



**PREPARE**  
*Rhode Island*

**MAKING COLLEGE AFFORDABLE & ACCESSIBLE**

**Dual Enrollment Annual Report**  
**Academic Year 2015-16**

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BY PARTNERING WITH OUR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND BUSINESSES WE CAN MAKE SURE OUR KIDS ARE LEARNING THE SKILLS THEY NEED TO BE SUCCESSFUL TO MOVE OUR ECONOMY FORWARD.

**GOVERNOR GINA M. RAIMONDO  
ON PREPARERI AND THE  
RHODE ISLAND JOBS PLAN**

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# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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In the inaugural year of the PrepareRI Dual Enrollment Fund and implementation of the Board of Education's Dual Enrollment Regulations, the number of college-level courses that RI public high school students enrolled in more than doubled from the previous year.\* This level of participation, coupled with increases in other advanced coursework opportunities such as Advanced Placement® courses, indicates that students in RI have the desire to challenge themselves to have the academic skills to be prepared for their postsecondary experiences.

*\*Prior to PrepareRI dual enrollment data were not formally collected and therefore 2014-15 data are based on best possible estimates.*

## History

In 2013, the Rhode Island General Assembly passed legislation (RIGL 16-100) that called for the adoption of a statewide policy for dual enrollment that allows students to take college courses to earn credit at both the secondary school and the postsecondary institution. Subsequently, the Board of Education adopted regulations in April 2015 that provide all qualified Rhode Island high school students access to college-level coursework while still in high school.

Furthermore, Governor Gina Raimondo created the PrepareRI Dual Enrollment Fund to break down additional barriers and increase access to these advanced coursework opportunities. The fund covers the cost of tuition and fees for public high school students who participate in dual and concurrent coursework with the University of Rhode Island (URI), Rhode Island College (RIC), and Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI).

## Definitions

Students accessed various dual enrollment programs during the 2015-16 school year. The programs go by different names at different institutions but fall into one of two categories of courses: dual or concurrent coursework.

*Concurrent Enrollment:* These courses are taught by high school teachers who have been approved by a postsecondary institution to teach a college-level course for credit at the high school location.

*Early Enrollment Program (EEP):* RIC's name for concurrent coursework.

*STEM Connect:* CCRI's name for concurrent coursework.

*Dual Enrollment:* These courses are taught on the college campus by college faculty and taken alongside other undergraduate students.

*Running Start:* CCRI's full-time senior year dual enrollment program.

*High School Enrichment:* A name used to refer to dual enrollment courses that are not taken as part of a full-time dual enrollment program.

## Report Information

This report provides an overview of participation information from the 2015-16 academic year. It highlights successes and looks for areas of growth to further develop this important opportunity for Rhode Island students. In accordance with Section 8.1 of the Board of Education's Regulations for Dual Enrollment, the basis of this report is the collected data from Rhode Island's postsecondary institutions and secondary schools.

# PARTICIPATION OVERVIEW

Emerging research shows the experience of accessing college-level coursework leads to greater high school and postsecondary achievement. Students in RI demonstrated their readiness for this level of programming and options by exceeding all participation expectations for the inaugural PrepareRI year.

## Student Participants

In 2015-16, 3,807 public high school students participated in dual and concurrent coursework. These students represented nearly every public high school in the state.

Learn more about these students on Page 7.

**3,807**

The number of RI public high school students who participated in PrepareRI in 2015-16.

**2x**

One year growth in participation

## One Year Growth

Overall participation in dual and concurrent coursework more than doubled as compared with the previous year.\* The majority of this growth was in concurrent coursework which saw a higher one year growth of 119% as compared with 64% dual enrollment participation growth.

Unique Course Enrollments	14-15*	15-16	1 Year Growth
Dual Participation	~600	985	64%
Concurrent Participation	~2,240	4,900	119%
Total Participation	~2,840	5,885	107%

\* 14-15 data was not formally collected. These numbers represent the best available data.

**395**

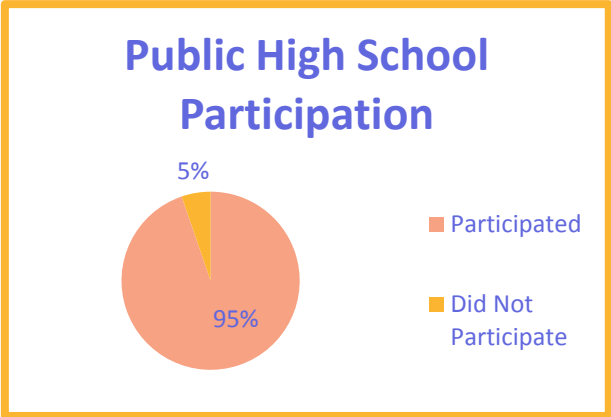
The number of Dual and concurrent courses accessed by students

## Courses Accessed

In 2015-16, students participated in 395 dual and concurrent courses unique to their location. Approximately one-third of the 395 courses were offered on a college campus. These courses had a total of 5,885 course enrollments by the 3,807 students who participated in PrepareRI in 2015-16.

Learn more about these courses on Page 9.

# SCHOOL PARTICIPATION



## Highest School Participation

These schools were identified by considering the unique number of students participating in dual or concurrent enrollment as a percent of each school's total enrollment. In order:

- Academy for Career Exploration
- RI Nurses Institute Middle College Charter School
- Metropolitan Career and Technical Center
- Smithfield Senior High School
- Scituate High School

## Schools Participating in PrepareRI

Ninety-five percent of all eligible RI public high schools participated in 2015-16. Schools were counted as eligible if they had greater than 10 students in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The participating schools are:

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Academy for Career Exploration             | Hope High School                                  | Scituate High School                           |
| Barrington High School                     | Johnston Senior High School                       | Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy          |
| Beacon Charter School                      | Juanita Sanchez Educ Complex                      | Smithfield Senior High School                  |
| Blackstone Academy Charter School          | Lincoln Senior High School                        | South Kingstown High School                    |
| Burrillville High School                   | Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center | The Greene School                              |
| Central Falls High School                  | Middletown High School                            | Times2 Academy                                 |
| Central High School                        | Mount Pleasant High School                        | Tiverton High School                           |
| Chariho Regional High School               | Mt. Hope High School                              | Toll Gate High School                          |
| Charles E. Shea High School                | Narragansett High School                          | Tolman High School                             |
| Classical High School                      | NEL/CPS Construction Career Academy               | Trinity Academy for the Performing Arts        |
| Coventry High School                       | North Kingstown Senior High School                | Village Green Virtual Charter School           |
| Cranston High School East                  | North Providence High School                      | Warwick Veterans Memorial High School          |
| Cranston High School West                  | North Smithfield High School                      | West Warwick High School                       |
| Cumberland High School                     | Paul Cuffee Charter School                        | Westerly High School                           |
| East Greenwich High School                 | Pilgrim High School                               | Wm. M. Davies Jr. Career-Technical High School |
| East Providence High School                | Ponaganset High School                            | Woonsocket High School                         |
| E-Cubed Academy                            | Portsmouth High School                            |  |
| Exeter-West Greenwich Regional High School | RI Nurses Institute Middle College                |  |
| Highlander Charter School                  | Rogers High School                                |  |

## Teachers of Concurrent Coursework

In 2015-16, over 247 RI public school teachers were approved to offer college-level courses on location at public high schools. The majority of these teachers (77.3%) were approved by Rhode Island College. Each institution maintains its own policies and procedures for identifying and approving teachers for these courses. A list of teacher requirements is published each year alongside the concurrent course catalog which is approved by the Board of Education.

# OVERALL STUDENT FACTS

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This report distinguishes overall student participation from unique student count. Both numbers are important in understanding how students are utilizing these opportunities and where areas of growth exist as we consider PrepareRI's potential impact. In 2015-16, 3,807 students participated in PrepareRI.

## Student's Home Residence

Nearly half of all students who accessed were from urban districts, including: Central Falls, Cranston, East Providence, Newport, North Providence, Pawtucket, Providence, Warwick, West Warwick, and Woonsocket.

43%

The percent of participating students from urban districts.

29%

The percent of participating students eligible for Free or Reduced Price Lunch Programs

## Historically Underserved Populations

The first year of PrepareRI helped to identify equity of access as a focal point for the coming year. For example, in 2015-16 43% of high school students received free or reduced price lunch, however, of students participating in PrepareRI only 29% received free or reduced price lunch. In addition, 15% of high school students statewide held Individuated Education Plans (IEP) while only 3% of PrepareRI students had an IEP.

## Gender

Sixty-one percent of students participating in PrepareRI identified as women. With over 30% of courses in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) fields, this high representation of women in PrepareRI courses will help to move forward the representation of women in these critical sectors.

61%

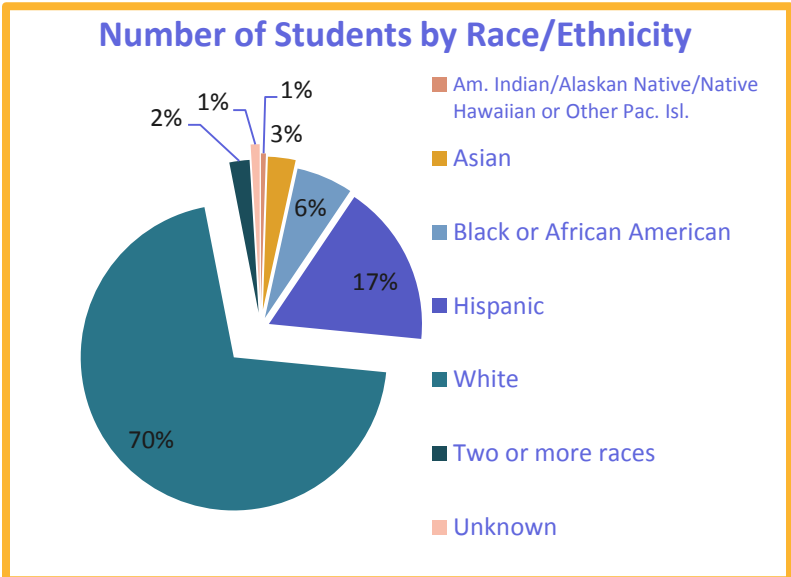
The percent of students who identified as women

# UNIQUE STUDENT FACTS

This information relates to the 3,807 unique students who accessed dual and concurrent coursework.

## Race / Ethnicity

The inaugural year of PrepareRI has highlighted a need to increase participation of historically underserved racial and ethnic student populations to a rate at least consistent with state enrollment. The pie chart to the right represents unique student participation in PrepareRI by their identified race / ethnicity.



**30%**

The percent of students who took more than one college-level course.

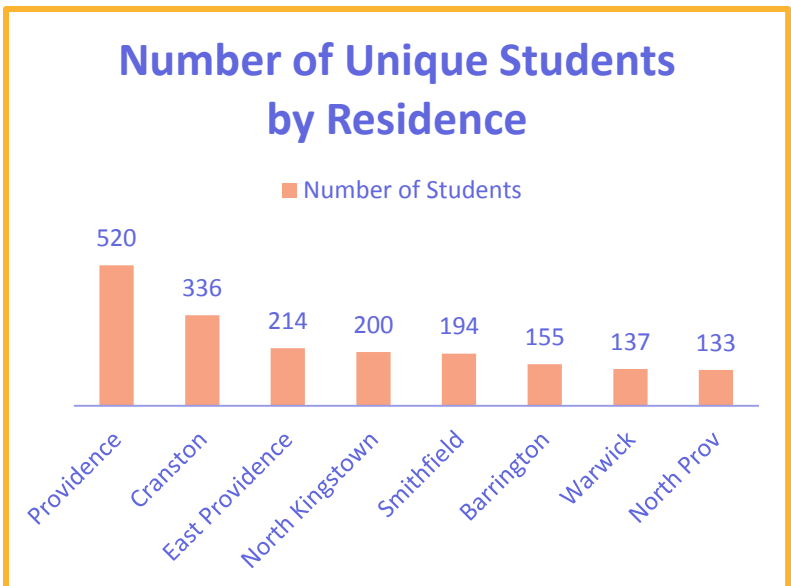
## Course Participation

More than a quarter of all students who engaged with PrepareRI participated in more than one college-level course. These students may have taken multiple courses in one semester such as in the full-time senior year program, Running Start, or taken a course during each semester.

## Top 50% Participation

Students who live in Providence were the largest population of students from any one city or town. The cities and towns with the highest numbers of students participating were Providence, Cranston, East Providence, North Kingstown, Smithfield, Barrington, Warwick and North Providence.

Furthermore, 50% of all unique student participation can be attributed to these eight cities.



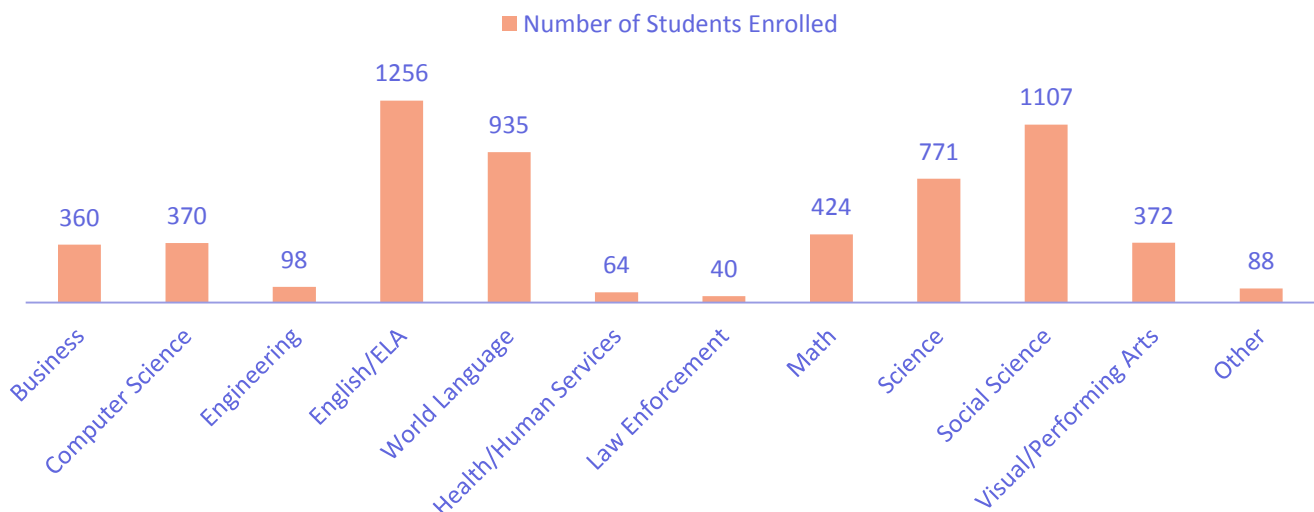


# COURSE INFORMATION

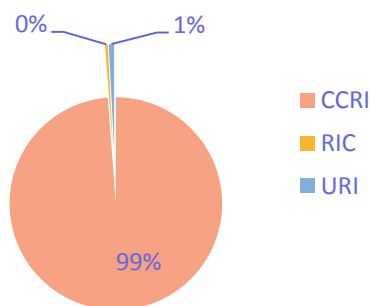
## Course Discipline and Program Type

Students took a broad range of coursework in the 2015-16 academic year with the greatest number of enrollments in English/ELA, social sciences such as healthcare studies, and world languages. Approximately 83% of all courses taken were through a concurrent enrollment program. The remaining 17% were taken as part of a dual enrollment program.

### Number of Students Enrolled in Courses in Each Discipline

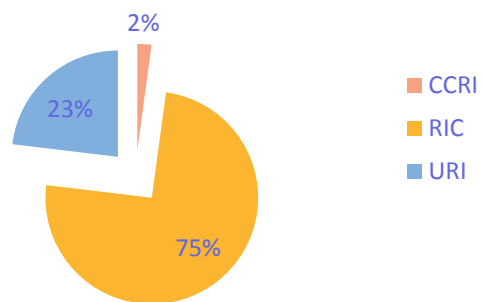


### Dual Enrollment Course Enrollments by Institution



99% of dual enrollment courses were taken with CCRI.

### Concurrent Enrollment Course Enrollments by Institution



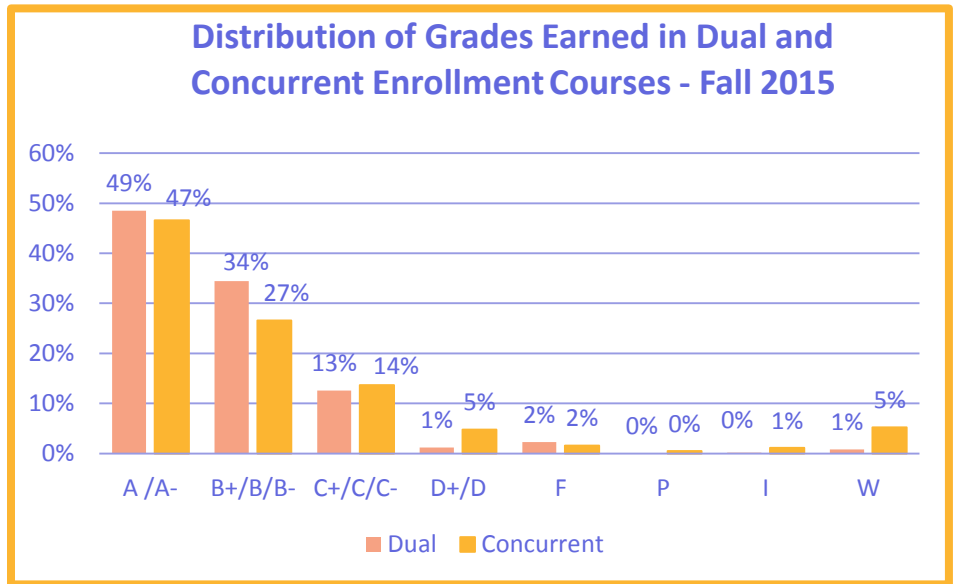
75% of concurrent enrollment courses were taken with RIC; 23% were taken with URI; and 2% were taken with CCRI.

# SUCCESS & COMPLETION

At this time (August 17, 2016) completion and grade data are available only for the first half of the year. The information below breaks the available data into program category: dual or concurrent coursework. Overall, a similar grade distribution was seen across both programs.

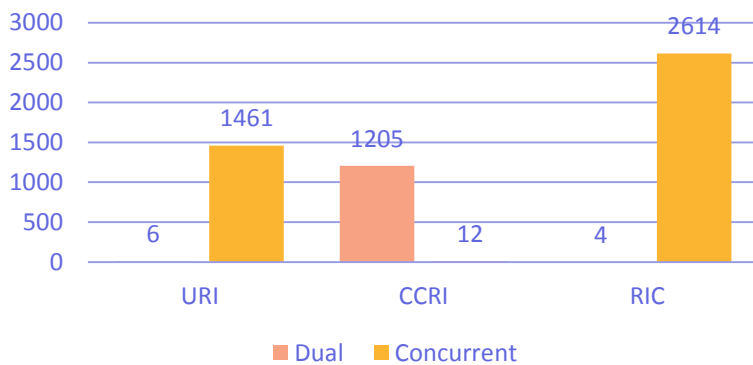
## Course Grades

Seventy-four percent of students in dual enrollment programs earned a B- or better. The distribution of grades overall between dual and concurrent courses are similar. Eighty-three percent of students in concurrent enrollment courses earned a B- or better. Approximately 97% of students earned a passing grade.



\*Grades available include traditional A through F scale, in some cases courses were Pass(P)/Fail(F). Some students have earned an Incomplete(I) and others have Withdrawn (W).

## Credits Earned by Institution - Fall 2015



## Credits Earned

In Fall 2015, students earned 5,302 credits. This represents 96% of all credits attempted during the semester. A total of 214 credits were attempted but not realized.

Of the 5,302 credits earned, 49.3% were awarded by Rhode Island College, 27.7% were awarded by University of Rhode Island and 23.0% were awarded by Community College of Rhode Island.

*Yearlong 2015-16 and Spring 2016 data will be added by October 2016.*

# LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

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On June 17, 2016, the General Assembly passed Governor Raimondo's FY17 budget which included a record \$1.4 billion in education funding including an allocation of \$1.3 million to continue with the PrepareRI Dual Enrollment Fund. With this approval, PrepareRI will build on the successes of 2015-16 to expand student access and participation in the next academic year.

## Academic Year 2016-2017 Goals

- PrepareRI will increase the number of concurrent courses offered by each high school, especially those serving disadvantaged communities.
- PrepareRI will increase participation across underrepresented populations to more closely align with overall school enrollment.
- PrepareRI will expand awareness of dual and concurrent opportunities in communities that have historically not accessed coursework with CCRI, RIC, or URI.

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