

Glossary

AAUP: American Association of University Professors, which conducts an annual salary survey. Its data is augmented with other organizations' data.

Degrees granted: Bachelor's, master's, doctorates and first professional degrees are reported for the public and independent four-year institutions. Associate degrees are reported only for the public community and technical colleges. (Note: in Washington, professional degrees are awarded in five general areas: medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary medicine, and law.)

Enrollment: The number of individual students – i.e., headcount – for the fall quarter (or semester) of an academic year.

Field of study: Information on fields of study in Part 1 is taken from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). IPEDS codes degrees by Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) categories. For field-of-study tables, the CIP codes have been aggregated into 13 major fields (delineated by the state Office of Financial Management), as follows:

1. Agriculture and natural resources (includes agribusiness, agricultural sciences, natural resources, home economics, vocational home economics, and parks and recreation)
2. Architecture (includes architecture and environmental design)
3. Business (includes business and management, business and office, marketing and distribution, and consumer, personal, and miscellaneous services)
4. Computer science (includes computer and information science)
5. Engineering and related technologies
6. Arts and letters (includes area and ethnic studies, communications, communications technologies, foreign languages, letters, liberal/general studies, library and archival sciences, multi/interdisciplinary studies, philosophy and religion, theology, and visual and performing arts)
7. Education
8. Health (includes allied health and health sciences)
9. Law
10. Sciences (includes life sciences, mathematics, physical sciences, and science technologies)
11. Social sciences (includes psychology, protective services, public affairs, and social sciences)
12. Trades (includes construction trades, mechanics and repair, precision and production, and transportation and material moving)
13. Other

Fiscal year: The fiscal year begins July 1 and ends June 30 of the following calendar year.

FTE: Full-Time Equivalent. This is calculated by taking the total credit hours at a university/college and dividing by the normal full-time credit-hour load. In Washington, the normal full-time load is 15 credit hours for undergraduates and 10 credit hours for graduate students.

Full-time/part-time enrollment: According to IPEDS, a full-time undergraduate is enrolled for 12 or more credits per semester/quarter. A full-time graduate student is enrolled for 9 or more credits. These definitions apply to headcount enrollment at four-year institutions. At community/technical colleges, full-time enrollment (state-supported) is 10 or more credits.

Geographic origin: This category classifies students by their home address at the time of their initial application. In-state refers to those from Washington state; out-of-state includes other U.S. states, territories, and possessions; foreign refers to other countries.

HECB: The Higher Education Coordinating Board, a 10-member citizen board appointed by the governor and confirmed by the state Senate. Board members serve staggered, four-year terms; the student member serves one year.

HEER: The Higher Education Enrollment Report is produced by the state Office of Financial Management (OFM). Data cover enrollment in the six public four-year institutions and are collected each term. This source is used for several tables. (Some minor differences exist between HEER and IPEDS headcount information due to different definitions.)

IPEDS: The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (which is part of the United States Department of Education) is a national survey conducted annually by the National Center for Education Statistics. It covers many areas including enrollment and degrees granted. All degree information in this report is taken from IPEDS. For enrollment, IPEDS is used whenever possible for the public four-year institutions; IPEDS is always used for enrollment in the independent institutions.

LEAP: The Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program committee data are used for information on State General Fund expenditures. LEAP was created by the Washington Legislature in 1977 to be the Legislature's independent source of information and technology for developing budgets, communicating budget decisions, tracking budget and revenue activity, consulting with legislative committees, and providing analysis on special issues.

Level of enrollment: The source of data is IPEDS. "Lower division" is calculated as all freshmen, all other first-year and all second-year students, and half of the unclassified undergraduates. "Upper division" are third-year students, fourth-year and beyond, and half of the unclassified undergraduates. "Graduate" and "professional" students are listed separately. In some cases, lower division and upper division are combined as "undergraduates," and a combined "post-baccalaureate" category includes graduate and professional enrollment.

MIS: The Management Information System provides a series of reports on enrollment in the community and technical colleges. The data used in this document primarily came from the Student Management Information System (SMIS). These reports are prepared by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC).

NCES: The National Center for Education Statistics (part of the United States Department of Education) collects the yearly IPEDS data. NCES also provides state-by-state compilations of data, which were used to calculate participation rates and state rankings.

NCHEMS: The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems provides state-by-state data on enrollment; NCHEMS uses IPEDS data as their source. NCHEMS information was used by OFM to calculate college participation rates from 1981 through 1988.

OFM: The Washington State Office of Financial Management provides HEER data and some budget information.

OSPI: The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction issues a report annually on the number of Washington public high school graduates. The report is titled: "Dropout Rates and Graduation Statistics by County and School District for School Year (by year)."

Race/ethnicity categories – as defined by the U.S. Department of Education for the IPEDS survey.

- ***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.
- ***Black, Non-Hispanic:*** A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa (except those of Hispanic origin).
- ***American Indian or Alaskan Native (Native American):*** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America or who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.
- ***Asian or Pacific Islander:*** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian Subcontinent, or Pacific Islands. This includes people from China, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, Samoa, India, and Vietnam.
- ***Hispanic:*** A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- ***White, Non-Hispanic:*** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East (except those of Hispanic origin).
- ***Race/Ethnicity Unknown:*** This category is used ONLY if the student did not select a racial/ethnic designation, and the postsecondary institution finds it impossible to place the student in one of the aforementioned racial/ethnic categories.

SBCTC: The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges is the source for enrollment data for these institutions.

WFAA: The Washington Financial Aid Association is a professional membership organization of individuals whose aim is to promote higher education through the availability, support and administration of student financial assistance programs.

WICHE: The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education is a regional organization created by the Western Regional Education Compact, adopted in the 1950s by western states. WICHE is an interstate compact created by formal legislative action of the states and the U.S. Congress. Fifteen states are members of WICHE. Three gubernatorial-appointed commissioners from each state govern WICHE. WICHE was created to facilitate resource sharing among the higher education systems of the west.