



News Release

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Board of Regents Releases Fall Enrollment for 2020

PIERRE, S.D. – Fall enrollment at South Dakota’s six public universities is down about 2.8 percent in headcount and full-time equivalent students, the South Dakota Board of Regents reported today.

The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students for the Fall 2020 term—based on total credit hours generated by all students within the regents’ system—was down by 718 students to a total of 24,586. Total headcount at the six public universities was 33,566, a decline of 2.76 percent or 954 students over last year.

“Across the country, these are challenging and uncertain times for public higher education,” said Brian L. Maher, the regents’ executive director and CEO. “Our universities prepared for the likelihood that the pandemic would impact fall enrollments, so a reduction of about 700 full-time students was not unexpected. We are pleased that so many students and their families are placing a priority on a university education in these exceptional times. We offer a special thanks to our faculty and staff for their dedication, support, and willingness to adapt.”

South Dakota Public University System: Fall 2020 Enrollments

Institution	Headcount				Full-time Equivalent			
	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Enrollment Difference	Percentage Difference	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Enrollment Difference	Percentage Difference
BHSU	3,858	3,608	-250	-6.48	2,520.5	2,357.0	-163.5	-6.49
DSU	3,268	3,186	-82	-2.51	2,062.9	2,045.8	-17.1	-0.83
NSU	3,427	3,431	4	0.12	1,817.2	1,769.8	-47.4	-2.61
SDSMT	2,529	2,477	-52	-2.06	2,156.4	2,039.9	-116.5	-5.40
SDSU	11,518	11,405	-113	-0.98	9,402.7	9,248.5	-154.2	-1.64
USD	9,920	9,459	-461	-4.64	7,344.3	7,125.0	-219.3	-2.99
TOTAL	34,520	33,566	-954	-2.76	25,304.1	24,586.1	-718.0	-2.84

The historical trend of headcount and FTE enrollment in South Dakota’s public university system, dating back to 1999, is shown in the following charts:

**South Dakota Public University System
Headcount Enrollment 1999-2020**

Fall Term	System	% Change
1999	26,616	
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	36,662	0.36%
2018	35,737	-2.52%
2019	34,520	-3.41%
2020	33,566	-2.76%

**South Dakota Public University System
Full-Time Equivalent Enrollment 1999-2020**

Fall Term	System	% Change
1999	21,606	
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	26,634	0.13%
2018	26,093	-2.03%
2019	25,304	-3.02%
2020	24,586	-2.84%