



## Overview: Spring 2022 Enrollment Estimates

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Enrollment declines are worsening this spring. Total postsecondary enrollment, which includes both undergraduate and graduate students, fell a further 4.1 percent or 685,000 students in spring 2022 compared to spring 2021. This follows a 3.5 percent drop last spring, for a total two-year decline of 7.4 percent or nearly 1.3 million students since spring 2020 (see **Table 1** and **Figure 1** for historical trends). The declines this spring are also markedly steeper than they were last fall, when total postsecondary enrollment declined by 2.7 percent from the [previous fall](#).

Undergraduate enrollment accounted for most of the decline, dropping 4.7 percent this spring or over 662,000 students from spring 2021. This is only slightly less than last spring's 4.9 percent loss. As a result, the undergraduate student body is now 9.4 percent or nearly 1.4 million students smaller than before the pandemic (see **Table 2**). Undergraduate enrollment is also falling more steeply this spring than it was in fall 2021 (-4.7% vs. -3.1%).

While all institutional sectors experienced varying degrees of enrollment declines, the public sector (two- and four-year colleges combined), which enrolled 71 percent of all students this spring, suffered the steepest drop, over 604,000 students (-5.0%; see Table 1). In particular, community colleges fell by 7.8 percent (351,000 students), representing more than half of the total postsecondary enrollment losses this spring. Community colleges have now lost over 827,000 students since spring 2020 (see Table 2).

Full-time student numbers fell by 3.8 percent (403,000 students), for a total two-year decline of 7.2 percent (787,000 students). For a second straight year, community colleges suffered double-digit declines in full-time students, amounting to nearly 11 percent (168,000 students) this year and 20.9 percent (372,000 students) for the two years since spring 2020. Part-time enrollment across all sectors fell by 4.5 percent (282,000 students), resulting in a cumulative loss of 7.7 percent (501,000 students) since spring 2020 (see **Table 3**). At private non-profit four-year institutions, part-time student enrollment dropped this spring (-4.1%), reversing last year's gains (+2.8%).

There were over 462,000 fewer women enrolled (-4.6%) this spring, more than doubling losses experienced the previous year, leading to a two-year total enrollment decline of 665,000 students (see **Table 7**). Community colleges contributed most to this loss (-9.2% or 251,000 fewer women versus -5.6% or 100,000 fewer men).

Enrollment of adults over 24 fell by 5.8 percent (354,000 students) this spring, with half of this decrease seen at community colleges (-10.8%, 176,000 students; see **Table 4**). Traditional college-aged students (18-24) were down by 3.2 percent (316,000 students) since spring 2021, at a slowing pace from a 5 percent decline the previous year. Since the start of the pandemic, community colleges have lost nearly 20 percent of students in the traditional age group and 16.2 percent of adult students (see Table 4). Meanwhile, the average age of full-time undergraduates in the public sector declined slightly, reversing the increases seen in average age of students enrolled in spring 2021 (see **Table 5**).

While postsecondary enrollment continued to drop across the nation, several states experienced growth because students enrolling in primarily online institutions based in these states have been increasing (see **Table 8a**). State-level spring enrollment is also available by institution sector (see **Table 8b**).



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The largest undergraduate majors at four-year institutions showed stagnant enrollment or continued drops, with a few exceptions such as computer sciences (+7.8% or 37,600 students) and psychology (+4.7% or 22,600 students; see **Table 9**). On the other hand, two-year college skilled trades program enrollment increased this spring, including construction (+19.3%, 11,140 students), mechanic and repair (+11.5%, 9,950 students), precision and production (+16.7%, 7,740 students, and culinary (+12.7%, 6,170 students). However, the growth was not enough to return to pre-pandemic levels of enrollment in these majors, except for construction (see **Table 10**).

### Spring Freshman Enrollment Trend

A special analysis of the spring freshmen included this year highlights distinctive pandemic-related enrollment trends. Generally, freshman enrollment in the spring is far smaller than freshman enrollment in the fall (for example, 340,000 freshmen in spring 2022 versus 2.1 million freshmen in **fall 2021**). In the first pandemic year, spring starters fell less steeply compared to fall starters (-3.5% in spring 2021, compared to -9.5% in fall 2020), and in the second pandemic year, spring starters rebounded strongly (+4.2%; see page 15), compared to +0.4% for fall 2021 starters.

Of the 340,000 spring starters, nearly six out of 10 started at a community college (58.4%). Public four-year colleges reported the largest freshmen increase from last spring (+10.8% or 7,300 students). Community college freshmen increased this spring (+3.1%, 6,000 students) after experiencing double digit declines the previous spring (-10.7%, 23,000 students). However, this spring's growth was not enough to return community college freshman enrollment to pre-pandemic levels, with the current freshmen numbers still running 7.9 percent (17,000 students) below spring 2020's levels. By race and ethnicity, Asian and Latinx freshmen numbers grew nationally in spring 2022 (+15% and +4%, 1,700 and 2,300 students, respectively). In contrast, Black freshmen declined by 6.5 percent (2,600 students), compounding previous losses for a total of 18.7 percent (8,400) fewer Black freshmen than in spring 2020.

*Current Term Enrollment Estimates Report Series* is published every December and May by the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center. It provides national enrollment estimates by degree level, institutional sector, enrollment intensity, age group, gender, major field as well as state-level enrollment estimates. Starting in fall 2020, state-level enrollment data are also shown by institution sector.

Enrollment estimates are adjusted for Clearinghouse data coverage rates by institutional sector, state, and year. Postsecondary institutions actively submitting enrollment data to the Clearinghouse account for 97 percent of the total enrollments at Title IV, degree-granting institutions in the U.S. Most institutions submit enrollment data several times per term, resulting in highly current data. Moreover, since the Clearinghouse collects data at the student level, it is possible to report an unduplicated student headcount, which avoids double-counting students who are simultaneously enrolled at multiple institutions.



**Figure 1.** Percent Change in Enrollment from Previous Year by Institutional Sector: 2018 to 2022





**Table 1.** Estimated National Enrollment by Institutional Sector: 2020 to 2022

Sector	Spring 2022		Spring 2021		Spring 2020	
	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year
Total Enrollment (All Sectors)	16,170,266	-4.1%	16,855,301	-3.5%	17,458,306	-0.5%
Public 4-year	7,252,413	-3.4%	7,505,850	-0.6%	7,551,244	-0.6%
Private nonprofit 4-year	3,682,997	-1.7%	3,747,921	-0.8%	3,776,462	-0.7%
Private for-profit 4-year	716,875	-0.2%	718,557	-1.5%	729,364	-1.9%
Public 2-year	4,169,930	-7.8%	4,521,046	-9.5%	4,997,043	-2.3%
<b>Unduplicated Student Headcount (All Sectors)</b>	<b>15,917,249</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>	<b>16,586,893</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>	<b>17,185,751</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>

## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Table 1** provides counts of spring term enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse by late-April of each year. Enrollments represent one student in one institution and thus would count twice a student enrolled simultaneously at two institutions (concurrent enrollment). The unduplicated headcount provides the number of unique students with no double-counting. This figure can be used to determine the percentage of concurrent enrollments in any given year. In each term, fewer than 2 percent of total enrollments can be accounted for by students enrolling in more than one institution.

Institutional classifications for the current term are based on the most recently available IPEDS institutional characteristics at the time of publication. Less-than-two-year institutions have been aggregated with two-year institutions. Private nonprofit two-year and for-profit two-year enrollments are not shown in the table due to small counts (approximately 2% of total enrollments), but enrollments from these sectors are included in the overall totals. Additional notes on data and coverage are included at the end of the report.



**Table 2.** Estimated National Enrollment by Institutional Sector and Program Level: 2020 to 2022

Sector	Program Level	Spring 2022		Spring 2021		Spring 2020	
		Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year
All Sectors	Undergraduate (All)	13,343,158	-4.7%	14,005,856	-4.9%	14,732,976	-0.5%
	Associate Degree-Seeking	3,885,978	-8.3%	4,235,492	-10.6%	4,738,695	-2.0%
	Bachelor's Degree-Seeking	7,694,987	-2.7%	7,912,210	-2.5%	8,118,936	-0.5%
	Other Undergraduate	1,762,193	-5.2%	1,858,154	-0.9%	1,875,345	3.2%
	Graduate/Professional*	2,827,108	-0.8%	2,849,445	4.6%	2,725,330	-0.1%
Public 4-year	Undergraduate (All)	5,874,550	-3.9%	6,114,270	-1.9%	6,233,670	-1.0%
	Associate Degree-Seeking	468,749	-9.1%	515,895	-4.3%	539,164	-4.9%
	Bachelor's Degree-Seeking	5,010,234	-3.5%	5,191,018	-2.0%	5,295,307	-0.9%
	Other Undergraduate	395,566	-2.9%	407,356	2.0%	399,199	3.6%
	Graduate/Professional*	1,377,863	-1.0%	1,391,580	5.6%	1,317,574	1.1%
Private nonprofit 4-year	Undergraduate (All)	2,476,011	-2.0%	2,525,480	-2.8%	2,598,786	-0.6%
	Associate Degree-Seeking	87,748	-8.1%	95,461	-3.8%	99,216	-4.4%
	Bachelor's Degree-Seeking	2,279,373	-1.4%	2,311,147	-2.7%	2,374,246	-0.6%
	Other Undergraduate	108,889	-8.4%	118,872	-5.1%	125,324	1.4%
	Graduate/Professional	1,206,986	-1.3%	1,222,441	3.8%	1,177,676	-0.9%
Private for-profit 4-year	Undergraduate (All)	501,334	-2.5%	514,008	-2.7%	528,172	-1.8%
	Associate Degree-Seeking	92,896	2.4%	90,677	-4.6%	95,087	-3.1%
	Bachelor's Degree-Seeking	358,178	-0.3%	359,214	-6.8%	385,486	-2.3%
	Other Undergraduate	50,260	-21.6%	64,117	34.7%	47,599	5.3%
	Graduate/Professional	215,541	5.4%	204,549	1.7%	201,192	-2.1%
Public 2-year	Undergraduate (All)	4,169,930	-7.8%	4,521,046	-9.5%	4,997,043	-2.3%
	Associate Degree-Seeking	3,130,437	-9.0%	3,441,890	-10.9%	3,862,965	-2.7%
	Other Undergraduate	1,039,493	-3.7%	1,079,156	-4.8%	1,134,078	-0.9%

## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Table 2** provides enrollment counts by program level. The other *undergraduate* category includes: undergraduate certificate/diploma, teacher preparation and special non-credential programs that have been classified by institutions as undergraduate programs, as well as enrollments that are not part of any structured program. The *graduate/professional* category includes: post-baccalaureate certificate, master's degree, doctoral degree, first-professional degree, graduate/professional certificate, and special non-credential programs that have been specifically classified by institutions as graduate-level programs.

\*Graduate enrollment decline in 2022 is an overestimation due to a large public university that had not submitted the 2022 data by the time of publication. If this university was included in the analysis with its graduate enrollment remaining at last year's level, the estimated declines this year would have been -0.4% (all sectors) and -0.3% (public 4-year).

**Table 3.** Estimated National Enrollment by Institutional Sector and Enrollment Intensity: 2020 to 2022

Sector	Enrollment Intensity	Spring 2022		Spring 2021		Spring 2020	
		Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year
All Sectors	Full-Time	10,182,583	-3.8%	10,586,032	-3.5%	10,969,338	0.4%
	Part-Time	5,987,684	-4.5%	6,269,269	-3.4%	6,488,968	-1.9%
Public 4-year	Full-Time	5,189,462	-3.3%	5,368,762	-2.2%	5,490,661	-0.1%
	Part-Time	2,062,951	-3.5%	2,137,088	3.7%	2,060,583	-2.0%
Private nonprofit 4-year	Full-Time	2,861,873	-1.0%	2,891,253	-1.8%	2,942,777	-0.2%
	Part-Time	821,124	-4.1%	856,667	2.8%	833,685	-2.6%
Private for-profit 4-year	Full-Time	438,445	-0.1%	438,843	-1.5%	445,751	-2.6%
	Part-Time	278,430	-0.5%	279,714	-1.4%	283,612	-0.8%
Public 2-year	Full-Time	1,407,868	-10.7%	1,575,887	-11.4%	1,779,427	-1.8%
	Part-Time	2,762,062	-6.2%	2,945,159	-8.5%	3,217,616	-2.5%

## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Table 3** provides enrollment counts by the enrollment intensity of the student. The part-time category includes enrollments reported to the Clearinghouse as three-quarter time, half-time, and less-than-half-time. Enrollment intensity is defined by the institution and based on the earliest data submitted for a student in any given term. As a result, the intensity generally reflects the student's intended workload at the beginning of the term. Less-than-two-year institutions have been aggregated with two-year institutions. Private nonprofit two-year and for-profit two-year enrollments are not shown in the table due to small counts (2% of total enrollments), but enrollments from these sectors are included in the overall totals.



**Table 4.** Estimated National Enrollment by Institutional Sector and Age Group: 2020 to 2022

Sector	Age Group	Spring 2022		Spring 2021		Spring 2020	
		Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year
All Sectors	Under 18	704,133	-2.0%	718,460	-0.6%	722,843	6.9%
	18 to 24	9,674,810	-3.2%	9,991,267	-5.0%	10,515,363	-0.4%
	Over 24	5,791,324	-5.8%	6,145,574	-1.2%	6,220,100	-1.4%
Public 4-year	Under 18	169,205	-5.7%	179,389	2.7%	174,741	2.2%
	18 to 24	5,013,400	-2.5%	5,140,809	-2.0%	5,247,834	-0.3%
	Over 24	2,069,808	-5.3%	2,185,652	2.7%	2,128,668	-1.6%
Private nonprofit 4-year	Under 18	30,059	-0.9%	30,340	-6.4%	32,423	4.2%
	18 to 24	2,128,665	-0.5%	2,140,052	-2.8%	2,202,483	-0.4%
	Over 24	1,524,273	-3.4%	1,577,529	2.3%	1,541,556	-1.3%
Private for-profit 4-year	Under 18	1,363	9.7%	1,243	12.9%	1,101	-5.3%
	18 to 24	143,770	6.3%	135,294	0.8%	134,264	2.2%
	Over 24	571,742	-1.8%	582,020	-2.0%	593,999	-2.8%
Public 2-year	Under 18	498,812	-1.1%	504,446	-1.2%	510,389	8.7%
	18 to 24	2,223,198	-7.1%	2,392,844	-13.2%	2,758,183	-2.5%
	Over 24	1,447,920	-10.8%	1,623,756	-6.1%	1,728,470	-4.8%

## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Table 4** includes all spring enrollments reported to the Clearinghouse, including students enrolled in non-credential programs. Student age is calculated as of the first day of the term (a date specific to the institution). Less-than-two-year institutions have been aggregated with two-year institutions. Private nonprofit two-year and for-profit two-year enrollments are not shown in the table due to small counts (2% of total enrollments), but enrollments from these sectors are included in the overall totals. Additional notes on data and coverage are included at the end of this report.



**Table 5.** The Average Age of Students by Program Level, Institutional Sector, and Enrollment Intensity: 2018 to 2022

Program Level	Sector	Average Age (Years)									
		Spring 2022		Spring 2021		Spring 2020		Spring 2019		Spring 2018	
		Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Undergraduate (All)	All Sectors	22.71	27.47	22.84	27.51	22.70	27.67	22.75	27.83	22.86	28.06
	Public 4-year	21.70	27.10	21.83	27.19	21.76	27.44	21.79	27.52	21.86	27.64
	Private nonprofit 4-year	22.92	31.41	22.99	31.43	22.86	31.57	22.87	31.69	22.66	31.93
	Private for-profit 4-year	32.46	33.94	32.66	33.80	32.54	34.12	32.54	34.22	32.75	34.17
	Public 2-year	23.44	26.57	23.65	26.64	23.36	26.85	23.49	27.08	23.66	27.32
Graduate/ Professional	All Sectors	30.44	35.49	30.57	35.30	30.54	35.38	30.52	35.34	30.52	35.34
	Public 4-year	28.97	34.61	29.07	34.41	29.00	34.50	28.95	34.48	28.87	34.44
	Private nonprofit 4-year	30.80	36.02	30.92	35.85	30.90	35.83	30.88	35.74	30.44	35.64
	Private for-profit 4-year	38.39	40.11	38.55	39.91	38.70	39.98	38.79	39.90	38.81	39.89

## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Table 5** provides the average age of students by program level, sector, and enrollment intensity. Dual enrollees (under age 18) are included. A student's age is determined as of the first day of his or her enrollment in the current term. The first date of enrollment can vary depending on the academic term used by the institution. The part-time category includes enrollments reported to the Clearinghouse as three-quarter time, half-time, and less-than-half-time. Enrollment intensity is defined by the institution and based on the earliest data submitted for a student in any given term.





**Table 6.** The Median and Average Ages of Students by Program Level, Institutional Sector, and Gender: 2021-2022

Program Level	Sector	Spring 2022				Spring 2021			
		Men		Women		Men		Women	
		Median (yrs.)	Average (yrs.)	Median (yrs.)	Average (yrs.)	Median (yrs.)	Average (yrs.)	Median (yrs.)	Average (yrs.)
Undergraduate (All)	All Sectors	21.33	24.07	21.44	24.98	21.41	24.18	21.54	25.06
	Public 4-year	21.23	22.94	21.08	23.33	21.30	23.07	21.13	23.44
	Private nonprofit 4-year	21.31	24.03	21.32	24.86	21.36	24.17	21.37	24.97
	Private for-profit 4-year	31.10	32.61	31.56	33.36	31.43	32.86	31.45	33.30
	Public 2-year	21.13	24.84	22.09	26.11	21.34	24.95	22.38	26.13
Graduate/ Professional	All Sectors	29.06	32.05	29.09	32.53	29.17	32.12	29.14	32.54
	Public 4-year	28.48	31.14	28.25	31.47	28.59	31.21	28.24	31.41
	Private nonprofit 4-year	29.17	32.37	28.96	32.57	29.26	32.42	29.05	32.63
	Private for-profit 4-year	38.00	39.44	37.57	38.85	38.02	39.53	37.52	38.86

## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Table 6** provides the median and average ages of students by program level, sector, and gender. Dual enrollees (under age 18) are included. A student's age is determined as of the first day of his or her enrollment in the current term. The first date of enrollment can vary depending on the academic term used by the institution. Additional notes on data, coverage, and imputation of gender are included at the end of the report.

**Table 7.** Estimated National Enrollment by Institutional Sector and Gender: 2020 to 2022

Sector	Gender	Spring 2022		Spring 2021		Spring 2020	
		Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year
All Sectors	Men	6,606,684	-3.3%	6,829,297	-5.5%	7,229,333	-1.8%
	Women	9,563,582	-4.6%	10,026,004	-2.0%	10,228,973	0.5%
Public 4-year	Men	3,083,907	-3.3%	3,189,301	-2.7%	3,278,843	-1.5%
	Women	4,168,506	-3.4%	4,316,549	1.0%	4,272,400	0.0%
Private nonprofit 4-year	Men	1,449,223	-1.9%	1,476,674	-1.9%	1,504,614	-1.3%
	Women	2,233,774	-1.6%	2,271,247	0.0%	2,271,847	-0.3%
Private for-profit 4-year	Men	243,709	6.0%	230,015	-1.9%	234,463	-4.4%
	Women	473,166	-3.1%	488,543	-1.3%	494,901	-0.7%
Public 2-year	Men	1,698,614	-5.6%	1,798,757	-14.4%	2,101,445	-3.1%
	Women	2,471,316	-9.2%	2,722,289	-6.0%	2,895,598	-1.7%

## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Table 7** provides enrollment counts by gender. Institutions reported student gender to the Clearinghouse for 75 percent of all students. Gender was imputed for an additional 20 percent of the students, based on first name for all other students. Less-than-two-year institutions have been aggregated with two-year institutions. Private nonprofit two-year and for-profit two-year enrollments are not shown in the table due to small counts (approximately 2% of total enrollments), but enrollments from these sectors are included in the overall totals. Additional notes on data, coverage, and imputation of gender are included in the report.

**Table 8a.** Estimated Enrollment by State of Institution: 2020 to 2022

State	Enrollment			Percent Change from Previous Year		
	Spring 2022	Spring 2021	Spring 2020	Spring 2022	Spring 2021	Spring 2020
Alabama	257,415	257,787	268,809	-0.1%	-4.1%	-0.6%
Alaska	19,394	20,365	20,643	-4.8%	-1.3%	-9.8%
Arizona	442,122	436,616	441,282	1.3%	-1.1%	4.3%
Arkansas	119,026	128,158	135,049	-7.1%	-5.1%	-2.7%
California	2,012,874	2,190,806	2,313,557	-8.1%	-5.3%	-1.2%
Colorado*	294,757	270,326	279,681	9.0%	-3.3%	-1.4%
Connecticut	167,120	171,810	176,912	-2.7%	-2.9%	-2.5%
Delaware	49,428	49,964	54,157	-1.1%	-7.7%	-1.4%
District of Columbia	71,688	69,676	69,364	2.9%	0.4%	-1.9%
Florida	842,834	879,729	889,945	-4.2%	-1.1%	0.2%
Georgia	466,959	473,504	482,099	-1.4%	-1.8%	-1.2%
Hawaii	43,769	46,551	47,315	-6.0%	-1.6%	-0.8%
Idaho	95,254	97,724	97,360	-2.5%	0.4%	-0.4%
Illinois	518,897	542,051	570,473	-4.3%	-5.0%	-2.4%
Indiana ^	347,676	314,172	324,180	10.7%	-3.1%	-2.5%
Iowa	163,468	170,900	180,286	-4.3%	-5.2%	-3.6%
Kansas^	147,070	155,251	165,670	-5.3%	-6.3%	-2.3%
Kentucky	218,238	220,259	225,971	-0.9%	-2.5%	1.9%
Louisiana	193,833	201,684	209,666	-3.9%	-3.8%	0.1%
Maine	57,351	59,503	60,478	-3.6%	-1.6%	-1.6%
Maryland	295,598	317,023	314,800	-6.8%	0.7%	-1.9%
Massachusetts*	379,259	399,307	415,514	-5.0%	-3.9%	-2.5%
Michigan*	360,220	426,474	455,663	-15.5%	-6.4%	-2.9%
Minnesota	325,967	342,342	349,292	-4.8%	-2.0%	-0.9%
Mississippi	135,635	143,253	149,443	-5.3%	-4.1%	-0.3%
Missouri	267,805	288,212	299,690	-7.1%	-3.8%	-4.9%
Montana	41,185	40,277	42,702	2.3%	-5.7%	-4.3%
Nebraska	123,378	124,766	121,832	-1.1%	2.4%	0.5%
Nevada	97,299	99,324	104,229	-2.0%	-4.7%	1.0%
New Hampshire	201,032	185,858	167,705	8.2%	10.8%	3.5%
New Jersey	317,972	340,637	360,429	-6.7%	-5.5%	-0.3%
New Mexico	85,656	88,838	100,291	-3.6%	-11.4%	-3.4%
New York	901,547	943,336	995,377	-4.4%	-5.2%	-2.0%
North Carolina	476,338	480,764	496,443	-0.9%	-3.2%	0.9%
North Dakota	44,913	45,090	45,808	-0.4%	-1.6%	-0.8%
Ohio	500,478	526,890	547,336	-5.0%	-3.7%	-3.1%
Oklahoma	151,493	159,095	165,101	-4.8%	-3.6%	-1.0%
Oregon	185,367	196,171	201,979	-5.5%	-2.9%	-3.3%
Pennsylvania	564,413	580,392	603,130	-2.8%	-3.8%	-4.0%
Rhode Island	60,733	62,227	65,376	-2.4%	-4.8%	-1.0%
South Carolina	213,750	209,246	215,725	2.2%	-3.0%	1.3%
South Dakota	41,046	42,030	43,899	-2.3%	-4.3%	-2.0%
Tennessee	256,810	267,893	279,459	-4.1%	-4.1%	0.6%
Texas	1,330,347	1,366,496	1,387,478	-2.6%	-1.5%	0.0%
Utah	373,556	362,609	346,431	3.0%	4.7%	3.2%
Vermont	33,318	35,903	38,134	-7.2%	-5.8%	-4.9%
Virginia	466,441	474,486	468,426	-1.7%	1.3%	0.3%
Washington	279,297	300,819	312,747	-7.2%	-3.8%	-3.1%
West Virginia	136,253	133,573	129,898	2.0%	2.8%	-2.0%
Wisconsin	252,316	263,264	276,352	-4.2%	-4.7%	-2.9%
Wyoming	24,804	26,088	27,816	-4.9%	-6.2%	0.6%
Multi-State Institutions	529,682	622,445	625,564	-14.9%	-0.5%	-2.6%

## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Table 8a** provides enrollment counts by the state where the institution is located. Institutions that span multiple states have been included in a separate line called “multi-state.” Enrollments in these institutions are not included in any other individual states.

\*States where a large institution had inconsistent data submission across years, making enrollment estimates less accurate. Interpret the data with caution for the following sectors and states: Public 4-year (MI), Private Nonprofit 4-year (MA), and Other sectors (CO).

^Data for 2022 were impacted by reclassification of for-profit four-year institutions.



**Table 9.** Estimated Undergraduate Enrollment by Major at Four-Year Institutions: 2020 to 2022

Major (CIP Code)	CIP Title	Spring 2022		Spring 2021		Spring 2020	
		Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year
52	Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support	1,500,247	0.6%	1,491,999	-2.3%	1,527,889	-1.7%
51	Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences	1,024,849	-2.7%	1,053,578	0.1%	1,052,148	-1.0%
24	Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities	827,743	-4.2%	863,899	-7.4%	932,596	-5.2%
26	Biological and Biomedical Sciences	560,197	-0.1%	560,884	-2.5%	575,084	-0.9%
14	Engineering	534,992	0.6%	531,889	-3.5%	550,966	-1.8%
11	Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services	518,844	7.8%	481,294	3.0%	467,204	4.7%
42	Psychology	502,202	4.7%	479,582	4.8%	457,506	4.1%
13	Education	436,139	-0.5%	438,212	0.0%	438,195	-0.1%
45	Social Sciences	398,531	-2.3%	407,981	-3.4%	422,438	-1.7%
50	Visual and Performing Arts	392,083	5.7%	370,954	-4.4%	387,897	1.4%
09	Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs	272,433	-3.5%	282,375	-8.7%	309,306	-2.4%
43	Security and Protective Services	251,800	-2.3%	257,603	-5.6%	272,986	0.4%
30	Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	226,264	4.4%	216,817	-5.0%	228,253	0.8%
31	Parks, Recreation, Leisure and Fitness Studies	219,668	1.1%	217,259	-1.7%	221,086	-1.3%
44	Public Administration and Social Service Professions	123,737	-5.1%	130,430	-1.6%	132,563	-1.6%
40	Physical Sciences	116,159	-2.0%	118,519	-7.6%	128,317	-4.7%
23	English Language and Literature/ Letters	113,323	-0.5%	113,943	-10.2%	126,902	-5.0%
15	Engineering Technologies/ Technicians	92,392	0.4%	92,003	-6.5%	98,402	-3.2%
01	Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences*	91,243	11.8%	81,639	-3.8%	84,886	-1.4%
03	Natural Resources and Conservation	83,020	4.4%	79,502	-1.6%	80,801	2.2%
27	Mathematics and Statistics	81,755	-4.1%	85,294	-2.5%	87,493	-1.2%
54	History	78,144	0.5%	77,734	-4.1%	81,024	-2.4%
19	Family and Consumer Sciences/ Human Sciences	76,096	-5.4%	80,421	-8.7%	88,081	-5.7%
16	Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	52,196	-6.2%	55,637	3.7%	53,644	-4.6%
04	Architecture and Related Services	46,694	7.0%	43,652	2.4%	42,624	2.7%
49	Transportation and Materials Moving	34,497	4.4%	33,046	7.0%	30,887	5.6%
38	Philosophy and Religious Studies	30,924	-0.9%	31,213	-1.6%	31,713	-3.5%
05	Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	24,626	2.6%	23,999	-6.7%	25,735	-1.9%
39	Theology and Religious Vocations	24,474	-3.1%	25,251	-1.0%	25,494	-7.2%
10	Communications Technologies/ Technicians and Support Services	23,650	22.3%	19,333	-5.4%	20,440	6.9%
22	Legal Professions and Studies	23,644	-4.1%	24,647	6.4%	23,166	-0.7%
12	Personal and Culinary Services	17,616	10.5%	15,936	13.3%	14,066	-3.6%
47	Mechanic and Repair Technologies/ Technicians	13,687	-1.4%	13,879	-0.6%	13,967	-3.5%
46	Construction Trades	8,822	6.2%	8,308	-18.3%	10,170	-6.8%
41	Science Technologies/Technicians	5,566	-18.0%	6,785	-14.0%	7,886	-5.2%
48	Precision Production	5,264	9.5%	4,807	-15.3%	5,678	-0.4%

## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Table 9** provides college enrollment totals disaggregated by Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) codes. The table excludes the following CIP codes, each of which had total enrollments of less than 5,000: 25 (Library Science), 28 (Military Science, Leadership, and Operational Art), 29 (Military Technologies and Applied Sciences), 32 (Basic Skills and Developmental/Remedial Education), 33 (Citizenship Activities), 34 (Health-Related Knowledge and Skills), 35 (Interpersonal and Social Skills), 36 (Leisure and Recreational Activities), 37 (Personal Awareness and Self-Improvement), 53 (High School/Secondary Diplomas and Certificates), 60 (Residency Programs).

\*The 2022 growth is largely due to the reclassification of "Agriculture, Agriculture Operations and Related Sciences" in the new CIP 2020.

**Table 10.** Estimated Undergraduate Enrollment by Major at Two-Year Institutions: 2020 to 2022

Major (CIP Code)	CIP Title	Spring 2022		Spring 2021		Spring 2020	
		Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year
24	Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities	1,434,734	-0.3%	1,439,320	-13.8%	1,669,372	-2.1%
51	Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences	758,203	-0.3%	760,810	-2.2%	777,936	-1.1%
52	Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support	496,807	2.4%	485,360	-7.9%	527,116	-2.1%
11	Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services	215,787	8.5%	198,838	-6.0%	211,420	3.0%
43	Security and Protective Services	139,631	-3.9%	145,259	-16.7%	174,386	-2.8%
50	Visual and Performing Arts	127,943	8.4%	118,032	-18.1%	144,106	1.9%
30	Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	107,481	-0.2%	107,686	-14.1%	125,294	-1.1%
26	Biological and Biomedical Sciences	103,901	-1.2%	105,157	-2.5%	107,835	2.6%
15	Engineering Technologies/Technicians	98,566	6.5%	92,518	-15.4%	109,361	-2.2%
13	Education	97,159	2.7%	94,574	-4.5%	98,996	-3.9%
47	Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians	96,265	11.5%	86,315	-18.0%	105,316	4.8%
42	Psychology	95,114	3.2%	92,195	0.8%	91,442	9.4%
19	Family and Consumer Sciences/ Human Sciences	70,761	-1.8%	72,081	-12.3%	82,175	-2.9%
46	Construction Trades	68,764	19.3%	57,623	-8.1%	62,735	7.4%
14	Engineering	68,174	1.4%	67,257	-13.2%	77,505	-0.2%
45	Social Sciences	62,557	-5.5%	66,206	-9.8%	73,407	-1.8%
12	Personal and Culinary Services	54,723	12.7%	48,554	-20.4%	60,970	2.0%
48	Precision Production	54,105	16.7%	46,369	-20.6%	58,386	5.6%
31	Parks, Recreation, Leisure and Fitness Studies	41,085	-0.3%	41,212	-12.9%	47,318	6.1%
01	Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences*	41,027	47.8%	27,756	-9.2%	30,564	-0.1%
09	Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs	36,402	-4.5%	38,128	-14.6%	44,672	-0.2%
44	Public Administration and Social Service Professions	31,385	2.1%	30,739	-6.4%	32,856	-0.6%
22	Legal Professions and Studies	25,524	-1.0%	25,788	4.8%	24,611	1.4%
10	Communications Technologies/Technicians and Support Services	25,386	6.6%	23,804	-18.1%	29,074	0.8%
40	Physical Sciences	23,742	-17.0%	28,607	-20.5%	36,002	-6.6%
23	English Language and Literature/ Letters	21,910	-4.0%	22,815	-17.6%	27,698	-2.4%
41	Science Technologies/Technicians	21,593	4.1%	20,735	-9.8%	22,990	28.0%
16	Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	17,236	-1.2%	17,440	-7.3%	18,819	-1.8%
27	Mathematics and Statistics	16,336	-6.9%	17,546	-13.9%	20,383	1.0%
49	Transportation and Materials Moving	11,750	28.9%	9,113	-11.3%	10,279	3.7%
54	History	10,848	3.3%	10,506	-9.5%	11,612	0.9%
03	Natural Resources and Conservation	9,492	3.5%	9,174	-0.6%	9,233	1.1%
32	Basic Skills	9,093	14.9%	7,912	-12.5%	9,045	6.0%
04	Architecture and Related Services	7,118	5.5%	6,749	-2.9%	6,951	6.1%

## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Table 10** provides college enrollment totals disaggregated by Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) codes. The table excludes the following CIP codes, each of which had total enrollments of less than 5,000: 05 (Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies), 25 (Library Science), 28 (Military Science, Leadership, and Operational Art), 29 (Military Technologies and Applied Sciences), 33 (Citizenship Activities), 34 (Health-Related Knowledge and Skills), 35 (Interpersonal and Social Skills), 36 (Leisure and Recreational Activities), 37 (Personal Awareness and Self-Improvement), 38 (Philosophy and Religious Studies), 39 (Theology and Religious Vocations), 53 (High School/Secondary Diplomas and Certificates), 60 (Residency Programs).

\*The 2022 growth is largely due to the reclassification of "Agriculture, Agriculture Operations and Related Sciences" in the new CIP 2020.

## Special Analysis: Spring Freshman Enrollment Estimates by Institutional Sector, Gender, and Race/Ethnicity: 2020 to 2022 (Unweighted)

Sector	Gender and Race/Ethnicity	Spring 2022		Spring 2021		Spring 2020
		Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment	% Change from Previous Year	Enrollment
All Sectors	Grand Total	339,286	4.2%	325,603	-3.5%	337,403
	Male	149,134	7.5%	138,673	-6.9%	149,018
	Female	168,757	0.6%	167,779	0.5%	166,947
	Missing Gender	21,395	11.7%	19,151	-10.7%	21,438
	White	111,959	0.9%	110,977	-3.9%	115,463
	Latinx	60,736	4.0%	58,410	-7.8%	63,319
	Black	36,655	-6.5%	39,219	-13.0%	45,077
	Asian	12,975	15.0%	11,285	-14.7%	13,232
	Native American	2,671	8.5%	2,461	-9.9%	2,731
	Other	114,290	10.7%	103,251	5.8%	97,581
Public 4-year	Grand Total	74,652	10.8%	67,394	1.2%	66,581
	Male	33,082	11.7%	29,614	-1.4%	30,031
	Female	35,388	8.0%	32,758	2.7%	31,887
	Missing Gender	6,182	23.1%	5,022	7.7%	4,663
	White	25,584	9.1%	23,459	-7.9%	25,460
	Latinx	13,263	10.3%	12,025	3.0%	11,675
	Black	7,230	-1.9%	7,372	-9.9%	8,178
	Asian	3,541	29.4%	2,737	-9.2%	3,015
	Native American	747	3.3%	723	2.4%	706
	Other	24,287	15.2%	21,078	20.1%	17,547
Private nonprofit 4-year	Grand Total	37,838	0.3%	37,719	13.4%	33,253
	Male	16,157	-2.1%	16,498	12.0%	14,725
	Female	19,687	0.4%	19,606	17.5%	16,691
	Missing Gender	1,994	23.5%	1,615	-12.1%	1,837
	White	12,525	-10.4%	13,976	14.2%	12,240
	Latinx	3,995	2.6%	3,892	24.7%	3,121
	Black	3,369	-10.4%	3,762	-1.1%	3,804
	Asian	1,252	-13.5%	1,447	44.1%	1,004
Public 2-year	Grand Total	198,155	3.1%	192,189	-10.7%	215,169
	Male	88,115	8.1%	81,548	-15.1%	96,102
	Female	98,395	-1.3%	99,711	-5.7%	105,731
	Missing Gender	11,645	6.5%	10,930	-18.0%	13,336
	White	69,453	0.9%	68,839	-6.8%	73,823
	Latinx	38,856	3.9%	37,392	-18.5%	45,862
	Black	22,986	-5.8%	24,391	-19.0%	30,115
	Asian	7,802	15.1%	6,780	-24.3%	8,957
	Native American	1,546	10.4%	1,401	-19.0%	1,730
	Other	57,512	7.7%	53,386	-2.4%	54,682

## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**This Special Analysis** provides spring freshman enrollment counts disaggregated by gender, race/ethnicity, and institutional sector. Freshman students are those with no previous enrollment or completion records across the Clearinghouse universe of higher education institutions since 1993, unless the previous enrollment record is prior to age 18 or graduation from high school (dual enrollment). The spring freshmen counts provided in this report are unweighted, not accounting for the Clearinghouse data coverage rates.

*Other* includes Pacific Islander, Multi-Racial, International, and Unknown/Missing race/ethnicity. Freshmen at private for-profit four-year and private two-year institutions are included in the total, although not shown here due to small student counts.



## Methodological Notes

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### NATIONAL COVERAGE OF THE DATA AND WEIGHTING FOR THIS REPORT

As of fall 2021 institutions actively submitting enrollment data to the Clearinghouse account for 97 percent of all enrollments at Title IV, degree-granting institutions in the U.S. Because Clearinghouse participation grew over the period covered by this report, and because coverage of institutions (i.e., percentage of all institutions participating in the Clearinghouse) is not 100 percent for any individual year, weights were applied by institutional sector and state to better approximate enrollments at all institutions nationally. Using the IPEDS Title IV, degree-granting institutions as the baseline population, weights for each institution type and state were calculated using the inverse of the rate of enrollment coverage for that sector or state in the relevant year. Given the unavailability of fall 2021 IPEDS enrollments at the time of publication, fall 2020 IPEDS enrollments were used as the basis for calculating the fall 2021 Clearinghouse data coverage rates, and these rates were applied to estimate the spring 2022 enrollments. However, in the special analysis of spring freshman enrollment, the reported data are unweighted data, unadjusted for data coverage rates (page 15). For detailed statistics on enrollment coverage, as well as other aspects of Clearinghouse data, view ["Working With Our Data."](#)

### DIFFERENCES FROM IPEDS DATA

National Student Clearinghouse data are non-adjudicated, administrative data that come directly from college and university registrars. The data differ from IPEDS survey data in several important ways:

**1. Term definition:** Term definition: IPEDS does not conduct a spring enrollment survey, so there are no comparable IPEDS numbers for the spring. For Clearinghouse reporting, institutions provide the start- and end-dates for each enrollment, rather than formally designating fall or spring terms. Spring terms included in the Current Term Enrollment Estimates account for the academic terms that:

Spring terms included in the Current Term Enrollment Estimates account for the academic terms that:

- a) began between January 15 and March 31, inclusive OR
- b) ended between February 15 and April 30, inclusive OR
- c) began before January 15 AND ended after April 30.

**2. Degree-granting status:** Degree-granting status: When referencing IPEDS enrollment counts, it is important to distinguish counts limited to degree-granting institutions from those that also include non-degree-granting institutions. NCES publishes both of these counts in IPEDS First-Look Reports. The Clearinghouse counts in this report are limited to Title IV, degree-granting institutions.





**3. Enrollment status changes:** Institutions submit data to the Clearinghouse throughout a given term, capturing changes in enrollment status from one submission to the next. The counts in this report include all students whose institution submitted at least one enrollment record showing the student enrolled as either full time, three-quarters time, half time, or less than half time during the term. For IPEDS reporting, an institution generally counts a student according to the student's enrollment status as of the institution's IPEDS census date.

## GENDER IMPUTATION

Institutions reported student gender to the Clearinghouse for 75 percent of all students included in this report. The gender for an additional 20 percent of the students was imputed using a table of name-gender pairs that the Research Center developed using data publicly available from the Census Bureau and the Social Security Administration as well as the institution-reported data. The imputation used only those pairs in which the name had at least two instances and was associated with a single gender in at least 95 percent of the instances. The imputation is accurate in 99.6 percent of the cases where gender was reported by institutions. A detailed document describing this approach resides on the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center's ["Working With Our Data"](#) page.

## CIP 2020 CLASSIFICATION CHANGES

Spring 2022 enrollment reporting by major utilizes the 2020 CIP Classification update. This means the years prior to spring 2022 presented in this report still follow the previous 2010 classification. These updates generally added new categories for programs of study rather than replacing the 2010 categories with new ones, with some exceptions. As such, the "Agriculture, Agriculture Operations and Related Sciences" family is largely affected, particularly veterinary-related programs that moved from Health Professions (CIP 51) to Agriculture (CIP 01). As a result, enrollment changes in 2022 cannot be estimated accurately for these two affected families.

## FRESHMAN ENROLLMENT

Freshman students are those with no previous enrollment or completion records across the Clearinghouse universe of higher education institutions since 1993 unless the previous enrollment record is prior to age 18 or graduation from high school (dual enrollment). The freshman counts provided in this report are unweighted, not accounting for the Clearinghouse data coverage rates.



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## RACE AND ETHNICITY IMPUTATION FOR FRESHMAN ENROLLMENT

Not all institutions report race and ethnicity data to the Clearinghouse. Missing data (for institutions that do not report to the Clearinghouse) and unknown data (for students that do not report to their institution) account an average of 26 percent of freshman enrollment reflected in this analysis. Newer student enrollment data typically has less opportunity for their race and ethnicity to have been reported by colleges. This report only analyzes five main groups (White, Latinx, Black, Asian, and Native American students) due to higher levels of missing or unknown data for 2022. Race and ethnicity missing data are imputed for the current term freshmen presented in this report, based on the historical matching rates identified in the Clearinghouse data.

## STATE-LEVEL ENROLLMENT AND MULTI-STATE INSTITUTIONS

In enrollment reporting at the state level we exclude multi-state institutions from any individual states. Multi-state institutions have at least one branch campus operational in a different state from the main campus according to the fall 2020 IPEDS Institutional Characteristics Survey data. Starting this year, multi-state institutions are determined for the current reporting year by IPEDS rather than accounting for multi-state operation at any point in an institution's history. With this change, state-level enrollment estimates are made more current and accurate.