# Western Educational Longitudinal Study (WELS) Baseline Survey of Freshmen Entering Western in the Fall, 2015 

Descriptive Statistics
Report 2015-06

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# Western Educational Longitudinal Study (WELS) Baseline Survey of Freshmen Entering Western in the Fall, 2015 

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Fall, 2015 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. OSR also opens the survey to interested campus researchers who included questions dealing with technology and its use as well as languages spoken by freshmen and their families. 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 who did not 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 email 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 2,811 fall 2015 freshmen, OSR received 2,617 responses; a response rate of $93 \%$.

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 at three. Besides Western, the four most common schools applied to were the University of Washington, Washington State University, Central Washington University, and the Eastern Washington University. Among the universities to which students applied, $61 \%$ of respondents listed Western as their first choice school to attend.

Thirty-four percent of incoming freshmen are certain about their major and an additional 56\% of students have some idea of what they will study. Ninety-two percent of students expect to complete their bachelor's degree in four years or less. However, seven percent of students claim they are either somewhat likely or very likely to transfer from Western to another university prior to graduation. For these students, by far the most commonly cited 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, $46 \%$ claimed to be very satisfied with their course schedule. For those who were dissatisfied with their class schedule, $83 \%$ stated that "the classes I need to take were full".

For the coming year, the average student hopes to work 13 hours per week, an amount similar to the prior year. Forty percent of students expect to use $\$ 10,000$ or more of their family resources to attend Western this year while $18 \%$ 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 total number 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.
5. The sample for this survey is comprised of students who were confirmed as first-time students (student type "F" or "X") for fall quarter prior to the start of Summerstart. For the first time this year, OSR eliminated students from the report who were not "active" on peak day in fall quarter.

## 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 2015 Freshmen and Survey Respondents

A.1. Characteristics of 2015 Freshmen and Survey Respondents

|  | Non-Respondents | Respondents | All 2015 Freshmen** |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| N | 194 | 2,617 | 2,811 |
| Male | $51.0 \%$ | $41.0 \%$ | $41.7 \%$ |
| Ethnicity - Hispanic *** | $11.3 \%$ | $9.0 \%$ | $9.1 \%$ |
| Race - Asian *** | $18.0 \%$ | $14.7 \%$ | $14.9 \%$ |
| Race - Black *** | $6.7 \%$ | $4.2 \%$ | $4.3 \%$ |
| Race - Native American *** | $4.1 \%$ | $3.3 \%$ | $3.4 \%$ |
| Race - Pacific Islander *** | $0.5 \%$ | $1.3 \%$ | $1.2 \%$ |
| Race - White *** | $72.7 \%$ | $83.3 \%$ | $82.6 \%$ |
| Race/Ethnicity Unknown *** | $2.6 \%$ | $0.8 \%$ | $1.0 \%$ |
| International | $2.1 \%$ | $0.3 \%$ | $0.4 \%$ |
| Mean Admission Index* | 51.5 | 55.3 | 55.1 |
| Median Admission Index* | 51 | 55 | 55 |
| Mean Math SAT* | 538 | 549 | 548 |
| Mean Verbal SAT* | 544 | 560 | 559 |
| Mean High School Percentile | 72.6 | 73.8 | 73.8 |
| Mean Age in September 2015 | 18.7 | 18.6 | 18.6 |
| Median Age in September 2015 | 19 | 18 | 19 |
| First Generation College Student | $36.1 \%$ | $33.4 \%$ | $33.6 \%$ |
| Running Start Student | $24.7 \%$ | $23.0 \%$ | $23.1 \%$ |
| WA High School | $83.0 \%$ | $83.6 \%$ | $83.6 \%$ |
| OR High School | $0.5 \%$ | $1.8 \%$ | $1.7 \%$ |
| ID High School | $0.5 \%$ | $1.0 \%$ | $0.9 \%$ |
| AK High School | $0.5 \%$ | $1.1 \%$ | $1.1 \%$ |
| Mean hours transferred to WWU | 18.3 | 20.4 | 20.3 |

[^0] data for all students.
** Beginning in 2015, OSR eliminated students in the sample who were not "active" on peak day in fall 2015.
*** Beginning in 2015, OSR is using multiple-response race and ethnic indicators. Multi-racial or multi-ethnic students are counted in each category with which they identify. The sum of all race and ethnicity categories will be greater than $100 \%$ since students are counted in multiple categories. This reporting is consistent with IPEDS standards.

## B. Pre-College Engagement and Experiences

B.1. During your senior year 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 $\quad$ 2-3 times $\quad 4-5$ times | More than |
| :---: |
| 5 times |

Asked teachers to give me comments or criticisms about $1,291 \quad 8 \% \quad 9 \% \quad 33 \% \quad 22 \% \quad 30 \%$ my work

| Asked a teacher for help when I <br> had difficulties in a course | 1,292 | $4 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $42 \%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Wrote an academic paper of 5 <br> pages or more | 1,293 | $10 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $22 \%$ |
| Talked about course material I <br> was learning with someone <br> other than a teacher | 1,293 | $2 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $17 \%$ | $63 \%$ |

B.2. 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.a. Studying for classes


## 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.b. Volunteering on or off campus outside of coursework


| N | Mean | Median | Minimum | Maximum | Standard Deviation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,505 | 3.23 | 2 | 0 | 80 | 6.04 |

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


| N | Mean | Median | Minimum | Maximum | Standard Deviation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,504 | 2.32 | 0 | 0 | 80 | 6.07 |

## Pre-College Engagement and Experiences (cont.)

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

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


| N | Mean | Median | Minimum | Maximum | Standard Deviation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,518 | 8.90 | 4 | 0 | 80 | 11.41 |

B.2.f. Participating in school athletics


## Pre-College Engagement and Experiences (cont.)

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

| N | Very dissatisfied | Somewhat <br> dissatisfied | Neither satisfied nor <br> dissatisfied | Somewhat satisfied |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,616 | $2 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $57 \%$ |

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 <br> dissatisfied | Neither satisfied nor <br> dissatisfied | Somewhat satisfied | Very satisfied |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 591 | $2 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $47 \%$ | $39 \%$ |

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

| N | Yes | No |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,565 | $0.2 \%$ | $99.8 \%$ |

## 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).

| Very |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| My family wants me to go to college | N | Not at all <br> important | A little <br> important | Somewhat <br> important | Important | Vertant <br> importa |
| A mentor/role model encouraged me to go | 1,954 | $6 \%$ | $13 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $31 \%$ |
| To get away from home | 1,944 | $19 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $26 \%$ | $16 \%$ |
| To improve my job prospects after graduation | 1,952 | $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $21 \%$ | $71 \%$ |
| To gain a general education and appreciation of new | 1,954 | $1 \%$ | $2 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $58 \%$ |
| ideas | 1,948 | $17 \%$ | $19 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $16 \%$ |
| To increase my earnings after graduation | 1,954 | $2 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $57 \%$ |
| To prepare myself for graduate/professional school | 1,951 | $7 \%$ | $11 \%$ | $21 \%$ | $23 \%$ | $39 \%$ |
| To make a difference in society | 1,955 | $3 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $17 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $47 \%$ |

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 | 1,875 | 37\% | 19\% | 24\% | 14\% | 6\% |
| A Western faculty member recruited me | 1,867 | 76\% | 11\% | 8\% | 4\% | 1\% |
| An instructor, teacher, or advisor encouraged me to go to Western | 1,863 | 46\% | 18\% | 20\% | 12\% | 4\% |
| Friends and/or family currently attend Western | 1,871 | 46\% | 15\% | 17\% | 15\% | 7\% |
| I am interested in a specific academic program at Western | 1,869 | 14\% | 12\% | 20\% | 27\% | 27\% |
| Western has a good academic reputation | 1,870 | 3\% | 4\% | 18\% | 46\% | 29\% |
| Western has a good reputation for its social activities | 1,869 | 6\% | 9\% | 21\% | 39\% | 26\% |
| Western is more affordable than my other choices | 1,873 | 7\% | 10\% | 18\% | 31\% | 34\% |
| Western offered me financial assistance | 1,868 | 25\% | 14\% | 17\% | 21\% | 24\% |
| I want to live near home | 1,869 | 34\% | 17\% | 24\% | 16\% | 9\% |
| I want to live far away from home | 1,862 | 41\% | 19\% | 21\% | 12\% | 8\% |
| I like the size of Western | 1,873 | 3\% | 4\% | 19\% | 43\% | 31\% |
| I like the size of Bellingham | 1,869 | 5\% | 6\% | 19\% | 39\% | 31\% |
| I like the recreational opportunities in this area | 1,867 | 4\% | 6\% | 17\% | 35\% | 39\% |
| Western does not have a Greek system | 1,869 | 40\% | 12\% | 18\% | 15\% | 16\% |
| I will be playing on a varsity athletic team | 1,861 | 80\% | 8\% | 7\% | 2\% | 3\% |
| Western offers opportunities to participate in arts and music events | 1,868 | 25\% | 18\% | 24\% | 19\% | 14\% |

## College Application Process (cont.)

C.3. Including Western, to how many four year colleges did you apply for admission this fall?


| N | Mean | Median | Minimum | Maximum | Standard Deviation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,554 | 3.59 | 3 | 1 | 20 | 2.42 |

C.4. To which of the following four-year colleges did you apply for admission this fall?
N ..... 2,554
Western Washington University ..... 100\%
University of Washington - Seattle ..... 29\%
Washington State University - Pullman ..... 24\%
Central Washington University ..... 13\%
Eastern Washington University ..... 8\%
Seattle Pacific University ..... 8\%
Seattle University ..... 7\%
University of Portland ..... 6\%
University of Washington - Bothell ..... 6\%
Gonzaga University ..... 6\%
Pacific Lutheran University ..... 5\%
University of Oregon ..... 5\%
Oregon State University ..... 5\%
University of Montana ..... 5\%
Evergreen State College ..... 4\%
University of Puget Sound ..... 4\%
Lewis \& Clark College ..... 4\%
University of Washington - Tacoma ..... 3\%
Willamette University ..... 3\%
Whitman College ..... 2\%
University of Colorado at Boulder ..... 2\%
Washington State University - Vancouver ..... 1\%
Linfield College ..... 1\%
University of British Columbia ..... 1\%
Washington State University - Spokane ..... 1\%
Washington State University - Tri-Cities ..... 0\%
Other ..... 36\%

## College Application Process (cont.)

C.5. 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 | 2,554 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Western Washington University | 61\% |
| University of Washington - Seattle | 10\% |
| Seattle University | 1\% |
| Washington State University - Pullman | 1\% |
| University of Oregon | 1\% |
| Lewis \& Clark College | 1\% |
| Seattle Pacific University | 1\% |
| Gonzaga University | 1\% |
| University of Puget Sound | 1\% |
| Oregon State University | 1\% |
| University of Colorado at Boulder | 1\% |
| Central Washington University | 0\% |
| Pacific Lutheran University | 0\% |
| Whitman College | 0\% |
| University of Portland | 0\% |
| University of British Columbia | 0\% |
| Willamette University | 0\% |
| University of Montana | 0\% |
| Eastern Washington University | 0\% |
| Evergreen State College | 0\% |
| University of Washington - Bothell | 0\% |
| University of Washington - Tacoma | 0\% |
| Washington State University - Vancouver | 0\% |
| Washington State University - Spokane | 0\% |
| Other | 7\% |
| Did not specify a first choice | 11\% |

## College Application Process (cont.)

C.6. 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.)

| N | 2,554 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Western Washington University | 19\% |
| University of Washington - Seattle | 9\% |
| Washington State University - Pullman | 7\% |
| Central Washington University | 4\% |
| Seattle University | 2\% |
| Eastern Washington University | 2\% |
| University of Washington - Bothell | 2\% |
| Seattle Pacific University | 1\% |
| Pacific Lutheran University | 1\% |
| Evergreen State College | 1\% |
| University of Montana | 1\% |
| University of Portland | 1\% |
| Gonzaga University | 1\% |
| University of Puget Sound | 1\% |
| Oregon State University | 1\% |
| University of Oregon | 1\% |
| University of Washington - Tacoma | 1\% |
| Lewis \& Clark College | 1\% |
| University of Colorado at Boulder | 1\% |
| Willamette University | 0\% |
| Linfield College | 0\% |
| Washington State University - Vancouver | 0\% |
| Washington State University - Spokane | 0\% |
| Whitman College | 0\% |
| University of British Columbia | 0\% |
| Washington State University - Tri-Cities | 0\% |
| Other | 10\% |
| Applied only to Western | 19\% |
| Did not specify a second choice | 15\% |

## College Application Process (cont.)

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

| N | 2,554 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Washington State University - Pullman | 7\% |
| Western Washington University | 6\% |
| University of Washington - Seattle | 4\% |
| Central Washington University | 3\% |
| Eastern Washington University | 2\% |
| Seattle Pacific University | 2\% |
| University of Washington - Bothell | 2\% |
| University of Portland | 2\% |
| Seattle University | 1\% |
| University of Oregon | 1\% |
| University of Montana | 1\% |
| Gonzaga University | 1\% |
| Evergreen State College | 1\% |
| Oregon State University | 1\% |
| University of Puget Sound | 1\% |
| University of Washington - Tacoma | 1\% |
| Pacific Lutheran University | 1\% |
| Whitman College | 1\% |
| Willamette University | 1\% |
| Lewis \& Clark College | 1\% |
| Washington State University - Vancouver | 0\% |
| University of Colorado at Boulder | 0\% |
| University of British Columbia | 0\% |
| Washington State University - Spokane | 0\% |
| Linfield College | 0\% |
| Washington State University - Tri-Cities | 0\% |
| Other | 6\% |
| Applied to fewer than three schools | 37\% |
| Did not specify a third choice | 16\% |

[^1]
## College Application Process (cont.)

C.8. Including Western, to how many four year schools were you accepted for admission this fall?


| N | Mean | Median | Minimum | Maximum | Standard Deviation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,519 | 2.94 | 3 | 1 | 15 | 1.95 |

C.9. Including Western, to which of the following four-year colleges were you accepted for admission this fall?

| N | 2554 |
| :--- | :---: |
| Western Washington University | $100 \%$ |
| Washington State University - Pullman | $23 \%$ |
| Central Washington University | $12 \%$ |
| University of Washington - Seattle | $10 \%$ |
| Eastern Washington University | $8 \%$ |
| Seattle Pacific University | $7 \%$ |
| University of Washington - Bothell | $5 \%$ |
| Seattle University | $5 \%$ |
| Pacific Lutheran University | $5 \%$ |
| University of Portland | $5 \%$ |
| University of Montana | $4 \%$ |
| University of Oregon | $4 \%$ |
| Oregon State University | $4 \%$ |
| Gonzaga University | $4 \%$ |
| University of Puget Sound | $4 \%$ |
| Evergreen State College | $4 \%$ |
| University of Washington - Tacoma | $2 \%$ |
| Lewis \& Clark College | $2 \%$ |
| Willamette University | $2 \%$ |
| University of Colorado at Boulder | $2 \%$ |
| Whitman College | $31 \%$ |
| Linfield College | 159 |
| Washington State University - Vancouver | $1 \%$ |
| Washington State University - Spokane | $1 \%$ |
| University of British Columbia | $1 \%$ |
| Washington State University - Tri-Cities | $1 \%$ |
| Other | $1 \%$ |
|  | 50 |

## 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 | 2,528 | $13 \%$ | $87 \%$ |
| Identify courses you might want to take | 2,527 | $28 \%$ | $72 \%$ |
| Visit campus (other than at Summerstart) | 2,535 | $12 \%$ | $88 \%$ |
| Speak with a Western faculty member or advisor | 2,528 | $50 \%$ | $50 \%$ |

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

| N | I have not yet registered <br> for classes | Very <br> dissatisfied | Somewhat <br> dissatisfied | Neither <br> satisfied nor <br> dissatisfied | Somewhat <br> satisfied | Very <br> satisfied |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,535 | $11 \%$ | $1 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $41 \%$ |

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

The classes I need to take were full
The classes I need to take are scheduled at conflicting times

My classes are spread too far across campus $5 \%$
My classes are spread too far throughout the day $9 \%$
My classes are spread too far throughout the week $4 \%$
My class schedule does not work well with
my job schedule
My classes begin too early in the morning $8 \%$
My classes end too late in the evening $\quad 10 \%$
One or more of my classes meet every day $11 \%$
Other $14 \%$

## 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.) ( $\mathrm{N}=26$ ) (Responses included: "A FIG is a package deal, if I were to drop or in need of dropping a class, I would need to drop all classes in that FIG not just one. Also it gave me a total of 17 credits", "I am not accepted into my major, and i already took all the other non major options".) (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 <br> difficult | A little <br> difficult | Somewhat <br> difficult | Difficult | Very <br> difficult |
| Participating in discussion groups in my <br> courses | 2,529 | $26 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $3 \%$ |
| Preparing for and presenting my work in front <br> of a class | 2,520 | $15 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $8 \%$ |
| Getting good grades | 2,528 | $10 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $34 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $3 \%$ |
| Managing my finances | 2,527 | $10 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $11 \%$ |

## 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.

|  | N | Well below average | Below average | About average | Above average | Well above average |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Writing skills | 2,509 | 1\% | 5\% | 34\% | 45\% | 16\% |
| Oral communication skills | 2,500 | 1\% | 9\% | 40\% | 35\% | 16\% |
| Critically evaluate information | 2,502 | 0\% | 3\% | 41\% | 43\% | 13\% |
| Work or learn independently | 2,507 | 0\% | 2\% | 26\% | 47\% | 24\% |
| Work cooperatively in a group | 2,510 | 0\% | 4\% | 33\% | 46\% | 16\% |
| Appreciation of the arts | 2,506 | 2\% | 13\% | 29\% | 29\% | 27\% |
| Apply scientific principles and methods | 2,508 | 1\% | 13\% | 44\% | 31\% | 11\% |
| Apply quantitative principles and methods | 2,511 | 1\% | 15\% | 46\% | 28\% | 10\% |
| Awareness of cultural and social differences among people | 2,511 | 0\% | 4\% | 26\% | 39\% | 30\% |
| Work effectively with technology appropriate for your field | 2,508 | 1\% | 6\% | 41\% | 36\% | 16\% |
| Use library resources for research | 2,511 | 1\% | 14\% | 48\% | 28\% | 9\% |
| Identify and analyze complex problems | 2,507 | 0\% | 5\% | 41\% | 40\% | 14\% |

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

| N | 2524 |
| :--- | :--- |
| I have no idea | $10 \%$ |
| I have some idea | $56 \%$ |
| I am certain | $34 \%$ |

## E. Skills, Goals and Expectations

E.2.a. Which department houses the major you plan to declare? (Asked of respondents who indicated in E. 2 that they are certain of what their major will be.) $(\mathrm{N}=847)$

| Accounting | 2\% | Sociology | 1\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| American Cultural Studies | 0\% | Special Education | 2\% |
| Anthropology | 2\% | Speech | 0\% |
| Art | 4\% | Theatre Arts and Dance | 2\% |
| Behavioral Neuroscience | 3\% | Women's Studies | 0\% |
| Biology | 12\% |  |  |
| Chemistry | 3\% |  |  |
| Communication | 0\% |  |  |
| Awareness of cultural and social differences among people | 1\% |  |  |
| Computer Science | 11\% |  |  |
| Dance Program | 0\% |  |  |
| Decision Sciences | 0\% |  |  |
| East Asian Studies | 0\% |  |  |
| Economics | 1\% |  |  |
| Educational Curriculum and Instruction | 1\% |  |  |
| Educational Leadership | 0\% |  |  |
| Elementary Education | 5\% |  |  |
| Engineering and Design | 5\% |  |  |
| English | 4\% |  |  |
| Environmental Sciences | 3\% |  |  |
| Environmental Studies | 1\% |  |  |
| Fairhaven College | 1\% |  |  |
| Finance \& Marketing | 2\% |  |  |
| Finance, Marketing \& Decision Sciences | 1\% |  |  |
| Geology | 0\% |  |  |
| History | 2\% |  |  |
| Human Services and Rehabilitation | 3\% |  |  |
| International Studies | 0\% |  |  |
| Journalism | 2\% |  |  |
| Liberal Studies | 0\% |  |  |
| Library Science | 0\% |  |  |
| Linguistics | 0\% |  |  |
| Management | 3\% |  |  |
| Mathematics | 2\% |  |  |
| Modern and Classical Languages | 1\% |  |  |
| Music | 2\% |  |  |
| Philosophy | 0\% |  |  |
| Physical Education, Health \& Recreation | 2\% |  |  |
| Physics and Astronomy | 1\% |  |  |
| Political Science | 2\% |  |  |
| Psychology | 7\% |  |  |
| Science Education | 0\% |  |  |
| Secondary Education | 2\% |  |  |
| Social Studies | 0\% |  |  |

## Academic Skills and goals (cont.)

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

| N | 2,521 |
| :--- | :---: |
| Winter 2017 or earlier (fewer than two years) | $1 \%$ |
| Spring 2017 through winter 2018 | $9 \%$ |
| Spring 2018 through winter 2019 | $10 \%$ |
| Spring 2019 (exactly four years) | $72 \%$ |
| Summer 2019 through winter 2020 | $6 \%$ |
| Spring 2020 or later (five or more years) | $2 \%$ |

E.3.a. Why do you expect to take more than four years to earn your bachelor's degree at Western? ( $\mathrm{N}=187$ ) (Responses included: "The major I am interested in has a higher credit requirement.", "Teacher Certificate".) (Text responses available on request.)
E.4. How likely is it that you will leave Western before you graduate?

| N | Very unlikely | Somewhat <br> unlikely | Uncertain | Somewhat <br> likely | Very likely |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,523 | $48 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $22 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $1 \%$ |

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 likely or very likely to leave Western before graduation).

| N | 188 |
| :--- | :---: |
| Transfer | $96 \%$ |
| Not attend | $4 \%$ |

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).

| N | 8 |
| :--- | :---: |
| Finances | $38 \%$ |
| Academic performance | $13 \%$ |
| Unsure of my direction | $25 \%$ |
| Employment opportunity | $63 \%$ |
| A college education isn't important to me | $13 \%$ |
| Barriers to declaring my major of choice |  |
| Lack of diversity at Western |  |
| Personal health | $13 \%$ |
| Other |  |

## Skills, Goals and Expectations (cont.)

E.4.a.2. 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? (Asked of 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 | 180 |
| :--- | :---: |
| Western doesn't offer the major that interests me | $19 \%$ |
| Another school has a better program in my field | $55 \%$ |
| Another school would challenge me more than Western | $21 \%$ |
| Western is too big or too small | $12 \%$ |
| Difficulty getting the classes I need | $11 \%$ |
| Barriers to declaring my major of choice | $7 \%$ |
| Weather, recreation opportunities, or location in general | $17 \%$ |
| Academic performance | $7 \%$ |
| Finances | $13 \%$ |
| Personal health | $4 \%$ |
| To do something or go somewhere new and different | $28 \%$ |
| To be closer to home | $23 \%$ |
| To be further to home | $15 \%$ |
| To be with friends or a significant other | $19 \%$ |
| Not fitting in at Western | $14 \%$ |
| Lack of diversity at Western | $8 \%$ |
| Other | $13 \%$ |

E.4.a.2.a. What major 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=30) (Responses included: "Nursing", "Interior Design".) (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
Less than high school
High school graduate
Some college or post-high school education
Community college degree
Bachelor's degree or equivalent
Master's degree or equivalent

Law degree, medical degree, or Ph.D.

2,509
4\%
$13 \%$
$19 \%$
9\%
$34 \%$
$17 \%$

4\%
E.6. What is the highest level education attained by your father or step-father?

| N | 2,489 |
| :--- | :---: |
| Less than high school | $6 \%$ |
| High school graduate | $15 \%$ |
| Some college or post-high school education | $18 \%$ |
| Community college degree | $5 \%$ |
| Bachelor's degree or equivalent | $31 \%$ |
| 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?

|  |  |  | Professional |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| N | Bachelors (B.A., <br> B.S., etc.) | Masters (M.A., <br> M.S., etc.) | Doctorate <br> (M.D., D.O., <br> D.D.S, D.V.M., <br> J.D., etc.) | (Ph.D., Ed.D., <br> etc.) | Not sure |
| 2,522 |  |  | $35 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $22 \%$ |

## 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 $\$ 1,000$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 1,000 \text { to } \\ \$ 2,999 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 3,000 \text { to } \\ \$ 5,999 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 6,000 \text { to } \\ \$ 9,999 \end{gathered}$ | $\$ 10,000$ or more |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Family resources (parents, relatives, spouse, etc.) | 2,456 | 12\% | 11\% | 12\% | 14\% | 12\% | 40\% |
| My own resources (savings, employment, other income) | 2,426 | 13\% | 30\% | 30\% | 17\% | 6\% | 4\% |
| Aid which need not be repaid (grants, scholarships, military funding, etc.) | 2,430 | 22\% | 9\% | 21\% | 17\% | 12\% | 19\% |
| Aid which must be repaid (loans, etc.) | 2,413 | 41\% | 5\% | 8\% | 16\% | 12\% | 18\% |

F.2. During this coming year, about how many hours per week do you hope to work while attending Western?


| N | Mean | Median | Minimum | Maximum | Standard Deviation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,515 | 12.86 | 12 | 0 | 50 | 8.92 |

## 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.)


| N | Mean | Median | Minimum | Maximum | Standard Deviation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1,615 | 11.32 | 10 | 0 | 60 | 9.50 |

## G. 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 | 1,194 |
| :--- | :---: |
| Laptop computer | $95 \%$ |
| Desktop computer | $8 \%$ |
| Tablet computer | $19 \%$ |
| Cell phone | $99 \%$ |
| E-book reader | $10 \%$ |
| Other wi-fi enabled device | $15 \%$ |
| None of the above | $0 \%$ |

G.1.a. Which of the following capabilities does your cell phone or cell plan have? (Asked of respondents who indicated in G. 1 that they would have a cell phone with them at Western).
N ..... 1,176
Smart phone ..... 95\%
Texting (with texting plan) ..... 62\%
None of the above ..... 1\%

## H. Family and Language

H.1. How would you describe your permanent residence?

> N
> 2,499

Biological or adoptive family's home $90 \%$
Kinship care 2\%
Foster care $0 \%$
Living independently or with roomates 5\%
Living with spouse/partner $1 \%$
Other 2\%
H.2. What was your family's total pre-tax income last year?

|  | N |
| :--- | :---: |
| N | 2,479 |
| Less than \$20k | $4 \%$ |
| \$20k - \$29,999 | $4 \%$ |
| \$30k - \$39,999 | $5 \%$ |
| \$40k - \$49,999 | $4 \%$ |
| \$50k - \$59,999 | $5 \%$ |
| \$60k - \$79,999 | $8 \%$ |
| \$80k - \$99,999 | $8 \%$ |
| \$100k - \$149,999 | $14 \%$ |
| \$150k - \$199,999 | $5 \%$ |
| \$200k - \$249,999 | $3 \%$ |
| \$250k or greater | $3 \%$ |
| I'm unsure | $38 \%$ |

## Family and Language (cont.)

H.3. When you were growing up, was your family/household income lower or higher than that of your neighbors?

| N | Substantially <br> lower | Lower | About the same | Higher | Substantially <br> higher |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,477 | $5 \%$ | $20 \%$ | $55 \%$ | $18 \%$ | $1 \%$ |

H.4. How many languages do you speak fluently?

| N | One | Two | Three or more |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,497 | $86 \%$ | $13 \%$ | $1 \%$ |

## Family and Language (cont.)

H.4.a. Which languages do you speak fluently? (Asked of respondents indicating in H. 4 that they speak two or more languages). ( $\mathrm{N}=348$ )

| Amaharic | 1 | Latin | 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Amharic | 3 | Mandarin | 14 |
| Amhartic | 1 | Mandinka | 1 |
| Arabic | 6 | Mongolian | 3 |
| ASL | 36 | Moroccan | 1 |
| Bambara | 1 | Nepali | 1 |
| Cambodian | 3 | Norwegian | 4 |
| Cantonese | 12 | Persian | 1 |
| Chinese | 16 | PersianFarsi | 1 |
| Danish | 4 | Polish | 3 |
| Dari | 1 | Portuguese | 2 |
| Dutch | 1 | Punjabi | 16 |
| EnglishSpanish | 2 | Romanian | 2 |
| Englishurdu | 1 | Russian | 15 |
| Fante | 1 | SEE | 1 |
| Fijian | 1 | Shanghainese | 1 |
| Finnish | 1 | Sheng | 1 |
| Flemish | 1 | Sign | 1 |
| French | 43 | Slovak | 2 |
| Fula | 1 | Slovakian | 1 |
| Fulany | 1 | Somali | 3 |
| Ga | 1 | Spanish | 162 |
| Gaelic | 1 | Swahili | 2 |
| German | 18 | Swedish | 1 |
| Greek | 4 | SwissGerman | 1 |
| Hebrew | 2 | Tagalog | 6 |
| Hindi | 9 | Taiwanese | 2 |
| Hindihindi | 1 | Tamil | 2 |
| Hindu | 1 | Telugu | 1 |
| Hmong | 3 | Thai | 1 |
| Hungarian | 2 | Tibetan | 1 |
| Ilocano | 1 | Tigirin | 1 |
| Ilonggo | 1 | Tigrinya | 2 |
| Italian | 1 | Turkish | 1 |
| Japanese | 20 | Twi | 1 |
| Kabyle | 1 | Ukrainian | 2 |
| Khmer | 2 | Urdu | 5 |
| Kikuyu | 1 | Vietnamese | 32 |
| Korean | 12 | Visayan | 1 |
| Koreanenglish | 1 | Wollof | 2 |
| Laos | 1 | Yiddish | 1 |

## Family and Language (cont.)

H.5. Are languages other than English spoken by your family at home?

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2,512 | 17\% | 83\% |  |  |  |
| H.5.a. Which languages do you speak fluently? (Asked of respondents indicating in H. 5 that languages other than English are spoken by their family at home). $(\mathrm{N}=348)$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Amaharic | 1 | Italian | 3 | Thai | 1 |
| Amharic | 5 | Japanese | 22 | Tibetan | 1 |
| Arabic | 12 | Khmer | 5 | Tigrigna | 1 |
| ASL | 8 | Kikuyu | 1 | Tigringa | 1 |
| Bambara | 1 | Korean | 25 | Tigrinya | 3 |
| Bozo | 1 | Lao | 1 | Turkish | 1 |
| Bulgarian | 2 | Laos | 1 | Twi | 1 |
| Cambodian | 5 | Laotion | 3 | Ukrainian | 2 |
| Cantonese | 15 | Malay | 2 | Urdu | 3 |
| Cebuano | 1 | Mandarin | 10 | Vietnamese | 45 |
| Chamorro | 3 | Mandinka | 1 | Visayan | 1 |
| Chichewa | 1 | Marathi | 1 | Wollof | 2 |
| Chinese | 18 | Mien | 1 | Yiddish | 1 |
| Croatian | 2 | Mongolian | 3 | Yuraba | 1 |
| Czech | 1 | Moroccan | 2 |  |  |
| Danish | 1 | Nepali | 1 |  |  |
| Dari | 2 | Norwegian | 7 |  |  |
| Dutch | 3 | Persian | 1 |  |  |
| Fante | 1 | Polish | 4 |  |  |
| Farsi | 1 | Portuguese | 3 |  |  |
| Fijian | 1 | Punjabi | 14 |  |  |
| Filipino | 5 | Romanian | 3 |  |  |
| Finnish | 2 | Russian | 23 |  |  |
| Flemish | 1 | Samoan | 3 |  |  |
| French | 25 | SEE | 3 |  |  |
| Fulany | 1 | Serbian | 1 |  |  |
| Ga | 1 | Shanghainese | 1 |  |  |
| German | 32 | Slovak | 1 |  |  |
| Greek | 6 | Slovakian | 1 |  |  |
| Haiticreole | 1 | Somali | 3 |  |  |
| Hawaiian | 1 | Spanish | 163 |  |  |
| Hebrew | 1 | Swahili | 3 |  |  |
| Hindi | 9 | Swedish | 1 |  |  |
| Hindu | 1 | SwissGerman | 2 |  |  |
| Hmong | 4 | Tagalog | 36 |  |  |
| Hungarian | 3 | Taiwanese | 1 |  |  |
| Ilocano | 2 | Tamil | 2 |  |  |
| Indonesian | 1 | Telugu | 2 |  |  |

## I. Comments

I.1. Please use the space below for any additional comments or suggestions. ( $\mathrm{N}=316$ ) (Text responses available on request.)


[^0]:    * N for these variables differs from the reported N because these measures are optional, or because Western does not have

[^1]:    C.7.a. Please specify which other college or colleges were your top choices. (Asked of respondents who answered "other" in C.7.) ( $\mathrm{N}=481$ ) (Text responses available on request.)

