Illinois’ total enrollments in all related computer and information sciences (CIS) programs, based on IBHE’s categorization of programs by the discipline of the curriculum, continued to decline in 2003, although since 1997 total enrollment has increased by 26% to 26,486 at all levels.

State-wide bachelor’s level enrollments, which were flat in 2001, dropped by 11% in 2002 dropped by another 8% in 2003. These changes can represent not only shifts in the size of the freshman and transfer entering classes, but the graduation of the larger entering classes of the late 1990’s when CIS enrollments in bachelor’s programs experienced double-digit increases.

Most sectors’ enrollment declines slowed in 2003 compared to that experienced in 2002. Public institutions, with a 36% share of the bachelor’s CIS enrollment, dropped 2% in 2003, compared to a 9% drop the previous year. Private for-profits (32% share) were down 8%, compared to 17% in 2002. Private not-for-profits, however, were down 22% in 2003, compared to an 8% drop in 2002.

In 2003, DeVry had the largest bachelor’s CIS enrollment with 3,406 students, three and a half times larger than DePaul with the second largest share at 960 students. Both schools lost a third of their enrollment from 2001—2003. For DeVry this meant almost 1,800 students compared to 400 at DePaul. Of the top 10 largest institutions, only 2 institutions, both publics, grew from 2001 to 2003—ISU and UI Chicago.

Source: IBHE data files (EMR).