

Iowa as a Destination for Out-of-State Students

State-to-State Migration of Students to Iowa

November 2006



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Iowa College Student Aid Commission

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Each fall, the number of first-year undergraduate college students who come to Iowa for study exceeds the number who leave. The state ranks third in the nation for the proportion of non-resident undergraduate students who come to this state to attend college vs. those from Iowa who attend college out-of-state. Based on the latest available data, over twelve thousand first-year students came to the state in 2004, compared to four thousand who left to study in other states and around the world. That is more than a three-to-one ratio of arrivals to departures. Some higher education officials suggest this means that Iowa exports education by bringing out-of-state students to the state. Together, the first-year students who came to Iowa contributed \$258 million dollars to the state economy in the 2004-2005 academic year. The following paragraphs provide details of the analysis

Iowa ranks third in the nation for the ratio of in-migrating to out-migrating college students. For every resident Iowa freshman who left the state to attend college in 2004, three students came to Iowa from outside of the state. This makes Iowa a two-to-one net destination for first-year college students. Using the ratio of arrival (in-migration) to departure (out-migration), show that Iowa is fourth in the nation for in-migration behind Utah, Arizona, and Rhode Island. Four thousand twenty-four Iowa first year college students left the state to study in other states while 12,224 from other states and around the world came to Iowa. This means that Iowa effectively exports education by bringing out-of-state students to the state. Of the total out-of-state resident college and university students in Iowa, two-thirds are from the border states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota. Over 3,000 first-time freshman students from Illinois selected Iowa, followed by 1,348 from Minnesota. Map 1 shows the extent of student in-migration from each of the other states. High ranking non-contiguous states include Colorado, California, Florida, and Texas.

In 2004-2005, the average out-of-state student who came to an Iowa four-year college or university paid \$22,400 for tuition, fees, room, and board. For the 12,224 first-year students in 2004 alone, the direct contribution to the state economy was approximately \$258 million dollars. In this way, non-resident students help to support over 60 colleges and universities located throughout Iowa. Four-year independent colleges and universities attract the highest percentage of out-of-state students. Some 45.8% of first-year students at Iowa independent colleges and universities, or 39.6% of the Iowa total, are residents

of other states. Of freshman students at the Regent universities in the fall of 2004, 26.2% were residents of other states.

Student Migration

This analysis is based on national data for undergraduate students and is provided by colleges and universities to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). The NCES collects and reports residence and migration of first-year students at the country's degree-granting postsecondary institutions. Nationally, in 2004, about 17% of freshmen students attended college outside of their home states.

Map 1 illustrates first-time first year student migration among the states. The map provides information about the number of non-resident first-time freshmen coming from other states to attend college in Iowa. Map 2, *Out-Migration of Iowa Resident First-Time First-Year Students*, shows where students who are Iowa residents attend college when they attend college out of state. A complete table of student residence and migration is available in the Appendix.

Table 1
Residence and Migration of All Freshmen Students in Degree-Granting Institutions Fall 2004:
Ten States with the Highest Import/Export Ratios

State	Migration of students into state	Migration of students out of state	Net in- migration	Import/ export ratio
1. Utah	8,065	1,579	6,486	5.11
2. Arizona	14,549	4,064	10,485	3.58
3. Rhode Island	9,142	2,963	6,179	3.09
4. Iowa	12,224	4,024	8,200	3.04
5. Florida	29,428	11,766	17,662	2.50
6. Mississippi	4,987	2,027	2,960	2.46
7. North Carolina	16,229	6,619	9,610	2.45
8. Wyoming	3,288	1,375	1,913	2.39
9. Alabama	8,663	3,695	4,968	2.34
10. West Virginia	4,576	1,963	2,613	2.33

In-Migration by Sector

Iowa four-year independent colleges and universities enroll more non-resident students from the U.S. (i.e., not counting students from U.S. territories and foreign countries) than any other sector. In the fall of 2004, some 3,752 first-year students, or 46% of freshmen at Iowa's four-year independent colleges and universities, were from other states. The Regent universities enrolled nearly 2,500 first-year students from other U.S. states. Table 2, Student Migration by Institutional Sector, details student migration to Iowa by institutional sector.

Table 2
Inter-State Migration of First-Time Freshmen by Institutional Sector

	Iowa Residents	Contiguous Other States	Non- Contiguous Other States	All Other U.S. States	% Iowa Residents (of U.S. Students)
Regent Universities	6,828	2,192	293	2,485	73.3%
Four-Year Independent	4,445	2,639	1,113	3,752	54.2%
Community Colleges	18,123	1,153	126	1,279	93.4%
Two -Year Independent	227	20	8	28	89.0%
Proprietary	1,793	254	1,674	1,928	48.2%
Total	31,416	6,258	3,214	9,472	76.8%

Source: National Center for Education Statistics (2005)b.

In-Migration by State of Origin

Map 1 shows the states of origin of first-year students attending college in Iowa in the fall of 2004. In 2004 the largest number of in-migrating states came from bordering states of Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska, Wisconsin and Missouri.

Map 1:
In-Migration of First-Time First-Year Students to Iowa

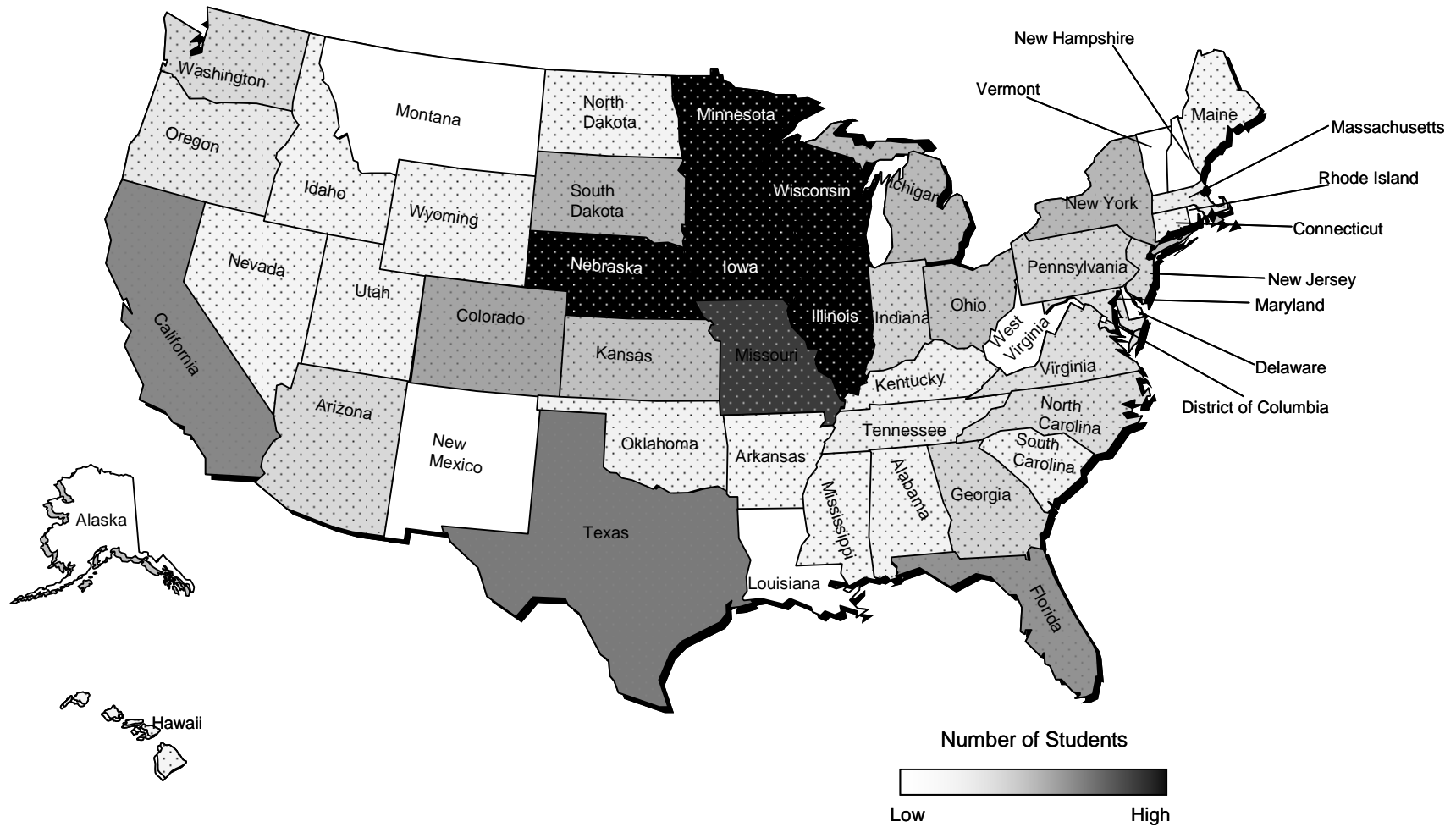


Table 3
Origin of Non-Resident First-Time Freshmen at Iowa Colleges
and Universities: Top Ten Source States (2004)

		Number of Non-Resident First-Time Freshmen attending Iowa institutions in 2004
	State	
1	Illinois	3,016
2	Minnesota	1,348
3	Nebraska	663
4	Wisconsin	592
5	Missouri	456
6	Texas	310
7	California	279
8	Florida	254
9	Colorado	213
10	South Dakota	183

Source: National Center for Education Statistics (2005)b.

Illinois was the single largest source of non-resident first-year students in Iowa. A large share of students from Illinois attend the University of Iowa. Of the University of Iowa's 4,017 first-time freshmen in the fall of 2004, 1,060 were from Illinois. As a percentage of the 2004 freshman class, Saint Ambrose University, in Davenport, attracted even more freshmen from Illinois. Freshmen from Illinois outnumbered freshmen from Iowa at Saint Ambrose University. Six of the top ten states are contiguous with Iowa, and five are the top five source states for Iowa's non-resident freshmen. The sixth contiguous state, South Dakota, is the tenth largest source of non-resident students in Iowa.

The ten largest source states for non-resident students in Iowa include Texas, California, and Florida; i.e., three of the four most populous in the nation. Including Illinois as the fifth most populous state (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005), the data indicate that four of the five most populous states in the country are also among the top sources for Iowa's non-resident students.

It appears that the number of young people in a state is directly related to that state's out-migration of first-year students. Illinois, California, Texas, New Jersey and New York, lead the U.S. in the number of students they export to other states (National Center for Education Statistics, 2005a).

Illinois and Texas, are also substantial *net* exporters of students, which means that they export more students to other states than they attract to attend in within their borders.

Out-Migration

While many students come to Iowa to study, residents of this state also go to other states for college and university experience. Map 2 illustrates the relative number of Iowa first-year students who leave for other states. Table 4 shows provides details for the top ten destination states.

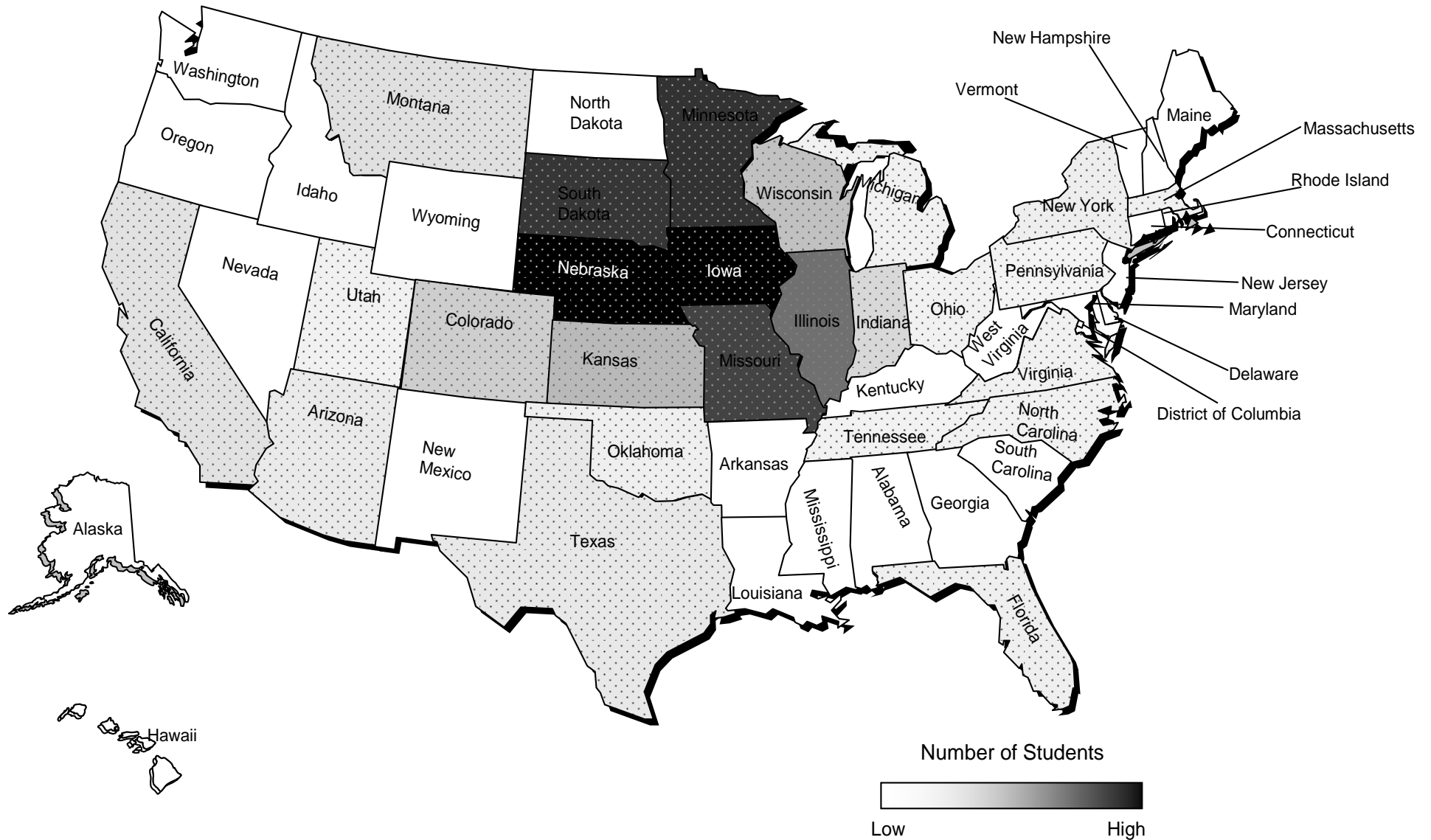
Table 4
Migration of Iowa-Resident Freshmen:
Top Ten Destination States (2004)

	State	Iowa Freshmen Attending College in this State in 2004
1	Nebraska	706
2	Minnesota	537
3	South Dakota	465
4	Missouri	430
5	Illinois	415
6	Colorado	172
7	Kansas	162
8	Wisconsin	142
9	Indiana	104
10	Arizona	94

Source: National Center for Education Statistics (2005)b.

As with in-migration, most out-migration takes place between contiguous states. The top five destination states for Iowa-resident students in 2004 shared a boundary with Iowa. Institutions in Wisconsin attracted the eighth highest number of freshman students from Iowa. The non-contiguous states in this list of top ten are Colorado, Kansas, Indiana, and Arizona.

Map 2:



References

National Center for Education Statistics (2005)a. Residence and migration of all freshmen students in degree-granting institutions, by state or jurisdiction: Fall 2004. *Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System*. Washington D.C. Retrieved July 1, 2006 from http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d05/tables/dt05_202.asp.

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Appendix
Residence and Migration of All Freshmen Students in Degree-Granting Institutions, by State: Fall 2004

State	Students enrolled in insti- tutions in the state	Total student residents attending college	Student residents attending college in-state	Migration of students out of state	Migration of students into state	Net in- migration	Import/ export ratio
	<i>Column 1</i>	<i>Column 2</i>	<i>Column 3</i>	<i>Column 4</i>	<i>Column 5</i>	<i>Column 6</i>	<i>Column 5 / Column 4</i>
1. Utah	26,787	20,301	18,722	1,579	8,065	6,486	5.11
2. Arizona	50,521	40,036	35,972	4,064	14,549	10,485	3.58
3. Rhode Island	15,388	9,209	6,246	2,963	9,142	6,179	3.09
4. Iowa	43,352	35,152	31,128	4,024	12,224	8,200	3.04
5. Florida	138,561	120,899	109,133	11,766	29,428	17,662	2.50
6. Mississippi	33,646	30,686	28,659	2,027	4,987	2,960	2.46
7. North Carolina	81,444	71,834	65,215	6,619	16,229	9,610	2.45
8. Wyoming	6,519	4,606	3,231	1,375	3,288	1,913	2.39
9. Alabama	42,737	37,769	34,074	3,695	8,663	4,968	2.34
10. West Virginia	16,602	13,989	12,026	1,963	4,576	2,613	2.33
11. Kentucky	39,485	34,718	30,891	3,827	8,594	4,767	2.25
12. Indiana	61,520	54,805	47,980	6,825	13,540	6,715	1.98
13. Oklahoma	34,948	31,937	28,856	3,081	6,092	3,011	1.98
14. South Carolina	37,868	34,340	30,641	3,699	7,227	3,528	1.95
15. North Dakota	9,477	7,711	5,504	2,207	3,973	1,766	1.80
16. Delaware	8,253	6,827	4,846	1,981	3,407	1,426	1.72
17. Louisiana	43,572	40,910	37,168	3,742	6,404	2,662	1.71
18. Pennsylvania	132,339	119,658	101,314	18,344	31,025	12,681	1.69
19. Vermont	6,343	4,750	2,013	2,737	4,330	1,593	1.58
20. Arkansas	24,110	22,715	20,162	2,553	3,948	1,395	1.55
21. Massachusetts	70,869	61,944	44,207	17,737	26,662	8,925	1.50
22. Kansas	28,393	26,673	22,970	3,703	5,423	1,720	1.46
23. Virginia	66,621	61,956	50,453	11,503	16,168	4,665	1.41
24. Tennessee	47,991	45,448	38,202	7,246	9,789	2,543	1.35
25. Missouri	51,431	49,183	41,537	7,646	9,894	2,248	1.29
26. Oregon	28,402	27,076	22,338	4,738	6,064	1,326	1.28
27. California	259,869	253,474	230,354	23,120	29,515	6,395	1.28
28. Georgia	83,314	80,377	69,428	10,949	13,886	2,937	1.27
29. Idaho	11,801	11,339	8,525	2,814	3,276	462	1.16
30. New York	180,253	176,350	146,818	29,532	33,435	3,903	1.13
31. New Hampshire	12,420	11,828	6,495	5,333	5,925	592	1.11
32. Colorado	45,341	44,616	37,398	7,218	7,943	725	1.10
33. South Dakota	9,076	8,920	6,687	2,233	2,389	156	1.07
34. Nebraska	18,855	18,728	15,480	3,248	3,375	127	1.04
35. Michigan	88,078	88,279	79,810	8,469	8,268	-201	0.98
36. New Mexico	16,827	16,950	13,913	3,037	2,914	-123	0.96
37. Montana	8,484	8,593	6,428	2,165	2,056	-109	0.95
38. Wisconsin	55,331	56,165	46,809	9,356	8,522	-834	0.91
39. Ohio	104,334	105,975	90,920	15,055	13,414	-1,641	0.89
40. Hawaii	8,492	8,832	6,057	2,775	2,435	-340	0.88
41. Minnesota	61,042	62,798	50,355	12,443	10,687	-1,756	0.86
42. Nevada	13,995	14,332	12,013	2,319	1,982	-337	0.85
43. Texas	205,221	208,106	189,462	18,644	15,759	-2,885	0.85
44. Maine	10,760	11,860	7,846	4,014	2,914	-1,100	0.73
45. Connecticut	27,295	32,649	18,771	13,878	8,524	-5,354	0.61
46. Washington	37,393	40,604	32,291	8,313	5,102	-3,211	0.61
47. Maryland	45,815	53,336	36,575	16,761	9,240	-7,521	0.55
48. Illinois	103,212	114,285	90,951	23,334	12,261	-11,073	0.53
49. Alaska	2,760	4,313	2,430	1,883	330	-1,553	0.18
50. New Jersey	57,564	84,556	53,103	31,453	4,461	-26,992	0.14
United States	2,630,243	2,575,811	2,133,727	442,084	496,516	54,432	1.12

Adapted from: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2004 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), Spring 2005. Table 302. Residence and migration of all freshmen students in degree-granting institutions, by state or jurisdiction: Fall 2004