

# North Dakota University System

## Follow-Up Study of Online Enrollment

**PUBLISHED BY:**



**State Capitol  
Bismarck, ND 58505**

**December 2018**

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## Executive Summary

This report is a follow up study to *Study of Distance Education (DE) Enrollment* released in December 2017 (revised January 2018). The *Study of Distance Education (DE) Enrollment* was conducted ad hoc to respond to governor and legislative inquiries regarding distance education enrollment in the North Dakota University System.

The focus of this follow up report is NDUS online enrollment, which includes student enrollment in either online synchronous or online asynchronous courses. Online enrollment is considered part of the larger category of distance education, which also includes course enrollment via interactive video, off campus face-to-face courses, and independent study coursework. According to the 2017 *Study of Distance Education (DE) Enrollment*, online enrollments account for 15% of all distance education in the North Dakota University System.

Data for all tables and figures come from the 2018 NDUS Fall Enrollment census count.

Key findings include:

- Over the past decade, enrollment in online courses has increased 70% (Figure 1).
- 16% of students are enrolled online only, and 21% are enrolled in some but not all online courses, accounting for 37% of NDUS students taking at least one course online (Figure 2).
- The greatest rate in online only course participation occurs in the 35-39 and 40-49 year old age groups, although one-third of students in the 20-21 year old age group take some online coursework (Figure 3).
- Non-degree seeking students are the largest subgroup of students participating in coursework online only (Table 3).
- North Dakota students account for nearly half of all online only enrollments (Table 5).

Figure 1: 2008 – 2018 Trending Online Course Enrollment  
*Student enrollment count as of fall term census.*

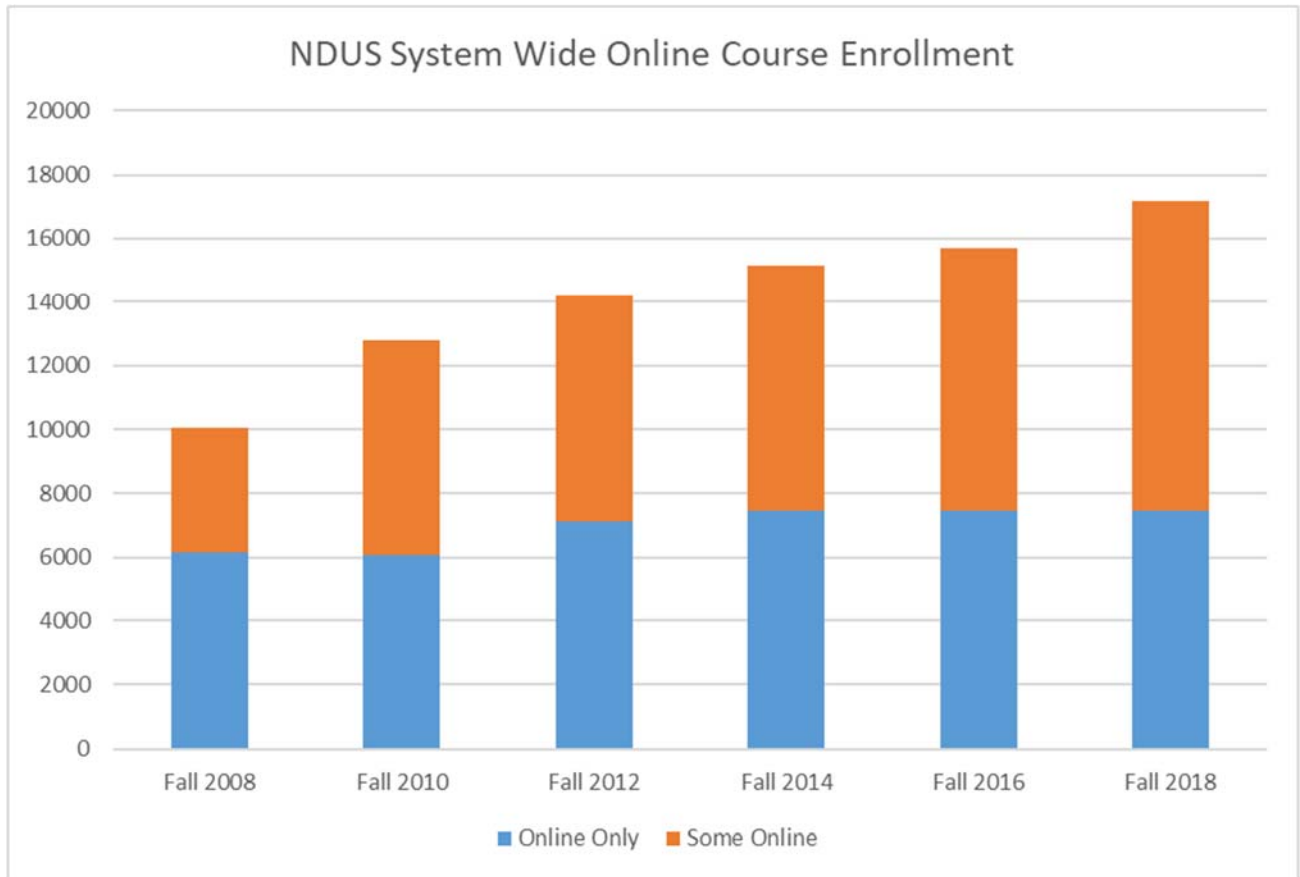


Table 1: 2008-2018 Trending Online Course Enrollments

	Fall 2008	Fall 2010	Fall 2012	Fall 2014	Fall 2016	Fall 2018
Online Only	6,138	6,054	7,138	7,465	7,461	7,473
Some Online	3,892	6,728	7,087	7,689	8,224	9,720
Total Online	10,030	12,782	14,225	15,154	15,685	17,193

Figure 2: NDUS Student Online Enrollment Status

The pie chart below accounts for the online enrollment status of all NDUS students (N=46,018).

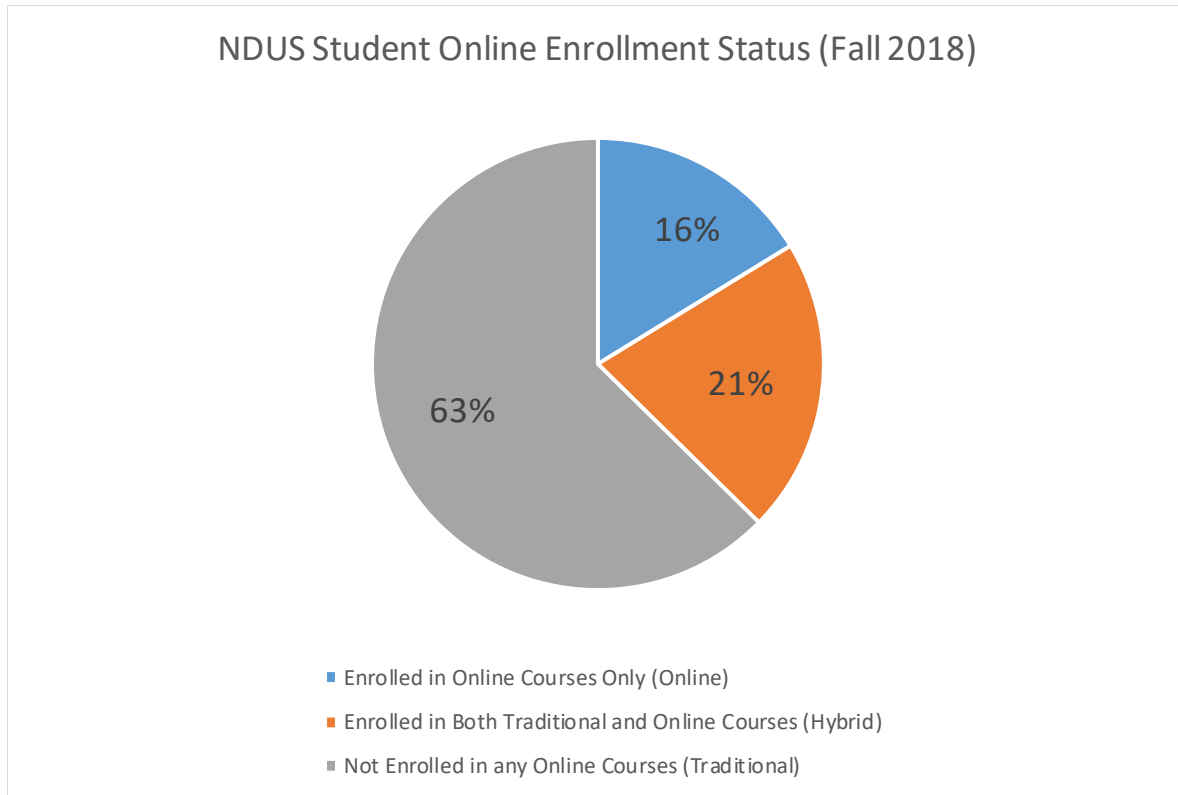


Table 2: Online Course Enrollment by Institution (by percentage)

	Enrolled in Online Courses Only (Online)	Enrolled in Both Traditional and Online Courses (Hybrid)	Not Enrolled in any Online Courses (Traditional)
Bismarck State College	30%	20%	50%
Dakota College Bottineau	25%	12%	63%
Lake Region State College	29%	13%	58%
ND State College of Science	7%	15%	77%
Williston State College	20%	34%	46%
Dickinson State University	16%	21%	63%
Mayville State University	40%	18%	43%
Minot State University	15%	21%	65%
Valley City State University	29%	29%	42%
North Dakota State University	4%	30%	66%
University of North Dakota	21%	14%	65%
NDUS Overall	16%	21%	63%

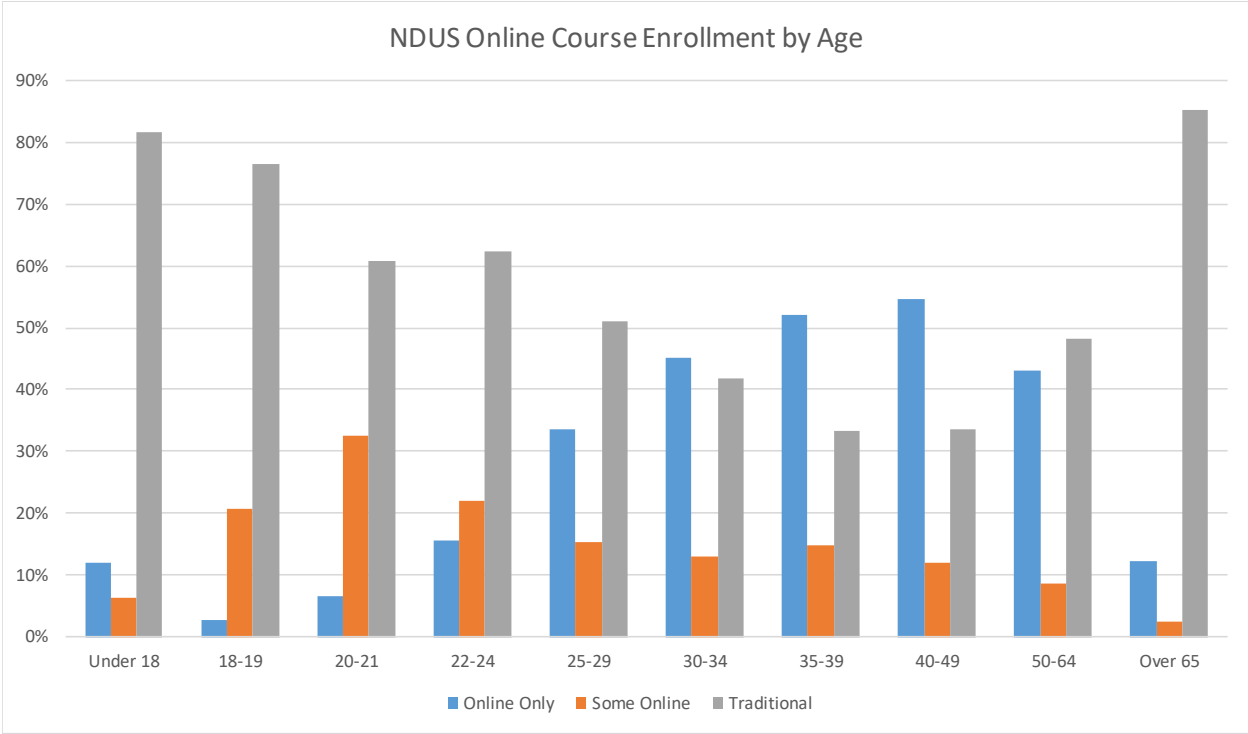
### Table 3: Top 20 Majors with Online Enrollment

The table below shows enrollment in online courses by major. Rank determined by count. Counts shown in parenthesis by major.

Note: Non-degree undergraduate includes students with undeclared majors as well as high school students enrolled in college coursework.

Rank by Enrollment Count	Undergraduate Major	Graduate Major
1	Non-Degree (2,143)	Special Education (354)
2	Nursing (804)	Non-Degree (185)
3	Liberal Arts/Transfer (789)	Nursing (169)
4	Mechanical Engineering (468)	Education (127)
5	Business Administration (438)	Social Work (127)
6	Psychology (434)	Business Administration (117)
7	Liberal Arts (362)	Pharmacy (96)
8	Elementary Education (346)	Forensic Psychology (91)
9	Practical Nursing (322)	Nursing Practice (86)
10	Management (319)	Space Studies (83)
11	Human Development & Family Sci (302)	Physician Assistant Studies (63)
12	Civil Engineering (298)	M.A. in Teaching (45)
13	Accounting (269)	Counseling (43)
14	Marketing (266)	Information Systems (41)
15	Energy Management (201)	Early Childhood Education (36)
16	Finance (199)	Reading Education (34)
17	Associate Degree Nurse (197)	Medical Laboratory Science (32)
18	Criminal Justice (184)	Software Engineering (31)
19	Commercial Aviation (181)	Applied Economics (31)
20	Electrical Engineering (177)	English Language Learner (27)

Figure 3: Online Students by Age





**Table 4A: Online Enrollment of High School Students (Early Entry)**

*Early Entry accounts for high school students enrolled in any type of college coursework. In NDUS, the majority of these enrollments are for dual credit.*

<b>Enrollment Status</b>	<b>Enrollment Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Online Only	411	12%
Some Online	2,832	82%
Traditional Only	219	6%
<b>Total High School Students Enrolled</b>	<b>3,462</b>	

**Table 4B: Online Enrollment of Undergraduate Degree Seeking Students**

*High school/dual credit and non-degree undergraduates excluded from this data.*

<b>Tier</b>	<b>All Online</b>	<b>Some Online</b>	<b>Traditional Only</b>
Two Year Colleges	25%	22%	53%
Regional Universities	19%	24%	57%
Research Universities	9%	25%	66%

**Table 4C: Online Enrollment of Graduate Degree Students**

*Includes both degree and non-degree seeking students.*

<b>Tier</b>	<b>All Online</b>	<b>Some Online</b>	<b>Traditional Only</b>
Regional Universities	65%	14%	22%
Research University	24%	9%	68%

## Table 5: Online Only Students by State

*Includes only students enrolled exclusively online. "Other" category includes American territories, Armed Forces addresses, Canada, and other foreign countries. North Dakota count includes 411 high school students enrolled in college coursework.*

State	Count		State	Count
AK	35		MT	113
AL	30		NC	60
AR	15		ND	3,582
AZ	68		NE	36
CA	256		NH	11
CO	128		NJ	53
CT	24		NM	21
DC	7		NV	28
DE	4		NY	91
FL	110		OH	65
GA	64		OK	66
HI	20		OR	30
IA	45		PA	73
ID	36		RI	8
IL	113		SC	30
IN	35		SD	114
KS	60		TN	24
KY	27		TX	188
LA	31		UT	52
MA	38		VA	72
MD	60		VT	6
ME	9		WA	116
MI	91		WI	63
MN	852		WV	16
MO	75		WY	131
MS	11		Other	180