Strategy statement
To transform and position the NWU as a unitary institution of superior academic excellence, with a commitment to social justice.

Our dream
To be an internationally recognised university in Africa, distinguished for engaged scholarship, social responsiveness and an ethic of care.

The NWU has eight faculties:
- Education
- Engineering
- Health Sciences
- Humanities
- Law
- Theology
- Economic and Management Sciences
- Agriculture and Natural Sciences

Dr Bismark Tyobeka
Principal and Vice-Chancellor
Chief executive and accounting officer, responsible to the NWU Council

3rd highest number of students enrolled
In 2020 the NWU was the third-largest university in South Africa based on the total headcount. Of the 56 425 students enrolled here in 2020, a total of 11 640 were distance students.

- University of South Africa: 392 050 (only distance students)
- Tshwane University of Technology: 62 482
- North-West University: 56 425
- University of Pretoria: 50 955
- University of Johannesburg: 48 563

2nd highest number of graduates
For the total number of degrees and diplomas awarded in 2020, namely 15 454, the NWU rated 2nd in the sector.

- University of South Africa: 64 423
- North-West University: 15 454
- Tshwane University of Technology: 14 897
- University of Johannesburg: 13 035
- University of Pretoria: 12 852

Total student enrolments 2020 2021 *2022
- First-time entering undergraduates: 12 221 9 708 12 744
- Undergraduate diplomas: 9 801 7 664 6 666
- Undergraduate degrees: 38 463 38 247 40 053
- Total undergraduate: 48 264 45 911 46 719
- Postgraduate diplomas: 1 007 857 947
- Honours: 2 501 2 109 1 881
- Master's: 2 873 2 803 2 246
- Doctors: 1 496 1 535 1 084
- Total postgraduate: 7 877 7 304 6 158
- Occasional students: 284 253 194
- TOTAL ENROLMENT: 56 425 53 469 53 071

By qualification type: Contact
- First-time entering undergraduates: 10 266 8 976 11 702
- Undergraduate diplomas: 1 831 1 651 1 807
- Undergraduate degrees: 35 749 35 276 36 858
- Total undergraduate: 37 580 36 927 38 665
- Postgraduate diplomas: 738 428 389
- Honours: 1 866 1 733 1 590
- Master's: 2 869 2 801 2 246
- Doctors: 1 475 1 520 1 079
- Total postgraduate: 6 948 6 482 5 304
- Occasional students: 257 229 170
- TOTAL ENROLMENT: 44 785 43 638 44 139

Total student statistics as at 31 May *2022

Racial composition of contact students as at 31 May *2022

Gender composition of contact students as at 31 May *2022

QUICK STATS
2 0 2 2 / 2 0 2 3

This image symbolises how we consistently build on what we had already accomplished, becoming greater than before.

This is how our success rates compare to other South African higher education institutions:
- NWU undergraduate success rate for contact students in 2021: 88.5% (The national average for 2020 was 87.2%.)
- NWU undergraduate success rate for distance students in 2021: 92.9% (The national average for 2020 was 79.3%.)

This is how our graduation rates (for undergraduate students) compare to other South African higher education institutions:
- NWU graduation rate for students in 2021: 27% (The national average for 2020 was 21.7%.)

In 2020 the NWU was the third-largest university in South Africa based on the total headcount. Of the 56 425 students enrolled here in 2020, a total of 11 640 were distance students.

For the total number of degrees and diplomas awarded in 2020, namely 15 454, the NWU rated 2nd in the sector.

*2022 figures are not final

*2022 figures are not final

*2022 figures are not final
Qualifications awarded in 2021

- Undergraduate diplomas: 3,041
- Undergraduate degrees: 8,408
- Total undergraduate: 11,449
- Postgraduate diplomas: 508
- Honours: 1,565
- Master’s: 698
- Doctors: 264
- Total postgraduate: 3,035
- TOTAL: 14,484

Qualifications awarded by major field of study in 2021

- Science, engineering and technology: 2,939
- Business/management: 3,373
- Education: 5,029
- Other humanities: 3,143

University profitability and growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Rmillion 2019</th>
<th>Rmillion 2020</th>
<th>Rmillion 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recurrent income</td>
<td>5,049.4</td>
<td>5,088.8</td>
<td>5,234.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recurrent expenditure</td>
<td>4,143.5</td>
<td>3,981.1</td>
<td>3,952.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net recurrent surplus</td>
<td>905.9</td>
<td>1,107.7</td>
<td>1,282.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Research scoreboard

- Journal articles: 1,086 - 1,173.05 - 1,233.18 - 1,264.2
- Conference proceedings: 82 - 133.38 - 116.75 - 38.6
- Books and chapters: 110 - 131.85 - 169.22 - 233.43
- Total article equivalents published: 1,300 - 1,438.28 - 1,541.15 - 1,536.59
- Master’s degrees conferred: 813 - 753 - 798 - 722
- Research master’s degrees: 601 - 526.66 - 574.87 - 521.6
- Doctoral degrees conferred: 235 - 248 - 314 - 251
- Doctoral degrees weighted: 705 - 744 - 942 - 753
- NRF-rated researchers: 229 - 232 - 248 - 263

Racial and gender composition of NWU staff as at 31 May *2022

Total: 3,941

Female:
- Asian: 1574
- White: 299
- Coloured: 63
- African: 2,085

Male:
- Asian: 1,570
- White: 179
- Coloured: 20
- African: 1,476

Total: 3,238

University in top 4.5% of global universities

The Center for World University Rankings placed the NWU in the top 4.5% of universities in their 2022/2023 edition of the Global 2000 list.

Contact details

Jean Stidworthy
Director: Marketing and Student Recruitment
Tel: +27 18 299 2774
Email: jean.stidworthy@nwu.ac.za

Louis Jacobs
Director: Corporate Communication
Tel: +27 18 299 4918
Email: louis.jacobs@nwu.ac.za

Warren Makgowe
Director: Stakeholder Relations
Tel: +27 16 910 3165
Email: warren.makgowe@nwu.ac.za