

# First-year Application Trends

Through January 1

# First-year application trends through January 1

## Applications

# 7,607,278

total applications

# 914

returning members

### Member Type

Applications to public and private members grew at similar rates compared to 2024-25 (8% and 7% respectively)

## Applicants

# 1,281,012

applicants

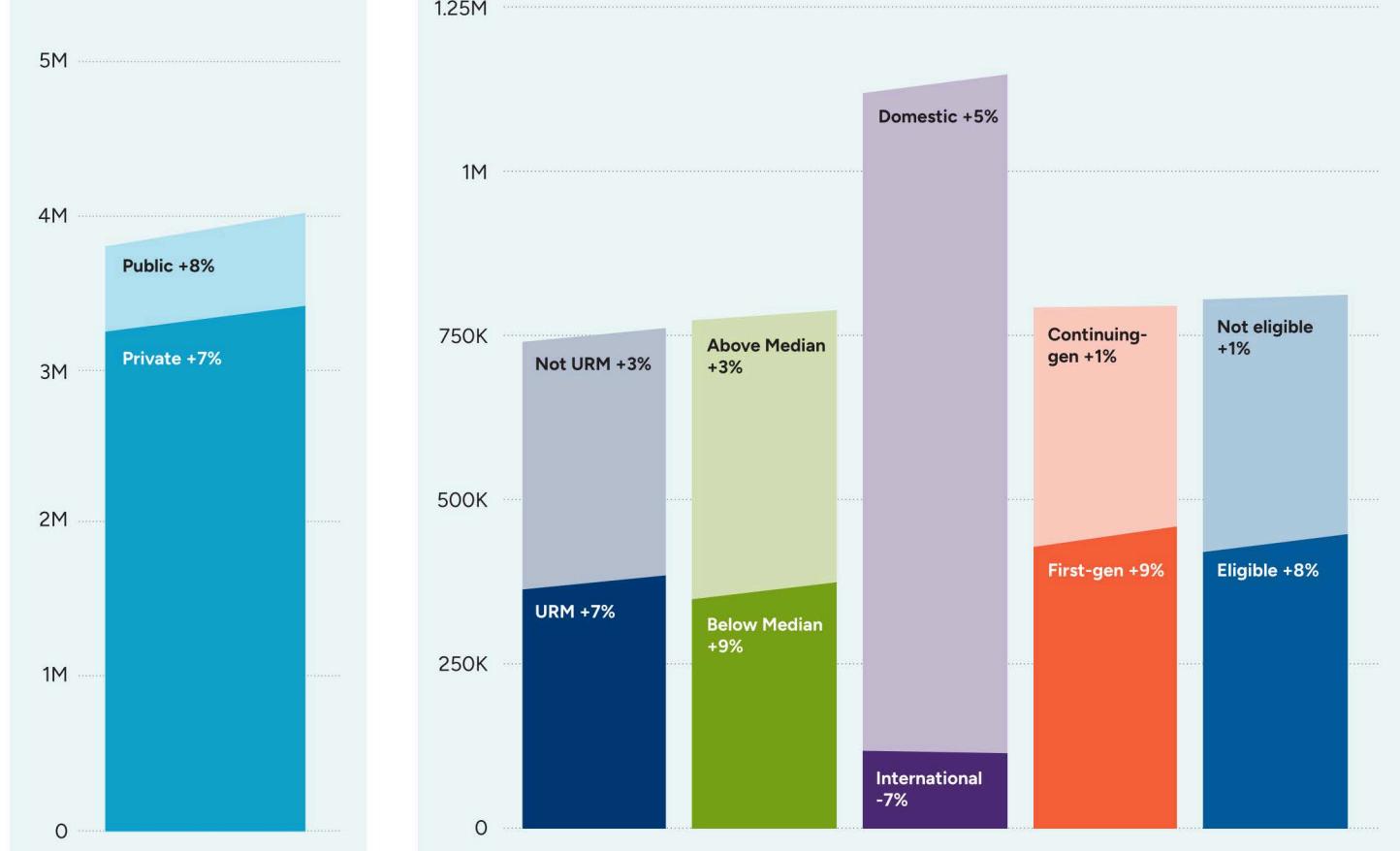
■ **Underrepresented minority race/ethnicity (URM)** applicants increased by 7%.

■ **First-generation applicants** increased by 9% since 2024-25.

■ Growth in applicants from **below-median income** ZIP-codes continued to outpace their peers at 9% since 2024-25.

■ **International applicants** declined while domestic applicants increased by 5%

■ Growth was faster for students reporting **eligibility for a Common App fee waiver** (8%) compared to those not reporting fee waiver eligibility (1%).



Each category shows trends from 2024-25 to 2025-26 season. © Common App 2025

# Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through January 1

January 15, 2026

## Authors

### Data Analytics and Research

Walter Herring \*

Rodney Hughes \*

Mark Freeman

Trent Kajikawa

Brian Heseung Kim

Sarah Nolan

Song Park

\* Corresponding author(s)

## Press inquiries

Jackson Sternberg

[jackson.sternberg@commonapp.org](mailto:jackson.sternberg@commonapp.org)

## Introduction

Each year, Common App releases an ongoing series of "Deadline Update" research briefs to share detailed and timely insights about the state of first-year college applications and year-over-year trends through a specific point in the application season — in this case, January 1. We time these briefs to capture activity for major college application deadlines on the first of each month from November to March.

By analyzing up-to-date application activity, we bring attention to trends in applicant race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, geographic residence, and the types of institutions to which students apply. We hope to empower enrollment leaders, counselors, and other stakeholders with these insights as we strive together to increase the accessibility of the college admissions process in alignment with our [Next Chapter](#).

**Notes:** As Common App membership has grown over time, we focus deadline updates on institutions that have maintained Common App membership for the five most recent years ("returning members"), or 914 institutions. That said, trends observed here may still partially result from new members bringing new applicants onto the platform each year

## Contents

[Key findings](#)

[Overall platform trends](#)

[Applicant demographic trends](#)

[Trends in test score reporting](#)

[Trends by member characteristics](#)

[Appendix](#)

## Key findings

1. **Applicant and application counts grew:** Through January 1, 2026, 1,281,012 distinct first-year applicants had applied to 914 returning members, an increase of 4% from 1,237,299 at this point in 2024–25.
  - a. Application volume to returning members through January 1 rose 7% from 2024–25 (7,085,577) to 2025–26 (7,607,278). Applicants had also applied to more members through January 1 in 2025–26 than in 2024–25 (up 4% from 5.73 to 5.94 applications per applicant).
2. **Low-income applicants' growth outpaces their peers:** Growth was faster for students reporting eligibility for a Common App fee waiver (8% vs. 1%). This is also true of growth in applicants from below-median income ZIP codes, who continued to outpace their peers from above-median income ZIP codes at 9% growth compared to this point in 2024–25 (versus 3%).
3. **Black or African American applicants and applicants identifying as Two or More Races are growing at the fastest rates:** Black or African American applicants (11%) and applicants identifying as Two or More Races (8%) saw the fastest growth compared to the prior season. Applicants identifying as an underrepresented minority race/ethnicity<sup>1</sup> (URM) increased by 7% compared to this point in 2024–25.
4. **First-generation applicants continue to grow:** Applicants identifying as first-generation grew by 9% compared to this point during 2024–25, while continuing-generation applicants increased by only 1%.
5. **The growth rate in applicants was greatest from rural areas.** Compared to this point during the 2024–25 application cycle, the number of applicants from Rural areas grew 11% relative to only 4% growth among applicants from Metropolitan areas, though the overwhelming majority of applicants on the platform still hail from Metropolitan areas.
6. **The Southwest continues to be the fastest-growing region among domestic applicants:** The Southwestern region grew at nearly twice the rate (10%) of the next fastest-growing region, driven by substantial growth in Texas (9%) and Oklahoma (14%). Mississippi was the fastest-growing state compared to this point last season, exhibiting 31% growth.

---

<sup>1</sup> We use the term underrepresented minority (URM) in alignment with conventions employed by the [National Science Foundation](#). In this report, applicants identifying as Black or African American, Latinx, American Indian or Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander are classified as URM applicants.

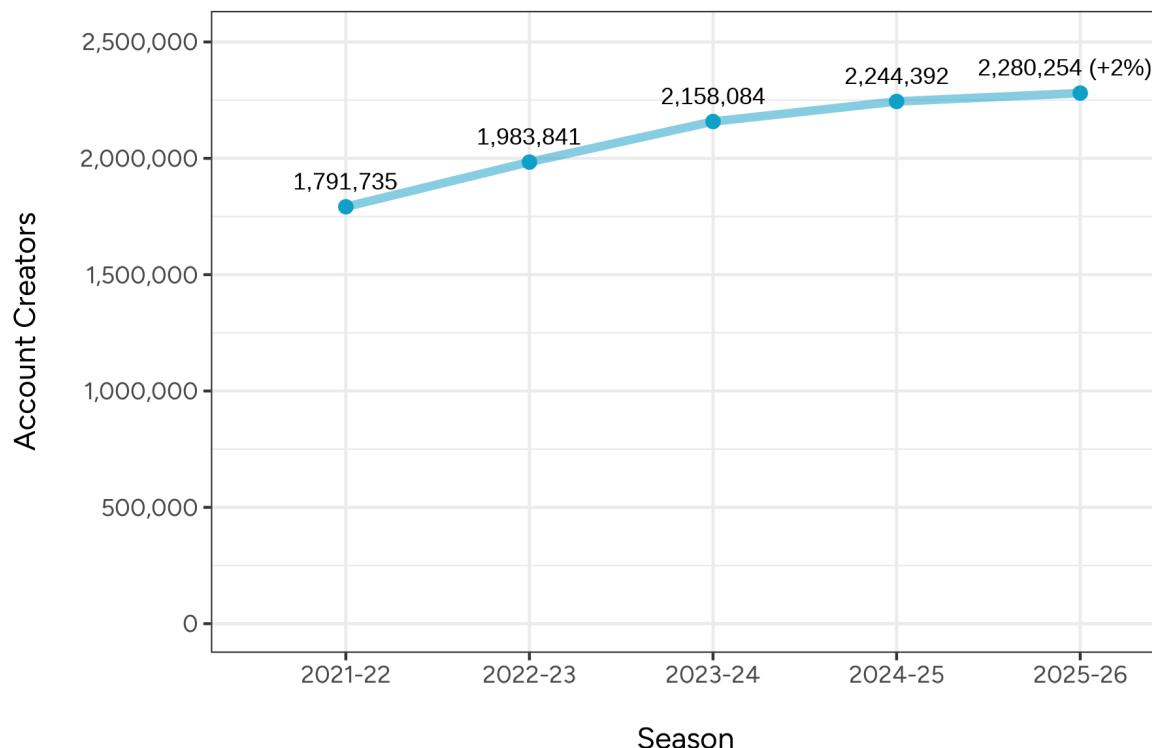
7. **The number of international applicants declined compared to this point in the 2024-25 application cycle:** The number of international applicants decreased by 7% (compared to a 1% year-over-year increase in international applicants at this time during 2024-25). There was a pronounced drop in applicants from Asia (-9%) and Africa (-14%), with notable declines in applicants from India (-13%) and Ghana (-34%). Applicants from the Americas, meanwhile, increased by 6% compared to this point in 2024-25, with notable increases in applicants from Honduras (59%) and Venezuela (135%).
8. **Growth rates among applicants reporting test scores continue to exceed the rate among those not reporting a score:** The number of applicants reporting a test score grew by 11% compared to this time during the 2024-25 application cycle, while the number of applicants who did not report a test score decreased by 4%. First-generation applicants, applicants identifying as URM, applicants eligible for a Common App fee waiver, and those from below-median income ZIP codes were less likely to report a score.
9. **Applications to public and private institutions grew at similar rates (8% and 7%, respectively).** This differs from trends observed at this time last season, when the growth rate among applications to public institutions tripled that of private institutions. Applications grew at the slowest rate at the Most Selective institutions that had admit rates below 25% (4% growth compared to 8% growth in applications to all other selectivity bands).

## Overall platform trends

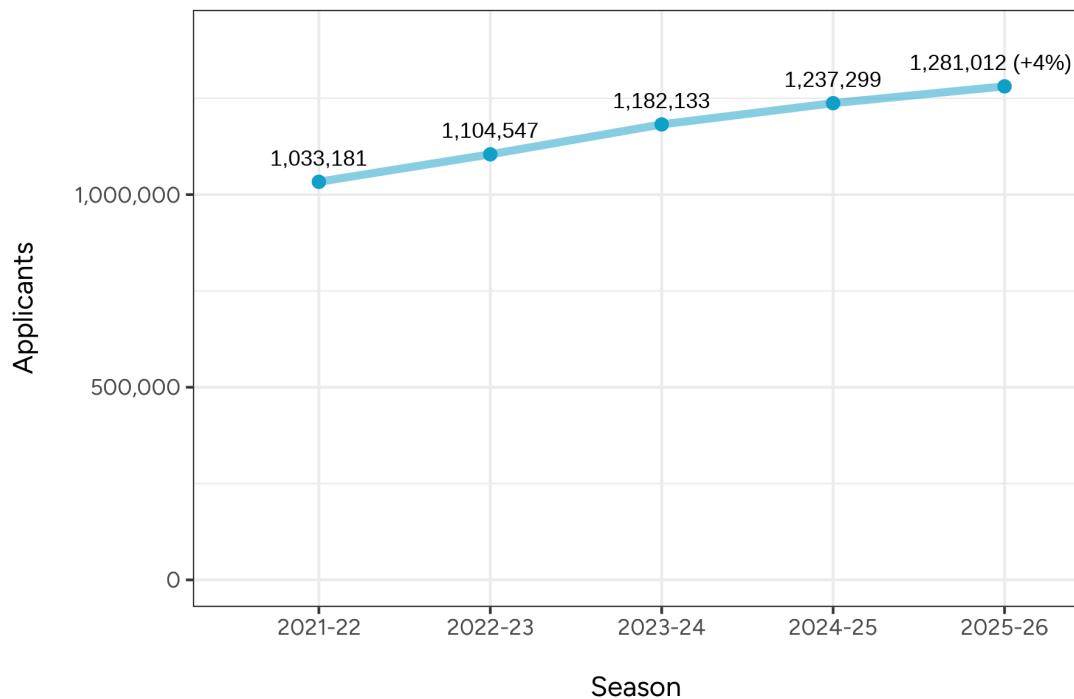
Beginning our review of season-to-date data with overall platform usage trends, Figures 1–4 display the overall number of accounts created by students intending to enroll in the following academic year (e.g., 2026–27 for students in the 2025–26 application season), the number of account creators that have submitted at least one application (“applicants”), the total number of applications submitted, and the average number of applications submitted per applicant at this point in the season. Each point in each plot tracks the indicated metric for one season through January 1, and the final point in each plot is additionally labeled with the percent growth in that metric between 2024–25 and the current season.

For example, in Figure 1, we see that the number of account creators through January 1 has grown from 2,244,392 in 2024–25 to 2,280,254 in 2025–26—an increase of 2%. In general, we see consistent growth in platform use at this point in the season compared to prior years, with a 4% increase in applicants, a 7% increase in applications, and a 4% increase in applications per applicant.

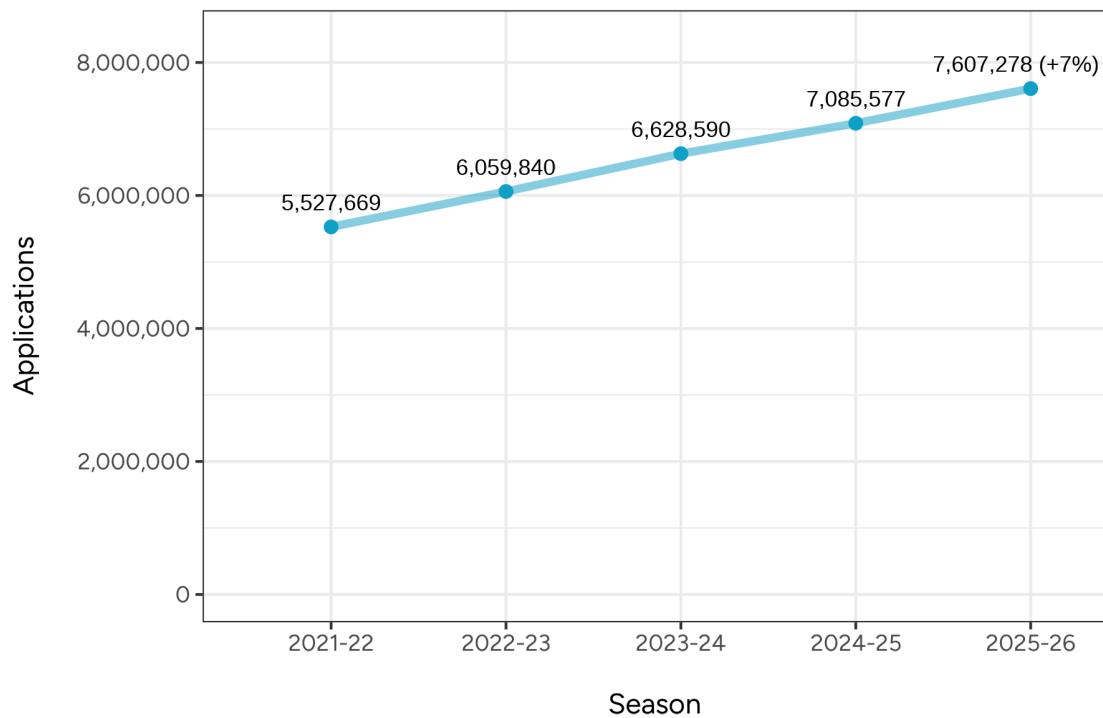
**Figure 1. Growth in first-year accounts created by students intending to enroll in the following academic year since 2021–22**



**Figure 2. Growth in first-year applicants since 2021–22**

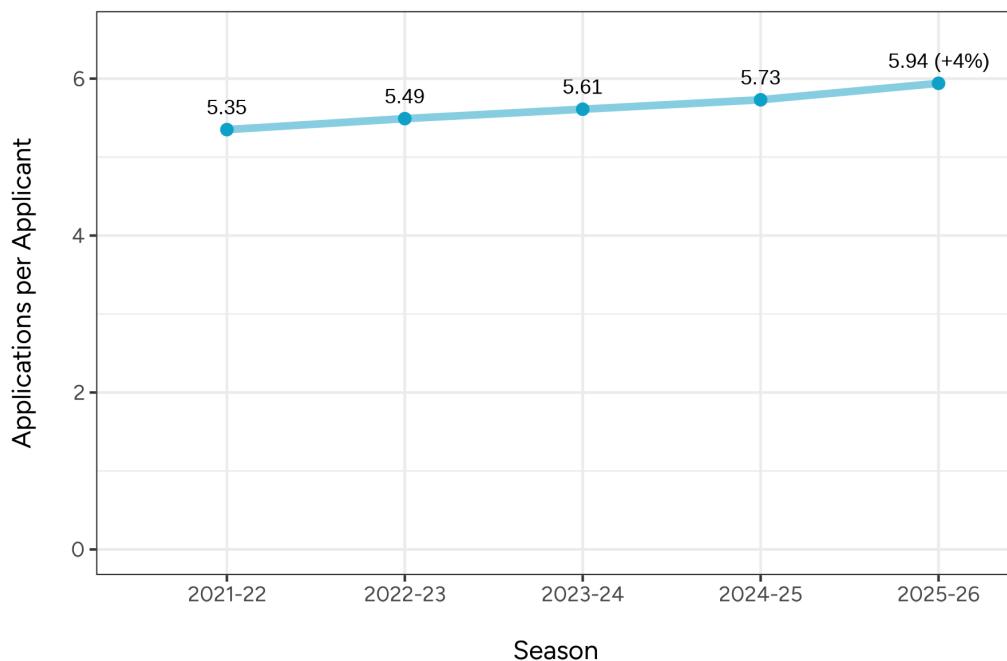


**Figure 3. Growth in first-year applications since 2021–22**



Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through January 1  
 January 15, 2026

**Figure 4. Growth in first-year applications per applicant since 2021–22**



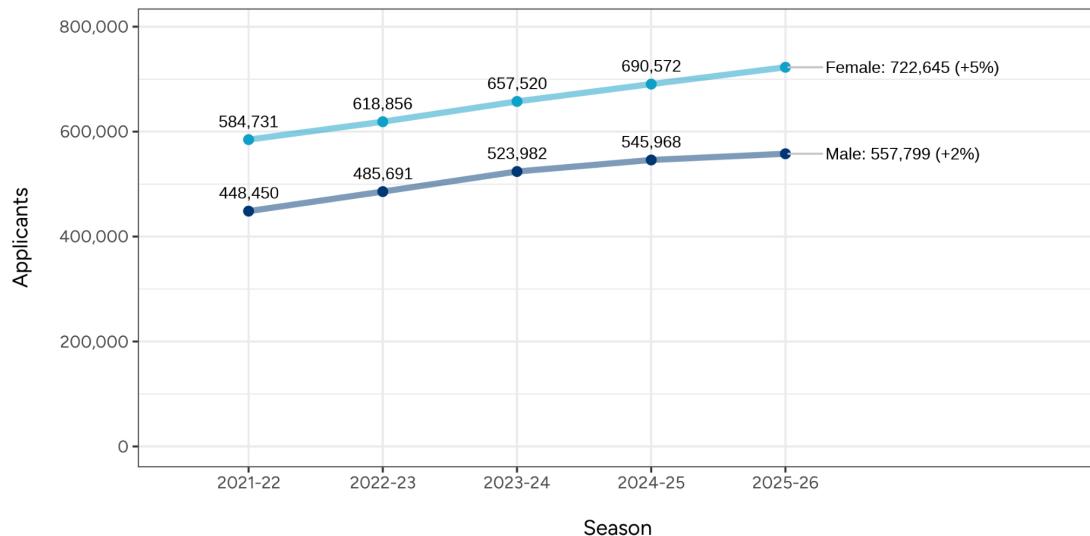
## Applicant demographic trends

Though the trends above reveal broad growth in the use of Common App over time, the primary value in these timely updates lies in disaggregating these trends by student demographics and other key application characteristics.

### Trends by student legal sex

Figure 5 displays growth in applicants by legal sex since 2021–22. Female applicants accounted for a larger share of all applicants throughout the period, and had a growth rate of 5% compared to this point in 2024–2025, while Male applicants had a growth rate of 2%.

**Figure 5. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by sex since 2021–22**

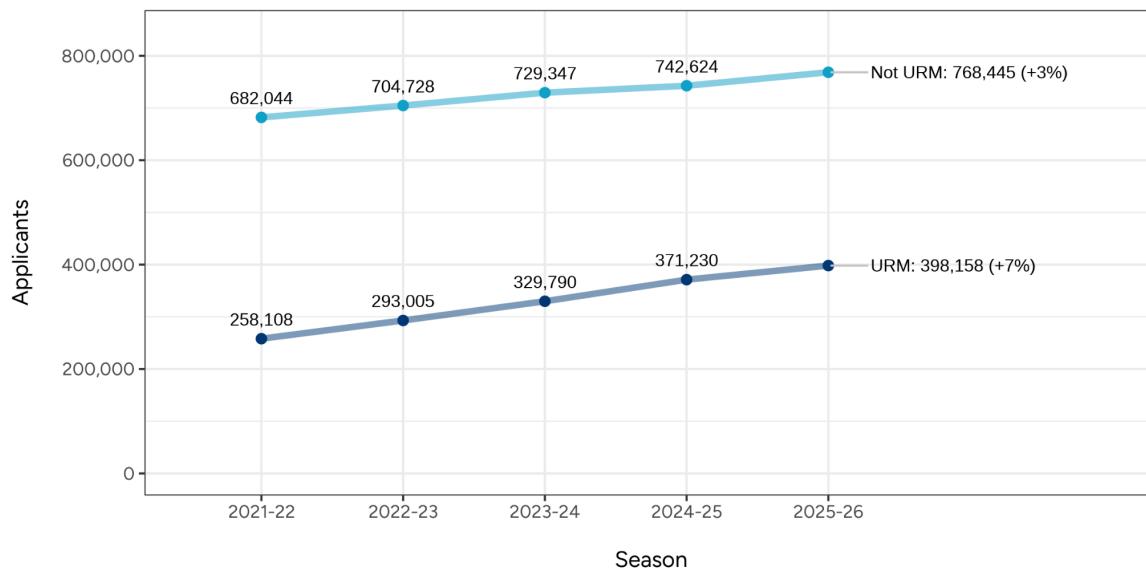


### Trends by student race/ethnicity

Given member interest in the impact of the [United States Supreme Court decision on race-conscious admissions](#), we continue our deeper dive into application trends by looking across applicant underrepresented minority status (URM) in Figure 6.<sup>2</sup> Consistent with results from our [previous reports on the diversification of the Common App applicant pool](#), we see that the growth in the number of applicants identifying as URM continues to outpace that of their non-URM peers at 7% since 2024–25 (versus 3% for applicants not identifying as URM), though the number of these students remains smaller. Note that all plots shown here regarding student race/ethnicity (Figures 6–8) focus exclusively on domestic applicants (i.e., excluding citizens of countries besides the United States) in alignment with federal reporting practices in higher education.

<sup>2</sup> See our discussion of Figures 22 and A14 through A22 for additional analyses related to application trends by race/ethnicity as they relate to members of varying selectivity bands.

**Figure 6. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by underrepresented minority status since 2021–22**



**Figure 7. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by federal race/ethnicity groupings since 2021–22**

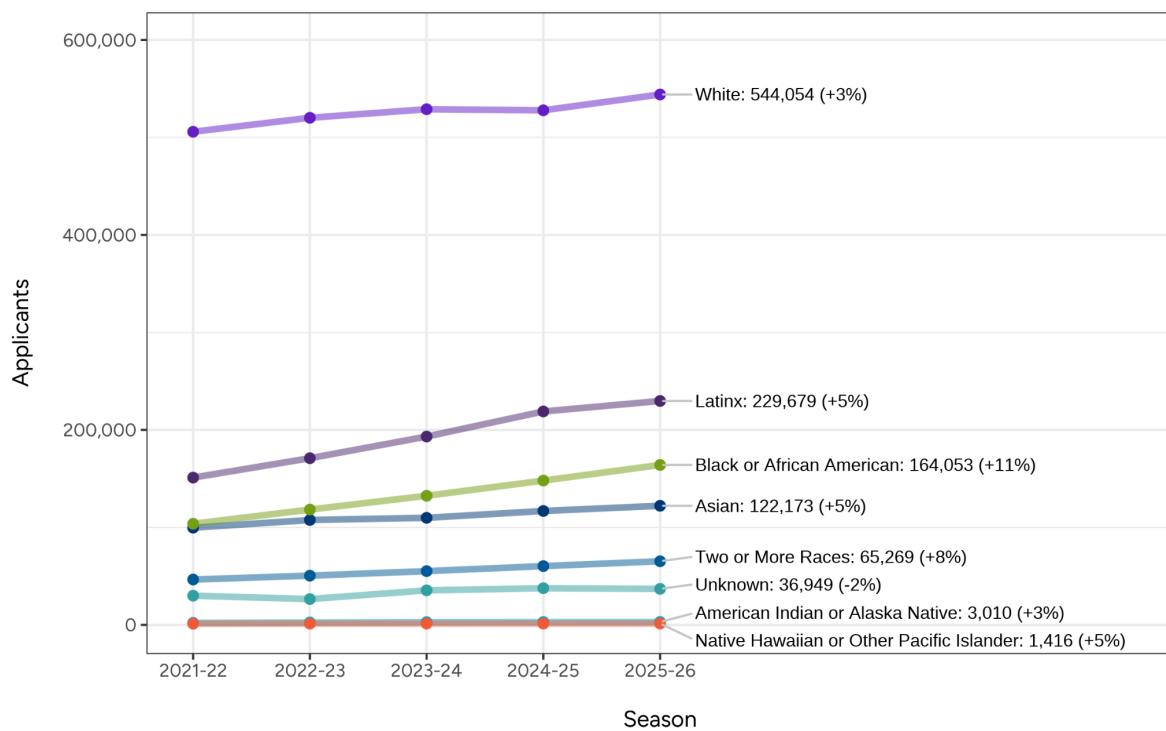


Figure 7 examines applicant growth trends across federal race/ethnicity groupings, revealing that this growth is fastest for applicants identifying as Black or African American (11%) or Two or More Races (8%). The share of domestic applicants identifying as White at this point in the season declined from 47.4% in 2024–25 to 46.6% in 2025–26, a drop that represents the continuation of a long-term trend dating back to at least the 2013–2014 season.<sup>3</sup>

The share of students reporting Unknown race/ethnicity declined compared to this point in the season in 2024–25, with 3.4% of students reporting Unknown in 2024–25 and 3.2% in 2025–26 (not pictured). Taken together, these data suggest that there have been no meaningful deviations from pre-existing trends over the past decade in race/ethnicity reporting or population growth on the Common App platform after the U.S. Supreme Court ruling, aligning with our prior [research brief on the subject](#) following the end of the 2024–25 application season.

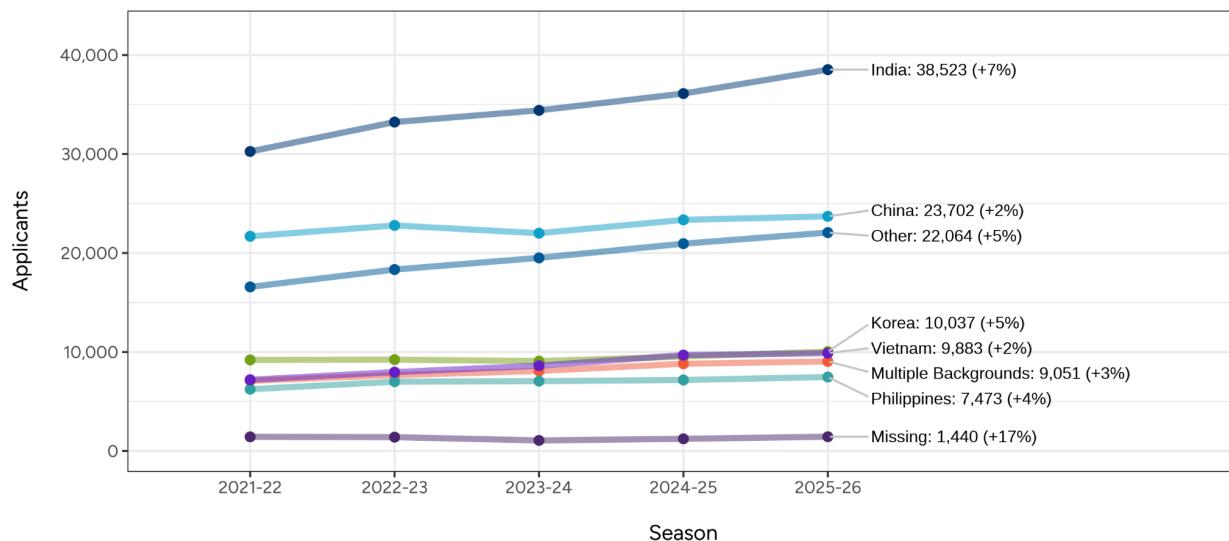
The Common Application prompts students to share more detailed background information within each federal race/ethnicity group (e.g., identifying as Asian with background in China). We are thus able to break out each of the federal race/ethnicity groupings shown above into these more detailed backgrounds. For visual clarity, we focus only on the five most prevalent detailed backgrounds within each federal race/ethnicity group (with the rest combined into an “Other” category). Figure 8 below shows, as an example, growth in first-year applicants across detailed Asian backgrounds, revealing that growth is fastest among Asian applicants identifying their background in India (7%), Other (5%), and Korea (5%). The number of Asian applicants who did not report a detailed background also rose by 17%. Corresponding plots for each of the other federal race/ethnicity groups can be found in the Appendix (Figures A1–A5).<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>3</sup> This trend of White students exhibiting declines as a percentage share of the total applicant pool on the platform for the last several years relative to other racial / ethnic groups mirrors declines in relative White first-year student enrollment observed over the last several Fall enrollment periods (National Student Clearinghouse [current enrollment report](#)).

<sup>4</sup> For those interested in learning more on this subject, we reported on a variety of additional trends and correlations using these detailed background data in a two-part research brief series in the 2022–23 season (Unpacking applicant race and ethnicity, [part one](#) and [part two](#)).

**Figure 8. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by detailed Asian backgrounds since 2021–22**

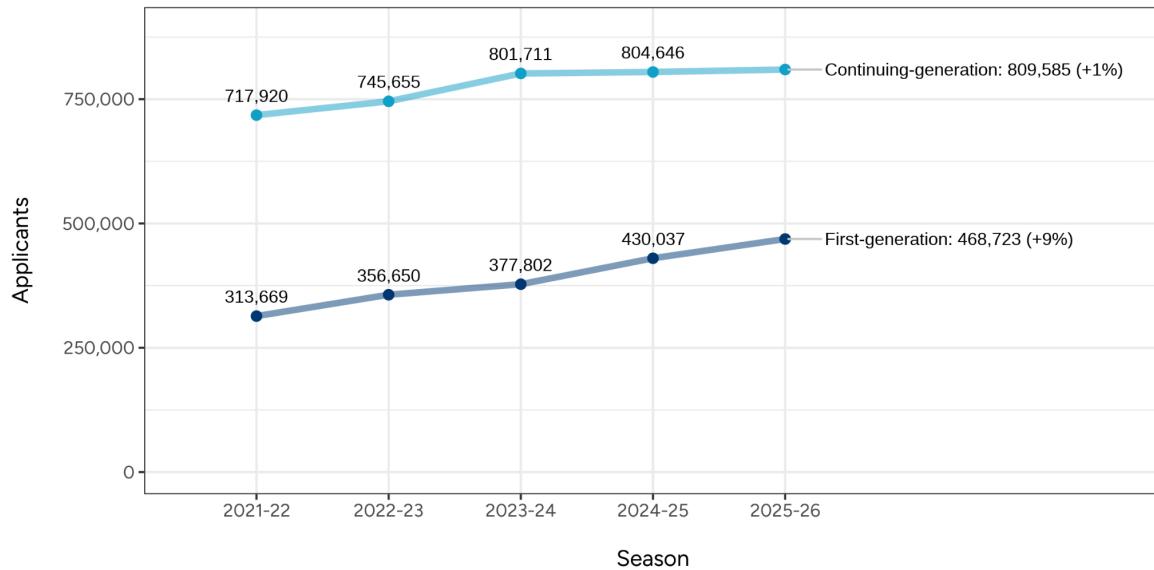


## Trends by student socioeconomic status

In addition to student race/ethnicity, we examine multiple dimensions of student socioeconomic status. We display applicant trends by first-generation status in Figure 9. First-generation students exhibit strong growth at 9% compared to this point last season, while the number of continuing-generation applicants grew by just 1%. For these purposes, we define a first-generation college student as having parents who have not obtained a Bachelor's degree or higher (regardless of when the degree was received, whether the student lives with adults other than their parents, and institutional country or type).<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> For more detail on this topic, see our three research briefs from the 2023–24 season addressing [trends](#), [definitions](#), and [complexities](#) around parental education.

**Figure 9. Growth in first-year applicants by first-generation status since 2021–22**



**Figure 10. Growth in first-year applicants by Common App fee waiver eligibility since 2021–22**

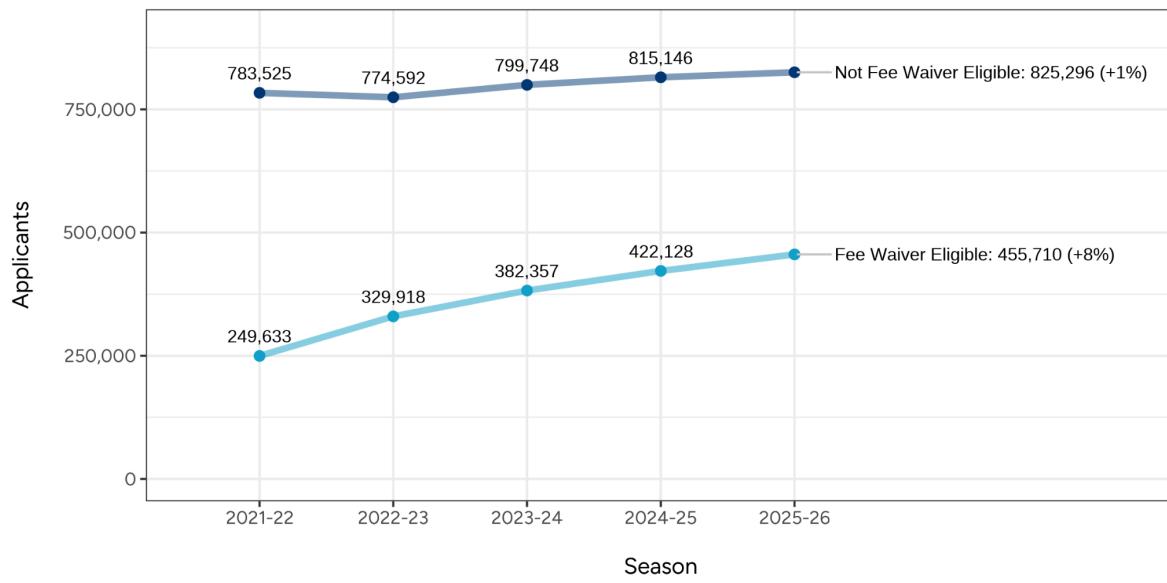
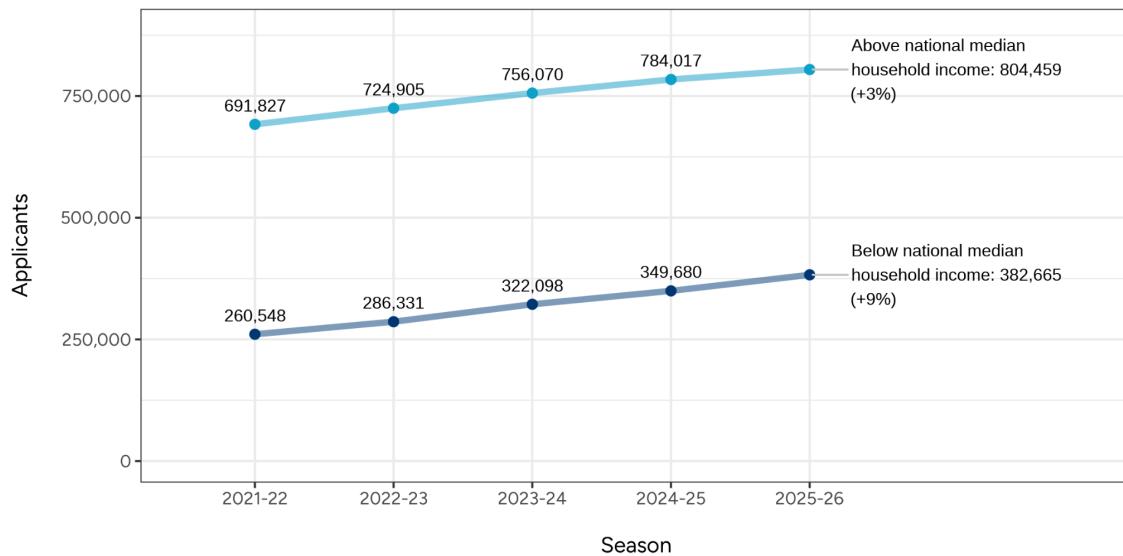


Figure 10 similarly tracks growth in applicants by self-reported Common App fee waiver eligibility, often used as a proxy for low-income status.<sup>6</sup> Applicants reporting eligibility for the Common App fee waiver have grown at a faster rate compared to those that did not report fee waiver eligibility (8% versus 1%) through this point in the season since 2024–25.

While Common App does not explicitly collect applicants' household income information, we supplement our understanding of the socioeconomic characteristics of applicants by examining characteristics of the communities in which they reside from the U.S. Census (for students residing in the United States). In alignment with broader higher education research practices, our past research work, and our [Next Chapter](#), we track the number of applicants residing in a ZIP code with a median household income above or below the national median household income.<sup>7</sup> As shown in Figure 11, applicants coming from below-median income ZIP codes increased at a faster pace than their above-median income peers at 9% since this point of the season in 2024–25 (vs. 3% for applicants from above-median ZIP codes).

**Figure 11. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by ZIP code median household income relative to national median household income since 2021–22**



<sup>6</sup> More information on exact eligibility criteria descriptions are [available online](#).

<sup>7</sup> We use the American Community Survey 5-year estimates on household income, both nationally and by ZIP Code Tabulation Areas. To account for the roughly two-year lag in data availability of ACS survey data, we use ACS data from two years prior to a given season for our calculations (e.g., we use the 2019–2023 ACS to map onto applicants in the 2025–2026 application season). We exclude students residing outside the United States, or who live in ZIP codes without a median household income estimate from the ACS.

## Trends by student geography

Though Common App membership continues to expand across the country, Common App use still varies substantially by geography. For students residing in the United States, Figure 12 tracks applicant ZIP code urbanicity classifications.<sup>8</sup> Overall growth since 2024–25 was about twice as high among applicants from Rural (11%), Small Town (9%), and Micropolitan (8%) urbanicity types compared to Metropolitan (4%), although the overwhelming majority of applicants still come from Metropolitan ZIP codes.

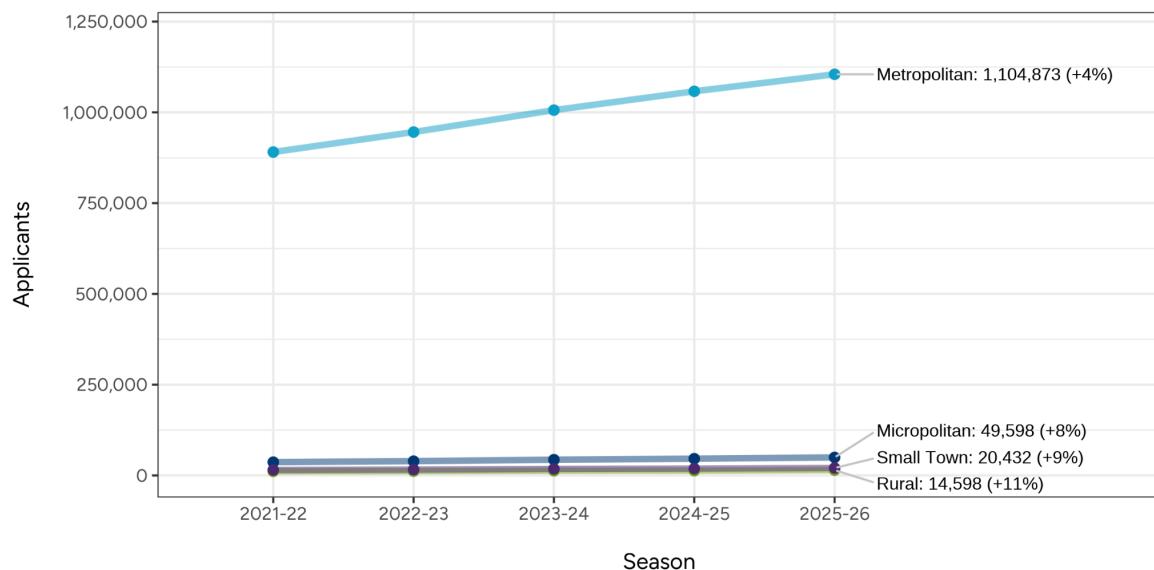
We also examine growth in applicants over time across different regions (Figure 13) and states (Figures 14 and 15) in the United States. For visual clarity, Figure 14 shows applicant trends among the ten fastest-growing states since 2021–22, while Figure 15 shows applicant trends among the ten states with the most applicants overall as of this point in 2025–26. We exclude from these visualizations any state or territory with fewer than 100 applicants in any one season. For those interested in seeing these statistics for every state, we have included an exhaustive table in the Appendix (Table B1).

Texas, which surpassed New York as the state with the greatest number of applicants on the platform by the end of the 2024–25 season, continues to outpace other large states in applicant growth (9%). Driven by this growth in Texas as well as growth in Oklahoma (14% growth since 2024–25), the growth rate in applicants from the Southwestern region (10%) again outpaced growth from other regions (Figure 13). Mississippi saw the fastest growth rate in applicants compared to this time last season (31%).

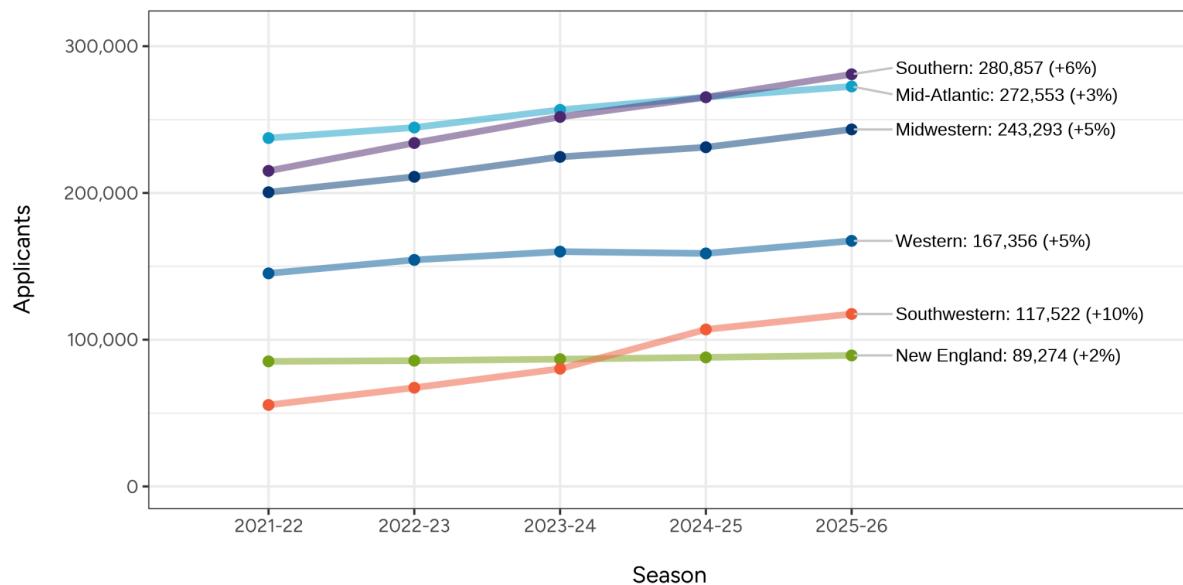
---

<sup>8</sup> Per the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, a Metropolitan area is a region with an urban center containing a population of at least 50,000. A Micropolitan area is a region with an urban center containing a population of at least 10,000, but less than 50,000.

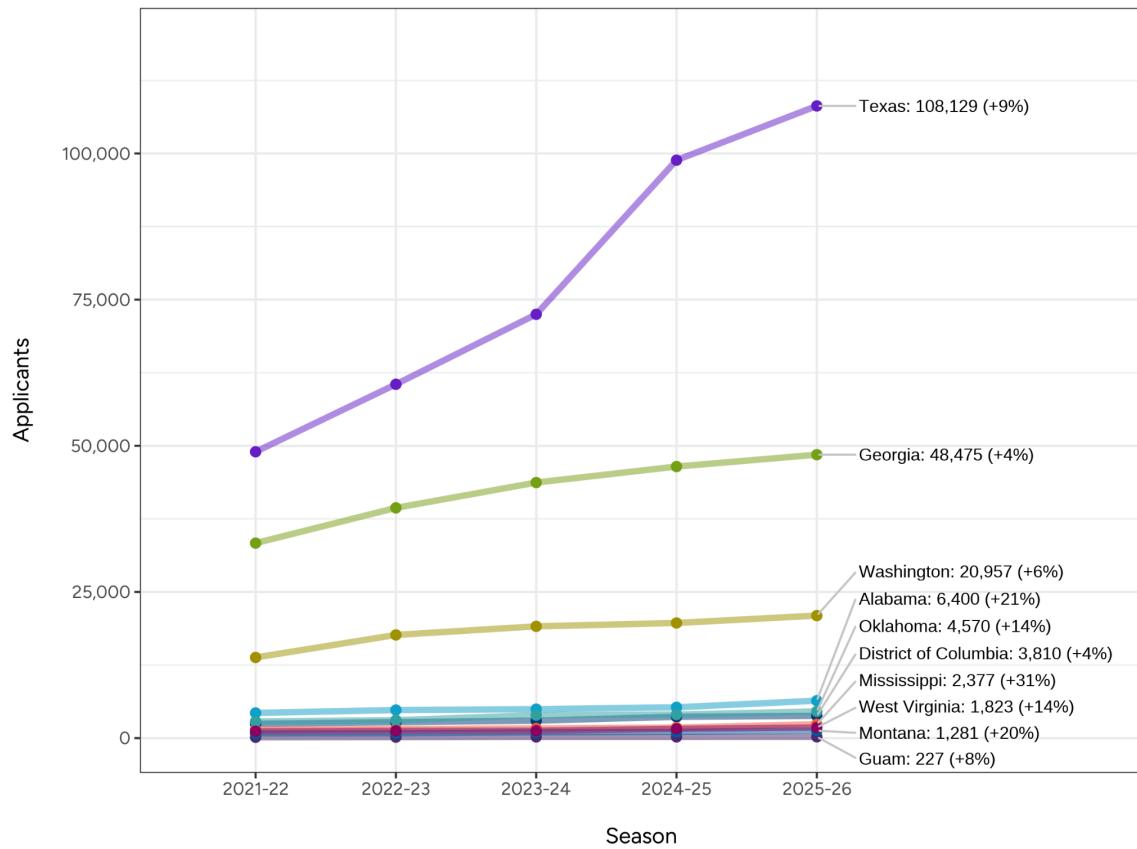
**Figure 12. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by ZIP code urbanicity since 2021–22**



**Figure 13. Growth in domestic first-year applicants by United States region since 2021–22**



**Figure 14. Growth in domestic first-year applicants among the ten fastest-growing states since 2021–22**



**Figure 15. Growth in domestic first-year applicants among the ten highest-volume states as of 2025–26**

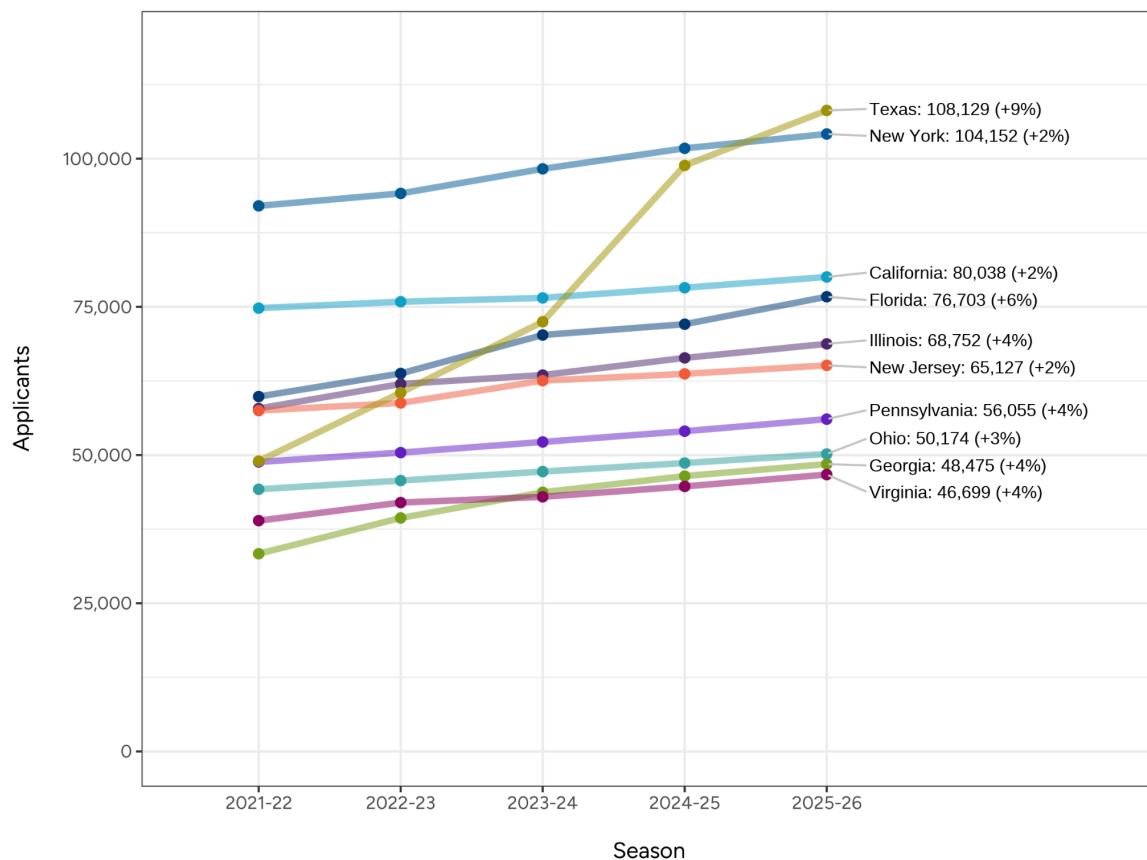


Figure 16 charts applicant growth among domestic and international applicants, where international applicants have explicitly reported active citizenship in a country besides the United States. Figure 17 shows the growth in applicants by region of the world for those international applicants.<sup>9</sup> For a more granular view at a country-by-country level, Figure 18 shows the growth in applicants by country of citizenship for the ten fastest-growing countries of citizenship since 2021–22. Lastly, Figure 19 shows the growth in applicants by country of citizenship for the ten highest-volume countries of citizenship as of this point in the 2025–26 season.

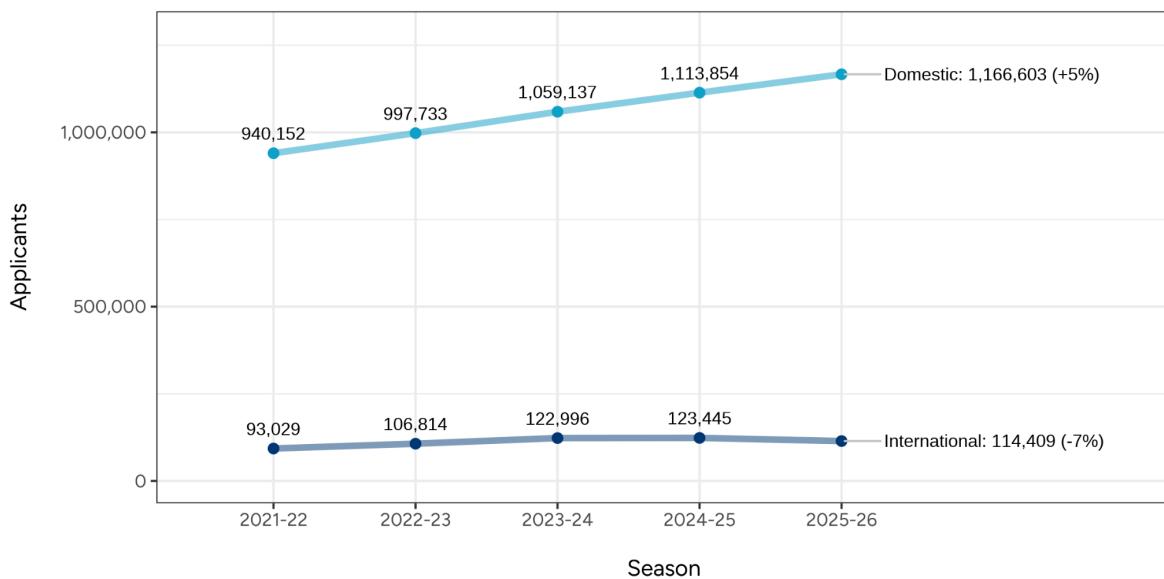
The decline in international applicants, noted in our [2024-25 End of Season Report](#), has intensified, with international applicants decreasing by 7% compared to this time during the 2024-25 application cycle. This drop is consistent with the 9% decrease in international applicants documented in this season's [November 1](#) and

<sup>9</sup> We use country regional classifications per the [United Nations Statistics Division](#) methodology. Students with multiple citizenships (not including a U.S. citizenship) or who indicate being stateless are grouped into the "Other" category.

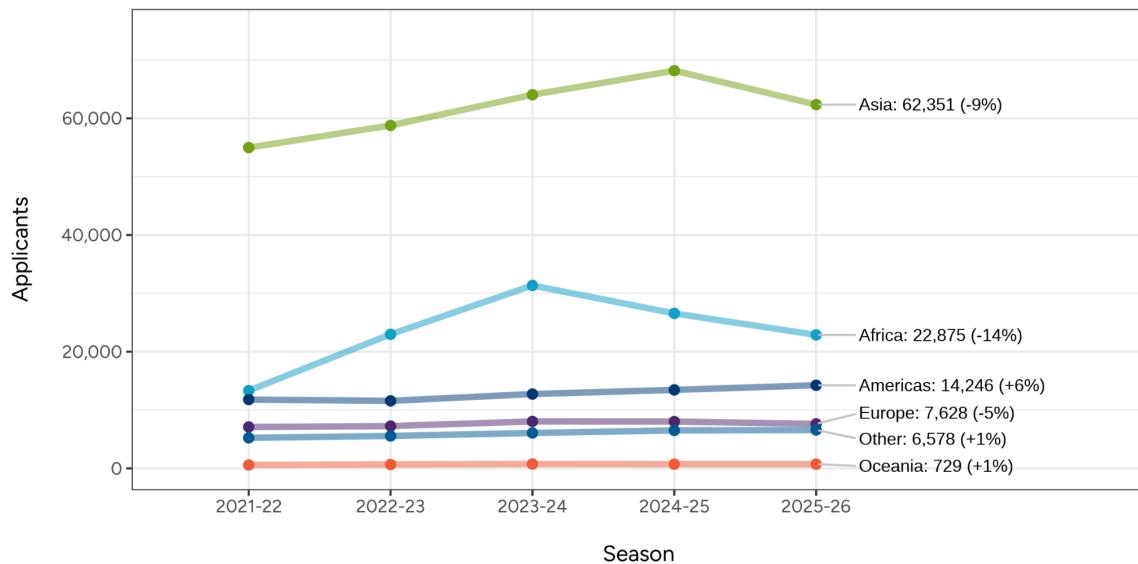
[December 1](#) deadline updates. The number of applicants from Asia, the largest region in terms of international applicant volume, fell 9% compared with this point in 2024-25 after several years of sustained growth. This decline was driven by a 13% drop in applicants from India, which has historically had the second-most international applicants on the platform of any country behind China. Applicants from Africa also decreased considerably (-14%), with a precipitous drop in applications from Ghana (-34%). Of the ten countries with the greatest numbers of international applicants on Common App to date this season, only two saw growth in the number of applicants compared to 2024-25 (Uzbekistan and applicants reporting citizenship in multiple countries).

The decrease in international applicants was not universal, however. Figure 17 shows that the number of applicants from the Americas grew by 6% compared to this point during the 2024-25 season, fueled by growth in applicants from Honduras (59%) and Venezuela (135%).

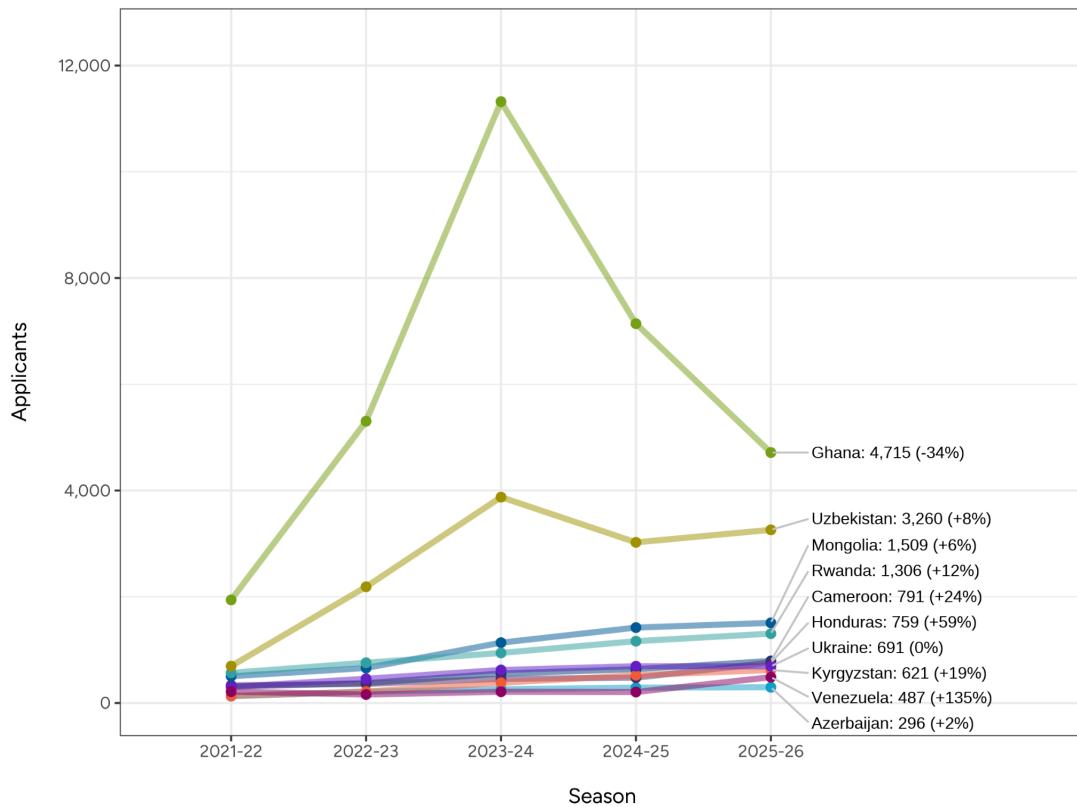
**Figure 16. Growth in first-year applicants by international status since 2021-22**



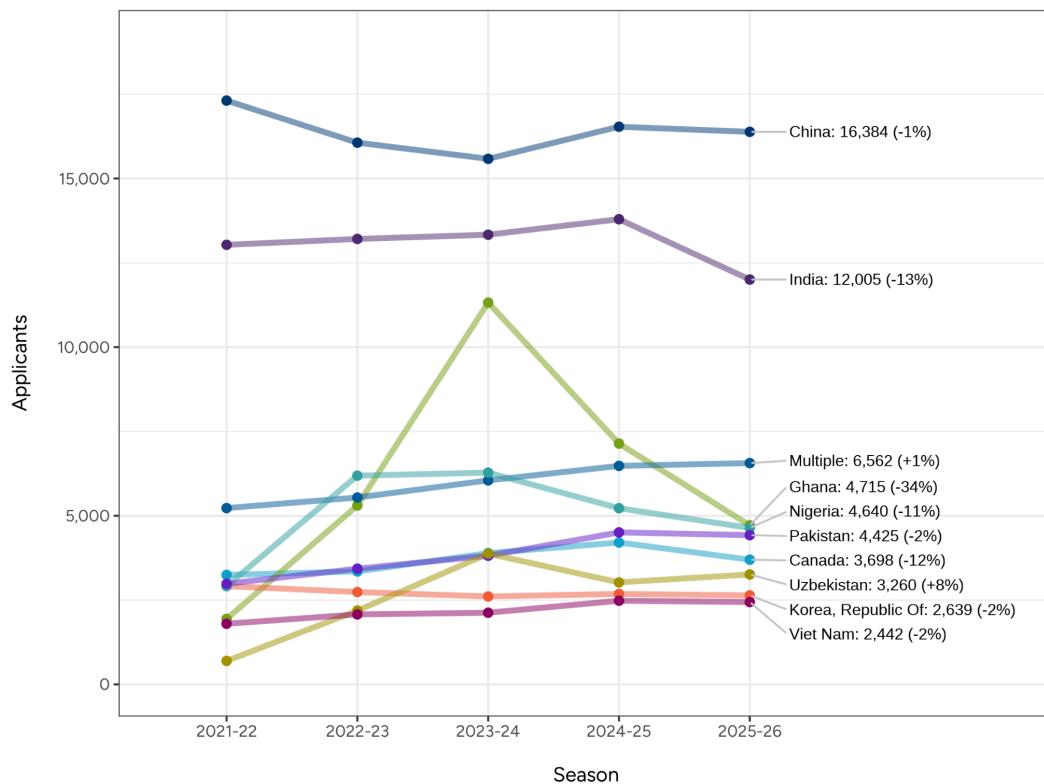
**Figure 17. Growth in international first-year applicants by region of citizenship since 2021–22**



**Figure 18. Growth in international first-year applicants among the ten fastest-growing countries of citizenship since 2021–22**



**Figure 19. Growth in international first-year applicants among the ten highest-volume countries of citizenship as of 2025–26**

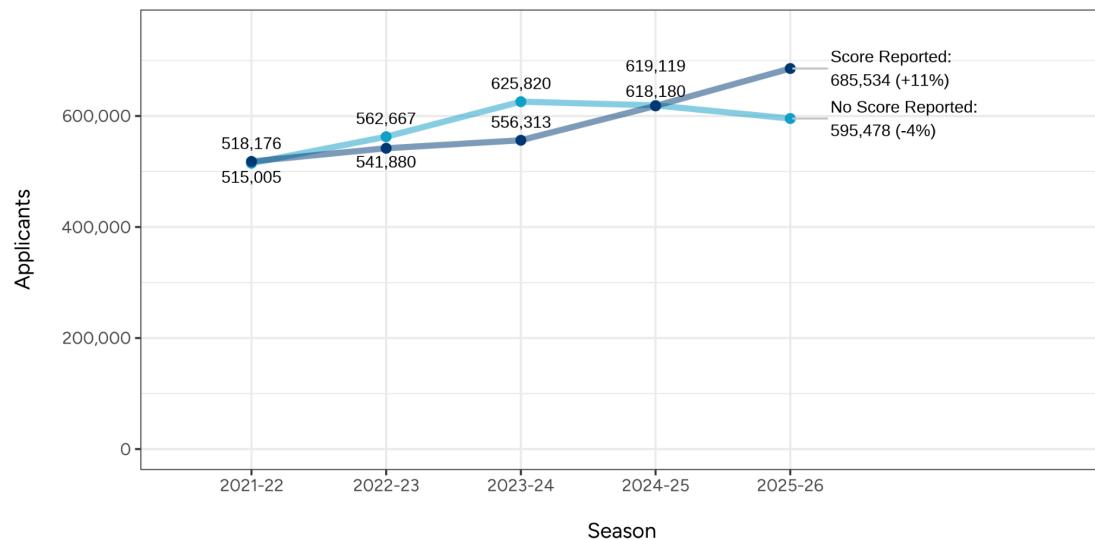


## Trends in applicants' test score reporting behaviors

As reported previously, the share of Common App members requiring standardized test scores has changed dramatically over the past decade — from about 55% in 2019–20 to an all-time low of just 4% in 2023–24. This season, 5% of members require a test score to submit an application (essentially unchanged from last season). Figure 20 shows that the number of applicants reporting a test score continues to grow, with an 11% increase among reporters, while the number of non-reporters has decreased by 4% since this time during the 2024–25 season. While the number of applicants reporting and not reporting test scores was roughly equivalent through January 1 during the 2024–25 application cycle, score reporters outnumbered non-reporters by a considerable margin this season. Nonetheless, it is worth noting that, while applicants reporting test scores have historically outnumbered those who do not early in the season, these trends tend to reverse by season's end, with a greater share of applicants ultimately not reporting test scores.

Appendix Figures A6–A13 illustrate test score reporting disaggregated by first-generation status, URM status, fee waiver eligibility, and ZIP code-level income. These figures show that first-generation students, URM students, fee waiver eligible students, and students from ZIP codes below the national median income were less likely to submit a test score. However, the number of students reporting test scores consistently grew faster than the number not reporting test scores across all groups.

**Figure 20. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22**



## Trends by member characteristics

We close this report by showing how trends in applications to our domestic members have changed over time through this point in the season. Figure 21 charts the number of applications sent at this point in the season to public and private members, while Figure 22 charts the number of applications sent at this point in the season to members of varying selectivity bands (as measured by their undergraduate admit rates reported in the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System). Applications to public and private institutions grew by 8% and 7%, respectively, compared with this time in the 2024–25 application cycle. Growth rates in applications were lowest for institutions with admit rates below 25% (4% growth compared to 2024–25), while all other selectivity bands saw 8% growth. (Note that members without publicly available selectivity data are omitted from Figure 22.)

To better examine trends in applicants' application portfolios over time by race/ethnicity, especially as we track potential impacts of the [United States Supreme Court decision on race-conscious admissions](#) on student application behavior and college aspirations, we have also included in Appendix Figures A14 to A22 versions of Figure 22 broken out by applicant race/ethnicity groups (e.g., the number of applications Black or African American students submitted to members of varying selectivity bands).<sup>10</sup> In general, we do not observe any appreciable changes from ongoing historical trends at this point in the season with three noteworthy exceptions. First, applications from Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students declined for institutions with admit rates below 50% (Figure A18). Second, the number of applications from students who do not report a race or ethnicity decreased to Most Selective (8% decrease) and Highly Selective (2% decrease) institutions after two years of growth (see Figure A20). Finally, Figure A22 illustrates that the number of international applications declined across most selectivity bands, with especially large drops for institutions with admit rates at or above 75% (-15%) and those with admit rates between 50 and 74% (-17%). By contrast, the number of international applications to Most Selective members saw a 1% increase compared to this point during 2024-25.

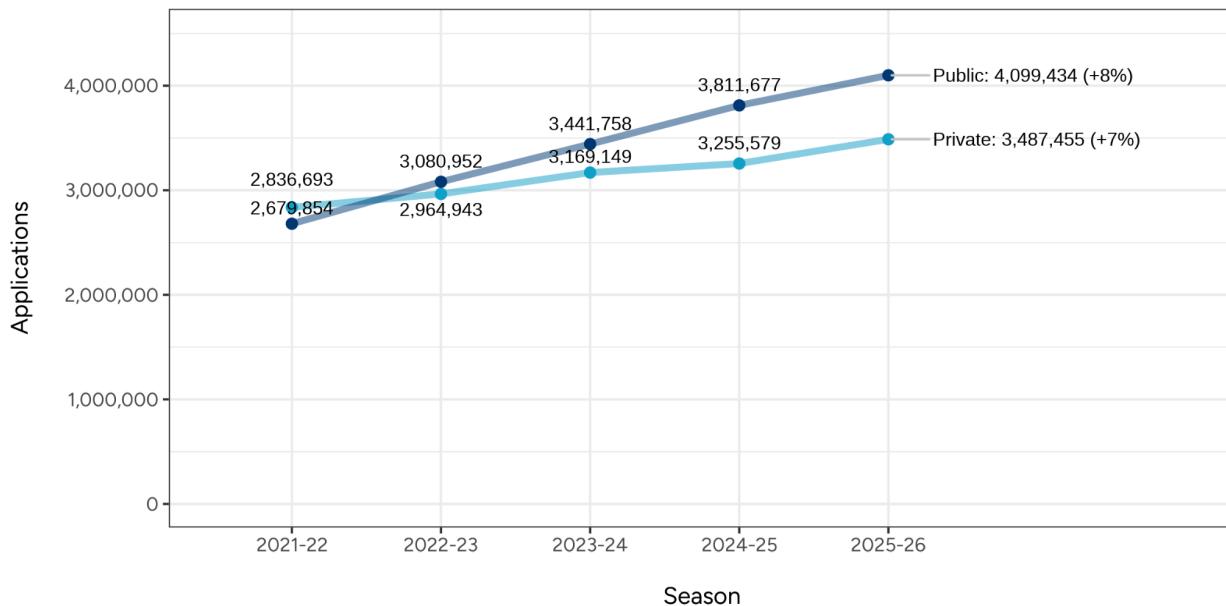
To support members' efforts to benchmark what they observe individually against broader trends, we also provide tables of application trends by member characteristics in the Appendix (Tables B2–B5).<sup>11</sup> Appendix Table B6 also illustrates the proportions of returning members who had increases or decreases in application volume since last year, both overall and by selected member characteristics. Overall, 69% of members saw an increase or stable application volume versus this time last season, while 31% of members saw a decrease in application volume.

---

<sup>10</sup> We also examined these trends in more detail in a dedicated [research brief](#) after the close of the 2023–24 season.

<sup>11</sup> In addition to the data in this report, all Common App members have access to filterable data charts in the Analytics section of the member Control Center. Members who use Common App's custom platform can also create benchmark groups of 10 to 20 members to contextualize their data against selected peer institutions.

**Figure 21. Growth in applications by member institution type since 2021–22**



**Figure 22. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket since 2021–22**

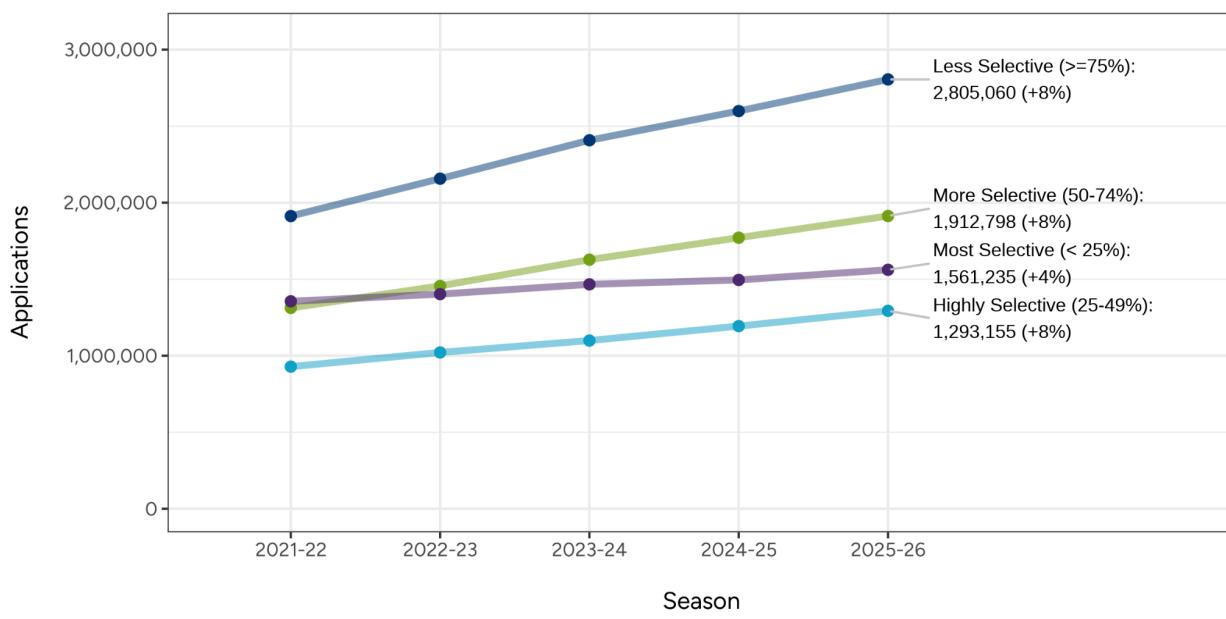
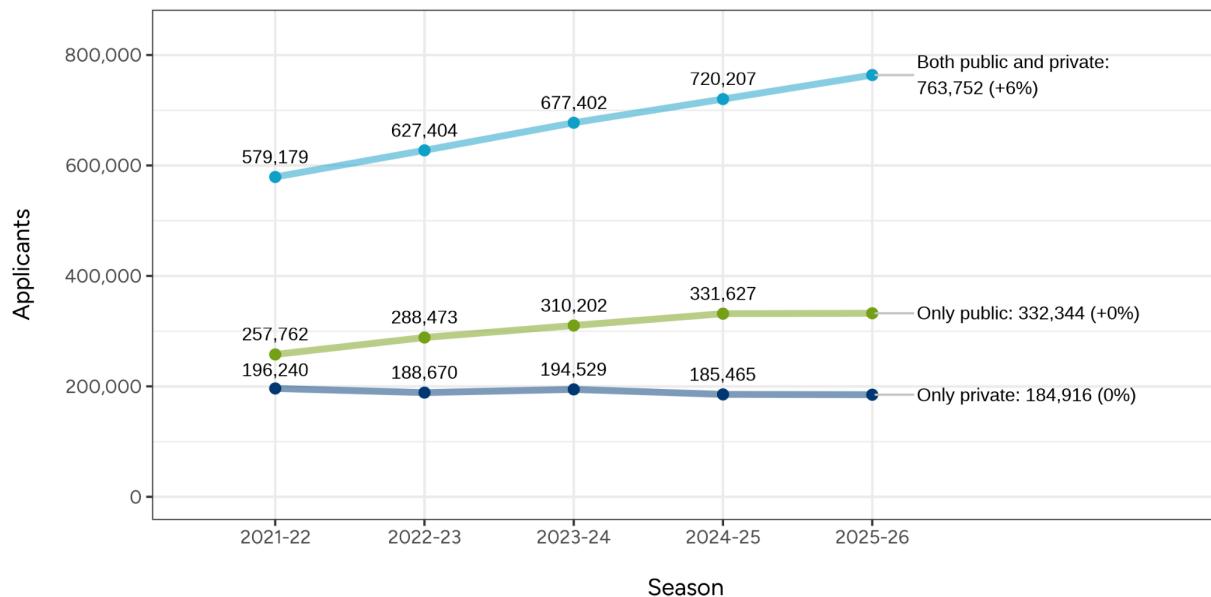


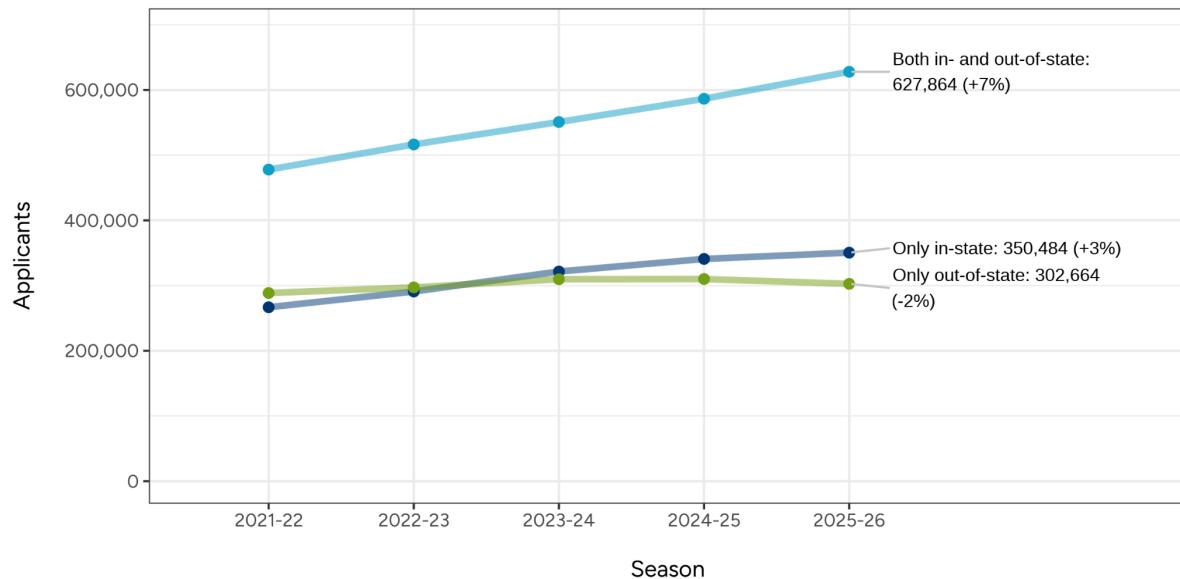
Figure 23 is similar to Figure 21 in that it examines applications to public and private members, but instead looks at the behavior of individual applicants. That is, it charts how many applicants at this point in the season have applied only to public members, only to private members, or to both public and private members. The

majority of applicants (60%) applied to both public and private institutions, up from 58% at this point in the 2024-25 season. Figure 24 similarly looks at the applicant level, but now examines applicants who apply only to members in-state, only to members out-of-state, or both. As with the 2024-25 end of season report, we see that the number of applicants applying only to out-of-state institutions declined compared to this point in 2024-25, with a greater number of applicants applying to in-state institutions only or both in- and out-of-state institutions.

**Figure 23. Growth in applicants by public and private application behavior since 2021-22**



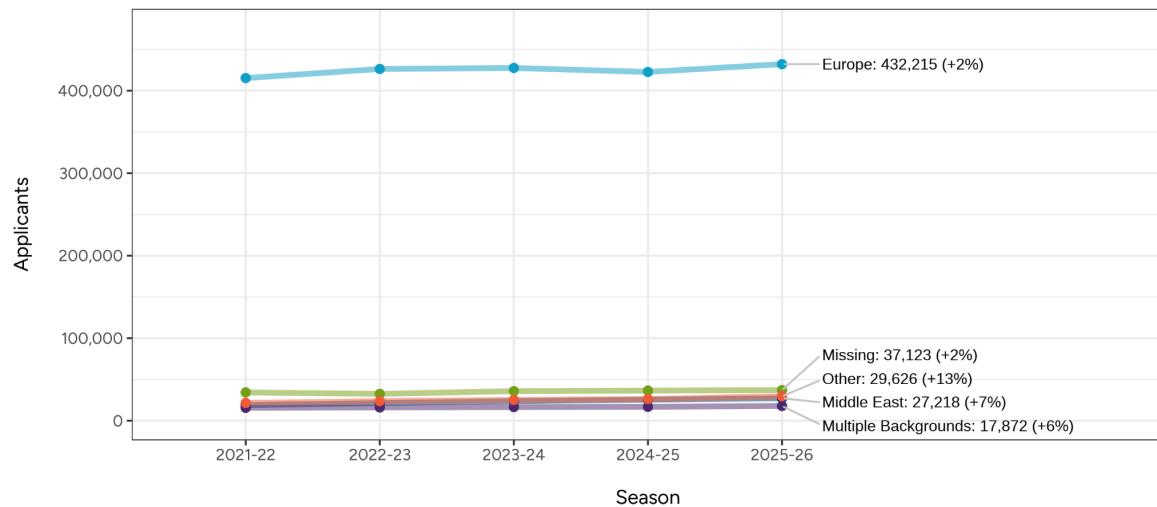
**Figure 24. Growth in applicants by in- and out-of-state application behavior since 2021–22**



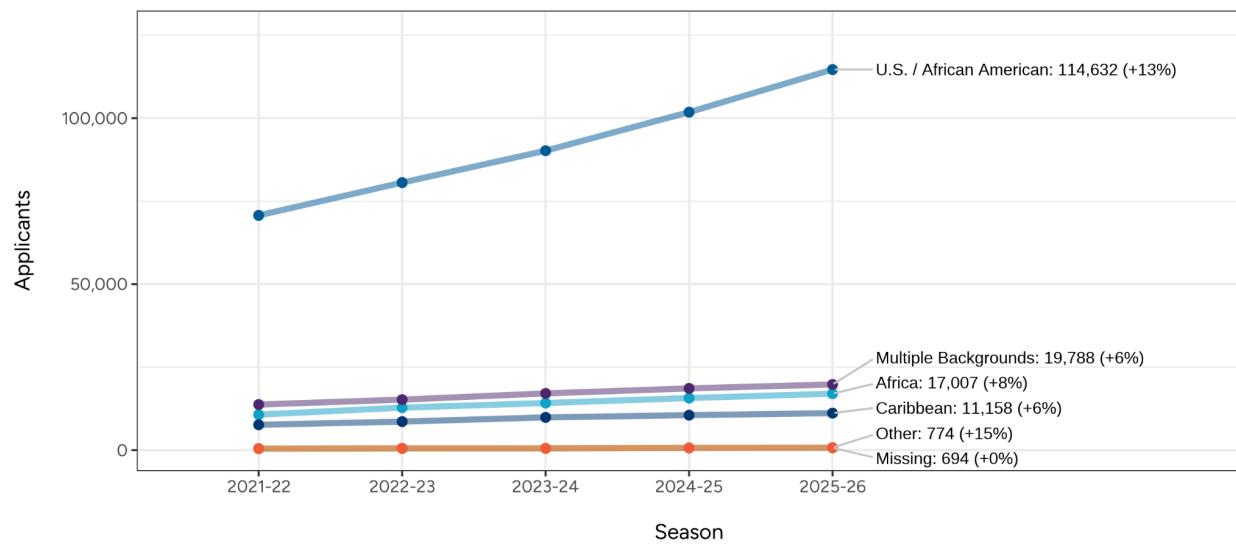
Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through January 1  
January 15, 2026

## Appendix

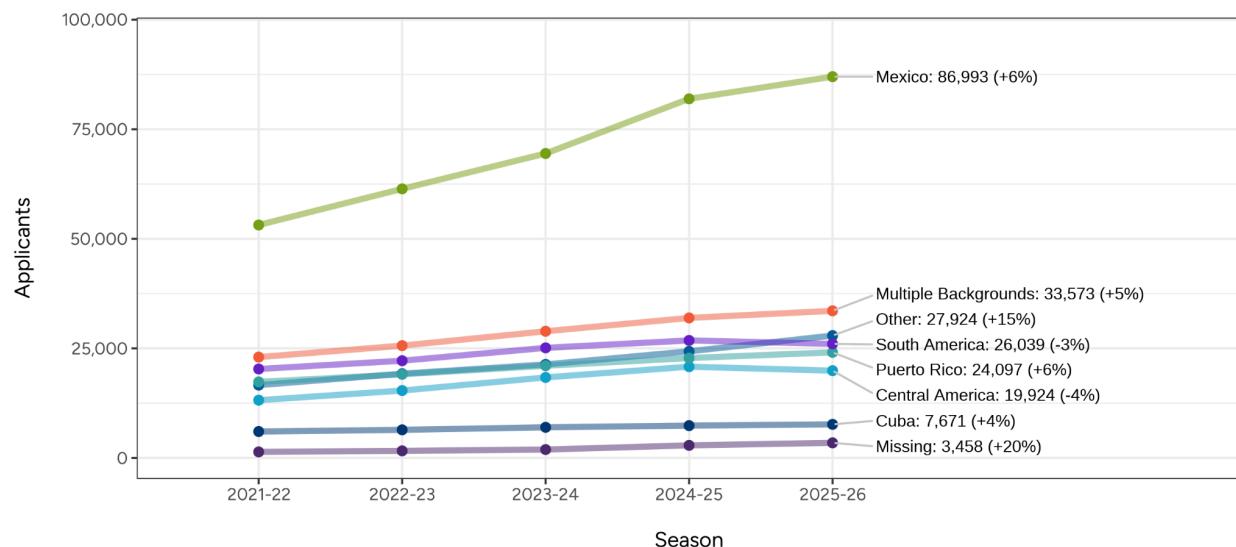
**Figure A1. Growth in first-year domestic applicants by detailed White backgrounds since 2021–22**



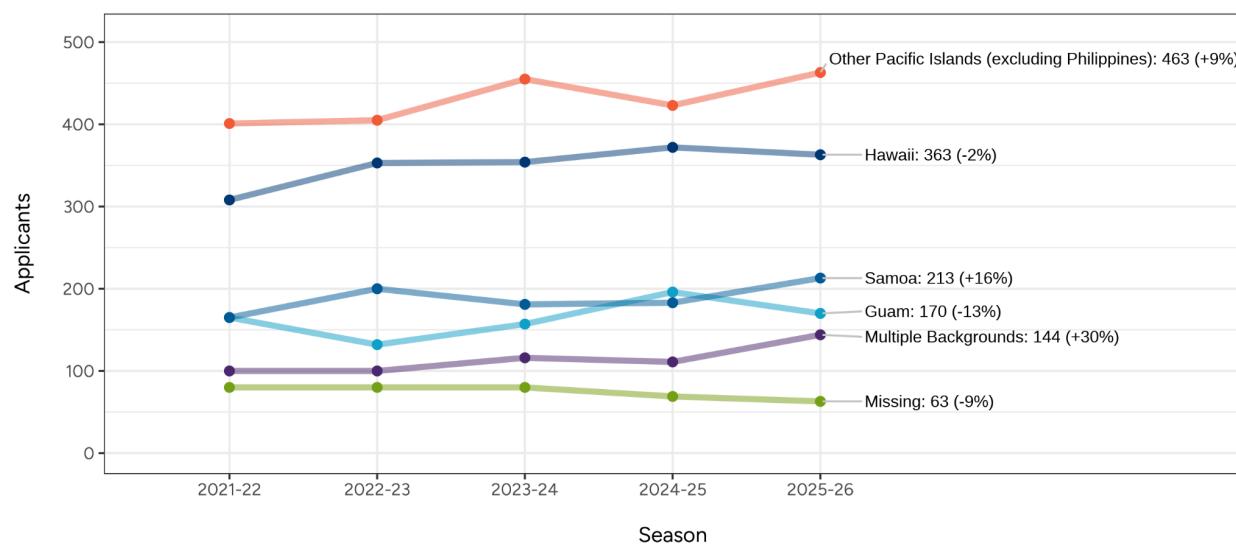
**Figure A2. Growth in first-year domestic applicants by detailed Black or African American backgrounds since 2021–22**



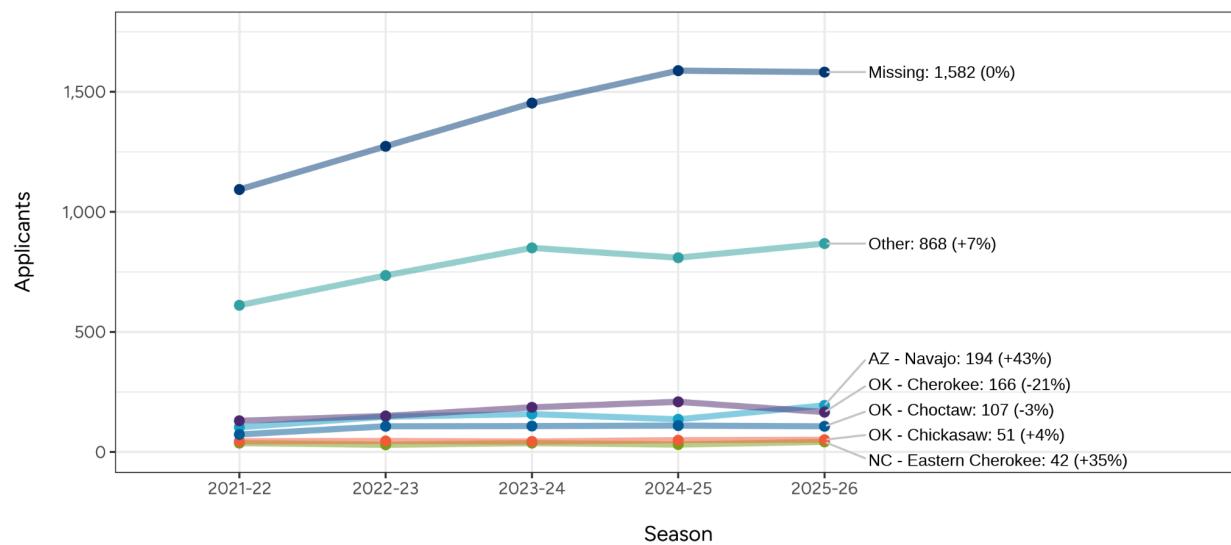
**Figure A3. Growth in first-year domestic applicants by detailed Latinx backgrounds since 2021–22**



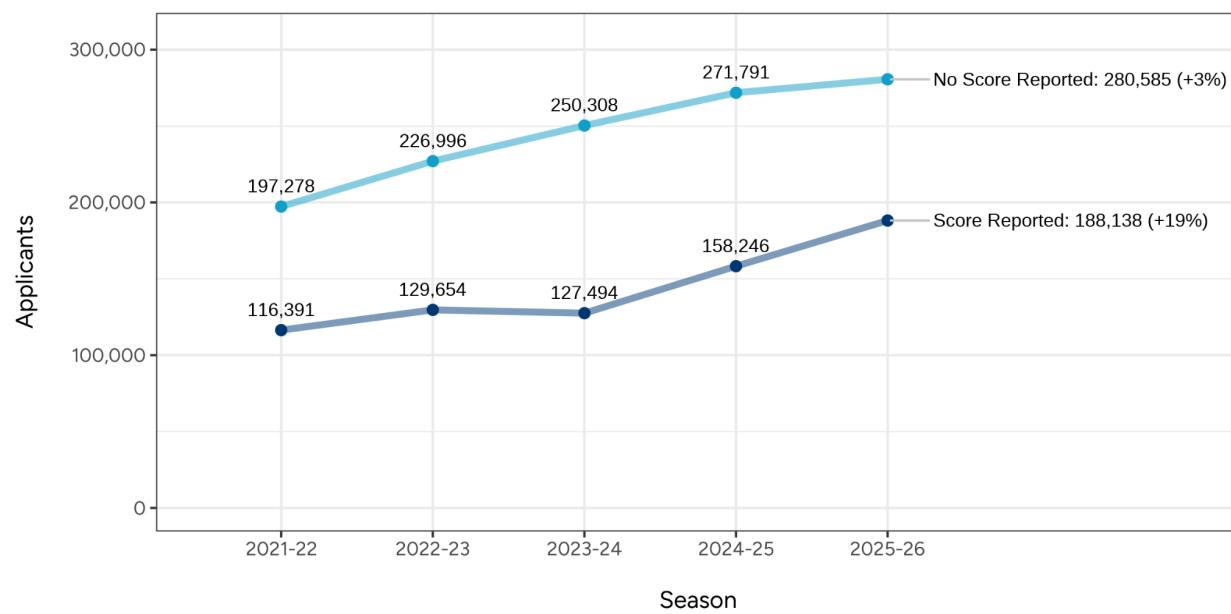
**Figure A4. Growth in first-year domestic applicants by detailed Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander backgrounds since 2021–22**



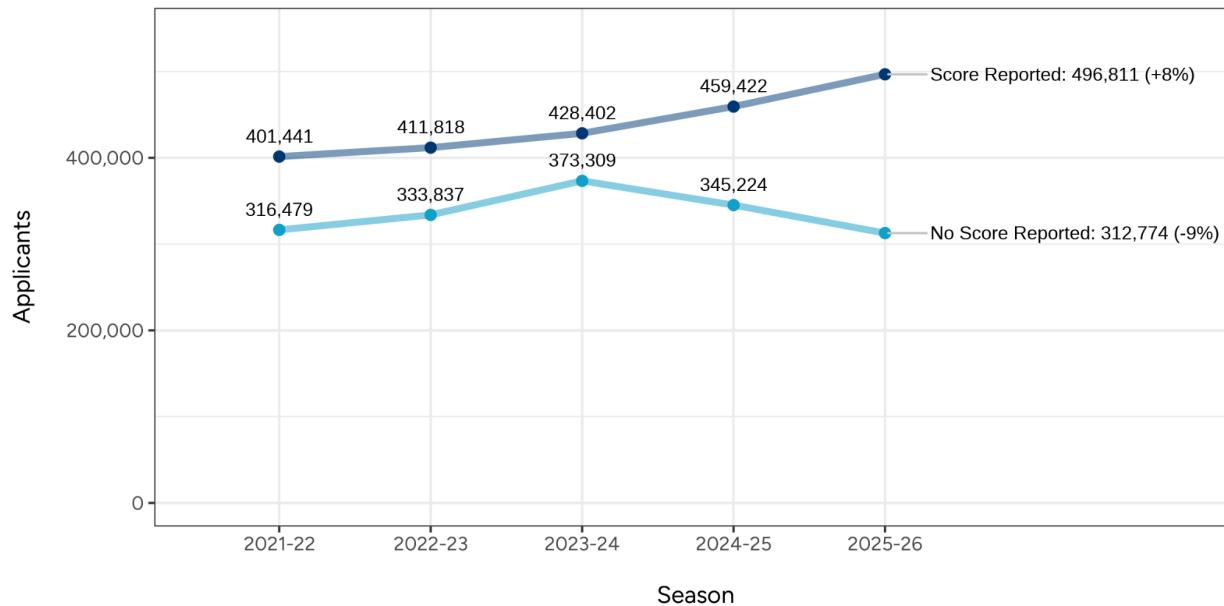
**Figure A5. Growth in first-year domestic applicants by detailed American Indian or Alaska Native backgrounds since 2021–22**



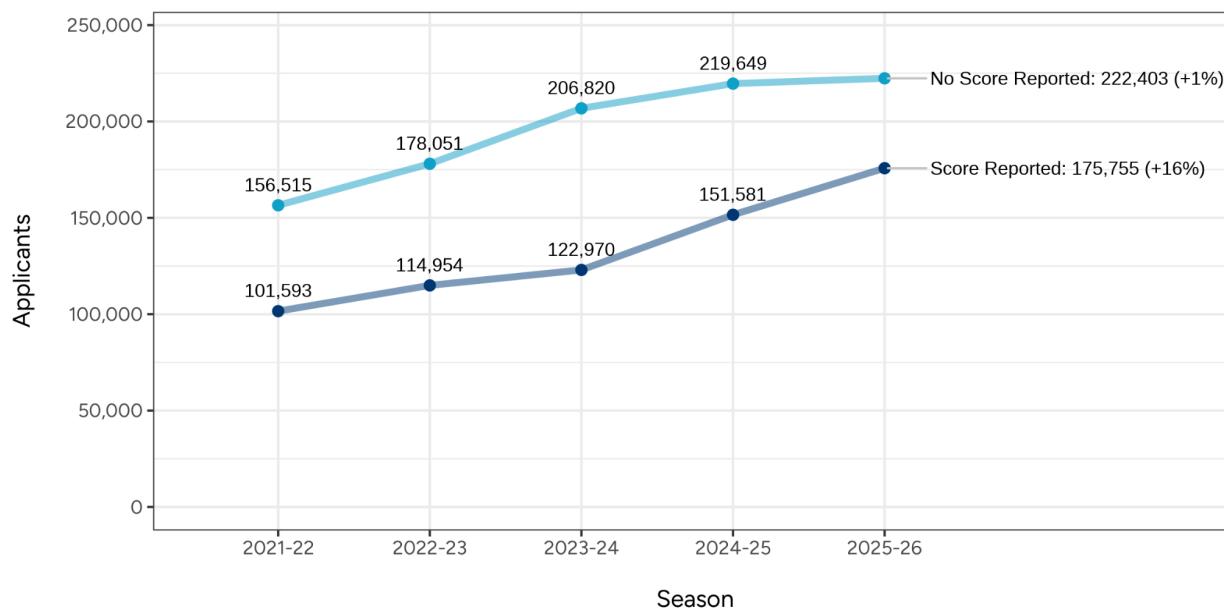
**Figure A6. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, first-generation applicants only**



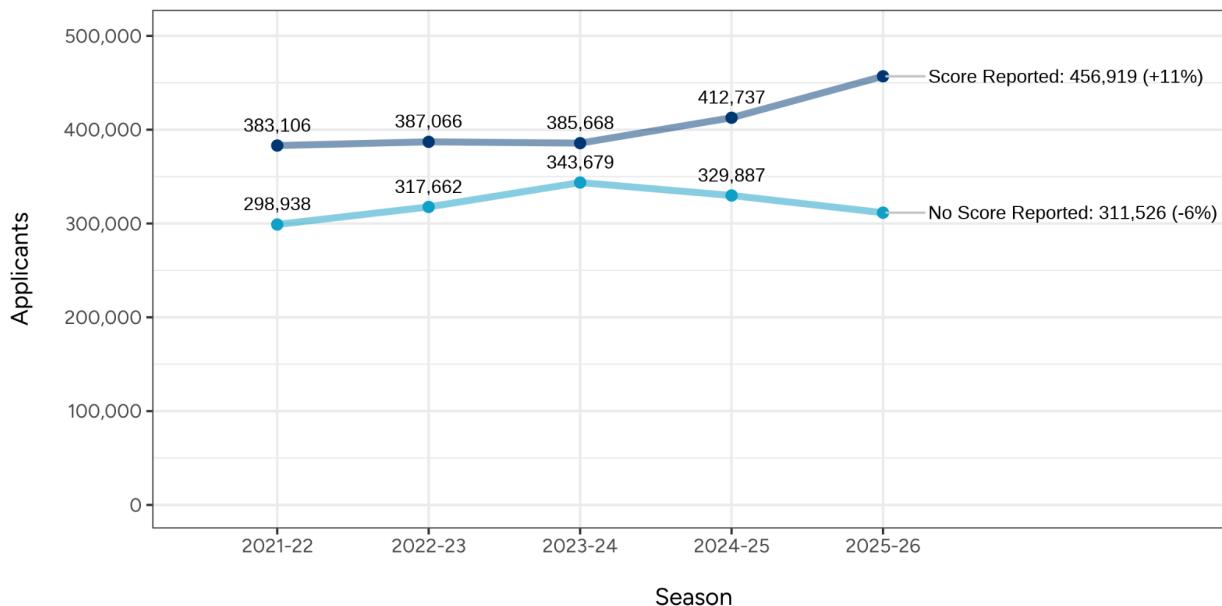
**Figure A7. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, continuing-generation applicants only**



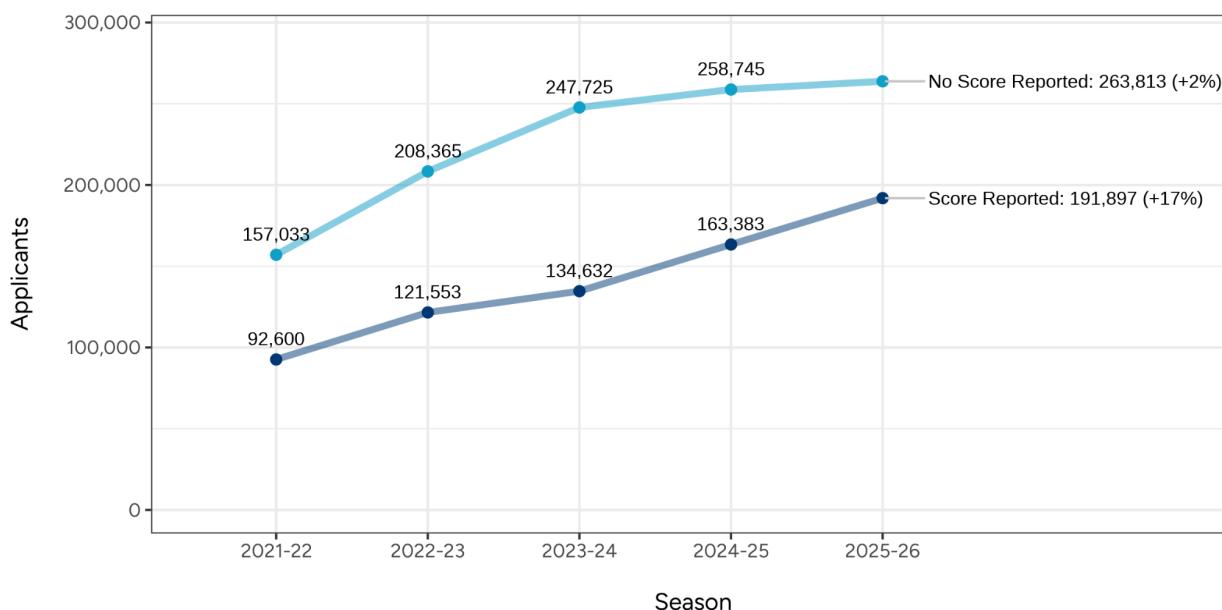
**Figure A8. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, URM applicants only**



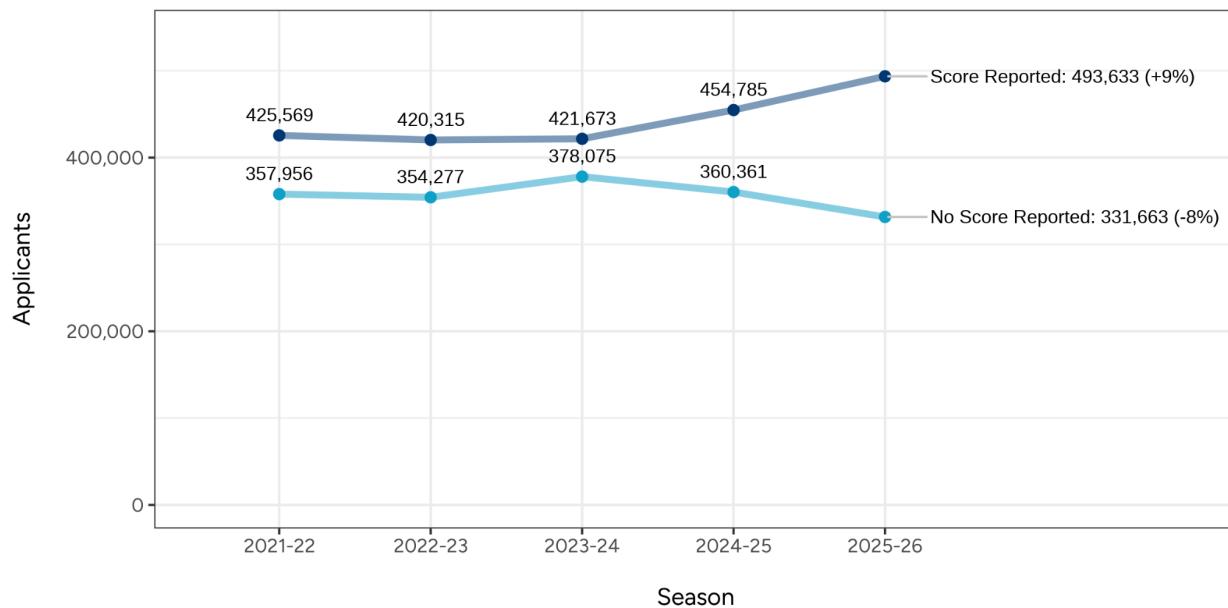
**Figure A9. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, non-URM applicants only**



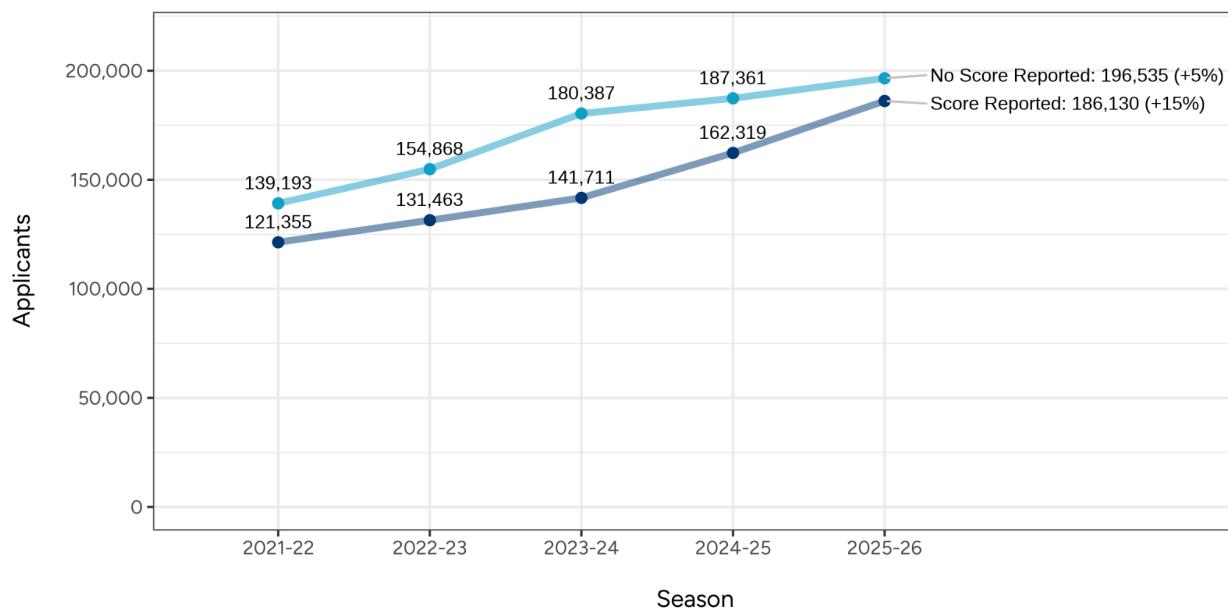
**Figure A10. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, fee-waiver-eligible applicants only**



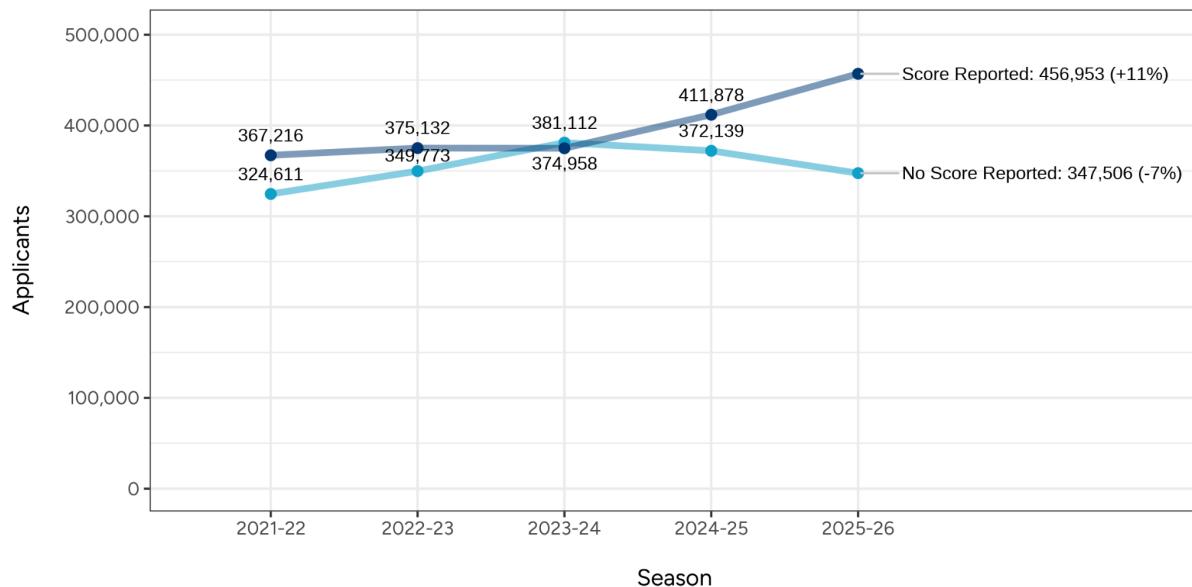
**Figure A11. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, fee-waiver-ineligible applicants only**



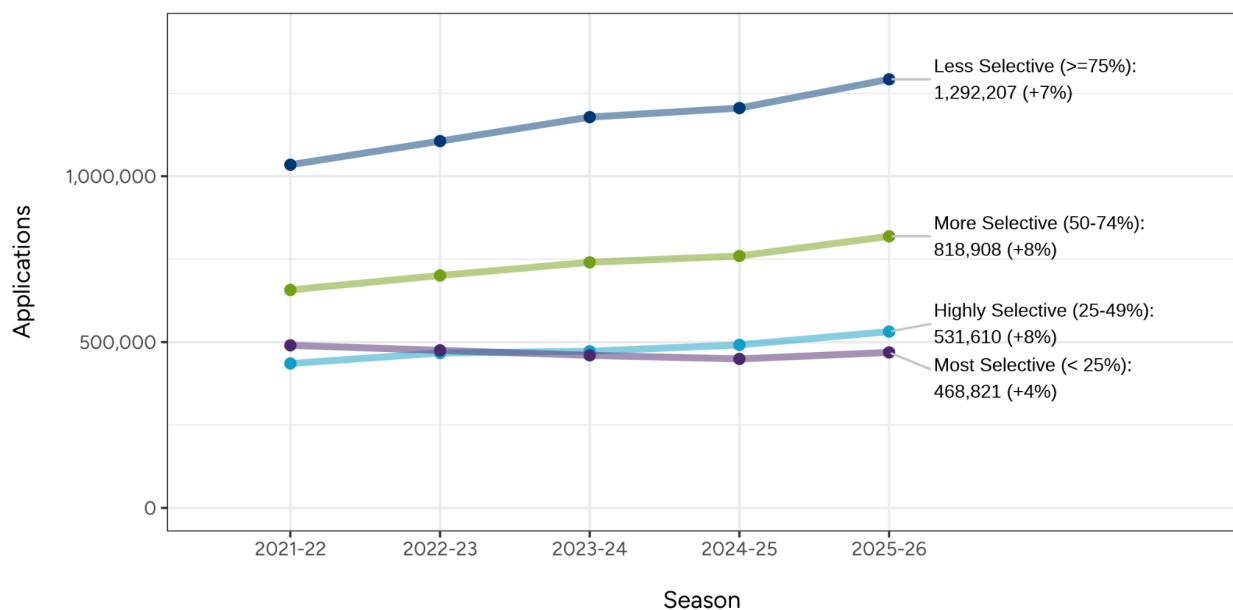
**Figure A12. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, applicants from ZIP codes below national median income only**



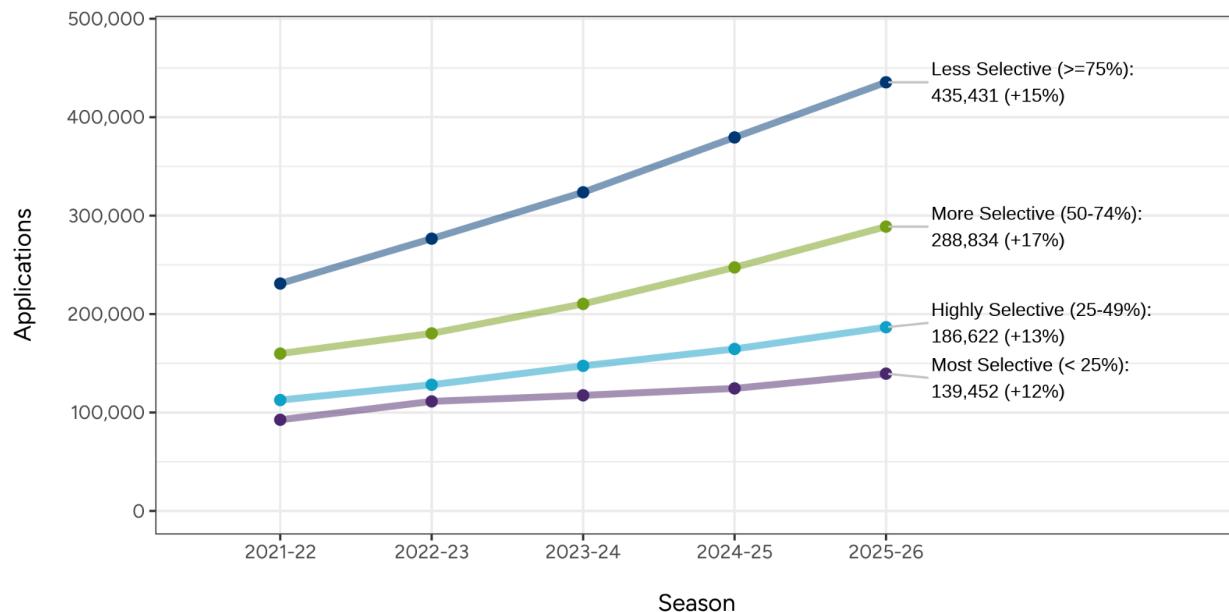
**Figure A13. Growth in first-year applicants by test score reporting behavior since 2021–22, applicants from ZIP codes above national median income only**



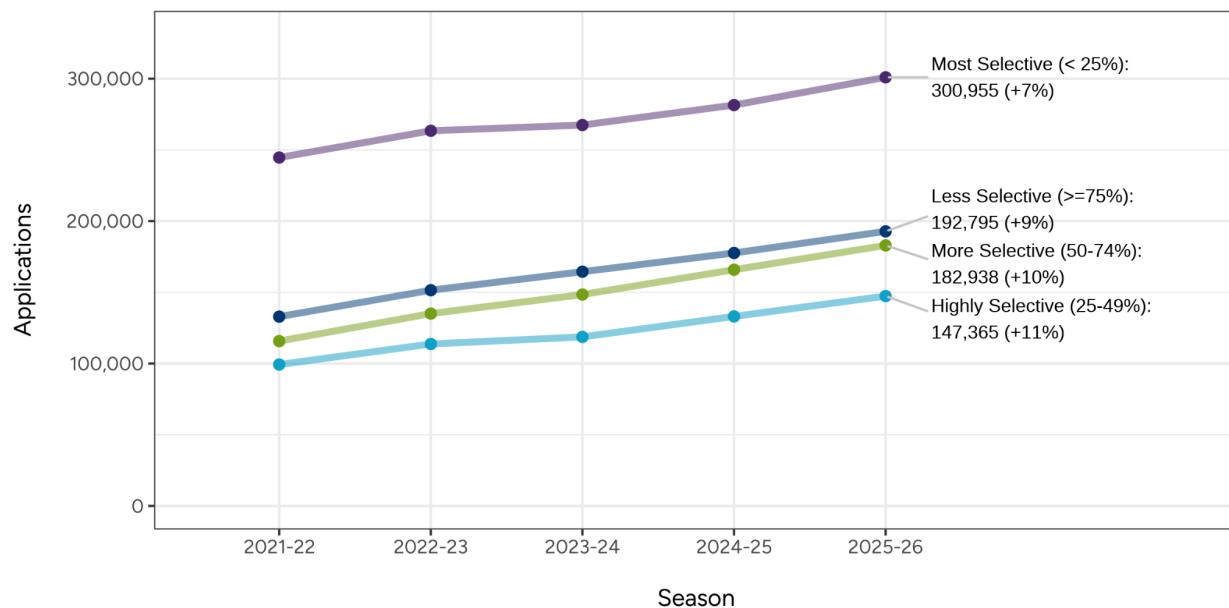
**Figure A14. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among White applicants since 2021–22**



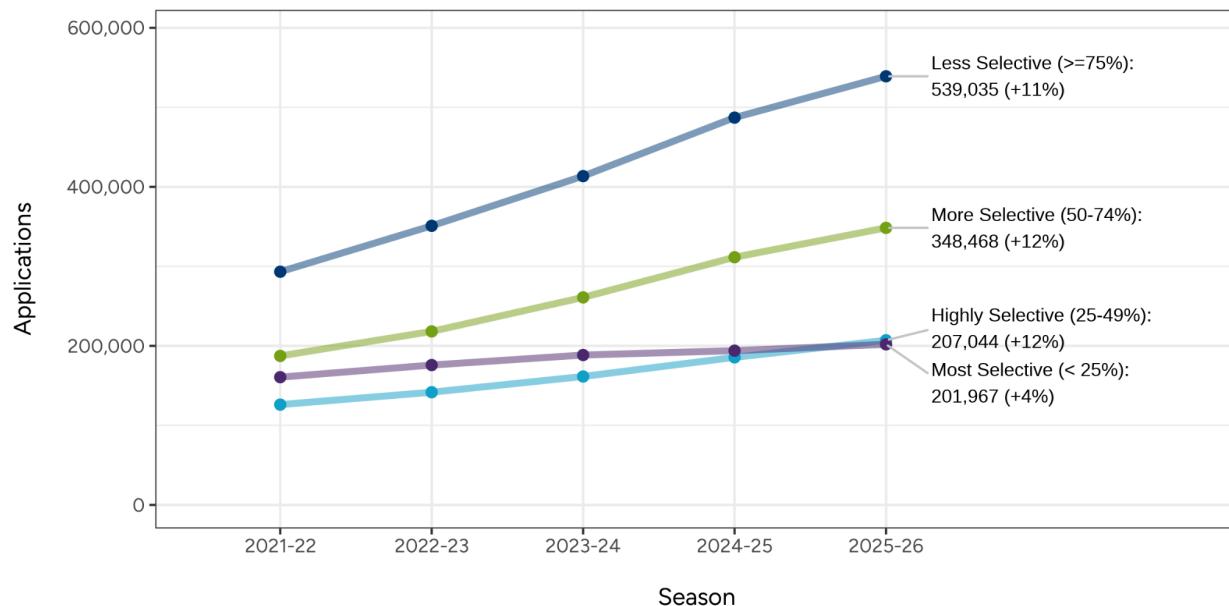
**Figure A15. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Black or African American applicants since 2021–22**



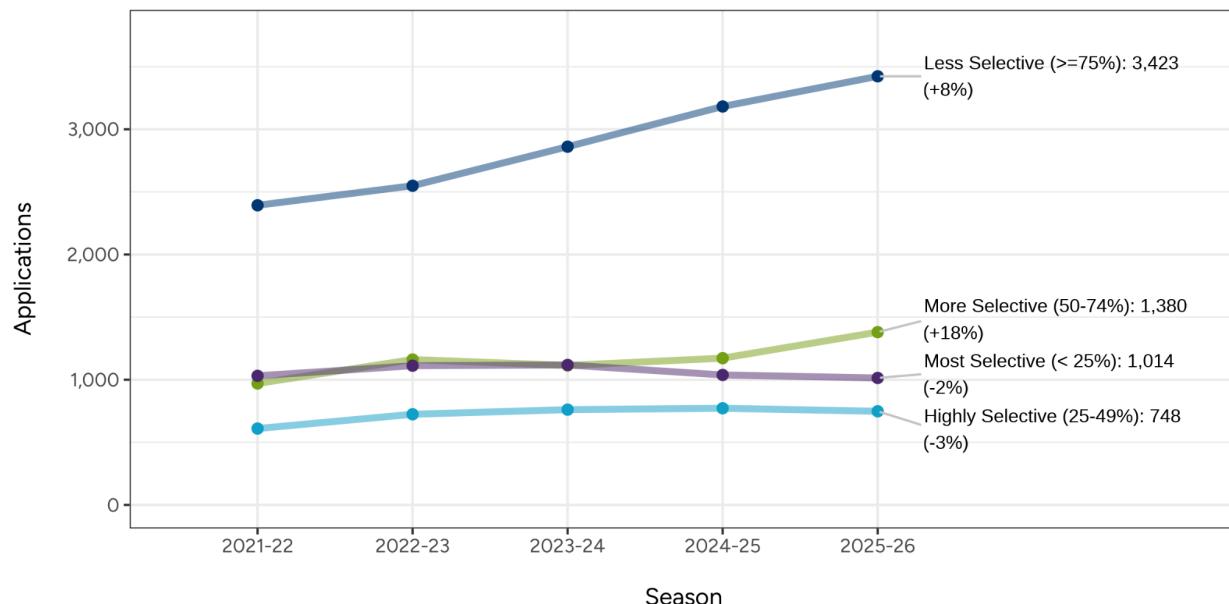
**Figure A16. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Asian applicants since 2021–22**



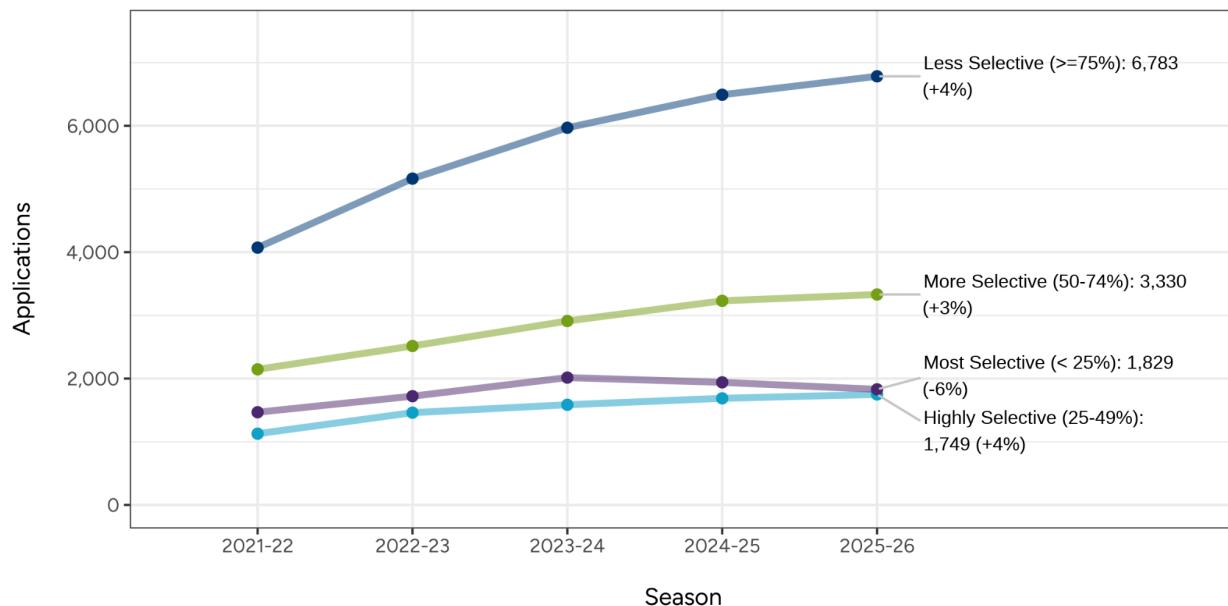
**Figure A17. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Latinx applicants since 2021–22**



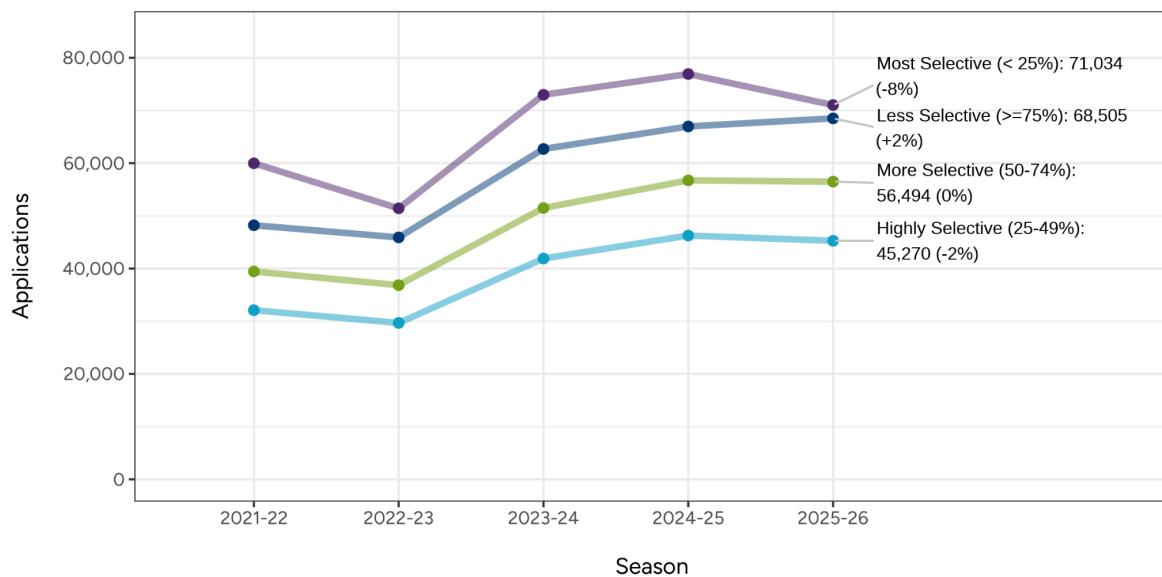
**Figure A18. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander applicants since 2021–22**



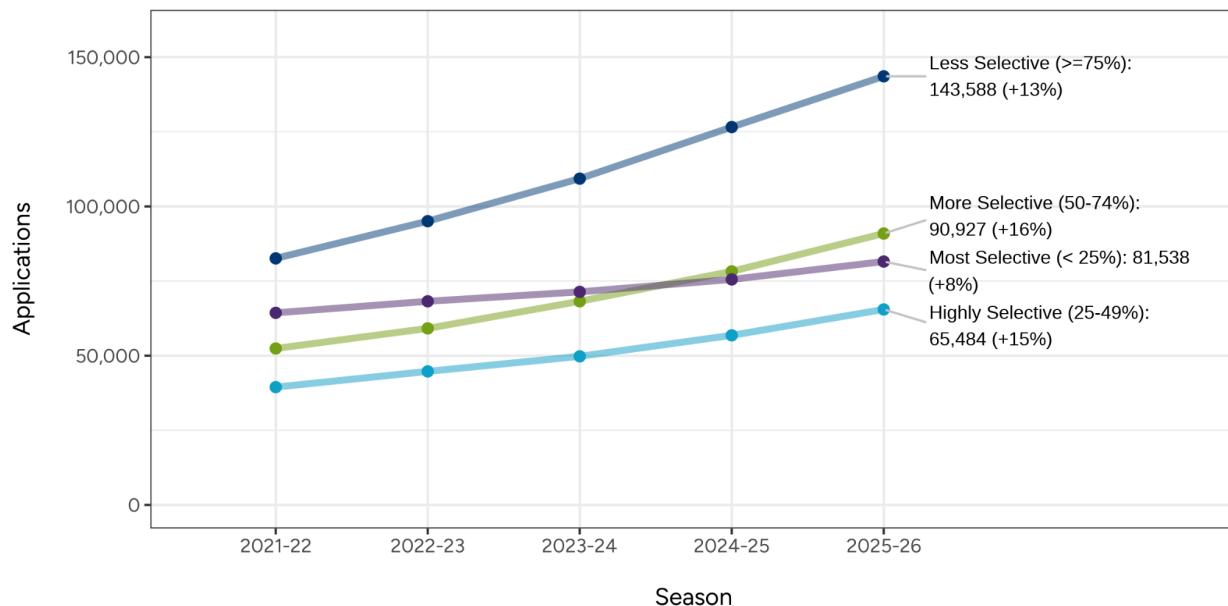
**Figure A19. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among American Indian or Alaska Native applicants since 2021–22**



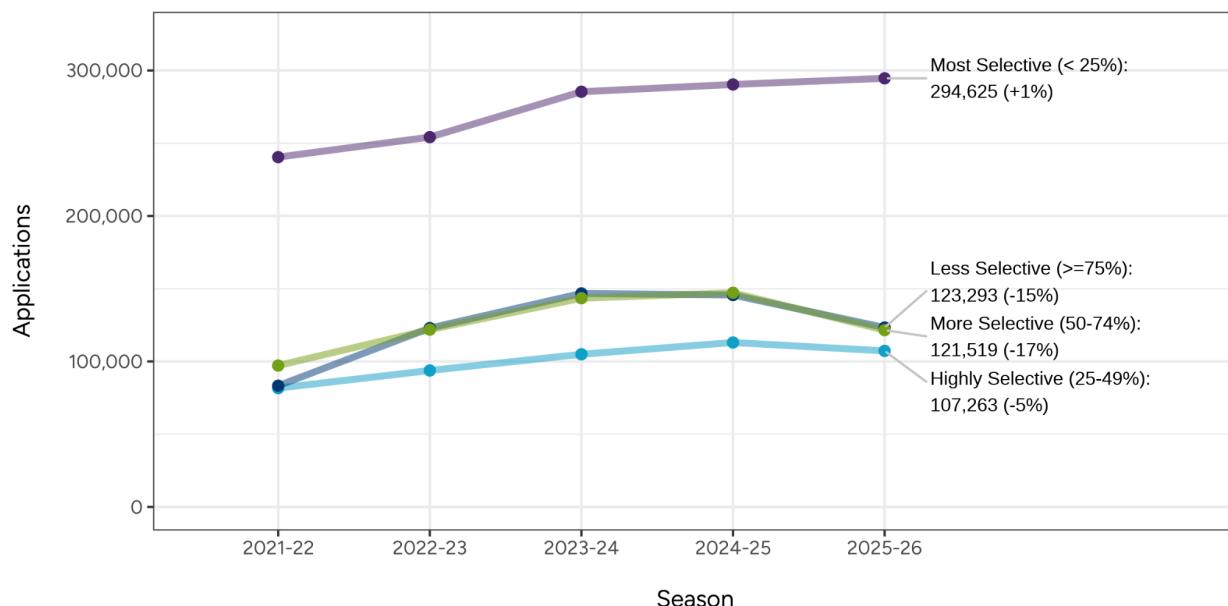
**Figure A20. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Unknown race/ethnicity applicants since 2021–22**



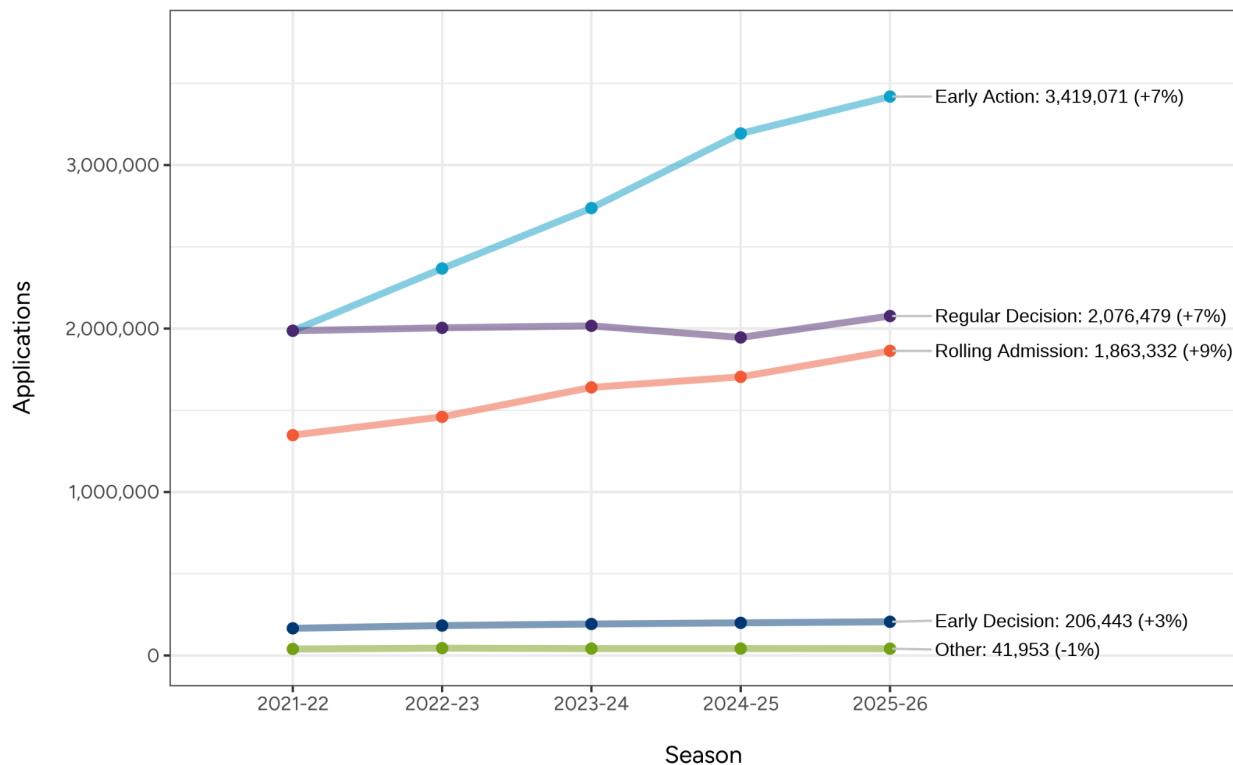
**Figure A21. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among Two or More race/ethnicity applicants since 2021–22**



**Figure A22. Growth in applications by member selectivity bracket among International applicants since 2021–22**

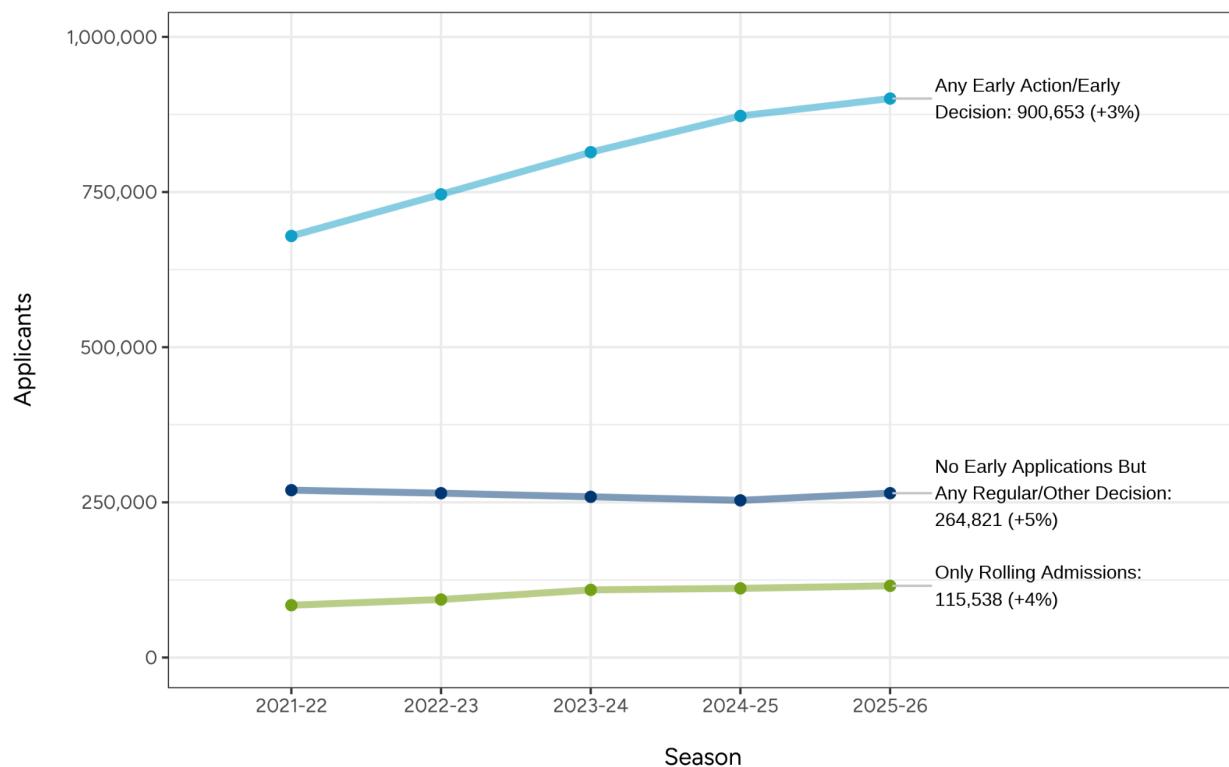


**Figure A23. Growth in applications by deadline decision type since 2021–22**



Deadline update, 2025–2026: First-year application trends through January 1  
 January 15, 2026

**Figure A24. Growth in first-year applicants' deadline participation behavior since 2021–22**



**Table B1. Applicant counts by state since 2021–22**

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26		2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Alabama	4,309	4,802	4,954	5,272	6,400	Missouri	8,531	8,890	9,597	10,049	11,066
Alaska	716	728	784	817	906	Montana	798	823	1,001	1,068	1,281
American Samoa	11	15	14	19	14	Nebraska	1,834	1,777	3,347	2,545	2,569
Arizona	6,183	7,368	7,005	7,027	8,977	Nevada	3,005	3,346	3,595	3,831	4,276
Arkansas	1,999	1,976	2,014	2,212	2,595	New Hampshire	6,369	6,562	6,612	6,606	6,656
Armed Forces Americas	14	19	15	20	13	New Jersey	57,494	58,784	62,544	63,689	65,127
Armed Forces Europe	366	368	376	393	397	New Mexico	1,698	1,719	1,774	1,884	2,228
Armed Forces Pacific	204	191	259	226	232	New York	92,031	94,129	98,278	101,740	104,152
California	74,779	75,861	76,504	78,224	80,038	North Carolina	36,590	39,677	42,140	45,991	45,185
Colorado	24,565	25,320	26,652	27,544	28,974	North Dakota	383	400	428	482	526
Connecticut	23,110	23,774	24,052	24,373	24,347	Northern Mariana Islands	16	29	16	30	29
Delaware	4,026	4,341	4,734	4,551	4,829	Ohio	44,226	45,691	47,207	48,652	50,174
District of Columbia	2,449	2,734	2,983	3,647	3,810	Oklahoma	2,848	3,068	3,926	4,026	4,570
Florida	59,868	63,758	70,247	72,072	76,703	Oregon	8,318	8,924	9,852	10,759	11,530
Georgia	33,349	39,383	43,714	46,448	48,475	Pennsylvania	48,834	50,412	52,207	54,019	56,055
Guam	149	171	210	211	227	Puerto Rico	1,193	1,264	1,267	1,396	1,377
Hawaii	2,987	3,204	3,213	3,301	3,425	Rhode Island	5,522	5,714	5,869	5,940	5,966
Idaho	1,553	1,848	1,825	1,807	1,980	South Carolina	12,983	13,821	15,033	15,998	18,508
Illinois	57,844	61,979	63,490	66,384	68,752	South Dakota	663	658	785	802	868
Indiana	21,649	22,968	24,443	26,363	27,341	Tennessee	10,580	11,218	12,439	12,991	14,317
Iowa	2,311	2,346	2,753	2,900	3,345	Texas	48,974	60,520	72,484	98,852	108,129
Kansas	3,040	2,755	3,267	3,398	3,757	Utah	7,876	8,570	9,680	3,930	4,126
Kentucky	6,540	7,107	7,505	7,896	8,746	Vermont	2,614	2,618	2,644	2,775	2,845
Louisiana	10,451	10,719	11,157	12,027	13,447	Virgin Islands	124	107	154	134	178
Maine	5,370	4,805	4,927	4,910	5,267	Virginia	38,929	41,983	42,949	44,706	46,699
Maryland	31,252	32,814	34,469	36,121	37,025	Washington	13,794	17,651	19,120	19,697	20,957
Massachusetts	42,233	42,243	42,648	43,332	44,193	West Virginia	1,184	1,245	1,262	1,593	1,823
Michigan	29,588	31,738	34,638	34,989	36,244	Wisconsin	12,283	12,996	14,494	13,819	14,699
Minnesota	16,367	16,986	18,212	18,539	21,487	Wyoming	449	503	538	514	616
Mississippi	1,456	1,574	1,665	1,810	2,377						

Note:

Cells with fewer than ten students are omitted.

**Table B2. Application trends by member region and institutional control**

	Private					Public				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Mid-Atlantic	932,266	964,994	1,030,116	1,082,695	1,142,747	518,801	605,195	671,378	750,480	821,704
Midwestern	478,223	516,823	550,726	559,431	594,145	699,080	785,502	886,421	966,184	1,035,148
New England	606,287	612,709	641,202	624,017	681,506	210,826	226,124	242,607	255,222	261,797
Southern	477,519	500,122	560,347	575,064	615,916	948,236	1,099,246	1,222,979	1,359,771	1,470,058
Southwestern	77,474	84,311	97,389	119,221	135,687	69,854	88,892	110,945	167,600	182,812
Western	264,924	285,984	289,369	295,151	317,454	233,057	275,993	307,428	312,420	327,915

Note:

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Members without available IPEDS data are omitted.

**Table B3. Application trends by member state and institutional control**

	Private					Public				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
California	179,229	196,832	200,541	207,385	220,094	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Colorado	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	113,901	125,577	144,316	150,795	156,305
Connecticut	100,352	108,504	122,912	120,368	129,948	50,376	57,145	67,231	73,504	71,793
District of Columbia	42,517	53,209	57,852	68,902	65,763	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Florida	141,149	144,929	165,459	162,878	169,893	239,718	268,418	301,135	331,498	369,630
Georgia	70,240	75,992	81,746	89,287	106,456	104,707	123,369	134,997	154,990	158,919
Illinois	161,161	178,527	183,420	194,546	199,314	106,738	129,042	143,816	156,984	181,157
Indiana	65,975	68,375	73,536	71,414	77,290	108,199	116,132	135,494	153,193	166,570
Iowa	15,777	16,531	17,406	16,307	20,971	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kentucky	7,122	7,864	9,068	9,227	8,914	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Louisiana	37,627	33,953	40,945	41,722	46,335	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maine	30,487	31,581	31,055	28,858	33,231	16,590	16,231	16,171	16,031	17,542
Maryland	43,994	46,678	56,364	58,881	61,732	82,472	102,462	110,942	123,619	133,138
Massachusetts	380,574	371,224	381,255	377,656	406,902	74,691	81,328	84,564	90,456	94,992
Michigan	25,132	28,371	34,962	36,764	39,375	150,136	165,725	192,367	205,402	209,691
Minnesota	28,877	31,439	38,254	36,354	44,221	33,518	35,979	38,472	41,569	53,893
Missouri	31,687	34,204	36,293	40,293	38,683	21,625	25,701	29,503	34,408	37,422
New Hampshire	24,818	25,094	30,669	28,051	38,826	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Jersey	87,904	94,953	102,156	105,493	115,975	64,974	73,568	86,646	96,683	110,542
New York	514,780	509,381	535,990	556,950	599,781	154,534	202,430	226,859	255,946	269,563
North Carolina	89,653	97,764	111,785	118,724	107,813	163,037	186,334	215,092	236,756	218,358
Ohio	112,476	118,679	121,073	117,517	124,854	173,263	192,739	208,437	223,321	225,333
Oregon	21,098	22,525	21,494	22,016	21,641	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pennsylvania	243,071	260,773	277,754	292,469	299,496	187,443	194,886	211,931	232,635	264,116
Rhode Island	53,127	59,035	59,273	55,985	59,506	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
South Carolina	16,803	18,828	22,872	21,501	23,822	106,273	123,976	142,669	158,324	178,608
Tennessee	61,659	63,199	62,776	63,133	73,683	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Texas	72,266	78,034	90,585	112,500	127,753	48,929	64,121	82,333	133,252	143,235
Vermont	16,929	17,271	16,038	13,099	13,093	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Virginia	46,276	49,614	56,403	58,425	63,445	173,806	198,614	207,304	226,902	250,324
Washington	27,360	28,493	28,258	28,122	29,788	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wisconsin	28,368	31,289	35,080	35,423	37,366	51,326	59,754	64,105	68,129	70,325

*Note:*

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Members without available IPEDS data are omitted.

**Table B4. Application trends by member region and selectivity group**

	Less Selective (>=75%)					More Selective (50-74%)				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Mid-Atlantic	457,642	511,146	573,336	633,392	690,291	387,709	414,249	461,929	493,681	554,967
Midwestern	581,133	645,966	725,012	769,213	843,543	293,016	325,845	364,211	383,269	385,411
New England	214,816	230,675	251,098	257,556	281,232	152,835	167,421	179,742	187,009	193,526
Southern	335,708	396,428	446,812	488,558	505,694	340,054	388,209	437,598	482,093	525,309
Southwestern	30,912	35,008	44,557	71,449	75,688	81,455	100,996	121,201	166,622	183,891
Western	292,091	337,301	366,716	378,323	408,612	57,232	59,265	62,785	58,274	69,694

*Note:*

Selectivity calculated as undergraduates admitted as a percent of applications

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Members without available IPEDS data are omitted.

	Highly Selective (25-49%)					Most Selective (<=25%)				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Mid-Atlantic	300,570	326,943	346,057	380,831	397,880	301,579	313,454	315,301	320,501	315,937
Midwestern	138,793	152,278	163,395	179,390	195,796	161,893	175,303	181,277	190,544	197,779
New England	58,535	62,589	65,814	66,386	72,902	390,149	377,375	386,353	367,495	394,682
Southern	352,584	390,312	429,300	466,308	516,966	396,031	422,664	467,805	497,015	536,465
Southwestern	19,783	22,804	27,346	31,694	40,927	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Western	58,121	66,257	66,988	68,613	68,684	90,537	99,154	100,308	102,361	98,379

*Note:*

Selectivity calculated as undergraduates admitted as a percent of applications

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Members without available IPEDS data are omitted.

**Table B5a. Application trends by member state and selectivity group (Less and More Selective)**

	Less Selective (>=75%)					More Selective (50-74%)				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
California	17,952	17,568	18,290	22,787	32,388	26,549	28,338	29,556	27,699	33,910
Colorado	110,630	121,782	139,015	146,269	154,025	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Connecticut	46,381	51,000	59,830	61,935	67,162	46,236	52,880	63,626	67,615	67,909
Florida	31,114	33,783	40,825	43,710	49,700	78,028	86,795	101,705	108,798	112,734
Georgia	14,306	19,828	22,887	25,509	30,731	44,887	58,357	62,413	74,814	77,867
Illinois	100,145	113,912	119,156	128,783	137,659	69,921	80,198	88,702	91,676	100,602
Indiana	78,378	79,904	95,770	107,268	125,832	71,858	78,804	86,129	94,655	91,752
Iowa	26,583	29,715	33,088	37,564	45,723	7,882	7,876	9,158	8,810	7,942
Kansas	12,624	14,575	19,935	20,954	22,349	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kentucky	26,964	32,968	37,961	40,286	46,120	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maine	22,405	22,471	22,763	22,240	26,818	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maryland	44,555	62,198	71,034	79,167	88,167	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Massachusetts	77,666	83,963	90,693	96,147	104,629	67,825	75,639	77,785	82,714	86,559
Michigan	97,323	108,642	128,446	133,619	138,361	14,415	16,758	22,471	22,872	23,960
Minnesota	46,092	50,182	54,053	57,391	73,634	9,040	10,079	14,737	13,143	15,244
Missouri	28,167	32,685	36,119	40,609	42,098	8,599	11,244	13,082	13,909	14,492
New Hampshire	33,219	35,224	38,235	37,635	40,006	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Jersey	85,756	93,331	108,927	118,756	133,393	27,898	31,978	39,108	41,126	44,013
New York	149,096	166,128	190,028	219,280	231,398	209,707	225,311	246,960	255,638	290,634
North Carolina	88,798	103,057	121,133	126,604	101,004	31,262	34,540	37,658	41,390	38,762
Ohio	142,462	160,067	172,327	174,495	186,097	95,588	102,864	109,722	119,774	111,273
Oregon	50,222	60,391	63,942	69,482	73,370	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pennsylvania	173,209	184,411	196,850	209,546	230,115	105,948	108,764	122,128	136,456	154,435
South Carolina	16,383	18,835	26,428	29,341	35,574	65,915	75,114	88,955	94,004	107,214
Tennessee	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	11,573	14,269	14,813	13,540	13,345
Texas	19,704	21,870	28,243	51,158	52,489	66,699	83,241	102,212	145,983	159,701
Virginia	95,916	113,723	122,226	133,588	137,852	39,608	42,381	45,775	51,349	52,402
Washington	25,320	37,527	37,076	37,404	39,687	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Virginia	12,410	14,382	14,904	17,989	20,694	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wisconsin	29,237	34,086	38,490	37,675	38,424	8,936	10,878	12,337	10,688	10,904

Note:

Selectivity calculated as undergraduates admitted as a percent of applications

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Members without available IPEDS data are omitted.

**Table B5b. Application trends by member state and selectivity group (Highly and Most Selective)**

	Highly Selective (25-49%)					Most Selective (<=25%)				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
California	49,521	56,794	57,558	59,817	60,616	85,207	94,132	95,137	97,082	93,180
Colorado	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Connecticut	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Florida	161,820	165,419	181,588	195,027	220,746	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Georgia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Illinois	50,240	59,569	68,875	77,899	86,334	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Indiana	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Iowa	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kansas	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kentucky	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maine	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maryland	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Massachusetts	29,062	28,980	30,308	27,918	33,011	280,583	263,785	266,782	261,104	277,462
Michigan	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minnesota	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Missouri	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Hampshire	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Jersey	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New York	110,064	113,041	122,793	138,023	141,761	198,196	204,524	200,062	197,148	202,554
North Carolina	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ohio	41,401	40,929	39,818	40,413	43,737	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oregon	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pennsylvania	98,498	106,690	113,541	116,160	129,332	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
South Carolina	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tennessee	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Texas	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Virginia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Washington	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Virginia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wisconsin	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

*Note:*

Selectivity calculated as undergraduates admitted as a percent of applications

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Members without available IPEDS data are omitted.

**Table B6. Percentage changes in application volume on Common App relative to prior year, by institution characteristics**

Institutions	Decrease of 5% or more	Decrease less than 5%	No change to 5% increase	More than 5% increase
Overall	18.4	13.0	14.3	54.4
<b>Control</b>				
Private	20.7	14.1	12.8	52.4
Public	11.6	11.2	18.9	58.2
<b>Control and Carnegie Classification</b>				
Private Baccalaureate	24.7	16.4	13.7	45.2
Private Master's	18.5	13.5	13.0	55.0
Public Master's	12.0	14.7	13.3	60.0
Private Doctoral	13.9	12.7	11.4	62.0
Public Doctoral	10.6	9.9	23.2	56.3
<b>Acceptance Rate</b>				
< 25%	19.4	19.4	18.1	43.1
25-50%	17.9	16.7	11.9	53.6
50-75%	20.2	13.0	14.6	52.2
>= 75%	17.0	11.9	14.4	56.6
<b>Test Requirement</b>				
Not Required	18.3	13.1	14.6	54.1
Required	20.5	10.3	7.7	61.5
<b>Enrollment Size</b>				
Under 2500	25.2	13.6	11.9	49.3
2500 - 10000	13.4	13.1	14.4	59.1
Over 10000	11.9	13.0	20.3	54.8
<b>MSI Status</b>				
MSI	12.5	10.3	14.7	62.5
Not an MSI	19.2	13.8	14.5	52.5
<b>Region</b>				
International	20.5	2.6	10.3	66.7
Mid-Atlantic	18.8	14.7	15.2	51.3
Midwestern	16.0	15.2	16.8	52.0
New England	16.9	11.9	17.8	53.4
Southern	19.4	9.1	9.7	61.8
Southwestern	17.9	17.9	10.7	53.6
Western	22.8	14.1	12.0	51.1

**Note:**

Selectivity calculated as undergraduates admitted as a percent of applications

Cells with fewer than five members are omitted.

Members without available IPEDS data are omitted.