



ANTELOPE VALLEY COLLEGE

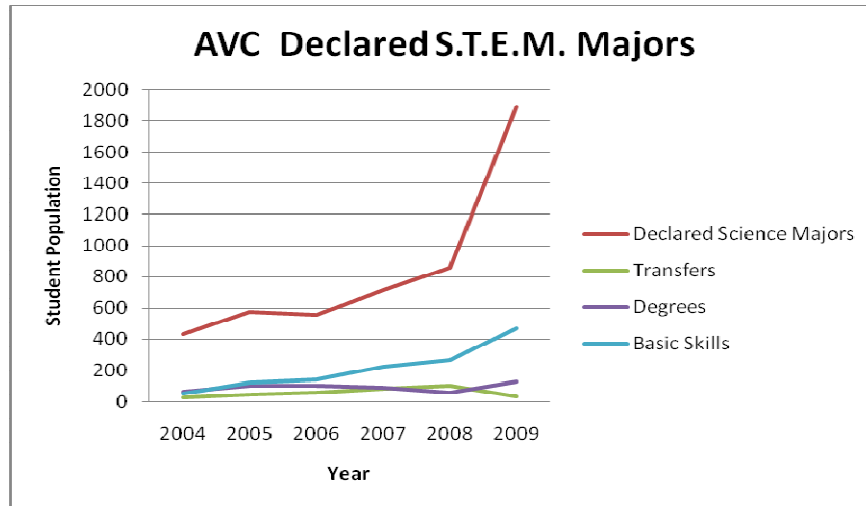
# *Notes from the Researchers*

## *- Volume 1 – September 2009*

Recent Projects from the Office of Institutional Research and Planning

Research for: Science Technology Engineering and Math Program (STEM)

Research Lead: Tricia Menchaca



### **Declared S.T.E.M. Majors with Percentages**

| Year | Declared STEM majors | Transfers (%) | Degrees (%) | Basic Skills (%) |
|------|----------------------|---------------|-------------|------------------|
| 2004 | 430                  | 6             | 15          | 12               |
| 2005 | 574                  | 8             | 17          | 21               |
| 2006 | 556                  | 11            | 19          | 25               |
| 2007 | 714                  | 12            | 12          | 31               |
| 2008 | 859                  | 12            | 7           | 31               |

The number of declared majors has continued to increase over time with a dramatic increase in 2009. Many of the 2009 students in this database have enrolled in AVC for the first time or have already earned associate's degrees in the last decade and are returning to the community college setting. While declared majors continue to rise, the number of students earning degrees at AVC or transferring to four-year institutions has remained stable since 2004. The numbers of students in STEM majors who have taken one or more basic skills courses has also continued to increase over time. The slight decrease in the percentage in 2009 may be representative of students with previous degrees who have already met the basic skills requirements or students who have elected not to begin with basic skills courses. The relatively high percentage of students taking basic skills courses suggest that additional academic support from AVC is imperative for students attempting to obtain a degree or transfer to a university within the fields.



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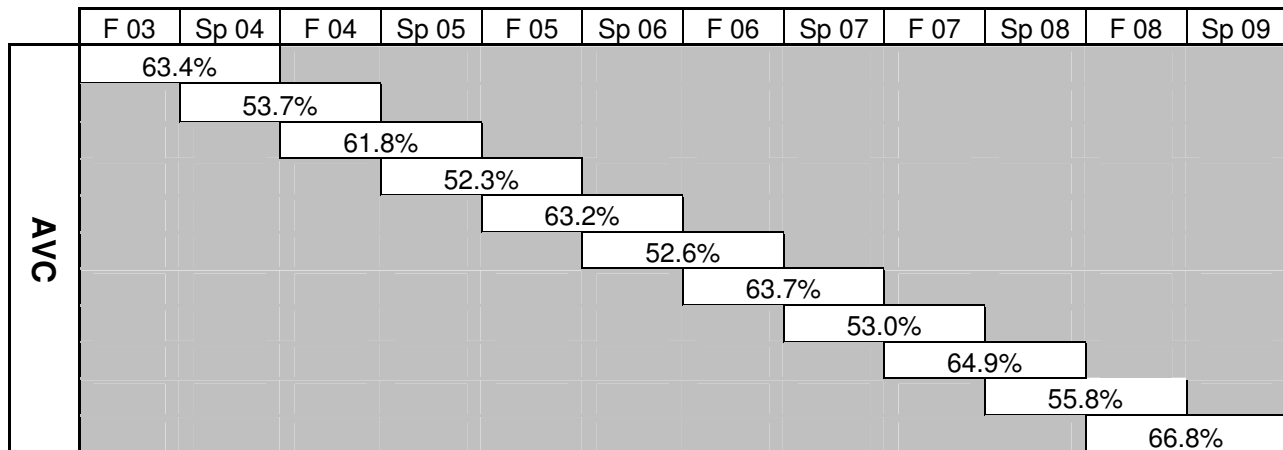
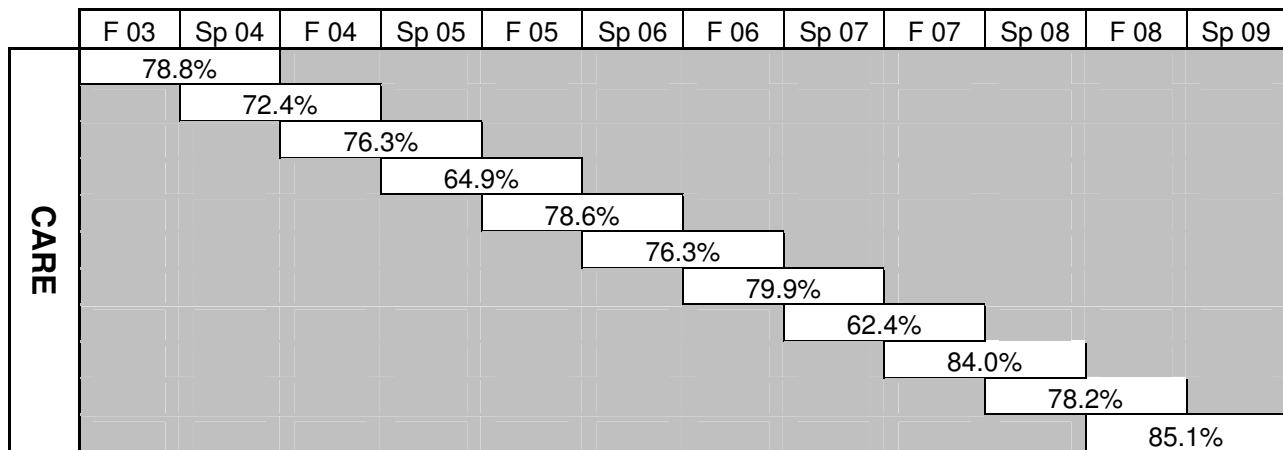
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Recent Projects from the Office of Institutional Research and Planning

Research for: Extended Opportunity Programs and Services/  
Cooperative Agencies Resource for Education  
Research Lead: Aeron Zentner

### **EOPS/CARE Student Cohort Persistence Analysis**

This study followed a cohort of students in the CARE program and evaluated the percent of the students persisting from fall to spring and spring to fall over a six-year period. The study compared the overall Antelope Valley College student population and a population from the CARE group. The study shows a higher overall persistence rate for CARE students when compared to AVC students in general. In addition, the persistence rate for CARE students for the past two fall cohorts exceeded 80%, compared to the corresponding AVC rates that were 64.9% and 66.8%, respectively.





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Recent Projects from the Office of Institutional Research and Planning

Research for: Basic Skills

Research Lead: Aaron Voelcker

### **Percentage of Basic Skills Students with Disabilities**

The Office of Institutional Research and Planning was asked to provide historical data on the number of students that were enrolled in a basic skills course and also had a disability. This data was requested by the Director of Basic Skills in order to see if AVC has a substantial disabled basic skills student population so that services could be better targeted to these groups.

| <b>Term</b> | <b>% of All Students that are Basic Skills Students</b> | <b>% of All Students that are Disabled Basic Skills Students</b> | <b>% of Basic Skills Students that are not Disabled</b> | <b>% of Basic Skills Students that are Disabled</b> |
|-------------|---|--|---|---|
| Fall 2004   | 18.2%   | 1.5%   | 91.9%   | 8.1%  |
| Spring 2005 | 17.6%   | 1.7%   | 90.2%   | 9.8%  |
| Fall 2005   | 19.0%   | 1.7%   | 91.1%   | 8.9%  |
| Spring 2006 | 19.1%   | 1.6%   | 91.4%   | 8.6%  |
| Fall 2006   | 23.1%   | 1.6%   | 93.0%   | 7.0%  |
| Spring 2007 | 21.5%   | 1.7%   | 92.0%   | 8.0%  |
| Fall 2007   | 25.7%   | 1.7%   | 93.2%   | 6.8%  |
| Spring 2008 | 25.3%   | 1.5%   | 94.2%   | 5.8%  |
| Fall 2008   | 25.5%   | 1.6%   | 93.8%   | 6.2%  |
| Spring 2009 | 25.3%   | 1.3%   | 94.7%   | 5.3%  |

We also took a look at the average course success and retention rates across all reported terms for basic skills courses in the following subjects. Though the overall success rate for disabled students was lower than that of non-disabled students we can see that disabled students are retained at a higher rate.

| <b>Subject</b>             | <b>Not Disabled</b> |                   | <b>Disabled</b>     |                   |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
|                            | <b>% Successful</b> | <b>% Retained</b> | <b>% Successful</b> | <b>% Retained</b> |
| Computer Technology        | 61.1%               | 79.1%             | 62.1%               | 82.8%             |
| English                    | 36.3%               | 75.9%             | 34.9%               | 76.8%             |
| EOPS                       | 62.3%               | 79.7%             | 73.5%               | 81.6%             |
| English as Second Language | 66.6%               | 90.2%             | 73.0%               | 90.1%             |
| Learning Assistance Center | 60.7%               | 92.4%             | 51.5%               | 91.2%             |
| Math                       | 59.1%               | 84.3%             | 46.2%               | 78.2%             |
| Reading                    | 51.8%               | 78.2%             | 40.8%               | 78.5%             |
| Workforce Development      | 55.4%               | 84.3%             | 33.3%               | 100.0%            |
| <b>Average</b>             | 56.6%               | 83.0%             | 51.9%               | 84.9%             |

For additional information on this or other projects, contact the research office at ext. 6398.