



**Investigation into Possible Causes for the
Decline in Santa Ana College FTES**
Compiled by the RSCCD Research Department, November 2004

Background

In response to concerns among Santa Ana College administration about recent declines in FTES, RSCCD Research Department staff members brainstormed possible sources and/or contributing factors. Staff analyzed data that included trends in the numbers of course sections offered, as well as zip codes of residence of students enrolled credit coursework in Fall 2002, Fall 2003, and Fall 2004. The findings included in this summary compare Fall 2002 data to Fall 2004 data.

Three areas were identified for further investigation:

1. **Program Enrollments.** Overall, *non-traditional* enrollments appear to have decreased from Fall 2002 to Fall 2004. Of those, three subject areas were identified (via the 'Course Sections Available Study') as areas with high numbers of decreased enrollment: 1) Criminal Justice Academy, 2) Fire Academy, and 3) Business Seminars. Similarly, two *traditional* subject areas were also identified for further study: Computer Science and English as a Second Language. Characteristics of students in those programs (educational goals, day/night status, and age) will be studied further.
2. **'Leavers' from Zip Codes of High Attrition.** This group includes students who attended SAC in Fall 2002 but did not persist to Fall 2003 **and** students who attended in Fall 2003 but did not persist to Fall 2004. Transfer records (through National Student Clearinghouse) will be analyzed.
3. **Zip Codes of Residence.** Six zip codes (92703, 92704, 92706, and 92707 within the City of Santa Ana, and 92840 and 92843 within the City of Garden Grove) were identified as having high concentrations of 'leavers'. Researchers determined to look at changes (Fall 2002 to Fall 2004) in characteristics of these students, including ethnicity, coursework enrolled in prior to leaving, age, and day/night status.
4. **Older Adult Students (ages 30-64).** This group will be looked at in terms of ethnicity, educational goals, day/night status, and prior units.
5. **Social Trends in the Community.** Changes in characteristics of the communities served will be further studied.

Summary of Findings

➤ Program Enrollments

- The proportion of younger students (< 30 years of age) increased 7 percentage points in Computer Science and 9 percentage points in Fire Academy.
- The proportion of “degree-seeking students” and “students seeking personal/educational development” increased 5 percentage points each in Fire Academy coursework. The proportion of students who identified their goals as “job-related” decreased by 12 percentage points.
- The proportion of students taking both day and night classes increased in Fire Academy, and the proportion of night students in Criminal Justice Academy decreased by 12 percentage points.
- The average class size decreased across all five subject areas.

➤ Older Adult Students (30-64 years of age)

- The proportion of degree-seeking older students increased by six percentage points; job-related goals decreased by five percentage points.
- The proportion of “Day only” older students decreased by five percentage points; “Night only” proportion increased by four percentage points.
- The proportion of freshmen older students (0-29.9 units) decreased by six percentage points; Sophomores (30-59.9 units) increased by two percentage points, and older students with 60+ units without a degree by three percentage points.
- There was no significant change in the ethnic breakdowns.

➤ Characteristics of Zip Codes of Decreased Enrollments

- There was no significant change when analyzed using zip codes of residence by ethnic backgrounds, with the exceptions of:
 - A slightly higher proportion of Latino students who reside in 92704 and 92706 (+3 percentage points)
 - A higher proportion of Latino students (+8 percentage points) in the 92840 zip code, accompanied by a decrease in the proportion of Asians (-5%) and Caucasians (-4%).
 - A lower proportion of Asian students in the 92843 zip code (-8%).
- A lower proportion of students enrolled in day **and** night classes (-4%).
- When addressing the ‘leaver’ population, it was found that:
 - A majority were ‘day only’ students (53%) and Latino (49%).
 - Most of these ‘leavers’ were enrolled in only one class, with the mean number of classes being 3.49.
 - The largest concentrations of enrollments were in: math (35%), English (23%), counseling (20%), art (13%), biology (11%), business applications (13%), computer science (12%), ESL (12%), Exercise Science Circuit Training (12%), and Psychology (10%).

➤ **Transfers to Other Colleges by ‘Leavers’**

- The ‘leaver’ group consisted of 14308 students. Of these former SAC students:
 - 802 have records at other colleges the **first semester after attending SAC**: 316 at CSU, 77 at UC, 70 at Private or out-of-state colleges, and 339 at other community colleges. However, about 31% of these enrollments are dated **prior** to Fall 2002 and/or Fall 2003. This means that these ‘leavers’ attended SAC during prior semesters and were classified as returning students.
 - There were 1362 ‘leavers’ who have records at other colleges during **any term** (regardless of “stop outs”). Transfer-in colleges were as follows: 532 (CSU), 81 (UC), 117 (private or out-of-state), and 632 (other community colleges).
 - The mean number of units completed by ‘leavers’ who transferred to other colleges was: 76.51 (CSU), 76.13 (UC), 51.22 (private/out-of-state), and 28.96 (other community colleges).

Social Trends in the Communities Served

- Based on data collected in the 1990 and 2000 Censuses, the populations in Garden Grove, Orange, and Santa Ana have increased by 15, 10, and 15 percentage points, respectively.
- There was an increase (across all communities in our service area) in the proportion of residents who do not speak English at home:
 - In Garden Grove, 39% in 1990 vs. 59% in 2000.
 - In Orange, 27% in 1990 vs. 37% in 2000.
 - In Santa Ana, 69% in 1990 vs. 80% in 2000.
- Similarly, there was an increase in the number of residents who have not received a high school diploma:
 - In Garden Grove, 26% in 1990 vs. 32% in 2000.
 - In Orange, 18% in 1990 vs. 20% in 2000.
 - In Santa Ana, 50% in 1990 vs. 57% in 2000.
- Enrollment Trends (from historical “Zip Codes of Residence” studies) show a decline in enrollments to Santa Ana College from the cities of Garden Grove, Orange, and Santa Ana.
 - Analyzed by individual zip codes (1995 to 2003), there is an overall decline in most zip codes within Garden Grove, Orange, and Santa Ana boundaries.
 - Enrollments “topped out” in Fall 1999, and began to decline in 2000, consistent with the accreditation of SCC (Spring 2000) and continued growth of SCC facilities since that time.

| SAC Enrollment Trends, by Zip Codes of Residence (Fall 1995-2003) | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| City | Zip Code of Residence | Enrollment, by Semester | | | | | |
| | | Fall 2003 | Fall 2001 | Fall 2000 | Fall 1999 | Fall 1997 | Fall 1995 |
| Garden Grove | 92840 | 757 | 908 | 953 | 976 | 786 | 780 |
| | 92841 | 246 | 286 | 301 | 356 | | |
| | 92842 | 18 | 24 | 21 | 22 | | |
| | 92843 | 776 | 955 | 966 | 1042 | 844 | 818 |
| | 92844 | 214 | 293 | 301 | 325 | | |
| | 92845 | 61 | 80 | 74 | 73 | | |
| | 92846 | 3 | 7 | | 5 | | |
| | Total | 2075 | 2553 | 2616 | 2799 | | |
| Santa Ana | 92701 | 1058 | 1111 | 1095 | 1062 | 773 | 834 |
| | 92702 | 105 | 48 | 51 | 57 | | |
| | 92703 | 1493 | 1630 | 1587 | 1611 | 1271 | 1132 |
| | 92704 | 1560 | 1806 | 1771 | 1746 | 1359 | 1241 |
| | 92705 | 584 | 644 | 714 | 714 | 497 | 449 |
| | 92706 | 1086 | 1242 | 1164 | 1192 | 917 | 811 |
| | 92707 | 1217 | 1433 | 1438 | 1296 | 1024 | 923 |
| | other | 48 | 23 | 57 | 22 | | |
| | Total | 7151 | 7937 | 7877 | 7700 | 5841 | 5390 |
| Orange | 92865 | 204 | 244 | 256 | 273 | 134 | 217 |
| | 92866 | 264 | 301 | 321 | 363 | 337 | 273 |
| | 92867 | 536 | 513 | 607 | 725 | 510 | 659 |
| | 92868 | 430 | 492 | 520 | 539 | 380 | 404 |
| | 92869 | 566 | 596 | 672 | 743 | 576 | 651 |
| | other | 57 | 73 | 81 | 25 | 14 | |
| | Total | 2057 | 2219 | 2457 | 2668 | 1951 | 2204 |
| Anaheim | 92801 | 237 | 259 | 282 | 253 | | |
| | 92802 | 401 | 431 | 447 | 417 | | |
| | 92803 | 13 | 12 | 20 | 8 | | |
| | 92804 | 370 | 357 | 398 | 373 | | |
| | 92805 | 486 | 439 | 453 | 405 | | |
| | 92806 | 278 | 322 | 330 | 355 | 235 | 213 |
| | 92807 | 319 | 322 | 361 | 439 | 278 | 363 |
| | 92808 | 183 | 138 | 174 | 176 | 91 | |
| | other | 24 | 19 | 19 | 19 | | |
| | Total | 2311 | 2299 | 2484 | 2445 | 604 | 576 |

Source: "SAC Enrollments by Zip Codes of Residence" reports, RSCCD Research Department.

| SCC Enrollments, by Zip Codes of Residence (Fall 1995-2003) | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| City | Zip Code of Residence | Enrollment, by Semester | | | | | |
| | | Fall 2003 | Fall 2001 | Fall 2000 | Fall 1999 | Fall 1997 | Fall 1995 |
| Garden Grove | 92840 | 187 | 188 | 169 | 254 | 99 | 111 |
| | 92841 | 61 | 53 | 44 | 76 | | |
| | 92842 | 3 | | | | | |
| | 92843 | 169 | 146 | 142 | 241 | 68 | 76 |
| | 92844 | 50 | 45 | 41 | 82 | | |
| | 92845 | 17 | 10 | 14 | 8 | | |
| | Total | | 487 | 442 | 410 | 661 | 167 |
| Santa Ana | 92701 | 228 | 195 | 185 | 246 | 95 | 132 |
| | 92702 | 6 | 8 | | 8 | | |
| | 92703 | 283 | 234 | 220 | 291 | 61 | 47 |
| | 92704 | 281 | 223 | 236 | 332 | 87 | 124 |
| | 92705 | 569 | 662 | 584 | 545 | 349 | 346 |
| | 92706 | 197 | 204 | 201 | 288 | 114 | 101 |
| | 92707 | 286 | 223 | 196 | 265 | 70 | 111 |
| | other | 72 | 6 | 5 | 10 | 106 | |
| Total | | 1922 | 1755 | 1627 | 1985 | 882 | 861 |
| Orange | 92865 | 246 | 303 | 268 | 244 | 113 | 190 |
| | 92866 | 208 | 267 | 238 | 263 | 243 | 185 |
| | 92867 | 669 | 754 | 714 | 681 | 467 | 533 |
| | 92868 | 232 | 263 | 238 | 241 | 142 | 162 |
| | 92869 | 897 | 1083 | 996 | 960 | 729 | 677 |
| | other | 31 | 61 | 67 | 37 | | |
| Total | | 2283 | 2731 | 2521 | 2426 | 1694 | 1747 |
| Anaheim | 92801 | 81 | 69 | 71 | 79 | | |
| | 92802 | 123 | 93 | 108 | 121 | | |
| | 92803 | 5 | | | 5 | | |
| | 92804 | 129 | 115 | 112 | 112 | | |
| | 92805 | 145 | 131 | 124 | 138 | | |
| | 92806 | 125 | 165 | 145 | 181 | 89 | 90 |
| | 92807 | 501 | 546 | 489 | 514 | 343 | 355 |
| | 92808 | 240 | 227 | 192 | 187 | 128 | |
| | other | 11 | | | 12 | | |
| Total | | 1360 | 1346 | 1241 | 1349 | 560 | 445 |

Source: "SCC Enrollments by Zip Codes of Residence" reports, RSCCD Research Department.

SAC/SCC Enrollment Trends by City

