



Fall 2021 Preliminary Enrollment Report- TACC Internal Survey

Executive Summary

In September 2021, TACC collected preliminary headcount enrollment data from member colleges. While not definitive, responses from 45 of 48 members are sufficient for a first-look analysis of recent enrollment trends, although important caveats should be noted (see below). Data tables are on subsequent pages.

Some key takeaways from this first-look analysis include:

- Although aggregate enrollment is still down over ten percent relative to Fall 2019, Fall 2021 statewide enrollment did increase about 1.7 percent relative to Fall 2020 (Table 1).
- In general, larger colleges have experienced greater enrollment loss relative to Fall 2019. Large colleges grew the most relative to Fall 2020, but Very Large colleges were the only group to experience an enrollment decline this semester, although two of ten Very Large colleges are not included (Table 2).
- All TACC regions except Central grew in enrollment relative to Fall 2020 (Table 3).
- Preliminary data suggest that aggregate enrollment growth in Fall 2021 is due to increased enrollments among Hispanic students, male students, and first-time part-time students. Dual credit enrollment appears to have increased slightly, although preliminary non-dual credit enrollments are not consistent with other results (Table 1).
- 23 of 45 reporting colleges experienced enrollment growth in Fall 2021 relative to Fall 2020 (Table 4).
- **Key caveats** include the lack of data for all colleges; an increase in 8-week enrollments that may result in higher enrollment later in the semester; possible inconsistencies in race/ethnicity reporting methodologies; and the preliminary, uncertified nature of the underlying data.

Variance from THECB Preliminary Enrollment

As of this writing the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) has published preliminary enrollment figures¹ for public institutions of higher that differ somewhat from the data reported here, including most notably a finding that aggregate community college enrollment decreased by about 1.45 percent in Fall 2021. A number of reasons could explain the variance, including data reported at different points in time, inclusion or exclusion of continuing education students, and use of unduplicated data in THECB's figures for multi-college districts. Definitive figures will not be available until THECB publishes certified, unduplicated enrollment data.

TACC may publish revised versions of this report if additional or revised data becomes available. TACC will publish a follow-up enrollment report when certified data are made available from THECB.

Please direct all questions to Chris Fernandez at cfernandez@tacc.org.

¹ Available at <https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/texashigheredenrollments-2021-10/27/2021>

Table 1. TACC Preliminary Fall 2021 Changes in Headcount Enrollment

(n=45)			
	% change from fall 2019	% change from fall 2020	Fall 2021 % composition
TOTAL	-10.6%	1.7%	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Race/ethnicity</i>			
Asian	-10.8%	-3.9%	4.1%
Black/African-American	-18.7%	-5.9%	11.3%
Hispanic	-7.7%	5.9%	49.9%
White	-12.7%	-3.3%	28.4%
International	-52.7%	-33.5%	1.2%
Other	21.9%	36.8%	5.1%
<i>Gender</i>			
Female	-9.9%	-9.0%	59.2%
Male	-11.8%	6.3%	40.8%
<i>Enrollment Type</i>			
Dual Credit	-10.8%	0.3%	26.8%
Not Dual Credit*	-14.4%	-2.2%	73.2%
First-time, full-time	-25.4%	-5.3%	7.7%
First-time, part-time	-7.8%	21.3%	8.9%
Not-first-time, full-time	-11.2%	-1.9%	18.8%
Not-first-time, part-time	-18.7%	-9.7%	64.6%

*The inconsistency of reported losses among non-dual credit students and aggregate growth suggests that this data is especially subject to future revision.

Table 2. Fall Preliminary Headcount Enrollment by Peer Group (n=45)

Peer Group	Fall 2021 Preliminary	Fall 2020 Certified	Fall 2019 Certified	1-yr % diff ('20 to '21)	2-yr % diff ('19 to '21)
Small	19,091	18,241	20,264	4.7%	-5.8%
Medium	101,406	97,478	109,441	4.0%	-7.3%
Large	92,195	86,469	99,502	6.6%	-7.3%
Very Large	312,627	314,182	358,174	-0.5%	-12.7%

Table 3. Fall Preliminary Headcount Enrollment by TACC Region (n=45)

Peer Group	Fall 2021 Preliminary	Fall 2020 Certified	Fall 2019 Certified	1-yr % diff ('20 to '21)	2-yr % diff ('19 to '21)
Central	81,410	85,824	93,570	-5.1%	-13.0%
East	37,228	35,971	38,732	3.5%	-3.9%
North	126,457	124,238	147,796	1.8%	-14.4%
South	116,181	111,888	127,105	3.8%	-8.6%
Southeast	99,998	95,315	111,759	4.9%	-10.5%
West	64,045	63,134	68,419	1.4%	-6.4%

Table 4. Fall Preliminary Headcount Enrollment (n=45)

College	Fall 2021 Preliminary	Fall 2020 Certified	Fall 2019 Certified	1-yr % diff ('20 to '21)	2-yr % diff ('19 to '21)
Alamo	49,421	54,570	57,042	-9.4%	-13.4%
Alvin	5,082	5,591	5,985	-9.1%	-15.1%
Amarillo	9,616	9,102	9,766	5.6%	-1.5%
Austin	34,519	36,868	38,730	-6.4%	-10.9%
Blinn	16,888	17,955	19,183	-5.9%	-12.0%
Brazosport	4,006	3,829	4,212	4.6%	-4.9%
Central TX	7,300	7,649	9,492	-4.6%	-23.1%
Cisco	3,099	3,251	3,539	-4.7%	-12.4%
Clarendon	1,414	1,417	1,579	-0.2%	-10.4%
Coastal Bend	3,994	4,105	4,818	-2.7%	-17.1%
C. of M.	4,246	4,335	4,687	-2.1%	-9.4%
Dallas	64,360	57,601	74,874	11.7%	-14.0%
Del Mar	12,056	10,678	12,008	12.9%	0.4%
El Paso	24,212	25,303	28,124	-4.3%	-13.9%
Frank Phillips	1,976	1,540	1,492	28.3%	32.4%
Galveston	1,947	2,060	2,306	-5.5%	-15.6%
Grayson	4,214	4,032	4,473	4.5%	-5.8%
Hill	3,849	4,038	4,537	-4.7%	-15.2%
Houston	40,119	38,020	47,697	5.5%	-15.9%
Howard	4,072	3,722	4,349	9.4%	-6.4%
Kilgore	5,735	5,089	5,305	12.7%	8.1%
Laredo	10,541	5,236	10,165	101.3%	3.7%
Lee	7,199	4,271	7,516	68.6%	-4.2%
McLennan	7,646	7,742	8,705	-1.2%	-12.2%
Midland	5,150	4,763	5,115	8.1%	0.7%
Navarro	6,706	7,065	8,036	-5.1%	-16.6%
North Central TX	8,018	8,191	9,382	-2.1%	-14.5%
Northeast TX	2,953	2,758	2,988	7.1%	-1.2%
Odessa	7,054	6,978	6,806	1.1%	3.6%
Panola	2,506	2,529	2,611	-0.9%	-4.0%
Paris	4,374	4,386	4,858	-0.3%	-10.0%
San Jacinto	31,849	31,110	32,452	2.4%	-1.9%
South Plains	9,094	8,867	9,179	2.6%	-0.9%
South TX	29,714	27,710	32,478	7.2%	-8.5%
Southwest TX	6,162	6,377	6,911	-3.4%	-10.8%
Tarrant	38,433	43,000	46,777	-10.6%	-17.8%
Temple	4,502	4,507	4,887	-0.1%	-7.9%
Texarkana	3,897	3,810	4,087	2.3%	-4.6%
Trinity Valley	5,787	5,673	6,592	2.0%	-12.2%
Tyler	11,976	11,726	12,291	2.1%	-2.6%
Vernon	2,766	2,773	2,930	-0.3%	-5.6%
Victoria	4,293	3,212	3,683	33.7%	16.6%
Weatherford	5,567	5,390	5,821	3.3%	-4.4%
Western TX	1,457	1,442	2,009	1.0%	-27.5%
Wharton	5,550	6,099	6,904	-9.0%	-19.6%
TOTAL (of colleges reporting)	525,319	516,370	587,381	1.7%	-10.6%