

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors



Long-Range Plan
2004 - 2009

Higher Education in
North Carolina



NC STATE UNIVERSITY



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL



NORTH CAROLINA
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
GREENSBORO

Appalachian
STATE UNIVERSITY



II. Higher Education in North Carolina

Higher education has long played a vital role in the economic, political, and social life of North Carolina. One of the first actions of the State of North Carolina after it declared independence in 1776 was to adopt a Constitution that directed, in part, that “all useful Learning shall be duly encouraged and promoted in one or more Universities.” [Constitution of North Carolina, Sec. 41 (1776)] The General Assembly of 1789 responded to that mandate by chartering the University of North Carolina and endowing it with the escheats to which the State as sovereign was entitled.

In 1868, the new State Constitution gave more explicit recognition to the University, as did an 1873 constitutional amendment. Throughout that period, the University at Chapel Hill was the only state-supported institution of higher education in North Carolina.

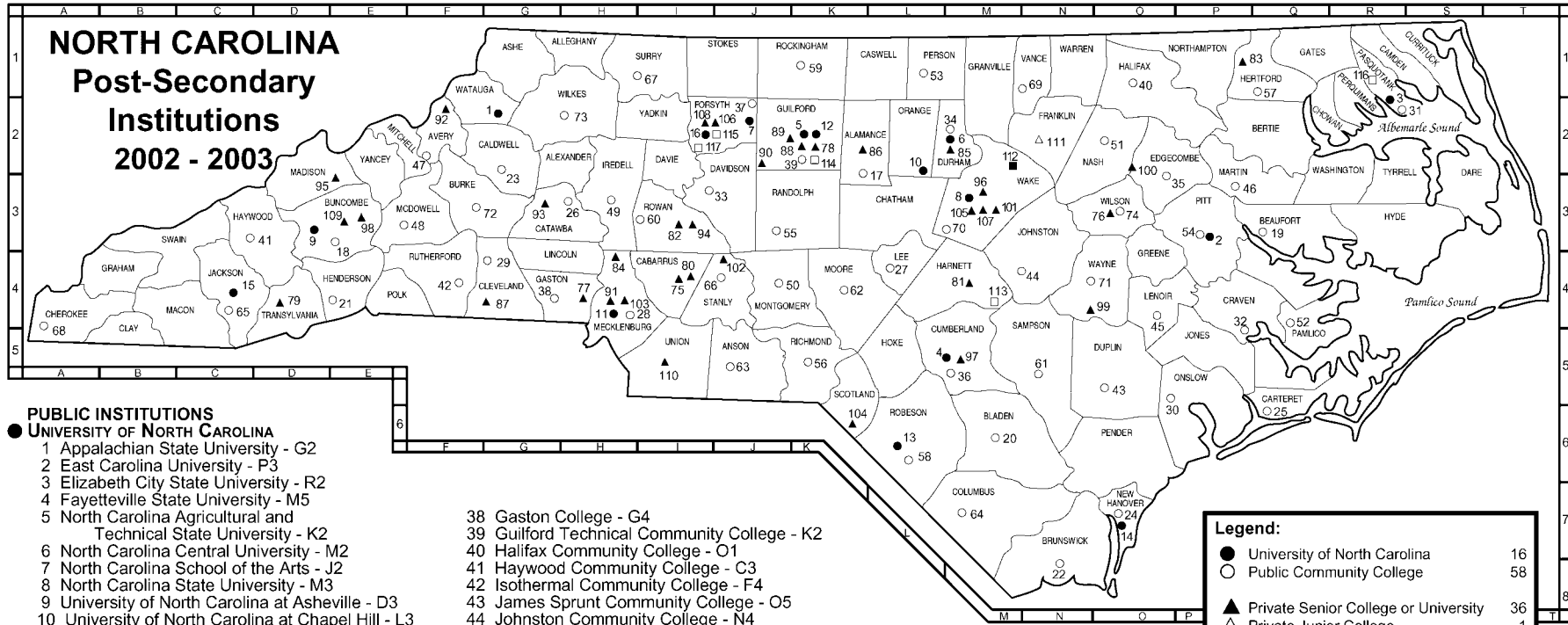
Between 1877 and 1969, the General Assembly created or acquired for the state the other institutions that are today part of the University of North Carolina. Those institutions, identified by their current titles and the dates when they became state institutions, are Fayetteville State University (1877), North Carolina State University at Raleigh (1887), the University of North Carolina at Pembroke (1887), the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (1891), North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (1891), Elizabeth City State University (1891), Western Carolina University (1893), Winston-Salem State University (1897), Appalachian State University (1903), East Carolina University (1907), North Carolina Central University (1923), North Carolina School of the Arts (1963), the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (1963), the University of North Carolina at Asheville (1963), and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington (1963).

The Higher Education Reorganization Act of 1971 “redefined” the University of North Carolina and “redesignated” the constitutional Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina as the “Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina.” Thus, the University of North Carolina is today the same legal entity that was created in 1789, despite changes in the name of its governing board, the number of its campuses, its size and scope, and almost every other particular aspect of the institution.

In 1963, three community colleges and 20 closely related industrial education centers and technical institutes were combined to form the North Carolina Community College System. Between 1964 and 1968, all of the industrial education centers became technical institutes or comprehensive community colleges. Today, the North Carolina Community College System includes 58 community colleges or technical colleges and institutes, plus a Center for Applied Textile Technology. The State Board of Community Colleges governs that system.

Along with the public colleges and universities, a significant private sector of higher education has long contributed much to the life of the state. That sector developed, for the most part, in the century and a half since 1830. There are currently 37 private colleges and universities in North Carolina. One of the 37, Salem College, was founded as an academy in 1772, and Louisburg College evolved from Franklin Academy, which was chartered in 1787 and reopened its doors in 1805, and five of them trace their origins to the decade of the 1830s: Wake Forest University (1834), Davidson College and Guilford College (both in 1837), and Duke University and Greensboro College (both in 1838). Of the remainder, 21 were founded in the 19th century, and nine in the 20th century (five of them since 1950).

Institutions in all three sectors have experienced considerable growth in enrollments and degrees conferred, as [Table II.1](#) shows. Fall enrollments increased by over 24 percent during the period 1982-1992 and by almost 28 percent during the period 1992-2002. It is likely that even greater growth in enrollments will occur during the current decade as the annual number of high school graduates increases and as more working adults seek additional education.



NORTH CAROLINA Post-Secondary Institutions 2002 - 2003

- PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS**
- **UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA**
 - 1 Appalachian State University - G2
 - 2 East Carolina University - P3
 - 3 Elizabeth City State University - R2
 - 4 Fayetteville State University - M5
 - 5 North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University - K2
 - 6 North Carolina Central University - M2
 - 7 North Carolina School of the Arts - J2
 - 8 North Carolina State University - M3
 - 9 University of North Carolina at Asheville - D3
 - 10 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill - L3
 - 11 University of North Carolina at Charlotte - H4
 - 12 University of North Carolina at Greensboro - K2
 - 13 University of North Carolina at Pembroke - L6
 - 14 University of North Carolina at Wilmington - O7
 - 15 Western Carolina University - C4
 - 16 Winston-Salem State University - I2
 - **COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES**
 - 17 Alamance Community College - K3
 - 18 Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College - E3
 - 19 Beaufort County Community College - Q3
 - 20 Bladen Community College - M6
 - 21 Blue Ridge Community College - E4
 - 22 Brunswick Community College - N8
 - 23 Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute - G3
 - 24 Cape Fear Community College - O7
 - 25 Carteret Community College - Q6
 - 26 Catawba Valley Community College - H3
 - 27 Central Carolina Community College - L4
 - 28 Central Piedmont Community College - H4
 - 29 Cleveland Community College - G4
 - 30 Coastal Carolina Community College - O6
 - 31 College of the Albemarle - R2
 - 32 Craven Community College - P5
 - 33 Davidson County Community College - I3
 - 34 Durham Technical Community College - M2
 - 35 Edgecombe Community College - O3
 - 36 Fayetteville Technical Community College - M5
 - 37 Forsyth Technical Community College - J2

- 38 Gaston College - G4
- 39 Guilford Technical Community College - K2
- 40 Halifax Community College - O1
- 41 Haywood Community College - C3
- 42 Isothermal Community College - F4
- 43 James Sprunt Community College - O5
- 44 Johnston Community College - N4
- 45 Lenoir Community College - O4
- 46 Martin Community College - P3
- 47 Mayland Community College - F2
- 48 McDowell Technical Community College - F3
- 49 Mitchell Community College - H3
- 50 Montgomery Community College - J4
- 51 Nash Community College - O2
- 52 Pamlico Community College - Q5
- 53 Piedmont Community College - L1
- 54 Pitt Community College - P3
- 55 Randolph Community College - J3
- 56 Richmond Community College - K5
- 57 Roanoke-Chowan Community College - Q2
- 58 Robeson Community College - L6
- 59 Rockingham Community College - K1
- 60 Rowan-Cabarrus Community College - I3
- 61 Sampson Community College - N5
- 62 Sandhills Community College - K4
- 63 South Piedmont Community College - J5
- 64 Southeastern Community College - M7
- 65 Southwestern Community College - C4
- 66 Stanly Community College - J4
- 67 Surry Community College - I1
- 68 Tri-County Community College - A5
- 69 Vance-Granville Community College - N1
- 70 Wake Technical Community College - M3
- 71 Wayne Community College - N4
- 72 Western Piedmont Community College - F3
- 73 Wilkes Community College - H2
- 74 Wilson Technical Community College - O3

- PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS**
- ▲ **SENIOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**
 - 75 Barber-Scotia College - I4
 - 76 Barton College - O3
 - 77 Belmont Abbey College - H4
 - 78 Bennett College - K2
 - 79 Brevard College - D4
 - 80 Cabarrus College of Hlth. Sciences - I4
 - 81 Campbell University, Inc. - M4
 - 82 Catawba College - I3
 - 83 Chowan College - P1
 - 84 Davidson College - H4
 - 85 Duke University - M2
 - 86 Elon College - K2
 - 87 Gardner-Webb University - G4
 - 88 Greensboro College - K2
 - 89 Guilford College - J2
 - 90 High Point University - J2
 - 91 Johnson C. Smith University - H4
 - 92 Lees-McRae College - F2
 - 93 Lenoir-Rhyne College - G3
 - 94 Livingstone College - I3
 - 95 Mars Hill College - E3
 - 96 Meredith College - M3
 - 97 Methodist College - M5
 - 98 Montreat College - E3
 - 99 Mount Olive College - N4
 - 100 North Carolina Wesleyan College - O3
 - 101 Peace College - M3
 - 102 Pfeiffer University - J4

Legend:		
●	University of North Carolina	16
○	Public Community College	58
▲	Private Senior College or University	36
△	Private Junior College	1
■	Theological Seminary	1
□	Bible Colleges	5
Total		117

- 103 Queens College - H4
- 104 St. Andrews Presbyterian College - K6
- 105 St. Augustine's College - M3
- 106 Salem College - J2
- 107 Shaw University - M3
- 108 Wake Forest University - I2
- 109 Warren Wilson College - E3
- 110 Wingate University - I5
- △ **JUNIOR COLLEGES**
 - 111 Louisburg College - N2
- **THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**
 - 112 Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary - M2

- **BIBLE COLLEGES**
 - 113 Heritage Bible College - M4
 - 114 John Wesley College - K2
 - 115 Piedmont Baptist College - J2
 - 116 Roanoke Bible College - R1
 - 117 Winston-Salem Bible College - I2

Table II.1. Higher Education in North Carolina

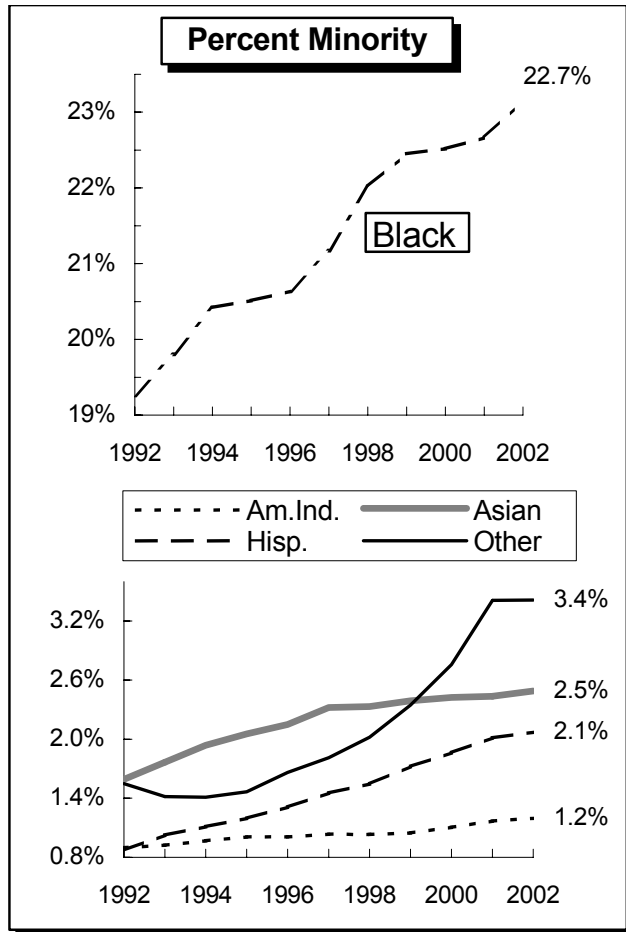
Measure	1982	1992	2002
Number of postsecondary institutions:			
Community colleges			
Total	58	58	58
College transfer	23	42	58
Private 4-yr. col.&univ.	30	33	36
Private 2-yr. Colleges	8	4	1
Public 4-yr. universities (UNC)	16	16	16
Total no. of institutions	112	111	111
Fall headcount enrollments:			
Community colleges			
Total curriculum	116,627	150,105	186,820
College transfer	12,632	30,907	43,552
Private 4-yr. col.&univ.	48,049	59,420	74,925
Private 2-yr. Colleges	4,760	2,184	384
Public 4-yr. universities (UNC)	120,788	150,818	176,967
Total	290,224	362,527	439,096
Degrees conferred:			
	1981-82	1991-92	2001-02
Sub-baccalaureate cert.	5,499	7,499	12,539
Associate degrees	10,355	11,789	14,585
Baccalaureate degrees	24,130	30,843	36,268
Master's degrees	5,593	6,813	9,547
Doctoral degrees	743	921	1,134
First professional degrees	1,519	1,641	1,987
<i>Law</i>	715	810	858
<i>Dentistry</i>	70	60	71
<i>Pharmacy</i>	-	76	236
<i>Medicine</i>	407	408	403
<i>Veterinary medicine</i>	-	62	75
<i>Theology</i>	327	225	344
Total degrees conferred	47,839	59,506	76,060

UNC-GA ProgAssess/LRP.A1001A.U/ 10-22-03

Increased Participation in Higher Education by Minorities and Women

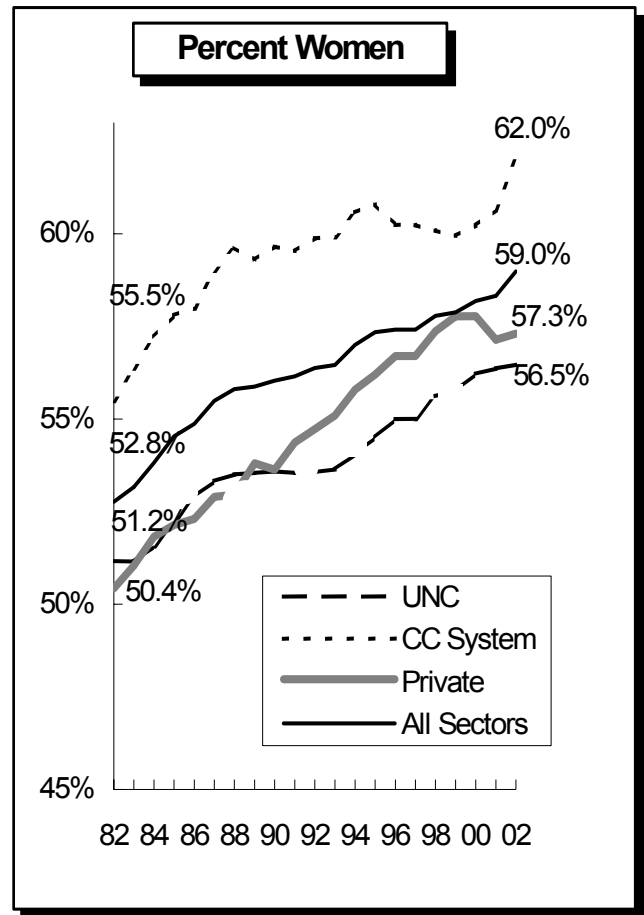
Much of the increase in enrollments and degrees conferred in the last two decades is due to the higher rates of college attendance by minorities, women, non-traditional students, and college students returning for post-baccalaureate studies. [Figure II.1](#) and [Figure II.2](#) show minority and female enrollment trends for all higher education sectors in NC (UNC, NC Community College System, private institutions) through fall 2002. Although community college and private institution enrollment analyses were not available for fall 2003 at the time of this printing, UNC figures for fall 2003 were available. In fall 2003, African American enrollment at historically white UNC institutions reached the highest percentage ever, 10.62 percent, up from 10.51 percent in 2002. Overall minority student enrollment at the historically white institutions was 20.1 percent in fall 2003, and non-African American enrollment at historically black institutions was 18.2 percent. Overall fall 2003 female enrollment at UNC constituent institutions was 56.5 percent of the total.

Figure II.1. Fall Enrollment Trends (Minority)



UNC-GA ProgAssess/LRP.AG002A.U/10-23-03

Figure II.2. Fall Enrollment Trends (Women)



UNC-GA ProgAssess/LRP.AG001A.U/10-24-03

Higher Education Enrollment Trends

Increases over the last two decades in non-traditional students attending college have resulted in greater participation by older students (Figure II.3) and students who are enrolled part-time (Figure II.4), although the part-time percentage for UNC institutions has remained relatively stable over the last two decades.

Although independent colleges and universities continue to attract a large percentage of their students from outside North Carolina, out-of-state enrollments in UNC institutions have leveled off after an increase in the mid-1980s (Figure II.5). As the demand for advanced education has grown, the percentage of students enrolled in graduate and professional programs has increased somewhat in the last two decades (Figure II.6).

Figure II.3. Fall Enrollment Trends (Students Ages 25 and Older)

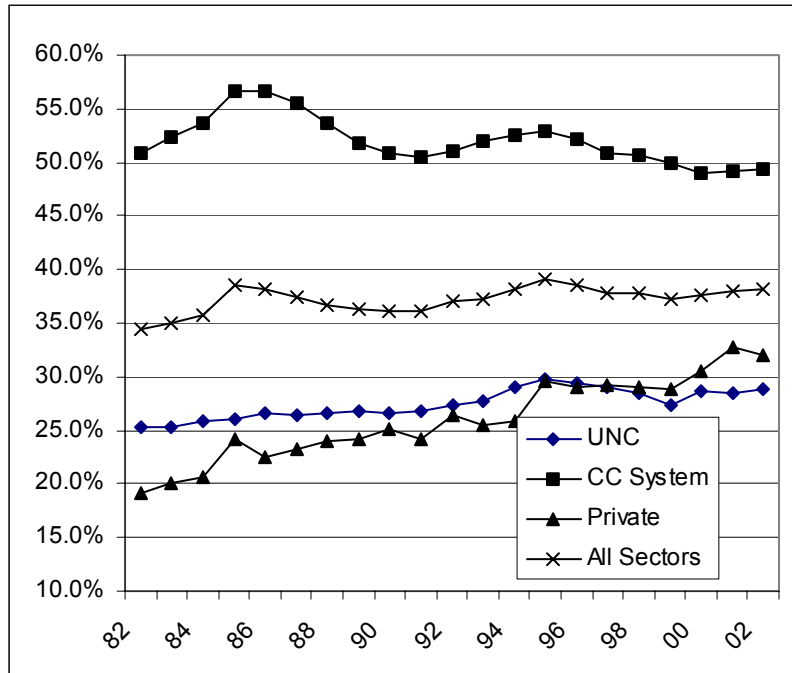


Figure II.4. Fall Enrollment Trends (Part-Time Students)

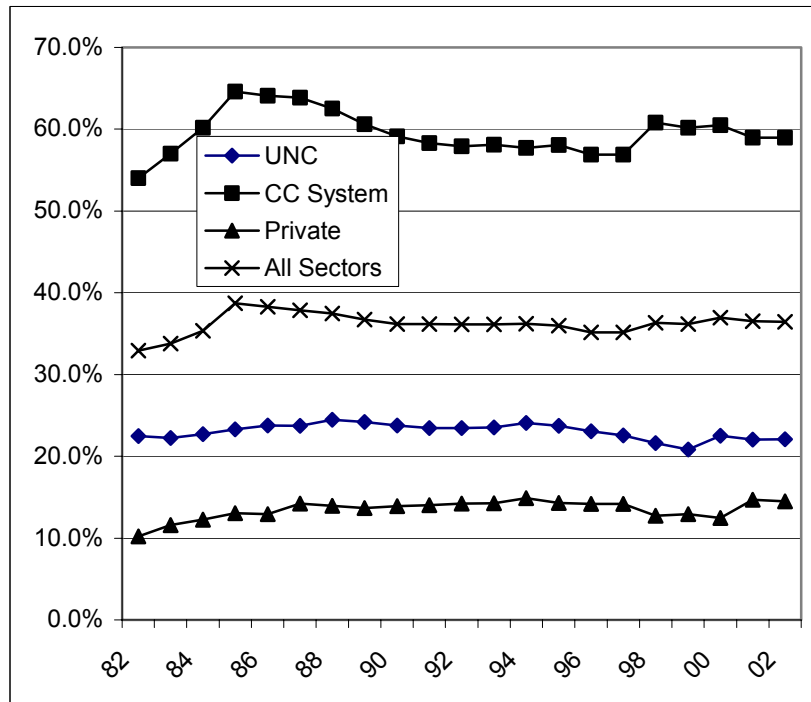


Figure II.5. Fall Enrollment Trends (Percent Out-of-State Students)

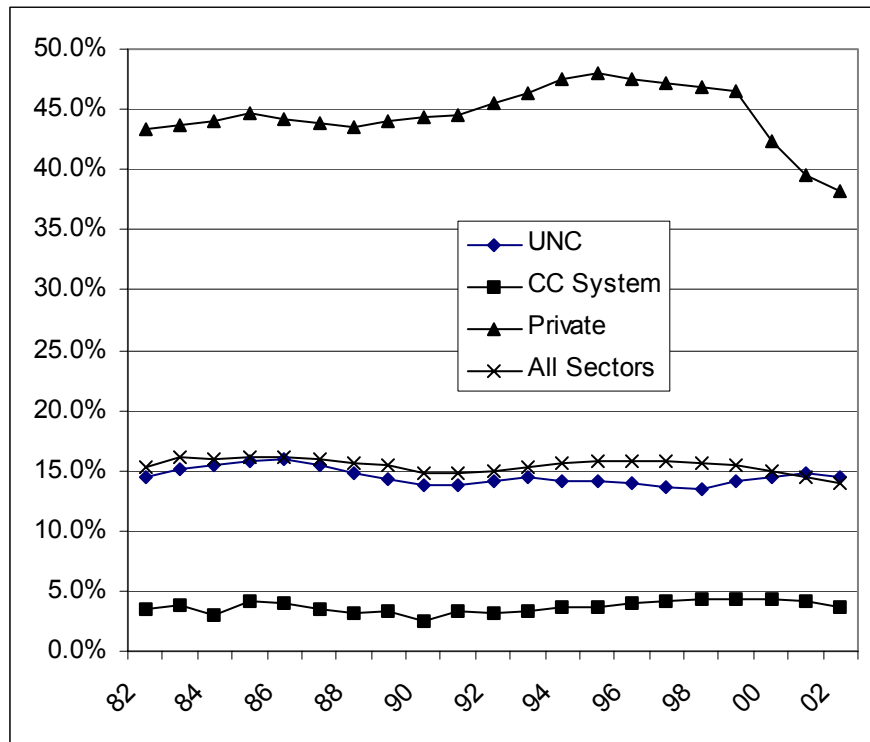


Figure II.6. Fall Enrollment Trends (Graduate/First Professional)

