

Fall 2017

Undergraduate High Demand Science Student Characteristics

Fall quarter demographic profiles for **degree-seeking** undergraduates as compared to students enrolled in high demand sciences*

Overview

Total Degree-seeking Undergraduates	3560
Subset High Demand Science Students	1105
% of students enrolled in HD	31%

Residency Status

		Number Percent	
WA Resident	All UG	2838	80%
	HD SCI	891	81%
Non-Resident	All UG	722	20%
	HD SCI	214	19%

Community College Transfer

		Number Percent	
CC Transfer Student	All UG	1434	40%
	HD SCI	463	42%
Not CC Transfer Student	All UG	2126	60%
	HD SCI	642	58%

First-Generation Baccalaureate

		Number Percent	
First-Generation	All UG	1070	30%
	HD SCI	338	31%
Not First-Generation	All UG	2490	70%
	HD SCI	767	69%

Age Group

		Number Percent	
Traditional Age (17-23)	All UG	2119	60%
	HD SCI	611	55%
Non-Traditional Age (24+)	All UG	1441	40%
	HD SCI	494	45%

Gender

		Number Percent	
Female	All UG	2047	58%
	HD SCI	541	49%
Male	All UG	1513	43%
	HD SCI	564	51%

Federal Poverty Status

		Number Percent	
Below Federal Poverty	All UG	1746	49%
	HD SCI	559	51%
Not Below Poverty or no FAFSA	All UG	1814	51%
	HD SCI	546	49%

Federal Low Income

		Number Percent	
Federal Low Income	All UG	1954	55%
	HD SCI	625	57%
Not Low Income or no FAFSA	All UG	1606	45%
	HD SCI	480	43%

Reported Disability

		Number Percent	
Reported Disability	All UG	441	12%
	HD SCI	129	12%
No Reported Disability	All UG	3119	88%
	HD SCI	976	88%

Race/Ethnicity (v.1 categories NOT mutually exclusive, multi-racial students captured in each category)

		Number Percent	
Hispanic/Latino	All UG	392	11%
	HD SCI	100	9%
African-American/Black	All UG	298	8%
	HD SCI	59	5%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	All UG	220	6%
	HD SCI	56	5%
Asian	All UG	237	7%
	HD SCI	81	7%
Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian	All UG	42	1%
	HD SCI	11	1%
White	All UG	2813	79%
	HD SCI	901	82%
Not indicated	All UG	153	4%
	HD SCI	58	5%

Race/Ethnicity (v.2 Mutually exclusive categories)

		Number Percent	
Hispanic, of Any Race	All UG	392	11%
	HD SCI	100	9%
African-Amer/Black, Non-hispanic	All UG	175	5%
	HD SCI	31	3%
American Indian, Non-hispanic	All UG	87	2%
	HD SCI	20	2%
Asian, Non-hispanic	All UG	110	3%
	HD SCI	43	4%
Pacific Islander, Non-hispanic	All UG	16	0%
	HD SCI	3	0%
White, Non-hispanic	All UG	2349	66%
	HD SCI	765	69%
Multi-Racial, Non-hispanic	All UG	278	8%
	HD SCI	85	8%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	All UG	153	4%
	HD SCI	58	5%

Students of Color

		Number Percent	
Students of Color	All UG	1058	30%
	HD SCI	282	26%
White/Non-Indicated Students	All UG	2502	70%
	HD SCI	823	74%

Veteran Status

		Number Percent	
Veteran	All UG	184	5%
	HD SCI	73	7%
Non-Veteran	All UG	3376	95%
	HD SCI	1032	93%

Average Entrance GPA

		GPA	Number
Average High School GPA	All UG	2.99	1306
	HD SCI	3.03	538
Average Prior College GPA	All UG	3.03	1461
	HD SCI	3.03	731

*High demand Sciences as established May 2011 with passage of E2SB 1795: Agriculture/Natural Resources, Biology and Biomedical Sciences, Computer and Information Sciences, Engineering and Engineering Technologies, Health Professions and Clinical Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics, Physical Sciences and Technologies. Degree-seeking undergraduates enrolled in ANY high-demand science class in Fall 2016 are included in demographic analysis.

Fall 2016 to Fall 2017 Retention Rates

Retention adjusted for graduation: all degree-seeking undergraduates compared to degree-seeking students enrolled in high-demand science*

Retention comparison	UG	HD SCI
Number of Students enrolled Fall 16	3732	1086
Overall Retention to Fall 17	74%	77%
Nontraditional Age (24+)	77%	79%
Students of Color	74%	75%
Females	74%	78%
Males	75%	77%
First-Generation	75%	76%
Below Federal Poverty	78%	80%
Federal Low-Income	77%	80%
Reported Disability	73%	81%
Veteran	70%	67%

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Highlights:

- In fall 2017, 31% of all degree-seeking undergraduates enrolled in at least one high-demand science offering.
- In fall 2017, high demand science enrolled a **lower** proportion of the following categories of students relative to the overall undergraduate enrollment:
 - Women
 - Students of color, especially Hispanic/Latinx and African-American/Black
 - Community college transfer
- In fall 2017, high demand science enrolled a **higher** proportion of the following categories of students relative to the overall undergraduate enrollment:
 - Men
 - Non-traditional age
 - White, Non-Hispanic
- Fall-to-fall retention analysis of undergraduates enrolled the prior fall 2016 revealed that retention rates were higher for students enrolled in high demand science (77%) compared to the overall undergraduate retention (74%). Retention rates for students who were non-traditional age, students of color, women, men, first-generation, below poverty, and/or low income were **higher** for students enrolled in high demand science curriculum, than undergraduates from those categories among the overall student body.