

## Southern Miss 2013 – 2014 Enrollment Numbers Drop Like a Rock

According to [the IHL](#), USM's "unduplicated headcount" dropped from 16,468 students (Fall 2012) to 15,325 students (Fall 2013). This change represents a devastating 6.9% drop in enrollment. Additionally, the IHL numbers show that USM's growth is lagging behind the system-wide -0.6% growth. Only Mississippi Valley State University showed a greater percentage decrease in enrollment with a drop of 200 students for a -8.1% decline.

System-wide, there has been a decline of 490 students. However when we drill down and look at Southern Miss' share of the loss the numbers have to worry the administration. There has been a total drop of 1,585 students. Southern Miss accounts for a decline of 1,143 students. In absolute numbers, Southern Miss accounted for all but 442 of the disappearing student population. In percentage terms, Southern Miss accounted for more than 72 percent of the lost students throughout the state.

Unduplicated Headcount	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Number Change	Percent Change
	Actual figures	Preliminary figures		
Alcorn State University	3,950	3,927	-23	-0.6%
Delta State University	4,763	4,785	22	0.5%
Jackson State University	8,819	9,134	315	3.6%
Mississippi State University	20,365	20,161	-204	-1.0%
Mississippi University for Women	2,650	2,635	-15	-0.6%
Mississippi Valley State University	2,479	2,279	-200	-8.1%
University of Mississippi	<u>21,528</u>	<u>22,286</u>	<u>758</u>	<u>3.5%</u>
University of Mississippi	18,794	19,426	632	3.4%
University of Mississippi Medical Center	2,734	2,860	126	4.6%
University of Southern Mississippi	16,468	15,325	-1,143	-6.9%
<b>System Total</b>	<b>81,022</b>	<b>80,532</b>	<b>-490</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>

IHL Commissioner Hank Bounds claims. "The decrease in enrollment numbers at our Delta institutions reflects the population decline in the Delta region. The increase in enrollment at Delta State reflects the increase in the Teach for America program." Bounds offers no thoughts to account for Southern Miss' significant decline in student enrollment.