



New England Fast Facts

The Region's Higher Education Landscape

Higher education in New England stands apart from the rest of the nation in a number of ways, such as its history as a pioneer of U.S. postsecondary education, its large private nonprofit sector, and its ability to attract students from outside the region. Thus, conversations about higher education in the region—especially those around federal and state policy—must be prefaced with an understanding of New England's unique context. This *New England Fast Facts* sets the stage for those conversations by describing some of the unique elements of the region's higher education landscape.

How Many Institutions of Higher Education are in New England? How Do They Differ by Type and Size?

- **There are more than 250 colleges and universities in New England**, ranging from schools of theology, business, and art to doctoral universities with the highest research activity in the nation (Figure 1).
- Compared with the nation, the region has disproportionately more 4-year private nonprofit colleges and fewer 4-year private for-profit colleges (Figure 2).
- Institutions vary in size from fewer than 50 total students enrolled to more than 40,000.
- Three out of four colleges in the region enrolled fewer than 5,000 students in fall 2012 (Figure 3).
- Many of the region's largest institutions are private nonprofit. In fact, three of the 10 largest four-year private nonprofit institutions in the nation are in New England.

Figure 1: New England Institutions by Carnegie Classification

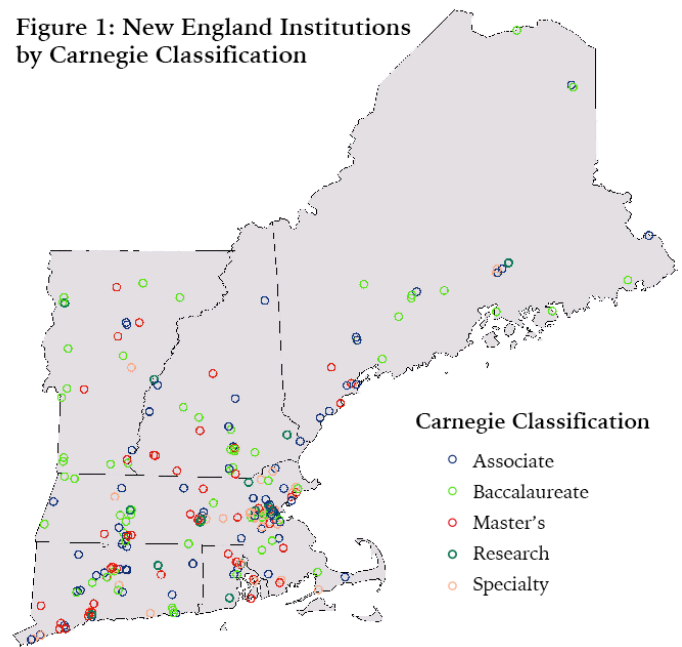


Figure 2: Institutions by Sector in Region and U.S., Fall 2012

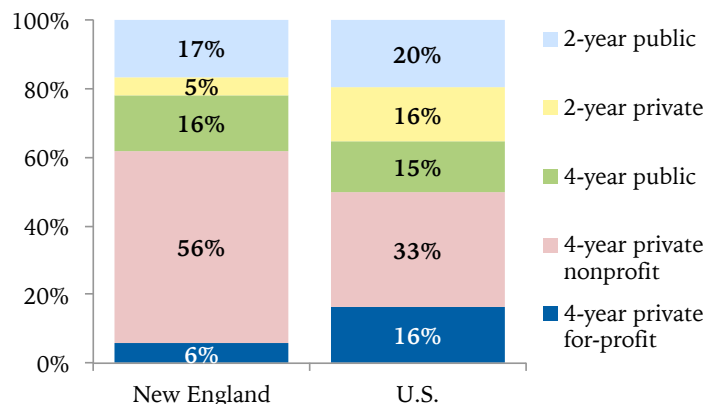
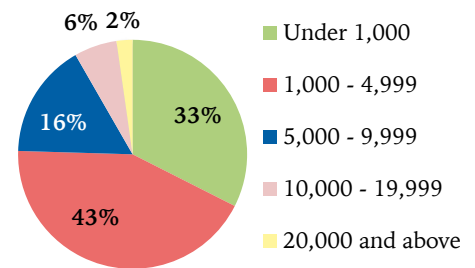


Figure 3: New England Institutions by Size (Total Students Enrolled for Credit), Fall 2012



Note: Institutions and students are identified by the state of the institution's physical location, even if students attend exclusively online from another state. Some institutions with multiple campuses are identified by their primary address reported to the U.S. Department of Education (e.g. all campuses of Community College of Vermont are represented by one location in Figure 1). "2-year private" includes nonprofit and for-profit. Total students enrolled counts part- and full-time students equally. Source: NEBHE analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Education

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New England Board of Higher Education

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How Many Undergraduate Students are Enrolled at Institutions in New England? Where Do They Enroll? How Do They Receive Federal Financial Aid?

- Nearly 800,000 undergraduates are enrolled at colleges and universities in the region.
- Of the U.S. undergraduates who began at New England colleges in fall 2012, 60% came from within the state of the college, 15% came from another New England state, and 25% came from outside the region.
- Like the U.S. overall, the majority (58%) of undergraduate students in the region are served by public institutions (Figure 4).
- A much higher share of undergraduates enroll at 4-year private nonprofit institutions in New England than across the nation.
- One-third of all undergraduates in New England received a Pell grant in fall 2012. Nearly half (47%) received a federal student loan (Figure 5).
- Students at 2-year public institutions are more likely to receive Pell grants and less likely to receive federal loans: They make up 28% of total enrollment but 38% of Pell grant recipients and 13% of federal loan recipients in the region.
- Nearly half (47%) of federal loan dollars go to students at 4-year private nonprofit institutions.

Figure 4: Undergraduate Students Enrolled by Sector in Region and U.S., Fall 2012

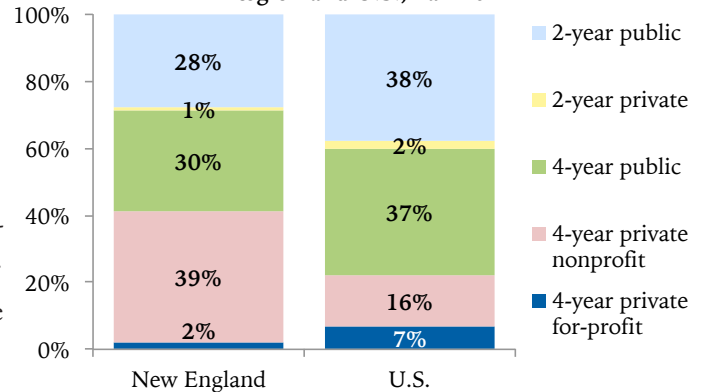
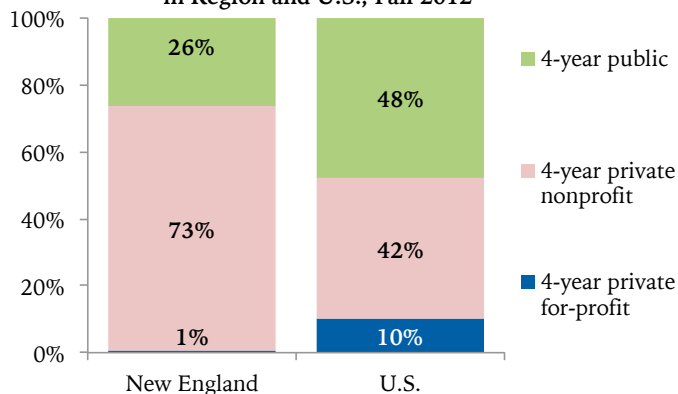


Figure 5: Federal Financial Aid Received by Undergraduates in New England by Sector, Fall 2012

Sector	Number Receiving Pell Grants	Total Amount of Pell Grant Aid Received	Number Receiving Federal Loans	Total Amount of Federal Loan Aid Received
2-year public	99,464	\$345,097,084	48,304	\$224,005,425
2-year private	2,890	\$9,843,011	2,959	\$17,304,724
4-year public	72,368	\$283,995,066	144,775	\$1,000,355,927
4-year private nonprofit	70,950	\$279,026,485	164,799	\$1,198,733,925
4-year private for-profit	8,430	\$32,117,663	11,139	\$88,473,304
Total	254,102	\$950,079,309	371,976	\$2,528,873,305

How Many Graduate Students are Enrolled at Institutions in New England? Where Do They Enroll?

Figure 6: Graduate Students Enrolled by Sector in Region and U.S., Fall 2012



- Over 200,000 graduate and professional students are enrolled at institutions in New England.
- Compared with the nation, New England serves a smaller share of its graduate students at public colleges and private for-profit colleges (Figure 6).
- Three in four graduate students in the region are enrolled at private nonprofit institutions.
- Over one quarter of all graduate and professional students in the region are served by five institutions: Harvard University, Boston University, Northeastern University, the University of Connecticut, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Note: Institutions and students are identified by the state of the institution's physical location, even if students attend exclusively online from another state. "2-year private" includes nonprofit and for-profit. Part- and full-time students are counted equally. Federal loans are loans to students; Parent PLUS loans are not included.

Source: NEBHE analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Education

About the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE)

Established in 1955 by six visionary New England governors, NEBHE is a regional compact that works across New England to: help leaders assess, develop and implement education practices and policies of regional significance; promote regional cooperation that encourages efficient sharing of education resources; and strengthen the relationship between higher education and the regional economy.



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