

Selection of Key Findings

2023-2033 CIP Environmental Scan

October 2022

Service Area

- Between Fall 2017 and Fall 2021, approximately 83% of ECC’s enrollment came from within ECC’s Service Area¹ and District while 98% came from within Los Angeles (LA) County².
- The South Bay is projected to become increasingly older (+8.5% for 55 and older), more Hispanic (+2.5%) and multiracial (+1%), with declines in White (-2.2%) and Asian (-1.4%) populations by 2040. These trends are also projected for LA County³.
- ECC’s student body is mostly representative of the District and Service Area except for Black or African American students, whose Fall 2021 enrollment (14.1%) was lower than expected given the share of the residents in ECC’s District (14.6%) and Service Area (23.5%)⁴.

Economic Analysis

- ECC’s Service Area (\$53,087) has lower levels of median household income than ECC’s District (\$76,750) and LA County (\$71,358). Potential students in ECC’s Service Area may benefit more from services and information on financial aid, college affordability, and return on investment⁵.
- The South Bay cities with the highest percentage of residents with income below the poverty level are Hawthorne (15.9%), Inglewood (15.3%), Gardena (13.1%), Lomita (13.0%), and Lawndale (12.0%)⁶.

Industry, Occupation, and Employment

- The industry sector expected to see the most growth in LA County is the Health Care and Social Assistance sector, which is expected to add 170,600 jobs by 2028. Strengthening programs with increasing job opportunities and high wages could provide an avenue for enrollment growth⁷.
- The occupations that pay above the living wage in LA County and are adding the most jobs by 2028 include Registered Nursing (+12,390 jobs), Market Research Analysts/Marketing Specialists (+5,910 jobs), Medical Assistants (+5,780 jobs), and General and Operations Managers (+5,510)⁸.
- The unemployment rate is projected to increase from the August 2022 rates in the South Bay (4.4%) and LA County (4.9%). This may present an opportunity to engage out-of-work individuals and those looking to re-skill or transition into new career opportunities⁹.

¹ Service area is defined as communities within a 7.5 mile radius of El Camino College.

² Source: ECC Colleague

³ Source: CA Department of Finance

⁴ Source: ECC Colleague and U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

⁵ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

⁶ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

⁷ Source: CA Employment Development Department

⁸ Source: CA Employment Development Department

⁹ Source: CA Employment Development Department

Education Demographics

- Around 50% or more of the White and Asian populations who are 25 years and older in LA County, ECC's Service Area, and ECC's District have attained a bachelor's degree or higher while less than 35% of the Black or African American, Two or More Races, Hispanic or Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander have done so¹⁰.
- Between 2020-2021 and 2030-2031, LA County high school graduates are expected to decline by 17.3%¹¹.
- Between 2017-2018 and 2020-2021, enrollment from 14 out of ECC's Top-15 feeder high schools declined by more than 10%¹².

Headcount and Full-time Enrolled Students

- Between Fall 2019 and Fall 2020, ECC's unduplicated headcount declined from 24,271 to 20,476 students, a decline of 3,795 or 15.63%¹³.
- Full Time Enrolled Students (FTES) declined 4,424 or 24.3% between 2019-2020 and 2021-2022¹⁴.
- Male and female enrollment was differentially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, with male enrollment declining by 2,851 students (-24.0%) while female enrollment declined by 1,695 students (-13.8%) between Fall 2019 and Fall 2021¹⁵.

Program Analysis

- Declines in Weekly Student Contact Hours (WSCH) during the COVID-19 pandemic varied greatly by division given the inability or difficulty in transitioning some programs to remote learning, the Natural Sciences division declined 9.8% between Fall 2019 and Fall 2021 while the Industry and Technology division declined 59.5% during this same period¹⁶.
- While the COVID-19 pandemic hindered FTES, the Business (13.0%), Behavioral & Social Sciences (5.1%), and Health Sciences & Athletics (2.1%) divisions actually increased the number of sections offered in Fall 2021 compared to Fall 2019¹⁷.

Student Success

- All racial and ethnic groups experienced a decline in course success rates between Fall 2018 and Fall 2021 but Black or African American (60.0% to 56.4%; -3.6%), Hispanic or Latino (66.6% to 62.3%; -4.3%), and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (66.3% to 61.9%; -4.4%) students experienced the largest declines¹⁸.

¹⁰ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

¹¹ Source: CA Department of Education

¹² Source: ECC Colleague

¹³ Source: ECC Colleague

¹⁴ Source: ECC Colleague

¹⁵ Source: ECC Colleague

¹⁶ Source: ECC Colleague

¹⁷ Source: ECC Colleague

¹⁸ Source: ECC Colleague

- Between 2016-2017 and 2020-2021, the number of awarded Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT) increased from 935 to 1,340, an increase of 405 awards or 43.3%¹⁹.

Financial Cost

- Between 2016-17 and 2020-21, the number of students who received a California College Promise Grant decreased from 17,631 to 14,362, a decline of 3,269 or 18.5%. Similarly, the number of Pell Grant recipients also declined from 8,355 in 2016-2017 to 7,136 in 2020-2021, a decline of 1,219 or 14.6%²⁰.
- The total amount of financial aid awarded increased from nearly \$48 million in 2016-2017 to nearly \$55 million in 2020-2021, an increase of \$7 million or 14.4%²¹.

Workforce Analysis

- Between Fall 2017 and Fall 2021, the number of ECC Employees declined from 1,428 to 1,377, a drop of 51 employees or 3.6%²².
- In Fall 2021, the racial/ethnic make-up of ECC's workforce mirrored that of its student body except for Hispanic and Latino (25.2% employees and 53.2% students) and White employees (38.8% employees and 13.5% students)²³.

¹⁹ Source: ECC Colleague

²⁰ Source: California Community College Chancellor's Office DataMart

²¹ Source: California Community College Chancellor's Office DataMart

²² Source: California Community College Chancellor's Office DataMart

²³ Source: California Community College Chancellor's Office DataMart