

**VCCS Utilization of
Classrooms and Labs
Fall 2000**



Earl R. McHewitt
Academic Services & Research
(804) 225-2297

February 2001

Fall 2000 Facilities Utilization Study

This report describes VCCS performance on several utilization measures and compares VCCS performance to the utilization standards adopted by state council. **According to SCHEV's space analysis, an institution is considered to have met SCHEV guidelines for overall institutional utilization if its actual weekly station use hours exceed the SCHEV standard or exceed current DPB performance targets. VCCS utilization for fall 2000 exceeds both.**

As a system, classrooms were used on average 37 hours per week, and, when used, the rooms were occupied at 74 percent of capacity.

VCCS class laboratories were used 29 hours weekly, and students occupied 79 percent of the stations when the labs were used.

Lab use exceeded SCHEV standards for room use and occupancy, which are 24 hours per week and 78 percent. For classrooms, the actual scheduled use (37 hrs.) is below the standard for weekly use (40 hrs.). But, classroom occupancy is well above the standard (75% occupancy vs. 60% standard). As a result, station use for classrooms, which combines room use and occupancy when used, exceeds the SCHEV station use standard.

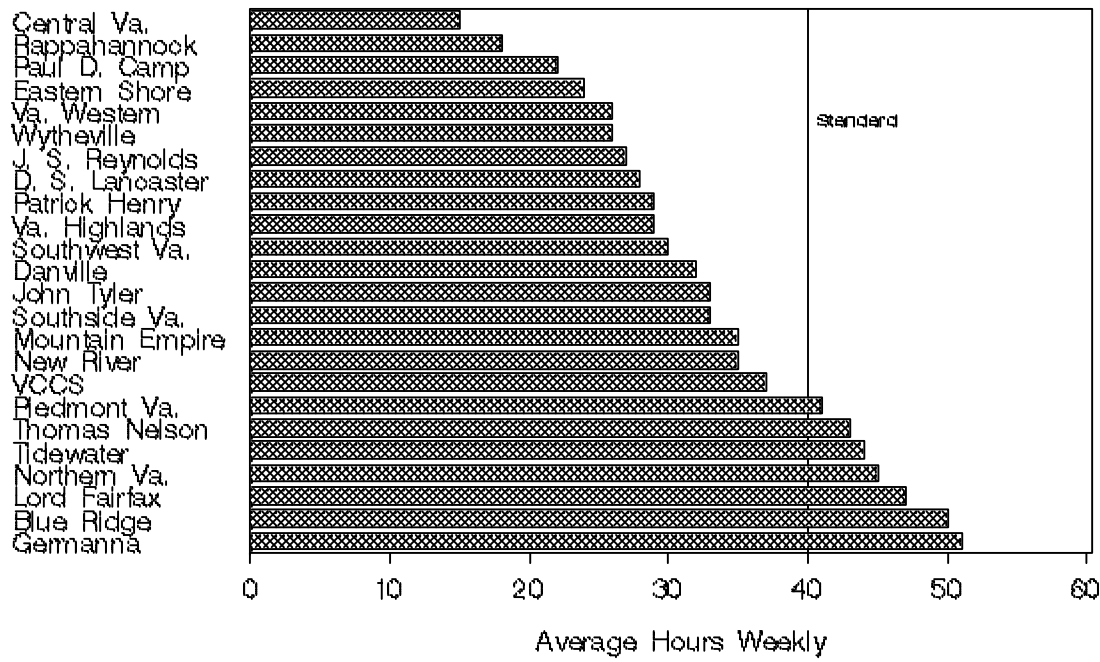
The two graphs that follow show VCCS and college use of classrooms and labs. Looking at only the hours of room use, many community colleges use rooms well above the standard for laboratory space, but only a few schedule classrooms at the "40 hours per week" rate. It should be noted that only a few colleges match this rate if all public institutions in Virginia, 2-year or 4-year, are considered.

Remaining sections and tables show the number of college classrooms and the amount of space allocated to them, compare fall 2000 performance with DPB targets, and provide definitions for the measures and standards. The last three tables include college data and compare classroom use to SCHEV standards.

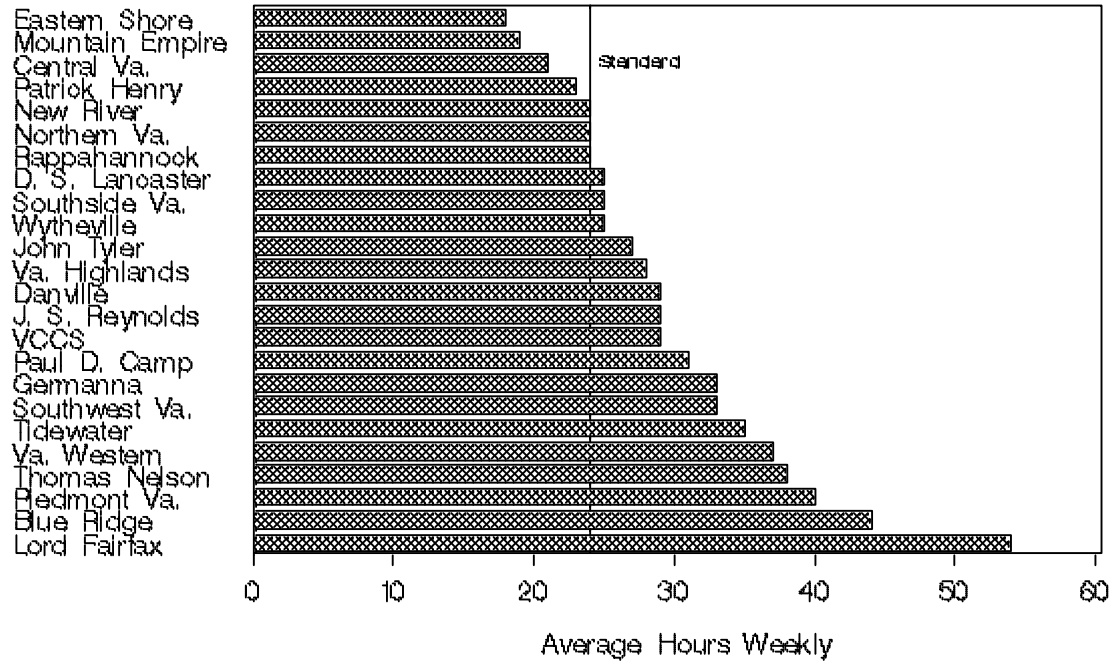
All measures include both credit and non-credit instruction conducted in permanent, on-campus classrooms and class labs.

This and other reports are available at:
<http://www.so.cc.va.us/vccsasr/Research/index.html>

Classroom Use: Fall 2000 Data



Class Lab Use: Fall 2000



**INVENTORIED INSTRUCTIONAL SPACE
CLASSROOMS AND CLASS LABS
FALL 2000 (On-Site Only)**

	Classrooms	Classroom ASF	Labs	Lab ASF	Total ASF
Blue Ridge	18	11,918	14	17,286	
Central Virginia	31	19,356	39	37,953	57,309
Dabney S. Lancaster	11	6,704	11	14,371	21,075
Danville	19	16,597	32	49,857	66,454
Eastern Shore	9	5,588	9	9,493	15,081
Germanna	25	15,354	26	26,567	41,921
J. Sargeant Reynolds	87	50,653	66	74,948	125,611
John Tyler	54	38,495	31	31,468	69,963
Lord Fairfax	15	10,953	28	38,713	49,666
Mountain Empire	18	13,607	29	24,671	38,278
New River	24	19,821	21	34,141	53,962
Northern Virginia	244	156,936	160	185,380	342,316
Patrick Henry	23	18,644	27	29,656	48,300
Paul D. Camp	17	11,678	11	13,849	3025,527
Piedmont Virginia	21	16,019	10	11,925	27,944
Rappahannock	20	14,114	21	21,133	35,247
Southside Virginia	16	9,261	29	25,438	34,699
Southwest Virginia	20	13,032	42	47,509	60,541
Thomas Nelson	39	24,065	21	24,395	48,460
Tidewater	151	96,934	89	103,885	200,819
Virginia Highlands	20	13,115	23	27,975	41,090
Virginia Western	39	23,746	29	31,067	54,543
Wytheville	20	12,239	28	27,396	39,635
VCCS	941	618,109	796	871,481	1,489,590

DPB Performance Measure Comparisons

Performance Measure Targets as Updated November 2000

Standard	Type of Room	Measure	
Weekly Room Use	Classroom	Actual	37 hours
		Target	31 hours
	Class Lab	Actual	29 hours
		Target	21 hours
Weekly Station Use	Classroom	Actual	28 hours
		Target	20 hours
	Class Lab	Actual	22 hours
		Target	16 hours
Occupancy Rate	Classroom	Actual	74%
		Target	65%
	Class Lab	Actual	79%
		Target	77%

The classroom and lab measures, as expected, reflect continued high use of the facilities. Targets were exceeded for each measure

Utilization Measure Definitions and Table Descriptions

One component of SCHEV's space planning system compares colleges' actual utilization with standards adopted for space planning purposes. There are separate standards for:

- The amount of space used per student desk or station.
- The number of hours that a room is used per week.
- The percentage of stations occupied when a room is used.

The first section of this report (Tables I-II) presents combined measures of actual room use and station occupancy from each of the last three utilization studies and, for 1998, the measure is expressed as a percentage of the combined SCHEV standards. This measure reflects, on average, how the number of hours that students use desks or stations compares to SCHEV assumptions about how many hours per week they should be used. Off-site facilities have been excluded from all utilization measures. Non-credit utilization is included. These numbers should agree with those from SCHEV's utilization review.

College utilization measures permitting separate comparisons with room use and occupancy standards are presented in Table IV.

Tables I and II
Weekly Use of Rooms and Student Stations, 1994-1998

A primary data outcome of the SCHEV utilization study is total weekly station use hours (WSUH) for classrooms and labs. This number reflects how many hours per week that students are in the rooms and roughly translates to student contact hours. Dividing this number by the total number of stations or seats available in inventory produces an average weekly station use. This measure reflects both frequency of room use and occupancy when in use. The corresponding SCHEV standard or expected level for station use is based on the product of the room use and occupancy rate standards. For example, standards of 40 hours per week for room use and 60 percent for occupancy yield an expected weekly station use rate of 24 hours.

Tables I -II present actual station use for the last three utilization studies and, for 1998, actual use is shown as a percentage of SCHEV standards. Information on classrooms and classroom laboratories are tabled separately. All utilization data and standards are for the extended day, which includes evening hours.

TABLE I
WEEKLY STATION USE HOURS
ALL R AND Z FACILITIES EXCLUDED
CLASSROOMS

College	1994	1996	1998	2000	2000 As Percent of Standard ¹
Blue Ridge	19	17	26	31	129
Central Virginia	23	20	10	11	46
Dabney S. Lancaster	13	13	12	17	71
Danville	22	20	19	13	54
Eastern Shore	18	15	17	17	71
Germanna	26	28	27	33	138
J. Sargeant Reynolds	22	18	19	17	71
John Tyler	21	22	22	19	79
Lord Fairfax	25	25	32	35	146
Mountain Empire	31	22	19	19	79
New River	21	19	21	20	83
Northern Virginia	27	39	28	44	183
Patrick Henry	24	15	13	11	46
Paul D. Camp	17	14	11	13	54
Piedmont Virginia	26	38	29	30	125
Rappahannock	10	7	8	9	38
Southside Virginia	19	22	16	17	71
Southwest Virginia	25	19	17	17	71
Thomas Nelson	31	32	29	33	138
Tidewater	22	16	18	28	117
Virginia Highlands	19	18	20	16	67
Virginia Western	30	27	23	24	100
Wytheville	12	12	26	16	67
VCCS	25	25	22	28	117

¹ The standard for classroom station use is 24 hours a week. This is based on room use of 40 hours a week with an occupancy rate of 60 percent.

TABLE II
WEEKLY STATION USE HOURS
ALL R AND Z FACILITIES EXCLUDED
CLASS LABORATORIES

College	1994	1996	1998	2000	2000 As Percent of Standard ¹
Blue Ridge	20	17	26	29	161
Central Virginia	20	19	18	19	106
Dabney S. Lancaster	13	13	13	14	78
Danville	16	18	19	25	139
Eastern Shore	11	13	12	11	61
Germanna	28	23	23	25	139
J. Sargeant Reynolds	28	20	22	22	122
John Tyler	20	23	22	21	117
Lord Fairfax	19	31	40	54	300
Mountain Empire	28	39	25	15	83
New River	19	20	17	17	94
Northern Virginia	23	20	20	22	122
Patrick Henry	24	14	14	20	111
Paul D. Camp	15	18	12	22	122
Piedmont Virginia	19	20	17	27	150
Rappahannock	13	9	11	14	78
Southside Virginia	24	21	18	17	94
Southwest Virginia	31	27	24	22	122
Thomas Nelson	29	29	24	29	161
Tidewater	17	15	18	22	122
Virginia Highlands	14	16	19	17	94
Virginia Western	34	40	38	37	206
Wytheville	28	24	17	18	100
VCCS	21	20	20	22	122

¹ The standard is 18 station (seat) use hours per week. This is based on using classrooms 24 hours a week with a 78 percent occupancy rate.

Table III

Component Utilization Measures for Fall 1998

Separate measures for room use, occupancy rates, and amount of space per desk or station are presented in Table IV. Room use is measured in hours per week. Occupancy is the percentage of stations occupied when the room is used. ASF/Station refers to the square footage allocated for each station. These measures are provided for each type of classroom space. Again, off-site facilities were not included in these reports, and all measures are for the extended day.

**TABLE III
UTILIZATION OF ON-SITE SPACE
FALL 2000 DATA, EXTENDED DAY**

COLLEGE	CLASSROOM			CLASS LABORATORY		
	ASF/Station	Room Use	Occupancy	ASF/Station	Room Use	Occupancy
Blue Ridge	18.1	50	62	62.4	44	67
Central Virginia	19.2	15	70	53.1	21	88
Dabney S. Lancaster	20.5	28	60	62.5	25	54
Danville	17.5	32	40	79.0	29	87
Eastern Shore	22.6	24	71	53.9	18	59
Germanna	23.5	51	65	51.5	33	75
J. Sargeant Reynolds	19.3	27	63	58.9	29	93
John Tyler	23.4	33	59	55.2	27	81
Lord Fairfax	25.4	47	76	99.3	54	102
Mountain Empire	19.3	35	53	43.7	19	76
New River	18.8	35	57	73.7	24	70
Northern Virginia	18.1	45	98	49.8	24	89
Patrick Henry	16.5	29	38	59.4	23	88
Paul D. Camp	27.7	22	61	60.0	31	73
Piedmont Virginia	24.4	41	73	50.3	40	66
Rappahannock	26.5	18	50	47.5	24	57
Southside Virginia	17.1	33	52	50.2	21	82
Southwest Virginia	17.1	30	55	52.4	33	66
Thomas Nelson	18.5	43	76	45.3	38	77
Tidewater	17.8	44	63	50.7	35	63
Virginia Highlands	18.2	29	54	53.0	28	60
Virginia Western	22.6	26	115	53.6	37	101
Wytheville	17.7	26	64	45.8	25	72
VCCS	19.2	37	74	52.4	29	79