

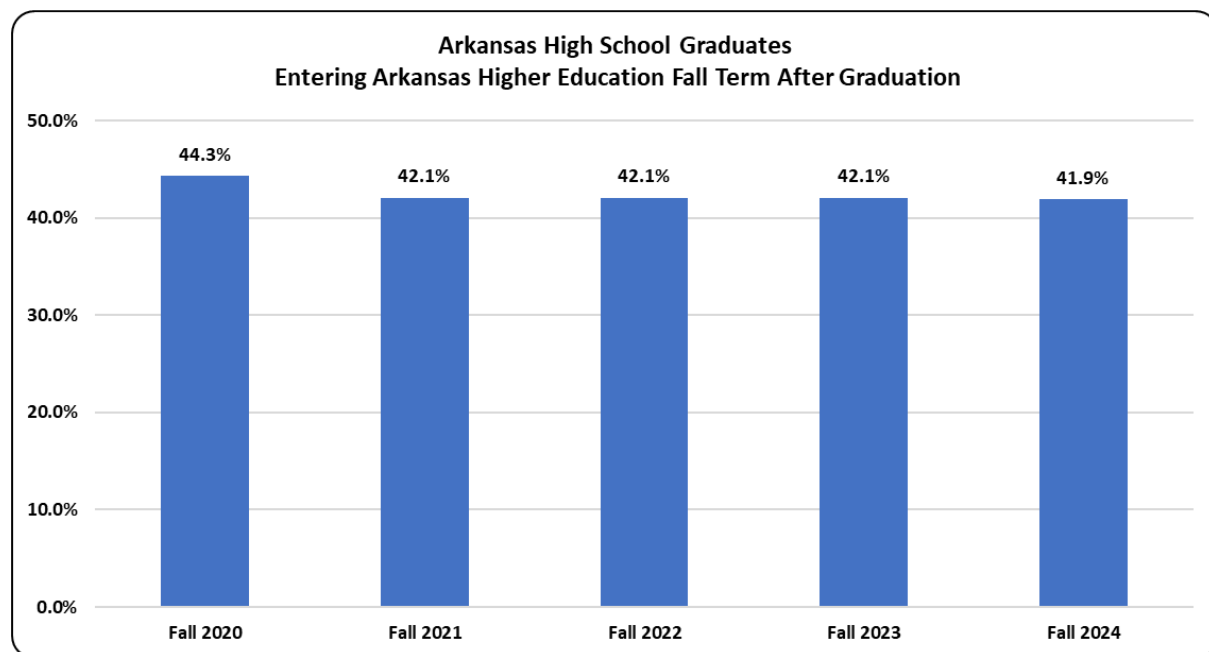
**ANNUAL REPORT OF  
ARKANSAS PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES  
ENROLLING IN ARKANSAS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE  
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

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The college-going rate measures the proportion of students enrolling in postsecondary education in the fall semester after finishing high school. The percentage, therefore, reflects the accessibility of higher education as well as students' assessment of the value of attending college when compared to working, entering the military, or following other pursuits.

This report is a collaboration between the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and the Division of Higher Education (ADHE) of the Arkansas Department of Education. ADHE received 2024 public high school graduate data from DESE and combined it with fall 2024 data submitted to ADHE from all Arkansas public and private institutions. The College-Going Rate calculations include only students graduating from an Arkansas Public High School or Public Charter High School.

Of the 32,654 public high school students graduating from an Arkansas public high school in 2024, 13,692 enrolled at an Arkansas public or private/independent institution in fall 2024 immediately following their high school graduation. This represents a College-Going Rate of 41.9%, which is a 0.2% decrease from the previous year of 42.1%.

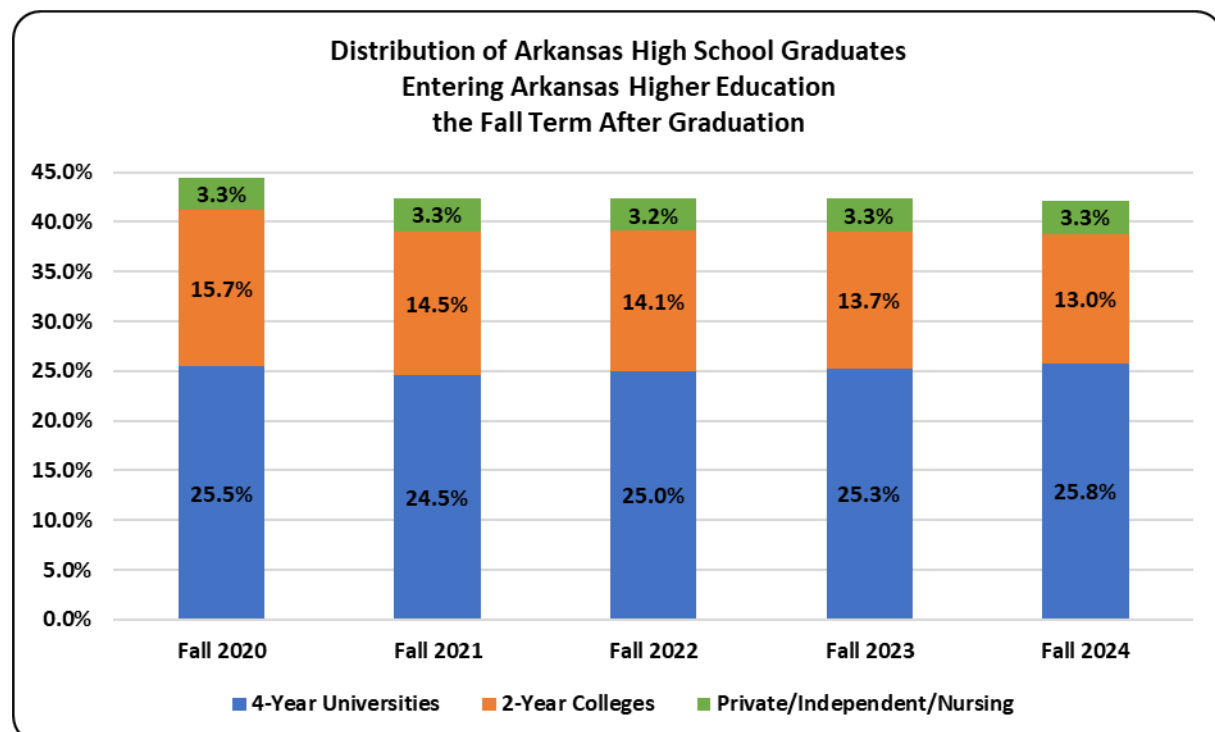


The table below provides the actual number of Arkansas public high school graduates along with the total number of students entering Arkansas public and private higher education. The CGR column represents the college-going rate for that year. The Arkansas college-going rate has been around 42% for the last four years.

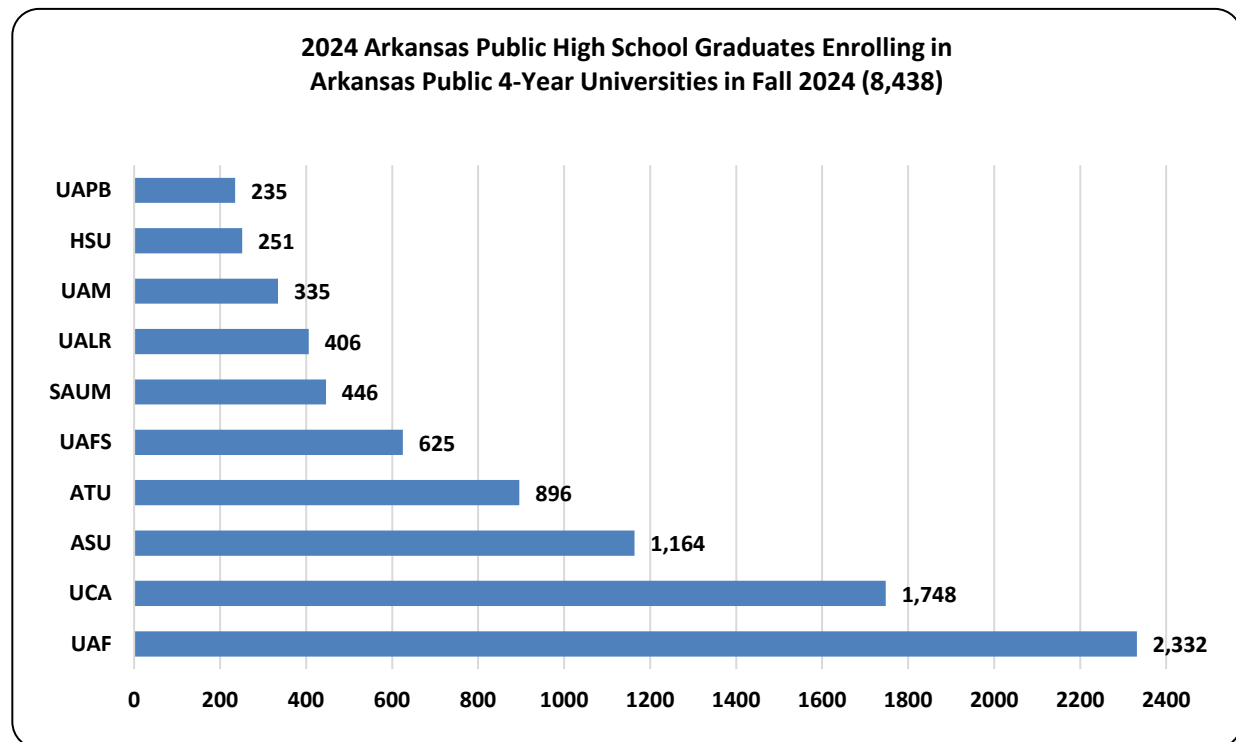
High School Graduation Year	Arkansas Public High School Graduates	Enrolled in College the Following Fall Term	Arkansas College-Going Rate
2020	32,972	14,592	44.3%
2021	32,167	13,547	42.1%
2022	32,154	13,542	42.1%
2023	32,412	13,659	42.1%
2024	32,654	13,692	41.9%

On average, 6%-7% of the Arkansas public high school graduates attend college out-of-state immediately following high school graduation.

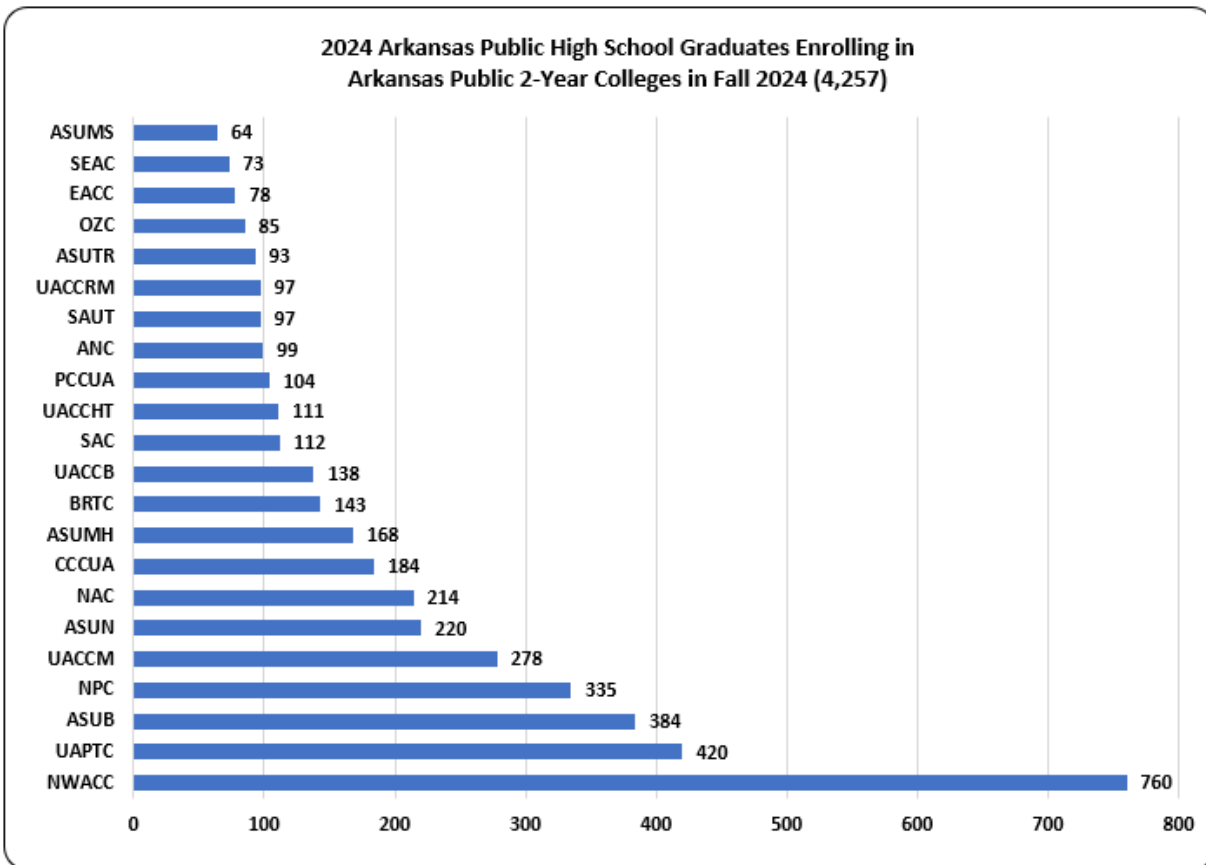
Over five years, the share of students who did enroll in college at 4-year universities has remained constant at 25%, while the share of enrolled students at 2-year colleges has declined from 15.7% to 13.0%. This decline is expected though as the number of students earning workforce certificates before high school graduation encourages students to enter the workforce sooner. The share of students attending our private/independent institutions stayed steady at 3.3%.



The table below shows the number of 2024 Arkansas public high school graduates entering their 4-year university of choice for the fall 2024 term. The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville enrolled over 2,300 first-time students, followed by the University of Central Arkansas which enrolled over 1,700, Arkansas State University which enrolled over 1,100, and Arkansas Tech University enrolled almost 900.



The table below shows the number of 2024 Arkansas public high school graduates entering their 2-year college of choice for the fall 2024 term. NorthWest Arkansas Community College enrolled 760 first-time students. The University of Arkansas - Pulaski Technical College welcomed 420, Arkansas State University - Beebe enrolled 384 while National Park College enrolled 335 first-time students.



The following data represents the first-time in college students entering our private and independent institutions in fall 2024. Ouachita Baptist University enrolled the highest number of first-time students at 186. Harding University welcomed 151 and Hendrix College enrolled 137 first-time students for the fall 2024.

