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2013-14 Degree Completions by In-State Undergraduate Students



State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Advancing Virginia through Higher Education

Overview

The information below details degree completions by in-state undergraduates (ISUs) at public and private non-profit institutions in 2013-14. Presented are summaries of degree-award totals in the public and private sectors, comparisons to past years and to current estimates, and analyses of progress toward the degree goals of TJ21. Data on individual institutions are shown in an appendix; data on out-of-state and graduate/professional students are footnoted. All these data, as well as those on completions of non-degree credentials, are accessible on the Research section of the SCHEV website (<http://research.schev.edu/>).

All Degree Completions by In-State Undergraduate Students at Public Institutions

In 2013-14, in-state students completed 47,383 undergraduate degrees (associate and bachelor) at public institutions.^{1 2 3} This total is 118 (0.25%) below the prior year's tally, which remains the highest ever; the total also represents the first decline in ISU degree completions at public institutions since 1997-98. (At the same time, completions by out-of-state undergraduates were above 2012-13 by 153, or 2.33%.)

Public institutions had estimated a cumulative 49,079 degree awards to ISUs in 2013-14; this number would have been an increase of 1,578 (3.32%) over the total from 2012-13. However, the actual number of awards to ISUs in 2013-14 is 1,696 (3.46%) below the cumulative estimate. As a result, to achieve the cumulative estimate for 2014-15, undergraduate degree awards by public institutions to in-state students would have to increase by 2,663 (5.62%).

Table 1: Degree Completions by In-State Undergraduates (ISUs) at Public Institutions

Academic Year	Associate		Bachelor		Total	
	Actual	Estimate	Actual	Estimate	Actual	Estimate
2008-09	12,902		25,331		38,233	
2009-10	13,835		26,131		39,966	
2010-11	15,606		27,219		42,825	
2011-12	17,534		28,870		46,404	
2012-13	18,135*	18,148	29,366	29,360	47,501*	47,507
2013-14	17,835	20,044	29,548*	29,035	47,383	49,079
2014-15		20,400		29,646		50,046

*Denotes an all-time high.

¹ Completions of graduate and professional degrees by in-state students at public institutions in 2013-14 totaled 9,635, which is 47 below 2012-13's high. Therefore, the total of all in-state degree awards was 57,018.

² Completions of undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees by out-of-state students at public institutions in 2013-14 totaled 11,834, with 6,729 undergraduate awards and 5,105 graduate and professional awards. Therefore, the total of all undergraduate degree completions was 54,112 and of all graduate and professional completions was 14,740. The 11,834 figure is an all-time high for awards to out-of-state students.

³ Completions of all degrees by all students at public institutions in 2013-14 totaled 68,852, which was only 31 below the all-time high reached in 2012-13.

Associate-Degree Completions by In-State Undergraduate Students at Public Institutions

In 2013-14, in-state students completed 17,835 associate degrees at public institutions – 17,709 at two-year institutions and 126 at four-year institutions. The total is 300 (1.65%) below the prior year's tally, which remains the highest ever, and represents the first year-to-year decline in in-state associate degree completions at public institutions since 1999-2000. (At the same time, associate-degree completions by out-of-state students were above 2012-13 by 91, or 24.73%.)

Public institutions had estimated a cumulative 20,044 associate degree awards to in-state students in 2013-14, which would have been an increase of 1,909 (10.53%) over the 2012-13 total. However, the actual number of associate awards to ISUs in 2013-14 is 2,209 (11.02%) below the cumulative estimate, with the Virginia Community College System missing by 2,205, or 11.20%. As a result, to achieve the cumulative estimate for 2014-15, associate-degree awards by public institutions to in-state students would have to increase by 2,565 (14.38%).

The 300-award (1.65%) decline in associate degrees between 2012-13 and 2013-14 is due mainly to lower ISU completions at the two largest community colleges, Northern Virginia (-128; -2.33%) and Tidewater (-132; -4.43%), and at New River CC (-88; -19.86%). Lord Fairfax and Danville community colleges achieved the largest increases in ISU completions between 2012-13 and 2013-14; LFCC by 59 (+9.82%) and DCC by 56 (+25.11%). Overall, 11 public institutions experienced year-to-year increases in associate awards; 15 experienced decreases; and one (SwVCC) replicated the same number. (See Appendix A for data on ISU completions and degree estimates for all associate-awarding public institutions.)

Bachelor-Degree Completions by In-State Undergraduate Students at Public Institutions

In 2013-14, in-state students completed 29,548 baccalaureate degrees at public institutions, a new all-time high. This total is 182 (0.62%) above 2012-13's tally, which had been the most ever. (At the same time, completions by out-of-state undergraduates were above 2012-13 by 62, or 1.00%.)

Public institutions had estimated a cumulative 29,035 bachelor-degree awards to in-state students in 2013-14; this number would have been a decrease of 331 (-1.13%) from the 2012-13 total. However, the actual number of bachelor awards to ISUs in 2013-14 is 513 (1.77%) above the cumulative estimate. As a result, to achieve the cumulative estimate for 2014-15, bachelor-degree awards by public institutions to in-state students would have to increase by only 98 (0.33%).

The 182-award (0.62%) increase in bachelor degrees between 2012-13 and 2013-14 is attributable to small increases in ISU completions at 10 of the 15 public four-year institutions, with the largest year-to-year growth at VCU (+80; +1.62%), Longwood (+77; +9.6%), CWM (+45; +4.39%) and VMI (+37; +18.14%). Only four institutions had award declines: VSU by 87 (-13.94%); UVa by 70 (-2.63%); CNU by 6 (-0.60%); and NSU by 2 (-0.27%). One institution (UVa-Wise) replicated its bachelor-award total from 2012-13. (See Appendix B for data on ISU completions and degree estimates for all bachelor-awarding public institutions.)

Toward 100,000 Additional In-State Undergraduate-Degree Awards by 2025

The 47,383 degree completions by ISUs at public institutions in 2013-14 are 4,558 more than in 2010-11, the baseline year for the Top Jobs Act (TJ21) goal of 100,000 additional ISU awards by 2025. In the three academic years since TJ21 was enacted, public institutions have awarded a total of 12,813 additional in-state undergraduate degrees toward the goal.

Annual degree-award growth rates in the range of 1.06% to 1.18% are necessary for public institutions to achieve TJ21's goal. Over the past 12 years, rates in the range of 3.07% to 5.21% have been common. The 4,558-award rise since 2010-11 represents an overall increase of 10.64%, which averages to 3.55% per year. Therefore, the average rate of growth achieved since enactment of TJ21 would render readily attainable the goal of 100,000 additional ISU public-sector degree awards by 2025.

Table 2: Actual and Estimated Cumulative Degree Awards to In-State Undergraduates (ISUs) by Public Institutions

Year	Actual		Estimate		Annual Growth	100,000 Additional Degrees	
	Degrees	% Change	Degrees	% Change	Degrees	Degrees	% Change
2000-01	28,790						
2001-02	29,673	3.07%			883		
2002-03	31,220	5.21%			1,547		
2003-04	31,900	2.18%			680		
2004-05	32,926	3.22%			1,026		
2005-06	34,367	4.38%			1,441		
2006-07	35,247	2.56%			880		
2007-08	36,557	3.72%			1,310		
2008-09	38,233	4.58%			1,676		
2009-10	39,966	4.53%			1,733		
2010-11	42,825	7.15%			2,859		
2011-12	46,404	8.36%			3,579		
2012-13	47,501	2.36%			1,097		
2013-14	47,383	-0.25%			-118	47,383	
2014-15			50,046	5.62%*	2,664	47,944	1.18%
2015-16			51,283	2.47%	1,237	48,506	1.17%
2016-17			51,563	0.55%	280	49,067	1.16%
2017-18			52,258	1.35%	695	49,628	1.14%
2018-19			52,864	1.16%	606	50,190	1.13%
2019-20			53,408	1.03%	544	50,751	1.12%
2020-21						51,312	1.11%
2021-22						51,874	1.09%
2022-23						52,435	1.08%
2023-24						52,996	1.07%
2024-25						53,558	1.06%

*5.62% is the rate of change necessary to achieve the 2014-15 estimate from the 2013-14 actual.

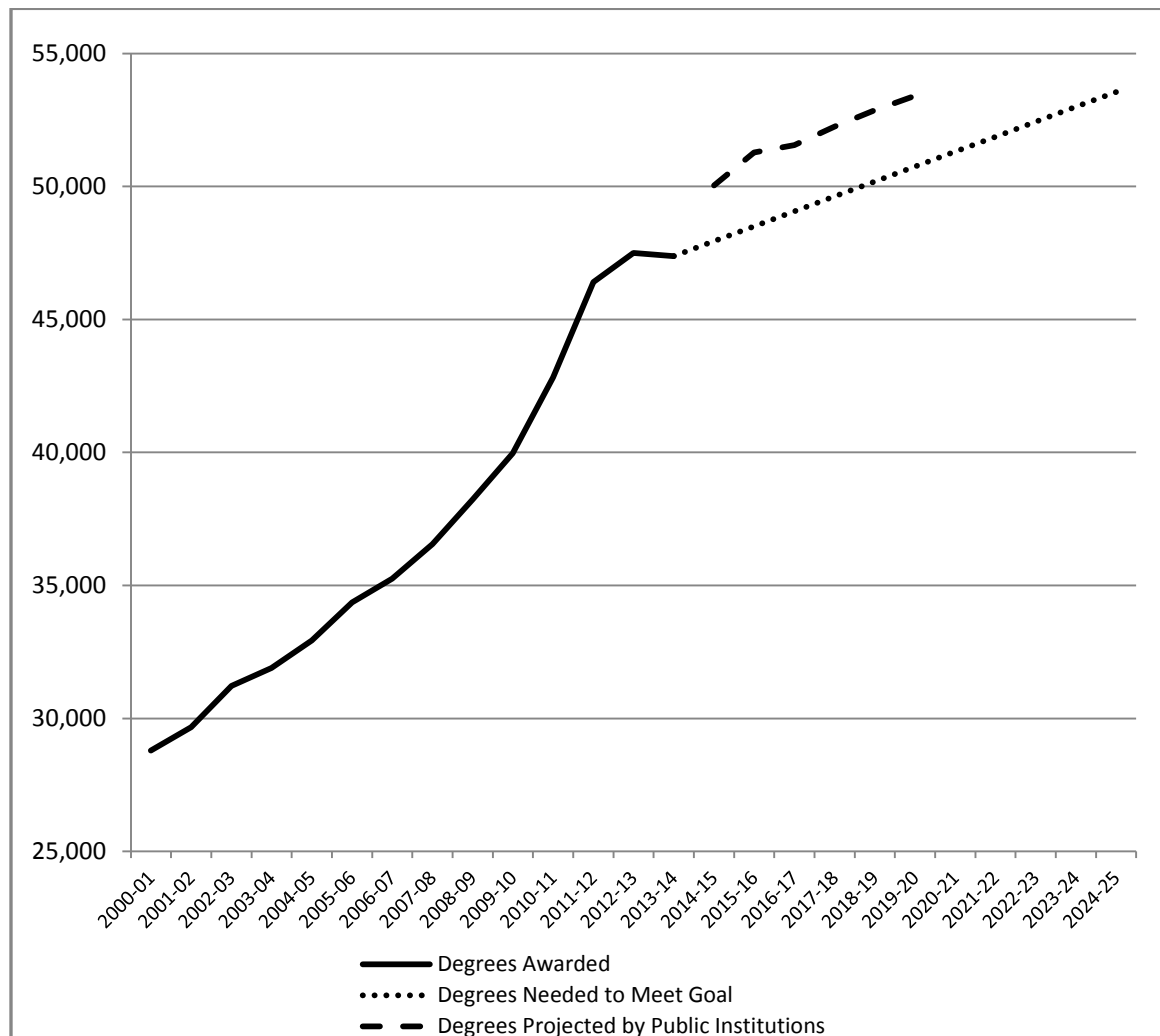
While achievement of TJ21's goal is likely, vigilance will be necessary as well. In 2011-12 (the first year for TJ21 tracking), degree completions by ISUs at public institutions exceeded 2010-11 by 8.36%, which was the highest rate of growth in recent history. But from 2011-12 to 2012-13, comparable completions grew by only 2.36%, which was the lowest rate of growth in almost a decade. And, as detailed above, the rate of growth from 2012-13 to 2014-14 not only slowed further, but turned negative (-0.25%).

Over the past three years, rates of degree-completion growth by ISUs have been slowing for both associate and bachelor awards.

- For associate-degree completion, the rate of growth slowed from 12.35% between 2010-11 and 2011-12, to 3.43% between 2011-12 and 2012-13, to -1.55% between 2012-13 and 2013-14.
- For bachelor-degree completion, the rate of growth slowed from 6.07% between 2010-11 and 2011-12, to 2.35% between 2011-12 and 2012-13, to 0.66% between 2012-13 and 2013-14. In 2011-12, the number of public four-year institutions to achieve a double-digit annual increase in undergraduate-degree-award growth rate was four; in 2012-13, three; and in 2013-14, one.

Also, public institutions' cumulative degree estimates for ISU awards through 2019-20 project annual increases at rates in the range of 0.55% to 2.47%, which would be considerably below the growth rates achieved between 2001-02 and 2011-12.

Graph 1: Toward 100,000 Additional Undergraduate Degrees at Public Institutions



Conclusions on TJ21 Degree Progress for Public Institutions

Overall, the Commonwealth appears to be on-track to meet or exceed TJ21's goal of 100,000 additional undergraduate degrees awarded by public institutions to in-state students by 2025. However, the recent slowing of public institutions' cumulative growth rate for such awards, coupled with the sizable miss on the usually conservative (i.e., usually exceeded) cumulative degree estimate for 2013-14 associate and total-undergraduate awards as well as the much lower rates of annual growth in degree estimates through 2019-20, warrant continued attention.

2014-15 degree-completion data for ISUs at public institutions will help discern whether 2012-13 and 2013-14 were simply reflective of the leveling off of enrollment post-Great Recession, especially at the community colleges, or the beginnings of trends reflecting higher prices to attend college and concerns about the value of postsecondary education.

Undergraduate-Degree Completions by In-State Undergraduate Students at Private Non-Profit Institutions

In 2013-14, in-state students completed 6,905 undergraduate degrees (222 associate and 6,683 bachelor) at private non-profit institutions (not including Virginia Intermont, which closed and did not report). This total represents new highs in both bachelor- and total undergraduate-degree awards^{4 5 6} and is 90 (1.32%) above the prior year's tally, which had been the most ever. (Concurrent completions by out-of-state undergraduates at private non-profits were above 2012-13 by 503, or 5.74%.)

Private non-profit institutions had estimated a cumulative 7,796 degree awards to ISUs in 2013-14; this number would have been an increase of 981 (14.39%) from the 2012-13 total. However, the actual number of awards to ISUs in 2013-14 is 891 (11.43%) below the cumulative estimate. This difference is attributable mainly to large misses by Liberty (723), Hampton (130) and Averett (124). As a result, to achieve the cumulative estimate for 2014-15, degree awards by private non-profit institutions to in-state undergraduates would have to increase by 1,101 (15.94%).

Table 3: Degree Completions by In-State Undergraduates (ISUs) at Private Non-Profit Institutions

Academic Year	Associate		Bachelor		Total	
	Actual	Estimate	Actual	Estimate	Actual	Estimate
2008-09	236		5,386		5,622	
2009-10	224		5,363		5,587	
2010-11	172		5,858		6,030	
2011-12	228		6,368		6,596	
2012-13	232		6,583		6,815	7,092
2013-14	222		6,683*		6,905*	7,796
2014-15						8,006

*Denotes an all-time high.

⁴ Completions of graduate and professional degrees by in-state students at private non-profit institutions in 2013-14 totaled 4,437, which is the most ever. Therefore, the total of all in-state degree awards was 11,342, also an all-time high.

⁵ Completions of undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees by out-of-state students at private non-profit institutions in 2013-14 totaled 17,409, with 9,270 undergrad awards and 8,139 graduate and professional awards. Therefore, the total of all undergraduate degree completions was 16,175 and of all graduate and professional completions was 12,576. The 17,409 figure is an all-time high for awards to out-of-state students.

⁶ Completions of all degrees by all students at private non-profit institutions in 2013-14 totaled 28,751, which is also an all-time high.

The 90-award (1.32%) increase in private non-profit institutions' ISU degree awards between 2012-13 and 2013-14 is due mainly to substantial increases at four institutions, which more than offset substantial decreases at two. The largest year-to-year growth was at Liberty (+170; 8.53%), Marymount (+75; 29.53%), Bridgewater (+68; 28.94%) and Virginia Union (+57; +76.00%). The largest declines were at Hampton (-63; -25.50%) and JCHS (-57; -23.95%). (See Appendix C for data on ISU completions and degree estimates for all undergraduate-degree-awarding private non-profit institutions.)

Toward a “Comparable Increase” in In-State Undergraduate Degree Awards by Private Non-Profits

The 6,905 degree completions by ISUs at private non-profit institutions in 2013-14 are 875 more than in 2010-11, the baseline year for TJ21's goal for these institutions to produce an increase in ISU awards by 2025 that is “comparable” to the Act's target for public institutions. This increase occurred despite the closure of two institutions – Saint Paul's and Virginia Intermont – during the period.

SCHEV staff have estimated that a comparable increase in private non-profits' undergraduate awards to in-state students would be at least an additional 15,000 awards by 2025. In the three academic years since TJ21 was enacted, private nonprofit institutions have awarded 2,226 additional undergraduate degrees, which represent an average annual rate of growth of 4.68%. Given that annual degree-award growth rates in the range of 2.15% to 2.81% are necessary to achieve TJ21's “comparable increase” of about 15,000 awards, the average 4.68% annual rate since 2010-11 would render this goal readily attainable by or before 2025.

Achievement of TJ21's goal appears highly likely, but vigilance will be necessary. While the private non-profit sector's degree-award growth rate has averaged a healthy 4.01% over the past 15 years, its actual annual rate has varied greatly, from -10.11% to +28.43%. The growth rate was below the necessary range of 2.15% to 2.81% in four of the past seven years and was negative in two of these years. Moreover, 2013-14's rate of 1.32% is about half the rate necessary to achieve the goal.

TABLE 4: Actual and Estimated Cumulative Degree Awards to In-State Undergrads (ISUs) by Private Non-Profit Institutions

Year	Actual		Estimate		Annual Growth	15,000 Additional Degrees	
	Degrees	% Change	Degrees	% Change	Degrees	Degrees	% Change
2000-01	4,305						
2001-02	3,899	-9.43%			-406		
2002-03	3,505	-10.11%			-394		
2003-04	3,869	10.39%			364		
2004-05	4,934	28.43%			1,100		
2005-06	5,167	4.72%			233		
2006-07	5,579	7.97%			412		
2007-08	5,654	1.34%			75		
2008-09	5,622	-0.57%			-32		
2009-10	5,587	-0.98%			-55		
2010-11	6,030	7.93%			443		
2011-12	6,596	9.39%			566		
2012-13	6,815	3.32%			219		
2013-14	6,905	1.32%			90	6,905	
2014-15			8,006	15.94%*		7,099	2.81%
2015-16			8,333	4.08%		7,293	2.66%
2016-17			8,698	4.38%		7,487	2.59%
2017-18			9,058	4.14%		7,681	2.53%
2018-19			9,434	4.15%		7,875	2.46%
2019-20			9,797	3.85%		8,069	2.40%
2020-21						8,263	2.35%
2021-22						8,457	2.29%
2022-23						8,651	2.24%
2023-24						8,845	2.19%
2024-25						9,039	2.15%

*15.94% is the rate of change necessary to achieve the 2014-15 estimate from the 2013-14 actual.

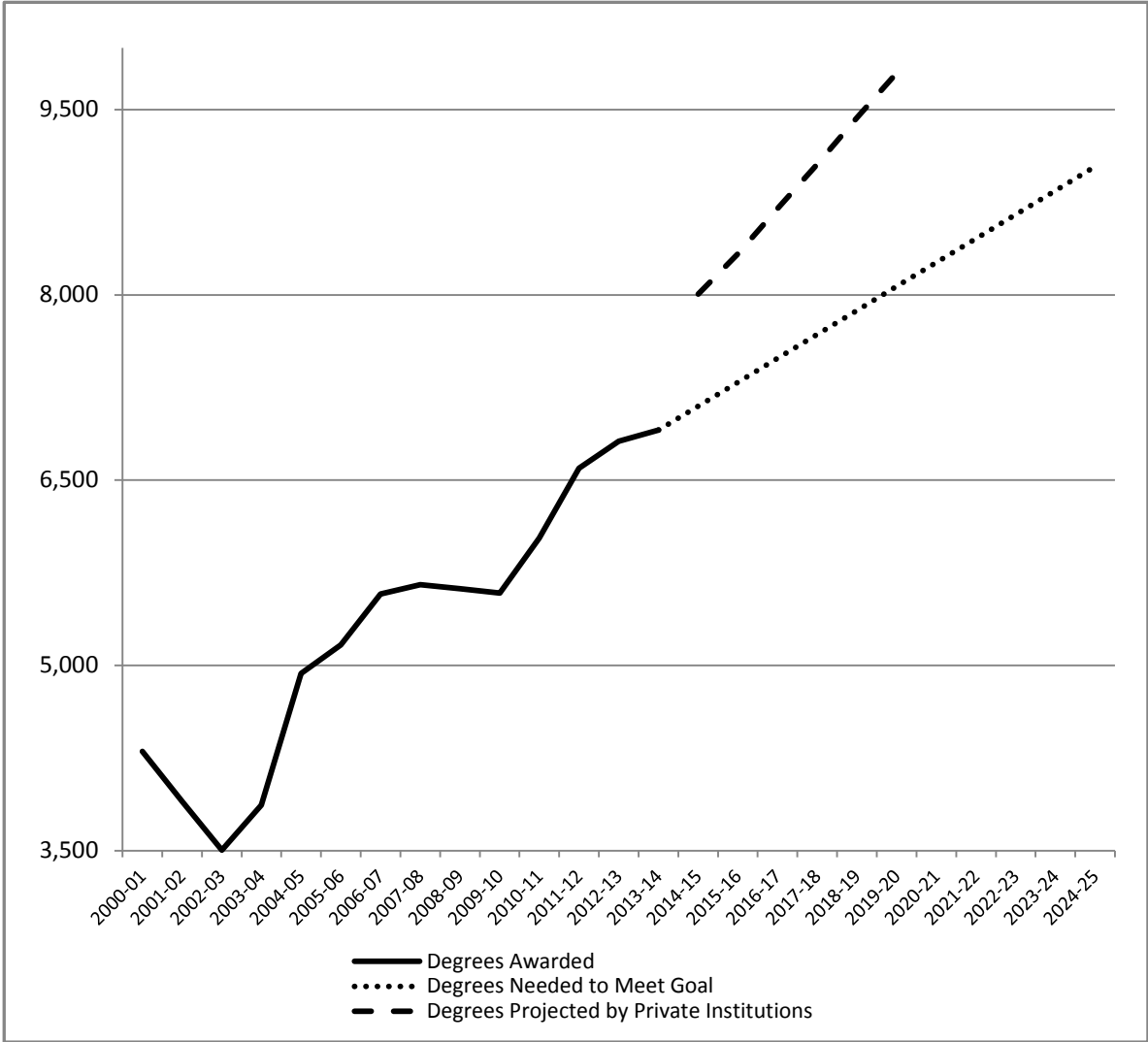
In terms of future degree awards, private non-profit institutions’ cumulative estimates for ISU completions through 2019-20 project five consecutive years of increases, which the sector has achieved only once in the past 15 years. These cumulative estimates project growth that exceeds 2.81% in each of the next five years; however, over the past 15 years, the sector has never achieved annual growth rates that were consistently above 2.81% through any five-year period.

Conclusions on TJ21 Degree Progress for Private Non-Profit Institutions

Overall, the Commonwealth appears to be on-track to meet TJ21’s goal of an increase in ISU degree awards at private non-profit institutions by 2025 that is comparable to the increase targeted for public institutions.

However, the sector’s annual rates of growth slowed from a nine-year high of 9.39% in 2011-12, to a rate of 3.32% in 2012-13, to a rate of only 1.32% in 2013-14. This significant slowing of private non-profit institutions’ cumulative growth rate for ISU degree awards, coupled with the sizable miss (11.43%) on the cumulative degree estimate for 2013-14 in-state undergraduate completions, warrants continued attention.

Graph 2: Toward 15,000 Additional Undergraduate Degrees at Private Non-Profit Institutions



APPENDIX A: Public Institutions' Associate-Degree Awards to In-State Students, 2013-14

Institution	Awards in 2013-14			Estimates for 2013-14		
	N	Change from 2012-13		N	Difference between Awards and Estimates	
		N	%		N	%
Public Institutions	17,835	-300	-1.65%	20,044	-2,209	-11.02%
Public Two-Year Institutions	17,709	-254	-1.41%	19,911	-2,202	-11.06%
Virginia CC System	17,481	-275	-1.55%	19,686	-2,205	-11.20%
Blue Ridge CC	533	+23	+4.51%			
Central Va CC	448	+16	+3.70%			
Dabney S Lancaster CC	100	-8	-7.41%			
Danville CC	279	+56	+25.11%			
Eastern Shore CC	60	-17	-22.08%			
Germanna CC	801	+13	+1.65%			
J Sargeant Reynolds CC	866	-30	-3.35%			
John Tyler CC	705	-42	-5.62%			
Lord Fairfax CC	660	+59	+9.82%			
Mountain Empire CC	235	+11	+4.81%			
New River CC	355	-88	-19.86%			
Northern Va CC	5,371	-128	-2.33%			
Patrick Henry CC	397	+33	+9.07%			
Paul D Camp CC	121	-15	-11.03%			
Piedmont Va CC	441	-27	-5.77%			
Rappahannock CC	259	-2	-0.77%			
Southside Va CC	555	-29	-4.97%			
Southwest Va CC	273	0	0.00%			
Thomas Nelson CC	870	-6	-0.68%			
Tidewater CC	2,846	-132	-4.43%			
Va Highlands CC	254	+13	+4.87%			
Va Western CC	697	+18	+2.64%			
Wytheville CC	355	+7	+2.01%			
Richard Bland C	228	+21	+10.14%	225	+3	+1.33%
Public Four-Year Institutions	126	-46	-26.74%	133	-7	-5.26%
Norfolk State U	78	-32	-29.09%	73	+5	+6.85%
Virginia State U	3	-3	-50.00%	15	-12	-75.00%
Virginia Tech	45	-11	-19.64%	45	0	0.00%



APPENDIX B: Public Institutions' Bachelor-Degree Awards to In-State Students, 2013-14

Institution	Awards in 2013-14			Estimates for 2013-14		
	N	Change from 2012-13		N	Difference between Awards and Estimates	
		N	%		N	%
Public Four-year Institutions	29,548	+182	+0.62%	9,035	+513	+1.77%
Christopher Newport U	987	-6	-0.60%	950	+37	+3.89%
C of William and Mary	1,070	+45	+4.39%	1,014	+56	+5.52%
George Mason U	4,333	+8	+0.18%	4,259	+74	+1.74%
James Madison U	2,955	+20	+0.68%	2,778	+177	+6.37%
Longwood U	879	+77	+9.60%	815	+64	+7.85%
Norfolk State U	742	-2	-0.27%	752	-10	- 1.33%
Old Dominion U	3,582	+17	+0.48%	3,259	+323	+9.91%
Radford U	1,692	+19	+1.14%	1,697	-5	-0.22%
U of Mary Washington	912	+10	+1.11%	795	+117	+14.72%
U of Virginia	2,587	-70	-2.63%	2,593	-6	+0.23%
U of Virginia's C at Wise	275	0	--	270	+5	+1.85%
Virginia Commonwealth U	4,398	+80	+1.85%	4,721	-323	-6.84%
Virginia Military I	241	+37	+18.14%	189	+52	+27.51%
Virginia State U	537	-87	-13.94%	564	-27	-4.79%
Virginia Tech	4,358	+34	+0.79%	4,379	-21	-0.48%



APPENDIX C: Private Non-Profit Institutions' Undergraduate-Degree Awards to In-State Students, 2013-14

Institution	Awards in 2013-14			Estimates for 2013-14		
	N	Change from 2012-13		N	Difference between Awards and Estimates	
		N	%		N	%
Private Non-profit Institutions	6,095	+90	+1.32%	7,796	-891	-11.43%
Averett U	363	-31	-7.89%	487	-124	-25.46%
Bluefield C	183	+9	+5.17%	265	-82	-30.94%
Bridgewater C	303	+68	+28.94%	305	-2	-0.66%
Christendom C	34	+5	+17.24%	32	+2	+6.25%
Eastern Mennonite U	167	-3	-1.76%	170	-3	-1.76%
Emory and Henry C	105	-28	-21.05%	124	-19	-15.32%
Ferrum C	182	-7	-3.70%	172	+10	+5.81%
George Washington U	46	+1	+2.22%	No Est.		
Hampden-Sydney C	154	+8	+5.48%	130	+24	+7.56%
Hampton U	184	-63	-25.51%	314	-130	-41.40%
Hollins U	68	-26	-27.66%	96	-28	-29.17%
Jefferson C of Health Sciences	181	-57	-23.95%	249	-68	-27.31%
Liberty U	2,163	+170	+8.53%	2,886	-723	-25.05%
Lynchburg C	322	+12	+3.87%	290	+32	+11.03%
Mary Baldwin C	254	+8	+3.25%	198	+56	+28.28%
Marymount U	453	+75	+19.84%	374	+79	+21.12%
Randolph C	59	+5	+9.26%	No Est.		
Randolph-Macon C	158	-29	-15.51%	190	-32	-16.84%
Regent U	234	+22	+10.38%	265	-31	-11.70%
Roanoke C	260	+1	+0.39%	258	+2	+0.78%
Shenandoah U	312	-25	-7.42%	299	+13	+4.35%
Southern Virginia U	26	0	0.00%	No Est.		
Sweet Briar C	59	+13	+28.26%	55	+4	+7.27%
U of Richmond	251	-23	-8.39%	204	+47	+23.04%
Virginia Intermont C	No Report			69		
Virginia Union U	132	+57	+76.00%	86	+46	+53.49%
Virginia Wesleyan C	188	-22	-10.48%	158	+30	+18.99%
Washington and Lee U	65	0	0.00%	65	0	0.00%

