

# Graduation Rates for Selected Cohorts, 2006-11; Student Financial Aid, Academic Year 2013-14; and Admissions in Postsecondary Institutions, Fall 2014

First Look (Provisional Data)



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# Introduction

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The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) collects institution-level data from postsecondary institutions in the United States (50 states and the District of Columbia) and other U.S. jurisdictions (see appendix A for a list of other U.S. jurisdictions). This *First Look* presents findings from the provisional data of the IPEDS winter 2014-15 data collection, which included four survey components: *Graduation Rates* (GR), *200 Percent Graduation Rates* (GR200), *Student Financial Aid* (SFA), and *Admissions* (ADM). GR and GR200 present graduation rates for selected cohorts within 100, 150, and 200 percent of normal program completion time (e.g., “normal” program completion time for a bachelor’s degree would be 4 years). SFA collects the number of undergraduate students awarded aid as well as the amount of the aid awarded to those students. ADM collects information about the undergraduate selection process for entering first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students. Data for these components were collected through the IPEDS web-based data collection system. Though fielded during the same collection period, each survey component collected data on different groups of individuals (e.g., cohorts starting at a specific time). A brief summary of the winter 2014-15 survey components is included in this report, and detailed information about the study methodology can be found at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2015098>.

This *First Look* provides users with access to fully reviewed, edited, and imputed IPEDS data. Final data, including revisions to the provisional data submitted by institutions after the close of data collection, will be available during the next collection year (2015-16).

The purpose of this report is to introduce new data through tables containing descriptive information. The findings presented here demonstrate the range of information available through IPEDS; they include only a sample of the information collected and are not meant to emphasize any particular issue. While only a few of the data included in the winter 2014-15 collection are displayed in this *First Look*, all data from the winter 2014-15 collection are publicly available through the IPEDS Data Center, found at <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/datacenter>.

## IPEDS 2014-15

Participation in IPEDS was required for institutions and administrative offices that participated in Title IV federal student financial aid programs such as Federal Pell Grants or Federal Stafford Loans during the 2014-15 academic year.<sup>1</sup> A total of 7,310 Title IV institutions in the United States and other U.S. jurisdictions were expected to participate in the winter collection. Tables in this report focus on the 7,151 institutions in the United States; however, data from institutions in both the United States and other U.S. jurisdictions are available for download.

Detailed definitions of terms used in this report are available in the glossary (appendix B).

<sup>1</sup> Institutions participating in Title IV programs are accredited by an agency or organization recognized by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, have a program of more than 300 clock hours or 8 credit hours, have been in business for at least 2 years, and have a signed Program Participation Agreement with the Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education.

## **Graduation Rates**

The 2014-15 GR component collected counts of full-time, first-time<sup>2</sup> degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students beginning their postsecondary education in the specified cohort year and their completion status as of 150 percent of normal program completion time at the same institution where the students started. If 150 percent of normal program completions time extended beyond August 31, 2014, the counts as of that date were collected. Four-year institutions used 2008 as the cohort year, while less-than-4-year institutions used 2011 as the cohort year. For 4-year institutions operating on standard academic terms (semester, trimester, quarter), students beginning in cohort year 2008 are those who were first-time students in the fall of the 2008-09 academic year. For 4-year institutions operating on other than standard academic terms, students beginning in cohort year 2008 are those who were first-time students between September 1, 2008, and August 31, 2009. Similarly, for less-than-4-year institutions operating on standard academic terms, students beginning in cohort year 2011 are those who were first-time students in the fall of the 2011-12 academic year. For less-than-4-year institutions operating on other than standard academic terms, students beginning in cohort year 2011 are those who were first-time students between September 1, 2011, and August 31, 2012.

## **200 Percent Graduation Rates**

The GR200 component was designed to combine information reported in a prior collection via the GR component with current information about the same cohort of students. From previously collected data, the following elements were obtained: the number of students entering the institution as full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking students in a cohort year; the number of students in this cohort completing within 100 and 150 percent of normal program completion time; and the number of cohort exclusions (such as students who left for military service). Then the count of additional cohort exclusions and additional program completers between 151 and 200 percent of normal program completion time was collected.

Four-year institutions report on bachelor's or equivalent degree-seeking students and use cohort year 2006 as the reference period, while less-than-4-year institutions report on all students in the cohort and use cohort year 2010 as the reference period. For 4-year institutions operating on standard academic terms (semester, trimester, quarter), students beginning in cohort year 2006 are those who were first-time students in the fall of the 2006-07 academic year. For 4-year institutions operating on other than standard academic terms, students beginning in cohort year 2006 are those who were first-time students between September 1, 2006, and August 31, 2007.

Similarly, for less-than-4-year institutions operating on standard academic terms, students beginning in cohort year 2010 are those who were first-time students in the fall of the 2010-11 academic year. For less-than-4-year institutions operating on other than standard academic terms, students beginning in cohort year 2010 are those who were first-time students between September 1, 2010, and August 31, 2011.

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<sup>2</sup> Throughout this publication, the term "first-time" refers to students with no prior postsecondary experience attending any institution for the first time at the undergraduate level. See appendix B, Glossary, for further definition of a first-time student.

## **Student Financial Aid**

The SFA component collected data about financial aid awarded to undergraduate students, with particular emphasis on full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students awarded financial aid for the 2013-14 academic year. In addition, the component collected data on undergraduate and graduate students receiving military servicemembers and veterans benefits. Finally, student counts and awarded aid amounts were collected to calculate the net price of attendance for two subsets of full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students: those awarded any grant aid, and those awarded Title IV aid.

## **Admissions**

The ADM component of IPEDS collected information about the selection process for entering first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students. Data obtained from institutions include admissions considerations (e.g., secondary school records, admission test scores), the number of first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students who applied, the number admitted, and the number enrolled. Admissions data were collected only from institutions that do not have an open admissions policy for entering first-time students. Data collected correspond to individuals applying to be admitted during the fall of the 2014-15 academic year (the fall 2014 reporting period). For institutions operating on a traditional academic year calendar system (semester, trimester, quarter, or 4-1-4 system), the fall 2014 reporting period is the term containing the institution's official fall reporting date, or October 15, 2014, if the official fall reporting date is after October 15. For institutions operating on a continuous enrollment or program based calendar system, the fall 2014 reporting period is August 1, 2014, through October 31, 2014.

# Selected Findings

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## Graduation Rates

- Approximately 60 percent of full-time, first-time students at 4-year institutions in 2008 who were seeking a bachelor's or equivalent degree completed a bachelor's or equivalent degree within 6 years at the institution where they began their studies (table 1).
- When the time students were tracked for program completion was extended from within 100 percent of normal time to within 200 percent of normal time, graduation rates for undergraduates who were full-time, first-time students in 2010 increased from 18 percent to 36 percent at 2-year institutions and from 38 percent to 67 percent at less-than-2-year institutions (table 2).

## Student Financial Aid

- Among full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students awarded any grant aid, differences in average cost of attendance and net price of attendance<sup>3</sup> for the 2013-14 academic year varied by institutional sector (table 3). For those attending public 4-year institutions, average cost was approximately \$19,000 and net price was about \$12,100; for those attending nonprofit 4-year institutions, average cost was roughly \$37,300 and net price was about \$21,400; and for those attending for-profit 4-year institutions, average cost was approximately \$27,200 and net price was about \$21,900.

## Admissions

- Title IV institutions that do not have an open admissions policy received approximately 9.6 million applications for fall 2014 admission (table 4). About 5.4 million of these applications resulted in admission, and around 1.6 million students enrolled.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Net price of attendance is calculated as the cost of attendance minus the average grant aid received by the students whose net price is being described. The calculation of net price of attendance does not include loan aid.

<sup>4</sup> A single individual may account for multiple applications, admissions, and enrollments (e.g., students may simultaneously enroll part-time at multiple institutions). Institutions report aggregate unduplicated counts of applicants, admissions, and enrollments. Data combined across institutions cannot be unduplicated.

# Tables

Table 1. Graduation rates within 150 percent of normal program completion time at Title IV institutions among students who started as full-time, first-time students, by race/ethnicity, level and control of institution, and gender: United States, cohort years 2008 and 2011

Level and control of institution and gender	Percent graduating									
	Overall	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	Two or more races	Race/ethnicity unknown	Nonresident alien
<b>All 4-year institutions (cohort year 2008)<sup>1</sup></b>										
<b>Total</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>36.2</b>	<b>69.4</b>	<b>36.2</b>	<b>49.4</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>59.5</b>	<b>61.5</b>	<b>39.2</b>	<b>63.2</b>
Men	52.3	33.8	66.2	32.2	45.2	42.0	57.0	57.8	39.7	59.7
Women	56.1	37.9	72.3	38.8	52.5	41.0	61.5	64.1	38.8	67.1
Public	55.6	35.2	67.7	38.2	48.4	43.0	59.0	54.8	54.1	58.8
Men	52.4	33.4	64.1	32.7	43.8	40.7	55.8	51.0	50.5	55.6
Women	58.3	36.6	71.1	41.9	51.9	44.7	61.8	57.8	57.5	62.5
Private nonprofit	64.3	46.0	76.6	44.1	59.8	55.1	67.4	72.0	59.2	72.0
Men	61.2	40.9	74.5	37.9	55.8	54.4	64.8	70.7	56.2	67.7
Women	66.6	49.6	78.2	48.6	62.6	55.5	69.5	72.9	61.8	76.5
Private for-profit	28.7	27.5	50.1	23.4	40.0	25.0	34.9	42.5	16.2	37.9
Men	28.4	24.1	50.3	22.4	36.6	28.2	35.2	37.3	15.3	34.2
Women	28.9	29.2	50.0	23.8	42.1	24.0	34.8	46.7	16.7	40.6
<b>Bachelor's or equivalent degree-seekers attending 4-year institutions and completing bachelor's or equivalent degree (cohort year 2008)</b>										
<b>Total</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>71.2</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>63.2</b>	<b>65.2</b>	<b>52.1</b>	<b>65.6</b>
Men	56.5	38.6	68.0	35.3	48.9	49.9	60.1	61.7	49.5	61.6
Women	62.3	42.8	74.1	44.8	57.0	50.1	65.9	67.6	54.3	70.2
Public	58.5	39.7	69.4	41.2	52.3	49.2	61.4	58.9	56.6	61.0
Men	55.2	37.9	65.9	35.4	47.3	47.7	58.2	54.9	53.1	57.4
Women	61.2	41.1	72.6	45.1	56.1	50.3	64.3	62.0	59.8	65.3
Private nonprofit	65.4	48.7	77.3	44.6	61.5	60.6	68.3	73.2	60.3	72.1
Men	62.3	44.3	75.3	38.3	57.8	60.7	65.6	72.2	57.1	67.9
Women	67.8	51.8	78.9	49.4	64.1	60.6	70.5	73.8	62.8	76.5
Private for-profit	26.5	19.8	44.1	18.8	31.7	26.1	34.5	35.5	16.1	41.3
Men	27.8	18.9	44.5	17.9	30.7	29.4	37.1	31.8	16.5	33.4
Women	25.4	20.6	43.7	19.4	32.7	24.7	31.9	40.7	15.8	48.0

See notes at end of table.

Table 1. Graduation rates within 150 percent of normal program completion time at Title IV institutions among students who started as full-time, first-time students, by race/ethnicity, level and control of institution, and gender: United States, cohort years 2008 and 2011—Continued

Level and control of institution and gender	Percent graduating									
	Overall	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	Two or more races	Race/ethnicity unknown	Nonresident alien
<b>Total 2-year institutions (cohort year 2011)</b>										
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>36.8</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>32.7</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>32.1</b>	<b>27.2</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>34.6</b>
Men	28.1	23.8	32.5	19.8	28.6	32.4	30.4	24.8	27.3	31.9
Women	32.9	26.6	41.3	25.1	35.8	39.4	33.8	29.2	38.3	37.3
Public	21.8	17.3	29.0	12.2	19.3	16.8	25.4	19.1	18.8	31.1
Men	21.3	17.4	26.3	12.0	17.9	15.5	25.0	17.8	17.5	28.3
Women	22.3	17.2	32.1	12.3	20.5	18.4	25.8	20.2	20.2	34.0
Private nonprofit	53.8	25.6	56.9	46.3	58.2	42.0	60.6	48.9	45.3	54.8
Men	49.7	21.0	49.8	38.1	54.3	36.8	57.2	49.1	51.0	53.5
Women	56.1	29.3	59.8	50.0	59.8	45.2	62.9	48.9	41.5	55.8
Private for-profit	59.7	55.6	70.4	49.4	63.3	64.5	63.8	57.5	54.4	63.2
Men	58.7	54.2	69.4	47.4	61.0	67.1	63.9	55.9	50.7	63.5
Women	60.2	56.5	71.1	50.4	64.6	62.9	63.8	58.5	56.0	62.9
<b>Less-than-2-year institutions (cohort year 2011)</b>										
<b>Total</b>	<b>66.2</b>	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Public	72.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Private nonprofit	70.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Private for-profit	65.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

— Not available. Graduation rates data are not collected by race/ethnicity or gender for less-than-2-year institutions.

<sup>1</sup>The 4-year institution cohort contains all full-time, first-time degree- or certificate-seeking undergraduates, regardless of the level of the award sought.

NOTE: Title IV institutions are those with a written agreement with the U.S. Department of Education that allows the institution to participate in any of the Title IV federal student financial assistance programs. The four U.S. service academies that are not Title IV eligible are included in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) universe because they are federally funded and open to the public. The rates in this table reflect graduation rates at institutions regardless of the length of programs, unless otherwise indicated. The graduation rate was calculated as required for disclosure and reporting purposes under the Student Right-to-Know Act. This rate was calculated as the total number of completers within 150 percent of normal time (e.g. "normal" program completion time for a bachelor's degree would be 4 years) at the same institution where the student started divided by the adjusted cohort (revised cohort minus any allowable exclusions). The revised cohort is the number of students entering the institution as full-time, first-time degree- or certificate-seeking undergraduates in the reference year. Allowable exclusions include those students who died or were totally and permanently disabled; students who left school to serve in the armed forces (or have been called up to active duty); those who left to serve with a foreign aid service of the federal government, such as the Peace Corps; and those who left to serve on official church missions. Individuals who are in the United States on a visa or temporary basis, and who are not authorized to remain indefinitely, are included in the Nonresident alien category regardless of race or ethnicity. Students who self-identify with more than one race are included in the Two or more races category. Students of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are included in the Hispanic or Latino category regardless of race. Definitions for terms used in this table may be found in the IPEDS online glossary located at <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/glossary>.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS, Winter 2014-15, Graduation Rates component (provisional data).

Table 2. Graduation rates within 100, 150, and 200 percent of normal program completion time at Title IV institutions among the students who started as full-time, first-time students, by control of institution, degree or certificate sought, and other selected characteristics: United States, cohort years 2006 and 2010

Degree or certificate sought, level of institution, and specified time to graduation	Percent graduating			
	All institutions	Private		
		Public	Nonprofit	For-profit
Bachelor's or equivalent degree seekers attending 4-year institutions and completing bachelor's or equivalent degree (cohort year 2006)				
Within 100 percent of normal program completion time	39.1	32.9	52.9	23.4
Within 150 percent of normal program completion time	59.2	57.2	65.5	31.4
Within 200 percent of normal program completion time	61.6	60.3	66.6	32.6
Degree or certificate seekers attending 2-year institutions and completing a degree or certificate (cohort year 2010)				
Within 100 percent of normal program completion time	17.9	11.3	45.2	36.8
Within 150 percent of normal program completion time	31.7	21.2	54.7	63.6
Within 200 percent of normal program completion time	36.1	26.7	56.7	64.6
Degree or certificate seekers attending less-than-2-year institutions and completing a degree or certificate (cohort year 2010)				
Within 100 percent of normal program completion time	38.5	57.8	43.4	35.9
Within 150 percent of normal program completion time	66.4	71.7	69.7	65.6
Within 200 percent of normal program completion time	67.1	73.6	70.6	66.2

NOTE: Title IV institutions are those with a written agreement with the U.S. Department of Education that allows the institution to participate in any of the Title IV federal student financial assistance programs. The four U.S. service academies that are not Title IV eligible are included in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) universe because they are federally funded and open to the public. The rates in this table reflect graduation rates at institutions regardless of the length of programs, unless otherwise indicated. The graduation rate was calculated as required for disclosure and reporting purposes under the Student Right-to-Know Act. This rate was calculated as the total number of completers within 100, 150, or 200 percent of normal time (e.g. "normal" program completion time for a bachelor's degree would be 4 years) divided by the adjusted cohort (revised cohort minus any allowable exclusions). The revised cohort is the number of students entering the institution as full-time, first-time degree- or certificate-seeking undergraduates in the reference year. Allowable exclusions include those students who died or were totally and permanently disabled; students who left school to serve in the armed forces (or have been called up to active duty); those who left to serve with a foreign aid service of the federal government, such as the Peace Corps; and those who left to serve on official church missions. Definitions for terms used in this table may be found in the IPEDS online glossary located at <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/glossary>.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS, Winter 2014-15, 200 Percent Graduation Rates component (provisional data).

Table 3. Average academic year cost of attendance, average grant/scholarship aid, and net price of attendance for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students at Title IV institutions, by control of institution, level of institution, and other selected characteristics: United States, academic year 2013-14

Level of institution, type of aid awarded, and family income level <sup>1</sup>	Private								
	Public <sup>2</sup>			Nonprofit			For-profit		
	Average cost	Average grant/scholarship aid	Net price	Average cost	Average grant/scholarship aid	Net price	Average cost	Average grant/scholarship aid	Net price
<b>4-year</b>									
Students awarded any grant aid	\$19,022	\$6,928	\$12,094	\$37,260	\$15,858	\$21,402	\$27,250	\$5,370	\$21,880
Students awarded Title IV aid									
All family income levels	19,063	6,237	12,826	37,377	16,153	21,224	27,138	4,844	22,293
\$0-30,000	19,063	9,461	9,602	37,377	20,298	17,079	27,138	5,650	21,487
\$30,001-48,000	19,063	8,265	10,798	37,377	20,124	17,254	27,138	5,164	21,974
\$48,001-75,000	19,063	5,300	13,763	37,377	17,917	19,460	27,138	3,186	23,952
\$75,001-110,000	19,063	2,668	16,395	37,377	15,793	21,585	27,138	1,385	25,752
\$110,001 and more	19,063	1,834	17,229	37,377	12,939	24,438	27,138	1,184	25,953
<b>2-year</b>									
Students awarded any grant aid	12,104	4,710	7,393	24,595	5,747	18,848	25,401	5,244	20,157
Students awarded Title IV aid									
All family income levels	12,162	4,818	7,344	24,586	5,217	19,368	25,272	4,757	20,516
\$0-30,000	12,162	5,679	6,483	24,586	6,606	17,979	25,272	5,448	19,825
\$30,001-48,000	12,162	5,033	7,129	24,586	6,186	18,400	25,272	4,542	20,730
\$48,001-75,000	12,162	3,182	8,980	24,586	4,419	20,166	25,272	2,741	22,532
\$75,001-110,000	12,162	1,485	10,677	24,586	2,912	21,674	25,272	1,048	24,224
\$110,001 and more	12,162	712	11,449	24,586	2,393	22,193	25,272	832	24,440
<b>Less-than-2-year</b>									
Students awarded any grant aid	13,453	4,611	8,842	21,896	4,630	17,266	26,444	4,779	21,665
Students awarded Title IV aid									
All family income levels	13,755	4,532	9,223	20,504	3,246	17,259	26,302	4,399	21,904
\$0-30,000	13,755	4,693	9,062	20,504	4,109	16,395	26,302	4,865	21,438
\$30,001-48,000	13,755	4,856	8,899	20,504	3,788	16,717	26,302	4,795	21,508
\$48,001-75,000	13,755	3,842	9,912	20,504	2,726	17,779	26,302	2,181	24,122
\$75,001-110,000	13,755	2,418	11,337	20,504	1,267	19,237	26,302	1,375	24,928
\$110,001 and more	13,755	500	13,255	20,504	446	20,059	26,302	336	25,966

<sup>1</sup>Students are classified into a family income category by the institution they attend based on the income used by the institution's financial aid office to calculate the student's expected family contribution.

<sup>2</sup>Average cost, average grant/scholarship aid, and net price for public institutions are displayed for students paying in-district tuition.

NOTE: Title IV institutions are those with a written agreement with the U.S. Department of Education that allows the institution to participate in any of the Title IV federal student financial assistance programs. The four U.S. service academies that are not Title IV eligible are included in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) universe because they are federally funded and open to the public. However, the U.S. service academies are not included in this table. The net price of attendance is the price actually charged to full-time, first-time undergraduate students awarded financial aid at an institution after deducting federal, state/local government, and institutional grant and scholarship aid. The calculation of net price of attendance does not include loan aid. Because not all institutions have students at each income level, for the purposes of this table the net price is calculated as the average cost minus the average grant/scholarship aid. Average cost is calculated using the tuition and required fees, books and supplies, room and board, and other expenses data from the Institutional Characteristics component. A weighted average of on-campus; off-campus, not with family; and off-campus, with family room and board and other expenses values was used to calculate a single average cost instead of individual costs by living arrangement. The factors used to generate this weighted average were reported in the Student Financial Aid component separately for the group of students awarded any grant aid and the group of students awarded Title IV aid. Hence, the resulting average cost values may differ between the groups. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. Definitions for terms used in this table may be found in the IPEDS online glossary located at <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/glossary>.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS, Fall 2014, Institutional Characteristics component (provisional data) and Winter 2014-15, Student Financial Aid component (provisional data).

Table 4. Number of applications, admissions, and enrollments as first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students at Title IV institutions that do not have an open admissions policy, by level of institution, gender, and other selected characteristics: United States, fall 2014

Control of institution and enrollment status	Total for all institutions	4-year			2-year			Less-than-2-year		
		Total <sup>1</sup>	Men	Women	Total <sup>1</sup>	Men	Women	Total <sup>1</sup>	Men	Women
<b>Total for all institutions</b>										
Applications	9,603,627	9,518,112	4,205,640	5,299,853	75,252	31,874	43,329	10,263	3,340	6,921
Admissions	5,369,086	5,307,584	2,265,781	3,039,475	54,719	22,928	31,742	6,783	2,189	4,572
Enrollments	1,563,016	1,528,406	694,954	833,212	29,727	12,868	16,857	4,883	1,547	3,335
Full-time	1,518,992	1,489,845	676,849	812,805	25,164	10,942	14,221	3,983	1,217	2,765
Part-time	44,024	38,561	18,105	20,407	4,563	1,926	2,636	900	330	570
<b>Public</b>										
Applications	5,299,269	5,259,601	2,377,469	2,880,070	34,532	17,152	17,332	5,136	1,499	3,635
Admissions	3,166,009	3,138,339	1,372,711	1,765,180	24,682	11,711	12,948	2,988	979	2,003
Enrollments	1,031,215	1,013,796	467,669	546,054	15,077	7,343	7,734	2,342	793	1,548
Full-time	1,001,313	988,342	455,172	533,097	11,235	5,630	5,605	1,736	529	1,206
Part-time	29,902	25,454	12,497	12,957	3,842	1,713	2,129	606	264	342
<b>Private nonprofit</b>										
Applications	4,185,660	4,170,334	1,791,768	2,376,606	14,580	6,165	8,415	746	63	683
Admissions	2,115,320	2,106,227	863,690	1,242,024	8,604	3,755	4,849	489	35	450
Enrollments	493,196	488,496	214,863	273,487	4,254	1,710	2,544	446	28	418
Full-time	485,251	480,729	211,657	268,967	4,153	1,675	2,478	369	28	341
Part-time	7,945	7,767	3,206	4,520	101	35	66	77	0	77
<b>Private for-profit</b>										
Applications	118,698	88,177	36,403	43,177	26,140	8,557	17,582	4,381	1,778	2,603
Admissions	87,757	63,018	29,380	32,271	21,433	7,462	13,945	3,306	1,175	2,119
Enrollments	38,605	26,114	12,422	13,671	10,396	3,815	6,579	2,095	726	1,369
Full-time	32,428	20,774	10,020	10,741	9,776	3,637	6,138	1,878	660	1,218
Part-time	6,177	5,340	2,402	2,930	620	178	441	217	66	151

<sup>1</sup>The total may include individuals who did not provide gender data.

NOTE: Title IV institutions are those with a written agreement with the U.S. Department of Education that allows the institution to participate in any of the Title IV federal student financial assistance programs. The four U.S. service academies that are not Title IV eligible are included in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) universe because they are federally funded and open to the public. Individuals may apply to, be admitted at, and enroll at more than one institution. The counts presented in this table are aggregated across institutions and are not unduplicated. Definitions for terms used in this table may be found in the IPEDS online glossary located at <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/glossary>.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS, Winter 2014-15, Admissions component (provisional data).

# Appendix A: Data Collection Procedures

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The winter 2014-15 collection was entirely web-based; data were collected between December 10, 2014, and February 11, 2015. Data were provided by “keyholders,” institutional representatives appointed by campus chief executives, who were responsible for ensuring that survey data submitted by the institution were correct and complete. No problems were noted during the winter 2014-15 data collection. During the collection period, the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Help Desk was available to assist respondents with reporting the necessary data.

The IPEDS universe is established during the fall collection period. There were 7,389 Title IV institutions and administrative offices<sup>1</sup> located in the United States and other jurisdictions of the United States, such as Puerto Rico,<sup>2</sup> in the 2014-15 academic year. The four U.S. service academies that are not Title IV eligible are included in the IPEDS universe because they are federally funded and open to the public.<sup>3</sup>

Because the Title IV institutions that are the focus of IPEDS are required to participate in IPEDS, the response rates in the winter 2014-15 IPEDS collection were high: at, or rounding to, 100 percent. All 2,217 Title IV institutions expected to respond to the *Admissions* component provided data.<sup>4</sup> Responses were missing for three institutions in the *Graduation Rates* component,<sup>5</sup> two in the *200 Percent Graduation Rates* component,<sup>6</sup> and six in the *Student Financial Aid* component.<sup>7</sup>

The National Center for Education Statistics statistical standards require that the potential for nonresponse bias for all institutions (including those in other U.S. jurisdictions) be analyzed for sectors for which the response rate is less than 85 percent. Because response rates were nearly 100 percent for each survey component, no such analysis was necessary. However, some

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<sup>1</sup> Title IV institutions and administrative offices include 7,310 institutions and 79 administrative (central or system) offices. The central and system offices are required to complete the Institutional Characteristics component in the fall and the Finance and Human Resources components in the spring.

<sup>2</sup> The other U.S. jurisdictions surveyed in IPEDS are American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, the Marshall Islands, Palau, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

<sup>3</sup> The four U.S. service academies that are not Title IV eligible are the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, and the U.S. Air Force Academy. The U.S. Merchant Marine Academy is Title IV eligible. Data for all five institutions are included in the tables and counts of institutions unless otherwise indicated.

<sup>4</sup> The *Admissions* component was required from a subset of institutions that do not have an open admissions policy for all or most entering first-time students. As a result, 2,217 Title IV institutions were expected to respond.

<sup>5</sup> The *Graduation Rates* component was required of the subset of institutions that enrolled full-time, first-time undergraduates during the cohort year. As a result, 6,433 institutions were expected to respond to the *Graduation Rates* component.

<sup>6</sup> The *200 Percent Graduation Rates* component was required of the subset of institutions that enrolled full-time, first-time undergraduates during the cohort year. As a result, 5,928 institutions were expected to respond to the *200 Percent Graduation Rates* component.

<sup>7</sup> The *Student Financial Aid* component was required of the subset of institutions that awarded military servicemembers and veterans benefits or enrolled undergraduates during the previous academic year. As a result, 7,218 Title IV institutions were expected to respond.

institutions had all data imputed for the components where they were unit nonrespondents. For the SFA component there were six such institutions, for the GR component there were three such institutions, and for the GR200 component there were two such institutions. In addition, data from one institution that responded to the SFA component contained item nonresponse, and these missing items were imputed.

Detailed information about the study methodology including imputation procedures can be found at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2015098>.

## Appendix B: Glossary of IPEDS Terms

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**academic year:** The period of time generally extending from September to June; usually equated to 2 semesters or trimesters, 3 quarters, or the period covered by a 4-1-4 calendar system.

**adjusted cohort:** In the *Graduation Rates* component of the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), an institution's revised cohort minus any allowable exclusions.

**admitted students:** Applicants that have been granted an official offer to enroll in a postsecondary institution.

**applicant:** An individual who has fulfilled the institution's requirements to be considered for admission (including payment or waiving of the application fee, if any) and who has been notified of one of the following actions: admission, nonadmission, placement on waiting list, or application withdrawn by applicant or institution.

**bachelor's or equivalent degree-seeking cohort:** In the *Graduation Rates* component of IPEDS, a cohort of students who were seeking a bachelor's or equivalent degree upon entry.

**cohort:** A specific group of students identified and tracked over time.

**cohort year:** The year that a cohort of full-time, first-time students began attending college.

**control (of institution):** A classification of whether an institution is operated by publicly elected or appointed officials (public control) or by privately elected or appointed officials and derives its major source of funds from private sources (nonprofit or for-profit control).

**degree/certificate-seeking students:** Students enrolled in courses for credit who are recognized by the institution as seeking a degree or other formal award. At the undergraduate level, this is intended to include students enrolled in vocational or occupational programs.

**exclusions:** Those students who may be removed (deleted) from a cohort (or subcohort). For the *Graduation Rates* data collection, students may be removed from a cohort if they left the institution for one of the following reasons: died or were totally and permanently disabled; to serve in the armed forces; to serve with a foreign aid service of the federal government, such as the Peace Corps; or to serve on official church missions.

**fall cohort:** The group of students entering in the fall term established for tracking purposes. For the *Graduation Rates* component, this includes all students who enter an institution as full-time, first-time degree- or certificate-seeking undergraduate students during the fall term of a given year.

**federal grants:** Grants provided by federal agencies such as the U.S. Department of Education, including Title IV Pell Grants and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG). Also includes need-based and merit-based educational assistance funds and training vouchers provided from other federal agencies and federally sponsored educational benefits programs, including the Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Labor, and other federal agencies. (Used for reporting on the *Student Financial Aid* component.)

**financial aid:** Grants, loans, assistantships, scholarships, fellowships, tuition waivers, tuition discounts, military servicemembers and veterans benefits, employer aid (tuition reimbursement), and other monies (other than from relatives/friends) provided to students to meet expenses. This includes Title IV subsidized and unsubsidized loans made directly to students.

**first-time student (undergraduate):** A student attending any institution for the first time at the undergraduate level. Includes students enrolled in academic or occupational programs. Also includes students enrolled in the fall term who attended college for the first time in the prior summer term, as well as students who entered with advanced standing (college credits earned before graduation from high school).

**full-time undergraduate student:** A student enrolled for 12 or more semester credits, or 12 or more quarter credits, or 24 or more contact hours a week each term.

**graduation rate:** The rate required for disclosure and/or reporting purposes under the Student Right-to-Know Act. This rate is calculated as the total number of completers within 150 percent of normal time at the same institution where the student started divided by the adjusted cohort (revised cohort minus any allowable exclusions).

**in-district student:** A student who is a legal resident of the locality in which he/she attends school and thus is entitled to reduced tuition charges if offered by the institution.

**in-district tuition:** The tuition charged by the institution to those students residing in the locality in which they attend school. This may be a lower rate than in-state tuition if offered by the institution.

**institutional grants:** Scholarships and fellowships granted and funded by the institution and/or individual departments within the institution (i.e., instruction, research, public service) that may contribute indirectly to the enhancement of these programs. Includes scholarships targeted to certain individuals (e.g., based on state or jurisdiction of residence, major field of study, athletic team participation) for which the institution designates the recipient.

**less-than-2-year institution:** This group includes any postsecondary institution that only offers programs of less than 2 years' duration below the baccalaureate level, as well as occupational and vocational schools with programs that do not exceed 1,800 contact hours.

**level of institution:** A classification of whether an institution's programs are of at least 4 years' duration or beyond a baccalaureate level (4-year institution), at least 2 but less than 4 years (2-year institution), or less than 2 years (less-than-2-year institution).

**loans to students:** Any monies that must be repaid to the lending institution for which the student is the designated borrower. Includes all Title IV subsidized and unsubsidized loans and all institutionally and privately sponsored loans. Does not include PLUS and other loans made directly to parents.

**net price:** The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 defines institutional net price as “the average yearly price actually charged to first-time, full-time undergraduate students receiving student aid at an institution of higher education after deducting such aid.” In IPEDS, the institutional net price of attendance is generated by subtracting the average amount of federal, state/local government, or institutional grant and scholarship aid from the average total cost of attendance. Total cost of attendance is the sum of published tuition and required fees (lower of in-district or in-state for public institutions), books and supplies, and the weighted average for room and board and other expenses. Cost of attendance data are collected in the *Institutional Characteristics* (IC) component of IPEDS, and financial aid data are collected in the *Student Financial Aid* (SFA) component of IPEDS.

**nonresident alien:** A person who is not a citizen or national of the United States and who is in this country on a visa or temporary basis and does not have the right to remain indefinitely.

**normal time to completion:** The amount of time necessary for a student to complete all requirements for a degree or certificate according to the institution’s catalog. This is typically 4 years (8 semesters or trimesters, or 12 quarters, excluding summer terms) for a bachelor’s degree in a standard term-based institution; 2 years (4 semesters or trimesters, or 6 quarters, excluding summer terms) for an associate’s degree in a standard term-based institution; and the various scheduled times for certificate programs.

**Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE):** Office within the U.S. Department of Education that formulates federal postsecondary education policy and administers programs that address critical national needs in support of its mission to increase access to quality postsecondary education.

**open admission:** An admission policy whereby the school will accept any student who applies.

**postsecondary education:** The provision of a formal instructional program whose curriculum is designed primarily for students beyond the compulsory age for high school. This includes programs whose purpose is academic, vocational, and continuing professional education, and excludes avocational and adult basic education programs.

**postsecondary institution:** An institution that has as its sole purpose, or one of its primary missions, the provision of postsecondary education. Postsecondary education is the provision of a formal instructional program whose curriculum is designed primarily for students beyond the compulsory age for high school. This includes programs whose purpose is academic, vocational, or continuing professional education and excludes avocational and adult basic education programs. For IPEDS, these institutions must be open to the public.

**private for-profit institution:** A private institution in which the individual(s) or agency in control receives compensation other than wages, rent, or other expenses for the assumption of risk.

**private institution:** An educational institution controlled by a private individual(s) or by a nongovernmental agency, usually supported primarily by other than public funds, and operated by other than publicly elected or appointed officials. These institutions may be either for-profit or nonprofit.

**private nonprofit institution:** A private institution in which the individual(s) or agency in control receives no compensation, other than wages, rent, or other expenses for the assumption of risk. These include both independent nonprofit schools and those affiliated with a religious organization.

**Program Participation Agreement (PPA):** A written agreement between a postsecondary institution and the Secretary of Education. This agreement allows institutions to participate in any of the Title IV student assistance programs other than the State Student Incentive Grant (SSIG) and the National Early Intervention Scholarship and Partnership (NEISP) programs. The PPA conditions the initial and continued participation of an eligible institution in any Title IV program upon compliance with the General Provisions regulations, the individual program regulations, and any additional conditions specified in the program participation agreement that the Department of Education requires the institution to meet. Institutions with such an agreement are referred to as Title IV institutions.

**public institution:** An educational institution whose programs and activities are operated by publicly elected or appointed school officials and which is supported largely by public funds.

**race/ethnicity:** Categories developed in 1997 by the Office of Management and Budget that are used to describe groups to which individuals belong or identify with. The categories do not denote scientific definitions of anthropological origins. The designations are used to categorize U.S. citizens, resident aliens, and other eligible noncitizens.

Individuals are asked to first designate ethnicity as:

- Hispanic or Latino or
- Not Hispanic or Latino

Second, individuals are asked to indicate all races that apply among the following:

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White

For reporting purposes, students who identify with more than one race are included in the Two or more races category.

**resident alien (and other eligible noncitizens):** A person who is not a citizen or national of the United States but who has been admitted as a legal immigrant for the purpose of obtaining permanent resident alien status and who holds one of the following: an alien registration card (Form I-551 or I-151), a Temporary Resident Card (Form I-688), or an Arrival-Departure Record (Form I-94) with a notation that conveys legal immigrant status such as Section 207 Refugee, Section 208 Asylee, Conditional Entrant Parolee, or Cuban-Haitian.

**revised cohort:** Initial cohort after revisions are made. This is the number from which graduation and transfer-out rates are calculated. Cohorts may be revised if an institution discovers that incorrect data were reported in an earlier year.

**sector:** One of nine institutional categories resulting from dividing the universe according to control and level. Control categories are public, nonprofit, and for-profit. Level categories are 4 years and higher (4-year institutions), at least 2 but less than 4 years (2-year institutions), and less than 2 years (less-than-2-year institutions). For example: sector 1 = public 4-year institutions; sector 2 = nonprofit 4-year institutions.

**state and local government grants:** State and local monies awarded to the institution under state and local student aid programs, including the state portion of State Student Incentives Grants (SSIG) (used for reporting *Student Financial Aid* data).

**Student Right-to-Know Act:** Also known as the “Student Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act” (P.L. 101-542), which was passed by Congress November 9, 1990. Title I, Section 103 requires institutions eligible for Title IV funding to disclose completion or graduation rates of certificate- or degree-seeking, full-time students entering an institution to all students and prospective students. Further, Section 104 requires each institution that participates in any Title IV program and is attended by students receiving athletically related student aid to annually submit a report to the Secretary of Education. This report is to contain, among other things, graduation/completion rates of all students as well as students receiving athletically related student aid by race/ethnicity and gender and by sport, and the average completion or graduation rate for the four most recent years. These data are also required to be disclosed to parents, coaches, and potential student athletes when the institution offers athletically related student aid. The *Graduation Rates* component of IPEDS was developed specifically to help institutions respond to these requirements.

**subcohort:** A predefined subset of the initial cohort or the revised cohort established for tracking purposes on the *Graduation Rates* component of IPEDS (e.g., athletic subcohort).

**Title IV institution:** An institution that is accredited by an agency or organization recognized by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, has at least one program of more than 300 clock hours or 8 credit hours, has been in business for at least 2 years, and has a signed Program Participation Agreement with the Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education.

**undergraduate student:** A student enrolled in a 4- or 5-year bachelor’s degree program, an associate’s degree program, or a vocational or technical program below the baccalaureate level.

**2-year institution:** Any postsecondary institution that offers programs of at least 2 but less than 4 years’ duration, as well as occupational and vocational schools with programs of at least 1,800 hours and academic institutions with programs of less than 4 years. Does not include bachelor’s-degree-granting institutions where the baccalaureate program can be completed in 3 years.

**4-year institution:** Any postsecondary institution that offers programs of at least 4 years’ duration or one that offers programs at or above the baccalaureate level, as well as schools that offer postbaccalaureate certificates only or those that offer graduate programs only. Also includes free-standing medical, law, or other professional schools.