

Distance Education State Almanac

WASHINGTON, D.C.



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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, American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, Northern Marianas, Palau, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

District of Columbia

The District of Columbia has 19 degree-granting higher education institutions, representing 0.5% of all such institutions in the United States. Of these institutions, 2 are classified as public, 13 as private not-for-profit, and 4 as private for-profit. Of these 19 institutions, 18 offer four-year programs, and 1 offers two-year programs.

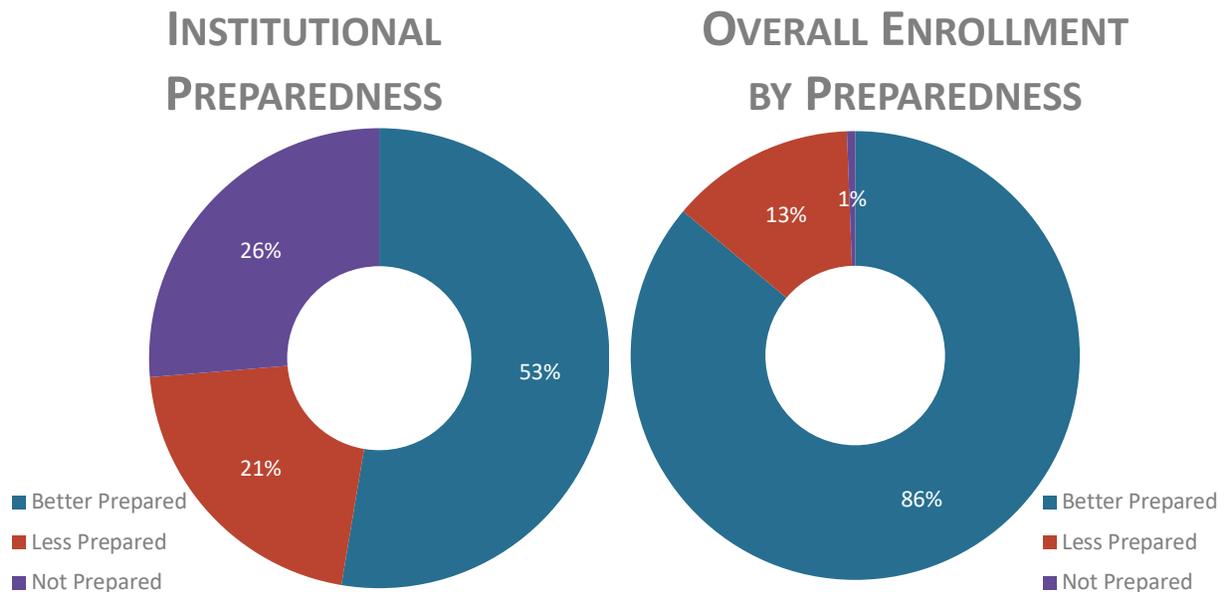
The district has 98,951 students enrolled across its institutions. Between 2012 and 2019, the total number of students enrolled nationally declined by 5.0%. For the District, the enrollment increased by 8,801 students, or 9.8%. The District of Columbia has 53,322 students studying at the undergraduate level, a gain of 5,623 students from 2012 (11.8%), compared to a 6.8% national decline. There are 45,629 students studying at the graduate level, which is 3,178 greater than in 2012; this represents a change of 7.5%, where the national data showed an increase of 5.7%.

There are 27,682 students in the District of Columbia that take at least one distance course (35.4%). In 2019, there were 21,603 students taking all of their courses at a distance, a growth of 14,107 students (188.2%) from 2012.

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.

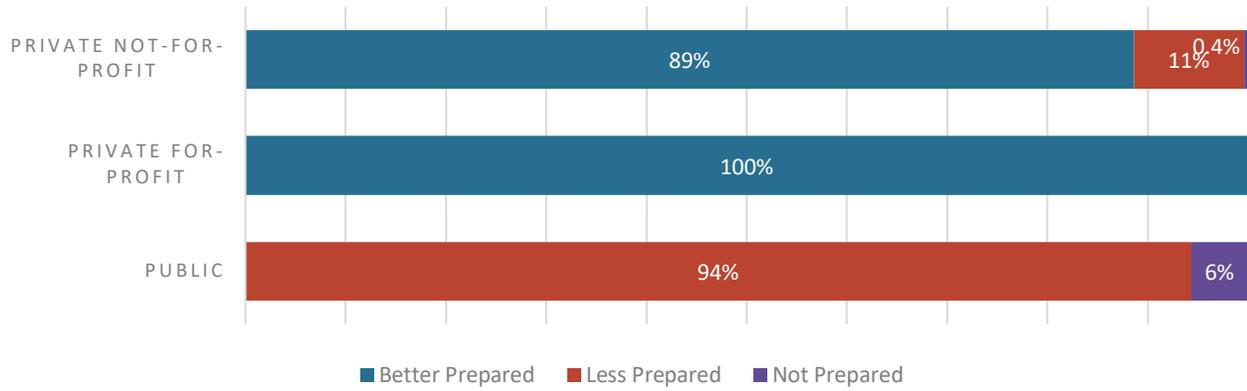
Nationally, 59.3% of all degree-granting institutions meet the criteria of having 25% or more or over 1,000 of their students taking distance courses. In the District of Columbia, 52.6% of institutions are better prepared for moving completely online. These institutions enroll 85,205 students, or 86.1% of all students in the District. There are 5 institutions in District of Columbia with no distance students (representing 26.3% of the total institutions) that were likely not well prepared for a rapid transition to distance learning.



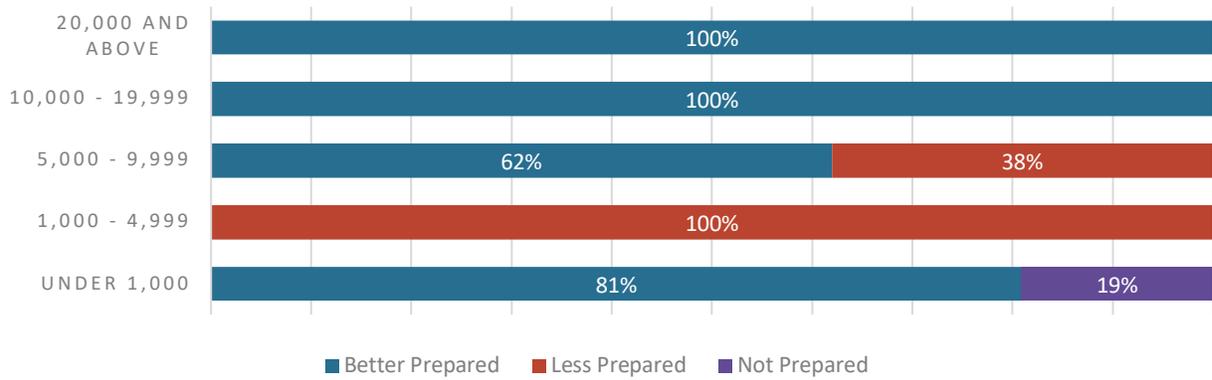
Preparedness Definitions:

- 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

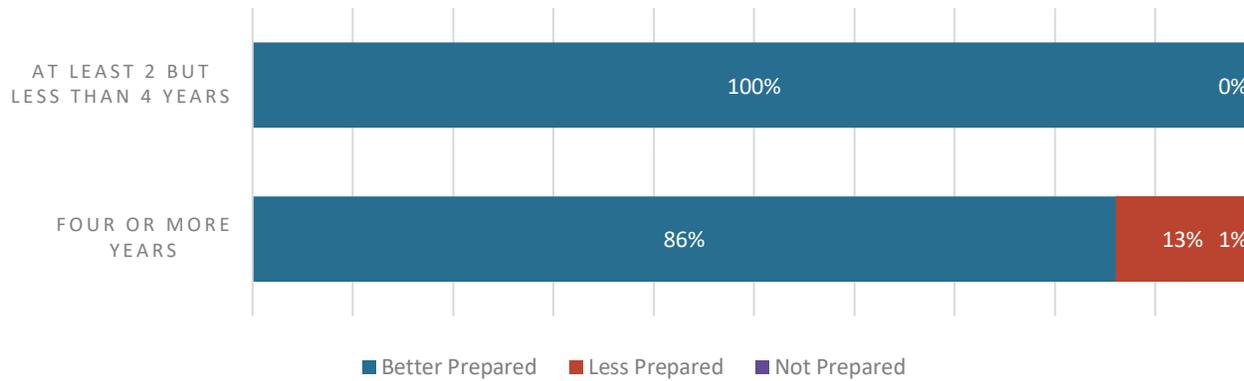
PREPAREDNESS BY CONTROL



PREPAREDNESS BY SIZE

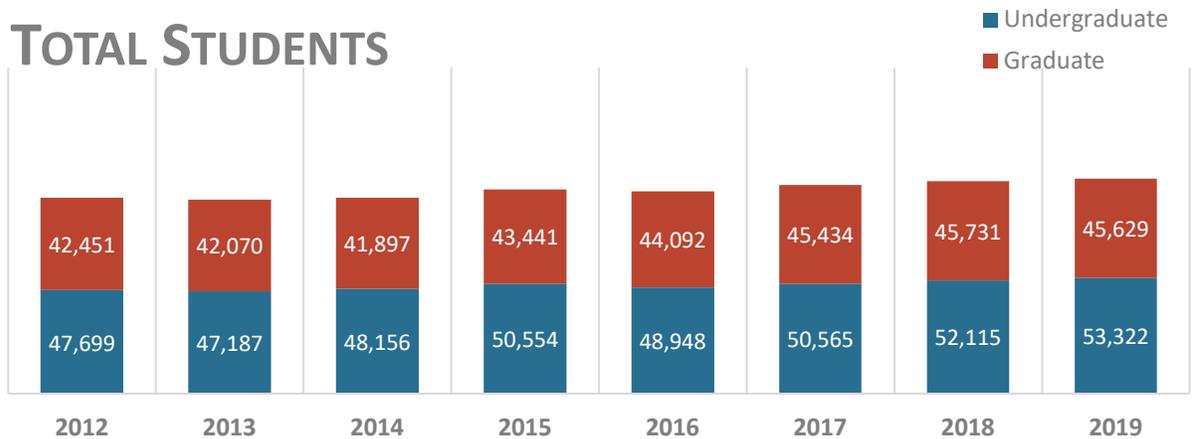


PREPAREDNESS BY TYPE



State Enrollment

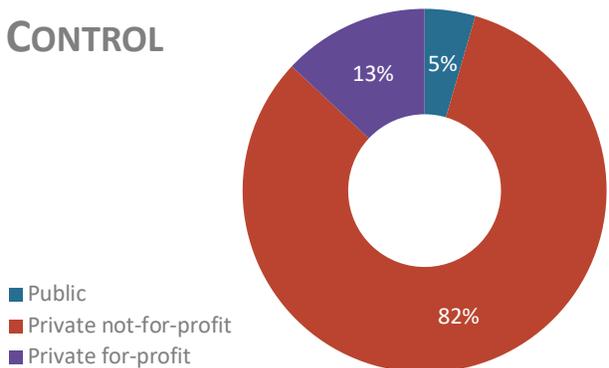
TOTAL STUDENTS



Institutions in the District of Columbia enrolled a total of 98,951 students in the of Fall 2019; 53,322 students were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 45,629 enrolled at the graduate level. The Fall 2019 figure represents an increase of 8,801 students (9.8%) from the number enrolled in the fall of 2012. The number of undergraduate students decreased by 5,623 during this period, from 47,699 in 2012 to 53,322 in 2019 (11.8%). The number of graduate students increased from 42,451 to 45,629 (7.5%) in the same period.

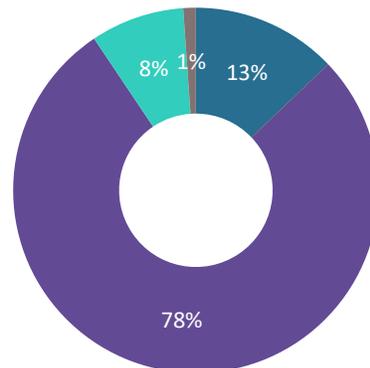
Enrollments in Fall 2019 totaled 4,452 students at public institutions (4% of all students), 81,613 students at private not-for-profit institutions (82.5%), and 12,886 students at private for-profit institutions (13.0%). Enrollments at public institutions decreased by 1,024 students between 2012 and 2019, while those at private not-for-profit institutions increased by 2,613 students, and those at private for-profit institutions increased by 7,212 students.

CONTROL



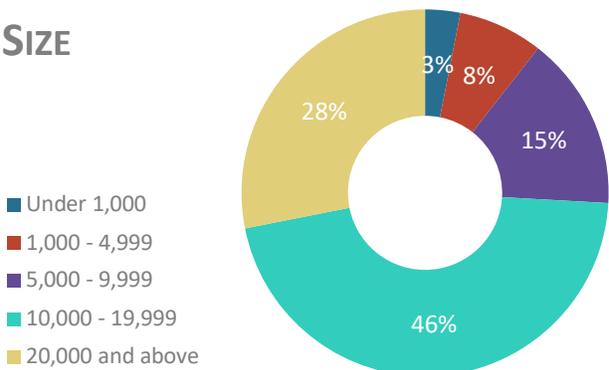
- Public
- Private not-for-profit
- Private for-profit

CARNEGIE



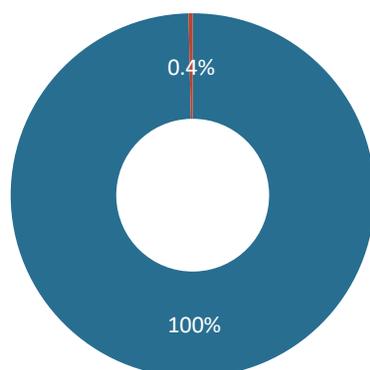
- Not assigned
- Associates
- Research
- Masters
- Baccalaureate
- Specialized

SIZE



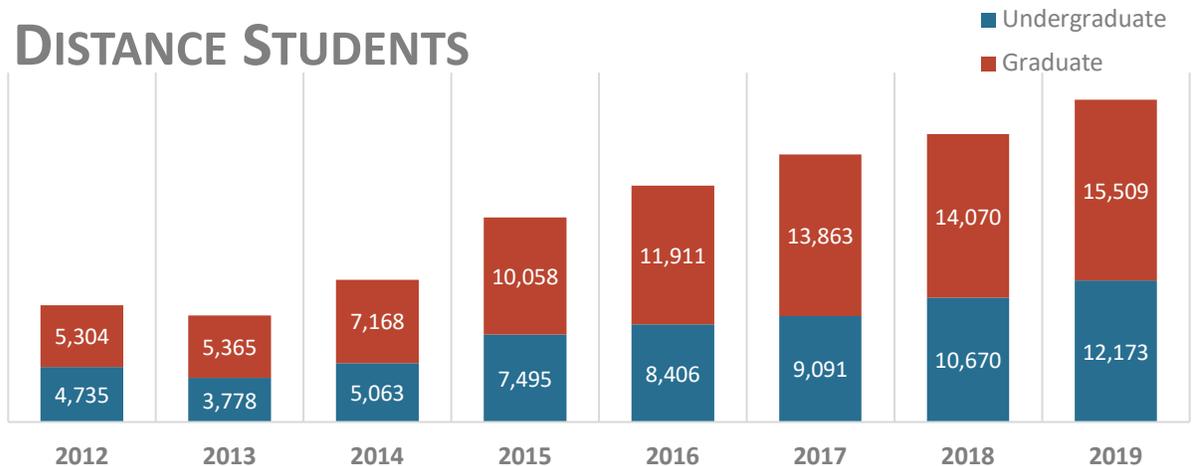
- Under 1,000
- 1,000 - 4,999
- 5,000 - 9,999
- 10,000 - 19,999
- 20,000 and above

TYPE



- Four or more years
- At least 2 but less than 4 years

DISTANCE STUDENTS

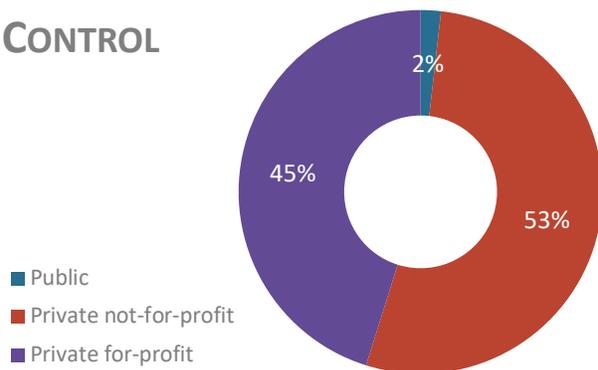


In 2019, a total of 27,682 students took at least one distance course from District of Columbia institutions; 12,173 (22.8% of all undergraduate students) were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 15,509 (34.0% of all graduate students) were enrolled at the graduate level.

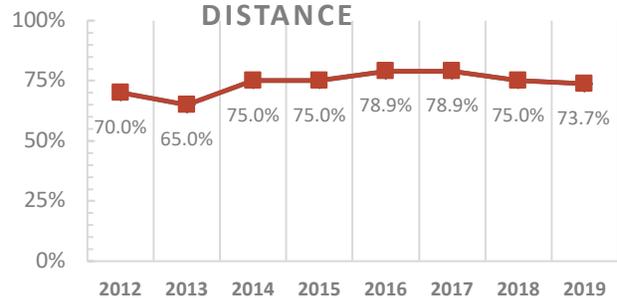
Among undergraduate level distance students, 420 were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 3,317 as private not-for-profit, and 8,436 as private for profit. At the graduate-level, 77 distance students were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 11,369 as private not-for-profit, and 4,063 as private for profit.

The number of undergraduate distance enrollments at District of Columbia institutions increased by 7,438 (157.1%) between Fall 2012 and Fall 2019, while the number of graduate distance enrollments grew by 10,205 (192.4%) during this same period.

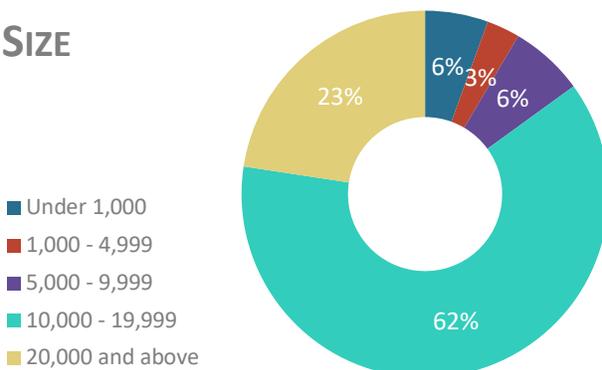
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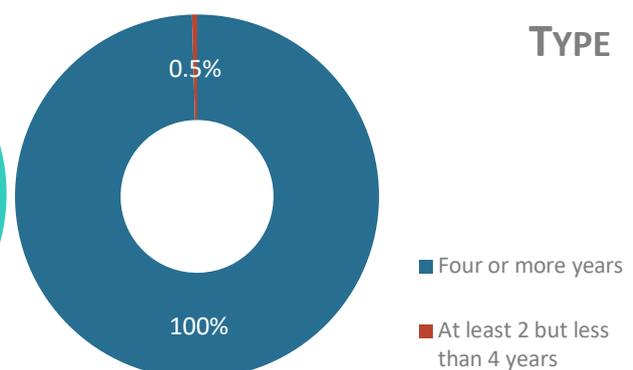
% INSTITUTIONS WITH DISTANCE



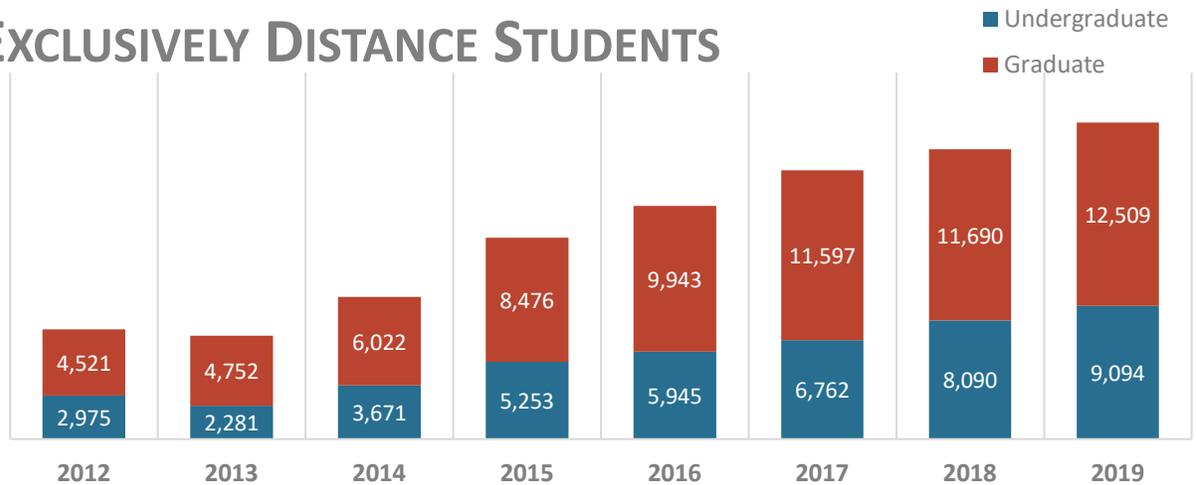
SIZE



TYPE

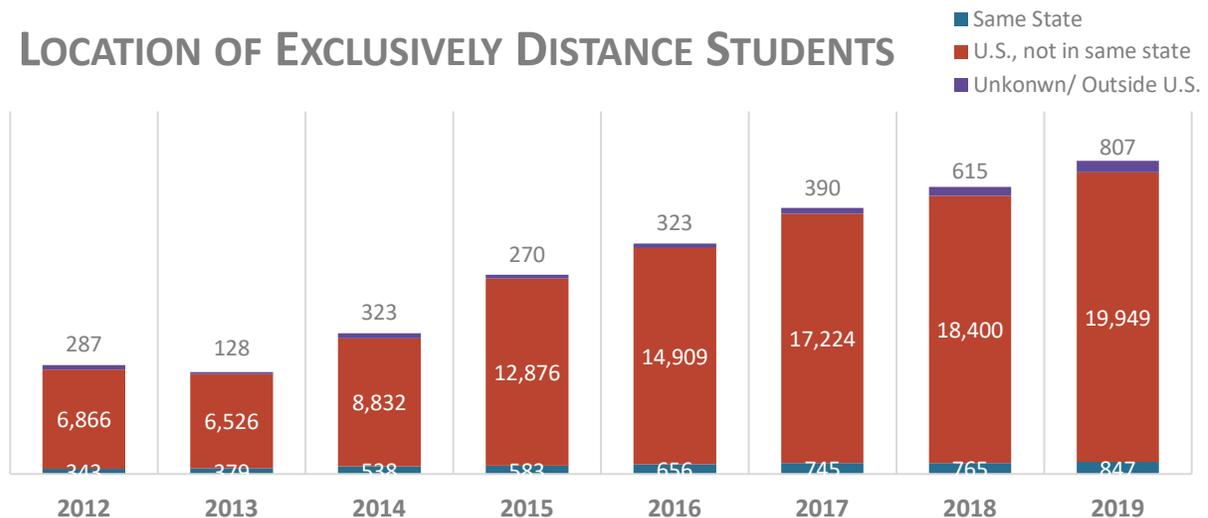


EXCLUSIVELY DISTANCE STUDENTS

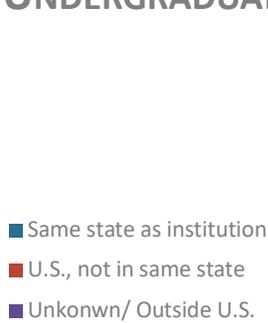


A total of 21,603 students were taking all of their courses at a distance from District of Columbia institutions in the fall of 2019. This represents 21.8% of the enrolled students in the District. The number of exclusively distance students who reside in the District of Columbia while taking courses from an institution in District of Columbia was 343 in 2012 and grew to 847 by 2019. There are 20,756 students enrolled as exclusively distance students in District of Columbia institutions who reside outside the District of Columbia, or whose place of residence is unknown.

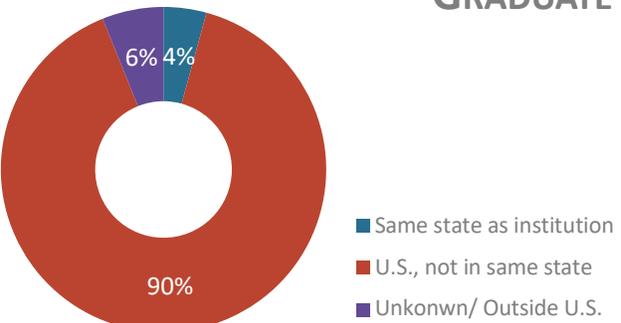
LOCATION OF EXCLUSIVELY DISTANCE STUDENTS



UNDERGRADUATE

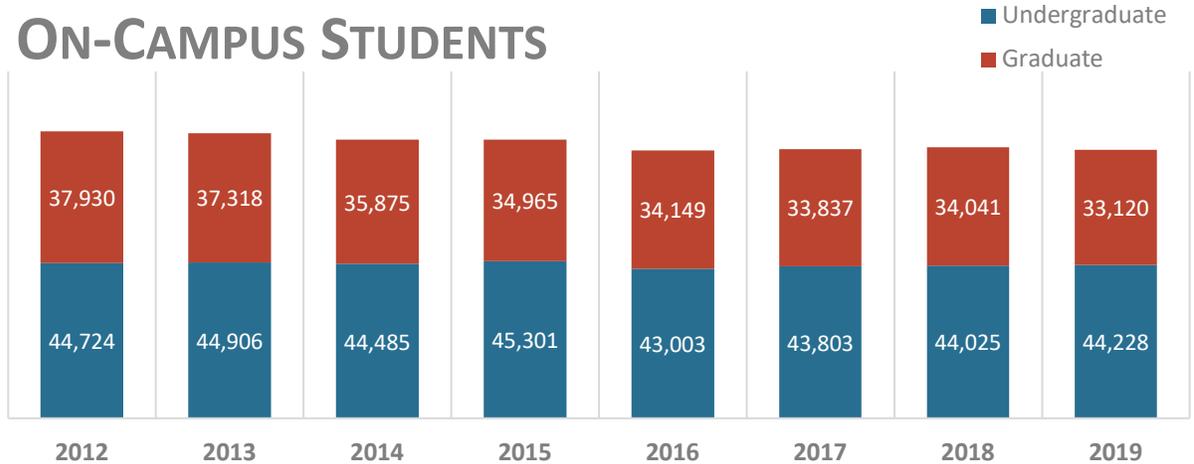


GRADUATE



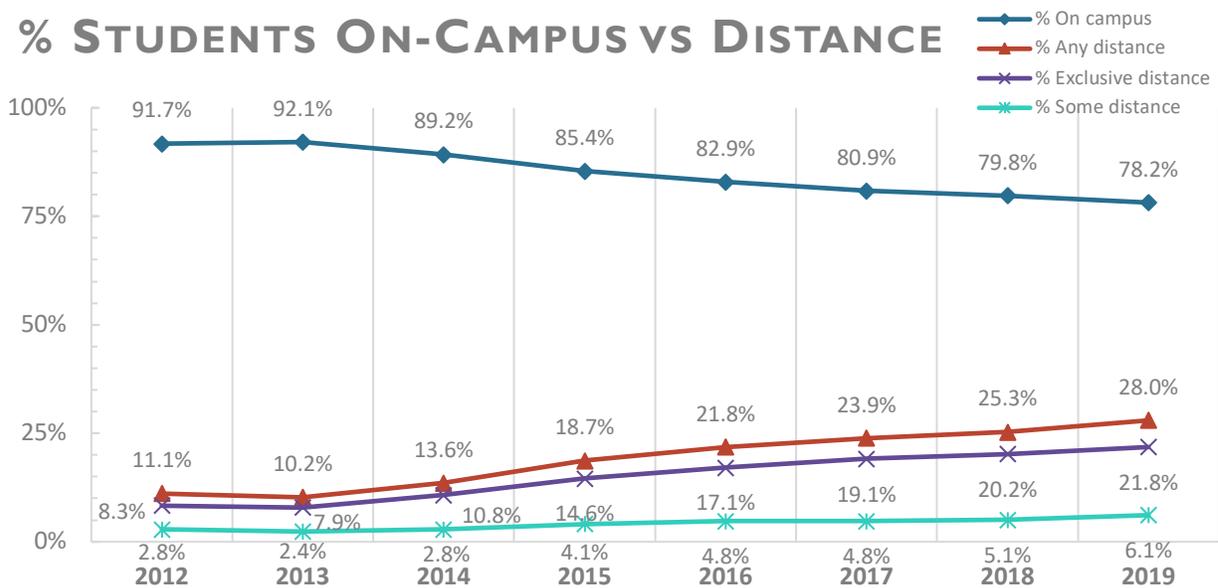
On-Campus Enrollment

ON-CAMPUS STUDENTS

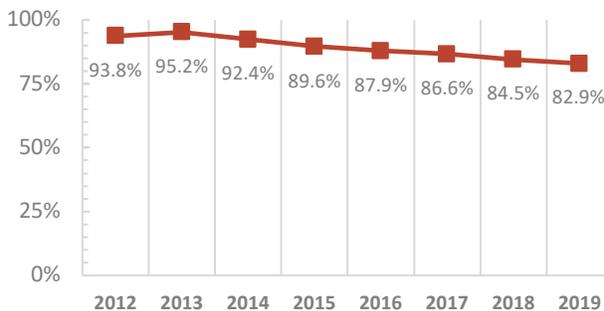


On-campus students are those who take one or more of their courses physically on-campus. The number of students studying on campus declined from 82,654 to 77,348 between 2012 and 2019 in District of Columbia, representing a reduction of 6.4%. This compares to a national decrease of 10.3% for the same period. In 2019, 82.9% of undergraduate students and 72.6% of graduate students in District of Columbia were taking at least one on-campus course.

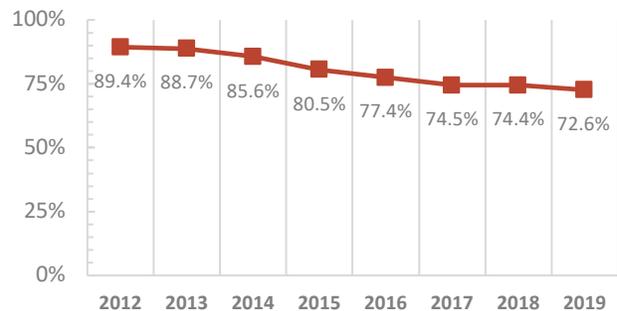
% STUDENTS ON-CAMPUS VS DISTANCE



% ON-CAMPUS: UNDERGRADUATE



% ON-CAMPUS: GRADUATE



INSTITUTIONS

	District of Columbia	National	District as % of National
Total institutions	19	4,089	0.5%
Institutions w/ distance	14	3,161	0.4%
% Institution w/ distance	73.7%	77.3%	

ENROLLMENTS

District of Columbia		Total	Any Distance	Exclusive Distance	On Campus
	Total	98,951	27,682	21,603	77,348
Size	Under 1,000	3,057	1,537	981	2,076
	1,000 - 4,999	7,391	810	66	7,325
	5,000 - 9,999	15,170	1,807	337	14,833
	10,000 - 19,999	45,519	17,274	15,230	30,289
	20,000 and above	27,814	6,254	4,989	22,825
Carnegie	Not assigned	12,753	12,017	11,792	961
	Associates	-	-	-	-
	Research	76,895	13,775	9,020	67,875
	Masters	8,206	1,575	730	7,476
	Baccalaureate	-	-	-	-
Control	Specialized	1,097	315	61	1,036
	Public	4,452	497	-	4,452
	Private not-for-profit	81,613	14,686	9,229	72,384
	Private for-profit	12,886	12,499	12,374	512
Type	Four or more years	98,580	27,557	21,478	77,102
	At least 2 but less than 4 years	371	125	125	246