Measuring Equity Gaps in Enrollment and Graduation Trends in Illinois Computer Science Programs Part 1: 4-year Institutions



PART OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SYSTEM

This Series analyzes the enrollment and completion outcomes for undergraduate students in Illinois post-secondary institutions and measures equitable representation of female, Black/African American, and Hispanic/Latino students in each institution at three levels. The Series includes two reports, one for 4-year institutions and another for 2-year institutions.

Part 1: Key Findings



Illinois 4-year undergraduate CS programs saw an increase in enrollment and better outcomes.

While there was an overall decrease in post-secondary enrollment in the state, there has been a steady increase in CS enrollment in Illinois over the last decade, with public institutions leading.



Enrollment and graduation trends lag for historically marginalized groups, but some improvement has been made.

Men still dominate CS; however, women are making gains, accounting for about 20% of CS enrollment and degrees awarded in AY 22-23, up from about 10% ten years ago. Enrollment and degrees awarded to Hispanic/Latino and Black/African American students have increased in the last decade. However, they are not graduating proportionately to their enrollment representation.



An equity analysis of all 4-year institutions in the state with a CS program revealed less than optimal representation of Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and female students enrolling in and graduating from CS programs.

No institution, public or private, enrolls women at an equitable rate into CS programs compared to their representation in their institution's undergraduate student body.



Several highly-ranked CS programs in Illinois show less than equitable representation of Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and female students.