

The Florida College System Transparency, Accountability, Progress, and Performance

How many students are enrolled in Florida College System credit programs?

Annually, over a half-million students enroll in credit programs in the Florida College System (FCS). Overall, the number of students enrolled in credit FCS programs decreased slightly from 545,337 in 2011-12 to 540,005 in 2012-13 which is a decrease of one percent (-5,332). A summary of lower- (decreasing) and upper-division (increasing) credit enrollments at FCS institutions appears in Table 1.

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Lower Division	411,476	489,442	516,912	519,948	509,490
% Change	6.6%	18.9%	5.6%	0.6%	-2.0%
Upper Division	8,048	13,171	19,366	25,389	30,515
% Change	50.9%	63.7%	47.0%	31.1%	20.2%
Combined Lower and Upper Division	419,794	502,613	536,278	545,337	540,005
% Change	7.2%	19.7%	6.7%	1.7%	-1.0%

Source: FCS Fact Book, CCTCMIS and FCS Research & Analytics

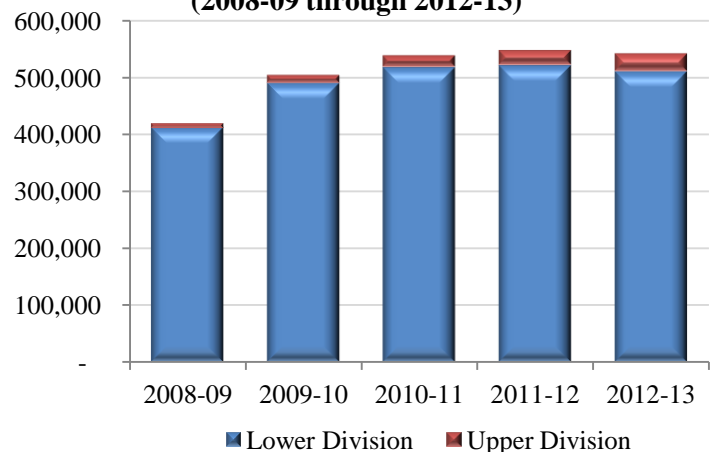
FCS credit programs lead to certificates and degrees. Lower-division programs include Associate in Arts degrees (AA), Associate in Science (AS) degrees, and certificates (e.g., College Credit, Career and Technical, Certificate of Professional Preparation). An increasing number of FCS institutions also offer selected bachelor's degrees in education, nursing, and applied disciplines. The FCS provides many education and job training options

from which students can choose. Certificate programs provide intensive, shorter-duration workforce training. The AA degree provides students with the freshman- and sophomore-years of college after which they can pursue baccalaureate degrees by transferring to a State University System institution, selecting an FCS workforce-oriented baccalaureate degree or pursuing private higher education opportunities.

Figure 1 shows the majority of enrollments in the FCS are related to lower-division – freshman, sophomore levels – courses. In 2012-13, lower-division enrollments decreased to 509,490 from 519,948 in 2011-12. This represented a two-percent decrease of 10,458 students. **Approximately 68 percent of FCS credit students were enrolled in AA degree programs.**

Upper-division baccalaureate programs are a small but growing component of FCS offerings. **In 2012-13, 30,515 students enrolled in upper-division credit programs, which provide the junior- and senior-year of college coursework. This is a 20.2 percent increase of 5,126 students from 25,389 in 2011-12.** The latest figures reflect the highest baccalaureate enrollments that the FCS has ever recorded. The FCS is meeting the demand for cost-efficient baccalaureate options that are close to home. Twenty-four colleges accepted Governor Rick Scott's 2012 [challenge](#) to offer select degrees that cost no more than \$10,000. In fall 2013, 10 colleges introduced their \$10,000 [degree programs](#). In spring 2014, 11 additional colleges plan to implement their \$10,000 bachelor degrees. As more targeted baccalaureate programs are offered by FCS institutions, students will have additional options from which to select.

Fig. 1: Florida College System Lower- and Upper-Division Credit Course Enrollments (2008-09 through 2012-13)



The Florida College System [Research & Analytics](#) and [Finance & Information Systems](#) offices produce a variety of reports and analyses including the [FCS Fact Book](#). To locate the colleges nearest you and enroll, please visit the [Florida College Directory](#).

For assistance, contact The Florida College System Research & Analytics
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