

Fall 2017 Enrollment Snapshot for Illinois Public Universities

The following fall enrollment snapshot for the Illinois public universities was produced using data collected over the last three academic years via IBHE's Fall Enrollment I survey. It emphasizes full-time equivalent enrollment (FTE)¹.

Overall Fall Enrollment (FTE)

As shown in Table 1, overall fall enrollment in 2017 at Illinois public universities (including both undergraduate and graduate programs) declined -2% (-3,482 FTE) from academic year 2016 and -4% (-6,577 FTE) from academic year 2015. Eastern Illinois University (-14%), Chicago State University (-11%), University of Illinois at Springfield (-12%) and Southern Illinois University Carbondale (-10%) all experienced enrollment declines of 10% or greater relative to 2016. Both Governors State University and Western Illinois University experienced overall enrollment declines of -9% relative to 2016. The University of Illinois at Chicago (5%) and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2%) experienced an overall increase in fall enrollment relative to 2016.

Table 1: Combined Undergraduate and Graduate Enrollment (based on FTE)

	Combined Enrollment			Change in Enrollment	
	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	2016 to 2017	2015 to 2017
CSU	3,618	2,734	2,429	-11%	-33%
EIU	7,282	6,234	5,339	-14%	-27%
GSU	3,920	3,886	3,554	-9%	-9%
ISU	18,183	18,533	18,308	-1%	1%
NEIU	6,366	6,101	5,777	-5%	-9%
NIU	16,502	15,712	14,982	-5%	-9%
SIUC	14,995	13,880	12,463	-10%	-17%
SIUE	11,985	11,870	11,523	-3%	-4%
UIC	28,687	28,935	30,418	5%	6%
UIS	3,921	3,985	3,526	-12%	-10%
UIUC	47,644	48,765	49,634	2%	4%
WIU	9,561	8,934	8,134	-9%	-15%
Total	172,664	169,569	166,087	-2%	-4%

Undergraduate Enrollment (FTE)

Overall undergraduate fall enrollment at public universities declined -2% (-2,895 FTE) from academic year 2016 to 2017 and -5% (-6,156 FTE) when compared to 2015. As shown in Table 2, Eastern Illinois University (-16%), Chicago State University (-11%), Western Illinois University (-11%), and Southern Illinois University Carbondale (-10%) experience the largest undergraduate enrollment declines from 2016 to 2017. The University of Illinois at Chicago experienced an increase in undergraduate enrollment (9%) relative to 2016. In 2017, undergraduate enrollment held steady at the University of Illinois at Springfield and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, while Illinois State University experienced a slight decline (-1%) relative to 2016. The

¹ Full-time equivalent (FTE) is a single value that includes all attempted credit hours for all students (full- and part-time) converted into a full-time basis by program level (undergraduate, graduate, and professional). For example, 15 undergraduate hours are the equivalent of one undergraduate FTE and 12 graduate hours are the equivalent of one graduate FTE.

overall enrollment decline at public universities in 2017 can be mostly attributed to the decrease in undergraduate enrollment.

Table 2: Undergraduate Enrollment (based on FTE)

	Undergraduate Enrollment			Change in Enrollment	
	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	2016 to 2017	2015 to 2017
CSU	2,571	1,721	1,535	-11%	-40%
EIU	6,429	5,264	4,442	-16%	-31%
GSU	2,447	2,456	2,387	-3%	-2%
ISU	16,792	17,056	16,826	-1%	0%
NEIU	5,522	5,222	4,902	-6%	-11%
NIU	13,328	12,649	12,136	-4%	-9%
SIUC	11,670	10,829	9,763	-10%	-16%
SIUE	10,350	10,273	9,912	-4%	-4%
UIC	17,022	17,416	18,949	9%	11%
UIS	2,265	2,287	2,282	0%	1%
UIUC	34,041	34,592	34,573	0%	2%
WIU	8,407	7,818	6,981	-11%	-17%
Total	130,844	127,583	124,688	-2%	-5%

Graduate Enrollment (FTE)

Total graduate enrollment at public universities decreased slightly from fall of 2016 to fall of 2017 (-1% or -587 FTE). As shown in Table 3, the University of Illinois at Springfield (-27%), Governors State University (-18%), Southern Illinois University Carbondale (-12%) and Chicago State University (-12%) had the largest declines in fall graduate enrollment relative to 2016. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (6%) experienced an increase in graduate enrollment relative to 2016, along with Western Illinois University (3%) and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (1%). Graduate enrollment in 2017 held steady at Illinois State University, Northeastern Illinois University, and the University of Illinois at Chicago when compared with 2016.

Table 3: Graduate Enrollment (based on FTE)

	Graduate Enrollment			Change in Enrollment	
	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	2016 to 2017	2015 to 2017
CSU	1,047	1,013	894	-12%	-15%
EIU	853	970	897	-8%	5%
GSU	1,473	1,430	1,167	-18%	-21%
ISU	1,391	1,477	1,482	0%	7%
NEIU	844	879	875	0%	4%
NIU	3,174	3,063	2,846	-7%	-10%
SIUC	3,325	3,051	2,700	-12%	-19%
SIUE	1,635	1,597	1,611	1%	-1%
UIC	11,665	11,519	11,469	0%	-2%
UIS	1,656	1,698	1,244	-27%	-25%
UIUC	13,603	14,173	15,061	6%	11%
WIU	1,154	1,116	1,153	3%	0%
Total	41,820	41,986	41,399	-1%	-1%