

# Postsecondary Institutions and Cost of Attendance in 2015–16; Degrees and Other Awards Conferred, 2014–15; and 12-Month Enrollment, 2014–15

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 fall 2015 data collection, which included three survey components: *Institutional Characteristics* (IC) for the 2015–16 academic year; *Completions*, covering the period July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015; and *12-Month Enrollment*, covering the same period. Data for all three components were collected through the IPEDS web-based data collection system. A brief summary of the fall 2015–16 survey components is included in this report, and data collection procedures are summarized in appendix A. Detailed information about the study methodology can be found at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2016111>.

This *First Look* provides users with access to fully reviewed, edited, and imputed IPEDS data. These provisional data are an update to the previously released preliminary data, which were not extensively reviewed or edited. 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 (2016–17).

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 fall 2015 collection are displayed in this *First Look*, all data from the fall 2015 collection are publicly available through the IPEDS Data Center, found at <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/datacenter>.

## IPEDS 2015–16

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 Direct Stafford Loans during the 2015–16 academic year.<sup>1</sup> A total of 7,177 Title IV institutions and 75 administrative offices (central or system offices) in the United States and other U.S. jurisdictions were expected to participate in the fall collection. The data in table 1 include all 7,177 institutions in the United States and other U.S. jurisdictions, and tables 2, 3, and 4 focus on the 7,021 of these institutions that are in the United States.

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

## Institutional Characteristics, Cost of Attendance, and Tuition and Fees

The IC component of IPEDS collects and maintains information used to classify postsecondary institutions based on a variety of characteristics. Data on level (4-year, 2-year, less-than-2-year), control (public, private nonprofit, private for-profit), and sector (level crossed with control) allow classification within general categories. Additional data collected, not all of which are

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<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.

reported here, include types of programs offered, opportunities for distance education, levels of degrees and awards, calendar system, admission requirements, and student charges.

The IC component collects data on tuition and fees (by level of program, i.e., undergraduate and graduate) and room and board charges. In addition, the broader cost of attendance is also collected for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students. Cost of attendance is the total amount institutions estimate that undergraduate-level full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking students will pay to attend before financial aid is considered. This includes tuition and fees, books and supplies, room and board, and certain other designated expenses such as transportation. These estimates are the average amounts used by financial aid offices to determine a student's financial aid.

## **Completions**

The *Completions* component collects data on the number of degrees and certificates officially conferred<sup>2</sup> in postsecondary education programs by level of degree (associate's, bachelor's, master's, and doctor's) and by length of program for sub-baccalaureate and postbaccalaureate certificates. Doctor's degrees are further disaggregated into three subcategories: research/scholarship, professional practice, and other doctor's degrees. Data are collected on the race/ethnicity and gender of recipients and their programs of study. In addition, the unduplicated count of students receiving the reported number of degrees or certificates data is reported by gender, race/ethnicity, age, and award level. The data from this component reflect all formal awards (i.e., degrees, diplomas, certificates) received or conferred between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015.

## **12-Month Enrollment**

The *12-Month Enrollment* component collects unduplicated headcount enrollment and instructional activity data at each institution for the 12-month period July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015. The unduplicated headcount is collected by race/ethnicity, gender, and student level (undergraduate or graduate) for students enrolled during the reporting period.

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<sup>2</sup> Completions where the requirements for the award have been satisfied but the award has not yet been conferred by the postsecondary institution are not included.



## Selected Findings

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- In 2015–16, of the 7,177 Title IV institutions in the United States and other U.S. jurisdictions, 3,089 were classified as 4-year institutions, 2,085 were 2-year institutions, and the remaining 2,003 were less-than-2-year institutions (table 1).
- Average tuition and required fees for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduates at public and nonprofit 4-year institutions increased from 2013–14 to 2015–16, while tuition and required fees decreased at for-profit 4-year institutions over the same period (table 2). After adjusting for inflation,<sup>3</sup> public institutions reported a roughly 4 percent increase for in-state students (to about \$8,100) and for out-of-state students (to approximately \$18,300). Nonprofit institutions also reported around a 4 percent increase (to about \$26,400). For-profit institutions reported average tuition and required fees of approximately \$16,000 for 2015–16, which represents a decrease of less than 1 percent when compared with the inflation-adjusted figure from 2013–14.
- Of the roughly 3.2 million students receiving degrees at 4-year Title IV institutions, nearly 59 percent received a bachelor's degree (table 3). This percentage varied by control of institution, with about 65 percent of the 1.8 million students at public institutions receiving a bachelor's degree, roughly 53 percent of the 1.0 million students at nonprofit institutions receiving a bachelor's degree, and about 40 percent of the 326,000 students at for-profit institutions receiving a bachelor's degree.
- Institutions reported a 12-month unduplicated headcount enrollment totaling about 27.4 million individual students (table 4). Of these, roughly 23.6 million were undergraduates and approximately 3.8 million were graduate students.

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<sup>3</sup> Table 2 is reported in 2015-16 dollars. Percentage changes in these tables reflect changes over and above changes due to inflation. Refer to appendix A for details.

# Tables

Table 1. Number and percentage distribution of Title IV institutions, by control of institution, level of institution, and region: United States and other U.S. jurisdictions, academic year 2015–16

Level of institution and region	Number of institutions				Percent of institutions			
	Total	Public	Private		Total	Public	Private	
			Nonprofit	For-profit			Nonprofit	For-profit
<b>Total institutions</b>	<b>7,177</b>	<b>1,992</b>	<b>1,913</b>	<b>3,272</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Total U.S. institutions	7,021	1,965	1,859	3,197	97.8	98.6	97.2	97.7
Level of institution								
4-year	3,089	728	1,647	714	43.0	36.5	86.1	21.8
U.S.	3,012	710	1,602	700	42.0	35.6	83.7	21.4
Other U.S. jurisdictions	77	18	45	14	1.1	0.9	2.4	0.4
2-year	2,085	1,016	178	891	29.1	51.0	9.3	27.2
U.S.	2,059	1,007	171	881	28.7	50.6	8.9	26.9
Other U.S. jurisdictions	26	9	7	10	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3
Less-than-2-year	2,003	248	88	1,667	27.9	12.4	4.6	50.9
U.S.	1,950	248	86	1,616	27.2	12.4	4.5	49.4
Other U.S. jurisdictions	53	0	2	51	0.7	0.0	0.1	1.6
Region								
New England	405	110	161	134	5.6	5.5	8.4	4.1
Mid East	1,129	278	417	434	15.7	14.0	21.8	13.3
Great Lakes	1,062	266	293	503	14.8	13.4	15.3	15.4
Plains	619	187	190	242	8.6	9.4	9.9	7.4
Southeast	1,758	541	398	819	24.5	27.2	20.8	25.0
Southwest	774	245	113	416	10.8	12.3	5.9	12.7
Rocky Mountains	283	80	44	159	3.9	4.0	2.3	4.9
Far West	986	253	243	490	13.7	12.7	12.7	15.0
U.S. service academies	5	5	0	0	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0
Other U.S. jurisdictions	156	27	54	75	2.2	1.4	2.8	2.3

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. Percentages in the columns of this table use the corresponding count in the **Total institutions** row as the denominator. Data are not imputed. The item response rates for all cells in this table are 100 percent. The New England region includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. The Mid East region includes Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. The Great Lakes region includes Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The Plains region includes Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The Southeast region includes Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. The Southwest region includes Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. The Rocky Mountains region includes Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Utah, and Wyoming. The Far West region includes Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington. The other U.S. jurisdictions 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. 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 <https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/visGlossaryAll.aspx>.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS, Fall 2015, Institutional Characteristics component (provisional data).

Table 2. Average costs (in constant 2015–16 dollars) associated with attendance for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduates at Title IV institutions operating on an academic year calendar system, and percentage change, by level of institution, type of cost, control of institution, residency and student housing: United States, academic years 2013–14 and 2015–16

Type of cost, control of institution, residency, and student housing	4-year			2-year			Less-than-2-year		
	2013–14	2015–16	Percent change	2013–14	2015–16	Percent change	2013–14	2015–16	Percent change
Tuition and required fees									
Public									
In-district <sup>1</sup>	\$7,803	\$8,123	4.1	\$3,201	\$3,358	4.9	\$6,561	\$6,483	-1.2
In-state	7,819	8,141	4.1	3,738	3,941	5.4	6,573	6,506	-1.0
Out-of-state	17,609	18,341	4.2	7,462	7,780	4.3	7,613	7,288	-4.3
Private nonprofit <sup>2</sup>	25,253	26,355	4.4	13,906	13,899	-0.1	12,985	13,433	3.5
Private for-profit <sup>2</sup>	16,119	16,066	-0.3	14,981	14,864	-0.8	15,462	15,269	-1.3
Books and supplies									
Public	1,278	1,278	0.1	1,395	1,409	1.0	1,100	967	-12.1
Private nonprofit	1,195	1,193	-0.2	1,339	1,352	0.9	1,286	1,281	-0.4
Private for-profit	1,366	1,306	-4.4	1,484	1,518	2.2	1,038	1,211	16.6
Room and board									
Public									
On campus	9,157	9,557	4.4	6,114	6,404	4.7	3,832	4,184	9.2
Off campus (not with family)	9,267	9,446	1.9	7,912	8,087	2.2	7,754	7,202	-7.1
Private nonprofit									
On campus	9,467	9,874	4.3	8,109	8,770	8.1	†	†	†
Off campus (not with family)	9,205	9,429	2.4	9,565	9,728	1.7	9,342	9,602	2.8
Private for-profit									
On campus	9,975	9,862	-1.1	9,264	9,589	3.5	†	†	†
Off campus (not with family)	7,781	7,955	2.2	8,201	8,309	1.3	8,666	9,175	5.9
Other expenses <sup>3</sup>									
Public									
On campus	3,313	3,300	-0.4	3,239	3,184	-1.7	1,222	1,236	1.1
Off campus (not with family)	3,786	3,756	-0.8	3,965	3,929	-0.9	3,478	3,687	6.0
Off campus (with family)	3,974	3,954	-0.5	3,984	3,945	-1.0	3,430	3,550	3.5
Private nonprofit									
On campus	2,809	2,823	0.5	3,755	3,538	-5.8	†	†	†
Off campus (not with family)	3,487	3,536	1.4	4,689	4,467	-4.7	2,183	2,256	3.3
Off campus (with family)	3,741	3,701	-1.1	4,542	4,413	-2.8	3,154	2,960	-6.1
Private for-profit									
On campus	4,212	4,121	-2.1	2,590	2,562	-1.1	†	†	†
Off campus (not with family)	4,811	4,583	-4.7	4,853	4,747	-2.2	4,653	5,099	9.6
Off campus (with family)	5,268	4,370	-17.1	4,394	4,286	-2.5	3,565	3,717	4.3

† Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>For public institutions, “in-district” refers to the charges paid by a student who lives in the locality surrounding the institution, such as county.

<sup>2</sup>Out-of-state average tuition and required fees were used for private institutions that reported varying tuitions by residency.

<sup>3</sup>“Other expenses” refers to the amount of money needed by a student to cover expenses such as laundry, transportation, and entertainment.

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. Amounts are institutional averages as reported by the institution, not average amounts paid by students (i.e., charges are not weighted by enrollment). Percentage change was computed using unrounded average costs. The time points displayed in this table were chosen to demonstrate the range of data available from IPEDS for trend analysis, not to emphasize any particular period of change. Out-of-state tuition and required fees were used for private institutions that reported varying tuitions by residency. The 2,550 institutions that follow a calendar system that differs by program or allow continuous enrollment are not included. All amounts from 2013–14 were converted to 2015–16 dollars using the average Consumer Price Index values for the 12-month periods ending in October 2013 and October 2015. Data from both time points in this table are from the same source. Definitions for terms used in this table may be found in the IPEDS online glossary located at <https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/VisGlossaryAll.aspx>.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS, Fall 2015, Institutional Characteristics component (provisional data).

Table 3. Number and percentage of awards conferred and students receiving awards at Title IV degree-granting institutions, by control of institution, level of institution, gender, race/ethnicity, and level of award: United States, 2014–15

Level of institution, <sup>1</sup> gender, race/ethnicity, and level of award	All institutions				Public				Private							
	Awards		Students		Awards		Students		Nonprofit				For-profit			
	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent	Number	Per- cent
<b>All Institutions</b>	<b>4,581,920</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,272,824</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,041,774</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,759,398</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,081,292</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,058,578</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>458,854</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>454,848</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>4-year institutions</b>																
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,281,228</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,186,645</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,897,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,827,326</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,054,585</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,032,843</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>329,581</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>326,476</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Gender																
Men	1,377,189	42.0	1,334,795	41.9	825,004	43.5	793,633	43.4	432,350	41.0	422,371	40.9	119,835	36.4	118,791	36.4
Women	1,904,039	58.0	1,851,850	58.1	1,072,058	56.5	1,033,693	56.6	622,235	59.0	610,472	59.1	209,746	63.6	207,685	63.6
Race/ethnicity																
American Indian or Alaska Native	18,019	0.5	17,455	0.5	10,810	0.6	10,386	0.6	4,622	0.4	4,511	0.4	2,587	0.8	2,558	0.8
Asian	194,650	5.9	188,527	5.9	121,665	6.4	117,194	6.4	60,815	5.8	59,247	5.7	12,170	3.7	12,086	3.7
Black or African American	340,946	10.4	333,154	10.5	168,582	8.9	162,857	8.9	100,173	9.5	98,716	9.6	72,191	21.9	71,581	21.9
Hispanic or Latino	338,947	10.3	329,210	10.3	215,039	11.3	207,047	11.3	82,860	7.9	81,345	7.9	41,048	12.5	40,818	12.5
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	8,064	0.2	7,810	0.2	3,903	0.2	3,717	0.2	2,132	0.2	2,098	0.2	2,029	0.6	1,995	0.6
White	1,884,647	57.4	1,828,363	57.4	1,132,973	59.7	1,090,519	59.7	609,374	57.8	597,165	57.8	142,300	43.2	140,679	43.1
Two or more races	78,898	2.4	76,321	2.4	47,929	2.5	45,992	2.5	23,545	2.2	23,021	2.2	7,424	2.3	7,308	2.2
Race/ethnicity unknown	190,720	5.8	185,880	5.8	69,184	3.6	66,509	3.6	77,521	7.4	75,688	7.3	44,015	13.4	43,683	13.4
Nonresident alien	226,337	6.9	219,925	6.9	126,977	6.7	123,105	6.7	93,543	8.9	91,052	8.8	5,817	1.8	5,768	1.8
Certificates																
Less than 1 year	66,393	2.0	56,527	1.8	52,632	2.8	43,361	2.4	5,083	0.5	4,983	0.5	8,678	2.6	8,183	2.5
At least 1 but less than 4 years	44,725	1.4	43,358	1.4	17,828	0.9	17,287	0.9	8,061	0.8	7,872	0.8	18,836	5.7	18,199	5.6
Postbaccalaureate or post-master's	55,715	1.7	53,839	1.7	28,344	1.5	27,198	1.5	23,381	2.2	22,683	2.2	3,990	1.2	3,958	1.2
Degrees																
Associate's degrees	282,213	8.6	279,309	8.8	147,451	7.8	145,317	8.0	48,252	4.6	47,599	4.6	86,510	26.2	86,393	26.5
Bachelor's degrees	1,894,927	57.8	1,870,800	58.7	1,209,436	63.8	1,189,737	65.1	553,534	52.5	549,251	53.2	131,957	40.0	131,812	40.4
Master's degrees	758,708	23.1	754,105	23.7	351,119	18.5	349,101	19.1	336,182	31.9	333,749	32.3	71,407	21.7	71,255	21.8
Doctor's degrees	178,547	5.4	178,195	5.6	90,252	4.8	90,114	4.9	80,092	7.6	79,878	7.7	8,203	2.5	8,203	2.5

See notes at end of table.

Table 3. Number and percentage of awards conferred and students receiving awards at Title IV degree-granting institutions, by control of institution, level of institution, gender, race/ethnicity, and level of award: United States, 2014–15—Continued

Level of institution, <sup>1</sup> gender, race/ethnicity, and level of award	All institutions				Public				Private							
	Awards		Students		Awards		Students		Nonprofit				For-profit			
	Number	Per-cent	Number	Per-cent	Number	Per-cent	Number	Per-cent	Number	Per-cent	Number	Per-cent	Number	Per-cent	Number	Per-cent
<b>2-year institutions</b>																
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,300,692</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,086,179</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,144,712</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>932,072</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>26,707</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>25,735</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>129,273</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>128,372</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Gender																
Men	546,013	42.0	442,013	40.7	496,210	43.3	392,706	42.1	8,145	30.5	7,959	30.9	41,658	32.2	41,348	32.2
Women	754,679	58.0	644,166	59.3	648,502	56.7	539,366	57.9	18,562	69.5	17,776	69.1	87,615	67.8	87,024	67.8
Race/ethnicity																
American Indian or Alaska Native	12,724	1.0	10,793	1.0	10,815	0.9	8,909	1.0	426	1.6	407	1.6	1,483	1.1	1,477	1.2
Asian	60,948	4.7	49,084	4.5	55,994	4.9	44,158	4.7	706	2.6	694	2.7	4,248	3.3	4,232	3.3
Black or African American	182,217	14.0	155,936	14.4	145,214	12.7	119,402	12.8	5,928	22.2	5,773	22.4	31,075	24.0	30,761	24.0
Hispanic or Latino	226,864	17.4	185,840	17.1	191,655	16.7	150,836	16.2	2,971	11.1	2,905	11.3	32,238	24.9	32,099	25.0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	3,833	0.3	3,293	0.3	2,965	0.3	2,431	0.3	143	0.5	141	0.5	725	0.6	721	0.6
White	716,671	55.1	598,356	55.1	657,155	57.4	539,604	57.9	11,895	44.5	11,506	44.7	47,621	36.8	47,246	36.8
Two or more races	29,422	2.3	24,284	2.2	25,802	2.3	20,700	2.2	625	2.3	605	2.4	2,995	2.3	2,979	2.3
Race/ethnicity unknown	50,564	3.9	44,011	4.1	38,494	3.4	32,226	3.5	3,693	13.8	3,439	13.4	8,377	6.5	8,346	6.5
Nonresident alien	17,449	1.3	14,582	1.3	16,618	1.5	13,806	1.5	320	1.2	265	1.0	511	0.4	511	0.4
Certificates																
Less than 1 year	313,696	24.1	263,903	24.3	282,483	24.7	233,455	25.0	8,410	31.5	7,825	30.4	22,803	17.6	22,623	17.6
At least 1 but less than 4 years	255,231	19.6	244,316	22.5	187,804	16.4	177,041	19.0	7,927	29.7	7,921	30.8	59,500	46.0	59,354	46.2
Postbaccalaureate or post-master's	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
Degrees																
Associate's degrees	731,758	56.3	687,074	63.3	674,423	58.9	629,924	67.6	10,370	38.8	10,301	40.0	46,965	36.3	46,849	36.5
Bachelor's degrees <sup>2</sup>	7	#	7	#	2	#	2	#	†	†	†	†	5	#	5	#
Master's degrees	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
Doctor's degrees	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†

† Not applicable.

# Rounds to zero.

<sup>1</sup>Institutions are classified as 4-year or 2-year based on the highest level of awards offered in the collection year (2015–16).

<sup>2</sup>Three institutions that were 2-year institutions during the collection year (2015–16) awarded seven bachelor's degrees during 2014–15.

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. Awards displayed in this table were conferred during the 12-month period July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015. No data from less-than-2-year institutions are included in this table because they were non-degree-granting in the collection year. Because of changes to institutional characteristics between the reporting year (2014–15) and collection year (2015–16), institutions may report awards that are not consistent with their current levels of offering (e.g., four institutions that were less-than-2-year institutions in the collection year reported awarding 52 associate's degrees in the reporting year). Percentages in the columns of this table use the corresponding count in the appropriate total row of each section as the denominator. Awards to individuals who self-identify with more than one race are included in the Two or more races category. 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. Awards to individuals of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are included in the Hispanic or Latino category regardless of race. 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 <https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/VisGlossaryAll.aspx>.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS, Fall 2015, Completions component (provisional data).

Table 4. Twelve-month unduplicated headcount enrollment at Title IV institutions, by student level, level and control of institution, gender, and race/ethnicity: United States, 2014–15

Level and control of institution, gender, and race/ethnicity	Total	Undergraduate	Graduate
<b>Total students</b>	<b>27,386,275</b>	<b>23,594,177</b>	<b>3,792,098</b>
4-year			
Public	9,876,054	8,105,642	1,770,412
Private nonprofit	4,885,278	3,299,670	1,585,608
Private for-profit	1,959,344	1,523,266	436,078
2-year			
Public	9,582,003	9,582,003	†
Private nonprofit	88,259	88,259	†
Private for-profit	495,606	495,606	†
Less-than-2-year			
Public	71,577	71,577	†
Private nonprofit	30,781	30,781	†
Private for-profit	397,373	397,373	†
Gender			
Men	11,823,958	10,294,012	1,529,946
Women	15,562,317	13,300,165	2,262,152
Race/ethnicity			
American Indian or Alaska Native	211,792	194,428	17,364
Asian	1,494,188	1,284,972	209,216
Black or African American	3,811,079	3,361,930	449,149
Hispanic or Latino	4,174,604	3,900,918	273,686
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	76,500	69,053	7,447
White	14,037,044	12,077,160	1,959,884
Two or more races	793,708	719,942	73,766
Race/ethnicity unknown	1,662,711	1,320,585	342,126
Nonresident alien	1,124,649	665,189	459,460

† Not applicable.

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 unduplicated headcount displayed in this table is the count of students enrolled over the 12-month period July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015. Students who self-identify with more than one race are included in the Two or more races category. 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 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 <https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/VisGlossaryAll.aspx>.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS, Fall 2015, 12-Month Enrollment component (provisional data).

## Appendix A: Data Collection Procedures

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The fall 2015 data collection was entirely web-based; data were collected between September 2, 2015, and October 14, 2015. Data were provided by “keyholders,” institutional representatives appointed by institutional chief executives, who were responsible for ensuring that survey data submitted by the institution were correct and complete. No problems were noted during the fall 2015 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 7,252 Title IV institutions and administrative offices<sup>1</sup> in the United States and the other jurisdictions of the United States, such as Puerto Rico,<sup>2</sup> in the 2015–16 academic year. For 2015–16, some 452 postsecondary institutions were reported exclusively by a parent institution<sup>3</sup> and are not included in the universe counts. 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>4</sup>

Because the Title IV institutions that are the focus of IPEDS are required to participate in IPEDS, the response rates in the fall 2015 IPEDS collection were high, rounding to 100 percent. All 7,252 Title IV entities (institutions and administrative offices) responded to the *Institutional Characteristics* component. Responses were missing for only one institution in the *Completions* and *12-Month Enrollment* components, respectively.<sup>5</sup>

The National Center for Education Statistics statistical standards require that the potential for nonresponse bias for all institutions 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, data from one institution that responded to the *Institutional Characteristics* and *12-Month Enrollment* components contained item nonresponse, and these missing items were imputed. Due to unit nonresponse, all data were imputed for one

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<sup>1</sup> Title IV institutions and administrative offices include 7,177 institutions and 75 administrative (central or system) offices. The central and system offices are required to complete the *Institutional Characteristics* component in the fall, the *Human Resources* component in the spring, and the *Finance* component in the spring (if they have their own separate budget).

<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> A parent institution reports data for another institution, known as the child institution.

<sup>4</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. One 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>5</sup> All 7,252 Title IV institutions and administrative offices were expected to respond to the *Institutional Characteristics* component. For the *Completions* component, all 7,177 institutions were expected to respond. A total of 8 institutions (6 that were new to IPEDS and 2 that did not enroll postsecondary students during the reference period) were not required to respond to the *12-Month Enrollment* component but did respond to the *Completions* component. Hence, 7,169 institutions were expected to respond to the *12-Month Enrollment* component.

institution that was expected to respond in the *Completions* and *12-Month Enrollment* components.

Table 2 is presented in constant 2015–16 dollars. To convert the 2013–14 tuition, required fees, books and supplies, room and board, and other expenses data to 2015–16 dollar amounts, the average Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)<sup>6</sup> values for the 12-month periods ending in October 2013 and October 2015 were used. The ratio of the average CPI-U for the 12-month period ending in October 2015 to the average CPI-U ending in October 2013 was multiplied by the 2013–14 dollar amounts to calculate the constant 2015–16 dollar amounts. These amounts were then used in the calculations shown in the table.

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<sup>6</sup> CPI-U values were obtained from <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/home.htm>.



## Appendix B: Glossary of Terms

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**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 programs at or above the baccalaureate level, as well as schools that offer postbaccalaureate certificates only and those that offer graduate programs only. Also includes freestanding medical, law, or other professional schools.

**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.

**associate's degree:** An award that normally requires at least 2 but less than 4 years of full-time-equivalent college work.

**bachelor's degree:** An award (baccalaureate or equivalent degree, as determined by the Secretary, U.S. Department of Education) that normally requires at least 4 but not more than 5 years of full-time-equivalent college-level work. This includes all bachelor's degrees conferred in a 5-year cooperative (work-study) program. A cooperative plan provides for alternate class attendance and employment in business, industry, or government; thus, it allows students to combine actual work experience with their college studies. This also includes bachelor's degrees for which the normal 4 years of work are completed in 3 years.

**board charges:** Charges assessed students for an academic year for meals.

**child institution:** An institution that has its data reported by another institution, known as the parent institution.

**collection year:** The academic year in which IPEDS data were collected. Most *Institutional Characteristics*, *Salaries*, *Fall Staff*, *Fall Enrollment*, and *Employees by Assigned Position* data are collected for the current year; *Completions*, *12-Month Enrollment*, *Student Financial Aid*, and *Finance* data collections cover the prior year.

**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 (private nonprofit or private for-profit control).

**cost of attendance:** The amount of tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, and other expenses that a full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking student can expect to pay to go to college for an academic year. Costs reported by the institutions are those amounts used by the financial aid office to determine student financial need.

**degree:** An award conferred by a college, university, or other postsecondary education institution as official recognition for the successful completion of an undergraduate or graduate program of study.

**doctor's degree:** The highest award a student can earn for graduate study. The doctor's degree classification includes such degrees as Doctor of Education, Doctor of Juridical Science, Doctor of

Public Health, and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in any field. There are three categories of doctor's degrees: doctor's degrees – professional practice, which is conferred upon completion of a program providing the knowledge and skills for the recognition, credential, or license required for professional practice; doctor's degrees – research/scholarship, which is a Ph.D. or other doctor's degree that requires advanced work beyond the master's level, including preparation and defense of a dissertation based on original research, or the planning and execution of an original project demonstrating substantial artistic or scholarly achievement; and doctor's degrees – other, which includes all other doctor's degrees that do not meet the definition of the other categories.

**instructional activity:** The total number of credit and contact hours all students are engaged in during the specified period.

**less-than-2-year institution:** This group includes any postsecondary institution that 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).

**master's degree:** An award that requires the successful completion of a program of study of generally 1 or 2 full-time-equivalent academic years of work beyond the bachelor's degree. Some of these degrees, such as those in theology (M.Div., M.H.L./Rav) that were formerly classified as "first-professional," may require more than 2 full-time-equivalent academic years of work.

**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.

**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.

**other expenses:** The amount of money (estimated by the financial aid office) needed by a student to cover expenses such as laundry, transportation, and entertainment.

**parent institution:** An institution that reports data for another institution, known as the child institution.

**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. For IPEDS, this institution must be open to the public.

**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 and the National Early Intervention Scholarship and Partnership 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.

**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; and
- White.

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

**required fees:** Fixed sum charged to students for items not covered by tuition and required of such a large proportion of all students that the student who does not pay the charge is an exception.

**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.

**room charges:** The charges for an academic year for rooming accommodations for a typical student sharing a room with one other student.

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

**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.

**unduplicated headcount enrollment:** The sum of students enrolled for credit with each student counted only once during the reporting period, regardless of when the student enrolled.