

Higher Ed Benchmarks

Noel-Levitz Report on Student Recruitment Trends

2009 Student Recruitment Practices and Strategies at Four-Year and Two-Year Institutions

What's working in student recruitment and marketing at the undergraduate level? To find out, Noel-Levitz conducted a 95-item, Web-based poll in April and May of 2009 as part of the firm's continuing series of benchmark polls for higher education. The poll mirrored an earlier poll conducted in June 2007.

Among the highlights:

- The "top 10" most effective recruitment practices in 2009—across public and private, two-year and four-year sectors—include face-to-face, in-person events such as open houses and visit days, as well as telecounseling, interaction with enrolled students, and practices that make it easy to visit, apply, and enroll;
- Less than half of respondents reported having a strategic, multi-year enrollment plan that they felt good about;
- Compared to two years ago, more enrollment teams are now using e-mail, the Web, and a variety of online tools ranging from virtual financial aid estimators to personalized home page portals to social media sites such as MySpace; and
- Among the least-effective practices listed were newer technologies such as podcasting and RSS/XML syndicated feeds.

Readers are invited to contrast the findings in this report with the earlier June 2007 report, which is available at www.noellevitz.com/RecruitingBenchmarks. In addition, benchmarks for student retention are available at www.noellevitz.com/RetentionBenchmarks.



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Don't miss the student search findings on pages 14 and 15.

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About Noel-Levitz

How to use the benchmarks in this report

In today's environment, it is more critical than ever to keep an eye on what's working. The benchmarks in this report enable enrollment leaders on campuses to compare their 2009 search, print, Web, e-communications, and admissions planning practices to those of similar institutions to:

- Monitor the competitive environment;
- Stay up to date on the practices of similar institutions (public or private, four-year or two-year);
- Identify effective and ineffective practices and strategies; and
- Identify emerging and/or overlooked practices and strategies.

For additional student recruitment benchmarks from Noel-Levitz, including recruitment budgets and funnel metrics, please visit www.noellevitz.com/RecruitingBenchmarks. For student retention benchmarks, visit www.noellevitz.com/RetentionBenchmarks.

Quality of recruitment plans still lagging

With the exception of annual recruitment planning in the four-year private sector, the quality of admissions planning has not improved from the last time this study was conducted in 2007:

| Survey item | | Percent of respondents in agreement | | | | | |
|--|------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|
| | | 4-Year Public Institutions | | 4-Year Private Institutions | | 2-Year Public Institutions | |
| | | Yes | YES and it's of good or excellent quality* | Yes | YES and it's of good or excellent quality* | Yes | YES and it's of good or excellent quality* |
| My institution has a written, annual recruitment plan. | 2009 | 89.7% | 52.6% | 89.4% | 65.8% | 75.0% | 36.8% |
| | 2007 | 90.8% | 53.1% | 89.9% | 59.2% | 75.5% | 40.8% |
| My institution has a written, long-range (at least three-year) strategic enrollment plan. | 2009 | 69.8% | 43.7% | 74.7% | 43.4% | 65.1% | 31.9% |
| | 2007 | 77.6% | 44.9% | 74.0% | 45.7% | 66.3% | 34.7% |
| My institution has a standing, campuswide committee that addresses coordinated recruitment planning and implementation across all units. | 2009 | 58.8% | 34.0% | 50.2% | 20.1% | 56.7% | 21.0% |
| | 2007 | 69.4% | 38.8% | 51.8% | 25.2% | 62.2% | 26.5% |

* These percentages indicate the percentage of respondents who rated the quality of these items as “good” or “excellent” as opposed to “fair,” “poor,” or “no” (nonexistent).

As shown above, even though the large majority of 2009 respondents reported having a written, annual recruitment plan, a significant number failed to rate their plan as good or excellent. Similarly, while the majority of 2009 respondents reported having a multi-year, strategic enrollment plan, fewer than half rated it as good or excellent. These findings were similar to those reported in 2007.

In addition, only about half of 2009 respondents reported having a standing campuswide committee for coordinated recruitment planning, and only one-third to one-fifth of respondents rated this committee as good or excellent, even less than in 2007.

Missed opportunity? A separate cross-tab analysis of the above findings found that campuses that reported having a written, annual recruitment plan of good or excellent quality were more likely to also report having a campuswide committee that was good or excellent. The same held true for written, multi-year strategic enrollment plans. These findings indicate that campuses that want to increase their likelihood of developing high-quality annual and long-range enrollment plans should consider forming, or strengthening, campuswide committees that address recruitment concerns and planning.

Despite the need for stronger planning and leadership in today's challenging higher education environment, many respondents questioned the quality of their plans, and less than one-third of respondents indicated they had a committee that was of good or excellent quality.

Top 10 most effective practices

Below are the 10 items respondents rated most effective among 67 items that were measured for their effectiveness. (For complete details, please see the Appendix on pages 7-17.)

Using faculty in recruiting has become common practice, but not as many schools are using alumni. See details on pages 12 and 16 of the Appendix.

| Rank* | 4-Year Public | 4-Year Private | 2-Year Public |
|-------|---|---|--|
| 1. | Hosting open house events | Hosting open house events | High school visits by admission representatives to primary markets |
| 2. | Campus visit days for high school students | Campus visit days for high school students | Campus visit days for high school students |
| 3. | Encouraging prospective students to schedule campus visits on admissions Web site | Weekend visits for high school students | Hosting open house events |
| 4. | Weekend visits for high school students | Using enrolled students in recruiting | Telecounseling** |
| 5. | Using enrolled students in recruiting | Encouraging prospective students to schedule campus visits on admissions Web site | College-sponsored trips to campus for prospective students |
| 6. | Admissions decisions “on the spot”—in high schools or during campus visits/open houses | Telecounseling** | Weekend visits for high school students |
| 7. | Statistical modeling to predict the likelihood of an admitted student enrolling at your institution | Calling cell phones to notify prospective students of impending deadlines, events, acceptance, etc. | Admissions decisions “on the spot”—in high schools or during campus visits/open houses |
| 8. | College-sponsored trips to campus for prospective students | Statistical modeling to predict the likelihood of an inquirer enrolling at your institution | Using instant messaging (IM) to notify prospective students of impending deadlines, events, acceptance, etc. |
| 9. | Mailing pre-completed applications to inquiries and/or purchased names (prospects) | Admissions decisions “on the spot”—in high schools or during campus visits/open houses | Using enrolled students in recruiting |
| 10. | Telecounseling** | Personalized home page/portal for applicants | Group area meetings for prospective students and/or their parents |

* The items in this table show, in rank order, the activities rated as “very effective” as opposed to “somewhat effective,” or “minimally effective” by respondents who were using each particular activity.

**Definition given to respondents: “Includes regularly scheduled calls to most inquiries and/or admits at various times during the recruitment process and is typically managed by a full-time professional. Occasional, intermittent calls to select prospects do not constitute a formal telecounseling program.”

As shown above, the top 10 most effective practices reported by respondents often involved in-person events and face-to-face conversations. Open houses and campus visit programs topped the list for four-year public and private institutions and were included among the top three practices for two-year public institutions.

Also included on the top 10 lists across sectors were telecounseling, using enrolled students in recruiting, and practices that made it easy to visit, apply, and enroll such as weekend visits and on-the-spot admissions decisions made in high schools or during campus visits/open houses.

For both four-year public and private institutions, Web site encouragements to schedule campus visits and using statistical modeling to predict a student’s enrollment likelihood were favored activities. In contrast, for two-year public institutions, the top 10 most effective practices included high school visits by admissions representatives, the use of instant messaging, and the use of group area meetings for prospective students and/or their parents. In addition, college-sponsored trips to campus were a favored activity for both two-year and four-year public institutions.

For comparisons with the 2007 findings, please download www.noellevitz.com/2007practices. Note that the methodology used to develop the top 10 rankings in 2009 was slightly different than the methodology used in 2007. Instead of ranking the responses of all respondents, the 2009 rankings included only the responses of those who indicated they were using the stated activity (versus selecting “method not used.”) Please see page 11 for further details.

Many enrollment teams are now using e-mail to make their first contact with prospective students. See details on page 14 of the Appendix.

Reporting responsibility for chief enrollment officers

When asked which office their chief enrollment officer (or top officer in the area of undergraduate admissions and recruitment) reports to, respondents indicated the following:

| Chief enrollment officer reports to... | 4-Year Public | 4-Year Private | 2-Year Public |
|--|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| President | 20.2% | 62.6% | 23.1% |
| VP-Academic Affairs | 40.4% | 11.6% | 1.5% |
| VP-Student Affairs | 28.7% | 8.1% | 56.9% |
| Administrative/Business Office | 1.1% | 3.0% | 1.5% |
| Other Offices | 9.6% | 8.1% | 16.9% |

As shown above, there is a wide range of practice across sectors in the supervision of chief enrollment officers. This same finding was reported in 2007.

Five least-effective practices

Below are the five items respondents rated least effective among the 67 practices that were measured for their effectiveness.

| Rank* | 4-Year Public | 4-Year Private | 2-Year Public |
|-------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Online career interest surveys | Podcasting | Podcasting |
| 2. | RSS/XML syndicated feeds | RSS/XML syndicated feeds | RSS/XML syndicated feeds |
| 3. | Listings in commercially published directories | Ads in high school yearbooks or newspapers | Posters with tear-off reply postcards |
| 4. | Telephone directory ads | Posters with tear-off reply postcards | Telephone directory ads |
| 5. | Internet general ads | Listings in commercially published directories | Virtual tours |

* The items in this table show, in rank order, the activities which the lowest proportion of respondents rated “very effective,” among respondents who were using each particular activity.

As shown here, respondents reported a mix of older and newer practices were least effective, ranging from RSS/XML syndicated feeds and podcasting to ads placed in telephone or commercially published directories.

Use of e-communications in recruitment is generally increasing

Compared to 2007, more enrollment teams are using the Web, e-mail, and a variety of online tools in 2009, as shown here in this sampling of items:

Many areas of e-communications have gained stronger footing in the last two years. For additional findings, please see the Appendix, pages 9 and 10.

| Survey item | 4-Year Public | | 4-Year Private | | 2-Year Public | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| | Used this method in 2009 | Used in 2007 | Used this method in 2009 | Used in 2007 | Used this method in 2009 | Used in 2007 |
| Encouraging prospective students to schedule campus visits on admissions Web site. | 94.8% | 90.7% | 92.4% | 87.7% | 70.1% | 66.0% |
| Electronic mail communication with prospective students. | 97.9% | 93.8% | 99.0% | 96.8% | 82.1% | 74.2% |
| Getting involved with social media sites like MySpace. | 66.0% | 25.8% | 71.6% | 33.6% | 47.8% | 18.4% |
| Personalized home page portal for applicants. | 37.9% | 35.4% | 34.7% | 27.5% | 23.9% | 12.4% |
| Virtual financial aid estimator on Web site. | 47.4% | 20.6% | 36.9% | 23.0% | 21.2% | 9.2% |

Five least-used practices

Below are the five items that were least used among the 67 practices that were measured for their effectiveness.

| Rank* | 4-Year Public | 4-Year Private | 2-Year Public |
|-------|--|---|--|
| 1. | Online career interest surveys | Online career interest surveys | RSS/XML syndicated feeds |
| 2. | Mailing pre-completed applications to inquiries and/or purchased names (prospects)** | Mailing course schedules to residents in area | Blogging space for prospective students |
| 3. | Using text messaging to notify prospective students of impending deadlines, events, acceptance, etc. | Podcasting | Using text messaging to notify prospective students of impending deadlines, events, acceptance, etc. |
| 4. | Mailing course schedules to residents in area | RSS/XML syndicated feeds | Podcasting |
| 5. | Blogging space for prospective students | Recruiting through social service agencies | Statistical modeling to predict the likelihood of an inquirer enrolling at your institution |

* The items in this table show, in rank order, the activities respondents indicated were not used on their campuses.

**This item, though seldom used, was rated very effective by those who use it from the same sector, as shown on page 4.

Note that least-used is a very different rating than least-effective and may represent emerging opportunities. For example, one of the least-used items above, mailing pre-completed applications (#3 for four-year public institutions), also appears among the top 10 most effective practices for four-year public institutions on page 4, possibly meriting greater exploration in this sector.

Appendix: Complete findings

This following pages offer complete, detailed breakdowns of the findings of this 2009 study, including information on:

Planning and leadership practices 8

Print/ mailing practices 8

E-communications/Web practices 9

Events 11

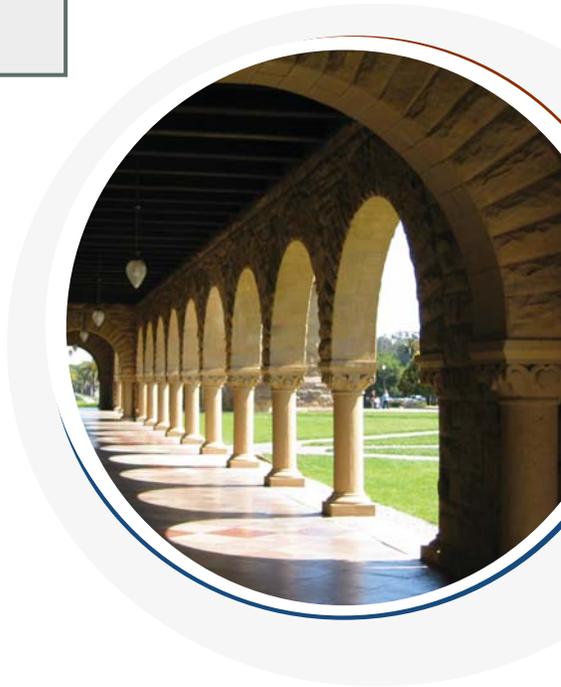
Relationship recruiting 12

Advertising 13

Search practices and initial outreach 14

Community college recruitment 16

Routine practices for undergraduate student 16
recruitment and other recruitment tactics



| Planning and leadership practices for student recruitment | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Institution type | No | Yes, but POOR quality | Yes, FAIR quality | Yes, GOOD quality | Yes, EXCELLENT quality | Yes, GOOD or EXCELLENT |
| My institution has a written, long-range (at least three-year) strategic enrollment plan. | 4-Year Public | 30.2% | 3.1% | 22.9% | 26.0% | 17.7% | 43.7% |
| | 4-Year Private | 25.3% | 7.6% | 23.7% | 30.3% | 13.1% | 43.4% |
| | 2-Year Public | 34.9% | 10.6% | 22.7% | 15.2% | 16.7% | 31.9% |
| My institution has a written, annual recruitment plan. | 4-Year Public | 10.3% | 9.3% | 27.8% | 35.1% | 17.5% | 52.6% |
| | 4-Year Private | 10.6% | 2.0% | 21.6% | 41.7% | 24.1% | 65.8% |
| | 2-Year Public | 25.0% | 13.2% | 25.0% | 20.6% | 16.2% | 36.8% |
| My institution regularly evaluates the effectiveness of recruitment strategies and tactics and makes changes accordingly. | 4-Year Public | 5.2% | 6.2% | 20.6% | 41.2% | 26.8% | 68.0% |
| | 4-Year Private | 2.0% | 5.0% | 23.1% | 40.7% | 29.2% | 69.9% |
| | 2-Year Public | 7.5% | 23.9% | 29.9% | 25.4% | 13.4% | 38.8% |
| My institution has a standing, campus-wide committee that addresses coordinated recruitment planning and implementation across all units. | 4-Year Public | 41.2% | 9.3% | 15.5% | 19.6% | 14.4% | 34.0% |
| | 4-Year Private | 49.8% | 11.6% | 18.6% | 15.1% | 5.0% | 20.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 43.3% | 13.4% | 22.4% | 10.5% | 10.5% | 21.0% |

| Effectiveness of print/mailling practices | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Institution type | Method not used | Minimally effective | Somewhat effective | Very effective | Minimally to very effective | Somewhat to very effective |
| Recruiting publications in general (viewbook, search piece, etc.) | 4-Year Public | 1.0% | 5.1% | 60.2% | 33.7% | 99.0% | 93.9% |
| | 4-Year Private | 0.5% | 8.5% | 56.0% | 35.0% | 99.5% | 91.0% |
| | 2-Year Public | 4.4% | 13.2% | 66.2% | 16.2% | 95.6% | 82.4% |
| Posters with tear-off reply postcards | 4-Year Public | 60.2% | 15.3% | 23.5% | 1.0% | 39.8% | 24.5% |
| | 4-Year Private | 58.0% | 28.0% | 13.5% | 0.5% | 42.0% | 14.0% |
| | 2-Year Public | 58.2% | 17.9% | 22.4% | 1.5% | 41.8% | 23.9% |
| Student search via direct mail | 4-Year Public | 15.5% | 30.9% | 40.2% | 13.4% | 84.5% | 53.6% |
| | 4-Year Private | 7.5% | 29.5% | 46.5% | 16.5% | 92.5% | 63.0% |
| | 2-Year Public | 46.3% | 14.9% | 32.8% | 6.0% | 53.7% | 38.8% |
| Mailing course schedules to residents in area | 4-Year Public | 82.1% | 8.4% | 8.4% | 1.1% | 17.9% | 9.5% |
| | 4-Year Private | 90.3% | 6.6% | 2.0% | 1.0% | 9.7% | 3.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 47.0% | 9.1% | 25.8% | 18.2% | 53.0% | 43.9% |
| Mailing pre-completed applications to inquiries and/or purchased names (prospects) | 4-Year Public | 86.6% | 3.1% | 4.1% | 6.2% | 13.4% | 10.3% |
| | 4-Year Private | 72.9% | 6.0% | 12.1% | 9.1% | 27.1% | 21.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 82.1% | 4.5% | 11.9% | 1.5% | 17.9% | 13.4% |

| Effectiveness of e-communications/Web practices | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Institution type | Method not used | Minimally effective | Somewhat effective | Very effective | Minimally to very effective | Somewhat to very effective |
| Searches via electronic mail | 4-Year Public | 30.9% | 13.8% | 43.6% | 11.7% | 69.2% | 55.3% |
| | 4-Year Private | 14.7% | 15.7% | 52.3% | 17.3% | 85.3% | 69.5% |
| | 2-Year Public | 61.5% | 15.4% | 15.4% | 7.7% | 38.5% | 23.1% |
| Electronic mail communication with prospective students | 4-Year Public | 2.1% | 9.5% | 65.3% | 23.2% | 97.9% | 88.4% |
| | 4-Year Private | 1.0% | 6.0% | 60.8% | 32.2% | 99.0% | 93.0% |
| | 2-Year Public | 17.9% | 14.9% | 41.8% | 25.4% | 82.1% | 67.2% |
| Using instant messaging to notify prospective students of impending deadlines, events, acceptance, etc. | 4-Year Public | 76.3% | 9.3% | 10.3% | 4.1% | 23.7% | 14.4% |
| | 4-Year Private | 71.9% | 12.1% | 12.1% | 4.0% | 28.1% | 16.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 88.1% | 6.0% | 1.5% | 4.5% | 11.9% | 6.0% |
| Using text messaging to notify prospective students of impending deadlines, events, acceptance, etc. | 4-Year Public | 85.4% | 4.2% | 7.3% | 3.1% | 14.6% | 10.4% |
| | 4-Year Private | 76.7% | 11.7% | 7.6% | 4.1% | 23.4% | 11.7% |
| | 2-Year Public | 92.5% | 3.0% | 3.0% | 1.5% | 7.5% | 4.5% |
| Specially designed recruiting page on Web site | 4-Year Public | 7.3% | 12.5% | 44.8% | 35.4% | 92.7% | 80.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 23.4% | 5.6% | 40.1% | 31.0% | 76.6% | 71.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 29.9% | 17.9% | 41.8% | 10.5% | 70.2% | 52.2% |
| Online career interest surveys | 4-Year Public | 89.7% | 3.1% | 7.2% | 0.0% | 10.3% | 7.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 94.4% | 2.6% | 2.6% | 0.5% | 5.6% | 3.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 77.6% | 10.5% | 9.0% | 3.0% | 22.4% | 12.0% |
| Encouraging prospective students to use inquiry forms on admissions Web site | 4-Year Public | 5.2% | 8.3% | 59.4% | 27.1% | 94.8% | 86.5% |
| | 4-Year Private | 4.1% | 12.7% | 53.3% | 30.0% | 95.9% | 83.3% |
| | 2-Year Public | 26.2% | 15.4% | 40.0% | 18.5% | 73.8% | 58.5% |
| Encouraging prospective students to schedule campus visits on admissions Web site | 4-Year Public | 5.2% | 5.2% | 34.0% | 55.7% | 94.8% | 89.7% |
| | 4-Year Private | 7.6% | 7.1% | 38.9% | 46.5% | 92.4% | 85.4% |
| | 2-Year Public | 29.9% | 17.9% | 31.3% | 20.9% | 70.2% | 52.2% |
| Virtual financial aid estimator on the admissions Web site | 4-Year Public | 52.6% | 10.3% | 21.7% | 15.5% | 47.4% | 37.1% |
| | 4-Year Private | 63.1% | 7.6% | 19.2% | 10.1% | 36.9% | 29.3% |
| | 2-Year Public | 78.8% | 10.6% | 9.1% | 1.5% | 21.2% | 10.6% |

Effectiveness of e-communications/Web practices—*continued*

| | Institution type | Method not used | Minimally effective | Somewhat effective | Very effective | Minimally to very effective | Somewhat to very effective |
|---|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Personalized home page/portal for applicants | 4-Year Public | 62.1% | 8.4% | 14.7% | 14.7% | 37.9% | 29.5% |
| | 4-Year Private | 65.3% | 5.0% | 15.6% | 14.1% | 34.7% | 29.7% |
| | 2-Year Public | 76.1% | 7.5% | 13.4% | 3.0% | 23.9% | 16.4% |
| Chat rooms | 4-Year Public | 60.8% | 9.3% | 21.7% | 8.3% | 39.2% | 29.9% |
| | 4-Year Private | 61.3% | 23.6% | 13.1% | 2.0% | 38.7% | 15.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 89.4% | 1.5% | 7.6% | 1.5% | 10.6% | 9.1% |
| Virtual tours | 4-Year Public | 35.1% | 19.6% | 35.1% | 10.3% | 65.0% | 45.4% |
| | 4-Year Private | 40.1% | 29.4% | 25.4% | 5.1% | 59.9% | 30.5% |
| | 2-Year Public | 74.4% | 13.4% | 10.5% | 1.5% | 25.4% | 11.9% |
| Blogging space for faculty or currently enrolled students | 4-Year Public | 56.7% | 15.5% | 21.7% | 6.2% | 43.3% | 27.8% |
| | 4-Year Private | 51.8% | 22.3% | 21.3% | 4.6% | 48.2% | 25.9% |
| | 2-Year Public | 83.6% | 7.5% | 7.5% | 1.5% | 16.4% | 9.0% |
| Blogging space for prospective students | 4-Year Public | 77.3% | 7.2% | 13.4% | 2.1% | 22.7% | 15.5% |
| | 4-Year Private | 78.2% | 12.2% | 6.1% | 3.6% | 21.8% | 9.6% |
| | 2-Year Public | 93.9% | 1.5% | 3.0% | 1.5% | 6.1% | 4.6% |
| Podcasting | 4-Year Public | 75.0% | 15.6% | 8.3% | 1.0% | 25.0% | 9.4% |
| | 4-Year Private | 84.7% | 10.2% | 5.1% | 0.0% | 15.3% | 5.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 92.4% | 4.6% | 3.0% | 0.0% | 7.6% | 3.0% |
| Virtual financial aid estimator | 4-Year Public | 52.6% | 10.3% | 21.7% | 15.5% | 47.4% | 37.1% |
| | 4-Year Private | 63.1% | 7.6% | 19.2% | 10.1% | 36.9% | 29.3% |
| | 2-Year Public | 78.8% | 10.6% | 9.1% | 1.5% | 21.2% | 10.6% |
| RSS/XML syndicated feeds | 4-Year Public | 75.0% | 15.6% | 9.4% | 0.0% | 25.0% | 9.4% |
| | 4-Year Private | 80.1% | 14.3% | 5.6% | 0.0% | 19.9% | 5.6% |
| | 2-Year Public | 95.5% | 1.5% | 3.0% | 0.0% | 4.6% | 3.0% |
| Flash/media player pages | 4-Year Public | 53.2% | 19.2% | 23.4% | 4.3% | 46.8% | 27.7% |
| | 4-Year Private | 57.1% | 16.3% | 22.5% | 4.1% | 42.9% | 26.5% |
| | 2-Year Public | 78.8% | 7.6% | 12.1% | 1.5% | 21.2% | 13.6% |
| Getting involved with social networking sites like MySpace | 4-Year Public | 34.0% | 27.8% | 24.7% | 13.4% | 66.0% | 38.1% |
| | 4-Year Private | 28.4% | 29.4% | 28.9% | 13.2% | 71.6% | 42.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 52.2% | 25.4% | 17.9% | 4.5% | 47.8% | 22.4% |
| Internet search strategies to ensure your college's name appears as a result of a Google search | 4-Year Public | 40.2% | 19.6% | 30.9% | 9.3% | 59.8% | 40.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 33.3% | 21.7% | 32.8% | 12.1% | 66.7% | 45.0% |
| | 2-Year Public | 35.9% | 18.8% | 37.5% | 7.8% | 64.1% | 45.3% |

| | | Effectiveness of events | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Institution type | Method not used | Minimally effective | Somewhat effective | Very effective | Minimally to very effective | Somewhat to very effective |
| High school visits by admission representatives to primary markets | 4-Year Public | 0.0% | 7.2% | 50.5% | 42.3% | 100.0% | 92.8% |
| | 4-Year Private | 1.5% | 9.6% | 53.3% | 35.7% | 98.5% | 89.0% |
| | 2-Year Public | 0.0% | 2.9% | 35.3% | 61.8% | 100.0% | 97.1% |
| High school visits by admission representatives to secondary, tertiary, or test markets | 4-Year Public | 3.1% | 39.2% | 39.2% | 18.6% | 96.9% | 57.7% |
| | 4-Year Private | 7.0% | 38.2% | 41.2% | 13.6% | 93.0% | 54.8% |
| | 2-Year Public | 13.6% | 18.2% | 39.4% | 28.8% | 86.4% | 68.2% |
| Hosting open house events | 4-Year Public | 3.1% | 2.1% | 24.7% | 70.1% | 96.9% | 94.8% |
| | 4-Year Private | 4.5% | 1.0% | 15.6% | 78.9% | 95.5% | 94.5% |
| | 2-Year Public | 7.6% | 13.6% | 37.9% | 40.9% | 92.4% | 78.8% |
| Group area meetings for prospective students and/or their parents | 4-Year Public | 15.8% | 15.8% | 36.8% | 31.6% | 84.2% | 68.4% |
| | 4-Year Private | 36.0% | 15.7% | 27.4% | 20.8% | 64.0% | 48.2% |
| | 2-Year Public | 32.8% | 6.0% | 37.3% | 23.9% | 67.2% | 61.2% |
| Campus visit days for high school students | 4-Year Public | 3.1% | 6.2% | 27.8% | 62.9% | 96.9% | 90.7% |
| | 4-Year Private | 5.0% | 2.5% | 18.1% | 74.4% | 95.0% | 92.5% |
| | 2-Year Public | 9.0% | 10.5% | 31.3% | 49.3% | 91.0% | 80.6% |
| Weekend visits for high school students | 4-Year Public | 40.6% | 8.3% | 16.7% | 34.4% | 59.4% | 51.1% |
| | 4-Year Private | 24.8% | 9.1% | 22.7% | 43.4% | 75.3% | 66.2% |
| | 2-Year Public | 73.1% | 11.9% | 4.5% | 10.5% | 26.9% | 14.9% |
| Campus visit days designed for school counselors | 4-Year Public | 20.6% | 11.3% | 34.0% | 34.0% | 79.4% | 68.0% |
| | 4-Year Private | 37.6% | 10.2% | 28.9% | 23.4% | 62.4% | 52.3% |
| | 2-Year Public | 13.6% | 16.7% | 40.9% | 28.8% | 86.4% | 69.7% |
| Participation in national or regional college fairs | 4-Year Public | 3.1% | 16.7% | 57.3% | 22.9% | 96.9% | 80.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 3.0% | 23.7% | 55.6% | 17.7% | 97.0% | 73.2% |
| | 2-Year Public | 19.4% | 14.9% | 40.3% | 25.4% | 80.6% | 65.7% |
| Participation in College Day/College Night programs | 4-Year Public | 3.1% | 10.3% | 54.6% | 32.0% | 96.9% | 86.6% |
| | 4-Year Private | 4.6% | 19.7% | 56.6% | 19.2% | 95.5% | 75.8% |
| | 2-Year Public | 10.5% | 11.9% | 46.3% | 31.3% | 89.6% | 77.6% |
| Summer, weekend, evening, or other special workshops or seminars | 4-Year Public | 31.3% | 20.8% | 33.3% | 14.6% | 68.7% | 47.9% |
| | 4-Year Private | 47.2% | 19.5% | 24.6% | 8.7% | 52.8% | 33.3% |
| | 2-Year Public | 35.8% | 25.4% | 22.4% | 16.4% | 64.2% | 38.8% |

A note on the methodology for ranking the activities

The rankings on page 4 are based on the items that were rated “very effective” by respondents who indicated they were using the activity. For example, to determine the ranking of the above item, “Hosting open house events” for the four-year public sector, the proportion of all public four-year respondents that rated “Hosting open house events” as very effective, 70.1 percent, was divided by 96.9 percent, the proportion of respondents at four-year public institutions using open houses. (The latter figure is the combined proportions of the respondents who chose any rating of effectiveness and omits those who selected “method not used.”).

| Effectiveness of events—continued | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Institution type | Method not used | Minimally effective | Somewhat effective | Very effective | Minimally to very effective | Somewhat to very effective |
| Off-campus meetings or events for high school counselors | 4-Year Public | 26.0% | 19.8% | 31.3% | 22.9% | 74.0% | 54.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 48.7% | 22.1% | 23.6% | 5.5% | 51.3% | 29.2% |
| | 2-Year Public | 33.8% | 14.7% | 27.9% | 23.5% | 66.2% | 51.5% |
| Off-campus meetings or events for prospective students | 4-Year Public | 20.8% | 18.8% | 38.5% | 21.9% | 79.2% | 60.4% |
| | 4-Year Private | 31.8% | 26.3% | 29.8% | 12.1% | 68.2% | 41.9% |
| | 2-Year Public | 35.8% | 10.5% | 35.8% | 17.9% | 64.2% | 53.7% |
| Participating in trade shows/ advertising in trade publications | 4-Year Public | 65.3% | 28.4% | 4.2% | 2.1% | 34.7% | 6.3% |
| | 4-Year Private | 62.3% | 28.6% | 8.0% | 1.0% | 37.7% | 9.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 31.3% | 28.4% | 32.8% | 7.5% | 68.7% | 40.3% |
| College-sponsored trips to campus for prospective students | 4-Year Public | 52.1% | 7.5% | 18.1% | 22.3% | 47.9% | 40.4% |
| | 4-Year Private | 57.8% | 11.6% | 14.6% | 16.1% | 42.2% | 30.7% |
| | 2-Year Public | 45.6% | 8.8% | 23.5% | 22.1% | 54.4% | 45.6% |

| Effectiveness of relationship recruiting | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Institution type | Method not used | Minimally effective | Somewhat effective | Very effective | Minimally to very effective | Somewhat to very effective |
| Telecounseling | 4-Year Public | 29.5% | 7.4% | 31.6% | 31.6% | 70.5% | 63.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 15.7% | 10.1% | 37.4% | 36.9% | 84.3% | 74.2% |
| | 2-Year Public | 66.7% | 7.6% | 12.1% | 13.6% | 33.3% | 25.8% |
| Targeted parent communications | 4-Year Public | 28.0% | 11.8% | 37.6% | 22.6% | 72.0% | 60.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 23.2% | 12.6% | 48.5% | 15.7% | 76.8% | 64.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 56.9% | 15.4% | 15.4% | 12.3% | 43.1% | 27.7% |
| Using alumni in recruiting | 4-Year Public | 29.0% | 33.3% | 31.2% | 6.5% | 71.0% | 37.6% |
| | 4-Year Private | 25.3% | 24.8% | 41.4% | 8.6% | 74.8% | 50.0% |
| | 2-Year Public | 79.1% | 10.5% | 7.5% | 3.0% | 20.9% | 10.5% |
| Using faculty in recruiting | 4-Year Public | 9.5% | 19.0% | 39.0% | 32.6% | 90.5% | 71.6% |
| | 4-Year Private | 7.6% | 14.7% | 47.0% | 30.8% | 92.4% | 77.8% |
| | 2-Year Public | 30.8% | 18.5% | 32.3% | 18.5% | 69.2% | 50.8% |
| Using enrolled students in recruiting | 4-Year Public | 6.4% | 6.4% | 34.0% | 53.2% | 93.6% | 87.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 10.2% | 5.6% | 35.5% | 48.7% | 89.8% | 84.3% |
| | 2-Year Public | 37.9% | 7.6% | 31.8% | 22.7% | 62.1% | 54.6% |
| Calling cell phones to notify prospective students of impending deadlines, events, acceptance, etc. | 4-Year Public | 66.7% | 5.4% | 16.1% | 11.8% | 33.3% | 28.0% |
| | 4-Year Private | 43.2% | 8.6% | 23.9% | 24.4% | 56.9% | 48.2% |
| | 2-Year Public | 75.8% | 6.1% | 12.1% | 6.1% | 24.2% | 18.2% |

| | | Effectiveness of advertising | | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Institution type | Method not used | Minimally effective | Somewhat effective | Very effective | Minimally to very effective | Somewhat to very effective |
| Print media ads | 4-Year Public | 9.4% | 51.0% | 32.3% | 7.3% | 90.6% | 39.6% |
| | 4-Year Private | 12.1% | 50.8% | 32.2% | 5.0% | 87.9% | 37.2% |
| | 2-Year Public | 1.5% | 26.9% | 61.2% | 10.5% | 98.5% | 71.6% |
| Internet general ads | 4-Year Public | 38.5% | 35.4% | 25.0% | 1.0% | 61.5% | 26.0% |
| | 4-Year Private | 42.4% | 30.3% | 22.7% | 4.6% | 57.6% | 27.3% |
| | 2-Year Public | 49.3% | 17.9% | 28.4% | 4.5% | 50.8% | 32.8% |
| Internet pay-per-click ads | 4-Year Public | 71.3% | 13.8% | 13.8% | 1.1% | 28.7% | 14.9% |
| | 4-Year Private | 64.3% | 16.6% | 16.6% | 2.5% | 35.7% | 19.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 85.1% | 7.5% | 6.0% | 1.5% | 14.9% | 7.5% |
| Radio ads | 4-Year Public | 36.8% | 31.6% | 26.3% | 5.3% | 63.2% | 31.6% |
| | 4-Year Private | 42.7% | 28.6% | 23.6% | 5.0% | 57.3% | 28.7% |
| | 2-Year Public | 8.8% | 26.5% | 50.0% | 14.7% | 91.2% | 64.7% |
| Television ads | 4-Year Public | 45.8% | 25.0% | 21.9% | 7.3% | 54.2% | 29.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 68.3% | 15.1% | 13.6% | 3.0% | 31.7% | 16.6% |
| | 2-Year Public | 28.4% | 20.9% | 37.3% | 13.4% | 71.6% | 50.7% |
| Billboard, bus, or other outdoor advertising | 4-Year Public | 43.8% | 28.1% | 22.9% | 5.2% | 56.3% | 28.1% |
| | 4-Year Private | 60.1% | 19.2% | 18.7% | 2.0% | 39.9% | 20.7% |
| | 2-Year Public | 27.9% | 26.5% | 35.3% | 10.3% | 72.1% | 45.6% |
| Ads in high school yearbooks or newspapers | 4-Year Public | 59.6% | 26.6% | 12.8% | 1.1% | 40.4% | 13.8% |
| | 4-Year Private | 55.3% | 33.7% | 11.1% | 0.0% | 44.7% | 11.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 43.3% | 34.3% | 17.9% | 4.5% | 56.7% | 22.4% |
| Ads in college magazines/publications | 4-Year Public | 30.5% | 46.3% | 20.0% | 3.2% | 69.5% | 23.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 33.7% | 45.2% | 18.1% | 3.0% | 66.3% | 21.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 53.7% | 32.8% | 7.5% | 6.0% | 46.3% | 13.4% |
| Listings in commercially published directories | 4-Year Public | 47.4% | 37.9% | 14.7% | 0.0% | 52.6% | 14.7% |
| | 4-Year Private | 38.2% | 47.2% | 13.6% | 1.0% | 61.8% | 14.6% |
| | 2-Year Public | 41.8% | 38.8% | 14.9% | 4.5% | 58.2% | 19.4% |
| Telephone directory ads | 4-Year Public | 74.7% | 23.2% | 2.1% | 0.0% | 25.3% | 2.1% |
| | 4-Year Private | 72.2% | 24.2% | 3.0% | 0.5% | 27.8% | 3.5% |
| | 2-Year Public | 58.5% | 24.6% | 15.4% | 1.5% | 41.5% | 16.9% |

Search practices and initial outreach—six tables:

| Do you purchase or acquire a list of high school students' names (prospects) to use in direct mail or e-mail to generate inquiries? | Institution type | Yes | No |
|---|------------------|-------|-------|
| | 4-Year Public | 86.7% | 13.3% |
| | 4-Year Private | 89.5% | 10.5% |
| | 2-Year Public | 57.4% | 42.6% |

| Please indicate the approximate number of high school students' names you buy. | Institution type | Mean | Standard deviation | Minimum | First quartile | Median | Third quartile | Maximum |
|--|------------------|--------|--------------------|---------|----------------|--------|----------------|---------|
| | 4-Year Public | 60,587 | 71,899 | 4,000 | 12,000 | 35,000 | 75,000 | 300,000 |
| | 4-Year Private | 85,493 | 83,357 | 800 | 30,000 | 70,000 | 110,000 | 600,000 |
| | 2-Year Public | 7,928 | 9,882 | 500 | 2,500 | 5,000 | 9,500 | 45,000 |

| What is your preferred method for making first contact with the names you purchase? | 4-Year Public | 4-Year Private | 2-Year Public |
|---|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Self-mailer brochure | 37.9% | 32.4% | 21.1% |
| Letter | 14.9% | 25.4% | 23.7% |
| Letter with enclosed brochure | 12.6% | 16.2% | 13.2% |
| E-mail message | 12.6% | 11.9% | 7.9% |
| Other | 8.1% | 7.6% | 15.8% |
| Letter with viewbook | 9.2% | 5.4% | 7.9% |
| Viewbook | 4.6% | 1.1% | 5.3% |
| Catalog | 0.0% | 0.0% | 5.3% |

The percentages in these two tables are based on the pool of respondents who purchased names (versus all respondents) since some respondents did not purchase names.

| What are the sources of the names that you purchase? | Institution type | SAT Names | PSAT Names | PLAN Names | ACT Names | NRCCUA Names | College Bound Selective Service (CBSS) | Other Vendor |
|--|------------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------|--|--------------|
| | 4-Year Public | 42.3% | 45.4% | 21.6% | 49.5% | 37.1% | 6.2% | 8.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 42.8% | 57.2% | 31.3% | 53.7% | 66.2% | 25.9% | 13.9% |
| | 2-Year Public | 7.4% | 1.5% | 1.5% | 11.8% | 5.9% | 0.0% | 0.0% |

Note: The sum of the percentages for each four-year sector adds up to more than 100 percent because many respondents from these sectors indicated multiple sources.

| When do you first make contact with names you purchase? | Institution type | SAT Names | PSAT Names | PLAN Names | ACT Names | NRCCUA Names | CBSS Names | Other Vendors |
|---|------------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------|------------|---------------|
| Prior to grade 10 | 4-Year Public | 0.0% | 2.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 2.8% | 0.0% | 8.3% |
| | 4-Year Private | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| | 2-Year Public | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | 7.1% |
| Sophomore year | 4-Year Public | 2.4% | 6.8% | 4.8% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| | 4-Year Private | 5.8% | 8.7% | 9.5% | 8.3% | 8.3% | 13.5% | 0.0% |
| | 2-Year Public | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | – | – |
| Junior year | 4-Year Public | 34.2% | 36.4% | 28.6% | 39.6% | 41.7% | 16.7% | 16.7% |
| | 4-Year Private | 30.2% | 46.1% | 44.4% | 37.0% | 41.4% | 46.2% | 37.6% |
| | 2-Year Public | 20.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 50.0% | 25.0% | – | 7.1% |
| Summer prior to senior year | 4-Year Public | 26.8% | 29.6% | 33.3% | 18.8% | 16.7% | 16.7% | 25.0% |
| | 4-Year Private | 15.1% | 14.8% | 17.5% | 14.8% | 17.3% | 11.5% | 9.4% |
| | 2-Year Public | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 25.0% | 25.0% | – | 7.1% |
| Fall of senior year | 4-Year Public | 17.1% | 13.6% | 9.5% | 16.7% | 19.4% | 50.0% | 25.0% |
| | 4-Year Private | 27.9% | 14.8% | 19.1% | 24.1% | 20.3% | 19.2% | 31.3% |
| | 2-Year Public | 20.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 50.0% | – | 28.6% |
| Winter or later of senior year | 4-Year Public | 19.5% | 11.4% | 23.8% | 25.0% | 19.4% | 16.7% | 25.0% |
| | 4-Year Private | 20.9% | 15.7% | 9.5% | 15.7% | 12.8% | 9.6% | 21.9% |
| | 2-Year Public | 60.0% | 100.0% | 0.0% | 25.0% | 0.0% | – | 50.0% |

Note: This table shows the distribution of each sector's name purchases from a given source. For example, among all of the four-year public respondents who purchased PSAT names, 2.3 percent purchased names prior to grade 10, 6.8 percent purchased the names of sophomores, 36.4 percent purchased the names of juniors, 29.6 percent purchased names prior to the senior year, 13.6 percent purchased names in the fall of the senior year, and 11.4 percent purchased names in winter or later of the senior year.

| After you make the first contact, how many additional contacts do you typically make to the names you purchase that do not respond before you give up on them? | Institution type | Mean | Standard deviation | Minimum | First quartile | Median | Third quartile | Maximum |
|--|------------------|------|--------------------|---------|----------------|--------|----------------|---------|
| | 4-Year Public | 3.2 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 2.5 | 4.0 | 13.0 |
| | 4-Year Private | 4.4 | 3.4 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 3.5 | 6.0 | 25.0 |
| | 2-Year Public | 4.0 | 4.6 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 5.0 | 26.0 |

| Effectiveness of community college recruitment | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Institution type | Method not used | Minimally effective | Somewhat effective | Very effective | Minimally to very effective | Somewhat to very effective |
| Community college visits | 4-Year Public | 3.1% | 17.7% | 49.0% | 30.2% | 96.9% | 79.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 10.1% | 31.3% | 39.4% | 19.2% | 89.9% | 58.6% |
| Community college outreach to academic advisors | 4-Year Public | 18.8% | 15.6% | 30.2% | 35.4% | 81.2% | 65.6% |
| | 4-Year Private | 26.0% | 22.5% | 36.7% | 14.8% | 74.0% | 51.5% |
| Community college articulation agreements | 4-Year Public | 7.5% | 12.8% | 32.9% | 46.8% | 92.5% | 79.7% |
| | 4-Year Private | 22.2% | 20.2% | 35.4% | 22.2% | 77.8% | 57.6% |

| Routine practices for undergraduate student recruitment | | | |
|---|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Which of the following practices does your institution routinely use to recruit new students? | 4-Year Public | 4-Year Private | 2-Year Public |
| Visits by admissions representatives to high schools in your primary market | 99.0% | 98.5% | 100.0% |
| Campus open house events | 95.9% | 98.0% | 86.8% |
| Off-campus recruitment programs or events | 83.7% | 76.0% | 83.8% |
| Using currently enrolled students in recruiting | 81.6% | 85.0% | 55.9% |
| High school guidance counselor programs | 88.8% | 68.5% | 83.8% |
| Using faculty in recruiting | 75.5% | 83.0% | 72.1% |
| Using alumni in recruiting | 52.0% | 63.5% | 10.3% |
| Academic programs within high schools for students to earn college credits to your institution | 54.1% | 35.0% | 83.8% |
| Recruitment programs targeted to adult and other non-traditional students | 37.8% | 41.5% | 61.8% |
| Visits by admissions representatives to business and industry sites or human resource offices | 29.6% | 22.5% | 72.1% |
| Early aid estimating to communicate estimates of financial aid awards to prospective students | 12.2% | 39.2% | 16.4% |
| Do you systematically re-contact most inquiries to code their level of interest in enrolling at your institution ("qualifying inquiries") | 49.0% | 67.3% | 37.9% |
| Does your institution have a formal telecounseling program to support admissions recruiting? | 55.1% | 67.0% | 17.9% |

| Do you routinely contact prospective students after they have received financial aid awards to assess their reactions to the award? | Institution type | No, we do not | Yes, financial office staff makes contact | Yes, admissions staff makes contact | Yes, other office staff makes contact |
|---|------------------|---------------|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | 4-Year Public | 68.4% | 12.2% | 16.3% | 3.1% |
| | 4-Year Private | 20.0% | 5.0% | 74.4% | 0.5% |
| | 2-Year Public | 70.6% | 22.1% | 2.9% | 4.4% |

Effectiveness of other recruitment tactics

| | Institution type | Method not used | Minimally effective | Somewhat effective | Very effective | Minimally to very effective | Somewhat to very effective |
|---|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Revisiting a database of inquiries and or applicants that did not enroll | 4-Year Public | 35.4% | 25.0% | 36.5% | 3.1% | 64.6% | 39.6% |
| | 4-Year Private | 22.7% | 40.4% | 32.8% | 4.0% | 77.3% | 36.9% |
| | 2-Year Public | 29.9% | 25.4% | 29.9% | 14.9% | 70.2% | 44.8% |
| Loading purchased names or prospects into inquiry pool before student responds | 4-Year Public | 37.5% | 21.9% | 36.5% | 4.2% | 62.5% | 40.6% |
| | 4-Year Private | 54.8% | 15.6% | 23.6% | 6.0% | 45.2% | 29.7% |
| | 2-Year Public | 74.6% | 9.0% | 10.5% | 6.0% | 25.4% | 16.4% |
| Statistical modeling to predict the likelihood of an inquirer enrolling at your institution | 4-Year Public | 54.2% | 7.3% | 18.8% | 19.8% | 45.8% | 38.5% |
| | 4-Year Private | 39.9% | 7.1% | 27.8% | 25.3% | 60.1% | 53.0% |
| | 2-Year Public | 89.6% | 1.5% | 6.0% | 3.0% | 10.5% | 9.0% |
| Statistical modeling to predict the likelihood of an admitted student enrolling at your institution | 4-Year Public | 53.1% | 4.2% | 20.8% | 21.9% | 46.9% | 42.7% |
| | 4-Year Private | 47.5% | 6.6% | 24.8% | 21.2% | 52.5% | 46.0% |
| | 2-Year Public | 89.6% | 1.5% | 7.5% | 1.5% | 10.4% | 9.0% |
| Admissions decisions “on the spot” – in high schools or during campus visits/open houses | 4-Year Public | 49.0% | 7.3% | 15.6% | 28.1% | 51.1% | 43.8% |
| | 4-Year Private | 63.3% | 7.5% | 14.1% | 15.1% | 36.7% | 29.2% |
| | 2-Year Public | 61.2% | 4.5% | 19.4% | 14.9% | 38.8% | 34.3% |
| Recruiting through business/industry | 4-Year Public | 61.1% | 26.3% | 11.6% | 1.1% | 39.0% | 12.6% |
| | 4-Year Private | 73.7% | 15.2% | 9.6% | 1.5% | 26.3% | 11.1% |
| | 2-Year Public | 11.8% | 29.4% | 47.1% | 11.8% | 88.2% | 58.8% |
| Recruiting through social service agencies | 4-Year Public | 68.8% | 21.9% | 8.3% | 1.0% | 31.3% | 9.4% |
| | 4-Year Private | 78.3% | 14.1% | 7.1% | 0.5% | 21.7% | 7.6% |
| | 2-Year Public | 16.2% | 27.9% | 44.1% | 11.8% | 83.8% | 55.9% |
| Cooperative or consortia-based recruiting | 4-Year Public | 59.6% | 21.3% | 17.0% | 2.1% | 40.4% | 19.2% |
| | 4-Year Private | 69.0% | 19.8% | 8.6% | 2.5% | 31.0% | 11.2% |
| | 2-Year Public | 50.8% | 15.4% | 27.7% | 6.2% | 49.2% | 33.8% |
| Asking current students/alumni for applicant referrals | 4-Year Public | 41.7% | 30.2% | 24.0% | 4.2% | 58.3% | 28.1% |
| | 4-Year Private | 22.1% | 42.2% | 24.1% | 11.6% | 77.9% | 35.7% |
| | 2-Year Public | 68.7% | 13.4% | 9.0% | 9.0% | 31.4% | 17.9% |

Responding institutions

Representatives from 365 U.S. colleges and universities participated in Noel-Levitz's national electronic poll of undergraduate student recruitment practices and strategies, which was distributed to 2,774 degree-granting institutions in spring 2009. The respondents represented 97 four-year public institutions, 200 four-year private institutions, and 68 two-year public institutions. The names of the participating institutions appear below.

A special thank you to those who participated. Please watch for Noel-Levitz's next National Poll of Student Recruitment Practices in the spring of 2011.

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Four-year public institutions

Armstrong Atlantic State University
Austin Peay State University
Bridgewater State College
Broward College
California State University-Chico
California State University-Dominguez Hills
City University of New York York College
Delaware State University
East Central University
Eastern New Mexico University Main Campus
Eastern Oregon University
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
Fort Lewis College
Francis Marion University
Georgia State University
Illinois State University
Indian River State College
Indiana University Southeast
Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne
Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
Jackson State University
Kansas State University
Kent State University Main Campus
Lincoln University
Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania
Louisiana State University in Shreveport
Marshall University
Metropolitan State College of Denver
Michigan Technological University
Minnesota State University Moorhead
Mississippi Valley State University
Missouri University of Science & Technology
Missouri Western State University
Montclair State University
New College of Florida
New Jersey Institute of Technology
North Georgia College & State University
Northeastern Illinois University
Northern New Mexico College
Ohio State University Main Campus, The
Ohio State University Newark Campus, The
Old Dominion University
Purdue University Main Campus
Rhode Island College
Rutgers the State University of New Jersey New Brunswick Campus
South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
State University of New York at Binghamton
State University of New York at Buffalo
State University of New York at Fredonia
State University of New York College at Buffalo
State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry
State University of New York College of Technology at Delhi
Sul Ross State University
Temple University
Tennessee Technological University
Texas Tech University

Texas Woman's University
University of Alabama, The
University of Alaska Anchorage
University of Arizona
University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
University of Arkansas at Fort Smith
University of California-Riverside
University of California-Santa Barbara
University of Central Missouri
University of Cincinnati Main Campus
University of Connecticut
University of Florida
University of Hawaii - West Oahu
University of Iowa
University of Kansas Main Campus
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
University of Maine at Farmington
University of Montevallo
University of Nebraska at Kearney
University of North Carolina at Pembroke
University of North Carolina School of the Arts
University of North Texas
University of Northern Iowa
University of Pittsburgh
University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma
University of South Alabama
University of South Carolina Aiken
University of South Carolina Columbia
University of Southern Mississippi
University of Tennessee at Martin
University of Texas at Dallas, The
University of Utah, The
University of Virginia's College at Wise, The
University of Wisconsin-Stout
University of Wisconsin-Superior
Wayne State College
West Texas A & M University
West Virginia State University
West Virginia University
Western Michigan University
Worcester State College

Four-year private institutions

Adrian College
Alderson Broaddus College
Alfred University
Appalachian Bible College
Argosy University/Washington DC
Art Institute of Portland, The
Ashland University
Assumption College
Atlanta Christian College
Aurora University
Azusa Pacific University
Baker College (MI)
Baker University (KS)
Baldwin-Wallace College
Bay State College
Baylor University
Belhaven College
Bethany College
Bethel College
Bloomfield College
Blue Mountain College

Bluefield College
Bob Jones University
Brewton-Parker College
Bryan LGH College of Health Sciences
California Baptist University
Canisius College
Capital University
Carlow University
Carroll University
Cedarville University
Charleston Southern University
Chestnut Hill College
Clafin University
Clarkson College
Clearwater Christian College
Coker College
Colby College
College of Idaho, The
College of New Rochelle, The
College of Saint Benedict
College of Saint Scholastica, The
College of the Holy Cross
College of Visual Arts
Colorado Christian University
Columbia College (SC)
Columbia College Chicago
Concordia University (CA)
Concordia University (IL)
Concordia University (NE)
Concordia University, St. Paul (MN)
Converse College
Corcoran College of Art and Design
Cornerstone University
Cox College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Creighton University
Crossroads College
Culver-Stockton College
Daemen College
Dillard University
Dominican University of California
Dowling College
Drake University
Drew University
Drexel University
Earlham College and Earlham School of Religion
Eckerd College
Edgewood College
Emory University
Eureka College
Fisher College
Fisk University
Flagler College
Florida National College
Florida Southern College
Franklin Pierce University
Free Will Baptist Bible College
Fresno Pacific University
Gardner-Webb University
Georgetown College
Georgian Court University
Grand View University
Great Lakes Christian College
Greenville College

Gustavus Adolphus College
 Hamline University
 Hampton University
 Heidelberg College
 Hillsdale College
 Holy Family University
 Hood College
 Hope College
 Houston Baptist University
 Huntington University
 Husson University
 Immaculata University
 Indiana Institute of Technology
 Indiana Wesleyan University
 Jacksonville University
 Jefferson College of Health Sciences
 John Brown University
 John Carroll University
 Kalamazoo College
 Kettering University
 Keystone College
 King College
 La Salle University
 Lakeland College
 Lenoir-Rhyne University
 Lincoln College
 Linfield College
 Lipscomb University
 Lubbock Christian University
 Lycoming College
 Manchester College
 Marietta College
 Mars Hill College
 Marywood University
 Mercyhurst College
 Meredith College
 Merrimack College
 Messiah College
 Methodist University
 Mid-America Christian University
 Mid-Atlantic Christian University
 Miles College
 Milwaukee School of Engineering
 Minneapolis College of Art Design
 Mississippi College
 Missouri Baptist University
 Monmouth College
 Mount Ida College
 Mount Mercy College
 Mount Vernon Nazarene University
 Nebraska Methodist College
 New England School of Communications
 Newman University
 North Central College
 North Park University
 Northland College
 Northwest Christian University
 Northwestern College
 Northwood University
 Ohio Northern University
 Oklahoma Baptist University
 Oklahoma City University
 Oregon College of Art and Craft
 Pace University
 Pacific Oaks College
 Patten University
 Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts
 Pennsylvania College of Art & Design
 Philadelphia Biblical University
 Piedmont College
 Polytechnic Institute of New York University
 Post University
 Providence College
 Queens University of Charlotte
 Rice University

Roanoke College
 Robert Morris University
 Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
 Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing
 Saint Francis University
 Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
 Saint Michael's College
 Salve Regina University
 Shenandoah University
 Southwestern Assemblies of God University
 St. Ambrose University
 St. Edward's University
 St. John's University
 St. Thomas Aquinas College
 Sterling College
 Susquehanna University
 Tennessee Temple University
 Transylvania University
 Trinity International University
 Union College
 Union University
 University of Bridgeport
 University of Dallas
 University of Dayton
 University of Denver
 University of Mary
 University of Rochester
 University of St. Francis
 University of Tampa
 University of the Arts, The
 Vanderbilt University
 Washington and Jefferson College
 Washington Bible College/Capitol Bible Seminary
 Watkins College of Art, Design, & Film
 West Suburban College of Nursing
 Western New England College
 Westminster College (MO)
 Westminster College (PA)
 Widener University
 Wilson College
 Xavier University

Two-year public institutions
 Adirondack Community College
 Atlanta Technical College
 Augusta Technical College
 Broome Community College
 Cascadia Community College
 Clark State Community College
 Cleveland Community College
 College of Lake County
 College of the Mainland
 Columbus Technical College
 Community and Technical College at West Virginia University Institute of Technology
 Community College of Rhode Island
 Copiah-Lincoln Community College
 El Camino College
 El Paso Community College
 Glen Oaks Community College
 Glendale Community College
 Gogebic Community College
 Greenville Technical College
 Guilford Technical Community College
 Hawkeye Community College
 Holmes Community College
 Independence Community College
 Iowa Western Community College
 Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana-Southwest
 Labette Community College
 Lake Tahoe Community College

Lee College
 Linn State Technical College
 Lord Fairfax Community College
 Los Angeles Pierce College
 Louisiana Technical College Delta-Ouachita Campus
 Middle Georgia Technical College
 Moraine Park Technical College
 Normandale Community College
 North Country Community College
 North Idaho College
 Northeastern Junior College
 Northwest - Shoals Community College
 Northwest Kansas Technical College
 Northwestern Michigan College
 Pratt Community College
 Prince George's Community College
 Savannah Technical College
 Seattle Community College
 Shelton State Community College
 South Florida Community College
 South Suburban College of Cook County
 Sullivan County Community College
 Temple College
 The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute
 Three Rivers Community College
 Treasure Valley Community College
 Truckee Meadows Community College
 Tyler Junior College
 Union County College
 University of Hawaii Maui Community College
 University of Montana, Helena College of Technology, The
 University of South Carolina Salkehatchie
 Vermilion Community College
 Washington State Community College
 Waubensee Community College
 Waycross College
 West Kentucky Community and Technical College
 West Virginia Northern Community College
 Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College
 York County Community College
 York Technical College

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