

# **Arkansas Division of Higher Education**

## **Annual Report of Enrollment at Arkansas Institutions of Higher Education**

**Fall 2018**



**Research & Analytics**

**December 2019**

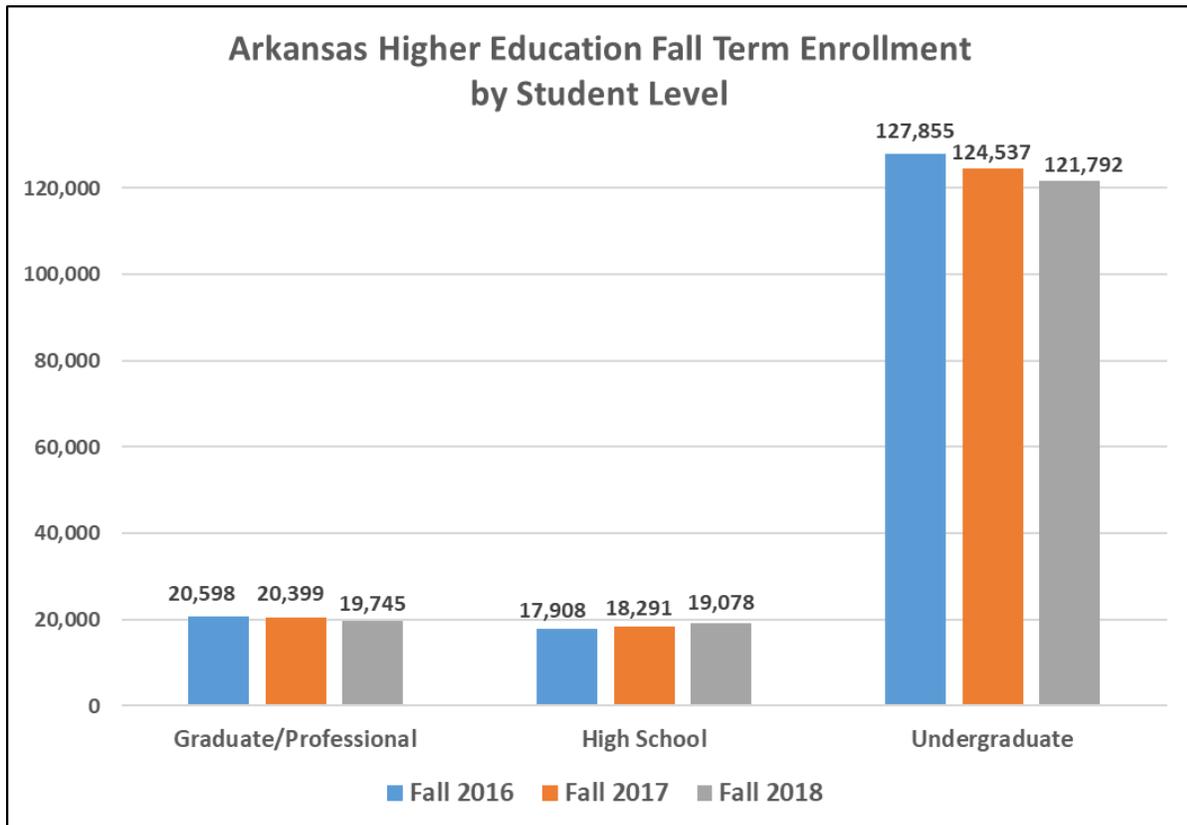
**Arkansas Division of Higher Education**  
423 Main Street, Little Rock, AR 72201

## ANNUAL ENROLLMENT REPORT

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The **total** enrollment for the Fall 2018 term in all sectors of Arkansas higher education (public universities, public colleges, as well as private/independent colleges and universities and nursing schools<sup>1</sup>) was **160,615 students**; representing a 1-year decrease of 1.6 percent.

Of these 160,615 students, 19,078 were high school students (11.9 percent), 121,792 were undergraduate students (75.8 percent) and 19,745 were graduate/doctoral/first professional students (12.3 percent).

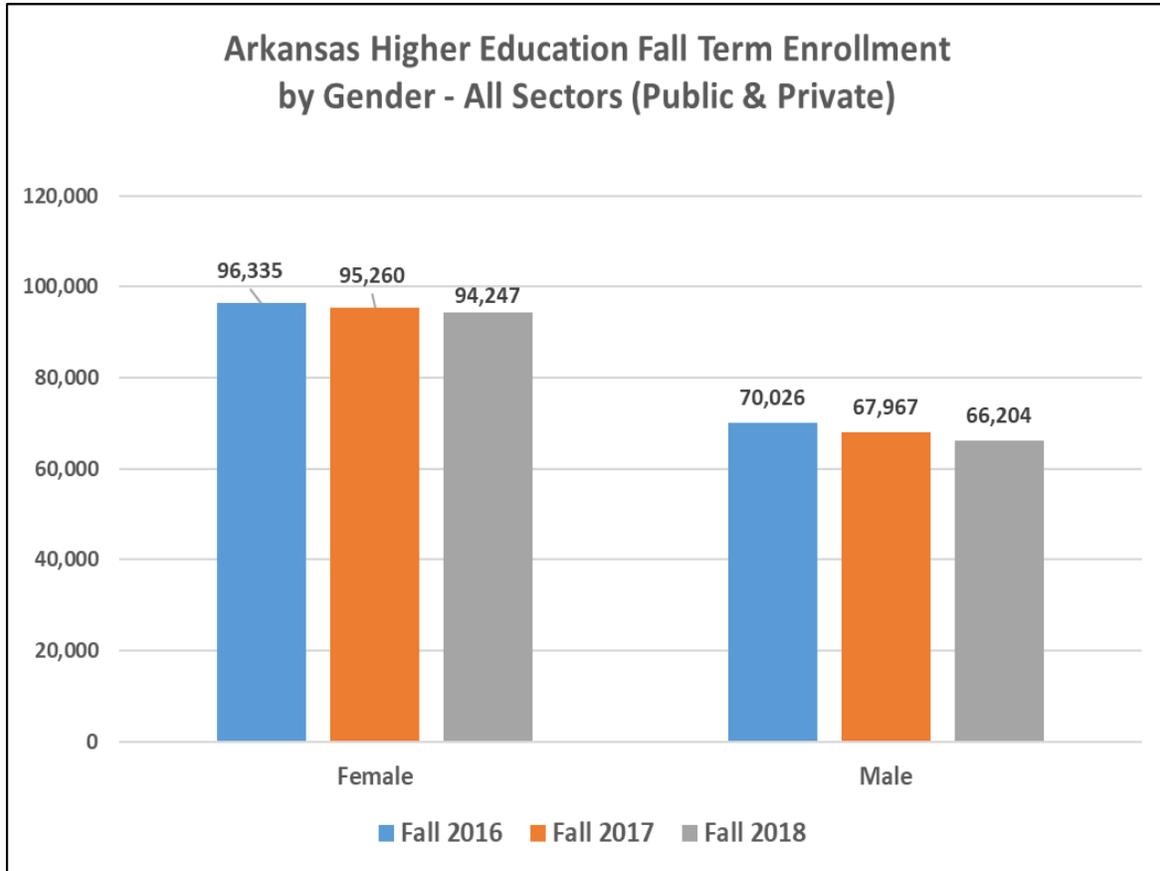


From Fall 2017 to Fall 2018, there was a 4.3 percent increase in the number of high school students served by Arkansas institutions. There was a 2.2 percent decline in the number of undergraduate students, and a 3.2 percent decrease in the number of graduate/doctoral/first professional students attending our colleges and universities.

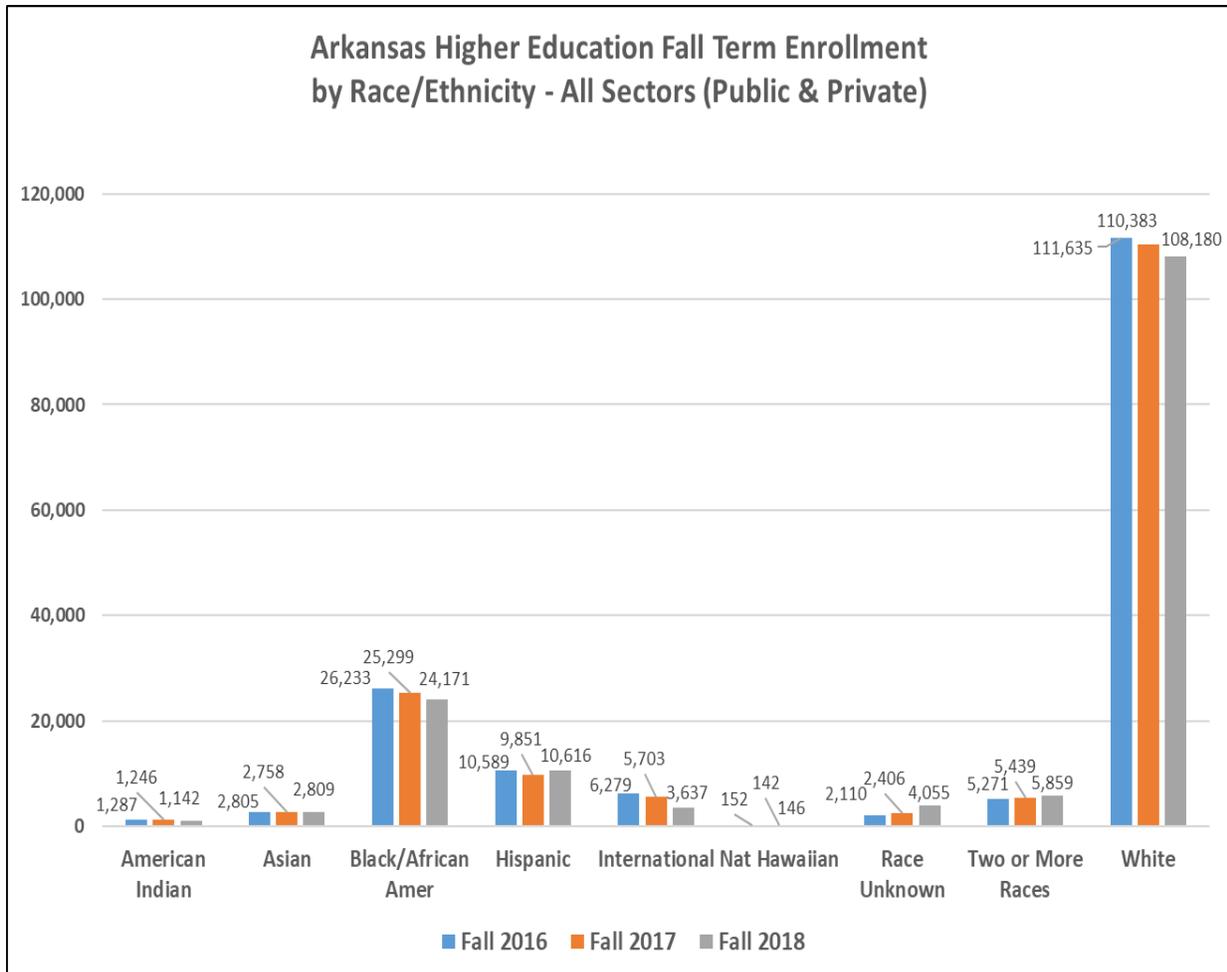
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<sup>1</sup> The nursing schools of BSN (Baptist Health College) and JSN (Jefferson Regional Medical School of Nursing) report data to ADHE due to the Academic Challenge Scholarship reporting requirements.

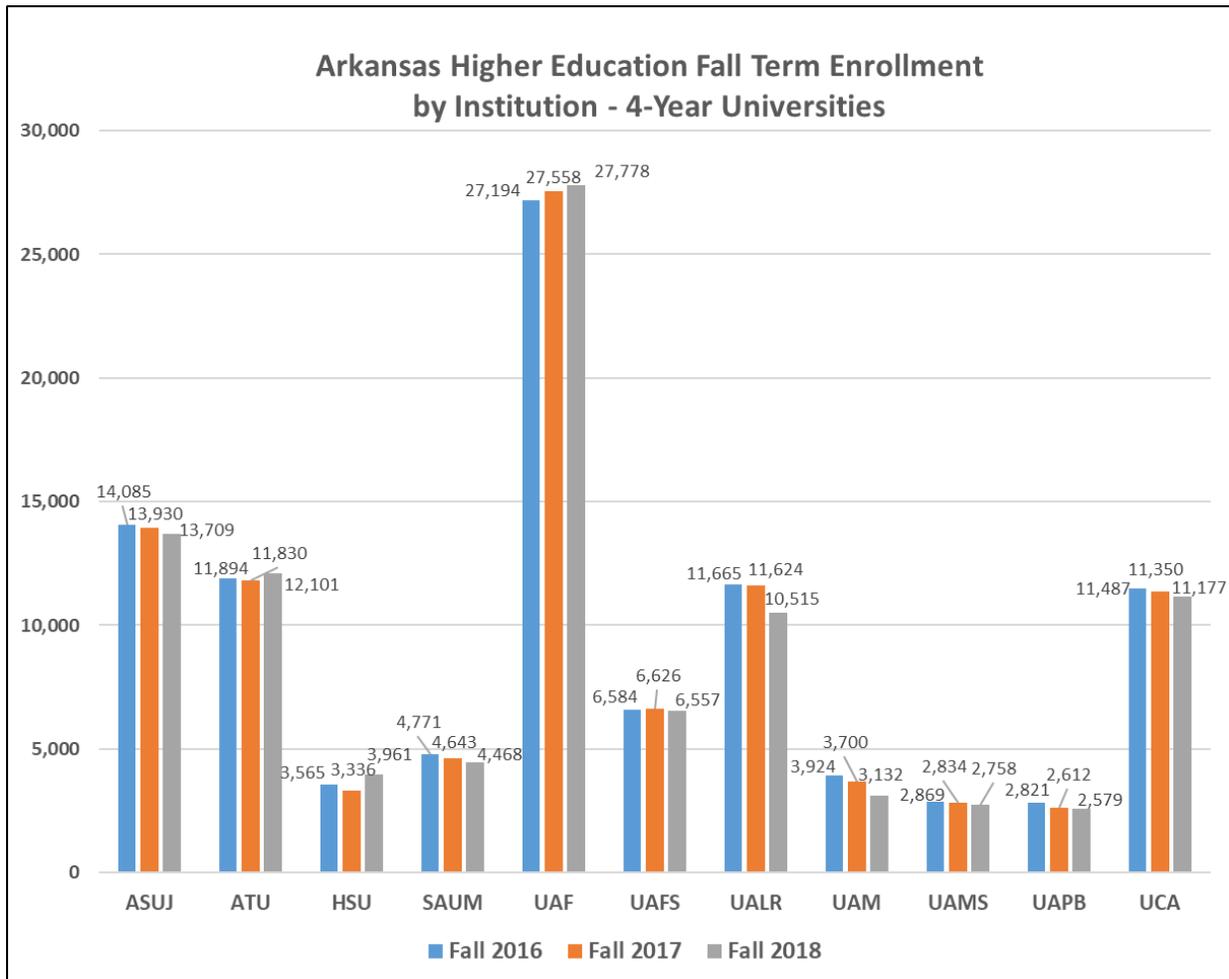
Both genders have been affected by the decline in enrollment the past several years, but the breakdown between male and female remains consistent, with 58.7 percent of Fall 2018 students reported as female and 41.2 percent of all students reported as male. An insignificant .1 percent of students reported as unknown gender.



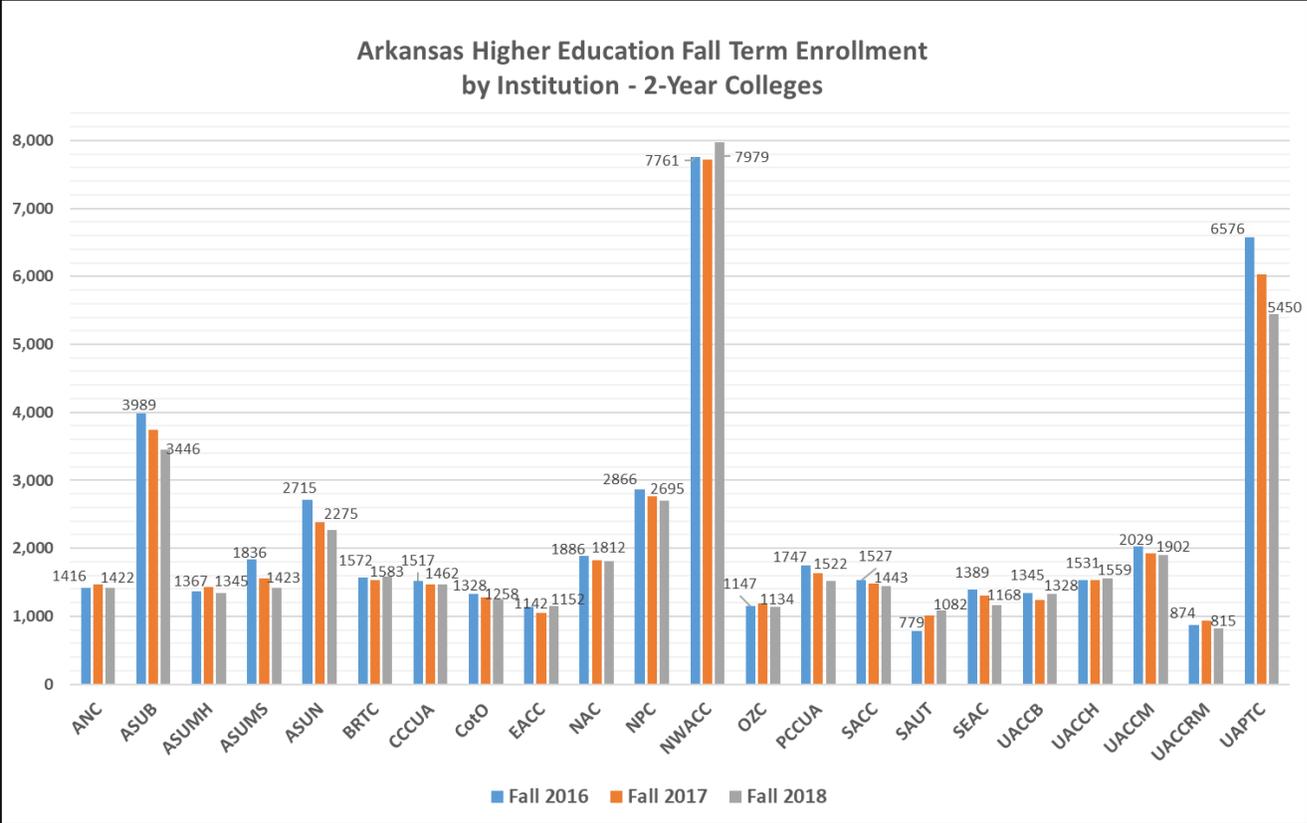
The following chart provides a three-year trend by race/ethnicity for students in all sectors of Arkansas higher education. There continues to be improved reporting in the two or more race category which is causing slight shifts in some of the other race categories. This is making it difficult to interpret the actual change in enrollment for specific race/ethnicity groups. The number of international students enrolling in Arkansas higher education institutions continues to decline.



The following graphs provide a three-year total enrollment trend for each sector of Arkansas higher education.

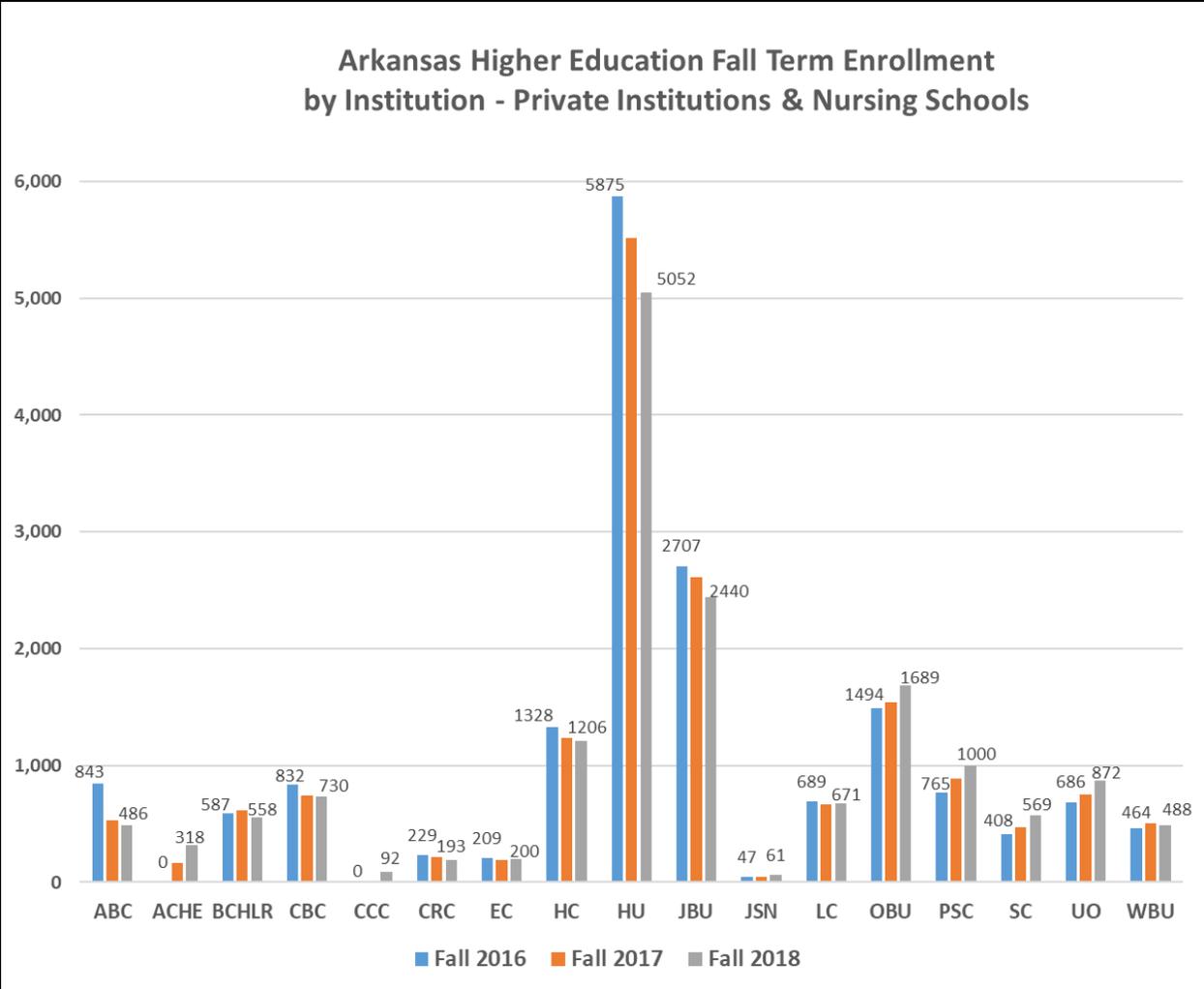


Henderson State University had a one-year increase in enrollment of 18.7 percent over Fall 2017. The other two universities with gains were Arkansas Tech University with a 2.3 percent increase in enrollment over Fall 2017 and the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville saw a slight .8 percent increase in enrollment.



Note: Enrollment numbers are only provided for Fall 2016 and Fall 2018.

Six two-year colleges showed an increase in their fall term enrollment. When comparing Fall 2017 to Fall 2018, Black River Technical College (3.3%), East Arkansas Community College (10.0%), Northwest Arkansas Community College (3.4%), Southern Arkansas University Tech (7.1%), University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville (7.3%) and the University of Arkansas Community College at Hope/Texarkana (1.5%).



Note: Enrollment numbers are only provided for Fall 2016 and Fall 2018.

Five private/independent and one nursing school saw double-digit percent increases between Fall 2017 and Fall 2018. Arkansas College of Health Education (96.3%), Ecclesia College (5.3%), Jefferson School of Nursing (32.6%), Philander Smith College (12.2%), Shorter College (20.6%) and the University of the Ozarks (16.0%) all experienced enrollment growth.