

# Rock Valley College

## Data Brief: Student Profile - Arts, Sciences, and Career Education *Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole – March 11, 2026*

### Contents

Background .....	2
Quick Facts – Multiyear Comparisons of Key Demographics.....	3
Overall Students .....	4
Table 1: Student Age .....	4
Table 2: Student Gender .....	4
Table 3: Highest Level of Education .....	4
Table 4: Student Race and Ethnicity.....	5
Table 5: Residency Status .....	5
Table 6: Primary Curriculum.....	5
Table 7: Overall Enrollment by Student Level Classification.....	6
Table 8: Enrollment Status (Spring 2021 – Spring 2025) .....	6
New Students.....	7
Table 9: New Student Age .....	7
Table 10: New Student Gender.....	7
Table 11: New Student Highest Level of Education .....	7
Table 12: New Student Race and Ethnicity .....	8
Table 13: New Student Residency Status.....	8
Table 14: New Student Primary Curriculum .....	8
First-time College-level Students.....	8
Table 15: First-time Student Age .....	9
Table 16: First-time Student Gender .....	9
Table 17: First-time Student Highest Level of Education .....	9
Table 18: First-time Student Race and Ethnicity.....	9
Table 19: First-time Student Residency Status .....	10
Table 20: First-time Student Primary Curriculum.....	10
Group Comparisons .....	10
Table 21: Group Comparison - Age.....	10
Table 22: Group Comparison - Gender .....	10
Table 23: Group Comparison - Race/Ethnicity .....	11
Table 24: Group Comparison - Highest Level of Education .....	11
Table 25: Group Comparison - Residency Status.....	11
Table 26: Group Comparison - Primary Curriculum .....	11

## **Background**

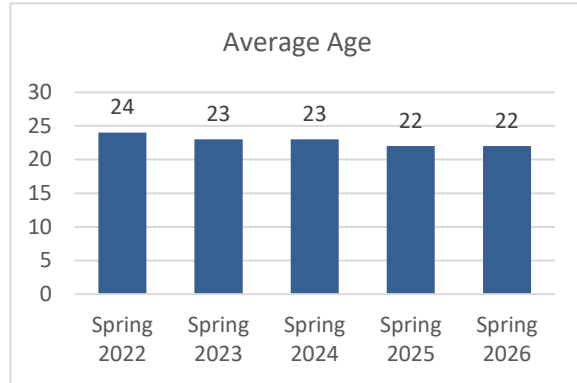
This report provides information describing students enrolled in Arts, Sciences, and Career Education (ASCE) credit courses at Rock Valley College (RVC) in the Spring 2026 term. The report is divided into five sections – a Quick Facts page, overall student profile, new student profile, first-time student profile, and group comparisons. The Quick Facts page provides a visual brief of multiyear comparison and term data. The additional sections are designed to provide detailed demographic information for full-time and part-time students.

Data to produce this Student Profile report are captured with compliance submissions made to the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), specifically, A1 (Annual Enrollment) and 14th Day Census Enrollment for Spring. Student profile data pull ASCE credit students from these more general submissions and are used to develop this student profile report.

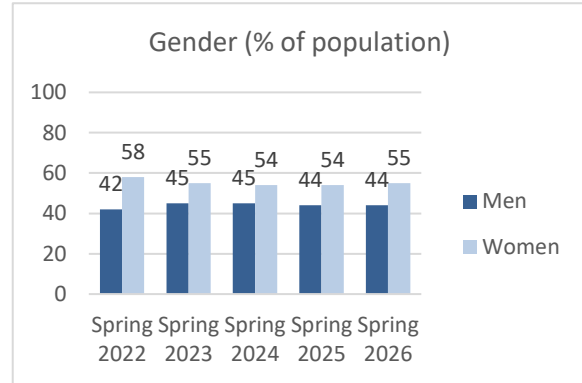
## Quick Facts – Multiyear Comparisons of Key Demographics

The unduplicated headcount for Spring 2026 is 6,345 students.

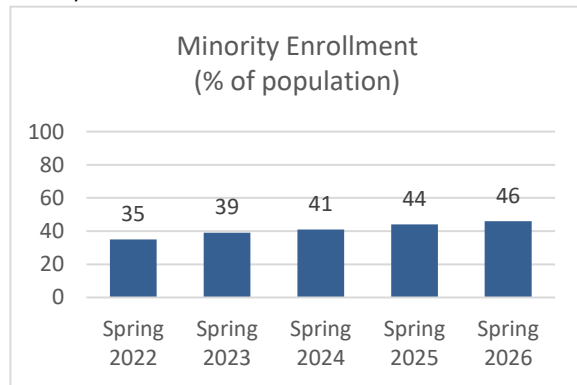
The average student age stayed the same at 22 years.



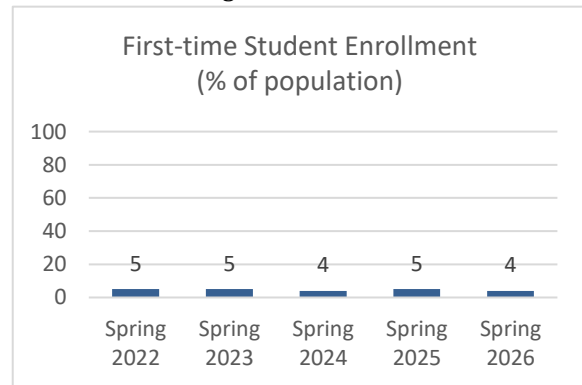
Most students identify as women, and the percentage has increased.



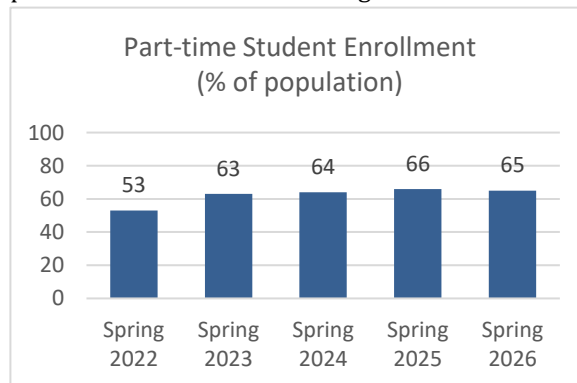
The percentage of students identifying as racial/ethnic minorities has increased.



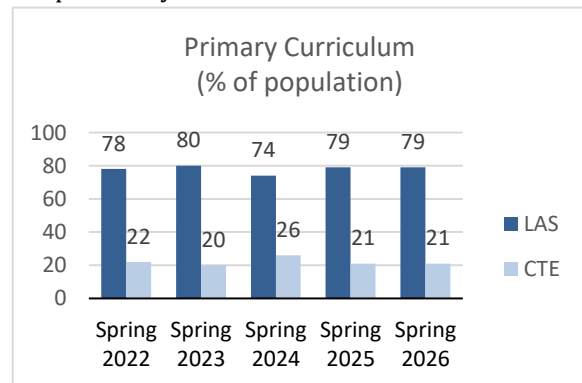
Only 4% of students are considered first-time students new to higher education.



Most students are enrolled part time (enrolled in less than 12 credit hours), and the percentage of part-time students is increasing.



Most students have a primary curriculum in Liberal Arts & Sciences, the percentage has no increase from the previous year.



## Overall Students

Tables 1 through 6 summarize the age, gender, highest degree earned, race and ethnicity, residency status, and primary curriculum of all students enrolled in Arts, Sciences, and Career Education courses as of the Spring 2026 enrollment census. Table cells with less than 30 students are marked with asterisks to preserve anonymity.

Data from Quick Facts and tables within this section indicate that most students enrolled in Spring 2026 are traditional age (78.3%), women (54.9%), White (50.8%), in-district (95.1%), continuing (56.4%), enrolled part time (65.5%), enrolled in a Liberal Arts and Sciences (i.e., transfer) curriculum (79.0%), and have a high school diploma or GED as their highest degree earned (55.4%).

*Table 1: Student Age*

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
Traditional (24 and under)	1,863	3,108	4,971	78.3%
Non-traditional (25 and over)	328	1,046	1,374	21.7%

*Table 2: Student Gender*

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
Men	1,007	1,758	2,765	43.6%
Women	1,157	2,324	3,481	54.9%
Another Gender	*	*	*	0.1%
Unknown	*	66	91	1.4%

*Table 3: Highest Level of Education*

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
College: bachelor's degree or more	*	*	*	0.3%
College: less than bachelor's degree	*	109	131	2.1%
High school diploma or GED	1,428	2,087	3,515	55.4%
None	735	1,934	2,669	42.1%
Other	*	*	*	0.2%

Table 4: Student Race and Ethnicity

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
Asian	81	141	222	3.5%
American Indian or Alaska Native	*	*	*	0.2%
Black or African American	155	448	603	9.5%
Hispanic or Latino	568	1,201	1,769	27.9%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	*	*	*	0.1%
White	1,200	2,022	3,222	50.8%
Two or more races	90	203	293	4.6%
Non-resident Alien	*	*	*	0.4%
Unknown or choose to not respond	68	124	192	3.0%

Table 5: Residency Status

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
In-district	2,050	3,983	6,033	95.1%
Out-of-district or out-of-state	71	162	233	3.7%
Reciprocal agreements and chargebacks	70	*	79	1.2%

Table 6: Primary Curriculum

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
Arts & Sciences (Transfer)	1,706	3,283	4,989	79.0%
Career Education	478	848	1,326	21.0%

Table 7 provides information about student class level. Most students are classified as freshmen (37.8% have completed fewer than 30 semester hours) or sophomores (32.1% have completed 30 or more semester hours). An additional 29.0% of students are enrolled in high school, taking RVC courses as dual credit or dual enrollment.

Table 7: Overall Enrollment by Student Level Classification

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
High School	270	1,568	1,838	29.0%
Freshmen	1,035	1,361	2,396	37.8%
Sophomores	875	1,162	2,037	32.1%
Unclassified	*	63	74	1.2%
TOTAL	2,191	4,154	6,345	100%

Table 8 provides information about enrollment status for Spring 2026 and the previous four spring semesters. Most students currently enrolled are continuing students (56.4%), meaning they were previously enrolled in Fall 2025. About a quarter (29.0%) of students are also enrolled in high school, 6.2% are new (first-time, transfer, or pre-college), and 7.6% are returning, meaning they have attended RVC before but not during the most recent term.

Table 8: Enrollment Status (Spring 2021 – Spring 2026)

	Spring 2022	Spring 2023	Spring 2024	Spring 2025	Spring 2026
First time students in college-level work	221	264	251	307	257
<i>First time students in college-level work as a percent of total</i>	5.5%	4.9%	4.5%	4.9%	4.1%
New transfer students	50	110	109	109	120
<i>New transfer students as a percent of total</i>	1.2%	2.0%	1.9%	1.7%	1.9%
New pre-college students	*	*	*	*	*
<i>New pre-college students as a percent of total</i>	0.1%	0.5%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%
Continuing	2,868	3,167	3,271	3,416	3,577
<i>Continuing students as a percent of total</i>	70.3%	58.7%	58.1%	54.5%	56.4%
Returning	441	472	487	480	485
<i>Returning students as a percent of total</i>	10.9%	8.7%	8.7%	7.7%	7.6%
High school students	351	1,249	1,412	1,880	1,838
<i>High school students as a percent of total</i>	8.7%	23.1%	25.1%	30.0%	29.0%
Students with degree beyond associates	120	107	87	68	55
<i>Students with degree beyond associates</i>	3.0%	2.0%	1.5%	1.1%	0.9%
TOTAL	4,055	5,396	5,628	6,269	6,345

## New Students

New students include first-time students, new pre-college students, and transfer students. A first-time student is new to higher education, having never been enrolled in college-level classes before and now enrolled with more than 50 percent of their coursework at the college level. A new pre-college student is also new to higher education but with 50 percent or more of their coursework in adult education or remedial classes. A transfer student is a student entering RVC for the first time having earned credit at another institution of higher education.

Table 8 indicates that 390 (6.1%) of students enrolled for Spring 2025 are new. Tables 9 through 14 indicate that most new students are traditional age (70.3%), women (51.5%) and live in the RVC district (86.2%). These students also tend to be enrolled part time (60.5%) and have a high school diploma or GED as their highest level of education (91.5%). Most new students are enrolled in transfer programs (70.3%). The largest racial/ethnic group is White (46.2%), followed by Hispanic (26.9%).

*Table 9: New Student Age*

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
Traditional (24 and under)	113	161	274	70.3%
Non-traditional (25 and over)	41	75	116	29.7%

*Table 10: New Student Gender*

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
Men	86	97	183	46.9%
Women	66	135	201	51.5%
Another Gender	0	*	*	0.5%
Unknown	*	*	*	1.0%

*Table 11: New Student Highest Level of Education*

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
College: bachelor's degree or more	0	0	0	0.0%
College: less than bachelor's degree	0	*	*	0.8%
High school diploma or GED	142	215	357	91.5%
None	*	*	30	7.7%
Other	0	0	0	0.0%

Table 12: New Student Race and Ethnicity

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
Asian	*	*	*	4.4%
American Indian or Alaska Native	*	*	*	0.3%
Black or African American	*	43	60	15.4%
Hispanic or Latino	38	67	105	26.9%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0.0%
White	81	99	180	46.2%
Non-resident Alien	0	0	0	0.0%
Two or more races	*	*	*	4.1%
Unknown or choose to not respond	*	*	*	2.8%

Table 13: New Student Residency Status

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
In-district	127	209	336	86.2%
Out-of-district or out-of-state	*	*	41	10.5%
Reciprocal agreements and chargebacks	*	0	*	3.3%

Table 14: New Student Primary Curriculum

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
Arts & Sciences (Transfer)	103	171	274	70.3%
Career Education	51	65	116	29.7%

### First-time College-level Students

In Spring 2025, 257 students are classified as first-time, which is 4.1% of total enrollment. Tables 15 through 20 indicate that most first-time students are part time (58.4%), traditional age (76.3%), women (50.2%), and live in the RVC district (88.7%). These students also tend to have a high school diploma or GED as their highest level of education (89.5%) and tend to be enrolled in transfer programs (67.3%). The largest racial or ethnic group is White (45.9%) followed by Hispanic (28.4%).

Table 15: First-time Student Age

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
Traditional (24 and under)	86	110	196	76.3%
Non-traditional (25 and over)	*	40	61	23.7%

Table 16: First-time Student Gender

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
Men	57	67	124	48.2%
Women	49	80	129	50.2%
Another Gender	0	*	*	0.4%
Unknown	*	*	*	1.2%

Table 17: First-time Student Highest Level of Education

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
College: bachelor's degree or more	0	0	0	0.0%
College: less than bachelor's degree	0	0	0	0.0%
High school diploma or GED	98	132	230	89.5%
None	*	*	*	10.5%
Other	0	0	0	0.0%

Table 18: First-time Student Race and Ethnicity

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
Asian	*	*	*	3.9%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	*	*	0.4%
Black or African American	*	*	35	13.6%
Hispanic or Latino	*	45	73	28.4%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0.0%
White	58	60	118	45.9%
Non-resident Alien	0	0	0	4.7%
Two or more races	*	*	*	0.0%
Unknown or choose to not respond	*	*	*	3.1%

Table 19: First-time Student Residency Status

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
In-district	90	138	228	88.7%
Out-of-district or out-of-state	*	*	*	8.6%
Reciprocal agreements and chargebacks	*	0	*	2.7%

Table 20: First-time Student Primary Curriculum

	Full-time Students	Part-time Students	Total	Percent
Arts & Sciences (Transfer)	74	99	173	67.3%
Career Education	33	51	84	32.7%

## Group Comparisons

Tables 21 through 26 show demographic characteristics of the overall group of students enrolled as compared to those of new and first-time students.

Table 21: Group Comparison - Age

	Overall	New	First Time
Traditional (24 and under)	78.3%	70.3%	76.3%
Non-traditional (25 and over)	21.7%	29.7%	23.7%
Average Age	22.1	24.1	22.6

Most students in all three groups are traditional age. However, the percentage of traditional age students in the overall group (78.3%) is larger than that of the first-time student group (76.3%) and the new student group (70.3%).

Table 22: Group Comparison - Gender

	Overall	New	First Time
Men	43.6%	46.9%	48.2%
Women	54.9%	51.5%	50.2%
Another Gender	0.1%	0.5%	0.4%
Unknown	1.4%	1.0%	1.2%

Overall, more students are women (54.9%) than men (43.6%). This pattern is also true for new students (51.5% women) and first-time students (50.2% women).

Table 23: Group Comparison - Race/Ethnicity

	Overall	New	First Time
Asian	3.5%	4.4%	3.9%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%
Black or African American	9.5%	15.4%	13.6%
Hispanic or Latino	27.9%	26.9%	28.4%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
White	50.8%	46.2%	45.9%
Two or more races	4.6%	4.1%	4.7%
Non-resident Alien	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Unknown or choose to not respond	3.0%	2.8%	3.1%

Historically minoritized racial and ethnic groups are better represented among first-time students (51.0%) and new students (51.0%) than within the overall student population (45.8%).

Table 24: Group Comparison - Highest Level of Education

	Overall	New	First Time
College: bachelor's degree or more	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
College: less than bachelor's degree	2.1%	0.8%	0.0%
High school diploma or GED	55.4%	91.5%	89.5%
None	42.1%	7.7%	10.5%
Other	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%

Most students in all three groups have a high school diploma or GED as the highest level of education previously completed.

Table 25: Group Comparison - Residency Status

	Overall	New	First Time
In-district	95.1%	86.2%	88.7%
Out-of-district or out-of-state	3.7%	10.5%	8.6%
Reciprocal agreements and chargebacks	1.2%	3.3%	2.7%

Overall, most students have in-district residency (95.1%). New students (86.2%) and first-time students (88.7%) are more likely than the overall student group (3.7%) to live out-of-district.

Table 26: Group Comparison - Primary Curriculum

	Overall	New	First Time
Arts & Sciences (Transfer)	79.0%	70.3%	67.3%
Career Education	21.0%	29.7%	32.7%

Arts and Sciences (i.e., transfer) is the primary curriculum for all three student groups. First-time students (32.7%) and new students (29.7%) are more likely to be enrolled in career education than the overall student population (21.0%).