

**2020 Record Enrollment**
**September 2020**

For the third consecutive year, the UNC System has achieved record-breaking enrollment numbers, according to final census data for the Fall 2020 semester.

Total enrollment across the UNC System is 242,464—an increase of one percent compared to 2019's enrollment of 239,981. Undergraduate enrollment is up 0.2 percent, while graduate enrollment increased by four percent.

The record enrollment reflects the impact of ongoing efforts to put NC's college options more within reach for aspiring students, particularly those from low-income families and rural counties. Improved access and affordability are key pillars of the UNC System's five-year Strategic Plan.

Eight institutions all have record enrollments (Appalachian State University, Fayetteville State University, N.C. A&T State University, UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC Charlotte, UNC Pembroke, UNC Wilmington, and Western Carolina University). Four institutions have enrolled their largest new transfer class ever (ECSU, NC State, UNC-Chapel Hill, and UNC Pembroke).

|   | Fall 2018      | Fall 2019      | Fall 2020      | Difference Between 2019 and 2020           |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| Appalachian State University  | 19,108         | 19,280         | 20,023         | 3.9%                                       |
| East Carolina University  | 28,718         | 28,651         | 28,798         | 0.5%                                       |
| Elizabeth City State University   | 1,677          | 1,769          | 2,002          | 13.2%                                      |
| Fayetteville State University   | 6,318          | 6,551          | 6,726          | 2.7%                                       |
| N.C. A&T State University   | 12,142         | 12,556         | 12,753         | 1.6%                                       |
| North Carolina Central University   | 8,207          | 8,011          | 8,078          | 0.8%                                       |
| North Carolina State University   | 35,479         | 36,304         | 36,042         | -0.7%                                      |
| UNC Asheville   | 3,762          | 3,600          | 3,363          | -6.6%                                      |
| UNC-Chapel Hill   | 30,011         | 29,877         | 30,092         | 0.7%                                       |
| UNC Charlotte   | 29,710         | 29,615         | 30,164*        | 1.9%                                       |
| UNC Greensboro  | 20,106         | 20,196         | 19,764         | -2.1%                                      |
| UNC Pembroke  | 7,137          | 7,698          | 8,262          | 7.3%                                       |
| UNC Wilmington  | 16,747         | 17,499         | 17,915         | 2.4%                                       |
| UNC School of the Arts  | 1,042          | 1,086          | 1,070          | -1.5%                                      |
| Western Carolina University   | 11,639         | 12,167         | 12,243         | 0.6%                                       |
| Winston-Salem State University  | 5,190          | 5,121          | 5,169          | 0.9%                                       |
| <b>UNC System</b>   | <b>236,993</b> | <b>239,981</b> | <b>242,464</b> | <b>1.0%</b>                                |
| *UNC Charlotte's Fall 2020 census data is not available yet, so its Fall 2020 beginning of term data is substituted as an estimate. |                |                |                | Shaded areas represent record enrollments. |

**Key Milestones**

- ECSU enrollment exceeds 2,000 students for the first time since 2013.
- Appalachian enrollment exceeds 20,000 students for the first time ever.
- UNC Charlotte enrollment exceeds 30,000 students for the first time ever.