This research brief presents information on the jurisdictions served by Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) and Fall 2007 enrollment figures related to those jurisdictions. NOVA's service area consists of nine jurisdictions: Alexandria City, Arlington County, Fairfax City, Fairfax County, Falls Church City, Loudoun County, Manassas City, Manassas Park City, and Prince William County. Of the 2,082,915 residents in these jurisdictions, 34,340 enrolled at NOVA in Fall 2007.

Figure 1 presents the number of residents in each jurisdiction served by NOVA. As the figure shows, Fairfax County’s population is largest (1,012,512), followed by Prince William County (371,939) and Loudoun County (275,596). The two jurisdictions with the smallest populations are Falls Church City (11,280) and Manassas Park City (13,950).
Figure 2 shows the headcount of NOVA students by jurisdiction. The largest group of students from NOVA’s service area who enrolled in Fall 2007 resided in Fairfax County (16,418). The next largest groups of students from NOVA’s service area were from Prince William County (6,856) and Loudoun County (3,939). These three jurisdictions that contributed the most students were also the three highest populated jurisdictions in NOVA’s service area (see Figure 1). Jurisdictions with the smallest numbers of students enrolled at NOVA in Fall 2007 were Manassas Park City (139) and Falls Church City (559).

Figure 3 shows the penetration rate by jurisdiction. Penetration rate is the percentage of students enrolled at NOVA from a jurisdiction out of the total number of residents in that jurisdiction. The penetration rate is highest for Falls Church City as almost 5% of its residents attended NOVA in Fall 2007. This is followed by Fairfax City and Alexandria City with penetration rates of 2.8% and 2.0%, respectively. Even though Fairfax County residents contribute more students to NOVA than other jurisdictions, the proportion of its total population attending NOVA is 1.6%.
Figure 4 shows the penetration rate from NOVA’s service area as a whole at each campus. In other words, the percentage of all Northern Virginia residents (of those 9 jurisdictions already listed in Figures 1-3) who attended NOVA at each campus. The campus with the highest penetration rate from NOVA’s service area was Annandale (0.53%), followed by the Alexandria campus (0.36%) and the Loudoun campus (0.27%).