

**RESEARCH BRIEF**

**Preliminary Summer Enrollment Analysis:  
Summer 2017 and Summer 2018**

**Changes to Summer Sessions**

In Summer 2018, to better accommodate student learning, NOVA changed the number, the lengths, and the start dates of the summer sessions.

- **Full-length summer session:** The full-length summer session was changed from a 10-week session in Summer 2017 to a 12-week session in Summer 2018, and the session was started one week earlier on May 16, 2018.
- **Six-week sessions:** Additionally, two new sequential 6-week sessions were introduced in Summer 2018. The first 6-week session started on May 16, 2018.
- **Five-week and eight-week sessions:** The two sequential 5-week sessions and the overlapping 8-week sessions will begin one week later in Summer 2018 compared to Summer 2017.
- **Dynamic session:** Dynamic sessions which run at varying lengths will continue as they had been in previous summers.

**Summer 2018 enrollment compared to Summer 2017**

As a result of these changes, as of May 21, 2018, enrollment for the Summer 2018 semester is down by **11.6 percent** compared to enrollment in Summer 2017 on the comparison date of May 22, 2017.

- **Headcount:** Summer 2018 headcount enrollment in the 12-week session that started on May 16, 2018 is 60 percent lower than the Summer 2017 enrollment in the 10-week session that started on May 22, 2017.
- **Ratio of students to course section:**
  - **Full-length session:** Additionally, there is an average of 10 students per section in the 12-week session (Summer 2018) compared to an average of 15 students per section in the 10-week session (Summer 2017). The longer duration of the session and the early start date may be possible contributing factors for lower enrollment in the full-length summer session in Summer 2018.
  - **Six-week and five-week sessions:** There is an average of 17 students enrolled per section in the first 6-week session that started on May 16, 2018 compared to an average of 18 students enrolled per section in the first 5-week session in Summer 2017 that started on May 22, 2017. The longer duration of the session and the early start date may be possible contributing factors for lower enrollment during Summer 2018.

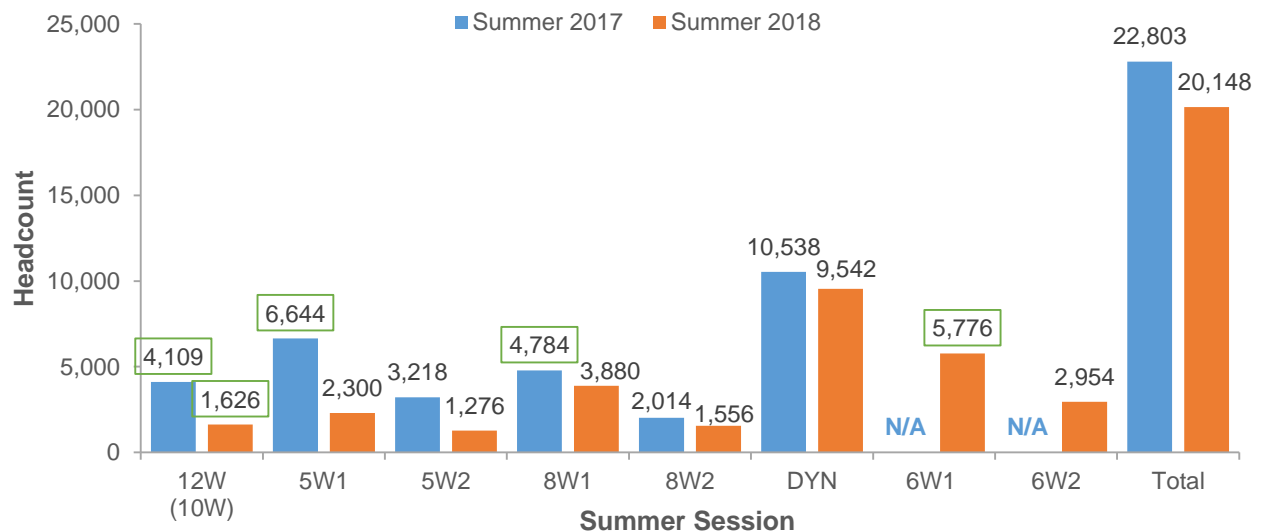
The following tables present preliminary enrollment data for Summer 2017 and Summer 2018. All data are from 5/22/2017 (for Summer 2017) and 5/21/2018 (for Summer 2018).

**Table 1. Headcount by Session: Summer 2017 and Summer 2018**

| Session      | Summer 2017<br>(as of 5/22/2017) |               | Summer 2018<br>(as of 5/21/2018) |               | One-Year Change |              |
|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
|              | Start Date                       | Headcount     | Start Date                       | Headcount     | #               | %            |
| 12W (10W)    | 5/22                             | 4,109         | 5/16                             | 1,626         | -2,483          | -60.4        |
| 5W1          | 5/22                             | 6,644         | 5/29                             | 2,300         | -4,344          | -65.4        |
| 5W2          | 6/27                             | 3,218         | 7/6                              | 1,276         | -1,942          | -60.3        |
| 8W1          | 5/22                             | 4,784         | 5/30                             | 3,880         | -904            | -18.9        |
| 8W2          | 6/5                              | 2,014         | 6/13                             | 1,556         | -458            | -22.7        |
| DYN          | -                                | 10,538        | -                                | 9,542         | -996            | -9.5         |
| 6W1 (N/A)    | -                                | 0             | 5/16                             | 5,776         | 5,776           | -            |
| 6W2 (N/A)    | -                                | 0             | 6/28                             | 2,954         | 2,954           | -            |
| <b>Total</b> |                                  | <b>22,803</b> |                                  | <b>20,148</b> | <b>-2,655</b>   | <b>-11.6</b> |

Notes: The session lengths changed in Summer 2018. Summer 2017 sessions in parentheses. Shaded sessions indicate classes have started as of 5/21/2018 or had started at this point in Summer 2017 (5/22/2017).

**Figure 1. Headcount by Session: Summer 2017 and Summer 2018**



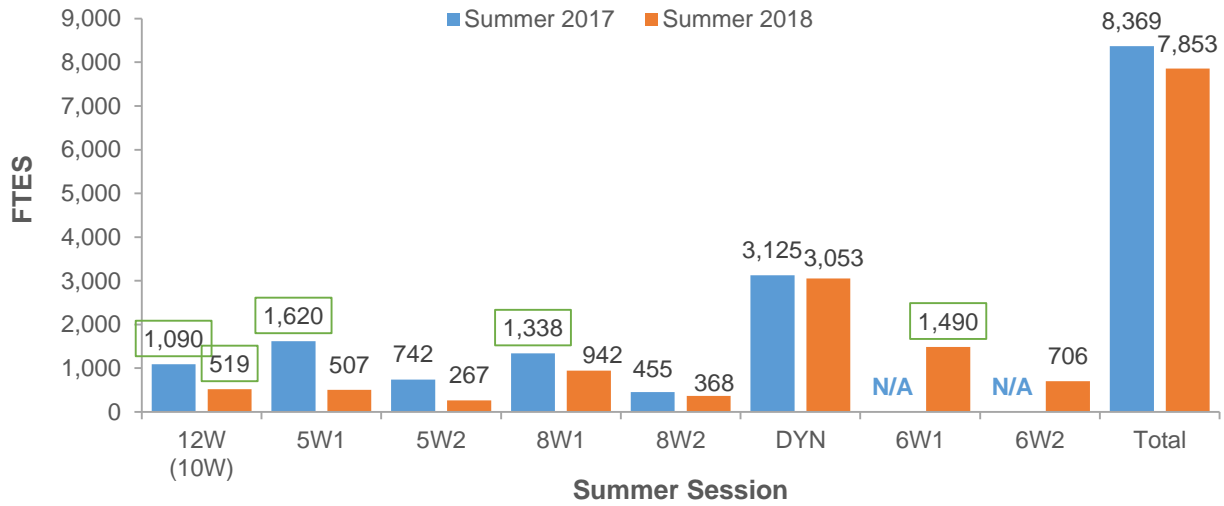
Notes: The session lengths changed in Summer 2018. Summer 2017 sessions in parentheses. A green box indicates classes for these sessions have started as of 5/21/2018 or had started at this point in Summer 2017 (5/22/2017).

**Table 2. FTES by Session: Summer 2017 and Summer 2018**

| Session      | Summer 2017<br>(as of 5/22/2017) |              | Summer 2018<br>(as of 5/21/2018) |              | One-Year Change |             |
|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
|              | Start Date                       | FTES         | Start Date                       | FTES         | #               | %           |
| 12W (10W)    | 5/22                             | 1,090        | 5/16                             | 519          | -571            | -52.4       |
| 5W1          | 5/22                             | 1,620        | 5/29                             | 507          | -1,113          | -68.7       |
| 5W2          | 6/27                             | 742          | 7/6                              | 267          | -475            | -64.0       |
| 8W1          | 5/22                             | 1,338        | 5/30                             | 942          | -396            | -29.6       |
| 8W2          | 6/5                              | 455          | 6/13                             | 368          | -87             | -19.1       |
| DYN          | -                                | 3,125        | -                                | 3,053        | -72             | -2.3        |
| 6W1 (N/A)    | -                                | 0            | 5/16                             | 1,490        | 1,490           | -           |
| 6W2 (N/A)    | -                                | 0            | 6/28                             | 706          | 706             | -           |
| <b>Total</b> |                                  | <b>8,369</b> |                                  | <b>7,853</b> | <b>-516</b>     | <b>-6.2</b> |

Notes: The session lengths changed in Summer 2018. Summer 2017 sessions in parentheses. Shaded sessions indicate classes have started as of 5/21/2018 or had started at this point in Summer 2017 (5/22/2017).

**Figure 2. FTES by Session: Summer 2017 and Summer 2018**



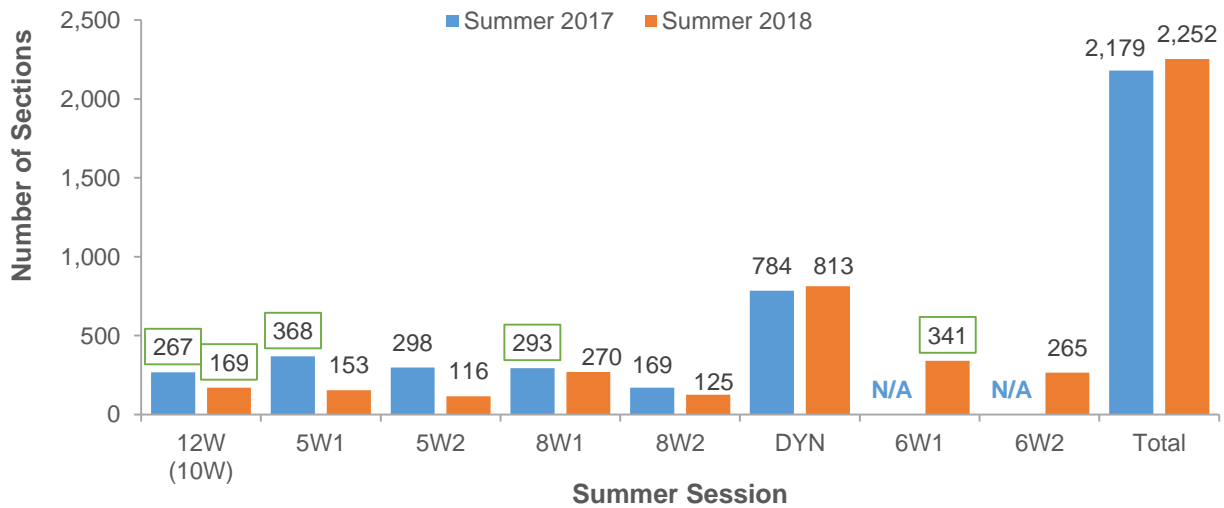
Notes: The session lengths changed in Summer 2018. Summer 2017 sessions in parentheses. A green box indicates classes for these sessions have started as of 5/21/2018 or had started at this point in Summer 2017 (5/22/2017).

**Table 3. Number of Course Sections by Session: Summer 2017 and Summer 2018**

| Session      | Summer 2017<br>(as of 5/22/2017) |              | Summer 2018<br>(as of 5/21/2018) |              | One-Year Change |            |
|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------|
|              | Start Date                       | # Sections   | Start Date                       | # Sections   | #               | %          |
| 12W (10W)    | 5/22                             | 267          | 5/16                             | 169          | -98             | -36.7      |
| 5W1          | 5/22                             | 368          | 5/29                             | 153          | -215            | -58.4      |
| 5W2          | 6/27                             | 298          | 7/6                              | 116          | -182            | -61.1      |
| 8W1          | 5/22                             | 293          | 5/30                             | 270          | -23             | -7.8       |
| 8W2          | 6/5                              | 169          | 6/13                             | 125          | -44             | -26.0      |
| DYN          | -                                | 784          | -                                | 813          | 29              | 3.7        |
| 6W1 (N/A)    | -                                | 0            | 5/16                             | 341          | 341             | -          |
| 6W2 (N/A)    | -                                | 0            | 6/28                             | 265          | 265             | -          |
| <b>Total</b> |                                  | <b>2,179</b> |                                  | <b>2,252</b> | <b>73</b>       | <b>3.4</b> |

Notes: The session lengths changed in Summer 2018. Summer 2017 sessions in parentheses. Shaded sessions indicate classes have started as of 5/21/2018 or had started at this point in Summer 2017 (5/22/2017).

**Figure 3. Number of Course Sections by Session: Summer 2017 and Summer 2018**



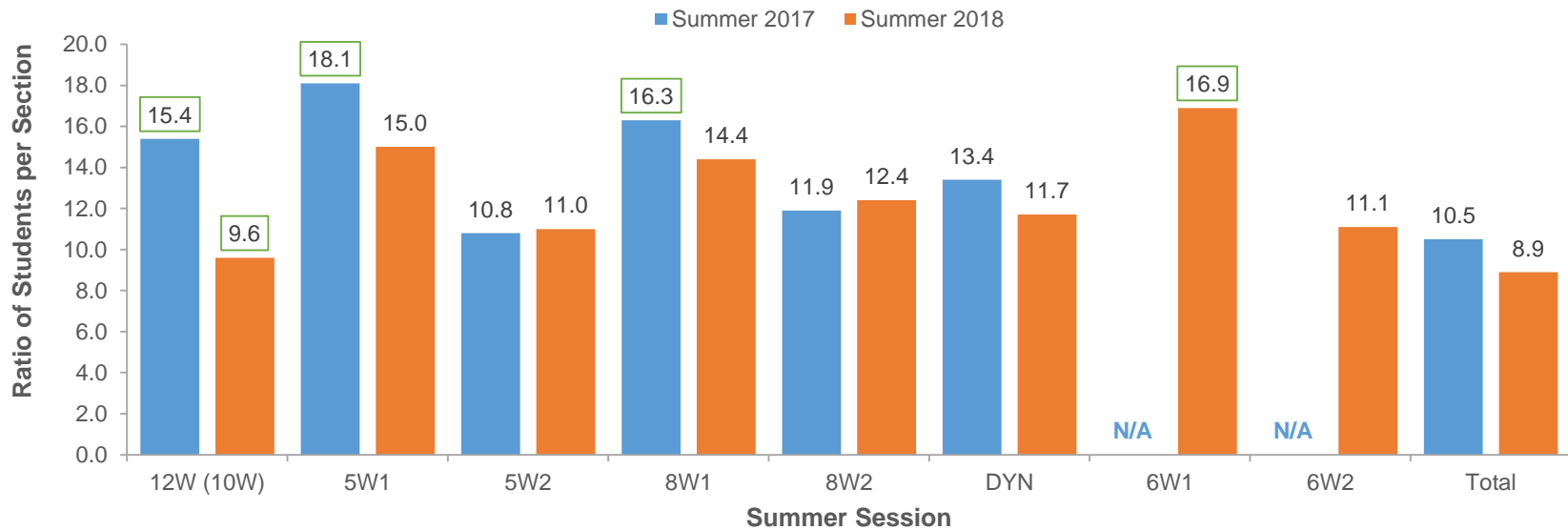
Notes: The session lengths changed in Summer 2018. Summer 2017 sessions in parentheses. A green box indicates classes for these sessions have started as of 5/21/2018 or had started at this point in Summer 2017 (5/22/2017).

**Table 4. Ratio of Students per Course Section: Summer 2017 and Summer 2018**

| Session      | Summer 2017<br>(as of 5/22/2017) |              |               |                               | Summer 2018<br>(as of 5/21/2018) |              |               |                               | Difference in Ratio<br>from Summer 2017 |
|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---|
|              | Start Date                       | # Sections   | Headcount     | Ratio<br>Students/<br>Section | Start Date                       | # Sections   | Headcount     | Ratio<br>Students/<br>Section |   |
| 12W (10W)    | 5/22                             | 267          | 4,109         | 15.4                          | 5/16                             | 169          | 1,626         | 9.6                           | -5.8                                    |
| 5W1          | 5/22                             | 368          | 6,644         | 18.1                          | 5/29                             | 153          | 2,300         | 15.0                          | -3.0                                    |
| 5W2          | 6/27                             | 298          | 3,218         | 10.8                          | 7/6                              | 116          | 1,276         | 11.0                          | 0.2                                     |
| 8W1          | 5/22                             | 293          | 4,784         | 16.3                          | 5/30                             | 270          | 3,880         | 14.4                          | -2.0                                    |
| 8W2          | 6/5                              | 169          | 2,014         | 11.9                          | 6/13                             | 125          | 1,556         | 12.4                          | 0.5                                     |
| DYN          | -                                | 784          | 10,538        | 13.4                          | -                                | 813          | 9,542         | 11.7                          | -1.7                                    |
| 6W1 (N/A)    | -                                | 0            | 0             | -                             | 5/16                             | 341          | 5,776         | 16.9                          | -                                       |
| 6W2 (N/A)    | -                                | 0            | 0             | -                             | 6/28                             | 265          | 2,954         | 11.1                          | -                                       |
| <b>Total</b> |                                  | <b>2,179</b> | <b>22,803</b> | <b>10.5</b>                   |                                  | <b>2,252</b> | <b>20,148</b> | <b>8.9</b>                    | <b>-1.5</b>                             |

Notes: The session lengths changed in Summer 2018. Summer 2017 sessions in parentheses. Shaded sessions indicate classes have started as of 5/21/2018 or had started at this point in Summer 2017 (5/22/2017).

**Figure 4. Ratio of Students per Course Section: Summer 2017 and Summer 2018**



Notes: The session lengths changed in Summer 2018. Summer 2017 sessions in parentheses. A green box indicates classes for these sessions have started as of 5/21/2018 or had started at this point in Summer 2017 (5/22/2017).