

Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report

December 1, 2016

Annual Enrollment Report



Research & Technology

Arkansas Department of Higher Education

423 Main Street, Suite 400, Little Rock, AR 72201

ANNUAL ENROLLMENT REPORT

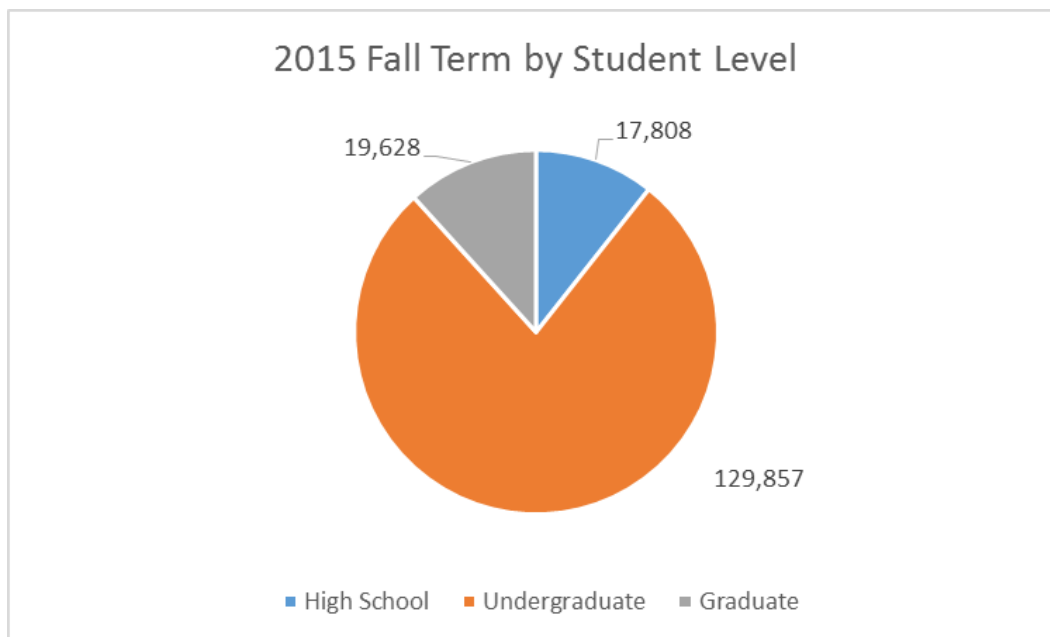
Attachments

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One-year comparisons:

The **total** enrollment for the 2015 Fall term in all sectors of Arkansas higher education (public universities, public colleges, as well as independent colleges and universities and nursing schools¹) was **167,293 students**; representing a 1-year decrease of 0.8 percent and the third consecutive year that total enrollments declined.

Of these 167,293 students, 17,808 were high school students (10.6 percent), 129,857 were undergraduate students (77.6 percent) and 19,628 were graduate students (11.7 percent).

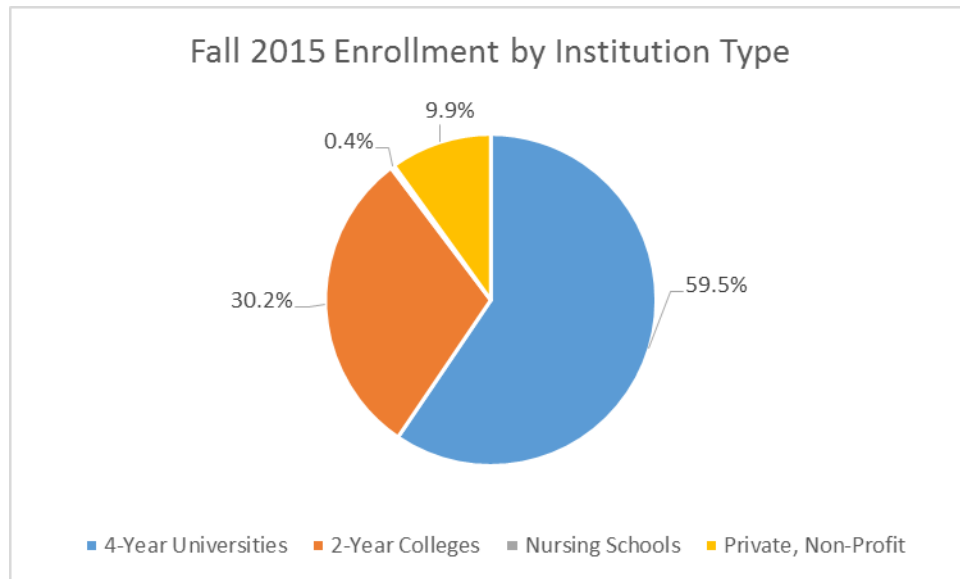


¹ The nursing schools of BSN (Baptist School of Nursing) and JSN (Jefferson School of Nursing) report data to ADHE due to the Lottery Act.

Only the number of high school students enrolled in college has increased since the 2013 Fall term. The number of both undergraduate and graduate students has decreased.

Change from Fall 2014	Change	% Change
High School	1,517	9.3%
Undergraduate	-4,243	-3.2%
Graduate	1,360	7.4%
Total	-1,366	-0.8%

Public 4-Year University enrollment continues to constitute the majority of all higher education enrollment in Arkansas. The below pie chart illustrates that 59.5 percent of all college students are enrolled at public 4-Year Universities, 30.2 percent are at public 2-Year Colleges, 9.9 percent are at private/independent institutions of higher education, and 0.4 percent are enrolled at nursing schools.



The enrollment decline from fall 2014 has occurred at both the public 2-Year Colleges and nursing schools.

Sector	Change	% Change
4-Year Universities	1,542	1.6%
2-Year Colleges	-2,855	-5.3%
Nursing Schools	-182	-22.6%
Private, Non-Profit	129	0.8%

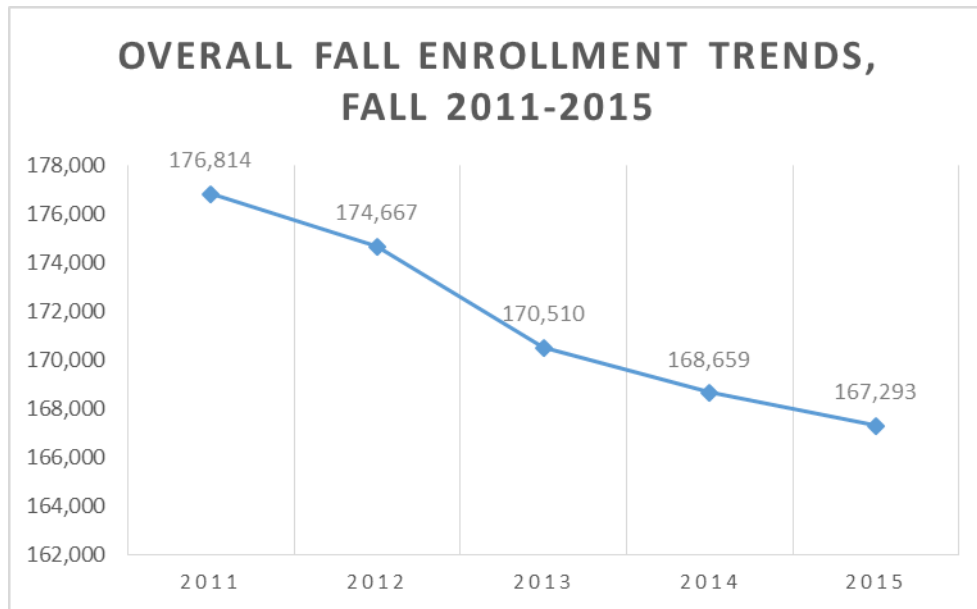
Issue of Non-Traditional and Innovative Terms/Semesters

Historically, colleges and universities have enrolled students into fall, spring and summer terms. However, with many institutions attempting to be more customer service oriented and because of increased competition for students from other institutions of higher education (including out-of-state online programs), many institutions are offering enrollments into terms that do not coincide with the traditional fall, spring and summer terms. A common arrangement is three terms per semester: (a) one 8-week term at the beginning of the traditional term, (b) a second 8-week term at the end of the traditional term, and (c) the full 16-week traditional term. Some terms may even cross over the traditional terms, such as an 8-week term starting in late November and ending in January, etc.

This phenomenon is expected to continue and its use will most likely increase. This will have the effect of blurring term comparisons making annual comparisons more useful than term comparisons.

Five-year comparisons:

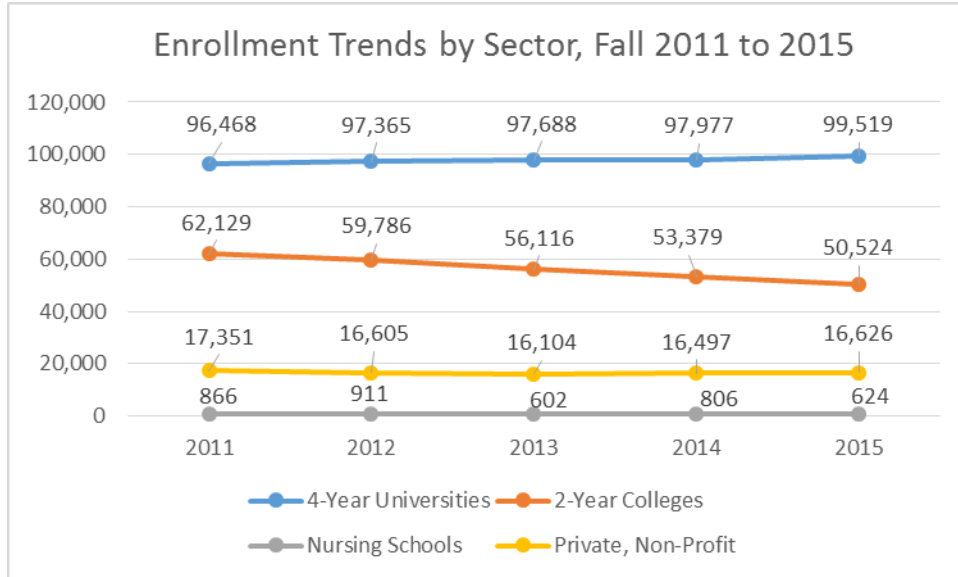
Comparing 2015 Fall data to 2011 Fall data, total enrollment is down 9,521 students (5.4 percent).



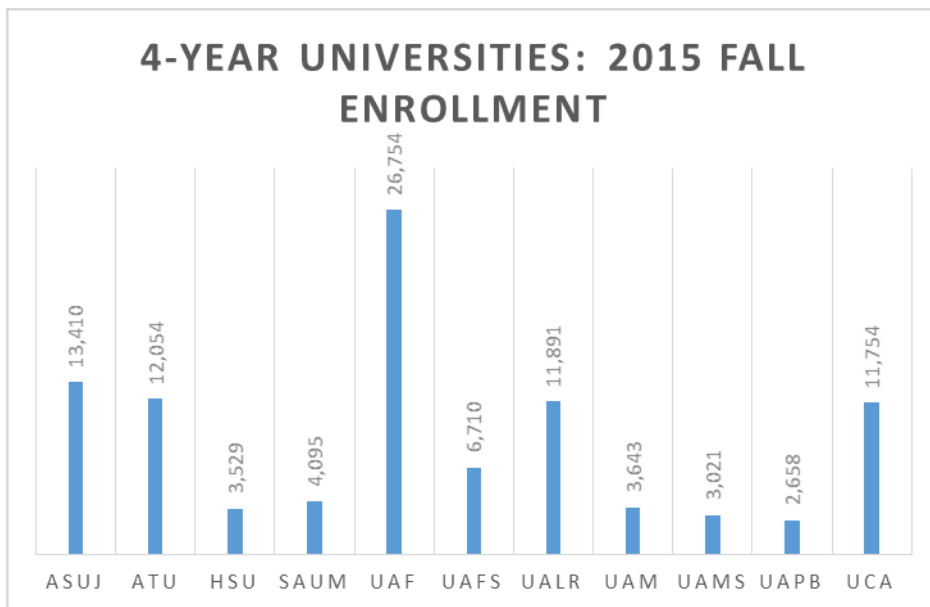
The table below shows that the most significant change in enrollment since fall 2011 has occurred with the enrollment of high school students.

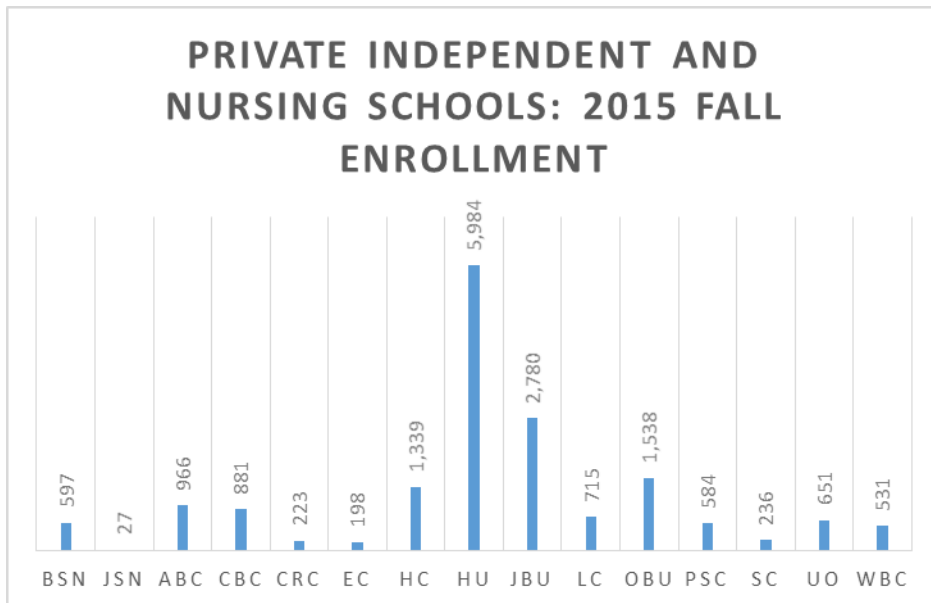
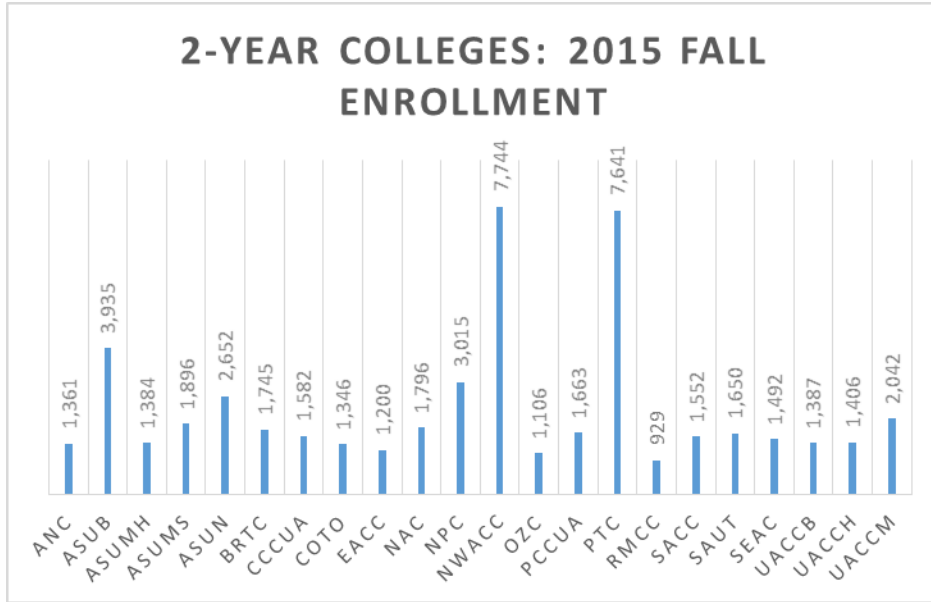
Change from Fall 2011	Change	% Change
High School	4,763	29.2%
Undergraduate	-14,739	-11.0%
Graduate	455	2.5%
Total	-9,521	-5.6%

Public institutions account for 89.8 percent of total enrollment.



The following summarizes more specific information by institution.





Annual Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment

Annual unduplicated headcount enrollment is counting all students one time for the entire academic year. The student may be enrolled in two or more semesters but they are counted only once during the academic year.

Attachment 7-2 shows the total number of students served in for-credit classes at Arkansas higher education institutions by academic year, focusing on the unduplicated headcount of students enrolled in colleges and universities during at least one term during the academic year. The semesters and terms composing an academic year correspond closely to the July 1 through June 30 fiscal year and chronologically include a second summer term, the following fall semester, the following spring semester, and

the following first summer term. (Note: Students enrolled in off-schedule courses related to these semesters and terms are also included. Also, the nursing schools of BSN and JSN have not yet participated in data collection process to have five years of history.) In those cases where the student enrolled in more than one term, which is most frequently the case, the student is counted only one time, hence this reports unduplicated headcount enrollment for the academic year and for each institution.

Eight 4-Year Universities reported increases in 1-year growth with the top three as follows:

1. Southern Arkansas University – 15.5 percent
2. University of Arkansas Pine Bluff – 5.8 percent
3. University of Arkansas Medical Sciences – 4.5 percent

Five of the eleven 4-Year Universities experienced positive 5-year growth. The top three were:

1. Southern Arkansas University – 21.1 percent
2. University of Arkansas Fayetteville – 15.3 percent
3. Arkansas Tech University – 15.2 percent

Nine of the twenty-two 2-Year Colleges experienced 1-year increases in fall enrollment. The top three were:

1. Arkansas State University Newport – 7.1 percent
2. Southern Arkansas University Tech – 5.8 percent
3. University of Arkansas Community College Batesville – 5.3 percent

Only two of the twenty-two 2-Year Colleges experienced positive 5-year growth. They were:

1. Arkansas State University Newport – 29.8 percent
2. Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas – 3.1 percent

Seven private/independent institutions experienced 1-year growth in fall enrollment. The top three were:

1. Arkansas Baptist College – 13.0 percent
2. University of the Ozarks – 10.9 percent
3. Philander Smith College – 3.0 percent

Five of the private/independent institutions experienced 5-year growth in enrollment. The top three were:

1. Lyon College – 19.2 percent
2. John Brown University – 13.3 percent
3. University of the Ozarks – 3.3 percent

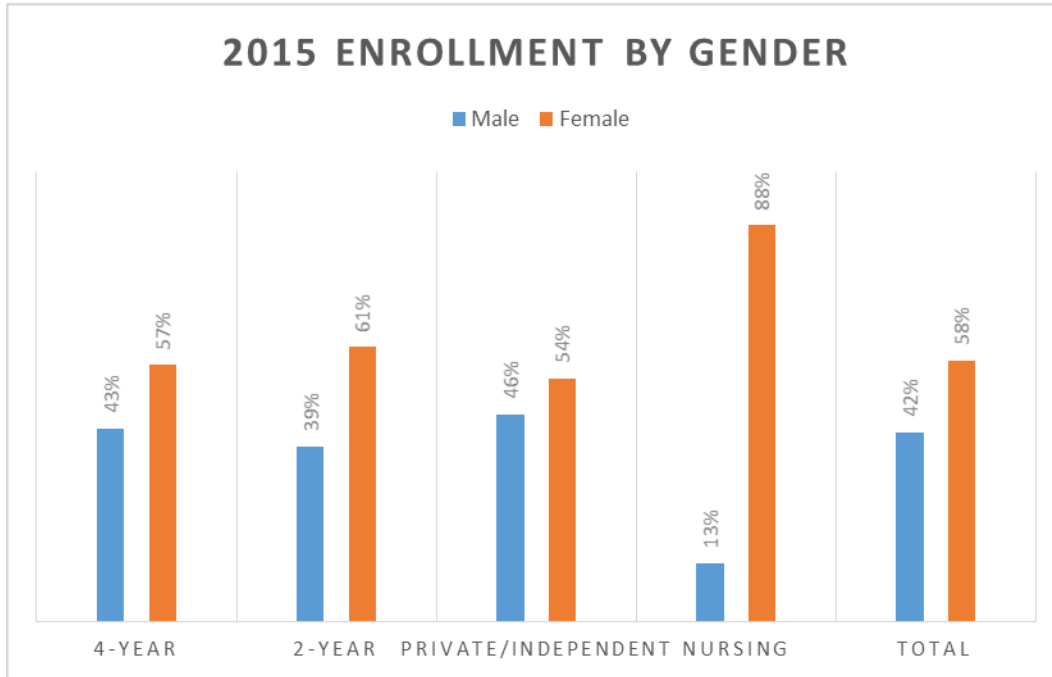
For the nursing schools, both Baptist School of Nursing and Jefferson School of Nursing reported 1-year and 5-year declines.

NOTE: Ecclesia College enrollment data is reported in Fall 2015 for the first time. Shorter College enrollment has been reported for Fall 2014 and Fall 2015.

Student Demographic Profile

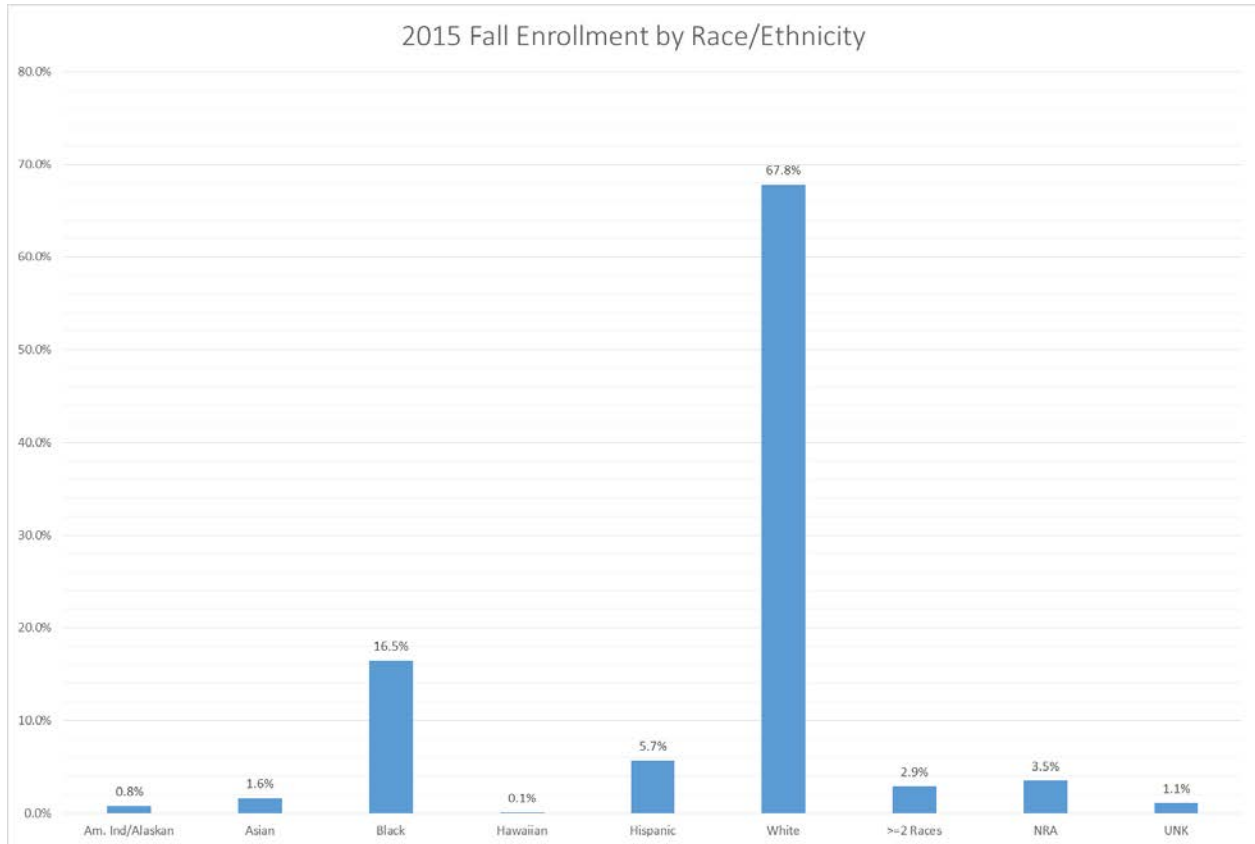
A demographic overview of students enrolled in Arkansas public higher education in fall 2015 contrasts significantly between the universities and the colleges and has changed since fall 2011.

- Gender:** Overall, the proportion of male-to-female students has seen a gradual increase in the percentage of male students over the past 5 years from 40.8 percent in fall 2011 to 42.1 percent in fall 2015.



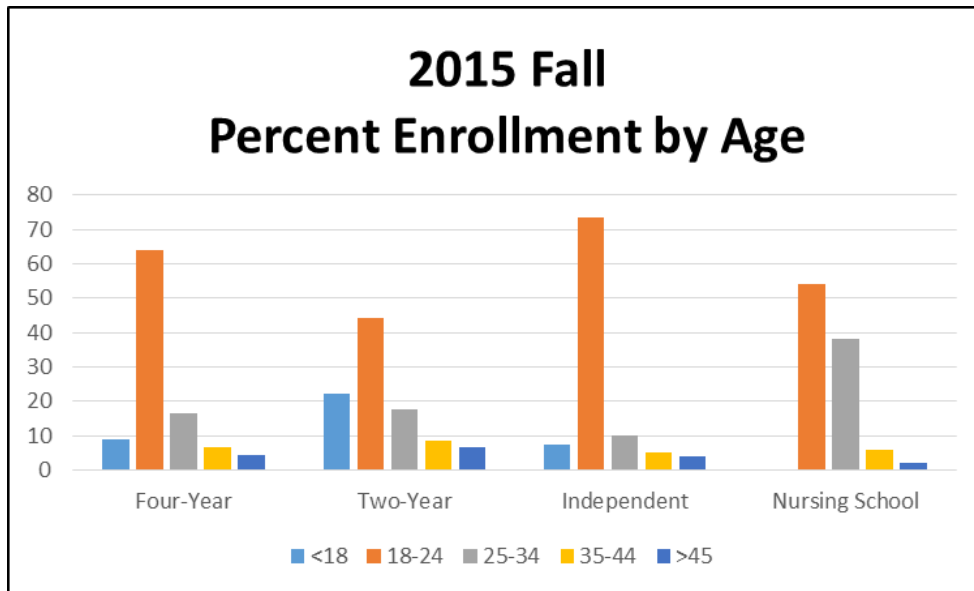
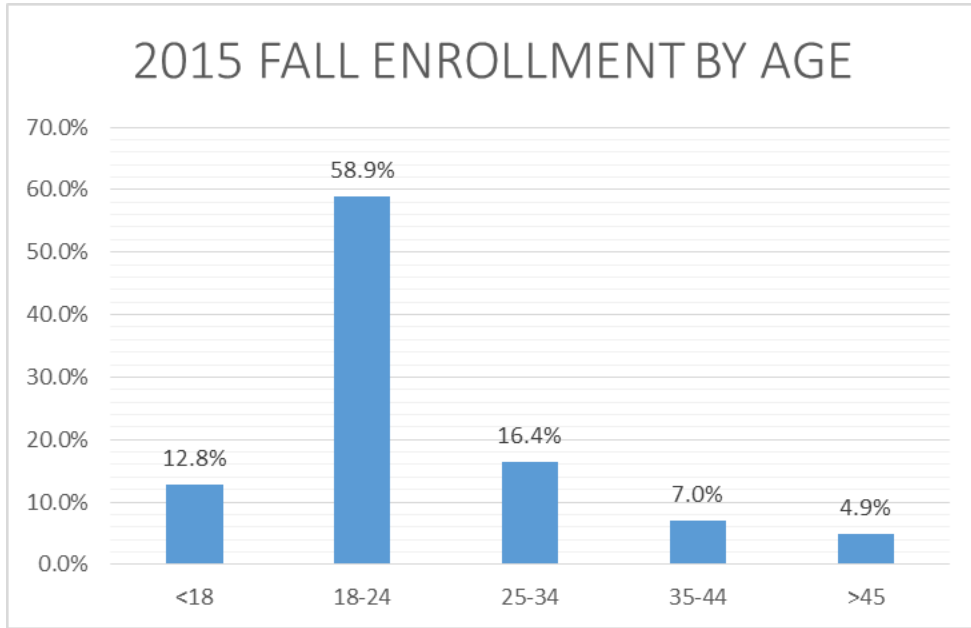
Sector	Percent Male	
	Fall 2011	Fall 2015
4-Year	43.2	43.3
2-Year	36.8	38.8
Private, Non-Profit	43.0	46.3
Nursing Schools	15.0	12.5
Total	40.8	42.1

- Race/Ethnicity:** The race/ethnic breakdown for the fall 2015 semester follows. Note that the race/ethnicity categories are abbreviated; the full classifications are American Indian/Alaskan Native only, Asian only, Black only, Hawaiian and Pacific Islander only, Hispanic any, White only, Two or More Races only, Non-Resident Alien, and Unknown.

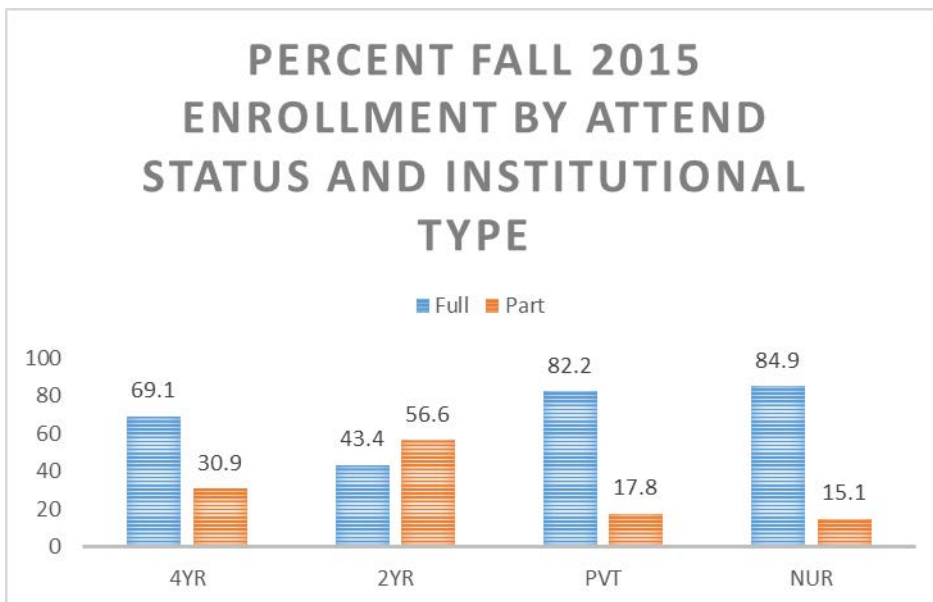
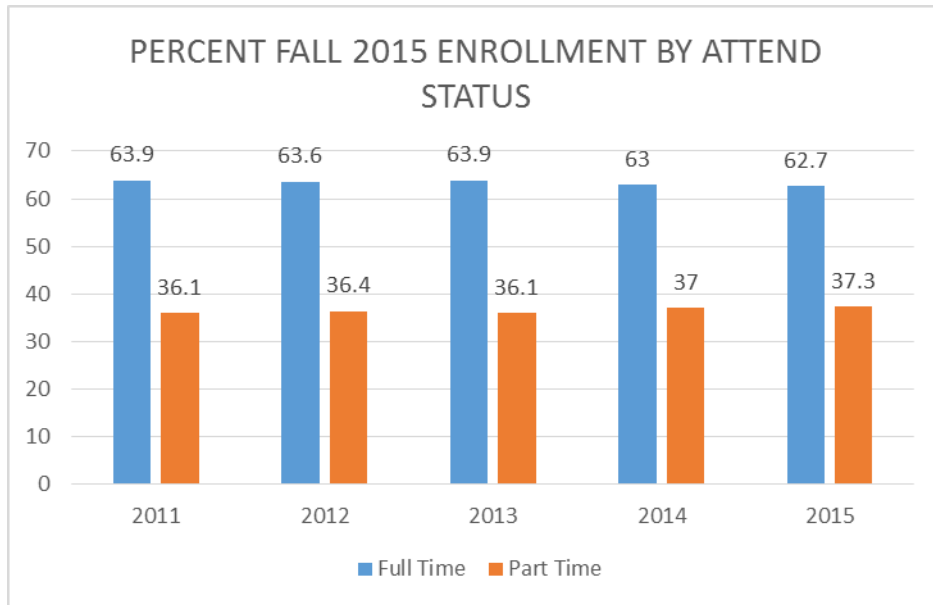


	Native		Black	Hawaiian	Hispanic	White	2 or More	NRA	Unknown
	American	Asian							
Four-Year Universities	0.90%	2.00%	14.40%	0.10%	5.50%	68.30%	3.20%	4.90%	0.80%
Two-Year Colleges	0.80%	1.00%	20.70%	0.10%	6.80%	66.00%	2.50%	0.60%	1.40%
Private, Non-Profit	0.90%	1.30%	16.20%	0.10%	3.80%	70.00%	1.90%	4.10%	1.80%
Nursing Schools	0.60%	1.60%	22.00%	0.20%	2.40%	73.10%	0.20%	0.00%	0.00%
Total	0.80%	1.60%	16.50%	0.10%	5.70%	67.80%	2.90%	3.50%	1.10%

- Age:** The age distribution reveals contrasting trends for the two sectors. Not surprisingly, 4-Year University students and private, non-profit universities enroll the largest percentage of students in the traditional-aged bracket (18-24 years), while 2-Year Colleges enroll the smallest percentage.



- **Attendance Status:** Since fall 2011, the overall percent of full-time students has decreased slightly.



- **Geographic Origin:** For four-year universities, 75.6 percent of the students enrolled in the fall 2015 semester are from Arkansas.

Origin	Count	Percent
Arkansas	75,226	75.6%
Texas	7,176	7.2%
Foreign Country	4,881	4.9%
Missouri	2,580	2.6%
Oklahoma	2,002	2.0%
Tennessee	1,248	1.3%

Among all two-year and four-year institutions, 82.7 percent of the students enrolled in the fall 2015 semester are from Arkansas.

Origin	Count	Percent
Arkansas	124,062	82.7%
Texas	7,457	5.0%
Foreign Country	5,147	3.4%
Missouri	3,067	2.0%
Oklahoma	2,088	1.4%
Tennessee	1,443	1.0%

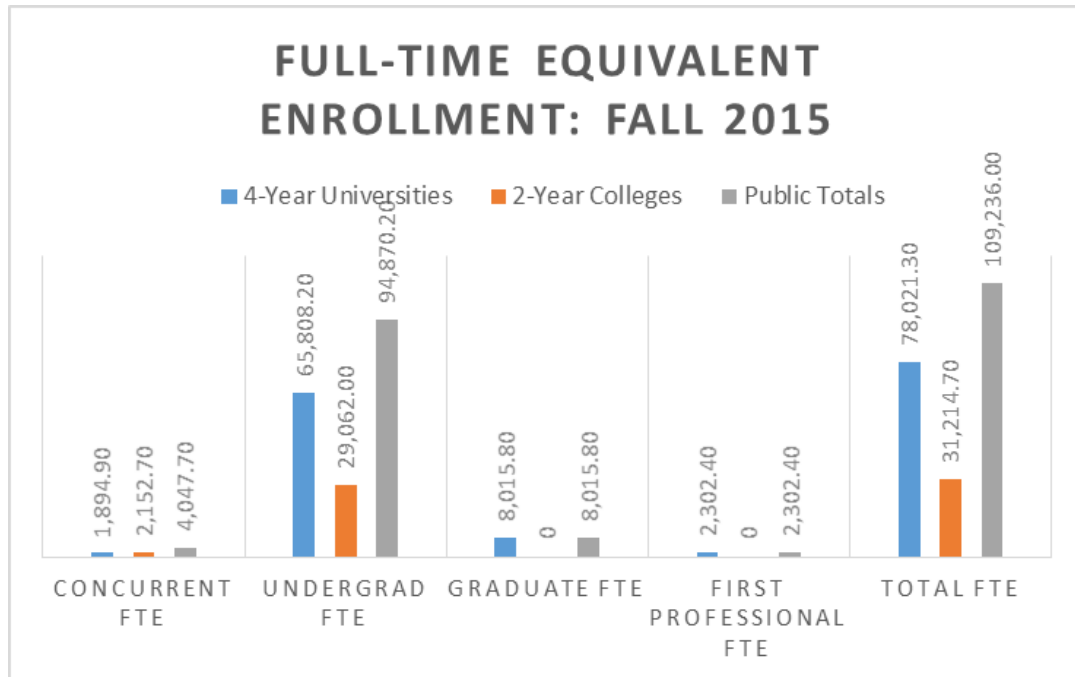
- **Off-schedule courses:** In order to ensure that institutions receive credit in the funding formula for a full year of student semester credit hours (SSCH) that they produce and in recognition that many institutions offer courses that meet according to a schedule that varies from the traditional fall-spring-summer calendar, ADHE has collected data concerning off-schedule courses and enrollments through a special reporting process. Through this process, short-courses and other courses that begin after the census date are reported and the resultant SSCH are tabulated and included for funding purposes. Without such a process, institutions that attempt to reach more students by making their courses more available, at times that are more convenient to students, would be penalized by losing state-funding for the SSCH that are generated by these courses.

Fall SSCH and FTE

SSCH and FTE are highly related as SSCH is usually divided by a pre-determined factor to determine FTE. For undergraduates, SSCH is divided by 15 to determine undergraduate FTE, whereas SSCH is divided by 12 to determine graduate FTE. However, to determine First Professional FTE, the past IPEDS method of using fall student headcounts is used in this report. This method counts all full-time students as 1 FTE and all part-time students as 0.6 FTE.

Note that SSCH and FTE are calculated for public institutions only. The independent institutions and nursing schools do not submit course data that is required for SSHC/FTE calculations.

Fall FTE (full-time equivalents) have decreased over the last five fall terms (from Fall 2011 to 2015 Fall) by 6.0 percent to a total of 109,236 FTE. This represents a one-year decrease of 1.2 percent.



Undergraduate SSCH

The 4-year universities with the greatest volume of undergraduate SSCH were:

1. University of Arkansas, Fayetteville – 306,331 SSCH
2. University of Central Arkansas – 130,006 SSCH
3. Arkansas State University Jonesboro – 120,214 SSCH

The 2-year colleges with the greatest volume of undergraduate SSCH were:

1. Pulaski Technical College – 73,608 SSCH
2. Northwest Arkansas Community College – 60,532 SSCH
3. Arkansas State University Beebe – 40,002 SSCH

Graduate SSCH

The 4-year universities with the greatest volume of graduate SSCH were:

1. University of Arkansas, Fayetteville – 28,741 SSCH
2. Arkansas State University Jonesboro – 18,265 SSCH
3. University of Arkansas at Little Rock – 13,558 SSCH

