



2010 **FAST FACTS**

**Building a Nation of Learners by
Advancing America's Community Colleges**

American Association of Community Colleges
www.aacc.nche.edu

National Community College Profile: Access and Opportunity for All

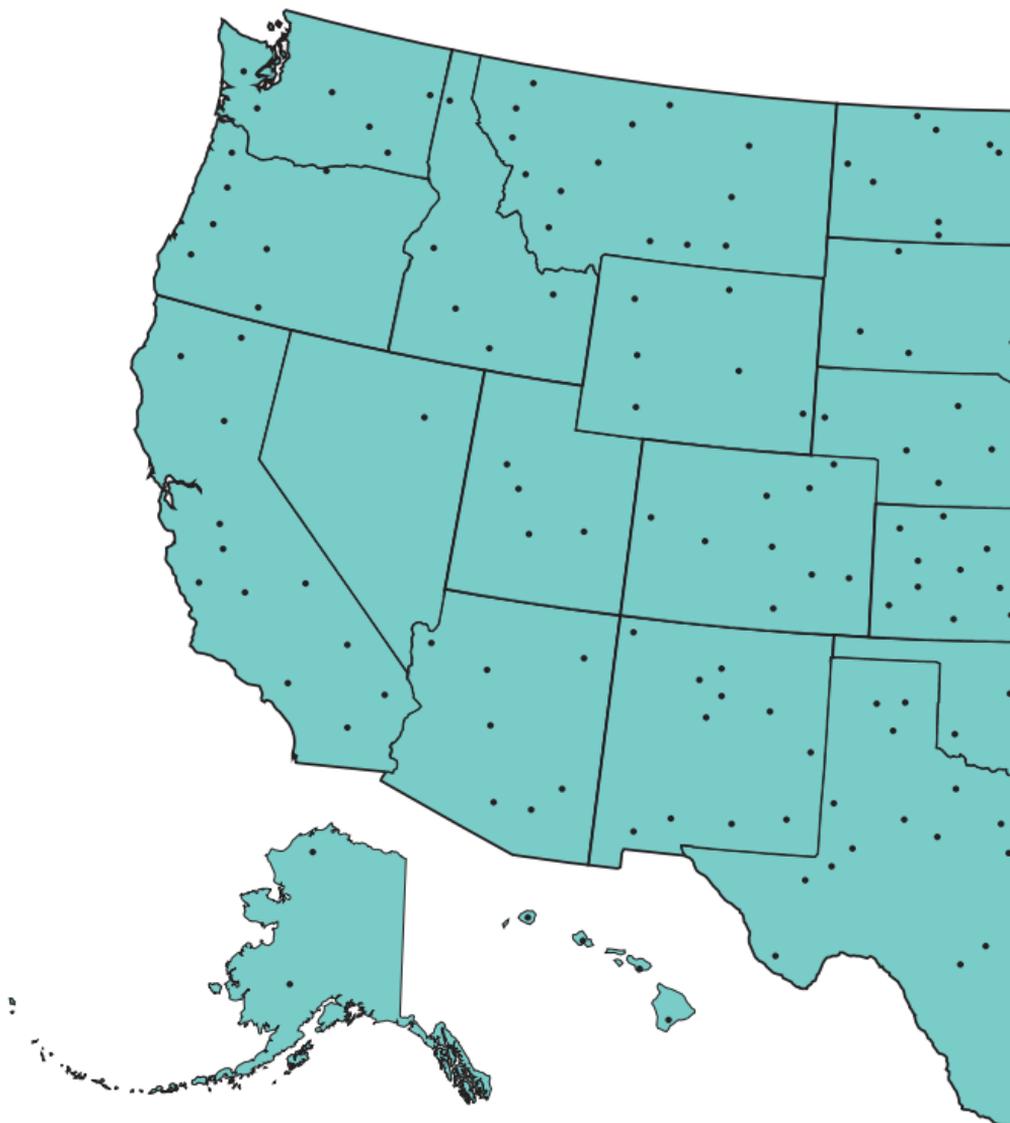


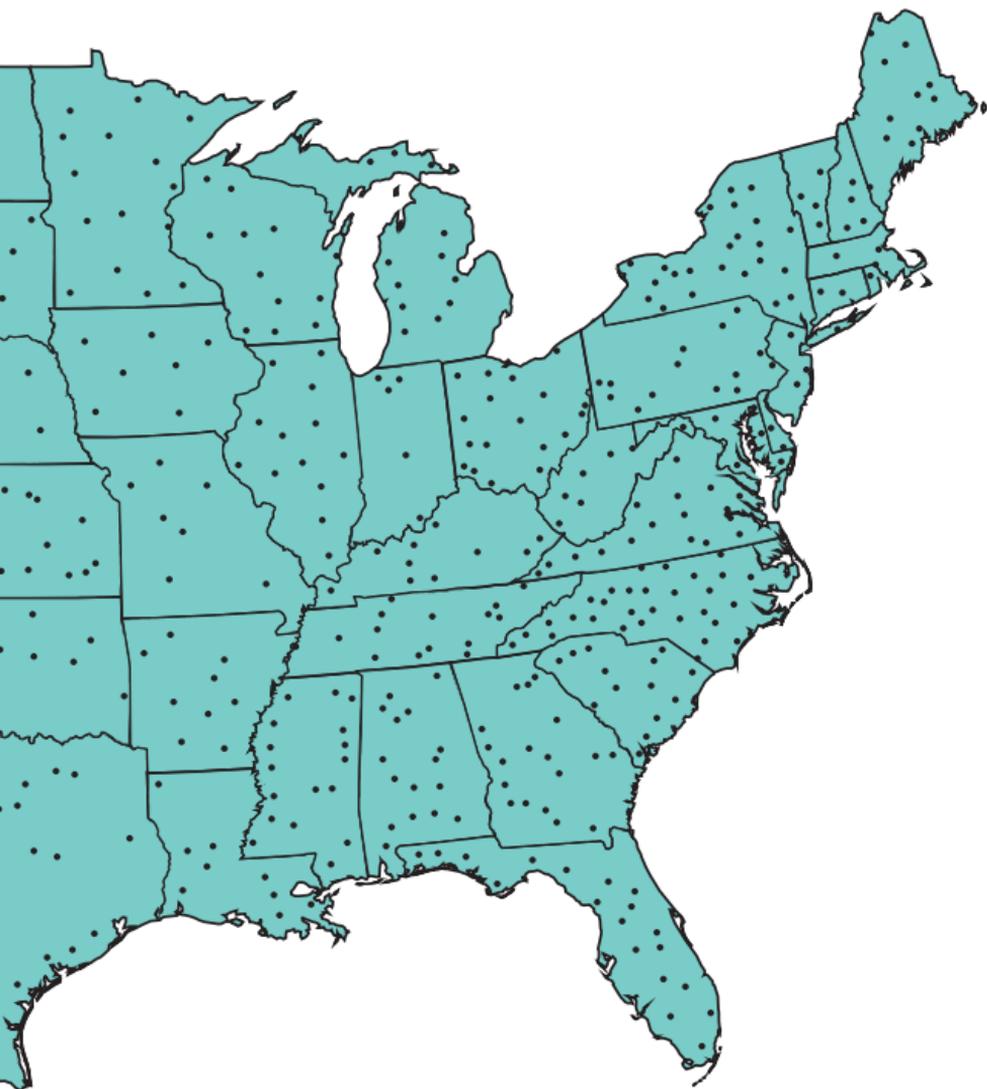
- 1,173 community, junior, and technical colleges
- Enroll 43% of all U.S. undergraduates
- Total enrollment: 11.8 million students
- 6.8 million credit; 5 million noncredit (est.)
- Close to half of minority and first-generation college students attend community college
- Associate degrees awarded: 605,267; certificates: 325,452
- Average student age: 28



FACT: 57% of job openings in the United States between 2006 and 2016 will require some postsecondary education (U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics).



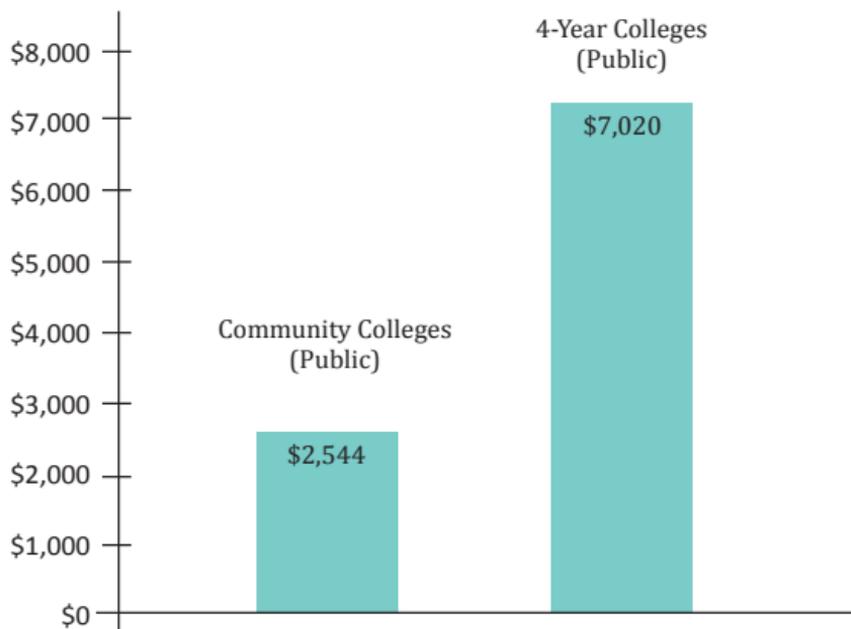




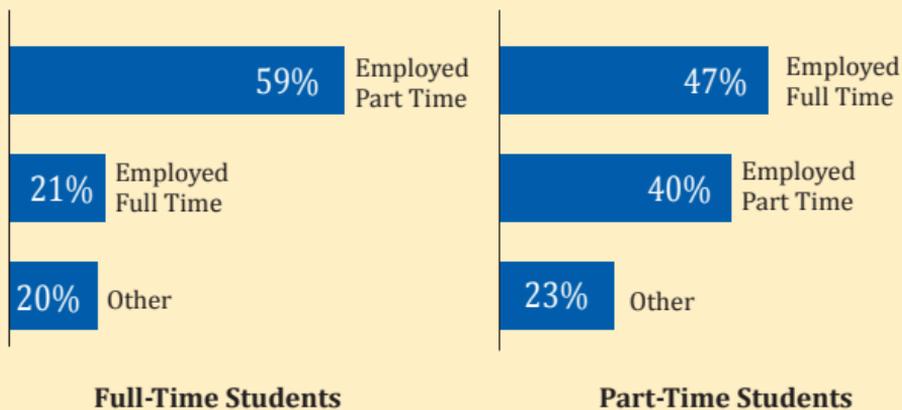
FACT: 90% of the U.S. population lives within 25 miles of a community college. *For a detailed map, see www.aacc.nche.edu/pages/ccfinder.aspx*

Average Annual Tuition and Fees

Source: College Board

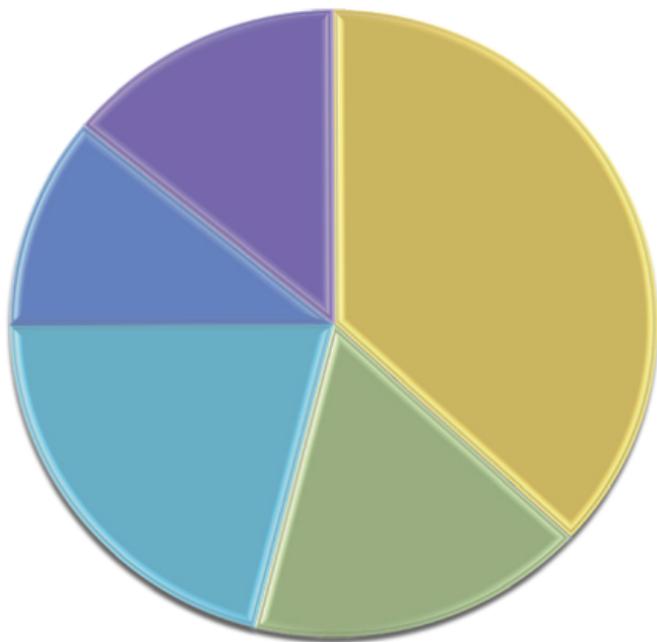


Employment Status



Revenue Sources

(Public Community Colleges)



■ State funds—37%

■ Federal funds—11%

■ Tuition and fees—17%

■ Other—14%

■ Local funds—21%

FACT: Half of baccalaureate recipients attended community college prior to receiving their degrees.

FACT: Close to 80% of firefighters, law enforcement officers, and EMTs are credentialed at community colleges.

How You Can Help



Advocate for Community Colleges With Elected Officials at Local, State, and Federal Levels

- Community colleges are economic engines, preparing the nation's workforce and supporting economic recovery. At the same time, state and local appropriations to community colleges are often slashed during economic downturns.

Support Critical Community College Programming

- **Health Care:** 59% of new nurses are educated in associate degree programs (most at community colleges), and the majority of other new health-care workers are also prepared at community colleges.
- **Homeland Security:** Close to 80% of firefighters, law enforcement officers, and EMTs are credentialed at community colleges.
- **Innovation in the Global Economy:** Community colleges lead in preparing the nation's workforce in fields such as sustainability (wind, solar power, etc.), nanotechnology, and biotechnology.

Support Your Hometown Community College

- Become a community college trustee.
- Put your knowledge and experience to work as an adjunct faculty member, mentor, or advisor.
- Get involved with your local community college foundation. A fraction of philanthropic support to higher education goes to community colleges.
- Give to foundation, scholarship, and capital campaigns.

**Support the American Association
of Community Colleges**



AACC 2010 Federal Legislative Priorities

- **Pass and Fund the American Graduation Initiative.** Provides \$12 billion over 10 years for program development and facilities upgrades.
- **Increase the Pell Grant Maximum.** Helps more than 2 million community college students each year with tuition and other costs.
- **Pass the DREAM Act.** Grants legal status to certain undocumented students brought to the United States as children and eases their path into higher education.
- **Fund Perkins Act Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs.** Largest federal source for institutional support to improve cutting-edge programs.
- **Reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act** with community colleges as key partners; public institutions should automatically be eligible as training providers.



The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, serves as the primary advocacy organization for the nation's community colleges. AACC's programs and services are at the forefront of change in education, including programs that address student access and success, acute shortages of health-care professionals, the growing need to reengage millions of adult learners to strengthen our workforce, and acute shortages of students in science, technology, and math fields.



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