



## El Camino College Assessment Test Results, Fall 2005 to Fall 2009

This report displays course placement rates for new high school graduate-aged students entering El Camino College (ECC) over 5 years. Because high school graduation dates are incomplete, the “direct from high school” cohort is defined as students aged 17 or 18 with a recent test score (March through September census date of each year). These students represent about half of all examinees who enroll in fall. In general, older students perform less well than students coming directly from high school course work.

Assessment tests are offered in 5 subjects at ECC: Chemistry, Mathematics, Reading, Writing and English as a Second Language (ESL). This research brief provides a summary of reading, writing and math results. More detail along with ESL results are available in the main report.

The math and English tests place students in a variety of levels, ranging from three to seven levels of course work. For this study, placements are grouped into categories of similarly-leveled courses. These groups are 1) transfer-level courses that are transferable and equivalent to courses at a 4-year institution, 2) college-preparatory—courses that immediately precede transfer-level courses, and 3) basic skills—pre-college-level courses defined by ECC as basic skills courses (in most cases, more than one level below transfer).

Fall 2009 saw a notable increase in the rate of transfer-level placements. This may be due to the increase in CSU/UC-prepared students who were diverted to ECC by enrollment constraints.

### Assessment Test Results by Subject and Course Level, Students Aged 17 and 18

Test	2005 (n=2,648)		2006 (n=2,800)		2007 (n=2,879)		2008 (n=3,215)		2009* (n=2,970)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Reading</b>										
Transfer-level	987	38.9	979	36.5	1,085	39.5	1,215	40.0	1,281	45.9
College-prep	560	22.0	634	23.7	640	23.3	700	23.1	637	22.8
Basic Skills	993	39.1	1,066	39.8	1,024	37.2	1,121	36.9	871	31.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,540</b>		<b>2,679</b>		<b>2,749</b>		<b>3,036</b>		<b>2,789</b>	
<b>Writing</b>										
Transfer-level	939	37.0	942	35.1	896	32.5	975	32.1	1,061	38.0
College-prep	1,098	43.2	1,279	47.7	1,433	52.0	1,587	52.2	1,357	48.7
Basic Skills	504	19.8	459	17.1	425	15.4	476	15.7	371	13.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,541</b>		<b>2,680</b>		<b>2,754</b>		<b>3,038</b>		<b>2,789</b>	
<b>Math</b>										
Transfer-level	197	7.8	235	8.9	213	7.9	272	8.9	269	9.8
College-prep	1,311	51.8	1,422	53.6	1,502	55.8	1,705	55.7	1,540	56.4
Basic Skills	1,021	40.4	997	37.6	976	36.3	1,084	35.4	923	33.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,529</b>		<b>2,654</b>		<b>2,691</b>		<b>3,061</b>		<b>2,732</b>	

\* Slight changes in cut scores within the college-prep and basic skills math categories in Fall 2009