

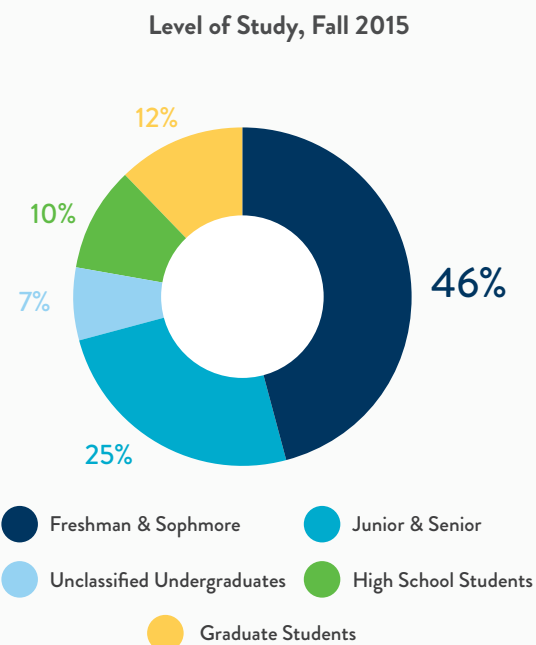
# ENROLLMENT AND STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS

## KEY POINTS IN THIS SECTION

- Enrollments today are higher than a decade earlier, but lower than its peak in 2010.
- Undergraduates – 25 percent are students of color; 65 percent are under age 25.

A variety of types of education are offered by Minnesota's public and private postsecondary institutions. They serve a group of students as diverse as the institutions themselves. A growing number of high school students are concurrently enrolled in college as well as adults continuing their postsecondary education through graduate education or those seeking specific career or job enhancement opportunities.

- In fall 2015, there were 340,642 students enrolled in Minnesota<sup>1</sup> public and private postsecondary institutions.
- Undergraduate enrollment decreased two percent from 2006. They peaked in 2010, a 15 percent decrease from 2010 to 2015. There were 264,083 undergraduates in 2015.
- Graduate student enrollment decreased 10 percent from 2006 to 42,133 graduate students in 2015. Two online only institutions, Capella University and Walden University, headquartered in Minnesota reported their additional nationwide enrollment of 71,087 graduate students, a 52 percent increase from 46,654 in 2006.
- High school students in dual-enrollment programs increased 75 percent from 2006. They comprised 11 percent of all undergraduates, up from seven percent in 2006.



SOURCE: Minnesota Office of Higher Education

Note: Does not include Capella and Walden.

Undergraduates comprised 78 percent of all Minnesota college students.

<sup>1</sup><http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/dPg.cfm?pageID=2136>

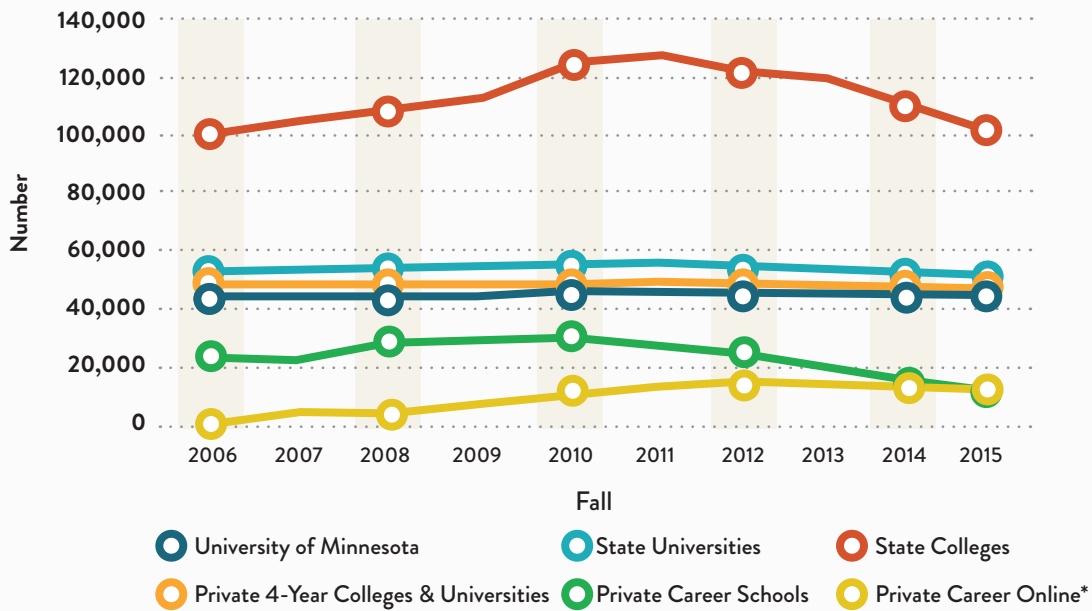


## State colleges (two-year) enroll the most undergraduates.

Adults age 25 years and older tend to enroll in state colleges and private career schools over four-year colleges. State colleges along with private career schools had enrollment surges from 2008 to 2010 as many adults returned to college or entered for the first time due to recessionary job losses.



### Undergraduate Enrollment Trends

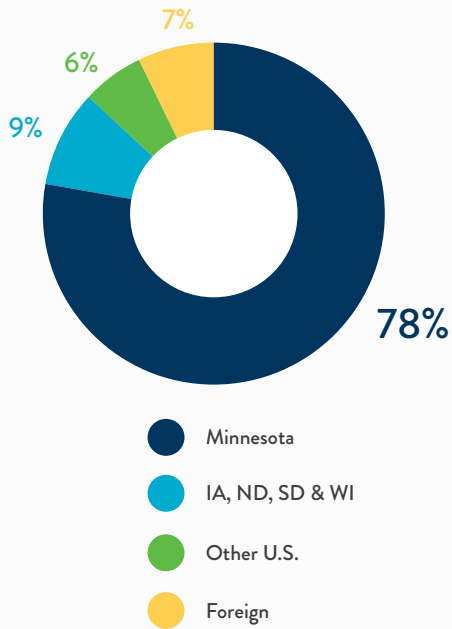


SOURCE: Minnesota Office of Higher Education

Note: Does not include high school students

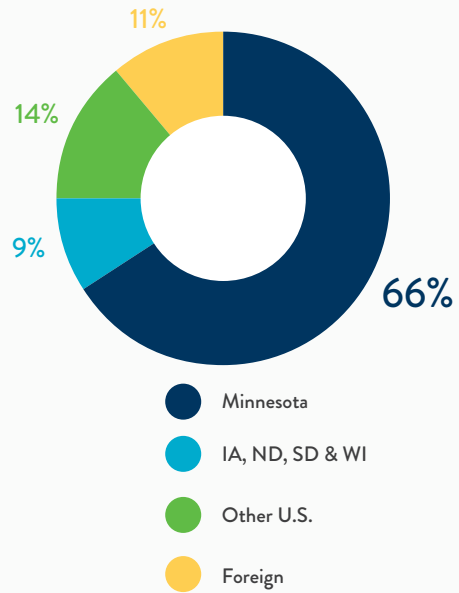
\*Includes Capella and Walden University; online only institutions with national enrollment

Undergraduate Residence, Fall 2015



SOURCE: Minnesota Office of Higher Education

Graduate Residence, Fall 2015



SOURCE: Minnesota Office of Higher Education

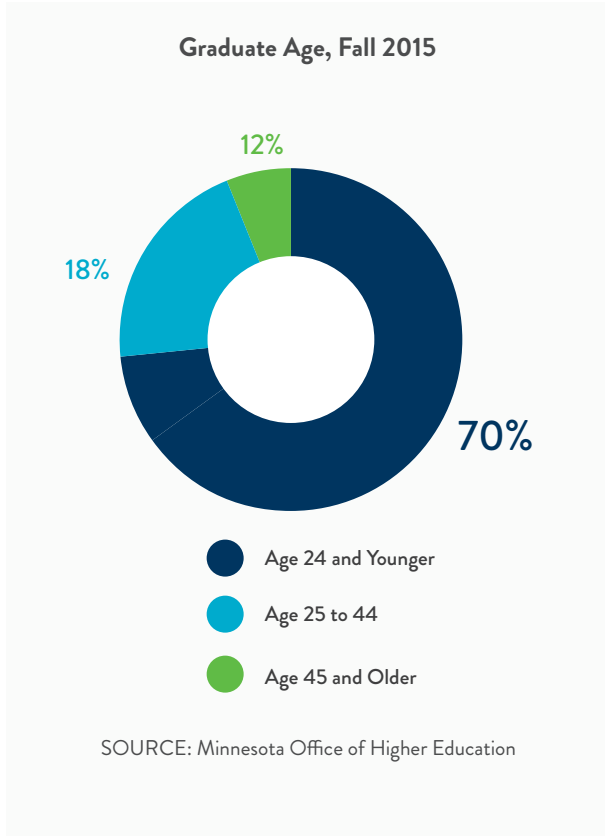
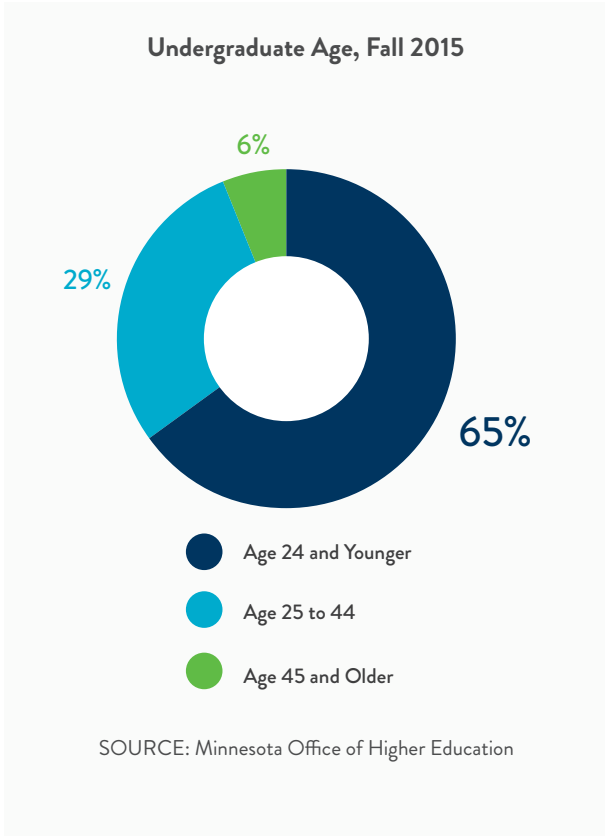
Note: Does not include Capella and Walden.



**DATA SUGGESTS**  
**Minnesota residents comprise the majority of students at Minnesota institutions.**



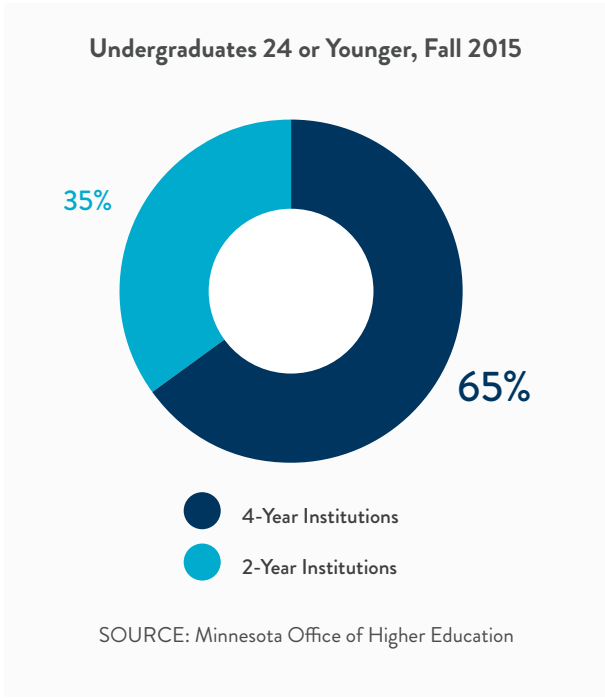
Four-year colleges have higher percentages of younger undergraduates enrolled full-time than two-year colleges.



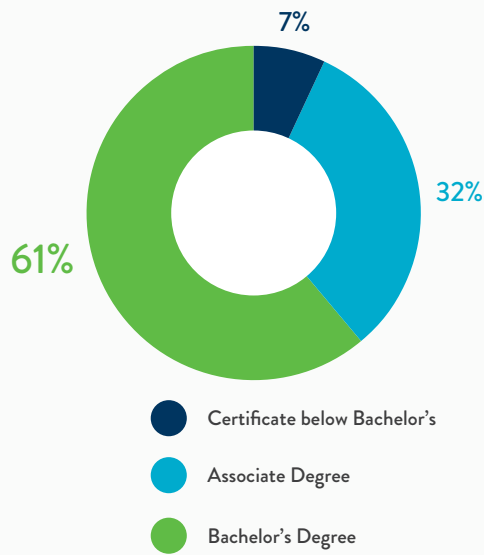
Note: Does not include Capella and Walden.



**DATA SUGGESTS**  
 65 percent of undergraduates are age 24 or younger. The majority enroll in four year colleges and attend full time.

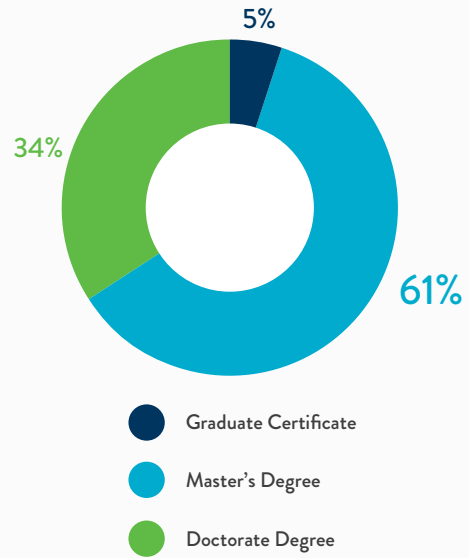


### Undergraduate Program Level, Fall 2015



SOURCE: Minnesota Office of Higher Education

### Graduate Program Level, Fall 2015



SOURCE: Minnesota Office of Higher Education

Note: Does not include Capella and Walden.

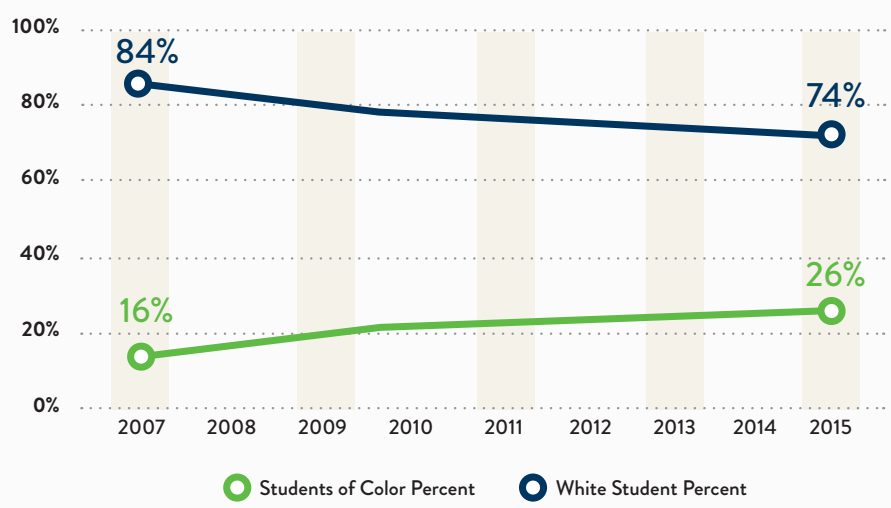


#### DATA SUGGESTS

Obtaining a bachelor's degree is the intent of most undergraduates. The majority of graduate students pursue a master's degree.



Undergraduates Enrolled in Minnesota Postsecondary Institutions by Race/ethnicity



SOURCE: Minnesota Office of Higher Education



**DATA SUGGESTS**  
Students of color make up a growing proportion of undergraduate enrollments. This is consistent with trends in the general population.



Undergraduates of color increased from 37,838 in fall 2006 to 62,745 in fall 2015.



## ABOUT UNDERGRADUATES

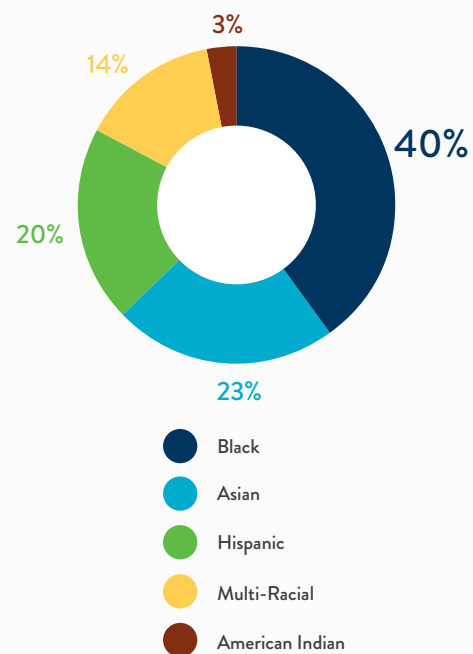
Undergraduate data in this section does not include high school students who concurrently enroll in a high school and a postsecondary institution. Enrollment data are only collected for the fall semester and do not reflect an annual headcount. For enrollment purposes institutions are organized by the type of educational offering.

**TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS** include two sectors: state colleges and private career institutions. The private career schools may be for-profit or not-for-profit and some offer a limited number of career-oriented bachelor's degrees.

**FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS** include three sectors: state universities, the University of Minnesota campuses and private colleges. The private colleges in this group tend to be mostly not-for-profit institutions and offer a mix of bachelor's degrees which include liberal arts programs.

Data on Capella University and Walden University students are excluded as appropriate. These two online only institutions are headquartered in Minnesota and report their nationwide enrollment. In fall 2015 they had a combined enrollment of 87,161 which is larger than the total enrollment of any Minnesota four-year sector. The majority of their students are enrolled in graduate programs and are non-Minnesota residents. They also tend to enroll larger percentages of women than other types of colleges and over half of their enrollment are Black students. These student characteristics skew some of the data presented about institutions with a physical presence in Minnesota.

Undergraduate Students of Color, Fall 2015



SOURCE: Minnesota Office of Higher Education

