GREATNESS WITHOUT BOUNDARIES



QUICK STATS 2024|2025 This image symbolises the NWU's greatness beyond measure, a greatness that overcomes obstacles and discovers new and exciting pathways. It also symbolises the pursuit of excellence that characterises our past, our present and our future, and is the proud legacy we leave for future generations.



To discover new frontiers and opportunities that benefit society, advancing our relevance and impact

Our mission

To benefit society through the provision of knowledge, excelling in innovative teaching, cutting-edge research and focused engagement with the community





The NWU has eight faculties:









Success rate

83,78%

contact students
in 2023

84,33% 19,35%

NWU success rate for distance students in 2023

Graduation rate

NWU graduation rate for all students in 2023

4th highest number of students enrolled

In 2022, the NWU was the fourth largest university in South Africa based on total headcount. Of the 54 176 students enrolled here in 2022, a total of 8 888 were distance students.

University of South Africa (only distance students)	362 317
Tshwane University of Technology	59 164
University of Pretoria	54 466
North-West University	54 176
University of Johannesburg	51 483

3rd highest number of graduates

The NWU rated 3rd in the sector for total number of degrees and diplomas awarded in 2022, which was 13 735.

University of South Africa	54 273
Tshwane University of Technology	15 271
North-West University	13 735
University of Pretoria	13 553
University of Johannesburg	12 128

Student statistics as at 31 March 2024*

Total student enrolments	2022	2023	2024*
First-time entering undergraduates	12 618	13 171	13 507
Undergraduate diplomas	6 924	6 209	6 392
Undergraduate degrees	40 234	41 971	43 919
Total undergraduate	47 158	48 180	50 311
Postgraduate diplomas	983	989	1 096
Honours	1 856	1 869	2 007
Master's	2 803	2 751	2 384
Doctors	1540	1 477	926
Total postgraduate	7182	7 086	6 413
Occasional students	215	217	234
TOTAL ENROLMENT	54 555	55 483	56 958

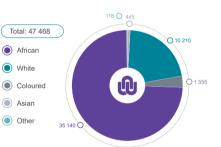
* 2023 and 2024 figures are not final

By qualification type: Contact

First-time entering undergraduates	11 620	11 691	11 764
Undergraduate diplomas	1 803	1 876	1 804
Undergraduate degrees	36 978	38 389	40 048
Total undergraduate	38 781	40 265	41 852
Postgraduate diplomas	403	374	468
Honours	1 570	1 547	1 636
Master's	2 803	2 751	2 384
Doctorate	1 532	1 472	926
Total postgraduates	6 308	6 144	5 414
Occasional students	183	175	202
TOTAL ENROLMENT	45 272	46 584	47 468

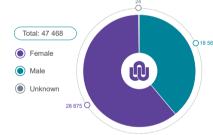
* 2023 and 2024 figures are not final

Racial composition of contact students as at 31 March 2024*



*2024 figures are not final

Gender composition of contact students as at 31 March 2024*



*2024 figures are not final

Qualifications awarded in 2023*

Undergraduate diplomas	1 613
Undergraduate degrees	7 708
Total undergraduate	9 321
Postgraduate diplomas	644
Honours	1 362
Master's	750
Doctors	277
Total postgraduate	3 033
TOTAL	12 354
*2023 figures are not final	

Qualifications awarded by major field of study in 2023*

Science, engineering and technology	2 553
Business/management	3 353
Education	3 581
Other humanities	2 871

e not final *2023 figures are not final

Permanent staff as at 31 March 2024*

Permanent, professional and non-professional	2022	2023*	2024*
Instruction/research professionals	1 672	1 580	1 585
Executive/management professionals	91	89	87
Support professionals	212	472	496
Total professional staff	2 275	2 141	2 168
Technical staff	253	238	232
Non-professional administrative staff	1 375	1 250	1 276
Crafts/trades staff	25	22	22
Service staff	302	287	278
Total non-professional staff	1 955	1 797	1 808
TOTAL PERMANENT STAFF	4 230	3 934	3 976

*2023 and 2024 figures are not final

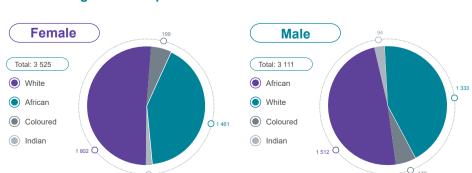
*2024 figures are not final

University profitability and growth

			Rmillion	
	2020	2021	2022	2023
Recurrent income	5 088,8	5 234,9	5 743,9	6 244,3
Recurrent expenditure	3 981,1	3 952,7	4 471,7	5 269,7
Net recurrent surplus	1 107,7	1 282,2	1 272,2	974,6

*Draft consolidated amounts (audit in progress at the time of writing.)

Racial and gender composition of NWU staff as at 31 March 2024*



Research scoreboard

Research output	2019	2020	2021	2022*
Journal articles	1 233,18	1 264,2	1 395,67	1 375,81
Conference proceedings	118,75	38,84	79,45	106,81
Books and chapters	189,22	233,43	250,98	304,06
Total article equivalents published	1 541,15	1 536,59	1 726,10	1 786,68
Master's degrees conferred	798	722	698	695
Research master's degrees	574,87	521,84	509,98	519,10
Doctoral degrees conferred	314	251	264	213
Doctoral degrees weighted	942	753	792	639
Postdoctoral fellows	231	215	213	205

*Please note that the research figures lag two years behind/ * 2022 data submitted, not yet approved

NWU in top 4,2% of global universities

The Center for World University Rankings placed the NWU in the top 4,2% of universities in their 2024/2025 edition of the Global 2000 list.



269% growth

Total weighted research output units increased from 798 in 2004 to 2 944,78 in 2022



341% growth

NRF-rated researchers increased from 73 in 2004 to 322 in 2023

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