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News Release

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For Immediate Release

Editor Please Note: Attached is a chart with preliminary fall 2009 student and credit hour enrollments and final fall 2008 student and credit hour enrollments.

Enrollment Surges at NJ's Community Colleges

TRENTON, N.J.—Statewide full-time student enrollment at New Jersey's 19 community colleges increased by a record 12 percent from fall 2008 to fall 2009 to a new all-time high, according to figures released today by the New Jersey Council of County Colleges.

Total full-time credit enrollment at New Jersey's community colleges grew from 86,186 in fall 2008 to 96,838 this year.

Part-time credit enrollment increased 2 percent from fall 2008 to fall 2009, with 78,049 students enrolled part-time last year and 79,679 students enrolled this year.

“Students are turning to community colleges to provide them with a high-quality education at an affordable price during this tough economic climate,” said Dr. Lawrence A. Nespoli, NJCCC president.

In total, 176,517 students are taking college-credit courses at New Jersey's community colleges this fall – the largest credit enrollment ever at community colleges.

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“These are preliminary numbers,” Nespoli said about the record enrollment growth.

“We’re sure our fall enrollments will be even greater, since many community colleges offer five- and seven-week late start sessions that students can register for until late October.

“Our community colleges are seeing a greater number of traditional students, age 18 to 22, enrolling in courses,” Nespoli added. “Many recent high school graduates are making community colleges their college of first choice.”

Along with credit enrollments, New Jersey’s community colleges enroll over 125,000 students in noncredit courses in professional and personal skills development each year. Community colleges also work with over 500 businesses each year to provide customized training programs to nearly 50,000 members of New Jersey’s workforce.

In addition to increased student enrollments, the number of credit hours students take is up 12 percent, from 1,646,558 in fall 2008 to 1,813,897 in fall 2009. A typical college class is three credit hours.

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges is the state association representing New Jersey’s 19 community colleges. As an independent, trustee-headed organization that joins the leadership of trustees and presidents, the Council is the voice of the community college sector before the state legislature and other branches of government.

New Jersey Community College Fall Students and Credit Hours
Full-Time and Part-Time: Final Fall 2008 and Preliminary* Fall 2009 (As of 10/15/2009)

		Students		
College		Fall2008	Fall 2009	% Change
Atlantic Cape	Full-Time	3,651	4,003	9.6%
	Part-Time	3,356	3,585	6.8%
	Total	7,007	7,588	8.3%
Bergen	Full-Time	8,455	9,303	10.0%
	Part-Time	6,828	7,166	5.0%
	Total	15,283	16,469	7.8%
Brookdale	Full-Time	8,386	9,201	9.7%
	Part-Time	6,256	6,438	2.9%
	Total	14,642	15,639	6.8%
Burlington	Full-Time	4,594	5,445	18.5%
	Part-Time	4,094	4,248	3.8%
	Total	8,688	9,693	11.6%
Camden	Full-Time	7,799	8,541	9.5%
	Part-Time	7,399	7,019	-5.1%
	Total	15,198	15,560	2.4%
Cumberland	Full-Time	2,151	2,365	9.9%
	Part-Time	1,671	1,649	-1.3%
	Total	3,822	4,014	5.0%
Essex	Full-Time	6,962	7,912	13.6%
	Part-Time	5,356	5,398	0.8%
	Total	12,318	13,310	8.1%
Gloucester	Full-Time	3,435	3,805	10.8%
	Part-Time	2,700	2,685	-0.6%
	Total	6,135	6,490	5.8%
Hudson	Full-Time	4,476	5,527	23.5%
	Part-Time	3,049	3,155	3.5%
	Total	7,525	8,682	15.4%
Mercer	Full-Time	3,805	4,375	15.0%
	Part-Time	5,377	5,244	-2.5%
	Total	9,182	9,619	4.8%

		Credit Hours		
College		Fall 2008	Fall 2009	% Change
Atlantic Cape	Full-Time	49,584	54,327	9.6%
	Part-Time	22,441	24,558	9.4%
	Total	72,025	78,885	9.5%
Bergen	Full-Time	113,147	124,328	9.9%
	Part-Time	44,600	47,320	6.1%
	Total	157,747	171,648	8.8%
Brookdale	Full-Time	112,414	123,544	9.9%
	Part-Time	37,642	38,879	3.3%
	Total	150,055	162,423	8.2%
Burlington	Full-Time	60,895	72,028	18.3%
	Part-Time	25,178	26,258	4.3%
	Total	86,073	98,286	14.2%
Camden	Full-Time	102,594	111,498	8.7%
	Part-Time	44,488	43,860	-1.4%
	Total	147,082	155,358	5.6%
Cumberland	Full-Time	28,493	31,066	9.0%
	Part-Time	10,413	10,660	2.4%
	Total	38,906	41,726	7.2%
Essex	Full-Time	97,970	115,208	17.6%
	Part-Time	35,220	36,444	3.5%
	Total	133,190	151,652	13.9%
Gloucester	Full-Time	46,425	51,778	11.5%
	Part-Time	16,036	16,248	1.3%
	Total	62,461	68,026	8.9%
Hudson	Full-Time	59,716	73,722	23.5%
	Part-Time	20,765	22,039	6.1%
	Total	80,481	95,761	19.0%
Mercer	Full-Time	50,421	58,003	15.0%
	Part-Time	33,061	33,108	0.1%
	Total	83,482	91,111	9.1%

		Students		
College		Fall 2008	Fall 2009	% Change
Middlesex				
	Full-Time	6,894	7,706	11.8%
	Part-Time	5,487	5,709	4.0%
	Total	12,381	13,415	8.4%
Morris				
	Full-Time	4,760	5,078	6.7%
	Part-Time	3,680	3,660	-0.5%
	Total	8,440	8,738	3.5%
Ocean				
	Full-Time	5,593	5,907	5.6%
	Part-Time	4,218	4,508	6.9%
	Total	9,811	10,415	6.2%
Passaic				
	Full-Time	2,327	3,023	29.9%
	Part-Time	5,575	5,798	4.0%
	Total	7,902	8,821	11.6%
Raritan Valley				
	Full-Time	3,399	4,031	18.6%
	Part-Time	3,711	3,687	-0.6%
	Total	7,110	7,718	8.6%
Salem				
	Full-Time	776	889	14.6%
	Part-Time	530	576	8.7%
	Total	1,306	1,465	12.2%
Sussex				
	Full-Time	2,223	2,461	10.7%
	Part-Time	1,536	1,747	13.7%
	Total	3,759	4,208	11.9%
Union				
	Full-Time	5,690	6,259	10.0%
	Part-Time	6,176	6,225	0.8%
	Total	11,866	12,484	5.2%
Warren				
	Full-Time	810	1,007	24.3%
	Part-Time	1,050	1,182	12.6%
	Total	1,860	2,189	17.7%
Total				
	Full-Time	86,186	96,838	12.4%
	Part-Time	78,049	79,679	2.1%
	Total	164,235	176,517	7.5%

		Credit Hours		
College		Fall 2008	Fall 2009	% Change
Middlesex				
	Full-Time	92,124	103,108	11.9%
	Part-Time	35,838	37,608	4.9%
	Total	127,962	140,716	10.0%
Morris				
	Full-Time	63,652	67,988	6.8%
	Part-Time	23,137	23,153	0.1%
	Total	86,789	91,141	5.0%
Ocean				
	Full-Time	75,736	79,554	5.0%
	Part-Time	25,106	27,260	8.6%
	Total	100,842	106,814	5.9%
Passaic				
	Full-Time	33,075	40,325	21.9%
	Part-Time	36,975	40,421	9.3%
	Total	70,050	80,746	15.3%
Raritan Valley				
	Full-Time	45,590	54,516	19.6%
	Part-Time	21,239	22,343	5.2%
	Total	66,829	76,859	15.0%
Salem				
	Full-Time	10,974	12,441	13.4%
	Part-Time	3,307	3,813	15.3%
	Total	14,281	16,254	13.8%
Sussex				
	Full-Time	30,274	33,197	9.7%
	Part-Time	8,365	9,693	15.9%
	Total	38,639	42,890	11.0%
Union				
	Full-Time	74,933	83,244	11.1%
	Part-Time	37,612	39,737	5.6%
	Total	112,545	122,981	9.3%
Warren				
	Full-Time	11,239	13,912	23.8%
	Part-Time	5,880	6,708	14.1%
	Total	17,119	20,620	20.5%
Total				
	Full-Time	1,159,256	1,303,787	12.5%
	Part-Time	487,303	510,110	4.7%
	Total	1,646,558	1,813,897	10.2%

*Please note: Preliminary Fall 2009 enrollments reported here do not include five- and seven-week late-start sessions that many community colleges offer. Students can register for late-start sessions until late October.