Data and Characteristics of the Illinois Community College System  *2009*

Section I

FALL STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS

This section includes data on headcount and full‑time equivalent (FTE) student enrollments in Illinois public community colleges.

In fall 2008, the public community colleges of Illinois enroll approximately 63.17 percent of all students enrolled in public colleges and universities in the state of Illinois. The diverse population of the communities that the colleges serve is reflected in the student characteristics shown in this section.

The tables show student enrollments based on opening counts (10th‑day enrollments) for the fall term. Opening enrollment counts are a snapshot count at the end of the regular registration for the fall term and do not include many students who enroll for courses which start later in a term - particularly in adult education.

Table I‑1 lists the fall 2008 student headcount enrollment by sex and type of attendance. Nearly 58 percent of the 347,277 students enrolled in Illinois public community colleges were women. Part‑time students accounted for approximately 63 percent of the enrollments.

Table I‑2 itemizes the fall 2008 student headcount enrollment by instructional program area. As depicted in Figure 1, 47.55 percent of the students were enrolled in baccalaureate/transfer programs, 32.24 percent in occupational and vocational skills programs, 1.24 percent in general studies programs, 6.43 percent in general associate programs, and 12.54 percent in adult basic education/ adult secondary education/English as a Second Language programs.

The data in Table I‑3 show fall 2008 headcount enrollment by age categories and provide the median age of students for each public community college. The median age for fall 2008 students was 23.41 years. This is down .61 years from the fall 2007 median age of 24.02. The fall 2008 mean age was 28.39 years.

Tables I‑4 through I‑7 summarize fall 2008 student headcount enrollment by ethnic origin, academic classification, type of residency, and enrollment status. Table I‑5 shows that approximately 21.9 percent of fall 2007 students were classified as sophomores. Almost 49 percent of the fall 2008 enrollments were classified as freshmen.

Table I‑8 lists by headcount and FTE the proportions of district populations served by Illinois public community colleges in instructional credit curricula. Table I‑9 summarizes fall 2008 headcount enrollment by instructional program area and student level.

Table I‑10 details the trends in community college headcount enrollments from fall 1999 through fall 2008. Table I‑11 lists the trends of FTE enrollments for the same ten‑year period.