

Iowa College Student Aid Commission
Migration of First-Time First-Year Students
to Iowa and from Iowa

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Research Director

January 2008



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Iowa had a net gain of 4,975 first-year students who came to the state to study in 2006. The numbers were provided by over 6,000 colleges and universities across the United States and were analyzed, from an Iowa perspective, by the Iowa College Student Aid Commission. The analysis suggests that in 2006 22,549 Iowa students who graduated from high school within the past 12 months. Of those graduates, 3,197 (14.2%) left Iowa to study in other states. The same year, 8,172 came from other states to study in Iowa. The difference between the two ($8,172 - 3,197 = 4,975$) represents the net gain of students arriving vs. those departing.

More than half the students coming to Iowa arrived from Illinois with 2,701 students, followed by Minnesota with 967 students. Together, the two states account for nearly three of every four students. The top ten sources provide nearly 99% of the students arriving at Iowa to study.

Table 1. Top 10 Sources of First-Year Students Direct from High School: 2006

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Net Gain Number</u>	<u>Percent of Total</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>
1	Illinois	2,701	54.3%	54.3%
2	Minnesota	967	19.4%	73.7%
3	Wisconsin	340	6.8%	80.6%
4	Foreign Countries	313	6.3%	86.9%
5	Texas	151	3.0%	89.9%
6	California	113	2.3%	92.2%
7	Colorado	91	1.8%	94.0%
8	Florida	85	1.7%	95.7%
9	Nebraska	55	1.1%	96.8%
10	Michigan	46	0.9%	97.7%
10	Washington	46	0.9%	98.7%
	Total of Top 10	4,908	98.7%	
	Net Gain of Students Arriving	4,975	100.0%	

Note: Michigan and Washington are tied in 10th place.

Students from outside of Iowa states have an impact on the Iowa economy. For example, if each student purchases one pizza and a soft-drink each week for a total expenditure of \$15, and if the average student does this for 35 weeks per year, then the economic impact is roughly \$2.6 million. Additional economic impact comes to Iowa from other student expenditures, family visits, travel and other activities.

Migration of First-Time First-year Students

Top 10 States with Net Gains in First-Time Students Attending Iowa Colleges and Universities
Fall 2006



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