



Northern Essex
Community College

**Degrees & Certificates
Conferred
and Graduate Profile
AY 2014 - 2015**

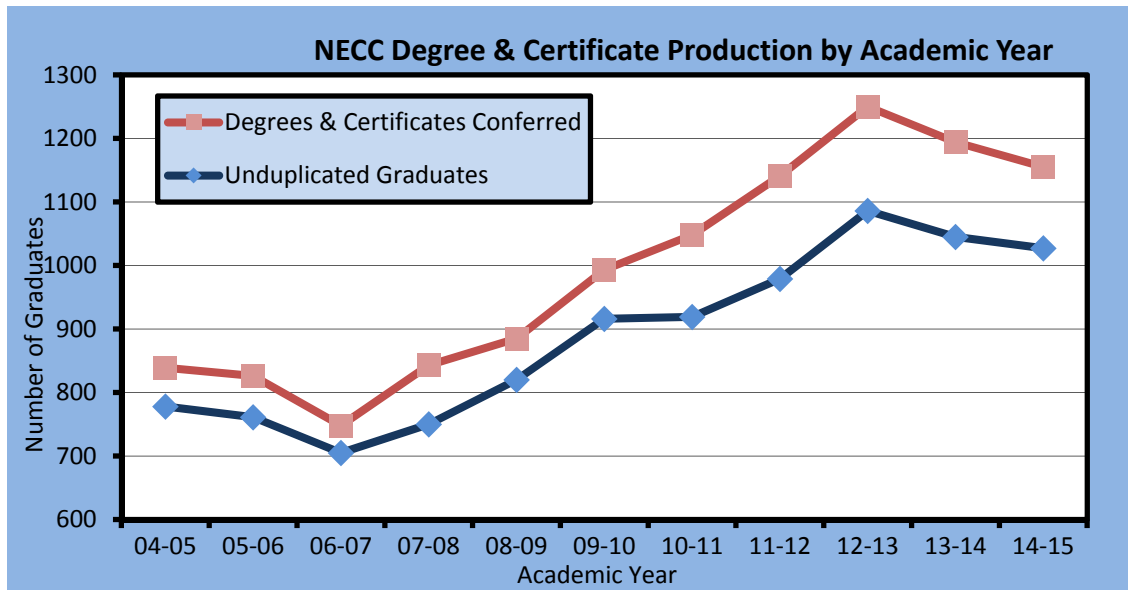
Office of Institutional Research and Planning

Revised October 26, 2015

Northern Essex Community College Degrees & Certificates Conferred and Graduate Profile, AY 2014 - 2015

Northern Essex Community College strives to measure and track those indicators that are most important to student success. There is no indicator more relevant to student success than the attainment of a degree or certificate. **Figure 1** shows the number of degrees and certificates conferred over a ten year period. During the 2014-2015 academic year, NECC awarded 1,155 degrees and certificates to 1,027 individual students. This marks a -3.3% decrease over the previous year in the number of awards conferred and a -1.7% decrease in the total number of individuals who earned them. This is the third highest number of degrees and certificates conferred since this measure has been tracked. Since the 2004-2005 academic year, the growth in awards is 37.7%.

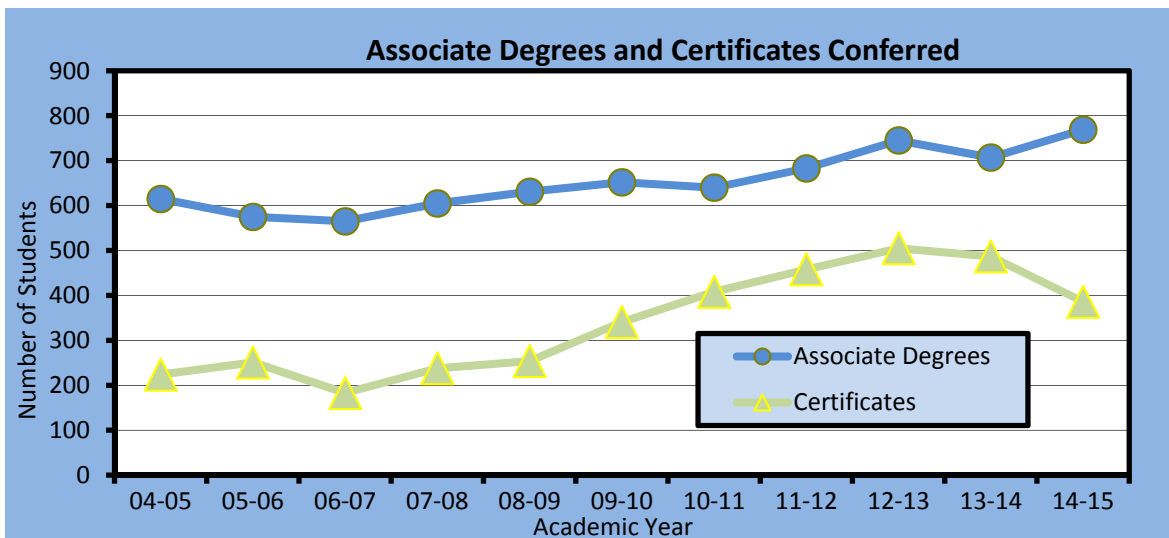
Figure 1.



Associate Degrees vs. Certificates

NECC awarded 768 Associate Degrees and 387 Certificates for AY 2014-2015. The data presented in **Figure 2** shows a 24.9% increase in the total number of Associate Degrees conferred since AY 2004-2005. The number of Certificates has increased by 72.8% since AY 2004-2005.

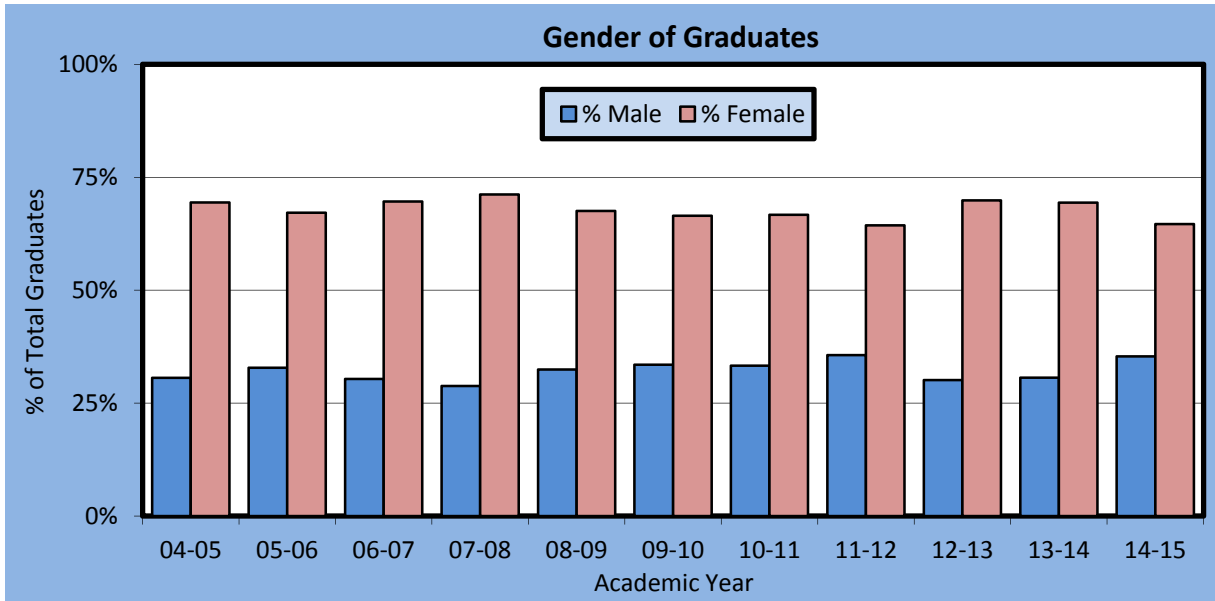
Figure 2.



Gender

Figure 3 shows that 64.7% of the graduates are female, while 35.3% are male. There has been a 52.5% increase in the number of male graduates (238 in AY 2004-2005 compared with 363 in AY 2014-2015) and a 23.0% increase in the number of female graduates (540 in AY 2004-2005 compared with 664 in AY 2014-2015) over the past ten years. See **Appendix A** for statistics on gender.

Figure 3.



Ethnicity

As indicated in **Figure 4a**, the headcount of Hispanic graduates has been increasing, growing by 255.8% since AY 2004-2005. The Hispanic graduates increased by 220 individuals since 2004-2005. During the same time period the Majority graduates had 618 individuals in 2004-2005, and there are only 619 Majority graduates for 2014-2015. That's a change of only 0.2% over 10 years. The Minority graduates have increased by 40 (87.0%), since AY 2004-2005. The Minority count does not include Non-Resident Aliens and does not include Race Unknown.

Figure 4a.

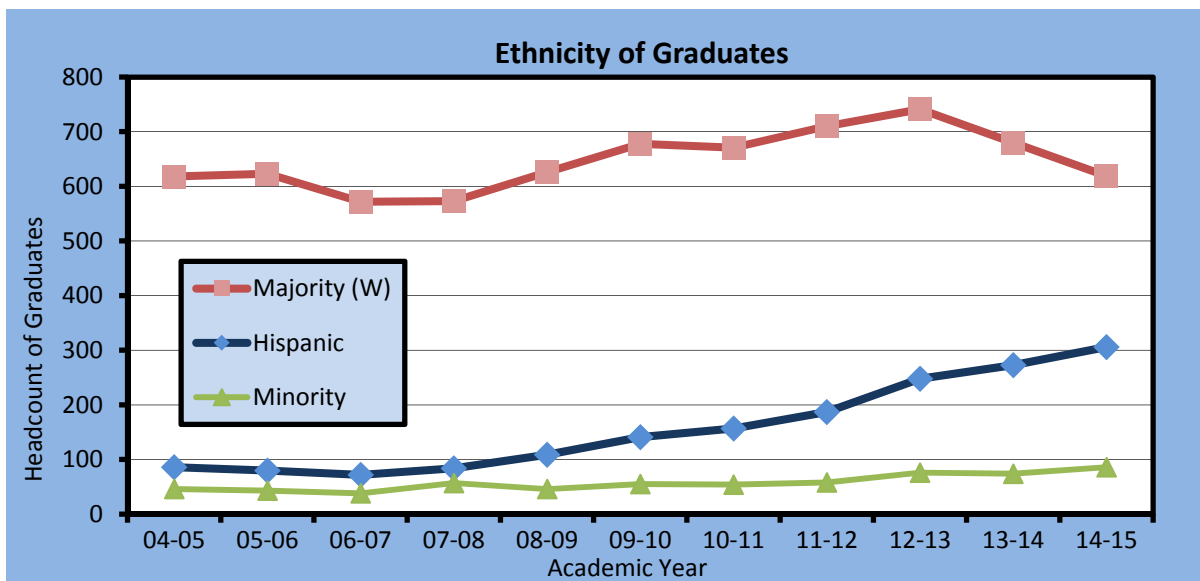
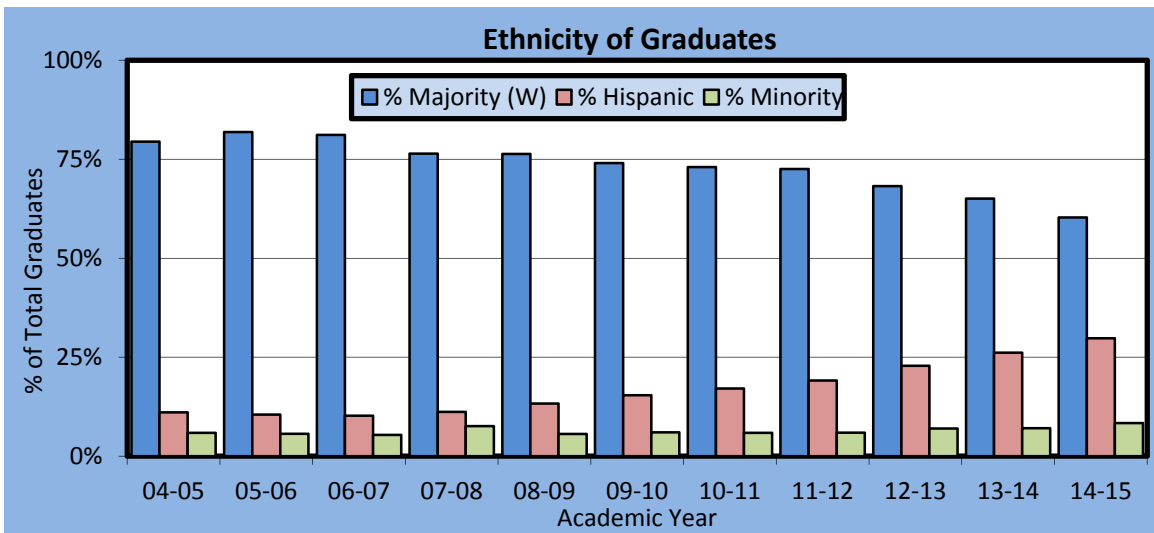


Figure 4b indicates that the diversity of NECC Graduates has been changing over the past 10 years. Hispanics accounted for 11.1% of the Graduates in AY 2004-2005. In AY 2013-2014 Hispanic Graduates increased to 29.8%. Majority Graduates accounted for 60.3% of the graduating class of AY 2013-2014. This is down from the 79.4% seen 10 years ago. See **Appendix A** for statistics on ethnicity.

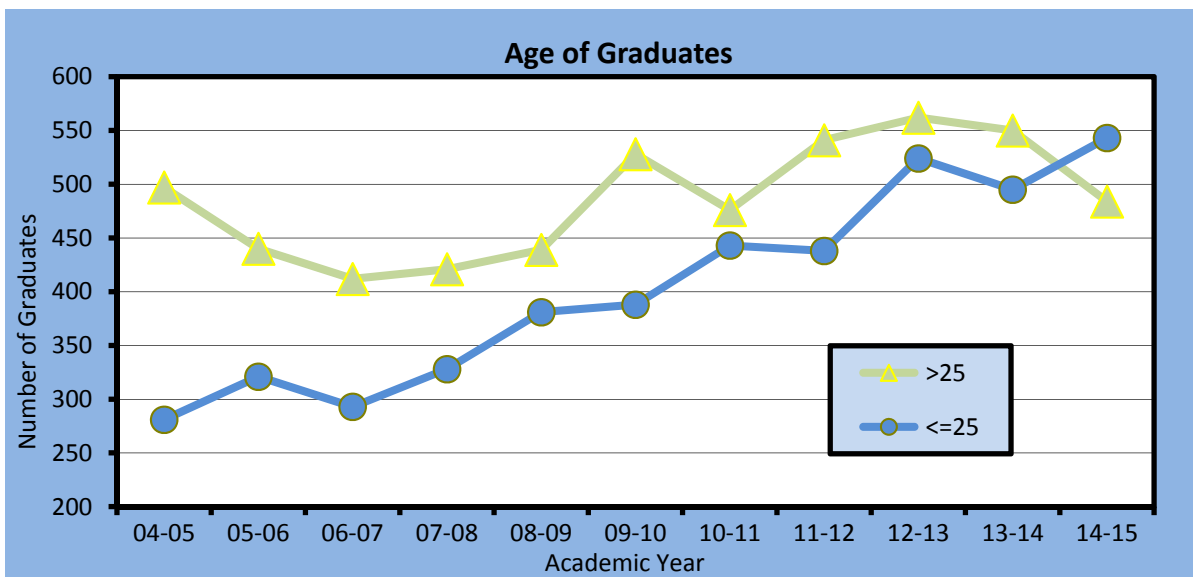
Figure 4b.



Age

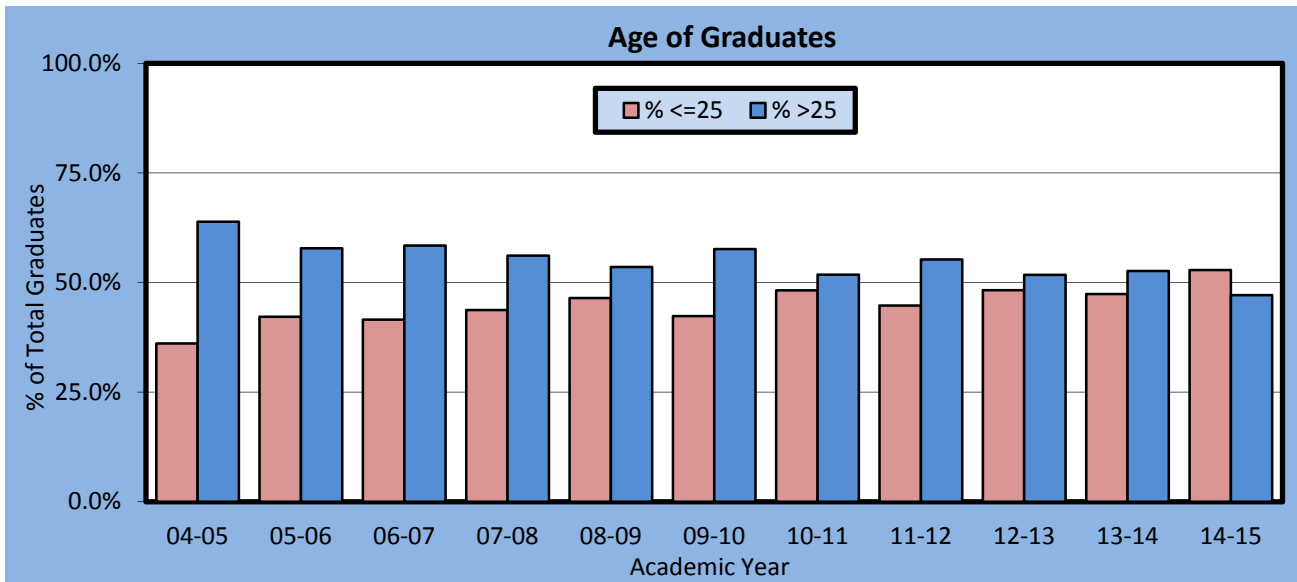
Figure 5a presents the age of graduates from AY 2004-2005 through the most recent academic year. Since that time there has been a 93.6% increase in the number of younger (≤ 25 years old) NECC graduates. There were 281 in AY 2004-2005 compared with 544 in AY 2014-2015. There was a relative decline of -2.8% in the number of older (>25 years old) graduates, which was 497 in AY 2004-2005 compared with 483 in AY 2014-2015. This is the first time that younger graduates have outnumbered older graduates.

Figure 5a.



Over time the gap between older and younger graduates has been shrinking. **Figure 5b** further illustrates the increase in graduates aged 25 years or younger. In AY 2004-2005, 63.9% of the NECC graduates were older than 25 with 36.1% of the graduates were 25 or younger. Finally in AY 2014-2015, 47.0% of the graduates were older, while 53.0% were younger.

Figure 5b.



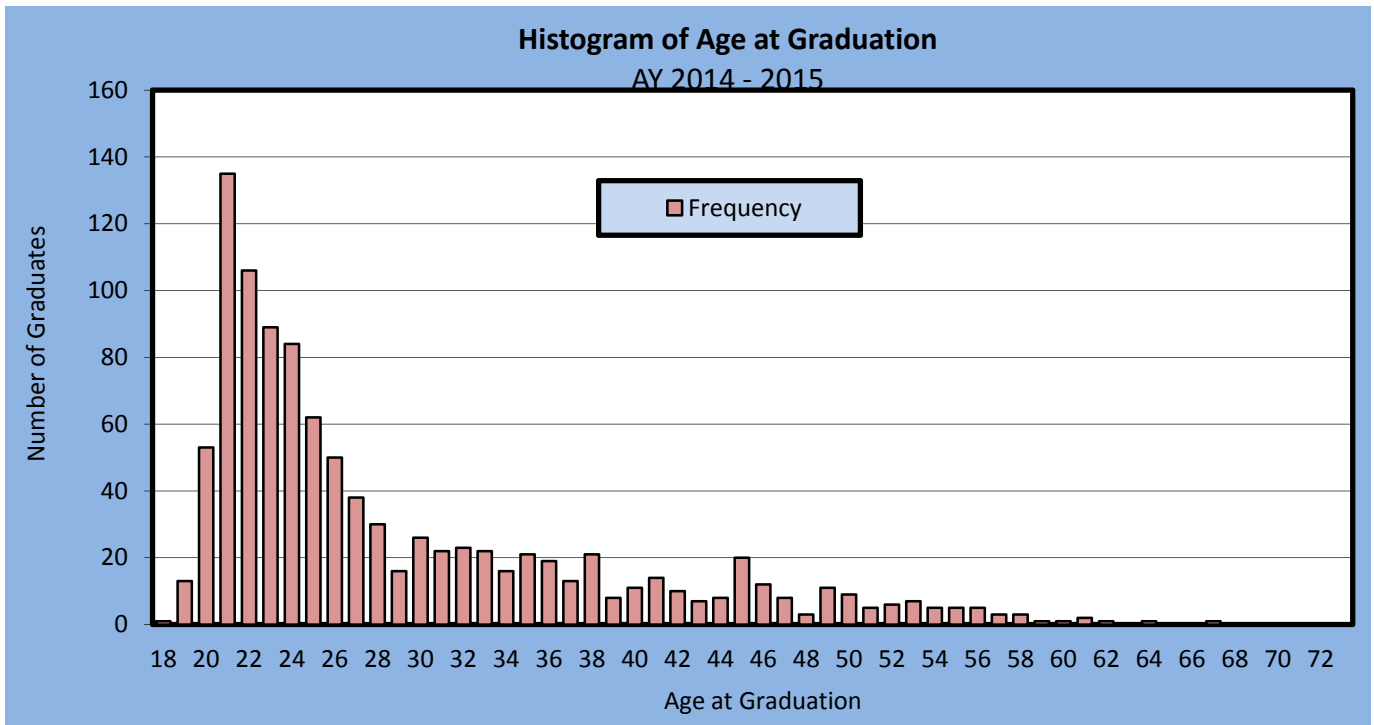
As shown in **Table 1**, the average age of a NECC student is 25 based on Fall 2014 enrollment, and the average age of an AY 2014-2013 graduate is 29. There are students and graduates that are extremes on either end of the age spectrum, which makes the average somewhat misleading. Therefore, the median (the middle value in a distribution) and the mode (the most occurring value in a distribution) should be reported as well. Note the differences between the average, median, and mode ages for the enrolled student and the graduate. See **Appendix A** for statistics on age.

Table 1.

Age	Fall 2013 Enrollment	AY 2013-2014 Graduates	Fall 2014 Enrollment	AY 2014-2015 Graduates
Average	26	31	25	29
Median	22	26	22	25
Mode	19	21	19	21

Figure 6 is a Histogram showing the distribution of the age of the Graduates of AY 2014-2015. The range of ages spans from 18 years old to 67. Yet, the most occurring ages for graduates is 21.

Figure 6.



Also interesting is the average age of graduates by major. In looking at majors with 5 or more graduates, the oldest AY 2014-2015 graduates completed the Medical Coding program (average age of 44 years old), while the youngest completed the Dental Assisting program (average age of 22 years old). As **Tables 2 and 3** point out, several ages were represented in more than one program area.

Table 2.

Major Code	11 Majors by Age	Average Age at Graduation (Oldest)
8100	Medical Coding	44
0217	Alcohol Drug Abuse Counseling	39
0257	Computed Tomography (CT) Cert	
0506	Electronic Technology	37
0566	Test B Elec Equip Tch-Raytheon	
8103	Medical Assistant	36
0196	GS: Phy Ed, Ex Sci, Sports Stu	
8104	Nursing (ADN)	35
0574	Laboratory Science	34
0572	Help Desk Cert	33
8102	Bus Mgt: Healthcare Practice	

Table 3.

Major Code	12 Majors by Age	Average Age at Graduation (Youngest)
0218	Dental Assisting	22
0149	LA: Journalism/Communication	23
0131	LA: Biology	
0143	LA: Philosophy	
0100	Liberal Arts	
0239	Law Enforcement Cert	24
0266	DS: Interpreting Transfer	
0137	LA: Psychology	
0199	General Studies: Art	25
0507	Engineering Science	
0134	LA: Writing	
0200	Criminal Justice	

Years to Completion

There are limitations to determining the average number of years it takes for Northern Essex Community College students to graduate. While date of graduation is a clear end point, start date is not always as succinct. Each NECC student has one start date that signifies initial entry to the college; however, this date does not capture the fact that students may leave and come back, change majors or begin a completely new major, etc. In addition to the average, the median and mode must be taken into consideration when studying this outcome. See **Appendix A** for statistics on years to completion.

Table 4.

Years to Complete	Associate Degree	Certificate
Average	6	6
Median	4	4
Mode	3	3

GPA

Grade point average (GPA) is a measure of the quality of student success, indicative of how well the graduate performed overall while attending NECC. With a maximum possible of 4.0, the average GPA for AY 2014-2015 graduates was 3.2. The average GPA in all academic years of this study fluctuates between 3.2 and 3.3. See **Appendix A** for statistics on grade point average.

Individual Programs

Programs with 10 or more graduates in AY 2013-2014 revealed some interesting results when examined over the past ten years.

The numbers of graduates from the following programs have increased the most substantially over the whole ten-year time period examined for this study: Healthcare Technician Certificate (0293), Human Services (0255), Engineering Science (0507), Computer Aided Drafting (0521), Business Management: Healthcare Practice (8102), Liberal Arts: Biology (0131), Community Support Human Services (0262), Liberal Arts: Journalism/Communication (0149), General Studies: Health Specialization (8107), Medical Office Assistant Certificate (8101), and Medical Assistant (8103). Many of these programs are relatively new, less than ten years old. Each of these has grown by more than 200% when compared with AY 2004-2005 graduates.

The following programs increased by more than 100% between AY 2004-2005 and AY 2014-2015: Liberal Arts: Psychology Option (0137), Alcohol & Drug Abuse Counseling (0217), and Medical Coding (8100)

The programs with 10 or more graduates in AY 2014-2015 that have decreased in graduates over the past ten years are: Information Technology Fluency (0562), Business Management (0308), Nursing (0213 (also 0233 prior to AY10-11)), Radiologic Technology (0212), Accounting (0300), Respiratory Care (0214), Dental Assistant Certificate (0218), and Computer Applications Certificate (0535). For number of graduates and longitudinal growth of individual programs, see **Appendix B**.

Other Interesting Facts

- ❖ 6.4% (66) of AY 14-15 unduplicated graduates started at the college by taking ESL. (6.8% in AY13-14)
- ❖ 69.0% (709) of AY 14-15 unduplicated graduates took at least one developmental course. 66.1% (691) of AY 13-14)
- ❖ The average number of credits earned by AY 2014-2015 graduates was 70. (69 in AY13-14)
- ❖ 43.9% (451) of AY 2014-2015 graduates had earned transfer credits. (42.0% in AY13-14)

Appendix A

Ten-Year Trend for Degrees & Certificates Conferred

	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	1-Year Growth	10-Year Growth
Degrees & Certificates Conferred	839	826	748	843	885	993	1,048	1,141	1,250	1,194	1,155	-3.3%	37.7%
Associate Degrees Conferred	615	575	565	605	631	652	640	683	745	707	768	8.6%	24.9%
Certificates Conferred	224	251	183	238	254	341	408	458	505	487	387	-20.5%	72.8%
Unduplicated Graduates	778	761	705	750	820	916	919	979	1,086	1,045	1,027	-1.7%	32.0%
Male	238	250	214	216	266	307	306	349	327	320	363	13.4%	52.5%
Female	540	511	491	534	554	609	613	630	759	725	664	-8.4%	23.0%
Asian	17	16	15	20	14	6	6	13	16	19	22	15.8%	29.4%
Black non-Hispanic	28	24	22	36	30	31	31	28	36	37	41	10.8%	46.4%
Hispanic	86	80	72	84	109	141	157	187	248	273	306	12.1%	255.8%
Native American / Native Alaskan												-	-
Unknown	24	15	19	36	33	32	28	13	14	12	6	-50.0%	-75.0%
NRA		0		0	6	10	9	11	7	6	10	66.7%	150.0%
White non-Hispanic	618	623	572	573	626	678	671	710	741	680	619	-9.0%	0.2%
Hawaiian						13	11	9	10			-	-
Multi-racial									12	15	18	20.0%	-
Total Minority Graduates (not including Hispanic)	46	43	38	57	46	55	54	58	76	74	86	16.2%	87.0%
Total Minority Students (Fall semester)	335	301	331	338	377	415	488	460	499	539	530	-1.7%	58.2%
Total Hispanic Students (Fall semester)	1,359	1,260	1,288	1,394	1,611	1,888	2,088	2,112	2,455	2,603	2,570	-1.3%	89.1%
Hispanic Graduates by Gender													
Male	19	35	19	18	31	42	53	58	58	69	93	34.8%	389.5%
Female	67	45	53	66	78	99	104	129	190	204	213	4.4%	217.9%
Total	86	80	72	84	109	141	157	187	248	273	306	12.1%	255.8%
<= Age 25	281	321	293	328	381	388	443	438	524	495	544	9.9%	93.6%
> Age 25	497	440	412	421	439	528	476	541	562	550	483	-12.2%	-2.8%
Average Age	33	32	32	32	31	32	31	30	30	31	29		
Mode	21	21	22	21	21	25	22	26	26	26	25		
Median	29	28	28	28	26	27	26	26	21	21	21		
Average Years to complete Associates Degree	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	6		
Mode	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3		
Median	5	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4		
Average Years to complete Certificate	7	7	8	7	6	7	8	7	7	7	6		
Mode	2	3	4	3	2	1	3	3	4	3	3		
Median	4	4	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		
Average GPA	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.2		

In accordance with FERPA guidelines, Ethnicity classifications with <5 Graduates are not reported.

Appendix B

Programs with 10 or more Graduates in AY 13-14	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	1-Year Growth	10-Year Growth*
General Studies - 0180	70	72	79	83	97	102	110	110	117	82	120	46.3%	71.4%
Business Transfer - 0311	50	65	51	50	63	53	56	69	68	67	69	3.0%	38.0%
Liberal Arts - 0100	54	52	46	46	45	35	45	53	81	60	59	-1.7%	9.3%
Healthcare Technician Certificate - 0293								6	48	82	54	-34.1%	800.0%
Criminal Justice - 0200	44	31	37	48	43	61	72	59	39	48	50	4.2%	13.6%
Early Childhood Education - 0201	21	18	22	23	32	31	27	26	26	29	35	20.7%	66.7%
Human Services - 0255	7	9	25	22	10	15	22	20	22	19	34	78.9%	385.7%
Engineering Science - 0507	5	7		2	7	5	11	11	18	32	30	-6.3%	500.0%
Business Management - 0308	42	24	27	29	27	47	35	34	32	31	30	-3.2%	-28.6%
LA: Psychology Option - 0137	11	15	11	20	16	11	22	23	22	30	29	-3.3%	163.6%
Community Support Human Svs - 0262	3	7	4	3	3	6	4	8	9	15	28	86.7%	833.3%
Law Enforcement - 0239		23	22	33	33	43	51	42	21	41	26	-36.6%	13.0%
Nursing - 0213 (0233 in years prior to AY10-11)**	80	79	79	71	92	89	36	37	29	34	26	-23.5%	-67.5%
Practical Nursing - 0209	22	24	22	19	18	17	27	29	24	28	22	-21.4%	0.0%
CIS: Information Technology - 0559		12	7	9	8	8	17	23	30	28	22	-21.4%	83.3%
Computer Aided Drafting - 0521	4	1	2	7	10	13	7	12	17	23	22	-4.3%	450.0%
Information Technology Fluency - 0562		22	7	15	9	10	24	22	37	21	20	-4.8%	-9.1%
Medical Assistant (Day) - 0260**	15	20	18	15	33	23	26	25	26	19	19	0.0%	26.7%
Alcohol & Drug Abuse Counseling - 0217	7	12	7	12	8	12	16	17	17	15	19	26.7%	171.4%
Nursing (ADN) - 8104**									15	17	18	5.9%	20.0%
Computer Applications Certificate - 0535	24	24	4	9	11	13	20	21	29	23	17	-26.1%	-29.2%
Dental Assistant Certificate - 0218	20	24	19	15	27	22	21	24	23	19	17	-10.5%	-15.0%
Medical Office Assistant Certificate - 8101										5	17	240.0%	240.0%
General Studies: Art - 0199											16	-	-
Test B Elec Equip Tch-Raytheon -0566									16	3	16	433.3%	0.0%
Radiologic Technology - 0212	23	26	20	21	21	22	13	17	19	16	15	-6.3%	-34.8%
Bus Mgt: Healthcare Practice - 8102								1	3	3	14	366.7%	1300.0%
Accounting - 0300	20	19	24	21	16	15	23	18	28	18	14	-22.2%	-30.0%
Computer Networking Certificate - 0544	11	7	2	1	5	5	8	9	18	16	14	-12.5%	27.3%
LA: Biology - 0131	1	2	1	2	6	3	2	5	8	12	14	16.7%	1300.0%
LA: Journalism/Communication - 0149					1	5	12	12	11	3	14	366.7%	1300.0%
GS: Health Specialization - 8107									1	8	14	75.0%	1300.0%
Respiratory Care - 0214	16	8	15	24	11	23	13	16	17	18	12	-33.3%	-25.0%
Medical Coding - 8100									4	33	11	-66.7%	175.0%
Electronic Technology - 0506								9	4	7	11	57.1%	22.2%
Medical Assistant - 8103**									1	17	10	-41.2%	900.0%
Elementary Education - 0147	8	16	16	25	29	12	12	18	11	8	10	-27.3%	60.0%
Laboratory Science - 0574							8	2	6	9	10	50.0%	12.5%

