



State Council of
Higher Education for Virginia

Enrollment Projections and Degree Estimates 2008-09 through 2015-16

July 14, 2009



One of SCHEV's Duties

- § [23-9.6:1](#). Duties of Council generally.
 - 4. Review and approve or disapprove all enrollment projections proposed by each public institution of higher education. The Council's projections shall be in **numerical terms by level of enrollment and shall be used for budgetary and fiscal planning purposes only**. The Council **shall develop estimates of the number of degrees to be awarded by each institution** and include those estimates in its reports of enrollment projections. **The student admissions policies for the institutions and their specific programs shall remain the sole responsibility of the individual boards of visitors**; however, all four-year institutions shall adopt dual admissions policies with the community colleges, as required by § [23-9.2:3.02](#).



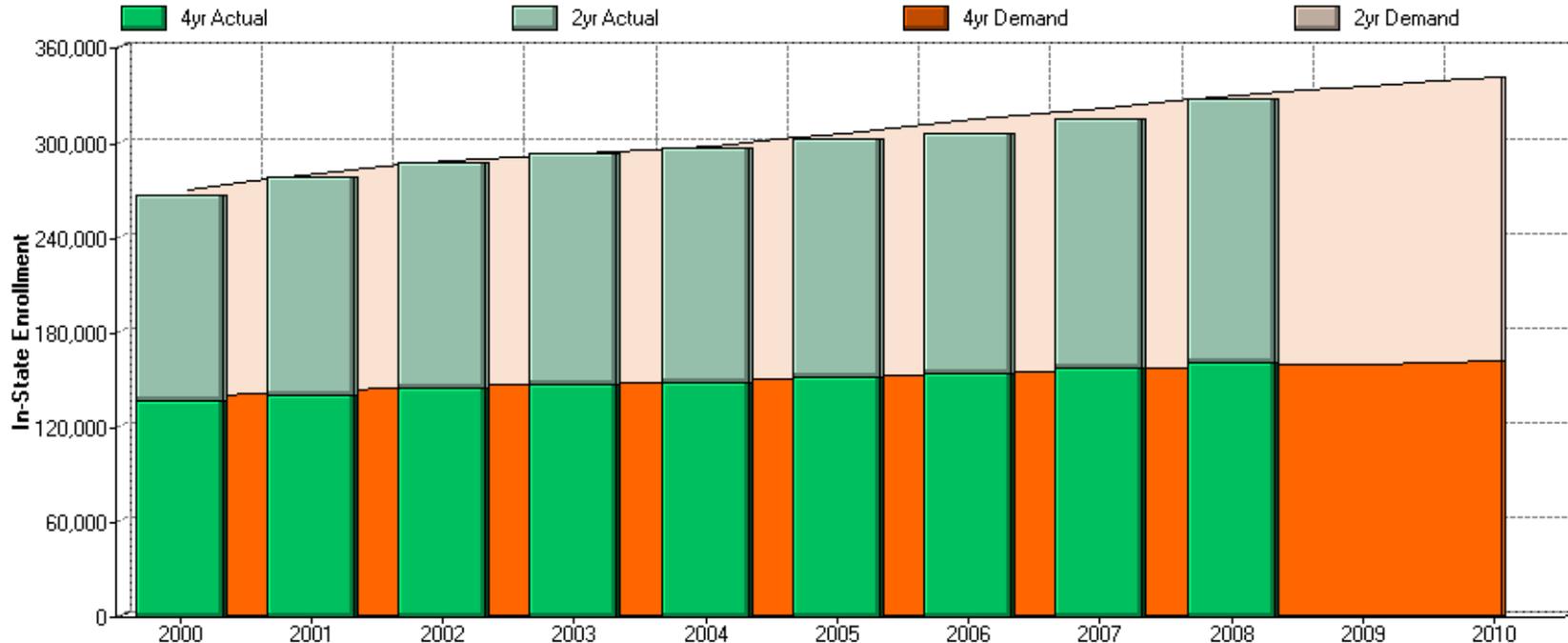
Process Overview

- Institutions develop and submit enrollment targets through 2016
- SCHEV staff and representatives from the SOE, DPB, Senate Finance and House Appropriations met with each institution to discuss their enrollment targets, degree estimates, and underlying assumptions – including institutional plans
- In a small number of cases, institutions were encouraged to revise their targets downward slightly as they appeared unattainable in the context of the IPS standards



Recent Enrollment Trends

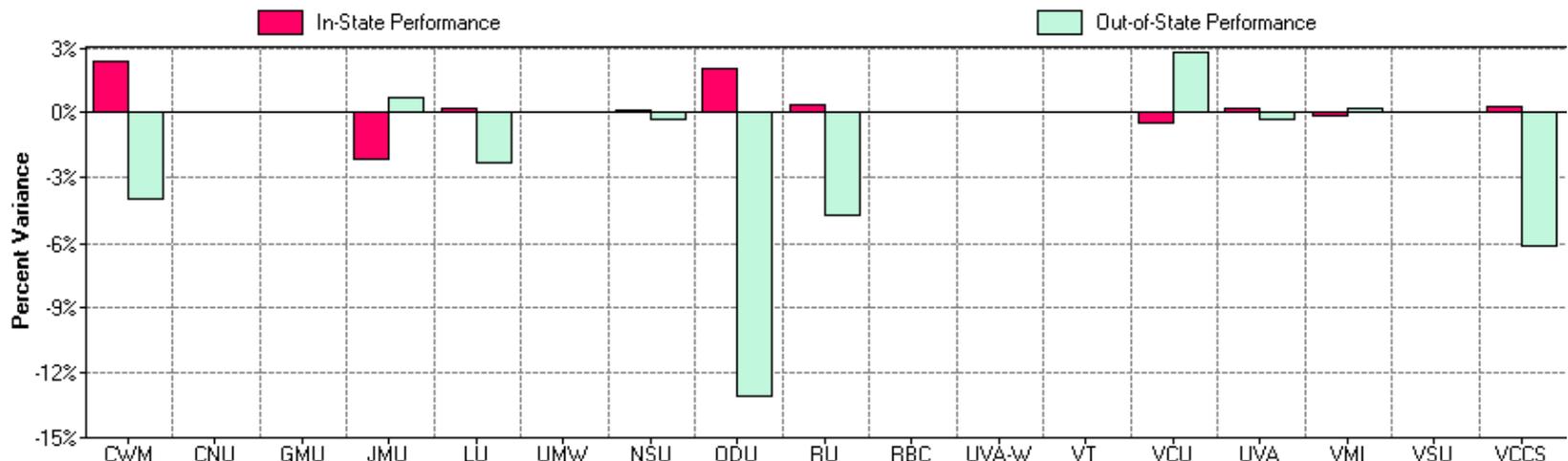
- Actual enrollments have lagged slightly behind the demand projected in 2005 in 2006 and 2007.
- All of this gap can be explained in two-year enrollments being lower than projected demand





How did we do in 2008?

- Overall projections were accurate – enrollment was 100.5% of 2007 targets and 100.9% of demand
- ODU, VCCS, and W&M did miss non-resident targets significantly
- In-state students benefitted, however, as they replaced the nonresident students in the actual enrollments





Benchmarks

- In 2002, SCHEV projected an overall increase of 61,000 students enrolled between 2000 and 2010 – institutions have increased by 60,511 in-state students alone since 2000
- Institutional targets add another 10,684 by 2010 in these projections
- In 2003, Gov Warner advocated an increase of 10,000 degree awards by the end of the decade
- Institutions are on track to increase degree awards by 12,809 (from 50,558 in 2001-02 to 63,367 in 2009-10)



Summary of the Targets

Fall 2008 to Fall 2015

- Four-year increases:
 - 206,592 to 217,565 (5.3%) all students
 - Growth is primarily in graduate programs

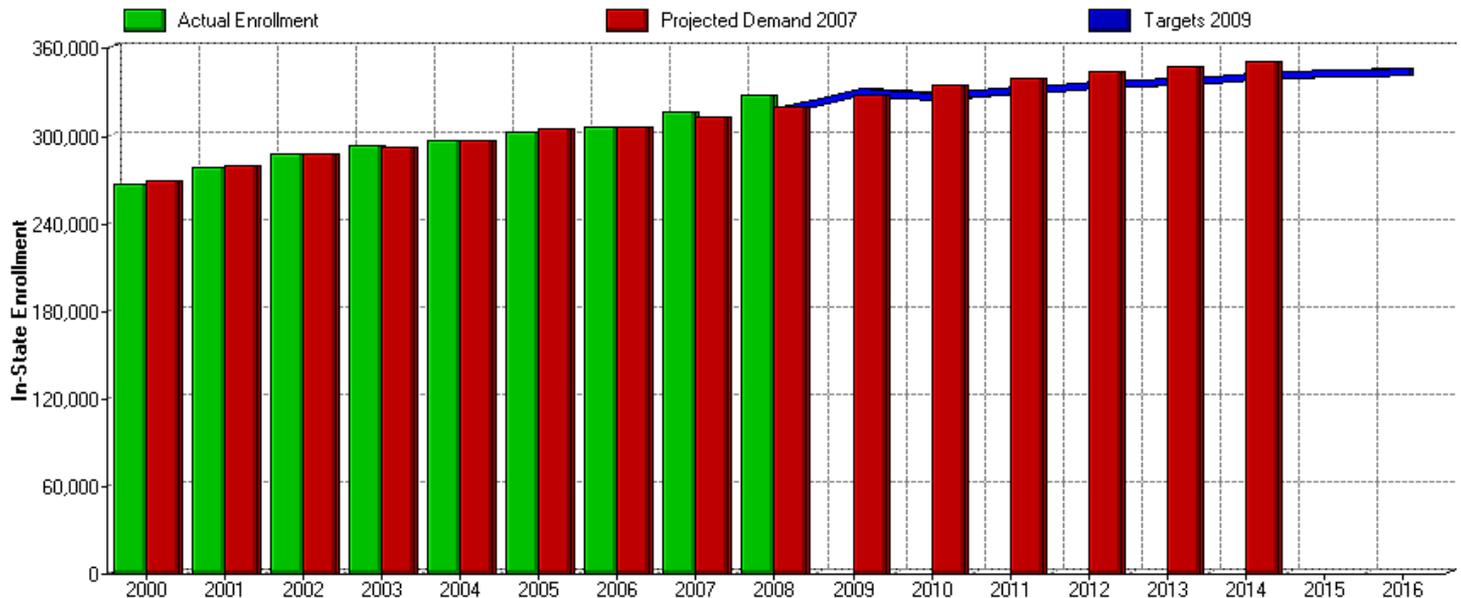
- VCCS & RBC
 - 177,121 to 184,006 (3.9%) all students

	2008-09		2015-16	
	Actual/Estimated		Projected	
	HC	FTE	HC	FTE
Subtotal	206,592	187,582	217,565	196,395
RBC	1,634	1,452	1,634	1,452
VCCS	175,487	102,683	182,372	110,438
Total	383,713	291,717	401,571	308,285



Targets and Demand Projections

- Beginning in Fall 2010, we have a projected shortfall in supply against the 2007 demand projections.
- This shortfall appears to continue through 2014.



2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
2007 Projected In-State Demand (Fall Headcount, All Students)							
327,882	334,764	340,294	344,780	348,460	351,518		
Institutional Targets 2009 (Fall Headcount, All Students)							
329,746	326,437	330,642	333,825	336,799	340,053	341,949	343,729



Where are the gaps in service?

- Overall four-year in-state undergraduate targets lag behind 2007 demand projections

Four-Year Undergraduate							
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
2007 Projected In-State Demand							
124,665	126,835	128,616	130,097	131,347	132,417		
Institutional Targets 2009							
125,095	126,354	126,646	127,866	128,792	129,461	129,984	130,417

- Two-year in-state undergraduate targets also lag behind 2007 demand projections

Two-year Undergraduate							
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
2007 Projected In-State Demand							
168,672	173,278	176,927	179,839	182,184	184,095		
Institutional Targets 2009							
168,634	163,908	167,718	168,803	170,465	172,189	173,025	173,915



Service Gaps (cont'd)

- The gap between supply and demand for the VCCS is misleading in that the system will enroll essentially all students that apply.
- However, in all cases, the institutions have exercised caution in setting enrollment targets because of the relationship to IPS.
- Further, given the uncertainty of the economy and levels of general fund support, SCHEV staff advised institutions to err on the side of caution.
- More importantly, access does not appear to be compromised as first-time freshmen targets continue to track with traditional high school graduation patterns.



High School Graduates

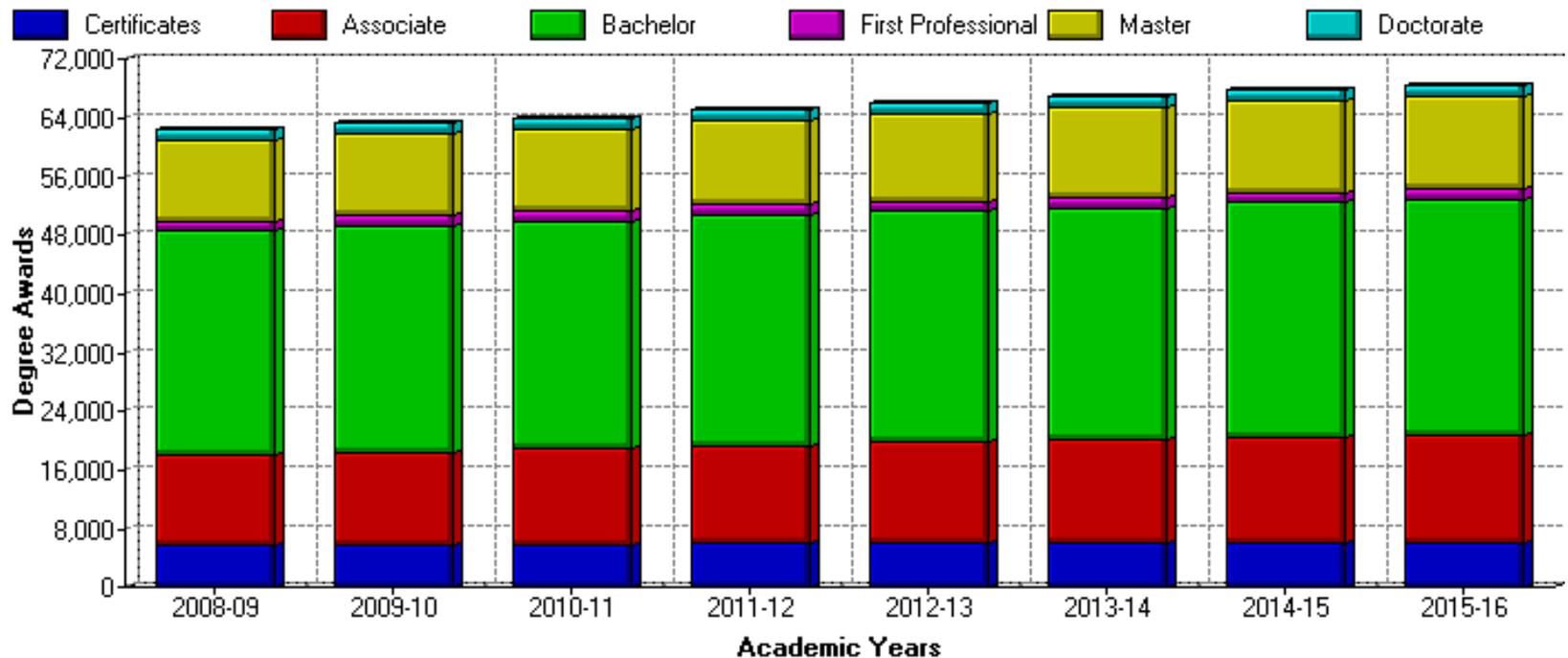
- Institutional targets easily exceed projected demand

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Projected Virginia High School Graduates							
84,069	83,313	82,636	81,583	80,921	80,742	81,131	83,340
Projected VA High School Graduates Attending College In US, within 12 months of graduation							
53,417	52,937	52,506	51,837	51,417	51,303	51,550	52,954
Projected VA HS Grads Enrolling In-State							
41,097	41,097	41,097	41,097	41,097	41,097	41,097	41,097
Projected VA HS Grads Enrolling at a VA Public Four-year							
23,194	22,985	22,799	22,508	22,625	22,276	22,383	22,993
Institutional Targets for First-time Students (VA Residents) - Public Four-years							
24,194	24,249	24,505	24,579	24,609	24,607	24,607	
Projected VA HS Grads Enrolling at VCCS							
14,993	14,844	14,708	14,916	14,795	14,762	14,833	15,237
First-time In-State Enrollment Targets for VCCS							
(Includes non-traditionally-aged students attempting college for the first-time.)							
27,503	27,777	28,195	29,617	29,189	29,774	30,369	
Projected VA HS Grads Enrolling at a VA Private Four-year							
3,922	3,887	3,855	3,806	3,775	3,767	3,785	3,888



Estimates of Degree Awards

- Degree production continues to increase.
- Institutional targets commit to the production of cumulative net increase of over 25,000 degrees (at all levels) by 2015-16.





Other Issues

- Typically enrollment increases in a down economy, however, that has been in times of greater loan availability and lower costs of attendance.
- Some institutions did not make their freshman classes for fall 2009; a number went to waitlists earlier than usual.
- Families may not be truly committed to paying until the very last minute.
- Students may jump between sectors (four-year to two-year, private to public).
- Private institutions may be at greater risk because of perceived differences in cost of attendance and a migration to public institutions.



Issues (cont'd)

- Additional budget reduction plans of 5%, 10%, and 15% have been requested by the administration, beyond those cuts already made.
- Despite the decreases in general fund support, public institutions are still staying true to their mission of enrolling Virginia residents
- Stimulus funds work to keep tuition increases down in the very near term, but those funds will run out by the time these projections are updated.



Conclusions

- Institutions have demonstrated caution in enrollment planning.
- In spite of this caution, it appears that there are no significant gaps in service or access.
- General fund support will remain an issue for the immediate future; the impact of continued budget cuts on enrollment and student success remains unknown.
- Likewise, the current economic downturn may drive changes in student behavior unlike previous recessions.