

TO: Institutional Research Directors

FROM: Terrence Willett, Visiting Assistant Vice Chancellor, Research, Analytics, and Data

RE: Spring 2026 Enrollment Survey Summary

In February 2026, the Chancellor's Office requested that colleges provide an estimate of the change in FTES (full time equivalent students) and headcount in the Spring 2026 term compared to Spring 2025 overall and headcount changes for three specific subgroups: veterans, current or former foster youth, and K-12 dual enrollment. The goal was to receive an early estimate of enrollment trends to use for system planning and budget advocacy. We received information for 62 of the 116 colleges (53% response rate). Colleges were asked:

- What is your best estimate of the percent change in FTES between Spring 2026 and Spring 2025?
- What is your best estimate of the percent change in headcount between Spring 2026 and Spring 2025?
- Provide your best estimates for the percent change in headcount from Spring 2025 to Spring 2026 for each subgroup if available:
 - K-12 Dual Enrollment
 - Veterans
 - Current or former foster youth

The median reported headcount change was +3.2%. Applying this estimate to the Spring 2025 statewide headcount of 1,445,961 yields a projected Spring 2026 headcount of approximately 1,492,000 students and a 2025-2026 estimate of about 2,270,000 students. FTES growth was more modest, with a median estimate of +1.5%, suggesting growth in part-time enrollment outpacing full-time enrollment, consistent with the Fall 2024–Fall 2025 trend. Of the key Vision 2030 special populations surveyed, dual enrollment showed the greatest increase with a median change of 10%, followed by veterans and foster youth each with a 0% median change. Summary results from the survey are in the table below.

Spring 2026 Enrollment Summary
 April 13, 2026

	Sp24 to Sp25 FTES Change	Sp24 to Sp25 Headcou nt Change	Sp24 to Sp25 Dual Enrollmen t Headcoun t Change	Sp24 to Sp25 Veterans Headcoun t Change	Sp24 to Sp25 Foster Youth Headcoun t Change
25th Percentile	-1.0%	+0.2%	+3.2%	-5.0%	-13.8%
Median	+1.5%	+3.2%	+10.0%	0.0%	0.0%
75th Percentile	+4.5%	+6.0%	+17.9%	+6.5%	+6.3%

Note these are preliminary values. Final Spring 2026 data will be available after MIS submissions are completed, which are due 30 days after term end.

cc: John Hetts, Executive Vice Chancellor of Research, Analytics, and Data
 Patty Sanders, Director of Research, Analytics, and Data