



University of Tennessee Southern, Student Participation and Success **2021-22**

Report Supplement to the 2021-2022 Tennessee Higher Education Fact Book

Introduction

On July 1, 2021, Martin Methodist College (MMC) merged with University of Tennessee System as the University of Tennessee Southern (UTS)¹.

The purpose of this supplemental report to the 2022 [Tennessee Higher Education Fact Book](#) (Fact Book) is to provide a data summary and snapshot of UTS in relation to other public colleges across the state. This report supplement is reflective of the first enrollment period for UTS, fall 2021, and completions for the 2020-21 academic year.² The Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) anticipates UTS's student enrollment and awards data to be integrated alongside all other public institutions in the 2023 Fact Book.

Data

UTS supplied aggregated data for this report supplement. Data for other public colleges and universities captured within this report come from the 2022 Fact Book and are sourced using THEC Student Information System (THECSIS) unless otherwise noted. Aggregated data reported by UTS are aligned with data and definitions reported by other institutions within THECSIS. Retention and graduation rates, as calculated for other public colleges within the Fact Book, are not included in this supplement due to insufficient data at the time of the report and incomparable between data sources.

Statistics reported for the University of Tennessee System and all other public community colleges and universities as comparison points **do not include** UTS.

Unless otherwise noted, comparisons to the *University of Tennessee System* represent the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga; the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and the University of Tennessee, Martin. *All public universities* contain these three University of Tennessee institutions along with the six Locally Governed Institutions: Austin Peay State University, East Tennessee State University, Middle Tennessee State University, Tennessee State University, Tennessee Technological University, and the University of Memphis. Comparisons to *all public community colleges and universities* include the aforementioned universities and the 13 community colleges. The comparison group does not capture Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology.

Privacy Notice

Throughout this report, THEC complies with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requirements to protect students' personally identifiable information. Therefore, when tables are presented, individual cells containing 10 or fewer observations are suppressed.

¹ UTS is both the first university to be added to the University of Tennessee System in over 50 years and the first public university located in Southern Middle Tennessee. For more information on the merger, please visit [the University of Tennessee System's Transparency webpage](#).

² Academic year 2020-21 includes summer 2020, fall 2020, and spring 2021. Degrees conferred under this period would reflect MMC, as this is prior to MMC's merger with the UT System. Degrees awarded in summer 2021 were the first awards conferred under UT Southern.

Executive Summary

UTS is located in Southern Middle Tennessee as illustrated in **Figure 1** below, which demonstrates the distribution of postsecondary institutions (main campuses) across the state at the time of MMC's merger with the University of Tennessee System.

Student Participation

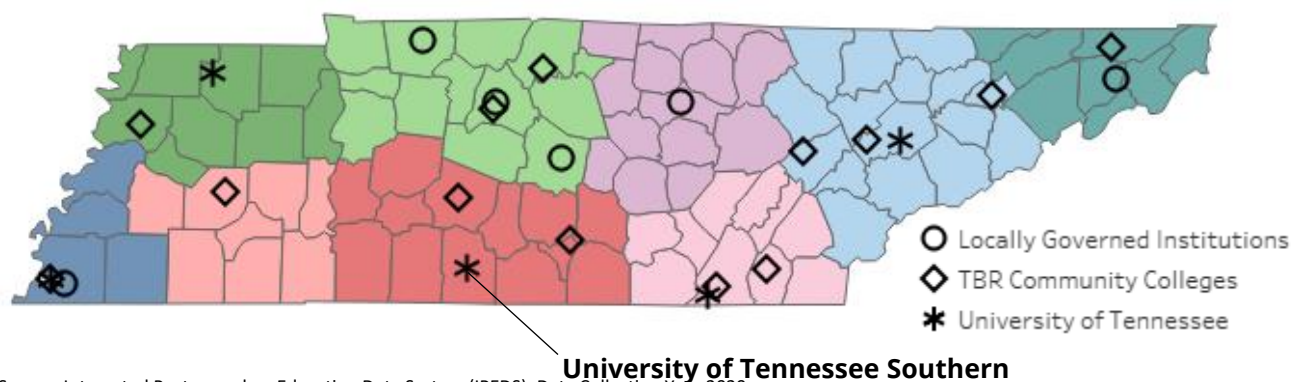
In fall 2021, UTS enrolled a total of 876 students (741 full-time equivalent or FTE students), which makes it the smallest public university for enrollment in Tennessee (**Table 1**). Over 80% of its students enrolled on a full-time basis in fall 2021, which represents a higher share of full-time students than across the University of Tennessee System and all other public universities (**Figure 4**). UTS enrollment is predominantly represented by undergraduate students (97% of total enrollment; **Table 1**). The majority (57%) of UTS undergraduates in fall 2021 were female, 43% were eligible for a Federal Pell Grant, and over one-quarter (26%) enrolled from out of state (**Table 2**).

UTS's undergraduate population (N = 852) in fall 2021 shared a similar distribution by race/ethnicity to the larger University of Tennessee System, with 75% represented by White students, 22% by Students of Color (Black, Hispanic, and Other), and 3% with an unknown or unreported race (**Figure 3**).

Student Success, Academic Year 2020-2021

UTS awarded 160 certificates and degrees (148 undergraduate credentials and 12 Master's degrees) in academic year 2020-2021, which represents summer 2020, fall 2020, and spring 2021 (**Figure 5**). Bachelor's degrees represented 90% of all UTS's undergraduate credentials awarded. The largest single share of undergraduate degrees by major were awarded in a business-related field (31%; **Table 3**).

Figure 1
Postsecondary Institution Distribution Across Tennessee



Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), Data Collection Year 2020

Note: The figure above shows only main campus locations for public community colleges and universities as of 2020. Many higher education institutions in the state have satellite campuses and course offerings at off-campus locations.

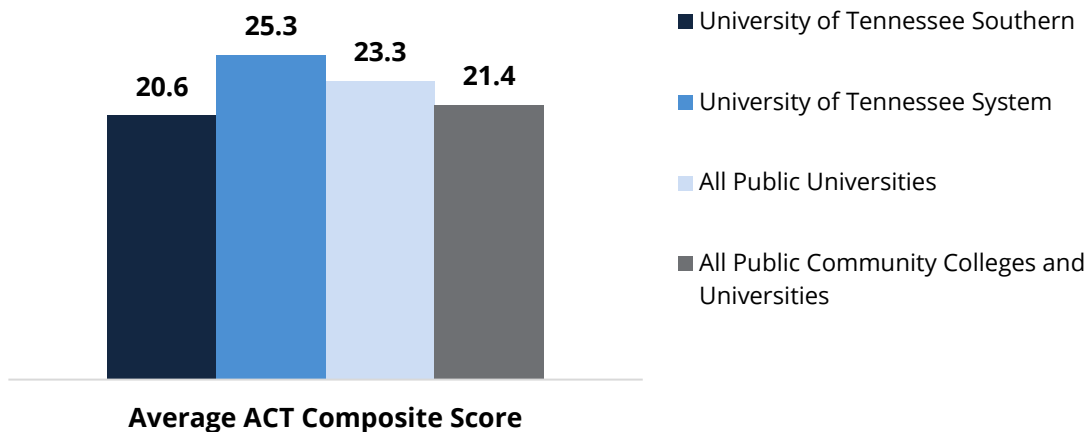
Student Participation Fall 2021

This section provides an overview of UTS enrollment in fall 2021 in comparison to other University of Tennessee institutions and all other public colleges and universities across the state. These data include measures of entering freshmen academics (see **Figure 2** below), student level, demographics, and enrollment intensity.

Table 1 provides a breakdown of UTS enrollment by student level: first-time freshmen, total undergraduates (inclusive of first-time freshmen), graduate students, and overall headcount and FTE. In fall 2021, UTS enrolled a total of 876 students (equating to 741 FTE students), which is predominantly represented by undergraduate students (97% of the total enrollment). Overall, 83% of UTS's students (undergraduate and graduate) in fall 2021 enrolled full-time (see **Figure 4**). **Table 2** and **Figure 3** provide a deeper perspective into the distribution of UTS's undergraduate population across demographic groups. The majority of UTS undergraduates in fall 2021 were female (57%), White (75%), ineligible for a Federal Pell Grant (57%), and under the age of 25 (95%). Over one-quarter of all UTS undergraduates come from outside of Tennessee.

Beyond the data presented in this section, additional information on fall 2021 enrollment at UTS is available in Section III (Academic and Fiscal Trends) of the 2022 Fact Book, which includes summer melt and yield statistics (applied, admitted, enrolled first-time freshmen) and lower division courses by faculty type and by distance education status.

Figure 2
Average ACT Composite Score of Incoming Freshmen by Institution
Fall 2021



Source: UTS, THECSIS

Notes: ACT Composite scores range from 0-36. UTS average score is institutionally reported and is based off of 185 valid scores. Average scores for other institutions are based on valid ACT scores reported by institutions into THECSIS. THEC does not superscore. Statistics reported for the University of Tennessee System and all other public community colleges and universities as comparison points **do not include** UTS.

Table 1

Enrollment by Student Level and Institution Fall 2021								
Institution	First-Time Freshmen		Total Undergraduate		Graduate & Professional		Total Enrollment	
	Headcount	Percent of Total	Headcount	Percent of Total	Headcount	Percent of Total	Headcount	FTE Enrollment
University of Tennessee Southern	215	25.2%	852	97.3%	24	2.7%	876	741
University of Tennessee, Chattanooga	2,071	18.1%	10,007	87.4%	1,440	12.6%	11,447	10,255
University of Tennessee, Knoxville	5,894	18.5%	25,213	79.2%	6,624	20.8%	31,837	28,145
University of Tennessee, Martin	1,041	15.5%	6,008	89.4%	712	10.6%	6,720	5,209
University of Tennessee, Medical Health Sci Center	0	0.0%	264	8.2%	2,975	91.8%	3,239	3,239
University of Tennessee System (excludes UTS)	9,006	16.9%	41,492	77.9%	11,751	22.1%	53,243	46,848
All Public Universities	20,807	15.2%	109,982	80.2%	27,107	19.8%	137,089	114,379
All Public Community Colleges and Universities	37,266	17.6%	184,525	87.2%	27,107	12.8%	211,632	161,985

Source: UTS, THECSIS

Note: For undergraduate students, FTE is the total number of credits attempted divided by 15. For graduate students, FTE is the total number of credits attempted divided by 12. For specialized institutions (such as ETSU's Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy, the UT Medical Health Science Center, and the UT Veterinary School), FTE is equivalent to headcount.

Statistics reported for the University of Tennessee System and all other public community colleges and universities as comparison points **do not include** UTS.

Table 2

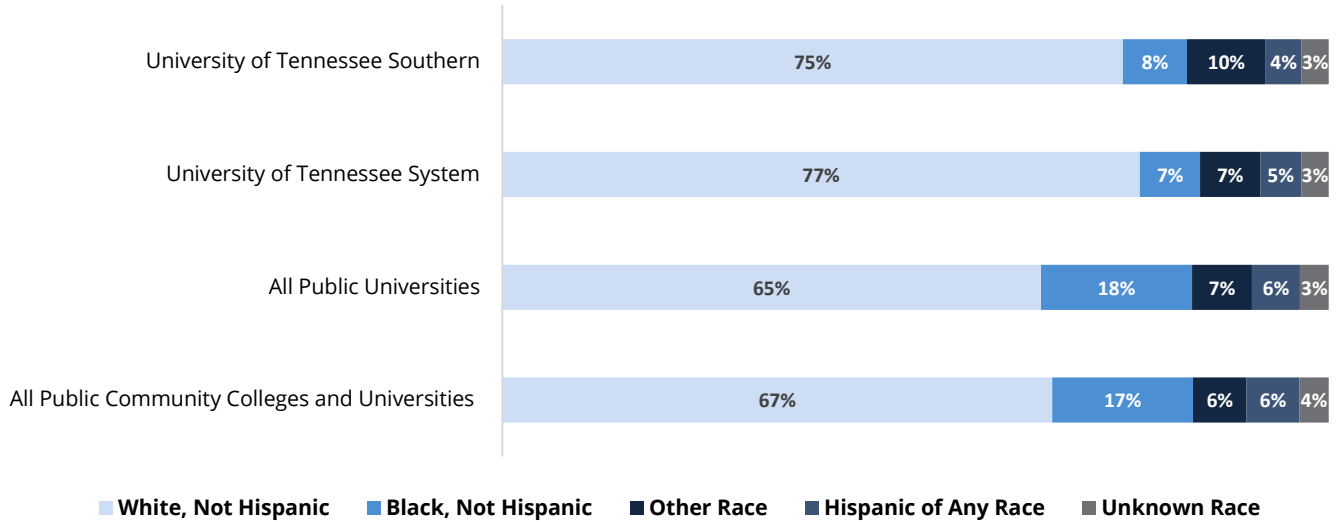
Undergraduate Enrollment by Student Demographics and Institution Fall 2021					
Institution	Headcount	Female	Pell Eligible	Adult	Out-of-State
University of Tennessee Southern	852	56.7%	43.2%	4.8%	26.2%
University of Tennessee, Chattanooga	10,007	58.2%	41.6%	10.2%	10.7%
University of Tennessee, Knoxville	25,213	53.9%	27.6%	4.6%	27.4%
University of Tennessee, Martin	6,008	61.6%	48.5%	11.4%	8.9%
University of Tennessee, Medical Health Sci Center	264	90.9%	29.9%	31.1%	26.1%
University of Tennessee System (excludes UTS)	41,492	56.3%	34.0%	7.1%	20.7%
All Public Universities	109,982	57.1%	42.5%	13.3%	19.0%
All Public Community Colleges and Universities	184,525	59.2%	47.8%	19.3%	12.7%

Source: UTS, THECSIS

Note: Pell-Eligible students are defined as in-state students who were eligible to receive a Pell grant at any time during their college career. Due to data limitations, out-of-state students who are Pell eligible are not captured in the numerator. Readers are advised that the share of Pell-eligible undergraduates may be underestimated in this table, especially for institutions enrolling greater shares of students from out of state. Adult is defined as an individual 25 years or older. Out-of-state column includes foreign students.

Statistics reported for the University of Tennessee System and all other public community colleges and universities as comparison points **do not include** UTS.

Figure 3
Undergraduate Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity and Institution
Fall 2021

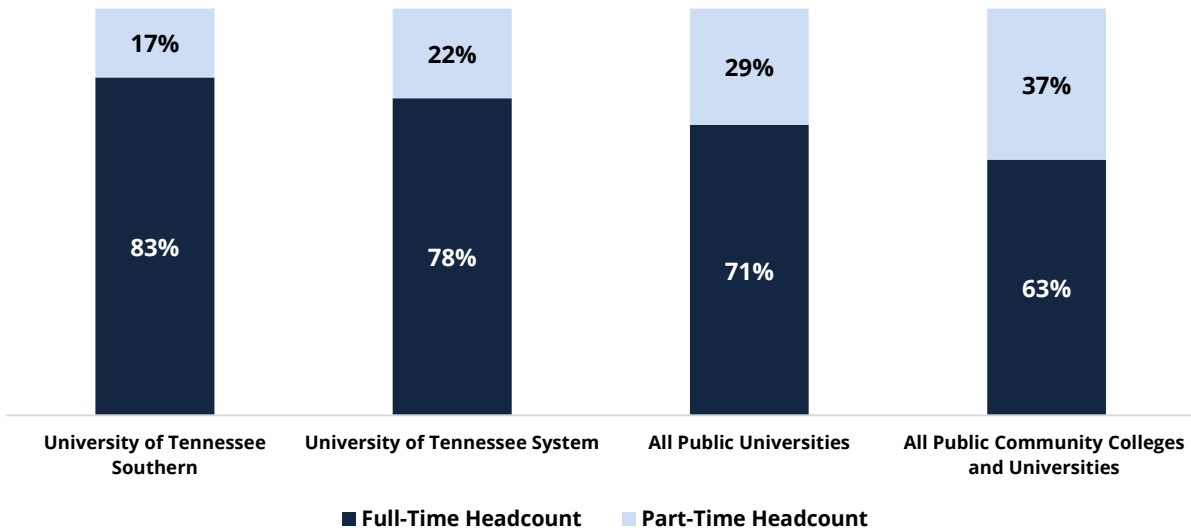


Source: UTS, THECSIS

Notes: Other includes American Indian, Native Alaskan, Asian and Pacific Islander, and Multiracial.

Statistics reported for the University of Tennessee System and all other public community colleges and universities as comparison points **do not include** UTS.

Figure 4
Full-Time and Part-Time Enrollment by Institution
Fall 2021



Source: UTS, THECSIS

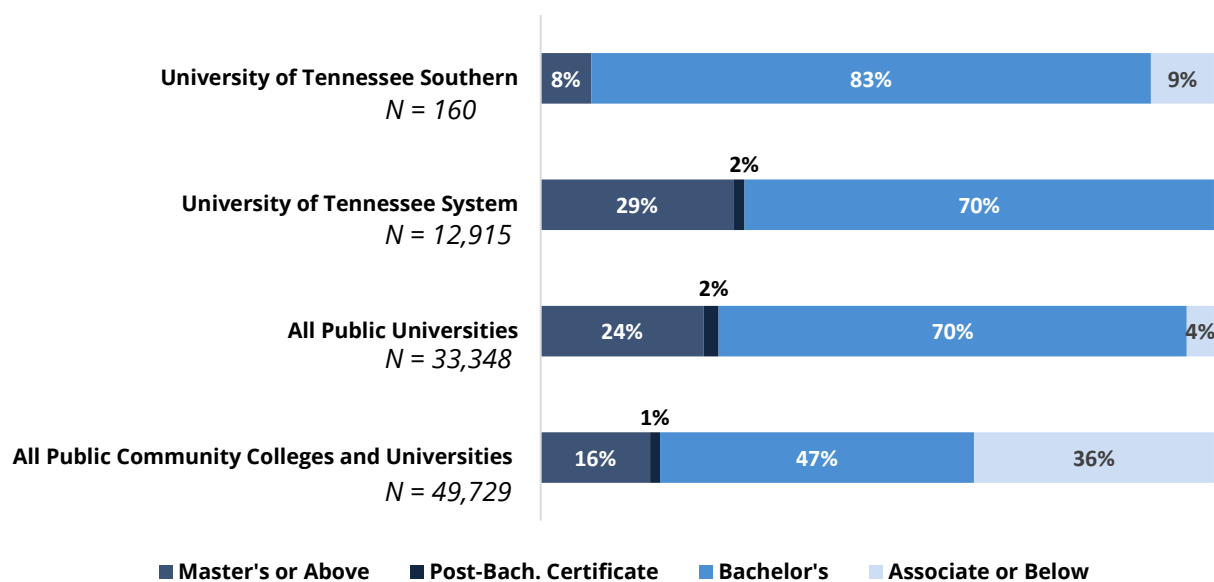
Notes: Reflects total enrollment, both undergraduate and graduate. A **full-time** student is an undergraduate enrolled in 12 or more hours of degree credit per semester, or a graduate student enrolled in 9 or more hours of degree credit per semester. A **part-time** student is an undergraduate enrolled in fewer than 12 hours of degree credit per semester, or a graduate student enrolled in fewer than 9 hours of degree credit per semester.

Statistics reported for the University of Tennessee System and all other public community colleges and universities as comparison points **do not include** UTS. In alignment with Fact Book reporting, statistics reported in Figure 4 for the three comparison groups include the University of Tennessee Medical Health Science Center (see Figures 1.4 and 1.5 in the 2022 [Fact Book](#)).

Student Success Academic Year 2020-2021

This section provides an overview of degree production at UTS during academic year 2020-2021. Currently UTS is the only University of Tennessee institution awarding credentials below a bachelor's degree, as illustrated in **Figure 5**. In 2020-2021, UTS awarded a total of 15 associate degrees and less-than-one-year certificates (captured in the Associate or below category).³ The greatest share of awards conferred was represented by bachelor's degrees (83%). At the time of this report, UTS offered two graduate-level programs⁴ and conferred a total of 12 master's degrees in 2020-2021. Business represented the largest single major field for undergraduate degree production, as illustrated in **Table 3**, with 31% of total undergraduate credentials.

Figure 5
Share of Awards by Award Level and Institution



Source: UTS, THECSIS

Notes: UTS conferred awards ranging from <1 year certificates to master's degrees. Across the **University of Tennessee System, degrees** ranged from bachelor's to doctoral degrees. Across **all public universities and across all public 2- and 4-year colleges, degrees conferred** ranged from <1 year certificates to doctoral degrees. Statistics reported for the University of Tennessee System and all other public community colleges and universities as comparison points **do not include** UTS.

Table 3

Undergraduate Awards by Five Most Utilized Major Fields Academic Year 2020-2021		
Major Field	Count of Awards	Percent of All Undergraduate Awards
Business	46	31.1%
Humanities	18	12.2%
Recreation and Fitness	16	10.8%
Health Professions	15	10.1%
Biology	14	9.5%

Source: UTS

Notes: Major fields are defined by their two-digit THEC CIP code and may not represent program-specific titles and are based on end-of-term data.

³ UTS will phase out associate degree offerings by December 2026.

⁴ For more information, see [UTS's current graduate school offerings](#).