

Illinois Community College Board Frequently Asked Questions

HOW MANY OF ILLINOIS' RESIDENTS DO ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGES SERVE THROUGH CREDIT COURSES?

Market Penetration is the proportion of Illinois community college credit students in relation to Illinois' population aged 16 and older. **In fiscal year 2025, Illinois Community Colleges served 4.4 percent of Illinois' residents aged 16 and older through credit courses.** Table 1 below contains comparative data for the last five years. Compared to last year, market penetration increased 3.2 percent, credit headcount enrollment increased 4.9 percent, and Illinois' population increased slightly (1.6 percent). Illinois' credit headcount enrollment, market penetration, and population are up since fiscal year 2021.

Table 1
**Summary Comparison of Annual Credit Headcount Enrollments,
Population Aged 16 and Older, and Market Penetration
Fiscal Years 2021-2025**

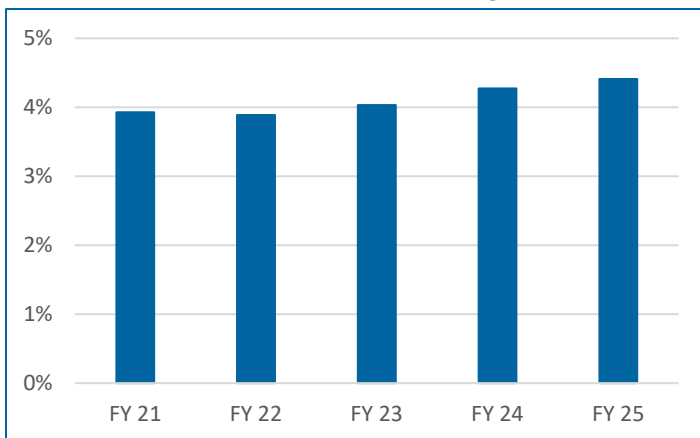
	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Student Headcount Enrollment	405,444	396,958	411,217	435,426	456,790
% Change	-14.2%	-2.1%	3.6%	5.9%	4.9%
Census Population*	10,320,690	10,210,473	10,199,611	10,187,310	10,354,849
% Change	1.3%	-1.1%	-0.1%	-0.1%	1.6%
MARKET PENETRATION	3.9%	3.9%	4.0%	4.3%	4.4%
% Change	-15.3%	-1.0%	3.7%	6.0%	3.2%

*Population is for the previous year

SOURCE OF DATA: ICCB Centralized Data System—Annual Enrollment and Completion (A1) and Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville

As depicted in Figure 1, market penetration decreased slightly each year between fiscal years 2021 and 2022, with a slight uptick in fiscal years 2023 through 2025. Market penetration is rebounding as headcount enrollment rebounds after the pandemic.

**Figure 1. Market Penetration for Credit Courses,
Fiscal Years 2021-2025**



For more information on enrollments, see the report, [Annual Student Enrollments and Completions in the Illinois Community College System](#), fiscal year 2025, or [Data and Characteristics of the Illinois Public Community College System](#), 2026 Data Book. Additional [District Census Data](#) is available on the ICCB website.

Visit the ICCB website to [locate a Community College near you](#) or for a [map of district boundaries](#).

