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Office of Survey Research

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# Western Educational Longitudinal Study (WELS): Baseline Survey of Freshman Entering Western in the Fall, 2011

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WESTERN EDUCATIONAL LONGITUDINAL STUDY (WELS)  
BASELINE SURVEY OF FRESHMEN ENTERING WESTERN  
IN THE FALL, 2011

Descriptive Statistics

Report 2012-02

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February, 2012

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, 2011

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Fall, 2011 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 Office of Sustainable Transportation submitted a number of questions which are summarized herein. 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 uses 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 2,861 Fall 2011 freshmen, OSR received 2,311 responses; a response rate of 80.7%.

As with any survey, readers should be concerned with sample selection bias; that is bias which arises because survey respondents are not a random selection of the population of survey recipients. While sample selection bias for Western's exit survey is mitigated through proper survey techniques and a high response rate, its presence should be considered when evaluating any survey data. Section A of this report compares respondents to all incoming freshmen. Relative to all freshmen, respondents were more likely to be women (60.3% of respondents were women as were 57.5% of all freshmen), were less likely to be a minority (22.1% versus 23.6%), had a higher admissions index (56.4 versus 55.7), were more likely to be first generation students (31.9% of respondents versus 31.2% of non-respondents), and were more likely to be from a high school in Washington (85.6% versus 81.8%).

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 five most common schools applied to were the University of Washington, Washington State University, Central Washington University, the University of Oregon, and Seattle University. Among the schools students applied to, 69% of respondents listed Western as their first choice school to attend.

Thirty-five percent of incoming freshmen are certain about their major and an additional fifty percent of students have some idea of what they will study. Just less than three-fourths of students expect to complete their bachelor's degree in four years or less; an amount similar to that reported in the prior year. Just about one-in-ten students claim they are either somewhat likely or very likely to transfer from Western to another university prior to graduation, again an amount similar to the prior year. The most common reasons given for the potentially transferring are a lack of degree program interesting to the student and a perceived lack of prestige.

For those students who responded to the survey after registering for courses, 40% claimed to be very satisfied with their course schedule, an increase over the prior year by 5%. For those who were dissatisfied with their class schedule, the most common reasons given were that courses were full, scheduled at conflicting times, spread too far out throughout the day, or begin too early in the morning.

For the coming year, the average student hopes to work 13 hours per week, an amount one hour higher than the prior year. Roughly 40% of students expect to use \$10,000 or more of their family resources to attend Western this year while one-in-five 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 2,311 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.wvu.edu/socad/osr/>

## A. Characteristics of 2011 Freshmen and Survey Respondents

### A.1. Characteristics of 2011 Freshmen and Survey Respondents

	Non-Respondents	Respondents	All 2011 Freshmen
N	550	2,311	2,861
Male	54.2%	39.7%	42.5%
Caucasian	71.1%	77.2%	76.0%
Black	4.0%	2.1%	2.5%
Hispanic	6.7%	6.2%	6.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	14.7%	11.3%	12.0%
Native American	2.9%	2.6%	2.6%
Other Race/Unknown	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%
International	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
Mean Admission Index*	52.3	56.4	55.7
Median Admission Index*	52	56	55
Mean Math SAT*	562	557	558
Mean Verbal SAT*	561	565	565
Mean High School Percentile	68.1%	73.6%	72.8%
Mean Age	18.1	18.2	18.2
Median Age	18	18	18
First Generation College Student	28.5%	31.9%	31.2%
Running Start Student	15.5%	17.3%	16.9%
WA High School*	65.8%	85.6%	81.8%
OR High School*	1.3%	1.9%	1.7%
ID High School*	0.7%	1.1%	1.0%
AK High School*	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%
Mean hours transferred to WWU	26.5	26.8	26.8

\* 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 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: (Randomly asked of 50% of respondents.)

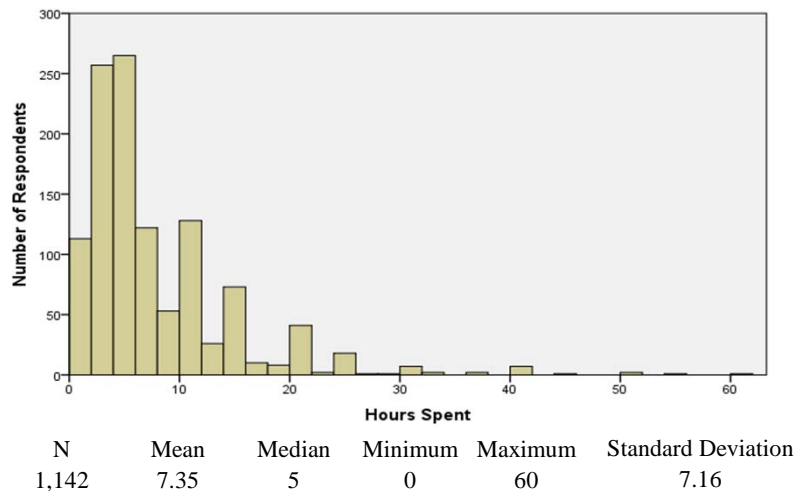
	N	Never	Once	2-3 times	4-5 times	More than 5 times
Asked teachers to give me comments or criticisms about my work	1,113	9%	9%	32%	18%	32%
Asked a teacher for help when I had difficulties in a course	1,112	4%	5%	20%	21%	50%
Wrote an academic paper of 5 pages or more	1,113	9%	15%	36%	20%	20%
Talked about course material I was learning with someone other than a teacher	1,114	1%	3%	13%	15%	68%

B.2. During your senior year in high school, how often would you say you felt each of the following ways? (Asked of a random 50% of respondents.)

	N	Never	2	3	4	5	6	Always
I felt that I was overwhelmed with academic work	1,107	9%	20%	23%	25%	14%	6%	4%
I felt overwhelmed with non-academic responsibilities (work, family, other things)	1,106	10%	17%	21%	19%	17%	9%	7%
I felt that I didn't fit in with my peers	1,106	42%	27%	10%	7%	7%	3%	3%
I felt that I had at least one person I could talk with about personal difficulties	1,106	2%	4%	4%	6%	7%	8%	69%

B.3. 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.)

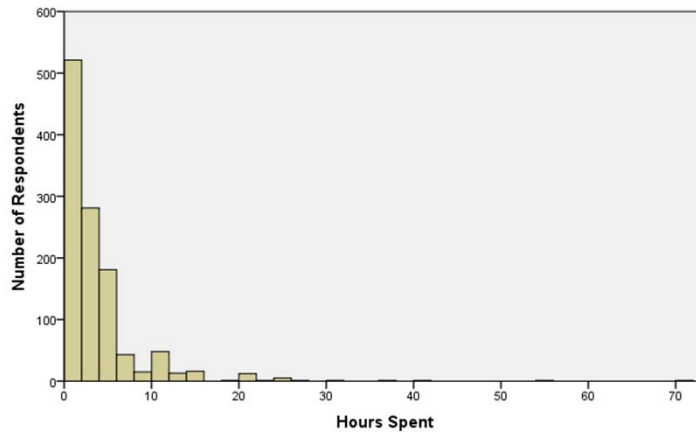
B.3.a. Studying for classes



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

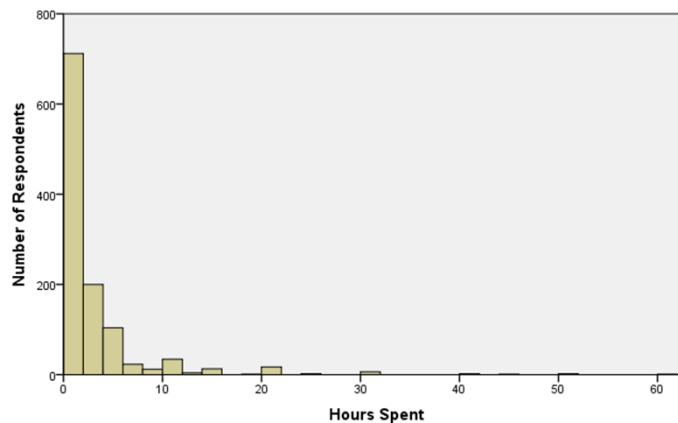
B.3. (cont.) During your last quarter or semester in high school, about how many hours per week (on average) did you spend doing each of the following? (OSR excluded responses of 80 hours or more.)

B.3.b. Volunteering on or off campus outside of coursework



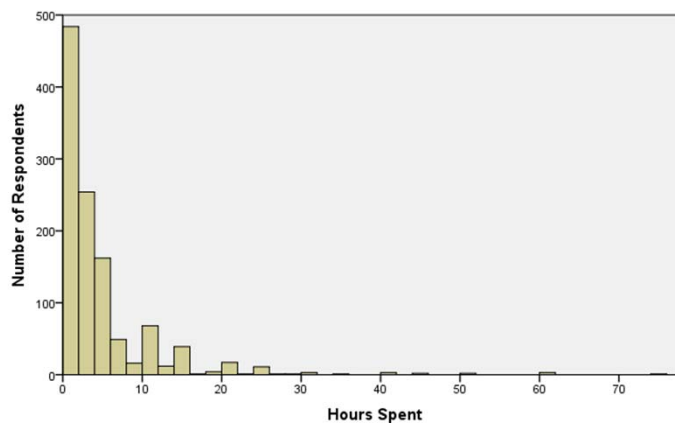
N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
1,144	3.15	2	0	70	4.97

B.3.c. Doing community service work as part of a course or graduation requirement



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
1,134	2.46	0.4	0	60	5.39

B.3.d. Participating in a campus sponsored club or student organization



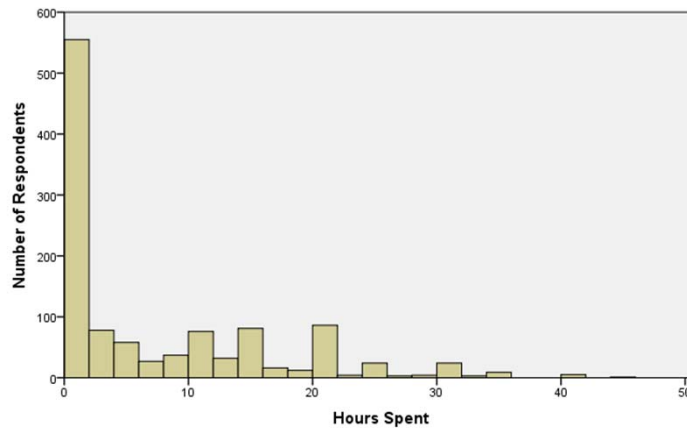
N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
1,135	4.23	2	0	75	7.04



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

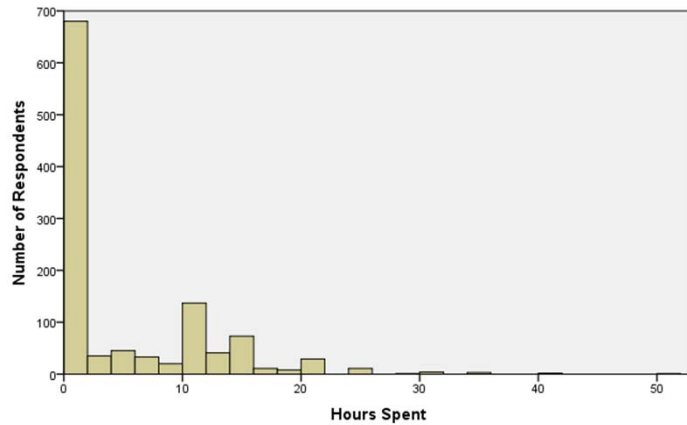
B.3. (cont.) During your last quarter or semester in high school, about how many hours per week (on average) did you spend doing each of the following? (OSR excluded responses of 80 hours or more.)

B.3.e. Working for pay



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
1,135	6.83	2	0	45	9.05

B.3.f. Participating in school athletics



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
1,134	4.58	0	0	50	6.90

B.4. 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
2,246	3%	6%	12%	55%	24%

B.6. 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
389	2%	3%	11%	47%	37%

## 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
2244	1%	99%

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## C. College Application Process

**OSR used the following questions to experiment with scale labels. Respondents were randomly assigned to one or the other version (C.1.a. or C.1.b.)**

C.1.a. How important are each of the following reasons you decided to attend college this fall? (Asked of a random 50% of respondents.) (In this version all levels are labeled.)

	N	Not at all important	A little important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
My family wants me to go to college	1,108	5%	11%	15%	33%	37%
A mentor/role model encouraged me to go	1,098	20%	15%	22%	27%	15%
To get away from home	1,105	15%	19%	25%	25%	16%
To improve my job prospects after graduation	1,108	1%	2%	4%	18%	75%
To gain a general education and appreciation of new ideas	1,107	1%	2%	8%	30%	59%
To increase my earnings after graduation	1,108	1%	4%	14%	26%	55%
To prepare myself for graduate/professional school	1,106	7%	10%	19%	25%	39%
To make a difference in society	1,108	2%	5%	14%	32%	48%

C.1.b. How important are each of the following reasons you decided to attend college this fall? (Asked of a random 50% of respondents.) (In this version only the highest and lowest levels are labeled.)

	N	1 Not at all important	2	3	4	5 Very important
My family wants me to go to college	1,130	7%	8%	24%	23%	38%
A mentor/role model encouraged me to go	1,131	21%	17%	25%	20%	17%
To get away from home	1,128	16%	15%	28%	24%	17%
To improve my job prospects after graduation	1,130	1%	1%	4%	17%	76%
To gain a general education and appreciation of new ideas	1,132	0%	2%	9%	25%	65%
To increase my earnings after graduation	1,128	2%	2%	12%	28%	56%
To prepare myself for graduate/professional school	1,128	5%	9%	19%	25%	43%
To make a difference in society	1,127	2%	5%	18%	26%	49%

C.2. Out of all your college options, how important are each of the following in your decision to attend Western?

	N	Not at all important	A little important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
My family wants me to go to Western	2,212	33%	19%	25%	16%	7%
A Western faculty member recruited me	2,204	75%	13%	8%	3%	1%
An instructor, teacher, or advisor encouraged me to go to Western	2,200	47%	20%	18%	12%	4%
Friends and/or family currently attend Western	2,201	43%	16%	20%	14%	7%
I am interested in a specific academic program at Western	2,210	16%	13%	21%	25%	25%
Western has a good academic reputation	2,213	2%	4%	17%	47%	31%
Western has a good reputation for its social activities	2,206	5%	8%	23%	41%	23%
Western is more affordable than my other choices	2,212	10%	9%	20%	31%	31%
Western offered me financial assistance	2,200	34%	14%	16%	17%	19%
I want to live near home	2,208	35%	18%	23%	15%	10%
I want to live far away from home	2,205	40%	19%	23%	12%	7%
I like the size of Western	2,215	4%	5%	17%	39%	35%
I like the size of Bellingham	2,208	6%	7%	22%	35%	30%
I like the recreational opportunities in this area	2,211	5%	7%	19%	34%	36%
Western does not have a Greek system	2,204	42%	12%	19%	13%	14%
I will be playing on a varsity athletic team	2,197	80%	10%	6%	3%	2%
Western offers opportunities to participate in arts and music events	2,210	25%	16%	23%	19%	17%

## College Application Process (cont.)

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

N	1,080
A parent/sibling/relative told me about Western	37%
A friend told me about Western	28%
A coach or teacher told me about Western	8%
An admissions counselor visited my school	3%
I spoke with an admissions counselor at a college fair	3%
I conducted a general college web search	10%
I conducted a search for institutions that participate in the Western Undergraduate Exchange program	1%
While I was researching Bellingham	1%
I grew up in Whatcom County and learned about Western by living nearby	5%
Western contacted me	2%
Other	2%

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C.3.a. How did you first learn about Western? (Asked of respondents who answered "other" in C.3.) (N =34) (Responses included: volleyball camp/tournament; football camp; business week; state drama festival; choir and band workshops; visited Bellingham and campus; college fair; I live in Seattle so I know colleges in this area.) (Text responses available on request.)

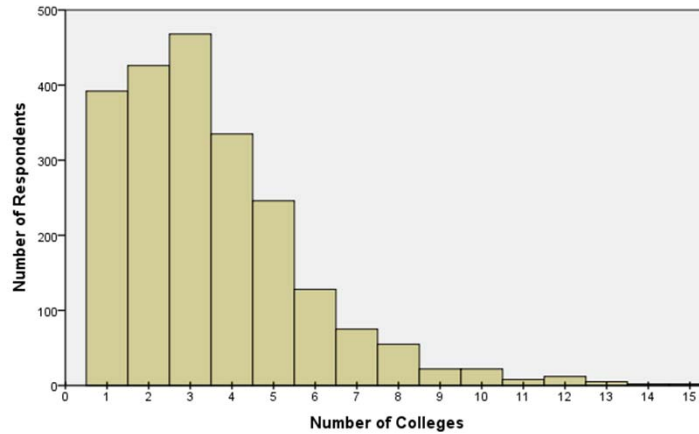
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C.4. When did you first learn about Western? (Asked of a random 50% of respondents.)

N	1,080
Before entering high school	24%
As a high school freshmen or sophomore	30%
As a high school junior	30%
As a high school senior	16%
After high school	1%

## College Application Process (cont.)

C.5. Including Western, to how many four year colleges did you apply for admission this fall? (OSR recoded. If number of colleges checked exceeded number of colleges reported in applied count, OSR increased value to match number of colleges checked. Values over 15 are excluded, a total of 18 responses.)



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
2,198	3.51	3	1	15	2.22

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

N	2,216
Western Washington University	100%
University of Washington - Seattle	33%
Washington State University - Pullman	21%
Central Washington University	13%
University of Oregon	11%
Seattle University	8%
Seattle Pacific University	8%
Eastern Washington University	7%
University of Portland	7%
Pacific Lutheran University	6%
Gonzaga University	6%
University of Washington - Bothell	5%
Willamette University	5%
Oregon State University	5%
Evergreen State College	4%
University of Montana	4%
University of Puget Sound	3%
Lewis & Clark College	3%
Linfield College	2%
University of Colorado at Boulder	2%
University of Washington - Tacoma	2%
Whitman College	2%
University of British Columbia	1%
Washington State University - Vancouver	1%
Washington State University - Tri-Cities	0%
Other	35%

## College Application Process (cont.)

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

N	2,216
Western Washington University	59%
University of Washington - Seattle	15%
University of Oregon	2%
Central Washington University	1%
Gonzaga University	1%
Lewis & Clark College	1%
Oregon State University	1%
Seattle Pacific University	1%
Seattle University	1%
University of Portland	1%
Washington State University - Pullman	1%
Whitman College	1%
Willamette University	1%
Eastern Washington University	0%
Evergreen State College	0%
Linfield College	0%
Pacific Lutheran University	0%
University of British Columbia	0%
University of Colorado at Boulder	0%
University of Montana	0%
University of Puget Sound	0%
University of Washington - Bothell	0%
University of Washington - Tacoma	0%
Washington State University - Vancouver	0%
Other	11%
Did not specify a first choice	1%

C.7.a. Which of the schools to which you applied was your *first* choice? (Asked of respondents who answered "other" in C.7.) (N=245) (Text responses available on request.)

## College Application Process (cont.)

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.)

N	2,216
Western Washington University	28%
University of Washington - Seattle	10%
Washington State University - Pullman	6%
Central Washington University	4%
University of Oregon	3%
Seattle University	2%
Eastern Washington University	1%
Evergreen State College	1%
Gonzaga University	1%
Lewis & Clark College	1%
Oregon State University	1%
Pacific Lutheran University	1%
Seattle Pacific University	1%
University of Colorado at Boulder	1%
University of Montana	1%
University of Portland	1%
University of Puget Sound	1%
University of Washington - Bothell	1%
Whitman College	1%
Willamette University	1%
Linfield College	0%
University of British Columbia	0%
University of Washington - Tacoma	0%
Washington State University - Tri-Cities	0%
Washington State University - Vancouver	0%
Other	14%
Applied only to Western	18%
Did not specify a second choice	3%

C.8.a. Which of the schools to which you applied was your *second* choice? (Asked of respondents who answered "other" in C.8.) (N=289) (Text responses available on request.)



## College Application Process (cont.)

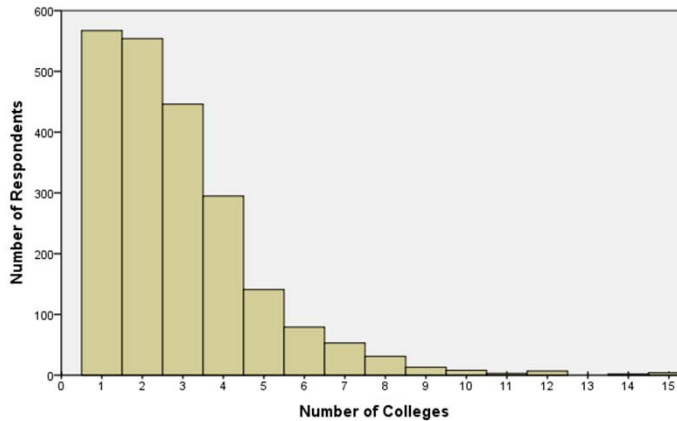
C.9. At the time when you filled out college applications, which of the following schools was your *third* choice? (Recorded by OSR to include choices implied by skip pattern.)

N	2,216
Western Washington University	8%
Washington State University - Pullman	6%
Central Washington University	4%
University of Washington - Seattle	4%
Eastern Washington University	2%
Gonzaga University	2%
Oregon State University	2%
Seattle Pacific University	2%
Seattle University	2%
University of Oregon	2%
University of Portland	2%
University of Washington - Bothell	2%
Evergreen State College	1%
Lewis & Clark College	1%
Pacific Lutheran University	1%
University of Colorado at Boulder	1%
University of Montana	1%
University of Puget Sound	1%
University of Washington - Tacoma	1%
Willamette University	1%
Linfield College	0%
University of British Columbia	0%
Washington State University - Vancouver	0%
Whitman College	0%
Other	14%
Applied to fewer than three schools	37%
Did not specify a third choice	2%

C.9.a. Which of the schools to which you applied was your *third* choice? (Asked of respondents who answered "other" in C.9.) (N=234) (Text responses available on request.)

## College Application Process (cont.)

C.10. Including Western, to how many four year schools were you *accepted* for admission this fall? (Values over 15 are excluded, a total of 1 response.)



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
2,203	2.90	2	1	15	1.96

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

N	2,214
Western Washington University	100%
University of Washington - Bothell	4%
University of Washington - Seattle	8%
University of Washington - Tacoma	1%
Washington State University - Pullman	20%
Washington State University - Tri-Cities	0%
Washington State University - Vancouver	1%
Central Washington University	13%
Seattle University	6%
University of Puget Sound	3%
Pacific Lutheran University	6%
Gonzaga University	3%
Seattle Pacific University	7%
Whitman College	1%
Eastern Washington University	7%
Evergreen State College	4%
University of Oregon	10%
Willamette University	4%
University of Portland	6%
Lewis & Clark College	2%
Oregon State University	5%
Linfield College	1%
University of Colorado at Boulder	2%
University of British Columbia	1%
University of Montana	4%

## 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?  
(Asked of 75% of respondents.)

	N	No	Yes
Read about at least one possible major field	2,202	21%	80%
Identify courses you might want to take	2,199	33%	67%
Visit campus (other than at Summerstart)	2,199	14%	86%
Speak with a Western faculty member or advisor	2,193	56%	44%

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
2,212	15%	2%	6%	4%	33%	40%

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	163
The classes I need to take were full	79%
The classes I need to take are scheduled at conflicting times	33%
My classes are spread too far across campus	3%
My classes are spread too far throughout the day	22%
My classes are spread too far throughout the week	4%
My class schedule does not work well with my job schedule	6%
My classes begin too early in the morning	22%
My classes end too late in the evening	9%
One or more of my classes meet every day	18%
Other	15%

## 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=25)  
 (Responses included: unable to communicate with professors in time to get override status; they are all basic classes/nothing is advancing toward a certain direction; got all second picks; classes didn't transfer so I had to start all over.) (Text responses available on request.)

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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	2,202	32%	35%	22%	9%	2%
Preparing for and presenting my work in front of a class	2,196	18%	29%	26%	19%	8%
Getting good grades	2,197	10%	36%	33%	17%	4%
Managing my finances	2,196	11%	28%	30%	22%	9%

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## 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.

### E.1.a. Ability

	N	Well below average	Below average	About average	Above average	Well above average
Writing skills	2,134	0%	3%	31%	51%	16%
Oral communication skills	2,141	1%	7%	38%	36%	18%
Critically evaluate information	2,138	0%	3%	42%	42%	13%
Work or learn independently	2,149	1%	3%	27%	44%	26%
Work cooperatively in a group	2,145	1%	3%	31%	42%	23%
Appreciation of the arts	2,141	3%	12%	29%	28%	29%
Apply scientific principles and methods	2,140	1%	16%	46%	29%	8%
Apply quantitative principles and methods	2,143	2%	15%	47%	29%	8%
Awareness of cultural and social differences among people	2,143	1%	4%	25%	40%	30%
Work effectively with appropriate technology in your field	2,143	0%	5%	39%	39%	16%
Use library resources for research	2,139	2%	11%	46%	30%	11%
Identify and analyze complex problems	2,146	1%	5%	37%	42%	15%

### E.1.b. Importance

	N	Not at all important	A little important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Writing skills	2,121	1%	3%	13%	40%	43%
Oral communication skills	2,124	1%	2%	12%	36%	50%
Critically evaluate information	2,119	1%	2%	16%	45%	36%
Work or learn independently	2,121	1%	2%	12%	41%	44%
Work cooperatively in a group	2,124	1%	2%	14%	41%	42%
Appreciation of the arts	2,129	6%	13%	25%	26%	30%
Apply scientific principles and methods	2,119	3%	10%	31%	37%	19%
Apply quantitative principles and methods	2,118	3%	10%	32%	37%	18%
Awareness of cultural and social differences among people	2,119	1%	5%	17%	32%	46%
Work effectively with appropriate technology in your field	2,117	1%	3%	18%	42%	36%
Use library resources for research	2,119	2%	6%	25%	40%	28%
Identify and analyze complex problems	2,128	1%	2%	16%	42%	40%

## Skills, Goals and Expectations (cont.)

E.3. How certain are you of what your major will be?

N	Uncertain	Have some idea	Certain
2,187	14%	51%	35%

---

E.4. How long do you think it will take you to complete your bachelors degree?

N	Less than 3 years	3-4 years	Exactly 4 years	4-5 years	5 or more years
2,185	6%	25%	42%	27%	1%

---

E.5. How likely is it that you will transfer from Western to another college or university before you graduate?

N	Very unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Uncertain	Somewhat likely	Very likely
2,168	41%	23%	25%	8%	3%

---

E.5.a. Which of the following reasons best explains why you are likely to transfer from Western to another college before you graduate? (Mark all that apply.) (Asked of respondents who answered "somewhat likely" or "very likely" in E.5.)

N	229
Western is too expensive	8%
Western does not offer the degree program I am interested in	38%
Friends or family attend a different school	17%
Western is not prestigious enough for me	24%
Western is too rigorous for me	1%
Western is too small	13%
Western is too large	4%
Western is too far from friends or family	14%
Other	40%

---

E.5.b. What degree program are you interested in? (Asked of respondents who indicated in E.5.a. that "Western does not offer the degree program I am interested in.") (N=76) (Responses included: Wildlife Biology; Pharmacy; Nursing; Mechanical Engineering; Library Sciences; Law; Film; Civil Engineering; Aviation; Architecture.) (Text responses available on request.)

---

## Skills, Goals and Expectations (cont.)

E.5.c. What other reason best explains why you are likely to transfer from Western to another college before you graduate? (Asked of respondents who answered "other" in E.5.a.) (N=90) (Responses included: location; to see more places, meet new people and experience different schools; to study abroad; to live out of state; the UW program has been recommended over and over again; Western didn't accept my credits; Western may not be the kind of place I personally fit into; Western is too close to home; other options for degree opportunities; athletics.) (Text responses available on request.)

---

E.6. 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.)	Professional (M.D., D.O., D.D.S, D.V.M., J.D., etc.)	Doctorate (Ph.D., Ed.D., etc.)	Not sure
2,185	14%	38%	9%	13%	26%

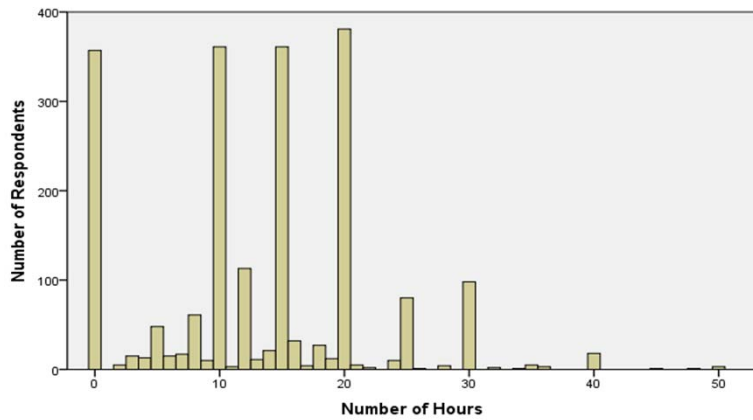
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## F. Expenses and Employment

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 \$1000	\$1000 to \$2999	\$3000 to \$5999	\$6000 to \$9999	\$10000 or more
Family resources (parents, relatives, spouse, etc.)	2,132	11%	9%	12%	13%	15%	40%
My own resources (savings, employment, other income)	2,114	14%	32%	31%	14%	5%	3%
Aid which need not be repaid (grants, scholarships, military funding, etc.)	2,124	35%	12%	16%	15%	11%	11%
Aid which must be repaid (loans, etc.)	2,116	39%	5%	8%	17%	11%	20%

F.3. 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.)

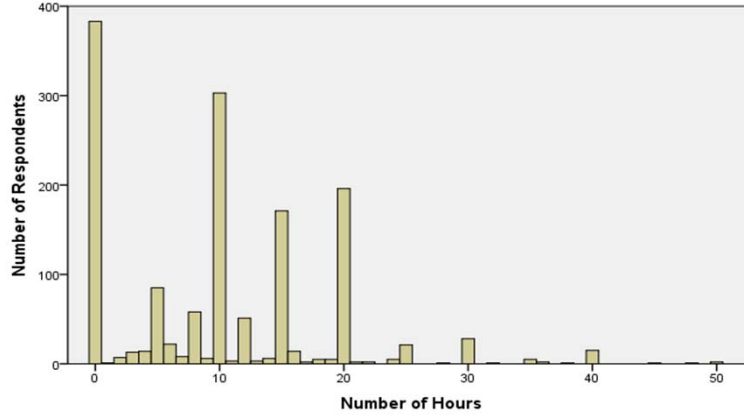


N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
2,101	13.19	15	1	50	8.78



## Expenses and Employment (cont.)

F.4. 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 respondent indicated in F.3. that they hope to work more than 0 hours/week and to pay for educational expenses in F.1.) (OSR excluded responses of 60 hours or greater, a total of 8 responses.)



N	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Standard Deviation
1,443	10.17	0	1	51	8.78

# G. Comments

G.1. Please use the space below for any additional comments or suggestions. (N=269) (Text responses available on request.)

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## H. Office of Sustainable Transportation

H.1. Will you live on campus during fall quarter?

N	1,088
Yes	92%
No	7%
Don't know	1%

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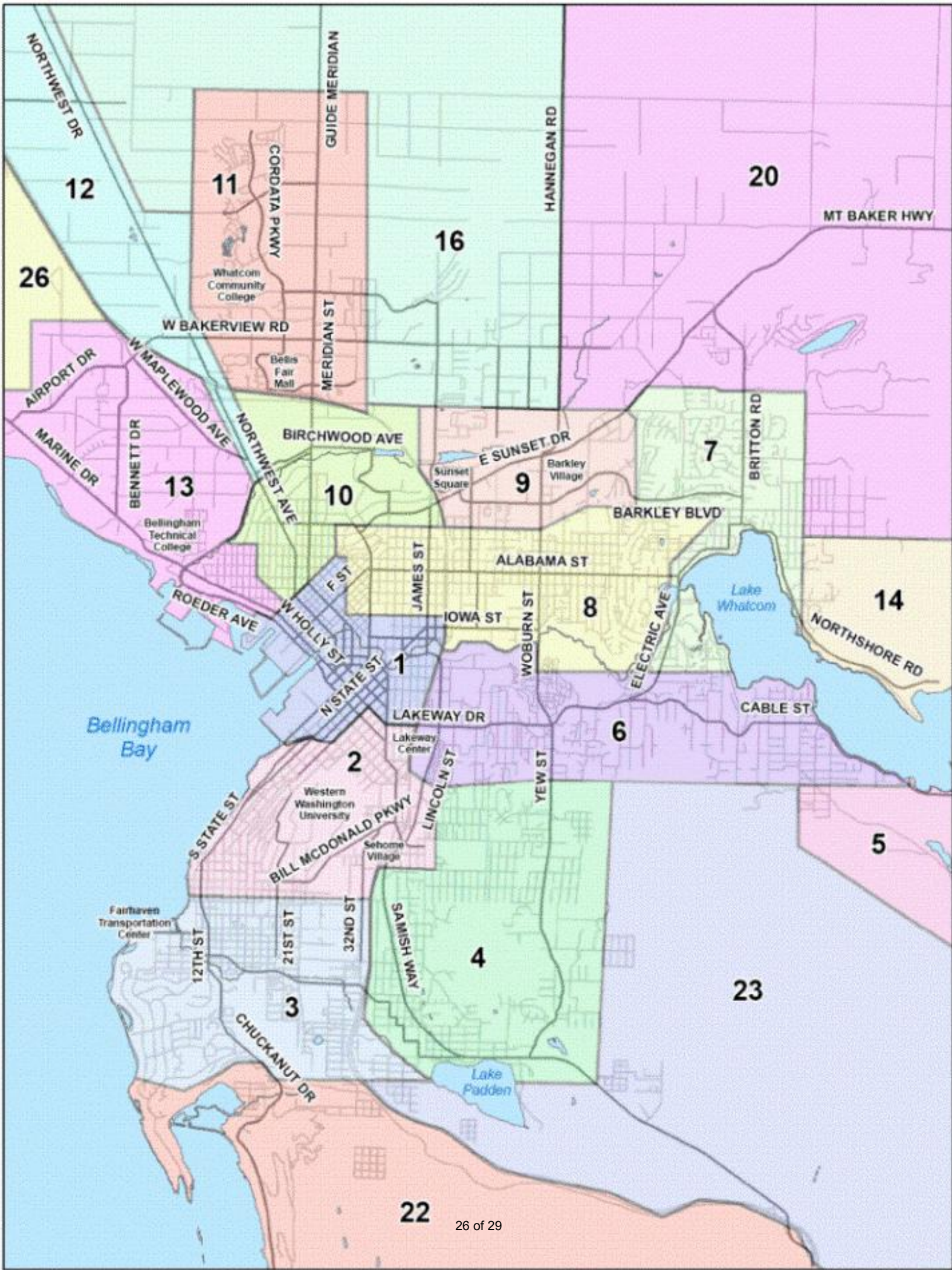
H.1.a. When attending Western, will you live within the area encompassed by the map (on the next page.)  
(Asked of respondents who indicated in H.1. that they will not live on campus during fall quarter.)

N	79
Yes	65%
No	23%
Don't know	13%

---

H.1.a.1. Please select the number corresponding to the area in which you will live while attending Western.  
(Asked of respondents indicated in H.1.a. that they will live in an area encompassed by the map.) (N =51)  
(Map is on the next page.)

Map Code	Percent	Map Code	Percent
1	10%	11	2%
2	26%	12	
3	22%	13	
4	10%	14	
5	4%	16	2%
6	10%	20	2%
7	6%	22	
8	2%	23	
9	2%	26	2%
10	2%		



## Office of Sustainable Transportation (cont.)

H.1.a.2. Where will you live while attending Western? (Asked of respondents who indicated in H.1.a. that they live in an area not encompassed by the map.)

N	18
Everson, Nooksack, Sumas	6%
Lynden, Laurel, Meridian north of Horton	17%
Ferndale	33%
Blaine, Birch Bay, Custer, Semiahmoo	11%
Along Mount Baker Highway, east of McLeod	
Acme, Wickersham, Van Zandt	
Marine Drive west of Airport Drive, Marietta	
Gooseberry Point, Lummi Island	
Sandy Point, Cherry Point	
Samish Way south of Yew Street	
Lake Samish area	6%
Chuckanut Drive south of Viewcrest	
Unincorporated Whatcom County	
British Columbia, Point Roberts	
Skagit County	17%
Island County	
Snohomish County	11%
King County	
Other	

---

H.2. Will you have a car available for use while at Western?

N	1,082
Yes, I have my own car	20%
Yes, I will be able to use someone else's car	7%
No, I do not plan to use a car	68%
I don't know	6%

---

H.2.a. For which of the following trips will you usually use the car? (Asked of respondents who indicated in H.2. that they will have a car available for use while at Western.)

N	285
School	14%
Work	57%
Shopping	64%
Traveling outside Bellingham (e.g. to your hometown)	90%
Other	39%

## Office of Sustainable Transportation (cont.)

H.2.b. What mode of transportation do you plan to use to commute to campus during the day? (Asked of respondents who indicated in H.2. that they will have a car available for use while at Western.)

N	60
Walk	17%
Bus	22%
Bicycle	8%
Drive alone to campus	28%
Drive alone to park & ride, then bus	12%
Carpool to campus	8%
Carpool to park & ride, then bus	
Dropped off by someone not going to campus	
Other	2%
I don't know	3%

---

H.2.c. What mode of transportation do you plan to use to commute to campus at night? (Asked of respondents who indicated in H.2. that they will have a car available for use while at Western.)

N	60
Walk	15%
Bus	12%
Bicycle	5%
Drive alone to campus	37%
Drive alone to park & ride, then bus	7%
Carpool to campus	2%
Carpool to park & ride, then bus	
Dropped off by someone not going to campus	2%
Other	
I don't plan to go to campus at night	17%
I don't know	5%

---

H.2.d. What mode of transportation do you plan to use to commute to campus during the day? (Asked of respondents who indicated in H.2. that they will not have a car available for use while at Western.)

N	19
Walk	42%
Bus	32%
Bicycle	16%
Carpool to campus	5%
Carpool to park & ride, then bus	5%
Dropped off by someone not going to campus	
Other	
I don't know	

## Office of Sustainable Transportation (cont.)

H.2.e. What mode of transportation do you plan to use to commute to campus at night? (Asked of respondents who indicated in H.2. that they will not have a car available for use while at Western.)

N	19
Walk	32%
Bus	26%
Bicycle	11%
Carpool to campus	
Carpool to park & ride, then bus	5%
Dropped off by someone not going to campus	
Other	
I don't plan to go to campus at night	16%
I don't know	11%

---

H.3. Have you ever used a bicycle for transportation?

N	1,085
Yes	73%
No	27%

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H.4. Will you have a bicycle available for use while attending Western?

N	1,087
Yes	51%
No	50%

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H.5. How frequently have you used a public bus or transit system in the past?

N	1,087
Never	10%
Once or twice	32%
Occasionally	36%
Regularly	23%

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