



Career Education in Kentucky

The role of for-profit colleges in
Kentucky postsecondary education



KENTUCKY FOR-PROFIT COLLEGE FACTS 2024

10,732



Students enrolled full or part-time at for-profit colleges



66%

Associate's Degree Completion

79%

Certificate Completion



15:1

Student-Teacher Ratio

16%

Black or African American

7%

Hispanic or Latinx



957 Associate's
1.2K Bachelor's
1.9K Certificates awarded



60%

Women



40%

Men

Table of Contents

Diverse Populations Served	1
Female Enrollment.....	2
Students of Color.....	3
Low-Income.....	4
First-Generation.....	5
Adult Learners	6
Student Outcomes and Preparation for the Workforce	7
Degrees Awarded in Kentucky	8
Types of Degrees/Certificates Awarded in Kentucky	9
In-Demand Career Training in the US: Non-Degree	10
Student Debt in Kentucky	11
Notes.....	12

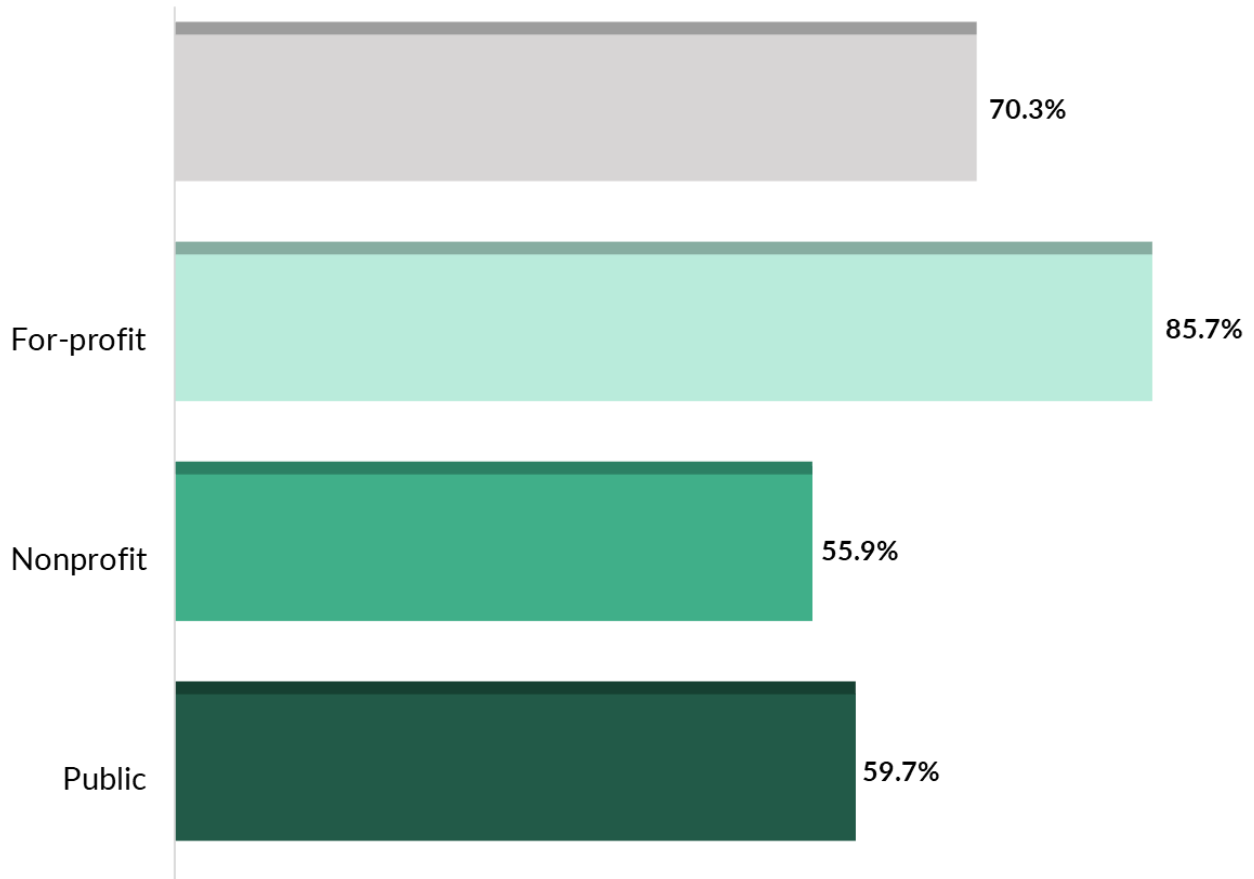
DIVERSE POPULATIONS SERVED

Diverse Populations Served: Female

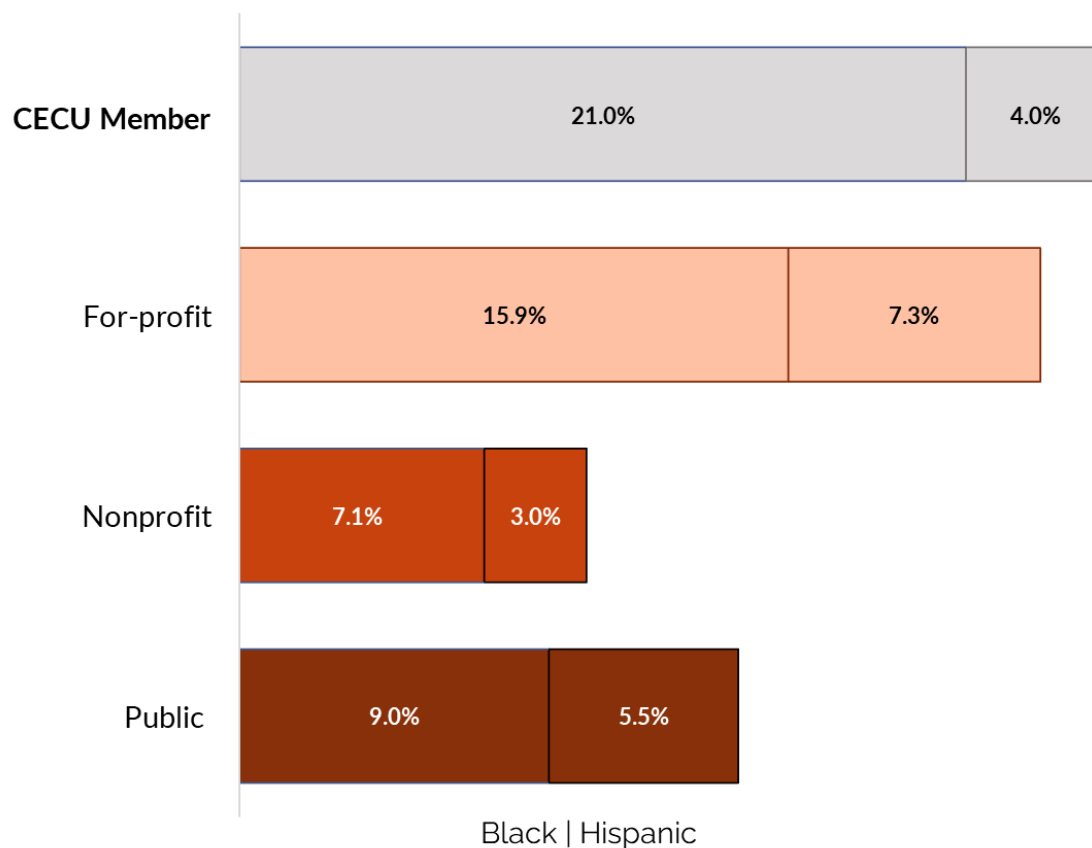


First, we look at the percentage of women enrolled at for-profit colleges in Kentucky in the 2022-23 school year. For-profit colleges, regardless of level of institution, enrolled the highest percentage of women (86%) compared to public (60%) and private nonprofit (56%) colleges.

Across all institutional levels and controls, CECU member schools in Kentucky showed an average enrollment of approximately 70% women.



Diverse Populations Served: Students of Color



For-profit colleges had the highest enrollment of students that are Hispanic (7%) compared to public (6%) and private nonprofit (3%) schools. For-profit colleges also had the highest enrollment of students that are Black (16%), compared to 9% at public schools and 7% at private nonprofit schools.

At CECU member schools in Kentucky, 25% of enrolled students identified as Black or Hispanic.

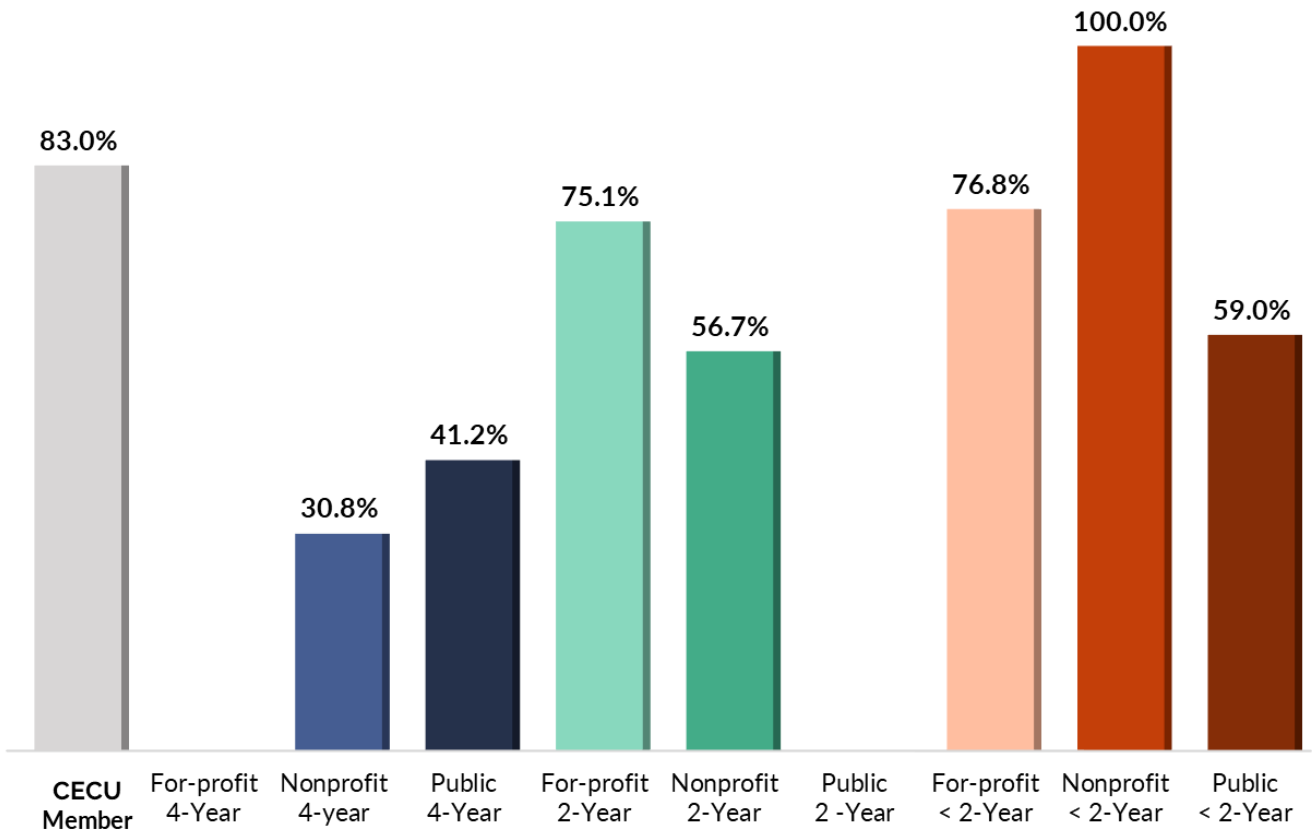


Diverse Populations Served: Low-Income

Low Income

Other areas of underserved populations accommodated by for-profit colleges in Kentucky include low-income students. For-profit colleges served the highest percentage of low-income students in the 2022-23 school year at two-year schools (75%).

CECU member schools in Kentucky enrolled 83% low-income students across all institutional levels.

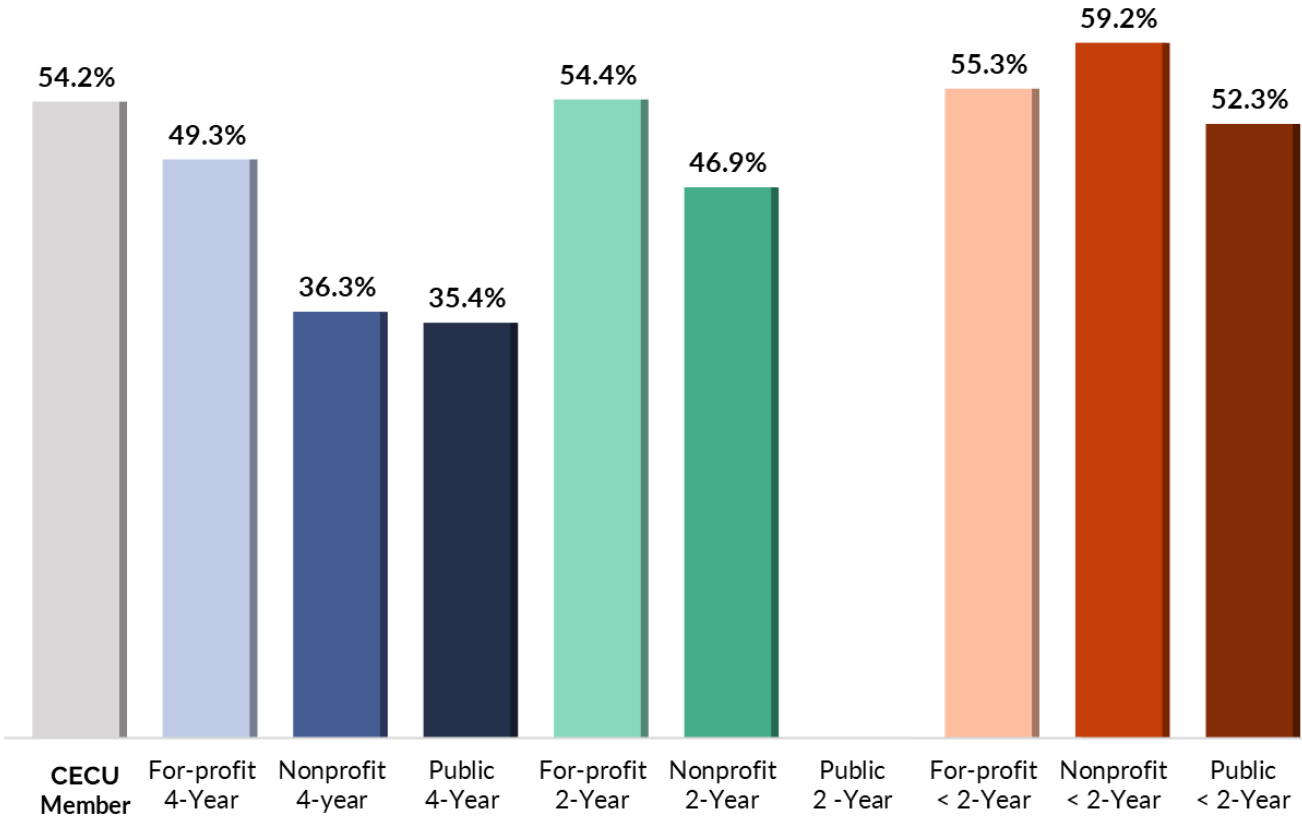


Diverse Populations Served: First-Generation

For-profit colleges also served a large share of first-generation students in the 2022-23 school year, leading the way in first-generation enrollment at four-year (49%) and two-year (54%) schools. These schools support students in being among the first generation in their family to attend college.

**1st
Gen**

CECU member schools in Kentucky had a student population with 54% first-generation students.

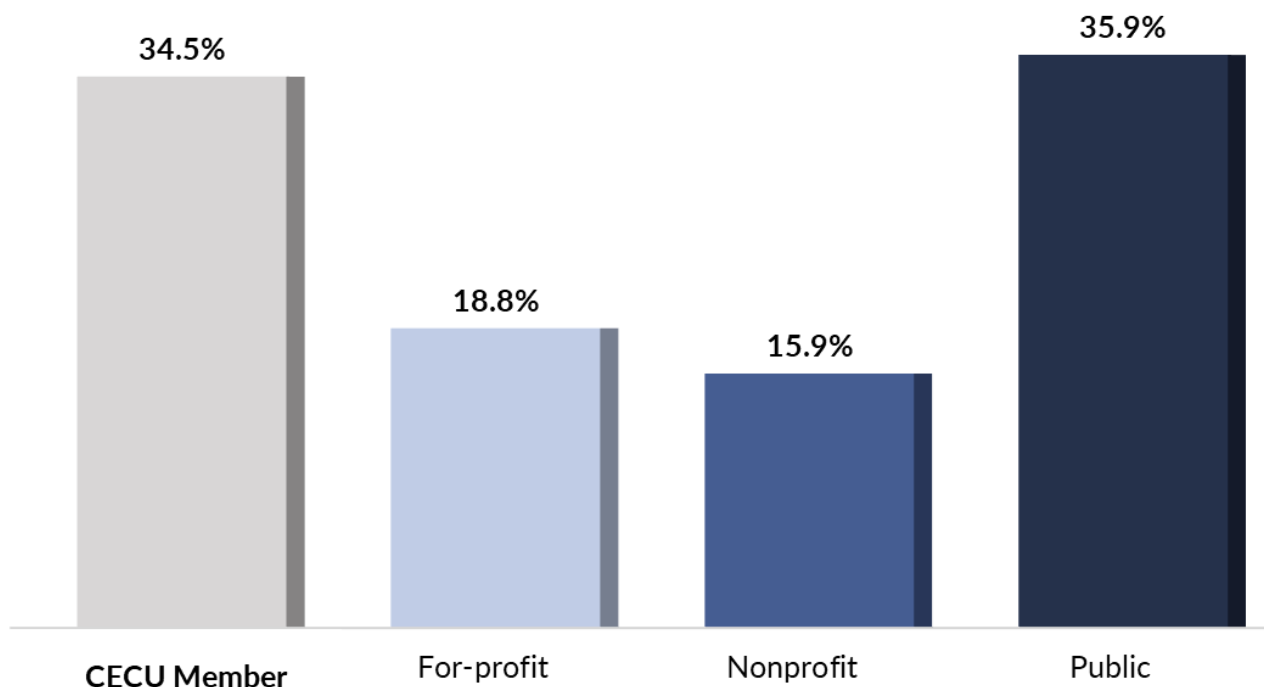


Diverse Populations Served: Adult Learners

Adults aged 25+ are another key population served by for-profit colleges in Kentucky as schools in this sector aim to adapt to the needs of older, more experienced learners that may have competing priorities as they've gotten older.

25+

For-profit colleges showed the second-highest enrollment of adult learners in the 2022-23 school year (19%). CECU member schools in Kentucky showed an enrollment of 35% adult learners.

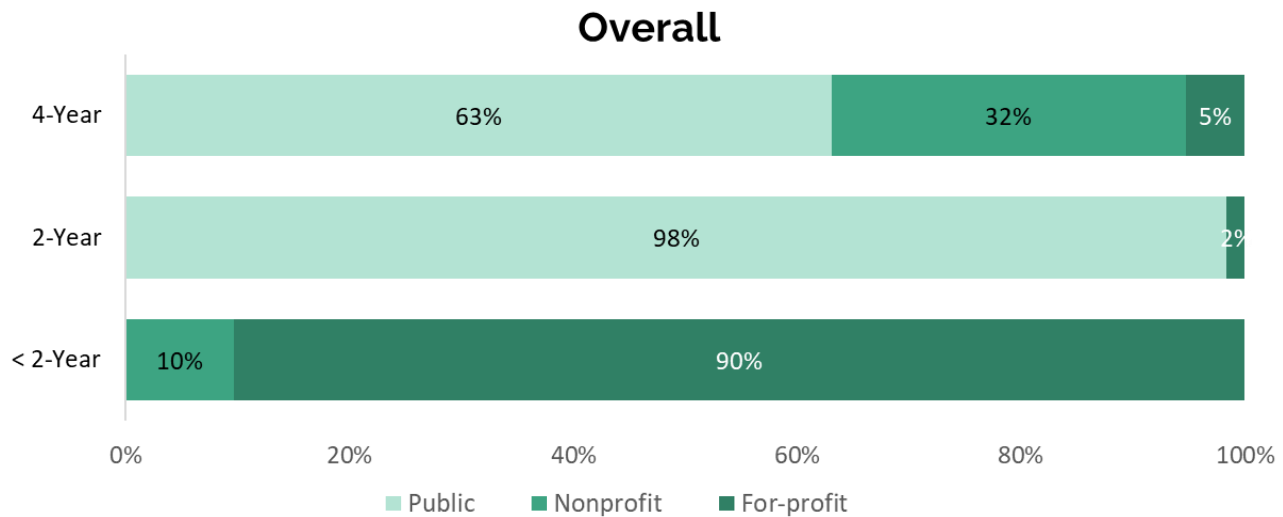


STUDENT OUTCOMES AND PREPARATION FOR THE WORKFORCE

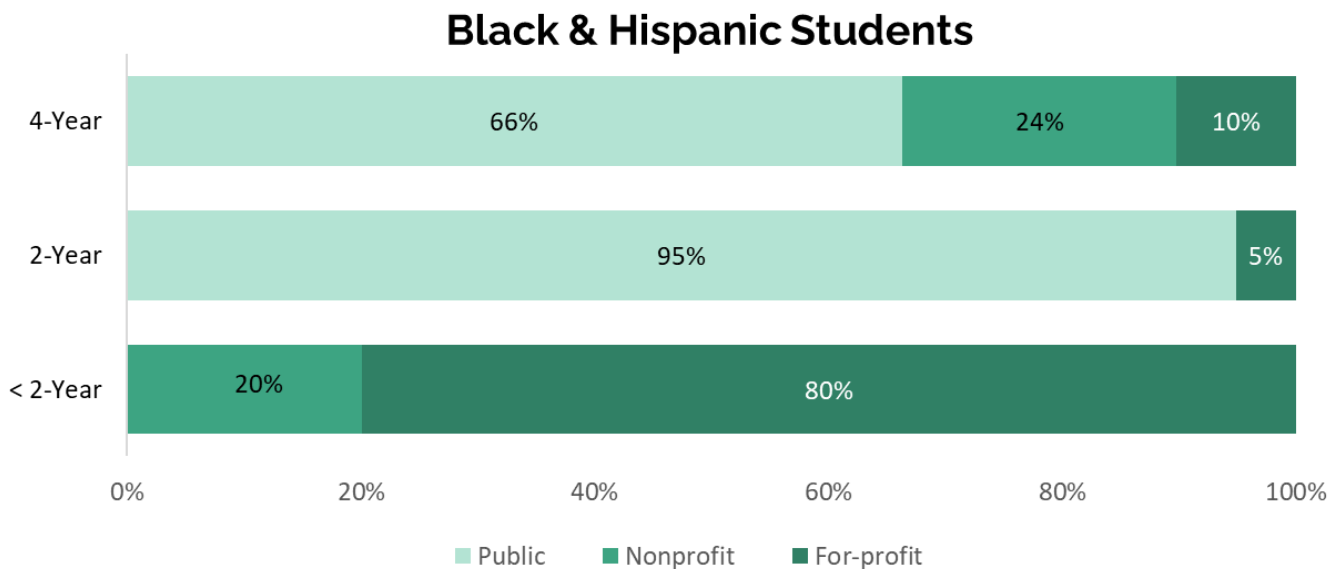
Degrees Awarded in Kentucky

Academic year 2021–22

For-profit colleges conferred 90% of less-than-two-year degrees/certificates across sectors in the 2021-22 school year. They also conferred 2% of two-year degrees/certificates and 5% of four-year degrees/certificates.



Among Black and Hispanic students, for-profit colleges conferred 80% of less-than-two-year degrees/certificates. They also accounted for 5% of two-year degrees/certificates and 10% of four-year degrees/certificates conferred to Black and Hispanic students.



Types of Degrees/Certificates Awarded in Kentucky

By control of institution, 2021-22 academic year

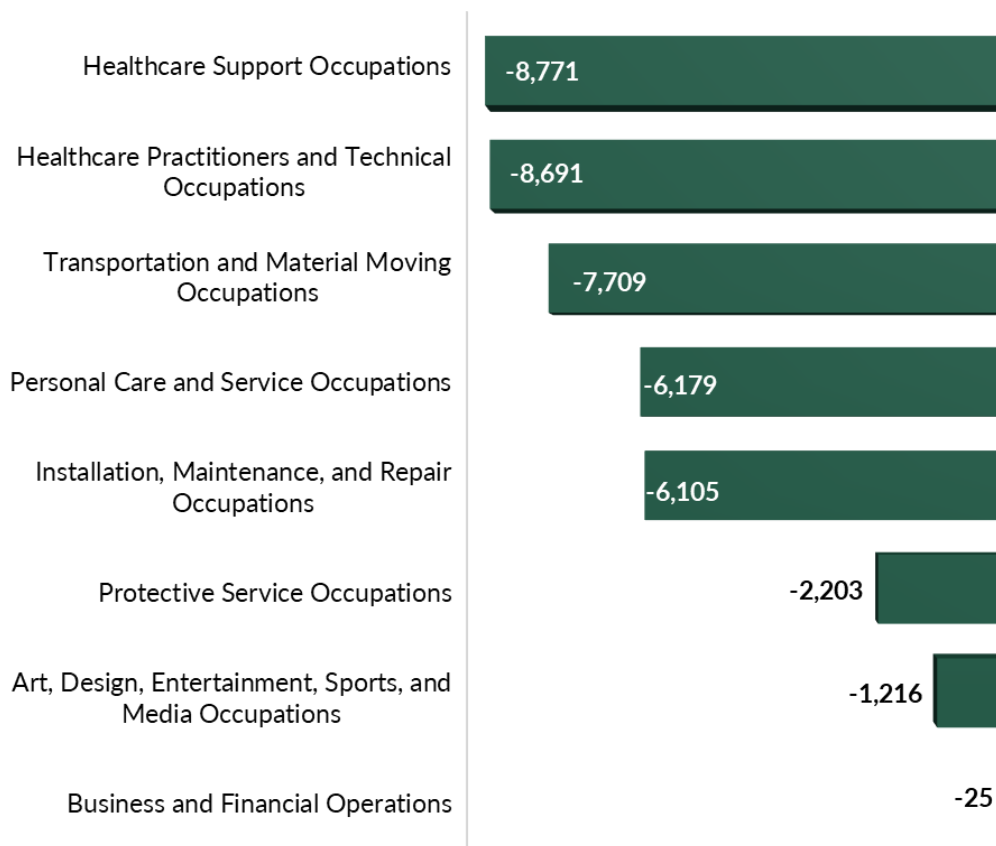
Profession	Public	Private, nonprofit	For-profit	Total	For-profit percentage
Dental Assisting/Assistant	0	0	181	181	100.0%
Aesthetician/Esthetician and Skin Care Specialist	15	7	189	211	89.6%
Massage Therapy/Therapeutic Massage	19	0	88	107	82.2%
Nail Technician/Specialist and Manicurist	0	21	56	77	72.7%
Cosmetology/Cosmetologist, General	143	98	606	847	71.5%
Barbering/Barber	0	25	38	63	60.3%
Medical/Clinical Assistant	433	19	298	750	39.7%
Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	3241	597	1709	5547	30.8%
Pharmacy Technician/Assistant	39	0	8	47	17.0%
Culinary Arts/Chef Training	319	0	41	360	11.4%
Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse Training	4029	0	247	4276	5.8%

For-profit colleges contribute significantly to the workforce in Kentucky, conferring over 70% of degrees/certificates in the following fields:

- Dental Assisting/Assistant
- Aesthetician/Esthetician and Skin Care Specialist
- Massage Therapy/Therapeutic Massage
- Nail Technician/Specialist and Manicurist
- Cosmetology/Cosmetologist, General

In-Demand Career Training in the US: Non-Degree

Projected Shortage of Workers by Group



The degrees/certificates conferred by for-profit colleges in Kentucky align very well with the estimated annual nationwide worker shortages in occupations requiring some college or a postsecondary nondegree award. Healthcare is by far the occupation most in need of workers. In helping to meet this need, for-profit colleges in Kentucky confer large percentages of degrees/certificates in the following fields to meet that need:

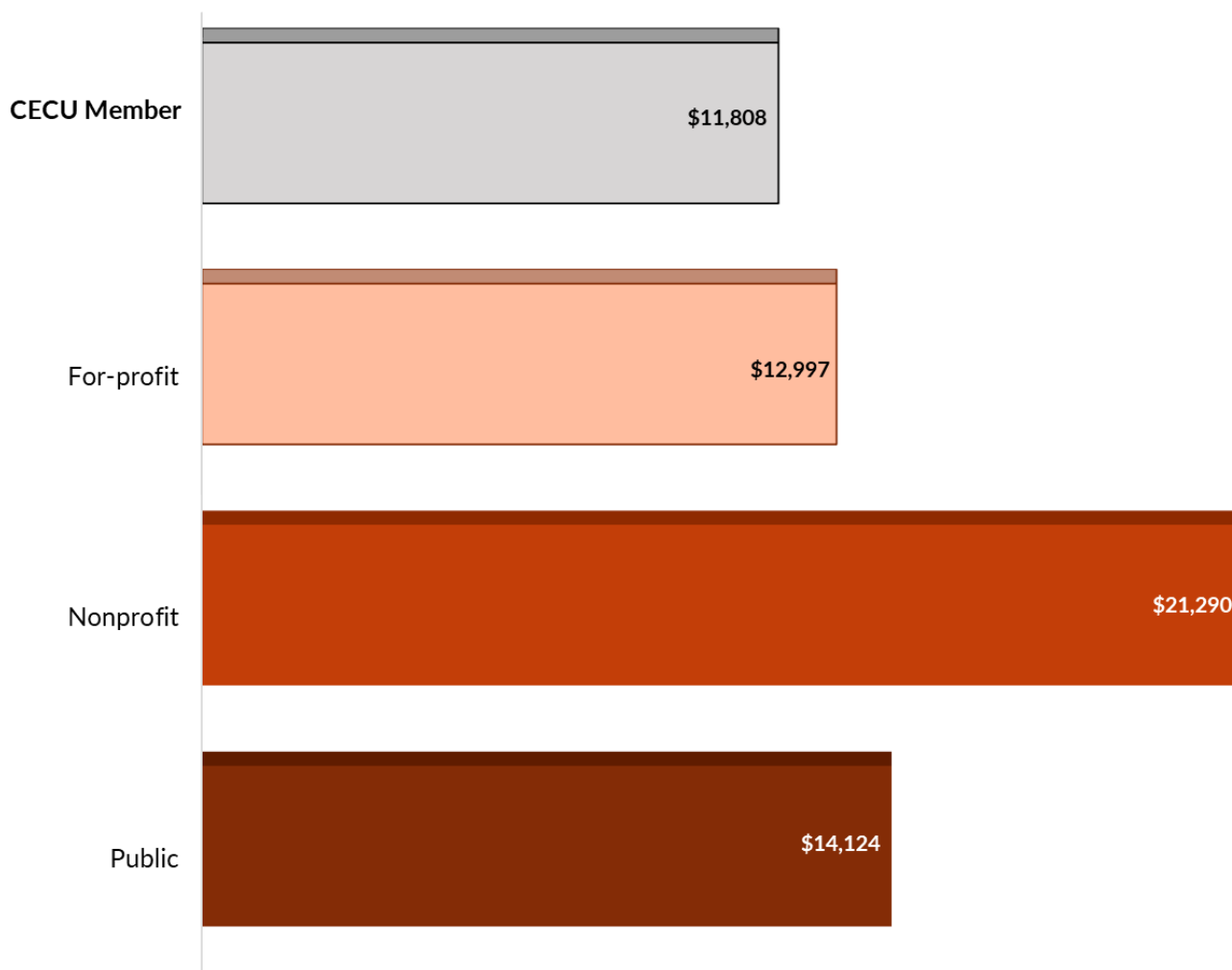
- Medical/Clinical Assistant (40%)
- Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse (31%)
- Pharmacy Technician/Assistant (17%)
- Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse Training (6%)

Student Debt in Kentucky

Academic year 2021–22

Not only do for-profit colleges in Kentucky confer valuable degrees to fill gaps in the labor market, but they do so in a way that minimizes student debt. Across all institutional levels, for-profit college graduates had an average student debt of \$12,997, lower than the average student debt at public (\$14,124) or private nonprofit (\$21,290) schools.

CECU member schools in Kentucky had an average student debt of \$11,808 across all institutional levels.



Notes

- The data presented in this report includes only Title IV accredited institutions.
- Data for “CECU Member” includes all institutions listed in the member data file provided by CECU, cross-referenced with IPEDS and College Scorecard data by OPEID.
- IPEDS data is not available for two-year nonprofit schools and less-than-two-year public schools. College Scorecard data is not available for two-year public schools. These data have been suppressed for privacy reasons.