# First-year Application Trends

Through November 1



# through November 1

#### Applications

**Applicants** 

4,716,352

total applications

962,284

applicants

# 916

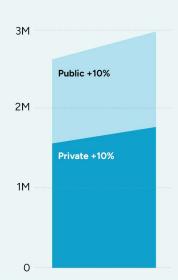
returning members

Member Type

Applications to private and public members each grew at a rate of 10% since 2024-25.

5M

4M



- Underrepresented minority race/ ethnicity (URM) applicants increased by 10%.
- applicants
  increased by 12%
  since 2024-25.

First-generation

- Growth in applicants from below-median income ZIP-codes continued to outpace their peers at 12% since 2024-25
- Growth was faster for students reporting eligibility for a Common App fee waiver (10%) compared to those not reporting fee waiver eligibility (4%).

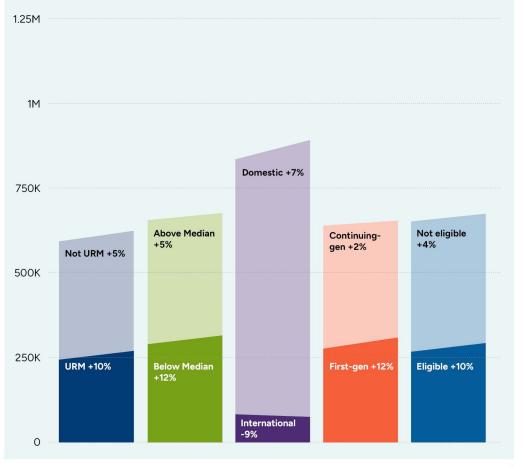
International

applicants declined,

domestic applicants

while growth in

increased by 7%.







# Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through November 1

November 13, 2025

#### **Authors**

#### **Data Analytics and Research**

Walter Herring \*
Rodney Hughes \*
Elyse Armstrong
Mark Freeman
Trent Kajikawa
Brian Heseung Kim
Sarah Nolan
Song Park

\* Corresponding author(s)

## **Press inquiries**

Jackson Sternberg jackson.sternberg@commonapp.org

#### Introduction

Each year, Common App releases an ongoing series of "Deadline Update" research briefs to share detailed and timely insights about the state of first-year college applications and year-over-year trends through a specific point in the application season — in this case, November 1. We time these briefs to capture activity for major college application deadlines on the first of each month from November to March.

By analyzing up-to-date application activity, we bring attention to trends in applicant race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, geographic residence, and the types of institutions to which students apply. We hope to empower enrollment leaders, counselors, and other stakeholders with these insights as we strive together to increase the accessibility of the college admissions process in alignment with our Next Chapter.

**Notes:** As Common App membership has grown over time, we focus deadline updates on institutions that have maintained Common App membership for the five most recent years ("returning members"), or 916 institutions. That said, trends observed here may still partially result from new members bringing new applicants onto the platform each year. We also note that some institutions that had previously had an application deadline on November 1 moved that deadline to later in the month during the 2025-26 application cycle. Deadline changes like these could account for variation in application volume compared to prior years.

#### **Contents**

Key findings

Overall platform trends

Applicant demographic trends

<u>Trends in test score reporting</u>

<u>Trends by member characteristics</u>

<u>Appendix</u>

## **Key findings**

- 1. **Applicant and application counts grew:** Through November 1, 2025, 962,284 distinct first-year applicants had applied to 916 returning members, an increase of 5% from 913,087 at this point in 2024–25.
  - a. Application volume to returning members through November 1 rose 10% from 2024–25 (4,268,736) to 2025–26 (4,716,352). Applicants had also applied to more members through November 1 in 2025–26 than in 2024–25 (up 5% from 4.68 to 4.90 applications per applicant).
- 2. Black or African American applicants and applicants identifying as Two or More Races are growing at the fastest rates: Black or African American applicants (16%) and applicants identifying as Two or More Races (11%) saw the fastest growth compared to the prior season. Applicants identifying as an underrepresented minority race/ethnicity<sup>1</sup> (URM) increased by 10% in 2025–26.
- 3. **First-generation applicants continue to grow:** Applicants identifying as first-generation grew by 12% compared to this point during 2024-25, while continuing-generation applicants increased by only 2%.
- 4. Low-income applicants' growth outpaces their peers: Growth was also faster for students reporting eligibility for a Common App fee waiver (10% vs. 4%). This is also true of growth in applicants from below-median income ZIP codes, who continued to outpace their above-median income peers at 12% growth compared to this point in 2024–25 (versus 5%).
- 5. The growth rate among applicants from Rural areas was greater than the rate among those from Metropolitan areas. Compared to this point during the 2024-25 application cycle, the number of applicants from Rural areas grew by 15% compared to only 6% growth among applicants from Metropolitan areas, though the overwhelming majority of applicants on the platform still hail from Metropolitan areas.
- 6. The Southwest continues to be the fastest-growing region among domestic applicants: The Southwestern region grew at nearly twice the rate (15%) of the next fastest-growing region, driven by substantial growth in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> We use the term underrepresented minority (URM) in alignment with conventions employed by the <u>National Science Foundation</u>. In this report, applicants identifying as Black or African American, Latinx, American Indian or Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander are classified as URM applicants.

- Texas (15%), which remains the state with the greatest number of Common App applicants. Arizona was the fastest-growing state compared to this point last season, exhibiting 36% growth.
- 7. The number of international applicants declined compared to this point in the 2024-25 application cycle: While domestic applicants continued to grow at a steady pace (7%) compared to the prior season, the number of international applicants decreased by 9% (compared to a 5% year-over-year increase in applicants at this time during 2024-25). There was a pronounced drop in applicants from Asia (-9%) and Africa (-18%), with exceptionally large declines in applicants from India (-14%) and Ghana (-43%).
- 8. Growth rates among applicants reporting test scores continue to exceed the rate among those not reporting a score: The number of applicants reporting a test score grew by 11% compared to this time during the 2024-25 application cycle, while the number of applicants who did not report a test score decreased by 1%. First-generation applicants, applicants identifying as URM, and those eligible for a Common App fee waiver were less likely to report a score.
- 9. Growth rates were slowest among applications to the Most Selective institutions (those with an admit rate lower than 25%). Furthermore, the number of applicants who applied to only in-state or both in- and out-of-state institutions increased by 6% and 10% respectively, while the number of applicants applying only to out-of-state institutions decreased by 3%.

#### **Overall platform trends**

Beginning our review of season-to-date data with overall platform usage trends, Figures 1–4 display the overall number of accounts created by students intending to enroll in the following academic year (e.g., 2026–27 for students in the 2025–26 application season), the number of account creators that have submitted at least one application ("applicants"), the total number of applications submitted, and the average number of applications submitted per applicant at this point in the season. Each point in each plot tracks the indicated metric for one season through November 1, and the final point in each plot is additionally labeled with the percent growth in that metric between 2024–25 and the current season.

For example, in Figure 1, we see that the number of account creators through November 1 has grown from 1,960,702 in 2024–25 to 2,012,521 in 2025–26—an increase of 3%. In general, we see consistent growth in platform use at this point in the season compared to prior years, with a 5% increase in applicants, a 10% increase in applications, and a 5% increase in applications per applicant.

Figure 1. Growth in first-year accounts created by students intending to enroll in the following academic year since 2021–22

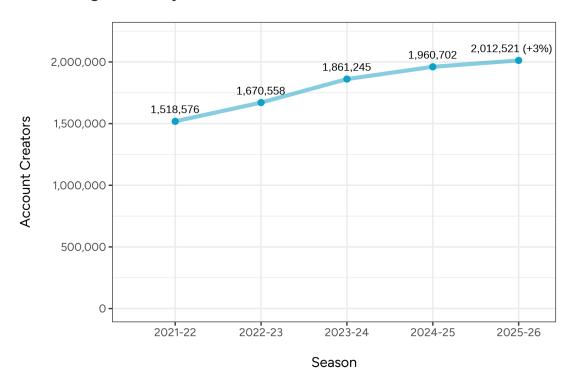


Figure 2. Growth in first-year applicants since 2021–22

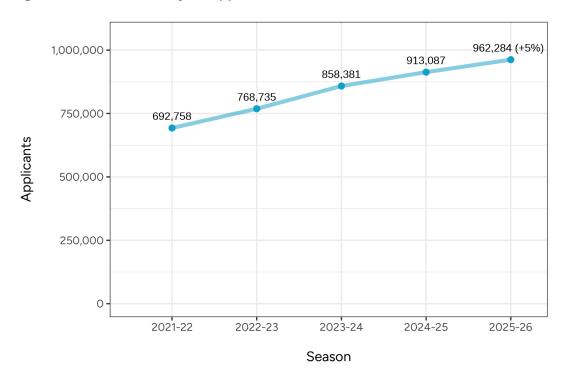
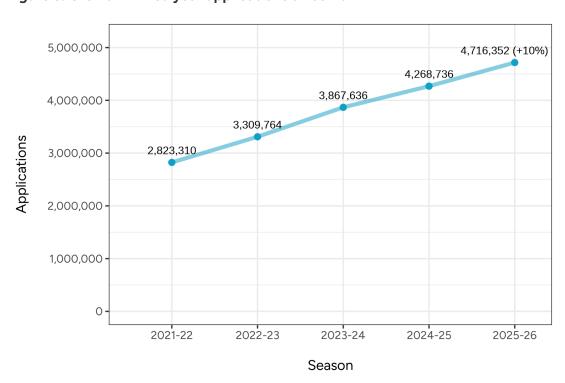


Figure 3. Growth in first-year applications since 2021–22



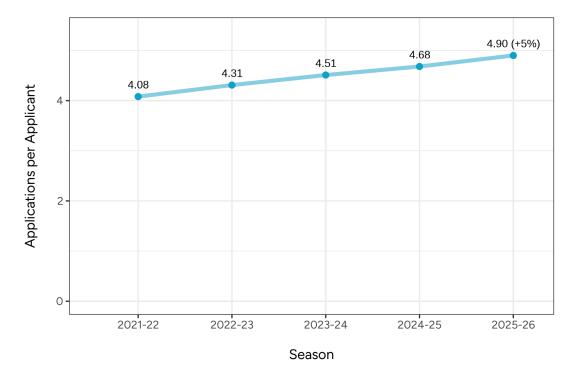


Figure 4. Growth in first-year applications per applicant since 2021–22

## **Applicant demographic trends**

Though the trends above reveal broad growth in the use of Common App over time, the primary value in these timely updates lies in disaggregating these trends by student demographics and other key application characteristics.

#### Trends by student legal sex

Figure 5 displays growth in applicants by legal sex since 2021–22. Female applicants accounted for a larger share of all applicants throughout the period, and had a growth rate of 6% compared to this point in 2024–2025, while Male applicants had a growth rate of 4%.

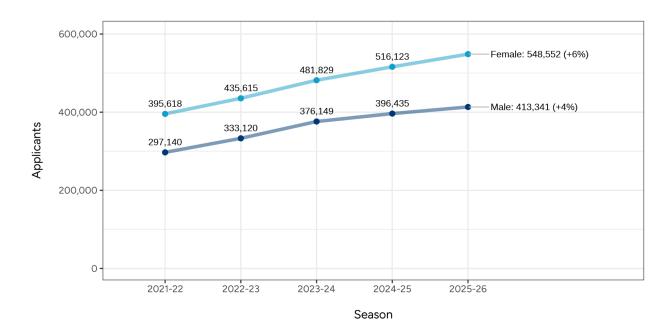


Figure 5. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by sex since 2021–22

#### Trends by student race/ethnicity

Given member interest in the impact of the <u>United States Supreme Court decision</u> on race-conscious admissions, we continue our deeper dive into application trends by looking across applicant underrepresented minority status (URM) in Figure 6.<sup>2</sup> Consistent with results from our <u>previous reports on the diversification of the Common App applicant pool</u>, we see that the growth in the number of applicants identifying as URM continues to outpace that of their non-URM peers at 10% since 2024–25 (versus 5% for applicants not identifying as URM), though the number of these students remains smaller. Note that all plots shown here regarding student race/ethnicity (Figures 6–8) focus exclusively on domestic applicants (i.e., excluding citizens of countries besides the United States) in alignment with federal reporting practices in higher education.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See our discussion of Figures 22 and A14 through A22 for additional analyses related to application trends by race/ethnicity as they relate to members of varying selectivity bands.

Figure 6. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by underrepresented minority status since 2021–22

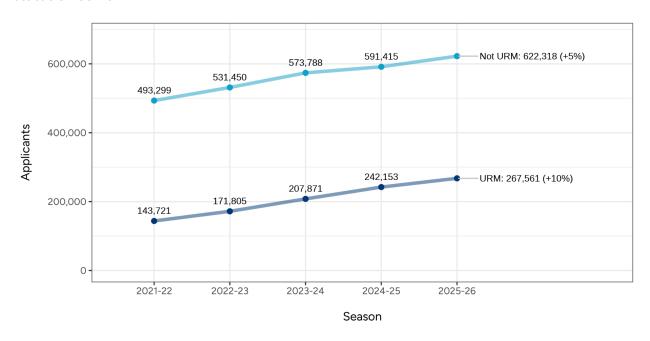


Figure 7. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by federal race/ethnicity groupings since 2021–22

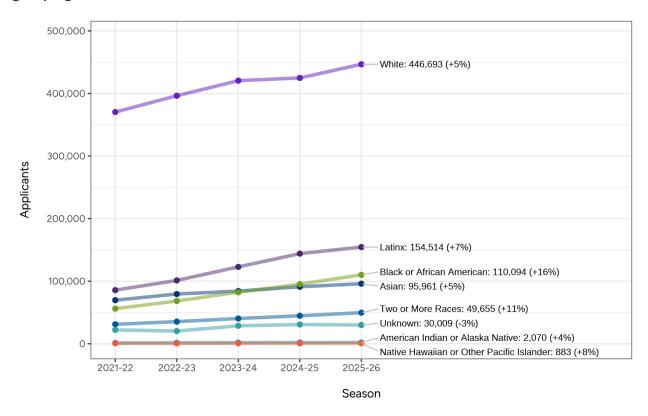


Figure 7 examines applicant growth trends across federal race/ethnicity groupings, revealing that this growth is fastest for applicants identifying as Black or African American (16%) or Two or More Races (11%). The share of domestic applicants identifying as White at this point in the season declined from 51.0% in 2024–25 to 50.2% in 2025–26, a drop that represents the continuation of a long-term trend dating back to at least the 2013–2014 season.<sup>3</sup>

The share of students reporting Unknown race/ethnicity declined compared to this point in the season in 2024–25, with 3.7% of students reporting Unknown in 2024–25 and 3.4% in 2025–26 (not pictured). Taken together, these data suggest that there have been no meaningful deviations from pre-existing trends over the past decade in race/ethnicity reporting or population growth on the Common App platform after the U.S. Supreme Court ruling, aligning with our prior research brief on the subject following the end of the 2024–25 application season.

The Common Application prompts students to share more detailed background information within each federal race/ethnicity group (e.g., identifying as Asian with background in China). We are thus able to break out each of the federal race/ethnicity groupings shown above into these more detailed backgrounds. For visual clarity, we focus only on the five most prevalent detailed backgrounds within each federal race/ethnicity group (with the rest combined into an "Other" category). Figure 8 below shows, as an example, growth in first-year applicants across detailed Asian backgrounds, revealing that growth is fastest among Asian applicants identifying their background in India (7%), Korea (7%), the Philippines (6%), and Other (6%). Corresponding plots for each of the other federal race/ethnicity groups can be found in the Appendix (Figures A1–A5).<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This trend of White students exhibiting declines as a percentage share of the total applicant pool on the platform for the last several years relative to other racial / ethnic groups mirrors declines in relative White first-year student enrollment observed over the last several Fall enrollment periods (National Student Clearinghouse <u>current enrollment report</u>).

<sup>4</sup> For those interested in learning more on this subject, we reported on a variety of additional

For those interested in learning more on this subject, we reported on a variety of additional trends and correlations using these detailed background data in a two-part research brief series in the 2022–23 season (Unpacking applicant race and ethnicity, <u>part one</u> and <u>part two</u>).

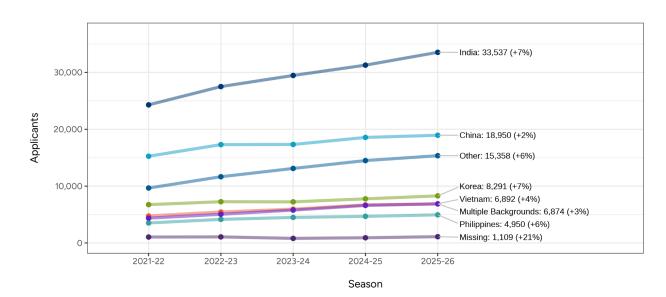


Figure 8. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by detailed Asian backgrounds since 2021–22

#### Trends by student socioeconomic status

In addition to student race/ethnicity, we examine multiple dimensions of student socioeconomic status. We display applicant trends by first-generation status in Figure 9. First-generation students exhibit strong growth at 12% compared to this point last season, while the number of continuing-generation applicants grew by just 2%. For these purposes, we define a first-generation college student as having parents who have not obtained a Bachelor's degree or higher (regardless of when the degree was received, whether the student lives with adults other than their parents, and institutional country or type).<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> For more detail on this topic, see our three research briefs from the 2023–24 season addressing <u>trends</u>, <u>definitions</u>, and <u>complexities</u> around parental education.

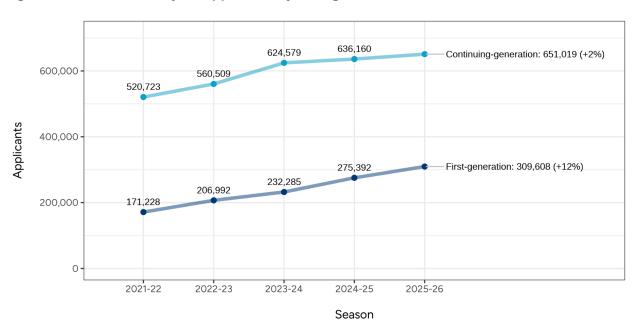


Figure 9. Growth in first-year applicants by first-generation status since 2021–22

Figure 10. Growth in first-year applicants by Common App fee waiver eligibility since 2021–22

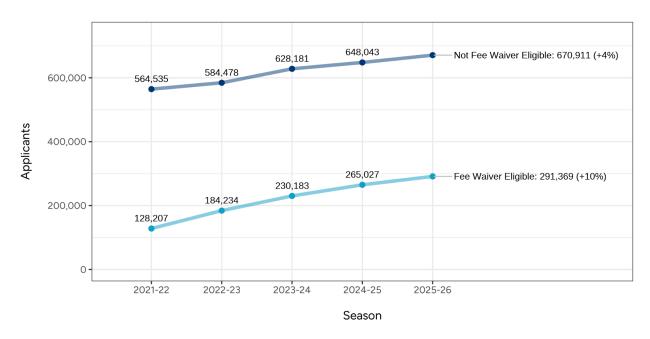
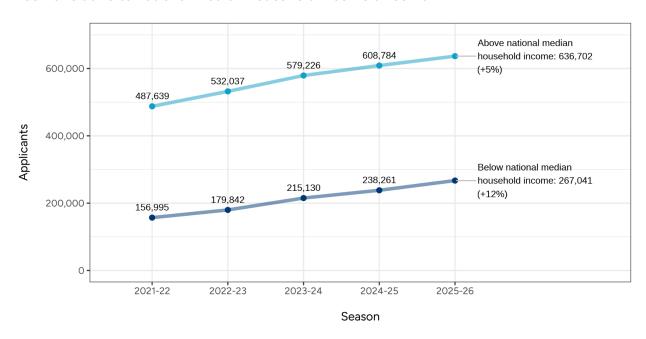


Figure 10 similarly tracks growth in applicants by self-reported Common App fee waiver eligibility, often used as a proxy for low-income status.<sup>6</sup> Applicants reporting eligibility for the Common App fee waiver have grown at more than twice the rate of other applicants (10% versus 4%) through this point in the season since 2024–25.

While Common App does not explicitly collect applicants' household income information, we supplement our understanding of the socioeconomic characteristics of applicants by examining characteristics of the communities in which they reside from the U.S. Census (for students residing in the United States). In alignment with broader higher education research practices, our past research work, and our Next Chapter, we track the number of applicants residing in a ZIP code with a median household income above or below the national median household income. As shown in Figure 11, applicants coming from below-median income ZIP codes increased at a faster pace than their above-median income peers at 12% since this point of the season in 2024–25 (vs. 5% for applicants from above-median ZIP codes).

Figure 11. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by ZIP code median household income relative to national median household income since 2021–22



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> More information on exact eligibility criteria descriptions are <u>available online</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> We use the American Community Survey 5-year estimates on household income, both nationally and by ZIP Code Tabulation Areas. To account for the roughly two-year lag in data availability of ACS survey data, we use ACS data from two years prior to a given season for our calculations (e.g., we use the 2019–2023 ACS to map onto applicants in the 2025–2026 application season). We exclude students residing outside the United States, or who live in ZIP codes without a median household income estimate from the ACS.

## Trends by student geography

Though Common App membership continues to expand across the country, Common App use still varies substantially by geography. For students residing in the United States, Figure 12 tracks applicant ZIP code urbanicity classifications,<sup>8</sup> while Figure 13 tracks applicant state-regions. Overall growth since 2024–25 was about twice as high among applicants from Rural (15%), Small Town (12%), and Micropolitan (10%) urbanicity types compared to Metropolitan (6%), although the overwhelming majority of applicants still come from Metropolitan ZIP codes.

We also examine growth in applicants over time across different regions and states in the United States. For visual clarity, Figure 14 shows applicant trends among the ten fastest-growing states since 2021–22, while Figure 15 shows applicant trends among the ten states with the most applicants overall as of 2025–26. We exclude from these visualizations any state or territory with fewer than 100 applicants in any one season. For those interested in seeing these statistics for every state, we have included an exhaustive table in the Appendix (Table B1).

Texas, which surpassed New York as the state with the greatest number of applicants on the platform in 2024-25 (Figure 15), continues to outpace other large states in terms of applicant growth (15%) and cement its status as the state with the greatest number of Common App applicants. Driven by this growth in Texas, the growth rate in applicants from the Southwestern region (15%) again outpaced growth from other regions (Figure 13). Arizona saw the fastest growth rate in applicants compared to this time last season (36%). This growth might be attributable in part to a large Arizona institution that joined Common App for the 2025-26 season, which could have led more students from the state to join the platform and apply to other member institutions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Per the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, a Metropolitan area is a region with an urban center containing a population of at least 50,000. A Micropolitan area is a region with an urban center containing a population of at least 10,000, but less than 50,000.

Figure 12. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by ZIP code urbanicity since 2021–22

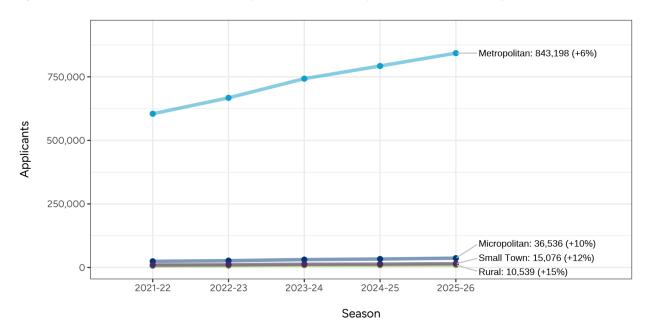


Figure 13. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by United States region since 2021–22

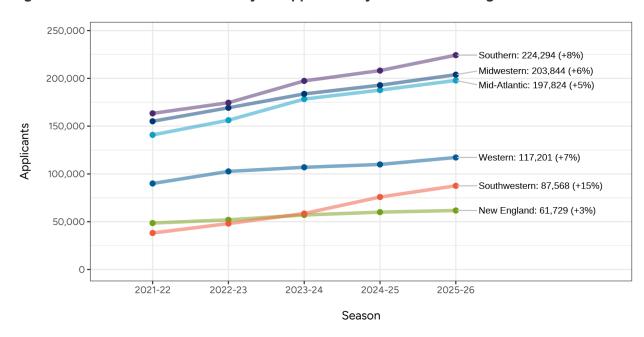
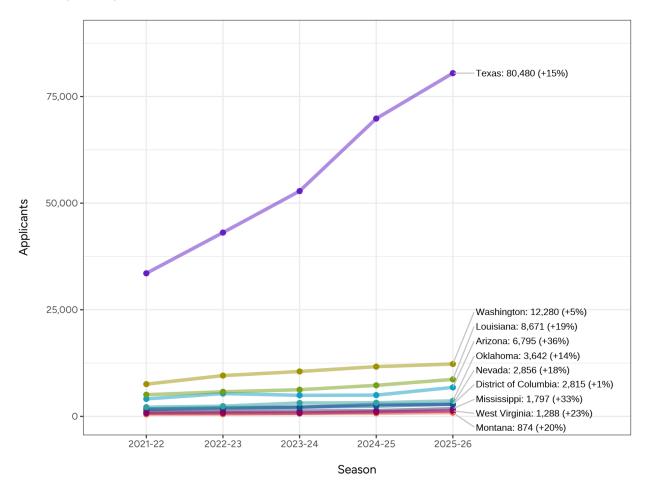


Figure 14. Growth in domestic first-year applicants among the ten fastest-growing states since 2021–22



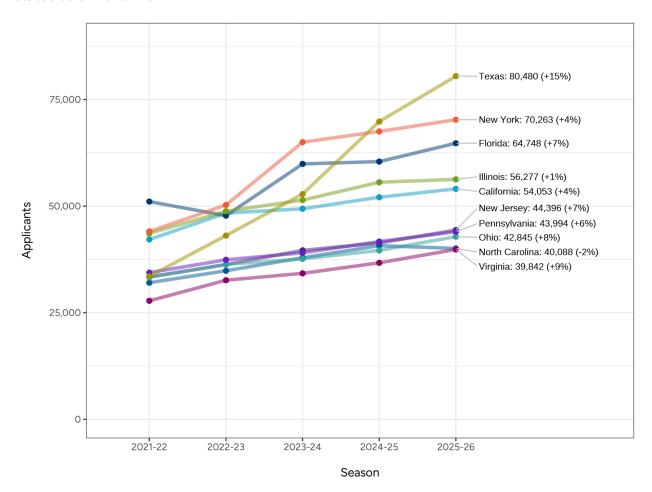


Figure 15. Growth in domestic first-year applicants among the ten highest-volume states as of 2025–26

Figure 16 charts applicant growth among domestic and international applicants, where international applicants have explicitly reported active citizenship in a country besides the United States. Figure 17 shows the growth in applicants by region of the world for those international applicants.<sup>9</sup> For a more granular view at a country-by-country level, Figure 18 shows the growth in applicants by country of citizenship for the ten fastest-growing countries of citizenship since 2021–22. Lastly, Figure 19 shows the growth in applicants by country of citizenship for the ten highest-volume countries of citizenship as of this point in the 2025–26 season.

The decline in international applicants, acknowledged in our <u>2024-25 End of Season</u> Report, has intensified, with international applicants decreasing by 9% compared to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> We use country regional classifications per the <u>United Nations Statistics Division</u> methodology. Students with multiple citizenships (not including a U.S. citizenship) or who indicate being stateless are grouped into the "Other" category.

this time during the 2024-25 application cycle. This drop stands in contrast to the 5% year-over-year increase in international applicants documented in the November 1 deadline update in 2024-25. The number of applicants from Asia, the largest region in terms of international applicant volume, fell by 9% compared to this point in 2024-25 after several years of sustained growth. This decline was driven by a substantial 14% drop in applicants from India, which has historically had the second most international applicants on the platform of any country behind China. Applicants from Africa also decreased considerably (-18%), with a precipitous drop in applications from Ghana (-43%). Of the ten countries with the greatest numbers of international applicants on Common App to this point in the season, only two saw growth in the number of applicants compared to 2024-25 (Vietnam and Uzbekistan).

1,000,000 Domestic: 889,879 (+7%) 833,568 781,659 750,000 703,255 637,020 Applicants 500,000 250,000 79,519 76,722 65,480 55.738 International: 72,405 (-9%) 0 2021-22 2022-23 2023-24 2024-25 2025-26 Season

Figure 16. Growth in first-year applicants by international status since 2021–22

Figure 17. Growth in international first-year applicants by region of citizenship since 2021–22

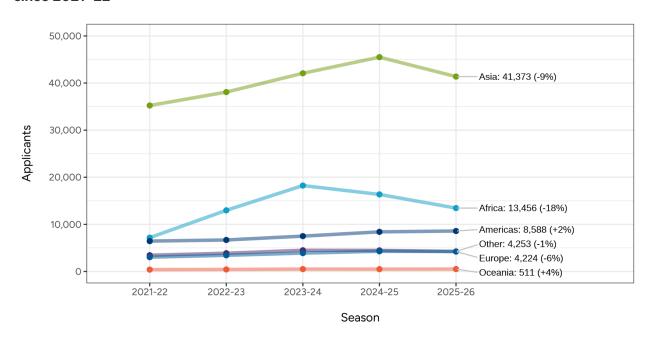
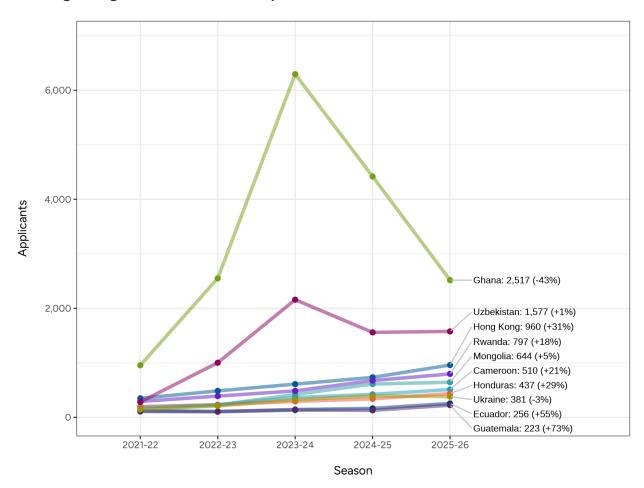


Figure 18. Growth in international first-year applicants among the ten fastest-growing countries of citizenship since 2021–22



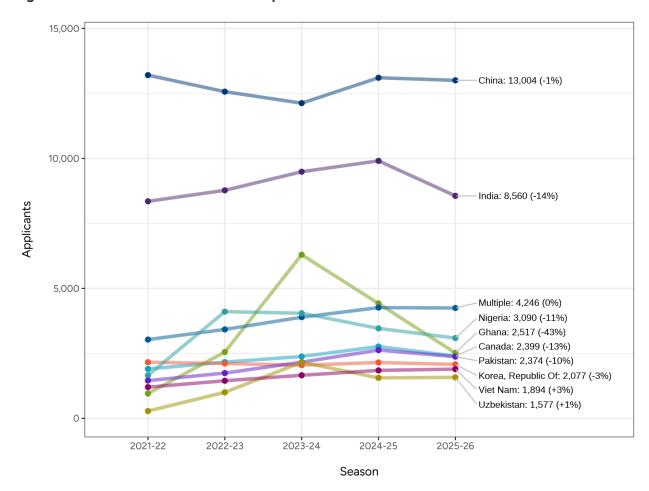


Figure 19. Growth in international first-year applicants among the ten highest-volume countries of citizenship as of 2025–26

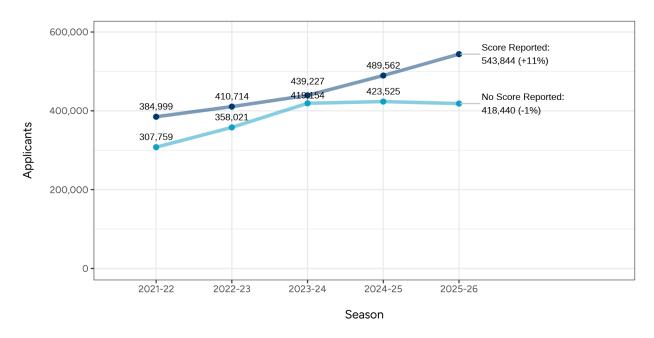
## Trends in applicants' test score reporting behaviors

As reported in the past, the share of Common App members requiring standardized test scores has changed dramatically over the past decade — from about 55% in 2019–20 to an all-time low of just 4% in 2023–24. This season, 5% of members require a test score to submit an application. Figure 20 shows that the number of applicants reporting a test score continues to grow at a faster pace than the number not reporting a test score, with an 11% increase among reporters, while the number of non-reporters has decreased by 1% since this time during the 2024–25 season. Put differently, 66,037 more applicants reported a test score than applicants who did not by November 1 of the 2024–25 application cycle. This year, that gap has nearly doubled, with 125,404 more applicants reporting test scores

than not. It is worth noting that, while applicants reporting test scores have historically outnumbered those who do not early in the season, these trends tend to reverse by season's end, with a greater share of applicants ultimately not reporting test scores.

Appendix Figures A6–A13 illustrate test score reporting disaggregated by first-generation status, URM status, fee waiver eligibility, and ZIP code-level income. These figures show that first-generation students, URM students, and fee waiver eligible students continue to be less likely to submit a test score. However, the number of students reporting test scores consistently grew faster than the number not reporting test scores across all groups.

Figure 20. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22



#### **Trends by member characteristics**

We close this report by showing how trends in applications to our domestic members have changed over time through this point in the season. Figure 21 charts the number of applications sent at this point in the season to public and private members, while Figure 22 charts the number of applications sent at this point in the season to members of varying selectivity bands (as measured by their undergraduate admit rates reported in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System). Applications to public and private institutions both grew by 10% compared to this time during the 2024-25 application cycle. Most Selective institutions (admit rate less than 25%) had the slowest application growth between

2024–25 and 2025–26 at 4%, while applications to other institutions increased by two to three times that rate. (Note that members without publicly available selectivity data are omitted from Figure 22.)

To better examine trends in applicants' application portfolios over time by race/ethnicity, especially as we track potential impacts of the <u>United States Supreme Court decision on race-conscious admissions</u> on student application behavior and college aspirations, we have also included in Appendix Figures A14 to A22 versions of Figure 22 broken out by applicant race/ethnicity groups (e.g., the number of applications Black or African American students submitted to members of varying selectivity bands).<sup>10</sup> In general, we do not observe any appreciable changes from ongoing historical trends at this point in the season with two notable exceptions. First, the number of applications to the Most Selective institutions (those with admit rates below 25%) fell by 9% among students who do not report a race or ethnicity after two years of growth (see Figure A20). Second, Figure A22 illustrates that the number of international applications declined across all selectivity bands and that these drops were especially large at institutions with admit rates between 50% and 74% and those with admit rates greater than 75%.

To support members' efforts to benchmark what they observe individually against broader trends, we also provide tables of application trends by member characteristics in the Appendix (Tables B2–B5).<sup>11</sup> Appendix Table B6 also illustrates the proportions of returning members who had increases or decreases in application volume since last year, both overall and by selected member characteristics. Overall, 75% of members saw an increase or stable application volume versus this time last season, while 25% of members saw a decrease in application volume.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> We also examined these trends in more detail in a dedicated <u>research brief</u> after the close of the 2023–24 season.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> In addition to the data in this report, all Common App members have access to filterable data charts in the Analytics section of the member Control Center. Members who use Common App's custom platform can also create benchmark groups of 10 to 20 members to contextualize their data against selected peer institutions.

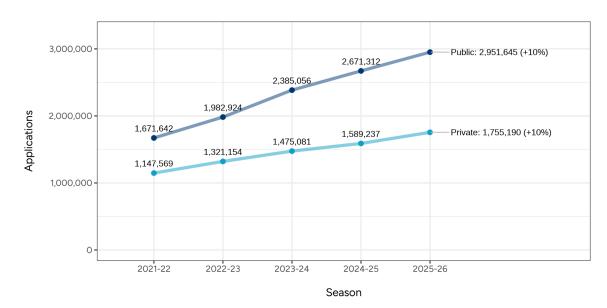


Figure 21. Growth in applications by member institution type since 2021–22



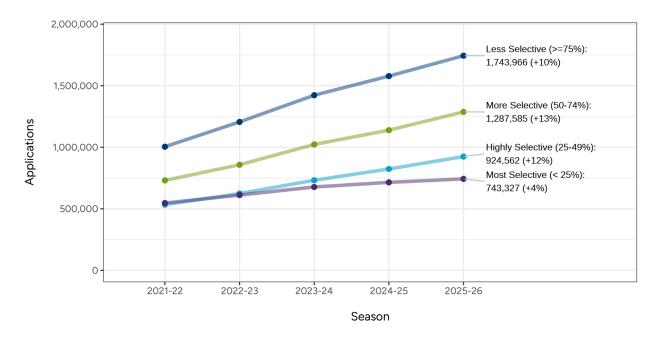


Figure 23 is similar to Figure 21, in that it examines applications to public and private members, but instead looks at the behavior of individual applicants. That is, it charts how many applicants at this point in the season have only applied to public members, only applied to private members, or applied to both public and private members. More than half (54%) of applicants applied to both public and private

institutions, up from 53% at this point in the season in 2024-25. Figure 24 similarly looks at the applicant level, but now examines applicants who apply only to members in-state, only to members out-of-state, or both. As with the 2024-25 end of season report, we see that the number of applicants applying only to out-of-state institutions declined compared to this point in 2024-25 with a greater number of applicants applying to in-state institutions only or both in- and out-of-state institutions.

Figure 23. Growth in applicants by public and private application behavior since 2021–22

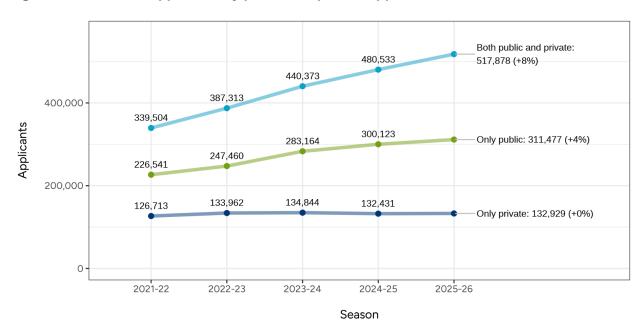
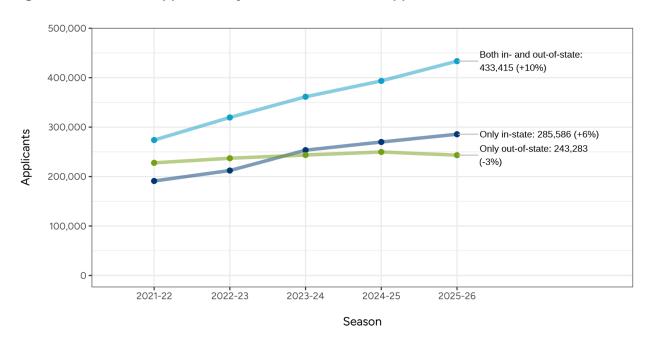


Figure 24. Growth in applicants by in- and out-of-state application behavior since 2021–22



# **Appendix**

Figure A1. Growth in first-year domestic applicants by detailed White backgrounds since 2021–22

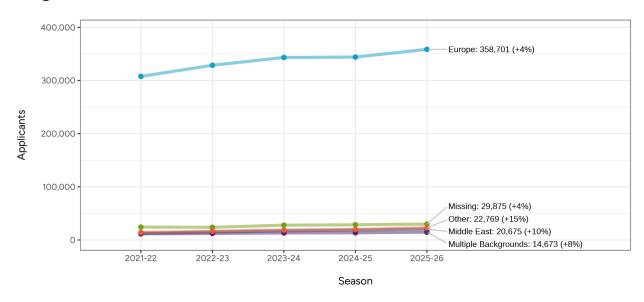


Figure A2. Growth in first-year domestic applicants by detailed Black or African American backgrounds since 2021–22

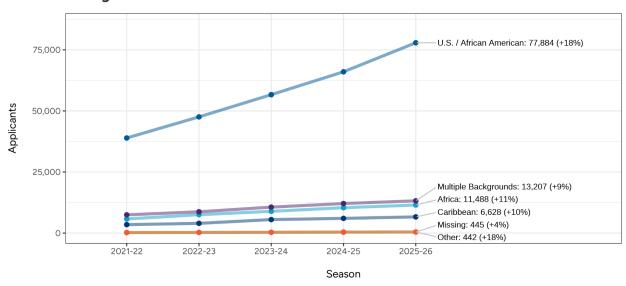


Figure A3. Growth in first-year domestic applicants by detailed Latinx backgrounds since 2021–22

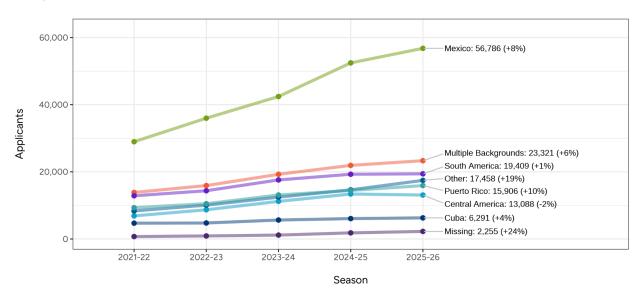


Figure A4. Growth in first-year domestic applicants by detailed Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander backgrounds since 2021–22

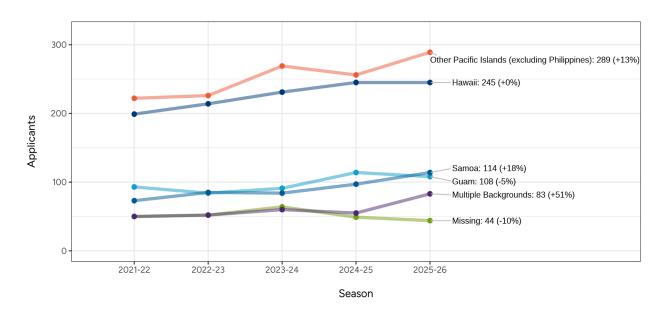


Figure A5. Growth in first-year domestic applicants by detailed American Indian or Alaska Native backgrounds since 2021–22

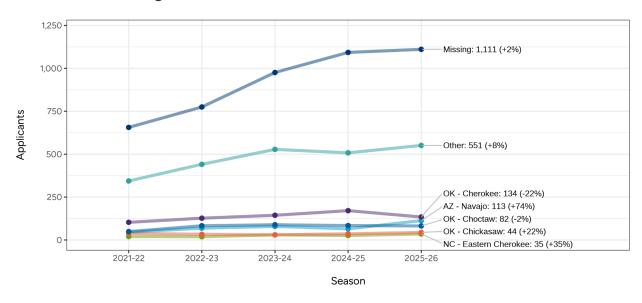


Figure A6. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, first-generation applicants only

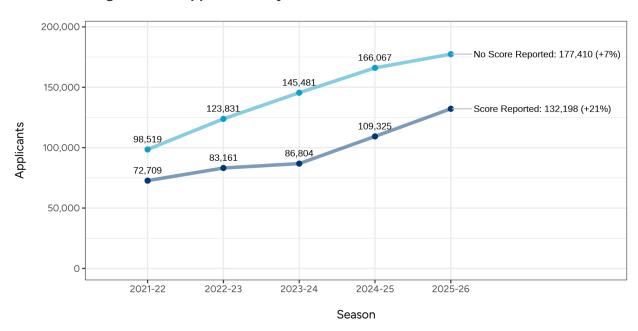


Figure A7. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, continuing-generation applicants only

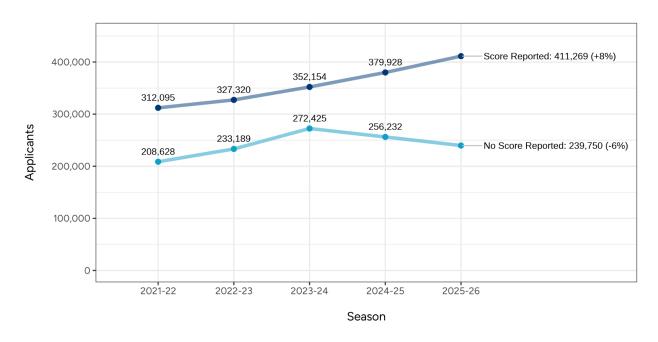


Figure A8. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, URM applicants only

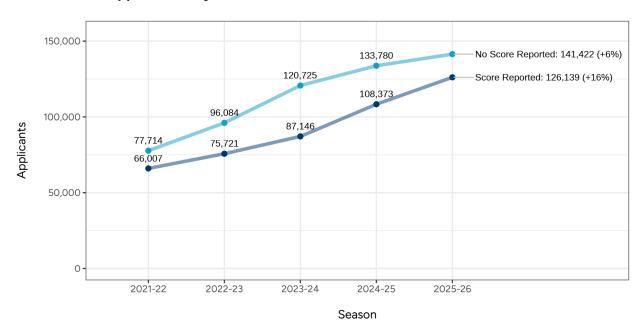


Figure A9. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, non-URM applicants only

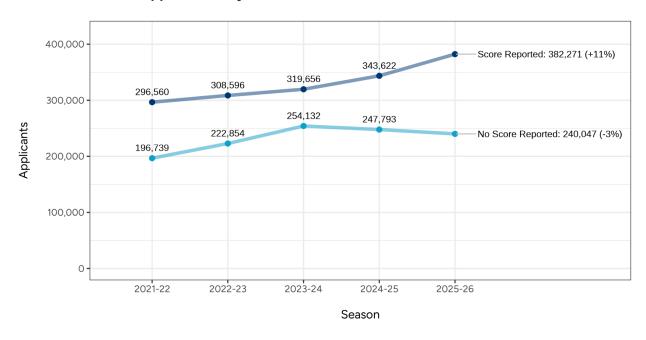


Figure A10. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, fee-waiver-eligible applicants only

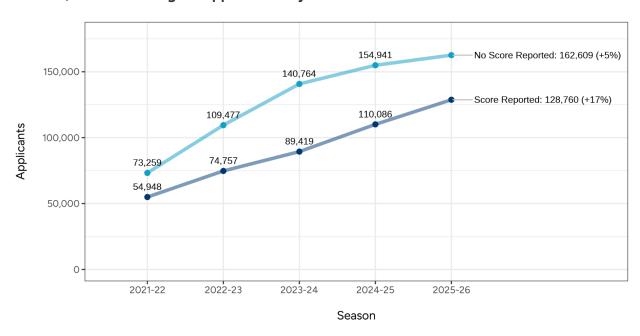


Figure A11. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, fee-waiver-ineligible applicants only

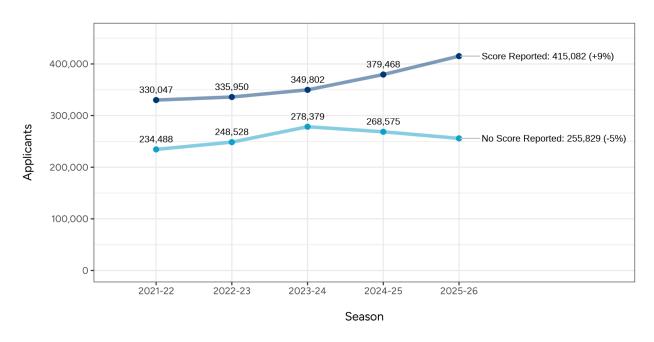


Figure A12. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, applicants from ZIP codes below national median income only

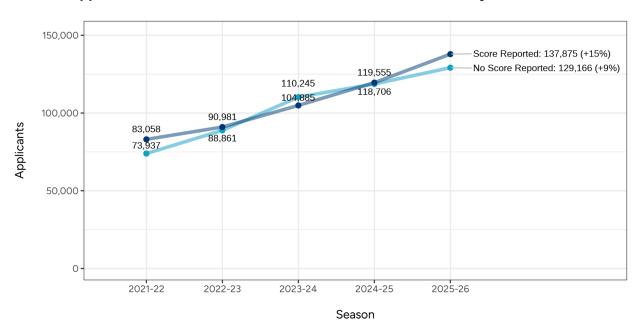


Figure A13. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, applicants from ZIP codes above national median income only

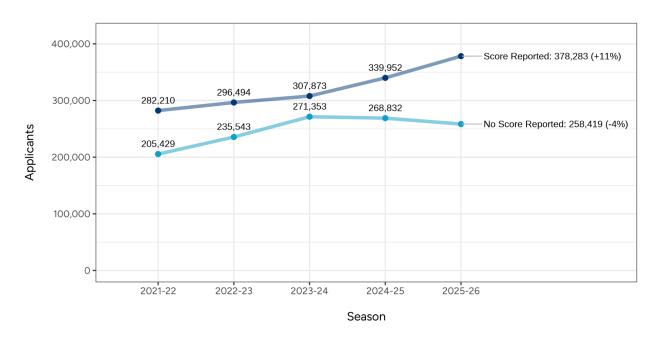


Figure A14. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among White applicants since 2021–22

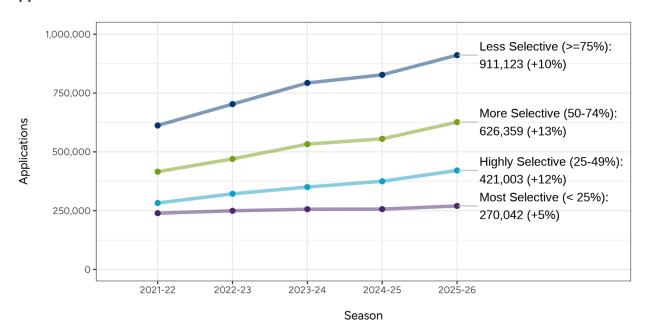


Figure A15. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Black or African American applicants since 2021–22

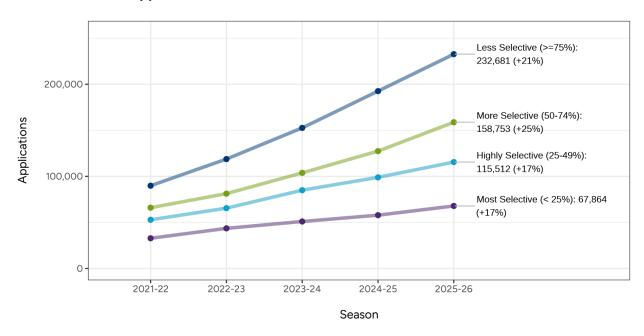


Figure A16. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Asian applicants since 2021–22

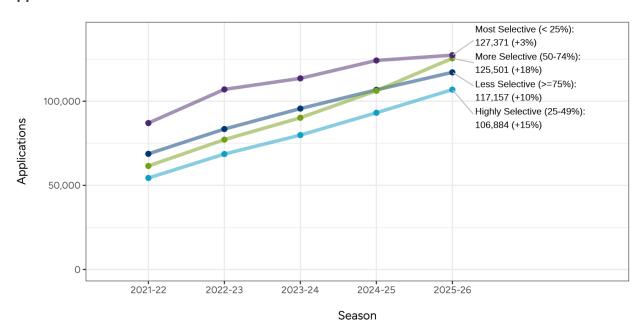


Figure A17. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Latinx applicants since 2021–22

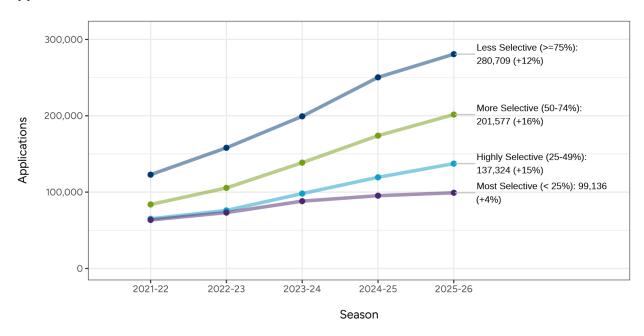


Figure A18. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander applicants since 2021–22

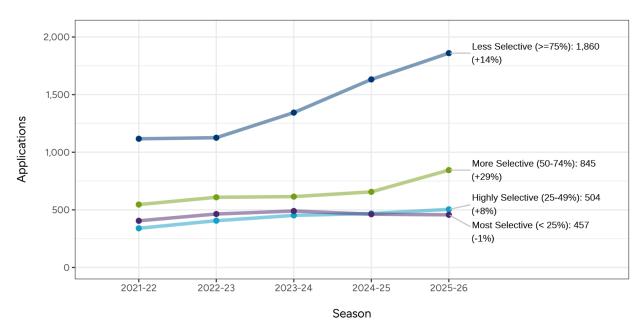


Figure A19. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among American Indian or Alaska Native applicants since 2021–22

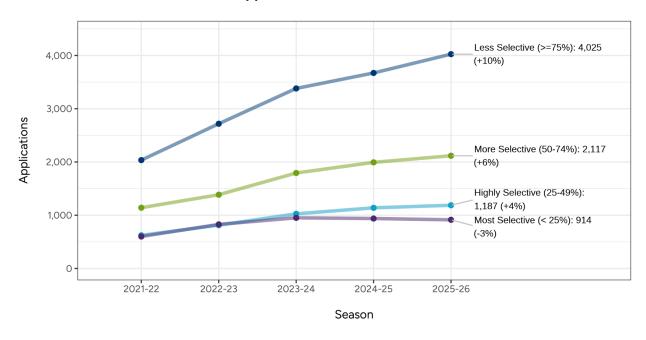


Figure A20. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Unknown race/ethnicity applicants since 2021–22

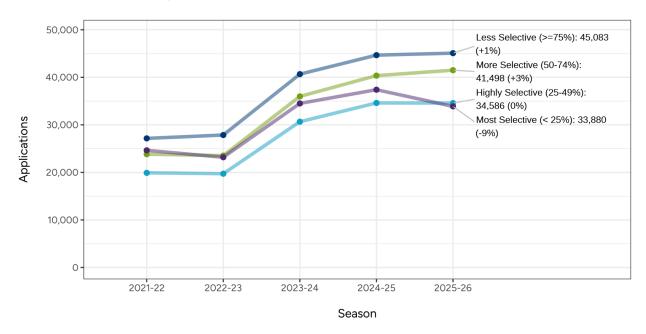


Figure A21. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Two or More race/ethnicity applicants since 2021–22

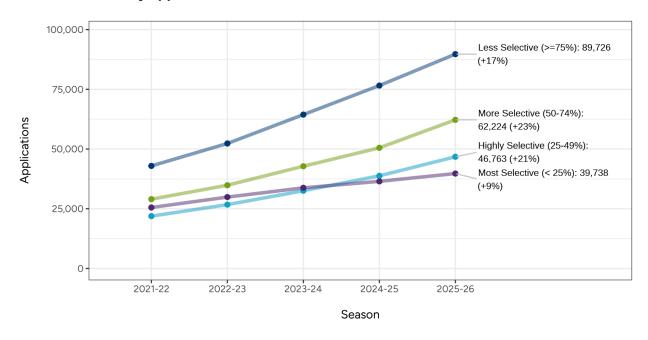
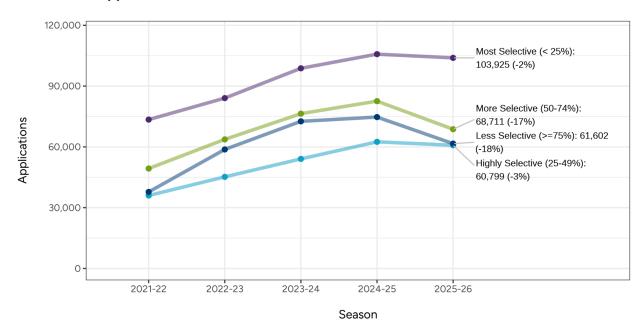


Figure A22. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among International applicants since 2021–22

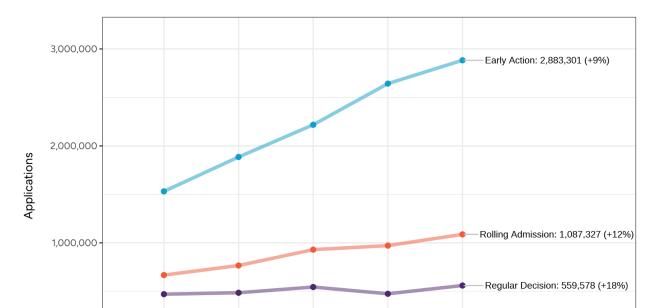


Early Decision: 145,427 (+4%) Other: 40,719 (-1%)

2025-26

2024-25

Season



2023-24

Figure A23. Growth in applications by deadline decision type since 2021–22

2021-22

2022-23

Figure A24. Growth in first-year applicants' deadline participation behavior since 2021–22

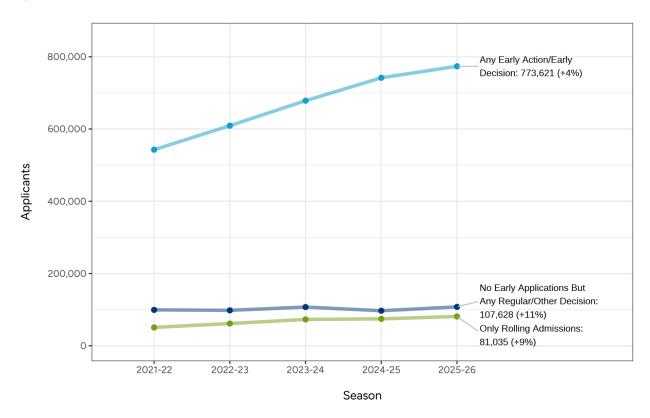


Table B1. Applicant counts by state since 2021–22

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26		2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Alabama	3,325	3,885	4,054	4,351	5,244	Missouri	6,064	6,519	7,084	7,558	8,432
Alaska	378	405	457	487	534	Montana	492	525	657	731	874
Arizona	4,094	5,354	4,936	4,986	6,795	Nebraska	1,299	1,309	2,904	2,083	2,089
Arkansas	1,474	1,480	1,498	1,648	1,978	Nevada	1,755	2,038	2,175	2,419	2,856
Armed Forces Americas	NA	10	10	13	NA	New Hampshire	3,275	3,663	3,835	3,982	4,326
Armed Forces Europe	230	235	247	250	246	New Jersey	33,422	36,302	39,640	41,358	44,396
Armed Forces Pacific	124	101	143	134	125	New Mexico	995	1,035	1,099	1,185	1,468
California	42,173	48,362	49,386	52,082	54,053	New York	44,066	50,263	64,996	67,512	70,263
Colorado	20,909	21,882	23,019	23,907	25,241	North Carolina	32,044	34,843	37,899	40,734	40,088
Connecticut	12,807	13,512	17,174	17,991	17,675	North Dakota	253	274	297	329	363
Delaware	2,646	3,176	3,596	3,441	3,548	Northern Mariana Islands	NA	17	11	14	15
District of Columbia	1,632	1,870	2,136	2,783	2,815	Ohio	33,301	36,325	37,632	39,619	42,845
Florida	51,067	47,759	59,899	60,440	64,748	Oklahoma	2,156	2,399	3,145	3,185	3,642
Georgia	21,430	24,691	26,922	28,832	30,335	Oregon	5,119	5,949	6,937	7,876	8,306
Guam	69	83	113	113	125	Pennsylvania	34,412	37,417	39,061	41,696	43,994
Hawaii	1,627	1,903	1,935	2,069	2,291	Puerto Rico	763	837	906	1,050	1,017
Idaho	912	1,112	1,127	1,124	1,240	Rhode Island	2,537	2,773	2,921	2,948	3,417
Illinois	43,612	48,811	51,417	55,598	56,277	South Carolina	9,231	10,299	11,563	12,366	14,700
Indiana	19,523	20,823	22,284	24,042	24,996	South Dakota	430	420	560	586	624
Iowa	1,602	1,617	2,008	2,161	2,529	Tennessee	8,073	8,650	10,127	10,668	12,046
Kansas	2,296	2,126	2,385	2,787	3,101	Texas Utah	33,544 4,627	43,095 5,118	52,824 5,315	69,824 2,119	80,480 2,177
Kentucky	4,312	4,897	5,133	5,426	6,823	Vermont	1,609	1,740	1,855	1,912	2,009
Louisiana	5,078	5,764	6,252	7,275	8,671	Vermont Virgin Islands	56	61	77	92	121
Maine	2,304	2,390	2,537	2,676	2,931	Virginia	27,803	32,628	34,243	36,707	39,842
Maryland	23,829	26,281	27,932	29,781	31,670	Washington	7,559	9,562	10,530	11,660	12,280
Massachusetts	26,037	27,850	28,710	30,486	31,371	West Virginia	757	800	785	1,044	1,288
Michigan	25,075	27,470	30,764	31,218	32,337	Wisconsin	9,197	10,083	11,577	11,334	12,119
Minnesota	11,319	12,285	13,635	14,085	16,468	Wyoming	253	329	331	321	408
Mississippi	997	1,098	1,253	1,353	1,797	,		020			
Missouri	6,064	6,519	7,084	7,558	8,432						

Cells with fewer than ten students are omitted.

Table B2. Application trends by member region and institutional control

			Private			Public					
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	
Mid-Atlantic	302,926	346,556	392,635	442,348	492,640	255,452	326,846	426,784	478,037	541,654	
Midwestern	261,071	289,808	324,000	342,711	359,832	508,087	596,032	687,513	767,689	829,311	
New England	205,037	235,246	250,790	259,621	290,155	81,932	92,088	116,260	124,795	132,687	
Southern	219,172	241,235	285,017	300,266	331,899	644,340	742,440	890,375	1,001,053	1,113,477	
Southwestern	48,501	54,824	65,824	79,138	92,791	38,417	53,119	68,583	98,859	116,943	
Western	110,862	153,485	156,815	165,153	187,873	143,414	172,399	195,541	200,879	217,573	

Note:

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Table B3. Application trends by member state and institutional control

			Private					Public		
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
California	67,440	107,860	109,115	114,835	131,627	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Colorado	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	74,318	83,332	97,631	101,753	108,396
Connecticut	33,449	39,614	49,196	51,780	57,982	12,024	13,878	33,649	37,736	38,355
District of Columbia	17,661	24,889	29,209	43,123	41,066	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Florida	83,792	88,076	104,605	110,549	114,506	182,610	167,800	227,535	256,036	286,344
Georgia	24,737	28,340	32,370	36,006	44,231	65,253	77,647	85,556	99,553	92,291
Illinois	79,443	88,879	98,147	107,043	101,137	68,521	89,691	104,549	119,859	130,945
Indiana	41,754	44,237	48,350	52,688	55,847	92,113	101,141	118,222	135,189	145,335
Iowa	6,844	7,431	8,394	8,110	10,824	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kentucky	3,875	4,372	5,062	5,334	5,475	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Louisiana	14,520	13,801	18,739	19,308	22,859	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maine	4,964	6,061	6,764	6,779	9,734	5,468	6,325	6,945	7,152	8,205
Maryland	14,195	16,587	19,722	21,721	25,108	57,756	71,310	77,607	87,673	101,762
Massachusetts	132,471	148,304	152,025	161,604	176,952	30,100	34,717	35,667	39,159	42,446
Michigan	16,947	19,188	25,147	27,117	28,971	121,556	136,797	161,579	174,945	179,581
Minnesota	16,963	19,093	24,056	24,079	29,142	19,758	22,264	24,040	26,753	36,550
Missouri	12,529	14,359	15,526	16,290	15,540	13,410	16,390	19,162	23,712	26,515
New Hampshire	6,616	7,591	9,021	8,444	9,809	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Jersey	21,659	27,043	33,466	32,169	38,455	16,252	21,707	26,365	31,706	44,736
New York	138,890	153,111	176,771	198,618	233,657	43,514	79,835	150,448	163,771	172,257
North Carolina	39,497	45,794	54,141	56,241	53,650	131,116	151,242	181,682	196,884	180,975
Ohio	64,498	71,499	74,371	76,102	85,034	114,735	138,197	152,192	167,318	182,551
Oregon	9,220	10,282	11,465	13,505	13,061	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pennsylvania	110,521	124,926	133,467	146,717	154,354	116,064	128,633	143,649	162,419	188,439
Rhode Island	23,630	28,475	28,812	27,291	30,964	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
South Carolina	8,498	10,498	13,180	12,850	16,398	70,998	91,205	109,210	120,843	140,655
Tennessee	19,207	20,459	21,593	21,364	28,071	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Texas	45,819	51,283	61,756	75,084	87,691	23,218	34,646	46,778	72,566	85,886
Vermont	3,907	5,201	4,972	3,723	4,714	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Virginia	21,046	25,137	29,672	32,422	36,847	95,310	123,360	134,080	153,319	200,392
Washington	9,451	9,958	10,025	10,916	12,098	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wisconsin	16,800	19,498	23,202	24,094	24,854	42,212	49,358	53,523	58,404	60,794

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Table B4. Application trends by member region and selectivity group

	Less Selective (>=75%)						More Selective (50-74%)				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	
Mid-Atlantic	174,083	214,658	263,367	302,709	346,397	177,921	212,098	272,205	299,267	352,157	
Midwestern	375,631	438,102	512,361	560,520	624,720	199,837	228,916	259,837	284,465	284,070	
New England	69,805	82,210	104,281	111,804	125,526	71,114	81,473	96,220	100,995	109,228	
Southern	205,621	257,343	300,923	336,164	347,756	191,258	227,587	269,506	304,184	369,008	
Southwestern	15,867	19,972	26,426	40,202	48,160	52,252	66,335	81,470	108,144	124,252	
Western	163,545	193,683	215,449	226,918	251,407	38,448	41,497	43,689	41,924	48,870	

Selectivity calculated as undergraduates admitted as a percent of applications

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Members without available IPEDS data are omitted.

	Highly Selective (25-49%)							Most Selective (<=25%)				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26		
Mid-Atlantic	137,092	169,415	204,994	236,062	252,774	68,366	75,935	77,195	80,677	80,791		
Midwestern	99,289	115,017	126,315	142,097	157,693	93,005	102,074	111,079	121,275	118,655		
New England	25,101	31,766	34,996	39,792	46,887	120,693	131,639	131,318	131,533	140,856		
Southern	230,116	257,232	308,526	343,766	387,989	235,962	240,730	295,503	316,760	339,753		
Southwestern	14,769	17,268	21,518	24,499	31,548	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
Western	27,179	33,851	35,839	37,614	47,671	25,104	56,853	57,379	59,576	57,498		

Note:

Selectivity calculated as undergraduates admitted as a percent of applications

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Table B5a. Application trends by member state and selectivity group (Less and More Selective)

		Less S	elective (>	=75%)			More S	elective (5	0-74%)	
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
California	6,425	6,484	6,722	9,137	14,151	15,111	17,356	17,619	17,223	20,837
Colorado	70,976	79,508	92,353	97,094	104,956	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Connecticut	11,933	14,122	27,000	29,569	30,697	14,200	16,906	30,470	33,358	36,698
Florida	19,741	20,741	25,070	28,957	31,944	44,614	50,244	64,828	74,079	77,270
Georgia	6,899	9,730	10,963	12,482	15,086	19,862	25,945	27,639	34,117	36,037
Illinois	55,918	67,301	74,040	84,242	83,285	35,663	42,898	50,203	54,459	58,434
Indiana	64,087	66,794	80,648	91,839	105,874	59,126	66,083	73,022	81,669	79,551
Iowa	18,378	21,723	25,404	29,228	33,781	4,439	4,408	5,240	5,098	4,956
Kansas	NA	9,749	13,470	14,559	16,179	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kentucky	13,806	19,224	22,754	24,670	31,981	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maine	7,177	8,417	9,354	9,456	12,030	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maryland	17,608	27,456	32,555	38,450	51,890	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Massachusetts	26,981	31,837	35,916	41,354	46,750	31,683	37,850	38,820	41,613	44,101
Michigan	73,113	83,727	102,353	108,749	112,752	10,029	11,723	16,701	17,357	18,560
Minnesota	27,127	30,745	34,182	37,521	50,041	5,478	6,331	9,178	8,724	10,211
Missouri	17,017	20,102	22,859	27,021	28,742	4,813	6,450	7,665	8,647	9,529
New Hampshire	11,015	12,980	15,511	15,546	18,171	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Jersey	22,597	28,766	35,521	41,682	52,249	7,737	10,410	12,871	13,931	20,650
New York	35,329	48,137	78,081	89,776	100,408	70,209	91,139	131,784	141,386	168,240
North Carolina	63,699	74,188	92,781	94,510	72,837	25,813	28,961	32,780	35,857	33,896
Ohio	82,737	102,797	114,662	120,298	145,049	70,779	79,713	84,650	95,939	89,100
Oregon	29,693	37,401	40,969	46,730	47,260	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pennsylvania	94,996	106,600	112,585	127,889	136,386	68,641	74,091	85,882	98,050	112,934
South Carolina	8,247	10,168	14,546	16,398	20,942	45,662	54,988	67,651	73,108	87,026
Tennessee	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	6,056	7,677	8,711	8,255	8,839
Texas	8,214	11,042	14,698	25,464	30,866	42,071	53,294	67,366	92,583	105,428
Virginia	52,837	72,625	83,398	97,163	100,814	12,421	15,808	15,856	18,244	46,712
Washington	8,997	14,102	14,300	15,594	17,061	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Virginia	6,645	8,691	9,412	11,664	13,909	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wisconsin	17,387	21,343	25,905	25,878	25,845	5,203	6,852	7,848	7,042	6,948

Selectivity calculated as undergraduates admitted as a percent of applications

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Table B5b. Application trends by member state and selectivity group (Highly and Most Selective)

		Highly S	Selective (2	25-49%)			Most S	elective (<	=25%)	
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
California	25,030	31,245	31,524	33,203	43,325	20,874	52,775	53,250	55,272	53,314
Colorado	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Connecticut	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Florida	112,013	103,958	127,115	142,598	162,789	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Georgia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Illinois	35,364	NA	54,583	63,512	70,388	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Indiana	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Iowa	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kansas	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kentucky	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maine	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maryland	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Massachusetts	7,954	10,454	10,876	12,394	16,788	95,940	102,854	102,055	105,359	111,720
Michigan	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minnesota	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Missouri	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Hampshire	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Jersey	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New York	33,458	45,822	68,663	81,395	84,355	43,097	47,319	47,937	49,174	52,102
North Carolina	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ohio	23,463	24,244	24,099	24,545	29,240	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oregon	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pennsylvania	47,468	55,821	60,838	63,702	76,875	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
South Carolina	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tennessee	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Texas	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Virginia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Washington	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Virginia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wisconsin	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Selectivity calculated as undergraduates admitted as a percent of applications

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Table B6. Percentage changes in application volume on Common App relative to prior year, by institution characteristics

Institutions	Decrease of 5% or	Decrease less than	No change to 5%	More than 5%	
11151111110115	more	5%	increase	increase	
Overall	18.0	7.0	10.9	64.1	
Control					
Private	19.9	7.8	9.7	62.7	
Public	14.1	5.2	14.5	66.1	
Control and Carnegie C	Classification				
Private	00.4	0.0	0.0	04.5	
Baccalaureate	23.1	9.0	6.3	61.5	
Private Master's	19.5	6.5	8.5	65.5	
Public Master's	16.2	8.1	10.8	64.9	
Private Doctoral	13.3	8.4	12.7	65.7	
Public Doctoral	13.4	4.2	16.9	65.5	
Acceptance Rate					
< 25%	19.4	4.2	16.7	59.7	
25-50%	16.7	9.5	9.5	64.3	
50-75%	18.2	9.3	11.7	60.7	
>= 75%	18.3	5.7	10.4	65.6	
Test Requirement					
Not Required	18.0	7.2	10.9	63.9	
Required	17.9	2.6	10.3	69.2	
Enrollment Size					
Under 2500	23.7	7.0	7.5	61.7	
2500 - 10000	14.1	7.5	12.2	66.1	
Over 10000	14.1	6.2	16.4	63.3	
MSI Status					
MSI	14.8	5.9	6.7	72.6	
Not an MSI	18.9	7.2	11.9	62.0	
Region					
International	12.8	7.7	2.6	76.9	
Mid-Atlantic	15.2	8.9	8.0	67.9	
Midwestern	19.6	7.3	14.7	58.4	
New England	18.5	5.9	13.4	62.2	
Southern	17.1	4.9	10.4	67.7	
Southwestern	10.7	10.7	3.6	75.0	
Western	26.1	5.4	10.9	57.6	

Selectivity calculated as undergraduates admitted as a percent of applications

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.