NUMBER OF FULL-TIME ENROLLEES BY TYPE OF DEGREE GRANTING INSTITUTION IN THE SOUTHEAST REGION (2000-2010)

Four-year institutions continue to account for most of the full-time enrollment in higher education institutions in the Southeast region, but their share fell over the past decade from 69.6 percent in 2000 to 63.1 percent in 2010 due to stronger enrollment growth at both less-than-two- and two-year institutions. The strongest enrollment increases came in the smallest category, with less-than-two year institutions accounting for 8.3 percent of the region’s population enrolled at post-secondary institutions in 2010, up from only 1.9 percent in 2000. Enrollment at such institutions nearly doubled between 2000 and 2005, followed by slower growth between 2005 and 2007, and another doubling between 2007 and 2010. By comparison, enrollment at two-year and four-year institutions increased at fairly stable rates over the course of the decade, with the exception of a spike in enrollment at two-year institutions in 2009 and 2010.


Note: In the above stacked-area chart, the different areas represent the number of enrollees by institution type. For example, enrollment at less-than-two-year institutions was more than 2,800 in 2010, compared with nearly 21,700 enrolled at four-year institutions that year. All three areas combined represent the total number of enrollees in post-secondary educational institutions in the Southeast region, of which there were more than 34,300 in 2010. The areas are stacked in order of size in 2010, with enrollment at four-year institutions, the largest enrollment group, on the bottom and enrollment at less-than-two-year institutions, the smallest group, at the top.