



Office of Institutional Research & Effectiveness

Fall 2024 Enrollment Highlights and Analysis

This report summarizes the trends in headcount, bill hours, and student demographics.

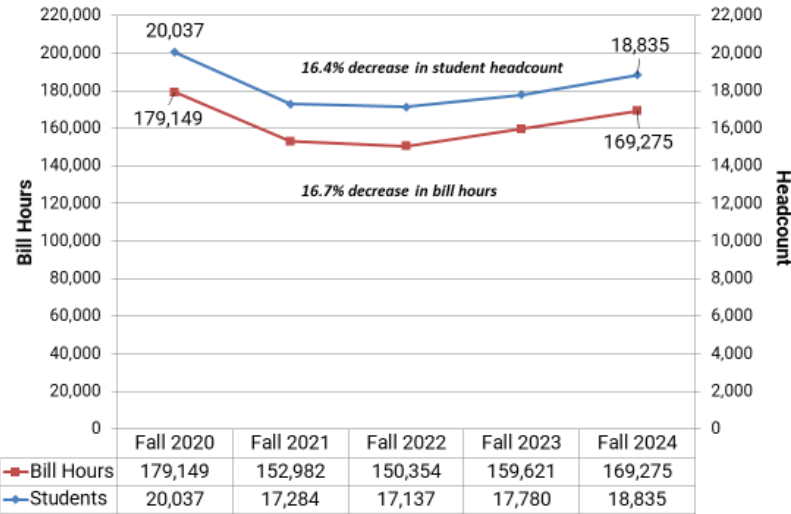


Fall 2024 Official Credit Enrollment Summary

November 2024
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Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness

Montgomery College enrolled 18,835 individual students and generated 169,275 bill hours in fall 2024, representing a 3.8 percent increase in headcount and a 6.2 percent increase in bill hours compared to fall 2023. The increase in enrollment positioned the College to exceed its projections and actualized 104.8 percent of the projection in student headcount and 104.9 percent of projected bill hours. Over the five-year period shown in Figure 1, the College enrolled 16.4 percent fewer students in fall 2024 than in fall 2020 and generated 16.7 percent fewer bill hours. However, the College has had two consecutive years of enrollment growth, with the expectation of continued growth in the future.

Figure 1: Student Headcount and Bill Hours – Fall 2020 to Fall 2024



Part of Term: Compared to other available options, most students enroll in courses offered in the traditional 15-week option (Table 1). However, many students enroll in courses across the three available term options or in a combination of 15-week, 7-week, and/or late-start course offerings. In general, there is a 2:1 ratio in enrollment in the 15-week and late start option. In fall 2024, the number of students who opted to enroll in the traditional 15-week option increased seven percent above the previous year marking the third consecutive enrollment increase, but 8.1 percent short of the enrollment in fall 2020.

Table 1: Headcount by Part of Term				
	15-Week	First 7-Week	Late Start	Unduplicated Headcount
Fall 2020	16,814	1,508	7,474	20,037
Fall 2021	13,298	4,174	5,444	17,284
Fall 2022	13,669	2,969	6,401	17,137
Fall 2023	14,442	2,495	7,358	17,780
Fall 2024	15,455	2,425	8,178	18,835
1-Year % Change	7.0%	-2.8%	11.1%	5.9%
5-Year % Change	-8.1%	60.8%	9.4%	-6.0%

Enrollment in the shorter first 7-week option declined for the third time after the encouraging enrollment figure in fall 2021, due likely to the pandemic. In fall 2024, the number of students who chose to enroll in the 7-week course option during the first half of the fall semester decreased 2.8 percent below the previous fall semester, nearly 42 percent below its peak enrollment in fall 2021, but is 60.8 percent higher than in fall 2020. The late-start option has had three successive enrollment increases with an 11.1 percent increase above the previous year’s figure and a 9.4 percent enrollment growth above fall 2020. It should be noted that official data on the second 7-week part of term option was not available when this report was prepared and is excluded from these analyses.

Table 2: Percentage of Enrollment by Part of Term				
	15-Week	First 7-Week	Late Start	Total Enrollment
Fall 2020	65.2%	5.8%	29.0%	25,796
Fall 2021	58.0%	18.2%	23.8%	22,916
Fall 2022	59.3%	12.9%	27.8%	23,039
Fall 2023	59.4%	10.3%	30.3%	24,295
Fall 2024	59.3%	9.3%	31.4%	26,061
1-Year % Point Change	-0.1%	-1.0%	1.1%	
5-Year % Point Change	-5.9%	3.5%	2.4%	

The traditional 15-week option has consistently remained the highest course enrollment option across the five years shown in Table 2. Approximately 59 percent of students have consistently enrolled in the traditional 15-week option since fall 2022. The number of students opting to enroll in classes offered in the first 7-week options declined in each of the last three fall semesters (from 18.2 percent in fall 2021 to 9.3 percent in fall 2024). Conversely, as the percentage of students enrolled in the first 7-week option declines, an increasing percentage of students enrolled in late-start classes (from 23.8 percent in fall 2021 to 31.4 percent in fall 2024). In the first half of the fall semester increased three straight years: 1.1 percentage points above fall 2023 and 2.4 percentage points above fall 2020.

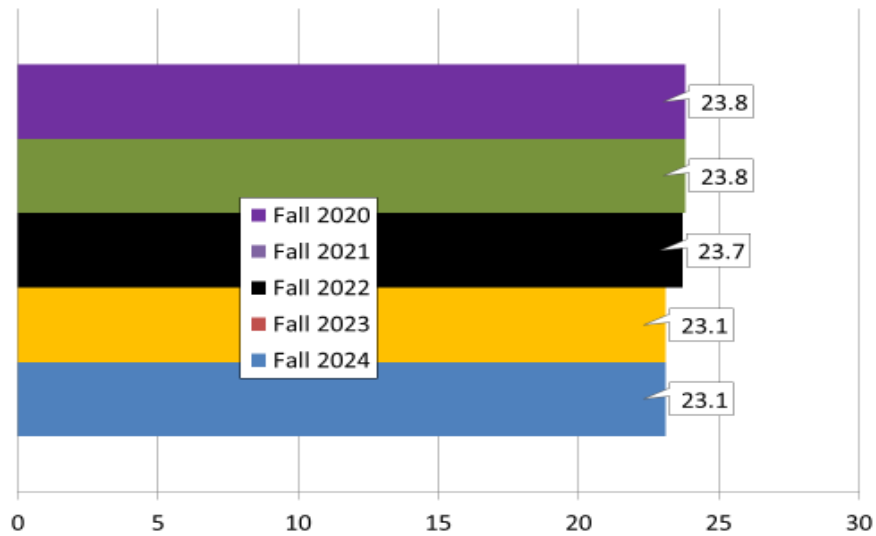
Student Demographics

FTEIC: The number of First-time ever-in-college (FTEIC) students increased by 4.3 percent above the number of FTEIC students who entered the College in fall 2023 and represents the third increase in this five-year trend. Currently, FTEIC students represent nearly 20 percent of the student body (Table 3). Even though their proportion dropped slightly, the actual number of FTEIC students increased by 152 students.

Table 3: Enrollment of First-time Ever in College Students					
	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024
# of FTEIC Students	3,588	2,958	3,260	3,566	3,718
% of Enrollment	17.9%	17.1%	19.0%	20.1%	19.7%

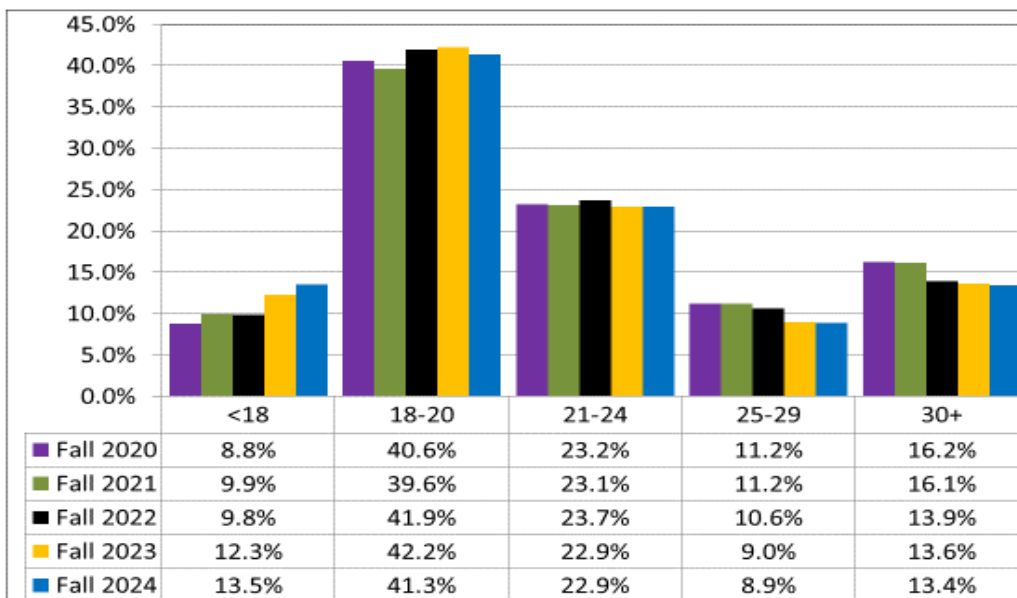
AGE: The average age of Montgomery College students in fall 2024 is 23.1, which is unchanged from fall 2023 (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Average Age of Students – Fall 2020 to Fall 2024



The proportion of enrollment of students under the age of 18 increased from 8.8 percent of enrollment in fall 2020 to 13.5 percent of enrollment in fall 2024 (Figure 3). This increase in students in this age group can be attributed to dual enrollment and other partnership programs the College has with Montgomery County Public Schools. Traditional age students, age 18 to 20, consistently account for the single largest proportion of enrollment at the College, currently at 41.3 percent, which is almost a one point below their peak enrollment of 42.2 percent in fall 2023. The proportion of students in all other age categories is relatively unchanged from the previous fall semester.

Figure 3: Percentage of Enrollment by Age Groups: Fall 2020 to Fall 2024



Enrollment Status: Full-time student enrollment has been consistently above one-third of the student body, but increased in fall 2024 to its largest proportion of 34.8 percent as shown in this five-year trend. An increase in this metric is encouraging because full-time enrollment is one of the best completion indicators.

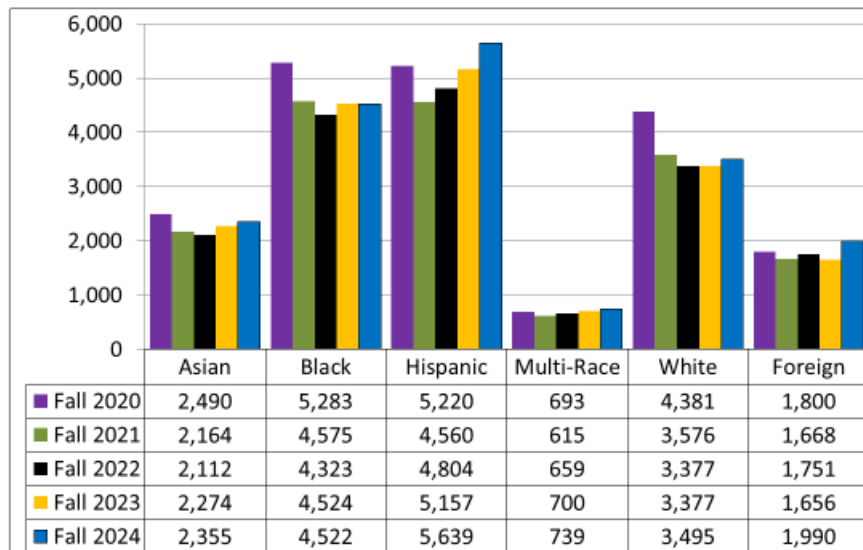
Table 4: Percentage of Enrollment by Enrollment Status					
	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024
Full-time	34.4%	33.6%	32.8%	34.4%	34.8%
Part-time	65.6%	66.4%	67.2%	65.6%	65.2%

Gender: More than half of the students at the College are female, and they increased nearly two points in fall 2024 compared to the previous year, which means that the percentage of male students dropped nearly two percentage points.

Table 5: Percentage of Enrollment by Gender					
	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024
Female	55.4%	53.5%	53.5%	53.4%	55.3%
Male	43.8%	45.8%	46.0%	46.3%	44.5%

Race/Ethnicity: The increase in fall 2024 enrollment is noted across all race/ethnic groups except for Black students, whose numbers remained relatively unchanged (-2 students) from the previous fall semester. The most notable increases in fall 2024 were Hispanic (482 or 9.3 percent), foreign (334 or 20.2 percent), and white (118 or 3.5 percent) students. For the first two years in the chart, Black students were the single largest student group. Hispanic students have been the single largest student block at the College for three years.

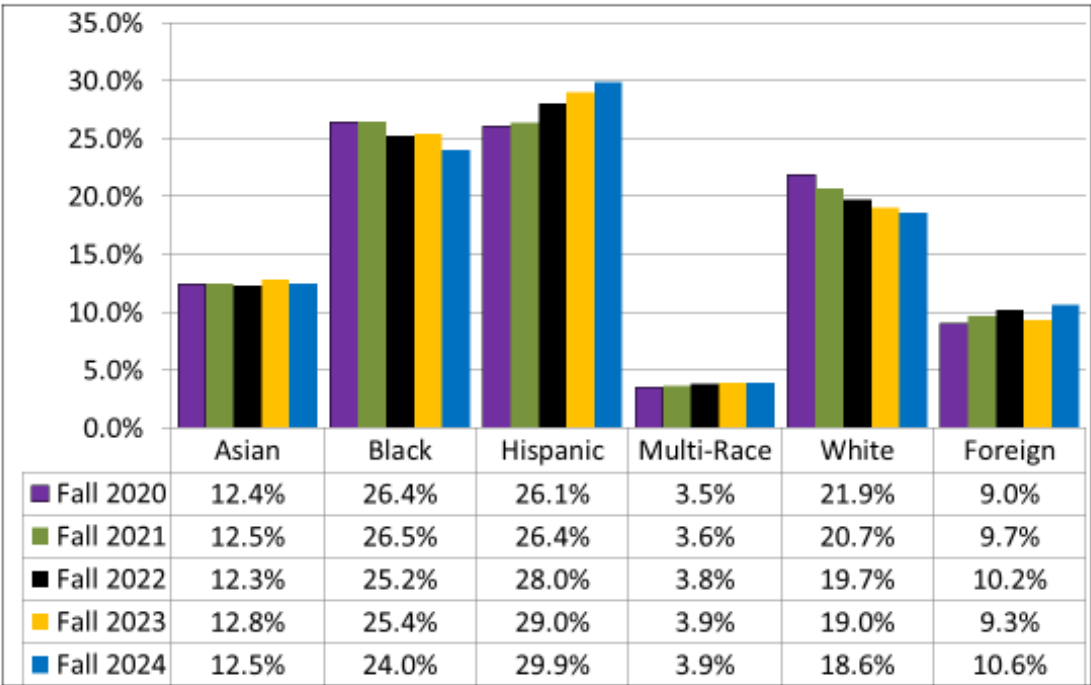
Figure 5: Fall 2020 to Fall 2024 – Number of Students by Race/Ethnicity*



*% of students for largest race/ethnic groups. Does not include Native American/Alaskan Native, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, or Unknown

Three observations of note in Figure 6: (1) For the third year, Hispanic students account for the largest single percentage of students at Montgomery College. (2) The percentage of white students declined each consecutive fall semester and is two percentage points below fall 2020, even though the actual raw number has increased. (3) The percentage of Black students dropped less than a percentage point, while the number of Black students remained virtually unchanged.

Figure 6: Fall 2020 to Fall 2024 – Percentage of Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity*



*% of students for largest race/ethnic groups. Does not include Native American/Alaskan Native, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, or Unknown

See appendices for additional data on Race/Ethnicity

Key Takeaways:

- Montgomery College experienced a welcomed increase in students and bill hours in fall 2024, which is quite encouraging considering the substantial decrease in student enrollment and bill hours that occurred during the height of the pandemic. The increase in enrollment over the past several years is encouraging, with anticipated enrollment growth in the future.
- The race/ethnic demographic has been shifting for several years. While several race/ethnic student groups show increases in enrollment, Hispanic students currently constitute the single largest student block at the College. This student demographic shift is likely a reflection of the changing demographics in the county.
- There is an increasing number of students attending college for the first time.

Appendix 1: Five-Year Trend -- Fall 2021- Fall 2024 Number of Students: Race by Gender

						% Change	
	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024	F23-F24	F20-F24
Am. Indian / AK	48	40	33	28	32	14.3%	-33.3%
F	21	16	17	12	18	50.0%	-14.3%
M	27	24	16	16	14	-12.5%	-48.1%
Asian	2,490	2,164	2,112	2,274	2,355	3.6%	-5.4%
F	1,295	1,089	1,039	1,151	1,198	4.1%	-7.5%
M	1,175	1,061	1,065	1,118	1,154	3.2%	-1.8%
N	20	17	8	5	3	-40.0%	-85.0%
Black / African Am.	5,283	4,575	4,323	4,524	4,522	0.0%	-14.4%
F	3,086	2,598	2,358	2,456	2,575	4.8%	-16.6%
M	2,143	1,933	1,934	2,051	1,934	-5.7%	-9.8%
N	54	44	31	17	13	-23.5%	-75.9%
Foreign	1,800	1,668	1,751	1,656	1,990	20.2%	10.6%
F	1,018	962	985	937	1,182	26.1%	16.1%
M	769	701	759	714	805	12.7%	4.7%
N	13	5	7	5	3	-40.0%	-76.9%
Hawaiian / Pac. Isl.	42	29	30	21	23	9.5%	-45.2%
F	19	10	13	12	12	0.0%	-36.8%
M	23	19	17	9	11	22.2%	-52.2%
Hispanic	5,220	4,560	4,804	5,157	5,639	9.3%	8.0%
F	3,047	2,640	2,717	2,945	3,326	12.9%	9.2%
M	2,136	1,890	2,063	2,194	2,301	4.9%	7.7%
N	37	30	24	18	12	-33.3%	-67.6%
Multi-Race	693	615	659	700	739	5.6%	6.6%
F	373	348	360	363	384	5.8%	2.9%
M	318	265	299	336	355	5.7%	11.6%
N	2	2		1		-100.0%	-100.0%
White	4,381	3,576	3,377	3,377	3,495	3.5%	-20.2%
F	2,196	1,749	1,642	1,588	1,690	6.4%	-23.0%
M	2,152	1,797	1,720	1,782	1,797	0.8%	-16.5%
N	33	30	15	7	8	14.3%	-75.8%
Unknown	80	57	48	43	40	-7.0%	-50.0%
F	44	35	31	24	22	-8.3%	-50.0%
M	33	20	15	19	18	-5.3%	-45.5%
N	3	2	2				-100.0%
Total	20,037	17,284	17,137	17,780	18,835	5.9%	-6.0%

*N = Unknown

Hispanic and Black females are the largest student groups at the College. Together, they represent 31.3 percent of enrollment in fall 2024.

Appendix 2: Five-Year Trend -- Fall 2020 to Fall 2024 Program/Majors* with 100 or More Students

Program / Major						# Change	
	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024	F23-F24	F20-F24
General Studies Transfer	6,186	5,006	4,357	4,245	4,272	27	-1914
Credit - Undeclared/Undecided	2,210	1,825	2,028	1,963	2,430	467	220
Business	2,158	1,940	1,957	2,043	2,160	117	2
Computer Science & Technologies	1,304	1,226	1,449	1,641	1,611	-30	307
Science	1,286	1,041	1,035	1,049	1,096	47	-190
Engineering Science	938	835	791	860	954	94	16
Cybersecurity	545	530	555	681	709	28	164
Nursing	467	403	396	384	430	46	-37
Criminal Justice	325	347	384	431	415	-16	90
Arts & Sciences Transfer	699	555	580	418	356	-62	-343
Architectural/Construction Technology	285	251	296	297	308	11	23
Behavioral Health		17	106	170	235	65	235
Communication Studies	237	177	188	202	216	14	-21
Art				160	191	31	191
Elementary Ed./Elementary Special Ed.	237	222	186	190	173	-17	-64
Early Childhood Ed./Special Education	272	217	171	173	172	-1	-100
Cloud Computing and Network Tech		194	194	126	156	30	156
Automotive Tech	97	99	115	128	154	26	57
Public Health Sciences	139	130	127	124	138	14	-1
Data Science				65	126	61	126
Early Childhood Education	171	142	151	137	126	-11	-45
Biotechnology	100	109	106	116	118	2	18
Graphic Design	238	221	127	154	118	-36	-120
Computer Gaming and Simulation	141	127	123	137	116	-21	-25
Accounting	112	87	80	94	115	21	3
Building Trade Tech	67	69	77	83	112	29	45
Studio Art	86	79	105	104	111	7	25
Transfer Studies Certificate	48	42	64	69	108	39	60
Total	20,037	17,284	17,137	17,780	18,835	1,055	-1,202
% of total enrollment in combined top three programs/majors	52.7%	50.7%	48.7%	46.4%	47.1%		

Three programs (General Studies, Undecided, and Business) account for the majority of student enrollment.

*MHEC designated program/majors (e.g., all MC arts and science programs are rolled into "Arts & Science Transfer").

Rank based on Fall 2024