Distance Education State Almanac

NEVADA

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Overview

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.

Nevada

Nevada has 22 degree-granting higher education institutions, representing 0.5% of all such institutions in the United States. Of these institutions, 7 are classified as public, 4 as private not-for-profit, and 11 as private for-profit. Of these 22 institutions, 15 offer four-year programs, and 7 offer two-year programs.

The state has 119,771 students enrolled across its institutions and ranks 40th in terms of total higher education student enrollment. Between 2012 and 2019, the total number of students enrolled nationally declined by 5.0%. For Nevada, the enrollment increased by 1,471 students, or 1.2%. Nevada has 107,690 students studying at the undergraduate level, a gain of 836 students from 2012 (0.8%), compared to a 6.8% national decline. There are 12,081 students studying at the graduate level, which is 635 greater than in 2012; this represents a change of 5.5%, where the national data showed an increase of 5.7%.

There are 51,572 students in Nevada that take at least one distance course. The state is ranked 17th for the proportion of students taking at least one distance course (43.1%). In 2019, there were 16,165 students taking all of their courses at a distance, a growth of 4,127 students (34.3%) from 2012. Nevada ranks 37th in the proportion of students (13.5%) taking exclusively distance courses in the nation.

![State Ranks Graph]
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 Nevada, 63.6% of institutions are better prepared for moving completely online. These institutions enroll 114,851 students, or 95.9% of all students in the state. There are 6 institutions in Nevada with no distance students (representing 27.3% 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
COVID-19 Distance Learning Preparedness

**Preparedness by Control**

- **Private Not-for-Profit**
  - Better Prepared: 39%
  - Less Prepared: 41%
  - Not Prepared: 20%

- **Private For-Profit**
  - Better Prepared: 53%
  - Less Prepared: 18%
  - Not Prepared: 29%

- **Public**
  - Better Prepared: 100%

**Preparedness by Size**

- **20,000 and above**
  - Better Prepared: 100%

- **10,000 - 19,999**
  - Better Prepared: 100%

- **5,000 - 9,999**
  - Better Prepared: 100%

- **1,000 - 4,999**
  - Better Prepared: 86%
  - Less Prepared: 14%

- **Under 1,000**
  - Better Prepared: 31%
  - Less Prepared: 20%
  - Not Prepared: 49%

**Preparedness by Type**

- **At least 2 but less than 4 years**
  - Better Prepared: 53%
  - Less Prepared: 24%
  - Not Prepared: 24%

- **Four or more years**
  - Better Prepared: 97%
  - Less Prepared: 1%
  - Not Prepared: 1%
Institutions in Nevada enrolled a total of 119,771 students in the fall of 2019; 107,690 students were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 12,081 enrolled at the graduate level. The Fall 2019 figure represents an increase of 1,471 students (1.2%) from the number enrolled in the fall of 2012. The number of undergraduate students decreased by 836 during this period, from 106,854 in 2012 to 107,690 in 2019 (0.8%). The number of graduate students increased from 11,446 to 12,081 (5.5%) in the same period.

Enrollments in Fall 2019 totaled 110,560 students at public institutions (92% of all students), 3,967 students at private not-for-profit institutions (3.3%), and 5,244 students at private for-profit institutions (4.4%). Enrollments at public institutions increased by 6,941 students between 2012 and 2019, while those at private not-for-profit institutions increased by 546 students, and those at private for-profit institutions decreased by 6,016 students.
In 2019, a total of 51,572 students took at least one distance course from Nevada institutions; 48,689 (45.2% of all undergraduate students) were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 2,883 (23.9% of all graduate students) were enrolled at the graduate level.

Among undergraduate level distance students, 46,158 were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 475 as private not-for-profit, and 2,056 as private for profit. At the graduate-level, 2,314 distance students were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 557 as private not-for-profit, and 12 as private for profit.

The number of undergraduate distance enrollments at Nevada institutions increased by 14,831 (43.8%) between Fall 2012 and Fall 2019, while the number of graduate distance enrollments grew by 1,152 (66.6%) during this same period.
A total of 16,165 students were taking all of their courses at a distance from Nevada institutions in the fall of 2019. This represents 13.5% of the enrolled students in the state, which ranks the state at number 37 in the U.S. The number of exclusively distance students who reside in Nevada while taking courses from an institution in Nevada was 10,775 in 2012 and grew to 12,796 by 2019. There are 3,369 students enrolled as exclusively distance students in Nevada institutions who reside outside Nevada, 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 106,262 to 103,606 between 2012 and 2019 in Nevada, representing a reduction of 2.5%. This compares to a national decrease of 10.3% for the same period. In 2019, 86.5% of undergraduate students and 86.1% of graduate students in Nevada were taking at least one on-campus course.
## INSTITUTIONS

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Nevada</th>
<th>National</th>
<th>State Rank</th>
<th>State as % of National</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total institutions</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4,089</td>
<td>38</td>
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<td>Institutions w/ distance</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3,161</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>% Institution w/ distance</td>
<td>72.7%</td>
<td>77.3%</td>
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## ENROLLMENTS

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<tr>
<th>Nevada</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Any Distance</th>
<th>Exclusive Distance</th>
<th>On Campus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>119,771</td>
<td>51,572</td>
<td>16,165</td>
<td>103,606</td>
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<td>Size</td>
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<td>Under 1,000</td>
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<td>Carnegie</td>
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<td>16,165</td>
<td>99,635</td>
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<td>1,654</td>
<td>-</td>
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