

Distance Education State Almanac

WEST VIRGINIA



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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.

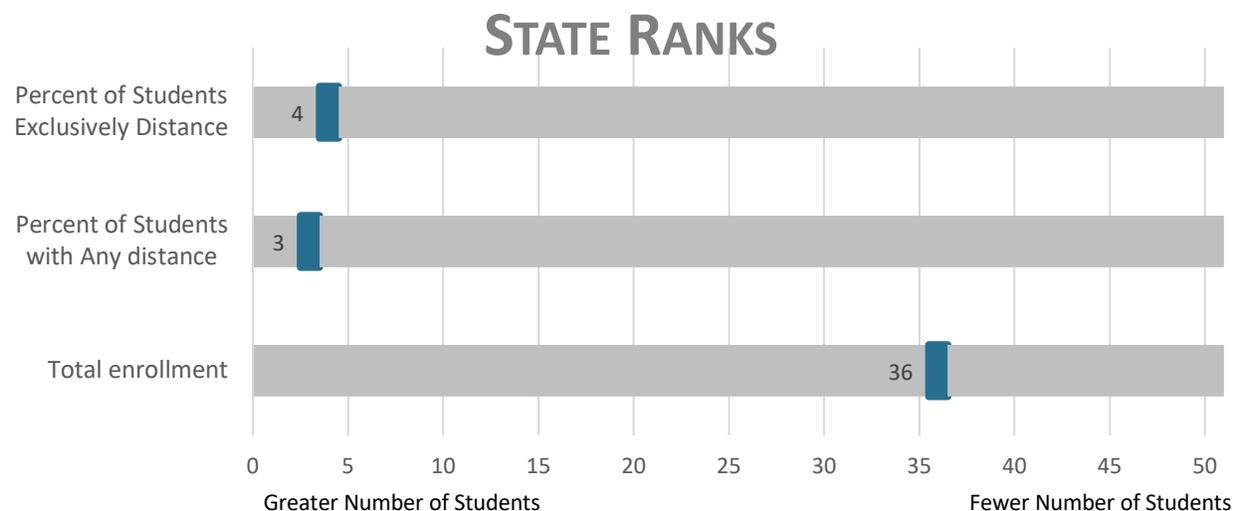
The information presented in the report represent the classifications and enrollments for Fall 2019 and were measured before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. National totals include all 50 states, District of Columbia, America Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, Northern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

West Virginia

West Virginia has 42 degree-granting higher education institutions, representing 1.0% of all such institutions in the United States. Of these institutions, 22 are classified as public, 10 as private not-for-profit, and 10 as private for-profit. Of these 42 institutions, 27 offer four-year programs, and 15 offer two-year programs.

The state has 139,159 students enrolled across its institutions and ranks 36th in terms of total higher education student enrollment. Between 2012 and 2019, the total number of students enrolled nationally declined by 5.0%. For West Virginia, the enrollment decreased by 23,023 students, or -14.2%. West Virginia has 118,273 students studying at the undergraduate level, a loss of 17,893 students from 2012 (-13.1%), compared to a 6.8% national decline. There are 20,886 students studying at the graduate level, which is 5,130 fewer than in 2012; this represents a change of -19.7%, where the national data showed an increase of 5.7%.

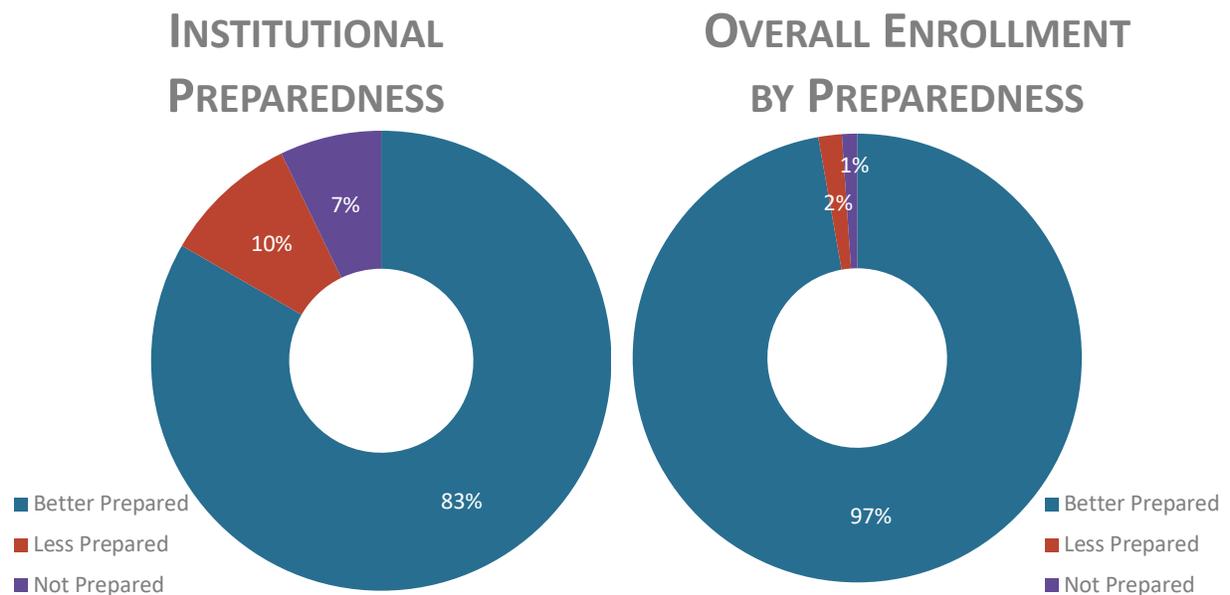
There are 84,013 students in West Virginia that take at least one distance course. The state is ranked 3rd for the proportion of students taking at least one distance course (60.4%). In 2019, there were 58,912 students taking all of their courses at a distance, a loss of -7,184 students (-10.9%) from 2012. West Virginia ranks 4th in the proportion of students (42.3%) 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.

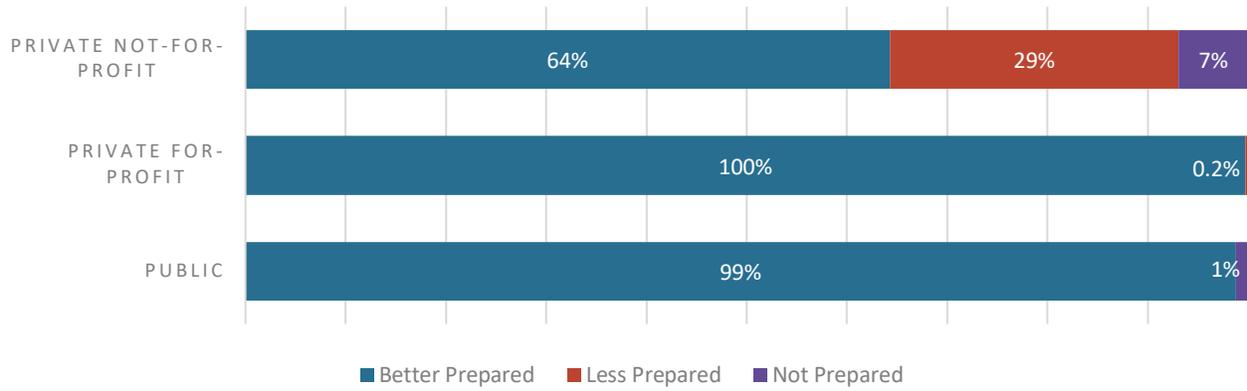
Nationally, 59.3% of all degree-granting institutions meet the criteria of having 25% or more or over 1,000 of their students taking distance courses. In West Virginia, 83.3% of institutions are better prepared for moving completely online. These institutions enroll 135,288 students, or 97.2% of all students in the state. There are 3 institutions in West Virginia with no distance students (representing 7.1% of the total in state institutions) that were likely not well prepared for a rapid transition to distance learning.



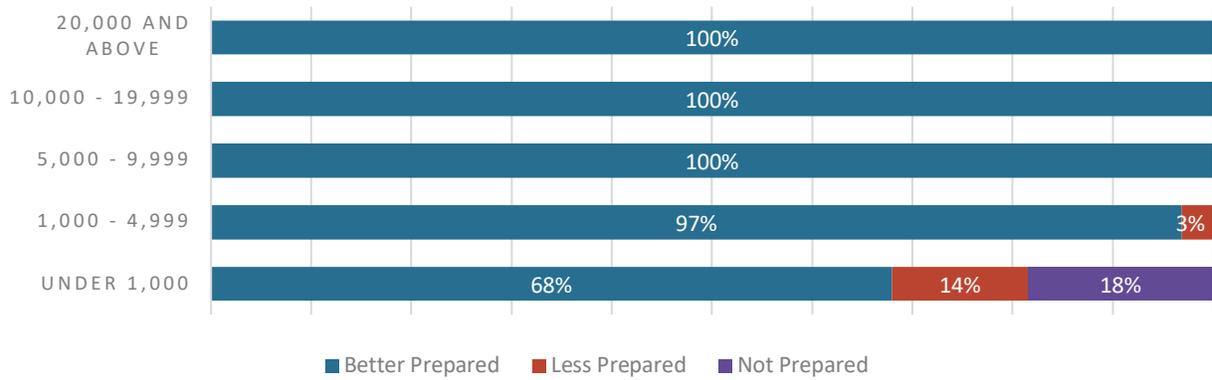
Preparedness Definitions:

- 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

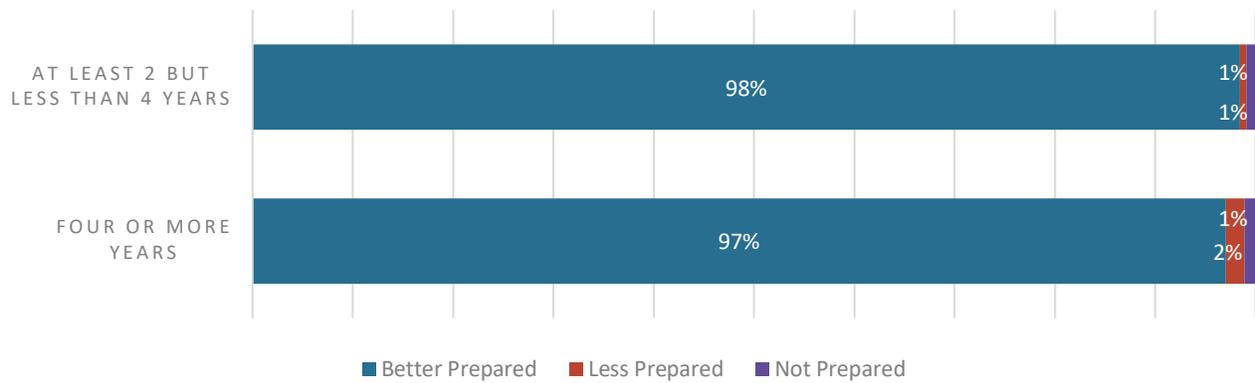
PREPAREDNESS BY CONTROL



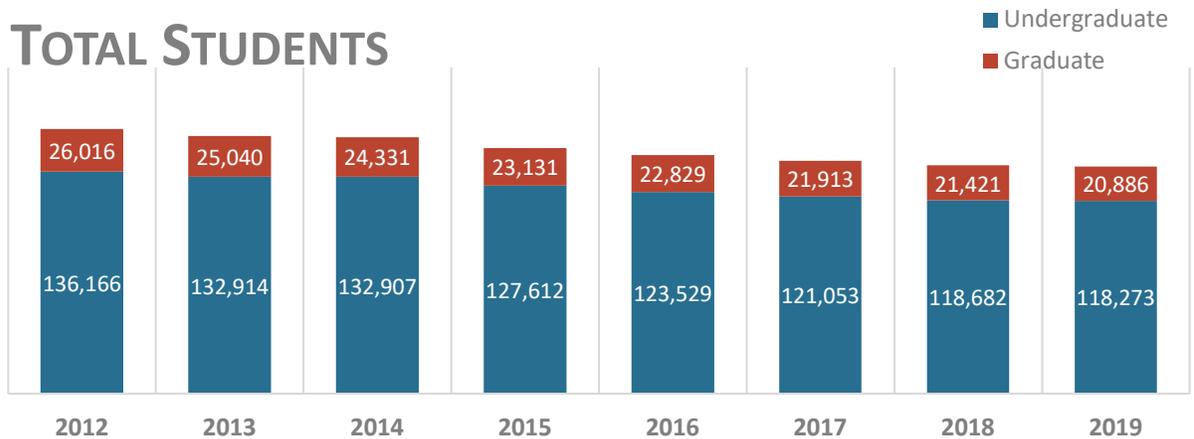
PREPAREDNESS BY SIZE



PREPAREDNESS BY TYPE



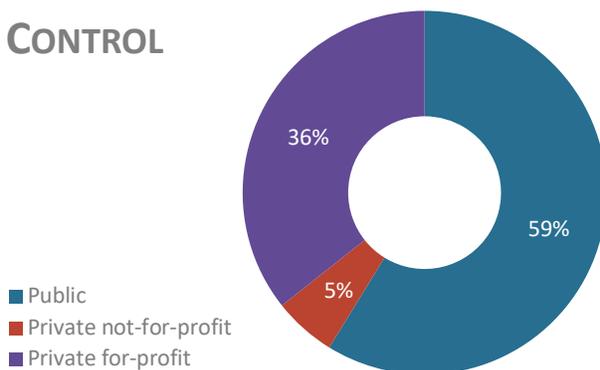
State Enrollment



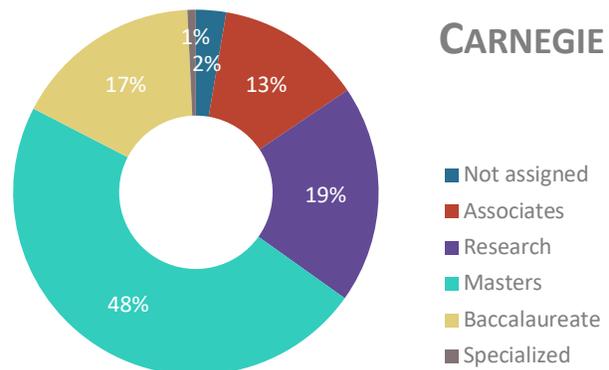
Institutions in West Virginia enrolled a total of 139,159 students in the of Fall 2019; 118,273 students were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 20,886 enrolled at the graduate level. The Fall 2019 figure represents a decrease of 23,023 students (-14.2%) from the number enrolled in the fall of 2012. The number of undergraduate students decreased by 17,893 during this period, from 136,166 in 2012 to 118,273 in 2019 (-13.1%). The number of graduate students decreased from 26,016 to 20,886 (-19.7%) in the same period.

Enrollments in Fall 2019 totaled 81,795 students at public institutions (59% of all students), 7,739 students at private not-for-profit institutions (5.6%), and 49,625 students at private for-profit institutions (35.7%). Enrollments at public institutions decreased by 11,222 students between 2012 and 2019, while those at private not-for-profit institutions increased by 56 students, and those at private for-profit institutions decreased by 11,857 students.

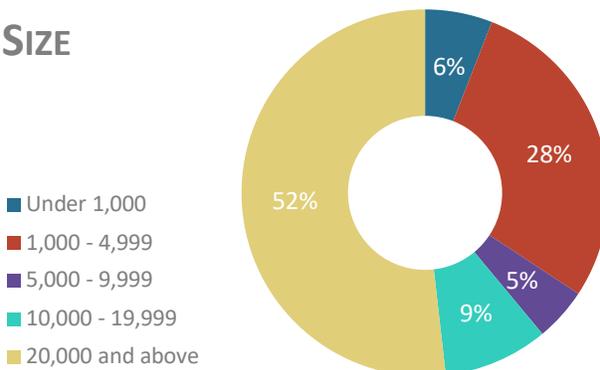
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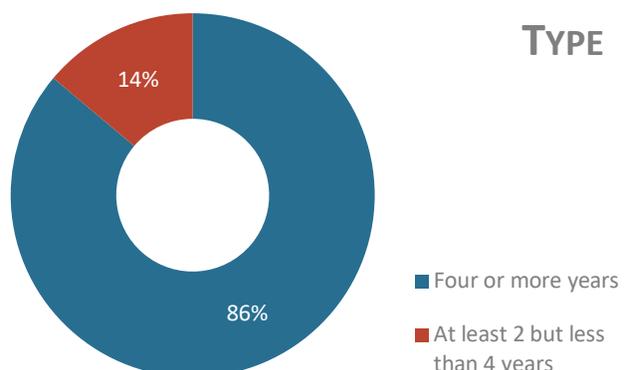
CARNEGIE



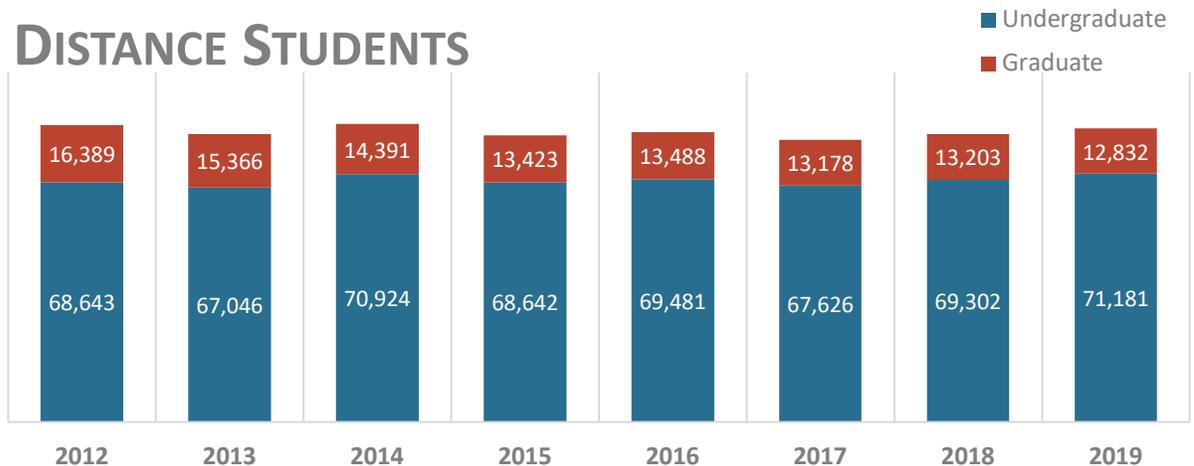
SIZE



TYPE



DISTANCE STUDENTS

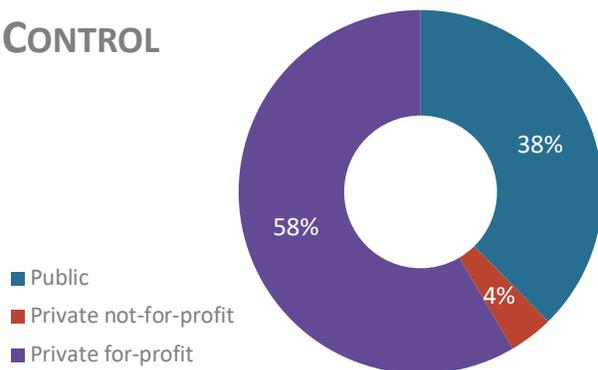


In 2019, a total of 84,013 students took at least one distance course from West Virginia institutions; 71,181 (60.2% of all undergraduate students) were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 12,832 (61.4% of all graduate students) were enrolled at the graduate level.

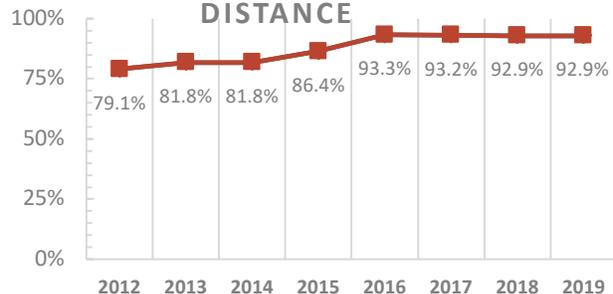
Among undergraduate level distance students, 27,781 were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 2,415 as private not-for-profit, and 40,985 as private for profit. At the graduate-level, 3,827 distance students were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 886 as private not-for-profit, and 8,119 as private for profit.

The number of undergraduate distance enrollments at West Virginia institutions increased by 2,538 (3.7%) between Fall 2012 and Fall 2019, while the number of graduate distance enrollments fell by -3,557 (-21.7%) during this same period.

CONTROL



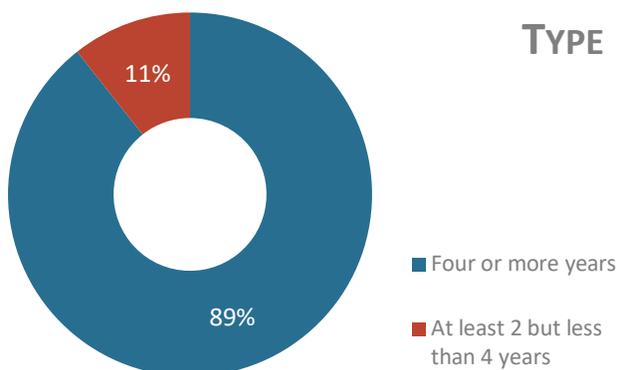
% INSTITUTIONS WITH DISTANCE



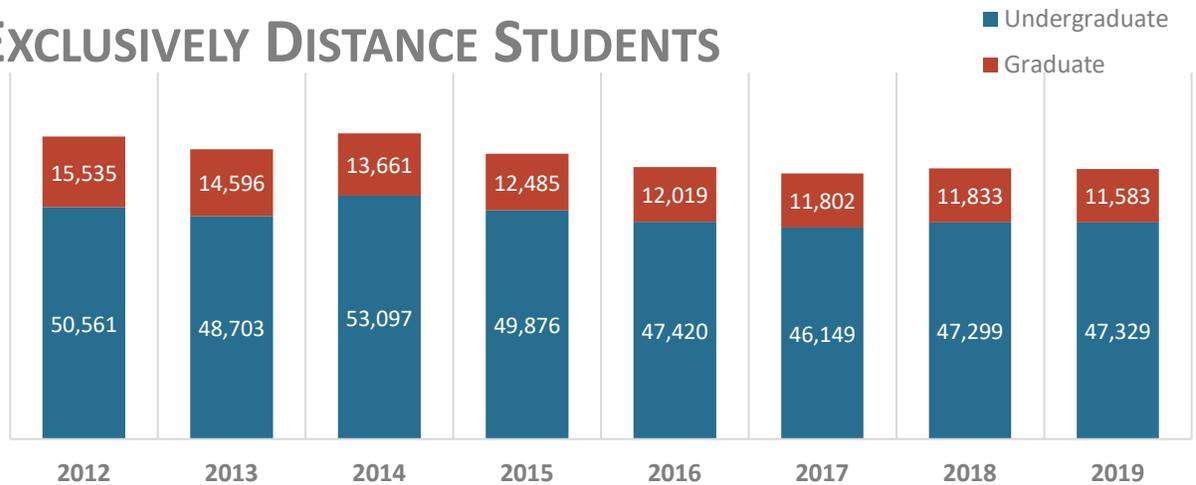
SIZE



TYPE

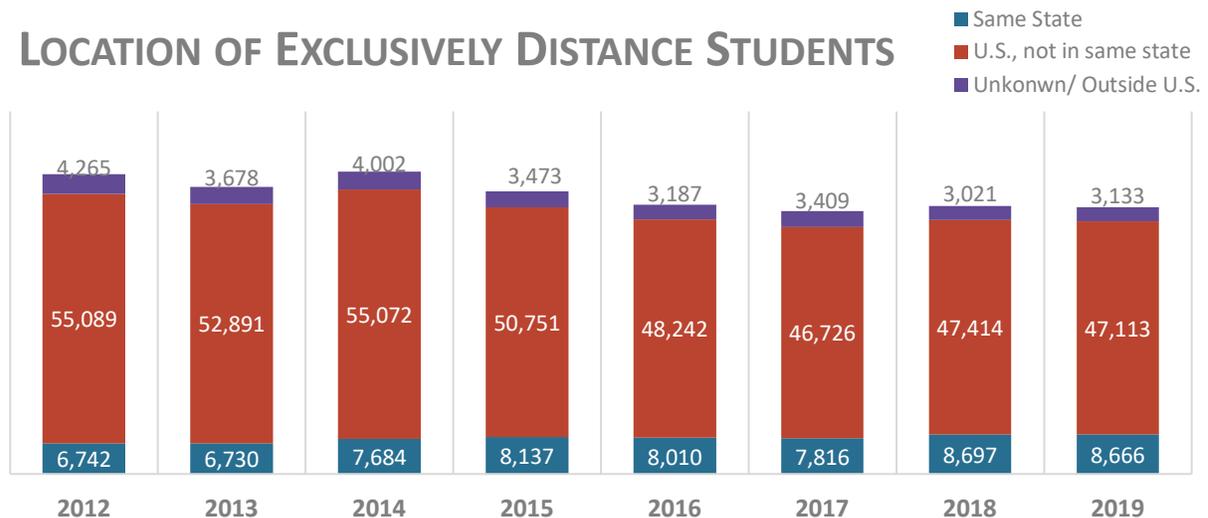


EXCLUSIVELY DISTANCE STUDENTS

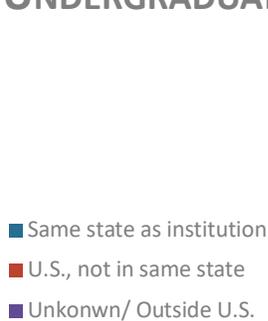


A total of 58,912 students were taking all of their courses at a distance from West Virginia institutions in the fall of 2019. This represents 42.3% of the enrolled students in the state, which ranks the state at number 4 in the U.S. The number of exclusively distance students who reside in West Virginia while taking courses from an institution in West Virginia was 6,742 in 2012 and fell to 8,666 by 2019. There are 50,246 students enrolled as exclusively distance students in West Virginia institutions who reside outside West Virginia, or whose place of residence is unknown.

LOCATION OF EXCLUSIVELY DISTANCE STUDENTS



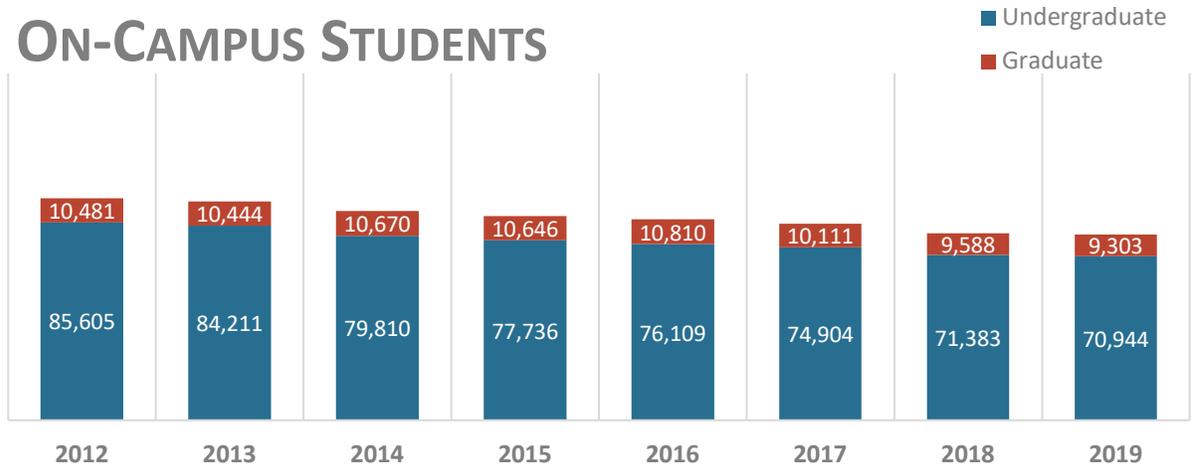
UNDERGRADUATE



GRADUATE

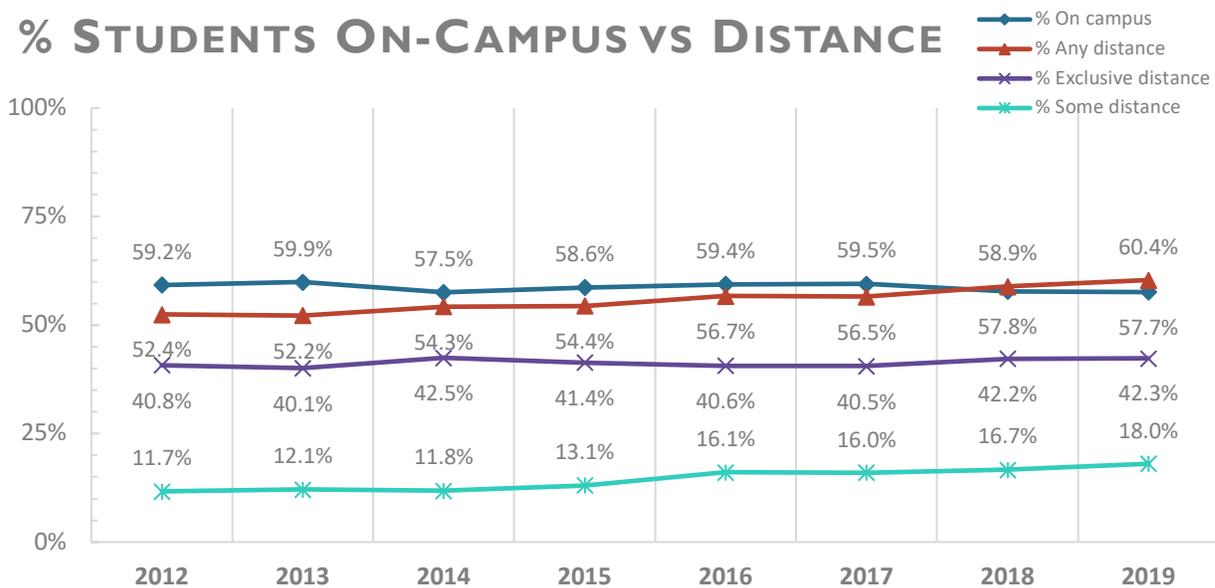


ON-CAMPUS STUDENTS

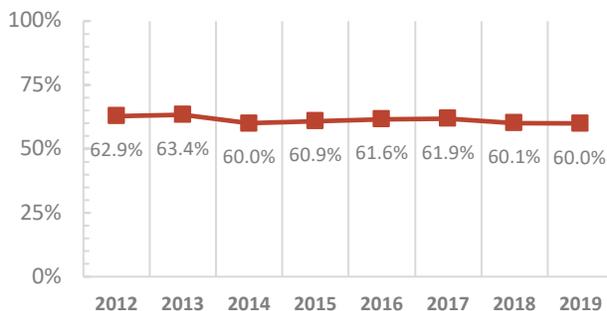


On-campus students are those who take one or more of their courses physically on-campus. The number of students studying on campus declined from 96,086 to 80,247 between 2012 and 2019 in West Virginia, representing a reduction of 16.5%. This compares to a national decrease of 10.3% for the same period. In 2019, 60.0% of undergraduate students and 44.5% of graduate students in West Virginia were taking at least one on-campus course.

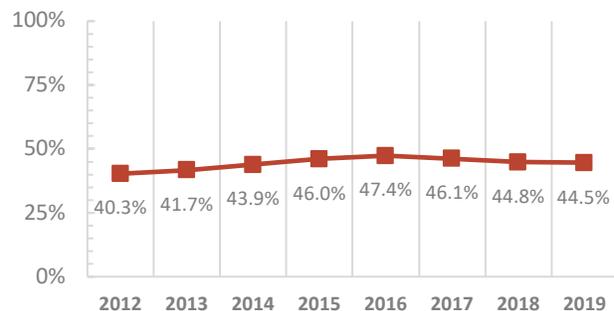
% STUDENTS ON-CAMPUS VS DISTANCE



% ON-CAMPUS: UNDERGRADUATE



% ON-CAMPUS: GRADUATE



INSTITUTIONS

	West Virginia	National	State Rank	State as % of National
Total institutions	42	4,089	19	1.0%
Institutions w/ distance	39	3,161	32	1.2%
% Institution w/ distance	92.9%	77.3%	32	

ENROLLMENTS

West Virginia		Total	Any Distance	Exclusive Distance	On Campus
	Total	139,159	84,013	58,912	80,247
Size	Under 1,000	8,252	3,738	2,189	6,063
	1,000 - 4,999	39,435	19,946	6,979	32,456
	5,000 - 9,999	6,532	1,130	239	6,293
	10,000 - 19,999	12,852	4,754	1,531	11,321
	20,000 and above	72,088	54,445	47,974	24,114
Carnegie	Not assigned	3,708	3,167	1,964	1,744
	Associates	17,944	7,076	2,640	15,304
	Research	26,839	9,196	2,725	24,114
	Masters	66,418	54,142	48,066	18,352
	Baccalaureate	23,214	10,395	3,504	19,710
	Specialized	1,036	37	13	1,023
Control	Public	81,795	31,608	8,879	72,916
	Private not-for-profit	7,739	3,301	1,602	6,137
	Private for-profit	49,625	49,104	48,431	1,194
Type	Four or more years	119,851	75,069	55,317	64,534
	At least 2 but less than 4 years	19,308	8,944	3,595	15,713