

**Pell Institute Fact Sheet**  
**Updated: 2/4/2011**

**COLLEGE REPRESENTATION**

Background/History

In the fall of 2008, almost 17 million students were undergraduates at Title IV degree-granting institutions of higher education in the United States<sup>1</sup>. The data in this fact sheet is taken from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) spring 2009 compendium tables, and the percentages are expressed as the percent of the total number of undergraduate students. Low-income on this fact sheet means the percentage of students receiving Pell grants for the 2008-2009 school year.

Facts and Figures

- National figures
  - 16,837,014 undergraduate students
- Enrollment Status Differences
  - Full-time: 63.1%
  - Part-time: 36.9%
- SES differences<sup>2</sup>
  - Low-income: 36.6%
- Institutional Type
  - 4-year public: 35.3%
  - 4-year private not-for-profit: 14.9%
  - 4-year private for-profit: 5.6%
  - 2-year public: 39.8%
  - 2-year public not-for-profit: 0.3%
  - 2-year private for-profit: 2.1%
- Gender differences
  - Female: 57.1%
  - Males: 42.9%
- Racial differences
  - Native American: 1.0%
  - Asian/Pacific Islander: 6.0%
  - Black: 13.1%
  - Hispanic: 12.1%
  - White: 58.0%
  - Two or more races: 0.1%

Summary

Of the 16,837,014 undergraduate students enrolled in the fall of 2008, almost two thirds were enrolled full-time and just over one third received a Pell grant. Most students enrolled at public institutions (75.1%) with slightly more enrolled at 2-year public institutions (39.8%) than 4-year public institutions (35.3%). Additionally, a 14% gender difference existed, with more females enrolled than males. For racial differences, White students made up the majority with 58% representation, followed by Black (13.1%) and Hispanic (12.1%) students.

References & Resources

1 - U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), Spring 2009, Enrollment component. Retrieved from [http://nces.ed.gov/das/library/tables\\_listings/ipeds\\_comp\\_spring09.asp](http://nces.ed.gov/das/library/tables_listings/ipeds_comp_spring09.asp)

2 – U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education. 2008-2009 Federal Pell Grant Program End-of-Year Report. Retrieved from <http://www2.ed.gov/finaid/prof/resources/data/pell-data.html>.