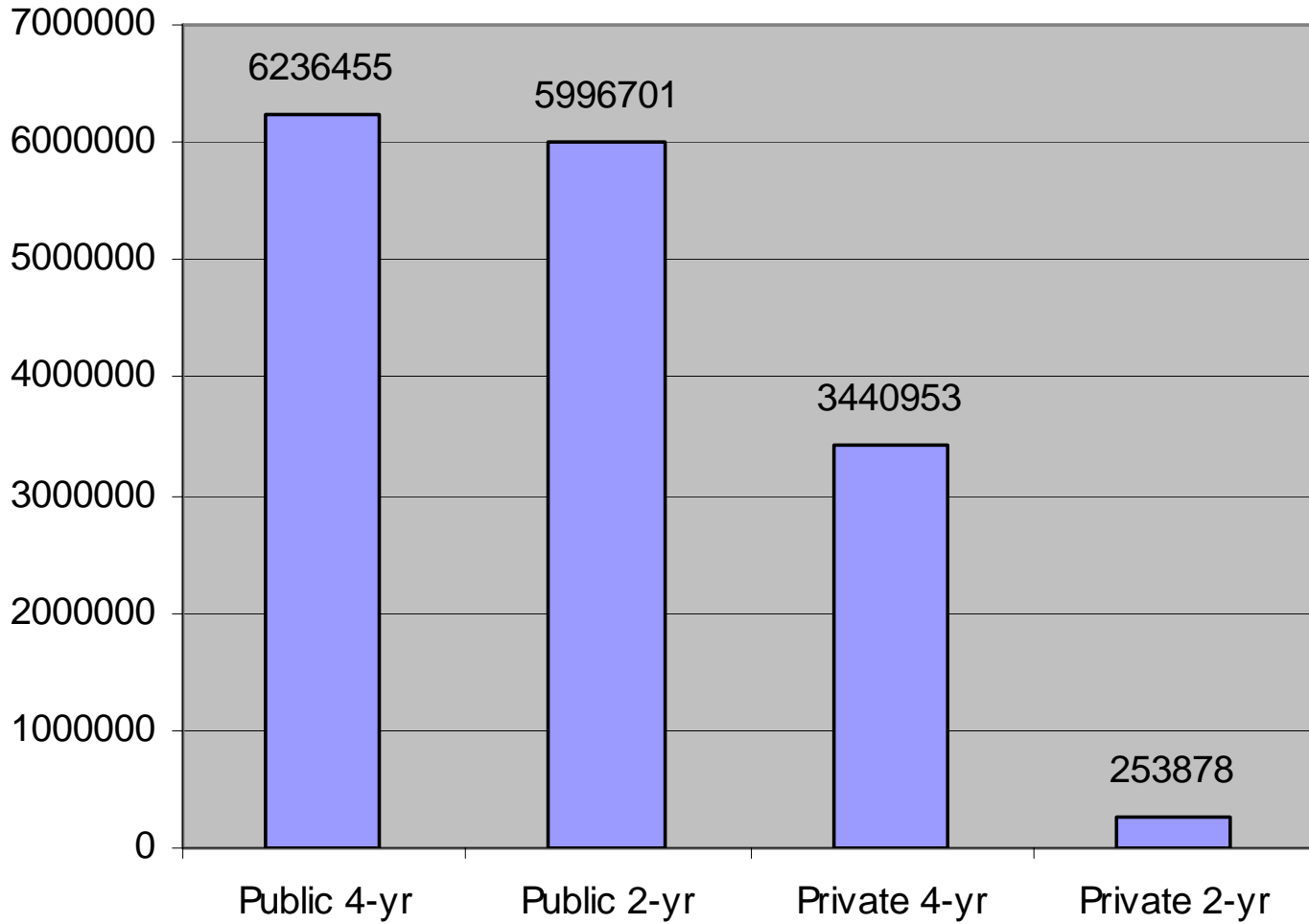


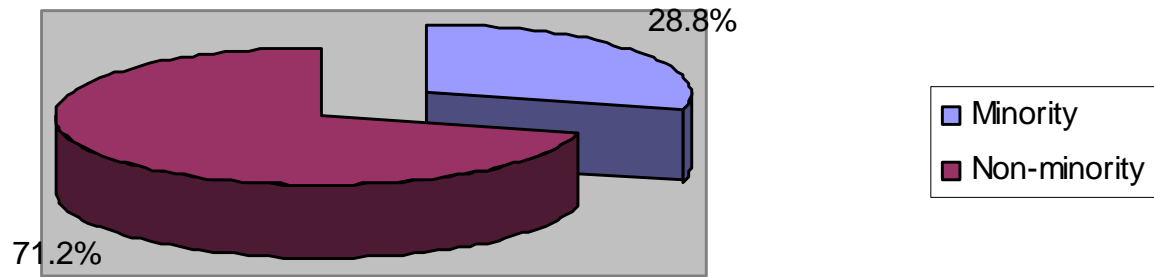
# Educational Environment

External Data

# National Enrollment



## National Enrollment



## Educational Environment

- **Question 1: “What is the ‘picture’ of the educational environment today on a national scale?”**
- Today’s college enrollment consists of 20% typical students; 18-21 years old, full-time, on-campus. Online courses represent 5% of all courses.
- Over half the 2 and 4 year institutions offer some courses online.
- Fifty percent of all freshmen attend a community college and 44% transfer. One third of the colleges are commuter campuses.
- More students are leaving their home states for college.
- Women have dominated college enrollment while enrollment of men is falling off.
- Thirty-nine percent of the female college graduates are married to non-college graduates.
- 
- **Question 2: “What effect does the demand for ‘accountability’ have on the educational environment?”**
- There has been an increased emphasis in accountability, but many of the administrators of these programs are untrained in test design and validation.
- Although the entire community is accountable, the spotlight falls only on the teachers and students.
- The No Child Left Behind legislation has not yet proven to be successful.

## Educational Environment

- **Question 3: “How is online learning affecting the learning environment?”**
- There has been tremendous increase in “online” learning because of many benefits.
- Initial online courses can be more expensive than a traditional course. However, subsequent offerings can be cheaper.
- Online courses are more popular with younger faculty because they grew up with computer skills.
- Online courses can be threatening to senior faculty because students may have more computer literacy than they have.
  
- **Question 4: “How are the collaborative efforts among universities affecting higher education?”**
- No data

## **Question 5: “What is the reputation of ECU among our service/recruitment regions?”**

- More students are choosing ECU as a first choice.
- Location and major are still the primary reasons to attend ECU.
- The school’s reputation has been a small consideration.

## Trends in Education

- **Article 1: “College Degree Still Pays, but It’s Leveling Off”, NY Times, January 13, 2005**
- The benefit of a college degree for economic reward has subsided.
- High school graduates have improved their skills and can now compete for many of the jobs that were previously filled by college graduates.
- Computer skills necessary for job success can be learned outside the college environment. .
- 
- **Article 2: “Upcoming Legislative Session”, from Lisa Laird**
- Kentucky has made great gains on the number of people who now have high school diplomas.
- In 2002-2003, the state financial investment in K-12 education actually declined.
- Budgets are slow to pass each year and often don’t address important education issues.
- Politicians give education lip service but often vote against needed funding.

## Trends in Education

- ***Article 3: “Colleges Need to Give Students Intensive Care”, Chronicle of Higher Education, January 7, 2005***
- Under a corporate model, students are treated as customers with the premise that “the customer is always right”
- Under this model, academic integrity has been compromised in trying to meet the “bottom line” demands.
- A better model might be based on the world of medicine. Under it, students are like patients, and professors are like doctors.
- Tuition is like a co-payment, because the state taxpayers really subsidize most of the education.
- The medicine model means that students have to act on their own behalf to be healthy; take the advise of the doctor.
- Professors need to work in stimulating environments much like medical doctors.

## Higher Education: Education Environment

- ***Item 1: A Brighter Picture for Colleges***

- States have taken measures to cover their shortfalls by raising tuition and fees.
- The biggest budget killers were Medicaid and the rising costs of health-insurance premiums for employees.
- Average pay at Public Universities was \$90K=Profs, \$63K=Assoc Profs, \$53K=Assist Profs, and \$69K=All.
- Average tuition and fees for public institutions were: \$4059=4 yr and \$1479=2 yr. Average test scores were: 20.9=ACT and 1026=SAT.
- 81% of freshmen attended schools in their home state.
- 

- ***Item 2: Strength's and Weaknesses***

- Kentucky still lags behind the top-performing states.
- The state is weak in providing students and families with an affordable higher education.

## Higher Education: Education Environment

- Preparation (KY grade = C-)
- Strengths: Performance on national assessment, community colleges are growing
- Weaknesses: Math and science scores, AP exam score

## Participation (KY grade = B-)

- Strengths: More students are enrolling in college, number of out-of-state students
- Weaknesses: Low high school graduate rate
- Affordability (KY grade = D-)
- Strengths: 37% of students attend 2-year schools; 46% attend 4-year public colleges
- Weaknesses: Cost to attend 2-year school is same as cost to attend 4-year school
- Learning (+)
- Kentucky has made investments in education but literacy scores are still low.
- A large investment was made in the community and technical college system.

# American Freshman: National Norms Fall 2004

Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP)  
Higher Education Research Institute (HERI)  
University of California, Los Angeles

39<sup>th</sup> Annual Report

Weighted responses of 289,452  
students at 440 institutions

# Today's Freshmen are:

- **More computer literate:**
  - Gender differences in computer literacy are almost completely gone
  - Digital divide still racially (~90% white and Asians, compared to 80% Black and Hispanics)
- **More politically polarized than past 30 years:**
  - but 46% still characterize themselves as “middle of the road” (down from 50% in 2003)
- **More racially segregated**
  - Only 22.7% Freshmen believe that racism is no longer a problem in America (up from 12.5% in 1993)
    - 12.6% of African Americans agree with this view
  - 67.8% state they “frequently” socialize with someone of different racial/ethnic background (down from 70% in 2001)

# Today's College Women are:

- Better time managers than their male peers,
  - but more frequently report being overwhelmed
- More likely to spend time working, doing homework or chores
  - Men more likely to socialize, watch TV, party
- More likely to enter into medical careers
  - Half of all med school applicants
  - Majority of other health professions (pharmacy, dentistry 7.1 to 5.6)

# High School Graduates are:

- Getting better grades
  - “A” averages up to 47.5%
    - 46.4% in 2003 & all-time low of 17.6% in 1968
- But more often report being “Frequently bored in class” 42.8% (all time high)
- Volunteering
  - 82.1% report participating in volunteer work last year of high school
    - Females more likely (85.9%) than Males (77.5%)
  - 53% performed community service as part of a high school course
    - about 1/3 attend school where required