Distance Education State Almanac

IOWA



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National setting

Student enrollment in higher education institutions has undergone fundamental changes over the last decade, a condition only exacerbated by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Between 2012 and 2019, the total number of students enrolled at U.S. degree-granting institutions dropped by almost 1.1 million. At the same time, the number of students taking at least one online course grew by 2 million, from 5.4 million to 7.4 million, representing 37.2% of all students in 2019. The net result of these two changes was far fewer students studying on campus, from 18.3 million in 2012 to 16.4 million by 2019.

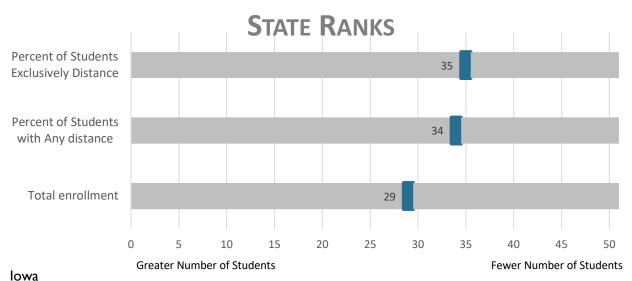
The information presented in the report represent the classifications and enrollments for Fall 2019 and were measured before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. National totals include all 50 states, District of Columbia, America Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, Northern Marianas, Palau, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Iowa

lowa has 56 degree-granting higher education institutions, representing 1.4% of all such institutions in the United States. Of these institutions, 19 are classified as public, 34 as private not-for-profit, and 3 as private for-profit. Of these 56 institutions, 39 offer four-year programs, and 17 offer two-year programs.

The state has 218,033 students enrolled across its institutions and ranks 29th in terms of total higher education student enrollment. Between 2012 and 2019, the total number of students enrolled nationally declined by 5.0%. For lowa, the enrollment decreased by 65,461 students, or -23.1%. Iowa has 189,820 students studying at the undergraduate level, a loss of 56,234 students from 2012 (-22.9%), compared to a 6.8% national decline. There are 28,213 students studying at the graduate level, which is 9,227 fewer than in 2012; this represents a change of -24.6%, where the national data showed an increase of 5.7%.

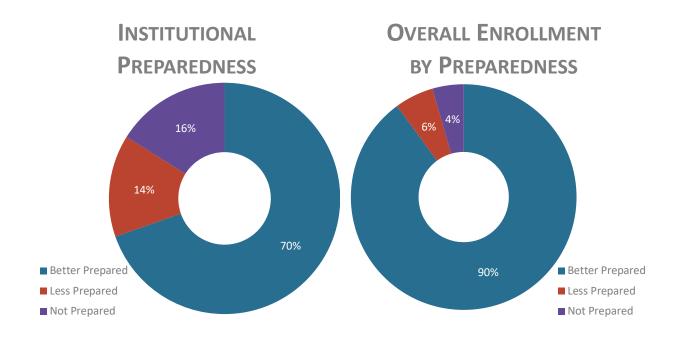
There are 79,102 students in Iowa that take at least one distance course. The state is ranked 34th for the proportion of students taking at least one distance course (36.3%). In 2019, there were 30,665 students taking all of their courses at a distance, a loss of -36,880 students (-54.6%) from 2012. Iowa ranks 35th in the proportion of students (14.1%) taking exclusively distance courses in the nation.



COVID-19 Distance Learning Preparedness

Not all higher education institutions were equally prepared to move courses online. Those institutions with a substantial number of students studying at a distance (1,000 or more), or a substantial percentage of their students taking at least one distance course (25% or more), can be expected to have the experience and infrastructure to better support a transition to online learning. Likewise, institutions with no distance students will have the least experience and infrastructure to support such a transition.

Nationally, 59.3% of all degree-granting institutions meet the criteria of having 25% or more or over 1,000 of their students taking distance courses. In Iowa, 69.6% of institutions are better prepared for moving completely online. These institutions enroll 196,076 students, or 89.9% of all students in the state. There are 9 institutions in Iowa with no distance students (representing 16.1% of the total in state institutions) that were likely not well prepared for a rapid transition to distance learning.



Preparedness Definitions:

BETTER PREPARED: Schools with more than 1,000 online students (thus extensive support

staff) or having 25 percent or more of their students online

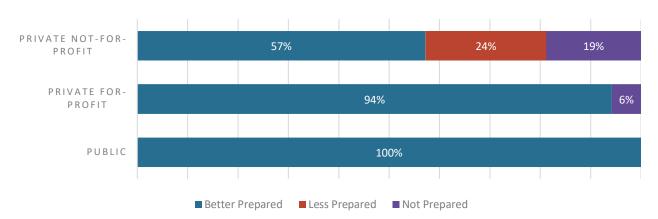
LESS PREPARED: Large schools with less than 1,000 online students (thus some support

staff) or having less than 25 percent of their students online

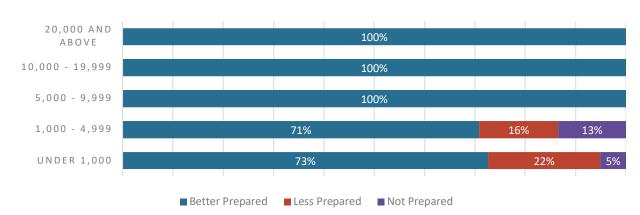
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NOT PREPARED: Schools with no distance enrollment

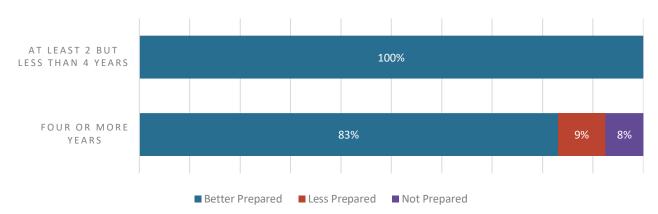
PREPAREDNESS BY CONTROL



PREPAREDNESS BY SIZE



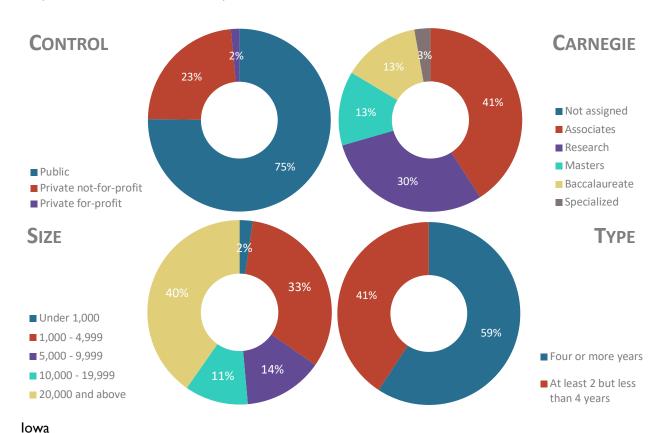
PREPAREDNESS BY TYPE

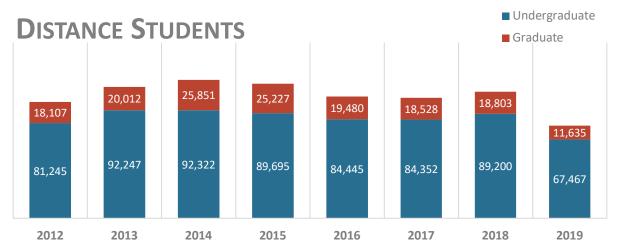




Institutions in Iowa enrolled a total of 218,033 students in the of Fall 2019; 189,820 students were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 28,213 enrolled at the graduate level. The Fall 2019 figure represents a decrease of 65,461 students (-23.1%) from the number enrolled in the fall of 2012. The number of undergraduate students decreased by 56,234 during this period, from 246,054 in 2012 to 189,820 in 2019 (-22.9%). The number of graduate students decreased from 37,440 to 28,213 (-24.6%) in the same period.

Enrollments in Fall 2019 totaled 163,912 students at public institutions (75% of all students), 50,862 students at private not-for-profit institutions (23.3%), and 3,259 students at private for-profit institutions (1.5%). Enrollments at public institutions decreased by 9,646 students between 2012 and 2019, while those at private not-for-profit institutions decreased by 5,398 students, and those at private for-profit institutions decreased by 50,417 students.

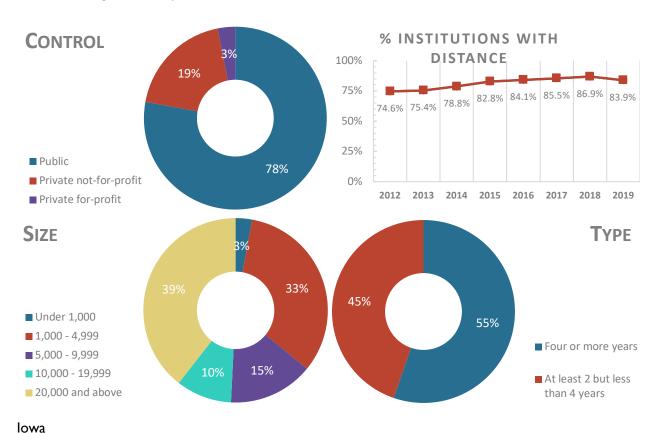


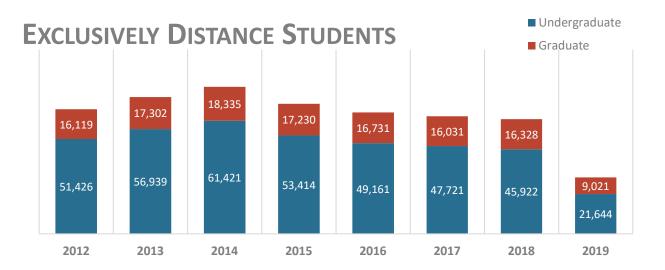


In 2019, a total of 79,102 students took at least one distance course from lowa institutions; 67,467 (35.5% of all undergraduate students) were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 11,635 (41.2% of all graduate students) were enrolled at the graduate level.

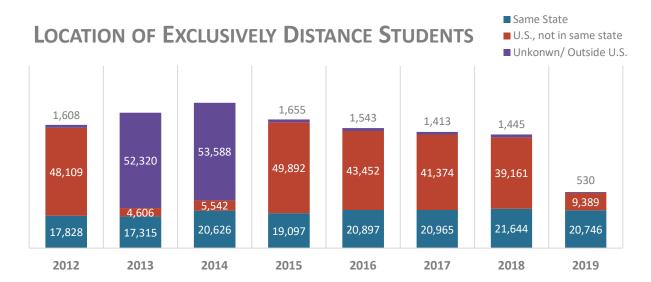
Among undergraduate level distance students, 57,469 were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 8,048 as private not-for-profit, and 1,950 as private for profit. At the graduate-level, 4,108 distance students were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 7,008 as private not-for-profit, and 519 as private for profit.

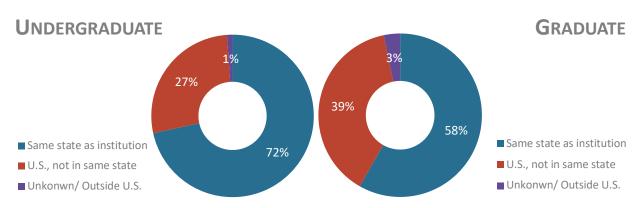
The number of undergraduate distance enrollments at lowa institutions decreased by -13,778 (-17.0%) between Fall 2012 and Fall 2019, while the number of graduate distance enrollments fell by -6,472 (-35.7%) during this same period.

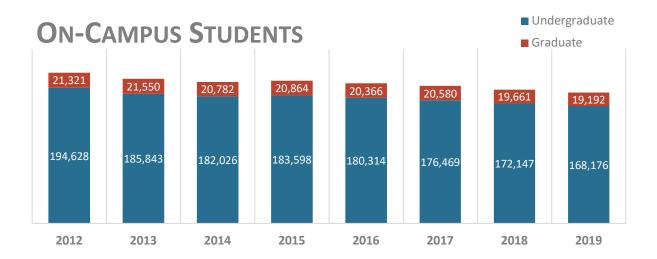




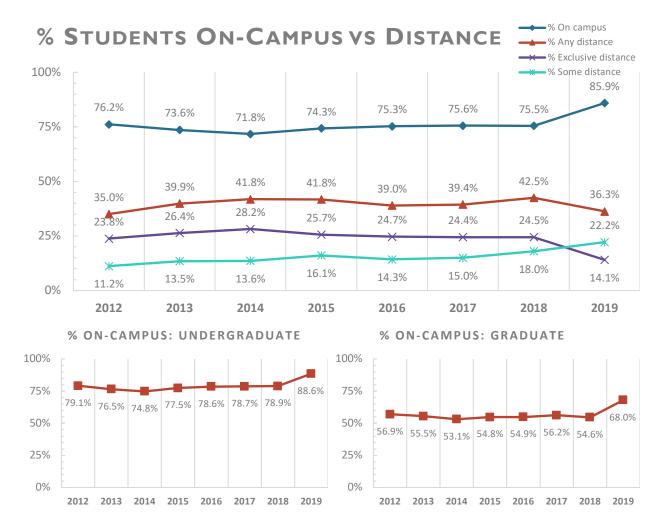
A total of 30,665 students were taking all of their courses at a distance from Iowa institutions in the fall of 2019. This represents 14.1% of the enrolled students in the state, which ranks the state at number 35 in the U.S. The number of exclusively distance students who reside in Iowa while taking courses from an institution in Iowa was 17,828 in 2012 and fell to 20,746 by 2019. There are 9,919 students enrolled as exclusively distance students in Iowa institutions who reside outside Iowa, or whose place of residence is unknown.







On-campus students are those who take one or more of their courses physically on-campus. The number of students studying on campus declined from 215,949 to 187,368 between 2012 and 2019 in lowa, representing a reduction of 13.2%. This compares to a national decrease of 10.3% for the same period. In 2019, 88.6% of undergraduate students and 68.0% of graduate students in lowa were taking at least one on-campus course.



INSTITUTIONS

	lowa	National	State Rank	State as % of National
Total institutions	56	4,089	27	1.4%
Institutions w/ distance	47	3,161	26	1.5%
% Institution w/ distance	83.9%	77.3%	25	

ENROLLMENTS

	lowa	Total	Any Distance	Exclusive Distance	On Campus
	Total	218,033	79,102	30,665	187,368
Size	Under 1,000	5,011	2,272	497	4,514
	1,000 - 4,999	70,583	26,137	14,724	55,859
	5,000 - 9,999	30,304	11,773	4,719	25,585
	10,000 - 19,999	24,265	7,723	2,447	21,818
	20,000 and above	87,870	31,197	8,278	79,592
Carnegie	Not assigned	41	41	41	-
	Associates	89,112	35,496	14,482	74,630
	Research	64,612	23,474	4,301	60,311
	Masters	28,504	9,598	5,037	23,467
	Baccalaureate	29,626	8,293	6,534	23,092
	Specialized	6,138	2,200	270	5,868
Control	Public	163,912	61,577	19,256	144,656
	Private not-for-profit	50,862	15,056	8,940	41,922
	Private for-profit	3,259	2,469	2,469	790
Туре	Four or more years	129,156	43,731	16,269	112,887
	At least 2 but less than 4 years	88,877	35,371	14,396	74,481