

# Florida Colleges Top Producers of Associate Degrees, Certificates

Each year *Community College Week* releases its Top 100 listings that include institutions that have awarded the largest number of associate degrees and certificates nationally. The production of certificates and associate degrees are becoming increasingly important to Florida's economic recovery as more trained citizens will be able to find gainful employment and ultimately be able to contribute to their local communities as consumers and by being productive individuals. This brief report provides a summary of how Florida's colleges rank in terms of producing associate degrees and certificates that either allow students to continue their education towards a baccalaureate degree or enter the workforce immediately upon completion.

**EXHIBIT 1. TOP PRODUCERS OF TOTAL ASSOCIATE DEGREES – FLORIDA COLLEGES IN “TOP 100”**

2010	2011
Miami Dade College - 2	<b>Miami Dade College - 2</b>
Valencia College - 4	<b>Valencia College - 3</b>
Broward College - 6	<b>Broward College - 5</b>
Florida State College at Jacksonville - 8	<b>Florida State College at Jacksonville - 7</b>
St. Petersburg College - 10	St. Petersburg College - 14
Santa Fe College - 12	Palm Beach State College - 15
Palm Beach State College - 15	Santa Fe College - 20
Hillsborough Community College - 20	Tallahassee Community College - 21
Tallahassee Community College - 26	Hillsborough Community College - 23
Brevard Community College - 29	Brevard Community College - 28
Daytona State College - 38	Daytona State College - 37
Indian River State College - 51	Seminole State College of Florida - 42
Seminole State College of Florida - 55	Indian River State College - 48
Pensacola State College - 66	Edison State College - 49
Edison State College - 73	Pensacola State College - 58
Northwest Florida State College - 86	State College of Florida - Manatee - Sarasota - 85
State College of Florida - Manatee - Sarasota - 87	Northwest Florida State College - 98

Colleges  
in Top 10  
Nationally

SOURCE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK



**Exhibit 1** (previous page) shows the rankings of Florida colleges included in the Top 100 lists from the 2010 and 2011 reports. Seventeen (17) of 28 colleges were listed among the Top 100 producers of associate degrees. While rankings shifted for some colleges, the same institutions were listed in the 2011 rankings. Of the Florida colleges included, Miami Dade College, Valencia College, Broward College, and Florida State College at Jacksonville were among the top 10 for 2011. All the colleges listed have maintained productivity so that they remained on the list from one year to the next.

**EXHIBIT 2. TOP PRODUCERS OF TOTAL ASSOCIATE DEGREES FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS**

2010	2011
Miami Dade College - 2	<b>Miami Dade College – 2</b>
Broward College - 5	<b>Broward College – 4</b>
Florida State College at Jacksonville - 12	<b>Florida State College at Jacksonville – 9</b>
Valencia College – 16	<b>Valencia College – 10</b>
Tallahassee Community College - 19	Tallahassee Community College – 11
Palm Beach State College - 21	Palm Beach State College – 16
Hillsborough Community College - 32	Hillsborough Community College - 30
St. Petersburg College – 59	Santa Fe College – 56
Indian River State College – 76	St. Petersburg College – 57
Santa Fe College - 90	Indian River State College – 63
Daytona State College - 99	Daytona State College - 64
	Brevard Community College – 72
	Seminole State College of Florida - 81

Colleges  
in Top 10  
Nationally

SOURCE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK

**Exhibit 2** shows colleges listed by *Community College Week* as top producers of total associate degrees for African American students. This year’s listing had more Florida colleges than 2010 with 13 colleges included, up two from the previous year. For 2011, Miami Dade College, Broward College, Florida state College at Jacksonville, and Valencia College were among the top 10 while Brevard Community College and Seminole State College of Florida joined the ranks in this category.

**EXHIBIT 3. TOP PRODUCERS OF TOTAL ASSOCIATE DEGREES FOR HISPANICS**

2010	2011
Miami Dade College - 1	<b>Miami Dade College - 1</b>
Valencia College - 5	<b>Valencia College - 5</b>
Broward College - 6	<b>Broward College - 6</b>
Hillsborough Community College - 30	Palm Beach State College - 19
Palm Beach State College - 31	Hillsborough Community College - 27
Santa Fe College - 60	Santa Fe College - 60
Edison State College - 90	Seminole State College of Florida - 66
Seminole State College of Florida - 95	Edison State College - 82

Colleges  
in Top 10  
Nationally

SOURCE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK

Exhibit 3 shows the top producers of total associate degrees for Hispanics. Miami Dade College maintained its number 1 Florida ranking from last year’s report, followed closely by Valencia College and Broward College. All of the same Florida colleges who were listed last year were also listed for 2011. Hillsborough Community College, Palm Beach State College, Edison State College, and Seminole State College of Florida all improved their rankings from last year while Santa Fe College held its ranking.

**EXHIBIT 4. TOP PRODUCERS OF TOTAL ASSOCIATE DEGREES FOR TOTAL MINORITY GROUPS**

2010	2011
Miami Dade College - 1	<b>Miami Dade College - 2</b>
Broward College - 3	<b>Broward College - 3</b>
Valencia College - 4	<b>Valencia College - 5</b>
Palm Beach State College - 18	Palm Beach State College - 14
Hillsborough Community College - 27	Florida State College at Jacksonville - 18
Florida State College at Jacksonville - 28	Tallahassee Community College - 25
Tallahassee Community College - 49	Hillsborough Community College - 26
Santa Fe College - 61	Santa Fe College - 51
St. Petersburg College - 79	Seminole State College of Florida - 64
	St. Petersburg College - 70
	Indian River State College - 86
	Brevard Community College - 91
	Edison State College - 97

Colleges  
in Top 10  
Nationally

SOURCE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK

**Exhibit 4** (previous page) shows the top producers of total associate degrees for total minority groups. Miami Dade College topped the list, followed by Broward College and Valencia College among the top ten. The 2011 report shows that Seminole State College of Florida, Brevard Community College, Indian River State College and Edison State College were added to the rankings of high performers in awarding degrees to minority students.

**EXHIBIT 5. TOP 50 PRODUCERS: LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES, GENERAL STUDENTS, AND HUMANITIES**

2010	2011
Miami Dade College - 1	<b>Miami Dade College - 1</b>
Valencia College - 2	<b>Valencia College - 2</b>
Broward College - 3	<b>Broward College - 3</b>
Santa Fe College - 4	<b>Florida State College at Jacksonville - 4</b>
Florida State College at Jacksonville - 5	<b>Palm Beach State College - 5</b>
Tallahassee Community College - 7	<b>Tallahassee Community College - 6</b>
Palm Beach State College - 8	<b>St. Petersburg College - 8</b>
St. Petersburg College - 9	<b>Santa Fe College - 9</b>
Hillsborough Community College - 10	Brevard Community College - 11
Brevard Community College - 13	Hillsborough Community College - 12
Seminole State College of Florida - 21	Seminole State College of Florida - 19
Daytona State College - 22	Daytona State College - 21
Indian River State College - 28	Pensacola State College - 25
State College of Florida – Manatee–Sarasota - 34	Indian River State College - 27
Edison State College - 35	Edison State College - 33
Pensacola State College - 36	State College of Florida – Manatee–Sarasota - 35
Northwest Florida State College - 39	Northwest Florida State College - 40

Colleges  
in Top 10  
Nationally

SOURCE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK

**Exhibit 5** shows 17 Florida colleges were listed among the top producers of liberal arts, general students and humanities graduates. The Florida College System plays a critical role in providing initial access to higher education to Florida’s citizens by offering lower division education so students can pursue a baccalaureate by either transferring to a State University System institution or selecting a college within the FCS. The state’s “2+2” articulation system guarantees FCS graduates with AA degrees admission to one of eleven state universities, though not necessarily admission to the student’s first choice.

**EXHIBIT 6. TOP 50 PRODUCERS IN NURSING AND IN HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

College	2011 Rank	
	NURSING	HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND RELATED CLINICAL SCIENCES
Miami Dade College	2	5
Florida State College at Jacksonville	6	7
St. Petersburg College	8	14
Broward College	16	15
Pensacola State College	17	
Valencia College	18	33
Edison State College	21	41
Hillsborough Community College	28	29
Daytona State College	47	

SOURCE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK

**Exhibit 6** provides a listing of colleges that are top producers for nursing and health professions and related clinical sciences. These are areas in which trained professionals are consistently needed and where there are job opportunities, not only in the state but across the nation. This exhibit shows that 9 colleges were ranked in the top 50 nationally for producing nurses and 7 were among the top ranked producers of health professions and related clinical sciences graduates. In both cases, these colleges were ranked within the top 50 of the 100 institutions listed nationally.

**EXHIBIT 7. TOP PRODUCERS ONE-YEAR CERTIFICATES**

College	2011 Rank
Valencia College	4
Florida State College at Jacksonville	26
Miami Dade College	29
Palm Beach State College	38
Seminole State College of Florida	55
Brevard Community College	64
Hillsborough Community College	65
Daytona State College	72
Indian River State College	79

SOURCE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK

**Exhibit 7** (previous page) shows which Florida colleges were listed among the top producers of one-year certificate completers. Valencia College ranked 4<sup>th</sup> among the 100 institutions listed nationally in producing one-year certificate graduates. Eight other colleges were included on the list for the 2011 report. The weakened economic situation in the state and across the nation makes postsecondary education crucial to an increasingly competitive job market. One-year certificates provide job training, which enables students to enter the workforce immediately after completion.

**EXHIBIT 8. TOP PRODUCERS OF ONE-YEAR CERTIFICATES, AFRICAN AMERICANS, HISPANICS AND TOTAL MINORITY**

College	2011 Rank		
	African Americans	Hispanics	Total Minority
Valencia College	33	6	5
Florida State College at Jacksonville	36		63
Miami Dade College	38	4	6
Palm Beach State College	61	76	44

SOURCE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK

**Exhibit 8** shows the colleges that were recognized as top producers of one-year certificate for African American, Hispanic, and total minority groups. Valencia College ranked 33 of 100 institutions in producing African American graduates of one-year certificate programs, followed by Florida State College at Jacksonville (36), Miami Dade College (38), and Palm Beach State College (61). Miami Dade College and Valencia College were highly ranked in producing certificate completers who were Hispanic and for total minority numbers. These colleges serve as examples of how the FCS provides access and educational opportunities to the state's minority citizens.

***For more information please contact:***

Dr. John Hughes, Associate Vice Chancellor for Evaluation

[John.Hughes@fldoe.org](mailto:John.Hughes@fldoe.org)

(850) 245-9482

Dr. Kathyrine Scheuch, Research Analyst

[Kathyrine.Scheuch@fldoe.org](mailto:Kathyrine.Scheuch@fldoe.org)

(850) 245-9456



Florida Department of Education

Florida Department of Education  
John L. Winn, Commissioner

The Florida College System  
Dr. Willis N. Holcombe, Chancellor  
Dr. Judith Bilsky, Executive Vice Chancellor  
Phone: (850) 245-0407  
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1544  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400  
[www.fldoe.org/cc/](http://www.fldoe.org/cc/)