

CHAPTER 3

NEW PCC STUDENTS



First-time College Students

This chapter presents data about students for whom PCC was their first college destination. These students are referred to as new or first-time college students. In Fall 2007, 5,526 new students enrolled in credit classes at PCC. This represents approximately 21% of the total PCC student body. The number of first-time college students increased by 7% from Fall 2006 to Fall 2007.

Figure 3-1
Fall 2007 First-time College Students

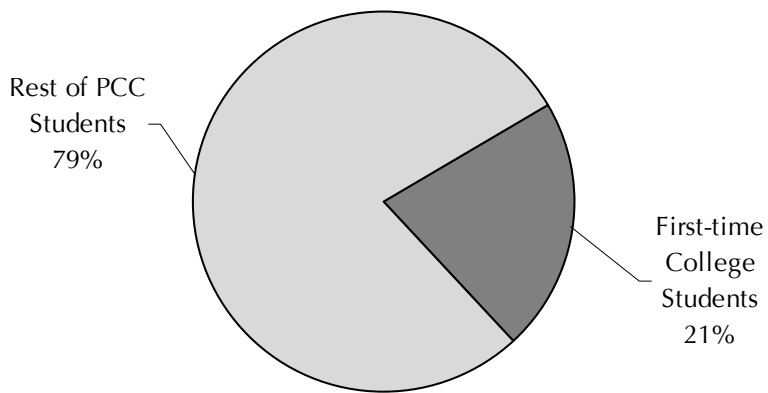


Figure 3-2
Total First-time College Students

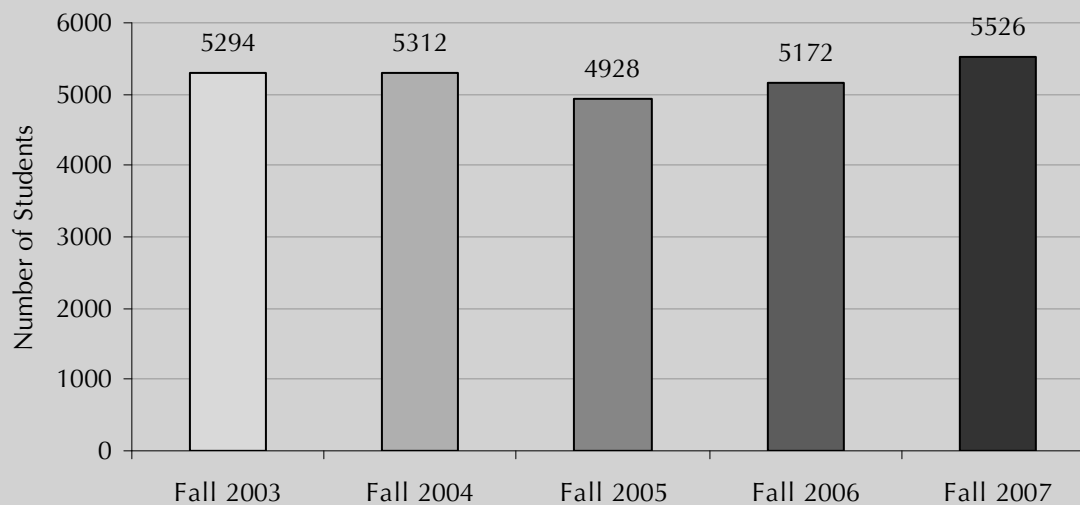


Table 3-1
Total First-time College Students

	Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007
Number	5294	5312	4928	5172	5526
% change	2.0	0.3	-7.2	5.0	6.8

Residency Status

In Fall 2007, a little over two-thirds (68%) of first-time college students lived in another California Community College District (CCCD) area. About 26% of first-time college students came from within the Pasadena Area Community College District (PACCD) area. Approximately 6% came from outside California, including those from outside the U.S.

Figure 3-3
Fall 2007 First-time College Students by
Residency Status

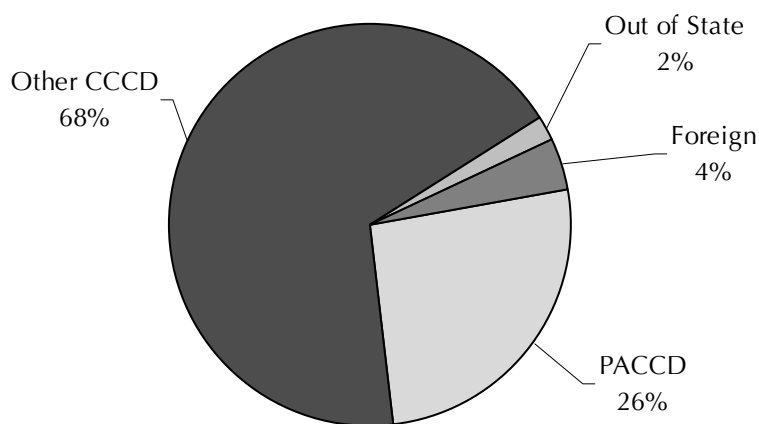


Table 3-2
First-time College Students by
Residency Status

		Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007
<i>Number</i>						
	PACCD	1495	1486	1353	1540	1433
	Other CCCD	3347	3443	3304	3374	3756
	Out of State	135	139	118	135	105
	Foreign	317	244	153	123	232
	<i>Total</i>	<i>5294</i>	<i>5312</i>	<i>4928</i>	<i>5172</i>	<i>5526</i>
<i>Percent</i>						
	PACCD	28.2	28.0	27.5	29.8	25.9
	Other CCCD	63.2	64.8	67.0	65.2	68.0
	Out of State	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.6	1.9
	Foreign	6.0	4.6	3.1	2.4	4.2

Gender

Males and females were almost evenly represented among first-time college students at PCC. However, females outnumber males in the student body as a whole by 8% (see Table 2-2 in Chapter 2). This difference in gender distribution occurs because males drop out of college at a higher rate than females.

Figure 3-4
Fall 2007 First-time College Students by
Gender

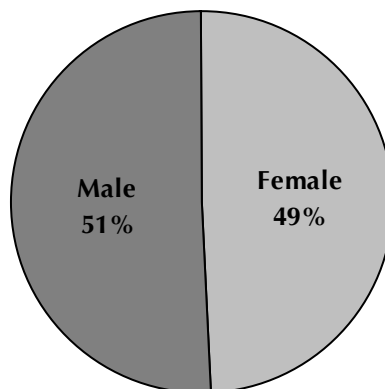


Table 3-3
First-time College Students by
Gender

		Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007
<i>Number</i>						
	Female	2720	2678	2412	2559	2701
	Male	2574	2633	2505	2599	2805
	Unknown	0	1	11	14	20
	<i>Total</i>	5294	5312	4928	5172	5526
<i>Percent</i>						
	Female	51.4	50.4	48.9	49.5	48.9
	Male	48.6	49.6	50.8	50.3	50.8

Age

Not surprisingly, first-time college students are younger than the overall student body. Eighty-four percent of first-time students in Fall 2007 were under 20. There has been a steady decline of the number of students between the ages of 20 and 24, from 13% in Fall 2004 to 9% in Fall 2007. Similarly, the percentage of PCC credit students 20 to 24 years of age decreased from 36% in Fall 2005 to 35% in Fall 2007. Only 4% of first-time students were 30 years of age or older.

Figure 3-5
First-time College Students by
Age Group

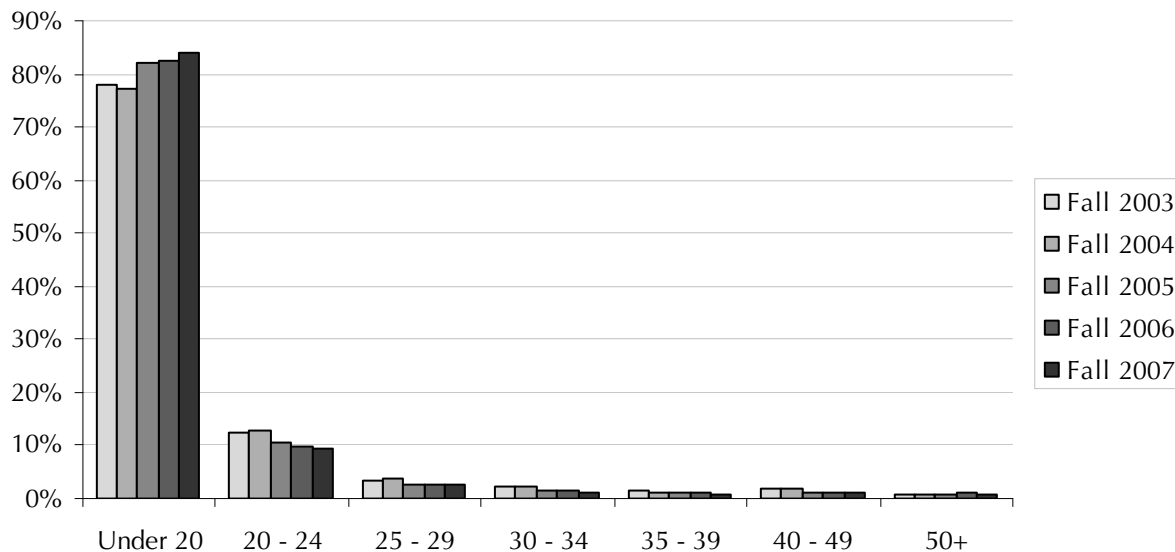


Table 3-4
First-time College Students by
Age Group

		Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007
<i>Number</i>						
	Under 20	4124	4108	4052	4273	4640
	20 - 24	659	677	520	510	521
	25 - 29	174	207	139	143	150
	30 - 34	126	111	72	81	63
	35 - 39	76	65	52	54	50
	40 - 49	94	94	61	58	62
	50+	41	50	32	53	40
	<i>Total</i>	<i>5294</i>	<i>5312</i>	<i>4928</i>	<i>5172</i>	<i>5526</i>
<i>Percent</i>						
	Under 20	77.9	77.3	82.2	82.6	84.0
	20 - 24	12.4	12.7	10.6	9.9	9.4
	25 - 29	3.3	3.9	2.8	2.8	2.7
	30 - 34	2.4	2.1	1.5	1.6	1.1
	35 - 39	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9
	40 - 49	1.8	1.8	1.2	1.1	1.1
	50+	0.8	0.9	0.6	1.0	0.7

Ethnicity

Hispanic and Asian/Pacific Islander were the largest ethnic groups represented among first-time college students at PCC. Since Fall 2003, the proportions of most ethnic groups have been relatively stable. The Asian/Pacific Islander group has shown the most fluctuation from year to year. African-Americans continue their decline from a high of 7% in Fall 2004 to 5% in Fall 2007.

Figure 3-6
Fall 2007 First-time College Students by Ethnicity

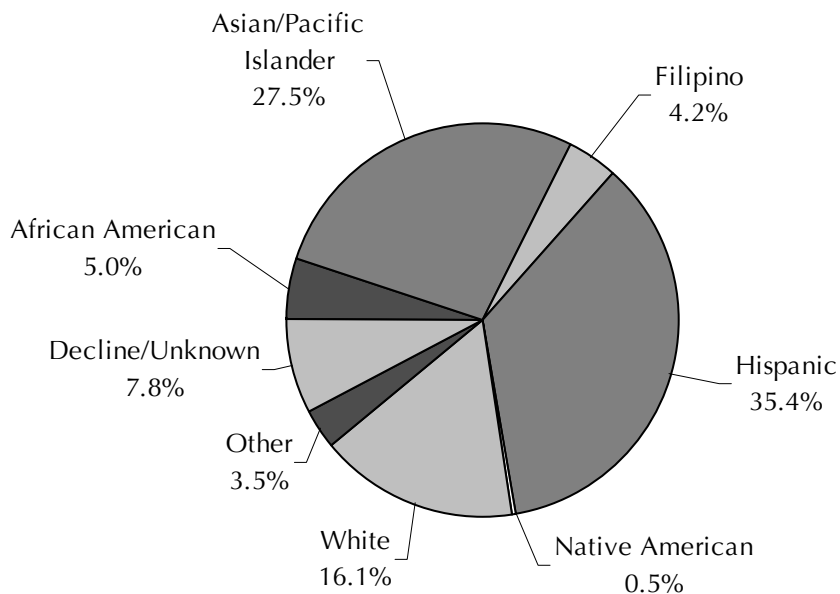
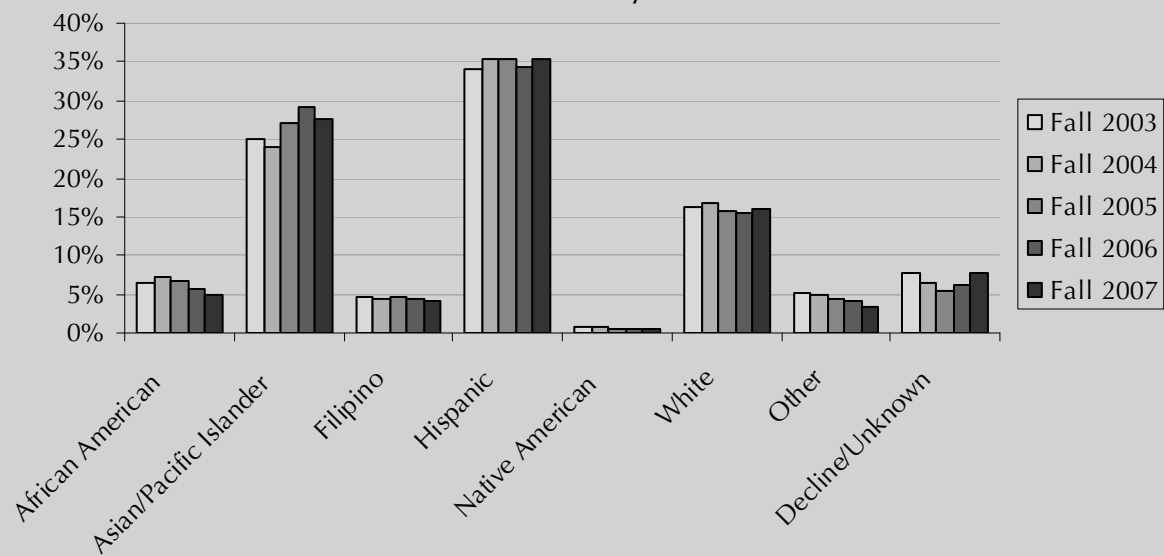


Figure 3-7
First-time College Students by
Ethnicity



Ethnicity



Table 3-5
First-time College Students by
Ethnicity

		Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007
<i>Number</i>						
	African American	337	389	329	300	277
	Asian/Pacific Islander	1327	1275	1341	1508	1521
	Filipino	248	231	229	222	230
	Hispanic	1801	1883	1744	1779	1956
	Native American	37	46	26	22	30
	White	866	891	778	800	891
	Other	267	259	211	219	191
	Decline/Unknown	411	338	270	322	430
	<i>Total</i>	5294	5312	4928	5172	5526
<i>Percent</i>						
	African American	6.4	7.3	6.7	5.8	5.0
	Asian/Pacific Islander	25.1	24.0	27.2	29.2	27.5
	Filipino	4.7	4.3	4.6	4.3	4.2
	Hispanic	34.0	35.4	35.4	34.4	35.4
	Native American	0.7	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.5
	White	16.4	16.8	15.8	15.5	16.1
	Other	5.0	4.9	4.3	4.2	3.5
	Decline/Unknown	7.8	6.4	5.5	6.2	7.8

Citizenship

In Fall 2007, slightly more than three quarters of first-time college students were U.S. citizens. Thirteen percent of new students were permanent residents. Compared to the percentages for the college, proportionally more first-time students are U.S. citizens and fewer are permanent residents. Since Fall 2005, there has been a small increase in the percentage of U.S. citizens and a slight decrease in the percentage of permanent residents.

Figure 3-8
Fall 2007 First-time College Students by
Citizenship Status

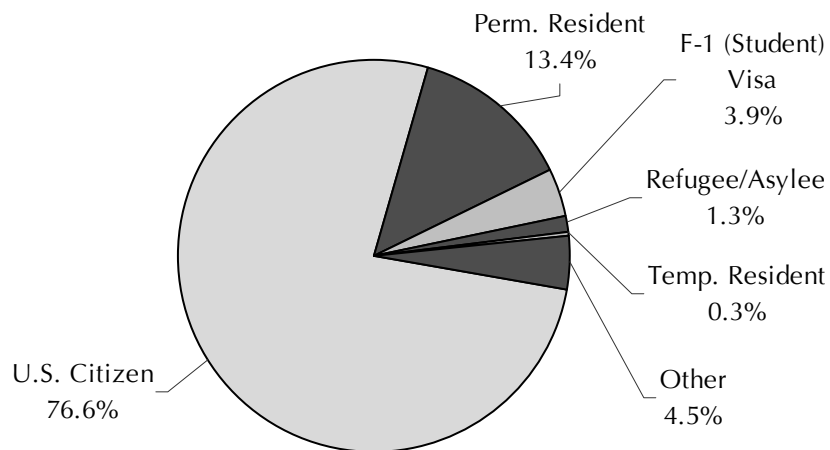


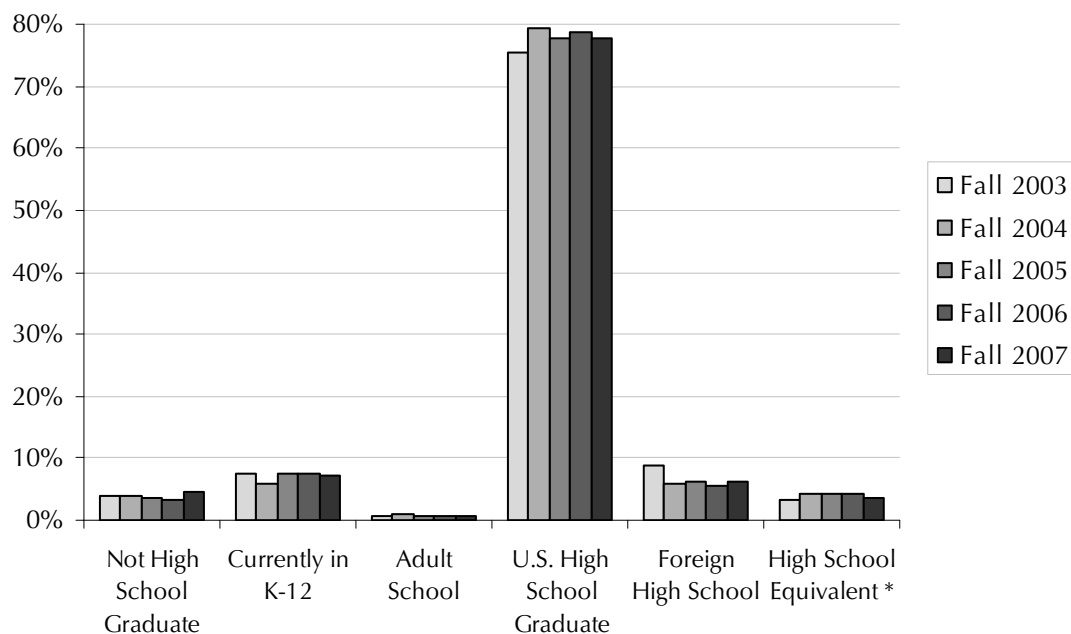
Table 3-6
First-time College Students by
Citizenship Status

		Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007
<i>Number</i>						
	US Citizen	3972	4162	3732	3954	4232
	Perm. Resident	848	750	778	783	743
	F-1 (Student) Visa	226	142	122	103	217
	Refugee/Asylee	83	72	91	90	71
	Temp. Resident	15	15	16	28	15
	Other	150	171	189	214	248
	<i>Total</i>	5294	5312	4928	5172	5526
<i>Percent</i>						
	US Citizen	75.0	78.4	75.7	76.5	76.6
	Perm. Resident	16.0	14.1	15.8	15.1	13.4
	F-1 (Student) Visa	4.3	2.7	2.5	2.0	3.9
	Refugee/Asylee	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.7	1.3
	Temp. Resident	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3
	Other	2.8	3.2	3.8	4.1	4.5

Education Level

Education level reflects a student's highest level of education upon admission to PCC. In 2007, close to 88% of first-time college students came to PCC having graduated from a U.S. or foreign high school, or having completed high school equivalent education (GED or high school proficiency exam). Over the past four years, the percentage of first-time college students who were U.S. high school graduates remained between 78% and 79%; and the percentage first-time college students who were foreign high school graduates remained at approximately 6%.

Figure 3-9
First-time College Students by
Education Level



* GED and High School Proficiency

Table 3-7
First-time College Students by
Education Level

		Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007
<i>Number</i>						
	Not High School Graduate	215	200	181	167	249
	Currently in K-12	397	320	368	385	394
	Adult School	34	48	34	41	44
	U.S. High School Graduate	3994	4210	3825	4069	4303
	GED	116	136	138	135	141
	High School Proficiency	65	85	76	77	58
	Foreign High School	469	310	303	290	337
	Unknown	4	3	2	8	0
	<i>Total</i>	<i>5294</i>	<i>5312</i>	<i>4928</i>	<i>5172</i>	<i>5526</i>
<i>Percent</i>						
	Not High School Graduate	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.2	4.5
	Currently in K-12	7.5	6.0	7.5	7.4	7.1
	Adult School	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.8
	U.S. High School Graduate	75.4	79.3	77.6	78.7	77.9
	GED	2.2	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.6
	High School Proficiency	1.2	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.0
	Foreign High School	8.9	5.8	6.1	5.6	6.1
	Unknown	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0

Educational Goal

Educational goal represents a student's reason for enrolling in PCC and is collected at the time of admission. In previous years, most categories have been relatively stable. The percentage of first-time college students working towards a terminal AA degree peaked in Fall 2004 and has rapidly declined since then (see Table 3-8). From 2004 to Fall 2007, there has been an increase in the percentage of students indicating that their goal is to transfer with an AA/AS.

It is important to note that a student may change his/her educational goal at anytime. The reported data reflect a student's educational goal collected at the time of admission, but it may have been changed since then.

Figure 3-10
First-time College Students by
Educational Goal

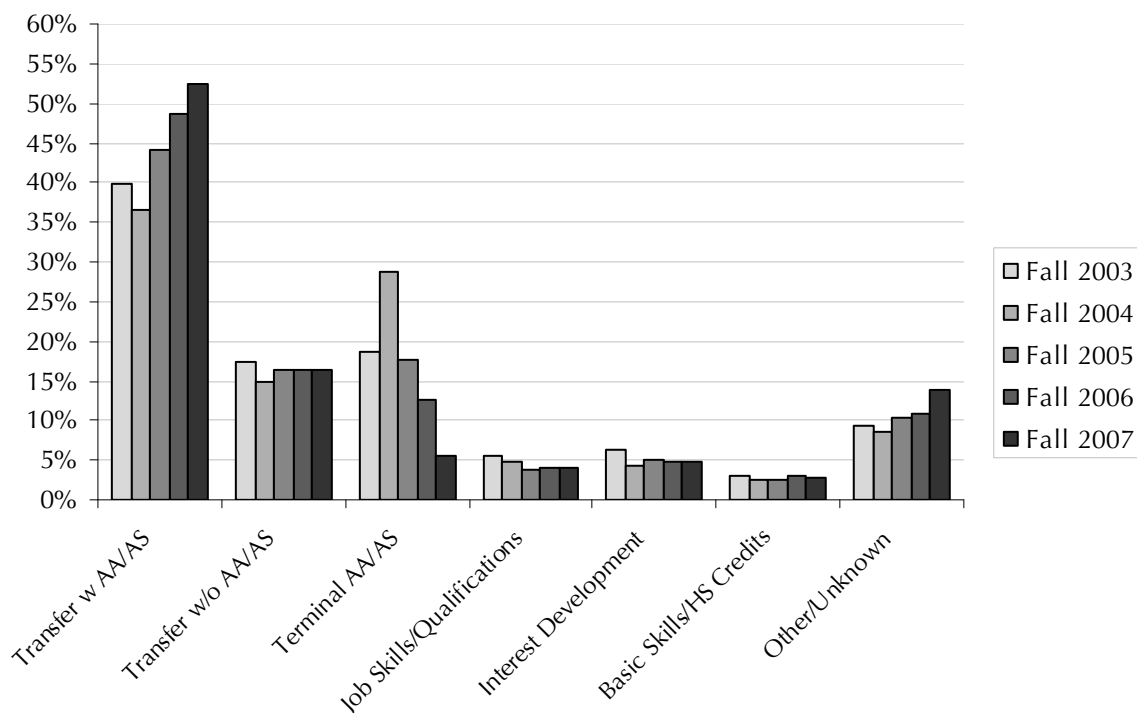


Table 3-8
First-time College Students by
Educational Goal

		Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007
<i>Number</i>						
	Transfer w AA/AS	2105	1938	2179	2511	2903
	Transfer w/o AA/AS	915	785	811	841	910
	Terminal AA Degree	892	1439	780	566	243
	Terminal AS Degree	96	81	88	86	64
	1-Yr. Voc. Certificate	20	29	34	41	56
	Acquire Job Skills	200	159	105	117	101
	Update Current Job Skills	54	40	19	24	41
	Maintain Cert./License	26	24	23	22	26
	Formulate Career Plans	215	150	134	125	140
	Personal Development	117	81	117	122	118
	Basic Skills	74	59	49	74	66
	Complete HS Credits	85	77	81	82	94
	Other/Unknown	495	450	508	561	764
	<i>Total</i>	5294	5312	4928	5172	5526
<i>Percent</i>						
	Transfer w AA/AS	39.8	36.5	44.2	48.5	52.5
	Transfer w/o AA/AS	17.3	14.8	16.5	16.3	16.5
	Terminal AA Degree	16.8	27.1	15.8	10.9	4.4
	Terminal AS Degree	1.8	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.2
	1-Yr. Voc. Certificate	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.0
	Acquire Job Skills	3.8	3.0	2.1	2.3	1.8
	Update Current Job Skills	1.0	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.7
	Maintain Cert./License	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5
	Formulate Career Plans	4.1	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.5
	Personal Development	2.2	1.5	2.4	2.4	2.1
	Basic Skills	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.4	1.2
	Complete HS Credits	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.7
	Other/Unknown	9.4	8.5	10.3	10.8	13.8