

This document is a screen-reader accessible alternative to the University of Wisconsin System's Accountability Dashboard at <https://www.wisconsin.edu/accountability/>

Cost & Efficiency

Each metric in the Cost & Efficiency dashboard is described below. A link is provided to the underlying data for each metric. For some metrics, only the most recent year of data is linked because of the large volume of data. Click on Technical Notes for definitions of terms and other detail about the data.

Published and average net cost of attendance

Students who receive financial aid grants pay substantially less than the published cost of attendance. Net cost is the average amount paid by students receiving grants and scholarships. Published and net costs of attendance are shown by UW institution. Cost of attendance is for resident (in-state) new freshmen attending full-time for one year (two semesters).

Published and average net cost of attendance vs. peers

Published and net cost of attendance are shown by UW institution, compared with national averages of public four-year institutions, and the maximum, median, and minimum rates at peer institutions. See Technical Notes for peer institutions.

Published tuition and fees as percent of median state family income

Published tuition and fees for resident (in-state) new freshmen attending full-time for one year (two semesters) are shown by UW institution as a percent of median state family income. The percentage is compared to the national average of public four-year institutions, and the maximum, median, and minimum rates at peer institutions. See Technical Notes for peer institutions.

Institutional grant aid to undergraduates with financial need

The amount of institutional grant aid provided to undergraduates with financial need is shown as in actual and inflation-adjusted dollars. It also is shown as a percent of all institutional grant aid provided. Both measures are shown by UW institution.

Student loan debt of bachelor's degree recipients

The average student loan debt of bachelor's degree recipients is shown by UW institution in actual and in inflation-adjusted dollars. Also shown is the percent of bachelor's degree recipients who have student loan debt.

Student loan default rates

The student loan default rate is shown by UW institution and by fiscal year. National default rates are included for comparison. Student loan default is measured over a three-year period beginning with fiscal year 2009; prior years are measured with a two-year rate.

Average unmet need of financial aid recipients

Average unmet need is the financial need of full-time resident undergraduates remaining after grants, loans, scholarships, and the expected family contribution to college costs. It is shown by UW institution in actual and inflation-adjusted dollars.

Average semesters enrolled by bachelor's degree recipients

The average semesters enrolled is shown by the UW institution where the student received their first UW bachelor's degree. Semesters are shown at "Any UW" and at "Same UW". Semesters enrolled at "Any UW" includes fall and spring semesters enrolled at any UW institution by students starting as new freshmen at any UW institution, including UW Colleges. "Same UW" is based on new freshmen who started at and graduated from the same UW institution.

Average credits attempted by bachelor's degree recipients

The average credits attempted is shown by the UW institution where the student received their first UW bachelor's degree. Credits attempted are shown at "Any UW" and at "Same UW". Credits attempted at "Any UW" include UW credits attempted at any UW institution by students starting as new freshmen at any UW institution, including UW Colleges. "Same UW" is based on new freshmen who started at and graduated from the same UW institution.

Administrative expenditures per student FTE

Spending on administration per student full-time-equivalent (FTE) enrollment is shown for the UW System, the Midwest region (Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, and Minnesota), and the United States. It is based on spending at public four-year institutions and is identified using the “institutional support” classification developed by the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO). Institutional support includes systemwide management and long-range planning, fiscal operations, administrative computing, space management, personnel management, and related administrative functions.