2021 in Review

• In 2020 & 2021, students, faculty, and staff in the College System of Tennessee faced meaningful changes and new challenges.

• Despite these challenges, community and technical colleges transformed student access and achieved new heights of student success.
Enrollment in Fall 2021
Community college enrollment declined 16% from 2019 to 2021.

74,543 students enrolled in fall 2021

- That’s 5,623 fewer students than fall 2020 and 14,403 fewer students than fall 2019.

Two colleges saw enrollment increases in fall 2021 compared to fall 2020.

- Cleveland grew by 3%
- Dyersburg grew by 4%.

*Based on official end-of-term enrollment data.
Many community colleges saw the most pronounced drops in enrollment among Black students and low-income students.

**Black & African American enrollment**
- Declined 20% from 2019 to 2021.
- That’s 2,800 fewer students.

**Adult enrollment (students ages 25+)**
- Declined 19% from 2019 to 2021.
- That’s 4,600 fewer students.

**First time, full-time low-income enrollment**
- Declined 29% from 2019 to 2021.
- That’s 3,100 fewer students.
Community college enrollment in online and remote courses remained high in fall 2021.

- In 2019, 83% of students took at least one conventional course. In 2021, only 53% of students took at least one conventional course.

- In 2019, 42% of students took at least one online or remote course. In 2021, 66% of students took at least one online or remote course.

*Summing the delivery method categories will result in a headcount over 100%, as many students take classes through multiple delivery methods and are therefore counted multiple times.*
TCAT enrollment increased by 8% from fall 2019 to 2021. FTE enrollment increased by 1%.

23,011 students enrolled in fall 2021.
- That’s 3,212 more students than in fall 2020 and 1,707 more students than in 2019.

Sixteen TCATs saw increases in headcount and FTE enrollment in fall 2021 compared to fall 2020.
- FTE enrollment grew by 34% at TCAT Harriman and TCAT Livingston.

*Unduplicated fall enrollment including preparatory and supplemental students (lineworkers included). FTE based on 300 clock hours in each term. Enrollments by program may count a student more than once if the individual is enrolled in more than one program.
Dual enrollment has increased as a percent of total enrollment.

- In fall 2021, dual enrolled students accounted for 39% of enrollments at TCATs and 21% of enrollments at community colleges.
- At TCATs, dual enrollment increased by 41% from 2018-19 to 2020-21.
- At community colleges, dual enrollment decreased in 2020, but increased by 1% from 2020 to 2021.
Enrollment in Spring 2022
Preliminary
TCAT Enrollment in Spring 2022

- **17,332** TCAT students are registered, 16% more than this time last year.
- **10,553** non-dual enrollment students are registered, 6% more than this time last year.
- **6,779** dual enrollment students are registered, 34% more than this time last year.

*TCAT enrollment is preliminary and reflects registered students as of March 17, 2022.*
Community Colleges in Spring 2022

- 61,628 students are enrolled at community colleges this spring, according to preliminary data.

- Enrollment at community colleges in spring 2022 is 6% lower than in spring 2021.
Community college fall to spring enrollment fell at a slightly lower rate than prior years.

- Community college enrollment is typically lower in spring terms than in fall terms. But the decline from fall to spring was less significant in 2022 than in 2021.

- In spring 2021, enrollment fell from the prior fall by 18%. That’s 14,272 students.

- In spring 2022, enrollment fell from the prior fall by 17%. That’s 12,915 students.

*Preliminary spring 2022 enrollment is based on census (14th day) enrollment data. Prior years are reported with official end-of-term data. Historically, the end-of-term headcount is 1%-2% higher than census. Census may not reflect enrollments in courses that begin after the 14th day.
Student Success in 2022
In fall 2021, students earned 6,596 degrees, diplomas, and certificates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Community Colleges</th>
<th>TCATs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3,606</td>
<td>2,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>4,183</td>
<td>2,036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>3,788</td>
<td>2,209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>4,746</td>
<td>2,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>4,374</td>
<td>2,174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>4,712</td>
<td>2,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>4,801</td>
<td>2,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>4,595</td>
<td>2,001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community college course success rates held steady in fall 2021.

*Success also includes a passing grade in pass/fail courses. Data includes all courses at all community colleges for the past three fall terms.
Fall-to-spring retention rates rose in 2022. Of the students who began in fall 2021, 74% returned in spring 2022.

Fall-to-spring retention rates measure how many students from the fall freshman class returned in the spring.

Fall-to-spring retention increased this year, from 70% in 2020-21 to 74% in 2021-22.

These increases were seen across student subgroups:
- Among Black male students, fall-to-spring retention rose from 59% to 64%.
- Among Pell recipients, fall-to-spring retention rose from 70% to 73%.

*Retention rates reflect the number of students in the first-time, full-time freshmen cohort who initially enrolled in the fall and returned the next spring or earned a certificate or degree anytime during the first term of enrollment. Data for the 2021 cohort is preliminary and based on census (14th day) enrollment data for spring 2022.*
Twenty percent of students from the 2019 cohort have already graduated after 2.5 years—matching last year’s record.

- 20% of community college students from the 2019 cohort have graduated within 2.5 years.

- Due to increases in cohort sizes and graduation rates, **3,765 students** from the 2019 cohort graduated within 2.5 years of their first enrollment, compared to only 1,213 students from the 2009 cohort.
Graduation rates have continued to increase for each cohort of first-time students at community colleges.

*The cumulative graduation rate reflects the cumulative number of students in a first-time, full-time freshman cohort who earned a technical certificate or degree from any TBR community in each semester, beginning with the student’s first semester of enrollment as a first-time, full-time freshman.
TCAT placement and licensure pass rates remained high in 2021.

- At TCATs, 75.6% of students completed their program of study. This represents 3.0% decline from 2020 to 2021.
- Placement rates were 85.8% in 2021, compared to 84.7% in 2020.
- Licensure pass rates were 94.5% in 2021, compared to 95.3% in 2020.
Key Takeaways

1. TCAT enrollment has increased, especially among dual enrolled high school students.

2. Community colleges continue to experience enrollment declines, but success rates remain high.

3. Community college retention rates have bounced back after declines in 2021. Graduation rates are on track to match last year’s record high rate.