

# Distance Education Enrollments at Illinois Colleges and Universities

Data for Fall 2020

## Executive Summary

*2020 distance education enrollments significantly impacted by higher education's response to COVID*

***For the Fall 2020 term, 1,208,998 course enrollments were reported in online and blended courses. This is a 258% increase from the 337,940 course enrollments reported in the Fall 2019 term. Online and blended enrollments accounted for 97.32% of all distance course enrollments in this unprecedented term.***

***Community colleges and public universities accounted for the largest percentages of online enrollments with 31.88% and 50.70% respectively, for a total of 82.58% or 998,345 of the over 1.2 million enrollments. Interactive TV delivery mode also saw a large increase during the COVID-19 pandemic, yet still only accounted for 2.68% of all distance education enrollments.***

***The data for Fall 2020 is illustrative of the flexibility and agility of Illinois colleges and universities in their response to the global pandemic in ensuring students maintained access to their courses. Illinois higher education institutions met the student need for online instruction with inventiveness, alacrity, and quality. The turn-around to new instructional platforms and the utilization of available technologies was unparalleled.***

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### Distance Education Enrollments

Illinois colleges and universities reported **1,242,323** enrollments during the Fall 2020 term. This is an **263%** increase in enrollments from Fall 2019 when there were **341,650** enrollments in all distance education modality. Fall 2020 showed an 826% increase in Interactive TV courses with 33,237 enrollments compared to the 3,588 enrollments in this modality for Fall 2019.

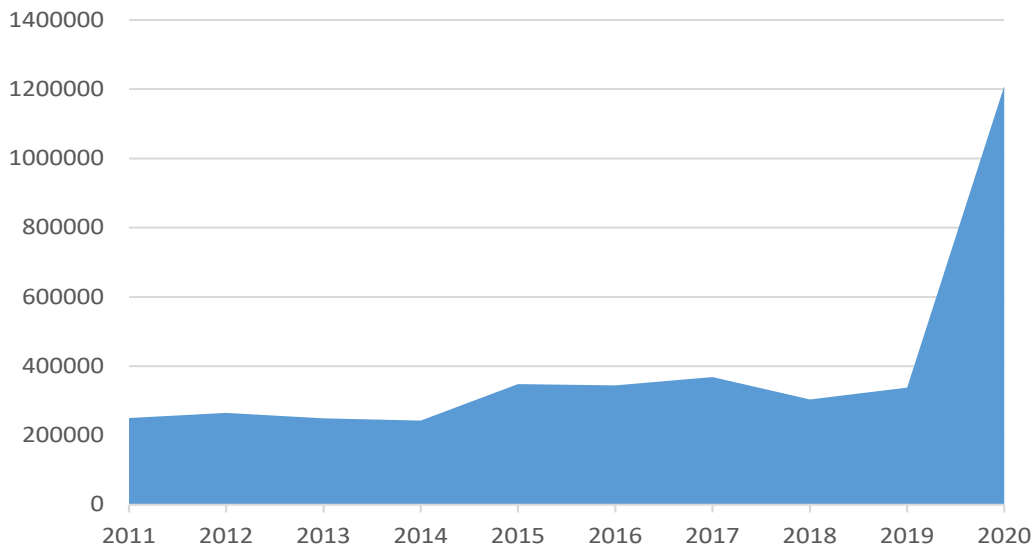
### Blended Courses

All Illinois institutions now provide data on blended courses. The **103,141** enrollments for Fall 2020 account for **8.3%** of all distance education enrollments. The **103,141** enrollments for Fall 2020 show a **107%** increase from the **49,644** enrollments for Fall 2019 in the blended modality. Blended and online enrollments accounted for **97.32%** of all distance education enrollments for Fall 2020.

### Online Enrollments by Sector

Public universities account for the largest percentage of all online course enrollments at **50.70%** and **49.77%** of all distance education enrollments. Illinois community colleges are second largest with **31.88%** of online enrollments and **33.27%** of all distance education enrollments for Fall 2020. Independent for-profit colleges and universities account for the lowest percentages at **6.09%** and **5.93%** respectively. Comparatively for Fall 2019, the independent for-profit institutions represented **19.14%** of online course enrollments and **18.93%** of all distance education enrollments.

## Enrollments in Online Courses



\* additional Independent For-Profit University began reporting data - Fall 2014 and stopped Fall 2018

## Changes in Enrollment by Delivery Mode

### Online Enrollment Percentage

Online enrollments accounted for **89.02%** of all distance education enrollments in the Fall 2020 term with blended enrollments accounting for another **8.30%** for a total of **97.32%** of all enrollments.

### All Other Delivery Mode Percentage

Enrollments in all other delivery modes accounted for only **2.69%** of all enrollments in the Fall 2020 term. Table 2 in the Appendix shows the change in distance education enrollments by delivery mode from Fall 2019 through Fall 2020.

## Online Enrollments by Sector

### Community College Enrollment

During the Fall 2020 term, community colleges reported **385,429** enrollments for **31.88%** of all online course enrollments. **City Colleges of Chicago (57,430)** and **Harper College (32,961)** reported the largest enrollments from the community college system.

### Public University Enrollment

Public universities reported **612,916** enrollments for **50.70%** of all online course enrollments. **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (275,398)** and **Illinois State University (95,664)** reported the largest enrollments from the public universities.

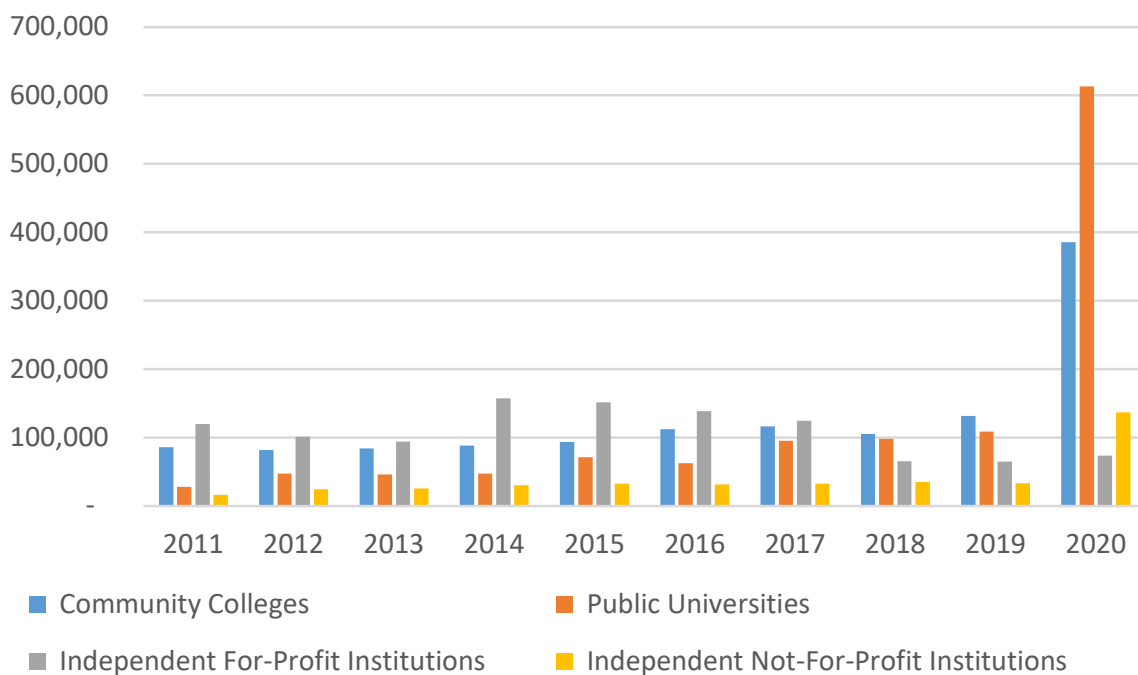
### Independent For-Profit Colleges and Universities

Independent for-profit colleges and universities reported **73,680** enrollments for **6.09%** of all online course enrollments. **DeVry University (73,680)** from the independent for-profit colleges and universities.

### Independent Not-For-Profit Colleges and Universities

Independent not-for-profit colleges and universities reported **136,973** enrollments for **11.33%** of all online course enrollments. **DePaul University (75,130)** from the independent not-for-profit colleges and universities.

**Online Enrollments  
at Illinois Colleges and Universities  
by Sector  
Fall 2011 - Fall 2020**



## Online Enrollments by Residency

The vast majority of all online course enrollments reported by Illinois public colleges and universities were from students residing in the state. Independent colleges and universities had a majority of online course enrollments from students living in the USA but outside of Illinois.

The State of Illinois greatly appreciates the cooperative effort of all Illinois colleges and universities and the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) in submitting the distance education course enrollment data for this report.

## Appendix

The following tables show several different views of the course enrollments in distance education for the Fall Term 2020.

- Table 1** Distance Education Enrollments by Delivery Mode
- Table 2** Change in Distance Education Enrollments by Delivery Mode from Fall 2019 through Fall 2020
- Table 3** Enrollments in Online and All Distance Education Courses by Sector
- Table 4** Distance Education Enrollments by Sector and Delivery Mode
- Table 5** Distance Education Enrollments by Delivery Mode - Fall 2011 through Fall 2020
- Table 6** Distance Education Enrollments by Institution

**Table 1**  
**Distance Education Enrollments**  
**at Illinois Colleges and Universities**  
**by Delivery Mode**  
**Fall Term 2020**

Delivery Mode	Number of Enrollments	Percentage of Total
Online	1,105,857	89.02%
Blended	103,141	8.30%
Stored Media	0	0.0%
Interactive TV	33,237	2.68%
Correspondence	70	0.01%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,242,323</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Table 2**  
**Change in Distance Education Enrollments**  
**at Illinois Colleges and Universities**  
**by Delivery Mode**  
**from Fall Term 2019 to Fall Term 2020**

Delivery Mode	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Change in Enrollment	Percentage Change
Online with Blended	337,940	1,208,998	+871,058	+258%
Stored Media	14	0	-14	-100%
Interactive TV	3,588	33,237	+29,649	+826%
Correspondence	108	70	-38	-35%
<b>All Distance Education</b>	<b>341,650</b>	<b>1,242,323</b>	<b>+900,673</b>	<b>+263%</b>

**Table 3**  
**Distance Education Enrollments**  
**at Illinois Colleges and Universities**  
**by Sector**  
**Fall Term 2020**

Sector	Online (Internet and Blended)		All Distance Education	
	Number of Enrollments	Percent of Total	Number of Enrollments	Percent of Total
Community Colleges	385,429	31.88%	413,335	33.27%
Public Universities	612,916	50.70%	618,335	49.77%
Independent For-Profit Colleges and Universities	73,680	6.09%	73,680	5.93%
Independent Not-For-Profit Colleges and Universities	136,973	11.33%	136,973	11.03%
<b>All Institutions</b>	<b>1,208,998</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>1,242,323</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Table 4**  
**Distance Education Enrollments**  
**at Illinois Colleges and Universities**  
**by Sector and Delivery Mode**  
**Fall Term 2020**

Sector	Online	Blended	Stored Media	Interactive TV	Correspondence	Total
Community Colleges	325,025	60,404	0	27,820	68	413,335
Public Universities	593,581	19,335	0	5,417	2	618,335
Independent For-Profit Colleges and Universities	72,734	946	0	0	0	73,680
Independent Not-For-Profit Colleges and Universities	114,517	22,456	0	0	0	136,973
All Institutions	1,105,857	103,141	0	33,237	70	1,242,323

**Table 5**  
**Distance Education Enrollments**  
**at Illinois Colleges and Universities**  
**by Delivery Mode**  
**Fall Term 2011 to Fall Term 2020**

Term	Online	Blended	Stored Media	Interactive TV	Correspondence	All Distance Education
Fall 2011	250,053	NA	3,793	4,448	1,154	261,307
Spring 2012	265,359	NA	3,725	4,533	932	276,278
Summer 2012	199,662	NA	1,171	699	354	202,794
Fall 2012	254,300	10,991	1,752	3,843	745	273,141
Spring 2013	231,748	10,689	1,770	3,138	781	249,550
Summer 2013	179,843	4,009	840	401	613	186,499
Fall 2013	233,326	16,557	1,329	2,973	402	255,678
Spring 2014	236,101	12,732	1,821	2,170	709	254,621
Summer 2014	233,461	16,994	746	241	690	252,801
Fall 2014	282,505	40,891	1,182	3,557	374	329,475
Spring 2015*	303,332	40,654	1,170	2,632	366	348,785
Summer 2015	237,535	16,840	504	328	67	255,725
Fall 2015	302,870	45,519	216	3,263	361	352,274
Spring 2016	318,183	44,066	579	3,438	128	366,394
Summer 2016	243,183	18,367	480	164	77	263,212
Fall 2016	301,599	43,407	467	2,976	69	348,543
Spring 2017	316,759	46,409	316	3,354	145	366,983
Summer 2017	250,566	14,697	311	540	63	266,177
Fall 2017	327,254	41,725	3,651	271	145	373,046
Spring 2018	273,856	43,316	3	3,368	120	320,663
Summer 2018	196,108	14,476	11	479	58	211,132
Fall 2018	258,655	45,153	7	2,594	126	306,535
Spring 2019	280,240	45,290	3	2,961	147	328,641
Summer 2019	190,215	14,558	3	937	75	205,788
Fall 2019	288,296	49,644	14	3,588	108	341,650
Spring 2020	304,175	49,075	0	1,956	90	355,296
Summer 2020	290,867	9,206	0	1,249	36	301,358
Fall 2020	1,105,857	103,141	0	33,237	70	1,242,323

\* additional Independent For-Profit University began reporting data - Spring 2015 and stopped Spring 2018

**Table 6**  
**Distance Education Enrollments**  
**at Illinois Colleges and Universities**  
**by Institution**  
**Fall Term 2020**

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Internet</b>	<b>Blended</b>	<b>Interactive TV</b>	<b>Stored Media</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	<b>Total</b>
Black Hawk College	6,947	2,572	12	0	0	9,531
Benedictine University	**	**	**	**	**	**
Blessing-Rieman College of Nursing	182	0	0	0	0	182
Bradley University	1,101	182	0	0	0	1,283
Carl Sandburg College	1,593	84	338	0	0	2,015
Chamberlain College of Nursing	**	**	**	**	**	**
<b>City Colleges of Chicago</b>						
Harold Washington College	21,461	8	0	0	0	21,469
Harry S. Truman College	4,613	3	0	0	0	4,616
Kennedy-King College	3,714	0	0	0	0	3,714
Malcolm X College	2,989	0	0	0	0	2,989
Olive-Harvey College	2,960	3	0	0	0	2,963
Richard J. Daley College	7,686	0	0	0	0	7,686
Wilbur Wright College	13,993	0	0	0	0	13,993
Chicago State University	1,214	184	0	0	0	1,398
College of DuPage	24,710	3,783	0	0	0	28,493
College of Lake County	7,772	2,626	0	0	0	10,398
Danville Area Community College	1,895	1,266	0	0	0	3,161
DePaul University	74,963	167	0	0	0	75,130
DeVry University	72,734	946	0	0	0	73,680
Eastern Illinois University	11,686	47	0	0	0	11,733
Elgin Community College	7,947	2,015	9,560	0	0	19,522
Elmhurst College	6,831	5,207	0	0	0	12,038
Governors State University	5,178	319	0	0	0	5,497
Harper College	30,007	2,954	0	0	0	32,961
Heartland Community College	10,561	71	0	0	0	10,632
Highland Community College	1,742	716	0	0	0	2,458
Illinois Central College	16,081	2,199	0	0	0	18,280
<b>Illinois Eastern Community Colleges</b>						
Frontier Community College	328	594	0	0	11	933
Lincoln Trail Comm. College	759	1,925	0	0	15	2,699
Olney Central College	758	611	0	0	15	1,384
Wabash Valley College	442	528	0	0	0	970
Illinois Institute of Technology	2,453	2,791	0	0	0	5,244
Illinois State University	91,454	4,210	0	0	0	95,664
Illinois Valley Community College	3,340	1,254	1,918	0	0	6,512
John A. Logan College	3,555	3,111	0	0	0	6,666
John Wood Community College	2,437	1,622	0	0	0	4,059
Joliet Junior College	5,517	0	0	0	0	5,517
Judson College	85	770	0	0	0	855

Institution	Internet	Blended	Interactive TV	Stored Media	Correspondence	Total
Kankakee Community College	3,157	2,349	0	0	5	5,511
Kaskaskia College	3,413	2,125	141	0	0	5,679
Kishwaukee College	5,034	1,475	0	0	0	6,509
Lakeland College	8,332	2,110	0	0	0	10,442
Lewis and Clark Comm. College	1,084	127	0	0	0	1,211
Lewis University	5,772	3,450	0	0	0	9,222
Lincoln Land Community College	6,421	1,875	3,201	0	0	11,497
McHenry County College	9,884	1,763	0	0	0	11,647
Moody Bible Institute	2,620	8,335	0	0	0	10,955
Moraine Valley Comm. College	22,948	1,481	4,419	0	22	28,870
Morton College	1,308	630	6,448	0	0	8,386
Northeastern Illinois University	21,316	736	0	0	0	22,052
Northern Illinois University	57,028	7,991	0	0	0	65,019
Oakton Community College	17,052	1,235	0	0	0	18,287
Olivet Nazarene University	1,288	49	0	0	0	1,337
Parkland College	6,331	7,679	0	0	0	14,010
Prairie State College	4,602	164	0	0	0	4,784
Quincy University	1,844	0	0	0	0	1,844
Rend Lake College	3,741	1,539	0	0	0	5,280
Richland Community College	2,944	817	1,312	0	0	5,073
Rock Valley College	13,635	3,554	0	0	0	17,189
Roosevelt University	5,834	130	0	0	0	5,964
Rush University	4,819	0	0	0	0	4,819
Sauk Valley Community College	3,691	58	0	0	0	3,749
Shawnee Community College	945	35	325	0	0	1,305
South Suburban College	1,175	46	0	0	0	1,221
Southeastern Illinois College	1,388	455	20	0	0	1,863
Southern Illinois University Carbondale	7,639	259	0	0	0	7,898
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville	83,985	0	0	0	0	83,985
Southwestern Illinois College	6,181	396	35	0	0	6,612
Spoon River College	1,162	344	91	0	0	1,597
Triton College	3,569	36	0	0	0	3,605
University of Illinois at Chicago	11,741	2,832	500	0	0	15,073
University of Illinois at Springfield	11,435	1,494	0	0	0	12,929
University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign	275,398	0	0	0	0	275,398
University of St. Francis	6,725	1,375	0	0	0	8,100
Waubonsee Community College	13,221	2,166	0	0	0	15,387
Western Illinois University	15,507	1,263	4,917	0	2	21,689
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,105,857</b>	<b>103,141</b>	<b>33,237</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>1,242,323</b>

\*\* Indicates data not reported.