



**El Camino College
Compton Center**

Academic Performance Profile 2012

**Compton Educational Center
and
Peer Institutions**

**Institutional Research
December 2012**

Introduction

Accountability has created an atmosphere which seeks to measure how institutions perform in relation to other institutions. From US News and World Report rankings to California's Accountability Reporting for the Community Colleges (ARCC) as well as private sites which seek to compare colleges, measuring colleges against each other is now a common practice. These comparisons are often made system wide or else create Peer Groups based on a set of common characteristics. The following report profiles Compton Educational Center on several academic performance measures compared with four other California community colleges that are similar in size, composition, and regional setting. These institutions are:

- Cerritos College (Cerritos)
- Los Angeles Southwest College (LASW)
- Merritt College (Merritt) in Oakland, California
- West Los Angeles College (West LA)

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

- Course Retention and Success
- One Year Persistence
- Completions (degrees or transfer-preparedness)

The report begins with enrollment trend information to serve as a backdrop for the academic measures. Compton Center is highlighted in red in each table and represents the red diamonds in each chart. The sources of data are the California Community College Chancellor's Office and the federal Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).

Executive Summary

The academic performance of Compton Center students compared with those of its closest peers is fairly consistent. On most measures, Compton Center performs lower than the other colleges in the peer group. Exceptions to this general observation include persistence rate (where Compton Center ranks above Merritt) and completion rate (where Compton Center ranks above LASW).

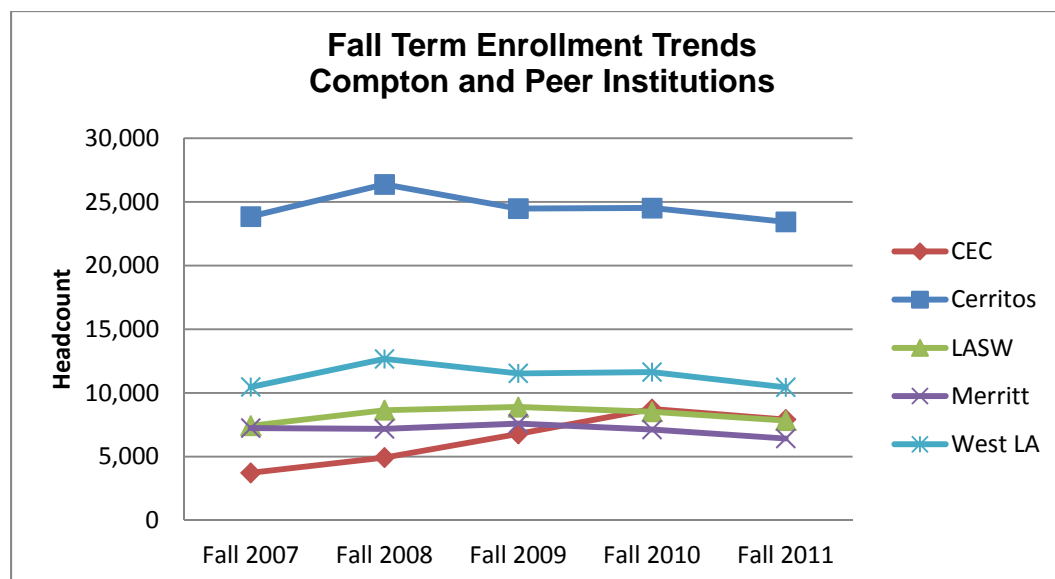
Enrollment Profile

Out of all the colleges in the peer group, CEC experienced the largest increase in headcount enrollment since Fall 2007. All of the other colleges have experienced consistent headcount enrollment between Fall 2007 and Fall 2010. Fall 2011 was the first term in the past five years where all colleges in the peer group had a decline in enrollment.

Enrollment Trends (Headcount)

Institution	Fall 2007	Fall 2008	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Fall 2011
<i>CEC</i>	<i>3,725</i>	<i>4,923</i>	<i>6,780</i>	<i>8,734</i>	<i>7,912</i>
Cerritos	23,857	26,382	24,476	24,521	23,432
LASW	7,425	8,642	8,888	8,518	7,826
Merritt	7,233	7,173	7,588	7,122	6,419
West LA	10,467	12,670	11,530	11,635	10,439

Source: CCC Chancellor's Office



Success & Retention in Courses

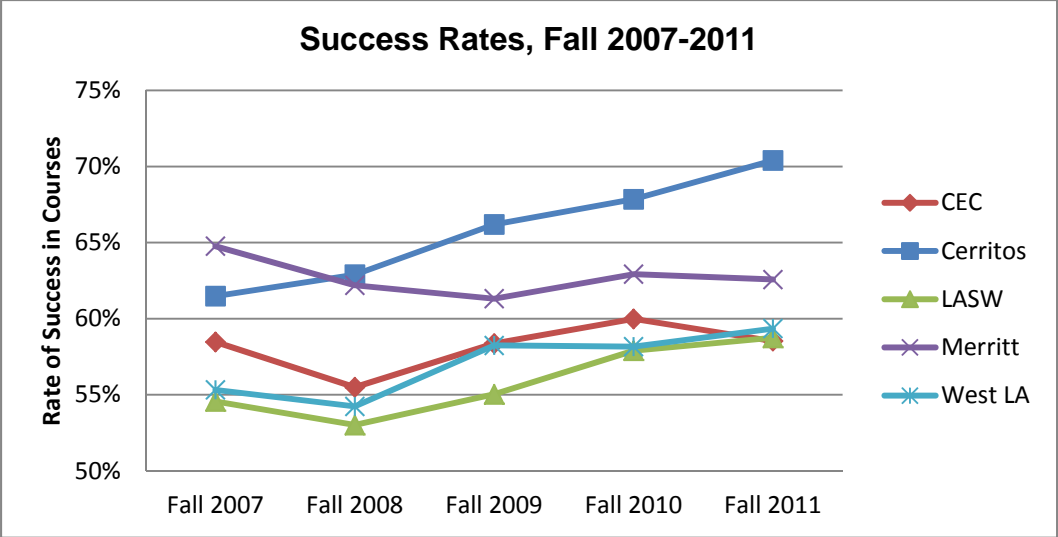
Success and Retention are common indicators of general academic success in courses. Success, as defined by the California Community College Chancellor's Office is the percentage of students who receive a grade of A, B, C or P out of all students enrolled at census. Retention is defined as the percentage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

Peer group success rates have remained fairly even over the past five years, except for Cerritos, which had a dramatic increase. CEC is currently in a three-way-tie for last place in success rates compare to its peers.

Course Success Rates

Institution	Fall 2007	Fall 2008	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Fall 2011
<i>CEC</i>	<i>58%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>58%</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>59%</i>
Cerritos	61%	63%	66%	68%	70%
LASW	55%	53%	55%	58%	59%
Merritt	65%	62%	61%	63%	63%
West LA	55%	54%	58%	58%	59%

Source: CCC Chancellor's Office

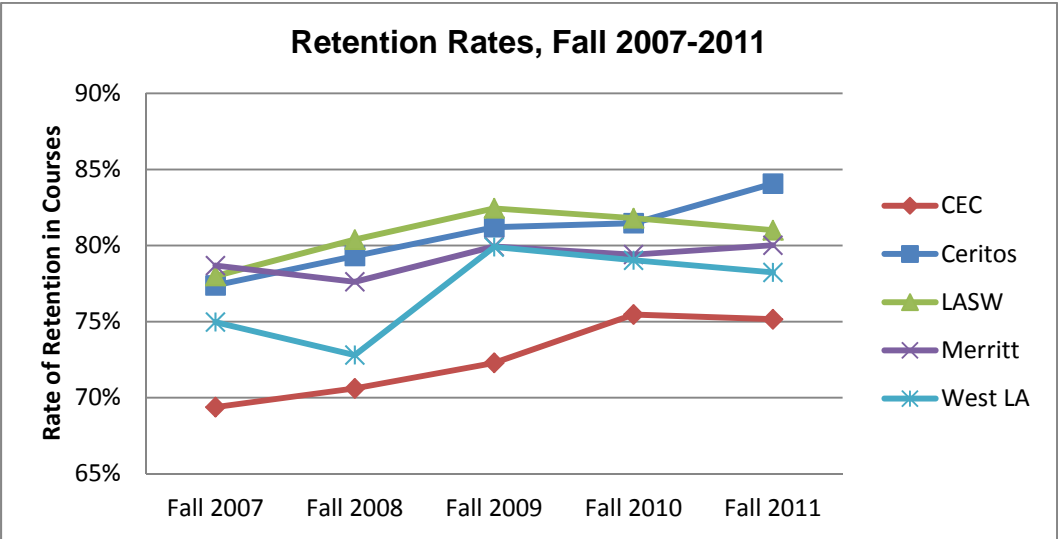


Over the past five years all of the peer group colleges have improved or maintained their retention rates. However, Compton still ranks well below its peers on this measure.

Course Retention Rates

Institution	Fall 2007	Fall 2008	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Fall 2011
<i>CEC</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>71%</i>	<i>72%</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>75%</i>
Cerritos	77%	79%	81%	81%	84%
LASW	78%	80%	82%	82%	81%
Merritt	79%	78%	80%	79%	80%
West LA	75%	73%	80%	79%	78%

Source: CCC Chancellor's Office



One Year Persistence

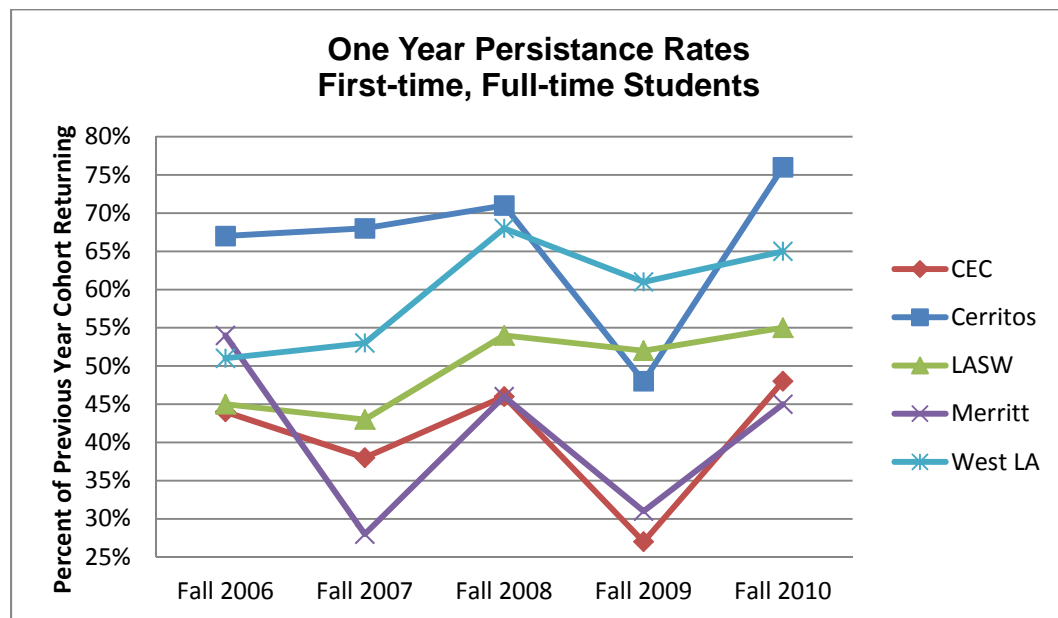
The one year persistence rate is the percentage of fall term first-time, full-time degree, certificate or transfer-oriented students who enroll in classes the subsequent fall term. Data from IPEDS is presented for five years of our study; however, data for 2009 appears to be flawed as several schools show a 25-point decline in persistence.

CEC and Merritt consistently have the lowest one year persistence rates of the peer group. All of peer group (excluding Merritt) have had persistence rate growth over the past five years.

One Year Persistence Rates First time, Full-time Students

Institution	Fall 2006	Fall 2007	Fall 2008	Fall 2009	Fall 2010
CEC	44%	38%	46%	27%	48%
Cerritos	67%	68%	71%	48%	76%
LASW	45%	43%	54%	52%	55%
Merritt	54%	28%	46%	31%	45%
West LA	51%	53%	68%	61%	65%

Source: IPEDS



Completions

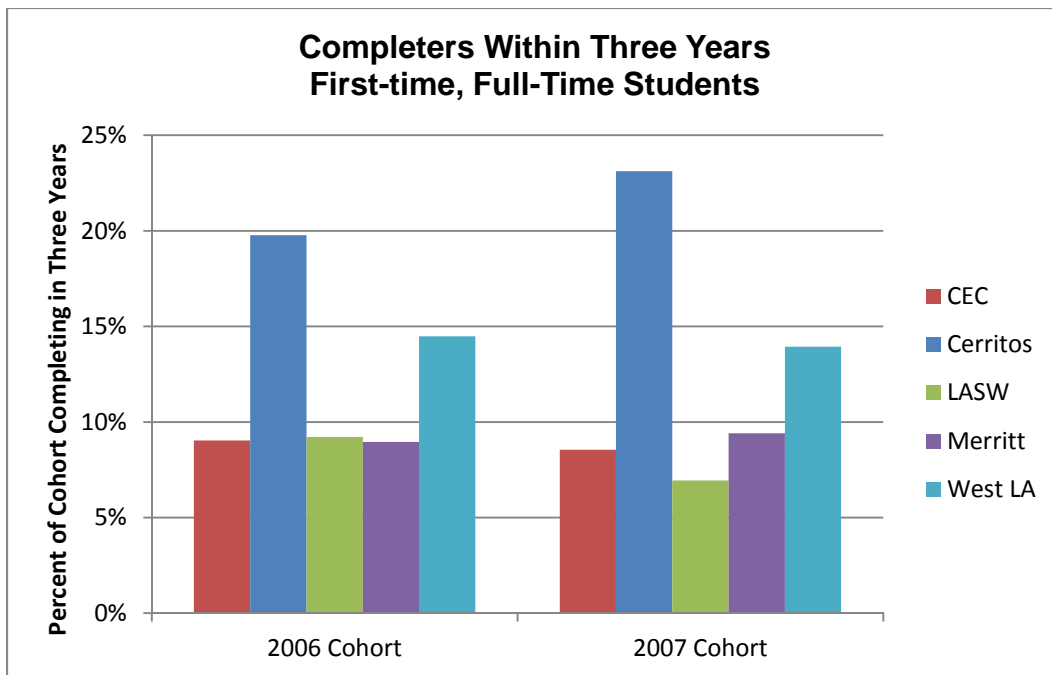
A “completer” is a student who entered college on full-time status with a goal to receive a degree, certificate or transfer to a 4-year institution *and* who met this goal within 3 years of initial enrollment.

The table below calculates the completion rate based on the size of the Fall 2006 cohort and the number of these students who met their goal by spring 2009.¹ CEC's completion rate is similar to LASW and Merritt, but Cerritos was considerably higher than all others.

**Completers Within Three Years
First-time, Full-Time Students**

Institution Name	2006 Cohort		2007 Cohort			
	Entering Cohort	Completers		Entering Cohort	Completers	
		#	%		#	%
CEC	166	15	9%	234	20	9%
Cerritos	1467	290	20%	1358	314	23%
LASW	293	27	9%	288	20	7%
Merritt	279	25	9%	255	24	9%
West LA	290	42	14%	330	46	14%

Source: IPEDS



Conclusion

This report provides a brief overview of common enrollment and performance indicators for Compton Center and several colleges that are similar to CEC in size, organization, student body, and institutional mission. In general, Compton Center performs below the average of the group of its peers.

¹ Although Fall 2006 was the first term of the partnership with El Camino College (with a dramatically smaller entering class of students), it is the most recent term available for this longitudinal analysis.

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

IPEDS Data Center

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

CCCO Data Mart

<http://datamart.cccco.edu/>