



National Student Clearinghouse™
Research Center™

Reporting of NSC Additional Data Elements

FEBRUARY 11, 2022

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Introduction

About the Additional Data Elements

Since the 2008-09 academic year, the Clearinghouse has provided its participating institutions with the option to include several additional data elements in their enrollment submissions. These additional data elements help make Clearinghouse data more comprehensive and enable StudentTrackerSM participants to utilize a more robust data set, thus gaining a greater understanding of prospective, current, and former students. Additionally, postsecondary institutions are eligible to receive StudentTracker for free when the following data elements are populated for more than half of the students in their enrollment submissions: Class/Credential Level, College Student ID, and Current Major or CIP Code. (To receive StudentTracker for free, an institution must also participate in the free DegreeVerifySM and EnrollmentVerifySM services.) Starting with the academic year 2013-14, four more data elements were added (Pell Recipient, Veteran Status, Citizenship, and Remediation Indicators).

Since it is optional for institutions to report these data elements, researchers may find it helpful to know how regularly these elements have been reported. The subsequent pages of this document provide this information for the last 13 academic years, disaggregated by institutional sector.

Program-Level Data Elements

Beginning with the 2015-16 academic year, it became mandatory for participating institutions to report certain program-level data elements to the Clearinghouse to satisfy the National Student Loan Data System reporting requirements related to the “150% rule.” These program-level data elements are available to the NSC Research Center for custom research reporting and special collaborations with research partners. In effect, this means that the data elements listed below are available for special research projects in 100 percent of the enrollment records reported since fall 2015 (for students enrolled in academic programs). These are the program-level data elements available to the NSC Research Center for special projects:

- Program Indicator Flag
- Program CIP Code
- Program Credential Level
- Published Program Length
- Program Begin Date
- Special program Indicator
- Program Enrollment Status
- Program Enrollment Status Effective Date

For more detailed explanations about the definitions of these data elements, see the NSC [Enrollment Reporting Programming and Testing Guide](#).

About the Analysis

In this analysis, the denominator is the number of distinct student-school enrollment combinations submitted to the Clearinghouse for any given academic year (based on the term begin date of an enrollment record). It should be noted that a typical postsecondary institution submits enrollment data to the Clearinghouse many times throughout the year. This analysis considers only the most recently reported enrollment record for any student-school combination in any given year. Table 1 shows the total number of enrollment records (distinct student-school combinations) found per year and sector. These are the denominators for the percentages reported in the remainder of this document.

Table 1. Number of Enrollment Records Considered in This Analysis

Academic Year of Enrollment Record	All Institutions	Public Two-Year	Public Four-Year	Private For-Profit Four-Year	Private Nonprofit Four-Year
2008-09	22,904,649	8,826,509	8,851,492	1,232,937	3,789,663
2009-10	24,449,221	9,433,864	9,231,377	1,534,916	3,996,854
2010-11	25,715,389	9,955,224	9,615,968	1,688,330	4,164,198
2011-12	25,572,242	9,751,756	9,686,549	1,598,619	4,268,112
2012-13	25,558,692	9,586,614	9,680,373	1,658,160	4,361,819
2013-14	25,493,578	9,353,386	9,697,999	1,696,557	4,492,205
2014-15	25,258,505	9,058,377	9,772,662	1,661,348	4,537,386
2015-16	24,963,906	8,852,695	9,822,866	1,461,395	4,636,232
2016-17	24,689,166	8,795,140	9,855,214	1,255,798	4,610,894
2017-18	24,362,204	8,555,029	9,815,410	1,187,402	4,640,143
2018-19	24,461,429	8,479,693	9,911,840	1,180,169	4,731,993
2019-20	24,207,016	8,251,997	9,897,845	1,050,269	4,855,325
2020-21	23,303,563	7,524,921	9,782,478	1,040,145	4,810,133

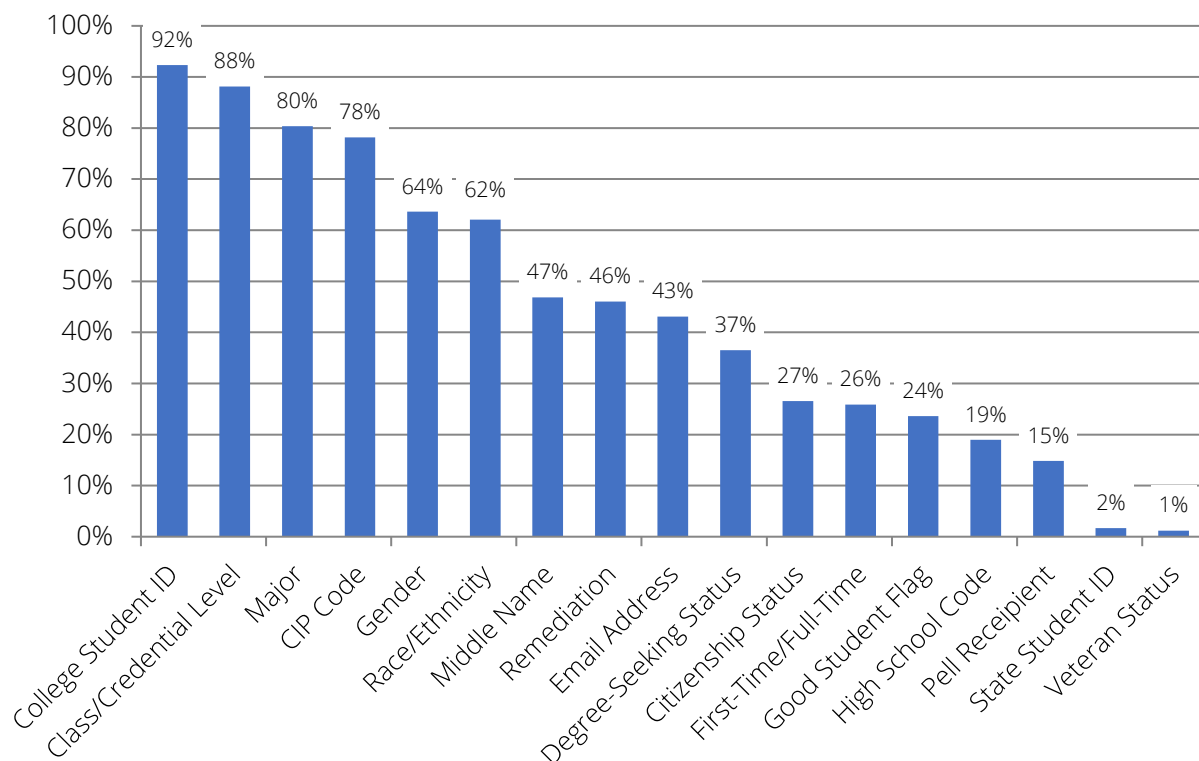
Note: Data for 2019-20 and 2020-21 were created in February 2022; 2018-19 in January 2021; and all prior years in December 2019.

Results

Figure 1 shows how frequently each of the additional data elements were provided for students who attended Clearinghouse schools in the most recent academic year. The four elements populated most frequently are the ones a school must provide in order to receive the StudentTracker service for free.

The remaining pages of this document show the growth trends for each of these data elements, disaggregated by institutional sector. It is important to mention that it is possible to impute some of these elements, such as gender and CIP code, but the figures reported here do not include the results of any such imputations. For a detailed summary of the NSC Research Center’s imputation of gender, please see [this document](#) on the Research Center’s website.

Figure 1. Percentage of 2020-21 Enrollments with Selected Data Elements Reported



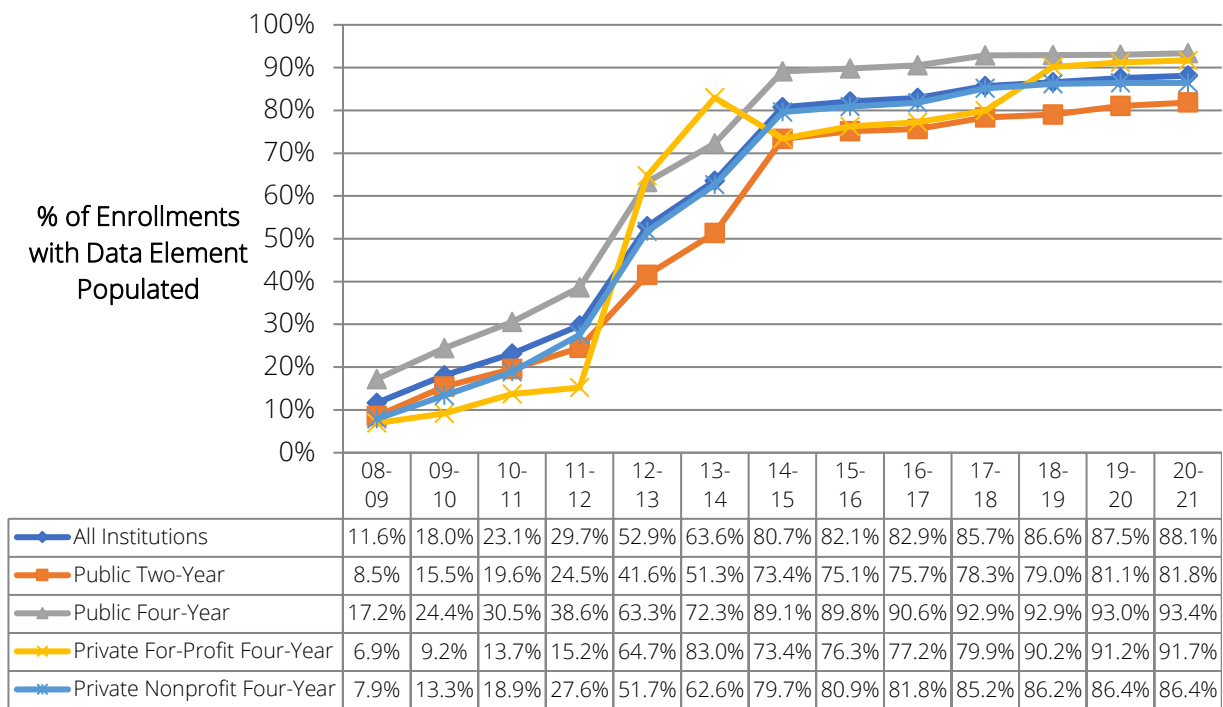
Note: Analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in the year depicted.

Class/Credential Level

This data element indicates the level of the student (e.g., freshman, sophomore, masters, doctoral). Researchers and administrators can use this field to understand persistence and differentiate between undergraduate and graduate students. Figure 2 shows that Class/Credential Level was reported for 88.1% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

While the figure below describes the availability of this data element to StudentTracker users, the NSC Research Center is also able to leverage the program-level data elements (described in the introduction of this report) to make a very precise determination of the student’s academic program level for special research projects. The program-level data elements have been populated in 100 percent of program-level enrollment records reported to the Clearinghouse beginning with the 2015-16 academic year.

**Figure 2. Reporting of Class/Credential Level
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**

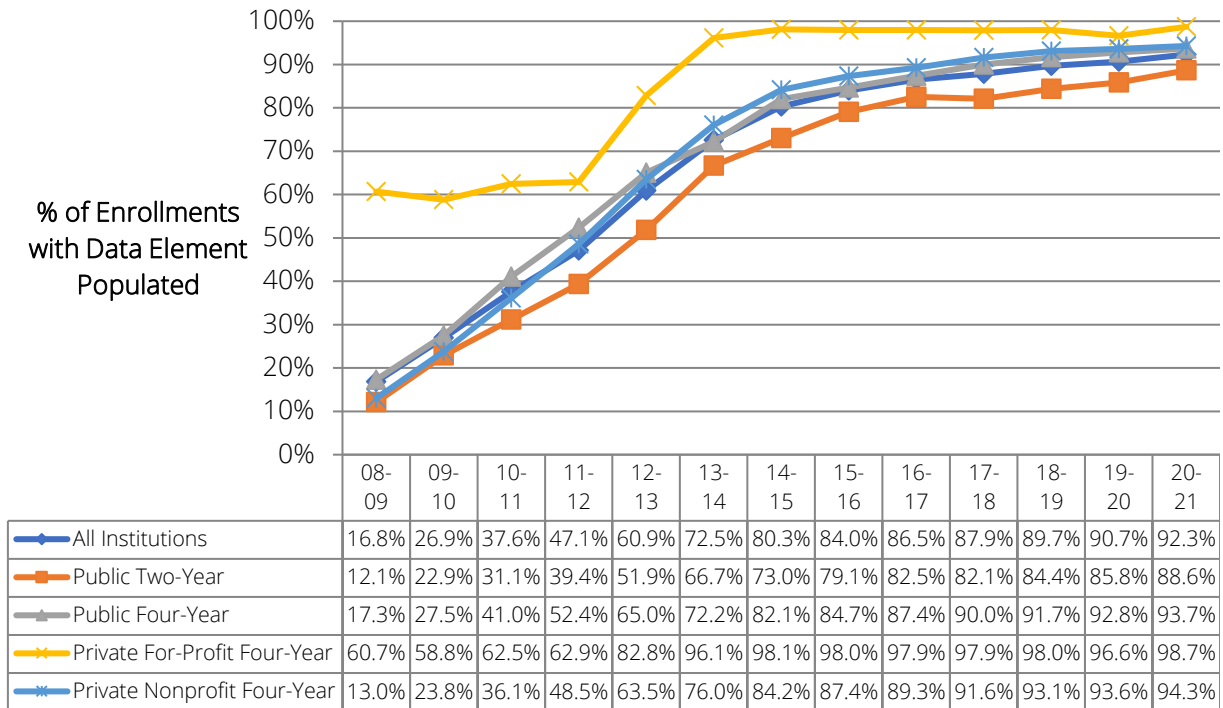


Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

College Student ID

This is the ID that a school provides to its students. Reporting institutional IDs enables students without Social Security numbers or TINs (e.g., international students) to benefit from Clearinghouse services. Student IDs are used by the Clearinghouse for identification purposes only and are not reported to third parties. Figure 3 shows that College Student ID was reported for 92.3% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 3. Reporting of College Student ID
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**



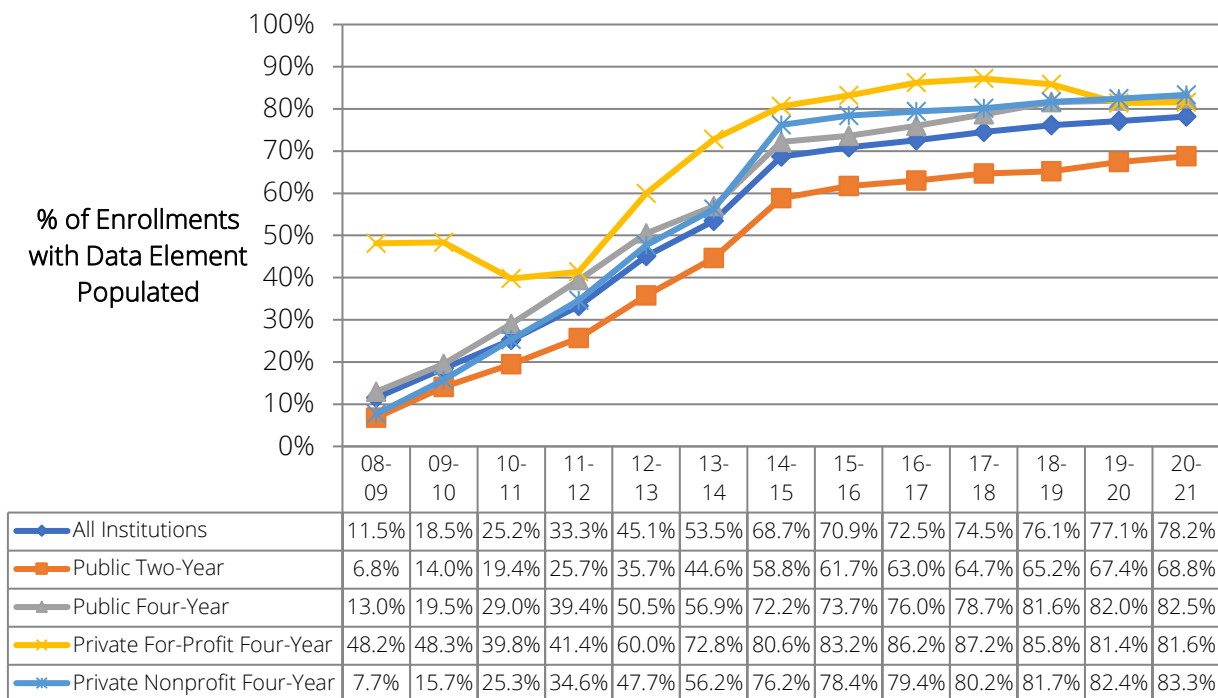
Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) Code

This element represents the student's current field of study, as categorized by the Department of Education's CIP Code taxonomy. With this information, enrollment managers and researchers can gain greater insight into student transfer and career decisions. Figure 4 shows that CIP Code was reported for 78.2% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

While the figure below describes the availability of this data element to StudentTracker users, the NSC Research Center is also able to leverage the program-level data elements (described in the introduction of this report) to make a very precise determination of enrollment CIP code for special research projects. The program-level data elements have been populated in 100 percent of program-level enrollment records reported to the Clearinghouse beginning with the 2015-16 academic year.

**Figure 4. Reporting of CIP Code
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**

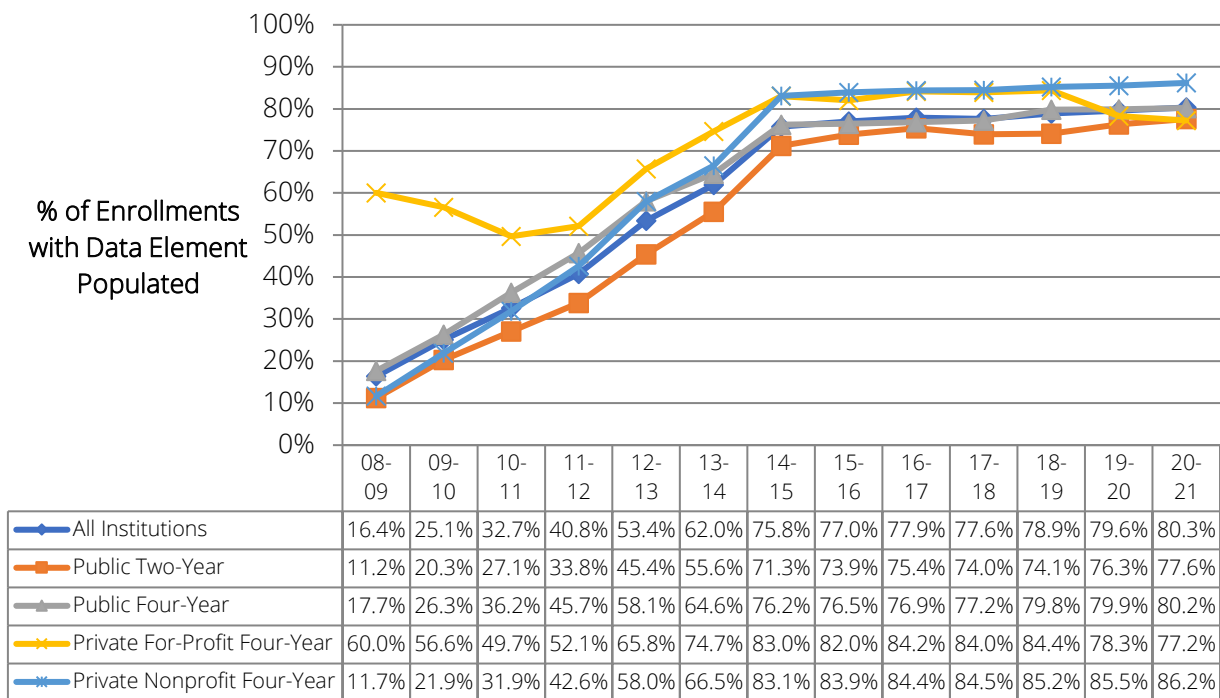


Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Current Major

This element represents the student's current field of study, as represented by the free-text title of the student's major. With this information, enrollment managers and researchers can gain greater insight into student transfer and career decisions. Figure 5 shows that Current Major was reported for 80.3% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 5. Reporting of Current Major
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**



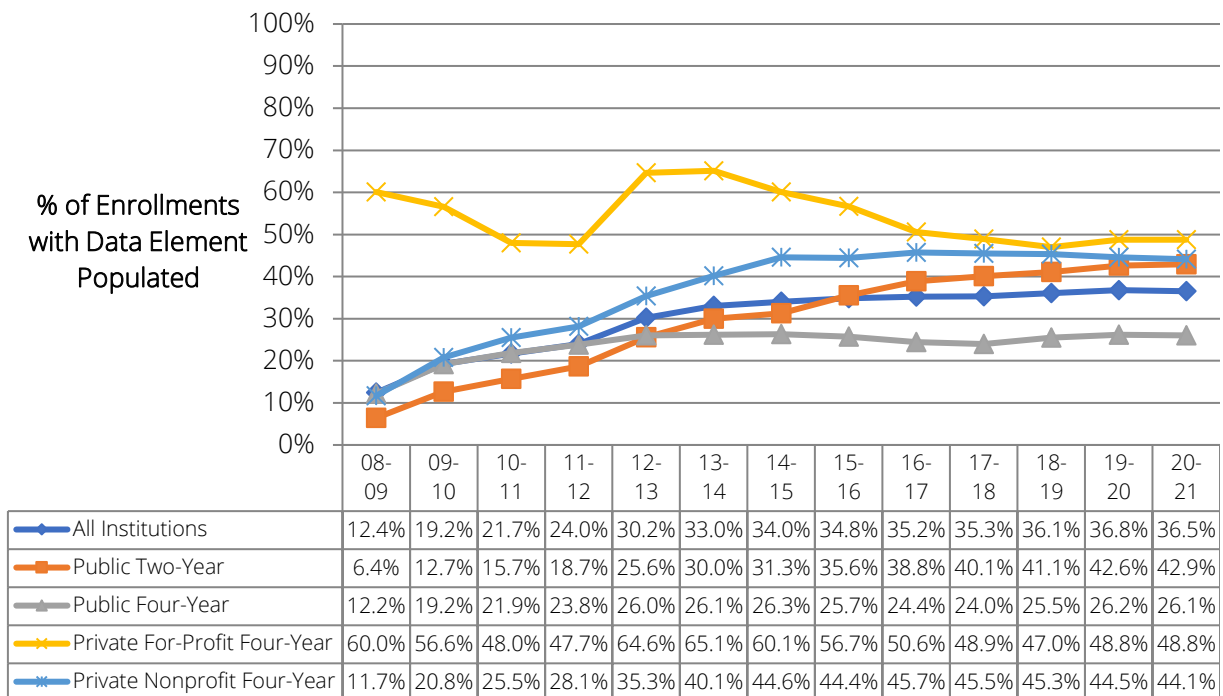
Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Degree-Seeking Status

This data element indicates whether or not a student is seeking a degree. This information can help establish the number of students who are taking non-degree courses, providing a better context for graduation rate and pipeline studies. Figure 6 shows that Degree-Seeking Status was reported for 36.5% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

While the figure below describes the availability of this data element to StudentTracker users, the NSC Research Center is also able to leverage the program-level data elements (described in the introduction of this report) to make a very precise determination of degree-seeking status for special research projects. The program-level data elements have been populated in 100 percent of program-level enrollment records reported to the Clearinghouse beginning with the 2015-16 academic year.

**Figure 6. Reporting of Degree-Seeking Status
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**

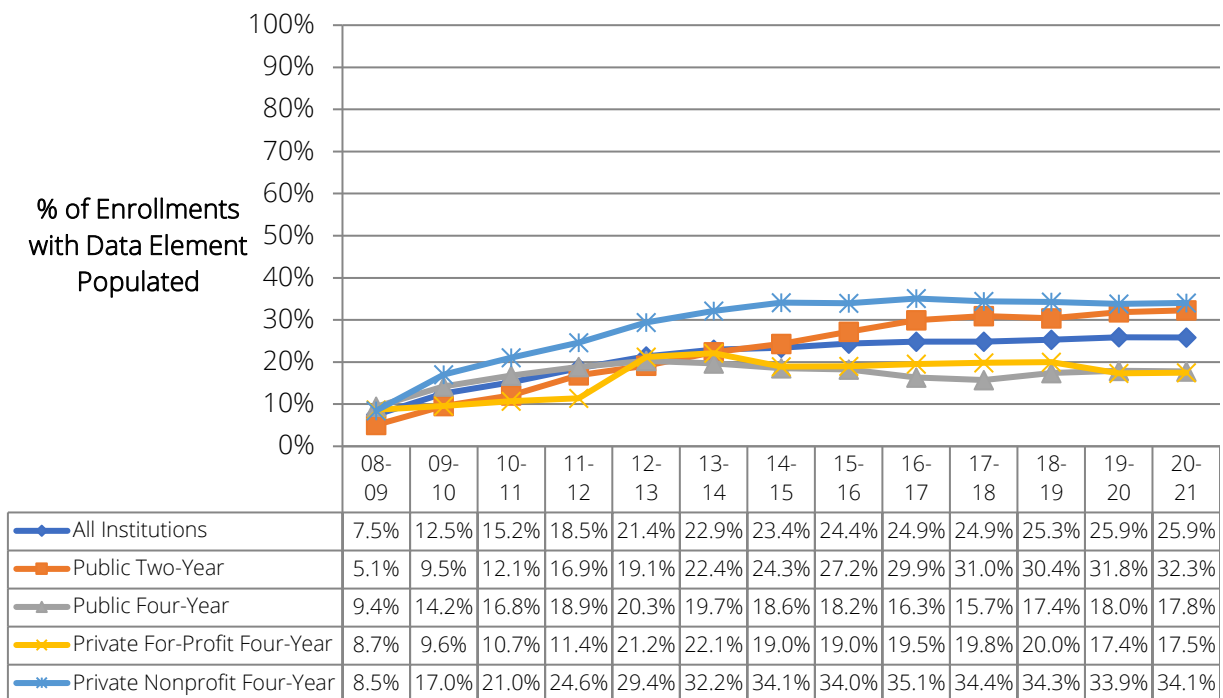


Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

First-Time/Full-Time Status

This flag indicates which undergraduate students would ordinarily be included in an IPEDS First-Time/Full-Time cohort. Institutional researchers can use this information to establish cohorts or groups for aggregate-level research. Figure 7 shows that First-Time/Full-Time status was reported for 25.9% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 7. Reporting of First-Time/Full-Time Status
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**



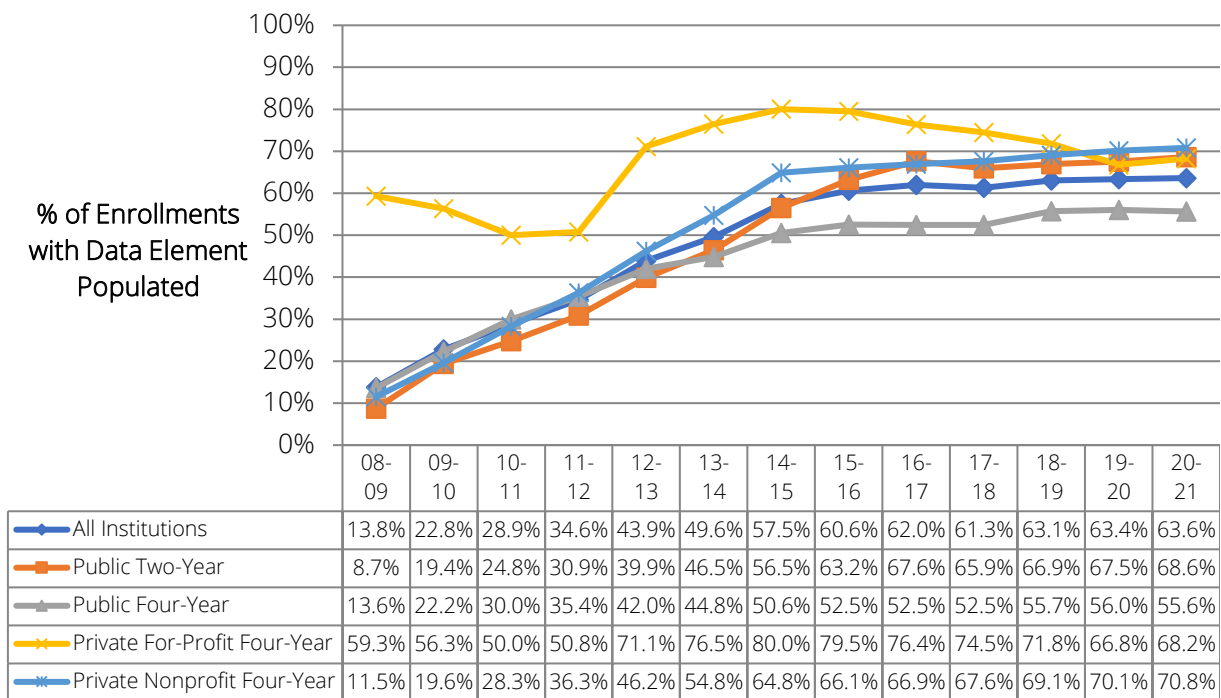
Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Gender

Student gender is useful for developing a range of aggregate studies. Figure 8 shows that gender was reported for 63.6% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

Additionally, the NSC Research Center has developed a gender imputation process based on student name. Using this process, the Research Center has been able to designate gender for over 91 percent of enrollment records. These additional imputed values are available to the NSC Research Center for special educational research projects. For a detailed explanation, see [this document](#) on the Research Center’s website.

**Figure 8. Reporting of Gender
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**

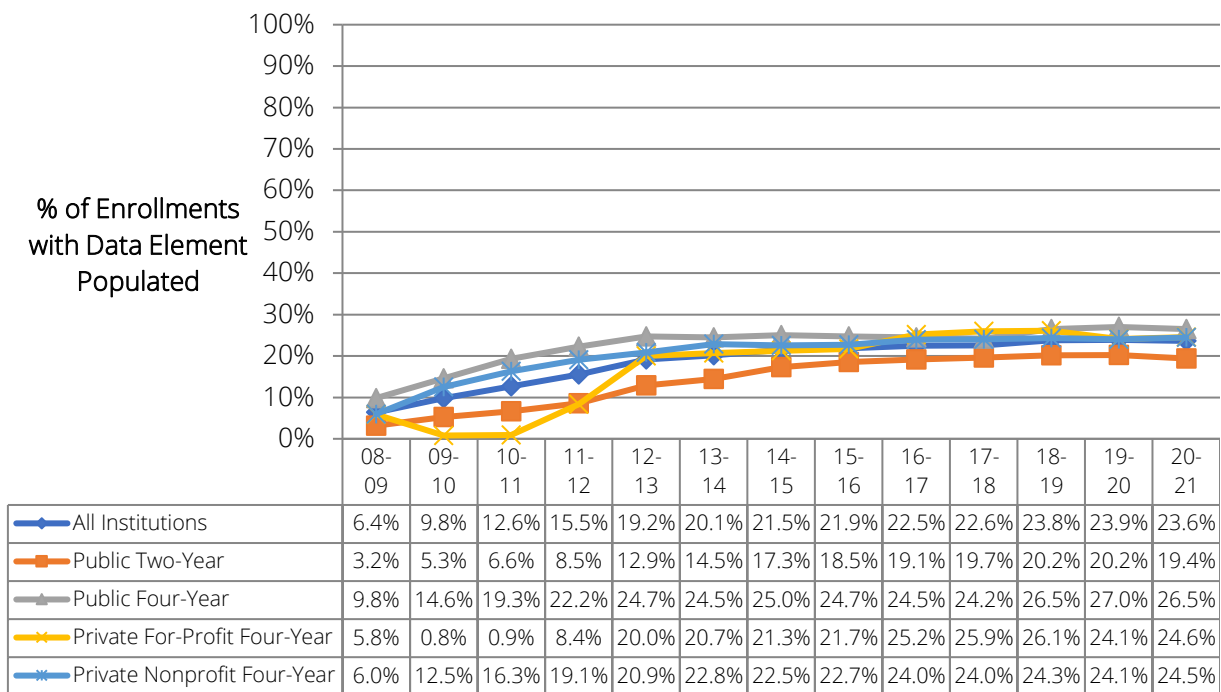


Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Good Student Discount Flag

This flag indicates an individual student's eligibility for "good student discounts" based on academic performance: generally, a grade point average of "B" (3.0 or higher), on dean's list, or in the top 20 percent of class. This data element enables students to obtain good student certifications via Student Self-Service so they can qualify for discounted auto insurance. Figure 9 shows that the Good Student Discount Flag was reported for 23.6% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 9. Reporting of "Good Student Discount" Flag
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**

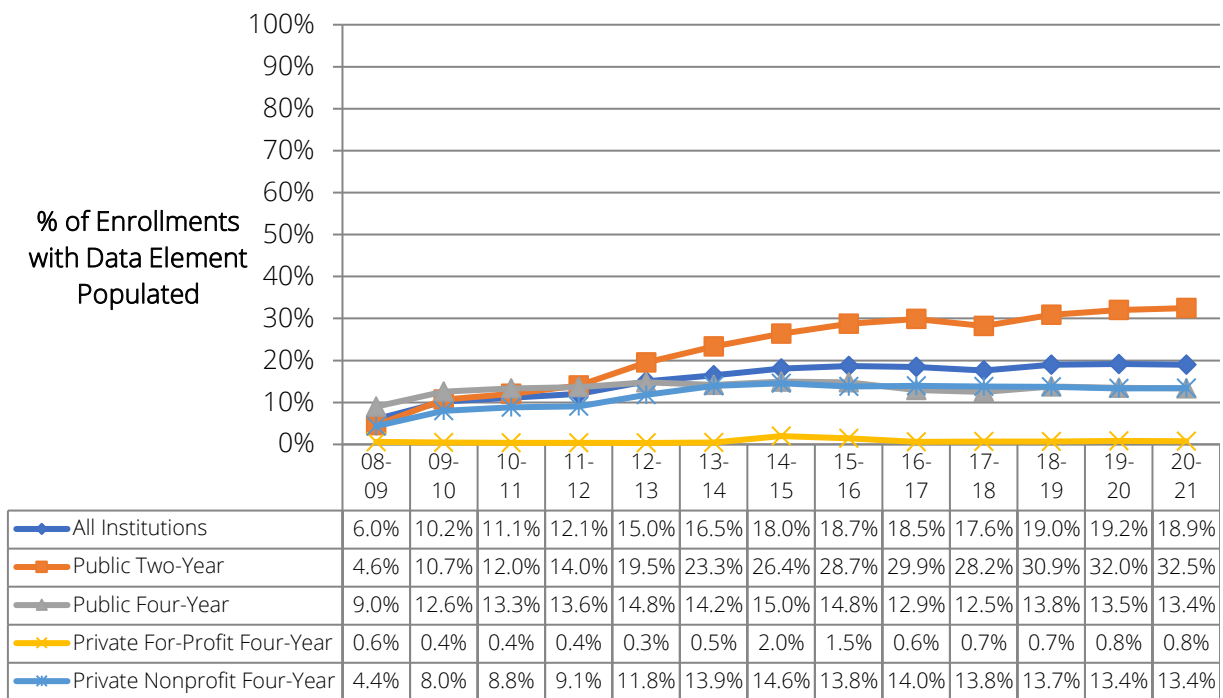


Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

High School Code

This is the SAT/ACT high school code for the most recent high school attended by the student. This information can supplement the matching logic used to identify students. It can also contribute to aggregate research on student pathways as they move from secondary through postsecondary education and graduation. Figure 10 shows that High School Code was reported for 18.9% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 10. Reporting of High School Code
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**

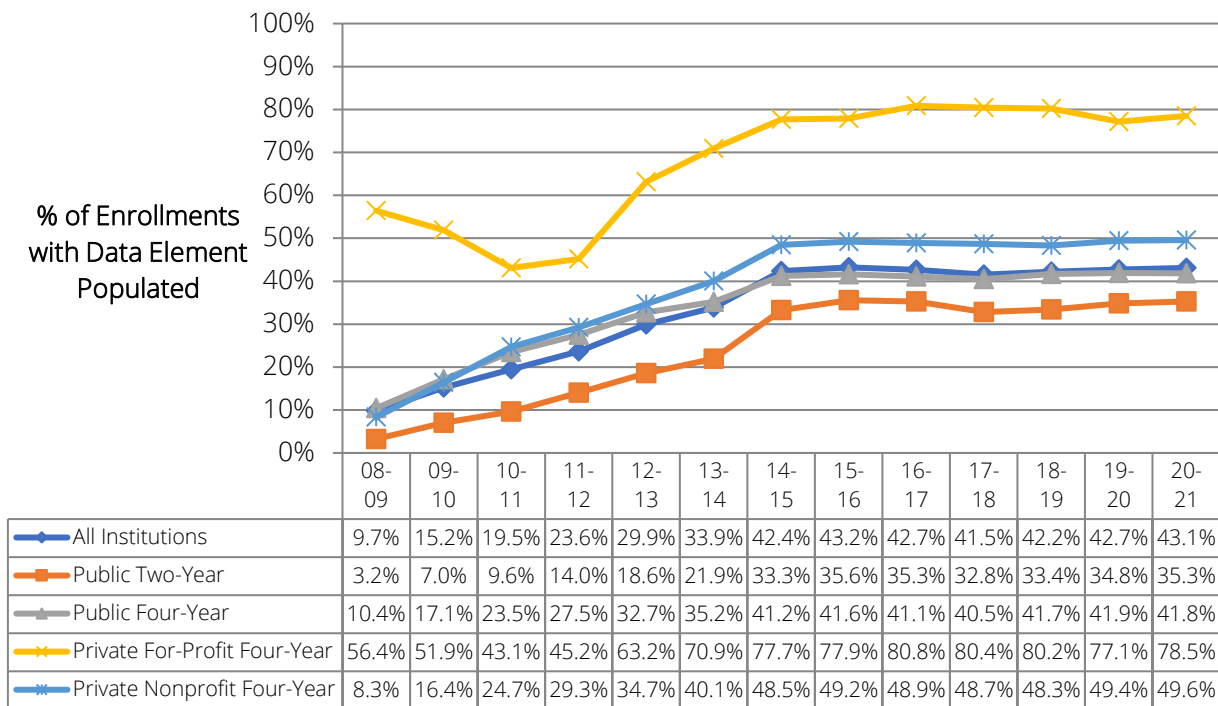


Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Institutional Email Address

The student's school email address. This enables the Clearinghouse to provide information to students at institutions that do not participate in Student Self-ServiceSM. Student email addresses are not used by the Clearinghouse or provided to third parties for solicitation purposes. Figure 11 shows that Institutional Email Address was reported for 43.1% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 11. Reporting of Institutional Email Address
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**

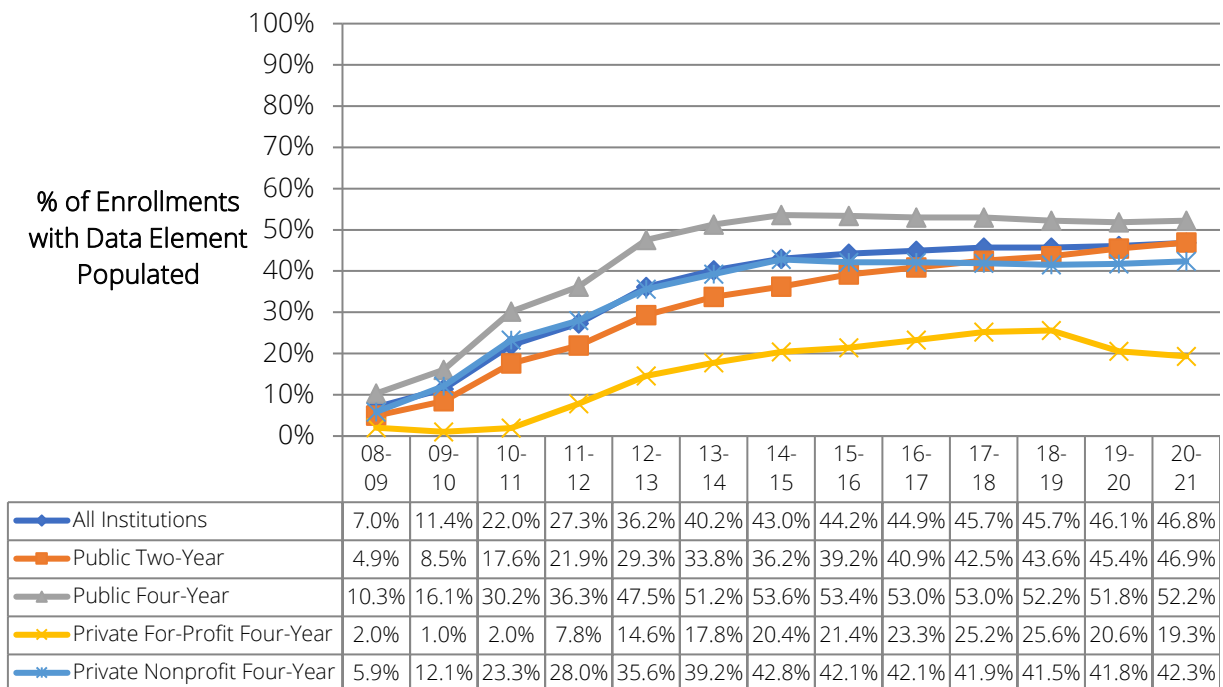


Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Middle Name

This data element is the student’s middle name, if available. The Clearinghouse uses this element to help identify the student. Figure 12 shows that Middle Name was reported for 46.8% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 12. Reporting of Middle Name
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**

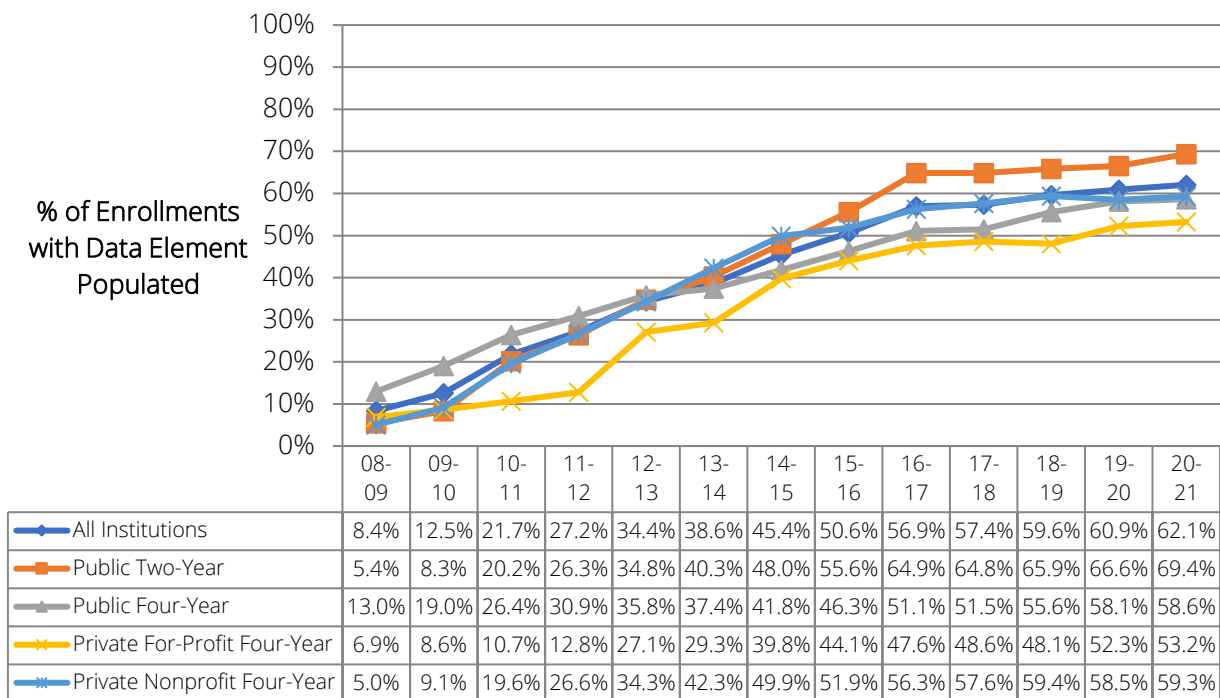


Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Race/Ethnicity

This data element is the student's race/ethnicity according to the categories used by IPEDS. This element is useful for developing a range of aggregate studies. Figure 13 shows that Race/Ethnicity was reported for 62.1% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 13. Reporting of Race/Ethnicity
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**

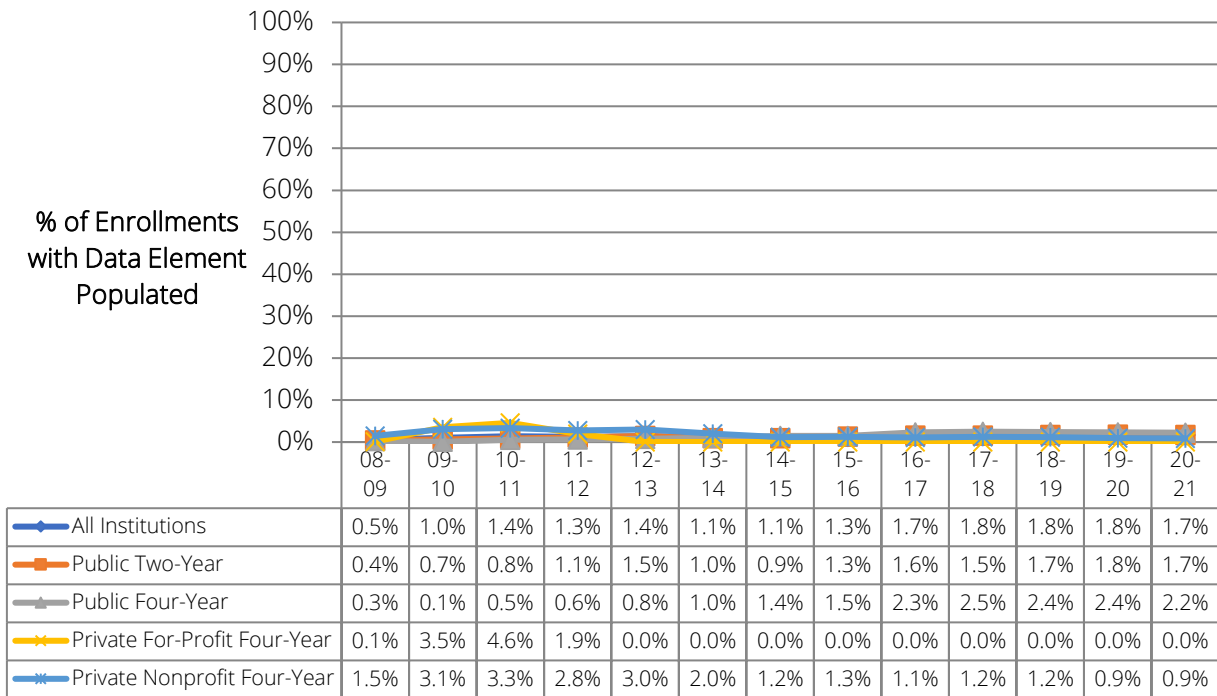


Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

State Student ID

This element is a unique student ID supplied by the state, if available. Figure 14 shows that State Student ID was reported for 1.7% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 14. Reporting of State Student ID
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**



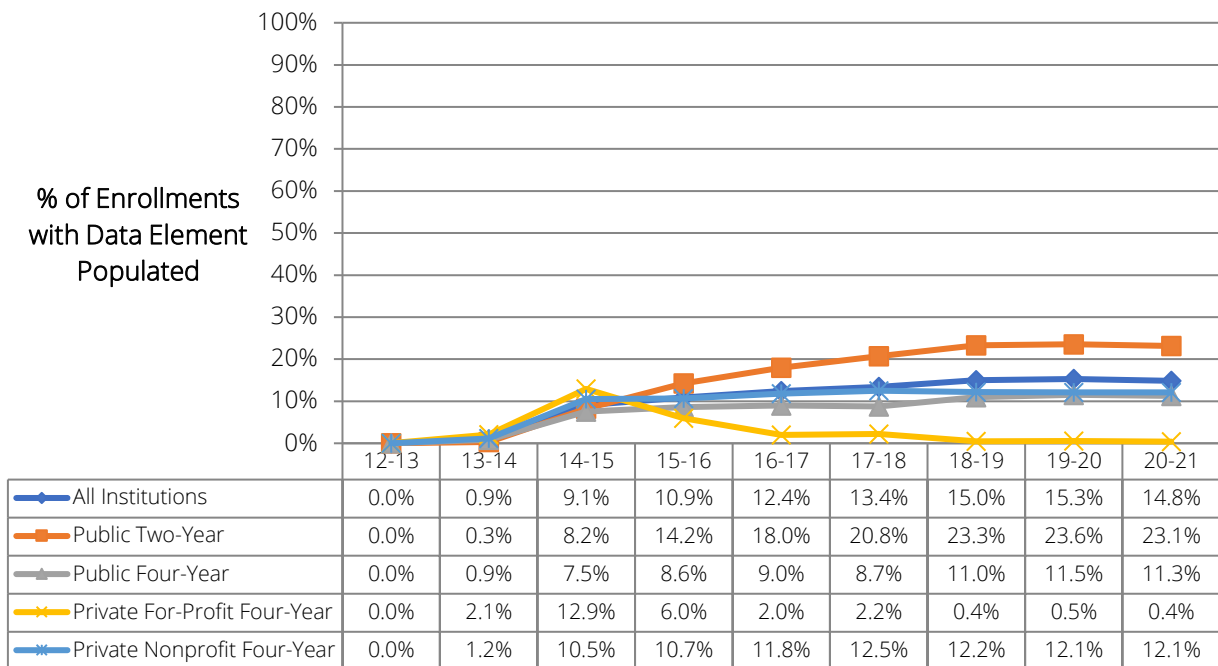
Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Pell Grant Recipient Flag

This element indicates whether or not the student is receiving a Pell Grant in the current term.

Figure 15 shows that Pell Grant Recipient Flag was reported for 14.8% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 15. Reporting of Pell Grant Recipient Flag
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**

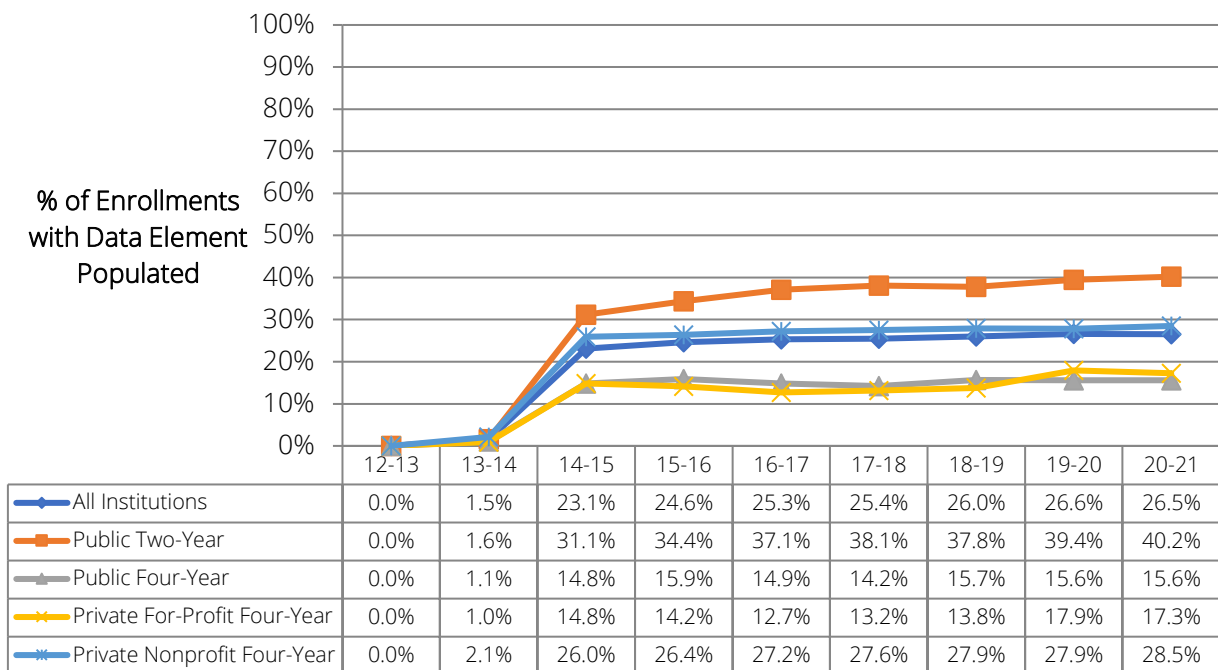


Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Citizenship Flag

This element indicates whether or not a student is a U.S. Citizen. Figure 16 shows that Citizenship Flag was reported for 26.5% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 16. Reporting of Citizenship Flag
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**

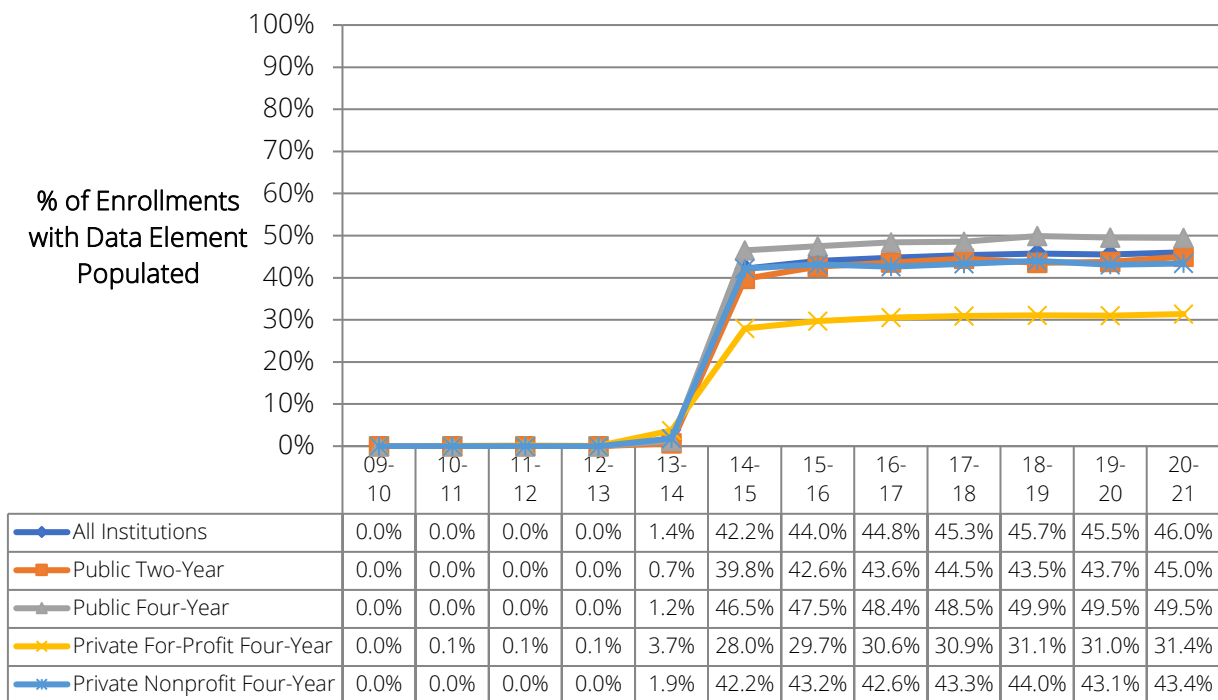


Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Remediation (Developmental Education) Flag

This element indicates whether a student is enrolled in at least one developmental education course in the current term. Figure 17 shows that Remediation Flag was reported for 46.0% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 17. Reporting of Remedial Flag
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**

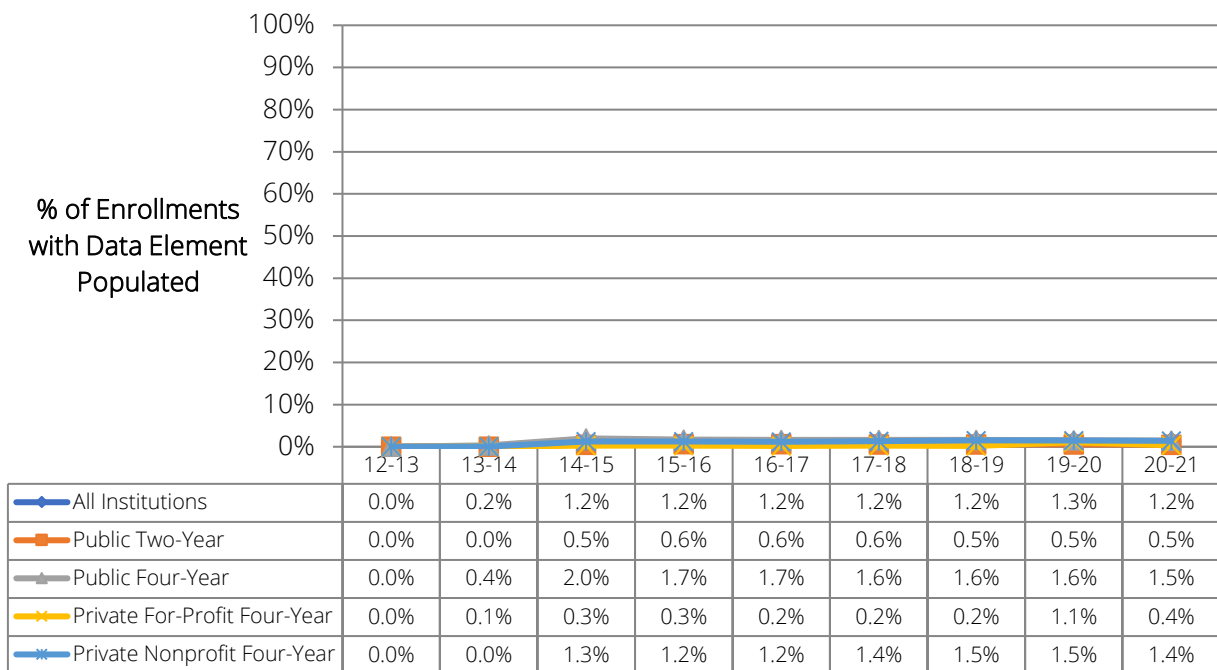


Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Veteran Status Indicator

This element is used to indicate a student's status as either a veteran receiving benefits, a veteran who does not receive benefits, or a veteran's dependent receiving benefits. Figure 18 shows that Veteran Status Indicator was reported for 1.2% of the enrollments submitted to the Clearinghouse in the most recent academic year.

**Figure 18. Reporting of Veteran Status Indicator
(by Academic Year of Enrollment Record)**



Note: This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment record submitted for a student-school combination in any given year.

Suggested Citation:

Scheetz, A. (Feb 2022), Reporting of NSC Additional Data Elements, Herndon, VA: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center.