

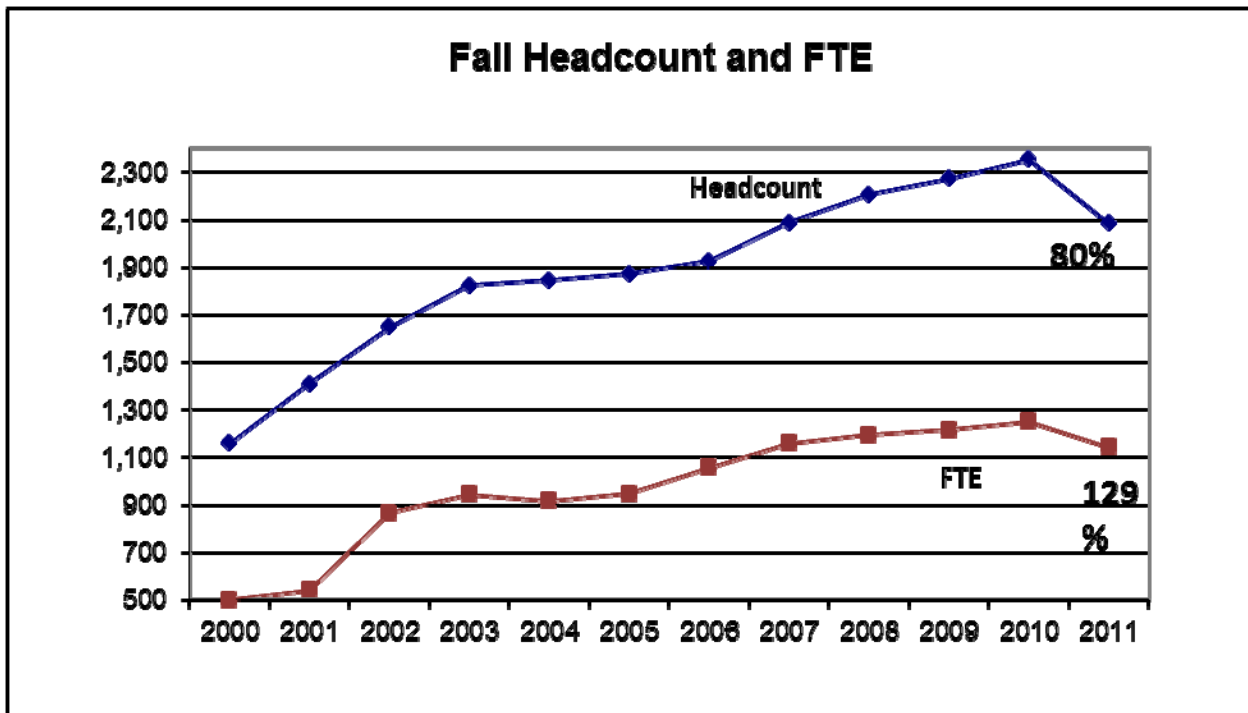
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

University Center Fall 2011 Enrollment

SIOUX FALLS, SD – October 3, 2011 – After a decade of steady growth in Sioux Falls, enrollment at South Dakota Public Universities and Research Center (University Center) decreased for Fall 2011.

Total headcount is 2,086 students, down from the Fall 2010 peak of 2,356 students. The decline in headcount is explained mainly by the relocation of the University of South Dakota’s A.S. in Nursing program to the Sanford Health campus. University Center includes in their headcount and FTE only students who physically attend a class onsite at the northwest Sioux Falls facilities. The students that moved with the program account for a loss of 189 students at University Center.

Dr. Mark Lee, University Center Executive Dean, notes, “Our public university system is still serving these students in Sioux Falls. We are simply doing it at a different location, and the University Center enrollment numbers reflect that.”





For the fall 2011 term, the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students at University Center is 1,144. The FTE is determined based on credit hours taken at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The large difference between University Center's headcount enrollment and the FTE number points to the type of students who study at UC – individuals attending part-time while working full- or part-time jobs.

University Center recently opened its third building in northwest Sioux Falls. The 50,000 square foot Science & Technology Classroom building has allowed University Center to consolidate virtually all of its operations to a single location at North Career Avenue and 60th Street North.

About University Center

South Dakota Public Universities & Research Center, or University Center, provides the greater Sioux Falls community with convenient local access to public higher education programs from in-state partner Universities. University Center offers programs from the University of South Dakota, South Dakota State University, Dakota State University, Northern State University and Black Hills State University. At University Center the focus is on the adult learner and academic programs and courses that foster and support the economic development of the Sioux Falls area.

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