



Role and Mission

Community Colleges of Colorado



Statutory Mission

"Each college shall be a two-year institution offering a broad range of general, personal, vocational, and technical education programs. No college shall impose admission requirements upon any student. The objects of the community and technical colleges shall be to provide educational programs to fill the occupational needs of youth and adults in technical and vocational fields, to provide two-year transfer educational programs to qualify students for admission to the junior year at other colleges and universities, and to provide a broad range of programs of personal and vocational education for adults."

Colorado Revised Statutes § 23-60-01

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Mission of Community Colleges



Community Colleges are the primary point of access to higher education.

Community Colleges of Colorado



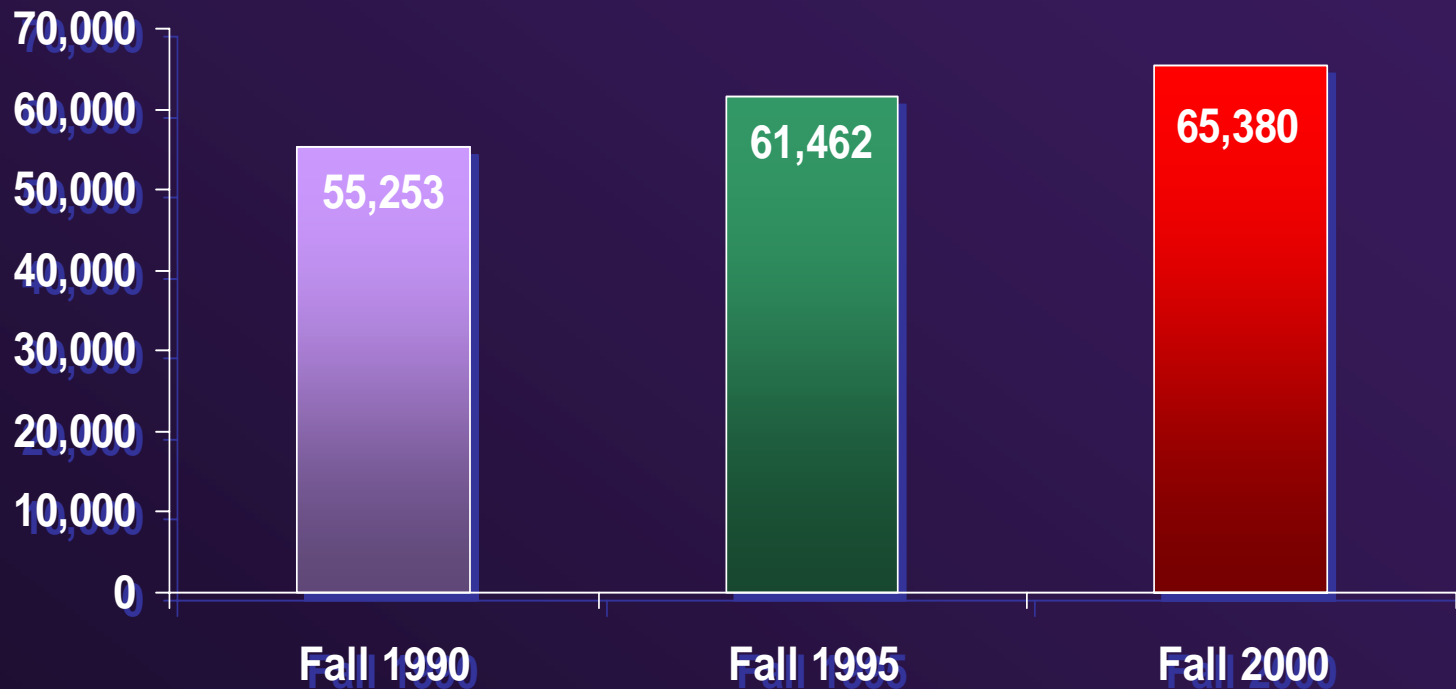
- Thirteen colleges
- Thirty-eight campuses

System Community Colleges

- Arapahoe Community College
- Colorado Northwestern Community College
- Community College of Aurora
- Community College of Denver
- Front Range Community College
- Lamar Community College
- Morgan Community College
- Northeastern Junior College
- Otero Junior College
- Pikes Peak Community College
- Pueblo Community College
- Red Rocks Community College
- Trinidad State Junior College



Headcount Enrollment Trends



Six out of ten freshmen and sophomores in Colorado's public higher education system attend a community college.

Student Profile



- Average age is 28
- Enroll 56% of all students age 25 and older
- Enroll 29% of all students age 24 and under
- 9.3% have already earned a baccalaureate degree or higher
- 74.8 % work 30 or more hours per week



Student Composition

- 57% of the students with the highest financial need
- 44% of all Hispanic, African American, Asian, and American Indian students in Colorado higher education
- 93% Colorado residents



Retention and Graduation Rates

- 59.4% of students who complete one year, enroll the following year
- 23.4% graduate within three years



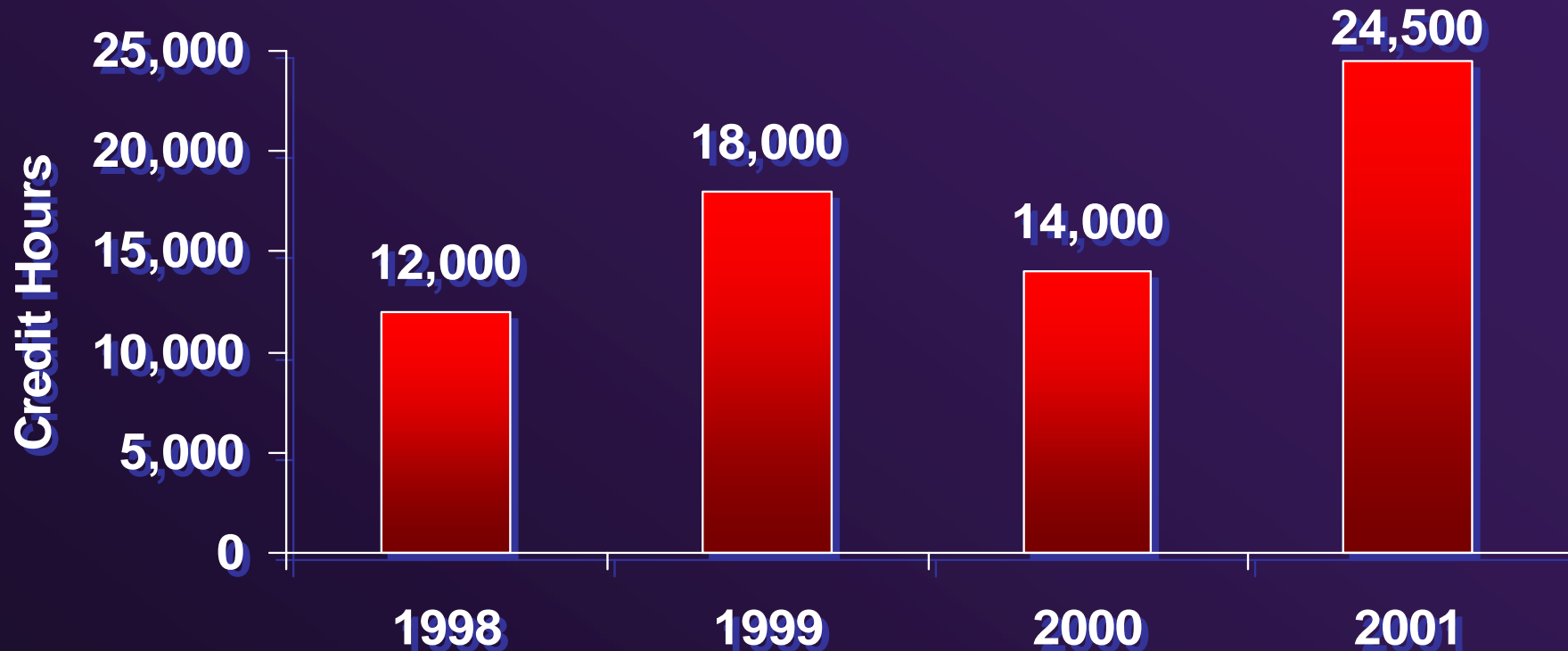
Graduate Employment



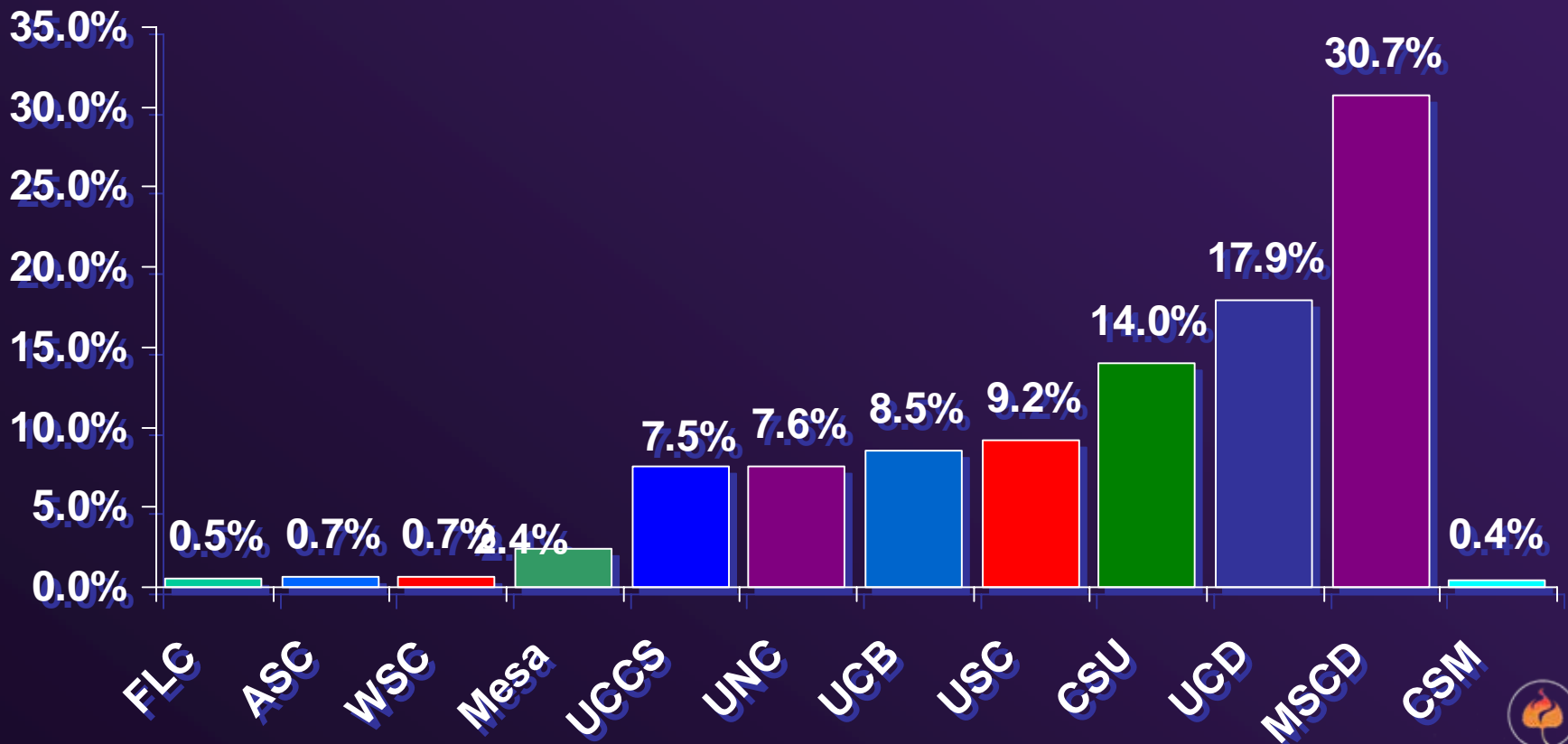
- 94.4% of graduates are employed and/or continue their education
- Average starting salary of graduates is \$30,493



Lower Division Distance Education Enrollment



Transfer Destinations



Mission Areas Not Addressed in the Statutory Role And Mission



Basic Skills
Education

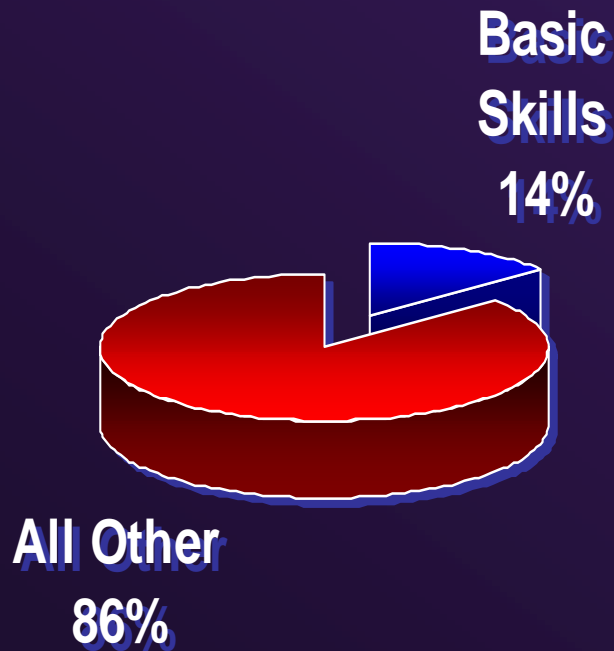


Workforce and Economic
Development



Community Focus

Basic Skills Education

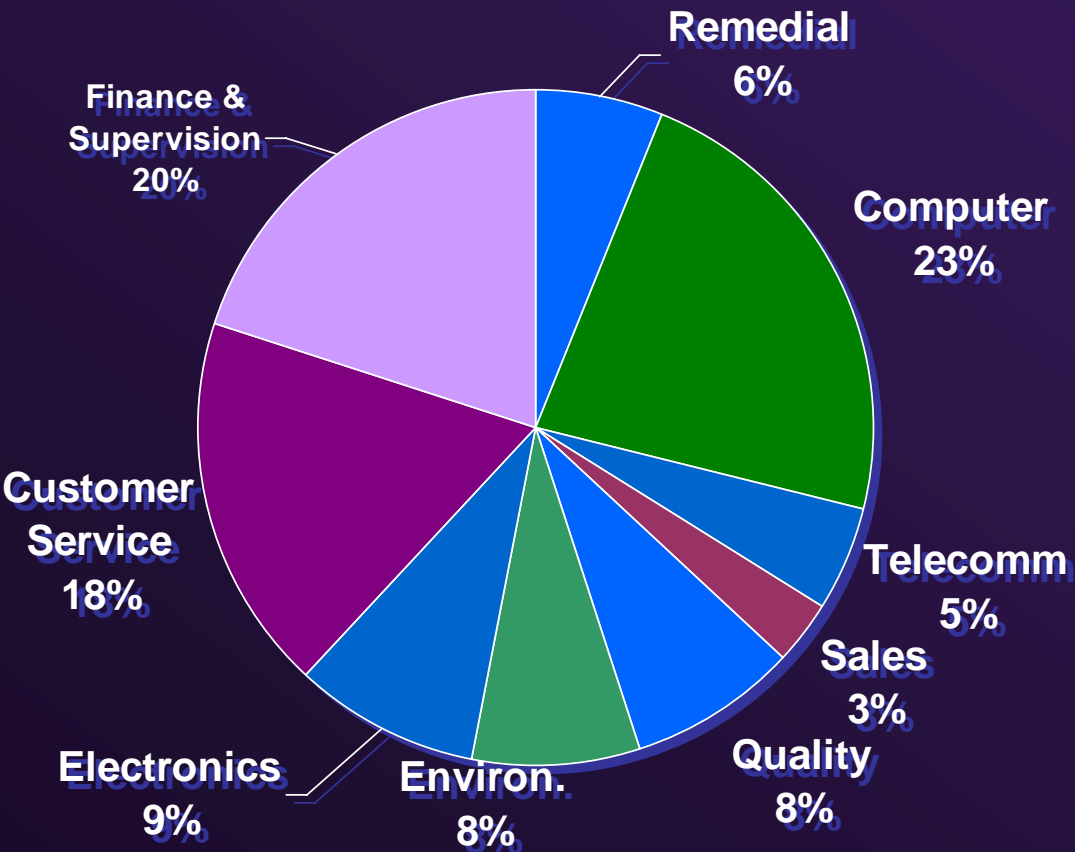


Basic Skills FTE Enrollment

- Community colleges must enroll all who apply.
- Without a strong basic skills program, the open door philosophy turns into a revolving door.



Workforce and Economic Development



Customized Training

The statutory mission does not acknowledge the role community colleges play in workforce and economic development.

Community Focus



- The word "community" appears in the name of the state's community colleges to emphasize their primary focus.
- All of the state's 13 community colleges focus on the needs of the local communities they serve.

Trinidad State Junior College

The Valley Campus of TSJC is the only one in the state that is restricted in carrying out its statutory mission related to transfer and academic courses and programs.



Trinidad State Junior College

Given the importance of meeting the needs of local communities, the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education requests that Trinidad State Junior College be allowed to fully implement its statutory mission by being granted the authority to offer general academic as well as technical and career (vocational) courses and programs at its Valley Campus.



Pueblo Community College



The Southwest Center of PCC is the only community college location in the state that is restricted in its abilities to offer technical and career education programs and courses.



Pueblo Community College

Given the importance of meeting the needs of local communities, the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education requests that Pueblo Community College be allowed to fully implement its statutory mission by being granted the authority to offer technical and career education (vocational) programs as well as general academic courses and programs at its Southwest Center.



Proposed Mission Statement

"Each college shall be a two-year institution offering a broad range of general, personal, vocational, and technical education programs **BY FOCUSING ON THE NEEDS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY**. No college shall impose admission requirements upon any student. The objects of the community and technical colleges shall be to provide educational programs to fill the occupational needs of youth and adults in technical and vocational fields, to provide two-year transfer educational programs to qualify students for admission to the junior year at other colleges and universities, **TO PROVIDE WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, TO PROVIDE BASIC SKILL PROGRAMS FOR UNDER-PREPARED STUDENTS**, and to provide a broad range of programs of personal and vocational education for adults."



