

*Unrequited love in fall 2018, or
Where did UMaine's admitted-but-nonmatriculating students go?*

Data from the National Student Clearinghouse

UMaine Office of Institutional Research
1 November 2018

The National Student Clearinghouse is a non-federal, independent, nonprofit organization that serves as a repository for student data on enrollment and degree attainment. More than 3,600 institutions of higher education participate in the Clearinghouse enrollment verification service, capturing over 98% of currently enrolled college students in the United States (<http://www.studentclearinghouse.org/colleges/studenttracker/>).¹

The Office of Institutional Research annually uses this service to obtain the names of schools that UMaine's admitted-but-nonmatriculating undergraduate applicants chose to attend. The present report summarizes our most recent effort in this regard.² Specifically, we determined the destination school for the 8,111 undergraduate applicants who

- were first-time students,
- had been admitted at UMaine for fall 2018,
- did not matriculate at UMaine, and
- according to the Clearinghouse, enrolled at another school instead.³

Caveat: These 8,111 students account for 88% of the first-time-student applicants who were admitted at UMaine for fall 2018 but did not matriculate here.⁴ The remaining 12% reflect the fact that some individuals

- did not enroll at any school in fall 2018,
- enrolled elsewhere but did not authorize the Clearinghouse to release their enrollment information (there were 61 such cases), or
- enrolled elsewhere but the destination school is not a Clearinghouse participant.

Thus although a marvelous data source, the Clearinghouse is not without imperfections.

¹ The 2010 report *College graduation rates: Behind the numbers* (American Council of Education), though dated, includes an informative overview of the National Student Clearinghouse (see pp. 10-13). It is available online at

² We also conduct an annual analysis of the first-time full-time students who did not return to UMaine for their second year. The most recent report can be found at <https://umaine.edu/oir/rates/>.

³ If a student's Clearinghouse record showed only a single school for fall 2018, we counted students as enrolled at a school even if they did not complete the fall term. If a student enrolled at more than one school in fall 2018, we used these rules to decide which school to count: (a) a school from which the student had withdrawn is trumped by a school from which the student had not withdrawn, (b) full-time status trumps part-time status, and (c) other things being equal, a four-year school trumps a two-year school.

⁴ We excluded from this base 21 students who withdrew before the fall census date and for whom there is no evidence of enrollment elsewhere.

We begin by showing the top 20 destination schools for all UMaine's admitted-but-nonmatriculating undergraduate applicants, which capture 42% of the 8,111 students for whom the Clearinghouse reported an enrollment record:

Top 20 destination schools

	records reported	% of all records
University of New Hampshire	568	7.0
University of Southern Maine	322	4.0
University of Rhode Island	296	3.6
University of Massachusetts, Amherst	286	3.5
University of Vermont	258	3.2
Husson University	220	2.7
University of Connecticut	207	2.6
University of New England	155	1.9
University of Massachusetts, Lowell	154	1.9
Merrimack College	101	1.2
Plymouth State University	100	1.2
University of Maine at Farmington	100	1.2
Roger Williams University	96	1.2
University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth	79	1.0
Wentworth Institute of Technology	79	1.0
Saint Joseph's College of Maine	76	0.9
University of Massachusetts, Boston	76	0.9
Pennsylvania State University	75	0.9
Maine Maritime Academy	72	0.9
Westfield State University	70	0.9
	3,390	41.7%

We now turn to a brief summary of the Clearinghouse results for Maine residents ($n = 2,104$) and then for nonresidents ($n = 6,007$).

Maine residents ($n = 2,104$)

The top 20 destination schools for Maine residents appear below. These 20 institutions capture 60% of the 2,104 Maine residents for whom the Clearinghouse reported enrollment.

Top 20 destination schools: Maine residents

	records reported	% of all records
University of Southern Maine	279	13.3
Husson University	205	9.7
University of Maine at Farmington	89	4.2
Maine Maritime Academy	69	3.3
University of New England	67	3.2
Southern Maine Community College	62	2.9
University of New Hampshire	62	2.9
Saint Joseph's College of Maine	57	2.7
Thomas College	51	2.4
Eastern Maine Community College	43	2.0
University of Maine at Fort Kent	41	1.9
University of Maine at Augusta	40	1.9
University of Vermont	38	1.8
Central Maine Community College	29	1.4
Worcester Polytechnic Institute	25	1.2
Colby College	24	1.1
University of Maine at Presque Isle	24	1.1
Wheaton College	24	1.1
Wentworth Institute of Technology	23	1.1
Saint Anselm College	22	1.0
	1,274	60.2%

Over half (55.3%) of Maine residents—again, who were admitted at UMaine but enrolled elsewhere—stayed in Maine. Almost one quarter of all Maine residents attended another UMS school, with USM and UMF predominating (as they invariably do):

		breakdown of Maine residents	
attending another UMS campus: 23.4%	USM	13.3%	
	UMF	4.2%	
	UMA	1.9%	
	UMFK	1.9%	
	UMPI	1.1%	
	UMM	0.9%	

Almost one third of all Maine residents attended a non-UMS school in Maine, with Husson University and the community colleges accounting for almost half of these students:

		breakdown of Maine residents	
attending non-UMS school in Maine: 31.9%	Husson University	9.7%	
	a Maine community college	7.4%	
	Maine Maritime Academy	3.3%	
	University of New England	3.2%	
	Saint Joseph's College	2.7%	
	Bates, Bowdoin, Colby	2.7%	
	Thomas College	2.4%	
	other non-UMS school	0.5%	

6.5% of Maine residents enrolled at one of the other New England land-grant universities, with University of New Hampshire and University of Vermont unfailingly predominating:

		breakdown of Maine residents	
attending another NELGU: 6.5%	UNH	2.9%	
	UVM	1.8%	
	URI	1.0%	
	UMass	0.4%	
	UConn	0.4%	

Nonresidents ($n = 6,007$)

The top 20 destination schools for nonresidents appear below, capturing 43% of the 6,007 nonresidents for whom the Clearinghouse found an enrollment record.

Top 20 destination schools: Nonresidents

	records reported	% of all records
University of New Hampshire	506	8.4
University of Massachusetts, Amherst	277	4.6
University of Rhode Island	276	4.6
University of Vermont	220	3.7
University of Connecticut	199	3.3
University of Massachusetts, Lowell	152	2.5
University of New England	88	1.5
Plymouth State University	85	1.4
Merrimack College	84	1.4
Roger Williams University	84	1.4
University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth	78	1.3
University of Massachusetts, Boston	75	1.2
Pennsylvania State University	73	1.2
Westfield State University	70	1.2
Quinnipiac University	64	1.1
Bridgewater State University	58	1.0
Wentworth Institute of Technology	56	0.9
Keene State College	55	0.9
University of Tampa	50	0.8
Bryant University	44	0.7
	2,594	43.1%

Among nonresidents who were admitted at UMaine but enrolled elsewhere, the overwhelming majority—96.6%—selected a school beyond the Maine border. One quarter of all nonresidents enrolled at another New England land-grant university, with University of New Hampshire being the clear favorite:

	breakdown of nonresidents	
attending another NELGU: 24.6%	UNH	8.4%
	UMass	4.6%
	URI	4.6%
	UVM	3.7%
	UConn	3.3%

Less than 1% of nonresidents attended a UMS school: 43 of these 57 students enrolled at USM, 11 at UMF, 2 at UMM, and 1 at UMFK. An additional 2.5% of nonresidents ($n = 149$) enrolled elsewhere in Maine—the lion's share, 88, at University of New England:

	breakdown of nonresidents	
attending non-UMS school in Maine: $n = 149$	University of New England	88
	St. Joseph's College	19
	Husson University	15
	Unity College	10
	Bates, Bowdoin, Colby	7
	College of the Atlantic	5
	other non-UMS schools	5

A list of destination schools for all UMaine's admitted-but-nonmatriculating applicants is available upon request, as are lists for particular UMaine colleges, academic units, and majors.