Source: National Center for Education Statistics

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is the primary federal entity in the United States for collecting and analyzing data related to education in the US and other nations. NCES is located within the US Department of Education and the Institute of Education Sciences. The NCES fulfills a congressional mandate to collect, collate, analyze, and report complete statistics on the condition of US education; conduct and publish reports; and review and report on education activities internationally. The NCES is one of four centers (along with the National Center for Education Research, the National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, and the National Center for Special Education Research) charged with carrying out the work of the Institute of Education Sciences.

Dataset: Total Enrollment from the Fall Enrollment - Postsecondary Education Database

Presents a count of full- and part-time students of all levels enrolled in postsecondary institutions in the 50 United States, and Washington, DC, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands.

Data are from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), a web-based data collection system, conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics. All postsecondary institutions that participate in or are applicants for participation in any federal programs providing financial assistance to students are required to report data using the IPEDS. More than 7,500 institutions complete IPEDS surveys each year. These include research universities, state colleges and universities, private religious and liberal arts colleges, for-profit institutions, community and technical colleges, non-degree-granting institutions (eg, beauty colleges), and others. IPEDS collects data on postsecondary education in the United States in seven areas: institutional characteristics, institutional prices, enrollment, student financial aid, degrees and certificates conferred, student persistence and success, and institutional human and fiscal resources.
The enrollment data here reports the number of students enrolled in the fall of the reference year at postsecondary institutions. Data are reported by race/ethnicity; gender; enrollment status (part-time or full-time); and or level of study (undergraduate or graduate); also included are counts of nonresident aliens (ie, 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) enrolled in postsecondary institutions. Students reported include those enrolled in courses creditable toward a degree or other formal award; students enrolled in courses that are part of a vocational or occupational program, including those enrolled in off-campus centers; and high school students taking regular college courses for credit. Fall enrollment is collected in the spring following the fall term covered by the data collection. Other modules are conducted at other times of year.

In Data Planet, national and state totals are calculated based on the FIPS codes provided in the IPEDS data files.

For information on the statistical standards utilized by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), visit http://nces.ed.gov/statprog/index.asp.

Technical Documentation

Citation:
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