

Nebraska Report on the Residence and Migration of First-Time Freshmen Fall 2006

Executive Summary

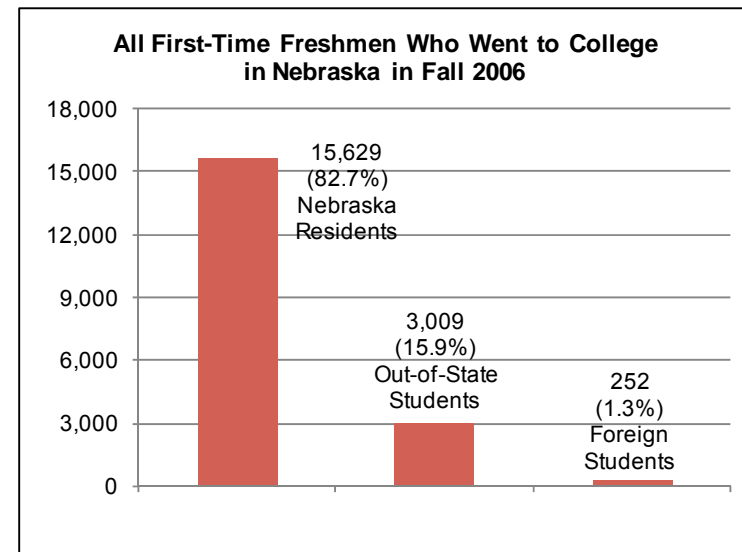
This report provides detailed information about the first-time freshmen enrollments of Nebraska's postsecondary institutions and the enrollments of Nebraska-resident, first-time freshmen at out-of-state institutions, based on data from the National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) for fall 2006. This report also presents detailed findings of the County Migration Survey for Fall 2006 that was conducted by Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. All reported counts include full-time and part-time students.

As a point of reference, none of the findings summarized in this report represent significant changes from fall 2002 IPEDS enrollment and migration data, except for the total number of first-time freshmen, which has decreased by about 8%.

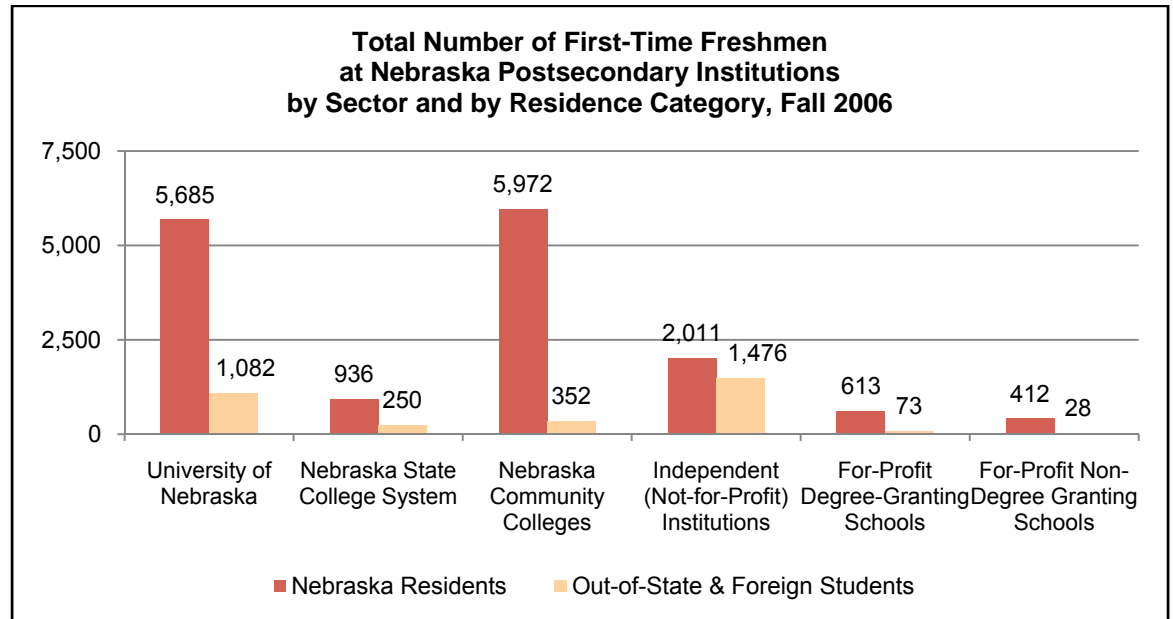
Key Findings

First-Time Freshmen at Nebraska's Postsecondary Institutions

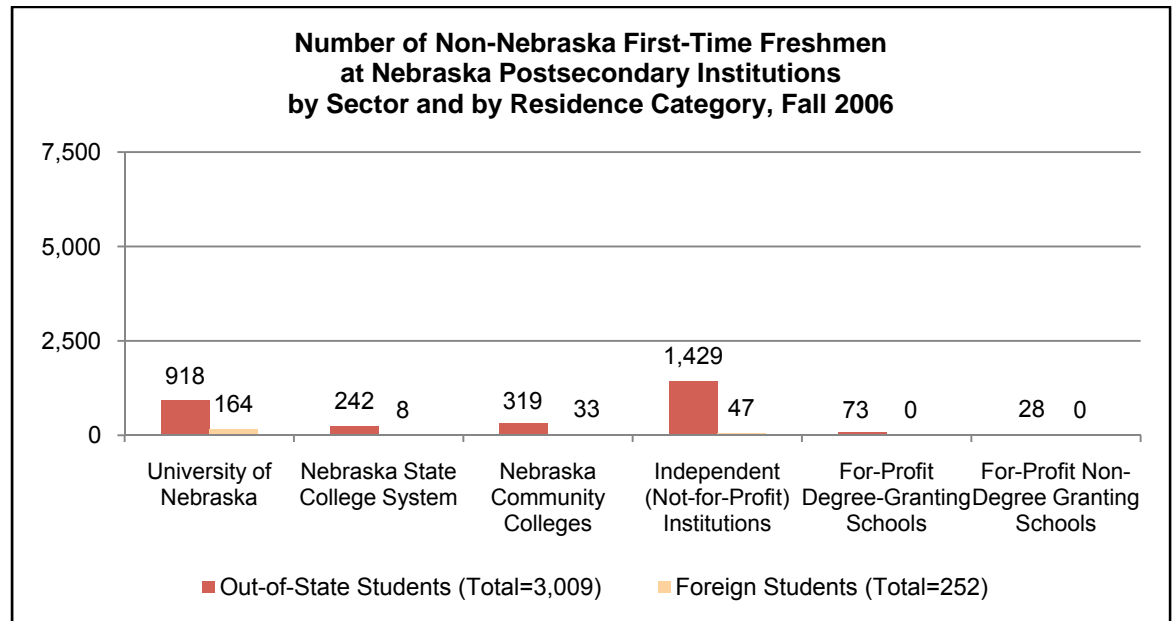
- In fall 2006, Nebraska's postsecondary institutions enrolled 18,890 first-time freshmen.
- The University of Nebraska enrolled 36% of the students who started college in fall 2006. Nebraska's community colleges admitted 34% of these students. In comparison, independent (not-for-profit) institutions enrolled 18%, the Nebraska State College System enrolled 6%, and private (for-profit) schools reported enrolling 6% of the fall 2006 freshman class.
- Of the total 18,890 freshmen, 15,629 (83%) were Nebraska residents, 3,009 (16%) were from other states, and 252 (1%) were foreign students.



- Based on the enrollment data summarized on the first chart on this page, the University of Nebraska enrolled 36% of the 15,629 Nebraska-resident freshmen and 33% of the 3,261 freshmen from outside of Nebraska.
- In comparison, Nebraska's community colleges enrolled 38% of freshmen with Nebraska residency but only 11% of the out-of-state and foreign students who came to Nebraska as first-time freshmen.
- Conversely, independent (not-for profit) colleges and universities attracted 13% of the Nebraska-resident freshmen and 45% of the the non-Nebraskans who were first-time freshmen at Nebraska institutions in fall 2006.



- Based on the data summarized on the second chart on this page, independent institutions attracted 48% of the 3,009 freshmen from out of state and 19% of the 252 foreign students who were first-time freshmen.
- The University of Nebraska enrolled 31% of the freshmen from out of state and 65% of the freshmen from foreign countries.
- In comparison, the Nebraska State College System, the community colleges and the for-profit schools attracted significantly lower percentages of the out-of-state and foreign students in the fall 2006 freshman class.



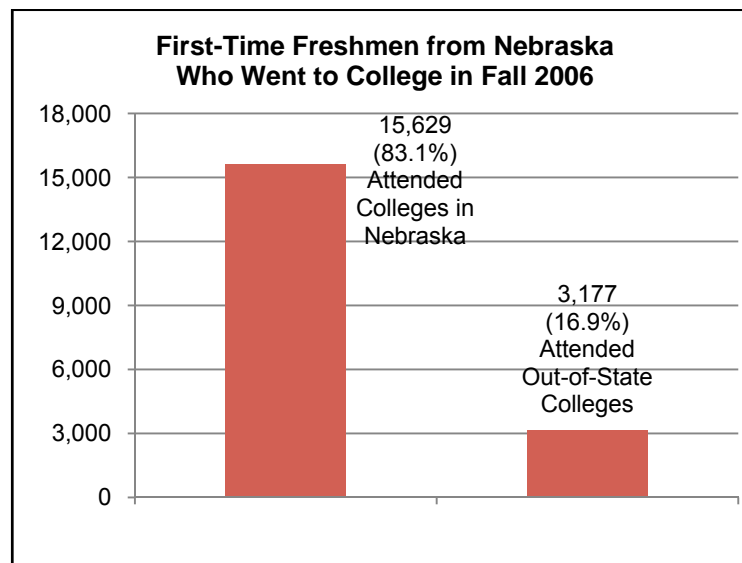
- Of the 15,629 Nebraskans who were first-time freshmen at Nebraska’s postsecondary institutions in fall 2006, 11,736 (75%) started college within 12 months of high school graduation, while 3,893 (25%) delayed going to college for more than a year after they graduated from high school. It is important to distinguish between these two groups of first-time freshmen because their patterns of college attendance are significantly different.
- For example, 47% of the students who started college within 12 months of high school graduation enrolled at the University of Nebraska, whereas only 6% of the freshmen who waited for more than a year after high school to start college chose to attend an institution within the university system in fall 2006.
- In comparison, 68% of the freshmen who delayed going to college for more than a year after finishing high school started their postsecondary education at one of Nebraska’s six community colleges, while 28% of the freshmen who started college within 12 months of high school graduation pursued their education within this sector.

Total Enrollment of First-Time Freshmen from Nebraska

- In addition to the 15,629 Nebraskans who enrolled as first-time freshmen at Nebraska’s postsecondary institutions, 3,177 Nebraska residents went out of state to college in fall 2006 for a total of 18,806 first-time freshmen with Nebraska residency.

By-State Migration Analysis

- Of the 3,177 Nebraskans who went out of state to college, 3,105 (98%) attended degree-granting institutions, while only 72 (2%) enrolled at non-degree-granting schools.
- Similarly, 2,981 (99%) of the out-of-state students who came to Nebraska as first-time freshmen were admitted to degree-granting institutions within the state.



Since so few of the first-time freshmen who migrated to or from Nebraska enrolled at non-degree-granting schools, the following by-state migration analysis focuses primarily on the students who attended degree-granting institutions in fall 2006. Furthermore, since students who go on to college directly from high school are of the greatest interest to many institutions and policy makers, this report includes net migration numbers and state-by-state comparisons for the students who started college within 12 months of high school graduation as well as for all of the first-time freshmen who migrated to or from Nebraska.

In-Migration of First-Time Freshmen to Degree-Granting Institutions in Nebraska by State

- In total, 2,978 students from out of state enrolled at Nebraska's degree-granting institutions in fall 2006.¹
- The largest numbers of freshmen from out of state came from **Iowa, Colorado, Kansas and South Dakota**. In total, these four states accounted for 53% of all the out-of-state, first-time freshmen who attended degree-granting schools in Nebraska in fall 2006.
- Four states—**Missouri, Minnesota, Texas and Illinois**—accounted for another 22% of all of the out-of-state freshmen at degree-granting institutions in Nebraska.
- Together, the **eight states** accounted for 2,208 or 74% of the first-time freshmen who came to Nebraska to study at the state's degree-granting institutions.
- Another 300 or 10% of the out-of-state freshmen came from **California, Wyoming, Wisconsin and Hawaii**, while the remaining 470 or 16% were from **38 other states and the District of Columbia**.

Out-Migration of Nebraska First-Time Freshmen to Degree-Granting Institutions by State

- Of the 3,105 Nebraska first-time freshmen from Nebraska who went to degree-granting, out-of-state schools in fall 2006, 55% attended colleges in **Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and South Dakota** in fall 2006.
- Another 19% traveled to **Wyoming, Minnesota, Illinois and Colorado** to begin their postsecondary studies.
- Together, the **eight states** attracted 2,296 or 74% of the Nebraska first-time freshmen who enrolled at out-of-state, degree-granting schools.
- Degree-granting schools in **Arizona, Texas, California and Florida** accounted for another 298 or 10% of the Nebraska first-time freshmen pursuing their education out of state.
- The remaining 511 or 16% of the first-time freshmen from Nebraska chose to go to college in **38 other states and the District of Columbia**.

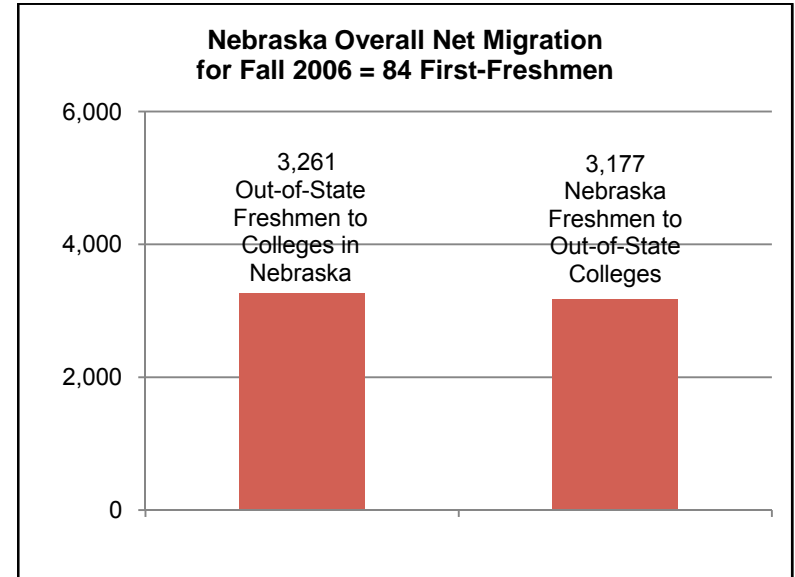
¹Three additional students from Puerto Rico and American Samoa also came to Nebraska, but they were excluded from this analysis.

Net Migration of First-Time Freshmen by State

- In fall 2006, 456 first-time freshmen from Colorado attended college in Nebraska, compared to 127 Nebraskans who migrated to Colorado to begin their postsecondary studies for a net migration of 329 students. As a result, **Colorado** was the state with the highest positive net migration for Nebraska.
- Other states with positive net migration of more than 20 students to Nebraska were **Texas, Hawaii, California, Wisconsin, Minnesota** and **North Dakota**.
- In total, Nebraska gained more students than it lost to 17 states.
- Nebraska lost more students than it gained from 31 states.
- The states with the highest negative net migration numbers were **Missouri, Wyoming, Iowa, Arizona** and **Kansas**.
- Nebraska lost 194 more students than it gained from Missouri. Losses to the other four states ranged from 73 to 95 first-time freshmen.

Total Net Migration of First-Time Freshmen

- The difference between the numbers of first-time freshmen who migrate to and from Nebraska varies, depending on what students are included in the equation and the type of institutions they attend. In general, Nebraska gains about the same number of first-time freshmen as it loses to other states.
- For example, net migration in the fall 2006 was a positive 85 for students who started college within 12 months of high school graduation, but a negative 127 for all freshmen at degree-granting institutions, including those who enrolled more than a year after they finished high school, but excluding foreign students at Nebraska's postsecondary institutions.
- However, the overall net migration of students at degree-granting and non-degree-granting schools, including foreign students, was a positive 84 students for Nebraska.



Out-of-State Colleges and Universities Attended by Nebraska Freshmen

- In fall 2006, a total of 3,105 first-time freshmen with Nebraska residency enrolled at 585 degree-granting colleges and universities in 49 states and the District of Columbia. Another 72 Nebraskans started college at non-degree-granting schools that are located out of state.
- Eighteen of the 20 out-of-state schools that attracted the highest numbers of first-time freshmen from Nebraska are all located in six states: Iowa, Missouri, South Dakota, Wyoming, Kansas and Minnesota. The remaining two schools are the University of Phoenix-Online Campus and the American Intercontinental University Online. Together, the 20 schools enrolled 1,332 or 43% of the freshmen who pursued their studies at out-of-state institutions.
- The five schools that attracted the highest numbers of freshmen from Nebraska were Iowa Western Community College, Northwest Missouri State University, the University of South Dakota, the University of Wyoming and Morningside College in Iowa. In total, these schools enrolled 610 Nebraska-resident freshmen or 20% of the freshmen going out of state to degree-granting institutions.
- Based on the rankings published by *U.S. News & World Report* and available enrollment data, 331 Nebraska-resident first-time freshmen attended “top-ranked”, out-of-state colleges and universities, accounting for 11% of the total number of Nebraskans who enrolled in colleges outside Nebraska.¹

Top 20 Out-of-State, Degree-Granting Colleges and Universities with the Highest Numbers Of Nebraska-Resident, First-Time Freshmen, Fall 2006					
State	Institution	No. of Nebraska First-Time Freshmen	State	Institution	No. of Nebraska First-Time Freshmen
IA	Iowa Western Community College	232	IA	Western Iowa Tech Community College	50
MO	Northwest Missouri State University	125	SD	Mount Marty College	50
SD	University of South Dakota	86	MO	Rockhurst University	48
WY	University of Wyoming	85	AZ	University of Phoenix-Online Campus	44
IA	Morningside College	82	WY	Wyo Tech	44
IA	Iowa State University	76	MO	Saint Louis University-Main Campus	37
KS	Kansas State University	69	IL	American Intercontinental University Online	35
KS	University of Kansas - Main Campus	63	KS	Fort Hays State University	35
IA	Briar Cliff University	62	IA	Northwestern College	27
SD	South Dakota State University	55	MN	University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	27
				Total	1,332

¹The Commission is aware of the controversial nature of the annual rankings published by *U.S. News & World Report*. They are used in this report, due to their popularity and the lack of any other national ranking system.

Findings of the CCPE County Migration Survey for Fall 2006

- The data collected through the CCPE County Migration Survey for Fall 2006 revealed that, with the exception of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), Nebraska's public institutions draw 65% to 95% of their first-time freshmen from within their designated geographic service areas (GSAs).
- In contrast to Nebraska's other public institutions, UNL draws about half of its freshmen from within its GSA and about half from outside of it, confirming that it is an institution that serves the entire state in terms of freshmen enrollment.
- The analysis of county data also confirmed that first-time freshmen who delay going to college more than 12 months after high school graduation are most likely to attend an institution whose service area encompasses their county of residence.
- An interesting finding of the survey is that the enrollment patterns of the University of Nebraska at Omaha and Metropolitan Community College are distinctly similar to the enrollment patterns of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Southeast Community College, which probably is attributable to the fact that each pair of institutions is located within one of Nebraska's two largest population centers.

End Note

The Commission hopes that the information contained in this report is useful to policymakers in Nebraska, as well as to Nebraska institutions as they evaluate and plan their freshmen recruitment strategies.

