Estimating dual enrollment by state

Analysis suggests that nearly one-third of students enrolled in Iowa community colleges are high school students taking college classes.


Analysis of federal data by the American Association of Community Colleges shows that in fall 2017, 11 percent of students enrolled in public community colleges were part-time students under age 18. The federal government does not explicitly collect data on dual/concurrent high school and college enrollments. However, enrollment of students under 18 attending part time is a good proxy for this population. Dual/concurrent enrollments have been on the rise at community colleges, going from 4.5 percent of students in 2001, to 11.2 percent in 2017. State policies can have a significant impact on these rates, and there is considerable variation among states. For example, nearly one-third (32.9 percent) of the students in Iowa meet these criteria, while fewer than 1 percent of students in Rhode Island do so.

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