
Student Affairs
**Research
Center**

Profile of CSUF Students: Fall 1999

In Brief

This report will highlight some of the wealth of data on students at Cal State Fullerton published each semester by Dolores Vura, Director, Office of Analytical Studies.

Fall 1999 Headcount Sets a Record Again

During Fall 1999 semester, there were 27,167 students enrolled at Cal State Fullerton, the largest headcount of record again, and an increase of 6% over Fall 1998. The average unit load per undergraduate student was 11.6, and for graduate students it was 8.3 units. The average age was 25.0 years, and women constituted 59.2% of the Cal State Fullerton student population.

Age of Students at CSUF

The average ages of students by class level were: 17.9 years for first-time freshmen, 20.2 years for sophomores, 24.6 years for juniors, 26.7 years for

seniors, and 32.7 years for graduate students.

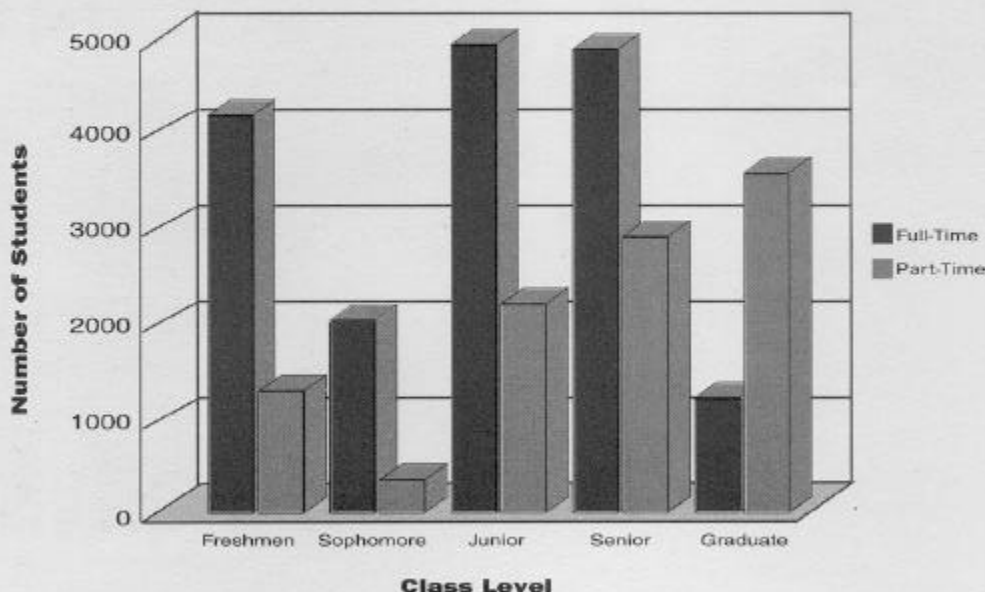
Full-Time and Part-Time Students

Part-time students are enrolled in 11 or fewer units. Full-time is 12 or more units. Our student body is 63% full-time and 37% part-time. The largest single

group of full-time students is juniors.

This is a change from Fall 1998, when there were slightly more seniors than juniors. The group with the largest percent, and number, of part-time students is graduate students. See Figure 1 for the numbers of full and part-time students, categorized by class level.

Figure 1
**Number of Full-Time and Part-Time Students
by Class Level: Fall 1999**



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Student Affairs research is a major priority. This research report reflects the Student Affairs commitment to research on students.

The mission of the Student Affairs Research Center is to support research on students, including campus climate assessment.

Upcoming Reports:

- Computer Skills Before and After the Rollout: A Census of Student Affairs Staff
- How Many Hours Do Our Students Study?
- Sense of Community at CSU Fullerton
- Profile of CSU Fullerton Students: Campus Climate Survey
- Why do Students Choose CSU Fullerton?

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Class Level Statistics

The percentages of students at each class level for the Fall 1999 semester were: Freshmen 19.9%, Sophomores 8.6%, Juniors 25.9%, Seniors 28.3%, and graduates, 17.4%. The sophomore class has a lower percentage of students because freshmen often take three semesters to change status to sophomore (sophomore status is achieved by having earned 30 units). As usual, the junior and senior classes are larger due to the number of new students who transfer in as juniors, combining with the native freshmen as they move up in status over time.

Graduate Student Headcount Highest in Five Years

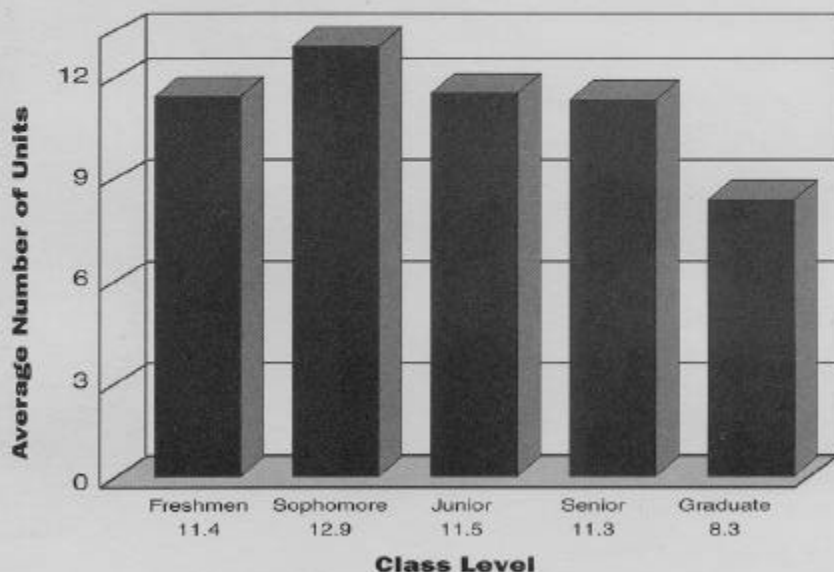
Graduate student headcount (all postbaccalaureate students are included

in this count) for the Fall 1999 semester was 4,718, also the highest in the past five years. For comparison, the graduate student headcount was 4,396 in Fall 1998, 4,163 in Fall 1997, 3,950 in Fall 1996, 3,735 in Fall 1995, and 3,751 for the Fall 1994 semester.

Average Unit Loads

During the Fall 1999 semester, first-time freshmen averaged the highest number of units and graduate students averaged the fewest. Of the entire Fall 1999 student population, 15.0% took 6 units, 9.0% took 9 units, 27.8% took 12 units, and 15.0% took 15 units. The average unit load by class level is presented in Figure 2, and is as follows: freshmen averaged 11.4 units, sophomores averaged 12.9 units, juniors averaged 11.5 units, seniors averaged 11.3 units, and graduates averaged 8.3 units. In order to be a full-time graduate student, one must take either 12 units,

Figure 2
Average Unit Load by Class Level:
Fall 1999



or 9 units with 6 units of 500-level courses.

Ethnicity

Percentages of students by self-reported ethnic category for Fall 1999 are presented in Figure 3. White students represent 38% of the population, and the combination of the Latino Asian/Pacific Islander population is 48% of the student population. The interesting analysis of ethnic composition is by class level. For example, the percentage of White students at the first time freshmen level is 30%. At the Senior level it is 38%, and at the graduate level it is 52%. This may be due in part to the change in the ethnic categories of high school students who entered in 1999 compared to those who entered in 1995, which in turn may be due to the changing demographics of Orange County.

Where Do CSUF Students Come From?

Fifty-six percent of students reported their county of origin as Orange County. Figure 4 shows the percentages of CSUF students for each residential area. While 97% reported their residence as a California county, 1% reported residence in another state or U.S. territory, and 2% reported residence in another country.

Figure 3
Ethnicity of Students: Fall 1999

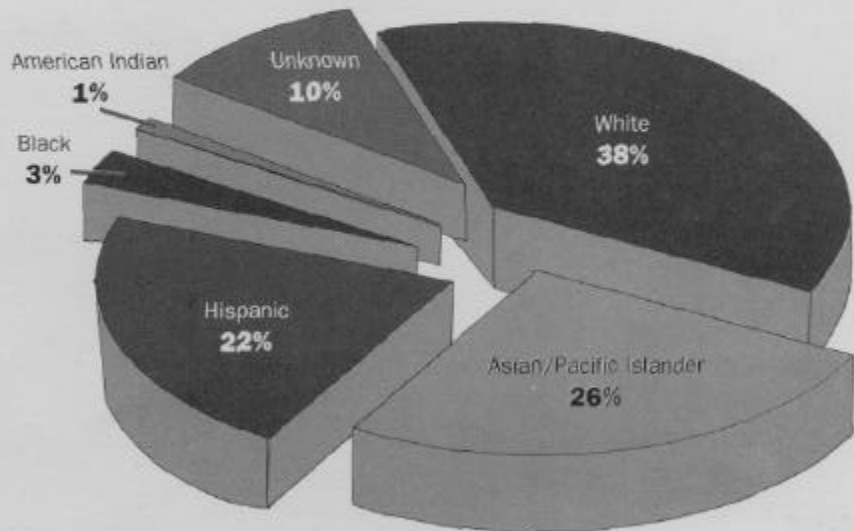
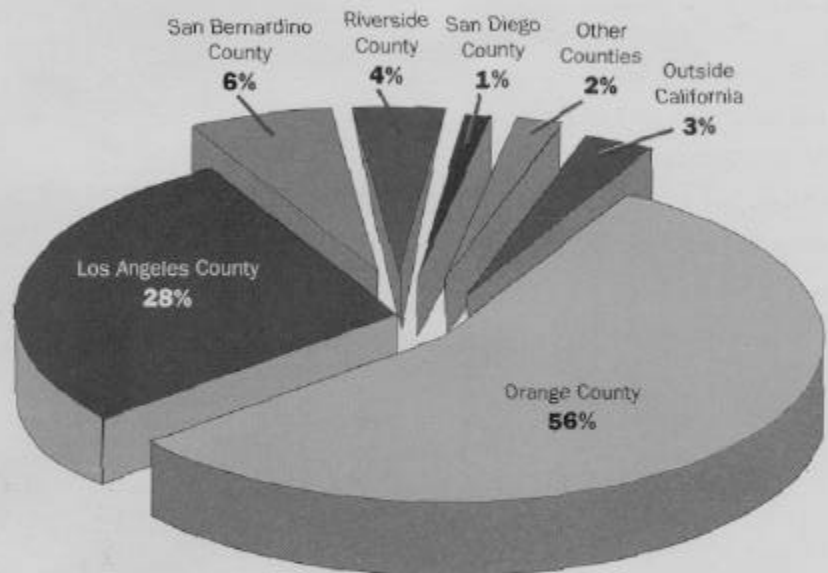


Figure 4
Where Do CSUF Students Come From?



What Do Our Students Major In?

Figure 5 shows the number of undergraduate students for each school or college at CSUF. The largest number of undergraduate students, 6,267, major in Business Administration and Economics. The next highest number, 5,118, represents undergraduate students majoring in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

The largest grouping by major among graduate/post-baccalaureate students is the 1,218 post-baccalaureate students pursuing a credential.

Gender

As shown in Figure 6, there were 59.2% females and 40.8% males attending Cal State Fullerton.

Data are reported in headcounts, not FTEs. All data were obtained from the Statistical Handbook for Fall 1999 from the Office of Analytical Studies. I thank Roland Madrid for his assistance. This is Research Report 3 of 1999/2000, completed November 1999.

Figure 5
Number of Undergraduate Students by School or College: Fall 1999

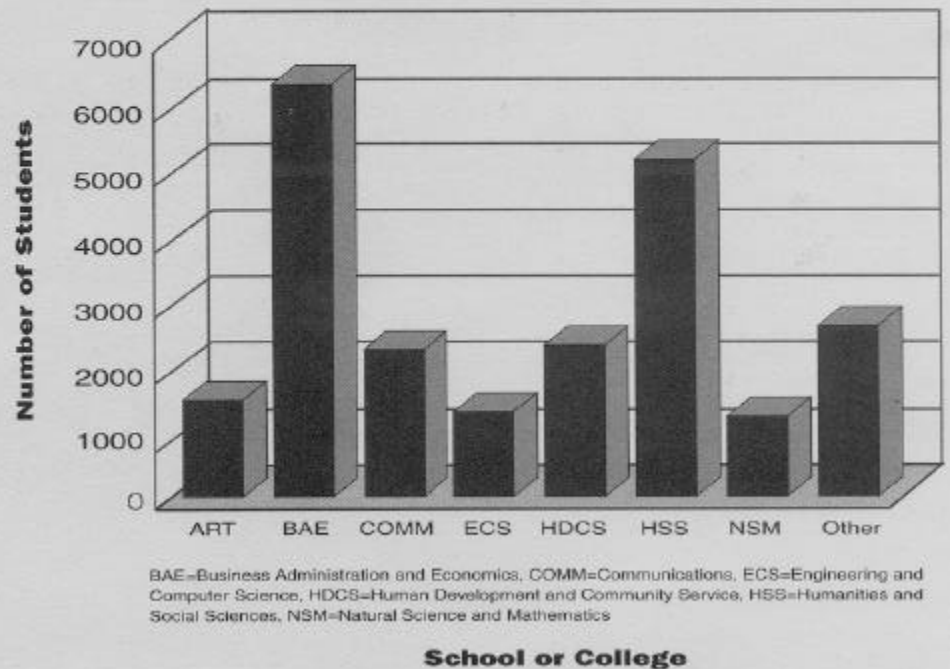


Figure 6
Male and Female Students: Fall 1999

