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Indiana Sees Largest Resident Enrollment Increase Since 2010

Statewide, resident enrollment at public institutions increased by over two percent from fall 2024

(INDIANAPOLIS) – More Indiana students are choosing to stay in-state when enrolling in higher education. Enrollment data at Indiana’s public higher education institutions for fall 2025 show the largest increase in Indiana resident enrollment since 2010.

The [Indiana Commission for Higher Education](#) today released data that show overall enrollment at statewide public institutions increased for the fourth consecutive year, growing by over 4,200 students, or approximately 2 percent, from fall 2024. This progress follows several major milestones in initiatives aimed at boosting enrollment through greater accessibility and affordability. Highlights include all seven public institutions freezing tuition for in-state students, Indiana reaching its 60 percent FAFSA completion goal, and targeted outreach to Hoosier families promoting in-state education and training options beyond high school, along with available financial aid opportunities.

“Indiana’s higher education institutions continue to move the needle on increasing enrollment, particularly with resident students,” said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery. “Through intentional, strategic initiatives geared toward helping our fellow Hoosiers, such as Indiana Pre-Admissions, more Hoosier students and families are being informed of, and choosing to attend, the colleges and universities right here in Indiana.”

FY23 Graduate Retention Data Summary				
Statewide - Resident Only		Statewide		
Degree Level	Retention %	Degree Level	Retention %	Difference
Associate	80%	Associate	79%	1%
Bachelor's	67%	Bachelor's	52%	15%
Master's	70%	Master's	36%	34%
Doctoral	55%	Doctoral	33%	22%
Total Undergraduate	74%	Total Undergraduate	64%	10%
Total Graduate	69%	Total Graduate	37%	32%
Total	73%	Total	58%	15%

Indiana resident graduates play a significant role in reducing the state’s brain drain. Recent data show 73 percent of Indiana residents who graduate from an Indiana college or university remain in the state after graduation. This is compared to 58 percent of all students, including both in-state and out-of-state

students, who remain in Indiana after graduation. At the bachelor’s degree level, graduate retention for Indiana residents is 15 percentage points higher than the statewide average.

“To maximize the four years of high school, we worked with all seven of our state’s public colleges and universities earlier this year to guarantee automatic acceptance for any student who earns the new Enrollment Honors Plus diploma seal,” said Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana Secretary of Education. “This guarantee is important for Hoosier students, ensuring a seamless connection from high school to their next step. It is also important for our state, as we know that Hoosiers who attend an in-state college or university are more likely to build their life and career right here in Indiana after graduation.”

Additional key takeaways from the 2025 fall enrollment report

- At the undergraduate level, overall enrollment improved by over two percent from fall 2024, while graduate enrollment remained relatively steady, declining by less than half a percent.
- Both two- and four-year institutions reported year-over-year growth, with two-year enrollment increasing by six percent.
- Enrollment at four-year institutions surpassed 191,000 students for the first time since 2019.
- International enrollment declined by 1,700 students, while the substantial growth in resident enrollment led to an overall increase in total enrollment across the state.
- After more than a decade of decline, as the overall number of students enrolling in Indiana public institutions grew, so too did the proportion of resident students.

The full fall 2025 census enrollment summary can be found at [https://www.in.gov/che/reports-and-analyses/#Enrollment Degree Information](https://www.in.gov/che/reports-and-analyses/#Enrollment_Degree_Information).

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About the Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Created in 1971, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (CHE, Commission) is the State's higher education coordinating agency, driven to improve economic and social mobility for fellow Hoosiers through postsecondary education and training, and is a part of Governor Mike Braun's Office of Education. The Commission's [HOPE \(Hoosier Opportunities & Possibilities through Education\) Agenda](#) serves as the agency's strategic plan and mission through 2030, providing seven goals around enrollment, completion, and graduate retention efforts. The Commission also administers Indiana's state financial aid programs, including [21st Century Scholars](#), which celebrates 35 years in 2025.