

OEA Assessment Group. (1998). *Entering Student Survey 1998: Methodology and Response Frequencies*. OEA Reports, 98-4.

Freshman-Transfer Comparisons

Note: Unless otherwise stated, values are means for each group; numbers in parentheses are standard deviations. Asterisks indicate significant differences between new freshmen and transfer students (* $p < .05$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$).

Items 1-4. (Percentage responding "Yes" to each question.)

	Freshman (Ns=2988-2995)	Transfer (Ns=880-883)	Total	C^2
Have you been on the UW campus prior to orientation or registering for classes?	88.28	79.61	86.31	43.33 ***
Did either of your parents attend a Parent Orientation session?	16.57	2.15	13.28	122.81 ***
Did either of your parents attend UW?	24.48	17.61	22.92	18.16 ***
Do you have siblings who have attended or currently attend UW?	18.33	11.69	16.82	21.43 ***

Item 5. How would you rate your contact with the UW up to now? (1=Very negative, 5=Very positive)

Freshman (N=2924)	Transfer (N=860)	Total	t
3.99 (.68)	3.89 (.78)	3.97 (.71)	3.66 ***

Item 6. Where do you plan to live during autumn quarter? (Percent selecting each option.)

	Freshman (N=2977)	Transfer (N=882)	Total
With parents or other relatives	17.23	17.01	17.18
Other private home, apartment, room	6.38	58.96	18.40
Residence halls	59.79	16.78	49.96
Fraternity or sorority	15.42	2.27	12.41
Other campus student housing	.84	3.17	1.37
Other	.34	1.81	.67

$C^2 = 1418.06$ ***

Item 7. When classes are in session, how many hours per week do you plan to work at a job?

	Freshman (N=2960)	Transfer (N=883)	Total
None, I will not be employed	32.30	17.89	28.99
Fewer than 10	17.67	13.36	16.68
10-15	29.83	23.78	28.44
16-20	15.24	25.59	17.62
21-30	4.26	13.70	6.43
More than 30	.71	5.66	1.85
$C^2 = 291.14$ ***			

Item 8. What is the highest degree you have earned? (Percent selecting each option.)

	Freshman (N=2983)	Transfer (N=877)	Total
High school degree or GED equivalent	95.24	33.98	81.32
Vocational education certificate	.10	.91	.28
Associate of arts degree	4.59	62.94	17.85
Bachelor's degree	.07	2.17	.54
$C^2 = 1676.06$ ***			

Item 9. What is the highest degree you expect to earn? (Percent selecting each option.)

	Freshman (N=2919)	Transfer (N=869)	Total
Bachelor's degree	18.26	26.81	20.22
Second Bachelor's degree	2.30	1.84	2.19
Master's degree	46.83	46.38	46.73
Medical degree (MD, DO, DDS, DVM)	15.38	8.17	13.73
Law degree (LLB, JD)	3.91	4.14	3.96
PhD or EdD	12.78	12.43	12.70
Other	.55	.23	.48
$C^2 = 51.84$ ***			

Item 10. What is your parents' educational level?

	Mother's			Father's		
	Freshman (N=2991)	Transfer (N=883)	Total	Freshman (N=2951)	Transfer (N=866)	Total
Less than high school	2.41	3.74	2.71	2.03	3.81	2.44
Some high school	2.17	2.94	2.35	1.93	2.77	2.12
High school degree or GED	12.60	21.86	14.71	9.42	16.05	10.92
Vocational educ. certificate	2.91	3.62	3.07	2.74	3.00	2.80
Some college	22.84	23.22	22.92	16.81	19.63	17.45
Associate of arts degree	6.89	10.42	7.69	4.64	6.24	5.00
Bachelors degree	31.39	22.76	29.43	30.23	27.94	29.71
Masters degree	15.78	9.74	14.40	20.06	12.93	18.44
Doctoral or professional deg.	3.01	1.70	2.71	12.13	7.62	11.11
$C^2 = 96.93$ ***				$C^2 = 76.34$ ***		

**Item 11. How important are each of the following to you personally?
(1=Not at all, 5=Essential)**

	Freshman (Ns=2969-3004)	Transfer (Ns=871-886)	Total	t
Becoming accomplished in one of the performing arts	1.37 (1.25)	1.36 (1.27)	1.36 (1.26)	.11
Becoming an authority in my field	2.85 (.93)	2.94 (.96)	2.87 (.94)	-2.53 *
Recognition from colleagues for contributions to my field	2.54 (.98)	2.60 (.94)	2.56 (.97)	-1.63
Influencing political structure	1.45 (1.05)	1.69 (1.08)	1.50 (1.07)	-6.00 ***
Influencing social values	2.10 (1.07)	2.44 (1.00)	2.18 (1.06)	-8.53 ***
Raising a family	2.77 (1.19)	2.74 (1.25)	2.76 (1.21)	.78
Administrative responsibility for the work of others	2.00 (1.06)	1.98 (1.10)	1.99 (1.07)	.46
Being very well off financially	2.84 (.97)	2.56 (.96)	2.78 (.97)	7.56 ***
Helping others who are in difficulty	2.76 (.90)	2.93 (.85)	2.80 (.89)	-5.02 ***
Making at least a B average while at the UW	3.60 (.60)	3.67 (.56)	3.62 (.59)	-3.01 **
Graduating with no more than four years of college	2.10 (1.37)	1.65 (1.40)	2.00 (1.39)	8.64 ***
Making a theoretical contribution to science	1.37 (1.17)	1.47 (1.29)	1.39 (1.20)	-2.20 *
Writing original works/creating artistic work	1.48 (1.27)	1.87 (1.36)	1.57 (1.30)	-7.88 ***
Becoming successful in a business of my own	1.89 (1.22)	1.97 (1.28)	1.91 (1.24)	-1.82
Involved in programs to improve environment	1.76 (1.03)	2.20 (1.08)	1.86 (1.06)	-11.23 ***
Developing a meaningful life philosophy	2.33 (1.20)	2.75 (1.15)	2.42 (1.20)	-9.33 ***
Participating in a community action program	1.95 (1.04)	2.20 (1.00)	2.01 (1.03)	-6.26 ***
Helping to promote racial understanding	2.13 (1.08)	2.48 (1.05)	2.21 (1.08)	-8.69 ***
Keeping up to date with political affairs	2.05 (1.05)	2.24 (1.07)	2.09 (1.06)	-4.69 ***
Becoming a community leader	1.92 (1.07)	1.99 (1.08)	1.93 (1.08)	-1.86
Going to graduate or professional school	3.00 (1.02)	2.96 (1.09)	2.99 (1.04)	.89
Getting good enough grades to attend grad or prof school	3.45 (.80)	3.44 (.87)	3.45 (.82)	.40

**Item 12. How important was each of the following in your decision to attend UW?
(1=Not at all, 5=Extremely)**

	Freshman (Ns=2966-2989)	Transfer (Ns=864-878)	Total	t
Advice of parents, relatives or friends	2.35 (1.13)	1.99 (1.28)	2.27 (1.18)	8.14 ***
Advice of high school teachers or counselors	1.38 (1.18)	.92 (1.18)	1.27 (1.20)	9.98 ***
Academic reputation	2.81 (.92)	2.91 (.89)	2.83 (.91)	-2.93 **
Cost of attending school	2.36 (1.23)	2.29 (1.21)	2.34 (1.23)	1.39
Financial aid/scholarships available	1.49 (1.39)	1.71 (1.44)	1.54 (1.41)	-4.04 ***
Part-time work opportunities	1.23 (1.22)	1.41 (1.30)	1.27 (1.24)	-3.88 ***
Size of school	1.74 (1.14)	1.53 (1.17)	1.69 (1.15)	4.78 ***
Location	2.95 (.97)	3.01 (1.04)	2.97 (.98)	-1.45
Variety of courses/programs offered	2.85 (.95)	2.91 (1.00)	2.86 (.96)	-1.65
Had specific program I wanted	2.21 (1.35)	2.86 (1.23)	2.36 (1.35)	-12.68 ***
Sports opportunities or scholarships availability	.80 (1.08)	.53 (.90)	.74 (1.05)	6.57 ***
Social climate and activities	2.16 (1.11)	1.75 (1.20)	2.06 (1.14)	9.36 ***
UW graduates get good jobs	2.34 (1.19)	2.25 (1.27)	2.32 (1.21)	1.76
UW graduates are more financially successful	2.18 (1.23)	1.98 (1.28)	2.13 (1.24)	4.06 ***
UW graduates get into good grad or prof programs	2.32 (1.24)	2.32 (1.29)	2.32 (1.25)	-.02

Item 13. If you are transferring from another post-secondary institution, how important was each of the following in your decision to attend another school before enrolling at the University of Washington? (1=Not at all, 5=Extremely)
Note: Some students classified as new freshmen responded to this item.

	Freshman (Ns=282-293)	Transfer (Ns=785-797)	Total	t
Programs available that were not available at UW	1.46 (1.50)	.83 (1.29)	1.00 (1.38)	6.82 ***
Smaller class size	2.00 (1.36)	2.32 (1.45)	2.24 (1.44)	-3.25 **
Lower cost	2.30 (1.47)	2.52 (1.57)	2.46 (1.55)	-2.12 *
Size of the school	1.88 (1.34)	1.95 (1.42)	1.93 (1.40)	-0.71
Better access to classes	2.10 (1.34)	2.13 (1.40)	2.12 (1.39)	-0.32
Better access to faculty	2.08 (1.36)	2.20 (1.42)	2.16 (1.41)	-1.21
Less competitive environment	1.52 (1.30)	1.33 (1.33)	1.38 (1.32)	2.13 *
Family obligations	1.40 (1.37)	1.20 (1.41)	1.25 (1.40)	2.07 *
Wanted to stay close to home	1.62 (1.47)	1.49 (1.51)	1.52 (1.50)	1.29
Needed more preparation to meet UW entrance requirements	1.23 (1.38)	1.37 (1.56)	1.34 (1.52)	-1.42

Item 14. How concerned are you with each of the following? (1=Not at all, 5=Extremely)

	Freshman (Ns=2943-2977)	Transfer (Ns=864-872)	Total	t
Whether my decision to attend UW is the right one for me	2.25 (1.36)	2.03 (1.44)	2.20 (1.38)	4.10 ***
Financing my education	2.35 (1.36)	2.73 (1.32)	2.43 (1.36)	-7.30 ***
Living away from home	1.40 (1.23)	.95 (1.27)	1.30 (1.25)	9.42 ***
Housing	1.69 (1.17)	1.42 (1.41)	1.63 (1.23)	5.69 ***
Commuting and parking	1.46 (1.28)	2.01 (1.36)	1.59 (1.31)	-11.01 ***
Meeting new people	2.16 (1.20)	1.96 (1.26)	2.11 (1.22)	4.40 ***
Size of campus	1.82 (1.12)	1.89 (1.17)	1.84 (1.14)	-1.63
Learning my way around campus	2.07 (1.19)	2.14 (1.23)	2.09 (1.20)	-1.62
Learning to find and use campus resources	2.25 (1.14)	2.47 (1.13)	2.30 (1.14)	-5.10 ***
Choosing a major	2.37 (1.30)	1.80 (1.53)	2.24 (1.38)	10.95 ***
Choosing classes	2.72 (1.05)	2.53 (1.24)	2.68 (1.10)	4.47 ***
Course availability	2.65 (1.07)	2.87 (1.07)	2.70 (1.07)	-5.22 ***
Taking large classes	2.07 (1.12)	2.12 (1.27)	2.08 (1.16)	-0.97
Quality of instruction	2.34 (1.28)	2.56 (1.36)	2.39 (1.30)	-4.39 ***
Transferring credits from another institution	.97 (1.30)	2.30 (1.39)	1.27 (1.43)	-26.23 ***
Approachability of faculty	2.21 (1.14)	2.54 (1.16)	2.29 (1.15)	-7.47 ***
Helpfulness of teaching assistants	2.22 (1.16)	2.49 (1.18)	2.28 (1.17)	-5.95 ***
Getting good grades	3.24 (.90)	3.35 (.90)	3.26 (.90)	-3.26 **
School workload	2.87 (.93)	2.86 (1.03)	2.87 (.95)	0.44
Quality of Total	2.42 (1.12)	2.73 (1.16)	2.49 (1.13)	-7.14 ***
Access to advisor when needed	2.46 (1.10)	2.71 (1.14)	2.51 (1.12)	-5.87 ***
Access to on-line Total and support	1.86 (1.18)	2.04 (1.22)	1.90 (1.19)	-3.97 ***
Balancing studies with work and/or family responsibilities	2.26 (1.25)	2.65 (1.23)	2.35 (1.25)	-8.03 ***
Balancing my social life with my studies	2.53 (1.12)	2.05 (1.24)	2.42 (1.17)	10.90 ***
Graduating on time	2.45 (1.33)	2.45 (1.34)	2.45 (1.33)	-0.12

Item 15. Rate yourself on each of the following abilities. We want your most accurate estimate on how you see yourself. (1=Poor, 5=Excellent)

	Freshman (Ns=2908-2951)	Transfer (Ns=849-861)	Total	t
Writing effectively	3.50 (.88)	3.53 (.91)	3.51 (.88)	-0.88
Speaking effectively	3.26 (.98)	3.22 (.96)	3.25 (.97)	1.11
Critically analyzing written information	3.24 (.91)	3.45 (.90)	3.29 (.91)	-5.86 ***
Defining and solving problems	3.51 (.86)	3.61 (.87)	3.53 (.87)	-3.11 **
Working and/or learning independently	3.88 (.88)	4.02 (.88)	3.91 (.88)	-4.15 ***
Working cooperatively in a group	3.79 (.89)	3.74 (.90)	3.78 (.89)	1.43
Using a foreign language	2.50 (1.21)	2.35 (1.32)	2.47 (1.24)	3.10 **
Understanding and appreciating the arts	3.09 (1.23)	3.22 (1.21)	3.12 (1.22)	-2.82 **
Understanding and applying scientific principles and methods	3.05 (1.09)	3.08 (1.10)	3.06 (1.09)	-0.78
Understanding and applying quantitative principles & methods	2.87 (1.08)	2.96 (1.12)	2.89 (1.09)	-2.01 *
Understanding and appreciating diverse philosophies and cultures	3.22 (1.03)	3.49 (1.02)	3.28 (1.04)	-6.57 ***
Understanding the interaction of society and the environment	3.06 (.93)	3.39 (.92)	3.14 (.94)	-8.91 ***
Working effectively with modern technology, especially computers	3.24 (1.06)	3.22 (1.10)	3.23 (1.07)	0.46
Locating info needed to help make decisions or solve problems	3.36 (.86)	3.45 (.88)	3.38 (.86)	-2.56 *
Using knowledge, ideas or perspectives gained from major	3.46 (.84)	3.64 (.88)	3.50 (.85)	-5.42 ***
Using knowledge gained from outside of your major field	3.34 (.85)	3.53 (.87)	3.39 (.86)	-5.71 ***
Using management or leadership capabilities	3.43 (1.01)	3.32 (1.00)	3.41 (1.01)	2.83 **

Item 16. Predict how important each of these abilities will be to what you plan to do after you graduate. (1=Not important, 5=Essential)

	Freshman (Ns=2778-2806)	Transfer (Ns=809-819)	Total	t
Writing effectively	4.01 (1.00)	4.23 (.90)	4.06 (.98)	-5.47 ***
Speaking effectively	4.20 (.90)	4.38 (.82)	4.24 (.89)	-5.04 ***
Critically analyzing written information	3.96 (1.01)	4.24 (.86)	4.02 (.98)	-7.20 ***
Defining and solving problems	4.28 (.85)	4.43 (.77)	4.32 (.84)	-4.55 ***
Working and/or learning independently	4.16 (.88)	4.24 (.85)	4.18 (.88)	-2.26 *
Working cooperatively in a group	4.22 (.89)	4.27 (.89)	4.23 (.89)	-1.54
Using a foreign language	2.78 (1.27)	2.74 (1.29)	2.77 (1.28)	0.90
Understanding and appreciating the arts	2.65 (1.32)	2.79 (1.32)	2.68 (1.32)	-2.70 **
Understanding and applying scientific principles and methods	3.45 (1.34)	3.47 (1.36)	3.46 (1.34)	-0.33
Understanding and applying quantitative principles & methods	3.36 (1.27)	3.46 (1.30)	3.38 (1.28)	-1.98 *
Understanding and appreciating diverse philosophies and cultures	3.23 (1.22)	3.62 (1.21)	3.31 (1.23)	-7.99 ***
Understanding the interaction of society and the environment	3.27 (1.19)	3.64 (1.14)	3.35 (1.19)	-7.92 ***
Working effectively with modern technology, especially computers	4.26 (.90)	4.27 (.89)	4.26 (.90)	-0.24
Locating info needed to help make decisions or solve problems	4.23 (.86)	4.39 (.78)	4.26 (.84)	-4.94 ***
Using knowledge, ideas or perspectives gained from major	4.48 (.73)	4.64 (.63)	4.52 (.72)	-5.44 ***
Using knowledge gained from outside of your major field	4.09 (.89)	4.14 (.88)	4.11 (.88)	-1.29
Using management or leadership capabilities	4.10 (.94)	4.08 (.97)	4.10 (.95)	0.68

**Item 17. How well you expect your UW experience to prepare you for:
(1=Not at all, 5=Extremely)**

	Freshman (Ns=2939-2945)	Transfer (Ns=853-856)	Total	t
Graduate school	4.32 (.65)	4.33 (.78)	4.33 (.68)	-0.30
Your future career	4.43 (.62)	4.47 (.64)	4.44 (.63)	-1.91
Everyday life	3.87 (.82)	3.63 (.95)	3.82 (.86)	7.26 ***
Contributing to society	3.77 (.82)	3.79 (.87)	3.77 (.83)	-0.55
Life-long learning	4.02 (.80)	4.06 (.83)	4.03 (.81)	-1.04

Item 18. How likely are you to seek out each of the following in your courses or other experiences at the UW? (1=Not at all, 5=Extremely)

	Freshman (Ns=2897-2925)	Transfer (Ns=831-846)	Total	t
Writing opportunities	3.36 (1.01)	3.46 (1.06)	3.39 (1.02)	-2.45 *
Opportunities to do math and other quantitative analyses	3.26 (1.24)	3.04 (1.32)	3.21 (1.26)	4.41 ***
Opportunities to think critically about knowledge	3.59 (.94)	3.81 (.92)	3.64 (.94)	-6.01 ***
Opportunities to define and solve problems	3.71 (.92)	3.97 (.88)	3.77 (.92)	-7.26 ***
Finding info in libraries and/or networked resources	3.96 (.88)	4.21 (.80)	4.02 (.87)	-7.52 ***
Group/team projects	3.58 (.92)	3.63 (.94)	3.59 (.92)	-1.36
Oral presentations	3.06 (1.10)	3.18 (1.12)	3.09 (1.10)	-2.69 **
Group discussions	3.65 (.95)	3.70 (.93)	3.67 (.94)	-1.29
Labs and other classroom 'learning by doing' opportunities	3.87 (.91)	4.01 (.95)	3.90 (.92)	-3.75 ***
Computer/internet opportunities and/or practice	3.87 (.93)	3.93 (.94)	3.88 (.94)	-1.82
Working on a professor's research project or publishing	3.15 (1.06)	3.39 (1.12)	3.21 (1.08)	-5.66 ***
Informal contact with professors outside of class	3.33 (1.02)	3.40 (1.07)	3.34 (1.03)	-1.68
Interaction with diverse cultures and people	3.41 (1.05)	3.68 (1.04)	3.47 (1.05)	-6.54 ***
Community service opportunities	3.22 (1.05)	3.30 (1.03)	3.24 (1.05)	-1.76
Practical application of coursework in major to job/education	4.29 (.75)	4.50 (.69)	4.34 (.74)	-7.16 ***

Item 19. During the past year, what types of service/charity/volunteer work did you perform? (Percent responded "Yes" to each item.)

	Freshman (N=3017)	Transfer (N=893)	Total	t
Tutoring or teaching	47.10	37.51	44.91	25.59 ***
Homeless/shelter support	18.66	6.83	15.96	71.90 ***
Recreational (e.g., coaching)	23.57	15.23	21.66	28.22 ***
Community cleanup/rebuilding	32.02	12.77	27.62	127.75 ***
Child care	28.64	19.71	26.60	28.14 ***
School alumni organization support	6.83	2.35	5.81	25.25 ***
Conservation activities (e.g., recycling, planting trees)	25.89	20.16	24.58	12.20 **
Public safety (e.g., crime prevention, volunteer fire fighter)	5.04	3.70	4.73	2.76
Related to medical or health causes (e.g., AIDS, breast cancer)	15.98	9.41	14.48	24.02 ***
Counseling/mentoring (e.g., big sister or brother, crisis hotline)	12.93	10.08	12.28	5.19 *
Religious activities	31.99	19.60	29.16	51.20 ***
Political or campaign activities	8.15	5.71	7.60	5.86 *
Other	34.97	22.62	32.15	48.17 ***
None	6.13	15.79	8.34	84.09 ***

Item 20. During the past year, how many hours each month, on average, did you devote to volunteer work or a community action program? (1=None, 3=4-6 hours, 5=Over 10)

	Freshman (N=2997)	Transfer (N=833)	Total
None	13.67	29.29	17.16
1 to 3 hours	36.04	30.61	34.83
4 to 6 hours	22.99	15.85	21.39
7 to 10 hours	12.56	11.16	12.25
Over 10 hours	14.74	13.09	14.37

$\chi^2 = 115.19$ ***

Item 21. During the past year, how often did you:
(0=never, 3=Once a week, 5=Daily or nearly every day)

	Freshman (Ns=2846-2879)	Transfer (Ns=797-824)	Total	t
Use computer in a high school class, lab or library	3.30 (1.49)	2.54 (1.93)	3.13 (1.63)	11.80 ***
Use computer at home to do school assignments	3.82 (1.17)	3.50 (1.65)	3.75 (1.30)	6.39 ***
Use computer at home to do own projects or creative work	3.08 (1.58)	3.04 (1.69)	3.07 (1.60)	0.64
Use computer at home for fun or to play games	2.97 (1.67)	2.64 (1.77)	2.90 (1.70)	4.80 ***
Use a word processor (e.g., Microsoft Word, Wordperfect)	3.83 (1.05)	3.79 (1.18)	3.82 (1.08)	1.12
Use a spreadsheet (e.g., Microsoft Excel, Quatropro)	1.69 (1.43)	1.88 (1.70)	1.73 (1.50)	-3.20 **
Use presentation software (e.g., Microsoft Powerpoint)	1.12 (1.30)	.84 (1.23)	1.06 (1.29)	5.35 ***
Use the Internet	3.55 (1.37)	3.67 (1.44)	3.57 (1.39)	-2.30 *
Communicate using e-mail	3.03 (1.86)	3.53 (1.75)	3.14 (1.84)	-6.89 ***
Participate in on-line discussion groups	1.28 (1.59)	.95 (1.38)	1.21 (1.55)	5.51 ***
Do research using on-line library or Internet resources	2.54 (1.41)	2.41 (1.50)	2.51 (1.43)	2.17 *
Create pages on the Internet	.51 (1.14)	.39 (1.00)	.49 (1.11)	2.84 **
Write computer programs	.37 (1.02)	.44 (1.09)	.38 (1.03)	-1.73

Item 22. Will you own or have access to a computer in your residence autumn quarter?
(Percent responded "Yes".)

Freshman (N=2861)	Transfer (N=813)	Total	χ^2
80.04	81.55	80.38	41.17 ***

Item 23. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
(1=Strongly disagree, 5=Strongly agree)

	Freshman (Ns=2854-2877)	Transfer (Ns=811-821)	Total	t
I feel comfortable in the UW environment.	3.86 (.70)	3.73 (.76)	3.83 (.72)	4.68 ***
I feel well prepared to succeed academically here at UW.	3.93 (.72)	4.02 (.72)	3.95 (.72)	-3.00 **
I feel comfortable asking for help in a library.	3.95 (.75)	4.15 (.71)	3.99 (.75)	-7.04 ***
I feel comfortable doing library research, either for class assignments or own interests.	3.98 (.75)	4.00 (.80)	3.99 (.76)	-0.40
I feel comfortable using a computer.	4.21 (.77)	4.19 (.85)	4.21 (.79)	0.85