



SPRING 2022 POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT ESTIMATES

In May 2022, the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center released its Current Term Enrollment Estimates for spring 2022. This report provides estimated national postsecondary enrollment numbers for the spring of 2022. Findings are based on the Clearinghouse universe of institutions.

Data reveal that spring 2022 total postsecondary enrollment fell by 4.1 percent from the previous year. This figure represents a larger decrease in enrollment than in 2021 (-3.5 percent) and 2020 (-0.5 percent). While enrollment decreased across all institutional sectors, public two-year enrollment fell the most (-7.8 percent).

-0.7% -0.8% -0.6% -0.6% -1 Percent Change from Previous Year -2 -3 -4 -5 -6 -7 -8 -9 -10 All Sectors Public Four-Year Private Nonprofit Private For-Profit Public Two-Year Four-Year Spring 2020 Spring 2021 Spring 2022

Estimated Enrollment Changes by Sector, in Percent

Notes: Less-than-two-year institutions have been aggregated with two-year institutions. Private nonprofit two-year and for-profit two-year enrollments are not shown in the table due to small counts, but enrollments from these sectors are included in the overall totals.

Enrollment fell across all program levels in spring 2022, except at private for-profit four-year institutions, where associate degree enrollment increased by 2.4 percent and graduate enrollment increased by 5.4 percent. As illustrated in the table below, decreases in undergraduate enrollment were greater than those in graduate enrollment.

Estimated Enrollment Changes by Sector and Program Level, in Percent

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		SPRING 2022	SPRING 2021	SPRING 2020	
SECTOR	PROGRAM LEVEL	PERCE	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR		
All Sectors	Undergraduate (All)	-4.7%	-4.9%	-0.5%	
	Associate Degree-Seeking	-8.3%	-10.6%	-2.0%	
	Bachelor's Degree-Seeking	-2.7%	-2.5%	-0.5%	
	Other Undergraduate	-5.2%	-0.9%	3.2%	
	Graduate/Professional*	-0.8%	4.6%	-0.1%	
Public Four-Year	Undergraduate (All)	-3.9%	-1.9%	-1.0%	
	Associate Degree-Seeking	-9.1%	-4.3%	-4.9%	
	Bachelor's Degree-Seeking	-3.5%	-2.0%	-0.9%	
	Other Undergraduate	-2.9%	2.0%	3.6%	
	Graduate/Professional*	-1.0%	5.6%	1.1%	
Private Nonprofit Four-Year	Undergraduate (All)	-2.0%	-2.8%	-0.6%	
	Associate Degree-Seeking	-8.1%	-3.8%	-4.4%	
	Bachelor's Degree-Seeking	-1.4%	-2.7%	-0.6%	
	Other Undergraduate	-8.4%	-5.1%	1.4%	
	Graduate/Professional	-1.3%	3.8%	-0.9%	
Private For-Profit Four-Year	Undergraduate (All)	-2.5%	-2.7%	-1.8%	
	Associate Degree-Seeking	2.4%	-4.6%	-3.1%	
	Bachelor's Degree-Seeking	-0.3%	-6.8%	-2.3%	
	Other Undergraduate	-21.6%	34.7%	5.3%	
	Graduate/Professional	5.4%	1.7%	-2.1%	
Public Two-Year	Undergraduate (All)	-7.8%	-9.5%	-2.3%	
	Associate Degree-Seeking	-9.0%	-10.9%	-2.7%	
	Other Undergraduate	-3.7%	-4.8%	-0.9%	

^{*}Graduate enrollment decline in 2022 is an overestimation due to a large public university that had not submitted its 2022 data by the time of publication.

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