

Section A Enrollment

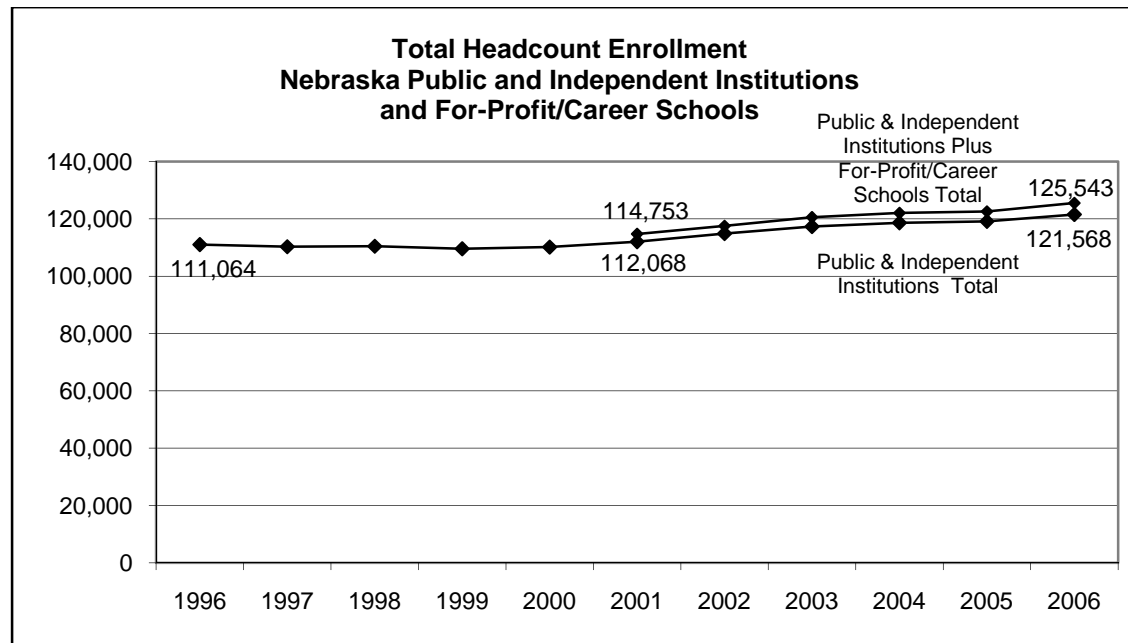
Executive Summary of Data

Section A of the *Factual Look at Higher Education in Nebraska* summarizes data from the fall 2006 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) surveys of Nebraska's public and independent (not for profit) colleges and universities and for-profit/career schools. Ten-year trends are based on the 1996-2006 IPEDS surveys of Nebraska public and independent colleges and universities. Five-year trends include Nebraska's for-profit/career schools. In this section, postsecondary enrollments are analyzed by (1) sector and full/part-time classification, (2) student level and full/part-time classification, (3) gender, (4) race/ethnicity, (5) race/ethnicity and gender, and (6) age.

Executive Summary of Data 1996-2006

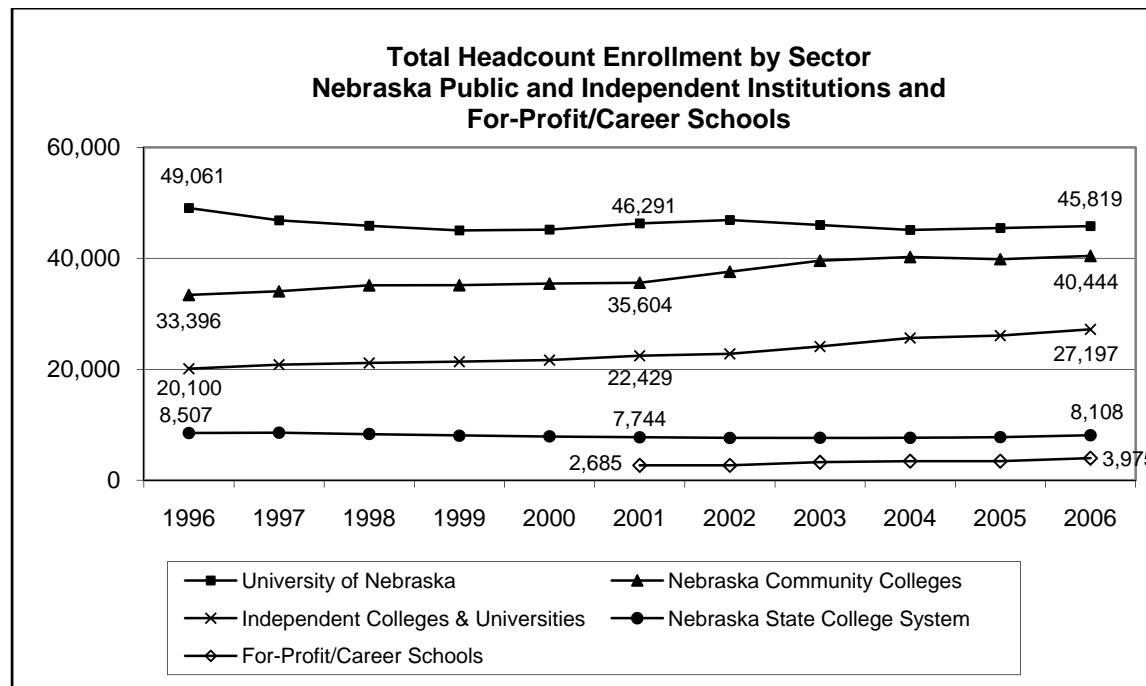
Total Headcount Enrollment

- Significantly different rates of growth occurred in the total headcount enrollment at Nebraska's public and independent colleges and universities during the two, five-year periods between fall 1996 and fall 2006. The growth rate from 1996 to 2001 was a relatively flat 0.9%, compared to a rate of growth of 8.5% from 2001 to 2006.
- Between 2001 and 2006, total headcount enrollment at the for-profit/career schools increased by 48.0% and accounted for 12.0% of the growth in the state's postsecondary education system over the five-year period. Including the for-profit/career schools, statewide total headcount enrollment increased by 9.4% to a total of 125,543 students in fall 2006.



Total Headcount Enrollment by Sector: 1996-2006

- Over the ten-year period between 1996 and 2006, there were significant changes in the enrollment patterns of students at Nebraska's public and independent institutions.
- The University of Nebraska experienced a 6.6% decline in enrollments from 1996 to 2006, due primarily to a 44.2% decline in part-time undergraduate enrollment.
- The Nebraska State College System experienced a 4.7% decline in enrollments as a result of decreases in undergraduate enrollments that were not offset by increases in the enrollment of graduate students.
- Nebraska's community colleges enjoyed a 21.1% increase in total headcount, due primarily to a 48.3% increase in the enrollment of full-time students.
- Independent colleges and universities increased enrollments by 35.3% over the ten year period, primarily as a result of increased enrollments of full-time students: 31.6% at the undergraduate level and 283.7% at the graduate level.



Total Enrollment by Student Level

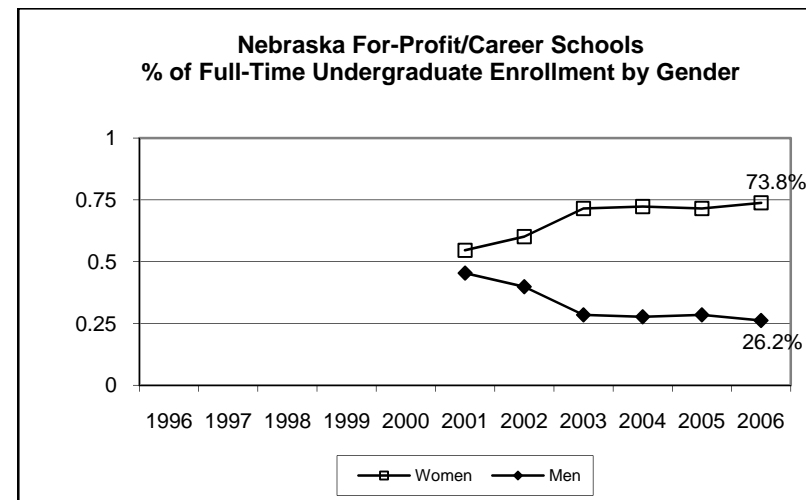
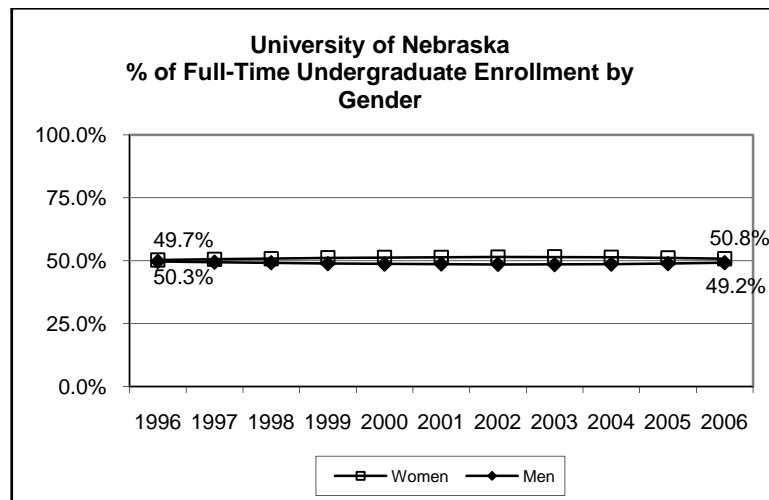
- Between 2001 and 2006, total statewide enrollment by student level increased by the following percentages:

Undergraduate: 8.3%
 Graduate: 18.3%
 First-Professional: 6.5%

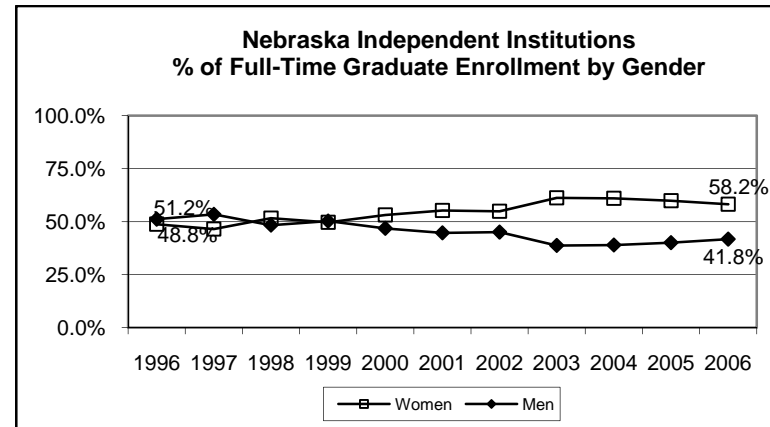
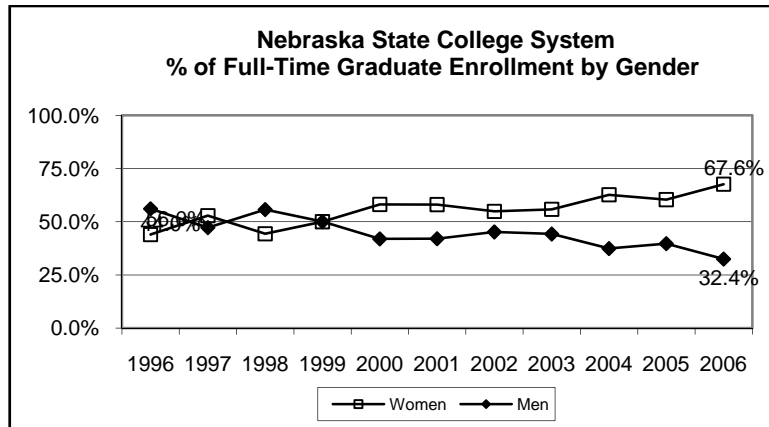
- Total enrollment of full-time graduate students began to increase in 1999 when 4,086 students were enrolled in graduate programs. By 2006, graduate enrollment had increased to 6,664 students, or by 63.1%.
- As a result of recent increases in graduate enrollments, graduate students accounted for higher percentages of total enrollment within the Nebraska State College System and the independent sector in fall 2006 than in fall 1996.

Enrollment by Gender

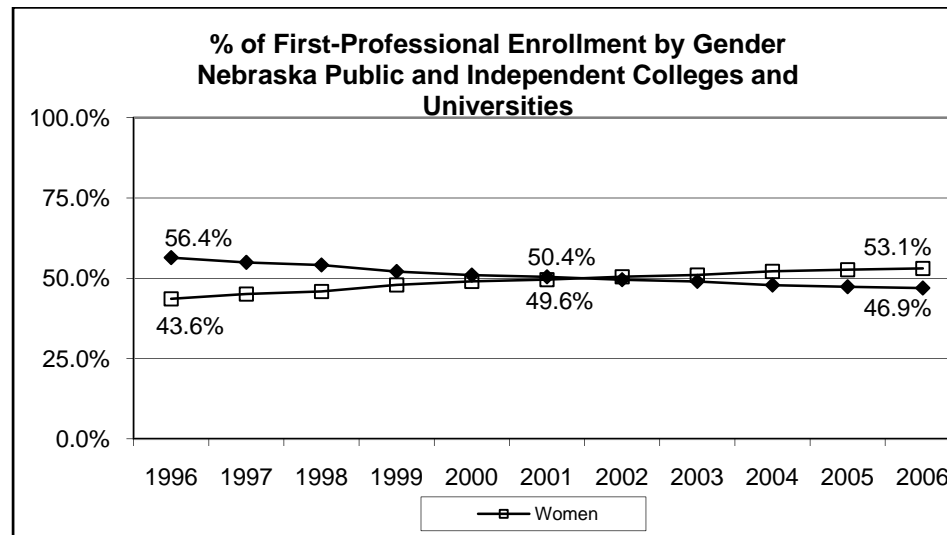
- The gender gap between men and women remained largely unchanged from fall 2001 to fall 2006. In 2001, women accounted for 54.9% of the state's total postsecondary enrollment, compared to a slightly higher 55.5% in 2006.
- The smallest gender gap among undergraduates in fall 2006 was at the University of Nebraska, where 50.8% of the students were women. In comparison, the largest gender gap was at the for-profit/career schools, where 73.8% of the students were women. The increased difference between the percentage enrollments of men and women at the for-profit/career schools is due to a 15.7% decrease in male enrollment while female enrollment increased by 97.1% between 2001 and 2006.



- At the graduate level, women enrolled full time started to outnumber men in 2000. Since 2000, the gender gap has widened, due primarily to increased enrollment of women at the Nebraska state colleges and the independent institutions that offer graduate programs.



Between fall 1996 and fall 2006, the enrollment of men in first-professional programs decreased by 1.9%, while the enrollment of women increased by 43.4%. In 2002, the enrollment of women exceeded the enrollment of men for the first time. By fall 2006, women accounted for 53% of all of the students in Nebraska's first-professional programs.

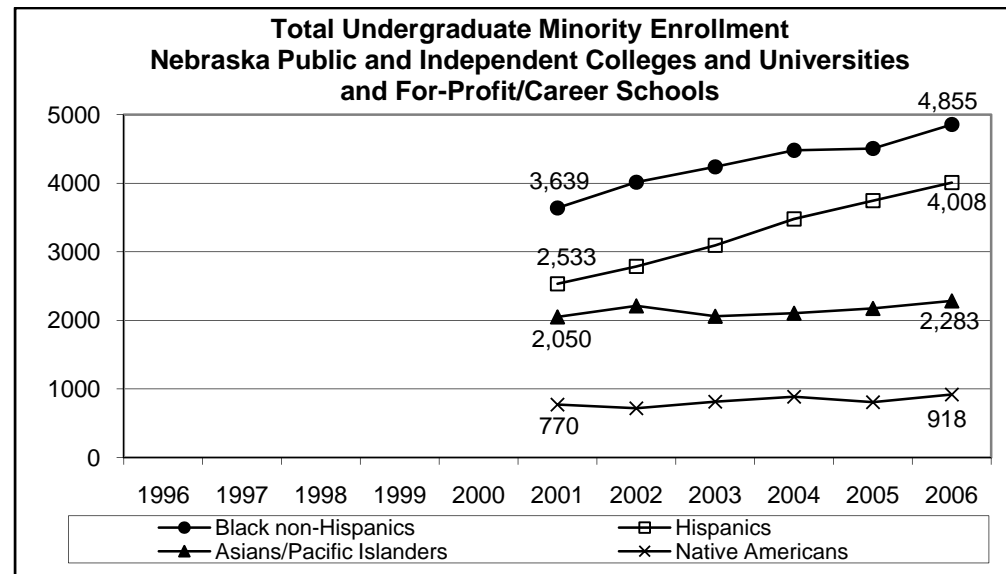


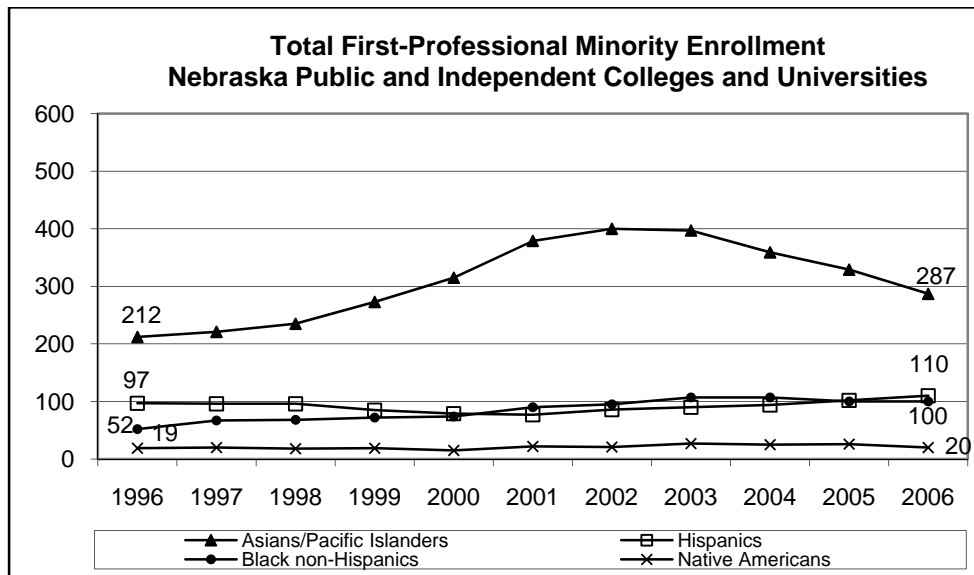
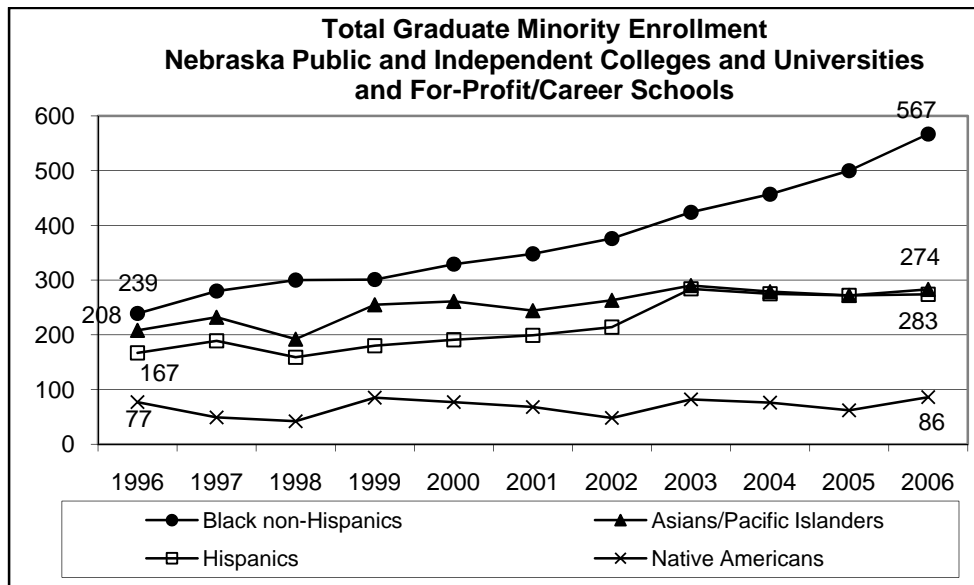
Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity

- Students of unknown race/ethnicity increased from 3.2% of total headcount in fall 2001 to 3.8% in fall 2006. The remaining findings in this section focus on students of known race/ethnicity, which accounted for 96.2% of total headcount in fall 2006.
- Minorities students—consisting of black non-Hispanics, Hispanics, Asians/Pacific Islanders, and Native Americans—accounted for 11.4% of total postsecondary enrollment in fall 2006. Foreign students made up 2.6% of the enrollment. White non-Hispanics accounted for 85.9%.
- From 2001 to 2006, black non-Hispanic enrollment increased 35.4%, Asian/Pacific Islander enrollment increased 6.7%, Hispanic enrollment increased 56.5% and Native American enrollment increased 19.1%. When broken down by student level, enrollment growth rates for minorities were as follows for the five-year period between fall 2001 and fall 2006:

	Undergraduate Enrollment	Graduate Enrollment	First-Professional Enrollment
Black non-Hispanic	33.4%	137.2%	92.3%
Hispanic	58.2%	64.1%	13.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	11.4%	36.1%	35.4%
Native American	19.2%	11.7%	5.3%

The following three charts summarize minority enrollment growth at the undergraduate, graduate and first-professional levels.





Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity and Gender

- For fall 2006, the total headcount gender gap by race was as follows:

	Women	Men
White	56.0%	44.0%
Black	55.1%	44.9%
Hispanic	56.1%	43.9%
Asian	54.6%	45.4%
Native	60.0%	40.0%

Enrollment by Age

- This section is reprinted from the 1995-2005 Factual Look because enrollment by age data are only collected every 2 years.
- In fall 2005, students aged 24 and younger made up 66.1% of all students at Nebraska's public and independent postsecondary institutions. Students aged 25 to 29 made up 21.5% and students over 30 accounted for 12.4% of the student body.
- There has been a significant shift in ages of students enrolling in community colleges over the past 10 years. In 1995, 53.7% of the students at community colleges were 25 or older. In 2005, the enrollment of students 25 or older had declined to 39.6% of the total. Enrollments of students under 20 at community colleges have increased 77.5% since 1995. These students made up 29.4% of all students enrolled at community colleges in 2005.

