Complete College America (CCA), established in 2009, is a national nonprofit that aims to increase the graduation number and rate of college students. Illinois was in the first group of states to join the initiative and be part of the CCA Alliance of States (http://www.completecollege.org/). To advance higher education graduation rates, CCA officials developed a series of metrics identified under three categories: Progress (PM), Outcomes (OM), and Context (CM). Generally, each metric has subsets including full-time/part-time status, race/ethnicity, gender, age groups, remedial status at entry, and Pell recipient status. ICCB generates the entire set of metrics for the state and each community college using agency longitudinal data systems.

**Context Metric 1, Enrollment**, measures the annual unduplicated number of students enrolled in college level programs over a 12-month period at public institutions of higher education, disaggregated by attendance status at entry (full-time or part-time), race/ethnicity, gender, age, and Pell recipient status at entry.

In fiscal year 2014, there were 360,829 students enrolled in Transfer (PCS 1.1), Career and Technical Education (PCS 1.2), and General Associate (PCS 1.0) programs at Illinois community colleges (N = 219,017 part-time and N = 141,812 full-time). Part-time students represented about 6 in 10 enrollments.

CCA change the methodology for CM1 to exclude dual credit and dual enrollment data. Dual credit and dual enrollment data were previously included (in fiscal year 2011 data), but are now excluded.

From fiscal year 2009 to 2014 total student enrollments increased 2.8 percent (+9,677 students). Part-time student enrollments increased 3.9 percent (+ 8,147 students), while full-time student enrollments increased 1.1 percent (+ 1,530 students).

In fiscal year 2014, two-year public institutions nationwide enrolled 9,798,621 students (NCES, Table 308.10, Digest of Education Statistics, 2015). Among students aged 16 to 24 years who completed high school during the preceding 12 months, 24.6 percent enrolled in 2-year college and 43.7 percent enrolled in 4-year college. (NCES, Table 302.10, Digest of Education Statistics, 2015). In Illinois, about 44.8 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds were enrolled in college or graduate school in 2014 [U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder (Illinois, School Enrollment, 2010-2014 Estimates)]. About 5.0 percent of Illinoisans aged under 24 years and about 1.7 percent of Illinoisans aged 25 years and up were enrolled in instructional credit courses (PCS 1.0, 1.1, 1.2) at Illinois community colleges in 2012 [U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder (Illinois, School Enrollment, 2010-2014 Estimates); 2014 ICCB Annual Enrollment and Completion (A1) data].

Comparative information with other participating states has not been made available for this metric by CCA.

Detailed comparative data from participating states are available for select metrics through Complete College America’s Game Changer State Data webpage. Out of 33 states that are currently part of CCA’s alliance, Illinois is one of 28 states that provided data in 2013. For more information on the Illinois Community College System please see the Research & Policy Studies section of the ICCB website.

Collaborating with the System to Inform Statewide Community College Issues