

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

## What are the preferred destination institutions for high school graduates who immediately enter college?

**Florida College System (FCS) institutions are the destination of choice for recent high school (H.S.) graduates.** [Peterson's](#) – a company that provides students with tools to help select the right school to meet their needs – cites community colleges as good places for young adults to cost effectively enter college while exploring and refining career goals. Community colleges help students strengthen skills in specific academic subjects, equipping them with the tools needed to reach academic and career goals. Earning an Associate in Arts degree from an FCS institution provides for seamless transfer into baccalaureate degree programs at public in-state universities and FCS institutions ([2+2](#)).

Table 1 shows the five-year enrollment trends of prior-year, Florida H.S. graduates by postsecondary sector. **In the year following H.S. graduation, more students enroll in the FCS than in any other postsecondary sector.** In 2010-11, nearly two-thirds of H.S. graduates who immediately enrolled in postsecondary education attended an FCS institution, which is a modest one-year increase (0.4 percent). Over five years, the number of students enrolling in the FCS after H.S. has increased nearly 10 percent from 55,747 to 61,290. The FCS plays an important role in providing higher education access to graduates immediately transitioning from high school to postsecondary education.

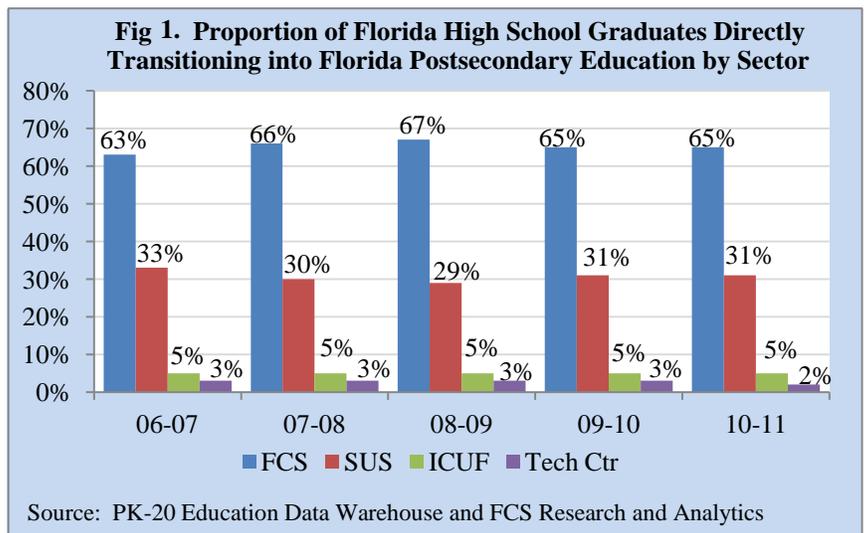
**Table 1**

**Five-Year Trends: High School Graduate Direct Enrollments in Florida Postsecondary Education by Sector**

Year of H.S. Graduation and Postsecondary Destination	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	1-Year Change	5-Year Change
Total Florida H.S. Graduates	141,882	146,095	152,546	156,286	155,132	-0.7%	9.3%
<b>Enrolled in Any Sector*</b>	88,347	90,259	93,726	93,994	93,704	-0.3%	6.1%
Enrolled in FCS	55,747	59,814	62,362	61,076	61,290	0.4%	9.9%
Enrolled in State University System (SUS)	29,107	26,685	27,456	29,161	29,156	-0.02%	0.2%
Enrolled in Independent Colleges & Universities of Florida (ICUF)	4,812	4,739	4,801	4,927	4,809	-2.4%	-0.1%
Enrolled in Technical Centers	2,738	2,570	2,739	2,444	2,259	-7.6%	-17.5%

\*Unduplicated. Note: Table reflects Florida high school graduates enrolled in Florida postsecondary education the year immediately following their high school completion. Source: PK-20 Education Data Warehouse and FCS Research and Analytics

Figure 1 shows the five-year enrollment history of prior-year, Florida H.S. graduates and the in-state postsecondary sectors into which they immediately transitioned. **Six out of 10 H.S. graduates in 2010-11 (93,704) directly transitioned into Florida's postsecondary education system.** [Recent](#) national data show a 68 percent direct-transition-into-college rate among H.S. graduates across the country. In Florida during 2010-11, there were 3,810 H.S. graduates who enrolled in multiple sectors. The State University System (SUS) received approximately 31 percent of prior year Florida H.S. graduates in 2011-12 while the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF) and technical centers received 5 percent and 2 percent, respectively. The picture has remained relatively stable over the last five-years. More recent H.S. graduates have consistently transitioned into college at an FCS institution in the year following H.S. completion. Additional information about high school-to-college transitions is available on the Florida Department of Education's [High School Feedback](#) web portal. Please visit the Florida College System [directory](#) to explore nearby higher education options.



For assistance, contact the Florida College System Research & Analytics  
 Scott J. Parke, Ph.D. or Kathryn L. Scheuch, Ed.D. at 850-245-0407

