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Western Educational Longitudinal Study (WELS) Baseline Survey of Freshmen Entering Western in the Fall, 2013: Descriptive Statistics

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Western Educational Longitudinal Study (WELS) $Baseline \, Survey \, of \, Freshmen \, Entering \\ Western \, in the \, Fall, \, 2013$

Descriptive Statistics

Report 2014-05

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June, 2014

OFFICE OF SURVEY RESEARCH
WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



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Western Educational Longitudinal Study (WELS) Baseline Survey of Freshmen Entering Western in the Fall, 2013

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Fall, 2013 Baseline Survey of Freshmen Entering Western (Freshmen Survey) continues the Office of Survey Research's (OSR) efforts to collect information on all students prior to the start of their academic careers at Western Washington University. This survey represents the initial contact in a longitudinal process that makes inquiries of students at the end of their sophomore year, when they graduate from the university, and one to two years after graduation.

The Freshmen Survey is designed with three purposes in mind: (1) to provide baseline observations of students prior to their Western experience which can be used to forecast and enhance student success; (2) to provide data that can assist university assessment and accreditation efforts; (3) to assess student needs based upon their self-reported characteristics, perceptions, and concerns. To accomplish these, the Freshmen Survey integrates questions into five major sections: pre-collegiate engagement and experiences, the college application process, class scheduling and expectations, skills, goals, and expectations, and expenses and employment. In addition to these, Western's Division of Enrollment and Student Services submitted questions regarding the expected use of technology. The questions on the Freshmen Survey are a mix of open-ended, numerical, and multiple choice responses. This report lists all questions and reports basic descriptive statistics from questions which lend themselves to numerical analysis. Responses to the open ended questions are available upon request.

OSR utilizes a mixture of online and telephone survey methodologies to obtain responses. Freshmen who attended Western's Summerstart program were provided an opportunity to complete this survey as part of their Summerstart experience. Students not attending Summerstart and those failing to complete the survey while at Summerstart were invited to complete the survey online. For these students, an initial e-mail was sent to their external e-mail address. Two follow-ups were sent to non-respondents and then non-respondents were called and asked to participate. The survey was left open until the weekend before Fall quarter courses began on campus. Of the 2,793 Fall 2013 freshmen, OSR received 2,552 responses; a response rate of 91.3%.

OSR is excited to share its individual survey results with campus researchers so they may answer their own questions. To familiarize readers with the content of this survey, here we make a few observations regarding the survey results. Including Western, the median respondent applied to three universities and was accepted to two. Besides Western, the four most common schools applied to were the University of Washington, Washington State University, Central Washington University, and the University of Oregon; a list that has remained stable over the past few years. Among the universities students applied to, 59% of respondents listed Western as their first choice school to attend, a figure that is two percentage points lower than the prior year.

Thirty-three percent of incoming freshmen are certain about their major and an additional 57% of students have some idea of what they will study. Ninety percent of students expect to complete their bachelor's degree in four years or less.

Six percent of students claim they are either somewhat likely or very likely to transfer from Western to another university prior to graduation, a number slightly lower than prior years. For these students, the most commonly provided reason for intending to transfer is that another school offers a better program in the student's field of study.

For those students who responded to the survey after registering for courses, 43% claimed to be very satisfied with their course schedule, an increase over the prior year by a percentage point and from three years ago by 7 percentage points. For those who were dissatisfied with their class schedule, 87% stated that "the classes I need to take were full," an increase over the prior year by a percentage point.

For the coming year, the average student hopes to work 12 hours per week, an amount similar to the prior year. Roughly 40% of students expect to use \$10,000 or more of their family resources to attend Western this year while 17% expect to borrow \$10,000 or more this year.

All of OSR's survey data is linked by a unique student identifier which allows merging of this survey with future longitudinal surveys as well as Western's data warehouse. OSR is excited to share this data with researchers interested and departments interested in improving Western's educational experience.

Clarifying Notes

- 1. Unless otherwise noted, percentages given are of the number responding to a question divided by the number asked that question. This denominator may contain fewer students than the 2,583 responding to the survey due to question branching, random selection of respondents for certain questions, and survey attrition.
- 2. In many cases percentages do not sum to one hundred because of rounding.
- 3. A blank space indicates no respondent chose that response option. A report of 0% indicates that the percent of responses rounded down to, but is not equal with, zero.
- 4. This report presents responses from all students completing any question regardless of whether the respondent completed the survey or not.

The Office of Survey Research

The Office of Survey Research provides high quality survey research and other applied social science research that supports the mission of Western Washington University. In particular, OSR surveys students, alumni, graduates, employers, and the campus community to provide valuable assessment data and analysis of reports which can be used for improvement of programs, instruction, faculty scholarship, and information services. OSR is responsible for developing and administering the Western Educational Longitudinal Study (WELS), Western's Alumni Surveys, and Western's exit surveys of graduating students.

http://www.wwu.edu/osr/

A. Characteristics of 2013 Freshmen and Survey Respondents

A.1. Characteristics of 2013 Freshmen and Survey Respondents

	Non-Respondents	Respondents	All 2013 Freshmen
N	241	2,552	2,793
Male	53.9%	41.4%	42.5%
Caucasian	71.8%	74.4%	74.2%
Black	2.9%	3.5%	3.5%
Hispanic	7.1%	6.9%	6.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	12.6%	12.4%	12.4%
Native American	3.4%	2.3%	2.4%
Other Race/Unknown	0.8%	0.4%	0.4%
International	1.3%	0.2%	0.3%
Mean Admission Index*	47.7	54.2	53.7
Median Admission Index*	47	54	53
Mean Math SAT*	538	552	550
Mean Verbal SAT*	548	558	557
Mean High School Percentile	63.9%	71.5%	71.0%
Mean Age in September 2013	18.0	17.9	17.9
Median Age in September 2013	18	18	18
First Generation College Student	27.0%	29.9%	29.6%
Running Start Student	22.4%	18.1%	18.5%
WA High School	83.8%	86.3%	86.1%
OR High School	0.8%	1.1%	1.1%
ID High School	1.7%	0.8%	0.9%
AK High School	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%
Mean hours transferred to WWU	17.6	17.8	17.8

^{*} N for these variables differs from the reported N because these measures are optional, or because Western does not have data for all students.

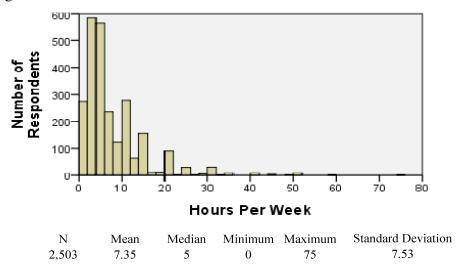
B. Pre-College Engagement and Experiences

B.1. During your <u>senior year</u> in high school (including any community college classes you may have taken during that time), how often did you do each of the following: (Asked of 50% of respondents at random.)

	N	Never	Once	2-3 times	4-5 times	More than 5 times
Asked teachers to give me comments or criticisms about my work	1,305	8%	10%	34%	18%	30%
Asked a teacher for help when I had difficulties in a course	1,301	3%	6%	24%	22%	46%
Wrote an academic paper of 5 pages or more	1,302	8%	17%	35%	20%	20%
Talked about course material I was learning with someone other than a teacher	1,306	2%	5%	16%	13%	65%

B.2. During your <u>last quarter or semester</u> in high school, about how many <u>hours per week</u> (on average) did you spend doing each of the following? (OSR excluded responses of 80 hours or more.)

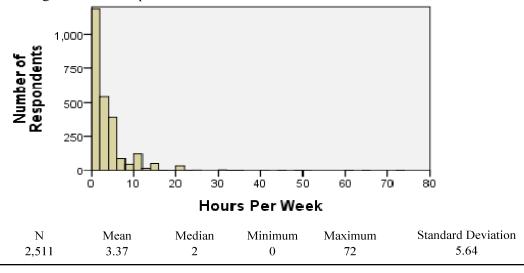
B.2.a. Studying for classes



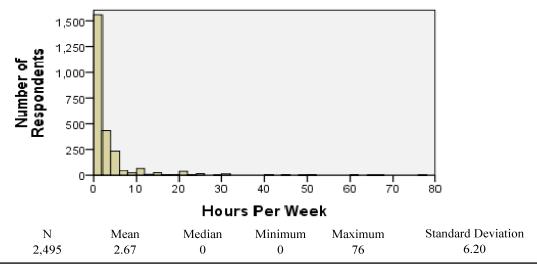
Pre-College Engagement and Experiences (cont.)

B.2. (cont.) During your <u>last quarter or semester</u> in high school, about how many <u>hours per week</u> (on average) did you spend doing each of the following? (OSR excluded responses of 80 hours or more.)

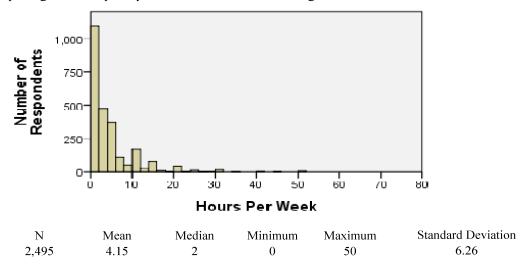
B.2.b. Volunteering on or off campus outside of coursework



B.2.c. Doing community service work as part of a course or graduation requirement



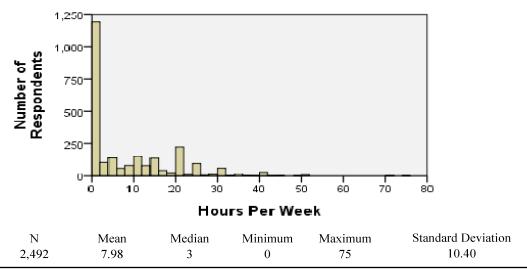
B.2.d. Participating in a campus sponsored club or student organization



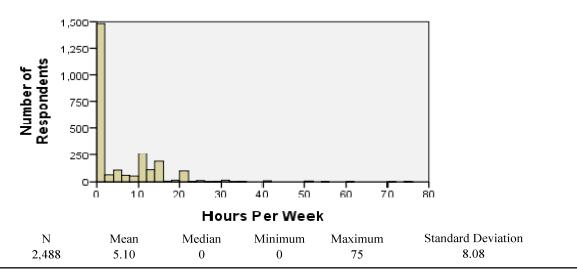
Pre-College Engagement and Experiences (cont.)

B.2. (cont.) During your last quarter or semester in high school, about how many hours per week (on average) did you spend doing each of the following? (OSR excluded responses of 80 hours or more.)

B.2.e. Working for pay



B.2.f. Participating in school athletics



B.3. How satisfied are you with the education you received at your high school?

N	Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied
2,536	3%	6%	13%	57%	22%

B.4. How satisfied are you with the education you received at your Running Start college? (Asked only of Running Start students.)

N	Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied
455	2%	3%	10%	49%	36%

Pre-College Engagement and Experiences (cont.)

B.5. Have you ever served in the United States' Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or National Guard?

N	Yes	No
2,533	0.2%	99.8%

C. College Application Process

C.1. How important are each of the following reasons you decided to attend college this fall? (Asked of 75% of respondents at random).

	N	Not at all important	A little important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
My family wants me to go to college	1,900	5%	10%	19%	33%	35%
A mentor/role model encouraged me to go	1,893	18%	13%	24%	29%	16%
To get away from home	1,891	15%	19%	26%	26%	14%
To improve my job prospects after graduation	1,897	1%	1%	4%	22%	73%
To gain a general education and appreciation of new ideas	1,896	1%	1%	8%	32%	58%
To increase my earnings after graduation	1,893	1%	3%	10%	29%	57%
To prepare myself for graduate/professional school	1,895	7%	9%	19%	25%	40%
To make a difference in society	1,893	2%	5%	15%	31%	48%

C.2. Out of all your college options, how important are each of the following in your decision to attend Western? (Asked of 75% of respondents at random).

	N	Not at all important	A little important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
My family wants me to go to Western	1,885	33%	18%	25%	18%	6%
A Western faculty member recruited me	1,872	74%	11%	10%	4%	2%
An instructor, teacher, or advisor encouraged me to go to Western	1,872	45%	18%	22%	11%	3%
Friends and/or family currently attend Western	1,877	44%	14%	20%	16%	6%
I am interested in a specific academic program at Western	1,882	13%	12%	21%	27%	27%
Western has a good academic reputation	1,880	2%	4%	16%	45%	33%
Western has a good reputation for its social activities	1,881	4%	8%	23%	39%	26%
Western is more affordable than my other choices	1,882	8%	8%	20%	31%	33%
Western offered me financial assistance	1,872	31%	13%	16%	19%	20%
I want to live near home	1,874	34%	17%	23%	17%	10%
I want to live far away from home	1,883	41%	19%	22%	12%	6%
I like the size of Western	1,885	3%	5%	20%	41%	31%
I like the size of Bellingham	1,882	5%	8%	20%	39%	29%
I like the recreational opportunities in this area	1,874	4%	6%	17%	36%	36%
Western does not have a Greek system	1,877	40%	14%	19%	14%	14%
I will be playing on a varsity athletic team	1,867	78%	10%	7%	3%	3%
Western offers opportunities to participate in arts and music events	1,883	25%	17%	23%	19%	15%

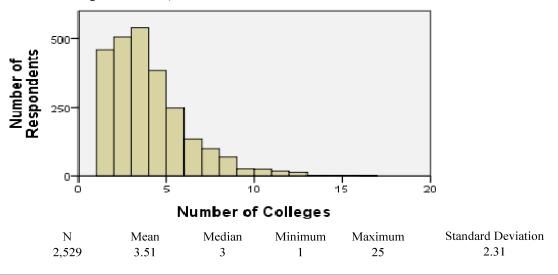
C.3. How did you first learn about Western? (Asked of 50% of respondents at random).

N	1,289
A parent/sibling/relative told me about Western	38%
A friend told me about Western	27%
A coach or teacher told me about Western	6%
I attended a field trip to Western	5%
An admissions counselor visited my school	3%
I spoke with an admissions counselor at a college fair	2%
I conducted a general college web search	10%
I conducted a search for institutions that participate in the Western Undergraduate Exchan	2%
While I was researching Bellingham	1%
I grew up in Whatcom County and learned about Western by living nearby	3%
Western contacted me	2%
Other	3%

C.4. When did you first learn about Western? (Asked of 50% of respondents at random).

N	1289
Before entering high school	27%
As a high school freshmen or sophomore	31%
As a high school junior	27%
As a high school senior	15%
After high school	1%

C.5. Including Western, to how many four year colleges did you apply for admission this fall? (OSR recoded. If number of colleges checked in C.6. exceeded number of colleges reported in applied count, OSR increased value to match number of colleges checked.)



C.6. To which of the following four-year colleges did you apply for admission this fall?

N	2523
Western Washington University	100%
University of Washington - Seattle	31%
Washington State University - Pullman	24%
Central Washington University	15%
University of Oregon	8%
Seattle University	7%
Eastern Washington University	7%
Gonzaga University	7%
Seattle Pacific University	6%
University of Portland	6%
Oregon State University	6%
University of Washington - Bothell	5%
University of Montana	5%
Pacific Lutheran University	5%
University of Puget Sound	4%
Willamette University	4%
Evergreen State College	4%
Lewis & Clark College	2%
Whitman College	2%
University of Colorado at Boulder	2%
University of Washington - Tacoma	2%
Linfield College	1%
Washington State University - Vancouver	1%
University of British Columbia	1%
Washington State University - Spokane	1%
Washington State University - Tri-Cities	0%
Other	33%
	11 of 25

C.7. At the time when you filled out college applications, which of the following schools was your *first* choice? (OSR recoded to include choices implied by skip pattern.)

N	2,557
Western Washington University	59%
University of Washington - Seattle	15%
University of Oregon	2%
Washington State University - Pullman	2%
Gonzaga University	1%
Seattle University	1%
Seattle Pacific University	1%
Oregon State University	1%
Whitman College	1%
University of Puget Sound	1%
Pacific Lutheran University	1%
Lewis & Clark College	1%
Central Washington University	1%
University of Portland	1%
Eastern Washington University	0%
University of Washington - Bothell	0%
University of Montana	0%
University of Colorado at Boulder	0%
Evergreen State College	0%
Willamette University	0%
University of British Columbia	0%
Linfield College	0%
Other	9%
Did not specify first choice	4%

C.7.a. Which of the schools to which you applied was your *first* choice? (Asked of respondents who answered "other" in C.5.) (N=232) (Text responses available on request.)

C.8. At the time when you filled out college applications, which of the following schools was your *second* choice? (Recoded by OSR to include choices implied by skip pattern.)

Western Washington University University of Washington - Seattle Washington State University - Pullman Central Washington University Seattle University 2% University of Oregon 1% University of Washington - Bothell Eastern Washington University 1% Evergreen State College 1% Pacific Lutheran University 1% Oregon State University 1% Seattle Pacific University 1% Gonzaga University 1% University of Puget Sound 1% University of Portland 1% University of Portland 1% University of Washington - Tacoma 1% Willamette University 1% University of Washington - Tacoma 2	N	2,529
Washington State University - Pullman Central Washington University Seattle University 2% University of Oregon 11% University of Washington - Bothell Eastern Washington University 11% Evergreen State College 11% Pacific Lutheran University 11% Oregon State University 11% Seattle Pacific University 11% Gonzaga University 11% University of Puget Sound 11% University of Portland 11% University of Montana 11% Willamette University 11% University of Washington - Tacoma 12w University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver 12mic Agolica State University - Oregon State University - Spokane Other Other 5% Applied only to Western 18%	Western Washington University	21%
Central Washington University Seattle University University of Oregon University of Washington - Bothell Eastern Washington University Evergreen State College Pacific Lutheran University Oregon State University 1% Seattle Pacific University 1% Gonzaga University University of Puget Sound University of Portland University of Montana University of Montana Willamette University University of Washington - Tacoma Lewis & Clark College University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver Linfield College University of British Columbia Washington State University - Spokane Other Other 5% Applied only to Western 18%	University of Washington - Seattle	9%
Seattle University 2% University of Oregon 19% University of Washington - Bothell 19% Eastern Washington University 19% Evergreen State College 19% Pacific Lutheran University 19% Oregon State University 19% Seattle Pacific University 19% Gonzaga University 19% University of Puget Sound 19% University of Portland 19% University of Montana 19% Willamette University 19% University of Washington - Tacoma 09% Lewis & Clark College 09% University of Colorado at Boulder 09% Washington State University - Vancouver 09% University of British Columbia 09% Washington State University - Spokane 09% Other 5% Applied only to Western 18%	Washington State University - Pullman	7%
University of Oregon University of Washington - Bothell Eastern Washington University Evergreen State College Pacific Lutheran University Oregon State University 1% Seattle Pacific University 1% Gonzaga University 1% University of Puget Sound University of Portland University of Montana 1% Willamette University University of Washington - Tacoma Lewis & Clark College University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver Linfield College Whitman College University of British Columbia Washington State University - Spokane Other Applied only to Western 18%	Central Washington University	4%
University of Washington - Bothell Eastern Washington University Evergreen State College Pacific Lutheran University Oregon State University 1% Seattle Pacific University 1% Gonzaga University 1% University of Puget Sound University of Portland University of Montana Willamette University 1% University of Washington - Tacoma Lewis & Clark College University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver Linfield College University of British Columbia Washington State University - Spokane Other Applied only to Western 18%	Seattle University	2%
Eastern Washington University Evergreen State College Pacific Lutheran University 19% Oregon State University 19% Seattle Pacific University 19% Gonzaga University 19% University of Puget Sound 19% University of Portland 19% University of Montana 19% Willamette University 19% University of Washington - Tacoma 19% University of Colorado at Boulder 09% University of Colorado at Boulder 09% Washington State University - Vancouver 10% University of British Columbia 09% Washington State University - Spokane 09% Other 59% Applied only to Western 18%	University of Oregon	1%
Evergreen State College Pacific Lutheran University 1	University of Washington - Bothell	1%
Pacific Lutheran University Oregon State University 1 1% Seattle Pacific University 1 1% Gonzaga University 1 1% University of Puget Sound 1 1% University of Portland 1 1% University of Montana 1 1% Willamette University 1 1% University of Washington - Tacoma 1 0% Lewis & Clark College University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver University of British Columbia Washington State University - Spokane Other Other 5 % Applied only to Western 1 8%	Eastern Washington University	1%
Oregon State University Seattle Pacific University Gonzaga University University of Puget Sound University of Portland University of Montana Willamette University University of Washington - Tacoma Lewis & Clark College University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver Linfield College University of British Columbia Washington State University - Spokane Other Applied only to Western 18%	Evergreen State College	1%
Seattle Pacific University Gonzaga University 1 1% University of Puget Sound 1 1% University of Portland 1 1% University of Montana 1 1% Willamette University 1 1% University of Washington - Tacoma 0 0% Lewis & Clark College University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver Linfield College Whitman College University of British Columbia 0 0% Washington State University - Spokane Other 5 5% Applied only to Western 18%	Pacific Lutheran University	1%
Gonzaga University University of Puget Sound University of Portland University of Montana University of Montana Willamette University University of Washington - Tacoma Lewis & Clark College University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver Linfield College University of British Columbia Washington State University - Spokane Other Applied only to Western 18%	Oregon State University	1%
University of Puget Sound University of Portland University of Montana 1% Willamette University 1% University of Washington - Tacoma Lewis & Clark College University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver Linfield College Whitman College University of British Columbia Washington State University - Spokane Other 5% Applied only to Western	Seattle Pacific University	1%
University of Portland University of Montana 1% Willamette University 1% University of Washington - Tacoma Lewis & Clark College University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver Linfield College Whitman College University of British Columbia Washington State University - Spokane Other 5% Applied only to Western	Gonzaga University	1%
University of Montana 1% Willamette University 19% University of Washington - Tacoma 0% Lewis & Clark College 0% University of Colorado at Boulder 0% Washington State University - Vancouver 0% Linfield College 0% Whitman College 0% University of British Columbia 0% Washington State University - Spokane 0% Other 5% Applied only to Western 18%	University of Puget Sound	1%
Willamette University University of Washington - Tacoma Lewis & Clark College University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver Linfield College Whitman College University of British Columbia Washington State University - Spokane Other Applied only to Western 18%	University of Portland	1%
University of Washington - Tacoma 0% Lewis & Clark College 0% University of Colorado at Boulder 0% Washington State University - Vancouver 0% Linfield College 0% Whitman College 0% University of British Columbia 0% Washington State University - Spokane 0% Other 5% Applied only to Western 18%	University of Montana	1%
Lewis & Clark College University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver Linfield College Whitman College University of British Columbia Washington State University - Spokane Other Applied only to Western O% University of British Columbia 18%	Willamette University	1%
University of Colorado at Boulder Washington State University - Vancouver Linfield College Whitman College University of British Columbia Washington State University - Spokane Other Applied only to Western 0% 0% 18%	University of Washington - Tacoma	0%
Washington State University - Vancouver Linfield College Whitman College University of British Columbia Washington State University - Spokane Other Applied only to Western 0% 18%	Lewis & Clark College	0%
Linfield College 0% Whitman College 0% University of British Columbia 0% Washington State University - Spokane 0% Other 5% Applied only to Western 18%	University of Colorado at Boulder	0%
Whitman College 0% University of British Columbia 0% Washington State University - Spokane 0% Other 5% Applied only to Western 18%	Washington State University - Vancouver	0%
University of British Columbia 0% Washington State University - Spokane 0% Other 5% Applied only to Western 18%	Linfield College	0%
Washington State University - Spokane 0% Other 5% Applied only to Western 18%	Whitman College	0%
Other 5% Applied only to Western 18%	University of British Columbia	0%
Applied only to Western 18%	Washington State University - Spokane	0%
	Other	5%
Did not specify 2nd choice 18%	Applied only to Western	18%
	Did not specify 2nd choice	18%

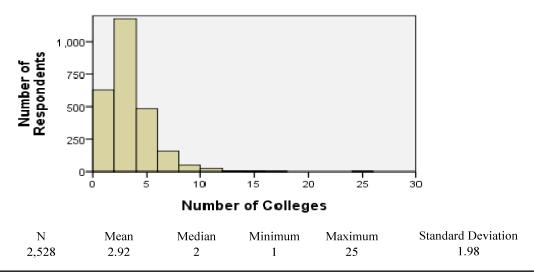
C.8.a. Which of the schools to which you applied was your *second* choice? (Asked of respondents who answered "other" in C.6.) (N=118) (Text responses available on request.)

C.9. At the time when you filled out college applications, which of the following schools was your *third* choice? (Recoded by OSR to include choices implied by skip pattern.)

N	2,557
Washington State University - Pullman	8%
Western Washington University	6%
Central Washington University	4%
University of Washington - Seattle	3%
Eastern Washington University	2%
University of Oregon	2%
University of Washington - Bothell	2%
Seattle Pacific University	2%
Seattle University	2%
University of Portland	2%
Gonzaga University	1%
University of Puget Sound	1%
University of Montana	1%
Oregon State University	1%
Pacific Lutheran University	1%
Willamette University	1%
Evergreen State College	1%
University of Colorado at Boulder	1%
University of Washington - Tacoma	0%
Whitman College	0%
Lewis & Clark College	0%
Washington State University - Vancouver	0%
Washington State University - Spokane	0%
Linfield College	0%
University of British Columbia	0%
Washington State University - Tri-Cities	0%
Other	5%
Applied to fewer than 3 schools	38%
Did not specify 3rd choice	17%

C.9.a. Which of the schools to which you applied was your *third* choice? (Asked of respondents who answered "other" in C.7.) (N=68) (Text responses available on request.)

C.10. Including Western, to how many four year schools were you accepted for admission this fall?



C.11. Including Western, to which of the following four-year colleges were you accepted for admission this fall?

N	2416
Western Washington University	100%
Washington State University - Tri-Cities	23%
Washington State University - Pullman	14%
Central Washington University	14%
University of Washington - Seattle	9%
Evergreen State College	7%
Willamette University	7%
University of Puget Sound	6%
Whitman College	5%
Linfield College	5%
Lewis & Clark College	5%
Gonzaga University	4%
University of Washington - Bothell	4%
Seattle Pacific University	4%
Pacific Lutheran University	4%
University of Oregon	4%
University of Portland	3%
Oregon State University	2%
University of British Columbia	2%
University of Washington - Tacoma	2%
Eastern Washington University	1%
University of Colorado at Boulder	1%
Seattle University	1%
University of Montana	1%
Washington State University - Vancouver	0%

D. Class Schedule and Expectations

D.1. Before Summerstart, did you do any of the following to help you prepare for your first quarter at Western?

	N	No	Yes
Read about at least one possible major field	2,520	18%	83%
Identify courses you might want to take	2,518	32%	68%
Visit campus (other than at Summerstart)	2,514	14%	86%
Speak with a Western faculty member or advisor	2,509	53%	47%

D.2. How satisfied are you with your class schedule?

N	I have not yet registered for classes	Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied
2,527	11%	2%	7%	5%	36%	38%

D.2.a. Why are you dissatisfied with your class schedule? (Asked of students who responded "very dissatisfied" or "somewhat dissatisfied in D.2.)

N	231
The classes I need to take were full	87%
The classes I need to take are scheduled at conflicting times	37%
My classes are spread too far across campus	4%
My classes are spread too far throughout the day	13%
My classes are spread too far throughout the week	3%
My class schedule does not work well with my job schedule	4%
My classes begin too early in the morning	11%
My classes end too late in the evening	14%
One or more of my classes meet every day	15%
Other	12%

Class Schedule and Expectations (cont.)

D.2.b. What is your other reason for being dissatisfied with your class schedule? (Asked of respondents who indicated in D.2. that they were dissatisfied with their class schedule for some "other" reason.) (N=22) (Responses included: tranfer credits failed to appear on record; prerequisites that did not seem necessary; I couldn't fit classes I need into my schedule; cannot register for dance classes early.) (Text responses available on request.)

D.3. Please indicate how difficult, if at all, you expect each of the following to be for you this fall:

	N	Not at all difficult	A little difficult	Somewhat difficult	Difficult	Very difficult
Participating in discussion groups in my courses	2,519	32%	36%	22%	9%	1%
Preparing for and presenting my work in front of a class	2,515	18%	30%	26%	18%	7%
Getting good grades	2,518	11%	35%	34%	18%	3%
Managing my finances	2,510	11%	28%	31%	20%	10%

E. Skills, Goals and Expectations

E.1. For the following skills, please rate your ability relative to your peers at the school you most recently attended, and then rate the importance of these skills to you.

	N	Well below average	Below average	About average	Above average	Well above average
Writing skills	2,517	0%	4%	34%	47%	14%
Oral communication skills	2,513	1%	7%	39%	38%	15%
Critically evaluate information	2,504	0%	3%	42%	44%	11%
Work or learn independently	2,511	0%	3%	27%	46%	24%
Work cooperatively in a group	2,515	1%	3%	34%	45%	17%
Appreciation of the arts	2,503	2%	12%	31%	28%	27%
Apply scientific principles and methods	2,507	1%	15%	45%	30%	9%
Apply quantitative principles and methods	2,497	1%	15%	46%	29%	9%
Awareness of cultural and social differences among people	2,510	0%	3%	28%	41%	28%
Work effectively with appropriate technology in your field	2,500	1%	5%	42%	37%	16%
Use library resources for research	2,508	2%	14%	46%	29%	10%
Identify and analyze complex problems	2,509	0%	6%	43%	38%	13%

E.2. How certain are you of what your major will be?

N	I have no idea	I have some idea	I am certain	
2,521	10%	57%	33%	

E.3. When do you expect to graduate from Western with your bachelor's degree?

N	2,520
Winter 2015 or earlier (fewer than two years)	1%
Spring 2015 through winter 2016	6%
Spring 2016 through winter 2017	9%
Spring 2017 (exactly four years)	75%
Summer 2017 through winter 2018	8%
Spring 2018 or later (five or more years)	2%

Academic Skills and goals (cont.)

E.4. How likely is it that you will leave Western before you graduate?

N	Very unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Uncertain	Somewhat likely	Very likely
2,522	50%	23%	21%	5%	1%

E.4.a. If you leave Western, will you transfer to another institution or not attend school anywhere? (Asked of respondents who indicated in E.4 that they were uncertain, likely or very likely to leave Western before graduation).

N	678
Transfer	93%
Not attend	7%

E.4.a.1. Why are you likely to leave Western before you graduate? Check all that apply. (Asked of respondents who indicated in E.4.a that they are likely to leave Western before graduation, and if they leave they will not attend another institution). Why are you uncertain about leaving Western before you graduate? Check all that apply. (Seen by respondents who indicated in E.6 and E.6.a that they are uncertain about leaving Western before graduation, and if they leave they will not attend another institution).

N	47
Finances	51%
Academic performance	19%
Unsure of my direction	47%
Employment opportunity	38%
A college education isn't important to me	13%
Barriers to declaring my major of choice	4%
Lack of diversity at Western	4%
Personal health	11%
Other	30%

Skills, Goals and Expectations (cont.)

E.4.b.1. Why are you likely to transfer from Western? Check all that apply. (Seen by respondents who indicated in E.4 and E.4.a that they are likely to leave Western before graduation and if they do leave they will transfer to another institution). Why are you uncertain about transferring from Western? (Seen by respondents who indicated in E.4 and E.4.a that they are uncertain about leaving Western before graduation and if they do leave they will transfer to another institution).

N	628
Western doesn't offer the major that interests me	20%
Another school has a better program in my field	41%
Another school would challenge me more than Western	10%
Western is too big or too small	6%
Difficulty getting the classes I need	12%
Barriers to declaring my major of choice	6%
Weather, recreation opportunities, or location in general	14%
Academic performance	6%
Finances	19%
Personal health	4%
To do something or go somewhere new and different	37%
To be closer to home	15%
To be further to home	12%
To be with friends or a significant other	17%
Not fitting in at Western	13%
Lack of diversity at Western	5%
Other	22%

E.4.b.2. What degree program are you interested in? (Asked of respondents who indicated in E.4.b.1. that "Western does not offer a major that interests me.") (N=123) (Responses included: Aerospace Engineering; Architecture, Biomedical Engineering, Busines; Chemical Engineering; Civil Engineering; Criminal Justice; Film; Mechanical Engineering; Medicine; Nursing.) (Text responses available on request.)

Skills, Goals and Expectations (cont.)

E.5. What is the highest level education attained by your mother or step-mother?

N	2,518
Less than high school	4%
High school graduate	12%
Some college or post-high school education	20%
Community college degree	8%
Bachelor's degree or equivalent	36%
Master's degree or equivalent	17%
Law degree, medical degree, or Ph.D.	4%

E.6. What is the highest level education attained by your father or step-father?

N	2,504
Less than high school	4%
High school graduate	13%
Some college or post-high school education	18%
Community college degree	6%
Bachelor's degree or equivalent	34%
Master's degree or equivalent	18%
Law degree, medical degree, or Ph.D.	7%

E.7. What is the highest degree you expect to earn in your lifetime?

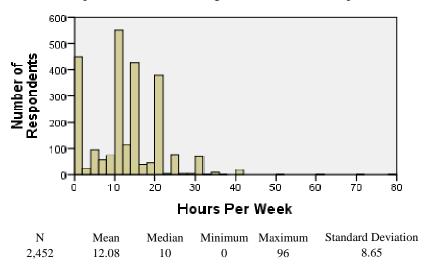
N	Bachelors (B.A., B.S., etc.)	Masters (M.A., M.S., etc.)	(M.D., D.O., D.D.S, D.V.M., J.D., etc.)	Doctorate (Ph.D., Ed.D., etc.)	Not sure	
2,518	21%	38%	9%	14%	18%	

F. Expenses and Employment

F.1. In your first year at Western, how much of your educational expenses (room, board, tuition, and fees) do you expect to cover from each of the sources listed below?

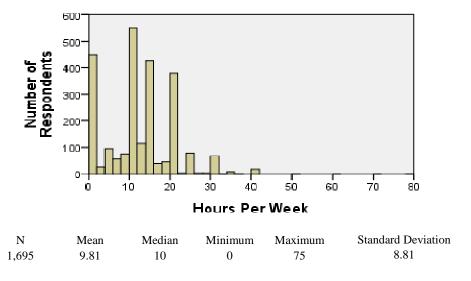
	N	None	Less than \$1,000	\$1,000 to \$2,999	\$3,000 to \$5,999	\$6,000 to \$9,999	\$10,000 or more
Family resources (parents, relatives, spouse, etc.)	2,475	10%	10%	13%	13%	15%	39%
My own resources (savings, employment, other income)	2,445	14%	30%	32%	16%	5%	3%
Aid which need not be repaid (grants, scholarships, military funding, etc.)	2,455	31%	11%	18%	14%	12%	14%
Aid which must be repaid (loans, etc.)	2,438	39%	6%	9%	18%	12%	17%

F.2. During this coming year, about how many hours per week do you hope to work while attending Western? (OSR excluded responses of 60 hours or greater, a total of 7 responses.)



Expenses and Employment (cont.)

F.3. During this coming year, what is the minimum number of hours per week you will need to work while attending Western to pay for tuition and living expenses? (Asked if respondents indicated in F.1. that they planned to use their own resources to pay for educational expenses, and in F.2. that they hoped to work more than 0 hours/week while attending Western.) (OSR eliminated values > 60 hours.)



H. Technology

G.1. Which of the following electronic devices will you have with you at Western during fall quarter? Check all that apply. (Asked of 50% of respondents at random).

N	1,231
Laptop computer	96%
Desktop computer	7%
Tablet computer	15%
Cell phone	98%
E-book reader	13%
Other wi-fi enabled device	22%
None of the above	0%

G.2. Which of the following capabilities does your cell phone or cell plan have? (Email version of the survey only). (Asked of respondents who indicated in G.1 that they would have a cell phone with them at Western).

N	192
Smart phone	82%
Texting (with texting plan)	79%
None of the above	1%

H. Comments

H.1. Please use the space below for any additional comments or suggestions. (N=238) (Text responses available on request.)