

## *Did You Know?*

### **This issue's topic: Enrollment & Distribution Changes Among Select Student Populations**

**Overview:** As part of ongoing research efforts to identify the potential impact of COVID-19 and the migration to distance learning on student enrollment, the Office of Institutional Research (OIR) recently examined changes in student enrollment and distribution from the Fall 2019 to Fall 2020 semesters. While overall enrollment declines have been observed this semester, the OIR was specifically interested in identifying whether select student populations were more likely to experience enrollment declines.

**Findings:** After unduplicating Fall 2019 and Fall 2020 students who were enrolled in one or more sections as of first census date/day, the OIR compared student characteristics across these two semesters. Table I identifies the Fall 2019-to-Fall 2020 numeric difference observed by student characteristics (i.e., did the identified student population increase or decline numerically? by what percent?). Table I also displays the student enrollment distribution (i.e., did the percentage of students represented in the identified characteristic change (e.g., is the percentage of Latinx students as a representation of the total population different from last fall?)).

**Table I. Number of Students Enrolled, Student Distribution, and Observed Fall 2019/Fall 2020 Differences by Student Demographic Characteristics**

	Fall 2019 Semester		Fall 2020 Semester		FA19 / FA20 Difference	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>						
African American	1,597	7.1	1,622	7.8	25	1.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,564	7.0	1,437	7.0	-127	-8.1
Latinx	14,954	66.6	13,589	65.7	-1,365	-9.1
White	2,862	12.8	2,862	13.8	0	n/c
Other	669	3.0	654	3.1	-15	-2.2
Unknown	790	3.5	531	2.6	-259	-32.8
<b>Gender</b>						
Female	13,076	58.3	12,881	62.3	-195	-1.5
Male	8,892	39.6	7,434	35.9	-1,458	-16.4
Unknown	468	2.1	380	1.8	-88	-18.8
<b>Age Range</b>						
19 or Younger	6,710	29.9	6,044	29.2	-666	-9.9
20 – 24	8,251	36.8	7,129	34.4	-1,122	-13.6
25 – 29	3,215	14.3	3,092	14.9	-123	-3.8
30 – 49	3,695	16.5	3,880	18.8	185	5.0
50 or Older	565	2.5	550	2.7	-15	-2.7
<b>Disability Status</b>	1,480	6.6	1,315	6.4	-165	-11.1
<b>First Generation</b>	9,826	43.8	8,379	40.5	-1,447	-14.7
<b>Financial Aid Recipients</b>	14,806	66.0	12,684	61.3	-2,122	-14.3
<b>Special Admit</b>	799	3.6	1,395	6.7	596	74.6
<b>Foster Youth</b>	413	1.8	331	1.6	-82	-19.9
<b>AB 540/DACA</b>	685	3.1	541	2.6	-144	-21.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,436</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>20,695</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-1,741</b>	<b>-7.8</b>

As table 1 illustrates, the largest numeric declines from the Fall 2019 to the Fall 2020 semester were observed among: Financial Aid recipients (2,122 fewer students enrolled in census procedure sections received one or more forms of financial assistance this semester than last semester); first generation college students (1,447 fewer students); male students (-1,458); Latinx students (-1,365); and students 20-24 years of age (-1,122). Student populations that experienced the largest percentage declines were: AB540/DACA students (Dreamers, who experienced a 21.0% decline in enrollment); Foster Youth (-19.9%); male students (-16.4%); and students 20-24 years of age (-13.6%).

The aforementioned enrollment changes have also had an impact on student distribution. As a result of the decline in male student enrollment, the representation of female students as a percentage of the total student population rose from 58.3% in Fall 2019 to 62.3% in Fall 2020, the highest in Chaffey's history. While the percentage of historically underrepresented students remained relatively static (83.7% in Fall 2019; 83.6% in Fall 2020), the distribution among specific racial/ethnic groups has changed with declines observed in the Latinx and Asian/Pacific Islander student representation in the total student population. Whereas student under 30 years of age represented 81.0% of the total student population last fall, they now represent 78.5% of the total student population. The percentage of students with disabilities, who are first generation, who received financial aid, who are foster youth, and/or are Dreamers has also declined.

Beyond a first-level examination enrollment by student characteristics, the OIR also explored changes in enrollment and student distribution by race/ethnicity within gender. While male student enrollment declined by 16.4%, an interest existed to determine whether observed declines among male students were more pronounced among specific racial/ethnic groups. Table 2 identifies enrollment and student distribution by race/ethnicity within gender.

**Table 2. Number of Students and Student Distribution by Race/Ethnicity Within Gender**

	Fall 2019 Semester		Fall 2020 Semester		FA19 / FA20 Difference	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Female Students</b>	<b>13,076</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>12,881</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-195</b>	<b>-1.5</b>
African American	960	7.3	1,102	8.5	142	14.8
Asian/Pacific Islander	794	6.1	761	5.9	-33	-4.2
Latinx	8,940	68.4	8,652	67.2	-288	-3.2
White	1,600	12.2	1,721	13.4	121	7.6
Other	359	2.8	341	2.6	-18	-5.0
Unknown	423	3.2	304	2.4	-119	-28.1
<b>Male Students</b>	<b>8,892</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7,434</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-1458</b>	<b>-16.4</b>
African American	605	6.8	490	6.6	-115	-19.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	740	8.3	649	8.7	-91	-12.3
Latinx	5,719	64.3	4,708	63.4	-1,011	-17.7
White	1,206	13.6	1,087	14.6	-119	-9.9
Other	288	3.2	298	4.0	10	3.5
Unknown	334	3.8	202	2.7	-132	-39.5

As table 2 indicates, only three groups – African American females (142 more students, a 14.8% increase), White females (121 more students, +7.6%), and other race/ethnicity males (10 more students, +3.5%) – experienced gains in enrollment from Fall 2019 to Fall 2020. The largest numeric declines were observed among Latinx males (1,011 fewer students), Latinx females (-288), and African American males (-119). African American males experienced the largest percentage decline (-19.0%), followed by Latinx males (-17.7%) and Asian/Pacific Islander males (-12.3%). African American and White student populations experienced gains in female student enrollment but declines in male enrollment while students from other racial/ethnic groups experienced a gain in male student enrollment but a decline in female student enrollment. All other racial/ethnic groups experienced declines in both male and female student enrollment, albeit to varying degrees of severity.

If you have any questions or comments about this brief, please contact Jim Fillpot at [jim.fillpot@chaffey.edu](mailto:jim.fillpot@chaffey.edu).