

C. Characteristics of undergraduate students

New Jersey high school graduates looking for an outstanding college education continue to choose William Paterson University to meet their higher education needs. Last fall undergraduate admissions received more than 7,000 applications to the University and 22.0 percent, or 1,535 of these applicants, enrolled as new first-time, full-time, first-year students. This is the largest entering first-time, full-time, first-year cohort in the past decade. New transfer students increased substantially over last year as well to 1,157, an increase of 12.0 percent. An additional 102 second degree and 196 readmitted students were also welcomed to the campus.

1. Mean SAT scores

SAT scores are one of the criteria used in the admission decision process for new undergraduate students. The majority of first-time, full-time, first-year students, 69.0 percent or 1,062 students, met all admission criteria and were regular admitted students, with average verbal SAT scores of 518 and average math SAT scores of 529 (Table II.C.1). A rigorous honors program accepted 99 new first-time, full-time students with combined SAT scores of 1,193.

Another 20.0 percent were admitted as special admit students using additional admission criteria. Some sponsored students have special abilities in art, music or athletic aptitude that complement a number of University programs. An additional 7.0 percent were Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) first-year students and smaller percents of new students were admitted as international and nontraditional or older students.

**Table II.C.1:
William Paterson University
Mean Math, Reading and Writing SAT Scores for First-Time Freshmen,
by Admission Status and Overall, Fall 2010**

	Full-Time Students						Part-Time Students					
	Math	N	Reading	N	Writing	N	Math	N	Reading	N	Writing	N
Regular Admits	529	1,042	518	1,042			470	3	477	3		
EOF Admits	447	107	421	107								
Special Admits	440	307	428	307			510	2	385	2		
All Admits	504	1,456	492	1,456			486	5	440	5		
Missing Scores		60		60		1,516		3		3		8

Source: SURE Fall Enrollment file

2. Basic skills testing

Academic support services offered through the University’s Academic Support Center, Education Enrichment Center, and discipline-based learning centers such as the Science Enrichment Center help students succeed in their choices of academic programs. In addition, for a number of first-time, full-time, first-year students, assistance comes in the form of a basic skills course. Before starting classes a student’s need for developmental courses is established. Students who have VSAT scores equal to or greater than 550 and an Academic Index (AI) of 215

and above are exempt from reading and writing placement tests. Those with MSAT scores equal to or better than 600 and an AI of 215 or higher do not take math placement tests. Those who do not meet these criteria are tested using Accuplacer.

This past fall, 988 or 10.0 percent of William Paterson’s undergraduates were enrolled in one or more basic skills courses (Table II.C.2). For those who were first-time, full-time, first-year students, 47.0 percent required some help. Computation and reading are the areas in which students most frequently need assistance. Students requiring these courses are closely monitored to ensure that courses are successfully completed during their first year attending William Paterson. This past fall, 91.0 percent of those enrolled in basic skills reading courses passed the course, 89.0 percent passed the writing course, and 61.0 percent passed basic skills computation. Students who successfully complete their basic skills requirements are as successful at college-level work as other students who did not have any basic skills requirements.

Table II.C.2: William Paterson University Enrollment in Remediation Courses		
Total Number of Undergraduate Students Enrolled in Fall 2010		
Total Undergraduate Enrollment	Number of Students Enrolled in One or More Remedial Courses	% of Total
9,838	988	10%
Total Number of First-Time, Full-Time (FTFT) Students Enrolled in Remediation in Fall 2010		
Total Number of FTFT Students	Number of FTFT Students Enrolled in One or More Remedial Courses	Percent of FTFT Enrolled in One or More Remedial Courses
1,516	707	47%
First-Time, Full-Time Students (FTFT) Enrolled in Remediation in Fall 2010 by Subject Area		
Subject Area	Number of FTFT Enrolled In:	Percent of all FTFT Enrolled In:
Computation	462	31%
Algebra	0	0%
Reading	338	22%
Writing	103	7%
English	0	0%
Source: SURE Fall Enrollment file		

3. Race/ethnicity, sex and age

The diversity of New Jersey’s population is embraced by the University’s mission and reflected in the University’s enrollment figures. In fall 2010, 49.0 percent of undergraduates were White; 20.0 percent were Latino/a; 14.0 percent were African American; 6.0 percent were Asian and almost 1.0 percent were international students (Table II.C.3.a).

At the graduate level 72.0 percent were White, 10.0 percent Hispanic, 5.0 percent African American and 3.0 percent identified themselves as Asian. An additional 2.0 percent were international or non-resident aliens and 8.0 percent declined to report the information.

Table II.C.3.a: William Paterson University Undergraduate Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, Fall 2010																
	White		African American		Hispanic		Asian*		Native American		Non-Resident Alien		Unknown*		Total	
	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct	Num	Pct
Full-time	4,105	49%	1,181	14%	1,621	20%	537	6%	13	0%	66	1%	788	9%	8,311	100%
Part-time	737	48%	160	10%	338	22%	83	5%	6	0%	6	0%	197	13%	1,527	100%
Total	4,842	49%	1,341	14%	1,959	20%	620	6%	19	0%	72	1%	985	10%	9,838	100%

**Note: Asian includes Pacific Islanders and unknown includes 2 or more races.*

Like many public senior degree-granting institutions around the country, more than half of William Paterson’s undergraduates, 55.0 percent, are female (Table II.C.3.b). The average age of undergraduates was 22.5 years; 61.0 percent were 21 years or younger and almost 9.0 percent were 30 years or older (Table II.C.3.c).

Table II.C.3.b: William Paterson University Undergraduate Enrollment by Sex, Fall 2010														
Full-Time					Part-Time					Total				
Male	Pct	Female	Pct	Total	Male	Pct	Female	Pct	Total	Male	Pct	Female	Pct	Total
3,823	46%	4,488	54%	8,311	652	43%	875	57%	1,527	4,475	45%	5,363	55%	9,838

**Table II.C.3.c:
William Paterson University
Undergraduate Enrollment by Age, Fall 2010**

		LT 18	18-19	20-21	22-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-49	50-64	65+	Un-known	Total
Full-Time	Num	17	2,381	2,677	2,228	692	149	77	69	21	0	0	8,311
	Pct	0%	29%	32%	27%	8%	2%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Part-Time	Num	52	31	102	421	406	189	106	145	73	2	0	1,527
	Pct	3%	2%	7%	28%	27%	12%	7%	9%	5%	0%	0%	100%
Total	Num	69	2,412	2,779	2,649	1,098	338	183	214	94	2	0	9,838
	Pct	1%	25%	28%	27%	11%	3%	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%	100%

Source: IPEDS Fall Enrollment Survey

The diversity of the student body is also reflected in the wide variety of cultural and social activities sponsored by such University offices as the Women’s Center and the many student clubs such as the Muslim Student Association, FACE (Filipino American Cultural Entity), Italian Club, OLAS (Organization of Latin American Students), SABLE (Sisters for Awareness, Black Leadership, & Equality), Spanish Club as well as many others [student clubs-and-organizations.dot](http://www.william-paterson.edu/student-clubs-and-organizations.dot). It is also seen in specific academic majors such as Asian Studies, Africana World Studies, Latin American and Latino Studies, Women’s and Gender Studies and the new critical languages initiative —Arabic, Japanese, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Persian, Russian and Turkish— for those majoring in teacher education. A cross-cultural perspective is especially infused in majors such as Spanish, French and Francophone Studies, Anthropology, Art and Art History, International Business, Sociology, History, Geography, and Political Science, as well as many more.

4. Numbers of students receiving financial assistance

University students are recipients of private, state, federal and University support. This past year there was a 10.0 percent increase in the number of funded undergraduate students and a 42.0 percent increase in funded graduate students. Almost 80.0 percent of undergraduates attending William Paterson received some form of financial aid to help pay for college. All told in AY 2009-10, 25,521 awards were made to undergraduate and graduate students totaling almost \$100 million, including some other loans (SMART, ACG, EOF graduate students, etc.) not listed in the following table.

Approximately 18.0 percent of the awards in Table II.C.4, \$15,834,000, were State of New Jersey funded. William Paterson helps as well by dispersing close to \$9 million through various institutional funds and programs. This includes tuition waivers not listed in the table.

During the past fiscal year, 447 of our students applied for nearly 200 scholarships from the University Foundation and Alumni Association. The Foundation and Alumni Association awarded more than \$395,000 dollars to WPU students to help them in the upcoming year.

Table II.C.4: William Paterson University Distribution of Undergraduate Financial Aid from Federal, State & Institution-Funded Programs, AY 2009-10			
	Recipients	Dollars(\$)	\$/Recipient
FEDERAL PROGRAMS			
Pell Grants	3,215	13,236,000	4,117
College Work Study	209	405,000	1,938
Perkins Loans	78	145,000	1,859
SEOG	547	431,000	788
PLUS Loans	579	4,997,000	8,630
Stafford Loans (Subsidized)	5,028	20,878,000	4,152
Stafford Loans (Unsubsidized)	5,287	20,184,000	3,818
SMART & ACG or other	538	612,000	1,138
STATE PROGRAMS			
Tuition Aid Grants (TAG)	2,471	10,886,000	
Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF)	441	523,000	4,406
Outstanding Scholars (OSRP)	0	0	1,186
Distinguished Scholars	42	37,000	--
Urban Scholars	66	57,000	881
NJ STARS	53	145,000	864
NJCLASS Loans	410	4,186,000	2,736
INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS			10,210
Grants/Scholarships	4,019	7,189,000	1,789
Loans	0	0	--
Source: NJIPEDS Form #41 Student Financial Aid Report			

In addition to administering and monitoring these 200 Foundation and academic departmental scholarships, the Office of Scholarships provides services to more than 1,000 William Paterson University scholars who are recipients of various institutional merit-based scholarships for incoming students. For more scholarship information please see [WPUNJ scholarships](#).

5. Percentage of students who are NJ residents

While the majority of full-time, first-year students are from New Jersey (Table II.C.5), a number of those from out of state are international students representing 36 countries from around the world. Some come from as close as Canada and others as far away as China and Kenya to study at the University.

Table II.C.5: William Paterson University Fall 2010 First-Time Undergraduate Enrollment by State Residence			
State Residents	Non-State Residents	Total	% State Residents
1,490	34	1,524	98%
Source: IPEDS Fall Enrollment Survey			