

Fall Factbook 2023-2024



TRUTH. TRAINING. TRANSFORMATION.

Fall Factbook 2023-2024

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Dean of Institutional Effectiveness
Office of Institutional Effectiveness

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Introduction

Welcome to the College of Biblical Studies' Factbook 2023-2024 Edition. The data presented in the annual report analyzes student information from the Institution's Student Information System.

The **Fall Factbook 2023-2024** is a collection of vital student data that assists the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) and other institutional offices in understanding their constituents and making wise and informed decisions to accomplish their mission and accurately embrace their doctrine. The data disclosed in this report constitutes the academic year from the Fall of 2021 to the Spring of 2024.

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) plays a crucial role in the accurate and timely release of institutional data. This data is distributed across departments, fulfilling one of the many outcomes of the OIE. The timely release of institutional data helps our CBS community and its graduates reach their professional goals by educating and equipping multiethnic leaders to impact the world for Christ.

The OIE is committed to serving our institutional community with accurate data analytics. If you would like the information presented in a new way or additional statistics reported, please get in touch with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (ie@cbshouston.edu). We value your feedback and welcome any opportunity to improve the Factbook in its future reporting cycles.

Thank you,

Joel Badal, PhD
Dean of Institutional Effectiveness
Office of Institutional Effectiveness

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About the College of Biblical Studies

The College of Biblical Studies-Houston is a global higher education institution with over forty years of experience training multiethnic leaders in biblical education. Since 1976, CBS has continued its mission of providing a biblical education that embraces all ethnicities. Honoring our past, we continue to create a quality, biblical academic environment with exceptional faculty and staff and an innovative, life-changing curriculum that serves the body of Christ and the world by developing faithful, educated leaders from “every tongue, every tribe, and every nation.”

Mission Statement

The College of Biblical Studies exists to glorify God by educating and equipping multiethnic Christian leaders to impact the world for Christ.

Vision Statement

To develop and disciple multi-ethnic Christian leaders who transform underserved communities through a life-changing biblical education.

Institutional Values

CBS is committed to nurturing in all modalities, in its programs, and among its boards, faculty, staff, and students these primary values:

- **We love.** We display respect, kindness, and compassion to one another.
- **We excel.** In all we do, we give our best and inspire breakthroughs of brilliance.
- **We grow.** As a community of learners, we relentlessly pursue the next horizon.
- **We serve.** With humble hearts, we use our God-given talents to achieve His purposes.
- **We are stronger together.**

Six Institutional Goals

Through the College’s curricular and co-curricular experiences, CBS students demonstrate:

1. Biblical and theological knowledge, recognizing Scripture as the ultimate authority for life and godliness.
2. Skills that reflect critical thinking and problem-solving ability.
3. Attitudes and values indicative of an integrated biblical world view.
4. Sensitivity to various cultural viewpoints.

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5. Skills of effective communication.
6. Skills for Christian ministry.

Key Distinctives

The College was developed to provide college-level training in Bible and theology for individuals with little or no opportunity to receive such training by conventional means (resident, full-time). As a commuter college, this training is accomplished uniquely through our key distinctions:

- **Biblical** – curriculum is primarily focused on a biblical worldview based on scriptural truth, focusing on ministry preparation and life transformation.
- **Diverse** – students study and experience the education process with fellow students from a variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds.
- **Accessible** – courses are available during the day, evening, and Saturdays, as well as online to provide the CBS commuter college students the opportunity to “fit” their studies into their life schedules.
- **Affordable** – the cost of attendance is intentionally lower than other accredited private institutions, and financial aid is available to assist students in meeting the financial requirements of their studies.

History of the College

The College of Biblical Studies-Houston has led transformational education for over forty years. Formerly Houston Bible Institute (HBI), CBS began as a burden in the heart of the late Rev. Ernest L. Mays, the founder of HBI. He sensed that large segments of the local Christian community were functioning without trained leaders. This was especially true within the inner-city minority groups. Out of this concern, Houston Bible & Vocational Institute was incorporated in 1976. Mr. William Thomas, Jr. and Rev. Joe Wall assisted in developing a multi-racial, interdenominational board, which began working to make the school a reality. Within a short time, they decided to focus on biblical and theological training because they felt that there were already adequate resources for vocational training.

The first classes of Houston Bible Institute were offered in the fall of 1979. Rev. Rodney L. Cooper was the school’s first Executive Director. From its inception, the school used the facilities of KHCB-FM, a Houston-based Christian radio network, for its classrooms and leased administrative space nearby.

In 1983, Rev. Rod Cooper resigned to pursue a PH.D., and the Board promoted Rev. Jack Arrington, Vice President, to President. President Arrington continued the difficult task of building the foundation and establishing credibility in the minority community.

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In 1991, God called Rev. Arrington to the pastorate and Dr. William Boyd to fill his vacancy. Dr. Boyd built the superstructure on Mays's vision and Cooper's and Arrington's foundation. He implemented a scholarship program that resulted in significant growth for the college. Under Dr. Boyd's leadership, in 1996, the school was certified as a college, and the name was changed from Houston Bible Institute to College of Biblical Studies–Houston. In 1999, CBS achieved national accreditation through the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges (now the Association for Biblical Higher Education-ABHE).

In July 2007, God called Dr. Jay A. Quine to the presidency, and Dr. Boyd became the Chancellor. Dr. Quine led the 2008-2013 Strategic Plan, which focused on adding a traditional bachelor's program, a Center for Continuing Studies, and the pursuit of regional accreditation.

In July 2012, God called Dr. William Blocker to the presidency to provide leadership to the College in the pursuit of becoming the premier Bible College in Texas and furthering its impact on families, churches, and communities.

In December 2013, the College of Biblical Studies–Houston was granted member status for accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Thus, the College is now dually accredited with both ABHE and SACSCOC.

In January 2014, the College began offering distance education through online courses. The Institution is now a member of NC SARA, a regional compact for higher education institutions to provide online courses and degrees across state borders.

In 2017, the college pursued recognition with NC-SARA and was approved to offer online degrees and courses outside of Texas.

In February 2017, Dr. Blocker began dialoguing with Dr. A. Charles Ware, president of Crossroads Bible College, Indianapolis, about merging both Institutions. The conversation was favorable, and soon, a Feasibility Team was formed to begin the next phase of the process. After a series of meetings, planning, and implementation, the Institutions received permission from the accreditors that both Institutions were permitted to pursue a merger effective July 1, 2019. In addition to the institutional merger, CBS received a religious exemption for operating in the State of Indiana. This exemption provides CBS students access to state grants for their degree programs. Currently, CBS has two additional locations in Indiana where residents can pursue on-ground and online degrees. A streamlined administrative staff and faculty operates at the Houston main campus, Indianapolis, and remotely in other states.

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Presidential Leadership

Rev. Ernest L. Mays (Founder), 1976-1979

Rev. Rodney L. Cooper, 1979-1983

Dr. William Boyd, 1991-2007

Dr. Jay A. Quine, 2007-2011

Dr. William “Bill” Blocker, 2012-Present

College of Biblical Studies Board of Trustees & Administrative Officers

Officers

David W. Tauber, Sr., *Chairman*

James L. Cowthran, *Vice Chair*

Ralph D. McBride, *Secretary*,

Barksdale Hortenstine, JD, *Treasurer*

Lance C. Armstead, *At Large*

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William W. Blocker, DMCE

John E. Brewster, Jr., JD

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Lynden B. Rose, JD

Carrie Simmons Skipton

Ivory L. Varner, DLitt

Diana Wandix-White, PhD

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Bruce E. Munsterman

David K. Oelfke

Administrative Officers

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Richard Campbell

Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer

Paul D. Keith

Vice-President of Administration & Chief Operating Officer

Emmanuel Lalande, EdD

Vice President of Student Services

Joseph D. Parle, PhD

Provost and Academic Dean

Lisa Stewart, MBA, PhD

Vice President of Discipleship

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Office of the President



William Blocker
MDiv., DMCE,
President

Dr. William “Bill” Blocker, DMCE, was appointed president of the College of Biblical Studies in Houston, Texas, in 2012. During his tenure, CBS-Houston became one of a handful of colleges in the nation to achieve accreditation by both the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and the Association of Biblical Higher Education (ABHE). Prior to CBS, Dr. Blocker served at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago as vice president and dean of educational services. He also led numerous strategic initiatives including marketing, global impact, technology, the school’s media ministry, and many others.

Dr. Blocker also served as senior pastor of Christian Fellowship Church on the south side of Chicago. A respected scholar, author, international speaker, and renowned Bible class teacher. He teaches and lectures on biblical leadership, discipleship, marriage, and family. He established the international alliance with Karunya University in India and has served as a chapel presenter and international speaker in India and Israel. His radio ministry, “Word to the Wise,” is heard on radio stations locally and across the nation.

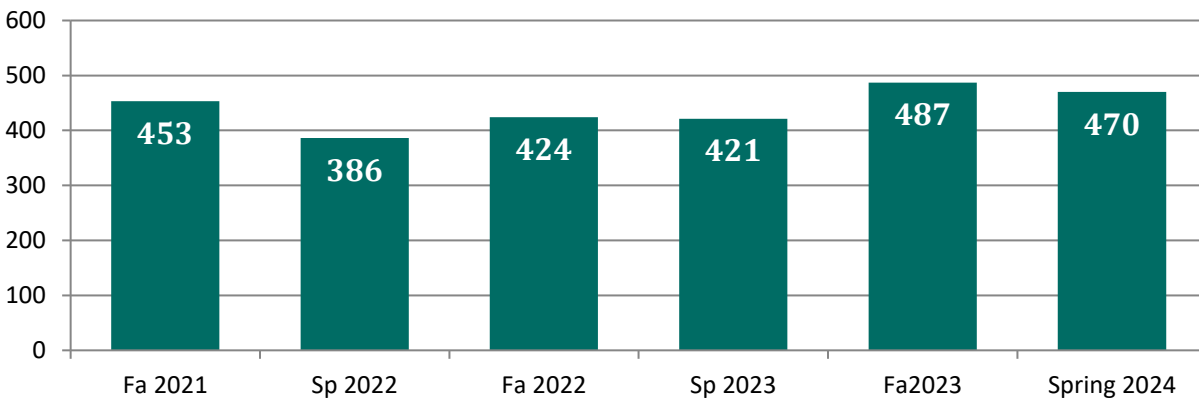
Dr. Blocker is also in high demand in academic circles for his expertise in accreditation and college administration. He is a member of ABHE Flagship Presidents, and he is often called to serve as an expert evaluator of other colleges and universities accrediting body SACSCOC. He and his wife Zelda regularly lead tours to Israel, and in 2009 wrote a booklet focused on his journeys: *Making the Most of Your Trip to Israel: A Spiritual Formation Guide*. The Blockers have four grown daughters (Zaneta, Angela, Rebekah, and Victoria), a son (Jeremiah), and three grandchildren.

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Total Headcount

During the fall of 2023, Headcount was at 487, an increase from the previous fall by 63 or 13%. The College decreased its headcount by 29 students in the fall of 2021. In the fall of 2021, the headcount was 453, decreasing from 2020 to 490 (7.5% reduction). Comparing Fall 2021 to Fall 2022, there was another 6.5% reduction in enrollment. **Chart 1.0** shows the headcount distribution for each semester from the fall of 2020 to the Spring of 2023. Comparing Fall 2023 to Spring 2024, Headcount remains consistent between terms, with the fall slightly higher. Of the total Headcount in 2023-2024, were 62 students in the Dual Credit program. However, since students in the dual credit program are not documented like traditional first-time students, the headcount would be slightly lower. For the fall 2023, dual credit students accounted for 38 total, dropping the fall 2023 to 449, resulting in one above the fall 2022 numbers. Likewise, the spring 2024 dual credit headcount accounted for 44 students. This subtraction from the Spring 2024 numbers would decrease numbers to 426.

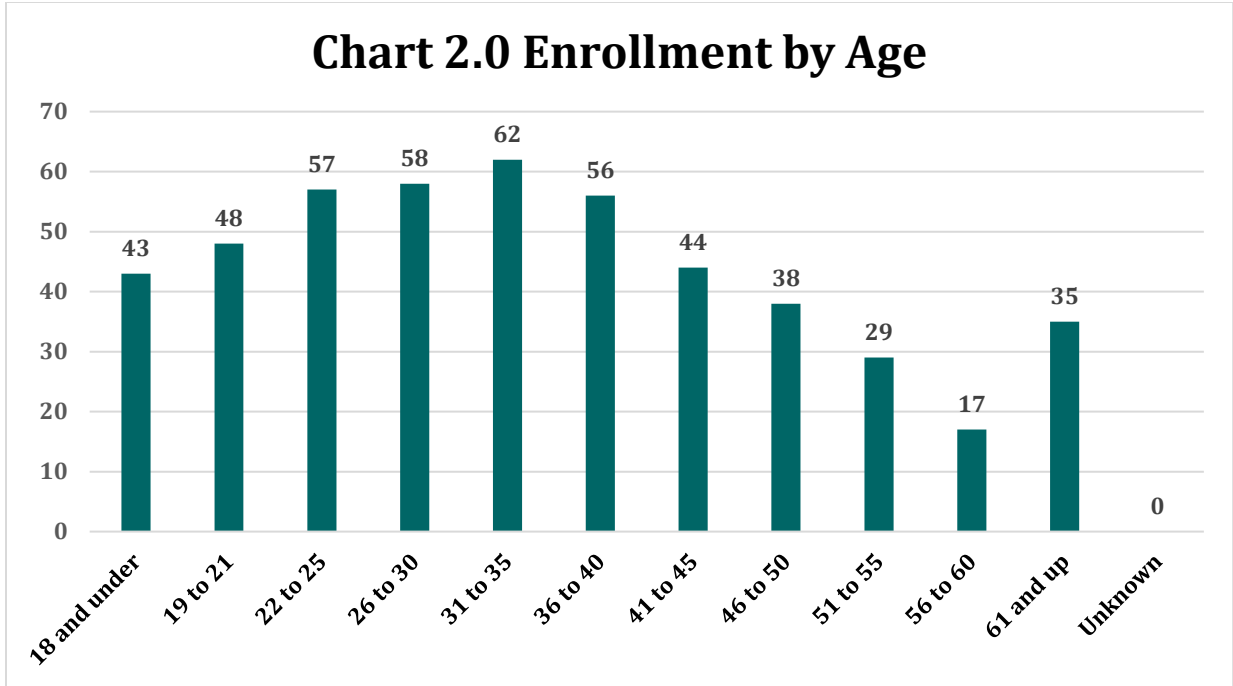
Chart 1.0 Total Enrollment



Total Age Count

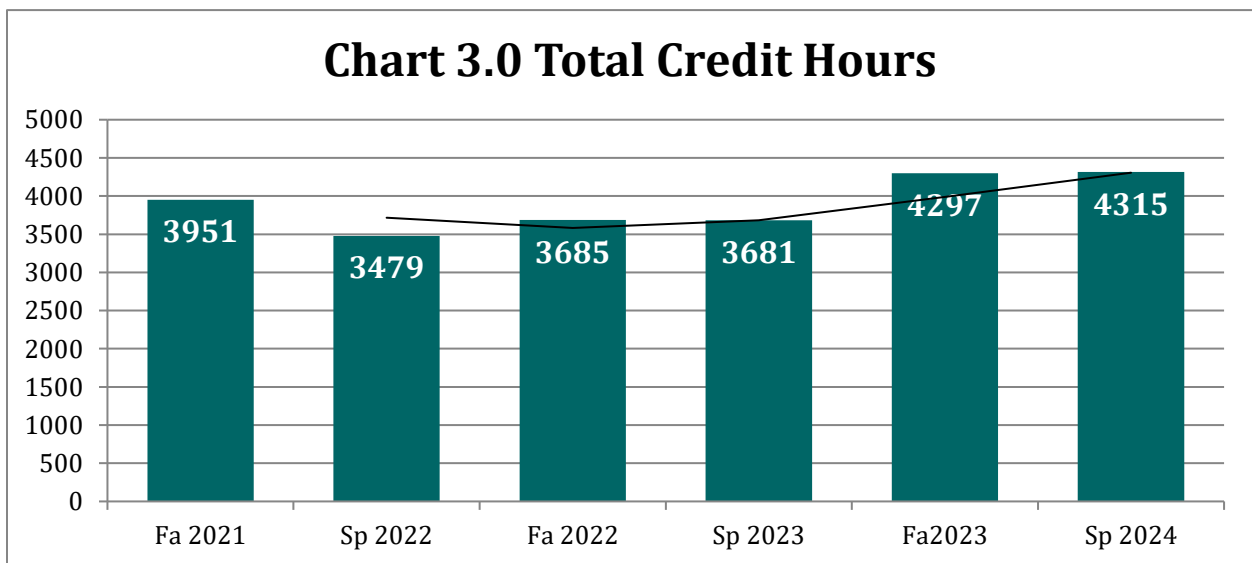
The average age of a CBS student is **36**. Historically, the college has been primarily an adult-based institution for adult students who once attended college but could not complete their degree. **Chart 2.0** Enrollment by age trends demonstrated an increase in 43 enrollments. This number also accounts for students ages 18 and under attending because of the dual credit program for high school students through its online program. Additionally, the Emerging Leaders Scholarship continues to draw young men who come from fatherless backgrounds the opportunity to attend college through a tuition-paid program.

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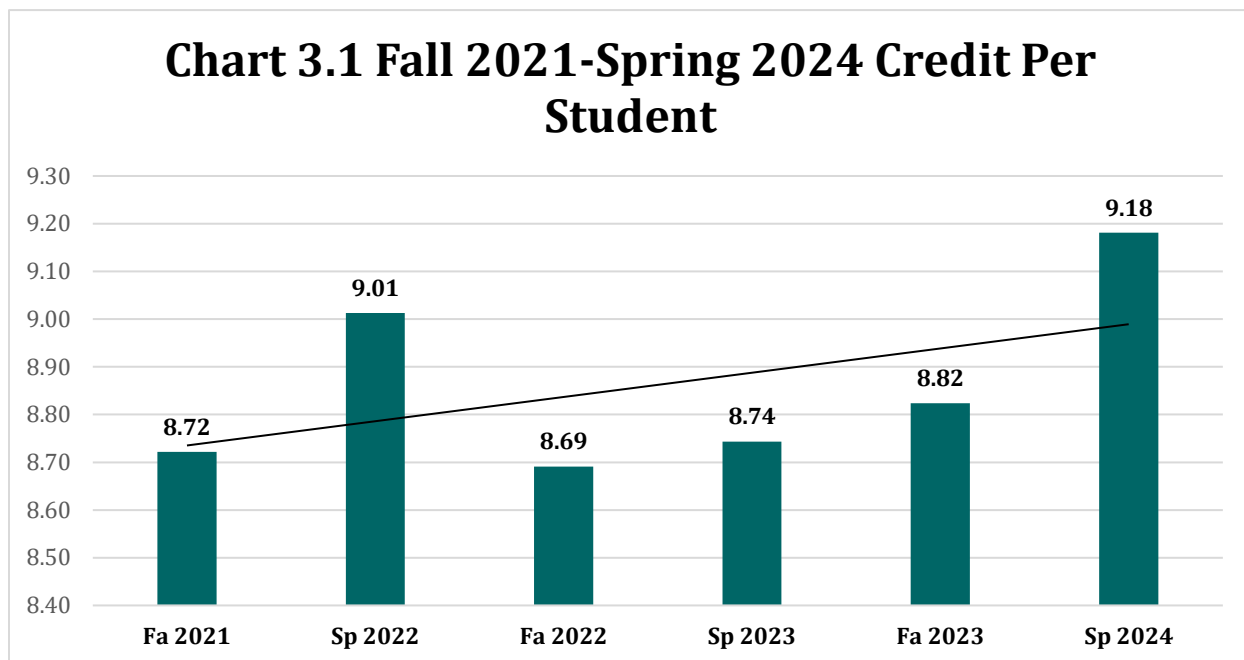
Total Credits

On **Chart 3.0**, data from the fall of 2021 to the fall of 2023 demonstrates an increase of about 26% during a three-year cycle. Credits sold during the fall cycles increased from the fall of 2021 to the fall of 2023. Comparing Fall 2021 to Fall 2022, there was a decrease in credits of about 266 or about a 7% reduction in Fall 2022. Assessing Fall 2023 and Spring 2024, the credits increased another 18, which accounts for about .5% from one academic term. Total credits from Fall 2023 to Spring 2024 included Dual Credit students taking online courses. During the fall of 2023, 165 credits were associated with this learning designation, and during the spring of 2024, 226 credits.



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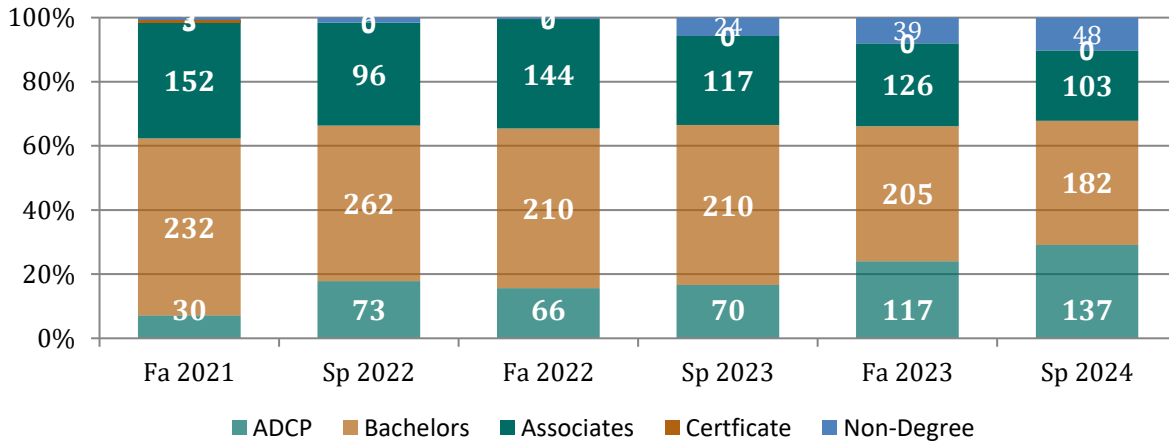
In **Chart 3.1**, the last three consecutive fall terms demonstrate a modest increase in the credit average among students enrolled at the College. Fall 2022 saw a slight drop compared to the previous fall 2021 term. By fall 2023, the average went slightly up by .13%. Spring 2022 showed a modest increase from the fall of 2021, then dropped in the Spring of 2023 but rose by .44% in the spring of 2023.



Headcount: by Degree

CBS offers associate's and bachelor's degrees. The degrees are available in the following modalities: traditional, adult degree completion, online, and other accelerated modalities. The bachelor's degree includes biblical studies, biblical counseling, women's ministry, and leadership. **Chart 4.0** displays the degree modalities by headcount. During the COVID-19 pandemic, all courses and degrees were completed online (Fall 2020 to Spring 2023).

Chart 4.0 Enrollment by Degree



Headcount: by Gender

Charts 5.0 and 5.1 provide a three-year trend of the institution's headcount distribution by gender. The institution's gender distribution expresses its commitment to educating and equipping students to fulfill the mission of reaching a multi-ethnic audience. Male students account for 287 total or 66%, and Female students account for 195, or 34%.

5.0 Enrollment by Gender

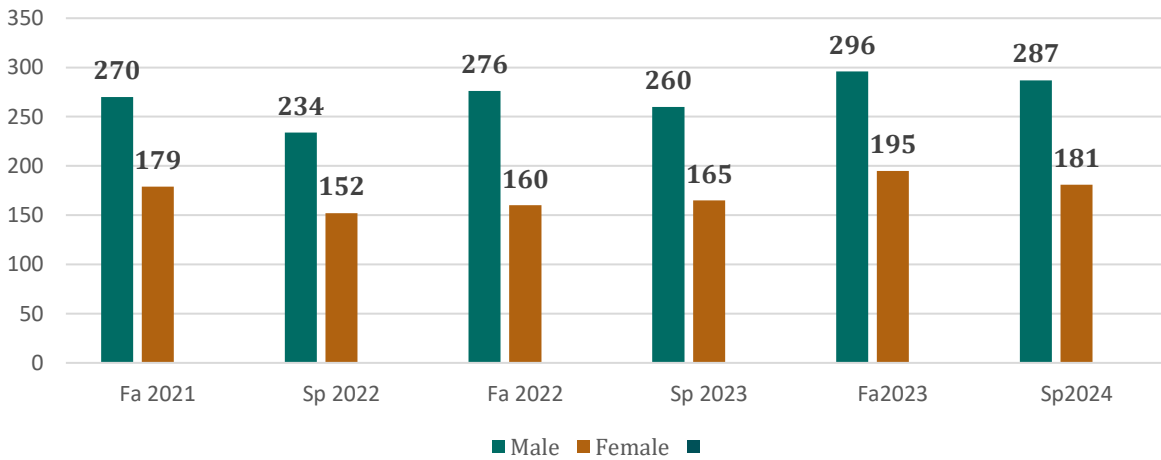
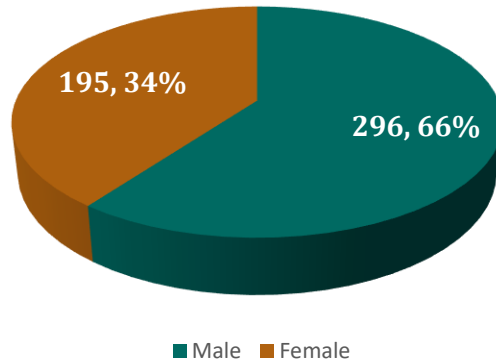


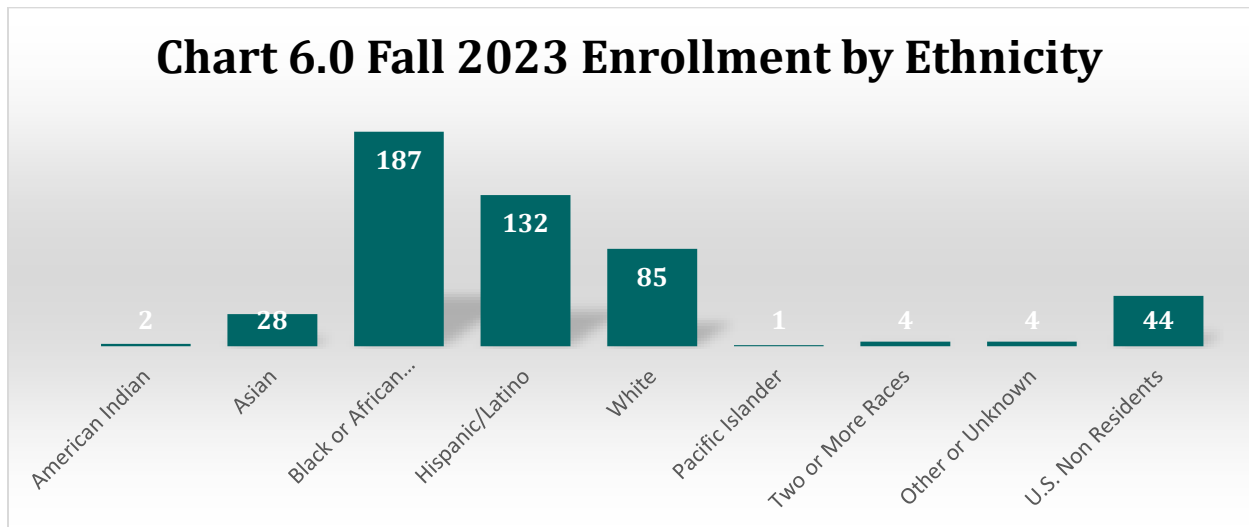
Chart 5.1 Enrollment Percentage by Gender

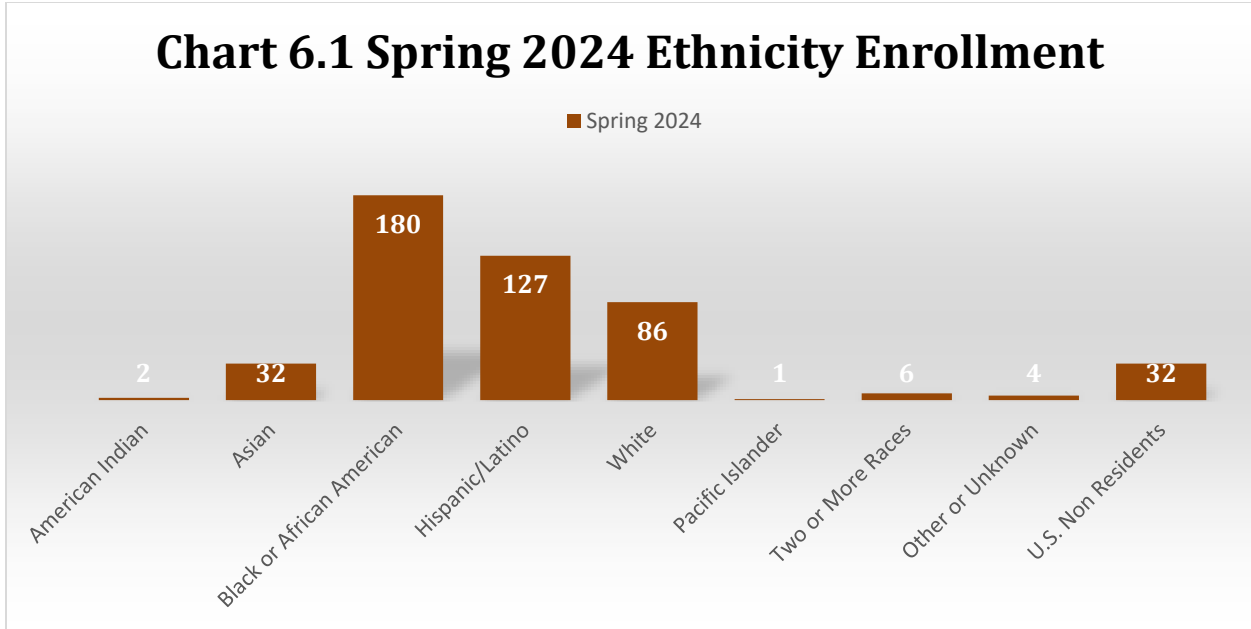


Headcount: by Ethnicity

The College’s headcount by ethnicity demonstrates its commitment to accomplishing its mission “to Glorify God by educating and equipping multiethnic Christian leaders to impact the world for Christ.” Historically, Black African Americans account for the majority of enrollment, with Hispanic/Latinos as the second largest student group and Whites as the third. Charts 6.0 Fall 2023 and 6.1 Spring 2024 show the Enrollment by Ethnicity for each semester.

Chart 6.0 Fall 2023 Enrollment by Ethnicity

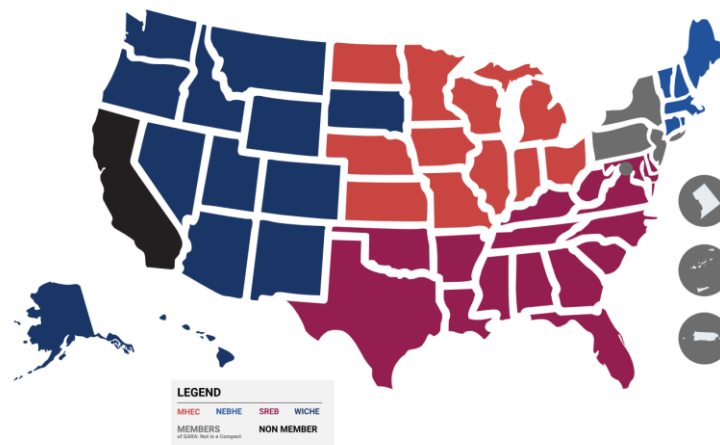




Authorization to Offer Distance Education

Since CBS became recognized for offering online degree programs, it has received authorization to provide distance education in 51 states and territories, including Washington D.C. and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The map below demonstrates the states and territories where CBS has offered distance education as of June 2017. **Figure 1** provides the State Authorization Approval map. CBS is not approved for distance education in California. (See CBS [website](#)). **Figure 1** displays acceptance of state reciprocity under NC-SARA.

Figure 1 State Authorization Map



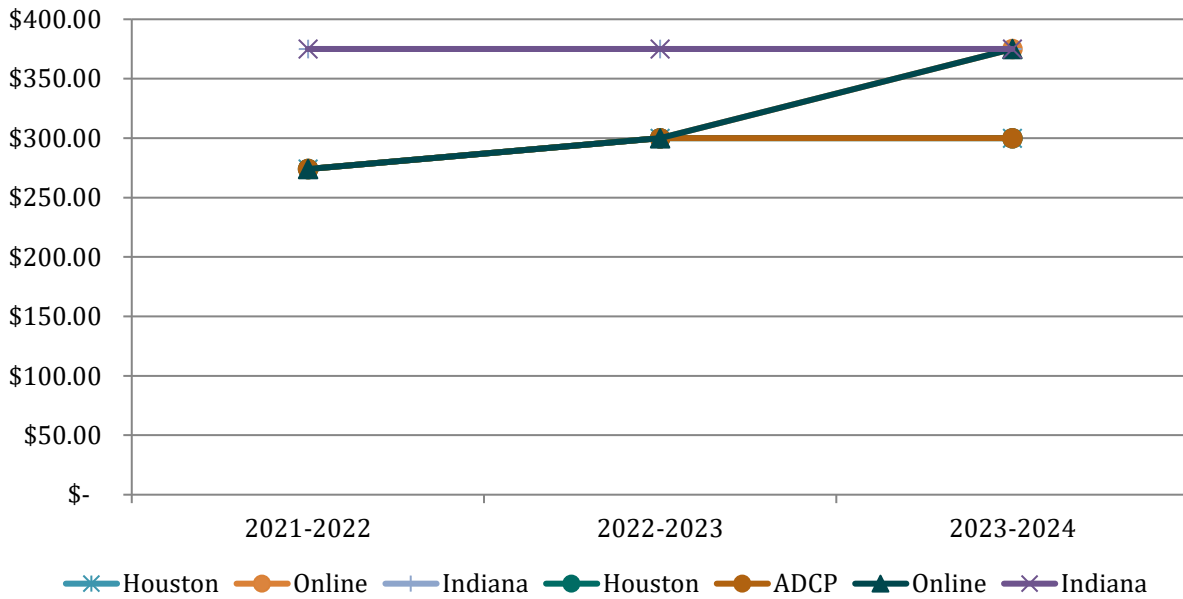
Source: NC-SARA [website](#): July 2024.

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Price per Credit & Modality

CBS's goal is to provide an excellent biblical higher education at an affordable price. In the fall of 2021, CBS merged with Crossroads Bible College and retained current tuition rates for on-ground courses. By the Fall 2022, tuition increased slightly to account for nationwide inflation. **Chart 9.0** shows the price per credit from fall 2023 to Spring 2024:

Chart 9.0 Price per Credit & Modality



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