

## 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

This is how our success rates compare to other South African higher education institutions:

**88,5%**

NWU undergraduate success rate for contact students in 2021 (The national average for 2020 was 87,2%.)

**92,9%**

NWU undergraduate success rate for distance students in 2021 (The national average for 2020 was 79,9%.)

This is how our graduation rates (for undergraduate students) compare to other South African higher education institutions:

**27%**

NWU graduation rate for students in 2021 (The national average for 2020 was 21,7%.)

### 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
<b>North-West University</b>	<b>56 425</b>
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
<b>North-West University</b>	<b>15 454</b>
Tshwane University of Technology	14 897
University of Johannesburg	13 035
University of Pretoria	12 852

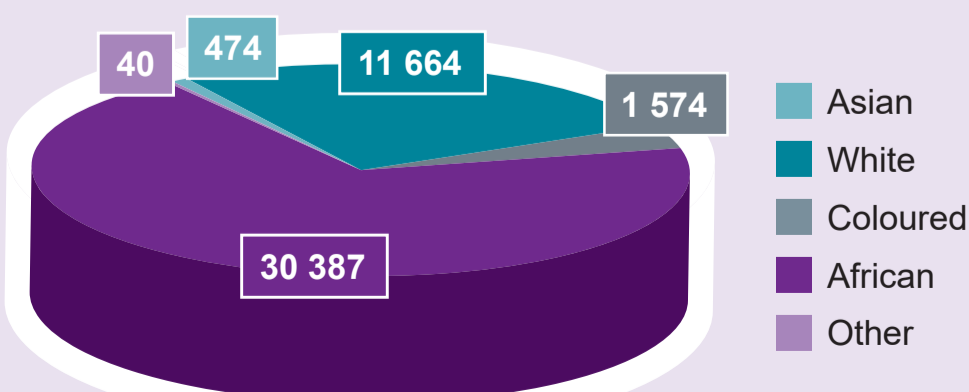
### Student statistics as at 31 May \*2022

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
<b>Total undergraduate</b>	<b>48 264</b>	<b>45 911</b>	<b>46 719</b>
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
<b>Total postgraduate</b>	<b>7 877</b>	<b>7 304</b>	<b>6 158</b>
Occasional students	284	253	194
<b>TOTAL ENROLMENT</b>	<b>56 425</b>	<b>53 469</b>	<b>53 071</b>

By qualification type: Contact	2020	2021	*2022
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
<b>Total undergraduate</b>	<b>37 580</b>	<b>36 927</b>	<b>38 665</b>
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
<b>Total postgraduates</b>	<b>6 948</b>	<b>6 482</b>	<b>5 304</b>
Occasional students	257	229	170
<b>TOTAL ENROLMENT</b>	<b>44 785</b>	<b>43 638</b>	<b>44 139</b>

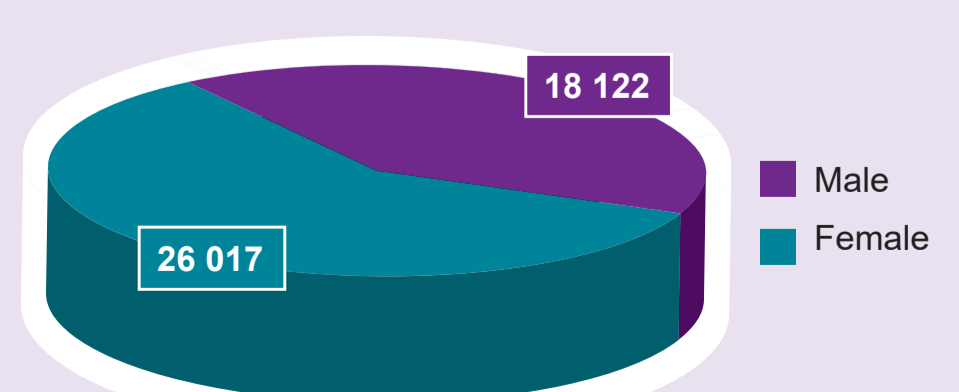
\*2022 figures are not final

### Racial composition of contact students as at 31 May \*2022



Total: 44 139

### Gender composition of contact students as at 31 May \*2022



Total: 44 139

\*2022 figures are not final

### Qualifications awarded in 2021

Undergraduate diplomas	3 041
Undergraduate degrees	8 408
<b>Total undergraduate</b>	<b>11 449</b>
Postgraduate diplomas	508
Honours	1 565
Master's	698
Doctors	264
<b>Total postgraduate</b>	<b>3 035</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14 484</b>

### 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

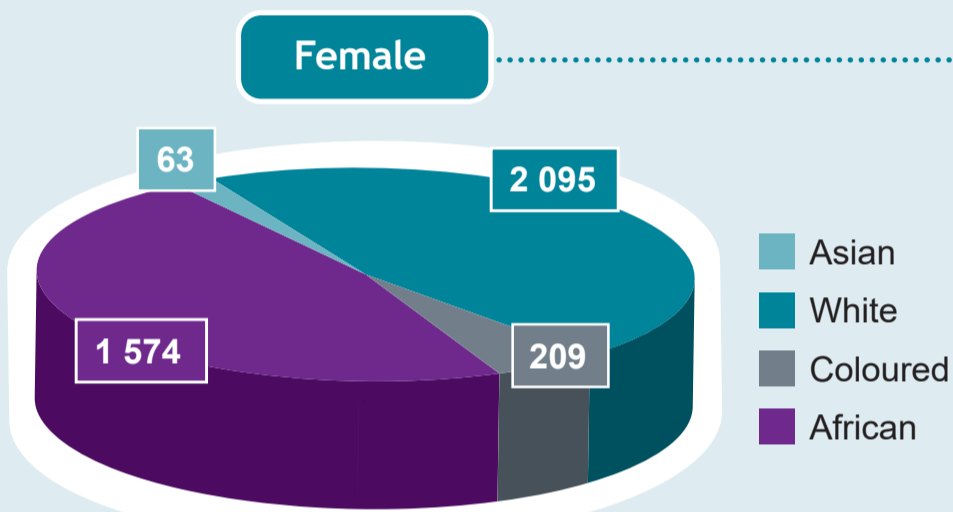
	Rmillion	Rmillion	Rmillion
	2019	2020	2021
Recurrent income	5 049,4	5 088,8	5 234,9
Recurrent expenditure	4 143,5	3 981,1	3 952,7
Net recurrent surplus	905,9	1 107,7	1 282,2

### Permanent staff as at 31 May \*2022

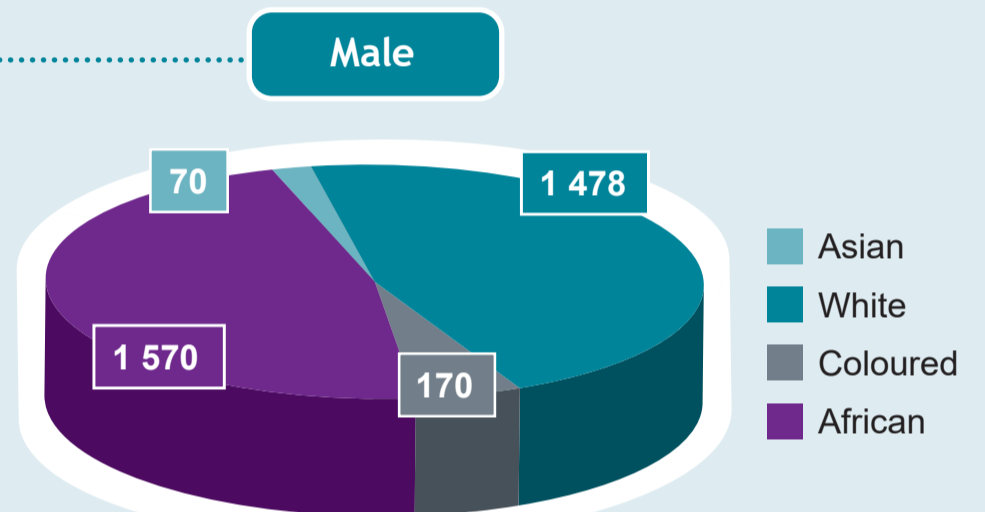
Permanent, professional and non-professional	2020	2021	*2022
Instruction/research professionals	1 611	1 636	1 568
Executive/management professionals	82	85	81
Support professionals	503	497	477
<b>Total professional staff</b>	<b>2 196</b>	<b>2 218</b>	<b>2 126</b>
Technical staff	243	246	227
Non-professional administrative staff	1 294	1 336	1 250
Crafts/trades staff	26	25	24
Service staff	325	312	291
<b>Total non-professional staff</b>	<b>1 888</b>	<b>1 919</b>	<b>1 792</b>
<b>TOTAL PERMANENT STAFF</b>	<b>4 084</b>	<b>4 137</b>	<b>3 918</b>

\*2022 figures are not final

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



Total: 3 941



Total: 3 238

\*2022 figures are not final

### Research scoreboard

Research output	2017	2018	2019	*2020
Journal articles	1 108	1 173,05	1 233,18	1 264,2
Conference proceedings	82	133,38	118,75	38,84
Books and chapters	110	131,85	189,22	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	521,605
Doctoral degrees conferred	235	248	314	251
Doctoral degrees weighted	705	744	942	753
NRF-rated researchers	229	232	248	263
Postdoctoral fellows	215	215	231	215

\*Please note that the research figures lag two years behind.

252% growth

Total weighted research output units increased

2004 - 2020  
798 - 2 811

NWU 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.

260% growth

NRF-rated researchers

2004 - 2020  
73 - 263

### Contact details

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