

South Carolina Technical College System

Quick Facts

The South Carolina Technical College System, through its credit and continuing education enrollment, touches nearly one in 14 South Carolinians over 18

- Nearly half (49%) of all undergraduates in South Carolina public higher education were enrolled in the South Carolina Technical College System in Fall 2007.
- Ninety-six percent (96%) of all students enrolled at a South Carolina technical college in 2007 were residents of South Carolina.
- In Fall 2007, students enrolled in the technical colleges' credit programs were: 36 percent minority; 64 percent female; 53 percent age 18-24.
- Fifty-six percent (56%) of South Carolina residents attending one of the state's public colleges or universities in Fall 2007 were enrolled at one of South Carolina's technical colleges.
- During the 2006-07 academic year, more than 108,000 students enrolled in credit programs at one of South Carolina's technical colleges. Enrollment for credit and continuing education combined was nearly 235,000.
- In terms of undergraduate headcount enrollment, three of the state's six largest public colleges and universities in Fall 2007 were technical colleges.
- Associate degrees awarded by the System's technical colleges rose more than 32 percent over the past decade, compared to approximately 21 percent nationally.

The System is producing graduates in critical workforce areas for the state, improving overall quality of life and enhancing economic development

- In the coming years, 65 percent of jobs will necessitate an associate's degree or advanced training, exactly the type of education and training provided by our technical colleges.
- Nearly one-third of graduates from South Carolina's technical colleges in 2006-2007 were in the Health Sciences, an area of critical workforce shortage for the state.
- South Carolina workers with an associate's degree earned on average about \$5,000 more than those with a high school diploma and nearly \$12,000 more than those with less than a high school diploma in 2006.
- South Carolina's technical colleges offer degree, diploma, certificate and continuing education programs in more than 130 areas, ranging from allied health fields to automotive technology, paralegal training to air conditioning and refrigeration mechanics, and civil engineering technology to culinary arts. The courses of study offered by technical colleges continually evolve to effectively meet the needs of the local community; for example, recent courses added at various colleges include crime scene investigation and radiation protection.
- The System's technical colleges generated 32 percent and 47 percent increases in Associate Degree Nursing and Practical Nursing graduation rates, respectively, from 2002-07.

(more)

South Carolina Technical College System Quick Facts - continued

- The average annual income with an associate's degree or advanced training is \$35,000+, at least \$9,000 more than a high school diploma or less.
- The 2007 average annual income for allied healthcare jobs in South Carolina was \$40,000+, compared to the state's per capita income of \$31,013.
- From 2001-2007, the main areas with increased numbers of graduates to meet South Carolina's critical needs include:
 - 122%, early care and childhood education
 - 58%, radiologic technology
 - 53%, surgical technology

The System is an integral component of the state's economic development strategy

- The System and its reputation for providing innovative, high-quality workforce training opportunities is an integral part of the state's economic development efforts.
- The Center for Accelerated Technology Training (CATT) and its readySC program is an important incentive for businesses looking to locate and/or expand operations in the state.
- In 2006-07, CATT was involved in 96 new and expanding economic development projects across the state.
- Since its inception, CATT has trained nearly a quarter-million workers, for more than 1,800 companies.
- From 2003-2007, the System's Center for Accelerated Technology Training (CATT) and its readySC™ program have seen a 33 percent increase in trainees.