For some students, attending one college at a time isn’t enough. According to the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, 3.2% of all students attended two or more postsecondary institutions concurrently during its one-year study period.* Concurrent enrollment in this report occurs when a student’s enrollment at two or more postsecondary institutions overlaps by at least 30 days. The highest rate of concurrency (7.3%) was among students who had a combination of full- and part-time statuses. The lowest rate of concurrency (0.3%) was among students who maintained full-time status in all enrollments throughout the year. Among students who were enrolled exclusively part-time throughout the year, 2.8% had concurrent enrollments at two or more institutions.

* Students who were enrolled at postsecondary institutions for at least 30 consecutive days between August 15, 2010 and August 14, 2011. Concurrent enrollment is defined as at least 30 consecutive days of overlapping enrollments at two or more postsecondary institutions during the study period, including full-time only, part-time only, or a mix of full- and part-time.

Note: Data for this report came from student-level college enrollment data provided to the National Student Clearinghouse by its participating institutions and reflect national coverage of 93% of student enrollments.
Concurrent Enrollment by Type of Institution

The mix of institutions attended were studied for students who had overlapping enrollments at more than one institution in 2010-2011.*

2-/4-Year Institutions
The majority of students with concurrent enrollments (55.1%) were enrolled in both a 2- and a 4-year institution at the same time. One quarter (24.4%) were enrolled concurrently at two or more 2-year institutions; 20.5% were enrolled concurrently at two or more 4-year institutions.

Public/Private Institutions†
Most students (75.7%) who were concurrently enrolled attended only public institutions. One-fifth (21.0%) attended a combination of public and private institutions concurrently. A very small percentage of students (3.3%) were concurrently enrolled in two or more private institutions.

* Students who were enrolled at postsecondary institutions for at least 30 consecutive days between August 15, 2010 and August 14, 2011. Concurrent enrollment is defined as at least 30 consecutive days of overlapping enrollments at two or more postsecondary institutions during the study period, including full-time only, part-time only, or a mix of full- and part-time.
† Because of the small percentage of concurrent enrollments at private for-profit institutions (about 0.3%), concurrent enrollments at private not-for-profit and private for-profit institutions were combined.

Note: Data for this report came from student-level college enrollment data provided to the National Student Clearinghouse by its participating institutions and reflect national coverage of 93% of student enrollments.
Public vs. Private Concurrency

More students at public institutions had concurrent enrollments than students at private institutions.*

Of the students who attended at least one public institution, 4.0% were concurrently enrolled at some point during the study period. Similarly, among those who attended at least one not-for-profit or for-profit private institution†, 2.9% were concurrently enrolled at some point during the study period.

* Students who were enrolled at postsecondary institutions for at least 30 consecutive days between August 15, 2010 and August 14, 2011. Concurrent enrollment is defined as at least 30 consecutive days of overlapping enrollments at two or more postsecondary institutions during the study period, including full-time only, part-time only, or a mix of full- and part-time.

† Because of the small percentage of concurrent enrollments at private for-profit institutions (about 0.3%), concurrent enrollments at private not-for-profit and private for-profit institutions were combined.

Note: Data for this report came from student-level college enrollment data provided to the National Student Clearinghouse by its participating institutions and reflect national coverage of 93% of student enrollments.