



Longitudinal Enrollment Report
October 2026

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Preliminary Fall 2026 Enrollment*

Headcount	1374
FTE	1117

Enrollment Status	Headcount	% of Total
Full-Time	637	46%
Part-Time	737	54%
<i>Total</i>	<i>1374</i>	<i>100%</i>

First-Time and Degree-Seeking Status	Headcount	% of Total
First-Time Degree-Seeking	248	18%
All Other Degree-Seeking	528	38%
Non-Degree-Seeking	598	44%
<i>Total</i>	<i>1374</i>	<i>100%</i>

Residency	Headcount	% of Total
Wyoming Service Area	975	71%
Wyoming Out-of-Service Area	105	8%
WUE State	149	11%
Out-of-State	42	3%
International	103	7%
<i>Total</i>	<i>1374</i>	<i>100%</i>

Age	Headcount	% of Total
<18	491	36%
18-21	557	41%
22-29	142	10%
>=30	184	13%
<i>Total</i>	<i>1374</i>	<i>100%</i>

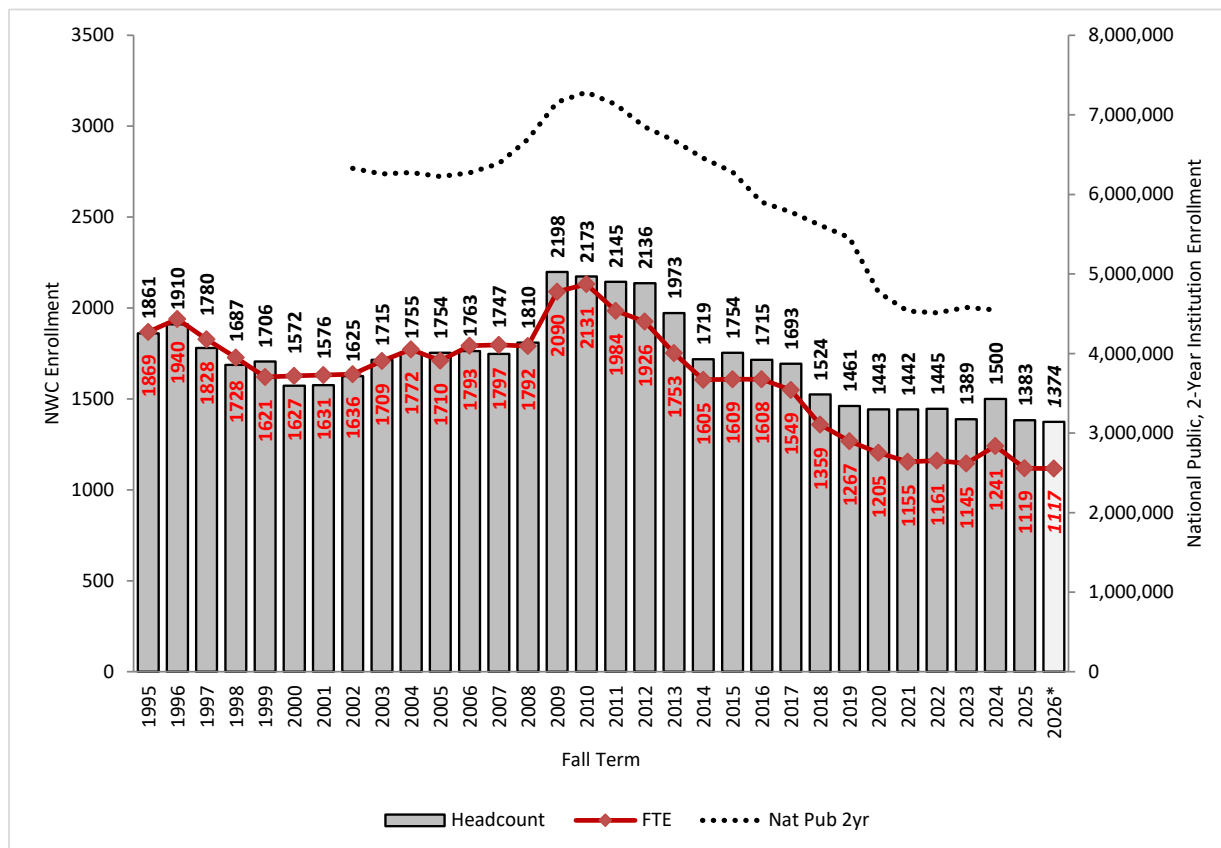
Concurrent/Dual Enrolled	Headcount	% of Total
Concurrent/Dual	470	34%
Non-Concurrent/Dual	904	66%
<i>Total</i>	<i>1374</i>	<i>100%</i>

Program Areas with 10 Highest Numbers of Degree-Certificate Majors	25/FA	26/FA
Allied Health/Medical Assistant	147	139
Business	86	98
General Studies	109	96
Agriculture	63	71
Nursing	75	67
Biology	68	61
Criminal Justice	36	49
Education	56	41
Engineering/Math/Physics	26	36
Aeronautics	29	28

**Fall 2026 enrollment is preliminary, as of 9/24/2026.*

Official fall enrollment will be available in April 2027.

Historical Fall Enrollment



**2026 enrollment is preliminary, as of 9/24/2026, and may increase by the end of term.*

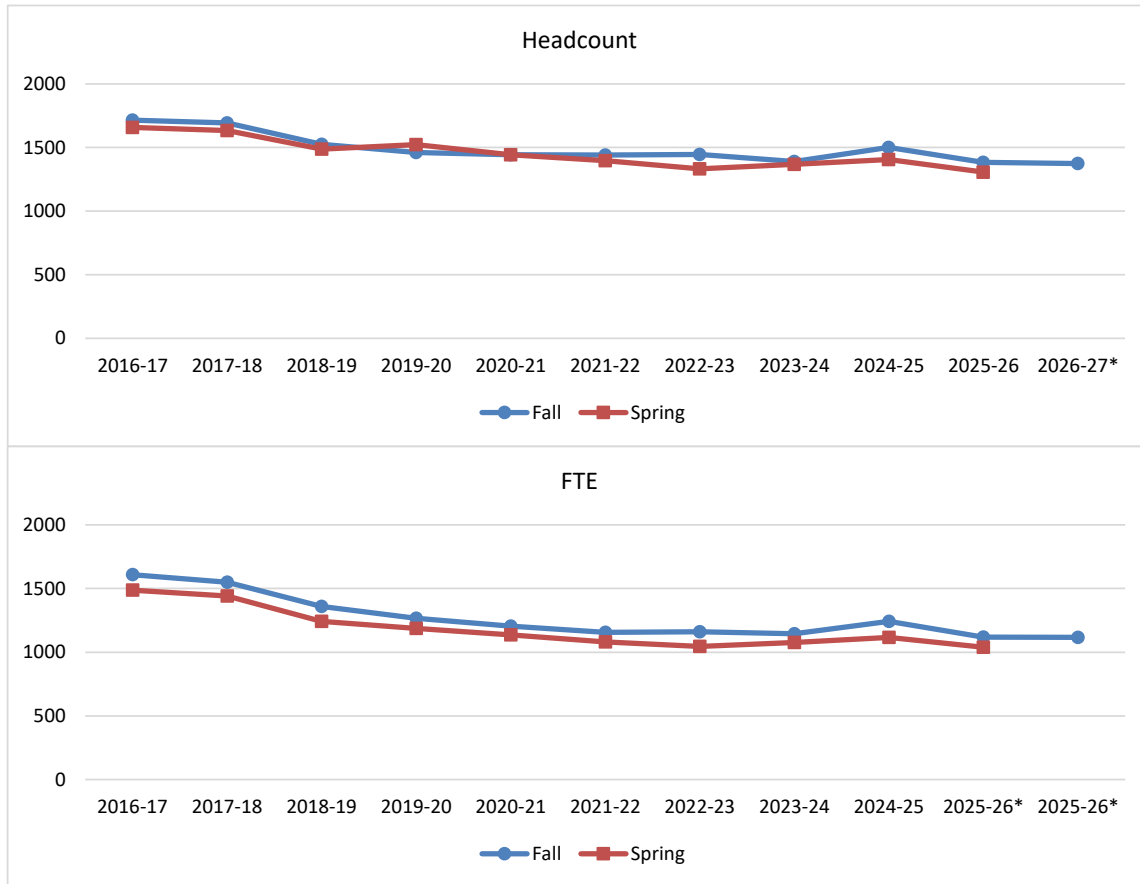
Enrollment for previous terms is final.

Definition: **Headcount** is the unduplicated number of students who were enrolled (a student is counted once, no matter how many credits the student is taking).
Full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment is the number of credits in which all students are enrolled divided by 12 (the number that represents a full-time load for one term).

Summary: Prior to NWC's enrollment peak in Fall 2009 and Fall 2010, FTE followed the unduplicated headcount closely. Since then, FTE has been notably lower than the headcount. This is due to the increasing percentage of students taking part-time loads, in particular high school concurrent and dual students.

Enrollment numbers reported by the National Center for Education Statistics (U.S. Department of Education) show that enrollment for all public, two-year institutions follows a similar path to NWC's for most years with a more dramatic decrease in Fall 2020. (Only Fall 2002 through Fall 2024 is available at this point nationally.)

Fall and Spring Enrollment



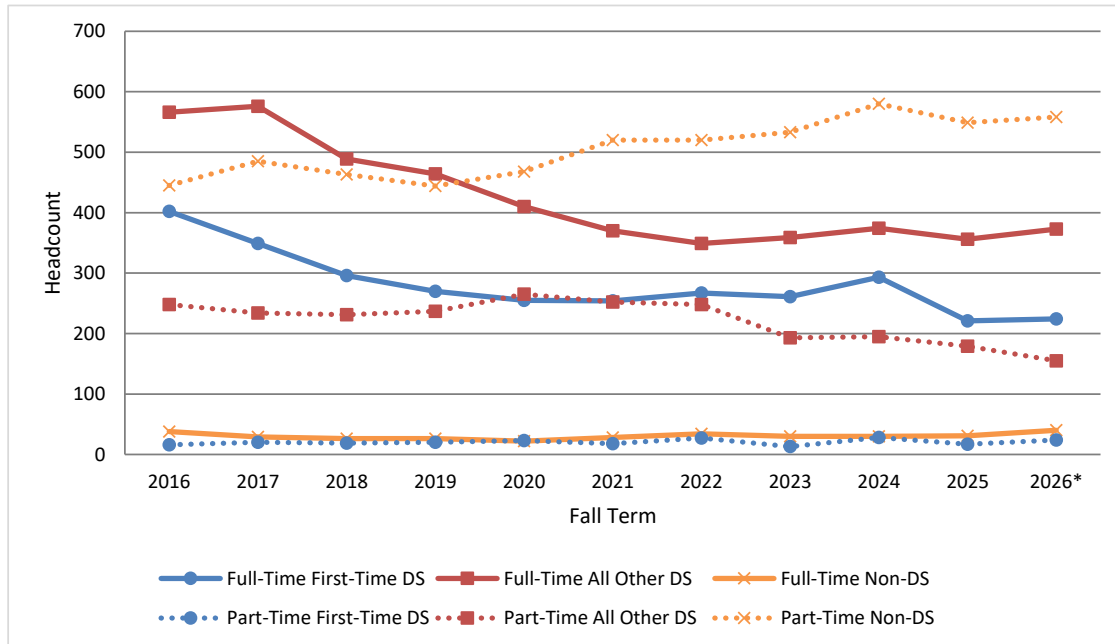
**2026 enrollment is preliminary, as of 9/24/2026.*

Summary: Over the past decade, headcount has averaged a 3% decrease from the fall to the spring of an academic year, though from year to year, spring has fluctuated between being a little higher to a little lower than the preceding fall.

Full-time equivalent (FTE) has consistently been lower in the spring than the fall. On average, spring FTE has been 7% lower than the fall.

Therefore, though a similar number of students enroll in both terms of an academic year, students tend to take fewer credits in the spring than in the fall.

Enrollment by First-Time and Degree-Seeking Status



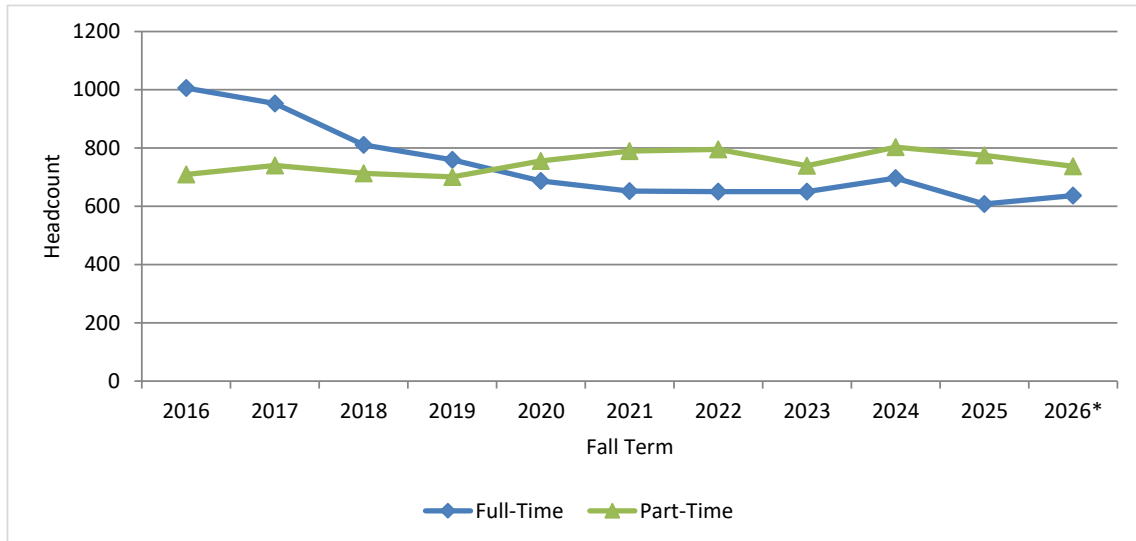
*2026 enrollment is preliminary, as of 9/24/2026.

Definition: **Degree-seeking (DS) students** are those majoring in either a degree and/or a certificate program. **First-time students** are students who have not enrolled in college since graduating from high school (they may have taken concurrent/dual courses in high school). **All other degree-seeking students** include returning and transfer students. **Non-degree-seeking students** are not pursuing a degree or certificate (includes concurrent/dual enrolled high school students).

Summary: In Fall 2026, the largest group is **part-time non-degree-seeking students** (primarily concurrent and dual students), making up 41% of total population, followed by **full-time "all other degree-seeking students"** (returning and transfer-in students), making up 27% of total population. **Full-time, first-time degree-seeking students** account for 16% of total enrollment, the third largest group.

	Percent of Total Enrollment - Fall 2026
Full-Time	
First-Time Degree-Seeking	16%
All Other Degree-Seeking	27%
Non-Degree-Seeking	3%
Part-Time	
First-Time Degree-Seeking	2%
All Other Degree-Seeking	11%
Non-Degree-Seeking	41%

Enrollment by Full-Time and Part-Time Status



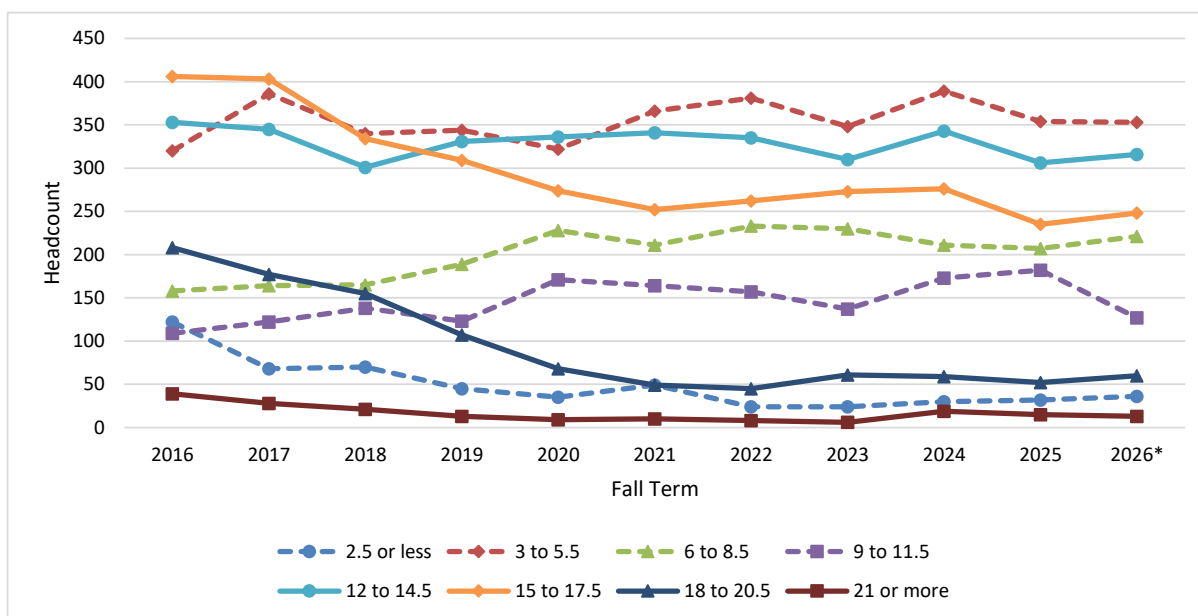
*2026 enrollment is preliminary, as of 9/24/2026.

Definition: A **full-time student** is enrolled in 12 credits or more during an enrollment term. A **part-time student** is enrolled in 0.5 to 11.5 credits. Both degree-seeking and non-degree-seeking students are included in this measure.

Summary: In Fall 2016, full-time students accounted for 59% of total headcount. Part-time students became the majority population starting in Fall 2020. In Fall 2026, full-time make up 46% of enrollment.

On average, students are enrolling in fewer credits than they did ten years ago. Some of the increase in part-time enrollment is due to an increase in concurrent and dual enrollment over this time.

Enrollment by Credit Hour Load



*2026 enrollment is preliminary, as of 9/24/2026.

Definition: This measure shows how many students (unduplicated headcount) are enrolled in each **credit hour range**.

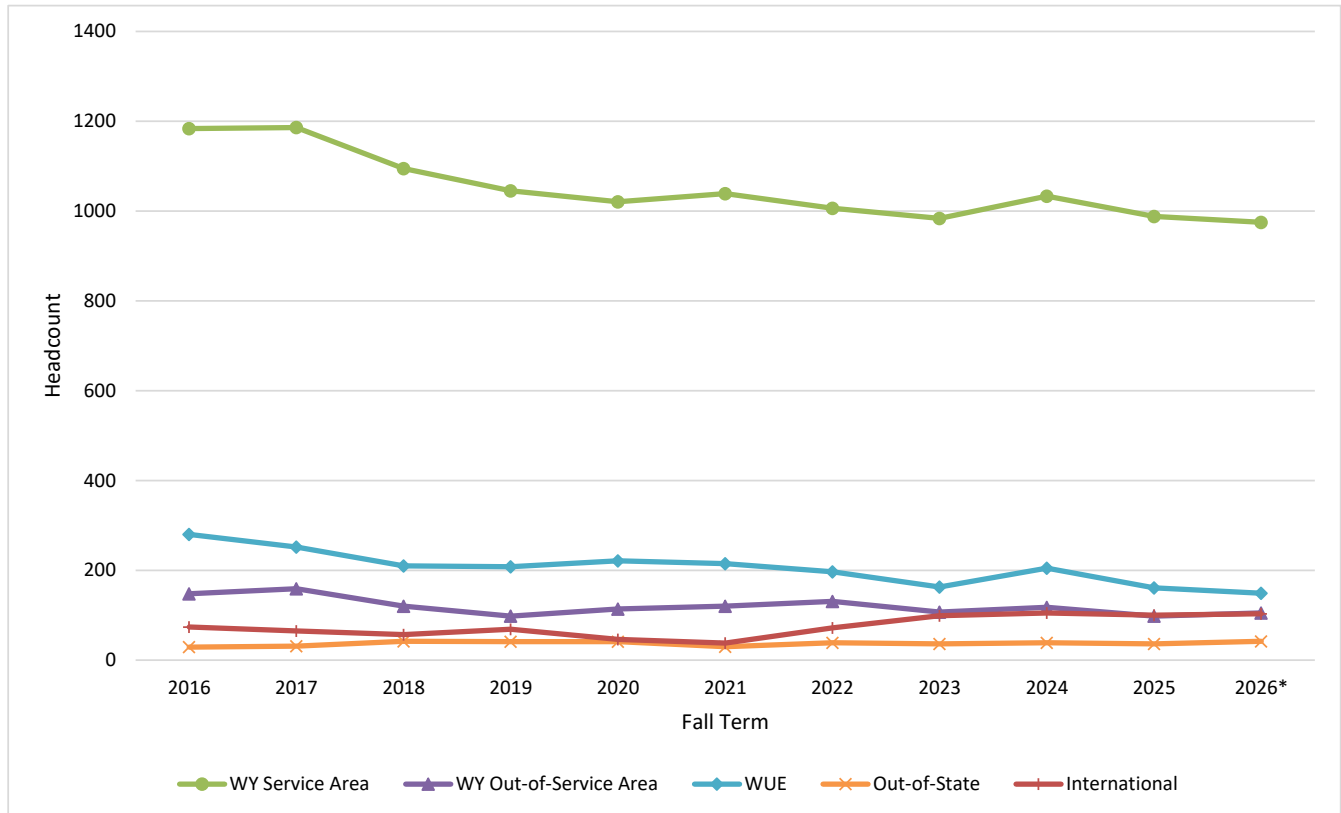
Full-time loads - solid lines on graph; part-time loads - dashed lines.

Summary: Over the past decade, the largest numbers of students have enrolled in 3 to 5.5 credits, 12 to 14.5 credits, and 15 to 17.5 credits.

In Fall 2026, there is an increase of students enrolling in these credit ranges: 2.5 or less, 6 to 8.5, and 12 to 20.5. There is a decrease in students enrolling in 9 to 11.5 and 21 or more credits.

Students paid the same tuition rate for 12 to 20 credits for all years before Fall 2019. In Fall 2019, Wyoming community colleges changed the tuition flat rate (rate cap) to 15 to 20 credits. In Fall 2021, this rate cap was eliminated completely, so students then paid for all credits enrolled. This change may have impacted the number of credits in which students enroll.

Enrollment by Residence



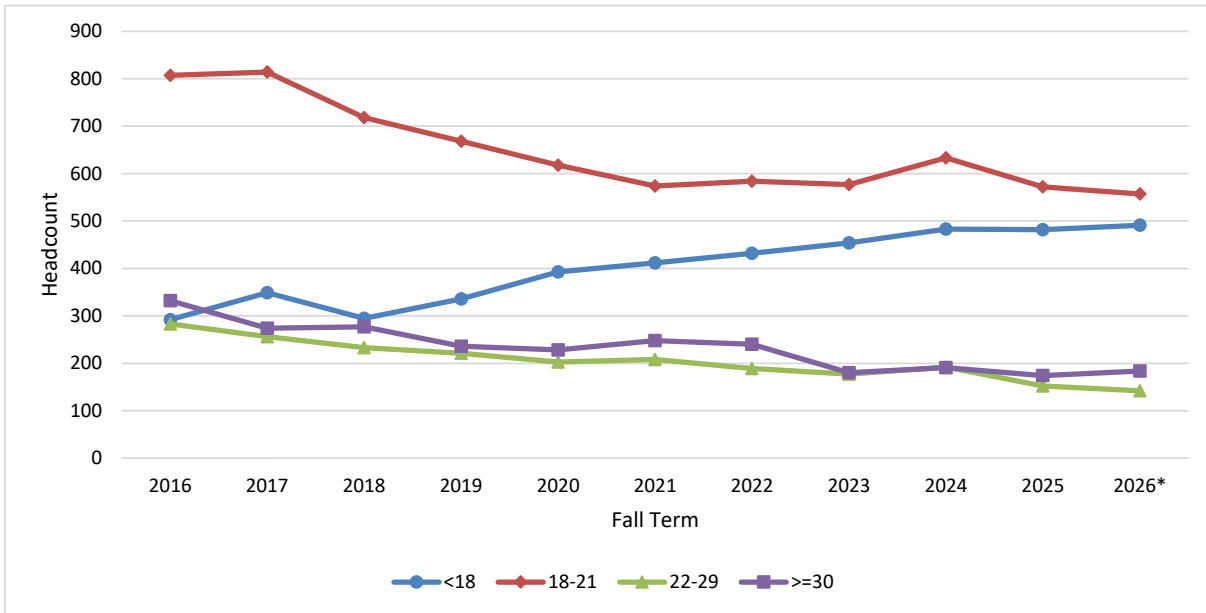
*2026 enrollment is preliminary, as of 9/24/2026.

Definition: Residence location is determined by a student's **residence county and state**. **Service area** consists of Park, Big Horn, and Washakie counties in Wyoming. **Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)** states consist of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and the US Pacific Territories and Freely Associated States (Nebraska residents are also given the WUE rate at NWC). **Other Out-of-State** consists of students from US states outside Wyoming and WUE states, as well as students from outside the US.

Summary: In Fall 2026, 71% of students came from NWC's service area, 11% came from WUE states, 8% came from Wyoming outside NWC's service area, 7% came from other countries, and 3% came from other states.

After the decline in international enrollment due to COVID-19, the Welcome to Wyoming Scholarship was offered for the first time in Fall 2022, which boosted out-of-state (including international and athletic) enrollments.

Enrollment by Age



*2026 enrollment is preliminary, as of 9/24/2026.

Definition: This measure shows unduplicated headcount enrollment by **age**.

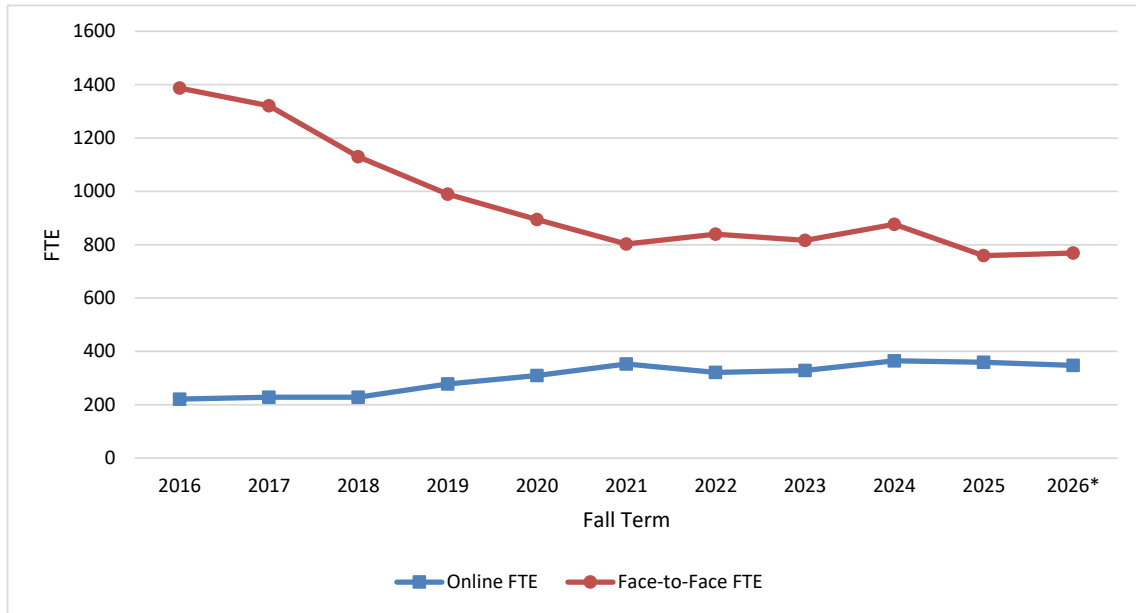
Summary: In Fall 2026, the median age is 18 years, and the average (mean) age is 22.

The number of students under 18 has increased over the past ten years, which corresponds to the increase of concurrent and dual enrollment.

Percent of total population:

- 18-21 years: 41%
- Less than 18 years: 36%
- Greater than or equal to 30 years: 13%
- 22-29 years: 10%

Enrollment by Online and Face-to-Face



*2026 enrollment is preliminary, as of 9/24/2026.

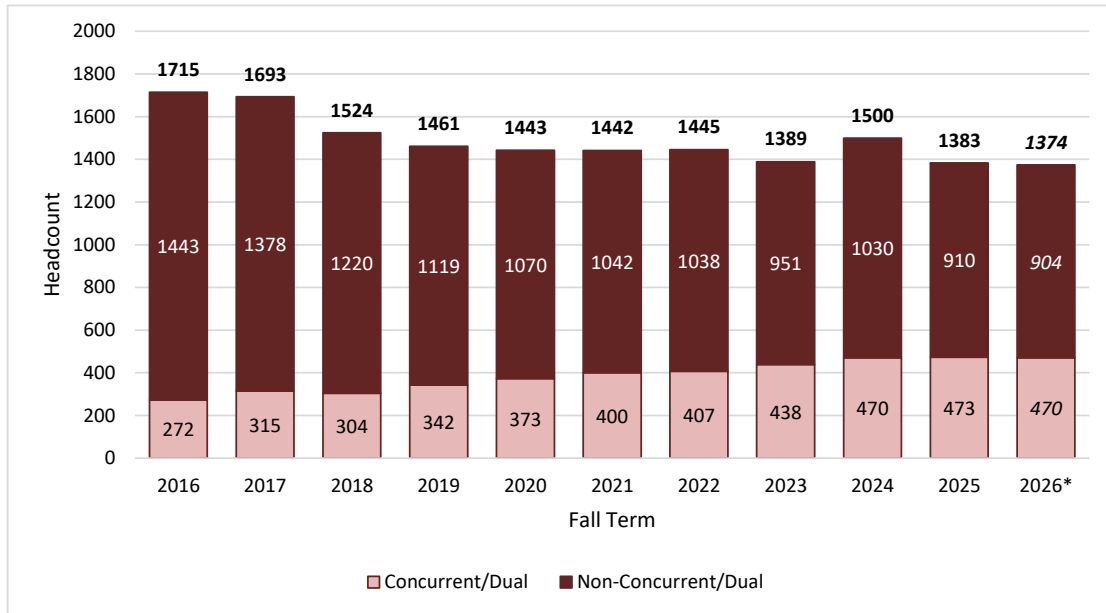
Definition: **Online** courses are taken completely through distance methods. **Face-to-face** courses are partially or fully taught in person.

Summary: Online enrollment has increased over the past ten years. In Fall 2026, FTE for online courses made up 31% of total FTE, compared to 14% in Fall 2016.

Full-time equivalent (FTE) is a measure of credits divided by 12, a full-time student credit load for one term.

Note: Due to the coronavirus pandemic, some Fall 2020 classes originally scheduled to be face-to-face had to use alternative delivery methods to accommodate social distancing. They are still considered to be face-to-face for this chart. This chart represents enrollment by how classes were originally scheduled.

Enrollment by Concurrent and Dual - Fall



*2026 enrollment is preliminary, as of 9/24/2026.

Definition: **Concurrent** students are enrolled in credit courses taught in high schools by college-approved high school teachers. **Dual** students are enrolled in credit courses taught by NWC faculty.

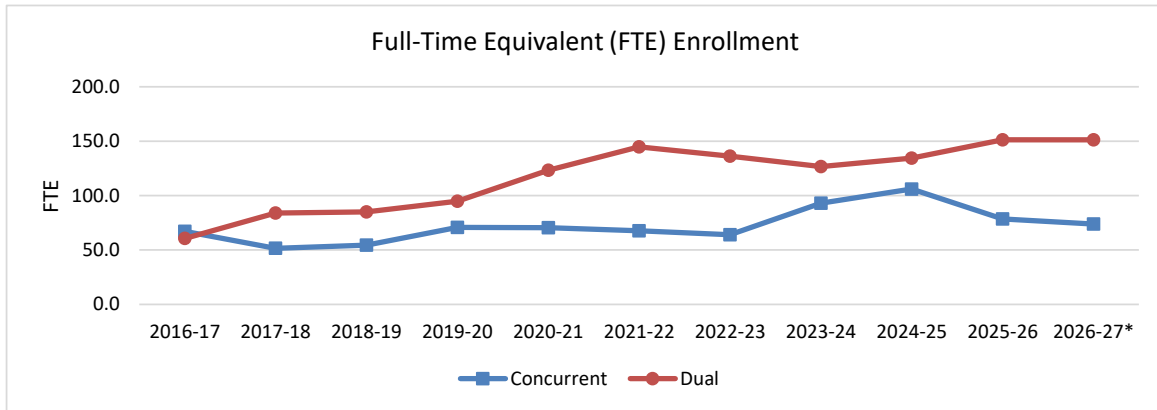
Summary: Concurrent enrollment began with a pilot program in Spring 2009 and was fully implemented at all Big Horn Basin (BHB) high schools in Fall 2009. Dual enrollment has been available prior to 2009.

All service area high schools participate in dual and concurrent enrollment. Homeschooled students began participating in dual and concurrent enrollment in 2014-15.

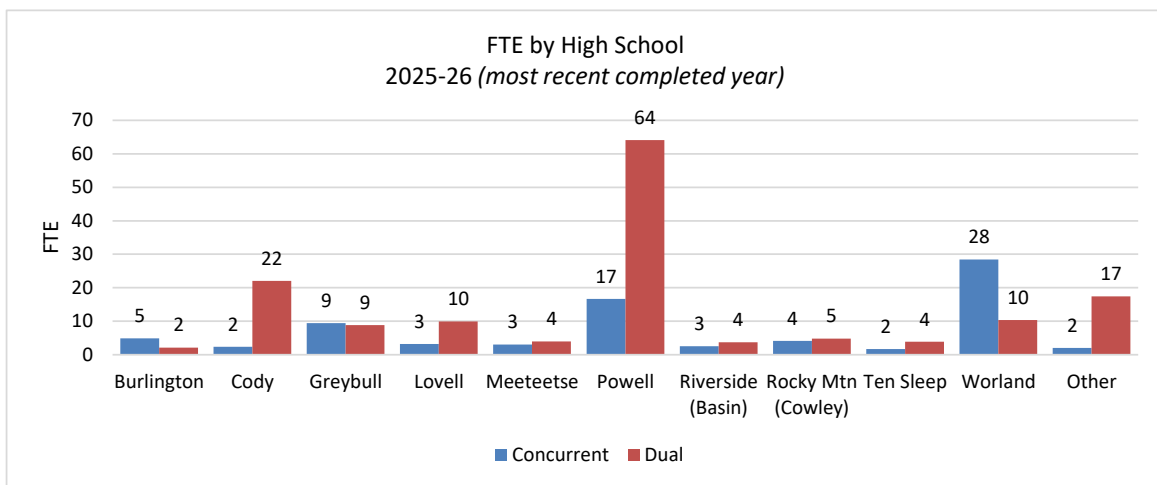
In Fall 2026, concurrent and dual enrollment headcount makes up 34% of total headcount, compared to 16% in Fall 2016.

Concurrent and dual credits make up 20% of Fall 2026 credits, compared to 7% in Fall 2016.

Concurrent and Dual Enrollment Breakdown - Annual



*2026-27 FTE is preliminary and only represents Fall 2026.



Definition:

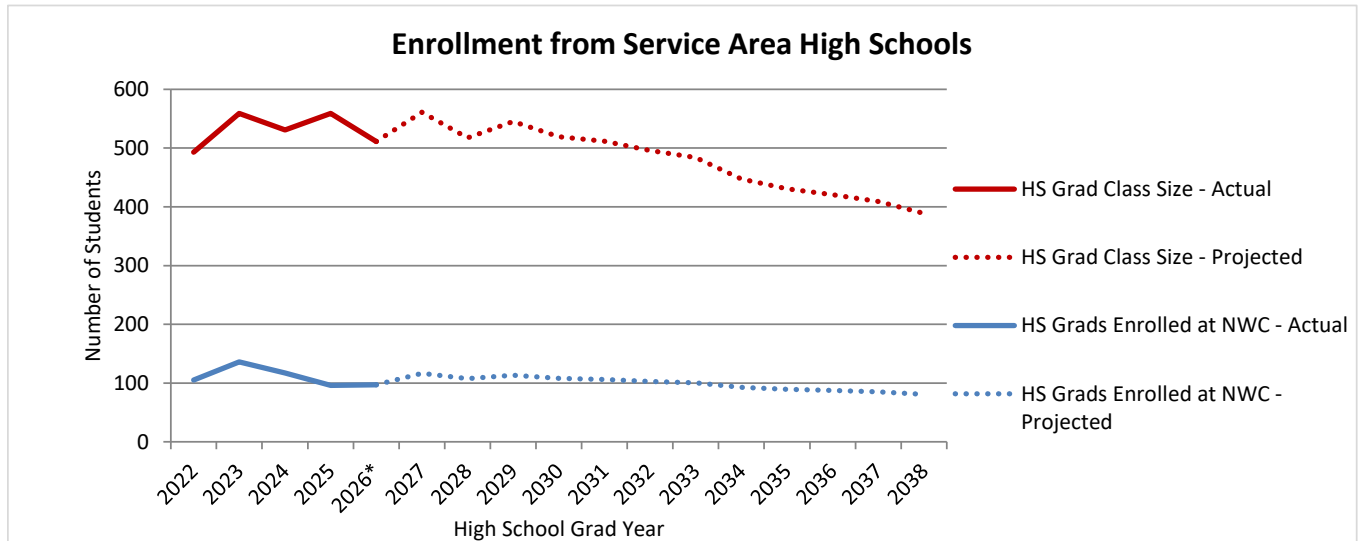
Concurrent students are enrolled in credit courses taught in high schools by college-approved high school teachers. **Dual** students are enrolled in credit courses taught by NWC faculty. **Annual full-time equivalent (FTE)** is the sum of enrolled credits divided by 24.

Summary:

Dual enrollment FTE has increased by 150% and concurrent has increased 10% since 2016-17.

Concurrent enrollment fluctuates as the number of high school teachers approved to teach concurrent classes on high school campuses varies from year to year.

Service Area High School Graduates - Projected



*2026 enrollment is preliminary since the 2026-27 academic year is still in progress.

Past 5-Year Ave (% of HS Grads Enrolled at NWC):	21%
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Definition: This measure shows actual and projected numbers of:

- **service area high school graduating class sizes**
- **students from the high schools who attended (or are projected to attend) NWC** within a year following high school graduation.

Actual graduating class sizes were obtained from final high school transcripts. Projected class sizes are from the Wyoming Department of Education's current reported class sizes adjusted for average retention and graduation rates over the most recent four years available. The projected number of graduates who will enroll at NWC was calculated by taking the average enrollment yield over the past five years and multiplying by the projected class sizes.

Service area high schools are the public high schools within Park, Big Horn, and Washakie counties, including Shoshone Learning Center (Powell) and Heart Mountain Academy (Cody).

Summary: Over the past five years, 21% of service area high school graduates have enrolled at NWC within a year of graduation.

Assuming the same percentages of graduates continue to enroll at NWC in the year after high school, NWC may enroll around 117 of the Class of 2027 graduates, gradually decreasing to around 81 of the Class of 2038 graduates. This corresponds with the projected statewide and nationwide decrease in high school graduate numbers.

Service Area High School Graduates - By High School

Percent of High School Graduates Enrolled at NWC

School	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026*	5-Yr Ave
Burlington	32%	23%	18%	23%	7%	21%
Cody	14%	22%	20%	14%	15%	17%
Greybull	17%	9%	22%	19%	18%	17%
Heart Mountain Academy	5%	22%	14%	16%	20%	14%
Lovell	46%	34%	26%	29%	34%	34%
Meeteetse	0%	25%	56%	0%	0%	18%
Powell	32%	31%	27%	30%	30%	30%
Riverside (Basin)	14%	25%	0%	13%	19%	15%
Rocky Mtn (Cowley)	26%	28%	48%	4%	15%	24%
Shoshone Learning Center	100%	38%	29%	5%	17%	24%
Ten Sleep	50%	14%	0%	0%	0%	10%
Worland	8%	16%	11%	8%	5%	9%
Average	21%	24%	22%	17%	19%	21%

*2026 information is preliminary since the 2026-27 academic year is still in progress.

Blue - percent of graduates enrolled at NWC was **HIGHER** than service area average for year.

Orange - percent of graduates enrolled at NWC was **LOWER** than service area average for year.

High School Graduating Class Sizes

School	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Burlington	19	22	17	22	14
Cody	132	136	114	139	114
Greybull	29	33	45	27	33
Heart Mountain Academy	22	9	21	19	15
Lovell	41	56	46	52	58
Meeteetse	9	8	9	3	9
Powell	110	138	132	121	115
Riverside (Basin)	22	20	11	23	21
Rocky Mtn (Cowley)	23	32	23	24	26
Shoshone Learning Center	4	8	21	20	18
Ten Sleep	4	7	8	3	9
Worland	78	90	84	106	79
Total	493	559	531	559	511

Source: NWC Admissions Office (High School Transcripts)

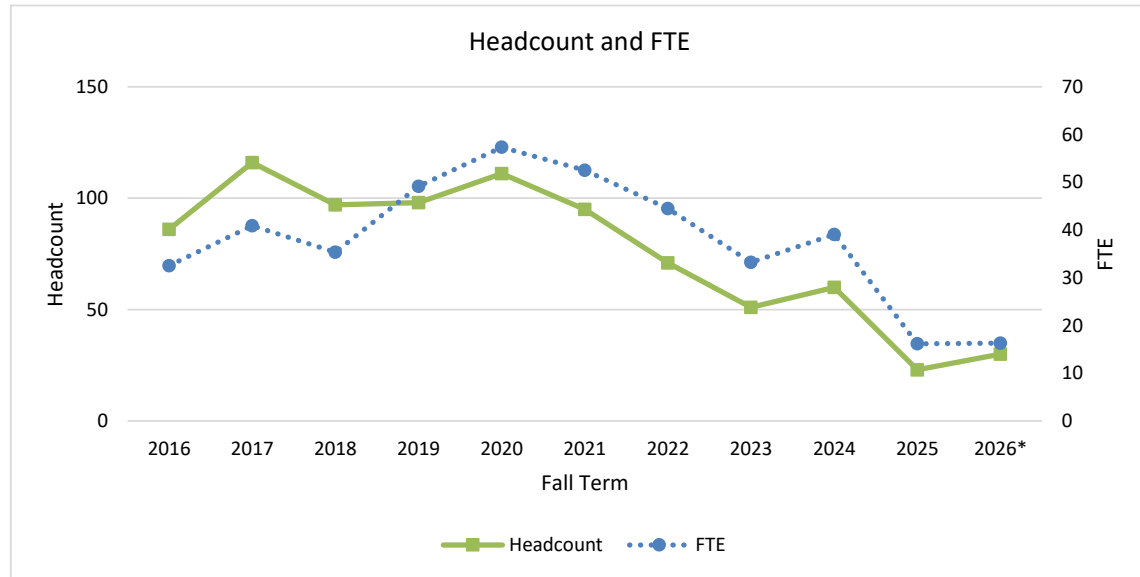
Definition: This measure shows the percentage of **high school graduates who enrolled at NWC** in the academic year following high school graduation. Service area includes Big Horn, Park, and Washakie counties.

Summary: Over the past five years, 21% of service area high school graduates have enrolled at NWC within a year of graduation.

- **Highest:** Lovell (34% of grads), Powell (30%), Rocky Mountain (Cowley) and Shoshone Learning Center (tied for 24%)

- **Lowest:** Ten Sleep (10%), Worland (9%)

Enrollment at Cody Locations



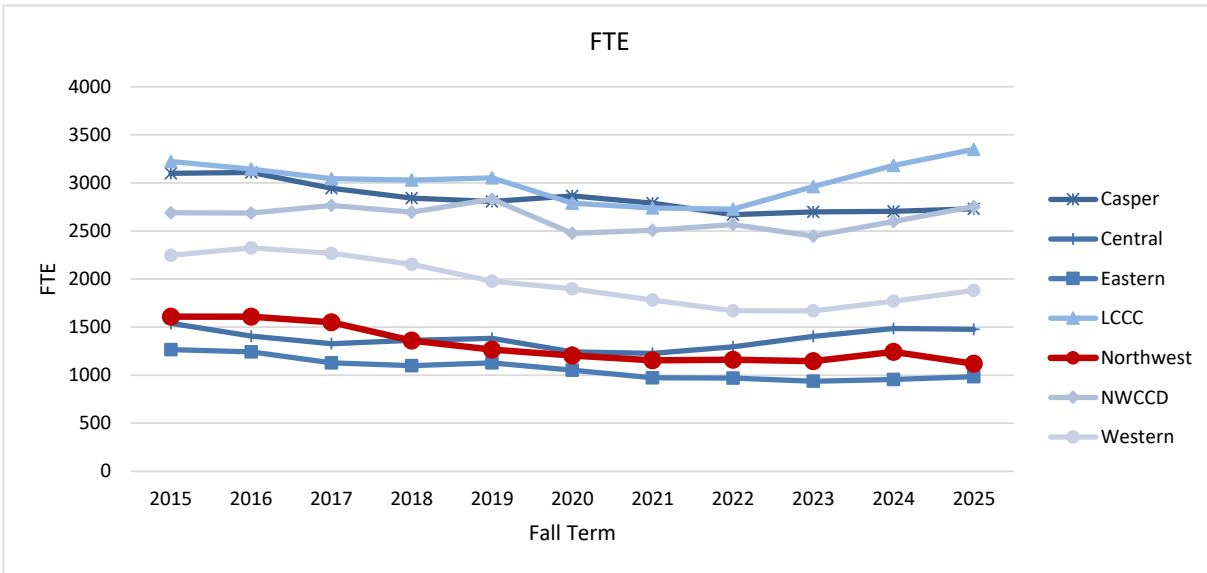
*2026 enrollment is preliminary, as of 9/27/2026.

Definition: This measure counts headcount and FTE for **students enrolled in credit classes offered in Cody**. Concurrent enrollment (taken by high school students in the high schools) and non-credit enrollment are not included.

Summary: Since 2019, FTE for students enrolled in courses taking place in Cody has been greater than the headcount, indicating students are taking larger credit loads, due to their participation in academic programs based out of the Cody Center such as health care offerings and aeronautics. Most health care offerings moved back to the Powell campus in 2025.

These numbers do not count all the ways that Cody students may be enrolled, such as online, commuting to Powell, or concurrent/dual while in high school.

Wyoming Community College FTE Enrollment - Fall



Fall 2026 statewide results are not official until April 2027.

Source: Wyoming Community College Commission Enrollment Reports

Definition: This measure shows a comparison of **fall student full-time equivalent (FTE)** enrollment for NWC and the other six Wyoming community colleges.

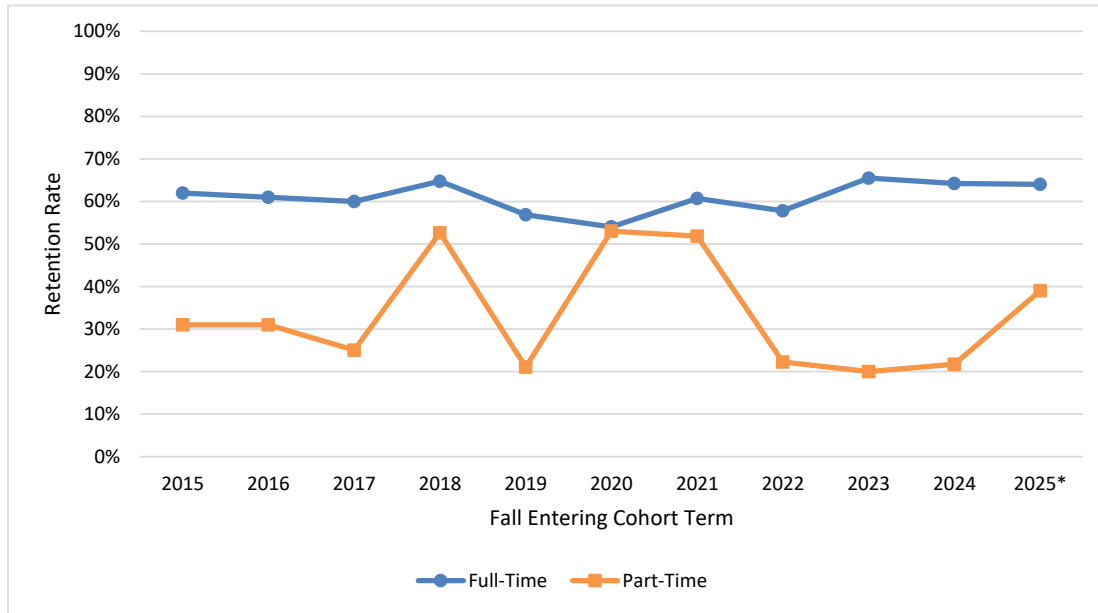
Summary: In Fall 2025, NWC's FTE accounted for 8% of statewide FTE and NWC's headcount accounted for 7% of statewide headcount.

Though NWC's enrollment is among the lowest in Wyoming, students tend to take larger credit loads at NWC than at the other colleges, which boosts NWC's FTE.

Headcount	NWC	All Colleges
1-year	-8%	1%
5-year	-4%	4%
10-year	-21%	-10%

FTE	NWC	All Colleges
1-year	-10%	3%
5-year	-7%	6%
10-year	-30%	-9%

Fall-to-Fall Retention Rate



**Fall 2025 retention rate is preliminary, as of 9/24/2026.*

Source: WCCC Performance Indicators Report (2020 cohort forward, changed statewide method for identifying first-time cohort)

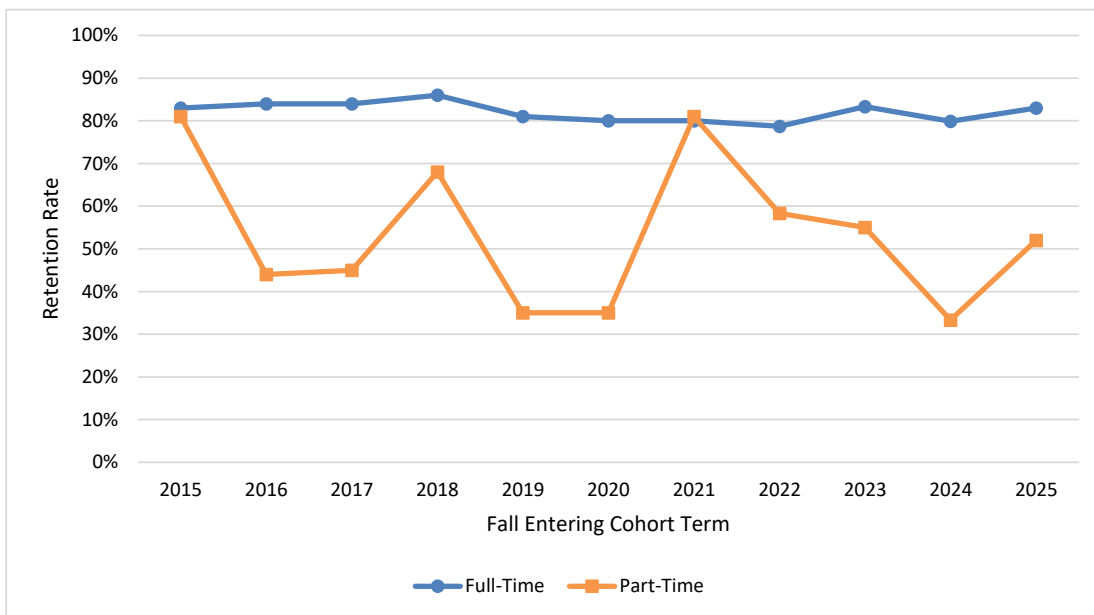
Definition: **Fall-to-fall retention rate** is the percentage of students who enrolled in college for the first time in one fall term (cohort fall) and either are still enrolled at NWC or completed their program of study by the following fall term. This measure is only calculated for **first-time, degree-seeking students**.

Summary: Preliminary results show that 64% of the 241 full-time, first-time, degree-seeking students in Fall 2025 returned to NWC or graduated by Fall 2026.

NWC's retention rate has typically been comparable to state rates, which have ranged from 56-65% during past decade, and national public two-year institution rates, which have ranged from 61-65% during the past decade.

NWC's preliminary part-time retention rate for the Fall 2025 cohort is 39%. The part-time, first-time, degree-seeking cohort is small, most recently 23 students, which can cause wide variation from year to year. Part-time retention rates tend to be lower than full-time nationwide.

Fall-to-Spring Retention Rate

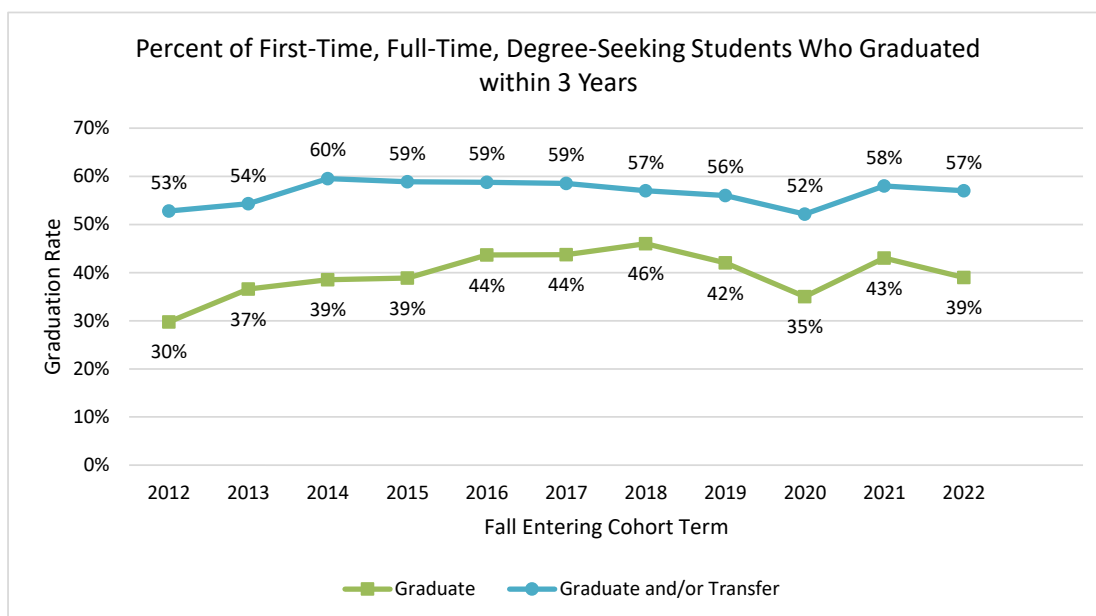


Definition: **Fall-to-spring retention rate** is the percentage of students who enrolled in college for the first time in one fall term (cohort fall) and either are still enrolled in or completed their program of study by the following spring term at NWC. This measure is only calculated for **first-time, degree-seeking students**.

Summary: Of Fall 2025 full-time, first-time, degree-seeking students, 83% returned to NWC in Spring 2026. The full-time fall-to-spring retention rate has been in the upper 70% to mid-80% range since NWC has been tracking it.

Part-time fall-to-spring retention has fluctuated widely in the past ten years. Of the Fall 2025 part-time cohort, 52% returned in Spring 2026. The part-time, first-time, degree-seeking cohort is small, most recently 23 students, so the difference of a few students makes a large change in the retention rate.

Graduation Rates



Source: 2017 cohorts and before, IPEDS Graduation Rates Survey; 2018 cohorts and after, National Community College Benchmark Project (calculated using same method as for IPEDS)

Definition: **Graduation rate** (a.k.a. "**completion rate**") is the percentage of **first-time, full-time, degree-seeking students** who enter in one fall term (cohort fall) and graduate in a degree or certificate program within 150% of normal time to completion (3 years for an associate degree).

Summary: NWC's graduation rate has climbed over the past decade, reaching the highest on record several times before decreasing around the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. NWC has implemented multiple retention and completion efforts over this period.

Thirty-nine percent (39%) of the most recent available cohort, Fall 2022, graduated by Summer 2025. Graduation rates often follow the path of fall-to-fall retention rates, and the Fall 2022 retention rate dipped below NWC's norm. Since subsequent cohorts have returned to higher retention rates, it is likely that graduation rates will increase for these next cohorts.

NWC's graduation rates are typically greater than or equal to the state average. National graduation rates for the most recent ten years at public, two-year institutions increased from 24% to 37%, as institutions across the country have also engaged in completion initiatives. NWC has been above the national average every year.

Some students' primary goal is to transfer from NWC rather than complete a degree, so by combining the completion and transfer rates, we see that 57% of Fall 2022 entering students either completed their program of study or transferred to another institution by the end of Summer 2025.