



# News Release

Contacts: Mike Rush, Executive Director and CEO  
[mike.rush@sdbor.edu](mailto:mike.rush@sdbor.edu)  
 Janelle Toman, Director of Communications  
[Janelle.toman@sdbor.edu](mailto:Janelle.toman@sdbor.edu)

Telephone: (605) 773-3455  
 Fax: (605) 773-5320  
[www.sdbor.edu](http://www.sdbor.edu)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, September 20, 2017**

## Fall Enrollment Shows Growth at Public Universities

PIERRE, S.D. – Fall enrollment at South Dakota’s six public universities increased slightly compared to last year, up a third of one percent, the South Dakota Board of Regents reported today. Headcount enrollment was up by 131 students across the entire system.

Total headcount at the six public universities was 36,662, an increase of 0.36 percent over last year. The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students for the Fall 2017 term—based on total credit hours generated by all students within the regents’ system—also increased. FTE grew by 34 students to a total of 26,633.7, or 0.13 percent.

Dakota State University at Madison reported the greatest percentage growth in both its headcount (3.67 percent) and FTE (4.87 percent). The University of South Dakota at Vermillion grew total headcount and FTE with increases of 2.22 percent and 0.99 percent respectively.

“Postsecondary education is very important for South Dakota and its economic well-being,” said Mike Rush, the regents’ executive director and CEO. “The state’s goal is to have 65 percent of 25 to 34 year olds possess some type of postsecondary credential. The Board of Regents and the public universities are committed to meeting this significant goal.”

### South Dakota Public University System: Fall 2017 Enrollments

Institution	<u>Headcount Enrollment</u>				<u>Full-Time Equivalent</u>			
	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Enrollment Difference	Percent Difference	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Enrollment Difference	Percent Difference
BHSU	4,244	4,178	-66	-1.56%	2,824.9	2,806.0	-18.9	-0.67%
DSU	3,190	3,307	117	3.67%	1,896.7	1,989.1	92.4	4.87%
NSU	3,587	3,611	24	0.67%	1,953.4	1,930.5	-22.9	-1.17%
SDSM&T	2,859	2,778	-81	-2.83%	2,394.2	2,326.7	-67.5	-2.82%
SDSU	12,613	12,527	-86	-0.68%	10,130.1	10,108.0	-22.1	-0.22%
USD	10,038	10,261	223	2.22%	7,400.4	7,473.4	73.0	0.99%
<b>Total</b>	36,531	36,662	131	0.36%	26,599.7	26,633.7	34.0	0.13%

The historical trend of headcount and FTE enrollment in South Dakota’s public university system, dating back to 1997, is shown in the following charts:

**South Dakota Public University System  
Headcount Enrollment 1997-2017**

Fall Term	System	% Change
1997	25,719	
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%
2011	36,103	-0.92%
2012	36,430	0.91%
2013	36,365	-0.18%
2014	36,532	0.46%
2015	36,439	-0.25%
2016	36,531	0.25%
2017	<b>36,662</b>	<b>0.36%</b>

**South Dakota Public University System  
Full-Time Equivalent Enrollment 1997-2017**

Fall Term	System	% Change
1997	21,714	
1998	21,917	0.93%
1999	21,606	-1.42%
2000	21,616	0.04%
2001	22,339	3.35%
2002	23,008	3.00%
2003	23,605	2.59%
2004	23,534	-0.30%
2005	24,089	2.36%
2006	24,144	0.23%
2007	24,512	1.52%
2008	24,926	1.69%
2009	25,468	2.17%
2010	26,625	4.54%
2011	26,720	0.35%
2012	26,468	-0.94%
2013	26,782	1.18%
2014	26,737	-0.17%
2015	26,684	-0.20%
2016	26,600	-0.32%
2017	<b>26,634</b>	<b>0.13%</b>