

Education Estimating Conference Florida College System Enrollment Executive Summary March 7, 2025

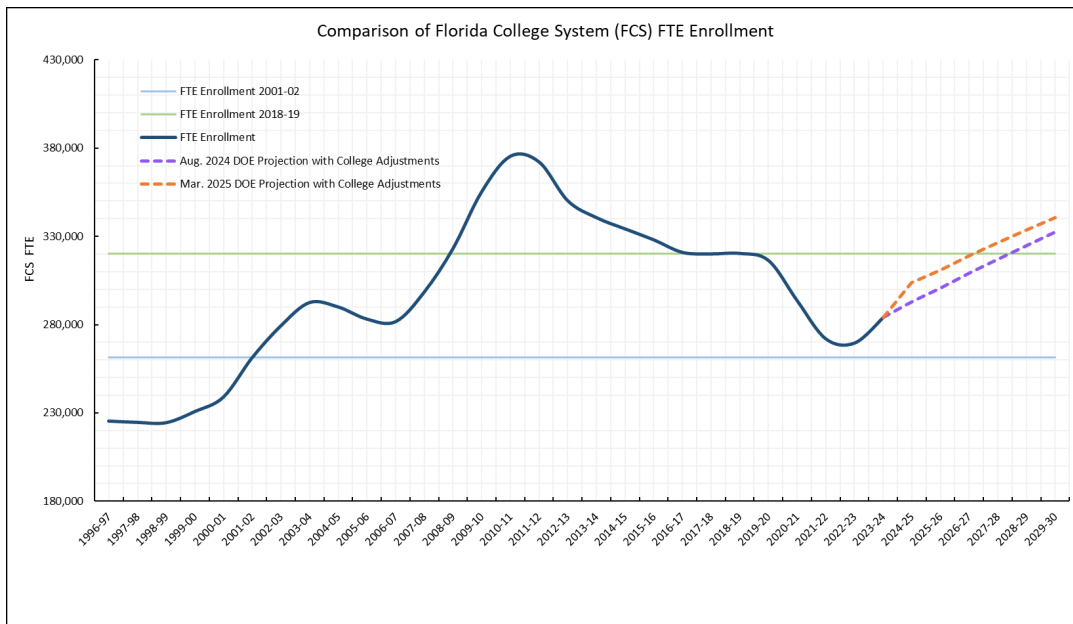
The Education Estimating Conference on Florida College System Enrollment met on March 7, 2025, to develop a new forecast for Florida College System full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment through FY 2029-30. The Conference adopted the forecast presented by the Department of Education which uses the current year as a base (FY 2024-25 FTE-2A) and incorporates individual college adjustments throughout the forecast.

Data included in FY 2024-25 FTE-2A indicate a systemwide total of 303,736.0 FTE, an increase of 19,595.4 FTE (6.9%) from FY 2023-24 and a gain of 10,707.0 FTE (3.7%) relative to the prior forecast. For all Lower Division programs, FTE enrollment increased by 18,457.4 FTE (6.9%) from 266,601.6 FTE in FY 2023-24 to 285,059.0 FTE in FY 2024-25 FTE-2A. Strong over-the-year growth was also reported for Upper Division programs with a gain of 1,138.0 FTE (6.5%). Upper Division FTE represents approximately 6.1% of total enrollment in FY 2024-25 FTE-2A.

Systemwide, FY 2024-25 FTE 2A is -16,566.4 FTEs (-5.2%) below the pre-pandemic enrollment level that occurred in FY 2018-19; however, enrollment continues to bounce back. This turn-around supported a stronger college system FTE forecast, with FTE enrollment expected to exceed the pre-pandemic level (FY 2018-19) in FY 2027-28.

Relative to the August conference, the new forecast has projected enrollment that is higher every fiscal year, ranging from 10,707.0 additional FTE in the current year (FY 2024-25) to 8,267.0 additional FTE at the end of the forecast period (FY 2029-30). By this point, FTE enrollment is expected to reach 340,722.0 FTE, with 319,424 FTE in Lower Division programs and 21,298 FTE in Upper Division programs.

Overall, the new forecast assumes that FTE will rise above pre-pandemic levels one year earlier than what was expected in the August forecast. The last three years of the forecast (FY 2027-28, FY 2028-29, and FY 2029-30) surpass pre-pandemic enrollment by 6,009.6 FTE (1.9%), 13,227.6 FTE (4.1%), and 20,419.6 FTE (6.4%) respectively.



As a note, the Conference only addresses state-funded FTE, meaning the total FTE enrollment activity at colleges may differ.

Florida College System FTE Enrollment Forecast Summary - Total

	August 9, 2024	March 7, 2024	Difference	% Difference
FY 2017-18	320,042.5	320,042.5		
FY 2018-19	320,302.4	320,302.4		
FY 2019-20	316,275.9	316,275.9		
FY 2020-21	293,493.0	293,493.0		
FY 2021-22	271,915.8	271,915.8		
FY 2022-23	269,640.6	269,640.6		
FY 2023-24	284,140.6	284,140.6		
FY 2024-25 Forecast vs FTE-2A	293,029.0	303,736.0	10,707.0	3.7%
FY 2025-26 Forecast	300,804.0	310,820.0	10,016.0	3.3%
FY 2026-27 Forecast	309,241.0	319,025.0	9,784.0	3.2%
FY 2027-28 Forecast	317,059.0	326,312.0	9,253.0	2.9%
FY 2028-29 Forecast	324,773.0	333,530.0	8,757.0	2.7%
FY 2029-30 Forecast	332,455.0	340,722.0	8,267.0	2.5%

Florida College System FTE Enrollment Forecast Summary - Lower Division

	August 9, 2024	March 7, 2024	Difference	% Difference
FY 2017-18	303,490.8	303,490.8		
FY 2018-19	302,701.0	302,701.0		
FY 2019-20	297,817.9	297,817.9		
FY 2020-21	273,959.4	273,959.4		
FY 2021-22	253,658.3	253,658.3		
FY 2022-23	252,399.4	252,399.4		
FY 2023-24	266,601.6	266,601.6		
FY 2024-25 Forecast vs FTE-2A	275,045.0	285,059.0	10,014.0	3.6%
FY 2025-26 Forecast	282,319.0	291,302.0	8,983.0	3.2%
FY 2026-27 Forecast	290,249.0	298,944.0	8,695.0	3.0%
FY 2027-28 Forecast	297,682.0	305,818.0	8,136.0	2.7%
FY 2028-29 Forecast	305,019.0	312,630.0	7,611.0	2.5%
FY 2029-30 Forecast	312,334.0	319,424.0	7,090.0	2.3%

Florida College System FTE Enrollment Forecast Summary - Upper Division

	August 9, 2024	March 7, 2024	Difference	% Difference
FY 2017-18	16,551.7	16,551.7		
FY 2018-19	17,601.4	17,601.4		
FY 2019-20	18,458.0	18,458.0		
FY 2020-21	19,533.6	19,533.6		
FY 2021-22	18,257.5	18,257.5		
FY 2022-23	17,241.2	17,241.2		
FY 2023-24	17,539.0	17,539.0		
FY 2024-25 Forecast vs FTE-2A	17,984.0	18,677.0	693.0	3.9%
FY 2025-26 Forecast	18,485.0	19,518.0	1,033.0	5.6%
FY 2026-27 Forecast	18,992.0	20,081.0	1,089.0	5.7%
FY 2027-28 Forecast	19,377.0	20,494.0	1,117.0	5.8%
FY 2028-29 Forecast	19,754.0	20,900.0	1,146.0	5.8%
FY 2029-30 Forecast	20,121.0	21,298.0	1,177.0	5.8%