## **Distance Education State Almanac**

# VERMONT



## 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.

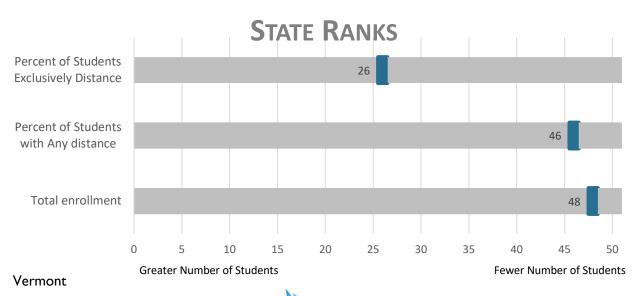
The information presented in the report represent the classifications and enrollments for Fall 2019 and were measured before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. National totals include all 50 states, District of Columbia, America Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, Northern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

#### Vermont

Vermont has 19 degree-granting higher education institutions, representing 0.5% of all such institutions in the United States. Of these institutions, 5 are classified as public, 13 as private not-for-profit, and 1 as private for-profit. Of these 19 institutions, 18 offer four-year programs, and 1 offers two-year programs.

The state has 41,186 students enrolled across its institutions and ranks 48th in terms of total higher education student enrollment. Between 2012 and 2019, the total number of students enrolled nationally declined by 5.0%. For Vermont, the enrollment decreased by 3,511 students, or -7.9%. Vermont has 35,226 students studying at the undergraduate level, a loss of 2,566 students from 2012 (-6.8%), compared to a 6.8% national decline. There are 5,960 students studying at the graduate level, which is 945 fewer than in 2012; this represents a change of -13.7%, where the national data showed an increase of 5.7%.

There are 10,161 students in Vermont that take at least one distance course. The state is ranked 46th for the proportion of students taking at least one distance course (24.7%). In 2019, there were 6,673 students taking all of their courses at a distance, a growth of 2,166 students (48.1%) from 2012. Vermont ranks 26th in the proportion of students (16.2%) taking exclusively distance courses in the nation.

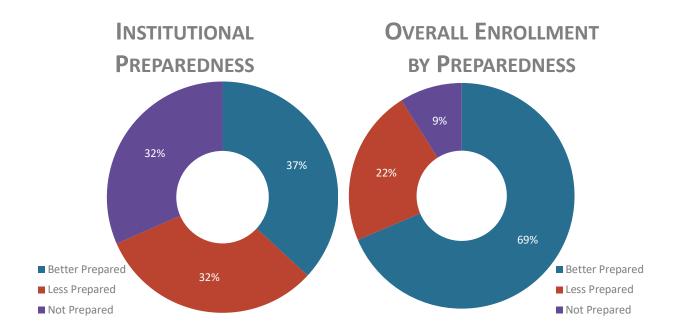




#### **COVID-19 Distance Learning Preparedness**

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.

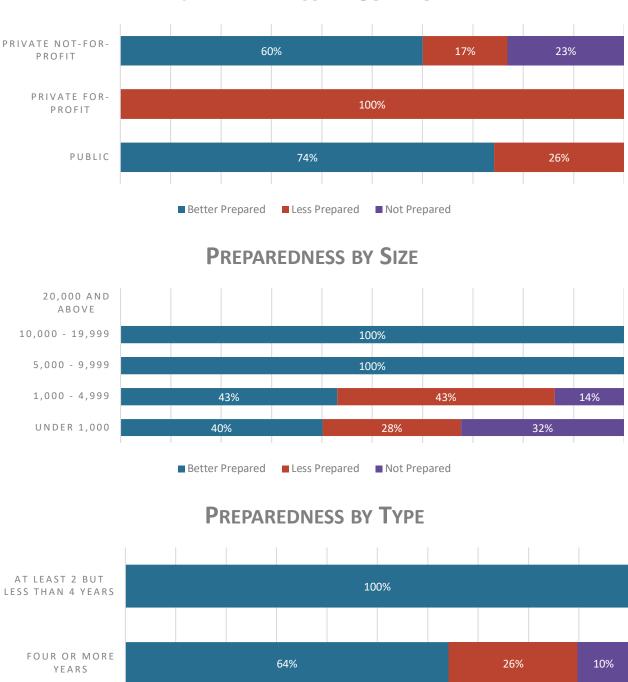
Nationally, 59.3% of all degree-granting institutions meet the criteria of having 25% or more or over 1,000 of their students taking distance courses. In Vermont, 36.8% of institutions are better prepared for moving completely online. These institutions enroll 28,255 students, or 68.6% of all students in the state. There are 6 institutions in Vermont with no distance students (representing 31.6% 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
NOT PREPARED:	Schools with no distance enrollment





#### **PREPAREDNESS BY CONTROL**

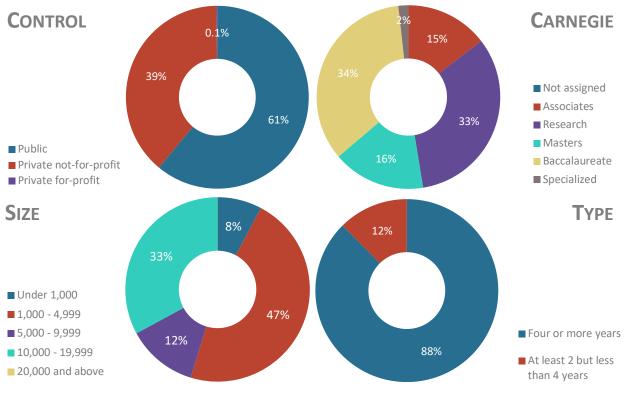


■ Better Prepared ■ Less Prepared ■ Not Prepared



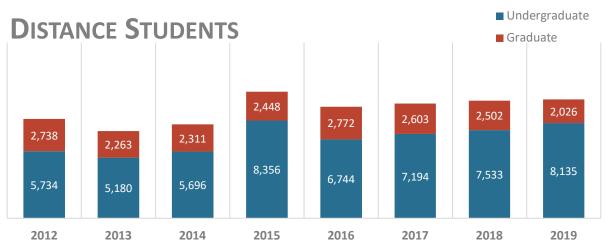
Institutions in Vermont enrolled a total of 41,186 students in the of Fall 2019; 35,226 students were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 5,960 enrolled at the graduate level. The Fall 2019 figure represents a decrease of 3,511 students (-7.9%) from the number enrolled in the fall of 2012. The number of undergraduate students decreased by 2,566 during this period, from 37,792 in 2012 to 35,226 in 2019 (-6.8%). The number of graduate students decreased from 6,905 to 5,960 (-13.7%) in the same period.

Enrollments in Fall 2019 totaled 25,131 students at public institutions (61% of all students), 15,997 students at private not-for-profit institutions (38.8%), and 58 students at private for-profit institutions (0.1%). Enrollments at public institutions decreased by 1,370 students between 2012 and 2019, while those at private not-for-profit institutions decreased by 1,682 students, and those at private for-profit institutions decreased by 1,682 students, and those at private for-profit institutions decreased by 459 students.





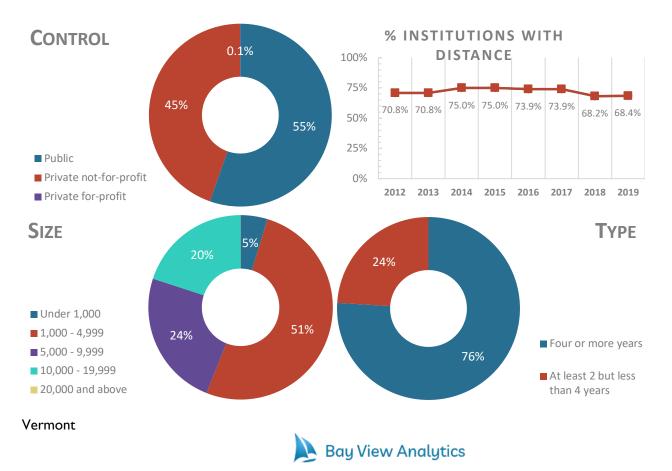


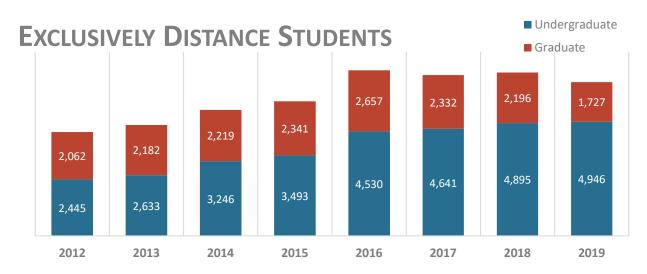


In 2019, a total of 10,161 students took at least one distance course from Vermont institutions; 8,135 (23.1% of all undergraduate students) were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 2,026 (34.0% of all graduate students) were enrolled at the graduate level.

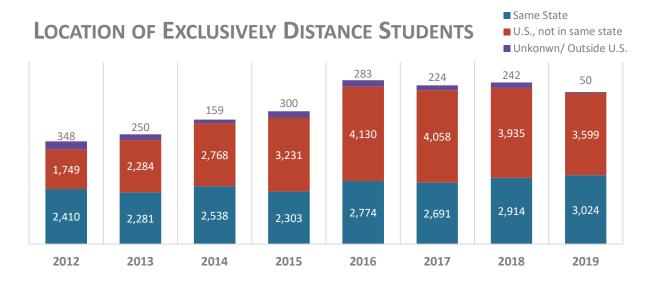
Among undergraduate level distance students, 5,264 were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 2,864 as private not-for-profit, and 7 as private for profit. At the graduate-level, 367 distance students were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 1,659 as private not-for-profit, and 0 as private for profit.

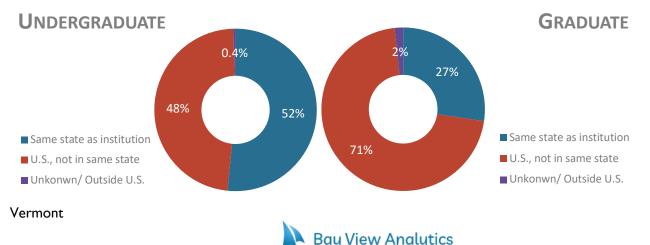
The number of undergraduate distance enrollments at Vermont institutions increased by 2,401 (41.9%) between Fall 2012 and Fall 2019, while the number of graduate distance enrollments fell by -712 (-26.0%) during this same period.

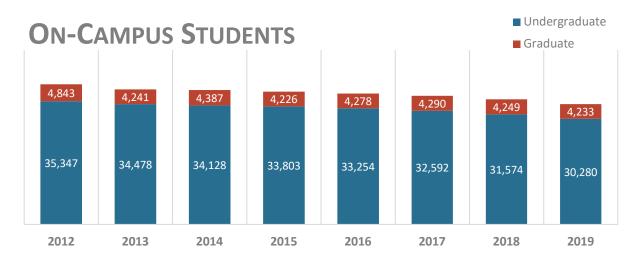




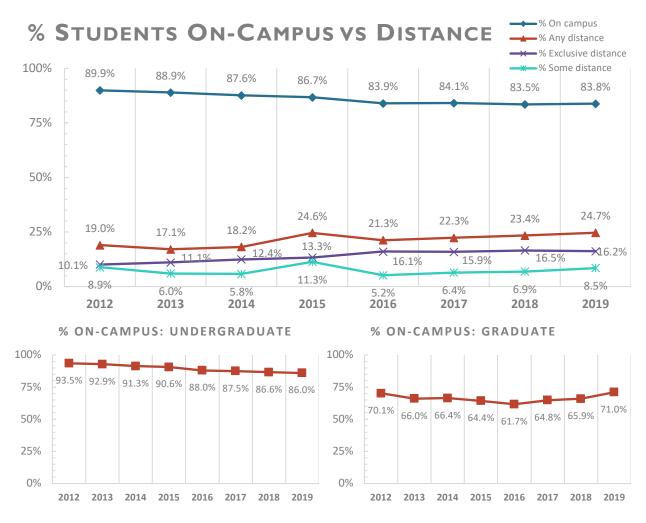
A total of 6,673 students were taking all of their courses at a distance from Vermont institutions in the fall of 2019. This represents 16.2% of the enrolled students in the state, which ranks the state at number 26 in the U.S. The number of exclusively distance students who reside in Vermont while taking courses from an institution in Vermont was 2,410 in 2012 and grew to 3,024 by 2019. There are 3,649 students enrolled as exclusively distance students in Vermont institutions who reside outside Vermont, 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 40,190 to 34,513 between 2012 and 2019 in Vermont, representing a reduction of 14.1%. This compares to a national decrease of 10.3% for the same period. In 2019, 86.0% of undergraduate students and 71.0% of graduate students in Vermont were taking at least one on-campus course.





## INSTITUTIONS

	Vermont	National	State Rank	State as % of National
Total institutions	19	4,089	10	0.5%
Institutions w/ distance	13	3,161	46	0.4%
% Institution w/ distance	68.4%	77.3%	44	

## **ENROLLMENTS**

Vermont		Total	Any Distance	Exclusive Distance	On Campus
Total		41,186	10,161	6,673	34,513
Size	Under 1,000	3,205	478	331	2,874
	1,000 - 4,999	19,329	5,214	4,262	15,067
	5,000 - 9,999	5,104	2,440	1,776	3,328
	10,000 - 19,999	13,548	2,029	304	13,244
	20,000 and above	-	-	-	-
Carnegie	Not assigned	-	-	-	-
	Associates	5,992	2,579	1,915	4,077
	Research	13,548	2,029	304	13,244
	Masters	6,726	2,345	1,809	4,917
	Baccalaureate	14,194	3,021	2,514	11,680
	Specialized	726	187	131	595
Control	Public	25,131	5,631	2,706	22,425
	Private not-for-profit	15,997	4,523	3,960	12,037
	Private for-profit	58	7	7	51
Туре	Four or more years	36,082	7,721	4,897	31,185
	At least 2 but less than 4 years	5,104	2,440	1,776	3,328