

Distance Education State Almanac

KENTUCKY



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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.

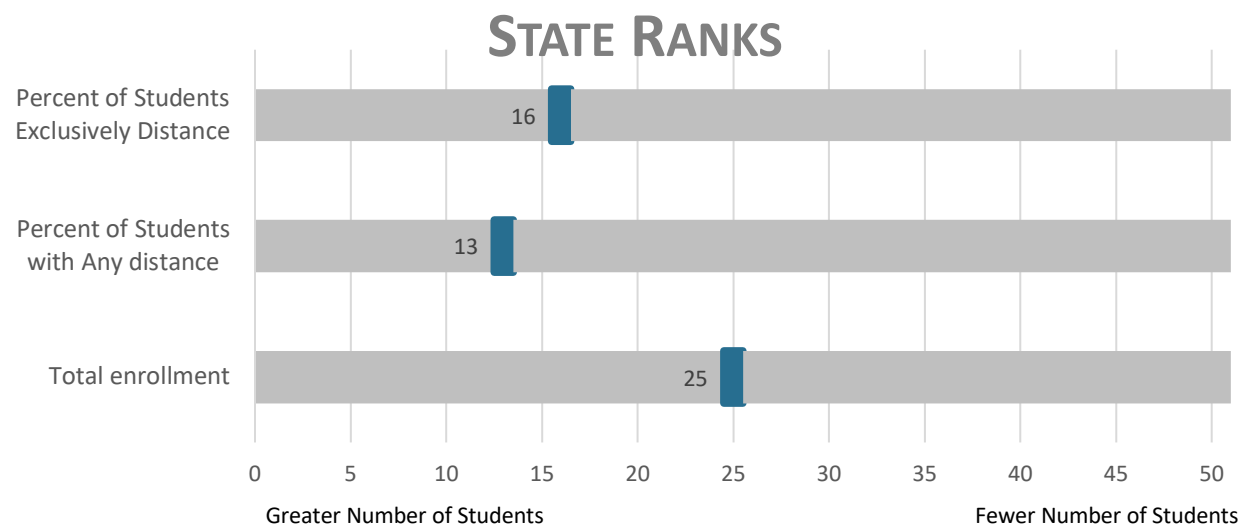
The information presented in the report represent the classifications and enrollments for Fall 2019 and were measured before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. National totals include all 50 states, District of Columbia, America Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, Northern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

Kentucky

Kentucky has 60 degree-granting higher education institutions, representing 1.5% of all such institutions in the United States. Of these institutions, 24 are classified as public, 26 as private not-for-profit, and 10 as private for-profit. Of these 60 institutions, 39 offer four-year programs, and 21 offer two-year programs.

The state has 270,646 students enrolled across its institutions and ranks 25th in terms of total higher education student enrollment. Between 2012 and 2019, the total number of students enrolled nationally declined by 5.0%. For Kentucky, the enrollment decreased by 13,575 students, or -4.8%. Kentucky has 213,735 students studying at the undergraduate level, a loss of 31,734 students from 2012 (-12.9%), compared to a 6.8% national decline. There are 56,911 students studying at the graduate level, which is 18,159 greater than in 2012; this represents a change of 46.9%, where the national data showed an increase of 5.7%.

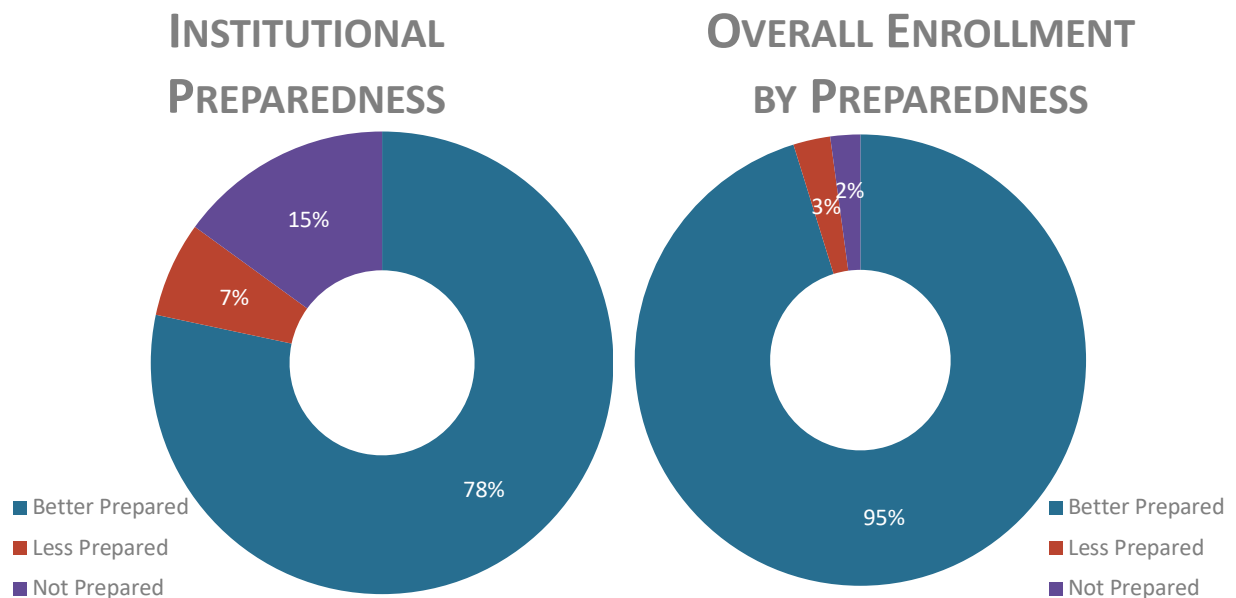
There are 119,232 students in Kentucky that take at least one distance course. The state is ranked 13th for the proportion of students taking at least one distance course (44.1%). In 2019, there were 56,694 students taking all of their courses at a distance, a growth of 18,400 students (48.0%) from 2012. Kentucky ranks 16th in the proportion of students (20.9%) 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.

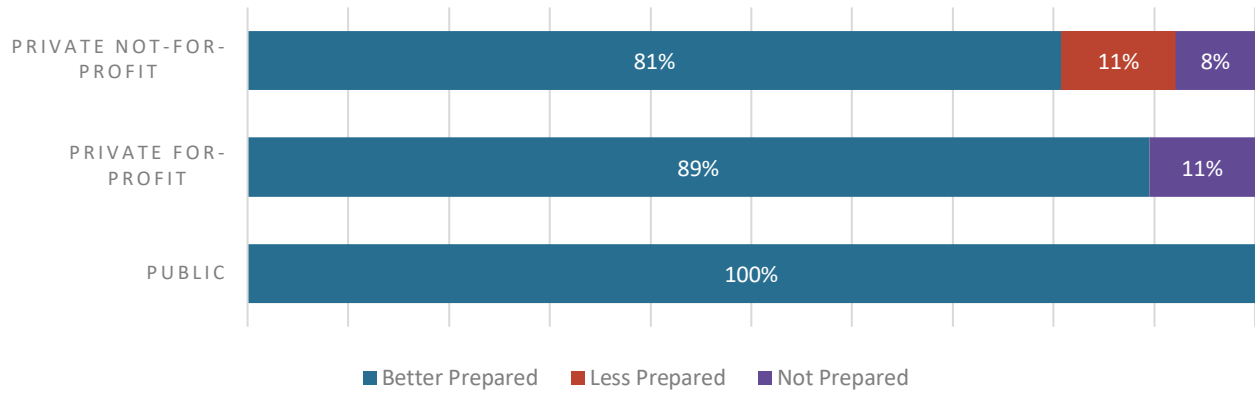
Nationally, 59.3% of all degree-granting institutions meet the criteria of having 25% or more or over 1,000 of their students taking distance courses. In Kentucky, 78.3% of institutions are better prepared for moving completely online. These institutions enroll 257,669 students, or 95.2% of all students in the state. There are 9 institutions in Kentucky with no distance students (representing 15.0% of the total in state institutions) that were likely not well prepared for a rapid transition to distance learning.



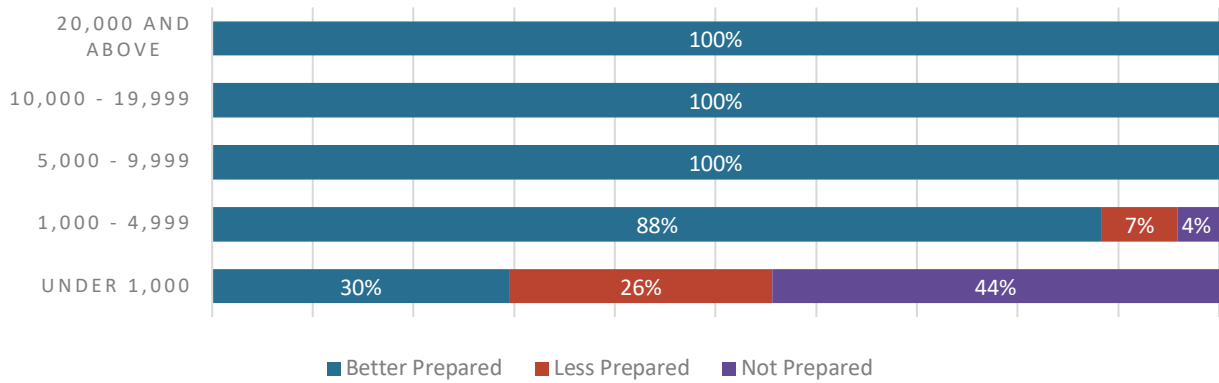
Preparedness Definitions:

- 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

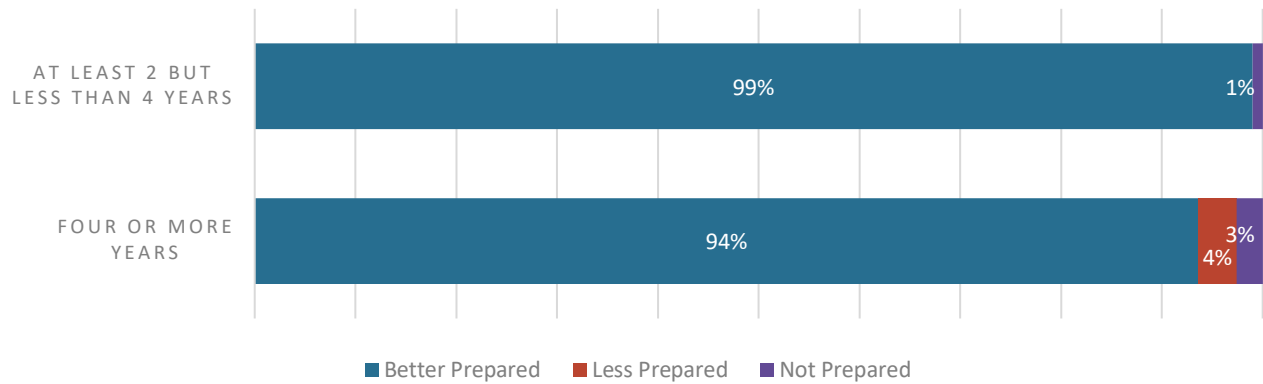
PREPAREDNESS BY CONTROL



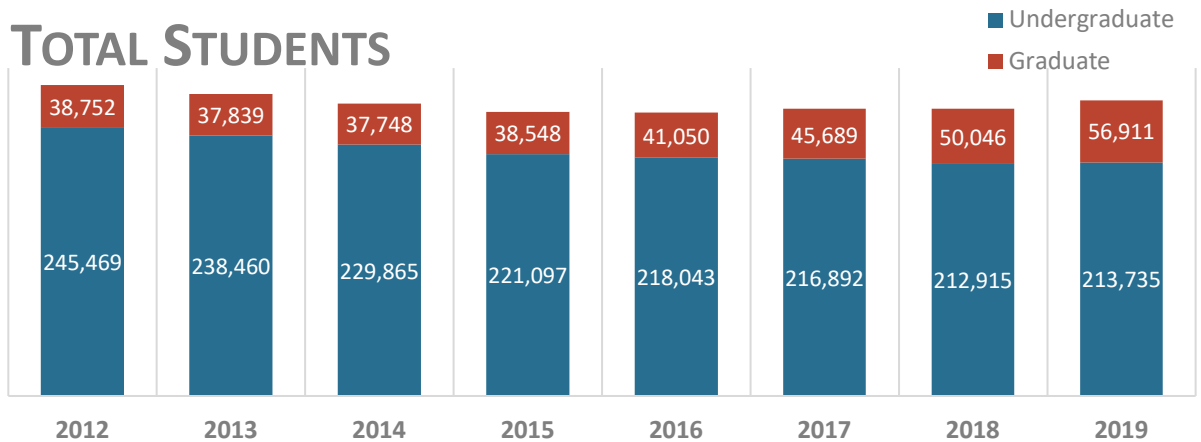
PREPAREDNESS BY SIZE



PREPAREDNESS BY TYPE



State Enrollment



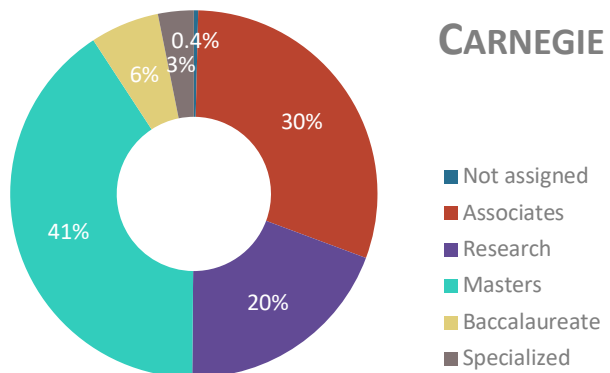
Institutions in Kentucky enrolled a total of 270,646 students in the of Fall 2019; 213,735 students were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 56,911 enrolled at the graduate level. The Fall 2019 figure represents a decrease of 13,575 students (-4.8%) from the number enrolled in the fall of 2012. The number of undergraduate students decreased by 31,734 during this period, from 245,469 in 2012 to 213,735 in 2019 (-12.9%). The number of graduate students increased from 38,752 to 56,911 (46.9%) in the same period.

Enrollments in Fall 2019 totaled 199,614 students at public institutions (74% of all students), 63,264 students at private not-for-profit institutions (23.4%), and 7,768 students at private for-profit institutions (2.9%). Enrollments at public institutions decreased by 23,486 students between 2012 and 2019, while those at private not-for-profit institutions increased by 19,953 students, and those at private for-profit institutions decreased by 10,042 students.

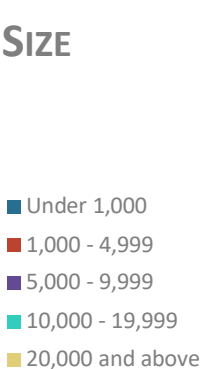
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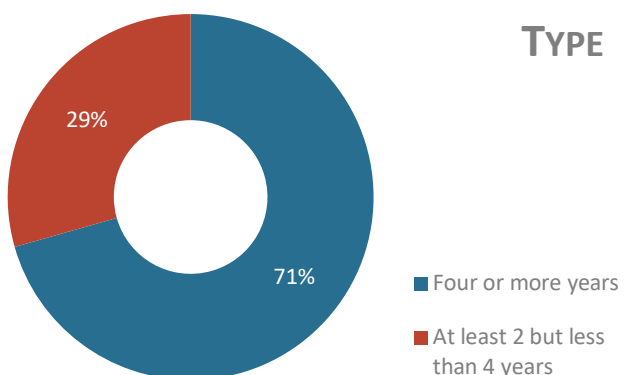
CARNEGIE



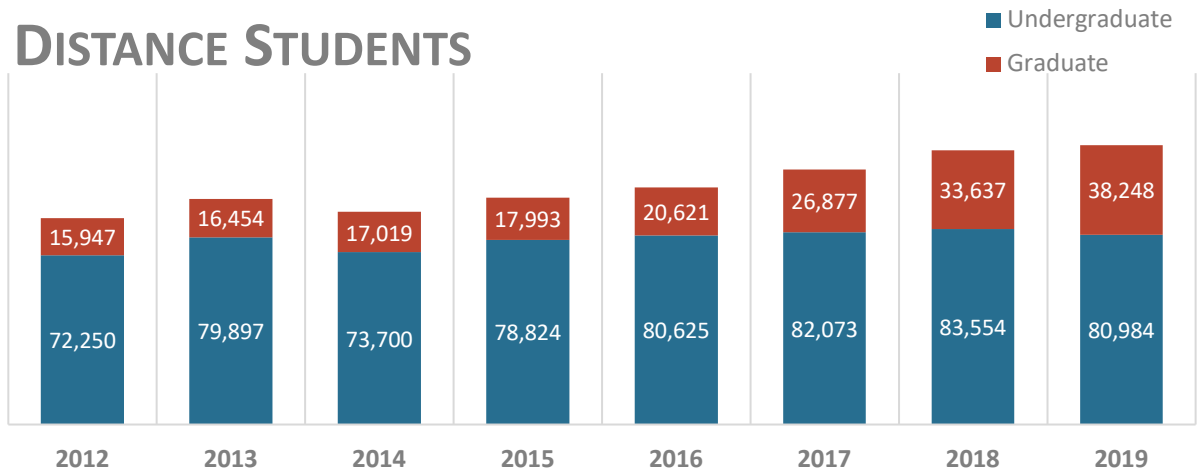
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TYPE



DISTANCE STUDENTS

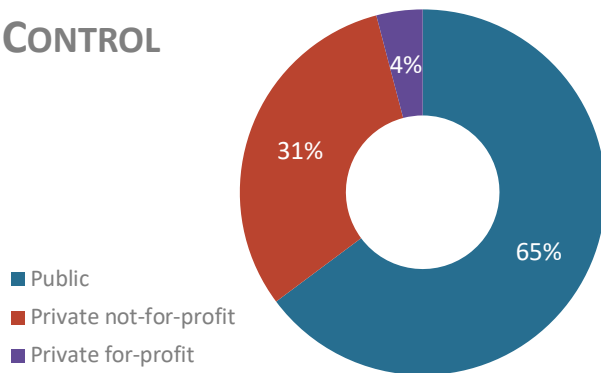


In 2019, a total of 119,232 students took at least one distance course from Kentucky institutions; 80,984 (37.9% of all undergraduate students) were enrolled at the undergraduate level, and 38,248 (67.2% of all graduate students) were enrolled at the graduate level.

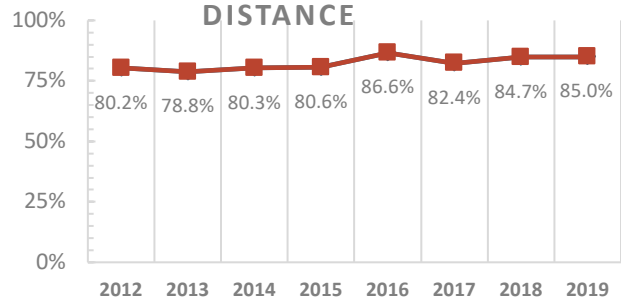
Among undergraduate level distance students, 66,612 were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 9,931 as private not-for-profit, and 4,441 as private for profit. At the graduate-level, 10,650 distance students were enrolled at institutions classified as public, 27,170 as private not-for-profit, and 428 as private for profit.

The number of undergraduate distance enrollments at Kentucky institutions increased by 8,734 (12.1%) between Fall 2012 and Fall 2019, while the number of graduate distance enrollments grew by 22,301 (139.8%) during this same period.

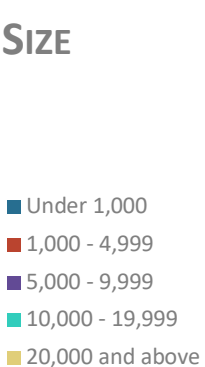
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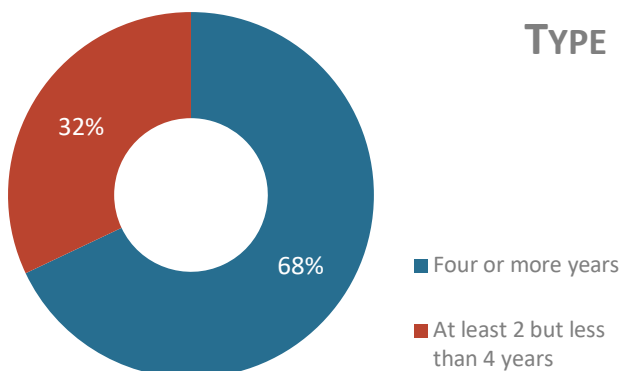
% INSTITUTIONS WITH DISTANCE



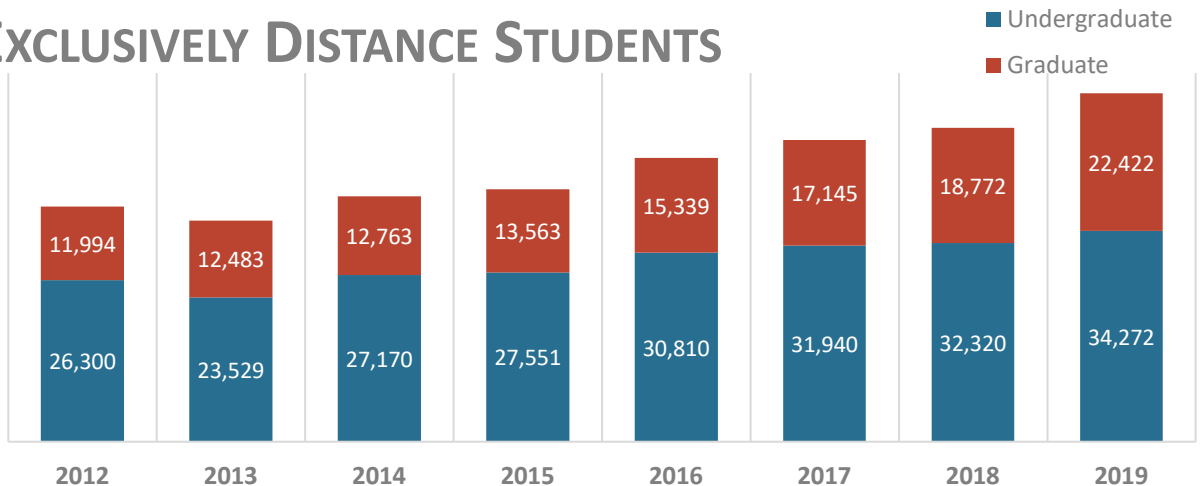
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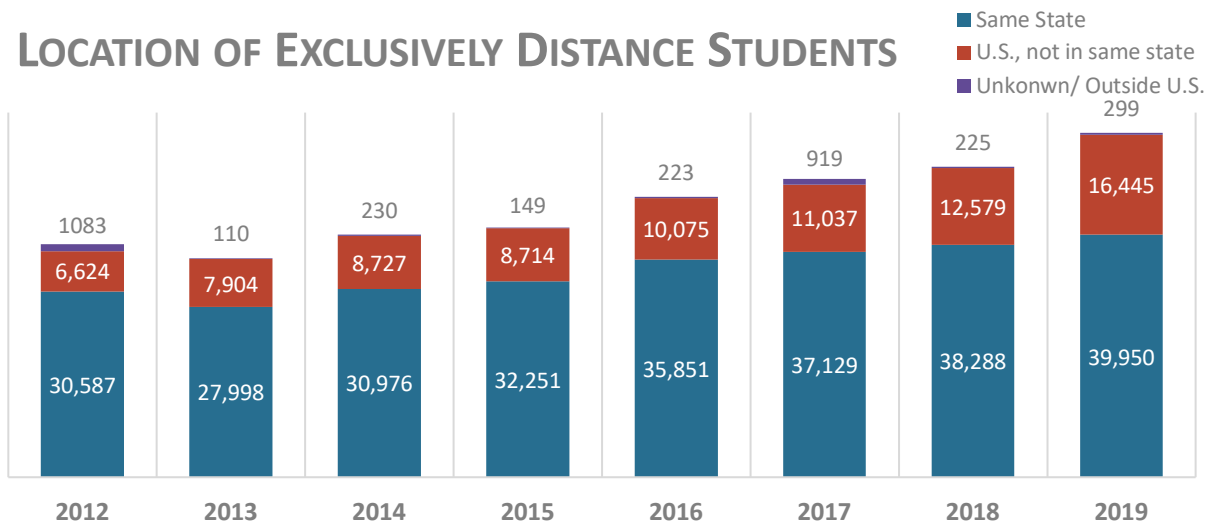


EXCLUSIVELY DISTANCE STUDENTS

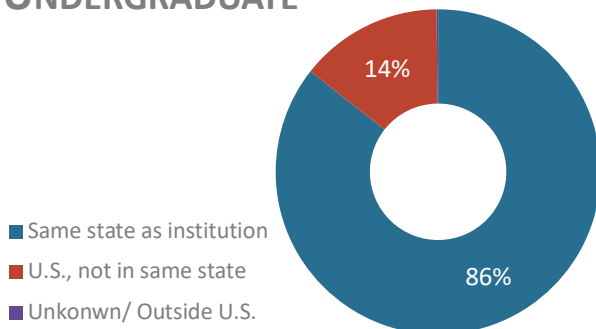


A total of 56,694 students were taking all of their courses at a distance from Kentucky institutions in the fall of 2019. This represents 20.9% of the enrolled students in the state, which ranks the state at number 16 in the U.S. The number of exclusively distance students who reside in Kentucky while taking courses from an institution in Kentucky was 30,587 in 2012 and grew to 39,950 by 2019. There are 16,744 students enrolled as exclusively distance students in Kentucky institutions who reside outside Kentucky, or whose place of residence is unknown.

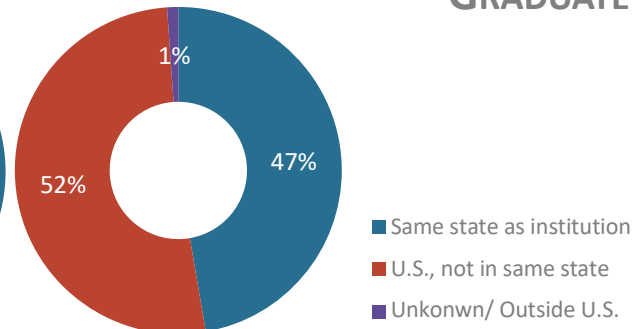
LOCATION OF EXCLUSIVELY DISTANCE STUDENTS



UNDERGRADUATE

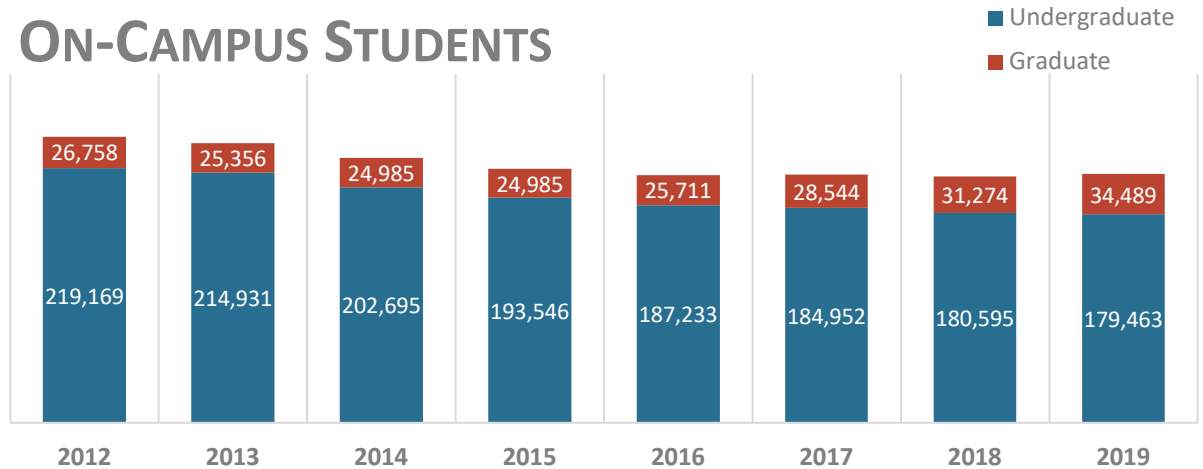


GRADUATE



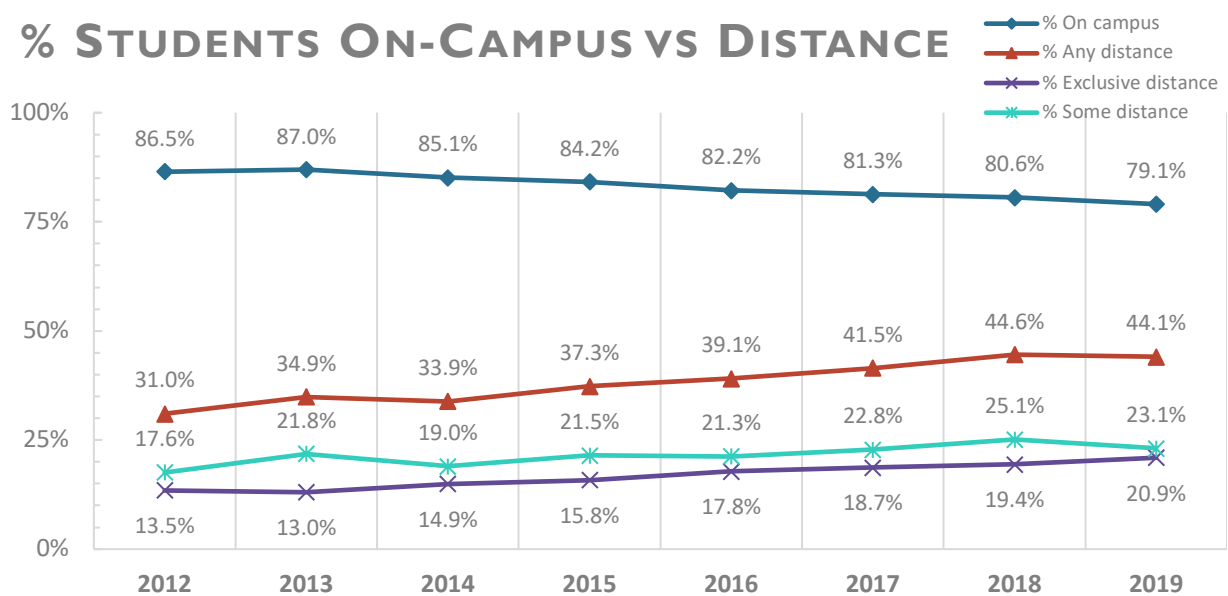
On-Campus Enrollment

ON-CAMPUS STUDENTS

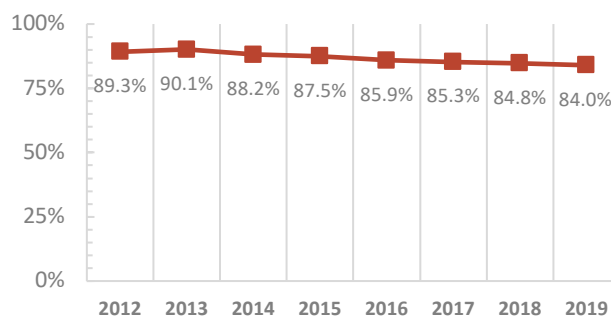


On-campus students are those who take one or more of their courses physically on-campus. The number of students studying on campus declined from 245,927 to 213,952 between 2012 and 2019 in Kentucky, representing a reduction of 13.0%. This compares to a national decrease of 10.3% for the same period. In 2019, 84.0% of undergraduate students and 60.6% of graduate students in Kentucky were taking at least one on-campus course.

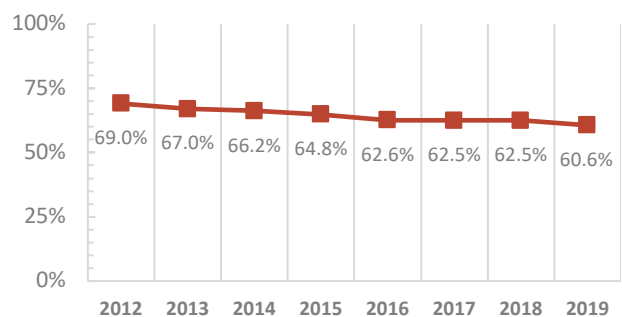
% STUDENTS ON-CAMPUS VS DISTANCE



% ON-CAMPUS: UNDERGRADUATE



% ON-CAMPUS: GRADUATE



INSTITUTIONS

	Kentucky	National	State Rank	State as % of National
Total institutions	60	4,089	25	1.5%
Institutions w/ distance	51	3,161	24	1.6%
% Institution w/ distance	85.0%	77.3%	23	

ENROLLMENTS

Kentucky		Total	Any Distance	Exclusive Distance	On Campus
	Total	270,646	119,232	56,694	213,952
Size	Under 1,000	6,083	1,838	441	5,642
	1,000 - 4,999	74,797	34,623	18,353	56,444
	5,000 - 9,999	37,829	17,691	7,418	30,411
	10,000 - 19,999	100,865	54,570	27,630	73,235
	20,000 and above	51,072	10,510	2,852	48,220
Carnegie	Not assigned	1,028	220	-	1,028
	Associates	81,977	40,508	19,539	62,438
	Research	52,701	11,110	2,986	49,715
	Masters	109,990	57,707	27,799	82,191
	Baccalaureate	16,435	4,835	2,960	13,475
	Specialized	8,515	4,852	3,410	5,105
Control	Public	199,614	77,262	35,727	163,887
	Private not-for-profit	63,264	37,101	18,681	44,583
	Private for-profit	7,768	4,869	2,286	5,482
Type	Four or more years	191,075	81,034	38,052	153,023
	At least 2 but less than 4 years	79,571	38,198	18,642	60,929