

CURRENT

Term Enrollment ESTIMATES

FALL 2016

NATIONAL STUDENT CLEARINGHOUSE®
RESEARCH CENTER™

Overview

In fall 2016, overall postsecondary enrollments decreased 1.4 percent from the previous fall. **Figure 1** shows the 12-month percentage change (fall-to-fall and spring-to-spring) for each term over the last three years. Enrollments decreased among four-year for-profit institutions (-14.5 percent), two-year public institutions (-2.6 percent), and four-year private nonprofit institutions (-0.6 percent). Enrollments increased slightly among four-year public institutions (+0.2 percent). Taken as a whole, public sector enrollment (2-year and 4-year combined) declined by 1.0 percent this fall.

Current Term Enrollment Estimates, published every December and May by the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, include national enrollment estimates by institutional sector, state, enrollment intensity, age group, and gender. Enrollment estimates are adjusted for Clearinghouse data coverage rates by institutional sector, state, and year. As of fall 2016, postsecondary institutions actively submitting enrollment data to the Clearinghouse account for over 96 percent of enrollments at U.S. Title IV, degree-granting institutions. Most institutions submit enrollment data to the Clearinghouse 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 headcount, which avoids double-counting students who are simultaneously enrolled at multiple institutions.

Figure 1: Percent Change from Previous Year, Enrollment by Sector (Title IV, Degree-Granting Institutions)

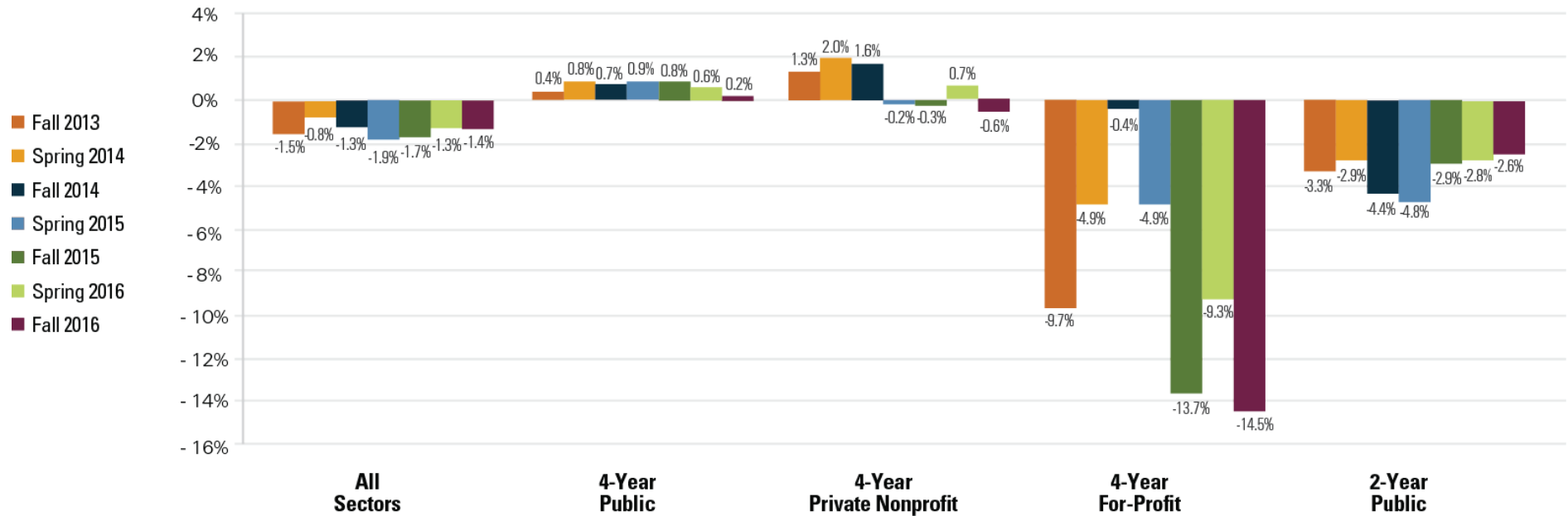


Table 1: Estimated National Enrollment by Sector (Title IV, Degree-Granting Institutions)

Sector	FALL 2016		FALL 2015		FALL 2014	
	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year
Total Enrollment, All Sectors	19,010,459	-1.4%	19,280,473	-1.7%	19,619,773	-1.3%
Four-Year Public	8,100,118	0.2%	8,086,448	0.8%	8,020,444	0.7%
Four-Year Private Nonprofit	3,788,980	-0.6%	3,811,176	-0.3%	3,823,465	1.6%
Four-Year For-Profit	970,267	-14.5%	1,134,974	-13.7%	1,315,167	-0.4%
Two-Year Public	5,721,676	-2.6%	5,875,163	-2.9%	6,052,069	-4.4%
Unduplicated Student Headcount (All Sectors)	18,663,617	-1.4%	18,929,736	-1.7%	19,258,730	-1.3%

UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Table 1 provides counts of fall term enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse by December 1 of each year. Enrollments represent one student in one institution and thus would count twice a student enrolled simultaneously at two institutions. 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, about 2.0 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. Two-year for-profits and two-year private nonprofits are not shown in the table due to small counts, but enrollments from those sectors are included in the overall totals. Additional notes on data and coverage are included at the end of this document.

Table 2: Estimated Enrollment in Private Nonprofit Institutions by Size of Institution (Title IV, Degree-Granting Institutions)

Sector	Institution Size	FALL 2016		FALL 2015		FALL 2014	
		Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year
Four-Year Private Nonprofit	Under 3,000	1,120,725	-1.1%	1,132,628	-0.1%	1,133,573	0.7%
	3,000 to 9,999	1,228,198	-0.6%	1,235,128	-0.4%	1,240,482	1.2%
	10,000 or More	1,440,058	-0.2%	1,443,421	-0.4%	1,449,409	2.7%

UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Table 2 provides a deeper look at the enrollment counts for private nonprofit institutions, by institution size. The size of institution is based on the most recently available IPEDS fall enrollment totals. Additional notes on data and coverage are included at the end of this document.

Table 3: Estimated National Enrollment by Sector and Program Level (Title IV, Degree-Granting Institutions)

Sector	Program Level	FALL 2016		FALL 2015
		Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	
All Sectors	Undergraduate	16,297,766	-1.9%	16,607,735
	Graduate/Professional	2,712,693	1.5%	2,672,738
Four-Year Public	Undergraduate	6,789,507	-0.3%	6,809,676
	Graduate/Professional	1,310,611	2.7%	1,276,772
Four-Year Private Nonprofit	Undergraduate	2,676,080	-1.1%	2,705,471
	Graduate/Professional	1,112,900	0.7%	1,105,705
Four-Year For-Profit	Undergraduate	706,769	-17.0%	851,464
	Graduate/Professional	263,498	-7.1%	283,509

UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Table 3 provides enrollment counts by program level. Beginning in the 2014-15 academic year, institutions began submitting additional data elements to the Clearinghouse to satisfy new reporting requirements for the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS). This makes it possible to measure undergraduate and graduate enrollments separately for the current term, starting with fall 2015. The undergraduate category includes: undergraduate certificate/diploma, associate degree, bachelor's degree, teacher preparation programs, special non-credential programs that have been classified by institutions as undergraduate programs, and 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.

Table 4: Estimated National Enrollment by Sector and Intensity Level (Title IV, Degree-Granting Institutions)

Sector	Enrollment Intensity	FALL 2016		FALL 2015		FALL 2014	
		Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year
All Sectors	Full-Time	11,937,405	-1.5%	12,116,449	-1.5%	12,304,457	-1.4%
	Part-Time	7,073,054	-1.3%	7,164,024	-2.1%	7,315,315	-1.2%
Four-Year Public	Full-Time	5,905,189	0.2%	5,892,632	1.0%	5,831,695	-0.1%
	Part-Time	2,194,929	0.1%	2,193,816	0.2%	2,188,749	3.0%
Four-Year Private Nonprofit	Full-Time	2,944,470	-0.5%	2,959,473	0.5%	2,944,226	1.5%
	Part-Time	844,510	-0.8%	851,703	-3.1%	879,239	2.1%
Four-Year For-Profit	Full-Time	621,363	-17.5%	753,549	-15.8%	894,643	-4.9%
	Part-Time	348,904	-8.5%	381,425	-9.3%	420,525	10.6%
Two-Year Public	Full-Time	2,197,659	-3.5%	2,278,440	-5.6%	2,413,319	-5.6%
	Part-Time	3,524,016	-2.0%	3,596,723	-1.2%	3,638,751	-3.6%

UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Table 4 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. Two-year for-profits and two-year private nonprofits are not shown in the table due to small counts, but enrollments from those sectors are included in the overall totals.

Table 5: Estimated National Enrollment by Sector and Age Group (Title IV, Degree-Granting Institutions)

Sector	Age Group	FALL 2016		FALL 2015		FALL 2014	
		Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year
All Sectors	24 and Under	12,379,773	-0.1%	12,393,792	-0.3%	12,425,257	-0.5%
	Over 24	6,630,686	-3.7%	6,886,680	-4.3%	7,194,515	-2.8%
Four-Year Public	24 and Under	5,838,405	0.9%	5,784,813	1.3%	5,712,772	1.6%
	Over 24	2,261,713	-1.7%	2,301,635	-0.3%	2,307,672	-1.4%
Four-Year Private Nonprofit	24 and Under	2,328,155	-0.8%	2,346,861	-0.1%	2,349,735	1.6%
	Over 24	1,460,825	-0.2%	1,464,314	-0.6%	1,473,730	1.7%
Four-Year For-Profit	24 and Under	176,460	-20.2%	221,221	-12.6%	253,119	2.8%
	Over 24	793,807	-13.1%	913,753	-14.0%	1,062,048	-1.2%
Two-Year Public	24 and Under	3,713,114	-1.0%	3,749,722	-1.0%	3,786,656	-2.4%
	Over 24	2,008,562	-5.5%	2,125,440	-6.2%	2,265,413	-7.6%

UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Table 5 provides enrollment counts by student age group. 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. Two-year for-profits and two-year private nonprofits are not shown in the table due to small counts, but enrollments from those sectors are included in the overall totals. Additional notes on data and coverage are included at the end of this document.

Table 6: Estimated National Enrollment by Sector and Gender (Title IV, Degree-Granting Institutions)

Sector	Gender	FALL 2016		FALL 2015		FALL 2014	
		Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year
All Sectors	Men	8,143,148	-1.9%	8,298,399	-1.4%	8,418,385	-1.4%
	Women	10,867,311	-1.0%	10,982,073	-2.0%	11,201,388	-1.3%
Four-Year Public	Men	3,608,891	-0.2%	3,616,225	0.5%	3,598,088	0.4%
	Women	4,491,227	0.5%	4,470,223	1.1%	4,422,356	1.0%
Four-Year Private Nonprofit	Men	1,556,743	-1.2%	1,574,940	-0.9%	1,588,508	1.2%
	Women	2,232,238	-0.2%	2,236,235	0.1%	2,234,957	1.9%
Four-Year For-Profit	Men	327,765	-21.0%	414,849	-12.4%	473,631	6.5%
	Women	642,501	-10.8%	720,125	-14.4%	841,537	-4.0%
Two-Year Public	Men	2,468,684	-3.1%	2,547,488	-1.7%	2,592,460	-4.6%
	Women	3,252,991	-2.2%	3,327,675	-3.8%	3,459,610	-4.2%

UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Table 6 provides enrollment counts by gender. Institutions reported student gender to the Clearinghouse for about one-half of all students. Gender was imputed based on first name for all other students. Less-than-two-year institutions have been aggregated with two-year institutions. Two-year for-profits and two-year private nonprofits are not shown in the table due to small counts, but enrollments from those sectors are included in the overall totals. Additional notes on data, coverage, and imputation of gender are included at the end of this document.

Table 7: Estimated Enrollment by State of Institution (Title IV, Degree-Granting Institutions)

State	FALL 2016		FALL 2015		FALL 2014	
	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year
Multi-State Institutions	709,643	-15.2%	836,852	-18.4%	1,026,122	-7.3%
Alabama	287,404	0.3%	286,442	-0.9%	289,072	0.9%
Alaska	30,885	-6.2%	32,935	1.0%	32,616	0.0%
Arizona	436,400	1.3%	430,745	2.9%	418,420	5.2%
Arkansas	160,851	-1.4%	163,060	-2.4%	167,091	0.0%
California	2,504,626	-0.1%	2,507,463	0.4%	2,497,958	-0.7%
Colorado	292,738	-3.6%	303,777	0.7%	301,620	-1.7%
Connecticut	189,290	-3.3%	195,750	-0.5%	196,813	0.9%
Delaware	56,629	-0.7%	57,025	-1.9%	58,112	0.5%
District of Columbia	74,914	0.2%	74,756	1.4%	73,692	-1.6%
Florida	1,026,229	1.7%	1,009,240	-4.3%	1,055,129	-0.1%
Georgia	487,929	2.2%	477,322	-0.1%	477,956	-5.1%
Hawaii	54,872	-6.2%	58,502	-4.4%	61,191	-1.7%
Idaho	99,283	2.5%	96,886	-0.5%	97,393	-3.0%
Illinois	634,719	-3.9%	660,808	-4.0%	688,574	-3.6%
Indiana	355,264	-2.0%	362,456	-2.5%	371,626	-3.9%

State	FALL 2016		FALL 2015		FALL 2014	
	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year
Iowa	201,644	-1.4%	204,498	-1.6%	207,787	-2.2%
Kansas	190,521	-1.2%	192,907	-1.7%	196,163	-2.0%
Kentucky	240,259	-1.1%	242,831	-4.3%	253,863	-1.6%
Louisiana	223,719	-3.4%	231,654	0.7%	230,144	-0.8%
Maine	66,599	-2.5%	68,282	-0.6%	68,699	-1.0%
Maryland	347,279	-2.9%	357,723	-0.4%	359,131	-3.0%
Massachusetts	444,702	-2.9%	458,146	-0.9%	462,368	-1.2%
Michigan	536,389	-4.6%	562,230	-3.9%	584,872	-2.7%
Minnesota	375,066	-2.5%	384,622	-1.6%	390,678	-1.7%
Mississippi	167,922	0.0%	167,936	-0.8%	169,348	0.6%
Missouri	361,320	-2.4%	370,044	-2.9%	381,167	-4.6%
Montana	48,497	-0.9%	48,941	-4.4%	51,170	-5.5%
Nebraska	128,656	-3.5%	133,361	2.1%	130,652	-4.0%
Nevada	108,515	-3.2%	112,051	-2.4%	114,788	2.2%
New Hampshire	145,966	17.2%	124,553	11.0%	112,196	19.9%
New Jersey	385,842	-1.5%	391,636	-2.8%	402,976	-2.5%

State	FALL 2016		FALL 2015		FALL 2014	
	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year
New Mexico	120,930	-2.0%	123,455	-6.3%	131,695	-6.3%
New York	1,120,904	-2.7%	1,151,599	-0.4%	1,156,068	-1.9%
North Carolina	523,726	0.3%	521,944	-3.0%	538,249	-0.9%
North Dakota	52,732	-0.4%	52,950	0.6%	52,639	-3.8%
Ohio	609,591	-1.3%	617,835	-1.9%	629,970	-3.4%
Oklahoma	192,190	0.1%	192,053	-2.6%	197,138	-2.7%
Oregon	215,087	-3.6%	223,077	-3.0%	229,967	-4.5%
Pennsylvania	688,220	-2.6%	706,610	-2.0%	721,095	-2.0%
Rhode Island	69,743	-1.4%	70,746	-1.0%	71,462	-1.1%
South Carolina	236,558	-1.5%	240,176	-0.8%	242,071	-1.2%
South Dakota	47,350	-0.6%	47,631	1.1%	47,133	-1.0%
Tennessee	299,619	-2.5%	307,253	-0.5%	308,792	-1.8%
Texas	1,455,418	-0.8%	1,466,794	1.7%	1,442,610	0.2%
Utah	305,137	7.2%	284,639	8.7%	261,810	0.4%
Vermont	41,571	1.3%	41,040	-0.2%	41,127	-0.6%
Virginia	499,313	-3.0%	514,926	-1.9%	524,800	0.0%

State	FALL 2016		FALL 2015		FALL 2014	
	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year
Washington	316,529	-1.7%	322,065	0.1%	321,722	-3.5%
West Virginia	149,335	-5.7%	158,289	-5.1%	166,809	-0.2%
Wisconsin	314,199	-4.0%	327,321	-2.5%	335,665	-1.6%
Wyoming	30,837	1.2%	30,470	1.5%	30,018	-4.7%

UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Table 7 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 institutions.” Enrollments for these institutions are not included in any of the other state-level totals.

*In New Mexico, a portion of the fall 2015 decline was due to a system of institutions that is no longer reporting dual-enrolled high school students to the Clearinghouse. Additional notes on data and coverage are included at the end of this document.

Table 8: Estimated Undergraduate Enrollment at Four-Year Institutions by Classification of Instructional Program Family

CIP Family Code	CIP Family Title	FALL 2016		FALL 2015
		Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment
52	Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support	1,639,373	-1.2%	1,659,647
24	Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities, (includes undeclared)	1,289,296	4.7%	1,231,558
51	Health Professions and Related Programs	1,142,636	-0.6%	1,149,576
26	Biological and Biomedical Sciences	601,572	1.6%	592,175
14	Engineering	601,119	4.0%	578,127
13	Education	481,740	-3.2%	497,775
42	Psychology	438,391	-3.2%	452,941
45	Social Sciences	427,572	-1.5%	434,159
11	Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services	406,889	-0.2%	407,834
50	Visual and Performing Arts	394,347	-3.9%	410,464
09	Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs	325,973	-2.9%	335,815
43	Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Related Protective Services	300,666	-6.0%	319,872
30	Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	245,247	-3.0%	252,876
31	Parks, Recreation, Leisure and Fitness Studies	234,763	-0.6%	236,219
40	Physical Sciences	153,082	-1.6%	155,605
23	English Language and Literature/Letters	146,898	-3.9%	152,822
44	Public Administration and Social Service Professions	144,546	-0.8%	145,750
15	Engineering Technologies and Engineering-Related Fields	108,420	-14.5%	126,768
19	Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences	100,552	-7.0%	108,103
01	Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences	93,442	1.2%	92,358
27	Mathematics and Statistics	87,164	1.4%	85,958
54	History	85,302	-3.3%	88,243

CIP Family Code	CIP Family Title	FALL 2016		FALL 2015
		Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment
03	Natural Resources and Conservation	77,542	2.5%	75,647
16	Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	54,919	-6.1%	58,503
04	Architecture and Related Services	39,253	4.1%	37,725
38	Philosophy and Religious Studies	33,056	-5.6%	35,017
39	Theology and Religious Vocations	30,335	-4.8%	31,858
49	Transportation and Materials Moving	26,571	-2.6%	27,279
22	Legal Professions and Studies	24,793	-10.9%	27,824
12	Personal and Culinary Services	23,651	-17.8%	28,774
05	Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies	23,083	-2.7%	23,729
10	Communications Technologies/Technicians and Support Services	18,296	-8.2%	19,930
47	Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians	17,226	-8.4%	18,810
46	Construction Trades	7,418	-0.6%	7,465
41	Science Technologies/Technicians	7,316	15.9%	6,310
48	Precision Production	5,663	-1.6%	5,755

UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Table 8 provides college enrollment totals disaggregated by Classification of Instructional Program Family codes. CIP codes are provided with 95 percent of the enrollments reported to the Clearinghouse. The other 5 percent are considered by institutions to be non-program enrollments, and therefore have no CIP code. The table excludes the following CIP family 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), and 60 (Residency Programs). For more information about the Classification of Instructional Family Codes, visit the NCES CIP user website: <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/browse.aspx?y=55>

Table 9: Estimated Undergraduate Enrollment at Two-Year Institutions by Classification of Instructional Program Family

CIP Family Code	CIP Family Title	FALL 2016		FALL 2015
		Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment
24	Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities, (includes undeclared)	2,015,473	-5.1%	2,122,751
51	Health Professions and Related Programs	827,811	-1.2%	838,236
52	Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support	608,435	-0.4%	610,584
43	Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Related Protective Services	211,803	-7.6%	229,240
11	Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services	208,500	4.3%	199,918
50	Visual and Performing Arts	148,664	1.8%	146,064
30	Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	145,543	7.7%	135,166
15	Engineering Technologies and Engineering-Related Fields	125,874	-5.3%	132,980
13	Education	121,135	-5.0%	127,489
47	Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians	109,932	-2.5%	112,802
19	Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences	96,005	0.7%	95,317
26	Biological and Biomedical Sciences	88,109	8.0%	81,577
14	Engineering	86,996	4.1%	83,547
42	Psychology	77,842	8.2%	71,962
45	Social Sciences	77,307	3.6%	74,649
12	Personal and Culinary Services	63,765	-4.2%	66,539
48	Precision Production	59,033	-1.6%	59,969
46	Construction Trades	53,034	4.0%	50,976
31	Parks, Recreation, Leisure and Fitness Studies	48,200	7.7%	44,743
09	Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs	47,709	7.7%	44,296
44	Public Administration and Social Service Professions	39,630	-5.6%	41,966
40	Physical Sciences	37,469	-2.8%	38,534

CIP Family Code	CIP Family Title	FALL 2016		FALL 2015
		Enrollment	% Change from Prior Year	Enrollment
23	English Language and Literature/Letters	32,395	4.0%	31,154
01	Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences	32,177	-1.8%	32,771
10	Communications Technologies/Technicians and Support Services	29,625	5.8%	28,011
22	Legal Professions and Studies	27,741	-8.7%	30,379
27	Mathematics and Statistics	20,661	8.3%	19,085
16	Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics	18,294	7.6%	16,999
41	Science Technologies/Technicians	13,717	-1.3%	13,896
32	Basic Skills and Developmental/Remedial Education	12,759	4.7%	12,186
54	History	10,697	9.6%	9,758
03	Natural Resources and Conservation	10,051	2.7%	9,790
49	Transportation and Materials Moving	9,174	-14.8%	10,769
04	Architecture and Related Services	6,595	9.4%	6,026

UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Table 9 provides college enrollment totals disaggregated by Classification of Instructional Program Family codes. CIP codes are provided with 95 percent of the enrollments reported to the Clearinghouse. The other 5 percent are considered by institutions to be non-program enrollments, and therefore have no CIP code. The table excludes the following CIP family 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), and 60 (Residency Programs). For more information about the Classification of Instructional Family Codes, visit the NCES CIP user website: <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/browse.aspx?y=55>

Notes on the Data

National Coverage of the Data

As of fall 2016, institutions actively submitting enrollment data to the Clearinghouse account for over 96 percent of all enrollments at Title IV, degree-granting institutions in the nation. 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 enrollment figures for all institutions nationally. Using all IPEDS Title IV, degree-granting institutions as the base study 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 2015 IPEDS enrollments at the time of publication, fall 2014 IPEDS enrollments were used as the basis for calculating the fall 2015 and fall 2016 Clearinghouse coverage rates.

For detailed statistics on enrollment coverage as well as several other aspects of Clearinghouse data, visit the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center's "Working With Our Data" page at <http://nscresearchcenter.org/workingwithourdata/>

Differences from IPEDS

National Student Clearinghouse data are nonadjudicated, administrative data that come directly from college and university registrars. The data differ from IPEDS survey data in a number of important ways:

- 1. Term definition:** Most institutions use an October 15 census date when counting fall enrollments for IPEDS, but institutions have some flexibility in determining whether a given term should be counted as a fall term. For Clearinghouse reporting, institutions provide the start- and end-dates for each enrollment, rather than formally designating fall or spring terms. Fall terms included in the Current Term Enrollment Estimates are those that:
 - a) began between August 15 and October 31, inclusive OR
 - b) ended between September 15 and November 30, inclusive OR
 - c) began before August 15 AND ended after November 30

- 2. 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.
- 4. International students:** As the Clearinghouse continues to enhance its data collections to better support the needs of the education community, enrollment records for international students are starting to become more complete than in past years. Because this is a recent development, in order to ensure consistent year-to-year comparisons, international students have been excluded from this report. In the most recent year for which IPEDS data are available (Fall 2014), 4.5 percent of the total IPEDS enrollment is accounted for by the nonresident alien category.

Level of Institution

Note that the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center has revised the fall 2015 public sector figures in this report from those published in December 2015 to reflect the fact that some two-year public institutions have since been reclassified in IPEDS as four-year public institutions. This means that enrollment figures for the two-year public and four-year public sectors for the fall 2015 term have been restated. There is no change to the numbers in the "all sectors" category, nor in the private sector categories, and the total numbers of students in the public sector has not changed. Only the allocation of public sector students to two-year vs. four-year institutions has shifted.

Gender Imputation

Institutions reported student gender to the Clearinghouse for about one-half of all students included in this report. The genders for the remaining students were 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.