



SREB

Fact Book Bulletin

REPORTING SIGNIFICANT TRENDS AFFECTING EDUCATION PROGRESS IN THE SREB STATES

New Data Reveal Percent of College Credits Taken by High School Students

All SREB states have legislation enabling public high school students to take college credits in what are sometimes called “dual enrollment” or “early college” programs. Proponents of such programs say that they may help students prepare for college and reduce time to degree. However, critics of such programs question whether all students who enroll are prepared for them.

Data reported by many SREB states for the first time in the SREB-State Data Exchange *2008-2009 Highlights* reveal details about public postsecondary education courses taken by high school students. High school students taking college courses are concentrated largely in technical institutes or colleges that have a career-training focus and in two-year, transfer-oriented colleges.

Dual enrollment and early college programs are a growing part of the overall programs at

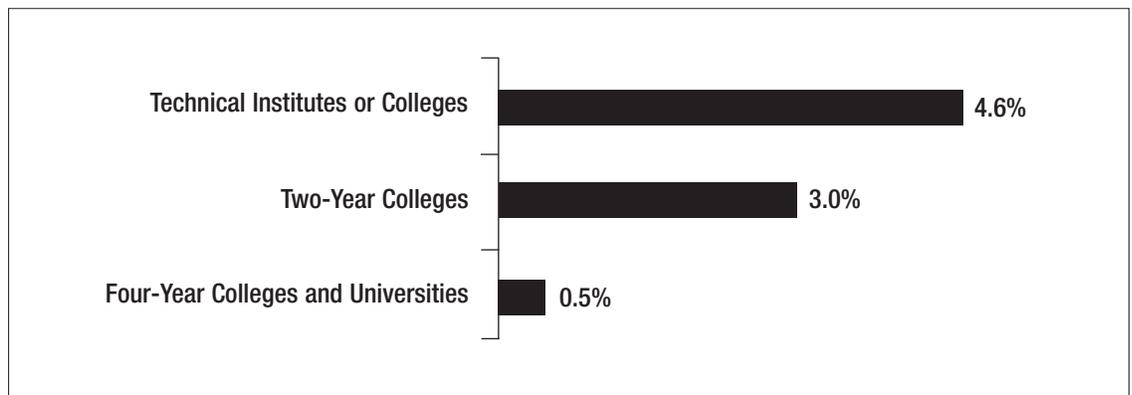
some public two-year colleges. In five SREB states — Arkansas, Kentucky, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia — the percentage of undergraduate college-course credits taken by high school students now represents at least 5 percent of the undergraduate credit or contact hours taken in public two-year colleges.

For technical institutes or colleges with a career-training focus in Kentucky and Louisiana, more than 9 percent of the credit or contact hours are taken by students still in high school.

Through these new data, SREB states now are able to track the changes in college credits taken by high school students in their postsecondary education institutions.

States found to have higher percentages have specific policies in place to encourage participation.

Percent of Undergraduate Credit/Contact Hours Taken by High School Students at Public Postsecondary Education Institutions, Participating SREB States, 2008-09



Source: SREB-State Data Exchange.

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**Percent of Undergraduate Credit/Contact Hours Taken by High School Students
at Public Postsecondary Education Institutions**

(Supplements Table 37, *SREB Fact Book on Higher Education, 2009*)

	Percent, 2008-09			Percentage-Point Change, 2007-08 to 2008-09		
	Four-Year Colleges and Universities	Two-Year Colleges	Technical Institutes or Colleges	Four-Year Colleges and Universities	Two-Year Colleges	Technical Institutes or Colleges
Average of states reporting	0.5	3.0	4.6	NA	NA	0.5
Alabama	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arkansas	1.8	6.2	—	0.4	-0.1	—
Delaware	—	—	NA	—	—	NA
Florida	0.3	1.6	—	*	—	—
Georgia	0.4	1.5	3.3	—	—	-0.2
Kentucky	0.9	6.3	9.3	0.2	-0.4	-2.8
Louisiana	1.0	3.5	10.7	0.5	0.8	4.6
Maryland	—	—	NA	—	—	NA
Mississippi	—	0.8	NA	—	—	NA
North Carolina	0.4	4.1	NA	0.2	0.3	NA
Oklahoma	0.5	2.7	—	*	0.1	—
South Carolina	0.2	2.7	NA	*	0.5	NA
Tennessee	0.5	3.5	—	0.1	0.5	—
Texas	0.2	6.4	NA	*	4.4	NA
Virginia	0.1	8.7	NA	*	0.3	NA
West Virginia	1.0	5.3	—	-0.1	-0.2	—

* Less than 0.1 percentage point.

"NA" indicates not applicable. There was no institution of this type in the state, the state did not report in both years or the regional average was not comparable year-to-year.

"—" indicates not available.

Source: SREB-State Data Exchange.

For more information about this bulletin or the *SREB Fact Book*,
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