



[2021 Tables and Figures](#)

[All Years of Tables and Figures](#)

[Most Recent Full Issue of the Digest](#)

Table 317.10. Degree-granting postsecondary institutions, by control and level of institution: Selected years, 1949-50 through 2020-21

Year	All institutions			Public			Private								
	Total	4-year	2-year	Total	4-year	2-year	Total	4-year, total	2-year, total	Nonprofit			For-profit		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Excluding branch campuses															
1949-50	1,851	1,327	524	641	344	297	1,210	983	227	---	---	---	---	---	---
1959-60	2,004	1,422	582	695	367	328	1,309	1,055	254	---	---	---	---	---	---
1969-70	2,525	1,639	886	1,060	426	634	1,465	1,213	252	---	---	---	---	---	---
1979-80	2,975	1,863	1,112	1,310	464	846	1,665	1,399	266	---	---	---	---	---	---
1980-81	3,056	1,861	1,195	1,334	465	869	1,722	1,396	326 ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---
1981-82	3,083	1,883	1,200	1,340	471	869	1,743	1,412	331 ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---
1982-83	3,111	1,887	1,224	1,336	472	864	1,775	1,415	360 ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---
1983-84	3,117	1,914	1,203	1,325	474	851	1,792	1,440	352	---	---	---	---	---	---
1984-85	3,146	1,911	1,235	1,329	461	868	1,817	1,450	367	---	---	---	---	---	---
1985-86	3,155	1,915	1,240	1,326	461	865	1,829	1,454	375	---	---	---	---	---	---
Including branch campuses															
1974-75	3,004	1,866	1,138	1,433	537	896	1,571	1,329	242	---	---	---	---	---	---
1975-76	3,026	1,898	1,128	1,442	545	897	1,584	1,353	231	---	---	---	---	---	---
1976-77	3,046	1,913	1,133	1,455	550	905	1,591	1,363	228	1,536	1,348	188	55	15	40
1977-78	3,095	1,938	1,157	1,473	552	921	1,622	1,386	236	---	---	---	---	---	---
1978-79	3,134	1,941	1,193	1,474	550	924	1,660	1,391	269	1,564	1,376	188	96	15	81
1979-80	3,152	1,957	1,195	1,475	549	926	1,677	1,408	269	---	---	---	---	---	---
1980-81	3,231	1,957	1,274	1,497	552	945	1,734	1,405	329 ¹	1,569	1,387	182	165	18	147
1981-82	3,253	1,979	1,274	1,498	558	940	1,755	1,421	334 ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---
1982-83	3,280	1,984	1,296	1,493	560	933	1,787	1,424	363 ¹	---	---	---	---	---	---
1983-84	3,284	2,013	1,271	1,481	565	916	1,803	1,448	355	---	---	---	---	---	---
1984-85	3,331	2,025	1,306	1,501	566	935	1,830	1,459	371	1,616	1,430	186	214	29	185
1985-86	3,340	2,029	1,311	1,498	566	932	1,842	1,463	379	---	---	---	---	---	---
1986-87	3,406	2,070	1,336	1,533	573	960	1,873	1,497	376	1,635	1,462	173	238	35	203
1987-88	3,587	2,135	1,452	1,591	599	992	1,996	1,536	460	1,673	1,487	186	323	49	274
1988-89	3,565	2,129	1,436	1,582	598	984	1,983	1,531	452	1,658	1,478	180	325	53	272
1989-90	3,535	2,127	1,408	1,563	595	968	1,972	1,532	440	1,656	1,479	177	316	53	263
1990-91	3,559	2,141	1,418	1,567	595	972	1,992	1,546	446	1,649	1,482	167	343	64	279
1991-92	3,601	2,157	1,444	1,598	599	999	2,003	1,558	445	1,662	1,486	176	341	72	269
1992-93	3,638	2,169	1,469	1,624	600	1,024	2,014	1,569	445	1,672	1,493	179	342	76	266
1993-94	3,632	2,190	1,442	1,625	604	1,021	2,007	1,586	421	1,687	1,506	181	320	80	240
1994-95	3,688	2,215	1,473	1,641	605	1,036	2,047	1,610	437	1,702	1,510	192	345	100	245
1995-96	3,706	2,244	1,462	1,655	608	1,047	2,051	1,636	415	1,706	1,519	187	345	117	228
1996-97	4,009	2,267	1,742	1,702	614	1,088	2,307	1,653	654	1,693	1,509	184	614	144	470
1997-98	4,064	2,309	1,755	1,707	615	1,092	2,357	1,694	663	1,707	1,528	179	650	166	484
1998-99	4,048	2,335	1,713	1,681	612	1,069	2,367	1,723	644	1,695	1,531	164	672	192	480
1999-2000	4,084	2,363	1,721	1,682	614	1,068	2,402	1,749	653	1,681	1,531	150	721	218	503
2000-01	4,182	2,450	1,732	1,698	622	1,076	2,484	1,828	656	1,695	1,551	144	789	277	512
2001-02	4,197	2,487	1,710	1,713	628	1,085	2,484	1,859	625	1,676	1,541	135	808	318	490
2002-03	4,168	2,466	1,702	1,712	631	1,081	2,456	1,835	621	1,665	1,538	127	791	297	494
2003-04	4,236	2,530	1,706	1,720	634	1,086	2,516	1,896	620	1,664	1,546	118	852	350	502
2004-05	4,216	2,533	1,683	1,700	639	1,061	2,516	1,894	622	1,637	1,525	112	879	369	510
2005-06	4,276	2,582	1,694	1,693	640	1,053	2,583	1,942	641	1,647	1,534	113	936	408	528
2006-07	4,314	2,629	1,685	1,688	643	1,045	2,626	1,986	640	1,640	1,533	107	986	453	533
2007-08	4,352	2,675	1,677	1,685	653	1,032	2,667	2,022	645	1,624	1,532	92	1,043	490	553
2008-09	4,409	2,719	1,690	1,676	652	1,024	2,733	2,067	666	1,629	1,537	92	1,104	530	574
2009-10	4,495	2,774	1,721	1,672	672	1,000	2,823	2,102	721	1,624	1,539	85	1,199	563	636
2010-11	4,599	2,870	1,729	1,656	678	978	2,943	2,192	751	1,630	1,543	87	1,313	649	664
2011-12	4,706	2,968	1,738	1,649	682	967	3,057	2,286	771	1,653	1,553	100	1,404	733	671
2012-13	4,726	3,026	1,700	1,623	689	934	3,103	2,337	766	1,652	1,555	97	1,451	782	669
2013-14	4,724	3,039	1,685	1,625	691	934	3,099	2,348	751	1,675	1,587	88	1,424	761	663
2014-15	4,627	3,011	1,616	1,621	701	920	3,006	2,310	696	1,672	1,584	88	1,334	726	608
2015-16	4,583	3,004	1,579	1,620	710	910	2,963	2,294	669	1,701	1,594	107	1,262	700	562
2016-17	4,360	2,832	1,528	1,623	737	886	2,737	2,095	642	1,682	1,581	101	1,055	514	541
2017-18	4,313	2,828	1,485	1,626	750	876	2,687	2,078	609	1,689	1,590	99	998	488	510
2018-19	4,042	2,703	1,339	1,636	768	868	2,406	1,935	471	1,664	1,577	87	742	358	384
2019-20	3,982	2,679	1,303	1,625	772	853	2,357	1,907	450	1,660	1,568	92	697	339	358
2020-21	3,931	2,637	1,294	1,587	752	835	2,344	1,885	459	1,640	1,555	85	704	330	374

---Not available.

¹ Large increases are due to the addition of schools accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology.

NOTE: Data in this table represent the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Data through 1995-96 are for institutions of higher education, while later data are for degree-granting institutions. Degree-granting institutions grant associate's or higher degrees and participate in Title IV federal financial aid programs. Changes in counts of institutions over time are partly affected by increasing or decreasing numbers of institutions submitting separate data for branch campuses.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Education Directory, Colleges and Universities, 1949-50 through 1965-66; Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), "Institutional Characteristics of Colleges and Universities" surveys, 1966-67 through 1985-86; Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), "Institutional Characteristics Survey"(IPEDS-IC:86-99); and IPEDS Fall 2000 through Fall 2020, Institutional Characteristics component. (This table was prepared January 2021.)

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