

West Chester University of Pennsylvania

West Chester, PA • 610-436-1000

<http://www.wcupa.edu/>

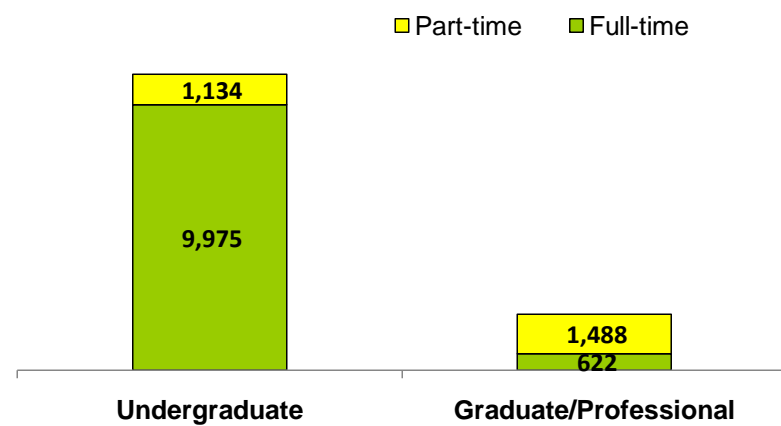
The second-largest school in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education and the fourth-largest university in the Philadelphia area, West Chester is a leading resource and partner in fostering the region's economic, social and cultural vitality. Its 400-acre campus is situated in the beautiful, historically significant Brandywine Valley.

With roots dating back to 1821, West Chester has evolved into a comprehensive university which excels in teacher education, business, health, natural and social sciences, music and the arts. Ranked among Kiplinger's 100 best values in public colleges for its academic quality and affordability, the University is committed to providing access and serving the educational needs of a diverse student body. Today, West Chester University offers more than 80 undergraduate and 70 master's degree and graduate certificate programs

Student Characteristics (Fall 2007) [More](#)

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS 13,219

Student Level and Enrollment Status



UNDERGRADUATE PROFILE

Total 11,109

Gender

Women	6,778	61%
Men	4,331	39%

Race/Ethnicity

African American / Black	987	9%
American Indian / Alaskan Native	32	0%
Asian / Pacific Islander	220	2%
Hispanic	302	3%
International	30	0%
White	9,532	86%
Race/Ethnicity Unknown	6	0%

Geographic Distribution (Degree-Seeking)

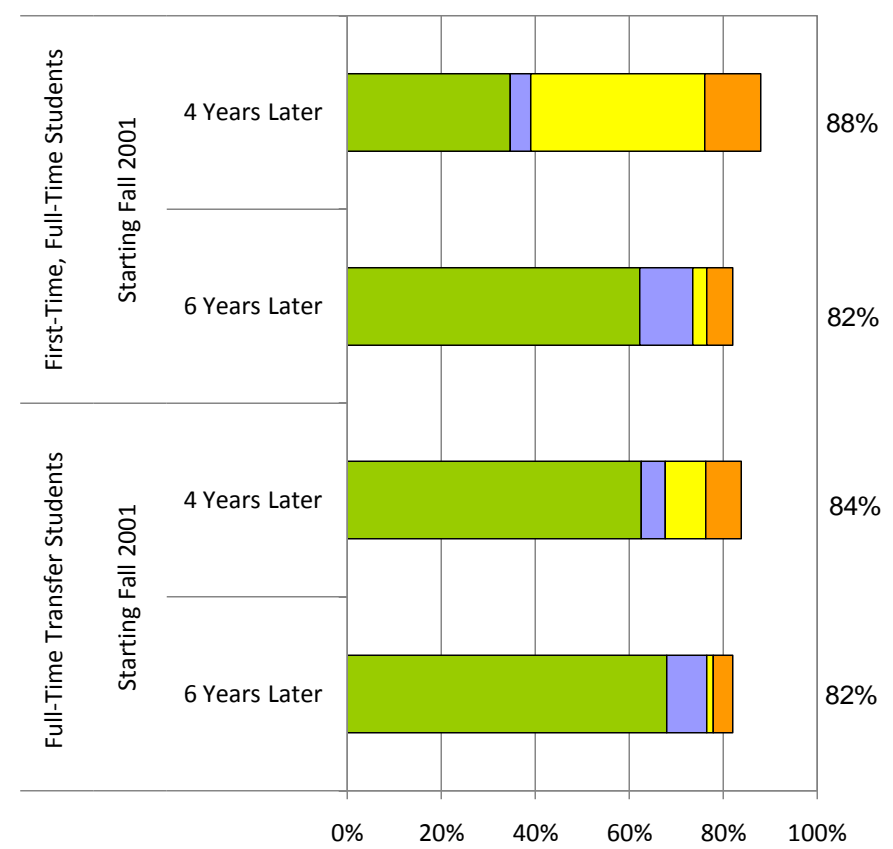
Pennsylvania	88%
Other US States & Territories	12%
Other Countries	0%

Age (Degree-Seeking)

Average Age	21
Percent of Undergraduates Age 25 or Older	9%

Undergraduate Success and Progress Rate

■ Graduated from WCU
 ■ Graduated from other Institution
■ Still Enrolled at WCU
 ■ Still Enrolled at other Institution



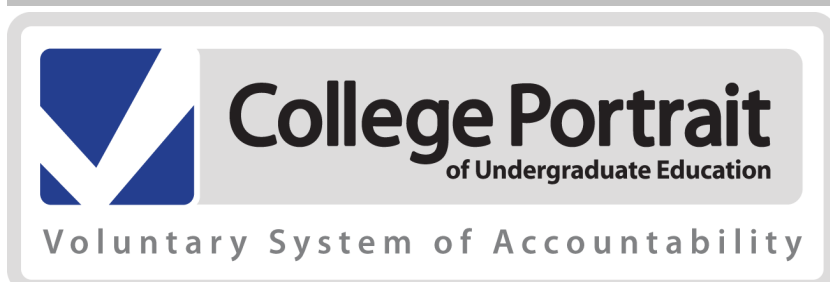
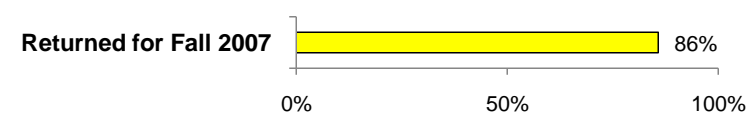
A 88% four-year success and progress rate means that 88% of students starting in Fall 2001 either graduated or are still enrolled at a higher education institution four years later.

Counts for the Fall 2001 entering class shown in the graph above.

- 1,629 First-Time, Full-Time Students
- 794 Full-Time Transfer Students

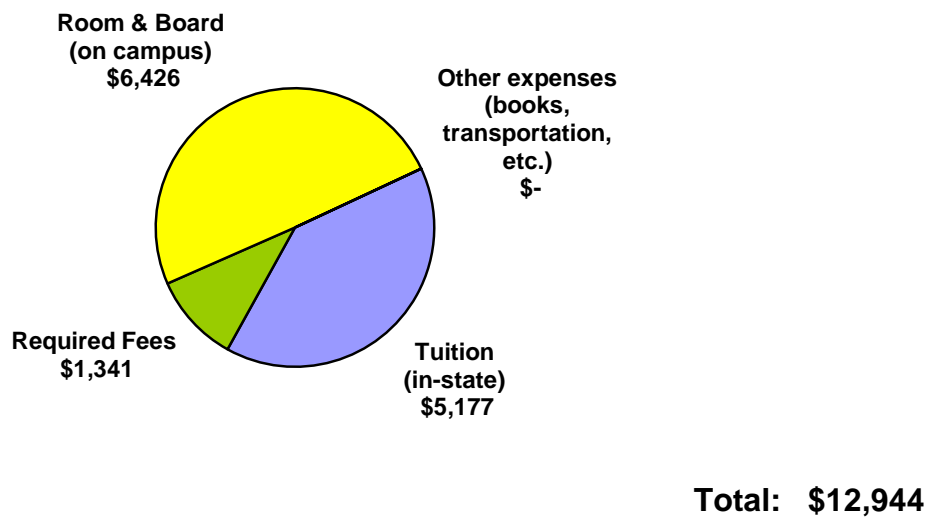
[CLICK HERE](#) for Detailed Success & Progress Rate Tables

Retention of Fall 2006 First-Time, Full-time Students



One of the strengths of U.S. higher education is the broad range of diverse institutions, each with its own distinctive mission. We encourage you to check out college web sites and visit campuses to get a more complete picture of the opportunities available to you!

Typical Undergraduate Costs per Year Without Financial Aid for Full-Time, In-State Students (2007-08)



[CLICK HERE](#) for typical out-of-state costs and any discipline-specific tuition

The cost to attend varies based on the individual circumstances of students and may be reduced through grants and scholarships.

[CLICK HERE](#)
To get a cost estimate for students like you!

Financial Aid Awarded to Undergraduates (Fall 2006)

Overall Financial Aid

• 54% of Fall 2006 full-time undergraduates received financial aid of some type including need-based loans, work study, and non need-based scholarships.

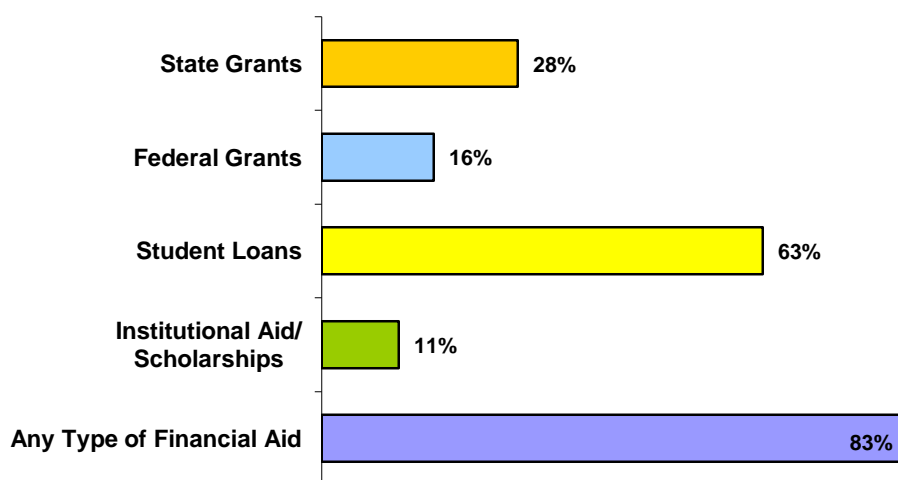
Annual Need-Based Scholarships & Grants

• 33% of Fall 2006 full-time undergraduates received need-based grants or scholarships; the average award for the year was \$4,436.

Annual Need-Based Loans

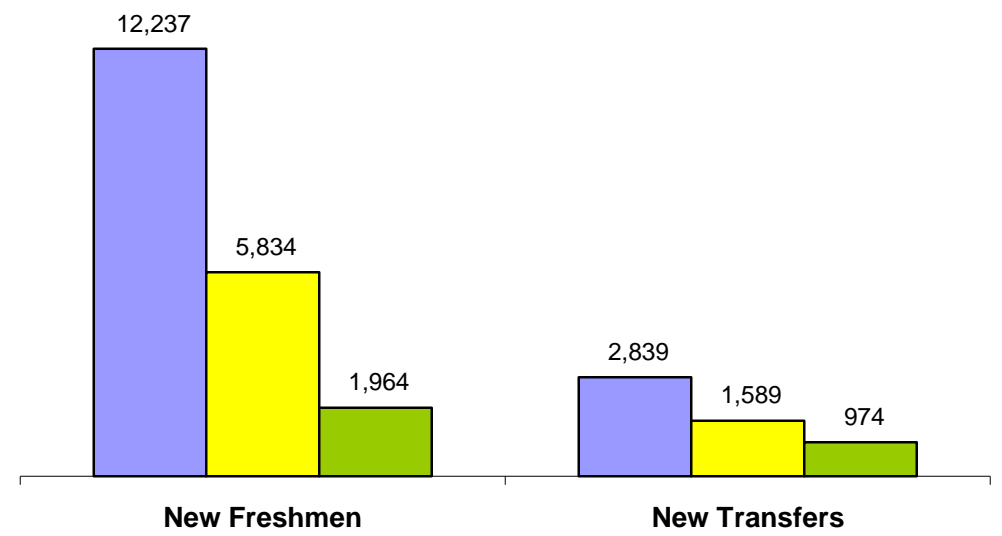
• 44% of Fall 2006 full-time undergraduates received need-based work-study and/or loans (not including parent loans); the average loan for the year was \$4,010.

Percent of Fall 2006 First-Time Students Receiving Each Type of Financial Aid



NOTE: Student may receive aid from more than one source.

Applied Admitted Enrolled



Academic Preparation of New Freshman

Test(s) Required for Admission: SAT &/or ACT

Middle 50% of Test Score Range	ACT	SAT
Composite	-	
Math	-	490-580
English	-	
Critical Reading		480-570

50% of admitted students have test scores within the ranges listed, 25% have scores above, and 25% have scores below.

Percent in top 25% of High School Graduating Class	38%
Percent in top 50% of High School Graduating Class	79%
Average High School GPA (4-point scale)	3.35

Degrees and Areas of Study [More](#)

Degrees Awarded at WCU in 2006-07

Bachelor's	2,160
Master's	579
Total	2,739

Areas of Study with the Largest Number of Undergraduate Degrees Awarded in 2006-07

Education	17%
Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Ser	15%
Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences	12%
Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities	9%
English Language and Literature/Letters	9%
All other degree areas	38%
Total	100%

[CLICK HERE](#) for a list of undergraduate and graduate programs

The Golden Rams Community

West Chester University is committed to providing access to the best educational preparation in today's global society. To that end, students are exposed to an educational experience that encourages leadership and growth through a variety of rigorous academic and extracurricular programs, including 24 men's and women's athletic teams and 210 student clubs and organizations. Faculty are dedicated to teaching and excellence in their fields: Some design innovative courses responsive to the region's needs, and many enhance classroom experiences with service learning. Undergraduates receive hands-on training on current technology in the sciences and other fields both on campus in state-of-the-art facilities and via internships. Students also are encouraged to be involved in their community and explore its many cultural opportunities. From Learning Communities, where students live and learn in small groups that foster relationships and critical thinking, to extensive library holdings and accessible faculty and administrators, West Chester is an educational experience that prepares its students for a lifetime.



Study at WCU

[More](#)

Classroom Environment

Students per Faculty	17.4 to 1
Undergraduate classes with fewer than 30 students	NA
Undergraduate classes with fewer than 50 students	NA

Full-Time Instructional Faculty

Total Faculty	572
% Women	48%
% from Minority Groups	14%
% with Highest Degree in Field	93%

Carnegie Classification of Institutional Characteristics

Basic Type

Master's L: Master's Colleges and Universities (larger programs)

Size and Setting

L4/R: Large four-year, primarily residential

Enrollment Profile

HU: High undergraduate

Undergraduate Profile

FT4/S/HTI: Full-time four-year, selective, higher transfer-in

Undergraduate Instructional Program

Bal/HGC: Balanced arts & sciences/professions, high graduate coexistence

Graduate Instructional Program

Postbac-Comp: Postbaccalaureate comprehensive

NOTE: Institutional classifications based on the Carnegie 2005 edition.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information on Carnegie Classifications.

Student Housing

[More](#)

92% of new freshmen live on campus

41% of all undergraduates live on campus

Campus Safety

[More](#)

The University Department of Public Safety consists of 20 police officers, 15 security officers and clerical staff. The department operates 24/7 year-round and is responsible for police, physical and electronic security, emergency management, threat assessment and parking. Its officers receive annual training in emergency response and Pennsylvania Code updates. All residence halls and many other campus buildings are access controlled, and approximately 280 security cameras are strategically located around campus.

[CLICK HERE](#) for Campus Crime Statistics report.

Future Plans of Bachelor's Degree Recipients

Data used to build graph are not yet available

Student Experiences and Perceptions

Students who are actively involved in their own learning and development are more likely to be successful in college. Colleges and universities offer students a wide variety of opportunities both inside and outside the classroom to become engaged with new ideas, people, and experiences. Institutions measure the effectiveness of these opportunities in a variety of ways to better understand what types of activities and programs students find the most helpful.

[CLICK HERE](#) for examples of how WCU evaluates the experiences of its students.

In addition, institutions participating in the VSA program measure student involvement on campus using one of four national surveys. Results from the one survey are reported for a common set of questions selected as part of VSA. Following are the selected results from the 2007-08 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). The questions have been grouped together in categories that are known to contribute to student learning and development. The results reported below are based on the responses of seniors who participated in the survey.

[CLICK HERE](#) for information on survey administration, the survey sample, and the response rate.

[CLICK HERE](#) for information on the NSSE survey.

Group Learning Experiences

- 93% percent of seniors worked with classmates on assignments outside of class.
- 55% of seniors tutored or taught other students
- 29% of seniors spent at least 6 hours per week participating in co-curricular activities such as student organizations and intramural sports

Active Learning Experiences

- 79% of seniors spent at least 6 hours per week preparing for class
- 27% of seniors worked on a research project with a faculty member
- 80% of seniors participated in an internship, practicum, or field experience
- 70% of seniors participated in community service or volunteer work
- 14% of seniors participated in study abroad
- 96% of seniors made at least one class presentation last year

Institutional Commitment to Student Learning and Success

- 96% of seniors believe this institution provides support for student success
- 64% of seniors rated the quality of academic advising at this institution as good or excellent
- 58% of seniors reported that this institution provided help in coping with work, family and other non-academic responsibilities
- 94% of seniors reported working harder than they thought they could to meet an instructor's standards or expectations

Student Satisfaction

- 81% of seniors would attend this institution if they started over again
- 84% of seniors rated their entire educational experience as good or excellent
- 79% of seniors reported that other students were friendly or supportive

Student Interaction with Campus Faculty and Staff

- 45% of seniors believed that the campus staff were helpful, considerate, or flexible
- 79% of seniors believed that faculty are available, helpful, or sympathetic
- 95% of seniors reported that faculty members provided prompt feedback on their academic performance
- 69% of seniors discussed readings or ideas with faculty members outside of class

Experiences with Diverse Groups of People and Ideas

- 59% of seniors reported that they often tried to understand someone else's point of view
- 84% of seniors reported their experience at this institution contributed to their understanding people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds
- 51% of seniors often had serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity

Student Learning Outcomes

All colleges and universities use multiple approaches to measure student learning. Many of these are specific to particular disciplines, many are coordinated with accrediting agencies, and many are based on outcomes after students have graduated. In addition, those institutions participating in the VSA measure increases in critical thinking, analytic reasoning, and written communication using one of three tests.

Student Learning Assessment at WCU

Student success is at the heart of the West Chester University strategic plan; assessment provides a way to deliver on our commitment to improving student learning and student outcomes. Each program, department, and college assess their learning goals and these are regularly revised and reviewed as a result of assessment results. In addition, we conduct program-level General Education assessment that is university-wide and assessment data becomes part of a feedback loop that used for the review and revision of general education goals and student learning outcomes.

[CLICK HERE](#) for examples of student learning assessment and outcomes at WCU

Pilot Project to Measure Core Learning Outcomes

Results from the pilot project using one of the three learning outcomes tests are not yet available.