

INTRODUCTION

The *Statistical Abstract of Higher Education in North Carolina, 2008-09* has been assembled to provide a detailed statistical account of higher education in North Carolina to legislators, educators, and other interested citizens of North Carolina. The data in this abstract represent both past and current (2008-09 academic year) information. From this abstract, the reader can gain some knowledge about who is being educated, where they are being educated, and the resources supporting their education.

The Institutional Research and Analysis Division of the University of North Carolina General Administration compiled the data reported herein from online forms submitted by the individual institutions in the summer and fall of 2008 for processing during the 2008-2009 academic year. The design of these forms is suitable for both Federal and State data requests (see Appendix A).

The staff of the Institutional Research and Analysis Division makes every effort to verify the validity and reliability of the data reported by the institutions. The ultimate responsibility for the accuracy of the data, of course, lies with the individual institutions as they originate the reports on which this abstract is based. In certain instances discrepancies may appear to be present, when in reality the data reported may reflect different interpretations of definitions by respondents in different institutions. Wherever possible, these apparent discrepancies are explained by footnotes. For example, because of its unique student body, which consists of both college and high school students, data for University of North Carolina School of the Arts may not be directly comparable to other institutions in some tables in which they are presented.

If a comparison or a trend study is conducted, please note that East Coast Bible College closed on August 31, 1999. Anson Community College changed its name to South Piedmont Community College in the fall of 1999. Winston-Salem Bible College changed its name to Carolina Christian College in the fall of 2007. North Carolina School of the Arts changed its name to University of North Carolina School of the Arts in spring 2008. Roanoke Bible College changed its name to Mid Atlantic Christian College in the spring of 2009. Beginning in 2000 and 2001, enrollment data for the University of North Carolina and private institutions combined both resident and extension credit respectively. When Cabarrus College of Health Sciences began offering baccalaureate degrees, it moved from the "Junior Colleges" category to the "Senior Colleges and Universities" category. Saint Mary's College became High School only in the fall of 1998. Barber-Scotia College, unaccredited since 2006, is in the process of seeking re-accreditation.