

DEADLINE UPDATES

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'26

# First-year Application Trends

Through March 1

# First-year application trends through March 1

## Applications

# 9,423,621

total applications

# 911

returning members

### Member Type

Applications to public and private members grew at similar rates compared to 2024-25 (5% and 5% respectively)

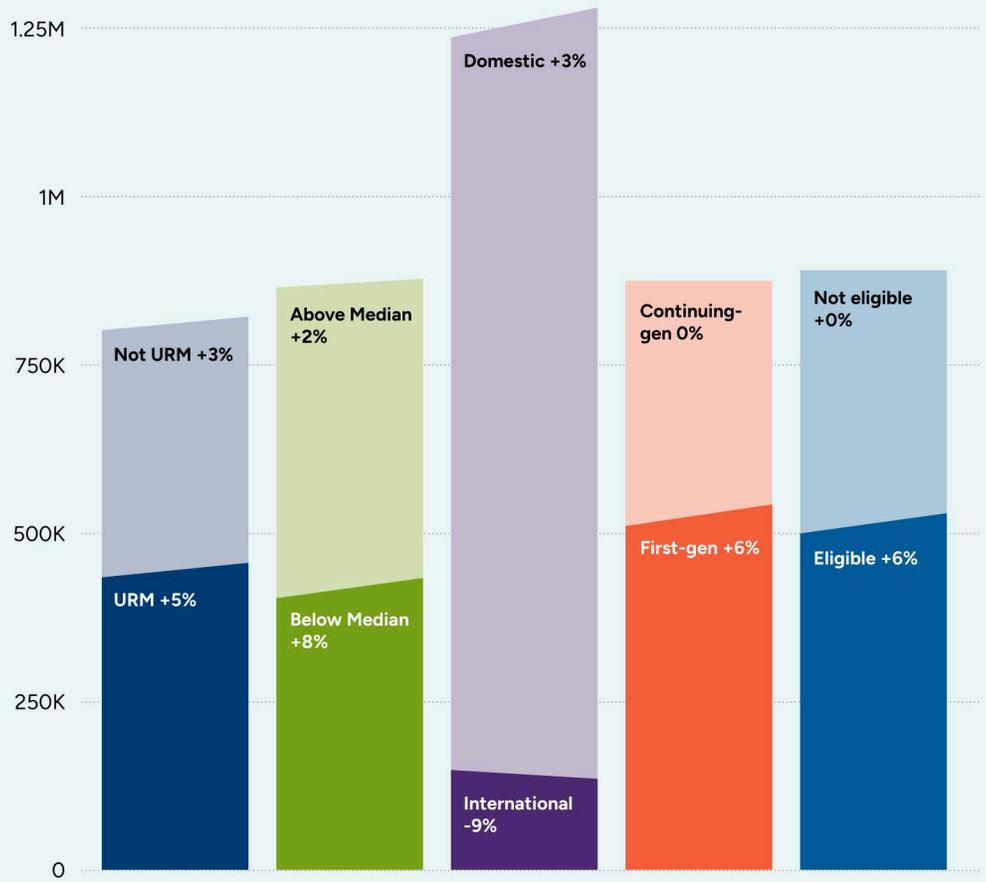


## Applicants

# 1,429,747

applicants

- Underrepresented minority race/ethnicity (URM) applicants** increased by 5%.
- International applicants** declined while domestic applicants increased by 3%.
- First-generation applicants** increased by 6% since 2024-25.
- Growth in applicants from **below-median income** ZIP-codes continued to outpace their peers at 8% since 2024-25.
- Growth was faster for students reporting **eligibility for a Common App fee waiver** (6%) compared to those not reporting fee waiver eligibility (0%).



Each category shows trends from 2024-25 to 2025-26 season. © Common App 2026

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

March 12, 2026

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## 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, March 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 911 institutions. That said, trends observed here may still partially result from new members bringing new applicants onto the platform each year

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## Key findings

1. **Applicant and application counts grew:** Through March 1, 2026, 1,429,747 distinct first-year applicants had applied to 911 returning members, an increase of 2% from 1,400,051 at this point in 2024–25.
  - a. Application volume to returning members through March 1 rose 5% from 2024–25 (8,977,626) to 2025–26 (9,423,621). Applicants had also applied to more members through March 1 in 2025–26 than in 2024–25 (up 3% from 6.41 to 6.59 applications per applicant).
2. **Low-income applicants' growth outpaces their peers:** Growth was faster for students reporting eligibility for a Common App fee waiver (6% vs. less than 1%). This is also true of growth in applicants from below-median income ZIP codes, who continued to outpace their peers from above-median income ZIP codes at 8% growth compared to this point in 2024–25 (versus 2%).
3. **Black or African American applicants and applicants identifying as Two or More Races are growing at the fastest rates:** Black or African American applicants (8%) and applicants identifying as Two or More Races (7%) saw the fastest growth compared to the prior season. Applicants identifying as an underrepresented minority race/ethnicity<sup>1</sup> (URM) increased by 5% compared to this point in 2024-25.
4. **First-generation applicants continue to grow:** Applicants identifying as first-generation grew by 6% compared to this point during 2024-25, while continuing-generation applicants decreased by less than 1%.
5. **The growth rate in applicants was slowest from metropolitan areas.** Compared to this point during the 2024-25 application cycle, the number of applicants from Rural areas (8%), small towns (7%), and micropolitan (6%) areas grew faster than in Metropolitan areas (3%), 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 (8%) of the next fastest-growing region, driven by substantial growth in

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<sup>1</sup> We use the term underrepresented minority (URM) in alignment with conventions employed by the [National Science Foundation](#). 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 (7%) and Oklahoma (13%). Mississippi was the fastest-growing state compared to this point last season, exhibiting 27% growth.

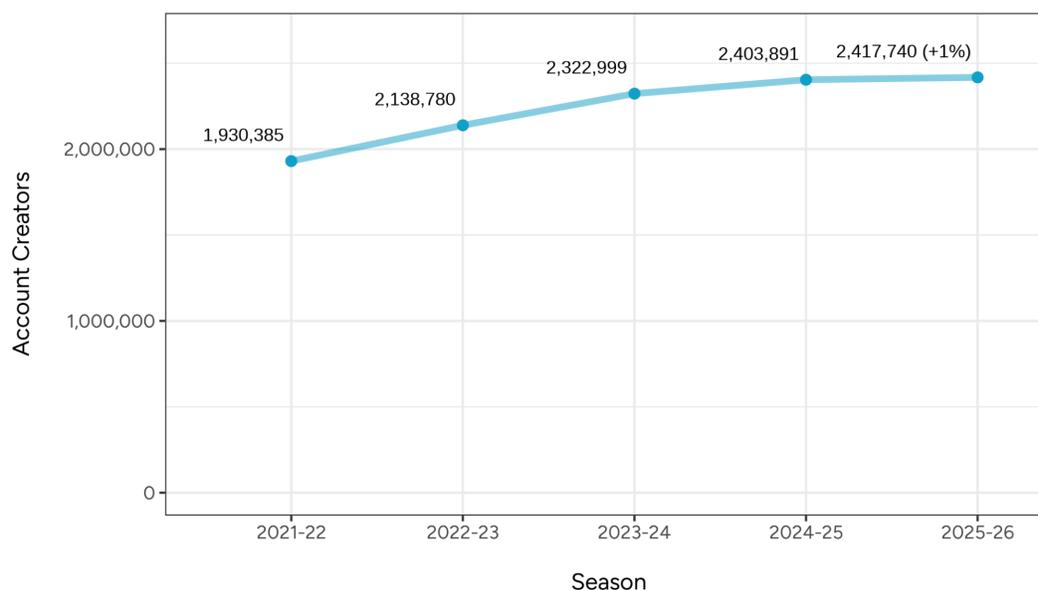
7. **The number of international applicants declined compared to this point in the 2024-25 application cycle:** The number of international applicants decreased by 9%. There was a pronounced drop in applicants from Asia (-10%) and Africa (-16%), with notable declines in applicants from India (-14%) and Ghana (-34%). Applicants from the Americas, meanwhile, increased by 4% compared to this point in 2024-25, with notable increases in applicants from Honduras (55%) and Venezuela (129%).
8. **Applicants who reported a test score outnumbered those who did not.** In contrast, the majority of applicants did not report a test score at this time last year. The number of applicants reporting a test score grew by 10% compared to this time during the 2024-25 application cycle, while the number of applicants who did not report a test score decreased by 6%. First-generation applicants, applicants identifying as URM, applicants eligible for a Common App fee waiver, and those from below-median income ZIP codes remained less likely to report a score.
9. **Applications to public and private institutions grew at the same rate (5% compared to this time last year).** This differs from trends observed at this time last season, when applications to public institutions grew at 5 times the rate of applications to private institutions. In terms of institutional selectivity, application growth ranged from 3% at institutions that had admit rates below 25% to 6% at institutions that had admit rates between 25% and 49%.

## 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 March 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 March 1 has grown from 2,403,891 in 2024–25 to 2,417,740 in 2025–26—an increase of 1%. In general, we see consistent growth in platform use at this point in the season compared to prior years, with a 2% increase in the number of applicants, a 5% increase in the number of applications, and a 3% increase in the number of applications per applicant, although the growth rate among account creators and applicants is slower than it was at this point last season.<sup>2</sup>

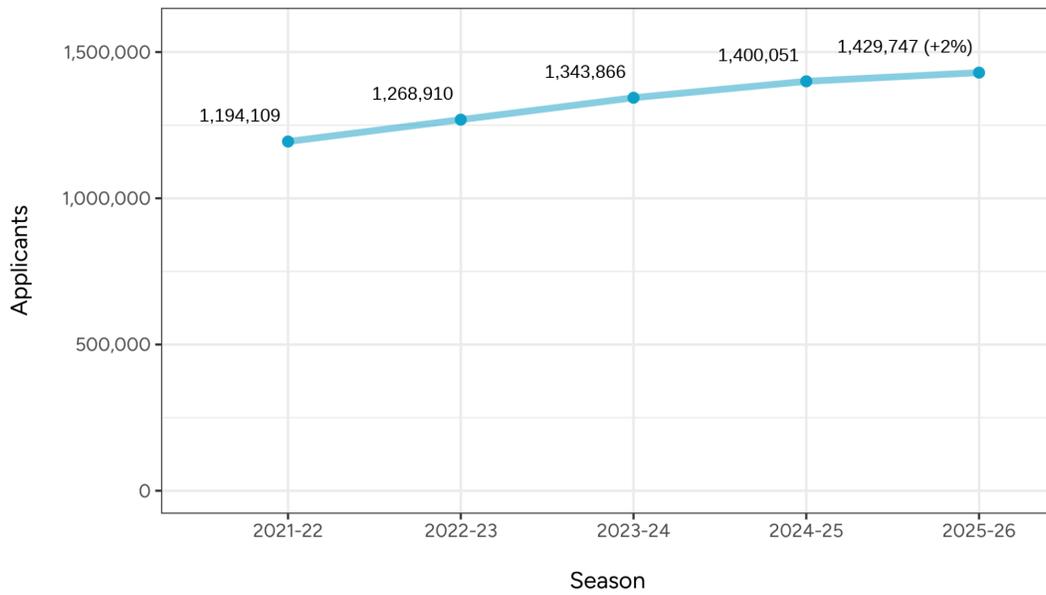
**Figure 1. Growth in first-year accounts created by students intending to enroll in the following academic year since 2021–22**



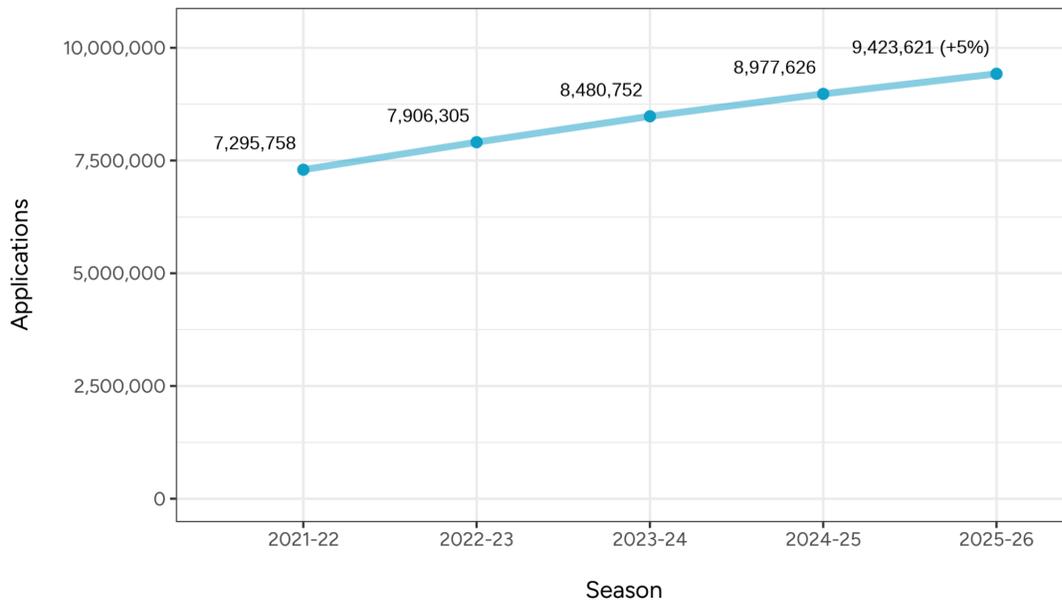
<sup>2</sup> The slowing growth rate among account creators and applicants on our platform may reflect [broader projected declines in the number of high school graduates](#) in the United States beginning in 2025 as well as the decline in international applicants discussed below.

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

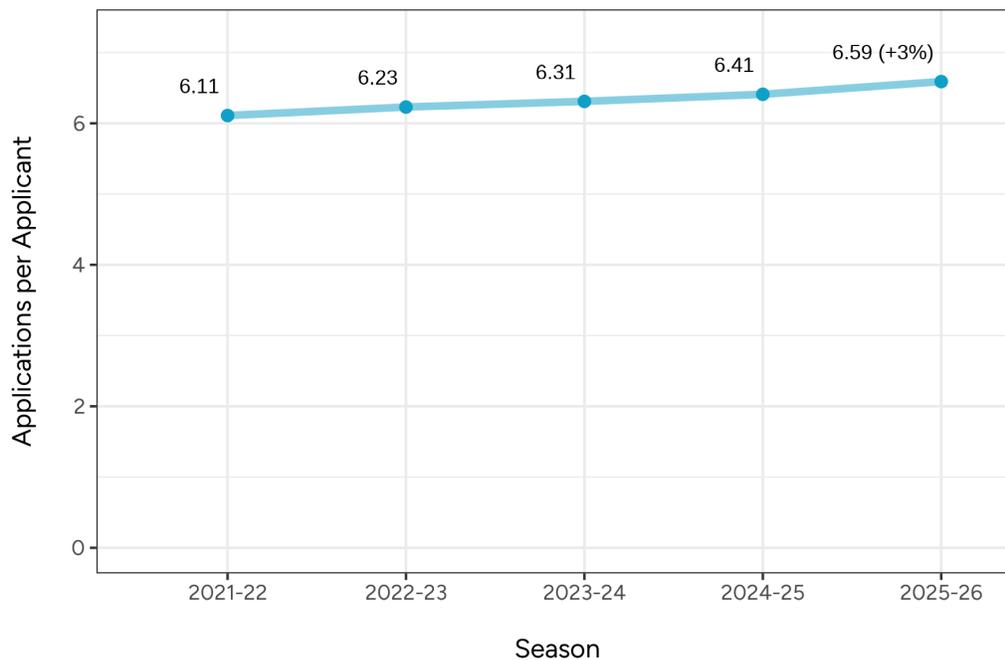


**Figure 3. Growth in first-year applications since 2021–22**



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



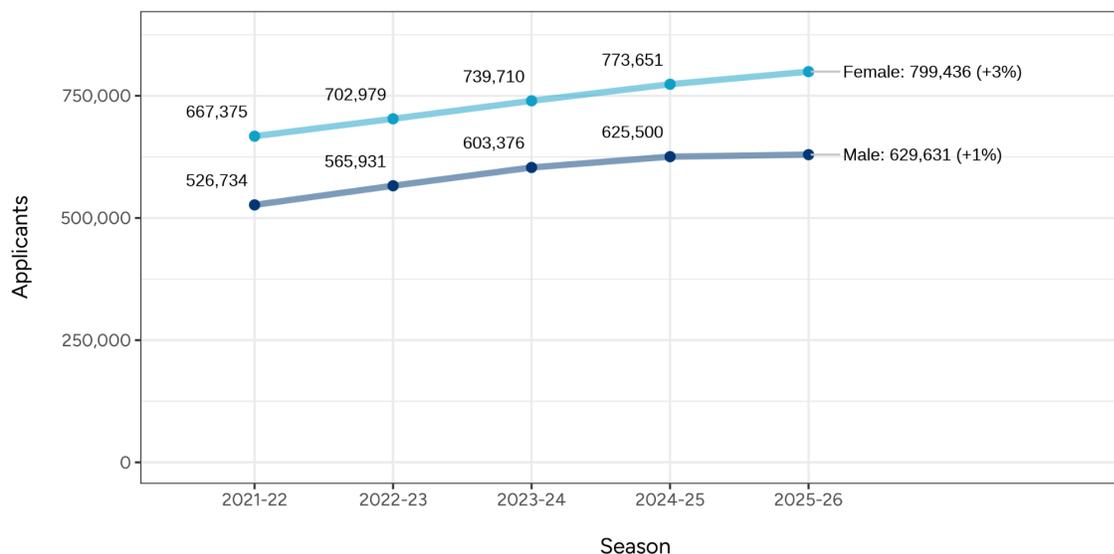
## Applicant demographic trends

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 3% compared to this point in 2024–2025, while Male applicants had a growth rate of 1%.

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

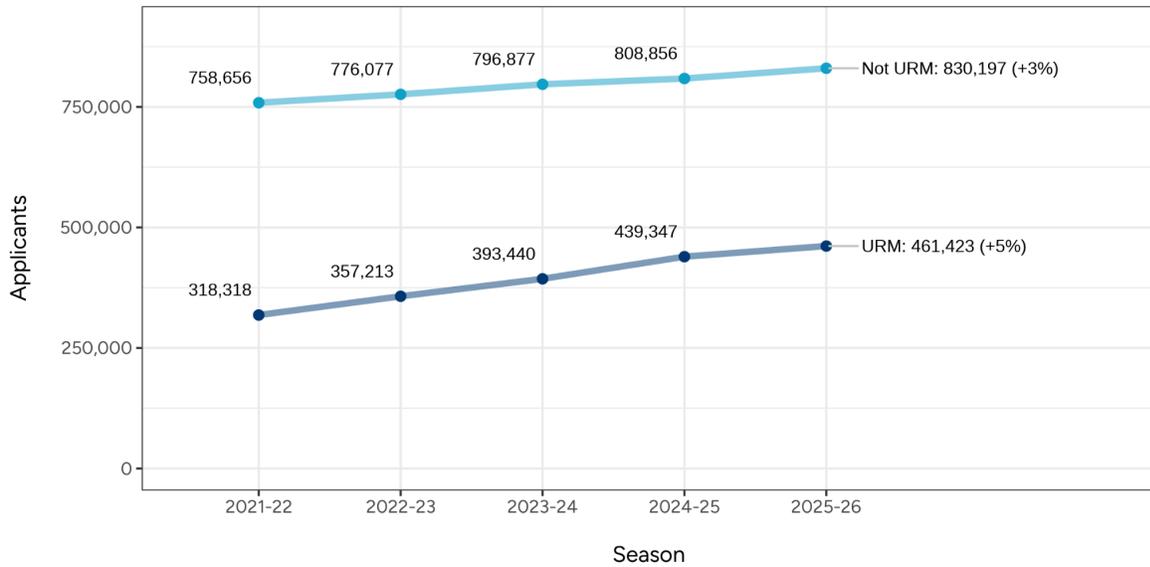


### Trends by student race/ethnicity

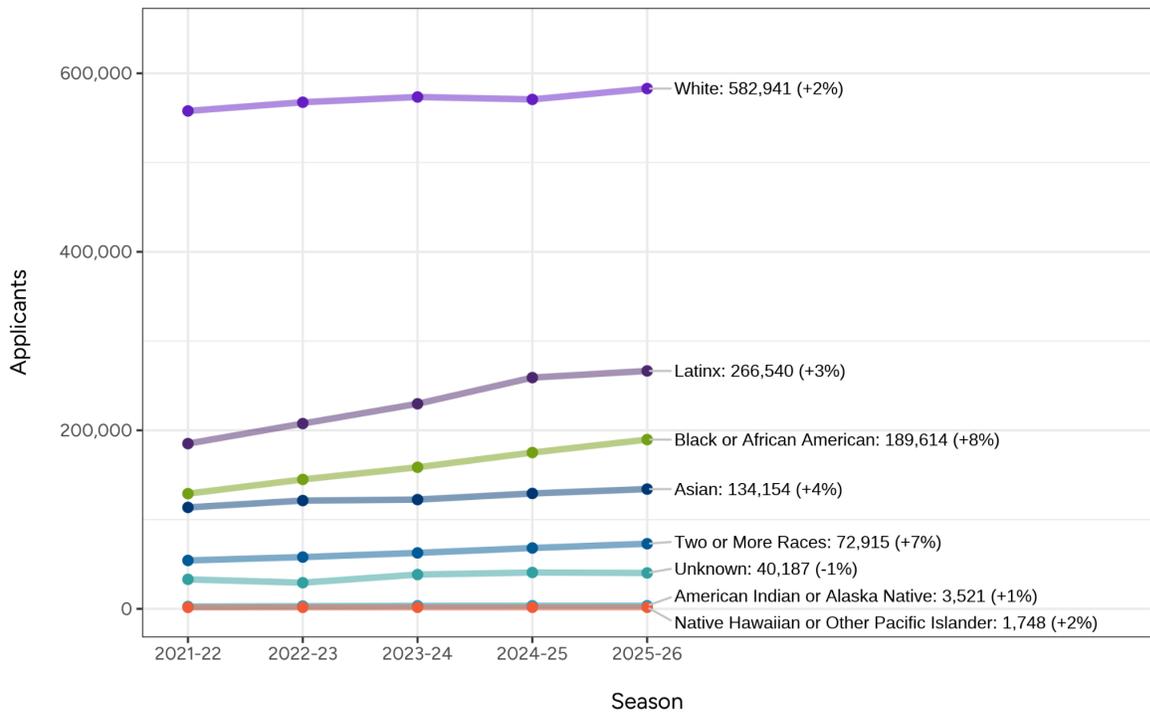
Given member interest in the impact of the [United States Supreme Court decision on race-conscious admissions](#), we continue our deeper dive into application trends by looking across applicant underrepresented minority status (URM) in Figure 6.<sup>3</sup> Consistent with results from our [previous reports on the diversification of the Common App applicant pool](#), we see that the growth in the number of applicants identifying as URM continues to outpace that of their non-URM peers at 5% since 2024–25 (versus 3% 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>3</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**



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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 (8%) or Two or More Races (7%). The share of domestic applicants identifying as White at this point in the season declined from 45.7% in 2024–25 to 45.1% in 2025–26, a drop that represents the continuation of a long-term trend dating back to at least the 2013–2014 season.<sup>4</sup>

The share of students reporting Unknown race/ethnicity declined compared to this point in the season in 2024–25, with 3.3% of students reporting Unknown in 2024–25 and 3.1% 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.

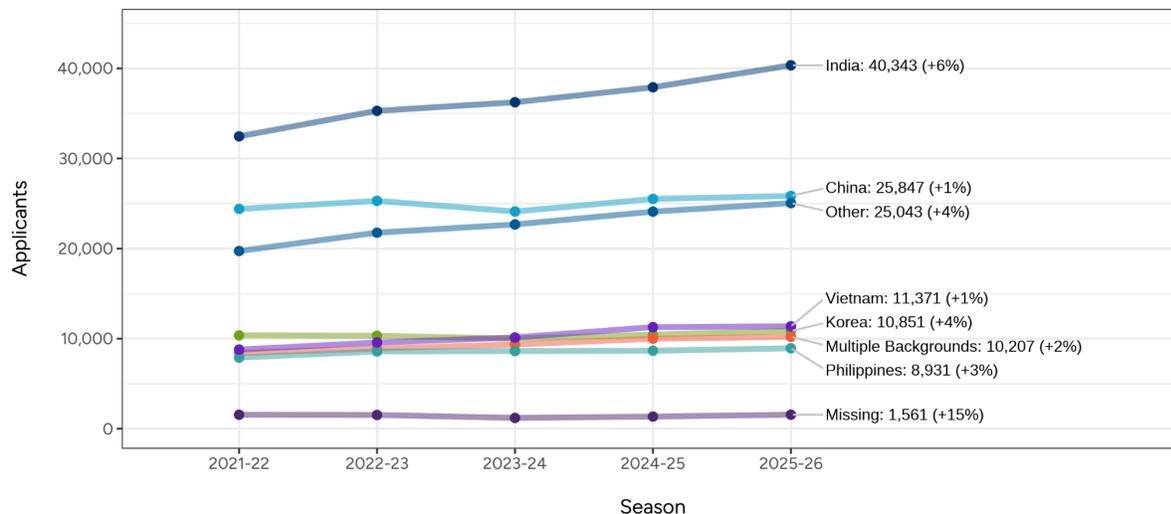
The Common Application prompts students to share more detailed background information within each federal race/ethnicity group (e.g., identifying as Asian with background in China). We are thus able to break out each of the federal race/ethnicity groupings shown above into these more detailed backgrounds. 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 was fastest among Asian applicants who do not report a detailed background (16%). Among those reporting a detailed background, Asian applicants identifying their background in India (6%), Korea (4%), and Other (4%) grew at the fastest rate. Corresponding plots for each of the other federal race/ethnicity groups can be found in the Appendix (Figures A1–A5).<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</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 [current enrollment report](#)).

<sup>5</sup> 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, [part one](#) and [part two](#)).

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

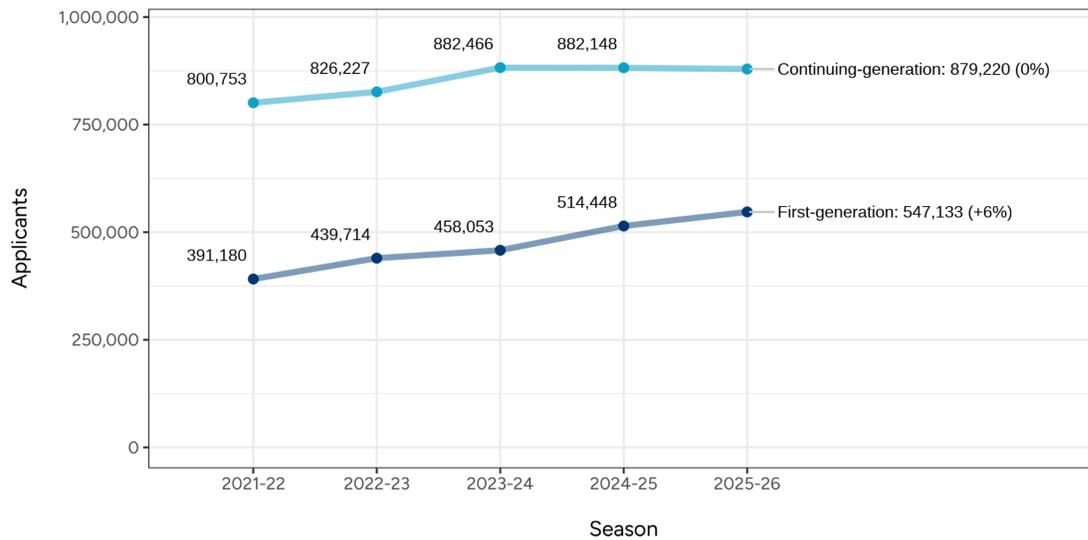


## Trends by student socioeconomic status

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 6% compared to this point last season, while the number of continuing-generation applicants declined by less than 1%. 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>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> For more detail on this topic, see our three research briefs addressing [trends](#), [definitions](#), [complexities](#), and [outcomes](#) associated with different parental education levels.

**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**

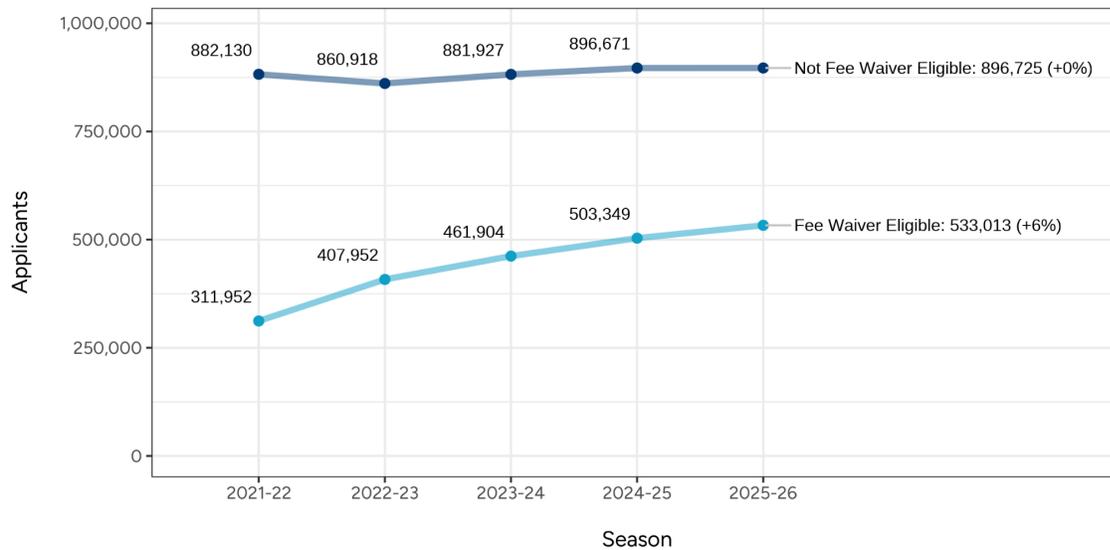


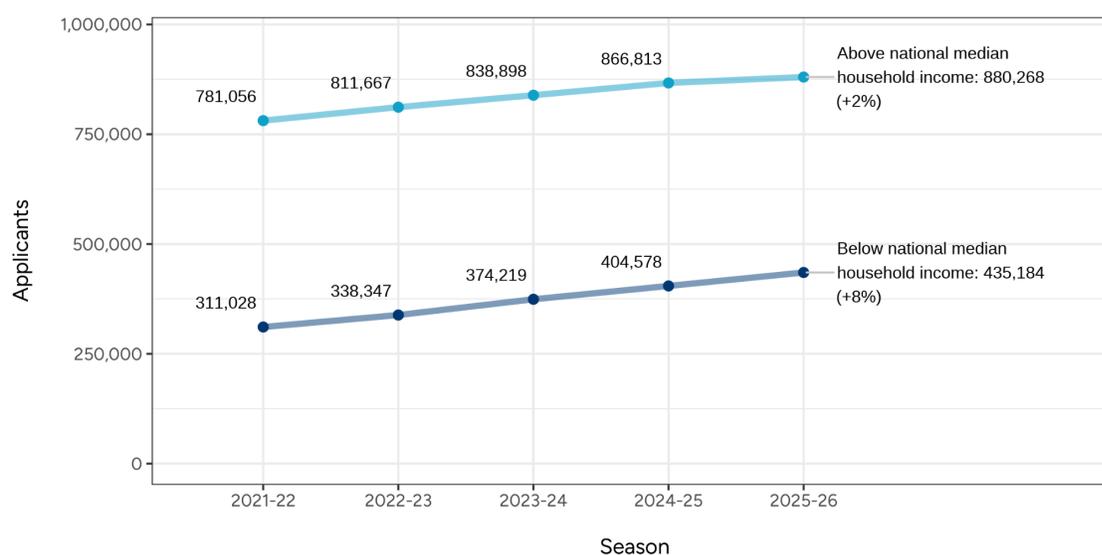
Figure 10 similarly tracks growth in applicants by self-reported Common App fee waiver eligibility, often used as a proxy for low-income status.<sup>7</sup> Applicants reporting eligibility for the Common App fee waiver have grown at a faster rate compared to those that did not report fee waiver eligibility (6% versus less than 1%) through this point in the season since 2024–25.

<sup>7</sup> More information on exact eligibility criteria descriptions are [available online](#).

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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.<sup>8</sup> 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 8% since this point of the season in 2024–25 (vs. 2% 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**



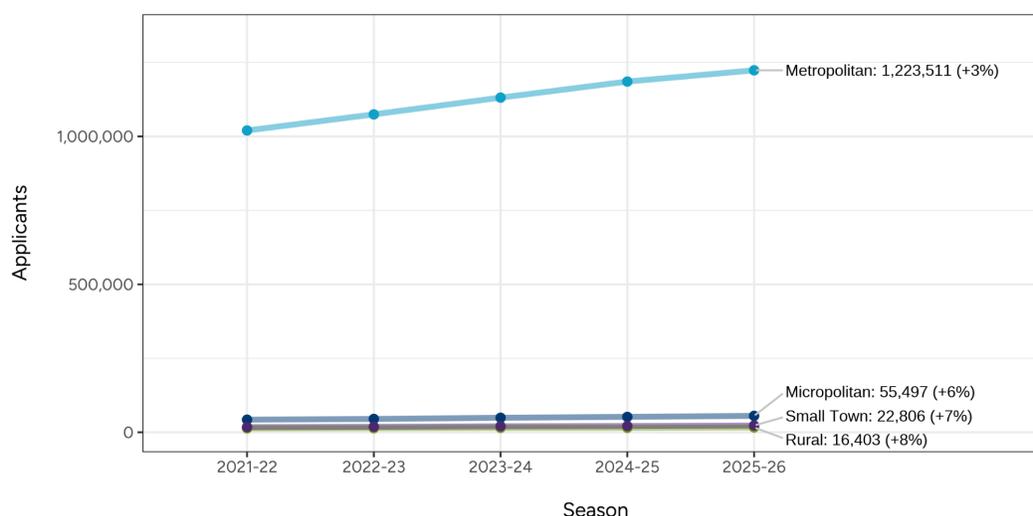
## Trends by student geography

Though Common App membership continues to expand across the country, Common App use still varies substantially by geography. For students residing in the

<sup>8</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.

United States, Figure 12 tracks applicant ZIP code urbanicity classifications.<sup>9</sup> Overall growth rates since 2024–25 were higher among applicants from Rural (8%), Small Town (7%), and Micropolitan (6%) urbanicity types compared to Metropolitan (3%), although the overwhelming majority of applicants still come from Metropolitan ZIP codes.

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

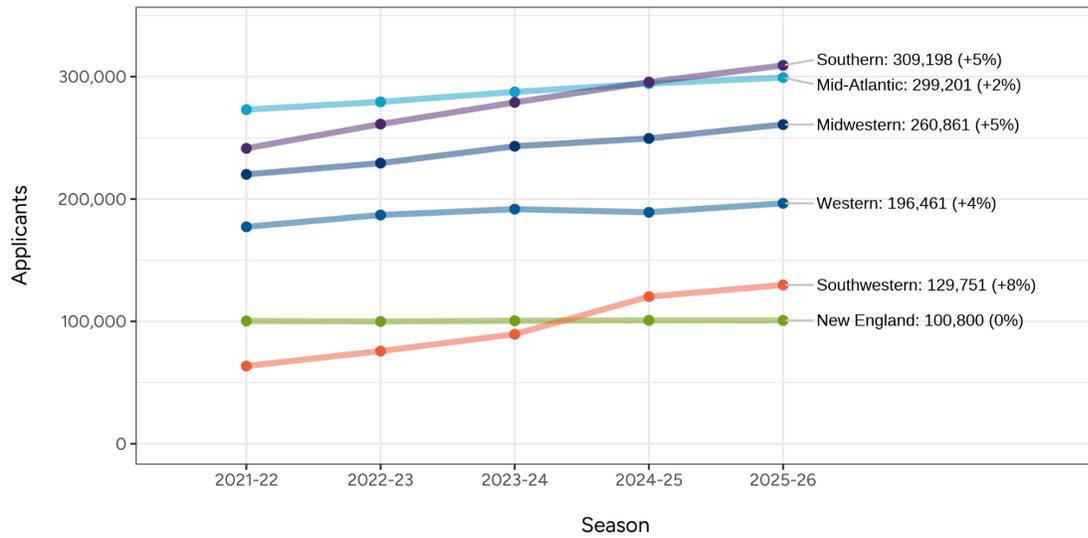


We also examine growth in applicants over time across different regions (Figure 13) and states (Figures 14 and 15) in the United States. For visual clarity, Figure 14 shows applicant trends among the ten fastest-growing states since 2021–22, while Figure 15 shows applicant trends among the ten states with the most applicants overall as of this point in 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).

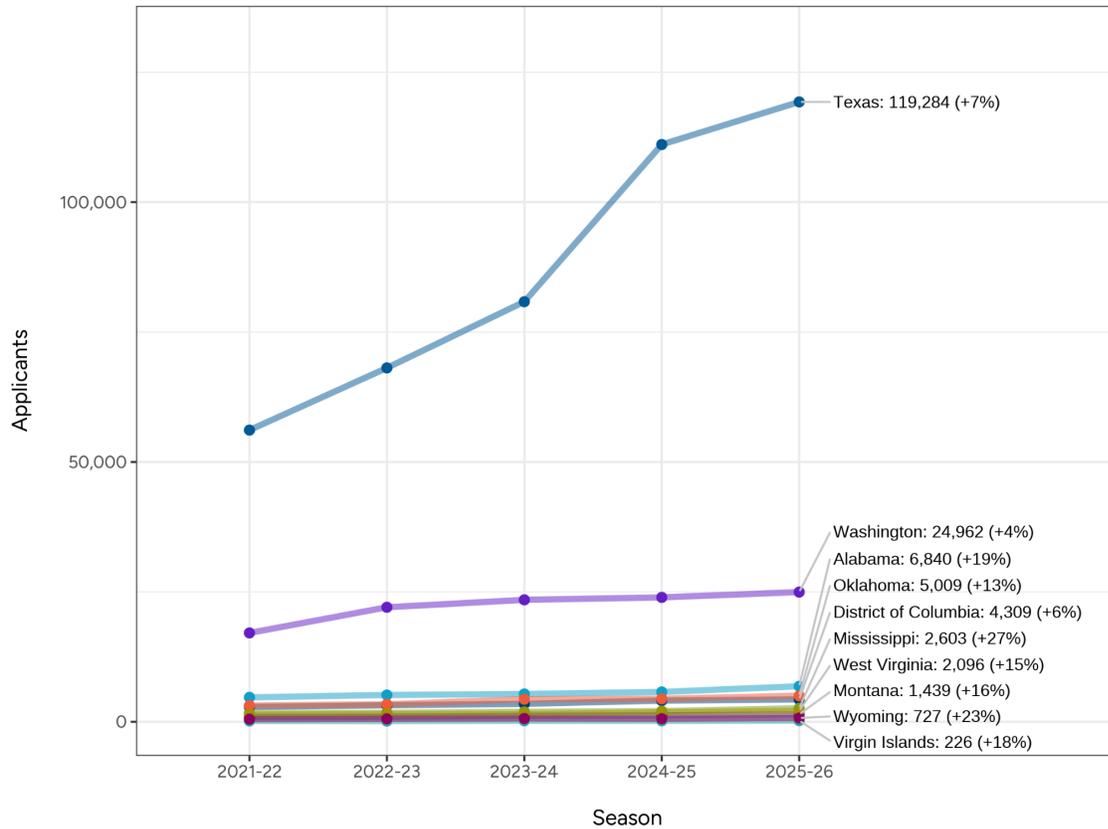
Texas continues to outpace other large states in applicant growth (7%), although the growth rate has slowed compared to this point last season, when the state exhibited 37% year-over-year growth. Buoyed by this growth in Texas as well as growth in Oklahoma (13% growth since 2024-25), the growth rate in applicants from the Southwestern region (8%) again outpaced growth from other regions (Figure 13). Mississippi saw the fastest growth rate in applicants of any state compared to this time last season (27%).

<sup>9</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 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**



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

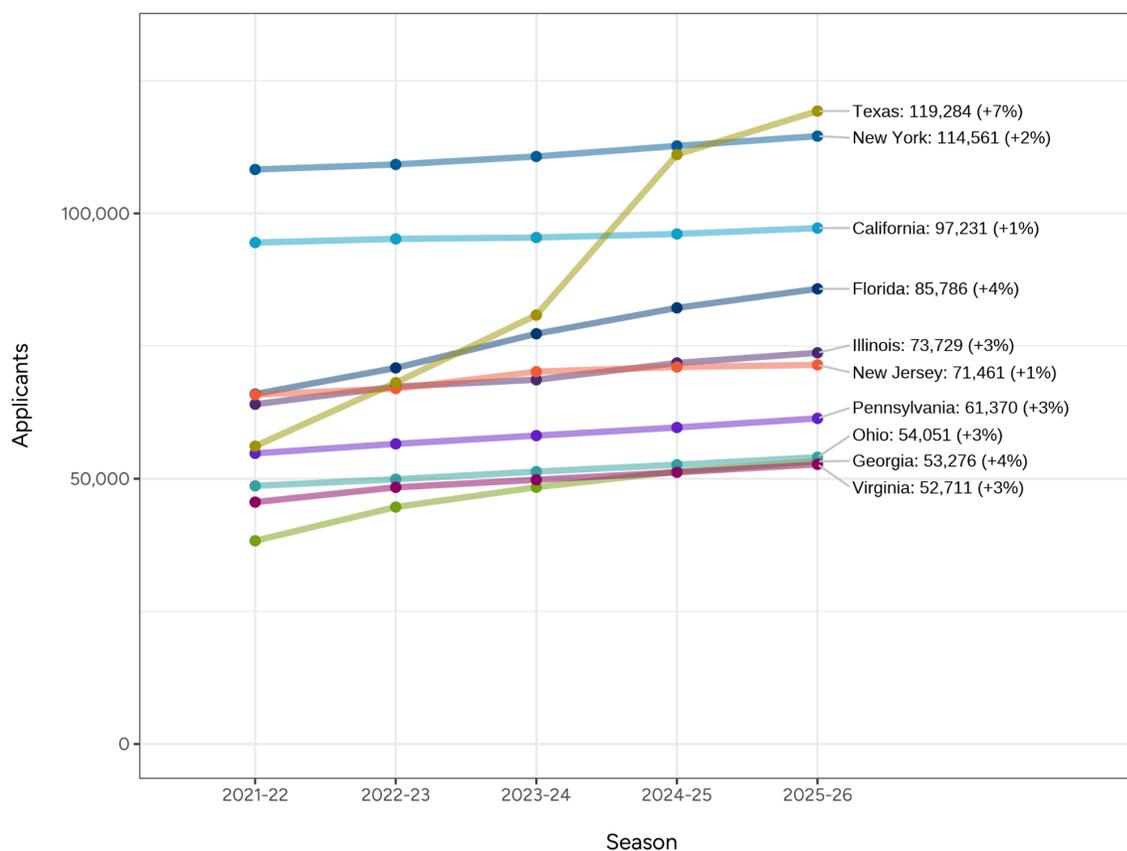


Figure 16 charts applicant growth among domestic and international applicants, where international applicants have explicitly reported active citizenship in a country besides the United States. Figure 17 shows the growth in applicants by region of the world for those international applicants.<sup>10</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.

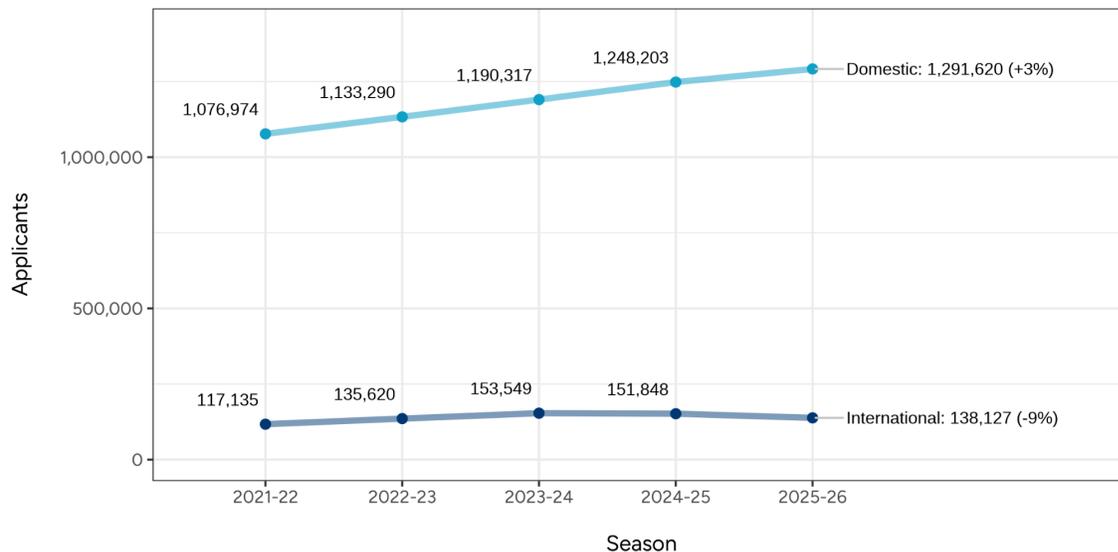
The decline in international applicants, noted in our [2024-25 End of Season Report](#), has intensified, with international applicants decreasing by 9% compared to this time during the 2024-25 application cycle. This drop continues a trend documented in our previous deadline updates this season. The number of applicants from Asia,

<sup>10</sup> We use country regional classifications per the [United Nations Statistics Division](#) methodology. Students with multiple citizenships (not including a U.S. citizenship) or who indicate being stateless are grouped into the “Other” category.

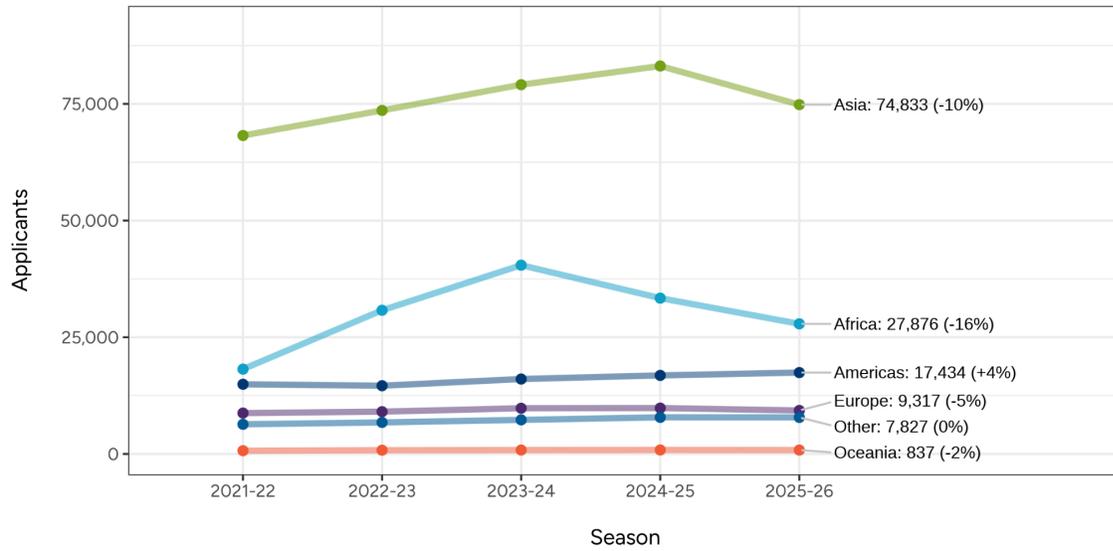
the largest region in terms of international applicant volume, fell 10% compared to this point in 2024-25 after several years of sustained growth. This decline was driven by a 14% drop in applicants from India, which has historically had the second-most international applicants on the platform of any country behind China. Applicants from Africa also decreased considerably (-16%), with substantial drops in applications from Ghana (-34%), Nigeria (-17%), and Ethiopia (-29%). Notably, the continued decline in applicants from Ghana has caused it to drop out of the top ten nations by applicant growth profiled in Figure 18. Of the ten countries with the greatest numbers of international applicants on Common App to date this season, only two saw growth in the number of applicants compared to 2024-25 (Uzbekistan and applicants reporting citizenship in multiple countries).

The decrease in international applicants was not universal, however. Figure 17 shows that the number of applicants from the Americas grew by 4% compared to this point during the 2024-25 season, fueled by growth in applicants from Honduras (55%) and Venezuela (129%).

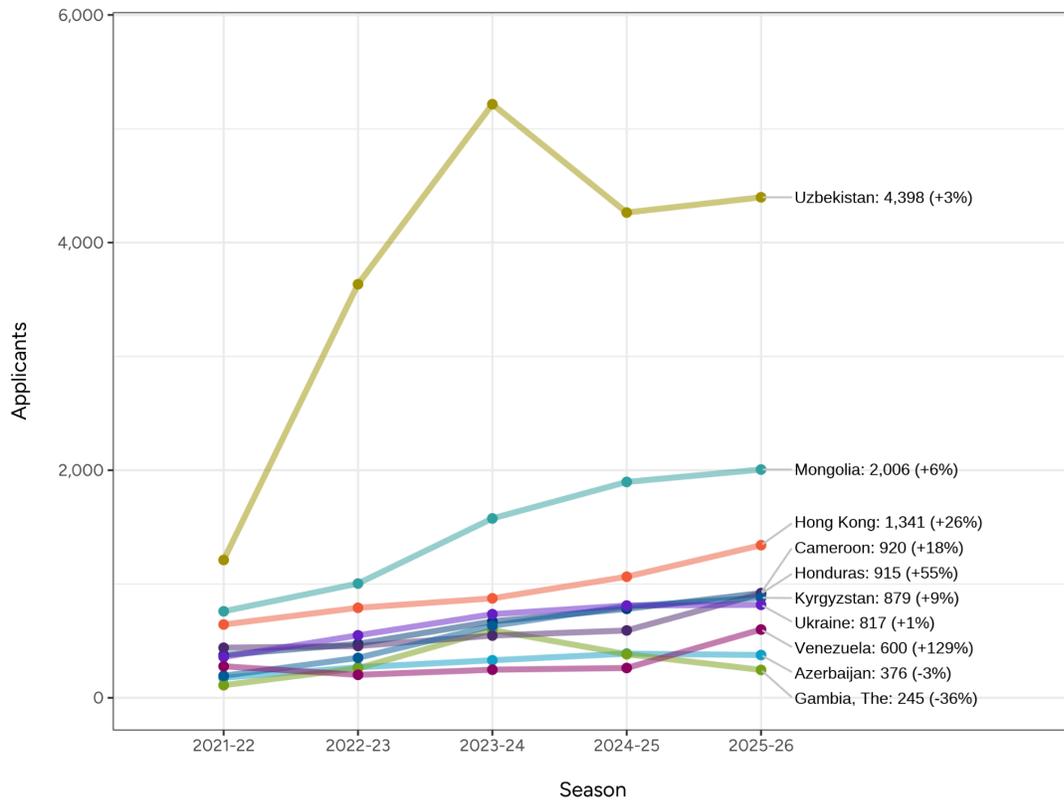
**Figure 16. Growth in first-year applicants by international status since 2021–22**



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

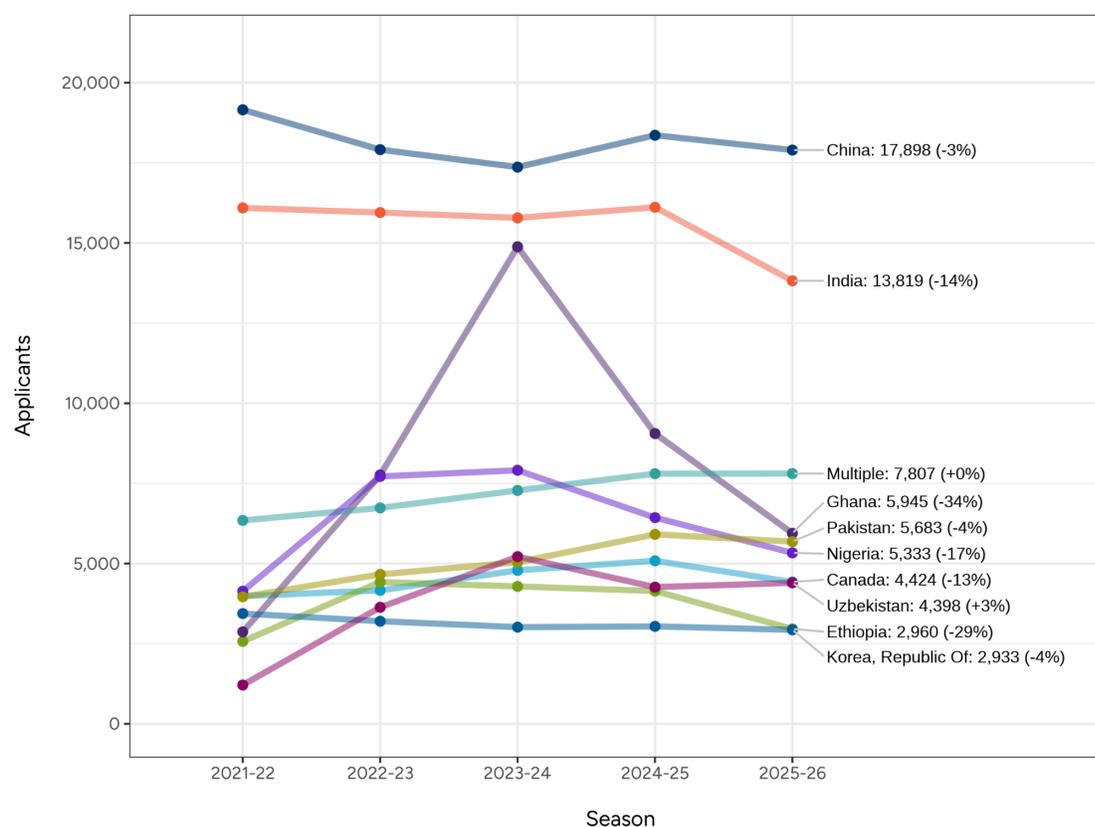


**Figure 18. Growth in international first-year applicants among the ten fastest-growing countries of citizenship since 2021–22**



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**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

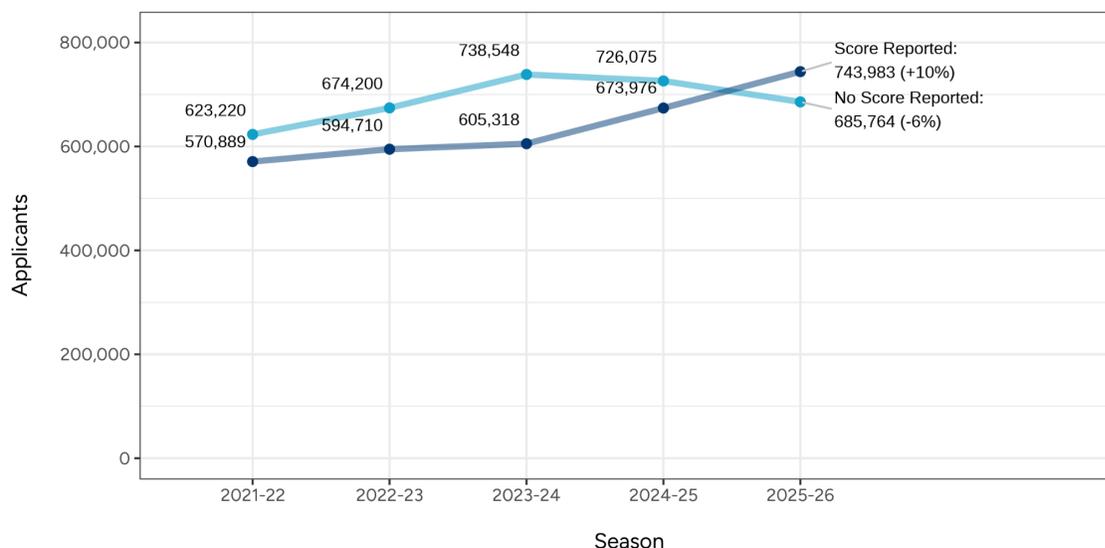
As reported previously, the share of Common App members requiring standardized test scores has changed dramatically over the past decade — from about 55% in 2019–20 to an all-time low of just 4% in 2023–24. This season, 5% of members require a test score to submit an application (essentially unchanged from last season). Figure 20 shows that the number of applicants reporting a test score continues to grow, with a 10% increase among reporters, while the number of non-reporters has decreased by 6% since this time during the 2024–25 season. While the majority of applicants opted not to report a test score through March 1 during the 2024-25 application cycle, score reporters outnumbered non-reporters by a considerable margin so far this season.

Appendix Figures A6–A13 illustrate test score reporting disaggregated by first-generation status, URM status, fee waiver eligibility, and ZIP code-level income.

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These figures show that first-generation students, URM students, fee waiver eligible students, and students from ZIP codes below the national median income were 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 5% compared to this time in the 2024-25 application cycle. In terms of institutional selectivity, application growth ranged from 3% at institutions that had admit rates below 25% to 6% at institutions that had admit rates between 25% and 49%. (Note that members without publicly available selectivity data are omitted from Figure 22.)

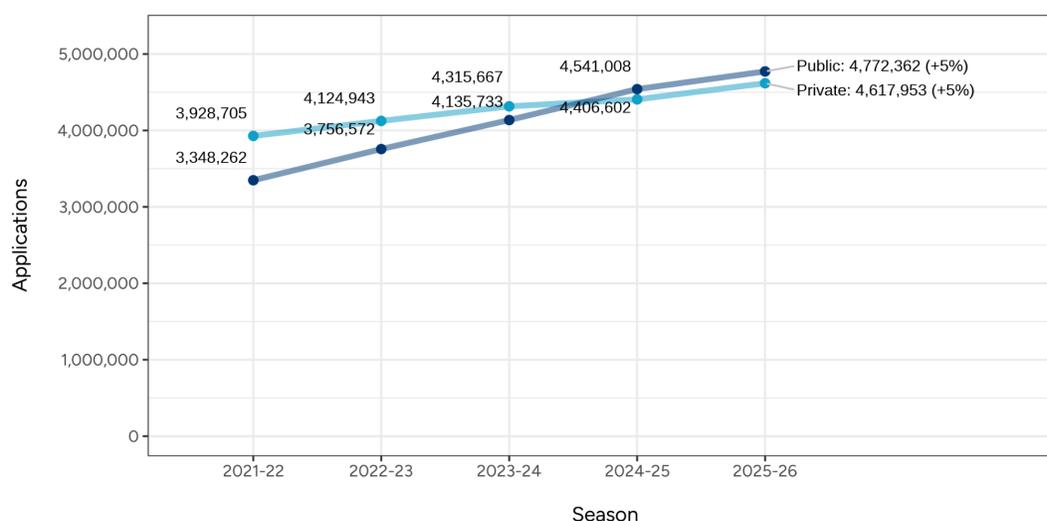
To better examine trends in applicants' application portfolios over time by race/ethnicity, especially as we track potential impacts of the [United States Supreme Court decision on race-conscious admissions](#) on student application behavior and college aspirations, we have also included in Appendix Figures A14 to A22 versions of Figure 22 broken out by applicant race/ethnicity groups (e.g., the

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number of applications Black or African American students submitted to members of varying selectivity bands).<sup>11</sup> In general, we do not observe any appreciable changes from ongoing historical trends at this point in the season with three noteworthy exceptions. First, applications from Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students declined for institutions with admit rates below 50% (Figure A18). Second, the number of applications from students who do not report a race or ethnicity decreased to Most Selective (7% decrease) and Highly Selective (3% decrease) institutions after two years of growth (see Figure A20). Finally, Figure A22 illustrates that the number of international applications declined across all selectivity bands, with especially large drops for institutions with admit rates at or above 75% (-21%) and those with admit rates between 50 and 74% (-19%).

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>12</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, 61.6% of members saw an increase or stable application volume versus this time last season, while 38.4% of members saw a decrease in application volume.

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



<sup>11</sup> We also examined these trends in more detail in a dedicated [research brief](#) after the close of the 2023–24 season.

<sup>12</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 22. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket since 2021–22**

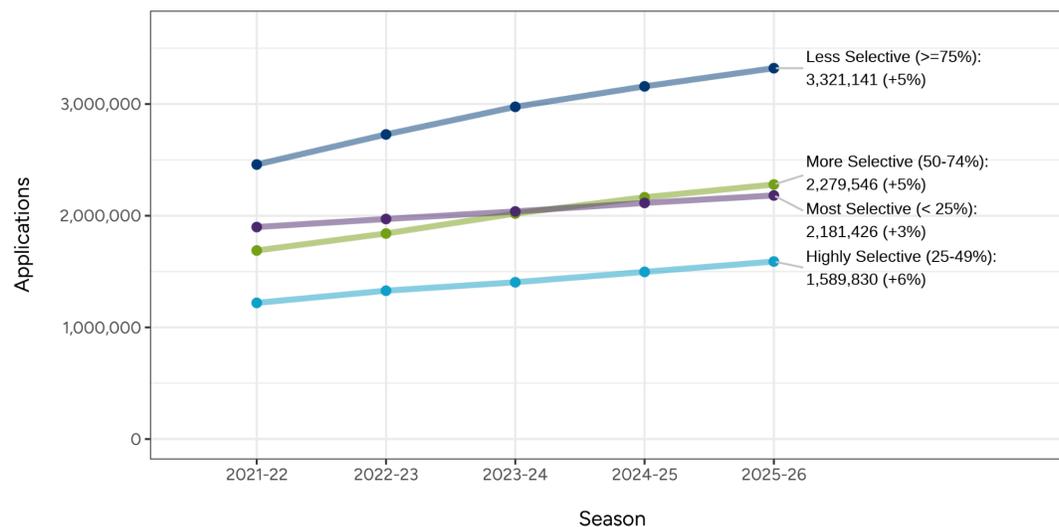
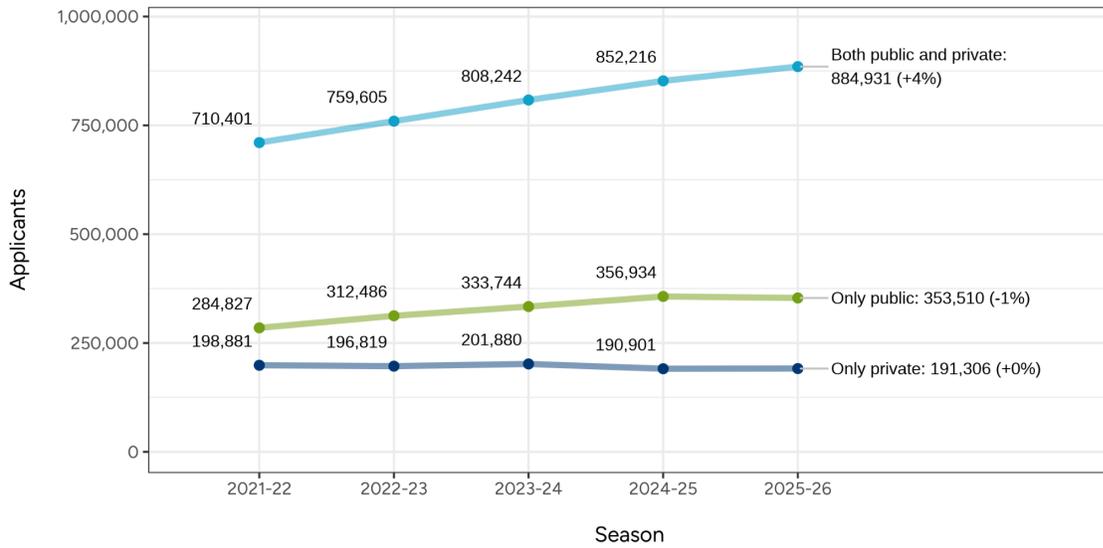
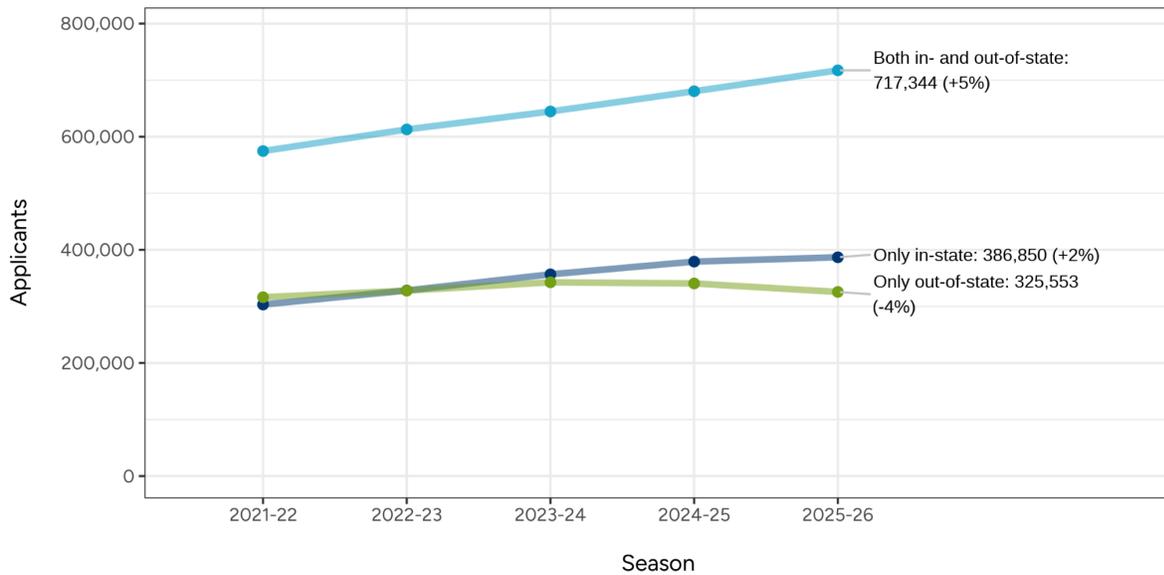


Figure 23 is similar to Figure 21 in that it examines applications to public and private members, but instead looks at the behavior of individual applicants. That is, it charts how many applicants at this point in the season have applied only to public members, only to private members, or to both public and private members. The majority of applicants (62%) applied to both public and private institutions, up from 60% at this point in the 2024-25 season. 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. 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**



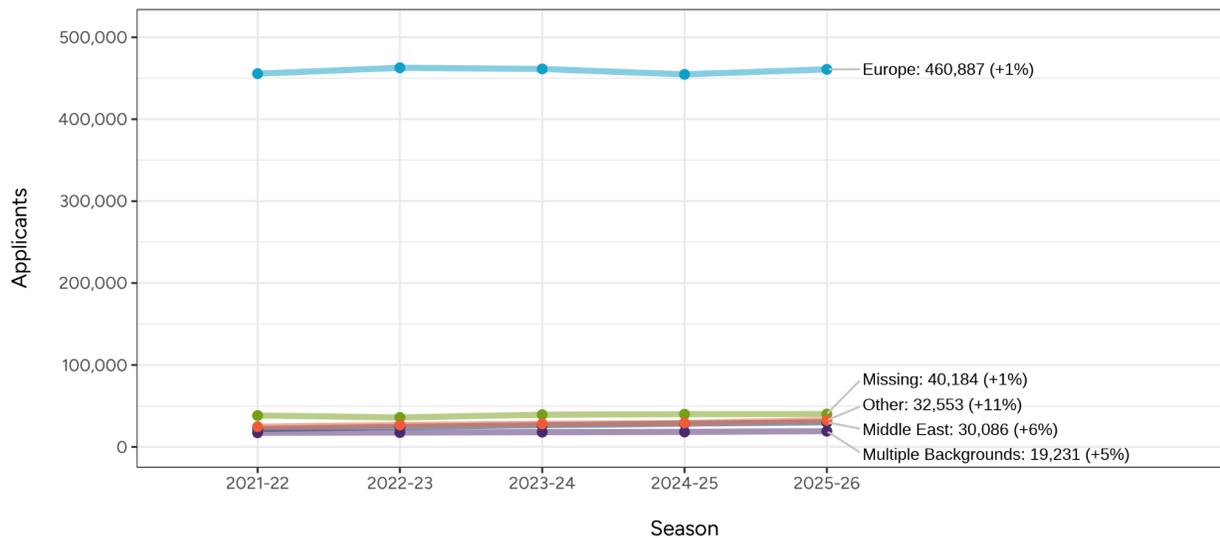
**Figure 24. Growth in applicants by in- and out-of-state application behavior since 2021–22**



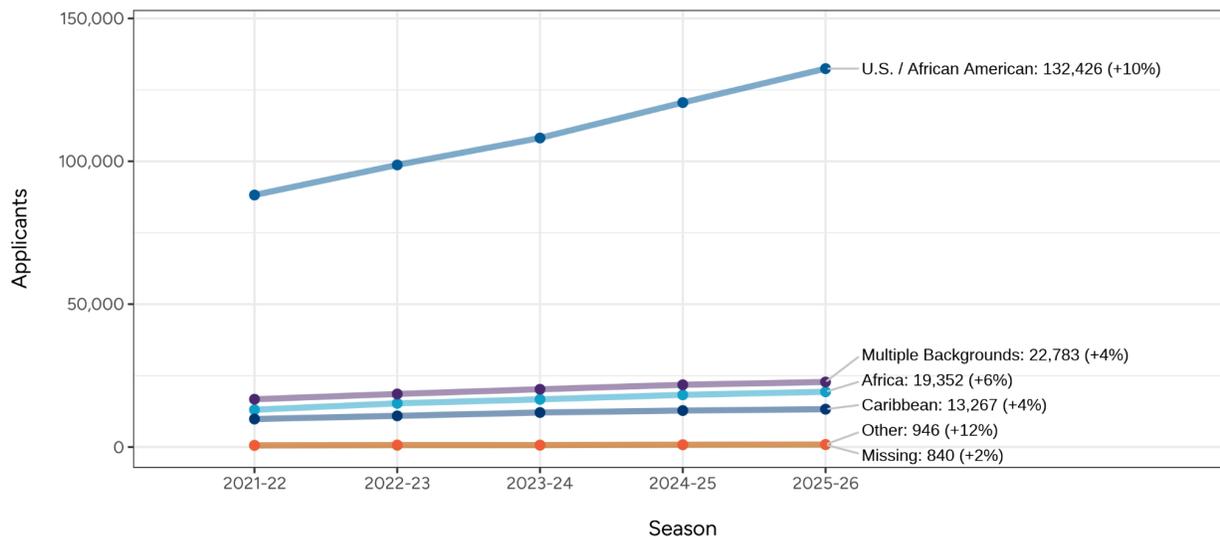
**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1  
March 12, 2026**

## Appendix

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

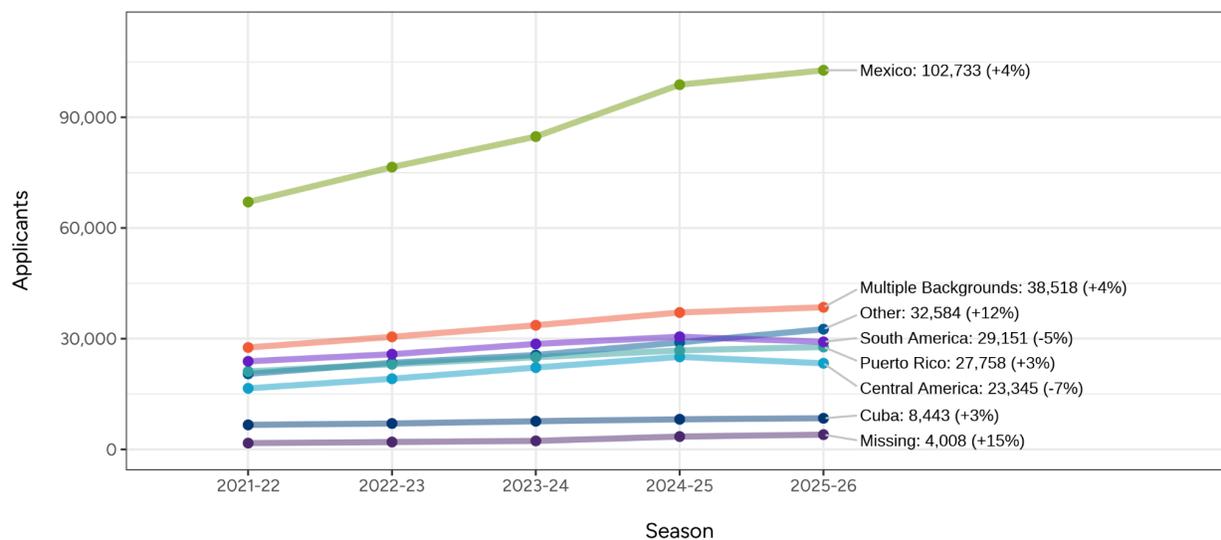


**Figure A2. Growth in first-year domestic applicants by detailed Black or African American backgrounds since 2021–22**

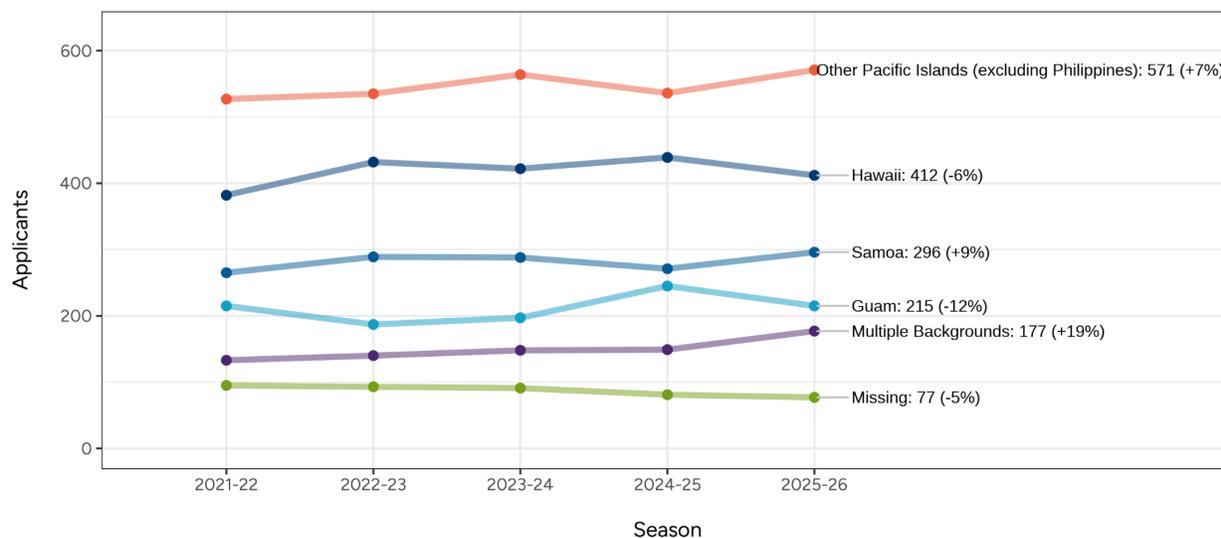


Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1  
March 12, 2026

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

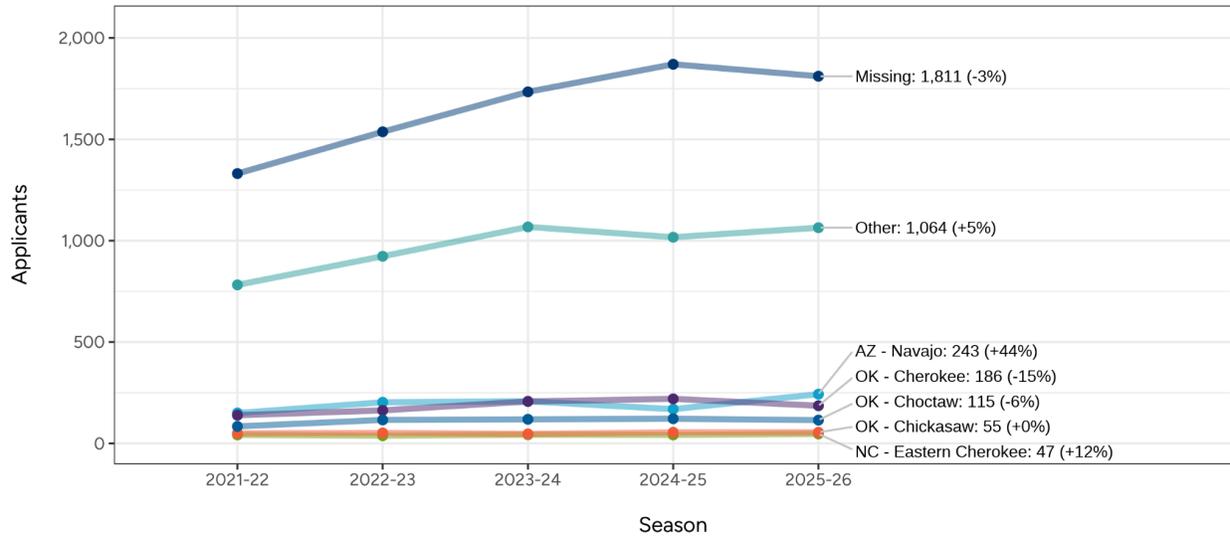


**Figure A4. Growth in first-year domestic applicants by detailed Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander backgrounds since 2021–22**

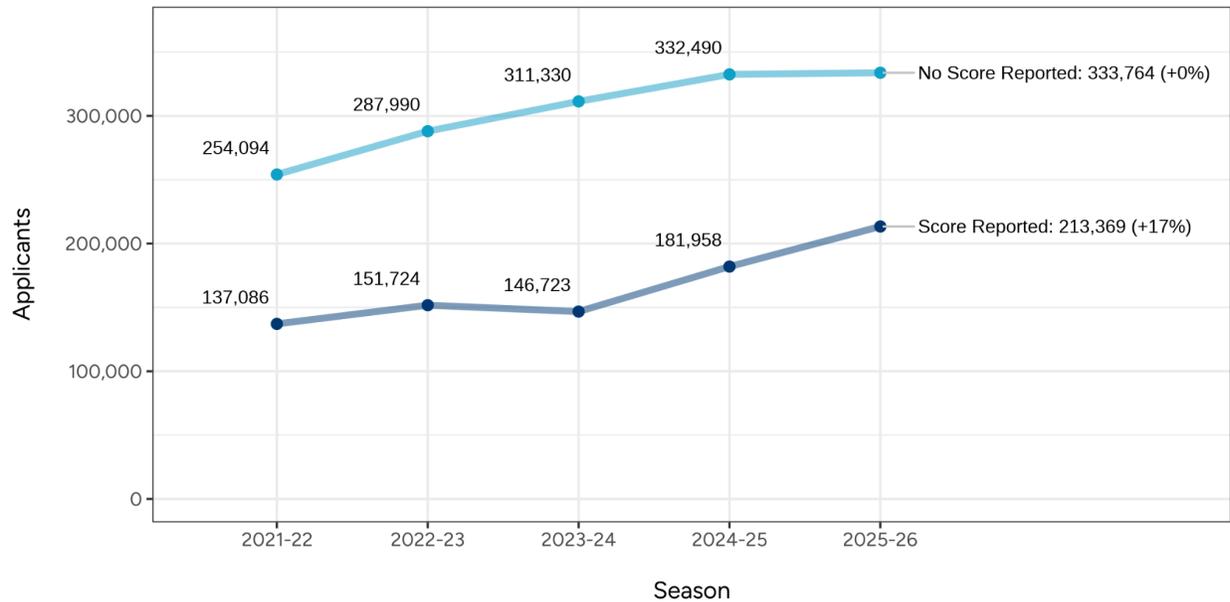


**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1  
March 12, 2026**

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

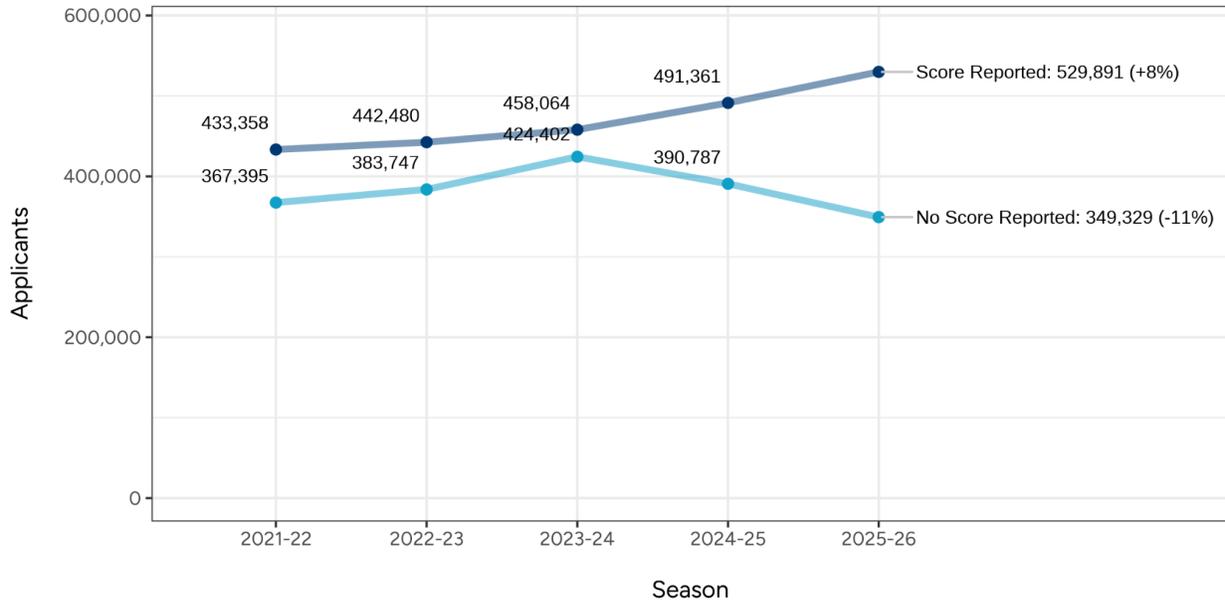


**Figure A6. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, first-generation applicants only**

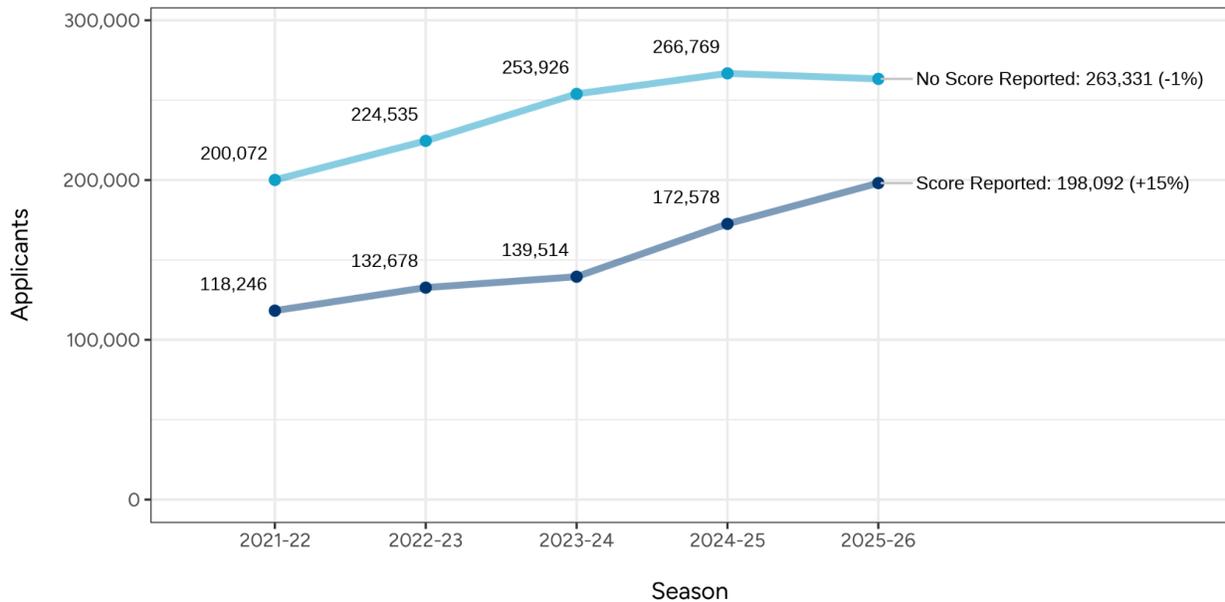


**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1  
March 12, 2026**

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

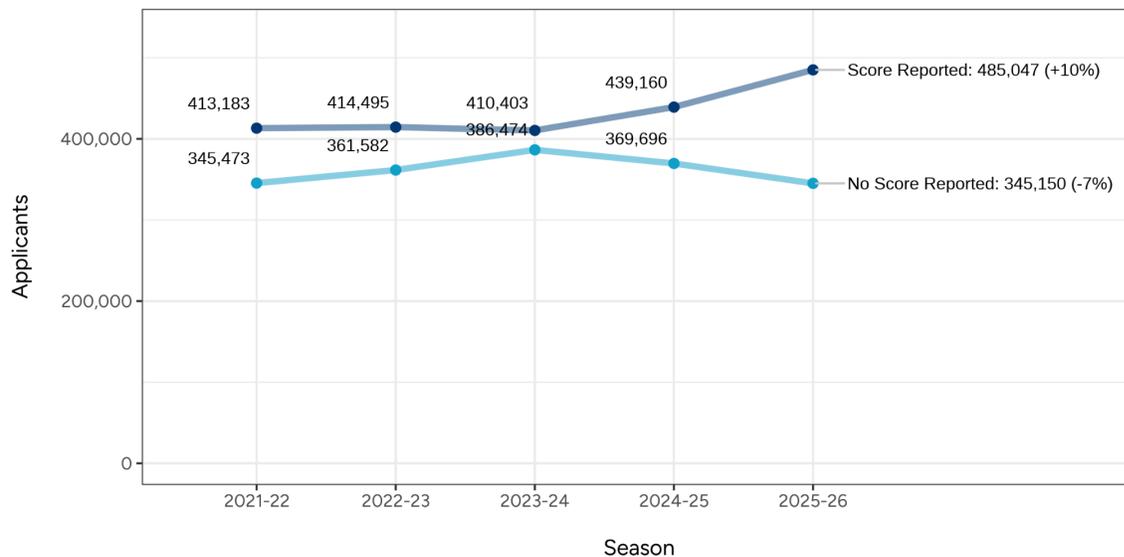


**Figure A8. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, URM applicants only**

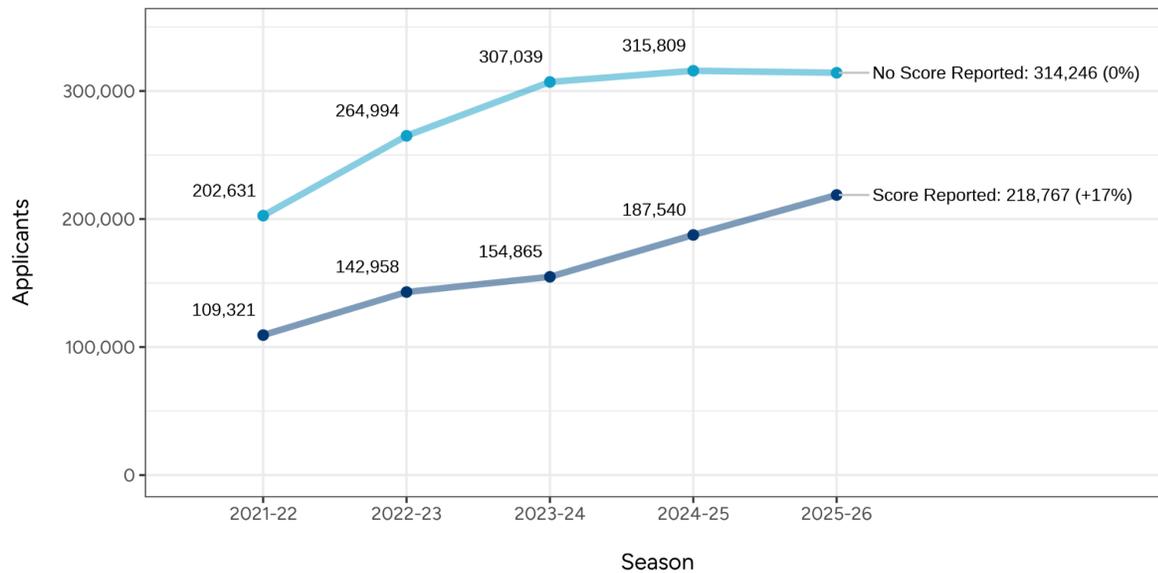


**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1  
March 12, 2026**

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

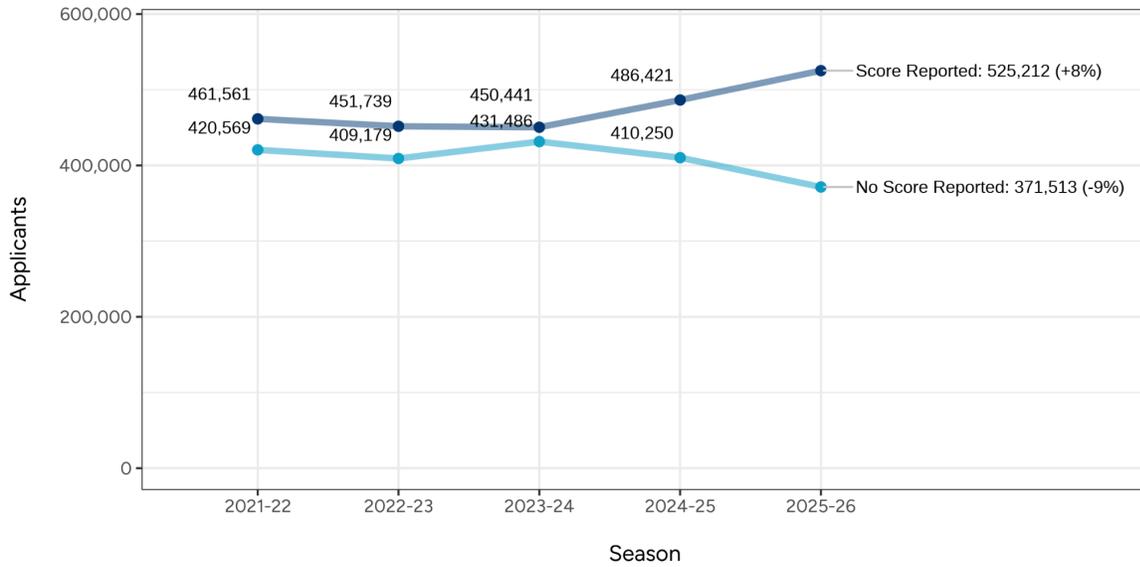


**Figure A10. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, fee-waiver-eligible applicants only**

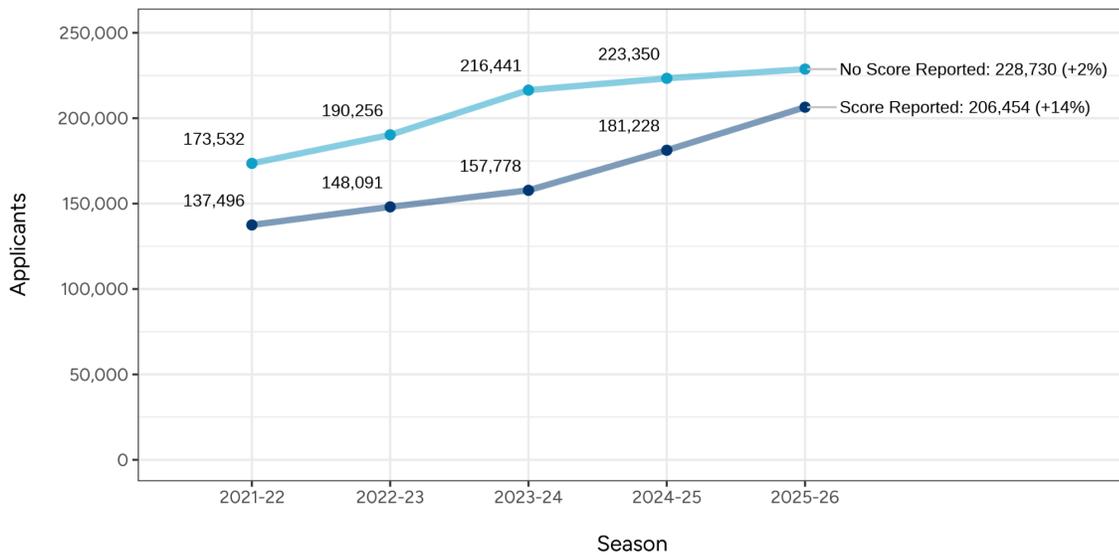


**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1  
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**Figure A11. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, fee-waiver-ineligible applicants only**

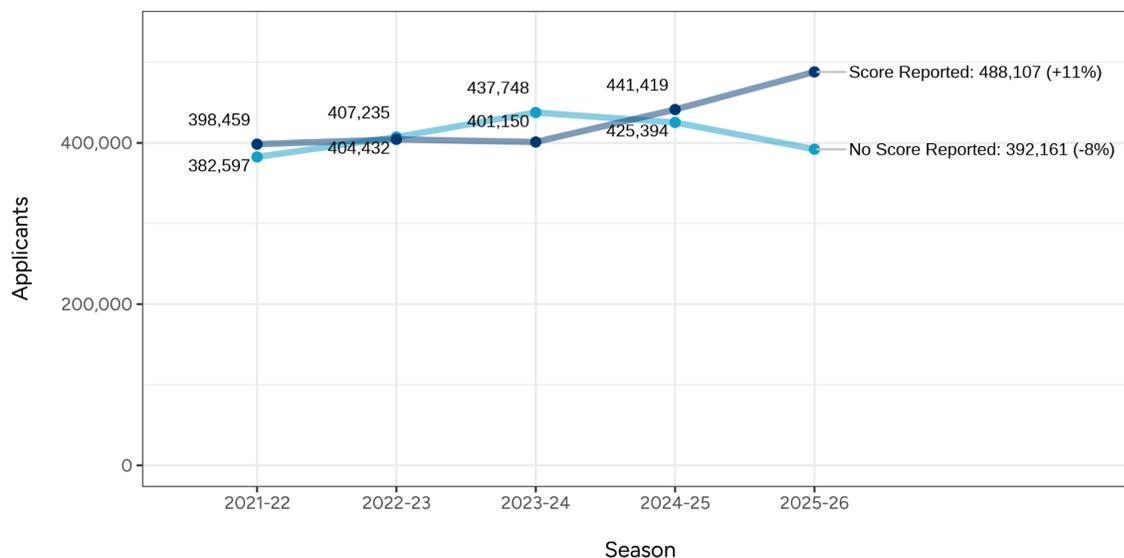


**Figure A12. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, applicants from ZIP codes below national median income only**

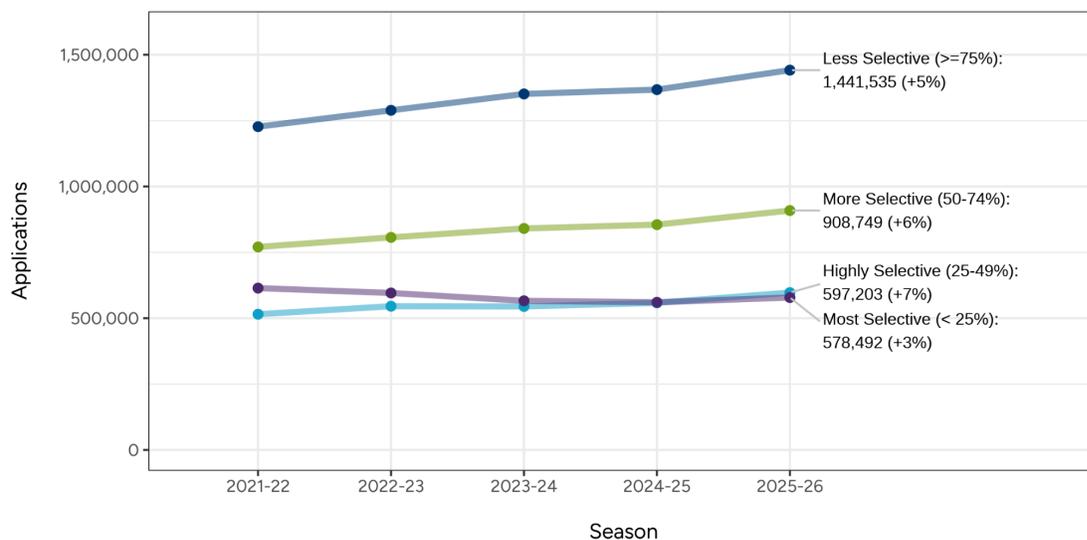


**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1  
March 12, 2026**

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

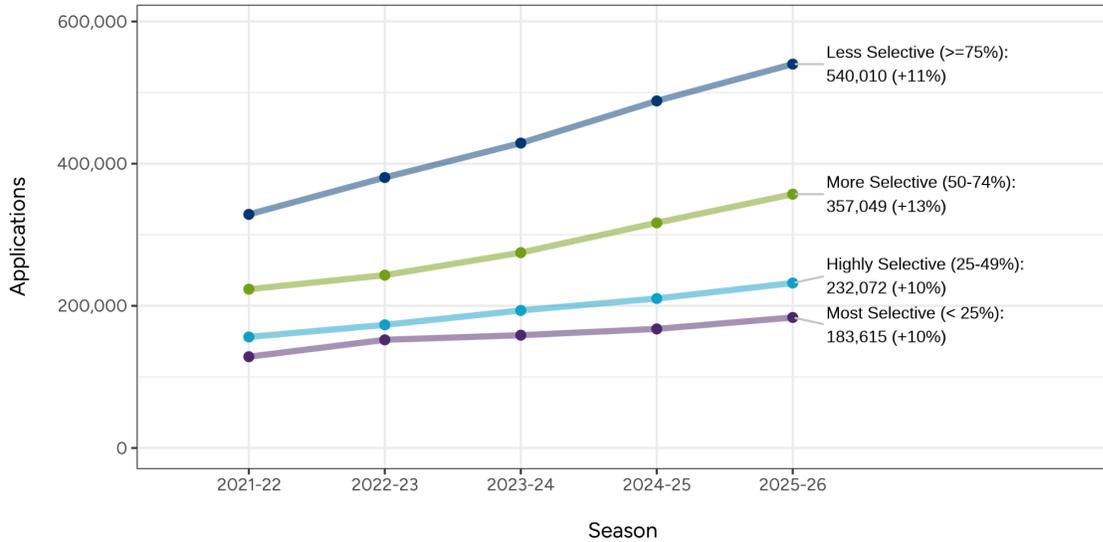


**Figure A14. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among White applicants since 2021–22**

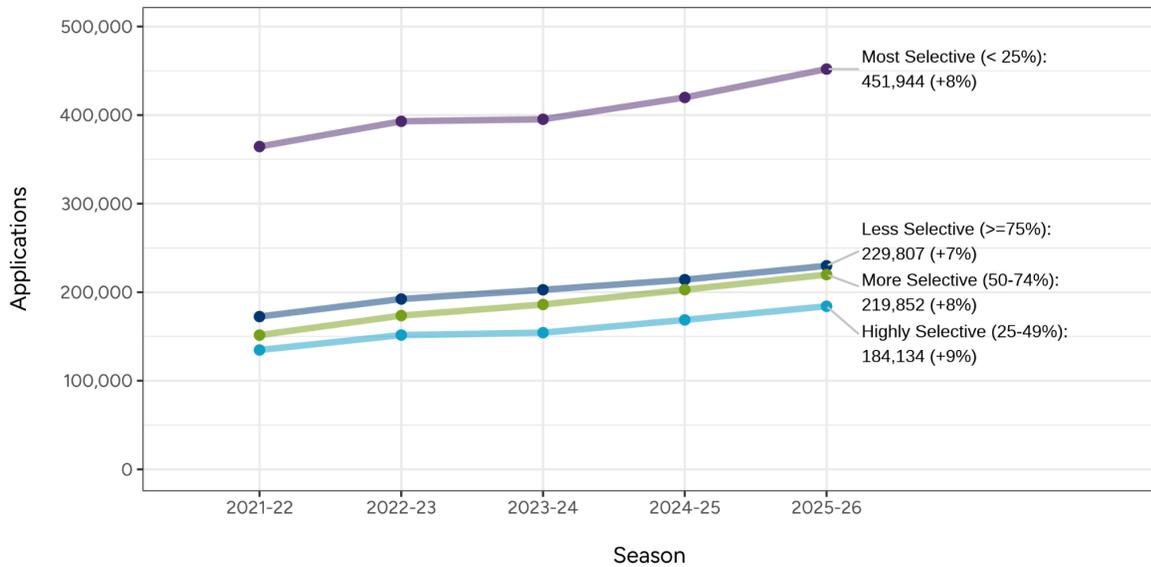


**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1  
March 12, 2026**

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

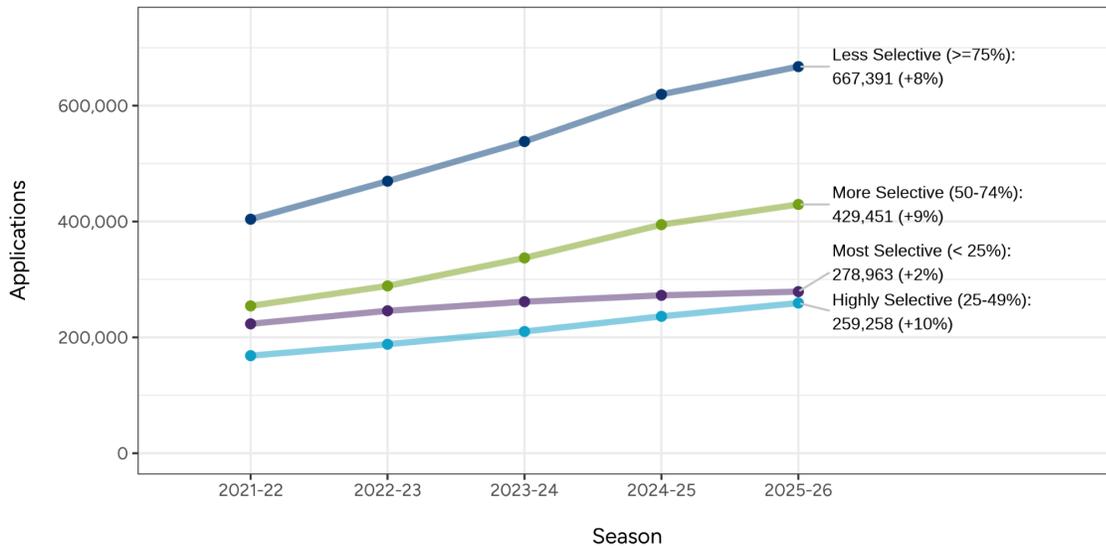


**Figure A16. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Asian applicants since 2021–22**

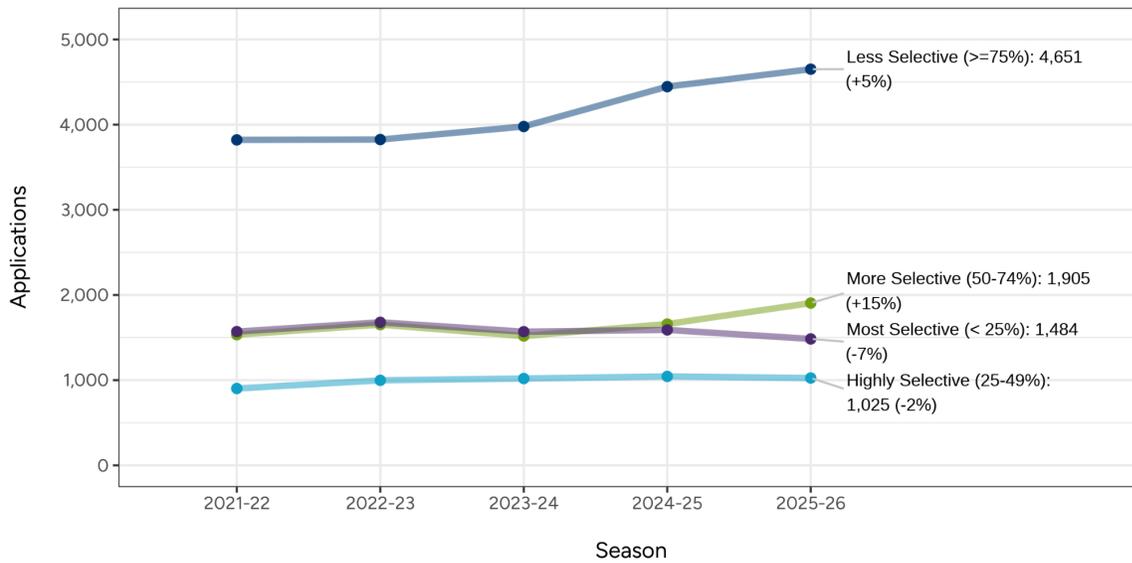


**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1 March 12, 2026**

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

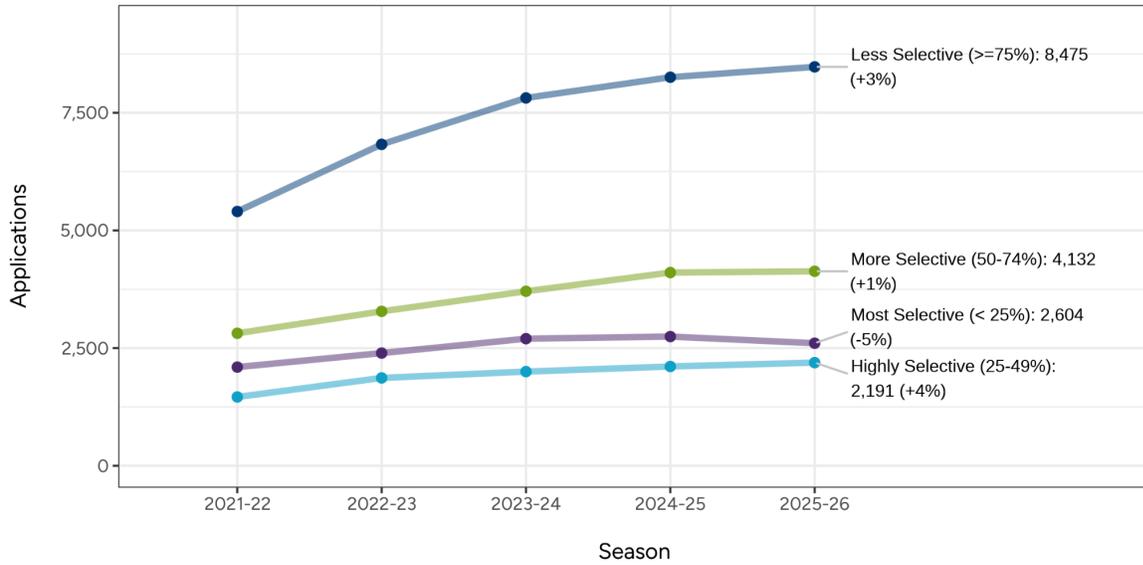


**Figure A18. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander applicants since 2021–22**

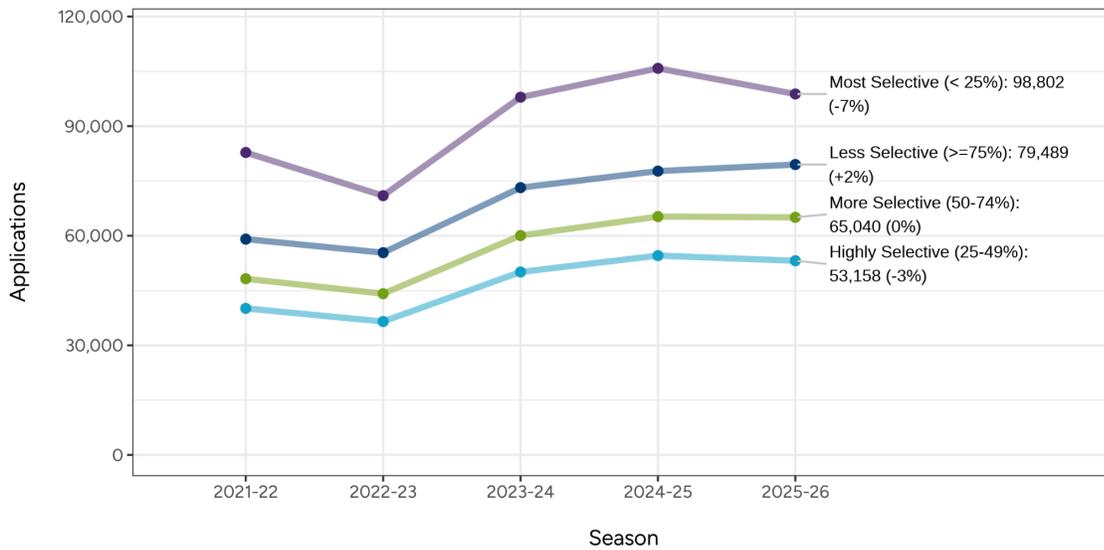


**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1  
March 12, 2026**

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

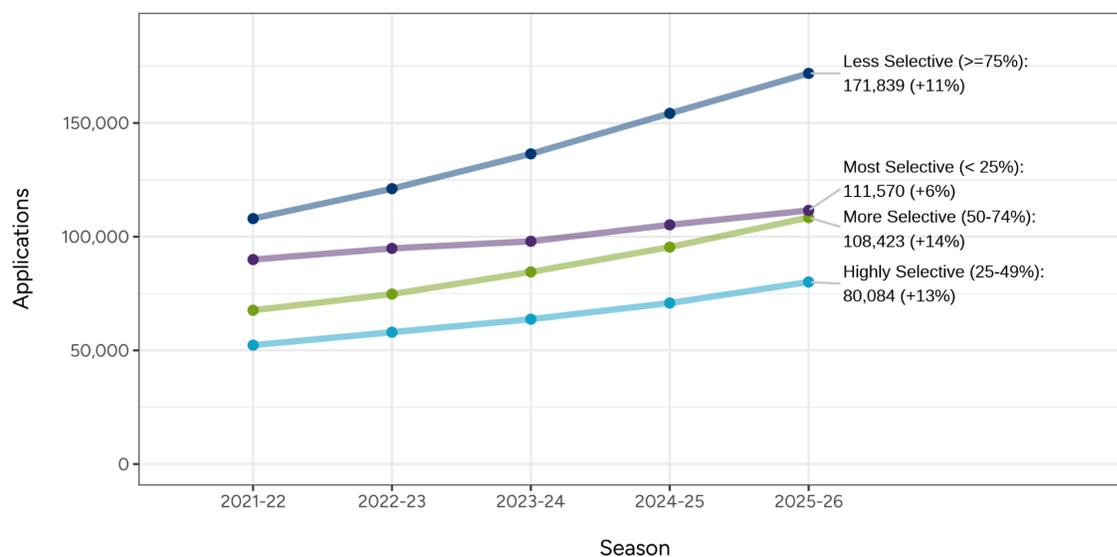


**Figure A20. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Unknown race/ethnicity applicants since 2021–22**

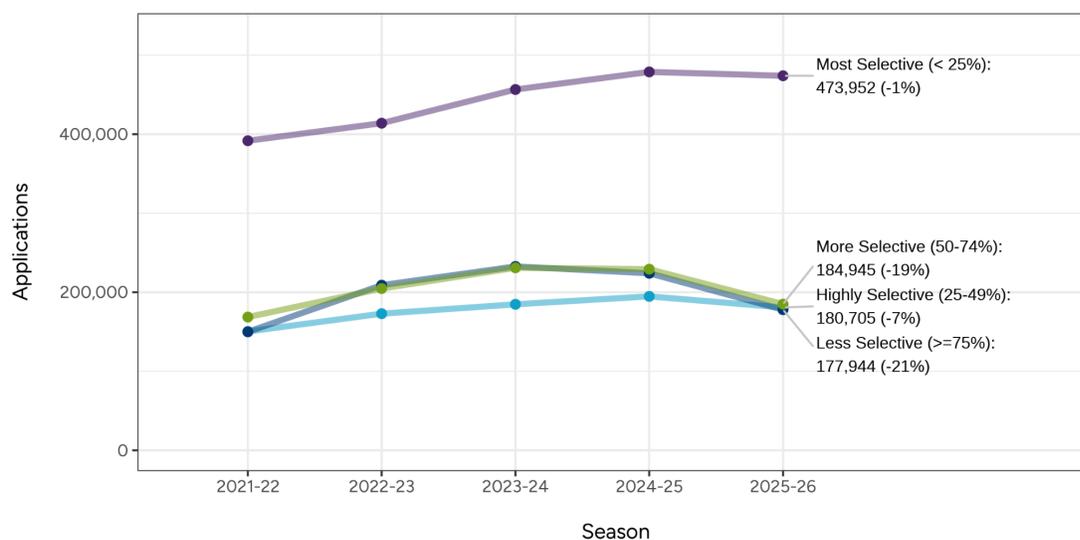


**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1 March 12, 2026**

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

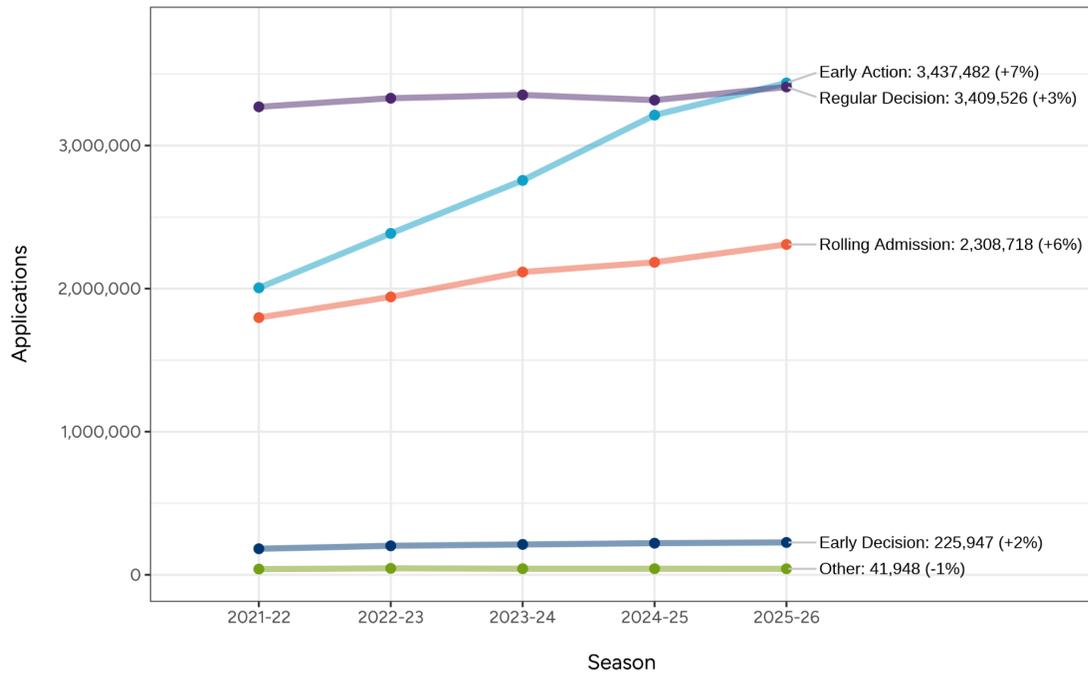


**Figure A22. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among International applicants since 2021–22**

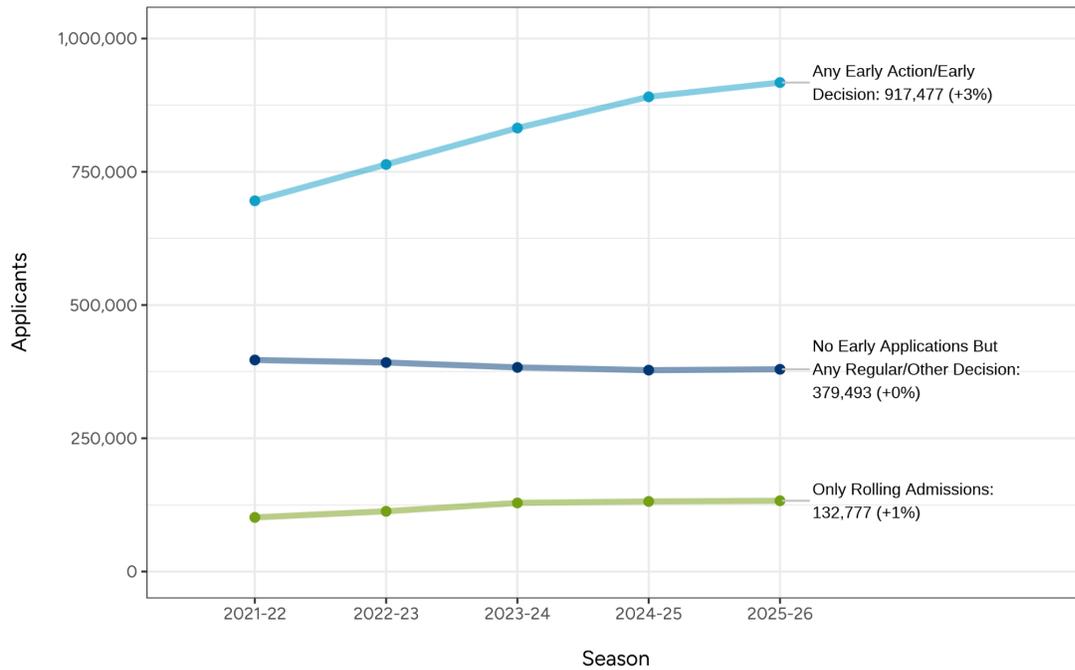


**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1  
March 12, 2026**

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



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



**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1  
March 12, 2026**

**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	4,704	5,154	5,351	5,742	6,840	Missouri	9,303	9,714	10,435	10,893	11,887
Alaska	937	957	1,006	1,049	1,140	Montana	943	992	1,161	1,237	1,439
American Samoa	25	20	29	25	27	Nebraska	2,011	1,966	3,562	2,782	2,766
Arizona	7,253	8,522	8,177	8,179	10,124	Nevada	3,645	3,976	4,226	4,501	4,924
Arkansas	2,225	2,224	2,247	2,476	2,874	New Hampshire	7,665	7,819	7,800	7,628	7,588
Armed Forces Americas	16	23	17	23	15	New Jersey	65,837	66,989	70,175	71,055	71,461
Armed Forces Europe	431	445	450	470	467	New Mexico	2,036	2,017	2,100	2,215	2,584
Armed Forces Pacific	262	254	337	287	285	New York	108,269	109,227	110,723	112,715	114,561
California	94,507	95,194	95,457	96,124	97,231	North Carolina	41,116	44,082	46,445	50,258	49,362
Colorado	26,923	27,593	28,819	29,703	31,055	North Dakota	439	471	488	549	580
Connecticut	26,490	26,762	26,791	27,096	26,673	Northern Mariana Islands	23	38	25	37	42
Delaware	4,727	5,077	5,429	5,421	5,456	Ohio	48,653	49,896	51,346	52,634	54,051
District of Columbia	2,850	3,178	3,462	4,083	4,309	Oklahoma	3,125	3,377	4,343	4,432	5,009
Florida	65,952	70,879	77,314	82,198	85,786	Oregon	11,028	11,485	12,255	13,162	13,828
Georgia	38,299	44,662	48,397	51,354	53,276	Pennsylvania	54,776	56,568	58,124	59,656	61,370
Guam	216	238	255	274	287	Puerto Rico	1,399	1,434	1,409	1,537	1,497
Hawaii	3,675	3,860	3,848	3,924	3,955	Rhode Island	6,535	6,681	6,817	6,877	6,828
Idaho	1,851	2,156	2,068	2,081	2,240	South Carolina	13,995	14,809	16,184	17,096	19,552
Illinois	64,034	67,353	68,649	71,810	73,729	South Dakota	747	749	883	885	961
Indiana	23,124	24,434	26,116	28,087	29,015	Tennessee	11,030	11,707	12,943	13,507	14,997
Iowa	2,636	2,661	3,107	3,305	3,679	Texas	56,133	68,098	80,838	111,090	119,284
Kansas	3,297	2,983	3,529	3,669	3,984	Utah	8,651	9,292	10,282	4,320	4,480
Kentucky	7,039	7,630	8,047	8,433	9,305	Vermont	3,261	3,245	3,239	3,375	3,316
Louisiana	12,026	12,176	12,569	13,695	14,766	Virgin Islands	160	141	202	192	226
Maine	6,284	5,571	5,714	5,598	6,011	Virginia	45,593	48,381	49,801	51,211	52,711
Maryland	35,022	36,777	38,001	39,670	40,321	Washington	17,099	22,040	23,470	23,939	24,962
Massachusetts	50,085	49,846	50,131	50,271	50,384	West Virginia	1,399	1,473	1,508	1,827	2,096
Michigan	32,291	34,213	37,098	37,241	38,491	Wisconsin	13,616	14,222	15,922	15,097	15,927
Minnesota	17,856	18,444	19,647	19,928	22,928	Wyoming	511	578	634	589	727
Mississippi	1,648	1,742	1,915	2,053	2,603						

Note:

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	1,328,776	1,394,865	1,450,423	1,499,150	1,538,703	678,600	760,314	820,149	897,908	960,637
Midwestern	632,476	673,803	710,510	723,435	750,383	856,210	941,806	1,052,224	1,133,481	1,189,616
New England	841,795	875,360	893,217	873,646	931,843	287,973	301,994	319,363	330,819	330,131
Southern	592,428	617,564	678,835	699,871	748,366	1,139,117	1,295,842	1,433,255	1,594,762	1,690,216
Southwestern	106,426	116,017	131,702	158,408	174,808	90,576	109,636	134,713	203,575	213,797
Western	426,804	447,334	450,980	452,092	473,850	295,786	346,980	376,029	380,463	387,965

Note:

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Members without available IPEDS data are omitted.

**Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through March 1  
March 12, 2026**

**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	308,370	325,275	330,240	334,605	348,413	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Colorado	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	137,196	150,007	167,667	175,594	178,072
Connecticut	141,180	151,768	169,089	162,863	172,356	64,590	70,499	82,606	90,291	86,535
District of Columbia	73,700	85,471	89,779	98,111	91,647	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Florida	172,317	175,575	197,486	201,721	206,303	283,188	315,751	347,511	398,784	436,121
Georgia	87,810	94,350	98,753	105,606	123,961	124,369	143,600	155,718	179,204	181,366
Illinois	221,905	236,867	244,884	257,018	259,112	137,870	158,866	175,531	190,626	213,127
Indiana	75,489	78,382	83,613	90,596	93,554	130,855	138,211	160,054	179,353	192,432
Iowa	23,535	24,672	26,001	24,054	29,758	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kentucky	8,573	9,507	10,681	11,098	10,412	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Louisiana	48,029	44,729	51,126	53,245	57,280	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maine	40,383	43,412	46,643	46,276	52,989	21,501	21,099	21,020	20,327	21,403
Maryland	68,192	71,812	78,392	82,286	83,396	102,147	127,503	135,347	148,708	157,172
Massachusetts	502,654	514,718	514,488	517,264	548,357	112,518	119,440	122,705	127,946	129,070
Michigan	30,131	34,211	41,092	43,003	44,765	188,431	203,495	233,861	246,608	247,669
Minnesota	41,755	45,111	54,213	50,305	59,556	35,732	38,489	41,188	44,385	57,856
Missouri	48,900	51,826	52,772	53,333	52,143	25,973	30,739	34,998	39,965	41,779
New Hampshire	41,258	42,146	45,580	41,362	43,635	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Jersey	109,691	119,013	124,920	127,661	135,265	90,986	100,612	114,763	124,471	135,781
New York	720,337	736,732	754,755	776,501	808,811	220,779	257,581	274,714	297,780	310,528
North Carolina	120,498	128,820	142,992	151,085	150,284	206,863	230,417	262,766	284,931	260,890
Ohio	145,770	154,182	152,967	149,689	153,526	204,967	223,993	239,384	250,696	247,841
Oregon	32,385	33,348	32,633	32,029	29,703	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pennsylvania	356,856	381,837	402,577	414,591	419,584	228,574	238,352	256,268	277,883	307,673
Rhode Island	92,405	98,635	94,681	87,460	95,927	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
South Carolina	21,086	23,033	27,682	25,835	27,578	116,788	135,753	156,936	169,789	190,188
Tennessee	68,602	70,938	70,080	69,810	80,533	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Texas	99,613	107,334	122,683	149,772	165,048	66,696	81,727	102,390	165,104	170,789
Vermont	23,915	24,681	22,736	18,421	18,579	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Virginia	56,702	60,690	68,735	69,074	73,448	225,406	249,153	262,864	282,149	301,538
Washington	38,540	40,308	39,493	39,220	40,676	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wisconsin	34,177	36,982	41,787	42,187	43,661	67,003	75,171	80,436	84,886	85,847

*Note:*

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Members without available IPEDS data 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	616,006	679,187	735,358	791,366	837,618	508,006	534,232	577,452	605,482	662,247
Midwestern	693,305	759,773	839,531	882,932	950,866	367,009	404,350	448,034	464,477	454,770
New England	300,825	317,721	336,600	337,899	355,229	206,866	221,635	233,539	240,446	241,777
Southern	426,005	491,307	546,900	585,881	593,221	418,320	469,280	523,211	572,418	612,940
Southwestern	41,548	44,327	55,696	89,368	89,258	103,355	125,476	149,189	201,559	217,421
Western	380,680	435,404	461,073	470,922	494,949	84,962	85,792	87,999	80,572	90,391

*Note:*

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	413,013	453,617	469,281	500,569	508,489	464,909	481,578	481,780	493,270	484,008
Midwestern	186,238	197,188	208,573	227,444	242,014	238,981	250,598	262,487	277,974	284,189
New England	85,254	94,536	96,702	96,036	102,262	535,649	542,301	544,508	528,941	561,380
Southern	419,882	455,614	497,465	534,790	585,436	465,268	494,687	542,147	600,343	645,077
Southwestern	25,456	29,058	33,752	38,608	47,450	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Western	89,755	98,545	98,327	99,441	104,179	167,193	174,573	179,610	181,620	172,296

*Note:*

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.

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

	Less Selective ( $\geq 75\%$ )					More Selective (50-74%)				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
California	27,344	27,476	27,899	33,095	44,171	46,257	47,460	47,646	42,559	47,561
Colorado	133,052	145,221	161,280	169,313	175,021	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Connecticut	61,165	65,515	75,229	76,800	79,754	58,499	65,315	78,134	82,767	80,903
Florida	40,624	43,607	51,645	55,729	61,452	104,415	113,851	129,398	139,362	140,225
Georgia	20,326	26,038	28,728	31,478	37,164	60,289	76,066	78,893	92,282	94,500
Illinois	127,593	138,892	144,362	154,390	161,732	89,487	101,753	110,404	115,129	121,293
Indiana	91,039	92,035	108,256	120,395	141,102	90,361	97,519	107,100	116,238	110,551
Iowa	32,560	36,041	39,129	44,082	52,774	10,377	10,513	12,477	11,459	9,824
Kansas	14,950	17,674	23,217	24,076	25,231	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kentucky	31,458	38,316	43,363	45,686	50,549	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maine	29,360	29,487	29,645	28,336	33,085	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maryland	59,185	81,768	90,016	97,197	105,859	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Massachusetts	119,889	127,138	132,981	136,886	141,921	97,136	105,826	106,697	111,765	113,712
Michigan	115,718	127,616	147,653	151,361	154,007	17,522	20,269	26,471	26,793	27,157
Minnesota	51,212	56,196	60,306	63,525	81,093	12,505	13,731	20,208	17,125	19,129
Missouri	32,738	38,261	41,619	46,457	46,850	10,999	14,182	16,419	16,801	16,899
New Hampshire	44,776	46,912	49,126	46,763	49,098	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Jersey	116,400	125,437	141,087	151,072	163,635	39,368	44,794	52,540	53,666	53,452
New York	210,396	226,934	243,903	273,593	281,790	285,508	299,144	316,905	318,172	354,231
North Carolina	110,747	125,512	145,135	146,593	117,951	36,840	40,185	43,716	47,226	44,081
Ohio	168,272	186,274	196,927	197,561	205,292	115,383	123,432	129,697	137,934	125,319
Oregon	72,698	83,970	86,816	91,757	93,502	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pennsylvania	223,586	238,285	252,401	261,153	277,785	128,126	133,031	145,738	161,435	179,420
South Carolina	20,627	23,414	32,346	34,996	41,225	72,354	82,684	97,656	102,368	114,831
Tennessee	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	11,734	13,954	14,186	12,676	15,788
Texas	28,388	28,936	36,643	66,118	63,616	86,128	104,551	127,091	177,898	190,481
Virginia	129,708	148,273	157,578	167,865	169,788	48,410	51,173	56,723	62,154	63,464
Washington	35,165	52,307	50,616	50,198	52,030	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Virginia	15,624	17,756	18,100	21,564	24,035	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wisconsin	34,324	39,301	44,932	44,088	44,100	12,224	14,408	15,886	13,703	13,851

*Note:*

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.

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

	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
California	74,890	82,625	82,182	84,319	91,266	159,879	167,714	172,513	174,632	165,415
Colorado	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Connecticut	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Florida	196,445	198,345	212,937	230,803	256,662	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Georgia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Illinois	65,690	74,016	84,417	94,348	101,979	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	42,672	47,605	47,046	43,989	50,136	355,177	353,245	350,038	352,179	371,266
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	146,800	161,892	168,165	182,692	183,153	294,849	301,971	296,383	296,005	296,168
North Carolina	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ohio	57,200	56,063	53,211	54,809	57,131	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oregon	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pennsylvania	131,178	140,219	148,602	150,942	162,661	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

*Note:*

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.

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

Institutions	Decrease of 5% or more	Decrease less than 5%	No change to 5% increase	More than 5% increase
Overall	23.8	14.6	16.5	45.1
<b>Control</b>				
Private	26.3	14.8	15.3	43.7
Public	17.3	16.1	20.5	46.2
<b>Control and Carnegie Classification</b>				
Private	32.3	16.8	15.0	35.9
Baccalaureate				
Private Master's	24.6	14.6	13.6	47.2
Public Master's	18.7	13.3	17.3	50.7
Private Doctoral	16.3	12.7	18.7	52.4
Public Doctoral	16.2	17.6	25.4	40.8
<b>Acceptance Rate</b>				
< 25%	16.7	22.2	27.8	33.3
25-50%	26.2	11.9	19.0	42.9
50-75%	26.3	14.6	14.6	44.5
>= 75%	23.3	14.9	16.0	45.9
<b>Test Requirement</b>				
Not Required	23.6	15.1	16.6	44.8
Required	28.2	5.1	15.4	51.3
<b>Enrollment Size</b>				
Under 2500	31.0	14.7	12.8	41.6
2500 - 10000	19.7	15.0	16.2	49.1
Over 10000	15.8	16.4	26.0	41.8
<b>MSI Status</b>				
MSI	18.2	14.6	16.1	51.1
Not an MSI	24.7	15.2	16.9	43.1
<b>Region</b>				
International	25.6	2.6	10.3	61.5
Mid-Atlantic	27.7	12.5	15.6	44.2
Midwestern	20.2	20.2	15.7	43.8
New England	22.0	16.1	22.0	39.8
Southern	23.5	9.6	15.7	51.2
Southwestern	28.6	14.3	14.3	42.9
Western	23.9	17.4	18.5	40.2

Note:

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.