



Research Brief

Graduation



Office of Planning, Research, and Effectiveness
(<http://www.accd.edu/spc>)

Achieving the Dream (AtD) Initiative

March 2005

"Achieving the Dream: Community Colleges Count" is a multi-year initiative funded by the Lumina Foundation for Education that addresses the challenge of providing low income students and students of color with opportunities for academic success. There are five AtD student outcome indicators: (1) Successful completion of remedial courses and progression to college-level courses; (2) Enrollment and successful completion of college-level "gatekeeper" courses; (3) Productive grades (C or higher) in all courses; (4) Semester to semester persistence; and (5) Graduation. All colleges of the Alamo Community College District participate in this initiative to cultivate and promote a culture of evidence, accountability, equity, and excellence in support of the student outcomes.

Feedback? Questions? Contact Dr. Maritha Burmeister at burmistr@accd.edu, (210) 531-3369.

Introduction

The focus of this brief will be to examine both the overall graduation totals and the graduation rates of students at St. Philip's College. Demographic information and student intent information will be provided.

Methodology

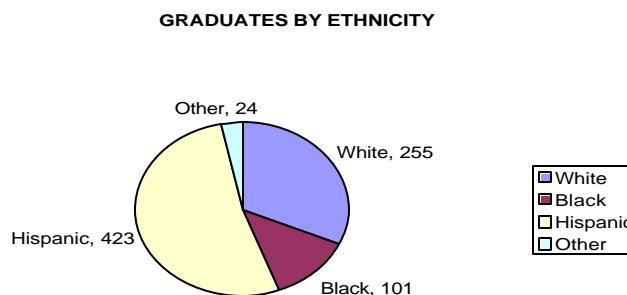
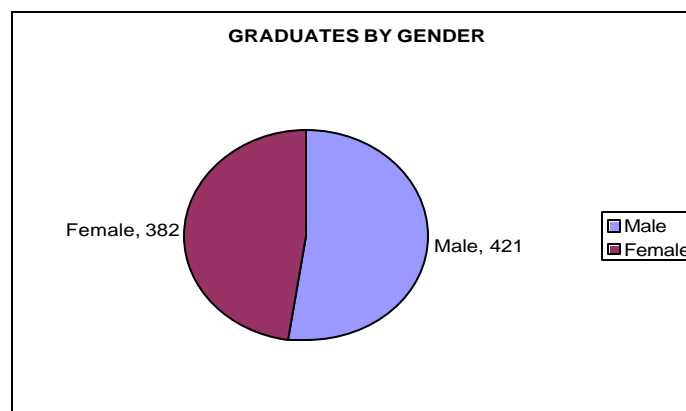
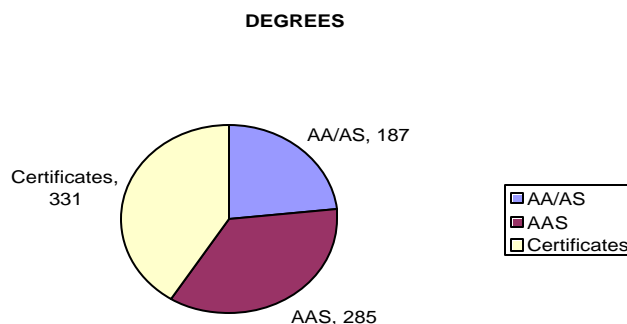
This initiative will track Fall semester student cohorts to understand why students are not graduating. Collection of historical data for Fall 2002 and Fall 2003 cohorts has been completed. Included in each cohort are students entering St. Philip's College in the fall terms, regardless of their status as full-time, part-time, transferred, entering as first-time degree or certificate seeking. For the purpose of this brief, data from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's 2004 Annual Data Profile was collected to obtain the overall number of graduates for both St. Philip's College (SPC) and the Alamo Community College District (ACCD). First Time In College (FTIC) graduation rates were determined by the number of students who graduated within three years of initial enrollment.

Results

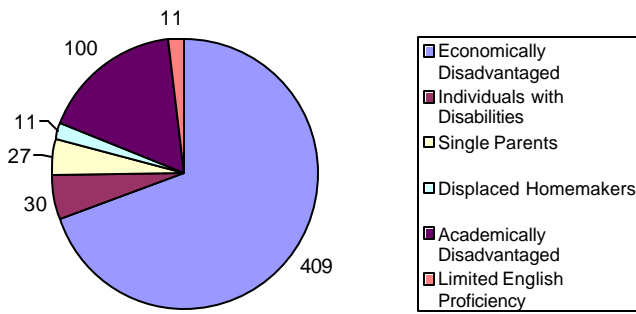
2002-2003 Graduates

The following four graphs illustrate the demographics of the 2002-2003 SPC graduates.

In the first graph, the number of SPC graduates is 803. Of these 803 graduates, 331 (41.2%) received a certificate, 187 (23.3%) received an Associate's of Arts/Associate's of Science degrees, and 285 (35.5%) received Associate's of Applied Science degrees. In the second graph, of the total graduates, 421 (52.4%) were male and 382 (47.6%) were female. In the third graph, of the 803 graduates, 255 (31.8%) were White, 101 (12.5%) were Black, 423 (52.7%) were Hispanic and 24 (3.0%) were Other. The fourth graph shows that of the 803 graduates, 409 (50.9%) self-identified themselves as economically disadvantaged. (Note: students could self-identify themselves into more than one special population's category)



GRADUATES BY SPECIAL POPULATIONS

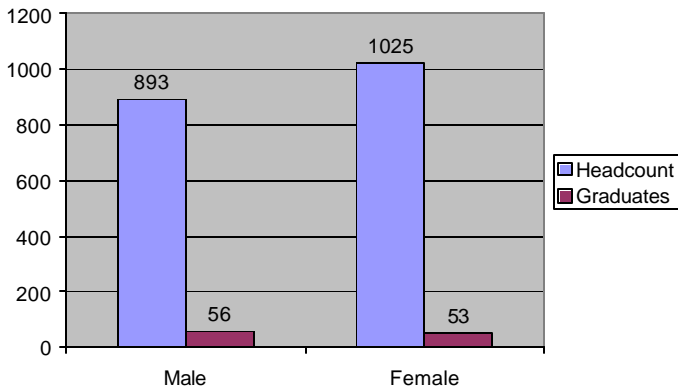


Fall 2000 FTIC Cohort

By Gender

The bar graph below illustrates the graduation data for SPC Fall 2000 FTIC Cohort by gender. This cohort was consisted of 1918 students, of which 893 (46.6%) were male and 1025 (53.4%) were female. The three year graduation period yielded 56 (6.3%) males and 53 (5.2%) females. In comparison, the ACCD three year graduation rate is 2.8% for males and 3.5% for females

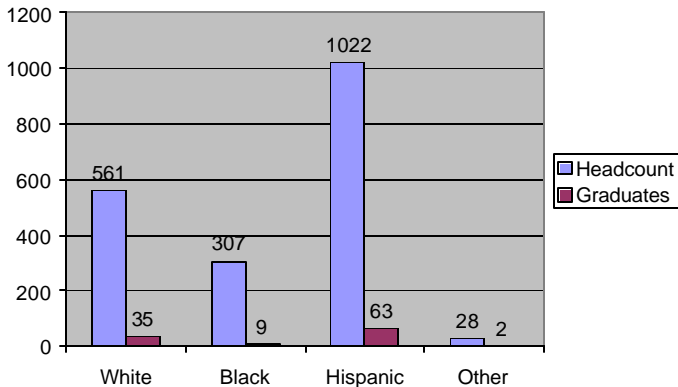
FALL 2000 FTIC GRADUATES BY GENDER



By Ethnicity

The bar graph below illustrates the graduation data for SPC Fall 2000 FTIC Cohort by ethnicity. The graduation rates were 6.2% for Whites, 2.9% for Blacks, 6.2% for Hispanics and 7.1% for Other. In comparison to the ACCD cohort rates were 2.4% for Whites, 3.3% for Blacks, and 3.9% for Hispanics.

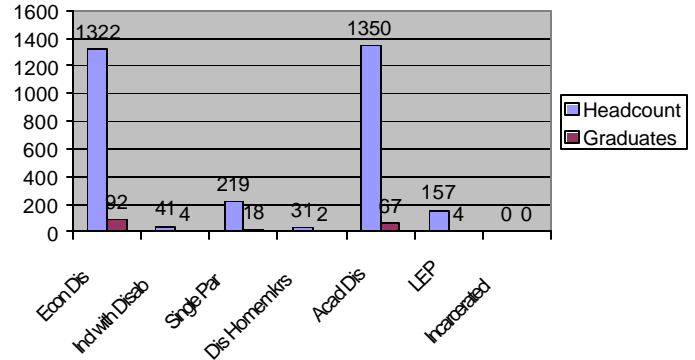
FALL 2000 FTIC GRADUATES BY ETHNICITY



By Special Populations

The bar graph below illustrates the graduation data for SPC Fall 2000 FTIC Cohort by special populations. Students were able to self-identify themselves into more than one category. It is interesting to note that individuals with disabilities (9.8% graduation rate) and single parents (8.2% graduation rate) had a higher graduation rate than the other special population categories.

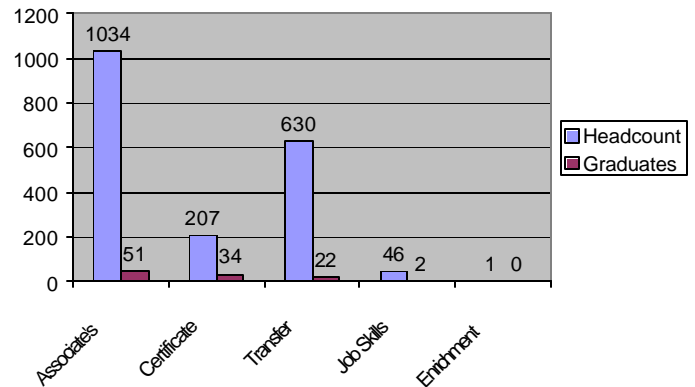
FALL 2000 FTIC GRADUATES BY SPECIAL POPULATIONS



By Student Intent

The bar graph below illustrates the graduation data for SPC Fall 2000 FTIC Cohort by student intent. It shows that those students seeking a certificate graduated at a higher rate (16.4%) than those seeking an Associate's (4.9%), job skills (4.3%), transfer (3.5%), or enrichment (0.0%). In comparison with the ACCD cohort, students seeking certificates graduated at a higher rate (7.3%) compared to those seeking an Associate's (4.4%), job skills (3.0%), transfer (2.4%) or enrichment (1.4%)

FALL 2000 FTIC GRADUATES BY STUDENT INTENT



Summary

In terms of the Fall 2002 FTIC cohort, it appears that Hispanic students graduate at the same rate as White students. However, the graduation rate for Blacks is less than half of the rate of Hispanic and White students. Also noted is that students seeking certificates graduate at a rate much higher than those seeking an associate's degree or those who wish to transfer.

Stay tuned

The AtD initiative will track FTIC Cohorts for 2002, 2003, and 2004 through graduation. While tracking for these groups has begun, meaningful graduation data for these cohorts is not available as of yet. Cohort graduation for these groups will be made available at a later date.