

# Enrollment Summary 2020

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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,

On behalf of the Division of Enrollment Management, I am pleased to present DePaul's 2020 enrollment summary, an annual report that describes the university's current enrollment position, student profile and trajectory over recent years. I hope the information on the following pages will impress upon you—as it has for me—the remarkable outcomes achieved by our DePaul community, which has worked together to imagine new possibilities and take action against impossible odds.

Many of our enrollment efforts were well underway before March 2020, as were the challenges and upheavals facing the higher education sector. The onset of the pandemic heightened our existing challenges, introduced many new ones and took away the luxury of time to create solutions. It also awakened the best in us as a community and helped us to see that change is the only constant, especially when it comes to enrollment. In a fall when postsecondary enrollment declined 3.3% nationally, DePaul enrolled 21,922 students—which represents a 0.6% loss over the previous year. This remarkable outcome is the direct result of the smart, dedicated and relentless work of many of our colleagues—each of whom have my gratitude—as well as our unyielding focus on what matters most to us all: our students.

Freshman enrollment is one of the highlights of our 2020 enrollment portfolio. We enrolled the largest freshman class in university history with 2,774 new first-year students, topping our previous record set in 2019 by 147 students and surpassing our budgeted headcount goal by 4.7%. The freshman cohort is one of the most diverse in DePaul's history, with 49% who are students of color, 32% who are Pell-grant eligible, 34% who are first-generation students and 32% who are from outside Illinois.

New master's student enrollment remained strong. The 1,732 new master's students who started this fall represent a 6.7% increase over last year. Overall graduate enrollment of 7,106 stands at 99.2% of the budgeted headcount goal and three students greater than last year. The colleges of Business, Education, Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, and Science and Health increased their overall graduate enrollment headcount over last year.

These strong new student outcomes were not enough to offset an overall decrease in continuing undergraduate students. This steady decline in the undergraduate student body tells us that we need to become more effective as a community in ensuring that a larger proportion of our continuing students persist and complete their college degree at DePaul.

The pandemic has taught us that there is power in our collective will and that we can achieve ambitious goals by thinking boldly and implementing decisive change. There has never been a better time or a greater need for us to band together using that collective will and our professional acumen to achieve our new student enrollment and continuing student re-enrollment goals. I am encouraged by and grateful for the university's response to these enrollment goals and new challenges, and I believe that we can and will achieve great things together.

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



Soumitra Ghosh  
Vice President, Enrollment Management

# University Enrollment

DePaul remains the nation's largest Catholic university for the 23rd consecutive year with a total student enrollment of 21,922, compared with 22,064 in fall 2019.

## Fall 2020 Enrollment



**14,145**

undergraduate students



**7,106**

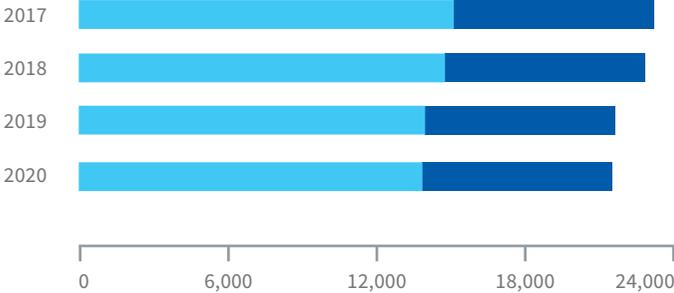
graduate students



**671**

law students

## University Enrollment



### Program

■ Undergraduate   ■ Graduate and Law

## University Enrollment by College

21,922 enrollment total

### College

Business	5,741
Computing and Digital Media	5,293
Science and Health	3,248
Liberal Arts and Social Sciences	2,694
Education	1,519
Communication	1,369
Law	671
Continuing and Professional Studies	624
Theatre	413
Music	350

## Credit Hours



**77%**

credit hours generated  
by undergraduate



**23%**

credit hours generated  
by graduate and law



**83%**

of all students enrolled  
full time\* in fall 2020



**277,144**

total credit hours in  
fall 2020

\*Based on credit-hour load





## Undergraduate Enrollment

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DePaul enrolled 14,145 undergraduates this fall, compared with 14,214 in 2019. Since 2016, new undergraduate enrollment has increased by 3% while continuing undergraduate enrollment has declined by 12%. This decline in continuing students can be largely attributed to part-time students who have declined 42%, compared with a 6% decline in full-time continuing students.

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



**12,776**

Full-time



**1,369**

Part-time

# Undergraduate Enrollment by College

College	Year	Students Enrolled
BUS	2018	3,738
	2019	3,602
	2020	3,508
CDM	2018	3,093
	2019	3,227
	2020	3,309
CSH	2018	2,365
	2019	2,330
	2020	2,373
LAS	2018	2,165
	2019	2,065
	2020	2,041
CMN	2018	1,411
	2019	1,358
	2020	1,219

College	Year	Students Enrolled
SCPS	2018	722
	2019	575
	2020	562
COE	2018	452
	2019	472
	2020	506
Theatre	2018	331
	2019	361
	2020	391
Music	2018	230
	2019	224
	2020	236



## Freshman Enrollment

DePaul welcomed a class of 2,774 new freshmen in fall 2020, the largest freshman class in DePaul's history, an increase of 147 students compared with 2019. Enrollment increased in all colleges with the exception of CMN. CDM enrolled the largest proportion of freshmen at 25%.

### High School Academic Profile



**1171**

average SAT composite\*



**3.75**

average high school GPA



**364**

students enrolled in the University Honors Program\*\*



**1,063**

high schools contributed freshmen



**479**

new freshmen enrolled through the test-optional program



**152**

freshmen in the Pathways Program in Health Sciences

\* SAT average includes scores for students who applied through the test-optional program and submitted scores post-admission for research purposes.

\*\* 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

College	Students Enrolled
<b>CDM</b>	
2018	555
2019	674
2020	697
<b>BUS</b>	
2018	632
2019	570
2020	606
<b>CSH</b>	
2018	504
2019	507
2020	568
<b>LAS</b>	
2018	496
2019	471
2020	480
<b>CMN</b>	
2018	168
2019	176
2020	159

College	Students Enrolled
<b>Theatre</b>	
2018	88
2019	104
2020	110
<b>COE</b>	
2018	73
2019	72
2020	96
<b>Music</b>	
2018	59
2019	53
2020	58

## Most Popular Majors for New Freshmen

Major	Students Enrolled
Film and television	298
Health sciences	157
Computer science	145
Psychology	141
Accounting	139

## Freshman Diversity



**44%**

of freshmen come from suburban Chicago or elsewhere in Illinois

**32%**

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

**31%**

of African American freshmen come from out of state



**34%**

of freshmen are from families in which neither parent has a bachelor's degree

**2/3**

of new freshmen are enrolled in CDM, BUS and CSH

**46%**

of this year's first-generation students come from suburban Chicago



**44%**

of all new freshmen are male

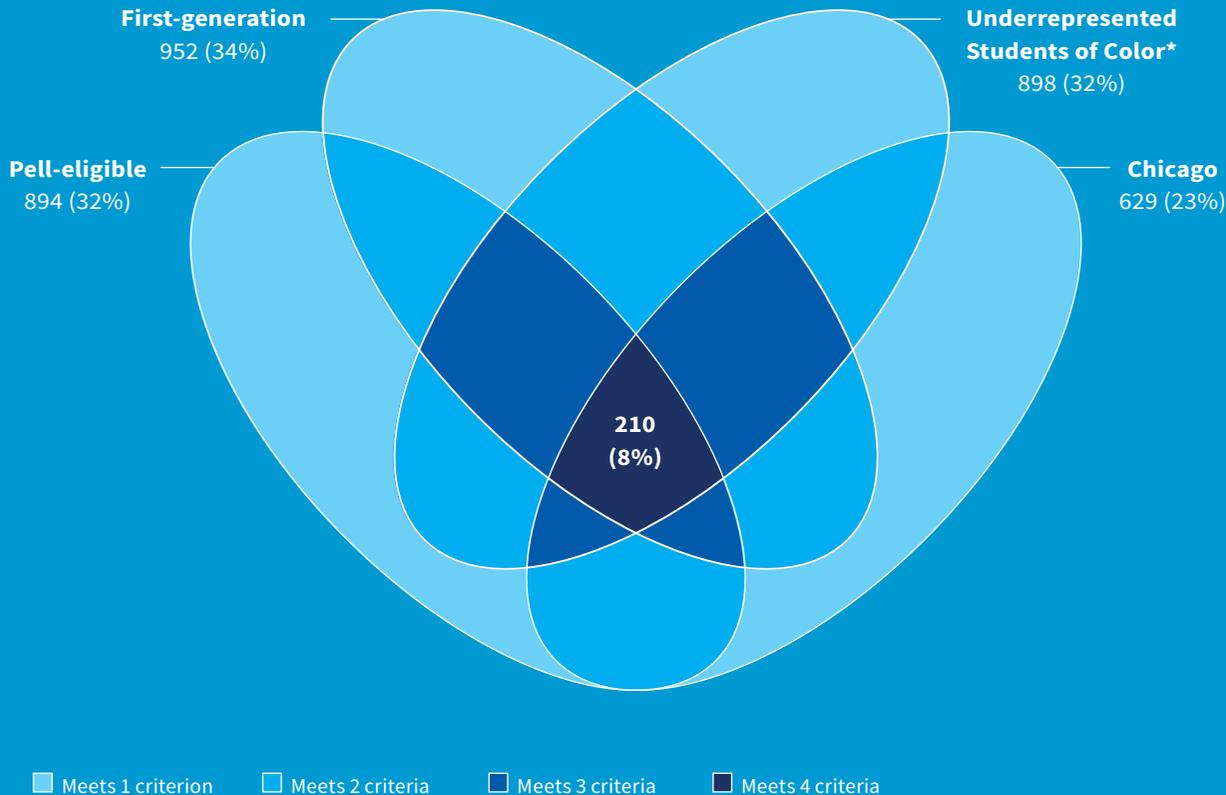
**72%**

of female enrollment is in COE, CSH and LAS

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

## Enrolled Freshmen Fall 2020

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 year, we have one of the most diverse freshmen classes in university history: 32% are underrepresented students of color, 34% are first-generation students, 32% are Pell-eligible and 23% are from the city of Chicago.



**60%**

or 1,653 students  
meet 1+ criteria

**24%**

or 672 students  
meet only 1 criterion

**16%**

or 452 students  
meet only 2 criteria

**11%**

or 319 students  
meet only 3 criteria

**8%**

or 210 students  
meet all 4 criteria

\*Underrepresented Students of Color = American Indian, African American and Hispanic/Latinx

# Transfer Enrollment

DePaul welcomed 1,028 transfer students this fall, compared with 1,085 in 2019. While transfer students were down overall, transfer enrollment increased in CSH, LAS, Music and Theatre. BUS remains the largest transfer college, enrolling just over one-third of all transfer students. In addition to new transfers, DePaul welcomed 99 new undergraduate SCPS students, compared with 98 in fall 2019.

## Fall Transfer Enrollment



**1,028**

total transfer students this fall



**66%**

of new transfers begin in fall quarter



**72%**

of new transfers enrolled in BUS, CDM, and CSH

## Top 5 Community College Feeder Schools

College	Students Enrolled
College of DuPage	126
Oakton Community College	92
Harper College	88
Harold Washington College	66
College of Lake County	52

The top 5 feeder schools send 41% of all transfer students.

## Transfer Enrollment by Term (for fiscal year 2019-20)

**66**

Summer

**1,085**

Fall

**346**

Winter

**135**

Spring

## Transfer Enrollment by College

	Students Enrolled
<b>BUS</b>	
2018	384
2019	362
2020	347
<b>CDM</b>	
2018	277
2019	246
2020	232
<b>CSH</b>	
2018	150
2019	152
2020	160
<b>LAS</b>	
2018	173
2019	135
2020	140
<b>CMN</b>	
2018	129
2019	129
2020	94

	Students Enrolled
<b>COE</b>	
2018	41
2019	46
2020	35
<b>Theatre</b>	
2018	7
2019	9
2020	11
<b>Music</b>	
2018	9
2019	6
2020	9

	Students Enrolled
<b>Transfer Enrollment Through DAPP*</b>	
2018	74
2019	82
2020	53

\*DAPP is a transfer admission program designed for students beginning their college education at a community college.

## Transfer Diversity



**65%**

of transfers are from Illinois community colleges

**25%**

are from out-of-state institutions

**6%**

are from Illinois private four-year institutions



**75%**

of new transfers are under age 24

**17%**

of new transfers are 24 to 29 years of age

**8%**

of new transfers are 30 years of age or older



**53%**

of all new transfers are male

**39%**

are first-generation students

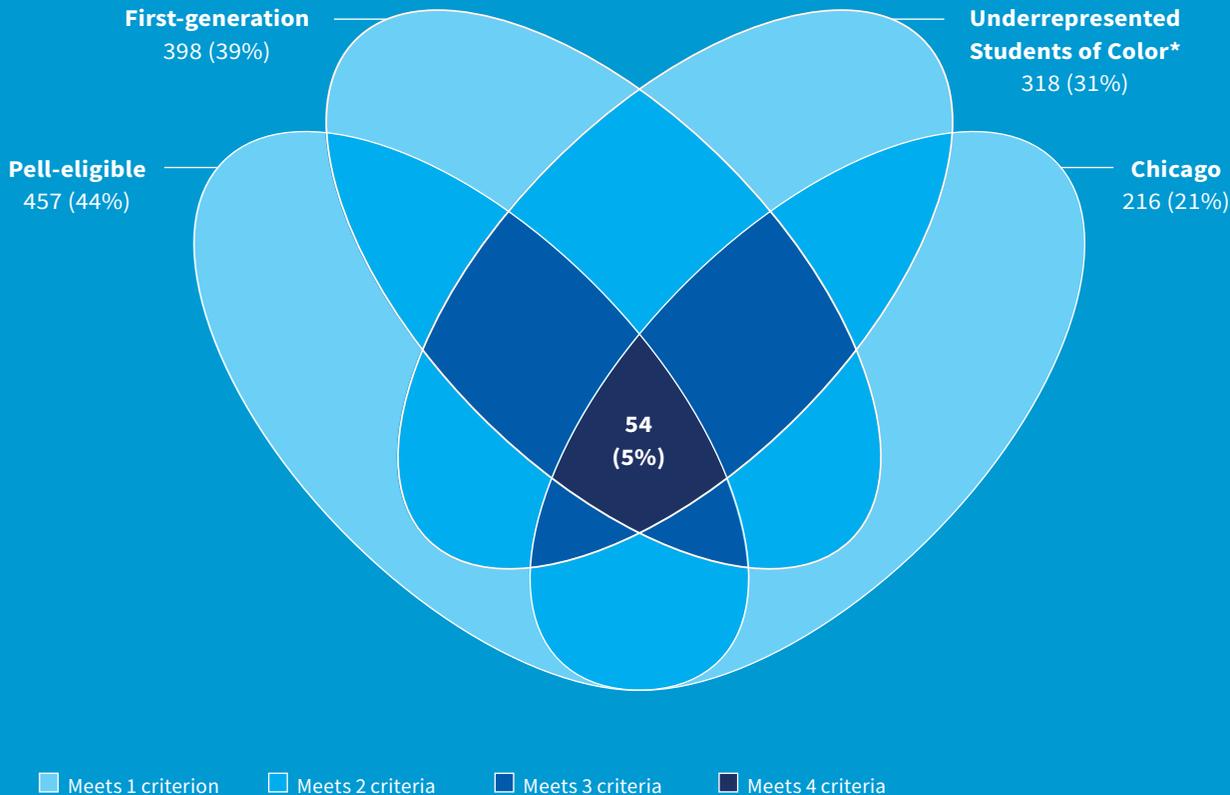
**23**

is the average age of new transfers

**32% of transfers who reported a religious preference are Catholic.**

## Enrolled Transfers Fall 2020

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 year, our transfer student cohort has 31% who are underrepresented students of color, 39% who are first-generation students, 32% who are Pell-eligible and 21% who are from the city of Chicago.



**71%**

or 732 students meet 1+ criteria

**30%**

or 312 students meet only 1 criterion

**23%**

or 237 students meet only 2 criteria

**13%**

or 129 students meet only 3 criteria

**5%**

or 54 students meet all 4 criteria

\*Underrepresented Students of Color = American Indian, African American and Hispanic/Latinx

# Freshman Admission Trends



**27,869**

freshman applicants  
for fall 2020



**5,367**

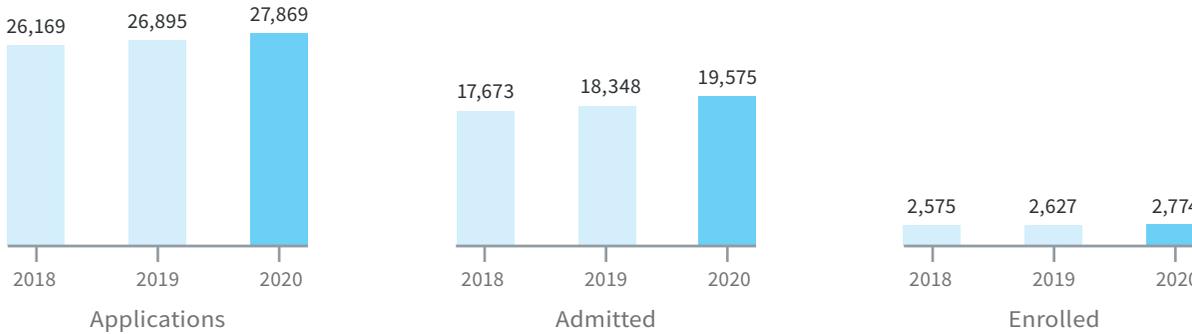
students applied through  
the test-optional program



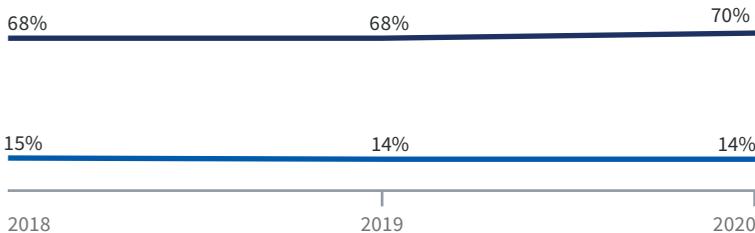
**91%**

completed the Free  
Application for Federal  
Student Aid (FAFSA)

## Freshman Applications, Admission and Enrollment Yield



## Freshman Admission and Yield Rates



■ Admission Rates   ■ Yield Rates (% enrolled)

# Transfer Admission Trends



**4,261**  
transfer applicants  
for fall 2020

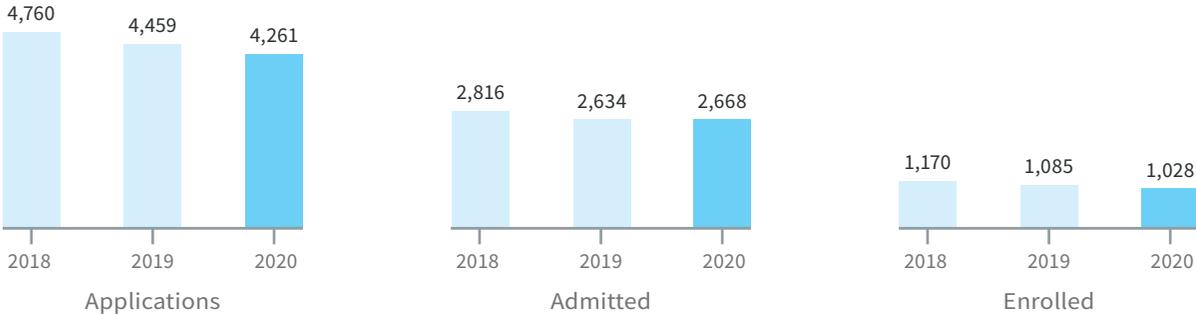


**27%**  
of all applications  
are to BUS

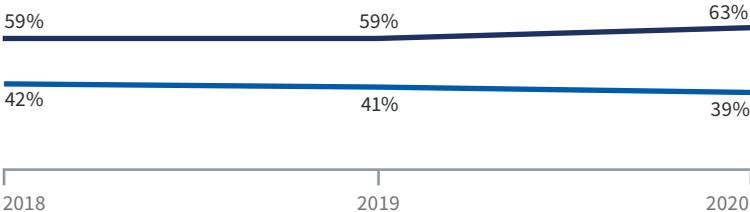


**53**  
undergraduates entered  
DePaul through the DePaul  
Admission Partnership  
Program (DAPP)

## Transfer Applications, Admission and Enrollment Yield



## Transfer Admission and Yield Rates

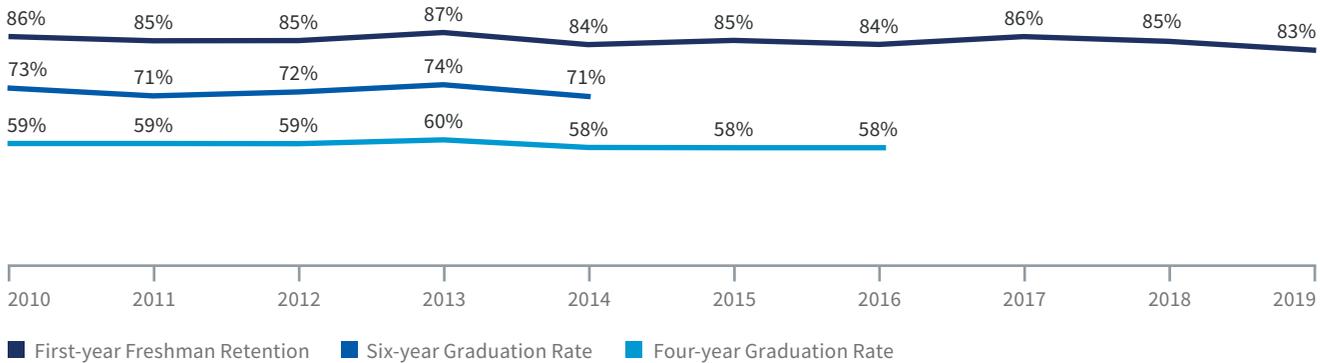


■ Admission Rates   ■ Yield Rates (% enrolled)

# Freshman Retention and Graduation Rates

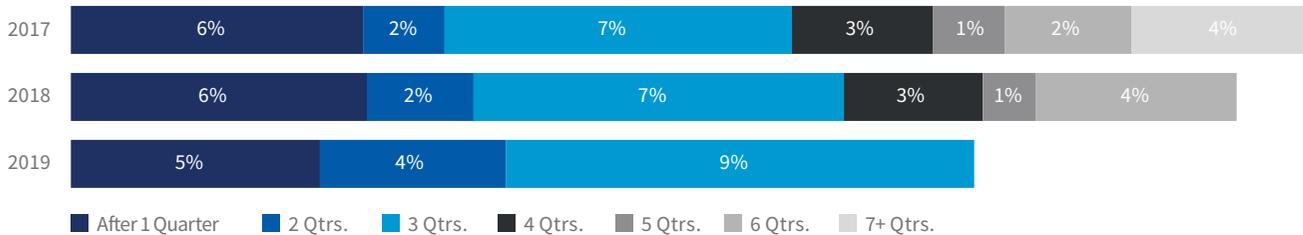
In fall 2020, 83% of the fall 2019 full-time freshmen cohort returned for their sophomore year, compared with 85% of the prior year's freshman class. The four-year graduation rate continues to exceed the national average for private four-year universities. This year, the four-year graduation rate for the 2016 freshman class was 58%, consistent with the last five years.

## Freshman Retention and Graduation Rates by Freshman Cohort Year



In all three years, the greatest share of students from the freshman cohorts have left DePaul after three quarters, or one academic year. Of the 2019 freshman cohort, 9% did not return in fall 2020 compared with the 2018 freshman cohort that had 7% of its students who did not return in fall 2019.

## Freshman Cohort Quarterly Attrition\*



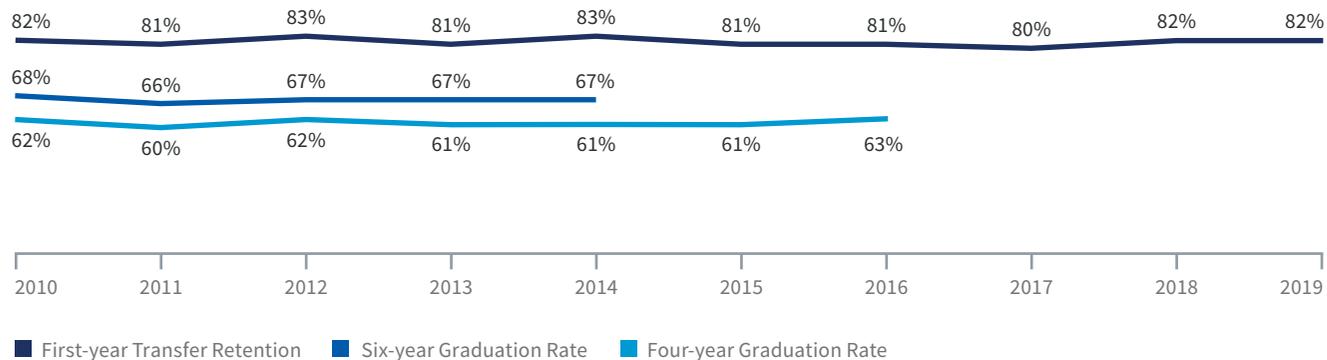
\*Our methodology only includes fall, winter and spring quarters.

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**



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

# Graduate and Law Enrollment

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## Graduate Enrollment

In fall 2020, a total of 7,106 graduate students enrolled (excluding Law), compared with 7,103 students in 2019. Graduate enrollment in KGSB, COE, CSH and LAS increased in 2020. A total of 89% of all graduate students are master's degree students, 8% are doctoral students, and 3% are in certificate programs or non-degree seeking.

**45%**

of all graduate students  
are 24 to 29 years old

**39%**

of all graduate students  
are students of color

**56%**

of all graduate  
students are female

**1,258 graduate students, or 18%, who enrolled this fall received their bachelor's degrees from DePaul.**

## Law Enrollment

A total of 671 students enrolled in Law this fall, compared with 747 in 2019. Most law students are enrolled in the JD day program—72%—and 14% in the evening program, 12% in the Master of Jurisprudence (MJ) program and 2% in the LLM program.

**22%**

are age 30 or older

**37%**

are students of color

**54%**

are female

**33% of students enrolled in Law are originally from out-of-state or international locations.**

## Graduate and Law Enrollment by College

### KGSB Students Enrolled

2018	2,232
2019	2,203
2020	2,233

### CDM

2018	2,042
2019	2,102
2020	1,984

### COE

2018	939
2019	923
2020	1,013

### CSH

2018	861
2019	856
2020	875

### Law

2018	794
2019	747
2020	671

### LAS

2018	659
2019	618
2020	653

### CMN

2018	161
2019	156
2020	150

### Music

2018	127
2019	141
2020	114

### SCPS

2018	78
2019	68
2020	62

### Theatre

2018	37
2019	36
2020	22



# New Graduate Enrollment

## New Master's Enrollment

Fall enrollment accounts for roughly half of new master's enrollment throughout the fiscal year. Over the course of the 2019-20 fiscal year, a total of 2,861 new master's students enrolled, and 57% enrolled in the fall.

 **1,732**  
new master's students  
in fall 2020

 **82**  
new master's students  
are enrolled in combined  
degree programs

 **41%**  
are students of color

## New Master's Enrollment by Term (for fiscal year 2019-20)

**260**  
Summer

**1,624**  
Fall

**548**  
Winter

**429**  
Spring

# New Master's Enrollment by College

## KGSB Students Enrolled

2018	561
2019	491
2020	646

## CDM Students Enrolled

2018	555
2019	479
2020	396

## LAS Students Enrolled

2018	200
2019	209
2020	223

## COE Students Enrolled

2018	193
2019	169
2020	218

## CSH Students Enrolled

2018	149
2019	137
2020	145

## CMN Students Enrolled

2018	46
2019	56
2020	62

## Music Students Enrolled

2018	50
2019	60
2020	34

## SCPS Students Enrolled

2018	16
2019	10
2020	7

## Theatre Students Enrolled

2018	14
2019	13
2020	1



## New Law Enrollment



**177**

new first-year JD students

**44**

new law students enrolled in the MJ

**3**

new law students enrolled in LLM programs

## New Doctoral Enrollment



**37**

new doctoral students enrolled in COE

**34**

new students enrolled in the nursing doctorate program

**13**

new doctoral students enrolled in KGSB

# Diversity

DePaul enrolled a university record 9,371 students of color in 2020, compared with 8,854 in 2019. Students of color account for 43% of total enrollment, 45% of undergraduate enrollment, 39% of graduate enrollment and 37% of law enrollment.

## University Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity

### Hispanic/Latinx Students Enrolled

2018	3,542
2019	3,718
2020	3,974

### Asian Students Enrolled

2018	2,105
2019	2,211
2020	2,331

### African American Students Enrolled

2018	2,072
2019	2,082
2020	2,172

### Multiracial/Non-Hispanic Students Enrolled

2018	931
2019	781
2020	830

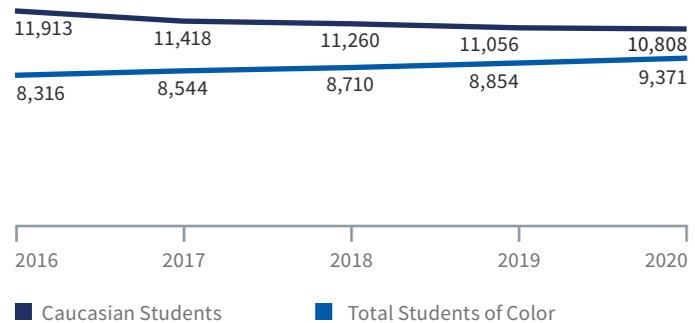
### American Indian/Alaska Native Students Enrolled

2018	29
2019	28
2020	34

### Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Students Enrolled

2018	31
2019	34
2020	30

## Total Students of Color and Caucasian Students



## New Student Race/Ethnicity

	Freshmen	Transfers	SCPS	Master's	Doctoral	Law
African American	192	99	20	227	19	26
American Indian/Alaska Native	3	0	0	3	0	1
Asian	310	136	7	163	13	14
Caucasian	1,358	489	42	818	43	125
Hispanic/Latinx	703	219	27	261	9	37
International (Students on F1 and J1 Visas)	36	22	0	112	8	4
Multiracial/Non-Hispanic	146	43	0	48	2	6
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1	3	0	1	0	0
Other/Unreported Background*	25	17	3	99	14	12

\*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, 1,058 students have international student status (on F1 and J1 visas), compared with 1,308 in 2019. This year, one-third of international students are undergraduates, and two-thirds are graduate and law students. International students represent 5% of total university enrollment.



**331**

international  
undergraduate students



**38%**

of international  
undergraduate students  
are enrolled in BUS



**727**

international graduate and  
law students

### Top Countries of Origin

Students Enrolled

China	336
India	198
Taiwan	44
Saudi Arabia	41
Vietnam	33



## National Comparisons

DePaul is the largest Catholic university in the nation and has been for 23 consecutive years, first exceeding St. John's University in total enrollment in 1998. DePaul enrolled about 14% of the total enrollment at the 10 largest Catholic institutions in 2020.

### Nation's Largest Catholic Universities<sup>1</sup> By Enrollment

	Undergraduate	Graduate	Total
DePaul University	14,145	7,777	21,922
St. John's University	15,693	4,450	20,143
Georgetown University <sup>2</sup>	7,513	12,080	19,593
Loyola University Chicago	11,612	5,281	16,893
Fordham University	9,399	6,965	16,364
Boston College	9,445	5,125	14,570
University of Notre Dame	8,874	3,935	12,809
Saint Louis University	7,769	4,512	12,281
University of Dayton	8,652	3,025	11,677
Marquette University	8,024	3,526	11,550

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Enrollment is from 2019 as institution did not have 2020 enrollment figures available at the time of publication.

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

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