

2026 Annual Report on Minority Student Enrollment and Faculty Employment at Iowa Postsecondary Institutions



Department of Education



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Student and Faculty Report

Executive Summary

The *Annual Report on Minority Student Enrollment and Faculty Employment at Iowa Postsecondary Institutions* summarizes trends in representation by minority population groups among students, faculty and state financial aid recipients at Iowa colleges and universities. The report has been published by the Bureau of Iowa College Aid (ICA) annually since 1992 and is provided to the Governor and the Iowa General Assembly as directed by Iowa Code section 256.177.

The report is based on an annual survey of Iowa college and university officials and enrollment data collected by ICA. Methods for collecting the data are described in the “Report Background” section. For this report, minority students and faculty include those reported from the following population groups: Hispanic or Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander and two or more races/ethnicities. ICA is grateful for the assistance of college and university staff who contributed the information compiled for this report.

Key findings from the fall 2025 semester include:

- Nearly 22% of enrollment in Iowa colleges and universities were students from minority groups.
- Private for-profit, four-year schools enroll the highest percentage of minority students (26%), followed by community colleges (24%), private not-for-profit (22%), private for-profit two-year (20%) and Regent universities (18%).
- From 2016-25, the share of racial/ethnic minority students enrolled in Iowa colleges and universities increased nearly 5%, while the share of white students declined by 3.6%, indicating a gradual diversification of enrollment over time.
- Twenty-five percent of Iowa Tuition Grant recipients were students from minority groups.
- Twenty-four percent of Iowa Vocational-Technical Grant recipients were students from minority groups.
- Nearly half of All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship recipients (49%) were students from minority groups.
- Thirty-one percent of Last-Dollar Scholarship recipients were students from minority groups.
- Fourteen percent of faculty at Iowa colleges and universities belong to minority groups.

Postsecondary Enrollment

In fall of 2025, a total of 208,831 students were enrolled in Iowa postsecondary institutions. Minority students comprised 21.5% of all students enrolled in Iowa colleges and universities. Table 1 details minority student postsecondary enrollment by sector, while Tables 2 and 3 provide detailed enrollment counts for all students by race/ethnicity for undergraduate and graduate enrollment by sector, respectively. Tables 4-6 present the same data as Tables 1-3, but for Iowa residents only.

Table 1: Fall 2025 Minority Enrollment by Sector

Institution Type	Undergrad Minority	Undergrad Total	Grad Minority	Grad Total	Total Minority	Total Enrollment
Regent Universities	10,615	57,553	2,176	14,319	12,791	71,872
Private not-for-profit, 4-year	8,311	34,776	1,844	11,222	10,155	45,998
Private for-profit, 4-year	442	1,694	93	376	535	2,070
Community Colleges	21,280	88,530	-	-	21,280	88,530
Private for-profit, 2-year	74	361	0	0	74	361
Totals	40,722	182,914	4,113	25,917	44,835	208,831

Table 2: Fall 2025 Undergraduate Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity

Institution Type	Non-Resident Alien	Race/Ethnicity Unknown	Hispanic or Latino	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African-American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Race/Ethnicities	Total
Regent Universities	1,418	1,826	4,570	80	2,241	1,603	39	43,694	1,930	57,401
Private not-for-profit, 4-year	1,883	3,407	3,459	174	745	2,596	68	21,111	1,269	34,712
Private for-profit, 4-year	2	262	60	17	22	291	14	1,012	38	1,718
Community Colleges	1,180	5,588	8,980	455	2,079	6,706	161	60,482	2,899	88,530
Private for-profit, 2-year	-	-	21	1	1	25	-	287	26	361
Totals	4,483	11,083	17,090	727	5,088	11,221	282	126,586	6,162	182,722

Table 3: Fall 2025 Graduate Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity

Institution Type	Non-Resident Alien	Race/Ethnicity Unknown	Hispanic or Latino	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African-American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Race/Ethnicities	Total
Regent Universities	3,070	690	793	18	672	384	4	8,383	305	14,319
Private not-for-profit, 4-year	895	681	567	39	503	453	19	6,908	263	10,328
Private for-profit, 4-year	-	82	15	-	8	66	5	233	11	420
Totals	3,965	1,453	1,375	57	1,183	903	28	15,524	579	25,067

Table 4: Fall 2025 Iowa Resident Only – Minority Groups & Total Enrollment by Sector

Institution Type	Total Enrollment	Enrollment Undergrad Students	Enrollment Grad Students	Total Students Racial/Ethnic Minority Groups	Undergrad Students Racial/Ethnic Minority Groups	Grad Students Racial/Ethnic Minority Groups
Regent Universities	41,558	35,174	6,384	7,430	6,402	1,028
Private not-for-profit, 4-year	21,669	16,234	5,435	3,728	3,128	600
Private for-profit, 4-year	303	275	28	35	31	4
Community Colleges	88,530	88,530	-	19,029	19,029	-
Private for-profit, 2-year	278	278	-	59	59	-
Totals	145,183	133,336	11,847	30,281	28,649	1,632

Table 5: Fall 2025 Iowa Resident Only – Undergraduate Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity

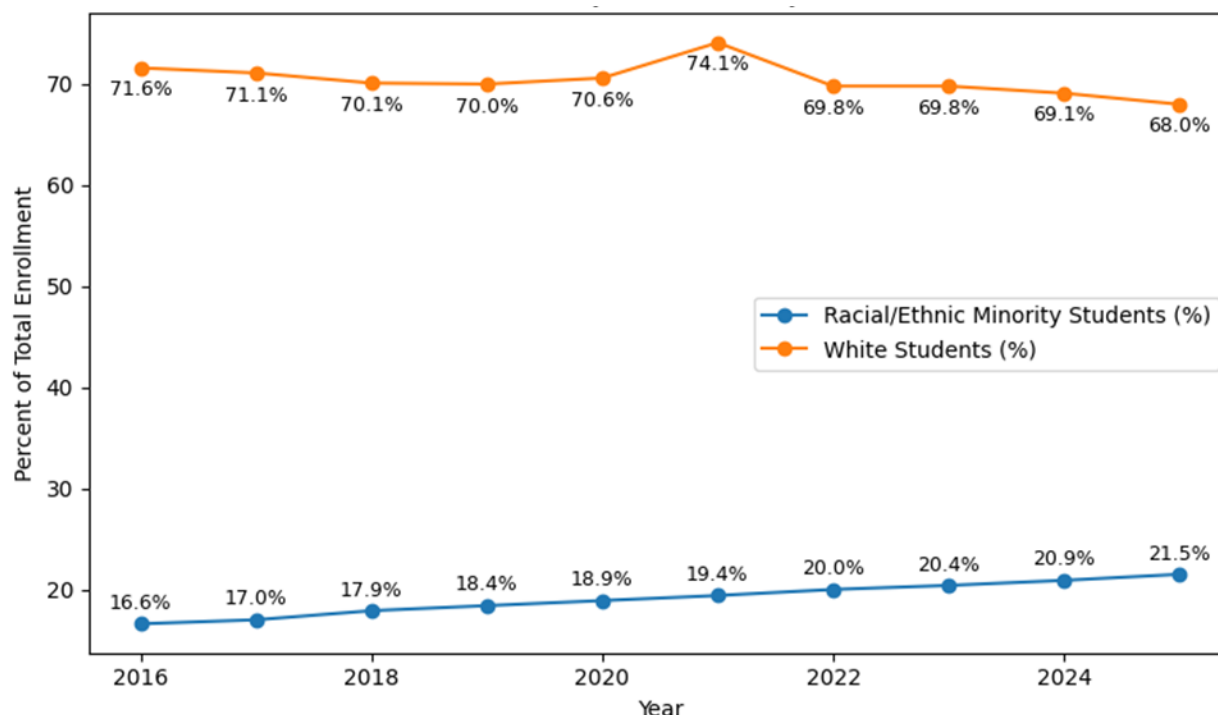
Institution Type	Non-Resident Alien	Race/Ethnicity Unknown	Hispanic or Latino	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African-American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Race/Ethnicities	Total
Regent Universities	-	988	2,597	46	1,396	1,095	23	27,784	1,245	35,174
Private not-for-profit, 4-year	94	1,094	1,340	60	331	866	23	11,845	508	16,161
Private for-profit, 4-year	-	43	6	1	-	20	-	212	4	286
Community Colleges	5,276	8,145	402	1,943	5,404	146	146	57,472	2,587	81,521
Private for-profit, 2-year	-	-	14	3	1	21	-	219	20	278
Totals	5,370	10,270	4,359	2,053	7,132	2,148	192	97,532	4,364	133,420

Table 6: Fall 2025 Iowa Resident Only – Graduate Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity

Institution Type	Non-Resident Alien	Race/Ethnicity Unknown	Hispanic or Latino	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African-American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Race/Ethnicities	Total
Regent Universities	-	225	348	8	332	188	1	5,131	151	6,384
Private not-for-profit, 4-year	15	223	247	9	98	122	3	3,972	121	4,810
Private for-profit, 4-year	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	22	2	28
Totals	15	450	595	17	430	312	4	9,125	274	11,222

Between 2016 and 2025, total enrollment declined by approximately 8%, falling from 227,097 to 208,831 students. From 2016-25 the share of racial/ethnic minority students increased from about 17% to over 21%, while the share of white students declined from roughly 72% to 68%, indicating a gradual diversification of enrollment over time. Figure 1 illustrates this shift. The remaining percentage listed in this figure for each year reflects students with unknown or unreported race/ethnicity.

Figure 1: 2016-25 Enrollment Share by Race/Ethnicity



Students Receiving State Financial Aid

Iowa colleges and universities report the race/ethnicity of state financial aid recipients for four major state student financial aid programs: Iowa Tuition Grant, Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant, All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship and Last-Dollar Scholarship. Table 7 shows the total number of awards made for these programs, by sector, for all students and minority students. During the 2024-25 academic year, 26% of Iowa resident undergraduate and graduate students reported as minority students attending college in Iowa were awarded one or more of these grants or scholarships.

During the 2024-25 academic year, a total of 8,250 students were awarded the Iowa Tuition Grant and 25% identified as being from an identified minority population. For the Iowa Vocational-Technical grant, 1,978 students received the award, of whom 24% identified as being from a minority population. A total of 10,527 students were awarded the Last-Dollar Scholarship, of whom 31% identified as being from a minority population. Finally, 778 students were awarded the All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship, of whom 49% identified as being from a minority population.

Table 7: Fall 2025 Financial Aid Recipients by Minority Status

Institution Type	Iowa Tuition Grant Awards-Total	Iowa Tuition Grant Awards to Minority Students	Vocational-Technical Tuition Grants Total	Vocational-Technical Tuition Grants to Minority Students	All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship Total	All Iowa Opportunity Scholarships to Minority Students	Last -Dollar Scholarships Total	Last-Dollar Scholarships to Minority Students	Total State Aid	Total State Aid to Minority Students
Regent Universities	-	-	-	-	335	169	-	-	335	169
Private not-for-profit, 4-year	8,152	2,027	-	-	152	64	359	146	8,663	210
Community Colleges	-	-	1,978	468	291	147	10,168	3,106	10,459	3,721
Private for-profit, 2-year	98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98	-
Totals	8,250	2,027	1,978	468	778	380	10,527	3,252	19,555	4,100

Faculty Employed at Iowa Postsecondary Institutions

Table 8 represents faculty identified as being from a minority population as a percentage of total faculty by sector. In fall of 2025, a total of 15,963 faculty members were part of teaching, research or public service at Iowa colleges and universities. Of those, 2,197 (14%) were faculty from minority groups.

Table 8: Fall 2025 Minority Faculty at Iowa Colleges and Universities

Institution Type	Total Faculty	Minority Faculty
Regent Universities	5,637	1,167
Private not-for-profit, 4-year	4,825	548
Private for-profit, 4-year	213	30
Community Colleges	5,204	444
Private for-profit, 2-year	84	8
Totals	15,963	2,197

Report Background

Iowa Code section 256.77 directs the Iowa College Student Aid Commission to collect data on student enrollment and faculty employment at Iowa colleges and universities and to provide a report to the Governor and Iowa General Assembly. ICA collects this information through its annual data collection processes, which includes surveys administered annually to Iowa postsecondary institutions and additional data collected by the Bureau of Community Colleges.

The system used for reporting race and ethnicity data in ICA's annual survey is consistent with the U.S. Department of Education's guidance on reporting (Federal Register, 2007). According to this guidance, when reporting race and ethnicity data, educational institutions report aggregated racial and ethnic data in the following categories:

1. Non-Resident Alien
2. Race and Ethnicity Unknown
3. Hispanic or Latino. A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. (The term "Spanish origin" can be used in addition to "Hispanic/Latino or Latino.")
4. American Indian or Alaska Native. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains a tribal affiliation or community attachment.
5. Asian. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand and Vietnam.
6. Black or African-American. A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa.
7. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa or other Pacific Islands.
8. White. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East or North Africa.
9. Two or more races.

References

[Iowa Code 256.177 \(2024\)](#)

[Federal Register 72:202 \(Friday, Oct. 19, 2007\)](#)