out (by 2009) Fall 2006 First-time, Full-Time Students

Institution Name	Entering Cohort (N)	Completers			Transfers Out	
		N	%	Rank	N	%
Cerritos College	1,467	290	19.8%	5	267	18.2%
<i>El Camino College</i>	<i>1,599</i>	<i>372</i>	<i>23.3%</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>171</i>	<i>10.7%</i>
Long Beach City College	1,412	220	15.6%	6	195	13.8%
Mt San Antonio College	2,183	607	27.8%	2	362	16.6%
Pasadena City College	2,035	650	31.9%	1	412	20.2%
Santa Monica College	2,211	469	21.2%	4	594	26.9%

Source: IPEDS.



### Transfer Destinations

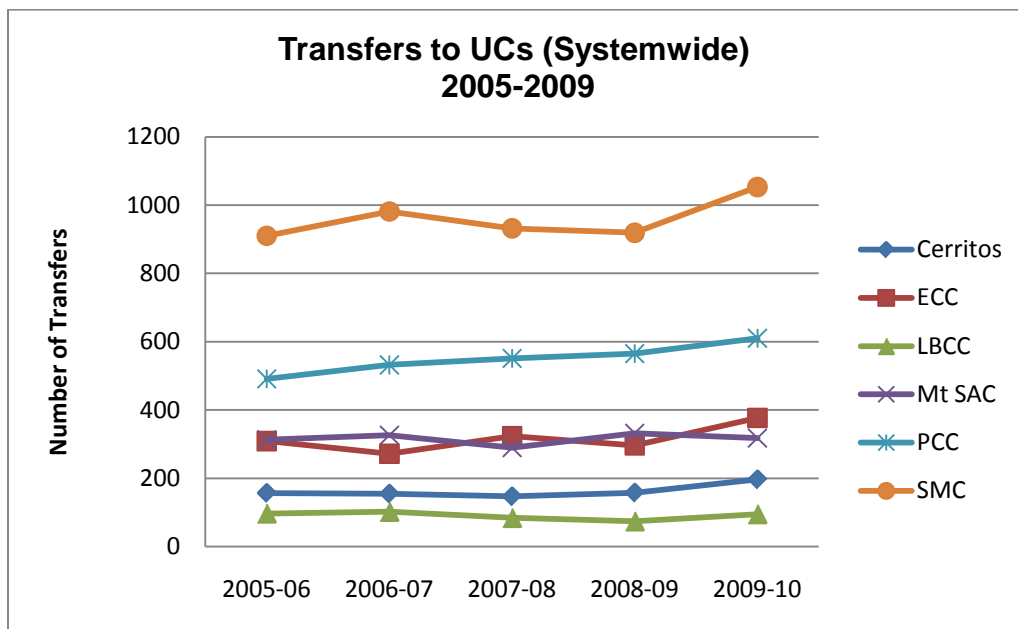
Transfer destinations are tracked where possible by the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC). This section lists the transfer numbers to both the UC and CSU systems. Specific universities are provided in the “Four-Year Degree Completion” section of this report. Private university destinations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

El Camino College ranked third in numbers of transfers to UCs and first in transfers to CSUs in 2009 (pages 5-6). UCLA reports that ECC students enjoy a strong applicant *admittance* rate, typically higher than most of its peers including Santa Monica (a link to the UCLA report found on page 10).

### Transfers to All UCs (Systemwide) 2005-2006 to 2009-2010

Source Institution	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Cerritos College	157	155	147	158	197
<i>El Camino College</i>	<i>309</i>	<i>272</i>	<i>323</i>	<i>296</i>	<i>377</i>
Long Beach City College	97	102	84	74	95
Mt. San Antonio College	313	326	290	332	318
Pasadena City College	491	532	551	565	610
Santa Monica College	910	981	932	919	1,053

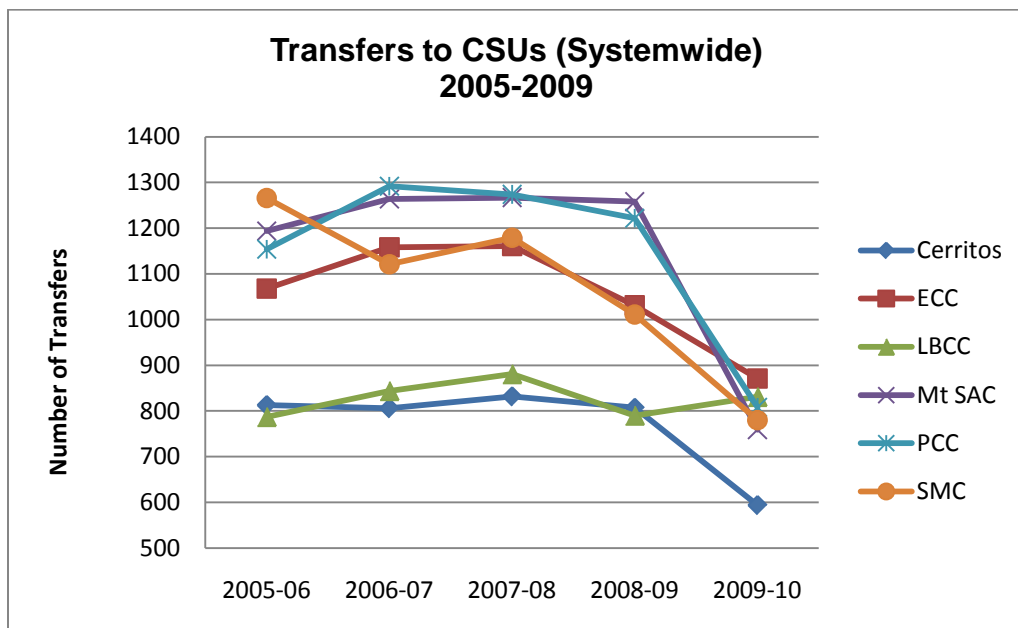
Source: CPEC.



### Transfers to All CSUs (Systemwide) 2005-06 to 2009-10

Source Institution	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Cerritos College	813	806	832	807	594
<i>El Camino College</i>	<i>1,068</i>	<i>1,158</i>	<i>1,161</i>	<i>1,031</i>	<i>871</i>
Long Beach City College	787	844	881	790	831
Mt. San Antonio College	1,194	1,264	1,267	1,258	759
Pasadena City College	1,154	1,292	1,274	1,222	808
Santa Monica College	1,266	1,121	1,179	1,011	780

Source: CPEC.



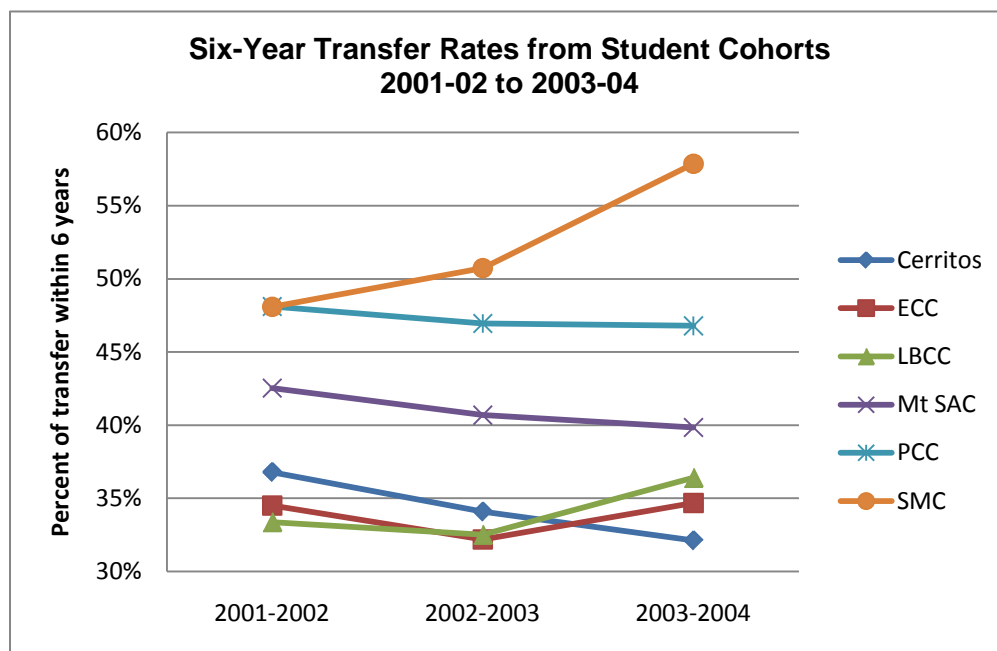


## Transfer Rates

Transfer rates measure the percentage of first-time, full-time students who transfer to a four-year institution within a specific time period. Students are assigned a cohort year according to the academic year in which they first enroll at a CCC. The cohorts are first-time college students with a minimum of 12 units earned who attempted a transfer level math or English course. The outcome is transfer to a four-year institution within a given time period (in this case six years) subsequent to initial enrollment.

The most recent three annual cohorts were tracked for 6 years in the chart below. During this period, six-year transfer rates declined for half of the peer institutions. Santa Monica experienced a dramatic increase as transfer counts remained stable while entering cohorts declined. Both ECC and LBCC also saw drops in entering cohorts in 2003-04 leading to a rebound in transfer rates.

Cohort Year	2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
Institution	Cohort Student	Transfer Rate	Cohort Student	Transfer Rate	Cohort Student	Transfer Rate
Cerritos	2,468	37%	2,259	34%	1,868	32%
ECC	3,196	35%	3,206	32%	2,327	35%
LBCC	2,076	33%	1,922	33%	1,332	36%
Mt SAC	3,557	43%	3,109	41%	2,620	40%
PCC	3,124	48%	2,822	47%	2,802	47%
SMC	3,038	48%	2,769	51%	2,302	58%



## Four-Year Degree Completion

CPEC also provides information on degrees received based on starting college and receiving 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. Bachelor's degrees awarded in 2009 may actually be from a number of community college starting classes.

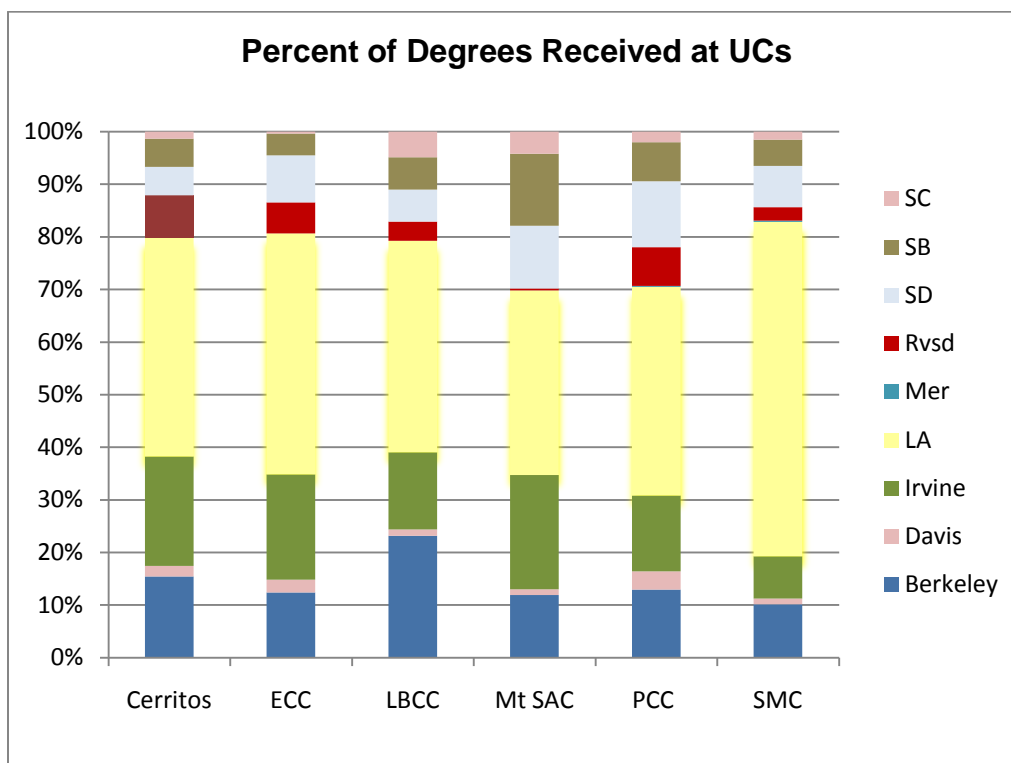
ECC ranks third in count of UC degrees received; however, this is related in part to starting enrollment levels. The largest count by far for all the peer group colleges is UCLA, followed by Irvine.

The top receiving CSU for the peer group is Long Beach followed by Northridge and Los Angeles. In 2009, Dominguez Hills and Long Beach graduated the largest *number* of ECC students.

### Degrees Received at University of California (UC) Institutions—Statewide Students Transferring from Peer Group Community Colleges Degrees conferred: 2009

Source Institution	Brkly	Davis	Irvine	LA	Mer	Rvrsd	SD	SB	SC	Total
Cerritos College	23	3	31	62	0	12	8	8	2	149
<i>El Camino College</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>290</i>
Long Beach City College	19	1	12	33	0	3	5	5	4	82
Mt. San Antonio College	34	3	62	100	0	1	34	39	12	285
Pasadena City College	70	19	78	215	1	40	68	40	11	542
Santa Monica College	95	10	75	594	2	24	73	47	14	934

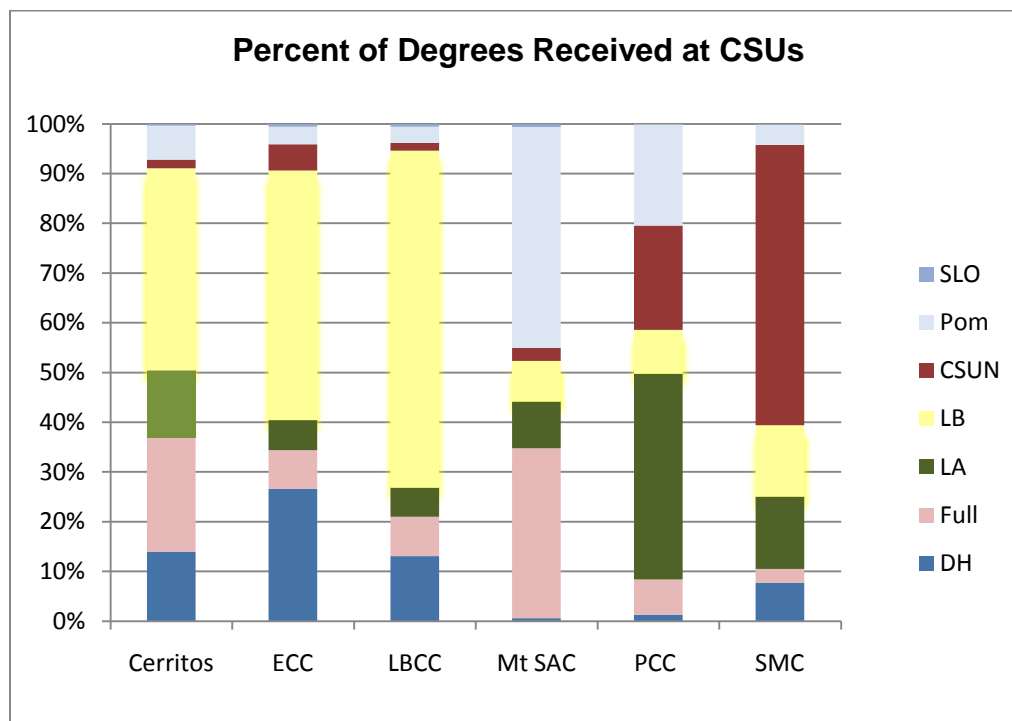
Source: CPEC.



**Degrees Received at California State University (CSU) Institutions  
Students Transferring from Los Angeles Area Peer Group Community Colleges  
Degrees conferred: 2009**

Source Institution	DH	Full	LA	LB	CSUN	Pom	SLO	Total
Cerritos College	82	134	79	238	10	40	2	585
<i>El Camino College</i>	<i>202</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>381</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>759</i>
Long Beach City College	76	46	34	393	9	19	3	580
Mt. San Antonio College	5	284	78	68	22	369	5	831
Pasadena City College	12	64	375	80	190	184	1	906
Santa Monica College	61	22	114	113	443	32	1	786

Source: CSU Statistical Reports



**Conclusion**

This report provides a brief overview of common enrollment and performance indicators for El Camino College and several Los Angeles area colleges that are similar to ECC in size, organization, student body, and institutional mission. In general, El Camino College performs in the middle of the group of its peers, excelling in the areas of student persistence and CSU transfers.

Local conditions vary and many external factors that are uncontrollable by individual institutions contribute to differences in academic performance and outcomes measures. Therefore, this report serves only as a general indicator of comparative performance among these colleges.

## Appendix: 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/>

CSU Statistical Reports

<http://www.calstate.edu/as/ccct/index.shtml>

CPEC On-line Data

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

UCLA's Profile of Transfer Students from California Community Colleges

[http://www.admissions.ucla.edu/Prospect/Adm\\_tr/Tr\\_Prof10\\_CAcc.htm](http://www.admissions.ucla.edu/Prospect/Adm_tr/Tr_Prof10_CAcc.htm)