Mt. San Antonio College District Enrollment Trends

Mt. San Antonio College has traditionally drawn a fairly large number of students from surrounding communities outside of the defined district. Figure 1 shows the percentage of district and non-district enrollment for Mt. SAC credit students since Fall 1997. Little change can be observed over the five terms represented in Figure 1. Concern over new forms of educational techniques such as distance education and satellite facilities, though, raises the question of whether or not Mt. SAC will continue to draw large numbers from outside its district. This report is intended to document the current trends of in district/outside district enrollment for later comparisons.

As can be seen in Figure 1, district enrollment has changed very little over the five terms, from 57.1% in Fall 1997 to 57.6% in Fall 1999. Outside district enrollment has increased modestly and steadily over the five terms. A noticeable change can be observed from Fall 1997 (40.6%) to Fall 1999 (42.4%). This is a good sign, as concerns about the loss of students from outside districts is not shown by the trends from these past terms. It is important to note that the percentages shown in Figure 1 for each term do not quite total 100%. The difference in totals is due to a small percentage of missing student zip codes. Students’ zip codes were used to determine their city of residence.

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Figure 2 on the reverse side shows the breakdown of credit student enrollment from outside Mt. SAC’s district for Fall 1999. Table 1 shows the breakdown for the five terms, Fall 1997 to Fall 1999. Students living in Chaffey’s district are the single largest contributors to Mt. SAC’s outside district enrollment. Students from the Chaffey district consistently make up approximately 21% of total credit enrollment-about half of all outside district enrollment. The Chaffey district’s contribution to Mt. SAC’s credit enrollment has even shown a slight increase over the five terms, from 20.3% in Fall 1997 to 21.4% in Fall 1999.
Table 1.
The data in Table 1 show that outside district credit enrollment has not changed much. Most districts have varied in their contribution of students to Mt. SAC’s enrollment by only one or two tenths of a percent with the exception of Chaffey. East L.A. County shows a slight drop in percentage of enrollment but only three tenths of a percent reduction.

In summary, the number of outside district students enrolled at Mt. San Antonio College has not changed much from Fall 1997 to Fall 1999. If the current trend in enrollment continues, the concern over loss of students from outside districts may be unwarranted. On the other hand, it remains to be seen how distance education and satellite facilities instituted by surrounding colleges will affect the number of students Mt. SAC draws from their districts.

Special Note: This is the first report using data stored in the new “Mt. SAC Data Warehouse” (DW). Because of this, figures may be different than those reported in previous publications. Most previous publications utilized data collected at the first census of the term. The data stored in the Warehouse is end-of-term data. Also, information was collected from data in one or more tables stored in the Warehouse and analyzed term-by-term. Non-credit enrollment was not used in analyses.