

College and University Enrollment Projections

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Resources & Planning Committee

October 23, 2023



**STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER
EDUCATION FOR VIRGINIA**

§ 23.1-203. 4. Duties of Council generally.

*4. Review and approve or disapprove all enrollment projections proposed by each public institution of higher education. **The Council's projections shall be in numerical terms by level of enrollment and shall be used for budgetary and fiscal planning purposes only.** The Council shall develop estimates of the number of degrees to be awarded by each institution and include those estimates in its reports of enrollment projections. The student admissions policies for the institutions and their specific programs shall remain the sole responsibility of the individual boards of visitors; however, all four-year institutions shall adopt dual admissions policies with the community colleges, as required by § 23.1-907..*

§ 23.1-304(C). Per student enrollment-based funding.

C. In order to assist the General Assembly in determining the per student amount provided for in subsection A and its relation to the per student amount provided to private nonprofit institutions of higher education pursuant to the Tuition Assistance Grant Act (§ 23.1-628 et seq.), each private nonprofit institution of higher education eligible to participate in the Tuition Assistance Grant Program shall submit to the Council its Virginia student enrollment projections for that fiscal year and its actual Virginia student enrollment for the prior fiscal year in a manner determined by the Council. The student admissions policies for the private institutions and their specific programs shall remain the sole responsibility of the governing boards of the individual institutions.

What does Council approval mean?

- **Approval for use by state entities for planning**
 - Planning for new classrooms and other college facilities
 - Modeling of potential impact on institutional budget and student financial aid
 - Planning for state and local services
 - Estimating adequacy of educational opportunities for Virginians
- **Endorsement of the feasibility of the projections**

Projections and IPS

- The enrollment projections and degree estimates are used for many of institutional performance standards.
- The metrics are focused on meeting 95% of the specific projections used.
- There are no penalties for exceeding enrollment projections – by any amount.

Overall notes and trends

- Total enrollment increase from 519K to 532k in 2029
- Significant variance institutional projections of in-state FTIC from HS
- Aggressive targets to increase FTIC enrollment at independent colleges
- Increase in out-of-state distance undergrads by 10k, 6k at the public four-years

The process

- Staff initiates the process in February of odd-numbered years
- After consultation with Op-Six, SCHEV provides instructions to institutions, which include an assessment of the current environment
- Institutions submit initial plans in May
- The projections remain “draft” through the six-year planning process
- Council approves projections in October

Public Four-year Notes

- Overall decrease in in-state FTIC
- Shift in undergraduate distance enrollment- 12k to 18k in-state
- Undergraduate distance enrollment moves from 6.8% to 8.9% of total
- Continuing students comprise 73% of annual undergraduate projections

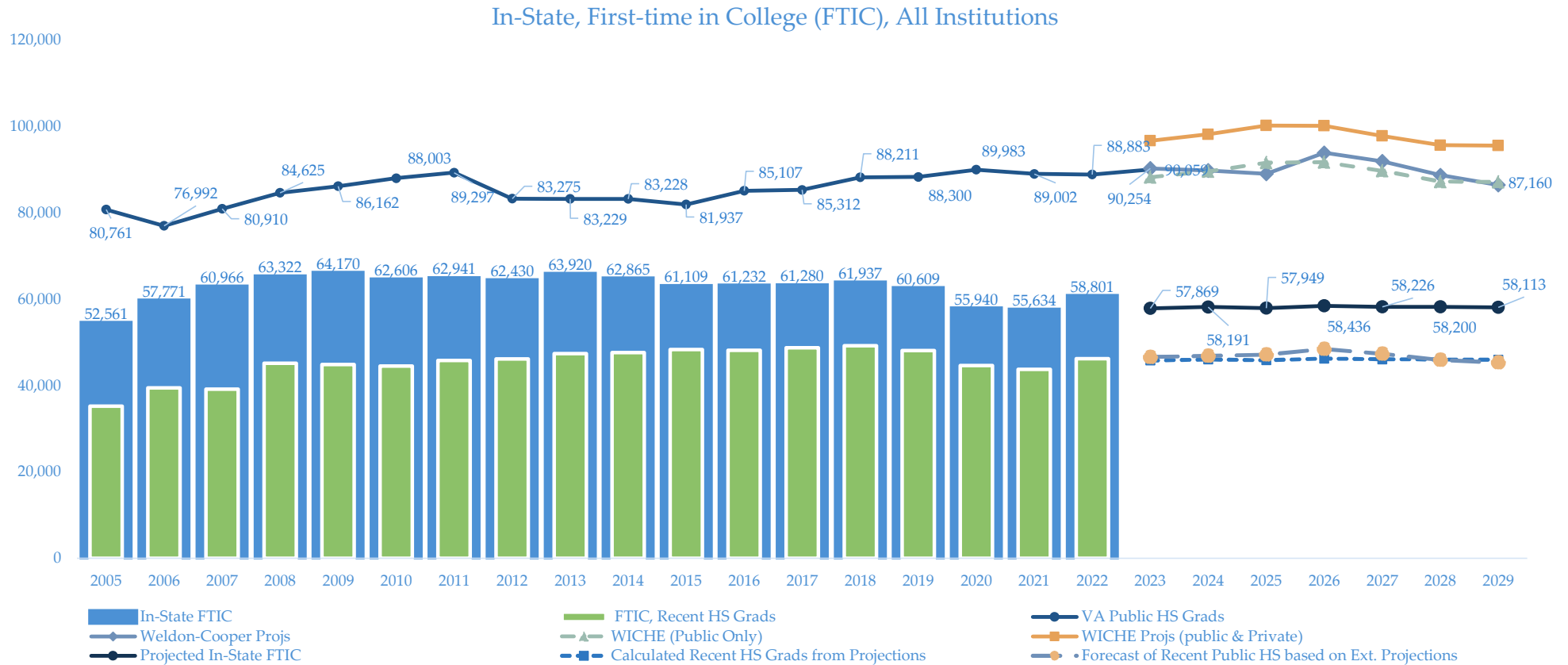
Key findings and trends

- **We remain on track to meet The Virginia Plan goal to add a cumulative 1.5 million degrees and credentials by 2030**
- **Council continues to estimate that, by 2030, 70% of Virginia's working-age population will have an associate's or bachelor's degree or other relevant workforce credential**

Other findings: four-year publics

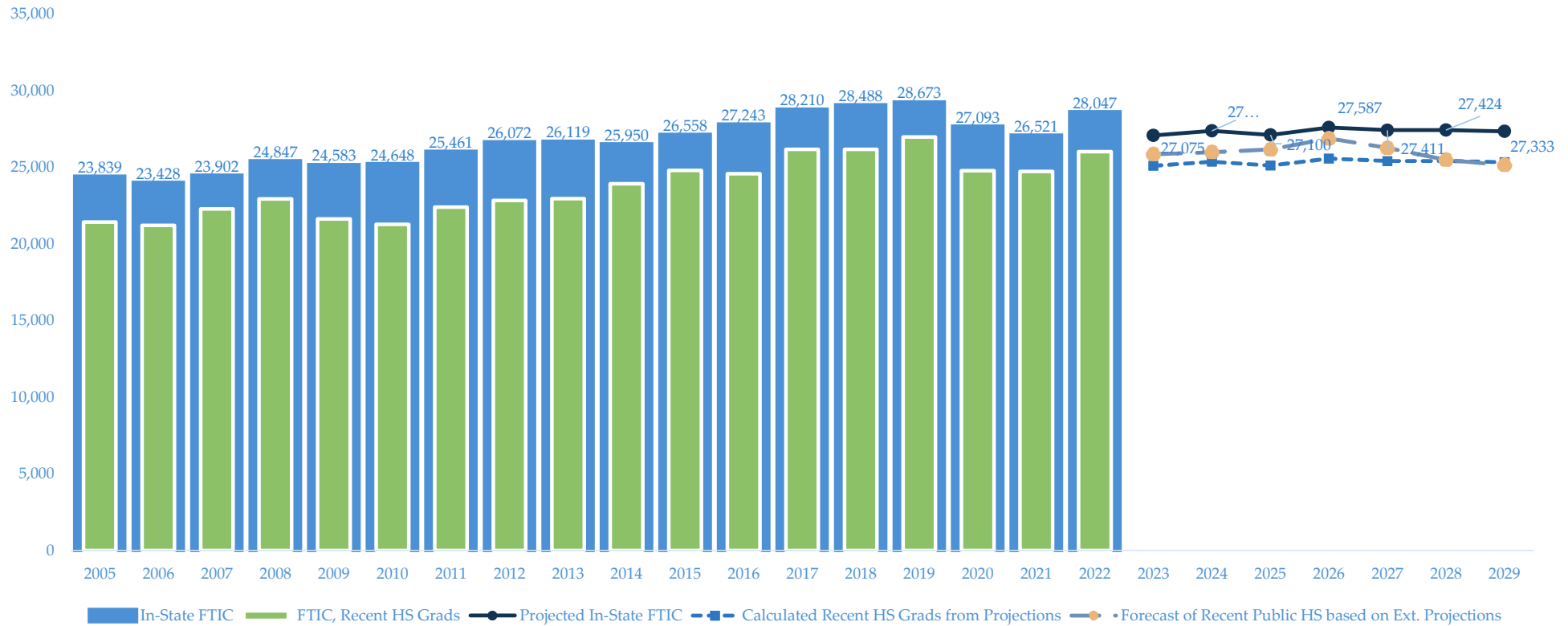
- Overall decrease in in-state FTIC enrollment (1.5% or 711 students)
- Even split between institutions that project growth and those that project lower enrollments
- Undergraduate “distance” enrollment increases from 6.8% to 8.9% of total
- Continuing students comprise 73% of annual undergraduate projections

In-State, First-time in College (FTIC), All Institutions



In-State, First-time in College (FTIC), Public Four-year Institutions

In-State, First-time in College (FTIC), Public Four-year Institutions

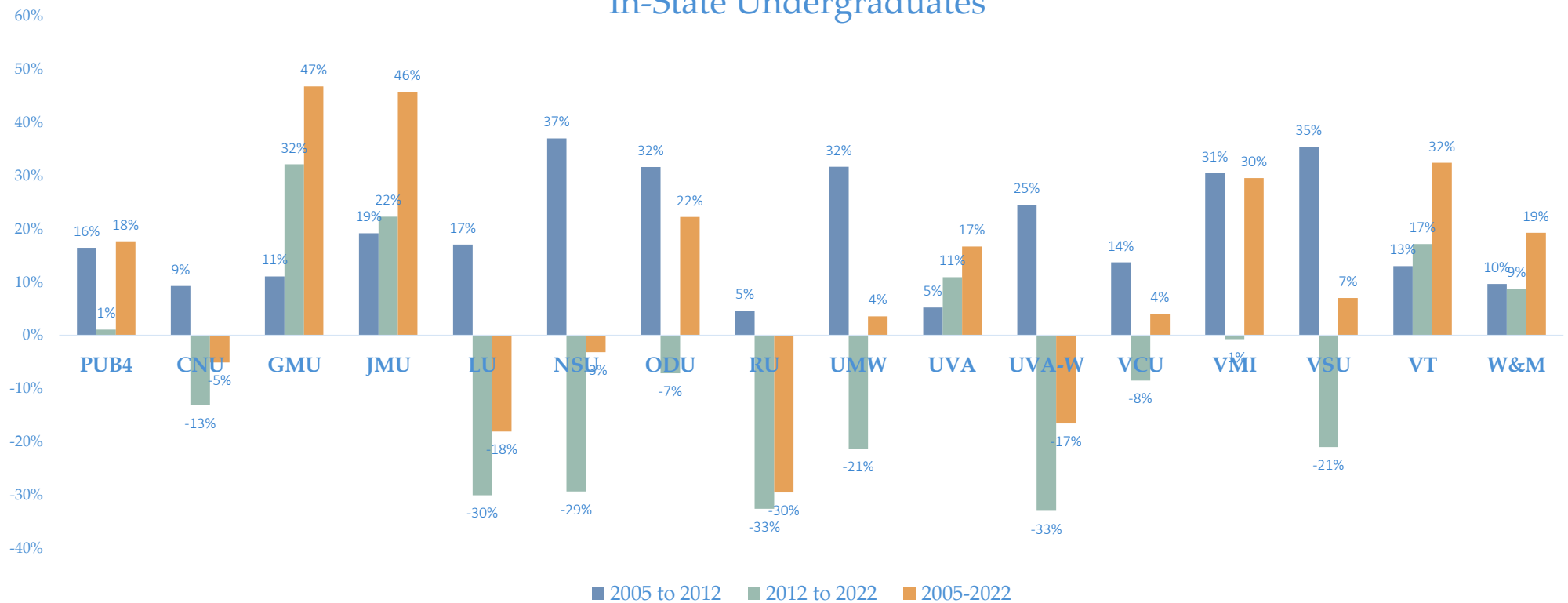


Major Changes in Enrollment

- There has been much focus on enrollment losses since 2012.
- Such focus misses the 16% growth in in-state undergraduates from 2005 to 2012.
- The public four-years that have decreased the most have also lost more than they gained leading to 2012.

Enrollment Changes

In-State Undergraduates

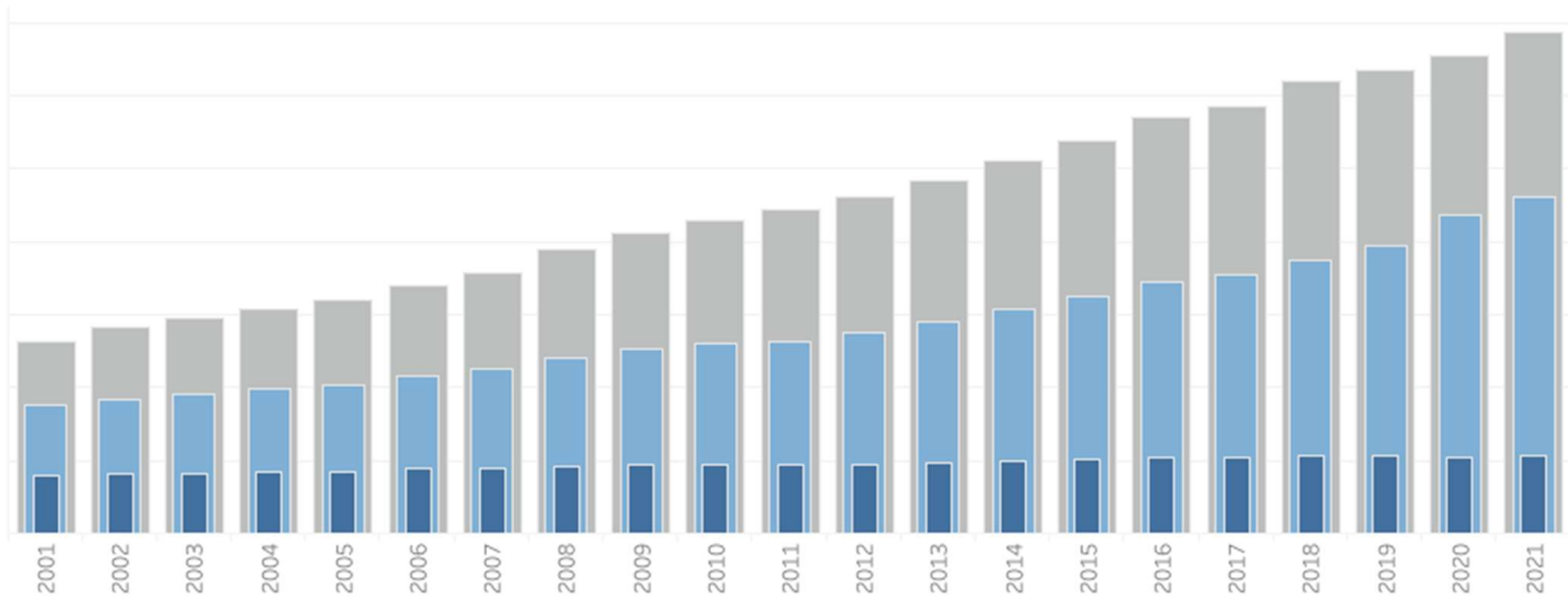


Admissions

- **Patterns in applications and admission mirror national trends.**
- **Data are all specific to public four-year institutions in the following slides.**

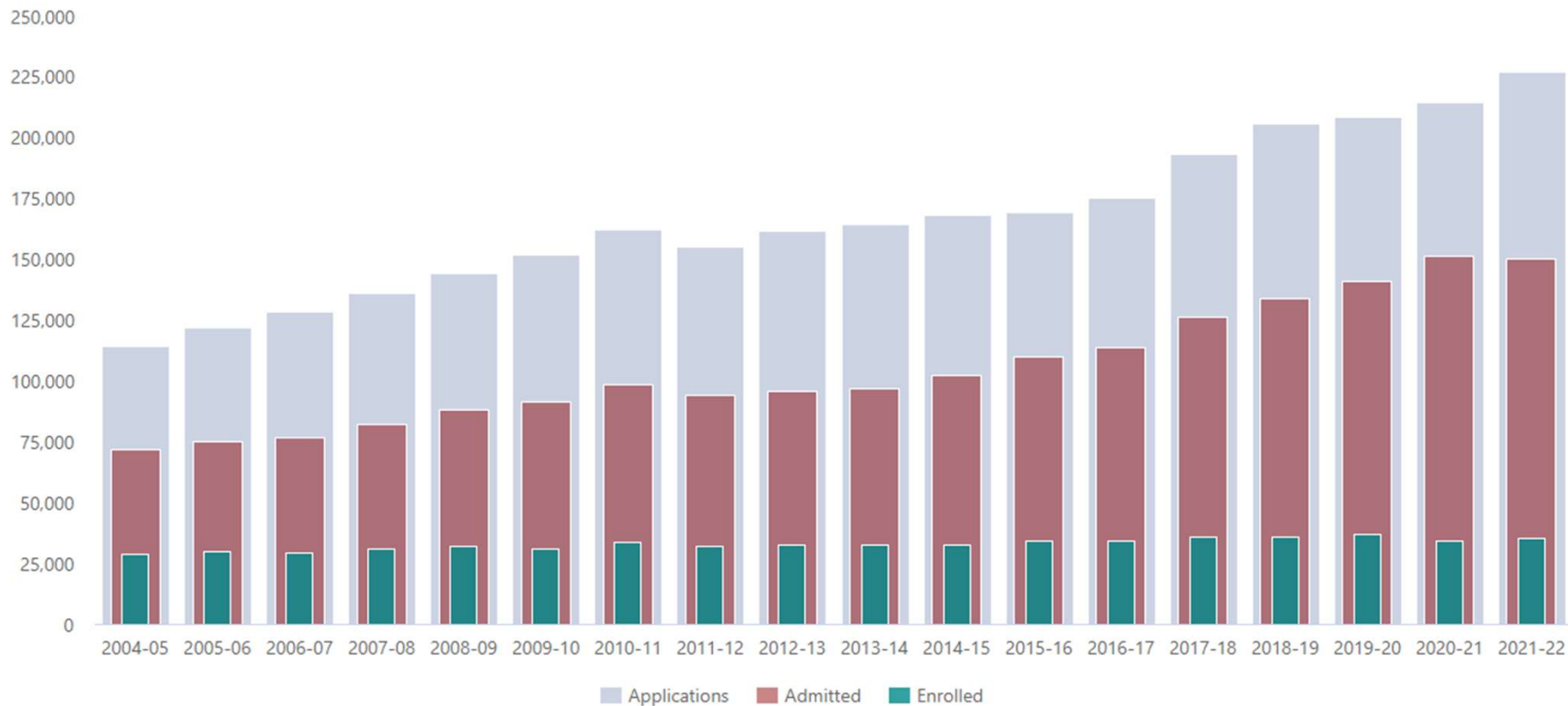
Nationally, Apps & Admits Rates Have Increased

Applicants, Admits, and Enrolling Students, 2001 to 2021 (includes only four-year public and private not-for-profit colleges that admit first-year students and report data to IPEDS).



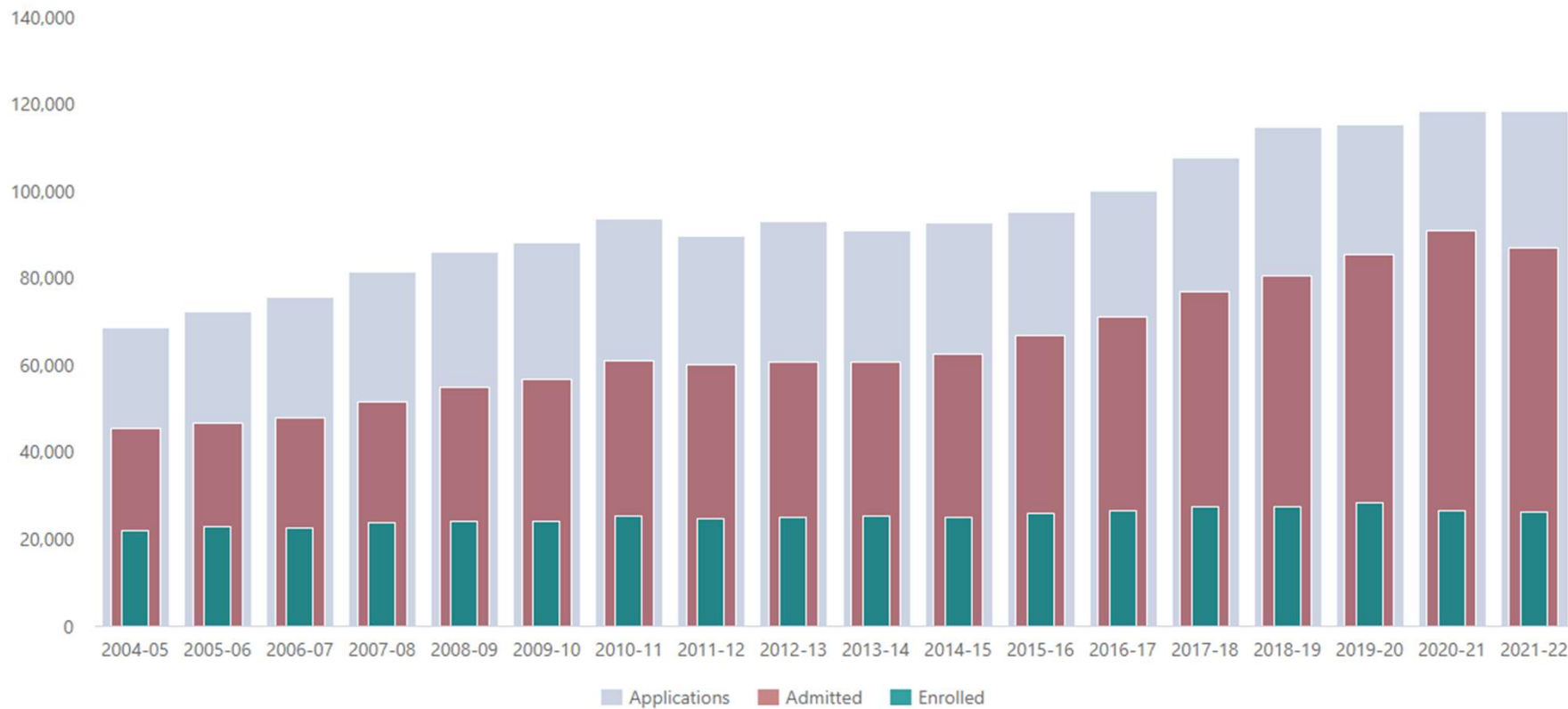
A Similar Pattern in Virginia (All Undergraduates)

Total, Annual Admissions Summary



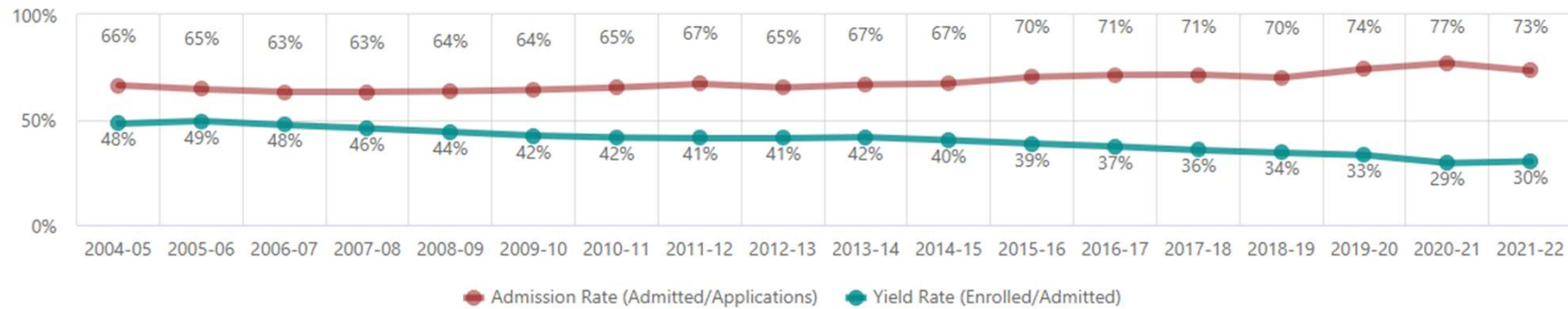
In-State Undergraduates

In-State, Annual Admissions Summary

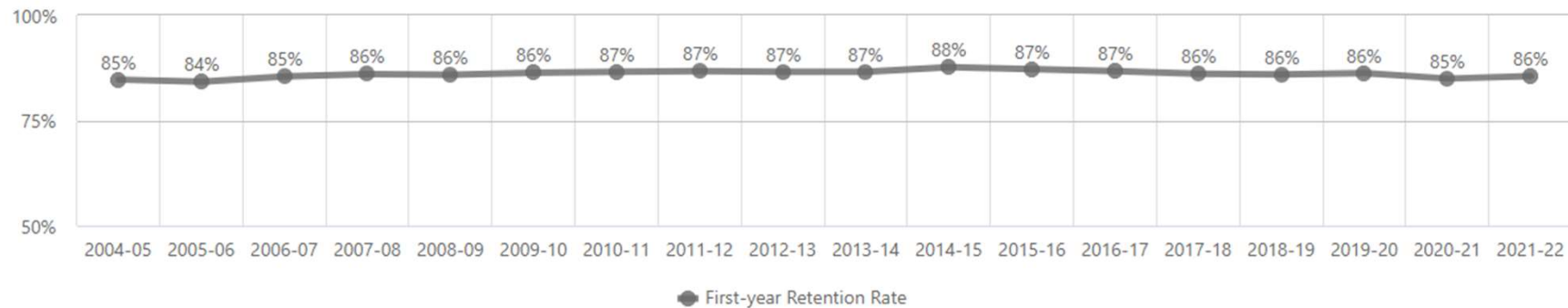


In-State Undergraduates at Public Four-years

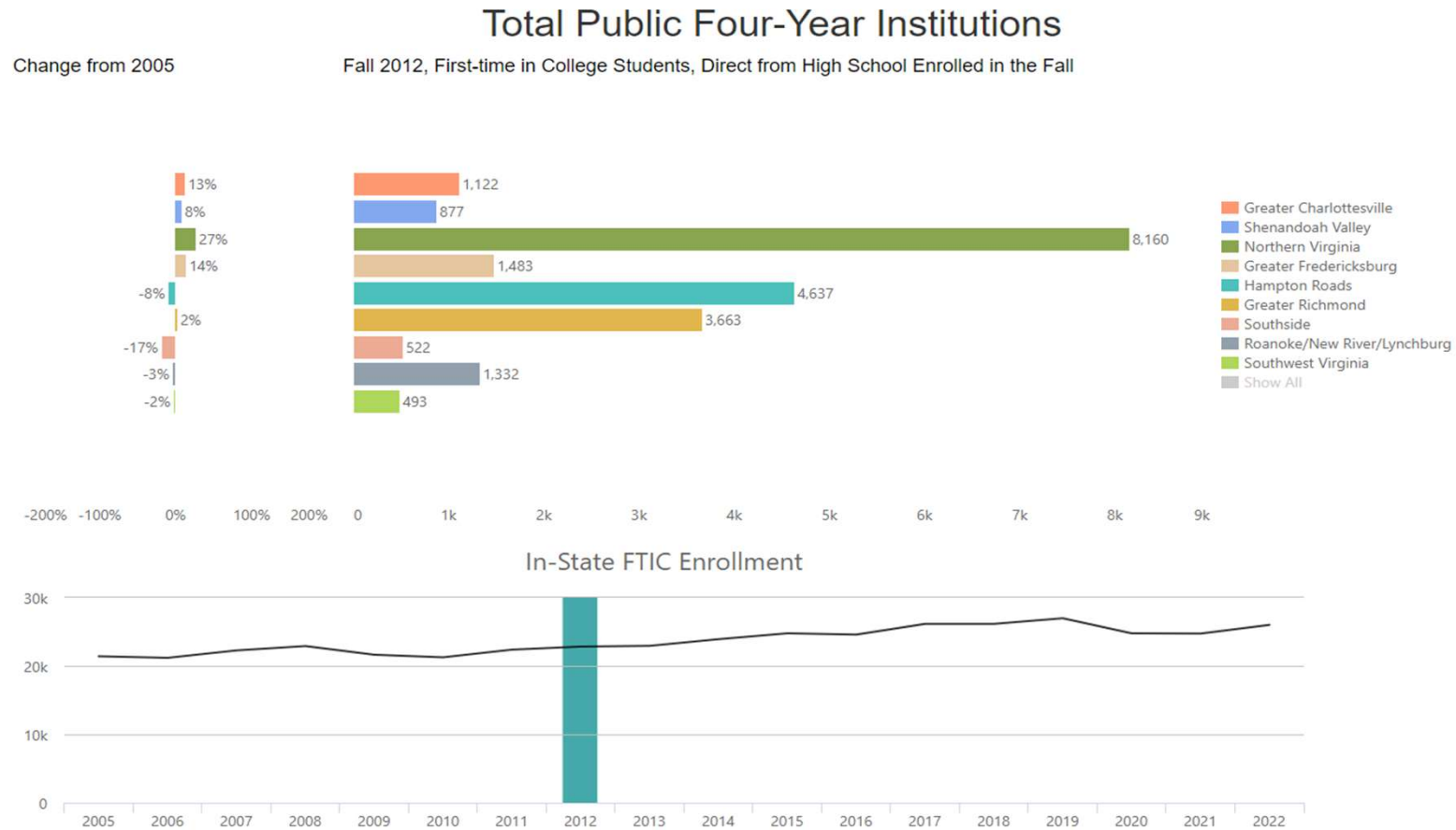
Admission Rate and Yield Rate



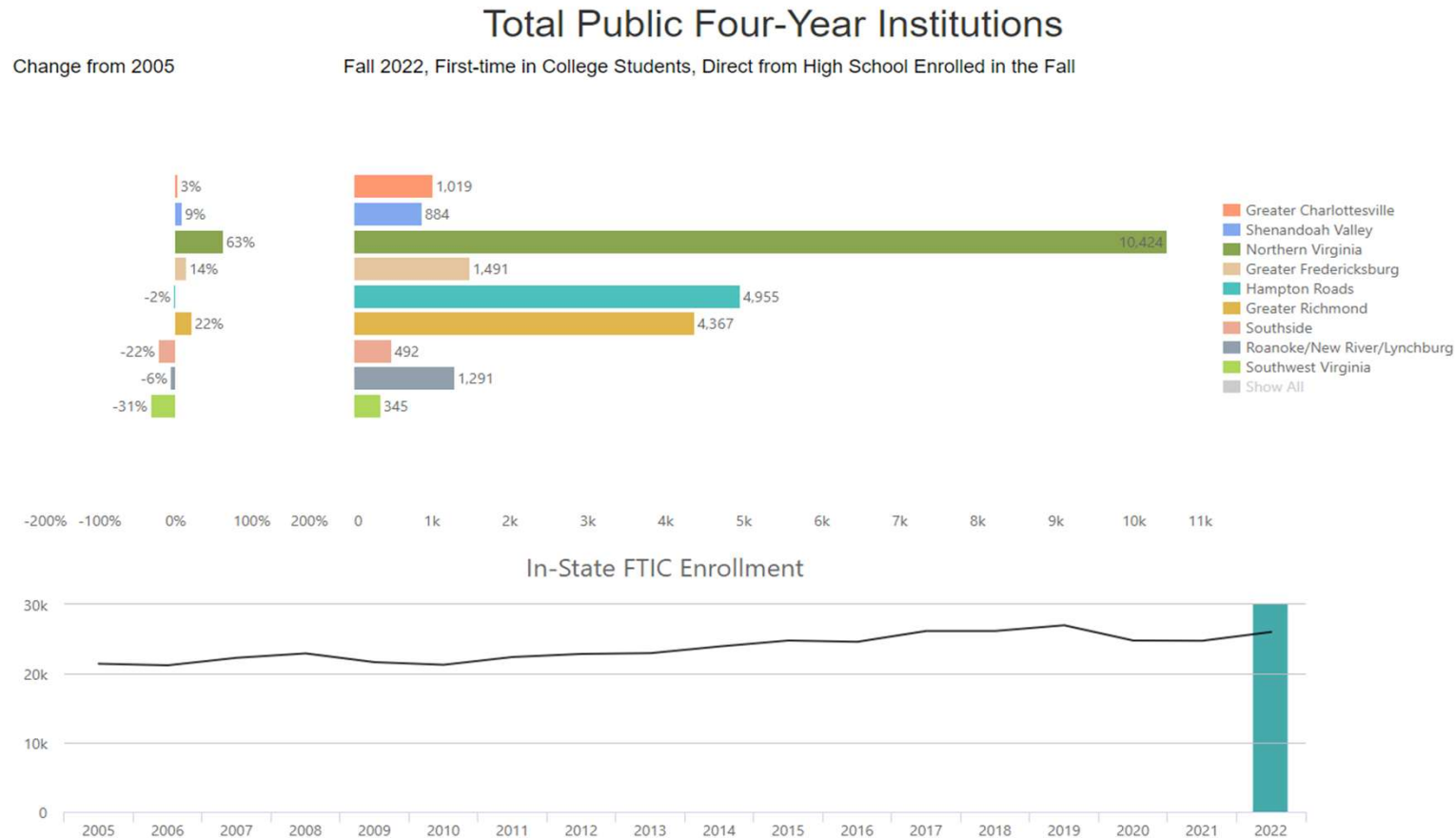
First-year Retention Rate



Growth by Student Origin, 2005 to 2012?



Growth by Student Origin, 2005 to 2022?



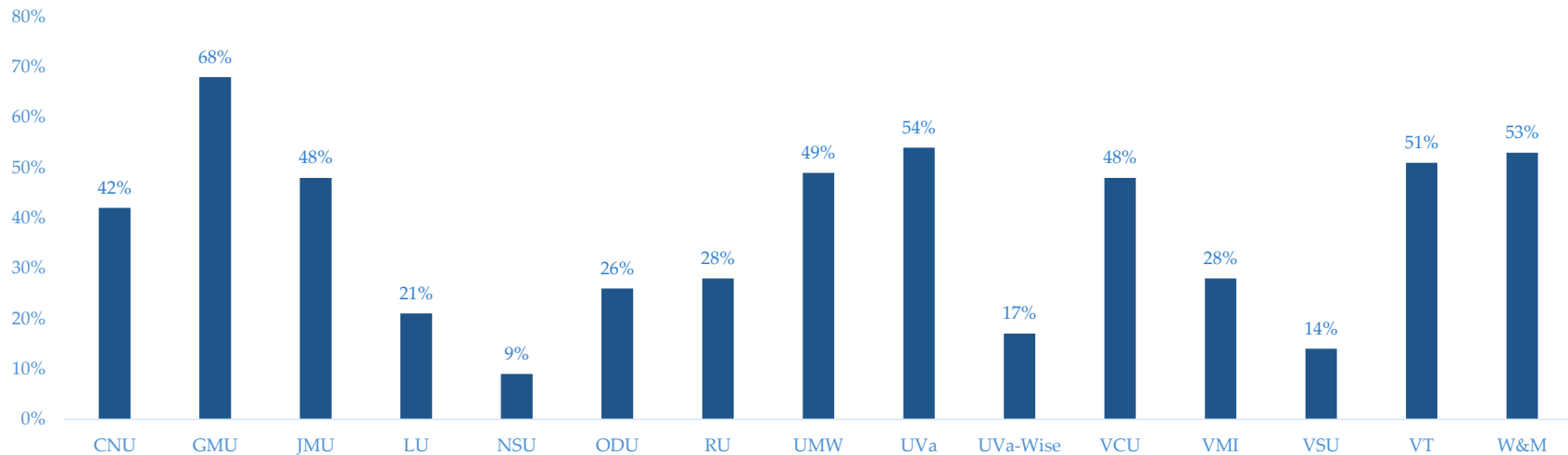
Applications from NoVa have Grown

- The proportion of total applications from NoVa has changed significantly at the institutions that grew.
- The largest increase was 20 percentage points since 2004 at VCU.
- 11 pp at UVa, 10 pp at VT & W&M.
- 7pp ODU, 6 pp at GMU, JMU

Northern VA Applicants

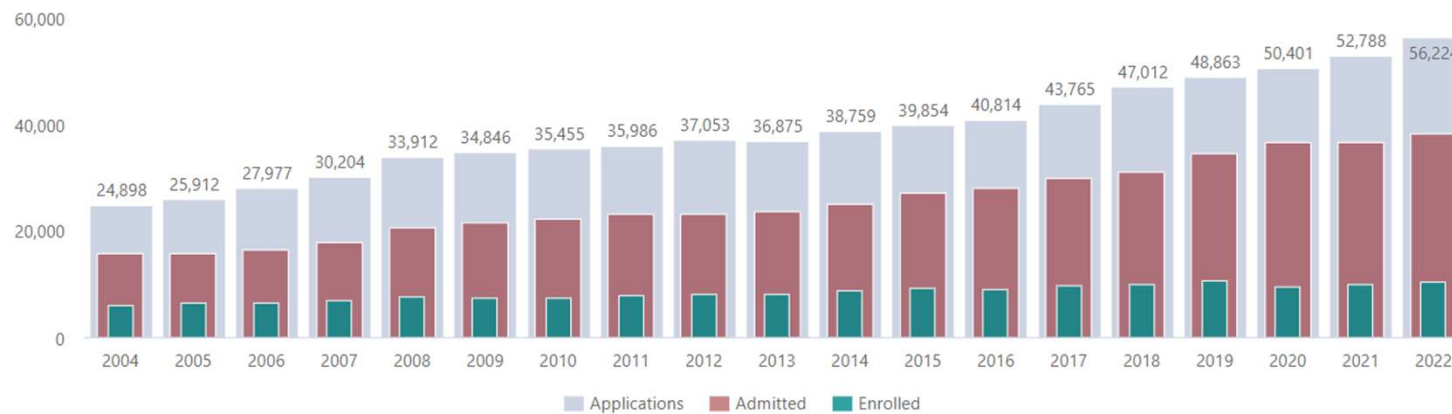
- 42% of all public four-year applicants
- 68% of GMU applicants

Percentage of 2022 FTIC Applications from Northern Virginia

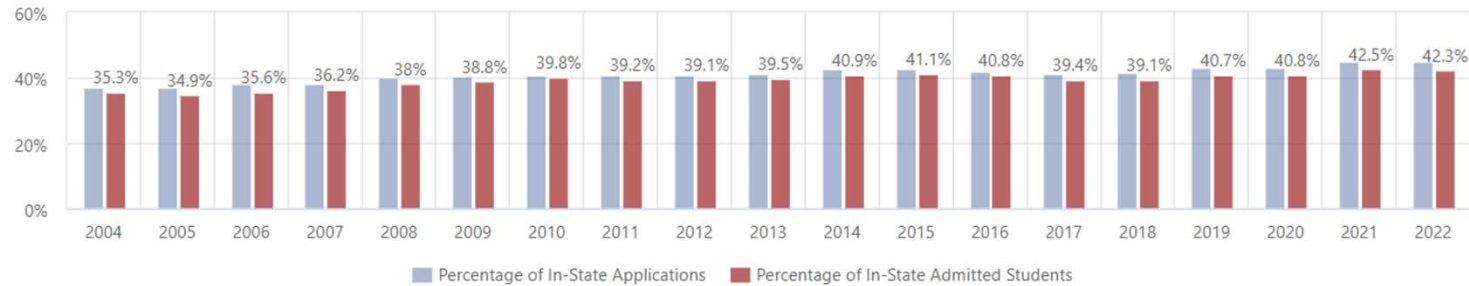


Total Public Four-years

Northern Virginia, Annual Admissions Summary



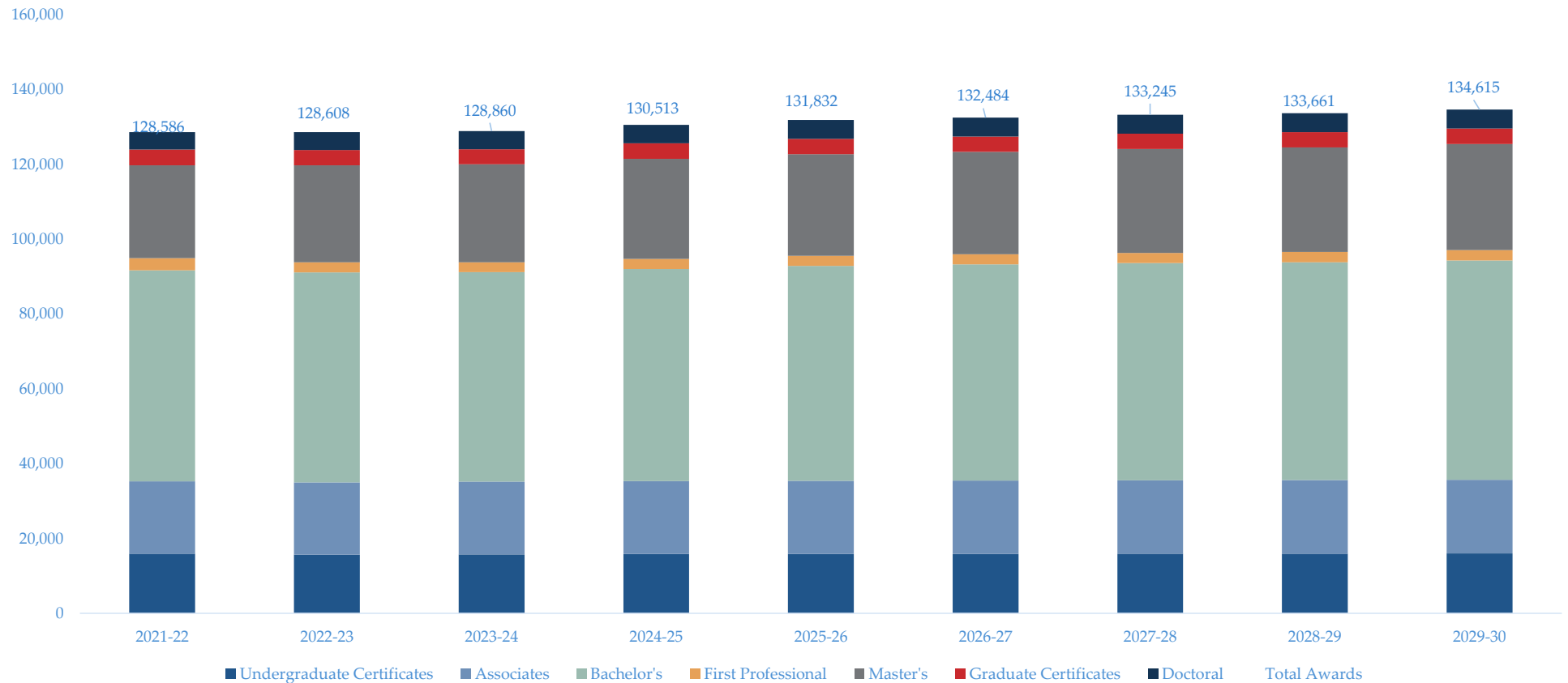
Proportion of Applications and Admissions from Region



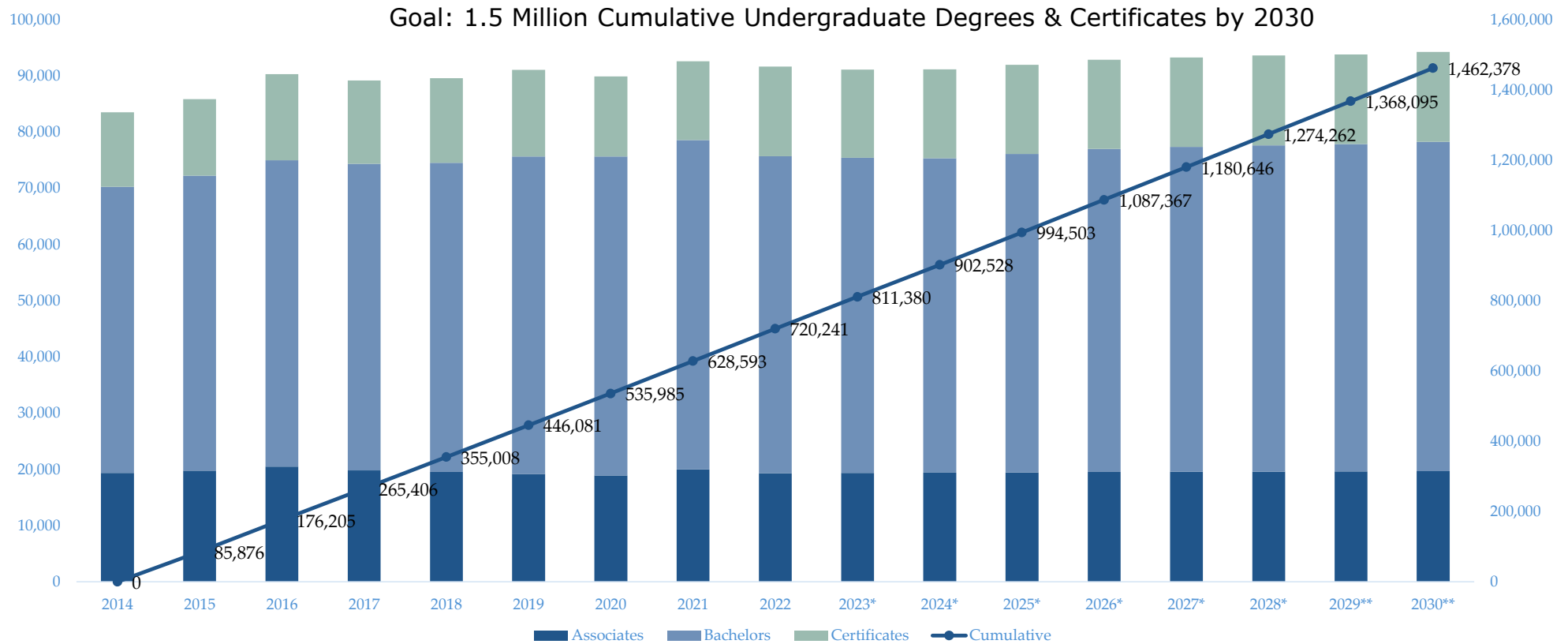
Going Forward

- **The proportion of applicants and enrollments from NoVa is unlikely to decrease substantially in the next decade.**
- **School- and Division-level projections anticipated from Weldon-Cooper will allow further analysis.**

Degree Estimates - All Institutions



“Best State for Education by 2030”



Conclusions

- The 2023 enrollment projections are not dramatically different from prior years.
- Growth areas are on in-state FTIC enrollments at the independents and master's level enrollments (both sectors).
- In-state FTIC continues to vary widely, with modest increases in new transfers.
- We remain on track to achieve 1.5 million undergraduate awards by 2030

Conclusions (continued)

- In general, we find the projections feasible.
- There are some institutions whose projections might be seen as ambitious, they may wish to revise those and the parallel financial plans.

Discussion

Additional Material

2005 to 2022, GMU & VT

George Mason University

Change from 2005

Fall 2022, First-time in College Students, Direct from High School Enrolled in the Fall

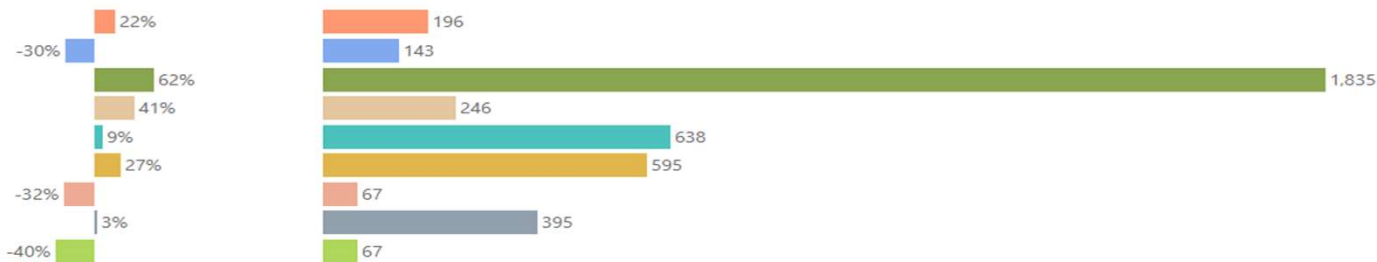


- Greater Charlottesville
- Shenandoah Valley
- Northern Virginia
- Greater Fredericksburg
- Hampton Roads
- Greater Richmond
- Southside
- Roanoke/New River/Lynchburg
- Southwest Virginia
- Show All

Virginia Tech

Change from 2005

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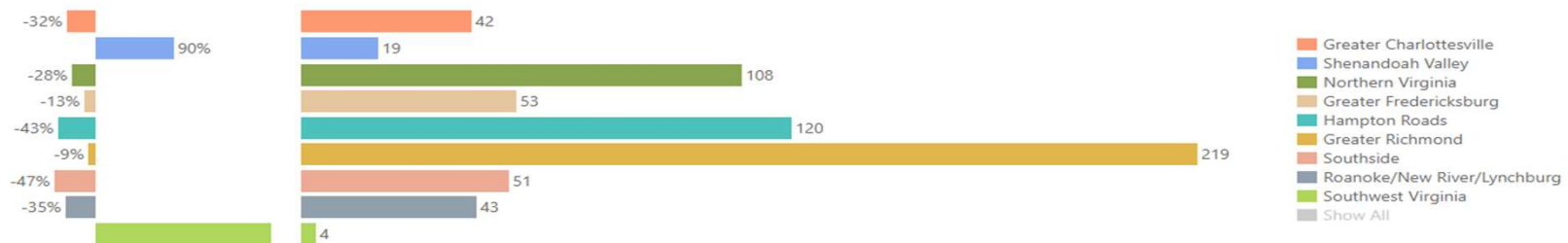
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2005 to 2022, LU & RU

Longwood University

Change from 2005

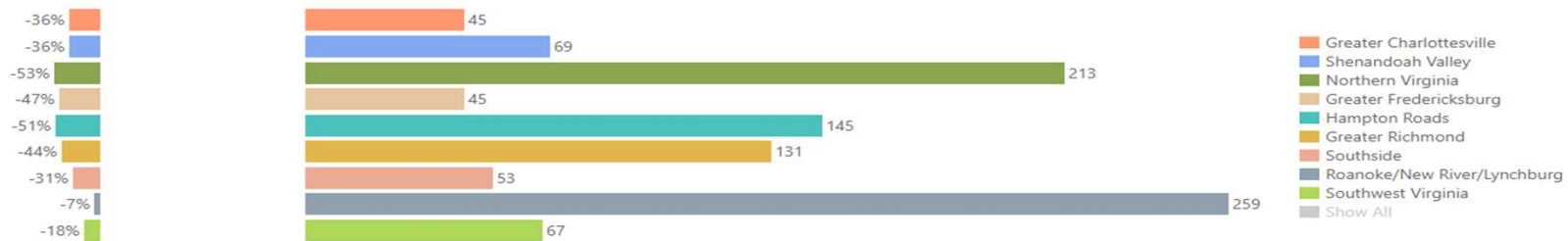
Fall 2022, First-time in College Students, Direct from High School Enrolled in the Fall



Radford University

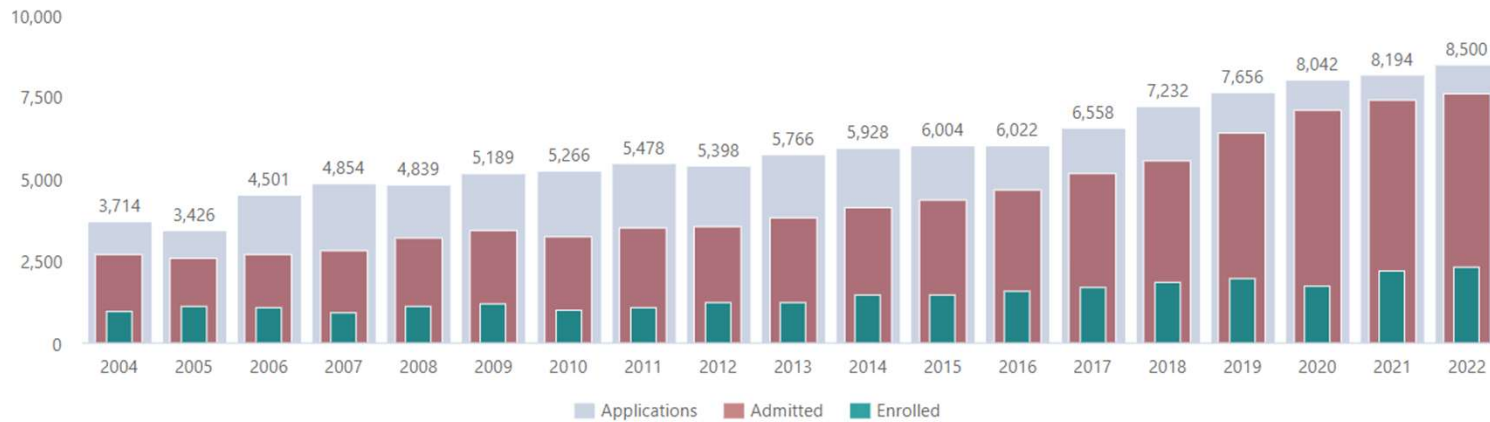
Change from 2005

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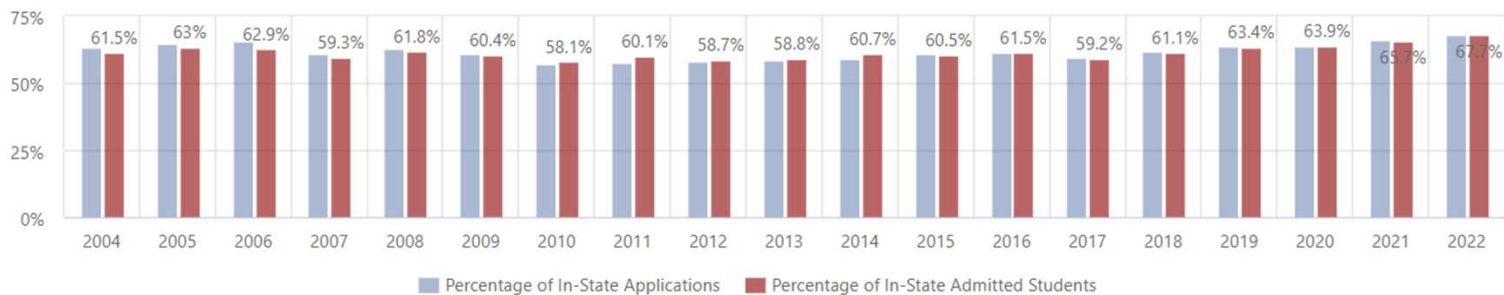


George Mason University

Northern Virginia, Annual Admissions Summary



Proportion of Applications and Admissions from Region



Links

- [B13: First-time in College Admissions Trends](#)
- [B14: Admission Draw by Region](#)
- [Sector Projection Summaries](#)
- [Proposed 2023 Enrollment Projections](#)