

# Enrollment Summary 2021

---

Division of Enrollment Management

### College Acronyms and Abbreviations

BUS	Driehaus College of Business
CDM	College of Computing and Digital Media
CMN	College of Communication
COE	College of Education
CSH	College of Science and Health
KGSB	Kellstadt Graduate School of Business
LAS	College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
LAW	College of Law*
Music	School of Music
SCPS	School of Continuing and Professional Studies
Theatre	The Theatre School

\*College of Law figures represented in this book are based on Institutional Research and Market Analytics' September census date and may not match figures reported by the College of Law.

University Colleagues,

It is my privilege to present to you DePaul's Enrollment Summary Book for 2021. This is an annual report that describes the university's current enrollment position, student profile and trajectory over recent years, produced in collaboration between IRMA, UMC and Enrollment Management.

I hope that the information on the following pages will show you what I see: the slow sunrise of a thriving future, even though around us there remains darkness, uncertainty, and headwind. I hope that you also see in the enrollment outcomes outlined in this book, the breakthrough role of innovation, crafted with strategy, which is executed with care, courage, and collective commitment.

We have all been living through the upheaval exacerbated by the pandemic for almost two years. Many of our known guiding coordinates have been disrupted and historical precedents/trends have diminished ability under the unprecedented conditions of our lives. You will notice these shifts in the data, just as I did.

In spite of these obvious challenges, I hope that you will also note our collective will to thrive, powered by discoveries, strategies, and actions taken with care, courage and a collective commitment to continue to innovate on behalf of our students and our mission. At a time when private higher education has been under tremendous market pressure we:

- Welcomed academically talented, diverse and successively record-breaking freshman classes three years in a row— fall 2021 bringing the largest class in the university's history with 2,838 freshmen
- Reversed course in new transfer enrollment, creating 2.8% growth in fall-to-fall headcount for the first time since fall 2018
- Improved first-year retention 1.2% points to reach 84.1% this fall
- Increased fall undergraduate enrollment for the first time since 2012
- Realized meaningful improvements in both LSAT and GPA for the College of Law
- Grew new international graduate enrollment by triple digits

The following pages will show you where we have been, and where we are now. What it will not show is all the places we can go, collectively, with courage and resilience. The story of our future is not yet written; it is up to us to imagine it, and act upon it, together.

Thank you for your dedication to our students. Thank you for the communities that you nurture. Thank you for your resilience and creativity. That way lies our hope for the future.

Sincerely,



Soumitra Ghosh  
Vice President, Enrollment Management

# University Enrollment

DePaul remains the nation's largest Catholic university for the 24th consecutive year with a total student enrollment of 21,670, compared with 21,922 in fall 2020.

## Fall 2021 Enrollment



**14,294**

undergraduate students



**6,704**

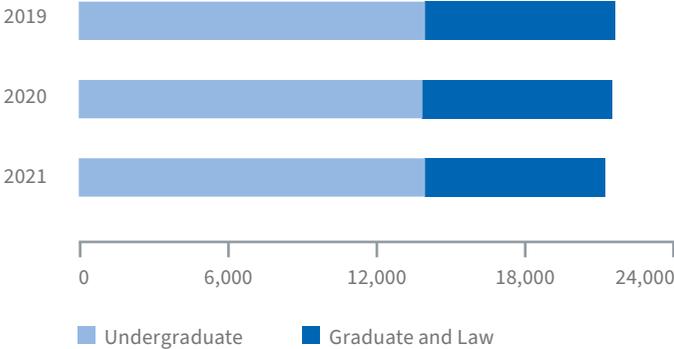
graduate students



**672**

law students

## University Enrollment



## University Enrollment by College

21,670 enrollment total

College	Enrollment
Computing and Digital Media	5,465
Business	5,445
Science and Health	3,209
Liberal Arts and Social Sciences	2,611
Education	1,608
Communication	1,243
Law	672
Continuing and Professional Studies	559
Theatre	455
Music	403

## Credit Hours



**78%**

of credit hours are generated by undergraduate students



**22%**

of credit hours are generated by graduate and law students



**84%**

of all students enrolled in fall 2021 are full-time\*

\*Based on credit-hour load



**30%**

of total credit hours are from new students



**36%**

of total credit hours are taken online



**273,654**

total credit hours in fall 2021





## Undergraduate Enrollment

---

DePaul enrolled 14,294 undergraduates this fall, compared with 14,145 in 2020. Undergraduate enrollment increased 149 students (or 1%) over last fall and 80 students over pre-pandemic fall 2019 enrollment. This fall was the first time total enrollment increased since 2012. This growth is attributed to an increase of 174 full-time undergraduates over last fall.

### Full-time and Part-time Undergraduate Enrollment



**12,950**

Full-time



**1,344**

Part-time

# Undergraduate Enrollment by College

CDM	Students Enrolled
2019	3,227
2020	3,309
2021	3,534

BUS	Students Enrolled
2019	3,602
2020	3,508
2021	3,491

CSH	Students Enrolled
2019	2,330
2020	2,373
2021	2,358

LAS	Students Enrolled
2019	2,065
2020	2,041
2021	2,022

CMN	Students Enrolled
2019	1,358
2020	1,219
2021	1,105

COE	Students Enrolled
2019	472
2020	506
2021	578

SCPS	Students Enrolled
2019	575
2020	562
2021	524

Theatre	Students Enrolled
2019	361
2020	391
2021	429

Music	Students Enrolled
2019	224
2020	236
2021	253



## Freshman Enrollment

DePaul welcomed a class of 2,838 new freshmen in fall 2021, the largest freshman class in DePaul's history and an increase of 64 students over last fall. Enrollment increased in BUS, CMN, CDM, and Music. CDM enrolled the largest proportion of freshmen at 27%.

### High School Academic Profile



**3.83**

average high school GPA



**1189**

average SAT composite\*



**453**

freshmen enrolled in the University Honors Program\*\*



**160**

freshmen enrolled in the Pathways Program in Health Sciences



**1,552**

freshmen enrolled through the test-optional program



**1,216**

high schools contributed freshmen

\* SAT average includes scores for students who applied through the test-optional program and submitted scores post-admission for research purposes. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, standardized tests were unavailable for many students, resulting in many institutions adopting a test-optional or test-blind policy. DePaul has been test-optional since 2012.

\*\* There are five other college- and discipline-specific honors programs at DePaul. The information presented here does not include those programs.

## Freshman Enrollment by College

### CDM Students Enrolled

2019	674
2020	697
2021	770

### BUS

2019	570
2020	606
2021	642

### CSH

2019	507
2020	568
2021	539

### LAS

2019	471
2020	480
2021	456

### CMN

2019	176
2020	159
2021	160

### Theatre Students Enrolled

2019	104
2020	110
2021	109

### COE

2019	72
2020	96
2021	95

### Music

2019	53
2020	58
2021	67

## Most Popular Majors for New Freshmen

### Major Students Enrolled

Film and television	347
Health sciences	152
Psychology	151
Computer science	149
Finance	102
Political science	102

## Freshman Diversity



**59%**

of freshmen come from Chicagoland (Chicago or suburbs)

**37%**

of new freshmen are from out of state. Top feeder states: California, Michigan and Ohio

**81%**

of new freshmen come from a public high school



**32%**

of freshmen are first-generation (neither parent has a Bachelor's degree)

**40%**

of first generation students are male

**42%**

of first-generation freshmen come from suburban Chicago



**47%**

of new freshmen are students of color

**41%**

of all new freshmen are male

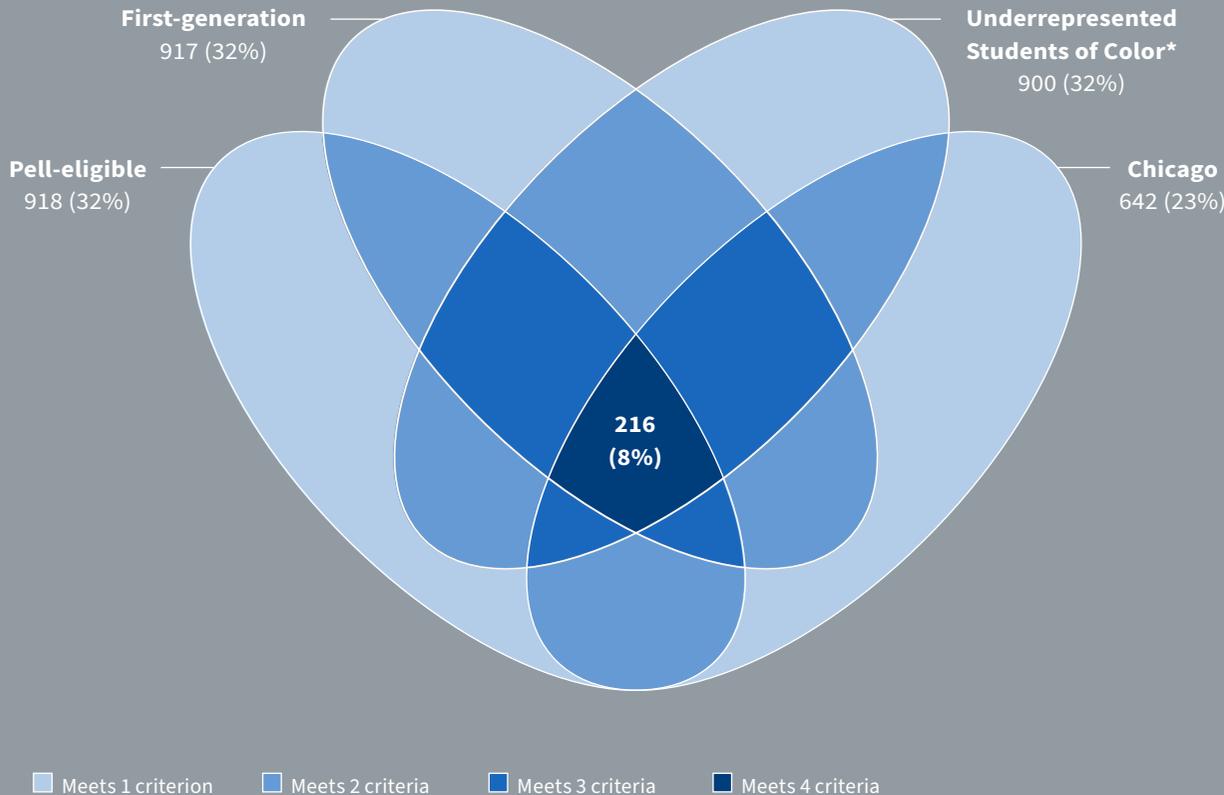
**2/3**

of new freshmen are enrolled in CDM, BUS and CSH

**41% of freshmen who reported a religious preference are Catholic.**

## Enrolled Freshmen Fall 2021

One goal of DePaul's mission is to serve the needs of students traditionally underrepresented in higher education. To that end, we pay close attention to students who meet certain criteria that support our mission. This fall our new freshman class has 32% who are underrepresented students of color\*, 32% who are first-generation students, 32% who are Pell-eligible and 23% who are from the City of Chicago.



**58%**

or 1,660 students meet 1+ criteria

**24%**

or 675 students meet only 1 criterion

**17%**

or 469 students meet only 2 criteria

**11%**

or 300 students meet only 3 criteria

**8%**

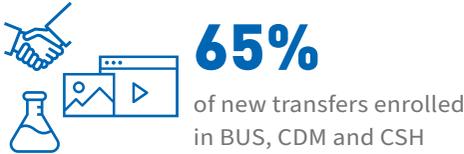
or 216 students meet all 4 criteria

\*Underrepresented Students of Color = American Indian/Alaskan native, African American, Hispanic/Latinx and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

# Transfer Enrollment

DePaul welcomed 1,155 new transfer students this fall compared with 1,127 in 2020, an increase of 2% (or 28 students). BUS remains the largest transfer college, enrolling nearly 30% of all new transfer students. This fall, new transfer enrollment increased in CDM, LAS, CMN, and Theatre.

## Fall Transfer Enrollment



## Top 5 Community College Feeder Schools

College	Students Enrolled
Harper College	134
College of DuPage	115
Oakton Community College	95
College of Lake County	56
Harold Washington College	53

The top 5 feeder schools sent 39% of all transfer students.

## Transfer Enrollment by Term (for fiscal year 2020-21)



## Transfer Enrollment by College

### BUS Students Enrolled

2019	362
2020	347
2021	342

### CDM

2019	246
2020	232
2021	252

### CSH

2019	152
2020	160
2021	159

### LAS

2019	135
2020	140
2021	154

### SCPS

2019	98
2020	99
2021	98

### CMN Students Enrolled

2019	129
2020	94
2021	97

### COE

2019	46
2020	35
2021	32

### Theatre

2019	9
2020	11
2021	12

### Music

2019	6
2020	9
2021	9

### Transfer Enrollment Through DAPP\* Students Enrolled

2019	82
2020	53
2021	85

\*DePaul Admission Partnership Program (DAPP) is a transfer admission program designed for students beginning their college education at a community college.

## Transfer Diversity



**64%**

of new transfers are from an Illinois community college

**27%**

are from out-of-state institutions

**4%**

are from Illinois private four-year institutions



**77%**

of new transfers are under the age of 24

**14%**

of new transfers are 24 to 29 years of age

**9%**

of new transfers are 30 years of age or older



**52%**

of new transfers are students of color

**50%**

of new transfers are male

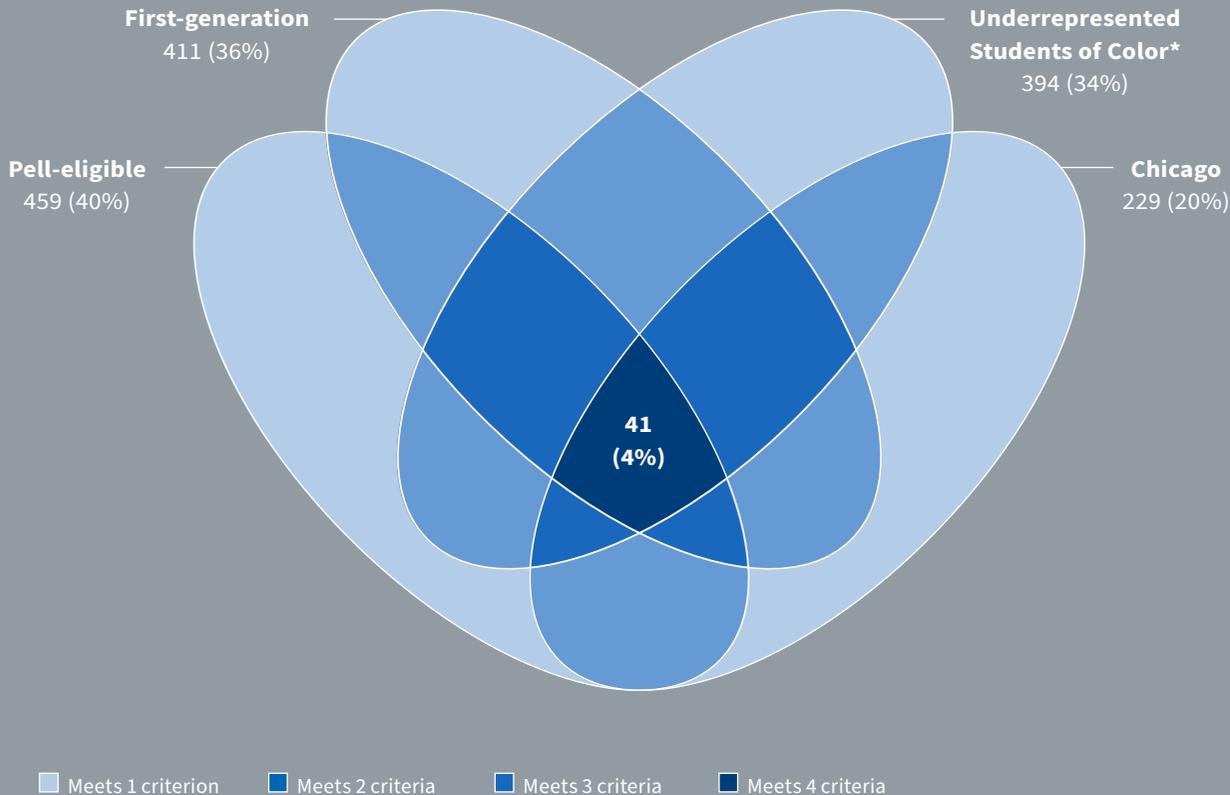
**36%**

of new transfers are first-generation students

**38% of new transfers who reported a religious preference are Catholic.**

## Enrolled Transfers Fall 2021

One of goal of DePaul's mission is to serve the needs of students traditionally unrepresented in higher education. To that end, we pay close attention to students who meet certain criteria that support our mission. This year, our new transfer student cohort has 40% of students who are Pell-eligible, 36% first-generation, 34% underrepresented students of color, and 20% from the city of Chicago.



**70%**

or 809 students  
meet 1+ criteria

**30%**

or 349 students  
meet only 1 criterion

**24%**

or 277 students  
meet only 2 criteria

**12%**

or 142 students  
meet only 3 criteria

**4%**

or 41 students  
meet all 4 criteria

\*Underepresented Students of Color = American Indian/Alaskan native, African American, Hispanic/Latinx and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

# Freshman Admission Trends



**32,075**

freshman applicants  
for fall 2021



**19,263**

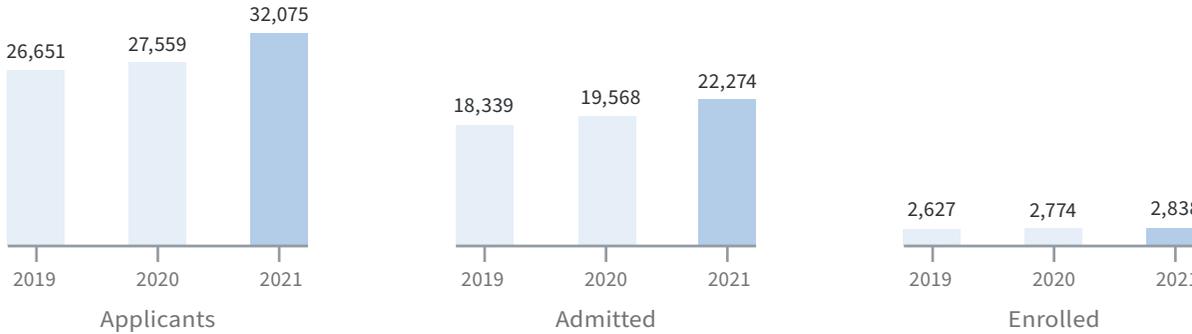
freshmen applied through  
the test-optional program



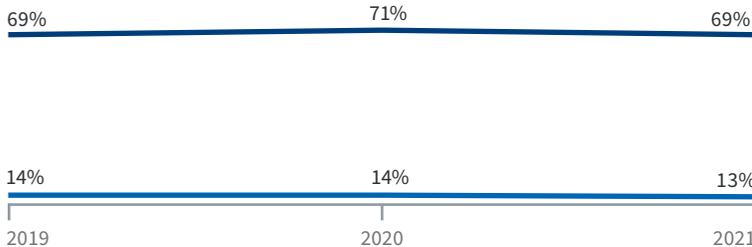
**91%**

of new freshmen filed the  
Free Application for Federal  
Student Aid (FAFSA)

## Freshman Applicants, Admission and Enrollment Yield



## Freshman Admission and Yield Rates



■ Admission Rates   ■ Yield Rates (% enrolled)

**This fall, students from over 5,500 high schools across the nation applied for freshman admission.**

# Transfer Admission Trends



**4,339**

transfer applicants for fall 2021



**25%**

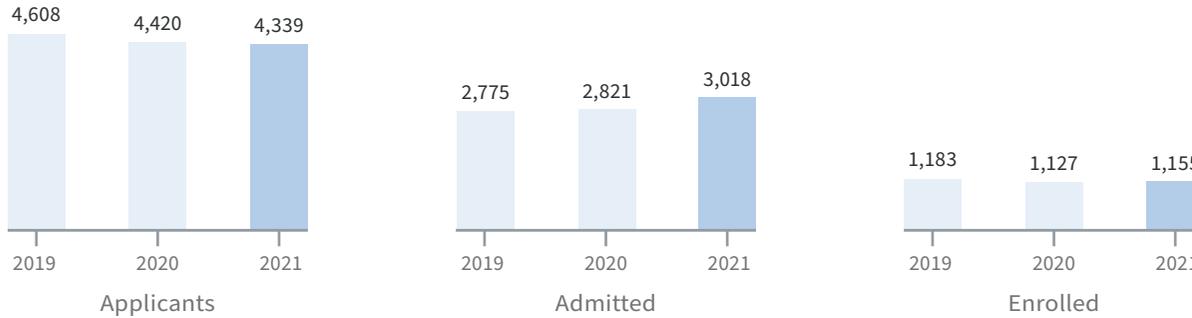
of new transfers apply to BUS



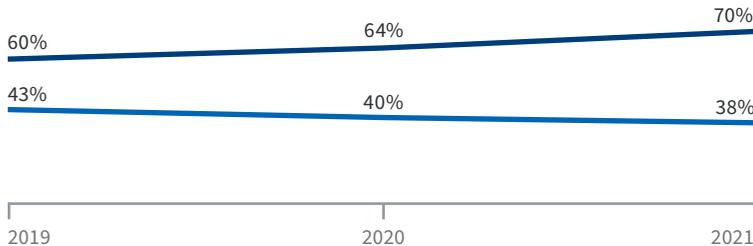
**85**

new transfers enrolled through the DePaul Admission Partnership Program (DAPP)

## Transfer Applicants, Admission and Enrollment Yield



## Transfer Admission and Yield Rates



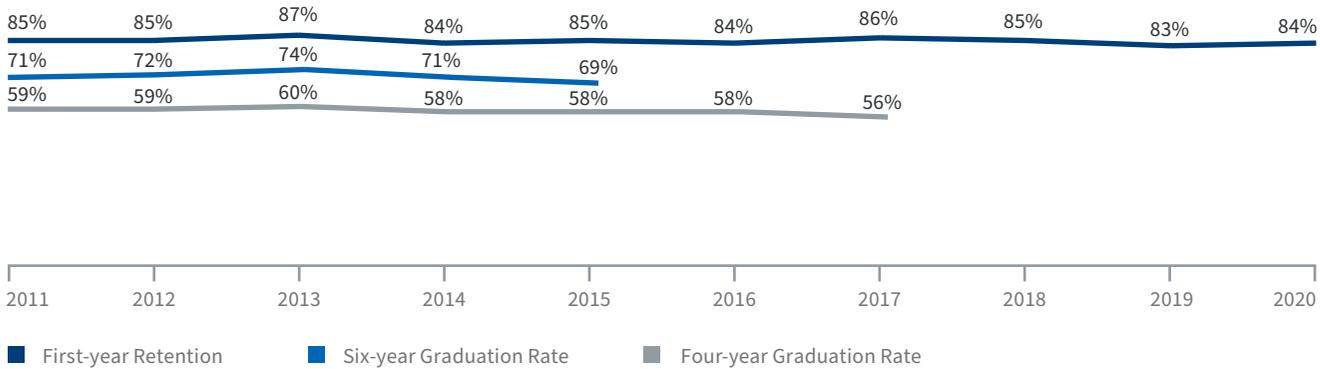
■ Admission Rates ■ Yield Rates (% enrolled)

**This fall, 73% of new transfer students came from a two-year institution.**

# Freshman Retention and Graduation Rates

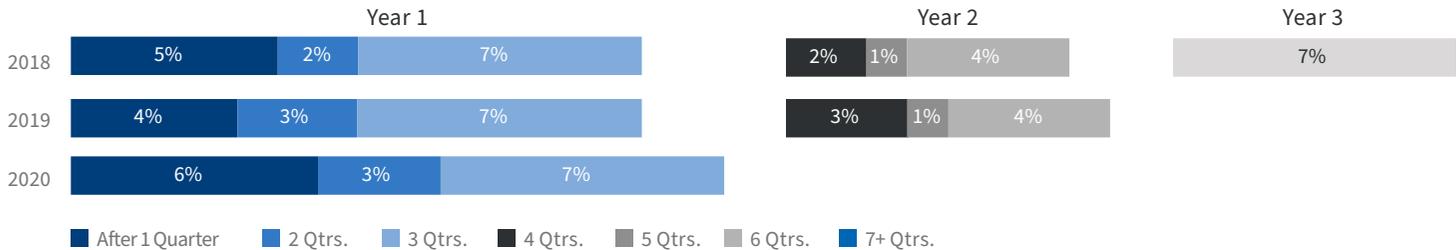
In fall 2021, 84% of the fall 2020 full-time freshmen cohort returned for their sophomore year, compared with 83% of the prior year's freshman class. The four-year graduation rate continues to exceed the national average for private four-year universities. This year, the four-year graduation rate for the 2017 freshman class declined slightly to 56% from prior years.

## Freshman Retention and Graduation Rates by Freshman Cohort Year



Looking at freshmen from the three most recent cohorts who are not currently enrolled, the largest proportion of students leave after their third quarter, or after spring in their first year, and do not return for the start of their second year.

## Freshman Cohort Quarterly Attrition\*



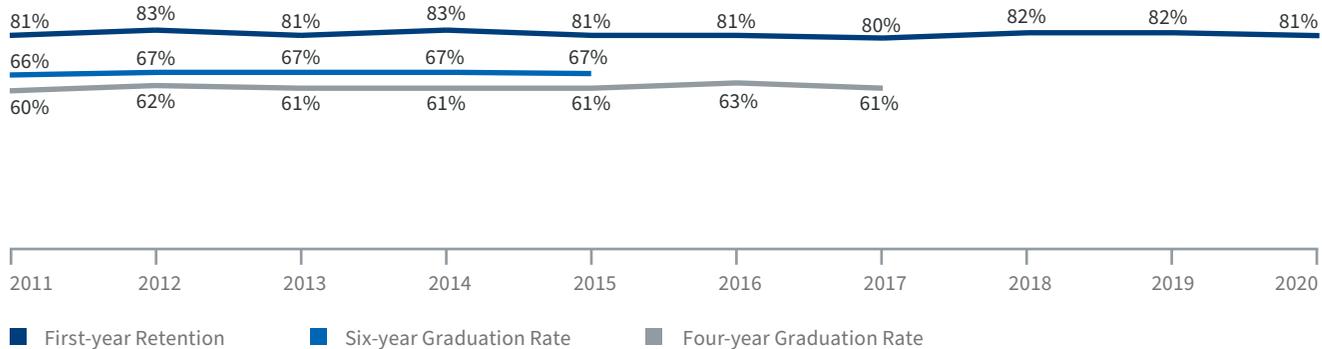
\*Our methodology only includes fall, winter and spring quarters.

Note: Freshman-cohort figures in these two graphs may not match due to reporting methodology differences.

# Transfer Retention and Graduation Rates

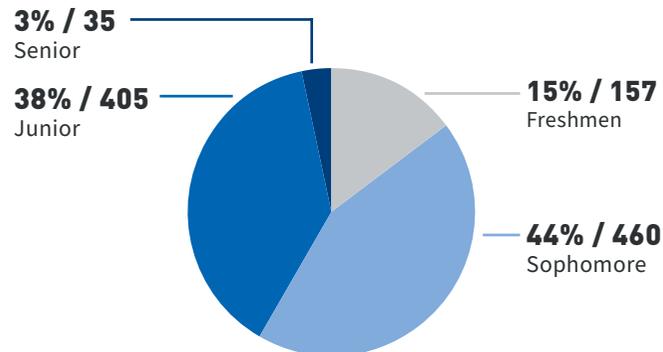
The first-year transfer retention rate\* captures the percentage of new transfer students from all terms of the prior year who return for the fall term. Because the methods for calculating freshman and transfer retention rates are different, the rates should not be directly compared. The transfer retention and graduation rates have been relatively stable over recent years.

## Transfer Retention and Graduation Rates\* by Transfer Cohort Year



## New Transfer Students by Entry Class Level

1,057 new transfer students\*



**DAPP students have notably high graduation rates—83% graduate within four year compared to 67% of transfers overall.**

\*SCPS students are not included in transfer retention or graduation rates.

# Graduate and Law Enrollment

## Graduate Enrollment

In fall 2021, 6,704 graduate students enrolled (excluding Law), compared with 7,106 in 2020. Graduate enrollment in COE, Music, and Theatre increased in 2021. The majority of graduate students are master's degree students—89%—followed by 9% who are doctoral students, and 2% who are in certificate programs or non-degree-seeking.



**46%**

of all graduate students are 24 to 29 years old



**33%**

of all graduate students are students of color



**57%**

of all graduate students are female

**This fall, 898 graduate students, or 13%, are Double Demons.**

## Law Enrollment

This fall, 672 students enrolled in the College of Law, compared with 671 in 2020. Most law students enrolled in the JD program—71%, along with 16% in the evening program, 12% in the Master of Jurisprudence (MJ) program and 1% in the LLM program.



**24%**

are age 30 or older



**35%**

are students of color



**57%**

are female

**32% of students enrolled in the College of Law are from out-of-state or international locations.**

## Graduate and Law Enrollment by College

### KGSB Students Enrolled

2019	2,203
2020	2,233
2021	1,954

### CDM

2019	2,102
2020	1,984
2021	1,931

### COE

2019	923
2020	1,013
2021	1,030

### CSH

2019	856
2020	875
2021	851

### Law

2019	747
2020	671
2021	672

### LAS

2019	618
2020	653
2021	589

### Music

2019	141
2020	114
2021	150

### CMN

2019	156
2020	150
2021	138

### SCPS

2019	68
2020	62
2021	35

### Theatre

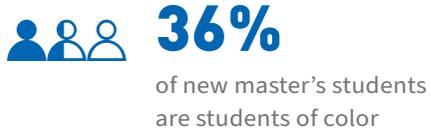
2019	36
2020	22
2021	26



# New Graduate Enrollment

## New Master's Enrollment

Fall enrollment accounts for over half of new master's enrollment throughout the fiscal year. Over the course of the 2020-21 fiscal year, a total of 2,927 new master's students enrolled, and 59% enrolled in the fall.



## New Master's Enrollment by Term (for fiscal year 2020-21)



# New Master's Enrollment by College

College	Students Enrolled
<b>CDM</b>	
2019	479
2020	396
2021	479
<b>KGSB</b>	
2019	491
2020	646
2021	474
<b>COE</b>	
2019	169
2020	218
2021	194
<b>LAS</b>	
2019	209
2020	223
2021	167
<b>CSH</b>	
2019	137
2020	145
2021	156

College	Students Enrolled
<b>Music</b>	
2019	60
2020	34
2021	69
<b>CMN</b>	
2019	56
2020	62
2021	59
<b>Theatre</b>	
2019	13
2020	1
2021	16
<b>SCPS</b>	
2019	10
2020	7
2021	8



## New Doctoral Enrollment



**28**

new doctoral students enrolled in COE

**28**

new students enrolled in the nursing doctorate program

**12**

new doctoral students enrolled in KGSB

**6**

new doctoral students enrolled in LAS

**5**

new doctoral students enrolled in CDM

## New Law Enrollment



**181**

new first-year JD students

**34**

new law students enrolled in the MJ program

**2**

new law students enrolled in LLM programs

# Diversity

DePaul enrolled 9,341 students of color in 2021, compared with 9,371 in 2020. Students of color account for 43% of total enrollment, 46% of undergraduate enrollment, 38% of graduate enrollment, and 35% of law enrollment.

## University Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity

### Hispanic/Latinx Students Enrolled

2019	3,718
2020	3,974
2021	4,107

### Asian Students Enrolled

2019	2,211
2020	2,331
2021	2,355

### African American Students Enrolled

2019	2,082
2020	2,172
2021	1,998

### Multiracial/Non-Hispanic Students Enrolled

2019	781
2020	830
2021	834

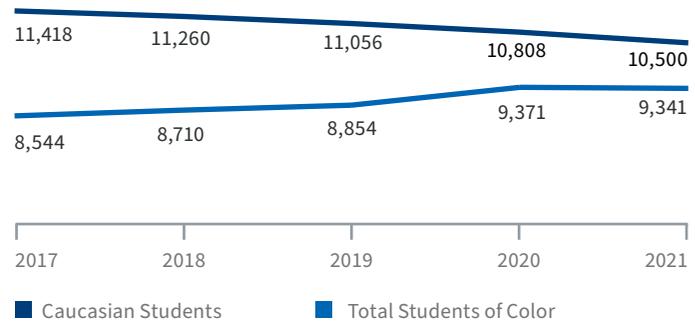
### American Indian/Alaskan Native Students Enrolled

2019	28
2020	34
2021	25

### Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Students Enrolled

2019	34
2020	30
2021	22

## Total Students of Color and Caucasian Students



## New Student Race/Ethnicity

	Freshmen	Transfers	Master's	Doctoral	Law
Hispanic/Latinx	692	298	230	7	40
Asian	309	158	117	9	13
African American	207	95	195	14	16
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	1	2	0	1
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1	0	2	0	1
Multiracial/Non-Hispanic	119	44	41	6	10
Caucasian	1,381	513	722	30	149
International (Students on F1 and J1 Visas)	86	31	274	10	10
Other/Unreported Background	43	15	39	15	8

Includes international students on visas other than F1 and J1, as well as those who did not report a race or ethnicity



## International Students

In total, 1,140 students have international student status (on F1 and J1 visas), compared with 1,058 in 2020. This fall, 32% of international students are undergraduates and 68% are graduate and law students. International students represent 5% of total university enrollment.



**364**

international  
undergraduate students



**40%**

of international  
undergraduate students  
are enrolled in BUS



**776**

international graduate  
and law students

### Top Countries of Origin

Students Enrolled

India	332
China	186
Saudi Arabia	50
Pakistan	47
Taiwan	39

**This fall, 38% of international students are new students, including 86 new freshmen, 31 new transfers, 8 new non-degree, and 311 new graduate and law students.**



## National Comparisons

DePaul is the largest Catholic university in the nation, and has been for 24 consecutive years. This fall, DePaul enrolled about 13% of total enrollment from the 10 largest Catholic institutions in the nation.

### Nation's Largest Catholic Universities\* By Enrollment

	Undergraduate	Graduate	Total
<b>DePaul University</b>	<b>14,294</b>	<b>7,376</b>	<b>21,670</b>
Georgetown University	7,598	13,337	20,935
St. John's University	15,452	4,206	19,658
Loyola University Chicago	11,819	5,679	17,498
Fordham University	9,904	7,082	16,986
Boston College	9,532	5,574	15,106
University of Notre Dame	8,973	4,166	13,139
Saint Louis University	8,138	4,745	12,883
University of Dayton	8,637	3,334	11,971
Marquette University	7,660	3,660	11,320

\* Enrollment headcounts include final figures for part- and full-time, traditional and non-traditional/adult degree-seeking students enrolled in fall sessions, as self-reported by each institution. For-profit institutions, those outside of the Doctoral Carnegie Classification, and those with over 50% enrolled exclusively in distance education or online courses are excluded.

**Learn more at [depaul.edu](https://depaul.edu)**

---

**Division of Enrollment Management**

1 East Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-2287

[depaul.edu](https://depaul.edu)

