



El Camino College Compton Educational Center Assessment Test Results, Fall 2006 to Fall 2009

This report displays course placement rates for new high school graduate-aged students entering El Camino College Compton Educational Center (CEC) over 4 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 CEC: 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 El Camino College as basic skills courses (in most cases, more than one level below transfer).

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

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

Test	2006 (n=130)		2007 (n=293)		2008 (n=435)		2009* (n=424)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Reading								
Transfer-level	12	10.0	41	15.4	49	12.0	86	21.6
College-prep	19	15.8	47	17.7	73	17.8	79	19.8
Basic Skills	89	74.2	178	66.9	287	70.2	233	58.5
Total	120		266		409		398	
Writing								
Transfer-level	12	9.9	25	9.4	39	9.5	68	16.8
College-prep	54	44.6	147	55.1	188	46.0	214	53.0
Basic Skills	55	45.5	95	35.6	182	44.5	122	30.2
Total	121		267		409		404	
Math								
Transfer-level	0	0.0	1	0.4	5	1.2	5	1.3
College-prep	27	22.9	60	22.1	123	30.6	129	34.8
Basic Skills	91	77.1	210	77.5	274	68.2	237	63.9
Total	118		271		402		371	

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