Trending up

African-American enrollment and completions at community colleges have steadily increased since 1990.

African-American enrollment and completions among all community college students


Data note: Bachelor's degree-granting, two-year institutions are not included in this figure.

The number of African-American students enrolled at community colleges has increased from roughly 430,000 (representing 11.2 percent of total community college students) in 1976 to 734,000 (12.5 percent) in 2000. In 1976, African-American students comprised approximately 8.2 percent of all associate-degree completions. In 2000, enrollment increased to 12.5 percent and associate-degree awards jumped to 11.3 percent. By 2011, enrollment spiked to 15.8 percent of all community college students, reaching about 1.2 million, and associate degrees to African-American students accounted for 13.9 percent of such degrees. Enrollment started to decline in 2012, but associate-degree completions stayed steady. For more community college demographic statistics, visit AACC Fast Facts.

For more information, contact Kent Phillippe, associate vice president for research and student success at the American Association of Community Colleges, at (202) 416-4505 or kphilippe@aacc.nche.edu, or Rahel Tekle, AACC research associate, at (202) 416-4508 or rtekle@aacc.nche.edu.