

# Office of Institutional Research

## RESEARCH BRIEF 33: NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT PROFILE

Summer 2020

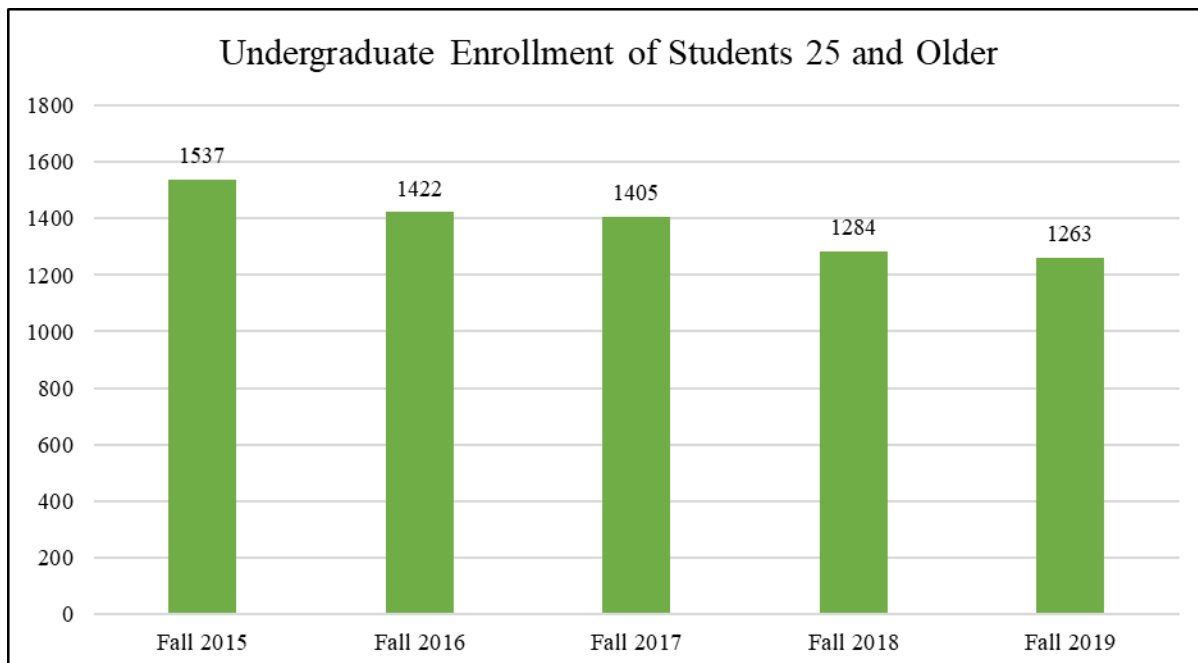
Today's university student population is diverse, with every student coming in with their own unique background and experience in life. One subpopulation you can find in likely every college campus is the non-traditional student. Different variables have been used to classify students as non-traditional, but age (students 25 and older) has been one of the most commonly used ones, according to the NCES.

### 1. Nontraditional Student Enrollment

- Undergraduate enrollment of students 25 and older has dropped from 11.3% of the total undergraduate population to 9.5% over the past 5 years

Enrollment Percentage of Students 25 and Older from Fall 2015 to Fall 2019

	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019
Percent of Enrollment	11.3%	10.5%	10.5%	9.6%	9.5%



## 2. Ethnicity

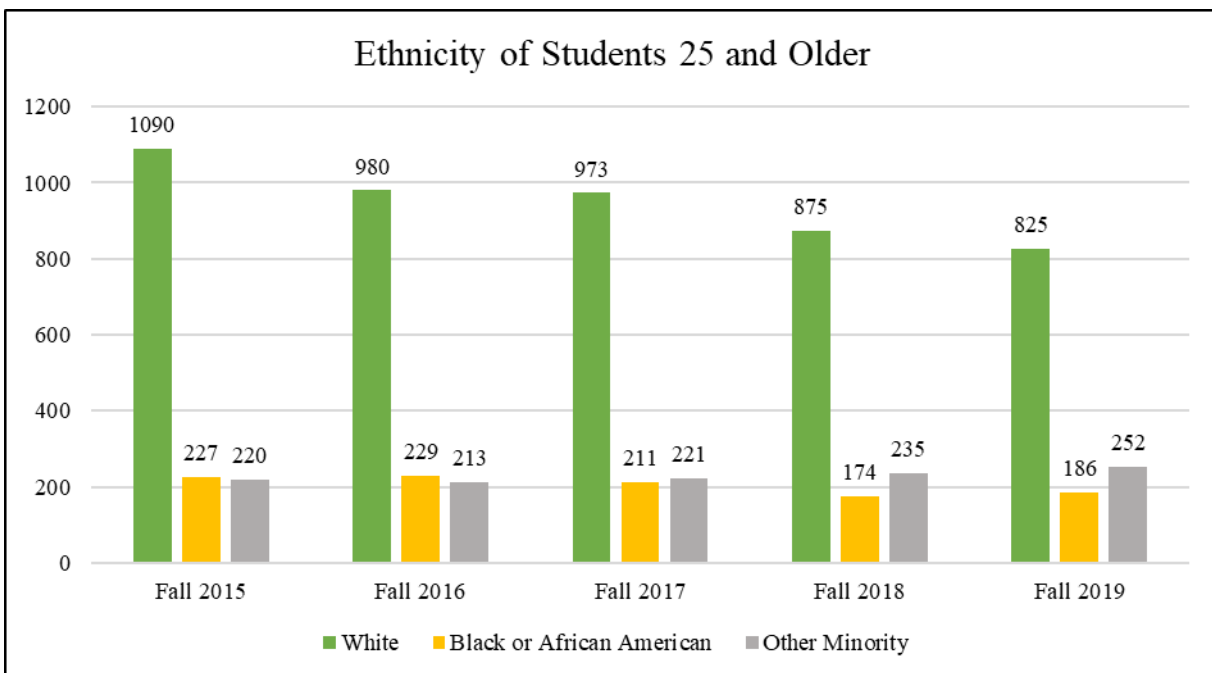
- Over the past 5 years, the percent of white students 25 and older enrolled has been greater than the percent of white students enrolled for all undergraduates
- The gap dropped in 2019, with 65% of students over 25 being white and 64% of all undergraduates being white
- Increases were seen in the percent of students who are Hispanic (8.0% to 9.6%) and Two or More Races (2.8% to 7.8%) in students who were 25 and older between 2015 and 2019

Enrollment of White Students from Fall 2015 to Fall 2019

	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019
25 and older	70.9%	68.9%	69.3%	68.1%	65.3%
All Undergraduates	62.0%	61.0%	61.5%	62.2%	64.0%

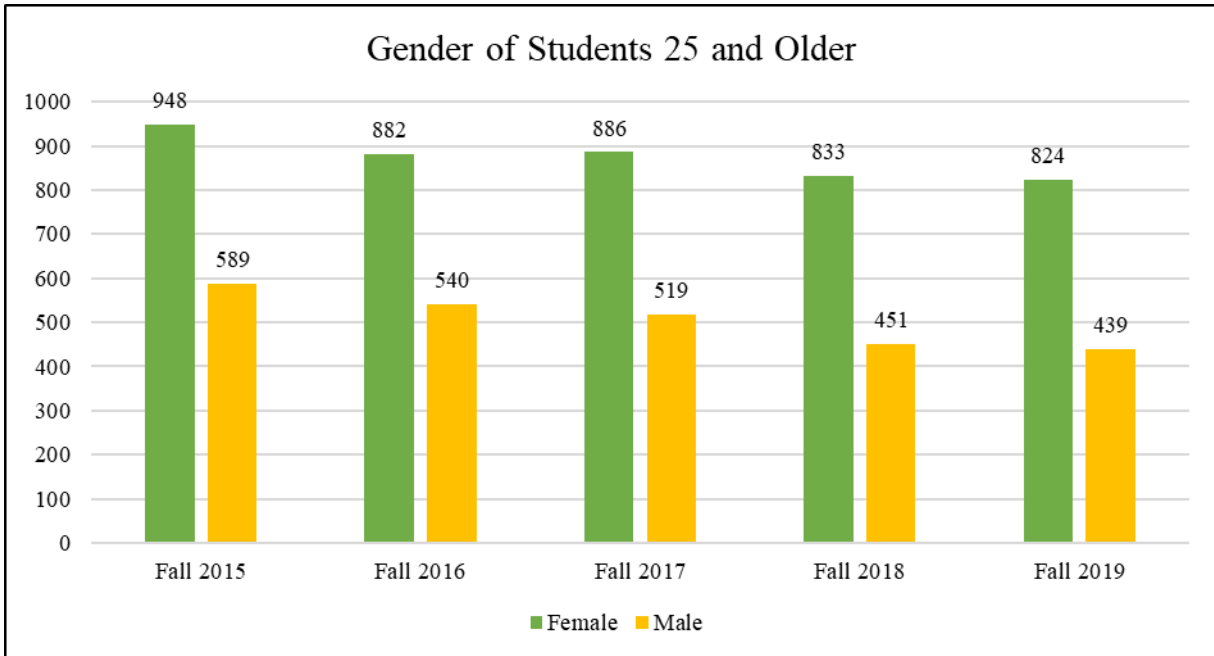
Enrollment of Hispanic and Two or More Races in Students 25 and Older

	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019
Hispanic	8.0%	9.0%	9.7%	9.2%	9.6%
Two or More Races	2.8%	2.8%	3.6%	6.5%	7.8%



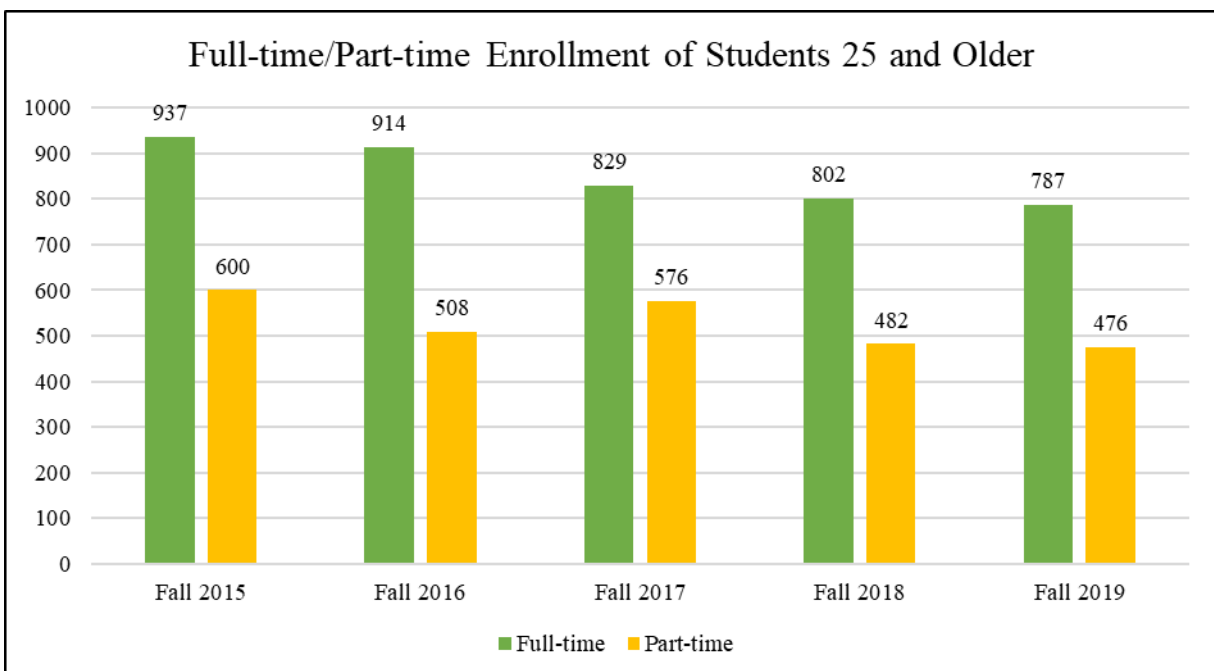
### 3. Gender

- An average of 63.4% of students 25 and older enrolled were female over the past five years
- In comparison, an average of 62.0% all undergraduates enrolled the past five years were female
- The greatest difference in percent of female student enrollment was in 2019, with 65.2% of students over 25 being female compared to 62.5% of all undergraduate students being female



### 4. Full-Time/Part-Time

- An average of 38.2% of students 25 and older were enrolled part time over the past five years
- During that time, an average of 31.4% of all undergraduate students were enrolled part time



## 5. Majors

### Top 10 Majors of Students 25 and Older, Fall 2019

1	Nursing	200 (15.8%)
2	General Studies	133 (10.5%)
3	Biological Sciences	67 (5.3%)
4	Management	56 (4.4%)
5	Accounting	50 (4.0%)
6	Business Administration	45 (3.6%)
7	Psychology	42 (3.3%)
8	Social Work	41 (3.3%)
9	Family and Consumer Science	40 (3.2%)
10	Art	39 (3.1%)

## References

U.S. Department of Education. Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics.  
*Nontraditional Undergraduates / Definitions and Data*. Retrieved April 1, 2020 from  
<https://nces.ed.gov/pubs/web/97578e.asp>