## Distance Education State Almanac

OREGON


Julia E. Seaman, Ph.D.
Research Director, Bay View Analytics

Jeff Seaman, Ph.D.
Director, Bay View Analytics

## 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.

## Oregon

Oregon has 54 degree-granting higher education institutions, representing 1.3\% of all such institutions in the United States. Of these institutions, 26 are classified as public, 24 as private not-forprofit, and 4 as private for-profit. Of these 54 institutions, 34 offer four-year programs, and 20 offer twoyear programs.

The state has 225,716 students enrolled across its institutions and ranks 28th in terms of total higher education student enrollment. Between 2012 and 2019, the total number of students enrolled nationally declined by 5.0\%. For Oregon, the enrollment decreased by 29,757 students, or $-11.6 \%$. Oregon has 193,583 students studying at the undergraduate level, a loss of 32,332 students from 2012 (-14.3\%), compared to a $6.8 \%$ national decline. There are 32,133 students studying at the graduate level, which is 2,575 greater than in 2012; this represents a change of $8.7 \%$, where the national data showed an increase of $5.7 \%$.

There are 75,852 students in Oregon that take at least one distance course. The state is ranked 37th for the proportion of students taking at least one distance course (33.6\%). In 2019, there were 31,811 students taking all of their courses at a distance, a growth of 8,203 students (34.7\%) from 2012. Oregon ranks 34 th 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 Oregon, $59.3 \%$ of institutions are better prepared for moving completely online. These institutions enroll 195,902 students, or $86.8 \%$ of all students in the state. There are 8 institutions in Oregon with no distance students (representing $14.8 \%$ of the total in state institutions) that were likely not well prepared for a rapid transition to distance learning.


Preparedness by Control


Preparedness by Size




Institutions in Oregon enrolled a total of 225,716 students in the of Fall 2019; 193,583 students were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 32,133 enrolled at the graduate level. The Fall 2019 figure represents a decrease of 29,757 students ( $-11.6 \%$ ) from the number enrolled in the fall of 2012 . The number of undergraduate students decreased by 32,332 during this period, from 225,915 in 2012 to 193,583 in 2019 (-14.3\%). The number of graduate students increased from 29,558 to 32,133 (8.7\%) in the same period.

Enrollments in Fall 2019 totaled 189,901 students at public institutions (84\% of all students), 33,627 students at private not-for-profit institutions (14.9\%), and 2,188 students at private for-profit institutions (1.0\%). Enrollments at public institutions decreased by 22,640 students between 2012 and 2019, while those at private not-for-profit institutions decreased by 290 students, and those at private for-profit institutions decreased by 6,827 students.



In 2019, a total of 75,852 students took at least one distance course from Oregon institutions; 64,813 ( $33.5 \%$ of all undergraduate students) were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 11,039 ( $34.4 \%$ of all graduate students) were enrolled at the graduate level.

Among undergraduate level distance students, 61,749 were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 2,571 as private not-for-profit, and 493 as private for profit. At the graduate-level, 4,902 distance students were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 5,894 as private not-for-profit, and 243 as private for profit.

The number of undergraduate distance enrollments at Oregon institutions increased by 12,169 (23.1\%) between Fall 2012 and Fall 2019, while the number of graduate distance enrollments grew by 5,737 (108.2\%) during this same period.


Oregon


A total of 31,811 students were taking all of their courses at a distance from Oregon institutions in the fall of 2019. This represents $14.1 \%$ of the enrolled students in the state, which ranks the state at number 34 in the U.S. The number of exclusively distance students who reside in Oregon while taking courses from an institution in Oregon was 16,781 in 2012 and grew to 18,505 by 2019. There are 13,306 students enrolled as exclusively distance students in Oregon institutions who reside outside Oregon, or whose place of residence is unknown.

## Location of Exclusively Distance Students

■ Same State
■ U.S., not in same state
■ Unkonwn/ Outside U.S.


Undergraduate
Graduate


Oregon


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 231,865 to 193,905 between 2012 and 2019 in Oregon, representing a reduction of $16.4 \%$. This compares to a national decrease of $10.3 \%$ for the same period. In 2019, $87.6 \%$ of undergraduate students and $75.6 \%$ of graduate students in Oregon were taking at least one on-campus course.


Oregon

## INSTITUTIONS

|  | Oregon | National | State Rank | State as \% <br> of National |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total institutions | 54 | 4,089 | 4 | $1.3 \%$ |
| Institutions w/ distance | 46 | 3,161 | 27 | $1.5 \%$ |
| \% Institution w/ distance | $85.2 \%$ | $77.3 \%$ | 30 |  |

## Enrollments

| Oregon |  | Total | Any Distance | Exclusive Distance | On Campus |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | 225,716 | 75,852 | 31,811 | 193,905 |
| Size | Under 1,000 | 9,999 | 3,724 | 2,043 | 7,956 |
|  | 1,000-4,999 | 53,961 | 16,535 | 6,428 | 47,533 |
|  | 5,000-9,999 | 54,549 | 19,669 | 9,181 | 45,368 |
|  | 10,000-19,999 | - | - | - | - |
|  | 20,000 and above | 107,207 | 35,924 | 14,159 | 93,048 |
| Carnegie | Not assigned | 1,494 | 880 | 836 | 658 |
|  | Associates | 89,069 | 32,037 | 12,116 | 76,953 |
|  | Research | 79,557 | 26,888 | 9,849 | 69,708 |
|  | Masters | 31,907 | 11,094 | 6,346 | 25,561 |
|  | Baccalaureate | 16,196 | 2,975 | 1,423 | 14,773 |
|  | Specialized | 7,493 | 1,978 | 1,241 | 6,252 |
| Control | Public | 189,901 | 66,651 | 25,323 | 164,578 |
|  | Private not-for-profit | 33,627 | 8,465 | 5,773 | 27,854 |
|  | Private for-profit | 2,188 | 736 | 715 | 1,473 |
| Type | Four or more years | 138,336 | 44,091 | 19,695 | 118,641 |
|  | At least 2 but less than 4 years | 87,380 | 31,761 | 12,116 | 75,264 |

