Adult Learner Enrollment Report
Adult Learner Enrollment Report

- Overview
- Analysis
- Observations
Definition of the Penn State Adult Learner

- A Penn State student is an adult student if he or she:
  - Is 24 of age or older
  - Is active-duty military or a veteran
  - Is married
  - Has dependents (parents, siblings)
  - Has children
  - Has a four or more years hiatus in learning, or
  - Was identified as an adult by an academic advisor using her/his professional judgment
Old vs. New Way of Identifying Penn State Adult Students

- **Before fall 2007 semester,** Penn State identified adult students only as students who are 24 years of age or older or who are active-duty military or veterans.

- **Starting with fall 2007,** Penn State implemented the New Adult Learner Indicator based on the definition of a Penn State adult student.
Old vs. New Way of Identifying Penn State Adult Students (cont.)

- According to the New Adult Learner Indicator, a Penn State student is an adult if at least one of the following fields that describe the student in the Data Warehouse is populated with a “Y”:
  - Adult by age
  - Adult by veteran
  - Adult by married
  - Adult by dependents
  - Adult by children
  - Adult by hiatus
  - Adult by judgment
Adult Learner Enrollment Report

- **Data source:**
  - Data Warehouse

- **Unit of analysis:**
  - Budget Academic Year (summer, fall, and spring semester - in this order)
  - Semester

- **Time frame:**
  - BAY 2003/04 – BAY 2007/08

- **Population of interest:**
  - Penn State Adult Students (in a registered or scheduled status)

- **Frequency:**
  - Monthly
Report Elements

- Graduate and undergraduate total campus headcount enrollment and adult campus headcount enrollment by budget academic year and by semester.
- Percentage of adult headcount enrollment by semester
- Degree and nondegree undergraduate adult headcount enrollment by budget academic year.
- Graduate and undergraduate adult students by type of credits enrolled by budget academic year.
Report Elements (cont.)

Analyses by campus are grouped in four major categories:

- Commonwealth Campuses
- World Campus
- University Park
- University wide
Calculations

- All numbers included in these analyses are headcount enrollment.

- However, if a student has enrolled in more than one campus in any particular budget academic year he/she is counted at both campuses. The same is true if a student was enrolled in a degree or a nondegree program in the same academic year.
Penn State Undergraduate Adult Students
Five-Year Trend
2003/04 through 2007/08

Undergraduate Adult Students

Penn State University
Commonwealth Campuses
University Park
World Campus
Major Findings

In 2007/08:

- 27% of all Penn State graduate and undergraduate students are adults
- 17% of Penn State undergraduate students are adults
- The percentage of adult students within Penn State undergraduate student population remained largely unchanged over the last five budget academic years.
Penn State Headcount Enrollment
*Graduate and Undergraduate Students*
2003/04 through 2007/08

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Academic Year</th>
<th>Campus Enrollment</th>
<th>Adult Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003/04</td>
<td>87,738</td>
<td>25,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004/05</td>
<td>86,397</td>
<td>26,109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005/06</td>
<td>85,618</td>
<td>25,524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006/07</td>
<td>90,069</td>
<td>26,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007/08</td>
<td>91,419</td>
<td>25,121</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Penn State Headcount Enrollment
Undergraduate Students
2003/04 through 2007/08

Budget Academic Year

Undergraduate Students

Campus Enrollment

Adult Students

Penn State
Outreach
Institutional Data Research
Penn State *Undergraduate* Adult Students by Campus
Budget Academic Years 2003/04 through 2007/08

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Academic Year</th>
<th>Commonwealth Campuses</th>
<th>University Park</th>
<th>World Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003/04</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004/05</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005/06</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006/07</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007/08</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Analysis**
Penn State Undergraduate Adult Students by Type of Credits Enrolled
Budget Academic Year 2007/08

2003/04
- Only CE Credits: 15%
- Only RI Credits: 10%
- Only WD Credits: 9%
- Combination of Credits: 66%

2007/08
- Only CE Credits: 17%
- Only RI Credits: 12%
- Only WD Credits: 8%
- Combination of Credits: 63%
Major Findings

- Over 60% of undergraduate adult students are taking only resident instruction classes.

- However, fewer adult students are taking only RI credits or only CE credits in 2007/08 as compared to 2003/04 and more adult students are taking only World Campus credits or a combination of WD, RI, or CE credits in 2007/08 as compared to 2003/04.

- 26% of the undergraduate adults are taking only WD credits or CE credits or a combination of WD or CE credits.

- 12% of undergraduate adults are taking some combination of RI, CE, and WD credits.
Observations

- The numbers in this report represent only snapshots in time. They are not explaining why things happen, they only try to give us an idea where we are.

- It is important to look at the numbers in this report campus by campus because the number/percentage of adults within total campus enrollment vary.
Questions?

Rachel Stover
rds179@outreach.psu.edu