

Board of Governors for Higher Education  
Department of Higher Education  
State of Connecticut



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## **Third Year of Record Gains Posted at Connecticut Colleges**

HARTFORD, Nov. 17 — Connecticut colleges and universities are enjoying a third year of record enrollments, capitalizing on Connecticut's growing pool of high school graduates which is expected to last until 2008. Across the state, college enrollment this fall rose a modest 1.2 percent to 172,735 for the seventh year of consecutive growth and a new record, according to final 2004 headcounts announced today by Valerie F. Lewis, Commissioner of Higher Education, at a meeting of the Board of Governors for Higher Education in Hartford.

Of the state's 47 higher education institutions, 30 posted enrollment increases over last fall, based on tallies reported this month to the Department of Higher Education. Among the noteworthy trends:

- The sixth year of rapid growth at the 12 community colleges, with most campuses brimming with full-time students.
- The 11 percent surge in freshmen at Connecticut State University, a reversal of last year's eight percent drop.
- Within the independents, impressive jumps at Albertus Magnus, with 161 more students; the University of Bridgeport, with 109 more students; and Goodwin College, with 273 more students.

"Connecticut colleges are clearly keeping pace with the needs and desires of students seeking a high quality education," stated Higher Education Commissioner Lewis. "I'm heartened to see growth across all types of institutions. With more high school graduates in the pipeline, we need to keep our sharp focus on assuring access and affordability for all students."

Final headcounts rose at state-supported colleges by 1.5 percent to 108,859 students, and by 0.8 percent to 62,882 students at the state's independent schools. The remaining 994 attend the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, a federal institution.

(MORE)

Full-time students continue to dominate Connecticut campuses, with their share up 3.4 percent for 64 percent of the total, the highest in at least 17 years. This growth likely reflects the state's expanding pool of high school graduates which is projected to rise another 11 percent until 2008, and then drop five percent until 2013.

Across both public and independent colleges, the number of undergraduates climbed 2,426 students or 1.8 percent to 138,734. Totals for graduate and first-professional students combined dipped 0.9 percent or 315 students to 34,001.

### ***Public Colleges & Universities***

Within the public sector, counts grew 3.6 percent at the University of Connecticut due largely to 641 more students at the Storrs Campus. Counts also were up by 195 students at UConn's Tri-Campus and by 102 students at the Stamford Campus and remained unchanged at Avery Point. UConn's freshman enrollment climbed 4.0 percent. Overall undergraduate enrollment grew 4.5 percent or by 864 students to 20,151; graduate enrollment remained steady, up only 0.8 percent or 51 students to 6,053.

Counts inched up 0.3 percent (89 students) at Connecticut State University with only Western posting a decrease of 195 students or 3.2 percent, after being the only CSU institution last year to see an increase. Modest gains occurred at the other three CSU institutions, ranging from 0.3 percent at Southern to 1.6 percent at Central. Eastern stands out from the pack for its higher shares of full-time students and undergraduates. In contrast, at Southern, CSU's lead graduate institution, barely one-half of students are full-time undergraduates.

The community colleges gained 583 students for an increase of 1.3 percent. Eight of these colleges posted gains while four showed declines, the largest occurring at Norwalk. These colleges comprise the largest sector of Connecticut higher education.

### ***Independent Colleges & Universities***

Within the independent sector, enrollment remained steady at the four-year nationals with 123 more students, up 0.7 percent over fall 2003. Reversing last year's pattern, counts were up at Connecticut and Trinity and down slightly at Wesleyan and Yale.

Across the 18 four-year regional independents, enrollment was flat, dipping 0.5 percent to 40,554. Nine of these institutions posted gains, with declines occurring at Rensselaer (down 20%), Teikyo Post (down 9.6%) and the University of New Haven (down 4.9%). Counts rose at five of the six two-year independents with Goodwin accounting for nearly half this sector's gains.

\* \* \*

*A table displaying fall 2004 Connecticut college and university headcount enrollment is attached. A fuller report also may be downloaded from [www.ctdhe.org](http://www.ctdhe.org).*

TABLE 1  
**Fall 2004 Final Enrollment: Connecticut Colleges and Universities**

	Undergraduate			Graduate			First-Professional			Fall 2004 Totals			Fall 2003 Total	Change	Pct. Change
	Full- Time	Part- Time	Total	Full- Time	Part- Time	Total	Full- Time	Part- Time	Total	Full- Time	Part- Time	TOTAL			
<b>PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS</b>															
<i>University of Connecticut</i>	<b>17,534</b>	<b>2,617</b>	<b>20,151</b>	<b>3,278</b>	<b>2,775</b>	<b>6,053</b>	<b>1,152</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>1,375</b>	<b>21,964</b>	<b>5,615</b>	<b>27,579</b>	<b>26,629</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
Storrs	14,843	908	15,751	3,278	2,775	6,053	672	218	890	18,793	3,901	<b>22,694</b>	22,053	641	2.9%
Avery Point	456	317	773							456	317	<b>773</b>	773	0	0.0%
Tri-Campus*	1,559	832	2,391							1,559	832	<b>2,391</b>	2,196	195	8.9%
Stamford	676	560	1,236							676	560	<b>1,236</b>	1,134	102	9.0%
Health Center							480	5	485	480	5	<b>485</b>	473	12	2.5%
<i>Connecticut State University</i>	<b>21,435</b>	<b>6,340</b>	<b>27,775</b>	<b>1,706</b>	<b>6,056</b>	<b>7,762</b>				<b>23,141</b>	<b>12,396</b>	<b>35,537</b>	<b>35,448</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
Central	7,245	2,359	9,604	533	2,183	2,716				7,778	4,542	<b>12,320</b>	12,131	189	1.6%
Eastern	3,700	1,020	4,720	84	352	436				3,784	1,372	<b>5,156</b>	5,095	61	1.2%
Southern	6,617	1,697	8,314	992	2,871	3,863				7,609	4,568	<b>12,177</b>	12,143	34	0.3%
Western	3,873	1,264	5,137	97	650	747				3,970	1,914	<b>5,884</b>	6,079	-195	-3.2%
<i>Community Colleges</i>	<b>15,798</b>	<b>29,945</b>	<b>45,743</b>							<b>15,798</b>	<b>29,945</b>	<b>45,743</b>	<b>45,160</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
Asnuntuck	492	1,012	1,504							492	1,012	<b>1,504</b>	1,476	28	1.9%
Capital	896	2,540	3,436							896	2,540	<b>3,436</b>	3,381	55	1.6%
Gateway	1,706	3,889	5,595							1,706	3,889	<b>5,595</b>	5,587	8	0.1%
Housatonic	1,510	3,191	4,701							1,510	3,191	<b>4,701</b>	4,678	23	0.5%
Manchester	2,512	3,394	5,906							2,512	3,394	<b>5,906</b>	5,717	189	3.3%
Middlesex	867	1,487	2,354							867	1,487	<b>2,354</b>	2,400	-46	-1.9%
Naugatuck Valley	2,139	3,375	5,514							2,139	3,375	<b>5,514</b>	5,155	359	7.0%
Northwestern CT	513	1,003	1,516							513	1,003	<b>1,516</b>	1,543	-27	-1.7%
Norwalk	1,986	3,804	5,790							1,986	3,804	<b>5,790</b>	6,047	-257	-4.3%
Quinebaug Valley	571	1,150	1,721							571	1,150	<b>1,721</b>	1,571	150	9.5%
Three Rivers	1,169	2,595	3,764							1,169	2,595	<b>3,764</b>	3,622	142	3.9%
Tunxis	1,437	2,505	3,942							1,437	2,505	<b>3,942</b>	3,983	-41	-1.0%
<b>TOTAL, STATE INSTITUTIONS</b>	<b>54,767</b>	<b>38,902</b>	<b>93,669</b>	<b>4,984</b>	<b>8,831</b>	<b>13,815</b>	<b>1,152</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>1,375</b>	<b>60,903</b>	<b>47,956</b>	<b>108,859</b>	<b>107,237</b>	<b>1,622</b>	<b>1.5%</b>
U.S. Coast Guard Academy	994		994							994		<b>994</b>	983	11	1.1%
<b>TOTAL, PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS</b>	<b>55,761</b>	<b>38,902</b>	<b>94,663</b>	<b>4,984</b>	<b>8,831</b>	<b>13,815</b>	<b>1,152</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>1,375</b>	<b>61,897</b>	<b>47,956</b>	<b>109,853</b>	<b>108,220</b>	<b>1,633</b>	<b>1.5%</b>

\*The Tri-Campus total of 2,391 this year consists of 1,212 students in Hartford (up 70 over last year), 810 in Waterbury (up 133 students), and 369 in Torrington (down 8 students.)

NOTE: Charter Oak State College enrolled 1,495 part-time undergraduate students, many of whom are enrolled elsewhere in CT and are counted in their other institutions above. Those 1,495 represent a 83 student (or 5.3%) decrease from fall 2003.

TABLE 1, Continued  
 Fall 2004 Final Enrollment: Connecticut Colleges and Universities

	Undergraduate			Graduate			First-Professional			Fall 2004 Totals			Fall 2003 Total	Change	Pct. Change
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total	Full-Time	Part-Time	TOTAL			
<b>INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS</b>															
<i>National Independents</i>	<b>11,813</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>12,194</b>	<b>4,925</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>5,514</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1,245</b>	<b>17,955</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>18,953</b>	<b>18,830</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
Connecticut College	1,827	67	1,894	7	4	11				1,834	71	1,905	1,849	56	3.0%
Trinity College	1,977	227	2,204	5	181	186				1,982	408	2,390	2,289	101	4.4%
Wesleyan University	2,766	11	2,777	208	232	440				2,974	243	3,217	3,221	-4	-0.1%
Yale University	5,243	76	5,319	4,705	172	4,877	1,217	28	1,245	11,165	276	11,441	11,471	-30	-0.3%
<i>Regional Independents</i>	<b>23,415</b>	<b>5,087</b>	<b>28,502</b>	<b>4,274</b>	<b>6,872</b>	<b>11,146</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>28,429</b>	<b>12,125</b>	<b>40,554</b>	<b>40,755</b>	<b>-201</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>
Albertus Magnus College	1,795	111	1,906	420	35	455				2,215	146	2,361	2,200	161	7.3%
Fairfield University	3,305	637	3,942	232	886	1,118				3,537	1,523	5,060	5,053	7	0.1%
Graduate Institute, The				160		160				160		160	78	82	105.1%
Hartford Seminary				17	130	147				17	130	147	148	-1	-0.7%
Holy Apostles College	8	26	34	24	144	168	59		59	91	170	261	241	20	8.3%
LymeAcademy College of Fine Arts	64	96	160	1	3	4				65	99	164	143	21	14.7%
Mitchell College	615	85	700							615	85	700	742	-42	-5.7%
Paier College of Art	195	111	306							195	111	306	291	15	5.2%
Quinnipiac University	5,091	373	5,464	663	442	1,105	487	164	651	6,241	979	7,220	7,121	99	1.4%
Rensselaer at Hartford				39	767	806				39	767	806	1,011	-205	-20.3%
Sacred Heart University	3,088	993	4,081	486	1,090	1,576				3,574	2,083	5,657	5,730	-73	-1.3%
St. Basil's College	10	1	11							10	1	11	13	-2	-15.4%
St. Joseph College	860	312	1,172	98	522	620				958	834	1,792	1,836	-44	-2.4%
St. Thomas Seminary		18	18								18	18	27	-9	-33.3%
Teikyo Post University	689	509	1,198							689	509	1,198	1,325	-127	-9.6%
University of Bridgeport	1,088	286	1,374	795	909	1,704	194	2	196	2,077	1,197	3,274	3,165	109	3.4%
University of Hartford	4,545	1,021	5,566	579	1,101	1,680				5,124	2,122	7,246	7,245	1	0.01%
University of New Haven	2,062	508	2,570	760	843	1,603				2,822	1,351	4,173	4,386	-213	-4.9%
<i>Two-Year Independents</i>	<b>1,719</b>	<b>1,656</b>	<b>3,375</b>							<b>1,719</b>	<b>1,656</b>	<b>3,375</b>	<b>2,819</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>19.7%</b>
Briarwood College*	393	244	637							393	244	637	588	49	8.3%
Gibbs College	931	276	1,207							931	276	1,207	1,154	53	4.6%
Goodwin College	145	795	940							145	795	940	667	273	40.9%
Int'l College of Hospitality Management	93		93							93		93	45	48	106.7%
Legion of Christ College of Humanities	91		91							91		91	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
St. Vincent's College	66	341	407							66	341	407	365	42	11.5%
<b>TOTAL, INDEPENDENTS</b>	<b>36,947</b>	<b>7,124</b>	<b>44,071</b>	<b>9,199</b>	<b>7,461</b>	<b>16,660</b>	<b>1,957</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>2,151</b>	<b>48,103</b>	<b>14,779</b>	<b>62,882</b>	<b>62,404</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>TOTAL, ALL INSTITUTIONS</b>	<b>92,708</b>	<b>46,026</b>	<b>138,734</b>	<b>14,183</b>	<b>16,292</b>	<b>30,475</b>	<b>3,109</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>3,526</b>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>62,735</b>	<b>172,735</b>	<b>170,624</b>	<b>2,111</b>	<b>1.2%</b>

\*Briarwood became a four-year college this fall, but is still listed in the two-year category in this table comparing 2003 and 2004.