

ASSIST Transfer Channel



Issue: I

October 18, 2004

Just the Facts

How many people are actually coming to ASSIST for information about transferring from a community college to a university? Probably more than you think. The numbers below show the busiest and slowest times of the year as well as how many visitors come to the site on a monthly basis. This information is based on usage during the 2003-2004 academic year.

To help you understand the numbers shown about ASSIST usage, here is an explanation of the terms used to identify the activity on the ASSIST web site.

Hits

The number of times any file was requested from the web site server (computer). A file consists of a web page and each graphical element included on that page. As a result, this number can be misleading. For example, a web page with five graphic elements will register six hits - one for the page itself and 1 for each of the five graphics.

Reports

The number of ASSIST articulation reports that have been requested.

Visits

The number of times the site was visited including return visits by users.

Visitors

The number of distinct users who visited ASSIST.

Busiest Times of Year

The busiest time of year for ASSIST is in the spring when students are considering what's next for them once the current academic year ends. Not surprisingly, the second busiest time of year is late in the fall when students are applying to universities. The numbers below show the most active months for ASSIST based on the number of hits, reports displayed, visits to the site, and unique visitors

May 2004: 9,550,141 hits on the ASSIST web site

May 2004: 620,168 reports displayed

May 2004: 442,698 visits to the site

May 2004: 97,754 unique visitors

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"The months of March, April, and May have consistently turned in the highest numbers for ASSIST usage since ASSIST has been online."

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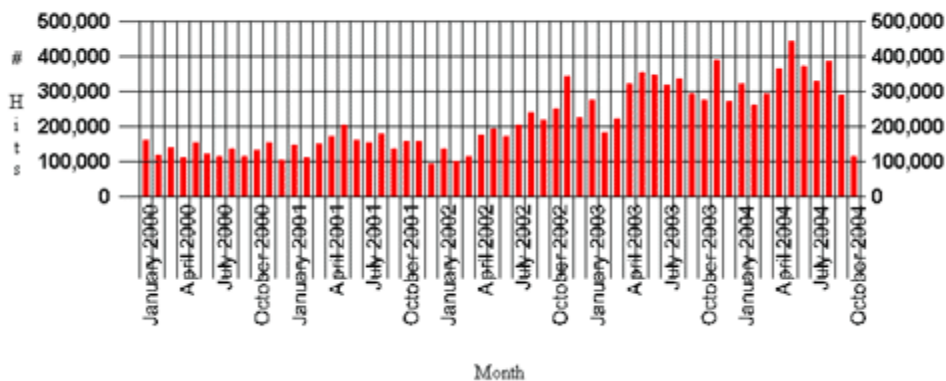


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The months of March, April, and May have consistently turned in the highest numbers for ASSIST usage since ASSIST has been online. The second highest usage period is in November, as you can see from the chart below.

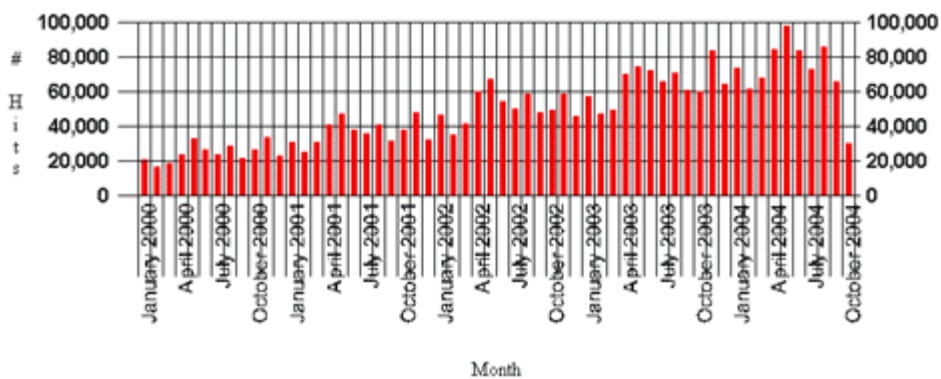
Total Site Visits by Month



Visitors

The graph below shows the total number of visitors to ASSIST per month. Remember that these are unique visitors who may visit the site many times and that this chart shows the total number of visitors; not the number of visits. Again, you can see that ASSIST is visited most often in the Spring months of April and May.

Total Site Visitors by Month



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The chart below shows the total number of visitors to ASSIST per month from January to September, 2004.

January 2004	73,603
February 2004	61,553
March 2004	68,012
April 2004	84,033
May 2004	97,754
June 2004	83,707
July 2004	73,216
August 2004	85,935
September 2004	65,796
October 2004	30,221

Busiest Time of Day

ASSIST is busiest between the hours of 10:00 in the morning and 3:30 in the afternoon. Use drops significantly after about 6:00 in the evening. Of course, we also see that ASSIST is being used all night long and into the early morning hours.

The number of users accessing the ASSIST computer server affects how fast ASSIST responds to requests for information. When possible, use ASSIST earlier in the morning and later in the evening and you will find that it responds more quickly.