



Fall 2007 Enrollment Fact Sheet  
Oregon University System  
Based on enrollment at Fall Term 4<sup>th</sup> week 2007  
November 8, 2007

Overview

- Enrollment growth (headcount) for the Oregon University System (OUS) in fall 2007 increased **1.5% over 2006 to 82,249 students**, an increase of 1,247 students. This compares to a fall 2006 annual increase of just 0.1%. Total enrollment is at an all time high for the System.
- **Undergraduate enrollment increased 2.7% to 67,403 students** in fall 2007, compared to 65,621 students in fall 2006. The number of newly admitted freshmen (does not include transfers) increased by 6.2%; much of this was due to significant increases in nonresident freshmen of 18.9%. Enrollment of freshmen from Oregon increased by 2.1%, significantly up from last year's decline of 1.2%.
- **Graduate student enrollment decreased 3.5% to 14,846 students** in fall 2007, compared to 15,381 students in fall 2006. The decrease is partially attributed to a 50% decrease in non-admitted students – those not pursuing a degree but just taking classes – as well as a stronger economy and fewer people returning to college for new skills and/or retraining.
- **Student diversity** showed an increase of 4.5% in fall 2007; students of color now constitute 14.4% of the student body or 11,853 students (with an additional 9.7% of unknown ethnicity). This compares with a 2.8% increase last year. Hispanic/Latino students had enrollment growth of 8.9%. Asian/Pacific American student enrollment increased by 4.1%. African American student enrollment increased by 1.7% over the prior year. American Indian/Alaska Native student enrollment decreased by 2.6%. Caucasian student enrollment increased by 0.8% from 2006 to 2007.
- **International students** increased by 3.0% in 2007 to a total of 4,048 students, building on last year's increase of 4.4%.

Table 1: 10-Year Enrollment Trend for the OUS		
10-year increase = 28.3%; 5-year increase = 5.3%; 2-year increase = 1.7%		
Year	Total Headcount Enrollment	Percent increase from prior year
<b>1997</b>	<b>64,131</b>	<b>+ 2.0%</b>
1998	64,989	+ 1.3%
1999	67,347	+ 3.6%
2000	69,508	+ 3.2%
2001	73,883	+ 6.3%
<b>2002</b>	<b>78,111</b>	<b>+ 5.7%</b>
2003	79,558	+ 1.9%
2004	80,066	+ 0.6%
2005	80,888	+ 1.0%
2006	81,002	+ 0.14%
<b>2007</b>	<b>82,249</b>	<b>+ 1.5%</b>

## 2007 Enrollment Fact Sheet

- Fall **FTE enrollment**<sup>1</sup> (Full Time Equivalent students), increased by 0.9% or 592 students system-wide to a total of 67,703, compared to a decrease of 0.4% or 267 students in 2006. **Undergraduate FTE increased by 1.6%**, and graduate student FTE decreased by 2.5% from the prior year.
- The **ten-year growth** for the Oregon University System has **outpaced national averages**, increasing 28.3% since 1997, up 18,118 students. Four universities have 10-year increases exceeding this average: Portland State University increased 45.6% in that time; Eastern Oregon University increased 39.5%; Oregon State University increased by 36.2%; and Oregon Institute of Technology increased by 34.1%.

## Enrollment Factors

The major factors affecting the current distribution of students within the OUS include:

- Increases in state funding during the 2007-09 legislative session bring confidence to students that the state's commitment to higher education will provide them with access to affordable programs and high quality faculty over the course of their undergraduate studies. Nonresident undergraduates now compare Oregon favorably to their own state's public institutions.
- Postsecondary education is seen as the path to economic prosperity for high school graduates. After declining steadily from a 2001 freshman participation rate<sup>2</sup> of 24.1%, OUS freshman participation rate is heading up again from the fall 2006 rate of 20.1% to a preliminary 2007 rate of 20.5%.
- The number of new transfer students has not grown as much as hoped. There are two reasons for this: a drop in enrollment at Oregon community colleges since 2001 has deflated the transfer pipeline; and in times of good employment many community college graduates enter the workforce directly.
- The new Shared Responsibility Model of the Oregon Opportunity Grant will not be implemented until fall 2008. This method of distributing the grants will result in more students being able to afford postsecondary education, resulting in lower or no borrowing and fewer hours working to cover the students' commitment to paying their share of college costs.
- Graduate enrollment is also subject to the employment rate, especially for non-admitted graduates who are traditionally working professionals improving their job qualifications. While a decline in graduates is a positive comment on the economy, there is concern that an overall drop in master's and doctoral students will affect Oregon's competitiveness for research grants and the ability to attract and retain faculty which may, in time, have an affect on Oregon's economic growth through reduced capacity to bring innovations and new technologies to benefit Oregon's economy.
- The enrollment growth of recent years continues to result in a large number of graduates. The **number of OUS degrees awarded grew from 17,061 to 17,219 between 2006 and 2007**, a one-year increase of just under 1%, and a five-year increase of 24.6%. Enrollment growth has slowed in the last few years, so as the most recent student cohorts reach graduation, OUS can expect to see the number of degrees awarded leveling out.

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<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.

<sup>2</sup> The freshman participation rate is the ratio of OUS first-time freshmen from Oregon high schools (regardless of year of graduation) to Oregon high school graduates of the previous school year.

## Additional Data Tables

<b>Table 2:</b>									
<b>Total OUS Fall Headcount and FTE Enrollment, 2007 Compared to 2006</b>									
<b>(Fall 4th week)</b>									
	<b>Fall 2007</b>		<b>Fall 2006</b>		<b>Headcount Change</b>		<b>FTE Change</b>		
	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
<b>Eastern Oregon University</b>	3,433	2,294	3,425	2,332	8	0.2	-38	-1.6	
<b>Oregon Institute of Technology</b>	3,318	2,267	3,157	2,212	161	5.1	55	2.5	
<b>Oregon State University - Corvallis</b>	19,753	18,110	19,362	17,953	391	2.0	157	0.9	
<b>Oregon State University - Cascades</b>	497	272	495	252	2	0.4	20	7.9	
<b>Portland State University</b>	24,999	17,299	24,284	16,980	715	2.9	318	1.9	
<b>Southern Oregon University</b>	4,836	3,765	5,002	3,762	-166	-3.3	3	0.1	
<b>University of Oregon</b>	20,376	19,496	20,388	19,609	-12	-0.1	-112	-0.6	
<b>Western Oregon University</b>	5,037	4,201	4,889	4,011	148	3.0	189	4.7	
<b>Total</b>	<b>82,249</b>	<b>67,703</b>	<b>81,002</b>	<b>67,111</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>0.9</b>	

Source: OUS Institutional Research Services, Report ERCH-01, 10/29/07

<b>Table 3:</b>						
<b>Fall 2007 4th Week Enrollment by Student Level</b>						
<b>Student Level</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>		
				<b>One Year</b>	<b>Ten years</b>	
Admitted Undergraduates	63,054	61,713	46,890	2.2%	34.5%	
Nonadmitted Undergraduates	4,349	3,908	3,821	11.3%	13.8%	
<b>Total Undergraduates</b>	<b>67,403</b>	<b>65,621</b>	<b>50,711</b>	2.7%	32.9%	
Masters, other graduates	8,669	8,854	7,167	-2.1%	21.0%	
Law	537	542	526	-0.9%	2.1%	
Pharmacy *	339	336	-	0.9%	N/A	
Veterinary Medicine	192	196	72	-2.0%	166.7%	
Doctoral	2,681	2,777	2,428	-3.5%	10.4%	
Nonadmitted Graduates	2,428	2,676	3,227	-9.3%	-24.8%	
<b>Total Graduates</b>	<b>14,846</b>	<b>15,381</b>	<b>13,420</b>	-3.5%	10.6%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>82,249</b>	<b>81,002</b>	<b>64,131</b>	1.5%	28.3%	

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

Source: OUS Institutional Research Services, Report ERCH-01, 10/29/07

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**Table 4:**  
**Newly Admitted Undergraduates**

	Fall 2007			Fall 2006			Change		
	Fresh.	Trans.	Total	Fresh.	Trans.	Total	Fresh.	Trans.	Total
Eastern Oregon University	343	456	799	366	428	794	-23	28	5
Oregon Institute of Technology	288	467	755	296	398	694	-8	69	61
Oregon State University - Corvallis	3,141	1,095	4,236	3,009	1,149	4,158	132	-54	78
Oregon State University - Cascades	-	80	80	-	96	96	0	-16	-16
Portland State University	1,672	2,530	4,202	1,460	2,449	3,909	212	81	293
Southern Oregon University	747	521	1,268	760	493	1,253	-13	28	15
University of Oregon	3,587	1,161	4,748	3,423	1,236	4,659	164	-75	89
Western Oregon University	970	465	1,435	805	473	1,278	165	-8	157
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,748</b>	<b>6,775</b>	<b>17,523</b>	<b>10,119</b>	<b>6,722</b>	<b>16,841</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>682</b>
							<b>6.2%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>

NOTE: 'Transfers' excludes postbaccalaureate undergraduates and graduate students

Source: OUS Institutional Research Services, First Time Freshmen Reports Table 4b, 10/29/07.

**Table 5:**  
**Newly Admitted Undergraduates, by Residency**

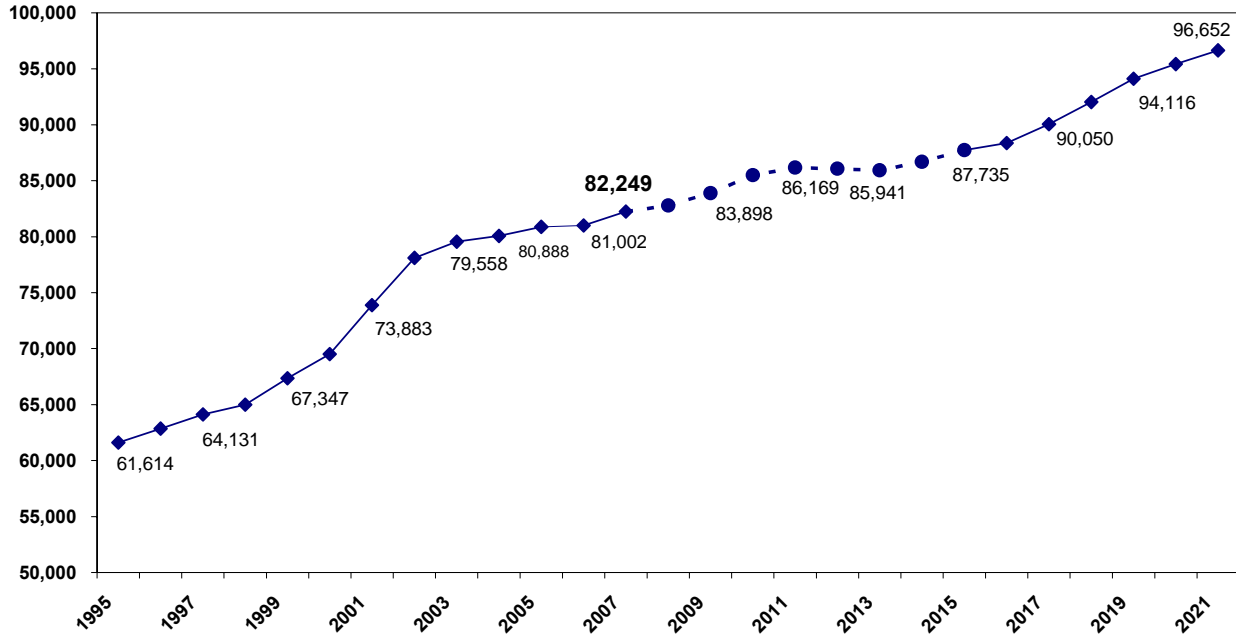
	Fall 2007			Fall 2006			Change		
	Res.	Nonres.	Total	Res.	Nonres.	Total	Res.	Nonres.	Total
Eastern Oregon University	543	256	799	550	244	794	-7	12	5
Oregon Institute of Technology	577	178	755	524	170	694	53	8	61
Oregon State University - Corvallis	3,406	830	4,236	3,440	718	4,158	-34	112	78
Oregon State University - Cascades	72	8	80	-	3	96	-21	5	-16
Portland State University	3,182	1,020	4,202	3,074	835	3,909	108	185	293
Southern Oregon University	846	422	1,268	921	332	1,253	-75	90	15
University of Oregon	3,104	1,644	4,748	3,185	1,474	4,659	-81	170	89
Western Oregon University	1,165	270	1,435	1,077	201	1,278	88	69	157
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,895</b>	<b>4,628</b>	<b>17,523</b>	<b>12,864</b>	<b>3,977</b>	<b>16,841</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>682</b>
							<b>0.2%</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>

NOTE: 'Residency' is determined according to the Oregon Residence Classification standards

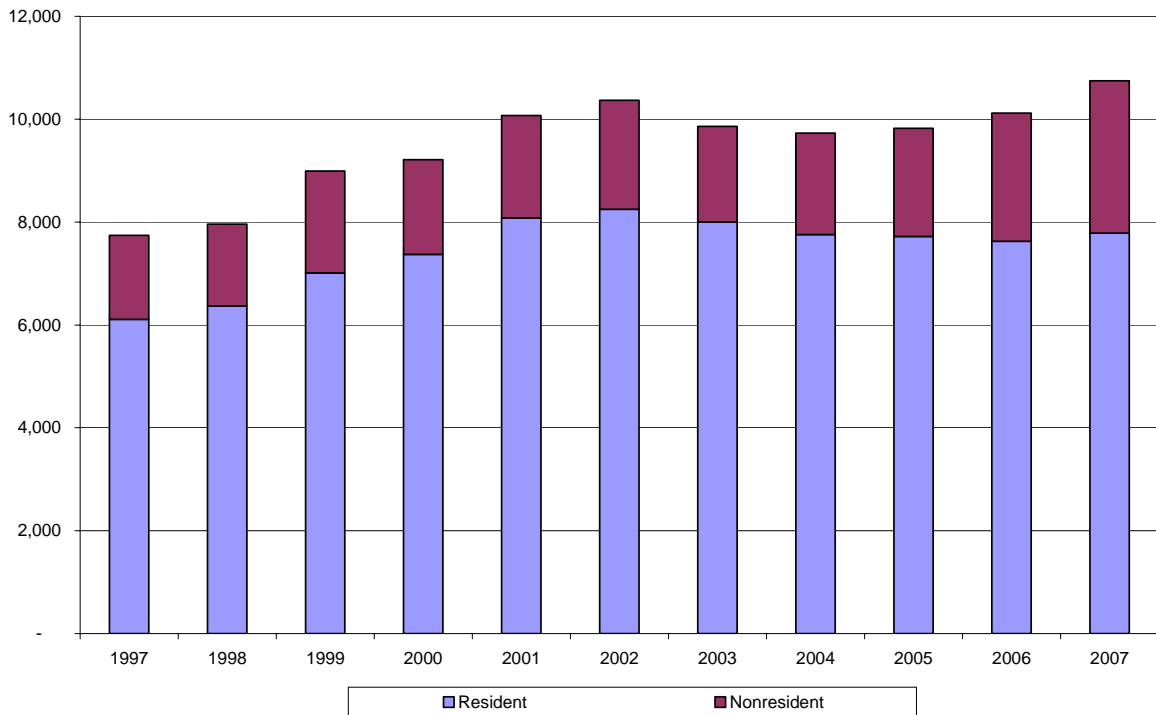
Source: OUS Institutional Research Services, First Time Freshmen Reports Table 4a, 10/29/07

Additional Graphs

**OUS Fall 4th Week Headcount and Forecast:  
1995 to 2021**



**Newly Admitted Freshmen Fall Term: 1997 to 2007**



## 2007 Campus Enrollment Briefs

### **Eastern Oregon University**

Eastern Oregon University headcount increased just slightly this fall to 3,433, up from 3,425 in 2006. With a decline in distance education enrollments late last year the projections estimated a drop of over 5% in headcount this fall, so Eastern is well ahead of the July 2007 projections. A decline in international students was offset by increases in domestic nonresident undergraduates, with transfer admits up over 6.5% from fall 2006.

### **Oregon Institute of Technology**

An increase in transfer students, both resident and nonresident, led to a 5.1% increase in fall headcount for fall 2007 to 3,318. With the opening of the new Martha Anne Dow Center for Health Professions, capacity increased for the sought after allied health programs. The overall cohort of new students increased by more than 10% over 2006, more than making up for the large 2006-07 graduating class.

### **Oregon State University – Corvallis**

Total enrollment of 19,753 at OSU is up 2.0% over fall 2006. Oregon resident first-time freshmen numbers returned to their pre-2006 level, reaching 2,527 after a slight decline in fall 2006. Resident enrollment held steady, and the overall growth is attributable to strong nonresident undergraduate enrollment with a one year increase of 7.1% in new nonresidents.

### **Oregon State University - Cascades Campus**

OSU-Cascades campus grew slightly to 497 students, up from 495 in fall 2006. A 10.5% decline in newly admitted students follows a similar decline in fall 2006 and, absent a good recruiting year, may lead to a decline in headcount as the continuing students graduate over the next one or two years. Degree-seeking undergraduates total 380 at OSU-Cascades, and degree-seeking graduates total 74.

### **Portland State University**

Another all time high in headcount at an OUS university was reached this fall as Portland State enrollment climbed to 24,999, up 2.9% from fall 2006. Growth occurred in both residents and nonresidents, and undergraduate and graduate student areas. Traditionally serving transfer and older students, Portland State is gaining first time freshmen, both resident and nonresident. Newly admitted resident undergraduate transfer enrollment countered OUS trends by increasing slightly.

### **Southern Oregon University**

Headcount at SOU declined by 3.3% to 4,836 students this fall. Newly admitted resident undergraduates, both first time freshmen and transfer students, are down a total of 8.1%. This was partially offset by an increase in newly admitted nonresident undergraduates, primarily through the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program which California recently joined. WUE students now comprise more than

10% of Southern's total enrollment. A partnership with Rogue Community College and the imminent construction of new facilities in Medford offer additional postsecondary opportunities for the region.

### **University of Oregon**

University of Oregon headcount has held steady, down just 12 students to 20,376. The fall 2007 new student cohort increased by 1.1% offsetting the large graduating class. Undergraduate enrollment grew by 0.9%, while graduate enrollment declined slightly. Resident first time freshmen increased slightly while newly admitted resident transfers declined 9.1%.

### **Western Oregon University**

Another important milestone was reached at WOU, with headcount increasing 3.0% to an all-time high of 5,037, up from 4,889 at this time last year. Western has more than doubled its international student enrollment in one year, to 243 from 108. Strong growth in first time freshmen, up 17.9% in residents alone, shows support for the Western Promise guaranteed tuition program. As with most other OUS campuses, resident undergraduate transfers are down. The number of new students overall, however, increased 6.5% over fall 2006.

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### **For More Information**

Contact Bob Kieran, OUS Director of Institutional Research, at 541-346-5758 or [bob\\_kieran@ous.edu](mailto:bob_kieran@ous.edu); or Di Saunders, OUS Director of Communications, at 503-725-5714 or [diane\\_saunders@ous.edu](mailto:diane_saunders@ous.edu). Also see the **Enrollment Watch** section of the OUS website at <http://www.ous.edu/factreport/enroll/index.php>

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