This map shows the number of students each county in Oklahoma has sent to the University this fall. Every county is represented. The University has students from 39 states and the District of Columbia; and lists 23 students from foreign countries including Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, France, Holland, Mexico, Trinidad and Venezuela.

Every County Sends Students

Most Sooner alumni probably never heard the expression “student equivalent” during their years in Norman. But after graduation, they should be pleased to hear Registrar George E. Wadsack’s announcement, “Our student equivalent is higher than that of many other universities,” for it means that the University of Oklahoma’s enrolment figures are in no sense exaggerated or padded.

This fall, 6,229 students have registered, including students from every county in Oklahoma. If each one were enrolled for the normal number of hours in his particular school or college, the “student equivalent” of the University would also be 6,229. The student equivalent is the total number of semester hours divided by the average required each semester for graduation.

Registrar Wadsack performed a large problem in division and found that the University of Oklahoma has a student equivalent of 5,924.9. The figure is only about 300 below the actual number of persons enrolled, and indicates that the University’s announced enrolment figures include few students who are primarily wage-earners going to school in their spare time.

“Our undergraduates are carrying full loads, for there is little reason for an undergraduate to be here unless he takes a full schedule,” said Mr. Wadsack. “Contrasted with the University of Oklahoma, many institutions are located in cities where it is possible for hundreds of students to enrol for part-time work.

Lawyers and fine arts students, it appears, are working hardest this semester. The student equivalents in these units stand higher than the number of actual students. The School of Law has 314 students. The normal number of hours per semester in law is only 13, but the majority are carrying more hours, for the student equivalent figures out to be 321.4.

In fine arts, the student equivalent is 451.6, compared with 447 students.

The Schools of Medicine and Nursing in Oklahoma City have exactly the same student equivalents as they have actual students, or, in other words, everyone takes a full course. In medicine, 223 students, including 11 women, are enrolled. The School of Nursing has 120 women.

The College of Arts and Sciences, where 15½ hours is a normal semester’s work, has an equivalent almost equal to actual enrolment. The equivalent is 1,922.8; enrolment is 1,929.

By Frances Hunt

Figures for other schools and colleges: Business Administration, student equivalent of 962.1, actual enrolment of 971; Education, student equivalent of 348, actual enrolment of 385; Engineering, student equivalent of 1,307.7, actual enrolment of 1,441 (engineers normally take 19 hours a semester); pharmacy, student equivalent of 84.4, actual enrolment of 86; Graduate School, student equivalent of 183.9, actual enrolment of 313.

Wadsack calls attention to the fact that many University employees and instructors register for a small amount of graduate study each semester. This semester 120 persons are taking less than five hours of work in the Graduate School. Thus the contrast between equivalent and actual enrolment.

Enrolment in the whole University this semester increased almost five hundred students, over the figures of the fall semester of 1936-37. Last fall the first semester enrolment totaled 5,736.

A slight increase in the proportion of men students may be noted this year. Last fall the number of women students was 1,822, or 31.76 per cent of the whole student body. This year, 1,928 women are registered—only 30.95 per cent of the student body.

Greatest upset in registration plans this

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fell was caused by the rush of students into engineering. Enrollment in the College of Engineering this semester is 1,441, compared with 1,103 last autumn and 897 in the fall of 1935.

“We had to discontinue use of the petroleum engineering laboratory and use the space for offices and classes,” said W. H. Carson, dean of the college. “We are also using space in the west stadium and in the old frame building south of the Union, for engineering classes. Next semester we shall have to schedule classes at 7 o’clock in the morning and rearrange our laboratory schedules to allow afternoon lectures.

“Some students couldn’t enroll in full schedules, because we didn’t have enough rooms or instructors. Others were placed in courses which they should take later on.”

Dean Carson added one instructor in electrical engineering to his staff after school had started, to help relieve crowded conditions. However, the greatest increase in the college came in petroleum engineering courses, he said.

And the increase in engineering students caused problems in other parts of the University as well. Pressure for room for mathematics, chemistry and physics classes immediately was felt in the College of Arts and Sciences. These departments are “service departments” for engineers.

Seven more sections in mathematics were created, Dean S. W. Reaves reported. One advanced course was discontinued, an additional graduate assistant was employed to teach three sections, and several teachers were given more classes. Math classes are being held from 8 o’clock in the morning until 4 o’clock in the afternoon, and three sections meet at noon.

One chemistry laboratory section is being held in the petroleum engineering laboratory and another in the pharmacy building, said Dr. Guy Y. Williams, head of the chemistry department. One additional faculty member had already been employed, so it was not necessary to secure more teachers at the last moment.

The College of Business Administration had a double problem of caring for students. First, enrollment of business administration students jumped from 845 in the fall of 1936 to 971 this semester. This number had to be accommodated in the classes in accounting, economics, finance, business, law, marketing and other business subjects. And second, many students from the College of Engineering sought admittance to classes in accounting and economics, both of which are required in the engineering curriculum.

As always, the University of Oklahoma has a large number of transfer students. This year, 36 per cent of all students in residence are new on the campus.