Degrees and Certificates by Age Group
El Camino College and Compton Community Educational Center
Award Year 2008-09

A recent report highlighted a four-year trend in degrees and certificates awarded at El Camino College (ECC) and Compton Center (CEC)—see El Camino College, Degrees and Certificates, Recent Trends. This research brief examines degree and certificate awards from that report by age of recipient to determine if patterns exist.

**El Camino College**
Students 24 and under represented about 62% of the student body over the past 4 years and about 63% of all degrees received. Not surprisingly, more degrees are received by students aged 20-24 than younger students. Still, it is worth noting that nearly a quarter of Associate degrees were received by students 19 and under. These “fast track” students could be studied to determine what factors contributed to their success.

The younger age groups represent less than half of all certificates awarded, with working adults, especially those aged 25 to 49, earning well over half of all certificates but representing only a third of the student body.

**Compton Center**
Compton Center has a somewhat older student body, with over 50% of students aged 25 and older. In addition, older students at Compton are more likely than younger students to earn both degrees and certificates. Adults aged 25-49 earned 62% of degrees and 57% of all certificates over the past 3 years.

As younger students work through the still-new ECC programs, the percentage earning degrees should increase. Awards by age will be monitored in future years.