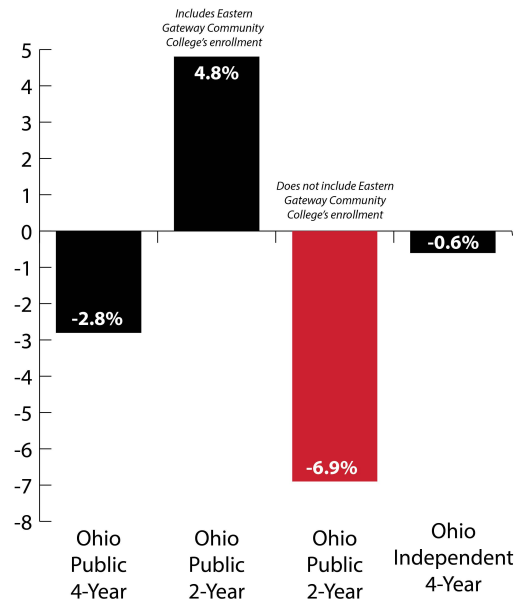


The Truth About: Fall 2020 Enrollment

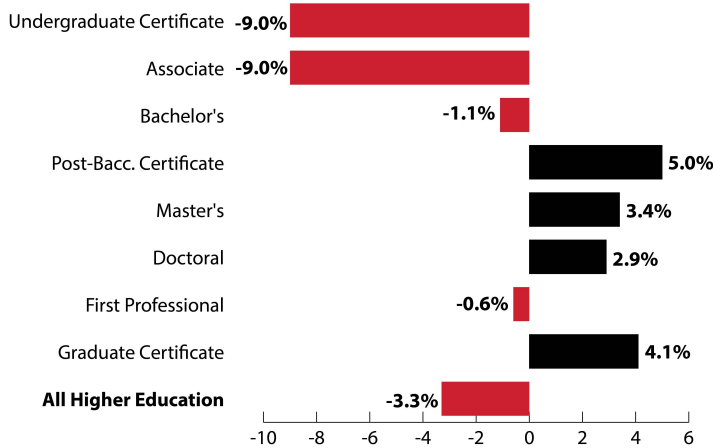


COVID-19 Impacted Enrollment Decline in Ohio

In Ohio, most sectors of higher education saw enrollment contractions in fall 2020. **Many** public two- and four-year institutions suffered steep declines in enrollment. The public 2-year sector had an **outlier institution** that increased enrollment to offset steeper losses among the other institutions. Ohio's independent four-year institutions had a more restrained contraction. Declines in enrollment were less severe than their public counterparts, and **some institutions** increased enrollment significantly.



Note: Public four- and two-year data is from ODHE; Independent four-year data is from NSCLRC
Source: Ohio Department of Higher Education, "Data & Reports" (2020); National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, "Fall 2020 Enrollment" (2020)

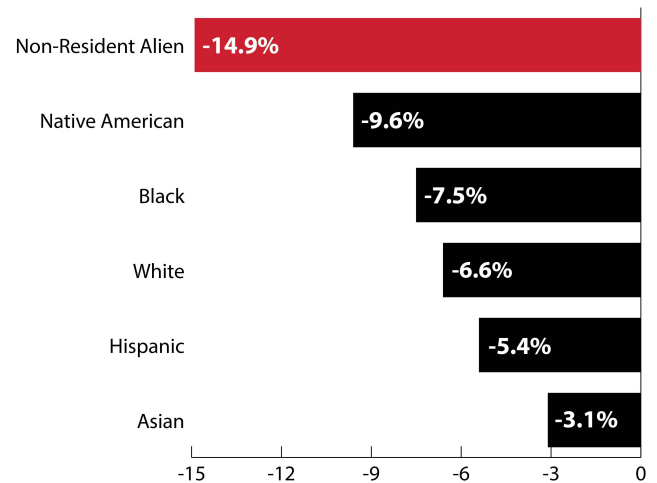


Note: Data is the enrollment percentage change from fall 2019 to fall 2020
Source: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, "Fall 2020 Enrollment" (2020)

Graduate Program Enrollment Buffered Losses

Almost all forms of post-baccalaureate programs have increased enrollment from fall 2019. Typically, postsecondary **enrollment increases during recessions**, especially among two-year programs. However, the pandemic trend line does not follow the historical data. Graduate programs allow workers to **avoid a weak job market** while also increasing their marketable skills for the eventual recovery.

Fall 2020 undergraduate enrollment changes by race/ethnicity from 2019



Source: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, "Fall 2020 Enrollment" (2020)

International Student Enrollment Declines

The steep declines in international enrollment precedes the COVID-19 pandemic. International enrollment began **consistently declining** during the 2016-2017 academic year. There is a confluence of factors that have **contributed to the decline**, including cost and competition from other countries, economic and demographic changes in the originating countries, changes in domestic policy among originating countries, and domestic political considerations in the United States. COVID-19 has simply accelerated an existing trend.