



## Overview

- Enrollment growth (headcount) for the Oregon University System (OUS) remained stable for fall 2006 – with **growth of less than one percent (0.14%) to 81,002 students** – from the larger increases seen between 1999 and 2002. That is an increase of only 114 students over 2005. This compares to a ten-year average annual increase of 2.89%. Although the increase was small, total enrollment is at an all time high for the System.
- **Undergraduate** enrollment **decreased 0.3%** to 65,621 students, down from last year’s slight increase of 0.9%. The number of newly admitted freshmen increased by 3%, although much of this was due to significant increases in nonresident freshmen of 18.4%; enrollment of freshmen from Oregon declined by 1.2%.
- **Graduate** student enrollment **increased 2.0%** to 15,381, up from last year’s increase of 1.7%.
- **Student diversity** showed an increase of 2.85% and now constitutes 14% of the student body (9.6% unknown ethnicity). Hispanic/Latino and American Indian/Alaska Native students had enrollment growth of 3.9% and 3.6%, respectively, from fall 2005 to 2006. African American student enrollment increased at a rate of 0.8% over the prior year. Asian/Pacific American student enrollment increased by 2.7% in 2006. Caucasian student enrollment decreased by 1.5% from 2005 to 2006.
- **International students** increased by 4.4% in 2006, building on last year’s increase of 1.1%.
- Fall **FTE enrollment**<sup>1</sup> (Full Time Equivalent students), **decreased** system-wide by 267 students, or **0.4%**, from 67,378 in 2005 to 67,111 in 2006. **Undergraduate FTE** decreased by 0.6% and graduate student FTE increased by 0.5% from the prior year.

Table 1: 10-Year Enrollment Trend for the OUS		
10-year increase = 28.9%; 5-year increase = 9.6%; 2-year increase = 1.2%		
Year	Total Headcount Enrollment (includes Extended Enrollment)	Percent increase from prior year
1996	62,847	+2.0%
1997	64,131	+2.0%
1998	64,989	+1.3%
1999	67,347	+3.6%
2000	69,508	+3.2%
<b>2001</b>	<b>73,883</b>	<b>+6.3%</b>
2002	78,111	+5.7%
2003	79,558	+1.9%
2004	80,066	+0.6%
2005	80,888	+1.0%
<b>2006</b>	<b>81,002</b>	<b>+0.14%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Full Time Equivalence (FTE) measures the total credit-bearing activity of a campus. The full time equivalent for an undergraduate is 15 credit hours per term or 45 credit hours per year, for a master’s or professional student the number is 12 credit hours per term or 36 credit hours per year, and for a doctoral student the number is 9 credit hours per term or 27 credit hours per year.

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- The **academic qualifications of new freshmen** continue to rise, with the average high school GPA up from 3.41 to 3.42. The average SAT score increased slightly to 1,075 for the fall 2006 entering class of freshmen.
- The **ten-year growth** for the Oregon University System has **outpaced national averages**, increasing 29% since 1996, up 18,155 students—a number slightly less than the current enrollment at Oregon State University. Two universities, Eastern Oregon University and Portland State University, increased more than 40% in that time.

### Enrollment Factors

- Several factors have likely contributed to the leveling off of enrollment growth in the OUS seen in the last few years:
  - Decreases in the level of state investment in the OUS – with current biennial funding lower in both constant and actual dollars than the 1999 budget – have led to a decrease in outreach to high school students and cuts in student recruitment staff and services, campus support services (retention, counseling, mentoring, tutoring), course and class section cuts, and other program reductions.
  - The number of new transfer students has also declined 5%, partially due to the reduced enrollment at Oregon’s community colleges over the last four years. The inability to get classes as sections have been cut has reduced the number of students in this educational pipeline by 7.6%.
  - OUS is also beginning to see a greater number of Oregon’s high school graduates, especially academic achievers, leaving the state to attend college than has been seen in recent years. For the first time since 1999, the proportion of graduates leaving the state for a four-year college is up (11.5%), still below the high of 13.3% seen in 1999, as reported in the recent OUS study, “Where Have Oregon’s Graduates Gone.” The percentage of high achievers leaving the state for a four-year college (27.1%) increased from the previous study, a reversal of a long-term trend, but significantly lower than the 42% seen in 1995 following program cuts resulting from the Measure 5 implementation.
  - As also reported in “Where Have Oregon’s Graduates Gone,” recent high school graduates who chose not to attend college expressed concerns about college costs as a top reason for not pursuing postsecondary education. Although tuition at OUS universities rose by just 3% this year, the cumulative effect of rapid increases earlier in the decade is still being felt.
- Despite the slower enrollment growth than was seen between 1999 and 2002, OUS continues to help large numbers of students earn degrees. For 2006, a record 19,138 degrees and certificates were awarded, compared to 18,768 in 2005. This is a one-year increase of 2%, and a three-year increase of 12.1% in degrees and certificates awarded. Over the next few years, as the students who entered the system during the years of slower enrollment growth reach graduation, OUS will likely see a slowing in the annual percentage increase in degrees awarded.

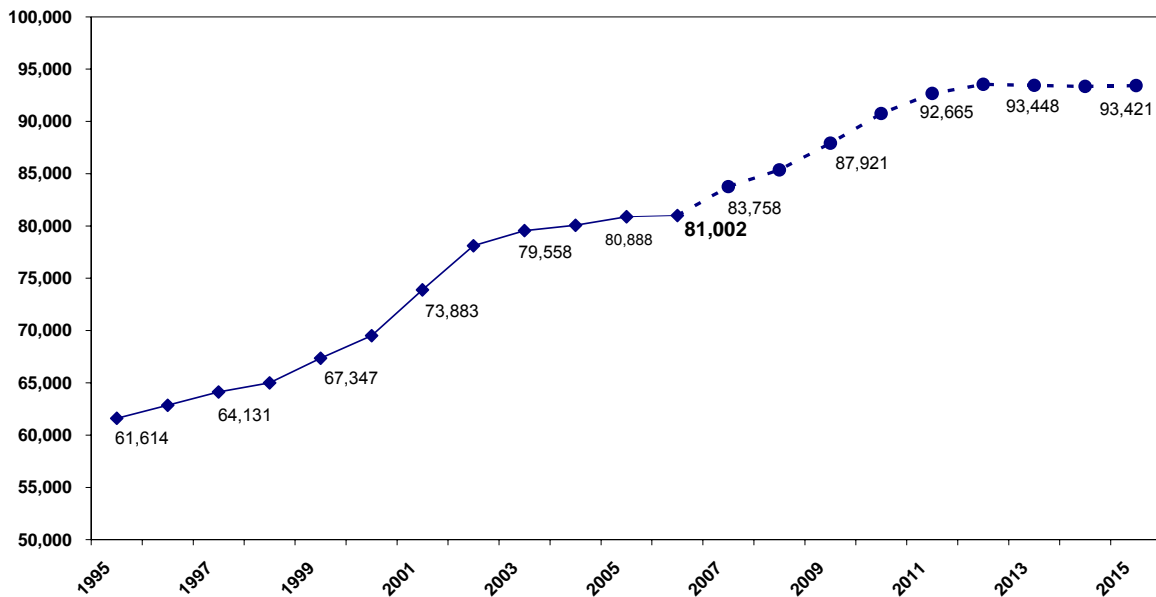
Additional Data Tables

**Table 2:  
Total OUS Fall Headcount and FTE Enrollment, 2006 Compared to 2005  
(Fall 4<sup>th</sup> week)**

	Fall 2006		Fall 2005		Headcount Change		FTE Change	
	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
EOU	3,425	2,332	3,533	2,424	-108	-3.1	-92	-3.8
OIT	3,157	2,212	3,351	2,316	-194	-5.8	-103	-4.5
OSU Corvallis	19,362	17,953	19,236	17,925	126	0.7	28	0.2
OSU Cascades	495	252	491	247	4	0.8	5	2.1
PSU	24,284	16,980	24,015	16,812	269	1.1	168	1.0
SOU	5,002	3,762	4,989	3,853	13	0.3	-91	-2.4
UO	20,388	19,609	20,394	19,697	-6	0.0	-89	-0.4
WOU	4,889	4,011	4,879	4,106	10	0.2	-94	-2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>81,002</b>	<b>67,111</b>	<b>80,888</b>	<b>67,378</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-267</b>	<b>-0.4</b>

Source: OUS Institutional Research Services, Report ERCH-01, 11/7/06

**OUS Fall 4th Week Headcount and Forecast:  
1995 to 2015**



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<b>Table 3: Fall 2006 4th Week Enrollment by Student Level</b>					
Student Level	2006	2005	1996	Percent Change	
				One Year	Ten years
Admitted Undergraduates	61,713	61,763	46,152	-0.1%	33.7%
Nonadmitted Undergraduates	3,908	4,047	3,445	-3.4%	13.4%
<b>Total Undergraduates</b>	<b>65,621</b>	<b>65,810</b>	<b>49,597</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>32.3%</b>
Masters, other graduates	8,854	8,827	7,075	0.3%	25.1%
Law	542	533	499	1.7%	8.6%
Pharmacy *	336	331	-	1.5%	-
Veterinary Medicine	196	182	73	7.7%	168.5%
Doctoral	2,777	2,743	2,427	1.2%	14.4%
Nonadmitted Graduates	2,676	2,462	3,176	8.7%	-15.7%
<b>Total Graduates</b>	<b>15,381</b>	<b>15,078</b>	<b>13,250</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>
<b>Total All Students</b>	<b>81,002</b>	<b>80,888</b>	<b>62,847</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>28.9%</b>

\* NOTE: Pharmacy became a professional program in Fall 1999

Source: OUS Institutional Research Services, Report ERCH-01, 11/7/06

<b>Table 4: Newly Admitted Undergraduates</b>									
	Fall 2006			Fall 2005			Change		
	Fresh.	Trans.	Total	Fresh.	Trans.	Total	Fresh.	Trans.	Total
EOU	366	428	794	381	442	823	-15	-14	-29
OIT	296	398	694	265	405	670	31	-7	24
OSU Corvallis	3,009	1,149	4,158	2,925	1,073	3,998	84	76	160
OSU Cascades	-	96	96	-	88	88	0	8	8
PSU	1,460	2,449	3,909	1,416	2,758	4,174	44	-309	-265
SOU	760	493	1,253	754	482	1,236	6	11	17
UO	3,423	1,236	4,659	3,207	1,362	4,569	216	-126	90
WOU	805	473	1,278	876	467	1,343	-71	6	-65
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,119</b>	<b>6,722</b>	<b>16,841</b>	<b>9,824</b>	<b>7,077</b>	<b>16,901</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>-355</b>	<b>-60</b>

NOTE: 'Transfers' excludes postbaccalaureate undergraduates and graduate students

Source: OUS Institutional Research Services, First Time Freshmen Reports Table 4b, 11/7/06.

	Fall 2006			Fall 2005			Change		
	Res.	Nonres.	Total	Res.	Nonres.	Total	Res.	Nonres.	Total
EOU	550	244	794	546	277	823	4	-33	-29
OIT	524	170	694	550	120	670	-26	50	24
OSU Corvallis	3,440	718	4,158	3,465	533	3,998	-25	185	160
OSU Cascades	93	3	96	82	6	88	11	-3	8
PSU	3,074	835	3,909	3,208	966	4,174	-134	-131	-265
SOU	921	332	1,253	924	312	1,236	-3	20	17
UO	3,185	1,474	4,659	3,305	1,264	4,569	-120	210	90
WOU	1,077	201	1,278	1,172	171	1,343	-95	30	-65
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,864</b>	<b>3,977</b>	<b>16,841</b>	<b>13,252</b>	<b>3,649</b>	<b>16,901</b>	<b>-388</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>-60</b>

NOTE: 'Residency' is determined according to the Oregon Residence Classification standards  
Source: OUS Institutional Research Services, First Time Freshmen Reports Table 4a, 11/7/06.

## Campus Briefs

### Eastern Oregon University

EOU headcount declined 3.1%, down 108 students this fall. While students from the surrounding 12 county area see Eastern as a valuable postsecondary destination, the results of outreach into other areas of Oregon has been slower. Enrollment of new students from Multnomah County fell below last year's number as did enrollment of new students from Idaho. The decline in undergraduates has been slightly offset by the 15.2% increase in graduate students, to 387 students.

### Oregon Institute of Technology

While the number of resident first time freshmen increased at OIT by 7.1%, the decline in resident transfer students and in the high school students taking college classes led to a 5.8% decline in overall headcount, the largest in the system. Construction of a new Center for Health Professions is underway, and will expand opportunities in the high-demand applied health fields by next year.

### Oregon State University - Corvallis

At both the undergraduate and graduate levels at OSU, small decreases in new resident students were offset by increases in new nonresident students, leading to an overall increase in newly enrolled students of 227, or 4.1% over fall 2005. This offsets the loss of the large graduating class last spring and resulted in an overall increase in enrollment of 0.7%, to 19,362 students. Graduate students now comprise 21.4% of OSU's total enrollment, up from 18.5% in fall 2005.

### Oregon State University - Cascades Campus

Cascades campus grew slightly to 495 students, up from 491 in fall 2005, with programs in Outdoor Recreation Leadership and Tourism gaining popularity among students in the

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state's fastest growing region. Some admitted students are still taking courses at Central Oregon Community College and are not yet counted in the Cascades enrollment.

### **Portland State University**

PSU's overall enrollment of 24,284 is the largest headcount ever for an OUS institution. While PSU again led the system in headcount growth (269 students, or 1.1% increase), it showed little gain in resident students except for resident first time freshmen; but did see a 5.7% increase in nonresident students. Though there was an increase in the number of new Oregon high school graduates attending PSU, first time freshmen represent only 6% of PSU's enrollment. International student enrollment grew by 5.1% to a new high for PSU of 1,434 students, the most of any OUS campus.

### **Southern Oregon University**

Enrollment at SOU grew to 5,002 students this fall, up 0.8% from fall 2005. With graduation and retention impacting the number of continuing students, it took a 9% growth in new students to reach this level. While this represents a good recruiting year, efforts are also being focused on the student services that have undergone cuts with the reduced funding of the past few years. Partnerships with Rogue Community College and the construction of new facilities in Medford offer optimism for postsecondary opportunities in the region.

### **University of Oregon**

University of Oregon headcount was almost identical this fall to last, down just 6 students to 20,388. As with some other OUS universities, declines in resident enrollment were offset by increases in nonresident students, up 3.5% overall. Resident transfer admits were down 12.9%, but total nonresident transfer enrollment grew by 3.5%. UO increased its diversity this fall, adding 120 minority students, including 62 additional Hispanic students. Nonadmitted students continue to decline slightly, and international students continue to rebound, up 5.0% to 1,207.

### **Western Oregon University**

Enrollment increased slightly at WOU to 4,889, up from 4,879 at this time last year. WOU showed an increase in newly admitted transfer students, and countered a slight decline in newly admitted resident students with a slight increase in nonresident students. Some of this nonresident growth is due to a nearly doubling of international student enrollment, from 59 to 108 students.

