



News Release

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Public University Headcount Enrollment Climbs Nearly 8 Percent

PIERRE, S.D. – Headcount enrollment this fall at South Dakota’s six public universities was up nearly 8 percent, to a new high of 36,440 students, the South Dakota Board of Regents announced Tuesday. It is the 13th straight year of record-high enrollments in the public university system.

“As a system, our public universities are meeting an obvious need and a strong demand for high-quality higher education in South Dakota,” said Regents’ President Terry Baloun. “We could not be more pleased with such a positive enrollment report this fall, as the state’s demographics are challenging us each and every year to educate more South Dakotans and graduate more of them with college degrees,” Baloun said.

It is all about being responsive to the workforce needs of this state, said Jack R. Warner, the regents’ executive director and CEO. “We have positioned ourselves well to be more responsive by phasing out low-enrolled programs, and investing those resources in new and continuing programs that fulfill an obvious demand for highly educated and skilled employees in South Dakota,” Warner said.

Total headcount at the six public universities for the Fall 2010 term is 36,440, an increase of 2,661 students, or 7.88 percent, over a year ago. The number of full-time equivalent students—based on total credit hours generated by all students within the system—increased by 1,157 students, or 4.54 percent.

South Dakota Public University System: Fall 2010 Enrollments

Institution	Headcount				Full-time Equivalent			
	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Enrollment Difference	Percentage Difference	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Enrollment Difference	Percentage Difference
BHSU	4,076	4,722	646	15.85%	2,974.6	3,241.5	266.9	8.97%
DSU	2,861	3,101	240	8.39%	1,631.5	1,708.0	76.5	4.69%
NSU	2,672	3,296	624	23.35%	1,923.1	2,097.0	173.9	9.04%
SDSMT	2,177	2,354	177	8.13%	1,845.7	1,996.6	150.9	8.18%
SDSU	12,376	12,816	440	3.56%	10,197.3	10,512.5	315.2	3.09%
USD	9,617	10,151	534	5.55%	6,895.8	7,069.4	173.6	2.52%
TOTAL	33,779	36,440	2,661	7.88%	25,468.0	26,625.0	1,157.0	4.54%

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The historical trend of headcount enrollment in South Dakota's public university system, dating back to 1996, is shown in the following chart:

South Dakota Public University System Headcount Enrollment 1996-2010

Fall Term	System	% Change
1996	26,508	
1997	25,719	-2.98%
1998	26,560	+3.27%
1999	26,616	+0.21%
2000	27,134	+1.95%
2001	28,446	+4.84%
2002	29,533	+3.82%
2003	29,716	+0.62%
2004	29,844	+0.43%
2005	30,720	+2.94%
2006	30,901	+0.59%
2007	32,148	+4.04%
2008	32,943	+2.47%
2009	33,779	+2.54%
2010	36,440	+7.88%