Educating Female Leaders

Female students dominate enrollments in the Meta-Major fields of Education; Social and Behavioral Sciences & Human Services; Health Sciences; and Business.

Overall, female students account for 59 percent of enrollments in the Florida College System (FCS). This finding aligns with national data that show women account for 56 percent of all postsecondary enrollments (National Center for Education Statistics: Fast Facts, Fall 2015). In the FCS, females represent the majority of enrolled students in four of the eight Meta-Major fields, including Education (86%); Social and Behavioral Sciences & Human Services (83%), Health Sciences (81%), and Business (63%). Women make up a smaller percentage of enrollments in the Meta-Major fields of Arts, Humanities, Communication, & Design (44%); Public Safety (35%); Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (27%), and Industry/Manufacturing and Construction (10%).

In addition, 58 percent of Associate in Arts (AA) students are female (the AA degree is considered a transfer degree and is not included in the analysis of enrollment by meta-major). In 2016-17, the five programs of study with the highest female enrollment included Associate in Arts (35,022), Associate in Science in Nursing (3,838), Business Specialist College Credit Certificate (1,877), Bachelor’s in Supervision and Management (1,714), and Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing (1,394).

For more information, contact the Research & Analytics team at FCSResearch@fldoe.org.