Enrollment Reports and Analysis

Volume 3 Number 2, October 1997

Fall 1997 Enrollment

Table of Contents

Overview

For a second straight year, IUPUI experienced modest gains to a new all-time high in credit hour enrollments and extremely small gains in headcount enrollment. The increase in credit hours continues the trend of an increasing number of

undergraduate full-time students, particularly at the lower class levels. At the same time, non-degree graduate enrollments continue to decline. This year, enrollment in master's degree programs dropped by over five percent. Enrollments in the first professional programs--Medicine, Dentistry and Law rose again this year continuing an upward trend.

Ten-year trends in headcount enrollment show that IUPUI is at or near the high water mark in new undergraduates and overall enrollment in first professional programs. Non-degree and master's level graduate enrollments are near their bottom point and undergraduate non-degree enrollments are at the second lowest point; a quarter of what they were at the beginning of the ten-year period. The decline in non-degree undergraduate enrollments may reflect pressures, such as financial aid availability, for undergraduates to enroll as degree-seeking students when they may not have well-formed degree aspirations.

Marion County high schools remain the largest source of new freshmen despite a slight decline in the number of students originating from IPS and the Township schools. Increasing numbers of IUPUI freshmen come from high schools in the surrounding counties of Central Indiana. Average SAT scores increased modestly this year, led by a 20 point gain among the lowest scoring group—students admitted to the preparatory program. The average high school percentile rank of entering students has not changed over the past five years. IUPUI continues to enroll large numbers of under-prepared students, consistent with its mission as an open access institution. Analysis of retention rates among this group suggest that while they are quite low, there is no justification for choosing any particular set of entry and placement testing criteria to determine who among them is more or less likely to succeed. On the other hand, there are notable differences in rates of retention among our better-prepared entering students according to their level of preparation. Efforts to recruit students more likely to succeed at IUPUI must therefore run along two tracks: attracting more students from the top echelons of their high school classes through honors programming, and better identifying the support needs of less well-prepared students.

While overall enrollment has changed only modestly, there has been more variation in enrollments among schools. The School of Engineering and Technology experienced an 18 percent increase in credit hours despite a slight decline in student majors. The Schools of Liberal Arts and Science saw notable increases in credit hours resulting from the large number of new freshmen but also experienced declines in student majors. Notable student major increases occurred in the Herron School of Art, Business, Continuing Studies, Law and the Library and Information Science programs at IUPUI. Notable declines occurred in Nursing, Public and Environmental Affairs, and Allied Health.

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

Slow Growth and Continuing Trends

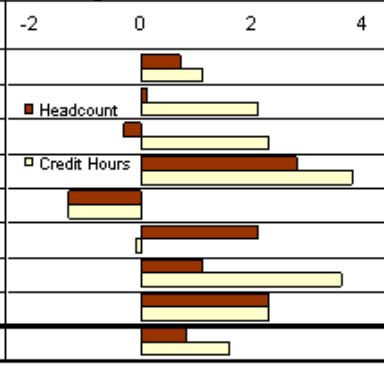
Overall enrollment at IUPUI increased slightly between Fall 1996 and Fall 1997 and continued recent trends toward more full-time and traditional-aged students. The total number of students enrolled increased by 25, or less than one-tenth of one percent, to 27,036. This still falls short of the Fall 1992 peak headcount enrollment of 28,345. However, student credit hour enrollment increased by over 5,400 or 2.1 percent to an all-time high.

Compared to Other IU Campuses

Overall Indiana University headcount enrollment increased by 0.8% and credit hour enrollment increased by 1.6%. Thus IUPUI had a below average increase in the number of students attending but an above average increase in credit hours. Among the eight IU campuses, the largest headcount enrollment increase occurred in the IU programs on the IUPU Fort Wayne campus, followed by IU Southeast and IU Northwest. Two campuses, IU East and IU Kokomo, experienced slight headcount enrollment declines. Credit hour enrollment increases were greatest at Fort Wayne, followed by South Bend, Southeast, East and then IUPUI. Bloomington experienced similar rates of increase, about one percent, in both headcount and credit hours. Display 1 summarizes the changes in headcount and credit hour enrollments among the eight campuses of Indiana University.

Display 1. Fall 1997 IU Enrollment by Campus

	Headcount		Credit Hours		Pct. Change in Headcount & Credit Hours
	No.	% Chg	No.	% Chg.	
Bloomington	34,937	0.7	453,698.0	1.1	
Indianapolis*	27,036	0.1	266,338.0	2.1	
East	2,345	-0.3	20,764.0	2.3	
Fort Wayne**	6,025	2.8	54,667.5	3.8	
Kokomo	2,927	-1.3	24,534.0	-1.3	
Northwest	5,256	2.1	47,135.0	-0.1	
South Bend	7,169	1.1	61,231.0	3.6	
Southeast	5,520	2.3	49,084.5	2.3	
IU TOTAL	91,215	0.8	977,452.0	1.6	



*Includes IUPU Columbus
**Includes only enrollment in IU programs.

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

Ten-Year Enrollment Trends

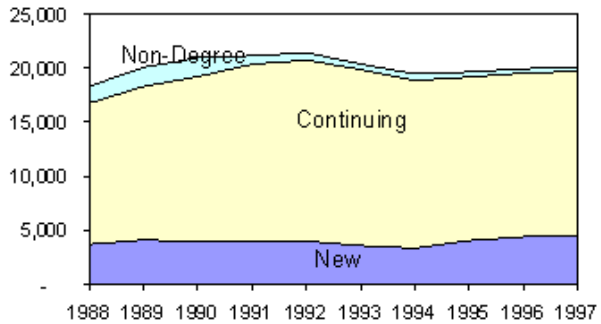
Undergraduate student enrollment increased this past year by 180 or just less than one percent. The increase can be attributed to the return of students from last year's record entering class, along with another strong year of new student admissions. Non-degree undergraduate enrollments continue to decline, now representing less than one quarter of what they were in the early 1990s. Display 2 summarizes the changes in both graduate and undergraduate enrollments at IUPUI over the past ten years. The last two rows of this table indicate in which year, among the past ten, enrollment was highest and where the 1997 enrollment level ranks within the ten-year period.

Display 2. Ten Year Trends in IUPUI Enrollment by Student Level

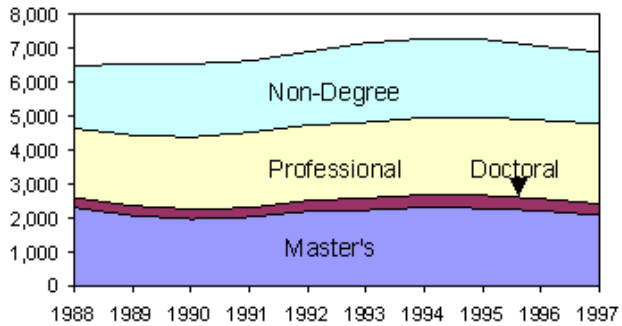
Fall	Undergraduate Students				Graduate/Professional Students					
Semester	Total	New*	Continuing	Non-Degree	Total	Masters	Doctorate	Professional	Non-Degree	Total IUPUI
1988	18,333	3,717	13,069	**1,547**	6,475	2,308	290	2,037	**1,840**	**24,808**
1989	20,087	4,098	14,213	**1,776**	6,562	2,067	294	2,080	**2,121**	**26,649**
1990	20,971	3,952	15,277	**1,742**	6,547	1,969	297	2,120	**2,161**	**27,518**
1991	21,157	3,988	16,396	**773**	6,631	2,025	270	2,224	**2,112**	**27,788**
1992	21,446	3,997	16,758	**691**	6,899	2,196	320	2,227	**2,156**	**28,345**
1993	20,392	3,587	16,307	**498**	7,160	2,230	354	2,241	**2,335**	**27,552**
1994	19,483	3,340	15,527	**616**	7,283	2,316	368	2,277	**2,322**	**26,766**
1995	19,667	4,055	15,151	**461**	7,272	2,282	386	2,296	**2,308**	**26,939**
1996	19,950	4,408	15,164	**378**	7,061	2,214	358	2,312	**2,177**	**27,011**
1997	20,130	4,395	15,328	**407**	6,906	2,074	346	2,365	**2,121**	**27,036**
Percent Change										
past year	0.9%	-0.3%	1.1%	7.7%	-2.2%	-6.3%	-3.4%	2.3%	-2.6%	0.1%
ten year	9.8%	18.2%	17.3%	-73.7%	6.7%	-10.1%	19.3%	16.1%	15.3%	9.0%
Peak Year	**1992**	**1996**	**1992**	**1989**	**1994**	**1994**	**1995**	**1997**	**1993**	**1992**
Rank of 97	**5**	**2**	**5**	**9**	**5**	**7**	**5**	**1**	**7**	**5**

*Includes students who first matriculated during the preceding summer sessions

Undergraduate Enrollments, 1988-97



Graduate/Professional Enrollments, 1988-97



(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

For most graduate degree levels, recent enrollment declines follow a period of growth that culminated in 1994. Enrollment in the first professional programs (Medicine, Dentistry, and Law) increased by 53 students (2.3%) this year continuing an upward trend. At the same time, enrollment in master's and doctoral programs declined notably, led by a decline of more than six percent in degree-seeking master's level students. This year represents the fourth straight year of decline in non-degree graduate enrollments, although the 2.6% decrease was smaller than the 5.7% drop experienced last year. Both master's level and non-degree graduate enrollments are at the fourth lowest levels (7th rank) for this ten-year period.

Filling the Undergraduate Pipeline

Undergraduate enrollment is about 1,000 students lower than the peak headcount of Fall 1992. But the number of new students this Fall (4,395 freshmen and transfers, combined) was nearly as high as last year's record number (4,408). Between 1992 and 1994, IUPUI experienced a near ten percent decrease in undergraduate enrollment (almost 2,000 students). This decrease was marked by two particularly small entering classes in 1993 and, most notably, in 1994 (3,340). Over the past two years, we have admitted a record number of new students.

Display 3 provides further details on the trends in IUPUI undergraduate enrollment over the past ten years. The first set of columns shows how the record number of new enrollments are characterized by a return to earlier levels in first-time freshman enrollments along with an increase to record levels of new to IU transfer student enrollments. Inter-campus transfers have remained relatively stable over this ten-year period although over the past few years they have hovered at levels about five percent lower than the peak years of the early 1990s.

Display 3. Ten Year Trends in Undergraduate by Entry Status and Class Level

	Degree-Seeking Students											
	New to Indiana University				Inter-Campus Transfers			Continuing Students				
Fall Semester	First-Time Freshman	Oth. Lower Division	Upper Division	Total	Lower Division	Upper Division	Total	Lower Division	Upper Division	Total	Non-Degree	Gran Tota
1988	2,766	685	266	**3,717**	431	537	**968**	6,842	5,259	**12,101**	1,547	**18,**
1989	3,204	674	220	**4,098**	398	556	**954**	7,651	5,608	**13,259**	1,776	**20,**
1990	2,839	870	243	**3,952**	416	572	**988**	8,473	5,816	**14,289**	1,742	**20,**
1991	2,808	895	285	**3,988**	422	651	**1,073**	8,787	6,536	**15,323**	773	**21,**
1992	2,671	1,039	287	**3,997**	392	590	**982**	8,698	7,078	**15,776**	691	**21,**
1993	2,377	910	300	**3,587**	358	601	**959**	8,064	7,284	**15,348**	498	**20,**
1994	2,131	864	345	**3,340**	366	566	**932**	7,448	7,147	**14,595**	616	**19,**
1995	2,595	1,095	365	**4,055**	387	564	**951**	7,270	6,930	**14,200**	461	**19,**
1996	2,888	1,179	341	**4,408**	404	584	**988**	7,395	6,781	**14,176**	378	**19,**
1997	2,852	1,158	385	**4,395**	400	556	**956**	7,630	6,742	**14,372**	407	**20,**
Percent Change												
past year	-1.2%	-1.8%	12.9%	**-0.3%**	-1.0%	-4.8%	**-3.2%**	3.2%	-0.6%	**1.4%**	7.7%	**0**
ten year	3.1%	69.1%	44.7%	**18.2%**	-7.2%	3.5%	**-1.2%**	11.5%	28.2%	**18.8%**	-73.7%	**9**
Peak Year	**1989**	**1996**	**1997**	**1996**	**1988**	**1991**	**1991**	**1991**	**1993**	**1992**	**1989**	**19**
97 Rank	**3**	**2**	**1**	**2**	**5**	**8**	**7**	**6**	**6**	**5**	**9**	

[1]These figures differ from those in Display 2 in that new non-degree undergraduates have been separated out and placed with intercampus transfer and continuing non-degree students into the second to last column of the table.

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

One would expect that the number of continuing students should follow trends that lag behind those of new students. That is, any increases or decreases in new students should result in corresponding increases or decreases in returning students in subsequent years as these students work their way through the system. This effect shows up to some extent for 1995 and 1996 enrollments of continuing upper division students. Among continuing lower division students, the pipeline was affected for only one year, 1995, before the relatively large entering class that year refilled the ranks of returning lower division students for 1996.

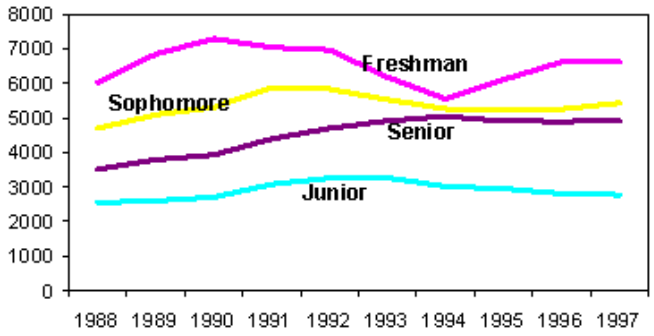
Several factors combine to make it appear that IUPUI does not experience any appreciable pipeline effect in enrollments. If you consider fall and spring new student admissions as well as intercampus transfers, IUPUI enrolls over 7,000 new undergraduates each year. Add to this the relatively low retention rate among first year students and the combination of baccalaureate and associate degree programs, and the trends in enrollment by class level appear less related to prior year's Fall freshmen entering class than is typical of traditional residential colleges and universities.

Display 4 illustrates this phenomenon, showing only a modest relationship between freshman enrollments and subsequent year sophomore enrollments. There appears to be almost no relationship between lower division (freshman/sophomore) and subsequent upper division (junior/senior) enrollments. Perhaps most strikingly, senior student enrollment has remained virtually unchanged through the 1990s while overall undergraduate enrollments first declined and then increased notably, and

especially in the freshman class. It is possible, though, that the pipeline effect is present but diluted by the low retention rates and increasing number of transfer admissions. The declining size of the junior class level may catch up with senior level enrollments in the coming years unless further strides are made to attract new upper division students.

Display 4. IUPUI Undergraduate Enrollment by Class Level, Fall 1988-97

Fall	Freshman		Sophomore		Junior		Senior		
Semester	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	Total
1988	6,022	36%	4,702	28%	2,551	15%	3,511	21%	16,786
1989	6,840	37%	5,087	28%	2,597	14%	3,787	21%	18,311
1990	7,291	38%	5,307	28%	2,703	14%	3,928	20%	19,229
1991	7,041	35%	5,871	29%	3,080	15%	4,392	22%	20,384
1992	6,965	34%	5,835	28%	3,258	16%	4,697	23%	20,755
1993	6,181	31%	5,528	28%	3,267	16%	4,918	25%	19,894
1994	5,551	29%	5,258	28%	3,013	16%	5,045	27%	18,867
1995	6,104	32%	5,243	27%	2,950	15%	4,909	26%	19,206
1996	6,615	34%	5,251	27%	2,808	14%	4,898	25%	19,572
1997	6,614	34%	5,426	28%	2,771	14%	4,912	25%	19,723



(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

New Undergraduate Student Enrollment

While recent declines in graduate level enrollments have offset some of the gains made at the undergraduate level, it is clear that IUPUI's most significant fluctuations in overall enrollments in the 1990s were related to the number of new undergraduates. The quality improvement efforts of the Student Enrollment Support Services team and intensive marketing efforts of 1993 through 1995 brought a larger number of new undergraduates to our campus. The timely formation of University College will allow us to focus on how to improve the performance and persistence of our first-year students. In this section we consider trends in the quality and source of new undergraduate students, that is, the group around which we are designing the academic and administrative support programs of University College.

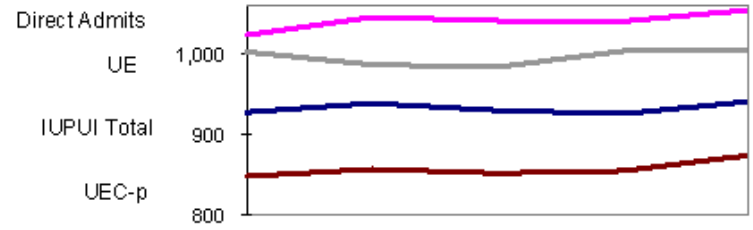
Quality

As an open-access institution, IUPUI admits students who demonstrate a wide variety of academic skills. Through this academic year, students who do not meet the Indiana University Board of Trustees admissions standards are accepted into the preparatory program of the Undergraduate Education Center (UEC). It is helpful to consider the academic quality indicators of entering students according to their entry program.

Display 5 shows the trends in average SAT scores and high school percentile rank among first-time freshmen admitted directly into an academic school, into the UEC and into the preparatory UEC program. The overall average SAT and high school percentile rank is closer to that of preparatory students as IUPUI admits more students into the preparatory program than as regular admits as shown in the bottom panel of Display 5.

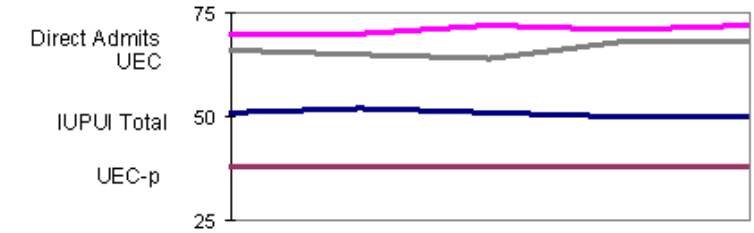
Display 5. Trends in New Student SAT Scores and Percentile H.S. Rank

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Average SAT (Recentered Score)					
IUPUI Total	928	939	930	926	941
Direct Admits	1,024	1,046	1,042	1,041	1,055
UEC	1,003	987	984	1,004	1,005
UEC-Prep	848	857	852	855	874



Average Percentile Rank in High School

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
IUPUI Total	51	52	51	50	50
Direct Admits	70	70	72	71	72
UEC	66	65	64	68	68
UEC-Prep	38	38	38	38	38



Number of New Students in Each Group

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
IUPUI Total	2,222	1,990	2,442	2,766	2,712
Direct Admits	387	362	437	416	403
UEC	575	527	610	590	607
UEC-Prep	1,260	1,101	1,395	1,760	1,702

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

The fluctuating overall trend in SAT scores over the past five year, reflects changes in the distribution of new admits among the preparatory and non-preparatory programs. Within category the trends have been more consistent. The most notable change this past year is the near 20-point increase in the average among the preparatory group. On the other hand, average high school percentile rank within each group has remained virtually unchanged.

Students admitted directly into an academic school or into the regular UEC program have above average SAT scores compared to both Indiana and national norms, as shown in Display 6. However, the average score for preparatory students is well below these two benchmarks. Differences in persistence according to these indicators are considered in a later section of this analysis.

Display 6. Average SAT Scores -IUPUI Fall 1997 First-Time Freshmen Compared to Indiana and National College Bound Seniors

	Math	Verbal	Total
IUPUI			
Direct Admits/UEC	513	512	1025
UEC-Preparatory	431	442	874
Total IUPUI	**467**	**473**	**941**

Indiana	497	494	991
National	511	505	1016

Note. Columbus students are distributed among entry programs as appropriate.

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

Sources of New Students

As an urban university without significant campus-resident population, IUPUI draws a majority of students from the Indianapolis metropolitan area. Among first-time students, IUPUI has traditionally relied upon the metropolitan school districts of Marion County while drawing relatively few students from the single largest district—Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS). This fact is due mostly to the extremely low college-going rate of IPS seniors. Among new transfer students, IUPUI draws mostly from other public universities in Indiana as well as from Indianapolis area private colleges and universities.

Freshman Feeder Schools

Fall 1997 first-time freshman admissions were characterized by a modest decline of five percent in students from Marion County school districts with a near 15 percent decline in students from IPS. On the other hand, there was a near five percent increase in students admitted from the Central Indiana counties surrounding Marion, representing a second consecutive year of notable increase. Display 7 summarizes these trends, also showing that there was a modest drop in new students originating from outside the Central Indiana region.

Display 7. Trends in Degree-Seeking Beginners by County of High School Attended

	Fall Semester Entering Cohorts					% Chg.
H.S. County	**1993**	**1994**	**1995**	**1996**	**1997**	**96 to 97**
Marion						
IPS	159	154	222	211	180	-14.7%
Other	767	626	795	875	847	-3.2%
Total from Marion County	**926**	**780**	**1,017**	**1,086**	**1,027**	**-5.4%**
Surrounding Counties						
Boone	42	37	27	38	55	44.7%
Hamilton	146	131	140	179	174	-2.8%
Hancock	69	59	64	68	107	57.4%
Hendricks	128	138	171	184	194	5.4%
Johnson	166	156	150	184	187	1.6%
Shelby	53	37	33	55	45	-18.2%
Morgan	74	48	86	105	93	-11.4%
Total Surronding Counties	**678**	**606**	**671**	**813**	**855**	**5.2%**

Other Indiana High School	406	397	490	560	534	-4.6%
All Others*	214	212	270	314	305	-2.9%
Grand Total	**2,224**	**1,995**	**2,448**	**2,773**	**2,721**	**-1.9%**

*includes out-of-state, unknown, GED, etc.

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

Display 8 further reflects these trends showing a large decline in students originating from our top area high school feeder, Ben Davis, as well as from Carmel. These losses were offset by significant increases in students from Perry Meridian and Warren Central, which moved up to be our second largest area feeder. Increases in students from surrounding counties show up in this display by the presence of New Palestine and Avon among the top high school feeders.

Display 8. Top High School Feeders - First-Time Freshmen

	Fall Semester Entering Cohorts					% Chg.
	1993	**1994**	**1995**	**1996**	**1997**	**96 to 97**
Ben Davis	107	96	131	152	111	-27.0%
Warren Central	101	71	92	73	89	21.9%
North Central	78	62	81	81	82	1.2%
Center Grove	63	68	69	80	81	1.3%
Carmel	78	66	64	95	78	-17.9%
Perry Meridian	60	36	44	52	75	44.2%
Franklin Central	46	45	33	58	64	10.3%
Pike	48	36	59	59	60	1.7%
Southport	49	42	53	58	56	-3.4%
Decatur Central	45	49	45	53	54	1.9%
New Palestine	18	19	17	26	53	103.8%
Avon	37	28	37	37	52	40.5%

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

Transfer Feeder Institutions

Ball State University continues to be the top feeder of Fall transfer students despite a ten percent decline from last year. This decline may be due to lower enrollments at Ball State over the past few years. On the other hand, there was a notable increase in transfers from Indiana State, which has also been experiencing lower enrollments in recent years. Transfers from Purdue, West Lafayette, remained at the high water mark set last Fall of just under 100.

Indiana's two-year colleges, Vincennes and Ivy Tech, remain important feeders to IUPUI. The overall increase

in new transfer enrollments has placed several new institutions into this feeder list, including the University of Southern Indiana and Purdue University, Calumet.

It should be noted that undergraduate students who come to IUPUI from IU Bloomington far outnumber those coming from any feeder institution shown in Display 9. For example, in Fall 1997, 675 students switched their IU enrollment from the Bloomington campus to Indianapolis. On the other hand, during this same time period, 351 students moved from IUPUI to the Bloomington campus. Coordination of academic program requirements and the unified academic records system of Indiana University facilitate the movement of students among IU campuses.

Display 9. Top Transfer Student Feeder Institutions

	Fall Semester Entering Cohorts					% Chg.
	1993	**1994**	**1995**	**1996**	**1997**	**96 to 97**
Ball State Univ	112	100	102	131	117	-10.7%
Vincennes University	115	97	106	102	103	1.0%
Purdue Univ W Lafyte	83	66	88	99	98	-1.0%
Indiana Vo Tec Indnp	56	52	73	94	88	-6.4%
Indiana State Univer	53	55	82	70	86	22.9%
Univ Of Indianapolis	38	23	44	35	41	17.1%
Univ Southrn Indiana	11	22	14	21	34	61.9%
Butler University	15	17	21	23	26	13.0%
Purdue Univ Calumet	5	5	9	8	23	187.5%
Indiana Vo Tec Columbus	6	9	2	13	21	61.5%

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

IUPUI remains a net importer of students within the IU system with many students who started elsewhere finishing their careers at IUPUI (and being credited toward the graduation rate of their campus of origin). On the other hand, the majority of students who start at IUPUI do not complete their college studies anywhere. Past studies have related our poor graduation rate among first-time students to the low levels of academic preparedness among this entering population. In light of the large numbers of preparatory students we continue to admit this remains a pivotal issue for the stature of undergraduate education at IUPUI.

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

Student Retention

Analysis of student retention at IUPUI has demonstrated that, despite the many qualifications that make traditional measures inadequate indicators of overall student persistence, the very low rates of retention among first-time students cannot be readily dismissed. Despite the devotion of significant resources to this issue, the rates have changed little over the past five years. Display 10 shows that IUPUI experienced a two percent decline this past year in retention among the Fall 1996 entering first-time freshman class. This is not surprising, though, given the record number of students admitted to the preparatory program last Fall.

Display 10. Beginning Freshmen Retention to the Second Year (AS/BS Degree-Seekers)

		1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Campus Summary	**TOTAL**	**54.9%**	**55.7%**	**55.2%**	**57.2%**	**55.8%**
		(2438)	**(2216)**	**(1979)**	**(2421)**	**(2753)**
	Directly Admitted to a School	63.2%	66.2%	66.9%	66.7%	67.6%
		(446)	(382)	(353)	(417)	(404)
	UEC - Regular Program	60.9%	59.8%	59.8%	64.9%	63.7%
		(624)	(574)	(527)	(609)	(590)
	UEC - Preparatory Program	49.4%	50.7%	49.3%	51.0%	50.4%
		(1368)	(1260)	(1099)	(1395)	(1759)
Full-Time	**TOTAL**	**58.5%**	**61.4%**	**61.4%**	**62.0%**	**61.0%**
		(1471)	**(1332)**	**(1300)**	**(1651)**	**(1923)**
	Directly Admitted to a School	64.3%	70.4%	70.3%	70.1%	69.5%
		(336)	(314)	(296)	(338)	(338)
	UEC - Regular Program	63.5%	65.7%	65.4%	70.1%	67.4%
		(400)	(379)	(379)	(469)	(454)
	UEC - Preparatory Program	53.1%	54.5%	54.7%	54.1%	55.9%
		(735)	(639)	(625)	(844)	(1131)
Part-Time	**TOTAL**	**49.4%**	**47.2%**	**43.4%**	**46.9%**	**43.7%**
		(967)	**(884)**	**(679)**	**(770)**	**(830)**
	Directly Admitted to a School	60.0%	47.1%	49.1%	51.9%	57.6%
		(110)	(68)	(57)	(79)	(66)
	UEC - Regular Program	56.3%	48.2%	45.3%	47.1%	51.5%
		(224)	(195)	(148)	(140)	(136)
	UEC - Preparatory Program	45.2%	46.9%	42.2%	46.1%	40.6%
		(633)	(621)	(474)	(551)	(628)

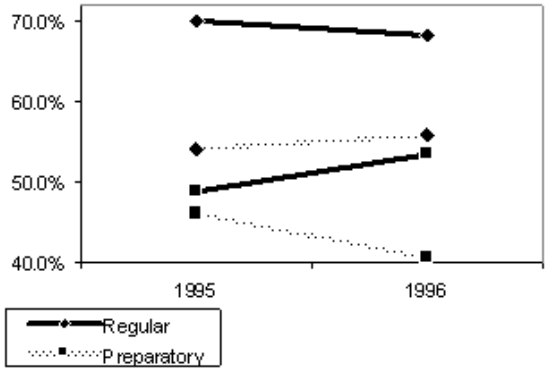
Notes: The numbers in parentheses indicate the size of the entering freshman cohorts. IUPU Columbus students are distributed among the entry program categories as appropriate.

**Preliminary figures

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

Closer inspection of retention rates by entry program and course load reveals an interesting interaction effect. Specifically, the retention rate decreased among full-time regular admits (direct and UEC) and part-time preparatory admits, but increased among full-time preparatory admits (the largest single group) and part-time regular admits. This interaction is illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Changes in Freshman Retention by Entry Program and Course Load, Fall 1995 and Fall



(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

With the formation of University College and the development of the coordinating Enrollment Management Group, there is an increased need for understanding the relationship between entering student characteristics, the need for certain types of academic and social supports, and the likelihood for success at IUPUI. Toward this end, Display 11 illustrates the relationship between various student entry characteristics and freshman persistence.

Display 11. The Correlates of Retention Among Fall 1996 First Time Freshmen

A. H.S. Qualifications

1. SAT Scores

Range	Size of Group N	%	Retention Rate
400-499	2	0%	**50%**
500-599	40	1%	**53%**
600-699	98	3%	**55%**
700-799	262	9%	**52%**
800-899	397	14%	**60%**
900-999	462	16%	**61%**
1000-1099	332	11%	**61%**
1100-1199	189	7%	**65%**
1200-1299	72	2%	**65%**
1300-1399	26	1%	**77%**
1400-1499	2	0%	**50%**
No SAT	1006	35%	**49%**
Total	**2888**	**100%**	**56%**

2. H.S. Percentile Rank

Range	Size of Group N	%	Retention Rate
0 - 09	136	5%	**47%**
10-19	209	7%	**49%**
20-29	291	10%	**50%**
30-39	293	10%	**53%**
40-49	329	11%	**52%**
50-59	301	10%	**61%**
60-69	299	10%	**53%**
70-79	307	11%	**64%**
80-89	245	8%	**67%**
90-99	124	4%	**75%**
No Rank	354	12%	**52%**
Total	**2888**	**100%**	**56%**

3. College Prep Units in High School

Range	Size of Group N	%	Retention Rate
None	282	10%	**54%**
>0 - 8	131	5%	**49%**
>8 - 10	212	7%	**44%**
>10 - 12	337	12%	**45%**
>12 - 14	434	15%	**51%**
>14 - 16	627	22%	**58%**
> 16 - 18	479	17%	**63%**
>18 - 20	309	11%	**72%**
> 20	77	3%	**66%**
Total	**2888**	**100%**	**56%**

B. Time of Application

Range	Size of Group N	%	Retention Rate
Before 9/95	95	3%	**42%**
Sep-Nov 95	249	9%	**69%**
Dec. 95	243	8%	**67%**
Jan. 96	203	7%	**60%**
Feb. 96	342	12%	**63%**
Mar. 96	355	12%	**55%**
Apr. 96	309	11%	**53%**
May 96	309	11%	**52%**
June 96	323	11%	**52%**
July 96	302	10%	**47%**
Aug. 96	150	5%	**47%**
Bad Date	8	0%	**0%**
Total	2888	100%	**56%**

C. Placement Tests

1. Mathematics

Placement	Size of Group N	%	Retention Rate
M010	211	7%	**43%**
M001	2039	71%	**55%**
M111	516	18%	**65%**
Col. Level	54	2%	**74%**
No Test	68	2%	**50%**
Total	2888	100%	**56%**

2. English Writing

Placement	Size of Group N	%	Retention Rate
E010	4	0%	**0%**
W001	823	28%	**51%**
W131+	1952	68%	**58%**
ESL	11	0%	**91%**
No Test	98	3%	**58%**
Total	2888	100%	**56%**

3. Reading

Placement	Size of Group N	%	Retention Rate
Gateway	52	2%	**63%**
X150	289	10%	**52%**
X152	408	14%	**52%**
Exempt	2037	71%	**57%**
No Test	102	4%	**56%**
Total	2888	100%	**56%**

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

These tables show that the math placement test is the best single predictor of freshman retention among entry qualifications and placement tests. Students who place into the lowest level course, M010, are retained at a rate of 43% while those placing into college level math—a notably small group—are retained at a rate of 74%. Each gradation of math placement accounts for a difference of 10 percent in the retention rate.

The entry characteristics of students—SAT scores, H.S. percentile rank and number of college preparatory units taken in high school—also account for significant differences in first-year retention rates. However, the range of these differences does not readily suggest the use of one or more of these indicators as a useful screening criteria. Number of college preparatory units accounts for the largest variation in retention rates among the entry indicators but the relationship is not linear. That is, students having in the range of 8-12 units have retention rates lower than students with fewer than 8 units and only students with 16 or more units are notably higher than those with the fewest units. It should be noted, though, that students at the low

end of this measure may represent those who have been out of high school longer.

By and large, levels close to the Board of Trustees admissions criteria for each measure appear to represent a reasonable point around which there is a notable difference. For example, students scoring below 800 on the SATs have a notably lower retention rates than those scoring above 800 but there is not much differentiation among the groups below 800 (i.e., students scoring below 600 are retained at roughly the same rate as those scoring between 600 and 800. For high school percentile rank, the 50th percentile represents a similar point below which there is not much differentiation.

The point in time at which a student applies to IUPUI is also a significant predictor of first-year retention. There is a notable drop in retention for students applying after March compared to those applying before. A second drop in retention rates occurs for those applying after July 1. This is particularly notable since several of the steps taken to increase enrollment over the last two years resulted in increases in students admitted after June 1, who now represent one-quarter of the entering class.

As noted above, the math placement exam distinguishes best among students who are likely to persist and those who may drop out. It is somewhat surprising that the reading placement results do not predict persistence rates as well. It is especially notable that the relatively small group of students with the lowest test scores who place into the Gateway program are retained at the highest rate. This may well attest to the success of the academic supports provided these students.

It is difficult to interpret the relationship between placement test results and retention based solely on the differences in rates shown here. On the one hand, a good placement test should allow one to predict who is most likely and who is least likely to succeed in college courses. On the other hand, an effective remedial course may very well mitigate the predictive value of the placement tests. That is, if students are placed appropriately and if remediation is effective, then there should be less relationship between the initial placement and subsequent success in college. It is also quite possible that certain deficiencies, such as reading, are easier to remediate than others, such as math.

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

School-Based Enrollments

Majors

Although the overall student headcount changed by so little this past year, school enrollments were more variable. About half of the academic schools experienced decreases in student major enrollments and half experienced increases. Display 12 shows the trends in student headcount enrollment by school. Reflecting the large numbers of new freshman over the past two years, the largest enrollment increase was in the Undergraduate Education Center (up 381 students from 1996). The Herron School of Art also experienced a notable increase of 90 students from 1996 to 1997. Smaller but notable increases occurred in Continuing Studies, Business, Library and Information Sciences and Law. The School of Nursing again experienced the greatest decline in major enrollments, down 184 from Fall 1996 to Fall 1997 as part of a continuing trend. Other notable declines occurred in Liberal Arts (down 125) Public and Environmental Affairs (down 81), Allied Health (down 68) and Science (down 56). As reported earlier, graduate non-degree enrollments also decreased by a notable amount (69).

Display 12. Five-Year Trends in IUPUI Student Enrollment by School

	Fall Semester				
	93	**94**	**95**	**96**	**97**
Student School					
Allied Health	1,122	1,173	1,136	1,056	988
Business	1,328	1,230	1,188	1,165	1,197
Columbus	1,405	1,455	1,413	1,485	1,492
Continuing Studies	754	648	670	741	778
Dentistry**	571	587	612	626	642

Education	1,947	1,995	1,952	2,064	2,052
Engr And Tech	2,264	2,085	1,982	1,953	1,936
Grad Non-Degree	1,358	1,366	1,446	1,242	1,173
Graduate School	279	313	338	339	364
Herron School Of Art	500	496	542	586	676
Journalism	75	76	65	79	65
Law	823	841	835	836	862
Liberal Arts	2,017	2,059	1,868	1,643	1,518
Library, Info Science	119	125	149	177	206
Medicine	1,085	1,098	1,110	1,118	1,119
Music	2	1	2	17	12
Nursing	2,185	1,716	1,477	1,265	1,081
Physical Education***	332	336	374	384	380
Public & Envir Affairs	1,122	1,125	1,057	1,045	964
Science	1,202	1,300	1,427	1,502	1,446
Social Work	472	477	544	554	526
Transient	178	232	201	150	175
U.G. Ed Ctr (Prep Prg)	2,624	2,389	2,717	3,039	3,058
U.G. Educ Center	3,788	3,643	3,834	3,945	4,326
Grand Total	**27,552**	**26,766**	**26,939**	**27,011**	**27,036**

**includes Dental Aux Education
***includes Rst/Htl/Inst/Tour Mgt

Changes in Graduate Enrollments

Declines noted earlier in master's and doctoral level enrollments at IUPUI are examined more closely in Displays 13 and 14. Display 13 arrays master's level programs associated with each school and for the departments within the arts and sciences, according to their change in enrollment between Fall 1993 and Fall 1997. Notable increases have occurred in master's programs in Library and Information Science, Social Work, various Medical Science disciplines and Biology, as well as the addition of the Philanthropic Studies program. But these gains have been more than erased by large declines in MBA students at Indianapolis, as well as large drops in master's level students in Public and Environmental Affairs, Education, and Nursing.

Display 13. Changes in Master's Program Enrollments, 1993-97

Program Area	**1993**	**1997**	**Diff.**

Library & Info Science	114	172	58
Social Work	308	359	51
Medical Sciences	35	67	32
Philanthropic Studies	-	30	30
Biology	38	63	25
Computer Science	10	23	13
Music	-	12	12
English	-	10	10
Geology	5	14	9
Economics	8	16	8
History	25	30	5
Math-Stats	11	15	4
Allied Health	5	8	3
Engineering	55	58	3
Dentistry	115	117	2
Chemistry	29	30	1
Psychology	24	23	(1)
Physics	6	2	(4)
Physical Education	13	7	(6)
Other	12	4	(8)
Herron Art	14	6	(8)
Adult Educ. (Cont. Stds.)	34	16	(18)
Nursing	277	229	(48)
Education	322	244	(78)
Public & Environ Affairs	310	212	(98)
Business (MBA)	460	307	(153)
Total	**2,230**	**2,074**	**(156)**

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

Changes in doctoral program enrollments are characterized in Display 14 with the further classification of programs according to the campus to which any degree completions are credited. Despite slight decreases in doctoral level enrollments within the largest campus programs in the various medical sciences and in Nursing, doctoral enrollments in programs which lead to degrees credited to the IUPUI campus are up slightly, thanks to increases within Psychology and the new Ph.D. program in Social Work. Doctoral level enrollments are down slightly in most of the School of Science programs that lead to degrees

credited to the Purdue campus, with the exception of Biology. Finally, there were slight decreases in doctoral enrollments within the relatively large Education doctoral programs that lead to a degree credited to the Bloomington campus.

Display 14. Changes in Doctoral Program Enrollments, 1993-97

Program Area	1993	1997	Diff.
Degrees Credited to IUPUI			
Psychology	12	31	19
Social Work	0	12	12
Medical Sciences	145	136	-9
Nursing	71	62	-9
Subtotal	**228**	**241**	**13**
Degrees Credited to Purdue, West Lafayette			
Biology	1	7	6
Mathematics	20	15	-5
Physics	10	4	-6
Chemistry	24	16	-8
Subtotal	**55**	**42**	**-13**
Degrees Credited to IU, Bloomington			
Other	6	4	-2
Education	65	59	-6
Subtotal	**71**	**63**	**-8**
Grand Total	**354**	**346**	**-8**

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

Course Enrollments

Despite declines in student major enrollments, the Schools of Science and Liberal Arts experienced significant increases in credit hour enrollments due to the large number of new freshmen who take courses primarily in those two schools. However, the credit hour increase in Liberal Arts and Science was surpassed by increases in the School of Engineering and Technology, which experienced a phenomenal 18 percent increase of 2,580 credit hours. This information is shown in Display 15. Liberal Arts increases were close in number (2,489) but represented a smaller proportion (4.7%) from their large base. Science enrollments were up by two percent or 1,349 credit hours. Other increases followed more closely the increases in student majors for Herron, Business, and Law.

Display 15. Five-Year Trends in IUPUI Course Credit Hours Enrollment by School

	Fall Semester				
	93	**94**	**95**	**96**	**97**
School Offering Course					
Allied Health	6,080	7,118	7,348	7,045	7,198
Business	13,745	14,126	14,343	15,200	15,712
Columbus*	11,114	11,005	11,487	12,836	13,224
Dentistry	7,556	7,899	8,157	9,035	9,021
Education	13,184	13,012	13,290	13,803	12,985
Engr And Tech	17,306	15,882	14,810	14,222	16,802
Graduate School	96	183	181	160	141
Herron	6,029	5,898	6,076	6,388	7,324
Journalism	799	831	844	892	760
Labor Studies	124	85	131	134	142
Law	10,252	10,533	10,839	10,646	11,034
Liberal Arts	53,895	49,699	51,419	53,092	55,581
Library, Info Science	617	715	898	981	1,033
Medicine	20,995	20,621	20,791	20,906	20,417
Music	1,651	2,010	2,194	2,446	2,675
Nursing	12,836	12,464	12,286	10,810	9,382
Other	95	62	75	73	257
Physical Educ	5,146	5,192	5,923	6,233	5,857
Public & Envir Affairs	8,177	8,161	7,570	7,868	7,600
Science	56,590	55,793	59,278	61,473	62,822
Social Work	5,309	5,344	6,280	6,665	6,372
Grand Total	**251,596**	**246,633**	**254,219**	**260,908**	**266,338**

*Includes All Courses Offered at the Columbus Campus
**Adult Education moved from EDUC to SCS

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

The largest decline in course enrollments occurred in the School of Nursing, which dropped 13 percent or 1,428 credit hours. Smaller but significant declines also occurred in Education, Medicine, Physical Education, Social Work, and Public and Environmental Affairs. Although smaller in number, the decline of 132 credit hours in Journalism represented the largest percentage decline (15%) given the small base upon which that decline occurred.

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

Summary and Conclusions

IUPUI's modest increase in student enrollment this year was related primarily to increases in new undergraduates, both first-time and transfer. These modest increases mask some notable declines in graduate level enrollments, especially at the master's level. Furthermore, IUPUI's doctoral enrollments show no sign of increase despite attempts to build upon these programs and ultimately achieve status as a Research I university.

IUPUI stills relies heavily on enrollments in the preparatory program. However, students in this program contribute significantly to our low retention rate. Only half of them typically stay longer than one year. On one bright note, the average SAT scores of students entering into the preparatory program increased by 20 points between Fall 1996 and Fall 1997. The first semester performance of these students will give us some indication as to whether the retention rate is likely to increase in any notable way.

Students who enter into the preparatory program are at greater risk for dropping out than are those who meet the Board of Trustees admissions standards. But within this group, differences in entry characteristics do not predict very well the likelihood of success. Entry characteristics are better predictors of likelihood for success among more well-prepared students. IUPUI's effort to attract students who are more likely to succeed will therefore need to follow two tracks: one to promote IUPUI as a choice among more well-prepared students; and another to better serve the academic and social support needs of less well-prepared students. Given the intense resource needs of serving less well-prepared students, IUPUI must choose thoughtfully among the types of students and programming that will be most effective in terms of cost, quality, and access. IUPUI should continue working with other area institutions such as Ivy Tech State College and the various adult education centers to coordinate and integrate services for the least well-prepared students. It is clear that our current efforts in educating under-prepared students fall short of fulfilling our academic and social missions for Central Indiana and the state at large.

Declines in Graduate level enrollments at IUPUI are impeding our growth as an urban research university. As of Fall 1995, IUPUI had the 44th largest enrollments of any university or college in the United States. During this same year, IUPUI ranked second in the nation, behind the University of New Mexico, in graduate non-degree enrollments, and ninth nation-wide in first professional enrollments. However, IUPUI ranked 187th that year in master's and doctoral student enrollments. Comparisons with peer urban universities place IUPUI at the top in graduate, non-degree and first professional enrollments, but near the bottom in master's and doctoral program enrollments. This is further exacerbated by the fact that one third of our doctoral students are enrolled in programs for which degree conferral credit goes to either Bloomington or West Lafayette.

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

For Further Details

This enrollment report and analysis provides an overview for the IUPUI campus. The Office of Information Management and Institutional Research provides this analysis as part of its Fall Enrollment Report series. This series also includes a set of tables regarding Fall 1997 enrollments and enrollment trends over the past five years. IMIR also generates profile and trends reports for each academic school as well as for UEC and IUPU Columbus. Copies of these reports are circulated to the campuses executive administrators, school deans, and faculty and staff who serve on campus committees concerned with academic and student affairs. IMIR also encourages members of the campus community to request more specific views of these and other relevant institutional data by contacting our office by phone (278-2282), or by using the "Information Request" form on our web page.

(Back to Table of Contents, List of Displays)

Office of Information Management and Institutional Research

Campus Address: Union Building, Room G003
Mailing Address: 620 Union Drive, Room G003, Indianapolis, IN 46202-5167
Telephone: (317) 278-2282
Fax: (317) 274-3400

Go to Office of Information Management and Institutional Research Home Page