

# ABOUT THE DATA

## General Notes and Sources:

Cohorts were created using data submitted by Indiana public institutions to the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (CHE) through the CHE Data Submission System (CHEDSS). Cohorts were tracked longitudinally using subsequent data submitted by public institutions through CHEDSS and further augmented by enrollment and completion data obtained from the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC). Financial aid and other disaggregations were developed using CHEDSS and the CHE ScholarTrack financial aid database.

## College Campus Types:

**Four-Year Main Campus:** Ball State University, Indiana State University, Indiana University-Bloomington, Purdue University-West Lafayette, and University of Southern Indiana

**Four-Year Non-Main Campus:** Indiana University-East, Indiana University-Kokomo, Indiana University-Northwest, Indiana University-South Bend, Indiana University-Southeast, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Purdue University-Fort Wayne, Purdue University-Northwest, and Purdue University-Polytechnic

**Two-Year Campus:** Ivy Tech Community College and Vincennes University

## Data Element Definitions:

**Student Cohorts (First-Time, Full-Time):** Unless otherwise noted, cohorts throughout the report include students enrolling as first-time students in their entry year and who were degree-seeking students in the fall semester enrolled full-time (12 or more credit hours) as of institution census date. For purposes of data consistency across years, student enrollment status reported as of end of term instead of census date was used for Vincennes University.

**Part-Time Student Cohorts:** In some cases, data on part-time student cohorts are provided. These include students enrolling as first-time students in their entry year and who were degree-seeking students in the fall semester enrolled part-time (less than 12 credit hours) as of institution census date. For purposes of data consistency across years, student enrollment status reported as of end of term instead of census date was used for Vincennes University. For some campuses, part-time data are reported sparingly or not at all, and limitations are noted when necessary in the report.

### On-Time:

**Four-Year Institutions:** available through fall 2015 starters

**Two-Year Institutions:** available through fall 2017 starters

**Statewide:** available through 2019 graduating cohorts (example for 2019 graduates: fall 2015 starters for four-year institutions and fall 2017 starters at two-year institutions)

### Extended-Time (Within 6 Year):

Available through fall 2013 starters

### Degree seeking status:

**Four-Year Cohorts:** represent students seeking a bachelor's degree in the fall semester

**Two-Year Cohorts:** represent students seeking a long-term certificate (1-2 years) or associate degree in the fall semester

**Same Campus and Degree Level:** Represents students in cohort who completed a credential at the same level initially sought at the same Indiana public college/university system in which they initially enrolled.

**Different Campus or Degree Level:** Represents students in cohort who completed a credential at a lower level than initially sought at the same college/university system in which they initially enrolled OR completed any degree at any other public institution in Indiana, or at a private or for-profit college/university in Indiana or elsewhere in the United States, provided the college or university participates in the National Student Clearinghouse.

**Any Campus or Degree Level (Total Completion):** Represents students in cohort who completed any credential at any public institution in Indiana, or at a private or for-profit college/university in Indiana or elsewhere in the United States, provided the college or university participates in the National Student Clearinghouse. This is a combination/sum of the "Same Campus and Degree Level" and "Different Campus or Degree Level" completion categories.

**Still Enrolled Somewhere:** Represents students in cohort who, at a particular point in time after initial enrollment, have not obtained a credential and are still enrolled at any public institution in Indiana, or at a private or for-profit college/university in Indiana or elsewhere in the United States, provided the college or university participates in the National Student Clearinghouse. This snapshot of student status at a discrete point in time differs from cumulative completion categories, which capture all completions occurring within a given window (within 100%, 150%, 200%, or 300% of normal/expected time to completion after initial college enrollment).

**Not Enrolled, No Degree:** Represents students in cohort who, at a particular point in time after initial enrollment, have not obtained a degree and are not enrolled at any public institution in Indiana, or at a private or for-profit college/university in Indiana or elsewhere in the United States, provided the college or university participates in the National Student Clearinghouse. This snapshot of student status at a discrete point in time differs from cumulative completion categories, which capture all completions occurring within a given window (within 100%, 150%, 200%, or 300% of normal/expected time to completion after initial college enrollment).

## Disaggregations:

*Note only cohorts having 10 or more students included are reported.*

**Cohort Profile:** For full-time cohorts, this represents the characteristics of first-time students enrolled in the last three years subject to on-time completion. For four-year institutions, this represents Fall 2013 - Fall 2015 starters. For two-year institutions, this represents Fall 2015 - Fall 2017 starters. For part-time cohorts, this represents the characteristics of first-time students enrolled in the last three years subject to extended-time completion (Fall 2011 - Fall 2013).

**21st Century Scholar:** Represents students who were identified as receiving a 21st Century Scholar grant during their first year of college. Source: CHE ScholarTrack

**Frank O'Bannon:** Represents students who were identified as receiving a Frank O'Bannon grant during their first year of college, excluding 21st Century Scholars. Source: CHE ScholarTrack

**Pell Only:** Represents students who were identified as receiving a Pell grant during their first year of college, excluding 21st Century Scholars and Frank O'Bannon. Source: CHE ScholarTrack

**Other Low-Income (PDF Feedback Reports Only):** Represents students who were identified as receiving a Pell grant during their first year of college, excluding 21st Century Scholars. Sources: CHEDSS, CHE ScholarTrack

**No State Aid or Pell:** Includes any students not falling into the financial aid status groups above.

**Race/Ethnicity Categories:** A student is assigned to a race/ethnicity category based on his/her race/ethnicity as reported in the first year in which the student enrolled. Source: CHEDSS

**Age Categories:** A student is assigned to an age group category based on his/her date of birth as reported in the first year in which the student enrolled. Source: CHEDSS

**Adults (Age 25+):** Represent students ages 25 or older based on date of birth as reported in the first year in which the student enrolled. Source: CHEDSS.

## Completion Rates:

*\*\*Note that completion rates presented in the current report may not match previously published rates as calculations may have been affected by corrections to institution data reported to CHE.*

**On-Time, Same Campus and Degree Level:** Represents students in cohort who completed, within 100% time (4 years for a bachelor's, 2 years for a long-term certificate or associate) a degree at the same level initially sought at the same college/university system at which they initially enrolled.

**Any Campus or Degree Level within Six Years:** Represents students in cohort who completed, within 6 years, any degree at any public institution in Indiana, or at a private or for-profit college/university in Indiana or elsewhere in the United States, provided the college or university participates in the National Student Clearinghouse.

### Persistence:

Represents percentage of students in a given cohort who started their freshman year at an Indiana public college and who continued enrollment into the fall semester of the second year at any Indiana public college.

## ABOUT THIS REPORT

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education builds a policy agenda on a commitment to using compelling data to increase transparency, inform practice and drive change for the benefit of all Hoosiers. By publishing a series of **consumer-friendly reports**, the Commission spotlights progress at each stage of the postsecondary pipeline.



The **College Completion Reports** provide a clearer and more comprehensive picture of college completion in order to advance Indiana's collective efforts to boost educational attainment.

**Reaching Higher in a State of Change** is the Commission's fourth strategic plan. It is the guiding document for Indiana to reach the goal of at least 60 percent of Hoosiers with education and training beyond high school by 2025. With the priorities of completion, equity and talent, its "Blueprint for Change" outlines action steps to achieve Indiana's attainment goal.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The **College Value Report** provides a clearer picture of the returns a college degree yields after graduation and beyond, both to the individual and the state. These benefits include greater earnings, job security, enhanced social mobility, increased civic engagement, improved health and wellness, a higher quality of life and more.

The **College Readiness Reports** help schools and communities understand how students are performing in college, while informing state and local policies that increase college readiness, access and success.

The **College Equity Report** disaggregates demographic data from the Commission's College Readiness and Completion reports to highlight outcomes in Indiana for race and ethnicity, gender, geography and socioeconomic status. The report also tracks the state's progress in closing the educational achievement gaps in Indiana.

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